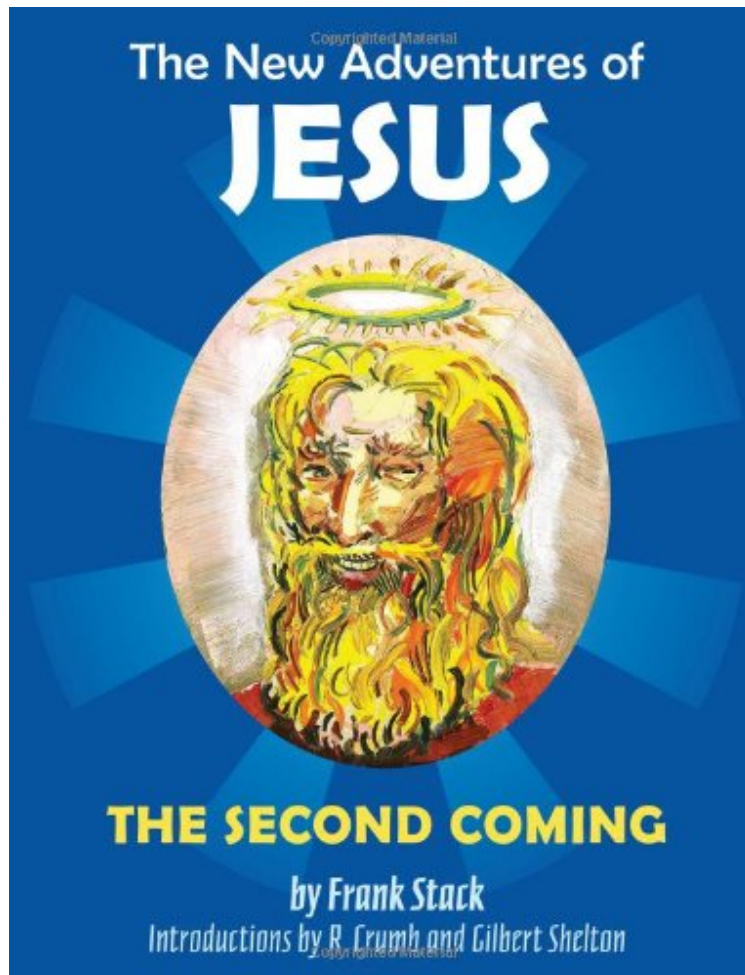


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New Adventures of Jesus

Frank Stack

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#1436179 in Books Fantagraphics Books 2007-01-03Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.80 x .60 x 7.60l, 1.02 #File Name: 1560977809160 pages | File size: 61.Mb

Frank Stack : New Adventures of Jesus before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised New Adventures of Jesus:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Back again?By William LevyWhat can I say? One of the classics of underground comics, collected for the first time in a trade paperback. Outrageous, slapstick, irreverent, will cause endless religious discussion among the open-minded and horror for the know-it-alls who don't really consider the full comic and not-so-comic implications of Jesus' return.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Christ, this was funny!By NextepEven Jesus would like this....0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Must buy.By MoeEasy to see why it was such a cult classic. Wish it was in a bit bigger format as some of the text is hard to read but well worth the effort.

Jesus is back in this collection of groundbreaking collection from Harvey Pekar's Our Cancer Year collaborator.

