



Sweet Tooth, Volume 6: Wild Game

Jeff Lemire (Writer, Artist, Water Colourist) , José Villarrubia (Colourist) , Carlos M. Mangual (Letterer)

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Dr. Singh arrives in Alaska and uncovers the origins of Gus and the hybrid children and the cause of the plague that decimated the world. And as Gus and Jepperd finally arrive in Alaska and come face to face with the truth, the militia continues to bear down on them. Their deadliest battle is still ahead.

Collecting: *Sweet Tooth* 33-40

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From Reader Review Sweet Tooth, Volume 6: Wild Game for online ebook

Lindsey Rey says

That was literal perfection. What an amazing ending to an amazing series!

Afro Madonna says

Ooooouu Sweet Tooth got buff!

This was just beautiful. Review to come.

Alison says

I feel like it took an embarrassing amount of time for me to finish this series. That being said, I thought this concluded very well and I liked the story telling aspect at the end.

Wasn't expecting this to be so religious heavy though, but I guess I should have seen it coming since so much relies on the "bible" that Gus's father had.

Really enjoyed this and was a solid graphic novel series.

Candice says

I am not crying. You are. ?

Stacy Fetters says

My heart!! ?? That's how you end an amazing series. I'm not sure what I was expecting in the end, but this sadness wasn't it.

I'm not crying..... not at all.... I just splashed some water on my face.....

Kayla (BOOKadoodles) says

Now THAT is how you end a comic series. What a wonderful conclusion! One of my all-time favorites for sure.

Mari says

Here is my full series review for volumes 1-6.

The big "reveal" for the series came in volume 5 and it was supremely not what I expected. Volume 6 continues down that path of "not what I expected" EXCEPT that it fully delivered on the one thing I knew would happen and that would promptly destroy my heart.

Throughout the whole series there is the background push of finding out just what happened and where the hybrids come from. The characters and the relationships often outshone that for me. I was more interested in them than finding any one thing out, which I why I super appreciated one moment in this volume where a "what matters now is what happens next" idea was expressed. We don't see that enough in literature. It kind of reminds me of LotR, throwing the ring in Mount Doom and then discovering your village is oppressed. Sometimes you reach a destination only to find that life goes on and more choices are to be made and not everything is fixed after you reach a milestone. That was this story.

I really enjoyed this series as a whole. I've struggled with graphic novels in the past and I think this is the first thing I've felt compelled to just quickly finish from beginning to end. I'll definitely count it amongst my favorites.

AMEERA says

I'm in love with this comics ♡?'

David Schaafsma says

Great series, five stars, pretty amazing, with post-apocalyptic horror and sweetness combined. You come to really care about the characters. But this resolution isn't as satisfying as I hoped... complicated... Gus and Buddy, two hybrids pitted against each other near the end... then a kind of peaceful resolution after a troubling war... But overall, this series is pretty great stuff...

Giedre says

Upped the ratings—I ended up loving apocalyptic Bambi. Lemire just became a favorite.

Chelsea says

3.5 stars.

As a whole, this was kind of all over the place. There were some moments I felt weren't earned and there was a Harry Potter Epilogue type ending. That being said, the last three pages were better than the ending to another post-apocalyptic series I loved, Y: the Last Man.

Okay, so, I hated the interlude in which Lemire explained how the hybrids were originally gods. I know, it was meant to explain the plague but, similar to the Walking Dead (the show anyway) and Y: the Last Man, the truth doesn't feel worth it. The god angle is kind of unbelievable but I guess we had to explain the plague somehow. Poor Gus. He couldn't have done anything to stop it.

The hockey guy that joined them was barely introduced and here he is sacrificing himself for a bunch of strangers. He couldn't have known them for longer than a few days. That did not feel earned. I mean, I liked the guy and he went out in a blaze of glory but c'mon. We needed a few more issues before he could matter to us.

The guy, Abbott didn't seem like a formidable foe. The call back to Jepperd's son still seemed like a cheap soap opera ploy. It was an element we didn't need. I guess Lemire wanted the conflict of Jepperd having to choose between his blood son and surrogate son.

Jeoperd's death got to me. Sometime between the last book and this one, he redeemed himself. It's clear how much he cared about Gus and I hated to see him go out like that. It was heartbreaking.

The new Hybrids showing up to take down Abbott's men was a deus ex machina. Thank goodness Gus met them moments before or they really would've been screwed.

The ending was so Harry Potter in that we got to see the rest of Gus' life and he had some kids, got married and settled down. I love Gus but endings like this bug the hell out of me. Everything worked out and everyone's fucking happy. Yay!

Gus as the hybrid savior and Buddy as the unforgiving member of his community was... fine. I guess. I couldn't get attached to that or the idea of them as brothers because it's a concept that was shoved at us in the last few moments of the series. Sorry, Jep, I feel ya but I don't give a fuck about your kid. I thought he was dead and when it was revealed that he lived, I knew some fuckery was going to happen to get him away from Abbott and I dreaded that.

The true ending, where Jepperd takes him into the afterlife made me tear up. It was such a beautiful ending and I loved that he continued to tell the tale of "The Big Man" and how he saved the hybrid children.

Overall, 3 stars. The last three pages, 5 stars.

Sam Quixote says

Gus, Jepperd, and co. leave Evergreen for good and head to Alaska where they find out the cause of the Plague that wiped out humanity. The Militia catch up with them and a desperate final battle takes place.

