



# Bill Griffith: Lost and Found: Comics 1969-2003

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### Pre-Zippy underground classics from Bill Griffith.

Bill Griffith is best known as the creator of the *Zippy* daily comic strip, currently running in over 300 newspapers nationwide, but Zippy was conceived as an underground comix character before he became embraced in the mainstream, and Griffith himself was a seminal figure in the underground comix movement, during which he was a cartoonist, an editor, and an entrepreneur.

*Bill Griffith: Lost & Found* collects hundreds of Griffith's early underground comics, most of them long out of print and unavailable. Much of the work will be unfamiliar and a real revelation to those readers who only know Griffith from his long-running *Zippy* strip.

Beginning in 1970, Griffith contributed stories to a long list of legendary undergrounds. *Lost and Found* is not only a collection of these underground comix? hand-picked by the artist himself? but a mini-memoir of the artist's comix career during the early days of the San Francisco Underground and his nearly twenty year on-again, off-again involvement with Hollywood and TV. Griffith's running recollections and commentary serve as a wry and often hilarious counterpoint and context to the stories themselves. *Lost and Found* follows Griffith's career from New York to San Francisco in chapters like "New York: The East Village Other and Screw"; "The Arcade Years"; "First Zippy Appearances"; "Young Lust"; "Cast of Characters: Claude Funston, Mr. The Toad, Shelf-Life, The Toadettes, Alfred Jarry and the Griffith Observatory."

While the vast majority of the book is non-*Zippy* comics, it also features the earliest appearances of Zippy, not seen in any other collection. Zippy fans will be happy to see the very first Zippy stories from 1971 to 1974, when Zippy was primarily a sidekick for Griffith's first major character, Mr. The Toad. Also included is a 19-page, unfinished, never-before- published comics version of the first few scenes from the Zippy movie screenplay, *Zippyvision*. Intended as a companion piece to the unproduced film, the story details Zippy's sideshow origins and his later life in a boarding house catering to showbiz wannabes.

Previously uncollected later work features Griffith's comics for *High Times*, *The National Lampoon*, *The San Francisco Examiner* and *The New Yorker*.

Bill Griffith: Lost and Found finally collects the work of one of the great, pioneering cartoonists. 344 pages of black-and-white and 48 pages of color comics



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