

Pogo

Walt Kelly

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Pogo Details

Date : Published 1951 by Simon & Schuster

ISBN:

Author: Walt Kelly

Format: Paperback 182 pages

Genre: Sequential Art, Comics, Humor, Graphic Novels, Comix, Fiction, Cartoon, Comic Strips



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From Reader Review Pogo for online ebook

Rick says

Kelly's first anthology of his masterful daily comic strip, sets the stage well for what is to come, introducing Pogo, Albert, Churchy and many of the other primary swampland characters. It's funny stuff, even if doesn't yet have the political edge that will soon enter the strip. From the beginning though it has the flavorful dialogue, the deadpan expressions, the puns and plays on words, and the wonderful insights (transposed to critturs) on human nature. "Critturs what runs newspapers make millions." This fact wakes Albert from a midday slumber. "Well! Notice anything different about me? I is just gone into the newspaper business. You got a spare pencil and writin' pad to home?" In another story line a duel is required when a marriage proposal is withdrawn, but things go awry. The Hound Dog tries to piece the tale together in conversation with Mam'zelle Hepzibah. "You means Pogo, who don't want to fight a duel in the first place gotta defend the honor of Miz Beaver who was insulted by the Pigeon who ran away to Washington to be a Ball-headed iggle an' that leaves nobody for Pogo to duel, so somebody got to stand an' uphold the mizzable Pigeon's honor an' the only one willin' to do it is..." "Naturellement, Meez Beevair!" "It don't make sense!" "Sense! Phaugh! We speak of honair, M'sieur, not sense!"

Rumor, mis-information, jealousy, love and rivalry for love, greed, appetite, folly, sloth...all the great human virtues and our many vehicles for confusion are all on display here. Kelly was a gift to 20th Century American culture and his wit and wisdom still speaks brilliantly to our world today.

Curtiss says

After my Mom & Dad got married, she saved every daily & Sunday Pogo comic strip in a pair of scrap books; and then Walt Kelly and Simon & Schuster released them in a paperback edition. Then she and Dad collected every book as they came out, as well as several of the nickel comics; and I still have all of them.

The were lovingly read and re-read by me and only survived thanks to having the bindings reinforced by brad fasteners. No other strip compares to Pogo's droll humor and the swamp critters' affectionate commentary on the 'human' condition.

The school in the comic strip "Miss Peach" was named Kelly Elementary after Walt Kelly, and flew its flag at half-staff on the day of his death. Thanks to his family and estate releasing and re-releasing up-to-date, revised collections, Pogo remains available in bookstores.

James says

Mister says

Pogo, along with the Beatles, made me what I am today - the good parts, anyway.

Wlwarner says

As delightful as ever

Dan says

Bought this in '67, for a dollar, at the Navy Exchange in Sasebo, Japan, and I still have it. Still a reliable source of unbridled joy.

Caleb says

I can't believe I didn't know about Pogo earlier

Rick Bavera says

"Swamp critters" running around acting like rubes, mangling the English language with amusing mispronunciations and wrong words.

Amusing, but sometimes takes paying attention to figure out what they are really talking about.

King Ævil says

Walt Kelly's wordplay is priceless. Several quotes from the early Pogo strips have worked their way into my lexicon. "Reciprovocation is the spites of life, monsieur!"

Emily says

There was a whole shelf of Pogo books, collections of the comic strip about the swamp-dwelling possum and his pals, old ones from the 1950s and 60s, at my grandparents' house when I was a kid (my grandfather was a big fan). I, knowing that most everyone in my family found them amusing, and a source of catch phrases (we still go around telling each other that we are "jes' fine"), dipped in to them from time to time. I sometimes

found them amusing too, and particularly liked the character of Churchy the turtle, who gets some of the best lines. But I struggled with the dialect and the malapropisms, so often reading them felt more challenging than fun. For some reason, I never picked them up as an adult until now. The Pogo books are among the few things saved from my grandparents' house when it was sold a couple years ago, and now they have a nostalgic value; the row of old (but still nicely sturdy!) paperbacks is redolent of childhood days when we'd come over to the big house to go swimming and eat ice-cream cones, and sometimes, sleep in the bunk-beds.

So perhaps it was nostalgia, and thoughts of my dear, loving, grandfather, who would soon be turning 100 were he alive, that led me to pick this up on a recent visit to my mother. I adored it. I hooted with laughter multiple times. I got more of the jokes than I had as a tad, but some of the political satire still went over my head (apparently Walt Kelly used the McCarthy trials for fodder, but all I noticed was that a trial, albeit a farcical one, took place). As a child, I hadn't been quite cognizant of the fact that the books are in fact collections of daily newspaper strips, which explains a tendency every few panels, for a character to make a statement describing the immediately preceding events. This can get tedious if you don't understand why it's happening. But oh, how glorious it must have been to open the newspaper every day looking forward to seeing what would happen next. How bland (and crudely drawn) seem by comparison the comic strips syndicated today. There's a certain manic energy, to Pogo, which, along with the convoluted story lines, and wonderfully detailed art, reminds me of Tove Jansson's collected Moomin strips (the first one is is Moomin, Vol. 1) which appeared in a British newspaper in the 1950s. Is that how comic strips in the 1950s were? Was there some influence at play? I've no clue how well known Pogo ever was outside the everlovin' ol' USA, so I don't even know if that's remotely possible.

Linda (Miss Greedybooks) says

Old & wonderful! Yay Pogo!

Mckinley says

They were there so I read them - maybe too young to though.