

ILLUMINATIONS



MAR 2016

#330

THIS MAY...
SATELLITE FALLING
STEVE ROGERS
FUTURE QUEST
CIVIL WAR II
BACK TO THE FUTURE
BIFF'S BIT...
AM I BACK IN THE 60s?
NOVEL IDEAS
AND MORE!

SATELLITE
FALLING

ACE
COMICS

Steve Rogers:
Captain America
(Marvel)

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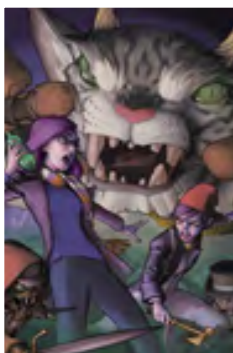


**BEASTS OF BURDEN:
WHAT THE CAT DRAGGED IN**

Dorkin,
Thompson

This standalone adventure is a perfect entry point for readers new to the award-winning series. When curiosity gets the best of Burden Hill's cats (and one reluctant raccoon), sleeping demons are awakened and black magic is unleashed on the town of Burden Hill.

In Shops: **04/05/2016**

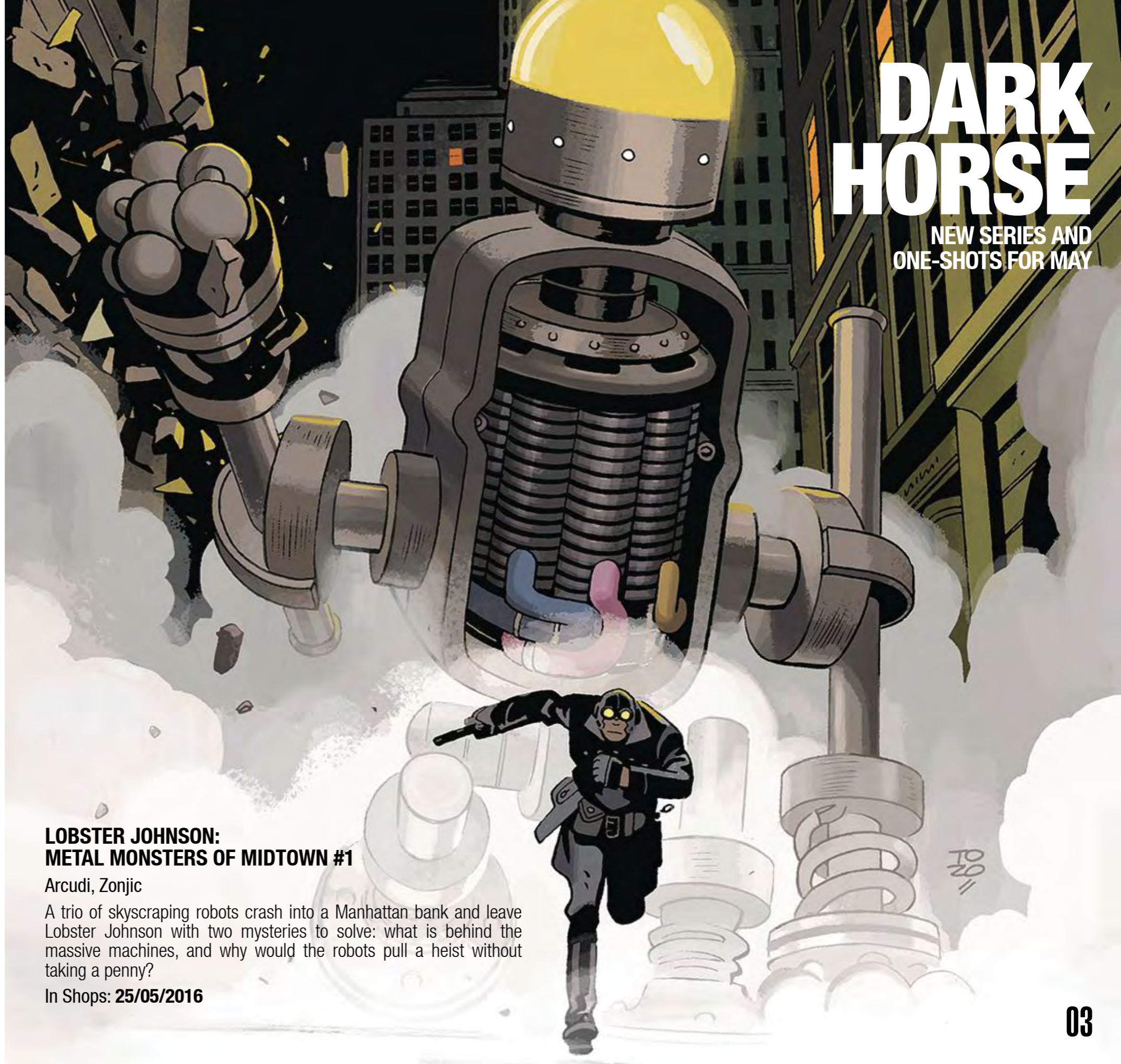


MAE #1

Ha

When she was just a girl, Abbie discovered a portal to a fantasy world and for the last couple of years has been having great adventures there: defeating horrible monsters, power-mad scientists, and evil nobles. She was a celebrated action hero! But when she turned twenty-one it all came apart and she decided to return home. Her sister, Mae, has had no idea what happened to Abbie all this time. Her tales are too hard to believe; that is, until the monsters and other terrible creatures start to cross over to our world...

In Shops: **18/05/2016**



DARK HORSE

NEW SERIES AND
ONE-SHOTS FOR MAY

**LOBSTER JOHNSON:
METAL MONSTERS OF MIDTOWN #1**

Arcudi, Zonjic

A trio of skyscraping robots crash into a Manhattan bank and leave Lobster Johnson with two mysteries to solve: what is behind the massive machines, and why would the robots pull a heist without taking a penny?

