



ILLUMINATIONS

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ADVENTURE TIME: MARCELINE AND THE SCREAM QUEENS #1

Gran, / Wang

Join fan-favourite characters Marceline and Princess Bubblegum for riot grrl rock-fueled excitement in this brand new adventure time mini-series!

Thanks to a newfound interest in music, Princess Bubblegum joins Marceline's paranormal rock band for a tour across the land of Ooo! But when they're threatened by everything from scenesters to beasts born of self-doubt, can they make it to the RADDEST GIG EVER in time?!

Written and drawn by acclaimed cartoonist Meredith Gran (Octopus Pie) and featuring a back-up story from Jen Wang (Koko Be Good), variant covers by rockstar lady cartoonists Chynna Clugston (Blue Monday), Lucy Knisley (French Milk), Ming Doyle (Popgun), and fan-favourite comic book artist Colleen Coover (Xmxsen: First Class)!

Adventure Time #1 and #2 were instant sell-outs! - Don't miss out on the next instalment of this all-ages phenomenon!



BOOM!

STUDIOS
BOOM-STUDIOS.COM



THE HYPERNATURALS #1

Abnett / Lanning / Walker / Guinaldo / Irwin

It is the far future; the human race has finally colonized the galaxy, preserving an era of prosperity that's only possible

because of The Hypernaturals. They're a celebrated, galaxy-wide superhero task force that keeps the peace. That is, until they all mysteriously vanish. Now, as the galaxy teeters on the brink of chaos, it's up to a group of retired and long forgotten — and their novice recruits — to save the galaxy from complete destruction. Featuring art by Brad Walker (GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY), Andres Guinaldo (BATMAN), and Mark Irwin (X-MEN)!



MICHAEL MIDAS CHAMPION #1

Gorfinkel / Benefiel

Michael Midas was a regular kid, nursing a crush on Dani, the prettiest girl on the playground, and tormented by Truck, the school bully. Then he got older and stronger... SUPER strong. But so did Truck. Now, when Truck is threatening Dani, can Michael Midas step up, overcome his childhood terror, and be the hero he always dreamed of being? Presented in cinematic widescreen format, Michael Midas Champion is a new 6-issue miniseries from Jordan B. Gorfinkel (BATMAN, BIRDS OF PREY) and Scott Benefiel (JLA, TOMB RAIDER).

NEW TITLES SHIPPING IN JULY



HERO WORSHIP #1

Penn / Murphy / Dipascale

The biggest superhero screen writer in the World comes to comics for the first time!

Zak Penn (writer of the Avengers movie, X-Men II & III movies, and the Alphas TV show) and Scott Murphy (lead writer of Star Wars The Clone Wars) spin a tale about the ultimate celebrity, an indestructible superhero called Zenith, and the rabid fans that worship him. Legions of adoring fans follow every disaster trying to speculate where they can catch a glimpse of their modern messiah.

What happens when an unhealthy obsession leads to one fan getting super powers of his own?



AXE COP: PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD #1

Nicolle / Nicolle

Axe Cop has been appointed president of the whole world! But what will Axe Cop and his friends do in a world with

no bad guys? Look to defeat the bad guys from outer space, of course!

Written by 8-year-old Malachai Nicolle and drawn by his 31-year-old brother Ethan Nicolle, Axe Cop is commander in chief of hilarious adventures as only a kid could imagine!

... Brand-new print-exclusive story—never seen before!

... Upon its debut as a webcomic in December of 2009, Axe Cop was instantly hailed as a one-of-a-kind hit!

... Elect Axe Cop!



EERIE COMICS #1

Lapham / Taylor / Garres

Uncle Creepy's been having all the fun in Dark Horse's revival of classic Warren magazines, so now it's Cousin Eerie's turn! The

terrifying treasury of sinister sci-fi and fearsome fantasy returns with two all-new stories to thrill and chill, plus a classic reprint! First up is a dose of robotic paranoia from red-hot writer/artist David Lapham, followed by way-too-close encounters from Creepy veteran Christopher Taylor! Your trip to the comics store is about to get a lot more horrifying!

... All-new frights!

... Featuring star writer/artist David Lapham (The Strain, Stray Bullets)!

... Presented in glorious, ghoulish black-and-white!



CONCRETE: THREE UNEASY PIECES (ONE- SHOT)

Chadwick

One of the medium's all-time greats is back in this collection of Concrete stories

from the relaunched Dark Horse Presents! In three new adventures, the most human of heroes intervenes in a burglary that turns out to be much more, investigates a possible sighting of the aliens who gave him his rocky body, and develops an alternative to the Taser: himself. This issue strikes the perfect balance of inviting stories for new readers and character development for longtime fans.

... Collecting the Concrete stories from Dark Horse Presents #1–#3!

... Great jumping on point for new readers!

... A comics icon returns!



STAR WARS: DARTH MAUL DEATH SENTENCE #1

Taylor / Redondo

By now the galaxy has learned the terrible truth: Sith Lord Darth Maul still lives. Worse, he has joined forces with his brother Savage Opress! The Jedi are searching for them and, after Maul and Opress cut a murderous swath through the Outer Rim, so is an army of mercenaries hired

by a wealthy mine owner. Darth Maul has a price on his head, and for him there is only one way to deal with such a problem: go directly to the source!

... A direct follow-up to the events in the television series The Clone Wars!

... Darth Maul lives!

NEW TITLES SHIPPING IN JULY



NEW TITLES SHIPPING IN JULY



THE LONE RANGER: SNAKE OF IRON #1

Dixon / Polls

The Ranger and Tonto are in the crossfire as a bloody Kiowa uprising draws these western legends

onto the warpath. The Spirit Horse has returned to the plains and calling the tribes to battle. Is this a ghostly apparition or something else? If the Lone Ranger cannot solve the mystery then the land north of the Brazos will run red with blood!



WITCHBLADE: DEMON REBORN #1

Parks / Luis

Sara Pezzini and The Witchblade sent a serial killer who thought himself a demon to hell.

A year later, the "Demon" has learned what true torment is all about. Now, he's been offered a special opportunity by hell's bureaucrats: a chance to drag Sara back down with him. In this sequel of the Mark Millar/Jae Lee original story, Sara Pezzini must confront her own demons to avoid losing everything and everyone she loves.

