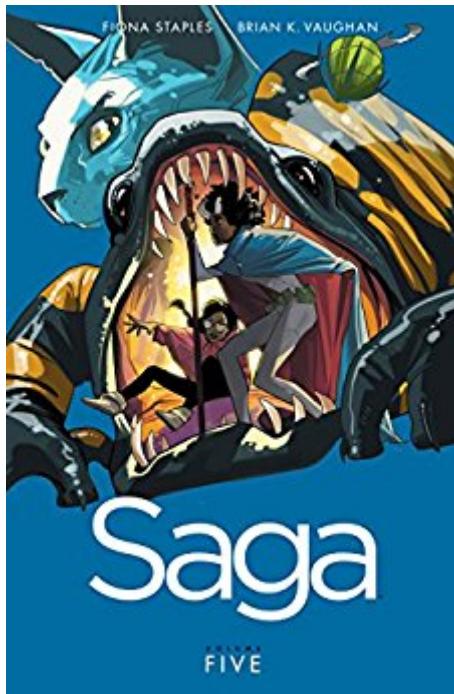


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Saga Vol. 5



Synopsis

While Gwendolyn and Lying Cat risk everything to find a cure for The Will, Marko makes an uneasy alliance with Prince Robot IV to find their missing children, who are trapped on a strange world with terrifying new enemies. Collects SAGA #25-30.

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Customer Reviews

4.5 stars. I really like Brian Vaughn's work (Y, Ex, Runaways, Pride) and his writing on this series has been wonderful. However, the star of this book is Fiona Staples. Her covers and interior art are, to borrow a Bostonian phrase, wicked-good. The Star Wars-esque Montague-Capulet w/baby story continues here as Vaughn weaves a bunch of characters through multiple storylines. Major characters die, the Will returns and the volume ends with some immediate issues resolved but a number of storylines opening up further (another reviewer mentioned how the sudden killing off of characters if very George R.R. Martin, and I agree...I also think Vaughan likes to continue to expand the universe like Mr. Martin as well).

What attracted me first was the stark but expressive artwork. The beleaguered couple, having and

raising their child on the run - handled at all well, there's plenty to pull a reader into their plight and plenty of room for the story to grow. This has been handled very well. Now, in this fifth collection of monthly comics, that early promise is still being kept. If anything, the tension just keeps getting stronger, disaster even closer. The authors have a knack for pacing. And, in an ongoing epic like this, that means managing the cast of characters. We've lost a few along the way, but gained a few also. Only a few, not so many that you'll lose track of who's who, and with enough mixed loyalties to keep the reader guessing. Two more things keep a long-lived series alive. First, the open invitation to new readers. Jumping into the middle of a story can be tough for a first-timer, but this makes it easy to dive in without tedious (or at least obvious) recaps every few issues. Second, there's sequel slump - specifically, the lack of sequel slump. It's easy and distressingly common for a series to fall into a rut, or to lose the vitality of script and art that pulled me in initially. As yet, that remains in the future for the *Saga* saga - and I hope it's the very far future. -- wiredweird

Saga continues to thrill as a graphic space opera with incredibly fleshed-out characters. I wish some of the print only science fiction I've read was as capable of showing me the impact of living in a technology-driven, war-torn universe on sentient beings. Dark humor abounds along with some tender familial moments, but this is balanced with intense story-driven action. Like most great science fiction writers, Vaughan jam packs his stories with multiple themes and futuristic existential crises in a way that allows enough room for readers to imagine what all of this implies about life in the future and how our current actions might be leading us to such a fate. Best of all, my wife, 18-year-old son, and I all have another common point of interest to enjoy and discuss together. My only regret is now that I'm caught up in the series I have to wait for future installments, but the anticipation of this volume made for sweet suffering.

Saga is one of the best stories I've read in comics. I dove into it buying the first couple of volumes at a comic convention and it immediately grabbed my attention. The only thing is I wish I had started reading it when it was first released, or after the series was completed because having to wait for each volume in TPB is killing me! The book is progressive, positive, and hard-hitting. It hits on many topics that affect us as a society today but because it's written in as Science Fiction it can reflect on them without the appearance of pandering. I would recommend this to just about anyone, and should definitely be on the radar for younger generations.

Yet again another fantastic addition to the *Saga* story. I absolutely love this series. It has so many

dimensions and characters that make this story so real and deep. I will say that Volume 5 was a little less intense as the previous volumes, but that was bound to happen. I have a feeling volume 6 will be amazing since 5 seems to be kind of a setup/buildup to the next volume. I can't wait to continue this series. I'm so glad I started it and I would recommend it to anyone. Sorry my review is a bit short, but I figure this late in the series people probably know about it by now. I just wanted to say that it was still amazing even if it was less intense as previous volumes. On to the next one!

Saga is an addicting series. Underneath the stories of intergalactic war is simply a story about two individuals trying to do their best for their daughter. Their humanity, as touching as it, always seem to get the better of them. I love this story and its progression and a nerd and a new parent myself.

If you're new to the series, go pick up Volume One ASAP! This is unlike anything you will ever read, and is ridiculous, bizarre, and thoroughly satisfying. Fiona Staples' artwork is extremely graphic and leaves nothing to the imagination (Chapter 26, male dragon, OMG) and flows perfectly with Vaughan's witty and unique writing style. The plot, though crazy and disturbed, is very, very good; Saga is intricate, fast-paced, and every bit as multilayered as George R. R. Martin's masterpiece. Saga will hook you from the first page and leave you craving for more once you've blown through all five trade paperbacks.

Volume 5 is the first one where all the story's elements finally clicked for me. Marko and Alana have some solid character development in this arc. Staples' renderings of Hazel make her role in the plot all the more heartbreakingly touching, as does her older self's narration. Vaughan uses a dark sense of humor and jarring moments of violence here to greater effect than in the previous volumes. The flashback to how Landfall and Wreath's war has created massive devastation across other worlds pulls the reader into almost wanting to identify with Dengo and the Last Revolution. For me, Saga has only gained more depth and a powerfully mature use of pathos in this latest installment. Can't wait for Volume 6! As a side note, I wish were better about delivering graphic novels undamaged. My edition came with the back's bottom corner wrinkled.

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