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In a thrilling adaptation of Edgar Allan Poe's best-known works, acclaimed artist-adaptor Gareth Hinds translates Poe's dark genius into graphic-novel format.

It is true that I am nervous. But why will you say that I am mad?

In -The Cask of Amontillado, - a man exacts revenge on a disloyal friend at carnival, luring him into catacombs below the city. In -The Masque of the Red Death, - a prince shielding himself from plague hosts a doomed party inside his abbey stronghold. A prisoner of the Spanish Inquisition, faced with a swinging blade and swarming rats, can't see his tormentors in -The Pit and the Pendulum, - and in -The Tell-Tale Heart, - a milky eye and a deafening heartbeat reveal the effects of conscience and creeping madness. Alongside these tales are visual interpretations of three poems -- -The Raven, - -The Bells, - and Poe's poignant elegy to lost love, -Annabel Lee.- The seven concise graphic narratives, keyed to thematic icons, amplify and honor the timeless legacy of a master of gothic horror.

Poe: Stories and Poems: A Graphic Novel Adaptation by Gareth Hinds Details

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Author : Gareth Hinds

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From Reader Review Poe: Stories and Poems: A Graphic Novel Adaptation by Gareth Hinds for online ebook

Wayne McCoy says

'Poe: Stories and Poems' adapted and illustrated by Gareth Hinds is a pretty impressive work. I really liked the illustration as well as the adaptations.

There are 7 stories and poems in this collection. They vary from the lesser known, like 'The Masque of the Red Death' and 'The Bells' to the more popular, like 'The Tell-Tale Heart' and 'The Raven.' The adaptations are superb, using Poe's own words. There is a key at the beginning of the book, so the reader will know if the story features things like insanity, or murder, or creepy animals. I'm not really sure what this key serves to do, but I liked it.

There is an afterword by the author, which includes biographical information about Edgar Allan Poe. The final poem in the book is 'The Raven' and features a character that looks like Poe. The author also cleverly works in images from the preceding 6 stories and poems. I found this a brilliant touch and a true tribute this master author and poet.

I received a review copy of this graphic novel from Candlewick Press and NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. Thank you for allowing me to review this graphic novel.

Sara Planz says

I am an over the top Edgar Allan Poe fan. From Poe tattoos to a room in my home devoted to the man, I eat up everything that I can with his name upon it. When I saw this graphic novel of Poe's works available for early review, I knew I had to request it.

Poe's work pairs beautifully with the visual design of this graphic novel. The images brilliantly portray the horror, despair, and Gothic feel of Poe's stories, as well as the sadness and longing of his poetry. Since "The Cask of Amontillado" is my favorite Poe story, I was especially interested to see how it would be visually portrayed and I was not disappointed. The horror of the bricking up of the wall is perfectly captured.

I also enjoyed reading how Hinds picked the stories he was going to use and how he researched and drew inspiration for the book.

Alexandra says

The art in this was gorgeous!! and of course, Poe is a genius!!! Review to come :)

Sara says

Confession time. I kinda sorta maybe don't really like Edgar Allen Poe. As a self described fanatic for all

things macabre I live in mortal terror of having my membership card in the freaky deaky we love dead things and sad poems club revoked entirely based on this fact.

I just don't get him. All of his stuff sounds like a whiny emo boy and I always picture Kris Kattan's character Azriel from Saturday Night Live whenever I try to envision him. Like he's sitting at a rickety wooden table writing by a single candle, sighing dramatically every few seconds as the candle melts down and his wife is just going "Edgar turn the damn lights on! And would it kill you to go take a walk or something!?! God just get out of the house and cheer up!"

I get that we're dealing with a different time here and thus a different definition of scary but I've read plenty of what would be regarded as classic horror and supernatural stories that scared the bejesus out of me. The House of the Seven Gables anything written by Shirley Jackson? Sign me the hell up. A raven tap tap tapping at the chamber door? Not so much.

So I was somewhat dubious when I picked this one up but I thought a graphic adaptation might give me some notion of why exactly this guy continues to be so damn popular that people leaves roses on his grave. Alas, while Gareth Hinds is a very talented artist who does a lovely job visualizing these "classic" stories all I can really say about this is its worth looking at for the pretty pictures.

