



# Moomin

*Tove Jansson*

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**Moomin** Tove Jansson

**A celebration of Tove Jansson's legacy, one hundred years after her birth**

Tove Jansson's Moomin stories made her one of the most beloved Scandinavian authors of the twentieth century. Jansson's whimsical tales of Moominvalley resonate with children for their lighthearted spirit, and with adults for their incisive commentary on the banality of everyday life. The year 2014 marks the centenary of her birth, and Jansson is being honored with events in Japan, Scandinavia, England, Germany, Russia, Australia, Italy, Spain, and France. Drawn & Quarterly is joining the festivities by releasing *Moomin: The Deluxe Anniversary Edition*, a slipcased hardcover collection of the complete Tove Jansson-penned *Moomin* comic strip, replete with all of her most popular storylines and original pencil sketches.

It has been more than sixty years since the *Moomin* comic strip debuted in the *London Evening News*. By the end of its run in 1975, *Moomin* was syndicated in more than forty newspapers around the world and hailed for its light-handed, charming stories. The comics were revived in 2005 by Drawn & Quarterly and published to widespread acclaim, sparking a new generation of devoted Moomin fans with international editions around the world. *Moomin: The Deluxe Anniversary Edition* celebrates the classic comics the world adores, and will feature an essay about Tove's work on the *Moomin* strip.

## Moomin Details

Date : Published October 21st 2014 by Drawn and Quarterly (first published October 14th 2014)

ISBN : 9781770461710

Author : Tove Jansson

Format : Hardcover 482 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Comics, Graphic Novels, Childrens, Graphic Novels Comics

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## From Reader Review Moomin for online ebook

### WaferBiscuits says

An unknown treasure. A must-have for any fan of Tove's work.

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### Rick Davis says

Wonderful. We could all be a little more Moomin-minded.

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### Karen says

Completely and utterly delightful.

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### Robin says

My boyfriend remembered these fondly from his childhood, but I had never heard of them. He got the full set of books and has been reading them out loud to me over the past two years. We are finishing the final book today. Inevitably and without fail, my boyfriend would start reading and I would be out cold asleep, within minutes, remembering next to nothing of what was going on the next time we resumed the story and constantly requiring catch-ups of the most hilarious kind. It's not my fault that I was charmed to sleep by these books: there's something about the way these stories enter your brain when read comfortingly out loud that will send you to the land of nod. Highly recommended for children needing soothing. If in doubt, page to the Moomin Gallery at the front of the book, which introduces each of the characters and serves as a helpful reference to sleepy girlfriends who can't tell their Fillyjonks from their Tofts, and try to remain immune to the charm.

(Sidenote, goodreads mavens: I'm counting the entire set of 7 books as one book read in 2017 because I am FAIRLY certain I was awake for at least 1/7th of the time and most of the books were read this year vs last year.)

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### Chris says

Okay, I love these strips. Some really sneaky humor too.

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### Evan says

ranks as probs my fav newspaper comic strip

i first heard about moomin from a Norwegian girl i treated badly—her description of the frightful Groke

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made an impression

no Groke here tho

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### **Jeffrey says**

What can be more delicious than all of Tove Jansson's Moomin comic strips together in one great big delightful book - so utterly satisfying - and just when you are sufficiently filled up, there are twenty-pages of her rough sketches for the comics too! I loved re-reading the strips I'd read in the *Enfant* editions and all the new ones too - these aren't as challenging as the novels but there is a sweetness that is just wonderful as we watch the Moomin family and their zany friends live lives I wish I could be part of too!

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### **Courtney says**

"There's a distinctly carefree, individualist vibe mixed with a hint of playful cynicism, a kind of embrace-life-to-its-fullest-but-maybe-don't-get-carried-away ethos. The moomins can be selfish, cruel and petty at times but more often than not they are generous, nurturing and involved - like real people." -tom devlin

"Her drawings look like they were made by a human hand. They feel mortal. Fragile and intimate. Human." -Dylan Horrocks

I am enamored and bedazzled by Tove Jansson and Moominland. Her characters have become so dear to me! Moominmama makes me feel safe and loved, Snorkmaiden tugs at the restlessness of the female heart, and Snufkin brings me back to meditation. I only wish I discovered this comic series earlier! I have become a huge crazy fan. I love Moomins to the moon and back.

