



Saga: Book One

Brian K. Vaughan (Writer), Fiona Staples (Illustrator)

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At long last, a deluxe hardcover of the Eisner and Hugo Award-winning SAGA is finally here!

"It's easy to run out of accolades for this superb series... The dialogue is smart, arch and always rings true, and the visuals, rendered digitally, are alluring and inventive. The Stalk, an eight-eyed, eight-limbed female bounty hunter, remains a creepy favorite." -*The New York Times*

At long last, a deluxe hardcover of the Hugo Award-winning *Saga* is finally on its way! Collecting the first three trade paperbacks (issues #1-18) of the smash-hit series, this massive edition features a striking new cover, as well as special extras, including never-before-seen sketches, script pages, and a roundtable discussion with the creators about how *Saga* is really made. Altogether, this hardcover contains over 500 pages for less than fifty bucks!

Written by Eisner Award-winning "Best Writer" Brian K. Vaughan (*Y: The Last Man, The Private Eye*) and drawn by Harvey Award-winning "Best Artist" Fiona Staples (*Mystery Society, North 40*) *Saga* is the story of Hazel, a child born to star-crossed parents from opposite sides of a never-ending galactic war. Now, Hazel's fugitive family must risk everything to find a peaceful future in a harsh universe that values destruction over creation.

Kieron Gillen, Jamie McKelvie and Matthew Wilson return with an Eisner Award-nominated modern fantasy where gods are the ultimate pop stars and pop stars are the ultimate gods. Revel in the opulence of this over-sized hardback! Revel in it! Collects issues 1 through 11.

Collects SAGA #1-18.

Saga: Book One Details

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ISBN : 9781632150783

Author : Brian K. Vaughan (Writer) , Fiona Staples (Illustrator)

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Download and Read Free Online Saga: Book One Brian K. Vaughan (Writer) , Fiona Staples (Illustrator)

From Reader Review Saga: Book One for online ebook

Richard says

It's so refreshing to experience a book series like *Saga*, a singularly imaginative creation that, amongst the wacky-looking aliens and fantasy action, manages to still be irresistibly charming and deeply heartfelt. In its story about star-crossed alien lovers born to opposing sides of a galactic war and their fight to stay ahead of a galaxy that sees their newborn child as a threat, *Saga* truly has something for everyone including romance, an unforgettable and diverse cast of characters, and exciting sci-fi set-pieces. It's a fearless quirky space opera that wears its heart on its sleeve.

I reviewed the separate volumes of this book previously. You can find them here:

Volume 1 ★★★★★

Volume 2 ★★★★★

Volume 3 ★★★★★

Gavin says

OK I almost feel like I need to invent a 6th Star to account for how much awesomeness just rolled all over me. I had wanted to read this for some time, and thanks to the good folks at Humble Bundle and Image, I was able to, in a handy dandy digital version!

In a way I'm sad I missed out for this long, but in a stronger way, thank GOD I waited so that I could take in 18 Chapters/Issues all at once. BINGE!

I just don't know where to start...I mean from the first page it grabs you...

Hooked! Profanity? Poop? Hells to the yizzle!

The colours...I mean...gorgeous. This may be the most colourful book I've ever read...I stopped at one point because I feel like this could be just distributed across the world in colour with no words, and I still feel like it would produce great joy. I feel like Rainbows and Skittles come to read this book to get an idea of how colour works.

Did I say I liked the colours?

On top of that, this is one of the funniest things I've read too, not just smirks, observations, but laughing out loud and having to go and show my wife (who doesn't really care, but seems to enjoy my prattling on like a

dumbass about how funny the Ram-Man and the Flying-Girl are.)

This book also has a lot of inter-species erotica, including Robot Sex! A whole planet of debauchery, and it's explicit. There's no PG for kids here, and it manages to be sexy and funny at the same time...this bit about coming inside? I mean my GOD, I was on the floor.

I love the word Twat. It's so good. I love that they use the c-word, my God, I love that there's no fear at all. They're just gonna do what they're gonna do. Bravo Mr. BKV as the peeps call you...oh and Ms. Staples? You are a goddess of artistry. I wasn't sure what to make at first, but pretty soon I was wondering how I'd lived my life so long WITHOUT this art...

I could gush and gush some more, but sometimes, you just get so immersed in a world, and it's so real and lush and intoxicating, there's nothing better than diving in.

Oh, and on top of it, the leading assassin in the galaxy saves a 6-year old child prostitute from that nightmare. (Want to endear everyone to a character? That'll do it.)

A war between Ram-people who live on Moons and Flying-People who live on Earths...do the Ram people speak some kinda Spanish/Italian/Portuguese hybrid?

