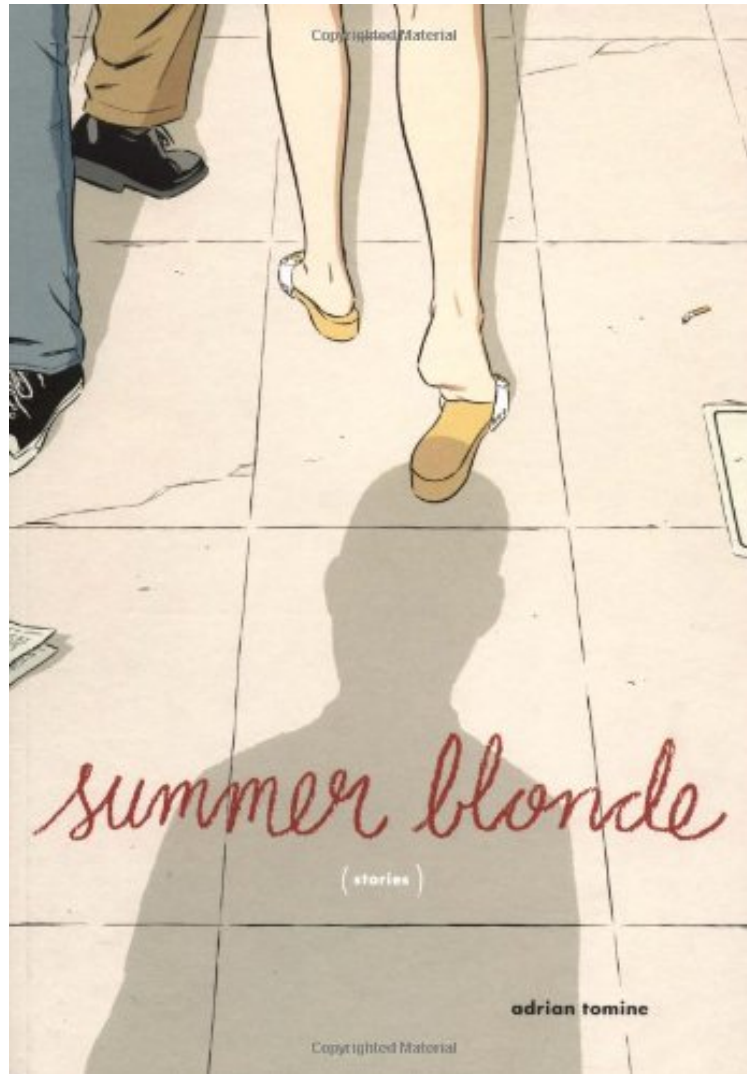


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Summer Blonde

Adrian Tomine

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#237859 in Books Drawn and Quarterly 2003-06-01 2003-06-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.56 x .52 x 7.611, .89 #File Name: 1896597572132 pages | File size: 55.Mb

Adrian Tomine : Summer Blonde before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Summer Blonde:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. often bordering on creepy or pathetic, characters in 4 different storiesBy Cesar!Tomine gives the reader an intimate look into the lives of about a dozen pitiful, often bordering on creepy or pathetic, characters in 4 different stories. The dialog is fluid, the landscapes are simple but well crafted, and the characters mannerisms are well articulated through the art.I'd love to give it a five star review, but the author did too good a job making me feel creeped out by the end of it.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I loved it.By B. WolinskyFour stories about 20-something people with dysfunctional social lives. The Summer Blonde story is

