

741.5

**MELISSA MENDES: THE
WEIGHT**

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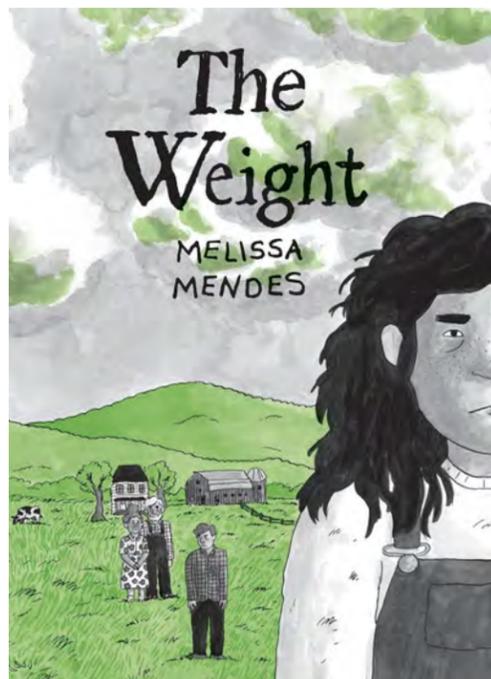
PLUS...LEE LAI: LOVE & RESTAURANTS



The Comics & Graphic Novel Bulletin of



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Reading Is Just the Beginning!



(DRAWN & QUARTERLY)
BEAUMONT * CENTRAL * MARKSBURY



Eddie never cried when she was a baby. Eddie never cries when she's a kid. What good would it do? Her daddy dragged her still-bleeding mother from the birth bed the night Eddie was born. He's still dragging her mother down and around when Eddie's a child.



timeless bucolic wonderland of farmland and fields. The outside world rarely impinges; only the nearby army base and the occasional letter of condolence act as a reminder that the world is at war. Sometimes the violence she's endured comes out of her. But mostly,



The Weight is a quietly stunning story that captures both the spirit and the flesh and blood realities of country life



Finally, her father draws blood. Eddie's blood. That inspires her mother to escape. But the bonds of matrimony are too strong. They tie her mother to her doom while Eddie finds refuge with her grandparents in another town, a better place. Eddie grows up in a

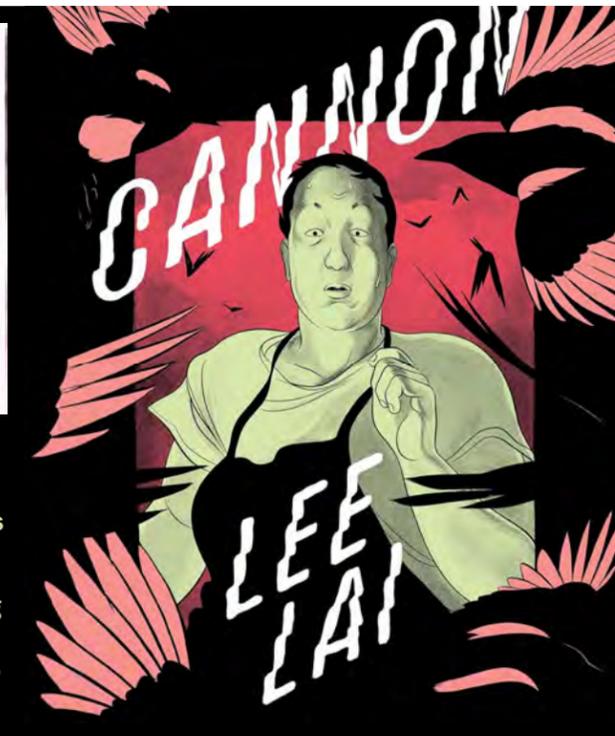


Eddie plays the tomboy, even as new blood brings new feelings. A literal roll in the hay leaves Eddie at the mercy of biology and society. Neither marriage nor motherhood changes her. But her husband...well, Eddie's seen this story before, and she'll be damned if it ends like her mother's did...

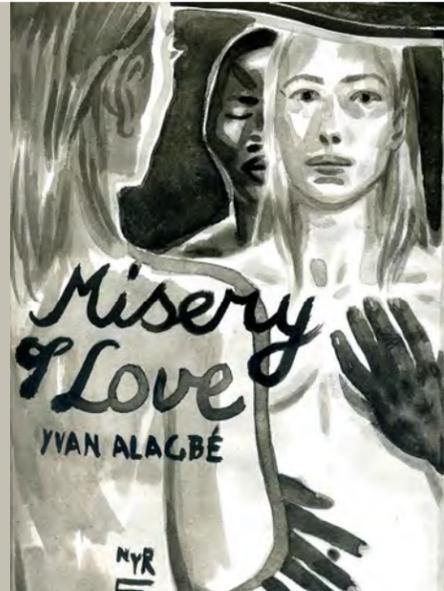
Born, raised and residing in the rural landscapes she so ably depicts, Melissa Mendes authors her first adult graphic novel (Drawn & Quarterly)



Her name's Lucy. It was her BFF Trish who nicknamed her "Canon," because, you know. But she's anything but. Canon is dependable, which is a good thing for all the people who depend on her: her declining "Gung Gung" (grandpa), her fellow kitchen workers at the hip bistro, her own detached and neglectful mother, and, oh yeah, BFF Trish.



