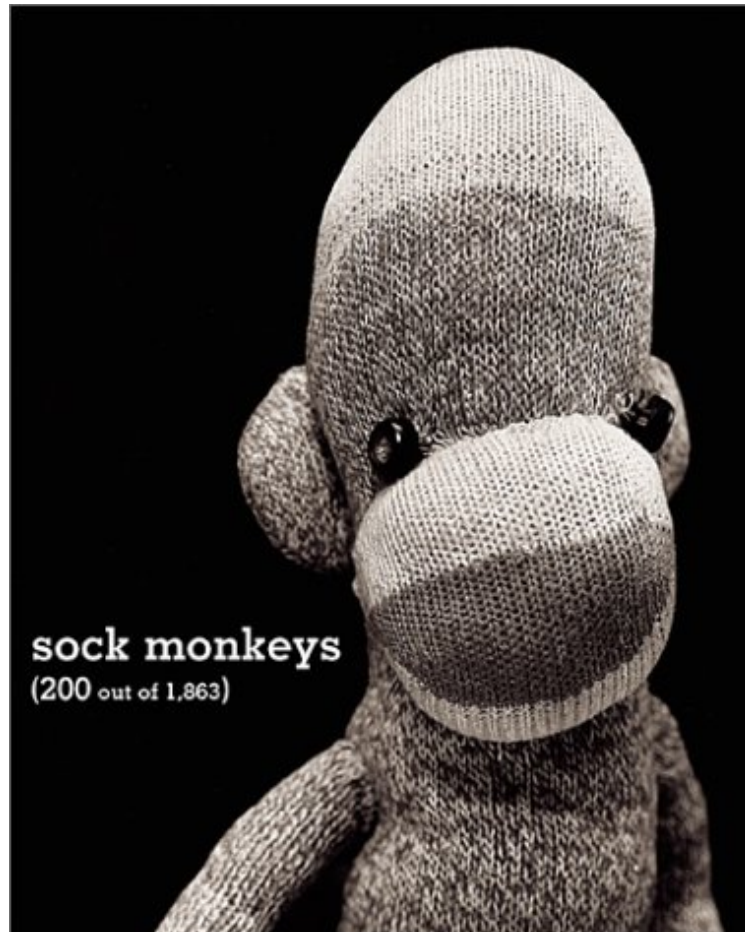


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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Stands the test of timeBy ali tl bought this book 10 years ago and never tired of it. Who imagined there could be such diversity in critters made out of the traditional red-heel sock? The excellent 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.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Sock monkey line up.By MoAll of the photos are black white. Each photo is a close up of a different sock monkey. I guess I didn't read the discription as well as I thought. I wanted a sock monkey book that showed how people pose them. But if you love sock monkie this book is great because there are so many different patterns.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Formal Monkey PortraitsBy Lynne BaileyWhat 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! I 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)

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.

The dignified tone of the portraits perfectly emphasizes the distinct individuality of each piece and the resonance it has with its creator. [Sock Monkeys] triggers sympathies that embarrass the hard-hearted and cause sentimental viewers to gush.