



The Outcast VOL 1

SECRET SOCIETIES AND FALLEN ANGELS ARE COMING TO NEW YORK

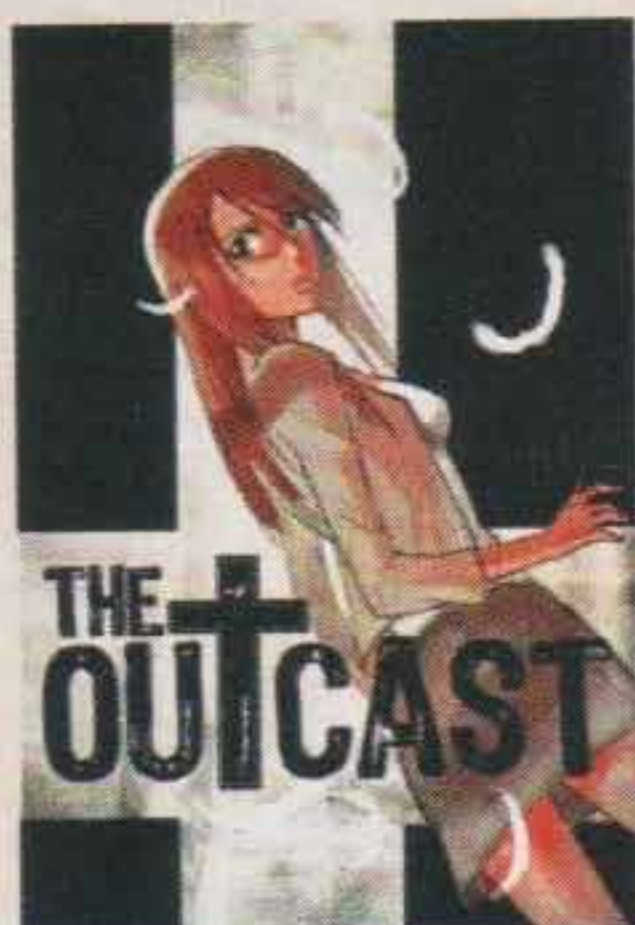
Riley Smythe's parents recently died and she's moved to New York to live with her grandmother Maggie, a theological archaeologist fascinated by a mysterious sect known as the Brotherhood of the Balance. Haunted by nightmares, Riley also has to adjust to a new school with her miniature protector William and his wandering eyes. As she makes new friends and begins to adjust to school, her home life becomes ever more bizarre with the discovery of a mystical box, the only weapon against fallen angels known as The Outcast.

The disappointing thing about *The Outcast* is its pace; the majority of the first volume drip-feeds information. It's a slow story that relishes in the promise of supernatural elements and dangles angels masquerading as humans in front of the reader, just tantalizing

enough to keep you around for Volume 2.

The story is well-constructed (though somewhat predictable) and the artwork catches your eye, managing to look uniquely American while still following the traditional Japanese rules when it comes to character design. Interspersed within the chapters are some great splash pages and the final panel will definitely have you hooked, both for the beauty of the artwork and the revelation it includes.

—Lesley Smith



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