

9781637790786

Paperback | 160 pages | £18.95

Middle Eastern history  
Reportage & collected  
journalism

**Yazan Al-Saadi** is a Kuwait-born Syrian who holds a Canadian passport. He has lived in seven countries across three continents over the course of his life, and since 2012 he has lived and written in Beirut, Lebanon. He has worked as a researcher, a newspaper and online journalist and editor, a creative content and communications officer for a medical international humanitarian organization, and a political analyst and commentator.

## Lebanon Is Burning and Other Dispatches

Pennsylvania State University Press (John Wiley & Sons Ltd)

19 November 2024

*A collection of comic dispatches drawn by various cartoonists from the Middle East, underscoring how the multiple struggles in the region are linked to a grander fight for sustainable, just futures for all.*

Much of the present discourse about the pro-democracy Arab uprisings of 2011 paints a bleak picture of their defeat. But the truth is more complicated, and moments of struggle and inspiration still recur despite the overwhelming odds against the movements' success. This collection of short comics documents the political and social unrest in the Middle East during the 2010s, in such places as Lebanon, Egypt, Yemen, Palestine, Sudan, and Bahrain. A collaboration between writer and journalist Yazan Al-Saadi and a lineup of stellar cartoonists from the region—Tracy Chahwan, Ganzeer, Ghadi Ghosn, Omar Khouri, Sirène Moukheiber, Hicham Rahma, and Enas Satir—this graphic reportage serves as a witness to an era of counterrevolutionary resurgence in which entrenched powers clashed with the people's struggle for self-determination.







I worked as a journalist during the 2011 uprisings. While having a drink in Beirut, Lebanon, a friend told me a story that took place in Bahrain, where she worked.



She was teaching history in Manama, the capital.



The Next Day.





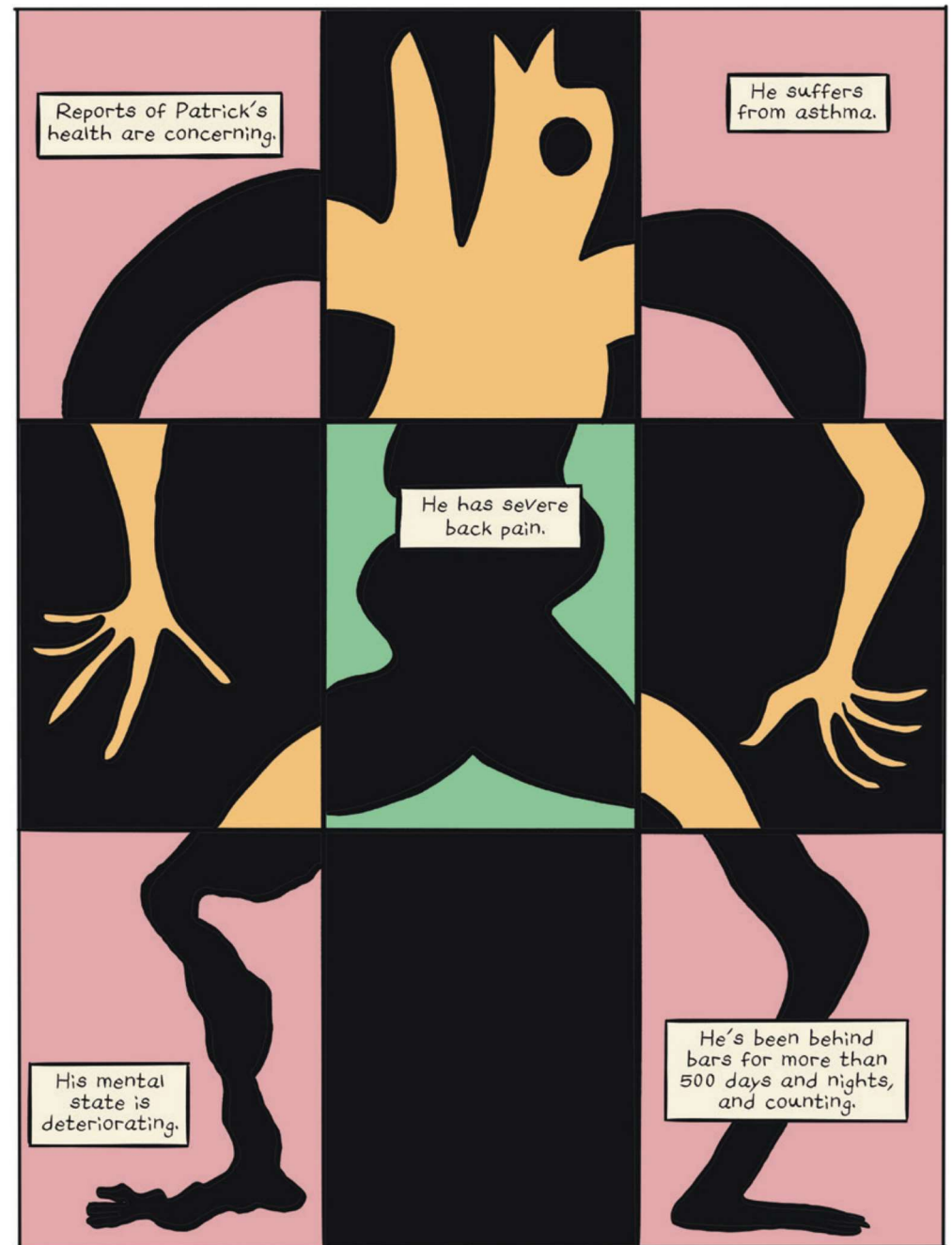
# 4. EIGHT YEARS OF UNREST IN SYRIA

Yazan Al-Saadi and Omar Khouri

This comic marks the eighth anniversary of the outbreak of an uprising-turned-civil/proxy war in Syria. Yes, I know that's a strange description for what happened and continues to happen in Syria. Is there a more suitable shorthand to describe the events in a country experiencing an uprising with revolutionary potential against a brutal totalitarian dynastic regime, which transformed into a quasi-civil war with sectarian trappings between asymmetrical armed groups, each backed by various competing regional and international powers that also, for their part, got directly involved in the fighting or are occupying parts of the country? I suppose the grim circumstances excuse a run-on sentence. But calling it grim is also an understatement.

