



**BLACK
CROWN**

#1

lodger

oct2018

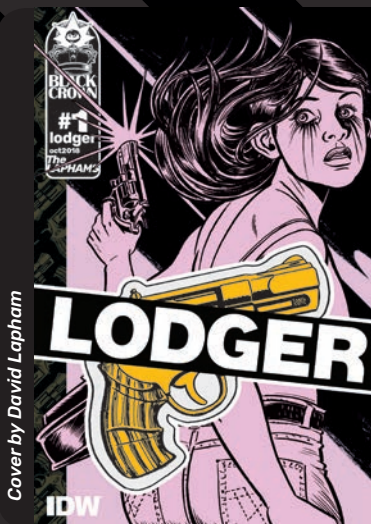
**The
LAPHAMS**

LODGER

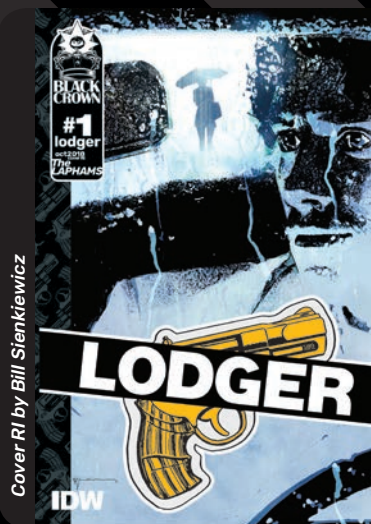
IDW

LODGER

part one:
EXISTENTIAL CRISIS IN BLOSSOM
written by David & Maria Lapham
cover and art by David Lapham
variant cover by Bill Sienkiewicz
edited by Shelly Bond
LODGER is created by The Laphams



Cover by David Lapham



Cover RI by Bill Sienkiewicz



BLACK CROWN HQ
 Shelly Bond, Editor • Chase Marotz, Associate Editor • Arlene Lo, Proofreader
 Philip Bond, logo, publication design and general dogsbody • Greg Goldstein, President & Publisher

BLACK CROWN is a fully functioning curation operation based in Los Angeles by way of IDW Publishing.
 Accept No Substitutes!

For international rights, contact licensing@idwpublishing.com

IDW[®]
www.IDWPUBLISHING.com

Greg Goldstein, President & Publisher • John Barber, Editor-in-Chief • Robbie Robbins, EVP/ Sr. Art Director • Cara Morrison, Chief Financial Officer • Matthew Ruzicka, Chief Accounting Officer • Anita Frazier, SVP of Sales and Marketing • David Hedgecock, Associate Publisher • Jerry Bennington, VP of New Product Development • Lorelei Bunjes, VP of Digital Services • Justin Eisinger, Editorial Director, Graphic Novels and Collections • Eric Moss, Sr. Director, Licensing & Business Development

Ted Adams, IDW Founder

Facebook: facebook.com/idwpublishing • Twitter: [@idwpublishing](https://twitter.com/idwpublishing) • YouTube: youtube.com/idwpublishing
 Tumblr: tumblr.idwpublishing.com • Instagram: instagram.com/idwpublishing



LODGER #1. OCTOBER 2018. FIRST PRINTING. © and ™ Lapham, Inc. © 2018 Idea and Design Works, LLC. All Rights Reserved. IDW Publishing, a division of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Editorial offices: 2765 Truxtun Road, San Diego, CA 92106. The IDW logo is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Printed in Korea.
 IDW Publishing does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork.

EXISTENTIAL CRISIS IN BLOSSOM

I had just spent nearly two months traveling through the middle northern states. In town after town I found people relentlessly beset by hardship and injustice.

And though I had met many wonderful people, it had all taken its toll, and I found myself sitting in my room every night or on long bus rides just staring at the wallpaper or out the window into nothingness.

A little R&R was required or my next post might have come from the bottom of Lake Superior.

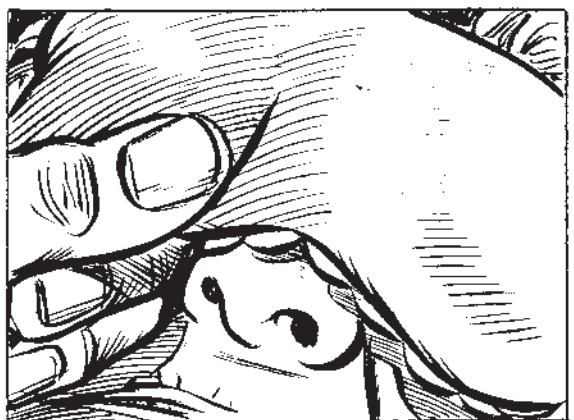
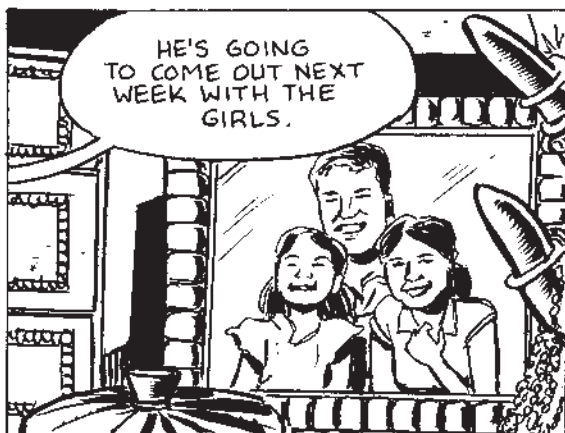
Blossom sits at the northern tip of Michigan, along the southern shore of Lake Superior, and east of Keweenaw Bay and the L'Anse Chippewa Indian Reservation.

