



## My Brain is Hanging Upside Down (Pantheon Graphic Novels)

By David Heatley

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# **My Brain is Hanging Upside Down (Pantheon Graphic Novels)**

*By David Heatley*

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**My Brain is Hanging Upside Down (Pantheon Graphic Novels) By David Heatley Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #1622418 in Books
- Published on: 2008-09-30
- Released on: 2008-09-30
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 12.10" h x .71" w x 8.27" l, 1.74 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 128 pages



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### Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

### Product Description

One of the most promising young talents in cartooning makes his debut with a dazzling collection—part freakish dreamlife, part quirk-o-rama autobiography, all genius.

Long a fixture in comics anthologies, David Heatley's deceptively crude, wickedly observant drawings have begun showing up on the *New York Times* op-ed pages and the cover of the *New Yorker*, introducing him to a vast new audience. Now, in *My Brain Is Hanging Upside Down* (title courtesy of the Ramones song), we are treated to the full range of Heatley's remarkable, wildly unique voice and vision.

*My Brain Is Hanging Upside Down* is Heatley's life story told in six different but connected narrative threads. "Sex History" describes every sexual encounter dating back to kindergarten, with details that would make a therapist blush. "Black History" is an unflinchingly honest meditation on his own racism. "Portrait of My Mom" and "Portrait of My Dad" are beautifully paced vignettes, skewering and celebrating his lovably dysfunctional parents. "Family History" tells the story of his family from his great-great-grandparents' lives and closes with the birth of his own children. Woven in and around the larger pieces are "dream comics" that expand on the same themes with a baffling unconscious logic. Every inch of *My Brain Is Hanging Upside Down* is filled with visceral art and emotionally resonant storytelling at once stunning, truthful, and uncomfortably hilarious.

### Amazon Exclusive: David Heatley's *My Upside Down Brain*

David Heatley's book is on Amazon...but what does David Heatley think about that? See Heatley at ages 8, 15, and 33 in this comic, *My Upside Down Brain*, drawn exclusively for Amazon.

# MY UPSIDE DOWN BRAIN...

written and drawn by

DAVID HEATLEY, DAVID HEATLEY & DAVID HEATLEY



AGE 8



AGE 15



AGE 33

SEPTEMBER 2008

WHAT THE  
G\*#%&% IS  
THIS?!?

...YOUR BOOK IS  
ON AMAZON???

YEAH...  
PRETTY  
COOL,  
HMM?

NO! THEY'RE LIKE A BIG  
CORPORATION! I THOUGHT YOU  
LIKED THE RAMONES!

WHATEVER! SO WHAT'S  
NEXT, ARE YOU GONNA  
GO ON OPRAH?

SURE, THAT'D  
BE FUN!

BUT DID YOU KNOW JOEY  
RAMONE WROTE A LOVE  
SONG ABOUT A STOCK  
MARKET ANALYST?

ZUCK! WHO ARE  
YOU?!

IS IT TRUE YOU  
EVEN HAVE A  
PUBLICIST?!

YOU  
MEAN  
VANESSA?

SHE'S NICE... YOU'D  
LIKE HER!

YEAH,  
RIGHT!

JUST TELL ME THIS:  
DIDN'T WE USED TO  
MAKE ART FOR THE  
HELL OF IT?!

I PLAY SONGS AT  
TINY EAST VILLAGE  
PERFORMANCE SPACES!

I RECORD ON A 4-  
TRACK TAPE RECORDER  
IN MY BEDROOM! THE  
FIRST TAKE IS ALWAYS  
PERFECT!

AND AS FAR AS COMICS, THEY'RE SOMETHING  
I DRAW WITH MY LEFT HAND WHILE I'M  
DRUNK TO MAKE GIRLS LAUGH! BUT YOU PUT  
ALL THAT NARCISSISTIC EMOTION INTO IT!

ZIGH! LOOK, I  
ADMIRE YOUR PASSION  
AND YOUR NAIVE ANTI-  
COMMERCIAL STANCE...

...BUT IT'S MOSTLY A MISGUIDED FEAR OF  
THE BUSINESS WORLD, WHICH IS MADE UP OF  
INDIVIDUALS, SOME OF WHOM ARE AWESOME!

BESIDES, I LIKE IT BETTER  
THIS WAY... I'VE GOT A  
FAMILY NOW, REMEMBER?

AND IT'S NOT NARCISSISM  
I'M SHARING MY GIFTS  
WITH THE WORLD!

THE FEWER BARRIERS  
TO UNDERSTANDING  
IT, THE BETTER!

AHEM!

I THINK ALL  
THE STUFF YOU'RE  
DOING IS GREAT!

