



Hellboy Omnibus Volume 2: Strange Places

Mike Mignola , Richard Corben (Illustrator) , Gary Gianni (Illustrator)

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Hellboy's complete story is presented for the first time in chronological order for the ultimate reading experience.

This 416-page volume covers Hellboy's adventures from 1998 to 2005, reprinting *Conqueror Worm*, *Strange Places*, *Into the Silent Sea*, and "The Right Hand of Doom," "Box Full of Evil," and "Being Human" from *The Right Hand of Doom* and *B.P.R.D. Being Human*.

Hellboy loses faith in the Bureau for Paranormal Research and Defense when they strap a bomb to one of his fellow not-quite-human agents. He gets answers about his destiny, like it or not, in over 300 pages of comics mostly drawn by Mignola, featuring award-winning guests Gary Gianni and Richard Corben.

The four volume *Hellboy Omnibus* series along with the two volumes of *The Complete Short Stories* collect all of Mignola's award-winning Hellboy stories in chronological order for a definitive reading experience.

Hellboy Omnibus Volume 2: Strange Places Details

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ISBN : 9781506706672

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From Reader Review Hellboy Omnibus Volume 2: Strange Places for online ebook

Max's Comic Reviews and Lists says

Anung Un Rama

Aight I am neck deep in Hellboy right now and I am halfway done all the omnibuses if you don't count the short story ones. I once again really enjoyed myself reading this book. Not quite as much as the last one but very very close.

The Right Hand of Doom was not a great way to start this omnibus. It is if you want to just start on this book without reading the last one. Because this story is basically is a re-cap of *Wake the Devil*, *The Chained Coffin* and *Almost Collosus*. Sure we get the idea that Hellboy's right hand is really frickin important, but other than that this issue has nothing else to offer.

The Box of Evil is a story I wasn't really enjoying at first but by the end I realized it was a pretty bad-ass page turner. Here is yet another person trying to take advantage of Anung un Rama. This is also a very stylish story with a lot of cool little details thrown in. I would say this is probably in my top 10 so far.

Being Human is not what I expected it to be. I thought this story was going to delve into Hellboy and his life among other humans but we actually get a deeper look into Roger the Homunculus. And this is a perfectly entertaining and grounding story until the end when my interest was lost.

Conqueror Worm is said to be one of the greatest Hellboy stories ever made. I'd have to agree. This is a super action packed story that I also found to be quite emotional particularly with the character of Roger. Something I didn't know I'd love was a new side character we got. Lobster Johnson. HO this guy's a bad-ass. There is one panel that floored me. I think you know the one I'm talking about. It just screams bad-assery. The BPRD play a big part in this story and its not a good one. They do something real shady and in fact Hellboy puts the entire BPRD title in perspective. They really are just using Hellboy, Roger, Liz, and Abe as mercenaries for extremely horrible situations. The entire concept of the *Conqueror Worm* is of course really cool but I am now really noticing something that has been nagging at me since book 1. Hellboy on more than 4 separate occasions goes to a big Nazi or demon filled tower and fights the villain(s). I think Mignola should have branched out from that formulaic setting. I can stress this point all I want but I think you have to read these books to REALLY know what I am talking about. And I have one more problem that pretty much translates to all of the *Hellboy* I've read so far. We DO NOT get to see enough of the BPRD and their relationships with each other. If you don't count the separate BPRD stories Mignola wrote, I'm just talking the main *Hellboy* universe. I SO wish that all the characters would have more time together. We get to see one story with Abe Sapien and we barely see Liz Sherman what so ever. But overall I thought *Conqueror Worm* was extremely entertaining and really impactful on some fronts.

The Third Wish Now that's what I'm talkin about! This is one of my favourite *Hellboy* stories so far and my favourite in this omnibus. This one kept me the most consistently entertained and we get yet another crazy villain and another look into Hellboy's eventual fate he is hoping to avoid. This story was just so awesome because he selflessly puts him self through a beating to save some mermaids he previously got kidnaped by. The dialogue between Hellboy and the Bog Roosh is also just hilarious and bad-ass to the enth degree because Hellboy is such a smart-ass and can see right through a corny villain monologue. So ya definitely one of the best so far. But one more thing I don't really understand is to have another villain just show up out of nowhere swearing to wage get his revenge and wage war on Hellboy. I wished that Mignola maybe could

have used a previous villain.

The Island. Uuuuuuuuuuu.....Alright look. I've read dozens of confusing ass acid trippy stories in this genre, and I'm not even gonna try to understand this one. I feel like its unfair for me to say I didn't like it because I don't understand it but I will always say there is better way to lay out a huge universe changing story than to have it melt your brain with a million things going on at once that just overlap and criss-cross and smash and meld altogether. Yeesh!

