

741.5

THE SEASONS

**DASHING DISTAFF DETECTIVES
SUSS OUT SINISTER CIRCUS**

**PLUS...THE
MARTIANS &
THE SAUCERIAN**

NOVEMBER

2025

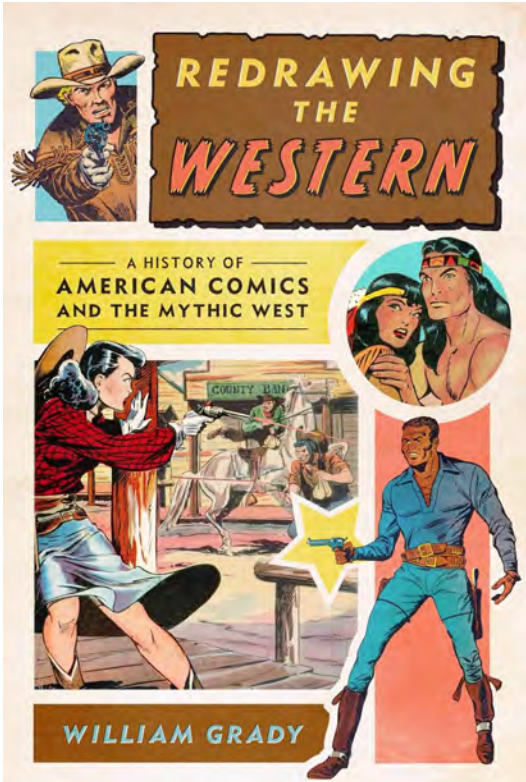
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The Comics & Graphic Novel Bulletin of



Lexington Public Library
Reading Is Just the Beginning!



The mythology of the Wild West was being created while the West was still Wild. The railroads being laid across the prairies carried the dime novels that immortalized the outlaws and lawmen who set the standards for decades of gun-slinging heroes. Despite its massive presence on radio, newsstands and the silver screen, it took a while for the Western genre to make an impression in the comic book market. Once they got a boot in the door, though, cowboys'n'Indians became dominant. (E.g. below, a former superhero title turned cowpoke.) As described by fellow librarian William Grady in *Redrawing the Western*, comics reflected American culture as icons like Roy Rogers and Hopalong Cassidy gave way to antiheroes such as Red Wolf and Jonah Hex. Redraw, stranger, at Beaumont and Eastside.



