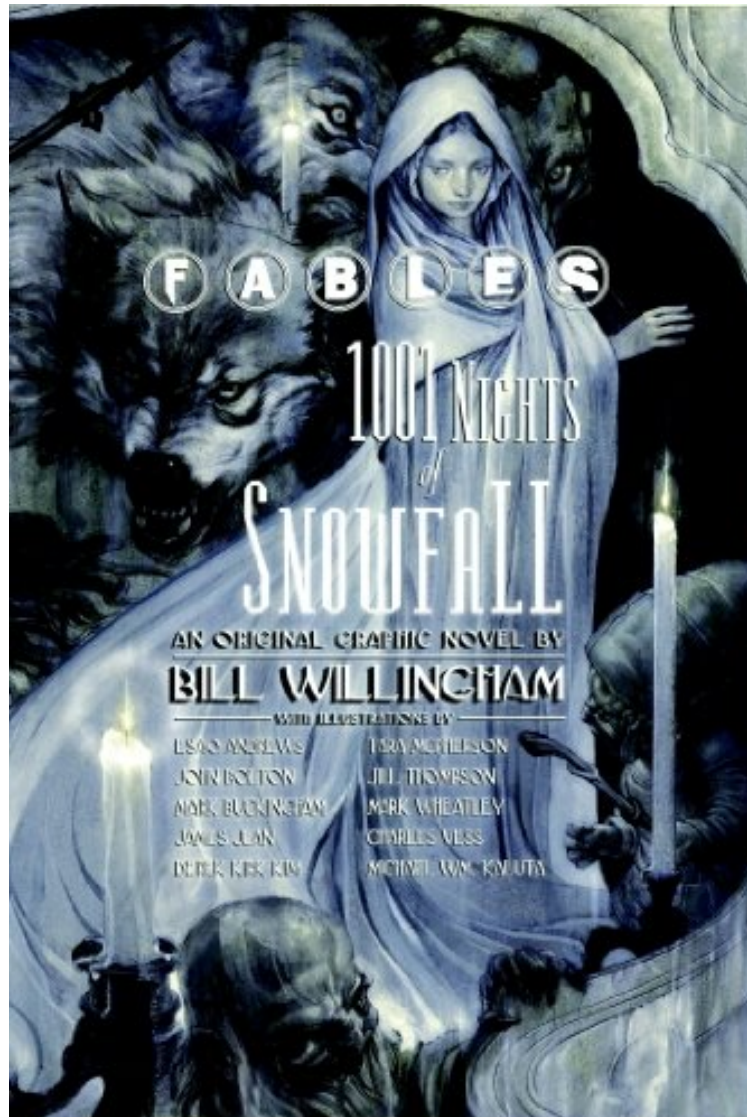


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Fables: 1001 Nights of Snowfall

Bill Willingham

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#379759 in Books DC Vertigo 2008-03-05 2008-03-05 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.16 x .29 x 6.64l, .89 #File Name: 1401203698144 pages Fables 1001 Nights of Snowfall | File size: 18.Mb

Bill Willingham : Fables: 1001 Nights of Snowfall before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fables: 1001 Nights of Snowfall:

19 of 19 people found the following review helpful. Great art, but read it after the first couple of Fables volumes. By Aron Biro. The only reason this doesn't get a full 5 stars is that it cannot be read as a standalone collection of stories, as I thought. You cannot use this volume as an entry point to Fables. Essentially, it's a series of flashbacks regarding the origins of some characters from the Fables series, masked as 1001 Arabian Nights "frame stories" told by Snow White during her imprisonment in Arabian territory. So, as any prequel, it should be read after 2-3 TPB volumes of Fables.

otherwise it's just like watching the flashback parts from Lost episodes without the events happening on the island. On the bright side, it has some of the greatest art in comics I've seen and the variation makes it even greater. This is the kind of comics that I find perfectly crafted: a single writer for story consistency and a variation of illustrators to provide different perspectives on the same characters. It also got some awards so it's a warm recommendation but as I said, only after getting acquainted with the characters whose origins and dark secrets are presented here. Warning: don't buy this for your kids even if it looks shiny and contains pictures of Snow White, Prince Charming and goblins. Fables is a series for mature readers, with mature (even sexually oriented) themes dressed in a fairytale form and it achieves that without falling into parody or mockery (which makes it great). It walks the same path as the works of Neil Gaiman or Roger Zelazny with a stronger mainstream appeal (meaning that you don't have to read volumes of mythology and classic literature or to buy companion books in order to understand all the references).

