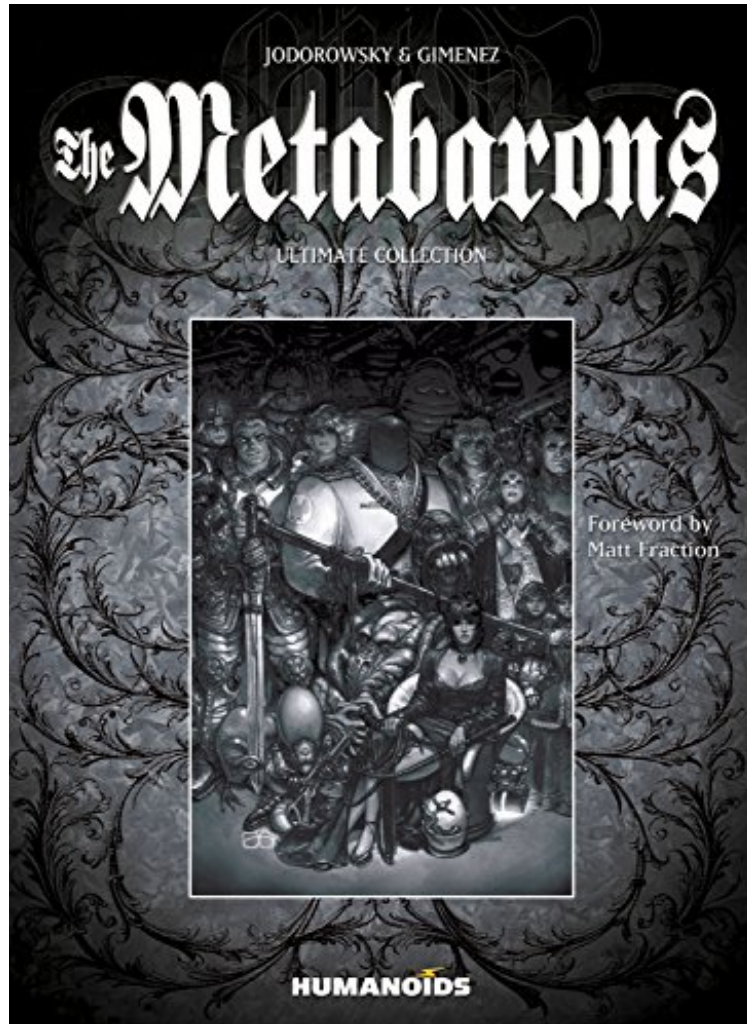


## The Metabarons Ultimate Collection

*Alejandro Jodorowsky*  
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#1154842 in Books 2012-11-13 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.25 x 7.75 x 1.251, .0 #File Name: 1594650144544 pages | File size: 41.Mb

**Alejandro Jodorowsky : The Metabarons Ultimate Collection** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Metabarons Ultimate Collection:

34 of 36 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant space opera + gorgeous artwork = outstanding book By Jess C. Horsley Toting a gorgeous cover and at nearly 550 pages long and almost 2" thick, The Metabarons Ultimate Collection is one of the most impressive comic releases I've ever come across. A spin-off of a character prominently featured in writer Alejandro Jodorowsky's The Incal Classic Collection, this hardcover is a compilation of writer Jodorowsky and artist Juan Gimenez's brilliant multi-part, multi-generational space opera which follows the Castaka Clan as their family grows to fame as the galaxy's greatest warriors, the Metabarons. Of course, the Metabarons' story involves so much more than the transformation of a mining family into the galaxy's most devastating and violent warriors; the story is lush with a fictional history that's encompassing and complete with characters that live, breath,