... Bonus - Includes the original story by Mark Millar and Jae Lee!



BEFORE WATCHMEN: OZYMANDIAS #1

Wein / Lee

"I have goals to achieve. Dreams to make come true."

Plus a Crimson Corsair feature!



PUNK ROCK JESUS #1

Murphy

The newest reality show hit has the unlikely celebrity of all in this new black and white miniseries from writer/artist Sean

Murphy (Joe the Barbarian, Off Road)! J2, the TV series starring a clone of Jesus Christ, causes chaos across a near-future United States in Punk Rock Jesus, a new miniseries written and drawn by Sean Murphy, the acclaimed illustrator of Joe the Barbarian and American Vampire: Survival of the Fittest.

J2 causes outrage and adulation. Religious zealots either love or hate the show, angry politicians worry about its influence on the nation, and members of the scientific community fear the implications of cloning a human being at all – let alone the Son of God. And what effect will this all have on Gwen, the young woman who is selected, through an American Idol-style process, to be the mother of the new Messiah? All this leads to the hiring of Thomas McKael, the clone's bodyguard and a former IRA operative with a turbulent past who must protect the new Messiah – a baby who captivates the world, but grows up to become an angry teenager.



NATIONAL COMICS: ETERNITY #1

Lemire / Hamner

National Comics is an exciting new series of stand-alone comics that feature unique takes on classic characters!

Jeff Lemire (Animal Man) and Cully Hamner (Red) bring a contemporary approach to the hero we used to know as Kid Eternity!

Can introverted medical examiner Kid Eternity solve a deadly crime in just 24 hours?



HE-MAN AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE #1

Robinson / Tan

He-Man and the Masters of the Universe return to comics in an all-new miniseries!

Skeletor strikes with his master plan to rule Eternia. Can Adam and the Masters of the Universe remember what Eternia was like in time to save it?



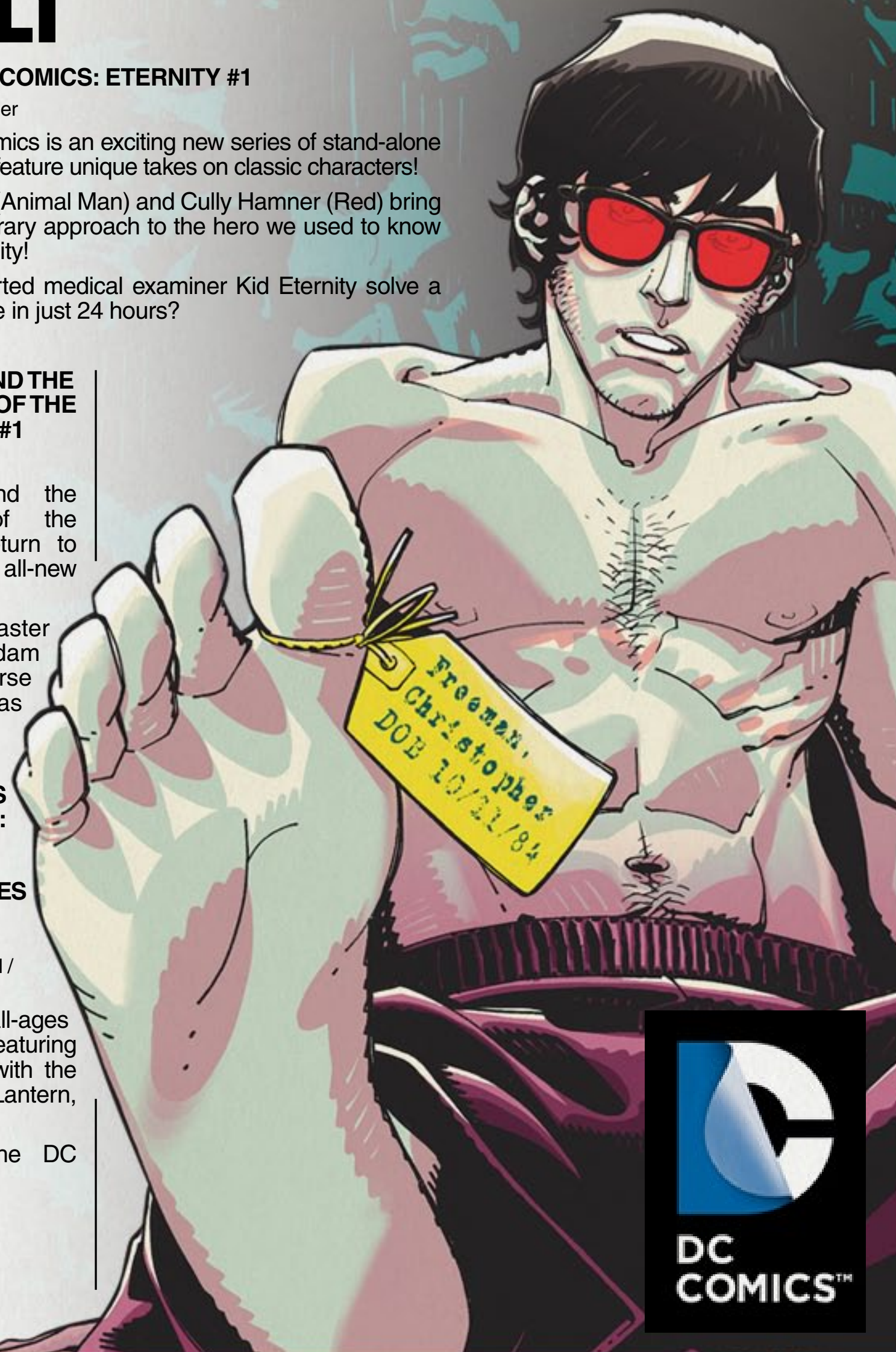
DC COMICS PRESENTS: WONDER WOMAN ADVENTURES #1

Vance / Dini / Delaney / Boyd / Timm

A new, all-ages collection featuring

Wonder Woman in action with the Justice League, Green Lantern, Catwoman and Cheetah!

