

(Download pdf) Hot, Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out for

## Hot, Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out for

*Alison Bechdel*

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**Alison Bechdel : Hot, Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out for** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hot, Throbbing Dykes to Watch Out for:

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Multiple consummationsBy Kerry WaltersAlison Bechdel is quickly becoming one of my favorite authors. I'm sorry to say that although I've known about her "Dykes to Watch Out For" for years, I only recently began reading the series after discovering her gripping memoir Fun Home. I'm not reading the DTWOF volumes serially (although perhaps I should), but rather as I can get my hands on them. But what I'm discovering even in my haphazard reading of them is that Ms Bechdel's artwork and narrative gets richer as time passes, that her characters become increasingly complex, and that the deep reflectiveness coupled with a playfully mordant sense of humor I discovered in Fun Home enlivens DTWOF as well. "Hot, Trobbing..." is an excellent title for this collection, because the story lines in it collectively build in tension until the reader is virtually panting for some kind of release. The main story centers around Mo and a new character, Sidney, a big-city, snooty, and frequently unbearable assistant professor of feminist theory. Mo takes an immediate dislike to Sidney, which eventually morphs into a sexual attraction that's overwhelming. In the meantime, Clarice and Toni are experiencing their own tension in their longstanding relationship, Lois is on prozac and losing her sexual joi de vivre, Ginger has reached the do-or-die point on her dissertation, and the bookshop Madwimmin is on the skids. Everything and everyone is in crisis mode and the tension steadily builds until, thankfully, it's released in exquisite simultaneity at the book's end (which, by the way, is also one of Bechdel's most erotic finales).Along the way, there are some delicious digs at bad feminist poets, the sheer silliness (and fun) of sexual toys, the difficulties of juggling parenthood, marriage, and a hectic, demanding job (in the story line of Clarice, Toni, and Rafael), the hazards of dating ex-lovers of current friends, and the pain involved in coming out to one's family.Wonderful, joyful, bittersweet stuff.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three StarsBy G. CampbellEntertaining2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The seventh, and quite wonderful, DTWOF book!By Renee ByrdThis book ties up cliffhangers from the previouscollection, "Unnatural Dykes ..." We find out what happens with Toni, her mother, Raffi, Clarice and Gloria. Time is closing in on Ginger and ther dissertation. Madwimmin Books starts to suffer as the new "Buns and Noodle" superstore rakes in the cash. We get to see more of Audry and Jezanna. Lois has a secret. And Mo has an unwelcome admirer. This book is great!

Bechdel manages to tie up loose ends and still keep a coherent story that has a climax that's worth the entire series (as if you needed more of a reason). Pick this one up to complete your collection thus far. Pick all of them up if you haven't started yet! It sure beats the heck out of daytime soaps.

*Throbbing Dykes To Watch Out For* is Alison Bechdel's seventh sensuous cartoon collection, her libidinous commentary on the tsunami of lesbian erotica surging through the culture. While M - our lesbian-feminist everywoman - looks on askance, sexy babe Lois and postmodern femme-top Sydney spearhead the thrust into sex toys and higher sales at Madwimmin Books. In these days of girls writing erotica about boys, and boys writing erotica about girls (so what's new?), Alison Bechdel exposes her familiar cast of characters carnal mores.

.com Will Alison Bechdel ever put a foot wrong? Will she ever lose her sense of humor about the goofy vicissitudes of the lesbian community? If this seventh book of her serial cartoon collection about Mo, the feminist bookseller everywoman and her cohorts, is any indication, I'd have to say no. Bechdel here sets her wry and wonderful sights on the explosion of lesbian erotica. From Booklist Bechdel's comic strip *Dykes to Watch Out For* resembles Armistead Maupin's prose-only serial *Tales of the City*, but Bechdel's all-lesbian main cast affords gays an in-group pleasure that Maupin's all-preferences cast doesn't, and her mock-soap-operatics are funnier and smarter than Maupin's. In the seventh *Dykes* collection, lesbian mom Toni and her lover Clarice move Clarice's suit to become legal coparent forward; a young lesbian-deconstructionist professor comes to town and antagonizes-attracts gay-left purist Mo; African American Ph.D. candidate Ginger finally writes that dissertation; and the strip's principal setting, Madwimmin Books, weathers financial crisis and an erotica-oriented fund-raiser that mortifies owner Jezanna no end ("I'll open a bookstore" I thought. "The life of the mind," I thought"). As usual, the dialogue crackles with intelligence, insight, and a humane wit that Bechdel's wry draftsmanship matches. True, it probably demands an "R" rating, but any horse frightened by these dykes' doings is a pansy of a pony, indeed. Ray Olson