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Johnny The Homicidal Maniac: Director's Cut



Synopsis

Dark and disturbingly funny, JTHM follows the adventures of Johnny (you can call him Nny), who lives with a pair of styrofoam doughboys that encourage his madness, a wall that constantly needs a fresh coat of blood, and his victims in various states of torture! Collecting issues #1-7 of Johnny the Homicidal Maniac, as well as material seen before only in Carpe Noctem Magazine.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Well, here we go... Sigh, I hate to even have to say this, because this story must be pretty cliché by now, but I was introduced to this (and Jhonen Vasquez's other comics) through my love of *Invader Zim*. I didn't start with JTHM, though, but with *Filler Bunny*. Yeah, nevermind why that happened...but anyway, if you are looking to get into JTHM, this is the collection to get since it has all the JTHM volumes (this sentence will be awkward and incorrect later if he ever releases new JTHM comics). The book itself is softcover, and the pages are not the thickest or highest quality I've ever encountered, but they seem sturdy enough. The comic is in black and white, and Jhonen's spidery art style and text will either appeal to you...or it won't (I personally like it). As for the story...well, let's just say that you may think this book will just be a weird revenge fantasy thing wherein the reader is meant to identify with the main character's violent acts, but it's not. By the end of the comic, it becomes apparent that there's a bit more going on here, and that this is less about mindless violence and more about following one special person's descent into further madness, all wrapped up in dark humor. If you pick this up, just give it a chance and go in with an open mind. So,

if you want to collect all the JTHM comics in one convenient format, then this *Director's Cut* version is definitely the one to get. If you end up liking it, then I'd suggest you try out *The Collected Works of Filler Bunny*, *Squee*, and *I Feel Sick* (and after you work your way through those, *Serenity Rose* is an excellent comic). If you are new to Jhonen's works, then you should definitely start here since all his other comics pretty much get their origin stories here. Oh, as an extra note, this book also includes the *Happy Noodle Boy* and *Anne Gwish* segments (these are sort of little extra stories, unrelated to the main storyline). The other half of the side stories included in the original versions of the comic (the *Meanwhiles* and *Wobbly Headed Bob*) are included in *Squee*, which I strongly suggest you also pick up.

Love the JTHM series. It is worth buying if you like dark humor and can step out of a proper mindset enough to laugh just for the sake of laughing. People who can do that, will appreciate this book, those who get nervous laughing at something society says is not funny will have problems. Bad reviews will come from people who laugh and then feel guilty about it later..."Bad book, you caught me off guard, that is not a laughing matter! I didn't want to laugh, you sick book, you made me do it." And that is exactly why the book is funny. I think we all agree that homicide is normally not a funny subject, however, when you give yourself a second to realize the book is fictional characters that do not exist, then you might be able to laugh and no one gets hurt. The artwork is beautifully done and something that you can truly appreciate. Five stars all the way for Jhonen Vasquez! The only reason the review is four stars is because of the missing content that is not included in the book. Being a director's cut I would normally associate that with getting extras, not having an original series edited and getting less. That's just a bummer.

The spine on my old tpb of jthm started letting some of the pages come loose so I got the hardcover. It feels great in hand and the cover is much more subtle and inviting. All the bonus content is still intact from its soft cover version. For the story itself: it starts off all over the place before getting a real narrative. Laughs throughout. Art is visually appealing and unique. The story is in black and white if anyone is wondering.

I absolutely adore Jhonen Vasquez and all that he does. This book was enjoyable, the concept art in the back was perfect. I only have two problems with the "Directors Cut": 1. When you buy each part separately (there are 7 books) it has a lot of fillers like Wobbly-Headed Bob (kind of like the Noodle

Boy strips but having nothing to do with the actual story) that I enjoyed, they cut those out of this book.² In the beginning of each separate part they have a letter from the writer (or something along those lines, I will post pictures) that I also couldn't find. Now as far as the state of the physical book itself, I wasn't too disappointed but this is the reason I gave this four stars and not five. When I opened the book I got to the fifth page and it just fell out, not as if it was ripped but as if it was never glued properly. Luckily that was the only page that did that and I solved it with a tiny bit of glue, but after reading some other reviews I found this was a reoccurring thing and that there were some cases that it was more than one page. In all I recommend buying this book, just check for loose pages before it's too late to return for a new one. Also if given the chance definitely read the separate parts because Wobbly-Headed Bob is wonderful.

While the material may not appeal to anyone at first and may make it seem satanic or whatever yoo-hoo people believe, it is quite the opposite. This is written in a dark, gothic humour so it may seem grotesque and appalling. However, it is a great read in terms of written material as it narrates the happenings of a homicidal maniac who gets back at bad people and those who did him wrong while questioning existence. The author is the same guy who brought you Nickelodeon's *Invader Zim* and would recommend it if A.) You watch *Dexter*, B.) You consider *The Crow* a good movie, cult classic or such, C.) you listen to Goth or Death Metal music, like Alice Cooper or Marilyn Manson, D.) You watch *Invader Zim* and anime. Then yes, this book may appeal to you and even make you laugh because it is just another cartoon violence comic- but with black eyeliner and black clothes.

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