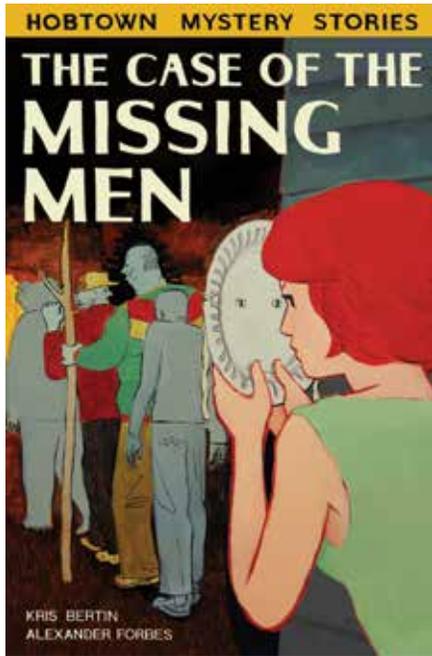


# Conundrum Press

Fall 2017





## THE CASE OF THE MISSING MEN

Kris Bertin and Alexander Forbes

ISBN 978-1-77262-016-0  
5.5 x 8.5 inches, 224 pages  
black and white, trade paperback  
\$20

November

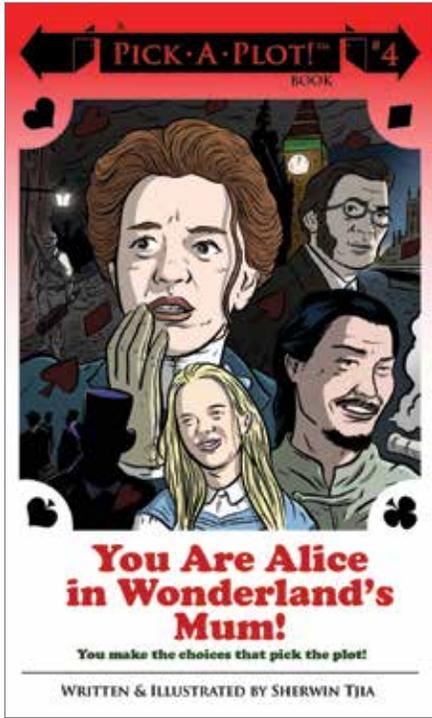
*The Case of the Missing Men* is a mystery thriller set in a strange and remote east-coast village called Hobtown. The story follows a gang of young teens who have made it their business to investigate each and every one of their town's bizarre occurrences as The Teen Detective Club (a registered afterschool program). Their small world of missing pets and shed-fires is turned upside down when real-life kid adventurer and globetrotter Sam Finch comes to town and enlists them in their first real case—the search for his missing father. In doing so, he and the teens stumble upon a terrifying world of rural secret societies, weird-but-true folk mythology, subterranean lairs, and an occultist who can turn men into dogs.

*The Case of The Missing Men* is at turns funny, intriguing, eerie and endearing, and is beautifully illustrated in a style reminiscent of children's pulp classics like Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys.

*"Kris Bertin's stories are a revelation, a triumph — each stamped with the mark of a new and rising genius"*  
— *David Adams Richards*

Kris Bertin and Alexander Forbes are childhood friends who trained in separate disciplines in order to reunite as adults and make comic books. Alexander Forbes is an artist and graduate of NSCAD, and Kris Bertin is the author of the acclaimed short story collection *BAD THINGS HAPPEN* (Biblioasis 2016). They are both from Lincoln, New Brunswick, and both live in Halifax, Nova Scotia.





## YOU ARE ALICE IN WONDERLAND'S MUM!

Sherwin Tjia

ISBN 978-1-77262-017-7  
4.25x7 inches, 280 pages,  
black and white with 80 illustrations  
trade paperback, \$18

Pick-A-Plot #4

October

London, 1862. When your daughters Lorina and Alice go for an afternoon's picnic in Hyde Park, Alice goes astray! You practically run your legs off looking for her, but as night falls you panic. You look for a clue, a sign — anything. And that's when a smelly vagrant steps out from behind a tree and offers you information in exchange for coin... or a kiss. If you decide to ignore him, continue searching on page 42. But if you hear him out, turn to page 12. The choice is yours!

