



Aya: The Secrets Come Out: Volume Three

By Marguerite Abouet, Clément Oubrerie

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Aya has captured the hearts of North American readers of all ages for the rare portrait it paints of a vibrant, happy, bourgeois Ivory Coast in the 1970s, based upon Marguerite Abouet's youth in Yop City. Not only is *Aya* complemented with Clément Oubrerie's gorgeous artwork, but the volumes also offer a slice-of-life peek into African culture: complete with recipes, glossaries, and wardrobe instructions for turning one's *pagne* (brightly colored fabric) into a skirt, head wrap, or baby carrier. Engaging and fun, the universal stories in *Aya* provide a much-needed context for today's heartbreaking news stories.

Aya is the winner of the Best First Album award at the Angoulême International Comics Festival, the Children's Africana Book Award, and the Glyph Award; was nominated for the Quill Award, the YALSA's Great Graphic Novels list, and the Eisner Award; and was included on "best of" lists in *The Washington Post*, *Booklist*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *School Library Journal*.

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Editorial Review

Review

“Oubrerie's style animates both the broadly funny and painfully grave moments in Abouet's rhythmic slice-of-life storytelling. Grade: A–” ?*The Washington Post on Aya*

“[Aya] wittily delves into both the political and the pop during an enchanted era when anything seemed possible.” ?*Vibe Vixen on Aya*

“Aya is D+Q's latest cross-cultural gift, a charming and unexpectedly cheery coming-of-age story.” ?*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

“A cliché-busting glimpse into life in modern Africa.” ?*Body + Soul*

“[The] characters and scenarios in Abouet's story present a day-to-day view of West Africa barely seen outside of newspaper blurbs summarizing the country's political strife.” ?*Venus*

“[Aya] demystifies African life with a warm and energetic new voice. ” ?*New Jersey Record*

“Abouet and Oubrerie act as convincing tour guides, presenting us with a lush, funny and humane Africa, one that's rarely depicted.” ?*Contra Costa Times*

“Abouet . . . has attempted to create something very brave in Aya--an intimate portrait of the African world that exists outside the glare of the media spotlight. ” ?*The Boston Globe*

“[Aya] brings to life an Ivory Coast not seen before--a place overflowing with vibrant, rich textiles, new words, music, food, and lively characters filled with humor, love, and the hope for a better life.” ?*Library Journal (starred review)*

About the Author

The writer **Marguerite Abouet** was born in Abidjan in 1971 and now lives outside of Paris. The artist **Clément Oubrerie** was born in Paris in 1966 and has illustrated more than forty children's books.

Users Review

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