Throw in the forbidden love, the outlaws on the run, the cute baby, family story, grandparents, a Gigantic old Tree that's a spaceship! (Say WHAT? I shit you not.)

Then there's all the inside jokes about writers, and the underlying message about peace in wartime and the parallels about war and it's devastation and unending cycles...I mean this just has so much going on...wow.

Did I mention there's a Pink Ghost who babysits the baby? Oh and she's missing half her body, including her vagina, which is helpfully pointed out!

Don't forget the violence too...

Oh and there's a fantastic narrative throughout the whole story done by the now somewhat grown baby (Hazel) which is sorta painted into each panel like ether, it just sorta floats there. At first super distracting, but then, very cool, now, actually a very enjoyable part.

And don't forget the COLOURS! I almost wish I had some acid so I could read this again and smell the colours. A book this imaginative doesn't have the right to be this funny AND original AND colourful AND gorgeous AND an addictive page-turner.

But no matter what, don't forget:

I literally cannot WAIT for Vol. 4...I may shit myself in anticipation.

Emma says

this was really fucking weird but also really cool and interesting and fun.....I'm gonna try to write a longer review later but this book is really hard to describe

Javier Muñoz says

Saga es fantasía, es space opera, es una road movie espacial con su puntito de sexo y violencia, pero sobretodo es un comic sobre la familia, o mejor dicho, distintos tipos de familias.

Esta colección cuenta la huida de Marko y Alana, dos nativos de dos planetas (en realidad un planeta y su luna) que mantienen una cruel guerra a lo largo de toda la galaxia desde hace mucho tiempo. Alana, una piloto de naves degradada a vigilante de una cárcel por cobardía en el campo de batalla se enamora de Marko, un prisionero enemigo en el que ve un alma gemela y se fugan juntos... este hecho no tendría gran importancia si no fuera porque ambos tienen una hija, un híbrido prohibido con los atributos de ambas razas, los cuernos del padre y las alas de la madre, un símbolo de que la guerra entre ambos mundos quizás no sea necesaria. los tres son perseguidos por distintos planetas por varios cazarrecompensas y distintas facciones.

hablé antes de familias porque aunque lo más evidente es esa familia formada por Alana, Marko y Hazel (con las posteriores incorporaciones), también en sus perseguidores los vínculos familiares (reales o improvisados) tienen una gran importancia... el principe robot IV por ejemplo quiere capturar cuanto antes a los fugitivos para poder volver con su mujer a tiempo del nacimiento de su primer hijo; otro grupo de perseguidores formado por The Will (cazarrecompensas), su gato mentira, Gwendolin (antigua prometida de Marko), y sophie (una niña que fue esclava sexual y que rescató The Will), forman también una forma de familia disfuncional e improvisada, y en muchos de los personajes que van apareciendo en el camino de los protagonistas y los perseguidores se va viendo la importancia de los vínculos familiares actuales o pasados.

esta historia de huida es narrada en tiempo pasado por la propia Hazel, supuestamente cuando ya es una adolescente o joven adulta. esto para mi es un acierto, nos permite ir descubriendo el mundo y los personajes de manera fluida, sólo con los diálogos (excelentes y nunca forzados) y las palabras de Hazel, que en realidad habla sólo desde su punto de vista, aunque nos va dando pistas del futuro, ya que no puede evitar comentar cosas que pasarán después o hablar de personajes que más adelante conocerá.

El dibujo de Fiona Staples refleja a la perfección este mundo lleno de seres extraños, su fuerte está en los personajes y quizás su punto flojo está en los escenarios, quizás se eche en falta algo más de espectacularidad en ciertas viñetas panorámicas y en los fondos, pero por lo demás hace un gran trabajo.

Para mí es de las mejores colecciones que se han publicado en los últimos años, es divertida, original y sorprendente. espero que siga a este nivel durante muchos números.

Susie says

I love it still. I cannot help myself. Saga has a rich and exciting plot, fully formed interesting characters, and

artwork that is out of this world.

Lono says

I've got some mixed feelings about this one. Part of me is wondering why the hell I waited so long to start reading this book and part is so friggin' glad I did so I could read the first 18 issues all at once in this monstrous collection. And, it has about 70% of a boob on the cover. Cha-ching. The breast feeding baby chugging away is a bit of a bonerkill, but whatever.

