

EDDIE VAN HELSING

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Eddie Van Helsing

12 years old. Grandson of legendary monster hunter Abraham Van Helsing. Plans to be a rock star but the only thing standing in his way is the family business. Well... that and the whole guitar playing thing. I mean, how hard can it be? (Don't answer that.)

Abraham Van Helsing

Retired, legendary monster hunter whose old foes have moved in right next door. He's the only one who seems to care about this. Grumpy old man. With a bathrobe. And slippers. And stakes. Wants Eddie to follow in his monster hunting footsteps. Definitely unimpressed with that racket in his garage.



Mummy Girl

Very, very old and a little musty. Face it, it's not easy being the oldest seventh grader in history. Back in Ancient Egypt she was worshipped as a child goddess, but that isn't going to help her with her math homework. Musical genius who loves pounding on things—usually drums—but her parents would rather she keep it under wraps.

Invisible Boy

He's a boy. And he's invisible. He's lonely and ignored—it's as if everyone looks right through him. He claims to be a dead ringer for Dylan O'Brien, but no one can see him, so who knows! He hopes laying down some heavy bass lines will get him the attention he craves.



Dracula Jr.

Coolest kid in school though maybe his hypnotic powers have something to do with it. Has no desire to join the band whatsoever. You know that kid who's really annoyingly good at piano and can just rock out on Bach at the drop of a hat? Now imagine he's a vampire who listens to a lot of obscure music from the 80s. 1980s, that is.



Wolf Girl

A werewolf. Who turns into a girl whenever there's a full moon. Sheds a lot. Sings better than anybody else at school. Spends way too much money on shampoo. She's only joining the band in order to "get chicks." Lovestruck Eddie mistakenly thinks she means chickens.



EDDIE VAN HELSING – Book 1 Synopsis

EDDIE VAN HELSING just attended his first rock concert, and he's inspired to start his own band and attain superstardom with his mad guitar skills. Pretty ambitious for a 12-year-old.

But GRANDPA ABE insists Eddie take up the family business. "Wouldn't you rather be a monster hunter like your Grandpa Abe?" "Grandpa! Don't use the M-word! That's hate speech!" "You're darn right! I hate monsters!" Eddie runs to his room in a huff.

The next day in school, we learn why Eddie was so upset. Many of his classmates are monsters, descended from their famous grandparents, who also happen to be Abraham Van Helsing's greatest enemies. Eddie's friend, a human, declines to join the band, but says he'd serve as its MANAGER. Eddie's top target is DRACULA JUNIOR, the most popular and coolest kid in school. (His powers of hypnosis may have something to do with it.)

Eddie gives his best sales pitch to Dracula Junior, who couldn't care less. At the Manager's suggestion, Eddie looks to add a member with some musical talent. Enter MUMMY GIRL. She's all about the music, often annoyingly so, but she gives the band a strong backbeat.

Summoned to the garage by an awful racket, Grandpa recoils at the sight of Mummy Girl banging her drums. "Sorry, Grandpa. Were we too loud? That's awesome! But if we're bothering you, we can just jam at Mummy Girl's tomb." Grandpa Abe quickly backpedals.

Mummy Girl suggests her friend LIL' PHANTOM from Drama Club, but after a visit to the Opera House he's deemed too dramatic. The Manager lines up an audition for GILL GIRL. She's a good fit but must remain wet to survive, which causes her to be electrocuted by mics and amps. "Have you guys considered going acoustic?"

Breakthrough! The Manager lands the band's first gig: as the musical act for the school's fall festival. This could be the big break that launches Eddie to fame and fortune! All he has to do is finish putting the band together. A cakewalk, right?

Eddie posts a Bassist Wanted flyer on the school bulletin board, which runs him afoul of the HALL MONITORS. And when the tryout finally comes, only one kid shows up.

Though he has a cool standup bass shaped like a coffin, KID FRANKENSTEIN gets spooked when sparks spray from the equipment, still damp from Gill Girl. The band throws in the towel just as someone notices a bass guitar in an otherwise empty chair. It's INVISIBLE BOY, who's also the quiet one, unfortunately. But he's happy to finally have found some friends.

After the tryout, they are confronted by a group of JOCKS from the basketball team who don't want Eddie to start a band because they planned to play the fall festival as a rap group. Eddie stands up to them, but Mummy Girl becomes unraveled and Invisible Boy disappears.

