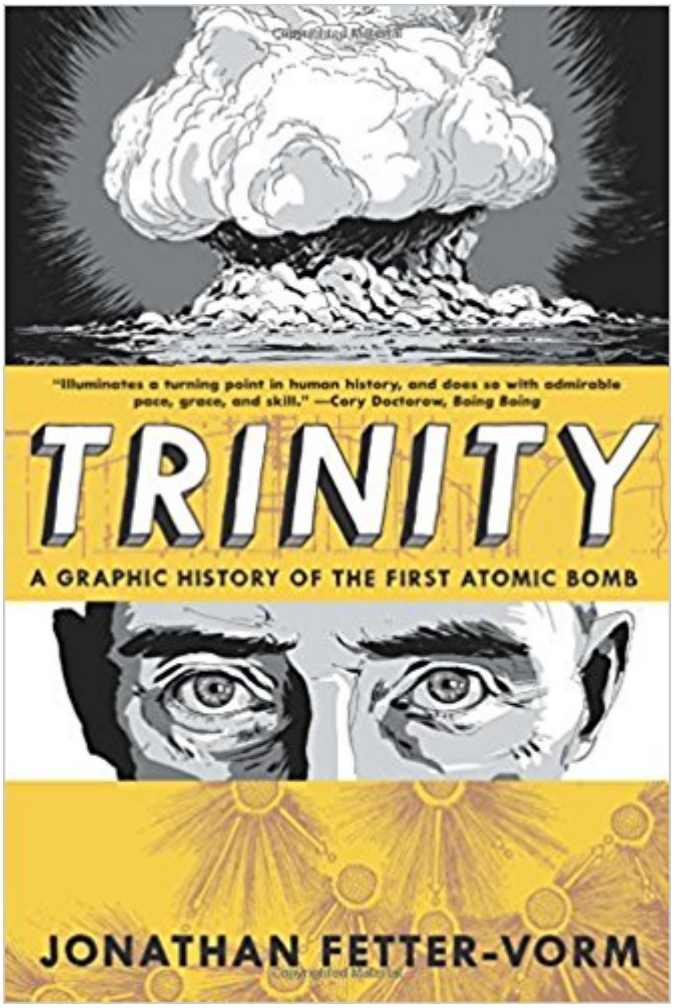
Trinity: A Graphic History Of The First Atomic Bomb



Synopsis

"Succeeds as both a graphic primer and a philosophical meditation." Ã¢â ¬â ¢Kirkus Reviews (starred review)Trinity, the debut graphic book by Jonathan Fetter-Vorm, depicts the dramatic history of the race to build and the decision to drop the first atomic bomb in World War Two. This sweeping historical narrative traces the spark of invention from the laboratories of nineteenth-century Europe to the massive industrial and scientific efforts of the Manhattan Project, and even transports the reader into a nuclear reactionÃ¢â ¬â ¢into the splitting atoms themselves. The power of the atom was harnessed in a top-secret government compound in Los Alamos, New Mexico, by a group of brilliant scientists led by the enigmatic wunderkind J. Robert Oppenheimer. Focused from the start on the monumentally difficult task of building an atomic weapon, these men and women soon began to wrestle with the moral implications of actually succeeding. When they detonated the first bomb at a test site code-named Trinity, they recognized that they had irreversibly thrust the world into a new and terrifying age. With powerful renderings of WWII's catastrophic events at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Fetter-Vorm unflinchingly chronicles the far-reaching political, environmental, and psychological effects of this new invention. Informative and thought-provoking, Trinity is the ideal introduction to one of the most significant events in history.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“Trinity illuminates a turning-point in human history, and does so with admirable pace, grace, and skill.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Cory Doctorow, Boing BoingÃ¢â ¬Å“Succeeds as both a graphic

primer and a philosophical meditation.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Kirkus (starred review)Ã¢â ¬Å“Fetter-Vorm's work . . . is altogether exemplary. And the writing's as good as the art, making this a strong primer on the A-bomb's development.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢BooklistÃ¢â ¬Å“The story behind the weapon that ended World War II and changed the nature of international conflicts forever, Trinity covers both the scientific, technical side of building the bomb and the very human side of realizing what its existence would mean for mankind.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢MashableÃ¢â ¬Å“A succinct, compelling, and dramatically illustrated history of the making of the atomic bomb, Trinity is an excellent primer for students and younger readers.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Cynthia C. Kelly, founder and president of the Atomic Heritage Foundation and editor of The Manhattan ProjectÃ¢â ¬Å“The story of J. Robert Oppenheimer and the creation of the first atomic bomb lies deep in our collective imagination. Jonathan Fetter-Vorm's graphic novel honors the physics, the politics, and the human drama of this contemporary morality tale in a manner that is as informative as it is entertaining.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢John Adams, Pulitzer Prize winner and composer of Doctor AtomicÃ¢â ¬Å“The story of the Manhattan Project has rarely been told with this much clarity and alertness to moral nuance.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Joseph Kanon, author of Los AlamosÃ¢â ¬Å“A hugely important story told with virtuosity and heart, Jonathan Fetter-Vorm's Trinity is a standard-bearer for great comics.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Nick Bertozzi, Harvey AwardÃ¢â ¬â œwinning author of The Salon and the Rubber Necker series

Jonathan Fetter-Vorm is a writer and illustrator. He was born and raised in Montana and currently lives in Brooklyn.