A family gathers for a funeral in contemporary France. Grandfather and Grandmother have passed on together, next to each other on the same bed. As the survivors wrangle over effects and affairs, granddaughter Clare is carried away in a wave of memories, of what she saw and experienced as a child. A girl raised in a bordello in a bad part of town..."All night long



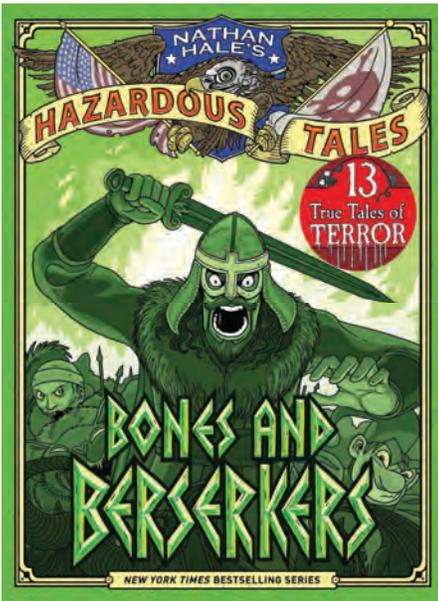
there were people outside. Men, Arabs, Africans...I heard them talking, playing, laughing..." Yesterday and tomorrow stack up like panels on a page, blurring together like the ink washes rendered by Yvan Alagbé, blending like the racial remnants of post-colonial France. A bluntly sexual yet plainly unsexy realism undergirds this dreamlike saga of *Misery of Love* at Central.



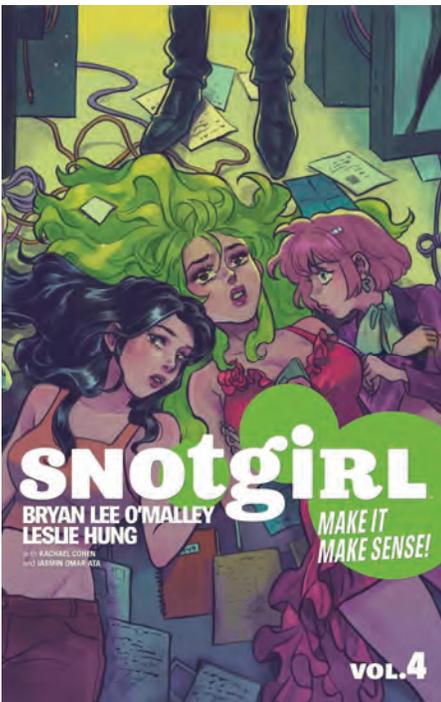
But one night, after giving too much and getting not enough, Cannon cracks, in an act of everyday violence as cathartic as the horror movies she watches with Trish. LEE LAI's latest opens in the aftermath of chaos and calmly, clearly leads us up to that calamitous moment, then beyond. A creepily quotidian exploration of intersectionality, *Cannon* is available at Beaumont and Eastside. If you figure out what the birds mean, let me know, okay?



THESE STARK, HONEST TRUE-TO-LIFE TALES OF LOVE AND DEATH, SEX AND VIOLENCE, RACE AND GENDER ARE RECOMMENDED FOR MATURE READERS

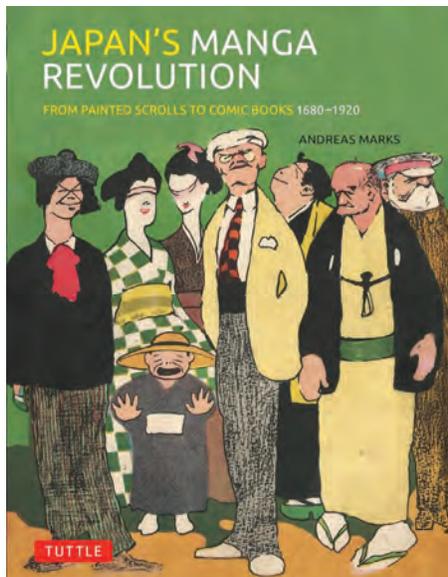


Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales takes a break from hardcore history (see 741.5 #57) to pay tribute to short stories in general and in particular those written by **Stephen Gammell** and **Alvin Schwartz**, the creators of *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark*. The thirteenth volume of *Hazardous Tales*, *Bones and Berserkers* are 13 True Tales of Terror available under J 741.5 at all LPL locations. These tales are "true" the same way an episode of *Ancient Astronauts* is "true". There's a smattering of historical fact, such as the radium story, the Civil War yarn and the true crime epic of California insurgent/bandit **Joaquin Marietta**, that gives cover to the gruesome and grim sagas of the Jersey Devil, the Demon Cat of the District of Columbia and Iron Age King Hrolf of Denmark, who meets up with Odin, major player in another item on this page.