In a quest to find your daughter that will take you through the seedy underbelly of London's Whitechapel district and up into the secret debauched heart of its richest denizens, *You Are Alice in Wonderland's Mum!* allows you to make the choices that will bring your dear daughter home, or lose her to Wonderland forever.

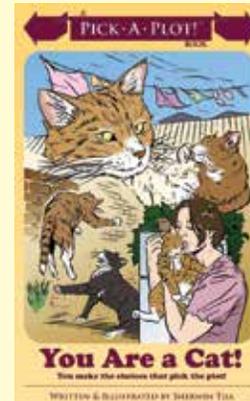
Inspired by the gamebook fad of the 80s — *You Are Alice in Wonderland's Mum!* is the gothically visionary 4<sup>th</sup> entry in the acclaimed Pick-A-Plot series of Choose-Your-Own-Adventure style books. Off the success of the first three titles, which form the *You Are a Cat! Trilogy*, author and illustrator Sherwin Tjia puts a new twist on the Alice in Wonderland tale, removing the titular character altogether, and tasking you as her mother — a respectable Englishwoman who must navigate London's dangerous underworld — with finding her.

Sherwin Sullivan Tjia is a Montreal-based writer and illustrator who has written nine books. *The World is a Heartbreaker*, a collection of 1600 pseudohaikus, was a finalist for the Quebec Writer's Federation's A.M. Klein Poetry Award. *The Hipless Boy*, a collection of short, interconnected stories told in graphic novel form, was a finalist for the Doug Wright Award in the Best Emerging Talent category, and also nominated for 4 Ignatz Awards. His invention, *The E-Z-Purr: The Virtual Cat!* (an album with over an hour of cats purring) is available on the iTunes music store and its proceeds go to local cat shelters and adoption programs.

In his spare time, he organizes Slowdance Nights, Love Letter Reading Open Mics, Crowd Karaoke singalongs, and Strip Spelling Bees in and around Montreal and Toronto as Chat Perdu Productions. Occasionally, he tours these events internationally to various art and literary festivals.

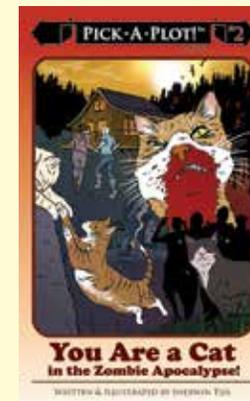


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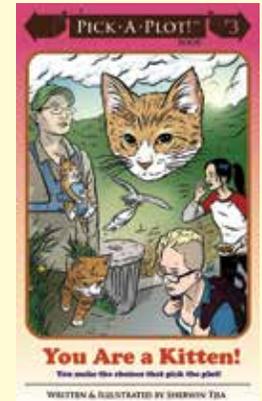
**YOU ARE A CAT!**

ISBN 978-1-894994-56-9  
4.25x7 inches, 240 pages  
80 b/w illustrations, tp, \$17



**YOU ARE A CAT  
IN THE ZOMBIE  
APOCALYPSE!**

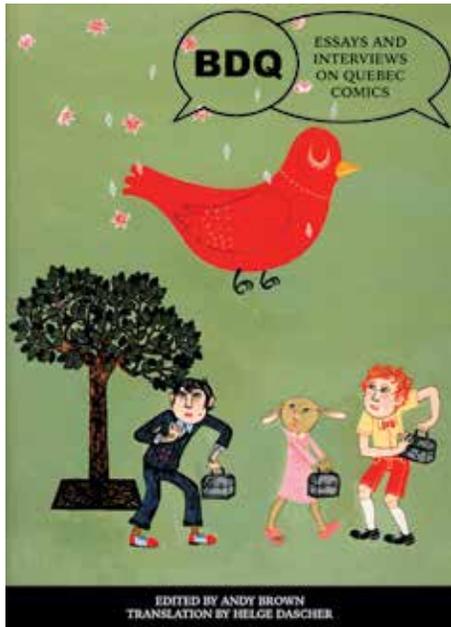
ISBN 978-1-894994-77-4  
4.25x7 inches, 260 pages  
80 b/w illustrations, tp, \$18



