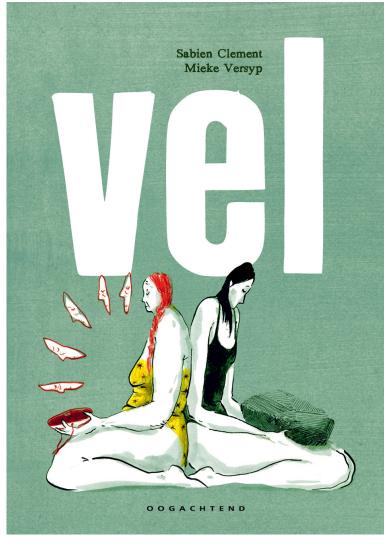
OOGACHTEND



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"A complex but thoroughly successful graphic novel"

De Morgen

"An engaging, intimate and expressive portrait of two women, with exciting and vivid drawings".

9E Kunst



www.oogachtend.be sammy@oogachtend.be

Original title: Vel (Oogachtend, 2021. Hardcover, 31x23 cm, 300 pp.) **Rights sold**: French (Ça et là), English (Fantagraphics), Arabic (NOOL Books)

Skin

SABIEN CLEMENT & MIEKE VERSYP

Drawing is Esther's passion. While she used to make demands of herself that were far too ambitious, now she's trying to do what she enjoys most. Rita is a middle-aged woman who has just got divorced and whose daughter doesn't like visiting her. To get a new grip on her life, Rita challenges herself by becoming a nude model in drawing classes given by Esther. Both women are at a crossroads in their lives. Esther meets a man who eventually breaks her heart and Rita has to learn to deal with her new life, without her daughter.

Sabien Clement's (b. 1978) work is characterized by spontaneity. Tenderness, vulnerability, a longing for balance and security – these are the themes running through her work. Her lines are particularly eloquent: they masterfully express emotions, from happiness to grief – often in one and the same picture. Both young and old fall for her illustrations: children especially like the humour in her lines and colours, while adults go for the poetic strength and deeper meaning in her work. Mieke Versyp (b. 1965) is a dramaturge and children's author. She writes imaginative, playful stories with dark undercurrents and double meanings that appeal to both young and old. Versyp debuted in 2007 with the exceptional picture book Linus, illustrated by Pieter Gaudesaboos and Sabien Clement. The book went on to win both a Boekenwelp and a Gouden Uil.

Prizes:

* Henry van de Velde award

* Goscinny young scenarist

* Angoulême selection officiel 2023

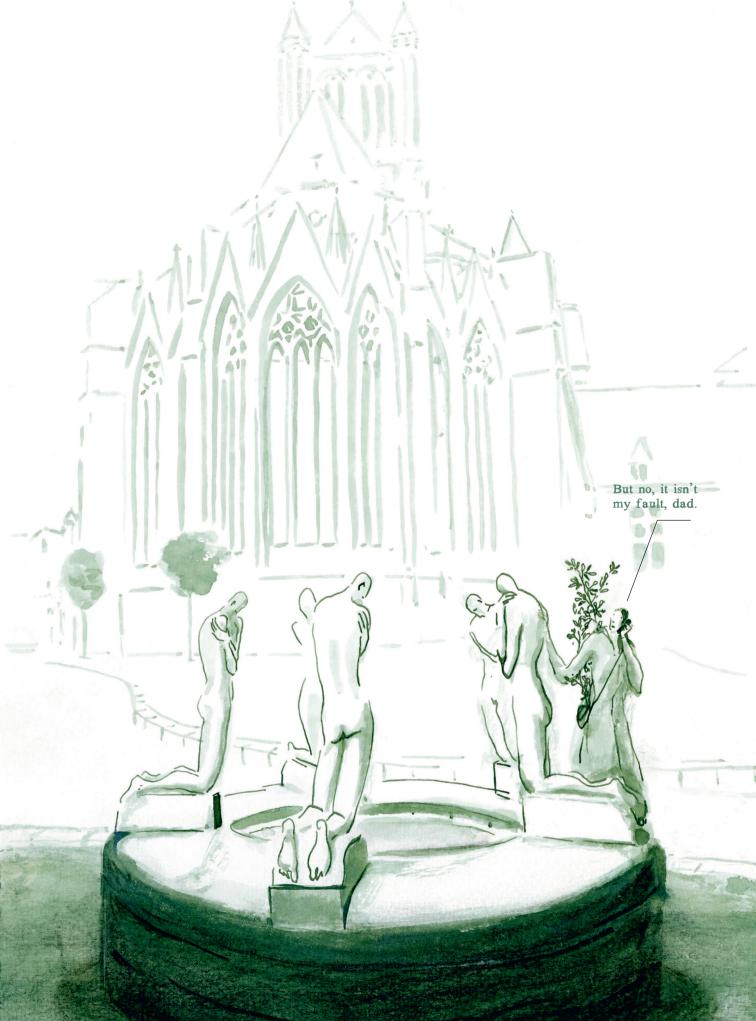
* The Fantagraphics edition of Skin was nominated for the 2025 Ignatz Awards