Collects Adventures in the DC Universe #1, 3, 11 and 19.





AFTER THE FIRE 100-PAGE SPECTACULAR

Waltz / Vilanova

A haunting new original story from writer Tom Waltz.

Detective Shane Collins is a

good cop who has been brutally murdered. Given a second chance to seek vengeance against his killers, Shane's spirit walks the dark line between life and death, honour and betrayal, where nothing is as it seems, and the truth can hurt far worse than lies.



BATTLE BEASTS #1 (OF 4)

Curnow / Schiti

It's just another average day for Bliss, an ignored linguist at the D.O.D. However, when Bliss unlocks the secret translation of

an ancient scroll, terror rains from the sky... in the form of the Battle Beasts, unstoppable creatures armed to the teeth, determined to make Earth their own personal war zone. Nothing can stop their merciless carnage. Nothing except perhaps a gentle word from the one woman who can understand them—Bliss!



DOCTOR WHO 100-PAGE SPECTACULAR

Morrison / Parkhouse / Ridgway / Others

Thrill to these classic Doctor Who tales with a focus on the Cybermen, the villains from the

current crossover with Star Trek: The Next Generation! Includes the quintessential tales "Junkyard Demon," "The World Shapers," "Genesis," "Revelation!" and much, much more!



THE CAPE: 1969 #1 (OF 4)

Hill / Ciaramella / Daniel

It's 1969 and the war in Vietnam rages on. Captain Chase, a Medevac helicopter pilot for the US Army, is shot down over enemy territory. He and his crew are in a fight for their lives as they play a deadly game of cat and mouse with the Vietcong. We soon learn that machine guns and grenades aren't the only scary things hiding in the jungle. Find out what happens in this origin prequel to last year's Eisner Award-nominated hit, with story by Joe Hill and Jason Ciaramella, and art and colours by Nelson Daniel (Road Rage, The Cape). Explore your dark side.



JERICO: SEASON 4 #1 (OF 5)

Vazquez / Currie

Overseen by the original writing staff of the television series, Jericho is back with a vengeance, with a whole new chapter of stories told in the show's official continuity. If you are a fan of Jericho you cannot afford to miss this compelling all-new series!

In the tradition of nail-biting suspense and intrigue that fans of the show—and the comic—have come to expect and love, Jericho Season Four picks up where Season Three left off. Though Jake and Hawkins are happy to be back in Jericho, the challenges they face are daunting. Not only are they fugitives in their own hometown, but they find themselves forced to play host to the newest member of the Jericho community—John Smith... a man who some know as a friend of the resistance, but who Jake and Hawkins know as the man behind the September Attacks. Only they know his secret. And only they can stop him from committing another heinous act.



THE CROW #1

Shirley / Colden

"Death and Rebirth," Part 1. THE CROW is reborn—in Tokyo. Can a dark spirit fight for the light? THE CROW has always done just that—striking from the shadows, a kind of shadow himself. The spirit of the Crow is back, transfiguring Jamie Osterberg, an American studying in Tokyo and deeply in love with his Japanese girlfriend, Yumi... until the love of his life is stolen. The Crow must once more make the wrong thing right—but this time he might have to do it by killing his own true love...



INFECTED #1 (OF 4)

Minshaw / Sigler / Minshaw

A riveting adaptation of Book One of the New York Times best-selling horror trilogy by Scott Sigler!

Chad Minshaw brings to life the story of a mysterious disease that turns ordinary people into paranoid, raving murderers. Former all-pro linebacker Perry Dawsey awakens to find mysterious welts growing on his body. Soon after, strange voices start whispering, telling him to do horrible things ... he is infected. The disease wants something from Perry, something that could alter the fate of the human race.



TRANSFORMERS: REGENERATION ONE 100-PAGE SPECTACULAR

Furman / Wildman / Baskerville

Get ready for Regeneration One! For the first time in nearly a decade

the final issues of the original run of Transformers are back—just in time for the story to continue in Transformers: Regeneration One #81!

Following a planet-shattering battle with Unicron, Optimus Prime has fallen! How will the other Autobots carry on—and will Prime be back in time for Cybertron's darkest hour?

Reprinting the Transformers #76-80!



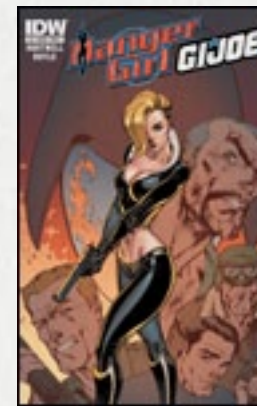
TRANSFORMERS: REGENERATION ONE #81

Furman / Wildman / Baskerville

The Transformers comic that began it all—is back. With a vengeance! 21 years have passed

since Cybertron was restored to its former glory, and finally there is peace. But, after millions of years of bitter civil war, can all ever truly be one? In a conflict this primal, this epic and far-reaching... There are always "Loose Ends"!

