
Dream Country Book PDF Download



By:
Neil Gaiman

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Alejandro

Writer: Neil Gaiman

Illustrators: Kelly Jones, Malcolm Jones III, Colleen Doran & Charles Vess

Letterer: Todd Klein

Covers: Dave McKean

This is a wonderful volumen in the

run where the great storyteller, Neil Gaiman, unleashes his imagination to the fullest giving us the pleasure of reading four stories where anything can happen...

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Bookdragon Sean

Sometimes I like to binge read a series, I enjoy it that much that I try to read it as quickly as possible. The real world ceases to exist for a few days. This really isn't anything particularly remarkable to say about a series, most readers do this sort of thing. Though every so often, maybe once every two to three years or so of reading, a series will come along that is so utterly excellent that I don't want to read it. I mean, I don't want to finish reading it. So I pace myself, I take my time

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have noticed how quickly I can get through books.

I started reading the Sandman almost a year ago now, and I've only just finished the third volume. This, in fact, took me almost two months to read. I went back and re-read issues; I flicked through and enjoyed the artwork on multiple occasions. For me The Sandman is the absolute peak of Gaiman's writing and intellect, and it's also the best graphic novel I've read to date. It would take a truly huge amount of ingenuity, creativity and originality to top something as good as this.

This volume, though not as good as the previous two, is a very enjoyable read. Unlike the others, that have six issues that follow a story arc, this one is divided into four separate issues that tell a different tale. It's almost like the comic book equivalent of a book of short stories. I'm sure there's may be a technical name for this, but if there is I certainly couldn't find it! So I've broke down my review to talk about each of the four:

What does the artistic muse dream about? She dreams about not being a muse, of course. She doesn't want to exist for the purpose of another's inspiration; she wants to exist for herself, and herself only. So she calls upon the lord of the dream world to come and save her from the confines of her existence.

What do cats dream about? Well, here they dream about being free; they dream about breaking the shackles of human domestication, and, of course, ruling the world. And in this world if enough beings dream for something to happen, with enough power, then it can become reality. So our she-cat heroine spreads the word; she lets other cats know what they must do if they want change. And I, being the cat crazed person that I am, absolutely loved the issue. It's brilliantly told with a high level of wit.

More Shakespeare! (YAY!) The Bard makes good on his promise, that made in the previous volume, to write a play for Dream. He performs it for him in the middle of the countryside with a very strange audience straight from the world of Fae. No other audience could match such an interesting bunch. As ever, I love the way Gaiman inserts Shakespeare into his series and shows how the concept of dream influenced his subsequent writing.

This wasn't much of a Dream based issue; it was more a death based story. It was okay, just about a woman who was physically mutilated during some crazy experience that left her longing for an end. It was very short and lacked substance; it would have been much better in a death based collection.

Speaking of which, I must read her issues at some point:

She's certainly the most beautiful depiction of death I've ever seen! (stares silently into the distance)

Bill Kerwin

The third volume of

series is a bit of a mixed bag, since the individual stories, although all entertaining, vary in quality. And yet it also contains what may be the greatest Sandman tale of all time.

First of all, this volume is essentially half the length of the first two, consisting of four individual numbers instead of the customary eight. It is padded to something close to the normal length by the addition of an original Gaiman script (â€œCalliopeâ€•), which Iâ€™m sure will be of grea

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But the third taleâ€”ah, the third tale!â€”is a masterpiece. â€œA Midsummer Nightâ€™s Dreamâ€• tells us about a special performance of this play, on an isolated rural hill, by Shakespeareâ€™s own company, arranged by Lord Dream himself. The audience? The actual beings that are the originals of Shakespeareâ€™s Dream-inspired creations: Queen Titania, King Oberon, Puck, Peaseblossom, and the rest. The faeries comment critically on the play, interact with the players, and this mingling of art with the hyper-real personages of dream has consequences for Shakespeareâ€™s company, and for his young son Hamnet as well.

Shakespeare was a master of the play-within-a play, using it to great effect not only in this play (the â€œPyramus and Thisbeâ€• interlude), but in

, and

as well. Gaiman shows his command of the form too, using itâ€™s as his master Shakespeare didâ€™not only as meta-fictional commentary, but also as metaphysical meditation.

Patrick

Note: This is part two of a rambling multi-volume re-read of the series. It will probably make better sense in context of other reviews...

The third volume of Sandman is several short stand-alone stories. It also includes my my favorite story in the entire series. Where Shakespeare's troupe performs Midsummer's Night's Dream for the assembled host of Faerie.

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I remember reading this and thinking... "What? What the serious hell? You can make Shakespeare a character in a comic? This... this... I don't even..."

This time when I read it, I noticed many more subtle things going on than in my first two read-throughs.

This time when I read it, I thought to myself. "We have a play with a play in it."

Brad

This is a fairly short volume, but each story is tight and delightful. This is where I remember the Sandman comics coming into its own, and Morpheus himself hardly had any role in them. It's all about stories. Stories about stories. Of course, I can make the same argument about the entire run of the series, but like I said, this is where it comes into its own.

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. A world of masks.

None of these short descriptions really do any of it justice. Dream gets revenge on an artist that rapes Calliope for his success, and the revenge is so damn sweet it bears repeating a thousand times. You want ideas? I'll give you ideas... muahahaha... :) The cat's dream was of overturning the rule of man, while remembering that cats once DID rule man, but man dreamt of a new world with more of it's kind and changed the nature of reality. Can't cats bring themselves to reverse reality in the same way? It brings a whole new spin on the adage, "To herd cats."

But it was the story about the Shakespearian production that takes the cake. Dream invites the entire Fae court to watch Will and his entire cast of players in a private production of the famous play, becoming a dream within a dream within a dream in a real sense, and because Puck, well, shenanigans ensue. There was sadness and longing, and it was nearly, but not quite, 4th walled. I think this one was my favourite.

The mythbuilding is truly great stuff. :)