When I wrote the script for this comic, I was grappling with paralysis in terms of what to write about the tragedy in Syria that hadn't already been said. The problem was not in the telling but in being heard. This was pretty much the situation from all points of view, where talking about Syria was only divisive and ultimately led to the silencing of Syrian voices, which were then supplanted by the louder voices of those who didn't care about the Syrians and were rather driven by their own ideological positions.

At the time, the most salient narrative was that "Assad had won" and that it was time to normalize—despite the fact that the guns were not yet silent



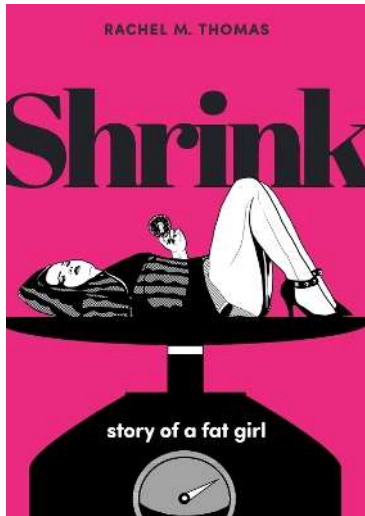
# 11. RUBBLE IS UNIVERSAL

Yazan Al-Saadi and Ghadi Ghosn

I went to Yemen in the fall of 2016, when I was with Doctors Without Borders (MSF). People tend not to agree on the start date of the war in Yemen. Some will tell you it started when the Saudi-led coalition launched its attack in March 2015; others will argue that it was a year prior, when the Houthis seized control of much of the country; still others will point to the Yemeni uprising in 2011 or even further back to the early 1990s, when then-dictator Ali Abdullah Saleh took control, forcibly unified Yemen, and deepened ties with the West, despite being ruthless to Yemenis. Ali Abdullah Saleh would be ousted in 2012. He would ally with the Houthis during the war with Saudi Arabia and would later be killed by the Houthis in December 2017.

The Saudi-led coalition, which was armed and backed by the United States and the United Kingdom, was very brutal. They instituted a blockade that accelerated famine in Yemen and further pushed an already poor community into deeper poverty. The Houthis, for their part, were also brutal, launching various mini-sieges against cities and towns that opposed them. The country had foreign occupying forces, a secessionist movement in the south, and fundamentalist groups like Al-Qaeda that were all bickering and fighting with one another. The will of the people was ignored.





9781637790793  
Paperback | 188 pages | £20.95

### Gender studies: women

**Rachel M. Thomas** is Assistant Professor of Comics, Graphic Novels, and Sequential Arts at Teesside University. She is an interdisciplinary artist/researcher whose work blurs the boundaries between traditional media, technology, and bio-fabrication.

## Shrink

### Story of a Fat Girl

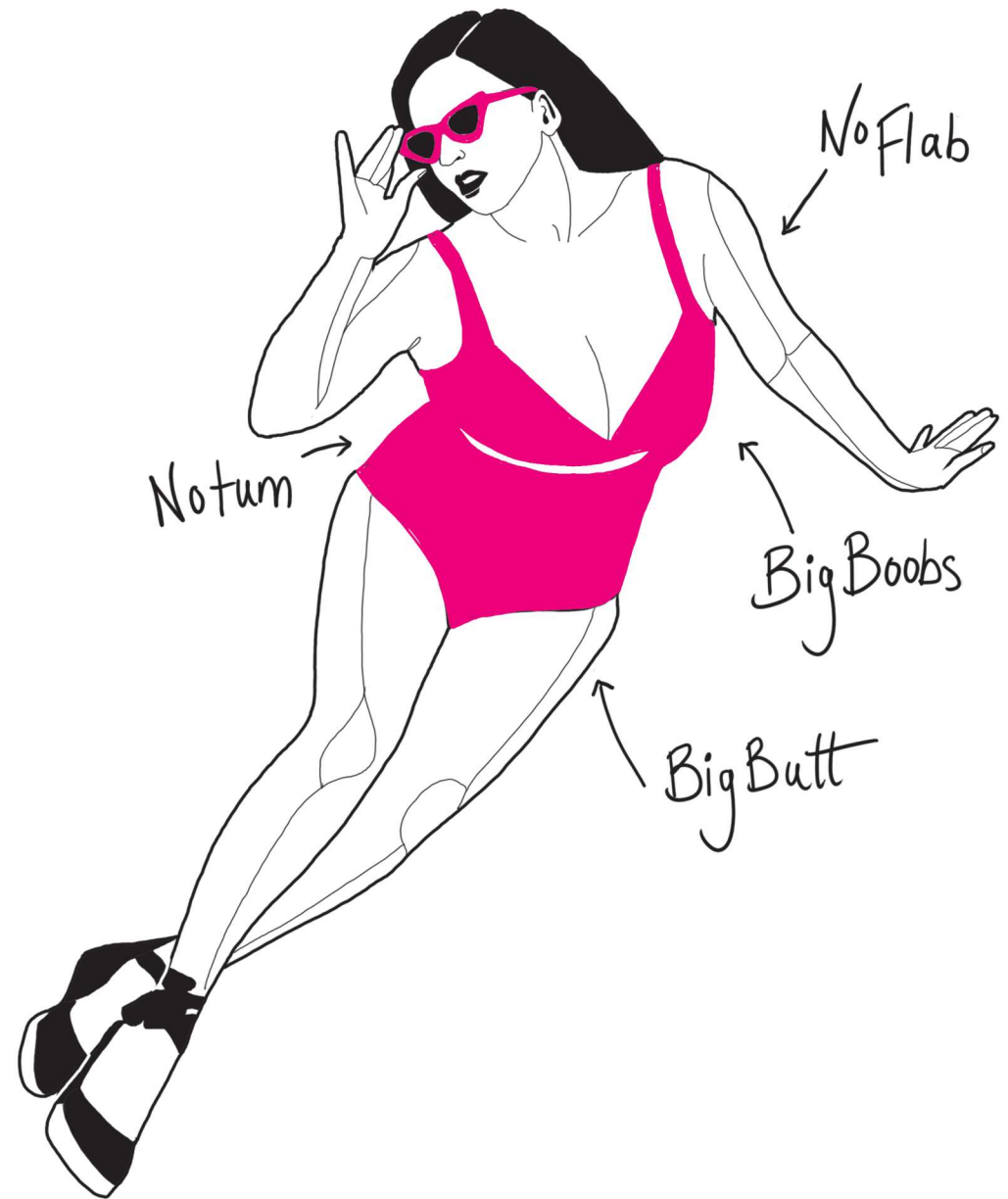
Pennsylvania State University Press (John Wiley & Sons Ltd)

