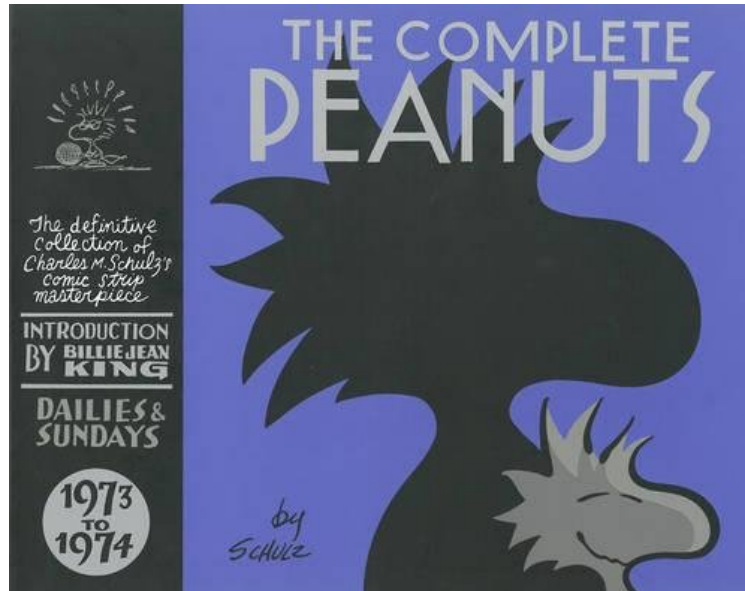


The Complete Peanuts, 1973-1974

Charles M. Schulz

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Charles M. Schulz : The Complete Peanuts, 1973-1974 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Complete Peanuts, 1973-1974:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Rerun takes the leadBy Frederick WiegandCharles M. Schulz goes out the way he came in--with solid characters, quirky humor, and a wry social commentary. After several decades of relegating Rerun Van Pelt, younger brother of Lucy and Linus, to the back seat of their mother's bicycle, Schulz in the last two or three years started to develop the character into one of the shrewdest and funniest of the entire cast. Rerun questions everything, including long-standing traditions such as his brother Linus' blanket habit and the fact that of all of the kids in the neighborhood, Charlie Brown is the only one with a dog. Rerun develops a strong affinity for Snoopy and despite the fact that his mother won't let him have a dog of his own, a true camaraderie arises between Rerun and Snoopy. This serves to make Snoopy more dog-like and it makes Rerun very sympathetic, which has not always been the case with other members of his family. But this book is about much more than Rerun. Every major character who was current with the cast at the time is represented here--Lucy, Linus, Schroeder, Peppermint Patty, Marcie, Franklin, Snoopy, and Woodstock. We even get the final chapter in the Football saga--where Lucy tries one last time to pull the ball away when Charlie Brown is about to kick it--but this time around, there is a plot twist that may surprise the reader. The book also includes the final Sunday and the final daily strips that closed out the run of Peanuts, with the author's farewell. Unfortunately, there appears to have been a printer's error with the Sunday finale strip, because most of the images are missing and there is a lot of blank space. Hopefully future editions will rectify this error. The complete last Sunday strip can be seen correctly rendered on the last page of the book "Peanuts 2000."This book also features a foreword by none other than the President of the United States, comprising a reverent and tasteful tribute. It is rounded out by the complete run of "Li'l Folks", Schulz' pre-Peanuts single-panel gag strip that shows a prototype of what would evolve into the Peanuts comic strip that is known and loved today. If you have not been collecting this Fantagraphics series of Peanuts reprints, this volume makes a good place to start. Once you have read this, you will

want to collect the rest. If you have been collecting them, congratulations--you now have a copy of every Peanuts comic strip! (with the one exception noted above)14 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Superb - But we Need a Slipcase for the Next and Final Volume Too!By Kevin J. RobertsAnother superb edition, in a wonderful slipcase! Schulz was able to maintain his quality right through his later years.I am certain that there are many collectors who have purchased every one of the slipcased editions and display them proudly. But the announcement that Fantagraphics will publish the final book (Volume 25) in this series without a slipcase leaves me greatly disappointed. Will it just be an appendage on your shelf of 12 slipcased sets? This is hard to believe. I hope Fantagraphics will provide a slipcase for the final volume. They are a company for collectors, after all. I will write to them, and I hope others will as well.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. a must have, plain and simple.By C. GregoryA Great collection, I have all the books from the 1950s to 1990 and eagerly am awaiting the rest of the collection. (last strip came in 2000). You really can't go wrong with Peanuts, intelligent and fun humor it will simultaneously take you back to your own childhood and take you deeper into the experiences of Schulz's life. These characters are icons, and the humor/art is a template that many others have tried to emulate and only a few can pull off. Snoopy could have easily been considered "jumping the shark" in the hands of a lesser cartoonist, but in Schulz's hands its a stroke of genius. A bit sad at times, but always clever, anyone who enjoys comic strips and wants to make life a little better needs to own these books. They have definitely been a bright spot in my life. and I look forward to passing them down to my own kids some day....a great way to do something as a family. Either by sharing the books or reading them aloud, the characters jump off the page, and the writing will have you looking deeper into your own psyche and laughing at the same time.