about a sexy girl who cheats on her lame boyfriend, and the obsessive loner who fantasizes about her. Hawaiian Getaway is about an overweight 27 year old, out of a job, and has trouble with men. These stories were written in the late 90's, a time when bulky computers were the norm, starbucks wasn't full of laptops, and nobody surfed the web from an iPhone. It was a time when we talked on the phone, made plans to meet and showed up, and wrote with pens and paper. I wonder if today's 20-somethings will be able to relate to any of this? 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If you enjoy any of Adrian's work I suggest you write him ...By Sir Roberts WOW ...Tomine always makes me think when I read his work. I had to look at myself and think if I was as negative as the Summer Blonde lead character. Not only does this have stunning drawings but, Adrian really knows how to capture a person and dissect them. If you enjoy any of Adrian's work I suggest you write him an old fashioned hand letter and thank him. He doesn't believe in FB or other social Media, nor should he....his work will be passed down like old mythology on onion skin paper through the sounds of harps--or just paper and old prints not destroyed by revolutions of the future. ENJOY

Adrian Tomine's cult comix series Optic Nerve is finally collected into one sharp-looking hardcover graphic novel. Described as the Raymond Carver of comix, Tomine constructs tales of emotional disconnection with an ear for painfully real dialogue. Combined with his deft black and white depictions of urbane lifestyles, Tomine's fans have often accused him of eavesdropping in on their most intimate moments and, with forensic skill, laying their lives bare. The conflicts between emotional gratification, narcissistic neediness and moral discernment mark the title story - "Summer Blonde" - in which a socially crippled man nurses an obsessive crush on a young woman. He watches close up, paralyzed by his guilt, as her beauty catches the eye of his neighbor: a hip, selfish young man with a short attention span. One of Optic Nerve's most popular stories, 'Hawaiian Getaway,' features Hilary, telephone service rep who is having the worst week of her life. She lost her job, her apartment, and her grandmother. Close to the edge, she is losing her grip. Reaching out to random strangers on the phone, Hilary is looking for someone to help her. In "Alter Ego" a successful young author has writer's block. He can't, or won't, decide between another ghostwriting gig and finishing his second real novel. He stalls on committing to his novel and his girlfriend when a chance postcard leads him to flirt with fantasies of changing the past. Finally, "Bomb Scare" documents the early unease of his generation by setting this coming-of-age story during the tense months of the Gulf War, the event that ushered in the 1990s.

From Booklist Tomine is at the forefront of the younger generation of alternative-comics artists; now in his mid-twenties, he began publishing at age 16. Known for his clear, direct drawing and acute scrutiny of his contemporaries, Tomine has an understated approach, light on plot but rich with memorable characterization. The young protagonists of these four stories range from alienated to out-and-out misanthropic and include a successful but shy novelist who seeks out the girl he was obsessed with in high school; a lonely woman who loses her job and veers into erratic behavior; and a pair of high-school outcasts who improbably wind up together. Tomine shows them dealing with bad attitudes, bad choices, and bad sex. The narratives pick up at seemingly arbitrary points in the characters' lives and end just as abruptly. They are snapshots of lives just gathering steam. Tomine's figures look a bit stiff, and sometimes his panels are cramped, but that isn't inappropriate to depicting the constricted lives of his not particularly likable but always sympathetic characters. Gordon Flagg Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Tomine, who has become a cult figure, has brought an aura of cool realism to the world of comics with its blend of the best of independent comics and contemporary fiction. Los Angeles New Times Emotionally adroit...Summer Blonde is compulsive melancholy Village Voice Literary Supplement...has the kind of detail and romantic yearning which has made Tomine a cult figure to the still young and the kind of artistry which has made him a classic storyteller to anyone of any age. San Francisco Chronicle From the Publisher Paradoxically one of the best established comix artists is still one of the youngest. At only 27 Adrian Tomine has been producing his Optic Nerve series for over ten years. Tomine's first break came at 17 when he was hired to create a comic strip for Tower Records' national magazine PULSE! By 21 he had won the comix industry Harvey Award for Best New Talent. His painfully observant stories of urban detachment and missed emotional connections came to define among alternative comix a Gen-X sensibility and gained national attention for their stylish and literate minimalism. Born in Sacramento, CA, Tomine lives in Berkeley where he writes Optic Nerve and contributes illustrations to The New Yorker and George.