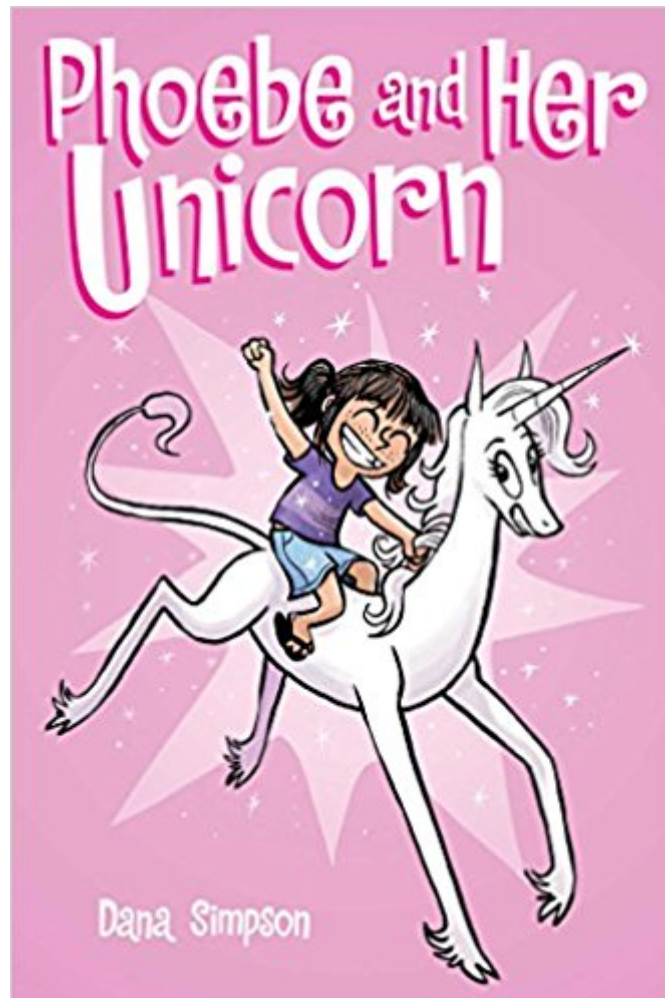




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# Phoebe And Her Unicorn (Phoebe And Her Unicorn Series Book 1)



## Synopsis

"Phoebe is a remarkably real little girl, as bright and imaginative as Bill Watterson's Calvin, as touchingly vulnerable as Charles Schulz's Charlie Brown. And if these strike you as big names to conjure with, I'll go further and state for the record that in my opinion Heavenly Nostrils is nothing less than the best comic strip to come along since Calvin and Hobbes. Simpson is that good, and that original."--Peter S. Beagle, author of *The Last Unicorn*, from the Introduction

A boy and his dog . . . a girl and her . . . unicorn? It all started when a girl named Phoebe skipped a rock across a pond and accidentally hit a unicorn in the face. Improbably, this led to Phoebe being granted one wish, and she used it to make the unicorn, Marigold Heavenly Nostrils, her obligational best friend. But can a vain mythical beast and a nine-year-old daydreamer really forge a connection? Indeed they can, and that's how *Phoebe and Her Unicorn* unfolds. This beautifully drawn comic strip follows the unlikely friendship between a somewhat awkward girl and the magic unicorn who gradually shows her just how special she really is. Through hilarious adventures where Phoebe gets to bask in Marigold's "awesomeness," the friends also come to acknowledge that they had been lonely before they met and truly appreciate the bond they now share.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 390 (What's this?)

Series: *Phoebe and Her Unicorn* (Book 1)

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Andrews McMeel Publishing; 1st Edition edition (September 2, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1449446205

ISBN-13: 978-1449446208

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 152 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #13,973 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in *Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Dragons* #149 in *Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels* #894 in *Books > Children's Books > Animals*

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Gr 4 Up • Simpson's syndicated comics featuring the unlikely friendship between an awkward young girl and an arrogant unicorn are published as one volume for the first time. Phoebe, a somewhat precocious nine-year-old, releases a unicorn held captive underwater by a magic spell. In exchange for her freedom, the unicorn Marigold Heavenly Nostrils grants Phoebe one wish, namely that the two will become best friends. Although imaginary childhood friends such as Hobbes and Winnie-the-Pooh are common, Simpson's take on the subject is unique and witty. Marigold is not invisible but often goes unnoticed, protected by a "shield of boringness." Simple line drawings bring the characters to life without detracting from the clever dialogue. Phoebe's face is particularly expressive, mirroring her wonderment and frustration with her recently acquired friend. The intended audience for this work is unclear. While the protagonist expresses her longing for a best friend, delights in sleepovers, and is enchanted with the mythical creature, there is an underlying sarcastic and mocking tone throughout. Facetious one-liners, such as "Terrible Vortex of Meh" and "summon your inner unicorn" may appeal to a more sophisticated audience. Reference to bathroom humor and several variations on "stupid," such as "stupidbutt" are obviously aimed at younger readers. Still, those looking for something to read after Jenni Holm's "Babymouse" books (Random), might want to take a look. • Barbara M. Moon, Suffolk Cooperative Library System, Bellport, NY

