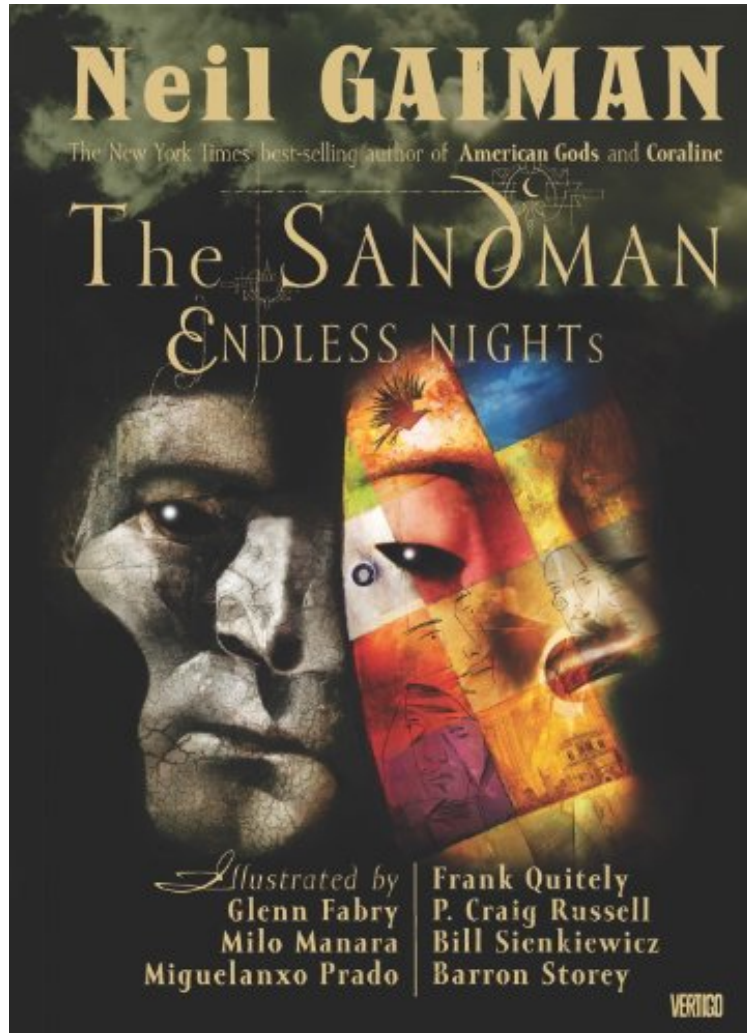


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Neil Gaiman

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#381801 in Books Neil Gaiman 2004-09-01 2004-09-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.77 x .34 x 7.19l, .99 #File Name: 140120113X160 pages The Sandman Endless Nights | File size: 52.Mb

Neil Gaiman : Endless Nights (Sandman) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Endless Nights (Sandman):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Good Entry in the Sandman Series By Dave Bell Jr. This book was a mixed bag for me; on one hand I thoroughly enjoyed the exploration of each member of the Endless family through short stories revolving around them or someone they have directly affected throughout time, while on the other hand the art varied extremely wildly and was incredibly jarring. I liked the art in the beginning of the book with Deaths story, enjoyed the hazy, dream-like aesthetic of Dreams story, and though the book ended very strongly with Quitelys Destiny story. However, I still fail to understand the appeal of Dave McKeans art style, and actively struggled through Despairs chapter in terms of the art. Also, the artist for Desires story was good, but the models sometimes felt a little

