



Undeleted Scenes

Jeffrey Brown

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Undeleted Scenes presents a decade's worth of shorter works from indie comics legend Jeffrey Brown. This huge compendium contains stories from the previous collections Minisulk, Every Girl Is the End of the World for Me, and Feeble Attempts, as well as Jeffrey's work from anthologies such as Kramers Ergot and McSweeney's, plus rare material from minicomics and elsewhere, including dozens of pages of never-before-seen material. Spanning humor, autobiography, and beyond, some of Jeffrey's most beloved comics are in here - including the fan-favorite self-parody collection Be A Man!

Undeleted Scenes Details

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Author : Jeffrey Brown

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Comics

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From Reader Review Undeleted Scenes for online ebook

Burrito Hayworth says

Cartoonists rarely lead interesting lives and Jeffrey Brown is no exception. He spends his time drawing in cafes and chatting with friends. He's an aimless, amiable person.

But when put to paper his life is strangely charming. As he states in the introduction, Brown has managed to find meanings in his anecdotal existence.

Brown's draftsmanship is unironed to match his appearance. It suits the stories. Add *Undeleted Scenes* to the same, small pile as *American Elf* of good autobiographical comics.

C.J. Cummings says

Jeff Brown's Clumsy was a book I was so excited to check out this month (finally) and Undeleted Scenes was one I was even more eager to read. I've just finished it. It's 3am. It was awesome. I want to read it again. I shall.

Sooraya Evans says

Lousy art. Lame story.

Jasmine says

jeffrey brown makes me smile... although he makes his pregnant girlfriend look insane. good reason to never have a baby

Dominick says

I was *very* unimpressed with the first few strips in this eclectic collection--they seemed to be textbook examples of the studied pointlessness prevalent among some alt cartoonists. Boy gets tickled until he farts a few times, leaves the room crying, end of story. Boy pulls car out of garage, damages mirror, end of story. Etc. The point of such strips seems to be their very banality, but a little banality goes a long way. Some of the longer stories are more interesting (especially the pregnancy diary, though it does seem rather uncharitable in its depiction of Brown's girlfriend), and occasionally amusing, if also problematic on numerous fronts. The key problematic front for me is the sheer crudeness of the art. Brown's style is very simple and cluttered, his lettering often almost unreadable, his panels generally unimaginative (the grid pattern almost never varies, and most are designed from very similar perspectives), and what is going on not always at all easy to discern (in one strip, he and a girl do . . . something to their feet--loofah them?--and they

end up looking . . . well, kinda like hamburger; is this supposed to represent a healthy glow? rough abrasion? pain? search me). A couple of the strips are actually about the very amateurishness of Brown's style, so clearly it's something he's aware of and has been called on before, and presumably he chooses to retain that style (at least, a few strips do suggest that he is capable of better draftsmanship when he wants to be). But basically, this stuff looks generally tossed-off. If you have a high tolerance for autobio comics in which the artist is keen on depicting himself as a douche (especially in the "Be a Man" sequence) or a loser, this is for you. I'll stick with the other Brown, Chester--who, amusingly, is the subject of one strip, about Jeff being mistaken for Chet (shades of Rick Springfield!)

Sharni Benson says

I am a fan of Jeffrey Brown. I love his Star Wars books and his observations of life books but this autobiography....well the thing with the Star Wars books is that they had context. This has context but I don't know it, so I was rather lost a lot of the time and it was rather crowded so gave me a headache.

I think I'll just stick to his Star Wars books.

David Schaafsma says

Why is it I never read this book when I have devoured almost anything I can get my hands on my Jeffery Brown? I think it's my misreading of his title, as if it were sort of like just a bunch of miscellaneous stuff that most people wouldn't care about... not YET deleted... I dunno. Well, I STILL would have maybe considered a different title, but I'll get over it. And the point is these are NOT deleted scenes, they are here, and worth reading, autobiographical sketches arranged in a kind of chronological order, like a kind of pastiche memoir, with some great self-deprecating and honest humor... I had read Every Girl is the End of the World for Me and loved it when I first read it--I had been a kind of romantic "slow learner" with plenty of experience to say back to Brown if he had been related these stories to me in a bar--but here it is even better, because it is contextualized with even more funny and self-deprecatingly honest stories of even MORE "challenging" (sometimes humiliating, sometimes sad, sometimes hilarious) encounters with women, mostly. And on order, his latest memoir! I like this stuff better than the cute Vader comix (though I do like those a lot and find them humorous in another way and they are deservedly more popular with MOST people, I get that), because they go less for the cute and more for the honest and Woody Allenishly women-obsessed struggles... There's real human struggle in this book, though I wouldn't call it "deep" in any way, or pretentious, which is in part the point of the art and the understated stories. He's not an intellectual, he's one of us, we are like him. I also grew up in Grand Rapids and am living in Chicago, so his growing up stories always resonate with me a bit more, it feels like to me. Feels familiar in so many ways.

