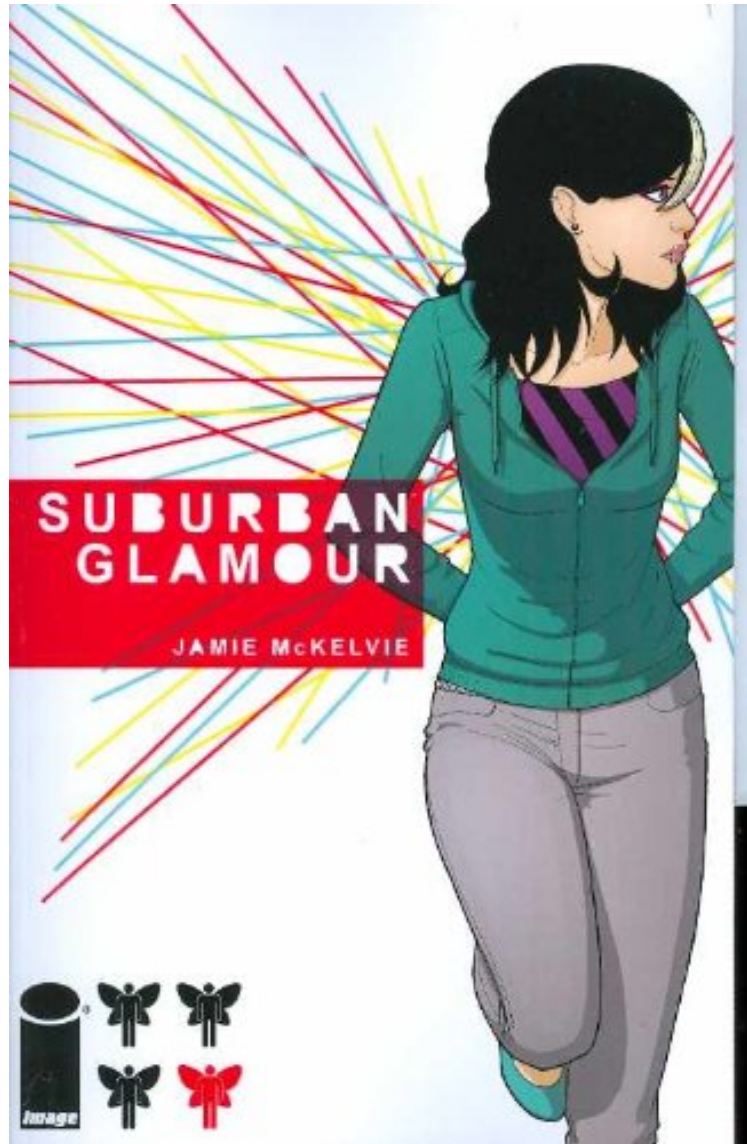


(Get free) Suburban Glamour

## Suburban Glamour

*Jamie Mckelvie*

*audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#1530999 in Books Jamie McKelvie 2008-05-20Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.00 x .50 x 6.40l, .50  
#File Name: 1582408785104 pagesSuburban Glamor 1 | File size: 33.Mb

**Jamie Mckelvie : Suburban Glamour** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Suburban Glamour:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. not phonogram.By Paul McGowanSolid fantasy/coming of age story. Art is wonderfully clean lined, fun. Good pace to the book, with the twist landing exactly at the right time to reinvigorate the reader.3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. This story is brings together all I loveBy Noelle PosadasI purchased this based on the style of artwork Jamie Mckelvie creates. I just love the clean lines and

distinct characters. The story just makes it that much better, I always enjoy fantastical stories set in the modern day, so this was definitely my cup of tea. I was also impressed by the fact that Jamie McKelvie not just illustrated the story but wrote it. This type of work is so encouraging to me as an illustration student considering a career in comics. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What it lacks in artwork, it makes up for in an enjoyable story and main character.

By Kenya Starflight

I've recently become interested in stories about the Fae, especially the changeling myth -- the old bit of folklore about the Fair Folk switching a human baby with a faerie child at birth. Faeries have cropped up again in YA fiction, but it's rare to see a graphic novel explore them much. So when I stumbled upon "Suburban Glamour," I was intrigued. A slick, modern take on the Fae and the changeling story could be interesting, I figured, and I'd heard great things about the creators. And for the most part, I enjoyed this read, even if it doesn't bring a ton of new material to the table or wow me with its art style.

Astrid Johnson is your average teenager living in a small British town -- hanging out with her friends, griping that her parents and teachers don't understand her, and wishing for something more from her life. She ends up getting far more than she wished for when strange things start happening to her after the opening of a cool new store in her town -- the shopkeeper takes an unusual interest in her, her imaginary friends come to life, and bizarre creatures start to hunt her and her friends. Astrid finally corners said shopkeeper and demands an explanation... only to learn that said shopkeeper is actually one of the Fair Folk, and has been sent to this small town to protect Astrid. For a war between two of the most powerful Fae sisters is waging, and Astrid will be an unexpected key player in this conflict...

Since this is a graphic novel, and graphic novels are carried just as much by their art as their story, I have to get this out of the way. The art doesn't wow me -- it's slick and professional-looking, but looks stiff and almost sterile. Anything requiring action, from fight scenes to a character getting punched, looks stiff and without the fluid sense of action that the best comics and graphic novels are capable of. And I notice a bit of same-face syndrome going on, not to mention a lack of emotion and expression in most faces. Even the fairy creatures, while imaginative, look curiously flat. The colors are nicely done, but that's about it.

The story itself is fairly typical of the YA genre -- misunderstood teen discovers she's not human and has to decide her fate -- but it's nonetheless enjoyable. It manages to avoid the pitfalls of most of the YA genre by having a heroine who's actually likable and has a personality. Too often female protagonists in a YA novel are either flat and empty characters who swoon over anything male or snarky and unlikable "tough girls" who still swoon over anything male. Astrid has spunk, but isn't a completely unlikable "tough girl," and though she does have a romantic interest, said romance doesn't overtake the storyline. Her boyfriend, Dave, is a nice character too, one who isn't your typical YA love interest -- the brooding, mysterious guy who manages to snag girls by being borderline abusive. And even though there's a third guy thrown into the mix -- their mutual friend Chris -- there's no yawn-inducing love triangle either. Yay!

The fantasy elements take a bit of a back seat to Astrid's development, but that's mostly okay. I would have liked to have seen more fleshing out of the faerie elements, but I also understand that the main priority of this graphic novel is Astrid's development as a character, her discovery of her heritage, and which world she'll eventually choose to call her own. The author has stated that he's unlikely to make a sequel to this book, but if he ever does revisit, I do hope he'll explore the world of faery a bit more.

While the artwork leaves something to be desired, this is still an enjoyable graphic novel, and a refreshing change from most YA fantasies. I hope to check out more of McKelvie's work in the future -- if "Suburban Glamour" is anything to go by, he's one to watch in the world of comics.

Life's tough when you're a teenager homework, boy trouble, and meddling parents. So when you throw in imaginary friends turned real, monster attacks, and faerie magic well, that's just not fair, is it? Suburban Glamour follows Astrid Johnson as she and her best friend Dave get caught in a faerie family battle that stretches back through the centuries. Modern teenage life meets age-old magic in this story from the co-creator of Phonogram!