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful spin off of Willingham's FABLES
By Robert Moore
Almost everything about Bill Willingham's FABLES series has been innovative and original, so why wouldn't this spin off? The premise is a simple one. We are shown a chapter in the life of Snow White in the 19th century when she goes as an envoy to a Middle East sultan in order to make a military alliance to oppose the Adversary. Through a series of machinations by a devious official, Snow inadvertently finds herself the bride-for-a-night of the sultan. The story is straight out of the 1001 NIGHTS. The sultan, stung by the lack of faithfulness of previous wives, marries a new woman each night, only to have her killed the next morning. And like Scheherazade Snow White postpones the inevitable by telling a new story each night. For 1001 nights she tells a new story, always about one of the Fables, until she confesses that she has run out of tales. By then, however, the sultan had no intention of killing her, but was merely keeping up the routine for the sake of new stories. As she is preparing to leave she encounters the sultan's new bride, who identifies herself to Snow as Scheherazade. Snow shares with her the secret of surviving with the sultan: "He likes stories." There is enormous diversity in the stories in the collection. Some are fairly substantial, while others run to only a couple of pages. Each one has a different illustrator so that there is a lot of visual variation. My favorite is the first and longest, "The Fencing Lesson," which also provides some substantial background to Snow White's own story. (I also like the story because Snow White in the story is drawn so that she looks incredibly like a very dear friend I once had who is Korean -- yeah, Snow does look rather Asian in this story.) I won't spoil the story by providing the details, but it does nicely link up some comments in previous FABLES books about Snow White's past. And it also makes Prince Charming look like less of a cad. There are also some great stories about King Cole and Reynard. We also get a lot of background on Bigby and his father. Every page was a complete delight. This book really does stand on its own. I believe that someone who has read none of the FABLES books could read it with complete enjoyment. But no one who is a fan of those books should skip this. Along with the Sandman books, the overall FABLES has to go down as my all time favorite graphics series. They would also be the perfect entry point for anyone who wants to explore adult comics for the first time.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Okay Prequel Graphic Novel
By BookishRealmReviews
While not as good as the original fables this was a decent prequel to the original storyline as you were given the opportunity to see where everyone came from. Some stories were better than others while some artwork was better than others. I think it bothered me more that the artwork wasn't consistent. I did like that 1001 Nights was the overarching theme for this story. It made everything that much more interesting.

Don't miss a new softcover edition of the acclaimed hardcover graphic novel from FABLES creator Bill Willingham and a star-studded array of artists! This volume, set in the early days of Fabletown, long before the FABLES series began, featuring sequences illustrated by Charles Vess, Brian Bolland, John Bolton, Michael Wm. Kaluta, James Jean, Mark Buckingham, Jill Thompson and more, 1,001 NIGHTS OF SNOWFALL is both an entry point to the critically acclaimed series and an essential part of Willingham's enchanting and imaginative FABLES myths. Traveling in Arabia as an Ambassador from the exiled FABLES community, Snow White is captured by the local sultan who wants to marry her (and then kill her). But the clever Snow attempts to charm the sultan instead by playing Scheherazade, telling him fantastic stories for a total of 1,001 nights. Running the gamut from horror to dark intrigue to mercurial coming-of-age, FABLES: 1,001 NIGHTS OF SNOWFALL reveals the secret histories of familiar FABLES characters through a series of compelling and visually illustrative tales.

From Publishers Weekly
Starred . Probably the smartest mainstream comic going, Fables usually concentrates on the contemporary activities of characters from children's stories who now are living as secret refugees in New York. This collection gives glimpses of their individual backstories before the armies of the brutal Adversary drove them out of Fairyland. Readers will learn, for example, what spoiled the Big Bad Wolf's disposition and what happened to the witch after Hansel and Gretel pushed her into the oven. It would be relatively easy to do clever, merely cynical readings of the fairy tales, but Willingham is after something much more interesting. Like Neil Gaiman and Tanith Lee, he's reimagining the old stories, trying to see why they have survived and also to point out the aspects they somehow neglect: it's only natural that Snow White would take revenge on the seven little rapists who abducted her, but the independent way she goes about it casts doubt on her subservient relationship to Prince Charming. Willingham

reminds readers of how much they ignore in their anxiety to believe that all stories end happily ever after. Artists like Charles Vess, Mark Buckingham and Jill Thompson work up to the level of the perceptive scripts, making this a memorable, uncomfortably amusing treat. (Oct.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist A volume full of backstories about the fairy- and folktale characters who figure in the hit comic book Fables gets the kind of classy treatment success merits. Every story in it is drawn by a different artist who shows off his or her distinctiveness in manners ranging from traditional comics realism and photo-based naturalism to Maxfield Parrish-Howard Pyle sumptuousness and a panoply of caricatural styles. The book is painted throughout, and it's debuting in hardcover. But is it any good? In a word, yes. From latter-nineteenth-century Fabletown in Manhattan, Snow White is dispatched to the Arabian sultan's court in the homeland to enlist his support in the fight against the Adversary, who drove the European fables into exile but hasn't yet threatened the Middle Eastern contingent. The ruler entraps her, and she must, a la Scheherazade, tell him the primary contents of the book to stay alive while wooing his cooperation. The stories are both clever and psychologically explanatory of the characters as they appear in the ongoing, contemporarily set Fables story. Ray Olson Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved