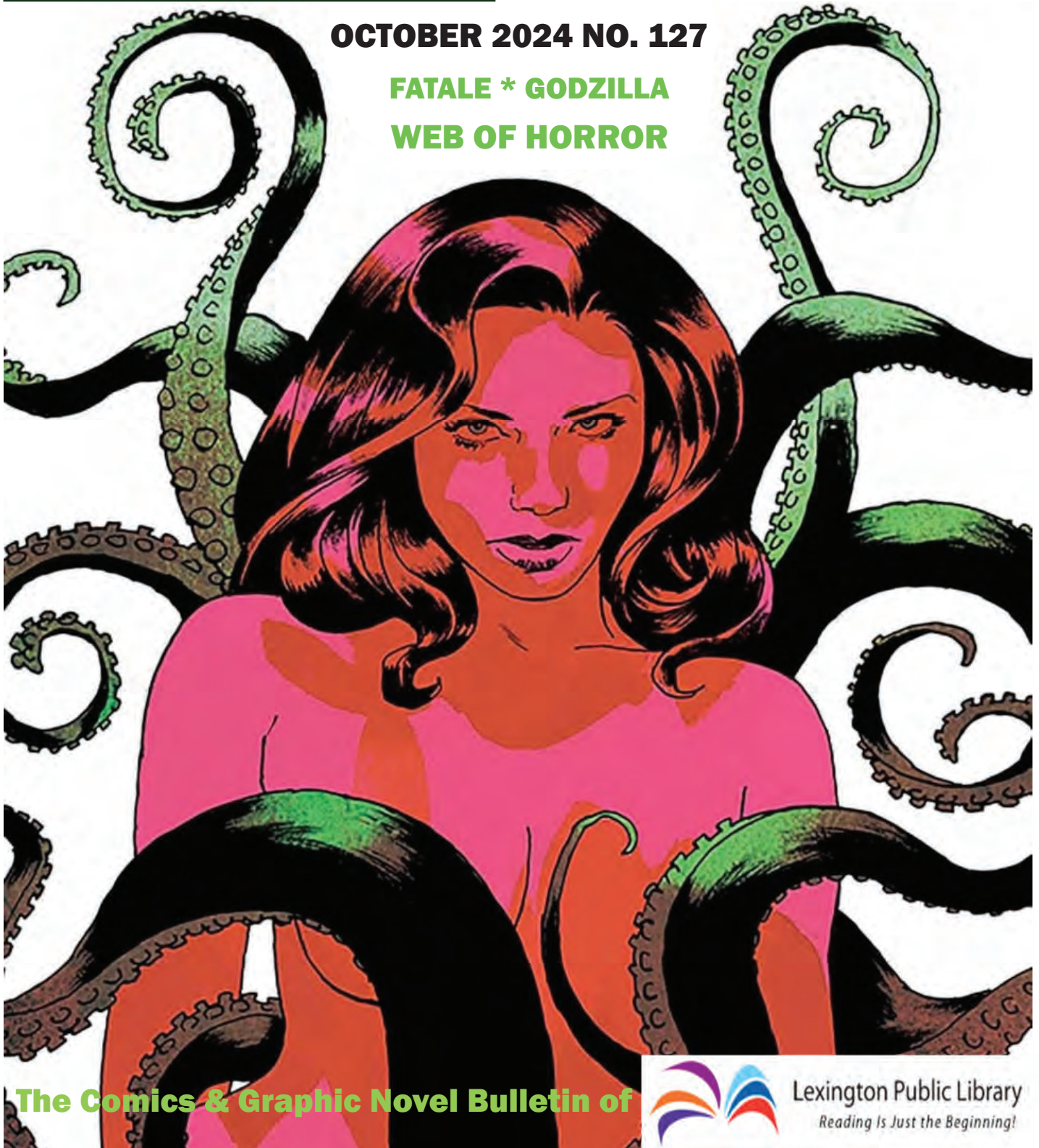


741.5

HALLOWEEN HORROR

OCTOBER 2024 NO. 127

FATALE * GODZILLA
WEB OF HORROR



The Comics & Graphic Novel Bulletin of



Lexington Public Library
Reading Is Just the Beginning!



