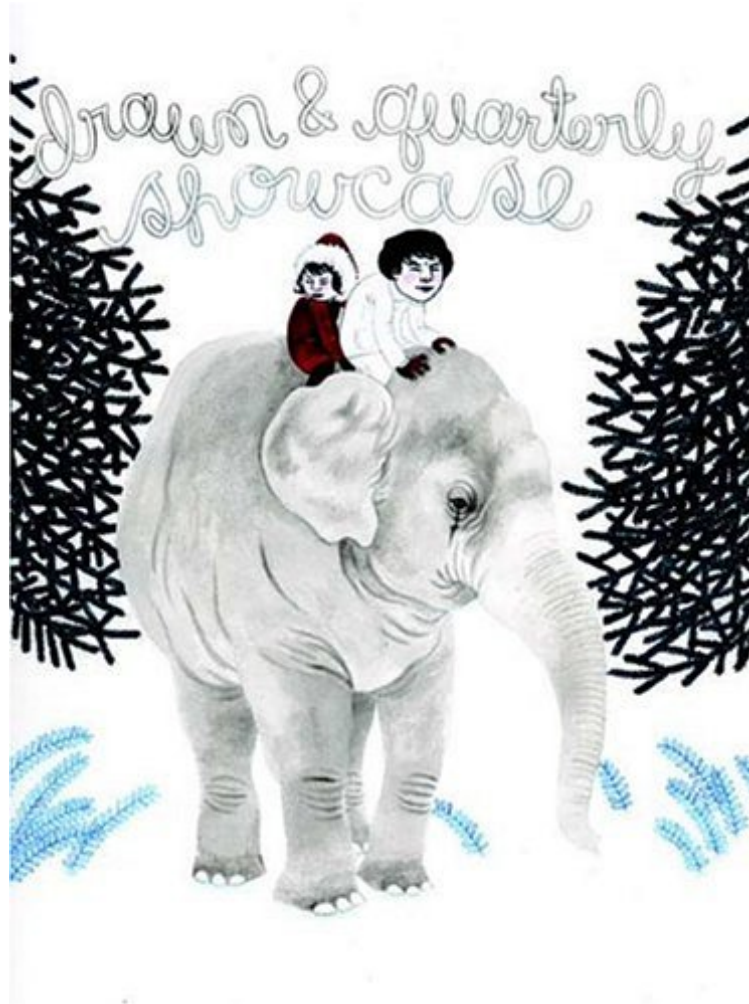


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Drawn Quarterly Showcase: Book Three (Bk. 3)

From Drawn and Quarterly

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From Drawn and Quarterly : Drawn Quarterly Showcase: Book Three (Bk. 3) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Drawn Quarterly Showcase: Book Three (Bk. 3):

D+Q presents the latest anthology of new comics talent from around the world. D+Q publisher Chris Oliveros started the company by publishing a quarterly magazine of the world's best comics talent, which over the years became an award-winning deluxe coffee-table anthology that featured cartoon classics of yesteryear, such as Gasoline Alley, and today's French comics superstars Dupuy Berberian. Fourteen years later, Oliveros noticed an explosion of new talent from around the globe, so he decided to combine two of the things he does best-publishing anthologies and nurturing talent. The result is the Drawn Quarterly Showcase, which is one of the most exciting outlets for readers to find new

comics talent. Book Three features three cartoonists from around the world: Genevieve Castre from Canada, Matt Broersma from England, and Sammy Harkham from the United States, whose previous graphic novella, *Poor Sailor*, was excerpted in the David Eggers-edited *Best American Nonrequired Reading* 2004.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . Every year *Drawn Quarterly* offers an anthology of lengthy stories by emerging young cartoonists; this installment is the strongest thus far, and a visually stunning book to boot. Elverum's "We're Wolf" is composed of a trilogy of adult fables about happiness, sadness and companionship drawn in a graceful, languid style. The vibrant colors, rarely seen in comics, give the artwork a fantastic life on the page, and the story announces Elverum as a major young talent. Occupying the middle spot is Kramer's *Ergot* editor Harkham's "Somersaulting," a tale of two friends and a long summer. Using a muted color palette of yellow, orange and black, Harkham effortlessly controls the story's mood, summoning the languid pace of summer as well as the gradual discovery of love and sex in the suburbs. Neither cynical nor sentimental, this tale plays like a long, clear-eyed tone poem to teenage summers. After two such dreamy stories, Broersma rounds out the book with the two-part "The Mummy," a charming and funny romp through a mythical mid-20th-century European locale, featuring tongue-in-cheek romance, intrigue and ghosts. Entertaining and wittily executed, it's the perfect complement to the more serious works in this essential new volume. (June) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist The latest in *Drawn Quarterly*'s series spotlighting up-and-coming talent again presents impressive work from three countries. French-Canadian Genevieve Elverum offers three connected minimalist fables dreamily portraying a young woman's reactions to depression, domesticity, and motherhood in delicate watercolors that, thanks largely to her keen graphic skills, make them whimsical without being cloying. Representing the U.S., Sammy Harkham--founder of the cutting-edge comics and graphic arts zine *Kramers Ergot*--sympathetically, but with open eyes, recounts a teenage girl's languid summer of sex, boozing, and friendship. Harkham, whose visual approach is indebted to Chester Brown's *Yummy Fur*, uses a uniform, nine-panel grid to convey the slow, measured passing of the season. England's Matt Broersma is the traditionalist here. His grisly, humorous tale of the ghost of one Dr. Frobisher, walking the earth trying to retrieve his body, recalls French master Jacques Tardi in its art and storytelling; the story per se could be a Richard Sala yarn (see Sala's *Mad Night*, reviewed in this issue). The strongest *Drawn Quarterly* Showcase yet. Gordon Flagg Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved A successful idea and important for comics' future. Giving young artists space to stretch out and develop in book form is necessary, and by taking a chance on new talent, *Drawn Quarterly* again proves it's one of today's most adventurous and important comics publishers. Publishers Weekly