



Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind, Vol. 4

Hayao Miyazaki (Scriptwriter/Illustrator) , David Lewis (Translator) , Toren Smith (Translator) , Kaori Inoue (Translator) , Joe Yamazaki (Translator) , Walden Wong (Touch-up Artist/ Letterer) , Izumi Evers (Designer)

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A monk warns Nausicaä that omens of an apocalypse, Daikaisho, will appear soon and the forest will boil over to cover the land. His predictions appear to be coming true when she arrives in the Forest in the South and discovers Lord Miralupa has developed mutant spores for biological warfare, but the mould begins growing uncontrollably and there's no antidote.

Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind, Vol. 4 Details

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Author : Hayao Miyazaki (Scriptwriter/Illustrator) , David Lewis (Translator) , Toren Smith (Translator) , Kaori Inoue (Translator) , Joe Yamazaki (Translator) , Walden Wong (Touch-up Artist/ Letterer) , Izumi Evers (Designer)

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From Reader Review Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind, Vol. 4 for online ebook

Eressea says

2009/03/12 1st read
2016/10 7th read
2018/04 8th read

Kirsten says

I am loving this series! This volume had some particularly striking artwork; the scene where the God Warrior is being transported by air and you see its face and body melting in and out of the clouds is downright terrifying.

Nigel says

Nausicaa departs from the besieged town and heads south to find the answers to the mystery of the southern forest. Kushana and Kurotowa leave on a mission of their own - to steal ships to rescue her besieged Third Army. Yupa and company travel through the forest and meet with the crew of the gunship. A massive migration of insects has begun, drawn south by the artificial spores created by the Dorok scientists, possibly triggering a catastrophic extension of the miasmic forest called the daikasho.

Once again the story unfolds around a breath-taking action set-piece. From the appearance of a single flying insect to the vision of vast swarms filling the sky, Kushana's daring raid on her brother's camp under cover of the insect migration is a terrifying, exhilarating spectacle, but it's the slowly mounting dread of the Dorok mold as it grows and spreads, poisonous to humans and insects alike, apparently unstoppable and intelligent that heralds the coming apocalypse. If I read much past this point I can't remember it - I've no idea how it all works out. Under the dazzling visuals and extraordinary storytelling, it's all getting rather sombre and grim. What hope for humanity's survival?

Kristina says

In order to live, you must be willing to die. Even the writer and artist of the manga gets it, this is a timeless story.

Ane Cristi says

Excellent !

Harold Ogle says

After reading this, I'm more impressed than I already was with Miyazaki, and that's saying a lot. I've often vacillated between regret and relief that I didn't babble and gush with stars in my eyes when I met him at the North American premiere of "Laputa" as a teenager (some years before he sold the English-language rights to Disney). All I did was shake his hand and thank him for his great work. My respect and admiration have only grown since then.

By this volume, the story is far more complicated and involved than what was included in the film, which was released years before the pages included in this book. At this point, the story is split between four groups of characters: Nausicaä, having left the battlefield after arranging the release of Dorok captives back to the Torumekian army; Choruka, the Torumekian priest whose path keeps intersecting Nausicaä's; Kushana, Torumekian princess who is trying to save her troops; and Lord Yupa, the border lands' finest swordsman delving deep into the poison forests to investigate the possibility of another Daikaisho. Each of the four plots is detailed and filled with complicated motivations. Miyazaki definitely understands the benefits of the comics medium in being able to give a lot of information efficiently; writing what happens just in this volume only in prose might fill two or three novels, rather than the mere 134 pages here.

Ultimately, this book is a musing about war and what it means to fight. Each of the four stories represents a different approach and attitude toward combat, and each of them are treated sympathetically. Kushana is the noble leader, determined to do everything she can to deserve the loyalty of "her men." Yupa is the intelligent warrior, who knows that fighting is necessary as a last resort. Choruka is the politician who is coming to recognize that the war and the way it's being waged is not in the best interest of his country. Nausicaä is a pacifist who reveres all life. In that regard, she's admirable, but a little hard to relate to, particularly when (view spoiler) But the book is wonderfully nuanced and engaging, and the end of this volume (just like each one before it) leaves me eager for more.

