



Hatter M #1



Title: **The Looking Glass Wars**
Published By: **Desperado Comics**
Writer: **Frank Beddor and Liz Cavalier**
Artist: **Ben Templesmith**
Reviewed by: **Robert Taylor**



Here's a comic I probably would have overlooked, yet what a mistake that would have been. Though named Hatter M and titled The Looking Glass Wars, it has less in common with Alice in Wonderland and more in common with a great period action film. It's enjoyable and a great diversion from the usual stuff you find on the stands every month.

It's 1859 and a warrior from another world has entered gay Paris through a puddle of water. One of his greatest weapons is his hat, which he accidentally loses upon entering Paris. He goes on a quest to track down his magical hat, and encounters quite a few interesting characters along the way.

The story is at times sweet, raw, inventive and hilarious. The idea that anything can happen at any given time gives the book an air of creativity that I loved to feel, one minute the hero is trapped in a rolled up carpet and the next he is waxing lyrical with Jules Verne. I hesitate to even try to put the book into any category, because it fits in so many so well, so I'll just recommend it to those who want a really well-crafted storyline.

I normally loathe Ben Templesmith's artwork, but it works for the story here because it makes the story feel like a fable. Some of the work late in the book, most notably on a train is less than great, but for the most part Templesmith pleasantly surprised me.

I know that my review cannot possibly begin to accurately describe just how different and special Hatter M is in a market that is so often becoming one-note. Here is an inventive energetic story, and the only way for you to understand that is to pick up the book yourself and give it a try.