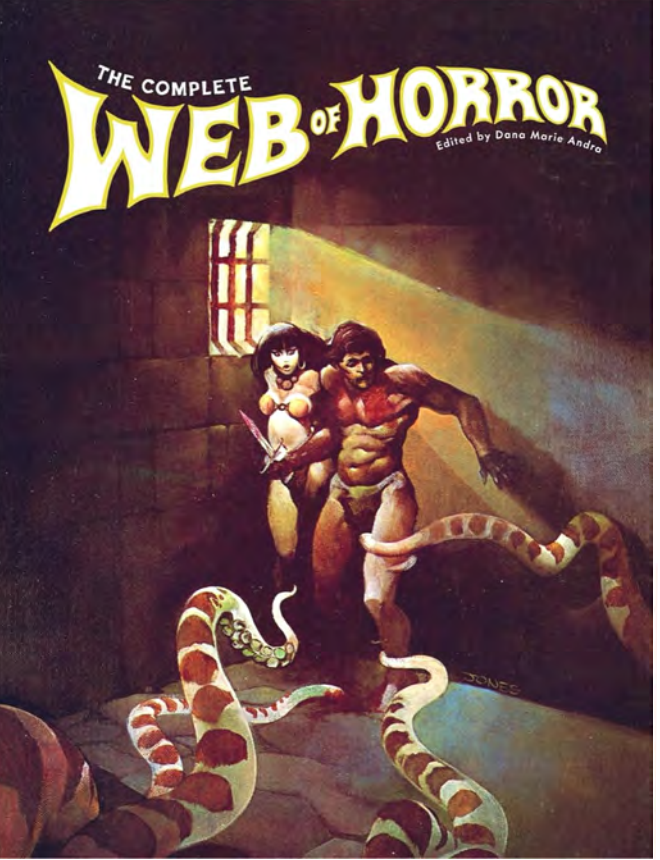
The verbal form of the word “occult” means “to cut off from view by interposing something”. Its more widespread meaning as a noun and adjective describes the supernatural, mystical or magical. Both meanings come into play in *Ocultos* (Fantagraphics). The newest work from Spain’s LAURA PEREZ (see 741.5 #107) is a symbolist catalog of experiences with the unseen.



Ocultos is a collection of short pieces loosely connected by the Woman on the Cover. Looking for something to read, cursed by the image of an owl, pursuing answers to her own unanswerable questions, the Woman’s story is interspersed with those of others quietly haunted by ghosts, UFOs and dreams of the beyond. Go to Beaumont, Marksbury and Eastside.



Major Magazines was a typical mid-level publisher of the 1960s which would be forgotten if not for one title that ran for years and another that saw only three issues reach the stands. *Cracked* was the former, a *MAD* imitation that survives as a popular website. *Web of Horror* was the latter. Jumping into the monster mosh with *Creepy*, *Psycho* and *Weird*, *Web* stood out due to the youth of its staff. Most of the contributors, such as Bruce Jones, Frank Brunner, and Wayne Howard, were fanzine stalwarts who would go on to bigger things in the 70s, especially Berni Wrightson (above). The enthusiasm of both creators and readers went unrewarded back then, the title cancelled with a ton of work lost in the mail. Those pages finally see the light of day in this fine Fantagraphics comp!

