

SIMPSONSONSTM

COMICS

BONGO
COMICS

#199

\$2.99



bongocomics.com

MATT
GROENING

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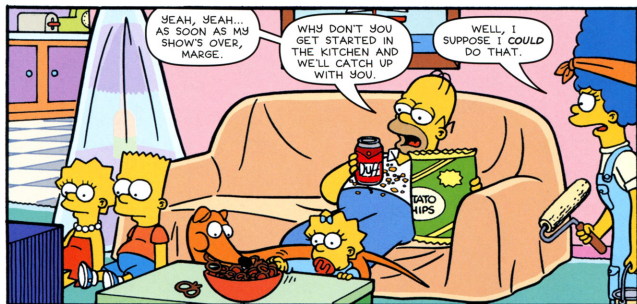
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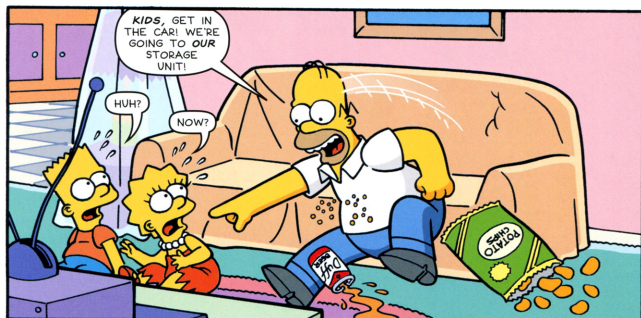
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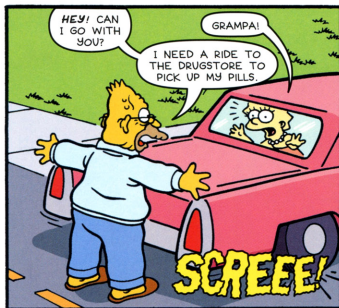
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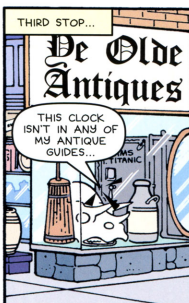
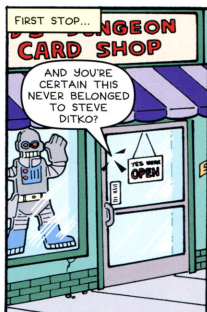


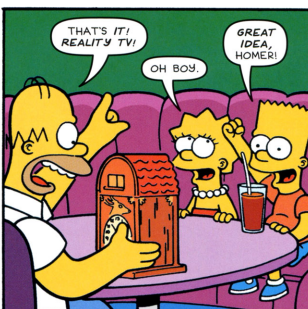
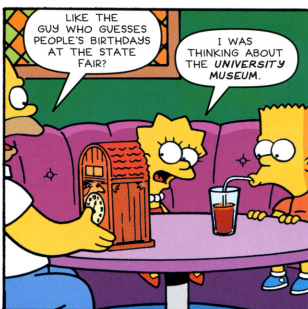
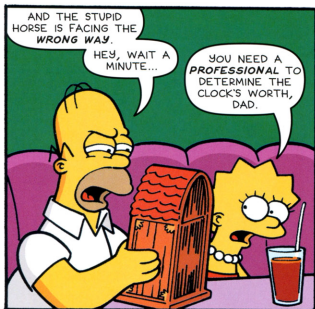
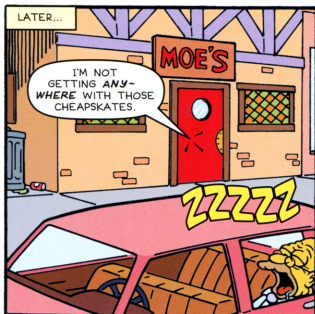


