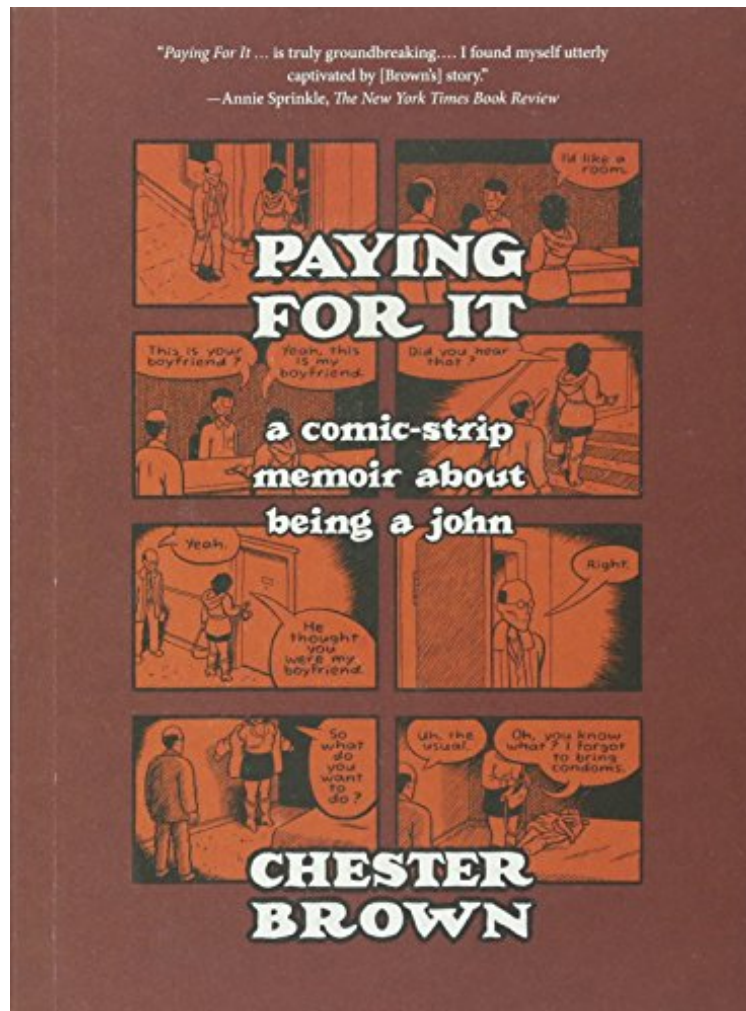


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Paying for It

Chester Brown

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Chester Brown : Paying for It before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Paying for It:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. As good an argument for unregulated prostitution as you will find in the popular literature By F. Orion Pozo Paying for It by Chester Brown is an autobiographical graphic novel that relates Mr. Brown's sex life from 1996 to 2010, which consists of his using professional female escorts for his heterosexual encounters. He mentions using masturbation to cool his ardor prior to these encounters, but provides no further details. To protect the women he changes their names and doesn't provide locations or identifying features. For those of us not familiar with sex workers or their customers, this is a chance to get a glimpse into the workings of this trade. Brown is dispassionate but clearly happy with his decision to outsource his sexual needs, feeling that sex and girlfriends do not go together well for him. The text alternates visits to various escorts with discussions with his male friends and ex-

girlfriends about the advantages of his chosen sexual lifestyle. He is well-read on the politics of sex workers and takes a Libertarian position condemning the present laws restricting or outlawing sex work. The body of the book is preceded by an Introduction by Robert Crumb who calls it Mr. Brown's best work. At the end of the book there are 50 pages of Appendices and Notes that go into much deeper detail than the narrative of the book permitted. I would say that he makes as good an argument for unregulated prostitution as you will find in the popular literature. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Brown's illustrations are awesome By Celeste Thayer I love the simple style of Brown's illustrations and the point of view that he uses to approach the world. I get the feeling Brown is either a huge nerd, or somewhere on the Asberger's scale, because a lot of his interactions with people are quite awkward. In order to avoid girlfriend-awkwardness, he starts seeing escorts. His philosophical arguments supporting prostitution are well-considered and very persuasive. However, the majority of the book is NOT boring philosophy but rather little vignettes of his visits to whores. I like the intimacy and strangeness of each of these meetings. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Autobiography in comic book form By Matt Meet Chester Brown, a cartoonist whose girlfriend just broke up with him for another man that may or may not even be interested in her. It's at this point in his life that Brown no longer looks for "romantic love" but instead turns to prostitutes. It must be noted that when this book was written, prostitution was semi-legal in Canada. That is, as long as you didn't solicit in public or operate out of a brothel, prostitution was tolerated. A popular concept was the "outcall" where you can call an agency and have an escort show up to your room. However, we soon discover that Chester couldn't afford the girl AND the room, so he usually went for incalls, which means he went to the prostitute. (Canada has recently changed their policy on prostitution. It is legal to sell sex, but illegal to buy it.) The illustrations are unique in that Brown attempts to draw the women as they were in actuality (breast size, body type, etc.) and I found it amusing that he changed the prostitutes names even though they were fake names to begin with. Although I see why he did it - to protect their identities from anyone who may be reading the book. A lot of common scams with prostitution are depicted in the cartoons, such as the "bait and switch", which is when a girl uses a fake/outdated picture or inaccurately describes herself over the phone and then shows up at your door. Overall, it was a quick read. I found myself agreeing with most of his philosophies during the actual illustrated portion of the book, but in the appendix of the book he uses a lot of far-fetched examples (homosexual relationships, the possibility of a "gay gene", futuristic sex in 2080, etc) to get his point across. If you're interested in the sex for money business I'd give this book a look.

The critically lauded memoir about being a john, available in paperback for the first time! Paying for It was easily the most talked-about and controversial graphic novel of 2011, a critical success so innovative and complex that it received two rave reviews in The New York Times and sold out of its first print run in just six months. Chester Brown's eloquent, spare artwork stands out in this paperback edition. Paying for It combines the personal and sexual aspects of Brown's autobiographical work (I Never Liked You, The Playboy) with the polemical drive of Louis Riel. He calmly lays out the facts of how he became not only a willing participant in but also a vocal proponent of one of the world's most hot-button topics prostitution. While this may appear overly sensational and just plain implausible to some, Brown's story stands for itself. Paying for It offers an entirely contemporary exploration of sex work from the timid john who rides his bike to his escorts, wonders how to tip so as not to offend, and reads Dan Savage for advice, to the modern-day transactions complete with online reviews, seemingly willing participants, and clean apartments devoid of cliché street corners, drugs, or pimps. Complete with a surprise ending, Paying for It continues to provide endless debate and conversation about sex work.