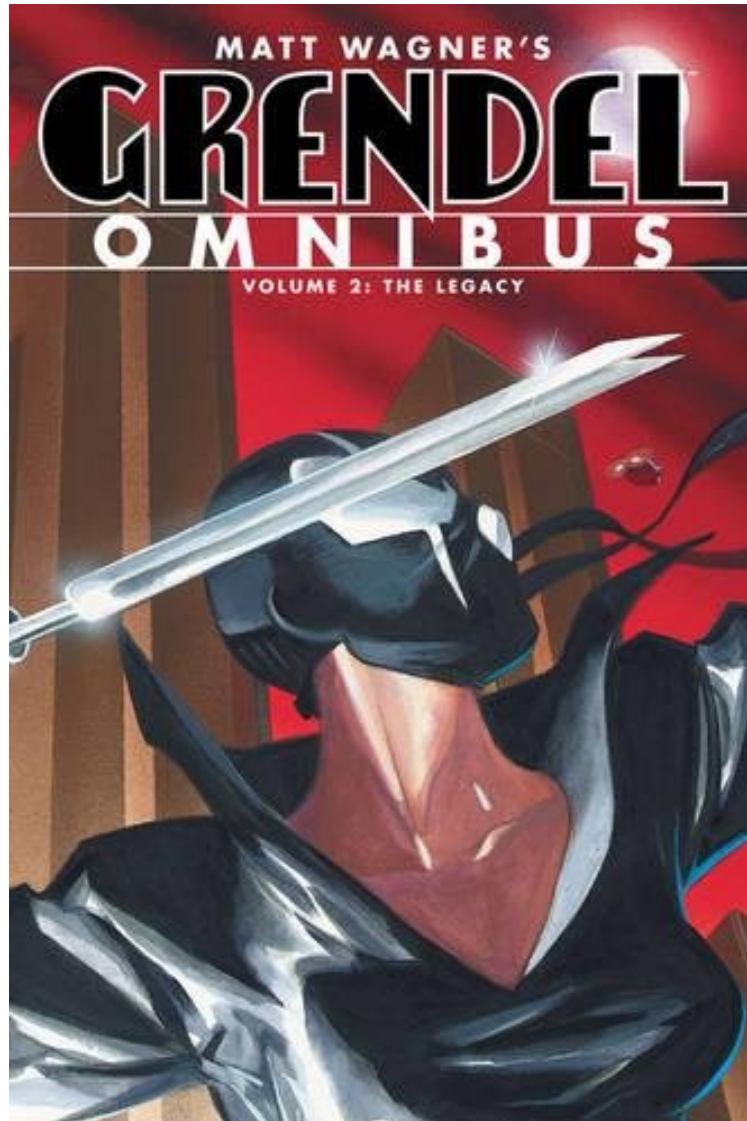


[E-BOOK] Grendel Omnibus Volume 2: The Legacy

Grendel Omnibus Volume 2: The Legacy

Matt Wagner

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Matt Wagner : Grendel Omnibus Volume 2: The Legacy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Grendel Omnibus Volume 2: The Legacy:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The torch is passed to a new generationBy Kid KyotoMatt Wagner's Grendel series has a gift for reinvention. While the first book focused on the gentleman assassin Hunter Rose, this book jumps several decades ahead into a near future world of flying cars. The book covers 4 different successors. First Hunter's adopted daughter Stacey story of abuse and madness is told. Then her daughter must take on the role of