Into the Silent Sea is exactly what I thought it would be. Especially the ENDING. WINK WINK FRICKIN NUDGE NUDGE FRICKIN NUDGE. Sorry I just don't like the cliché the ending takes. But ya a very fun pirate story with Hellboy that doesn't really do much to move the plot forward at all. The change in art didn't bother me. Most people would be like "NO! HOW DARE MIGNOLA NOT DRAW THIS STORY!" But I thought Gary Gianni did a really job and his style was perfect for this kind of story.

In the end I really liked this collection of *Hellboy* stories. Not quite as good as the last book but definitely close. *Conqueror Worm* and *The Third Wish* are truly great stories with great concepts. I still stand by my 2 big problems with the *Hellboy* universe though. One being the super formulaic plots and two is the absence of the main characters interacting with each other. (Other than Roger the Homunculus. He is a bad-ass who has plenty of time in the book) But we are getting to the 3 biggest stories next and I am hoping that I love them. **Letter Grade: (B+)**

Lashaan Balasingam (Bookidote) says

You can find my review on my blog by clicking [here](#).

It's a cruel world for Hellboy. He lives like a human and yet is treated like a monster. Come to think of it, it's actually something you could easily draw parallels to regarding some unfortunate folks in our society, but Hellboy's occult and paranormal universe makes his particular situation far more distressful. Imagine being constantly drawn to an unwritten and universal rule condemning you to a life where you are the key to the end of times. Heavy, right? At least having that accursed right hand still has some benefits, like being able to pummel those relentless creatures back into the darkness where they crawled out from. Now, the real question is: How will Hellboy deal with the burden he shoulders? Clearly ignoring it hasn't been very fruitful lately.

Hellboy Omnibus Volume 2: Strange Places collects stories printed from 1998 to 2005, including *Conqueror Worm*, *Strange Places*, *Into the Silent Sea*, and "The Right Hand of Doom", "Box Full of Evil," and "Being Human" from *The Right Hand of Doom* and *B.P.R.D. Being Human*. The beauty of these new paperback omnibus editions is how the stories are presented in a chronological order, making it so, so much easier for readers to follow Hellboy in his quest of self-discovery. For anyone who has ever tried to understand where to start with his stories, Hellboy isn't the easiest series to follow with multiple series within the same lore (i.e. Hellboy, B.R.P.D., etc.). These omnibuses easily levels the playing field for readers by giving them the unique and equal opportunity to understand what's up without being lost in the process.

What mostly occurs in this volume is Hellboy's re-evaluation of the Bureau for Paranormal Research and Defense and their methodology. On one of the missions he was sent on, alongside a new member of the team who was previously encountered in the past, Hellboy was presented with an ethically questionable dilemma that made him question the integrity of the organization. Coupled with this issue, he also runs into more dark

and sketchy figures who strongly believe in Hellboy's role in life (the tool to the end of the world). This throws our friendly and feisty red fellow into all sorts of direction, and one that will bring him to be in exile and explore the sea. If there's one thing he's never stopped doing, it's exploring both the real-world and the paranormal. The things he sees and the things he lives through are truly astonishing.

Most of the stories tend to follow one another and make slight references to past events, or even short stories collected in the short stories omnibuses. I found this omnibus to be even more coherent and a lot easier to follow, even with more world-building going on. There are details regarding Hellboy and his destiny that are better delivered throughout the stories, and it's nice to see how Mike Mignola blends the whole paranormal and supernatural lore within the narrative. Hellboy however continues to be himself with his snappy one-liners, brutal fist fights and honourable and caring (or care-free?) personality.

The artwork continues in the same vein as the first omnibus, with a more picturesque and sequential style (as in, more choppy between panels), and mostly focuses on the dialogues and the hard-hitting shadow-heavy drawings. Your imagination is sure to be stimulated by the Lovecraftian universe. What was truly refreshing however is the change in style for certain stories, especially with Gary Gianni and Richard Corben as the artists. The style is much more modern and detailed, which really helps in admiring the character even more through different lenses. I can clearly state that there's plenty to appreciate with Hellboy, both with the character and the world.

Yours truly,

Lashaan | Blogger and Book Reviewer
Official blog: <https://bookidote.com/>

Poor guy just can't catch a break. Destiny sure can be a b*tch.

P.S. Full review to come.

Yours truly,

Lashaan | Blogger and Book Reviewer
Official blog: <https://bookidote.com/>

Sud666 says

Hellboy omnibus Vol 2 was superb. A great collection of Hellboy stories and some great art to boot.

This omnibus collects:

The Right Hand of Doom

Box Full of Evil

Being Human

Conqueror Worm

The Third Wish

The Island

Into the Silent Sea

My favorite was the Conqueror Worm, a story I'd often heard about. It is a great story and one of my favorite Hellboy stories. Throughout these well drawn tales, I was struck by the quality of the prose. Mignola's use of Poe and other famous authors gives the already good story a touch of class. I appreciate a well written story and quality prose/dialogue. Hellboy "Strange Places" certainly scores on all fronts. I highly recommend this wonderful comic. I would also like to tip my hat to the art of the "Into the Silent Sea". It was excellent. A must have for any Hellboy fan.

