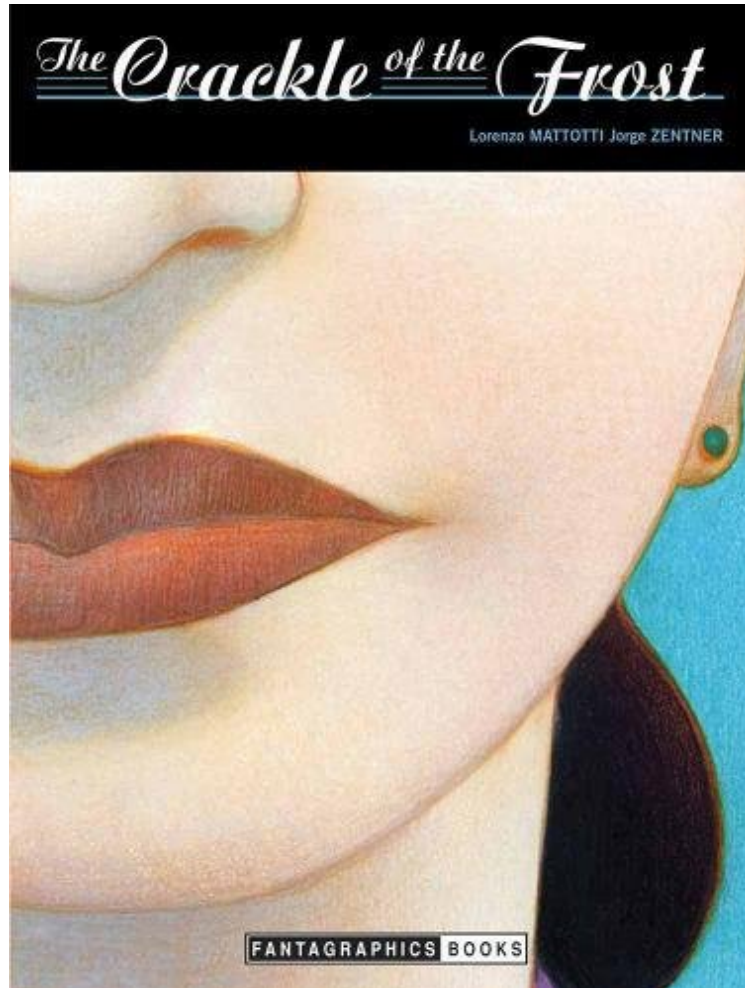


## The Crackle of the Frost

*Lorenzo Mattotti, Jorge Zentner*  
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#1912179 in Books 2012-09-19 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.10 x .60 x 7.80l, 1.40 #File Name: 160699543X120 pages | File size: 47.Mb

**Lorenzo Mattotti, Jorge Zentner : The Crackle of the Frost** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Crackle of the Frost:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A successful marriage of illustration and writing By Trang Nguyen A new addition to my favorite-of-all-time shelf. "The Crackle of the Frost" is a successful marriage of illustration and writing. They match and compliment each other nicely to tell a coming-of-age story of Samuel- a desolated young man struggling to let go of the ghost of his past relationship. Contemplative, somber, dream-like and almost eerie in tone, reading it felt like walking in someone else's piped dream. The book is also a visual feast with vivid and surreal paintings. I spotted it on a top shelf of my school library and almost waved it off. It was on the top shelf. I was busy. I don't even like comic books. But the cover stubbornly drew me in, as if asking for the benefit of the doubt. Eventually I caved in and reached for it. And I'm glad I did. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A masterpiece... By

Pyramids I love this book..is a masterpiece..the plot is very appealing and real..like a poem..this is for us to reflect that every actions have consequences .. I hope in the future that Fantagraphics would do more work of Mattotti.

Full-color graphic novel of love and loss from the co-creator of *Stigmata* and *The Raven*. When confronted with his girlfriends request that they have a child together, Samuel fled that relationship. But now, a year later, when he receives a letter from Alice announcing she is expecting a baby, old emotions flare up and he embarks on a long journey to see Alice again to re-open, or perhaps close forever, that important chapter of his life. *The Crackle of the Frost* is the story of what he sees, hears, experiences, and learns during that journey. Last year, Fantagraphics presented the extraordinary *Stigmata*, a stunning display of Mattottis whirling, emotional, black and white linework put in the service of a devastating story as well as his painted illustrations for Lou Reeds *The Raven*. *The Crackle of the Frost* ups the visual ante even on those masterpieces, combining the narrative drive of the former with the lush color illustrations of the latter to create a graphic-novel masterpiece with panel after panel of sumptuous full-color paintings, as if Edward Hopper had suddenly decided to jump into comics. Full color throughout

From Booklist With his strong coloration and curvy figuration, Mattotti can galvanize less-than-extraordinary scripts. Rather than revealing their weaknesses, he enriched Jerry Kramskys 1920s-set adaptation of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (2003) and Claudio Piersantis *Stigmata* (2011) more than any other artist, perhaps, could have. He works his magic again on fiction writer turned psychotherapist Zentners text, the case history of a psychological breakdown. When Alice tells him she wants to have a baby with him, Samuel starts hearing the noise which Mattotti, without cue from Zentner, strikingly depicts as manta raylike birds and drives her away. A year passes; she sends a note; he leaves to find her. Injured in bizarre circumstances en route and vastly delayed by recuperation, he finally proceeds to find Alice. The denouement of his story is relatively gentle and very humane. The legend-like tales Samuel tells amid his travails provide Oriental fodder for Mattottis imagination, but, visually alluding to Cezanne, Chagall, Munch, Picasso, Botero, and others, the artist already dazzles us by employing so much modern Western art to make Samuels story come alive. --Ray Olson About the Author Lorenzo Mattotti is a highly sought-after illustrator ( with frequent appearances in and on *The New Yorker*) and acclaimed graphic novelist. He lives in Paris, France; his work includes *The Raven*, a collaboration with Lou Reed re-imagining the works of Edgar Allan Poe. Jorge Zentner has written many graphic novels, including the Pampa series illustrated by Carlos Nine. This is his first graphic novel to be translated into English. Kim Thompson was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1956 and joined Fantagraphics in 1977. He lives in Seattle with his wife, his dog, and his thousands of comics.