



Books: YA Reviews : Hatter M: Mad with Wonder

Hatter M: Mad with Wonder by Frank Beddor and Sami Makkonen

Graphic novel adaptation of a classic tale

a review by **Kim Bacciella**

What if the girl Alice from the story *Alice in Wonderland* really existed? And the world got the story all wrong? That's the premise behind *The Looking Glass Wars* which gives a whole different twist on this classic tale. *Hatter M Mad with Wonder* is the graphic novel adaptation of this series.

Royal Bodyguard Hatter Madigan continues his search for Princess Alyss through the streets of Victorian England. Still he can't find her. But then he thinks he's finally found a clue on where Alyss might be. He travels to America during the bloody end of the Civil War where he encounters a child healer, crazy outlaws, Southern Belles, and an insane asylum. Through it all, he refuses to give up on his quest to find the princess.

I love graphic novels and this one is no exception. Beddor paints a Victorian/Gothic world with this graphic novel adaptation. The story is told in Hatter Madigan's point of view. Dark images evoke the surreal world of Hatter falling into our world and his unending quest to find Wonderland's surviving princess.

I loved the sections that have the bodyguard in American right at the ending part of the Civil War. The images feel like you're reading something from that time period. And his hat! Ohmigosh, what Hatter can do with his hat would scare anyone from messing with him. I especially liked the asylum scenes. Who is sane? And who is mad? I can't wait to read more of this exciting series.

This is a must read series. The images are a tad bit dark for a younger audience but others will enjoy this novel. Check out the first book *Hatter M: The Looking Glass Wars*. Plus, check out the website for more on this series www.lookingglasswars.com