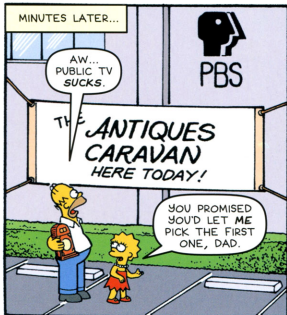


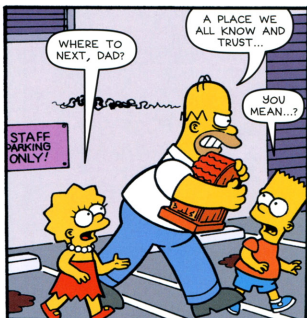


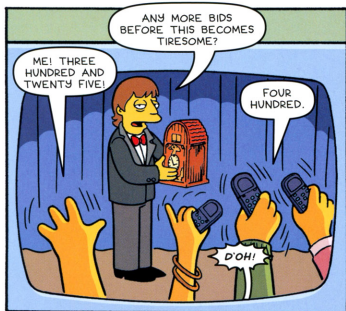
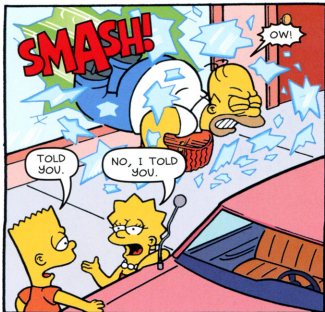


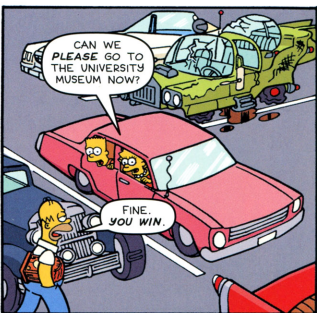
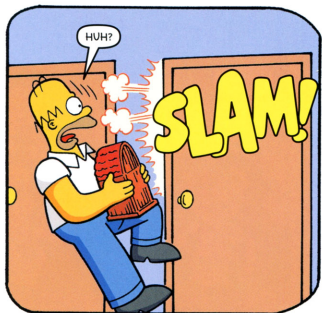
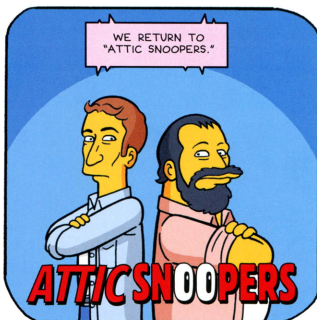




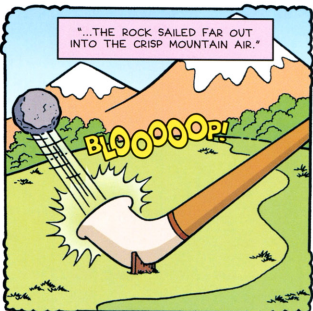
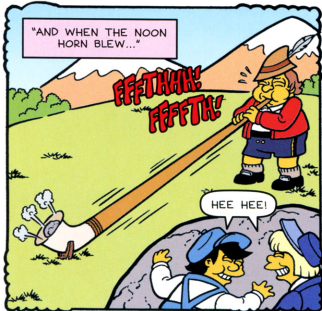
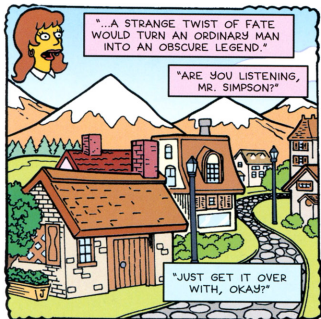


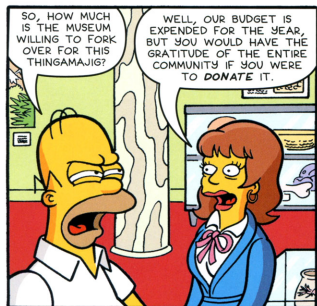
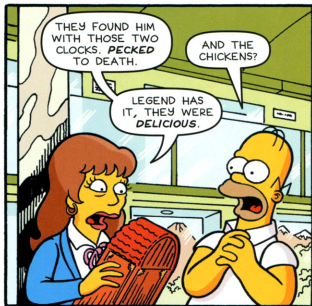


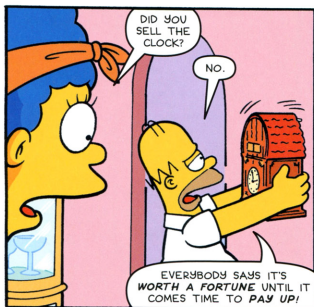
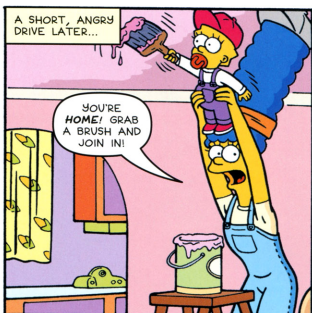


