

Tales from the Parents Basement

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Hatter M Vol.2 Mad with Wonder

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When you look at this book's cover you know it's not your everyday run of the mill Alice in Wonderland story. Though I don't think Disney will make an animated version of this story, the book was incredible.

First off I need to say I've only read the second volume so I was a little lost as to where I was dropped into the storyline, but with that in mind this story was wonderfully good.

The cover depicts a gentleman with a top hat and a wicked looking mechanical spider on his back, kind of a badass version of a Swiss army knife, with men approaching in the distance. At first I thought the Mad Hatter would be a bad man in this book, but quite the contrary. Hatter Madigan is on a quest to find the "glowing imagination" produced by Alyss, Wonderland's lost princess.

We begin this volume with scenes of what looks to be the Queen of Hearts and she is royally pissed at HM (no pun intended). We are then brought to London 1864 where the Hatter meets up with a boy being bullied and he tells him to stand up for himself. He tries to teach him a little on how to defend himself and then walks him home. They see a news article about a miraculous healer with a “glow” in America so off to America we go! There he is confronted by a band of cowboys , some of the southern half of the Civil War, a vampire, and circus sideshow freaks. Among them he finds the healer that glows. Is it Alyss? Equipped with his “bug” (backpack full of blades) and hat (it can fly, spin, block bullets, cut people and has an eye to view things from afar) he cuts his way to the truth about Alyss and while trapped in a funny farm he learns where all secrets are kept; Washington DC. Will anything stop this royal bodyguard throughout his quest? Check it out.

Overall the story was entertaining and hard to put down with all of it’s twist and turns and cast full of freaks. The art completely compliments the story– they are paired perfectly. The mood is dark and gritty and you feel it while reading this book. It is a must for anyone who would like Alice in Wonderland with a bit of a Tim Burton twist.

It is no wonder why Frank Beddor is a New York Times bestseller.

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