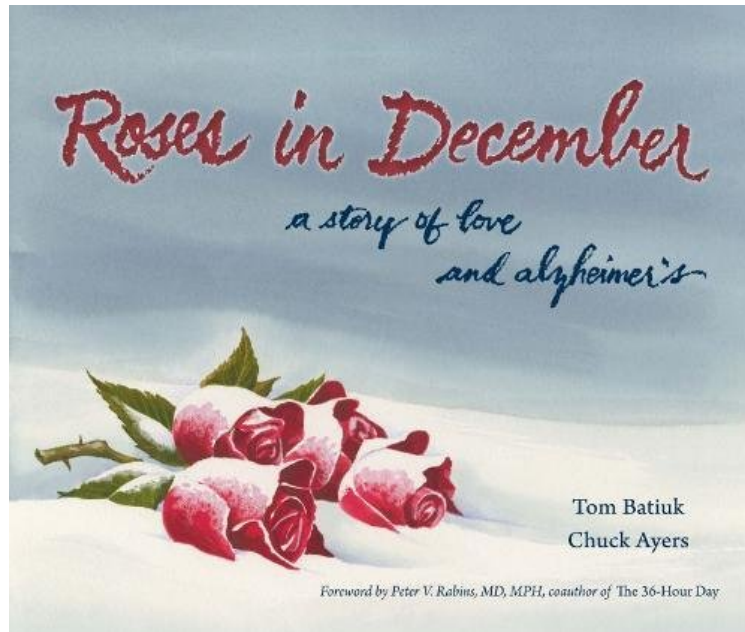


(Mobile library) Roses in December: A Story of Love and Alzheimer's (Literature and Medicine)

Roses in December: A Story of Love and Alzheimer's (Literature and Medicine)

Tom Batiuk

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Tom Batiuk : Roses in December: A Story of Love and Alzheimer's (Literature and Medicine) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Roses in December: A Story of Love and Alzheimer's (Literature and Medicine)*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The comics made me cry! By Wanda S. This story--a surprising find in the comics, made me cry! BUT it also inspired me to write about love--found, then lost, but proven, in the end, to be love of souls--connected again before death. The underlying fact of aging and memory loss is reality to many, but the ability to remember roses in December is a sought after memory we can wish for ourselves. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer A great read for any one caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's. Highly recommended!

Laughter and pain, love and loss "Stories told in comic strips aren't generally intended to be book-length narratives, but, on occasion, a story rises above the rest of the work and marks itself as something special. [*Roses in December*] is one of those stories." - from the Preface Since its debut in 1987, *Crankshaft* has engendered reader loyalty and affection with its wry wit, engaging storylines, and identifiable characters. Created by Tom Batiuk and drawn by Chuck Ayers, the strip offers plenty of humor but also tackles serious issues like adult literacy, school violence, and the challenges of aging. *Roses in December* is a touching collection of two *Crankshaft* storylines of characters who find themselves dealing with the incurable condition of Alzheimer's disease. First, Ed Crankshaft's best friend Ralph is confronted with the trauma of his wife Helen's worsening Alzheimer's. He never knows if the love of his life will recognize him on those days that he visits her at Sunny Days Nursing Home. Ralph and Helen's love story unfolds

with humor and heartbreak. In the second story arc, Crankshaft's neighbor Lucy McKenzie also exhibits symptoms of Alzheimer's and eventually is moved to Sunny Days Nursing Home by her sister Lillian. The fourteen-year struggles of Lucy, Helen, and their loved ones are elegantly told, preserving their dignity and reminding us that sometimes a sense of humor can be our greatest possession during life's trials. Through the deceptively simple medium of the daily comic strip, Tom Batiuk and Chuck Ayers address the profound effects of Alzheimer's disease in a thoughtful and occasionally humorous way. *Roses in December* includes a resource guide for caregivers, patients, and practitioners.

About the Author Tom Batiuk is a graduate of Kent State University. His *Funky Winkerbean* and *Crankshaft* comic strips are carried in more than 600 newspapers worldwide and have an audience of more than 60 million readers. Written by Batiuk, *Crankshaft* was syndicated in 1987. Chuck Ayers is a graduate of Kent State University. Following graduation, he became the editorial cartoonist for the *Akron Beacon Journal*. He's been the artist on *Crankshaft* since its inception.