**YOU ARE  
A KITTEN!**

ISBN 978-1-894994-97-2  
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80 b/w illustrations, tp, \$19.95

Winner of an Expozine Award



**BDQ:**  
**ESSAYS AND INTERVIEWS**  
**ON QUEBEC COMICS**

Edited by **Andy Brown**  
 Translated by **Helge Dascher**

ISBN 978-1-77262-018-4  
 6.25x8.75 inches, 280 pages  
 black and white, illustrated throughout  
 trade paperback, \$25

Literary Criticism  
 BDANG Imprint

November



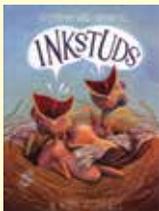
The comics community in Quebec has long been heralded as unique, blending the clear line aesthetic of Europe with the underground influences of North America. Think Tintin meets R. Crumb. Of course, most of the work is in the French language. And while artists such as Michel Rabagliati, Guy Delisle, and Julie Doucet are now internationally recognized, much of it is still unknown outside the province. Conundrum Press started its BDANG imprint in 2004 to rectify this situation by translating and publishing work from Quebec comic artists. BDANG stands for Bande Dessinée en ANglais, or French

comics in English. This volume is a companion to the imprint, collecting interviews and essays on Quebec comics, to give context to the history and breadth of the work. Read about the early strips in Montreal newspapers at the turn of the century, Albert Chartier, cartoonist of rural Quebec, the zany antics of Red Ketchup, the underground minicomics boom of the 1990s, the anglophones who found themselves a part of the mix, and the hallucinogenic punk prophet Valium.

**Andy Brown** has written extensively on comics for various publications and edited two comics issues for Matrix magazine. He is the publisher and editor of Conundrum Press and lives in Wolfville, NS.

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**INKSTUDS**  
 Robin McConnell



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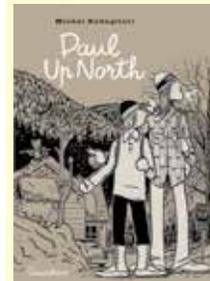
Essays on:

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- Birth of BDQ
- Red Ketchup
- Luc Girard
- Bernie Mireault
- 1990s Montreal Underground
- Iceberg
- The Comics of Fish Piss
- Guy Delisle
- Zvaine / Iris
- Michel Hellman
- Julie Delporte
- Sylvie Rancourt
- Michel Rabagliati

Interviews with:

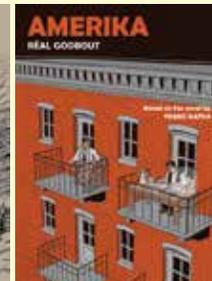
- Réal Godbout
- Jimmy Beaulieu
- Julie Doucet
- Valium
- Geneviève Elverum
- Obom
- Zvaine

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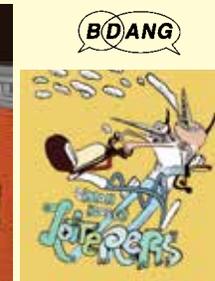
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 Michel Rabagliati

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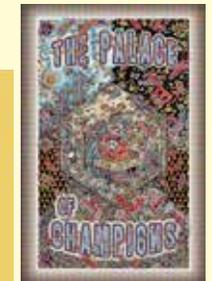
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 Réal Godbout