Underground comics were known for their satirical assaults on beliefs held dear by middle America. None was more witty or biting than the very first underground comic ever published Frank Stack's *The Adventures of Jesus*. Stack's controversial strip first saw print in the Texas counterculture publications, *The Charlatan* and *The Austin Iconoclast*, and the University of Texas humor magazine, *The Texas Ranger*. In 1964, *Texas Ranger* editor Gilbert Shelton (who would later go on to create the little known *Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers*) made 50 photocopies of about a dozen strips, stapled and collated the pages, designed a cover and distributed it to friends around campus. Stack used the pseudonym Foolbert Sturgeon for his Jesus comics, fearful of being ostracized from the university (or killed) in his pursuit of a bachelor of Fine Arts degree. After receiving hate mail addressed to Sturgeon containing threats of death and other forms of religious retribution, he decided it best to retain the alias. "I suppose at first, in the foolish idealism of the satirist, I hoped to reform the world just a little bit, but I underestimated the power of ignorant fundamentalism in this country, a power which is, if anything, more militant and dangerous today than when I began drawing the cartoons." In this witty addendum to the New Testament, Jesus fulfills his promise "to reward the just and punish the unjust," yet returns to Earth with remarkably little fanfare. He soon realizes he may have postponed his second coming a bit too long, arriving when the planet has fallen into a dangerously advanced state of decrepitude, i.e., the late 20th Century. Nonetheless, Jesus is determined to carry out his sacred obligation. Being half-human, after all, he can relate to the skepticism of the jaded populace and isn't above performing a few parlor tricks to convince those skeptical of his divinity. The main concern, though, is whether or not planet Earth is too far gone. Fantagraphics Books is proud to collect, for the first time, over 40 years worth of *The New Adventures of Jesus* including a brand new story by Stack. This edition also features an introduction by R. Crumb and a preface by Gilbert Shelton. Apart from being one of the true underground pioneers, Frank Stack is an accomplished fine artist and currently a Professor of Art at the University of Missouri. His collaboration with Harvey Pekar, *Our Cancer Year*, won the Harvey Award in 1995 for best graphic album/original material.

From *Publishers Weekly* After nearly 40 years, Stack's wry and hilarious strips featuring the Savior have been collected into a tome certain to polarize readers. Considered the first underground comic strip, Stack's take on Jesus offers readers a messiah who is every bit the Old Testament superhero of Sunday school fame, only his human side is what truly shines out. This Jesus is very much a modern man in disposition, resurrected to do his holy thing, yet irritated by such hassles as the police, military idiocy, horny collegiate groupies, Jerry Bruckheimeresque Hollywood blockbusters that distort his story and blacks who are disgusted to find out that he's not a "brutha." The collection drips with the uncertainty and disillusionment common to '60s-era undergrounds, and as the stories move on through the decades it becomes readily apparent that Jesus' second coming has had little-to-no-effect upon the population, and nobody knows that better than he does. Depending on how the individual reacts to a world-weary depiction of the figurehead of the most influential religion of the past two millennia, Stack (*Our Cancer Year*) wrote a fascinating work for the open-minded. (Dec.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From *Booklist* Proving so would probably be impossible, but even its compiler, Stack's friend and fellow Texan cartoonist Gilbert Shelton (*Wonder Warthog*, 1981 and *The Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers*, 2004), allows that the stapled-together *The Adventures of Jesus* (1964) may be the first underground comic. Its stories reappear here, along with those from three larger, classier Jesus comics and later ones including the previously unpublished "Jesus Meets Intellectual Property Rights." At first, Stack injected modern gags into retold "Stories from the Good Book," but after a Second Coming story, he turned his creation to satire of militarism, academia, the cops, big business, and other institutions usually suspect to sixties idealists. The intention is always to pillory everything but Jesus. The results are irreverent and sacrilegious but not blasphemous. Indeed, seldom outside of scripture is Christ portrayed as so fully human as Stack renders him. Stack's drawing style is frizzy like a head of long hair, full of cross-hatching and nervous lines, reminiscent of Jules Feiffer's, Bob Blechman's, and Harvey Kurtzman's stuff. A must for underground-comics mavens, in particular. Ray Olson Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved. About the Author Texan teacher, editor, critic, and cartoonist Frank Stack's *The Adventures of Jesus* (1962) was arguably the first underground comic book. Stack (b. 1937) was a professor of art at the University of Missouri for forty years, and has a BFA from the University of Texas and an MA from the University of Wyoming. He drew Harvey Pekar's *Our Cancer Year* (1994) and edited *Naked Cartoonists* (2012). His work has been collected in several solo collections, most notably *The New Adventures of Jesus* (2007).