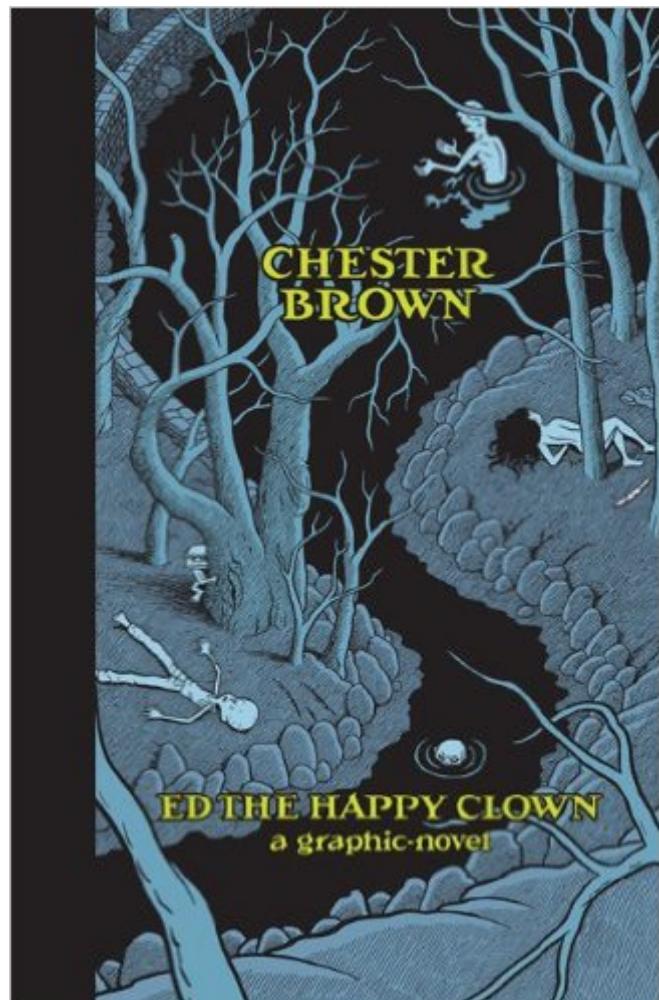


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Ed The Happy Clown



Synopsis

A LONG-OUT-OF-PRINT CLASIC BY A MASTER OF UNDERGROUND COMICSIn the late 1980s, the idiosyncratic Chester Brown (author of the muchlauded Paying for It and Louis Riel) began writing the cult classic comic book series Yummy Fur. Within its pages, he serialized the groundbreaking Ed the Happy Clown, revealing a macabre universe of parallel dimensions. Thanks to its wholly original yet disturbing story lines, Ed set the stage for Brown to become a world-renowned cartoonist. Ed the Happy Clown is a hallucinatory tale that functions simultaneously as a dark roller-coaster ride of criminal activity and a scathing condemnation of religious and political charlatanism. As the world around him devolves into madness, the eponymous Ed escapes variously from a jealous boyfriend, sewer monsters, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and a janitor with a Jesus complex. Brown leaves us wondering, with every twist of the plot, just how Ed will get out of this scrape. The intimate, tangled world of Ed the Happy Clown is definitively presented here, repackaged with a new foreword by the author and an extensive notes section, and is, like every Brown book, astonishingly perceptive about the zeitgeist of its time.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (16 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Ed is a happy clown because he's heading to the hospital to entertain sick kids... That's how one of the zaniest comic books you'll ever read begins. From there, Ed the unfortunate clown gets beaten up by anarchists, sent to prison where a man who can't stop pooping might drown Ed in poop, and pursued by pygmies. Oh and his penis becomes Ronald Reagan.If you've read Chester Brown

before you'll know he's best known for memoir type comic books like "I've Never Liked You", "The Playboy" and last year's excellent "Paying For It", or the award-winning biography "Louis Riel". "Ed the Happy Clown" is Brown's first book and a long out-of-print masterpiece of bizarre and improvised plotting. Brown includes an extensive notes section at the back which is almost as good as reading the book itself. It provides background details to how the book was conceived and written/drawn along with biographical details of the author and the reaction to his work as it was released in his bi-monthly comic "Yummy Fur". Brown admits that because he didn't have anything to say in his early twenties he just threw together random storylines, whatever was on his mind, straight onto the page. It definitely reads that way but after a certain point the various story threads begin intersecting and make a strange kind of sense. The murderous religious janitor connects to the vampire Josie who leads to the pygmies who leads to Ronald Reagan penis who leads to the man who can't stop pooping who leads to Dimension X. This book is a must-read just for that summary - you'll never read a book like this. And it's really funny too.

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