



## A Family Matter

*Will Eisner*

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All new graphic novel by the master storyteller! Family Matter tells the story of a day in the life of a typical family gathered for a birthday party. In the span of twenty-four hours, the darkest family secrets are revealed. Long suppressed memories surface -- betrayal, abuse, greed, incest, and worse. The strained family comes together, only to be torn apart. The first new graphic novel from Eisner since Dropsie Avenue is darker than you might expect. One of his best.

## A Family Matter Details

Date : Published December 1st 1998 by Kitchen Sink Press (first published January 1st 1998)

ISBN : 9780878166206

Author : Will Eisner

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Genre : Sequential Art, Comics, Graphic Novels, Fiction, Graphic Novels Comics

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# From Reader Review A Family Matter for online ebook

**vostendrasamigos yotengolibros says**

This is one of my favorite Will Eisner books

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**Brandon James says**

This is my first encounter with Eisner and it was a good, quick read. A fan of dysfunctional families? A fan of depressing stories? A fan of characters with zero redeeming qualities? Then this graphic novel might just be for you. Looking forward to digging deeper into Eisner's bibliography.

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**Fabio says**

La quarta stella è Will Eisner e la sua costruzione delle tavole, tutte attentamente studiate. La storia è forse banale, come lo sono i personaggi, anche se il finale chiude un cerchio che si era aperto nelle vicende precedenti all'inizio della storia. Il senso di rabbia verso certi aspetti della società moderna che distrugge alcuni valori consolidati e cari, di cui parla nella prefazione, devo dire che si percepisce eccome.

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**Dipa says**

Will Eisner is a master of his genre. I keep in mind that he was one of the graphic novel genre whenever I pick up one of his books. This book is worth a read. It's short, but dense and easy to read at the same time.

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**Emilia P says**

How do you make such sort of banal, obviously cliched stuff so powerful, sir? I dunno, but you really do, and I really love it, and I'm going to have to ration it out. Way to make timeless, timely stuff.

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**Zênite Zandavalli says**

"Vamos por o velho num lar, porque já nao podemos tratar dele (nem temos dinheiro para isso!)" Um tema clássico da actualidade, em que os idosos são cada vez mais vistos como fardos...vivi situação semelhante e ouvi algumas das frases que aparecem no livro...

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## **Melissa says**

Family squabbles over money.

The graphic novel takes place over a short period of time in which the 90th birthday of their father is taking place.

I've read this story before. It didn't really offer anything super unique to the old story.

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## **Mikael Kuoppala says**

Will Eisner's touching and insightful story about a family that comes together after a long time, on the eve of the death of the family patriarch. Through revealing scenes the reader is taken behind all the pretence that is going on, into deeply buried secrets and dark memories hidden behind false smiles. Human greed, sadistic cruelty and selfishness fuel the story, but it also has a deeply compassionate take on its unfortunate characters. Touching stuff, and extremely sharp.

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## **Nancy says**

This review, plus one for *The Name of the Game*, can be found on my blog:  
<https://graphicnovelty2.com/2016/12/3...>

*A Family Matter* was a compact book, and painted a dysfunctional family with broad strokes. Five adult siblings gather to celebrate their father's 90th birthday, but we find that all of them have their own interests at heart, or have warped relationships with their father and each other. We are introduced to all the siblings in their home environments and also see vignettes of their younger lives and their troubled interactions with their father. Incest, blackmail, marital cheating, abandonment and embezzlement all come into effect in this morality play. The term "A family matter" is hammered in, as to show the familial ties that bind these flawed relatives together. No one has any truly redeeming qualities, and as for the inheritance and status they seek, it is overshadowed by their greed and jealousy. The ending came as no surprise, and the narrative pauses as you know their base instincts will take over, once the shock wears off.

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## **Aaron says**

This was the book by Eisner I've read, and it may have been a bad place to start. This book was good but it didn't match up to the God-like status Eisner holds in the world of comics. Some parts were impressive but overall it didn't thrill me. I probably won't reread it.

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## **Bucciali says**

Quick read. Interesting story. Recognisable family saga, but well put together. After the New York series,

I'm trying to read more Eisner, including some single Spirit editions. I'm falling for his drawing techniques. Harsh truth, beautifully put.

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### **Steven Werber says**

Simply incredible!! a tale about how families treat and mistreat each other. A story about greed and class. A story about how the past is never gone as it intrudes constantly on the present. A masterpiece!!

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### **Zenit Saphyr says**

"Vamos por o velho num lar, porque já nao podemos tratar dele (nem temos dinheiro para isso!)" Um tema clássico da actualidade, em que os idosos são cada vez mais vistos como fardos...vivi situação semelhante e ouvi algumas das frases que aparecem no livro...

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### **Rudi says**

I "En familiesag" ("A family matter") klarer Will Eisner å forteller en vond, men menneskelig, beretning om en familie i oppløsning. De ulike grenene av familien samles for å diskutere skjebnen til familiens gamle far, om han skal bo hos noen av barna, eller om de skal finansiere et opphold på et sykehjem. Gamle konflikter og sjalusier ligger som et bakteppe for handlingen.

Det jeg likte best med denne, var hvor godt Eisner bruker tegneserieformatet. Han forteller en historie med flere veldig ulike personligheter, men måten han fremstiller dem (både visuelt og narrativt) gjør at man fort skjønner hvem de er. Noen blir kanskje litt "typete", men det virker for meg som det er brukt mer some et virkemiddel enn en snarvei.

Jeg liker også godt hvordan den tar opp og problematiserer "familien" som et tema.

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### **Caroline says**

Another graphic novel hit by Will Eisner, this one takes a look at family dynamics. A 90-year old man is confined to a wheelchair after a stroke and one his daughters invites the rest of the family over to celebrate his birthday.

As we are introduced to each of his sons and daughters, we're given an initial glimpse into their current lives. When they each come over to the party, we're given a glimpse into their past relationship with their father. Family relationships can be complicated, and there is none better than Mr Eisner at exposing the darkness in the souls of men and women while offering a glimmer of light.

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