MY Dear Unthinkable Mind Students,

January 2013

Very soon we will begin our time together before our first class, I’d like you to do two things. Please read the introduction to Iain McGilchrist’s book “The Master and His Emissary.” I’ve attached a PDF of the piece. It’s also online at iainmcgilchrist.com.

You will not need to buy this book unless you really want to, but we’ll be working through McGilchrist’s ideas during our time together, so the introduction is an important part of the set up for this class.

The second thing is to memorize the 4 lines that make up Emily Dickinson’s Poem # 937.

Iain McGilchrist, British scholar of English literature—taught at Oxford, became an M.D., then a psychiatrist read all about it at iainmcgilchrist.com.

1. I felt a glancing in my mind—
   As if my brain had split—
   I tried to match it seam by seam—
   But could not make it fit

2. The thought behind—
   I strive to join
   Unto the thought before—
   But sequence ravelled out of sound

3. Like balls upon a floor

Emily Dickinson wrote at least 1,700 poems. Why? Finally...

For our first class all you need to bring is your favorite sort of pen or pencil.

I’ll be sending each of you a separate email letting you know which part of the brain I’ve assigned to you randomly. This will be your identity for the entire semester. (More about that when we meet.)

Please know how happy I am about our upcoming expedition together. I think about you every day. Best from professor Lynda

LYNDA BARRY
SYLLABUS: NOTES FROM AN ACCIDENTAL PROFESSOR
Award-winning author Lynda Barry is the creative force behind the genre-defying and best-selling work *What It Is*. She believes that anyone can be a writer and she has set out to prove it. For the past decade, Lynda has run a highly popular writing workshop for non-writers called “Writing the Unthinkable”—the workshop was featured in the *New York Times* Magazine. *Syllabus: Notes from an accidental professor* is the first book that will make her innovative lesson plans and writing exercises available to the public for home or classroom use. Barry’s course has been embraced by people across North America—prison inmates, postal workers, university students, high school teachers, and hairdressers—for opening pathways to creativity.

*Syllabus* takes the course plan for Lynda Barry’s workshop and runs wild with it in Barry’s signature densely detailed style. Collaged texts, ballpoint pen doodles, and watercolor washes adorn *Syllabus*’s yellow lined pages, which offer advice on finding a creative voice and using memories to inspire the writing process. Throughout it all, Lynda Barry’s voice (as author and teacher-mentor) rings clear, inspiring, and honest.

**PRAISE FOR LYND A BARRY**

“Barry isn’t particularly interested in the writer’s craft. She’s more interested in where ideas come from—and her goal is to help people tap into what she considers to be an innate creativity.”— *New York Times*

Lynda Barry has worked as a painter, cartoonist, writer, illustrator, playwright, editor, commentator, and teacher and found that they are very much alike. She lives in Wisconsin, where she is assistant professor of art and Discovery Fellow at University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is the author of acclaimed graphic novel *One! Hundred! Demons!*—the cartoonist behind the long-running Ernie Pook’s Comeek, and the author of creative how-to memoir comic books *What It Is* and *Picture This*. 
THERE SHE IS.

LORENA MADRID.

MY GREATEST LOVE.

MY DREAM OF HAPPINESS.

DAD.

THE MAN'S TALKING TOO FAST IN ENGLISH FOR DAD TO UNDERSTAND HIM.

I CAN'T TELL IF THE MAN'S MAD OR NOT.

DAD LOOKS PRETTY NERVOUS, LIKE HE CAN'T WAIT FOR THE MAN TO GO AWAY.
Gilbert Hernandez was born in 1957 in Oxnard, California. In 1981, he co-self-published the first issue of Love and Rockets with his brothers Mario and Jaime. Embracing strong female lead characters and punk rock culture, this series stood out from the male-dominated comics landscape of the time. Gilbert Hernandez and his brother Jaime have continued Love and Rockets for three decades. In the ensuing years, Hernandez has won nearly every industry award, as well as the prestigious United States Artists Literature Fellowship and the Pen USA Literary Award. Hernandez currently lives in Las Vegas, Nevada, with his wife, Carol, and his daughter, Natalia.

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Love and Rockets author Gilbert Hernandez returns with Bumperhead, a companion book to Marble Season. Whereas Marble Season explored the exuberant and occasionally troubled existence of the wide-eyed pre-teen Huey, Bumperhead zeroes in on disaffected teenhood with its protagonist Bobby, a young slacker who narrates his life as it happens but offers very little reflection on the events that transpire. Bobby lives in the moment exclusively, and is incapable of seeing the world outside of his experiences. He comes of age in the 1970s, making a rapid progression through that era’s different subcultures—in a short period of time he segues from a stoner glam-rocker to a drunk rocker to a speed-freak punk. He drifts in and out of relationships with friends, both male and female. Life zooms past him.

