

741.5

STRANGE TALES OF EVERYDAY LIFE

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The Comics & Graphic Novel Bulletin of



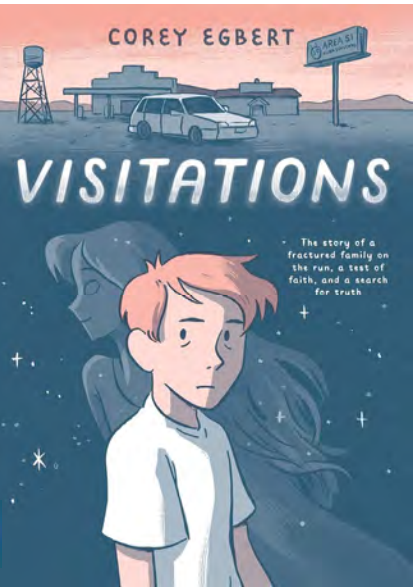
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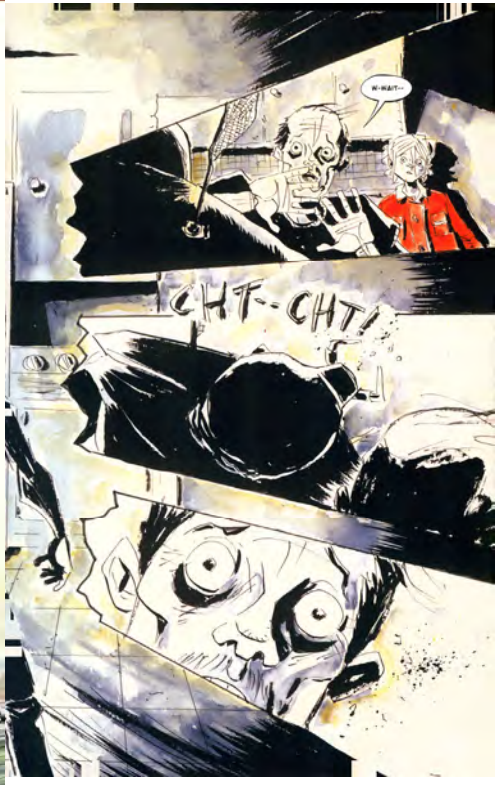
Maya is a comic book artist. She's trying to grind out the pages, keep the schedule, meet the deadline and beat the blues that have been slowing her down. Then a little one-eyed blob in a one-blob spaceship crashes into her apartment...and Maya finds herself in the middle of an adventure far wilder and more real than anything she's ever imagined. Fernando Llor's story, involving both Maya and her hapless best bud, is a Gen Z riff on *War of the Worlds* while the playful, colorful art of Carles Dalmau moves along at a manic clip. Meet *Soma* at all LPL locations!



Based on true events, *Visitations* is cataloged under B Eg17a1 in the TEEN section of all LPL locations. The “visitations” that give the book its title are of the everyday kind—the visitations granted by the court to Corey’s father after his parents’ bitter divorce, which eventually provoked his deeply religious mother to take Cory and his little sister and go on the run. And of the otherworldly kind—the vision of a spectral girl Corey has in the desert sands next to Area 51, an adolescent angel who opens Corey’s heart and mind to new vistas of being and belonging. A harrowing saga of faith and family, Cory Egbert’s *Visitations* is a graphic revelation.



“Fishflies.” “What?” “Yeah. They come for, like, a week every summer and then they all die at once. I think they like the light.” That’s the story told by the boys in the parking lot of the mini-mart right before one of them gets shot during a hold-up gone wrong. That in turn triggers an old curse that transforms the shooter into a huge insect, a human fishfly. Unlike previous sufferers of the curse, this one has a friend. Ignored when she’s not being abused, young Franny Fox finds and protects “Bug.” He tries to help her in turn (middle image, split). Now Franny



and Bug are on the lam. Hot on their trail comes local police chief Danny Laraque, at first uncomprehending of the weird clues he keeps finding (below). Others are on the hunt, all too familiar with the history behind the curse. Another sinister saga of small town secrets rendered in swathes of ink and bile by veteran creepster **Jeff Lemire**, *Fishflies* is available in hardback at Beaumont.



Adapted by **Ward Jenkins**, *Space Case: The Graphic Novel* is a rollicking juvenile adventure in near-future sci fi available at all LPL locations. Dashiell Gibson was thrilled when his family was chosen to reside in Earth’s first lunar colony. A year later, the thrill is gone. Everyday life in the cramped conditions of a glorified Habitat for humans ain’t what the brochure promised. Especially the space toilet. Things liven up when some new people arrive (right), including the bright and friendly Kira. She joins Dashiell in his secret investigation of the mysterious death of Dr. Holtz. Someone on Moon Base Alpha is a killer. But who? And why?



It’s a family affair, the business of breth. Breth is the plant which, woven the right way (left), provides souls for the people living in **Jordan Globberman’s** imagined world. Chloe thinks her sister’s way of doing things is old-fashioned. She lights out for the Big City. It’s fabulous. Too fabulous, thanks to the domination of Maya and the mighty MCorp. “Digibreth” is their hot new product. Artificial souls. Torn between past and future, Chloe discovers her family is all too connected to the *Soul Machine* in this graphic jeremiad available in TEEN from Annick Press.





