Cathy Encyclopedia Article

Cathy

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Contents

Cathy Encyclopedia Article.....1

Contents.....2

Cathy.....3

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The comic strip *Cathy,* by American artist and writer Cathy Guisewite, addresses the insecurities and desires of a new generation of women trying to balance traditional pressures with the responsibility of careers and other personal freedoms. Premiering in November of 1976, *Cathy* introduced a character struggling with a mother urging marriage and children, a demanding boss, a noncommittal boyfriend, and a loathing for her figure. Although Guisewite was instrumental in bringing women's issues to the daily comics, *Cathy* also has its detractors who long for a less scattered, more self-confident female character. Nevertheless, *Cathy* has grown to syndication in more than 1,400 newspapers and has spawned books, television specials, and a line of merchandise.

Further Reading:

Friendly, Jonathan. "Women's New Roles in Comics." *New York Times.* February 28, 1983, p. B5.

Moritz, Charles, editor. *Current Biography.* New York, H.W.Wilson, 1989.

Sjoerdsma, Ann G. "Guisewite Could Be a Stronger, More Profound Voice for Single Women." *Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Service.* August 15, 1997.