

★ FEMALE ★ FORCE ★

BESTSELLERS



A Graphic Novel Biography Featuring:

JK Rowling • Anne Rice • Stephenie Meyer • Charlaine Harris

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BEST SELLERS

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Letters: Jaymes Reed

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Art: David MacNeil
Colors: Kirsty Swan
Letters: Wilson Ramos Jr.

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ANNE RICE





NOT
SINCE **BRAM STOKER**
BREATHED UNDEAD LIFE INTO
MY COLD VEINS 112 YEARS AGO
HAS A WRITER COMPLETELY
REDEFINED THE **VAMPIRE**
GENRE.

ANNE RICE CREATED A
FICTIONAL UNIVERSE WHERE
VAMPIRES, WITCHES, SPIRITS,
MUMMIES AND DEVILS WALK
AMONGST THE LIVING AND
OFTEN SUFFER FROM THE
SAME FRAILTIES AND FAULTS
THAT AFFECT MORTALS.

SHE MADE
VAMPIRES SEXY
AGAIN!

BUT ANNE
RICE IS MUCH
MORE THAN A
CHRONICLER OF
VAMPIRE LORE.

HER BOOKS HAVE SOLD
NEARLY 100 MILLION COPIES.

MUCH MORE
THAN A SPINNER OF
GOTHIC TALES OF
THE MACABRE.

HER IMMENSELY POPULAR FICTION
ATTRACTS THE GENERAL READER
AS WELL AS LITERARY SCHOLARS.

SHE HAS INFLUENCED A NEW
GENERATION OF GENRE WRITERS.

BUT SHE IS NOT
WITHOUT HER CRITICS.

HER FORAYS INTO EROTICA, THE DECLINING
ACCEPTANCE OF THE CHARACTER PATHS SHE
HAS CHOSEN FOR VARIOUS WORKS, AND HER
FERVENT REDISCOVERY OF HER CATHOLIC
RELIGION HAVE ALIENATED SOME READERS
AND DISENCHANTED SELECTED ACADEMICS.

HOWEVER, THROUGH THE
NOVELS, THROUGH HER
SUCCESSES AND FAILURES,
AND THROUGH HER OWN
PERSONAL TRAGEDIES, ANNE
RICE IS TRULY ONE THING:

A SEEKER.

A SEEKER OF MEANING.

A SEEKER OF LOVE, DEATH,
IMMORTALITY, EXISTENTIALISM.

IN 27 NOVELS SHE HAS
NOT ONLY PROVIDED AN
ESCAPE FROM REALITY...
BUT A KEEN INSIGHT INTO
THE HUMAN CONDITION
USING **NON-HUMAN**
CHARACTERS.



HOWARD ALLEN O'BRIEN
WAS BORN ON OCTOBER 4, 1941
AMONGST GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

THE HOPE WAS THAT SHE
AND HER THREE SISTERS
WOULD BE **GENIUSES**.

WE WILL NAME
HER **HOWARD**,
AFTER YOU.

...THOUGH HE LOOKED
THE PHANTOM THROUGH
AND THROUGH, AND SAW
IT STANDING BEFORE HIM;
THOUGH HE FELT THE
CHILLING INFLUENCE OF
ITS DEATH-COLD EYES...

HER PARENTS,
DESCRIBED AS
WORKING CLASS
INTELLECTUALS,
ENCOURAGED AND
INDULGED ANY AND
ALL ARTISTIC AND
EDUCATIONAL
ENDEAVORS.

IF HOWARD WANTED TO
DANCE, THEY MOVED THE
FURNITURE TO MAKE ROOM.

IF SHE
WANTED
TO **DRAW**,
THE WALLS
WERE MADE
AVAILABLE.

ANNE RI

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

7:00

SHE GAVE ME
THE BELIEF IN MYSELF
THAT I COULD DO GREAT
THINGS; THAT I COULD DO
ANYTHING I WANTED TO
DO. SHE GAVE ME A
SENSE OF **LIMITLESS
POWER**.

THERE WAS ONLY **ONE**
CONDITION TO THIS FREEDOM:

STRICT OBSERVANCE OF
THE CATHOLIC DOCTRINE.

WHEN I GROW
UP, I WANT TO
BE A **NUN**.

BUT TIMES WERE TOUGH IN NEW ORLEANS;
ESPECIALLY THE AREA NEAR THE AFFLUENT
GARDEN DISTRICT CALLED THE IRISH CHANNEL.



THAT'S WHERE THE
O'BRIEN'S LIVED.



DURING WORLD WAR II
THERE WERE RATIONS ON
FOOD AND SUPPLIES.



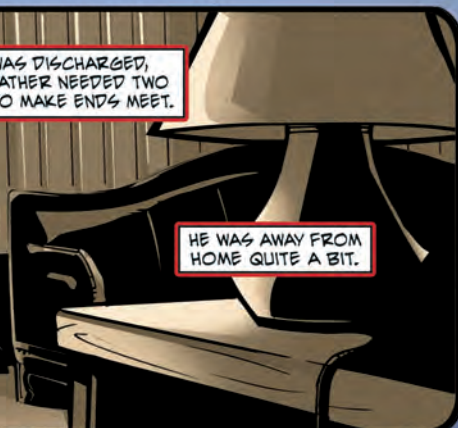
AFTER THE WAR, THAT
NEIGHBORHOOD BEGAN
A LONG, SLOW DECAY.

WHEN HOWARD WAS A BABY,
HER FATHER LEFT FOR A THREE
YEAR STINT IN THE NAVY.



WHEN HE WAS DISCHARGED,
HOWARD'S FATHER NEEDED TWO
JOBS JUST TO MAKE ENDS MEET.

