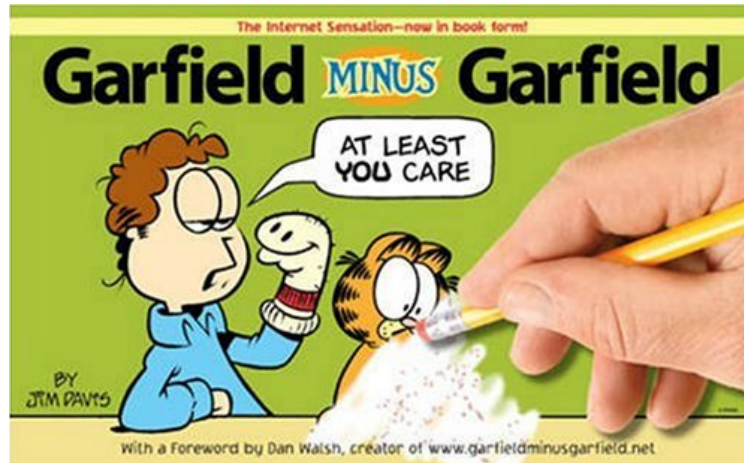


## Garfield Minus Garfield

*Jim Davis*

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**Jim Davis : Garfield Minus Garfield** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Garfield Minus Garfield:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Very clever, indeed...By NecrJoeSome of the strips in this book are worth a half-smile...but others are worth a full-on out-loud laugh. It did make me notice, though, how many of the original "Garfield" strips were already all about Jon. For instance, some of the strips only remove Garfield's reaction after Jon has done something absolutely nutso. But don't let that take anything away from the heart of this book. There is some hilarious stuff there. Another interesting thing was the forward by the "editor" of the Garfield comics, and how he received fan mail from people who suffered from things like depression and other mental issues, and how they identified with Jon. I initially read through the book without having read the forward, but then after reading said forward...I read the book again, and from an entirely different set of eyes and enjoyed it on a whole 'nother dimension. You do really have to feel sorry for Jon by the end of the book, though. That guy's so sad. \*laughs\*3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Renews my interest in GarfieldBy SethI liked Garfield when I was a kid. But as I got older the jokes got old too and my interest faded. Then Garfield Minus Garfield came along and granted a whole new perspective on Jon's life. It was suddenly identifiable and "funny" again, in a sad introspective way. It's not often that one artist reinterprets another artist in a way that truly add dimension to the original work, but that is precisely what has been done here. Davis' choice to publish rather than prosecute is a lesson in the right way to approach recontextualization and a model that other artists (and industries) should follow.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Is it truly schadenfreude if you laugh at your own discomfort?By E. MijoThe book is indeed a poignant, schadenfreudian view of Jim Davis' work on the comic series, 'Garfield', a series that I started reading right from the start with much glee, having lived with a cat and wondered myself if it wasn't for the cat being the focus of my 'alone conversations', would I truly feel or say anything different?Nope, not a single word.

It's Garfield—as you've never seen him! Come savor the existential adventures of Jon Arbuckle in Garfield Minus Garfield. Based on the phenomenon ignited by Dan Walsh's hilarious and wildly popular webcomic (beloved by The New York Times and The Washington Post, and hailed as "inspired" by Garfield creator Jim Davis), Garfield Minus

Garfield takes everyone's favorite fat cat out of the picture, leaving us with only the lonely ennui of Jon as he's left to voice thoughts about his own existence into an empty void. With a Foreword by Dan Walsh, creator of [www.garfieldminusgarfield.net](http://www.garfieldminusgarfield.net)

From Publishers Weekly In an act that should qualify him for the brilliant editors hall of fame, Dan Walsh discovered that if all traces of Jim Davis's lazy, lasagna-scarfing cat were expunged from his own comic strip, Garfield became a funnier, much darker series, about a desperately lonely, self-loathing man's existential despair. Walsh started posting his altered strips at [garfieldminusgarfield.net](http://garfieldminusgarfield.net). And in an act that definitely qualifies him for the good sport hall of fame, Davis not only didn't sue him but approved of the project. This collection of the best de-Garfielded strips prints Walsh's altered cartoons next to Davis's originals; Davis even throws in a couple dozen Garfield-minus-Garfield strips he's done himself. Interestingly, Davis's stabs at the concept are mostly just gags about Garfield's owner, Jon Arbuckle. The gist of Walsh's approach, on the other hand, is to completely alter Davis's jokes—a strip in which Garfield displays a single hair, announces this is all I'll be shedding today and marches off before Jon delivers a punch line, after Walsh gets through with it, becomes two panels of Jon silently glancing around before haplessly declaring, I dread tomorrow. If Samuel Beckett had been a strip cartoonist, he might've produced something like this. (Nov.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. About the Author Jim Davis was born on July 28, 1945, in Marion, Indiana. He later attended Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, where he distinguished himself by earning one of the lowest cumulative grade point averages in the history of the university. (Incidentally, a fellow classmate named David Letterman earned the other). The Garfield strip was born on June 19, 1978, syndicated in forty-one U.S. newspapers. Today it's syndicated in more than 2,100 newspapers worldwide with more than 200 million readers, leading Guinness World Records to name Garfield The Most Widely Syndicated Comic Strip in the World. Davis has had many successes with Garfield, including four Emmy Awards for Outstanding Animated Program and induction into the Licensing Hall of Fame (1998), but his most prized awards are from his peers in the National Cartoonist Society: Best Humor Strip (1981 and 1985), the Elzie Segar Award (1990), and the coveted Reuben Award (1990) for overall excellence in cartooning.