
Big Questions Anders Nilsen

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Poetry Is Useless Drawn & Quarterly

Gods die, centuries pass, Astrid is brought low, then goes deeper. The Swan King gets swallowed up in light, Teddy Roosevelt has a bad dream, and the Eagle learns something about human music. 56 pages. Chapter four packs a pretty big punch.

The Unidentified Drawn & Quarterly
An experimental collection of art, humor and philosophy. Monologues for Calculating the Density of

Black Holes takes up where the artist's first volume, *Monologues for the Coming Plague*, left off. Like the *Coming Plague*, the *Density of Black Holes* is a creatively experimental laboratory, comprising a collection of free flowing stream-of-consciousness gags, strips, and drawings that slowly coalesce into an unexpectedly compelling and complex narrative. The hints of story that came together in *Coming Plague* are extrapolated and expanded upon and grow to incorporate some of Nilsen's other outre strips from the anthology *MOME*, two of which are reprinted here in expanded form. The book is

an audacious investigation into the rhythms of storytelling, the blurring of media, and an exercise in reconciling contrasts. p.pl
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How to Be Happy Penguin

America's favorite cultural historian and author of *Ghostland* takes a "thought-provoking and deliciously unsettling" (*Publisher's Weekly*) tour of the country's most persistent "unexplained" phenomena In a world where rational, scientific explanations are more available than ever, belief in the unprovable and irrational--in fringe--is on the rise: from Atlantis to aliens, from Flat Earth to the Loch Ness monster, the list goes on. It seems the more our maps of the known world get filled

in, the more we crave mysterious locations full of strange creatures. Enter Colin Dickey, Cultural Historian and Tour Guide of the Weird. With the same curiosity and insight that made *Ghostland* a hit with readers and critics, Colin looks at what all fringe beliefs have in common, explaining that today's Illuminati is yesterday's Flat Earth: the attempt to find meaning in a world stripped of wonder. Dickey visits the wacky sites of America's wildest fringe beliefs--from the famed Mount Shasta where the ancient race (or extra-terrestrials, or possibly both, depending on who you ask) called Lemurians are said to roam, to the museum containing the last remaining "evidence" of the great Kentucky Meat Shower--investigating how these theories come about, why they take hold, and why as Americans we keep inventing and re-inventing them decade after decade. The Unidentified is Colin Dickey at his best: curious, wry, brilliant in his analysis, yet eminently readable.

Big Questions Drawn and Quarterly New and formally inventive work from a New York Times notable author In *Poetry is Useless*, Anders Nilsen redefines the sketchbook format, intermingling elegant, densely detailed renderings of mythical animals, short comics drawn in ink, meditations on religion, and abstract shapes and patterns. Page after page gives way under Nilsen's deft hatching and perfectly placed

pen strokes, revealing his intellectual curiosity and wry outlook on life's many surprises. Stick people debate the dubious merits of economics. Immaculately stippled circles become looser and looser, as craters appear on their surface. A series of portraits capture the backs of friends' heads. For ten or twenty pages at a time, *Poetry is Useless* becomes a travel diary, in which Nilsen shares anecdotes about his voyages in Europe and North America. A trip to Colombia for a comics festival is recounted in carefully drawn city streets and sketches made in cafés. *Poetry is Useless* reveals seven years of Nilsen's life and musings: beginning in 2007, it covers a substantial period of his comics career to date, and includes visual reference to his works, such as *Dogs & Water*, *Rage of Poseidon*, and the New York Times Notable Book *Big Questions*. This expansive sketchbook-as-graphic-novel is exquisitely packaged with appendices and a foreword from Anders Nilsen himself. Bottomless Belly Button Pantheon Booklist Editors' Choice Bulletin Blue Ribbons 2021 "It's a fairytale nightmare of the highest quality, a heartfelt history lesson written in flames, a poem."—Comics Beat "At once beautiful and creepy...a fusion of fantasy and folklore that is more fine art than comic book. A must for libraries with folklore and world culture

