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## Dykes to watch out for

Creators: Alison Bechdel Audience: adult genre: fiction, humor, slice of life Series Type: available in print, complete, Tone series: irreverent, moving Artistic Style: black and white, stylized Queer Representation: bisexual or pansexual female, lesbians, Queer female, trans female Other tags: relationship f/f, polyamore, queer Asian character, queer black character, disabled queer character, queer latinx character, main character queer, queer Middle Eastern/ North African character Languages: English Content Warnings: nudity, sexually explicit Alison Bechdel's comic strip Dykes To Watch Out For has become a countercultural institution among lesbians and non-lesbians demanding across the planet. Bechdel self-unioned Dykes to Watch Out For for twenty-five years, from 1993 to 2008. The award-winning generational chronicle has been called one of the most eminent euvres of the comic book genre, period. From: Dykes to Watch Out For Notes on This Title Originally serialized in gay and lesbian newspapers, including Funny Times, as well as online on the author's website, the first print collections of these strips were distributed on 11 volumes, starting in 1986 and ending in 2005. Essential Dykes to Watch Out For, printed in 2008, collects many of the previously released strips. Awards 2009 Ferro-Grumley Award for LGBT Ficion Reviews Starred review: The biggest lesbian soap opera - 527 episodes and, although suspended at the moment, counts - is Bechdel's miraculously well-maintained chronicization of a circle of friends over the course of 20 years, Dykes to Watch Out For. As his only possible peer among the current comics, Lynn Johnston's For Better or Worse, and his great bully, Frank King's GasolineAlley, Dykes takes place in real time. Characters get older, change, see their parents die and have children. Basically, it all revolves around former radical lesbian Mo, whose worries about the future persist as she and her friends fulfill their dreams. Life improves for gay people, even if the struggles continue, as they and we remember the preen son determined to be transgender of a new cast member and the dissolution of two long-lived lesbian marriages. Mo's kvetching centrality is complemented by the chorus of distorted radio and television commentary and headlines that surprisingly often strike a satirical leitmotif under the conversation of the characters, which is always perfect for the highly intelligent, well-behaved, seriously engaged and witty group they are. Bechdel's comic book autobiography Fun Home (2006) brought her much more general attention than Dykes ever did, but make no mistake: the strip is her masterpiece. (Source: Booklist, vol 105, number 5, p32) Starry review: This in progress tells the life of a close-knit group of lesbian friends in 21 stunning years of life, work, love, love, political activism and countless reversals of fortune. At the center are six women: the promiscuous Lois, a feminist saleswoman in the bookstore with a penchant for gender inflection; his two flatmates, academic Ginger and self-identified bisexual lesbian Sparrow; their national partner friends Clarice and Toni; and Mo, who despite (or perhaps because of) his frequent politically charged outings of neurosis is the fulcrum of his circle. These characters, imperfect but captivating, are brought to life by Bechdel's eccentric artistic sensibility. Facial expressions are carefully nuanced and seem to have great joy in using small details to differentiate emotions. At the end of the collection, when a character receives treatment for cancer, a small caress in the cheek is enough to turn it from a fresh-faced malice maker into a yellowish and frightened chemo patient. What cannot be overstated is the sheer scope of the collection, which follows these women from idealistic young adulthood to the happily disillusioned middle age and, for some, parenting. Everyone ends up a little more haggard than they started, but there isn't one whose bags illustrated by Bechdel under his eyes weren't hard fought and hard won. (Source: Publishers Weekly) Overall, these comics don't have the tightly rolled impact of Fun Home, but somehow offer bigger consolation - they're looser, more fun, and offer the chance to watch a group of very attractive women grow and