

Bone

As a kid before I had got into Manga (Japanese comics), I was into Western comics and Graphic novels. Stories like Maus and Persepolis were stories I read as a kid and they deeply affected me, and I have written reviews on them, but they were not the stories that got me into comics and graphic novels. Jeff Smith's comedic Fantasy epic was a story that I loved, and even more important for me, my brothers, my friends, we all loved this series. I remember the excitement I had when I would get my hands on the next volume, and how I would sit down and read the whole 200 plus page illustrated story in one sitting, which at the time was a large ordeal, now I can get that done in under an hour, but then it took me quite a while.

The story evolved in this way from a story of these goofy looking creatures who are run out of their home and stumble upon this fantastical world with dragons, rat-creatures, and a grandma who ran faster than cows, was stronger than monsters, and (SPOILER) was a former queen, to a grand, Lord of the Rings like fantasy epic. Funny enough, I later learned that the story itself was inspired by Lord of the Rings, which makes me love it even more, and I look back now, and the bones are quite like the Hobbits. Looking back, the story has much more depth and layers, that simply went over my head as a child.

I have read this story many times, and writing this has made me want to read it again, and I have a feeling that the level of enjoyment that I have for this story will not be any less than when I was 7,8, or whatever ages I read and re-read the story. This story is what shaped my love for the graphic novel medium, of course now, Manga is what drives my love for that much more, with the numerous stories I have found and fell in love with, but when I think of the stories I enjoyed most as I read it, and still love deeply to this day, Bone is one of those stories.