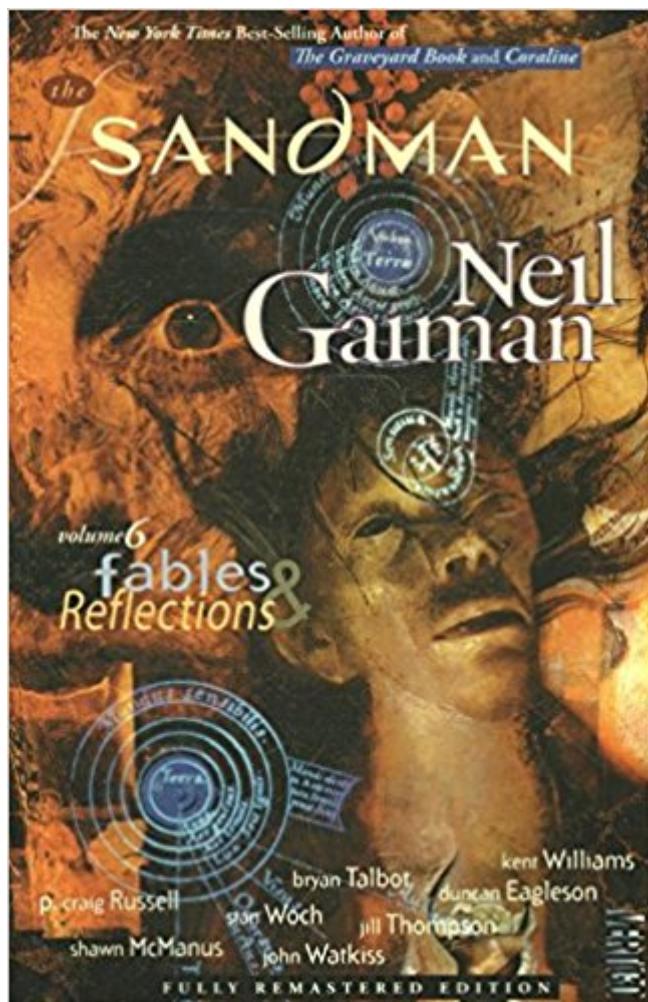


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# The Sandman, Vol. 6: Fables And Reflections



## Synopsis

The critically acclaimed THE SANDMAN: FABLES AND REFLECTIONS continues the fantastical epic of Morpheus, the King of Dreams, as he observes and interacts with an odd assortment of historical and fictional characters throughout time. Featuring tales of kings, explorers, spies, and werewolves, this book of myth and imagination delves into the dark dreams of Augustus Caesar, Marco Polo, Cain and Abel, Norton I, and Orpheus to illustrate the effects that these subconscious musings have had on the course of history and mankind.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This was a fantastic volume, and like Volume 3 (I believe it was 3) it is a collection of short stories; which is something, as a storyteller, I think Gaiman excels at. I enjoyed this volume even more than the previous short story collection as this one had far more, coming in at nine stories. The stories are packed full of delights that I doubt you'd find in the comic book medium outside of Sandman. You'll find a story about the Emperor of the United States, one about the revolutionary Johanna Constantine, a story about Emperor Augustus of Rome, and one about the Dream Lord's son Orpheus, among several others. The volume concludes with a short tale about Haroun Al Raschid, King of Baghdad, which I thought was great. It reminded me of a tale that could have been in Howard Pyle's 'Twilight Land' an old favorite of mine. It took until this volume for me to really pick up on something that I think is pretty cool about The Sandman, something that actually bothered me when I first started to read it. So many different artists work on this comic. You may have as many

as four or five different artists drawing issues for any one volume. And while there are certain artists who do a majority share of the work (Shawn McManus comes to mind) the fact remains that you will see these issues drawn by many different hands. As a result we see many different 'versions' lets call them, of Morpheus. And yet, they're all the same. Given it's dream-like nature, this almost lends itself to the comic as a story element. It adds to the Fantasy feeling of the book, and it's something I've come to love. It makes it easy to appreciate not just Gaiman's storytelling, but the work of the many artists involved in the process.

Fables and Reflections has rocketed to my favorite of the Sandman collection. Even though all the chapters contained are one-off stories that took place between individual serialized arcs, this book is in serious competition with Watchmen for my favorite graphic novel ever. It is that good. If I had to rank the individual stories I would have to say:1.Three Septembers and a January-Showing how a dream can change a person's reality.2.Orpheus-A retelling of the classic Greek myth that shows off ALL of Dream's family.3.August-A tell of how a famous ruler chooses to use his power.4.Ramadan-On the importance of what we leave behind.5.A Parliament of Rooks-Giving us some backstory on some of the minor characters in the Dreaming.6.Thermidor-A historical story about the French Revolution.7.The Hunt-A story within a story. STORYCEPTION.8.Soft Places-My sources inform me this was to help set up important plot points in later Sandman volumes.I can not recommend this book to you enough.

First up, all of the 10 volumes of The Sandman novels deserve 5 stars. They are a phenomenal achievement in not only graphic novels but in storytelling itself. The story is complex and cerebral and the characters so well developed that Sandman is one of my favorite stories period. The novels are intensely violent and often disturbing but everything that happens serves a purpose, and nothing happens by chance or just for the sake of things happening. Something that happens in one volume may become vitally important 3 or 4 volumes later. By the end of the 10th volume everything has come full circle with an appropriate and satisfying end. With regards to Volume 6 itself, it is much like volume 3, consisting of several 4 different, unrelated short stories. While Morpheus often plays a role in these stories he is more of a minor character than the primary focus. The one exception to this is "The Song of Orpheus" which does play a central part in the overall story arc of the series. The stories included in this collection are:1. Fear of Falling2. Three Septembers and a January3. Thermidor4. The Hunt5. August6. Soft Places7. The Song of Orpheus8. The Parliament of Rooks9. Ramadan. As far as the volume's content on the Kindle Fire - I was hesitant to abandon the volumes

in print worried that the Kindle Fire might provide a more difficult viewing experience. That hasn't turned out to be the case. The novel is easy to read, you can scan in to specific boxes, and the colors are vibrant.

One could split hairs about which volume is better than which, but I'm going to rate them all excellent because you would really do yourself well to read them all in sequence. The mythology is just plain cool and Gaiman will get inside your head with it, of which honestly, will be very cool until it wears off. Enjoy your time with *The Sandman*.

I can't get enough of the *Sandman* series. I am so addicted to the storyline and the characters. When I order a new volume, I literally drop everything and read it.

Excellent Story. Highly recommended for a reason. As a comic book fan I know most people probably imagine the world of comics as being about super heroes or Sunday Funnies. But, the comic medium is worthy of so much more. *Sandman* is that "much more". The story is excellent, and is wonderfully executed. You're going to want to get all of these at once, because they can't be put down. If you're already a comic book fan, you've likely heard of *Sandman*. So what are you waiting for? Read this already! If you aren't already a comic book fan, maybe it's time to give it a chance. If any story is going to change your mind about the possibilities of this art form, this is the one.

I met Lieutenant Atwater in front of the carnival flea market. He said "get in," and I got in his Dodge Aspen, the shocking blue interior that once stung the eyes like an exploding power transformer, now faded to the blue milky white hybrid of his eyes. He gave me these books.

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