



ILLUMINATIONS

MAY 2013:

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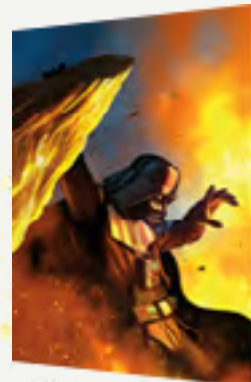
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NEW TITLES SHIPPING IN JULY: PREMIER PUBLISHERS

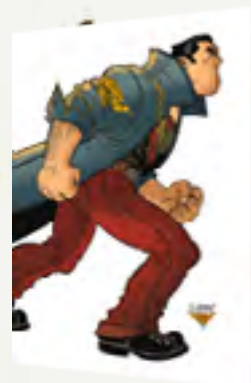


STAR WARS: DARK TIMES A SPARK REMAINS #1 (OF 5)

RANDY STRADLEY | DOUGLAS WHEATLEY

Reunited with the ragtag crew of the Uhumele, Jedi Dass Jennir is surprised to find them plotting with another Jedi to take down the iron fist of the new Galactic Empire—Darth Vader himself! Having only just found love and a reason to live, Jennir is reluctant to join—but their plan may be too good to pass up ...

Artist Doug Wheatley returns!



CATALYST COMIX #1 (OF 9)

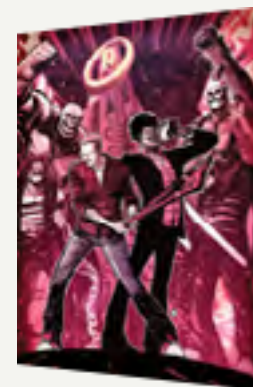
JOE CASEY | DAN McDAID | ULISES FARINAS | PAUL MAYBURY

Straight from the glory of Comics' Greatest World, Frank "Titan" Wells, Amazing Grace and the Agents of Change are back, baby! But you've never seen them like this! Superhero comics get a back-alley facelift as these very different champions confront cosmic threats and personal demons—and it all starts at the end of the world as we know it!

Masterminded by Joe Casey (Sex, Gødland, Baker the Righteous Maker)!

Wraparound series covers from Rafael Grampá, Paul Pope, and Brendan McCarthy!

Artists Dan McDaid (Doctor Who), Ulises Farinas (Glory), and Paul Maybury (Aqua Leung)!



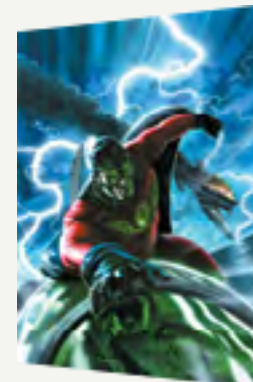
BLOOD BROTHERS #1 (OF 3)

MIKE GAGERMAN | ANDREW WALLER | EVAN SHANER

Nick and Tree have smoked opium with Genghis Khan, had orgies in Michelangelo's studio, and even fronted a death metal band.

But after a century of friendship, these inseparable vampire buddies are on the verge of splitting up. Terrible timing, as an apocalypse-obsessed villain is plotting an end to humanity.

Best friends ... forever.



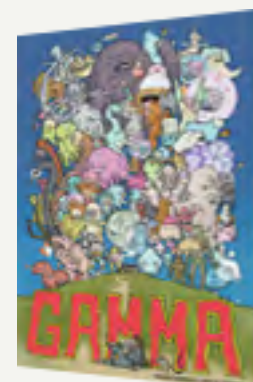
CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT #1

JOSHUA WILLIAMSON | FERNANDO DAGNINO

On the run from the US government after fleeing custody, Captain Midnight has been labeled a security risk. In the forties, he was an American hero, a daredevil fighter pilot, a technological genius . . . a superhero. But since he rifled out of the Bermuda Triangle into the present day, Captain Midnight doesn't know what or who to trust!

A key title in Dark Horse's new superhero initiative!

Written by Joshua Williamson (Masks and Mobsters, Voodoo, Uncharted) with art by Fernando Dagnino (Resurrection Man, Suicide Squad)!



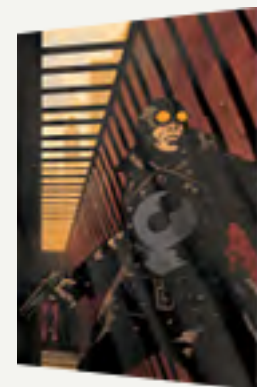
GAMMA (ONE-SHOT)

ULISES FARINAS | ERICK FREITAS

Dusty Keztchemal is a pathetic coward. He failed the entire planet, and now, the only way he can make a living is by getting punched in the face for money.

But when a beautiful stranger wanders into his saloon looking for help, Dusty thinks he can conjure up the man he once was—the greatest monster trainer in the world!

The first original story from Catalyst artist and rising star Ulises Farinas (Transformers: Heart of Darkness, Glory)!



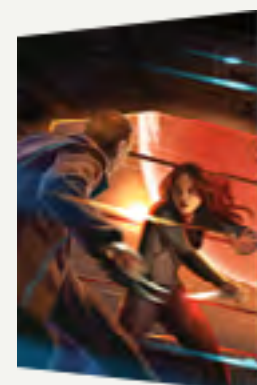
LOBSTER JOHNSON: A SCENT OF LOTUS #1

MIKE MIGNOLA | JOHN ARCUDI | SEBASTIÁN FIUMARA

A series of brutal Chinatown murders sets off a manhunt for an Imperial Japanese agent even the Tong are afraid to kill. The Crimson

Lotus, first introduced in B.P.R.D.: The Dead in 2005, finally stands revealed!

Essential ties to B.P.R.D. Plague of Frogs!



MASS EFFECT: FOUNDATION #1

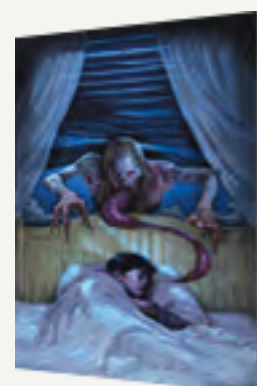
MAC WALTERS | OMAR FRANCIA

Mass Effect 2 and 3 lead writer Mac Walters kicks off a new ongoing series, set in the vibrant, engaging world of BioWare's blockbuster science fiction epic!

Mass Effect: Foundation starts with a bang, introducing readers to an enigmatic "agent" and revealing the story of her time spent on the violent mining colony of Themis.

First issue of a new ongoing series!

Mass Effect 3 was the winner of "Best RPG" at the 2012 Spike VGAs!



THE STRAIN: THE FALL #1

DAVID LAPHAM | MIKE HUDDLESTON

Dr. Ephraim Goodweather's failure to kill the Master—the ancient vampire behind the epidemic infesting New York City—has led the former alcoholic to relapse as

the city burns around him. It's the end of the world, but Eph, beaten but not dead, has still got to protect his son Zack from his mother, who's now a bloodthirsty vampire that craves her child more than any artery.

