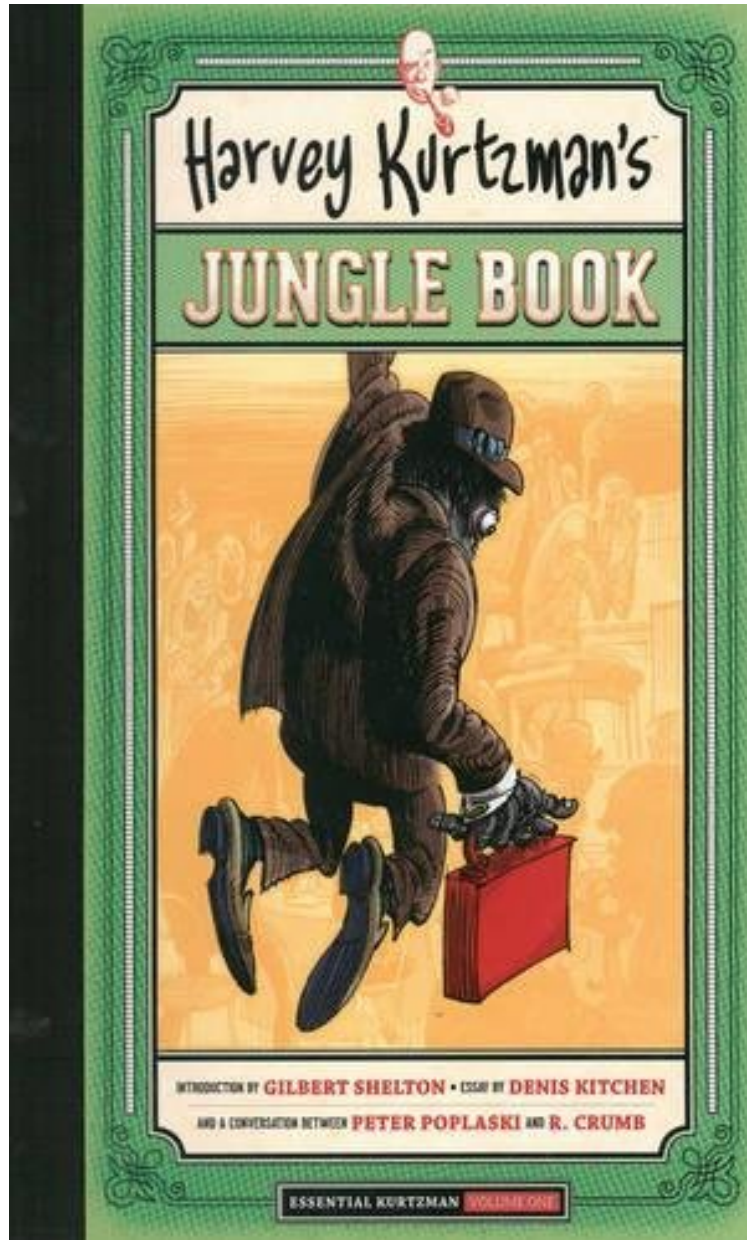


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Harvey Kurtzman's Jungle Book (Essential Kurtzman)

Harvey Kurtzman

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Harvey Kurtzman : Harvey Kurtzman's Jungle Book (Essential Kurtzman) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Harvey Kurtzman's Jungle Book (Essential Kurtzman):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. NEW EDITION FINALLY HERE, after years of being out of

