



The Stuff of Legend, Book 3: A Jester's Tale

Mike Raicht (writer) , Brian Smith , Charles Paul Wilson III

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Continuing the saga of the New York Times Bestselling Graphic Novel! Following the shocking revelations of The Stuff of Legend Volume 2: The Jungle, Jester embarks on a solo quest that will take him to the farthest corners of the Dark. High seas adventure awaits in The Stuff of Legend: A Jester's Tale #1!

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Clara says

I started this series thinking it was completed and these 3 volumes were all of it, but I was wrong, and can't find any information on the 4th one either. It's doubly disappointing since I found this third part so underwhelming.

Gord says

In my opinion The Stuff of Legend is the best all ages fantasy book series that nobody(well , not the masses at least) is reading right now. Part 3: A Jester's Tale continues on from the Jester's point of view in his quest of love and loyalty in his attempt to rescue the princess. I mention this in other reviews for vol.1 and vol.2 but TSoL is Lord of the Rings meets Toy Story meets Aesop meets Wonderland , it has everything an imagination could want. The artwork alone by Charles P Wilson III is worth the price of admission.

I do recommend starting from volume.1 , this is not a jumping on point at all.

May says

No!!!!!!!!!!!!!! What do I mean I have to wait til Book 4 to find out what happens? I don't think I can wait that long. Please Mr. Raicht, write faster. I am so in love this series and Jester is my fave character. My heart is breaking as I wait in purgatory to find out if he survived. I also can't believe the Princess turning her back on Jester, the only toy to love her truly. Such sweet agony!

Paul says

The art of this book is absolutely superb!
And the story is even better!

A fairy tale for the child in every grown up that remembers what it was to be a child. For every grown-up that still lives a part of their life as a child.

The bogeyman is coming to get you... you'd better be on good terms with your toys if you want them to come and rescue you... cause if you're not, chances are, those toys are on the bogeyman's side!

Scott Lee says

Finished this one today. Still one of the best comic book series I have read in a long time. Perhaps the best fantasy I've ever encountered in comics (with the lone exception of Thieves and Kings by Mark Oakley).

Story and art continue to meet the highest standard and this volume focuses on the Jester who I find the most intriguing of our toy heroes. It also introduces the Toy's hero and gives us the secret of the Boy's companion...And here I stop lest I "spoilerify" my review and am forced by common courtesy to hide it away behind the spoiler warning.

Meet the Laughing Ghost. Find out what happens to Jester (and the Mayer of Hopscotch, Filmore) after volume two. Travel to the Indian Lands (sort of). This is good stuff. It has all the apparent sweetness followed by disturbing darkness of the original Brother's Grimm fairy tales. Good, good stuff indeed!

Elle Kay says

The toys travel ever onwards through the dark in search of their boy, however this episode explores the back story of the Jester and it is very good. The Jester was a jack-in-the-box but in this world he is a fearsome warrior with a heart of gold. Loving it.

Cyndi says

This series just keeps improving!!

The story, the art, the depth to the characters and their world...it is all a beautiful, complete sensory please!

Recommended to graphic novel readers, horror readers and lovers of the well told tale alike!

I am already longing for the next volume!

Dan says

Massive story complications only get more complicated herein, and the plot gets even more gripping if you can believe it. Did I mention that The Jester is a bad mother- ...you know the rest. This tale has got me by the throat, and I can't believe I've read all the collected trades that are currently out. Now I have to wait for Book Four... and waiting stinks...

Karissa says

This is the third book in the Stuff of Legend series and it was a fabulous one. The drawings are fantastic and the story is incredible engaging.

The Indian Princess has been stolen and the Jester is not pleased. He has to break free of the Jungle and evade the Boogeyman's minions to find her. Complicating things are a trip through a village of Dolls who are not as innocent as they seem and an evil twin that the Jester never knew made it into the Dark. As the original troupe of toys is separated you begin to wonder if they will ever find and save their boy.

I love this series and this book didn't disappoint. The drawings are beautiful and cleverly done and totally in keeping with the tone of the story. I love just staring at the wonderful pictures, they are so well done.

The story is getting epic in proportions and in this book follows a number of different storylines. This is done seamlessly and is so easy to follow that it is impressive. I highly recommend this to fans of fantasy graphic novels, or just fans of fantasy in general.

This whole series has been like a cross between Toy Story and Brom's Plucker. It would definitely be too graphic and scary for younger children, but should be fine for middle grade and older. There is a lot of violence, but it is between toys.

Overall an absolutely outstanding addition to the series. Now I need to wait for the next book and the wait is killing me!

Carl Nelson says

Perhaps the best volume of "The Stuff of Legend" so far, with an increasingly sinister tone throughout. The story is darkly whimsical, reminiscent of child's play in its mix of innocence and brutality. The shocking twist at the end leaves me eager for the next volume. Artwork continues to be lovely, and the memorable and top-notch writing makes this one of my favorite series.

Meran says

The Stuff of Legend books are supposedly for children; however, some of the happenings are scary. There's killing, and torture, both physical and mental. The 'child' would have to be no younger than 12, but this is obviously up to the parents. As a child, I would have loved this one, but then I was reading at a higher level than whatever grade I was in.

I love these TPBs. The story of toys going into an imaginary world to save their 'master' (child owner) from danger, and in the process, turning into living beings resembling their toy forms is an intriguing one. Their new forms are very lovely in the case of the females, scary or respectfully done in the case of the males, and more realistically in the case of the stuffed animals. The art is beautiful, and no color other than sepia tone is used.

This volume brings forward a story of the Jack in the Box who apparently was one of a pair. His 'brother' was damaged almost immediately, and shows that damage in his/it's actions.

I would recommend this series for anyone who loves fairy tales or grown up stories of toys.

Rebecca Schwarz says

I'm totally hooked on this series. I'm enjoying all the characters and the world of the dark that they are navigating. The Jester is a favorite. This installment not only provides some back story for him but also moves forward with new twists and turns. Our whole family is speeding through these collections. We'll be

forced to go to the comic book store soon, just to keep up!

Regsly says

Concerning that ending's big reveal, I would just like to say: "I called it!"

Once again, I love the art and how dark this is. I also love the fluid narrative with flashbacks put in at the right moment, giving us a deeper look or a newer side to a character.

But, at the same time, this story is so so frustrating. There's not a minute of rest. Almost everybody in the dark is intolerant, one-track-minded, violent and prejudiced. They expect newer toys to be aware of their ridiculous rules and feuds?

Sarah Hayes says

Another great volume, has me waiting eagerly for the next one. You can read my complete review of this graphic novel over at my review blog, Nagareboshi Reviews: <http://nagareboshi-reviews.blogspot.com/>

Olivia says

After the binding disaster of the second book I put off getting the latest installments of this graphic novel for a while. I love the story but the heart breaking tragedy of opening book 2 to have all the pages fall out in every edition I tried was frustrating. I figured I'd wait a while until the glue issue was sorted out.

I finally got book 3 and devoured it. The theme this time: Brothers.

"Do not mistake compassion for weakness. I will do anything to protect my family."

I loved this installment! The Jester sure is acting...odd at the beginning of this one.

++ For Amazonian doll culture

- Not much exploring of the Indian lands

++ Boogeyman's latest trick

As always the artwork takes my breath away. I desperately want to get a copy of the cover art from 4 of 4.

I've heard that Disney is looking to get ahold of this property and I'm torn on that. Disney adaptations are hit or miss and I want this series to stay dark and gritty--which I know Disney can do--but worry they'll use it for the more G-friendly animation studio fodder. Personally I'd love to see this get Jim Henson studio treatment more akin to the style of MirrorMask.
