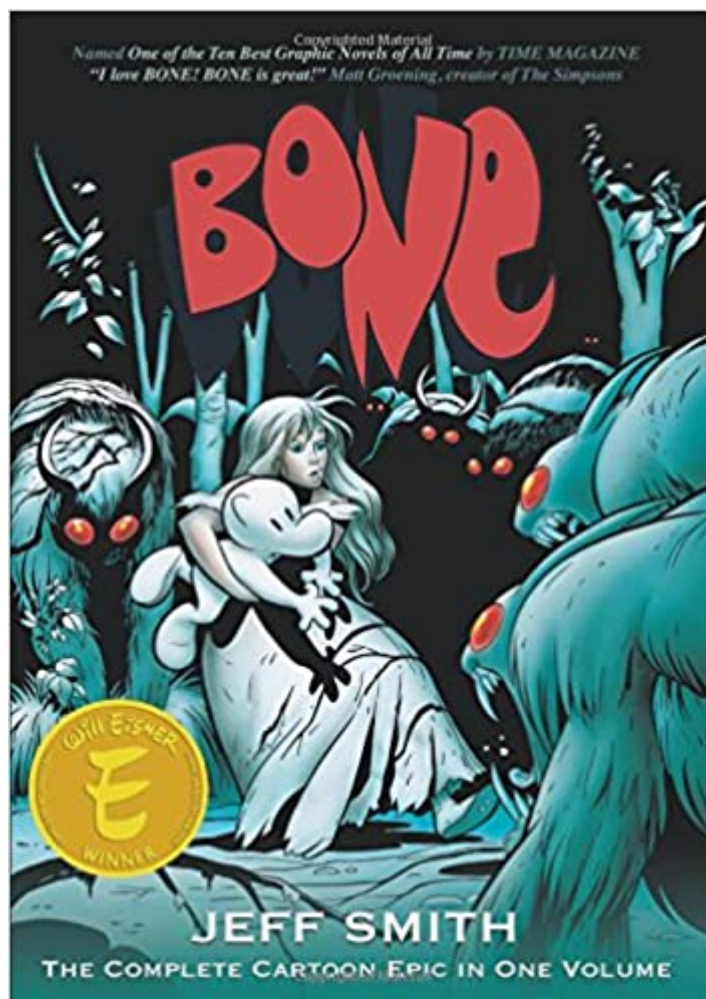


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# Bone: The Complete Cartoon Epic In One Volume



## Synopsis

BONE – The Complete Cartoon Epic in One Volume Winner of 41 National and International Awards including 10 Eisner Awards and 11 Harvey Awards! Meet the Bone cousins, Fone Bone, Phoney Bone and Smiley Bone, three misfits who are run out of Boneville and find themselves lost in a vast uncharted desert. They make their way into a deep, forested valley filled with wonderful and terrifying creatures. With the help of the mysterious Thorn, her tough-as-nails Grandma Ben and the Great Red Dragon, the boys do their best to survive in the middle of brewing trouble between the valley's denizens. It will be the longest – but funniest – year of their lives! Originally serialized in black & white comic books and graphic novels, the award-winning novel was presented complete and unabridged for the first time in this impressive 1300 page tome preserving the original black & white artwork.

## Book Information

Paperback: 1344 pages

Publisher: Cartoon Books; Revised edition (September 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 188896314X

ISBN-13: 978-1888963144

Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 2.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 398 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #22,174 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #56 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Fantasy Graphic Novels #367 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels #3349 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy

Age Range: 9 and up

Grade Level: 3 and up

## Customer Reviews

**\*Starred Review\*** Mere months after publishing the final installment of the long-running fantasy saga Bone, Smith collects all 13 years' worth of it in a single, massive volume. As many comics fans know, the series chronicles the adventures of the Bone cousins--plucky Fone Bone, scheming Phony Bone, and easygoing Smiley Bone-- who leave their home of Boneville and are swept up in a Tolkienesque epic of royalty, dragons, and unspeakable evil forces out to conquer humankind. The compilation makes it evident how fully formed Smith's vision was from the very beginning--although

the early chapters emphasized comedy, as do the final pages, the tale quickly found its dramatic bearings. His remarkably accomplished drawing style, in the manner of such comics masters as Walt Kelly and Carl Barks, was fully formed from the start, too. Libraries that have missed out on individual Bone series titles should seize this opportunity to make up for the fact, and those who have collected the series all along will do well to acquire the collected edition to supplement or supplant those doubtless well-worn volumes. But be prepared for overdues: even the most voracious readers will be hard-pressed to get through this hefty, phone book-like tome before they're supposed to return it. Gordon Flagg

