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# THE NICE HOUSE ON THE LAKE



Book FIVE



AGES 17+  
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# FANDOME

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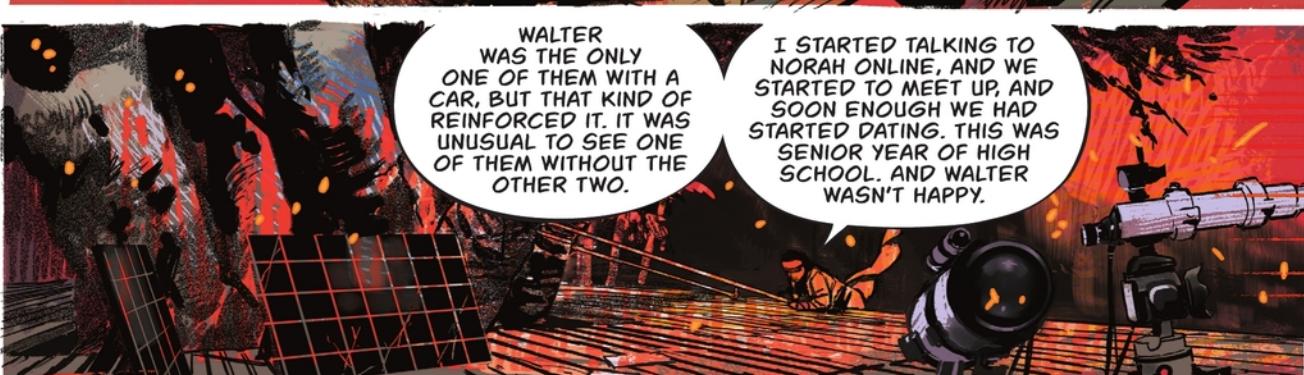
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WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I CAN FEEL HOW MUCH HE CARES ABOUT YOU. HOW MUCH YOU CARE ABOUT HIM. AND IT MAKES ME LIKE YOU TOO. YOU'RE SO SMART. YOU'RE THE SMARTEST PERSON I'VE MET, PROBABLY.

I CAN SEE IT IN A DIFFERENT WAY THAN THEY CAN.



FORGET.



IT'S OKAY.

TELL ME YOU LIKE THE STARS.

TELL ME ABOUT THE STARS.

TELL ME ABOUT THE STARS.



IT TURNS OUT THERE WAS A LOT I DIDN'T REMEMBER, BUT WE WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND THAT UNTIL LATER. THOSE WERE THE EARLY DAYS. WE WERE JUST STARTING TO PUT IT ALL TOGETHER.

AFTER OUR CHAT, WALTER OPENED UP TO ME. HE WAS KIND, AND SUPPORTIVE, AND EVEN WHEN NORAH AND I WENT OUR SEPARATE WAYS...

HE ALWAYS UNDERSTOOD HOW WALTER THOUGHT, AND WHY HE THOUGHT IT. HE UNDERSTOOD IT ON SOME LEVEL MUCH DEEPER THAN ANY OF THE REST OF US EVER DID.

WALTER WAS ALWAYS THE ONE MAKING DECISIONS, BUT REG WAS THE ONE WHO HELPED GUIDE HIM TO THOSE DECISIONS.



...HE STILL LOVED ME A LITTLE. I THINK HE DID FROM THAT DAY ON. I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HAD CHANGED, BUT SOMEHOW, REG DID.



HOUSE LOG - TRANSCRIPT - DINING ROOM- NIGHT 31

COMEDIAN: I KNOW this all fucking sucks, and it's not like we know each other really well. Some of us were really TIGHT a while ago, but as a GROUP we don't know each other at ALL.

COMEDIAN: And we're all just kind of slipping into ourselves, and we're waiting for this to be OVER.

COMEDIAN: But we have to fucking LOVE each other, and look AFTER each other, or there's no fucking hope of SURVIVING all of this. We ALL know Walter. There IS no getting off this ride...