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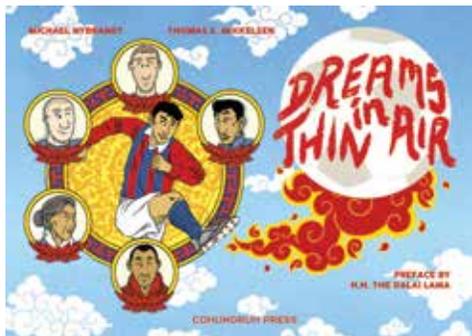
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 Simon Bossé

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**THE PALACE OF CHAMPIONS**  
 Henriette Valium

ISBN 978-1-77262-006-1  
 10x14 inches, 64 pages  
 full colour, hardcover



## DREAMS IN THIN AIR

Michael Nybrandt  
illustrated by Thomas Mikkelsen

with a preface by  
His Holiness the Dalai Lama

ISBN 978-1-77262-010-8  
full colour, hardcover with jacket  
9.5x6.75 inches, 180 pages, \$25

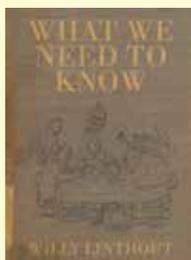
Young Adult  
International Imprint

Chosen as a Great Graphic Novel for Teens  
YALSA pick 2017

Twenty years ago, Danish journalist Michael Nybrandt was cycling across Tibet where he discovered the Tibetan people's unique passion for soccer. During that trip, he also learned about the heartbreaking treatment the Tibetan people received at the hands of the Chinese government. He envisioned the creation of a Tibetan national soccer team as a way to create awareness about the Tibetan cause and to offer the Tibetan people a way to showcase their national pride, apart from geopolitical schemes. Together with fellow Tibetan soccer enthusiasts it took years of preparation, overcoming bureaucratic problems and political turmoil, before Tibet could play their first international match against Greenland in front of more than 5,000 spectators in Copenhagen.

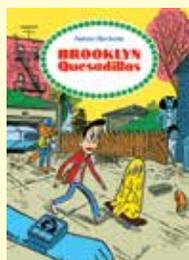


## OTHER BOOKS IN THE INTERNATIONAL IMPRINT



WHAT WE NEED  
TO KNOW  
Willy Linthout

ISBN 978-1-894994-80-4  
7.25x9.75 inches, 184 pages  
b/w, hardcover, \$20



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Antony Huchette

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6.5x9.5 inches, 72 pages  
b/w, trade paperback, \$15



THE LIBRARY  
Chihoi

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7.25x9.75 inches, 184 pages  
b/w, hardcover, \$20



## MISTER MORGEN

Igor Hofbauer

Translated with an afterword by Nina Bunjevac

ISBN 978-177262-013-9  
7.5x10.25 inches, duotone,  
softcover with flaps, 240 pages, \$25

Mature Content  
International Imprint

"Igor Hofbauer is the Charles Burns of the Balkans."  
— Nina Bunjevac

Legendary Croatian poster artist Igor Hofbauer launches his debut book of graphic stories which are dark and visionary, based on a combination of classic American underground comics and film noir, pop art, German Expressionism, and Russian Constructivism. Hofbauer's comics are often surreal and nightmarish stories in strange cityscapes that will be recognized by anyone who has spent time in the concrete housing and brutish planned neighborhoods of the former Yugoslavia.



## OTHER BOOKS IN THE INTERNATIONAL IMPRINT



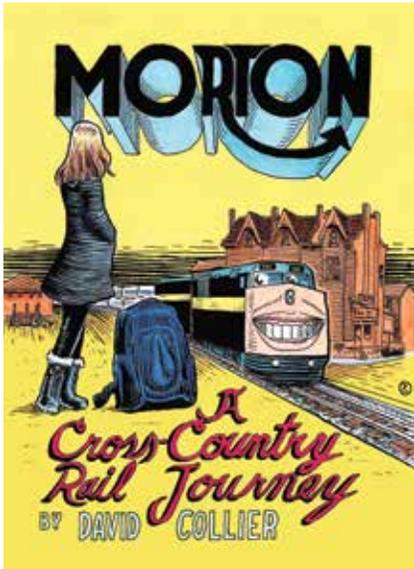
THE DHARMA PUNKS  
Ant Sang

ISBN 978-1-894994-96-5  
416 pages, 6 x 8.25 inches, b/w  
trade paperback, \$25

"You'll be blown away by  
The Dharma Punks."  
— Dylan Horrocks

"One of the most exciting things I've  
read this year... The New Zealand  
answer to Love and Rockets."  
— The Comics Alternative

