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2019 Harvey Award Nominees Spotlight The Expanding World Of Graphic Literature



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The nominees for the 2019 Harvey Awards were announced August 14, 2019. IMAGE COURTESY OF THE HARVEY AWARDS

The [Harvey Awards](#), one of the longest-running annual honors in the American comic book industry, just announced the nominees for the best work of the year six categories. The list reflects the increasing diversity of content, styles, and creators that are making graphic literature a top seller in the trade book market.

This year's ten nominees for Book of the Year exemplify this diversity. The list includes ambitious literary fiction like Jason Lutes' *Berlin* (Drawn & Quarterly);

representational speculative fiction like Tillie Walden's *On a Sunbeam* (First Second), Ezra Clayton Daniels' *Upgrade Soul* (Lion Forge) and Daniels' and Ben Passmore's *BTTM FDRS* (Fantagraphics); Lucy Knisley's motherhood memoir *Kid Gloves* (First Second) and hardboiled thriller *My Heroes Have Always Been Junkies* by Ed Brubaker and Sean Phillips (Image), among others. Including such a wide range of books with such distinct audiences and objectives on the list will make a hard choice for voters, but having a wealth of quality nominees is a good problem for any award to have.

The Harveys, named for humorist and cartoonist Harvey Kurtzman (creator of *MAD* among many other contributions to the art form), have recognized outstanding work in the field since the late 1980s, but were reorganized in 2016 in conjunction with the relocation of the awards ceremony to New York Comic Con

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The new streamlined Harveys feature six awards: Book of the Year, Digital Book of the Year, Best Children's or Young Adult Book, Best Manga, Best European Book, and Best Comics Adaptation. This last category is a catch-all for movies (*Avengers: Endgame*, *Spider-Man: Into the Spider Verse*, etc.), streaming show (*Doom Patrol*, *The Boys*, etc.) and even a theatrical play (*The Snagglepuss Chronicles*, a production by Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theater Festival and Die-Cast, based on *Exit, Stage Left!: The Snagglepuss Chronicles*, Mark Russell's poignant and unexpected take on the classic Hanna-Barbara character published by DC).

“This year marks the 31st presentation of the Harvey Awards and the third year working with our hosting partners at ReedPOP. We congratulate this year’s nominees, who have produced some of the best projects in the industry over the past year, and we’re looking forward to seeing the results of the voting and honoring the winners at the Harveys at NYCC,” said John Lind, co-chair of the Harvey Awards Steering Committee.

“We’re seeing incredible work come from not just traditional comic publishers but from digital publishers as well by a hugely diverse group of creators across nearly every genre,” said Mike Armstrong, Vice President of ReedPOP, the division of Reed Exhibitions that puts on New York Comic Con and more than two dozen other major pop culture conventions worldwide. “I wish all of our wonderful nominees the best of luck and look forward to celebrating them at this year’s awards ceremony during New York Comic Con.”

Eligible industry professionals have until September 10 to vote for their favorites in each category. The winners will be announced at the invitation-only Harvey Awards Gala October 4 in New York.

Nominees for the 2019 Harvey Awards:

Book of the Year

- ***Belonging: A German Reckons with History and Home*** by Nora Krug (Scribner)
- ***Berlin*** by Jason Lutes (Drawn & Quarterly)
- ***BTTM FDRS*** by Ezra Clayton Daniels and Ben Passmore (Fantagraphics)
- ***Hey Kiddo*** by Jarrett J. Krosoczka (Scholastic Graphix)
- ***Kid Gloves*** by Lucy Knisley (First Second)
- ***Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me*** by Mariko Tamaki and Rosemary Valero-O’Connell (First Second)
- ***My Heroes Have Always Been Junkies*** by Ed Brubaker and Sean Phillips (Image)
- ***On a Sunbeam*** by Tillie Walden (First Second)
- ***Upgrade Soul*** by Ezra Clayton Daniels (Lion Forge)

- ***When I Arrived at the Castle*** by Emily Carroll (Koyama Press)

Digital Book of the Year

- ***Check, Please*** by Ngozi Ukazu: www.checkpleasecomic.com
- ***Space Boy*** by Stephen McCranie: www.webtoons.com/en/drama/space-boy/list?title_no=400&page=1
- ***The Contradictions*** by Sophie Yanow: www.thecontradictions.com
- ***The Nib*** edited by Matt Bors: www.thenib.com
- ***Woman World*** by Aminder Dhaliwal: www.webtoons.com/en/challenge/woman-world/list?title_no=100912&page=1

Best Children's or Young Adult Book

- ***Hey Kiddo*** by Jarrett J. Krosoczka (Scholastic Graphix)
- ***Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me*** by Mariko Tamaki and Rosemary Valero-O'Connell (First Second)
- ***Mr. Wolf's Class #2: Mystery Club*** by Aron Nels Steinke (Scholastic Graphix)
- ***New Kid*** by Jerry Craft (HarperCollins Children's Books)
- ***On a Sunbeam*** by Tillie Walden (First Second)

Best Manga

- ***Frankenstein: Junji Ito Story Collection*** by Junji Ito (VIZ Media)

- ***Mob Psycho 100*** by ONE (Dark Horse Manga)
- ***My Hero Academia*** by Kohei Horikoshi (VIZ Media)
- ***Our Dreams at Dusk*** by Yuhki Kamatani (Seven Seas)
- ***Smashed*** by Junji Ito (VIZ Media)
- ***Witch Hat Atelier*** by Kamome Shirahama (Kodansha Comics)

Best European Book

- ***Corto Maltese*** by Hugo Pratt (IDW Publishing)
- ***O Josephine*** by Jason (Fantagraphics)
- ***Radiant*** by Tony Valente (VIZ Media)
- ***Red Ultramarine*** by Manuele Fior, translated by Jamie Richards (Fantagraphics)
- ***Waves*** by Ingrid Chabbert and Carole Maurel (Archaia)

Best Comics Adaptation Award

- ***Alita: Battle Angel***, by 20th Century Fox, based on *Battle Angel Alita* (Kodansha USA)
- ***Avengers: Endgame*** by Marvel Studios, based on *The Avengers* (Marvel Comics)
- ***The Boys*** by Amazon Studios, based on *The Boys* (Dynamite Entertainment)
- ***Captain Marvel*** by Marvel Studios, based on *Captain Marvel* (Marvel Comics)
- ***Chilling Adventures of Sabrina***, by Netflix, based on *Chilling Adventures of Sabrina* (Archie Comics)

- ***Doom Patrol*** by DC Universe, based on *Doom Patrol* (DC Comics)
- ***Marvel's Spider-Man*** by Insomniac Games/Sony Interactive, based on *Spider-Man* (Marvel Comics)
- ***The Snagglepuss Chronicles***, by Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theater Festival and Die-Cast, based on *Exit, Stage Left!: The Snagglepuss Chronicles* (DC Comics)
- ***Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*** by Columbia Pictures and Sony Pictures Animation, based on *Spider-Man* (Marvel Comics)
- ***The Umbrella Academy*** by Netflix, based on *The Umbrella Academy* (Dark Horse Comics)

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I am an author, consultant and educator with a professional interest in the business implications of new media and a personal passion for comics and visual communication...

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