



Petit

Hubert (Scénario), Bertrand Gatignol (Dessin)

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Du plus jeune et plus petit des Ogres, c'est toute l'histoire d'une famille et de ses membres qui nous est contée. Héritage, coutumes, tiraillements... Un superbe récit gothique autour du déterminisme familial.

Petit est le fils du Roi-Ogre. A peine plus grand qu'un simple humain, il porte sur lui le signe de la dégénérescence familiale qui rend chaque génération plus petite que la précédente à force de consanguinité. Son père veut sa mort mais sa mère, qui voit en lui la possible régénération de la famille puisqu'il pourrait s'accoupler à une humaine tel que le fit jadis le Fondateur de la lignée, le confie à sa tante Desdée, la plus ancienne d'entre eux. Déshonorée en raison de son amour pour les humains, elle vit recluse dans une partie de l'immense château. Seulement voilà, contrairement au souhait de sa mère, elle tentera d'élever Petit à l'inverse des murs familiales... Tirailé entre les pulsions violentes dont il a hérité et l'éducation humaniste qu'il a reçue de Desdée, Petit trouvera-t-il sa place ? Et survivra-t-il à l'appétit vorace de sa famille ?

Un récit construit sous deux axes narratifs : la bande dessinée raconte l'histoire de Petit, tandis que les textes illustrés se concentrent sur la vie des différents souverains depuis le Fondateur.

Petit Details

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Author : Hubert (Scénario) , Bertrand Gatignol (Dessin)

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From Reader Review Petit for online ebook

Ije the Devourer of Books says

A rather gory fairytale with brilliant graphics!

Petit was a child born to the Ogre King and Queen. Unfortunately he was born the size of a normal human baby. His father the ogre king would have eaten him but his mother hides him, bringing him up in the rooms of his ogre aunt.

Petit grows up learning to eat human beings, albeit reluctantly. He knows he is different and manages to keep out of the way of the other ogres. His mother believes he is the key to a new giant race. His aunt wants him to be a dancer and his father wants him dead.

Petit becomes a young man and finds that he is a big human being but a small giant. He doesn't fit in anywhere so he tries to make a place for himself, but it is only a matter of time before the enmity of the ogre king meets him head on and who knows if Petit will survive.

This is a good mix of graphics and supporting stories in prose. The artwork is excellent in black and white and enhances the story. This is book one of the series and I desperately want to read book two. Petit is both charming and dangerous but he manages to make a life for himself at the margins of both human and ogre society but what is he really? Human or ogre?

This is an interesting story with a fairytale feel to it, albeit a dark fairytale. Petit is resilient, courageous and cunning, but yet all he truly wants is to be loved. Will he find a place of his own in the violent worlds in which he lives? Hopefully these questions will be answered as the series develops.

Copy provided via Netgalley in exchange for an unbiased review.

Sebastien Plante says

Le monde de ces Ogres-dieux est riche et finement assemblé à travers les tableaux de personnages qui découpent l'histoire de Petit comme autant de chapitres où sont exposés la genèse de ce monde et les jalons qui l'ont constitué. J'ai le sentiment que les auteurs ont bien pris soin de bâtir une mythologie complexe et j'ai hâte de m'y replonger avec Demi-sang et les volumes à venir (espérons-le).

Stephanie says

Reads like a classical fairy tale-- the kind meant to scare children into behaving. Gorgeous grayscale art lends a bleakness to the setting, and the artist does not shy away from gore (this is definitely not for the squeamish, as the ogres have a habit of eating humans), but this is far from a horror story. I also enjoyed the prose interludes, which gave the ogres context and purpose in the world. I'll definitely be reading the next volume.

Giovanna says

2.5

Etienne says

This was weird enough but really good! Giants ogre acting like Gods over humans population, eating them and ruling them like they want to. The story is good, the universe is great and the rythm is well balance between story evolution and action. There is also pages from time to time that goes back to the history of some characters or their relatives in ancien time, and those part are totaly in text, not comic. A good, original and unique work! Well done!!

