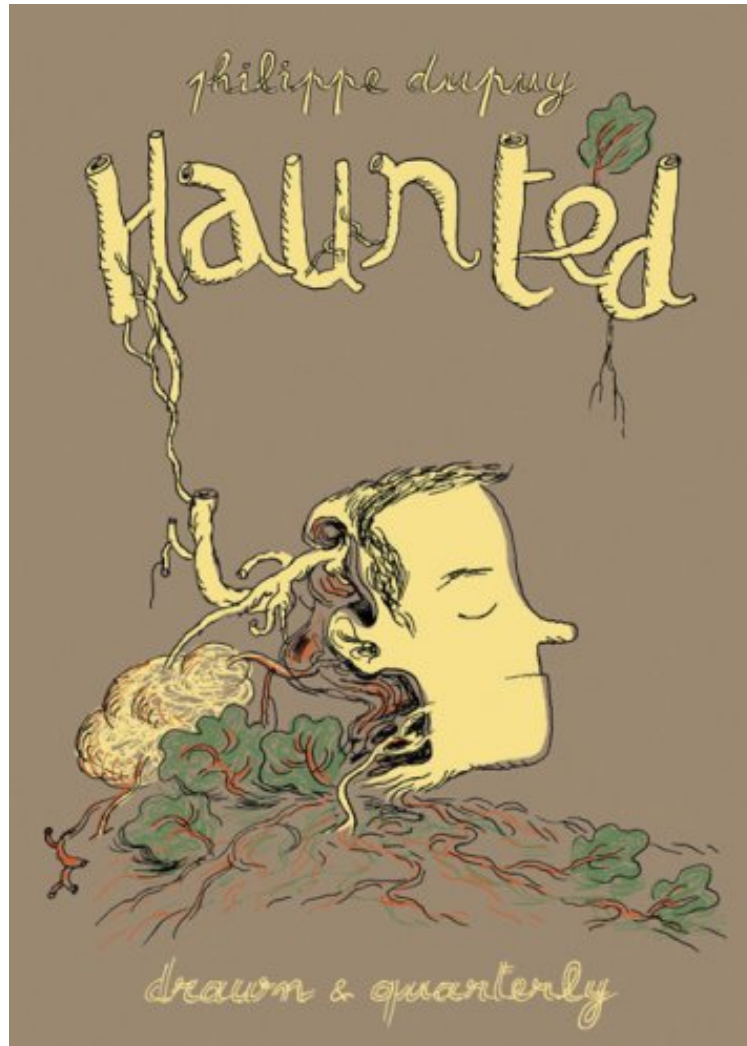


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Haunted

Philippe Dupuy

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Philippe Dupuy : Haunted before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Haunted:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. HauntingBy Sam QuixoteFresh from the success of the full colour spectacular that was "Get A Life" by Philippe Dupuy and Charles Berberian, and the non-fiction book "Maybe Later", Dupuy here goes solo with a book of sketches and shorts far from his "Monsieur Jean" character and that world."Haunted" is framed by Dupuy taking up running. Dupuy goes running then encounters something, an old woman, a dog, a random thought, which turns into a story. Among the many stories included are: the story of a dog whose leg is caught in a bear trap and has to gnaw it off, Dupuy meeting a talking dog and falling down a well, a surreal journey through time and space with a homeless woman, a dream like sequence where he talks to his dead

mother while running alongside her, a story where Dupuy imagines rats gnawing at his insides, meeting a talking worldly duck who dispenses wisdom from his luxurious duck house (probably bought by a Tory MP). There are also stories without Dupuy in them. A starving Parisien artiste seeks to create true art, a strange "Forest Friends" strip where talking animals console their friend who has recently lost an arm, and a Mexican wrestler who can't fight a girl who enters his ring. All of the strips are drawn in sketch style with never any lining or colours or shades, and it's all in black and white. The style suits the stories which seem to be drawn from memory or a dream that's nearly faded. It's a book that lingers in your mind long after you've put it down and it's easy to see why it's garnered so many awards. Drawn and Quarterly have as always done the book justice by binding it in a hardback with quality paper. It's a fascinating book, an excellent comic, and a great read from one of France's best living comics artists.

A surprising, wry, and deeply moving reflection on despair and the way back out. Ten years after finishing the original French edition of *Maybe Later* the book in which the French superstar cartooning duo Philippe Dupuy and Charles Berberian worked separately for the first time Dupuy set out on his own again with *Haunted*. Gone are the tightly constructed narratives and urbane, elegant graphics of his projects with Berberian. In their place, roughed-in drawings give an urgent, spontaneous feeling to a series of hallucinatory stories and dreamlike sequences that register the raw distress of solitude and self-doubt. The dark core of the material held in balance by Dupuy's acid humor and lyrical sensibility. A jogging Dupuy runs around and sometimes through the stories of the misfit characters that haunt him: a self-amputating dog, a Left Bank artist in search of emptiness, an art-collecting duck, Lucha Libre wrestlers, and a group of single guys at the watering hole imagined as the anthropomorphic "Forest Friends." Heart pumping, gaze turned inward, the ground occasionally giving way beneath his feet, this alter ego concludes that sometimes you need to cross the line to figure out where it is. The original French edition of *Haunted* was nominated for the 2006 award for Best Comic Book at the Angoulême International Comics Festival.

From Publishers Weekly. Best known for the Mr. Jean series that he collaborates on with Charles Berberian, Dupuy strikes out on his own in a graphic novel first published in French in 2006. Looking more like the sketches for a novel than the novel itself, Dupuy's loosely imagined fantasy is structured around an episodic series of Run Movies wherein the runner has incidental encounters and thoughts. Interspersed with these episodes are recollections of dreams, presumably from the runner's unconscious, of uncommon darkness (usually of the violently sexual mythological variety). Eventually the two series begin to merge, as in Run Movie #3, wherein the runner falls into an empty museum and is informed by a barking dog that oddly enough, bare spaces sometimes invite the most curiosity. Dupuy's loose sketches evoke the occasional shiver of discomfort, but sometimes he brings the dark dream world into sharp focus. In one story, the runner encounters an erudite duck living in a fantastically large house, after which the two have a conversation that begins in the ridiculous but ultimately edges into the sublime. While Dupuy's artwork and sometimes cruel-seeming viewpoint toward his characters repel at first, eventually the book becomes like a dream itself, next to impossible to resist. (Mar.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist. French cartoonist Dupuy is best known as half of the team that produces the long-running chronicles of Parisian Everyman Monsieur Jean. In *Maybe Later* (2006), he and Charles Berberian each showed what they were capable of producing separately. Now Dupuy reveals a darker, less-conventional side in this rough-hewn work depicting his thoughts and encounters on his daily jogs. He meets, or imagines he meets, his deceased mother and an art-collecting duck, and muses upon a dog that chews off its paw to escape a trap and a boy born with no hands the embodiment of a cartoonist's greatest fear. Other pieces portray a temperamental artist, a clique of anthropomorphic forest animals, and Mexican wrestlers. The polished visual approach of the Monsieur Jean stories is abandoned for a spontaneous, sketchlike look appropriate to the dreamlike quality of the stories. The self-doubting Dupuy is far less ingratiating than the sympathetic Jean, but the wry humor with which he confronts his demons and his powerful visual sense make for an equally rewarding, if less purely enjoyable, reading experience. --Gordon Flagg. About the Author. Born in Paris, Philippe Dupuy has been working in comics for nearly thirty years, mostly in collaboration with Charles Berberian, creating strips about their well-known character Mr. Jean.