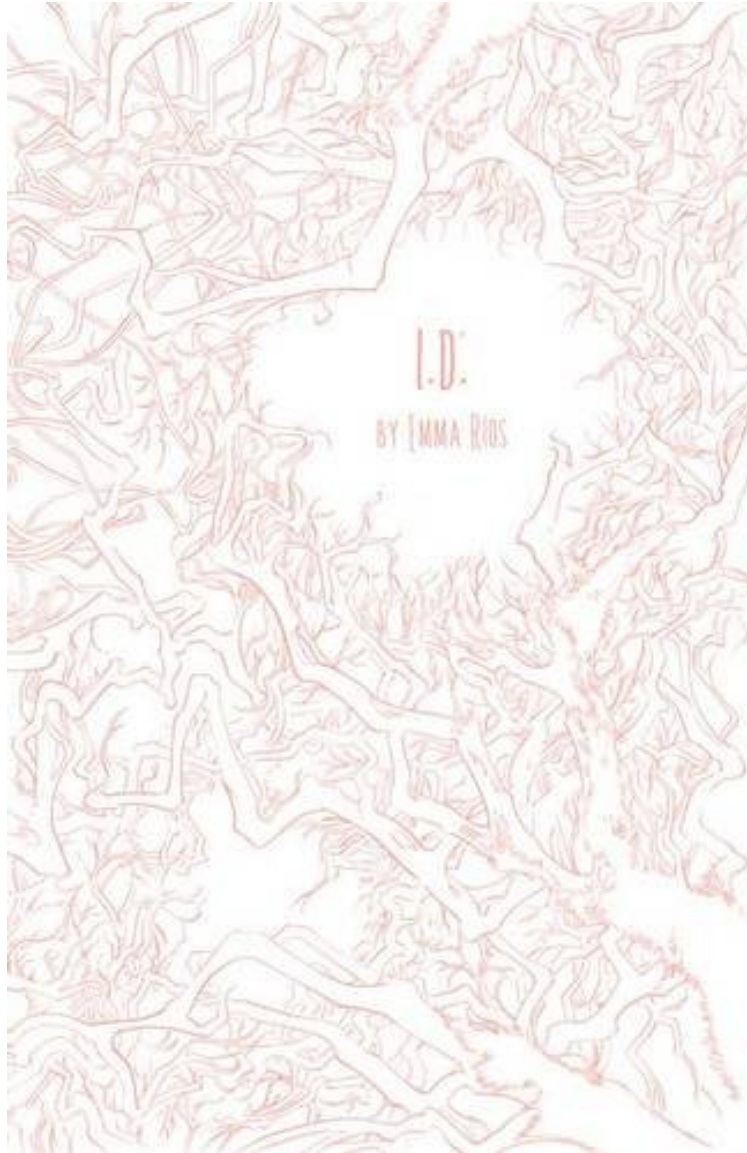


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Emma Rios

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Emma Rios : I.D. before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised I.D.:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. intriguing premise but execution doesn't quite deliverBy B. CapossereEmma Rios I.D. is a graphic story with a good premise, and some flashes of excellent artwork, but overall the illustration style didnt work for me, while the characters and plot werent developed enough for my liking.It begins with a trio of seemingly mismatched people conversing in a coffeeshop, and one of those aforementioned flashes of

brilliance come via the page after we see a pull-back view of the three at their table. The next page is a series of fifteen close up of eyes, fingers, hands, and coffee cups conveying in wonderfully expressive and economic fashion the discomfort these three feel. It turns out that discomfort comes from the three (Noa, Charlotte, Mike) being newly met thanks to all of them contemplating a full body transplant for reasons of their own. The work, originally done as several serialized graphics and now collected into a single book, follows the three as they bond over the impending operation, learn the details in a scene set in the medical center, and then post-op as well, all it set in a near-future on a semi-terraformed Mars against a backdrop of class/labor violence, including some that suddenly interrupt their conversation. The first thing readers will notice is Rios use of a red palette throughout. This I argue works better in concept than execution. Conceptually its a nice connection both to the setting (the red of Mars) and the plot (red being a color so viscerally associated with the body). Execution-wise, I found it muddied the action (though this might have been an issue regardless of the color), sometimes to the point of making it very difficult to tell who was doing what. On the other hand, the use of varied angles of points-of-view was a plus with regard to the artwork. The story bogs down in some clunky exposition at times. The first conversation feels a little forced, and the scene set in the med center, basically a presentation on the process by the lead scientist, is tech/exposition heavy. My biggest two issues with I.D., though, were plot and characters. Plot-wise, the story feels thin as it is, but mostly just ends, I thought, far too abruptly. With such a strong premise, Rios had much more room to develop the primary story more fully, as well as the background, which basically just gets dropped and lost in the shuffle. The brevity of I.D. also hurts character development. The characters have some complexity to them, some twists and turns and revelations, but it all happens too fast and is declaimed rather than unfolding. Thanks to the issues with plot, character, and art therefore, I cant recommend I.D. But given I.D.s strong premise and interesting ideas artistically, I plan to check out Rios next work regardless. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Some areas need improvement, but the core idea of this story is great. By Vanessa Deneen I received an Advance Reader Copy at no cost from the author/publisher via Netgalley. I have some very mixed feelings about this graphic novel. First off, I think that the concept is awesome. I truly love the premise for this. However, I do think that it could have been explored much further. The story felt too thin. Not enough substance. I think that making it longer and including more story would have made this almost perfect. The world building was almost non-existent. I would have loved to see more of the world outside of the characters lives. While I rather liked the three characters portrayed in the story, I didn't feel like I knew them or fully knew their struggles. Very little information is given about them. If there had been more depth to the characters then this could have been amazing. The story is mostly of the characters leading up to a body transplant. It doesn't show them at the time of the transplant, or during the crucial recovery time afterwards. I also think that the ending kind of petered out. It didn't feel like there was truly closure. While the illustrations were okay, the color choice was distracting. Especially during the action scene towards the beginning. I honestly couldn't tell what was going on. This is definitely an interesting read. I think that it has some areas desperate for improvement, but the core idea of this story is great. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. MEH By Sarah Johnson I.D. by Emma Rios 1.75 stars I.D. follows three people who are no longer satisfied with their mediocre lives. They think the solution to their problems is a body transplant. The concept of this graphic novel is simple, but very fascinating. I thought this was going to be a strong story and poignant, but I found it to be very lacking. The story itself is only about 67 pages long with art and words to develop a plotline and because this is a very brief story I expected there to be more of a punch behind the stories. The idea was there, but the execution was not. Whimsical Writing Scale: 1.5 The characters are Noa, Charlotte, and a man whose name is not really mentioned. They all long for something different from what life is giving them. One wants to become the gender they identify, one wants to escape a boring existence, and one wants to understand what defines humans. It's a great concept, but these characters were bare bones minimum. They offered almost no emotion and I felt no empathy towards their lives and their reasons for undergoing a body transplant. Character Scale: 1 The art was done in red and white, which was very aesthetically pleasing. The art itself was rather bland and unappealing. Overall, it's a short graphic novel and if you are interested pick it up, but it's not a story that I'm rushing to recommend. I think a lot of people will enjoy this story, I was just not one of them. Art Scale: 2 Plotastic Scale: 2 Cover Thoughts: The cover is what drew my attention to this story. It's very eye catching. Thank you, Netgalley and Image Comics for allowing me to read this graphic novel in exchange for an honest review.

A dystopian tale that analyzes the conflict between perception and identity through the struggle of three people who consider a 'body transplant' as a solution to their lives.