From the mind of visionary filmmaker Guillermo del Toro and novelist Chuck Hogan.

Ongoing series continuing the story of the critically acclaimed comic The Strain.



THE ROCKETEER/ THE SPIRIT: PULP FRICTION! #1 (OF 4)

MARK WAID | PAUL SMITH

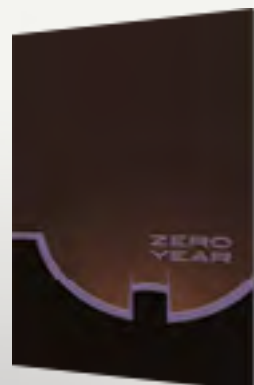
The Spirit, created by Will Eisner, and The Rocketeer, created by Dave Stevens, are two of the most beloved characters in the history of comics.

Now, these two great pulp-inspired heroes meet for the very first time! A Central City Councilman disappears and is found dead in Los Angeles. Commissioner Dolan, along with Denny Colt (AKA The Spirit) and his daughter Ellen in tow, treks out to the City of Angels to investigate. Meanwhile, Cliff Secord (The Rocketeer) consoles his sweetheart Betty... who is traumatized after accidentally discovering the politicians body!

Written by Eisner winner Mark Waid and drawn by the legendary Paul Smith!



DC COMICS™

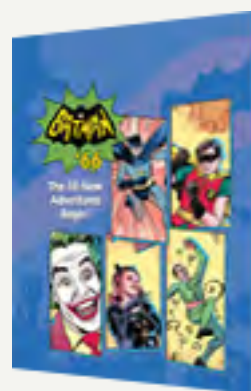


BATMAN YEAR ZERO: THE DIRECTOR'S CUT #1

SCOTT SNYDER |
JAMES TYNION IV |
GREG CAPULLO |
RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE

Reprinting the first chapter of this new story arc that begins in Batman #21 from the stunning pencil art

of Greg Capullo and Rafael Albuquerque, with the full, action-packed scripts by Scott Snyder and James Tynion IV!

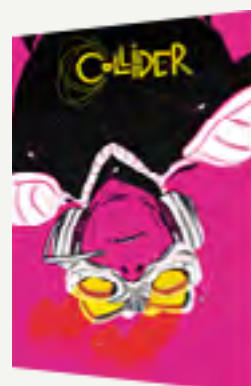


BATMAN '66 #1

JEFF PARKER |
JONATHAN CASE

Put on your go-go boots and get ready to "Batusi" back to the Swingin' 60s as DC Comics reimagines the classic Batman TV series in comics form for the first time! These all-new

stories portray The Caped Crusader, The Boy Wonder and their fiendish rogues gallery just the way viewers remember them. In this first adventure, The Riddler's out to steal some valuable artwork from under the noses of Gotham's police. But Batman gets help from an unlikely source: a certain femme fatale dressed in feline finery!



COLLIDER #1

SIMON OLIVER |
ROBBI RODRIGUEZ

It started small: temporary gravity failures, time reversal loops, entropy reversals. With much fanfare a new government agency was formed with a mandate "to prevent and

protect." Its official title: The Federal Bureau of Physics. Humans, if nothing else, adapt to the changing parameters of their existence. What was extraordinary soon became ordinary, a part of people's daily lives. They move on and do what people have always done: survive. But even that new status quo is now under threat. Things are getting worse, and it falls to Special Agent Adam Hardy and his FBP team to figure out what's going on, before it's too late...



SUPERMAN UNCHAINED DIRECTOR'S CUT #1

SCOTT SNYDER | JIM LEE |
DUSTIN NGUYEN

The debut issue of the red-hot new series is back in a special Director's Cut edition! Shot directly from the pencil art by Jim Lee and

Dustin Nguyen for Superman Unchained #1, this new edition also includes Scott Snyder's full script to this blockbuster story!



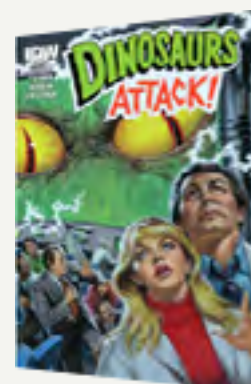
TOM STRONG AND THE PLANET OF PERIL #1

PETER HOGAN |
CHRIS SPROUSE |
KARL STROY

At last, it's the return of Tom Strong--too bad he's powerless! The lives of his daughter Tesla and her unborn child both

hang in the balance, and there's nothing Tom can do to save them... until he remembers the one thing that just might. To find it, he and Val Var Garm must journey to the far side of the galaxy, and the mysterious world known as...Terra Obscura!

IDW PUBLISHING



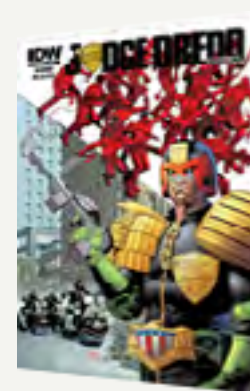
DINOSAURS ATTACK #1

GARY GERANI |
HERB TRIMPE | EARL NOREM

They're back! 25 years after Topps' original Dinosaurs Attacks! trading cards took a bite out of candy counter sales, the original Eclipse graphic novel written by

DA creator Gary Gerani returns, this time released in its entirety!

With pencils by Herb (G.I. Joe) Trimpe and paintings by veteran illustrator Earl Norem, the entire story will be released as five comic books, with all the blood-curdling trimmings. So put world-conquering Martians aside for a bit and relish the time-tilted melodrama and wild humor of Dinosaurs Attacks! -- the ultimate nightmare is now a reality from IDW!



JUDGE DREDD CLASSICS #1

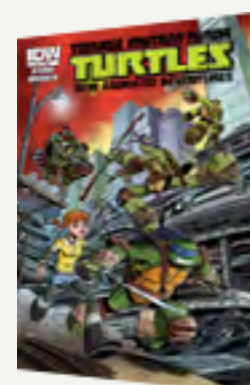
JOHN WAGNER |
ALAN GRANT |
MIKE MCMAHON |
RON SMITH

Re-presenting classic Judge Dredd tales monthly, with all-new colors by Charlie Kirchoff! Up first, 30

pages of "Block Mania," which will lead to the beloved Apocalypse War!

30 pages of "Block Mania," with all-new colors, launching straight out of the acclaimed Free Comic Book Day issue!

New covers by artist Jim Fern!



TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES NEW ANIMATED ADVENTURES #1

KENNY BYERLY |
DARIO BRIZUELA

Spinning straight out of the hit Nickelodeon cartoon comes an all-new, all-ages book perfect for fans both old

and new! When things take a dangerous turn on a covert mission, the Turtles will have to use their super-ninja skills as well as some moderately-Super gadgets to help save their friend from some big trouble!

