

The banality of life in powerful colours

The Wrong Place

BRECHT EVENS

Upon its publication, 'The Wrong Place' set off artistic fireworks in the Flemish graphic novel scene. This comic strip is bursting with artistic ambition: Brecht Evens has introduced a new and daring style with his expressive drawings and powerful choices of colour.

'The Wrong Place' is a story about parties where some people are sometimes more welcome than others. Evens uses this familiar context to explore the banality of life.

An invigorating tale of discomfort and joy

THE GUARDIAN

Amongst the partygoers, two characters stand out, each the other's opposite. The story opens with a scene at an excruciatingly dull party. The ever-anxious Geert organises a reunion for his classmates, but his guests only come because they're hoping to see the popular Robbie. However, Robbie decides that he'd rather hang out at a nightclub instead. The plot appears to focus on nothing in particular, but this serves to emphasise the human relationships even more strongly.

'The Wrong Place' is about loneliness, about superficiality, about how difficult it is to make real contact with other people. In a flowing rhythm of short snatches of dialogue and grand set pieces, Evens also accentuates the human desire for more and for better.

A tour de force

TELERAMA



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. 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

ORIGINAL TITLE Ergens waar je niet wil zijn (2009, Oogachtend, 176 pp.)

FORMAT 214 x 265

PRIZES Willy Vandersteen Prize, Prix de l'Audace in Angoulême, Eisner Award nomination

RIGHTS SOLD English (Jonathan Cape), English (Drawn and Quarterly), French (Actes Sud BD), German (Reprodukt), Spanish (Sins Entido), Norwegian (No Comprendo Press), Korean (Open Books), Portuguese (Brazil) (Figura Editora)

TRANSLATION RIGHTS Ann Jossart - ann@oogachtend.be

TRANSLATION GRANTS Lien Devos - lien.d@flandersliterature.be