

Rosetta: Ashes of the Feast

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羅賽塔:盛宴餘燼

Author: Eli Lin Illustrator: Eli Lin Publisher: Gaea Books Date: 11/2022 Right's contacts: bft.children.comics@moc.gov.tw 168 pages | 18 x 24 cm Volume: 2 Rights sold: French BFT2.0 Translator: William Serrano

"Hand an item to Rosetta, and you can glimpse its soul and story." In the alleys of the old town, a mysterious antique shop is said to hold a special power: If you hand an item to the shopkeeper, Rosetta, you can glimpse its soul and story.

When a necklace in the shop's display case captivates Fang Meiling, a child star turned actress, it draws out her deepest passions and insecurities. After securing the lead role in a stage play based on Salome, Meiling struggles with the stagnation of her adult career and the pressures from her family and peers. Her love for acting gives way to anxiety about her talents, sending her spiraling into confusion, jealousy, and madness. Eli Lin's unique combination of familiar Taiwanese street scenes and vibrant, stylish colors brings a fresh chapter to the *Rosetta* series.



Eli Lin is a manga artist and illustrator with an interest in animation. Lin is passionate about jazz, astronomy, fashion, and history. Lin's works have been exhibited at Artists in Taiwan 2022: Selected Art by Taiwanese Illustrators and Manga Artists, and Lin was a Merit Winner at the 2022 3x3 International Illustration Show. Lin has also contributed as a storyboard artist for the public television sci-fi animation series Future Express. Other notable achievements include exhibiting at the 2020 Angoulême International Comics Festival Taiwan Pavilion Retrospective and being nominated for the festival's Digital Comics Award in both 2018 and 2022, as well as for the New Talent Award in 2019. In 2020, Lin received the Special Selection Award at the Original Comics and Script Creation Competition for Page Comics.



A World of Contrasts: Beauty and Oddity in *Rosetta: Ashes of the Feast*

by Ho Hsiang Wei

Author and artist Eli Lin masterfully uses vibrant, stylish colors to create a comic that blends fantasy with dark psychological themes. The central storyline evokes films like *Black Swan*, portraying the mental unraveling of performers in their pursuit of perfection.

At the heart of the narrative is Rosetta, a mysterious woman with the ability to travel through time and space via objects. She listens to the owners of these objects recount their stories, observing with cold detachment as human obsessions jealousy, repression, and desire inevitably lead to their destruction.

Lin, who majored in fashion and

animation, comes from a family with deep roots in the custom clothing industry. This background is evident in her exceptional command of character costumes, styling, and color choices. She employs bright, distinctive tones that create unforgettable visual imagery. In this fullcolor comic, Lin strategically uses blackand-white lines or monochrome tones to prevent visual overload. Screen glitch effects reflect the characters' internal worlds collapsing, while bold, flat-tipped marker lines depict their psychological breakdown. These innovative techniques break away from conventional comic traditions.

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If the story had solely focused on the obsessive pursuit of dreams by a performer, it might have fallen into familiar tropes. However, Lin introduces the enigmatic Rosetta with her extraordinary powers to propel the narrative

forward. This adds a layer of intrigue that softens the harshness of human nature's darker side, leaving readers with a lingering, eerie aftertaste.

Ho Hsiang Wei is an artist and illustrator.



