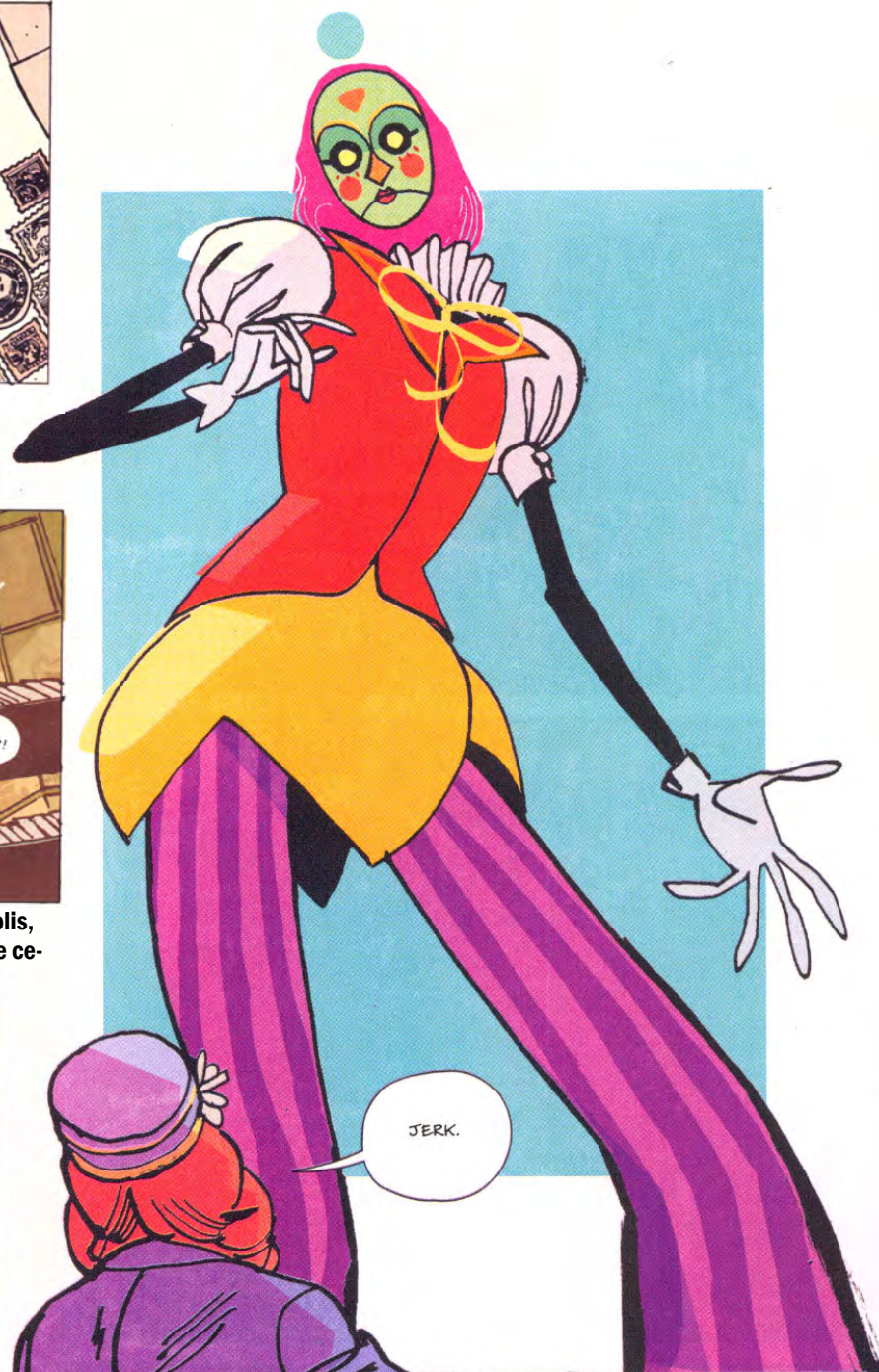
BELOW CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:
SUMMER, WINTER, SPRING &
AUTUMN SEASONS



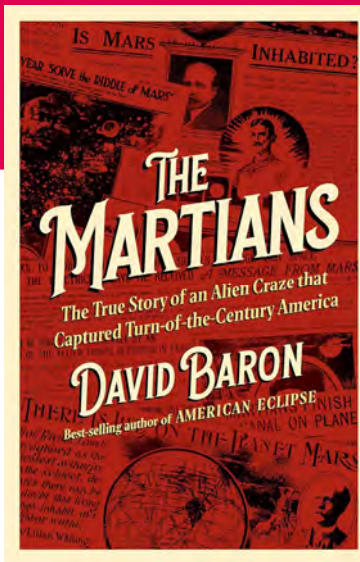
Courier Spring Season gets an important missive from her globe-trotting sis Autumn, warning THE CARNIVAL IS COMING TO TOWN!



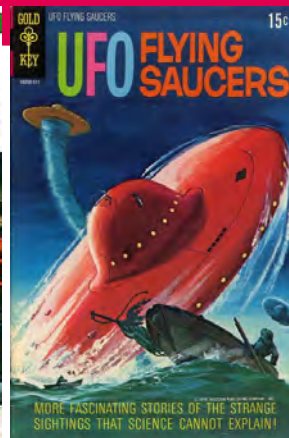
After running into a parade of freaks marching into their cozy metropolis, Spring tries to warn her other sisters, Winter the artist and Summer the celebrity. But neither will listen....is New Gaulia doomed?