That's about it for this book. The big reveal behind what caused the Plague which we found out about in Book 5 isn't built upon in this book so there's no larger mystery unearthed for readers in this book. That disappointing explanation in Book 5 is it. Jeff Lemire even has Jepperd tell Gus something like "it's not

about what happened, but about what happens now". So he's saying not to worry about the past and how things got to this point - even though that's been the motivation for these characters for so long!! It's such a cop out.

Most of the book is Jepperd (who's essentially Frank Castle, that's how original his character is) and a few other dudes preparing their final stand against the insane militia hunting them down. Lots of fighting ensues with the end as predictable as ever - what do you think, do the bad guys win or lose? Exactly. And let's talk about these militia: they're looking for a cure to the plague and they're doing this by exterminating every hybrid they come across. How do these two goals correlate in any way? Nonsense.

So with the big battle over and done with and the cause of the plague revealed (several issues ago in the last volume but whatever, we get a redux in this book), all of which takes up the bulk of the book, what happens next? Think the end of Return of the Jedi. Yeah. The story jumps ahead a couple decades as we catch up with Gus and what happens for the hybrids and humanity next. The upshot of it that made no sense to me was that with humanity alive, there will always be pain, suffering, war, etc. Which kind of makes sense because the hybrids in this series have been gentle, kind, and hunted unjustly. Except Lemire drops the ball again by making the hybrids as bad as the humans. And then when the humans are gone and it's just the hybrids, war, hatred, all that bad stuff is magically gone. WTF?! Kumbaya...

And what about Dr Singh, the Dr Mengele of the series? His experiments on hybrids, his long-term religious insanity, is all forgiven in the blink of an eye and he suddenly becomes one of the most valued members of Gus' group. Whaaaaaaaat? So all that evil stuff he got up to is forgotten? His insanity is suddenly cured? Gee, that's awfully convenient!

The ending itself, which I won't spoil here, ties everything up in a nice, tidy bow. It's too neat, too pat. It's the equivalent of "and they all lived happily ever after...". BARF! And as if to further underline the overly-sentimental tone of the story, Lemire resorts to repetition in the script. The last chapter has Lemire repeat "This is (fill in the blank)" over and over, eg. "This is a story about a man and a boy", "This is a story about survivors", "This is a story about forgiveness", until the last pages which repeats "This is a story" over and over and over again. It's so badly written, it reads like a high school kid writing what he thinks is "deep" poetry!

But if the writing is lacklustre and uninspired, the art more than makes up for it. Lemire draws nearly the entire book in his wonderful signature style that's fitting for the final book in his series. The excellent Nate Powell joins him to draw a few pages of Doug, the militia leader's, history, adding his brilliant art style to the mix - it makes me wish he'd drawn the Matt Kindt-illustrated sequence in the last book. The art is the best part of the book but unfortunately can't save it.

Sweet Tooth started off quite well back with the first couple of volumes but it's been increasingly shaky these last few books until the wheels fell off the bus with Volume 5 and the wreck crashed with Volume 6. Maybe it's Lemire's workload that's caused this series to lose its vitality and spark of originality? After all, when he started in 2009, he wasn't that well known to those who don't read indie comics. Today, he's been the writer of Animal Man, Frankenstein, Constantine, Justice League Dark, Trinity War and a whole slew of other projects for DC, all of varying quality. With so much going on, it's understandable that his other projects would suffer, like Sweet Tooth did.

Maybe it's because he originally planned the series to be 20-30 issues and it wound up being 40, that the series has had so many ups and downs as Lemire stretches a far shorter story into a longer one?

Whatever the reason for the dip in quality these last couple of books, the series went from promising and original to downright miserable and boring. The "tragic" angle of the story became almost a parody of what tragedy is as every single page became a tribute to the dark side of human nature in an almost unrelenting tattoo of depression. Gus and Jepperd's journey became disjointed and then dull, culminating in a predictable and forced conclusion that wasn't convincing. Riddled with clichés, little or no original characterisation, and poorly written, the series has been disappointing and unsatisfying. Lemire's best work remains Essex County, the book he wrote/drew before he got involved with Vertigo/DC.

Licha says

All the stars to this series. It has come to its conclusion with Vol. 6 and I'm so sad. This book had me feeling so hard for these characters. From the start of the series, my heart felt such a heaviness while reading it. I couldn't shake off the fear that something bad was about to happen to Gus and Jepperd and all their friends. I wanted so badly to protect Gus and mend Jepperd's heart. Every volume had me wanting to cry even before reading it just because the characters were so real to me and had me falling in love with them almost immediately. I was sad to have this series end.

MAJOR SPOILERS AHEAD

(view spoiler)

Maria says

the ending was EVERYTHING. I'm not getting over this any time soon.

Kate says

5/5stars

AGH

Okay so like, I loved this comic book series. It was an absolute adventure from page one, and I personally loved this ending. I heard some people weren't a big fan, but I personally liked how Jeff Lemire definitely could have gone in one direction but decided to go in a waY BETTER AND WAY MORE ORIGINAL DIRECTION WHICH WAS JUST GR8 OMG.

I really highly suggest this to an older audience who just want a really amazing story with great characters, great friendships, and that will probably tear your heart apart.

Loved it.

