



## Catch-22: 50th Anniversary Edition

By Joseph Heller



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Catch-22: 50th Anniversary Edition By Joseph Heller

**This fiftieth-anniversary edition commemorates Joseph Heller’s masterpiece with a new introduction; critical essays and reviews by Norman Mailer, Alfred Kazin, Anthony Burgess, and others; rare papers and photos; and much more.**

Fifty years after its original publication, *Catch-22* remains a cornerstone of American literature and one of the funniest—and most celebrated—books of all time. In recent years it has been named to “best novels” lists by *Time*, *Newsweek*, the Modern Library, and the *London Observer*.

Set in Italy during World War II, this is the story of the incomparable, malingering bombardier, Yossarian, a hero who is furious because thousands of people he has never met are trying to kill him. But his real problem is not the enemy—it is his own army, which keeps increasing the number of missions the men must fly to complete their service. Yet if Yossarian makes any attempt to excuse himself from the perilous missions he’s assigned, he’ll be in violation of *Catch-22*, a hilariously sinister bureaucratic rule: a man is considered insane if he willingly continues to fly dangerous combat missions, but if he makes a formal request to be removed from duty, he is proven sane and therefore ineligible to be relieved.

This fiftieth-anniversary edition commemorates Joseph Heller’s masterpiece with a new introduction by Christopher Buckley; a wealth of critical essays and reviews by Norman Mailer, Alfred Kazin, Anthony Burgess, and others; rare papers and photos from Joseph Heller’s personal archive; and much more. Here, at last, is the definitive edition of a classic of world literature.



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## **Catch-22: 50th Anniversary Edition By Joseph Heller Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

There was a time when reading Joseph Heller's classic satire on the murderous insanity of war was nothing less than a rite of passage. Echoes of Yossarian, the wise-ass bombardier who was too smart to die but not smart enough to find a way out of his predicament, could be heard throughout the counterculture. As a result, it's impossible not to consider *Catch-22* to be something of a period piece. But 40 years on, the novel's undiminished strength is its looking-glass logic. Again and again, Heller's characters demonstrate that what is commonly held to be good, is bad; what is sensible, is nonsense.

Yossarian says, "You're talking about winning the war, and I am talking about winning the war and keeping alive."

"Exactly," Clevinger snapped smugly. "And which do you think is more important?"

"To whom?" Yossarian shot back. "It doesn't make a damn bit of difference who wins the war to someone who's dead."

"I can't think of another attitude that could be depended upon to give greater comfort to the enemy."

"The enemy," retorted Yossarian with weighted precision, "is anybody who's going to get you killed, no matter which side he's on."

Mirabile dictu, the book holds up post-Reagan, post-Gulf War. It's a good thing, too. As long as there's a military, that engine of lethal authority, *Catch-22* will shine as a handbook for smart-alecky pacifists. It's an utterly serious and sad, but damn funny book.

#### From Publishers Weekly

*Starred Review.* It would be difficult to imagine richer material for an audiobook reader, comedically speaking, than Joseph Heller's classic novel of wartime madness. Sanders is the lucky actor chosen to read Heller's masterpiece, and he does well by it, proceeding gamely through the novel's staggering array of comic set pieces and deliriously woozy dialogue. Heller's humor is straight-faced, requiring little more than a steady, sure voice, and Sanders offers just that. Line by line, joke by joke, Sanders reels through the marvelous phantasmagoria of Heller's World War II, tongue planted firmly in cheek. Caedmon's impressive package includes a 1970s-era recording of Heller reading selections from his book. Heller is a delightful contrast to Sanders, his slight lisp accentuating a marvelous Brooklyn accent. Heller reads as if with cigar perched on his lip and turns his novel into an extended borscht belt comic's riff.

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#### From Library Journal

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#### Holley Shipman:

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**David Robinson:**

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read a book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent all day every day to reading a reserve. The book Catch-22: 50th Anniversary Edition it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book has high quality.

**Joyce Loza:**

People live in this new day of lifestyle always make an effort to and must have the time or they will get lot of stress from both daily life and work. So , whenever we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not really a robot. Then we consult again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative in spending your spare time, often the book you have read will be Catch-22: 50th Anniversary Edition.

**Donna Willeford:**

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