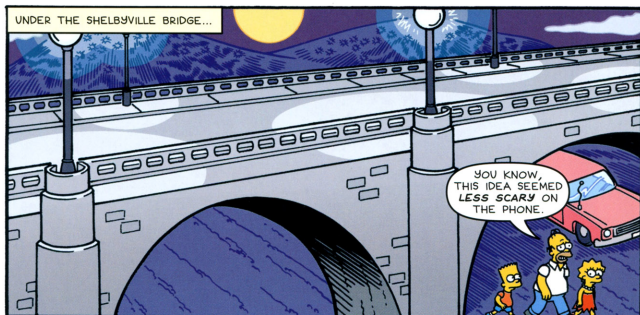
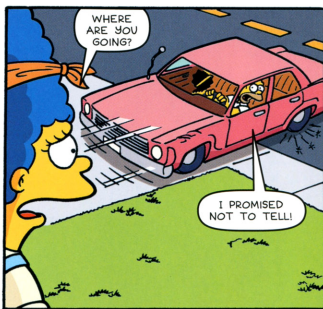
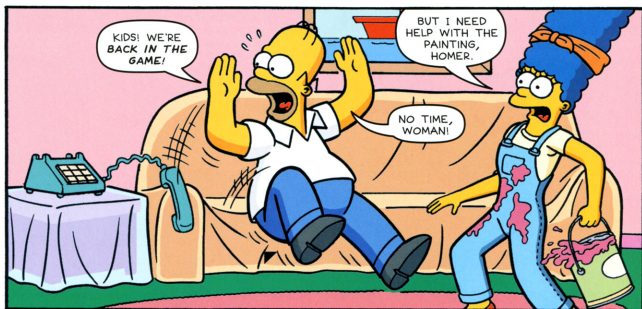


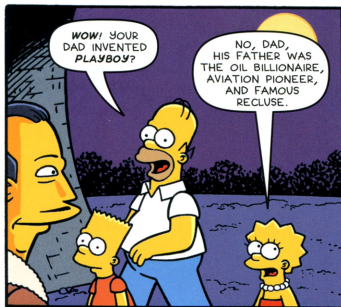
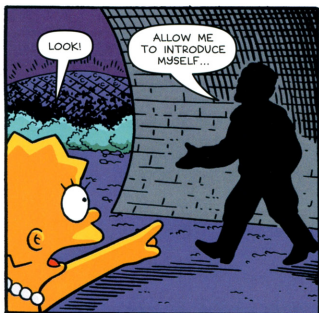


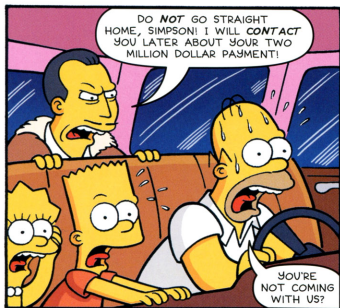
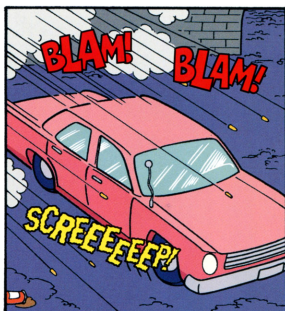
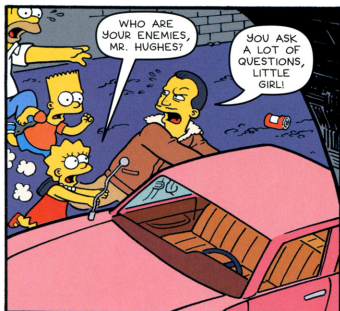


