



[Fun Home](#) by Alison Bechdel

Mariner Books Classics, HarperCollins, 2006

ISBN: 9780618871711 (Paperback)

*Age Range: Adult

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Alison Bechdel's groundbreaking, bestselling graphic memoir that charts her fraught relationship with her late father.

Distant and exacting, Bruce Bechdel was an English teacher and director of the town funeral home, which Alison and her family referred to as the "Fun Home." It was not until college that Alison, who had recently come out as a lesbian, discovered that her father was also gay. A few weeks after this revelation, he was dead, leaving a legacy of mystery for his daughter to resolve.

In her hands, personal history becomes a work of amazing subtlety and power, written with controlled force and enlivened with humor, rich literary allusion, and heartbreaking detail.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★ "One of the very best graphic novels ever." —[Booklist](#), **ALA**, **Starred Review**

★ "[With] uncommon richness [and] depth...[Fun Home] shares as much in spirit with...other contemporary memoirists of considerable literary accomplishment." —[Kirkus Reviews](#), **Starred**

★ "[Alison Bechdel] hits notes that resemble Jeanette Winterson at her best...She's made a story that's quiet [and] dignified." —[Publishers Weekly](#), **Starred**

"A splendid autobiography...refreshingly open and generous." —[Entertainment Weekly](#)

"Fun Home must be the most ingeniously compact, hyper-verbose example of autobiography to have been produced. . . . pioneering." —[The New York Times Book Review](#)

"A masterpiece about two people who live in the same house but different worlds, and their mysterious debts to each other." —[Time Magazine](#)

"Graphic storytelling at its most profound." —[Los Angeles Times](#), **Favorite Book of the Year**

"The great writing of the twenty-first century may well be found in graphic novels and nonfiction....Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home* is an astonishing advertisement for this emerging literary form." —[USA Today](#)

"Brilliant and bittersweet." —[The Boston Globe](#)

Updated 7.9.24

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"Beautiful combines the mundane with the macabre, adding doses of wry, poignant humor on every page." — **Washington Post**

"One of the best memoirs of the decade ... at once hypercontrolled and utterly intimate." —**New York Magazine, Best Books of the Year**

"A revelation ... feels like a true literary achievement, something with characters who baffle and disappoint and break hearts the way people do in life and in the best of prose." —**Minneapolis Star-Tribune**

"If David Sedaris could draw, and if Bleak House had been a little funnier, you'd have Alison Bechdel's Fun Home." —**Amy Bloom, author of A Blind Man Can See How Much I Love You**

"Alison Bechdel – she's one of the best, one to watch out for." —**Harvey Pekar**

"Masterful...an enormously successful work." —**Village Voice**

"A staggeringly literate and revealing autobiography." —**Seattle Times**

"Brave and forthright and insightful—exactly what Alison Bechdel does best." —**Dorothy Allison, author of Bastard Out of Carolina**

"Stupendous...mesmerizing...The details...are devastatingly captured by an artist in total control of her craft." —**Chip Kidd, author of The Cheese Monkeys**

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Time Magazine #1 Book of the Year
- National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist
- Stonewall Book Award Winner
- Lambda Book Award double Finalist
- GLAAD Media Award nominee

***A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

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