



Strange Embrace

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A tortured modern gothic tale of madness, death and sexual longing. The world of Strange Embrace is one of pain and sorrow, obsession and damnation - a world that twists and pollutes the lives of all that enter it. FOR MATURE READERS.

Strange Embrace Details

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From Reader Review Strange Embrace for online ebook

Artur Coelho says

Entre o gótico e o grotesco, não há bondade nesta história de terror onde se cruzam um sociopata com capacidades telepáticas e o velho dono de uma loja de antiguidades, sexualmente reprimido, incapaz de ter relações normais com familiares e mulher, e que vive fascinando por estatuária africana. Uma família tortuosa, um suicídio, e uma imagem mental que o telepata quer à força arrancar para completar o puzzle formam esta história inquietante. O estilo gráfico é tenebroso e fortemente reminiscente do expressionismo alemão do século XX, cheio de contrastes e linhas cortantes.

Tony says

Unsettling horror dripping with dread. Both the main story and the shorts are some of the best horror comics I've read.

P. says

I feel like I need to instate a "tawdry" shelf for this one. Although I'm not sure why the description says FOR MATURE READERS - this is no worse than many of the dark comics written for adults. It's a nested story fueled on melodrama and a Dark Secret that causes our proxy protagonist to become obsessed with the worldview he reads in his collection of African statues and masks - his story is told via a telepath who has a collection of dead people. He's telling the story to a delivery boy whose family's shop has the misfortune of supplying the protag's groceries every week. Hine's art is built on strong shadows and thick black lines, especially in intense moments. He plays on the theme of the African masks in his character designs and facial expressions as well, building in the emotion and the ...leitmotif(?) that way, and this adds an extra dimension of harshness and foreboding to what might otherwise be an over the top story of a seriously dysfunctional family (with a layer of effed up paranormal boarder on top). If you've read the adaptations of Lovecraft and been disappointed, this one would be for you. It's more original and has more ins to connecting with the people in the story. I think using human folly as the crux of the shocking content adds to the story in the way that tentacled otherworldly gods cannot.

Peter says

Excellent art and a really intense story. Incredibly nihilistic and depressing as well, so avoid if you are looking for an up-lifting read!

Laura says

I shiver each time I think of this comic. It was superbly written and drawn. Fantastic

E. says

Silence.

Pure Silence after finishing this book.

You are taken for a very interesting journey that makes you believe the world we live in, at the moment, is a utopia. Honestly the artistry of this graphic novel is superb, somehow it's creepy styling conveys the true atrocity of everything that is taking place. Everyone in that novel is hard to look at, but somehow it comes across as beautiful. Just wow. I heard about it from comicbookgirl19 on youtube and I am glad that I ordered it. I did get an autographed copy from someone who no longer needed it, and I am satisfied. I am not into horror but this was worth it. However...the ending could have been better, it just felt blah. The build up is the best part and it pretty much makes up for the ending. In the end I loved it.

Amanda says

After a bit of a slow start this was a quick, disturbing and thrilling read. Not exactly the art style I usually like, but it fit the story so well I didn't mind.

Derek Royal says

Re-read for my graphic novels reading group at the Frisco library. Nicely creepy. The end, though, still strikes me as too abrupt or underdeveloped.

Marissa says

A very dark and fairly compelling graphic novel about a sadistic telepath and an intensely dysfunctional family. I enjoyed it, even if it got somewhat overwrought in patches and one of the centerpieces of the narrative, African tribal masks and statuary, is used in a quasi-offensive and simplistic way.

Mel says

First, let me say that this story was pretty weird. It wasn't really that scary, but it was disturbing, especially as it got close to the end. I had to deduct a star because I thought the very last panels were a bit convoluted. This comic was done in entirely black and white and I have to say I thought it really worked with the weird twilight zone on magic mushrooms vibe. I didn't like the drawing style at first, but it kind of grew on me as I went through the story. In the end, I have to say the art really fit and I ended up liking it.

This is not for the faint of heart, as it is filled with some perverted mean spirited sex stuff that is more likely to give someone the creeps than put them in the mood. I liked this though. It was creepy and fun and different. The writing was good and the art was well done. The only reason this did not make my best reads

pile because the story had kind of a rushed ending in the last few panels. Anyway, all in all an enjoyable read that was super weird.

Eli says

Really dark and creepy. I didn't realize just how much it had affected me until I started having dreams about it that night! eek! Not good before-bed reading for sure. Though I think that just goes to show how good it is. I've never been so creeped out by comic before. So if you like the weird and disturbing, it's definitely worth picking up.

gradedog says

Very strange indeed. Gripping story. Fascinating and creepy. Jarring artwork adds to the twisted plot. Story went to a place I could not see coming. On the down side, it ended rather abruptly after a such a twisty and ghastly tale. Worth the read nonetheless.

Russell Willis says

I worked with David Hine to create the definitive edition of Strange Embrace for SEQUENTIAL. This new version contains audio commentary by Dave for each and every page, production sketches, an interview conducted by Paul Gravett, an academic article on the book + the whole 150-page initial script. More details here.

<http://store.sequential.cc/catalogue/...>

Victoria says

Ryan recommended this to me, saying it was one of the craziest graphic novels he had ever read. Boy was he right. The story was very intense and unexpected, and leaves you with chills. I don't really know what to say about it, other than that it is the story of a very messed up family, told through a very strange lens.... I recommend for anyone to check it out, but note that it's definitely not light reading.

Kris43 says

I can't believe that this is a comics book! Don't get me wrong, I harbor no prejudice against comics, I love them. It's just that I so rarely stumble upon one with such intense and compact story as this one! So I wasn't expecting it. By the end of it, I had a feeling I've been reading a 2000 pages epic, not a comics book.

There are layers and layers of story line here almost none of it good for the characters and enough twists to make you wonder what will they have to endure next?!! This story is deeply twisted, sick and disturbing and

not always in a pleasant way. I think I'll need a few days to shake off the unsettled feeling that lingers...

Its hard to describe the story. In its basics it's about one little boy who is unloved and ignored, has amazing, sinister powers and endless appetite for cruelty. He is a collector, of sorts...He reminded me of the Devil! If you wonder why, wait until you find out how he goes about collecting his 'stuff'.

The artwork is also interesting. At first glance, it looks very crude and simplistic, not much details. So at first, I thought its not so good. I soon changed my mind when the first major dream-scape twist occurred, the whole artwork came into focus with disturbing clarity, so full of sharp edges... Amazing!