CONSULTANT: Jesus Christ, David. STOP this. This isn't FUNNY-

[CROSSTALK]

COMEDIAN: We CAN'T DIE...He WON'T LET US. So we have to learn how to LIVE.

CONSULTANT: David, are you FUCKING INSANE?!

DOCTOR: David, please, give me the razor...I can stop the bleeding if I move quick enough.

ACCOUNTANT: No. Fucking LOOK. He's trying to show you something.

REPORTER: Oh, what the fuck...

COMEDIAN: We have healing factors. Isn't that COOL?

DOCTOR: You have to stop TALKING. Your throat is healing but it's still open. You could get infected.

COMEDIAN: It doesn't matter! I could drink bleach and I'd be fine.

DOCTOR: You felt it though, right? You felt the cut?

COMEDIAN: Yeah.

DOCTOR: PLEASE don't drink any bleach.

ACUPUNCTURIST: I think I'm goin' to be sick. I can't stop LOOKING at it.

ARTIST: It's like it's webbi... back together.

Stitching it...

ARTIST: I wish we were recording. I want to draw that...

COMEDIAN: I can do it again! Ready my second round today.

CONSULTANT: Don't you FUCKING DO that! You can't hurt

COMEDIAN: Come on. We're basically self-destructive. We've goofed this whole fucking place.

COMEDIAN: That's what I was trying to say. There are limitations

DOCTOR: I don't think it's wise for us to rely so much on the imperfections of this system...

WRITER: [UNINTELLIGIBLE]

WRITER: Everybody shut the fuck up.



# THE NICE HOUSE ON THE LAKE

JAMES TYNION IV  
WRITER

ÁLVARO MARTÍNEZ BUENO  
ARTIST AND COVER

THE NICE HOUSE ON THE LAKE created by JAMES TYNION IV and ÁLVARO MARTÍNEZ BUENO

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#### FEATURES

- INVISIBLE WALL SURROUNDING PROPERTY
- HEXAGON
- STINGS TO TOUCH
- FORCE FIELD?
- WEIRD STATUES
- SHOWS YOU THE APOCALYPSE
- DO OTHER STATUES SHOW DIFFERENT THINGS?
- WHAT IS THE STATUES' PURPOSE?
- "MAIL-ORDER" SYSTEM
- WHERE DO THE ITEMS COME FROM?
- ALIEN-MADE REPLICAS?
- RECOVERED FROM WORLD?
- BIRDS/ANIMALS ON PROPERTY
- ARE THEY REAL?
- CAN THEY BE HUNTED/FARMED?
- ARE THERE FISH IN THE LAKE?

#### WHERE ARE WE?

- NOBODY REMEMBERS TRAVEL TO WISCONSIN
- MOUNTAINS IN DISTANCE?  
NO MOUNTAINS IN WISC.
- POSSIBILITIES
  - WALLED OFF BUT ON EARTH
  - ON SPACESHIP
  - IN OTHER DIMENSION
  - HOLLOW EARTH? (NO)

