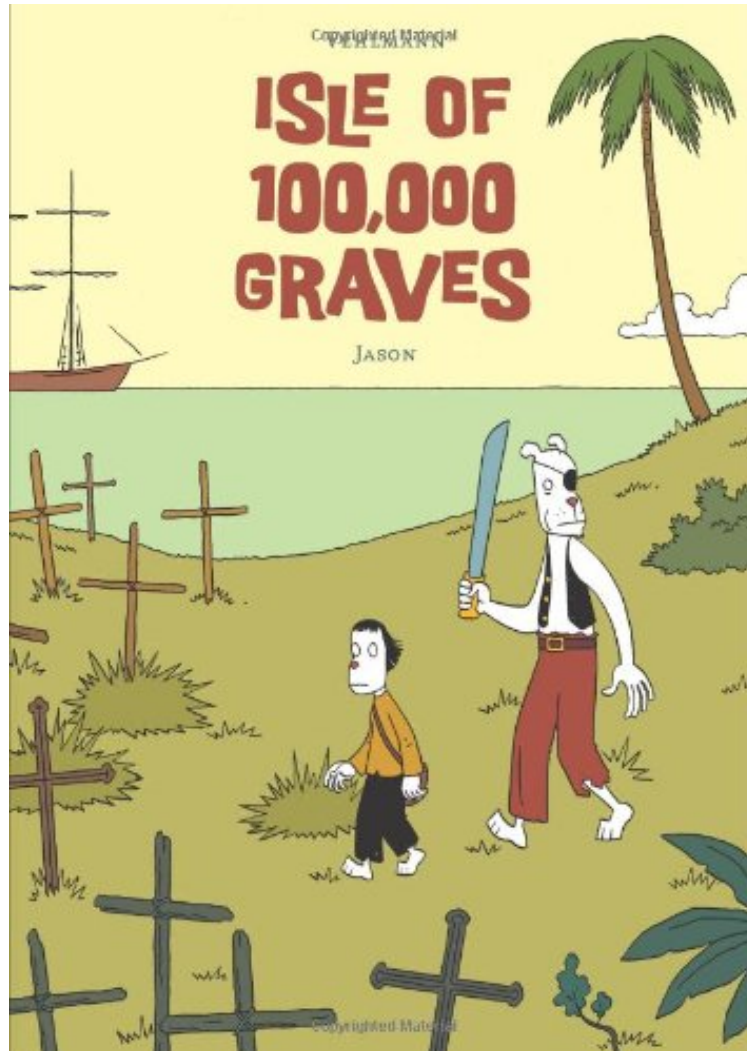


Isle of 100,000 Graves

Jason, Fabien Vehlmann

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Jason, Fabien Vehlmann : Isle of 100,000 Graves before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Isle of 100,000 Graves:

A treasure map leads to an island with a terrible secret in Jasons new graphic novel. Five years ago, little Gwennys father found, inside a bottle, a map with instructions on how to reach the mysterious Isle of 100,000 Graves and its legendary treasures and then he vanished. Now Gwenny, having stumbled across another bottle-shipped map, enlists the dubious help of a shipful of pirates, sets out to find the island, and her long-lost dad. Little does she realize that the Isle comes by its ominous name honestly, as the location of a secret school for executioners and torturers, where apple-

cheeked youngsters are taught the finer points of extracting information from prisoners and then putting an end to their lives in a wide variety of gruesome ways. And they've reached the point in their studies where theory should ideally give way to practice, so an influx of uninvited visitors comes as a blessing to the faculty. And yes, this story is a comedy. Albeit a dark one. For the first time in his career, Jason has enlisted a writer: Fabien Vehlmann. (Vehlmann has written a number of graphic novels for the French and American markets, including an installment of the legendary Spirou series and the three-volume Green Manor continuity, of which two volumes have been released in English.) Vehlmann has managed to interiorize Jason's deadpan style and wit perfectly, creating a uniquely smooth and successful collaboration. 56 pages of full-color comics