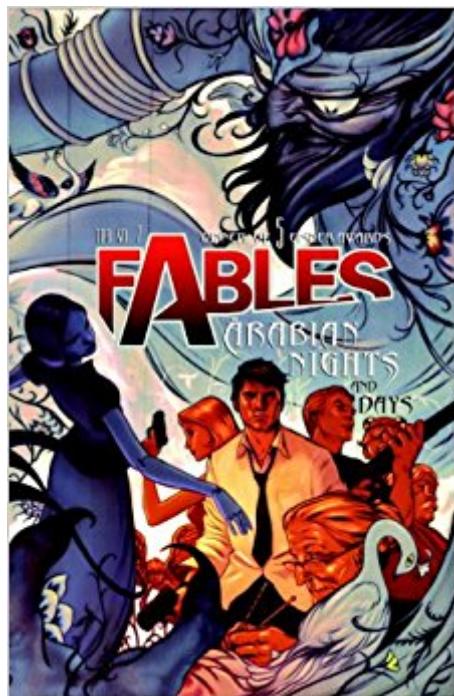


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Fables Vol. 7: Arabian Nights (and Days)



Synopsis

Collecting issues #42-47 of writer Bill Willingham's Eisner Award-winning creation, FABLES: ARABIAN NIGHTS (AND DAYS) opens a new front in the struggle between the Fables and the Adversary as the worlds of the Arabian Fables are invaded • leading to an unprecedented diplomatic mission to Fabletown and a bad case of culture shock! This seventh volume of the popular Vertigo series also includes "The Ballad of Rodney and June," the 2-part story of forbidden love among the Adversary's wooden soldiers, and features stellar Art by Mark Buckingham, Steve Leialoha, Jim Fern, Jimmy Palmiotti and Andrew Pepoy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Grade 10 Up • The beloved characters of classic stories, such as Snow White, Sleeping Beauty, and Mowgli, come to life as the denizens of mythical Fabletown. With the womanizing Prince Charming as mayor, things are off to a rocky start for these residents. Then Sinbad and his slaves arrive, and Charming misunderstands their Arabian customs and language. When Sinbad adopts American customs, his advisor loses faith in him and unleashes a genie that could destroy Fabletown and all of its inhabitants, unless they find a way to stop it. Also included in this volume is a bonus story about two wooden soldiers named Rodney and June who wish to be made real so they can marry. Willingham's seventh installment proves that this series storms on, full steam ahead. Readers unfamiliar with the Fable world can still follow the arc of this story, with few holes, and longtime fans will revel in the new plot twists and deeper development of its characters. Exquisitely detailed and vibrant art pulls readers into this well-crafted fantasy. Unlike some of its

predecessors, this volume is fairly innocuous in content, besides some light cursing and mild sexual themes. A fun series for larger libraries and/or those that already carry the preceding volumes.â€¢Jennifer Feigelman, Goshen Public Library and Historical Society, NY Copyright Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

The Adversary, whose forces drove the characters of European fairy tales into exile, is advancing again, and a party headed by Sinbad arrives at Fabletown in Manhattan to assess New York as a possible refuge for their fellows in the Arabian sector of the fairy-tale homeland. A traitor in the entourage nearly destroys Fabletown in the longer story in this volume of Willingham and company's spellbinding epic. The shorter tale is the romance of a couple eventually dispatched to spy on Fabletown by their master--the Adversary. If the dialogue is a mite clunky this time, the artwork seems more lavish than ever. Ray OlsonCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