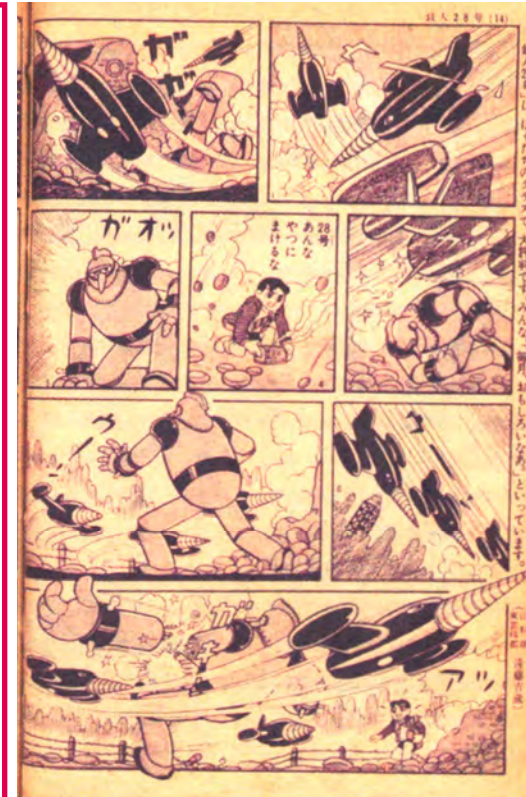
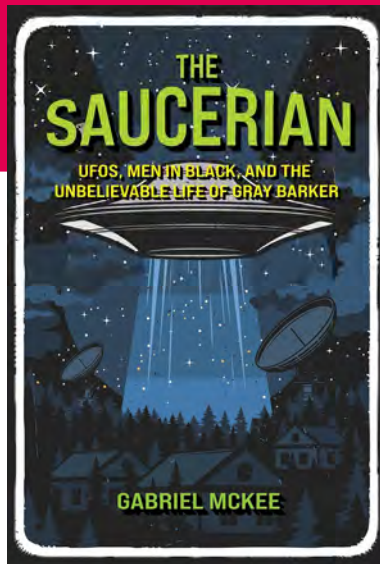
Writer Rick Remender, of *Black Science* and *Deadly Class* fame, is back with *The Seasons*. Like *Friday* and *Someone Is Killing the Children*, *The Seasons* comes on like a Scholastic Books series for adults. Paul (Outcast) Azaceta draws with a light and lively line that sweetens the sinister skullduggery while Mat Lopez reminds us just how colorful comics can be. Enjoy *The Seasons* at Beaumont, Marksby and Central!



From John Carter, Warlord of Mars, to J'onn J'onzz, Martian Manhunter, with Cosmo, Gullivar Jones (right), and Grape Nuts cereal spokesman Volto in between, our sister planet Mars has long had a big influence on comic books. That's just one aspect of American culture that fell under the sway of the Red Planet, as described by David Baron in his social history *The Martians*. Go to Beaumont and Eastside for an in-depth look at a forgotten mania!



One of my boyhood faves, *UFO Flying Saucers* was inspired by the UFO "flap" that occurred in the mid-60s. This title covered a lot of ground, much of it first cleared by the subject of *The Saucerian*, Gray Barker. Barker was a big personality, a mix of vision and venality. One of the first UFO zinesters, Barker helped create a modern mythology. Both true believer and shameless huckster, he was the original Architect of Fear! Get it at Central.



