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Phil Foglio, Kaja Foglio

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#104941 in Books 2012-02-28 2012-02-28Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 265.94 x .77 x 6.931, 1.70 #File Name: 0765331322320 pages | File size: 47.Mb

Phil Foglio, Kaja Foglio : Girl Genius Omnibus Volume One: Agatha Awakens before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Girl Genius Omnibus Volume One: Agatha Awakens:

40 of 40 people found the following review helpful. One man's meat...By William H. AnsleyAgatha Awakens (the first part of the Girl Genius saga) received one rather negative review here, which I think contains some unwarranted criticism. However, there is a lot of subjectivity involved in whether someone thinks something is good or not. Fortunately, you can check this story out for yourself before you buy it. All of Girl Genius is available to read for free

on the web. Just type "girl genius comic" into the search engine of your choice and you won't have any trouble finding it. If you have questions about the different editions of Girl Genius in print, search for "girl genius wiki" and click on the "A (Spoiler Free) Guide for New Girl Genius Readers" link on the wiki home page. Personally, I have found Girl Genius, the first part of which is included in Agatha Awakens, to be one of the funniest things I have ever read. It is not even described as a comedy by its creators (husband and wife team Phil and Kaja Foglio) because humor is in Phil's DNA, so the fact that anything he writes will be funny goes without saying. Phil is also the artist, as well as a co-writer, and an extremely accomplished one. His style is unique and very cartoony, so it certainly won't appeal to everyone, but he has a firm grasp of anatomy when he needs to use it and a great knack for drawing insanely complicated mechanisms and detailed backgrounds, which comes in very handy for a steampunkesque science fantasy tale set in a parallel-world Victorian era setting. One thing that appeals to me about Phil's art is that it bares almost no resemblance to manga. While well-executed manga-style art can be beautiful to behold, the manga influence is so pervasive in comics today that any escape from it is refreshing. He is also brilliant at laying out the pages of his comic, with very clear, clever, and effective panel layouts, so I really don't understand how anyone could say it is hard to follow the order of the panels on any of the pages of Agatha Awakens. This comic has a lot of dialog and, very rarely, I have been confused over the order in which to read the word balloons, but it has never been more than a momentary confusion. The negative reviewer also complains about the speech of the Jaegermonsters, humans transformed into very strong, very tough and near immortal super-soldiers by Mad Science. They speak with a comic Germanic accent, written out phonetically, which is hard to read at first, but it really doesn't take that much effort to decipher and reading it becomes effortless in short order, at least if you find the story entertaining in the first place. Another complaint is that nothing happens in Agatha Awakens, which is completely untrue. The story is full of action and adventure. What the reviewer may be complaining about is that there is almost no resolution of any of the mysteries raised in this first part of the story by the end of Agatha Awakens. This is deliberate, however. The Foglios are telling an epic tale here; one which has already gone into its twelfth volume (Agatha Awakens is made up of the first three volumes, by this count) and is only half over. So, if you don't want to get into this for the long haul, beware of starting the story because it may find it to be habit forming. The only complaint that has any justification is about the coloring of this volume. While it isn't that bad, the color in most of Agatha Awakens was done by a different artist than is currently coloring the story and it doesn't come up to the level of the excellent work now being done by the current colorist Cheyenne Wright.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hilarious -- Gorgeous -- Delightful
By David
I'm not (very) ashamed to admit that I own a few comic books. Three, to be exact: Jeff Smith's epic Bone, Rich Burlew's DD in-joke Order of the Stick, and this. With respect to the others, this is my favorite. This is the uniquely lovely story of Agatha, a young university research assistant in a world in which assisting in research is more likely to involve a request like Igor! Fetch me a fresh brain for the creature! than a request like Igor! Summarize these results and submit them to the peer review board! In short, it is a world of mad science at its most glorious and colorful. The author/artists always keep one foot firmly in the world of comedy and the other firmly in the world of bombastic adventure. Even when the artillery shells are falling or the revenants are attacking, there's never a sense that the story is taking itself too seriously (or at all seriously). The characters walk a wonderfully fine line between being believable and sympathetic and being stand-up comedians (or fall guys, as the situation requires). At the heart of the story is Agatha's personal journey toward discovering the truth about her past, concealed from her for so many years, and reclaiming her birthright (after hopefully figuring out what that actually is). The art in these books is spectacular; while it doesn't quite rise to the level of aesthetic clarity that Bone or Calvin Hobbes sometimes display, it's always enthusiastic, vibrant, and bursting with details. The Foglios wear their love for intricate machinery and detailed panoramas on their sleeves, and there's never a shortage of enormous robo-knights, looming airships, crumbling cities, or the like. Not only is the art visually engaging, it's also just as funny as the writing (and special mention must be made here of Othar Trygvassen, whose dialogue and art together make up some of the funniest moments in the series). Really, perhaps the best thing that can be said about these comics, both in their art and in their writing, is that there's not a hint of the cynicism or the angst that seems to be so pervasive in modern entertainment media. The prevailing mood in Girl Genius is glee, unrestrained and unrelenting. While the authors are quite subdued by contrast with mainstream comic books, it's rather unfortunate that the female figure is on display as often as it is. There's no nudity, and very little in the nature of sexual comments, but Agatha seems to gravitate toward pin-up poses with distressing frequency. It's a bit of a blemish on an otherwise brilliant set of stories.

