

741.5

SUPER-TV

JUPITER'S LEGACY

THE BOYS – WITCHBLADE

PLUS...THE ETERNALS!

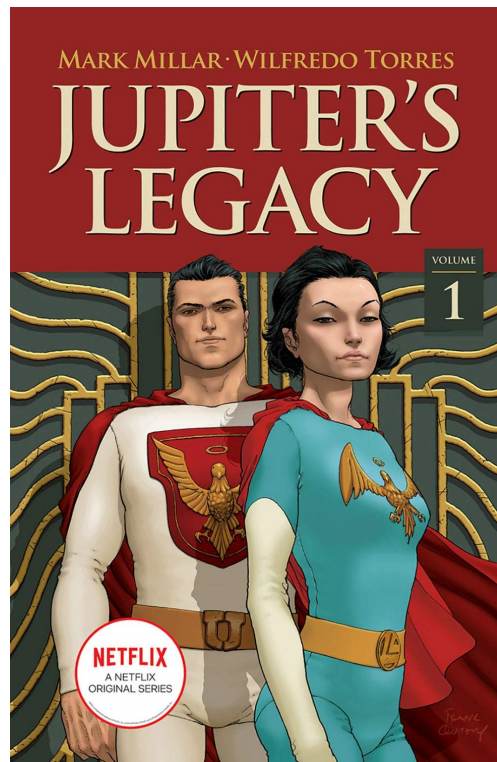
NOVEMBER 2021 - NO. 62



The Comics & Graphic Novel Bulletin of

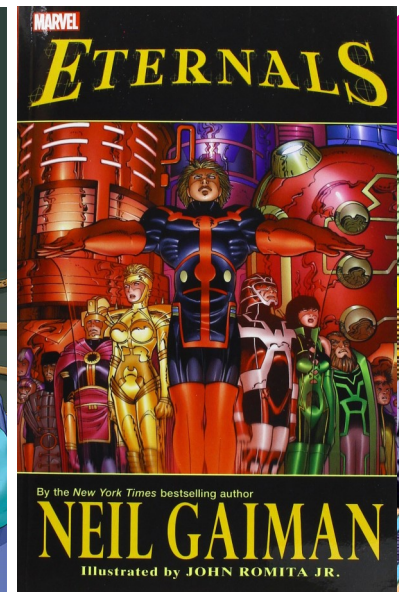
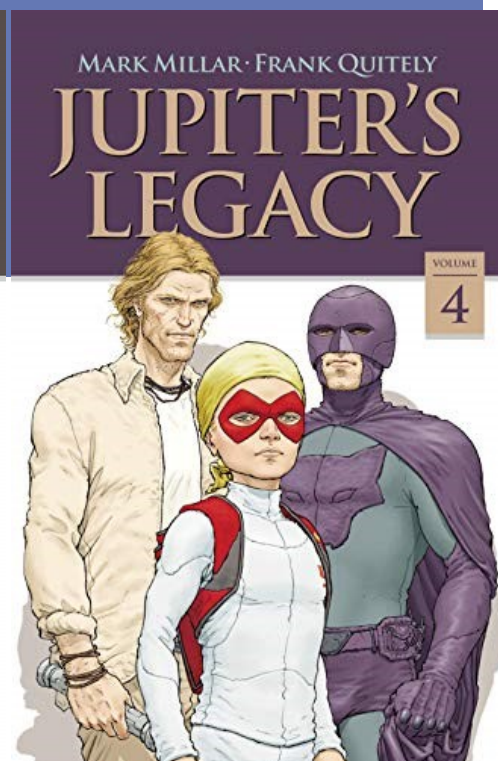
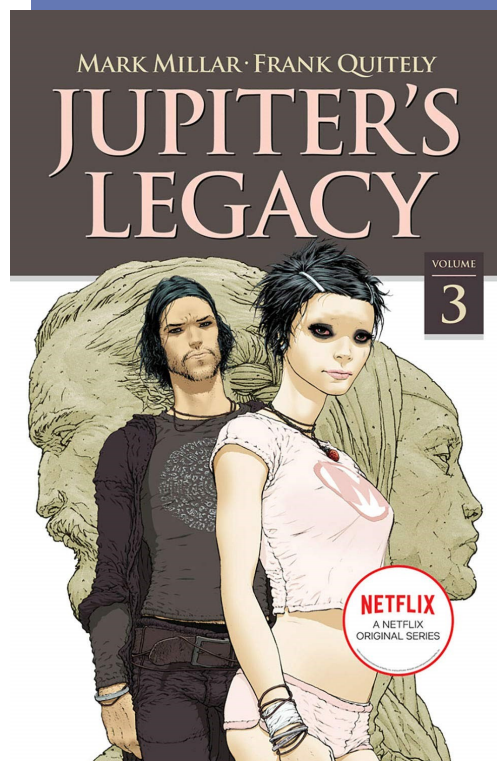


