

741.5

# CREEPY

JAY STEPHENS

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EMIL FERRIS

AUG 2024 NO. 123

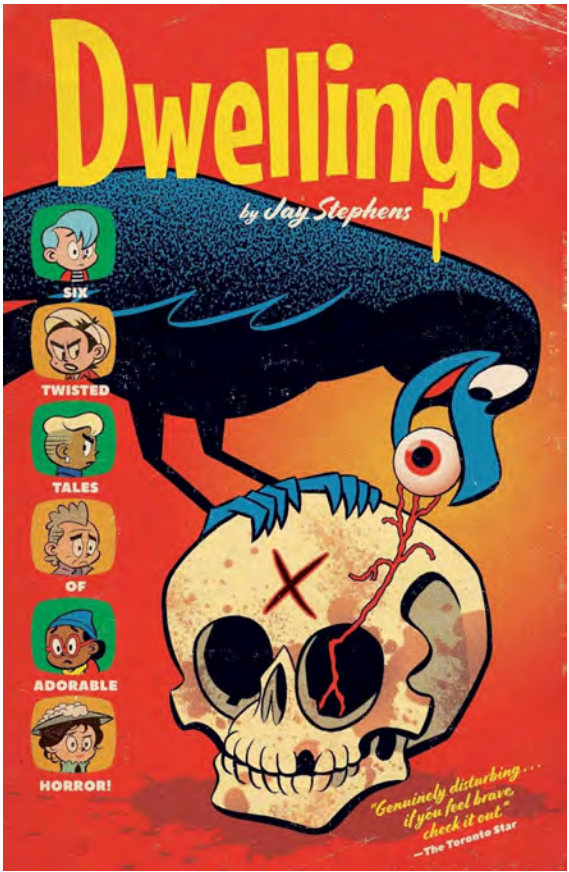
PLUS...KAMEN'S KALAMITY



The Comics & Graphic Novel Bulletin of



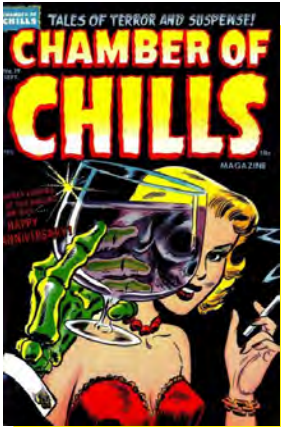
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Reading Is Just the Beginning!



Derry...Arkham...Silent Hill...add to that list of accursed towns tiny Elwich, sinister site of the hideous hi-jinx and macabre mayhem that fill the pages of *Dwellings* (Oni). The crows feast as young and old fall victim to occult forces from within and without. Animator **Jay Stephens**



brings that background to bear in his astounding mash-up of old school kiddie comics and post-modern horror. Casper is an Unfriendly Ghost indeed as Stephens synthesizes Harvey artists Warren Kremer and Lee Elias to produce some of the most disturbing comics you'll ever read! CAW!



Brothers, among the trashiest publishers of the era. They did an complete turnabout, licensing the Paramount cartoon characters and becoming the squeaky clean kiddie line beloved by millions (below).



