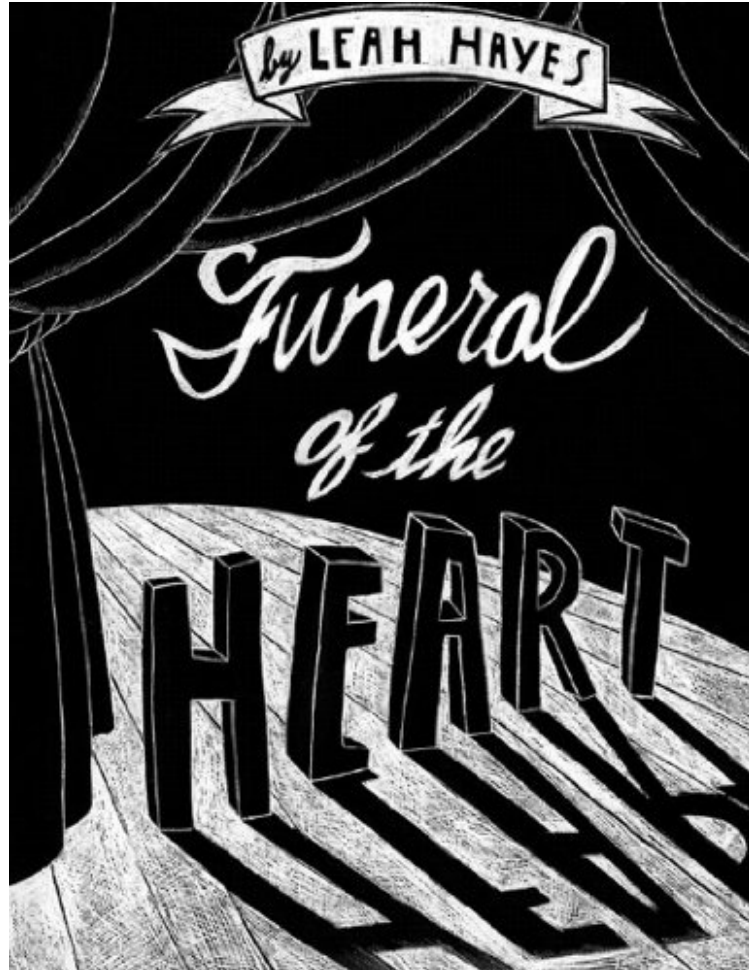


Funeral of the Heart

Leah Hayes

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#3378840 in Books 2008-04-09Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.00 x .50 x 8.10l, .95 #File Name: 1560978880120 pagesShips from Vermont | File size: 77.Mb

Leah Hayes : Funeral of the Heart before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Funeral of the Heart:

4 of 6 people found the following review helpful. BizarreBy SelibIf you're purchasing this product please note that it does not really fit into the category of a graphic novel. This is a collection of five short stories with minimal character development and unsatisfying plot resolutions. There are "graphics" followed by pages of paragraphs. The stories end abruptly perhaps purposely to enhance the sense of futility they bring. If this book had more depth of feeling it might be better. If you're looking for a quality graphic novel I would suggest "A Contract with God" by Will Eisner.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. DirgeBy Sam QuixoteThis book is appalling. The drawings look like they were done by a five year old, the stories have no weight to them and are the meanderings of an inexperienced and clueless writer. To be honest, it's mostly just large, unsightly drawings of unrealistic humans with no expressions followed by entire pages or white writing on black. Hayes uses the scratchboard technique to tell her boring stories and

it's only this that warrants mentioning Thomas Ott and Frans Masereel. Ott and Masereel are real talents, creating unforgettable images and crafting brilliant stories with their work. In fact even just mentioning the two in relation to Leah Hayes is doing them a disservice. If you're interested in comics and/or scratchboard stories/pictures done well then avoid this book completely and check out Thomas Ott and Frans Masereel. What were the publishers thinking?

A world of dreadful mystery is explored in this exciting debut. *Funeral of the Heart* is Leah Hayes' stylistic tour-de-force and graphic novel debut, featuring a series of short stories by Hayes and illustrated entirely using the otherworldly medium of scratchboard. Hayes creates a world of unease and ambiguity populated by obsessive characters, forlorn animals, and mysterious, inanimate objects; odd occurrences, unnerving deaths and unconventional but genuine love bind these characters and their stories together. In "The Bathroom," a middle-aged couple discover a mysterious tunnel in their poolhouse after a neighbor's child accidentally drowns in their pool leading to an immaculate bathroom and another drowning. In "The Needle," two sisters suffer the death of their grandmother as well as her possible resurrection at the hands of the woman with the needle. The stories are hand lettered and juxtaposed against stark, highly stylized, graphically powerful, black and white images. Stories with titles like "The Bathroom," "The Needle," and "The Hair" sound innocuous, but they aren't fables that should be read to one's children unless your children enjoy being made uneasy by beautiful things.

Sadness with joyful imagination and compassionate humor; a bitterness that tastes great. - Matilda Tristram, *Plan B*
Menacing, cruel, tender and freakish, these stories seem to have stepped out from Hayes' rich, febrile dreams. - Neel Mukherjee, *The Times Online*
Abizarre, disturbing debut collection - Neel Mukherjee, *The Times Online*
The stark beauty of the black-and-white medium, already hallucinatory, is intensified by the fairytale-like surrealness of the five stories - Neel Mukherjee, *The Times Online*
About the Author Leah Hayes is an illustrator, musician, graphic novelist, songwriter and producer. She has published several books with Fantagraphics, including *Funeral of the Heart*, *Holy Moly*, and her latest work, *Not Funny Ha-Ha* (out June 2015). She also has several albums out with her band, *Scary Mansion*, writes songs, and produces beats for pop and hip-hop artists.