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Our Interview with Cullen Bunn

BY FABIENNE PAYET · PUBLISHED MARCH 27, 2017 · UPDATED MARCH 27, 2017



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Outright Geekery's Fabienne Payet had the opportunity to interview Cullen Bunn about his newest comic series, Regression. A new and dark story of a man plagued by very strong hallucinations. Have a look at the review at her review of the comic as well. Fabienne highly recommends it, because it's awesome! Needless to say, she's super excited to read what will happen next in this incredible story.

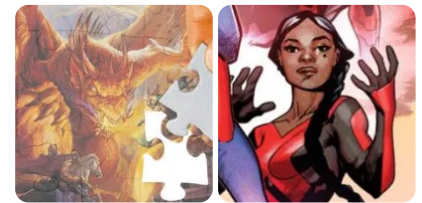
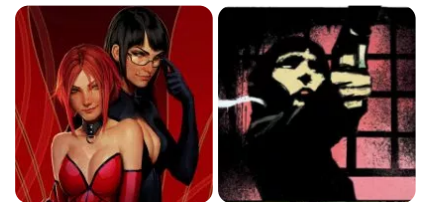
Outright Geekery: How did you come by the idea for the comic?

Cullen Bunn: *The idea of past lives and reincarnation has fascinated me for years. I'm a believer in the idea of time as an illusion and the notion that we've all led many, many lives. I also believe that what we've experienced and done in our past lives impacts and haunts us in our present life. That's really what this book is all about—a man being haunted and tormented by one of his past lives.*

OG: I read that your father was a hypnotist and you helped him as a small child, can you tell us a bit more about that? It is very interesting to see the medium of hypnotism take a center stage in the story.

CB: *My dad was kind of a jack of all trades, but one of those trades was stage hypnotism. For a while, that's how he made his living, putting on shows for fundraising, but also helping people with diet concerns or self confidence or the like. And—yeah—when I was 4 years old (maybe a little younger) I would go on stage as part of his act, performing as the World's Youngest Hypnotist. My dad also used to conduct past life regressions, which is where the earliest seed of this story came from.*

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OG: Is there (yet) a way to know the difference between the hallucinations of Adrian and reality? Will that reality change?

CB: *One of the reasons these hallucinations are so terrifying for Adrian is that he can't tell them from reality. The old saying goes "perception is reality" so what happens when your perception is plagued with ghastly visions? I'd like to say that things are going to get better for Adrian in this respect, but they are only going to get much, much worse. Once the doorway to his past life is opened, the lines between reality and nightmare will become even more blurred.*

OG: What genre would you classify Regression as? It seems so many different elements are brought forward. It feels so very intriguing to not know really.

CB: *I see this as a horror story, but I could see how some people might classify it as a crime story or a supernatural conspiracy thriller or even a historical fantasy story. I feel like the very best horror stories transcend a single genre.*

OG: Can you tell me more about the artwork? It seems pretty gruesome at times but it serves the story very well.

CB: *Danny Luckert is simply an amazing artist! I'm very lucky to be working with him. When we first started working on this project, I sent him a general pitch and a list of characters, and he sent back these wonderful designs that sold me on the idea of him doing the book.*

Then, of course, we brought in Marie Enger to work her magic with the colors, and she has contributed so much to the feel of the book with her very bright, vibrant colors for what could have easily been a very dark, murky presentation.

OG: It seems to me that the story so far would lean itself very well to be portrayed in a tv show, would you believe this to be a possibility?

CB: *I wouldn't complain if someone decided to adapt it into a television show!*

My primary goal is to tell a good story in comic book form, of course, but I tend to write longer form stories told in episodic bits. That lends itself to the television "feel" I think.

OG: Will we continue to follow Adrian as the main protagonist or will that change over the next few volumes?

CB: *That's a really interesting question. Adrian is certainly the point-of-view character in the beginning, but several other characters will surface as key players (if not always protagonists). Adrian's friend Molly. A police detective who shows up in the second issue. Even Gregory Sutter, the life Adrian lived previously, will become an important point-of-view character.*

OG: How many volumes are there in this series and when can we expect the next one?

CB: *This is a monthly title for the foreseeable future! We have a definite ending in mind for the series, but we've left ourselves some wiggle room before we get to that point. As this is a story that crosses into AT LEAST one other life and time period, we have a lot of territory to explore!*

OG: Where can people find out more about your amazing work? Will you be attending any conventions over the next few months?

CB: *I'm traveling to a few signings and conventions in the next few months. Planet Comicon in Kansas City is the next big convention for me. I will also be*

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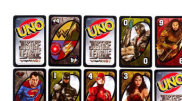
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A great way to keep up with what I have going on is to follow me on Twitter (@cullenbunn) or visit my website (www.cullenbunn.com). We'll also be running a letters column in REGRESSION, so keep an eye out for that! We want to hear about our readers brushes with horror and madness!

OG: What is next for you?

CB: In addition to REGRESSION, I'm writing THE DAMNED for Oni Press. THE DAMNED is a noir/horror story that was my first professional comic book work more than 10 years ago, and I'm so excited to be returning to it. I'm also working on THE UNSOUND for Boom! This is another horror fantasy tale, taking place primarily in the bowels of a haunted insane asylum. And I'm still writing my southern gothic fairy tale, HARROW COUNTY, for Dark Horse. I'm doing my best to keep comics creepy!

Want to know more about Cullen Bunn? Check out his website or follow him on Twitter.

For Fabienne's review of REGRESSION click here

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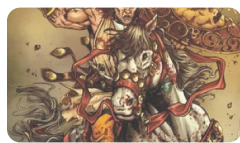
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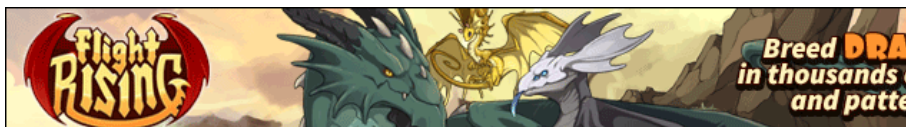
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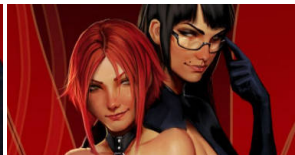
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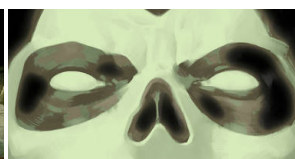
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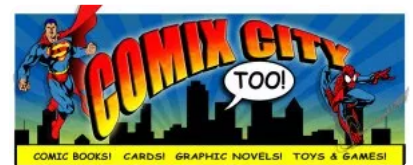
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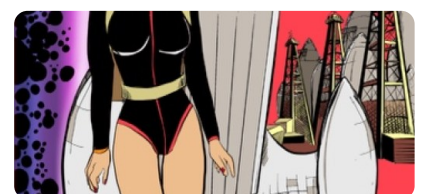
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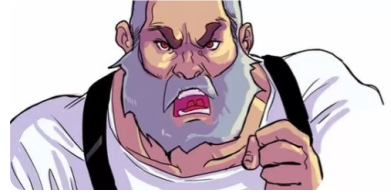
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