

The Eternal Smile: Three Stories

By Gene Luen Yang

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The Eternal Smile: Three Stories By Gene Luen Yang

Gene Luen Yang is the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature and is a MacArthur Fellow, a recipient of what's popularly known as the MacArthur "Genius" Grant.

A fantastical adventure through the worlds we live in and the worlds we create.

From two masters of the graphic novel--Gene Luen Yang (*American Born Chinese*) and Derek Kirk Kim (*Same Difference and Other Stories*)--come three magical tales.

The story of a prince who defeats his greatest enemy only to discover that maybe his world is not what it had seemed.

The story of a frog who finds that just being a frog might be the way to go.

The story of a women who receives an e-mail from Prince Henry of Nigeria asking for a loan to help save his family – and gives it to him.

With vivid artwork and moving writing, Derek Kirk Kim and Gene Luen Yang test the boundaries between fantasy and reality, exploring the ways that the world of the imagination can affect real life.
The Eternal Smile is the winner of the 2010 Eisner Award for Best Short Story.

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The Eternal Smile: Three Stories By Gene Luen Yang Bibliography

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Editorial Review

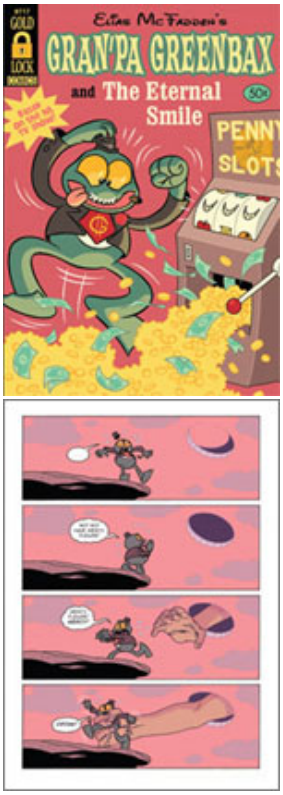
Amazon.com Review

Book Description
From two masters of the graphic novel--Gene Luen Yang (*American Born Chinese*) and Derek Kirk Kim (*Same Difference and Other Stories*) come fantastical adventures through the worlds we live in and the worlds we create: the story of a prince who defeats his greatest enemy only to discover that maybe his world is not what it had seemed; the story of a frog who finds that just being a frog might be the way to go; and the story of a woman who receives an email from Prince Henry of Nigeria asking for a loan to help save his family. With vivid artwork and moving writing, Derek Kirk Kim and Gene Luen Yang test the boundaries between fantasy and reality, exploring the ways that the world of the imagination can affect real life.

Three Short Stories from *The Eternal Smile*
Each pair of panels below belongs to one of the three stories in the book: "Duncan's Kingdom," "Gran'pa Greenbax and the Eternal Smile," and "Urgent Request."
Click on each panel to enlarge [pdf].



Prince Duncan goes on a quest to avenge
the king's murder and marry the princess.



Grandpa Greenbax the frog sees what looks like a smile in the sky and hopes
it will answer his prayers.



Janet's ho-hum life gets interesting after she receives an email from a Nigerian prince.

From Publishers Weekly
Starred Review. This collaboration between multiple-award winners Yang (*American Born Chinese*) and Kim (*Same Difference and Other Stories*) is an eagerly awaited event that actually pays off. Yang writes and Kim illustrates in a medley of different styles united by meticulous detail, almost throwaway beauty and riveting storytelling. All three stories deal with levels of fantasy and how humans use it to escape or transcend everyday tedium and suffering. In Duncan's Kingdom, a fairy tale about a brave youth, beautiful princess and dastardly frog king is played out; the fantasy is so note perfect that the truth of the situation comes as a shock. In The Eternal Smile, Gran'pa Greenbax is an avaricious frog whose moneymaking schemes are first boosted then dashed by the appearance of a mysterious, peaceful smile in the sky. Riffing off classic Disney comic books and evangelical clichés, it's a sharp satire far more complex than it first appears. In Urgent Request, Janet, a schlumpy drone at a tech company, answer a Nigerian scam e-mail to liven up her drab life. However, her motives are not as they originally appear. Shattering the borders between our real and fantasy lives, these bold, masterfully crafted fables have real staying power. *(Apr.)*
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From School Library Journal
Starred Review. Grade 9 Up–Yang and Kim are expert storytellers and work well together here to present three tales with fablelike takeaways. &Duncan& seems to be a hero story set in a lush medieval Europe, with the titular character embarking on an iconic quest to win the hand of the fair lady–except for odd visual details that crop up, such as the frumpy and definitely modern woman holding her bespectacled head in her hands and the apparently magic Snappy Cola bottle. The turn from fantasy to Duncan&'s reality is made smoothly and doesn&'t ask readers to appreciate its cleverness so much as to recognize how fantasy can, indeed, aid real healing. The volume&'s title story starts off as a riff on capitalism and religious gullibility involving talking frogs and then makes a hairpin turn with the revelation that a broadcast tycoon has blended America&'s tastes for Saturday morning cartoons and reality shows. In &Urgent Request,& a contemporary cubicle inhabitant allows herself to fall for the fraudulent Nigerian royalty email plea for cash, but thereby gains the strength she needs to confront her abusive boss. Artwork in each of the stories is stylistically different and wholly appropriate to the theme of the specific tale. Smart teens will enjoy this thoroughly and will push it into friends&'–and hopefully even adults&'–hands for discussions around topics ranging from political insights to how narrative creates personal identity.*–Francisca Goldsmith, Halifax Public Libraries, Nova Scotia*
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Users Review

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Clifford Ranger:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important take action, like looking for your favorite e-book and reading a publication. Beside you can solve your condition; you can add your knowledge by the e-book entitled The Eternal Smile: Three Stories. Try to stumble through book The Eternal Smile: Three Stories as your good friend. It means that it can to get your friend when you experience alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than before. Yeah, it is very fortuned for you. The book makes you considerably more confidence because you can know every thing by the book. So , let me make new experience as well as knowledge with this book.

Jeffery Fulmer:

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