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### **Meaghan Steeves says**

This was an absolutely wonderful journey from start to finish. I grew to deeply love these characters and found delight in their humour, logic, and predicaments. I also discovered the character of Little My, who I declare my soulmate. I only mourn the fact that it took 26 years for me to hear of them, though I'm so glad I finally did.

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### **Maciej Kuczy?ski says**

It's not the Moomins you expect to know. In these comic strips they don't shy away from topics like death, loneliness or unwelcome visitors. Nevertheless, it's been a very warm and heartfelt journey reading this collection. I recommend everyone to at least give the Moomin comic strips a try. They can also be found in smaller volumes if you don't want to go all in.

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## Trevor says

These are beautiful stories, and the volume is one to cherish. You just want to unwind with them and forget about other stuff in your life. Sadly I didn't get to finish them all before I had to return it to my library, but I will put it on my wish list for someone to get for me.

My only "complaint" is with the book being so book, it is rather hard to curl up with, I would especially want to take it in the bath because they are perfect stories for a soak.

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## Nick says

Prior to getting this I'd not watched any Moomin cartoons or read any of the strips. I didn't know what to expect. I'd assumed that it was cute charm, much like Hello Kitty, that accounted for its popularity. I'd noticed D&Q had put out a lot of Moomin stuff that was well regarded, so I thought I'd gamble on this 'best of' collection.

As I took it out the nice slipcase I was struck by its quality, size and weight (about 30cm high and 2.7kg—a little cumbersome for reading in bed, though just about manageable). It begins with lots of illustrations spanning over 2 pages, and several people talking about why they love Tove Jansson. I scanned through to get straight to the strips.

It begins with Moomintroll's rear, as do all the strips. He's trying to stand on his head. From this first page clear themes are set: the expressiveness of Moomintroll's eyes and pose, the panels being filled with an idealised natural world (creatures in the mixed flora and the sky) and general carefree nature (many of the panels don't have lines bordering them—literally making them free, or they are bordered by elements from the story: for example a brush if someone is cleaning, or barbed wire when the Moomins are finding out everywhere they want to rest is privately owned), and a concern with decorum and whimsy. I was quickly smitten.

I'd never read anything like this. The care-free nature and adventures in the stories were a perfect way for me to unwind, and beyond that escapism there was a very personal and identifiable touch in the characters and stories. Often certain characters will refer directly to the reader (in one of the later stories, when it begins with Moomintroll's rear, he explains that he's looking for an adventure, as that's what the readers want, with him and Moominpappa then looking towards the reader in fear). Another of my favourite examples is Moominmamma throwing dirt through her tidy and orderly neighbour's window saying '...why don't you live in a plastic bag yourself, madame?'.

Actually it left me wondering about the translation. I assume Swedish and English have dissimilar wordplay and idioms, yet so much of the story seems perfect in English (for example a boar's wife forgiving the Moomins for eating her husband: '...he was an awful bore'). Thinking about this, even if a lot of licence was taken in the translation, it is the quality that ultimately matters to me.

I give this my highest recommendation. There's nothing I've discovered as playful and charming (including Schulz and Barks). My problem is now I want the complete Moomin collection, but already have this. Also, like a Hello Kitty fan, I've just ordered a Moominmamma mug.

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## Megan Kirby says

This book got me through a long, cold Chicago winter. I liked it so much I have trouble putting my opinions into words for a Goodreads review.

As comics, the simple lines and inventive borders completely capture the gentle whimsy of the story. I stick on the word whimsy, though, because Moominvalley can also be a place of fear and jealousy. Jansson lets her characters move and breathe and make mistakes. But most of all, she lets them love--each other, their adventures, themselves. With the exception of a few outdated gender tropes, the comics have aged amazingly well. They are still so funny and shinningly brilliant, so full of real heart.

As an added plus, Drawn and Quarterly's anniversary edition is a lovely piece of book art. I'm so excited to read this collection over and over. I'm sure I'll need it again next winter.

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## Daniel Simmons says

Superbly random and super charming. (My fave of the lot was "Moomin and the Sea", which manages to lampoon and celebrate both Gothic ghost stories and Hemingway wannabes.)

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## Serdar says

If I ever create anything for younger audiences, "Moomin" will be my model for it.

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