Jonathan Fetter-Vorm's "Trinity: A Graphic History of the First Atomic Bomb" traces the origins of atomic theory, the early work developing a working knowledge of critical mass, the Trinity test, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the early Cold War, all while telling the story through the framing device of Robert Oppenheimer preparing the Trinity test for July 16, 1945. Fetter-Vorm's art brilliantly condenses complex concepts, such as atomic theory, in a manner that's both dramatic and easy to understand. He also knows when to let the art speak for itself, such as in his portrayal of the aftermath of Nagasaki. As an historian, Fetter-Vorm echoes the conclusions of John Earl Haynes when he writes, "Even before this world war had ended, the Cold War had begun" (pg. 93). As both an introduction to the history of the early atomic age and an insightful volume in its own right, Fetter-Vorm's "Trinity" belongs on the reading list of Cold War historians and students alike.

I remember being in 10th grade World History and learning all about WWII and the atomic bomb. I also remember that my teacher could never really explain how such a devastating weapon functioned. She would simply say, "An atom splits and it explodes." Although I appreciate her attempt, I never understood how a thing as small as an atom could be split, and beyond that, how an atom could cause such a grand explosion. I tried Wikipedia but that just complicated things even more. I never truly understood the atomic bomb until I picked up this graphic novel.The graphic novel does a great job in explaining every single event that lead to the bomb's creation. It does it all chronologically, so page-flipping is not necessary. The book also introduces A LOT of names that you have probably never heard of before, but they are all tied to the events so it isn't pointless information. The book jumps from location to location with ease and it's hard to get lost since the author/artist makes good distinctions when the timeline jumps.Another aspect of this graphic novel that I really, really loved was that the science aspect of it (there's a lot of science in this graphic novel) is explained and depicted. Every step that there is to creating an atomic bomb and its explosion is drawn out. Unless you became a Chemistry Major after high school, then remembering all those concepts is difficult. I actually understood the science concepts because of his drawings.The author also ends the graphic novel with an opinion of his own, which is cool since most of the graphic novel was very fact-oriented.If I were back in high school I would have loved to read this book, not just because it has pictures, but because it is easy to follow, entertaining, and highly informative.

I've prided myself for being a rather serious reader for more than seventy years. Obviously, such a snob would never peer inside a graphic book. But for reasons not worth mentioning, I purchased Trinity: A Graphic History of the First Atomic Bomb, and I must say it was enlightening, entertaining, instructional and well worth reading or viewing, however one describes how one gets through such a book.For anyone without a scientific or engineering background, Jonathon Fettr-Vorm provides an excellent primer on the background, development and - sadly - use of the first atomic bombs. With the passage of seven decades most of us have forgotten much about the Manhattan project, and this book is a great refresher for those of us up in years or for those born after WWII but old enough to be frightened by the saber rattling of the Cold War.All in all, I recommend this book to all but the most serious and advanced students of nuclear weaponry.

Love it. Does have a few instances of mild profanity which was a bummer since I wanted to use it in my classroom. Wonderful and informative though.

I bought a class set of these for my college prep chemistry students (11th grade). We had already done the history of the atom and balancing nuclear equations, but they loved reading this book to see how it's used. They also were very somber about the bomb being used and the after-effects of the radiation. It was a great way to bring literature into science class. Thank you!

Wish they would have had these when I was a kid - but still love them as an adult !

Although not on par, as information is concerned with a formal history, it gives an overall idea of the people involved in the development of the A bombs used against Japan, the science involved, It shows how people from very different origins and expertise worked together to accomplish a feat that just made the bombs available towards the end of the war. It also glosses over the feelings of some of the scientists when confronted by the implications of their creation. -the graphics are excellent and convey an ambience you could not otherwise relate to if just reading the plain text.

I bought Trinity to read for fun, but as soon as my modern physics professor started talking about nuclear, I understood what he was saying because of this book. Though the book does explain the science behind the atomic bomb, it also focuses on how the event happened e.g. why President Truman allowed the funding, why America chose to use this new weapon. The science it explains isn't hard to follow. Fetter-Vorm did an excellent job in explaining the concepts without dumb-ing it down. I highly recommend Trinity to anyone who has some interest in the end of WWII.

Atomic Bomb Racing for the Bomb: The True Story of General Leslie R. Groves, the Man Behind the Birth of the Atomic Age The Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb The Making of the Atomic Bomb Hidden In Plain Sight 8: How To Make An Atomic Bomb Hidden In Plain Sight 8: How To Make An Atomic Bomb (Volume 8) Sabotage: The Mission to Destroy Hitler's Atomic Bomb Nextext Historical Readers: Student Reader The Atomic Bomb