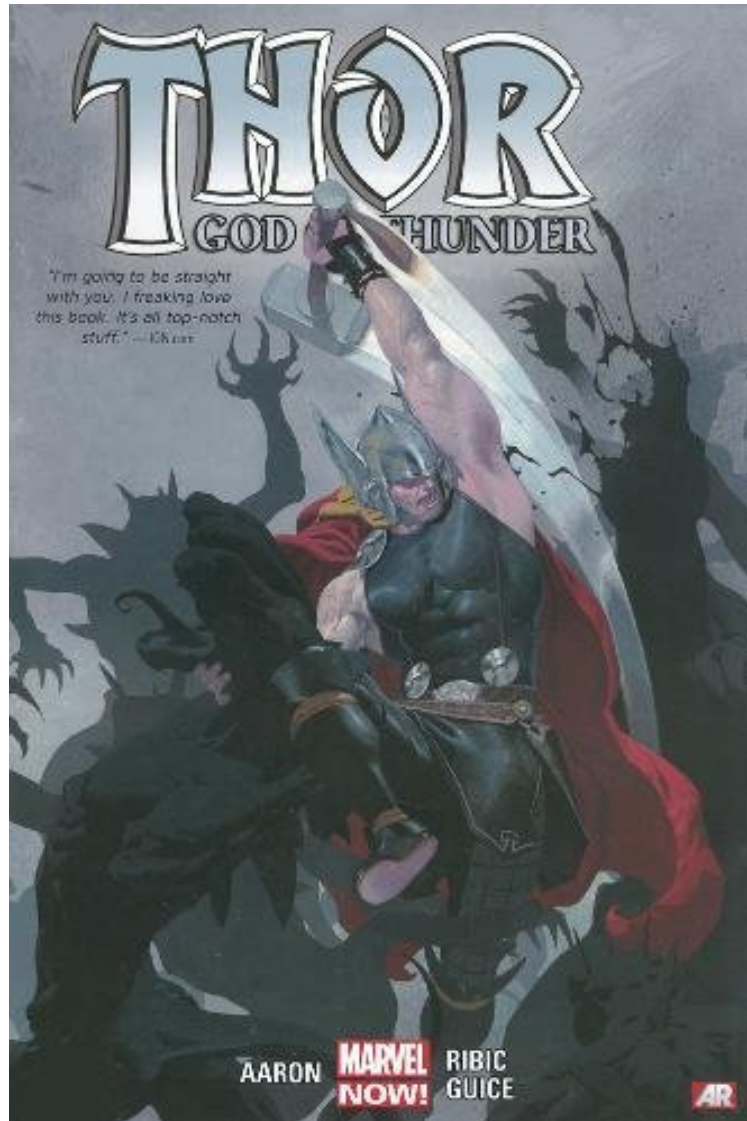


(Download pdf ebook) Thor: God of Thunder Volume 1

Thor: God of Thunder Volume 1

Jason Aaron, Esad Ribic, Jaskson Guice

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Jason Aaron, Esad Ribic, Jaskson Guice : Thor: God of Thunder Volume 1 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Thor: God of Thunder Volume 1:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Thor: God of Thunder Vol. 1, Collecting Issues 1-11 By Kevin Burke This review is for the 2014 hardcover edition that collects issues 1-11 of Thor: God of Thunder. First, on the collection itself. This is one of the best hardcover collections I've encountered that wasn't an "Absolute" or "Omnibus" or other special edition intended to focus on art or that included extensive extras. This is an over-sized (relative to the