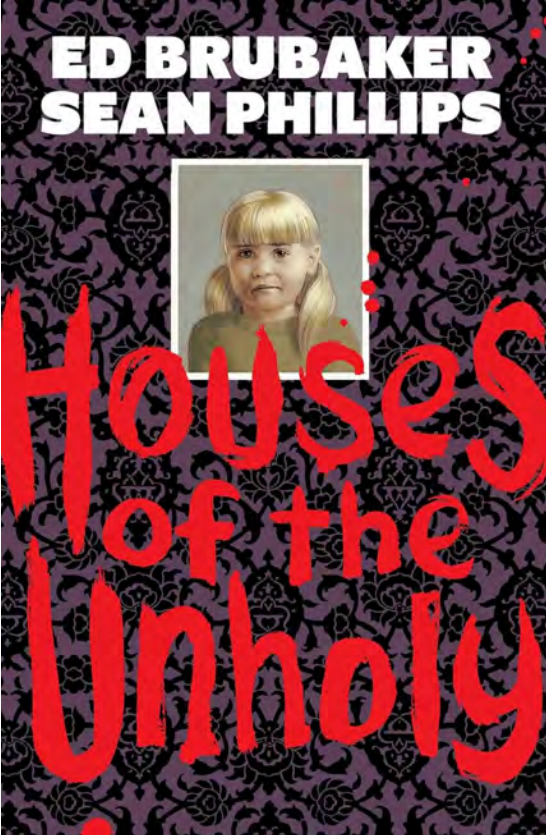
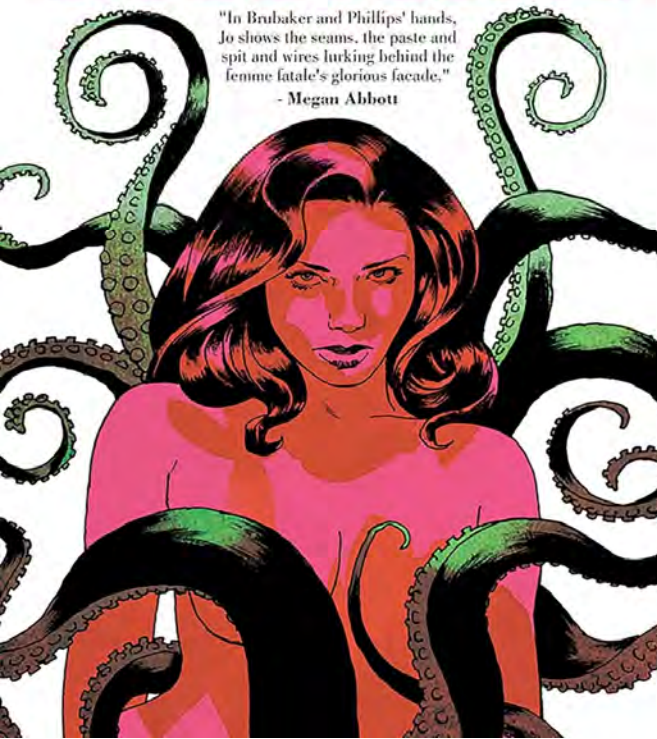


If, like many readers of the work of childhood favorite Richard Scarry, you ever wanted to see what life was like behind the scenes of his frantic farms and manic municipalities, Patrick Horvath’s latest graphic novel will fulfill that wish. Woodbrook is a idyllic small town populated by all manner of beasties going about their busy, busy day, getting coffee, making floats for the parade, chopping up and disposing of the body of the guy they snatched from the Big City...Yes, Woodbrook has a local serial killer. And to her horror, she may have a competitor, *Beneath the Trees Where Nobody Sees* (IDW).



LPL has previous versions of *Fatale*. In musical terms, those are the EPS. This is the box set, available at Marksbury for Mature Readers, containing the super-sized version of Brubaker & Phillips’s Lovecraftian noir saga about a very, very attractive woman and the hell she brings behind her.

Ed Brubaker Sean Phillips FATALE



Of all the moral panics that have swept America— including the one focused on the very medium this circular celebrates— few were more ludicrous than the Satanic Panic of the 1980s. Yet many lives were ruined, both among the alleged victims and perpetrators. Natalie Burns was the former, one of the “Satanic Six” whose stories of ritual abuse made headlines around the world. Now Natalie lives on the move, a freelance deprogrammer. But no matter how far she runs, the past keeps finding her and dragging her back to those *Houses of the Unholy* (Image). The prolific pair of Ed Brubaker & Sean Phillips strikes again!



