



The Less Than Epic Adventures of TJ and Amal

E.K. Weaver

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In the span of a single day, Amal calls off his arranged marriage, comes out to his conservative parents, promptly gets disowned, goes on a bender... and wakes up the next morning to find TJ, a lanky, dreadlocked vagrant, frying eggs and singing Paul Simon in his kitchen.

TJ claims that the two have made a drunken pact to drive all the way from Berkeley to Providence. As it happens, Amal promised his sister he'd be there for her graduation from Brown University. And TJ, well... TJ has his own reasons.

The agreement is simple: Amal does the driving; TJ pays the way - but a 3500 mile journey leaves plenty of time for things to get complicated.

On the official website, click the "First Page" road sign (graphic at the top of the page) to start reading from the beginning. Or just click [here](#) to go directly to it.

The Less Than Epic Adventures of TJ and Amal Details

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From Reader Review The Less Than Epic Adventures of TJ and Amal for online ebook

Alvin says

FINAL REVIEW

I was disappointed how this ended. It was rushed. TJ was not even shown in the last chapter!

But overall, this was **A GREAT RIDE.**

I still RECOMMEND this! A great starter for those who want to dab at M/M Webcomics!!!
And it's FREE!!!

My PARTIAL REVIEW: written last March 2014

A JOURNEY THAT I HOPE WON'T END.

Oh gosh. This was amazing! It's not even finished yet. It's 1:53 am here (I should sleep already) and I'm crying like a fool.

I'm gonna try to give this a full review but hell, the story is not done. So, fuck it. XD

This is my first M/M webcomic and most definitely not my last.

It was fun, hilarious, light-hearted, damn sexy, and a little angst at a time. It was perfect for me. :D

So of course I would recommend this to you guys especially if you really like M/M romance. And by the way, it's free!!!

Camilla says

Wait.. I'm confused.. is this done? Is that the end? Is it a WIP ?

Please God, let it not be done!! I want more.. I *need* more..

Holy snap, how did I not know of this book until now? After finishing it, or what I hope is just the first half or the first 26 chapters, I really just want to give it a...

[insert standing ovation gif]

This is just So good! Its a graphic novel about TJ and Amal. They dont know each other and start out on a journey across the US of A.. TJ? Seriously.. TJ? I fucking LOVE that guy!! Holy crap.. Nothing but love for you dude! I, no joke, actually wiggled my toes because of how awesome this book is.. Toe wiggleness,

guys!? Not many books get my toes wiggling.. Just sayin.. This is *goood*!

Please let there be more TJ and Amal in the future?! Pleeease..

The Girl Murdered by Her TBR says

God damn. Me like the book. Me so speechless. Me dead because of emotions. Dead... me so dead.

Taylor says

Noooooooooooo! I need more, damn it!

This was so much fun, it had me laughing out loud at almost every page. The music and pop culture references are hilarious. My favorite was the Back to the Future drinking game, because I also know every line. :)

It's called The Less Than Epic Adventures, because its not action packed or OTT like some comics, but the characters seem so real, I swear I know these guys. I cannot wait for this to be finished.

And because I can't help myself, I'm posting one of my favorite pages (be glad I was able to narrow it down to just one):

? Silvia ? says

HELLO AND WELCOME TO MY NEW OBSESSION ([read it here](#))

I knew NOTHING about this comic when I started it and then I binged it because I couldn't put it down. People, I'm in a SLUMP. I don't binge. But I binged this.

Listen, LISTEN. The story is very simple. Read the title? "Less than epic" is not an euphemism. This is a story about a mildly adventurous road trip, and the relationship that develops between TJ and Amal.

It's easy to think that things might be rushed here. The road trip lasts about a week I believe, so at the beginning I was looking out for that instalove or instalust or whatever. But no, what I found here was one of the most naturally-developing relationships I've ever seen in a book or comic. You'll obviously have to see it for yourself because I don't want to spoil anything, but the combination of insanely good and funny dialogue, the characters' chemistry, AND the amazing art really made me *feel* for these two.

Another great thing is that even though it has a few explicit scenes, they're never there just for the sake of it. In fact, the most explicit stuff is not even shown, but what is shown is how these scenes affect the characters. You can see how they go from pure sex to sex with feelings and it's *never* about the sex alone. It's about the small things before and after, laughing and joking and just simply enjoying one another's company.

I also loved the author's art. It's great at showing small changes in facial features, mood and tone. I would have kept reading this comic if had been 3000 pages long and I wouldn't have gotten tired of it and its art style.

The narrative style is also really really good. This is a comic artist who knows what she's doing. She knows how to grip your attention for the whole 500 pages, she knows how real life dialogue works and how to make it work in a comic, she knows when to fade a scene to black and when to interrupt a chapter and how to start the next. She knows how to maximize the comical effect of a scene and how to create tension when things seem like they might go bad.