Laura says

3.5

Ho comprato questo fumetto perché intrigata dall'ambientazione, che ricordava molto Gormenghast. L'idea di base è interessante e mi sono piaciuti moltissimo gli intermezzi scritti dedicati ai membri più importanti della casata dei giganti. Va comunque detto che, interni a parte, il disegno non mi ha entusiasmato: alcune volte risulta un po' troppo rigido (avevo proprio difficoltà a capire alcune vignette) e ho notato un paio di tavole in cui c'erano degli effettivi errori, tra cui il fatto che i giganti cambiano taglia da scena a scena! Infine, parere totalmente personale, magari ci sarebbe stato meglio uno stile diverso dall'euromanga, per meglio adattarsi all'atmosfera gotica. Per quanto riguarda la sceneggiatura: c'erano dei cambi di scena e di tempo che non venivano segnalati in nessun modo, da una vignetta all'altra si passata da un costesto ad un altro. Onestamente, non ci voleva niente a mettere all'angolo della vignetta un bel quadratino con su scritto "qualche ora/giorno dopo..."

Miguel Gosselin Dionne says

Tendre et croustillant à la fois. À dévorer.

Isa Lavinia says

Book provided by Lion Forge through Netgalley

TW: gore, attempted rape, cannibalism

In a royal family of monstrous ogres, continuous inbreeding has been yielding smaller and smaller children.

Petit is the smallest yet. So small his mother did not know she was pregnant with him until she birthed him. Instantly reviled for his human size, the court demands to eat him, so such blight can be erased from the royal family.

His mother, however, believes Petit will bring about great things, much as their distant ancestor: the Founder, who mated with humans and thus had bigger and bigger children.

I absolutely LOVED this! Petit reads as a grotesque fairy tale, certainly not for the faint hearted, but amazing just the same. The monstrous court, violent and stupid, feasting on humans and reveling in their reign of terror, the bizarre architecture of the gigantic palace, the story meandering through the present interspersed with short stories about the great ancestors of the royal family... it was all absolutely delicious!

I highly recommend this one, and I can't wait for the second volume!

Chad says

I could immediately tell this was a bonkers French comic translated to English. It was just too weird and offputting for most American comic audiences. It's about this royal family of inbred giants. The queen gives birth to a human sized son and the king immediately tries to murder him. The queen raises the kid in hiding with her aunt. The queen constantly tries to get Petit to eat humans and have sex with them in order to have giant babies. There's tons of violence towards women and awkward sex scenes. I think the author may have had a bad acid trip and then turned it into a comic. The whole thing felt like a nightmare. The book also had prose stories interspersed between each chapter. I wasn't enjoying the sequential art's story so there was no way I was wasting time on the prose.

Received a review copy from Lion Forge and NetGalley. All thoughts are my own and in no way influenced by the aforementioned.

Sara says

Ohhh this was creepy and neato. This is another situation where I wish Goodreads did half stars because this is definitely a solid 3.5 teetering on the edge of 4.

I'm more than a little bit in love with this absolutely grotesque world of man eating giants obsessed with maintaining their gargantuan stature. After years of inbreeding they are little more than oversized, babbling morons with an endless hunger for human's. The current giant queen gives birth to a human sized baby who she comes to believe will be the savior of the family. "Petit" is just like the ancient founder of their family, a conquering warrior who was man sized like Petit but nevertheless fathered countless giant children.

Petit is raised in secret by his human loving (non cannibal) aunt Desdee who encourages to abandon the human eating and terrorizing ways of his family, fostering in him a love of art and music. But Petit struggles within the confines of his world. If his father or evil, stupid brother's find him they'll eat him in two bites, but he longs to be a part of the wider world. Meanwhile his increasingly mentally impaired mother fights Desdee's teachings to instill in him the same fire that fuels her to save their family line from extinction.

There's just so much to unpack with this story. Author Hubert has created a really rich and epic sized history of this appalling race of monsters. Each chapter of Petit's story is begun with a short story that tells the history of the more notable members of the giant family, how it formed, and how it's begun to fall. Its grim and gorgeous storytelling.