Brian K. hasn't delivered like this for me since I finished Y The Last Man. I think it's my love for that series that foolishly left me wondering if he could make magic again and not just leave me wishing I had just reread Y instead. NO disappointment here. 18 issues of awesome. He does such a phenomenal job of creating characters I give a shit about. He takes some pretty unusual looking folks and gives them genuine voice. Alana's wings or Marko's horns almost fade away when they start to talk. They're real people. I guess that's what every good author should be able to do. This also helps Brian in building authentic feeling relationships between his characters. The connections between lovers, the interactions between parents and their children, and emotions between friends and enemies just rang true to me here. Brian K. Vaughn got me to give a shit about an overgrown fairy, a newly liberal satyr, and giant cat that says one word. Thought it was not possible. Then he goes and throws in just enough edginess to reel in a guy like me. A generous amount of violence peppers this one and it's got the c-word. And how can I not just fall in love with a girl that says "Please shoot it in my twat". Fuckin' Shakespearian.

This is all topped off some pretty amazing art. Fiona Staples deserves as much credit as Vaughn in building this insane universe. She did an unbelievable job of giving faces to Brian's wonderful voices. Her art is beautifully drawn and consistent. And she doesn't shy away from the crazy shit either. Although Fiona completely freaked me out with The Stalk. Just too creepy no matter how much ground she can cover in the sack.

Some of my personal favorites are, of course, The Stalk.

Fard, the Fumunda-cheese giant.

Izabel, the bowel dragging ghost.

And Prince Robot IV smashing out.

So far Saga is just simply a great story about a couple trying to keep their child safe and everything that happens to them along the way. I would recommend this book to anybody. I don't think I'm gonna be able to wait for the next 18 issue collection.

Get this review and more at:

Jess ✶Harbinger of Blood-Soaked Rainbows✶ says

So I just scored this beautiful hardback deluxe edition of the first three volumes today for FREE because GRAPHIC NOVEL SALE (buy 2 get 2 free) and ALLLLLLL my friends love it, so why not? Gonna start this one soon.

4.5 stars. RTC.

Btw, I am KINDA in love with The Will.

But it may only be because of Lying Cat.

Give me the second deluxe volume NOW!

Please

Jamie says

I have completely fallen in love with this world and characters.
Can't wait to read book two.

Vicky N. says

Popsugar Reading Challenge 2017 - A book with pictures. 4/52

I was never a huge comic book lover until Saga.

Saga is the story of two star crossed lovers.

Landfall and its moon had been at odds for as long as they can remember. Their war had traveled throughout the whole galaxy making planets choose sides.

Until Alana and Marko, two soldiers from each side fall in love and have a baby, coexistence between this two species seemed impossible. Saga starts with the greatest happiness, the birth of their baby and follows with the constant fear that they might lose their little girl to the war.

Saga is a mature sci-fi/fantasy story filled with adventure, laughter and great worlds. Each panel made me fall in love with its characters and its story a bit more.

Each character that makes even the smaller appearance will stick with you and they go from the bizarre, to the just plain weird. And I love it.

I admire Brian K. Vaughan and Fiona Staples so much, how they have managed to understand each other so well, and they each know when it's time to let the other shine.

Some of the best parts of the story are when Brian lets Fiona's art speak for themselves without any dialogue or when Staples does a simple background to let the character's dialogue resonate.

Saga is at times funny, at others touching, and sometimes even maddening, but every single page has managed to astonish me. It is and will always be one of my favorite comics because it made me fall in love with the genre.

And I would recommend it to both comic book fans and non comic book fans. It is a good story, made even better through the great art of Staples.

It reminded me of when I was a little kid and what reading a great fantasy novel for the first time felt like. It felt like the discovering of a world where everything was new and wondrous.

Cheese says

Fantastic story an a epic 'Saga'. This is something I really want to follow. It feels like the beginning of something big. Almost like Lord of the rings or Star Wars.

Heartfelt, adult, thrills with twists and turns and fantastic characters.

Trish says

Both the writer, Brian K. Vaughan, and the illustrator, Fiona Staples, are such profusely talented collaborators that their work must be outstanding examples of the genre. Perhaps best of all, in the final pages of the hardcover version of Volume I Vaughan lets us in on the magic of creating graphic novels. Since the writer and illustrator both have unmatched imaginative and artistic skills, their generosity in

sharing the techniques of creation seem unlikely to infringe upon their respective positions at the pinnacle of graphic novels.

Residents of a world are war with the residents of their moon. Their fight has drawn in residents of other locales throughout the galaxy to fight proxy wars on their behalf, “waged mostly by unlucky draftees or conscripts from other worlds.” The original enmity remained and fighting had gone on so long that offspring of the surviving combatants knew only to hate “those with horns” or “those with wings.” When Marko finds himself an “enemy combatant” and falls in love with his jailor, special agent Alana, they escape but must live on the lam.

