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Killing And Dying



Synopsis

Included on Best of 2015 lists from Washington Post and Publishers Weekly! A New York Times bestseller!"As a serious cartoonist, one secretly hopes to create â œThat Bookâ •: a book that can be passed to a literary-minded person who doesnâ™t normally read comics; one that doesnâ™t require any explanation or apology in advance and is developed enough in its attitude, humanity and complexity that it speaks maturely for itself... Adrian Tomineâ™s Killing and Dying may finally be That Book, and Iâ™m amazed and heartened by it."â •Chris Ware, author of Building StoriesKilling and Dying is a stunning showcase of the possibilities of the graphic novel medium and a wry exploration of loss, creative ambition, identity, and family dynamics. With this work, Adrian Tomine (Shortcomings, Scenes from an Impending Marriage) reaffirms his place not only as one of the most significant creators of contemporary comics but as one of the great voices of modern American literature. His gift for capturing emotion and intellect resonates here: the weight of love and its absence, the pride and disappointment of family, the anxiety and hopefulness of being alive in the twenty-first century. "Amber Sweet" shows the disastrous impact of mistaken identity in a hyper-connected world; "A Brief History of the Art Form Known as Hortisculpture" details the invention and destruction of a vital new art form in short comic strips; "Translated, from the Japanese" is a lush, full-color display of storytelling through still images; the title story, "Killing and Dying", centers on parenthood, mortality, and stand-up comedy. In six interconnected, darkly funny stories, Tomine forms a quietly moving portrait of contemporary life. Tomine is a master of the small gesture, equally deft at signaling emotion via a subtle change of expression or writ large across landscapes illustrated in full color. Killing and Dying is a fraught, realist masterpiece.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Adrian Tomine is the master of the "Slice Of Life" stories and here are six recent stories collected together in a very handsome hardcover. It has a sewn binding with quality paper. The book cover is clear plastic with only the title on it. A very creative package. Five of these stories are from Tomine's magazine Optic Nerve (issues #12 to #14). The sixth from Kramers Ergot #7 has been retitled and changed from its original appearance. The lead story A Brief History Of The Art Of "Hortisculpture" is a story about a man and his dumb invention. Tomine structures this story to look like a newspaper strip. You get six black and white daily strips followed by a large full page color strip. The theme of trying to say something to a loved one about their life's dream which you know is totally unrealistic is something we have all experienced. Alice Sweet the next story is the one from Kramers Egot. It is about a girl who finds out she looks just like a famous "Porn Star". This one is beautifully illustrated by Adrian Tomine in full color and wide open panels. Go Owls is a heartbreaker about a girl who settles in a relationship mainly because she has no other place to live. Translated, from the Japanese is very traditional little story told in a very untraditional format. It is a story of a mother and her young child reconnecting with the father. It is very ground breaking in that Tomine never once depicts any of these three characters or the man she meets on the airplane at all. Killing and Dying is the title story about an untalented fourteen year old girl who wants to be a comedian, meanwhile something very tragic is going on in the background. The story is told in postage stamp size 20 panel grid.

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