



What It Is. [By Lynda Barry]

By Lynda Barry

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What It Is demonstrates a tried-and-true creative method that is playful, powerful and accessible to anyone with an inquisitive wish to write or remember. Bursting with full-colour drawings, comics and collages, autobiographical sections and gentle creative guidance, each page is an invigorating example of exactly what it is: 'The ordinary is extraordinary'. Lynda Barry explores the depths of the inner and outer realms of creation and imagination, where play can be serious, monsters have purpose and not knowing is an answer unto itself. How do objects summon memories? What do real images feel like? These types of questions permeate the pages of What It Is, with words attracting pictures and conjuring places through a pen that first and foremost keeps on moving. Her insight and sincerity will tackle the most persistent of inhibitions, calling back every kid who quit drawing to feel alive again at the experiential level.

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What It Is. [By Lynda Barry] By Lynda Barry Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #4122003 in Books
- Published on: 2009-11-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 11.10" h x 1.10" w x 8.54" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 208 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Starred Review. Grade 9 Up—Every so often a book comes along that surpasses expectations, taking readers on an inspirational voyage that they don't want to leave. This is one such book. Each page is a feast for the eyes with beautiful full-page collages of photographs, watercolors, ink drawings, and text, resulting in a gorgeous volume that explores and encourages writing in a combination of ways. The author challenges readers with philosophical questions to ponder, such as What is an image? Where are they found? Can we remember something we can't imagine? The volume also acts as a workbook that successfully encourages teens to explore their own creativity through writing. In addition, autobiographical glimpses of Barry's journey from childhood to adulthood appear throughout the book. The struggles and obstacles she faces while following her path of becoming an artist and writer allow readers to believe in the possibility of writing themselves. This stunning book will appeal to those teens who are interested in delving into their creativity through words and art. The questions posed and valuable exercises that exist within its pages, along with the illustrations, could also make this book a valuable tool for English and art teachers in the classroom.—*Lara McAllister, Halifax Public Libraries, Nova Scotia*

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Review

Praise for Lynda Barry:

"Barry is, underneath the wonky handwriting and the quirky, naive drawings, a great memoirist . . . Like [Tobias] Wolff and [Dave] Eggers, she finds a tone that accommodates self-criticism and self-irony without tipping over into self-loathing . . . but what she is particularly good at is resonance." --"The New York Times"
"Barry is not just a storyteller, she's an evangelist who urges people to pick up a pen--or a brush . . . and look at their own lives with fresh, forgiving eyes." --"San Francisco Chronicle"
" "America's leading cartoon artist of childhood angst . . . The precise rightness of Barry's smallest observation puts TV's "The Wonder Years" to shame." --"Entertainment Weekly"
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"

About the Author

Lynda Barry has worked as a painter, cartoonist, writer, illustrator, playwright, editor, commentator and teacher and found they are very much alike.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frankie Graybill:

Have you spare time for the day? What do you do when you have much more or little spare time? Yes, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent all their spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or maybe read a book titled What It Is. [By Lynda Barry]? Maybe it is to get best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time along with your favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have other opinion?

Martha Skaggs:

What do you consider book? It is just for students as they are still students or that for all people in the world, the actual best subject for that? Simply you can be answered for that issue above. Every person has several personality and hobby for each other. Don't to be forced someone or something that they don't would like do that. You must know how great and important the book What It Is. [By Lynda Barry]. All type of book would you see on many methods. You can look for the internet options or other social media.

Virginia Hughes:

What do you regarding book? It is not important together with you? Or just adding material when you need something to explain what the one you have problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy man? If you don't have spare time to perform others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have free time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They have to answer that question simply because just their can do in which. It said that about guide. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is correct. Because start from on guardería until university need this kind of What It Is. [By Lynda Barry] to read.

Mary Ransom:

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