



The Smurfs and Friends

Peyo

Papercutz (Dec 8, 2015)
Hardcover \$19.99 (192pp)
978-1-62991-199-1

Pierre Culliford, better known as Peyo, is famous as the creator of *The Smurfs*, but Papercutz shows that he had more than just those little blue gnomes to offer in *The Smurfs & Friends*. The book is a compilation of some of Peyo's other work, better known in Europe, featuring Johan, a young hero of medieval times, and Benny Breakiron, a French boy who possesses superpowers but is susceptible to ability-robbing colds. These non-Smurf tales make up over half of the book, but for pure Smurfophiles, there's "The Flute Smurfers," written by Peyo's son for the fiftieth anniversary of the well-known story "The Smurfs and the Magic Flute." "The Flute Smurfers" serves as a prequel to the earlier tale, and features Johan and Peewit, Johan's sidekick. Also included is a smattering of Smurf newspaper comic strips to round out the collection. While some Smurf fans may not be interested in the non-Smurf material, completists and those interested in Peyo's other efforts will enjoy both the works themselves and Matt Murray's detailed historical notes.

PETER DABBENE (Spring 2016)

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