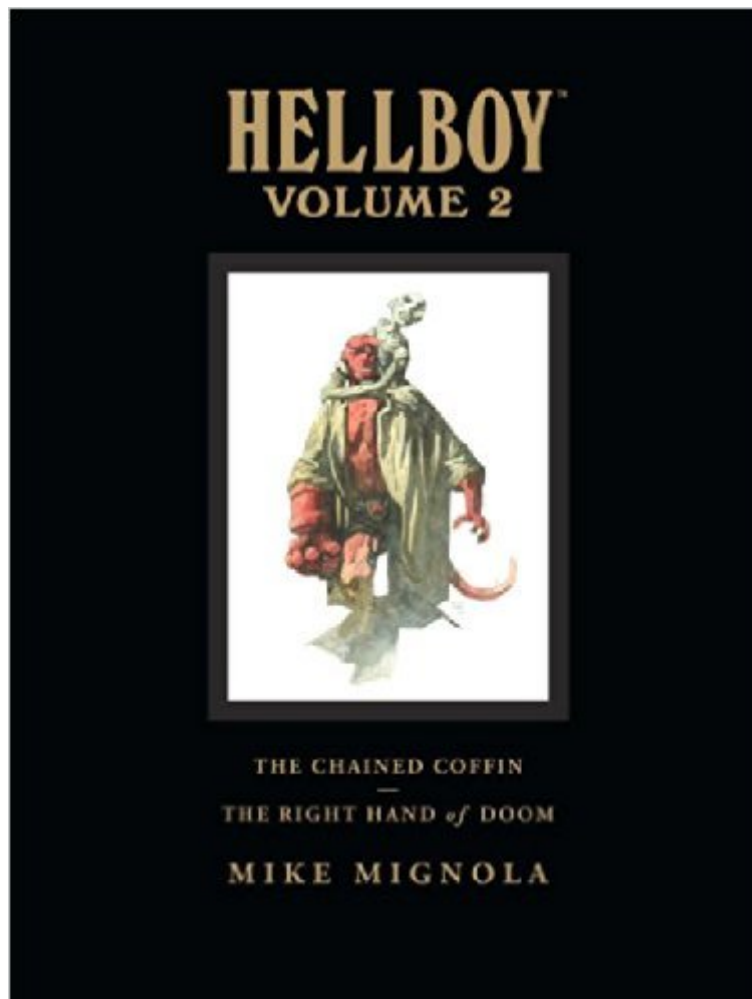


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Hellboy Library Edition, Volume 2: The Chained Coffin, The Right Hand Of Doom, And Others



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

Publisher: Dark Horse Books (October 21, 2008)

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Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 1.2 x 12.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (25 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #51,172 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #124 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Publishers > Dark Horse #127 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Horror #190 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Fantasy Graphic Novels

Customer Reviews

When Hellboy isn't saving the world from imminent destruction, he's doing a lot of little odd jobs across the world. And by "odd jobs," I mean brief paranormal cases involving fairies, flying hunters, homunculi, "pamcakes" and disembodied heads. "Hellboy Volume 2: The Chained Coffin and The Right Hand of Doom" collects two volumes' worth of the demon anti-hero's assorted adventures, ranging from a fairy changeling to a devilish plot to conquer the world. All in a day's work. Assorted short stories take Hellboy all over the world, and confronting many different problems -- a baby kidnapped by the faery folk, underground fiends, the malevolent witch Baba Yaga, a werewolf trapped by a centuries-old curse, the Saint Leonard worm (a dragon), a spectral huntsman followed by berserkers, a Japanese house full of bouncing heads, a seance gone horribly wrong, and the supervampire Varcolac. And Hellboy heads to the ruined church where he was found -- only to dream of a dying witch, her holy children and a devil that sought the witch's "chained coffin." Turns out it has something to do with Hellboy's own origins. Not to mention an ancient, mysterious drawing provided by a priest of the "right hand of doom" -- which looks suspiciously like Hellboy's own

hand. And two bigger jobs loom over Hellboy -- after losing her fire powers to a strange homunculus, Liz Sherman is slowly dying. To save her, Hellboy sets out to find the homunculus, only to find that his crazed megalomaniac "elder brother" is planning to use Kate to bring a new, vast homunculus body to life. And a demon (which looks suspiciously like a housefly) sealed into a box is stolen from a secret compartment, and is soon "serving" a human master.

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 favorite 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.

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