HE WAS AWAY FROM
HOME QUITE A BIT.



THEIR FINANCIAL STRUGGLES ALSO
MEANT THE O'BRIEN CHILDREN HAD
TO RELY ON THEIR IMAGINATIONS.

AT AGE FIVE, IT WAS TIME FOR LITTLE HOWARD TO GO TO SCHOOL.

BUT SHE HAD A SURPRISE FOR HER TEACHERS AT ST. ALPHONSUS GRAMMAR SCHOOL ON HER VERY FIRST DAY.

AND SHE WOULD BE **ANNE** FOREVER MORE.

WHAT IS THE ANSWER, ANNE?

HOWARD, IT IS A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU.

MY NAME IS **ANNE!**

SHE WAS VERY SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT HER BOY'S NAME. IN FACT, IT WAS LEGALLY CHANGED WHEN SHE WAS SEVEN.

SHE LOVED THE SENSUOUS AND SINISTER STREETS OF HER HOMETOWN, THE SHADOWS OF THE NIGHT, THE ROMANCE OF THE ST. CHARLES STREETCAR, THE CREEPY EVENING BREEZE FROM THE MISSISSIPPI.*

SHE LOVED ONE HOUSE THAT WAS RUMORED TO HOUSE THE DEVIL AND HIS MISTRESS.

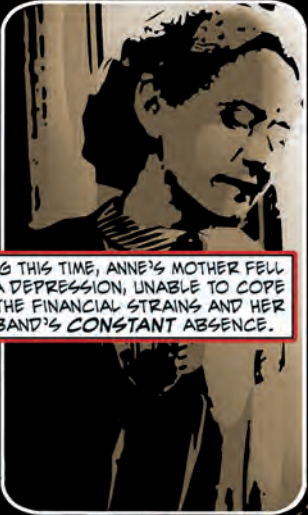
*FROM THE NY TIMES 11/7/88

AS YOUNG AS TEN, SHE WAS ALREADY A BUSY STORYTELLER.

SHE WROTE PLAYS AND COMPLEX TALES OFTEN USING FANTASTICAL THEMES.

IN FACT SHE WOULD RETURN TO THIS TIME AND PLACE WHEN SHE PUBLISHED HER FIRST SHORT STORY IN 1965 CALLED "OCTOBER 4, 1948"





SHE DESCENDED
INTO ALCOHOLISM.

DURING THIS TIME, ANNE'S MOTHER FELL
INTO A DEPRESSION, UNABLE TO COPE
WITH THE FINANCIAL STRAINS AND HER
HUSBAND'S **CONSTANT ABSENCE.**



ANNE DESCRIBED HER MOTHER AS
"A BIT OF A BOHEMIAN, A BIT OF
MAD WOMAN, A BIT OF A GENIUS."

OFTEN IT IS JUST THOSE
QUALITIES THAT DRIVE A
PERSON TO DRINK.



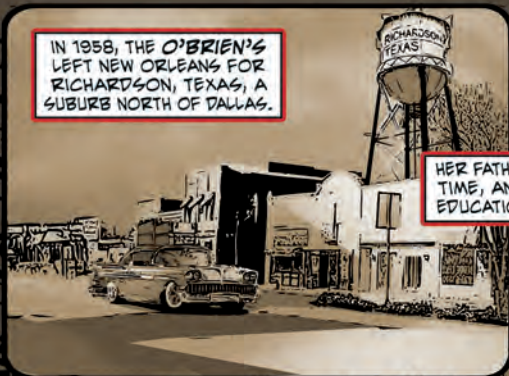
IN 1956, KATHERINE O'BRIEN
PASSED AWAY FROM COMPLICATIONS
CONNECTED TO HER ALCOHOLISM.

ANNE WAS ONLY FIFTEEN.



HER DEATH HAD A
LIFE-LONG IMPACT
ON YOUNG ANNE.

IN 1958, THE O'BRIEN'S LEFT NEW ORLEANS FOR RICHARDSON, TEXAS, A SUBURB NORTH OF DALLAS.



HER FATHER REMARRIED AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, ANNE WAS EXPOSED TO SECULAR EDUCATION AT RICHARDSON HIGH SCHOOL.



IT WAS THERE THAT SHE FOUND A NEW WORLD OF INFORMATION FROWNED UPON BY THE CHURCH.



AND MET STAN RICE.



TWO FOR BEN...

"SOME LIKE IT HOT."

TICKETS

HOWEVER, THEY DIDN'T BEGIN DATING UNTIL THE SUMMER ANNE GRADUATED IN 1959.

STAN WAS STILL A SENIOR WHEN ANNE BEGAN TAKING CLASSES AT A TEXAS WOMAN'S COLLEGE IN DENTON.

I FELL COMPLETELY IN LOVE WITH STAN, AND I'M *STILL* COMPLETELY IN LOVE WITH HIM. IT'S A PASSIONATE, *STORMY* LOVE.

THE FEROCITY OF OUR ARGUMENTS FRIGHTENS AWAY MANY PEOPLE AND OUR AFFECTION FOR EACH OTHER INSPIRES THEM.





ALTHOUGH STAN
MOVED TO DENTON
AFTER GRADUATION,
ANNE HAD ALREADY
DECIDED TO MOVE
WEST: TO SAN
FRANCISCO.

FOR ABOUT A YEAR,
THEIR ONLY CONTACT
WAS THROUGH LETTERS...

OCTOBER 14, 1961.

I DO.

WESTERN UNION
TELEGRAM
Marry Me.
Love Stan.

...UNTIL A SPECIAL
TELEGRAM IN
SPRING OF '61.

IT WAS A LOVE AFFAIR THAT
WOULD LAST UNTIL STAN'S
PASSING 41 YEARS LATER.