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# Sweet Tooth Vol. 3: Animal Armies



## Synopsis

A cross between Bambi and Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*, *SWEET TOOTH* tells the story of Gus, a rare new breed of human/animal hybrid children, has been raised in isolation following an inexplicable pandemic that struck a decade earlier. Now, with the death of his father he's left to fend for himself . . . until he meets a hulking drifter named Jepperd who promises to help him.

Jepperd and Gus set out on a post-apocalyptic journey into the devastated American landscape to find "The Preserve", a refuge for hybrids. In this third volume, Jepperd begins to form an army to topple the militia camp so he can rescue Gus and the other hybrid kids. But will he arrive too late to save anyone?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jeff Lemire is the creator of the acclaimed Essex County Trilogy, the Vertigo graphic novel *The Nobody*, and is the winner of a Xeric Award and YALSA Alex Award. He is currently the writer for DC Comics' *Animal Man*, *Frankenstein: Agent Of S.H.A.D.E.*, and Vertigo/DC's *Sweet Tooth*. He has also previously written the Eisner-nominated *Superboy*.

I often don't know what to do with Jeff Lemire's work exactly, and *Sweet Tooth* is a prime example. A critical darling, a fascinating concept, and touches of real lived-in past give this comic a pop, but the tendency to go post-Apocalyptic tropes limits how fresh this really is. This volume seems to back track a bit on the quality that had been brought up a notch in the last volume: the twist ending here

and revelations for Jepperd actually don't have the impact they should. This mistaken narrative calculation also means that the build-up seems anti-climatic and focus not the story seems to lose its way. In some ways though, this feels like Lemire is building something larger up with a brutal but somewhat plotting center piece. I haven't lost my patience for Gus or Lemire, and this is still better than most comics even if it seems to be bobbing in the ocean in terms of its own quality.

We open to Jepperd teaming up with the Militia to rescue Gus from The Preserve. Jepperd fights for Gus and The Preserve crumbles. During the battle, we see Gus start to stand up for himself and it's so great to see him grow up and take responsibility. We're also starting to get answers as to why the plague happened and where the hybrids came from. Things started getting REAL!! Lemire did a great job juggling both Gus and Jepperd's two stories simultaneously and then converged them seamlessly. There was so much truth to Jepperd's reflections on his wife and the details that we're keeping her alive in his mind. And the biggest shock of all came when he got confirmation that his son didn't actually die and he's very much alive. A nice reference to the first volume appeared as we find out that Gus's father wasn't just rambling prophecies, there were actually directions to help understand what was happening. The story now takes us up North and we're left with a lot of questions. I really enjoyed how action packed this one was and that it answered more of the questions that are eating at me. I related to the characters so much more with provoking things in real life to what was happening (like Louise). Each volume has gotten better and better! Volume 4-6 arrive any day now and I can't wait to round out this series. It's amazing!!

"Sweet Tooth" is perhaps the darkest work by the most interesting voice in comics today. This third collection deals primarily with Jepperd gathering forces to rescue Gus and the other children, as well as the tortured ambivalence of Dr. Singh. We are at the midpoint of the series, and have moved from the dominance of world-building in the first two collections to more revelations about how the hybrid children came to be, and what, if anything, can be done to reverse the virus. This collection does not have quite the emotional impact of the two earlier collections, but it does advance the story.

Favorite volume of the series, and nearly my favorite within the publisher. Only Fables exceeds above this title in the Vertigo line, for me. This installment is so damn exciting, that I neglected to pace myself entirely. I ate it up and I want more, Jeff. I don't understand why this series has dropped

in readers, it's brilliant. Not going to give anything away. Just know that this is a much more exciting chapter. Gus and Jeppard display an uncanny relatability, yet obscurity that only Lemiere seems capable of orchestrating. Give attention back to Sweet Tooth. It's only getting better.

This series had my attention from the moment I first read the description. With only 3 collections so far it is clearly building momentum. Animal Armies is the best so far, full of smart, meaningful dialogue and the artwork is able to capture a surprising amount of tenderness and terror. I love this series. For this price I think everyone should give it a chance.

sweet tooth is amazing, but everyone already knows that

A great comic that keeps your attention from start to finish. I would suggest to start on volume 1 so you're not missing anything important. I read a lot of comics and this has to be one of my favorites.

This series will literally keep you guessing the entire time. I could not put it down even when I tried.

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