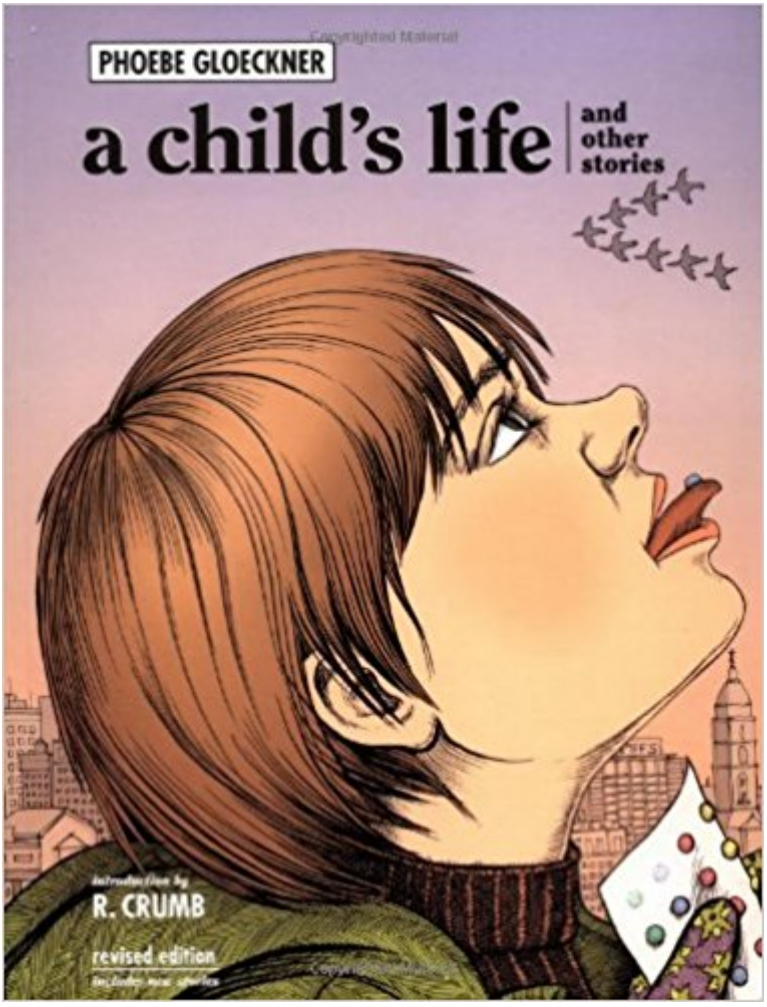
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A Child's Life And Other Stories



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Synopsis

Phoebe Gloeckner’s first book collects her highly praised autobiographical accounts of a teenage girl’s loss of innocence through sex, drugs, rape, and AIDS. This edition includes eight pages of new material.Long respected as one of the finest and most original of today’s underground comics artists, Gloeckner shows both technical artistry and tremendous rangeÃ¢â ¬â •from her sly, lurid, and brilliantly colored posters for rock groups to her textbook-quality medical illustrations; from her sharp naturalistic juxtapositions for The Atrocity Exhibition (J.G. Ballard) to the signature comics for which she is best known.Pages include both black and white and color comics, some that were published before in obscure comic books, and some of her classics in addition to new stories. In detailed, nuanced panels, these strips depict the isolation, horror, and disappointmentÃ¢â ¬â •but also the revolutionary, transformative powerÃ¢â ¬â •of young women trapped in circumstances ringed with drugs and sexual abuse. Gloeckner continues as a major literary and visual artist.

Book Information

Paperback: 152 pages

Publisher: Frog Books; Revised edition (September 30, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1583940286

ISBN-13: 978-1583940280

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 24 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #190,696 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #76 inÃ Â Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Contemporary Women #370 inÃ Â Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Literary #520 inÃ Â Books > Parenting & Relationships > Family Relationships > Abuse

Customer Reviews

Gloeckner is a legendary figure in underground comics. Her short, powerfully candid and visually explicit autobiographical graphic narratives vividly re-create the sexual victimization of her childhood and adolescence. Her first full-length book combines new work in color and in black-and-white, including the title story, along with older, shorter narrative comics dating back to 1976. (An appendix reprints her disturbing medical illustrations for J.G. Ballard’s avant-SF classic The Atrocity Exhibition.) Abandoned by her father and sexually victimized by her alcoholic mother’s lovers, the

teenage heroine of "Minnie's 3rd Love" endures a "week-long nightmare of sex and drug-taking" among the hustlers and addicts of 1974 San Francisco. In the ruefully humorous "Quaker School Q-Ties," girls team up to embarrass, and disgust, boys in their grade school. Gloeckner's drawings combine a labored precision with a wild, often satirical expressiveness; her protagonists can resemble sad, angry toy dolls. Undergound comics master R. Crumb's introduction combines glowing praise and a typically embarrassing confession: "I, too, lusted after the young, budding artist-cartoonist." Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"I thought that Phoebe Gloeckner's story, 'Minnie's Third Love,' was one of the best comic stories I ever read in my life ... a masterpiece. She is one of the best, which is interesting, seeing as: A.) She's a cute girl, B.) She's not a very prolific artist ... two factors which, one would assume, would be a hindrance to great art. But it's always a mystery, what makes great art ... there, I said it ... she's a great artist."Ã¢â ¬â •R. Crumb, cartoonist"Phoebe Gloeckner's illustrations for The Atrocity Exhibition were superbÃ¢â ¬â •wonderful line and shading of which Durer would have approvedÃ¢â ¬â •several were absolute tours de force."Ã¢â ¬â •J.G. Ballard, author of Crash and The Atrocity Exhibition"Many cartoonists today mine their personal lives for subject matter. Phoebe Gloeckner achieves what few of them can; she makes the autobiographical universal. Her finely crafted drawings and emotionally powerful story-telling ability combine in this terrific collection to tell us painful, sympathetic, and hilariously human truths. Read this book. Find out why comics are art."Ã¢â ¬â •Bill Griffith, creator of Zippy the Pinhead

