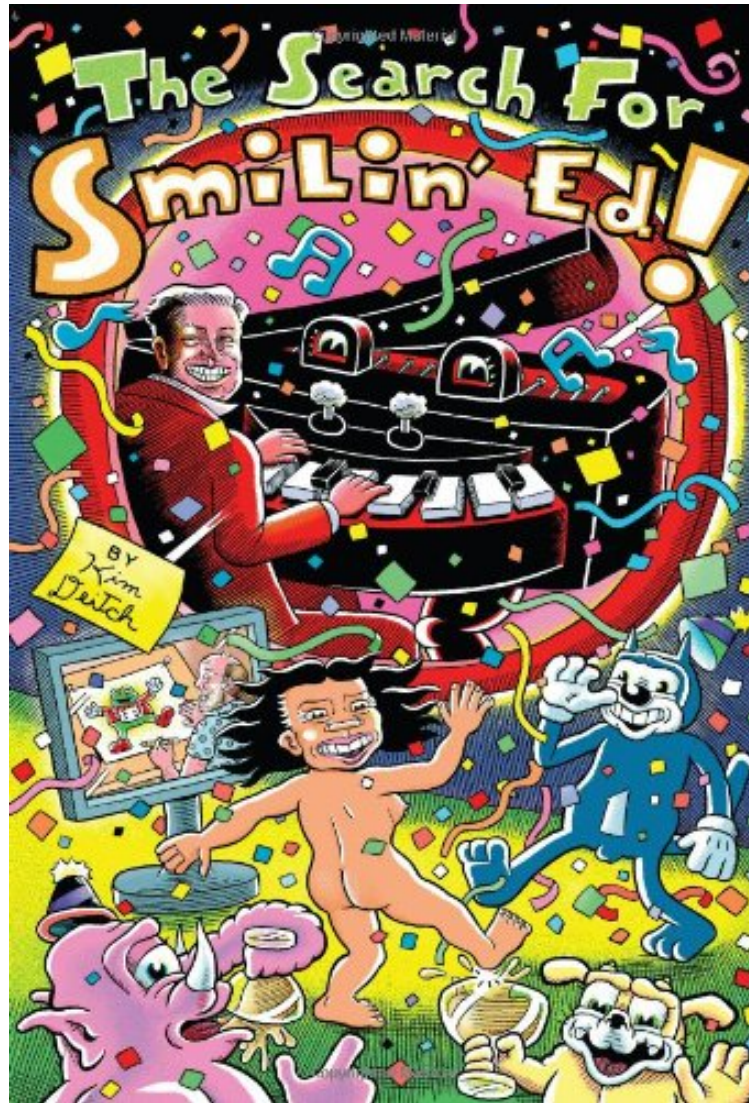


[Read free] The Search for Smilin' Ed

The Search for Smilin' Ed

Kim Deitch

ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1620800 in Books Fantagraphics 2010-06-22Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.80 x .80 x 6.10l, 1.00
#File Name: 1606993240144 pages | File size: 38.Mb

Kim Deitch : The Search for Smilin' Ed before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Search for Smilin' Ed:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Another trip to the incomparable land of DeitchBy Andrew C WheelerDeitch's books are all pieces of a single large mythology, centered on his trickster character Waldo the Cat, and usually involving old and half-forgotten forms of American entertainment (vaudeville, old Hollywood, stage magicians), which a modern character -- often named "Kim Deitch," and with a lot of the identifiable characteristics of the author -- slowly unravels, without quite piercing the central mysteries, though the reader does see all of those

details. SEARCH FOR SMILIN' ED slots into that schema perfectly, as "Kim Deitch" tries to track down the host of an obscure '50s TV kids' show, but runs into Waldo along the way -- so that the story can bend off to follow Waldo from there on, and to learn the real secrets. (Which, typically, are kept from the Kim Deitch character in his own books.) Deitch is one of the great originals of comics: wordy and discursive, but always compelling, with a detailed pen-and-ink style that incorporates a thousand grotesques while remaining essentially sunny and full of wonders. This book also contains a massive two-page fold-out (and accompanying key) with nearly every character from the multifarious versions of Deitchland, which is nearly worth the price of admission all by itself. Simply put, it's lovely to be in a world that not only contains a Kim Deitch, but celebrates him and lets him continue to create stories like this; his continued career is almost enough to make me believe in his wilder flights of fancy. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Really liked it By JoE Cardenas I really liked the story that Kim Deitch has created here. He was such a wonderful way of telling his stories. His writing is superb and his drawings are just hilarious. He is a talented artist and anyone who's read his books would understand. I really thought this story was a nice addition to the whole Waldo theme but I just wasn't a fan of the ending. I really can't not like it, it was funny but just didn't feel like it fit. I would recommend this for any long-time fans!!! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Kim Deitch is the bomb! By MKB Anything Mr. Deitch does is priceless. Thanks Fantagraphics for publishing these great comics. Shipped perfectly and in great condition. My only wish was that there was more.

