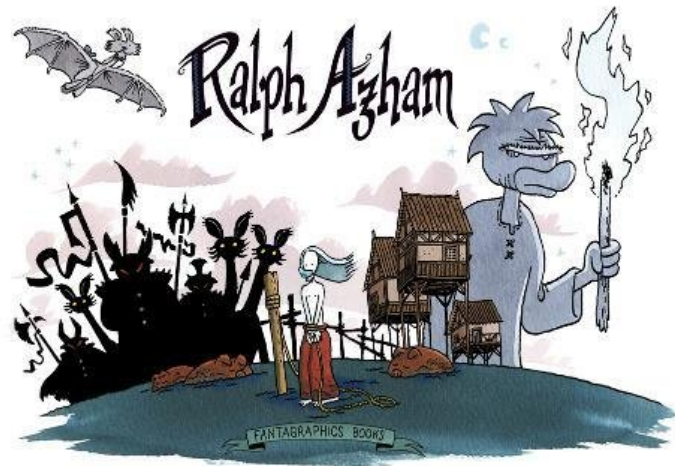


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## Ralph Azham: "Why Would You Lie To Someone You Love?" (Vol. 1)

Lewis Trondheim

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**Lewis Trondheim : Ralph Azham: "Why Would You Lie To Someone You Love?" (Vol. 1)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ralph Azham: "Why Would You Lie To Someone You Love?" (Vol. 1):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Can't go Wrong with TrondheimBy jameslewisI love Lewis Trondheim as an artist and a storyteller. This book is slightly more on the serious side than some of his previous works, the main character is a pariah in his village and a somewhat sad character. A great opening to what is surely going to be an adventurous tale. Can't wait to see where it goes.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. TitleBy Matthew J. GoebelPretty cool story with a few twists and turns, I find I consistantly like Lewis' work. Hope to see the second book soon.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful hand-crafted fantasy from a master cartoonistBy Michael 'De Smurfhrer' ThomsenI'll admit that I'm not much of a fantasy fan, and I've pretty much given up on Trondheim and Joann Sfar's too convoluted "Dungeon" series - I prefer his autobiographical books. However this new series looked beautiful, so I decided to give it a try.I'm a big fan of Trondheim's art - he's clearly one of the worlds greatest living cartoonists. This book is absolutely beautiful. It's got a lovely handcrafted quality that is too rare these days, when everything (particularly in mainstream comics) tends to look too computer-crafted. The hand-coloring by Trondheim's wife Brigitte Findakly is stunning. Great husband/wife team! It's almost as good as the classic collaborations between Frank Miller and Lynn Varley.Instead of printing the art (originally in the large European album-format) too small, like NMB did with the Dungeon series, Fantagraphics has split that pages up into landscape format, apparently in full collaboration with Trondheim. It works a treat - it's a nice handy little book.The story did manage to sustain my interest, yes, it's fantasy, but there are a lot of interesting things going on, and the plot develops in unexpected ways. It's dark and fairly grown-up, if not quite adult.At times it reminded me of a slightly more grown-up version of Stan Sakai's Usagi Yojimbo, well except not set in old Japan, obviously. It should appeal to people who've grown up on Sakai and on Jeff Smith's "Bone" and want something that's a little bit weirder and more grown-up.Good book! I'll be buying further volumes. Oh, and fantasy-buffs should probably add a fifth star to my

rating.

This is a new fantasy-adventure graphic novel series by Lewis Trondheim. Within his tiny village, Ralph Azham is considered an insolent good-for-nothing layabout, a virtual pariah particularly since he was supposed to be a Chosen One. (Things didn't work out.) Yet his odd azure coloration and a few unique abilities (he can predict births and deaths) suggest that there may be more to him than meets the eye. And when the terrifying Horde stages one of its regular raids on his village, Ralph takes the young Raoul under his wing and sets out for a series of adventures... Trondheim is already well known to fantasy buffs for the worldwide success *Dungeon*, the complex set of interlocking series he created with fellow cartoonist Joann Sfar and a raft of artists. While Ralph Azham works within the same genre, this is a far more tightly focused, single-character-starring new series for which Trondheim is solely responsible that is, except for the stunningly rich coloring, provided by his longtime collaborator Brigitte Findakly working in hand-executed watercolors for the first time in over a decade. Witty and fleet-footed like all of Trondheim's work, madly inventive in terms of characters, creatures, and events, Ralph Azham is scheduled to run for at least six volumes and is presented in a distinctive landscape format. Yes

From Booklist Trondheim's *Dungeon* graphic novels (created with fellow French luminary Joann Sfar) have long been a treat of postmodern sword and sorcery satire. Now, English readers can dig into another fantasy series populated by his distinctive anthropomorphized animals and distinguished by equal parts cutting humor and bizarre plot twists. A village pariah ever since he failed to live up to his chosen one promise as a child, Ralph has an insufferable ability to grate on everyone's nerves that is only outweighed by the impending threat of the Horde, who have been dishing out regular doses of annihilation and ruin for centuries. What seems like a good, old-fashioned unlikely-hero tale in the making actually turns out to be more complex and slippery, as Ralph's past gets sliced in bit by bit as we gradually learn about the world he inhabits, all leading to a blindsiding reveal and a tantalizing finish. Trondheim's cartooning is as saucy and quirky as ever in this first of six volumes that promises more endearing oddities to come. --Ian Chipman It's just so f\*\*\*ing funny and sad at the same time; Trondheim nails the measurements of humour, pathos, drama -- all of it, perfectly here. --Zainab Akhtar"About the Author Lewis Trondheim (one of the co-founders of the comics collective L'Association) lives and works in Montpellier, France. He won the career-spanning Angoulême International Comics Festival Grand Prize in 2006. Kim Thompson was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1956 and joined Fantagraphics in 1977. He lives in Seattle with his wife, his dog, and his thousands of comics.