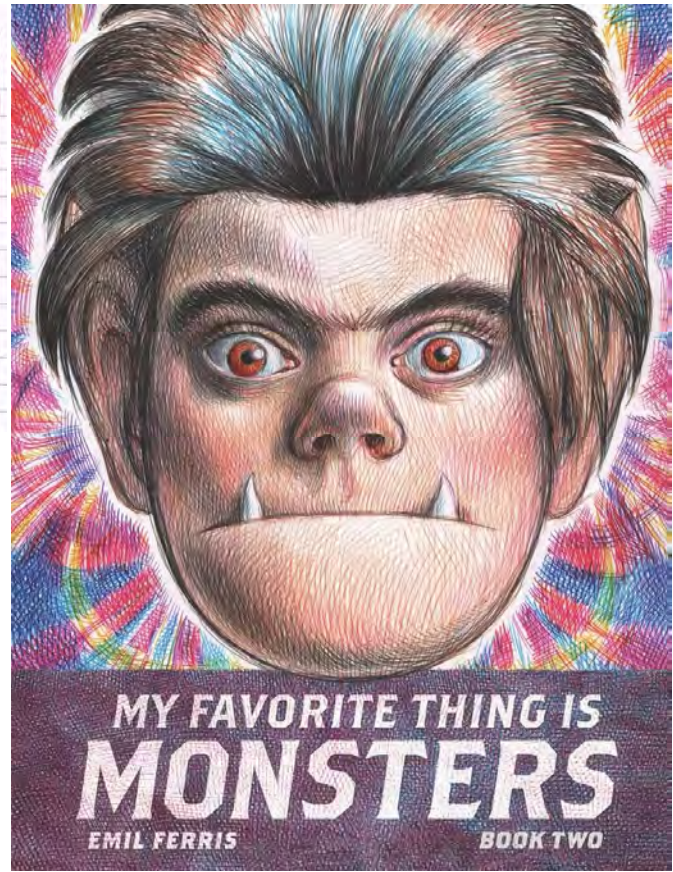
Instantly recognizable as the source of the cover for the Misfits classic *Die Die My Darling*, the above comic was one of the horror comics released in June 1953 (see below) by the Harvey



Taking its title from the satirical "behind-the-scenes" story that famously riffed on Jack Kamen's abject normality, the latest EC Artists Library edition focuses on horror stories with a sardonic twist and his grinningly gruesome "Grim Fairy Tales", most featuring his trademark Kamen Kuties.



The visual memoir of Karen Reyes, teenage werewolf and amateur detective, concludes in the long-awaited 2nd volume of *My Favorite Thing Is Monsters*. **Emil Ferris** stuns with her mastery of color pencils (right) as the mystery surrounding her dead neighbor threatens to swallow Karen and her brother Deeze alive. New pal Shelly (above) shines some light on the dark places Karen uncover in her quest. Get it from [lexpublib.org!](http://lexpublib.org/)



As discussed in the review of the first volume of *My Favorite Thing...* (see 741.5 #4), our heroine was just one of thousands of readers devoted to the black & white comic magazines released by Warren (see *Meanwhile*), Skywald



(below) and the notorious Eerie Publications. Karen's exquisite replications of spook books like *Spectral* and *Ghastly* act as a visual Greek chorus commenting on the events of her life, becoming more intense as the dangers grow.

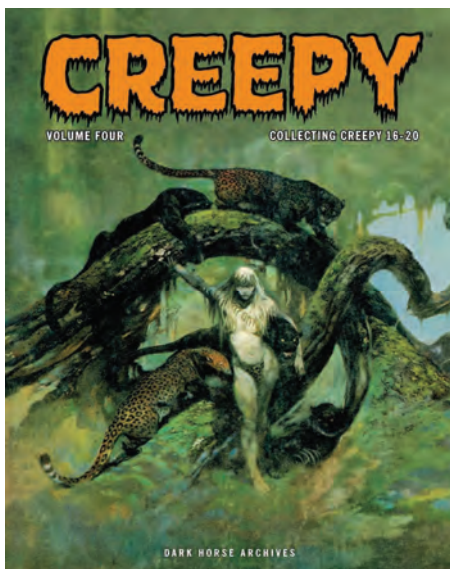


LPL missed TwoMorrow's previous compilation of *From the Tomb*, the popular British fanzine dedicated to horror comics. But we got the new—as in never-before-published—collection, *It Rose from the Tomb*, at Central and Marksbury. The Golden Age of horror comics lives again in articles about ACG, the first company to publish them; skeletal revenants; and what haunted newsstands June 1953, the height of horror, as seen *left!*



The horror revival of the 1970s is covered in pieces on Warren's would-be competitors such as Seaboard and Skywald (publisher of *Psycho*, left), Marvel's GIANT-SIZE monster books, and DC's belated but beloved attempts to bring gothic romance to comics (near left). Covers devoted to hypodermic needles...artists such as Berni Wrightson and Al Luster...post-Code creepers and Brazilian chillers (right)...that and so much more await the eager attentions of fervent fright freaks!