comic book page, and relative to the five-issue hardcovers) collection with glossy pages. As you can clearly see in the image here and elsewhere, the dust cover uses Esad Ribic's cover to issue 3 on the front and #4 on the back, with the covers to issues 1 and 2 on the front and back cover, respectively, of the book itself. All are reproduced beautifully. This edition doesn't call itself a "Deluxe" hardcover or anything like that, but because Marvel's released the shorter-length hardcovers, there was clearly some incentive to make this an especially nice edition for collectors. And so it is. There are some bonus features, including a gallery at the end of variant covers to the first few issues, Esad Ribic's design sketchbook, and pencils for a few pages and pencil/ink comparisons for a few others. This is everything I want in a hardcover collection - it's exactly the right size and format to really read a story from beginning to end, it gives some insight into the artist's process, and it reproduces the original comics (which I own) beautifully. All I could hope for from a better collection would be notes from writer Jason Aaron, perhaps an introduction from someone famously associated with Thor, preferably in the comics industry, maybe even a full script for one of the individual issues. And I'd be willing to pay more for something like that. And to be clear, this is a book worthy of a much more extensive collection that includes all that and more, which I'll say more on now. Because the story of the God Butcher, and the way it is presented through these eleven issues is one of the great Thor stories. In terms of the story itself, it takes the idea of godhood and considers whether it is good or bad to be a god, and whether or not religion is worthwhile, given all the bad things that happen while the gods attend to their own affairs. It shows Gorr to be a sympathetic character, someone who has suffered greatly through his culture's belief in gods, or so he thinks, and who can see no recourse but to save all the universe from the lie (from his perspective) that faith in gods is to all living things, and how it adversely affects us. But Gorr isn't the hero of the story, and Aaron uses Thor not only as a protagonist, but as three separate protagonists at three points in his life, the young brash god not yet worthy of Mjolnir, the battle-tested Avenger confident and mighty, and the future King of Asgard, Thor of the distant future. This perspective on Thor in multiple aspects gives us a great deal of insight into what a god is and can be, and by the end we may see that there's some room for religion in the world, even if gods like Thor aren't perfect. Or you might gloss over all that allegory and just think that it's really cool as Thor solves a mystery, fights a bad guy all across time and space (yeah, there's time travel!), and we get to see Volstagg as a thin man and Thor's granddaughters of that distant future. Lots of action, drama, and suspense. It's an awesome good time. The art, too, is worth your time. If you like the cover, you'll love the book. Esad Ribic's style feels extremely fluid, which serves the action well, but it also allows so much room for your imagination. This is one of the first Thor stories I've read, and I've read decades' worth, that made Asgard and the affairs of gods feel like it was in a land beyond the knowledge of men, like it was something I couldn't quite comprehend with my own eyes. A great deal of the credit for that is undoubtedly also due to colorists Dean White and Ive Svorcina. It always feels like there's something subtle happening in the shadows, there's always something magical emanating from Mjolnir. As much as I've loved Russell Dauterman's work on the new Thor series, I really miss how Ribic made Asgard and Thor feel majestic in a way I hadn't experienced before, even with my favorite Thor artists. But above all, this is just a beautiful collection, getting the whole story of Gorr in one collection, including the entire vision of writer and artist (with the fill-in issue of Butch Guice and company in issue 6, well done but not as spectacular) in one book, with fantastic extras and a format that reads like no other. I've just acquired the second volume in this series, and I'm looking forward to it, but I know it can't possibly be as fantastic as this given that it doesn't have as cohesive an art, story, and design aesthetic as this volume. This volume has instantly become one of my favorite editions of comic art. Well done, Marvel.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Thor returns to his cosmic roots

By Jmaynard

It can be easy to forget that Thor is not just another super-powered human, especially since Asgard got relocated to Oklahoma. Jason Aaron's new Marvel Now series brings the God of Thunder back to his roots as an alien "god" who can and does travel across the universe. Moreover, he has been doing so for centuries. The book opens in 893 AD, as Thor is carousing with some Norse warriors after defeating a Frost Giant when a gruesome discovery is made - the decapitated head of a god. This is Thor's introduction to the God Butcher. The book then jumps to the present where Thor has answered the prayer of a child on a distant planet; he is confused as to why she didn't call upon her gods. Then he discovers they have all been killed. The Butcher is on a mission to wipe out every immortal. The story jumps between the past, present and future as Thor in all three times contends with the monster. It keeps to the forefront of readers' minds that Thor is a thousand+ years old, with experience beyond what a mortal can comprehend. Aside from a well-developed story with an original and challenging foe, I love how this Thor shows a maturity that is above false bravado. When Tony Stark helps him discover the place that Thor originally fought the Butcher and then prepares to depart and leave Thor to his "god business", Thor asks him for his help! This is the hero I admire but too often do not get. There is a lot of action in the story, much of it gory, but all in support of a riveting plot. My one minor quibble I have with the series is the art. I'm not a fan of Ribic's style. I prefer my art to be, "pretty" I guess and this looks unfinished and unglamorous. Never-the-less, it is not so off-putting as to ruin the story (as it nearly did for me in Thor Loki: Blood Brothers) and many readers no doubt like it. Overall, this is an excellent start for the God of Thunder and I can't wait to start volume 2 - highly recommended!

p.s. I do not like these new hardcover editions. I much preferred the hardcovers with a dust jacket over a leatherette binding. These books with the art printed on the covers look and feel cheap but cost more for less material. Not good, Marvel, not good.

