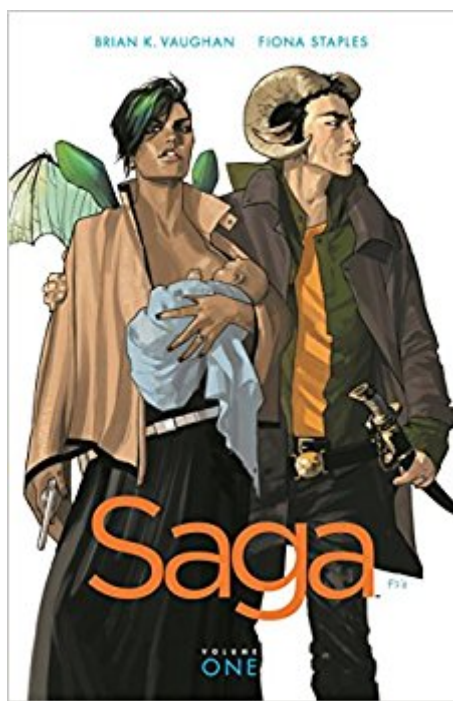


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# Saga, Vol. 1



## Synopsis

Winner of the 2013 Hugo award for Best Graphic Story! When two soldiers from opposite sides of a never-ending galactic war fall in love, they risk everything to bring a fragile new life into a dangerous old universe. From New York Times bestselling writer Brian K. Vaughan (Y: The Last Man, Ex Machina) and critically acclaimed artist Fiona Staples (Mystery Society, North 40), Saga is the sweeping tale of one young family fighting to find their place in the worlds. Fantasy and science fiction are wed like never before in this sexy, subversive drama for adults. This specially priced volume collects the first six issues of the smash-hit series The Onion A.V. Club calls "the emotional epic Hollywood wishes it could make." Voted one of the top graphic novels of the year by the NYT, IGN, the Examiner, and SF Weekly. Voted Best Comic of the year by MTV Geek and Best New Series by Paradox Comics. Voted a finalist in the GoodReads Best GN of 2012 contest. Named one of Time Magazine's top 10 graphic novels for 2013

## Book Information

Series: Saga (Book 1)

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Image Comics (October 10, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1607066017

ISBN-13: 978-1607066019

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 0.5 x 10.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (808 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,454 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic

Novels > Graphic Novels > Science Fiction #11 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic Novels >

Publishers > Image Comics #234 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Science Fiction

## Customer Reviews

For many years, Brian K. Vaughan has been dazzling us and making our heads spin with his wordsmithing and storytelling on some of the greatest comics of the last decade or so. Books like Y: THE LAST MAN, EX MACHINA and his initial run on RUNAWAYS are the stuff that comic book readers' dreams are made of. Alas, since the devastating finale of EX MACHINA, he took some well-deserved time off, but when he announced a new creator-owned series for Image Comics that

was apparently going to be "STAR WARS meets ROMEO AND JULIET meets GAME OF THRONES", people's heads started to explode with anticipation. But would it live up to the inevitable hype surrounding a work by Vaughan and artist Fiona Staples? Short answer:

Abso-freakin'-loutely. *SAGA* is the type of space opera that only someone like Vaughan could do, and do with enough smarts, fun, emotion, action and surprises to keep the audience wrapped around his finger. It's the story of Marko and Alana, a pair of star-cross'd lovers from different sides of warring planets. Alana is from the planet Landfall, a place of great technological advancement, and their planet is in constant conflict with the magic-wielders of that planet's moon Wreath, where Marko hails from. Marko was captured after a battle with Landfall where he threw down his arms because he is a self-proclaimed conscientious objector, and he was imprisoned, where Alana, who was also somewhat disgraced in her military service, is his prison guard. Fast-forward several months, and Alana is giving birth to their child, Hazel, the actual narrator of the series. The very beginning of the series is dedicated to her actually giving birth, and it's hilarious and beautiful and suspenseful since they are being pursued from both sides of this galaxy-wide conflict.

I've been reading comic books for about 20 years. I am not exaggerating in the slightest when I tell you that this is the best comic book I have read in my entire life. I've been a huge fan of Brian K. Vaughan, largely in part to his talent in creating new and engaging characters in a comic industry that has become a little bit stagnant. His work on *Runaways* and *The Hood* really intrigued me, because he has a knack for making over-the-top characters seem incredibly believable and real with his dialogue and exposition. He has a talent that few, if any comic writers can claim to equal. I picked up this trade on a whim, simply because it had Vaughan's name on it, (and who am I kidding? It was cheap!) I flipped it open and experienced the first page, which literally made me burst into laughter. Comics just don't DO that very often! I was laughing out loud in my local shop, and I'm sure that I looked like a loon, but I didn't care. I immediately purchased this book and headed back to my house to read it. I read it three times in a row; I could not believe the caliber of book I was reading. Vaughan has created a universe that is completely ridiculous. I mean that in a good way. He has introduced to us a world that is so sickening, gorgeous, bewildering, and imaginative all at the same time. This story is essentially *Star Wars* meets *Romeo and Juliet*. It's such an injustice to categorize it like this, as that description doesn't do it justice at all, but it's as close as I can come off the cuff. Now, as you'd expect, the writing is superb. Vaughan has made this world so out of the ordinary, and yet somehow so relatable with his grounded dialogue and narration carrying the story along.

You ever hear of Brian K. Vaughn? No? Well if you haven't, then I think it's time you decide to give his name a try. Vaughn has done the great work of Y: The Last Man, Ex Machina, and Runaways to great acclaim. But after taking some time off, Vaughn is back in the comic-ring with Saga, a sci-fi/fantasy story inspired by Star Wars and the birth of his second daughter. And what do you get? One of the most unique, epic, fresh, and odd comics on the market. I will try to keep it spoiler free. SAGA VOL. 1 collects the first issues, #1-6. A never-ending galactic war that has been happening between a planet by the name of Landfall, a planet filled with technologically advanced beings who have wings to fly, and its orbiting moon Wreath, a moon full of goat-like humans who are great warriors and wield magic. Alana (a being from Landfall), and Marko (a being from Wreath) do the unthinkable: they conceived a child named Hazel on a distant planet named Cleave. Both Alana and Marko forfeit their positions from their planets and decide to try to get away from the war effort. But both home planets find out about this and want them eliminated. Landfall has an agent from the Robot Kingdom, named Prince Robot IV (a humanoid-being with the head of a television set) go after them, while Wreath hires paid killers The Will (a morally complex being) and The Stalk to do the same. What will happen next? Brian K. Vaughn wanted this book to match the title itself, in that it encompasses all aspects of a long and arduous space epic. It has drama, romance, humor, suspense, action, violence, charm, zany science fiction, abstract fantasy, the supernatural, politics, morals, sexuality, and just plain weird stuff. This book has it all. And it's only 6 issues in.

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