A long-gone children's show host propels Kim Deitch into another pop-culture investigation! Originally created in 1997 and 1998 for the underground anthology *Zero Zero*, *The Search for Smilin' Ed!* is the latest of Kim Deitch's graphic novels to showcase his obsessive burrowing into the nooks and crannies of vintage American popular culture. Where *Boulevard of Broken Dreams* focused on the earliest days of the animation industry, *Alias the Cat* delved into the history of comic strips, and *Molly O'Dare* (collected in *Shadowland*) concerned vintage movie serials, *The Search for Smilin' Ed!* explores the wacky world of children's TV shows. Launched on his latest investigation by a remark from his brother about a shared childhood favorite (Yknow, I heard that when Smilin' Ed died... his body was never found!), Deitch begins to uncover some truly amazing things about the kiddie-show host and his malevolent sidekick, Froggy the Gremlin. Meanwhile, Deitch's muse and nemesis Waldo the Cat abandons Deitch to hang out with some demon buddies, and soon both Waldo and Deitch are closing in on the mysteries of Smilin' Ed and Froggy. Ranging across the entire twentieth century, replete with flashbacks, stories within stories, and guest appearances from other Deitch regulars, *The Search for Smilin' Ed!* is a narrative whirligig that shows Deitch at his wildest and woolliest. For those whose heads have started to spin at the complexity of Deitch world, Deitch scholar Bill Kartalopoulos offers a lengthy essay on the ins and outs of this ever-evolving, ever-expanding world where fantasy, reality, and satire combine, clash, and are sometimes downright indistinguishable. Bonus! Deitch has also created a brand new story starring Waldo in his twenty-first century post-*Alias the Cat* state of domestic bliss, stumbling across an army of (French-) talking beavers. Of course, there's a story behind that... 144 bw illustrations

From Publishers Weekly Starred . Originally serialized in the late '90s, this cartwheeling shaggy-dog story begins, like a lot of metafiction, with the semblance of reality: Deitch narrates the beginning as the tale of what happened when he looked into the fate of the host of one of his favorite TV shows from his youth, "Smilin' Ed's Gang." But by the time a frog demon reanimates a 19th-century French peasant whose brains it has eaten, it's fairly clear that Deitch is making stuff up. The fun of the book is the way it constantly darts back and forth across the line between genuine show-business lore (a favorite Deitch theme) and delirious whole-cloth invention. There are stories within stories, unreliable explainers, secret passageways that lead from one part of the tale to another. Deitch's artwork often seems stiff and busy--there's scarcely a patch of blank space or foursquare page layout in the entire book--but it's also utterly confident, building on the stylistic gestures of both the underground-comics scene that launched his career and the classic animation that inspired his talking-animal characters. For this edition, Deitch has added some new material, including an epilogue that throws a few more loops into his Byzantine personal mythology. From Booklist Deitch collects and expands a late-1990s project, another of his explorations of the seamy, dangerous, strictly ludicrous underbelly of American pop culture. And, of course, Waldo the demon cat and insidious carnie proprietor (and Buffalo Bill lookalike) Doc Ledicker are at the bottom of what really happened to Smilin' Ed McConnell. The massive TV kiddie-show host (a real person, by the way) died in a 1954 boat accident so they say! But when Deitch's brother tells him Ed's body was never found, the cartoonist's penchant for getting to the bottom of things kicks in. It takes Waldo to ferret out what really happened, and he wouldn't have had his demon buddies not ratted out the existence of a vast underground pop-culture archive, presided over by Doc Ledicker, and that's where Ed still is, doing new Smilin' Ed's Gang episodes for its faithful demon fans. Oh, and Froggy the Gremlin, the real star of the show? A demon, don'tcha know. Maybe even more than fellow first-wave underground comics creator Crumb, Deitch has maintained his quality. Marvelous stuff. --Ray Olson Starred . The fun of the book is the way it constantly darts back and forth across the line between genuine show-business lore (a favorite Deitch theme) and delirious whole-cloth invention. There are stories within stories, unreliable explainers, secret passageways that lead from one part of the tale to another. - Publishers

Weekly Maybe even more than fellow first-wave underground comics creator Crumb, Deitch has maintained his quality. Marvelous stuff. - Ray Olson, Booklist[A] complex universe of ghosts, aliens, demons, puppets, spiritual leaders, and complicated animal characters, and in the tradition of Vonnegut, Deitch occasionally places himself in the middle of his own madness. If that sounds a bit meta, that's only the barest tip of the squirmy, lascivious iceberg that Deitch has planned for you. - Collin David, Graphic Novel Reporter The story gets more twisted with every page, though it always makes sense in a Deitch-ian way. Deitch... retains an astonishing ability to tap into the deepest desires of pop-culture junkies, and to show how the satisfaction we seek from nostalgia can lead us to some dark corners of our collective showbiz past. - The Onion A.V. Club[C] losely resembles a bad acid trip I had several years back while watching Howdy Doody, old Fleischer cartoons and listening to Art Bell on Coast to Coast AM.... and I mean that in the most complimentary way possible. - Chad Derdowski, Mania