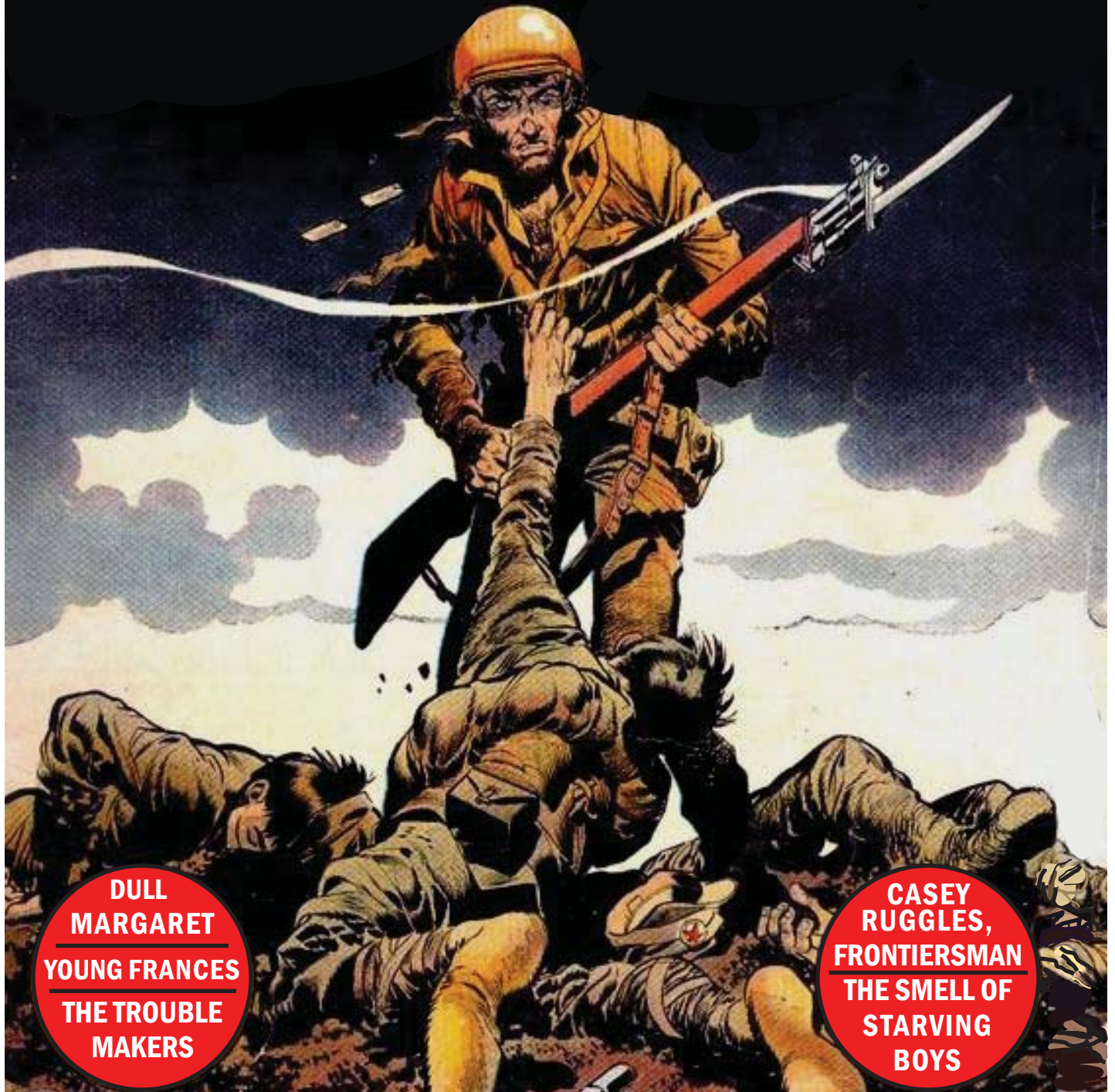


741.5

JACK DAVIS: **DEATH STAND** AND OTHER
FIGHTING MEN
AND
FIERCE WOMEN

AUGUST 2018 — NO. TWENTY

PLUS...MILK AND BULLETS



**DULL
MARGARET
YOUNG FRANCES
THE TROUBLE
MAKERS**

**CASEY
RUGGLES,
FRONTIERSMAN
THE SMELL OF
STARVING
BOYS**

The Comics & Graphic Novel Bulletin of



Lexington Public Library
Reading Is Just the Beginning!



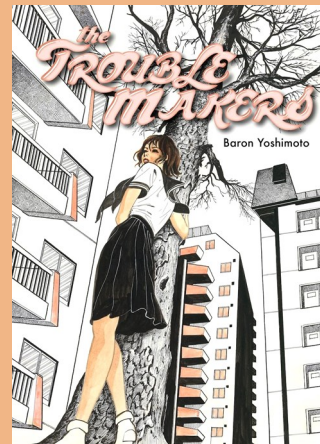
A woman loses a breast and gains a new life as the rising star in a burlesque troupe of handicapable hotties in *About Betty's Boob* by Vero Cazot and Julie Rocheleau.

Brought to our shores by Archaia, *Betty's Boob* is a pantomime comic that looks like Kyle Baker drawing a Betty Boop cartoon. This Betty loses a breast, loses her job, loses her boyfriend. When she loses her wig—literally—Fate introduces her to new friends, fame and fortune. Cazot's sad and funny story holds on to the saddle as Rocheleau's gorgeous and hilarious art gallops to the colorful climax. You can find it at Eastside and Tates Creek!



