



## Owly, Vol. 5: Tiny Tales

*Andy Runton*

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Owly is a kind-hearted little owl who knows what it means to be human.

This fifth graphic novel in the amazing all-ages Owly series collects many unpublished and out-of-print Owly tales. *Tiny Tales* kicks off with a brand-new Owly adventure. Included are the Owly Free Comic Book Day stories *Splashin' Around*, *Breakin' the Ice*, and *Helping Hands*; the very first Owly mini-comics; and rare, never before seen drawings of little Owly before he met his best friend, Wormy, and grew into the character that is loved by fans and critics alike all around the world. Other bonus material includes a Sketchbook and "How To Draw Owly" sections.

Andy Runton's animated and heartwarming style makes Owly a perfect read for everyone.

## Owly, Vol. 5: Tiny Tales Details

Date : Published October 21st 2008 by Top Shelf Productions (first published September 29th 2008)

ISBN : 9781603090193

Author : Andy Runton

Format : Paperback 173 pages

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

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## From Reader Review Owly, Vol. 5: Tiny Tales for online ebook

### Robert Beveridge says

Andy Runton, *Owly: Tiny Tales* (Top Shelf, 2008)

Owly is one of the great, mostly unheralded, treasures of graphic novel-dom this decade, and Runton's fifth Owly book is just as enchanting as those that came before it. *Tiny Tales* collects a number of short, previously uncollected Owly stories from various publications, ranging from one-page quickies to the novella-length "Splashin' Around" and "Helping Hands". Runton also includes a short section in the back of the book on the evolution of Owly, which is precious (and I mean that in the best of ways). While I appreciate (and, in fact, dearly love) gritty, realistic graphic novelists like Brian Azzarello, Garth Ennis, Brian K. Vaughan, etc., I am equally wowed by the bucolic, escapist wonder that is Owly. If you haven't yet found your way into his world, I suggest you do so at your earliest opportunity. \*\*\*\*

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### Dawn Rutherford says

Adorable as always.

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### Soobie's scared says

At first I was a bit disappointed because this volume is a collection of short stories. In the end, I think it's the best Owly book so far, thus deserving five shining stars.

Owly's got many friends now. There's even a little she-rabbit who doesn't want to get her hands dirty with soil. There's a sort of chipmunk and some ducks migrating because it's winter. Everything is sooo sweet, but not too sweet.

My favorite stories are: *Helping Hands* and *Breaking the Ice*. Those are the longer stories but also the short ones are funny.

Looking forward to hunting down more Owly's book. Not an easy task, though!

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### Chris says

My first thought was to say the Owly tales illustrate the power of optimism, but that's true only so much as Owly's attitude motivates his actions. Really, this is a series of stories about unrelenting giving, compassion, and friendship. Very simple, wordless stories with adorable art (I say adorable as someone who doesn't do saccharine or cloying). Following the sequence and understanding all the messages implied by the symbols that stand in for words when dialogue occurs can still be a sophisticated reading task, but with the right experience or older helper, these are great for kids of all ages.

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## **MissAnnThrope says**

14 February 2013

*Owly, Vol. 5: Tiny Tales* is a compilation of short stories about Owly and friends. These bite-sized portions are the perfect feel-good tasters to re-visit our favorite kind-hearted owl. I actually love the short-story format for this series. It keeps things short but sweet, and keeps the reader entirely engaged.

I love the insatiable little chipmunk. His over-stuffed cheeks and his mind constantly on food, I found him totally adorable... and relatable! But really, every single character is so sweet that you just want to hug them all.

At the end of the book, there is background given on how Owly came to be. I really enjoyed seeing Owly's evolution, and I particularly love how close this story is to Andy Runton's heart. It makes this series all the more special.

This is another wonderful addition to the series. I'm kicking myself for not getting a personal drawing from Andy Runton at Comic-Con 2012. I hope he will be there this year because I will be the first at his booth.

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## **Monica Hocking says**

Another Awesome book! Like that he tell about the beginning of this comic!

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## **Kate says**

Imagine my excitement when I saw the new Owly book on our shelves! I can't keep going on about how much I'm loving juvenile graphic novels right now because I know it has got to get old, but how about one more time for OWLY! (and then once more when the next Jellaby comes out).

So, I should say this isn't a full, brand new Owly book. It's a collection of shorter tales. Maybe Runton is just trying to keep his fans sated while he works on his next full length book. Doesn't matter, because this book is just as adorable as a regular Owly book. Most of the stories are very short, only a few pages, and just tell brief stories about Owly's daily life. He hangs out with Wormy and visits Raccoon at the Nursery and makes new friends through his activities around the woods. Now, I have been known to say to some people that I think Owly is a little on the weepy side, and there is some crying in this book, too, but I have to give Owly some credit, he doesn't cry as much in this one. (Sorry Owly).

However, the best part of this collection to me is the back section that shows us how Owly began and how he progressed. It's really cool to see how Runton started and how different Owly and Wormy look now. It's also heartening to see how something so simple and ordinary can become a major success.

Tiny Tales, thumbs up!

