BLACK LABEL/HILL HOUSE

SUMMER/FALL 2020 CATALOG

DC BLACK LABEL

SUMMER & FALL 2020

From captivating and complex superhero titles to terrifying horror tales, DC Black Label is committed to telling mature and timeless stand-alone stories. These collections for Summer/Fall 2020 are perfect for everyday readers looking for accessible and distinctive jumping-on points.

First, the White Knight saga continues! **Sean Murphy** returns as writer and artist on ***Batman: Curse of the White Knight***, the sequel to his blockbuster ***Batman: White Knight***. As Batman prepares to reveal his identity, the Joker and Azrael team up to wield a shocking piece of lost history that will corrupt Batman's legacy and shake Gotham to its foundation.

In ***Harley Quinn & The Birds of Prey***, **Amanda Conner** and **Jimmy Palmiotti** return to have some fun with the character they revolutionized; and Jeff Lemire and Andrea Sorrentino explore the crooked corridors of Joker's mind in ***Joker: Killer Smile***.

DC Black Label is passionate about showcasing the most amazing artists in the industry. Two more books that feature eye-popping art were also year-end hits in the direct market: the outstanding ***Dark Knight Returns: The Golden Child***, written by **Frank Miller** and illustrated by **Rafael Grampa**, and the stunning ***Wonder Woman: Dead Earth***, written and illustrated by the monstrously talented **Daniel Warren Johnson**.

Then, *New York Times* bestselling writer Geoff Johns and Jason Fabok team up for the long-awaited ***Batman: Three Jokers***. 30 years after ***The Killing Joke*** changed comics forever, this story re-examines the myth of the Joker and explores the depths of his ongoing battle with Batman.

Plus, the ***Sandman Universe*** grows with ***John Constantine: Hellblazer*** by **Simon Spurrier**, featuring art by **Aaron Campbell** and **Matias Bergara**. This is the book that inspired **Neil Gaiman** to tweet: "If you aren't reading the new HELLBLAZER you're missing something really good." Constantine might not be the hero we need, but he's the bastard we deserve—and he's back to uncover something wicked at the core of the United Kingdom.

We are also thrilled to collect **Hill House Comics**, our groundbreaking line of horror books curated by *New York Times* bestselling writer **Joe Hill**. Two of the titles were penned by Joe himself: ***Basketful of Heads***, with art by **Leomacs**, follows a young woman with an enchanted Viking axe as she lops off heads to save her boyfriend; and ***Plunge***, with art by **Stuart Immonen**, is the tale of a long-lost oil tanker that resurfaces with some very strange mysteries on board. Joe's vision for the line also inspired **M.R. Carey** (*The Girl With All the Gifts*) and **Peter Gross** on ***The Dollhouse Family***, and **Laura Marks** and the great **Kelley Jones** on ***Daphne Byrne***. Finally, **Carmen Maria Machado** (*Her Body and Other Parties*, *In The Dream House*) makes her comics debut with ***The Low, Low Woods***, illustrated by breakout artist **Dani**. This twisted coming-of-age story is filled with body horror and heart and perfectly exemplifies why *New York Times* named Carmen as one of "The New Vanguard"—women whose books "are shaping the way we read and write fiction in the 21st Century."

With immense pride, I welcome you to the darker side of DC and the horrifying world of Hill House Comics. Take a peek...if you dare...



Mark Doyle, Executive Editor, DC Black Label



DC BLACK LABEL

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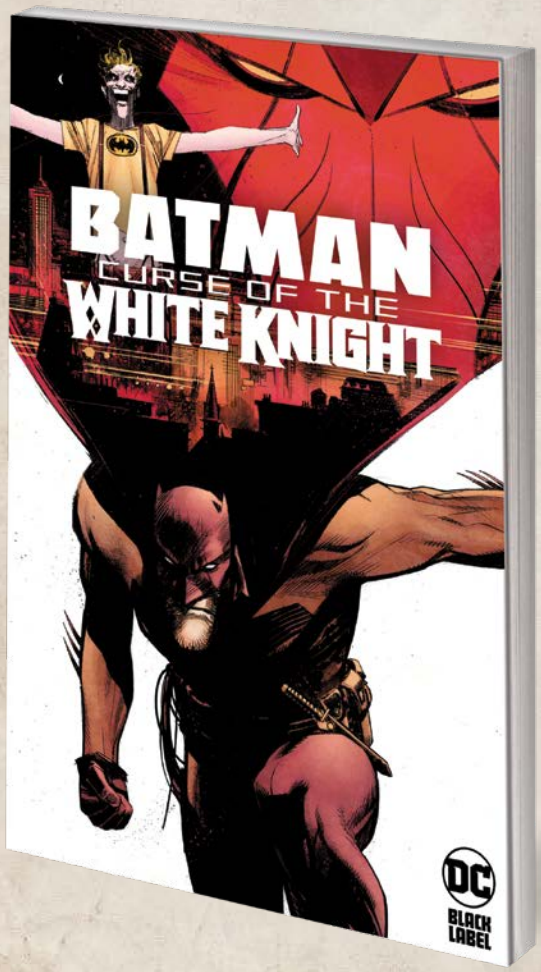
JOE HILL PRESENTS HILL HOUSE COMICS