"Politically aware and spiritually  
inclined."  
— The Comics Journal  
Spotlight Pick



## MORTON: A Cross-Country Rail Journey

David Collier

ISBN 978-177262-012-2  
7x10 inches, b/w, 160 pages  
softcover, \$20

Memoir

A graphic memoir lamenting the loss of train travel, the grip of family, mortality, art, and the human condition, with many other digressions thrown in for good measure. The book opens *in media res* as Collier finds out about his grandmother's death. While trying to publish his next book another close death shocks him into action. His dream is to travel with his wife and son across the country by rail, before it is too late. Through the passing landscape he introduces his family (and the reader) to his old way of life and tries to track down the many characters with whom he has lost touch. Collier, who has been called "a national treasure," has produced his most ambitious work to date.

*"Chimo is an idiosyncratic, compelling and hilarious musing-in-comics that I couldn't put down... It's unlike anything I've read before. I loved it."* — [Chris Ware](#)

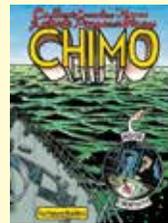
Also available:



### COLLIER'S POPULAR PRESS

ISBN 978-1-894994-60-6  
8x10 inches, 208 pages, b/w  
softcover, \$20

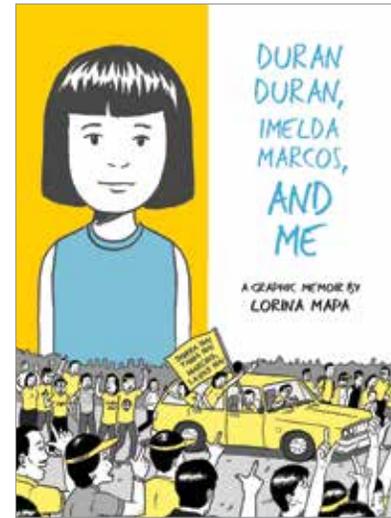
Introduction by [Jeet Heer](#)



### CHIMO

ISBN 978-1-894994-53-8  
7x10 inches, 136 pages, b/w  
softcover, \$17

Nominated for a  
Hamilton Literary Award



## Duran Duran, Imelda Marcos, and Me

Lorina Mapa

ISBN 978-177262-011-5  
140 pages, b/w, softcover  
6.5x9 inches, \$18

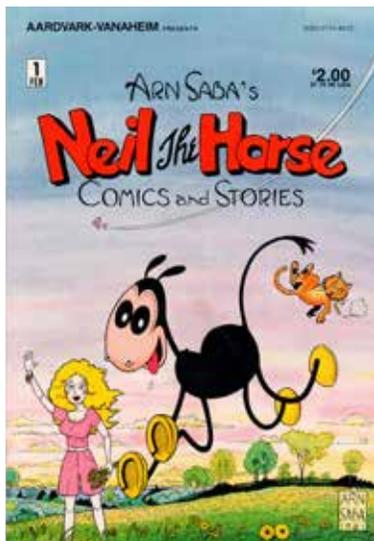
Young Adult / Memoir

A graphic memoir about growing up in the Philippines in the 1980s with Depeche Mode, Duran Duran, Imelda Marcos and the People's Revolution. When she learns of her beloved father's fatal car accident, Mapa flies to Manila to attend his funeral. His sudden death sparks childhood memories. Weaving the past with the present, Mapa entertains with stories about religion, pop culture, adolescence, social class and politics, including her experiences of the 1986 People Power Revolution which made headlines around the world. It is a love letter to her parents, family, friends, country of birth, and in the end, perhaps even to herself.