Hillingdon Libraries says

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Michael says

Work dragged me away from this, the only reason I didn't read the entire first volume (I had a four-in-one of these) in a day. This is a wonderful story. I was almost in literal pain to come back and read it.

Jan says

Volume four & final book in the set. Personal choices abound and coping with life as it comes at you. I love this set of books.

Zach Schmidt says

Upon just finishing the fourth installment of Hayao Miyazaki's Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind, I have to say I was very impressed with this installment. It added to the universe in which he had created and I enjoyed seeing the different characters on their journey throughout the story while building up to what I will presume to be the end of the series.

The third installment was not my favorite because of the battles, which seems to take place over most of the book. Maybe I'm biased, but I actually think what made this work for me was that a lot of the story took place in the air. Overall, a great and fun read.

Delphine says

Ah non maudit fungus !! ;___; la tension est à son comble !

Jordan says

A complex story with no easy answers, well partnered with complex art and well developed characters. I really fell in love with Nausicaa by the end... Not the dark, not the light, but ~right~, and doing the best she could for everyone. This manga is respect worthy and beautiful.

Rating: Difficult

There is typical fighting violence, I would say about PG13. Mostly it's swordfighting, though a baby Ohmu (A giant bug) is tortured in one sad scene, and the story in general gets darker as things progress. Nausicaa is very briefly shown nude, though it was in NO way fanservice or anything else. I was in fact proud of its casual treatment of people's bodies without anything else mucking it up. Yes. It was a female's body. And it was ok.

Jessi says

It was a little serendipitous that I found this series. I was reading another manga and saw an ad for this in the back of the book, then the next day saw these at the library. This story has beautiful art and a deep engaging story. Now, I can watch the movie. As an aside, I'm unsure how they could possibly condense this series into one movie, but I'm sure it'll be great since it's Miyazaki.

Jayne says

Kinda want this series to wrap it up. They go a little too slowly for my taste. But I'm not ready to pack it in yet, I want to see how it ends.

This volume covered more battles between the different peoples and a new spore mutation that's threatening to spread into the villages.

Jordan says

So far, it's great. The art is detailed, though a little hard to get into at first. The story is deep and epic, with complex situations with no easy answers. It's exciting to see each new problem and revelation as they come, despite the pain each might cause. Some moments are heart wrenching, and it's easy to really feel for Nausicaa and hold the same 'save everyone' desire she does. This is, in fact, a little bit of a downer so far because of that very wish; it seems impossible to save everyone as of now. (And the baby Ohmu... ;__; Still not over that.) All the same, this is inspiring, and makes you think of how you really would react to these difficult situations.

Rating PG13

There is fighting, none of it really gory. Nothing of a sexual nature, and I cannot think of any language.

Spoiler: A gigantic baby insect, heavily personified, is tortured to death to lure the others of its kind into a rage in an attempt to control them.

The concept relies on evolution if it bothers you.

Izlinda says

The end of the series, at least from this publisher. I found it very enlightening, and brings up good questions about humans and the environment, and repercussions for our actions. It also made me wonder about life and what is life, and free will, and what kind of path is best when life is on the brink of despair and devastation. There are some new characters introduced in this book, which makes it a bit hard to keep track of them. There were a few sad moments, as well.

Starbubbles says

it had another slow beginning, but as the story progressed, it snowballed and became highly addictive by the end.

Jenny Clark says

Nausicaa is coming across more people and seeing even more what war does, and learning more about the forest and insects. The God Warrior comes into play a bit here, and I love how she is able to turn her foes to her side, if she is given half a chance.

The forest being used for bio- warfare is quite interesting as well, as it is relevant even today, with worries about bio agents being used against people.

This is a great series, that I am sad to have to stop here, since my library and county do not have volume 5 and 6. if anyone knows where I might find them, please drop me a line!

Mona says

El mejor de los 4 tomos que llevo leídos. Igual es que ya me he acostumbrado pero ya no he tenido esa sensación de desorientación y confusión. Y lo mejor de todo es que hacia el final del cómic es un no parar. Es imposible apartar los ojos hasta llegar al final y dudo que tarde mucho en coger el próximo, si es que no lo hago inmediatamente. Vale la pena leerlo.

Babs says

Doroks have been weaponising the spores. Bad things happen. Nausicaä confounds her enemies, because she is ossum.