This is already quite old and I don't know why it's not getting more attention, but please do yourselves a favor and read it ASAP. It reads extremely easily and hours will go by without you noticing, and at the end if you're like me you'll dance with joy. And it's FREE unless you also want to support it (which you totally should).

Trigger warnings for alcohol and drug use.

LGBT+ rep: gay MC, bi/pan MC (both males)

Other rep: Indian MC

Ginn Hale says

I just picked up *The Less Than Epic Adventures of Tj and Amal* on the recommendation of my editor Nicole, and I pretty much didn't put it down for twenty-four hours. I kept going back and re-reading it to discover more details and take in the beauty of the whole thing.

This isn't a typical read for me since it's a graphic novel-- and not a crazy, action packed space epic but an honest, slice-of-life journey across America with two surprisingly complex and nuanced characters. Both the story and the art are fascinating in the way they capture so much genuine human experience, expression and connection.

It's amazingly rewarding to get caught up in Tj and Amal's travels; their deepening relationship and the unfolding mystery make this book as much about the sanctuary of companionship as it is about reaching any destination.

Lisa Henry says

Thanks to Leanne and Natalie for recommending this.

Love it! Not only do I love the characters, but this book makes me want to take a drive in a crappy car across the US, eat at diners, stay in cheap hotels, listen to cool music and have adventures. And possibly accidentally steal clothes from Goodwill...

I love the laugh out loud moments in this. The exchanges between Amal and TJ are sometimes hilarious, and sometimes poignant. The illustrations are mostly black and white but the occasional full page coloured illustration (usually a sunrise or a landscape) is breathtaking.

And TJ...guys, what's going on with TJ? He's a mystery wrapped in an enigma wrapped in some dreadlocks, right?

More pages, please!!!

Lauraadriana says

FABULISCOUS Funny, sweet, beautiful to look at and sooooooo friggin' smart. Like Coconut Creme Pie Baby! And I want some more.

I ❤ TJ...The boy can Motherfuckin' wear the nutsmugglin' skinny jeans :0)

I ❤ Amal He's sexay...

Leanne says

Damn. Can't believe it's finished.

And I can't say I'm all that happy with the rather abrupt way it ended. I would have been quite happy to follow these guys around for another couple of years.

Awesome art, charmingly quirky characters and something a little deeper, more thoughtful than you're likely to read in a lot of online comics.

Thanks for the ride, TJ and Amal.

And E.K, thanks for live streaming some of your work sessions. I never took part in the chat but was totally fascinated by the process.

Anastasia says

THE BEST THING I'VE READ IN A WHILE! God, it gave me so many feels. I absolutely adored it. I don't have much more to say. Only my fangirl's screams. It's a freaking masterpiece.

UPDATE: Re-read it the very next day... So good. SO GOOD.

Jenn says

Crap, I really, really love this. I think TJ might be one of the funniest characters ever. Also, the end of each chapter has some of the best random clips. I'm on Chapter 15, and almost want to stop because I don't want to wait like I have to with the other great comic, Teahouse. Teahouse is much more beautiful, but really they are very different in tone. Check them both out.

T.J. says

Loved it, loved it, loved it. More please.

Nicole says

The art in this comic is beautiful and evocative. The characters are charming and the dialogue spot on. I love this comic. Buy it in paper. It's worth it.

Sheziss says

[(hide spoiler)]

Nina says

I don't normally do comics or graphic novels or anything that's more drawn than written. But damn, this was *awesome*.

This is coming from someone who's not even close to knowing anything about art, but those panels were *beautiful* - I just wanted to keep *looking* at them. And I could just picture TJ and Amal in real life, and their expressions and quirks were so effectively and accurately rendered...

Also, the landscapes. One of them is my desktop picture right now.

And finally, the story itself and its development, which were just on fucking point. The way TJ and Amal's relationship evolves most of all, from slightly awkward acquaintances to buddies to everything I wanted it to

be.

Side note: the sexy scenes (there's not that many of them - just saying, in case you were either dreading that or anticipating that) were definitely sexy, but never porn-like. I was shocked by how explicit they managed to be while still remaining sort of understated. Like, I was looking more at hands and faces than dicks and abs, because the focus of the whole thing was more the relationship development than the rubbing and penetrating, you feel?

I have a couple niggles about a couple things, but that's just personal preference.

Bottom line: I absolutely loved this, way more than I thought I would, and got so into it I read it in one sitting even though I was planning on coming back to it whenever I was bored over the next week, since I figured 500 pages of... well, pictures wouldn't be that easy to slog through given my track record.

Super hype about this. In case you couldn't tell. Give it a shot.
