



# THE MOTHERLESS OVEN

Rob Davis

PRESS  
RELEASE

**Parents don't make children — children make parents.**

This is the world of Scarper Lee. His father is his pride and joy, a wind-powered brass construction with a billowing sail. His mother is a Bakelite hairdryer. It rains knives, and household appliances have souls. There are no birthdays — only deathdays. Scarper's deathday is just three weeks away, and he clings to the mundane repetition of his life at home and high school for comfort.

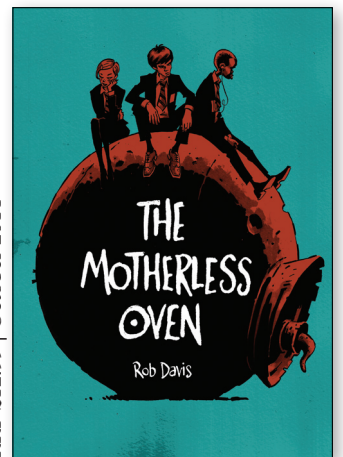
When Scarper's father mysteriously disappears, he sets off to find him with the new girl at school, Vera Pike, and Castro Smith, the weirdest kid in town. Scarper is determined to find him, even if it means going to the source of all creation, the Motherless Oven itself. Facing home truths and knife storms at every turn, will he even survive until deathday?

Rob Davis's dark graphic novel is an odyssey through a bizarre, distorted teenage landscape, drawn in moody black and white. A surreal imaginative adventure that explores the frail nature of our existence, *The Motherless Oven* introduces us to an eccentric set of characters who share our own hopes and fears, and yet inhabit a world that's quite unlike our own. Reminiscent of the films of David Lynch and Terry Gilliam, this is a disturbingly original and prophetic story where the human and mechanical worlds merge. It further demonstrates that Rob Davis has one of the most distinctively inventive voices in UK comics today.

**Rob Davis is appearing at both The Lakes International Comic Art Festival (17-19 Oct) and Thought Bubble in Leeds (9-16 Nov).**



ISBN 978-1-906838-81-2  
B&W | 160pp | Paperback  
RRP £12.99 | October 2014



#### About Author/Artist:

Rob Davis is the writer/artist for the Eisner-nominated adaptation of *The Complete Don Quixote* (SelfMadeHero), which was also nominated for the British Comic Award. Having worked with iconic characters such as *Roy of the Rovers* and *Judge Dredd (Rebellion)*, he has also written and illustrated *Doctor Who* (Panini) and recently adapted H.P. Lovecraft's *The Dunwich Horror*. He edited the Eisner-nominated anthology title, *Nelson*, collaborating with 54 British illustrators. He lives in Dorset.

#### Notes to editors

SelfMadeHero aims to publish works that provoke, entertain, inspire, and inform through visual narratives. We are proud to publish groundbreaking and beautiful work by authors and artists from across the globe, from the quirky and humorous to the political and profound. Releases this Autumn include Jörg Tittel & John Aggs' *Ricky Rouse Has A Gun*, Martin's Rowson's *The Coalition Book*, Jean-Pierre Filiu & David B.'s *Best Of Enemies, Vol. 2*, INJ Culbard's *The Dream-Quest of Unknown Kadath*, and Frederik Peeters' *Aama, Vol 2: The Invisible Throng*.

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