In Shops: **25/05/2016**

DC NEW SERIES AND ONE-SHOTS FOR MAY



FUTURE QUEST #1

Parker, Shaner

When the adventurous and inquisitive Jonny Quest and his adoptive brother Hadji make a startling discovery in the swamplands of Florida, they are pulled into an epic struggle between the Space Rangers and a dangerous villain who threatens the galaxy. Now it's up to the combined forces of Team Quest, Inter-Nation Security, Space Ghost, and a host of Hanna-Barbera's greatest action heroes to stop him and save their universe!

Don't miss the start of this new, monthly series that features character designs by comics superstar Darwyn Cooke and kicks off with an extra-sized story and a wraparound cover!

In Shops: **18/05/2016**



SCOOBY APOCALYPSE #1

Lee, Porter, Various

Those meddling kids-Fred, Daphne, Velma, Shaggy, and their dog, Scooby-Doo-get more ghost-debunking than they bargained for when faced with a fundamental change in their world. The apocalypse has happened. Old rules about logic no longer apply. The creatures of the night are among us, and the crew of the Magical Mystery Machine has to fight to survive-because in the apocalyptic badlands of the near-future, the horrors are real!

This new monthly series takes Scooby and the gang to a whole new level and features character designs by comics superstar Jim Lee!

In Shops: **25/05/2016**



ARCHANGEL #1

Gibson, Guice, Lotay

Superstar William Gibson, author of *Neuromancer* and one of the most influential science fiction writers of the last 30 years, makes his comic book debut with this all-new, original story!

The U.S. political leaders of 2016 abandon the radioactive planet they've destroyed and harness the power of humanity's last hope: The Splitter, a colossal machine designed to manufacture a bright new reality for them to infiltrate and corrupt. If you try one new book this month... This. Is. It!

In Shops: **25/05/2016**



BIGGEST BANG #1

Kirkbride, Gogtzilas

Born in the cataclysmic cosmic catastrophe known as "The Bigger Bang," Cosmos traversed the barren egg-lands in-between universes, discovered the wisdom of space whales, defeated intergalactic evil, and found love! Now a new threat presents itself, one the hero has never known... worship! What can he give those who would call him God? Intergalactic action and pataphysical philosophy return in *The Biggest Bang*, the thrilling sequel to the mini-series Den of Geek called one of "the best comics of 2015"!

In Shops: **18/05/2016**

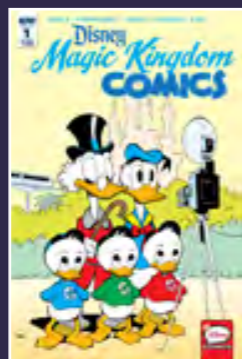


BRUTAL NATURE #1

Saracino, Olivetti

A collection of masks transforms the young man known as Ich into innumerable different beasts and monsters. Using this ancient power, he embarks on a battle that pits the indigenous people of Colombia against the encroaching Spanish empire. But can one man hope to beat back the massive forces of the conquering Spaniards? Luciano Saracino and Ariel Olivetti (*Venom: Space Knight*) bring readers a stunningly illustrated story of beasts and men fighting for the soul of a nation!

In Shops: **11/05/2016**



DISNEY'S MAGIC KINGDOM COMICS #1

Barks, Komorowski, Fecchi, Various

IDW's Disneyland 60th anniversary anthology is here... collecting decades of Disney's park-themed adventure comics! Carl Barks' Scrooge McDuck travels from the Mark Twain Riverboat to a Beagle Boy battle; then Donald and Mickey investigate the strange disappearance of the Country Bear Jamboree and Uncle Scrooge stars in "Fantastic River Race," a pre-Rosa "Life of Scrooge" adventure by Carl Barks! It's the first Disneyland-themed anthology comic in 30 years - frontloaded with beloved Disney comics artists!

In Shops: **04/05/2016**



FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS #1

Little

Troy Little's gonzo adaptation of Hunter Thompson's *Fear And Loathing in Las Vegas* is now available in an all-new format. Find out why *GQ* said "Little's cartoonish sensibilities make him the ideal artist to adapt Thompson's gonzo ur-text... perfectly portraying literature's most ridiculous road trip."

This comic book version is presented in black-and-white and at a slightly larger size than the full-color hardcover edition. Each issue also includes pages from Little's sketchbook and other behind-the-scenes information.

In Shops: **18/05/2016**



SATELLITE FALLING #1

Horton, Thompson

A lone human survived the death of the one she loved, and escaped a corrupt Earth. She now makes her way as a bounty hunter, on a satellite full of aliens. But someone's about to turn her life upside down...

By *Amala's Blade* writer Steve Horton and *Star Wars* artist Stephen Thompson!

For fans of space opera, crime fiction and lots of things exploding!

In Shops: **18/05/2016**

BACK TO THE FUTURE: CITIZEN BROWN #1

Gale, Burnham, Robinson

Time-travelling into comics directly out of Telltale's 2010 smash-hit episodic video game *Back To The Future: The Game!*

When an empty time-traveling DeLorean suddenly shows up in 1986, Marty McFly quickly learns that his friend Doctor Emmett "Doc" Brown is stranded in 1931 and possibly in mortal danger. Now it's up to Marty to return to the past to once again save Doc and the time-space continuum! But this time, will he be too late?

In Shops: **25/05/2016**



IDW

NEW SERIES AND ONE-SHOTS FOR MAY

IMAGE

NEW SERIES AND ONE-SHOTS FOR MAY



3 FLOYDS: ALPHA KING #1

Floyd, Azzarello,
Bisley, Brown

Set a long time ago in a suburb far, far away (Munster, Indiana), Brewer and CiCi are producing a home-brew so distinct that it attracts a monstrous king and his horrid minions from another dimension. Swords are unsheathed, lines are crossed, and sieges are laid for the rise of the Alpha King!

