

The Peanuts

Occasionally, I get to look at the comics page of the newspaper. Of all the strips I have read, I think the *Peanuts* comics are the best. The comic strips were popular when they debuted in 1950, and the *Peanuts* still gain new fans every year. *Peanuts* comics have even been made into movies like “It is Your First Kiss Charlie Brown”, “It’s Thanksgiving Charlie Brown”, and many more. I have tried to watch all of them. *Peanuts* are one of the few comic strips, outside of the superhero genre, to be made into movies. I think they are so popular because of their unique characters and their themes, but they mostly just make me laugh.

The peanuts comics are really funny. One of my favorite early comic is when Charlie Brown and some friends go on a picnic. One friend brings cake, and the other one brings ice cream. They then ask Charlie Brown what he has in his hands. He has soup. That cracks me up.

One of the most famous strips includes Charlie Brown trying to kick the football, and he is always unsuccessful. Even though it seems mean, I like that Charlie Brown never gives up. I also really like this one where two girls are talking, and Lucy comes by and shows them some dance moves she has learned. She says something funny at the end, “that cost my dad twelve dollars“. It is really clever that he seems to know what a kid might say.

In Charlie Brown, innocent lemonade stands are replaced with Lucy’s Psychiatric Help for 5 cents. There is also a funny one where a girl and Snoopy go rabbit hunting. They split up, and Snoopy finds some bunnies and starts dancing with them. Snoopy

goes back to the girl, and she didn't find any bunnies. He does not tell her about his new friends.

My favorite *Peanut* comic of all time is the one where Snoopy and Charlie Brown are at the bookstore. Snoopy wants to return a book for he got for Christmas because a cat is the hero. He says he wants all cats to be on eaten on the first page. These examples make me laugh every time I think of them.

One reason the strip is so popular may be that some *Peanuts* characters remind you of other people or even yourself. If I was a *Peanuts* character, I would definitely be Linus because I hold my blanket sometimes. I think my mom is like Lucy because she fusses about things we forgot to do. I think my brother would be Schroeder because he is a pretty good piano player. I think my dad is similar to Charlie Brown because he fails at remembering things. I think we all have a bit of Charlie Brown inside us because we all have failed at some things. Almost everybody knows a kid who holds his blanket. Almost everybody knows somebody like Peppermint Patty, the bossy tomboy. It is fun to see yourself and your friends when you look at the funnies.

I like the way Charles Shultz allows a pet, Snoopy, to use his imagination. Snoopy believes that his doghouse is really flying and that he is trying to take down the Red Baron. He also takes on many other personalities like literary ace, Flash Beagle and Vulture. One of my favorite Snoopy outfits is Joe Cool where he acts like some guy in college. I think it is funny when Linus talks to Snoopy in his surgeon outfit. Linus asks Snoopy, "did you become a surgeon because you knew you would be saving lives?" Snoopy says "No, I did for the shirt and the little green booties". That is funny.

My very favorite Snoopy “character” is the Easter Beagle. When Snoopy is the Easter Beagle he does not use a costume, but he tosses the eggs to everybody. You can always tell when Snoopy is the Easter Beagle just by the way he is drawn. In one funny scene, Lucy has made some colored eggs and hidden them, but Snoopy, as the Easter Beagle, takes them and gives them away.

I love *Peanuts* comics, and I have a giant book called Peanuts: A Golden Celebration. It has tons of *Peanuts* comics, and I love it. I would highly recommend that you start reading the comics and watching the movies. Even though Charles Schultz has passed away, his comics are still funny to today’s kids.

Nathan Hinkle

3025 W. 55th Pl.

Tulsa, OK 74107

398-9778

5/12/97

Peanuts

Age 10-11, Informal Essay