



Royal City, Vol. 3: We All Float on

Jeff Lemire

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When a surprise new member of the family arrives in the fading industrial town of Royal City looking for answers, the past and present all come together and the Pike family must face the truths about their youngest brother's death, decades earlier. The concluding chapter of this generation-spanning saga of one family haunted by their own private ghosts from the New York Times best-selling writer and artist Jeff Lemire (GIDEON FALLS, Sweet Tooth, Essex County).

Collects ROYAL CITY #11-14

Royal City, Vol. 3: We All Float on Details

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Author : Jeff Lemire

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From Reader Review Royal City, Vol. 3: We All Float on for online ebook

Artemy says

Jeff Lemire's slice of life family drama comes to an end with this volume, and it's a satisfying finale, if maybe a bit obvious in hindsight. In the end, it's no Essex County, but it's clear that Lemire had to work out some personal stuff on the page once again with this book, and the result is a simple but sincere and endearing story, and an exceedingly rare Image book that doesn't feature monsters, mythical creatures, superpowers or dystopian futures (not that there's anything wrong with that, but I get enough of that from Marvel and DC, I don't need even more generic brand fantasy/sci-fi from you, Image, gosh).

Norman says

This series is the Jeff Lemire work I have been waiting for for years. As he says — “a non-genre book in today's comics market is risky business” — but all I've wanted is a Lemire non-genre book! Beautifully articulate dialogue and monologues, unique stylized drawings, surreal storylines based in reality... Sad to see it go, but I'm glad to have seen how it ends.

James DeSantis says

The final chapter in one of the best slice of life stories.

This is what it's all leading up to. We find out how the boy died. We also find out where the characters are, in their mindset. Some making choices that will completely alter their future. This is when most characters come head to head with each other instead of getting mostly individual stories leading up to a sweet, but bittersweet, ending.

Good: Really loved the heck out of this family. All flawed, all broken, yet all very interesting. I liked how each character started their next chapter in their life, even with uncertainty you felt they were getting proper treatment. The atmosphere and art actually work in favor for this story.

Bad: I felt another issue or two would have helped. Felt tad rushed a bit. I wanted to spend more time with them.

Overall, if looking for one of the best slice of life stories, you can't go wrong with Royal City. Jeff Lemire made a truly remarkable series here. A 4 out of 5.

Mateen Mahboubi says

Lemire is a champ at these limited run stories that never outstay their welcome. By the nature of the story, this one didn't really storm out of the gates but rather provided a steady progression towards this conclusion. Lemire continues to demonstrate his mastery of setting the tone for small town living and familial relations.

A strong conclusion to a strong series.

David Schaafsma says

“This town’s bones are loneliness.”

After a layered and complex set-up in the first two volumes of Jeff Lemire’s *Royal City*, complete with the appearance of ghosts with all sort of magical expectations, the resolution seems a little conventional, unsurprising, and flat. Don’t get me wrong, if you read the first two volumes you will want to read this, without question, and it is good, but in my opinion a tad disappointing. We are back in Essex County territory, in a sense, in that *Royal City* is a small, bleak Ontario town, with a couple of sort of mild surprises, everything resolving in a pretty satisfactory fashion. I rate this 3.5, but it is Lemire art, don’t forget, and it is better than most stuff out there, still, so I round up to 4 stars.

The story features a family falling apart, haunted by the loss of a brother and son, in a town falling apart. To recall, Dad is unconscious, with a stroke, after a fight with his long estranged wife; Patrick can’t write his novel and his actress wife is gone, on location, estranged, too; Richie is drunk, owes a gang 2K, Sis Tara is negotiating a deal to end the family biz, where her family works; she and hubby are estranged. An in the center of it is a young Tommy, gone. Family curse?

“Nothin’ but the dead and dyin’ in my little town”? (Paul Simon)

The second volume flashed (bleakly) (is that an oxymoron?) back to 1993, when things seemed more hopeful, though Tommy has hallucinations. We read pages of his handwritten journal. We already know from volume one that Tommy will die, so this volume basically gives you the events of the week leading up to his death.

Yeah, I won’t tell you much about th ending, no big spoilers, though a new family member emerges, and some endings are bitter, some bittersweet, and none (this is Lemire, remember?) are unqualifyingly sweet, really. I really did like this sad sack family. But I wouldn’t want to live in *Royal City* or have them over for Thanksgiving.

Chihoe Ho says

"We spent the most important parts of our lives here. That's not something that stays behind. It comes with you. Of course, we can get lost even when we stay put. But the best part of being lost is getting found. That's the thing about the past. It's gone. Just because it forms us, it doesn't mean you have to let it define you forever."

Closure. The Pike family got that, we got it. And now we can all move on from *Royal City*. Thank you Jeff Lemire for yet another brilliant family series.

Roy says

The conclusion to one of the best simple storys about life. Lemire seems to hit all the best spots when hes

doing this simplified story more so than the superhero action style. Even his Black Hammer series is more than just superheroes. I highly recommend this series to all readers.

Richard says

Lemire neatly ties up this quiet family drama in satisfying fashion as each member of the Pike family comes to grips with their problems, and begin to mend the rift that Tommy's death created between them. It's a touching portrait of a family bathed in watercolor and magical realism. Can't wait to read this again when it comes out as a single hardcover.

Elizabeth A says

This final volume of Royal City concludes this family saga.

I continue to love Lemire's sketchy art, and his deep dive into ordinary people, their lives, loves, losses, and ghosts. A stranger in town has unexpected connections to the family, and we learn more about past and present secrets and betrayals, and while the resolutions were all rather conventional and unsurprising, this bittersweet tale is worth a read.

Robert says

Fizzled ending to a flash-bang start.

Donovan says

A gut punch of a denouement for this grungy tale of magical realism and family drama.

Jakub Kvíz says

Royal City konci a tím se uzavírá příběh dysfunkční rodiny, kterou pronásleduje tragédie z minulosti.

I přes prvky nadpřirozena je tohle strašně civilní a osobní příběh, který mě chytil a nepustil až do konce.

Finále je možná takový jednoduchý a bez nějakého zvratu, ale byla to parádní jízda a těším se, s čím přijde Lemire příště.

Shannon Appelcline says

A fine conclusion to this series.

It's good that Lemire saved the final reveals of Tommy's last day for this final volume, as it's really the last surprise we get After that everything pretty much clicks together as people accept the change of life. It's a good finish for our Royal family, though not a particularly surprising one after that first issue.

Rumi Vd says

Fitting ending and another win by Jeff Lemire, he is at his best with these small, family drama style of stories. A family is dealing with the death of one of their family members, who everybody still sees in different ages and all. Would not have minded the story to be a bit longer but still a very good one, told in three trades, this one being the last one.

MK King says

Lemire is an outstanding artist, storyteller, a weaver of compelling tales. Volume 3 wraps up the series and here we see more social decay, family breakdown, a substantial plot twist, and ultimately redemption. Royal City fits into Lemire's small town universe of his previous works Roughneck and Essex County and are somewhat a departure from his celebrated Sweet Tooth. I picked up his sci-fi Descender TPB Volume 1 so I'll see how he fares with that genre. Definitely a 5 star series and he remains a Top 10 Creator for me.