In Shops: **04/05/2016**



RENATO JONES: THE ONE PERCENT #1

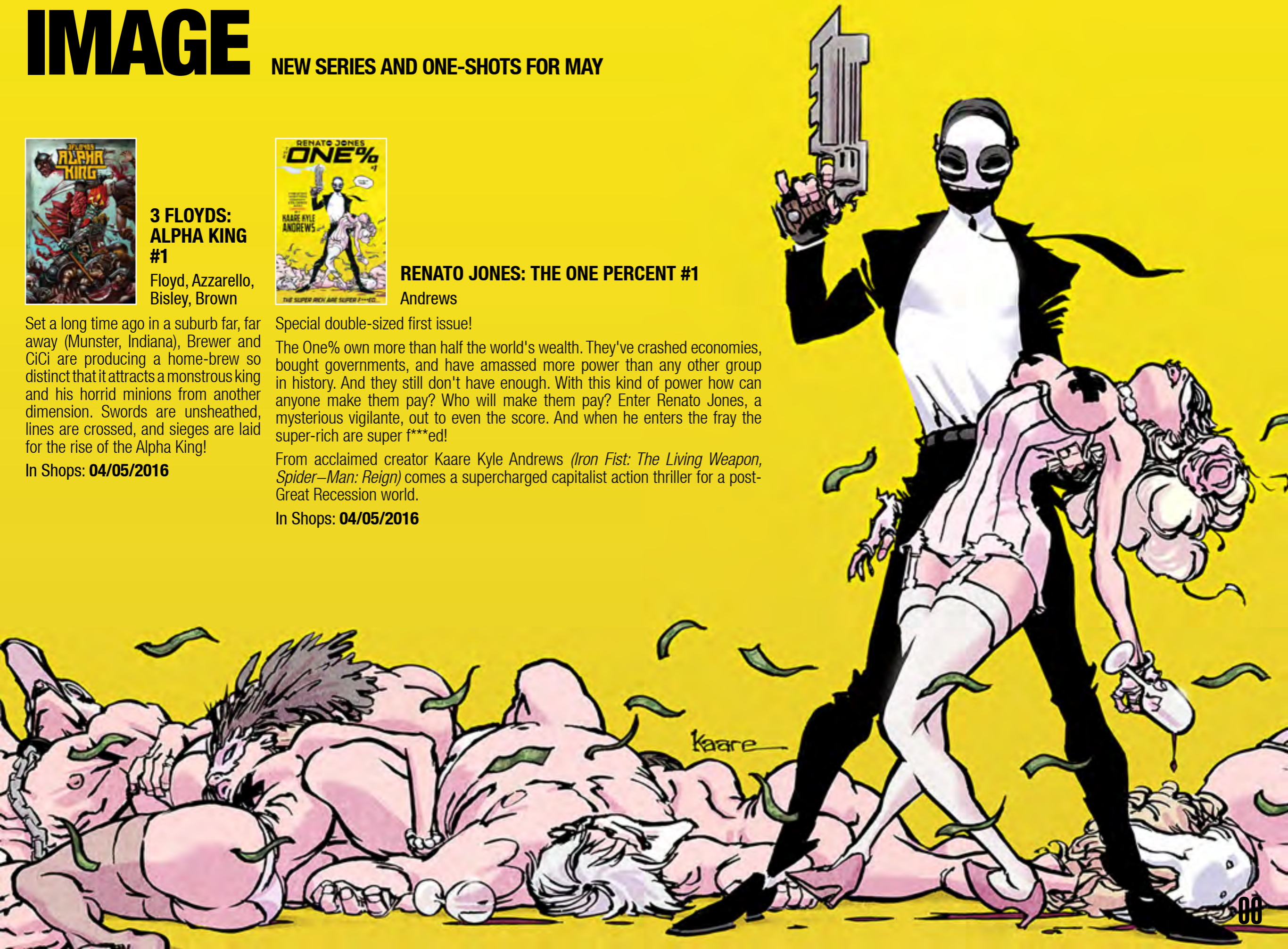
Andrews

Special double-sized first issue!

The One% own more than half the world's wealth. They've crashed economies, bought governments, and have amassed more power than any other group in history. And they still don't have enough. With this kind of power how can anyone make them pay? Who will make them pay? Enter Renato Jones, a mysterious vigilante, out to even the score. And when he enters the fray the super-rich are super f***ed!

From acclaimed creator Kaare Kyle Andrews (*Iron Fist: The Living Weapon*, *Spider-Man: Reign*) comes a supercharged capitalist action thriller for a post-Great Recession world.

In Shops: **04/05/2016**



MARVEL

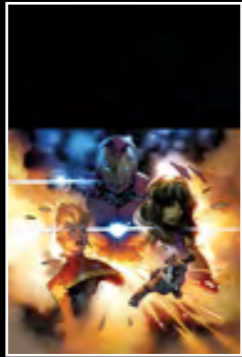
NEW SERIES AND ONE-SHOTS FOR MAY



CAPTAIN AMERICA: STEVE ROGERS #1
Spencer, Saiz

He's back! The original Sentinel of Liberty returns, with a new shield, a new team, and a new mission! And he's not the only one who's back! Like the saying goes-- cut off one limb, two more will take its place! Hail Hydra!

In Shops: **25/05/2016**



CIVIL WAR II #0
Bendis, Coipel

From the creative team that brought you *House Of M* and *Siege* comes a blistering first chapter in Marvel's new explosive event. Watch as the players are introduced and the table is set for a storyline that fans will be talking about for years.

In Shops: **11/05/2016**



DEADPOOL: LAST DAYS OF MAGIC #1
Duggan, Koblish, Ramos

From the pages of *Doctor Strange*... the Empirikul are waging a war on magic with the goal of wiping the fantastical from the pages of existence. This concerns Deadpool, because some of his best friends are magic. As the Empirikul forces batter the defenses of the Monster Metropolis ruled by his demonic wife, Deadpool wades into battle alongside his most spell-casting-est friends. And you know the old saying "Nothing ever goes wrong in a war." That's a saying, right?

In Shops: **18/05/2016**



DAREDEVIL / PUNISHER #1
Soule, Kudranski, Brown

A simple change of venues for one of Matt Murdock's cases becomes more complicated when The Punisher attempts to send the defendant away... permanently!

If Daredevil and Blindspot want to get this mobster his day in court, it will take every ounce of wit and wile they have. All Frank needs to get what he wants is a bullet. The race is on!

