

By Stephan Franck

"With Silver, Stephan Franck shows how much excitement can be packed into a fast-moving, thrilled-filled story... A really, really fun ride."

— **Tim Sale** (Batman: The Long Halloween) Silver is so hold him and inject

"Silver is so bold, big, and juicy! I absolutely love this book!" BILL SIENKIEWICZ (Elektra: Assassin)

"A comic you need to read!" — NERDIST

Chapter one: FINNIGAN

Written & Illustrated by STEPHAN FRANCK



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WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

"Excellence in comic book form." —**NEWSARAMA** "The ultimate gothic noir comic saga" —**Hannah Means Shannon - COMICON.COM**

Years ago, Professor Abraham Van Helsing visited Dracula's castle. Now his descendent, the mysterious vampire hunter Rosalyn Van Helsing, is teaming up with master thief James Finnigan and his ragtag group of con men for a high stakes heist to rob Europe's richest vampires. Welcome to the world of Stephan Franck's SILVER, a globetrotting graphic novel series that mashes up the world of Bram Stoker's classic novel Dracula with action, adventure, humor, pulp storytelling and modern sensibilities.

This year, **SILVER**, is coming to a comic shop near you as a **4-volume set of trade-paperback graphic novels**. SILVER writer and artist Stephan Franck gives us a preview of things to come:

Q: SILVER begins as a pulp era, noir, heist story, but it immediately teases beloved vampire lore. Can you tell us more about this?

SF: Absolutely! As you have seen, SIL-VER begins 40 years after the events of Bram Stoker's Dracula. We are in 1930's New York city, where we meet a new character: conman and master-thief JAMES FINNIGAN. Finn kicks off the story by robbing a children's charity auction, so karma-wise. clearly. he has some room to grow. The items up for auction are from the Harker family, a surname Dracula fans will immediately recognize. Then, thanks to a strange discovery at the end of Chapter One, a door will open on a new mysterious world of mortal undead danger and fortune untold. That's too much for a thief

like Finnigan to resist. The adventure that follows is epic and super fun in the great Pulp tradition, but also an awesome opportunity to explore character. To me, con men and vampires are mirror images of one another. They live predatory, solitary lives on the outskirts of things don't engage and emotionally like other people do. The mashup raises interesting questions, like "what does it really mean to feel alive?" Is it just about cheating death for a thousand years, becoming rich beyond your wildest dreams, or is there something more?

Q: Can you give us a taste of some of the characters Finn encounters as SILVER unfolds?

SF: Finnegan immediately understands that, to take on the vampires, he will need a specialist.



Thanks to Harker's ledger, he locates a mysterious young woman known as "SLEDGE", A.K.A ROSALYND VAN H E L S I N G — t h e famed professor's grand-daughter, and last of the Van Helsings. Sledge carries on the family tradition





of ridding the world of the vampire scourge, but it appears that she may have spent a little too much time lurking in cemeteries making sure the dead stay dead, and she's pretty close to a complete spiritual burnout. She's not someone easy to access, but eventually warms up to Finn's scheme. Both are great at what they do, but both suck at life in their own way. Also, they operate by opposing moral codes. Sparks fly as soon as they meet.

Then, we will of course see more of Tao, the boy who helps Finn in Chapter One. Tao turns out to be alone in the world and quite the scoundrel in training. His uncanny ability to see the future (other than his own) could be another ace up Finn's sleeve, and with these three characters together, we see a very dysfunctional kind of a family unit forming, although in a high-stake situation where there is no room for error.

On the other side, we have the vampires. Chief among them is DRACULA and a particularly nuts vampire princess named LIL-LIAN. The vampires in SILVER are bottomless pits of self-indulgent nihilism covered under a thin romantic veneer, and watching them struggle with their own existential choices is also great fun.

Q: SILVER has some very cool gothic and horror elements, yet, it is more epic adventure than horror. Can you tell us more about the tone and spectacle in SILVER?

SF: True! While we uncover a secret world of vampires, and while we have





AFTER A SERIES OF TUNNELS AND BARREN MOUNTAIN PASSES, WE REACH THE TRUE END OF THE LINE,





tons of fun with a super gothic/ romantic take on DRACULA himself, SILVER is first and foremost a relentless Pulp adventure. The epic set pieces build one after the other, and the cons keep on coming.

My hope is that some will make you laugh, some will break your heart, some will have you on the edge of your seat, and that all of it will keep you guessing until the very end!

GET THE COMPLETE 4-VOLUME SILVER MINISERIES FROM YOUR LOCAL COMIC SHOP IN 2018!