BATMAN
CURSE OF THE
WHITE KNIGHT
GTO



Ancient curses are awoken and timeless secrets are revealed in this explosive sequel to the critically acclaimed blockbuster *Batman: White Knight* from writer/artist Sean Murphy!

The Joker recruits Azrael to help him expose a shocking secret about the Wayne family's legacy—and run Gotham City into the ground! As Batman rushes to protect the city and his loved ones from danger, the mystery of his ancestry unravels, and Batman begins to question everything he thought he knew about himself and his place in Gotham.



With Gotham City's identity and institutions hanging in the balance, Barbara Gordon decides to take matters into her own hands—but will her rogue actions play right into The Joker's plans? After tragedy strikes, Renee Montoya steps into the fray to lead the GTO and restore order to the chaos that is quickly consuming Gotham City. Lightning-quick pacing and an all-star cast of Gotham's heaviest hitters will keep you on the edge of your seat until the breathtaking finale of this second installment of the White Knight saga!

BATMAN: CURSE OF THE WHITE KNIGHT

Sean Murphy | Sean Murphy and Klaus Janson | 9781779504487 | 9/15/2020 | $29.99 | HC | Ages 17+



Thirty years after *The Killing Joke* changed comics forever, *Batman: Three Jokers* reexamines the myth of who, or what, The Joker is and what is at the heart of his ongoing battle with Batman. *New York Times* bestselling writer Geoff Johns and Eisner Award-winning artist Jason Fabok reunite to tell the ultimate story of Batman and The Joker!



After years of anticipation, the epic story is finally here: find out why there are three Jokers, and what that means for the decades-long battle between the Dark Knight and the Clown Prince of Crime. In this powerful, emotional story, Batman, Batgirl, and Red Hood—past victims of The Joker—work together to solve a mystery unlike anything they've ever faced before!



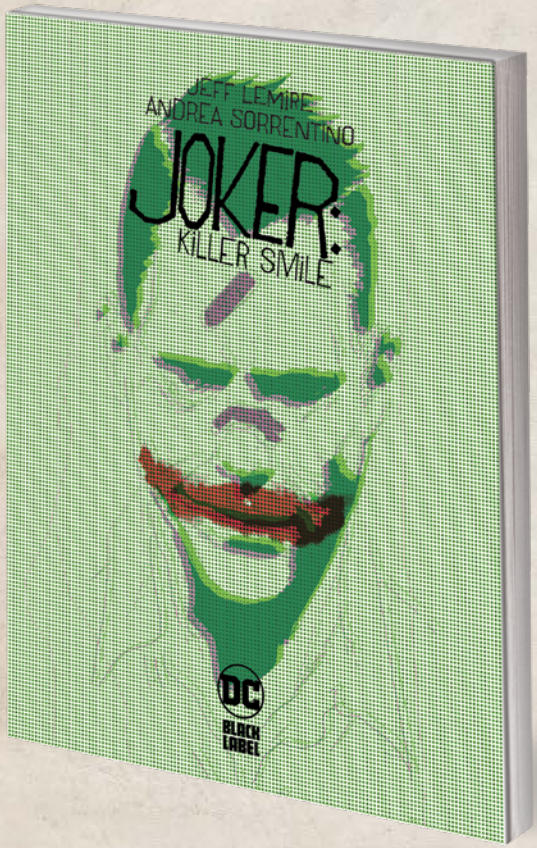
BATMAN: THREE JOKERS

Geoff Johns | Jason Fabok | 9781779500236 | 11/10/2020 | $29.99 | HC | Ages 17+



New York Times best-selling and Eisner-winning creative team of writer Jeff Lemire and artist Andrea Sorrentino (*Green Arrow*, *Gideon Falls*) reunite for a psychological horror story that delves into the bottomless insanity of The Joker.

