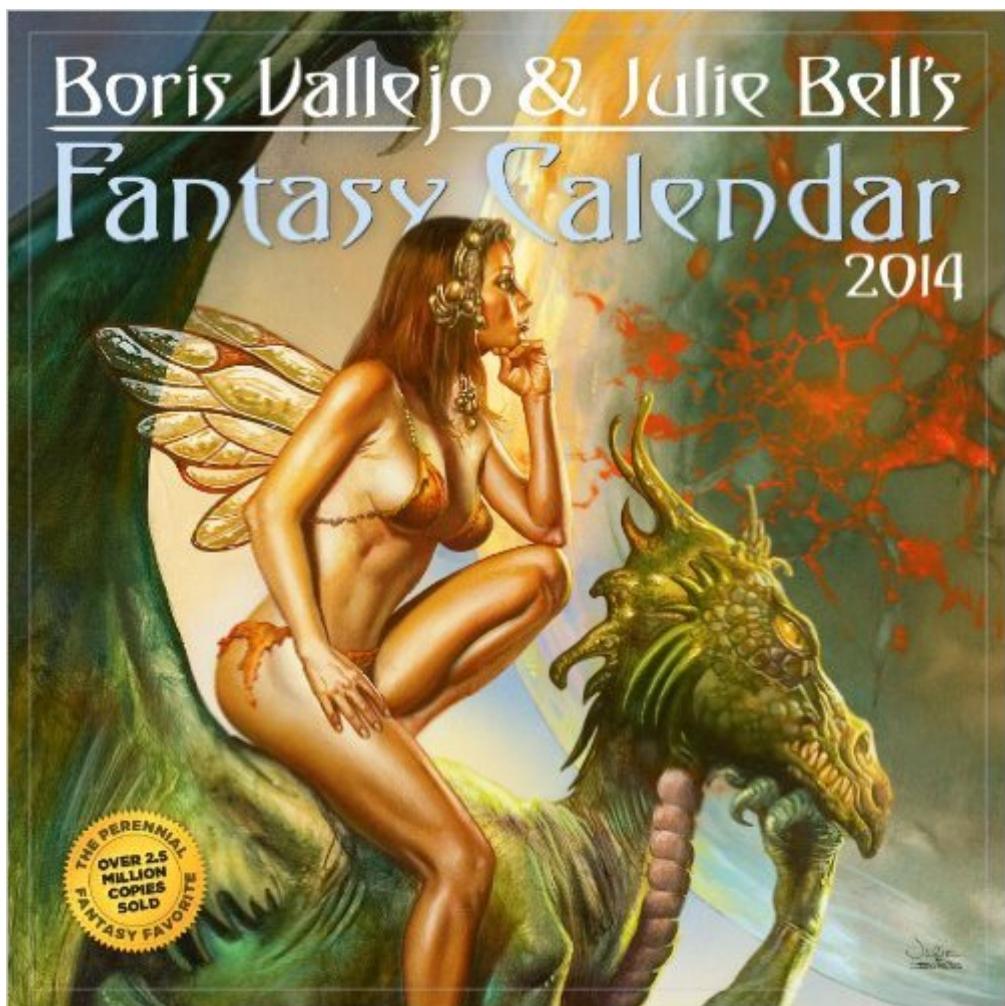


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# Boris Vallejo & Julie Bell's Fantasy 2014 Calendar



## **Synopsis**

It's entrancing! The perennially bestselling Fantasy Calendar reflects the vision of husband-and-wife team Boris Vallejo, America's premier fantasy artist, and Julie Bell, designer of the popular Dragons of Destiny series. Here are thirteen all-new paintings, tied together with an engrossing original narrative, that take you to a world of swirling landscapes, fearsome monsters, and bold, beautiful women rendered with exacting anatomical detail.