The explicit images and language at the beginning of this book strangely do not label it “not for teens” because the language and temperament are all about teens and youthful idealisms. But it can be satisfying fare for adults as well because of the exquisite portraiture and expressions we recognize, and the heavy doses of physicality and fornication elicit something more than morbid curiosity.

“The opposite of war is *not* peace.”

Both Marko and Alana are devotees of a particular self-deprecating author, D. Oswald Heist, who churns out volumes of sci-fi bodice-rippers from a lighthouse on the planet of Quietus “to pay the bills.” Heist has a major following because his books have a philosophy and a worldview that his readership find enthralling.

“The opposite of war is not peace. The opposite of war is (view spoiler).”

I take Vaughan’s point. I don’t agree with it necessarily since the idea is (literally) sketched and not fully developed as a concept, but I see what he is about. But perhaps we should just take Vaughan’s graphic novels as the starting points for discussion in or outside the classroom. Surely just the awesomeness of the paired writing and drawing should be a subject of study: the difficulty of culling physical and verbal communication to their essence without losing the particular personality of the speakers.

Personally I was more taken with the visual component of *Saga* Vol I rather than the arguments presented in support of the anti-war philosophy, but I think together they make a marvelous combination. And I appreciated the *To Be Continued* section of the book in which the finesse, attention to detail, and the agonizingly slow process of creation, correction, and distillation is highlighted. Vaughan claims to be quoting Twain when he says “Try to feature at least one hideously enlarged pair of testicles in every story you tell” and he’s right—it adds to the overall drama.

Valerie says

I loved *Saga*. Loved it. I’m not entirely new to graphic novels as a whole, because I’ve read tons of manga, but *Saga* is my first Western graphic novel, and it is pretty much completely different.

You're thrown into a completely different world, and all you can do is accept it.

Robots with TV’s as heads, horned people, winged people, a tree spaceship, there’s nothing you can do but accept everything that’s happening. And why? Because the characters are freaking fantastic. Our two main

characters, Alanna and Marko, have found themselves in love and with child, even though they're on the opposite sides of a never ending war. Together, they encounter enemies and allies alike as they travel the galaxy in a tree spaceship.

What makes the story so appealing (other than the squishy baby), is the art, and the way the story is told. Not only are the character interactions entertaining, the story is also sometimes narrated by an older version of the baby, as if she were telling her life story from the beginning.

There is also the originality of, well everything. I have yet to find any similarities between *Saga* and anything else I have read or watched in my life. What seems to be a simple war between two species (and their allies) has a more complicated message hidden behind it.

I need more graphic novels in my life

If it isn't evident, I could not get enough of *Saga*, which is why I need to find the second half of the series soon. But at the same time, I don't want to finish it because of how unique it is. I didn't even care about the lack of background information, in the end it fit the overall vibe of the novel.

In conclusion, read this ASAP. It's a fast read, as it's a graphic novel and all, and the art and story are both gorgeous. SO GET ON IT!

Donovan says

"Until only the darlings remain."

Saga is one of the most difficult comic series to appraise, at least for me, because of its notoriety, genre-defiance, and shortcomings (yes it has those). So let's jump in.

Brian K. Vaughan's story is imaginative yet familiar, tender yet vulgar, fantastic yet socially commentative. It's a real page turner full of sex, drama, violence, and humor. But it also has an annoyingly zealous fan base, it tries *so hard* that it can feel overwritten, and characterization, after three volumes, is lacking. But I still *really* like reading it.

Because it's fantasy and space opera, the characters are quite diverse. Horned, winged, robotic, magical, ghostly, alien. They each have their strengths, weaknesses, and trademark quirks. But for 400+ pages I want more development. They aren't characters as much as the beginnings of characters, caricatures, sketches. But there's a lot more to this.

And this isn't a total shortcoming, because I believe this is mostly due to the absolute epicness and drama of the story. Think about *Star Wars*, the inevitable comparison. Luke, Han and Leia aren't the deepest characters. Yet we still sympathize and identify with them, become invested in their stories. By comparison I feel that Marko, Alana and co. are even deeper and more unique because of their diversity, i.e. they aren't just white humans. And this story is deeper than *Star Wars* because it isn't just space opera, it's so much more.

I also wonder about the suggestion and presence of mass market fiction (*D. Oswald Heist*) and daytime soap

opera (The Open Circuit) as an explanation for these characters. Quick characters in a long form drama, where the moderate character development is supplemented by a rich and dramatic plot determined by their decisions. It's not that they're shallow or common, they're just constantly on the move, subject to outside forces and their own emotions, seemingly insignificant in a vast and epic "saga." And much like mass market fiction or daytime soap opera, I imagine these characters will grow immensely over time through the sheer epicness of the story. That's my guess anyway.

