



## HATTER M VOL. 3

### HATTER M VOL.3: THE NATURE OF WONDER

Written by Frank Beddor and Liz Cavalier and Drawn by Sami Makkonen

Published by [Automatic Pictures](#)

Reviewed by [Marc Mason](#)

It is six years into Hatter Madigan's journey to find the lost Princess Alyss Heart, and his travels have now taken him across the ocean. The royal bodyguard now stands on the grounds of the White House itself, a building inhabited by one Abraham Lincoln. It is 1865, and the United States is at war with itself. But as the North enters its final days of defeating the rebels, Lincoln faces a new threat, one made up of Black Imagination, a terror unleashed from Wonderland itself.



But for Hatter Madigan, such aggression will not stand. And in stopping it, he may be able to put the full resources of the U.S. government to work in finding Alyss.

When last we left the HATTER M saga, I was feeling a little disappointed with it. I gave volume two a middling review, in cause I felt like it was difficult to give the series true stakes when the reader knew that the title character would ultimately succeed in his quest. Merely filling in the details of his thirteen-year quest could get

boring quickly. That said, volume three addresses my concerns and addresses them *well*; if each succeeding book in this series is as strong as this one, that'd be very good news.

What works? Madigan's quest dovetails with the lives of others, and those others *do* have huge things at stake. You know Lincoln is doomed, but the new characters introduced here have wide-open fates. That wouldn't matter if they were uninteresting or uninvolved, but they are- Beddor and Cavalier do a terrific job of populating volume three with people you want to see more of. They also introduce a terrific subplot about Madigan as a boy and his older brother- this is independent of the novels and gives the graphic novels something fresh to play with- smart move.

Makkonen's art looks terrific here as well- there is definite improvement over the work in volume two. Throw in some excellent extras, and you have a series that is firmly back on track. Can't wait to see volume four.



**ALSO:** HATTER M VOL.1: FAR FROM WONDER, drawn by the great Ben Templesmith, is now back in print, and with that new printing comes a couple of new short stories drawn by Makkonen and some new extras that were previously not available. Volume one was uniformly terrific and set a high standard for what this series should be- check it out.