













a 30th Anniversary Collection

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## INTRODUCTION

The idea to create a trilogy of Tank Girl books had been kicking around for a long time, but somehow, as usual, the girl refused to fit the format. Traditionally, Tank Girl has always worked best in small bursts — stand alone stories that you can digest in the space of five minutes, before letting your short attention span wander on to the next whimsical waste of time.

With the thirtieth anniversary of Tank Girl's first publication looming, it felt like the right time to produce something of substance, something epic, so I brought the idea of the trilogy to the table once more. This time it seemed to fit: the "Magic 3" was present — three girls reunited, three decades to celebrate, three consecutive books — and, with Brett Parson on board as artist, we had a team with the chops to take on the gargantuan task.

I wanted to bring back a character that we had killed off a long, long time ago, and I felt this resurrection needed to be executed with some gravity, and with a darker tone than our usual

slapstick, *Looney Tunes* approach. I conceived the first part as a tragedy, a chance to really put the characters through the wringer, see what they're made of, and end that book on a real downer.

But I couldn't leave it there — Tank Girl is a humour comic after all — so in the second act the whole thing deconstructs into a blizzard of pastiche, pop-culture references, and piss-taking familiar Tank Girl territory.

Finally, in the last book of the trilogy, the story builds to a convoluted climax, before it folds back in on itself and disappears up its own rear-end.

Classic Tank Girl? We hope so, we gave it everything we had.

This hefty tome contains all of it, plus everything else that was flying around during the two years of its creation — character sketches, vehicle designs, and library of guest artist covers. It's something to digest slowly and savour, and maybe pass down from generation to generation, kinda like a family bible.

We hope you enjoy the ride, we did!

Alan Martin Routin Linn, Northumberland May 2018





















