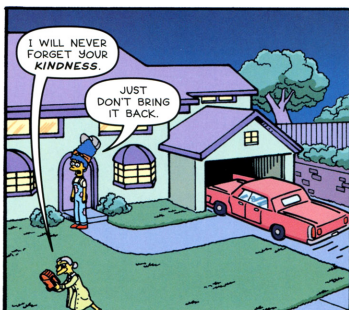


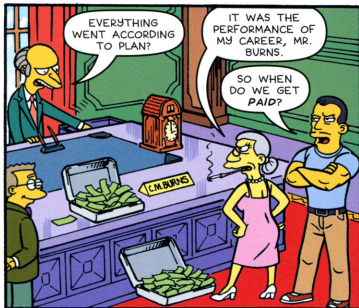
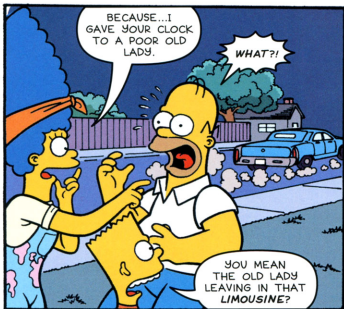
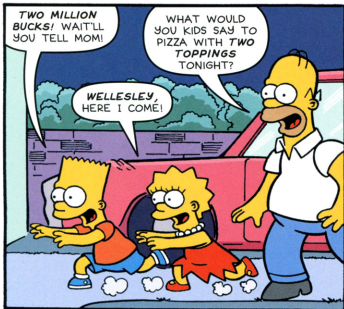


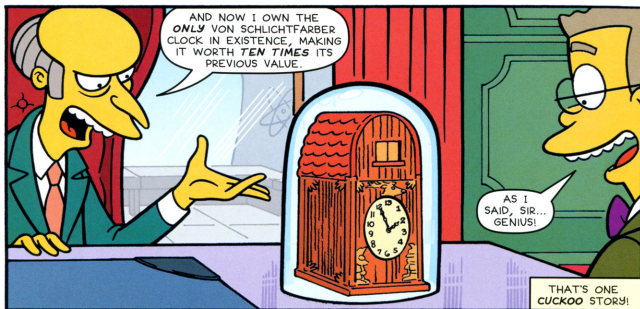
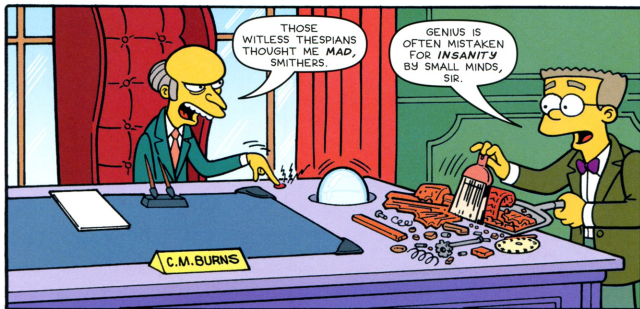














THE BONGO BEAT

by Louis Lane

I Heart Bongo!

Hey there, Bongoheads! Welcome to another installment of the Bongo Beat. I can't believe it's been over a year since I took on the duties of writing this column. I guess time flies when you're having fun, because this year has flown by like a highly-caffeinated super cheetah wearing a rocket pack! In fact, so much has been happening in the Bongoverse that I haven't even had time to attend to the delicate matter of my love life.

Normally, I wouldn't even mention such things, but it is Valentine's Day, after all. The perfect time to reflect on the greatest love there is. I'm not talking about romantic love, filial love, or any of the other types. I'm talking about the love of COMICS! Let me take a moment and share with you some of the reasons that I absolutely love working for Bongo Comics.

Our office in sunny Santa Monica. The California weather is phenomenal, and we're just a stone's throw from the Pacific Ocean. There's absolutely nothing to stop me from going deep-sea diving on my lunch break...except for my debilitating fear of kelp and kelp byproducts.

The Bongo Comics original art archives. Consisting of over 400 issues, it's 20 years worth of awesome "Simpsons" and "Futurama" art by some truly inspiring artists. I get to see stuff most people will have to wait decades to view in some museum celebrating comic art of the early twenty-first century. Take that, future art lovers!

Any time Sergio Aragonés visits the office. He'll regale us with amazing stories of his world travels, his days at MAD, and on occasion teach us the proper way to construct a marionette.

The greasy-spoon burger joint down the block. It's a family-run business with the greatest French fries I've ever tasted. I shudder to think about the calorie count, but since we walk there, that makes it slightly healthier, right? Right?!

