

(Download free ebook) The End, Vol. 1 (Ignatz)

## The End, Vol. 1 (Ignatz)

*Anders Nilsen*

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**Anders Nilsen : The End, Vol. 1 (Ignatz)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The End, Vol. 1 (Ignatz):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Both Sides Of DespairBy Brenna CollinsYour loved one is dead.The person to whom you had committed your entire life is dead, and all you can do is... whatever you want. You cry as you stumble through the rest of your life. You try to hold it together when the world's external complications refuse to hold up a moment for you to privately compose yourself. You cry, and you commemorate - even commiserate for - the soul no longer living. And eventually, you stop crying, little by little. The clouds are still there, raining as heavily as the day of death. But you see that they can't possibly rain forever.You are far away from your hometown. You size, memorize, memorialize those little details you experience along the way - not such specifics as the nuances of the Brandenburg Gate or the apocalyptic frost upon the Pergamon Altar... but of the patterned ceramic teapot of an acquaintance, or the miscellany scattered on her kitchen counter top. And you live, and you mourn, and you keep on living.The End #1 is not so much as an investigation or examination so much as it is an experimentation of such a scenario. Anders Nilsen grants his readers a look inside what could easily be a non-linear representation of his own personal turmoil - one which came to a rolling boil after his fiance died from Hodgkin's Disease in November of 2005. He is not wasting away in his own despair, nor is he dragging others along with him into this desolate place. Quite the contrary, in fact, since Nilsen seems to deliberately convolute his iconic humanoid narrator-figure (through increasingly labyrinthine graphic depiction, nonsensical mathematics, and obsequious verbiage perhaps intended to perplex, even baffle, persistent analysis) to the point where the reader is not quite sure as to what is being shown, or stated.There is pain.

There is a touch of self-awareness clouded by shades of despair. And in *The End*, the entire miasma is mixed with a subtle serving of sanguinity. "I think that it's disingenuous to say that yeah, the world sucks, everybody dies, there's violence, and you're going to be betrayed," says Nilsen to publisher Gary Groth in a 2006 interview. "I feel a responsibility to acknowledge that, but also to point to the fact that there is a lot more. There is the possibility of connection between people and growth and transformation." In the span of 32 pages, Nilsen attempts to do just this. Or perhaps the intent is not there, but this cannot detract from his accomplishment of same. For as much philosophy as it serves out, *The End #1* is not just an \$8 comic book. It brings a reader to face a stark reality: about half the world will outlive the other person in their romantic lives... and there will still be a blue sky up there somewhere, sometime, for everyone. Even if just for a living moment at a time.

by Anders Nilsen A collection of short strips about loss, transformation, waiting, and paralysis. It is a concept album in different styles, a meditation on paying attention, an abstracted autobiography, and a travelogue, blending Nilsen's disparate styles, from the iconic simplicity of his *Monologues for the Coming Plague* to the finely rendered *Dogs and Water* and *Big Questions*.