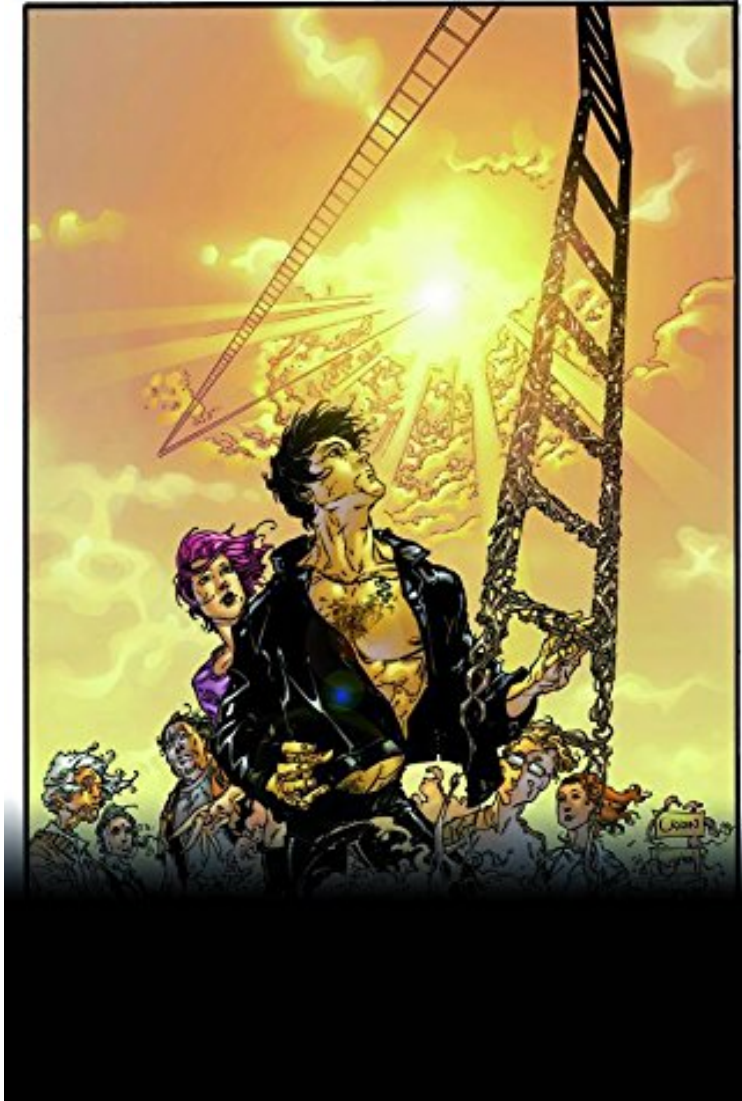


## Tom Judge: The Rapture

*Paul Jenkins*

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#2101303 in Books 2004-10-05Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.00 x .50 x 6.40l, 1.22 #File Name: 1582403899224 pages | File size: 18.Mb

**Paul Jenkins : Tom Judge: The Rapture** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tom Judge: The Rapture:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "First" Introduction to Tom Judge and The RaptureBy BobBesides The Darkness, Tom Judge is my favorite character in the Top Cow universe who I think is criminally underrated. After reading their Artifacts storyline and seeing it come to a close, I decided to look up and see if Tom Judge ever had his own series that introduced him and told his story. Luckily that story is here and it's a good one. I won't discuss the plot

in detail like another reviewer did, but I will say it's awesome. Just the issue alone where Tom goes on a journey through hell to find Jackie Estacado is exciting and provides an interesting take on the underworld which in this case is not necessarily just for the bad people. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very good story! bad binding By fan Very good story by Paul Jenkins! I loved the character of Tom Judge, although it has its similarities with Constantine. Besides that, it is a very good story and the art is awesome and supports very well the story! bad points: 1) the main story is not finished. Originally, it was supposed to be a 12 issue story, but it finished at issue #8. To cope with this, this book comes with Tom Judge: End of days, that puts an ending to it and is a very good story too. 2) the binding is very poor. I start reading the book and the first pages fell down. If you don't care about the binding, I'll surely recommend this story. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. The Devil Takes a Vacation By Tim Janson Tom Judge: The Rapture reprints issues #1 - 8 of Universe and Tom Judge: End of days into this massive trade paperback. The Rapture is another ancient artifact along the lines of the Witchblade and The Darkness, also from Top Cow. Tom Judge is a drunken, former priest. He left the church when his advice to a man resulted in the man killing his wife and children brutally. Tom comes into possession of the Rapture, a necklace with a symbol similar to a Knights Templar cross. This allows him to become the physical manifestation of the biblical Rapture, having to do with the End of Days and Christ's return. Judge finds all this out from Tilly Grimes, a former government agent who's just blown up Tom's apartment. Grimes warns Tom that the end of Days is coming and that he can prevent it. Tom meets Nick, aka the Devil. The devil reveals some secrets to Tom, most notably that EVERY person, no matter how good they may have been in life, goes to Hell. Souls are like money or stocks in Hell. The more souls you possess, the more powerful you become. But on a somewhat sympathetic note, the souls also ease the torment of demons which is why they strive so hard to get them. Nick also reveals that he's given up his throne in hell to become a human. His departure leaves a foreboding void in Hell as the remaining demons and angels from above vie to control the infernal realm. Tom now knows two things. First, that he is fated to be the one person to decide the balance of power in hell. Second, Tom finds that he can free souls from hell by giving them hope. Grimes' former superior Mr. Black wants the Rapture for himself. He's dealt his soul to several different demons and has no intention of giving it up. Through the use of powerful technology, and an army of loyal demons, he's developed a plot to claim Hell and the necklace for his own. Tom Tilly, along with a group of eclectic followers, must figure out a way to stop Mr. Black and save existence. Back in the 1980's during Alan Moore's brilliant and terrifying run on Swamp Thing there was a story he did in Swamp Thing Annual #2 where Swamp Thing must journey to hell to recover the soul of Abigail Arcane. It was the most terrifying, and maddening view of hell ever laid out in a comic book, or anywhere else for that matter. It was a bleak world of despair and hopelessness. Tom Judge: The Rapture has managed to surpass that desolate exhibit. The Hell of this story is all the more dismal knowing that it is the fate of all men and that souls are gathered up like a vacuum gathers confetti after a party. Going one step further, writer Paul Jenkins infuses his Hell with a acerbic bit of humor as we see a demonic stock exchange where the souls of school teachers, Mother Superiors, and southern televangelists are traded like commodities. It's a Hell where Charon, the boatman to the River Styx now drives a taxi. Jenkins also introduces one of the more mysterious characters of the book, the Conductor, who carries souls and demons aboard a train to the seventh layer of Hell from which no one has ever returned. It's important to have art that captures the feel of such a place and such a story and Clayton Crain and Jonathan Glapion did a masterful job. The demons they bring to life are chaos personified. And I must also give a nod off to the colorists who worked on the book as their work perfectly complemented the art in capturing that feel of dread and gloom. I hadn't read this title in its comic form so it was a joy to sit down and read the entire story at once. Highly recommended! Reviewed By Tim Janson

The events that will rock the Top Cow Universe got their start here!