



# Nimona

*Noelle Stevenson*

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**Nimona** Noelle Stevenson

Nemeses! Dragons! Science! Symbolism!

Nimona is an impulsive young shapeshifter with a knack for villainy. Lord Ballister Blackheart is a villain with a vendetta. As sidekick and supervillain, Nimona and Lord Blackheart are about to wreak some serious havoc. Their mission: prove to the kingdom that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes everyone thinks they are.

But as small acts of mischief escalate into a vicious battle, Lord Blackheart realizes that Nimona's powers are as murky and mysterious as her past. And her unpredictable wild side might be more dangerous than he is willing to admit.

## Nimona Details

Date : Published May 12th 2015 by HarperTeen

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Author : Noelle Stevenson

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# From Reader Review Nimona for online ebook

## Raeleen Lemay says

hilarious, touching, with beautiful art and an interesting ending.

Great for fans of Vicious by V.E. Schwab and Rainbow Rowell's Fangirl (because the Simon Snow vibes were strong, let's be real)

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## Jesse (JesseTheReader) says

This was so great! I love Noelle Stevenson's writing & art style. Can she just write a million more graphic novels please?

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## Lola says

*“I can’t have a kid following me around all day.”*

*“I’m not a kid. I’M A SHARK.”*

Pouahaha. What a story! What witty dialogs! Filled with humour, adventure, magic and friendship, it will certainly charm and entertain the hell out of you. This title used to be a DNF of mine, before I decided to give it a second shot. Glad I did! What made me stop reading it the first time around was the graphics, because this is a style that never appealed to me, but truth is, it just grows on you, as do the characters and every other element.

Nimona, huge bear hugs to you. Ballister, you’ve got my admiration. Goldenloin, I want your hair. Noelle Stevenson, I wish you’d write a sequel or an happy-ever-after epilogue. I want to see Ballister & Goldenloin kiss.

**I loved it.**

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## Kristina Horner says

THIS BOOK WAS SO MUCH FUN. IT WAS ABSOLUTELY HILARIOUS AND I LOVED IT FOREVER AND EVER.

Lord Blackheart was such a great, complex character, and Nimona was a star. Goldenloin was everything. I

loved it. Re-reading immediately. Lending it to everyone I know.

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### **Catriona (LittleBookOwl) says**

This was so much fun!

Loved the humour and the characters!

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### **Patrick says**

I'm always willing to pick up an Indie comic, especially one written by a name I recognize. This one did not disappoint.

It's funny at times, sweet at times, pleasantly subversive without being heavy-handed or preachy.

I'm reading through it with my little boy right now, and he's enjoying it too....

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### **Zoë says**

Amazing! I loved the strong, unique characters, the plot, the humor, the art, and everything else!

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### **Cait • A Page with a View says**

What an absolute little gem of a story... this was like the definition of heartwarming and hilarious! I don't read a lot of graphic novels (ok, like none) but I absolutely LOVED this.

It's this awesome mix of medieval + science/technology with magic, knights, dragons, and villains who... save the kingdom? The story was super fun, but THE CHARACTERS ARE SO WELL DONE TOO. Seriously check this out because it's straight up adorable.

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### **Emily May says**

Notorious villain - Ballister Blackheart - gets a new sidekick to help him wreak havoc, obtain vengeance, and fight the Institution. But his new sidekick - Nimona - is a shapeshifter with a mysterious past and a mind of her own. Plus, he also has a love/hate relationship with his friend-turned-nemesis - Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin.

Heroes & villains, science & magic, bloody battles & so many giggles...

Well, I enjoyed it ;)

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### **Whitney Atkinson says**

That ending has me so confused but the art style of this is great and the humor was totally up my alley! But Nimona was definitely not the character I was expecting her to be, and that was kinda upsetting.

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### **Victoria Schwab says**

F\*cking fabulous.

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### **may 🌸 says**

#### **Reasons Why This Graphic Novel is the Best**

##### *1. Nimona*

This girl is my favourite thing in the entire world and if I could just get a book based solely off her adventures I'd be content for the rest of my life

##### *2. Humour*

THIS. BOOK. IS. BLOODY. HILARIOUS.

##### *3. Blackheart*

Do not be fooled by his title of "villain," Blackheart is a marshmallow and the Dad Friend.

##### *4. Villains !!!*

Is there any explanation needed, we all love a bunch of good anti-heroes

##### *5. Action*

This graphic novel was action packed and honestly the greatest thing ever

##### *6. The Extras*

These were just a collection of cute ish that's supposed to make up for the UNWANTED ending

(if these snippets haven't convinced you to read the book then I don't know what will)

Other than that. . .I wasn't a HUGE fan of Goldenlion, he was like Untoasted White Bread admits the story and the ENDING made me wanna riot. It was kinda felt rushed and with a lot of questions floating around and it also made me want to punch a pillow gosH DAMMIT.

But overall THIS WAS SO ENTERTAINING and fun and just absolutely fantastic. Nimona's character was the highlight of the book for me.

I want more Nimona and Blackheart getting into trouble.

4 stars!!

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## **Sean Gibson says**

4.8 Stars

Warning: Spoilers and mawkish sentiment ahead, and very few jokes (though that will be a relief to most of you).

At first blush, *Nimona* is the tale of a precocious but powerful girl's quest to apprentice herself to the villainous Lord Ballister Blackheart as he fights the forces of good and justice, led by the spectacularly appellationed (yes, I just verbed "appellation"...deal with it) Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin. As our tale begins, we learn that Nimona is a shapeshifter and can take the form of any living creature, which makes her a formidable foe indeed, given that she gains the strength, mass, size, and requisite abilities of said creatures, and given that she lives in a world where dragons exist.

