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Alex Alice

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La Walkyrie Details

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Author : Alex Alice

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From Reader Review La Walkyrie for online ebook

Wayne McCoy says

Siegfried finds himself in the forest guided (or hindered) by the Niebelung, Mime. He is on a journey to kill the dragon, but he must collect three weapons first. Overseeing his journey is a Valkyrie who is forbidden to help him. Odin seeks her because she has strayed.

It's epic in scope, but there is plenty of humor as well. Mime carries an anvil around that Siegfried is always having to haul up cliff faces or retrieving from swamps. There is tragedy too, when the Valkyrie must make a sacrifice that will cost her everything.

The art by Alex Alice is beautiful. The niebelung and the witch are a little cartoony looking, but Odin is brooding and the Valkyrie has a sadness about her. Siegfried is young and hopeful. Nicely done.

Tar Buendía says

(reseña en el tomo tres porque los he leído a la vez)

Monica says

This graphic novel/comic has some Norse Gods intervention into Siegfried's life as he tries to find his way in the world and on his quest to fight a dragon.

The graphics are highly detailed adding to the story line and characters. They also add a crisp edge to much of the feel of the story.

While the narrative is a bit formulaic, the humor and emotional relationships between the characters help to distinguish this version from others.

Overall, an interesting read.

Christian says

Schlichtweg überwältigend! Mit einer sehr begrenzten Besetzung, deren Verhältnisse untereinander ausreichend komplex sind, und wunderschönen Landschaftsbildern erzählt Alex Alice seine Neuinterpretation des alten Wagner-Germanen-Stoffes

Brent says

When it comes to trilogies, I find that each part has a different purpose in appealing to its readers. The first part is the hook. The hook tempts you, draws you in with whispered promises of things to come. The second

part is the follow through. The hook convinced you to take a chance, but now the book has to convince you that your faith wasn't misplaced, that it can give you the experience it promised before. Then, of course, there is the finale of the series. This is the part that is the most vital, because the ending is what will form the strongest impression in your memory. In the follow through phase of Alex Alice's Siegfried trilogy, *The Valkyrie*, Alice gives everything he's promised and more.

In his continued struggle to do justice to Richard Wagner's classic opera, *The Ring of the Nibelung*, Alice's characters begin to reveal more about their personal struggles and limitations. Over the course of *Siegfried II: The Valkyrie*, a greater pattern begins to emerge that spans beyond Siegfried's journey towards his conflict with the dragon Fafnir. What was simply a road becomes a countryside that encompasses Siegfried, the dragon, and the so-called omnipotent beings that allowed such a monster to exist.

While Siegfried and his struggles are still very much the center of *The Valkyrie*, in this volume you get to see more of Odin and the pivotal part he plays in this drama. Odin, a being whose power surpasses all others, is rendered impotent as he is bound by the very laws he set into existence, and forced to watch as a mortal boy marches off to fight the result of a god's folly.

In this world that Wagner founded and Alice has built upon, it is revealed that Odin, much like Siegfried, is trapped in a prison without walls or a ceiling. Each character in this story struggles against their bonds in their own way, some with fear, some with anger, and some with solemn determination. Where each of their paths will end has yet to be revealed, but it's been one hell of a ride so far.

Complimenting the second arc of the trilogy is Alice's superb artwork, which has not diminished in quality in the least since the first volume. The landscapes and designs can be best described as an inspiring visual fusion of *The Dark Crystal*, *The Never Ending Story*, and Jeff Smith's *Bone*. Edgy and sharply defined in one panel, bizarre and oddly formed in the next, and yet all part of one seamlessly formed realm.

Two volumes in and I'm already mourning the coming of the third to herald the end of this series. This series has all the appeal of the classic opera with the complexities and edginess of a modern fantasy epic. As Siegfried continues to edge forward towards his final confrontation with his destiny, Alice has ensured that people within his fictional world and without watch with baited breath.

Kazima says

Loved it for the same reason I loved the first installment: good old fashioned epic fantasy and amazing artwork!

Katja says

The art is still absolutely breathtaking. Siegfried journeys to find the land of the humans and learns what he has to face to get there: Fafnir the dragon. Or does he? The story is told interestingly as flash forward which adds some extra intrigue towards the next book. It's fun and epic action-filled read.

Ana Luisa says

3.25 estrellas

Este volumen tiene un mejor ritmo que el anterior, se siente muy corto y que no avanzamos mucho. La valquiria es bella y el dibujo sigue siendo muy bueno.

FACT: Este cómic hace spoiler de sí mismo.

Ed Correa says

Maravillosa y elegante. Esta novela gráfica continúa la saga de Siegfried con un arte impecable. Quizá la mejor adaptación (y la más entretenida) que he leído de esta narración Siegfried-Valquiria-Ocaso de los dioses. ¡Que venga la 3era parte!

Relstuart says

The painted art the Alex Alice does is fantastic. I posted a cover of Joan of Arc he did years ago I randomly ran across not know the artist or who the art was intended to feature (cover of French comic Totendom).

