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JoJo's Bizarre Adventure: Part 1--Phantom Blood, Vol. 1



Synopsis

The legendary Shonen Jump series, now available in English for the first time, in a deluxe edition featuring color pages and newly drawn cover art! JoJo's Bizarre Adventure is a groundbreaking manga famous for its outlandish characters, wild humor and frenetic battles. A multigenerational tale of the heroic Joestar family and their never-ending battle against evil! Young Jonathan Joestar's life is forever changed when he meets his new adopted brother, Dio. For some reason, Dio has a smoldering grudge against him and derives pleasure from seeing him suffer. But every man has his limits, as Dio finds out. This is the beginning of a long and hateful relationship!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Phantom Blood's art shows its age, but it's the start to an amazing series. Absolutely buy this if you are a manga fan, as Jojo is the origin of many popular manga trends seen today. The quality of this printing is worth the extra few dollars over the Kindle edition, and the quality of the series is worth owning both Kindle and print if you are a collector.

I'm probably one of the few people not introduced to Jojo via Stardust Crusaders, and coming into Phantom Blood cold is probably for the best, as I hear by the time JoJo's third iteration rolls around things are rather a bit different. What's here though, in volume 1 of Jojo is the start of something really interesting, albeit not quite to the meat and potatoes of the matter. In fact it ends at a really awkward place, it really should have gone one chapter (or two) more. But overall it does a great job at setting

the tone this series is going to take. Artistically the book is really interesting. Taking a page right out of *Fist of the Northstar*, where men are giant slabs of meat. And the violence always comes with buckets. The art is a bit rough, as it so often is for such a long running series that started in the late 80s. But that rawness is part of its charm. To see an artist evolve over decades will be this series's greatest treat. As for the rating... I'd have given it 5 stars if the Kindle version wasn't plagued with such image compression on its color pages. Major appearances of pixelated 'crush' can be seen everywhere. I don't know if this is unique to this version, and if it looks better on ComiXology or directly from Viz. Or if Viz just didn't care when putting out their digital copy files. But it sure is unnecessarily ugly. Which is a terrible shame. The one thing a mostly black and white graphic novel should have is uncompressed art.

Book Quality - First off the quality of this book is bar none there is so much detail and nuances in every corner of this book there is dozens of beautiful color pages throughout this manga which is not common for most releases, it's simply amazing. The printing and artwork is top notch I found myself many times admiring the art and taking it in, I collect manga and this goes down to one of my favorites just by its superb quality. **Story** - This manga has some of the best writing in any genre I've witnessed and some of the best story arcs, I have been blown away by it many times it never disappoints. The story follows the many generations of the Joestar lineage there is currently 8 parts and 8 generations so this story spans over many centuries which is uncommon in most books it's what truly makes it so unique and keeps it fresh and inviting for every installment!! **RECOMMEND THIS SERIES 100%!!!! BUY IT SO THE PRINTING WILL CONTINUE FOR ALL PARTS, NOW THAT WOULD BE BIZARRE!! :D**

Jojo holds a special place in my heart as one of the most epic manga series to exist. Though the title is popular in many countries, Jojo just hasn't gotten much love in the states till just recently. Which is a shame since it's a wonderful mixture of intense fights, tragedy, and music references with a splash of insanity. The artwork is beautifully inked and expressive, as with any work made by Araki. Though the story for this certain part may not be as strong as the others; it does however create the foundation for the later parts. Is the art great? Yes. Is the story pretty interesting? Yes. Will you most likely marathon read it and eventually pass out around 3 am? Yes. Will you be wondering what the heck is going through Araki's mind when he writes this stuff? Yes. Are you still reading this review instead of just buying this awesome manga?

I think it should be worth mentioning that this is NOT just an English version of the JoJonium books. If I remember correctly the Japanese JoJonium books are paperback and have green ink on the outer edge of each page. This version, on the other hand, is hardcover, and the pages are normal. In addition, there is no slipcase like the Japanese kind does, so you don't get the extra art of the slipcase. That being said, it's still very good! So far no ink rubbing off like I heard about with the Japanese version. New Jonathan is looking great, although the same cannot be said about Danny. Araki's dogs are looking weird lately. Dio is rocking the pink hair on the back cover, though.

JoJo's Bizarre Adventure is probably one of the greatest manga series to ever be created, but you probably already knew that. This is the first time Phantom Blood and Battle Tendency (parts one and two) have been released in the States, and boy was I excited. Of course some of the names were changed for copyright, like "Bruford" to "Bluford," but at least it's here. Also of note for this special edition is that there are some color pages! Of course I was expecting the whole thing to be full color pages like the official color scans, but in some pages there are only a few colors and not all of the pages are in color, which was disappointing but not unexpected. Of course this gets five stars, it's JoJo. If you haven't read the manga or watched the show (the fourth part should be out really soon) then you need to start. I know some people like to skip to part 3, Stardust Crusaders, since it's the most popular part, but you would be hurting yourself greatly by skipping the first two parts. Oh yeah and even though the anime for this part is basically Stardust Crusaders style of work, this is much more 80s, so it looks a little dated. I like the little interview at the end too, it gives a little insight to the author's creation of the characters.

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