



## Penguin Dreams and Stranger Things

*Berkeley Breathed*

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Enter the bizarre, profound, hilarious and peculiar world of Opus the Penguin. These newspaper comics were stand-alone funny in their time and, almost always, topical and thought provoking. The world of these lovable characters carried the flavor of the times in which they were penned and offered commentary on many of the political happenings - greed, political faux pas, scandals, sloth, feminism, racism and the pitfalls of love and having a tender heart were all fair game for this artist.

## Penguin Dreams and Stranger Things Details

Date : Published April 1st 1985 by Little, Brown & Co. (first published March 26th 1985)

ISBN : 9780316107259

Author : Berkeley Breathed

Format : Paperback 120 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Comics, Humor, Fiction, Graphic Novels, Comic Strips, Cartoon



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## From Reader Review Penguin Dreams and Stranger Things for online ebook

### **J.M. Hushour says**

Ah! Revisiting the lost, politically-charged and surreal comic strip of my youth continues! What a gem, just what a fucking great comic. Way more relevant and poignant than much of what's going on out there even today. The highlights here: Opus the Penguin goes to Antarctica to find his mother but ends up on a Greenpeace anti-whaling ship; the late Bill the Cat becomes a presidential candidate; the late Bill the Cat returns from the dead at a political convention; Michael Jackson comes to Bloom County and so on. There's rips on nuclear fear, the media's treatment of major issues like serial killers, cultists--sheer genius! I can't but recommend!

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### **Susan says**

Bloom County is one of my all time favorite strips. The characters are diverse and unique; not always cutsie-pootsie. They make comments on society and politics without being too "in your face". So when I found several old Bloom County books in Goodwill I was in Bloom County Heaven and had to read them all the way through! What a wonderful trip down memory lane. A perfect commentary on the times (this one was published in 1985), and it's still funny after all these years!

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### **Solitairerose says**

A comic strip this is wonderfully done, but is getting to the age where it needs an appendix in order to understand the pop culture references. For people who lived through the 80's, it'll be fun, but people born IN the 80's or beyond will struggle to understand half of the punch lines.

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### **Bill Conrad says**

Penguin Dreams and Stranger Things has several classic Berkeley Breathed strips. He poked fun at everything and everyone. This is pure satire that is still relevant today. Berkeley Breathed has a wonderful grasp on what is important in life and what needs to be made fun of. I really enjoy his work.

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### **Elaine Meszaros says**

As a refreshingly amusing and light read, I have been plugging away through a bunch of collections of Berk Breathed's comics. I'm amazed at what an excellent barometer of popular culture and politics Breathed's (the creator of Opus and Bloom County) comics are. In particular, the Penguin Dreams proves the adage of "same ol' same ol." Originally published at the end of the Reagan era, the comic touches on being a liberal in a conservative world (liberal commentators screaming "VOLVO!" on a talk-radio show), the Jews hating the

Arabs hating the Christians hating the secularists hating..., snarky commentary about no fan in their right mind waiting 15 years for a Star Wars sequel and needing to just go sit in the dandelions for a bit. Funny, articulate and amazingly clear-visioned. Ack!

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### **Mat Brewster says**

Picked this up at a used bookstore on a whim. I had forgotten how much I love Bloom County. Some of it is quite dated as Breathed uses a lot of pop culture/political references, but it's still very funny and often insightful.

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### **Duane says**

I've enjoyed Bloom County and it's great cast of characters but after rereading this book, it's amazing how much it loses due to the passing of time. The thing is, most of the strips focus on individual people and events that are time specific and sadly those times are almost forgotten. Now I'm still a fan of him and there are strips in this book that still make me laugh out loud, but I think you have to be an older person to enjoy this book as much as it deserves.

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### **Rena Sherwood says**

Full of the awesomeness that was Bloom County. Now, I hear that Breathed revived the strip in 2015 on his Facebook page (WHY wasn't this front page news? I'm JUST finding out about this in August of 2016, News Media!) but I have no idea where to go to read the strips since it returned. Still, I cannot recommend Penguin Dreams and Stranger Things highly enough. Someday I will replace my lost (or stolen) copy.

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### **Micah Jaffe says**

If you want to understand me, read this. It is the backbone to my funny bone. Bloom County – along with Calvin & Hobbes and The Far Side – did so much for my little brain I can not express the depth and width of their impact.

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### **Becky says**

All 4 stars are for Steve Dallas' successful defense of the axe murderer.

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### **Michael Finocchiaro says**

This is yet another collection of fantastic comics from the satirical genius Berkeley Breathed about his

Bloom County and the various characters - ACK! - that inhabit his imaginary world that nevertheless speaks very clearly about the insanity of the Raygun era. 5 stars for humour as well as creativity and sarcasm!

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### **spike marlin says**

This was a great comic. Even after all of these years it makes me laugh. There is lots of situations from the presidential campaign to Bill the Cat running off to join a cult.

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### **Conan Tigard says**

When Bloom County became no more, I was saddened. Even though Berke Breathed is no longer creating this wonderful comic strip, having a little piece of this hilarious comic is something I will always treasure.

I have found over the years that I pull out these books and peruse them again and again, even though I have read them before. The interaction of Milo, Binkley and Opus has always brought me back for more. And I absolutely love Franklin and all the trouble he gets into hacking on his PC and his exploration into all types of sciences; like Chemistry and Astronomy.

You can't do much better than Bloom County for pages of laughs.

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### **Ray Dunsmore says**

Bloom County, in my opinion, is a perfect way to understand that strange, stupid decade known as the '80s. The strip meanders its way along all of the little obsessions and spotlight darlings that used their 15 minutes of fame long ago and displays them like trapped bugs in amber to be studied and gawked. The strip is dated, but the humor is still as witty and biting as it's always been. Society's still obsessed with TV moguls and famous nobodies as it's always been, there's still infomercials hawking the same piles of crap with different names, and there's still the same old politics of personality. The only things that changed are the names.

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### **R.K. Byers says**

this was pretty good too.

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