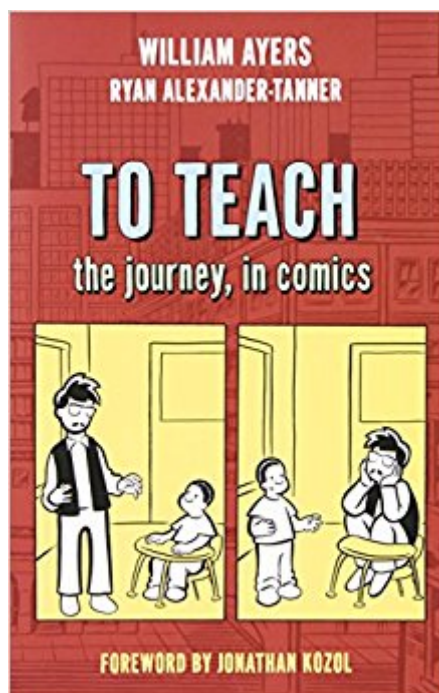


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# To Teach: The Journey, In Comics



## Synopsis

"A serious book, but laced with humor... a novel approach. Required reading for all educators."- Harvey Pekar, *American Splendor*"An utterly original and deliciously irreverent book..."- From the Foreword by Jonathan Kozol, *Savage Inequalities*"This book is a treasure chest of insight. It represents what dedicated, imaginative teaching is all about and is a blueprint for everyone who wants to explore the intimate connection between teaching and learning." - Peter Kuper, *Diario De Oaxaca* "To Teach is hilarious serious and fabulous! A broad manifesto that will change many people's lives."- Laurie Anderson, artist and musician "Weaving in inspirational anecdotes and playful visual metaphors, Ayers and Alexander-Tanner's collaboration cleverly illustrates the vital importance and moral necessity of teaching." - Josh Neufeld, *A.D.: New Orleans After the Deluge*"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."- Lauren Weinstein, *Girl Stories*"To Teach represents a fresh breeze in the educational and social science research community. It takes daring to reconceptualize entrenched practices and traditional modes of research." - Elliot Eisner, Professor Emeritus of Art, Stanford University" The perennial dance of learning that can also be teaching at its best is both brilliantly and graphically shown herein by Messrs. Ayers and Alexander-Tanner. Do keep in mind that although they can show you the right steps, you still have to listen closely to your interior music and follow its changing melodies and rhythms." - Gary Dumm, artist, *Ego & Hubris: The Michael Malice Story*, and *American Splendor*"To Teach is great reading not only to student teachers but to anyone who has a vested interest in our education system. I especially appreciated the smack down of the dehumanizing trend to pigeonhole every other kid with some kind of "at risk" syndrome! It also is a great example of how comic art is a very efficient way to communicate complex ideas." - Peter Bagge, comics journalist and author of the *Buddy Bradley* series

This graphic novel brings to life William Ayers's bestselling memoir *To Teach: The Journey of a Teacher*, now in its third edition. From Ayers' early days teaching kindergarten, readers follow this renowned educational theorist on his "voyage of discovery and surprise." We meet fellow travelers from schools across the country and watch students grow across a year and a lifetime. *To Teach* is a vivid, honest portrayal of the everyday magic of teaching, and what it means to be a "good" teacher debunking myths perpetuated on film and other starry-eyed hero/teacher fictions. Illuminated by the evocative and wry drawings of Ryan Alexander-Tanner, this literary comics memoir is both engaging and insightful. These illustrated stories remind us how curiosity, a sense of adventure, and a healthy dose of reflection can guide us all to learn the most from this world. This dynamic book will speak to comic fans, memoir readers,

and educators of all stripes.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Quinn is a pudgy and energetic boy, whose enthusiastic embrace of snack time prompts a school administrator to label him hyperactive disorder. His teacher, however, notes, it's too easy to caricature every excitable African-American boy as 'at risk' and goes on to identify Quinn's many strengths and then persistently encourage them. That teacher is Bill Ayers, the school reform activist and a cofounder of the Weather Underground who got so much attention during the Obama campaign. Ayers is all teacher in this graphic novel ode to the power and potential of his profession. Alexander-Tanner's black and white ink drawings show a classroom in full bloom with activity and learning, while Ayers's text offers pointed discussions of what's wrong with the current state of education in this country. Ayers doesn't just present critiques like the one relating to Quinn that labeling students has become an epidemic in our schools; he also shows the methods he uses to develop a permanent readiness for the marvelous in his classroom. With plenty of anecdotal examples, he demonstrates ways of opening up a child's eagerness to learn. 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. (May) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

"[Ayers] understands that schools should be places of great joy where it's OK to be goofy...a delightful book that will make readers smile." --Phi Delta Kappan "A book about what is possible; the

educators featured are real people making real magic in real classrooms.” --Harvard Educational Review”A book about what is possible; the educators featured are real people making real magic in real classrooms.” --Harvard Educational Review”A book about what is possible; the educators featured are real people making real magic in real classrooms.” --Harvard Educational Review

I work with Child Care Centers in my county on improving and maintaining High Quality care. North Carolina uses this tool as part of the rated license assessment to determine the quality of child care programs. What I find to be most common when working with these centers is that they use this tool as a means to prepare for the assessment and it does not capture what happens in every day classroom life. Some of these indicators are not very practical for everyday classrooms, and low scores do not always accurately reflect the quality of care in the classroom. While teacher interaction with the children is a small piece of this assessment, I wish more emphasis was placed on this area in the overall score as this piece seems to be the most telling when it comes to quality care. Usually teachers who interact well with the children understand the needs for the materials and other dimensions this book entails.

Arrived in a timely manner and was as described in product description.

The book was in great condition. I did not like the materials it contained. As I was reading the scales, I could not help but wonder if the writer(s) had ever stepped foot into a class or any early childhood level. I could see some reasoning behind the scale, but I could not see the possibility any care center scoring high on all of the subscales. I understand that there is always room for improvement, but the goals should be obtainable.

This was a work related purchase. It is an update of my old book. It is exactly what it is supposed to be.

This book gives insight on teaching. It brings out many joys and challenges of being a teacher. I recommend this book to all teachers and those in school to become one.

Definitely a great way to learn about teaching. The graphic format is easy on the eyes and the content is clear and concise. I definitely recommend!

I had to buy this book for one of my college courses. The information and graphics keep you wanting more. This was a "great read." :)

This scale still is relevant today. I guess it would be an act of congress to update some items.

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