15 October 2024

*A graphic novel examining the fat body in contemporary Western culture through the experiential journey of the book's hero, who chooses to lose weight in a world that has dictated the medical and social dangers of being too fat.*

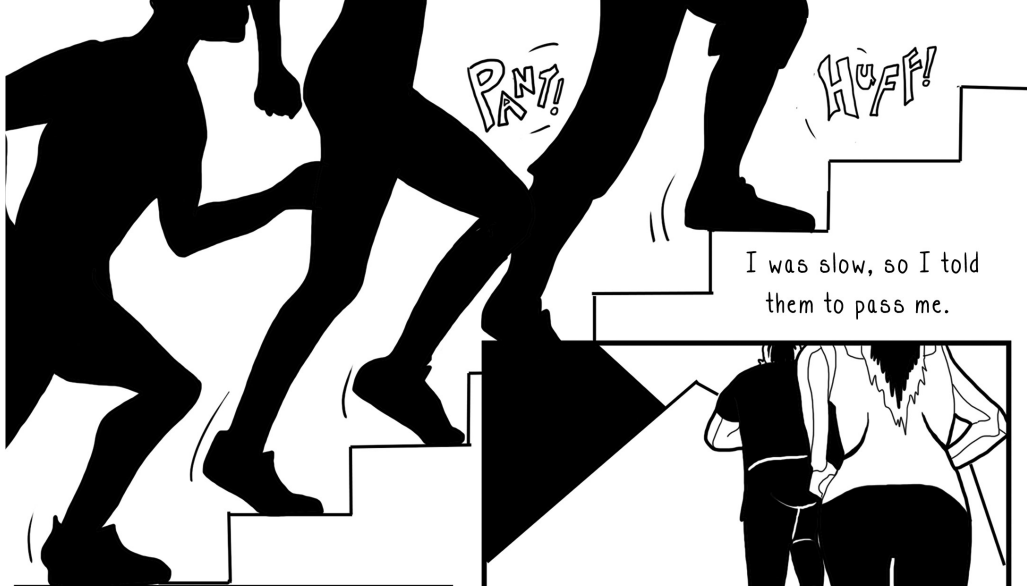
Derided by her high-school peers for being overweight, Rachel finally found a sense of purpose and belonging in a promising career as an EMT—that is, until her body got in the way. *Shrink* is a work of graphic medicine that depicts the emotional and physical realities of inhabiting a large body in a world that is constantly warning about the medical and social dangers of being “too fat.” This smart and candid book challenges the idea that weight loss is the only path for a fat person and encourages the reader to question the prevailing cultural and medical discourse about fat bodies. Seamlessly weaving the most current research on the fatness debate with her own experiences of living in a fat body, Thomas lays bare society’s obsession with size and advocates for each of us to push back on body weight bias and determine what’s right for our own health and well-being, both physical and mental.

### Fat Girl Problems No. 1:



I'm not the GOOD kind of Fat.





I was slow, so I told them to pass me.



The girl gave me a WEIRD look.



I guess she thought I couldn't speak French, because after she passed me, I heard her huff to one of the guys: "Good, the Fat girl was slowing me down." He laughed. I IMMEDIATELY felt a pang in my chest, COMPLETELY humiliated.



It SUCKED being the Fattest.

Fat Girl Problems No. 4

"You're fat because you eat too much! It's **TOTALLY** your choice to be this way!"

Who would **CHOOSE** to live in a body that's treated **BADLY** on **PURPOSE**?!