too stiff and didn't seem to have as much mobility as others' artwork. The writing was top-notch from top to bottom, though, with the exception of one chapter that I'll get into later. Each chapter felt like it delved directly into the psyche of each member of the Endless family perfectly (yes, even the one I'll be discussing later), and even showed us new aspects of their personalities at times, further complicating the characters. With all that said, I must say that I did not enjoy the Delirium chapter at all, on both a writing and artistic level. It was far, far too unfocused and disjointed for me to understand what exactly was happening, and it turned out to be even more of a chore to read through than Despair's story. I managed to power through the Despair chapter because the text was well-constructed and separated from the art more often than not, but with the Delirium chapter I couldn't find any foothold whatsoever and felt myself getting increasingly frustrated at my inability to follow what was going on. I will concede that this is the point of the Delirium character, and in that sense the story and art truly do match the character perfectly, but that does not inherently mean that the story was enjoyable. All in all, I enjoyed four of the six stories contained in this book, and while it was nice to delve into the members of the Endless family a bit more, I found myself wanting a bit more from the chapters revolving around the Endless who were not Dream or Death. Though I suppose that may be the reason why they were the ones to get their own titles and guest appearances in DCU books while the others didn't.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An Interesting Look at the Worlds of the Endless
By RDD
In "The Sandman: Endless Nights", Neil Gaiman presents a series of short stories about the Endless siblings (with the occasional appearance by Dream), each illustrated by some of the best in the comics business. My favorite stories are those of Death (titled "Death and Venice") and Dream ("The Heart of a Star"). Dream's story contains some nice references to the worlds of both Green Lantern and Superman. The two most creatively-executed stories are those of Despair ("Fifteen Portraits of Despair," illustrated by Barron Storey and designed by Dave McKean) and Delirium ("Going Inside," illustrated by Bill Sienkiewicz). Destruction, who made his largest appearance in "The Sandman, Vol. 10: The Wake", reappears in his own tale here ("On the Peninsula"). Finally, the Destiny story ("Endless Nights") nicely caps the volume. These stories help to flesh out the worlds of the Endless without the limitations of the narrative arcs in the regular "Sandman" series. This will appeal primarily to those who have read the previous "Sandman" story lines and have background knowledge about the characters, though most of the stories are accessible enough to newcomers.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Mixed results for a late Sandman installment.
By James B.
In his return to his most successful work, Neil Gaiman puts together a tale for each of the Endless siblings; some good, some not-so-good. Despair and Delirium's are easily the best, arguably some of the best short-stories to come out of the Sandman. They're both very atmospheric, with artwork that looked like the artists were just showing off, but in a good way. Dream's story was also pretty good. It flashes way back into the past to show what the Endless were doing before the humans came into existence. We even get to see delight! Desire's story was...touchy. It had some particularly good artwork, in a book where the artwork is all great. But it was the type of story that walks a very thin line between sexism and good character work so that you can't really argue with either side. Destruction's and Death's stories are just kind of there. There's nothing bad about them, but at the same time there isn't anything especially good about them either. Destiny's story, though, was a complete disappointment. If you've read the first two pages of Seasons of Mist, you've already read it. I like Destiny as a character, and seeing that waste of an event soured me on the whole book in a way. Overall, this is at best my third-least-liked Sandman work. But even disappointing Sandman is still better than most other stories out there.

'The Sandman' is a series of award-winning graphic novels. It blends modern myth and dark fantasy, in which historical drama, contemporary fiction and legend are interwoven.

From Publishers Weekly
Now that he's a bestselling fantasy novelist, Gaiman returns to the comics series that made his reputation with this new volume of seven gorgeously illustrated stories. Gaiman specializes in inventing fantastic allegories for the quotidian, in a voice that casually shifts between uneasy realism and Borgesian grandeur. In Sandman cosmology, "The Endless" are seven immortal siblings who personify abstract concepts: Dream, Death, Destiny and so on. This work devotes a story to each of them, drawn in distinctly different styles by an all-star lineup of American, British and European cartoonists and fine artists. Gaiman is famous for writing to his artists' strengths, and he does so here. P. Craig Russell draws the surreal fantasia "Death and Venice" with the opulent brio of his opera adaptations. "What I've Tasted of Desire" is a darkly sexual fable, painted by Milo Manara in the style of his more X-rated work. A couple of the stories find Gaiman working in a more experimental mode than usual, notably "Fifteen Portraits of Despair," a set of anecdotes and prose poems accompanied by Barron Storey's tormented, abstract drawings and paintings. Longtime comics fans will notice plenty of inside jokes in "The Heart of a Star," but most of this book is a red carpet-or perhaps a Persian rug-rolled out for Gaiman's prose readers to see his visions turned into lush, dramatic images. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Booklist
When Gaiman ended his phenomenally popular comic-book series *The Sandman* in 1996, he promised to eventually revisit the characters. Now he keeps that promise, with results that are everything his fans could have hoped for. The series centered on the brooding title character, also known as Dream, who rules over the realm humans visit when they sleep, and also dealt

with his godlike siblings Death, Desire, Despair, Delirium, Destruction, and Destiny, collectively known as the Endless. In this book, each of them is the focus of a separate story, illustrated by one of an array of world-class comics artists whose approaches range from the relative straightforwardness of P. Craig Russell (see *Isolation and Illusion* [BKL Ap 15 03]) to the wildly disturbing work of Barron Storey. The stories themselves vary, too, from accounts of mortals' encounters with the Endless to depictions of those demigods' lofty existence. Gaiman's eagerly awaited return to his most successful creation shows his mastery of the characters and their world to be intact, and if these shorter stories don't allow for the complexity of the original series, they still demonstrate the brilliance of his concept and the elegance of his storytelling. Gordon Flagg

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About the Author Neil Gaiman won the Hugo Award for his New York Times bestselling novel *American Gods*, and his bestselling children's book *Coraline* has been praised all over the world. But before Neil became a blockbuster prose novelist, he was best known as the creator and author of the DC Comics revolutionary comic book series *THE SANDMAN*. Critically acclaimed and award-winning, Neil's Sandman set new standards for comics as literature; the ten volume Sandman library is recognized as one of the medium's greatest achievements.