Tennis, anyone? Billie Jean King serves up an introduction... and we celebrate Woodstock! The twelfth volume of Peanuts features a number of tennis strips and several extended sequences involving Peppermint Patty's friend Marcie (including a riotous, rarely seen sequence in which Marcie's costume-making and hairstyling skills utterly spoil a skating competition for PP), so it seems only right that this volume's introduction should be served up by Schulz's longtime friend, tennis champion Billie Jean King. This volume also picks up on a few loose threads from the previous year, as the mysterious "Poochie" shows up in the flesh; Linus and Lucy's new kid brother "Rerun" makes his first appearance, is almost immediately drafted onto the baseball team (where, thanks to his tiny strike zone, he wins a game), and embarks on his first terrifying journey on the back of his mom's bike; and, in one of Peanuts' oddest recurring storylines, the schoolhouse Sally used to talk to starts talking, or at least thinking, back at her!The Complete Peanuts 1973-1974 also includes one of the all-time classic Peanuts sequences, in which Charlie Brown's baseball-oriented hallucinations finally manifest themselves in a baseball-shaped rash on his head. Forced to conceal the embarrassing discoloration with a bag worn over his head, Charlie Brown goes to camp as "Mister Sack" and discovers that, shorn of his identity, he's suddenly well liked and successful. 730 b/w comic strips

"It's impossible to think of another popular art form that reaches across generations the way the daily comic strip does...at the pinnacle of that long tradition, there was Charles Schulz." - Seattle Times"Charles M. Schulz is my favorite cartoonist, so I was excited to see that the twelfth volume in the series has an introduction by the legendary Billie Jean King... This is a important series of books which I give an 'A Plus' and I think it would be the ultimate part of a Peanuts fan's collection!" - The Catgirl Critics"Most comic strips today, especially those that are humor strips, often avoid topical subjects. Schulz embraced the topics of the era. They may date the strip, but it never leaves them outdated. ... Schulz was also not afraid to carry on-going storylines for several days or in some cases, even a couple of weeks. ... [The Complete Peanuts 1973-1974] also features all the favorite subjects like Linus' annual wait for the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown's trip to Summer camp, and Sally's letters to Santa Claus. This is why Peanuts is the greatest strip ever!" - Tim Janson, Newsarama"What more can I say about these wonderful collections? I've enjoyed each one immensely so far; they make me laugh and grin and even smirk a little from time to time... Top notch book. You can't have a much better time than reading these collections. Highly recommended." - Todd Klein, comic book letterer, designer, and writer"Really strong stuff here, including the "Charlie Brown wears a sack on his head to summer camp" sequence, surely the "Poison River" of Peanuts." - Patrick Markfort,, Articulate Nerd"Fantagraphics Books continues its series devoted to chronologically packaging the strip and has not missed a step along the way. ... I'm pleased to inform that the latest edition, the twelfth in the series, is as lovingly curated as the first." - Dw. Dunphy, PopdoseAbout the AuthorCharles M. Schulz was born November 25, 1922, in Minneapolis. His destiny was foreshadowed when an uncle gave him, at the age of two days, the nickname Sparky (after the racehorse Spark Plug in the newspaper strip Barney Google).In his senior year in high school, his mother noticed an ad in a local newspaper for a correspondence school, Federal Schools (later called Art Instruction Schools). Schulz passed the talent test, completed the course, and began trying, unsuccessfully, to sell gag cartoons to magazines. (His first published drawing was of his dog, Spike, and appeared in a 1937 Ripley's Believe It or Not! installment.) Between 1948 and 1950, he succeeded in selling 17 cartoons to the Saturday Evening Post?as well as, to the local St. Paul Pioneer Press, a weekly comic feature called Li'l Folks. It was run in the women's section and paid \$10 a week. After writing and drawing the

feature for two years, Schulz asked for a better location in the paper or for daily exposure, as well as a raise. When he was turned down on all three counts, he quit. He started submitting strips to the newspaper syndicates. In the spring of 1950, he received a letter from the United Feature Syndicate, announcing their interest in his submission, Li'l Folks. Schulz boarded a train in June for New York City; more interested in doing a strip than a panel, he also brought along the first installments of what would become Peanuts—and that was what sold. (The title, which Schulz loathed to his dying day, was imposed by the syndicate.) The first Peanuts daily appeared October 2, 1950; the first Sunday, January 6, 1952. Diagnosed with cancer, Schulz retired from Peanuts at the end of 1999. He died on February 13, 2000, the day before Valentine's Day—and the day before his last strip was published—having completed 17,897 daily and Sunday strips, each and every one fully written, drawn, and lettered entirely by his own hand—an unmatched achievement in comics.