Everyone knows The Joker doesn't have the most promising history with psychotherapists. In fact, no one's even been able to diagnose him. But that doesn't matter to Dr. Ben Arnell; he's determined to be the one to unravel this unknowable mind. And there's no way The Joker could ever get through the therapeutic walls Ben has built around himself. Right? There's no way The Joker's been entering his house at night...right? There's no way The Joker has stood over his son's bed and put that book in his hands, the one with the, the, the...





JOKER: KILLER SMILE

Jeff Lemire | Andrea Sorrentino | 9781779502698 | 9/15/2020 | $29.99 | HC | Ages 17+



Wonder Woman like you've never seen her before—fighting monsters in a postapocalyptic Earth, as brought to life in a daring sci-fi epic by visionary writer and artist Daniel Warren Johnson!

Princess Diana of Themyscira left paradise to save Man's World from itself. When Wonder Woman awakens from a centuries-long sleep to discover the Earth reduced to a nuclear wasteland, she knows she failed. Trapped alone in a grim future, Diana must protect the last human city from titanic monsters while uncovering the secret of this dead Earth—and how she may be responsible for it.



The celebrated creator of *Murder Falcon* and *Extremity* and artist of *The Ghost Fleet*, Daniel Warren Johnson, brings bold sci-fi chops to his DC debut with a harrowing vision of Wonder Woman unlike anything you've ever seen.



WONDER WOMAN: DEAD EARTH

Daniel Warren Johnson | Daniel Warren Johnson | 9781779502612 | 12/1/2020 | $29.99 | HC | Ages 17+



The deluxe edition of Frank Miller's return to the Dark Knight universe!

It's been three years since the events of *Dark Knight III: The Master Race*. Lara has spent the time learning to be more human, and Carrie Kelley has been growing into her new role as Batwoman. But a terrifying evil has returned to Gotham City, and Lara and Carrie must team up to stop this growing threat—and they have a secret weapon. Young Jonathan Kent, "the golden child," has a power inside of him unlike anything the world has ever seen, and it's about to be unleashed...



Dark Knight Returns: The Golden Child is Frank Miller's triumphant return to the world of the Dark Knight, and joining him is the superstar artist Rafael Grampá, the mastermind behind the groundbreaking *Mesmo Delivery*. Following work in advertising and film, this incredible collaboration marks Grampá's first comics work in six years, bringing his extraordinary detail and storytelling to the Dark Knight saga, resulting in a Dark Knight story like nothing you've ever seen before.

DARK KNIGHT RETURNS: THE GOLDEN CHILD DELUXE EDITION

Frank Miller | Rafael Grampá | 9781779503916 | 9/15/2020 | $17.99 | HC | Ages 17+



Harley Quinn has been transformed, and she wants the world to know! She's ready to shake things up once more—and this time, the gloves are off!

Harley Quinn has avoided Gotham City ever since she broke up with The Joker—she found a home, and a kind of family, in Coney Island. But when she gets an offer she can't refuse, she has no choice but to slip back into the city as quietly and quickly as she can, before anyone—especially her ex—learns she's been there.



But for Harley, "as quietly as she can" is plenty loud...and before she can say "Holee bounty hunters, Batman," The Joker's sicced every super-villain in the city on her pretty ombré head!

And she has one hope—it's the only team tough enough (or crazy enough) to come to her defense—the Birds of Prey!