"Clean lines, clearly delineated panels and sparse background detail keep readers focused on the characters, driving the story forward without distraction. Recommend this to fans of Jennifer and Matthew Holm's Babymouse series and Frank Cammuso's Salem Hyde...A sweet, spun-sugar confection just right for unicorn fans." (Kirkus Reviews) "A hilarious, sweet, and unsentimental" (Cory Doctorow, BoingBoing) "Readers in need of a good friend can curl up with this title. They won't be sorry." (Esther Keller, School Library Journal's Good Comics for Kids blog) "A unique and witty" Simple line drawings bring the characters to life without detracting from the clever dialogue those looking for something to read after Jenni Holm's "Babymouse" books might want to take a look. (Barbara Moon, School Library Journal) "I can't wait to share this collection with my students." (Travis Jonker, School Library Journal) "100 Scope Notes" (blog) "...the friendship between [Phoebe and Marigold] is impeccably developed" Rich humor lies in the illustrations (The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books) "This is a really cute book that is cleverly written" very relatable to girls ages 8 to 12 (Time to Play Magazine) Named one of the "Best Feminist Books for Young Readers" list, "...a breathtakingly refreshing look at friendships and school age

struggles." (Brandi Bailey, BookRiot) "Situational humor will appeal to all regardless of gender. The volume contains chuckles and pop references that will entertain the most skeptical adults as well as the target audience. (Library Media Connection) Included in the "Your pre-approved list of feminist books for all the kids in your life" roundup. (Caroline Gerdes, Hello Giggles)

From the sample pages online I decided to give this book a try because dry sarcasm is definitely my kind of humor and I figured it would be a book that my young daughter and I could enjoy together. Some of the jokes are over her head (she's almost 5) but she enjoys the pictures and the overall tone and humor of the stories. I grew up with Calvin and Hobbes and there is a reminiscent feel to how this comic is written that I would compare to it. I think you have to have the right sense of humor to fully enjoy these books, but if you do you will appreciate them and want to reread them again.

We were flipping thru this the other night, planning merely to review it as one of my 7 y.o.'s pending choices for the next night. Next thing I knew, we'd read 1/3 of the book and we were both laughing! She doesn't get all of the jokes (which means there are years of future reading to come), and I don't find all of the jokes that funny--especially the ones that make her belly laugh. Therefore it's the perfect book. And she enjoys my Heavenly Nostrils accent...reminiscent of a very bad Downton Abbey... We're going to be sad when it's over!

Funny, cute, and touching. The two characters play well off each other and the other minor players are also interesting. The art style is also pleasing to the eye (IMO) and, while I have nothing against the modern "horse with horn on" image of the unicorn, it is nice to see the classical, slender-legged, cloven-hooved model cantering about.

I've been a fan of Phoebe and her unicorn since the strip was called heavenly nostrils. This book is for all ages and genders. Dana keep it kid friendly but adds enough wit for us adult to appreciate. Yeah I'm a guy 30 years old reading a book about a little girl and her unicorn. Loved it from beginning to end.

My 8 year old daughter LOVES these books! It been a challenge to find something that she actually wants to read. So glad I picked this up!

My eight years old insisted to read this comic with me. She kept reading me parts and giggling like crazy. I was reluctant at first, since I want her to be an independent reader, but I caved and now I am hooked :-). It is funny and clever. Some parts are little too mature for my kiddo, but the thing is that she does not know what she does not know! She concentrates on things that appeals to her age. Much like with the newest Disney and Pixar movies it has few levels. Some will appeal to kids, some to adults, and that's the beauty of it.

My 8 year old daughter loves it! It's funny and sarcastic. It's definitely different than anything she's read before so I wasn't sure she would like it, but thankfully she does. It's a quick read though. She's on Christmas break right now so she read it in an evening. It's also not great for younger kids because most of the humor goes over their heads, but great for 3rd grade and above!

My ten year old loved this book. Any book that gets her to read and enjoy books is always a great book in my opinion! Reading isn't her thing but she found a love of books in graphic novels so I'm always looking for something new for her and this fit the bill.

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