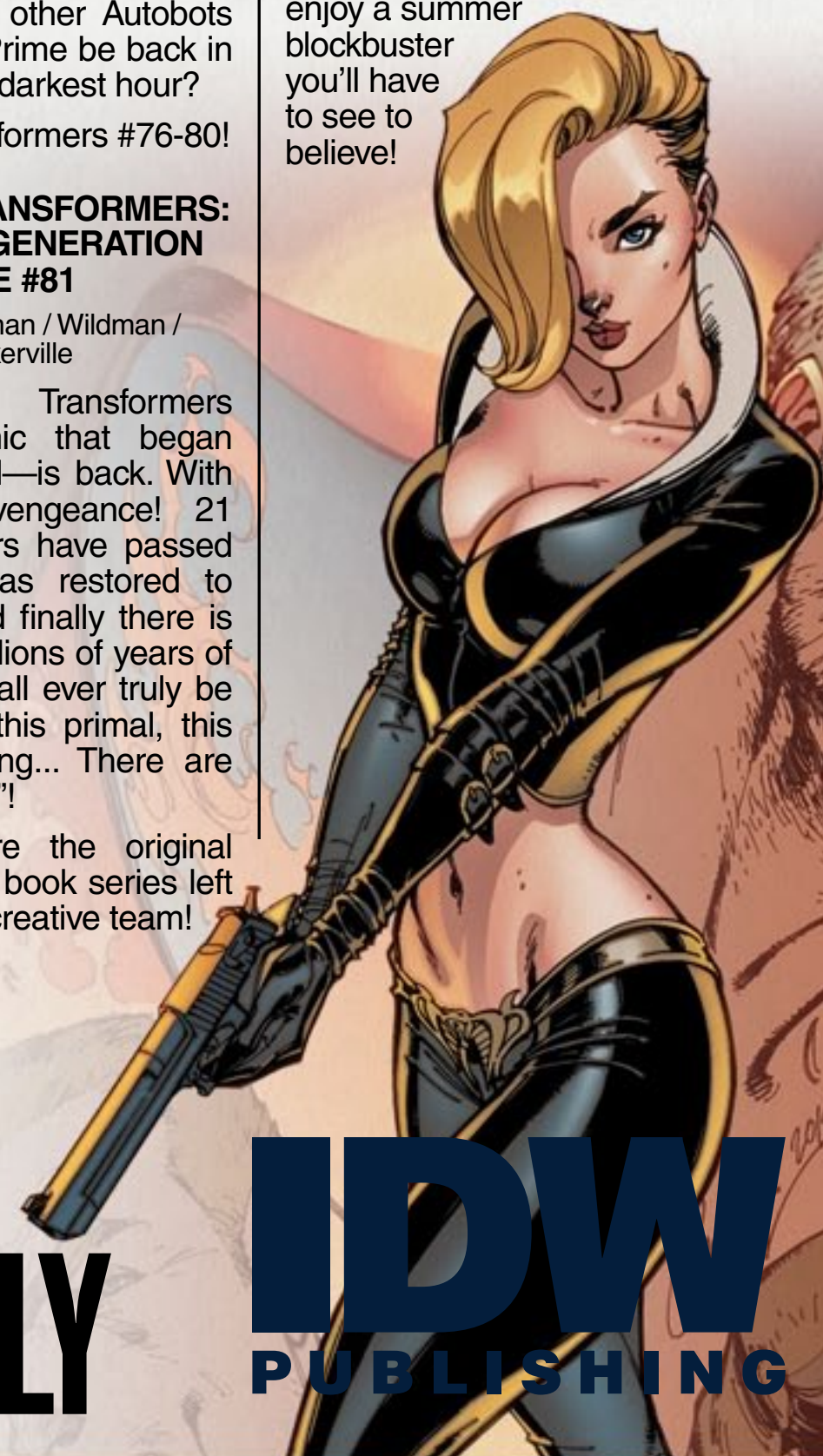
... Picks up where the original Transformers comic book series left off—with the same creative team!



DANGER GIRL/ G.I. JOE #1 (OF 4)

Hartnell / Royle

The two most incredible covert action teams the world has ever known—so covert, in fact, that neither knows the other exists—are meeting for the first time ever! Repeat: Danger Girl and G.I. JOE, together. Spies! Girls! Ninjas! COBRA! If your head did not just explode, then you are one of the lucky few remaining that will live to enjoy a summer blockbuster you'll have to see to believe!



NEW TITLES SHIPPING IN JULY

IDW PUBLISHING



NEW TITLES SHIPPING IN JULY



SUNSET: FIRST LOOK (one-shot)

Gage / Lucas / Serrano

Sample it before you buy it!

Take a first look at Christos Gage and Jorge Lucas's *Sunset* with this introductory priced, full colour issue!

Collecting the first 22 pages of the hard hitting noir tale, *Sunset: First Look* is a perfect low risk way to sample Minotaur Press's first original graphic novel.

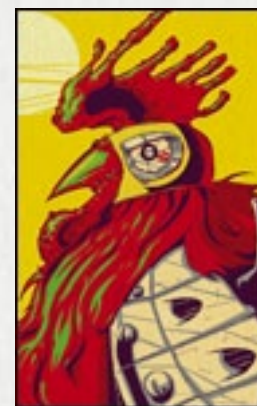


AVENGELYNE ANNUAL #1

Poulton / Sistilli / Gieni

"WHEN HELL
COMES HOME"

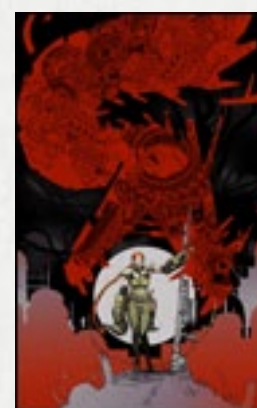
Avengelyne tells Father Peter a tale about the Red Dragon's attack on Heaven after his dark exile. Featuring Lord B'Liale, Passover, and the Warhost with art by guest artist, Stephen Sistilli (Koni Waves).



CHEW: SECRET AGENT POYO #1

Layman / Guillory

Still kicking yourself for not ordering and/or passing by *Chew* #1, now that you see what it's going for on eBay? Here's your chance to get sweet, sweet, revenge, with an all-new *Chew* #1, a one-shot spinning off *Chew*'s most popular supporting character, and comics' most beloved homicidal cybernetic kung-fu rooster. Concentrated mayhem. Feathers, rage and hate! Plus: an all-star pin-up gallery from some of the most staggeringly talented artists in the industry!



DEBRIS #1 (OF 4)

Wiebe / Rossmo

In the far future, humanity has doomed planet earth to rot and decay, covering her surface with garbage. Now, ancient spirits called the Colossals rise from the debris and attack the remaining survivors, forcing the human race to the brink of extinction. One warrior woman, Maya, sets out to find the last source of pure water to save the world before the monsters bring it all to an end.



ENORMOUS #1 (ONE-SHOT)

Daniel / Cheggour

In the midst of a planetary battle for food and fuel, a vast ecological cataclysm spawns The Enormous, massive beasts unlike anything ever witnessed. Humankind struggles to stave off extinction and the only law is to hunt or be hunted. It's an epic action adventure featuring the survival of the biggest!



HOAX HUNTERS #1

Moreci / Seeley /
Medellin

"Die Off Another
Day," Part One

The acclaimed backup begins its own series! A rash of mass animal deaths leads the *Hoax Hunters* to the Louisiana bayou. What they find is a mystery that harkens to Jack's past -- and a dangerous cryptid bent on revenge!



