



## The Stuff of Legend, Book 2: The Jungle

*Mike Raicht (writer) , Brian Smith , Charles Paul Wilson III (illustrator)*

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Unsuccessful in their quest thus far, the band of heroic toys travel farther behind enemy lines in search of their human master. There they uncover the true history of the mysterious closet realm known as the Dark in the bombed out husk of a ruined Zoo. Battle weary and vastly outnumbered by the armies of the cunning Boogeyman, Maxwell the teddy bear and Percy the piggy bank lead their troops into the savage wilds of the Jungle in search of sanctuary. Loyalties will be tested and horrible secrets exposed in The Stuff of Legend Book 2: The Jungle.

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## **The Stuff of Legend, Book 2: The Jungle Details**

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Author : Mike Raicht (writer) , Brian Smith , Charles Paul Wilson III (illustrator)

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## From Reader Review The Stuff of Legend, Book 2: The Jungle for online ebook

### Cyndi says

I just do not possess the vocabulary to praise this series efficiently!  
Beautifully told, exquisitely rendered and tightly woven.  
Great basic story and plausible encounters/adventures.  
Highly recommended!!!

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### Sarah says

It's exactly what I wanted from a second installment: this, the second graphic novel in the series, starts to provide the needed backstory to the characters and world that authors Mike Raicht and Brian Smith have created. We are beginning to understand how the Dark works - not just the discarded and lost toys end up there, but how the Boogeyman gets them to work for him - and we learn what role Max had in causing the situation that sent our heroes to war. There are also challenges that seem to play on elements from *The Island of Dr. Moreau* and *The Most Dangerous Game* - is it possible that the Boy, being from 1944, snuck into one of the film versions? My only real criticism is that there are still some characterization conundrums that seem to need solving. Who, for instance, is Harmony to the rest of the group - the little wind-up ballerina seems the most mysterious of the toys, amplified by her robotic appearance and formal dialogue - and why did she insist on Percy accompanying them? He may be smart, but he seems like a liability to the rest of the group, even without the additional strain on his allegiance caused by the deal he made in the first graphic novel.

Regardless of one or two qualms, Raicht and Smith look set to play the long game, and the overall story remains very engaging. Charles Paul Wilson III's art is even better with a little variation in the monochromatic wash; it seems to pick up a few green tones here, which is appropriate to a jungle setting. I have every reason to expect the series to continue getting better and better; I hope I'm right.

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### Pamela Huxtable says

The story gets even darker...

I enjoyed the back stories, the author has given the characters more depth and motivation. The sepia toned art gives the series an older feel.

I am suspicious of the boy's companion...

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### Dan says

This series has everything you could possibly want. I don't want to say too much, or drop any spoilers -- suffice it to say that the story only gets better in the second volume, the art continues at the same level of

awesome, and The Jester is one bad mother... Why are you still reading this review?! Go get the book!

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### **Elle Kay says**

Continuing the original story of toys travelling into the dark in search of their boy who was stolen by the Boogeyman. The artwork is still gorgeous and the toys encounter more adventures. A good story for all.

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### **Kathy says**

The Jungle continues the story of our valiant toys in their attempt to rescue the boy. The characters deepen, and we learn more back story. I also liked the parallel action moving to show us what happened to the boy once he was kidnapped by the Boogeyman. Graphic elements continue strongly with the same style of illustration and same color scheme throughout. No extras like in book one. The story does continue into book three.

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### **McKenzie Richardson says**

For more reviews, check out my blog: Craft-Cycle

This is a great continuation of the series. I liked this one a little bit more than the first book because I feel like it covers more ground and you learn more about the characters. I enjoyed the first book, but it kind of dragged at points with the whole Hopscotch pit stop. This one felt more continuous. There were still stops along the way, but they felt more relevant to the overall story. Great story. Can't wait to keep reading.

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### **Shane says**

I thought this might be too "cutesy" for me, but it ended up being pretty dark, so I liked it a lot. I wish the art would have been in color throughout, I really love the cover art. I read a collection that had book 1 and book 2 it and it seemed to stay just as entertaining all the way through. Now I just have to find book 3.

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### **Scott Lee says**

[ Our little band of adventurers are split up and adventuring on their own...(view spoiler)

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### **Jeretta Hall-Robinson says**

The story was good overall, I just had a few problems with my copy. Apparently it was printed backwards, as in the last page was first and the variant covers that are normal at the end of the graphic novel, were randomly thrown in the middle of the book in between two pages of a story. I think it was just a misprint in my copy. I however, didn't figure this out until about 10 or so pages in. The story was fine, but since the book was messed up, it was difficult to follow sometimes because I had to try and figure out which box came next. Oh, well. Still ready to read the next one.

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### **Carl Nelson says**

Touching, whimsical, heroic, and haunting. One of my favorite graphic novel series, beautiful artwork and epic feel.

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### **Karissa says**

I got a copy of this book as a gift for Christmas. I absolutely love this graphic novel series. The drawings are beautiful and the story wonderful.

The faithful toys continue their journey deeper into the Dark, into the Bogeyman's territory, in search of their human master. Battle weary they enter the Jungle only to find that members of their troop are not welcome. Horrible truths are revealed and loyalties are tested.

I am in love with this graphic novel series. The sepia tone drawings are wonderful and totally match the atmosphere of the Dark. The toys have such strong personalities and as they develop more complicated relationships with each other the story becomes more and more interesting.

The plot becomes a lot more complicated. There are spies, there are unloved toys, loved toys, and toys that have joined the dark side. The truth behind the boy's kidnapping is revealed and the faithful toys are sorely tested.

This series falls somewhere between Disney's Toy Story and Bram's The Plucker. It is a lot darker than Toy Story but not as dark as Bram's Plucker. I would recommend for middle grade and older readers; the plot is fairly complex and the battle scenes pretty intense.

Overall one of my absolute favorite graphic novel series right now. Beautiful drawings, an epic story, wonderful characters, and I love the tie in with the basic childhood fear of the Bogeyman and the Dark. If you love fantasy graphic novels you have to read this series. I can't wait for the third in this series, The Jester's Tale, to release in February!

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### **Paul says**

The art of this book is absolutely superb!

And the story is even better!

A fairy tale for the child in every grown up that remembers what it was to be a child. For every grown-up that still lives a part of their life as a child.

The bogeyman is coming to get you... you'd better be on good terms with your toys if you want them to come and rescue you... cause if you're not, chances are, those toys are on the bogeyman's side!

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### **eHawk says**

Great continuation of the story here. I again really enjoy the art style in this book, and the breadth of detail in The Dark here is just awesome.

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### **Sarah Hayes says**

I reviewed the first book of the Stuff of Legend graphic novel series ages ago, always intending to return to this stellar series. That was over a year ago. Whoops? Nevertheless, I have returned to this strange dark world of war and toys, and I find myself loving it even more now than before. If you thought Max and the other toys were in trouble before, you haven't seen anything yet.

You can read my full review of book 2 of THE STUFF OF LEGEND at my review blog, Nagareboshi  
Reviews: <http://nagareboshi-reviews.blogspot.com/>

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