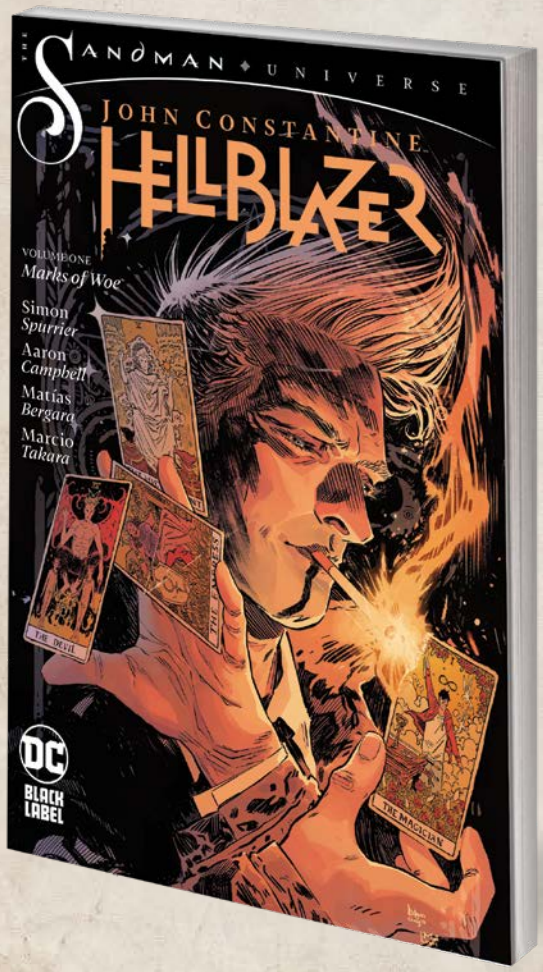


HARLEY QUINN & THE BIRDS OF PREY: THE HUNT FOR HARLEY
Amanda Conner and Jimmy Palmiotti | Amanda Conner | 9781779504494 | 12/15/2020 | $24.99 | HC | Ages 17+



One of DC's most iconic characters—John Constantine, Hellblazer—is back the way you remember him, and now a part of the Sandman Universe, in this brand-new series!

John Constantine is back in London, back to his old tricks—and just in time, as things have become very dark indeed in his old stomping grounds. A small-time gang lord has found himself dealing with a big-time outbreak of supernatural weirdness...and, without any allies to call on and nothing left to call his own, John doesn't have much choice about taking a paycheck from one of London's worst, or accepting the help of one of the gang lord's would-be foot soldiers. But what should be an open-and-shut exorcism turns out to be nothing but...and the madness is just getting started!

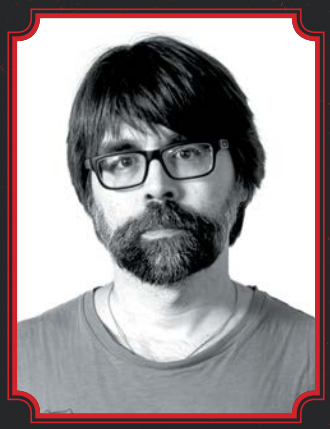


The original Constantine is back in this series from Simon Spurrier (*The Dreaming*) and Aaron Campbell (*Infidel*), with nothing to his name but decades of bad memories and an unearned second chance. How, exactly, will he squander it? There's only one way to find out...

Collects *The Sandman Universe Presents Hellblazer* #1 and *John Constantine: Hellblazer* #1-5.

JOHN CONSTANTINE: HELLBLAZER VOL. 1: MARKS OF WOE

Simon Spurrier | Aaron Campbell | 9781779502896 | 9/29/2020 | $19.99 | TP | Ages 17+



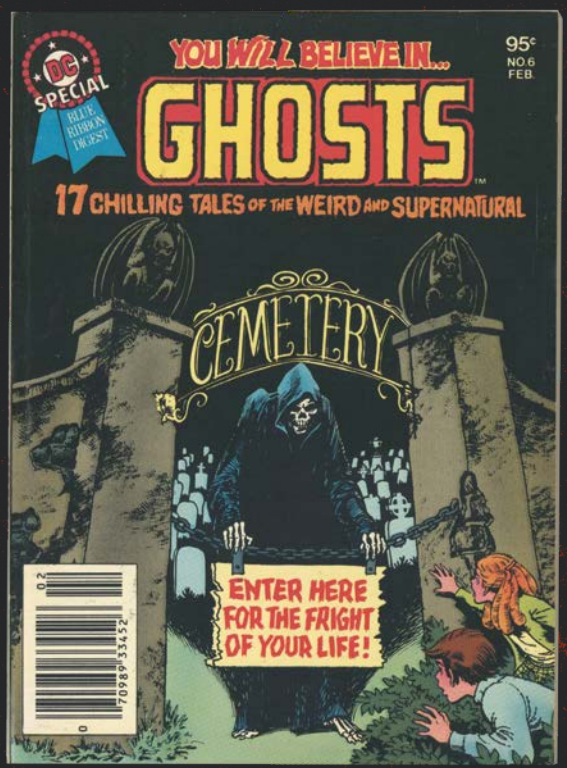
JOE HILL PRESENTS HILL HOUSE COMICS

RED INK

A FEW WORDS FROM THE DREAD LETTER OFFICE

For me, it all started here:

My dad brought home *DC Special Blue Ribbon Digest #6*—a.k.a. "You Will Believe in GHOSTS"—when I was seven years old. It gripped me like a fever. No. It seized me with the force of a skeletal hand, reaching out from under the bed to clamp hold of my ankle. I was terrified of what lay just beyond the cover and yet perversely longed for it. I *wanted* the thrill of the uncanny and unnatural. I wanted to feel the whirl of peril and risk in the dark, and be released into the daylight at the end, laughing my ass off, heart whamming in my little chest.



