



Megahex

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Megg is a depressed, drug-addicted witch. Mogg is her black cat. Their friend, Owl, is an anthropomorphized owl. They hang out a lot with Werewolf Jones. This may sound like a pure stoner comedy, but it transcends the genre: these characters struggle unsuccessfully to come to grips with their depression, drug use, sexuality, poverty, lack of work, lack of ambition, and their complex feelings about each other in ways that have made Megg and Mogg sensations on Hanselmann's GirlMountain tumblr. This is the first collection of Hanselmann's work, freed from its cumbersome Internet prison, and sure to be one of the most talked about graphic novels of 2014, featuring all of the "classic" Megg and Mogg episodes from the past five years as well as over 70 pages of all-new material.

Megahex Details

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Author : Simon Hanselmann (Artist)

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From Reader Review Megahex for online ebook

Nate D says

Normally I would think that comics about terminal stoners would be the last thing I'd want to read, but Simon Hanselman's work is too sad, too ennui-infused, too frighteningly-relateable, too nonetheless funny partly for all of these reasons to be held back in any way. If the beginning seems sophomoric, it only means that you haven't spent enough time with these characters for them to really get under your skin yet, but they've got a remarkable ability to do so, considering. Interestingly, this offers a tie-in point for an independent mini that might actually be my favorite single MM&O story, which shedding eerie light on it.

Greg says

What's intelligent that I can say about this book... It was funny, gross, with an undercurrent of heart (y'know, deep down...). The day-to-day lives of stoner roommates (a witch, cat, and owl-- the usual) that don't really give a shit about anything, and kind of pay the price for it. There isn't much of an overarching plot, it's more about the smaller scenes of young adults pranking each other and struggling to... find themselves? That might be a reach for a comic that has *insert any disgusting scene here*, but I think it's apt. Pathetic at times, laugh out loud at others, and even a touching moment or two-- as well as a few 'inappropriate touching' moments. Although the script is overall very funny and strangely interesting, the art/design of 'Megahex' was the selling point for me. It's very clever, imaginative, and pretty. This Simon Hanselmann fellow is very talented, and I look forward to reading more.

Steph says

she fucks the cat. that;s fucked up

Kevin says

This is what you'd call a "love it or hate it" kind of book. I had a little bit of both reactions.

Brittany M. says

Hanselmann's comics have been one of my favorite discoveries of the past few years. I really enjoyed this, despite (or because of?) how dark and disgusting it could get. His work knocks me out.

Megan Kirby says

I'm hesitant about recommending Megahex to people, because it's so weird that people will either really dig it or think I'm insane for suggesting it. Megahex is a collection of Simon Hanselman's Life Zone comics, which follow Megg, a witch, Mogg, her cat-lover, and Owl, their deadbeat roommate. They are all terrible people who terrorize each other endlessly. Sometimes this is very funny. Sometimes it just made me feel bad.

The vulgarity made me uncomfortable--some drawn-out and graphic jokes about sexual assault, or even just images of the trio's filthy apartment. It's definitely supposed to make you squirm. At times I felt like it tried to be edgy just to be edgy, in the vein of Zap! comics. But some single panels are so fucking funny. One of my favorites is a panel of Megg at a children's birthday party, black robes drawn up over hair legs as she sits on a pony. "I'm a fucking rich bitch," she says with a cigarette poised by her mouth.

I love this frame. I want to make it a patch and sew it on my favorite jacket. I want to print it out as a poster and hang it above my bed.

That's my problem with Megahex: taken in pieces, I absolutely love it. Taken as a whole, it feels a little trying. It's the same way I feel whenever I binge-watch Always Sunny--after one too many episodes, I just can't handle another 20 minutes of horrible people being horrible to each other.

I think the book really shines in the section where Megg mourns the pending loss of her sick mother (only mentioned, very briefly). Her depression, depicted in a series of increasingly surreal panels and splash pages, rang surprisingly true. In one scene, she dances in the living room as the lamp reflects the sequins on her miniskirt. It's beautiful and heartbreakingly, a simple moment crystallized in beauty and grief. The page is a feat.

So maybe I would recommend the book after all, albeit with a warning. It's not a nice book, but it's a book that stays with you.

Ben says

I didn't get it. The book itself is really well made and the art work is very impressive but the content is kind of awful. I like indie, I like weird, I like dark, but this just missed the mark for me in every way. Unfunny stoner ennui nonsense and poorly judged rape jokes just aren't my bag.

April says

You know what's not funny? This book. I did laugh a few times and the art is pretty funny. But, I can't help feeling that being mean to others as entertainment is pathetic and shitty and often masks a lack of intelligence (at the very least, a lack of legitimate wit). This book is full of bully humor. There is a tremendous difference between pulling awesome pranks on your friends and being assholes.

