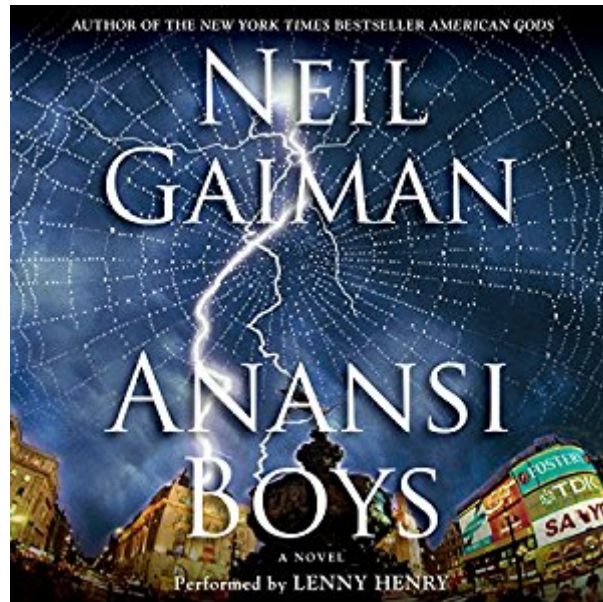


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# Anansi Boys



## Synopsis

In this #1 New York Times bestseller, Neil Gaiman returns to the territory of his masterpiece, *American Gods* (soon to be a Starz Original Series), to once again probe the dark recesses of the soul. God is dead. Meet the kids. Fat Charlie Nancy's normal life ended the moment his father dropped dead on a Florida karaoke stage. Charlie didn't know his dad was a god. And he never knew he had a brother. Now brother Spider is on his doorstep about to make Fat Charlie's life more interesting . . . and a lot more dangerous. "Thrilling, spooky, and wondrous." "Denver Post "Awesomely inventive." | When you take the free-fall plunge into a Neil Gaiman book, anything can happen and anything invariably does. "Entertainment Weekly "Delightful, funny and affecting.... A tall tale to end all tall tales." "Washington Post Book World --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 10 hours and 8 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: HarperAudio

Audible.com Release Date: September 20, 2005

Language: English

ASIN: B000BHHREO

Best Sellers Rank: #42 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fantasy > Contemporary #85

in Books > Literature & Fiction > Mythology & Folk Tales #222 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Fantasy

## Customer Reviews

Such an absolutely delightful tale this was. I fell in love with *American Gods* long after most of the book world had been telling me for years 'YOU HAVE TO READ THIS BOOK.' And they were right, of course. I should listen more. When I found out *Anansi Boys* was along a similar vein, I was so excited! Because for me, it's very difficult to find books that are exactly like this, with characters so flawed and complex, who screw up a lot, but are also brave and find themselves through the course of a magical fairy tale. That is exactly my very favorite kind of book, and I never knew it was until I discovered this author. This one is much less dense than *American Gods*, but not in a bad way. Less characters and intertwining plots, but I found that to be an advantage, as I very much liked who

lived among these pages. I think that's really the core of what I like so much; so much life is given to everyone and everything. An entire world is unwrapped for you to explore, some of it dark and violent (he always has that) but also beautiful and always highlighting the resilience of the human spirit. And that is such a nice thing to celebrate. Sometimes I will go a long time without reading something like this, and I'll read several sub-par books in a row, and then I'll remember that there is magic in the book world and I run to it. Sometimes you just don't know how much you need to read Neil Gaiman until you read Neil Gaiman. You probably need to, and this is an excellent choice.

Only the trickster god could produce such children! Really fun, dark, silly, suspenseful, occasionally...weird, yep. It's Gaiman. Love love love Anansi! He was a great character in American Gods, and he's fun here. He may be a god, but he's still a dad. Loved this story of bringing a family back together again. Well, a couple of families. And solving a crime, AND a murder. And helping a ghost. Oh, and taking care of a tiger. Of course, there are spiders. I've got this as both physical book and Audible (for long trips in the car). Both are great, but I hear it all now in the Audible narrator's voice (which is awesome!). I can see it as I read it (or listen to it). Hoping this becomes yet another series. You don't need to read American Gods to appreciate it.

I personally absolutely love all of Gaiman's work I have read thus far, but I have heard valid criticism of his subject matter and execution that makes me understand he is not for everyone. For example, some of the concepts he explores are very ethereal and ambiguous. He tends to go into detail about things that don't matter, and he tends to take tabs from magical realism by exploring magic without giving it exact logic. I enjoy this immensely, but like I said, I also understand why others wouldn't. Anansi Boys, unlike its predecessor American Gods, does not do any of the aforementioned things that could be problematic for some readers. It had enough Gaiman to satisfy niche avid fans like me while also being universally appealing to the point where I can see it being adapted to a Disney film or Netflix series and gaining mainstream success. That being said, you shouldn't fret if you have an indie or cult attitude to your love of Neil Gaiman. I think its differences from other books like American Gods or The Ocean at the End of the Lane are in no way disappointing, but rather demonstrate how multi talented an author he is. Anansi Boys proves he can enjoy himself immensely, not taking himself so seriously, and above all it proves he is funny as hell. This book had me laughing from the start to the finish, because the main character Fat Charlie is hilariously relateable, and the plot was so full of ridiculous and silly situations. All of the characters are charming and loveable, even the villainous ones, and the transformations they undergo and

relationships they develop are beautifully executed. It gets progress points for centering almost entirely around characters of color whose race and culture are explored and acknowledged in a way that is celebratory without being alienating. I gave it four stars for being lovely and enjoyable and perfectly crafted with the right dash of Gaiman-esque darkness. It didn't change my life or blow my mind like some of his other works did but I certainly had fun reading it and would recommend it to anyone, including people who I don't think would like his other books. I would absolutely love to see a film adaptation of it because of its farce elements and action-driven plot. And the two characters at its center are one of my favorite platonic/family pairings I've ever read about. All that for a couple dollars was so worth it.

I have read many of Neil Gaiman's books and so far enjoyed every one, with *Neverwhere* in particular being my favorite. However, *Anansi Boys* comes very close to unseating *Neverwhere* from the top spot. All Gaiman books I have read, are humorous, both in a morbid fashion and also in the more light-hearted sense. Nevertheless, in *Anansi Boys*, Mr. Gaiman surpasses himself to produce his most amusing story yet! I found this book and the ridiculous situations Charlie found himself in both hilarious. I really enjoyed delving back into the wonderful world of gods, myth and magic already established in *American Gods*, and really enjoyed Charley and Spider's characters. I was particularly pleased with the development of their characters over the course of the novel. Having a relatable protagonist is something I have begun to appreciate more as years go by and I'm grateful that Mr. Gaiman continues to do this again and again. Of particular note was the conclusion to the story. Having such a satisfying epilogue, in my opinion, really served to solidify this experience as truly memorable. Thank you for this work Mr. Gaiman and I hope to see more in the future!

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