



Black Jack, Vol. 12

Osamu Tezuka

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Black Jack is a mysterious and charismatic genius surgeon who travels the world performing amazing and impossible medical feats. Through highly trained, he freelances without a license because he distains the medical establishment. This leads to run-ins with the authorities and unscrupulous, sometimes criminal, individuals. Because Black Jack keeps his true motives secret, his ethics are perceived as questionable and he is considered a selfish, uncaring devil.

The Black Jack series is told in short stories. Volume 12 will contain 14 stories, each running approximately 20 pages in length. This eleventh volume includes the following stories:

Wildcat Boy: Black Jack is called out to the jungles of Indonesia to help an old friend with some unique research. Renowned Paris based Professor Dr. Triufeaux has stumbled upon a rare case of a modern day wolf-boy. However, in this case the boy believes he is a wildcat.

White Lion: While preparing to have a nice homecooked meal, Black Jack and his assistant Pinoko are interrupted by a wrapping on their front door. Awaiting to enter and speak with the doctor are two men, an odd couple of sorts, with a request for the doc's services. The director of the local zoo and a representative from Angola are desperate to have a recently transplanted animal treated immediately.

"Black Jack is a dramatic, nearly Byronic figure...With genre-spanning stories--horror, sci-fi, romance--and Tezuka's signature blend of drama, pathos, and extremely broad comedy jammed together on every page, Black Jack is a wild but extravagantly entertaining ride that's far more accessible than the author's novel-length epics." --Publishers Weekly

"2008-2009 Manga of the Year!" --The Manga Critic

"With his shock of white hair and rock-star demeanour, Black Jack transfers well to the manga version of the operating room. The book is peppered with enough knowledge to hint at Tezuka's fascination with the frailty of the human body. [I]t means he can avoid the clichés of most manga storylines." --The Guardian (U.K.)

Black Jack, Vol. 12 Details

Date : Published July 27th 2010 by Vertical (first published December 13th 1982)

ISBN : 9781934287798

Author : Osamu Tezuka

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Genre : Sequential Art, Manga, Graphic Novels, Cultural, Japan, Comics, Short Stories, Adventure

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From Reader Review Black Jack, Vol. 12 for online ebook

Leandro Guimarães says

Sadder than former volumes.

Mary Goodnight says

Des histoires d'une tristesse souvent insoutenable, des flash-back d'une insondable mélancolie : Black Jack ne laisse pas indemne...

Lissibith says

You can tell that they thought they'd gotten the best of the Black Jack stories out of the way with the publication of the last volume. In this one, we get some sameyness, a bit more mystical stuff, an increase in ambiguous endings and a glimpse into Black Jack's history which is a little telling, but which I can see why was left out of previous volumes. The art and dialogue don't have a drop-off, but the ideas just feel a little less impactful. A good book, but far from the best.

Aurelio Ippandoza says

Great medical manga from Tezuka-san.

Chibineko says

I'm getting to the point with this series where I feel like I could just cut & paste the same review over & over again. While there's been some volumes that I didn't like as much in comparison to the other ones in the series, I've loved this series as a whole. All of the volumes are really good.

This volume contains more of the Black Jack we've come to know & love. We see more of Black Jack's past, including the accident that made him as scarred & bitter as he is now. We also see Black Jack's way of dealing with people who would destroy his home or intrude on his emo-ness. (Let's be honest, he is pretty emo.)

I really do love this volume & many of the stories do flesh out the characters. We see Pinnoko have to decide the life or death of a lion cub, Black Jack's interactions with two old school friends (in separate stories), as well as other tales. The artwork is still great Tezuka quality, but will still put others off of the artwork. The translations for this are nicely done & if there is anything that isn't obvious culture-wise, there are little translation notes at the bottom of each page.

If you've been collecting the series up until now, this isn't a volume to stop on & is one of the better ones of the series. If you haven't been collecting or reading the series then it isn't entirely necessary to have read the previous volumes although it does improve the reading.

Abby Ang says

worth five stars just for the last story alone
