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SCARY TALES

NEW HORROR ANTHOLOGY

RAZORBLADES

LOBSTER JOHNSON: SPOOK-BUSTER!

& EC CLASSICS FROM THE FEAR-FRAUGHT '50S

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PLUS... WE THE PEOPLE



The Comics & Graphic Novel Bulletin of



Lexington Public Library
Reading Is Just the Beginning!

RAZORBLADES

BOOK ONE



"Not pastiche. Not camp. Not nostalgia-driven with a crypt-keeper," reads the promo copy on the website. No, RAZORBLADES is a "grounded, modern horror anthology" co-created by Steve Foxe and James Tynion IV, writer of *Dept. of Truth, Something Is Killing the Children* and other new school spook books. The regular issues were self-published as a labor of love, but the big hardback comp comes from Image, and includes prose and interviews with top fear-mongers like Snyder and Tanabe!

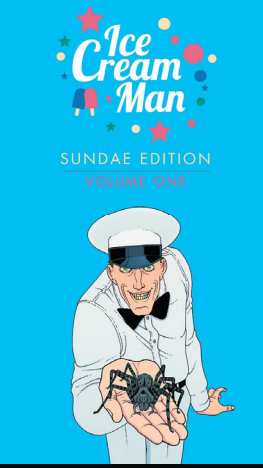


RAZORBLADES

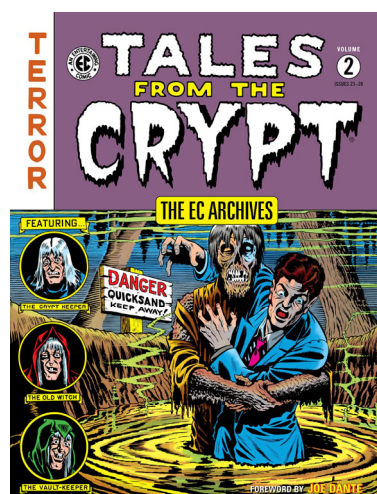
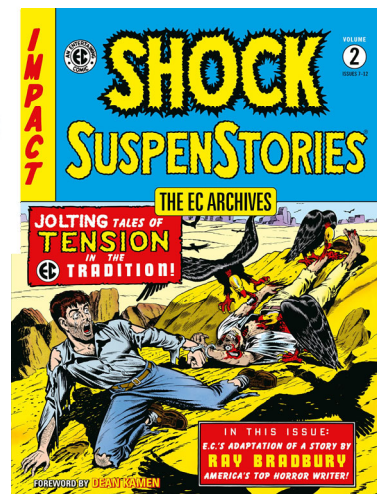
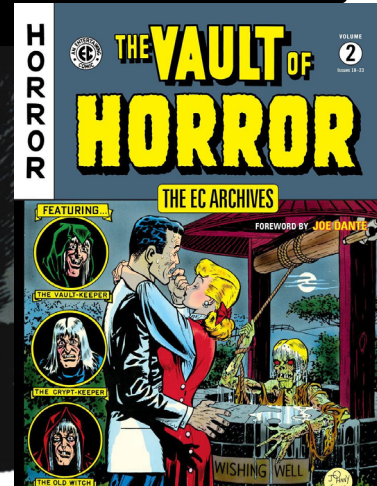
COLLECTING ISSUES #1-6 OF THE IMAGE HORROR ANTHOLOGY

NORTHSIDE

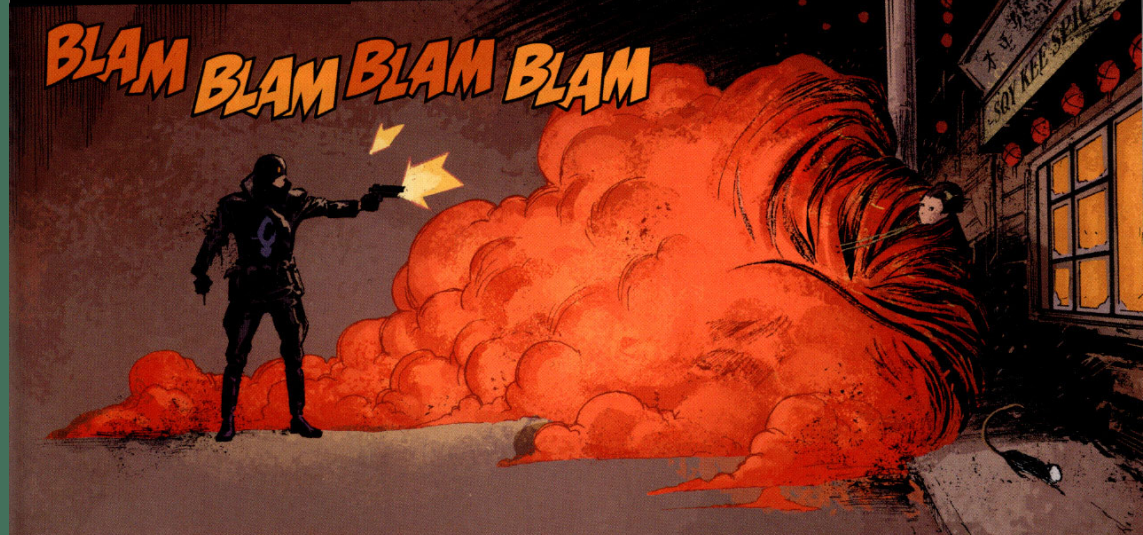
PRINCE · MORAZZO · O'HALLORAN



Meanwhile, the other title that's been re-defining the parameters of horror comics has been re-released in a big, delicious Sundae Edition available at Central. Small-town tales of individual terror are connected by the eerie presence of the ICE CREAM MAN! Narrator, instigator, antagonist, the Ice Cream Man has sinister sweets for every occasion in the cult hit series by Prince, Morazzo and O'Halloran!



