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# The Black Monday Murders Volume 1



## Synopsis

“MAMMON” ALL HAIL GOD MONEY! From JONATHAN HICKMAN (EAST OF WEST, Secret Wars, Avengers) and TOMM COKER (UNDYING LOVE) comes a new crypto-noir series about the power of dirty, filthy money... and exactly what kind of people you can buy with it. THE BLACK MONDAY MURDERS is classic occultism where the various schools of magic are actually clandestine banking cartels who control all of society: a secret world where vampire Russian oligarchs, Black popes, enchanted American aristocrats, and hitmen from the International Monetary Fund work together to keep ALL OF US in our proper place. Collects THE BLACK MONDAY MURDERS #1-4.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you coupled True Detective Season 1's acting, philosophy and occult dabbling with Season 2's evil shadows that flowed behind those in high finance, then there will be no better Graphic Novel for you. If there is such a thing as a drawback to this work, it's that it reads extremely fast.

Jonathan Hickman corpus is a very mixed bag, and this occult conspiracy comic about banking is highly stylistic, plotted, and interesting. The slow unveiling of the conspiracy and mythology is fascinating, the premise is solid, and the multi-textuality really works here in a way I have rarely seen since The Watchmen. The plot may be too slow for many, and the mythology too highly complicated--think comics like Fatale or prestige television shows like True Detective and/or

Carnivale. The art direction and symbolism is highly stylish and reminds one of both True Detective's paranoia and the slip cutting from the rival of neonoir in the late 1990s. While the plot and conspiracy are arc and overcomplicated, the symbolism behind human sacrifice for Mammon is perhaps too on the nose. The character development is highly fascinating as is the variety of unsympathetic characters. Indeed, the number of factions and characters that exist in this comic can be Byzantine in a way that almost reminds one of G.R.R. Martin's Song of Ice and Fire. It can give a reader some serious whiplash. Those flaws aside, the richness of the world, the noir artwork of Tom Coker, and the fact that the concept is so highly strange for the comic book genre, it does seem like a work of love. I am willing to give the slow progression a chance.

First, let me say that this is one of those series that you REALLY need to purchase a physical copy to get the most out of. The reason I say that goes beyond your standard artwork and into the style and layout itself; basically, you have pages that are set up with words, pages that have giant art spreads on them, some with one or two words, and more. When checking this out digitally - and I did check it out digitally before looking into the physical copy - you lose a lot of that. Second, this is a very engaging story. We cross through different periods while also looking into a constant, money, and what is smoke in legend and what truly remains. For example, what caused the monetary crash in the 1920s and what was the response? Do we trust textbooks that read like hymnals to Wall Street, or is there something more monstrous lurking in the backdrop? I have liked the exploration of that, and I like the way that this proceeds forward, which I have the luxury of knowing something about as there have been more comics released as of now. Currently, this story is closing in on a volume 2, and you can truly tell that this is a horror-themed tale. In the first volume, you could have made that assertion - I did, but I also spoke to people that made an interesting case against this, where this could have still leaned into Weird Fiction or Sci-Fi. I like having some solid horror in tales, and the way the artwork ties into this is amazing. Third, there is the artwork, which is solid. You can find samples of it all over the place, and I would suggest checking them out because they are well worth looking into. Tom Coker does a great job here (I liked his contributions to Near Death and Daredevil Noir in the past), and I wonder if having some directorial experience in movies helps with that. This helps with the way this is put together, giving the tale a disjointed feel that adds to the way this comes together, while also making something someone can easily follow along with. I really like the series. It is horror, the kind that can induce some thought into what is going on, and not the shallow type we sometimes see on display these days.

Hickman writes an awesome story about the stock market and magic. A must read for anyone. You dont even have to like comics to enjoy the story of this book.

Ultra-cool and super morbid. Quite brilliant writing and amazing art. This came out of nowhere! I can hardly say any more!

Epic. Nothing else can beat that word. Surrealism not just in the imagery but in a unique combination of realistic magic of the 2st century. Dark and speculative (imagine Terry Pratchett pyramids but on the dark side)

I love Jonathan Hickman. His topics are always interesting, his characters both bombastic and subtle. The idea of viewing global finance as a international cabal of Mammonion lunatics is a modern condition.

Amazing. I'm obsessed with the world in these pages. The story and art leave you wanting more and more. Blood for flood.

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