REVIVAL #1

Seeley / Norton

For one day in rural central Wisconsin, the dead came back to life. Now it's up to Officer Dana Cypress to deal with the media scrutiny, religious zealots, and government quarantine that has come with them. In a town where the living have to learn to deal with those who are supposed to be dead, Officer Cypress must solve a brutal murder, and everyone, alive or undead, is a suspect. A beautiful "farm noir" that puts a new twist on the zombie genre, created by NYT bestselling author Tim Seeley and acclaimed artist Mike Norton.



WILD CHILDREN (ONE-SHOT)

Kot / Rossmo

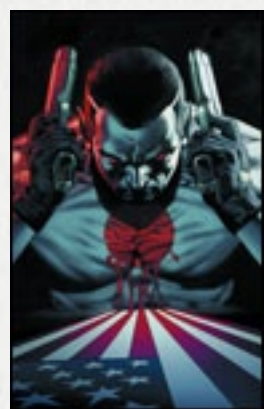
Guns. Acid.
Cameras. School.

The themes behind the controversial *Hellblazer*: "Shoot" by Warren Ellis and Phil Jimenez merge with the attitude of the Grant Morrison and Philip Bond masterpiece of teenage revolt, *Kill Your Boyfriend*, delivering a story of magic, passion and disinformation.

Wild Children: A different type of education.

image

NEW TITLES SHIPPING IN JULY



BLOODSHOT #1

Swierczynski / Garcia / Lozzi

The Summer of Valiant continues!

It's the start of a new mission for one of comics' all-time best-selling superheroes in

Bloodshot #1 — the first issue of a new ongoing series from acclaimed novelist Duane Swierczynski (Immortal Iron Fist, Birds of Prey) and the lethal artistic tag team of Manuel Garcia (Checkmate) and Arturo Lozzi (Immortal Weapons)!

Your name is Angelo Mortalli. Your brother is trapped behind enemy lines and on the verge of — no. That's not right. Your name is Raymond Garrison. You've retired from the dangers of the field, but a desperate plea from your oldest friend plunges you into a vicious firefight that — no. That's not right, either. You are Bloodshot. You are the shade of gray that freedom requires. The perfect confluence of military necessity and cutting-edge technology. A walking WikiLeaks that is a reservoir of dirty secrets that could set the world on fire. And you've just been captured...



MUPPETS #1 (OF 4)

Langridge

The four-part Muppet Show story "The Four Seasons" - for the first time in print!

Kermit and the gang put on a show to celebrate spring's arrival at the Muppet Theatre!

A special guest - Meredith the Mountain Gorilla - arrives to perform on the Muppet Show, and her many admirers compete for her affections.



SPACE PUNISHER #1 (OF 4)

Tieri / Texeira

Punishment is a dish best served-in Space!

Frank Castle shoots his way through the criminal hierarchy of outer space starting with the Sym-Brood-ant Queen!

From Frank Tieri, writer of Marvel vs. Capcom and Punisher: Noir and gorgeously painted by Mark Texeira (Punisher War Journal, Ghost Rider).



X-TREME X-MEN #1

Pak / Segovia

Spinning out of the pages of Astonishing X-Men!

Travel the multiverse with Captain Howlett, Kid Nightcrawler, and Emmeline Frost.

Which X-Men will be lost between dimensions...with no guaranteed way home?



CAPTAIN MARVEL #1

Deconnick / Soy

She's back! The " Mightiest " of Earth's Mightiest Heroes!

Ace pilot, legendary Avenger, 100% pure bad-a\$\$.

Carol Danvers has a new name, a new mission ...and all the power she needs to make her life a living hell.

Guest starring Captain America.



POWERS: FBI #1

Bendis / Avon Oeming

A new chapter of the Eisner Award-winning Powers that sends Deena Pilgrim into the big leagues!

Pilgrim is now a federal agent and dealing with the biggest powers cases in the entire country. But will this new life close the closet full of skeletons she carries with her? (Absolutely not!) And what does this mean for her old partner, Walker?

This is a bold game-changer for the iconic crime superhero comic that started it all and an amazing jumping-on point for new readers!



NOVEL IDEAS

ACE Comics pick of the best new graphic novels and collected editions arriving in July



SECRET BATTLES OF GENGHIS KHAN

Gregory / Robinson

IDW, 104 pages

Genghis Khan was one of the greatest military commanders and leaders in world history. He conquered lands from the Middle East to the Pacific Ocean in a life filled with one military victory after another until his death. This is the story of how a boy named Temujin became that man, the battles that solidified his fearsome reputation, and the enduring legend of his life. Written by Daryl Gregory with art by Alan Robinson.



SUICIDE SQUAD VOL. 1: KICKED IN THE TEETH

Glass / Dallochio / Getty / Bressan / Henry

DC, 160 pages

After a prison riot at Belle Reve Penitentiary, the hunt for the escaped Harley Quinn is on! Collects Suicide Squad #1-7!



DAREDEVIL VOL. 1

Waid / Rivera

Marvel, 152 pages

It's a fresh start for the Man Without Fear, with the all-star creative team of writer Mark Waid (CAPTAIN AMERICA) and artists Paolo Rivera and Marcos Martin (AMAZING SPIDER-MAN) at the helm!

Matt Murdock is back in New York, but not everyone is happy to see him. Hoping to resuscitate his law practice, he takes on a police-brutality case — but someone is trying to silence the victim. While Murdock struggles in court, Daredevil hits the streets as Klaw, master of sound, makes his deadly return! Then, the blind literally lead the blind as a visually impaired client targeted for assassination holds the key to a global conspiracy perpetrated by some familiar foes. Can Daredevil protect the young man long enough to bring down an international criminal organization, or will their deadly enforcer get to him first?

Collecting DAREDEVIL (2011) #1-6.



THE CROW, MIDNIGHT LEGENDS, VOL. 1: DEAD TIME

O'Barr / Wagner / Maleev

IDW, 104 pages

After a ten-year hiatus, James O'Barr returned to The Crow with Dead Time, a story he envisioned as a new Crow film. A tale of grief, reincarnation, and long-sought vengeance, Dead Time is adapted by John Wagner and illustrated by Alexander Maleev.



