



The City of Lightning (The Second Journey of Agatha Heterodyne Volume 2)

Kaja Foglio , Phil Foglio

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Adventure, Romance, Mad Science! Agatha is the last of the Heterodynes, a notorious family of Mad Scientists that everyone had thought safely wiped out. When a rival scientist traps her family castle and the surrounding town in a time-freeze, Agatha must embark on a journey to find a way to reverse the effect and save the people she loves. Available in Softcover and Hardcover editions.

The City of Lightning (The Second Journey of Agatha Heterodyne Volume 2) Details

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Author : Kaja Foglio , Phil Foglio

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From Reader Review The City of Lightning (The Second Journey of Agatha Heterodyne Volume 2) for online ebook

Blue says

While the new characters and story, and Paris, are all par for this series, it felt like it was dragging and quite a bit like filler.

Anthony Faber says

A.H. goes to Paris. More sparky fun.

Mark Schlatter says

At this point, I should confess that I expected this series to be over long ago. What I thought would be a several volume contained story has grown so much they've started the numbering all over again. It is the Game of Thrones (or the Claremont X-Men) of fantasy graphic novels --- more characters, more places to visit, and more plot lines that I despair of ever seeing the end of. (And, at this point, I'm totally confused about the whole Storm King sequence of events.)

That being said, I'm happy with this volume. We get a good look at the Girl Genius version of Paris (a nice change of pace from the enclosed spaces in recent volumes), we are introduced to tiny megalomaniac clanks, there's a lot more clarity to what's going on with Gil, and I absolutely love the new character of Hoffman, who tends to discover whole civilizations while trying to earn extra credit for school. But still I ask: are we ending anytime soon?

Kari Trenten says

Agatha Heterodyne foils the Beast of the rails in a spectacular battle, with the aid of some surprising allies. Her reunion with Gilgamesh Wulfenbach results in a clash of sparks, a confrontation between two old lovers and enemies, along with cake. There's nothing that can't be resolved with cake. Agatha manages to make her escape in the sugary confusion to Paris, where she finds her name isn't just known around the world, it's been merchandized. There's a downside to fame, for the Master of the City isn't happy to have a Heterodyne in his city. Fortunately, the Master's daughter, Colette, is more than happy to show Agatha around Paris (keeping an eye on her), but it's hard to tell what these city sophisticates are up to. The students of Paris, however, are more than up for anything, including helping (or hindering) Agatha Heterodyne. Alas, even the helpful students have a talent for trouble, especially when they're trying to improve their grades.

Having Agatha slip through his fingers again and again, dealing with plots (along with marriage proposals) from the Sturmhalten schemers, all the while with the Other lurking in the shadows, Gil is determined to rescue the one person who has a chance of outmaneuvering the most devious of the devious...Prince Tarvek.

Removing his rival intact from the frozen city of Mechanicsburg promises to be a challenge, even for a spark of Gilgamesh Wulfenbach's calibre.

This was one of my favorite books in the series. First of all, the climatic battle against the Beast of the Rails was one of the best action sequences yet in a series of excellent action sequences. The conclusion involved an intriguing twist, not to mention one of the most Happy For Now outcomes I've ever seen for an artificial intelligence or a soul separated from living flesh. The subplot with Krosp took an earlier bit of weirdness, weaving it into the overall scheme of things. I was very happy to learn Gil planned to rescue Tarvek. I've been biting my nails in anxiety over the prince's fate ever since the last book of the original series. I was glad to see that Gil hasn't forgotten him. To top it all off, the scene between Klaus and Lucrezia was one of the most dramatic, touching, scary, and funny scenes I've read yet in 'Girl Genius'. Once more, Klaus proves he does care about his son, for all his schemes. Lucrezia looks like she might yet have a few more secrets to be revealed in how she became the other. Not to mention it added a touch of the usual humour to our story to see old enemies eating cake.

Paris is proving to be one of most fascinating settings of all in a world of fascinating settings (it's hard to equal Mechanicsburg). I was intrigued by the character of the Master, who disliked the Heterodynes (surprise, surprise), but was willing to give Agatha a chance. I'm very curious how Gil came to be a pet of his. All sorts of intriguing hints were dropped about his past by Colette and Wooster. Colette had a delightful moment of femslashiness where she flirted with Agatha. Readers are introduced to the character of Hoffman, who's simply fun. Wooster and Violetta got to show off more of their skills, old adversaries reared their heads, one of them revealing that she may have been stalking Gil for some time.

For enriching an already multifaceted world, introducing new characters while deepening the old, all the while keeping an exceptionally fast plot going, and my enjoyment of the whole ride, this gets five stars.

Alex Neilson says

Superb as always. Loved the final reveal :)

Allison says

A wonderful continuation of the story of Agatha and her friends adventures. So much fun, almost wish I was there with them.

Emilou says

Another excellent volume about Agatha. I can't wait to get the next one. Some of my favorite things about this story is how many little sidekicks Agatha has gathered. They're hilarious. I also love how people are drawn to her, and how comfortable she is to even have her enemies hang around her. And the humor in this is my favorite. The writers of this comic are intelligent and fantastic. This is my all-time favorite comic book

series.

Canavan says

☆☆☆☆

Angypants says

I love these books. So far, each and every one.

Mary Catelli says

Agatha adventures! Spoilers for earlier books ahead!

Indeed, the opening scene suffered a bit from being in the middle of a fight that ended the previous book's cliffhanger.

So first she has to deal with the rampaging train, and some unexpected arrivals -- and some cake -- before she goes on the City of Lightning that is Paris on her quest to free Mechanicsburg.

Involves Zeetha's heroically facing her fears and eating cake, a lot of advertising, an uncle of Violetta's, an edged conversation after Agatha's locket does not keep in Lucrezia once, an arranged marriage, an informative puppet show, selling information about the weasel, and more.

Josh says

More Girl Genius. This has much the same energy as other volumes with some fun new twists and revelations. The "Journey" format suits the series well and it is enjoyable to learn more about this world and the larger than life characters in it. The abundance of characters is confusing at times. But fun!

Sally Banfield says

I understand why these books rate awards for graphic novels.

Will says

More adventure. Romance. Mad science! and cake!

The gaslamp fantasy world expands as we get to see Paris. Here the Master of Paris, a legendary spark, from his Awful Office in the Awful Tower rules absolutely over the city-state.... except for the apparently innumerable subterranean kingdoms.

Will Agatha find the needed clues to rescue Mechanicsburg from time stasis? While keeping her motley entourage from killing Martellus, and vice versa? When Gil shows up, will she kiss or kill him? Naturally, none of these questions will be answered in this review, but there will be plenty of fun and mayhem (and cake) still ahead