In the 1970s, Baron Yoshimoto was one of the best-selling creators of *manga* aimed at older readers. His works such as *High School Student Ruffian* and "The Girl and the Black Soldier" (above) explored once forbidden subjects like erotic obsession, class prejudice and racism. Experienced at both action *manga* and fashion illustration, Yoshimoto's art is tough yet graceful. Reserve *The Troublemakers* at lexpublib.org!

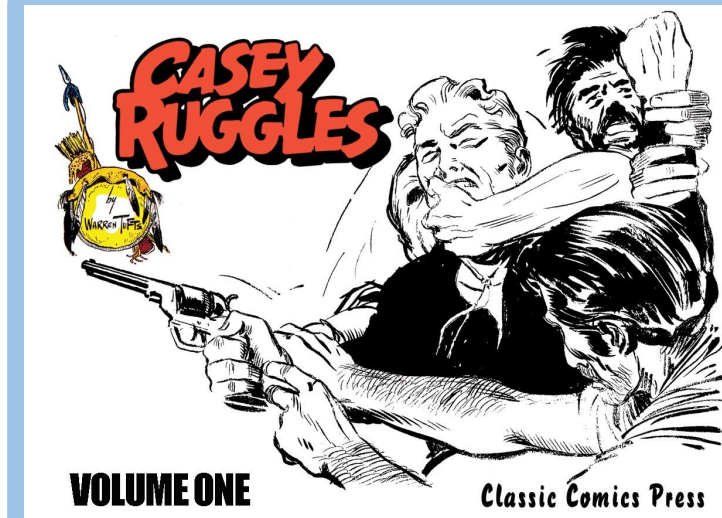
Lurid tales of love and war that changed *manga* forever fill the pages of *The Troublemakers*, a collection of the best *gekiga* by the great Baron Yoshimoto.



In a frontier where the natural and supernatural entwine like snakes, a photographer on the run from his sad past is made the tool of another man's mad future in *The Smell of Starving Boys*.