9781637790809

Paperback | 128 pages | £18.95

Graphic novels: true  
stories & non-fiction

**Tereza Čechová** stopped wearing a wig a long time ago, but she hasn't stopped talking about alopecia. She studied journalism and media sciences at the Faculty of Social Sciences at Charles University in Prague. Together with Št?pánka Jislová, she founded Laydeez do Comics Praha, which promotes the work of female comic book authors. Št?pánka Jislová graduated from the Ladislav Sutnar Faculty of Design and Art in Pilsen. She is the author or coauthor of seven comic books, including SUPRO and Heartcore, and her short comic stories have been published in several anthologies.

## Bald

Pennsylvania State University Press (John Wiley  
& Sons Ltd)

22 October 2024

*Even the most imperfect journey can lead to beauty.  
Translated from Czech*

Tereza never thought she would go bald before her boyfriend did. She couldn't imagine being unable to sweep her hair up in a ponytail or to style it in other ways. But when she lost all her hair in just a couple of months due to alopecia, her perspective on relationships and work—and above all, herself—radically changed. Navigating the particular trauma of female hair loss, Tereza comes to terms with her new reality with humor and self-reflection in this prize-winning graphic memoir featuring eye-catching art by Št?pánka Jislová.







## WHAT IS ALOPECIA?

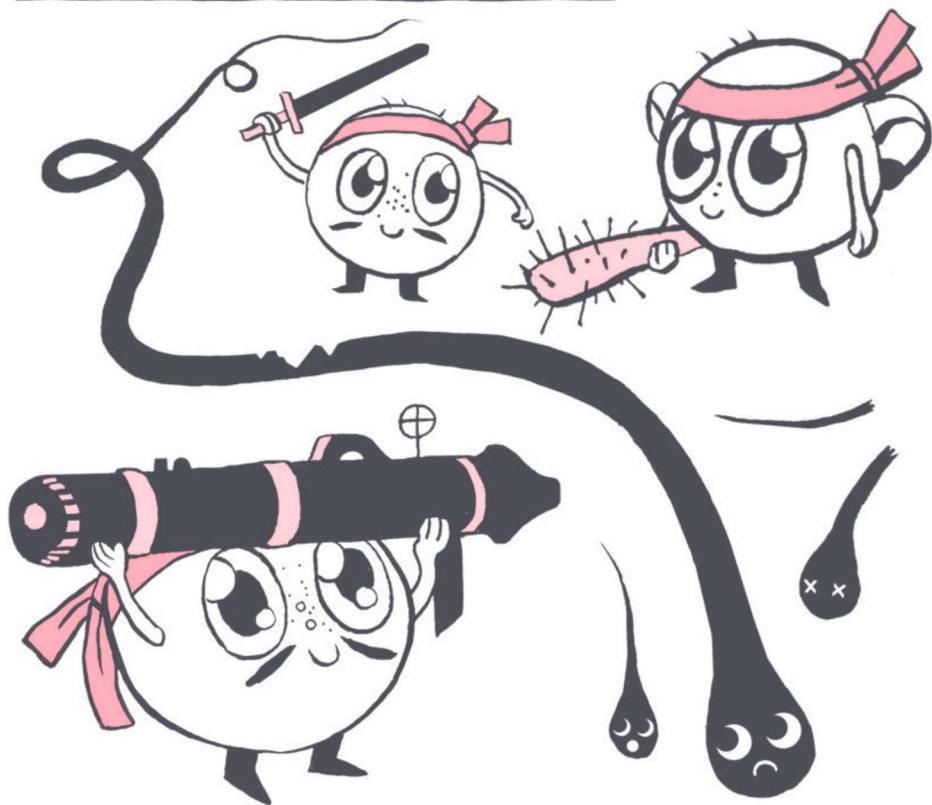
Alopecia is a type of autoimmune disease that causes the body to attack itself.



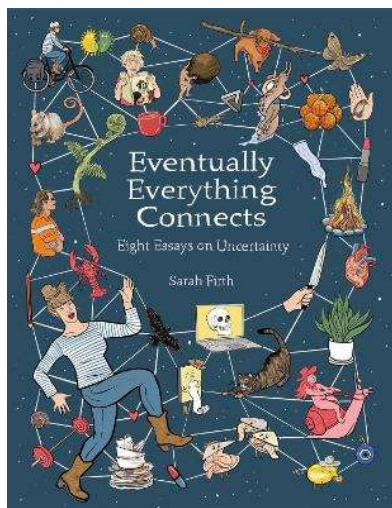
IN THE STARRING ROLE:



The immune system perceives hair as the enemy and attacks it.







9781637790687

Paperback | 288 pages | £18.95

Literary essays  
Graphic novels: true  
stories non-fiction

As aneurodivergent artist, Sarah Firth is drawn to exploring the idiosyncrasies of how we attempt to know ourselves and navigate the world, given the contradictions, paradoxes, and complexities that we all embody. She is a cartoonist, artist, writer, and graphic recorder whose published works include contributions to Eisner Award-winning and Ignatz-nominated anthologies. Learn more about Firth and her work at [sarahthefirth.com](http://sarahthefirth.com).