HOUSE OF NIGHT

Cast / Cast / Dalian / Jones / Kersch / Covey / Krall / Case / Canete

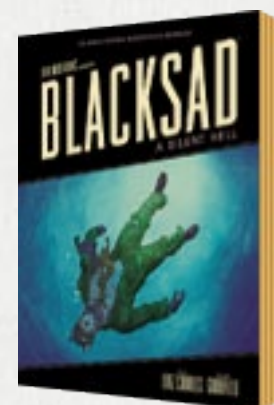
Dark Horse, 128 pages

Until recently, Zoey Redbird was an average

high-school student worrying about grades, boys, and breakouts. But priorities have a way of changing when you're Marked as a vampyre, enrol in the vampyre academy House of Night, and have to figure out a whole new social hierarchy, affinities for elemental magic, and physiological changes that make you crave blood!

Follow Zoey, and her group of devoted friends, as they turn to The Fledgling Handbook, a historical vampyre tome, in hopes of better understanding this big, new world of vampyrism.

Collects issues #1-#5 of the series.



BLACKSAD: SILENT HELL

Canales / Guarnido

Dark Horse, 112 pages

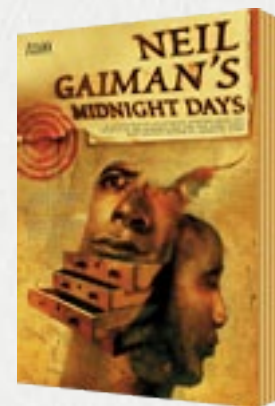
Detective John Blacksad returns, with a new case that takes him to a 1950s New Orleans filled

with hot jazz and cold-blooded murder! Hired to discover the fate of a celebrated pianist, Blacksad finds his most dangerous mystery yet in the midst of drugs, voodoo, the rollicking atmosphere of Mardi Gras, and the dark underbelly that it hides!

Features an extensive making-of section, with tons of prelim sketches and watercolour studies.

2011 Eisner and Harvey Award-winner!

The first Blacksad collection is already in its fourth printing and approaching 20,000 copies sold!



NEIL GAIMAN'S MIDNIGHT DAYS DELUXE EDITION

Gaiman

DC Vertigo, 176 pages

The classic collection of Vertigo tales from New York Times best-selling

author Neil Gaiman is collected in hardcover for the first time! Providing tantalizing glimpses into the fantastical worlds he would create and nurture, Neil Gaiman's Midnight Days collects some of the accomplished author's earliest work. These tales star the Golden Age Sandman, Morpheus, Swamp Thing and John Constantine, from Swamp Thing Annual #5, Sandman Midnight Theatre, Hellblazer #27, Welcome Back To The House Of Mystery #1 and more!



BLADE OF THE IMMORTAL VOLUME 25: SNOWFALL AT DAWN

Samura / Samura

Dark Horse, 224 pages

The showdown that fans have been waiting for

begins here, as Manji and Shira finally cross paths! Although he's missing an arm, Manji's mystical healing powers still ensure that he's a formidable opponent—but his greatest foe, the masochistic Shira, has a few depraved tricks up his own sleeves! With Shira deadlier than ever, having had plenty of time to plot twisted revenge schemes, will Manji be able to protect Rin from his deranged nemesis? Plus—an Ittō-ryū warrior dies, in typically dramatic Hiroaki Samura fashion. Samura's widely acclaimed Blade of the Immortal manga series has won awards across the globe, including the Eisner Award in America, the prestigious Media Arts Award of Japan, and multiple British Eagle Awards.



SUNSET

Gage / Lucas
Image, 160 pages

Sometimes all you can do is go out with guns blazing...

In the noir tradition of Chandler and Spillane comes

Sunset, a two-fisted tale of revenge and redemption. On the surface, Nick Bellamy looks like any other veteran retiree left behind by a modern world. In reality, Nick is a former enforcer, who stole a fortune and years of freedom from his former mob boss. Now, in the twilight of his life, Nick will lose everything he cares about except two things: revenge... and the chance to die with his guns blazing.

Writer Christos Gage (Avengers Academy, GI Joe: Cobra) and artist Jorge Lucas (The Darkness) promise to hit hard with Minotaur Press's first original graphic novel that will make you forget all about your Prius and organic whole-grain trans-fat-free diet.



THE CHRONICLES OF CONAN VOLUME 22

Fleisher / Owsley / Buscema / Chan / Mayerik

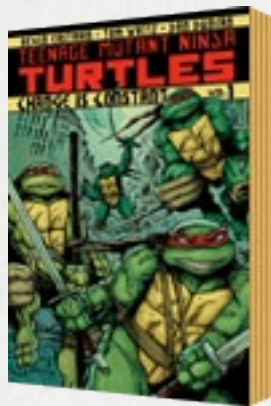
Dark Horse, 232 pages

Legends say that even demons fear to tread the Pictish

wilderness after the sun has set. But the threat of hordes of savage Picts is not enough to keep Conan the Barbarian from the lure of a king's treasure... and Tetra, the beautiful daughter of a Brythunian nobleman. While seemingly lost without Conan's protection, Tetra will show Pict and Cimmerian alike that she is far, far more than she seems!

Collects Conan the Barbarian #168–#173 and Conan the Barbarian Annual #8 and #9.

Featuring work by John Buscema.



TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES ADVENTURES VOL. 1

Garcia / Mitchrone / Mitchrone / Marx / Wise / Parr / Garcia

IDW, 120 Pages

Classic animated

TMNT action is collected here in this collection of two fan-favourite cartoon adaptations! In both "The Return of Shredder Parts 1–2" and "The Incredible Shrinking Turtles Parts 1–2," as Shredder comes back to Earth from Dimension X and attempts to exact his revenge upon the hard-backed heroes.

Vintage TMNT action for fans both old and new!



