



Baltimore, Vol. 3: A Passing Stranger and Other Stories

Mike Mignola , Christopher Golden , Ben Stenbeck (Illustrator) , Dave Stewart (Illustrator)

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Eisner Award–winning horror master Mike Mignola and Christopher Golden present tales featuring the world’s greatest vampire hunter on a quest for vengeance across a world overrun by monsters. A demented surgeon attempts to cure vampirism by creating greater horrors, and a perverse inquisitor reveals his own dark secrets, as Baltimore pursues the scarred vampire that he blames for all of it.

- Epic vampire horror adventure from Hellboy creator Mike Mignola!

Baltimore, Vol. 3: A Passing Stranger and Other Stories Details

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Author : Mike Mignola , Christopher Golden , Ben Stenbeck (Illustrator) , Dave Stewart (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Baltimore, Vol. 3: A Passing Stranger and Other Stories for online ebook

Chad says

A bunch of one shots featuring Lord Baltimore battling various monsters that arise. Ben Stenbeck's art is great.

George says

Strongly continuing, this series is truly incredible at what it does. Exploring themes of humanity, revenge, monstrosity, and the changing times and landscape of World War 1 amidst the cruelty and monstrosity, albeit ones of more supernatural nature than in real life. The art continues to perfectly suit the subject matter, with dark grays and blacks to keep the somber tone and red highlights of blood and coloring to stand out. Mignola is truly a master of his craft, as are the penciller, inker, and colorist, each working perfectly in tandem to create this chilling narrative that drives forward mercilessly, much like its protagonist.

Sud666 says

Lord Baltimore's 3rd volume is a collection of short stories. For the most part they are uniformly excellent.

The Widow- 4 stars. A widow is keeping company with her husband. But he died during World War 1. Lord Baltimore solves the mystery. The ending is poignant.

The Tank- 3 stars. An abandoned tank seems to be causing trouble for a village. Lord Baltimore finds out what the monsters are and helps a surprising victim trapped in the tank.

A Passing Stranger- 4 stars. Lord Baltimore passes through a small town and helps them to defeat some strange monsters.

The Play- 5 stars. A Haigus story. Haigus the vampire takes interest in a play production. Interesting story with an excellent ending.

Dr. Leskovar's Remedy- 4 stars. A Doctor has found a "cure" for vampirism. Lord Baltimore is about to help the town since the "cure" seems worse than the disease.

The Inquisitor- 5 stars. A superb story about the psychopathic Inquisitor Judge Dovic and how he ended up cursed.

All these stories have excellent art. The short stories are all very good, some of them brilliant. All in all this was an excellent Lord Baltimore volume. This is a great series.

Scott Firestone says

Rather than one long story, like the first two volumes, this is a collection of short stories about Lord Baltimore and his quest for the vampire Haigus. It's a nice break, and it lets Mignola and Golden explore rabbit trails they really can't in the longer forms. It's a fun diversion (though bleak as ever).

Matti Karjalainen says

"A Passing Stranger and Other Stories" (Dark Horse, 2013) -kokoelmassa lordi Baltimore jatkaa pitkää ja veristä vaellustaan kohti ruton ja ensimmäisen maailmansodan runteleman Itä-Euroopan löytääkseen perheensä surmanneen vampyyrin. Lyhyistä tarinoista koostuvaan sarjakuvaan lisäväriä tuovat muiden muassa amerikkalainen lehtimies, uudelleen perustetun inkvisition asiamies, ihmiskokeita tekevä tiedemies, jättiläisravut ja Edgar Allan Poen pää.

Ei kai näin herkullisesta pulp-vihteestä voi olla pitämättä, etenkin kun se on tehty taiten, tyylikkäästi ja tunnelmallisesti.

Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

A good tertiary addition to the Baltimore graphic novel series. Readers who love classic horror fiction can't help but enjoy this series, and this one just cements the classic horror sensibility of the work by Mignola and Golden. Forgive the pun, but they are a bit of a Golden Team for me. I think their writing is seamless where I can't figure out which part Mignola wrote and what was written by Golden. The artwork is sober and dark in color, matching the unrelenting darkness of the literary tone of the stories. Baltimore is a lone hunter who travels with one goal in mind: finding Haigus, the vampire who turned him and destroyed his family. Along the way, he will destroy evil he encounters. His relationship with God is complicated. He still calls him Lord, but he has a palpable anger towards Him. Baltimore seethes with it. He shakes his fists at God, but doesn't curse him. He only asks that he be left alone to seek his vengeance. To my mind, God manages for him to be in the right place at the right time, a fierce warrior against darkness and evil creatures of all kinds. I am not saying I like an invincible hero all the time, but I appreciate how Baltimore always ends up in tight spots where I would expect him to be a goner, but he manages to survive, even if he adds a few more scars to the landscape of his body and face.

It's hard to rate this as a good book, in the sense that it's not at all feel-good. It's very depressing in a lot of ways. The vampire plague has left destruction in every place, and all manner of foul creatures prey on the humans who manage to survive the plague and aren't turned into vampires. So, no, it's not an uplifting read. However, the writing and the artwork are beautiful and has a penetrating effect on me as I read. An excellent example of how successful the graphic novel medium can be for storytelling. And since I don't get to read much Gothic/classic horror, lately, it satisfies my palate for the stories in a quick reading format, and the art-lover/artist in me.

I'm ever so grateful that I am able to get this from my library. These volumes would cost a pretty penny to buy new.

So, yes, I do recommend it to readers who aren't averse to a dark read. It's violent and at times visceral, but

not at all over the top or graphic. As I said earlier in the review, it has the Gothic and Classic horror sensibility that any fans of 18th-early 20th century horror will appreciate.

Four well-deserved stars.

Rob says

Still really enjoying this series. Lord Baltimore is still on his killing spree against the undead, demons and all other evil. Haigus seems to be one step ahead of Baltimore. The psychotic Inquisitor, Duvic will stop at nothing to purify Lord Baltimore. These two are on an inevitable battle to the death. I can't wait to see them go mano y mano.

PS, There were a couple of very amusing cameos in this volume. I really liked the short stories format this round.

Octavi says

Ahora sí que ya soy FAN INCONDICIONAL de este personaje y sus novelas gráficas. Imprescindible para cualquiera al que le guste el terror gótico.

Vladimír says

Po úžasnom vol. 2 prichádza v sérii trochu odpočinková pasáž. Krátke príbehy nie sú logicky tak úderné ako celistvý príbeh, ale vyslovene ma táto medzihrá nenudila. Príbehy sú rôznej kvality, ale dá sa povedať, že idú podľa podobnej šablóny. Po krajine sa preháňajú monštrá od výmyslu sveta a ľudstvo je na tom fakt zle. Baltimore tu ale nevystupuje ako záchranca. Skôr sa snaží držať bokom, aby ho nič nevyrušilo v jeho hlavnej misii, zabíja upíra Haigusa. Zapája sa len keď je to nevyhnutné a tvrdí, že ľudia sa musia naučiť brániť sami. Som zvedavý, či sa táto jeho črta časom zlomí. Top bol asi záverečný príbeh s Inkvizítorom o ktorom sme sa dozvedeli niečo viac.

Ctgt says

7/10

One thing I don't really care for in various Mignola series' are these short stories. I much prefer a single subplot thread throughout the individual trade paperback. That being said there are still some great moments in this collection(I really enjoyed the story with the inquisitor)and it is still better than most of the mainstream stuff out there. Hits the bottom the four star range for me.

Sam Quixote says

Set during World War 1, this is a collection of short stories featuring Lord Baltimore as he continues his hunt for the vampire Haigus who was responsible for murdering his family. While a lot of them read like Mike Mignola on autopilot, they're not a bad bunch of shorts.

