

great surprise when I happened upon a copy of *The EC Companion*. This is a great read for those who want to get a solid history on the company and to learn a bit more about the 'behind the scenes' masters of those classic titles. Much like Les Daniels's 'MARVEL' this should be a required book in any comic book fans library. It's truly one of the injustices of pop-culture that the government stepped in to shut the door on the EC Horror franchise. So get the book, refresh your memory, and keep your fingers crossed that more and more EC Horror TPB's will be available in the future.

Fifty years in the making. This is the definitive story of EC Comics, the most notorious and well regarded mass-market publisher in comics history. The EC line - having published such seminal titles as *MAD*, *Tales from the Crypt*, *Two-Fisted Tales*, and so many others - was a high point in terms of craft and presentation. From the humanistic, well paced writing of editor Harvey Kurtzman to the artwork of lauded masters like Wally Wood and Bernie Krigstein, what truly sets EC apart from other pinnacles in comics history is its wider influence on American pop culture. *Tales of Terror!* is the most comprehensive overview to date of the EC Comics line: a visual checklist, creator index, guidebook and more! *Tales from the Crypt*, *Weird Science*, *Frontline Combat* and all of the other EC titles are included in this comprehensive volume that uncovers the amazing history behind the comics, from the very beginning to the bitter end, when the U.S. Senate drove EC out of business for allegedly corrupting America's youth.

From Booklist Nearly 50 years after they were crushed by moral guardians outraged by their Grand Guignol excesses, the genre comic books published by EC Comics still enthrall readers who grew up with them and generations of younger fans, too. EC's horror, science fiction, and war comics remain unsurpassed, and the early EC issues of *Mad* vitally influenced a generation of humorists and cartoonists. EC's output has been the subject of many lavish publications, including slipcased, oversize reprints of the runs of several titles and massive coffee-table tributes, but this book by two longtime fans is something else again. Its heart is a checklist, with detailed writer and artist credits, of every single EC comic book. This core is rounded out with interviews of comics creators, photos, private sketches, and other memorabilia, such as EC publisher William Gaines' testimony before the U.S. Senate subcommittee investigating horror comics. Most of the previous books about EC were designed for a relatively mainstream audience. This one aims at the hardcore fan-addicts--and should hit that target dead center. Gordon Flagg Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved [...] Most of the previous books about EC were designed for a relatively mainstream audience. This one aims at the hardcore fan-addicts--and should hit that target dead center. - Gordon Flagg, Booklist [B]eautifully designed...insightful...[Grade:] A. - Ken Tucker, Entertainment Weekly A marvelous scrapbook that provides a comprehensive checklist [and] a variety of interviews with and insiders' accounts.... - Adam Bresnick, Los Angeles Times Book A wonderful book! An EC lover's dream come true. - John Landis, film director About the Author Grant Geissman, (b. 1953, Berkeley, CA), is the author of several *Mad* magazine retrospectives, some of which have been Eisner-nominated. He's also an accomplished musician and composer, having recorded with artists including Brian Wilson, Elvis Costello, and Keiko Matsui. He lives in Los Angeles. Fred Von Bernewitz has edited several books concerning EC and *MAD* magazine and is also involved in an experimental film group called ReBirth Cinema, based in his hometown of New York.