The art in the story here is good but not as good as the painted art. I enjoyed the story but was a bit disappointed to note it only takes up about half of the book. The rest is interview and explanation from the author about their adaption of the opera. Interested enough to order the final volume when it is available in a month or so. :)

Lesli says

I have a small fascination with Der Ring des Nibelungen. I read a book version in a comparative lit class. I listened to the entire opera on tape/CD. I watched The Met performance via PBS. Every time, I find something new and interesting about the story.

This version is exception. The art is stunning. It's a requirement to read the back notes from from the artist.

Justine says

EN

I loved the Valkyrie's story, and the fact that we still get to know the plot thanks to her meeting with Volva! I love the humour added by Mime, and the scene between Odin and his daughter!

FR

J'ai adoré l'histoire de la Walkyrie, et aussi le fait qu'on continue à voir le déroulé de l'intrigue par l'entremise de sa rencontre avec Volva ! J'aime la touche d'humour qu'apporte Mime, et la scène entre Odin et sa fille !

Jenny Lynn says

The artwork is pretty, the story is interesting though at times a little confusing, but I really like the topsy-turvy-ness of the future being shown to the Valkyrie yet still leaving the reader feeling as if it's really happening at the present moment. Several times I forgot that we were actually seeing the future and that things weren't just unfolding at the same time, which was interesting in how I was jarred out of the story's momentum for a second but not in an unpleasant way. I wish the third volume was here so I could go ahead and finish this up, but alas it is not. Hopefully I won't forget too much of what happened before we get a copy.

Carlos Eguren says

Existe una fascinación en el ser humano por contar historias y explicar el mundo a través de fuerzas de poder incomprensible. Son esos relatos contados alrededor de hogueras desde el principio de los tiempos, los mitos y las leyendas, los que buscan explicar un mundo incomprensible. Una de las sagas más grandes es El Anillo de los Nibelungos, que fascinó a Wagner y Tolkien, y que ahora es recogida en cómic bajo el nombre de Siegfried por Alex Alice.

En esta segunda parte de las aventuras de Sigfrido, nos encontramos con uno de los elementos más importante de la saga: la Valkiria, emisaria de los dioses y los muertos, y cómo es condenada por interferir en la vida de los mortales por un padre todopoderoso, Odín. Al mismo tiempo, el joven héroe atraviesa bosques oscuros y montañas (que, en realidad, son gigantes), guiado por cierto nibelungo con el que no se lleva muy bien, para llegar hasta las tierras de un temible dragón. El destino de los personajes va dirigiéndose hacia un inexorable final, como todas las vidas.

Al ser la segunda parte de una trilogía, el peso de ser solo un intermedio es demasiado amplio y, aunque la historia avanza, no termina de satisfacer del todo, pese a las aventuras que viven los personajes y la tragedia entre dioses que empieza a hilarse debido a la aparición de una criatura antigua que ve el futuro.

La narración no decae ni la fascinación al descubrir esta versión del mito, pero las letras son superadas por la calidad del dibujo de Alex Alice, que nos da grandes páginas llenas de un trazo mágico y fascinante, como tuvo que ser escuchar por primera vez aquellos cuentos y mitos, alrededor del fuego donde brotó la imaginación. De eso va Siegfried, de la fuerza de las leyendas y cómo guían nuestra vida.

Syahira Sharif says

As mindblowing as the previous volume, The Valkyrie introduce us to a more calculating and cunning immortal character who watched Siegfried's journey as he goes from the past. In the beginning, Siegfried has successfully renew his father's blade but in the process it destroyed Mime's forest abode. Unable to ignore his destiny, Siegfried decided to venture out of the forest with or without Mime's help. Due to Mime's lies about Siegfried's past, Siegfried became increasingly distant while Mime regretted now that the boy he had raised was long gone. However the main focus of this book was the Valkyrie that have been a silent witness to everything that happened in the first book. She was one of Odin's daughter who are instrumental to

Siegfried's heroic destiny but she was seeking a forest's witch advice about the future and what her choice would come to be.

The first volume focus more on the legend while in this book, the characterizations were given more priority as we became acquainted with the Valkyrie. Still as elusive as the Gods themselves, we're shown the desperation of whatever decisions that lead the characters to where they are now. The flow of the story is quite confusing as it was like the Inception of Norse mythology.

Since I was reviewing a low quality ARC instead of the real thing, I couldn't quite completely engrossed by the pixellated artwork and the fact that I was missing a couple of pages from the book itself didn't actually give me enough perspective on the book as a whole. I might in the future, will try to obtain the real volume of the book. But from what I have received, the volume focus on more descriptive scenery of the world Siegfried lived in. There were hints of things far bigger was at stake by the choices made by both Siegfried and Valkyrie.

It is a satisfying volume but a bit unnerving and disconnected as it was from another point of view. As a transition to the third volume, I couldn't quite find myself having those moment of enlightenment with the whole fantastic mysticism and allure that I get from the first book. I felt the story arc somehow didn't make sense and at times, pointless at the end. Generally, I definitely will be looking forward to the third volume now more than ever.

The ARC is provided by the publisher via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.
