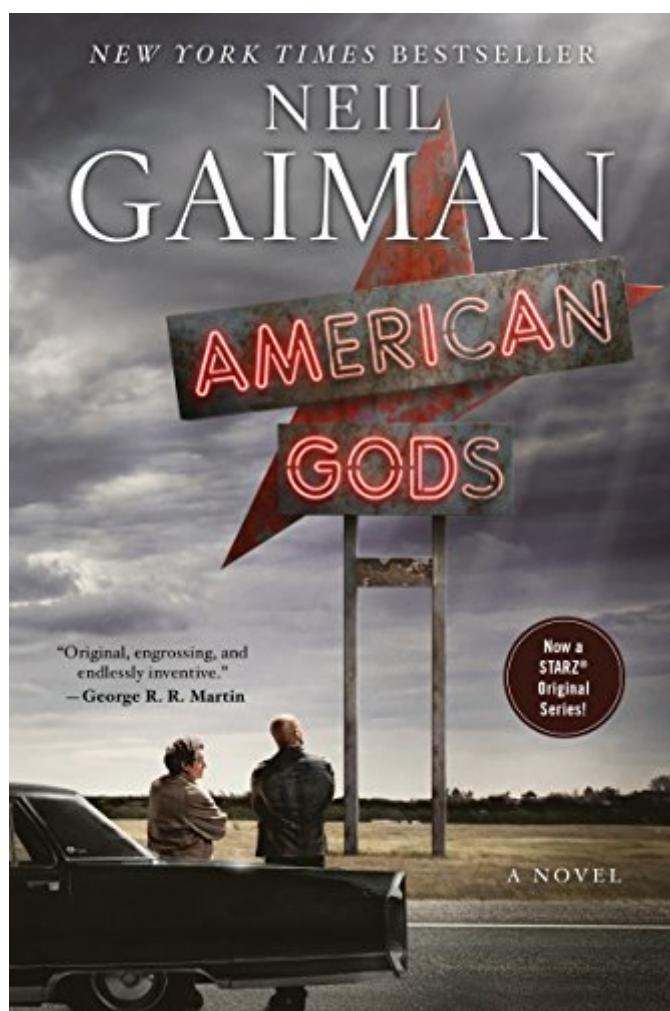


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# American Gods: The Tenth Anniversary Edition: A Novel



## Synopsis

TestFirst published in 2001, American Gods became an instant classic—“an intellectual and artistic benchmark from the multiple-award-winning master of innovative fiction, Neil Gaiman. Now discover the mystery and magic of American Gods in this tenth anniversary edition. Newly updated and expanded with the author’s preferred text, this commemorative volume is a true celebration of a modern masterpiece by the one, the only, Neil Gaiman. A storm is coming . . .

Locked behind bars for three years, Shadow did his time, quietly waiting for the magic day when he could return to Eagle Point, Indiana. A man no longer scared of what tomorrow might bring, all he wanted was to be with Laura, the wife he deeply loved, and start a new life. But just days before his release, Laura and Shadow’s best friend are killed in an accident. With his life in pieces and nothing to keep him tethered, Shadow accepts a job from a beguiling stranger he meets on the way home, an enigmatic man who calls himself Mr. Wednesday. A trickster and rogue, Wednesday seems to know more about Shadow than Shadow does himself. Life as Wednesday’s bodyguard, driver, and errand boy is far more interesting and dangerous than Shadow ever imagined—it is a job that takes him on a dark and strange road trip and introduces him to a host of eccentric characters whose fates are mysteriously intertwined with his own. Along the way Shadow will learn that the past never dies; that everyone, including his beloved Laura, harbors secrets; and that dreams, totems, legends, and myths are more real than we know. Ultimately, he will discover that beneath the placid surface of everyday life a storm is brewing—an epic war for the very soul of America—and that he is standing squarely in its path. Relevant and prescient, American Gods has been lauded for its brilliant synthesis of “mystery, satire, sex, horror, and poetic prose” (Michael Dirda, *Washington Post Book World*) and as a modern phantasmagoria that “distills the essence of America” (Seattle Post-Intelligencer). It is, quite simply, an outstanding work of literary imagination that will endure for generations.

## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

I don't read a ton of fantasy, but had known about this book for years. I had always thought that the title was stupid, but ended up enjoying this book a lot. It is a bit cheesy at times, but one cannot help it when discussing Americana. Would recommend to someone looking for a thoughtful adventure, particularly if one enjoys myths.

Simply an amazing book. This was a very interesting interpretation of what happens to the Gods when no one is interested in them anymore. Like all things by Neil Gaiman, it's amusing, thought-provoking, and very entertaining. I've heard they've made a TV series on it, but haven't seen it, so can't comment on how the book compares (if at all).

I have enjoyed nearly everything I've read by Neil Gaiman. His writing is very imaginative and far superior to most of the tripe that passes for fiction these days. Mr. Gaiman's writing is fun and captivating; his books do not disappoint (neither do they continue endlessly). Some writers do not know when to stop and it seems many readers are not discerning enough to know the author has no more to say.

Throughly engrossed by this book...have enjoyed Gaiman's work since Sandman but this goes far beyond those shores. Lots to ponder in this work, especially in our troubled times. And this book illustrates how Gaiman's interests have coalesced on many fronts (traditional legends, particularly Norse, sci fi, fantasy, etc.) into a work unifying diverse ideas.

The author has an engaging writing style. This writer uses the same or similar vehicles as did Michael Moorcock, Stephen King, or Herman Hesse in messing with reality, pulling in mythological settings, and neatly fitting them into the scene with which the reader finds they can relate.

This is an amazing book about an amazing journey.... one man's journey to find his true self, although he doesn't know it at the start. You want to sit back and hear all the stories the gods could tell you, if only given the chance and will. You want to know more about them and those who brought them over. I highly recommend this book. I can't say enough good things about it. It's just soooo good.

Fantastic pacing, fun and dark in all the right places. Turns in all the right places, twists remained unexpected and the characters, both gods and humans, were so well written and rounded I felt I knew them personally. "Oh yeah, Wednesday? You mean Odin? Sort of a douche, but pretty cool" - me, in an imaginary conversation in which I am asked how good of a dude Wednesday is

It's definitely a Gaiman book, full of whimsy and wonder. This is definitely more of a young adult book, which is fine, that's who it's written for. This is the first Gaiman I've read that more of a love story, which caught me off guard, not in a bad way though. Even saying that it keeps adult readers interested because the characters are just so darn interesting. I recommend reading before watching the movie adaption, a couple major things change between the two versions and I definitely prefer the book more.

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