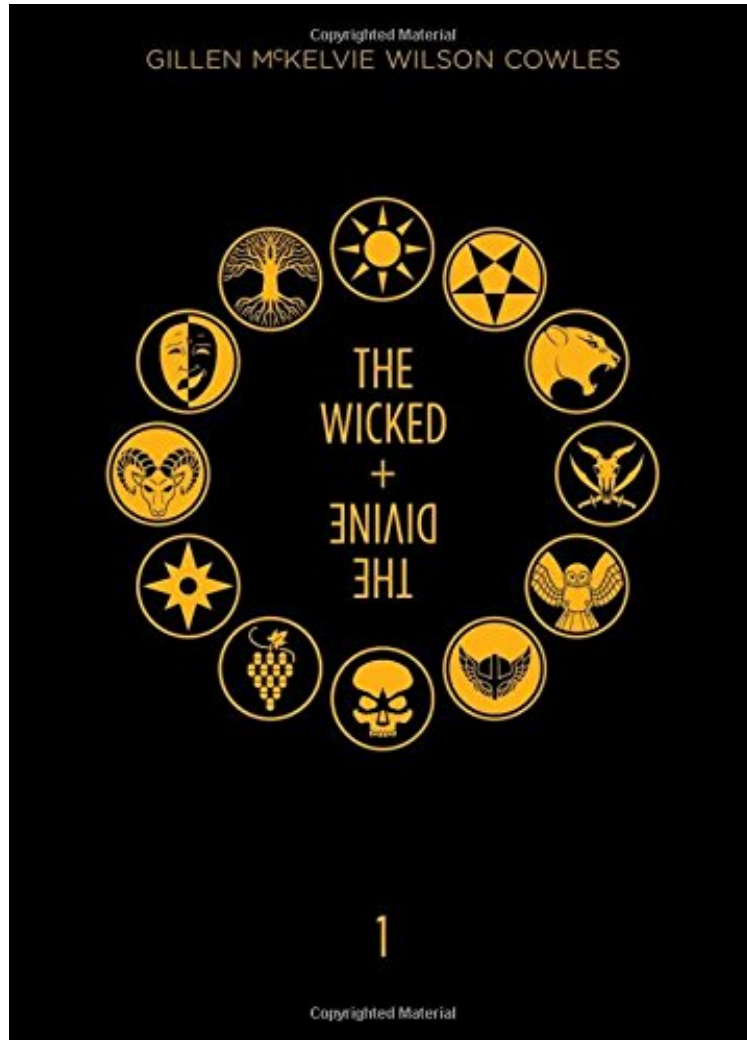


[Library ebook] The Wicked + The Divine Deluxe Edition: Year One

The Wicked + The Divine Deluxe Edition: Year One

Kieron Gillen

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Kieron Gillen : The Wicked + The Divine Deluxe Edition: Year One before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Wicked + The Divine Deluxe Edition: Year One:

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comic exemplifies the millennial generation's search for identity and meaning in the ever-increasingly post-everything hyper-modern world we live in. There are a lot of layers to this thing. It is, of course, chiefly about celebrity and deification of fame and what fame itself even is in the 21st century Social Media Age so far, but there's more to it than that. The gods and all their highly distinct personalities are a brilliant allegory of the extreme "nicheification", to make up a word on the spot, of contemporary culture. Dominant cultures are a thing of the past and the "subculture" is rendered meaningless in our new flat world (see Thomas L. Friedman). There aren't subcultures anymore, but a collection of paracultures that are all mutually exclusive, and many aren't even aware of the existence of a number of the others. Culture clash doesn't happen on the other side of the world anymore, it happens in our own backyards, on our own streets. *The Wicked + The Divine* is the most compelling portrayal of this I've encountered yet in any literature, let alone comics. Ananke is the representation of the powers that be and how they use our own cliquish nature against us for their power plays. Each of the gods represents a musical genre, an ideology, an aesthetic, a philosophy, a group of likemindeds that may have caused a revolution among themselves, and some may be respectful of a few others at certain times, but all fall short of coalescing into a greater whole. I think this comic is chiefly about the search for the next stage. Post-modernism has deconstructed everything to death and it seems like we're heading towards a new era of segregation and social stratification. But facing the realities of increased globalization and the increased cultural pluralism that goes along with it, and the scientific inescapables of climate change and technological advancements in automation and AI, a new age of constructionism and solidarity is going to have to be ushered in. We're going to have to weed out those who are trying to divide and conquer, and we're going to have to really get along and learn from each other, and make something better of ourselves and the world. This is one of the few works of lit I can think of that is tackling some of those ideas head on in a big way. There are others, yeah, but how many of them are as fun to read? How many of them have the wit of Gillen or the mind-blowing visuals of McKelvie? On this hardcover edition, no question that fans of the series should get it, just for the extra content alone. Gillen is one of the best self-annotators I've ever read. Anyway, screw all that pretentious ramble, just buy the damn book. I personally give it a money-back guarantee.

Kieron Gillen, Jamie McKelvie and Matthew Wilson return with an Eisner Award-nominated modern fantasy where gods are the ultimate pop stars and pop stars are the ultimate gods. Revel in the opulence of this over-sized hardback! Revel in it! Collects issues 1 through 11.