collections."—School Library Connection (starred) "Fluidly rendered in inky b&w washes; accents of color leap off the page as the translation by Aronpuro flows smoothly."—Publishers Weekly (starred) "Painful yet unforgettable... [this] Finnish fairy tale sees the damage that gods, mothers, and daughters are willing to inflict upon one another, all under the guise of love."—Booklist (starred) "Rich. Radiant. Arresting. A breathtaking exploration of generational connection and the ways that damage can pass down from mother to daughter as easily as love."—BCCB (starred) Where was the bear born? Where delivered? By the moon, next to the sun Among the stars of the plough Sent to Earth in a golden cradle With silvery chains. Poorling is a little bear. She's a bit different from her brothers. Mother keeps their family safe. For the Forest is full of dangers. It is there that Mana lives, with her Shadow children. And above them all, Emuu, the great Grandma in the Sky. From the heart of Finnish folklore comes a breathtaking tale of mothers, daughters, stars and legends, and the old gods and the new.

Ant Colony Tor Teen From its opening pages, *Ant Colony* immerses the reader in a world that is darkly existential, with false prophets, unjust wars, and corrupt police officers, as it follows the denizens of a black ant colony under attack

from the nearby red ants. On the surface, it's the story of this war, the destruction of a civilization, and the ants' all too familiar desire to rebuild. Underneath, though, *Ant Colony* plumbs the deepest human concerns--loneliness, faith, love, apathy, and more. All of this is done with humor and sensitivity, exposing a world where spiders can wreak unimaginable amounts of havoc with a single gnash of their jaws.

The Cheese Monkeys Hollywood Comics

In Your Next Life is a collection of short pieces by Anders Nilsen collected from work originally published in the *New York Times*, *The Believer*, and elsewhere.

Big Kids Fantagraphics Books

Cover title.

In Your Next Life You Will Be Together with All of Your Friends Drawn & Quarterly

The American poet John Shade is dead. His last poem, 'Pale Fire', is put into a book, together with a preface, a lengthy commentary and notes by Shade's editor, Charles Kinbote. Known on campus as the 'Great Beaver', Kinbote is haughty, inquisitive, intolerant, but is he also mad, bad - and even dangerous? As his wildly eccentric annotations slide into the personal and the fantastical, Kinbote reveals perhaps more than he should be.

Nabokov's darkly witty, richly inventive masterpiece is a suspenseful whodunit, a story of one-upmanship and dubious penmanship, and a glorious literary conundrum.

Pale Fire Fantagraphics Books

An influential and experimental work, in an all-new paperback edition! Ichiro and Sachiko are young artists, temperamental and discouraged about what life has to offer them. They fall in and out of love, jealous of each other's interests and unchallenged by their careers. *Red Colored Elegy* charts their heartache, passions, and bickering with equal tenderness, creating a revelatory portrait of a stormy love affair. A cornerstone of the Japanese underground scene of the 1960s, Seiichi Hayashi wrote *Red Colored Elegy* between 1970 and 1971, in the aftermath of a politically turbulent and culturally vibrant decade that promised but failed to deliver new possibilities. Sparse line work and visual codes borrowed from animation and film beautifully capture the quiet lives of a young couple struggling to make ends meet. Ichiro and Sachiko hope for something better, but they're no revolutionaries; their spare time is spent drinking, smoking, daydreaming, and sleeping together and at times with others. *Red Colored Elegy* is informed as much by underground Japanese comics of the time as it is by the French New Wave. Its influence in Japan was so large

that Morio Agata, a prominent Japanese folk musician and singer/songwriter, debuted with a love song written and named after it. This new paperback edition features an essay on *Red Colored Elegy* and Hayashi's contributions to contemporary Japanese comics from the art historian Ryan Holmberg.

Teen Angels & New Mutants Drawn and Quarterly

A collection of literary comics exploring joy, anguish, fear, and loneliness.

