



Hilda and the Black Hound

Luke Pearson

Flying Eye Books (September 2014)

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Don't think we've forgotten the young'uns. Luke Pearson's newest addition to the Hilda series, *Hilda and the Black Hound*, is the perfect book to get kids hooked on comics. Blue-haired Hilda is back in a fabulously imaginative new adventure where she meets the Nisse (impish creatures that live in the extra spaces behind bookcases and under sofas), tries to earn her first Sparrow Badge, and figures out just what's up with the giant black dog stalking around Trolberg. This is perfection in sixty-four pages. Hilda is brave, resourceful, compassionate, capable of epically screwing up, and always does things with the very best of intentions; in other words, she's totally human. Charmingly and enticingly illustrated, the icing on the cake is the fact that Pearson never dumbs things down for his audience. The resulting dry wit found in both text and illustrations is as appealing to adults as it is to kids. Here's hoping Pearson keeps drawing, and writing, forever.

ALLYCE AMIDON (Fall 2014)

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