Hernandez’s approach captures the numbness and raw undirected anger and passion of a young man who waits for life to happen to him, not noticing all the while that it’s happening. Subtle and thought-provoking, Bumperhead is a fascinating read.

PRAISE FOR MARBLE SEASON
“Hernandez is brilliant on the particular embarrassments of growing up...Marble Season is a treat: beady, nostalgic, and sometimes unexpectedly piercing.”—The Guardian

“Marble Season sometimes feels like one long, seamless shot of budding love, brimming violence and suddenly struck friendships.”—Washington Post Best Comics of 2013

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Tove Jansson’s *Moomin* stories made her one of the most beloved Scandinavian authors of the twentieth century. Jansson's whimsical tales of Moominvalley resonate with children for their light-hearted spirit, and with adults for their incisive commentary on the banality of everyday life. 2014 marks the centenary of her birth, and Jansson is being honoured with events in Japan, Scandinavia, England, Germany, Russia, Australia, Italy, Spain, and France. Drawn & Quarterly is joining the festivities by releasing *Moomin: The deluxe anniversary edition*, a slipcased, hardcover collection of the complete Tove Jansson-penned Moomin comic strip, replete with all of her most popular storylines and original pencil sketches.

It has been more than sixty years since the *Moomin* comic strip debuted in the *London Evening News*. By the end of its run in 1975, *Moomin* was syndicated in more than forty newspapers around the world, and hailed for its light-handed, charming stories. The comics were revived in 2005 by Drawn & Quarterly and published to widespread acclaim, sparking a new generation of devoted Moomin fans with international editions around the world. *Moomin: The deluxe anniversary edition* celebrates the classic comics the world adores, and will feature an essay about Tove's work on the *Moomin* strip.

**PRAISE FOR TOVE JANSSON**

“Tove Jansson... created a quirky, original comic strip masterpiece... Moomins are the vehicles through which Jansson explores everything that’s laughable, charming, laudable, and suspect about being human.”—Myla Goldberg, *NPR*

Tove Jansson (1914–2001) was a legendary Finnish children's book author/artist and creator of the Moomins, who came to life in books, comic strips, theater, opera, film, radio, theme parks, and television.
They dropped another one on Nagasaki!!

My parents had evacuated to the countryside.

Yeah...

If they had delayed the bombing for even a day...

I'm back! There was no one at the ducks!

Yukio came home carrying a giant kettle.

That's an incredible stroke of luck.

They just missed Yukio!

Shigeru's brother was on his way to Nagasaki with the mobilized students.

Looks bad in Nagasaki.

You're home!

I found this and figured I'd bring it with me.
Showa 1944–1953: A History of Japan continues award-winning author Shigeru Mizuki’s autobiographical and historical account of Showa period Japan. This volume recounts the events of the final years of the Pacific War, and the consequences of the war’s devastation for Shigeru Mizuki, and the Japanese populace at large. After the surprise attack at Pearl Harbor, Japan and the United States are officially at war. The two rival navies wage a series of micro-wars across the tiny Pacific Islands. From Guadalcanal to Okinawa, Japan slowly loses ground. Finally, the United States unleashes a new and terrible weapon—the atomic bomb. The fallout from the bombs is beyond imagining.

On another front, Showa 1944–1953 traces Shigeru Mizuki’s own life story across the sweeping changes during this period. After losing his arm during the brutal fighting, Mizuki struggles to decide where to go: whether to remain on the island as an honored friend of the local Tolai people or return to the rubble of Japan and take up his dream of becoming a cartoonist. Showa 1944–1953 is a searing condemnation of the personal toll of war from one of Japan’s most famous cartoonists.

PRAISE FOR SHOWA

“Mizuki’s grand overview of the era alternates between sections of wry personal memoir and more straightforward history...[Showa is a] remarkable manga chronicle of the Emperor’s reign.”—Japan Times

Born in Sakaiminato, Japan, in 1922, Shigeru Mizuki is a specialist in stories of yokai and is considered a master of the genre. Mizuki is the recipient of many awards, including the Best Album award at the Angoulême International Comics Festival, the Tezuka Osamu Cultural Prize Special Award, the Kyokujitsu Sho Decoration, and the Kodansha Manga Award. His work has been published in Japan, South Korea, France, and Spain.
WELL, ACCORDING TO YOUR BLOOD TESTS, YOU'RE SEVERELY ANEMIC, BUT EVERYTHING ELSE IS NORMAL...

