

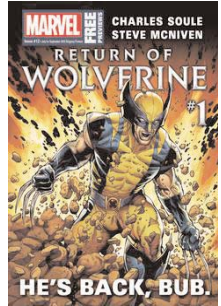


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M&M'S COMIC COMMENTS



Volume 24 Number 7

Written by Anthony Musiala and edited by Mike

July 2018 Previews Catalog - Items Shipping in September 2018

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ITEM! Visit our web site every month and download your FREE copies of the DC Previews and Marvel Previews Catalogs.

July Previews Highlight

ITEM! Tom King and Clay Mann's **HEROES IN CRISIS** (ITEM 0592) kicks off that month as well. King has basically been the hottest writer in the industry for a couple of years now, and with multiple Eisners to his name, and potentially more to come, putting him in charge of an event title like this is a no-brainer. It seems a bit reminiscent of Identity Crisis in its murder-mystery approach, but I'm ever so curious to see how he returns to both Booster Gold and Harley Quinn just after his short work with them in Batman.

ITEM! Writers seem to like messing with young Damian Wayne, and his appearances in September are no exception. In **TEEN TITANS #22** (ITEM 0695), he's got a "secret mentor," and in the newly launched **Adventures of the Super Sons**, he and Superboy have to deal with some unusual villains thanks to some powerful Gold Kryptonite.

ITEM! The Mockingbird creative team of NY Times Bestselling writer Chelsea Cain and artist Kate Niemczyk are reuniting at Image Comics for a new series called **MAN-EATERS** (ITEM 0103). The book is Cain's first return to the comics industry she once called "a class action lawsuit waiting to happen" since Mockingbird. Joining them on the creative team are Rachelle Rosenberg, Joe Caramagna, Lia Mitemique, and Stella Greenvoss. The comic aims to capture the current cultural zeitgeist, or, as Cain put it: "Pop culture has a long tradition of manifesting our cultural anxieties as monsters. What scares us most right now? ...Women."

ITEM! In **JUSTICE LEAGUE DARK #3** (ITEM 0667), Wonder Woman discovers a power "not even she knew about," and in **THE FLASH #54** (ITEM 0641), the title character becomes the "strongest man alive." And in the crossover between **Suicide Squad** and **Aquaman**, the throne of Atlantis is finally being officially filled by a hero, with copy mentioning "Mera's coronation."

ITEM! Considering the solicitation for **ICEMAN #1's** (ITEM 0984) mention of a "new Mutant Massacre," it might be time to start worrying.

ITEM! Brian Azzarello and Lee Bermejo reunite for the very first new Black Label release in **BATMAN: DAMNED** (ITEM 0597), which looks to be a horror story surrounding the murder of the Joker, an amnesiac Batman and guest-starring John Constantine. Intriguing pitch.

ITEM! Fan favorite writer Joe Casey (**SEX, NEW LIEUTENANTS OF**



METAL) and artist Ian MacEwan come together to weave modern mythology for a new generation in the forthcoming **MCMLXXXV** (ITEM 0110) launching this September. "This series is all about creating brand new iconography," said Casey. "It's about creating a new kind of folk hero that speaks to where we all are right now. Oh yeah... it's also about smashing monsters into the pavement with an enchanted tire iron." In **MCMLXXXV**, readers meet Pamela Evans.

Much more than a typical Manhattan cab driver, she also happens to be a badass monster-fighter. Welcome to the year of her greatest adventure. MacEwan added: "This is a book about big action in a mythic, haunted New York. It's about dim street lights that can't fight off the shadows, and who has to step in its place to hold back the tide of chaos."

ITEM! Think They Live, except instead of sunglasses that allows people to see the aliens among us, it's recreational drug use. This **Think They Live**, except instead of sunglasses that allows people to see the aliens among us, it's recreational drug use. This is **BURNOUTS** (ITEM 0118), written by Dennis Culver and with art from Geoffo and Lauren Perry, which follows a group of delinquent teenagers who, after taking part in an anti-drugs campaign at school, decide to do the very teen thing of ignoring any and all advice from an authority figure and smoking some pot. Instead of the trip they expected, however, they find themselves confronted by ethereal aliens—aliens that are real, hiding on Earth, and only visible in the after-effects of a high. How do you fight something you can't see? With, err, marijuana, apparently.

