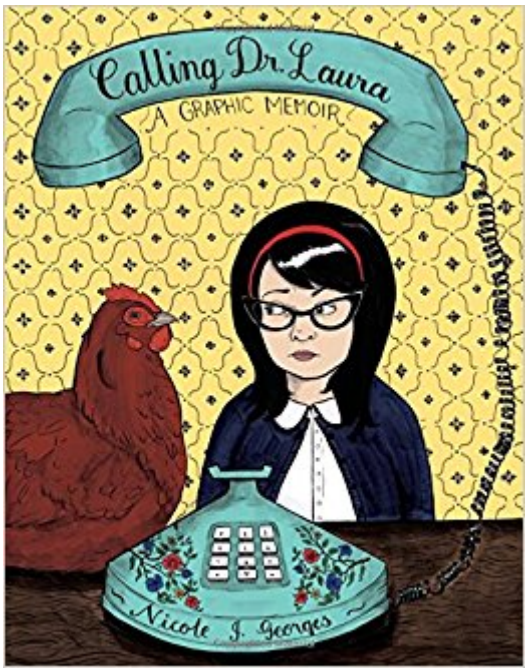
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Calling Dr. Laura: A Graphic Memoir



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Synopsis

When Nicole GeorgesÃ Â was two years old, herÃ Â family told her that her father wasÃ Â dead. When she was twenty-three, a psychic told her he was alive.Ã Â Her sister, saddled with guilt, admitsÃ Â that the psychic is right and that the whole family has conspired to keep him a secret.Ã Â Sent into a tailspin about her identity, Nicole turns to radioÃ Â talk-show host Dr. Laura Schlessinger for advice. PackedÃ Â cover-to-coverÃ Â with heartfeltÃ Â and disarming black-and-white illustrations, Calling Dr. LauraÃ Â tells the story of what happens to you when you are raised in a family of secrets, and what happens to your brain (and heart) when you learn the truth from an unlikely source.Ã Â Part coming-of-age and part coming-out story, Calling Dr. LauraÃ Â marks the arrival ofÃ Â anÃ Â exciting andÃ Â winning new voice in graphic literature.

Book Information

Paperback: 272 pages

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Customer Reviews

Alison BechdelÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Are You My Mother? (2012) explored a lesbian cartoonistÃ¢â ¬â„¢s relationship with her mother, both in the past and in the present. GeorgesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ memoir may be broadly categorized as examining similar ground in the same format, but here the memories, the mother, and the cartoonist herself bring very different details to the work, and thus provide a very different tale. GeorgesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ quirky, big-faced, and evocative drawings, tempered by a variety of panel sizes, show the bespectacled author as she comes to terms with her motherÃ¢â ¬â„¢s lies to her as a child about her father being dead; her girlfriendÃ¢â ¬â„¢s impatience with the adult GeorgesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ tolerance for her motherÃ¢â ¬â„¢s intolerance; the clutch of dogs (and a chicken

or three) and the stuffed animals who safeguard GeorgesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ sense of security in both youth and young adulthood; and the attraction Dr. Laura Schlessinger offers in her pat, specific directions for relief from the discomforts of uncertainty. An excellent graphic memoir offering engaging insights for those who shareÃ¢â ¬â •or donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t shareÃ¢â ¬â •any of GeorgesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ worries and traits. --Francisca Goldsmith

"Honest and charming...[Georges] makes her debut as a developed and skilled storyteller."-Philadelphia Inquirer"A charmer."-Cleveland Plain Dealer"A bracing debut from a promising graphic novelist that deals with abuse, forgiveness, and family secrets."-Daily Beast"There's a depth to Georges' work...an intense interest in finding out not just who she is but what it means and why it matters."-OregonianA "tart, honest graphic memoir."-Slate"A tragicomic graphic memoir with a stunning indie aesthetic."-BookslutÃ¢â ¬Å“An engrossing, lovable, smart and ultimately poignant trip through a harrowing emotional bottleneck in family life.Ã Â It's great art, great writing, a great story Ã¢â ¬â œ I can't wait for what's next from Nicole. What a wonderful book.Ã¢â ¬Â• -Rachel Maddow"Engaging...incisive...The author approaches [her story] with the tenacity of a detective." -Publishers Weekly "Nicole Georges spins a riveting family mystery. There's a powerful chemistry going on between her delicate drawings and the probing honesty of her investigations. CALLING DR. LAURA is disarming and haunting, hip and sweet, all at once." -Alison Bechdel"I wouldn't want to live in a world without Nicole! And now no one has to! This book is a charming little gem. An honest glimpse into the life of a self-employed, smart and witty Portland femme gay with an upbringing so weird it's normal." -Beth Ditto"Anyone who knows Portland, OR. will know Nicole J. Georges, the witty girl with the cat glasses and a devoted following for her talents as an illustrator and zinester . . . Whatever the results, one can bet that this new work from Georges will be a good time." -Lambda Literary, "Five New Queer Voices to Watch Out For" Ã Â

What a great memoir!Calling Dr Laura is the raw and honest memoir of graphic artist Nicole J. Georges from her childhood to this day and her life in Portland Oregon. The novel focuses on her search for her natural father, her coming out of the closet as a queer, and the process of finding who she is as person. The book has a good deal of her childhood memories and family related issues, which are not adorned or sweetened, but presented in a very naive straight forward way. She could have demonized her mother for the whole story related to her natural father, but she does not so; she does not hide anything bad about her life, experiences or people she comes across, but she does not judge them and focus more on how she felt or feels. How difficult to do and how well done!

The narrative alternates the present with episodes of her childhood. The parts about her childhood are really wonderful but also a bit sad.The reading is very engaging. That is so because the book is well paced regarding the subjects presented and how they are presented, the U-turns that the author makes but still coming back to the main road, so to speak. The story is never bland or boring. Although the mystery in the novel is resolved in the epilogue, it lingers throughout the book without being overpowering.I truly liked Georges' style and versatility. She uses different graphic languages and fonts to convey meaning and create atmosphere. Although most of the book is set in interiors, I loved her drawings of road and urban landscapes. The drawings of her childhood episodes, which are very simple and child-like, are just adorable, and very different from the more elaborate and arty drawing for the narration of Nicole's present. I think this is one of those books that would have been great having it in full colour, as the book cover's image is.My favourite scenes are her story of her intestinal problems when she was a kid, the one of the boat when Radar dumps Nickie, and Nickie's fight with her mother in the car about she being a selfish brat. I also love the dog's language balloons she adds when she communicates with her dogs or they don't know what is happening - very cute.

I am so glad I came across this story! It's a well-told tale with lovely illustrations and engrossing story telling. I'm looking forward to Georges' next book!

incredibly awesome!! i cried at the end. which i have never done before while reading comics/graphic novels. highly recommended for intelligent, quirky people. LOVE!!!

This book changed my life. I loved it. Thank you for sharing your experiences Nicole J. Georges. I'm looking foward to your next book and already preordered it.

I loved this book. Laughed and cried. I hope to read more of this brilliant writer and artist's material in the future. A sequel would be divine!

Beautiful images, didn't think the story was as concentrated as I'd have liked. They were good on their own, but muddled together.Love to support LGBT artists. :)

Beautiful book.

Loved it! She is a great storyteller"

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