## Eventually Everything Connects

### Eight Essays on Uncertainty

Pennsylvania State University Press (John Wiley & Sons Ltd)

04 June 2024

*A collection of eight autobiographical visual essays exploring the joys and pains of living in a hypercomplex, uncertain world.*

In her debut graphic novel, Sarah Firth ponders some of life's deepest philosophical questions: Why are we here? How are we supposed to get along with one another? What on earth is that slug doing in my bathroom sink? From daydreams and pop culture memes to the teachings of science, philosophy, and history, Firth weaves together a mix of great and silly ideas based on her own lived experience, all tossed together with unique energy, boundless curiosity and humor, and colorful, detailed, kinetic drawings. Through eight autobiographical visual essays, Firth explores how to live better in the modern world; ways to be more compassionate toward oneself, others, and the planet; and how everything does, eventually, connect. Honest, profound, and profane, *Eventually Everything Connects* is a life-affirming book about the joys and pains of living in a hypercomplex and uncertain world.



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Hardback | 368 pages | £33.95

Graphic novels: true stories & non-fiction  
Religious groups: social & cultural aspects  
Cognitivism, cognitive theory

**Joseph Béhé** has illustrated some twenty comic books, and he cowrites graphic novels with Amandine Laprun and Erwann Surcouf. The creative projects he has been involved in include *Péché mortel*, *La péniche bleue*, *Pour l'amour de l'art*, and *Double Je*. Pascal Boyer is Professor of Sociocultural Anthropology and Psychology and Henry Luce Professor of Collective and Individual Memory at Washington University in St. Louis. He is the author of several books, including most recently *Minds Make Societies: How Cognition Explains the World Humans Create*.

If you would like to order this title please do so either via the distributor or at [bianca@durnell.co.uk](mailto:bianca@durnell.co.uk)

## And Mankind Created the Gods

## A Graphic Novel Adaptation of Pascal Boyer's Religion Explained

Pennsylvania State University Press (John Wiley & Sons Ltd)

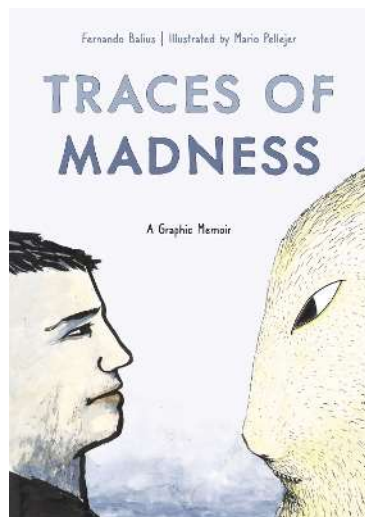
18 June 2024

*A graphic novel adaptation of Pascal Boyer's writings that examine religion through the lenses of cognitive science, anthropology, psychology, and evolutionary biology.*

These are some of the most fundamental and enduring questions we have about the mysteries of religion, and they may well hold the key to humankind's future on this earth. In this adaptation of Pascal Boyer's classic work exploring these concepts, Religion Explained, artist Joseph Béhé harnesses the power of comics to provide clear answers to the basic questions about why religion exists and why people believe. A distinguished scholar, Boyer drew from research in cognitive science, anthropology, psychology, and evolutionary biology to explore why religion exists and why the strength of human beliefs can drive us to be selfless sometimes and, at other times, to be fanatical and intolerant. His erudite book is rich with insight into the endless jumble of ideas that inform religious beliefs and practices across cultures. With detailed, illustrative drawings and carefully adapted prose, Béhé's graphic novel brings a new perspective to Boyer's work. An eminently accessible approach to the notoriously thorny topics of belief, cognition, humanity, and religion, *And Mankind Created the Gods* is a thoughtful, inspiring graphic novel that will further and broaden the conversation with which Boyer's book engages.







9781637790700  
Paperback | 128 pages | £16.95

## Psychiatry

**Fernando Balius** is a philosopher and a contingent worker. He has taken part in various social movements over the last two decades, about the same amount of time that he has been considering the relationship between madness and society. His favorite place to think is on a bike. Mario Pellejer describes himself as a "graphic storyteller" rather than an illustrator. He uses simple drawings full of symbolism to tell genuine stories as a way of contributing something of value to the world.