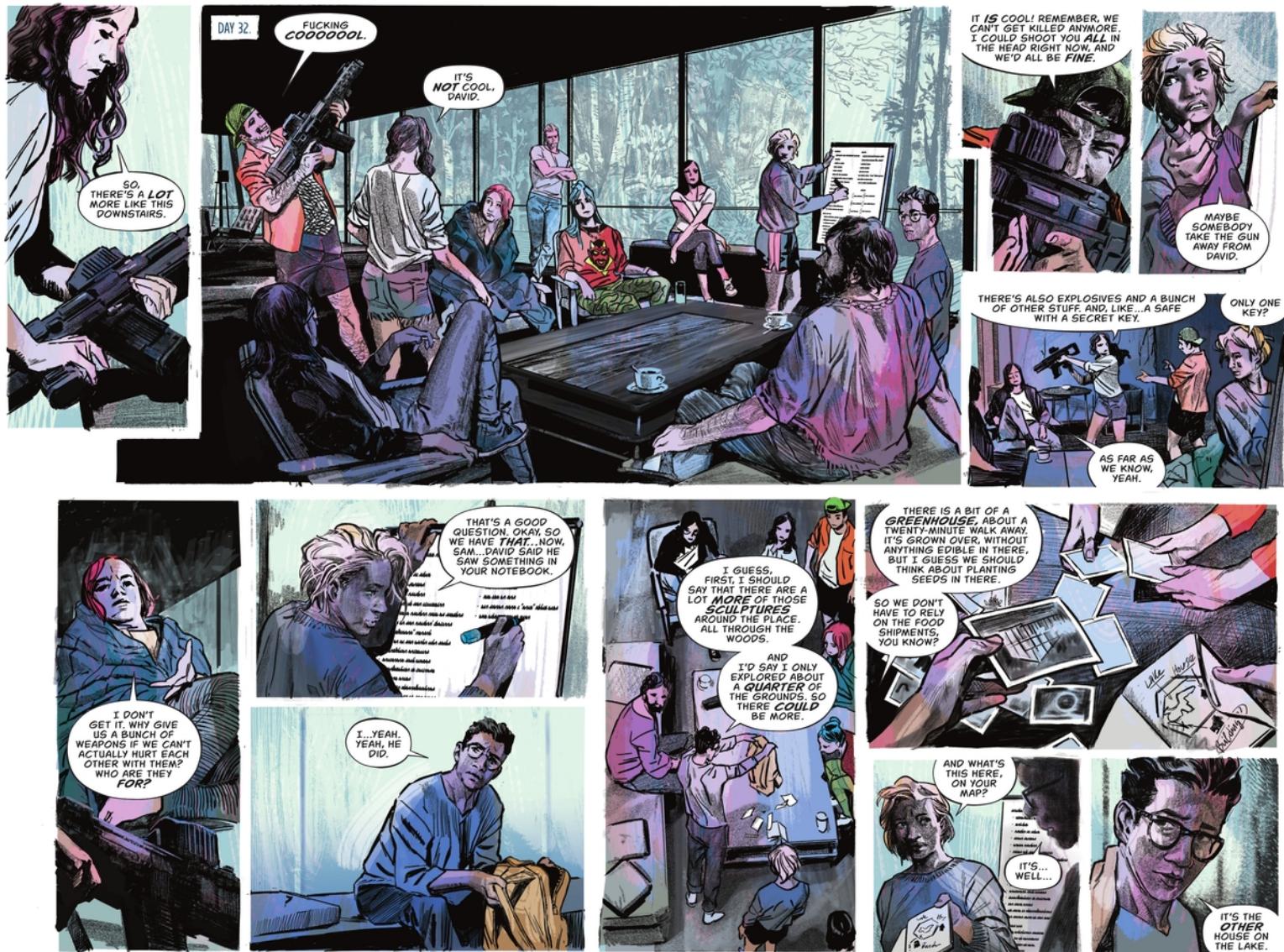
#### WALTER

- ALIEN? INTERDIMENSIONAL BEING?
- ULTRATERRESTRIAL? (NO, DAVID)
- HOLOGRAM BODY?
- FLESH TORNADO
- HOW OLD IS HE?
- WAS THERE EVER A "REAL" HUMAN WALTER?
- WHY WOULD AN ALIEN HAVE  
TO GO TO HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE?

#### SYMBOLS

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 😊 THE COMEDIAN   | Θ THE SCIENTIST     |
| ₱ THE ACCOUNTANT | 镵 THE ACUPUNCTURIST |
| 🎹 THE PIANIST    | ❓ THE REPORTER      |
| ⊕ THE DOCTOR     | ♾ THE WRITER        |
| ⌚ THE CONSULTANT | ଓ THE ARTIST        |

WHY DID HE TAKE US?







RONNIE... YOU SAID YOU HAD SOMETHING TO TELL US, BUT YOU DIDN'T MENTION IT AT THE BOARD.

"RIGHT, WELL... OKAY, I'VE BEEN USING THE TELESCOPE A LOT, AND I ORDERED A BIGGER ONE A FEW DAYS AGO TO CONFIRM WHAT I SAW.

