

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Ted Rall is fearless. The memoir is not just a revealing and entertaining account of Rall's misspent youth, but a gritty, alternative take on Manhattan in the boom years of the eighties."
ALLISON BECHDEL



**POLITICAL CARTOONIST AND BIOGRAPHER
TED RALL CONFESSES ABOUT HIS WORST YEAR,
THE YEAR OF LOVING DANGEROUSLY
Now in paperback**

1984 was the nadir of Ted Rall's life. A series of circumstances lead to absolutely everything falling apart. Kicked out of Columbia, dropped by his long-term girlfriend, booted out of work, nothing could have gone worse. Relying on Mom was abhorrent. Suicide seemed the way out. By chance however, he met women, here, there. Putting up appearances, he managed to float from bedroom to bedroom to survive and became, well, a gigolo.

Rall is quite frank about this experience carrying no glory and the toll it took on his self-esteem. Here not having a woman one night meant living in the gutter without a crumb in his stomach.

Beautifully and compassionately portrayed by Pablo Callejo who has already made a name for himself with the indie best-seller *Bluesman* as well as *Castaways*, both written by Rob Vollmar and also from NBM, this graphic novel marked a new turning point for the artist as he moved into full color painting. Ted Rall had in fact never worked with an artist, always doing the illustrating himself in his idiosyncratic way. The pairing has brought a new dimension to Rall's writing and storytelling. This new larger paperback edition brings out the beauty of the art while also taking the occasion to revise to adhere closely to the original intent of portraying destitution and what it can lead to, a decidedly inglorious moment luckily saved by very loose mores of the day.

We are also treated here to a carefully documented reconstruction of the early eighties, undergoing a nostalgic renaissance, bringing us back into the New York of *Desperately Seeking Susan* or *9 1/2 Weeks*, broadcasting to the world a city reborn from years of crime, filth, and near bankruptcy, showing new vibrancy as a desirable hub... but still 'leading edge.'

Ted Rall lives on Long Island with his son (who loves the eighties). He is available for interviews. For this and more information, contact our publicist Stefan Blitz (publicity@nbmpub.com).

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