



Order of Tales

Evan Dahm

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Order of Tales is an atmospheric fantasy adventure comic. Koark, the last member of a society of story-collectors, has been given the task of finding one story whose importance surpasses all others. In seeking the Account of the Ascent of the Bone Ziggurat, Koark finds instead a strange being made of glass, and becomes pulled into a secret conflict involving a mysterious Machine Man, blackbird warriors, and thousands of years of violent history. This book contains the entire comic as originally published online, and an extensive world-internal appendix.

Order of Tales Details

Date : Published May 2012

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Author : Evan Dahm

Format : Paperback 792 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Comics, Fantasy, Graphic Novels, Webcomic, Fiction, Comic Book

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From Reader Review Order of Tales for online ebook

Rex Knouse says

Order of Tales is a truly an Awesome book. Once again the author Evan Dahm has once again blew the readers minds with the amount of imagination and effort put into this book. Order of Tales is the prequel to the earlier series Rice Boy. Watch How Koark, the last of an organization who call themselves "tellers" try to find the story of the Bone Ziggurat to find out what is dad was hiding. Along the way he gets in trouble with the Crow man who threaten his life because of some certain cargo he was. Read though a masterpiece and find what happens to koark.

Maxwell Snelling says

The weird world thickens.

Ally says

I really love Evan Dahm's work. All of it is set in his own fictional world, called Overside. And the world building that he does through his works is masterful.

Order of Tales is particularly rich in this regard. When you're reading it, you can sense the history which has influenced the current events, recognize the significant of what is occurring, and sense that you're witnessing the passing of an era.

Dahm used this work to experiment with high contrast black and white, and succeeded spectacularly. It's amazing how his lines can go from delicate, to thick brushstrokes.

While the collected tome is heavy and somewhat difficult to hold, the story does flow from one chapter to another, and it is best read this way.

I would highly suggest Dahm's books to anyone who loves graphic novels, and/or high fantasy. His work is available to read and purchase at www.riceboy.com

Olivia Moy says

This is one of my all-time favorite works of fiction! Such a rich story. Really worth the read!

Jonathan says

An epic from a great voice in story-telling, Evan Dahm finds a way to elicit wonderful emotional impact from a graphic novel. This is the most delightful world-building available in comics today. Similar to the story, the artwork is beautiful and simple. Proof that omission is an import aspect of craftsmanship. I can't wait to find out what he's working on next.

Brian says

This book is 792 pages. I read it in two sittings.

I think Rice Boy (the other work of his that I have read) is slightly better, but it is close.

Zoe's Human says

This is a well-executed, fast-paced epic quest story. The universe is interesting, and there is something charming about the simple black and white drawings. It could serve quite well for someone longing to have the epic fantasy experience without the massive investment of time normally required. It also makes for an excellent introductory book to the genre for young adults.

However, I have one significant issue with it. The one female member of the party is literally a quest object and has all the autonomy of one. If this were published in the 50s I could let it slide on that, but this was originally published online. C'mon bro.

Whatsupchuck says

The beginning of this book didn't excite me and I disliked the main character. I'm not sure at what point my opinion changed, but well before the halfway mark I was hooked. Overall I enjoyed this more than Evan Dahm's 'Riceboy.'

My only wish is that it was in color because Evan uses color and light so well!

Mike says

This collection contains the entire sixteen chapter run of the Order of Tales webcomic.

This is the second webcomic set in Evan Dahm's Overside (after Rice Boy). They take place centuries apart however and are quite different. While there are some common references nothing is lost by starting with Order of Tales.

Order of Tales follows the tremulous journey of teller Koark, last of a line of collectors and protectors of Overside's stories and legends. Tasked to find a legendary lost story of vast import, Koark will travel far beyond the protected lands of his youth and encounter creatures and power beyond imagination.

If my premise summary sounds cliche (and it does), it's because Dahm draws on classic elements and

structure for his epic tale. As with any great adventure it's the uniqueness and depth of the characters and details that make it compelling and worth experiencing.

Order of Tales does have a rather slow and uneven start. It's nice that Dahm is willing to take the time to set up his story properly, but what feels essentially like three or so chapters of deliberately paced prologue before the adventure begins in earnest is a lot to ask. Still, it's all important information, well told overall, and the comic really hits its stride in the middle chapters and never lets up from there on.

There's a small central cast dealing with shifting threats in a tightly plotted adventure that still manages to feel grand and epic. Koark is a different kind of protagonist, and a very interesting one. The bigger picture gradually forms in a logical and organic way, with some great and the careful layers Dahm built through the stories in Koark's custody pay off brilliantly.

To compare to the other Overside comics: I read Rice Boy first, and have not read Vattu yet. Rice Boy is much more accessible to start and is more about the world Rice Boy is drawn into. The coloring strongly highlights the fantastical environments and creatures he encounters. Order of Tales' stark and simple black and white art is much more subdued, placing the weight of the story firmly on Koark. While Rice Boy also has a strong, dramatic story I do think Order's is tighter overall (and thus rated it slightly higher). They are both wonderful, yet diverse, comics.

Overall Koark's is a long journey, but one that's dangerous, wondrous, and well worth taking.

4/25/14

Nat says

It's funny, throughout the whole story, I couldn't decide if I want to punch the main character or cheer him on. That being said, it's an amazing world, fun story and great read.

Brian says

Brilliantly written and beautifully drawn. Evan manages to capture the personal stories within an epic journey, and truly knows the value of the written word versus the silent image. I read it online in 3 days and knew as soon as the hardcopy was available I would be adding it to my collection.

Ben says

Evan Dahm does it again. I enjoyed this storyline much more than Rice Boy. The characters are more interesting and we get more insight into their personalities than (I think) Rice Boy could allow. The art is still good, but not as breath-taking (or surreal) as Rice Boy. Partly because it's all black and white, but also because the story seemed to revolve more around the characters and their actions than the art. Still amazing artwork though, just a slightly different style. Great book, I recommend.

Nostalgia Reader says

Having absolutely loved Dahm's other completed comic, *Rice Boy*, I decided to give this other completed story a try. While I wasn't as enraptured with the storyline as I was with *Rice Boy*, the story telling is still gorgeous and simple. The art is all in black and white, and while I enjoyed the color scheme of *Rice Boy* and thought that it added dimension to the story, the black and white is still just as powerful. There was also something about *Bottle Woman* that was made even more captivating by not having her in color, and relying solely on the shading to convey her.

In all, not much to say, aside from excellent story telling and artwork as always, just not quite up to par with *Rice Boy*. Regardless, Dahm can simply tell a very powerful story with awesome characters and surreal settings.

Go read it all online