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Endorsements  
Time Magazine: One of the Ten Greatest Graphic Novels of all Time  
Publisher's Weekly: Best Book List  
The Comics Journal: Book of the Year  
American Library Association: Top 25 Graphic Novels for Young Adults  
Better Homes and Gardens: 'Must Read' list  
Quotes  
Time Magazine  
"BONE combines the humor and look of early Disney movies with the scope of the Lord of the Rings cycle. While children will read BONE for its breathless adventure and sight gags, older kids and adults will appreciate the themes of blind fanaticism and corrupting power."  
• Entertainment Weekly  
"BONE is storytelling at its best, full of endearing, flawed characters whose adventures run the gamut from hilarious whimsy to thrilling drama. Along the way, Smith's musings take on a greater relevance than you'd ever expect. Grade: A."  
• Publisher's Weekly  
"Charming, character-driven fantasy with an elegant design and masterful story-telling in the tradition of Walt Kelly, Charles Schulz and Carl Barks." (starred review)  
ALA Booklist  
"Like Pogo, BONE has a whimsy best appreciated by adults, yet kids can enjoy it, too; and like Barks' Donald Duck stories, BONE moves from brash humor to gripping adventure in a single panel."  
Neil Gaiman (author of The Graveyard Book and Sandman)  
"Jeff Smith can pace a joke better than almost anyone in comics; his dialogue is delightful; so are all his people, not to mention his animals, his villains, and even his bugs."  
Matt Groening (creator of The Simpsons)  
"I love BONE! BONE is great!"

The kids loved reading this so much that I had to read it too. The story is exciting, keeps you reading, somewhat of a cross between Star Wars and Hobbits :). Pictures are just amazing, like watching a movie. I love nicely drawn cartoons and this one is so beautiful. Would definitely recommend it, and as a plus, little Bone is adorable, nice, honest... The other Bones are always up to no good, which somewhat teaches kids about gambling and not believing everything someone

tries to sell you :). Oh and the women characters are strong, brave, resilient... good role models for girls.

I was told time and time again to read this by friends. I'm not super into comics, but I have read a handful of others (Sin City, Watchmen, some Batman, TMNT). This definitely took me by surprise. All the other reviews are pretty accurate. I think it's a stretch comparing it to Tolkien, but is a very fun read for all ages. A captivating story, kept me interested throughout and satisfied my need for something to read. As others complained, you can see the other pages through the page you're reading, but at the asking price I couldn't argue. If you already know you love the series and really want it to be conveniently collected, maybe shell out the extra for the color edition. If you're a regular reader who wants to grab this cheap and enjoy it for the story and art, you won't be disappointed.

Bought this for my son and he enjoyed this greatly. After read it, he wanted to go back and color some o the animation. I did not read any of this myself, so I can't answer the questions about violent or sexual content. Since some of these books were in his school library, I figured it should be too bad for him. Besides, it can't be worst that what is allowed on TV these days.

This is a review of the edition I bought, not the story itself...I got the softcover with the "Winner of 10 Eisner Awards..." bubble and the \_Time Magazine\_ quote on the cover. It seems to me that the ISBN is the same no matter which edition of the softcover you get. The quality of the printing is good. Sharp, black. No issues from what I've seen. The map at the back is printed across the gutter, which seems like a poor choice every time I see it done, but I know that it's hard to get that much detail in a map if it's smaller and fold-out maps are too expensive and not really very convenient. The problem I have with this printing is the paper. It's very thin. White, and smooth, but thin. Under strong light, and especially in large frames that feature landscapes (even the cliffside scenes) the white space shows the frames on two or three pages behind. It's not a deal-breaker or anything, but it's distracting--these are exactly the panels where the book is most beautiful and exciting. Would thinker paper have cost more? I'm sure it would have. It's a \$40 book as it is. Maybe \$55 would have been too expensive, and the collection wouldn't have sold as many copies. I dunno, I'm not a publishing expert. I'm quite sure that the 9-volume set I've read before didn't have this problem, and I'm pretty sure that the last time I bought the one-volume edition it didn't look like this either. I guess this is kind of a throwback to the look of vellum-printed books from a few centuries ago, but TBH it's not a welcome one.

Don't be scared by the size: this is a delightful book for all ages. Bone is a modern epic (think something like The Hobbit, by way of Mickey Mouse) told in a fresh and fascinating manner. The artwork and comic book styling can trick you into thinking this is just a kids book (page count aside). But don't be fooled: there's plenty going on here for readers of all ages to enjoy. The characters, from the adorable and heroic Fone Bone, to the scheming Phoney Bone, to the simultaneously tough and sweet Grandma Ben, are all wonderfully drawn and entirely charming. The world is vast and complex, without getting lost in the genealogies and random facts that can bog down other fantasy stories. And while it's presented as a fairly straightforward adventure tale (complete with dragons and all!) the themes of self-sacrifice, family, and the dangers of blindly following a crowd are all woven in in a way that asks some very interesting questions. All-in-all, a great read for kids of all ages!

My kid was happy to be able to read all the novels back to back. I just wish the description said the book was in black and white. My kid was disappointed when she didn't see any pages in color.

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