Forty years later, I can't say I've changed that much.

We live in a particularly golden age of terror, a time of bloody abundance. Every year brings a fresh wave of lovely fright, in film, TV, and literature, from high-minded masterpieces like *Hereditary* and *House of Leaves*, to scream-till-you-laugh horrors like *Stranger Things* and *IT*. Hill House Comics began with a simple proposition: let's cut comics in on the action. I wanted to launch a line of comic books that would showcase so much of what's possible in this rich genre, and I hoped to lure in the freshest and most exciting talent to be found, both within and beyond the comics field.


Basketful of Heads interiors


Basketful of Heads interiors

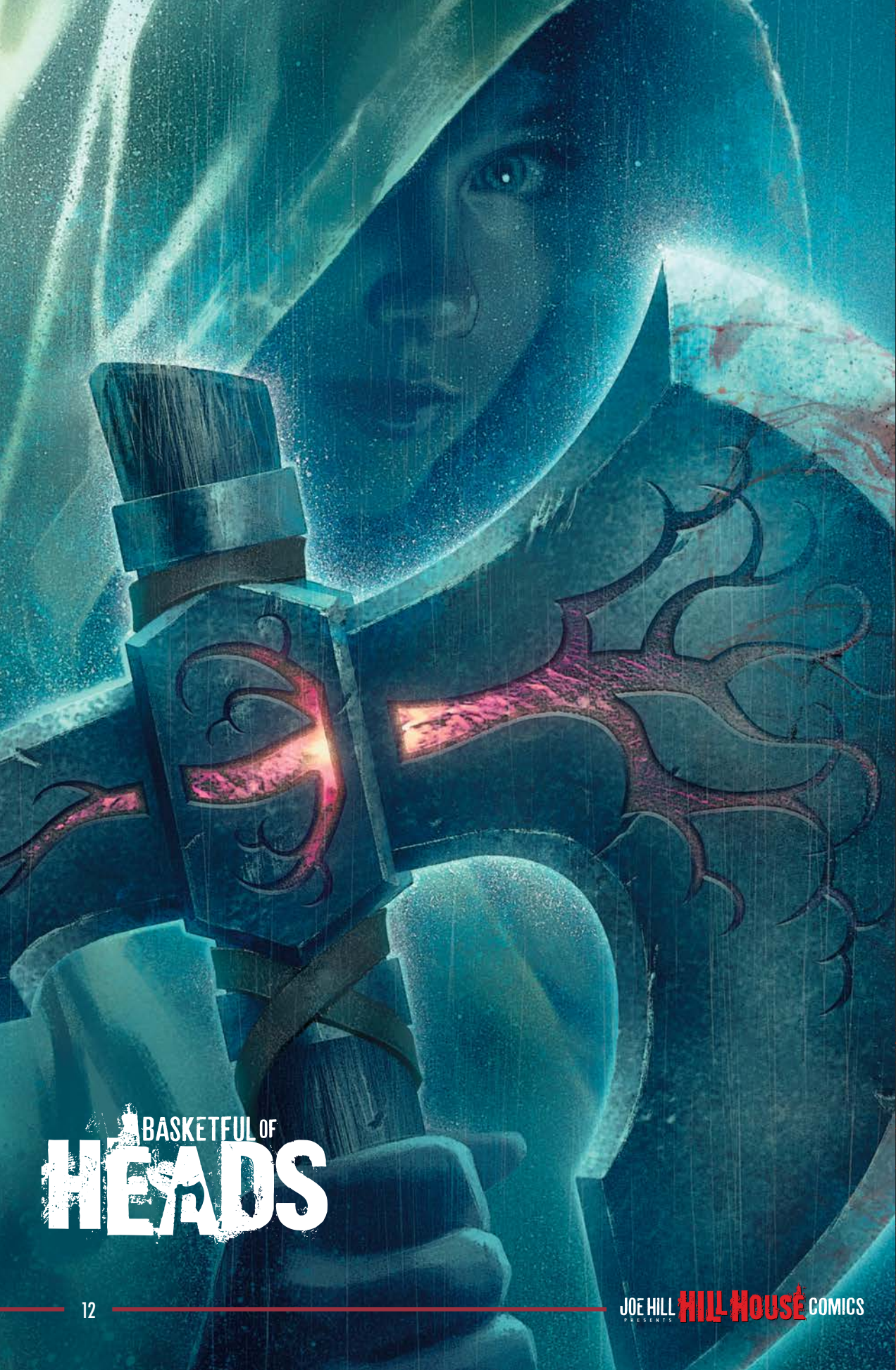
The result, in the first wave of Hill House Comics, is even better than I'd hoped. In *The Low, Low Woods*, National Book Award finalist Carmen Maria Machado and Dani (*Coffin Bound*) invite us to Shudder-to-Think, Pennsylvania, where skinless men and antlered women walk the woods and reality is falling in on itself. M.R. Carey and Peter Gross—who both made an infernal mark on comics in *Lucifer*—join forces again for *The Dollhouse Family*, which might best be described as *The Indian in the Cupboard*, if the enchanted cupboard was secretly a door to hell. Kelley Jones—a visual master of Grand Guignol—and TV scribe Laura Marks (*The Exorcist*, *BrainDead*) offer us *Daphne Byrne*, a ghosts-by-gaslight tale set in the 19th century, about a child who has an imaginary fiend, uh, friend. I'm even writing a few myself. First up is *Basketful of Heads*, illustrated in glorious, gruesome detail by Leomacs (another *Lucifer* vet); the tale concerns a young woman fighting for her life against a gang of home invaders. But our heroine is armed with an ancient Viking axe that possesses improbable powers: when the blade slices through someone's neck, the lopped-off head remains alert, alive, thinking, talking, and terrified. And finally there's *Plunge*, about a salvage crew sent to the subarctic to recover a ship that has reemerged after 40 years lost to the ice. But the hands who were believed long dead are still quite alive and full of unnerving new tricks (Stuart Immonen—one of the finest illustrators of his generation in any genre—will turn his diabolically vivid pencils and pens to the artwork).