This book contains all the classics; The Cask of Amontillado (probably my favorite given the ambiguous nature of the murderers relationship with his victim. I mean seriously WHY is he killing him? I have to KNOW!), The Telltale Heart (AGGHHH not the milky blue eye of revenge!!!!), The Raven, Annabelle Lee (which gets a lovely treatment depicting an interracial romance between a young black boy and a white girl and honestly beautiful scenes of the boy growing up and building an increasingly beautiful and elaborate monument of sand over her seaside tomb), The Pit and the Pendulum, and The Mask of the Red Death so if you're a Poe fan this is going to be pretty cool for you. The art is terrific and Hinds interpretation of the text is imaginative and really gets into the symbolism and gory beauty of the language.

Alas this got me no closer to understanding Poe but it was worth a look.

Becky - Pug and Books says

Poe: Stories and Poems: A Graphic Novel Adaptation by Gareth Hinds

Star Rating: ★★★★★ 5/5 stars

Format: ebook galley

Summary: A selection of short stories and poems by Edgar Allan Poe presented in graphic novel form.

Review: I received an advanced galley copy of this book from NetGalley for review.

I love the gothic genre, and really no one author encapsulates that genre quite like Edgar Allan Poe. So I was pretty interested in a graphic novel using his stories. I wasn't sure how it would work out but I was willing to give it a shot.

I liked the graphic novel, I thought that the art was nice. That was my main focus while reading, since I already knew the stories. I thought the art style fit with the stories, they fit the moods of them. I liked how in The Cask of Amontillado that the man that becomes trapped is dressed like a jester. It's very fitting for him

to be dressed as a "fool".

I was impressed that they included poems and not just stories. I can see how someone would decide to leave those out in favor of focusing on stories. Poems just don't come to the mind when thinking graphic novel but it totally works. I think the nature of Poe's poems definitely help.

I am definitely interested in Gareth Hind's other work. He's done a lot of turning classic literature into graphic novels and I would like to see how those all turned out.

Recommendation: If you are interested in Poe then give this graphic novel a chance.

Figgy says

Review to come.

Krista Regester says

Unpopular opinion time : I kind of hate *The Raven*.

destiny ? howling libraries says

I never turn down a good excuse to pick up a story or two of Poe's, and this collection has the utmost horror classics, naturally: The Masque of the Red Death, The Cask of Amontillado, The Pit and the Pendulum, The Tell-Tale Heart, The Bells, Annabel Lee, and The Raven.

The artwork in this adaptation is gorgeous and feels so fitting to Poe's particular brand of horror, as it's understated yet gruesome. I am definitely interested in picking up a hard copy of this adaptation in the future, and can't wait to read more of Gareth's adaptations!

Thank you to NetGalley and Candlewick Press for the ARC! All opinions expressed here are my own.

Jill Jemmett says

This collection of Edgar Allan Poe stories and poems begins with The Masque of The Red Death. In this story, Prince Prospero has a party in his castle, so his friends can escape the red death that is happening in the city. He has 7 different rooms, each decorated in a different colour. But when the clock strikes 12, an unusual guest makes his way through each of the rooms to the Prince. This is a very illustrative tale, because of the colours in each room. I loved the way that the colours even reflected on the people in the images.

The Tell-Tale Heart is one of my favourite Poe stories! A man doesn't like his boss's glass eye. He steals the glass eye and kills his boss. He chops up the body and hides it in the floor boards. When the police come to investigate the screams that were heard by neighbours, the man feels so guilty he ends up confessing to the whole thing. The images in this story were quite dark at times, but it was a good representation of the tale.

The final poem in the collection is "The Raven," Poe's most famous work. I loved the illustrations for this poem. They really highlighted the raven, sitting on top of the door. It's interesting that the narrator in this poem was illustrated as Poe himself. I love this poem and the graphics that went along with it were amazing.

This is a great graphic novel. I really liked that there was a legend with the themes of Poe's works, such as The themes of each story or poem were listed at its beginning. This makes the collection a great pick for young readers or people who are just being introduced to Poe's stories and poems.

Sud666 says

Edgar Allen Poe has always been one of my favorite authors. This collection of Poe's Stories and Poems are adapted to the comic medium by Gareth Hinds. Hinds, in the past, has done creditable adaptations of other classic tales. For the most part this continues in this volume dedicated to Poe.

Generally speaking I am not a fan of abridged versions of tales, unless you're a child, as it distorts the author's original ideas to make room for modern sensibilities. For the most part, this edition does the best it can and it isn't overly irritating.

The Masque of the Red Death, the Cask of Amontillado, Annabel Lee, The Pit and the Pendulum, The Tell-Tale Heart, The Bells and the Raven are the seven stories highlighted in this book. Each story is accompanied by illustrations that help bring to life the story. The artwork is decent and seems to work well with Poe's melancholic prose. Each story is also preceded by a legend that shows the various motifs that seem to recur in Poe's writings- such as Angel and Demons, Death, Insanity, Murder, etc. It is interesting but unnecessary, at least to me.

