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## **Dropsie Avenue: The Neighborhood (The Will Eisner Library)**

*Will Eisner*

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**Will Eisner : Dropsie Avenue: The Neighborhood (The Will Eisner Library)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dropsie Avenue: The Neighborhood (The Will Eisner Library):

From Publishers Weekly An acknowledged master of the comics medium who has been instrumental in its creative and business development since the early 1930s, Eisner (*Contract With God*, *To the Heart of the Storm*) virtually invented the serious American book-length comics narrative. But his fiction has problems. *Dropsie Avenue* is an ambitious story of the life, death and incipient rebirth of a South Bronx neighborhood, much like the one Eisner grew up in, over the span of a 120 years. While the work details the Dutch, Irish and English settlers, the once-rural borough's urban transformation and the waves of immigrants and social trauma that followed, it is terribly flawed by a cloying sentimentality and a hollow, stereotypic rendering of the ethnic experience. Even his virtuoso draughtsmanship and composition appear to have ossified into self-imitation and pictorial cliché. Despite his obvious affection for urban life, Eisner reduces decades of social patterns to unsatisfying, symbolic characterizations that awkwardly represent an era, rather than embodying genuinely wrought, particularized human interaction. Drawings are in bw. Copyright 1995 Cahners Business Information, Inc.