



## Preacher, Volume 8: All Hell's a-Coming

*Garth Ennis , Steve Dillon (Illustrator) , John McCrea (Illustrator)*

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Following the events of the *Preacher: Salvation* collection, Jesse Custer wants to renew his quest to find God and hold him accountable for all of his actions. But before he can continue down that path, he must reunite with his girlfriend Tulip. In this edition, we look back and see how Jesse and Tulip first met as well as how she became so deadly proficient with a gun. Also, after making amends with his love, Jesse seeks revenge against his former friend and compatriot Cassidy for the things that the Irish vampire did to Tulip during the time that they both believed the Preacher to be dead.

## Preacher, Volume 8: All Hell's a-Coming Details

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## **From Reader Review Preacher, Volume 8: All Hell's a-Coming for online ebook**

### **David says**

The penultimate book of this series is mostly an interlude showing some of Cassidy's past and how Tulip and Jesse met. Still brutal and often irreverent, but fun. Looking forward to the finale of this very well crafted story!

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### **Eric says**

I think, considering that this was the penultimate episode of a story that has so many characters and plot threads, this volume was as good as could be expected.

There is a lot of variety in this issue -- Tulip's back-story, Jesse's cross country drive, Jesse and Tulip's reunion, a bit of color on Amy, more skeletons in Cassidy's closet, further degradation of Herr Starr, and a car-thievin', horse-rustlin', adventure from Jesse, Tulip and Amy's past. The end of that particular story is one of my favorite moments of the comic, where Jesse, riding his horse off into the sunset, ponders asking Tulip and Amy to have a threesome with him.

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### **Devann says**

This volume was okay but honestly there were just too many different things going on for it to feel like an entirely coherent narrative to me so that's the reason for the 3 star rating. I know he was trying to tie up loose ends and bring back old characters for cameos before the final volume but that's never really my favorite thing to read. It is always nice to get a bit more of Tulip's backstory though, and to a lesser extent Jesse's. It is not so nice to get more Cassidy's backstory because the more you know about Cassidy the more you hate him but ... [shrugs]. Honestly this entire series is just me being differing levels of annoying with both Jesse and Cassidy and it's giving me whiplash lol. Excited to finally finish up my reread with the last volume, especially because I have literally NO recollection of how this all ends.

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### **Garrett says**

This is one of the best volumes in the Preacher series.

It opens with Tulip's backstory. Her dad taught her to be tough, how to shoot, how to defend herself and what it is to be a good guy in this world. This story also covers how she first met Jesse and later how she got away from Cassidy.

There's a single issue covering Jesse's trip from Salvation to New York intent on finding Tulip. It's enjoyable

for the commentary about America. Anybody who argues that this comic is jingoistic is apparently not paying attention. Several characters--mostly immigrants--speak of how this is a good country because it gives people hope and room to dream.

Cassidy's backstory is revisited with an old friend giving Jesse the lowdown on Cassidy. All the parts that Cassidy left out are brought to light here and Jesse is left wondering if he even really knew Cassidy at all.

Starr is not to be left out either as he deals with Eisenstein, the man who recruited him into the Grail, and who has been tasked with dealing with Starr's outrageous behavior. And yes, Starr does suffer dismemberment again at the end of this volume.

This sets up well for the thrilling conclusion in Alamo. At times, I think like Amy does: "I wish I could be you. Either one."

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## MissAnnThrope says

04 January 2013

### Rating: \* \* 1/2

I think if I weren't one volume away from completing this series I would quit. Some of the things I originally loved about *Preacher* are the very things I can't stand now. Initially, I had mad respect for Garth Ennis for putting such shocking things onto paper. However, the highfalutin political rants divert greatly from a truly compelling story.

### \*\*WARNING\*\*

If you easily get queasy and you are a wuss when it comes to animal suffering, skip pages 235-237.

*Preacher, Vol. 8: All Hell's a-Coming* begins with Tulip getting back to her good ol' self. I was cheering her on and felt happy to see her taking a stand. I enjoyed her backstory, and it made me like her character even more. I loved the image of her thrown into the snow from the recoil of the gun.

The other strong point to the story were the parts with Herr Starr. That grumpy bastard adds just the right amount of insane comedy. The moving walkway and failed assassinations bits had me in stitches. I've come to really love this wackadoodle.

I really hate what's happened with Cassidy. I don't mind turning a once beloved character into a douchebag to add drama to the story...if it's done right. This character twist just isn't all that interesting.