Still over all this is a good collection of excellent Poe tales with artwork that helps illustrate some of the themes in these tales. If you're a Poe fan or would like to introduce someone to Poe's wonderful imagination, then this is a good edition. Even if you know nothing about Poe (that is a shame) this is a great introduction to the man. Gareth Hinds continues to churn out good versions of classic tales in a comic medium. Not an easy feat. Well done!

Andrea says

So, Catherine became obsessed with Edgar Allen Poe at the very exact same age that I did while growing up. While we were in Philadelphia, we visited the National Park of one of his homes; we visited the home where he wrote The Tell-Tale Heart and The Black Cat, also the place where his wife died. Since being in that house, listening to a pretty scary rendition of The Black Cat and getting totally spooked because of an old A/C unit kicking on (we were in a back room, just Catherine, Charlotte, and I), running out of the room like we just saw the banshee, being stopped by the park ranger asking us what we saw (I guess a ghost supposedly had been spotted 3 times in the past by other visitors), Catherine can't stop reading Poe and getting totally spooked. On his last leave, Matt found this graphic novel and brought it home for Catherine. We have read a few of Gareth Hinds and have not been disappointed, yet. He does take artistic license, but does so with loving research (notes at the back of the book are fascinating).

L. McCoy says

Warning: I will admit I have not read a lot of Poe's prose work (though I definitely intend to and I have read The Tell-Tale Heart and The Raven before) so if you want to know how true to the original material this comic is, I honestly don't really know.

What's it about?

This is a collection of various Edgar Allen Poe stories told in comic book format.

Pros:

Most of the stories are fantastic!

The art is just perfect for the story-telling.

The tone of this book is really creepy and cool. Sometimes older horror can be cheesy but not Poe's stuff. He is a good horror author and this comic keeps a great creepy tone.

No boring stuff. Always a bonus.

Very suspenseful for sure!

Cons:

One problem I usually (though not always) have with short stories is that I can't really bring myself to care what happens to the characters, most of these are no exception unfortunately.

I'm not exactly not entirely sure what happened in some of these stories to be perfectly honest.

A few stories are told in a way that seems more like a picture book format more so than a comic book format which kinda bothers me. There's a big difference between narration in comics and picture book type storytelling which I'm not entirely sure if Hinds fully understands that. I will give it this: it's still a lot better than when people mix comics and prose (than again, almost anything's better than that).

Overall:

It's a great, creepy horror comic that I definitely recommend for libraries, fans of creepy comics or even just people looking to read something a bit different this Halloween. I had a few problems but they were pretty minor problems and most of it is pretty fantastic so it definitely earns...

4/5

Morris says

I can't rave enough about this graphic novel. The artwork is beautiful and the style changes for each work to perfectly fit the mood. It's an excellent introduction to Poe's works for the younger set and even includes a theme guide at the beginning of each work. In the back is a piece on each story or poem that gives vital information into both its creation and Poe's life in general. I can't recommend this enough!

Five enthusiastic stars.

This unbiased review is based upon a complimentary copy provided by the publisher.

Amy Yingling says

The stories included in this book are: The Masque of the Red Death, The Cask of Amontillado, The Pit and the Pendulum, and The Tell-Tale Heart. The poems included in this book are: Annabel Lee, The Bells and The Raven. Amazing illustrations! Even if you've already read these stories and poems by Poe you really need to take the time and read them with the visual delight that is Gareth Hinds' illustrations. I'm not going to review any of the stories or poems here because I have read them all before I just wanted to read them in a graphic novel because it adds a whole different level to the storytelling.

David Schaafsma says

Hinds is one of the premier graphic adaptors of great literature for young people. Here he adapts the core of stories and poems from Poe most children read in school, so it's good for helping us see the horror Poe intends, dark, swirling art to get at the dark emotions Poe explores.

Included: Masque of the Red Death, The Cask of Amontillado, Annabel Lee, The Pit and the Pendulum, The Tell-Tale Heart, The Bells, the Raven with a concluding illustrator/adaptor's note on Poe and the lit included. No surprises on the selections, because these are the ones taught in schools, and they are, no surprise, classic for good reason. I liked it surprisingly much given it looked like a predictable collection, but Hinds is terrific, and he makes these stories and poems come alive, maybe especially for struggling readers.
