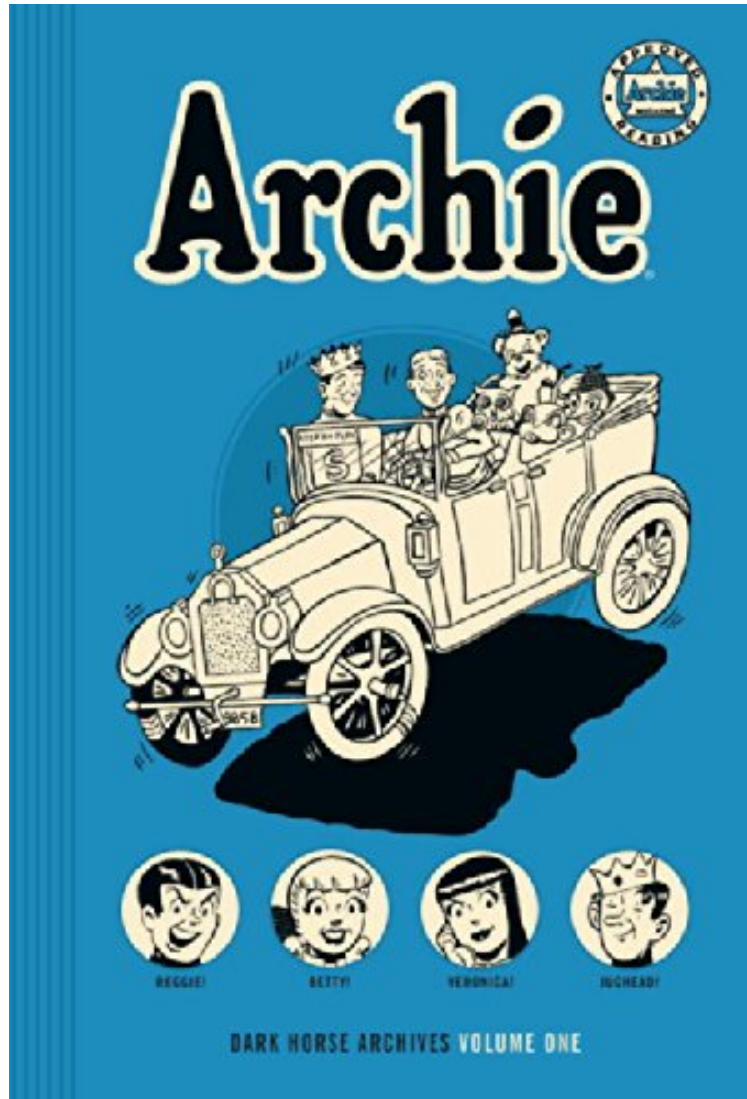


[Library ebook] Archie Archives Volume 1 (Dark Horse Archives)

Archie Archives Volume 1 (Dark Horse Archives)

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Various : Archie Archives Volume 1 (Dark Horse Archives) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Archie Archives Volume 1 (Dark Horse Archives):

18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Terrific stories with excellent art, but this volume is terribly editedBy G. SteirerArchie Archives, vol. 1 collects the very first Archie stories as they appeared in issues #22-38 of Pep Comics, #4-8 of Jackpot Comics, and #1-2 of Archie Comics, all of which were originally published between December 1941 and April 1943. The book features rather beautiful finished boards (with gold foil-stamping on the front and spine) and a flexible sewn binding. The paper is also of high quality, but--like that of DC's Kirby

Omnibuses--is rough textured, which may annoy some collectors. Though in a few places (particularly the first story), the scanned and recolored reproductions are a little fuzzy, for the most part they are competently handled and will please most readers. Where Archie Archives really disappoints, however, is in the book's editing. Not only does the book fail to reproduce any of the original comic book covers save for Archie Comics #1 and #2, but it lacks any means of indicating from what specific issues any of the other stories are taken. Save for a tiny notice on the copyright page there are no publication dates, issue numbers, or even a table of contents. Unlike other companies' archive editions, Archie Archives also fails to provide much new editorial content. Save for an uninteresting and seemingly obligatory single-page Introduction by Jon Goldwater, nothing at all is included. Thankfully, the stories themselves are a tremendous amount of fun. Bob Montana's art is a sheer pleasure to look at and the gags are consistently amusing--occasionally even laugh-out-loud funny. Though by today's standards, a few of the stories would be considered offensive (specifically those depicting African-Americans and one in which an overweight girl serves as the object of laughter), for the most part these 70-year-old stories have held up remarkably well. Some particular highlights are the introduction of Veronica, the first appearance of Archie's dog Oscar, and the first (very brief) Veronica solo-story. There's also a curious 2-page Archie prose story, written by "Kobold Keep." Though comic book historians will be disappointed by this Archive's editing, this is a worthy addition to any Archie or comic book fan's library. Despite the stories' age, younger Archie fans will likely enjoy this too--but parents should be aware that a few of the stories may be inappropriate.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Superb Collection
By Kindle Customer
First let me admit that I agree with more negative reviews that point out the problems with this book. There is a lack of covers, which is understandable since they weren't Archie covers, but still.... A more disturbing problem is the lack of a contents page with full credits. I'd add that there were a few places where coloring choices confused me; I'm not sure if they reflect the originals or were "oopses" during this process. The heart of the book, though, is the stories. They are great. Any Archie fan needs to read them. They are, of course, products of their time. In some cases, the historicity is appealing and educational (WWII rationing, blackouts, and the like); in others, it's disturbing (negative stereotypes). For the most part, the stories hold up well. Archie became very homogenized not just under the Comics Code but more so in the 1980s and 1990s. Even during my childhood in the '80s, I loved reading the digest reprints from what I assume were mostly the '50s. The stories were funnier and the characters were less vanilla. The characters here are still finding their way, but true personalities were already emerging. Frankly, I wish Archie Comics today would take a look at some of these stories and recognize the importance of real humor writing, writing that can find a wide audience. Anyway, the 5 stars reflect the quality of the stories and the overall quality of their presentation. I would agree that there is a need for real commentary and editorializing, not just praise, but quality criticism. Still, I will take what I can get.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Very good, but needs some tweeking.
By Duke
This was great reading material. However, as another poster stated, there are only two covers printed in the book. There are no covers from PEP or Jackpot. Also, there is no table of contents telling which magazine each story was from, who wrote and illustrated them (although I am assuming almost all stories were drawn by Bob Montana), etc. Other than that, a great read! I hope the next volume improves on the editing. One thing I don't understand: Why doesn't Archie Comics publish these archives (and other volumes) themselves? The "Americana Series" volumes were put together very nicely and published by Archie Comics. I think that would solve the editing issue itself.

Dark Horse Comics and Archie Comics Publications are thrilled to present the archive library series everyone is talking about Archie Archives! Now the earliest and most hard-to-find stories in the history of Archie comics can be read and enjoyed in gorgeously produced, full-color hardcover books. Seventy years ago, a small independent comics publisher in New York introduced a new kind of character to comics fans. Archie Andrews, the red-headed teenaged "everyman" we all grew up with. Volume 1 of the Archie Archives series shines the spotlight on young Mr. Andrews earliest adventures on the streets of Riverdale and all the trouble hes caused along the way.