Again, there were several diversions from the main plot that took away from being able to sink your teeth into the story. The hitchhikers and Arseface felt unnecessary. These interruptions felt a lot like being on a roller-coaster that suddenly stops before the big belly-dropping fall.

The shock value feels forced now, whereas it naturally flowed within the story in the earlier volumes. Thank goodness there is only one volume left. Regrettably, I just really want this series to be over. It's not terrible, but it's starting to feel like having to listen to a long-winded relative.

Memorable moments:

(view spoiler)

(hide spoiler)]

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### **Zedsdead says**

Ennis finally sets up the end game while lobbing intermittent back- and side-stories at us. It's to be a showdown at the Alamo, naturally.

This long, busy volume contains my single favorite panel of the entire run: a man who just learned that his wife died in childbirth sitting blankly in a chair in an otherwise empty white panel. In the next panel a nurse fetches him and we see that he's in a hospital outside the neonatal ward. Wonderful way to visually convey his state of mind.

Plot points:

(view spoiler)

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### **Chris says**

This book is the weakest of the bunch so far, in my opinion. It had a lot of stuff happening but none of it really stood out as great.

The beginning started with a little backstory on Tulip and Amy. Why she hates guns. I kind of liked this arc, but it almost was too cliched and too brief.

After that there is an issue with Custer on the road picking up people that was more or less pointless. Then we have some reunions which were a little too saccharine to be believed. Then Custer goes on a little history search of Cassidy. Miraculously bumping into someone that knew him, at a very opportunistic moment. I did like the history of Cassidy, though. He really can be a monster, as Custer initially said in the first book.

The moment when Jesse (view spoiler)

Which brings us to more history, of when Jesse, Tulip, and Amy did some bad things. (view spoiler)

Intermixed is the demise of Arseface, who you just have to feel sorry for. But man, he's a dumbass just like his father said.

Also, a little bit with Starr and the Grail. Despite being Allfather, he still has old ghosts to deal with. Most of this stuff was slap stick humor, which seemed kind of stupid.

Reading my review, I maybe should have made this book 3 stars. It's almost like Ennis took a break and it was ghost written by someone else. I hope the next, and final, book makes amends.

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### **Jedi JC Daquis says**

I cannot fathom how can the TV show bring in all the evil fun in this series, all the violence, blasphemies, with all the sex, drugs, impending armageddon and vampires in between. Preacher volume eight, the penultimate volume to this excellent series prepares everything towards the end. But except for Jesse and Tulip gearing up for their eventual encounter with god, things are not going fine with Herr Starr and Arseface (the literal dickhead and assface respectively).

I liked how Ennis left a blatant meta on how he answers all the criticisms given to him in writing the series. All you have to do is to say those two words man, two words.

Nope, I am not pumped up and hyped to read the last few issues. It is the end of a great series and somehow I don't want to end this read.

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### **Mike says**

Here's the book where all the threads start tightening up - everything that's gone before is coming together slowly, and we get to feel some measure of resolution to face the Big Climax Of All The Things.

Tulip's origin story is beautiful, poetic and absolutely appropriate to the woman we've gotten to know.

Jesse's little cross-country driving trip is more than a little amusing, picking up some interesting characters along the way and hearing out their bizarro stories.

Then we get into the shit for Starr and oul' Proinsas. Those two boys done fucked up and we're aimin' to show them how to spell comeuppance. Savouring the smell of meat cookin' folks? I know I am.

How's about we end off with a little horse-rustlin? Chalk one more up to Ennis' fascination with old west, straw-chewin cowboys. And as usual, a good meaty story built on one of the thinnest, trodden-til-paper-thin of premises.

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### **Kate says**

I have to say my favourite bit of this volume is where we go into Tulip's backstory and how she is when she comes too after six months of drugs and booze with Cassidy - and man am I having issues with Cassidy. On one hand you have all these fun times and fun memories but on the other you're learning all this less than fun stuff over this volume and the last too. Just jeeze.

I also love how Jesse stays out of it for the most part. He lets Tulip do her thing and doesn't fight the battle

for her. He supports her but doesn't do the work for her and that's a big step from earlier in the series. I almost don't care at this point whether Jesse and Tulip even accomplish the main goal of the series - I just want to see how the human drama plays out above all else.

