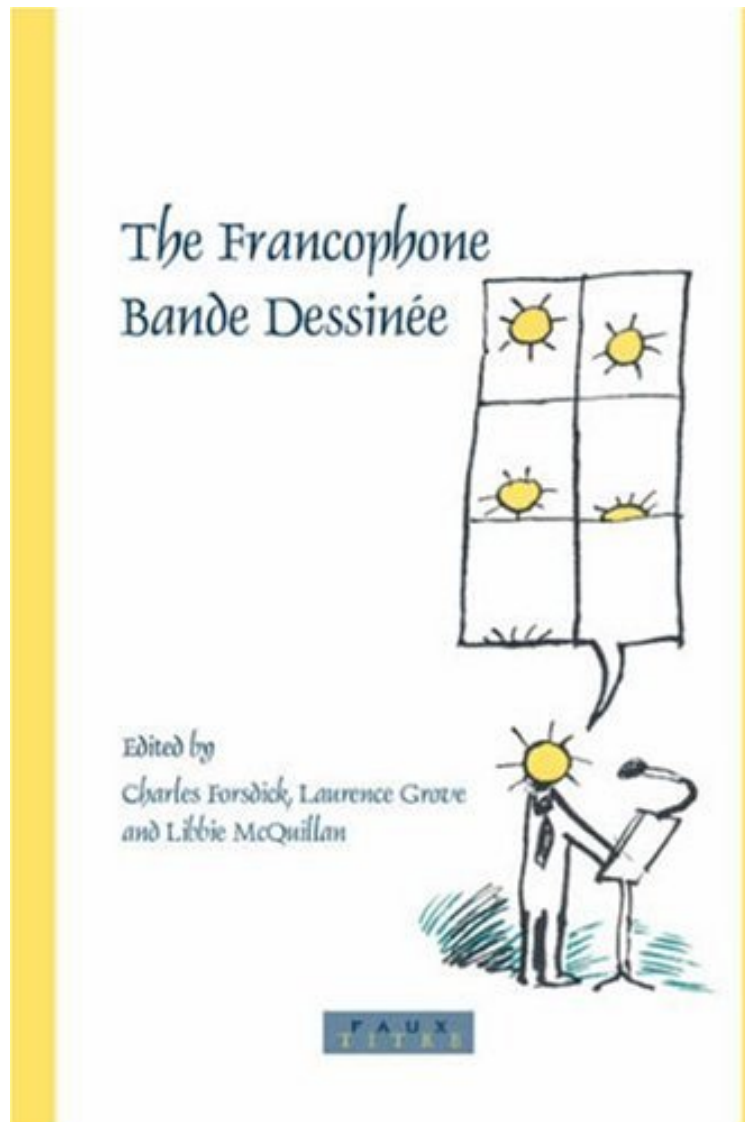


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From Rodopi : The Francophone Bande Dessine (Faux Titre 265) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Francophone Bande Dessine (Faux Titre 265):

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Collection of critical essays By Luciole Purchased book believing it would provide survey history of topic. Book is actually an anthology of scholarly essays, some more penetrable than others, all academic in tone. My misapprehension of the book's content and subsequent disappointment with my purchase does not impinge upon my judgment of the book when I say that it is uneven, and the graphic materials are

extremely poorly reprinted. More information on the book would have been helpful.

Known as *French Ninth Art*, the bande dessinée has a status far surpassing that of the equivalent English-language comic strip. This publication, one of the first predominantly in English on the subject, provides a thorough introduction to questions of BD history, context and bibliography. Theoretical issues including the reception of the early proto-BD prior to its modern definition, approaches to the construction of a BD (presented here in BD form by leading artist Tanitoc), semiology and the reading of the current form, or the specificity of the French/US (non)overlap complement historical approaches, such as Bécassine read in the light of postcolonialism, Le Corbusier and BD techniques in architecture, post-war BD and nostalgia for the Resistance, or *Pilote* and the 1960s revolution. And whilst broaching issues such as feminism or masculinity, social class, AIDS, exoticism or futurism, the volume presents chapters on some of the cutting-edge artists in the field today: Baru, Moebius, Juillard, Binet, Bilal. This book supplies an introduction to the BD that will be of use to students and researchers at all levels. In addition, the format of the individual case studies provides in-depth analysis allowing the reader to grasp specific examples in terms both of their place vis-a-vis the evolution of the BD and, more generally, of the wider role they play within French and Francophone cultural studies.