MEANWHILE

Lord children, Ye Editor must confess that reading the fourth and latest volume of the Image series *Snotgirl* had me crying out the title *Make It Make Sense!* A lot's gone on since we last left our allergy-afflicted teen dream Lottie Person AKA Snotgirl™. (Yeah, our girl's gotten so Big Time, her creators trademarked that bee-yotch!) She's quit chasing boys that won't chase her back, instead turning around and embracing the love that was always there, her galpal Caroline, AKA Coolgirl. Things look lovey-dovey and then some for our fabu femmes, but...there's always a "but", isn't there? Why is Caroline's webhead brother Virgil so up in their business? Or is he just an agent of friend and fellow online influencer (and thus potential rival) Misty AKA Cutegirl? Then there's Snotgirl's mom, who, it turns out, used to be a pop star back in the Eighties! And Deadgirl is back! And there's a sex crypt, and...aw, just read it awready at Central, Northside and Tates

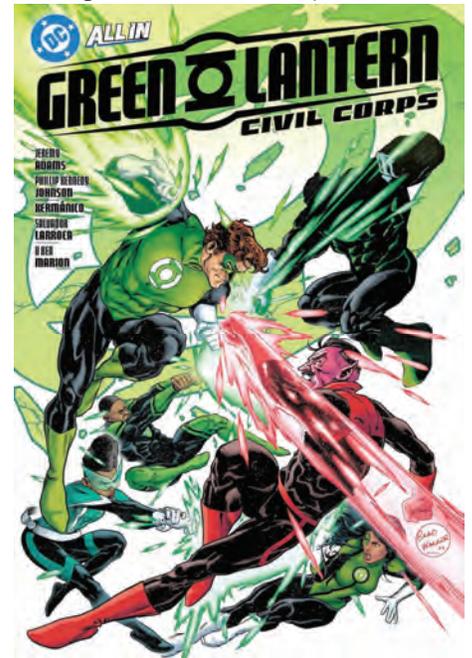


Creek! Yes, it's another history of manga. Too bad all these bad boys didn't come in at once. I would have devoted an issue to them and been able to show you such awe-inspiring artworks as "Tametomo on Demon Island shoots to the shore" and "Woken up by snapping turtles" and "Ogres feasting on a banquet" (that's "on a banquet", not "at a banquet"). Delving into pre-industrial media such as handscrolls and illustrated books, **Andreas Marks** traces the origins of manga up to the 20th Century debut of cartoon magazines like *Tokyo Puck* and *High-Class Punch*. Witness *Japan's Manga Revolution* at Central and Tates Creek. Meanwhile, best-selling Juvenile author **George O'Connor** has turned his attention from the gods of Olympus to the gods of Asgard. Following the opening volumes devoted to Odin and Thor, **O'Connor** tells the story of Loki. It's always been complicated, even before Lee & Kirby got their mitts on it. **O'Connor** dwells on Loki's status as an outsider; born a jotun, the savage enemies of the Realm Eternal, yet a blood-brother of the All-Father, Loki elides the roles of enemy and ally. He helps the Asgardians numerous times, as in the tale of the Master Builder,

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yet makes his own family apart from them, fathering the future queen of Hell, the Midgard Serpent and the wolf that will one day devour the very sun itself. **O'Connor** builds the suspense as Loki becomes evermore alienated from the Aesir, leading up to that cosmic crime, the murder of Baldr. An intense retelling of dark myths, *Asgardians; Loki* is available at all LPL locations. Beaumont, Central and Marksburry are where you'll find the latest adventures of Hal Jordan, *Green Lantern* and his pals, now calling themselves the *Civil Corps*. As Hal, John Stewart, Guy Gardner and more work to revive the Corps, they come up against former allies such as Mogo and Kilowog who have joined rival Lanterns. Meanwhile, new enemies hiding behind the mask of friendship set the mighty forces of the United Planets against the new Civil Corps. It's a wild throwdown involving galactic warriors waging superheroic war in a seething cauldron of interstellar politics. Par-TAY!



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