### **Danielle Rapoli says**

Summary/Review: Follows the main character Owly and his best friend Wormy through a series of short tales. The book rarely uses words, but rather encourages the reader to depend on the pictures to understand the story. We can't tell how Owly is feeling unless we study his facial expressions and pay attention to what happens in each panel. Skimming over pages will leave the reader asking What just happened?!  
1D Uses in classroom: 1. Can be used for all readers, but will be useful for the younger students who are just learning to read. 2. Students can create their own stories of Owly using the pictures as support and work on creative writing. 3. Useful when teaching inferences. Many students have a difficult time grasping that concept using sentences. Owly panels will have students inferring what is happening and why something may have occurred. Paired Books: Additional Owly books, Babymouse series  
Quote: Picture of seed = smiley face

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### **Hannah Givens says**

Owly is always amazing, and I really like having collections like these. Keeping track of little bonuses and minisodes is the bane of my existence, so I appreciate them being published for those who missed out the first time!

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### **Turrean says**

A wordless (well, there are a few words, but one need not read them) graphic novel, relating the further adventures of Owly and his buddy Worm. I adore this series--the book has a bit of heft to it; I have it shelved along with other chapter books. The story is surprisingly complex; even the "dialog" among the characters is told in rebus / picture form. The reader needs to pay close attention to the pictures--this is surprisingly difficult for me as an adult reader--I've grown so accustomed to the pictures being my secondary source of information in a book.

One really enjoyable aspect of the *Owly* books is that the various chapters in the story are loosely linked. This book features adventures relating to gardens and the theme of feeding and caring for the creatures who visit them. (Gardeners will feel vindicated in their own habits by how many trips Owly makes to the garden center!)

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### **Heather Collins says**

This was our first Owly book and we really love it. I have to admit, my daughter (7) and I both were not sure about it at first. Owly is written in comic style, but there are no words (well, very few words). But it is a blast "reading" Owly's tales. It takes some time but eventually you get used to the format and you get better at interpreting the story. My daughter is even better at it than me. We look forward to reading more books in this series. The illustrations are great. Owly has big emotions, and his eyes are helpful giveaways to how he

is feeling. His friend Wormie is adorable. Once you get started, you'll get hooked on Owly for sure!

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### **Maggie says**

still super cute, but I like the longer stories better

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### **Courtney Dyer says**

In volume 5 of Andy Runton's charming wordless graphic novel series, *Owly, Vol 5: Tiny Tales*, we continue to follow the adventures of Owly and his best friend Wormy through a series of eleven mini-stories, some brand new and some others from his out-of-print comic originals. In the back, Runton explains how Owly came about and even includes a section on how to draw your own Owly character.

In *Splashin' Around*, Owly and Wormy enter a contest to build the best bird bath to help the birds. In *Aw Nuts!*, Owly helps a chipmunk feel accepted when he prefers bird seeds over nuts. In *Breakin' the Ice*, Owly and Wormy offer corn to the new geese in the forest, but Chipmunk gets upset and when he tries to fix his mistake, he causes the ice to break and two forest animals end up cold and wet. In *Hangin' Up to Dry*, Owly discovers a nest of baby birds in one of his plants and has to find them a new home when he accidentally waters them. In *Bee Nice*, a humming bird doesn't want to share Owly's garden plants with the other humming birds and bugs. But Bee comes up with a plan to help him stop fighting. In *Gone Swimmin'*, Owly and Wormy have some swimmin' fun at the pond with a family of ducks. In *Let's Go Fly a Kite*, Owly and Wormy lose their kite when they help a turtle who is stuck on his back. Who will help them get it back? In *Helping Hands*, Owly helps Rabbit come over her fear of getting her hands dirty as they work together to make a birthday present for her grandpa. In *Missin' You*, Owly is going to a flying seminar and only birds are allowed so Wormy has to stay with Racoon. In the middle of the night, he really misses Owly and Racoon helps Wormy go back to sleep. In *Hatchin' Friends*, Wormy comes across a nest of eggs and he hopes that they are dinosaur eggs. In the last mini-story, *In a Fix!*, the forest is having a picnic and Owly really wants to build a picnic table, but all of his friends need his help and keep pulling him away from his project. As time is running out, Owly is rushing to get it down and accidentally loses all of the bolts. While he rushes to the store to buy more, his friends work together to find all of the missing bolts and finish building the picnic table for Owly.

The illustrations follow Runton's whimsical, animated style that perfectly capture the characters' emotions and bring the stories to life. Through his framed images, a few sound words, and dialogue-like representations, the reader is instantly drawn in. He has a true gift for characterization!

After reading all five volumes in this graphic novel series, I can honestly say that I am still as completely in love with Owly as I was in the beginning, if not more. His gentle character, love of friendship, and acts of kindness are sure to capture the hearts of readers young and old. This book is perfect for all age levels as even the youngest of readers can easily understand what is going on. As a teacher, this book is perfect for introducing young children to skills such as "reading the pictures" and for teaching older children skills like inferencing. If you love sweet stories with characters that repeatedly overcome life's many obstacles and happy endings, this series is a must read!

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**Jon(athan) Nakapalau says**

Fun and endearing tales about the little owl who is always thinking of his friends.

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**Clara Eilert says**

Good for inference and drawing conclusions lesson

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