

**A Plague of Frogs** by Maria Kubacki

a short story

with illustrations by D. Boyd

**A PLAGUE OF FROGS**

MARIA KUBACKI



illustrations by D. Boyd

**Excerpt:**

When you get the Death card in a Tarot reading, it doesn't actually mean death. Or, not always. It can mean illness, or change. But how can you know which it will be—death, illness or change? I don't even believe in Tarot cards but I find myself waiting for the other shoe to drop, looking for signs.

A few days after my first reading, which my mother talked me into, I get a text from Michele the psychic telling me that my credit card was declined and could I e-transfer her instead? I send her \$200 and ask if she can elaborate on the meaning of my reading. Unfortunately she can't, the cards have spoken, do I want another reading or a package of 10 at a discount? I book a reading for the following week and tell her I have to think about the package. . . .

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Maria Kubacki was born in Warsaw, Poland, and grew up in Bathurst, NB. She completed a BA and MA in English literature at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton, and was the editor of the *New Brunswick Reader*, the former weekend magazine of the *Telegraph-Journal*. Her news and feature articles have appeared in newspapers and magazines including the *Telegraph-Journal*, *Ottawa Citizen*, *National Post*, and *ArtsAtlantic*, and her fiction has been published in *The Fiddlehead*.

She lives in Ottawa.

**ABOUT THE ARTIST**

Originally from Saint John, NB, comic artist D. Boyd is author of *Chicken Rising*, a graphic memoir (Conundrum Press, 2019), nominated for a 2020 Doug Wright Award.

Her illustrations have appeared in the *Montreal Review of Books*, and in collaboration with RM Vaughan, she illustrated *Veixe* (Frog Hollow Press, 2019), a graphic poem, and created the cover art for *Marsh Blue Violet — Violette bleu marécage*, edited by RM Vaughan (Frog Hollow Press, 2021).

With the help of a grant from Canada Council of the Arts, she is at work on her second book.

**A Plague of Frogs**

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