Lexington Public Library
Reading Is Just the Beginning!

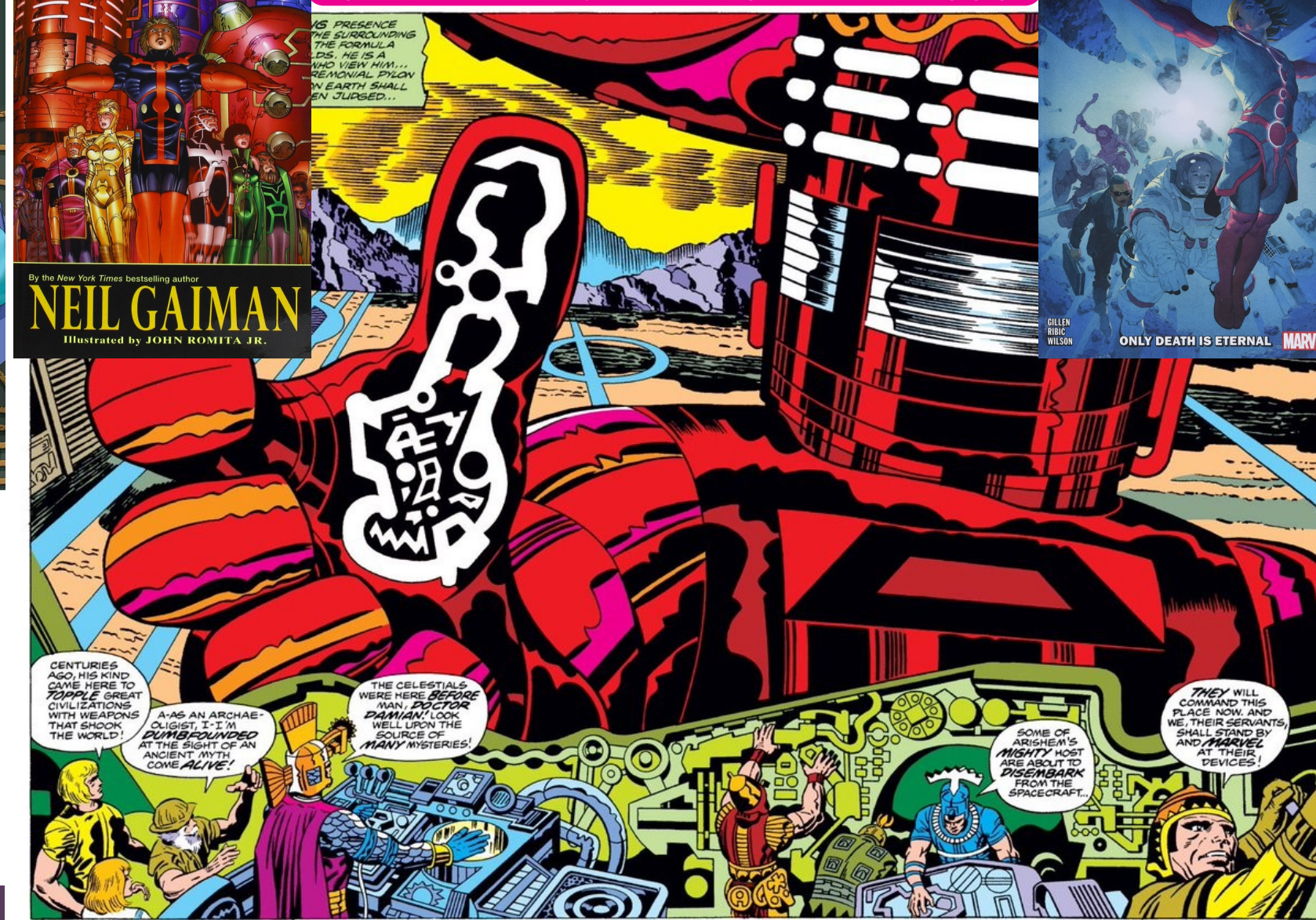


Honestly, the "Superheroes Live in the Real World" gimmick has become as big a cliché as any hoary Bat-trope or X-shtick. But there's still some teeth in the old saw, as evidenced by the series that's garnered Netflix some of that big geek money, *Jupiter's Legacy*. Written by expert deconstructionist Mark (Hit-Girl) Millar, it centers on a group of friends who attain super-powers in the 1930s. Volumes 1 and 2 show that group, a loose analogue of the Justice League, doing the usual super-stuff while dealing with the realities of the world they live in...like homophobia,

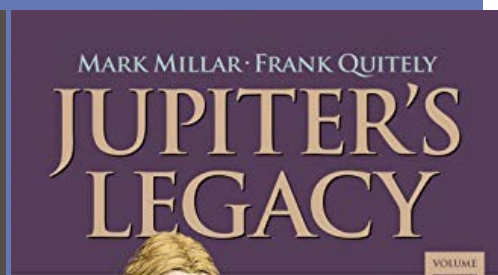
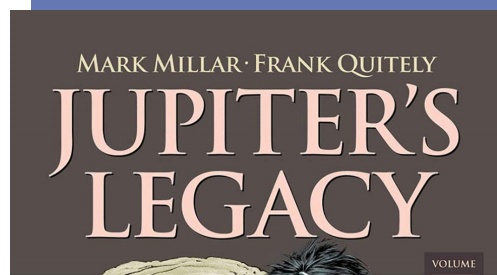
racism and J. Edgar Hoover. Things begin to get messy when one of their number turns on the false front of "Truth, Justice and the American Way"™ and joins the Revolution of the 1960s. In V3 and 4, the number of super-people explodes. While the Utopian tries to keep his kind on the righteous path, his brother has other ideas. LOTS of other ideas. Wilfredo Torres' bright, lively art is perfect for the more innocent times of V1 & 2, and Frank Quitely's muscular realism gives V3 & 4 their punch. *Jupiter's Legacy* is available at your fave LPL location!



Once weird outliers, THE ETERNALS are now an essential part of the Marvel Universe (see "Meanwhile", 741.5 #50). As shown in the upcoming *Eternals: Cosmic Origins*, the influence of these god-like beings reaches from the Andes to the dome cities of Uranus, as they waged their millennia-long war against the equally ancient and powerful Deviants. Before you see the movie, read the original series by Jack Kirby (below), the saga that brought the Eternals into the 21st Century (left) and the continuing adventures of Ikaris and the gang (right)!

