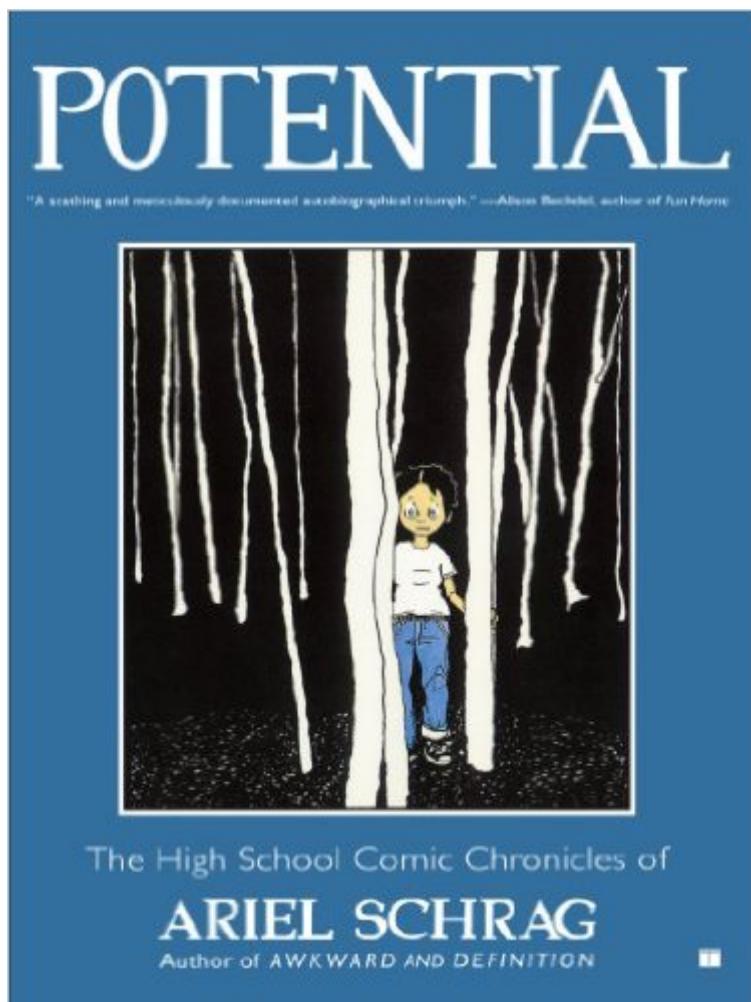


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Potential: The High School Comic Chronicles Of Ariel Schrag (High School Chronicles Of Ariel Schrag)



Synopsis

Ariel Schrag continues her tumultuous passage through high school in the second book of her acclaimed series of frank, insightful, and painfully honest autobiographical graphic novels. Written during the summer following her junior year at Berkeley High School in California, *Potential* recounts Ariel's first real relationship and first-time love with a girl, her quest to lose her virginity to a boy, and her parents' divorce -- as well as the personal and social complications of writing about her life as she lives it. Along the way she hangs out with her favorite teacher, obsesses over clothes, gets drunk, smokes pot, and tries to connect the biology she reads about in textbooks with the biology she's living.

Book Information

Series: High School Chronicles of Ariel Schrag

Paperback: 232 pages

Publisher: Touchstone (May 6, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1416552359

ISBN-13: 978-1416552352

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.8 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,180,604 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #179 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Gay & Lesbian #922 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Biographies & History Graphic Novels #1471 inÂ Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Specific Groups > LGBT

Customer Reviews

"Science is my life!" heroine Ariel proclaims early on in *Potential*, and it's true. The junior in high school loves her science classes and even tries to figure out with a friend how to distill homemade alcohol--something she thinks would be both a good learning experience and fun. But there are other, more pressing issues that Ariel must deal with in her junior year of high school. For one thing, she had settled on the label of bisexual after her sophomore year experiences, but she's definitely feeling more and more drawn to the lesbian side. Now if only she could figure out how to navigate the tricky emotional waters of dating during the teenage years. Ariel Schrag's true-life series of work--which began with freshman year in *Awkward* and continued in sophomore year's *Definition*--is

as brave as it is funny. Schrag completed each work in the summer after each respective school year, not only putting her own life squarely under the microscope, but also telling the stories of her friends, family, and acquaintances. As her classmates at Berkeley High School in the mid- to late '90s learned, nothing was secret or sacred. Schrag's abilities both as an artist and a storyteller have greatly improved by the time of *Potential*. *Awkward* was a potpourri of images, sometimes far too crowded for one page, but *Definition* showed real evolution in her work. With *Potential*, she allows herself plenty of room in which to pace her story, starting slowly with her puppy love relationship with a boy and moving on to the more complicated territory of her lesbian dating life and the emotional effects of her parents' divorce. *Potential*, like the work that preceded it, succeeds on several levels, not least of which is that Schrag doesn't rehash coming-of-age tales we've read before.

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