In Shops: **04/05/2016**





DEADPOOL: MASACRE #1

Duggan, Posehn,
Koblish

Months ago, we were proud to bring you *Deadpool Tres Punto Uno* - a tale told all in Spanish, revealing Masacre, the Deadpool of Mexico! Due to popular demand (because apparently you were too lazy to translate it for yourself) Marvel has taken to an unspecified Internet translation site and is re-presenting the comic in poorly translated english! Just in time for the "Fifth of May!"

In Shops: **04/05/2016**



SPIDER- WOMEN EVENT: OMEGA #1

Leon, Putri,
Various

The titantic conclusion to the Spider-event of 2016!

Silk is out of commission and Spider-Woman and Spider-Gwen return to Earth-65 for an impossible final battle. They are out-gunned, out-manned, out-numbered and out-planned. But it's a fight they have to fight.

Don't miss this conclusion that will shake all three Spider-Women to the core!

In Shops: **25/05/2016**



PUNISHER #1

Cloonan, Dillon,
Shalvey

Frank Castle loses control! A by-the-numbers drug bust is about to take Frank Castle by surprise... and he hates surprises. The horrible fallout threatens to send The Punisher into the heart of darkness, but Castle won't make that journey alone: A DEA agent is on his trail and attempting to get into his head... but what horrors will she find there, and will she survive the experience? First-time *Punisher* writer Becky Cloonan and quintessential *Punisher* artist Steve Dillon are forcing Frank Castle out of his comfort zone and taking him to the edge of the world he thought he knew!

In Shops: **04/05/2016**



THUNDER- BOLTS #1

Zub, Malin

From the ashes of *Avengers: Standoff!* They're a renegade team rampaging across the Marvel Universe under the direction of the Winter Soldier! But are the Thunderbolts heroes or villains- and do even they know for sure?

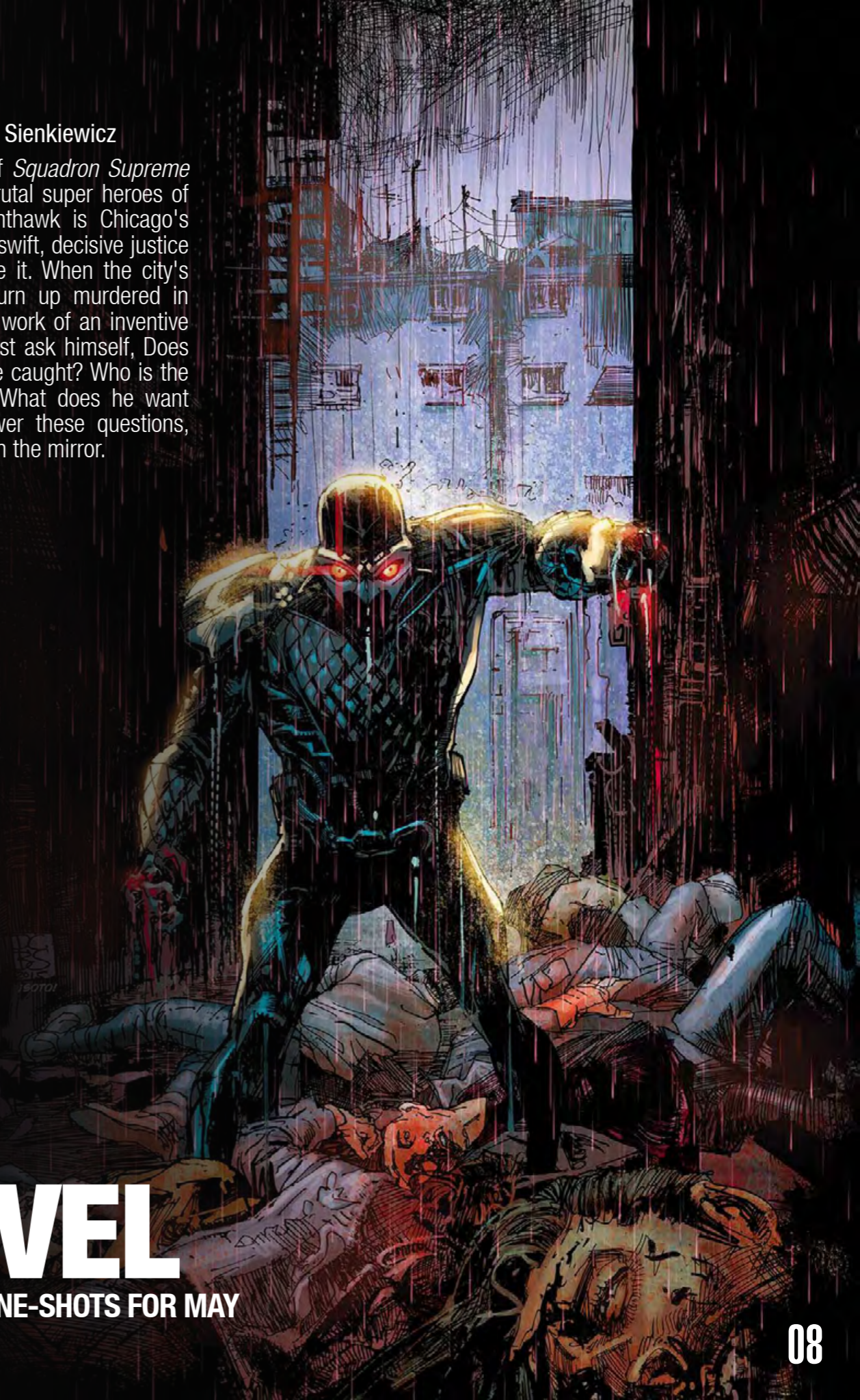
In Shops: **04/05/2016**

NIGHTHAWK #1

Walker, Villalobos, Cowan, Sienkiewicz

Straight from the pages of *Squadron Supreme* comes one of the most brutal super heroes of the Marvel Universe. Nighthawk is Chicago's dark protector, dispensing swift, decisive justice to those that truly deserve it. When the city's shadiest power brokers turn up murdered in grisly ways, the apparent work of an inventive serial killer, Nighthawk must ask himself, Does this predator deserve to be caught? Who is the killer? What is he after? What does he want from Nighthawk? To answer these questions, Nighthawk must first look in the mirror.