I don't know how I learned of this book, but it is disturbing, and, yet, compelling. The author, Phoebe Gloecker, is a medical illustrator and also an abuse victim. She has, among others, a rather disturbing illustration of a child having oral sex with an adult man. She is medically technical with some of her illustrations of sexual abuse, sometimes giving cross sections of the abuse.I think sexual abuse victims will feel that her story has some resonance with theirs. She depicts the mental manipulation of abuse and some of the underlying psychology going on through her illustrations in a disturbingly accurate way that few "professional" books show!

This book was reviewed here: [...]Phoebe GloecknerÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Diary of a Teenage GirlÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• is ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“An Account in Words and PicturesÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• of Minnie, a fifteen-year-old who is having an affair with Monroe, a

35-year-old man who is also her motherÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s lover. What makes this story so different from other ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“child abuse memoirsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• is that not once in the book does young Minnie (or anyone) claim she was coerced, abused, molested or raped. In fact, throughout the book, we are led to believe that Minnie was an active and willing participant in the relationship.There are endless coming-of-age stories depicting young boys enjoying their budding sexuality without shame, many of them lusting after women twice their age. Usually we are given a view of women as sexual objects, yet deny that they are sexual creatures. This is a story of a teenage girl shamelessly exploring her sexuality with enthusiasm. She is intelligent, self aware, amorous, sexually liberated, without the usual consequential disaster normally associated with these traits. This is one reason why ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“DiaryÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• is such a unique novel.This 300 page book switches between prose and graphic novel, starting with a detailed drawing of Minnie, dark long hair with short bangs, big eyes looking up into the sky. The words on the opposite page read:ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“I DONÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢T REMEMBER BEING BORN. I was a very ugly child. My appearance has not improved so I suppose it was a lucky break when he was attracted by my youthfulness.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•You can tell in the drawing that Minnie is not bad looking, but it is easy to get right into her mind-set, because what 15-year-old ever knows she is attractive? We also understand that this character has some insight because she knows it was her youthfulness that attracted the attention of Monroe.Set in San Francisco during 1976, the adults in MinnieÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s life have no boundaries, or any understanding of her emotions, needs or intelligence. Her best friend Kimmie is the epitome of all Minnie dislikes in herself. As we get to know Monroe better, we understand that he is an insecure, needy, emotional child at best, and at worst, he is an all-out child molester who should be imprisoned for life.This book is unique, powerful and not for the tenderhearted. If you are bored reading about women that are usually the victim, always innocent, never responsible for their own decisions or their own lot in life, you will find this story refreshing in its truthfulness. The artwork is beautiful and detailed. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s no surprise the author/artist works as a medical illustrator.I also read ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“A ChildÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Life,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• PhoebeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s previous book published in 1998. The graphic novel was classified as pornography and refused entry by customs officials in both France and England. It reads to me as the story-board for the 2002 ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“DiaryÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•; if you are planning on reading both, start with ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“A ChildÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Life,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• not because itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s necessary for the story line, but because reading it after ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“DiaryÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• might be redundant or anti-climatic.Favorite quote ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“I wish I knew

someone who was happyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• or ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“My youth is something that cannot be helped.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•

Deeply disturbing and dark--I often find these types of reads fascinating--but this is even a bit much for me...beautiful drawings, depth and care, excellent artistry and story telling.

Loved it! So honest and raw, definitely would recommend if your a fan of graphic novels

GREAT BOOK!

Excellent. A landmark in graphic novels, comics and feminist literature. Arrived quickly I'm good shape.

Perfect item, took awhile for me to get it.

It seems rare that people grow up in dysfuntionaly free families. My family was dysfunctional because no one knew or understood any thing about haveing and living with ADD. But despite my families dysfuntions I always knew and understood that my parents loved me. Some people are not as fortunet to live in a loving family even if they are free of dysfuntions, but not being told you are loved and wanted while growning up is in itself dysfuntional.Phoebe Gloeckner is very much a talented illustrative artist and tells/illustrates her story of growing up in one such dysfuntional family. It shows how she was effected and what she did as a result. Even at a young age she knew she like drawing and was good at it, and eventually it was her belief in her drawing abilities that allowed her to over come some of the issue of living in a dysfuntional family and to go on and improve her life.Phoebe unflincingly looks at and shows part of her past, that many people would want to soon forget.it shows how damaging some dysfuntional family can be and their effects on your life growning up, because you have a distorted view of how life should be. It also shows to some extent how likeing and developing a perticular talent, in this case likeing to draw, can allow you to escape from the past and dysfuntional behaivor.Now one is free of self doubt or having psychological problems of one kind or another. Human being can be very flawed creatures, but as we grow older we can be come self aware that what we do as dysfuntional people is not good behaivore and we can decide to no longer want to be dysfuntional people and learn how to improve ourselves. Certainly Phoebe's talent has helped allowed herself to grow and learn to become a very talented

artist and along the way she learned so need not repeat past mistakes and has imporved her life.

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