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Guide to the Behold the Handmaid comic illustrations

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Guide to the Behold the Handmaid comic illustrations, 1951 ML.009

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository	The Marian Library/International Marian Research Institute
Creator	Pflaum Publishing Group
Title	Behold the Handmaid comic illustrations
Date	1951
Extent	2.0 Linear feet (1 over-sized flat document case)
Language	English
Abstract	This collection contains the original black and white, large scale (14.5" x 22.5") illustrations for the comic book, Behold the Handmaid: The Story of Our Blessed Mother, published by Pflaum Publishing in 1954.

Preferred Citation

Behold the Handmaid comic illustrations, 1951. Marian Library, University of Dayton Libraries, Dayton, Ohio.

History of Pflaum Publishing Company

In 1885, the Pflaum Publishing Company was founded by George A. Pflaum Sr. The publishing house, located in Dayton, Ohio, first produced a weekly newspaper, the Young Catholic Messenger. The newspaper was distributed to students in the Catholic School System. George A. Pflaum Jr. took over the company's operation upon his father's death. He expanded the Young Catholic Messenger series to include the Junior Catholic Messenger and Our Little Messenger, each of which addressed a different age group. It was not long before the company was known to Catholic parents across the United States and Canada for producing religious and moral reading material for all members of the family. In addition to the Messenger series, George A. Pflaum Jr. began the publication of the Treasure Chest of Fun and Fact, a Catholic comic book, in 1946.

Most of the stories promoted themes of faith, family, and patriotism and related to sports, school, and Saints. Contributors included Frank Borth, Bob Powell, and Reed Crandall. Today the Pflaum Publishing Group continues to publish a wide range of materials used for Catholic religious education. (Historical note by University Archives, University of Dayton)

Scope and Contents

This collection contains 50 original hand-drawn illustrations for the comic book, Behold the Handmaid: The Story of Our Blessed Mother, published by Pflaum Publishing Group in Dayton, Ohio in 1954. The artist is unknown and the illustrations were most likely commissioned by Pflaum. The work covers the life of Mary from birth to Assumption, and is most likely geared towards children.

The illustrations are done in ink on 14.5" x 22.5" drawing paper.

Arrangement

The illustrations are arranged sequentially, from cover to page 49.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

The Marian Library/International Marian Research Institute, 2011

Revision Description

May 2013

Access to Materials

This collection is open and available to the public for research in the Marian Library reading room. The materials are non-circulating.

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Acquisition Information

Donated to the Marian Library.

Processing Information

This collection was processed by Jillian Slater in 2011.

Related Materials

Related Materials

Pflaum Publishing Company Publications, 1889-1971. University Archives and Special Collections, University of Dayton Libraries, Dayton, Ohio.

Search Terms

Subject(s)

- Comic books, strips, etc.--Illustrations
- Comic books, strips, etc.--Religious aspects--Catholic Church
- Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint--Art