In Shops: **25/05/2016**



MARVEL

NEW SERIES AND ONE-SHOTS FOR MAY

INDIES

NEW SERIES AND ONE-SHOTS FOR MAY



TANK GIRL: TWO GIRLS ONE TANK #1 TITAN

Martin, Parsons,
The Black Frog

Fresh off the back of their latest calamitous chapter comes this shiny new Tank Girl tale from series creator Alan Martin and artist extraordinaire, Brett Parson! Expect a healthy dose of delirium and plenty of ball-crunching action in this high-octane crosscountry skirmish that asks the question: is this world really big enough for two Tank Girls? Strap yourself in, folks; It's gonna be one helluva ride!

In Shops: **18/05/2016**



SNOW WHITE VS SNOW WHITE #1 ZENESCOPE

Brusha, Various

Evil lurks in the heart of everyone. Try as we might to prevent it, our dark sides will occasionally surface, sometimes with disastrous results. Sela Mathers knows this. She's dealt with it before and triumphed. But she's never faced a challenge like this. When the darkness in her is given life, emerging as a flesh and blood being bent on stealing everything from her, Sela is put to the ultimate test. She'll fight for Arcane Acre, Shang, her sister, Belinda and her daughter Skye. She'll fight as Earth's Guardian. But her most important battle will be the one for her very soul. Can Snow White defeat Dark White?

In Shops: **25/05/2016**



LADY MECHANIKA: LOST BOYS OF WEST ABBAY #1 BENITEZ

Chen, Benitez,
Steigerwald

The best-selling steampunk comic is back with a brand new story by the original art team!

Lady Mechanika returns home from her adventures in the Dark Continent only to find a killer on the loose in Mechanika City. What connection does he have to Lady Mechanika's past?

In Shops: **04/05/2016**



LUMBER- JANES SPECIAL: AXE TALE #1

BOOM!

Wang, Thompson,
Norrie,
Ganuchau

Jen takes the girls on a nature walk to show them which plants are edible in case they need to survive in the wilderness. Along the way, she tells them the story about an axe murderer who took his friends out, one by one until no one was left, thoroughly scaring Mal. Terrified and unable to sleep, Mal thinks she sees something lurking outside. Is it...The Axe Murderer?!?!?

Featuring a whopping 40 pages of brand-new, original, Lumberjanes stories from writers Jen Wang (*In Real Life*, *The Prince and the Dressmaker*) and Kelly Thompson (*Jem and the Holograms*) and artists Christine Norrie (*Hopeless Savages*) and Savanna Ganuchau (*Fresh Romance*)!

In Shops: **25/05/2016**



SMOSH #1 DYNAMITE

McDermott,
Stewart, Viglino

SMOSH, the Kings of YouTube Comedy, now bring their wildly popular brand of humor to comics! Behold, the Super Virgin Squad! Gathered together in the V-Cave, a converted Cold War-era survivalist bomb shelter and secret suburban headquarters, this group of unique individuals channel their sexual frustration into superhuman abilities to defend the physically weak, the socially awkward... the geekiest among us! Quick, virgins... to the Chastity Cycle! Also, as a special back-up story, it's That Damn Neighbor! Benny Jean and Cletus just want to drink beer and admire their lawn flamingo, but the weirdo next door will not be ignored!

In Shops: **04/05/2016**



PENNY DREADFUL #1 TITAN

Wilson-Cairns,
DeMartinis,
Various

The hit Showtime television series *Penny Dreadful* is presented in comics for the first time! This prequel reveals the terrifying events that led Vanessa to attempt to find her missing childhood friend, Mina Harker, and exposes the true nature of the vampiric monsters infesting Victorian London. Beautifully realized by Louie De Martinis, and written by the scriptwriters of the series!

In Shops: **04/05/2016**



PINK PANTHER #1

A.M.

Check, Ropp, Galvan

The cool cat is back! Generations of kids grew up loving the Pink Panther's unique style and wit on Saturday morning cartoons. And now today's best writers and artists are delivering original comic book stories that bring the trademark *Pink Panther* flair for confounding The Inspector and The Little Man to legions of new fans! Each issue of American Mythology's new *Pink Panther* series is packed full-a pink with several new stories, original shorts, and even a few classic comic tales! Join the Pink Panther, The Ant and the Aardvark, The Inspector, and a host of other favorite cartoons for the all-ages comic book event of the year!

In Shops: **25/05/2016**



POWER RANGERS: PINK #1 BOOM!

Fletcher, Thompson, Di, Charretier

Thrilled by the response to the *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers* comic series, Boom! Studios now focus on some of the individual Rangers and let them shine in their own stories. First up is a series centered around Kimberly Hart, the Mighty Morphin Pink Ranger, and who better than *Batgirl* and *Gotham Academy* writer Brenden Fletcher and *A-Force* and *Jem and the Holograms* writer Kelly Thompson to bring it to you!

In Shops: **18/05/2016**



4001AD #1

VALIANT

Kindt, Crain

Valiant's most ambitious crossover event yet starts here! At the dawn of 4001AD, the latest Rai is about to discover the sinister secret at the heart of Father's existence. For New Japan to live, Earth must die, and as Rai challenges his former master for the first time in more than a millennium, he will be cast out of his own Father's kingdom. Exiled, Rai walks the ravaged world in search of forgotten heroes like himself on a mission to collect the last surviving legends of a broken planet and forge a rebellion with the power to bring the most advanced civilization in history crashing back down to Earth.

In Shops: **04/05/2016**



WEAVERS #1 BOOM!

Spurrier, Burnett

Sid is a new addition to The Weavers, a brutal, East Coast crime family whose members are bound to loyalty thanks to the supernatural spider inside each one of them, granting them powerful and often grotesque abilities. Once he realizes what he's capable of, Sid sets out to pursue his own secret agenda, counter to the group's objectives. But he doesn't have much time - the longer the spider is inside him, the more loyal he becomes to The Weavers...