Turtle-mania spreads to the printed page!

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles TV scribe Kenny Byerly writes this fantastic first issue!



WIZARDS & ROBOTS (ONE-SHOT)

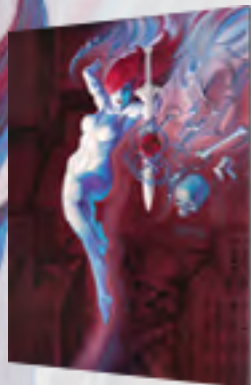
WILL.I.AM |
BRIAN DAVID JOHNSON |
ADAM ARCHER

A futuristic army of mysterious Robots embarks on a quest to the distant past in search of powerful Wizards.

Though their motives are unclear, nothing will get in their way! Traveling through time and space, Grammy Award Winner will.i.am and globetrotting futurist Brian David Johnson uncover the secrets between these two unlikely rivals and how their war could destroy the Earth!

A mind-bending mega issue from some of the most creative minds on the planet!

From the mind of will.i.am, famed grammy-winner and front man of The Black Eyed Peas!



DAWN: THE SWORDMASTER'S DAUGHTER & OTHER STORIES (ONE-SHOT)

JOSEPH MICHAEL LINSNER

In his first new Dawn comic in three years, Joseph Michael Linsner brings to life three classic tales as only Dawn can. "The Swordmaster's Daughter" shows a young Dawn inspiring Darrian to become a master swordsman. In "Samsara," Dawn learns that Death is never late for an appointment. And in "The White Phoenix," Dawn shows Darrian if it is right to fight false friends by sharing with him a page from The Bhagavad Gita.

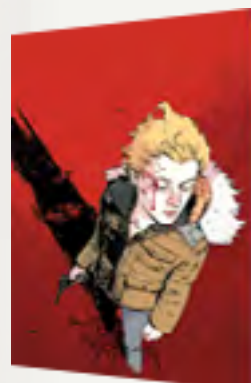


GHOSTED #1

JOSHUA WILLIAMSON |
GORAN SUDZUKA |
MIROSLAV MRVA

A horror/crime mashup that's equal parts Ocean's 11 and The Shining.

Jackson T. Winters is one of the greatest criminal masterminds to ever live...except he's rotting in jail after his last, doomed score. But when a filthy rich collector breaks him out, he's tasked with putting together an elite team of paranormal experts to do the impossible: Steal a ghost from a haunted house of horrors!



SHELTERED #1

ED BRISSON |
JOHNNIE CHRISTMAS

A pre-apocalyptic tale of survival at any cost, the men and women of Safe Haven have been preparing for any-and-all end of world scenarios for years. However, their bunkers, weapons and

training can't save them from the one threat they never could have expected: Their own children.



SATELLITE SAM #1

MATT FRACTION |
HOWARD CHAYKIN

Sex : Death : Live TV!

New York City, 1951: The star of beloved daily television serial "Satellite Sam" turns up dead in a flophouse filled with dirty secrets.

The police think it was death by natural causes but his son knows there was something more... if only he could sober up long enough to do something about it. This noir mystery shot through with sex and violence exposes the seedy underbelly of the golden age of television.



BLACK BOLT: SOMETHING INHUMAN THIS WAY COMES

ROY THOMAS |
GERRY CONWAY |
NEAL ADAMS |
MIKE SEKOWSKY

Black Bolt, monarch of the Inhumans, wanders the streets of San

Francisco — his memory stolen and his identity forgotten! Maximus the Mad has usurped the throne — and Medusa, Gorgon and Karnak are forced to flee the Inhumans' hidden city! What strange new force has wiped Black Bolt's mind? When he's targeted by criminals, revolutionaries and the mutant called Magneto, will his fellow Inhumans find him in time? Guest-starring Thor and the Avengers!

Collecting Amazing Adventures (1970) #5-10 and Avengers (1963) #95.



AVENGERS A.I. #1

SAM HUMPHRIES |
ANDRE LIMA ARAUJO

Harder. Better. Faster. Stranger.

The triumph of Hank Pym turns to tragedy for the human race...an unfathomable Pandora's Box of destruction!

When a brave new world is unleashed, only one team of Earth's Mightiest Heroes can save us from the future — Avengers A.I.! The Vision! Hank Pym! Victor Mancha! Doombot! The mysterious Alexis! Monica Chang, Agent Of S.H.I.E.L.D.! The Age Of Ultron is over! The Age Of A.I. is NOW!



DARK TOWER: THE GUNSLINGER – SO FELL LORD PERTH

ROBIN FURTH |
PETER DAVID |
RICHARD ISANOVE

Marvel concludes its epic Dark Tower saga with this all-new one-shot!

How does the Gunslinger's quest echo the legendary battle between a young Arthur Eld and a towering Lord Perth? Find out here! A must-read for Dark Tower completists!



DEADPOOL KILLS DEADPOOL #1 (OF 4)

CULLEN BUNN |
SALVA ESPIN

The final act of the Deadpool Killogy begins! Deadpool sets his sites on the ultimate target... himself!

Contains over 700% of your daily recommended Deadpool!



HAWKEYE ANNUAL #1

MATT FRACTION |
JAVIER PULIDO

Go west, young lady! Kate Bishop heads to Los Angeles -- to get away from New York, life, and Clint Barton—but not trouble! But Madame Masque is hanging out at poolside with the rich

and famous as well!

Who is Kate Bishop? Find out alongside Kate Bishop herself as a wild new status quo comes to Hawkeye.



THE EMERALD CITY OF OZ #1 (OF 5)

ERIC SHANOWER | SKOTTIE YOUNG

The Eisner Award-winning creative team of Skottie Young (Wonderful Wizard Of Oz, New Warriors) and Eric Shanower (Wonderful Wizard Of

Oz) bring the best Oz series yet!

In Kansas Uncle Henry can't pay the mortgage, so Aunt Em, Dorothy, and he must leave their home. Where can they go? To the Land of Oz, of course! Will anyone in Oz survive after the Nomes attack through a secret underground tunnel?



SUPERIOR CARNAGE #1 (OF 5)

KEVIN SHINICK | STEPHEN SEGOVIA

Superior Spider-month gets sinister with the return of Carnage!

Locked away in an asylum, it looks like Carnage is gone for good—but his fellow

inmates have other plans... Will they successfully wake the monster? Or will this hideous experiment create the most powerful, dangerous, maniacal carnage yet... a Superior Carnage?

Kevin Shinick (Avenging Spider-Man, Robot Chicken) and Stephen Segovia (Extreme X-men, Thor) come together to create a story so grotesquely gratifying you won't be able to look away!



WHAT IF? AVX #1-4 (OF 4)

JIMMY PALMIOTTI | JORGE MOLINA

The biggest event of 2012 is now the biggest miniseries of 2013!

