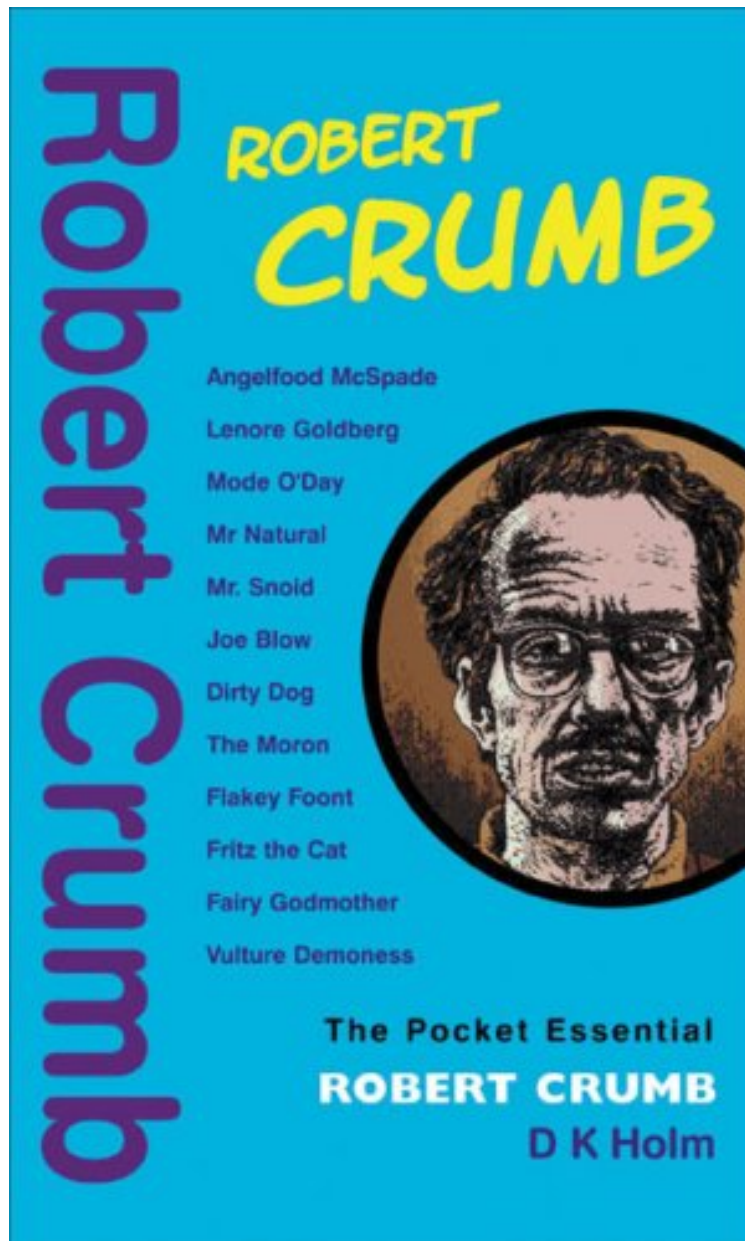


[Download] Robert Crumb (Pocket Essential series)

## Robert Crumb (Pocket Essential series)

*D.K. Holm*

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**D.K. Holm : Robert Crumb (Pocket Essential series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Robert Crumb (Pocket Essential series):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Just a mouthful (but that's better than nothing)By Kerry WaltersIt

amazes (and dismays) me that there's no serious secondary work on the art of R. Crumb. He's one of the most important artistic voices to come out of late twentieth-century America. His satiric comix offer social criticism, invite us to rethink sexual and racial taboos, and delight us with their skillful and beautiful artwork. Crumb's influence on a whole generation of artists, literati, musicians, cultural commentators, and ordinary guys like me is undisputed. Yet the scholars insist on ignoring him, and this is bothersome. That's why D.K. Holm's little book is refreshing, even though inadequate. It's relatively up to date, appearing merely five years ago, and ends with a 2002 interview with Crumb (which is also reprinted in Holm's *R. Crumb: Conversations*, University of Mississippi Press). Moreover, the book provides a decent overview of Crumb's life and career, although curiously the biographical chapters get thinner as the book progresses and Crumb ages; you'd think just the opposite ought to happen. Finally, Holm offers pretty good synopses of some of Crumb's most pivotal work, including (somewhat uncritical) evaluations of it. Along the way, Holm briefly discusses some of the influences on Crumb, a few of the themes in his work, and the phases his work has gone through: from greeting card stuff to the LSD-inspired breakthrough to the years of despair, to the move toward realism to the latest (although only mentioned) "mystic" stage. All this is to the good, and Holm is to be thanked. But it's all too brief, too impressionistic, too sketchy. What we really need is someone (Robert Hughes, perhaps?) either to put together a collection of critical essays on Crumb the artist/thinker/iconoclast, or to write a booklength critical examination of him. But until that time comes, Holm's little book is at least something.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I kept on truckin' but.....By Bob Newman  
Mr. Natural has always loomed large in my cartoon legend, along with MAD magazine, which I devoured every month for many years long back. I even met Mr. Natural once, on a mountaintop in Korea. He had white clothes, a long white beard, and sat on a rock, drinking an O.B. beer. He asked me if we had pumpkin in America. I told him we did, he looked satisfied, and turned to talk with a few old ladies (acolytes?) I was a great fan of ZAP comix. This carried me to the point where, about ten years ago, I bought this slim volume which, I thought, would give me more insight into the weird and whacky R. Crumb. I'd already seen the movie about his life. I mean, that dude is seriously sick, but with serious insights into America and Life. In short, in this effort by D.K. Holm, I did glean a lot of opinions about nearly all his work, presented in order with even the (2004) prices likely to be charged by dealers for each item. The reader will get a summary of each book or series as well. I learned about the influences on Crumb's work, and some biographical information that refreshed my memory or filled in a few gaps. A 2002 interview at the end was easily the most interesting feature because I had not seen it before. Frankly, I was hoping for more insights, but Meatball doesn't work that way. Robert Crumb is perhaps the Edward Hopper of cartoons. He's had a lot of influence on the way millions of people see life or this screwed up country of ours. This book does not really do him justice. I think the definitive R. Crumb biography is yet to be written. Let the man live out his life first before you decide "what it means".

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Curiously Formless  
By Chris Ward  
Mr. Holm really needed an editor for this shapeless mess. It dabbles in biography and bibliography and manages to gradually become a series of reviews of several Crumb publications (seemingly randomly selected), but if you know anything about Crumb to begin with, you don't need this book. I found it slapdash and frustrating-- but it did drive me back to the Crumb comix and collections in my basement, so I guess I should be forgiving....

Pocket Essentials is a dynamic series of books that are concise, lively, and easy to read. Packed with facts as well as expert opinions, each book has all the key information you need to know about such popular topics as film, television, cult fiction, history, and more. This is the first book-length critical study of Robert Crumb, covering all of his cross-cultural endeavours in comics, music, and film. Every significant Crumb comic and story is examined, from the early Yum Yum Book to 2002's *From Cradle to Grave*. Also included is an exclusive interview with Robert Crumb himself.

About the Author  
D. K. Holm is a movie reviewer for the "Vancouver Voice". He has published books on Quentin Tarrantino and R. Crumb. He has also written articles for the "New York Times Book ", "Film Quarterly", and "Sight and Sound". He is the editor of "R. Crumb: Conversations" (University Press of Mississippi).