In Shops: **04/05/2016**



CINEMA PURGATORIO #1

AVATAR

Moore, O'Neil, DiPascale, Various

Alan Moore and Kevin O'Neill invite you, and some of the finest creators in comics, to join them in a different kind of dark: *Cinema Purgatorio!* This ongoing monthly series will feature Alan and Kevin in every issue and is their first major new project together since *League of Extraordinary Gentlemen!* With black and white artwork to allow the illustrator's pure visions, and the greatest assembly of writing talent ever gathered on one series, every issue is perfect-bound and all of the works are very long-form - there are no collections planned before 2018. Jump in now and embrace the new future of comics. The one of which Alan Moore has always dreamed.

In Shops: **25/05/2016**



KINGS QUEST #1 DYNAMITE

Acker, Corson, McDaid, Laming

Join Flash Gordon, two Phantoms, Mandrake the Magician and Prince Valiant on a disastrous intergalactic rescue mission! All they have to do is defeat a limitless alien armada and not get eaten by a space jungle. Brought to you by the innumerable talents of Ben Acker (*The Thrilling Adventure Hour*), Heath Corson (*Bizarro*), and Dan McDaid (*Judge Dredd!*)

In Shops: **04/05/2016**



INDIES

NEW SERIES AND ONE-SHOTS FOR MAY

NOVEL IDEAS

NEW GRAPHIC NOVELS AND COLLECTED EDITIONS
ARRIVING FROM MAY ONWARDS...



**NORTHLANDERS
BOOK 1:
THE ANGLO
SAXON SAGA**
DC VERTIGO
Wood, Various

These tales illustrate the harsh life of the Viking invasion and occupation of the British Isles from the 8th to 11th centuries. Families are broken, lives are saved, and death is everywhere in these gritty tales from *Northlanders* #1–16, #18–19 and #41.

In Shops: **22/06/2016**



**SQUADRON
SUPREME VOL.1:
BY ANY MEANS
NECESSARY**
MARVEL
Robinson, Kirk

They're the sole survivors of lost Earths, and they'll do anything to protect this one - whether you like it or not! First on their to-do list: Namor, destroyer of Doctor Spectrum's homeworld. He must pay for his crimes - and pay dearly. But the Squadron's extreme measures attract the attention of the Uncanny Avengers! And when the team descends into Weirdworld - the newest, strangest corner of the Marvel Universe - can they escape without the aid of Thundra?

Collecting *Squadron Supreme* (2015) #1–5 and material from *Avengers* (2015) #0.

In Shops: **15/06/2016**



**BACK TO
THE FUTURE:
UNTOLD TALES...**
IDW
Gale, Schoonover,
Schoening, Various

Back to the Future creator/screenwriter Bob Gale returns with all new tales from the twisting and turning timeline that made *Back to the Future* a, well... timeless pop-culture phenomenon!

From the Old West forward to the 1980s, from the 21st Century back to the Jurassic Period... and every time in between... Doc, Marty, along with their friends and enemies, embark on time-space continuum adventures of epic proportions!

In Shops: **18/05/2016**



**KING CONAN:
WOLVES
BEYOND THE
BORDER**
DARK HORSE
Truman, Giorello

King Conan grows weary of the crown, and when an old soldier visits him with talk of a cursed relic and rumors of Pictish tribes preparing a full-scale invasion on Aquilonia's borders, Conan eagerly embarks on what could be his final adventure! Timothy Truman and Tomás Giorello expand on Robert E. Howard's unfinished "Wolves Beyond the Border" tale!

Collects issues #1–4 of the miniseries.

In Shops: **27/07/2016**



**KABUKI VOL.3
(LIBRARY HC)**
DARK HORSE
Mack

This edition collects *Kabuki* Volume 7: The Alchemy and more-including all-new material by David Mack! With the help of Akemi, *Kabuki* has escaped from Control Corps amid all the fallout and mayhem. And now that *Kabuki* has the chance to learn what her true calling in this life is, it seems there is a kind of Akemi network. A network that *Kabuki* herself will be asked to help in. And it seems Akemi is attempting a kind of revolution. One that Akemi expects *Kabuki* to play a major part in. A revolution that will change the landscape of their world forever.

In Shops: **13/17/2016**



SAGA VOL.6
IMAGE
Vaughan, Staples

After a dramatic time jump, the three-time Eisner Award winner for Best Continuing Series continues to evolve, as Hazel begins the most exciting adventure of her life: kindergarten. Meanwhile, her star-crossed family learns hard lessons of their own.

Collects *Saga* #31–36.

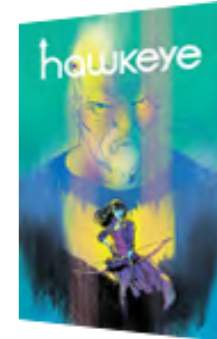
In Shops: **29/06/2016**



**TMNT:
ENEMIES OLD
ENEMIES NEW**
IDW
Eastman, Waltz,
Duncan, Various

The Turtles learn the amazing story of their previous lives, and begin their journey as a true team of brothers! Meanwhile, Baxter Stockman unveils a deadly new strategy for capturing them, just as General Krang arrives in New York demanding results!

In Shops: **11/05/2016**



**HAWKEYE
VOL.6:
HAWKEYES**
MARVEL
Lemire, Perez

Hawkeye and Hawkeye take aim at another season - but this time there's a twist! Arrows fly in two eras as a deep-seated rift stretches across time, bringing old man Clint and a wiser Kate back together to chase down mistakes from their past. But as the reluctantly reunited members of Team Hawkeye struggle to rebuild their trust, their mission brings them face-to-face with the Mandarin! What makes a hero? Find out as Hawkeyes clash in a turbulent trip down memory lane that takes them back to the future!

Collecting *All-New Hawkeye* (2015) #1–6.

In Shops: **15/06/2016**

NOVEL IDEAS

NEW GRAPHIC NOVELS AND COLLECTED EDITIONS
ARRIVING FROM MAY ONWARDS...



**CLEAN
ROOM VOL.1:
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION**

DC VERTIGO

Simone, Davis-Hunt

In the first six issues of this new Vertigo series, meet Astrid Mueller, the enigmatic leader of a giant self-help organization. Journalist Chloe Pierce's fiancé committed suicide after reading Astrid's book-and now Chloe is determined to find out who Astrid Mueller really is and learn the secret of the Clean Room, where your deepest fears are revealed.