This seventh volume in the excellent FABLES lineup may disappoint some fans of the series. ARABIAN NIGHTS (AND DAYS) fits in nicely with the overall series, continuing to progress the still-developing story that has enthralled so many, and to expand the setting. That being said, I felt that this volume didn't quite live up to the awesomeness of the previous three. The new characters out of the Arabian fables just don't add too much to the overall appeal of the series for me, and the primary story here was almost wholly directed at introducing them to the reader. While it looks like the events related here will have a significant impact on the future of the series, this just wasn't as entertaining of a story as I've come to expect from FABLES. And, the side story at the end of this one, "Rodney and June", also failed to impress. The forbidden love of two wooden soldiers and their quest for transformation felt like a stretch even in such a bizarre setting as FABLES. And again, while this story promises to have major implications on the future of the series, the story itself just sort of fell flat in my opinion. So, while volume seven progresses the story and continues to entertain, it felt like a step down from the heights of the previous collections. I have high hopes that Fables Vol. 8: Wolves will pick up the pace and bring this series back up to the level I know it should be.

ARABIAN NIGHTS (AND DAYS) maintains the high quality established by all the previous volumes in Bill Willingham's award winning FABLES series. The joys of this volume are smaller compared with those that came before. Apart from the release of a djinn and Frau Totenkiller's role in reigning

it in, there are no major arcs. That does not mean that the volume isn't filled with pleasures, but they are not those of a large narrative arc. The final section of the book is a real change. A wooden soldier in the adversary's army named Rodney falls in love with June, a wooden "medic" who helps repair injured wooden troops. She reciprocates and they petition Gepetto to be made human so that they can really and truly marry. Their wish is granted with the condition that they move just outside Fabletown among the Mundys (with Rodney ironically taking a job as a butcher--meat is abhorrent to the woodens). This series is a marvel. I've not read all the comics except for the Jack of the Fables tales (I'll get to them -- I just don't enjoy Jack all that much). I think this is with ease the best currently running graphics series and compare favorably to the best series of the past. I have several very well read friend who haven't delved into adult comics. The three people I urge them to try are Alan Moore's books, Gaiman's Sandman books, and Willingham's Fables. It really is that good.

Gorgeous illustration wonderful story telling

Yeah! You probably already know what's up if you're onto this volume. It's a nice little break from the main story that ends up having some nice little future connections. Anyway, so as to not spoil the story, yet convince you that it's still worth reading, let's say that a genie threatens to erase Fabletown and Bigby's dad offers to fight it (But then something happens). Enjoy.

This is a great example of a series that gets better and better as it progresses. While earlier volumes sometimes felt unfortunately thin, the constantly developing plot and characters are making the later volumes very rewarding reading. I love the addition of the Arabian fable world and am looking forward to seeing more of these elements in future volumes.

"Arabian Nights" is as good as any of the books in the Fables series, but the entire sequence read like a prelude to future volumes. Nothing happens in this latest installment to significantly impact the war against the Adversary, nor are there any major changes in the established cast, though we see a lot of new characters introduced who will no doubt play major roles in the future. There are basically two stories in this volume. The first concerns the arrival of a delegation of Arabian Fables in New York, led by Sinbad. We've seen references to non-European Fable lands in previous volumes and knew that the Adversary had already begun his invasion of the worlds of the Arabian Fables. Now we learn that the Arabian Fables are quite aware of the threat, but still have not

decided whether or not to ally themselves with the Fables who have fled to Earth. There are a lot of culture clashes and the requisite amount of treachery and bloodshed, along with a few subplots highlighting the personal lives of Beast, Beauty, Prince Charming, the Frog Prince, and Red Riding Hood. (As a side note, I personally found the resolution of the Djinn threat to be rather lame -- it is introduced as the magical equivalent of a nuclear weapon, but resolved in an anticlimactic manner in which Willingham seems to be making up new magical rules just to get himself out of a plot bind.) The second story is about two wooden soldiers serving the Empire in a unit that is establishing a beachhead on an Arabian Fable world. We get another glimpse inside the Empire and learn more about the wooden soldiers, and these two individuals are obviously being set up as recurring characters whom we'll see in future volumes.

This collection felt like filler in between two larger stories - here's hoping volume eight brings back the pacing of previous stories.

Arrived quickly and in great condition. Couldn't wait to read. Story was compelling and fit in well with the others.

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