MEN OF WAR VOL. 1: UNEASY COMPANY

Brandon / Vankin / Moore / Kindt / Lemire / Robinson / Krul / Arcudi / Derenick / Winslade / McCaffrey / Green / Kolins / Scherberger / Corben

DC, 256 pages

On the ground and on the front lines, a young, headstrong soldier known as Joe Rock assumes command of Easy Company – a team of ex-military men turned contractors.

From today's battlefields come these tales of war against terrorism.

Collects the entire eight-issue run of Men Of War!



WONDER WOMAN: ODYSSEY VOL. 1

Straczynski / Hester / Kramer

DC, 168 pages

Diana must track down the truth behind what's

happened to her timeline and learn who destroyed Paradise Island!

Collects WONDER WOMAN #600-606.



Incredible Hulk: Regression

Mantlo / Buscema / Trimpe

Marvel, 408 pages

Bruce Banner, estranged from Betty Ross, settles in at his new Northwind

laboratory as Kate Waynesboro enters his life as his research assistant — and soon becomes his new love interest. But what ulterior motive is she hiding? Then, when the Hulk returns from Battleworld after the Beyonder's Secret Wars, Banner's all-too precarious hold on his savage half begins slipping — threatening to destroy the happiness he's finally attained! It all comes to a head in a no-holds-barred battle against the entire Marvel Universe — and the ending will shock you!

Collecting Incredible Hulk (1968) #286-295 & #297-300 and Annual #12.



TRANSFORMERS: AUTOCRACY

Metzen / Dille / Ramondelli

IDW, 120 pages

Before Optimus became a Prime... he fought for order.

Before Megatron became a conqueror... he fought for freedom. Before they were enemies... they stood against—Autocracy.

Writers Chris Metzen (World of Warcraft) and Flint Dille (original Transformers animated series) are joined by artist Livio Ramondelli (Transformers: Chaos) to bring you an IDW comics event five million years in the making.

The smash-hit digital comic, collected in print for the first time!

NOVEL IDEAS

ACE Comics pick of the best new graphic novels and collected editions arriving in July



SPIKE: THE COMPLETE SERIES

Lynch / Urru / Zanni / Mooney

IDW, 200 pages

Collects the complete 8-issue series of Spike by Brian Lynch

that connects the "After The Fall" storyline to the subsequent "Buffy: Season 8" series. Spike is out on his own, away from Angel's watchful eye, and in charge of his own destiny. Old flames and new challenges arise as Spike faces a crazed killer, Wolfram & Hart, and the consequences of having a soul.



TRANSFORMERS: ROBOTS IN DISGUISE VOL. 1

Barber / Griffith

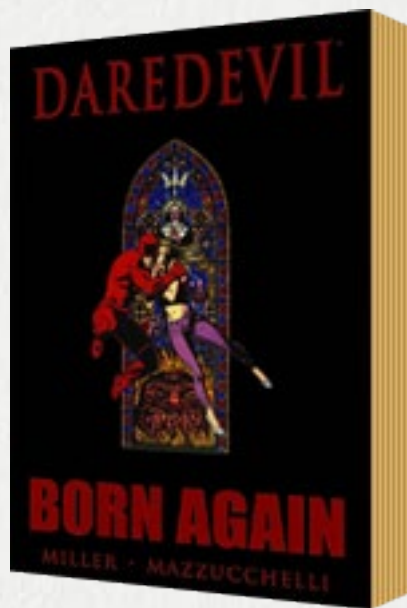
IDW, 124 pages

The war for Cybertron is over—now the hard part begins! Bumblebee and his fellow Autobots struggle to maintain control of a world without Optimus Prime! Bumblebee's provisional government is struggling and Prowl defends it against the Decepticons but how far will he go—and who will chose to stand by his side?



HISTORY BOOKS

With the huge volume of titles released each week, it can be quite easy to overlook the rich history of comic books available in the form of back issues and graphic novels, so we're going to take this opportunity to showcase some gems in Illuminations, that you previously might have missed.



DAREDEVIL: BORN AGAIN (1986)

FRANK MILLER / DAVID MAZZUCHELLI

"And I - I have shown him... that a man without hope is a man without fear." The definitive Daredevil tale! Karen Page, Matt Murdock's former lover, has traded away the Man Without Fear's secret identity for a drug fix. Now, Daredevil must find strength as the Kingpin of Crime wastes no time taking him down as low as a human can get! Collects Daredevil #226-233" - Marvel

Throughout Daredevil's history, Frank Miller has arguably had the largest impact and influence over the 'Man Without Fear'. His work with Daredevil began in May 1979, when he joined the title as an artist, and ten issues later, he was writing the title. Miller brought a new dynamism and darker tone to the character which has continued to this day.

After a character-defining run, Miller left in 1983, only to return two years later and, in 1983, wrote the 'Born Again' storyline.

Karen Page, the former secretary of the Nelson & Murdock law offices and girlfriend of Matt Murdock, returns after a failed attempt to pursue an acting career in Hollywood. She became a star of pornographic movies and a heroin addict. In an act of desperation, she sells Matt Murdock's secret identity for a shot of heroin. This information is then exploited by Daredevil's arch enemy, the Kingpin, as he systematically tries to ruin every aspect of Murdock's life.

'Born Again' is a rich tale, incorporating recurring themes and contemporary political comment. The narrative is tight and full of drama, tension and emotion as we follow Matt's continual loss until he literally has nothing left to lose. There is a strong supporting cast including reporter Ben Urich and even an ethereal appearance from the Avengers.

'Born Again' is a must for not only Miller and Daredevil fans, but all readers of comics alike. There is even strong opinion that it is better than Frank Miller's later 'Dark Knight Returns'.

STAFF PICKS

We're often asked to recommend something fresh for our customers to read at ACE Comics, so we've decided to throw a few ideas in here...

THE CROW (IDW)

When sifting through Previews I am looking for a story that has back content. This being either a character with history or creators with a history of good titles. Not much to whet my curiosity this month, just The Crow From IDW. The re-launch strangely is not written by James O'Barr (who is currently working on a Crow tale for release later in the year), but by John Shirley the screen writer for the film. This title has exactly what I'm looking for though on two levels. The character has been around for a number of years and the writer has a track record. The spirit of the Crow will take Jamie Osterberg on a roller coaster ride of pain and love and I will be there with him. - BIFF

HYPERNATURALS (BOOM!)

