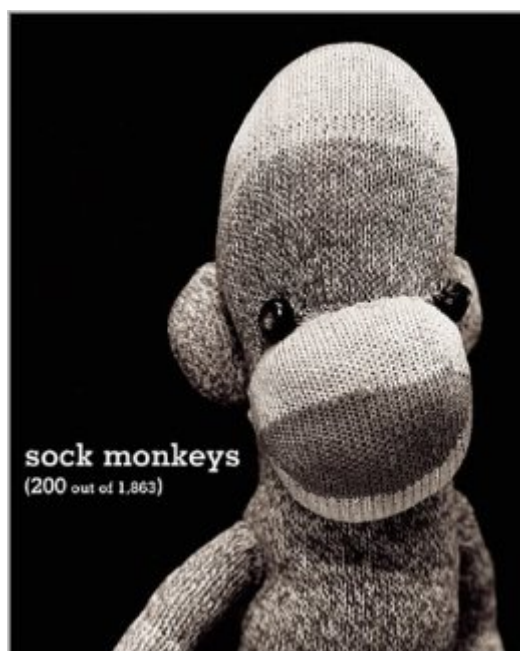


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# Sock Monkeys: (200 Out Of 1,863)



## Synopsis

In 1985 Ron Warren began collecting sock monkeys--those icons of American thrift and inventiveness that for generations have been hand-stitched from a pair of red-heel work socks. Years later he met photographer Arne Svenson (author of the recent popular volume *Chewed*) who, intrigued by the obsessive nature and growing size of the collection, began with equal obsession to document individually its more than 1,800 examples. To convey the distinct personality imbued in each monkey by its maker, Svenson photographs them in the manner of classical black-and-white portraiture: flatteringly lit, cropped at the shoulders, eyes to the camera. The first 200 of these sock monkey portraits, reproduced larger than life as full-page duotones, are assembled in this book. Invited contributors, including novelists Jonathan Safran Foer, Neil Gaiman and Dale Peck; entertainers Penn & Teller; and fashion commentators Simon Doonan and Isaac Mizrahi, have interjected short stories inspired by the subject of their favorite sock monkey photograph. The result is an engaging, humorous and at times disturbing reanimation of creatures long relegated to the attic or the back of the closet.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (15 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

about... there isn't much to read in this book, it is just pictures of sock monkeys and a few page silly stories... but i love the pictures. a great great quirky coffee table book! i am gonna buy more so i can give em to friends.

Sock Monkeys is a charming way to spend an hour or two. The book shows you why the authors fell in love with them. I defy anyone not to experience a covetuous pang while reading this book. The essays are as various as the pictures, elegant, sad, clapped out and the old fashioned heartbreaker. I'm sorry I didn't buy two copies. Now I'll have to spring for another shipping charge so I can have a copy on hand to give to a friend in need of a shot of delight.

When this book arrived, it was perfect timing. Sick at home, I couldn't have asked for a better pick-me-up when UPS arrived with my Sock Monkey book. Although I was hoping the photos showed the monkeys in various poses vs. portraits, the portraits are all so cute that it made up for my disappointment. (I'd love to see the author shoot them in various situations.) The text is cute, and the photography is top notch. If you're a sock monkey fan, this is a must have for your library. Makes a great coffee table book too - especially since it looks very hip (not childish). Show a little sock monkey love and pick up a copy!

All of the photos are black & white. Each photo is a close up of a different sock monkey. I guess I didn't read the description as well as I thought. I wanted a sock monkey book that showed how people pose them. But if you love sock monkeys this book is great because there are so many different patterns.

I bought this book 10 years ago and never tired of it. Who imagined there could be such diversity in critters made out of the traditional red-heel sock? The excellent photography is straightforward but conveys each monkey's personality in a way that still surprises and delights me. The stories that accompany many of the portraits make it all that much more charming. For sock monkey fans, this is a must-have, but even for those who have yet to discover the magic of the sock monkey, this is a terrific gift book. It is one of my prize picture books. Printing quality in the first edition I have also is excellent.

It's a picture book not at all what I was looking for. I was looking for a book on how to make a sock monkey when I was sent to .com. Not well explained before you buy. This book is not what I thought I was getting. I have no use for a picture book. Ordered 3 books on sock monkey's still don't know how to make on.

What an incredible partnership between the collector and the photographer. These photographs are

beautiful. The images capture the whimsy and personality created by anonymous hands. I have collected books of photographic images since the late 1970's and sock monkeys since the early 1990's. This is a wondrous book!! hope they consider a new edition with more of the collection.(They also have a terrific box of note cards from images in the book)

I loved this pictorial book about a Sock Monkey collection...just their pictures and a few speculative stories...No two alike, and each has their own personality...Great gift for almost anyone...

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