

The Queen's Caprice: Stories

Jean Echenoz

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France's preeminent fiction writer is frequently credited with a kind of literary magic, an ability to craft stories with such precision and detail that readers are caught off guard by the powerful currents of emotion and imagination that lie just beneath the placid surface of his writing. As Gary Indiana put it in *Bookforum*, "Echenoz risks everything in his fiction, gambling on the prodigious blandishments of his voice to lure his readers into a maze of improbabilities and preposterous happenings."

The Queen's Caprice—seven new stories presented in English for the first time—reveals Echenoz at the height of his talents. The author takes us on a journey across radically different places and landscapes, giving free rein to a "terrific sense of humor tinged with existential mischief" (*L'Express*). The title story explores a tiny corner of the French countryside; "Nelson" offers a brilliant miniaturist portrait of the hero of the Battle of Trafalgar; "Babylon" sketches the ancient city of Mesopotamia, based on trace descriptions from Herodotus; and other stories visit the forests of England, the Luxembourg Gardens in Paris, Tampa Bay, and the interior of a submarine. Amid the thrill and allure of this voyage of words, "again and again we pause to savor the richness of Echenoz's startling, crystalline observations" (Lydia Davis).



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From reader reviews:

Janet Speer:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you could have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition details. Even you love The Queen's Caprice: Stories, you are able to enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout men. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

Corine Ramirez:

The Queen's Caprice: Stories can be one of your nice books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to put every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing The Queen's Caprice: Stories however doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource data that maybe you can be among it. This great information can easily drawn you into brand new stage of crucial imagining.

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