In Shops: **15/06/2016**



**STAR WARS:
LEGENDS
VOL.1 (EPIC
COLLECTION)**

MARVEL

Various

When the Death Star falls, what will happen next for the galaxy? Find out in this collection of tales set in the immediate aftermath of *Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope!* What would it mean for the Empire if Vader and the evil Emperor Palpatine discover Luke Skywalker's identity? Witness the continuing adventures of everyone's favorite *Star Wars* heroes and villains!

Collecting *Star Wars: Empire* #7, #14, #16–18, *Star Wars: Vader's Quest* #1–4 and *Star Wars (2013)* #1–12.

In Shops: **22/06/2016**



**BUFFY, SEASON
10 VOL.5:
PIECES ON THE
GROUND**

DARK HORSE

Gage, Isaacs

Demon invasions wreak havoc worldwide when an interdimensional portal lands in the wrong hands. As new threats pour into the streets, Buffy and her closest allies find their paths diverging: Willow gets a serious job, Xander and Ghost Anya grow perilously close, Andrew is tempted by evil, and Buffy and Spike continue to work at making their relationship, well, work.

Collects *Buffy, Season 10* #21–25.

In Shops: **13/07/2016**



**BATMAN
AND ROBIN:
ETERNAL VOL.2**

DC

Tynion IV, Snyder

The Dynamic Duo thought they defeated her for good, but Mother is back-and she's ready to enact her grand plan! And, when the truth behind Batman's greatest failure is revealed, one of his allies may walk away from the fight forever. And as the world burns, it's up to Dick Grayson to save a generation from unspeakable tragedy!

Collects *Batman And Robin: Eternal* #13–26.

In Shops: **29/06/2016**



**TRANSFORMERS
– MORE THAN
MEETS THE EYE
VOL.9**

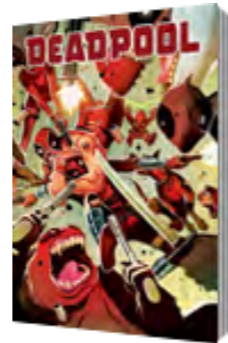
IDW

Roberts, Milne

Optimus Prime struggles to find his place on Cybertron where half the population hates him and the other half worships him. Meanwhile, on Earth, Galvatron doesn't care what anybody thinks.

Collects issues #45–49.

In Shops: **11/05/2016**



**DEADPOOL
CLASSIC
VOL.16: KILLOGY**

MARVEL

Bunn, Talajic, Lolli,
Espín

Wade Wilson stars in a killogy of chaos! It begins when (spoilers!) Deadpool kills the Marvel Universe! And his bloodlust doesn't stop there. Not when the Ideaverse is full of the fabled icons of classic literature - you know, the ones your parents read about in books. And not when there are multiple realities, harboring infinite Mercs with infinite Mouths. Before this Wade's work is done, every one of them must be silenced - permanently!

Collecting *Deadpool Kills The Marvel Universe* #1–4, *Deadpool Killustrated* #1–4 and *Deadpool Kills Deadpool* #1–4.

In Shops: **08/06/2016**



**BATMAN:
EARTH ONE
VOL.2**

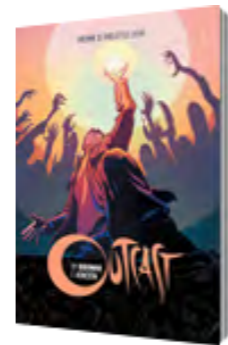
DC

Johns, Frank, Sibal

The sequel to the critically acclaimed *Batman: Earth One* by the superstar creative team of writer Geoff Johns and artist Gary Frank is here!

While Gotham City is plunged into terror by an enigmatic anarchist and killer calling himself The Riddler, the Dark Knight must reconcile the increasingly conflicting ideologies of Detective Jim Gordon and Bruce Wayne's head of security, Alfred Pennyworth. But there are many more mysteries lurking within Gotham City, including the secret agenda of Harvey Dent and the bizarre creature prowling the sewers-Killer Croc!

In Shops: **15/06/2016**



**OUTCAST BY
KIRKMAN AND
AZACETA VOL.3:
LITTLE LIGHT**

IMAGE

Kirkman, Azaceta

Kyle is faced with the most emotional exorcism he's performed yet... as he begins to learn more about his abilities and what's really happening around him. Secrets are revealed that will change everything.

Collects *Outcast* #13–18.

In Shops: **05/06/2016**





BIFF'S BIT

Email Biff here: martin@acecomics.co.uk

DC's RELAUNCH REVAMP, REBIRTH!

The latest bombshell news is that DC have announced *Rebirth*, a relaunch of their line starting all titles at issue #1 again, except for two that are approaching key milestone numbers - *Action Comics* restarts at #957 and *Detective Comics* at #934. Major titles will be bi-weekly (twice a month) and low selling titles - those below 20,000 - will be cancelled. The reasoning is thus: *Midnighter* sells 20,000 while *Batman* sells 110,000, giving a total of 130,000 units, so let's cancel *Midnighter* and have two issues of *Batman* per month, making the new number of units 220,000. Even allowing for a drop in interest of 10%, the print-run will still be 200,000 instead of 130,000.

Last year DC's sales plummeted and so the creative boffins have looked at the figures and devised the following plan to boost sales figures, renew interest and, we hope, not kill diversity. Firstly the good news... all titles will retail at only \$2.99! Will they keep this price? That depends on sales.

The relaunch is planned as follows: Initially, a DC *Rebirth* special of 80 pages written by Geoff Johns at only \$2.99.

JUNE Releases: *Aquaman: Rebirth #1*, *Batman: Rebirth #1*, *Flash: Rebirth #1*, *Green Arrow: Rebirth #1*, *Green*

Lanterns: Rebirth #1, *Superman: Rebirth #1*, *Titans: Rebirth #1* and *Wonder Woman: Rebirth #1* (all are one shot specials). These are followed by *Aquaman #1*, *Batman #1*, *Flash #1*, *Green Arrow #1*, *Green Lanterns #1*, *Superman #1* and *Wonder Woman #1* (all bi-weekly) plus *Action Comics #957* and *Detective Comics #934* (monthly from June).

