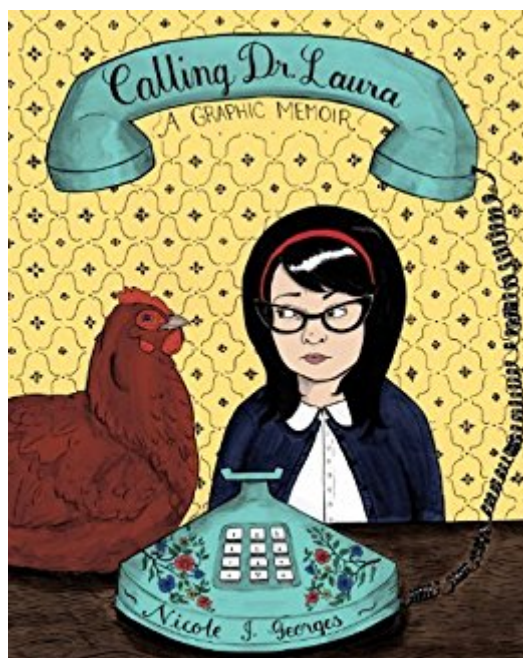


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Calling Dr. Laura: A Graphic Memoir



Synopsis

When Nicole Georges was two years old, her mother told her that her father was dead. When she was twenty-three, a psychic told her he was alive. Her half-sister, saddled with guilt, admits that the psychic is right and that the whole family has conspired to keep him a secret. Sent into a tailspin about her identity, Nicole turns to radio talk-show host Dr. Laura Schlessinger for advice. Packed with heartfelt and disarming black-and-white illustrations, *Calling Dr. Laura* tells the story of what happens to you when you are raised in a family of secrets, and what happens to your brain (and heart) when you learn the truth from an unlikely source. Part coming-of-age and part coming-out story, *Calling Dr. Laura* marks the arrival of an exciting and winning new voice in graphic literature.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

What a great memoir! *Calling Dr. Laura* is the raw and honest memoir of graphic artist Nicole J. Georges from her childhood to this day and her life in Portland Oregon. The novel focuses on her search for her natural father, her coming out of the closet as a queer, and the process of finding who she is as a person. The book has a good deal of her childhood memories and family related issues,

which are not adorned or sweetened, but presented in a very naive straight forward way. She could have demonized her mother for the whole story related to her natural father, but she does not so; she does not hide anything bad about her life, experiences or people she comes across, but she does not judge them and focus more on how she felt or feels. How difficult to do and how well done! The narrative alternates the present with episodes of her childhood. The parts about her childhood are really wonderful but also a bit sad. The reading is very engaging. That is so because the book is well paced regarding the subjects presented and how they are presented, the U-turns that the author makes but still coming back to the main road, so to speak. The story is never bland or boring. Although the mystery in the novel is resolved in the epilogue, it lingers throughout the book without being overpowering. I truly liked Georges' style and versatility. She uses different graphic languages and fonts to convey meaning and create atmosphere. Although most of the book is set in interiors, I loved her drawings of road and urban landscapes. The drawings of her childhood episodes, which are very simple and child-like, are just adorable, and very different from the more elaborate and arty drawing for the narration of Nicole's present.

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