

Bounty Hunting Fans Are Discovering Zen Intergalactic Ninja

Comic-book bounty hunter is connecting with a new generation of fans

LOS ANGELES, CA, UNITED STATES, April 8, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- A trend that began on convention floors is now extending into online crowdfunding, as fans of the bounty hunting genre continue to discover the long-running comic-book character Zen Intergalactic Ninja.

Comic-book writer Steve Stern, who created Zen with artist Dan Cote in 1987, said he began noticing the shift during appearances at conventions including Comic-Con.

"I first noticed that more and more Mandalorian-type cosplayers were picking up copies of ZEN: Bounty Hunter," Stern said. "That book, originally published in 2005, firmly established Zen as a bounty hunter."

The increased attention was followed by the release of the *Hard Bounty* trade paperback by Stern and artist Marat Mychaels, who has worked on books like *Deadpool Corps* for Marvel, which sold out in its initial printings.

The current series, *ZEN: Bounty Wars*, is a four-issue storyline by Stern and artist Bill Maus.

“

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Steve Stern

According to the publisher, the project reflects renewed interest in the character among newer readers.

Ken F. Levin, publisher of 1First Comics and an executive producer on *The Boys* for Amazon Prime, described the development as part of a broader pattern. "What we're seeing is exactly what defines a lasting character—relevance across generations," Levin said. "Zen



Cosplayers like this bounty hunting fan are discovering Zen Intergalactic Ninja

isn't following a trend; he's intersecting with one."

The third issue of ZEN: Bounty Wars is currently being released through Kickstarter, a crowdfunding platform where creators present projects for public support. The campaign reached its initial funding goal within its first three days.

Stern said the response reflects a convergence between longtime readers and audiences drawn to contemporary sci-fi storytelling.

"They come over because they love bounty hunters," he said. "They stay because they discover Zen."

Additional information about the campaign is available on Kickstarter at:

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/billmausart/zen-bounty-wars-3>

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