The initial chapters read like a throwback to the Sunday funnies—discrete, episodic sequences complete with droll punchlines. "Charming," I thought, settling in for a book-length collection of such strips.

Only not so much.

The book quickly morphs into something more complex, something deeper, something more melancholy—even as it is laugh-out-loud funny at times. Blackheart is a villain who won't kill...and is he even a villain? Goldenloin is a hero with a dark secret representing an institute whose goals may be far more nefarious than anything Blackheart might ever dream up. And Nimona...Nimona is, by turns, a sarcastic girl, a lonely orphan, and a vicious killing machine.

It's impossible not to get instantly sucked into the world Stevenson creates, one where rules and logic are, to quote the great Peter Venkman, more of a guideline than a rule—knights with swords communicate via advanced video technology, and brilliant scientists and technologists discuss the merits and properties of magic. In other words, anything goes, so long as it fits the story. Stevenson's art perfectly suits the world, and she creates fully realized and rendered characters with both words and pictures.

There are some issues—for example, we want our wee Nimona to be a sympathetic character, but she IS a killer, plain and simple, and that doesn't reconcile with how Blackheart in particular feels about her and treats her. But, that notwithstanding, I'm going to go full on fanboy here.

This book is EXACTLY what non-spandex-clad-hero graphic novels should be: heartfelt, personal, and passionately executed. It's the perfect fusion of art and story, of pathos and humor, of grace and glee. The relationship between estranged lovers Blackheart and Goldenloin is beautiful—it's an eloquent, poignant no-statement statement, a romance between two men that requires no soapbox commentary because it's not about social activism, but rather just the timeless tale of two people who love each other (albeit one in which one lover severed the other one's arm and took years to apologize, but that's neither here nor there).

As a reader, I'm thankful that new media allows for so many ways for stories like this to be told and distributed, and for talented storytellers like Stevenson to find an audience.

Okay, okay—enough with the sentimentality. I promise to return to inappropriate scatological humor in my next review.

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### **Shelby \*trains flying monkeys\* says**

Lord Ballister Blackheart is a dastardly villain. Well, not really. He could be with the right little push. Enter Nimona!

Nimona shows up one day and announces that she is now his side kick. She has some kick ass powers of shape-shifting. She can turn into any living thing. Even other human forms. The only form she can't take is something inanimate.

Nimona is primed to help Blackheart be the best super villain ever. If he would let her. She is ready to kill some people including the king. Hey, that's how kingdom's are taken over right?

Blackheart's main nemesis is his old friend Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement. Sir Ambrosius turned against Blackheart years ago and cost Blackheart his arm. (He now has a prosthetic)

Blackheart and Nimona have some fun times.  
Like playing board games together.

Even if he won't let our heroine express her little bloodthirsty heart to the full extent the duo manages to uncover secrets that the Institute wants kept under wraps.

With just small amounts of destruction in their wake....

This book is great fun. I liked Nimona even though she is even more bloodthirsty than I am. Blackheart does well as the somewhat wussy villain and now I'm a convert to even this style of art. It took a few minutes to grow on me but in the end it did and the images fit the story.

Carmen is one of my favorite reviewers on Goodreads. She posts thought provoking and interesting reviews. Be sure and check her out.

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## Nat says

This review contains **\*spoilers\***.

I've been meaning to read this graphic novel for a few months now and I'm really happy that I finally did. It had me hooked right from the beginning and wouldn't let go till the end. I loved it!

This story follows Nimona, a shapeshifter, and Ballister Blackheart, a villain with a vendetta. They are partnering up as sidekick and supervillain, and are about to wreak some serious havoc. Their main mission: prove to the kingdom that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes everyone thinks they are.

Reading **Nimona** was such an exhilarating journey. I felt as if I was right there with Ballister Blackheart and Nimona on their missions. They work so well together and their dialogue left me with the biggest smile on my face.

*"What do you mean, there are rules? Why would you follow the rules? Isn't that the whole point of being a villain, that you don't follow the rules?"*

I loved Nimona as a character, her enthusiasm, relatable humor, and her story really added depth to the plot. She is as unique as the storyline.

I also enjoyed Ballister and Goldenloin, even though they definitely had a complicated journey at the beginning, I really liked them together.

They reminded me a bit of Baz and Simon from Carry On — I love them with all my heart.

Oh, and Doctor Blitzmeyer was a very pleasant surprise. I enjoyed reading about her and I would have loved it if Noelle Stevenson had added her journey to uncover the Anomalous Energy Enhancer.

That ending left me in tears, I couldn't believe it when Nimona didn't get a happy ending. I was incredibly sad about it, that was such an emotional part of the story. I was just listening to sad music with tears in my eyes.

*"Despite this tragedy, we remain united. We will stay strong, and we will rebuild."*

But I kept thinking (until the very last page) 'what about Nimona? She was left all alone at the end.'



I was so thankful for the epilogue. I really thought for a second there that Noelle Stevenson would leave it on a cliffhanger.

So I've heard great things about this graphic novel, but the one that really got my attention was Rainbow Rowell's blurb on the cover: *"Full of humor and heart"*. I couldn't agree more with her, she summed it perfectly up in just those 5 words.

**Nimona** was an adventurous, heart-gripping, and humorous story — with amazing artwork. I love it! Definitely a book that lived up to the hype.

*\*Note: I'm an Amazon Affiliate. If you're interested in buying **Nimona**, just click on the image below to go through my link. I'll make a small commission!\**

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This review and more can be found on my blog.

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