Published by SelfMade Hero, this stately rumination on sex, violence and belief is the exact opposite of *Casey Ruggles's* horse opera exploits. Loo Hui Phong's script unfolds like a deadly flower in the prairie sun. The luminous art of Frederik Peeters captures both the fleeting looks of hidden desire and the eternal vastness of the untamed West. Go to lexpublib.org



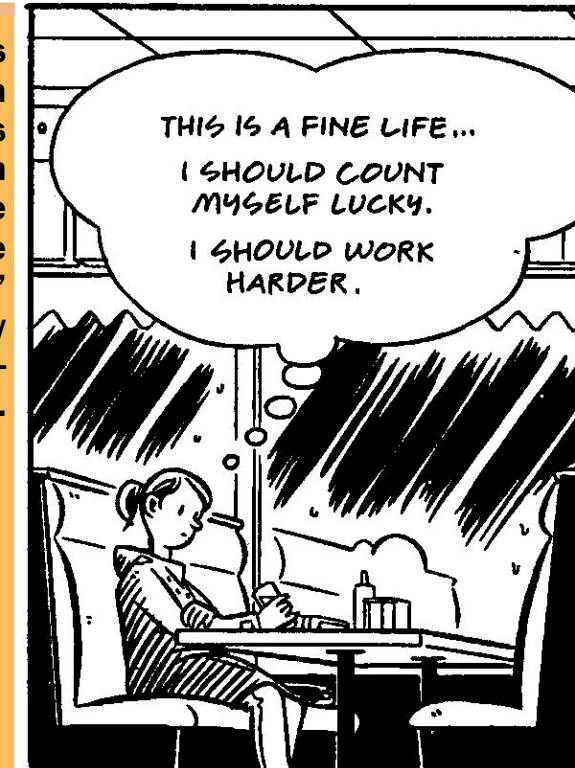
Warren Tufts thrills in black & white and color as he brings the old Wild West alive in *Casey Ruggles Volume One*, collecting the classic newspaper strip by one of the best in the biz.

An "artist's artist", Warren Tufts was admired—and imitated—by his peers, including his young assistant, Alex Toth. *Casey Ruggles: V1* compiles, for the first time ever, the complete dailies and Sunday pages from the series' inaugural years. In many ways, *Casey Ruggles* was a standard oater: the square-jawed hero (Ruggles), his horse (Cheyenne), the Indian sidekick (Kit Fox). But Ruggles not only battled the usual rannies and owlhoots, but pirates, Russian agents—and racists. Ruggles defended Native Americans in peace as he respected them in war. Casey mixed it up with the ladies, too, especially the whip-wielding Lili Lafitte. Fans of vintage Westerns and well-made comics should get it at Beaumont!



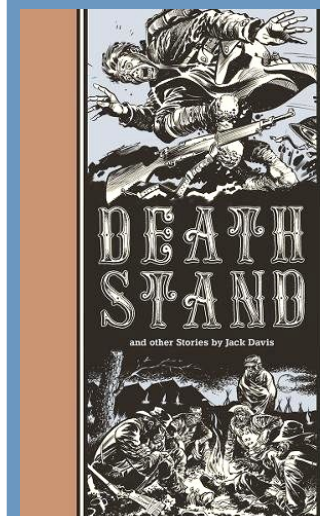
A peasant who is much more than she seems claws a rough life from the mud and gore of a medieval age in *Fantagraphics' Dull Margaret* by actor Jim Broadbent & artist Dix.

Archmaester Ebrone on *Game of Thrones*, Broadbent returns to the savagery of a pre-industrial society of hustlers and thieves, dirt and death. A George Grosz for the 21st Century, Benjamin Dix beautifully renders a world of ugliness. *Dull Margaret* is available from Beaumont and Central.



"Do you know why everybody likes you? You work and work and never complain." So says a would-be mentor to our heroine, junior law clerk Frances. As Frances' job becomes her life, her best friend ascends to stardom. Lin Hartley draws with a clean line rich with everyday detail and lively caricature. Go to Eastside and Tates Creek.

