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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Graphic Novel Release: *Imitasyon: The Graphic Novella*
by Peter Paul Payack, Mike Payack & Eugene Damian

CAMBRIDGE, MA – August 2011 – Cambridge cartoonist Peter Paul Payack released his first graphic novel, *Imitasyon: The Graphic Novella*, in August 2011.

J. Patrick Brown, of Boston's *Weekly Dig*, described the graphic novel as "a tautly told thriller, a strange and compelling sort of subtle mystery that can only be appreciated in its entirety. Call it ... 'a gestalt ghost story.'"

Imitasyon is an 80-page graphic novel inspired by the short film, "Imitasyon," an Official Selection in the 2009 Roxbury Film Festival and the 2010 San Diego Black Film Festival. The film was co-written/co-produced by Payack's brother, Mike Payack, and Eugene Damian and directed by Damian. Peter started *Imitasyon* as a semester-long directed study during his senior year at Stonehill College in 2009 and continued it post-graduation.

"I was very intrigued by 'Tattletale' and then by 'Imitasyon,'" said Peter in the graphic novel's afterward. "After seeing Mike's story transform once already, I knew we could adapt it into a great graphic novel."

"Tattletale" is Mike's award-winning short story, on which he and Damian based their film's screenplay.

"Aside from working with Peter on an additional opening narration and final scene, we were also able to include several scenes from the original screenplay that didn't make it into the film due to time and budgetary constraints," said Mike in the graphic novel's afterward. "I'm happy to say that this means that what you hold in your hands now is the most comprehensive version of the story to date."

You can read the first 12 pages of *Imitasyon: The Graphic Novella* and purchase it for \$9.95 at peterpaulpayack.com/imitasyon. It can also be found in select local bookstores and comic book stores.

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Synopsis

"The bad man" can't harm Kyla when she sleeps under her uncle's bed. Her uncle spends his nights on the couch, running from the all-seeing, metaphysical worms of an esoteric Japanese faith in a recurring nightmare. In the early aftermath of the death of the young girl's parents, Kyla and her uncle are adapting to life with one another. They are getting by the best they can, each dealing with the tragedy in their own way, but something is amiss. When Kyla begins to mimic her belated parents, what will these imitations reveal about the past and future of her family?

About Peter Paul Payack

Payack is a graphic artist and cartoonist from Cambridge, MA. His comic strip, "Life on the Left Bank," appears weekly in the *Cambridge Chronicle*, *Somerville Journal* and at digboston.com. Payack studied graphic design and journalism at Stonehill College in Easton, MA and at Scuola Lorenzo de' Medici in Florence, Italy. *Imitasyon: The Graphic Novella* is Payack's first graphic novel. You can see Payack's work at peterpaulpayack.com.

