

100

YEARS

Teachers College Press
Teachers College, Columbia University

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Beverly Rivero

Publicity Coordinator

(212) 678-3963 Rivero@tc.edu

To Teach: The Journey, In Comics

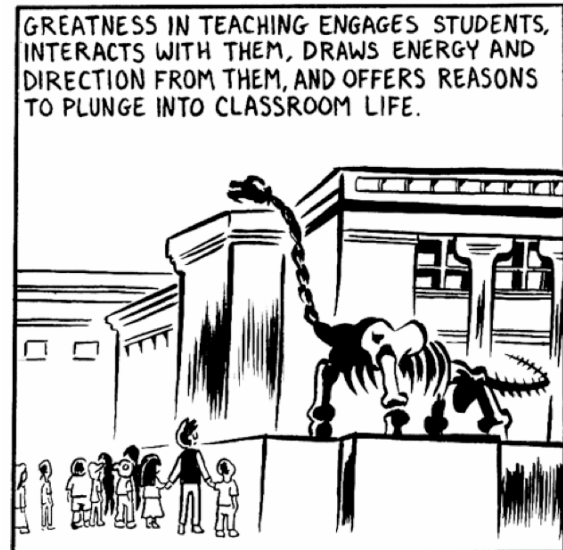
William Ayers and Ryan Alexander-Tanner

“This fascinating and, yes, educational book will certainly be of interest to teachers, but it will also teach, inspire, and entertain anyone else who picks it up.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“It’s profoundly charming...part autobiography, part education reform tract, and entirely enjoyable to read.” — *The Huffington Post*

“Ayers encourages vibrant learning environments, student-teacher relationships, and students taking more of an active role in their own learning: all to be applauded.” —*Bookslut*

“An innovative educator’s graphic memoir that is as sweet, smart and sassy as it is inspiring.” —*Shelf Awareness*



This graphic novel brings to life William Ayers’s bestselling memoir *To Teach: The Journey of a Teacher*. These illustrated stories begin with Ayers’s early days teaching kindergarten and follow this renowned educational theorist on his “voyage of discovery and surprise.” Readers meet fellow travelers from schools across the country and watch as students grow across a year and a lifetime.

To Teach: The Journey, In Comics is a vivid, honest portrayal of the everyday world of teaching and what it means to be a “good” teacher—debunking myths perpetuated on film and in starry-eyed hero/teacher fictions. On the surface, *To Teach* is primarily the story of William Ayers and his class as they navigate the kindergarten year from introductions to graduation. In the process, we see how Bill Ayers engages with the children as individuals, translates their questions and concerns into fun and educational projects and handles the “weird” people with clipboards who stop by to check his actions against the Regional and National Curriculum.

Fans of scholarly graphic works such as *Studs Terkel’s Working: A Graphic Adaptation* and *A People’s History of American Empire: A Graphic Adaptation* will appreciate this pioneering work from Ayers and Alexander-Tanner, while fans of graphic novel memoirs such as *Persepolis* will find much to love in *To Teach’s* powerful and progressive message.

Ryan Alexander-Tanner’s art brings to life the learning processes familiar to everyone who has ever been a student or a teacher. **Lauren Weinstein**, *Girl Stories*, captures the book’s essence perfectly: “Ayers organizes a classroom like Alexander-Tanner lays out each page: with inventiveness, clarity of purpose and a close attention honoring their individual subjects. I wish I’d read this book before I started teaching and making comics a decade ago; it’s chock full of practical and philosophical advice...I know this book will inspire a generation of teachers to come.” *To Teach: The Journey, In Comics* is a unique book that reminds us how curiosity, a sense of adventure and a healthy dose of reflection help guide us all through life and learning.

Follow us @ <http://twitter.com/TCPress>

To order, please call 800-575-6566 or visit us on the web: www.tcpres.com

For special bulk sales, please contact TC Press at: (212) 678-3919

100

YEARS

Teachers College Press

Teachers College, Columbia University

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Beverly Rivero

Publicity Coordinator

(212) 678-3963 Rivero@tc.edu

To Teach: The Journey, In Comics is also a landmark work of collaboration. Ryan Alexander-Tanner lived with William Ayers for over 6 months, at his home in Chicago. This includes the period of time during the 2008 presidential election. The result of a fruitful partnership, *To Teach* is not just Ayers' story – the authors also show how other teachers have found ways to engage with, and learn from students. *To Teach* is a timeless work that challenges the student/teacher dichotomy and opens up a world in which the hard questions aren't avoided, and it is acceptable for a teacher to say, "Let's learn this together."

William Ayers is Distinguished Professor of Education and Senior University Scholar at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), and founder of both the Small Schools Workshop and the Center for Youth and Society. A graduate of the University of Michigan, the Bank Street College of Education, Bennington College, and Teachers College, Columbia University, Ayers has written extensively about social justice, democracy and education, the cultural contexts of schooling, and teaching as an essentially intellectual, ethical, and political enterprise. He is currently the vice-president of the curriculum division of the American Educational Research Association, and a member of the executive committee of the UIC Faculty Senate. He is the author of many acclaimed works on social justice. Find him at: <http://www.billayers.org/>

Ryan Alexander-Tanner is a Brooklyn-based artist and educator. He specializes in writing and drawing comics, teaching kids how to make them, and teaching grown-ups how to teach them. He received a Xeric grant in 2007 to publish his independent comic book, *Television*. He is online at ohyesverynice.com.

May 1, 2010/ 144 pp./ Paperback, \$15.95/ ISBN: 978-0-8077- 5062-9

Follow us @ <http://twitter.com/TCPress>

To order, please call 800-575-6566 or visit us on the web: www.tcpres.com

For special bulk sales, please contact TC Press at: (212) 678-3919