The creative process. I love seeing artwork and stories materialize almost magically right before my eyes. What begins as a germ of an idea, eventually becomes a full-blown comic book. Yesterday's offhand pitch idea can become tomorrow's Eisner® award-winning story. It's amazing to see this happen day after day.

Secret sojourns to the FOX studios lot. Every now and then, business takes us to the studio lot where you can usually catch a peek of a television production in progress. There's nothing like walking down a snowy New York street in the middle of Los Angeles during July.

The comics. After months of hard work, the final product arrives hot off the presses. It's a veritable four-color feast for the senses! And with Bongo producing so much stuff, it'll only be a week or two before another new issue arrives. How's that for instant gratification?

Convention season. There's nothing like taking in the sights, sounds, and smells of popular culture. As an

added bonus, I get to mingle with people who really appreciate and understand what I'm doing with my life. Which, incidentally, is the polar opposite of holidays spent with family.

And the thing I love most about working for Bongo Comics is (drumroll, please) our righteous readers! "Simpsons" and "Futurama" fans are the greatest! We know that there are plenty of companies vying for your hard-earned cash, so we try to bring you the best comic reading experience out there. Let us know how we're doing. We love to hear from you!

So even though there currently isn't a special someone waiting to share a candlelit dinner with me, I'll never be alone as long as I'm a card-carrying member of the Bongo Nation. That feels pretty good to me.

Or as my favorite mechanical man might say, "Happy Valentine's Day, Meatbags!"

LL

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Robert Zaugh
OPERATIONS

Serban Cristescu
SPECIAL PROJECTS

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Art Villanueva
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MANAGING EDITOR

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PRODUCTION MGR.

Jason Ho
ASST. ART DIRECTOR

Karen Bates
LETTERING/DESIGN

Nathan Hamill
COLORS

Pete Benson
COORDINATOR

Louis Lane
INTERN



NEXT ISSUE! SIMPSONS COMICS #200

Bongo celebrates its 20th year and landmark 200th issue of Simpsons Comics with an extra-special, supersized story about (what else?) the bicentennial celebration of the history of Springfield. Witness the heretofore untold and influential past of the town that's affectionately become known as "America's crudbucket," and find out why the worst city in the country is also the funniest! And, as they say....much, much more!

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Do you have a question? A query? A quixotic conundrum? We've got your answers to all things Bongo and more! Send your letters, artistic renderings, photos, and whatnot to: JUNK MAIL, Bongo Comics Group, P.O. Box 1963, Santa Monica, CA 90406-1963, or contact us online at bongoheads@bongocomics.com. If you wish to have your letter or artwork published in our comics, you need to include the following statement in your letter or attached to your artwork: "For consideration for publication in Bongo Comics. I agree if you publish my submission it becomes your property." and sign your name. Unfortunately, because we require your signature, we cannot publish emails at this time. (That instruction comes courtesy of our watchful legal eagles.)

WEIGHTY ISSUE

Dear Junk Mail Guy,

I have a few questions.

- 1) Who are you?
- 2) When are you going to have a Ned Flanders One-Shot Wonder?
- 3) Is there any comic better than Simpsons Comics?

You should have a comic where Homer enters a weightlifting contest accidentally.

Owen Leahy
New York City

1) I am Louis Lane. Bongo intern. Simpsons and Futurama fanatic. Comic book lover. Zoo enthusiast.

2) All we have to say is, keep watching the skies!

3) In an infinite multiverse where anything is possible, the answer is still a resounding NO!

I love your powerlifting idea. We could call the story... "Clean and Jerk!"

Louis Lane

DRAWN TO WENDELL

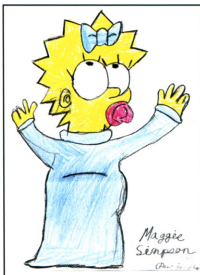
I am 13 years old, and I am a huge Simpsons fan. My favorite comics are Bart #75, Treehouse of Horror #18, and "Man vs. Beast vs. Food" (Simpsons Comics #193). I know how to draw almost all the characters, except for Wendell. Still one more to learn!