P. says

Is this a collection of Jeffrey Brown's mini-comics? There wasn't an introduction.

Anyway, it's hard to stop me from reading straight through his books once I have them, no matter how... sad? they make me feel? I don't know if that's the right word. Jeffrey Brown's striving within his infatuations always brings back a visceral feeling of being a teenager in a small town, lonely and wondering what it feels

like to find someone who will love you. It's strange, I know, because he's writing from the perspective of a twenty-something. But he's good at it! (I mean, except for the end where he unexpectedly has a baby) Thanks for being vulnerable and scribbly, Jeffrey Brown.

chris says

After going through a period of mild fascination with Jeffrey Brown, where I would check for him first in every anthology and read whatever he had to offer (and he is in just about every anthology), I went through another period where I was mentally disparaging of him and didn't want to see any of his comics ever again. I don't know why this occurs. But this collection brought me back around (and it contains a lot of those early pieces I liked, and some later ones I, then, didn't. Again: I don't know why this occurs). To anyone who says that JB can't draw (which I'm ashamed to say I've said), I say try to do what he does. It's not as easy as it looks.

Anthony says

Kinda boring with some but too few moments of charm.

Brad says

Dear Jeffrey Brown, it's been a couple years since I've read any of your books about crippling awkward relationship comics. I missed you, and especially loved re-reading "Be A Man," which is the perfect antidote to otherwise acceptable emotional responses to girls.

The long story about five girls over the holidays didn't have as much of a payoff as I was expecting, but this jumble of short stories is pretty great.

Katie says

Undeleted Scenes is a montage of Jeffrey Brown's comics collected from other volumes, or comics that were never published. I'd never read Brown before, and I'd say that this was a good introduction, because I immediately went to The Strand bookstore to pick up *Unlikely*, and plan on adding his first book, *Clumsy*, to my shelves soon.

My favorite from this collection is "Be a Man," but I loved every piece, really.

Raina says

I read this, in quick sequence with *Little Things: A Memoir in Slices* and *Kids Are Weird: And Other Observations from Parenthood* as my way of getting to know Jeffrey Brown.

As inferred by the title, this is a bit of a grab bag, much less cohesive in vision or style than either of the other two. There's a lot of Brown's iconic messy boxes, but also sections with smudgy shadow, some less autobiographical pieces, and the story of his first child's birth.

Enjoyable, quick, but not particularly memorable for me.

Jason says

A lot of my favorite songs are b-sides, so it makes sense that Jeffrey Brown's collection of odds and ends is one of my favorite things he's done. I'd read some of these stories before ("Just Don't Stop" from *Blood Orange*, "Don't Look Them in the Eye" from *Kramer's Ergot*, and the mini-book "Every Girl is the End of the World to Me," which I always thought was a real gem), but it was great to re-read these and to have them all in one place. Most of the stories that were new to me were also great, especially "Pregnant Pause" and the one about going to White Castle after a breakup (can't remember the name of this one). A strong collection overall.

Margot says

I've been really enjoying memoir/autobiographical graphic novels lately, and this one is pretty great. I always wonder the ancillary characters included in memoir and autobiography feel about their portrayals, and my curiosity is even stronger in the graphic novel realm. How do these family members, friends, and random characters feel about their appearance and remembered dialogue and actions? Do they feel cheated, betrayed, or honored? Maybe I'll meet some and can ask them someday. So, with all those questions about memoirs, I was pleased with Brown's direct response within this volume.

Anyway, this specific autobiographical compilation is pretty raw in both the artwork and plot/dialogue, as well as the self-portrayal by Jeffrey Brown. He definitely doesn't pump his appearance or character up in his own drawings, often coming across as a random victim with minimal control over the action in his own life. Life keeps happening *to* him, and he reacts with sometimes dubious responses.

I have to say that my favorite section was "Be A Man," a collection of scenes of the opposite of Brown's typical character. Perhaps his alter ego? The heartless, selfish typical man. Hilarious scenes. Such as this one:

"Do You Love Me?" (pg. 325)

Him: So, do you love me?

Her: Yes. So, do you love me?

Him: Oh, hey, I gotta go, the football game is on.

HAHAHAHA!
