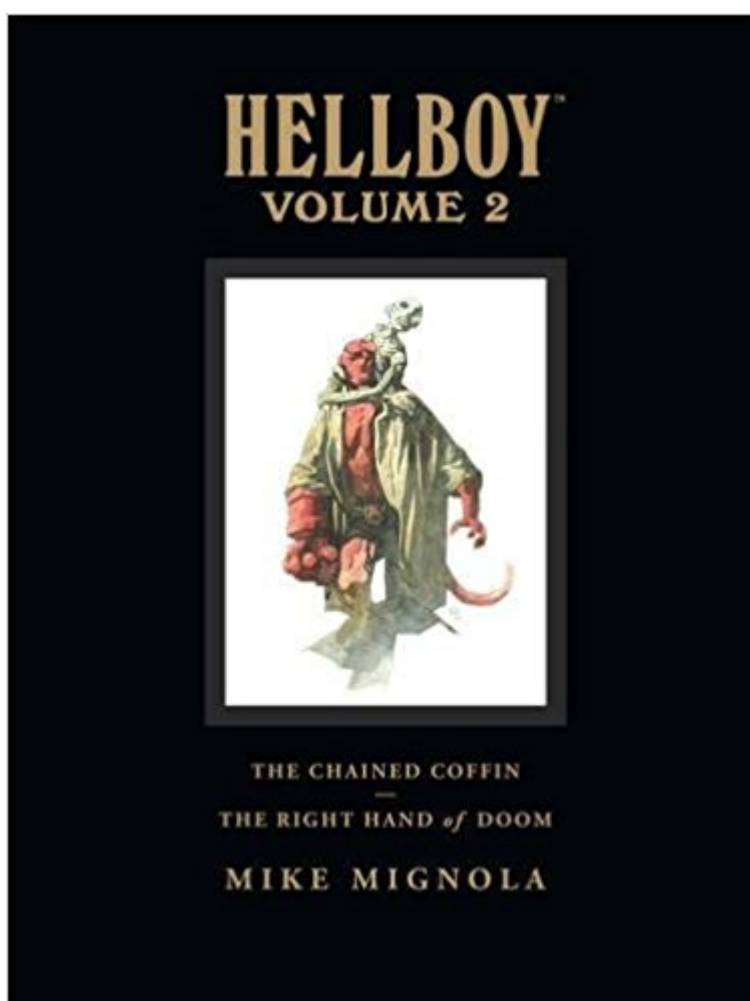


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Hellboy Library Edition, Volume 2: The Chained Coffin, The Right Hand Of Doom, And Others



Synopsis

Since Mike Mignola's Hellboy first hit the stands in 1993, it has become a cultural sensation, racking up a dozen Eisner Awards and inspiring numerous spinoffs — from a novel line, to video games, to feature films. Now, Dark Horse is pleased to present the comics that started it all, collected in deluxe hardcover editions. Sized at a generous 9' x 12', and handsomely bound to match *The Art of Hellboy*, each volume contains the equivalent of two full trade paperbacks.

Book Information

Hardcover: 328 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 26 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

The second oversize collection of Mignola's infernal superhero consists entirely of the shorter stories that fill the gap in the unfolding big story started in the early Hellboys gathered in *Hellboy, v.1* (2008) and resumed, a bit, in *Strange Places* (2006). It's pure Mignola, written and drawn, and it verifies his and editor Scott Allie's shared contention that horror is best suited to the short story, even when it is adulterated by Hellboy's wisecracks and exclamations of minor frustration while pummeling and being pummeled by supersize supernatural monsters. Try "The Corpse" and "The Wolves of St. August" for starters, then devour the rest of these terribly tasty concoctions. --Ray Olson

Firstly, let me tell you about the physical book since many will have already read these stories. To put it simply the best presentation I have seen outside the absolute editions of DC. Since I do not own any of those books I must say this currently holds the title of most beautiful book I own - or rather tired with the Hellboy Library Edition Vol. 1. Thick pages, sewn binding, hard thick cover,

beautifully colored. To the art. It's Mignola. He has a distinct style. I find it brilliant. Sometimes I wish his faces were more expressive, but overall I think the art is so on par with the feel of the stories and unlike anything else out there that I cannot get enough. He slows it down often and makes you take in everything he has drawn. These drawings are probably not as detailed as the first volume, but they are still beautiful. As for the stories, plot, and dialogue. The plots are eclectic. They draw on legends from around the world, although mostly English, and have each unique enough to not make them feel repetitive when read in succession. Many of my favorites are those that do not significantly move along the "main plot" or the Hellboy story, but just explore Myth, Magic, and the world of Hellboy. The dialogue is good and there are only a few moments throughout the book that come off a little awkward. Since this book has so many different stories I am going to treat each one individually on a 1-5 level:

Pancakes: 3/5 Short little two pager. Nothing overly special, but it is pretty damn funny.

Nature of the Beast: 3/5 Another shorter story. It is nice, but not the rice and protein of this collection.

King Void: 4/5 I like this story. It is pretty simple, but the mythology is strong.

The Corpse: 5/5 As he mentions in his afterward. Many consider this Mignola's best story. I can see why. It is not mine, but it is a great one.

The Iron Shoes: 3/5 Much like the first two stories this is shorter. In lesser hands these stories could be just filler, but they are still fun and enjoyable from Mignola even if not excellent.

The Baba Yaga: 4/5 Nice mix in of more Russian mythology and a figure that comes up elsewhere in the series.

Heads: 4/5 Fun little story that has a different feel than the others. Set in Japan it still is dark and Gothic, but less European.

Goodbye Mister Tod: 3/5 Good story. Good subtle world building.

The Varcolac: 4/5 Very good story. I like the idea of a more extensive mythology of vampires especially since most modern vampire stories are so streamlined.

A Christmas Underground: 2/5 The only story in the collection I found sub-par plot wise. I like the set up, but at times it is hard to fully follow what is going on and who exactly the enemy is. For a one off short story this ambiguity was not my style.

The Chained Coffin: 4/5 Good look into Hellboy's past. Nice myth.

The Wolves of Saint August: 5/5 This is not the best story in the collection, but it is my favorite. It is not perfect, but I love the mythic setup and story.

Almost Colossus: 4/5 Good story. Has my favorite page of the collection. Plot is great and builds off of Wake the Devil.

The Right Hand of Doom: 4/5 Good back story focus on Hellboy's physique.

Box Full of Evil: 4/5 I like it. I like the magic and the demon mythology in it.

Overall this is a four out of five. Mostly great stories. Amazing artwork. Great collection. I thoroughly enjoyed this collection.

when I purchased this, I knew it was a hard cover and slightly larger. but when I finally saw it (this is my first library edition) it kinda blew my mind. it is large, for a graphic novel with plenty of room for

the art on the page. a bit cumbersome to hold due to the size and weight, but totally awesome in all the ways a quality book should be.

Mignola can do no wrong in my eyes.

Nice

FiancÃ© loves it!

This book itself is an amazing read. It has beautiful illustrations and a great story line. The binding and cover represents the content of this book. An amazing gift for any collector.

These books are excellent. My husband loves them so now I get him one every holiday possible :-)

Highly Recommended

Great book, great binding. It just looks like it was made to exist in any library; comic book or not Mignola has so much control over his art

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