

Fables Vol. 6: Homelands

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Collecting issues #34-41 of writer Bill Willingham's Eisner Award-winning creation, HOMELANDS follows Boy Blue on a mission of revenge as he uncovers the Adversary's true identity! Plus, the 2-part story of Jack's adventures in Hollywood and the one-shot story of Mowgli's return to Fabletown.

Bill Willingham has been writing, and sometimes drawing, comics for more than 20 years. During that time, he's had work published by nearly every comics publisher in the business, and he's created many critically acclaimed comic book series, including Elementals, Coventry, Proposition Players, and of course the seminal Vertigo series Fables, as well as its spin-off series Fairest, Jack of Fables and The Literals. His work has been nominated for many awards, including the Eisner, Harvey, and Ignatz comic industry awards and the International Horror Guild award. He lives somewhere near a good poker room.

Born in 1966 in the English seaside town of Clevedon, Mark Buckingham has worked in comics professionally for the past twenty years. In addition to illustrating all of Neil Gaiman's run on the post-Alan Moore Miracleman in the early 1990s, Buckingham contributed inks to The Sandman and its related miniseries Death: The High Cost of Living and Death: The Time of Your Life as well as working on various other titles for Vertigo and Marvel through the end of the decade. In 2002 he took over as the penciller for Bill Willingham's Fables, which has gone on to become one of the most popular and critically acclaimed Vertigo titles of the new millennium. When not in Clevedon, Buckingham can be found with his wife Irma in the Asturias region of northern Spain. The last installment of Willingham and principal artist Mark Buckingham's saga of fairy-tale characters in exile, The Mean Seasons (2005), seemed to tread water after the cataclysm in arch of the Wooden Soldiers (2004) and before more hurly-burly. Home lands, while it reveals the long-sought identity of the Adversary, whose forces drove the exiles out and threaten them still, consists of cloak-and-dagger stuff, however, not warfare. Before the central action resumes, the rather too rudimentarily drawn (by David Hahn) "Jack Be Nimble" follows con-man Jack (famed for his thieving beanstalk capers, among others) for some years after March 's big battle and leaves him hitching farther away. Back to the main drag, Boy Blue, invincibly armed, is in the Homelands, aimed toward the Adversary and offing evil underlings en route. In Fabletown, the sheriff, Beast (Beauty's husband), ferrets out an Adversary mole, and the mayor, Prince Charming, calls in "perpetual tourist" Mowgli to track down absconded Bigby Wolf. Blue winds up in two consecutive stews, and any final ending remains shrouded in the mists of futurity. Lucky us. Ray Olson

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Other Books

Andrew Marvell. This monograph studies how, across the Folio of 1681, Marvell's poems engage not merely with different kinds of loss and aspiration, but with experiences of both that were, in mid-seventeenth-century England, disturbingly new and unfamiliar. It particularly examines Marvell's preoccupation with the search for home, and with redefining the homeland, in times of civil upheaval. In doing so it traces his progression from being a poet who plays sophisticatedly with received myth to being one who is a national mythmaker in rivalry with his poetic contemporaries such as Waller and Davenant. Although focusing primarily on poems in the Folio of 1681, this book considers those poems in relation to others from the Marvell canon, including the Latin poems and the satires from the reign of Charles II. It closely considers them as well in relation to verse by poets from

the classical past and the European, especially English, present.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ . Reference is from Niccolò Machiavelli : Selected Political Writings , ed. and trans. David Wootton (Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing, 1994), 47. Subsequent citation of The Prince is from this edition. Reference to the Italian text of that ..."