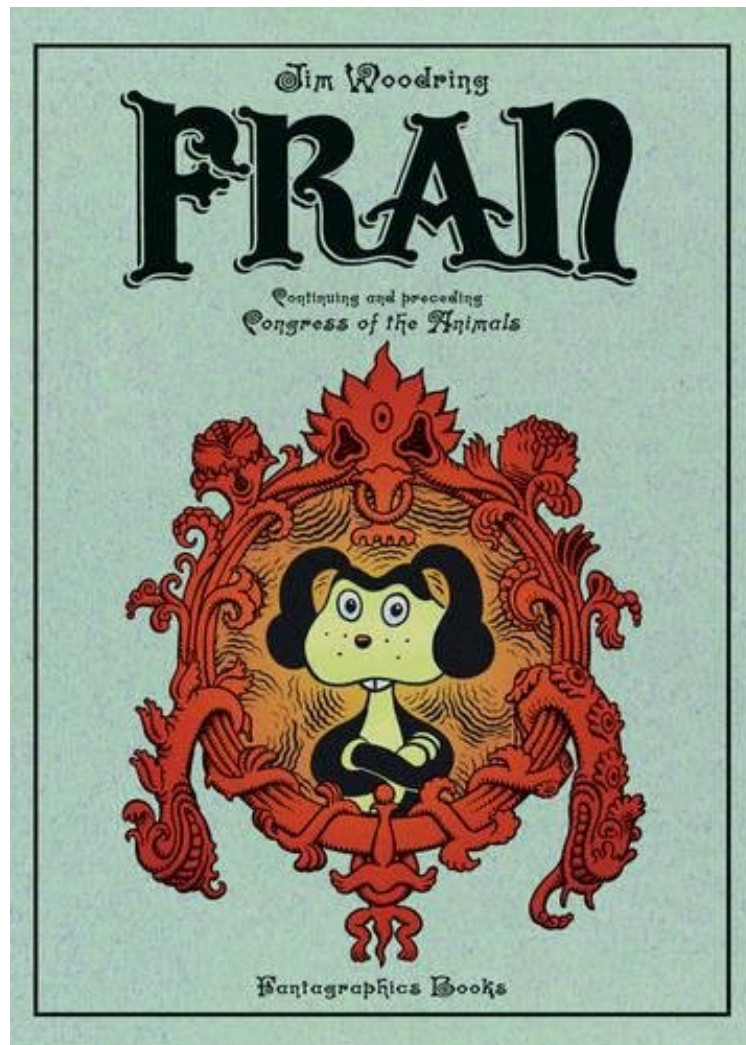


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## Fran

*Jim Woodring*

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#602056 in Books 2013-11-02Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.80 x .80 x 7.40l, 1.27 #File Name: 1606996614120 pages | File size: 39.Mb

**Jim Woodring : Fran** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fran:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wild wordless fun for intelligent peopleBy Gordon E. AndersonFookin' excellent. So wonderful and unique and yet there is a story that emerges as you "read" it, though it is wordless. Actually, after a frame or two you forget about words completely because the world and the story are so vivid, despite being truly strange. And also...funny.Come to think of it, you'd have to call this book a cultural treasure or masterpiece.9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Buy it all.By Michael LiskaUncle Jim is on a hot streak with this book, Fran, which is the third full volume installment of the Frank series. Previous to the volumes Weathercraft, Congress of the Animals, and Fran, Frank's adventures were confined to short fables, which all had the

benefit of wordless inscrutability (and which are mostly if not all collected in *The Frank Book*). Over these last three long volumes, we've seen Jim Woodring adapt to the 100-page format of a non-serialized graphic novel, and the transformation has been a sight to behold. These graphic novels prove that Jim can sustain longer narratives with these characters and this world that are even more fulfilling than the groundbreaking shorter work. But despite the change in format, the unifying factor (unifactor?) is the sense of an unpredictable but somehow dependable moral calculus that is operating in his strange world - much like in the regular universe. The unifactor is not a microcosm or a macrocosm of our world, but another world wrought by the same hand. The forms just as myriad as they are reliable. The Frank stories are the funniest of funnybooks, and once you get used to the filter of high abstraction they are also the most touching and universal. If you read comics, these are the best comics out there right now. Fans of art comics like those of Chris Ware, Daniel Clowes, R. Crumb, and Kim Deitch will find something to love, but the simple wordless nature of these cartoon tales makes them utterly accessible at the same time to someone who might not already be a fan of alternative comics. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. FrantasticBy ParallaxAn achingly well-crafted masterpiece. Woodring's still in world class form. His playground of the subconscious is, as always, as terrifying as it is inviting.

In this all-new, original graphic novel from an acknowledged master, Franks found a soulmate. For the past 20 years or so, Jim Woodring's beloved trilobular chuckbuster Frank has enjoyed one mindbending catastrophe after another in the treacherous embrace of *The Unifactor*, the land into which he was born and from which escape seemed neither desirable nor likely. And then, abruptly, in 2011's acclaimed *Congress of the Animals* (the second Woodring original graphic novel, following *Weathercraft*) Frank did leave the Unifactor for uncharted lands beyond where, after a string of trials, he acquired a soulmate named Fran. This development raised far more questions than it answered. Would Frank become placid and domesticated? Would he be jilted? Would he turn out to be a dreadful cad? Would he become a downtrodden and exhausted paterfamilias staring vacantly into the dimming fire of life as obnoxious grandchildren pulled his peglike ears and stole his porridge? The answers to these fruitless speculations and many more are delivered in a devastatingly unpredictable fashion in *Fran*, which is in effect part two of *Congress of the Animals*. Fans of Frank, connoisseurs of bizarre romance, and spelunkers in the radiant depths of graphic metaphysical psychodrama will want to add this singular cartoon adventure story to their lifetime reading list. Winner of the 2014 Lynd Ward Graphic Novel Prize Black white illustrations throughout