"THERE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A METEOR SHOWER UP HERE DURING THE FIRST WEEK. I DIDN'T MAKE A THING, BECAUSE, WELL... IT DIDN'T HAPPEN, DID IT?

"BUT I MEAN, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SENTIENT NON-HUMANS. WALTER IS SOME KIND OF ALIEN. WE'RE IN SOME KIND OF ENCLOSURE.

CRAP. YOU'RE RIGHT.  
"MM, I WISH IT WAS LATER RIGHT NOW. I'D BE ABLE TO SHOW YOU IN BETTER DETAIL..."

"MAYBE THE ALIENS SHOT THE METEORS OUT OF THE SKY WHO KNOWS, BUT THEN THERE WAS SOMETHING ELSE STRANGE.

YOU CAN TELL TIME USING THE STARS. YOU CAN LOOK AT HOW THE NORTH STAR IS POSITIONED IN THE SKY COMPARED TO POLARIS, THE NORTH STAR.

IT'S FUNNY, I REMEMBER TELLING WALTER ALL OF THIS IN REG'S BASEMENT A MILLION YEARS AGO, WHEN WE WERE STILL TOGETHER, NORAH.

I THINK I'M ALLERGIC TO ANY HIGH SCHOOL NOSTALGIA RIGHT NOW.

"THE POINT IS THAT THE SKY IS FIXED. IT'S NOT LIKE A STILL IMAGE. IT'S STILL WHAT WE SHOULD BE SEEING IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE... BUT THE EARTH MOVES, AND THE SKY MOVES WITH IT.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

HEY, IT'S JUST UP HERE.

"BUT SINCE WE GOT HERE, IT'S BEEN LOCKED IN PLACE."









