



Nimona

By Noelle Stevenson

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National Book Award Finalist * New York Times Bestseller * New York Times Notable Book * Kirkus Best Book * School Library Journal Best Book * Publishers Weekly Best Book * NPR Best Book * New York Public Library Best Book * Chicago Public Library Best Book * A Spring 2015 Indie Next List Pick

The *New York Times* bestselling graphic novel sensation from Noelle Stevenson, based on her beloved and critically acclaimed web comic. *Kirkus* says, “If you’re going to read one graphic novel this year, make it this one.”

Nemeses! Dragons! Science! Symbolism! All these and more await in this brilliantly subversive, sharply irreverent epic from Noelle Stevenson. Featuring an exclusive epilogue not seen in the web comic, along with bonus conceptual sketches and revised pages throughout, this gorgeous full-color graphic novel has been hailed by critics and fans alike as the arrival of a “superstar” talent (NPR.org).

Nimona is an impulsive young shapeshifter with a knack for villainy. Lord Ballister Blackheart is a villain with a vendetta. As sidekick and supervillain, Nimona and Lord Blackheart are about to wreak some serious havoc. Their mission: prove to the kingdom that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes everyone thinks they are.

But as small acts of mischief escalate into a vicious battle, Lord Blackheart realizes that Nimona's powers are as murky and mysterious as her past. And her unpredictable wild side might be more dangerous than he is willing to admit.

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Nimona By Noelle Stevenson Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 7 Up—This celebrated webcomic, a mash-up of medieval culture with modern science and technology, is now available in print. Lord Ballister Blackheart, a knight, has assumed the role of a supervillain in order to expose the nefarious schemes of the kingdom's front organization, The Institute of Law Enforcement. The kingdom's champion is Lord Blackheart's nemesis and former best friend, Sir Ambrose Goldenloin. Blackheart's prickly relationship with Goldenloin further explores the limits of their friendship. Enter the title character, a brash young shapeshifter who doggedly follows Ballister until he agrees to take her on as a sidekick. Nimona's skills as a shapeshifter up the ante in the ongoing rivalry between Ambrose and Ballister. Despite her anger management issues, the teen becomes Ballister's invaluable ally and together they form an alliance of mutual trust and dependence. Action scenes dominate as Nimona shifts with Hulk-like ferocity from frightful creatures such as a fire-breathing dragon to a docile cat or a timid child. Dialogue is fresh and witty with an abundance of clever lines. A complementary color palette of Blackheart's muddy browns contrasts with Goldenloin's fresh transparent yellow-greens. Both color schemes highlight Nimona's intense reds. Readers will note subtle visual differences in webcomic images. The print edition includes an exclusive epilogue not available online. At its core, *Nimona* is a story of rescue. Each of the main characters rescue allies, friendships, the Kingdom, and ultimately, themselves. **VERDICT** A vibrant solo work from "Lumberjanes" (Boom!) cocreator.—Barbara M. Moon, Suffolk Cooperative Library System, Bellport, NY

Review

"Noelle Stevenson has a knack for capturing the humor and heart in a situation in just a few panels."
(Rainbow Rowell, New York Times bestselling author of *Eleanor and Park*)

"If you're going to read one graphic novel this year, make it this one." (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

"Sharp visuals, a nifty amalgam of fantasy and science fiction elements, and relationships drawn with complexity, wit, and depth create a world worth returning to again and again." (Publishers Weekly (starred review))

"At its core, *Nimona* is a story of rescue. Each of the main characters rescue allies, friendships, the Kingdom, and ultimately, themselves... A vibrant solo work." (School Library Journal (starred review))

"[Stevenson's] voice is clear and precise, her drawings confident, her use of color growing in depth and assurance as the story progresses." (New York Times)

"*Nimona*...is beautifully flawed and refreshingly unстереotypical in a book that is both darkly witty and surprisingly touching. And *Nimona* is a protagonist to both love and fear." (The Horn Book)

"Over the course of the collected *Nimona*, it's possible to watch artist Noelle Stevenson blossom from a student to a superstar." (NPR.org)

"*Nimona*, with all her flaws, breaks away completely from what women are allowed to be in popular fiction." (Vanity Fair)

"Graphic novel fans will finish the book in a gallop and then want to start right back at the first page." (Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books (starred review))

“Awesome and adorable.” (Ryan North, author of Dinosaur Comics)

“Funny and vibrant, with wonderful energy in Stevenson’s illustrations and a wicked wit in her storytelling.” (Slate)

“Those of you who haven’t read Nimona yet are lucky, because you can buy the fantasy comic in book form instead of waiting for Noelle to post an update twice a week. Seriously, that wait was always excruciating.” (Bustle.com)

From the Back Cover

Nimona is an impulsive young shapeshifter with a knack for villainy.

Lord Ballister Blackheart is a villain with a vendetta.

As sidekick and supervillain, Nimona and Lord Blackheart are about to wreak some serious havoc. Their mission: prove to the kingdom that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes everyone thinks they are.

Explosions will be involved.

Science and sharks will be, too.

But as small acts of mischief escalate into a vicious battle, Lord Blackheart realizes that Nimona's powers are as murky and mysterious as her past. And her unpredictable wild side might be more dangerous than he is willing to admit.

Nemeses!

Dragons!

Science!

Symbolism!

All these and more await in this brilliantly subversive, sharply irreverent epic from Noelle Stevenson, based on her award-winning web comic.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Holley Shipman:

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