ITEM! No longer content with mocking bad movies, the mad scientists behind **Mystery Science Theater 3000** are turning their attention to the world of comic books. Dark Horse Comics today announced **MYSTERY SCIENCE THEATER 3000, THE COMIC** (ITEM 0423), a new six-issue miniseries featuring Tom, Crow, Gypsy, and the host of the Netflix revival of the series, Jonah Heston. The series will be written by MST3K creator Joel Hodgson, and the first issue will feature covers by Todd Nauck and MST3K DVD cover artist Steve Vance. Nauck will also be providing interior art, which will likely be solely for framing sequences, as in the new series the crew of the **Satellite of Love** will be forced by their captors to read old public domain comics.

Hopefully the heroes of the series will be represented by little silhouettes at the bottom of each terrible, glorious panel.

ITEM! **X-MEN GOLD** will come to its end in September with #36 (ITEM 1110), but between the final issue and the penultimate #35, some dark times may be ahead for Marvel's merry mutants. First off, the solicitation for #35 (ITEM 1109) mentions "Storm's final battle," while the cover of #36 shows Kitty Pryde standing among tombstones for not just Storm but Colossus, Nightcrawler, Rachel Grey, and Old Man Logan.

ITEM! In **EXILES #8** (ITEM

1139), multidimensional observers the Watchers will return after a long absence following **Original Sin**.

ITEM! Following the **Death of Wolverine** and **Hunt For Wolverine**, Marvel has officially announced Logan's next series will be titled **RETURN OF WOLVERINE** (ITEM 0952). The **Death of Wolverine** creative team of writer Charles Soule and artist Steve McNiven will launch the next chapter of Logan's adventures on September 19 in a five-issue limited series.



ITEM! Dark Horse Comics is teaming with Berger Books for the release of **Olivia Twist**, a female-centric tale based on the Dickens classic tale. In a dangerous future London, teenage orphan Olivia Twist joins the Esthers, a rag-tag gang of girl thieves, to save a boy she barely knows. Led by the elegant, queenly Fagin, they steal from the rich inhabitants of

Vertical City while battling the illegally-augmented Trads for control of the streets. The four-part mini-series is the first time novelist Darin Strauss has done any comic book work. Strauss is joined by short fiction writer Adam Dalva as co-writer, with Emma Vieceli on art and Lee Loughridge on colors. Don't miss **OLIVIA TWIST** (ITEM 0432) from Dark Horse!

ITEM! This September will see the launch of **STAR TREK VS. TRANSFORMERS** (ITEM 0816 - 0817), a new crossover miniseries from the creative team of writers John Barber and Mike Johnson, alongside artist Philip Murphy and colorist Leonardo Ito. The series—which will run for four issues—is inspired by the aesthetic and continuities from the cartoon iterations of both **Trek** and **Transformers**: the 1973 cult classic **Star Trek: The Animated Series**, and the original 1984 **Transformers** show.

ITEM! **WONDER WOMAN EARTH ONE VOL 2 HC** (ITEM 0591) keeps that irregular prestige line going with what is probably the best creative team of the bunch. Now that they've been able to shed the requisite origin story, it's possible that Morrison, Paquette and Fairbairn will be able to really dig into some cool thematic meat given their very Marston-heavy focus on the character. It'll be a beautiful book to behold for sure.

ITEM! **Stranger Things** became a Netflix phenomenon through its remarkable synthesis of nerd culture, remixing Steven Spielberg movies by way of John Carpenter while sprinkling in modern-day '80s nostalgia and an impeccable young cast. So perhaps it was only a matter of time before the franchise branched out into other nerd-adjacent media platforms. That time has now come, and EW can exclusively announce that Netflix is teaming up with Dark Horse to publish a line of comics based on **STRANGER THINGS** (ITEM 0419), with the first series set to launch this September. This four-issue **Stranger Things** miniseries—written by Jody Houser, illustrated by Stefano Martino, inked by Keith Champagne, colored by Lauren Affe, and lettered by Nate Piekos—will finally give fans a look at what happened to Will in the



MORE >>>

Upside Down.

ITEM! Wolverine's and telepaths have always had intense relationships, and in X-23 #4 (ITEM 1137), Laura McKinney will find out exactly what that can mean as she goes up against the Stepford Cuckoos. As for what's causing the long-time X-Men to clash, the solicitation says the Cuckoos will kidnap Laura's sister Gabby under mysterious circumstances.

ITEM! Jinxworld adds another series to its new DC-labled line-up in Cover (ITEM 0601), which re-teams Brian Michael Bendis and David Mack, a spy story that finds the intelligence community recruiting a comic artist as a spy. Sounds like some fun meta-shenanigans will be on tap. There's also a relaunch of United States of Murder that month, and a nice little cheap Jinxworld sampler for those wanting to dip their toes in!

ITEM! Matt Wagner jumps aboard BATMAN #54 (ITEM 0624) as artist for an issue focused on Dick Grayson! Talk about a rare treat!

