

Monkey Food: The Complete "I Was Seven in '75" Collection

By Ellen Forney



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Collection from Seattle cartoonist Ellen Forney.



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Affectionate and gently ironic, Forney's popular, Seattle-based autobiographical comics strip, "I Was Seven in '75," celebrates all the wacky details of growing up middle American in the era of disco. This collection of Forney's work reads like a family scrapbook, recounting the painfully funny trials of Forney, her post-hippie parents and her freckled older brother. Here are true stories about parents who throw pot parties and take the family to spend the summer at a nudist colony. With wry, matter-of-fact nostalgia and a slap-dash, expressive cartooning style, the author recounts raw-food fads and getting caught reading Judy Blume's steamy novel Forever. Forney's own work sometimes takes a page out of Blume's classics, recounting the pleasures and trials of preadolescence. She also has a knack for pointing out the cleverness (bean-bag chairs, the Bionic Woman) and silliness (black-and-white shag carpet) in the inventions of the times. Sprinkled throughout are one-page illustrated treatises on favorite pastimes (e.g., the "Pull My Finger" fart game) and fashion Dos (rainbow pants, feathered hair)Athere apparently were no fashion Don'ts in the '70s. Forney's "just yesterday" storytelling style exactly captures the weird fun of those chaotic, colorful times. (Dec.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review

- "Ellen Forney is a major new cartooning talent."
- Feminist Bookstore News
- "Forney's pro-bisexual politics and endearing drawings have been benefiting the renowned Northwestern alternative weekly *The Stranger* for years."
- Girlfriends
- "Affectionate and gently ironic..."
- Publishers Weekly
- "Forney composes big, beautiful scenes, sometimes sketching whole narratives in a single panorama."
- The Stranger

"In the Nov. 3 issue of Seattle's *Stranger* newspaper, *Monkey Food* made the top ten local non-fiction bestseller list at No. 6."

- Eric Reynolds

About the Author Ellen Forney lives in Seattle, WA.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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