



Imagining Lynd Ward

DAVID A BERONÄ

INTRODUCTION BY ERIC DROOKER

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Imagining Lynd Ward is available from the publisher at freedomvoices.org or can be ordered from your favorite bookstore. It is also available at amazon.com

Author David A. Beronä was a historian of woodcut novels and wordless comics who published and presented papers widely on wordless books. He is the author of *Wordless Books: The Original Graphic Novels*, Abrams, New York, 2008. Beronä served on the editorial board of the *International Journal of Comic Art*. He was the director of Lamson Library at Plymouth State University, New Hampshire, and visiting faculty member at the Center for Cartoon Studies, White River Junction, Vermont.

In this new book the life of graphic novel artist Lynd Ward (1905-1985) as told by author and scholar David A. Beronä consists of a series of vignettes, each accompanied by relief prints illustrating the story.

The vignettes include descriptions of the childhood of Lynd Ward, his marriage, his graphic woodcut novels, and his later illustrated children's books. Renowned graphic novel artist Eric Drooker provides an introduction to both Lynd Ward as well as the author.

David A. Beronä's insights into the life of Lynd Ward are based on a lifetime of research into the history of the graphic novel. He investigated the roots of contemporary graphic novels through the wordless novels of Lynd Ward, Frans Masereel and others. Beronä wrote the prefaces to many new editions of these woodcut novels. He also had an ongoing friendship with the daughters of Lynd Ward, and visited the family retreat on a lake in Canada that served as a refuge for Ward.

Imagining Lynd Ward includes the work of seven contemporary artists who created relief prints (woodcut and linoleum cut) to illustrate each of the sections of the book. The artists are from a wide background, across the US and in France, and represent a variety of approaches to the relief print in storytelling. The illustrators include Olivier Deprez, Jules Remedios Faye, Drew Grasso, Art Hazelwood, Frances Jetter, Billy Simms, Kurt Brian Webb.

