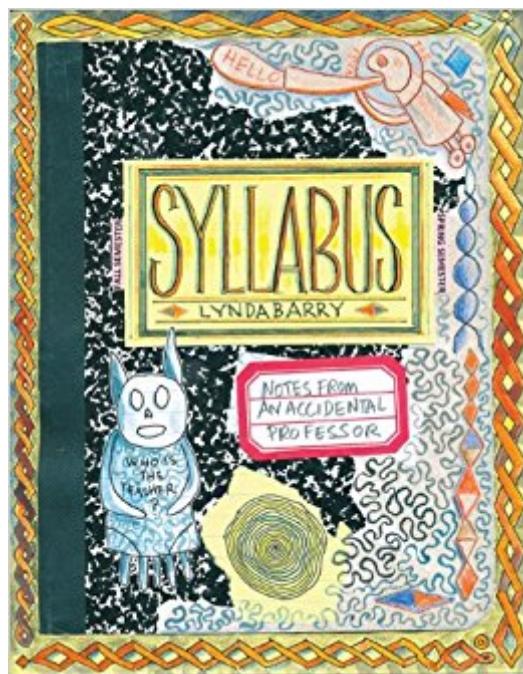


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# Syllabus: Notes From An Accidental Professor



## Synopsis

Writing exercises and creativity advice from Lynda Barry's pioneering, life-changing workshop.

## Book Information

Paperback: 200 pages

Publisher: Drawn and Quarterly; Second Printing edition (October 21, 2014)

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 98 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #8,612 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Publishers > Drawn and Quarterly #11 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Literary #117 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Fiction

## Customer Reviews

Gr 10 Up • Structured as a handwritten composition book, this title uses prose within a graphic context to serve as a forum to teach aspiring young authors. It's written as though a creatively minded person were keeping a messy journal filled with ideas, notes, and scribbles. This book presents an inside look into Writing the Unthinkable, the cartoonist's highly popular writing workshop. Neither a graphic or prose novel, it requires readers to jump around to different boxed areas of words, which resemble those in a textbook, but attempts to do so in a hip, visual, new way. The end result is discordant and sloppy and may confuse, rather than inspire, young authors.

VERDICT Those unfamiliar with comics guru Barry's previous work may find the format and style of this title extremely jarring. Stick with her What It Is (Drawn & Quarterly, 2008). •Ryan P. Donovan, Southborough Public Library, MA

In recent years, Lynda Barry — a half cartoonist, half guru, and entirely irrepressible — has created her own genre, handcrafting inspirational guidebooks about how and why to be creative. Scrawled out and doodled all over the page, collaged together with snippets of schoolwork, snatches of poetry, and drawings of weird-looking monsters, Barry's notes [in Syllabus] double as dispatches from a fertile unconscious, and testify once more to the unfathomable depths

of human invention. *Globe & Mail* “Lynda Barry has spent the last few years blazing new trails in nonfiction cartooning with a series of books dedicated to illuminating the mysteries of the creative process . . . Once you pick [Syllabus] up, it’s not easy to put it back down again. *AV Club Best Comics of 2014* “[Syllabus is] a must-read for Barry fans and deep thinkers. *London Free Press* “[In Syllabus, Lynda Barry] continues her investigation of what an image is. This book is charming and readable and serves as an excellent guide for those seeking to break out of whatever writing and drawing styles they have been stuck in, allowing them to reopen their brains to the possibility of new creativity. Readers can pore over the exceptionally gorgeous graphic mixture of collage, inking, and watercolor for hours. *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

A professor recommended this to me. It's really good, and I like Barry's strange perspectives. I'm still trying to get used to her particular mode of writing, but I really enjoyed this strange collection of her thoughts.

This is a great book for teachers. It has really reignited my creativity in developing assignments and communication with my students. I've also gifted several copies to all the other teachers in my life!

was a birthday present and my daughter was happy to get it. vjf

This is a great material. A close second to being in a Lynda Barry class.

Lynda Barry is brilliant and everything by her is gold.

Fascinating, original book!

This is a totally awesome syllabus by a fabulous writer/artist/teacher! Thank God for Lynda Barry!

She is just wonderful, in general, and so is this, specifically.

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