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7



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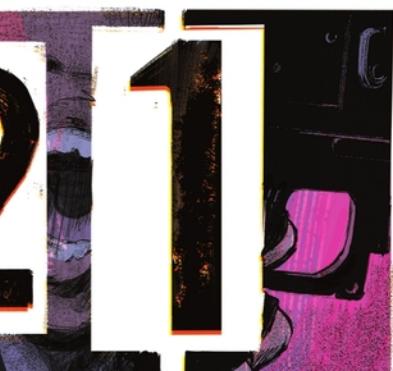
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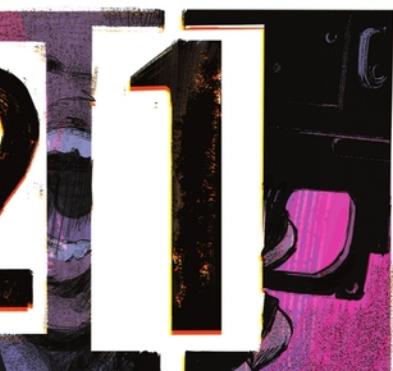
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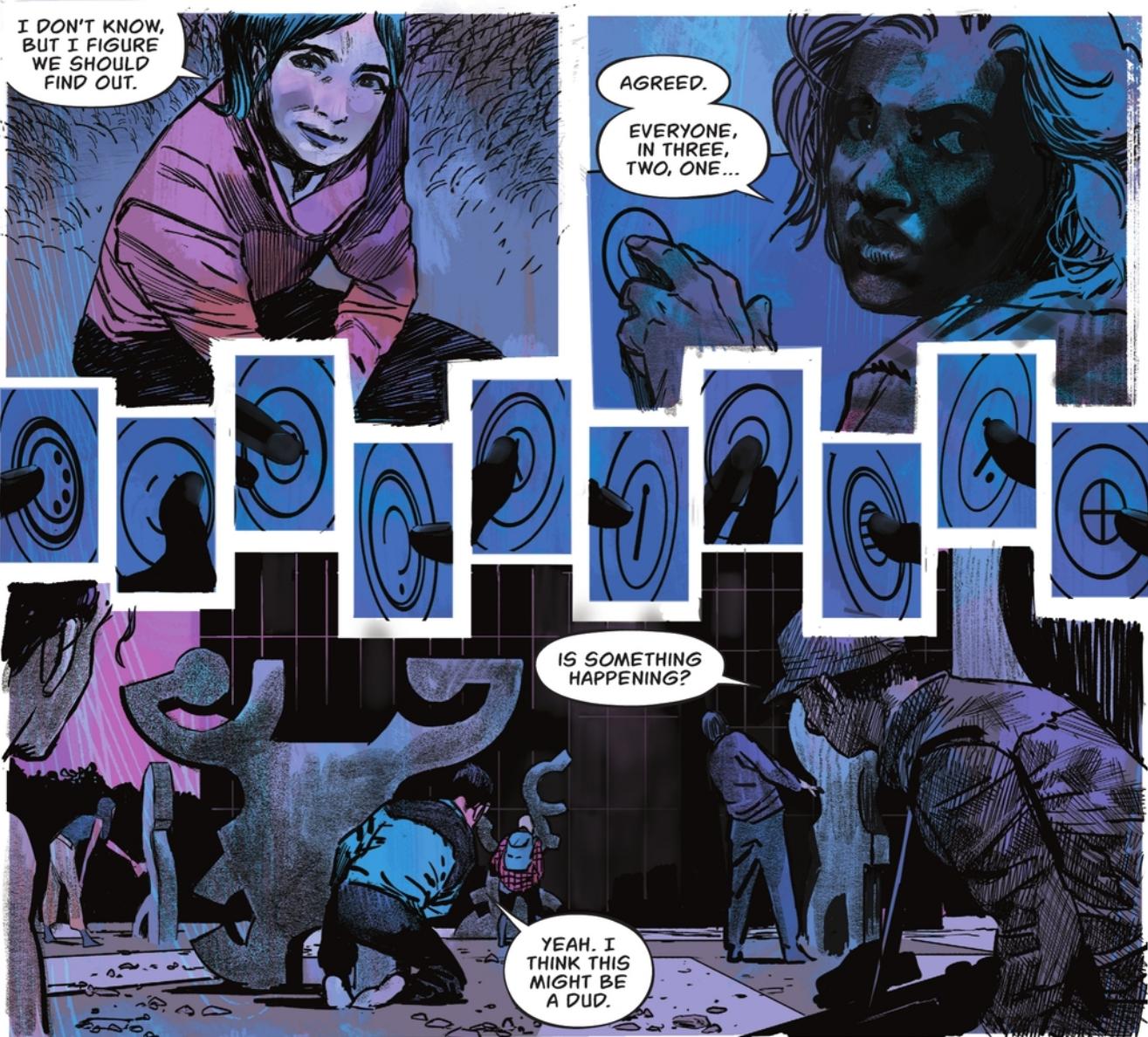
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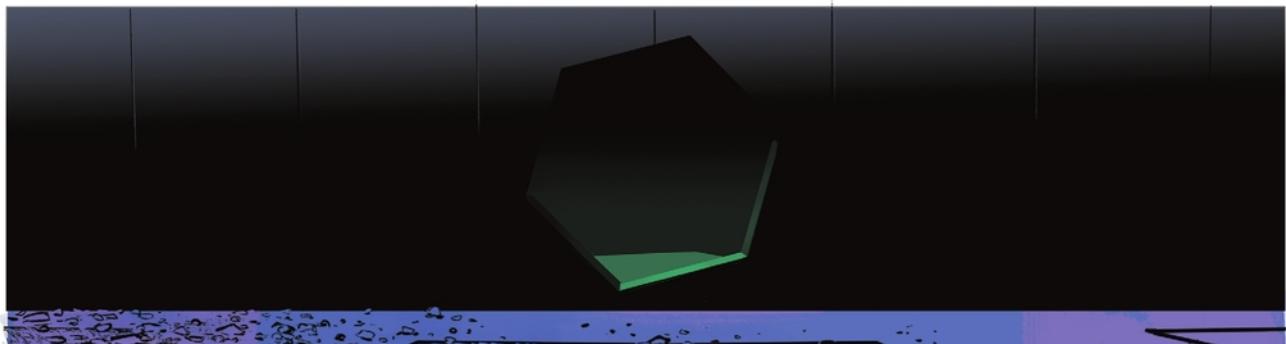


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## THE PAINTER

Reginald Madison. 34 Years Old. M.  
High School Cluster. First encountered  
nineteen years ago in Marquette  
University High School homeroom. Chosen  
in Milwaukee, WI eighteen years ago.



