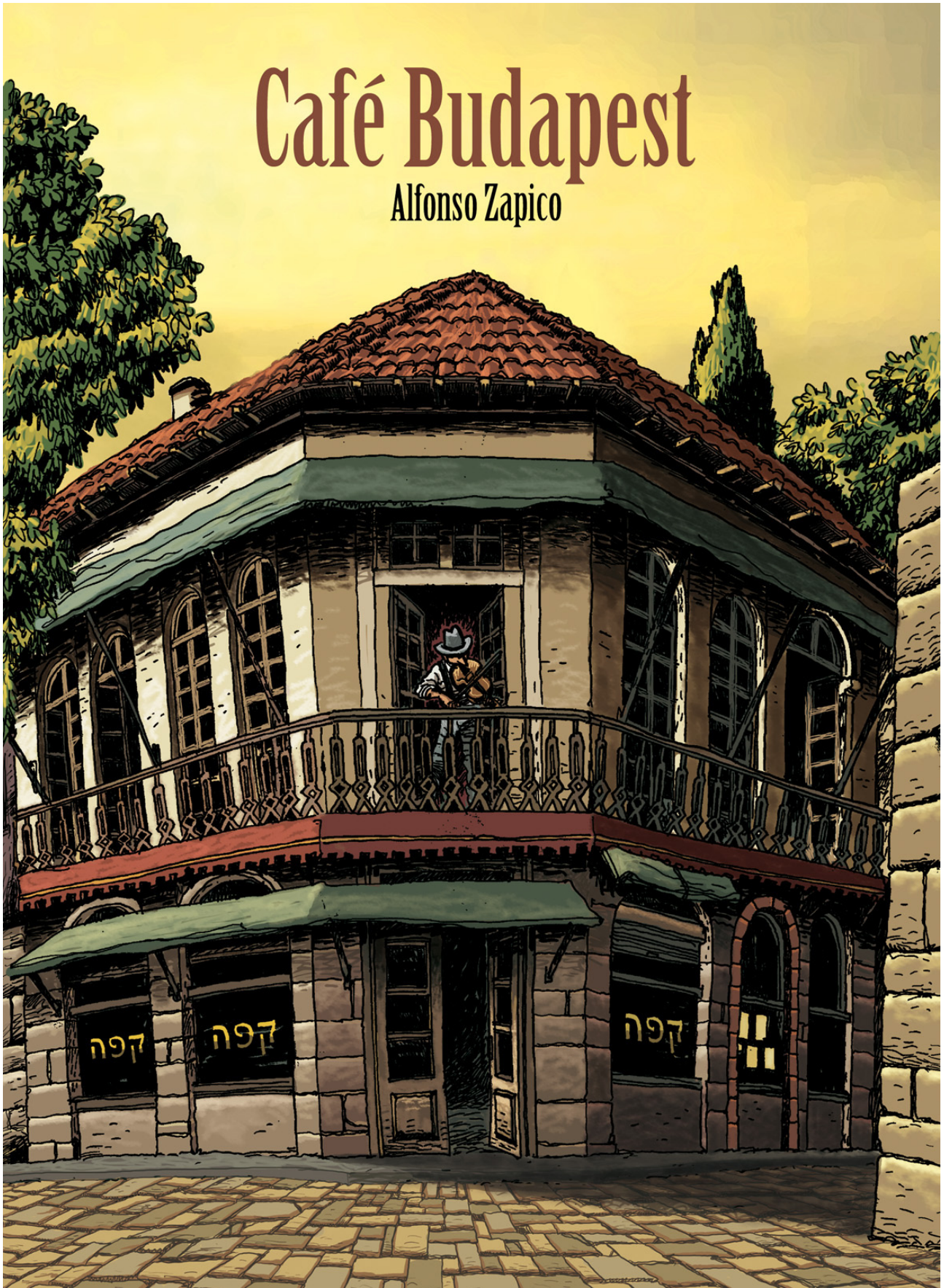


Café Budapest

Alfonso Zapico



Budapest Cafe

Script and Drawings: Alfonso Zapico
Black and White. Paperback with flaps
168 pages. Size 17 x 24 cm. 16 Euros

Before the Exodus

**Haxtur Award for Best Script and most voted
runner up in Asturias Comic Convention 2008.**

Yechezkel Damjanich is a young jew violinist that lives with his mother in the desolate Budapest in 1947. One day, he receives a letter from Jerusalem that is signed by his uncle Yosef, of whom he had had no news for over 12 years and who his mother loathes for no apparent reason. Running away from poverty they both arrive at Palestine at a politically unstable moment: just before the English occupants abandon the region.

Uncle Yosef runs the Budapest Café, a quaint locale near the old city, where Jews, Arabs and Westerners live together... an ephemeral oasis of harmony where the notes that Yechezkel violin's plays will soon be followed by the roar of the *Davidka* howitzers, the bombs thrown by the Arabs, the hate and the destruction. It is then when the Budapest Café becomes a small stage in which the chaos and barbarity that reigned in Palestine at the time is reflected.

Alfonso Zapico (Asturias, 1981). Born in Blimea, a small miner town located in Asturias' valleys. Alfonso Zapico studied Illustration and Design in Oviedo's Art College. He works as a freelancer, doing graphic work aimed at children and teenagers for national and regional publishing houses (text books, cartoons, websites, illustrations...), and has worked as an illustrator for one of Asturias' Regional Ministry of Education's projects since 2005.

His first comic book, *La guerre du professeur Berteney*, was published in France by *Editions Paquet*, and it received the *Prix BD Romanesque* award in the FestuBD Ville de Moulins in 2007. He has also collaborated in a group book, *Un jour de mai*, which was published in the Spring of 2007 by *Paquet* and was scripted by the Frenchman Regis Hautiere.