Paul S.
Milwaukee, WI

The trick to drawing Wendell is to make him look as queasy as

possible. If you start to feel a little nauseous while you are drawing him, you're on the right track! Just keep that in mind and your Wendell will look as great as your Maggie. Nice work, Paul!

LL



Art by Paul S.

OVERDUE BILL

Hey Bongo,

I just read Simpsons Super Spectacular #16 and Simpsons Winter Wingding #7. What's the big idea making great comics without me? The quality was supposed to go down after my departure, not up! It's really annoying, so please cut it out!

Most sincerely,
Bill Morrison

Wow! High praise from Bongo's original superstar. That just made our day! Make sure you check out Bill's stellar pencils on the wraparound cover for Simpsons

Comics #200 in stores next month!

LL

SARCASM? US?!

What is the real name of that sarcastic guy with the mustache and the bald head?

Ellis Walker
Jefferson City, MO

No one ever seems to know what exactly his name is. Some common monikers include: Sarcastic Guy, Wiseguy, Store Clerk, Middle-aged Man, and Smart Alec Guy. But according to page 594 of Simpsons World: The Ultimate Episode Guide, his real name is "Rafael."

LL

**HERE'S YOUR
BONGO
BONUS STAMP!
COLLECT
THEM ALL!
(YOU HEARD IT
HERE FIRST!)**



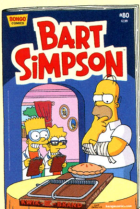
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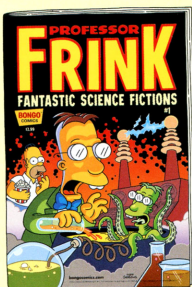
THE BIG, BAD, BONGO CHECKLIST

ON SALE THIS MONTH!



BART SIMPSON #80

In a stunning shift of power, the sons of The Legitimate Businessman's Social Club associates (aka the Mafia) move-in on the "bully" trade at Springfield Elementary, and they have their sights set on recruiting Bart Simpson as their newest member. In other tales, Homer tries to make up to Maggie by offering her the Moon, Milhouse imagines himself on the plains of Africa, and Professor Frink pays an unexpected visit to the Simpsons household.



PROFESSOR FRINK #1

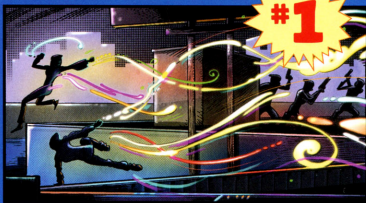
Hold on to your :Glavin!/: Springfield's mad scientist, Professor John Frink, debuts in his own Simpsons One-Shot Wonder with a special blend of chemistry and comedy. First, Professor Frink creates a "Cool Formula" that gets accidentally dumped into the Springfield reservoir, turning every resident of Springfield into a swingin' '60s, Vegas-style hipster. Frink must enlist the help of the town's few remaining nerds to set things right. Will they make like the Pied Piper and drive the "Rat Pack" out of town? Then, Frink's study of the beloved three-eyed fish, Blinky, results in a plague of biblical proportions. Soon, voracious three-eyed mutant fish beasts overrun the entire town of Springfield! Can Professor Frink find a solution to science run amuck? And a routine science demonstration goes horribly awry and Professor Frink finds himself trapped between dimensions with local troublemaker Bart Simpson. Can they navigate this strange otherworld and get back safely before the end of sixth period? We vote "yes!" Plus more fun surprises of sight and :Ng-Hey!/: sound!

SHE RAN AWAY IN HER SLEEP AND DREAMED OF PARADISE...



MYLO XYLOTO

#1



Every album begins with the germ of an idea, every song tells a story, and now it is finally revealed that there is a secret other worldly narrative behind Coldplay's newest hit album and its enigmatic title "Mylo Xyloto." Three years ago, Coldplay and front man Chris Martin teamed up with Mark Osborne (Kung Fu Panda, MORE, and the upcoming The Little Prince) to create Mylo's epic story that has gone on to inspire chart-toppers like "Every Teardrop Is a Waterfall," "Paradise," "Princess of China" and "Hurts Like Heaven" -- which has its own MYLO XYLOTO COMIC-themed music video, providing insight into the backstory of this new universe, and a glimpse of Mylo himself. Prepare to experience the world of Coldplay in a whole new way with this brand-new, six-issue miniseries!