It's a small town of 1,400 people, split pretty evenly between the Chippewa and white folk, most of whom are of Scandinavian descent and can literally trace their roots back to the fucking Vikings.

From Flint I came by bus, which you all know is my preferred mode of travel.

Not only do you get to relax and see the country, there're always interesting people to meet.





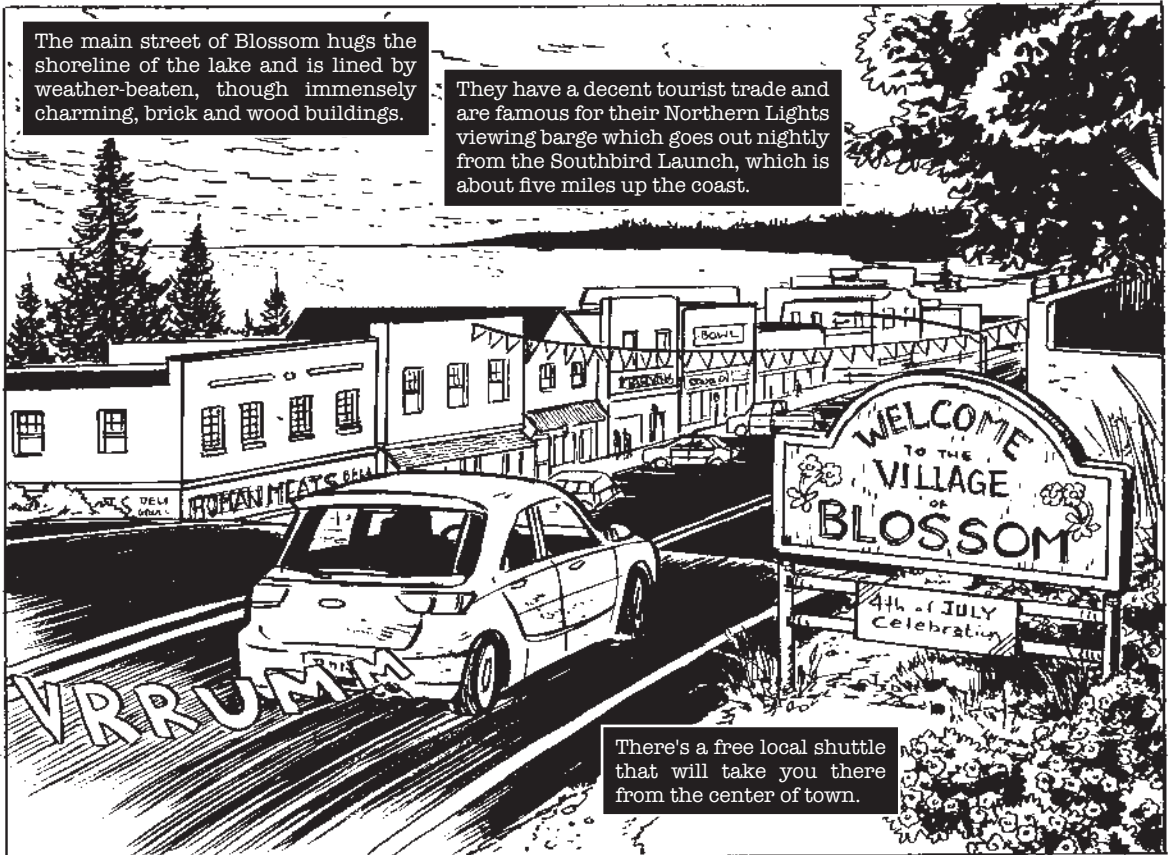
This time was no different, and I passed the nine-hour bus ride losing a brand new toothbrush and two boxes of granola bars in a poker game with two Native American brothers.



I had intended on going on to Winnipeg, but when we pulled into the Blossom Depot for a stretch, I knew I had come far enough.

The main street of Blossom hugs the shoreline of the lake and is lined by weather-beaten, though immensely charming, brick and wood buildings.

They have a decent tourist trade and are famous for their Northern Lights viewing barge which goes out nightly from the Southbird Launch, which is about five miles up the coast.



There's a free local shuttle that will take you there from the center of town.

