

The land of hope and disappointment

Idulfania

BRECHT EVENS

Between 2009 and 2011, Brecht Evens created a series of comics for a Brussels-based youth magazine. These hilarious gags about the magic island of Idulfania have now finally been compiled into one book. Evens brilliantly subverts the conventions of the fairy-tale and fantasy genres in 'Idulfania'. Populated by trolls, giants, kings, witches and dwarves, Idulfania is a land where high hopes tend to be quickly and painfully dashed.

Absurd, macabre and imaginative

DE STANDAARD

In just three frames, Evens starts by establishing a fairy-tale setting, which he then follows with an extreme realism that inevitably clashes with the rules of the genre. More often than not, the reader can't help but laugh out loud at the escapades of characters with names such as Orgbald, Hugo or Strongulor, who frequently meet with a violent death. Evens' distinctive and vivid style of painting, with its many colours and layers, is a wonderful foil for the disappointing fairy-tale land he has created. Dark humour at its best.

Extremely funny, sometimes touching and of course exceptionally well-drawn.

9E KUNST



AUTHOR



Brecht Evens (b. 1986) published his first comic book when he was 19, for which he won the Flemish Comic Book Debut Award. *The Wrong Place* represented his breakthrough in Flanders and the rest of the world. Since then Evens has stood out for the style so typical of his work: he doesn't use contour lines or balloons for text, but paints exuberant scenes and familiar dialogues in sequence, using an overwhelming colour palette. Evens surprises readers with each new book, and with each new page. In 2019, he was awarded the Prix Spécial du Jury at the Angoulême Comics Festival for *The City of Belgium*. Photo © Athos Burez

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