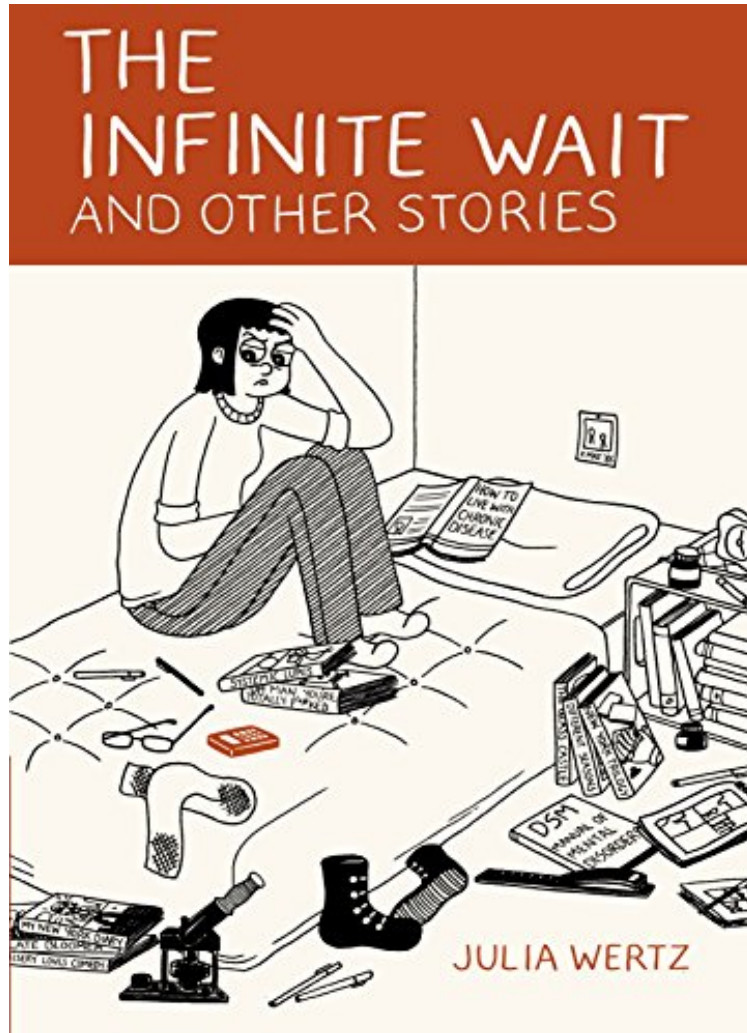


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## The Infinite Wait and Other Stories

Julia Wertz

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**Julia Wertz : The Infinite Wait and Other Stories** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Infinite Wait and Other Stories:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Arguably One of the Best By Rachel Hanover Love it. Love Julia Wertz, read all her auto-biographical stuff and this book is the most charming and relatable. The premise I agree sounds really boring, just some Gen-Xer trying to make it in the big city drawing doodles and waitressing, but what Julia Wertz does with her stories is bring that honesty that rings true. It's candid and touching, silly and depressing, you want her to succeed. Her stories are very addictive, little bite sized shots into her life and you keep saying just one more page. The art might seem offputting at first but it's like kool aid, there's nothing of substance there but it's sweet and simple, goes down easy, the simple expressions of her characters convey the humor and depression. The first time I picked up her books I didn't think I was going to enjoy them, but 2 years later I've read each one at least 3 times. This

is one of the go-to books I would use to get people into graphic novels. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great stories By Debbie Fong This book was my introduction to Julia Wertz. Having gone back and read some of her earlier work too, I think *The Infinite Wait* still stands as my favorite. These stories are very real, very funny, and I appreciate how her storytelling has become more polished over time. Stylistically, the artwork isn't my favorite but as a delivery method for these stories I think it really works. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Julia Wertz lets us into her life with this amazing comic journal. By T. Rennick Julia Wertz lets us into her life with this amazing comic journal. It will have you laughing out loud one moment and then you will be sad and heartbroken the next. All of her books that I have read I loved!

*The Infinite Wait and Other Stories* is the latest book from Julia Wertz, the critically acclaimed author of *The Fart Party Vols. 1 and Vol. 2* (Atomic Books, 2007 and 2009) and *Drinking at the Movies* (Random House, 2010). In contrast to her last book, which was a full-length graphic memoir, *The Infinite Wait* is not a sustained narrative, but rather a collection of three short stories or graphic novellas. The stories in this collection contain Wertz's signature acerbic wit, ribald humour and keen eye for the everyday, but they also find the cartoonist delving into the personal. Industry catalogues 25 years of alternately terrible and terrific jobs, from selling golf balls, feeding and failing to feed animals, waitressing, and finally to cartooning and the publication of her first book. *A Strange and Curious Place* is a love letter to Wertz's hometown library; its mysteries and revelations, and its ability foster growth, rebellion and even artistic affirmation. The most sustained narrative in the collection, the eponymous *The Infinite Wait*, chronicles Wertz's move from her small hometown to San Francisco, her diagnosis with an incurable, auto-immune disease and her subsequent discovery of comics and comic making.

Nominated for the Will Eisner Comic Industry Award for Best Reality-Based Work "*Infinite Wait*, even if lyrically titled, has everything to do with the continuum of health, illness, relapse, life and love; its take on Lupus (as well as addiction) is granular. Follow her lead, read, write-draw your own story (or help others to do so), and you'll take your life back from labs, meds, insurance denials and TV commercial cures, and start to live again." - Andrew Schechterman, *Graphic Medicine* "Each story features outrageous, insightful and painfully honest tales from various chapters of her life. Though currently spending much of her time photographing abandoned urban sites, Wertz's future in comics remains blindingly bright, evidenced by this fine, must-have collection." - Richard Pachter, *Miami Herald* "With drawings that appear simple and child-like, Wertz disarmed me, and drew me into a story that is both sardonic and poignant. She'll probably hate that description!" - Jeff Smith, author of *Bone* and *RASL* "I love the cute rubbery way she [Julia Wertz] draws, which belies her candor and her dark dark humor." - Ellen Forney, author of *Marbles: Mania, Depression, Michelangelo, and Me* (Gotham Books, 2012) "Her [Wertz's] previous books had me snorting with laughter about every other page; this one is no different. In this collection of short stories, it's easy to go for laughs when describing your long history of bad jobs, not so easy to get at the funnybone when discussing being diagnosed with lupus when you are just twenty years old." - Cynthia Clark Harvey, *Phoenix New Times* "Wertz's sassy sense of humor was an absolute riot to read, for even during the more serious situations she still remained her usual self. Highly relatable if you're just entering into your 20's, enjoy your booze, or if you've ever had to work in the food industry, for it sucks. A lot." - Cameron Hatheway, *Bleeding Cool* "Wertz has a sarcastic, funny quip for every situation she finds herself in. There used to be a feature in *MAD Magazine* when I was a kid called "Snappy Answers to Stupid Questions." *The Infinite Wait* reads like "Snappy Answers to Stupid Questions" with a plot." - Robert Boyd, *The Great God Pan is Dead* "With an internal gaze that's unflinching and unforgiving, Wertz blows all comers out of the water. Her honesty is searing, caustic, strengthening and yet not without fear. Her truths are coated in an equally zingy humour, a cloak that makes them less scary and more manageable" - Zainab Akhtar, *The Comics Beat* "Wertz has shown us her drunken side, but has never talked about her battle with Systemic Lupus like she does here in both a heart-wrenching and heart-warming way. While one of her more serious works, it's still told with that great sense of humor we've all come to love. She just gets better and better!" - Jimmy Aquino, *Boing Boing* "Wertz has grown by leaps and bounds into one of comics' best memoirists and funniest writers, and one gets the sense that the best is yet to come from her. By going over old territory with new insights, Wertz not only makes those older books better in light of what is revealed here, she has also crafted a moving and funny new work that's the best of her career to date." - Rob Clough, *The Comics Journal* "The *Infinite Wait* is a welcome leap forward for her [Julia Wertz's] storytelling skills, a book full of the small moments in life and the big fears as well." - Kiel Phegley, *Comic Book Resources*