

= Ozy and Millie =

Ozy and Millie is a webcomic , created by D. C. Simpson syndicated by North America Syndicate , which debuted in January 1997 . The comic was part of Keenspot from 2001 to 2003 , going independent for several years before returning to Keenspot in November 2006 . It follows the adventures of assorted anthropomorphized animals . New strips were released on most weekdays , though the comic 's run ended in 2008 . The comic centers on Ozy and Millie , two young foxes attending North Harbordale Elementary School in Seattle , contending with everyday elementary school issues such as tests and bullies , as well as more surreal situations . Although the strip ceased being produced in 2008 , it is currently being re @-@ run on GoComics .

The strip concentrates on character interaction , but sometimes veers into commentary based on Simpson 's political views . Most of the strips have been reprinted in book form . Five collections were released through Plan 9 Publishing , but they have all gone out of print ; currently a complete set of the strip 's archives is available through Lulu.com. The strip is listed in the top 200 most read webcomic on The Webcomic List .

= = History = =

Ozy and Millie originally started as a print comic strip in a Washington college newspaper , the Copper Point Journal , in 1997 using ink and brush as drawing implements . Simpson claims to have been influenced by comics and cartoons such as Bloom County , Calvin and Hobbes , The Simpsons and Pogo . It became an irregular webcomic in early 1998 . In June 1998 , it became a Monday @-@ Friday daily strip . In the same year , Simpson won a newspaper syndicates ' college cartoonist award . When the strip began , Simpson 's artistic style was similar to that in Calvin and Hobbes . In 2000 , the strip went on hiatus and returned with a new , unique style . The strip also went on hiatus several times . It was once on hiatus for five months , between August 23 , 2003 to January 22 , 2004 . Between January 30 , 2004 , and January 12 , 2009 Simpson also ran another strip , I Drew This , a webcomic specifically about her political views , which also appear in Ozy and Millie . In 2002 , the strip won the Web Cartoonist 's Choice Awards for " Best Anthropomorphic Comic " . Ozy and Millie also won the 2006 and 2007 Ursa Major Awards for " Best Anthropomorphic Comic Strip " .

= = Characters = =

= = = Ozy = = =

Ozymandias Justin Llewellyn is a ten @-@ year @-@ old fox of an unidentified species ( also called an " Adolescent Gray Zen Fox " ) who attends North Harbordale Elementary School in Seattle , together with his friend Millie . He was originally supposed to be a wolf , until a fan showed Simpson a photo of Arctic fox cubs , that Simpson claimed were " absolute ringers " for Ozy . However , Ozy retained his whisker marks . Ozy 's full name , Ozymandias Justin Llewellyn , is a reference to the poem Ozymandias by Percy Bysshe Shelley .

Ozy is recognised by his large top hat , which he got from his father Llewellyn when he adopted Ozy . The only other clothing he wears is a vest , which makes him the target of some of Millie 's practical jokes . He is adept at letting Millie 's pranks pass by without effect , but he does suffer bullying at the hands of the school jock , Jeremy , who likes to stuff Ozy into rubbish bins . Ozy also suffers from annual baldness , usually through either a freak accident or because of Millie . Although it is caused by a gypsy curse ( later revealed by Llewellyn to be a myth ) which has passed on through Ozy 's adoptive father 's heritage largely unnoticed , it does affect Ozy badly since he is the first Llewellyn with any hair to lose . Ozy is also quiet and serene , usually playing the " straight person " . Under Llewellyn 's guidance , Ozy also practices Zen ; or rather a humorous version of it .

Ozy is told by Llewellyn that his birth mother 's name was Shelley and that she disappeared after

discovering perfection when she created the " perfect " ice cream flavor , but since absolute perfection is incompatible with the world , she ascended to a higher plane of existence .

Ozy 's father left before he was born and become a monk . The pair met when the monk came to town for a visit , though Ozy decided to stay with Llewellyn , whom he considered his " true " dad .