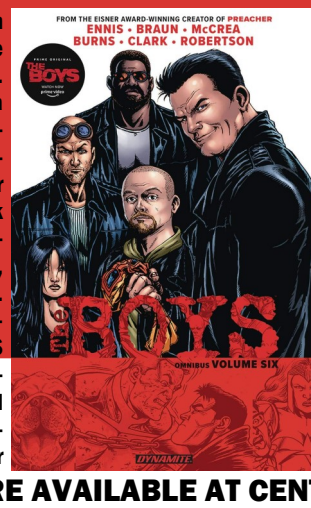


Leading lady Yancy Butler wore a lot more clothes on the TV show. Maybe that's why TNT's *Witchblade* only lasted two seasons back in the early '00s. But its source material is as much a touchstone of its era as ever. The Age of Extreme lives again in Top Cow's two-volume set reprinting the original *Witchblade* comics from the late 1990s. The artsy layouts, the overwrought drawing, the mix of gamer occultism and copshow clichés...the violence...the cheesecake...you can almost hear Stone Temple Pilots rattling the cyber-café windows. Get 'em from Beaumont, Central and Village. Riding high on the global success of his *Walking Dead*, Robert Kirkman put his talent for reworking genre to good use on *Invincible*. Now a hit animated series on Amazon Prime, this riff on the Teenage Hero is a love letter to and a necessary update of Silver Age super-tropes. Lexpublib.org has the Compendiums...and the *Astounding Wolf-man*, too!

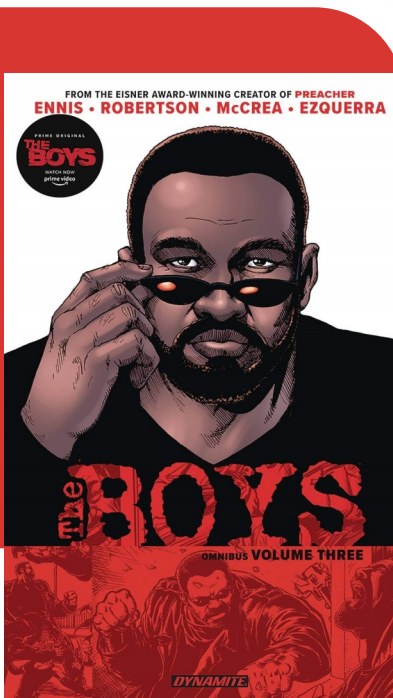


VICIOUS, VIOLENT, DEPRAVED AND DEADLY— THE BOYS ARE ALL THAT AND MORE! READ THE CONTROVERSIAL COMICS THAT INSPIRED THE HIT SERIES STREAMING ON AMAZON PRIME!

The British have never been truly comfortable with the concept of the superhero. They love their mobs, but a lone wolf on a tear? Wearing a mask? And that ridiculous outfit? No wonder most Brit-born funnybook avengers have been antiheroes such as Judge Dredd, the Spider...and the Boys. The hit comics by professional cynic GARTH ENNIS and down-n-dirty hyper-realist DARICK ROBERTSON have become a hit TV series. A timely satire of super



heroes, *The Boys* follows a group of government operatives whose assignment is to ride herd on the increasingly uncontrollable population of "supes". It's a messy job, but one Billy Butcher, Wee Hughie, Mother's Milk, The Frenchman and The Female do with vengeful relish. But the caped and costumed predators don't like being prey. Especially of that awful dog! As funny as they are ferocious, *The Boys* are so good at being bad!



VOLUMES 1-6 ARE AVAILABLE AT CENTRAL & EASTSIDE!

THE BUTCHERY



Bastien Vivès

Fantagraphics continues to bring these Untied States the best in alternative European comics with *The Butchery* by **Bastien Vivès**. One of the leading lights of French cartooning takes a sideways look at romance. Rendered in colored pencils in a **Feifferesque** scrawl, his borderless panels float against the white space of each page like clouds. **Vivès** follows two couples, one intimately, the other at a distance, as they hug and hurt and make love and start fights until the ten-page pantomime that brings both relationships to an end. A lovely intro to one of the Continent's best, *The Butchery* is available at all locations. That's also where you'll find the latest DC graphic novels for Young Adults, including the adaptation of *Soul-stealer* starring the young Selina Kyle *alias* Catwoman. Look in TEEN for *Unearthed*, the new origin story for DC's popular Hispanic heroine, Jessica Cruz. *Unearthed* shows the

UNEARTHED

A JESSICA CRUZ STORY



LILLIAM RIVERA
STEPH C.