REALLY?!? YOU  
MEAN IT?

YUP!

YOU'RE LIKE MY  
HERO...

YOU HAVE THE SAME PUBLISHER AS DR. SEUSS!

EPFFTE BIG DEAL...

I'M PROUD OF YOU!

ZCHOREE I DID IT ALL  
FOR YOU!

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED  
TO MAKE A BOOK!

NO! YOU CAN'T DIE!!!

I NEED YOU TO  
MAKE ALL THIS  
STUFF!

ZSOBE YOU GOTTA  
PULL THROUGH!  
C'MON... IT'LL  
BE OKAY!

YOU'RE FALLING FOR  
THAT AGAIN?!

ZSOBE ZSOBE ZSOBE  
I'LL BE PLAYING  
ATARI UNTIL  
YOU'RE DONE  
WITH YOUR  
PITY PARTY.

ZOOF!

LATER YOU'RE NOT REALLY  
DEAD, ARE YOU?

END?

### From [Booklist](#)

Autobiography, particularly of the self-lacerating variety, has been a staple of alternative comics since such groundbreaking 1970s and '80s works as Harvey Pekar's *American Splendor* and Art Spiegelman's *Maus*. Heatley presents his life thematically. He opens with his entire "Sex History," from prekindergarten explorations to postmarital attempts to kick his addiction to masturbation and including vividly disquieting pages from a dream journal. Subsequent sections depict a life's worth of encounters with African Americans and relations with Mom, Dad, and other kin. From it all, we acquire a comprehensive portrait, from mildly troubled youth and conflicted sexuality to recent religious conversion and fatherhood. Like Chris Ware, Heatley uses postage-stamp-sized panels to cram a massive amount of narrative onto each page. But his naive, slapdash drawings couldn't be farther from Ware's neurotically meticulous style; their lack of sophistication implies an unshielded honesty. Although more conventional prose memoirs may be the ones ensconced on best-seller lists, it's hard to imagine Heatley's story being told as effectively in any other medium than comics. --Gordon Flagg

### About the Author

David Heatley played the Baby Jesus at a Christmas pageant in 1974, months after he was born. A few years later, his family moved to Teaneck, NJ, where they became disenchanted with Catholicism and joined an Episcopal church which might have had the worse liturgical music in the country. Heatley was confirmed at the age of 13 and stopped going to church the following year. After a decade-and-a-half of self-destructive behavior, he had a spiritual awakening while visiting California in 2001—about which, more later. Heatley now lives in Jackson Heights, NY, with his wife Rebecca Gopoian (an agnostic, Jewish-Armenian poet), and their two awesome children. This is his first book. Go easy on him.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### **Heather Goodson:**

What do you think of book? It is just for students because they're still students or the item for all people in the world, the particular best subject for that? Only you can be answered for that issue above. Every person has distinct personality and hobby for every single other. Don't to be pressured someone or something that they don't want do that. You must know how great along with important the book *My Brain is Hanging Upside Down* (Pantheon Graphic Novels). All type of book is it possible to see on many methods. You can look for the internet solutions or other social media.

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This *My Brain is Hanging Upside Down* (Pantheon Graphic Novels) are reliable for you who want to be described as a successful person, why. The explanation of this *My Brain is Hanging Upside Down* (Pantheon Graphic Novels) can be among the great books you must have is definitely giving you more than just simple reading through food but feed an individual with information that probably will shock your prior knowledge. This book is usually handy, you can bring it everywhere you go and whenever your conditions in the e-book and printed types. Beside that this *My Brain is Hanging Upside Down* (Pantheon Graphic Novels) giving you an enormous of experience including rich vocabulary, giving you tryout of critical thinking that we all know it useful in your day exercise. So , let's have it and revel in reading.

**Clinton Whitten:**

Typically the book My Brain is Hanging Upside Down (Pantheon Graphic Novels) will bring that you the new experience of reading a new book. The author style to explain the idea is very unique. Should you try to find new book you just read, this book very suited to you. The book My Brain is Hanging Upside Down (Pantheon Graphic Novels) is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book from your official web site, so you can quicker to read the book.

**Matthew Gregg:**

What is your hobby? Have you heard which question when you got students? We believe that that problem was given by teacher on their students. Many kinds of hobby, Everybody has different hobby. Therefore you know that little person including reading or as looking at become their hobby. You need to understand that reading is very important as well as book as to be the matter. Book is important thing to incorporate you knowledge, except your teacher or lecturer. You find good news or update regarding something by book. Different categories of books that can you go onto be your object. One of them is actually My Brain is Hanging Upside Down (Pantheon Graphic Novels).

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