

# Imagination and Meaning in Calvin and Hobbes

By Jamey Heit



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From 1985 to 1995, the syndicated comic strip Calvin and Hobbes followed the antics of a precocious six-year-old boy and his sardonic stuffed tiger. At the height of its popularity, the strip ran in more than 2,400 newspapers and generated a fan base that continues to run in the millions. This critical analysis of Calvin and Hobbes explores Calvin's world and its deep reservoir of meanings. Close readings of individual strips highlight the profundity of Calvin's world with respect to a number of life's big questions, including the things that one values, friendship, God, death, and other struggles in life. By engaging with Calvin and Hobbes as more than "just" a comic strip, this work demonstrates how the imagination remains an invaluable resource for making sense of the world.



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#### Review

"such pleasure for we dedicated fans...will prove to be a popular addition to any library collection...recommended"--*Midwest Book Review*; "very solid and straightforward"--*Fanboy Comics*; "Heit offers a critical intertextual look at the beloved comic strip and the profound topics contained within this scholarly work"--*Reference & Research Book News*.

#### About the Author

Jamey Heit holds a doctorate from Glasgow University's Centre for Literature, Theology and the Arts and has written or edited several books that examine topics within popular culture from a variety of academic perspectives. He lives in Glasgow, Scotland.

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