A bright and personable young woman is swept up in corporate intrigue and showbiz antics in the novel *Young Frances* by Lin Hartley.



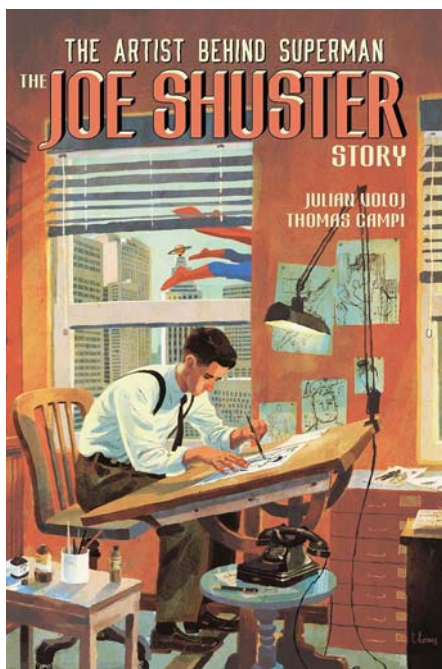
Two-Fisted Tales and *Frontline Combat* were the war titles edited and written by Harvey (Corpse On the Imjin) Kurtzman for *Entertaining Comics*. His stable of artists included such titans as Wally Wood and John Severin, but Kurtzman's favorite was Jack Davis. His combination of technical detail and gritty humanity was the perfect vehicle for Kurtzman's realistic approach. Davis was also the readers' choice, his stories always leading every issue. Published during the Korean War, these comics were action-packed documentaries with soul. In features such as "Haguru Ril" (right), readers found themselves in the thick of combat. It was exciting—and harrowing. Davis makes you feel, smell, taste the mud and blood of war. Get *Death Stand* at Central and Eastside.

True-to-life tales of "war and fighting men" from the Black Hills of Dakota to the bloodied snows of Korea are collected in *Death Stand*, devoted to the acclaimed EC war comics drawn by Jack Davis.



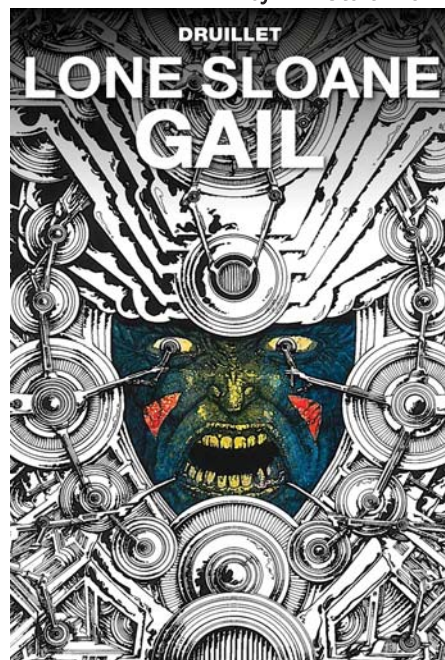


Created to be the strange cousin of DC, Gerard Way's Young Animal imprint (see 741.5 #9 Sept 2017) finally meets the rich relatives in *Milk Wars*. Warped versions of DC's Trinity enforce a totalitarian normality on behalf of the evil interdimensional corporation Retconn. Shade, the Doom Patrol and other YA heroes team up with Wonder Woman, Batman and more to stop the bloody rampage of the squeaky-clean Milkman Man, Wonder Wife and the Community League of Rhode Island. It's weird, it's wild and it's available at Central, Northside and Tates Creek. Meanwhile, one of the guys who launched the hero who started it all is profiled in *The Joe Shuster Story* (Super Genius). Shuster was the artist who drew the scripts by his best pal Jerry Siegel.