## Traces of Madness

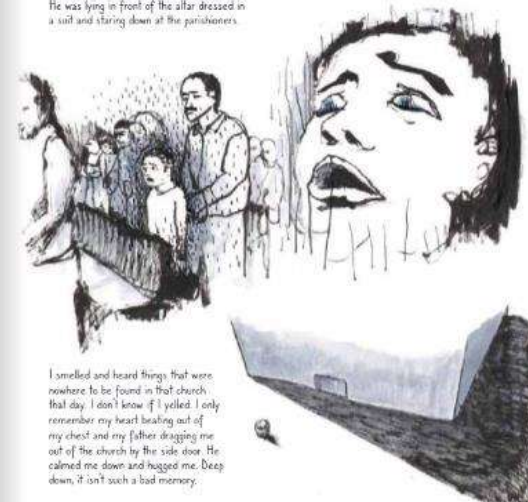
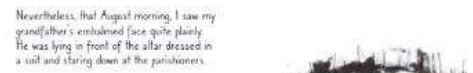
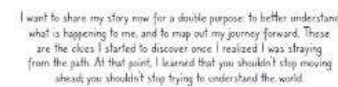
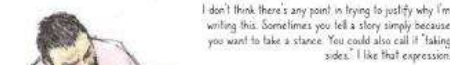
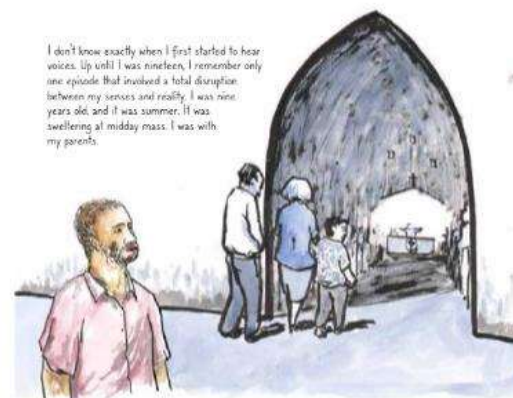
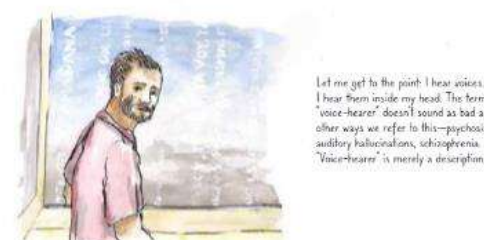
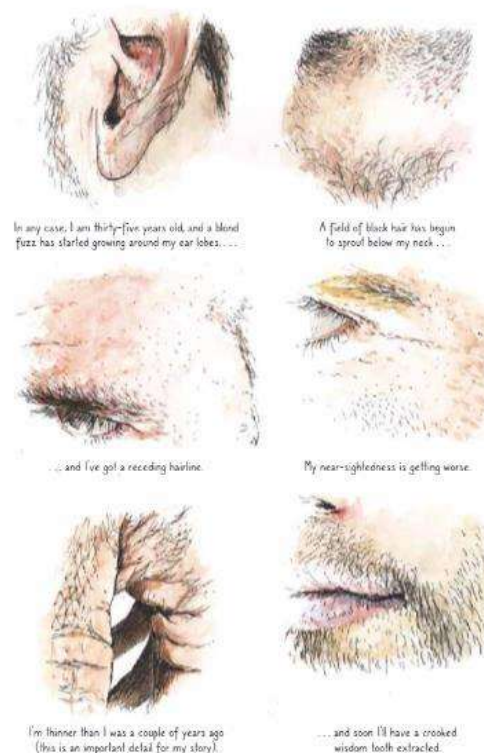
### A Graphic Memoir

Pennsylvania State University Press (John Wiley & Sons Ltd)

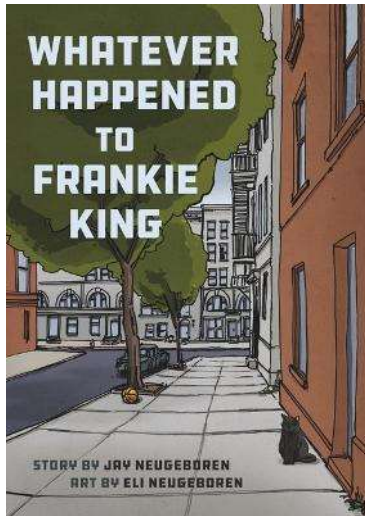
21 May 2024

*A portrayal in graphic novel format of the author's battle with auditory hallucinations, depicted as a monster, and his journey to understand and cope with his illness.*

Fernando Balius was a perfectly ordinary, if misunderstood, young adult—until he started hearing voices. In *Traces of Madness*, Fernando describes what it feels like, both mentally and physically, to lose your grip on reality. His life spins out of control when the voices he hears inside his head, depicted in the narrative as a monster, work to destroy his self-esteem and, worse, urge him to hurt himself. Various psychiatric diagnoses and prescribed medications do more harm than good, prompting Fernando to question whether stifling his voices is truly the right path for him. Throughout his experiences, he finds that his connections with others lend him the strength to survive. Mario Pellejer's moving illustrations bring Nando's remarkable story to life. This raw and uniquely hopeful graphic memoir shows the power of community and understanding and encourages us all to push back in solidarity against the pervasive stigma surrounding mental illness.







9781637790779

Paperback | 128 pages | £18.95

Biography: literary

Biography: sport

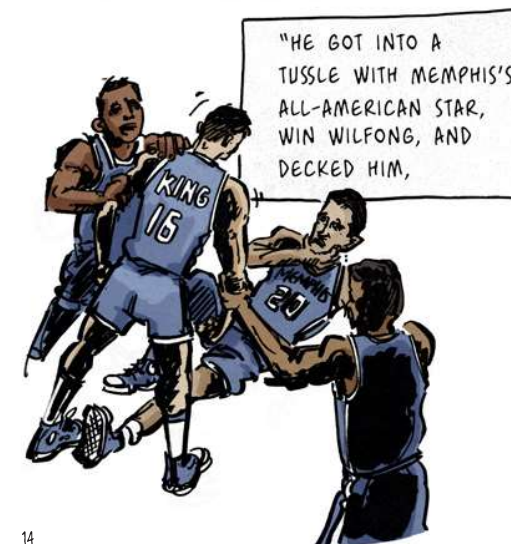
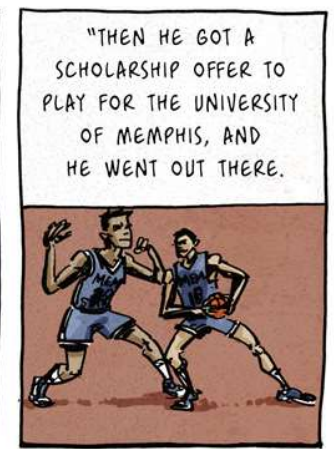
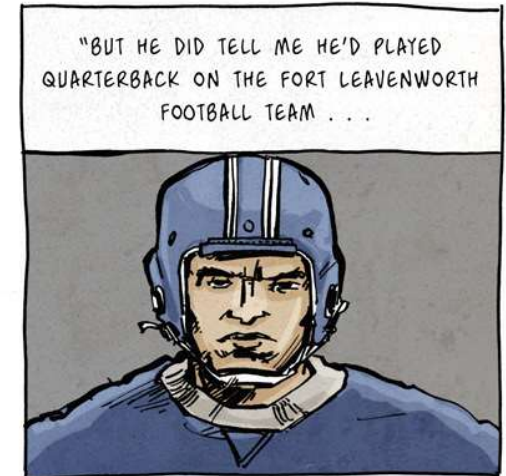
**Jay Neugeboren** is the award-winning author of twenty-three books, including the novels *The American Sun and Wind*, *Moving Picture Company* and *After Camus* and the memoir *Imagining Robert: My Brother, Madness, and Survival*, which was adapted into a critically acclaimed documentary film. **Eli Neugeboren** is an award-winning artist, illustrator, writer, and professor whose work has appeared in *Corpus: A Comic Anthology of Bodily Ailments*, *Weapon Echh!*, and *COVID Chronicles: A Comics Anthology*, among other publications.

