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# Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451: The Authorized Adaptation



## Synopsis

"Monday burn Millay, Wednesday Whitman, Friday Faulkner, burn 'em to ashes, then burn the ashes." For Guy Montag, a career fireman for whom kerosene is perfume, this is not just an official slogan. It is a mantra, a duty, a way of life in a tightly monitored world where thinking is dangerous and books are forbidden. In 1953, Ray Bradbury envisioned one of the world's most unforgettable dystopian futures, and in Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*, the artist Tim Hamilton translates this frightening modern masterpiece into a gorgeously imagined graphic novel. As could only occur with Bradbury's full cooperation in this authorized adaptation, Hamilton has created a striking work of art that uniquely captures Montag's awakening to the evil of government-controlled thought and the inestimable value of philosophy, theology, and literature. Including an original foreword by Ray Bradbury and fully depicting the brilliance and force of his canonic and beloved masterwork, Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451* is an exceptional, haunting work of graphic literature.

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## Customer Reviews

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A faithful adaptation of the original, Hamilton's comics version conveys the social commentary of the novel, while using the images to develop the tone. He uses grainy, static colors and images obscured by heavy black shadows and textures to portray the oppressive nature of this world where firemen start fires instead of putting them out. Malevolent forces and danger lurk in the shadows pervading the suburban home of fireman Montag and his wife, Mildred. Montag questions the happiness of his mundane life when prodded by his strange new neighbor, a young girl named Clarisse, as well as his wife's drug overdose. This leads him to throw himself into a dangerous struggle to expose the world's hypocrisy by spreading the forbidden knowledge contained in books. The art solidifies atmospheric elements such as the fire and rain; fire, tapering and curling, is rendered into a crucial additional character. Since the original expounds the importance of valuing and preserving books and knowledge, adapting it into the comics form emphasizes the growth of the medium, as well as its potency across genres and subjects. (July) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

I love *Fahrenheit 451*- the book by Ray Bradbury. I consider it one of my favorite books. When I heard about the authorized graphic novel adaptation, I immediately ordered it. I have read it twice now and here are my thoughts. For starters, the GN is true to the original material but takes all the artistic liberties it is afforded. This does not dilute, affect or pollute the original message in any form or manner. The art is definitely eye catching and impressive. Tim Hamilton has done an excellent job in that regard. My only qualm against the GN adaptation is that it is too dark. Agreed the source material is dark and deserves the treatment from the artist but I would have liked to see a little more color- maybe contrast the few pleasant scenes with the otherwise grim situations in the story. I see why the artist colored it the way he did and I am sure there may be a lot more readers who like this approach better. All in all, definitely a buy from a *F451* fan.

Great story i love it really, i've never been big on reading books had to many pushed down the throat in school so when it comes to reading it take alot to get my interest which is why i read alot of graphic novels. To me it's just the same as watching a movie i see the characters and the emotions the artist instilled in them. I've got a bit of a photographic memory and not a super active imagination when it comes to reading books which makes this story even better to me, seeing the imagery of a page i left off on helps me remember what was going on much easier then when reading a book. I can only hope more like this come out i like Ray Bradbury and would like to see "Martian Chronicles" or "Something Wicked This Way Comes" in graphic novel form, and not just cause i know i'd enjoy them but i'm sure a younger generation could also grab hold. Well thats my rant for the evening and i recommend this to anyone interesting is Sci Fi or stories about alternate realities or anyone against censorship.

I enjoyed this novel. I have been looking for a visual representation of 451 for many years. Please, do not mention the movie. The characters are made to be somewhat vague, and this is a good thing. The images I have of Montag, Mildred and the rest are still in my head and are safe from Hollywood for the time being. I would love if there was some way I could work out a deal and get a classroom set of these. Some students might not enjoy it, but I think there are enough who would find the book a worthwhile companion to the novel.

Until i read this book in my 11th grade english class just 2 years ago, I HATED READING! When this book was assigned i expected to read the first 2 or 3 pages and then skim the rest of the book for answers to the questions. 2 pages turned into 3, 3 pages turned into 4, and 4 pages turned into the back cover. This book is perfect for this time period. In a world where we cant even trust anything our government(s) tell us, this book really opens your eyes. It is amazing to me how Bradbury wrote this in the 1950's as a Sci-Fic novel and it has basically become a biography of our time period. I guarentee you that 1.) when you start reading this book you will not want to put it down, and 2.) after you finish it, you will never look at the world the same way again.

Pretty true to the original story, this graphic novel provides a quick-read study of the main ideas Bradbury was intending to convey. The art direction was good, not outstanding, and the story was presented in a clear and concise manner. However, for those already familiar with the story, this graphic novel has almost nothing to add to the experience. This would maybe be a good way to

convey the Fahrenheit 451 story to a younger audience, perhaps one less inclined to read otherwise, though this would be supremely ironic considering that a disinterest in reading is what Fahrenheit 451 is about!

Classic. I miss Ray. Story is about either the rise of TV or the demonization of comic books in the early 50's. Real culture will endure.

I bought this for a gift and it is pretty cool. However, put a barcode sticker right on the back cover which completely throws off the whole look of the book. I tried to take it off but it's really stuck on there and leaves behind bad residue. I used a blowdryer and spent 15 minutes or so heating it up and removing it.

This is an excellent alternative to the novel! I used it for my students with special needs in 8th grade. They were able to follow along better. I had to add details from the novel, but it was great!!!

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