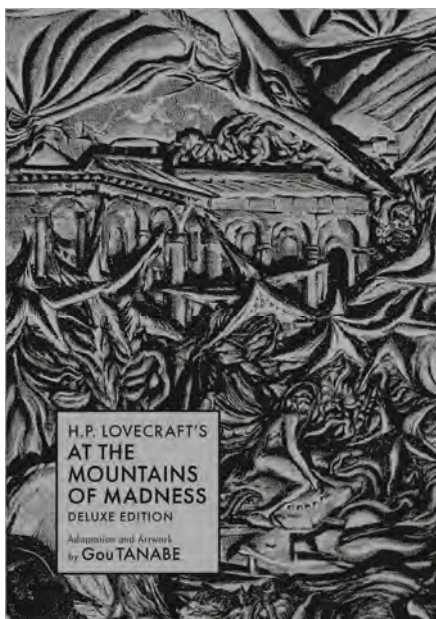
Celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the King of Monsters, GODZILLA with two items aimed at the younger set. *The Complete Godzilla: Monsters & Protectors* is a digitally produced YA comic featuring a kid who gets Likes online posting kaiju fights. The aliens last seen in *Godzilla vs. Monster Zero* are all too happy to provide him with content! *Godzilla: Monster Island Summer Camp* is more organic, with the nervy, scratchy Oliver Ono bringing to life this charming tale of art nerds stuck at sports camp on an island rife with mystery...and monsters! Dig that splash page of Ebrah!





Horror is one of the most popular genres of manga for Lexington Public Library. Spooks and monsters and gore transcend language and culture, and the Japanese love all three. So imagine horror manga so intense, it drove its own creator to quit the biz and burn his art and disappear without a trace. That's the story of **Kawashima Norikazu**. *Her Frankenstein* is the story by **Kawashima Norikazu**. A sickly but spoiled girl browbeats the little boy crushing on

her into wearing a mask of Frankenstein's monster and acting out her hostilities. But when the girl grows tired of the boy, tragedy puts an end to their game. Or does it? Years later, her ghost begins to pursue the now-grown boy, and one day she shows up with the mask in hand. Horrific hi-jinx ensue in this debut from Smudge, a new imprint dedicated to dark and twisted manga. "FRAN-KEN-STEIN! FRAN-KEN-STEIN!" **Gou**



Homunculus



Tanabe's adaptation of **H.P. Lovecraft's** *At the Mountain of Madness* returns to LPL shelves in a new edition combining both volumes in a larger size that really exhibits **Tanabe's** astonishing attention to detail and breath-taking landscapes. Dig that Antarctic action at Eastside and Marksbury. Meanwhile, the creepiest manga of the last few years continues with volumes 9 and 10. From the creator of *Ichi the Killer*, *Homunculus* shows the protagonist up against the last of the homunculi!

The big news is that DC's Vertigo imprint is being revived as the company's "creator owned" line. That makes sense, since the "Black Label" imprint took over Vertigo's original mission, which was to provide the darker side of the DC Universe a place to play. But that line between "dark" and "Black Label dark" is awfully thin, as shown by DC's 2023's Big Event, the *Knight Terrors* series of one-shots and special issues. Now collected in a quartet of hardbacks scattered throughout LPL shelves like evil Easter eggs, the *Knight Terrors*

MEANWHILE



books involve a Big Bad named Insomnia. Once an ordinary Joe whose family became collateral damage to some superheroic brouhaha, Insomnia is intent on showing the world that the guys and gals in the shiny costumes are monsters, not heroes. He uses Dr. Destiny's Dreamstone to attack from within, exposing the world's finest to their own worst nightmares. This inspires some fun team-ups

like the Zatanna/Robotman hook-up and the four-way dance between Batman & Damien, Deadman and the resurrected corpse of the original Sandman, Wesley Dodds. Meanwhile, Harley Quinn takes a tumble across the Multiverse and gets to play pirate, fight vampires and try life as a kinky, campy Silver Age super-chick, while her girl Pamela *alias* Poison Ivy has a lot less fun in *Knockturnal Creatures*, which also includes the Joker's nightmare of life as a corporate suit. Live the dream at lexpublib.org!



Back issues of **741.5** are available at www.lexpublib.org under the **READING SERVICES** tab!