ITEM! MISTER MIRACLE (ITEM 0672) comes to an end with its issue 12...and we finally learn, did Scott Free ever really escape from the ultimate trap?

ITEM! Now that writer James Robinson has left Wonder Woman, it looks like he's guest-writing an arc of Detective Comics beginning with issue #988 (ITEM 0637), working with artist Stephen Segovia. What does this mean for Bryan Hill, who is slated to begin writing DETECTIVE COMICS this month- already delayed one issue from his originally-intended debut? Too soon to tell.

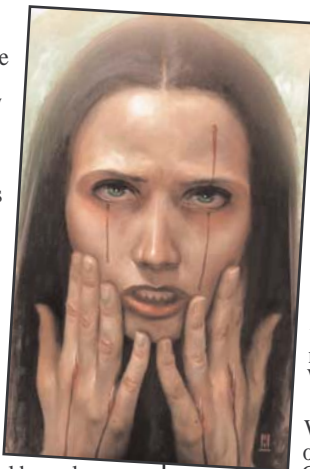
ITEM! The Seven Soldiers are guest-starring in Sideways! Originally, these issues were going to be co-written by Grant Morrison, though it's possible his involvement has been pushed back by a month or so as DiDio's arcs for the series have taken further shape.

ITEM! DC is finally reprinting the classic Captain Marvel story, "The Monster Society of Evil", which has been in desperate need of re-release in some time. The Beck/Binder original, which debuted Mister Mind, was the longest running serial story in Golden Age comics and a precursor to the multi-part stories that were to come. It will also be one of the only Otto Binder Captain Marvel comics in print as well, but hopefully with the big screen debut of the character on the horizon, this will be the first of many to come!

ITEM! It's been a long time coming, but DOOMSDAY CLOCK #7 (ITEM 0604) promises to finally explain the "truth behind Dr. Manhattan's curiosity with the DC Universe." It looks like the story will also head toward what DC is calling a "Super-War," something that's been hyped since before the series began. With Heroes in Crisis also kicking off in September and Doomsday Clock getting to what sounds like the meatier part of the plot, DC readers should get plenty of surprises in September.

ITEM! New HARLEY QUINN (ITEM 0651) writer Sam Humphries promised he'd shake up the title a bit after he started on the series this summer, but it looks like September shakes up more than just the book, with ad copy saying Harley "accidentally breaks all of reality." And what throw-back character is going to help Harley fix all the continuity errors she created? None other than Jonni DC, the "continuity cop" from DC's past who helps correct errors.

ITEM! Two titles will start shipping twice monthly for DC in September: NIGHTWING (ITEM 0675) and TITANS (ITEM 0701). Maybe DC readers just can't get enough of that handsome Dick Grayson? (Or maybe the creative teams are just that good at turning these around in a timely manner?) But with these additions to the schedule, there are a couple titles missing from September solicitations as well. Both Cyborg and MAD Magazine didn't show up this time around. And in another bit of surprise in these solicitations, James Tynion IV will be writing JUSTICE



LEAGUE #7 (ITEM 0661) instead of series writer Scott Snyder.

ITEM! Acclaimed Grendel artist Matt Wagner joins writer Tom King on BATMAN #55 (ITEM 0626), which appears to incorporate a flashback to Dick Grayson's origin. This is the first time Dick has gotten some alone time with Bruce since the engagement (man, relationships really change everything, don't they?), so there's some reminiscing being drawn by Wagner's pen.

ITEM! As artist Pete Woods joins Scott Lobdell on Red Hood and the Outlaws, the team's getting a re-vamp in September. The title character Jason Todd is sticking around, but the "Rebirth" version of the Outlaws appears to be changing, with Bizarro and Artemis gone. With RED HOOD AND THE OUTLAWS #26 (ITEM 0682), Jason is embarking on a "brutal new mission" with a new costume and new weapons. As for what that mission is - or how Jason's identity will change - the solicit offers little clue.

ITEM! Last week's issue of Hawkman introduced some crazy past versions of Hawkman and clarified the hero's continuity in the post-Metal DC Universe. But readers will get quite the Hawk-confrontation in September when HAWKMAN #4 (ITEM 0655) features a battle between "Earthman Carter Hall" and "Thanagarian space cop Katar Hol."

ITEM! Brian Michael Bendis is several issues into his Superman story now, giving readers a good idea of how he writes Clark, Lois and The Daily Planet gang. But how does Bendis write Batman? If the cover for September's ACTION COMICS #1003 (ITEM 0614) can be believed, readers might find out soon. And with Batman protecting Superman against an ominous hand carrying Kryptonite, it looks to be more than just a boys night out for DC duo.

