Ludocrats #2 Review: The Professionals are at Work Here

Posted on June 19, 2020 | by Hannibal Tabu | Comments

Ludocrats #1

8.5/10

By answering the question, "how can we make this even more ridiculous than the first issue?" the creative team totally Wrath of Khan's this joint.

Wow. Well, making any narrative make sense is an uphill climb, even sometimes for seasoned creators, but to take an intentionally ridiculous idea and make it wholly clear and understandable while not taking any of the "ridiculous" out of it ... you're setting the game difficulty level pretty high.

Luckily, this book is firmly held in the steady hands of professionals. Kieron Gillen, Tamra Bonvillain ... names you've seen a ꙽ The rest of the team aren't exactly slouches and this ... well ... Baron Otto Von Subertan is quite a figure — his Volstagg-ian proportions are only dwarfed by his deep devotion to being a Ludocrat, someone who rules but is never boring. To say he is "whimsical" would be like calling the Pacific Ocean "a puddle." He starts off the issue a drooling amnesiac riddled with more than a dozen syringe harpoons, fired from the guards of the Hyper-Pope.
Yeah, hang on, it doesn't get any less wacky, and that's a huge compliment.
After a refreshing blast in the face with a sonic cannon ("boo-yah?")
he remembers losing his newfound love, a metal-sheathed jurist he
lovingly calls "Gratty," arrested by the aforementioned Hyper-Pope on
some cooked up malarkey. Otto is a man of action, easily seen by how
unbothered he is strutting around naked as he bellows
pronouncements, and gathers specialists, calls for "The War-Wig of
Wallacha" and sets about rescuing Gratty from her imprisonment.
At his side, he has the wildly unflappable Professor Hades (think Janine in "Dr. YaYaYa" by way of Holtzman's skill set in the Answer The Call version of "Dr. YaYaYa"), Bogol Theen ("the capering chainsaw gastronaut"), last issue's breakout star Voldigan the Perdiferous (imagine if everything Littlefinger said on "A Song of Ice and Fire" was hilarious and he was a teleporting "voidwalker"), the fetish-dressed surgeon Elaina Triptych and one of Otto's relatives who really knows how to make an impression.

When Otto calls for a map, it's delivered by a cloud of one-eyed bats the size of butterflies. When Professor Hades is deadly serious, she says, "This is a beast with no anus."

This issue starts out funny and can have the reader bending over, stifling hearty guffaws by the end of it. Even the credits are amazing, where writers Gillen and Rossignal designate each of themselves a "literary disaster." The exaggerated artwork might get lost in the hands of a tyro colorist, but this is Tamra doggone Bonvillain here, so every panel is crystal clear as to foreground and background, every ridiculous story element visually comprehensible and engaging.

Please stick around for the surprises on the last page, which proves the larger narrative is moving ahead while this singular adventure comes to its conclusion. As noted, there are professionals at work here. Wow. **RATING: BUY**.

---

**Ludocrats #2**

By: Kieron Gillen, Jim Rossignal, Jeff Stokely, Tamra Bonvillain

How could we follow the startling first issue of LUDOCRATS? With issue two. Sometimes it doesn't pay to overthink these things. Herein, stuff of a ludicrous and oft entertaining character happens.

---

**About Hannibal Tabu**

Hannibal Tabu is a writer, journalist, DJ, poet and designer living in south Los Angeles with his wife and children. He's a winner of the 2012 Top Cow Talent Hunt, winner of the 2018-2019 Cultural Trailblazer award from the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, his weekly comic book review column THE BUY.
PILE can be found on iHeartRadio’s Nerd-O-Rama podcast, his reviews can be found on BleedingCool.com, and more information can be found at his website, www.hannibaltabu.com. Plus, get free weekly web comics on the Operative Network at http://bit.ly/combatshaman.

Posted in Comics, Comics Publishers, Image, Review | Tagged Clayton Cowles, comic book reviews, fernando arguello, image, image comics, Jeff Stokely, jim rossignol, kieron gillen, ludocrats, Review, Tamra Bonvillain

←FOCO Hits A Home Run with New DC Superhero MLB Bobbleheads
It’s Not Just Warren Ellis Either – The Daily LITG, June 19th 2020 →

Follow Us

Popular Now

SoManyOfUs.com Gathers Warren Ellis Accounts – Including Hypnotism
Disco Inferno Calls for AEW Boycott Over Ratings Discrimination
A "Left Bros" Copy Of Super Mario Bros. 3 Is Up For Sale Funko San Diego Comic Con 2020: Our Favorite Revealed Pops
Buffy The Vampire Slayer Tried Warning Us About 2020 Years Ago
Marvel Legends Sentinel Hits 7000 Backers: Master Mold Head Unlock
Street Fighter V Chun-Li Hits the Beach With PCS Collectibles
Game of Thrones, Battlestar Galactica: When Good Shows End Badly
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Article</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Sealed Copy of Final Fantasy VII is Up for Sale on Heritage Auctions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryan Edward Hill Hints at the Future of Batman and the Outsiders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empyre #1, With Good, Evil And Everyone On The Wrong Side [Spoilers]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor Who: 5 Matt Smith Moments That Had Us Yelling, &quot;Geronimo!&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>007 Bond Binge: Thunderball: Sharks, Femme Fatales, and Lawsuits?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did John Cena Try to Bury AJ Styles Before His WWE Debut?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ubisoft Forward Reveals The Full Trailer For Far Cry 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netflix Eurovision Song Contest Vs Father Ted: A Song For Europe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>