Grendel to avenge her son. Then a survivor of the first story descends into madness as Grendel preys on his thoughts. Finally Wagner takes a look back at Hunter Rose. All 4 sections are very different and all are very, very good. Stacey's story is dark and disturbing, it's a powerful piece with a very different tone than the first volume or the story that follows. Christine Spar's story is the most straightforward of the three, a tale of horror and revenge set in the future as imagined in the 80s. Everyone looks like they stepped out of a Patrick Nagel print. And while there are no cell phones there are flying robo phones the size of a brick that follow you around. Instead of tablet computers there are TVs on robot legs. It's all kind of retro and charming. The second and third parts are much more experimental, playing with panel layouts and captions to do some very innovative work. One that stands out is a Hunter Rose story told in 25 panels per page! The illustrations are very tight but tell the story very well. Wagner could have kept going with Hunter Rose, telling crime stories in 80s New York but instead he broke out of his comfort zone again and again with new characters, new settings and new ideas. My one frustration is the continuing lack of publication dates, I'd love to know when some of these stories were first released to put them in the context of the time. The Great Comic Book Database (comics.org) and other sites help but really it should be included at the start of each chapter. Anyway, this is really good stuff and well worth the price. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Grendel continues By C. D. Varn Wagner's Grendel during the Christine Spar and Li Sung phases, both set in the future as imagined from the 1980s as well as the Grendel Tales, featuring Lt. Wiggins recounting Hunter Rose stories from the point of view of other characters, and a later story about Stacy's fate. This cycle begins to explore the way mask becomes aggression itself, and the demonic power of the revenge animates its use. The Spar and Sung cycles are more conventionally told, and some of the noir elements of both Wagner's early and later revisions of Hunter Rose is lost. That said, the story telling is strong after one adjusts to the eternal 1980s future as the backdrop. Admittedly, the conclusion to the Spar cycle seems rushed and the Sung cycle seems a little forced, but both set up some elements of the Grendel to come. The Stacy story at the beginning is mostly heart-breaking but does fill in the gaps between Hunter Rose and Spar. This is very good, but not as good as Wagner's Hunter Rose arcs given the more traditional comic book narrative employed in the main two arcs, and while the two other cycles are interesting and return to form, they are somewhat tangential to the larger story of Grendel. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Where the first amazing Omnibus edition focused gorgeously and exclusively on creator Matt ... By Eric Nolan Grendel Omnibus Volume 2: The Legacy can't match its predecessor. Where the first amazing Omnibus edition focused gorgeously and exclusively on creator Matt Wagner's first Grendel character, the arch-villain Hunter Rose, this second collection focuses mostly on supporting characters and Rose's successors. Devil Child shows us the cruel fate of an adult Stacy Palumbo, while Devil's Legacy and The Devil Inside follow Christine Spar and Brian Li Sung's turns as both heirs and victims of Grendel's identity. The Devil Tales coda of two stories at the very end are told from the perspective of Albert Wiggins, who was first introduced in the Spar and L. Sung story arcs. There are decent stories throughout; all except the first were written by Wagner himself. And I do think a serious Grendel collector would need to at least read these stories to grasp the overall continuity of Wagner's seminal work. (We see for the first time, for example, how Grendel is a conscious entity jumping from person to person.) But nearly all the stories have great pacing problems. I get the sense that Wagner wrote these during an experimental stage as a creator. There are all sorts of departures from standard comic book storytelling, in format, scripting, paneling, and point-of-view. These departures are interesting, but don't always pay off. Some of the stories were cluttered with too much text, too many panels, or even an unnecessary speaker. (Wagner himself appears to interject as a speaker in one of the closing Devil Tales; a distracting kind of narration runs throughout it, in scrawled overhead text that looks like an author's outline?) A few of these felt a little too long. Devil's Legacy, which follows the career of Christine Spar, was a great tale, and important to the overall mythos. Yet the otherwise brilliant Wagner seems to struggle structuring it over 12 issues; it is often too slow, with unnecessary dialogue and drama, and with too much attention paid to minor plot points. A lot of the artwork simply wasn't my cup of tea. While Tim Sale and Teddy Kristiansen shine in the first entry, most of the following artists do not. Ah, well. Wagner's brilliance still shines through, particularly with the two closing stories, which he wrote and illustrated. And all of the stories themselves, with their complex themes of aggression and identity, remain some of the most unique and interesting things in comic books as a medium. This was a good book despite its relative failings. I'd give it an 8 out of 10.

The legacy of Hunter Rose lives on through the tortured life of Rose's adopted daughter Stacy, and once again finds full bloom in Stacy's own daughter Christine Spar. Reviving Grendel's reign of terror, Spar leads the way for its murderous identity to claim more hosts, each more powerful than the last, and more malicious! This volume also contains Wagner's return as writer and artist, in a series of groundbreaking stories looking back on the career of Hunter Rose. Collects Devil Tales, Devil Child, Devil's Legacy, and The Devil Inside trade paperbacks. * The complete series, collected for the first time! * Featuring art by Matt Wagner, Tim Sale, Arnold Jacob Pander, and Bernie

Mireault!