



The Collected Fantasies, Vol. 5: The Gardens of Aedena

Moebius

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This out-of-print English translation collects *The Gardens of Aedena*, *The Unfaithful Body* and *Hit Man* by Jean "Moëbius" Giraud

The Collected Fantasies, Vol. 5: The Gardens of Aedena Details

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Author : Moëbius

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From Reader Review The Collected Fantasies, Vol. 5: The Gardens of Aedena for online ebook

Evan says

I just really don't like Moebius's writing, or his translator's, or both.

Michael Scott says

TODO:

- ++ art
- + cryptic story
- loose or no plot
- gratuitously obscene

Janne Paananen says

Aedenan puutarhat jatkaa Jean Giraudin sarjakuvatrilogiaa, jossa Stel ja Atana ovat haaksirikkoutuneet oudolle planeetalle, jonka kertyneet kaikki galaksin elämänmuodot. Planeetalta löytyy omituinen pyramidi, joka päästää sisuksiina vain Stelin. Selviää, että pyramidi on itse asiassa avaruusalus, joka on vuosituhannet vain odottanut ohjaajaansa. Ja sehän on tietenkin Stel.

Tästä ensimmäisessä albumissa rakentuneesta tilanteesta Jean Giraud ottaa kuitenkin totaalisen irtioton ja lähettiläkin Stelin ja Atanin pyramidistä löytyneillä "lentotuoleilla" tyystiin toiseen todellisuuteen.

Kaverukset laskeutuvat hyvin paljon maata muistuttavalle planeetalle ja heidän on selviydyttävä siellä ilman ravintosyntetisaattoreita tai robomediciä.

Luonnosta täysin vieraantunut parivaljakko kuitenkin selviää ja ilman kemiallisia lääkkeitään he alkavat pikku hiljaa muuttua... noh... ihmisiksi.

Juoni toimii yllättävän hyvin ja Giraud taivasti muuttaa piirrosjälkeään tapahtumien edetessä. Erittäin pelkistetty tyyli alkaa albumin loppua kohden kasvaa runsaammaksi tapahtumien muuttuessa. Samaten lapsenomainen tunnelma vaihtuu sävyä synkemmäksi ja pohdiskelevammaksi.

Aedenan puutarhat on tyyliltään ja kerronnaltaankin huomattavan erilainen kuin trilogian avannut sarjakuva. Suunta on toki oikea, ensimmäinen oli turhankin lapsellinen.

Zena V. (zombie bat) says

I am loving The Aedena Cycle way more than I was loving The Incal.

Timo says

Näitisti Moebius kyllä piirtää, mutta ei näissä miehen tarinoissa oikein ole tolkkua. Tai jos tolkku on, niin ei se koko albumia kanna vaan jossain välissä se tolkun lanka katkeaa ja lopputuloksesta.... niin. Tämä.

Andrew says

This continues the story from Volume 1 Upon a Star. The story about some crazy pyramid that attracted all the intelligent species in the universe (like Noah's Arc) and then took them... somewhere. Moebius decided after the success of that story to continue it. Aedena was written for a car company (a car was featured as a transportation vehicle in the comic).

It becomes pretty clear that this story wasn't very well planned out. Things just seem to happen. Moebius isn't as much a sci-fi writer, in that he doesn't focus on technology, as he is a spiritual writer. He enjoys writing about crazy, new-age mumbo gumbo. This leads to some pretty cool scenes but erodes the drama of the narrative (where anything can just happen, you know, just 'because', the emotional impact is damaged).

However, I found myself enjoying the strange ride and I wanted to see what happened next, even if I was detached from the narrative and the characters.

J.G. Keely says

The art is amazing as always, but these stories show some of Moebius' weaknesses as an author. Sci fi writers often fall into the trap of trying to have their characters explain things that the author, himself does not understand. Of course, no author can presume to know precisely how a warp drive will be used, if we ever do. Yet, authors still behave as if they did.

It's one thing to have a writer with a scientific background, such as Asimov or Niven writing complex explanations, but such speculation from a lay person is only going to distract any reasonably-informed reader. Even 'Hard Sci Fi' authors tend to be content to let their technology stand on its own, recognizing that any attempt to explicate the unknown is doomed to failure.

And what's more, Moebius is not content to explain only scientific unknowns, but must also give us an earful of his spiritual expertise, which usually boils down to 'use the force', except with more unnecessary profundity.

This obsession with a moralizing message often undermines the simple joy and drive of his art and stories. One story becomes a pamphlet for eating a raw food diet, a message which seems unimportant and unrelated to the grander questions the story explores.

Moebius also simplifies and overstates his case (admitting as much in the introduction), which should make any author recall the adage that 'if you cannot explain something without resorting to oversimplification and hyperbole, then you don't really understand it'.

I have no problem with Moebius writing a myth that explores the human condition, but when it is portrayed

as authoritative or as an advert, I feel the author is insulting my intelligence. Every author should have the humility to recognize their boundaries and to remain within them. Knowing your boundaries does require constantly pushing and testing them, but the most errant faltering steps should be excised from a finished work.

This over-stepping often shows itself in sci fi through the character dialogue about their future world. The characters constantly marvel at everyday things, explaining them to everyone in ear shot:

"I will enter the search term into the web search engine, Google.com, which will then comb through millions of entries to find the article we need"

"Oh, look! It has already finished, and in only 2-3 seconds time!"

"What an age we live in."

And so on. This is a sign that the author doesn't understand the world or the technologies they are writing about, and hence, cannot figure out how to tell us how they work without pure, unnatural exposition.

A good sci fi story should allow the technologies to seem natural to the characters, but still make the general effects clear to us. Hell, most people nowadays couldn't explain how Google works.

The less serious stories don't always fare better, either, as they often have no point at all. Moebius rarely escapes the extremes of absurd nonsense and grandiose allegory, but one can at least find interesting human stories between his wild vacillations (most of the time).

My Suggested Reading In Comics

Lau Maia says

Estranho mas interessante e com um desenho agradável, aconselho

David says

mostly for the artwork but the main story also had some weird garden of Eden/sexual identity stuff goin on

Javier Jiménez says

Je préfère ce deuxième tome au première, ici on trouve des commentaires pour une style de vie naturel, sans le besoin de la technologie.

Alexander Lisovsky says

????????????? ?????? Le Monde d'Edena (The World of Edena), ?????????? ?????????? ? Upon a Star (1983),
????????????? ?????? "?????????", ? ?????????????? ? ?????? ??????????????.

? 80-? ??????? ?????????? ? ?????? ?????? ? ?????? ??? ?????????????? ? ?????????? ?????????????? (??, Jean-Paul Appel-Guery). ???????????, ?? ?????, ????? ?????????????? ?????? ??? ???, ?????????????????? ?? ???, ?? ??? ?? ?????? ????? Epic Graphic Novel, ??? ?????? ?????????? ?? ??? ?????? ?????? ??? ?????? ?????? ?????? - ? ??? ?????? ?????? ??? (??)????? ??? ?????? ?????? ??????.

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??????, ???????????, your mileage may vary.

P.S. ?????? ?????.