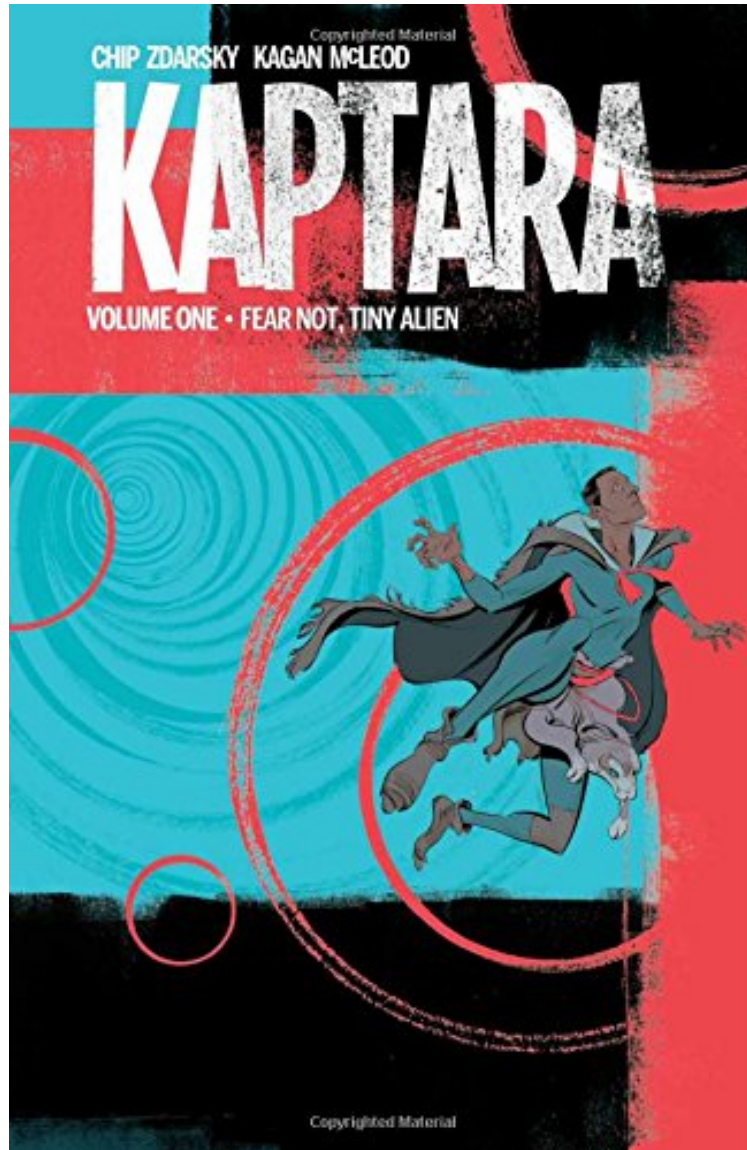


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## Kaptara Volume 1: Fear Not, Tiny Alien (Kaptara Tp)

Chip Zdarsky

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**Chip Zdarsky : Kaptara Volume 1: Fear Not, Tiny Alien (Kaptara Tp)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kaptara Volume 1: Fear Not, Tiny Alien (Kaptara Tp):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. It Has Its MomentsBy Pop BopI was initially drawn to this TP, (it collects the first five issues of the "Kaptara" comic), because it was written by Chip Zdarsky, who was involved in one of my favorite comics, "Sex Criminals". This is no "Sex Criminals" but, as noted above, it has its moments.The book starts with a zig before it makes a huge zag. We open on a space cruiser headed somewhere. On board is Keith Kanga,