## Whatever Happened to Frankie King

Pennsylvania State University Press (John Wiley & Sons Ltd)

26 November 2024

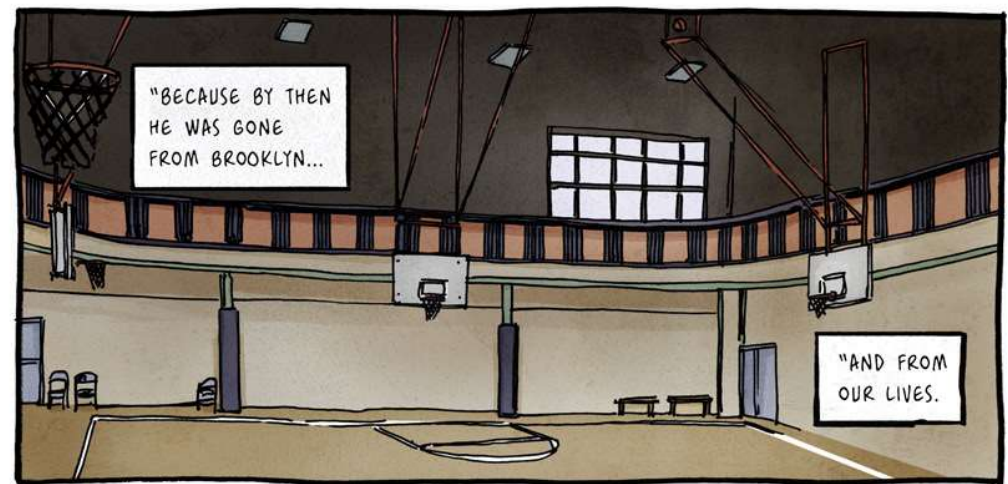
Frankie King was a precocious student and a promising basketball player at Brooklyn's James Madison High School in the early 1950s. Sportswriters were comparing Frankie to the greatest college and professional players of all time, and he was recruited as a starting guard at the University of North Carolina. But Frankie dropped out before playing a single game. This graphic novel follows King's enigmatic life from its auspicious start in the limelight to his very reclusive existence in New York City, where he authored more than forty novels, including a popular series of cozy cat mysteries written under a woman's pseudonym. *Whatever Happened to Frankie King* is the story of a unique and sometimes troubled life as well as a meditation on dreams realized, lost, and abandoned.







"FRANK JUST DISAPPEARED..."



"BECAUSE BY THEN  
HE WAS GONE  
FROM BROOKLYN..."

"AND FROM  
OUR LIVES."



"WE HEARD RUMORS THAT HE  
WAS DOWN AND OUT AND  
LIVING ON THE BOWERY..."



"THAT HE WAS A  
BODYGUARD FOR  
JOHN GOTTI."



"FRANK WAS DEAD-AT 79 YEARS OLD-AND THE WAY WE LEARNED THIS WAS THAT HIS FAMILY PUT AN OBIT IN THE NEW YORK TIMES... AND FROM THE OBIT WE FOUND OUT THAT FRANK HAD BEEN HIDING OUT IN PLAIN SIGHT IN NEW YORK FOR 60 YEARS..."

"...AND HAD BEEN THE AUTHOR OF MORE THAN 40 NOVELS, MOST OF THEM PUBLISHED UNDER THE NAME OF LYDIA ADAMSON."

"MYSTERY NOVELS: ONE, SET IN UPSTATE NEW YORK, FEATURED A WOMAN VETERINARIAN- ANOTHER WHOSE MAIN CHARACTER WAS A RETIRED LIBRARIAN, HEAD OF A GROUP OF CENTRAL PARK BIRD WATCHERS CALLED 'THE OLMSTED IRREGULARS' ... AND A SERIES OF 'CAT MYSTERIES' THAT HAD AN ACCLAIMED ACTRESS, ALICE NESTLETON, WHO SOLVED CRIMES."

"THE SERIES OF ALICE NESTLETON CAT MYSTERIES SOLD OVER A MILLION COPIES."



"HE SAID HE'D GO TO CENTRAL PARK SOMETIMES AND DO WIND SPRINTS TO SEE IF HE COULD GIVE HIMSELF A HEART ATTACK."





**A CHILD IN PALESTINE**  
**THE CARTOONS OF NAJI AL-ALI**  
INTRODUCTION BY JOE SACCO

9781804297124

Paperback | 128 pages | £12.99

Cartoons comic strips  
Politics government

**Naji al-Ali** (1936-87) grew up in the Palestinian refugee camp of Ain al-Hilweh in southern Lebanon. His gift for drawing was discovered by the Palestinian poet Ghassan Kanafani in the late 1950s. Early the following decade he moved to Kuwait, embarking on a thirty-year career that would see his cartoons published daily in newspapers from Cairo to Beirut, London to Paris. In 1987, he was assassinated in London. His killers have never been found.

