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# The Demon By Jack Kirby



## **Synopsis**

After co-creating comic book heroes such as THE FANTASTIC FOUR and THE HULK, legendary writer/artist Jack Kirby came to DC Comics in 1970 to write and illustrate several characters, including Etrigan the Demon! Now these adventures are collected here in one graphic novel with JACK KIRBY'S THE DEMON! Collecting the entire, original 16-issue series from the early 1970s, part man, part elemental fury, Etrigan the Demon was bound to Jason Blood by Merlin to defend Camelot, only to become a demonologist in the modern-day DC Universe. This yellow-skinned creature became a mainstay in DC publications going forward in stories none more notable than Kirby's original run! Finally collected in paperback for the first time ever, this new collection is a must-have for any Jack Kirby fan!

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

When Kirby's ambitious Fourth World saga failed to be the blockbuster DC envisioned when they hired the comics legend away from Marvel in the early 1970s, the company asked him to come up with some nonsuperhero concepts. Among his proposals was one about a demon from hell named Etrigan, who is bound to a reluctant human host, Jason Blood. The Demon's horror-comics roots were somewhat afield from the costumed crime fighters that were Kirby's forte, although it harkened back to the monster comics he drew at Marvel before reviving the superhero genre with Fantastic Four, and Etrigan did possess powers including superhuman strength and magical abilities. Kirby's over-the-top story lines, overwrought dialogue, and, above all, singularly dynamic artwork placed The Demon more in line with his

larger-than-life superhero epics than with, say, the moody EC horror stories of two decades earlier. Although Kirby's original series ran for only the 16 issues collected here, Etrigan remains a popular supporting character in the DC Universe, even appearing in Alan Moore's Swamp Thing and Neil Gaiman's Sandman. --Gordon Flagg --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Jack "King" Kirby's comics career began in 1937 and continued for nearly six decades. With partner Joe Simon, Kirby first made his mark in comics in the 1940s by drawing and/or creating numerous features for DC Comics including SANDMAN, THE NEWSBOY LEGION and MANHUNTER, and for Marvel including CAPTAIN AMERICA, THE YOUNG ALLIES and the KID COMMANDOS. As the most valued team in comics, Simon and Kirby went on to create titles and concepts including FIGHTING AMERICAN, BOYS' RANCH and the creation of the romance comics genre. In 1961, the first issue of Marvel's FANTASTIC FOUR cemented Kirby's reputation as comics' preeminent creator, and a slew of famous titles followed that elevated him to legendary status, including INCREDIBLE HULK, AVENGERS and X-MEN. Kirby returned to DC in 1971 with his classic FOURTH WORLD TRILOGY, which was followed by THE DEMON and KAMANDI. Kirby continued working and innovating in comics until his death in 1994.

What more can be said that hasn't been shouted by the fans on this page already? This book should have a thousand reviews by Kirby fans...where are they? This omnibus is beautiful. The legend of Kirby coming up with The Demon over dinner is just another cool little anecdote about the King and his god-like talent with comic books. I loved these pages because it was fun to watch Kirby command the villagers, castles and garments of The Demon's world just as well as he does all that tech and sci-fi. The penciled pages as a bonus was amazing - sometimes the ink and color buries Jack's beautiful skill with a pencil. Demon fans, Kirby fans, classic comic fans...this is a great buy! There will NEVER be another Jack. Though some artists have tried, and there are certainly those that have a style all their own and their work commands attention (I'm thinking of John Romita Jr here) there is just something about Jack's style that lifts it off the page and makes you feel like you're looking at a master enjoying his craft...and of course, you really are.

I almost didn't order this book because of all the hub-bub over the paper. I knew I loved the comic and had not read it in years, but I did not want to be ripped off. No chance. From the introduction to the very end it was a joy to read. I liked the format, the color and the paper. Thank you for bringing

it to me cheaper than the cover price but even at that it is worth it. Now I can buy the Fourth World and other Kirby books I had wanted without worrying. I had forgotten how really great and different these stories were... brought back wonderful memories. Thank you.

Jack Kirby's entire run on the Demon, in one book. While a lot of people are into the New Gods, this somewhat macabre super hero/horror fusion does not get the props it deserves. The entire series takes place with no interaction with the rest of the DC Universe and still is enjoyable. Kirby built this character to last, he has been used by countless other artist and writer and even been on TV (JLA Animated). As for the paper issue. I rather like the paper, the coloring is great and gives you the feel of a "real" comic book. I hate it when a reprint is on glossy paper that shines under a lamp so you cannot read it. As for it "yellowing" as another reviewer stated this is speculation. The book is light in weight, and the binding stays open flat. I tried to see if there is any info on what sort of paper is used, it does not say. But you know for the price I will roll the dice and take my chances; the Kirby Books from the Fourth World series are still in good shape and have the same paper. Heck some of my older Marvel essentials printed on news print have not yellowed. So in closing I say fear the Demon, not the paper.

I didn't have any expectations when I read this book in one sitting. I was very surprised at the quality of the story telling; and the fact that it wasn't standard super hero fare. This one takes place after DC canceled New Gods and all its titles. The story is about a demon hunter and his band of friends. You can tell Mike Mignola of Hellboy must of been inspired by this book. It has a lot of Hellboy type of elements. The standard horror fare of the 40's: Frankenstein, Werewolf and many more are given a cosmic re-making with Kirby's art. What's really sad is the fact that DC never promoted the comic in its original publication. All 16 issues here are collected for the first time. It's a far departure from Kirby's usual story telling. However it works as a series and should have been allowed to continue for a long time.

The complete run of one of Kirby's best characters is between these covers- his art style, very much a product of its time suits the stories perfectly and the reproduction in vivid color allows you to see the line work too. This is and Kamandi are probably two of his most enduring works- the character in this volume has been used again and again since- including in Gaiman's Sandman series to great effect. It's a shame the last two issues of Kamandi were only shown in the barely published Cancelled Comics Cavalcade as Kirby came back to write the wrap up of that story- but at least you

can see the full run of Kirby's other best character in this volume in the form it deserves. Work the spine in slowly to avoid page loss and cracking the binding before you read it.

This is some really awesome stuff - Jack Kirby's writing is top notch and the stories here are all fantastic. I was blown away by how inventive some of these can get. The quality of the collection is also fantastic. A must.

A must-have item for new readers of Jack Kirby's 1970s work for DC, as well as for older collectors who might want these issues handy in one hardbound volume. The paper quality is superior to the newsprint used for the comics, and at the same time better than the glossy paper that Marvel uses for its Masterwork series. Everything is top-notch here, from Mark Evanier's foreword to the generous use of original Kirby pencils, supplied by Twomorrows.

This hardcover book reprints all 16 issues of The Demon comic book as written and drawn by Jack Kirby. The Demon is Etrigan, an actual demon, but he works for the forces of good. Merlin used his magic to turn the demon good, and also gave him the ability to turn into a human named Jason Blood. Etrigan/Jason Blood battled other supernatural beings throughout the course of the comic book, with the assistance of Randu Singh (an Indian mystic), Glenda Mark (Jason Blood's love interest) and Harry Matthews (a character obviously based on Jack Kirby himself). This is a really enjoyable superhero/horror comic book. But it would be nice if it wasn't printed on such cheap paper.

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