We all know what happened to the Avengers and the X-Men... but what if the

story had gone differently? The one and only Jimmy Palmiotti brings his signature style to a mind-blowing reinterpretation of a key event in the history of the Marvel Universe. Featuring Magneto, Hope, and every Avenger and X-Man you can imagine!



DEXTER #1 (OF 5)

JEFF LINSDAY | DALIBOR TALAJIC

An all-new Dexter adventure—his first time in comic book form—written by his creator, author Jeff Lindsay!

Dexter Morgan isn't just Miami's #1 forensic blood splatter expert...he's also

a serial killer who targets other serial killers! In this issue, Dexter faces his worst nightmare: his high school reunion! Plus, Dexter faces his other worst nightmare: a former classmate with a secret that could destroy him!



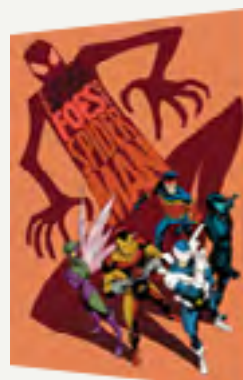
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY: TOMORROW'S AVENGERS #1

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS | MIKE OEMING | MING DOYLE | MICHAEL DEL MUNDO

Leaping off the pages of the biggest comic of the year comes stories about the biggest heroes

in the Marvel Universe!

Find out who the Guardians are – and why they're worthy of guarding the galaxy. Featuring: Rocket Raccoon, Drax, Gamora and Groot!



THE SUPERIOR FOES OF SPIDER-MAN #1

NICK SPENCER | STEVE LIEBER

Brand new on-going! Boomerang and some of Spidey's deadliest baddies prove that with terrible powers come terrible responsibilities!

Rising Star Nick Spencer teams with Eisner Award winning sensation Steve Lieber for a walk on the Spider-Verse's evil side!



WOLVERINE: IN THE FLESH #1

CHRIS COSENTINO | DALIBOR TALAJIC

Reality star Chris Cosentino tells a tale about Wolverine and food like only a Top Chef Master can! Adamantium claws meet steel kitchen knives in a culinary caper

starring your favorite costumed Canadian!

NEW TITLES SHIPPING IN JULY: PREMIER PUBLISHERS



SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN TEAM-UP #1

CHRISTOPHER YOST | DAVID LOPEZ

Superior Spider-month just got a whole lot more superior with a brand new ongoing!

Challenge them, of course!





RED SONJA #1

GAIL SIMONE |
WALTER GEOVANI
DYNAMITE ENTERTAINMENT

This Is It. Red Sonja gets a fresh new attitude by the dream team of writer Gail Simone (Batgirl, Birds of Prey) and artist Walter Geovani

(Prophecy, Witchblade), on the book they were born to create. Sonja pays back a blood debt owed to the one man who has gained her respect, even if it means leading a doomed army to their certain deaths! This thrilling new series features covers by the top female artists in the industry, including Nicola Scott, Colleen Doran, Jenny Frison, Fiona Staples, Amanda Conner and more. You do NOT want to miss this re-introduction the She-devil with a Sword!

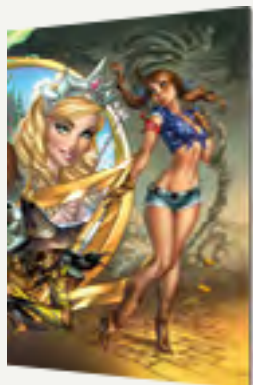


PLANET OF THE APES SPECTACULAR

CORINNA SARA BECHKO
| GABRIEL HARDMAN |
BENJAMIN DEWEY
BOOM! STUDIOS

With time quickly running out, Alaya faces execution for her crimes against ape kind, while Sully begins to realize

that the enemy of her enemy is not necessarily a friend either... It's Apes vs. Apes vs. Humans, as Daryl Gregory's epic continues in the Planet Of The Apes Spectacular!



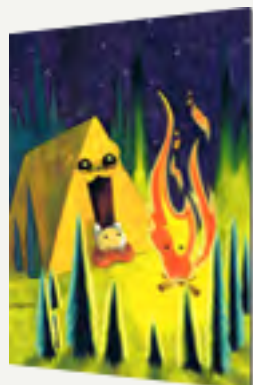
GRIMM FAIRY TALES PRESENTS: OZ #1

JOE BRUSHA |
ROLANDO NETO |
GLAUBER MATOS
ZENESCOPE

At long last, the final realm of power in the Grimm Fairy Tales universe is revealed... and there's never been

an Oz quite like this! This modern take on the story re-imagines the classic tale in the signature Zenescope style. The Witches of Oz are searching for a lost weapon of power known as the Veridian Scepter. Their quest leads them to the most unlikely of places... the farmlands of Kansas and the home of the unlikeliest of heroes... Dorothy Gale. The epic Oz adventure starts here!

SELECTED NEW TITLES SHIPPING IN JULY



ADVENTURE TIME SUMMER SPECIAL 2013

ABRAMO | ANDY RUNTON
| BECKY DREISTADT |
FRANK GIBSON |
NOELLE STEVENSON |
RYAN PEQUIN
BOOM! STUDIOS

Put on that sunscreen and grab your beach-towel, because it's an

Adventure Time summer special! Featuring all-new sun-kissed stories from acclaimed creators, starring Finn, Jake and all of your favorites and showcasing a fully-painted cover by Becky Dreistadt!



ARMY OF DARKNESS VS. HACK/SLASH #1

TIM SEELEY |
DANIEL LEISTER
DYNAMITE ENTERTAINMENT

After the events of the Hack/Slash series, Cassie Hack is doing her best to live a normal life. But a Deadite attack forces Cassie back into

action and this time, she's not alone! Meet Cassie's new partner: Ashley J. Williams! Can the pair keep from killing each other long enough to quest for the stolen pages from the Book of the Dead? Will Ash get some sugar? Or will Cassie make him kiss it? It's the horror mash-up that fans demanded!

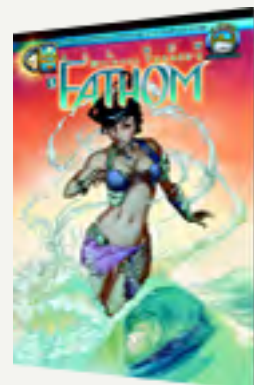


THE STRANGERS #1

CHRIS ROBERSON |
SCOTT KOWALCHUK |
DAN JACKSON
ONI PRESS

Protecting the world from the strange is what Verity, Michael, and Sandoval do best, and on the island nation of Hidalgo, things have been getting very

strange indeed. The president has declared martial law, sending everyone to excavations in the jungle. But the strangest thing of all is the involvement of the mysterious organization O.C.C.U.L.T. What could they want with an island with no strategic value? It's up to the Strangers to find out!