change (and struggle for better sex) over the course of more than two decades. Ms. Bechdel calls her stripes half column op-ed half-novel serialized endlessly, and it's not far away. I suspect that, over the years, to Watch Out For has been as important to new generations of lesbians as reference novels like Rita Mae Brown's Rubyfruit Jungle (1973) and Lisa Alther's Kinflicks (1976) were earlier. (Source: The New York Times) It started as a collection of a humorous t-t about lesbian life, but DTWOF quickly settled into a running saga about a circle of friends in a small college town. There is neurotic; Lois, the impulsive and trendy sensualist; Clarice and Toni, the longtime couple who eventually have a son; Ginger, the rational but terminal ambivalent professor; Sparrow, a new-era optimist; and Jezanna, the alpha-female owner of the local feminist hub, Madwimmin Books. Thinking about DTWOF, it's easy to focus on content. Character and theme are so central, some might put the strip in a classroom with its artistically unambitious bully, Doonesbury. People always mention their politics, in treatment of different races and genders. But look deeper, and you can see the depth, complexity and ambition of Bechdel's graphical result. His line is synocuous and fleshy, with a much greater physical impact than most comic book creators.' The line of stripes of the mid-1990s is often higher than that of Fun Home. With the latter, Bechdel was clearly pouring scenes that he had firmly established in his mind. At DTWOF, her line is more exploratory: she's following her nib wherever she leads her. (Source: NPR) Interviews The Comics Journal: The Alison Bechdel Interview Little Village: Interview: Alison Bechdel on queerness, fame and therapy Dykes to Watch Out For (also: DTWOF) is a comic book by Alison Bechdel. It was first published in 1993 and is one of the most successful and oldest queer comics in the world. Content Dyke's To Watch Out For describes the lives, relationships and political entanglement of its characters - most of whom are lesbians (Dyke) - in a medium-sized city somewhere in the United States. The plot follows that of a comedy soap opera: the relationships of the characters are followed, the problems must be solved and the fatal blows must be processed, new characters appear. At the same time, however, the dialogues are accompanied by morosi, sometimes ironic, comments, and current political events are filmed and commented on. For example, some figures participate in gay pride parades and demonstrations, participate in feminist events, and discuss American politics, for example after the September 11, 2001 attacks. The characters Monica Testa (short: Mo) is the protagonist of the strip. She's a politically engaged lesbian feminist with a penchant for whining. She worked at the independent bookstore Madwimmin Bookstore before graduating in library science and starting work as a librarian. Lois McGiver Drag King and employees first in Mo, then in another bookstore and roommate of Ginger and Sparrow, often meet Jasmin, Janis' single mother. Janis, initially Jonas, a teenager and transgender, finds a contact person in Lois. Ginger Jordan is a professor of English at Buffalo Lake State University. Her student Cynthia is seeking admission to the CIA and inondondo to her parents. Ginger is in a relationship with Samia, a Syrian Muslim chemist married to a man. Ginger still lives in a house shared with Sparrow, but is looking for a new apartment with Samia. Prudence, born in Sparrow Pidgeon, is a director of a women's shelter and atheist, describing herself as a bisexual lesbian. She currently has an affair with Jewish pro-feminist Stuart Goodman, who raises their baby Jiao Raizel (or J.R.) at home, as well as Jasmins Janis. Sparrow, Stuart and Ginger live together. Toni Ortiz is a CPA and entrepreneur, but stopped for several years to raise her son Rafael Clifford-Ortiz (also: Raffi). He had a long-standing relationship with Clarice Clifford, a work-mad environmental lawyer. Clarice and Toni have both performed a engagement ceremony in a courtyard, a Civil Union in the state of Vermont, and a town hall wedding and are Raffi's parents. At the moment, they are considering whether a divorce really requires separating. Sydney Krukowsky is a professor of women's studies and does not place much emphasis on deep moral