



Aama, 2: La multitud invisible

Frederik Peeters

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Tras un primer volumen, Olor a tierra caliente, en el que Verloc se despertaba amnésico en medio de ninguna parte y descubría, gracias a su diario, que perdió trabajo, familia y amigos desde que decidió vivir prescindiendo de implantes y modificaciones genéticas, en este segundo volumen el protagonista se une a la expedición que encabeza su hermano y parte con él y los demás investigadores en pos de Aama, una misteriosa sustancia con propiedades de alcance insospechado.

Mientras sigue descubriendo a través de su diario su pasado al margen de un modo de vida hipertecnológico, planificado y asistido, el entorno en el que se adentran se hace cada vez más imprevisible e incontrolable: paisajes alucinantes van de la mano con encuentros inquietantes... Lo que en el tomo 1, Olor a tierra caliente, era presentación de personajes, contemplación y costumbrismo, en La multitud invisible se torna en una espiral de acción y aventura.

Comenta que su objetivo con esta serie era incluir “elementos de la verdadera ciencia ficción, la que se cuestiona o reflexiona acerca del mundo contemporáneo, hacia dónde se dirige nuestra sociedad, especulando sobre la relación entre el hombre y los grandes desafíos tecnológicos, o lo que se denomina transhumanismo: cuestiones como la modificación del cuerpo humano con las mejoras tecnológicas, planteando diferentes cuestiones filosóficas o éticas realmente interesantes. Con el personaje principal trato de encontrar respuestas, tratando de encontrar un camino que tal vez me ofrezca respuestas a mí mismo”.

Aama, 2: La multitud invisible Details

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From Reader Review *Aama*, 2: *La multitud invisible* for online ebook

Tara Schaafsma says

Still loving this series. Pretty cool sci-fi.

Brian Dickerson says

BCDER: 88

Peeters renders the artwork spectacularly with imaginary landscapes that would impress Dr. Suess.

Aama shows us a dystopian future through a non-typical viewpoint. The evolution gone amuck biomechanical environment is intriguing and attention grabbing. Well defined characters with typical flawed human aspects along with well defined sci-fi mystery elements make me ponder, 50% into the series, that this might end up as one of my favorite reads. If the landing is stuck nicely...

I'm excited to move forward!

Leah says

This was a pretty decent follow-up to the first book in this series. Where the first book was pretty much world building and info dumping, **THE INVISIBLE THRON** really expanded on Peeters world.

We see Verloc and the others begin to explore Ona(ji) and all its desolation. Until it's not. Until its vibrant and alive with extremely strange plant life and creatures. This planet can send it's thanks to AAMA, which we also find out a lot more about.

It's a substance that can rewrite itself into creatures/plants/technology, and it's rewritten itself so incredibly, that the researchers are terrified, and they should be.

Peeters has done another decent job with the writing and driving this story forward. I'm definitely intrigued where **aama** is going to go next.

And then there is his art. The world Peeters has visually created, namely the bizzaro new planet life on Ona(ji) is strange, stunning, and mindblowing. Even if the writing wasn't as good as it is, I'd come back to this story for the art alone.

Thom says

The story continues and the genetic manipulations comes out to play. This means a bit of gore and a lot of bug-like creatures, and the author/illustrator clearly enjoyed his work here. The river of sulfuric acid is a bit confusing, but we'll see how it pans out in the third and fourth books.

David Schaafsma says

This is getting better, as I suspected it might. Recommended for sci fi folks, for sure. We have a pretty unlikeable main character, Verloc Nim, who is an addict, amnesiac, separated from his kid whose mother has left him... He loses his job, but he and his cigar-smoking sidekick robot-gorilla (I know!) meet up with his estranged brother who takes him to another planet with a group of people to explore a robotic substance, aama. What we like about Verloc is his resistance to technology and its assumed uses for everything in society. This is what gets him in trouble initially, what distresses him, makes him rebellious, makes him lose his job, etc. And aama appears to be serious evidence of the abuses of technology. The world they explore appears to be inspired by H.G. Wells in many ways. Very imaginative and ominous creations, robot/computer generated... and the story gets told in part through Verloc rereading his journals of what happened to him... Really interesting sci fi story.

Elizabeth A says

The thing about keeping a journal, is that if one day you suddenly wake up with amnesia, and had had a crappy life before the incident, your journal would remind you of your crappy life. Something to ponder.

This installment of the graphic novel is better than the first one. There are interesting backstories, and some of the sci-fi gadgets are very cool. Verloc Nim, his brother, and Churchill (my fave character), are on a strange new planet. They have to meetup with a scientific expedition that was sent to jump start life on the barren planet about a decade or so ago. All communication was lost over the ensuing years, and what the group finds in terms of human and non-human life is part of what makes this a fun read. I enjoyed the exploration of the various paths evolution might take on a different planet, and the creative illustrations are quite good.

So, while this book makes more sense than the first one and is more enjoyable a read, I'm still not bought into the story yet. That is where my wonderful library comes in. I can try out the rest of the series without opening my wallet, and if they don't work for me, no harm no foul.

o says

Mannnnn, what a messed-up and disgusting way to finish up this volume, haha.

But I liked volume two even more than I liked one! We finally hear Verloc's story about Silika and Lilja, and the storyline between the past and the present is becoming gradually more clear...

A great series!

Tar Buendía says

Impresionante.

Sigue muy bien la trama del primero, la historia de la niña me ha encantado y la página final es sobresaliente.