Cosmic must be on the wane at Marvel as the Kings of Cosmic, Dan Abnett and Andy Lanning have moved across to Boom studios to bring us their next cosmic event The Hypernaturals.

The super powered individuals that keep galactic peace suddenly disappear and chaos starts to break out. However, a group of long forgotten Hypernaturals come out of retirement and try to save the galaxy from destruction. If this was Marvel it would work, but will enough people move over to Boom to make it work? I hope so. Make sure you add this to your pull list, I will. - BIFF

CONCRETE: THREE EASY PIECES (DARK HORSE)

If you have never read Concrete before, then here's a great chance to familiarize yourself with one of the best creator-owned characters ever. Dark Horse are reprinting recent stories from their Dark Horse Presents series, collected together in this one-shot. A refreshing change from all of the superhero books out there, this title's strength lies in the bitter-sweet charm of Concrete's interaction with regular, mundane, everyday situations. If you're looking for a comic full of beauty, pathos and joy, they don't come much heavier than Concrete. It's a solid read! - GUY



TRANSFORMERS REGENERATION ONE (IDW)

The original Transformers comic series ended in 1991 with issue #80. Optimus Prime was back with the legendary 'Last Autobot' in tow to turn the tide on a seemingly futile battle with Bludgeon's Decepticons.

Now, 21 years later, IDW have reactivated the original Transformers series beginning with issue #81 and featuring the original writer and artist team of Simon Furman and Andrew Wildman. With the varying realities and timelines that have spread across the Transformers titles since their Dreamwave re-emergence, it'll be very interesting to see how the original series holds up, and a welcome sight to see the Autobots and Decepticons as we know and remember them. - MARC

CAPTAIN MARVEL (IDW)

Captain Marvel has always been, next to Daredevil, my favourite Marvel character. Having read the early stories when he was a Kree soldier on a spying mission in preparation for the conquest of our planet, then the cosmic rebirth by Jim Starlin and the one true Marvel death in the aptly named Death of Captain Marvel graphic novel, then finally the wonderfully weird series by Peter David. The good news is that he is still the only Marvel character to have stayed dead (he did reappear briefly during the Secret Invasion but that was through a time worm hole and he then returned to his own era), however the Captain Marvel this time is Carol Danvers, formerly of the Avengers and calling herself Ms Marvel. This is superb. I have a character with long history. Carol Danvers, who appeared in Marvel Super Heroes #12, along with Captain Mar Vell back in 1967. Plus, if written well, this can be intertwined with the back history of Captain Marvel. Brilliant. This will be my must read of the month. - BIFF

HE-MAN AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE (DC)

One of the most iconic of all of the 80's toylines, He-Man is making his return in a six issue miniseries from DC. The fact that this is being written by Eisner-winner James Robinson (Starman, Leave It To Chance) is a definite plus and the storyline sounds intriguing - Reality has been rewritten. Skeletor has triumphed over Eternia and rules from Castle Greyskull while the heroes of Eternia have no knowledge of their true identities. Once the Sorceress restores He-Man's memory, he sets out on a journey to reunite the heroes. Expect nostalgic smiles to creep across the faces of anyone around the age of 35 at the prospect of seeing Ram-Man, Trapjaw, Stratos and Fisto again. - GUY



BIFF'S BIT

Just a reminder: my e-mail address is martin@acecomics.co.uk, telephone 01206 364140 and online at www.acecomics.co.uk

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE

A lot of non-comic readers have spoken to me lately expressing the opinion that this must be good for business, driving more people into comic stores. They look bemused when I say that is not the case. Very Few Films have driven new customers into my stores. Several Films have driven customers away. The most disastrous being Tank Girl and Judge Dredd.

Last year the Green Lantern Film even drove down the prices of old Green Lantern comics. It was such a poor representation of the comic that not only were current sales hurt but people stopped buying back issues too.

The big problem is that Film goers are just not comic readers, in fact most Film goers don't read Full stop. Films are just eye candy for people that do not want to think. Film producers have to adapt the comic/book to fit the mentality of the Film going audience and therein lies the problem.

In the Daredevil Film we had Matt Murdock, in civvies, having an acrobatic duet with Elektra, in a playground, in daylight. To me this is just heresy and stupid beyond reason. To a Film goer this is fun, maybe exciting. They are not thinking past the moment of the scene. They are not thinking, hey this is a blind man and how the heck can he be doing this, this may expose his secret identity.

It is cutting off our noses to spite our faces if we drop a title we love just to protest at the heresy we see on the big screen, but for some this is the only way they feel they can make Marvel/DC take notice and take a bit more control of the films content.

The new Judge Dredd Film, I am pleased to report, will NOT have Judge Dredd take off his helmet. Only a small detail but incredibly important to the whole Mega

City mythos. This is because the owner of Rebellion comics is being directly involved in the Film.

Some Films can be made to appeal to both the original source plus the cinema going audience. The First Iron Man Film was excellent in this respect. Unfortunately the script writers let themselves down a bit at the end when Obadiah Stane went mad in his own suit as he battled Iron Man. Having spent the whole movie saying he needed Stark and his technology to make his own suits at the end he made within days a suit that was beating the crap out of Shellhead. This was just bad story telling and not bad comics, but bugged the hell out of me.

Generally I do not go to see Film adaptations of any comic because I know I will be disappointed. However, Avengers Assemble does look good, the trailers are excellent, and since the Thor movie got good reviews, Iron Man 1 and 2 were good I am going to break with my vow and I will be going the first week of release.

However, if the Film lets me down I will still be buying comics, Avenger ones included.

To end on a positive note I must list the few Films/television shows that brought in new customers: Watchmen, V For Vendetta, Scott Pilgrim, Hellboy and the King of them all, Walking Dead.

That just leaves me to say on behalf of all at ACE Colchester, Biff, Tina, Kerrie, Marc, Guy, Evil Stu, Victoria, Colin, Ed, Glenn, Matt and of course Brenden and Bryony, Lea in Southend, Richard and Guy in Richmond, Ivor, Scott, Scott, Lorna, Stuart and Bennie in Glasgow...

Happy May Day!



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