Thanks for picking up one, some, or all of this first wave of Hill House Comics. Here's hoping they thrill, scare, and satisfy.

The gate is open. A bony hand beckons you forward.

Let's go for a walk in the dark.

Joe Hill


BASKETFUL OF
HEADS



New York Times bestselling author Joe Hill asks, "With a cursed Viking axe, what can you accomplish?" and June Branch is ready to answer!

June Branch visits her boyfriend, Liam, on Brody Island for a relaxing last weekend of summer. After an escaped group of criminals breaks into the house that June and Liam are watching, Liam is taken by them. June grabs a strange Viking axe and flees from the intruders. When one of the attackers finds her, she swings the axe and takes off his head, which rolls away and begins to babble in terror.

For June to uncover the truth, she'll need to hear the facts straight from the mouths of her attackers, with... or without their bodies attached.



All Hill House collections feature a deluxe vellum jacket

BASKETFUL OF HEADS

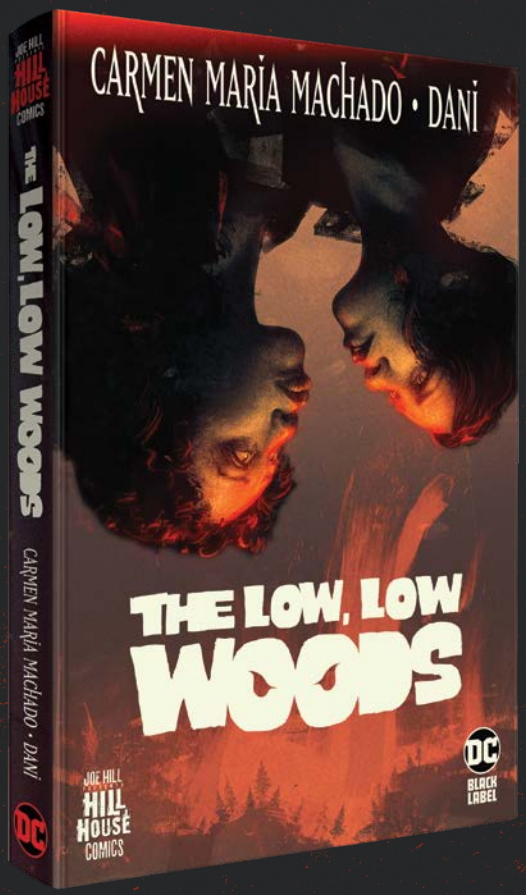
Joe Hill | Leomacs | 9781779502971 | 9/8/2020 | $24.99 | HC | Ages 17+