La portada me parece una pasada.

Vittorio Rainone says

Dove un gruppo di esploratori si inoltra in un pianeta sconosciuto e ha le prime esperienze di Aama, che ha modificato la vegetazione introducendo meraviglie, ma anche orrori.

Petitpois says

La historia personal se convierte en aventura, gana en suspense, y sigue enganchando.

Stewart Tame says

I confess that, at first glance, I misread the subtitle as "The Invisible THONG," which suggests an entirely different sort of European graphic album. Having been introduced to the characters and the world in Volume 1, we now follow our heroes as they explore said world. And it ends on rather a cliffhanger, though since the story is being told through flashbacks as Verloc Nim reads through his journal attempting to regain his missing memories, we know that at least he and Churchill survive. Peeters does a fine job of depicting some truly alien lifeforms and settings. Looking forward to the next volume!

Andrew says

This book is doing everything right so far. It successfully balances adventure, interesting sci-fi and meaningful human drama (with a dash of horror) all while telling the story in three distinct time periods with no confusion. The art is beautiful, understated and clear. The story picked up quite a bit from the first volume and the last page made me wish I had the third in my hands right now.

Erin Britton says

In *The Invisible Throng*, the second volume in Frederik Peeters' excellent sci fi opus *aama*, reluctant adventurer Verloc Nim and his high-flying brother Conrad (accompanied as ever by Churchill, a cigar loving robotic ape) have finally made contact with the lost scientific outpost on the desert planet of Ona(ji). Verloc gets to know the scientists – sowing strife as he does so – and begins to learn the truth about the *aama* project, before a breakaway group set off to explore the real (or should that be new?) surface of the planet.

As the mutated flora and fauna of Ona(ji) plot their revenge against the interloping humans, *The Invisible Throng* really ramps up Peeters' central theme of the dangers of unrestrained technological development. The real purpose of *aama* starts to become clear, as does the machinations of the Muy-tang corporation. Indeed, Conrad's dedication to his employer is to be severely tested as the unrestrained nature of *aama*'s development shatters his comfort with technology and drives him to the brink of madness.

In addition to exploring more of Ona(ji), *The Invisible Throng* also digs deeper into Verloc's previous life as an anti-tech, antiquarian bookseller. He had the good fortune to meet and impregnate a sweet, patient, like-minded lady named Silika, before his distrust of the modern world and dedication to traditional child-rearing caused him to drive her and their daughter away. Verloc's relationship with his daughter – an unusual, silent girl who is viewed as having some variety of disability by the wider, tech-obsessed society – seems likely to be of great importance to both the *aama* project as a whole and the fate of one particular group member.

The Desert of Mirrors, the third volume of *aama*, chronicles Verloc and his companions' continuing attempts to survive and make sense of the changing, hostile landscape of Ona(ji). While it seems that Verloc is on the brink of understanding both *aama* and his own place in the universe, his revelations cannot be trusted – the twisted nature of the planet's biotechnological ecosystem is bleeding into Verloc's sanity so that his mind is only as reliable as the shaky ground beneath his feet.

While the disastrous nature of the *aama* experiment had been clear for a while, in *The Desert of Mirrors* Peeters offers a tantalising glimpse into just why the experiment was allowed to play out as it did – a glimpse at the man behind the mask in fact. It seems that a sinister scientist might actually be manipulating the apparent chaos on Ona(ji) and, although he doesn't know it yet, Verloc's estranged daughter appears to be a key component in the scientist's nefarious plan. Far from being trapped in a life that is spiralling out of control, Verloc might actually be an unwitting pawn whose every move and thought is determined for him according to some far-reaching plan/scheme. The world of *aama* is still very confusing, but this brief glimpse at the truth indicates that Peeters' has a solid (if convoluted) endgame in sight.

Peeters' art and colouring are excellent throughout both volumes. His rendering of the new landscape of Ona(ji) is breath-taking; characterless desert gives way to abundant and bizarre vegetation. His world building is just as good in the earth-based sequences from Verloc's past as it is in the exploration of Ona(ji). The technology he invents for both worlds is both disturbingly twisted and oddly plausible. As the environment is mutated and the characters' minds are warped by their circumstances, there is often so much detail packed into every panel that it's worth flicking back through the pages to make sure you've caught everything going on in the background as the story whizzes along.

Leif says

Wowow Ona(ji) continues to amaze! This is the Aama book where I got properly hooked. Peeters' style reminding me of Jesse Jacob is a big help, but so too is his nuanced, thoughtful reinvention of a tired classic narrative: man loses child, goes on big quest to get her back. There's Churchill, the coolest advanced robot who just happens to smoke cigars and look like an ape; there's an expanding and shrinking cast of intriguing side characters; there's a whole world of strange, hybrid a/humanity to consider. It's thrilling, philosophical, grim, and fun.

Teresa says

Mi immagino tornato a un tempo in cui i cavalli esistevano ancora. Il vento che mi secca le labbra. Lo sguardo dell'eroe fisso sull'orizzonte. Ho perfino trovato un vecchio cappello, nella confusione del laboratorio.

Riprende la narrazione di Verloc su tre piani temporali diversi. Continuano le sue avventure e disavventure su Ona(Ji), il racconto della sua vita a Radiant e la sua camminata con Churchill. Alla fine del volume ancora non sappiamo cos'è accaduto ai coloni in viaggio, ma conosciamo qualcosa di più su aâma e sulla tenerissima Lilja... ma chi è la bambina che tanto le somiglia?
