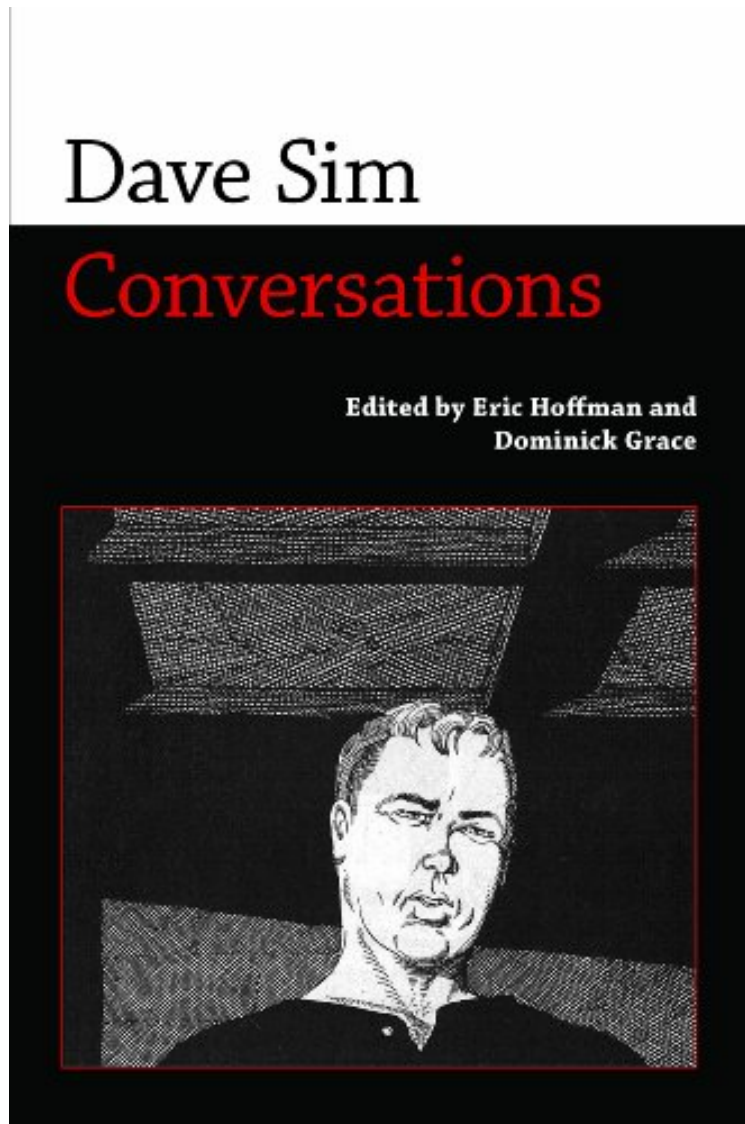


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Dave Sim: Conversations (Conversations with Comic Artists Series)

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From University Press of Mississippi : Dave Sim: Conversations (Conversations with Comic Artists Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dave Sim: Conversations (Conversations with Comic Artists Series):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Nice collection of interviews By meowwcat This book is a collection of interviews that spans Dave Sim's career. Some interesting interviews in here. I already own all of them, but it is nice to have them in a book that I can put on the bookcase and easily reference. 3 of 11 people found the following review

helpful. **SAVE YOUR MONEY**By reading guyThe one star is for the content of the book, which are interviews with Sim. The reason I give one star is that I found the introduction absurdly laudatory and the interviews redundant (at least two of which can be found online). Sim has been productive and provocative, so he is worth reading and analyzing. I have read all his stuff and find him entertaining. But, I felt this book missed an opportunity to ask interesting questions and to really analyze Sim's work.(If you want a comparison and to understand my point, read the Chester Brown Conversations by the same publisher. In that collection of interviews Chester Brown actually reviewed them and added notes and commentary. Similarly many of the interviewers added notes. This is added value to the original interviews. Also, the introduction is analytical, not simply hype).As an example, Sim admits in the interviews that he is a schizophrenic, that he was a mean drunk, that he disdains emotions and feelings and that in general he dislikes women. Rather than just accepting these at face value, I would have liked to probe him on whether these admissions make his work self-limiting.As an example, Sim says, with all sincerity, that he views his magnum opus, Cerebus, as the equivalent of War and Peace. He also boasts on multiple occasions how Cerebus is the longest graphic novel in the world. An interviewer could have challenged him on this as his Cerebus series are actually long illustrated polemics that lack plot, narrative pace, character development, introspection and most importantly cartooning. As for Glamorpuss (which I have read) Sim essentially copied his drawing by tracing over a light box (there is a youtube video where he shows this). An interviewer could have probed why this isn't mere plagiarism. In another part, Sim says he believes only in the rational mind but then has numerous disconnects, such as, in one part he rails against "feminists" and in another he says there is no such thing as feminism.In conclusion, if one is interested in learning about Sim I suggest saving your money and pulling up the online interviews and articles from The Comics Journal. There is nothing new in this book, so it gets one star.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Hoffman strikes paydirt once again.By Fred ZydekDave Sim is a treasure chest of data and information. A must for every home library. If you're a comic buff - this book is for you.

In 1977, Dave Sim (b. 1956) began to self-publish Cerebus, one of the earliest and most significant independent comics, which ran for 300 issues and ended, as Sim had planned from early on, in 2004. Over the run of the comic, Sim used it as a springboard to explore not only the potential of the comics medium but also many of the core assumptions of Western society. Through it he analyzed politics, the dynamics of love, religion, and, most controversially, the influence of feminismwhich Sim believes has had a negative impact on society. Moreover, Sim inserted himself squarely into the comic as Cerebus creator, thereby inviting criticism not only of the creation, but also of the creator.What few interviews Sim gave often pushed the limits of what an interview might be in much the same way that Cerebus pushed the limits of what a comic might be. In interviews Sim is generous, expansive, provocative, and sometimes even antagonistic. Regardless of mood, he is always insightful and fascinating. His discursive style is not conducive to the sound bite or to easy summary. Many of these interviews have been out of print for years. And, while the interviews range from very general, career-spanning explorations of his complex work and ideas, to tightly focused discussions on specific details of Cerebus, all the interviews contained herein are engaging and revealing.

From the Inside FlapInterviews with the creator of CerebusAbout the AuthorEric Hoffman, Vernon, Connecticut, is the author of *Oppen: A Narrative*, a biography of the poet George Oppen, and editor of *Cerebus the Barbarian Messiah: Essays on the Epic Graphic Satire of Dave Sim and Gerhard*. He coedited (with Dominick Grace) *Seth: Conversations* and *Chester Brown: Conversations*, both from University Press of Mississippi.Dominick Grace, London, Ontario, Canada, is the author of *The Science Fiction of Phyllis Gotlieb: A Critical Reading* and an associate professor of English at Brescia University College. He coedited (with Eric Hoffman) *Seth: Conversations* and *Chester Brown: Conversations*, both from University Press of Mississippi.