THE LOW, LOW WOODS



From *New York Times* bestselling author Carmen Maria Machado (*Her Body and Other Parties, In the Dream House*) comes a story so horrifying you won't dare to forget it!

When your memories are stolen, what would you give to remember? Follow El and Vee as they search for answers to the questions everyone else forgot.



Shudder-to-Think, Pennsylvania, is plagued by a mysterious illness that eats away at the memories of those affected by it. El and Octavia are two best friends who find themselves the newest victims of this disease after waking up in a movie theater with no memory of the past few hours.

As El and Vee dive deeper into the mystery behind their lost memories, they realize the stories of their town hold more dark truth than they could've imagined. It's up to El and Vee to keep their town from falling apart...to keep the world safe from Shudder-to-Think's monsters.



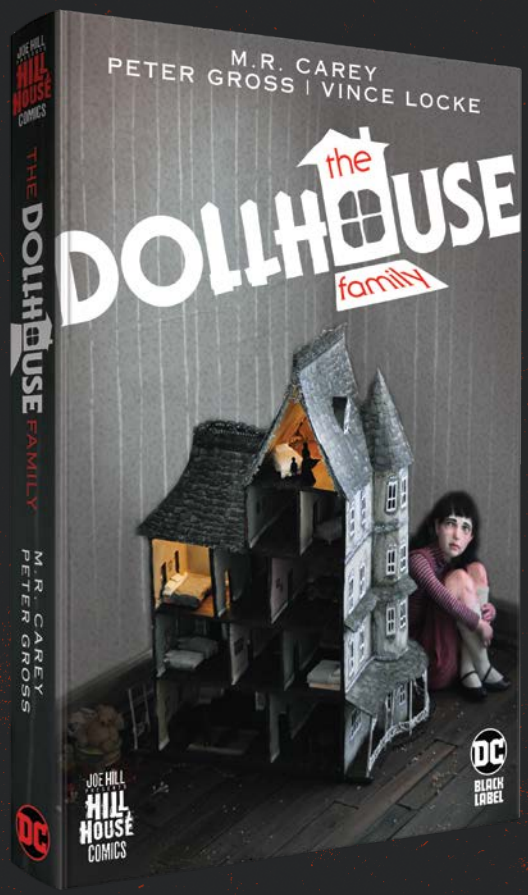
THE LOW, LOW WOODS

Carmen Maria Machado | Dani | 9781779504524 | 9/29/2020 | $24.99 | HC | Ages 17+



Step into a miniature world of supernatural horror alongside little Alice...But once you enter, there is no return. Writer M.R. Carey (*Hellblazer*, *Lucifer*) brings to life a haunting tale about a girl and her dolls from hell.

Alice loves her antique dollhouse more than anything—she'd kill to escape to the imaginary world within. As it happens, the unreal living dolls who live inside it know that's exactly what the beautiful, sinister dollhouse has in mind...



Soon young Alice learns she can enter the house, to visit a new group of friends, straight out of a heartwarming children's novel: the Dollhouse family. As the years pass, Alice finds herself visiting their world more frequently, slowly losing track of where reality ends and make-believe begins. What starts as play concludes in an eruption of madness and violence.

Childhood ends—but that little house casts a long shadow over Alice's adult life. When the world becomes too much for her to bear, Alice finds herself returning to the dollhouse and the little folk within. The house can offer her a shelter from all her sorrows...but only if she gives it what it wants, and god help her if she tries to walk away again...

