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Chris Claremont, Bill Mantlo, Doug Moench, John Warner
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#520844 in Books Claremont Chris 2017-06-20 2017-06-20 Original language: English 11.25 x 2.00 x 7.75l,
#File Name: 13029013461000 pages Deadly Hands of Kung Fu Omnibus Vol 2 | File size: 42.Mb

Chris Claremont, Bill Mantlo, Doug Moench, John Warner : Deadly Hands of Kung Fu Omnibus Vol. 2 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Deadly Hands of Kung Fu Omnibus Vol. 2:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A hard collection to review By Jim Davis Like volume 1 this is a hard collection to review. It consists of two different types of content. The first type is the graphic features which are probably the reason these collections are being published and probably of the most interest to today's readers. I'll

return to these below. Then you have the text feature articles which focus on the contemporary (mid 1970s) martial arts scene. These consist of interviews, book and movie reviews, reports on meetings and tournaments, etc. Honesty compels me to disclose that I only skimmed this material. However, it is not without interest. Some of the movie reviews were movies I saw in the '70s and 'Deadly Hands' reviewers, opinions mostly mirrored my own. Some of the interviews held my interest as well. Bob Wall, who played the villain's henchman in *Enter the Dragon*, had some interesting comments on Bruce Lee, his personality, and skills. This was in marked contrast to the adoration Lee is usually accorded. But the graphic features are the main attraction. The best, and the only one that lasted the entire run, was the *White Tiger* feature that followed on from the *Sons of the Tiger* feature in the previous collection. Writer Bill Mantlo deserves most of the credit but his various artists and inkers hold up their end as well, with George Perez being notable. Although the strip doesn't end on a cliffhanger, the Abe Brown subplot is not resolved here; I think that happens in *Power Man and Iron Fist*. Then there is the 6 part *Iron Fist* epic by Chris Claremont. It's generally well written but I was put off by the cavalier treatment death gets in this story. Yes, it's the Marvel Universe, and nobody *really* dies but this aspect of the story really waters down the suspense and shock. The plot also was one of those where when the villain is defeated everything reverts back to the status quo ante; it's as though it never happened. A rather lazy plot crutch in my opinion. Ruby Nebres' art (he pencilled and inked) made it all go down smoothly, however. There was also a "Swordquest" feature that was set in Korea, in what looked to be the 17th century. It was fairly interesting but I got the impression that it was wrapped up sooner than originally intended. There are also some standalone stories. One featured *Iron Fist* vs. *Shang-Chi*, another was a *Shang-Chi* solo story, and there was another fine historical piece called "Samarai". Pat Broderick's art is wonderful on this last. One issue in this collection was dedicated to a Bruce Lee biography told part in text and part in graphics. It is surprisingly even handed. I was interested in the part where Lee and James Coburn are in India trying to get their screenplay produced. It eventually happened as "Circle of Iron" which I paid money to see back in the day...unfortunately. The last feature is another Claremont effort called "Daughters of the Dragon" featuring his private eyes Colleen Wing and Misty Knight. This feature does much to get this collection a "Mature Content" advisory as frontal nudity abounds. A story left over when the magazine folded eventually was published in *Bizarre Adventures* and is included here as well. It takes the feature in a decidedly supernatural direction. This feature held some promise but the magazine's cancellation meant that that promise would not be fulfilled. Extras are few and nothing special; some house ads, original art, and collection covers. Recommended if only for the graphic features. If the text features are of interest I highly recommend it. As with the first volume, the publishers had a tough decision. Print everything, including the parts of uncertain interest, or just the graphic features? They chose the first option. The superb production values go a long way towards making this purchase palatable. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Everybody loves Kung Fu fighting! By C. Aubry A tasty book that was worth the wait! Nice slick paper and good printing. I had hoped the book would have the original magazine height and width like the *Eerie* and *Creepy* reprint hardcovers, instead of being comic book dimensions, but I got over that disappointment quickly; the full pages are still easy to read; the lettering and art does not look squished. The full cover color reprints are awesome to behold; the stories are all reprinted in their original black and white; they look great. This omnibus also reprints all of the original contents pages, letters pages, editorials, and articles related to the Kung Fu fad of the seventies. I originally read *DHOKF* #29 when I was a kid and it was way over my head but still hypnotizing to me. As an adult, it is fun to be able to read the issues leading up to #29 and those beyond to see the context of the chunk of story I originally saw. While I could do without the dated non-comic prose articles, they kind of add to the overall fun of the book. Recommended if you liked the Black and White Marvel magazines from the seventies. It's a gorgeous book! 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. You'll Probably Want Both Books By thirtdtwin This volume wraps up the complete run of Marvel's *Deadly Kung Fu* magazine format book. Of primary interest to those who grew up reading it but never saw the complete arch or found out how it ended or for people who like martial art in general. Nicely put together in hardcover format for repeat readings and study of the art. Most of the characters showcased in this series survived the 1970's craze and were reused later in new contexts. Decent art in a solid format.

Completing this never-before-reprinted series, volume two shifts focus to *Iron Fist*, the *Living Weapon*! Written by Chris Claremont and with lush artwork by Rudy Nebres, Danny Rand battles *Firebird* and *Dhasha Khan* in a saga filled with the mystery of *K'un-Lun*! Meanwhile, from the ashes of the *Sons of the Tiger*, Bill Mantlo and George Prez introduce *Hector Ayala*, the *White Tiger*! Also featuring *Shang-Chi*, *Master of Kung Fu*; *Jack of Hearts*; *Swordquest's* samurai action; two team-ups with all of Marvel's martial arts heroes; and Claremont and Marshall Rogers' beautiful *Daughters of the Dragon*! COLLECTING: *DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU* (1974) 19-33; *MATERIAL FROM BIZARRE ADVENTURES* (1981) 25