

741.5

WEIRD HEROES

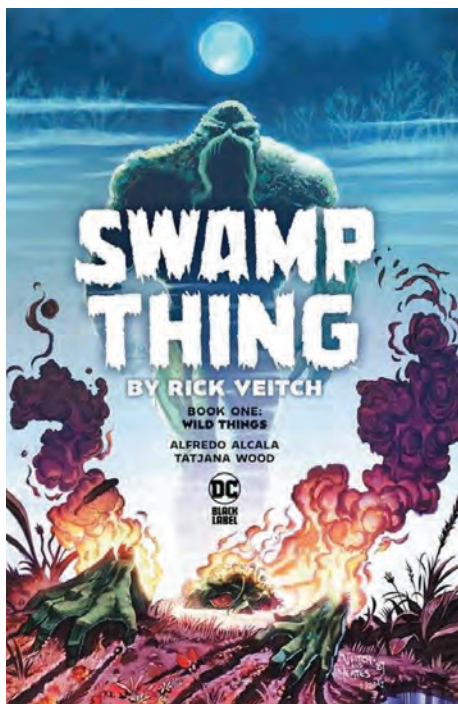
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Reading Is Just the Beginning!



One of the original weird heroes, whose success led to the establishment of the Vertigo imprint, was Swamp Thing. Brought to the forefront of comics by **Alan Moore**, *Swamp Thing* was taken to even stranger places by Moore's hand-picked successor, **Rick Veitch**. Mostly known for underground comics like *Two-Fisted Zombies*, **Veitch** followed **Moore**'s example and used *Swamp Thing* as the means to dig deeper into the rich history of DC. Long-forgotten figures like the Mod Gorilla Boss and Roy Raymond, TV Detective joined Batman and John Constantine as supporting characters as Swamp Thing wrangled with the Parliament of Trees over his supposed successor as Earth's elemental hero. But nobody gets what they want, as the worst candidate ever becomes...Wild Thing! Blacklisted for years, *Swamp Thing* by **Rick Veitch** is back and available at lexpublib.org!



MEANWHILE

All LPL locations have the second volume of the spicy fantastic romance *Fine Print* (Image/Top Cow). The subtitle "Or How A Divine Contract May Not Be the Best Cure for A Broken Heart" gives away the basic plot: hapless hottie Lauren Thomas went looking for love and found a new world of lust in the arms of unearthly beings with an all-too-earthly itch to scratch. See 741.5 #73 for a review of the first volume; in fact, go read that first volume, because you might get lost with all the different succubi and incubi fighting over who gets Lauren and thus the Golden Contract that comes with her. Or just sit back and enjoy the ride as one particular succubus who looks like the Leather Nun's feisty headbanger daughter comes looking for Lauren, tired of all the chaos this mere mortal minx is causing back in Hot Heaven. **Stjepin Sejic** is the very naughty boy behind these hedonistic hi-jinx, whose use of digital color makes you forget it all comes out of a machine. Another Image release goes from the Adults Only world of *Fine Print* to a land of make-believe that once was the refuge for a lonely little girl. Our heroine Rose



developed a very detailed fantasy land of talking animals. That innocent dream was left behind the night Rose was found outside her burning house with the gas can in her hands. Several years later, the orphaned Rose is stuck in Juvie, with only her real childhood friend on her side. Or so she thinks, until her Aussie elephant pal shows up to bust her out! **Ethan Parker's** breathless script is ably translated by the art and colors of **Griffin Sheridan**. In the vein of *The Ether* and *Beneath the Trees Where Nobody Sees*, *Kill Your Darlings* mixes cute animals and scary monsters in one intense read available at all LPL locations. Meanwhile, far away in the City That Never Sleeps, Reed Richards made a decision in the heat of battle that's left everyone cold. Now, having lost family and friends themselves, the Fantastic Four leave behind the big hole in the middle of New York where the Baxter Building used to be and flee for the boonies. Sadly, Real America isn't the refuge they hoped it would be, especially since the Thing and his missus ain't talking to the rest of the team. Ben Grimm and Alicia Masters get trapped in a time loop in one small town, while Mr. Fantastic and the Invisible Woman find another inhabited by Doombots in disguise! The only one to stay in the City, Johnny



Storm, the Human Torch, works the secret identity angle while trying to use his powers on the DL. Even when the FF are reunited, they can't win for losing, as a detour to the Dark Dimension brings back a threat that exposes just how powerful the Fantastic Four are. Writer **Ryan North** shows the deft touch with characterization that has always set this title apart from others. You can go to the New TEEN section of your favorite location of Lexington Public Library to discover *Whatever Happened to the Fantastic Four?* Another group of friends take a trip to the great outdoors in the next item. Well, actually, it's outdoors for the first part of the trip. The rest takes place in the vast cavern in which our quintet of college pals discover a weird new world, a world full of very, very pink things...including the humongous Lovecraftian horror that initiates *The Cull* at all LPL locations!



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