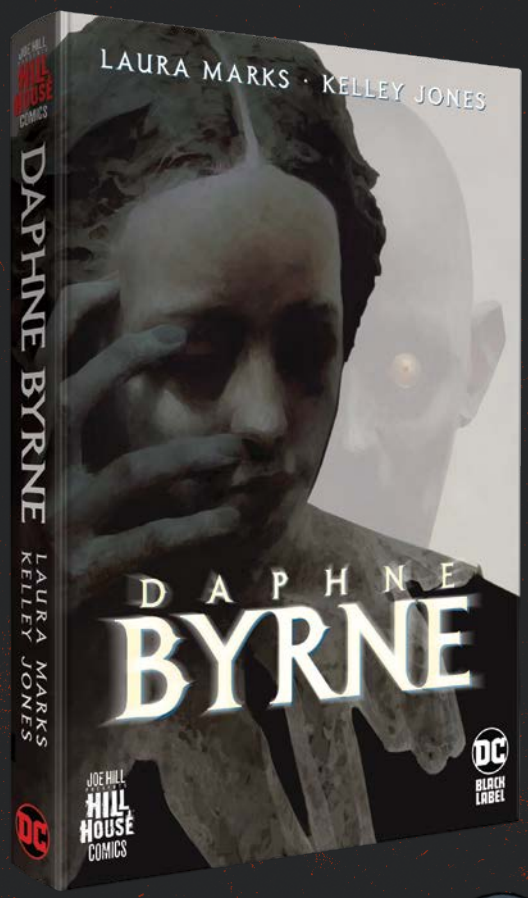
THE DOLLHOUSE FAMILY

M.R. Carey | Peter Gross | 9781779504647 | 10/13/2020 | $24.99 | HC | Ages 17+



Renowned illustrator Kelley Jones and writer Laura Marks bring to life a chilling story about a teenage girl coming of age and into her demonic powers.

In the gaslit splendor of late 19th-century New York, rage builds inside 14-year-old Daphne. The sudden death of her father has left her alone with her irresponsible, grief-stricken mother—who becomes easy prey for a group of occultists promising to contact her dead husband.



While fighting to disentangle her mother from these charlatans, Daphne begins to sense a strange, insidious presence in her own body…an entity with unspeakable appetites. And as she learns to wield this brutal, terrifying power, she wages a revenge-fueled crusade against the secret underworld that destroyed her life.

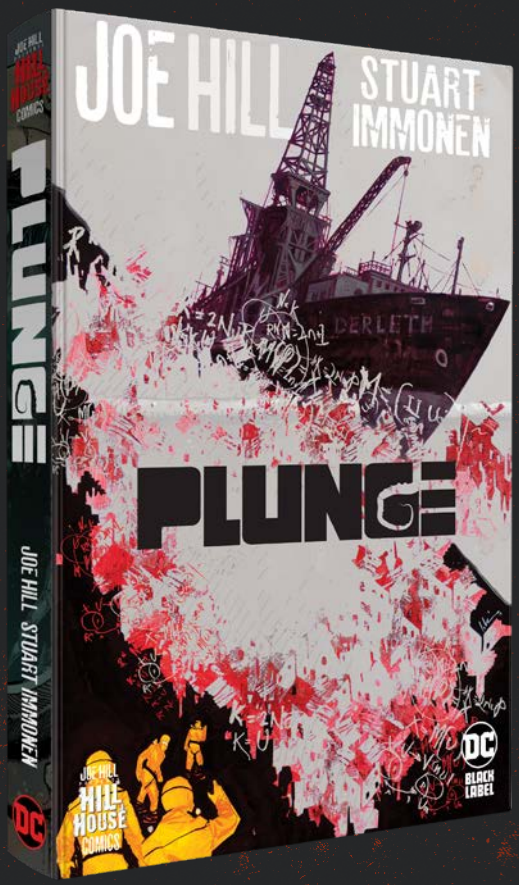


DAPHNE BYRNE

Laura Marks | Kelley Jones | 9781779504654 | 11/3/2020 | $24.99 | HC | Ages 17+



A distress signal goes out from a ghost ship that's been lost for over 40 years...but what the salvage team finds upon their arrival will haunt them for the rest of their lives. *New York Times* bestselling author Joe Hill tempts you to explore the wreckage and discover where ghost stories start.



There's something down in the icy darkness of the Arctic sea... something that doesn't want to be found. When a salvage team discovers the long-lost crew of a ship thought to be lost at sea over 20 years ago, the terror only grows. The crew seem as though they haven't aged a day—it's as if they're exactly the same as when they disappeared...except they're all missing their eyes.

Will the Carpenter salvage crew survive to bring their findings to shore? What danger waits for them if they fail? What dangers await us all should they succeed?



PLUNGE

Joe Hill | Stuart Immonen | 9781779506887 | 11/17/2020 | $24.99 | HC | Ages 17+

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