Obviously a big part of the "gorgeous" is Bertrand Gatignol's just delicious art work. Everything is done in this incredibly rich black and white. The giants are especially wonderful. They're drawn with incredibly detail with full, lush lips and deep crevices in their faces. Their eyes seem to burn with a constant, black hatred for every human they come across. Petit, by contrast, is very wide eyed and seems to radiate a sort of restless energy, like he's infused with lightning.

There's A LOT of bloodshed and buckets of blood and human devouring but it's somehow kind of darkly enchanting rather than disgusting. There's an opulence to this world that's attractive. It reminded me very much of Versailles and the dying days of the French aristocracy.

The only fault I find here is Petit, despite being the hero, is left a bit in the background in favor of the gaudier, arguably more fun giants. We never really learn all that much about who he is as a person. He wrestles with his identity and clearly has to fight not to give into some of his more primal giant urges but I never got a clear picture of what he actually wanted from his life or how he wanted his situation to change.

Still I am THRILLED to see where this goes and if black comedy, decadence and giants are your thing this is very, very highly recommended.

Molly says

Holy hell, this was unexpected. Really great world building - really unsettling. I'm dying to see where the next volume goes.

Laura says

A disturbing story of a child of giants who is almost human size, almost, but wholly.

The giants are considered gods, and have humans waiting on them hand and foot, and if you displease any of them, you are eaten. Sometimes you are just eaten anyway.

But there is a problem. Each giant has children that are smaller than the original giant. The current queen suspects it to be inbreeding, and so when her child, Petit, is born human size, she hides him, and gives him to one of the older Aunties, to raise, as she can't be seen with him.

The book is mixed in with short prose pieces that give background as well as forewarnings of what is to come. It is a good way to get the backstory, without loading too much into the graphic narrative, but I'm wondering if it is necessary to the current story-line, and doesn't give away too much of what is to come. Even though this first volume leaves us with Petit leaving his home, there are narratives, in the book, where he has

gone out into the world, and married, and borne children.

And since this is french, there is a lot of female nudity. And a lot of people getting eaten, because that is what the giant ogres do. Nice details in the buildings, and clothing. There is a lot going on in the pages.

Thanks to Netgalley for making this book available for an honest review.

Adam M says

This book was **bananas**. Petit (out titular hero) is the smallest child born to an extended family of inbred giants (Ogres) who rule over a land of humans that they eat.

...Did all of that land? No? Good, it's only going to get weirder.

The art in this book (by Bertrand Gatignol) was the saving factor that helped me stay with any of this. It is largely a book about the crazy family dynamics of which giant is bigger than which and how do they feel about humans. Petit is human sized, but he's raised in conflict by his Aunt, who loves humans, and his mother who eats them. There is a lot of gory eating of human parts and more sex than was warranted from this bonkers story. There is a lot of violence towards women in here fwiw.

I read a description of this book that end with the line: "A dark fantasy breathtakingly illustrated like a grown-up Disney feature for the Game of Thrones audience." which is some supremely insipid marketing-speak for '*We have no idea how to sell this book or who it's for and French people are way out there.*'

This is apparently Vol 1 and I am on the fence about if I'll read the next one. *MOSTLY* because when this ended, I'm not sure I cared. As an audience we're made to sympathize and care for Petit several times as he's picked on and threatened, only to have him make some big choices that aren't really justified or followed up on and only serve to make him less likable. I get that he's trying not to become a monster, but he leans into it several times without any real provocation.

- I really don't know man, I'm going to have to sit with this a while. It was so different than most graphic novels I've read I'm still trying to parse whether or not it was good and I'm just not used to it's style or if it really was just a weird, Brie-fueled hallucination.

I received an ARC from NetGalley and Lion Forge in exchange for an honest review

AnaisCouloigner says

Une bd qui me faisait de l'œil depuis longtemps... J'ai pensé à Gargantua (beaucoup), à l'Attaque des titans (un peu), à des fables et des contes (surtout), et j'ai donc hâte de lire la suite !

Kim says

I liked the style of the art, but this was way too grotesque for me. Probably would have minded it a little less if most of the violence hadn't been directed at women.