25 of 26 people found the following review helpful. Excellent omnibus edition of first 3 books
By D. Garrett
As a big fan of Girl Genius, I wanted to have the books and in hardcover editions, but the early books are long out of print and very scarce and expensive. This is a welcome addition to all fans of Girl Genius! The book is only slightly smaller than the original ones from the Foglio's own publishing company Airship Entertainment, but you get the first 3 books in one nice hardcover for an incredibly small price. I am not a big reviewer on , but when the first (and as I write) only review came out, it was very negative, and I just felt that it was unfair. They did not like the Jaegermonsters and the Germanic sounding words they use, they did not like the art, they said that nothing happens in the three books. Well, if you do not like the art, there is nothing I can say. If you do not like the use of this kind of dialog, then this is not your cup of tea. But to say that nothing

happens in these 3 books? That is just not right. I will not go into the plot, but Agatha goes from student, to "prisoner" on the Castle Wulfenbach, attacked by slaver wasps, escaping into the wilderness. We meet a ton of interesting characters, like Gilgamesh Wulfenbach, the Baron, Othar Tryggvassen Gentleman Adventurer, Krosp the king of the cats, Bangladesh Dupree the pirate queen, and many more. The first book was originally in black and white, and was recently colored, this edition has the colored version, but it is muted, a sepia-tone coloring. The colors starting in book 2 are vivid, but I like that. I like the expressiveness of the characters as drawn by Phil Foglio. I hope that this series is continued by Tor and that they do all the books in this omnibus format, it will be fun to have in a matching set. The Girl Genius story is now on volume 12 and the whole series is archived online for anyone to read. There is a lot more to read after this book and the Foglios say that we are only now half way through the story.

Girl Genius, the multiple Hugo Awardwinning steampunk webcomic by Phil and Kaja Foglio, now collected in hardcover! The Industrial Revolution has become all-out war! Mad Scientists, gifted with the Spark of genius, unleash insane inventions on an unprepared Europe. For centuries, the Heterodyne family of inventors kept the peace, but the last Heterodyne disappeared twenty years ago, leaving their ally Baron Klaus Wulfenbach to maintain order with his fleet of airships and army of unstoppable, if not very bright, Jaeger Monsters. At Transylvania Polygnostic University, Agatha Clay dreams of being a scientist herself, but her trouble concentrating dooms her to be a lowly minion at best. When her locket, a family heirloom, is stolen, Agatha shows signs of having the Spark in a spectacular, destructive fashion and captures the attention of the Baron and the Baron's handsome young son, Gilgamesh. Swept up to the Baron's Airship City, Agatha finds herself in the midst of the greatest minds of her generation, as well as palace intrigue, dashing heroes, and an imperial cat. Agatha may be the most brilliant mind of her generation and the key to control of the continent, but first, she just has to survive.

A sly and witty graphic novel. School Library Journal, Best Adult Books for High School Students 2003 If Jules Verne has written comics, he wouldn't have written Girl Genius. He would have been jealous of it, though. Comics Buyer's Guide The Foglios appear to have been liberated by the [webcomics] format and that sense of buoyant imagination and unbridled fun runs through every page. The Onion A.V. Club A manic, hilarious, adventure-filled gem of a comic. The series is made of win and I have only one regret: that I didn't know about it sooner. Do yourself a favor and go read it, NOW. The Book Smugglers Girl Genius is unique. Buy it. Comics Buyer's Guide Bursting at the seam with creativity, humor, and outright weirdness . . . an infectious and incredibly fun read. Sarah Kuhn, IGN Girl Genius is brilliant. It really is. It's fun and funky and unlike almost anything else, and it's Phil and Kaja Foglio doing what they do best. Eric Burns, Websnark.com It's appealingly drawn and cleverly written and cheerfully pulpy in all the right ways. Shaenon Garrity, The Webcomics Examiner Professionally executed artwork and a spanking story that makes it a timeless work of literature. Shiny Shiny: a Girl's Guide to Gadgets About the Author PHIL and KAJA FOGLIO are the co-creators of the Hugo Awardwinning and Eagle and Eisner Awardnominated webcomic Girl Genius. Phil Foglio illustrated Robert Asprin's Myth Adventures series, and Kaja Foglio contributed art for Magic: the Gathering. Kaja and Phil were married in 1993. They have a son and a daughter, and live in Seattle.