Please note that a fund for the promotion of Icelandic literature operates under the auspices of the Icelandic Ministry of Education and Culture and subsidizes translations of literature.

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Comics

HUGLEIKUR DAGSSON
LOA HLIN HJALMTYSDOTTIR
HUGLEIKUR DAGSSON (b.1977) is Iceland’s uncrowned prince of the graphic novel. His work has received a great deal of praise both in Iceland and abroad, although some people look on his comic strips as childish scribbles. dagsson.com

“The Dagsson is apparently the most famous cartoonist in Iceland – God help them if that’s true!”

AMAZON.COM REVIEW

The Darkness Surrounds Me

This book contains firebreathing zebras, angel sex and the president of the United States.
The Very Worst of Dagsson

2016

Hugleikur Dagsson has drawn thousands of cartoons. But here are only 101 of them. Because you’re probably in a hurry. Rarely have simple line drawings been made to enact the kinds of scenarios found in Icelandic artist Hugleikur Dagsson’s cartoons. From the absurd to the offensive to the immoral, Dagsson includes every taboo out there.

The Bloody Best of Dagsson

2017

Hugleikur Dagsson has drawn thousands of cartoons. But here are only 101 of them. Because you’re probably in a hurry.
End 1: Revelation
End 2: Misfortune
End 3: Up & Down
End 4: Mum

Opinberun, 2012
Ógæfa, 2013
Ofan & neðan, 2014
Mamma, 2015

A series presents different scenarios for the end of the world. Aliens invade the Earth in the first title, Revelation, and use the Book of Revelations as a guide on how to destroy mankind. This is what happens when science meets religion. In Misfortune, illustrated by Ran Flygenring, Reykjavik suffers a zombie invasion during Gay Pride Weekend. Fortunately Eurovision hero Paul Oscar saves the day.

Up & Down, illustrated by Don Kenn and based on the lore of H.P. Lovecraft explains what happens when artists try to save the world with Neo-Utopianism. But what they don’t know is that they are in fact conjuring up the ancient god, Cthulhu.

Mum is the fourth book in Dagsson’s apocalypse series. This time it’s the turn of wunderkind Petur Antonsson who illustrated the massive disaster in a masterful way. This is the story of a single mum who has a tiny baby that grows. And grows. And grows. And grows.
Pop Hits

Lyrical Cartoons, 2016

People have been misunderstanding song lyrics since the dawn of time, but no one as much as Icelandic cartoonist Hugleikur Dagsson. This book collects all of his misunderstandings in one volume.

BestSellers

2015

A book that will teach you absolutely nothing about world literature. Are you one of those people who hasn’t read any books? Are you totally ignorant when it comes to Dickens or Austen or Dostoyevsky? Do you feel stupid when your friends discuss world literature? Well, this book will make you even stupider.

Icelandic cartoonist Hugleikur Dagsson scrutinizes classic book titles with childish humor in this rather unintellectual collection of silly drawings.
Where’s God?

Hvar er Guð? 2015

Many have searched for Waldo in the Where’s Waldo? series. And many have even found him in midst of the multitude on the crowded pages of the book. Hugleikur Dagsson has created an Icelandic version of the game, except here the search is for God almighty himself. Can you find God? Do you know where he is?

Think of the Children

Hvað með börnin?, 2015

A new collection of Hugleikur Dagsson cartoons. Brimming with outrageous jokes about abortion, religion and poop. The first part was created between 2012-2015, the middle part Dagsson composed during two days for snap-chat and the rest was made yesterday. Not for small children. Just big children.
You are Nothing
My Pussy is Hungry
I Hate Dolphins

2014
2013
2013

You are nothing. Your friends are nothing. Your parents are nothing. Your siblings are nothing. I am nothing. Nobody is nothing. There is nothing nowhere, at all. Except this book, which is something. Rarely have simple line drawings been made to enact the kinds of scenarios found in Icelandic artist Hugleikur Dagsson’s cartoons. From the absurd to the offensive to the immoral, Dagsson includes every taboo out there.

“Cannibalism, incest and general mayhem. And that’s just for starters.”

THE GUARDIAN

“It’s just this random collection of drawings by some guy! Basically, if you and some buddies sat down at a bar, and scribbled some crude doodles of fart jokes onto a napkin, and then stapled those napkins together, you have this book.”

ANOTHER GUY ON AMAZON.COM
Kisi, the One-Eyed Cat and the mysteries of Eyjafjallajökull

Eineygði kötturinn Kisi og leyndardómur Eyjafjallajökuls, 2010

Kisi is back and this time he is better drawn than ever before. The one-eyed-cat has had his heart broken and so he goes to the country side with his friends to recover. But before you know it they run into horrible criminals, mutant sharks, man eating santa clauses and an erupting Eyjafjallajökull. The Kisi series of books have been popular with readers of all ages.

Kisi, the One-Eyed Cat and the Recession – Escape from Reykjavik

Eineygði kötturinn Kisi og ástandið – flóttinn frá Reykjavík, 2009

Kisi is back and is as resourceful and homicidal as ever. The one-eyed-cat has to grapple with the recession with his friends. The book features a possessed curly-haired martyr, an understanding publisher, and the underworld of Icelandic genetics which may hold the key to the future of this tormented nation.
Rarely have simple line drawings been made to enact the kinds of scenarios found in Icelandic artist Hugleikur Dagsson’s cartoons. From the absurd to the offensive to the immoral, Dagsson includes every taboo out there. Dagsson’s sweet little cartoons took the Icelandic counterculture scene by storm becoming a best-seller in Iceland. The stage play from Should you be laughing at this? won the Best Play of 2005 award in Iceland’s main national newspaper.
LOA HLIN HJALMTYSĐOTTIR (b.1979) studied fine arts at the Icelandic Academy of Art and Illustration at Parson’s New School for Design, NYC. She’s been illustrating children’s books, editorials and writing comics professionally since 2005. In 2005 she also started the band FM Belfast with her husband. In 2016 she graduated from the master’s program of Creative Writing from the University of Iceland.

Why are We Still Here?

2017

Diary of an islander: Instead of gazing at the sky in the hope of seeing the Northern lights, we spend our nights watching American TV shows and eating chocolate covered licorice or licorice covered chocolate. When the endless days and nights of summer return, they erase the winter from our memory. If we didn’t have the capacity to forget the dark winter nights we would probably have left a long time ago.
Loaboratorium

2014

Loaboratorium is the research lab of Loa Hlin Hjalmtysdottir. In the report that was published in 2014, research topics included human misery, among other things. New investigations have revealed, however, that human misery is more complicated than previous research showed. Earlier investigations forgot to account for exchange students and rain in their calculations. This changes everything; the results are almost completely different.

Loaboratorium

New Investigations May Have Uncovered New Findings, 2015

Loaboratorium is the research lab of Loa Hlin Hjalmtysdottir, an illustrator and musician in the popular band FM Belfast. Among the laboratory’s research topics are human misery, uncomfortable family dynamics, body hair, overconsumption of various stripes, and much, much more. When the world ends soon, all that will remain is this book and a few cat videos on the internet.

“...captures the essence of human existence...the sense of humor is never one-note, it goes from tragicomic situational comedy to cerebral grotesquerie...from metaphorical surrealism to social criticism.”

DV DAILY
“Loaboratorium separates the wheat from the chaff and exposes us all—it’s a wonderfully funny and uncomfortably true, but mercifully free of misanthropy.”

RATIONALE OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR DV’S CULTURAL AWARD

“Loa sometimes takes after Woody Allen—her characters are neurotic and full of self-doubt...we’re all defendants, we’re all judges...One of the most important things that successful art does to show us what it’s like to stand in another’s person’s shoes, to empathize with others, because at the end of the day, we’re not so different. And this succeeds really well. We’re waiting with baited breath for more.”

DV DAILY

Generalizations about nations
Alhlæft um þjóðir, 2011

There are generalizations about many nations in this book. Certainly more about some than others. Countries are categorized by a complicated system of whims & random & sudden epiphanies.
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