I'm giving this book 2 stars b/c it disappointed me. If Hanselmann's purpose was to point out how disappointing people can be, then maybe I should give it 5 stars. But, no, 2 stars seems right.

Sam Quixote says

Megahex is hysterical - I loved this comic. It's a stoner comedy that you don't need to be a stoner or high to enjoy and there are some big belly laughs in this book.

Ostensibly parodying Jan Pienkowski's Meg & Mog kid's books, Megahex stars Megg and Mogg, a witch and a cat who're boyfriend and girlfriend, and their housemate Owl, a six foot humanoid owl, whom they torture mercilessly. The book is made up of strips of varying lengths from one pagers to longer stories, most of them purely comedic but some dealing with more serious themes like depression, growing up, and trying to make something of yourself.

I appreciate creator Simon Hanselmann giving the comic more dimensions by addressing substantial ideas but I loved the book because of the silly humour in it that had me laughing like cray. One scene has Megg and Mogg knock-out Owl with a rock, strip him naked, put sunglasses on him, load him into a shopping cart and push him into traffic towards the cops; Owl's reaction was priceless.

Owl is my favourite character - he's such a poor, stupid bastard. One time he's biking home from the mall, gets a boner, and the blood drain from his head causes him to crash his bike! Another time he tells Megg and Mogg that he's attending AA so they decide to secretly get him drunk and watch him pick fights in the mall.

It's pretty edgy humour at times too. On his birthday, Owl's friends take him to an empty room and simulate raping him! In another story he gets off with a girl he didn't realise was 13 years old. There's also a character called Werewolf Jones but I'll let you discover him for yourself (think Steve-O from Jackass).

Megg and Mogg are such tremendous arseholes too. Owl gets his dream job so they deliberately sabotage his first day so he gets fired. Another time they lock him out of the house when he really needs to use the toilet so he has to crap in the yard. And then there's the trauma of the New Year's story... poor Owl. Heh.

I really liked Hanselmann's understated art style too. It's a very simple, traditional comics layout, all grids, but he tells his stories within them perfectly - he knows exactly what to show in each panel and how to pace things to make the jokes work. The colours are just wonderful too.

If none of what I've described so far has even made you smile a little bit, Megahex is definitely not for you. I was howling with laughter more often than not though and had a blast reading it. Not all the jokes land but many do and some of them are killer. I highly recommend Megahex for a mega fun time!

Donald Budge says

Pretty much perfect.

Evan says

Human misery.

Heidi says

This book has a rape scene in it that is just brushed off. I don't consider myself especially sensitive to things like that, but I am surprised at how this aspect of the book is not really being discussed by publishers or in various reviews in the press. I also wonder why it's not addressed that there is a charming little UK kids' cartoon called *Meg and Mog* (see YouTube) that this seems to be spun off from.

Generally I enjoy dark indie comics and humor and this is heavy on the darkness. But those two things above prevent me from giving it more than two stars.

Justin Fontaine says

Were pedophiles

Andrew says

Starts out as a crude and nihilistic gag comic, but develops into something much sadder. The characters are all pathetic and reprehensible, but Hanselmann makes you care about them and root for them to escape the destructive cycles they're all trapped in.

David Schaafsma says

This is only superficially a "fantasy" comic in that a witch, Meg, and her talking cat, Mog, torment their roommate, Owl. Basically it's a stoner comic with sad but likeable-in-spite-of-themselves characters who are sometimes Beavis and Butthead funny or "funny" (so funny I forgot to laugh sort of funny)... sophomoric, dumb, silly and sad as the main characters are basically mean to Owl just for the hell of it, because they are just aimless and bored. These characters are in fact bored throughout this, though in the end, there is movement, there is a slight indication of change for one of them, at least, though that's ultimately bittersweet sad, too. So, a story for and about slacker/sideways stoners.

Why read this if you are a functional adult? The art and humor seems sort of Matt Groening inspired. I have no excuse, really to explain why I read it and even liked it, but I just did. I smiled at it in various places, but there is one incident that he tries to make funny that isn't funny, it's bad and sad, and there are other places that may offend some other readers, but that is kinda the attraction of this kind of comic. But it's not so offensive that it is seriously off-putting, in my opinion. I mean, Meg and Mog do bad things to Owl but then they try to make it up to him. I don't know. I liked it quite a bit, in that Groening way, though it is devoid of politics and so someone 40 years younger than me and smoking a lot of pot will find it effing hilarious, I bet. Even I laughed from time to time.