a bored science officer, who spends the first few pages annoying the other crewmen and generally being a smartmouth pain. It looks like the book is going to be one of those long, tedious "crew conflict" dramas. Yecchh. But wait. The ship is pulled into a transdimensional/wormhole/anomaly thingy and everyone ejects in pods and lands on the unknown planet Kaptara. Some live, some die, some live for a while and then die. Again, nothing new and nothing to look at here, folks. But then Keith is saved from a creature by a sword wielding boy scoutish he-man, and the whole book changes direction, tone, feel and mood. Kaptara is a seriously weird planet populated by seriously weird creatures and suddenly we're in the world of sci-fi comedy. It's sort of Scooby-Doo meets He-Man, meets Alice in Wonderland, in a brightly colored Dali-esque acid-trip world. NO SPOILERS HERE, but Keith drops his slacker wise-ass persona and ends up in a quest group that's part the gang from "Wizard of Oz" and part "Fellowship of the Ring". Briefly, we end up with a deadpan funny classic armored hero, a drinking buddy Lothario feckless prince, an old-fart wizard, and various other companions, (and a "motivational orb"). We encounter, fight, or befriend, (or all three), a wide variety of strange characters. There's a villain and some plots and pretty much everything but the kitchen sink. The humor runs from juvenile to stupid to witty and clever. Lots of F-bombs and some smirky sex jokes and some funny adult sex jokes. There are some amusing set pieces, and occasionally a really sharp throw-away bit of humor. It's just all over the place, and Keith, of all people, ends up being the bemused guy around whom it revolves and who sort of keeps it all together. The weirdness is enhanced by the drawing, which is cartoony and intentionally over the top. No character gets two arms, when four would be better. Sometimes it looks like "Mad Magazine" and sometimes it looks like R. Crumb, and sometimes it looks like Disney on peyote. I saw this blurred somewhere by John Waters, (who wrote and directed "Pink Flamingos"), and I sort of get the connection. So, there you go. As I say, a sci-fi comedy that has its moments. (Please note that I received a free advance will-self-destruct-in-x-days Adobe Digital copy of this book in exchange for a candid review. Apart from that I have no connection at all to either the author or the publisher of this book.)

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting humor book ended too soon. By Kid Kyoto

Keith Kanga is an underachieving scientist on a space mission suddenly stranded on a world of swords and sorcery on a quest to save the Earth. It's easy to write off Kaptara as a simple parody, you'll see a bit of the Smurfs, a bit of Lord of the Rings, a bit of Scooby Doo and a whole lot of He-Man in there. But there's more to it. The characters are surprisingly fleshed out, the heroes and villains become more than just one-off jokes. The plot takes a lot of abrupt turns, as characters who seemed important are cast off or sent away from the spotlight, while the humor characters become more serious. But it's hard to tell if that was by design or just a case of the creator trying to find his voice. The art is cartoony but also has some really interesting visuals that reminded me of Brandon Graham's trippy King City or Prophet. In the end this book suffers because it was obviously intended to last longer and just stops. But it's been over a year since an issue of the comic came out so it seems unlikely there will be a volume two. It's a bit of shame, but this book, while good, is not really something we can't live without.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Like... they're racist? But toward races I haven't even met yet? That may not even exist? Does that make sense?

By Zachary T

By the end of the trade I was liking where the story was going, but I almost stopped reading by the end of the first issue. I mean the first issue, characters who are suppose to be astronauts on the way to Mars, who all act like a bunch of petulant douchbags. Now I know that it was not a NASA operation, and that the mission was privately funded, but the characters and the dialogue, terrible. I could understand if this was a future where space travel was a day to day operation, but nothing in the story has led me to believe this. Minor Spoiler, they crash into a mysterious planet, that looks appears to operate like a combination of Alice in wonderland, HeMan, and a Lovecraft story. Once the "Quest" starts the world picks up and becomes a little funny and some funny characters get introduced, but the story is pretty predictable and bland. However I still want to see where the characters are going to go, just hope that the story picks up.

Keith Kanga crash lands on KAPTARA, a world filled with danger and weird danger and dangerous weirdos! And if he can't survive, then Earth, the place where YOU live, is doomed! Come check out this sci-fi comedy from Chip Zdarsky (SEX CRIMINALS) and Kagan McLeod (Infinite Kung-Fu). Collects KAPTARA #1-5.

"Epic, exciting."--ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY "I wish I could look and act like a villain written and drawn by Chip Zdarsky and Kagan McLeod." -John Waters "Holy ---- John Waters I love your work" -Matt Fraction (SEX CRIMINALS) "Chip Zdarsky has been charming the comics community with his art on Sex Criminals and his writing on Howard the Duck, not to mention his obsession with Applebee's, and his out-there, unpredictable personality is channeled into every page.... KAPTARA is an exciting and smart comic."--IGN "There are no rules with Zdarsky's science-fiction fantasy KAPTARA ... a captivating, genre-bending narrative with lush, wildly imaginative visuals. It's a very different book than Howard the Duck, but the two titles share a cheeky wit that reads as distinctly Zdarsky, establishing a writing voice that is as strong and confident as his work as an artist."--LOS ANGELES TIMES/ HERO COMPLEX "Kagan McLeod's work ... has something for everyone. His characters are spindly and Steve Ditko-esque but also very detailed..... From the very first page, he thrusts us into a world that we are sure is not our own and that we

want to learn more about."--NEWSARAMA