"WE'RE GOING TO SEND YOU UPSTAIRS FOR AN ULTRASOUND..."

IT'S JUST LIKE ON TV...

RATTLE

SOON DEEP DEEP

SQUIRT

SUOOSH SMUSH
John Porcellino was born in Chicago in 1968, and began drawing and writing at an early age, compiling his work into little hand-made booklets. His acclaimed self-published zine, King-Cat Comics and Stories, begun in 1989, has found a devoted worldwide audience, and is one of the most influential comics series of the past twenty-five years.

The Hospital Suite is a landmark work by celebrated cartoonist and small-press legend John Porcellino—an autobiographical collection detailing his struggles with illness in the 1990s and 2000s.

In 1997, John began to have severe stomach pain. He soon found out he needed emergency surgery to remove a benign tumor from his small intestine. In the wake of the surgery, John had numerous health complications that led to a flare-up of his preexisting tendencies toward anxiety and obsessive-compulsive disorder. The Hospital Suite is Porcellino’s response to these experiences, simply told stories drawn in the honest, heart-wrenching style of his much-loved King-Cat mini-comics. Porcellino’s gift for spare yet eloquent candor makes The Hospital Suite an intimate portrayal of one person’s experiences that is also intensely relatable.

Porcellino’s work is lauded for its universality and quiet, clear-eyed contemplation of everyday life. The Hospital Suite is a testimony to this subtle strength, making his struggles with the medical system and its consequences on his mental health accessible and engaging.

PRAISE FOR JOHN PORCELLINO

“John Porcellino has created some of the most important autobio comics of all time...spare, meditative artwork.” —AV Club

“[King-Cat Classix features...:] artist-writer Porcellino’s intentionally simple drawings, largely autobiographical tales and renderings of dream...Porcellino is a master at miniature poignance.” —Entertainment Weekly

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German cartoonist Aisha Franz’s debut graphic novel details a few short days in the life of two sisters and their single mother. Set in a soulless suburb populated by block after block of identical row houses bordered by empty fields and an industrial no-man’s land, *Earthling* explores the loneliness of everyday life through these women’s struggle to come to terms with what the world expects of them.

*Earthling* unveils a narrative rich with surrealist twists and turns, where the peas on the dinner plate and the ads on television can both literally and figuratively speak to the most private strife and deepest hopes in a person’s life. As the sisters begin to come to terms with their sexuality, they are confronted by harsh realities and a world that has few escape routes for young women.

Drawn in deep grey pencil, the claustrophobia of Franz’s crosshatching and smudging matches the tone of the book perfectly. *Earthling* is an atmospheric and haunting account of the inevitability of losing the dream worlds of childhood.

**PRAISE FOR AISHA FRANZ**

“From her pencil drawings to her naive yet dry illustrations, each image she’s whisked out of her brain is so funny and sweet at the same time it’s enough to make you have a little cry.” — *It’s Nice That*

“[Earthling is... ] a melancholy tale of exquisite sensitivity.” — *Les Inrocks*

Aisha Franz was born in Fürth, Germany and was named after an elephant from TV. She studied illustration at the School of Art and Design in Kassel and has worked as a freelance illustrator and cartoonist since graduating. She has published two graphic novels, which have been translated into Italian, Spanish, and French. Her work has been exhibited in Germany, Belgium, and Italy, and she currently lives in Berlin, where she’s part of the comics collective The Treasure Fleet.
GUY DELISLE
EVEN MORE BAD PARENTING ADVICE

It's getting late, sweetie. No wonder you're tired.

It's 8:30 PM.

You always say that when you're tired.

I do?

Yup.

But I was behaving—I was just watching a cartoon with the other kids.

I'm not tired!

I'm not tired, what do I say?

And when I'm not tired, what do I say?

Same thing. You say you're not tired.
Ever wanted to know how to be awarded the Best Dad in the Whole World? Guy Delisle has all the answers for you in these light-hearted, entertaining tales of parental mishaps and practical jokes gone wrong. Whether he’s helping remove a pesky, wobbly, but not quite loose tooth or trying to win at hide-and-seek, his antics will resonate with every parent who has ever wanted to give a sarcastic answer to a funny question from their kid.

