



Yesh! - Mutts IV

Patrick McDonnell

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""I love this cartoon Mutts!""-Brooke Shields to Jay Leno on *The Tonight Show*

""People who view pets as family members will rejoice in this collection.""-*The Baton Rouge Sunday Advocate* about *Cats and Dogs: Mutts II*

Conventional pet wisdom says that there are cat lovers and there are dog lovers-and never the two shall meet. But if there's one thing the two sides do agree on, it's that they love Patrick McDonnell's charming strip, *Mutts*.

Mutts has won the devotion of animal lovers and comics readers across the land. Fans love the charming humor the talented McDonnell provides, as well as his one-of-a-kind artistic style that stands apart on the funny pages. *Yesh!* features Earl the dog, his pal Mooch the cat, and the plethora of other lovable animal regulars who pop in and out of their lives.

Few people could conceive what animals are truly thinking until McDonnell gave us the antics and adventures of Earl and Mooch. In one series of strips, Earl reveals what pets think when their owners are late arriving home: ""I must ration my dinner...who knows how long it will need to last?...The day?...The week?...The next two minutes?"" His buddy Mooch declares after becoming stranded on top of a tree: ""I need to reassess my goals.""

The delightful personalities of McDonnell's animal stars have won the hearts and acclaim of readers the world over. Veteran cartoonist Charles Schulz called *Mutts* one of the best strips ever. The strip earned the National Cartoonists Society's Comic Strip of the Year Award in 1996. In 1998, McDonnell captured the Swedish Academy of Comic Art's Award for Best International Comic Strip Artist. *Yesh!* celebrates the subtle humor and unparalleled style of a strip that hearkens back to the classic strips of yesteryear.

Yesh! - Mutts IV Details

Date : Published April 1st 1999 by Andrews McMeel Publishing (first published 1998)

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Author : Patrick McDonnell

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Mommooshka says

I love all of the Mutts books by Patrick McDonnell. He captures the special qualities of cats, dogs, and the people who live with them.

His cartoons make you smile, laugh, think, and enjoy. What's not to love about that?

Mary Catelli says

The fourth Mutts book.

It features the first "shelter stories" about animals awaiting adoption. It also has a sequence about how the guard dog is kept chained up.

Other sequences includes Mooch and Earl tracking a bear -- Mooch yells at it to get out out of the way, it's on their tracks -- and their getting into a boat and ending up at sea -- I particularly like the Sunday one, which shows them talking about being all alone over a sea full of creatures. It also has Mooch posing as the Sphinx for the first time, and a bird who decides walking south is safer than flying.

Some are aiming for the sweet and touching rather than the comic, but it's a good set.

Lora says

When we cancelled our Sunday paper, one thing we had to replace was a ready access to Sunday funnies. Getting some books of our favorite comics made the difference. What I did at first was buy books of our fave series and hide them away, pulling one out on a Sunday when we were missing our newspaper. I did this for months! When I ran out of books, the family was disappointed I didn't have any more book magic for yet another quiet Sunday afternoon! Many of those books I actually got for free or at Goodwill prices. This is a fun and gentle series and our entire family has enjoyed it.

Maybe it's time I did a little more of that book magic. We haven't had a new book of comics in a couple years.

Richard Knight says

Mutts is an alright comic. A little preachy and corny, but fairly decent. It's no Calvin and Hobbs or Hagar the Horrible, but what is? What I did find interesting is that a lot of the day-to-day comics actually link up to tell an entire narrative. I wasn't sure that all comics did that. It makes reading it daily (or getting a book like this) a necessity. Overall, Mutts IV is mildly entertaining.

Connie says

MUTTS makes my heart smile big time.

The characters are so touching and heartfelt that I have cried numerous times reading this comic.

A+ on all the MUTTS comics by Patrick McDonnell!

Kim says

book 4

Noodles woos Mooch's Shnelly, Mooch acts like a sphynx (for the first time?), shelter stories (first?)

MariNaomi says

I found this book on my bookshelf--it belongs to my husband--and my first thought was, "What is this maudlin thing?" The cat speaking in sibilant esses annoyed me, as did the cutesy nature of the strips. As I read further, though, I became less annoyed. Towards the end I even laughed out loud at a strip, and even got (gasp!) a little teary-eyed at a couple more sentimental strips. So yeah, as much as I wanted not to like it, I ended up enjoying the experience. I'm not sure I'll revisit this book, however.

Sonny says

Might be the funniest of all the Earl & Mooch books. So many great moments of laughter, fun, and animal shelter stories. I never get tired of Mutts and the antics of the Mutts gang!

Jami says

I love Mutts and Patrick McDonnell! Like his other work, he includes my favorite Guard Dog (I know now to grab a tissue before I read a Guard Dog strip) and Shelter Stories, where he promotes adoption. In this book, Guard Dog is shown on his very short chain (of course) and the first few panels show him sitting there with a "Beware of Dog" sign. The last panel has the "Beware of Dog Sign" followed by "I might break your heart." Yep, that did it for me!

And of course, Earl, Mooch and their assorted friends are up to their usual antics!

Mike Aragona says

After a long enough time away (although I'm still reading the daily strips over on their web site), I decided to go back to the Mutts strip collection and read through YESH! And so? I laughed and giggled the entire train ride into town this morning![return][return]This collection touches once more upon the zany-ness and belly laughs that I found in the first volume and restored my faith in the greatness of the strip.[return][return]Mutts is, by and far, an extremely funny and well thought-out comic strip. I know that once I'm done with all these reviews, I'll be trying to fill in the gaps of my collection :)

Brandon Amico says

Honestly, McDonnell's art style, his playfulness, and his minimalism is striking -- something I missed when first discovering this strip when I was younger. Occasionally the strip drops to predictable third panels, but more often than not it strikes the perfect pitch between premise and design, creating a more emotion-based aesthetic than nearly all other comic strips.

Katherine says

I love Mutts! Yesh I do!
