



## Jimbo in Purgatory

By Gary Panter

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### Jimbo in Purgatory By Gary Panter

The founder of "Punk" art reinvents Dante through his character Jimbo in this landmark graphic novel.

Gary Panter has been one of America's pre-eminent designers and cartoonists of the last quarter century: In addition to being a prolific and sought-after illustrator, he was one of the graphic minds behind the award-winning *Pee-wee's Playhouse* show, and, as the creator of Jimbo, one of the pillars of the legendary *RAW* magazine. Panter's early graphics defined the California punk ethos and the alternative zine scene—and although he hasn't achieved the notoriety of Keith Haring or Kenny Scharf, the post-Pop painting world is also deeply in his debt. Now, Fantagraphics is proud to present a major, all-new book by Panter: *Jimbo in Purgatory*.

In this spectacular graphic novel, Panter has transformed his protean punk hero Jimbo into the protagonist of a reinterpretation of Dante's *Purgatorio*. After years of comparing Dante and Boccaccio to find commonalities between the two, Panter developed a narrative of his own that includes literary and pop references regularly injected throughout the captions of the reinterpreted cantos.

In Panter's adaptation, Jimbo traverses a vast infotainment-testing center built in the shape of Dante's Mount Purgatory. Within its borders every man or robot stands in for a character in the *Divine Comedy*. In this version all the participants in the drama must respond to one another within a lunatic logic wherein each quotes a literary fragment that demonstrates their respective knowledge of a particular passage and its import to the specific location in a poem.

Presented in a huge, oversize hardcover format (even bigger than the classic *RAW*!) to do justice to Panter's densely packed pages, with a stunning two-color stamping on the cloth covers, *Jimbo in Purgatory* is an art object, a brilliant literary game, a visual feast, and the most eye-popping, visually and verbally challenging, and memorable new graphic novel of the year.

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## Jimbo in Purgatory By Gary Panter Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Panter has been a leading figure in underground comics for more than 25 years, and he's had a profound influence on everyone from Chris Ware to Matt Groening. He's generally credited with giving a graphic identity to the L.A. punk scene, and he was the lead designer for the vibrant world of the television show *Pee Wee's Playhouse*. Like R. Crumb, Panter stands as a beacon of artistic and literary genius in the medium. This oversized work is an amalgamation of Dante's *Purgatorio*, Boccaccio's *Decameron*, Panter's own fictional universe and various pop culture icons. Jimbo, a cross between Candide and Virgil, makes his way through a vast science fiction–like infotainment–testing center constructed as Mount Purgatory. Here Jimbo encounters Frank Zappa, John and Yoko, robots and dragons, among others, and each character is a stand-in for a personage in Dante's *Divine Comedy*. They each quote a fragment of text (cited at the bottom of each page) that furthers the plot. It's a complicated, often hilarious method of dialogue, combining poetic allusiveness with surreal game playing. The artwork is some of Panter's best: tight, almost 19th-century–style renderings in a page layout that combines illuminated manuscripts with turn-of-the-century comic strips, each page serving as both a single complete composition and a storytelling device. This is an unprecedented approach to page design, and it makes for a fluid, immersing read. Easily the best graphic novel released this year, *Jimbo in Purgatory* should be read and savored for a long time.

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### Review

His drawing can be at once wretchedly grotesque, unfathomably charming; he delights in the underbelly and revels in the prosaic. -- *Steven Heller*

When I saw it, I broke out into the cold sweat that real art can bring on. -- *Art Spiegelman*

### About the Author

**Gary Panter** was born in Texas in 1950 and now lives in Brooklyn, NY with his wife Helene. He is a three-time Emmy Award-winner for his work as the production designer of *Pee-wee's Playhouse*, and in 2000 won the Chrysler Award for Design Excellence.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

#### Catrina Hall:

As people who live in the particular modest era should be up-date about what going on or details even knowledge to make these people keep up with the era and that is always change and move forward. Some of you maybe will update themselves by looking at books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to anyone is you don't know which you should start with. This Jimbo in Purgatory is our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

**Peter White:**

Typically the book Jimbo in Purgatory has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was compiled by the very famous author. Mcdougal makes some research ahead of write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you can find the point easily after looking over this book.

**Lauren Cook:**

Jimbo in Purgatory can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to set every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing Jimbo in Purgatory however doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource details that maybe you can be among it. This great information may drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial imagining.

**Felix Smith:**

Beside this Jimbo in Purgatory in your phone, it may give you a way to get more close to the new knowledge or data. The information and the knowledge you are going to got here is fresh from oven so don't become worry if you feel like an previous people live in narrow town. It is good thing to have Jimbo in Purgatory because this book offers for you readable information. Do you often have book but you seldom get what it's exactly about. Oh come on, that would not happen if you have this in your hand. The Enjoyable agreement here cannot be questionable, just like treasuring beautiful island. Use you still want to miss the item? Find this book as well as read it from right now!

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