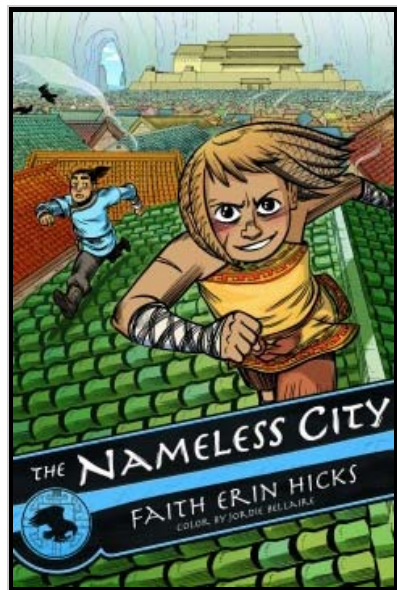


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## The Nameless City

by Faith Erin Hicks, Jordie Bellaire

Price: \$21.99(Hardcover)

Published: April 05, 2016

★★★★★

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**From the Publisher:** Every nation that invades the City gives it a new name. But before long, new invaders arrive and the City changes hands once again. The natives don't let themselves get caught up in the unending wars. To them, their home is the Nameless City, and those who try to name it are forever outsiders. Kaidu is one such outsider. He's a Dao born and bred--a member of the latest occupying nation. Rat is a native of the Nameless City. At first, she hates Kai for everything he stands for, but his love of his new home may be the one thing that can bring these two unlikely friends together. Let's hope so, because the fate of the Nameless City rests in their hands.

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### About The Author

Faith Erin Hicks, Jordie Bellaire

Faith Erin Hicks is a writer and artist in Vancouver, British Columbia. Her graphic novels include *Zombies Calling*, *The War at Ellsmere*, *Brain Camp* (with Susan Kim and Laurence Klavan), *Friends with Boys*, *Nothing Can Possibly Go Wrong* (with Prudence Shen), the Bigfoot Boy series...

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### What We Say

The Nameless City is blessed and cursed by being at a crossroads: in this graphic novel set in an imaginary but very real locale, the Nameless City controls the only passage from a major river to the ocean on the other side of a mountain range. Three great nations battle for control of it, each one holding power for a few decades, re-naming the city and inevitably losing ground to someone else...who then renames the city, holds onto power for a while, then loses power and so on. The people who actually live in the city never bother to name it themselves, choosing instead to simply endure while other nations battle over and around them. Into the middle of this vivid world plops Kaidu, the son of a general. Kaidu feels

drawn to the Nameless City, leaving behind his mother (the leader of their tribe). He's not a great warrior (really, he prefers a good book), but he's open to the charm of this daunting metropolis and refuses to see the locals as trash, the way most of the other young warriors do. Kaidu soon befriends a street urchin named Rat, learns to race across the rooftops like her, appreciates the complexity of this city he's chosen as a home and then discovers a plot to bring it all crashing down. Creator Faith Erin Hicks has done a marvelous job in drawing on classic narratives but making her characters just human and down-to-earth enough to be believable. (Though Rat sure can leap across some mighty chasms.) Hicks employs a wonderfully grounded palette that makes the Nameless City vividly real -- this is no fantasy, though there is no particular real world equivalent at play. Kaidu is appealing, but not a stock hero in waiting; Rat is resourceful, but not so plucky you can't imagine her getting hurt and the other characters follow suit. And the vistas Hicks offers up are truly eye-catching. An excellent launch to a new series. -- Michael Giltz

## What Others Say

"Faith Erin Hicks breathes life into her characters with gale-force winds. *The Nameless City* makes you feel everything its heroes are experiencing inside and out, from adolescent angst to the scrape of terra cotta tiles under a leaping boot." âBryan Konietzko, co-creator of *Avatar: The Last Airbender*

"Faith Erin Hicks is one of the best creators working in graphic novels today and *The Nameless City* is a fantastic introduction to an exciting new series. Looking forward to reading more!" âKazu Kibuishi, author of the Amulet series

"This tale of unexpected alliances has everything: winning characters, a sumptuous setting, and sharp observations about power and history. Hidden depths abound in *The Nameless City*." âScott Westerfeld, author of *Uglies* and *Zeroes*

"The beauty and construction of the Nameless City will leave you breathless. Faith has created a world so detailed and believable, it makes me want to explore the back alleys to see what is there." âJeff Smith, author of the Bone series

"Hicks's sequential artwork is polished, and though males hold nearly all the political power, the female characters are mighty warriors..."

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