

free spirit

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A Do-It-Yourself Comic Book Just for Guys

For
Immediate
Release!

Praise for Your Life in Comics:

"Your Life in Comics is an incredibly timely book that integrates comics and learning in an exciting way."—John Hogan, GraphicNovelReporter.com

"Zimmerman's book is an inspiration to the tween-teen and school communities . . . as highly recommended a writing prompt book as I've ever seen. I would not be without it."—Chris Wilson, editor of *The Graphic Classroom*

"Parents will love *Your Life in Comics* because it encourages boys to think about their lives, get things down on paper, and be creative. Boys will love this book because it's a lot of fun!"—Susan Heim, *On Parenting* blog

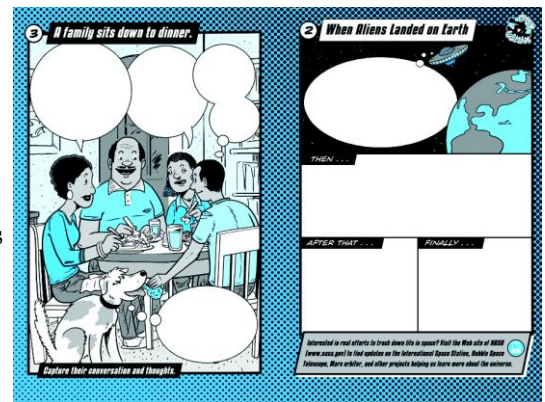
Minneapolis, MN—What's more fun for tween guys than reading comics? Making their own. **YOUR LIFE IN COMICS: 100 THINGS FOR GUYS TO WRITE AND DRAW** by Bill Zimmerman (Free Spirit Publishing, \$9.99) lets boys ages 9–13 do just that. Rather than provide the plot, this interactive book allows readers to decide what happens by using words and drawings of their own invention.

Building on the Free Spirit favorite **100 THINGS GUYS NEED TO KNOW**, this do-it-yourself comic book can be a source of fun that also gets boys thinking about important topics in their lives, including family, friends, school, health, and the future. The book can be used independently or for reading, writing, or behavioral support, whether in school, youth groups, or as part of a home library.

YOUR LIFE IN COMICS includes completed comics where boys can dictate what happens through dialogue—an ideal way to express thoughts that might be difficult to verbalize. Other activities encourage guys to draw full comic strips, and freestyle activities let them personalize the book. Boys can use the unique format simply for lighthearted artistic efforts or for more meaningful and personal expression, similar to a journal.

Features of **YOUR LIFE IN COMICS** include:

- Graphic-novel-style illustrations
- Fun drawing and writing activities that can engage for hours
- Exercises and prompts that encourage guys to explore thoughts and attitudes
- Chronicling of tween years that can become a treasured keepsake
- Website extensions pointing the way to fun, interactive online resources



-more-

17 activity downloads and
20 website extensions
available at:

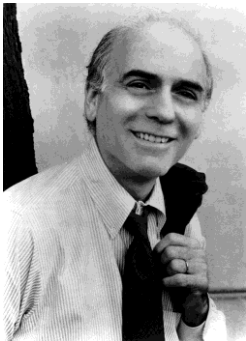
www.freespirit.com/comics

Comics, boy books, and graphic novels for reluctant readers have helped parents and educators engage more tween guys in reading. **YOUR LIFE IN COMICS** does this and goes a step further, providing boys with a forum for thinking about what's important to them and celebrating who they are. "What kind of stuff will you write about in this book? It's up to you," explains Zimmerman to guys who pick up the book. "Some of the pages are funny and some are serious. One quality all the pages share is that they are incomplete. They need your imagination to be finished."

YOUR LIFE IN COMICS: 100 THINGS FOR GUYS TO WRITE AND DRAW

ISBN 978-1-57542-351-7 • \$9.99 • Softcover • 128 pp.
• two-color • illust. • 6" x 9" • for ages 9–13

About the Author



Bill Zimmerman is an award-winning author and has written more than a dozen books used by families, children, and schools, including **100 THINGS GUYS NEED TO KNOW**. As an editor at *Newsday*, one of the nation's largest newspapers, he created a special section for young people on current events and other issues that has twice been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.

Bill operates www.MakeBeliefsComix.com, a website where kids can create virtual comic strips. It has been selected as a "Great Website for Kids" by the American Library Association. Bill lives in New York City.



**About Free Spirit Publishing (www.freespirit.com)
Meeting kids' social, emotional, and educational needs since 1983**

Headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Free Spirit is the leading publisher of learning tools that support young people's social-emotional health and their educational needs. Free Spirit's mission is to help children and teens think for themselves, succeed in life, and make a difference in the world.