

Buffy
the Vampire Slayer™

ANGEL

Buffyverse Canonical Comics Reading Guide

By Trade Paperback (Volume):

Pre-Season 8 (*italicized* means canon-ish; IDW Angel comics criteria include written by Brian Lynch and/or connected to or referenced by confirmed canon material in some way)

1. ***Buffy: The Origin*** (issues 1-3; also collected in Buffy Omnibus, Volume 1)
2. ***Buffy: The High School Years Vol. 1: Freaks & Geeks***
3. ***Buffy: The High School Years Vol. 2: Glutton For Punishment***
4. ***Buffy: The High School Years Vol. 3: Parental Parasite***
5. **Fray** (issues 1-8; if you only read one volume before jumping into Season 8, do this one)
6. **Tales** (or Tales of the Slayers Volume and Tales of the Vampires Volume [issues 1-5]. skip the last two stories [The Thrill and Carpe Noctem] in the omnibus or hardcover if used; you can go back to them after Season 8, Vol. 5.)
7. ***Spike: Into the Light***
8. ***Spike: Asylum*** (issues 1-5; also collected in Spike Omnibus)
9. ***Spike: Shadow Puppets*** (issues 1-4; also collected in Spike Omnibus)
10. **Angel: After the Fall, Vol. 1** (issues 1-5)
11. **Angel: After the Fall, Vol. 2: First Night** (issues 6-8)
12. **Spike: After the Fall** (issues 1-4)
13. **Angel: After the Fall, Vol. 3** (issues 9-12)
14. **Angel: After the Fall, Vol. 4** (issues 13-17)
15. **Angel, Vol. 6: Last Angel in Hell** (issues 23-27 and Last Angel in Hell annual #1)
16. **Angel: Only Human** (issues 1-5; also collected in Angel Omnibus, Volume 2)
17. **Lorne: Music of the Spheres** (also collected in Angel: The John Byrne Collection)
18. **Angel: Yearbook** (namely "This One Time")
19. **Illyria: Haunted** (issues 1-4)

Season 8

1. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Vol. 1 - Long Way Home** (issues 1-5; I do not recommend the omnibuses for first time readers due to issue ordering spoiling big reveals too early.)
2. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Vol. 2 - No Future for You** (issues 6-10)
3. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Vol. 3 - Wolves at the Gate** (issues 11-15) [re: Tales of the Vampires]
4. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Vol. 4 - Time of Your Life** (issues 16-20) [re: Fray and Tales of the Slayers]
5. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Vol. 5 - Predators and Prey** (issues 21-25) [after Vol. 5, you can read Tales of the Vampires: The Thrill #1 and Carpe Noctem, both found in the back of the Tales Omnibus and hardcover]
6. **Spike: Alone Together Now, Vol. 1** (issues 1-4) [re: Spike: Asylum, Spike: Shadow Puppets, Angel: After the Fall, Spike: After the Fall, and Angel: Last Angel in Hell]
7. **Spike: Stranger Things, Vol. 2** (issues 5-8) [or you can find these two Spike Volumes in Spike: The Complete Series]

8. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Vol. 6 - Retreat** (issues 26-30)
9. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Vol. 7 - Twilight** (issues 31-35 and Willow: Goddesses and Monsters #1)
10. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Vol. 8 - Last Gleaming** (issues 36-40 and Riley: Commitment Through Distance, Virtue Through Sin #1)

Season 9

1. **Angel & Faith: Season 9, Vol. 1 - Live Through This** (issues 1-5) [re: Angel: After the Fall]
2. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 9, Vol. 1 - Freefall** (issues 1-5)
3. **Angel & Faith: Season 9, Vol. 2 - Daddy Issues** (issues 6-10) [re: Tales of the Vampires]
4. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 9, Vol. 2 - On Your Own** (issues 6-10)
5. **Angel & Faith: Season 9, Vol. 3 - Family Reunion** (issues 11-15) [re: Lorne: Music of the Spheres]
6. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 9, Vol. 3 - Guarded** (issues 11-15)
7. **Spike: Season 9, Vol. 1 - A Dark Place** (issues 1-5)
8. **Willow: Season 9, Vol. 1 - Wonderland** (issues 1-5)
9. **Angel & Faith: Season 9, Vol. 4 - Death and Consequences** (issues 16-20) [re: Tales of the Vampires]
10. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 9, Vol. 4 - Welcome to the Team** (issues 16-20) [re: Illyria: Haunted]
11. **Angel & Faith: Season 9, Vol. 5 - What You Want, Not What You Need** (issues 21-25)
12. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 9, Vol. 5 - The Core** (issues 21-25)