Hope For the Flowers Drawn & Quarterly

A *New York Times* Notable Crime Book and Favorite Cozy for 2011 A Publishers Weekly Best Mystery/Thriller books for 2011 *With A Trick of the Light*, Louise Penny takes us back to the deceptively peaceful village of Three Pines in this brilliant novel in her award-winning, *New York Times* bestselling series featuring Chief Inspector Armand Gamache. "Hearts are broken," Lillian Dyson carefully underlined in a book. "Sweet relationships are dead." But now Lillian herself is dead. Found among the bleeding hearts and lilacs of Clara Morrow's garden in Three Pines, shattering the celebrations of Clara's solo show at the famed Musée in Montreal. Chief Inspector Gamache, the head of homicide at the *Sûreté du Québec*, is called to the tiny Quebec village and there he finds the art world gathered, and with it a world of shading and nuance, a world of shadow and light. Where nothing is as it seems. Behind every smile there lurks a sneer. Inside every sweet relationship there hides a broken heart. And

even when facts are slowly exposed, it is no longer clear to Gamache and his team if what they've found is the truth, or simply a trick of the light. "Penny has been compared to Agatha Christie [but] it sells her short. Her characters are too rich, her grasp of nuance and human psychology too firm...." --Booklist (starred review)

Cryptoid Drawn and Quarterly

Kevin Hooyman's fantastically detailed comics elevate everyday situations into psychedelic self-reflection and humorous revelations.

A Bubble Drawn & Quarterly

A New York Times Notable Book of 2011, included on Amazon.com, Publishers Weekly, and NPR'S Best Comics lists A haunting postmodern fable, *Big Questions* is the magnum opus of Anders Nilsen, one of the brightest and most talented young cartoonists working today. This beautiful minimalist story, collected here for the first time, is the culmination of ten years and more than six hundred pages of work that details the metaphysical quandaries of the occupants of an endless plain, existing somewhere between a dream and a Russian steppe. A downed plane is thought to be a bird and the unexploded bomb that came from it is mistaken for a giant egg by the group of birds whose lives the story follows. The indifferent, stranded pilot is of great interest to the birds--some doggedly seek his approval,

while others do quite the opposite, leading to tensions in the group. Nilsen seamlessly moves from humor to heartbreak. His distinctive, detailed line work is paired with plentiful white space and large, often frameless panels, conveying an ineffable sense of vulnerability and openness. *Big Questions* has roots in classic fables--the birds and snakes have more to say than their human counterparts, and there are hints of the hero's journey, but here the easy moral that closes most fables is left open and ambiguous. Rather than lending its world meaning, Nilsen's parable lets the questions wander where they will.

99 Ways to Tell a Story Fantagraphics Books

The Accidental Highwayman is the first swashbuckling adventure for young adults by talented author and illustrator, Ben Tripp. In eighteenth-century England, young Christopher "Kit" Bristol is the unwitting servant of notorious highwayman Whistling Jack. One dark night, Kit finds his master bleeding from a mortal wound, dons the man's riding cloak to seek help, and changes the course of his life forever. Mistaken for Whistling Jack and on the run from redcoats, Kit is catapulted into a world of magic and wonders he thought the stuff of fairy tales. Bound by magical law, Kit takes up his master's quest to rescue a rebellious fairy

princess from an arranged marriage to King George III of England. But his task is not an easy one, for Kit must contend with the feisty Princess Morgana, goblin attacks, and a magical map that portends his destiny: as a hanged man upon the gallows.... Fans of classic fairy-tale fantasies will find much to love in this irresistible YA debut by Ben Tripp, the son of one of America's most beloved illustrators, Wallace Tripp (Amelia Bedelia). Following in his father's footsteps, Ben has woven illustrations throughout the story. "Delightful and charming. A swashbuckling adventure in the vein of Robert Louis Stevenson." —#1 New York Times bestselling author Brandon Sanderson At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Monologues for the Coming Plague Adhouse Books

A long-out-of-print classic by a master of underground comics In the late 1980s, the idiosyncratic Chester Brown (author of the much-lauded *Paying For It* and *Louis Riel*) began writing the cult classic comic book series *Yummy Fur*. Within its pages, he serialized the groundbreaking *Ed the Happy Clown*, revealing a macabre universe of parallel dimensions. Thanks to its wholly original yet disturbing story lines, Ed set the stage for Chester

Brown to become a world-renowned cartoonist. *Ed the Happy Clown* is a hallucinatory tale that functions simultaneously as a dark roller-coaster ride of criminal activity and a scathing condemnation of religious and political charlatanism. As the world around him devolves into madness, the eponymous Ed escapes variously from a jealous boyfriend, sewer monsters, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and a janitor with a Jesus complex. Brown leaves us wondering, with every twist of the plot, just how Ed will get out of this scrape. The intimate, tangled world of *Ed the Happy Clown* is definitively presented here, repackaged with a new foreword by the author and an extensive notes section, and, as with every Brown book, astonishingly perceptive about the zeitgeist of its time.