MEANWHILE

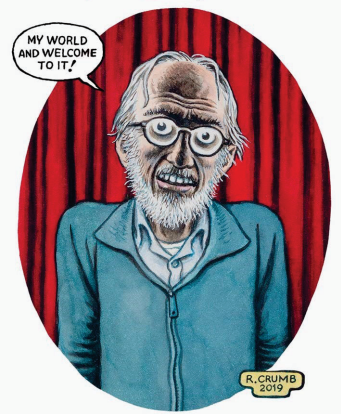
future Green Lantern of Sector 2814 dealing with the usual pressures of immigrant life, further complicated by the intervention of Aztec deities. Enigmatic artist **Steph C** brings her mix of cool and creepy while writer **Lilliam Rivera** keeps it real even when monstrous gods start raising hell. *Whistle* is the story of "A New Gotham Hero." Sixteen-year-old Willow Zimmerman loves her mother, her community, and dogs. She fights the good fight for all three. Then an exhausted Willow is given a taste of the Good Life by one Edward Nygma. It looks like everything's going great...until it all goes horribly wrong. Meanwhile, pity the schoolgirl with the Hot Mom. Like Mona, for instance. Her mother is Starfire, alien superhero and sex symbol of the Teen Titans. Mona...isn't. Her struggle to escape her mother's shadow is gorgeously drawn by **Yoshi Yoshitani** of *Zatanna* and *the House of Secrets*

FICTIONAL FATHER



(see 741.5 #40). The art is the point of comics, after all, even after the rise of auteur scripters like **Moore**, **Busiek**, **Bendis** and the like. Although it currently suffers from the decline of the newspaper business, the daily strip is still the purest form of comics. At the height of the form's influence, cartoonists were national superstars. Jimmi Wyatt, creator of the beloved *Sonny Side Up* strip, is one of the last of that generation. Revered by the public, admired by his peers, Wyatt's been producing strips for years...or at least that's the story. When Wyatt dies, his long-suffering, deeply alienated son Caleb discovers that his father was an even bigger phony than he knew, truly a *Fictional Father* (Drawn & Quarterly). Caleb grew up knowing the image his father presented to the star-struck world was a lie. Based on true events such as the tragic tale behind *Dennis the Menace*, *Fictional Father* shows how Caleb dealt with his father's life and then deals with his death and all the public and private fall-out. **Joe** (*The Abominable Mr. Seabrook*) **Ollmann** delivers an unblinking study of filial dynamics, an expose of comics history and a lament for the death of newspapers. Find it at Eastside and Tates Creek. Comic strip icon **Walt** (*Pogo*) **Kelly** was a major

Crumb's WORLD



influence on the young **Robert Crumb**, judging by the earliest drawings reprinted in *Crumb's World*. He outgrew that. This career-spanning catalog of works displayed at the gallery of the publisher, David Zwirner, reprints obscure work from the '60s and his prescient strips about Donald Trump, with "Footsy", **Kafka** and the Id in between. *Crumb's World* is a good overview and introduction to this controversial yet essential artist, available at Central. Go to lexpublib.org to find a copy of *The Way of the Hive*. Originally published at the turn of the century as *Clan Apis*, this retitled color version is a wonderful look at *A Honey Bee's Story*. Now a Full Professor of Biology, author **Jay Hosler** follows the birth, life and death of Nyuki, a honey bee who asks an awful lot of questions for someone part of a hive. My father has been a beekeeper since I was a kid, and they are fascinating critters. Educational and emotional by turns, *The Way of the Bee* is both a scientific marvel and an artistic delight. Read it and **Hosler's** equally amazing *Last of the Sandwalkers!*

"A wonderful graphic novel."
—NEIL GAIMAN

THE WAY OF THE HIVE

A Honey Bee's Story



Back issues of 741.5 are available at lexpublib.org under the **COLLECTIONS** tab!