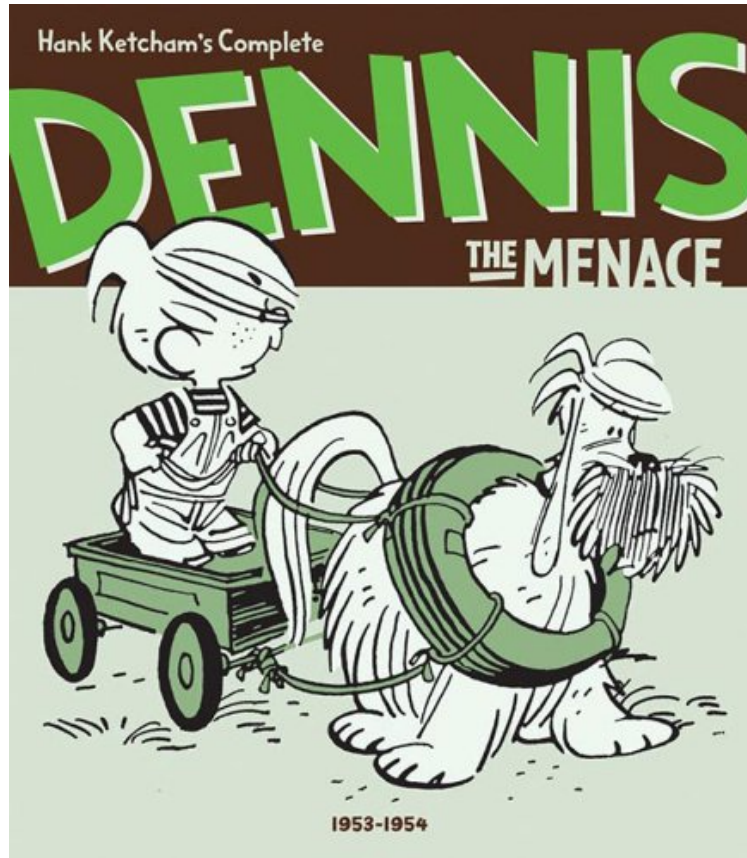


[E-BOOK] Hank Ketcham's Complete Dennis the Menace 1953-1954 (Vol. 2)

## Hank Ketcham's Complete Dennis the Menace 1953-1954 (Vol. 2)

Hank Ketcham

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**Hank Ketcham : Hank Ketcham's Complete Dennis the Menace 1953-1954 (Vol. 2)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hank Ketcham's Complete Dennis the Menace 1953-1954 (Vol. 2):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Early Dennis is the best. Classic cartoons!By MAR-BEAREarly Dennis is the best. Classic cartoons!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. My All-Seeing Mystic Eye Reveals--Volume 2 is #1By The Mystic Eye Of The HipsterHank Ketcham was a skilled cartoonist, these very early Dennis strips highlight that clearly.Later artists writers left Dennis a tad bland, but here, he is 100% dynamite in red overalls.Bart Simpson doesn't cut it for the sheer anarchy Dennis creates in these early 50s comics.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy curt christiansenperfect gift for my mom. she loved it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

An American icon defined: the third and fourth years of Hank Ketcham's classic.Dennis the Menace began on March 14, 1951 (four months after Ketcham's friend and colleague Charles Schulz started his own historic comic strip) and went on to become the second most popular cartoon kid in the world (after Charlie Brown). These initial years were a perfect launching point for Dennis: the post-war generation, at the height of the baby boom, embraced the perennial

troublemaker and turned him into a global publishing, merchandising, and multimedia phenomenon, with over 50 million book collections sold, the fondly remembered live-action TV show from 1959-63, a cartoon from 1986-89, theatrical productions, several cartoon specials, a major motion picture, and a full-length animated film. He is still a staple in over 1000 newspapers nationwide. The reason for Dennis' success is easy to figure out: It was one of the most brilliantly observed and empathetic comic strips about childhood ever drawn. Ketcham captured the mischievousness, rambunctiousness, and anarchy of a kid's world better than any other cartoonist. The strip appeals to both parents and children; while parents shake their head ruefully at how accurately Ketcham caught the essence of children's natural zest for mayhem, children identify with Dennis and the chaos that he leaves in his wake. Ketcham was a cartoonist with a vivacious line that was exquisitely suited to depicting adults and children. His gags were funny, subtle and touching. Ketcham drew Dennis the Menace from 1951 to 1994, when he retired and let his assistant take over the strip. This second volume of Hank Ketcham's Complete Dennis the Menace publishes every single panel strip from 1953 and 1954 in one handsome and thick little hardcover volume resembling a Big Little Book on steroids. Dennis is relatively unusual among long-lived strips in that after just a couple of years, it achieved its definitive look (Peanuts, for instance, was still morphing toward the end of its first decade). So even though this is just the second volume, fans will find the look, style, and gags as comfortably familiar as today's Dennis (albeit with '50s cars, furniture, and clothing styles, all snappily rendered!). And although Ketcham had not yet added any of Dennis's friends (such as Margaret and Joey), an elderly neighboring couple (him cranky, her sweet) begins to appear now and again...poor George and Martha Wilson, little do they realize what's in store for them! 626 black-and-white full page comic panels

From BooklistErstwhile magazine gag cartoonist Ketcham used masterful composition, line variation, and solid black areas to make the single-panel Dennis the Menace the most visually arresting spot on the comics page. While the Peanuts inhabited their own stylized world into which adults seldom intruded, Dennis was set firmly in suburban family territory. Although the strip's Eisenhower-era elements--drive-in carhops, cowboys and Indians, and uniformed soda jerks--figure prominently in these 1953--54 panels, vintage Dennis seems nearly as timeless as the exploits of Charlie Brown and company. Bedtime stories, avoiding baths, and refusing to eat vegetables are as perennial as unself-conscious five-year-old mischievousness. Gordon FlaggCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved I love Hank Ketcham's art. Sure, his gag panels are funny, and parents will recognize their own kids in Dennis' antics, but it s Ketcham's line work, spotting, composition, selection of details, and character expression that make him one of the greats. --Mark Frauenfelder"About the AuthorHank Ketcham was born in 1920 and created Dennis the Menace in 1950. He passed away in 2001.