## **Now Forming Near Rudder**



eet rigoletto, a court jester and star of our show.

leet the duke, admirer of Rigoletto's daughter.

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THE BATTAL E BATTALI By Bobby

#### "Diary" **By Chuck Palahniuk**

Monday, September 29, 2003

Fans of Chuck Palahniuk (Fight Club, Lullaby) have come to expect certain things when reading his novels. They expect mesmerizing sentence structures, social satire and plot twists so sudden and steep that you need a map to navigate Palahnuik's warped prose."Diary," the latest novel from Palahniuk, delivers all of the above elements, but is missing the heart and originality of his earlier works.

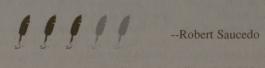
From the novel's onset, an artistic housewife must cope with her husband's suicide attempt and the secret that the members of her island community hide from her. The way the story is executed is startlingly cookie-cutter for an author who has risen to fame for his highly original novels. The style Palahniuk uses never fails to please. Strategically placed words and repetition help this novel to transcend regular ghost

The story begins as Missy Wilmot, professional housekeeper, strives to support her daughter and mother-in-law after her husband's failed attempt to take his life. Keeping a "coma diary," Missy recounts her frustration with the increasing number of tourists invading the island she has called home since her marriage.

Soon, Missy finds herself seemingly possessed by a famous long-dead painter and painting like a madwoman. A plot put into motion by the mysterious denizens of the island, Missy's paintings seem to spell "doom" for the rest of the world.

By no means bad (much more entertaining then the last few Stephen King novels combined), "Diary" fails to live up to the expectations that have been set upon Palahniuk's works.

Full of wonderful wordplay and meaningful statements on life, "Diary" is sure to please readers who are ready for a something a little more poignant than Dean Koontz or Peter Straub, but longtime readers of Palahuniuk may want to wait for his next work, a horror anthology that has been causing listeners to faint at recent readings in California.



#### "Sandman: Endless Nights" **By Neil Gaiman**

In 1989, Neil Gaiman (American Gods, Neverwhere) created "The Sandman", a revolutionary comic book distributed by DC/Vertigo that would re-establish and redefine the way

society and critics view the comic book in Telling the story of Morpheus, the lo dreams, and his family, the series ended in Gaiman always promised he would return h ARLINGTON, cast of characters that populated the award ged a special ning series. "Sandman: Endless Nights," ergy and lay aturday to send a newly released graphic novel, is that prokept

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This beautifully bound hardback collection seven never-before-seen stories will charm time fans of Gaiman and adventurous news ers alike. The collection is composed of se stories, each focusing on a member of Morph family: "Death," "Delirium," "Des "Despair," "Destruction," and "Destiny." collection begins with a story Death illust by P. Craig Russell (Dr. Strange). Gaina depiction of Death is that of a young goth gill friendly as she is beautiful. The this story ages to entertain and offer a poetic insighting

Up next is a beautifully painted story Desire. While this particular story isn't thebe in the collection, a mediocre Neil Gaiman su still manages to offer more charm and emot than most authors can manage in their caree Milo Manara (Metal Hurlant) offers lush scene and wonderful colors that stand out above a beyond Gaiman's mediocre story.

Gaiman teams up with Miguelanxo Pat and approving the (Men in Black: The Animated Series) to tella untold story in the history of Morpheus and Barbara Click. stry chairwoman itself. A wonderful story packed full of insid jokes and trivia for fans of the DC universe, # story delivers in spades. Barron Storey (He Metal) and Gaiman deliver "15 Portraits Despair," a gloomy look into the dark side d

Emotionally draining, this story's artwork nonlinear format will wrench reader's hearts souls. Bill Sienkiewicz (Elektra: Assassin) trates a highly confusing story about youngest member of the family, Delirium.

Gaiman's insane story goes hand in hand Sienkiewicz's wild artwork. Glenn H (Preacher) offers a science-fiction story feat Destruction that poses a lot of questions and offers answers. Frank Quitley (New X-Men) teams Gaiman to end the collection with a tour through garden of Destiny.

Amazing artwork and an eccentric collect of stories make this book sure to please fans Neil Gaiman, eager for his return to com This graphic novel may be a tad inaccessibl times for new fans, but any reader willing to t a chance on the book that is a showcase forsom of the best art and writing the comic book met um has to offer should not miss out.

"Sandman: Endless Nights" may have a h price tag for a comic book (\$24.95), but this 150-p page installment in the Sandman Library is an ex ent addition to any library.

--Robert Sauce



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It's an opera. But don't let that scare you. The storyline is easy to follow. The costumes are vibrant and colorful. The singing...well these opera voices are some of the best you'll ever hear. Plus, it's presented by MSC OPAS, the same organization that brought you RENT last year.

MSC OPAS continues the Main Stage season by presenting an Italian-style tragedy on a grand scale with RIGOLETTO. To be performed by the distinguished Opera Verdi Europa, RIGOLETTO tells a touching story between a devoted father and a loving daughter. Only - their story turns tragic when she falls in love with the Duke and under the curse of a mysterious Count.

#### RIGOLETTO **Opera Verdi Europa** A Company of 100 With a Live Symphony Orchestra Thursday, October 2 at 7:30 PM Rudder Auditorium



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Also, be sure to visit our booth, located between Fermier and Thompson Halls, to learn more about these and other opportunities.

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PICKING UP your 2003 Aggieland yearbook is easy. If you ordered a book, look for the distribution table in front of the Reed McDonald Building. (Go to the Reed McDonald basement in case of inclemen weather.) Please bring you Student ID.

If you did not order last year's Texas A&M University yearbook (the 2002-2003 school year), you may purchase one for \$40 plus tax in Room 015 Reed

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