Even More Bad Parenting Advice marks Guy Delisle’s second foray into the world of offering bad advice to parents, and a second opportunity to express the minor frustrations and many joys of parenting. Delisle’s skillful hand at illustration and ironic way with words, which helped to popularize his travelogues about daily life in faraway places, are just as much the stars here as he or his children are. His sense of comic timing shines through in these simply told stories; with their lively flow, a change in facial expression or a few words can serve as the anecdote’s punch line. Even More Bad Parenting Advice celebrates the reality that parenting isn’t all first steps and gold-starred report cards; it’s stinky diapers and never-ending drives to the grocery store too.

PRAISE FOR A USER’S GUIDE TO NEGLECTFUL PARENTING

“A User’s Guide…is a funny and truthful book about being a parent.”—Boing Boing

“A User’s Guide…shares with [Delisle’s] previous work a keen appreciation for the clash of cultures; this time, however, the cultures in question are those of adults and children, and the damage that ensues is played for a rueful laugh.”—NPR

Guy Delisle is the bestselling author of A User’s Guide to Neglectful Parenting, and the travelogues Jerusalem: Chronicles from the Holy City, Burma Chronicles, Pyongyang, and Shenzhen. In 2012, he won the highest prize in European cartooning, the Fauve d’Or, at the Angoulême International Comics Festival for Jerusalem. He lives in Montpellier, France, with his wife and two children.

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COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS/LITERARY • ISBN 978-1-77046-167-3 • PAPERBACK
PIPPI WON’T GROW UP

Once in a while a stern, old woman comes to Tommy and Annika’s school to question the children. Those who answer correctly win socks and underwear. The others have to stand in the corner.

But why does she ask so many questions? And if you weigh less than 55 pounds, you have to go home with her and eat slimy soup.

Let’s make two lines, children. If you have little brothers and sisters, stand on the left. If you don’t have any, stand on the right.

Where do I stand if I don’t have fourteen brothers and sisters, including eleven naughty little boys?

In the corner you go, but first let me weigh you.

Could you also measure my chest and my height above sea level?

No soup for you.

Sometimes I get lucky. Now I need to make sure I don’t win any undershirts.

Please tell me how you’d spell ‘seasick.’

I’d love to. S-E-E-S-I-K.

Well, that’s not how it’s spelled in the dictionary.

Then it’s a good thing you asked me how I spell it.
The world’s strongest girl, Pippi Longstocking, is back with a fresh set of funny problems and even funnier solutions. In *Pippi Won’t Grow Up*, she takes on school quizzes, refuses to be evicted from her home, and brings Tommy and Annika to visit the island her father lives on. Lindgren’s expert storytelling and Vang Nyman’s vivid characters and bright colors make this eye-catching volume stand out.

**PRAISE FOR PIPPI**

“These are fun, colorful comics that are perfect for elementary school-age readers.”
—Comic Book Resources

“It’s remarkable how universal the stories and art are.”
—School Library Journal

“Relying on bold blocks of color and bright, simple designs, the panels are midcentury children’s art at its finest.”
—Paris Review

Astrid Lindgren (1907-2002) was the creator of one of Sweden’s most iconic fictional characters, Pippi Longstocking. The Pippi books have been translated into more than sixty languages.

Ingrid Vang Nyman (1916-1959) was a noted Danish children’s book illustrator, as well as the original illustrator of the Pippi chapter books.
As springtime dawns in Moominvalley and the first northern crocus opens, Moominpappa and Snorkmaiden, glamorized by the prospects of movie stars and gambling, insist the whole family take a trip down to the Riviera. Reluctantly Moomin and Moominmamma agree to go along, and the Moomins set off on a grand adventure, complete with butlers, luxury shops, indoor swimming pools, and duels at dawn. With their innocent curiosity about everything, the Moomins prove the perfect foil for the cynical, world-weary residents of the Riviera.

*Moomin on the Riviera* is a classic Moomin story reworked in full colour, with a kid-friendly size, price, and format. A delight for the whole family!

**PRAISE FOR MOOMIN**

“*Moomin is* a quirky, original comic strip masterpiece...Moomins are the vehicles through which Jansson explores everything that’s laughable, charming, laudable, and suspect about being human...the Moomin series...is the sort of thing you can read at age eight or at forty-eight and find equally gratifying.” —Myla Goldberg, *NPR*

Tove Jansson (1914-2001) was a legendary Finnish children’s book author, artist, and the creator of the Moomins, who came to life in children’s books, comic strips, theater, opera, film, radio, theme parks, and TV.