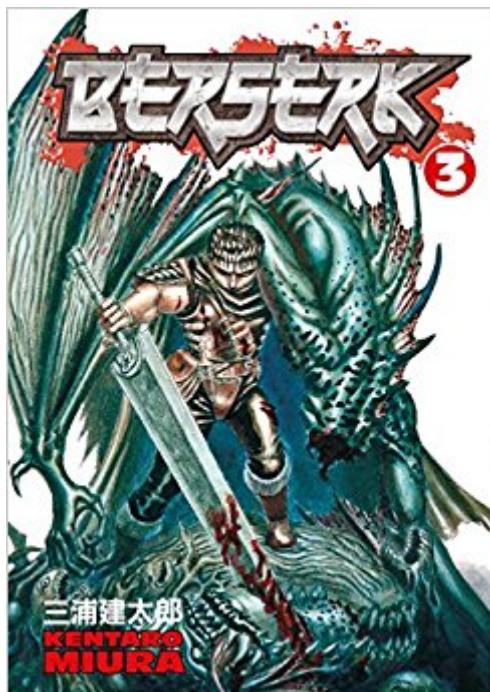


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Berserk, Vol. 3



Synopsis

Guts, the feared Black Swordsman, finishes his desperate battle with the monstrous Count, cutting and blasting him to gory scraps when the presence of the Count's daughter makes the monster hesitate. But Guts won't even have the time to clean his gigantic sword when the Count's dying pleas activate the Behelit, summoning the five God Hands, demon lords of immeasurable power. Guts' journey so far has been a long road of pain and death, but that's a walk in the park compared to fighting his way out of Hell itself!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Berserk was thrilling from the beginning of this volume until it's end. It delves into the darkest depths of human nature that nearly breaches that macabre line of devolving into a heartless demon. The battle scenes are epic as Guts' superb use of his great sword leaves the reader in awe. The history of the black swordsman begins to be unearthed as he encounters an old, mysterious ally. The plot begins to thicken from a random string of demon slaying toward an objective of revenge rather than simply the escape from the constant onslaught of demonic entities. Guts' complex personality begins to be unravelled through the telling of his history which leads us to think that he may not be as cold as he wants everyone to believe. The horrifying image that this volume ends on leaves you anxiously pining, while hoping against hope, that all will turn out well in the following installation.

And here we are: The finale of the Guardians Of Desire arc! This is where the series gets REALLY good! When we last left off, Guts was fighting The Count, and this is the volume where their battle

ends. However, The Count refuses to give up, and Guts' Behelt is activated because of The Count's desire to live. We're transported to an alternate dimension, where the God Hand is finally introduced. This is easily the highlight of the volume. Though this is the first time we see them, Guts is quite familiar with the God Hand. In fact, he has a burning hatred towards a particular member of the God Hand : Griffith. Griffith was apparently once a man, and a friend of Guts, but he must have done something pretty bad to piss off Guts this much! We also learn more about The Count including how he became a demon in the first place. This arc has a pretty depressing ending, but how else could it have ended? The final chapter of volume 3 marks the beginning of a new arc : The Golden Age, where we see Guts' life before the events of volume 1. This is a spectacular volume, and the series is doing nothing but getting better! We're introduced to the main antagonists of the series, and we learn more about Guts and indeed his main goal. We're also introduced to an interesting arc. The art is even better than the past volumes, and the story is really gearing up! That's why this volume gets 5 stars.

I love this series and highly recommend these books except to young children. (This one has rather explicit sexual scenes in it.) However, for older teens +, If you like manga with action and drama scenes in the evolving story, add this series to your list! :)

At first glance this series comes off as a overly edgy grim/dark revenge story. But very quickly the reader is exposed to the complicated emotional foundation of the story. While the introspective nature of our "Hero" Guts is developed later, this novel plunges head first into the misanthropic philosophy that beats at the heart of this series. This novel asks the question, when you are forced to face the reality of a world full of despair and injustice what would you choose to do, submit or struggle?

Purchased for college age son. He seems happy with it.

Berserk, amazingly, continues to get better, and for a series that was already a five in my book, that makes it very difficult to rate this, as five is the highest it can go here. With this volume, I'd give it a six easily, and possibly a seven. The artwork is great, the characters and their interactions are well-done, and the dark atmosphere that surrounds the story of Guts is enough to gag on, but in a good way, to be sure. In this volume, Guts's battle with the Count continues, only now there is a witness to this fight of blood and madness, the Count's daughter and pride Theresia. And, of course,

the ever present Puck. But just as the conclusion seems to be coming, the fight is interrupted by the God Hand, and among this group of five demon gods is Guts's hated rival, Griffith. This is probably the highlight of the manga, especially if you've seen the anime series, as it finally links Guts's past to his present. After that, the story goes deep into the past, and to the tortured childhood of Guts under the mercenary Gambino. I'd recommend this volume and all of the Berserk manga volumes to anyone who is a fan of mature manga. In fact, I highly recommend buying not one or two but three at a time, money permitting, because you'll find yourself finishing these books in short order. Advance Warning: This volume contains some very mature content (including an orgy scene and implied molestation), so for anyone who feels uncomfortable about things of this nature, do stay away. This is definitely a manga for adults and should be read with care. Treat this like a bottle of prescription medicine: keep it high on a shelf where no children can reach it.

Absolutely love Berserk!! Had to read it 3 times over to finally decide that I wanted my own copy of each volume. Not only is the story great, but the art style is out of this world. I can't imagine the amount of time and dedication it takes to complete one chapter of this amazing story. Definitely worth checking out!

Excellent Product

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