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## **Jessica says**

5 Insane-Stars! ?????

The beginning starts off with Tulip and her escape from Cassidy and also gives a glimpse into her childhood. And i must say, its f#%ked up to see what made Tulip the person she is today. I mean the way her father died... Just f#%k!! And then Tulip's only friend gets raped... F#%K!!!

Insane sh!t happens in this book! ...like, one of the two 'sexual bounty hunters' detectives had to suck off 'fifteen guys' till they came for gas money because they were broke. -What?!

Then, a bar owner by the name of Joe Soap gets chemically castrated by the police by accident because they got him confused with a local pedophile, with the name 'John' Soap. -How in the hell does that happen?!

Cassidy gets caught sucking his dealer's d!ck for some drugs by his girlfriend! -i know...freaking insane!

Some f#%king guy ate another man's arm while he was under anesthesia! He didnt know he was being eaten until he turned his head! - Holy-F#%k-Balls!

The odd thing is, i thought i liked Cassidy's character, but after reading about his past, ...I started having huge second thoughts. Then after two more pages, I couldn't stand him! I cant believe I hate Cassidy. :(

Hahahahahaaaa! Seeing Herr Starr screaming at the old lady to start moving made me laugh out loud!

I think Herr Starr had the best comedic lines.

"We're going to wipe him off my arse like a DINGLEBERRY."

"My c#%k is in the b!tch's mouth. And not in a good way." -the b!tch was a DOG!

His countless failed attempts to kill Eisenstein were just as hilarious! The countdown frames had me smiling from ear to ear.

There was an accent or language problem though, because i couldnt understand a select few lines that were said, (ex.: "...dont let that good ol' boy act fool you, 'cause that son of a b!tch was ready to cock our goose.") -cock your goose?!?! What the f\*\*\*?

Or this line...

"He knows i got him buffaloed." -buffaloed?! ...believe it or not but its an actual word. Why Jesse knows this random word which has dozens of contradictory meanings is beyond me. It either could mean, to intimidate or to overpower. Lol or it means, a large group of oxen. ...jesus.

And i must WARN everybody, the Horse-killing scene is traumatic. Its wrong on so many levels.

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### ? Sh3lly - Grumpy Name-Changing Wanderer ? says

This was a great volume. I would call this one Tulip's book. We get her backstory, she is in it a lot, and I definitely like her more after reading this.

A powerful person from Herr Starr's past reappears and he is shitting his pants, afraid that he is going to get caught and all his scheming, betrayal, and usurping is going to be brought to light.

We actually see several characters reappear and I am curious to see how they might play a part in the next final volume.

My main disappointment is the way Cassidy's story has gone. He was a favorite and now he is looking like the bad guy, and it sucks. I hope there is more that we just aren't aware of yet that will be uncovered soon. Otherwise, it'd be pretty hard to keep liking him. :/

Arseface's career looks like it's over, but who thought it would ever be long-lived? I am curious to see what happens with him and I hope his agent gets what is coming to him. Arseface is such a hapless and innocent character who has been the butt of a lot of jokes. I hope he gets a HEA. haha

Overall, this was one of the better volumes for sure.

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### Tyler Hill says

I know that one of Preacher's major appeals is its shock factor and gross-out humor. But, while I generally enjoy it for that reason too, I sometimes find myself wishing that Garth Ennis would give it a rest. I mean, we get your point already, Garth: America is filled with inbred, gun-toting racists. But, for page after page, he keeps ramming that point home. (I'm sure he'd love the usage of "ramming" in that last sentence.)

The problem is that, as far as social commentary goes, it's pretty blunt and one-dimensional, and I feel like it tends to distract from some actually genuinely interesting situations and character developments. Tulip's flashback story with her father, Jesse and Tulip's relationship, Jesse trying to reconcile his past friendship with Cassidy with the horror stories he learns about him in this volume... these things are all handled with a subtlety and maturity not found in many comic books. The problem is that you have to wade through the obligatory stories of chemical castration, sexual bounty hunters and hunters getting shot while crapping in the woods just to get to them. It probably also doesn't help that some of the humor hasn't aged particularly well, and some stuff comes off as borderline homophobic (see: ramming comment above.)

That's not to say that I would remove all the gross-out humor. Far from it. For each eye-rolling forced shock, there's a great moment with the perpetual rise and fall of Herr Starr. Or, the broad commentary on fame that's been Arseface's side story. Take out all the gory and goofiness, and you'd have a neutered Preacher comic... and what fun would that be? I just wish it was more naturally executed sometimes.

