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Ethel & Ernest: A True Story

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~~Editor's Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

5

A comic strip biography of Briggs' parents, each page blazes with colour and fizzes with invention. Pictures and typeface change in size according to the emphasis of the moment. Background detail is meticulous, while in the foreground characters grow, diminish and sometimes threaten to fall apart altogether. This is because Briggs draws people both as they are and at other times as expressions of what they are feeling. But never as caricatures; the overwhelming atmosphere is of warm affection for and between the parents about whom their artist-son has now produced this lovely, moving book. Their story concerns nothing less than birth, marriage and death against a background of normal domestic ups and downs set in the shadow of an impending world war and the enormous changes coming in its wake. The ordinary is made extraordinary through Briggs' ability to catch the moment and the emotion accompanying it. Ethel & Ernest is for everyone of ten and above and seems bound to become a classic.

Running Order:

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