JULY Releases: *Batgirl And The Birds Of Prey: Rebirth #1*, *Hal Jordan And The Green Lantern Corps: Rebirth #1*, *Hellblazer: Rebirth #1*, *Justice League:*

Rebirth #1, *Nightwing: Rebirth #1*, *Red Hood And The Outlaws: Rebirth #1* (all are one shot specials). These are followed by *Hal Jordan and Green Lantern Corps #1*, *Justice League #1* and *Nightwing #1* (all bi-weekly) plus *Batgirl #1*, *Batgirl And The Birds Of Prey #1*, *Hellblazer #1*, *Red Hood And The Outlaws #1*, *The Super-Man #1* and *Titans #1* (all monthly).

Fall Releases: *Batman Beyond: Rebirth #1*, *Blue Beetle: Rebirth #1*, *Cyborg: Rebirth #1*, *Deathstroke: Rebirth #1*, *Earth 2: Rebirth #1*,

Suicide Squad: Rebirth #1, *Supergirl: Rebirth #1*, *Teen Titans: Rebirth #1* and *Trinity: Rebirth #1* (all are one shot specials). These are followed by *Cyborg #1*, *Deathstroke #1*, *Harley Quinn #1*, *Justice League Of America #1*, *Suicide Squad #1* (all bi-weekly) plus *Batman Beyond #1*, *Blue Beetle #1*, *Earth 2 #1*, *Gotham Academy #1*, *Supergirl #1*, *Superwoman #1*, *Super Sons #1*, *Teen Titans #1* and *Trinity #1* (all monthly).

The rhetoric is that many things have changed in the five years since the

worked so well for seventy years and the films and television versions stay as they are - in my mind as a giant 'What If' or 'Imaginary Story', still valid and still great fun!

All publishers still seem to believe that a new #1, or universe shattering event is the way to bring in new readers and increase sales. Admittedly, they do always sell more for a very small duration, perhaps three to four issues, then sales drop to previous levels or lower. Almost like a drug addict who keeps on needing a greater and



New 52 event and they are bringing characters and stories in line with today's readership demands.

Admittedly the dominance of comic characters in movies and television is astounding. Never in my wildest dreams did I ever expect such a wide range of heroes so expertly written and produced. Ironically, the millions watching have not translated into readers, but readership is on the increase. My hope is that the comics stay true to the principles of story telling for the paper medium that have

greater high to remain normal.

The fall occurs because each time the clock is reset and the history and/or characters change, long term readers are lost. This 'rinse and repeat' style does not replace the lost readers as it is creating a breed of fans who only seem to remain interested for three to four years. This, in turn, seems to justify the companies actions as they try new trick after new trick to attract the next generation, but they seem to have forgotten what Stan Lee achieved in the 1960's. The comic

industry was dying back then because the readership was recognised as lasting for only around two to three years and no one knew how to keep them interested. Then Stan came along and introduced the continuous 'soap opera' styled storylines with well formed support characters who added the element of growth and a maturing of the main characters without the necessity to have them actually aging. Stunning in its simplicity.

History is there to be learned from and not ignored. Something that comic companies and politicians would do well to take note of.

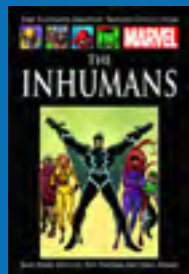
There are great comics being produced - *Batman*, *Dark Knight III: The Master Race*, *Justice League*, *Harley Quinn*, *Daredevil*, *Invincible Iron Man*, *Nova*, *The Walking Dead*, *Rachel Rising*, *Crossed: Badlands*, *Adventure Time* and many more. These all succeed through strong story telling, a respect for the history of their particular 'universe' and a cohesive reality. My fingers are crossed that this time DC get it right!

Tip for the month. A smile, in a moment, makes a friend of strangers for life, a scowl makes enemies instantly. I know what I will be doing today!



TOP 20 GRAPHIC NOVELS

ACE COMICS' BESTSELLING GRAPHIC NOVELS FOR FEBRUARY 2016



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 THE INHUMANS**
 HACHETTE
 £9.99

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LEE | THOMAS | KIRBY | ADAMS

Behold, the Inhumans! Discover their incredible origins and follow the exploits of Blackbolt, Medusa and the rest of the royal family as the Inhumans walk the Earth once more!



2
**SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN
 VOLUME TWENTY-ONE**
 HACHETTE
 £14.99

[Info / Add to Basket](#)



3
**MARVEL COLLECTION VOL.108:
 SPIDER ISLAND (PART ONE)**
 HACHETTE
 £9.99

[Info / Add to Basket](#)



4
**BATMAN: HARLEY AND IVY
 - DELUXE EDITION**
 DC
 £18.99

[Info / Add to Basket](#)



5
**BUFFY, SEASON 10 VOL.4:
 OLD DEMONS**
 DARK HORSE
 £14.50

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6
**BATGIRL VOL.2:
 FAMILY BUSINESS**
 DC
 £12.99

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**MARVEL MIGHTIEST VOL.56:
 STORM**
 HACHETTE
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STAR WARS: CHEWBACCA
 MARVEL
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**LOVE AND ROCKETS:
 NEW STORIES VOL.8**
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 £9.99

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10
**CONSTANTINE THE HELLBLAZER
 VOL.1: GOING DOWN**
 DC
 £10.99

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11
**DC COLLECTION VOL.13:
 JLA - EARTH 2**
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**NEW SUICIDE SQUAD VOL.2:
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 HACHETTE
 £9.99

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14
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15
FADE OUT: ACT THREE
 IMAGE
 £9.99

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16
**DC COLLECTION VOL.14:
 THE LORDS OF LUCK**
 EAGLEMOSS
 £9.99

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17
SUNSTONE VOL.4
 IMAGE
 £10.99

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18
**MODESTY BLAISE VOL.27:
 RIPPER JAX**
 TITAN
 £14.99

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19
CORTO MALTESE: CELTIC TALES
 IDW
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 INHERITANCE**
 DC
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