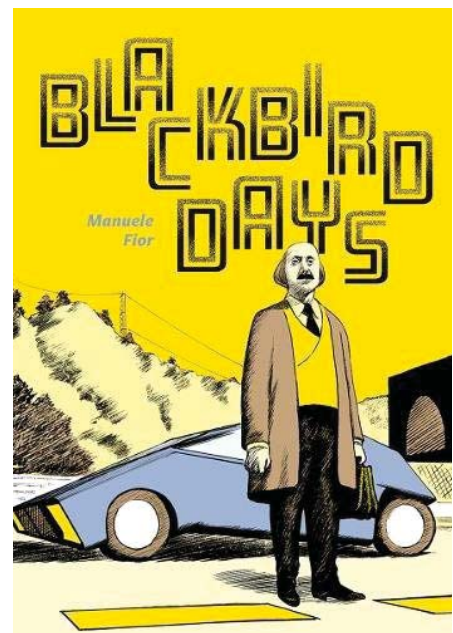


MEANWHILE

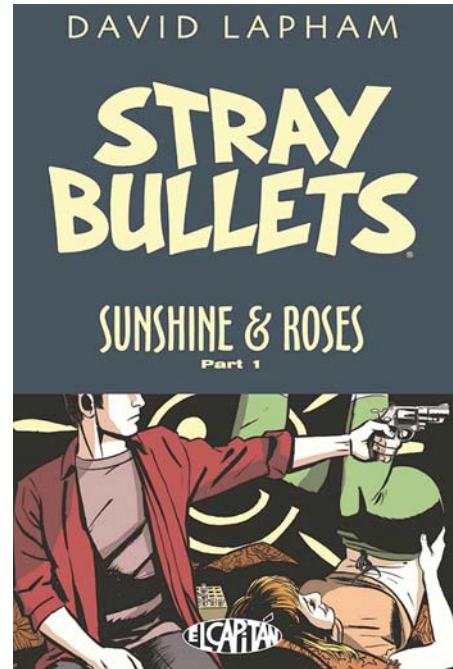
Together, they created Superman, and, arguably, the comic book industry. It's a tale of fame and misfortune that's become as archetypal as the character at the center of the storm. Written with sympathy and candor by Julian Voloj, rendered by Thomas Campi in a style as blunt and vivid as Shuster's own, *The Artist Behind Superman* can be found at Beaumont and Central. If Joe Shuster and his contemporaries were swing music, Phillipe Druillet and his comrades were prog rock. Just as prog bent the simplicities of pop into bizarre and bombastic new shapes, so did the likes of Moebius and Druillet go beyond even the cosmic fisticuffs of Kirby and Steranko to



create comics that you experience as much as read. Another chapter in Druillet's Lone Sloane epic, *Gail* (Titan) finds the Red-Eyed Wolf in a prison for interstellar hardcases. But the story just provides an excuse for the art. A psychedelic extravaganza, *Gail* includes many full-page drawings meant to overwhelm the senses and blow the mind. Seriously—just look at that cover! *Far out, man!* Cop it from Central and Tates Creek. Manuele Fior belongs to a later generation of European cartoonists. He has won international awards for such graphic novels as the sci-fi noir thriller *The Interview* (available at Beaumont) and the exquisitely drawn and written *50,000 Km Per Second* (available at Central and Eastside; see also 741.5 #5 May 2017). His latest from Fantagraphics is *Blackbird Days*, now at Central. It's a collection of



shorter pieces ranging from real life stories of lost children and grandmothers who fled Viet Nam to expressionistic fantasies of giant robot rumbles and anti-gravity rocks from outer space. Such fancies never enter the mean little minds of the various bad actors in *Stray Bullets*. The long-running crime series is set in the decadent 1980s which saw the fun and freedom of the Seventies curdle into thuggery and druggery. Part one of the latest story arc *Sunshine and Roses*, *Kretchmeyer* finds David Latham's acerbic anti-heroine Beth returning home to Baltimore. She hooks up with her hoodlum pals like Monster and Spanish Scott. She meets the nice guy next door. Then things really get ugly. Snag it from Central and Northside!



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