



Swamp Thing, Vol. 8: Spontaneous Generation

Rick Veitch , Alfredo Alcalá (Illustrator)

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After his joyful reunion with his beloved Abby, SWAMP THING, once known as Alec Holland, must now face the consequences of his long journey through space. A new Swamp Thing is being born, and the old must make a decision: destroy it and maintain his supremacy, or allow it to be born, and risk the destruction of the Green.

Swamp Thing, Vol. 8: Spontaneous Generation Details

Date : Published December 2005 by Vertigo (first published September 1988)

ISBN : 9781401207939

Author : Rick Veitch , Alfredo Alcalá (Illustrator)

Format : Paperback 160 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Comics, Graphic Novels, Horror, Superheroes, Dc Comics, Graphic Novels
Comics, Fiction, Mystery, Crime, Science Fiction, Fantasy

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From Reader Review Swamp Thing, Vol. 8: Spontaneous Generation for online ebook

B says

It's hard to tell a comicbook about a superhero without punching. But that's what the Swamp Thing expects to be.

Here, there's a lot of trippy religious talk. I don't think it ultimately comes together, although it's a good experiment.

It looks like DC stopped collecting this book after the Veitch run -- just like it stopped collecting Shade the Changing Man and Doom Patrol. Collect everything, spare nothing.

Drizztl says

7/10

Eli Poteet says

I probably should not have started in volume 8. I was lost a lot during this story. I would call this the most "grotesque" graphic novel I have finished in my life. It was earthy and bizarre and gritty and awkward all at the same time, yet I was hooked anyway. I may or may not read further titles.

Zeina says

Loosing patience with Abby and Alec. If Constantine wasn't in this (and it wasn't directly intertwining with Hellblazer) I would have quit reading it. Chester is also awesome.

Sam Poole says

Veitch's penchant for experimentation is thankfully tempered so far in his follow-up to Alan Moore's outstanding run on Swamp Thing. I actually enjoyed this volume more than the last, largely because Veitch allows the stunning art and coloring (big shoutouts to Tatjana Wood) to show-not-tell some killer plot moments. Our buddy Mr. Thing is struggling to find what to do with the sprout as he comes to the realization that destroying the Parliament of Trees has succeeded in simultaneously stripping his life of their autocratic BS while also unleashing a stream of zombified replacements. Nice job, buddy.

Veitch is very much a horror writer whose tendencies lean toward the absurd. His confounding run on Animal Man, alternately brilliant and repulsive, showcases his extremes in a way his more tempered issues

here do not. Still, this story is very much about Swampy thinking things out. Yeah, he temporarily has to share a body with a dinosaur and grapples with some foul potential swampies, but he spends huge chunks of time sitting around, waiting, thinking, and beating the shit out of Constantine. It all works. More than any other DC character of this era, Moss Man can sit and think his way through 18 pages of a 23 page book and have it be dynamic, gorgeous action. A part of me wants Veitch to just indulge in his worst instincts, though. We only get one true gross-out in this volume, and it's executed well. The best plot points & scenes here only tangentially involve our titular hero, specifically when Swamp Thing makes a husk to save Constantine, Chester's comedy of errors as he avoids getting blown up about a half dozen times and the pages showing a potential sprout-harbinger going up in flames. My biggest grip with this new volume of Swamp Thing isn't with the vision, but is instead with the degree to which Moore's influence hangs over the book like rain forest canopy.

Moore's run on Saga of the Swamp Thing is ostensibly a body horror comic with occasional superhero bits, but is so damn good because he creates an explosive story with his empathetic, complex vision for our favorite green boy. Moore's Mr. Bog is very much a comic book character; Veitch's version of him is nuanced but feels like less of a character than a cosmic figure. Maybe that's intentional- this run so far has certainly been a deep exploration of what exactly makes our Green Guardian's legacy matter.

Ultimately I like this run as a Moore follow-up. It doesn't hit the same emotional notes by any stretch of the imagination, though Chester and Abby are written with deft sensitivity (this was a pleasant surprise). One of the few Swamp Thing storylines i knew about ahead of time is now on the verge of happening as, no pun intended, the seeds are now being sown for a Swamp Thing-possessed Constantine to impregnate Abby. Just a matter of time before we see what happens with out sprout.

Brent says

Who could follow Alan Moore on such a trend-setting series? Rick Veitch, so much fun.

Zac says

I'm enjoying this a lot more than I remembered and have come to the conclusion that the Rick Veitch is very underrated, though I've yet to reread the confusing time-travel arc. Veitch manages to strike a good balance between plot (adventure, character development, lots of elementals introduced, subplots galore) and prose (including deep ecology philosophising). He also does all the art (!!), which is less gritty and horrific than the Bissette/Totleben stories, but still really detailed and with clever layouts, partly helped by DC's brief decision to move all of the adverts to the back of the book. So many ideas are introduced, and at the end of the issue Abby and Swampy begin to create Tefe - a pretty mixed up character made up a lot of conflicting elements. Don't stop reading 'Swamp Thing' at Moore - there was still some genius to follow.

Moth Pfunk says

I wasn't sure what to think of Veitch's first few stories for Swamp Thing, not easy following Moore's previous run but I persevered in order to read it in parallel with Delano's run on Hellblazer. At this point they are practically a single strip and the main plot is woven across either series. I'm glad I did because this book

goes from strength to strength, I'm still not 100% on some of his interpretations of the plot elements Moore had invented but there's... plenty of Constantine... for your... buck.

Christian says

Not exactly Alan Moore, but almost up to his standard. Very trippy, with some fantastic art and moral reckonings.