A Passing Stranger recounts the story of a soldier returned from the front, completely changed from his time at war; The Play is a meta version of Poe's The Masque of Red Death where the Red Death and the plague sweeping the town is real; The Tank features a vampire in a tank; The Inquisitor follows the story of the crazed inquisitor on his obsessive hunt for Baltimore. There are more but you get the idea – spooky stuff goes down, Baltimore shows up to kill things.

Baltimore himself remains unremarkable – he's like a mix of Hellboy and Witchfinder, and doesn't really stand out as his own identity in the Mignola universe. And being so good at his job of killing monsters makes reading him that much less exciting as there's no tension. As soon as he draws his sword and guns, it's over, he's won.

And if Baltimore as a character doesn't stand out, the stories in this book fail to mark themselves as particularly original. If you've read Mignola's myriad books from Hellboy, to BPRD, to Abe Sapien, Witchfinder, and this, you'll have come across familiar stories of madmen and monsters in other, better books. A Passing Stranger reads much like you'd expect a Mignola book of horror shorts to read like and doesn't really do anything special.

Some of the stories are more interesting than others but none are especially awful. Good or bad, they're all pretty dispensable horror stories you're unlikely to remember in a few months' time, which happens to have some lovely art by Ben Stenbeck. It's Stenbeck's art that makes this book stand out because it's so polished and imaginative.

I prefer the long-form storytelling of the earlier Baltimore books to these short, fragmented stories with a very basic tie between them: Baltimore on his quest to kill Haigus. This isn't a bad collection of horror comics as they mildly entertain, but Baltimore is at his best when part of a more in-depth story rather than several light shorts.

Cale says

I've been fairly tepid about the Baltimore books in the past, but this one really upped the stakes. Moving to post World War I apocalypse (something I've not seen before, and it works surprisingly well) and putting him in a world that is dying suited the character's sensibilities well, and the collection of short stories allows him to go in and out of situations much more freely. The title story was probably my favorite, but all of them work really well, from the moody despair of the Widow to the plot focus of the Grand Inquisitor, but Passing Stranger with its monstrosities of both science and nature really impressed me. It's a strong story and it strengthens the entire mythology of Baltimore.

Ευθυμ?α Δεσποτ?κη says

Ιδ?ες! Αν δεν ?ταν κι αυτ?ς ο ιεροεξεταστ?ς στη μ?ση, ?λα θα 'ταν μια χαρ?.

Orrin Grey says

Yes.

Okay, this is my favorite volume of Baltimore comics so far, easily. Part of this is just because I tend to like short stories more than longer-form stuff, but part of it is also that these stories are great, and that they do a great job of showcasing the expanding world that Baltimore takes place inside of, which I really like. My favorite stories are probably "Dr. Leskovar's Remedy," for reasons that are probably obvious to anyone who has read it, and too numerous to get into here, and the title story, which is also the only one I had read before. But really, everything in this volume is fantastic, from the "Masque of the Red Death"-ish "The Play" to "The Widow and the Tank." "The Inquisitor" is probably the least of the stories here, but only because it isn't as self-contained as the other tales, but instead is mostly backstory on a character we've already met. Still, this is a fantastic volume. Ben Stenbeck remains one of my favorite artists working in the Mignola playground, and Baltimore is increasingly one of the Mignola titles that I most look forward to, and most enjoy.

Gianfranco Mancini says

After two full lenght great Baltimore volumes, first anthology of tales about Golden & Mignola's vampire hunter is a mixed bag, but a few stories are real dark gems.

A passing stranger: 5 stars

Dr Leskovar's remedy: 4 stars

The play: 5 stars

The widow and The tank: 4 stars

The inquisitor: 3 stars.

"The play" is the best one for me: like Poe's Masque of Red Death with vampires in a nightmarish Verona.

Sipario, applausi.
