



## Starman, Vol. 9: Grand Guignol

*James Robinson, Peter Snejbjerg (Illustrator)*

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Jack Knight returns to Opal City from his adventure in space, only to find the Shade has reverted to his villainous ways. Knight suspects that he is even committing murders, all this while many of Jack's friends seem to be missing. Before he can fully investigate, he witnesses his most horrible nightmare become reality--his beloved Opal City burning to the ground. Chaos ensues as hundreds of villains take the opportunity to strike.

## **Starman, Vol. 9: Grand Guignol Details**

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Author : James Robinson , Peter Snebjerg (Illustrator)

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## **From Reader Review Starman, Vol. 9: Grand Guignol for online ebook**

### **Korynn says**

This is it readers! The massive blowout battle sequence that spans continuities and changes characters forever. Every great superhero epic has one and this one does disappoint with its minutiae of plot and nasty villains galore. So here it is: destruction! death! battle against great odds! treachery! rescue! hope! rebirth! and a century spanning evil dwarf!! You will cry and you will enjoy the Shade's witty repartee. Warning: There is French with no translation. Those of you who hate that...I feel your pain.

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### **Ben Krutko says**

Excellent artwork and writing. A wonderful conclusion to a series of stories that feels a bit cramped in such a small volume. It is nice to see the characters in this paperback get the attention that they do, given that DC currently ignores most of them.

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### **Michael says**

This book is, for all intents and purposes, the conclusion of the Starman epic. Sure, there's one more book to go, but everything that the series was building to reaches its climax in Grand Guignol. (the final book, Sons of the Father, is more of a denouement than a finale.)

And believe me, EVERYTHING climaxes. Every throw-away line, every bit character, anybody and everybody - it all comes together in one huge, complex and very involving saga. Jack faces over-whelming odds and finds that he's made many friends who take the protection of Opal as seriously as he does. The Shade is cast in the role of a hero. Ted faces his ultimate fate like a warrior born.

Despite meandering more than necessary, Grand Guignol is a hugely satisfying ending to a wonderful series: Jack's heroism shining through. Ralph and Sue's love echoing true. The O'Dare family pride was bright and moving. The Mist was manipulative and awful (although would even Nash, desperate for her father's affection, fall for his "just kidding" line?).

Starman is, no question about it, one of the five greatest super-hero series of all time, and this might be the best finale of them all.

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### **Corey Pung says**

I just finished reading Starman: Grand Guignol for the first time a few days ago, and I have to say, this is one of the most enjoyable and rewarding graphic novels I've ever read. I enjoyed it just as much, if not more than, Watchmen and Batman: The Long Halloween.

Starman: Grand Guignol is the twelve issue climax to the entire Starman series (it's followed by a falling

action graphic novel called Sons of the Father). It gives Jack Knight the biggest challenge of his superhero career (of course, fans of Starman all know the greatest challenge of Jack's life was still to come, when he devotes himself to being a father). Returning to Opal City after an outer space jaunt around Rann and Thanagar, Jack soon finds Opal City in a terrible predicament. All of the city's villains have teamed up to destroy everything, and to make things worse, The Shade has encased the city in a large bubble that no one can get in or out of (kind of like The Simpsons movie), which means Jack can't get assistance from the JLA or any of the well-known heroes. Instead, saving Opal is left up to a group of not-so-well known characters who happen to be there at the time, including Mikael Tomas, Captain Atom, and The Elongated Man (one of the goofiest superhero names in history).

If you'd like to read my entire review for free, please go to <http://paneldiscussions.wordpress.com...>

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### **BMK says**

So good. Am reminded of why I began collecting Starman when I was younger.

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### **Devero says**

In Italia la Play aveva tradotto solo la prima metà di questa saga.

Un vero piacere recuperare il TP americano e leggerla tutta d'un fiato.

Tra le storie di Jack Knight, Starman, questa è certamente la più complessa e contorta e non è sempre facile mantenere le fila di ciò che stanno facendo tutti i personaggi. Ad ogni modo James Robinson resta uno dei migliori scrittori di fumetti in attività, e Snejbjerg è stato per me una piacevole sorpresa come disegnatore.

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### **Alan says**

This is the next to last volume in the series and in many ways it does feel like the series end. Jack has returned to Opal City after his sojourn in space and writer James Robinson feels as if he has returned to form in tone and dialogue in this installment. To bring things full circle Robinson brings back just about the entire cast. Jack, Ted, David (his annual appearance), Mikael Solomon Grunudy, Benetti, and just about all the villains who appeared. Even with the strum and dang an enjoyable read, and a good job is done of showing the character's emotions. Spoiler-Ted funeral issue was well done.

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### **Dan says**

The incredible dovetailing of everything James Robinson has set-up since issue one really all comes together in this trade. Every character, supporting and otherwise, has a nice moment in here. For my money, it's all about the last two chapters, issues #72 and #73. I still get as choked up reading them now as I did the first time around.

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## **Josh says**

Tried to cram too much into a lengthy 13-issue story arc. It's not a super-bad thing, but the writing suffers, and this is a comic I've been enjoying greatly. Has some rad moments, but it just proves 80 issues wasn't enough.

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## **Tetsuo says**

Quase chorei lendo isso

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

This is the aptly-titled climax of the series, as the elaborate plans of the Shade (or are they?) come to fruition, and everyone gets into the act fighting for or against him. Folks die on both sides, and the action hurtles forward even with repeated and frequent digression issues on one or another cast member's past, or the past of the Opal itself.

This is epic comic writing in a class of its own, with more backstory and foreshadowing than you can shake a cosmic rod at. Though it's way late in coming, I applaud DC for (3-4 years later) reprinting it. One more volume, and we should be set (and ready to reread the whole thing again).

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## **Craig says**

Wow!

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## **Roberto Diaz says**

A great climax to a book that invested in each of its characters, and payoff with a story that is as rewarding as heartbreak. James Robinson does a magnificent job when a sandbox is given to him with free reign.

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