

Derick Brooks, *illustrator*

These are sample pages that I digitally illustrated for the ongoing comic book series *Bright Family*, written by Matthew Cody, and published by Epic! In comics, a project can be produced by a sole creator or a team. I have experience in both methods; however, for this project I was hired to be a part of the latter. As the illustrator, I was responsible for delivering all of the preliminary artwork (concept designs, thumbnails, and sketches), 24 pages of final line art (inks), and a cover to my Art Director, Dan Nordskog. After he and an extended team of editors approved the line art, it was delivered to my Colorist, Warren Wucinich, who colored and added effects to the line art. Finally, it was passed back to Dan for lettering and additional design work, then published on their digital platform.

I believe that everyone has a story to tell, and whether I'm creating my own, or interpreting the ideas of a collaborator, my artwork is focused on doing that in the most direct way possible. By stripping away the unnecessary, I've found a way to visually communicate with round shapes and bold expressive lines, which work perfectly in the world of my favorite narrative medium—comics! I consider comics to be a bridge between animation and illustration that allows me to experiment with storytelling in ways that neither can do alone. More importantly, books are among the most easily accessible content for children of color to find stories with characters that look like them; providing that content is of great importance to me as an artist.