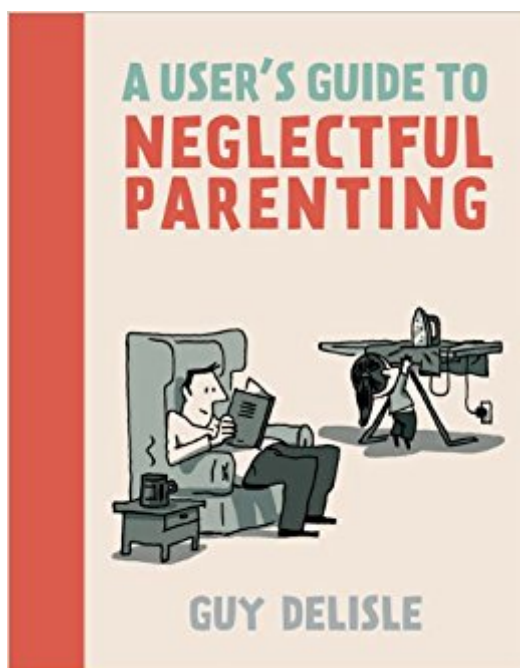


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A User's Guide To Neglectful Parenting



Synopsis

Meditations on fatherhood from the author of *Jerusalem: Chronicles from the Holy City* With A User's Guide to Neglectful Parenting, the trademark dry humor that pervades Guy Delisle's landmark and praised graphic travelogues takes center stage. Quick, light vignettes play on the worries and cares any young parent might have, and offer wry solutions to the petty frustrations of being a dad who works from home. Readers familiar with Delisle's stranger-in-a-strange-land technique for storytelling (employed in *Jerusalem*, *Pyongyang*, *Burma*, and *Shenzhen*) will recognize the titular parent in this book; Delisle's travelogues were simultaneously portraits of complex places and times, and portraits of a stay-at-home dad's ever-changing relationship with his children while his wife is out working for Doctors Without Borders. The relationship between young child and all-too-irony-aware parent is beautifully done here, and Delisle's loose flowing style has been set free, creating a wonderful sense of motion throughout. *A User's Guide to Neglectful Parenting* is an intimate, offbeat look at the joys of parenting.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

• *A User's Guide to Neglectful Parenting* is a funny and truthful book about being a parent. •
• *Boing Boing* • You don't have to be a parent to enjoy Guy Delisle's whimsical graphic novel. •
• *NOW Toronto* • *A User's Guide...* shares with [Delisle's] previous work a keen appreciation for the clash of cultures; this time, however, the cultures in question are those of adults and children, and the damage that ensues is played for a rueful laugh. • *NPR*

Guy Delisle spent a decade working in animation in Europe and Asia. His 2012 book, *Jerusalem: Chronicles from the Holy City*, won the highest prize in European cartooning, the Fauve d'Or, at the Angoulême International Comics Festival. He lives in the south of France with his wife and children.

Guy Delisle isn't new to short, humorous comic strips. But I, like many of his fans, got to know his work through his travelogues. So, while this sort of storytelling might not be new to the author, it feels new to me. And I enjoyed it. I can't lie; it doesn't hold a candle to *Pyongyang*, *Shenzhen*, *Burma Chronicles*, and *Jerusalem*, but it's enjoyable nonetheless. "Neglectful Parenting" shows another side of the author, who is at his best when he is at his most autobiographical. It's fun to see the man in his own element, in his own country, and with his same trademark visual style. The book is fun, light, and heartfelt. I finished the whole thing in about an hour, and it left me wanting more...but probably more of something else. If you're a fan of Guy Delisle's work, you'll probably enjoy this on some level. But on another level, you'll probably be left yearning for a new travelogue. I'd give it 3.5 stars if I could.

Guy Delisle is one of my favourite comic book ('graphic novel') authors. This is a narrower, but more personal, expression of the Delisle experience we're used to from his other work in books such as 'Jerusalem' and 'Pyongyang'. The cover illustration pretty much says it all. As a working dad, I definitely empathise with the difficulty of trying to raise kids while keeping yourself somewhat sane in the pursuit of adult interests. Ultimately it's not as satisfying as his other work, but it's still a good read. It's funny and a great addition to your comic library.

Guy Delisle's books about life in North Korea or Jerusalem are among the very best graphic novels or the last ten years. *A User's Guide to Neglectful Parenting* is enjoyable, but not in the same league in terms of the storytelling or artwork of his other books. The comic strip origin of the material is very evident. Might be okay as a bathroom book, except you would probably finish it before you, um, finished.

Written in a cartoon style with only a few panels per page, it is a very quick read. An amusing book for a reasonable price - I only wish it was longer for even more laughs! After picking this up in a book store - I had to order the series for me and my husband to enjoy as we're expecting our first

child soon. A great present for an expecting or seasoned parent.

I love Guy Delisle and have read everything of his that I could get my hands on. My only regret for this one is its brevity, compared to his other works. Otherwise, exactly what I would have expected from this master of irony and self-effacement.

This book is very funny. And demonstrate the behavior of the majority of the Father.

Love his stuff

absolutely short, like watching a short pixar film right before the main attraction. I guess I was too used to the long narrative drawings I've come to expect from Delisle, but then again, "Jerusalem" felt short too.

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