## A Child in Palestine

### The Cartoons of Naji al-Ali

Verso Books (Macmillan Distribution (MDL))

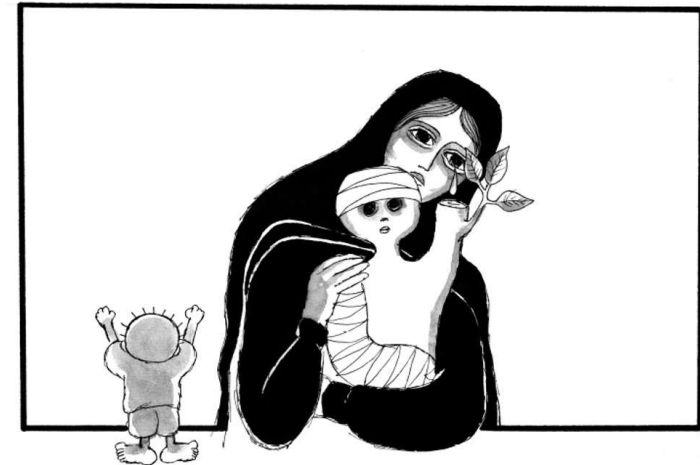
17 September 2024

*Al-Ali remains a hero in the Arab world, in particular to the Palestinians, who say his name with the same tenderness with which they mention their great poets Joe Sacco, from the Introduction*

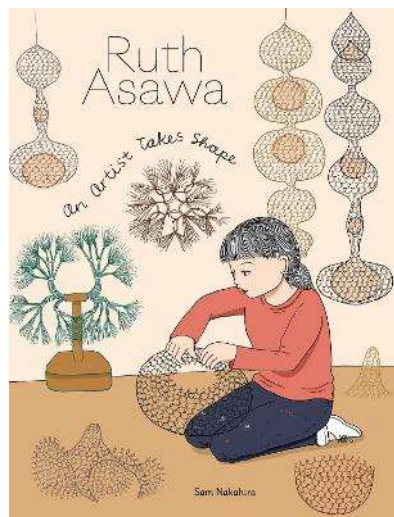
A Child in Palestine collects the work of one of the Arab world's greatest cartoonists, Naji al-Ali, known as the Palestinian Malcolm X. Discovered in the 1950s, he was revered throughout the region for his outspokenness, honesty and humanity. Resolutely independent, al-Ali strove to speak to and for the ordinary Arab people. The pointed satire of his stark, symbolic cartoons brought him widespread renown. His most celebrated creation, the child Hanthala, exposed the brutality of Israeli occupation, the venality and corruption of the region's regimes, and the suffering of the Palestinian people. Hanthala is today seen as a surrogate witness to ongoing horrors and a beacon for Palestinian resistance.



Ruling elites of the Arab world feast, stabbing the poor who dare to claim their fair share (January 1984)



A mother's tears heal her child, mutilated in an Israeli raid (July 1981)



9781947440098

Hardback | 112 pages | £16.99

People places (Childrens / Teenage)

Art: general interest (Childrens / Teenage)

Graphic novels: Manga

## Ruth Asawa

### An Artist Takes Shape

Getty Trust Publications (John Wiley & Sons Ltd)

19 March 2024

*This graphic biography chronicles the genesis of Ruth Asawa as an artist—from the horror of Pearl Harbor to her transformative education at Black Mountain College to building her life in San Francisco, where she would further develop and refine her groundbreaking wire sculptures--*

Brave, unconventional, and determined, Ruth Asawa let nothing stop her from living a life intertwined with art. Renowned for her innovative wire sculptures, Japanese American artist Ruth Asawa (1926-2013) was a teenager in Southern California when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor and the United States entered World War II. Japanese Americans on the West Coast forcibly removed from their homes, Asawa's family had to abandon their farm, her father was incarcerated, and she and the rest of her family were sent to a detention center in California, and later to a concentration camp in Arkansas. Asawa nurtured her dreams of becoming an artist while imprisoned and eventually made her way to the experimental Black Mountain College in North Carolina. This graphic biography by Sam Nakahira, developed in consultation with Asawa's younger daughter, Addie Lanier, chronicles the genesis of Asawa as an artist—from the horror of Pearl Harbor to her transformative education at Black Mountain College to building her life in San Francisco, where she would further develop and refine her groundbreaking sculpture. Asawa never sought fame, preferring to work on her own terms: for her, art and life were one. Using lively illustrations and a dozen photographs of Asawa's artwork, this graphic retelling of her young adult years demonstrates the transformative power of making art. A tender and thoughtful rendering of an important artist's life, Sam Nakahira uses the power and beauty of comics to its fullest to immerse you in the mind and genius of Ruth Asawa. As soon as I finished it, I wanted to read it again!—Tillie Walden, Eisner Award-winning cartoonist and illustrator A lovingly crafted story about the early, formative years of a great sculptor—covering both the hardships and the joys that helped shape Ruth Asawa into the artist we remember her as today. —Melanie Gillman, author of *As the Crow Flies* **Ruth Asawa: An Artist Takes Shape** is a richly detailed recounting of the artist's life. Its so full of clearly conveyed scenes and stories that even those who are familiar

