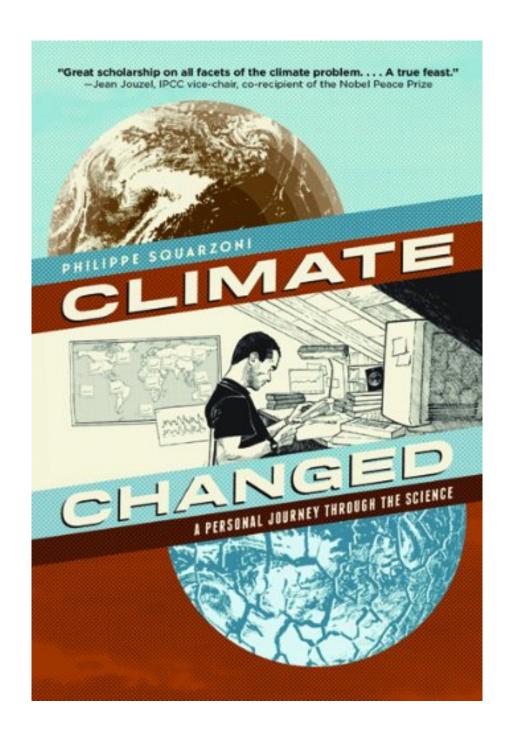


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From Booklist

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What are the causes and consequences of climate change? When the scale is so big, can an individual make any difference? Documentary, diary, and masterwork graphic novel, this up-to-date look at our planet and how we live on it explains what global warming is all about. With the most complicated concepts made clear in a feat of investigative journalism by artist Philippe Squarzoni, Climate Changed weaves together scientific research, extensive interviews with experts, and a call for action. Weighing the potential of some solutions and the false promises of others, this groundbreaking work provides a realistic, balanced view of the magnitude of the crisis that An Inconvenient Truth only touched on.

Climate Changed is printed on FSC-certified paper from responsibly-managed, environmentally-sound sources.

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Most helpful customer reviews

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful.

Very clear understanding of some aspects of the problem, and great drawing, but...

By utopic

Very educational for those unfamiliar with the arguments, and the moments of personal reflection are often unsettling (in a good way). Would have liked more linking of the problem to corporate capitalism, more research about activist movements, a deeper sense of the collective shift occurring right now, at least in the fertile margins.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

A Tale of Two Climate Changes

By Darrek

Climate change is one of those problems that is so enormous, most people cannot even begin to wrap their minds around. Due to the issue's sheer magnitude and its complex nature, climate change is a very difficult topic for common people to approach and study. Due to this, many people opt to simply ignore the problems at hand. With this in mind, Phillipe Squarzoni penned his graphic "novel" Climate Changed: A Personal Journey through the Science with the intent of making climate change an accessible and comprehensible subject. He does this by intertwining scientific dialogues with graphic images, personal anecdotes, and interesting analogies.

On one level, Climate Changed provides its readers with an overload of scientific information. Squarzoni

quotes myriad scientists and researchers to present the reader with all of the research he has come across which he believes is essential for the readers to know. At times, these sections of the book dragged on and felt repetitive. However, I realize that this component of the book is entirely crucial for attaining a clear sense of what climate change truly is and how much it can affect our lives. With that being said, it felt to me that these sections of the book were not necessarily incorporated well with the "graphic novel" concept. Seeing 10 panels in a row of a scientist giving his or her statement about various aspects of climate change looked boring and bland in graphic form. I would not like to see this aspect of the book cut out entirely, though I would like to see the repetitive parts (the parts about nuclear energy and social inequality in a climate-changed world felt excruciatingly long to me) trimmed down a bit, and I would have liked to see a more graphically creative way of blending these sections into the book.

On the other hand, there is the "personal journey" aspect of Climate Changed. In these sections of the book, Squarzoni tells his own story of how he approached the idea of writing about climate change. In addition, he talks about the changes that he personally makes in order to help the planet (e.g. limiting himself to one flight per year) and the difficulties that arise from this self-restraint. To me, these sections of the book felt much more visceral for numerous reasons. The graphics and images of his trips to America or his comparisons to movies and novels were much more captivating than merely images of French scientists sitting at a desk and spewing out facts. Additionally, in these sections Squarzoni was able to take difficult topics and break them down to a level which anyone could easily comprehend. He used analogies to a dish being pushed over the edge of a table or a man skydiving sans parachute to really illustrate the direness of this situation. Finally, hearing one man tell of how to make a personal change just seems much more convincing than hearing a scientist present us only with statistics and facts. In the personal journey sections, Squarzoni was truly able to bring this climate change narrative to life and leave an impact on the readers.

In the end, there is no definitive answer to the climate change problem. However, this book provides readers with the necessary facts in order to make informed environmentally conscious decisions in life. While I cannot say that Squarzoni or any of the scientists he quotes have convinced me to ditch my car and go live simplistically out in the woods like Henry David Thoreau, I certainly feel inspired to try to make a series of small yet positive changes in life. While Climate Changed may not have been an entirely engrossing read, I would consider it severely important for anyone who wishes to be more aware about the global climate change issue.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Climate Changed: One Journey To Pay Attention To.

By DShavon

How to begin? Philippe Squarzoni, author of Climate Changed – a personal journey through the science, asks that question many times in his graphic novel. I didn't know what to expect going into this book, other than thinking that it was a phenomenal idea to write a book about Climate Change in this medium. As a noncomic book reader, I was pleasantly surprised. There are so many facts in this books, it can sometimes be overwhelming; however I am abundantly more educated on the issues and history of Climate Change than ever before. One of the first things I learned was that 15,000 people died from a heat wave in France in 2003. What?! That was my most common emotion when reading this book (shock/surprise). I think whenever the narrator, goes into his own life, and questions what he can do; he represents a larger picture of America (if not the world). He is writing as a human being, and not simply as a character. One of the clear inner conflicts that the narrator is dealing with in the middle of the book is whether or not to attend the conference because plane travel is a huge contributor to the rising CO2 in the atmosphere. "The plane is going to take off anyway," he says. This echoes a much bigger sentiment, as even if I change my behavior, it has to be a much bigger collective effort.

Of course nothing will change if money isn't involved. In Climate Changed one of the characters suggests investing in mass transit options, instead of "another next-generation nuclear power plant." There has to be

other options. This strikes me as similar to the Chris Hayes article The New Abolitionism, and how the "movement to stop the Keystone XL pipeline is probably the largest social movement in American history directed at stopping a piece of capital investment." He goes on to say that may institutions (colleges, foundations, institutions etc) have pledged to divest hundreds of millions away from fossil fuel. The other choices, have to have a viable business model as Hayes says, the fossil fuel companies are spending it currently on an "extremely expensive suicide mission." So, even if these companies aren't worrying about our changing environments, they are worried about their bottom line. If there are other and equally profitable ways to make this money, companies will want to hear about those options.

Throughout this book, the narrator was constantly pondering questions. "Which way to go?" he asks. "We are caught in so many contradictions." I believe the science is out there, and we can keep living with Santa in a fantasy land or we can take into account what is happening in the world and start making small differences that in turn, will end up making a huge impact. All in all, Climate Changed, was an engrossing and thought provoking book. I highly recommend it, especially those new to idea of climate change, it will open your mind to how the world is was; and how you choose to embrace it in the future.

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