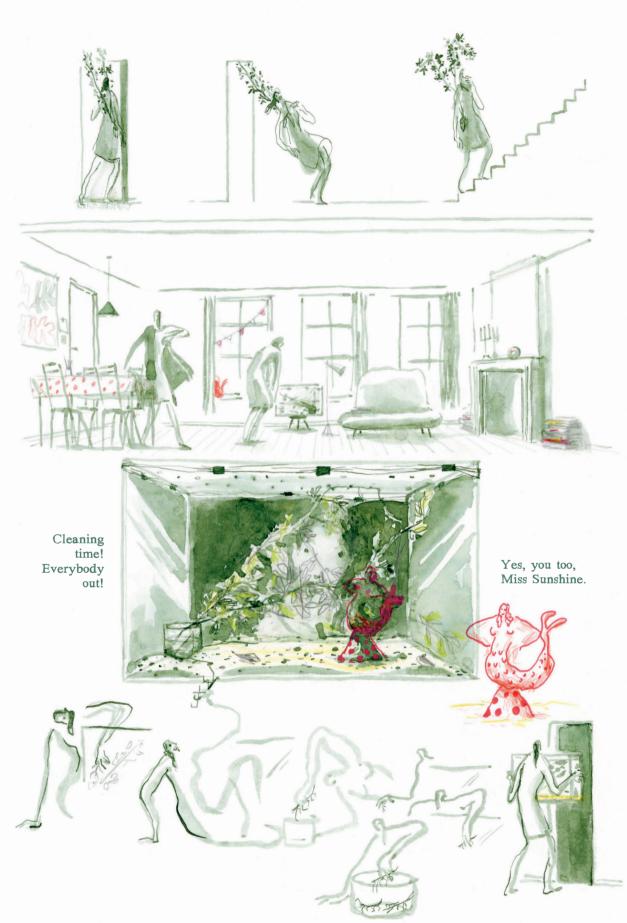
Sabien Clement Mieke Versyp



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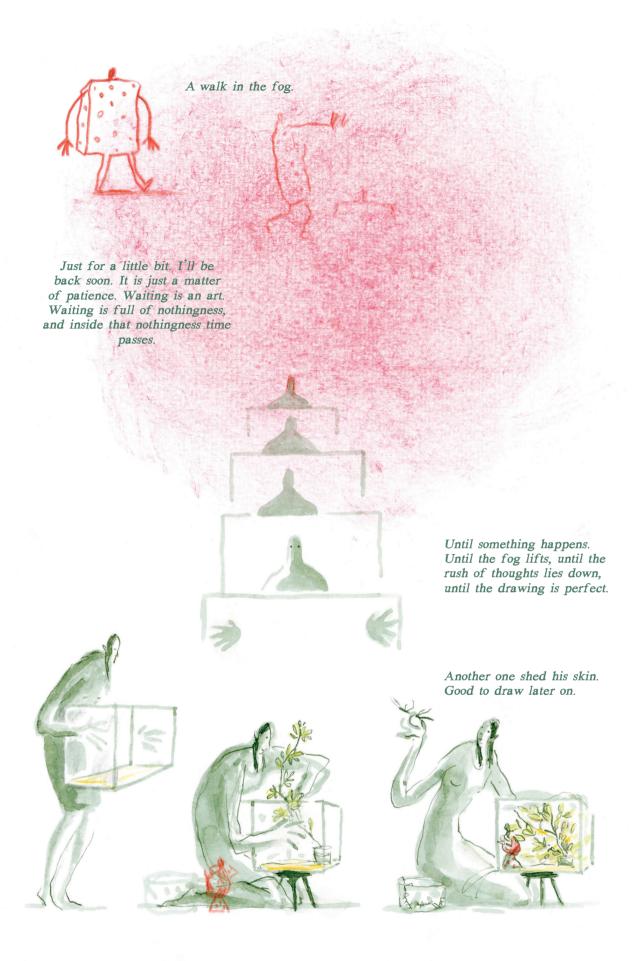














A stick insect can only grow one way, Esther knew. He has to shed his old skin every month, or else he will literally burst out of it. When their skin starts to feel a little too snug, a stick insect will climb a high branch inside the terrarium, steadily, all the way to the top. He hangs himself upside down from the branch and stretches out to his full length, after which his skin, starting from the head, slowly starts to tear. Esther adored the old skins. She kept them in a little tin box on which she wrote: OLD SKIN. Besides, they were great to draw.

