LENA FINKLE'S MAGIC BARREL: A GRAPHIC NOVEL

A New York Times Notable Book"Funny, painful, outrageous . . . Anya Ulinich is the David Sedaris of Russian-American cartoonists."—Gary ShteyngartAnya Ulinich turns her sharp eye toward the strange, often unmooring world of "grown-up" dating in this darkly comic graphic novel. After her fifteen-year marriage ends, Lena Finkle gets an eye-opening education in...



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Lena Finkle's Magic Barrel: A Graphic Novel

Author	Anya Ulinich
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Peek Inside the Book

Dates were like deep friendships filmed in timelapse, one-night stands were like express-courtships from courtship to dissolution... When I'd entered my last relationship at twenty, we'd all been new and shiny. Now I was meeting people who had... stories. Anya Ulinich, Lena Finkle's Magic Barrel: A Graphic Novel //

When I'd begun my last relationship, nearly two decades ago, I'd been unaware of the rule that new lovers must hoard the 'L Word' the way atomic nations hoard their explosives, like something that, once detonated, would change their world forever. Anya Ulinich, Lena Finkle's Magic Barrel: A Graphic Novel //

Reader's Opinions

The cover and the title are a mismatch with the content of this fictionalized graphic novel memoir. I would describe it as a dating/OkCupid story, with the protagonist Lena being a Russian immigrant living in New York City, who's been in the US for over two decades and has two children. While it opens with a trip back to Russia, the...