



Archy and Mehitabel,

By Don Marquis

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This beloved illustrated classic tells the tale of Archy, a philosophical cockroach, and Mehitabel, a cat in her ninth life.

Generations of readers have delighted in the work of the great American humorist Don Marquis. Marquis's satirical free-verse poems, which first appeared in his New York newspaper columns in 1916, revolve around the escapades of Archy, a philosophical cockroach who was a poet in a previous life, and Mehitabel, a streetwise alley cat who was once Cleopatra. Reincarnated as the lowest creatures on the social scale, they prowl the rowdy streets of New York City in between the world wars, and Archy records their experiences and observations on the boss's typewriter late at night. First published in 1927, *Archy and Mehitabel* has become a celebrated part of the twentieth-century American literary canon.

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Archy and Mehitabel, By Don Marquis Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #7397418 in Books
- Published on: 1929
- Binding: Unknown Binding

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Of all the literary genres, humor has the shortest shelf life--except for Archy and Mehitabel, that is. First published in 1916, it is a classic of American literature. Archy is a cockroach, inside whom resides the soul of a free-verse poet; he communicates with Don Marquis by leaping upon the keys of the columnist's typewriter. In poems of varying length, Archy pithily describes his wee world, the main fixture of which is Mehitabel, a devil-may-care alley cat.

Archy music will linger in your head long after you finish the book. Here's a tiny taste from his interview with a mummy:

"what ho
my regal leatherface says i

greetings
little scatter footed
scarab
says he"

Writers (particularly journalists) can go lifetimes without attaining such loose-limbed grace. And the illustrations by George Herriman ("Krazy Kat") provide the perfect counterpoint. On top of all that, Marquis did the impossible: he made a cockroach loveable.

Review

Collection of humorous stories by Don Marquis, originally published from 1916 in Marquis's newspaper columns "The Sun Dial" in the New York Evening Sun and "The Lantern" in the New York Herald Tribune and published in book form in 1927. The stories center on Archy, a philosophical cockroach who types messages to the author in lowercase letters (being unable to activate the shift mechanism), and Mehitabel, a free-spirited alley cat whose motto is "toujours gai." After initial publication, the work and its sequels were usually published without capital letters. Archy and Mehitabel consists mostly of free-verse poems on such concerns of Archy's as transmigration of souls, social injustice, life in New York City, and death. Sequels included Archy's Life of Mehitabel (1933) and Archy Does His Part (1935), both of which were included in the lives and times of archy and mehitabel (1940; illustrated by George Herriman), a posthumously published compendium of the previous books. -- *The Merriam-Webster Encyclopedia of Literature*

From the Publisher

The now classic tale of Archy the cockroach and Mehitabel the cat in her ninth life. First published in 1927, this free verse poem has become an essential part of American literature.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Anthony Edwards:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important work, like looking for your favorite guide and reading a publication. Beside you can solve your long lasting problem; you can

add your knowledge by the publication entitled Archy and Mehitabel,. Try to face the book Archy and Mehitabel, as your close friend. It means that it can for being your friend when you experience alone and beside that of course make you smarter than before. Yeah, it is very fortunated for you personally. The book makes you considerably more confidence because you can know almost everything by the book. So , let's make new experience in addition to knowledge with this book.

Jenna Springer:

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Darryl Payton:

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John Yang:

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