LPL has a few histories and how-tos regarding *manga*, the Japanese form of comics. But none of them have gone more into the backstage nitty-gritty like Eike Exner's *MANGA* (Yale University Press). His previous book was *Comics & the Origins of Manga, A Revisionist History* that argued for manga's place as part of an international art movement. *MANGA* is more about the business of manga publishing and the socio-political context in which the medium and the industry developed. Like so much of American comics history, it was the titanic struggle between two large companies that determined much of that history. An deep dive into a complex subject, this *New History* is available at Central, Eastside and Marksby. Above: Gigantor (Tentsujin 28-go = Iron man #28)





As noted on our website, LPL's main distributor is going out of business. We've been dealing with that mess throughout 2025. It's why we're getting the DC "All In" titles before we've received the actual *All In* books, as well as some laggard "Dawn of DC" series. *The Question* is Rene Montoya. As one of DC's non-powered heroes, she has not suffered the same set-backs as her now de-powered peers. The Justice League remade their orbital Watchtower into a refuge for superheroes on the run from Amanda Waller's global purge. And who better to watch *All Along the Watchtower*? Things go haywire almost immediately thanks to a duet of renegade Supermen looking to eradicate all other metahumans. Can the Question...and the Question...answer the challenge? Go to Beaumont, Central and Marks-bury to find out! Despite the headline, the new JSA comp doesn't feature *Infinity Inc. vs. the Justice Society*. *Infinity Inc.*— i.e. the youngsters



MEANWHILE

such as Jade, Obsidian, Jesse Quick, Sand and the new Wildcat and Dr. Mid-nite— are fighting among themselves while the old guard —the Hawks with OG Flash, Green Lantern and Wildcat, alongside the new Dr. Fate and an even newer Kid Eternity— battle the hordes of Hell for dominion over the Tower of Fate. The new Injustice Society is behind it all, and their devious plans are succeeding beyond their villainous dreams. Available at Beaumont and Central, it's a double-dealing donnybrook that comes slugging off the page thanks to the ferocious artwork of **Diego Olortegui** and **Jose Vasquez**. Psychedelic script-wrangler **Ram V** brings his trademark trippiness to *The New Gods*. The latest iteration of **Jack Kirby's**



Fourth World concepts takes off from two massive events: the death of Atlas in *Danger Street* (see 741.5 # 116 & 128), hence *The Falling Sky*, and the death of Darkseid during the *Absolute Power* event. Sensing the cosmic imbalance initiated by those deaths, various forces begin to make their move. New Genesis is invaded by the Nyctari, the spawn of darkness, while an Elder Goddess, perhaps the Elder Goddess, awakens from ancient slumber. Meanwhile, a new New God has been born on Earth. Highfather, leader of the New Gods, sends his enforcer Orion to slay the child. But the Hunter asks his adopted brother Scott Free to protect the kid. After all, who knows how to escape certain death better than Mister Miracle? All that and the Black Racer, too! **Evan Cagle** handles most of the art, but a squad of other scribes contribute their own divergent takes, giving *The New Gods* a multiplicity of viewpoints with which to view this tale that's quite simple for all its complicated backstory. The tangled history of one Selina Kyle gets batted about like a ball of blood-stained yarn in the new *Catwoman* compilation that asks the musical question *Who Is Selina Kyle?* She once was a young

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criminal in training known as "Evie" to her peers. Selina's not seen those people for a long time. So it triggers her "kitty sense" when several of them show up in the news. Specifically, the obituaries. A loud, clumsy attempt to bump her in the middle of a hoity-toity to-do drives Selina to leave America in search of her rotten roots and the creepy, crawly things that now live there. It's girl's night out as Norwegian creator **Torunn Gronbekk** leads Italian artists **Fabiana Mascolo** and **Marianna Ignazzi** in a smooth but violent crime drama available via lexpublib.org! Meanwhile, "there are two people I hate in this world," says mob boss Zucco. "And he's both of them." His enemies now know Dick Grayson is *Nightwing*. Thanks to the same enemies, the world thinks he's the villain Heartless. Dick Grayson lams it for lama-land to face his demons and reclaim his soul in the big boffo finale of **Tom Taylor's** award-winning run! Find *Fallen Grayson* in TEEN at your fave location!



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