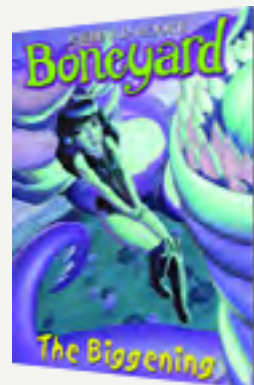


ALL NEW FATHOM #1

DAVID WOHL | ALEX KONAT
ASPEN MLT INC

A new direction in the Fathom Universe begins! Michael Turner's best-selling series has reached its milestone 15-year anniversary! However, Aspen Matthews'

adventure under the surface has no plans of slowing down! Following the devastating events of "The Elite Saga", Aspen Matthews finds herself at a decisive crossroads in her life—with the memories of her past no longer weighing her down, she is finally able to set about building a new life in San Diego once more. But, being the daughter of two worlds is no easy feat—and Aspen will quickly discover the winds of change oftentimes lead directly into the perils of fate! The all-new Fathom starts right here!

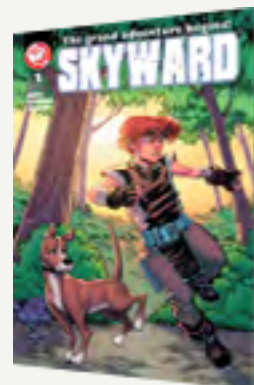


BONEYARD: THE BIGGINING (ONE-SHOT)

RICHARD MOORE

Hey! Have you heard the news? Boneyard is back! And in a special, oversize issue, no less! Feeling inadequate next to Abbey's previous loves, Paris does what anyone

would do: buy a self-improvement potion from Glump. How could that go wrong? Also, Abbey in a black mini-dress and thigh-high leather boots. We probably should've led with that.



SKYWARD #1

JEREMY DALE
ACTION LAB

The fantastic storybook adventure begins! The new creator-owned series from Jeremy Dale (G.I. Joe, NFL Rush Zone, Marvel Kapow!) follows the thrilling tale

of Quinn, left orphaned by an invasion of his homeland. He and other lost villagers run headfirst into a conflict and world that is much bigger and fantastic than they could possibly imagine.



THE OWL #1 (OF 4)

J.T. KRUL |
HEUBERT KAHN MICHAEL
DYNAMITE ENTERTAINMENT

Fear the shadows, the Owl has returned! Lost for 50 years in an ethereal limbo, the Owl has come back to find a violent and desperate

world of strangers. The woman he loved is gone, but he remains determined to continue his fight for justice. Can the Owl withstand the challenges awaiting him... or will this new reality crush his body and spirit?



FUBAR BY THE SWORD #1

CHUCK DIXON |
STEVE BECKER | VARIOUS
ACTION LAB

The New York Times-bestselling zombie series FUBAR returns with an all new giant-sized two issue miniseries. The

first oversized issue in this series shows what happens when FUBAR goes medieval on the walking dead with five brand-new stories of ye olde zombie-stomping madness! If you're new to FUBAR, now's the perfect time to jump on board!



ADVENTURE TIME: CANDY CAPERS #1

ANANTH PANAGARIYA |
YUKO OTA | IAN MCGINTY

A sugary who-done-it in the land of Adventure Time! Something rotten is afoot in the Land of Ooo, and someone's gotta sniff out what it is!

When Finn and Jake are suddenly kidnapped, Princess Bubblegum deputizes two of her most trusted citizens... Peppermint Butler and Cinnamon Bun?! The crime movie homages come hard and fast in the Candy Kingdom that never sleeps, written by acclaimed cartoonists Yuko Ono and Ananth Panagariya (Johnny Wander)! Don't miss the newest hardboiled addition to the Adventure Time comic book family!



DAY MEN #1

MATT GAGNON |
MICHAEL ALAN NELSON |
BRIAN STELFREEZE
BOOM! STUDIOS

Forthousands of years, the world has been controlled by the "50 Families" -- a secret network of vampire covens engaged in a timeless struggle for

power. But when the sun rises, the vampires are forced to employ the services of a human who acts as their daytime fixer and protector... Trained for centuries to be the mortal soldiers of their vampire employers, the Day Men go forth at sunrise, alone into the world, to do the bidding of their sleeping benefactors.



QUANTUM AND WOODY #1

JAMES ASMUS |
TOW FOWLER
VALIANT

Once upon a time, Eric and Woody Henderson were inseparable. Adopted brothers. Best friends. Brilliant minds. Years later, they are

estranged siblings, petty rivals, and washed-up failures. But when their father's murder leads them into the throes of a life-altering scientific accident, Eric and Woody will find themselves with a whole new purpose -- and a perfectly legitimate reason to wear costumes and fight crime. Go big or go home, folks!



GEORGE RR MARTIN: SKIN TRADE #1

GEORGE R. R. MARTIN |
DANIEL ABRAHAM |
MIKE WOLFER

George RR Martin returns to comics with Skin Trade, the World Fantasy Award winning story that combines Martin's unique creative

voice into a powerful vision of horror! Private investigator, Randi Wade sees the ravaged remains of innocent victims that have been savagely murdered and skinned. As the mysterious secrets of the Blackstone Manor begin to be uncovered, she gets ever closer to the monstrous truth...werewolves are real! George RR Martin combines his unmatched creative vision with the visceral illustrations of horror master Mike Wolfer to create something intensely unsettling.

NOVEL IDEAS

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



BATMAN VOL. 3: DEATH OF THE FAMILY HC

SNYDER | TYNION IV |
CAPULLO | GLAPION |
JOCK
DC, 176 Pages

After having his face sliced off, The Joker makes his horrifying return to Gotham City in this epic from issues #13-17 that shook Batman to his core! But even for a man who's committed a lifetime of murder, he's more dangerous than ever before. How can Batman protect his city and those he's closest to?

The first printing of this new hardcover features an acetate dust jacket showcasing the face of The Joker as it appeared on the die-cut covers of the "Death of the Family" comics — and under that dust jacket lies the horror that is The Joker's skinless skull!



STAR TREK VOL. 5

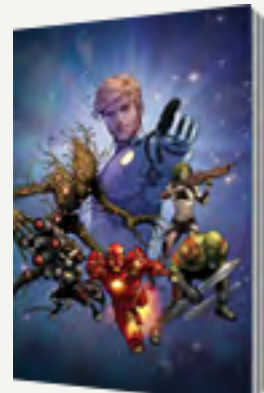
JOHNSON | PARROTT |
BALBONI
IDW, 104 Pages

Find out how Doctor Leonard "Bones" McCoy found himself on a shuttle to Starfleet Academy with James T. Kirk! Learn new secrets about Uhura's past and witness her first meeting with Spock! Discover what led young Montgomery Scott to devote himself to engineering. And, witness Sulu's and Chekov's first meeting at Starfleet Academy, and learn how their paths intertwined all the way to the bridge of the Enterprise! All overseen by Star Trek writer/producer Roberto Orci.

