



## House of Gold & Bones

*Richard Clark, Corey Taylor, Sierra Hahn (Editor)*

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In a nightmarish world, the Human finds himself at a crossroads as wild adventure ensues and he's thrust into a morphing landscape of rolling hills, dense forest, and an ominous Crimson City. Chased by a crazed mob and mysterious characters neither friend nor foe, the Human takes an unexpected journey that will lead to his salvation... or damnation. Collects the four-issue miniseries.

\* Inspired by the Stone Sour album *House of Gold & Bones* Parts 1 and 2.

\* Includes variant covers by Frank Quitely, Kylz Hotz, Steve Morris, and Richard Clark.

" *House of Gold and Bones* #1 explores the fear of the unknown in interesting ways. Though the issue leaves a lot of unanswered questions, I look forward to reading how Taylor will develop the mystery." - Bloody Disgusting

## House of Gold & Bones Details

Date : Published November 26th 2013 by Dark Horse Books

ISBN : 9781616552879

Author : Richard Clark , Corey Taylor , Sierra Hahn (Editor)

Format : Paperback 104 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Comics, Graphic Novels, Comic Book, Horror, Fantasy, Music, Fiction, Graphic Novels Comics

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## From Reader Review House of Gold & Bones for online ebook

### **Crisahitna says**

I see this comic as an Alice in Wonderland Plotting with The Human as Alice, The primary protagonist; Peckinpah as the Chesire Cat, the secondary protagonist; Allen as Mad Hatter, the secondary protagonist turned primary antagonist; and Black John and his Numbers as The Red Queen and her Soldiers, the secondary antagonist. The setting of its plot is the primary protagonist's world and he does not know the world, but with the help of the guide(Chesire Cat), was able to get around a little. The obstacles in front of him is the dominant, obssessive Napoleon Bonapart(Red Queen) and the distraction(Mad Hatter) as well as the environment.

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### **Bonnie says**

My rating: 3 of 5 stars

I received this book free from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review.

House of Gold & Bones is the complete collection of the four-volume comics that coincided with the release of Stone Sour's double disc release of the same name. It tells the tale of a Human that finds himself in a world of horror with no clear way out.

Being a huge fan of both of Corey Taylor's non-fiction novels and of Stone Sour's House of Gold & Bones albums it was too intriguing a concept to pass up. The majority of the illustrations had a raw and unpolished feel and the story itself was a world of fantasy and horror. I loved the creativity behind this and his vision as a whole and would love to see what other concepts he comes up with. A definite for fans of Corey Taylor and Stone Sour.

Check out the book trailer here: <http://youtu.be/VSfdLF2ljH8>

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### **Donald Armfield says**

A mind trip for a man stuck in a dream of horror. A creative mind at work from frontman of Slipnot and Stone Sour. I have to say I'm more of a fan of Stone Sour than Slipnot. Although I like the demonic clown dress-up.

I was kind excited to pick this up from Netgalley, thinking demonic clowns and heavy metal would make one sick horror comic. But a little disappointed in the amount of death and deadly scenery.

The artwork was great for the demons and the story line was masterful, but was kinda missing something for me.

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### **zxvasdf says**

I had no idea who Corey Taylor was until I read his closing comments. This leads me to consider that maybe this book wouldn't have been made if not for his celebrity status. He's got an impressive list of artists to pen his covers.

But it does show promise. It reminds me a bit of Sandman, and there are a lot of archetypal forces at struggle. It shows the horror and hope that exists inside everyone. I can't picture a direct sequel coming from this, but it would be a really excellent sequence if it focused on the history of the archetypal forces within through the lens of a different person every season. Eventually a larger mythology could be pieced together. Also would be cool if we could look into the head of someone like mother Teresa, or a representative of humanity's better examples. Would there be horror, or is it all light and love?

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### **Paul says**

If you've already listened to the CDs or read the story in the insert booklets, the comic doesn't add much and is probably the weakest element of the three. Taylor is at his best in the song lyrics. If you don't care for the concept of the story in the albums, the comic won't change your mind. It's decent, but as a fan of both comics and Stone Sour, it left be a bit disappointed. 3 stars just because I love the albums, 2 otherwise.

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### **Jonathan Anderson says**

When it was announced that Stone Sour's next album(s) would be a two part concept album called The House of Gold & Bones, I won't lie, I groaned out loud. I can't stand concept albums. I've never had a rock musician tell me a story through ten or so songs that I cared a lick about. I thought of Coheed and Cambria, or as I call them...well, some joke about boring. So when the first disc came out and was actually good, hot damn! Corey Taylor is some kind of genius like I thought he was! Such a genius that he could make me enjoy a concept album! I flipped through the story booklet, but who cares about that? Then the second disc came out and I was summarily disappointed. It stunk quite frankly, and all of a sudden there were all these character names like Black John and the Red City that apparently I was supposed to know but didn't. The first issue of the comic book came out and I didn't get it either. Oh well, another point in my favor in the argument against concept albums. I bought the TPB to have signed some day, and figured I'd give it one more try and call it a day.

