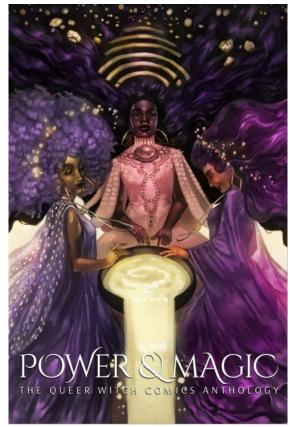
Review: The Queer Witch Comics Anthology Series

Ridley Thomas

The two-volume *Power & Magic: The Queer Witch Comics Anthology Series* (*Power & Magic: The Queer Witch Comics Anthology* and *Immortal Souls*), edited by Joamette Gil, is a masterful collection of beautiful, heartfelt comics with a huge variety of storylines and art types that will resonate with a range of readers. The stories inside are all about queer witches of color, and comics are written and illustrated by women, demigirls, trans feminine, bigender, and genderfluid people of color. Each story has a different style and feel – some are light, fluffy, and cartoonish, others are realistic and dark, and some are more rooted in the real world or fantasy than others – but all are strongly connected by the experiences of their creators. *The Queer Witch Comics Anthology Series* provides readers of all backgrounds with stories from a range of experiences and diverse viewpoints while providing a platform for underrepresented authors to share not only their stories, but the stories they would have wanted to read growing up.



Power and Magic: The Queer Witch Comics Anthology, edited by Joamette Gil Power & Magic Press, 2017 178 pages, Softcover or Digital Download Ages 14+

ISBN: 978-0-9984904-0-3

https://powerandmagicpress.com/

All types of magic are included, from more traditional fantasy magic users to communion with spirits to magical girl necromancers. While recommended for readers age 14+ due to sometimes dark content in particular comics (e.g. injury, terminal cancer, self-harm, and death), authors have provided appropriate content warnings for each comic in the table of contents to make the comic as accessible to as many readers as possible.

Some Selected Comics

"Def Together," by fydbac (fPower & Magic, p. 91-104). A textless comic told through the perspective of a Deaf student of magic who has a strong crush on a Blind magic user. Features a beautiful mix of unique art, visuals, and sign language.

"Songbird for a Vulture," by Naomi Franquiz (Power & Magic, p. 161-174) (content warnings: ritual abuse, blood, physical scars, homelessness). A short comic about a witch who escapes abuse and finds acceptance, gradual healing, and love. Dark content with a beautiful, almost sketchy art style and a heartwarming, hopeful ending.

"Fluid," by Veroica Agerwal (Power & Magic, p. 46-53) (content warnings: misgendering, gender questioning). A bigender witch who is afraid of losing their magic finds help and acceptance. Features a simple, adorable art style and an important message about accepting every part of yourself.

"Magical Girl Crisis," by Patdag (Immortal Souls, p. 5-10). Fae, who wants to be a magical girl, struggles to accept her necromantic family magic until Hazel helps her realize that she is already a magical girl. A cute and heartwarming story about defying expectations and preconceptions.

"Mack Jchi," by Sunny Ôchumuk & Ani Mackie (Immortal Souls p. 21-33). A Wampanoag teenager learns resiliency from an elder and embraces her community. Beautiful art style and strong message.

"Bon Voyage My Chains," by Sonia Liao (Immortal Souls, p. 104-117) (content warning: non-binary person faces mortal danger). Viola, an orphaned witch able to foresee death, escapes from her cruel masters with her twin brother and the help of Pan, a non-binary person who faces rejection and danger from their family. A well-told story with fantastic art and a cute, hopeful ending.



Immortal Souls, edited by Joamette Gil Power & Magic Press, 2018 178 pages, Softcover or Digital Download Ages 14+

ISBN: 978-0-9984904-1-0

https://powerandmagicpress.com/