All-new origin stories of the Enterprise crew in the new movie timeline!

Watch out for the hidden "easter eggs" with clues and tie-ins to the movie in ALL five volumes of the Star Trek Ongoing series!

Collects issues #17 - 20!

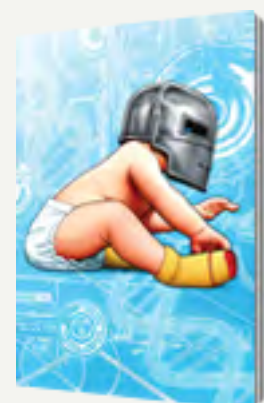


GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 1: COSMIC AVENGERS PREMIERE HC

BENDIS | McNIVEN |
BIGEREL | OEMING
Marvel, 136 Pages

There's a new rule in the galaxy: No one touches Earth! But why has Earth suddenly become the most important planet in the galaxy? That's what the Guardians of the Galaxy are going to find out! Join Star-Lord, Gamora, Drax, Rocket Raccoon, Groot and — wait for it — the Invincible Iron Man as they embark upon one of the most explosive and eye-opening chapters of Marvel NOW! The secrets these galactic Avengers discover will rattle Marvel readers for years to come! But while London deals with a brutal invasion by the Badoon, the fate of the Guardians may have already been decided millions of miles away! Why wait for the movie? It all starts here!

Collecting Guardians Of The Galaxy (2013) #1-3 and #0.1, and Guardians Of The Galaxy Infinite Comic #1.



IRON MAN VOL. 2: THE SECRET ORIGIN OF TONY STARK, BOOK 1 PREMIERE HC

GILLEN | LAND |
EAGLESHAM
Marvel, 136 Pages

Picture this: Tony Stark. In space. In a bar. With ladies. What could go wrong? Tune in NOW! as the Armored Avenger reaps the surprising consequences of his role in AVX! Plus: The story that will shake Iron Man to his very core starts here! Many years ago, Howard and Maria Stark had a baby — but there's something you don't know. Learn the truth about Las Vegas and Area 51 as the two great myths of Nevada collide. Meanwhile, in a distant galaxy, Tony Stark screams!

Collecting Iron Man (2012) #6-11.



THE MANHATTAN PROJECTS VOL. 3

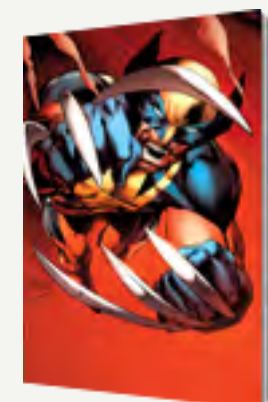
HICKMAN | PITARRA
Image, 152 Pages

"Building"

What if the research and development department created to produce the first atomic bomb was a front for a series of other, more unusual, programs?

The acclaimed feel good, bad science epic series now in one super educational package. It's The Manhattan Projects, Volume 3: Building!

Collecting issues #11-15 of the world's most irreverent alt history book.

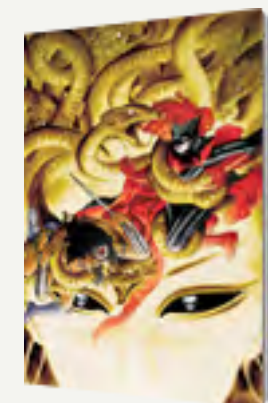


WOLVERINE VOL. 1: HUNTING SEASON

CORNELL | DAVIS
Marvel, 136 Pages

Pay attention very closely: There's a mystery here even Wolverine hasn't sniffed out yet. When Wolverine finds himself the bargaining chip in a hostage situation, he must make a decision that will follow him forever — literally! How can a berserker fight what he can't see? And how far will he go to assert his humanity in the face of the unknown? Guest-starring Nick Fury, Agent of S.H.I.E.L.D.! Then, Wolverine must track down a boy on a deadly rampage before he does the unthinkable! How will Logan defeat an enemy with no permanent body to slash and claw? And what does the Watcher have to do with all this? Find out when superstars Paul Cornell (Captain Britain And MI13, Doctor Who, Action Comics) and Alan Davis (Avengers, Clandestine, Excalibur, Uncanny X-Men) take on the Wolverine!

Collecting Wolverine (2013) #1-6.



BATWOMAN VOL. 3: WORLD'S FINEST HC

WILLIAMS III | BLACKMAN
| McCARTHY
DC, 160 Pages

Batwoman's search for Medusa brings her together with Wonder Woman in these stories from issues #12-17 and #0, but even this team might not be enough to bring down the mythological monster, as Bones, the DEO, Abbot and the Religion of Crime all descend on Gotham City to take part in the fight.

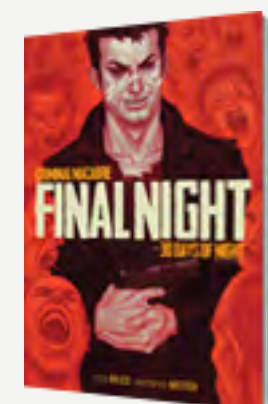


ROCKETEER: HOLLYWOOD HORROR HC

LANGRIDGE | J. BONE |
SIMONSON
IDW, 104 Pages

Missing scientists! Plucky girl reporters! Betty and Cliff on the rocks! The mysterious Church of Cosmicism! And who is the sinister Otto Rune? Pulp thrills the way you like them as the Rocketeer comes up against a brand-new adversary in... "The Hollywood Horror!"

Written by the Eisner and Harvey award winning Roger Langridge!



CRIMINAL MACABRE: FINAL NIGHT - THE 30 DAYS OF NIGHT CROSSOVER

NILES | MITTEN
Dark Horse, 112 Pages

Cal McDonald only wanted a beer, but what he got was a jaded federal agent and a story about vampires up in Barrow, Alaska. There's a new vamp in LA, and he's hell bent on bringing mankind to its knees.

Collects Criminal Macabre: Final Night - The 30 Days of Night Crossover #1-4.

An epic crossover, featuring the death of a major character!



**SPIDER-MAN:
DYING WISH**
SLOTT | RAMOS |
ELSON
Marvel, 136 Pages

A dying wish for revenge! Dr. Octopus was given a year to live, his body and brain in terminal decline after a lifetime of brutal battles with his arch-foe Spider-Man. So the brilliant madman used that time as you might expect. First, he mobilized an army of Octobots to take over Manhattan. Then, he assembled six sinister super villains to abduct Norman Osborn's child. Finally, he pursued Spider-Man to the ends of the Earth while threatening to burn the planet to a cinder. And each time, his ambitious plans ended in failure. Or did they? Were his defeats further proof of his madness — or his genius? With Dr. Octopus just hours from death, Spider-Man is about to learn the answer, as one of his oldest enemies turns the tables on him with a dying wish that spells doom for Peter Parker and everyone he loves!

