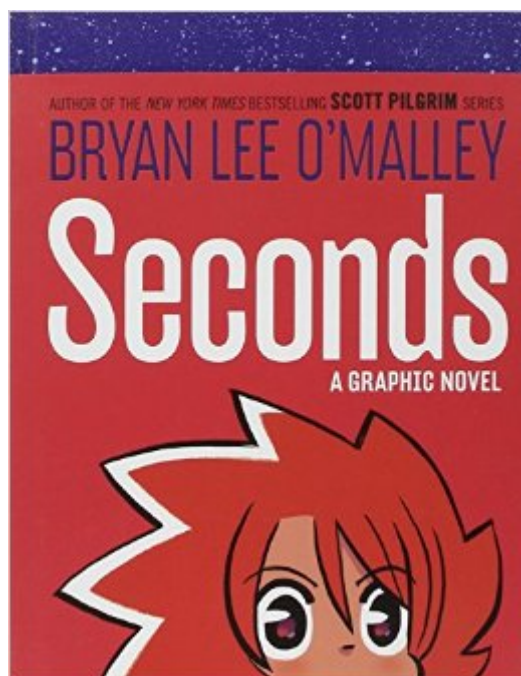


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Seconds: A Graphic Novel



Synopsis

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER & NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY USA TODAY AND THE DAILY PLANET

The highly anticipated new standalone full-color graphic novel from Bryan Lee O'Malley, author and artist of the hugely bestselling Scott Pilgrim graphic novel series. Katie's got it pretty good. She's a talented young chef, she runs a successful restaurant, and she has big plans to open an even better one. Then, all at once, progress on the new location bogs down, her charming ex-boyfriend pops up, her fling with another chef goes sour, and her best waitress gets badly hurt. And just like that, Katie's life goes from pretty good to not so much. What she needs is a second chance. Everybody deserves one, after all—but they don't come easy. Luckily for Katie, a mysterious girl appears in the middle of the night with simple instructions for a do-it-yourself do-over:

1. Write your mistake
2. Ingest one mushroom
3. Go to sleep
4. Wake anew

And just like that, all the bad stuff never happened, and Katie is given another chance to get things right. She's also got a dresser drawer full of magical mushrooms—and an irresistible urge to make her life not just good, but perfect. Too bad it's against the rules. But Katie doesn't care about the rules—and she's about to discover the unintended consequences of the best intentions.

From the mind and pen behind the acclaimed Scott Pilgrim series comes a madcap new tale of existential angst, everyday obstacles, young love, and ancient spirits that's sharp-witted and tenderhearted, whimsical and wise.

Praise for *Seconds*

- The cartoonist, best known for the Scott Pilgrim series, delivers one of the most enjoyable reads I've had all year with this magical graphic novel. I dare you to not read it all in one sitting. —Whitney Matheson, USA Today
- *Seconds* arrives with high expectations, and it meets them all, delivering the style and humor of [Bryan Lee] O'Malley's past works with greater emphasis on mood, detail, and complex character relationships. —The A.V. Club
- Richly imagined and vibrantly drawn, *Seconds* is a funny, surprising, and enchanting read. —Publishers Weekly
- In *Seconds*, Bryan Lee O'Malley plays the angst of youth against the fabric of a larger epic. In doing so, he enriches both. A great ride! —Guillermo del Toro
- Bryan Lee O'Malley's *Seconds* is adorable, haunting, funny, and beautiful. A perfect recipe for a great graphic novel. —Scott McCloud, author of *Understanding Comics*

Book Information

Series: Seconds

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Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 1.3 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (293 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #14,768 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Science Fiction #40 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Fantasy Graphic Novels

Customer Reviews

This review originally appeared on Narrative Investigations The simplest way to sum up this comic is that I didn't like the early parts very much but as the story got more and more bizarre I enjoyed it more, not for the weirdness but because Katie was then actually in a really distressing and sympathetic situation. I thought I saw a lot of people saying that oh she's this really relatable character [at the start] but I couldn't see it at all, she's 29, well-known as a chef (good at it even), wants to do something a little different by opening up her own place (understandable), and is both unsure of everything she does and cocky as hell at the same time. She's also semi-pining for a lost love which never works for me*, I understand that her isolation and not being involved in any romantic or platonic relationships at the start is supposed to be the biggest contrast to her success but it didn't really "work" for me, it didn't affect how I viewed the story at all. In fact, the first sympathetic thing she did was to take a mushroom and wish that she hadn't stopped to canoodle, mostly so one of the servers (Hazel) isn't injured by the resulting distraction, and there are a few other times she takes the mushrooms where I couldn't blame her. But then she veers back into hard to empathize when it becomes abundantly clear that these actions are hurting her more than helping, I was left wondering why she didn't eat a mushroom and simply wished that she hadn't had any of them in the first place by the middle of the book or so. The side characters were more sympathetic for me by and large, Hazel is a sweet girl, I could easily see why Max (the ex) got fed up with Katie, and seeing how tired and put-upon Katie's boss seemed made perfect sense.

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