love, hate, kill, and die. In this futuristic Greek tragedy-turned-sci fi opera, creators Jodorowsky and Gimenez make it impossible to predict what's next. There's no telling what can happen within the pages of The Metabarons - especially when there are parasitic alien space fish the size of planets, mind-reading priestesses that can kill with a glance, weapons that can destroy civilizations built into human bodies, and a famed warrior intent on passing his rich history, twisted traditions, and violent weapons to the next generation - from father to son and killer to killer, ensuring the Castaka Clan name and Metabaron are forever honored. The Metabarons first made an appearance in Jodorowsky and artist Moebius' sci-fi graphic novel The Incal in May 1981. Since then, the Metabaron has grown in popularity and prestige, gaining his own graphic novel series which followed the generational lineage of the Castaka Clan. The original, French series began in 1992 with Othon and continued in 1993 with Honorata, in 1995 with Aghnar, in 1997 with Oda, in 1998 with Steelhead, in 1999 with Doa Vicenta Gabriela de Rokha, in 2002 with Aghora, and in 2003 with Nameless, the Last Metabaron. This original 8-part series was collected by Humanoids and published for English audiences in a limited, 17 issue comic series over a decade ago and was later collected in four graphic novels. It is these four graphic novels as well as two short stories ("The Crest of Castaka" and "The Incal's Dream") which are collected in the massive, over-sized The Metabarons Ultimate Collection. It's hard to explain to someone who's never picked up the comic what The Metabarons story entails, how truly brilliant Jodorowsky's writing is, or how amazingly beautiful Gimenez's artwork can be. Of course, some of the script can at times seem lost in translation (after all, it was translated from French to English), but that doesn't mean any of the violent action, intense drama, pulse-pounding suspense, or maddening tragedy is missing. One has only to pick up the massive The Metabarons Ultimate Collection to find all of the above. Chaotic, gorgeous, vicious, provocative, startling, and wholly foreign to most regular "superhero" comic fans, The Metabarons is truly original. As the fan-favorite comic writer Warren Ellis said about The Metabarons, "There is nothing else like this book." In fact, one of the reasons The Metabarons found popularity with an American audience was Ellis' commentary about the first Metabarons graphic novel - Othon Honorata. Ellis wrote "In its vast sets, broad gestures and hysterical pitch, it is nothing less than operatic. It is astonishingly beautiful and completely mad. What keeps me going back to The Metabarons is the immense volume and speed of its innovation. There is literally a new and mad idea on every page." Bold words by Ellis, a brilliant and popular comic creator, which no doubt helped attract fans to the series. And once people read, they - like Ellis - will find The Metabarons impossible to ignore. The Metabarons story features themes which are completely familiar: family, sacrifice, survival, lust, violence, and anger. However, due to the comic's unique setting and circumstances, the way in which the themes are presented can come across as somewhat alien. After all, most of us never torture our children or turn ourselves into cyborgs. However, this doesn't mean readers can't relate to the situations or characters. In fact, if anything, readers will find their own personalities reflected in the character's motivations and actions. Thankfully, Jodorowsky does a brilliant job with characterization and creates unique archetypes which are at once strangely unique and yet completely common. Later themes - such as grace, forgiveness, and love - likewise seem easy to grasp due to their less twisted and more appealing tone. While there's no doubt the characters themselves grow and the violent nature of the Metabaron sees maturation in the saga, readers also find the story revealing the writer's possible views on tradition and fundamentalism. One of the most prominent themes throughout the story's cycle is the search for perfection. A time-honored tradition within the Castaka Clan, each subsequent generation of Metabaron is taught from birth to never express pain, fear, regret, or emotion of any kind. This training thus takes much of the character's humanity away. It is, after all, human emotion which the Metabarons see as the ultimate weakness. And thus, each subsequent Metabaron searches for new ways to dehumanize himself in his quest to be the galaxy's most powerful, perfect warrior. However, it is the breach of this rule and the over-abundance of emotion felt by each Metabaron which drives the story forward, causing both heart-breaking tragedy and brilliant triumph throughout. Of course, the cycle can not come full circle until Nameless, the Last Metabaron, regains his lost humanity and accomplishes something his ancestors could not. For fans of incredible space opera, there's none better than The Metabarons. Likewise, there's no better way to experience this outstanding series than by picking up The Metabarons Ultimate Collection. Chock-full of vibrant, gorgeous artwork and a story that's action-packed, twisted, violent, endearing, and every type of strange imaginable, The Metabarons Ultimate Collection is undeniably one of the best comics to hit retail this year.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent stuff  
By Brian Spence  
It's kind of like a fairytale in space with some adult content. Very cleverly written and a lot of fun. The artwork is really inspiring. Highly recommended. Also, I've never read any of the other Incal stuff, and I'd say that none of that is necessary to enjoy this book on its own. Also, also, the production quality is higher than any comic I've read, possibly ever. Buy it now!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Escapist, without apologies to anyone  
By A. Bennett  
This over the top, boffo celebration of deus ex machina plot devices is so richly drawn and driven home with such relentless passion that it's impossible to not love it, eventually. At first I thought it might be rather dumb, but when I began thinking about the way the plot twists and turns, and the astonishingly absurd epic qualities of the story, I discovered that it had changed my ideas about science fiction a bit. Great, entertaining stuff.

A true classic in the pantheon of graphic storytelling and science fiction, The Metabarons is a multi-generational tale

of family, sacrifice, and survival told within an immense universe, both in scope and originality. This Omnibus includes The Metabarons #1-4 trade paperbacks, plus two bonus short stories.

"What keeps me going back to The Metabarons is the immense volume and speed of its innovation. There is literally a new and mad idea on every page." - Warren Ellis, writer of Transmetropolitan, Plan  
"The Metabarons is a magnum opus of unadorned emotion and one that will surprise you in its thoughtfulness and craft." - All-Comic.com  
"The Metabarons' cycle (...) is, to my mind, the greatest work of graphic fiction ever produced." - David S. Goyer  
"Every chapter has a new surprise, a new twist, a new way to raise the stakes." - beguilingbooksandart.com  
"For fans of incredible space opera, there's none better than The Metabarons." - <http://www.figures.com/>  
"...if you want an epic, brutal space opera with some hilarity throwing there between shocking events then pick up this book." - The Frog Queen  
"If you are looking to get sucked and spit out by this incredible space opera, than I cannot recommend The Metabarons any more." - MediaMikes.com  
About the Author  
Alejandro Jodorowsky (also known as Alexandro Jodorowsky) is a Chilean film and theatre director, screenwriter, playwright, actor, comic book writer, author, poet, mime, musician, and spiritual guru. He is best known for his avant-garde, cult films, such as "El Topo," a midnight movie favorite.  
Juan Gimenez is an Argentinian comic book artist. His style has become famous for the extreme attention he devotes to technical details. Gimenez has also written his own stories, such as The Fourth Power series.