Season 10

1. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 10, Vol. 1 - New Rules** (issues 1-5)
2. **Angel & Faith: Season 10, Vol. 1 - Where the River Meets the Sea** (issues 1-5)
3. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 10, Vol. 2 - I Wish** (issues 6-10) [re: Spike: Into the Light]
4. **Angel & Faith: Season 10, Vol. 2 - Lost and Found** (issues 6-10)
5. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 10, Vol. 3 - Love Dares You** (issues 11-15)
6. **Angel & Faith: Season 10, Vol. 3 - United** (issues 11-15)
7. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 10, Vol. 4 - Old Demons** (issues 16-20)
8. **Angel & Faith: Season 10, Vol. 4 - A Little More than Kin** (issues 16-20)
9. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 10, Vol. 5 - In Pieces on the Ground** (issues 21-25) [re: Spike: Into the Light]
10. **Angel & Faith: Season 10, Vol. 5 - A Tale of Two Families** (issues 21-25)
11. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 10, Vol. 6 - Own It** (issues 26-30)

Season 11

1. **Angel: Season 11, Vol. 1 - Out of the Past** (issues 1-4)

2. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 11, Vol. 1 - The Spread of Their Evil...** (issues 1-6)
3. **Angel: Season 11, Vol. 2 - Time and Tide** (issues 5-8)
4. **Giles: Season 11, Vol. 1 - Girl Blue** (issues 1-4)
5. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 11, Vol. 2 - One Girl in All the World** (issues 7-12)
6. **Angel: Season 11, Vol. 3 - Dark Reflections** (issues 9-12)

Season 12 - The Reckoning

1. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 12 - The Reckoning** (issues 1-4) [also found in the Season Twelve Library Edition]



By Book (Library Editions):

Pre-Season 8 (*italicized* means canon-ish; IDW Angel comics criteria include written by Brian Lynch and/or connected to or referenced by confirmed canon material in some way)

20. ***Buffy: The Origin*** (also collected in Buffy Omnibus, Volume 1)
21. ***Buffy: The High School Years Vol. 1: Freaks & Geeks***
22. ***Buffy: The High School Years Vol. 2: Glutton For Punishment***
23. ***Buffy: The High School Years Vol. 3: Parental Parasite***
24. **Fray** (if you only read one book before jumping into Season 8, pick this one)
25. **Tales** (or Tales of the Slayers Volume and Tales of the Vampires Volume. skip the last two stories in the omnibus if used; you can go back to them after Season 8.)
26. ***Spike: Into the Light***
27. ***Spike: Asylum*** (also collected in Spike Omnibus)
28. ***Spike: Shadow Puppets*** (also collected in Spike Omnibus)
29. **Angel: After the Fall, Vol. 1**
30. **Angel: After the Fall, Vol. 2: First Night**
31. **Spike: After the Fall**
32. **Angel: After the Fall, Vol. 3**
33. **Angel: After the Fall, Vol. 4**
34. ***Angel, Vol. 6: Last Angel in Hell***
35. ***Angel: Only Human*** (also collected in Angel Omnibus, Volume 2)
36. ***Lorne: Music of the Spheres*** (also collected in Angel: The John Byrne Collection)
37. ***Angel: Yearbook*** (specifically "This One Time")
38. ***Illyria: Haunted***

Season 8

1. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Library Edition 1** (or Volumes 1-2. I do not recommend the omnibuses for first time readers due to issue ordering spoiling big reveals too early.)
2. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Library Edition 2** (or Volumes 3-4) [re: Fray, Tales of the Slayers, and Tales of the Vampires]
3. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Library Edition 3** (or Volumes 5-6)
4. **Spike: Alone Together Now, Vol. 1** (re: Spike: Asylum, Spike: Shadow Puppets, Angel: After the Fall, Spike: After the Fall, and Angel: Last Angel in Hell)
5. **Spike: Stranger Things, Vol. 2** (or you can find these two Volumes in Spike: The Complete Series)
6. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8, Library Edition 4** (or Volumes 7-8)

Season 9

13. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 9, Library Edition 1** (or Volumes 1-2)
14. **Angel & Faith: Season 9, Library Edition 1** (or Volumes 1-2) [re: Angel: After the Fall]

15. **Angel & Faith: Season 9, Library Edition 2** (or Volume 3 and Spike: A Dark Place Volume) [re: Lorne: Music of the Spheres]
16. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 9, Library Edition 2** (or Volume 3 and Willow: Wonderland Volume)
17. **Angel & Faith: Season 9, Library Edition 3** (or Volumes 4-5) [re: Tales of the Vampires]
18. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 9, Library Edition 3** (or Volumes 4-5) [re: Illyria: Haunted]