Dark Horse continues to crank out the paperback versions of their reprints of the Warren magazines. Originally published in the 1960s, *Creepy* and *Eerie* resurrected horror comics by side-stepping the Comics Code through a change in format. Black and white comics magazines allowed for both thematic and artistic freedom. Editor and head writer **Archie Goodwin** hired artists such as **Reed Crandall** and **Angelo Torres** who had worked on the classic EC books while giving refuge to stars of the spinner rack like **Gene Colan** and **Steve Ditko**, who produced

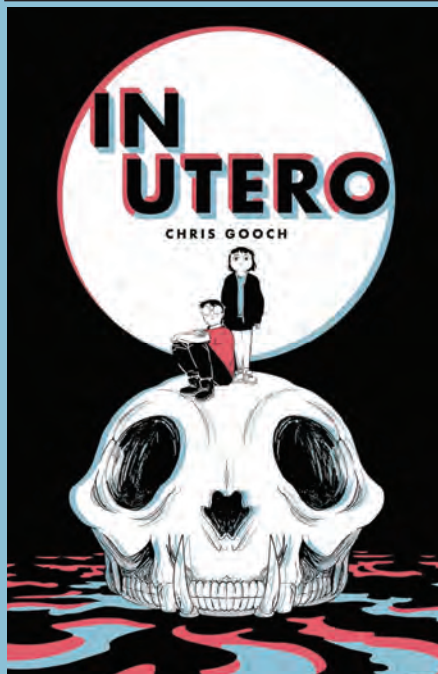
The third volume of the epic fantasy series *Lightfall* is available in the NEW Juvenile books at Tates Creek, Central and Beaumont. *The Dark Times* have fallen upon the many lands of Irpa. Our heroes Bea (with the hair) and Cad (without the hair) lead a group of refugees on an increasingly perilous search for the Citadel of Knowledge. **Tim Probert's** art is charmingly squirrely and his world-building is awesomely epic. The



some of his best work for Warren. Unfortunately, the most recent compilations to hit LPL shelves, Volumes 4 through 6, glean their material from what comics scholars call "the Warren Slump." Numerous factors, including the sabotage of *Blazing Combat* by distributors, led to **Jim Warren** cutting back on page rates. Other disagreements led to the departure of **Goodwin**, leaving **Warren** without his main writer while his best artists hit the bricks. He also was feeling the heat from his competitors. Though **Warren**



## MEANWHILE



real world of apartments and highways is interrupted by a huge explosion that leaves a big hole in the middle of a large Australian city. A decrepit shopping mall near the crater plays host to a holiday camp for kids like heroine Hailey. But something else is coming of age deep inside the mall. Something monstrous. *In Utero* is the sweetest *kaiju* story



dismissed the likes of *Nightmare* and *Tales from the Tomb* as "shoddy duplicates," their more visceral approach forced Warren to adopt a louder, less subtle take on covers and stories. There's still plenty of thrills to be had, especially if you prefer your horror gruesome. Future Charlton mainstay **Tom Sutton** becomes an essential contributor, joined by **Tony Williamsune**, undergrounder **Roger Brand** and fanzine fave **Jeff Jones**, as well as Gold Key stalwarts **Sal Trapani** and **Jack Sparling**. Go to any LPL location to get *Creepy* and *Eerie* now!

you'll ever read. A two-color palette keeps **Chris Gooch's** big monster fight comic creepy and cool. Like many Spanish cartoonists, **Lara Pickle** loves a bright, colorful page. That's perfect for the effervescent tale she spins of a young witch in the big city. Joana loves creating potions. She's got big, new ideas that could revolutionize the art...if her Boomer boss would give her a chance. Look in TEEN for *I Feel Awful, Thanks!*



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