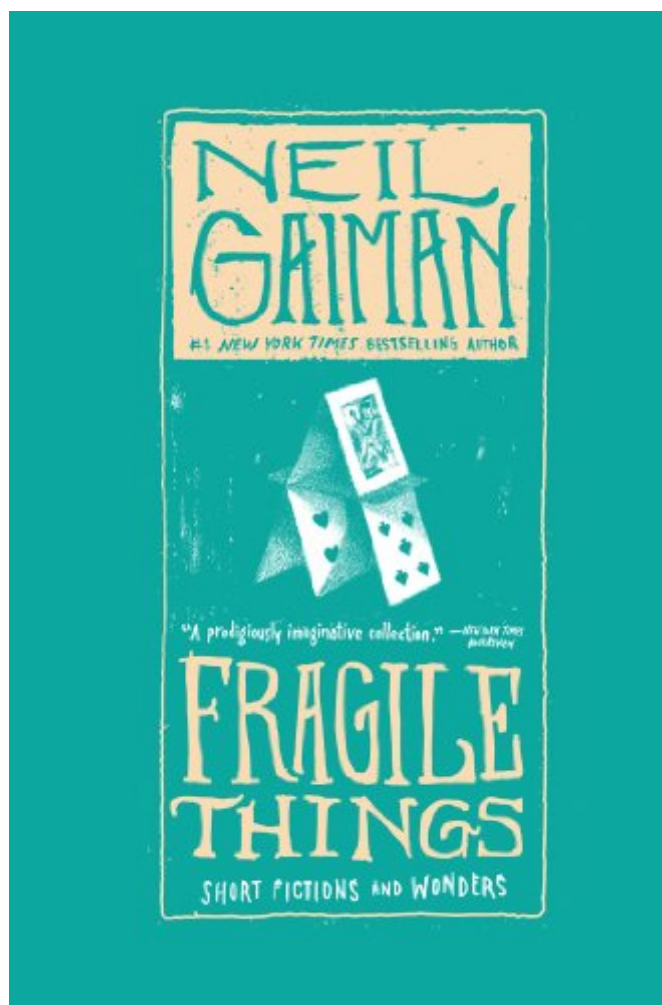


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Fragile Things: Short Fictions And Wonders



Synopsis

“A prodigiously imaginative collection.” —New York Times Book Review, Editor’s Choice
“Dazzling tales from a master of the fantastic.” —Washington Post Book World
Fragile Things is a sterling collection of exceptional tales from Neil Gaiman, multiple award-winning (the Hugo, Bram Stoker, Newberry, and Eisner Awards, to name just a few), #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Graveyard Book*, *Anansi Boys*, *Coraline*, and the groundbreaking *Sandman* graphic novel series. A uniquely imaginative creator of wonders whose unique storytelling genius has been acclaimed by a host of literary luminaries from Norman Mailer to Stephen King, Gaiman’s astonishing powers are on glorious displays in *Fragile Things*. Enter and be amazed!

Book Information

File Size: 1438 KB

Print Length: 400 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0755334140

Publisher: William Morrow (October 13, 2009)

Publication Date: October 13, 2009

Language: English

ASIN: B000JMKAU

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #65,511 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #72

in Books > Literature & Fiction > British & Irish > Contemporary #81 in Kindle Store >

Kindle eBooks > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends > Norse & Viking #87

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Customer Reviews

A collection of short stories I loved and replaced by the Kindle version for space. I love Neil Gaiman and find his style very unique. He writes many different genres, but usually there is some kind of fantastical or mythological element. The stories are not long, and you can read over time, a story at

a time, if you wish. His characters are generally fleshed out, but sometimes the fantasy element plays a bit more of a focus than the character development. Still, he often uses twists or unique ideas. A great storyteller I recommend to everyone. He really has written something for everyone.

Neil Gaiman is, I think, the only author who writes short stories that I enjoy. Generally speaking, I prefer long fiction - the characterizations, build, settings, emotions are all better to me when they're well-developed, and for most authors that requires length. Not so, Mr. Gaiman. I have never read anything by him that I didn't enjoy - even the ones that aren't my favorite (I'm thinking the Sandman stuff, only because graphic novels aren't my cup of tea - I'm a word person, not a picture person) are still incredibly detailed and interesting... If you haven't picked him up before, definitely do - and if you want an introduction to him, his short stories are a great way to go. They can be a bit dark and exceedingly creepy - but they aren't all so, and are definitely worth keeping an extra light on even if that's not your usual type of story!

Only a few complete short stories, and plenty of 1-2 page poems/missives. The stories were not up to his usual (high) standard.

As with almost all of Neil Gaiman's writing it is well executed and entertaining. As this is a collection of shorter works it is not really possible to apply all levels of interpretation and criticism to all of the entries as a whole. Some were brilliant and thought provoking, my favorite was "A Study in Emerald" (I am a Sherlock Holmes fan of many years standing) followed closely by "Sunbird" and "October in the Chair". These were absolutely the work of a master craftsman. "How to Talk to Girls at Parties" was at the other end of the spectrum, boring, not exceptionally well constricted and my least favorite of the collection. I do whole-heartedly encourage any fan of short fiction, fantasy fiction and/or Mr. Gaiman to add this to his or her library. I have both an ink and paper version for my shelf and one for my Kindle Fire.

Another rather bulky collection of short stories and poems by Neil Gaiman. Since I have read all his other collections, there was a little overlap here, I think I have read maybe 5 or 6 of these stories in other books. Like his other collections, this will be a mix of things great and things good, and then some things that are merely OK. What got me was the complete randomness of the stories; this book, much more than his others, seemed to be really thrown together, almost like Neil went to his "story vault" and started just pulling anything and everything that hadn't been published up to this

point and threw it together. To his defense, he includes a little blurb section at the beginning, explaining the significance of each story and why and when he wrote it (which was actually quite a nice touch), but it became a pain to go back and forth on the kindle, so about halfway through I stopped reading the explanations anyway, because I could see the trend, basically, when you are a writer of Neil's caliber, you get a lot of requests to write stories from many different sources, and once you have enough, if you really want readers to read them all you need to publish them in a collection, or let them be forgotten. There are some really great stories in here, namely: 'A Study in Emerald', 'Closing Time', 'Bitter Grounds', 'Harlequin Valentine', 'The Problem of Susan', and 'How to Talk to Girls at Parties'. The book is almost worth it just to read 'A Study in Emerald, which is a fantastic mix of genres story, including Sherlock Holmes, Cthulhu Mythos, Dracula, and Frankenstein (and probably a few more I missed). Pretty good read, with a little skimming.

Did I just read Narnia soft core porn? C.S. Lewis must be thoroughly confused, in a good way. All these little tidbits are so engrossing, so intriguing. Nailed it

Love the near dreamlike quality of Gaiman's stories. Wonderful fantasy prose and poetry. It was a most excellent escape and very needed.

I've read this book before, in paperback, but got the soft copy for a much-needed re-read. Love Neil Gaiman, and the stories in Fragile Things do not disappoint. Especially love the follow-up to American Gods. Every so often I miss Shadow, miss the mysteries, and the story in Fragile Things brings me back to the world of the gods. The other stories, poems, thoughts in Fragile Things are good, too. Typical Neil Gaiman taking you into the worlds just beneath the surface of our own.

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