1 of 1 people found the

following review helpful. Begins one of the great Thor runs in an awesome painted hardcover. By Dan Pace (feral atom) appears to be linking the reviews for two separate products here: "Thor: God of Thunder, Oversized HC, Vol 1" and "Thor: God of Thunder, Prem HC Vol 1 The God Butcher". I have both and tried to review both, but I only appear to be able to attach one review (even though they have separate listings. weird). The first collects Thor 1-11 in an oversized volume with dust jacket showing Thor battling the necroblade berserkers underneath is a painted cover with the same image as the painted cover for the Prem HC. The Prem HC collects Thor 1-5 in a standard sized volume. I tried to purchase the OHC but ended up with the Prem HC through . I ended up ordering the OHC elsewhere to avoid this listing confusion. I review the Prem HC first and then the OHC follows. Prem HC:=====This volume collects Thor, God of Thunder 1-5 and has a digital copy code. Extras include 11 pages of variant covers and a Ribic Sketchbook with 5 pages of character and cover sketches as well as 8 pages of pencils. These pencils are slightly pixelized in the effect surrounding Gorr, but much less noticeably than the oversized HC version of the pages. The rest of the art extras are excellent reproductions. If you haven't tried the digital copy, the presentation is great, panel-by-panel focus with zoom capabilities. It's a great way to take reading material with you on the road. The painted Ribic cover is gorgeous. Note that Thor: God of Thunder Vol 1 Oversized Hardcover collects the God Butcher and the God Bomb Premium Hardcovers, but does not have the digital copy code that the premiums do. I'd like to see Marvel offer the digital copy with their OHC and Masterworks titles as well. Axis and AvX had digital copies and are oversized. Anyhow, back to the content of this collection: Esad Ribic and Jason Aaron have produced one of the great Thor runs. No, I'm not suggesting that their run is the equal of Kirby-Lee or Simonson, and Ribic's output cannot match the volume of John Buscema, but their issues are definitely epic and potent. From the start, the viking heritage comes through. This Thor is rough and rugged. There is intense violence but it never feels gratuitous. The writing is economical and poetic at the same time, never feeling labored, never competing with the gorgeous artwork. There's almost a murder mystery air to it, similar, in a way, to the beginning of 13th Warrior where the gruesome deaths can't be explained and sheer terror sets into even the mightiest warrior's heart. I hope that after the cinema run for Thor, that Netflix or another cable network can do a high-end series on Thor: the God Butcher. OHC:=====Issue 6 is a fill-in issue by Butch Guice. It's quite a departure from Ribic and is not a painted style, but I liked it for this flashback story, revealing Gorr's origin. This origin really gives Gorr more depth. The origin of his weapon/powers also gets revealed in this issue. With issue 7, Esad Ribic is back in action up to the conclusion of the God Bomb in #11. We're introduced to Shadrak, a very entertaining jester character slightly reminiscent of Shlagen from Omega Men #4 (the guy who lets Lobo in). We also get to meet Atli, Ellisiv, and Frigg Wodendottir for the first time. There are a couple of battles that end up being resolved off-panel and I would've liked the notion that the blade absorbed god essence as Gorr killed each deity. In that way, his power levels would've made more sense. The art is gorgeous and the writing is the most potent Thor has been in a while. Hopefully, will correct the links to make these two separate collections.

A trail of blood consumes Thor's past, present and future! Throughout the ages, gods are vanishing, and Thor must unravel the gruesome mystery of Gorr the God Butcher! In the distant past, Thor discovers a cave that echoes with the cries of tortured gods! In the present, Thor follows the bloody wake of murdered gods across the depths of space. And millennia from now, the last god-king of Asgard makes his final stand against Gorr's berserker legions. As Thors from three eras race to stop Gorr, his scheme's full extent is revealed: what is the Godbomb? At the end of time, all the universe's gods are enslaved, building a machine that will forever change the face of creation. COLLECTING: THOR: GOD OF THUNDER 1-11

About the Author Jason Aaron is an American comic book writer, known for his work on titles such as "The Other Side," "Scalped," "Ghost Rider," "Wolverine" and "Punisher MAX." He currently lives in Kansas City. Esad Ribic graduated from the School of Applied Arts and Design in Zagreb as a graphic designer. He started making comics in the early 90s, doing shorts strips and illustrations for the Croatian "Plavi" magazine and German "Gespenster Geschichten." Ribic also worked for Zagreb Film as a film animator on such series as "The Little Flying Bears" and "Lapitch the Little Shoemaker."