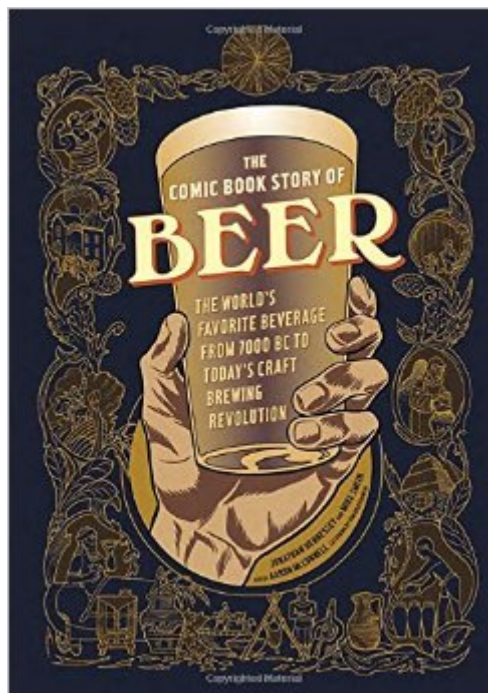


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# The Comic Book Story Of Beer: The World's Favorite Beverage From 7000 BC To Today's Craft Brewing Revolution



## Synopsis

A *New York Times* Best Seller A full-color, lushly illustrated graphic novel that recounts the many-layered past and present of beer through dynamic pairings of pictures and meticulously researched insight into the history of the world's favorite brew. *The History of Beer Comes to Life!* We drink it. We love it. But how much do we really know about beer? Starting from around 7000 BC, beer has emerged as a major element driving humankind's development, a role it has continued to play through today's craft brewing explosion. With *The Comic Book Story of Beer*, the first-ever nonfiction graphic novel focused on this most favored beverage, you can follow along from the very beginning, as authors Jonathan Hennessey and Mike Smith team up with illustrator Aaron McConnell to present the key figures, events, and, yes, beers that shaped and frequently made history. No boring, old historical text here, McConnell's versatile art style—moving from period-accurate renderings to cartoony diagrams to historical caricatures and back—finds an equal and effective partner in the pithy, informative text of Hennessey and Smith presented in captions and word balloons on each page. The end result is a filling mixture of words and pictures sure to please the beer aficionado and comics geek alike.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (55 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Do you like beer? Do you like graphic novels? If you answered "yes" to at least one of those questions, then there is a good chance you will like this book. If you answered in the affirmative for both of those questions, then what are you doing wasting your time reading reviews? You already

know this book is explicitly for you. It costs the same as like 3 or 4 pints, but the upshot is that you won't be peeing the book a couple of hours later. PROS:--It has that awesome new book smell.--You might learn something new about beer.--It pairs wonderfully with beer.--This book can be used as a Turing field test. If you encounter someone that does not like this book, then there is a high probability that they are a robot automaton with no soul. CONS:--Does not actually come with beer.--You might end up writing drunken reviews on when you finish the book three beers later.--If you're looking for a third reason to not buy this book, then congratulations, you're a robot. It's well written, nicely researched, wonderfully illustrated, blah blah blah. Add this to your cart right now.

This is a "beerful" book! It is fantastic! It is so much fun to read this book and discover all the little historical tidbits about beer that I was not aware of at my ripe old age. Be sure to read the fine print under some of the images, for they are delightfully done. I am contemplating facilitating a course on the history of beer at our local Senior Center in the future. I plan to use this book for the basis of our study of beer, and then possibly visit four microbreweries in our area. I have been jotting down various beers mentioned in the book that I plan on finding, purchasing, and discovering. If you are interested in knowing more about beer, then this is a great book to get you into expanding your knowledge of this age old beverage.

What a terrific book! This book takes an exciting tour of human history from the perspective of the world's greatest drink. A must read for anyone who enjoys the many breweries and beer styles available today. The story of beer is told as a seamless thread through ancient civilizations, empires, religions, wars and corporate growth. The final triumph of beer's resurgence in American craft beer makes us "astonishingly lucky to find ourselves drinking beer at the best time to do so in all of human existence!". Finishing this book was bittersweet, and I decided to enjoy the final chapter along with a Trappist Triple - a beer style, I learned, that was preserved by monks in Northern Europe after the fall of the Roman Empire. Only a small handful of breweries in Germany and Holland (and one in the U.S.) can truly call their beers Trappist Ales! I know I will open this book again and again and continue to enjoy the awesome history of beer!

I had this on my wish list, and I purchased on the recommendation of a friend. It's a fun read. It gives an astounding amount of detail for being a graphic book. Traces the history of beer from ancient civilization to medieval Europe and on to the New World and ends with a decidedly Americentric look at Prohibition and the craft beer rebirth. It's accurate with inline citations. A

comprehensive index allows you to use this as a reference book. I recommend it without reservation.

Chronicling the history of beer (starting with pre-historical archaeological evidence and speculation), this book gives a quick but detailed view of the origins of beer-making by ancient peoples and follows through to the modern micro-brewing revolution in the United States. The book is entertainingly written and occasionally touches on major historical events when they are in some way related to beer (like Hitler's Beer Hall Putsch). The book also gives one page information sheets on all the major styles of beer (like pilsners, porters, IPAs, etc.), detailing their color, bitterness, and strength as well as good food pairings and readily accessible examples of each style. I enjoyed the book--the style of illustration is fun and creative, as is the story telling. When new elements become part of the story (like hops), how those elements are used in brewing beer are described. The occasional digs against the Catholic Church, government authorities, and big business is a little off-putting. The author definitely comes from an "independent brewing is great/big brewing is bad" perspective (the publisher is from Berkeley!) and has an anti-establishment vibe that may not bother you but I at least noticed it. Otherwise it's a great read.

For those of us who like beer, especially different kinds of beer, this is a great book. For those who like graphic novels, it's also a great book. But for those who don't really like beer, or only one type of beer, this is a fantastic book! It's interesting, it's fun to read, and it gives a perspective of human history and culture that many simply have not ever thought about. Did I mention it's interesting and fun to read?

The Comic Book Story of Beer, Jonathan Hennessey, writer and author of two non-fiction graphic novels, Mike Smith, a professional brewer with over a dozen years' experience and currently the head brewer at Back East Brewing Company, and illustrator and comics creator Aaron McConnell. The book is well illustrated, educational and entertaining and written with a sense of humor. It covers the origins of beer, the brewing process, beer throughout history and the social, technological, and economic changes that made beer what it is today. The authors are able to convey the essential of beer in an amusing way that hits the high points without getting overly granular. Great for people who want a quick overview.

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