One genre American comics never really adopted was Gothic romance. By the time DC made an attempt in the early 1970s, romance as a whole was dying out. Replacing it on the spinner racks? Sword & sorcery. *Conan the Barbarian* and all his wannabes bum-rushed the doe-eyed damsels pining after true love. Now **Tom (Supergirl) King** has whipped up a frothy blend of Gothic and Cimmerian in *Helen of Wyndhorn* (Dark Horse). Hear the story of Helen Cole, daughter of a pulp hack whose tales of Othan of the Other World may have been more than mere fantasy. Her father dead, Helen ends up the charge of her grandfather at the fabulous Wyndhorn Manor, under the tutelage of governess Lilith Appleton. That's the Gothic part. The rest waits for Helen in the Other World, drawn with rococo flair by **Bilquis (Supergirl) Evelyn**. Find *Helen of Wyndhorn* at Beaumont, Marksbury and Tates Creek. A new



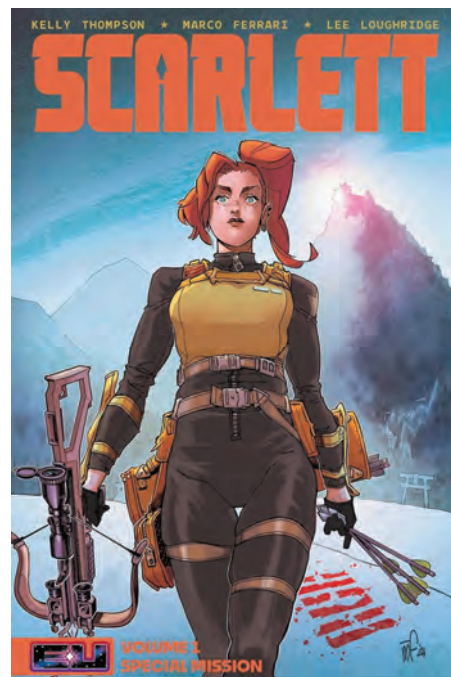
MEANWHILE

Image series treads familiar ground, but does so on light and nimble feet thanks to the crisp and colorful art by **Caspar Wijngaard**. *The Power Fantasy* is one of those very modern superhero series based on the formula that Less Is More. That is, rather than the busloads of metahumans that populate most superbooks, there exist but a six-pack of powered individuals in the otherwise real world of Brazils and Richard Nixons. The first was born the moment the first atomic bomb detonated at Trinity. The rest came later; as a result, metahumans are called "Atomics." That, and the fact each one of them is a walking H-bomb waiting to go off. Some have. Just ask Tokyo. Or what's left of the Eurasian landmass. A power struggle has ensued between Atomics desiring total



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We face yet another paradox thanks to the supply issues that have bedeviled LPL. We received the first chapter of the new run of *Detective Comics* before the final chapter of **Ram V's** "Gotham Nocturne" opus, which is still in the pipeline. The penultimate chapter of that story arc, aptly entitled "Intermezzo," is available at all LPL locations. Unearthly aristocrats the Orgham Family have closed on their claim to Gotham. To signify their triumph, the Orghams plan to hang Batman in the public square. Plenty of Gothamites aren't down with that, including Selina Kyle *alias* Catwoman. She has a plan. It involves not just Batman's allies, but his enemies as well. Like Selina, **Jason Shawn Alexander** is aided by other artists. But his smoky, smudgy drawings drive this Vertiginous take on the Dark Knight onward. Then it's a change of logo to (bat) signal a change in creative team. **Tom Taylor** handles the script, taking Batman back to before his beginning. Bruce Wayne learns the single most important event in his life, the murder of his parents, was the result of a decision his father made to save a man's life. Decades later, that choice haunts Batman like the scent of white musk that follows the killer leaving a trail of dead delinquents. Meanwhile, Bruce gets a dose of a new serum that promises to reverse aging, then gets a kiss from the woman promoting it. But is she who she says she is? What does her wonder drug have to do with an infamous reform school? The whole Bat-family gets involved, giving artist **Mikel Janin** a chance to revel in caped crusaders. Seek *Mercy of the Fathers* at Central!



autonomy and those willing to accept limits and cut deals with the government. Unfortunately, that inspires said government to take a shot at one of the Atomics. Now the President and half the White House staff are dead. And that was the best case scenario. Geo-politics recast as a family spat between gods, *TPF: The Superpowers* is the first chapter of an ongoing saga by **Kieron (Wicked & Divine) Gillen** available at all LPL locations. The Image/Hasbro partnership continues apace with the latest chapter in the Energion Saga. Fans of the G.I. Joe franchise will recognize *Scarlett* as the ginger avenger that gave your little sister an action figure to play with. Scarlett ain't playin', though, as shown by the shootings, stabblings and slicings she dispenses during her attempts to infiltrate the Arishikage Clan. But who is the threat: the Clan, joined by ex-partner Jinx and Storm Shadow...or COBRA? Go to lexpublib.org!



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