Scott Waldyn says

Great art. Beautiful and gripping paranormal action. Fast-paced storytelling. And moving moments that resonate on an unexpectedly deeper level.

There's a reason this series endures. It's arguably one of the most unique comic series of all time.

dogunderwater says

Yeah still good, though I am always maybe irrationally annoyed by omnibuses that are like 'oop that thing they're referencing is found somewhere else' even if that somewhere else is a different kind of omnibus.

Claire Thibodeaux says

I have recently been bitten by the Hellboy bug and I couldn't be happier. The tales, though dark and gritty, give me hope for misfits like me who love the dark creepy places in this world but only want the best for human kind

Victor Espinosa says

If you've not experienced the unique, brilliant, bizzare stories of Mike Mignola, then you are missing out on life. He has figured out what he does best and is just having fun with it in this huge graphic novel. Mike is a vastly underrated storyteller and artist. His panels can convey entire stories in their shadows, clever lighting, and haunting eye silhouettes. I tore through this omnibus and am greatly looking forward to more.

David Allison says

Having started to understand what you are, and that your existence has some consequence, can you live with it?

As the character wanders from landscape to landscape so does the art, but across the world and under the sea there's no escape from the inky inevitability of Mike Mignola's aesthetic... or at least, not for long, not in this volume!

Roy says

I loved this!! The artist changed in a couple of stories but the original art is still the best. Some of the stories because trippy and a little wacky at stages but its still awesome. Highly recommend this

John says

Mignola really outdoes himself here. There are some longer things and some heavy foreshadowing things and loads of short fun things. Excellent reworking of old folklore, and the art would be the easiest thing to overlook but the inking and color is just extraordinary.

Adam Spanos says

Highly Recommended: A Nice, New, Organized Approach Here...in chronological order. The overall Hellboy story continues in this second volume. For those who always enjoyed Hellboy, but was confused about the timeline, these new paperback volumes can alleviate much of the aggravation involved. Thank you Mike Mignola.

Shouts out to Baba Boeey.

Shane Perry says

I liked the first half of this Omnibus quite a bit. The stories were exciting and I loved the relationship between Roger and Hellboy. The second half of this was...okay. Some parts were entertaining, but I found most of the second half to either be a bit boring or have too much exposition.

Zare says

Omnibus #2 shows how Hellboy (through several adventures) finally learns to accept himself. Although he was created as a weapon meant to destroy the humanity he accepted the humanity and became its protector. But that does not mean that everybody accepts him as a protector - in retrospective many a creature is fighting him only because they see him as a monster that will bring the end, a monster from the prophecy that needs to be stopped by any means possible. This just causes Hellboy to feel more and more estranged by the society and even his colleagues in BPRD. Omnibus #2 is story of finding oneself and determining your own destiny (as much as it is possible when it comes to Hellboy).

All of the adventures and decisions ((view spoiler)) in this volume put him on a collision path with dark forces for a grand final fight (ahoy Omnibus #3).

Highly recommended to all fans of adventure and Hellboy.

Andrew says

So here is the second part of the complete Hellboy series - The entire collection of comics / graphic novels are being released in omnibus editions and I am finally getting a chance to read them all (and catch up on the whole story) without having to spend an absolute fortune on the library editions (although they do look amazing).

So what can I say without giving spoilers well the problem there is not a lot - as these are the sequential adventures (there are two volumes of one shots and specials which although may not fit in to the complete time line do still make up parts of his adventures). So what I can say is that they have been printed in a sympathetic manner. For example you still get the pages of designs and preliminary sketches along where necessary the authors notes when references to previous stories where needed (which I suspect as the series carries on will start to become more and more common).

The stories have also been published in their original styles and formats - which means that you can see when an artist changes. For me this helps date the stories as you are looking at a lot of books across this series and although the series does have a definitive end (for those who have read it you know what I mean) however I get the feeling that with the rebooting of the franchise with a soon to be new movie it will be interesting what is "kept" and what is not.

For me this has been a series I have been looking forward to for some time. The stylised artwork and often creative storylines have always caught my attention and imagination. I just hope they decide to do something similar with Abe.

Chad says

This second omnibus has some of Hellboy's best stories. Box Full of Evil and The Third Wish are 2 of Mignola's better shorter length stories. The Bog Roosh is pretty fantastic in her own way. Conqueror Worm may be my favorite of Hellboy's longer tales. I love seeing Hellboy and Roger team up. It has big ramifications and introduces Lobster Johnson. Plus, Nazis and the elder gods, what's not to like? I'm really enjoying rereading these Hellboy stories in chronological order. It makes the overall story so much clearer.
