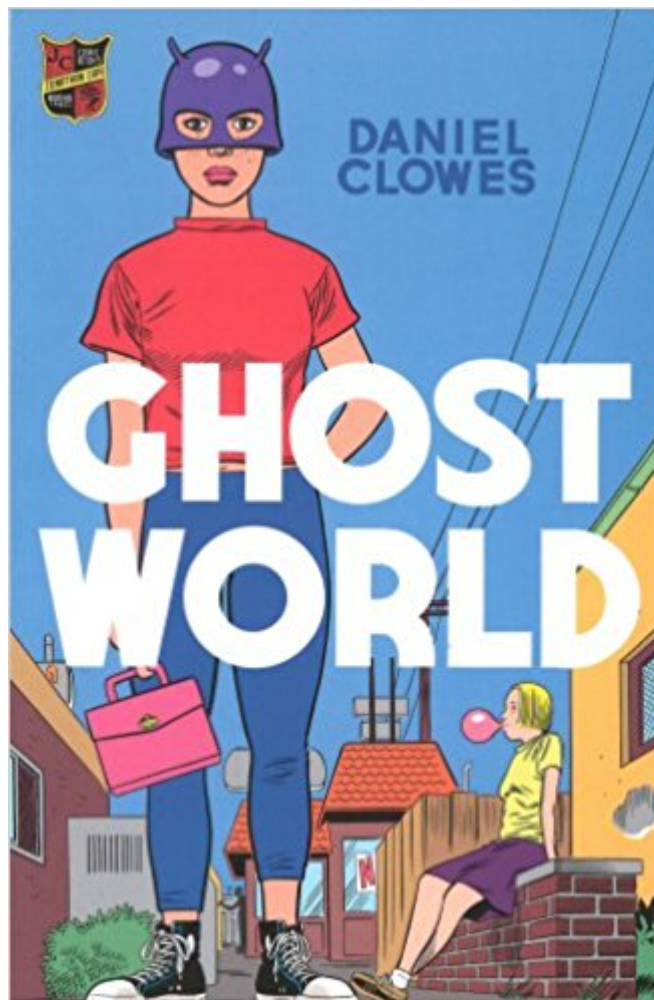


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Ghost World



Synopsis

Ghost World is the story of Enid and Rebecca, teenage friends facing the unwelcome prospect of adulthood, and the uncertain future of their complicated relationship. Clowes conjures a balanced semblance, both tender and objective, of their fragile existence, capturing the mundane thrills and hourly tragedies of a waning adolescence, as he follows a tenuous narrative thread through the fragmented lives of these two fully realised young women.

Book Information

Paperback: 80 pages

Publisher: Vintage/Ebury (a Division of Random; New Ed edition (May 1, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0224060880

ISBN-13: 978-0224060882

Product Dimensions: 10.1 x 6.6 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 148 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #351,361 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #156 in [Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Adaptations](#) #664 in [Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Literary](#) #1637 in [Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Media Tie-In](#)

Customer Reviews

"For once in a comic story, people are portrayed as they really talk and act. Clowes' pitch is uncannily accurate" * Washington Post * "A hilarious, melancholy graphic novel" * Newsweek * "Clowes' remarkable Ghost World might some day become a primer for the next generation of comics writers and artists... Masterfull" * Spin * "Clowes spells out the realities of teenage angst as powerfully and authentically as Salinger did in *Catcher in the Rye* for an earlier generation" * Hartford Advocate * "If ever there was a comic book story meant to be examined by non-comics fans, it's this, a classic in any medium" * The Onion *

Daniel Clowes was born in 1961. He is the creator of the comic books *Eightball*, *Ghost World*, which was made into a film by the director Terry Zwigoff, *David Boring*, and *Ice Haven*. His adaptation of his own *Ghost World* graphic novel for the screen earned him an Oscar nomination. A regular contributor to the *New Yorker*, *McSweeney's*, and *The Best American Comics*, he lives in California

with his wife.

Easily one of the best novels I've ever read, graphic or otherwise. The dialogue is so sharp and clear that I felt like I were listening to a real conversation between two teenage girls. It's also one of the best portrayal of teenage girls I've ever seen--Rebecca and Enid were strange, funny, troubled, and totally unlike the usual "silly, boy-crazy girl" stereotype. The world needs more female characters like these--not afraid to be loud, edgy, and snarky, and refusing to conform with society's expectations.

With "Ghost World" Clowes is up there with the most astute of cynics (Bierce, Twain, Vonnegut) making everything and everyone look pretty pointless with a helpful dose of comedy and true, thoughtful introspection. If you've ever been both young and disillusioned by society - or at least appreciate a story of isolated youth - I'd be surprised if this book didn't speak to you. You don't have to "utterly loathe yourself" like protagonist Enid Coleslaw to really "get it", but I'd be lying if I said it doesn't make it all that much more poignant.

The very famous Ghost World is a must read for fans of graphic novels but is certainly not for everyone, it's for fans of the more intellectual graphic novels that rose to prominence during the late 80s and 90s. The story follows two High School age girls as they go through that awkward phase of life from High School to Adulthood, while that sounds like a terribly cliched theme, the stories in Ghost World are unique and range from somber to humorous. While I really enjoyed the very short volume, I can understand why some readers may not enjoy the overall experience. The characters are often cruel and nihilistic in how they view everything around them and their interactions with others is often short and mean. Certainly, it is not a requirement to like every character in a text, but it can be off putting for some readers. The characters do grow over the stories and I really enjoyed the very quick read (the whole text can be read over a few hours or in a sitting,) fans of the movie will also enjoy this although the film has a more complete narrative. I recommend this to fans of graphic novels and fans of independent films, music and books.

This comic beautifully illustrates the beginning of the tragic "middle period" between being a teenager and an adult, but luckily the jaded, angsty and hilarious observations of Enid and Rebecca have you in stitches the whole time. Although they are already aware of the scam that is adulthood, these two show their vulnerability when faced with the inevitable existential crisis that having to grow

up presents.

The dialog is real and the characters are believable, and the art provides a nice vehicle, supportive without distracting. A random chapter in the life of best friends, it's for mature audiences - not a kid's comic. It's poetic in it's own way - gets you thinking about what you want in life.

Totes perf.

One of my favorite pieces to date. I am very late to the game in reading this, but I couldn't be happier about Daniel Clowes work.

An insight to what became something, the Movie, that was much deeper, and worth contemplation and discussion that never ends.

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