Collecting Amazing Spider-Man #698-700.



**SAVAGE
WOLVERINE VOL.
1: KILL ISLAND
PREMIERE HC**
CHO
Marvel, 136 Pages

Wolverine awakes to find himself transported to the Savage Land and labeled Public Enemy No. 1! With no memory of how he got there, and Shanna the She-Devil his only ally, Logan must unravel the mystery that slumbers at the heart of the Savage Land before it finds a way to kill him first! In search of answers, Wolverine and Shanna venture into the depths of the Forbidden Island — but what will get them first, the island's inhabitants or their tempers? Meanwhile, another hero crash-lands on the island — but is he friend or foe? NOW!, under the detailed pen of Frank Cho, Wolverine is all brawls, babes and brachiosaurs. And you'll never see the end — or the future of the Marvel Universe — coming!

Collecting Savage Wolverine #1-5.



**TRANSFORMERS
CLASSICS VOL. 5**
BUDIANSKY | FURMAN
| DELBO | FERN |
SENIOR
IDW, 276 Pages

The historic comic book roots of the Transformers are re-presented for maximum Cybertronian enjoyment. Rejoin The Autobots and the Decepticons as their war stretches across the cosmos. Freshly remastered and re-colored, these stories are accompanied by an in-depth introduction as well as select issue notes by Mark W. Bellomo.

Collects issues #51-62 of the Marvel series.



**JUSTICE LEAGUE
VOL. 3: THRONE OF
ATLANTIS HC**
JOHNS | REIS | PRADO
| PELLETIER | THIBERT
| WOODS | PEREZ
DC, 192 Pages

In this sea-splashed epic from Justice League #13-17 and Aquaman #15-16, Atlantis is struck by a U.S. Navy missile gone awry, and Ocean Master leads the undersea city's forces in an attack on the east coast of the United States! The Justice League must turn back the tide, but they are woefully overmatched by the Atlantean Army! How can they save the world from annihilation?



**WONDER WOMAN
VOL. 3: IRON HC**
AZZARELLO | CHIANG |
AKINS | GREEN | PINNA
DC, 176 Pages

In these stories from issues #0 and #13-18, a terrible betrayal forces Wonder Woman to make a deal with the gods who want her dead, and her "family" grows larger than she could have imagined. Will the mysterious Orion help Wonder Woman rescue Zola's baby from the clutches of Hermes, or does he have darker intentions?



**THE FLASH VOL. 1:
MOVE FORWARD**
MANAPUL | BUCCELLATO
168 Pages

In this new paperback collection starring The Flash, Mob Rule wages a campaign of crime across Central City, plunging the city into darkness! The only way The Flash can save his city is to make his brain function even faster than before — but as much as it helps him, it also comes at a steep price.

Collecting issues #1-8 of the monthly series!



**GHOSTBUSTERS
VOL. 1**
BURNHAM |
SCHOENING
IDW, 104 Pages

The Ghostbusters are gone, spirited away by some dastardly demons from another dimension! But spectral shenanigans haven't ceased in the city that never sleeps, meaning a new group will need to step up and don the proton packs. Will the New Ghostbusters be able to rescue their predecessors, or will they share the same fate?

Also features all-new Real Ghostbusters back-up stories.



**INVINCIBLE VOL. 18:
THE DEATH OF
EVERYONE**
KIRKMAN | OTTLEY |
RATHBURN | RAUCH
Image, 160 Pages

Mark Grayson's entire life as a superhero, all he's learned, all he's endured, it's all been leading to this one moment. Will he become the hero he was meant to or will he choose... a different path?

Collects issues #97-102 of the greatest super hero comic in the universe.



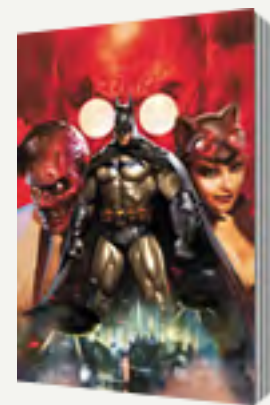
**DAREDEVIL BY
MARK WAID VOL. 5
PREMIERE HC**
WAID | SAMNEE
Marvel, 136 Pages

The Eisner and Harvey Award-winner for Book of the Year continues as Daredevil teams up with the all-new Superior Spider-Man! Yes, America, we've heard your calls! Stilt-Man is back! And the leggy villain is better than ever thanks to some last-minute help from...Dr. Octopus!? Plus: A new mystery surfaces that threatens to take Matt Murdock to the edge like never before. And in the wake of fateful news about a close friend, will Matt be forced to abandon his Daredevil identity?

Collecting Daredevil (2011) #22-27.

NOVEL IDEAS

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



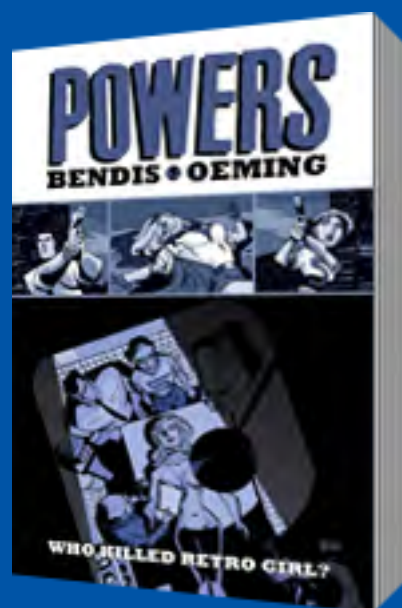
**BATMAN: ARKHAM
UNHINGED VOL. 1**
HALPERN-GRASER
| CROCKER | HILL
| FRIDOLFS | DINI |
MILLER | COLEBY |
WOODS | VARIOUS
DC, 160 Pages

Inspired by the best-selling videogame Batman: Arkham City, these tales from issues #1-5 feature the evil of Hugo Strange, Harley Quinn, The Joker, Mr. Freeze, The Penguin, Hammer and Sickle and more!



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.



POWERS: WHO KILLED RETROGIRL? (HC)

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS |
MICHAEL AVON OEMING

"Heroes glide through the sky on lightning bolts and fire. Flamboyant villains attempt daring daylight robberies. God-like alien creatures clash in epic battles over the night-time sky. And on the dirty city streets below, homicide detective Christian Walker does his job. He has to investigate the shocking murder of one of the world's most popular superheroes, Retro Girl. As hidden truths about Retro Girl come to light, Walker finds that to solve this crime, he may have to reveal a dark secret."

- Marvel

Originally published by Image Comics in 2000, Brian Michael Bendis' creator-owned Powers moved to the Marvel Icon imprint in 2004 and has resided with Marvel since.

