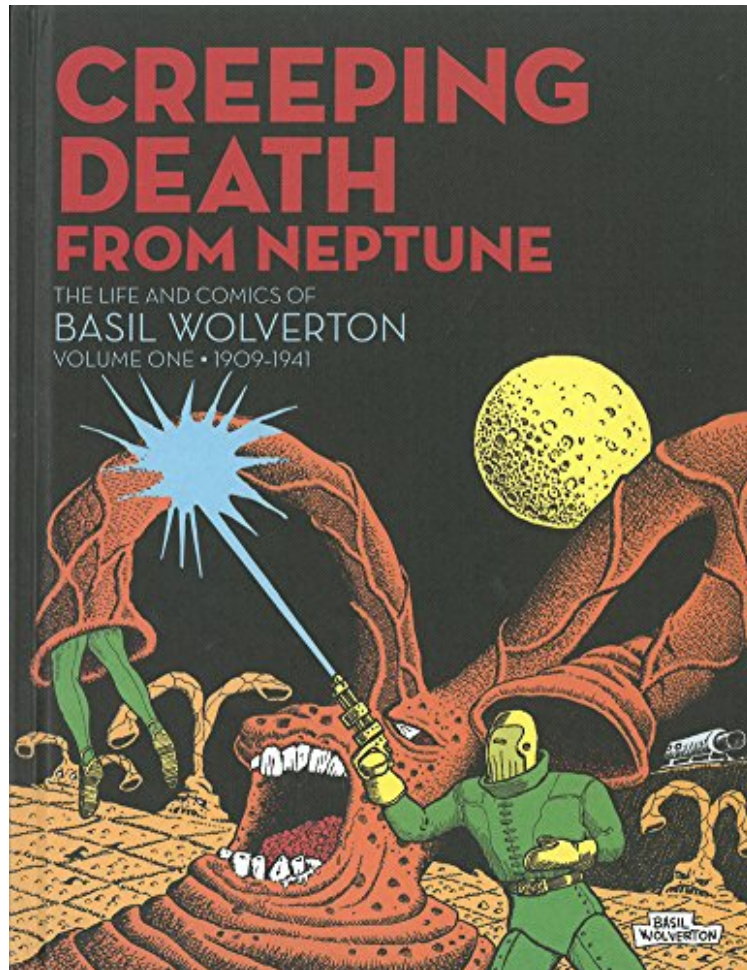


[Library ebook] Creeping Death from Neptune: The Life And Comics Of Basil Wolverton Vol. 1

# Creeping Death from Neptune: The Life And Comics Of Basil Wolverton Vol. 1

*Basil Wolverton*

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**Basil Wolverton : Creeping Death from Neptune: The Life And Comics Of Basil Wolverton Vol. 1** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Creeping Death from Neptune: The Life And Comics Of Basil Wolverton Vol. 1:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. The making of a unique comic genius!By Sherm CohenI've been enjoying this book immensely -- it's so much better than I had hoped. Half-biography, half-comics, and most importantly those two aspects are perfectly combined into one seamless narrative.The biography is blended with tons of accompanying artwork on every page...and the artwork is carefully captioned to help understand Wolverton's development in context of the times. There are also big sections devoted to super-rare comics that I've never seen before. This book truly shows the development of a unique cartoon genius!Some of the comics that are included give a

revealing glimpse into Wolverton's creative process, his development and his artistic response to constructive feedback. We are able to see early comic strips that were rejected, along with the very detailed rejection letters that were filled with sage advice from various editors. We also get to see the same stories as redrawn in response to the critiques. I've never seen anything like this in any book, and since Wolverton is such a huge inspiration for me, "Creeping Death from Neptune" is a delightful treat.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Finest Book By Far in my Annual Xmas Book Orgy