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## **Brad says**

[to find God and learn why God quit (hide spoiler)]

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## **Bradley says**

Guess who has gotten back together? This one's heartwarming and and heartbreaking, and the rest of the time, we get to see the dark side of Cass.

Yes, that's right, we get to know just how big a ponce that wanker really is.

My ire is stoked in equal measure to how relieved I am that Jesse and Tulip are on the mends.

As for Starr? Omg he's still one of the most absolutely pathetic super-villains I've ever read and pure comedic gold. Still.

All the dominoes are set up and ready to fall for the last Volume. I can't wait to see if god ever gets properly chastised. :)

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## **Thomas says**

So conflicted over this one. It's homophobic, anti-French, reactionary, ultra-conservative, sex-negative... gotta love all that Preacher right-wing weirdness, right? But then there's this whole backstory about Tulip that's kind of cheesy but I [heart:] Tulip so that's oh, just so MFing dandy.

Then there's a Very Special Episode of Preacher Starring Cassidy's Drug Problem And His Manipulation of Tulip, during which I realized that in creating Spike in Buffy the Vampire Slayer and in putting together that weird storyline about Willow addicted to magic, Joss Whedon was not just cribbing from Preacher; he had watched every Preacher Afterschool Special starring Melissa Gilbert and basically appropriated its weird, glib comments on drug addiction and destructive relationships. It's all so pat it kinda hurts; even if it's satisfying, even if it feels streetwise, it's ultimately a COMIC BOOK, and it feels like a comic book treatment of drugs. Bummed me out.

This... this is not why people who read "real" literature think all comic books are crap -- but if said literature people DID read comic books (rather than just sneering at them), such people would probably gesture fanatically at the half-assed glib pat treatment of drug addiction, the reactionary xenophobic politics and the ultra-simplistic, essentially anti-female version of female empowerment (via high-caliber firearms) offered and say "See! See!?!?" while jumping up and down and waving their berets and bleating "Sacre Bleu!" until they puke their coq a vin all over the floor of some Marxist classroom at The University of Milktoast Pansies, San Francisco Campus.

Would I agree with them? Not really, because we get to see Tulip's tits, and assloads of people get killed, which rocks. Awesome.

And comic books are there to be comic books. I still love Preacher... but let's call a spade a spade.

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### **Gavin says**

This is another Ennis book that has been dragged on too long...the last volume, *Salvation*, was great...this? Not so much...back to homophobia, vampires, and the Church...oh and stupid violence. I rate this as 2 stars because Tulip has a great backstory, and because Jesse is still ok. Cassidy has always been a dick, how is this a revelation??? Thanks for the horrible reading day Garth!!

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### **Kemper says**

As I've previously stated, I firmly believe that anyone who hasn't already completed the entire run of *Preacher* should NOT be reading any reviews or summaries of these later volumes. All I can safely say is that this is an interlude before the final volume in which nothing big seems to happen, but it's critical for setting the stage of the ending. Also, if you ever find yourself performing oral sex in an alley in exchange for heroin, you might want to take a second look at your life choices.

If you have read it already or just like to live dangerously: (view spoiler)

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Next stop: The Alamo

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### **Ashish Iyer says**

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Review in Volume 9.

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### **\*\*\*Dave Hill says**

Pretty much hit all the notes below. Tulip's origin story is great, Cassidy's true colors are horrifying, and Jesse's cross-country drive is delightful.

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NOV 2011 RE-READ:

Things start to pay off, with Cassidy's true colors and story coming to light, Tulip and Jesse reunited, the Grail falling apart at the hands of Starr's monomaniacal pursuit of revenge against Jesse, and everything else

starting to set up for the final apocalyptic volume.

For all it sounds like, it's a very human volume, with minimal supernatural business. The side characters introduced (both Amy, nicely fleshed out, and her bartender friend) are done so gently. Even Tulip's backstory, with its occasional spurts of violence, feels less over the top than much of what we've seen. We also get a one-off special of Jesse, Tulip, and Amy's younger days, which shows a bit more where each of these characters is coming from (in truly Texan xenophobic style).

One of the best issues collected here is Jesse's late-night drive toward New York, and the various folks he picks up hitchhiking. They're a typical band of Ennis zanies (including a few we've run into before), but it's mostly talk, not asskicking and cosmic commanding.

A good, all-around book, and the relative calm before the storm.

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