Despite middling sales for the debut issue of the series, the book was liked so much by Image, they made a concerted effort to promote it, which paid off with a major upswing in book sales and a wealth of critical acclaim to follow.

The first story arc is a classic crime-noir thriller set in a world where superheroes exist as a part of regular every-day life. When popular hero Retro Girl is found murdered, homicide detectives Christian Walker and Deena Pilgrim, who deal in cases that involve 'powers', are sent to investigate...

Powers is the first example of Bendis writing a superhero comic, albeit one that centres primarily around his familiar genre of crime. His talent for dialogue and story shines throughout this intricate debut tale which consistently intrigues. Michael Avon Oeming's beautiful, stylized artwork never threatens to disinter the reader from the story, and creates a wonderfully dark and 'real' world in which this crime story takes place.

Not only for noir or super-fans, Powers is a book everyone should read!

£18.99 inc p&p

Buy Print Edition



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.

DAREDEVIL (MARVEL)

Daredevil was the 2012 'Best Continuing Series' Eisner-Award winner for a reason. Balancing high emotional drama excellently with a healthy dose of superhero fun, Mark Waid has made the book one of the must-have reads in the current Marvel canon. With the series now published under the Marvel NOW! banner, recent issue #23 acting as a brilliant 'jumping-on' point and collected editions available for the previous issues, there's really no reason you should miss out on keeping up with Matt Murdock's latest escapades.

JUPITER'S LEGACY (IMAGE)

Beginning with the dawning of an age of superheroism, by way of the outcome of the Sampson brothers' trip to a mysterious island some 80 years ago, Jupiter's Legacy takes a look at the younger, super-powered descendants, living in a modern society mirroring our own, complete with the financial meltdown and obsession with questionable celebrities, and how they are not living up to the lofty expectations of the previous generations. Described as an epic, akin to 'Star Wars' and 'The Lord Of The Rings', Mark Millar and Frank Quitely's new work looks set to become as critically acclaimed as their previous collaboration, 'The Authority'.

THE X-FILES (IMAGE)

On it's way in June, The X-Files is another in the line of TV shows to be reinterpreted in comic book format by publisher IDW, following titles such as True Blood and Doctor Who. Mulder and Scully last appeared in the panels of X-Files/30 Days Of Night in 2010, while the last X-files comic series proper was published by Topps and concluded in 1998. With just enough time passed, we think the subject matter, coupled with the quality of the original show and the nostalgic factor could all add up to a sizeable hit for IDW. Add it to your Economic orders or sign up for the Six Issue Subscription now!

SUPERMAN UNCHAINED (DC)

Man Of Steel is on it's way this summer, and with the trailers hitting cinema's around the world right now, anticipation for Clark Kent's return to the big screen is building steadily. Now you can add a new 'super-book' to your reading lists as DC are set to launch Superman Unchained in June. Written by Scott Snyder and drawn by Jim Lee, the book will set Superman against 'something that frightens him' and Snyder has said it 'is basically the Superman story I would tell if I could only do one'. With no prior New 52 Superman reading necessary, make sure you pick up a copy!



BIFF'S BIT

E-mail [BiFF here](#)

(MINOR) CRISIS IN INFINITE TITLES

Since Marvel copied the DC initiative of a carte blanche rewrite of all their titles I have been impressed at the overall quality of all their relaunches. To try and appear different Marvel have been rolling out the new #1s across a whole year. Doing this has exposed that Marvel have missed the point of the DC initiative.

DC had tied themselves into knots over the previous decades trying to tidy up their continuity issues starting with Crisis On Infinite Earths, then leading on through Zero Hour, Infinite Crisis, Countdown To Final Crisis and Final Crisis. At the end of Final Crisis things were no clearer than back in 1985 when it all started.

Maybe someone then thought about how John Byrne re-launched Superman back in 1986 with the six issue Man Of Steel mini series which then led into the new on going Superman series in Jan 1987. With no big convoluted explanation he just rewrote Superman's origin and powers.

Fans at first were up in arms as past stories were ignored but soon grew to accept this new revision. In fact revamping of origin and powers has happened several times in Superman's long history. The stories from these previous eras are still valid and enjoyable and still form part of the mythos.

So, DC decided to go the whole hog and change everything. It worked. New fans were brought in and old readers intrigued to step back. The slate is clean and there is some cohesive DC universe.

Back to Marvel. By dragging out relaunches over a full year a wholesale refreshing of the Marvel Universe has



not occurred. In fact as a reader of over half of the Marvel line I find the Marvel Universe a very strange place. There is no coherent time line, no strong editing and we have a Daredevil series, beautiful and with a lighter tone than of years past, but operating totally divorced from all other events in New York and the world.

Check out the Avengers line to see what I mean. Here we have Young Avengers, Avengers Arena, Avengers Assemble, Secret Avengers, Avengers, New Avengers, Uncanny Avengers. Happening in Uncanny we had the Red Skull decimating New York, over in Avengers with no reference to the carnage unfolding in Uncanny, we have the Avengers facing off against the

world breaker. New Avengers are facing off against Galactus in another world impacting event. Avengers Assemble is slightly more down to earth as a psychotic lizard girl attacks Black Widow and Hawkeye, yet more heavy weight action in Secret Avengers and finally Young Avengers who seem to have no idea what is going on in all the other titles! Couple this with the galactic goings on in Guardians of the Galaxy which references the All Mother of the Nine Realms from Thor, but ignores the fact that Thor is locked in a deadly duel with the God Killer which threatens all Gods from all pantheons.

All these stories are excellent, well drawn

and well written, but where is the editorial input to maintain a Marvel Universe that the reader can believe in and feel empathy with?

I obviously read too many titles and expect too much, or do I? I fondly remember the day when while reading one title there would be reference to events in another and the general time lines co-existed. Now it seems there are about a dozen Marvel Universes co-existing side by side and don't get me started on the Age of Ultron which once again I am really enjoying, but whilst it proclaims it will have far reaching effects, I wonder on which universe?

It seems that every Marvel writer is trying to out do the others with their own time line altering, universe changing, cosmos effecting multi-part cross-over. Can't someone else, other than Mark Waid write stories that engage and challenge the reader without mayhem on an industrial scale?

My own feeling is that Marvel have abandoned the writing of comics as an on going soap adventure to hold the readers interest not just for a year but for decades. Now they are all written as a precursor to the inevitable trade collection. This is all very well but they may be losing sight of what made them what they are and what makes comics so endearing and enduring.

On behalf of all at ACE Colchester, Biff, Tina, Kerrie, Marc, Guy, Evil Stu, Victoria, Colin, Ed, Glenn, Matt and of course Joe and Bryony, Lea and Russ in Southend, Richard in Richmond, Ivor, Scott, Scott, Stacy, Lorna, Daren and Bennie in Glasgow...

...READ MORE COMICS!!