By Jim Gray I was one of those bitterly disappointed by the delay of this book. I was further disappointed to read that it was not, after all, going to contain the legendary 17 SF and horror stories Wolverton wrote and drew in the 50s. But there are times when I don't mind being wrong, and this is one of them. We should be thankful that the publisher changed direction from the original intent, turning it from a story collection to a full and complete history. I am seriously loving this book! Greg Sadowski is well known for writing great histories of comics legends, and this one is no exception. Basil Wolverton was practically there from the start, when comic book publishers in the late 30s began to use original rather than reprinted newspaper comics. Fortunately for us, he saved his correspondence from editors and publishers, so we have an in-depth history of the beginnings of the comic book industry. Some of the early material had been reprinted before, especially in Bill Spicer's excellent issues of Graphic Story Magazine, but this is probably as complete as it's going to get. As Wolverton developed his style and artistic chops, it just gets more fabulous with each series. The only negative to these series is that once you are hooked, they end abruptly, as the publishers vacillated and changed their criteria or went out of business, but what we have can only be described as strange and wonderful. The art alone is worth the entire purchase, but the stories also have a unique sensibility, set in a cold, hostile universe, something I can only describe as existential, where villains are coldly brought to justice and dispatched without remorse. It's also unique how "diverse" Wolverton's characters are, with grotesque aliens acting and talking no differently from humans, and treated with the same respect by the heroes. His background was obviously space opera pulp fiction, with concepts unusual for "mere" comic books. Reading both the history and the actual comics has been such a joy that I dread reaching the end of the book. I would give it at least 6 stars if it were possible. If you love Wolverton's work half as much as I do, you cannot possibly live without this awesome volume.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The work and love that went in to collecting and gathering information on ...

By Graveyard Dave Now THIS is what we've been waiting for since we were kids, reading PLOP magazine on the beach. A glorious, incredibly-well researched and meticulously assembled overview of the genius of Basil Wolverton in a reasonably priced, HARDCOVER edition! The work and love that went in to collecting and gathering information on Mr. Wolverton's work is absolutely staggering. Lavish, mostly full reprints of everything from his childhood comic-book drawings up until his perversely beautiful "warts and all (but mostly warts)" early-later work. I was so excited to see this - and not being a "super-hero" comic book kind of guy, I immediately bought two! And I cannot wait for the second volume to be published, when he really kicks in to high gear. I cannot recommend this title strongly enough - BUY IT! BUY TWO! WAIT FOR THE SECOND VOLUME, AND BUY TWENTY OF EACH! You will not regret this purchase if you are any sort of Basil Wolverton fan at all.

This is the first in a two-volume retrospective collecting full comics stories, unpublished art, ads, etc. and biography of the famous Mad cartoonist. This is the first of two volumes reprinting copious amounts of comics stories and recounting the career of cartoonist Basil Wolverton. Based on his correspondence and journals, the biographical portion of the books follow Wolverton from childhood to adult day-to-day life as freelance cartoonist, itinerant handyman, persistent contest enterer, and local pastor of the Radio Church of God. Wolverton lived and worked in the Pacific Northwest, unique among the first generation of comic book pioneers. In the precious period before the industry calcified into a commercial institution, Wolverton was free to work under the radar to explore in detail his weird tales of the future. The book collects all of Wolverton's non-humorous comic stories and a substantial selection of his humorous comics, alongside dozens of pages of unpublished artwork, unsold features, and never-before-seen correspondence, including rejection letters! Full-color

Most comic-book artists are associated with a particular genre, but Wolverton was a genre unto himself. This biography-cum-compilation traces the first phase of Wolverton's career. This volume collects all of Wolverton's non-humor stories from the period, mostly space operas with titles like Meteor Murphy and Space Patrol, along with a sampling of his uniquely wacky comedic work, rejected syndication attempts, a Mickey Mouse tryout, and celebrity caricatures. - Gordon Flagg, Booklist

[A] biography that will stand as the definitive work on Basil Wolverton, one of the twentieth century's most singular artists. Creeping Death is resplendent with about 240 pages worth of rare photos, tear sheets, cartoons, unpublished art, manuscript pages, journals, letters, sketches, rare comics, covers, and more. Several complete stories are reprinted in restored color, which makes it worth the price of admission alone. It would be hard to imagine a more satisfying book for a culture vulture. On nearly all levels, the book delivers: selection, presentation, scholarship, writing, design and production. - Paul C. Tumey, The Comics Journal

Creeping Death from Neptune provides an invaluable biography of the first half of Basil Wolverton's life. It's a must-read for any lover of classic comic art. - Jason Sacks, Comics Bulletin

About the Author Basil Wolverton was born near Medford, Oregon in

1909 and died in 1978. His Fantagraphics-published books include Basil Wolverton's Culture Corner and The Wolverton Bible, and his work is featured in Supermen!: The First Wave of Comic Book Heroes 1936-1941. Greg Sadowski is a writer, editor and designer (B. Krigstein, Supermen!, Four Color Fear, Setting the Standard: Alex Toth; Action! Mystery! Thrills!) living in Washington State.