*"A wonderful graphic memoir, tinged with humour and tenderness. Lorina Mapa offers up an intimate look at Philippine society and culture, but above all, a deeply endearing father-daughter love story."*

— [Michel Rabagliati](#)





## THE COLLECTED NEIL THE HORSE

Arn Saba

ISBN 978-1-77262-015-3  
8x10 inches, 340 pages, b/w,  
trade paperback, \$25

Introduction by [Trina Robbins](#)

*Neil the Horse* ran 15 issues in the 1980s. With its tagline, “Making the World Safe for Musical Comedy” it is the world’s only musical comic book. It is a totally original hybrid influenced more by Carl Barks and Fred Astaire than by the underground comics of the time. Originally published by Aardvark/Vanheim and appearing in issues of *Cerebus* under the name Arn Saba, Neil’s creator transitioned to Katherine Collins after the last issue.

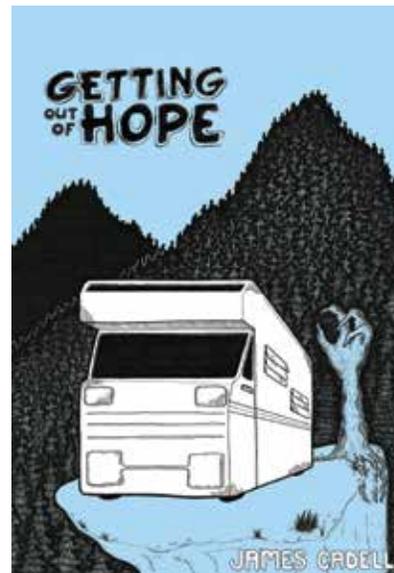
Neil and his friends Soapy and Mam’selle Poupée are a struggling song-and-dance act. Neil is a happy-go-lucky horse with a mania for bananas. Mam’selle Poupée is a romantic and lovelorn living doll from France, whose wooden body is jointed with hinges. With red circles on her cheeks, curly blonde hair, and large bust, Poupée appears to be a cross between Raggedy Ann and Dolly Parton. Soapy is a street-wise and cynical (with a heart of gold) orange alley cat, a cigar smoker and a drinker, who serves as the

brains of the operation. Their magical and absurd adventures take them to outer space, the past, and the future in a mix of slapstick, romance and show business.

The book includes brand-new commentary by Collins, rare art, sheet music to accompany the stories, and reprints of early syndicated newspaper strips.

*“Delighted at your continuing Neil the Horse efforts... and I’m particularly enthusiastic about your continuing probe of the medium. I welcome you as a fellow explorer.” — Will Eisner*

*“Neil has a sense of magic to it that is in no way syrupy or cutesy. It should be read by every man, woman, and child in the English-speaking world.” — Jackie Estrada*



## GETTING OUT OF HOPE

[James Cadelli](#)

ISBN 978-177262-014-6  
6x8 inches, 208 pages  
b/w, trade paperback, \$18

*Short Cuts* meets *Rear Window* in this hilarious but poignant debut from James Cadelli. It follows six characters in parallel and loosely-connected situations. Three travelling dudes are stranded in Hope, a small, desolate town in the mountains of British Columbia. They find shelter in the basement of an apartment building after their RV breaks down. In this building also lives Jojo, an old woman in mourning. In the apartment above is Tom, an obnoxious drug dealer who plays the piano beautifully. Managing the whole place is Marie, the superintendent (and owner of three pugs) who is all work and no play. Although they all occupy the same building, share a common resentment of their living situation, and annoy each other in the hallways, none of them realize the extent to which their lives are intertwined. Yet they all hope for a better life. And that just might mean getting out of town... by any means necessary.

*“With its likeable cast of weirdos, non-judgemental attitude toward recreational drugs, multi-dimensional characters who eventually reveal more than they choose to present, and dialogue that shows good observation skills, Getting Out of Hope is just such an enjoyable book to read. Plus, the RV looks like Reid Fleming’s milk truck!” — Joe Ollmann*

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