ITEM! Maybe Weirdworld wasn't as big a deal following the fantasy-inspired world's reintroduction in Secret Wars as Marvel may have hoped, but it has remained a fixture in the Marvel Universe through occasional appearances. The latest looks like it'll come in September's DEADPOOL #4 (ITEM 1118), when the Merc With a Mouth travels to the mystic land. While there, he may just find yet another unlikely romantic connection judging by the cover. Perhaps the woman Wade's with is one of the "sorceresses" mentioned in the solicit text.

ITEM! One of the coolest parts of the fan-favorite COSMIC GHOST RIDER (ITEM 1106) limited series is getting a look at the title's future Marvel Universe. September's #3 ups the ante again with a future version of the Guardians of the Galaxy. (No, not the original ones from the future.) From the looks of the cover, that team will include Cable, a future wielder of Cap's shield (Dani Cage, maybe?), a terrifying Rocket/Groot hybrid, a Howard the Duck/Juggernaut called Juggernaut, and, uh... is that a Ferengi from Star Trek?

ITEM! Skottie Young's

deliciously violent I Hate Fairyland is one of Image Comics' most beloved and successful ongoing comics, and Young will soon expand his Image domination as he teams up with Sabertooth Swordsman artist Aaron Conley, colorist Jean-Francois Beaulieu and letterer Nate Piekos to launch BULLY WARS (ITEM 0096-0098), billed as an "all-ages Freaks and Geeks meets Hunger

Games...without the killing." Set in the forebodingly named Rottenville, Bully Wars follows new freshman Spencer and his lifelong bully, Rufus, as they form an uneasy alliance to help Rufus compete in the "Bully Wars," a challenge to establish the pecking order in their new school. Will Rufus rise to the raucous occasion or will he join Spencer down on the bottom rung.

ITEM! THE UNBEATABLE SQUIRREL GIRL has never been a title afraid of breaking the usual comic book storytelling mode, and in September's #36 (ITEM 1099) writer Ryan North and artist Derek Charm will deliver a story with no dialog - an "all silent" issue. In the story, Squirrel Girl and Iron Man will encounter a new villain that will "render them quite literally speechless."

ITEM! If you did a double take when you saw the cover of September's SPIDER-MAN/DEADPOOL #38 (ITEM 1058) thinking you were looking at a version of Marvelman/Miracleman, you're not alone. But that's not Marvel's recently-acquired-but-still-dormant IP, that's a new character named "Master Matrix." As for who and what he is, the dual solicitation for Spider-Man/Deadpool #38 and 39 describes him as "the most powerful young robot in the world."

ITEM! The initial line-up of the revived WEST COAST AVENGERS may look a bit like a "who's who" of who's left after a spate of recently cancelled titles, but in September's #2 (ITEM 1014), founding West Coast Avenger Tigra will return to the title - but there's a twist. It's not clear how, but when she reappears, Tigra will be gigantic - from the looks of it, around 30 feet tall! Maybe her past relationship with Hank Pym has something to do with this.

ITEM! The contentious father-and-son relationship between Norman and Harry Osborn has been a central source of drama in the Spider-Man mythos for decades, with the pair each operating as the villainous Green Goblin at times (and Norman later even bonding with Carnage to become the Red Goblin). But EDGE OF SPIDERGEDDON #4 (ITEM 0989) shows a world where Norman Osborn got spider powers and worked alongside Peter Parker to "change the world." Harry on the other hand seems to have leaped into the Goblin persona in this universe

ITEM! There are a few years of Marvel Universe continuity where the Fantastic Four were, well, "off the books," so to speak - sequestered in a pocket dimension rebuilding the multiverse while the rest of the MU believed them to be dead. Dan Slott and Sara Pichelli's FANTASTIC FOUR #2 (ITEM 0969) will show some of what happened in those years - but the multiverse they built may be under attack as the solicitation ominously warns "universes will die."

ITEM! Warren Ellis and Jason Howard, whose comic trees is currently achieving the comic book dream of being adapted to a television

show, are reteaming for a new series at Image in September called Warren Ellis and Jason Howard, whose comic trees is currently achieving the comic book dream of being adapted to a television show, are reteaming for a new series at Image in September called Cemetery Beach, with a premise as Warren Ellis-y as a fan could hope for: In CEMETERY BEACH (ITEM 0123), a professional pathfinder, his only ally a disaffected young murderess, breaks out of a torture cell in pursuit of his worst extraction scenario ever: escaping on foot across a sprawling and secret off-world colony established a hundred years ago and filled with generations of lunatics.

