

Sandman Volume 1

By Author, Neil Gaiman

Reviewed by: Jake 17

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

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In a world full of superheroes and magic, a group of humans attempt to trap Death. But they didn't get what they bargained for, instead trapping the titular Sandman. During his time in captivity, the Sandman plots revenge against his captors. And in his absence, the world is unable to dream, with people either falling asleep for days at a time or facing serious insomnia. After escaping captivity, either by a stroke of luck or fate, he plans to regain his power in a quest for his personal tools. In his journey to regain his strength, he faces many foes and must rely on his wit rather than his strength. The Sandman's story is a great look at the role vengeance plays, and the emotional toll it takes on the avenger after his quest is complete.

The first installment of Neil Gaiman's graphic novel series blends a new character with the world of DC Comics. The series has won a litany of awards, including the World Fantasy Award, multiple Eisner Awards, the Hugo Award, and the Bram Stoker Award. This series targets a more mature audience, as it incorporates mentions of suicide, murder, death, and other series of punishments. As a work of fiction, this graphic novel is very meta, in that it refers to several different books and works of fiction. This book would be a great gift for someone sixteen or older interested in dark fantasy and the effects of imprisonment and revenge.

Recommended Titles:

Monstress series by Marjorie Liu

Death Note series by Tsugumi Ohba

Saga series by Brian K. Vaughan

Paper Girls series by Brian K. Vaughan

Locke & Key series by Joe Hill