On another note, there's also the theme of taboos, as paraded blatantly on the covers with breastfeeding (Book One) and nose-picking (Book Two). Then there's sex, blowjobs, menstruating, birth, drugs, alcohol, farting, you name it. This gives *Saga* elements of exercising freedom of speech and a sort of rock and roll rebellion while dealing with these issues in a generally open and realistic manner. That none of these things are deserving of quick and harsh judgment, even drug or alcohol use, but rather they are very real and arguably necessary parts of what make us human, for right or wrong. The exploratory testing and limit-pushing of our physicality is itself an expression of our humanity, isn't it? An exploration of sentience and consciousness and free will? If we can't behave like apes when we want to, what's the point in having the choice?

"The whole point of having enemies abroad is getting to ignore the ones back home."

The artwork is the highlight because it is *pure joy*. Clean lines, deep textures, and total color saturation. Fiona Staples's illustrations are cinematic and polished, dynamic and beautiful. Her coloring is dreamlike and otherworldly, painterly and rich. And the whole page and splash page illustrations are stunning. It's rare when you can't imagine different art with the story, because it's perfectly in sync, but this is one of those times.

Saga is weird, very weird. It's violent, dramatic, epic, and funny. It's button-pushing and boundary-leaping. It's vulgar and pornographic. The artwork is among the best in comics today, seriously, it's that good. And the combination, honestly, is pretty shocking. If I hopped in a time machine to recommend this comic to myself like three years ago I probably would have thought it was a joke. Space opera? With graphic sex and profanity? Crass bodily functions? Gratuitous violence? From Brian K. Vaughan, of all people? Sounds like...Star Wars with no boundaries. Sounds...unpublishable. Right? I guess that's why Vaughan talks about saving the darlings. Don't kill them. Combine them. It seemed to have worked, at least this time.

So I guess I am one of those hopeless zealous fanboys. I can't help it. Okay okay, maybe I'm not quite a *diehard, mouth-foaming* fanboy. I mean, it's not infallible. I still want more from these characters. But it's not over yet, there's time and space for growth. And damn, there really is a lot happening in this book. It's got dimensionality and literary depth. It makes you think. And for me that's five stars.

Kai says

*"Once upon a time, each of us was somebody's kid.
Everyone had a father, even if he never provided anything more than his seed.
Everyone had a mother, even if she had to leave us on a stranger's doorstep.
No matter how we're eventually raised, all of our stories begin the exact same way.
They all end the same, too."*

Oh wow.

Wow wow wow.

Wow.

Never really was into graphic novels, but now I might as well be. This is awesome, from start to finish. Beautiful art, intriguing plot, unexpected twists, incredibly interesting characters, unique ideas are just a few things that make this the ultimate page-turner. I absolutely don't know where this is going but I will one hundred percent find out.

Find more of my books on [Instagram](#)

Anne says

So...Saga.

Cheeze-us on a cracker, right? I'm not really sure what I can say about this one that hasn't already been said a million times.

Fantastic! Amazing! Hilarious! Heartfelt! Excellent!

Ok, well I'm not big on re-reading stuff that I recently finished, and I had *just* read the first 6 issues (volume 1) as part of a Buddy Read with a friend earlier this year. So my original plan was to skim & skip till I got to the new stuff.

Thanks to Mike, I'm the proud owner of this Deluxe Edition!

M'kay, I started out on the first page with my eyeballs ready to start the process of quickly flashing over the pages.

Aaaaaaaaand?

Hey! That was a good part! I'll just read for a minute. And that, because it was interesting! And that! And that was funny, too. I'll just keep going for a little bit longer...

The Whole Thing.

I read all of the first volume **again** before I realized what I'd done.

And if you've ever done something like that, then you know what kind of a fantastic, amazing, hilarious, heartfelt, excellent kind of story it has to be for that to happen.

As for the *new* stuff I read?

I have a girl-crush on Gwendolyn, in case you were wondering.

Plot, plot, plot...

So much happens that I don't think I could adequately convey the plot. And, quite frankly, I don't want to. It's better if you go into it with no preconceived notions of what to expect.

I *will* say it's about family.

The one you're born with, and the one you choose.

You don't think *Saga* sounds like something you'd like, you say?

Take it from someone who doesn't enjoy *weirdo* indie stories about *weirdo* people with *weirdo* horns from *weirdo* planets. Stuff like that can go quickly wrong for me, and I end up finding them (most of the time) unrelatable and dorky.

But.

None of those other ones had Lying Cat...
