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Monstress Vol. 1



Synopsis

Set in an alternate matriarchal 1900's Asia, in a richly imagined world of art deco-inflected steampunk, MONSTRESS tells the story of a teenage girl who is struggling to survive the trauma of war, and who shares a mysterious psychic link with a monster of tremendous power, a connection that will transform them both. Entertainment Weekly praised MONSTRESS as "one of Image Comics' most imaginative and daring new series" and dubbed it the "Best New Original Series" in their year-end "Best Comics of 2015" list. Collects MONSTRESS #1-6

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Customer Reviews

Let me start this by saying I have never written a review on this site I actually cared to write, only out of respect for the vendors themselves. I'm writing this for the sheer beauty of this novel. My mother had lived in Japan and raised me with a lot of eastern principles and background, but in America. I love both western and eastern graphic novels. I've never found something that so fully meshed what I love about both. The plot is lavish and fantastical, but is lacking a lot of the eastern slant towards fetishized sexuality and brash comedy (think manga's common x'd eyes and oversized heads, etc.). What is there is there purposefully. This story is beautiful, developed, intelligent, new, and just

honestly unexpected. The book itself is higher quality than anything I've purchased in years. As an avid reader and writer, the book itself is important to me. The joy of feeling the pulp of the page disappeared as publishers stopped paying the money for the good paper. This book is three times the length of the average single volume western graphic novel and the pages are thick and strong, you can't help but give attention to it. It was the first thing I noticed. Where I had lost hope for the fantasy/scifi/steampunk genres in recent years as artists/authors got lazy and drew/wrote what we already knew, this is beautifully original and intricate. And it's 8 dollars. What. I don't even have words for that.

great art. I have the feeling the 2nd volume will be much better in terms of storylines. This set of stories tried to explain the world to you bit by bit, but without all the information about the world upfront, it was hard to follow. I.e. throwing new species at us without really explaining who they are and who they're against. Might be one of those things that you have to read a few times to understand. I'll def read it again before I read volume 2.

I loved this comic so much that, when I was just over halfway finished with it, I actually AVOIDED reading any more for quite a while because I didn't want it to end. That's how great it is, in my opinion. But boy, am I glad that I did finish it. This is the type of fiction that you'll have to experience multiple times in order to catch all the nuance and detail that's baked into it. Seriously, I went back and re-read the whole thing over again after finishing it for the first time and I appreciated it so much more than I thought I would. The world of *Monstress* is brutal and very, VERY violent but one of the many things I love about it is how lived-in and real it all feels, as if the denizens of this world existed long before I ever picked up this book and will continue to do so long after I put it down. The world-building, the characters, the art... they're all of absolutely top-notch quality. This series just has a look and feel that's all its own, like nothing else out there. If you have a hankering for a deeply immersive world filled with complex, rich characters, stunning artwork and excellent world-building, *Monstress* will not disappoint you. A must-read.

Very satisfying read from one of the best writers in comics, Marjorie Liu. Fascinating bit of world building on a scale similar to something like *Sandman* fronted with a heroine not too dissimilar from X-23, who Liu was the best writer for aside from Craig Kyle and Chris Yost. This is a VERY dense story that feels really only to begin in earnest at the end of this volume. So be prepared for a lot of familiarizing with the *Monstress* reality. I can't wait for volume 2

(I'd normally buy the single issues but this is both economical for space in my house, ha, as well as monetarily). I want a girlfriend with a functional robotic hand made out of wood!

Written by Marvel's award-winning female team of writer, Marjorie Liu, and Japanese Illustrator, Sana Takeda, for Image Comics, this is a stunning book containing the first 6 issues of the fantasy comic series, *Monstress*. The series has an engaging story line, nuanced characters, exquisite artwork, and it is already a smash hit. There is graphic violence and some nudity, so this series should probably be at least PG 13.

Got it for my daughter as a late Christmas present. It came super fast and in pristine condition. She only waited a day before reading and finishing it in under 2 hours. She told me she couldn't put it down, and that she lived how the artist and writer focus on world building while not overlooking the main plot. She's already looking for chapter 7 and anticipating volume 2.

Monstress is a truly gorgeous piece of art, both from a literary and graphic perspective. Marjorie Liu has created one of the most interesting and original new fantasy worlds in years, and Sana Takeda's lovely, complex, and occasionally disturbing artwork combine to produce a compelling piece of storytelling that is nearly impossible to put down. I began reading this book because I was intrigued by contrast of the picture of a beautiful young woman, who I came to learn was the heroine Mana Halfwolf, standing under the word "Monstress." I was extremely pleased to find that this contrast is developed as one of the primary themes of the story that blossoms into what may be one of the best blend of epic graphic storytelling and horror I've read since Neil Gaiman's *Sandman*. I strongly recommend this series to any fan of mature graphic novels who is eager to become immersed in a new universe of mystery, wonder, danger, and glory.

Monstress is everything I could possibly ask for in a comic series. It is rife with female characters, all of various complexities and backgrounds, and it is equal parts steampunk and equal parts epic fantasy. A beautiful merging of the two. Speaking of beautiful, Sana Takeda's artwork is a wonderful companion to Marjorie Liu's excellent writing. I have been recommending this to my friends as a series they should pick up. They may not love it as much as me, yet I hope they enjoy it as much as I do (and I hope others who are looking to purchase the TPB, will enjoy it as well).

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