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Volume 2. This is kind of exciting... Volume 1 contained stories that I'd had in my head for a while, and involved me finding the artists and working with them to make it real. It was definitely writer-driven.

Volume 2 is artist-driven. These stories all came from conversations I'd had with artists as they flipped through Volume 1, or as I started thinking of artists I wanted to work with, and asked them what they wanted to draw. From an idea bounced around over pub tables after a convention to a finished page, these ideas have grown into an entire story, albeit a short one.



It's been wonderful to collaborate with these artists. Nick and I have been friends for years now, and each story we do together seems to take it up another level. (And I think the previous ones were actually pretty good.) Jackson is a dynamo of comics energy, turning out pages that are exciting and captivating. Ben's brings the acting out of our characters; I can see his work inside their emotions. Gerald's work has such an inky innocence to it; he represents children how they see themselves, not how adults imagine, or vaguely remember, children to be.

Fiona's work on the cover was borne out of a shared appreciation for Final Fantasy and its various incarnations. I leave it to you to find out what's being referenced here. Her art is always evocative yet human, but I have a soft spot for illustrations of fantasy parties fighting monsters. (Fiona and Ben are both in a local D&D campaign that I run.) I'm also teasing a little bit of Dale Berry art on this page... I'm still proud of the story we did in Volume 1! Go give that story a read, and check out his work at myriadpubs.com

Ryan Ferrier and Derek Mah are both skilled artists on their own, as well as skilfully lettering here. Ryan's writing is hilarious and intelligent. Derek brings such grace and skill to his work, as well as giving the gift of wonderful long conversations.

Fight Comics Volume 1 was a concept album for me. Specifically telling stories that I'd wanted to tell, arranging them show to off my work in a bunch of different styles and genres. Volume 2 looks similar on the outside, but this was a jam session; a bunch of us having fun in the studio. Listen closely, you can hear us laughing with joy between the tracks.

~J. Mehmel 2014

Visit www.fightcomics.ca for more stories and information!

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