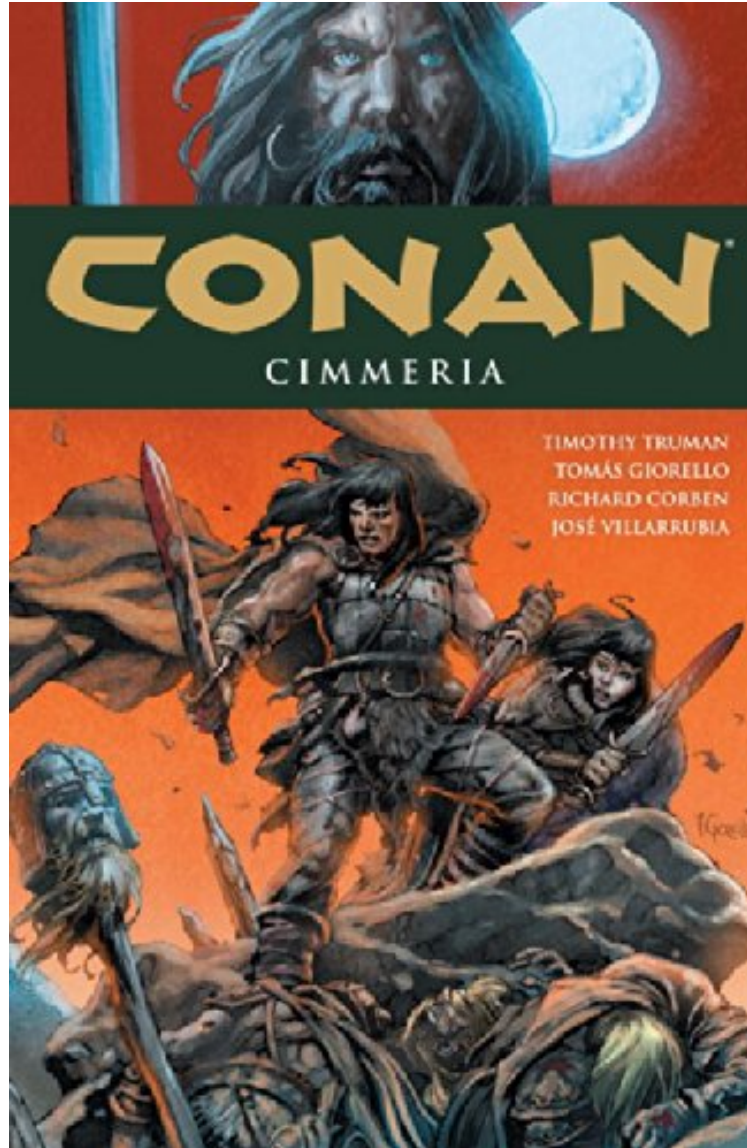


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## Conan Volume 7: Cimmeria

*Timothy Truman*

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**Timothy Truman : Conan Volume 7: Cimmeria** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Conan Volume 7: Cimmeria:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The past and the present. A short interlude in the overall Conan story arcBy Chip HunterAs with most readers of this volume, I was desperately hoping for a rebound from the low-point of the series, Hand of Nergal. I continued to be skeptical until the 3rd or 4th sub-arc in this volume, when I found myself completely drawn in, loving the art, loving the characters, and loving the story. This is a tale of a disillusioned Conan

returning to his roots, not knowing what he seeks, but knowing he is through with the supposedly wondrous lands of the South. Along the way, he meets foes and friends, and through his interactions with these, recounts stories from the past, describing adventures by his grandfather, Connacht(sp?). We learn that Conan has definitely (almost literally) followed in his grandfather's footsteps, and was seemingly purposefully infected with his wanderlust by his ancestor. But where Connacht eventually returned to his home in Cimmeria to settle down and raise a family, we know Conan is destined for bigger things. An effective editorial ploy was pulled off nicely in this volume, with a guest artist (Richard Corben) drawing the flashback stories of Conan's grandfather (essentially every other section) in a very distinct style from what we're used to in these books. I'm not sure if this is Corben's usual style, but it is much more blotchy and simple-looking, colored w/o shading and drawn with minimal detail. This at-first-mediocre-seeming art actually began to grow on me after a couple of sections, and did a very effective job of relating Connacht's stories as flashback storytellings, giving them a sense of imagination and ancientness. The contrast between these sections and the current Conan sections gave this book a very nice sense of pacing, and with the size of this volume, it is almost like getting two stories in one! In a way, this is a sort of interlude between the early adventures of Conan and his launch into a much more public and exciting life. The immediate future of this series should be great, and my expectations are primed. Recommended!

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Cimmeria- most complete dark horse piece yet !!! By Kyoshi An epic tale (told by two artists - for "flashback effect.") This Conan story re-enforces Wolfe when he stated "you can't go home again..." Conan returns to his boyhood, Cimmeria, and find that people and their sense of honor, respect and loyalty have changed. A story of first love, lost, regained...avenged (but I don't want to spoil it for you.) This is the ONE to share with your wife or girlfriend-still not a "chick-flick" tale- "Cimmeria" appeals to the reader on several levels. Romance, revenge reunion and righteous indignation are all encompassing points of drama. Blood and guts (as needed) Conan has not softened (even a little.) Backstory of Connacht (grandfather of Conan) added for the Barbarian archive enthusiast. This remains a classic "exploitation" piece of bad guys who deserve a good "butt whoopin"

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A gorgeous mood piece By JT Lindroos This is the first of the Dark Horse relaunch of the Conan franchise I've read. I was a fan when Savage Sword was in its heyday, but lost interest sometime in the eighties. Browsing some of the earlier Busiek/Nord collections, they never seemed to beckon me to read them like this one did. I enjoyed the art, and was a longtime fan of Tim Truman's. It was worth a shot. And Crom, was I delighted with the results. This is a slow, melancholy tale. It rings true to both Howard's work and the Roy Thomas adaptations. It's beautifully drawn, though looking at the Giorello pencils at the end of the book, I wish it had been published in black and white. The balance between Corben's underground style and Giorello's classical modernism works. The story takes its time, which to my taste pays off beautifully when it's all over, and I think the only misstep is the Skrae which seem more like a nod to the bloodthirsty readers than to the story... but what do I know. I'd heartily recommend Cimmeria to Howard fans, and to old school Conan fans. It's moving, well thought out story that has emotional resonance far beyond your average hack and slash.

Conan Volume 7: Cimmeria marks a transitional period in young Conan's life, as he spurns civilization - with its turncoats and legal trappings - and returns to the beloved, brutal country of Cimmeria, where he was born and raised. The dangers found in the snowy mountain passes of his barbaric homeland are a welcome change from the mind games and treachery Conan encountered in the cities of the East, but there are unfortunate lessons in treachery to be learned here, too. When a tentative truce with the Aesir is threatened by the actions of Caollan, the first woman Conan ever loved, Conan again finds himself at the heart of a larger conflict that will test not only his physical strength and cunning mind - but his passionate heart as well.