= = = Millie = = =

Millicent Mehitabel Mudd , better known as Millie , is a ten @-@ year @-@ old red fox girl who is Ozy 's best friend . Millie is usually seen wearing a set of blue denim overalls . Unlike Ozy , who is calm , Millie is chaotic and manic , both in the destruction she leaves behind and the ways she devises of avoiding work . She is a rebel and is opposed to any form of authority , which regularly leads to confrontations with both her teacher , Ms. Sorkowitz , and her mother , Mililani Mudd . Her destructive and rebellious habits not only get herself into trouble , but Ozy too . Her most infamous antic was giving Ozy a haircut only to accidentally shave off all his fur . Although she is normally manic , she also has a strong sense of justice , facing the inexplicable wrongs of life and the world she sees . However , her rebellions are mostly limited to annoying her mother , playing jokes on Ozy and disrupting the peace at school . None of which matters any less to her , as long as she has fun doing it . Millie says aloud what others think , and does what others , for fear of reaction from the people around them , would not dare . She , like Ozy , often tries to answer the most important questions in life , but her method of finding the answers makes her unique .

= = = Llewellyn = = =

Ozy 's adoptive father , known only as Llewellyn , is a red dragon . Llewellyn and other members of his dragon family have been responsible for running several secret conspiracies . He also lends both Ozy and Millie advice , although his advice tends to be nonsense . He has also tried to run for U.S. president ? first under the " Rainbow Peace Party " in 1968 , the " People With Nothing Better To Do " Party in 2000 , then under the " Zen Party " in 2004 and 2008 . He also runs his house as a separate nation : Greater Llewellynland . His favourite pastime is playing the " House Rules Parcheesi " , a game which has many , very complicated rules , that is claimed to be rather opposite to Calvinball . Llewellyn married Millie 's Mother at the end of the Daily Strip . Of all the characters in Ozy and Millie , Simpson has claimed that Llewellyn is her favorite .

= = = Ms. Mudd = = =

Ms. Mililani Minerva Mudd , Millie 's mother , is a lawyer , who is as an older , wiser , more temperate version of Millie . She was like Millie in her childhood , and as a result knows how to deal with any trouble caused by her , much to Millie 's annoyance . While Ms. Mudd knows how to deal with Millie , she is also the first to lend her support if there is anything amiss . She married Llewellyn at the end of the strip 's run in a storyarc from November ? December 2008 . Her full name was revealed on October 1 , 2008 .

= = = Other characters = = =

Other characters in Ozy and Millie include Avery , a raccoon friend who constantly tries to be " cool , " even ditching his " uncool " friends such as Ozy . Ironically , his friend Stephan the aardvark is the nerdiest character in the strip . Avery 's younger brother , Timulty , constantly undermines his coolness . The two major antagonists are Felicia the sheep , a " popular girl " who teases Millie for being too individualistic , and Jeremy the jock rabbit who bullies Ozy .

Other minor characters include Ms. Sorkowitz , Ozy and Millie 's kangaroo teacher and Principal Beau Vine , the bull principal of the school who allows bullying believing that , " Repeated exposure to unprovoked assault squelches unhealthy nonconformist tendencies . " Dr. I. Wahnsinnig ( German for insane or mad ) , is a ring @-@ tailed lemur psychiatrist of the school who fights with

Vine over school issues . Ozy 's dragon cousin Isolde is another character who , like Llewellyn , is in charge of various conspiracies . Another character is Pirate Captain Locke , a child pirate from an alternate dimension on the other side of Llewellyn 's couch , in which people age backwards . Locke , currently the same age as Millie , is also her biological father .

= = Reception = =

Critic Fred Patten is one of the main supporters of the strip . In 2001 , he wrote that the strip was , " a gently humorous fantasy with a liberal political philosophy . " In 2006 , Patten still claimed that , " Ozy and Millie is one of the top anthropomorphic cartoon strips on the Internet , " although he did also comment negatively about the loss of colour in between changes of printed editions of books . The comic is also popular because of its relatively inoffensive content , with one person writing that it was , " Suitable for readers of all ages , really . "

= = Collected editions = =

Two series of Ozy and Millie books have been formed , the first of which was discontinued and replaced by the second . Simpson wrote that she would " be condensing the first five books into three that will be larger but cost the same , and making them as comprehensive as I can make them . " Editorial cartoonist Ted Rall included six pages of interview illustrated with Ozy and Millie strips in Attitude 3 : The New Subversive Online Cartoonists .

= = = Discontinued books = = =

= = = Current books = = =