ideas. She likes to spend more money than she has, she is currently in a relationship with Mo and has just successfully completed breast cancer treatment. Jezanna Ramsay (formerly alberta) is a manager at Madwimmin and head of Mo until she began her librarian studies. Lois and Thea, a lesbian Jewish woman who has multiple sclerosis and had an affair with Sydney during her college days, also work at lesbian-gay bookstore Madwimmin until it closes. After the closure of her business, Jezanna became an English teacher as a foreign language. The Strip appeared regularly in the feminist newspaper Womannews in the summer of 1983. After a year, the successfully successful series was also taken over by other newspapers. Twelve anthologies have been published, seven of them also in German translation. Alison Bechdel has also published several strips on the Internet. In 2008, she announced that she was taking a break from the series. The first collection receives mixed, sometimes disjointed individual stripes. The series around Mo begins about halfway through the second volume More Dykes to Watch Out For. From the third volume, Alison Bechdel began adding a graphic novel at the end of each volume. In some cases, these are simply flashbacks, for example in Unnatural Dykes to Watch Out For, at the end of which Bechdel describes how his main characters met. In some cases, however, completely new twists are allowed in the plot, such as raffi's birth at the end of Spawn of Dykes to Watch Out For. Between 1991 and 2003, the Göttingen publishing house Daphne published six volumes in German translation. After the death of editor Susanne Amrain, the series was taken over by Krug & Schadenberg, who has published a volume so far. The translation and graphic editing are by Birgit Müller, in the first volume with the collaboration of Lisa Heineman. The first four volumes are currently out of print. Lesbian racing: ... as in the illustrated book. Daphne, 1991. ISBN 3-89137-012-1 (=More Dykes to watch out for, 1988) nice lesbian style. Daphne, 1993. ISBN 3-89137-014-8 (=New, improved! Dams to watch out for, 1990) Wild lesbian world. Daphne, 1998. ISBN 3-89137-031-8 (=Unnatural Dams to Watch Out for, 1995) Turbogelle Lesbenlust. Daphne, 1999. ISBN 3-89137-032-6 (=Hot, throbbing dykes to watch out for, 1997) Lesbian chaos. Daphne, 2000. ISBN 3-89137-034-2 (=Split level dykes to watch out, 1998) Postmodern lesbianism. Daphne, 2003. ISBN 3-89137-036-9 (=Post-dykes to watch out for, 2000) Lesbians and other carbon-based life forms. Krug and Schadenberg, 2005. ISBN 3-930041-47-2 (=Dykes and Other Carbon-Based Life-Forms to Watch Out For, 2003) The following volumes have not yet been released on German: Dykes to Watch Out For (1986) Dykes to Watch Out For: The Sequel (1992) Spawn of Dykes to Watch Out For (1993) Invasion of the Dyke To Watch Out For (2005) The Essential Dykes to Watch Out For (Anthology with Strips from the previous volumes, 2008) The Bechdel Test – main article: Bechdel-Test In comic, the so-called Bechdel test, Also known as the BechdelWallace Test or Bechdel Law, Bechdel refers to her friend Liz Wallace for the invention of the test, which first appeared in the 1985 comic The Rule. One person says in this comic that they only see films that meet the following conditions: There are at least two women talking to each other about something other than a man. [2] A variant of the test in which the two women cannot be extra is also called mo movie measure. The name is an improper term, since neither Mo nor the other characters were introduced at the time of the comic's publication. [3] References to Neda Ulaby: Bechdel's rule, which defines the character of pop culture. In: All Things Considered, National Public Radio, September 2, 2008. Retrieved April 3, 2010. Alison Bechdel: The rule. Retrieved April 26, 2015. - The Bechdel Test, AKA, The Mo Movie Measure. Originally released October 17, 2008. Info: The archive link has been entered automatically and has not yet been checked. Please check the original link and archive according to the instructions and then remove this Hinweis.@1@2Vorlage:Webachiv/IABot/www.amptoons.com Retrieved April 3, 2010. Weblinks Website by Alison Bechdel / Dykes To watch out for the DTWOF archive at Planetout.com Weblog by Alison Bechdel Recovered from

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