Empire State Minotaur Books

A wise and funny collection of modern-day parables about the ties between humans and their gods. Imagine you are Poseidon at the dawn of the twenty-first century. The oceans are dying and sailors have long since stopped paying tribute. They just don't need you anymore. What do you do? Perhaps, seeking answers, you go exploring. Maybe you end up in Wisconsin and discover the pleasures of the iced latte. And then, perhaps, everything goes wrong. Anders Nilsen, author of *Big Questions* and *Don't Go Where I Can't Follow*, explores questions

like these in his newest work, a darkly funny meditation on religion and faith with a modern twist. *Rage of Poseidon* brings all of the philosophical depth of Nilsen's earlier work to bear on contemporary society, asking how a twenty-first century child might respond to being sacrificed on a mountaintop, and probing the role gods like Venus and Bacchus might have in the world of today. Nilsen works in a unique style for these short stories, distilling individual moments in black silhouette on a spare white background. Above all, though, he immerses us seamlessly in a world where gods and humans are more alike than not, forcing us to recognize the humor in our (and their) desperation. *Rage of Poseidon* is devastating, insightful, and beautiful; it's a wry triumph in an all-new style from a masterful artist.

Tongues Fantagraphics Books

Teenage misfits and adolescent rabble-rousing take center stage in this dark coming-of-age tale. *Big Kids* is simultaneously Michael DeForge's most straightforward narrative and his most complex work to date. It follows a troubled teenage boy through the transformative years of high school as he redefines his friends, his

interests, and his life path. When the boy's uncle, a police officer, gets kicked out of the family's basement apartment and transferred to the countryside, April moves in. She's a college student, mysterious and cool, and she quickly takes a shine to the boy. The boy's own interests quickly fade away: he stops engaging in casual sex, taking drugs, and testing the limits of socially acceptable (and legal) behavior. Instead, he hangs out with April and her friends, a bunch of highly evolved big kids who spend their days at the campus swimming pool. And slowly, the boy begins to change, too. Eerie and perfectly paced, DeForge's *Big Kids* muses on the complicated, and often contradictory, feelings people struggle with during adolescence, the choices we make to fit in, and the ways we survive times of change. Like *Ant Colony* and *First Year Healthy*, *Big Kids* is a testimony to the harshness and beauty of being alive.

Meeting Comics Drawn & Quartered
A STORY OF LOVE AND LOSS
INSCRIBED IN PHOTOGRAPHS,
POSTCARDS, LETTERS, AND BEDSIDE
SKETCHES In this collection of letters, drawings, and photos, Anders Nilsen chronicles a six-year relationship and the illness that brought it to an end. *Don't Go Where I Can't Follow* is an eloquent

appreciation of the time the author shared with his fiancée, Cheryl Weaver. The story is told using artifacts of the couple's life together, including early love notes, simple and poetic postcards, tales of their travels in written and comics form, journal entries, and drawings done in the hospital in her final days. It concludes with a beautifully rendered account of Weaver's memorial that Glen David Gold, writing in the Los Angeles Times, called "16 panels of beauty and grace." *Don't Go Where I Can't Follow* is a deeply personal romance, and a universal reminder of our mortality and the significance of the relationships we build. Originally published as a limited edition in 2006, this collection includes a new afterword written by Nilsen.

Jan's Atomic Heart and Other Stories Drawn and Quarterly

This is a literary collection of interconnected comics stories about monsters—giant monsters, tiny monsters, robot monsters, cosmic monsters—some of whom work for the benefit of humankind, others as agents of chaos. Taking place over different planes of existence, trippy and deadpan, the stories share a perspective seen from a world gone horribly wrong. Worlds behind worlds are revealed—including our own.