print!By GrimmyNote: Reviews on the book's first release (long out of print) are being lumped together with this new edition. The book's insides, stories, art, etc have already been covered. My focus is primarily on the physical product. I've had the original out of print book downloaded in pdf format for years and finally I was excited to finally be able to buy the physical book. It is extremely well made, binding well sewn, cover character is glossy embossed, thick page stock, colors well chosen to contrast opposing areas, and page breaks with patterns and Harvey's character punctuate the stories. Great thought and care was put into this. It must have been costly. I can't find anywhere in the acknowledgements or elsewhere, credit to the book designer. Which seems unfortunate. A page on the subject would have been nice, as printing quality was something Harvey always fought for. The black interesting cloth over the binding is screen printed on with white lettering and logos. The original shape/size of the book has been exadurated to a unique comic book-like oblong size which works very well considering the format of the art inside. About 8"x 12" Which will also do well to fit the next volume's content, Harvey Kurtzman's "Hey Look" comic strips. The book's cover price is US 25.00 but I bought it from which always sells for well below.It is worth the cover price. Personally I love high quality book's and I very much love this book. I love this just holding it and feeling the cover!A few writings are featured by Dennis Kitchen, Robert Crumb and others. My only nitpick is in wishing someone would have written about Harvey's last days. He would have been proud and happy to see this.Further Reading:I'll end this review quoting My favorite part in the Jungle Book. It's about the comic book format which I've always found strange, no real first page, art shrunk down so small, etc. first time I read, "The Organization Man in the Flannel Executive Suite" I laughed out loud..."We keep our investment low, income high, margin of profit wide. Since cover stock accounts for half our production costs, we'll illiminate expensive cover stock and print covers directly on first and last pages of the body will cut costs 50%... And if we cut costs on the body of the book, the same as we do on the covers, we will have a margin of profit of 100% the gross. "-Genius!-"But Mr Shlock if you aluminate the cover and you eliminate the body there's nothing left to sell and there will be no profit."- "Nothing left to sell???" By golly he's right! There is nothing left!";)4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A Masterpiece Given Proper Treatment At LastBy James ElfersThe book that broke Harvey's heart in its first edition is given proper treatment at last. After leaving Mad magazine (which he essentially created) and Hugh Hefner pulling the rug out from under him and canceling "Trump" after two spectacular issues, Kurtzman was left adrift both financially and professionally. This book, in a just universe, would have changed that. HOWEVER, the first publisher botched the job from the get go, making the artwork murky or marred with lines. Its amateur look and lack of promotion meant that it sold very few copies with the vast majority being rendered into pulp This edition is everything the original was not, beautifully produced with the artwork having the vibrancy Kurtzman intended. In some ways this is an essential read as it was one of the very first graphic novels geared to grown ups. There is a great introduction by the creator of "Maus" and another by the volume editor. Each section is introduced with an opinion on the piece by Harvey Kurtzman himself. One thing that he concluded, that many readers may agree with, is that he was far less talented as a writer as he was an illustrator. This is the first and ONLY time Harvey tried to fill both roles. The writing is the one downside of this collection, little of it is as biting, or as acerbically comedic as it should be. Still very much worth reading, its humor is on the dry side as opposed to laugh out loud funny. If you have an interest in the man whose name is attached to one of the supreme cartooning awards, or the history of the graphic novel, this is a must buy. Others may not find it as compelling. Still, it is an important book that deserves a far wider audience this time around.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Mixed bagBy ZURlockerKurtzman may have been a genius, but I don't think this is his best work. A couple of the stories are good, but it's not on par with his work at Mad.

Harvey Kurtzman's Jungle Book is considered one of the "Top 100 Comics of the 20th Century" by The Comics Journal and is widely regarded to be a lost classic. Written and illustrated by Kurtzman, Jungle Book inspired and influenced comics creators such as Robert Crumb, Art Spiegelman, Gilbert Shelton, and Terry Gilliam. Back in print for the first time in over twenty-five years, this deluxe hardcover features an essay by comics archivist Denis Kitchen; a new introduction by Gilbert Shelton; a conversational afterword between Pete Poplaski and Robert Crumb; and a selection of Kurtzman's photographs, correspondence, and artwork. The definitive edition of this graphic novel masterpiece is not to be missed!2015 Harvey Award nominations for "Best Domestic Reprint" and "Excellence in Presentation""He is as good as any cartoonist in history that I know of." -R. Crumb

"This 2014 edition, edited and designed by John Lind, is how Jungle Book should have been presented . . . It's a fitting tribute to a talented, unlucky creative genius." -BoingBoing.net"Hat's off to Dark Horse for reintroducing this material to a new generation of readers who can only benefit from learning more about the legendary Harvey Kurtzman." -comicsbulletin.comFrom the Back Cover"Harvey Kurtzman was a transformative figure in the evolution of the comic book and the graphic novel. Like Charlie Parker or Jimi Hendrix or William Burroughs, he changed the whole landscape of his craft." -Anthony BourdainAbout the AuthorHarvey Kurtzman (1924-1993) was a cartoonist, writer, editor and comics genius. He is probably best remembered for MAD, which he founded in 1952. He created 28 revolutionary issues for E.C. publisher Bill Gaines (for whom he also created Two-Fisted Tales and Frontline Combat)

with such talent as Will Elder, Jack Davis, and Wally Wood before leaving in 1956. Kurtzman then created the short-lived satire magazine Trump for Playboy publisher Hugh Hefner in 1957. He followed with the comic-size Humbug in 1958, then Help! magazine. During his Help! tenure he discovered such diverse talent as Terry Gilliam, Gloria Steinem, Gilbert Shelton, and R. Crumb. In 1962 he and collaborator Will Elder began producing the long-running and elaborate Little Annie Fanny comic for Playboy. In the '70s he became known as the "father-in-law of underground comix" for inspiring a new generation of media-bending cartoonists.