

EMBARGOED UNTIL JULY 11, 2016:

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SOUPY LEAVES HOME AND COMES TO DARK HORSE
Dark Horse announces release of a new Cecil Castellucci graphic novel

MILWAUKIE, Ore., July 11, 2016 — Dark Horse is proud to announce the launch of the original graphic novel *Soupy Leaves Home*, written by Eisner nominee Cecil Castellucci (*The P.L.A.I.N. Janes*, *Janes in Love*) and illustrated by Jose Pimienta (*The Leg*, *From Scratch*).

The graphic novel follows Pearl “Soupy” Plankette, a young girl who runs away from home to escape her abusive father and an unhappy future. Disguised and reborn as a boy named Soupy, she finds a kindred spirit in Remy “Ramshackle” Renault, a hobo who helps her navigate life on the rails. Together, the two try to survive life in Depression-era America by hopping trains to get to California.

Winner of the Joe Shuster Award in the Outstanding Canadian Comic Book Writer category, Cecil Castellucci has built a successful career in creating engaging content for young adults: “When you write stories, you are a bit of a time traveler. When you write for young people you are often going to a time and place with them for the first time, which is beyond exciting. I knew that during the Depression, many young people took to the rails, and train travel and hobo signs have always fascinated me. In *Soupy Leaves Home*, I wanted to write about a girl who feels as though her whole world is shut down, by the time she lives in, the family she has, the gender that she is, until she abandons her old self and finds a new secret world that opens up to her and shows her the way through her own depression.”

Cecil Castellucci will attend the 2016 San Diego Comic-Con and will host a signing on Saturday, July 23, 2016 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. *Soupy Leaves Home* goes on sale April 19, 2017.

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About Dark Horse

For 30 years, Dark Horse Comics has proven to be a solid example of how integrity and innovation can help broaden a unique storytelling medium and establish a small, homegrown company as an industry giant. Founded in 1986 by Mike Richardson, the company is known for the progressive and creator-friendly atmosphere it provides for writers and artists. In addition to publishing comics from top talent, such as Eric Powell, Mike Mignola, Geof Darrow, Brian Wood, Gail Simone, Stan Sakai, and Guillermo del Toro, and comics legends, such as Will Eisner, Milo Manara, Kazuo Koike, Neil Gaiman, and Frank Miller, Dark Horse has developed its own successful properties, such as *The Mask*, *Ghost*, *X*, and *Barb Wire*. Its successful line of comics, manga, and products based on popular properties includes *Dragon Age*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Aliens*, *Conan*, *Tomb Raider*, *Halo*, *The Witcher*, *Serenity*, *Game of*

Thrones, and *Avatar: The Last Airbender*. Today Dark Horse Comics is the largest independent comic book publisher in the US and is recognized as one of the world's leading entertainment publishers.