

**City Paper**  
**"Critic's Choice"**

By Wendy Ward  
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Reading *The Complete Brothers Grimm Fairy Tales* as an adult is a rude awakening. The fantastical stories are sexist and violent, familiar and jarring. It seems Wile E. Coyote wasn't the roughest influence on our young lives. How these stories - as diluted as most of our experiences with them are - have influenced our understanding of the world is hard to say, but writer David Beaudouin and artist Julia Kim Smith have mated elements of them with the political rhetoric of Sept. 11. The resulting exhibit, *Ever After: Assemblies for Tales (Series 1 and 2)*, contrasts words, worlds, and what they call "Plots Grimm" and "Plots Grimmer." As difficult as it is to make time to be quite possibly bummed out, you've got only 10 days to see *Ever After* and think about the stories we will tell our own children.

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