Writer/artist Mike Mignola has carved out his own section of the comics biz with his horror-based superhero comics starring Hellboy and his pals in the BPRD. That universe also includes LOBSTER JOHNSON. A vigilante in the vein of pulp icons like the Shadow and the Spider, the mystery man wielding the burning claw of justice has a fairly simple solution to the haints and bogeymen afflicting his city: he shoots them. Available at Tates Creek, Volume One of the Omnibus introduces Lobster Johnson and those who aid him in his crusade as he takes on fake ghosts and real elder gods along with the dread Crimson Lotus (below).



A somewhat less butch approach to incursions of the unnatural is taken by gal ghost-buster Sarah Jewell, whose latest case happens in *The House of Lost Horizons*. Fans of Agatha Christie and other classic detective writers will enjoy this locked-room murder mystery set on a storm-swept island hosting an auction of occult objects. Meanwhile, in the Otherverse, Mignola's *other*universe, witch-hunting widow Lady Baltimore fights the forces of black magic on the frontlines of World War Two. Aided by co-creator Christopher Golden, Mignola and their artists riff on British war comics tropes in an explosion of horror action!



That the creators of *Razorblades* even felt the need to define their work against "the Crypt-Keeper" exposes the extent to which American horror comics are still defined by *Tales from the Crypt*, *Vault of Horror* and *The Haunt of Fear*, the New Trend titles published in the early 1950s by the legendary EC imprint. Dark Horse continues to release these classics in lusciously colored softcover editions you can find at all LPL locations. The second volumes find the EC creators lead by editor/writer/artist **Al Feldstien** settling into the groove they would swing until the grim end. There's Ghostly **Graham Ingel's** justly beloved "Poetic Justice!" **Johnny Craig** lends his slick midcentury line to romantic creepers like "Sinkhole!" The omnipresent **Jack Davis** makes you smell the terror in the Southern fried fear fable "What's Cookin!" (above). And the upcoming V2 of *Shock SuspenStories* has all them and **Crandall** and **Krigstein**, too! EC FOR WE, SEE?

WHY THE PEOPLE



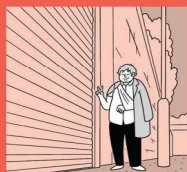
the case for
DEMOCRACY

★
BEKA FEATHERS
art by ALLY SHWED

A division of First Second Books, World Citizen Comics publishes hardback comics dedicated to contemporary political issues. Previous editions such as *Faultlines in the Constitution* and *Unrig*, a history of voter suppression and election tampering, are joined by three new books. *Why the People* makes *The Case for Democracy* by comparing the various forms of democratic governance with oligarchy, theocracy and rule by dictators and warlords. Using a simple,

Meanwhile, everyday people are the subjects of our next three items. Childhood pals Frank (with the specs and 'stache) and Giorgio (with the sling) are classic opposites who attract. That connection is sorely tested after Giorgio steps in front of a bus. Guilted into becoming his caretaker, Frank gets worked by Giorgio at every angle, until Frank doesn't know what's really going on with his so-called friend. Has it all been a con? A regular contributor to the *New Yorker* and author of graphic novels like

The Con Artists

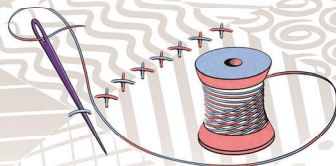


Luke Healy

open style of cartooning not unlike nonfiction funnies fixture **Box Brown, Ally Shwed** ably expresses the homely analogy at the heart of **Beka Feathers's** script. **Tim Foley's** art for *What Unites Us* is more realistic, a sweeping thin-line style that brings to life these *Reflections on Patriotism*. Legendary newsman **Dan Rather** tells the story of modern America as he tells his own, of a Texas boy rising from a hard-scrabble youth to

WHAT UNITES US

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL



reflections on
PATRIOTISM

★
DAN RATHER
ELLIOT KIRSCHNER
art by TIM FOLEY

MEANWHILE



the travel diary *Americana*, **Luke Healy** keeps his art simple, a thin line style buttressed with an almost scientific use of gray tones. A perfect portrait of the everyday sociopath, *The Con Artists* (D & Q) is a quietly humorous confessional with an edge, available at Central and Eastside. Those branches join Beaumont and Tates Creek in hosting *Acting Class* (Drawn & Quarterly). A disparate group of desperate people join an offbeat acting class. The estranged couple, the troubled single mom, the geeky girl, the mom and daughter searching for a shared experience— they and the other members of the troupe are led by their blandly enigmatic instructor into a psychic maze where the line between acting and being grows

FREE SPEECH HANDBOOK



a practical framework
for understanding our
FREE SPEECH PROTECTIONS

★
IAN ROSENBERG
art by MIKE CAVALLARO

being a witness to history. **Rather** describes the things that make America special: the arts and sciences, public education and public service, and more. As a reporter, **Rather** also talks about the necessity of free speech and freedom of the press. The often tangled and troubled history of both are explored in **Rosenberg & Cavallaro's** *Free Speech Handbook*. On the verge of one of the most consequential elections in decades, go to lexpub.org for reserves!

ever more blurred. The first cartoonist nominated for England's prestigious Booker Prize, **Nick Drnaso's** latest is a stark and humane exploration of modern identity. Though, to be honest, **Guy Delisle's** stuff is just more fun to look at. A true master of his medium, **Delisle** experiments with charcoal, dry brush, ink wash and digital shading in these vivacious vignettes. A compilation of short pieces, *World Record Holders* is another fine D&Q release available at Central, Eastside and Village @lexpublib.org/

WORLD RECORD HOLDERS

Guy Delisle