The next day at school, Eddie finds the PREPS shaming Mummy Girl for wearing “literal rags.” But one of the Preps, WOLF GIRL, comes to Mummy Girl’s defense. Of course, Eddie falls head over heels. He flatters Wolf Girl into becoming their lead singer, which she hopes will help her “get chicks.” Eddie mistakenly thinks she’s talking about actual chickens.

But the band is formed and they can play the fall festival! Cue fun practice montage!

The fall festival has come and Eddie’s band performs... for a cakewalk. So lame. Eddie’s MOM and Grandpa Abe are there, too. So very lame. The Preps start making fun of Mummy Girl again and also turn on Wolf Girl, bashing her singing. The Jocks show up and threaten Eddie with a beating for stealing their gig. Then the Hall Monitors threaten to kick them all out.

But Dracula Junior arrives, capturing all the attention. He joins the band on stage, and they play through the night as the Preps, Jocks, and Hall Monitors each get their comeuppance.

When the cakewalk ends, all the other girls in the school mob Wolf Girl and Mummy Girl. They love Wolf Girl’s vocal stylings and love that she’s the face of the band even more. They also love Mummy Girl’s Animal-esque intensity and love her unique fashion sense even more. The Preps stand off to the side in disdain watching their popularity sink by the second.

The Hall Monitors spot someone in the halls who takes off running. Is it Dracula Junior? They chase the perp until they literally run into the PRINCIPAL. “You know the rules, no running in the hallway.” “But there was... an unauthorized...” A bat flies over their heads escaping their notice. “There’s no one else in this wing. Running in the halls, and lying? I don’t think I can trust you with the sacred duty of the hall monitor any longer.”

The Jocks corner Eddie and give him a beating. But he’s not afraid. And he’s not alone. Invisible Boy has gotten on all fours behind the alpha Jock, and Eddie pushes him right over. The Jock lands hard and the rest scatter before he follows, beating a hasty retreat.

EDDIE VAN HELSING - Book 2

Eddie and his friends have finally formed a rockin' band, so now what...? The inevitable break up, of course! With everyone going their separate ways and the pressure from his grandfather to take up the family mantle of monster hunter increasing, can Eddie get the band back together? And will he ever learn that awesome solo from that one song he really likes? You know the one. It goes, 'dunt du-du-dunt du-du-dunt du-du-rheeeee'. Total shredding.

EDDIE VAN HELSING - Book 3

It's the annual Battle of the Bands and Eddie and his friends are determined to win. Unfortunately for them, so are all other bands. And the other bands aren't afraid to get their hands (and claws and tentacles) a little dirty. It's utter chaos as the competitors try to sabotage their way to the number one spot and the big prize — a recording session at the legendary Full Moon Studios!

CREATOR BIOS

MATTHEW DOW SMITH is a writer and comic book artist who has worked for nearly every major American comic book publisher. His art has appeared in DC's SUICIDE SQUAD: HELL TO PAY, Mike Mignola's HELLBOY, and Marvel's UNCANNY X-MEN. He was the long-time artist on IDW's X-FILES comic, as well as the writer of their Middle Grade X-Files comic book series, X-FILES: ORIGINS. He is the writer/artist of the upcoming THE OCTOBER GIRL graphic novel series, which is currently in development as a television series, and wrote the final book of Archaia Publishing's Dark Crystal prequel graphic novel series, DARK CRYSTAL: CREATION MYTHS, and recently wrote his first story for DC.

DENTON J. TIPTON is a *New York Times* best-selling graphic novelist and a group editor at IDW Publishing. His credits include THE X-FILES, TRANSFORMERS, G.I. JOE: RISE OF COBRA, and ORPHAN BLACK: HELSINKI. A former newspaper journalist, his literary influences include Hunter S. Thompson, Ernest Hemingway, Dashiell Hammett, Elmore Leonard and Philip K. Dick. He lives in San Diego with his wife, their son, and his best friend, Buster.

CHRIS FENOGLIO is an artist, colorist, designer, and teacher of all things comic book. He has done work on books such as GOOSEBUMPS: MONSTERS AT MIDNIGHT, X-FILES: ORIGINS, and ORPHAN BLACK. He also has a webcomic Chris & Christina which his mom thinks is funny.