Season 10

1. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 10, Library Edition 1** (or Volumes 1-2) [re: Spike: Into the Light]
2. **Angel & Faith: Season 10, Vol. 1** (Angel & Faith Season 10 is currently the only Season series without Library Editions)
3. **Angel & Faith: Season 10, Vol. 2**
4. **Angel & Faith: Season 10, Vol. 3**
5. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 10, Library Edition 2** (or Volumes 3-4)
6. **Angel & Faith: Season 10, Vol. 4**
7. **Angel & Faith: Season 10, Vol. 5**
8. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 10, Library Edition 3** (or Volumes 5-6) [re: Spike: Into the Light]

Season 11

1. **Angel: Season 11, Library Edition** (or Volumes 1-3)
2. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 11, Library Edition** (or Volumes 1-2; Volumes recommended due to formatting)

Season 12 - The Reckoning

2. **Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 12, Library Edition** (or Giles: Girl Blue Volume and The Reckoning Volume; Giles: Girl Blue is technically apart of Season 11)



By issue:

Pre-Season 8 (*italicized* means canon-ish; IDW Angel comics criteria include written by Brian Lynch and/or connected to or referenced by confirmed canon material in some way)

1. ***Buffy: The Origin (#1-3)***
2. ***Buffy: The High School Years (#1-3)***
3. ***Fray (#1-8)*** [essential]
4. ***Tales of the Slayers (#1)***
5. ***Tales of the Vampires (#1-5)***
6. ***Spike: Into the Light (#1)***
7. ***Spike: Asylum (#1-5)***
8. ***Spike: Shadow Puppets (#1-4)***
9. ***Angel: After the Fall (#1-8)***
10. ***Spike: After the Fall (#1-4)***
11. ***Angel: After the Fall (#9-17)***
12. ***Angel: After the Fall - Epilogue (#23)***
13. ***Angel: Drusilla (#24-25)***
14. ***Angel: Boys and Their Toys (#26-27)***
15. ***Angel: Last Angel in Hell (#1)***
16. ***Angel: Only Human (#1-5)***
17. ***Lorne: Music of the Spheres (#1)***
18. ***Angel: Yearbook (#1)*** [specifically "This One Time"]
19. ***Illyria: Haunted (#1-4)***

Season 8

1. **Buffy: Season 8 (#1-20)** [re: Fray, Tales of the Slayers, and Tales of the Vampires]
2. **Willow: Goddesses & Monsters (#1)** [flashback]
3. **Buffy: Season 8 (#21-25)**
4. **Tales of the Vampires: The Thrill (#1)**
5. **Spike (#1-8)** [re: Spike: Asylum, Spike: Shadow Puppets, Angel: After the Fall, Spike: After the Fall, Angel: After the Fall - Epilogue, Angel: Drusilla, Angel: Boys and Their Toys, and Angel: Last Angel in Hell]
6. **Buffy: Season 8 (#26-35)**
7. **Riley: Commitment Through Distance (#1)** [flashback]
8. **Buffy: Season 8 (#36-40)**

Season 9

1. **Buffy: Season 9 (#1-15)**
2. **Angel & Faith v.1 (#1-15)** [re: Angel: After the Fall, Tales of the Vampires, and Lorne: Music of the Spheres]
3. **Buffy: Season 9 (#16-19)** [re: Illyria: Haunted]
4. **Willow: Wonderland (#1-5)**

5. **Spike: A Dark Place (#1-5)**
6. **Angel & Faith v.1 (#16-25)** [re: Tales of the Vampires]
7. **Buffy: Season 9 (#20-25)**
8. **Buffy: Love vs. Life (#1-3)** [from Dark Horse Presents #25-#27]

Season 10

1. **Buffy: Season 10 (#1-10)** [re: Spike: Into the Light]
2. **Angel & Faith v.2 (#1-14)**
3. **Buffy: Season 10 (#11-15)**
4. **Angel & Faith v.2 (#15)**
5. **Buffy: Season 10 (#16-18)**
6. **Angel & Faith v.2 (#16-18)**
7. **Buffy: Season 10 (#19-25)** [re: Spike: Into the Light]
8. **Angel & Faith v.2 (#19-25)**
9. **Buffy: Season 10 (#26-30)**

Season 11

1. **Angel: Out of the Past (#1-4)**
2. **Buffy: Season 11 (#1-3)**
3. **Angel: Time and Tide (#5-8)**
4. **Buffy: Season 11 (#4-5)**
5. **Giles: Girl Blue (#1-4)**
6. **Buffy: Season 11 (#6-9)**
7. **Angel: Dark Reflections (#9-12)**
8. **Buffy: Season 11 (#10-12)**

Season 12 - The Reckoning

1. **Buffy: Season 12 - The Reckoning (#1-4)**



Some notes:

The above list has been edited and rearranged since these notes were made, so they may not 100% reflect what is above, but closely. (FYI: You'll see I stopped taking notes after Season 10.)