Turns out the one more try was a hit.

All collected, the story adds up to, at least in my case, about twenty minutes of light reading. This isn't The Sandman. But for a first effort, all told, it turns out to be not that bad. A little simplistic, a fact which can seem to be hidden by the archetypes instead of enforced, but enjoyable at least to me. I don't think Corey Taylor's done with comics, and I don't want him to be. For the first time in a few months, I'm actually looking forward to the next work.

Not as much as a new album, but eh.

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### **Ea says**

Oh, how wonderfully disturbing this is. A gloriously messed up story and rather good artwork, who can say no to that? Unfortunately, it has to be mentioned that I think you have to have some knowledge on the Stone Sour-albums it is related to if you want to genuinely enjoy it and not be confused for the majority of this. Even though I do, I was still not entirely sure what was going on at first, and that steals some stars from something that could easily have been a 5-star read.

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### **Kirsty says**

I didn't know this graphic novel tied in with an album, so I just read it as a stand-alone story. It didn't work.

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### **Sonya says**

I really wanted to like... so I did. I picked this up way into my Stone Sour craze, but haven't read it until now. Honestly, I liked the concept, and it seemed to have a lot of potential, but it was so ridiculously fast paced, and not in a good way. Scenes seemed to only last a few pages, and when it's a comic book, that's nothing. The majority of the book was a journey, with Travellers pt 1 and 2 being in the sound track, but it just didn't feel like one. I know it's hard to make something like this both entertaining and have substance, but it's possible, this book just didn't do it.

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### **Neil McCrea says**

A dark fable written by the front man of Slipknot and Stone Sour. The art is accomplished, but not particularly interesting. The story is tissue thin, and its overt message reads like a tired aphorism dressed up as a social media meme.

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### **Laura says**

Corey Taylor is a creative genius. These were a quick read (I read all four comics in about a half hour). The comics provide a nice visual to go with the House of Gold and Bones CDs, and the whole concept of the concept album becomes very clear. As with Corey's other books, I feel like there is a very real parallel to his own life and the things he went through growing up. The whole story in the comics starts off with a scene that Corey described in "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Heaven" as a recurring dream he has, and "The Human" in the story faces similar struggles that Corey has faced in his life. It's actually very deep if you know a lot about Corey Taylor from his other books and interviews before you read the comics. I loved it, but then again, it would take a lot for this man to disappoint me with anything he puts out.

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### **Matt Kelland says**

I didn't really know what to expect from this: I'm not a Slipknot fan, I've only heard a couple of Stone Sour tracks (both off the HoGaB album) and my sole exposure to Corey Taylor has been reading Seven Deadly Sins: Settling the Argument Between Born Bad and Damaged Good at my roommate's recommendation. This turned out to be dark, surreal psychological horror, with writing reminiscent of Garth Ennis. I'd like to see him write more comics, as he clearly has a love for the genre and a gift for storytelling. Worth a read, whether or not you're a fan of his music.

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### **Heather says**

House of Gold and Bones is the comic book alternative to Stone Sour's double concept album of the same name. The story follows a character whose life is full of fun but not necessarily substance. He's at a crossroads in his life, and finds himself in a life surrounded by horror, without clear way of escape.

Also said to tie into Corey's life, it seemed too good to pass up. His two own books are personal favourites, yet here it just didn't quite work. The story itself felt flat. The illustrations at the start of each separate issue were stunning and dark, but from the actual story it didn't quite hold that intensity.

It just was. It wasn't bad, far from it, but it just wasn't exactly all that it had been hyped up to be. Some songs do spring to mind at different moments of the story, but for the most part it didn't quite gel.

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### **Amanda - Go Book Yourself says**

A review copy was provided by the publisher in return for an honest review.

I can't say I'm a fan of slipknot but I was still drawn to the idea behind this graphic novel.

The character lives what seems to be a shallow life full of late night parties. A life full of fun but with seemingly very little substance. When attempting to save the life of someone drowning he is dragged feet first into another world full with hordes of monsters and demons.

This graphic novel is meant to tie in with the album and Corey's life. Not knowing much about either meant this felt very flat to me. It's very short and the story has no real structure. The illustrations also left a lot to be desired with some of the facial anatomy being way way off.

The beautiful impressionistic paintings between each chapter are what earned the extra star for me. they were so fluid and emotional.

Just look at the amazing structural detail that was achieved with a muted palate and such loose broad strokes.

Fans of Slipknot and Corey Taylor will probably enjoy this more than I did. However if, like me , you don't then I'd probably give this one a miss.

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### **Alyce Hunt says**

I hadn't heard of Corey Taylor's graphic novel until it got returned to the library where I worked, and because it was so short I read it in one sitting. I wasn't too impressed.

Coming from the mind of the man behind Slipknot and Stone Sour, I'd expected something a little darker, something that would psychologically twist me and leave me feeling shaken. I had my expectations too high, because the writing in this collection is bland at best. There's a lot of unnecessary profanity - not something I'm against, but something that seems lazy in this example - and not a whole lot of explanation.

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