CELEBRATE THE PAST,  
PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF  
THE AMAZON WARRIOR!



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Amy REEDER • Michael CHO • Travis MOORE  
Cliff CHIANG • Cat STAGGS  
Bruce TIMM • Will MURAI • Jen BARTEL

MAIN COVER BY Yanick PAQUETTE



OCTOBER



100-PAGE  
SUPER  
SPECTACULAR  
A PRESTIGE FORMAT ONE-SHOT

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G. Willow WILSON • and more!

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Meghan HETRICK • and more!



# BATMAN THE LONG HALLOWEEN

Writer Jeph Loeb and artist Tim Sale have teamed up for some of the most memorable and stylish Batman stories of all time, starting with the holiday-spanning murder mystery *Batman: The Long Halloween*. The pair have reunited with *Batman: The Long Halloween Special*, a brand-new story that continues their saga and uncovers long-buried Gotham City secrets.

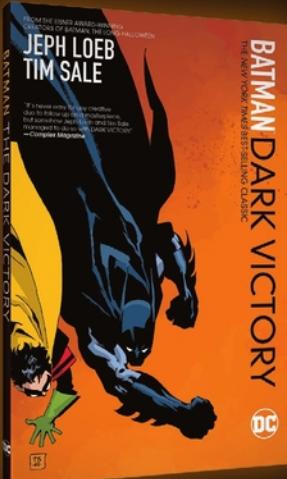
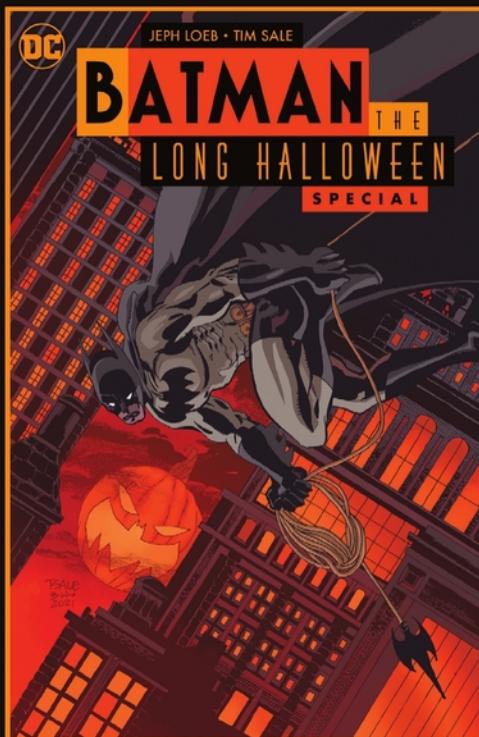
Need to catch up? Loeb and Sale's past Bat-collaborations are available as collected editions that, appropriately enough, make for engrossing reading all year round.

## BATMAN: DARK VICTORY

The sequel to *The Long Halloween*, the 14-part *Dark Victory* picks up just a few months later and introduces Dick Grayson to Loeb and Sale's visionary take on Batman's world, as he takes on the mantle of Robin for the first time. *Dark Victory* finds Batman pursuing a new mysterious killer—the Hangman—as Two-Face's ascent in the crime world puts him at odds with the Falcone family.

## BATMAN: THE LONG HALLOWEEN

One of the most revered Batman epics of the past 25 years, the award-winning 13-chapter saga told the mystery of Holiday, who murders once a month—each time coinciding with a holiday. *The Long Halloween's* whodunit weaved in Loeb and Sale's distinct depictions of Batman's classic rogues gallery and Gotham City's crime families, highlighted by a surprisingly scary reinvention of Calendar Man.



**DON'T MISS BATMAN: THE LONG HALLOWEEN SPECIAL, ON SALE IN OCTOBER!**

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