Spike: Asylum (#1-5) [set during Angel season 5; Joss wasn't directly involved, but it establishes important characters and relationships used later on in canon]

Spike: Shadow Puppets (#1-4) [set during Angel season 5; sequel to Spike: Asylum; see Asylum notes]

Angel: After the Fall (#1-8) [read up to the end of 'First Nights' so that we see the events leading up to Spike: AtF]

Spike: After the Fall (#1-4) [do **not** read before A:AtF #5, or else Fred's sudden appearance is spoiled]

Angel: After the Fall (#9-17) [skip the Aftermath arc because of good reasons]

Angel: After the Fall - Epilogue (#23) [epilogue to AtF and leads into Only Human]

Angel: Drusilla (#24-25) [no Joss involvement, but written by AtF writer; ties into AtF heavily]

Angel: Boys and Their Toys (#26-27) [no Joss involvement, but written by AtF writer; skip the rest of the Angel ongoing series]

Angel: Only Human (#1-5) [no Joss involvement, but deals with the aftermath of the AtF Epilogue]

Lorne: Music of the Spheres (#1) [no Joss involvement, but possibly referenced in later canon; read **after** Only Human or else Gunn and Illyria's appearance is out of order]

Illyria: Haunted (#1-4) [no Joss involvement, but shows how Illyria is fully powered again in Buffy Season 9]

Fray (#1-8) [establishes the future and introduces Fray which is visited in the following season]

Willow: Goddesses & Monsters (#1) [will explain why she's absent in the first S8 arc and introduce Aluwyn]

Buffy: Season 8 (#1-21) [Fray crosses over; vampires/slayers are completely outed]

Spike (#1-8) [Willow crosses over and references Dawn's shapeshifting; public opinion of slayers/vampires is referenced; Spike gets his bug ship]

Buffy: Season 8 (#22-35) [end with Spike's reappearance]

Riley: Commitment Through Distance (#1) [offers more background to Angel's Twilight bs before going forward]

Buffy: Season 8 (#36-40) [end of Season 8; Seed is broken]

Buffy: Season 9 (#1-15) [ends with a nice hopping off point; Willow and Spike both leave the title]

Angel & Faith v.1 (#1-15) [ends with a nice hopping off point; Willow crosses over]

Buffy: Season 9 (#16-19) [read sooner than the rest of BS10 so that there's less wait for Willow to return after her return to SF in Wonderland]

Willow: Wonderland (#1-5) [carries on from both titles; ends with Willow returning to SF/earth]

Spike: A Dark Place (#1-5) [carries on from the Buffy title, and leads into Spike's appearance in A&F]

Angel & Faith v.1 (#16-25) [Spike crosses over; Buffy calls Faith and mentions Dawn's dying]

Buffy: Season 9 (#20-25) [Willow and Spike both return; Billy and Anaheed leave; ends with magic returning]

Buffy: Love vs. Life (#1-3) [Billy and Anaheed's story continues; ends with magic returning]

Buffy: Season 10 (#1-10) [ends with demon trio uniting]

Angel & Faith v.2 (#1-14) [Angel's Archeus dreams start]

Buffy: Season 10 (#11-15) [Spike's Archeus dreams start; Spike calls Angel]

Angel & Faith v.2 (#15) [Angel gets a call from Spike, and leaves the title]

Buffy: Season 10 (#16-18) [Angel crosses over]

Angel & Faith v.2 (#16-18) [Angel and Faith skype about Archeus]*

*I'm assuming the rest of Season 10 will go:

Buffy: Season 10 (#19-25)

Angel & Faith v.2 (#19-25)

Buffy: Season 10 (#26-30)

As of 8/27/16, I've updated the list to include the new Buffy: The High School Years books, the Tales stories, and Angel: Yearbook. Because Fray appears during Tales of the Slayers, I replaced the Fray miniseries to the very beginning of the reading order and followed it up with both the Tales. The Tales: The Thrill one-shot was added in the middle of Buffy Season 8. I moved the Spike miniseries directly after that issue and also changed the stopping point in the Buffy Season 8 there to #25 instead of #21 for flow reasons. I added in The Origin to the very beginning of the reading order as well. It's roughly canon, with

it being adapted from Joss' script, but it does contradict the Tales of the Vampire miniseries (Lothos is obviously NOT Jack the Ripper, although Merrick says he is in The Origin).



Resources:

[Me](#)

[https://buffy.fandom.com/wiki/Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Angel](https://buffy.fandom.com/wiki/Buffy_the_Vampire_Slayer_and_Angel)

<http://www.aeolia.net/buffy/buffy-reading-order.html>

See also:

[A condensed overview of this guide in a Twitter thread](#)