## **Book Information**

Calendar: 28 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (77 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #871,290 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 in Books > Calendars > Science Fiction & Fantasy #429 in Books > Calendars > Humor & Comics #2589 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Fantasy Graphic Novels

## **Customer Reviews**

My brother has a complete collection of these calendars, which go back to 1980. I buy them for him every year as a birthday or Christmas gift. Generally speaking, this calendar can be hard to locate in brick and mortar stores, so it is very helpful to be able to find it online, especially at a competitive price. As to the quality of the calendar, this review is based upon my brother's remarks as a true collector and connoisseur. He says: "I give this 2014 version a three rating. I believe the calendar has declined (obviously I have a style bias here) from other previous collaborations. And the differences between collaboration and original Vallejo style within 2014 are much more pronounced. Breaking this out in greater detail, June and September remind me much more of Vallejo's pre-collaboration style and stand out not just in the 2014 edition but also from previous collaboration years. But other months (March and December) convey a completely different message of dependence certainly not seen in the rugged masculine individualism of the characters depicted in Vallejo's pre-collaboration days. The techniques and style in purely technical use of color and such are consistent in the 2014 edition and allow for relative ease in classifying a month as being original or collaboration. Anyone

buying for a collection or just interested for the first time would have to decide if the current dominating style of collaboration over original machismo is a problem or instead is an interesting juxtaposition that gives energy to the entire year."

For many years in the past I have purchased my absolute favorite fantasy art calendars by Boris Vallejo and Julie Bell. However, since 2010 to 2013 I somehow missed purchasing their calendars due to other issues I was dealing with at the time. Nevertheless, I made up for it by recently buying several of their fantastic book fantasy collections. Since we are coming to the end of 2013 I decided to again purchase their annual fantasy art calendars beginning with 2014. I could not wait for January 2014 to look at the beautiful paintings. This collection is absolutely unique and wonderful. Their paintings always take you to places that are exotic, mysterious and dangerous. Their male and female heroes are always portrayed as beautiful and deadly at the same time. Though I loved all the paintings in this 2014 calendar the following are my favorites: Rescue (February), Allies (March), The Toll (May), Standoff (June), Unconstrained (Full size center fold), Invasion (September), Homecoming (October) and Squire (December). No two fantasy artists can make their paintings come alive like these two true masters. They make me wish I had the talent to be an artist. In conclusion, if you are a fantasy art lover you already know about Boris Vallejo and Julie Bell and probably already have this 2014 calendar. If you are new to the fantasy art genre, you need to get to know the incredible artistic talents of Boris Vallejo and Julie Bell. They will always be my favorite fantasy artists. Rating: 5 Stars. Joseph J. Truncate (Author: The Samurai Soul: An old warrior's poetic tribute)

I've been a "Boris" fan for a long time and have a number of older calendars featuring his work. The first couple of years that he & Julie Bell collaborated, the pictures showed a slight change but the work was definitely "Borisovian" in nature. (NOTE: I do not dislike Julie Bell's work; I consider her one of the better fantasy illustrators of the 20th century, there's just a "je ne sais quoi" about Boris' original work that I found much more to my liking.) The artwork in this calendar is of extremely high quality, but somehow -- I really can't put my finger on it -- it's not true "Boris" to my eye. Still really nice to look at, just... well, I'll go back to "je ne sais quoi"...

I have been using the Boris Vallejo & Julie Bell Fantasy Calendar Since the Early 1990's, and I have to make sure I get it Every Year! The artwork in this calendar is truly outstanding. You could almost swear that you were looking at pictures of people instead of drawings seeing as how the attention to

detail in the artwork is as meticulous as it is. I used to collect comic books, and the company Marvel put out a set of Cards referred to as "Marvel Masterpiece" (where the characters are drawn to look like real people instead of comic book or cartoon style) and Boris Vallejo was the artist for those cards. If you check out this calendar you'll be glad you did.

The artwork: It's pretty much what we've come to expect from Boris and Julia: quality paintings of fantasy women along with a few men and other fantasy creatures. It's all pretty much PG-13, which is nice, but I do miss some of Boris' older work that crossed into proper nudes. The calendar: For the calendar portion, this is the best one I've seen so far this year. It's high-contrast, black on white, Sunday to Saturday layout, on the full bottom page of the calendar fold-out. The font has a touch of fantasy styling, but it's still easy to read from across the room.

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