

Beautiful and terrifying in equal measures

Panther

BRECHT EVENS

‘Panther’ is an unsettling graphic novel about a little girl and her imaginary feline companion. Iconoclastic in his cartooning and page layouts, subtle in his plotting, and deft in his capturing of the human experience, Brecht Evens has crafted a tangled, dark masterwork.

Christine lives in a big house with her father and her cat, Lucy. When Lucy gets sick and dies, Christine is devastated. But alone in her room, something special happens: a panther pops out of her dresser drawer and begins to tell her stories of distant Pantherland, where he is the crown prince.

A masterpiece

THE COMICS JOURNAL

A shape-shifter who tells Christine anything she wants to hear, Panther begins taking over Christine’s life, alienating her from her other toys and friends. As Christine’s world spirals out of control, so does the world Panther has created for her.

‘Panther’ is a chilling voyage into the shadowy corners of the human psyche, all set in gorgeous watercolours.

One of the most beautiful and disturbing narratives of childhood ever produced in the comics medium

VULTURE



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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