



Jonah Hex: No Way Back

Justin Gray, Jimmy Palmiotti, Tony DeZúñiga (Illustrator)

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One of the most feared bounty hunters in the West, Jonah Hex has spent his entire life roaming from town to town searching for his next paycheck and earning it with a fierceness that's earned him a reputation for being a stern dealer of frontier justice. But behind that hard exterior exists a man who longs for the same comforts as any man - including love.

This original graphic novel sets Hex on a collision course with his past and future as he struggles to reconnect with his dying mother and searches for his missing lover Tallulah Black. By the end, the hard-living anti-hero will have to face the truths behind how his upbringing shaped the man he became and decide where to place his fate - in the arms of a woman who cares for him, or in the vast, unforgiving American West he's come to call home. But can he handle family life?

Never, in the history of the character, has a story explored the motivations of Jonah Hex more than this self-contained tale from regular monthly JONAH HEX writers Jimmy Palmiotti and Justin Gray and returning artist Tony De Zuniga, one of Hex's original co-creators.

Jonah Hex: No Way Back Details

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Download and Read Free Online Jonah Hex: No Way Back Justin Gray , Jimmy Palmiotti , Tony DeZúñiga (Illustrator)

From Reader Review Jonah Hex: No Way Back for online ebook

Chad says

Hex finds his mother while heading towards a final confrontation with El Papagayo. Gray and Palmiotti outdo themselves with this tale of lost family and revenge. It's a story that speaks to Hex's past and future. Tony DeZuniga was the original artist on Jonah Hex. His art may have worked at the time, I found it muddy and scratchy with too little detail.

Gayle Francis Moffet says

If you're gonna borrow from the Western pulps to write a Jonah Hex book in the 2000s, could you *please* skip the parts where women are abused, ignored, or raped and write a story where they have some agency?

What's that? You'd rather write a story where every woman is either a prostitute, a virgin who's raped before she's killed, or a despondent drunk who left her son behind to marry another man to escape her abusive husband? And you never really explain *why* the kid can't go with her because to do that would require you to come up with a better backstory for Jonah Hex?

All right. Great. I'll be over here drinking until my liver curls up and dies. This is the first Jonah Hex book I ever read; I'm not certain I want to read another.

Kiki says

Palmiotti and Gray's Jonah Hex has been one of my favorite books since it first appeared. I'm also a fan of Tony DeZuniga's art, though I admit it's not for everyone. Those who prefer the more modern, slick, photoshopped art may not like the sketchbook quality of DeZuniga.

The story is violent and dark. Hex is a true antihero. He's not a sociopath, though one could probably make a strong case for the disorder. I'd call him more of an asocial personality. He has his own code of ethics; it's just not the code set by society. No Way Back shows that Hex is a man of action, not words. He doesn't care about El Papagayo's, his mother's or Joshua Dazzleby's justifications. Hex only knows that they made their choices, and everyone must live (or die) with them.

My only complaint with No Way Back is the same one I've always had with Palmiotti and Gray's storytelling. It, like the art, is occasionally sketchy, leaving the reader to fill in gaps in time or logic. It's either a stumble with the medium or a conscious choice of the writers'. Or, you know, a conscious choice that happens to be a stumble. Whatever it is, it's never been a huge problem for me as a reader, and it's a good lesson for me as a writer. I'd give this book 4.5 stars if I could.

Greg (adds 2 TBR list daily) Hersom says

Typical Jonah Hex which equates to awesomeness

Lynda says

Instead of the stories I have read before, this is a novel. Jonah Hex should have heeded Thomas Wolfe's advice: You can never go home again. Even if no one else has changed, you have changed.

I liked the novel, but it wasn't as good as the short stories. The art was not great.

Brian Dickerson says

A bit of an origin behind Hex's depressing anti-hero travels through the wild west. I enjoyed seeing the family interplay and past sins. It was nice to read a longer story with this character as most stories I've previously read are one and done comics collected into trades chronologically. If I were female, I'm not sure how I'd feel about the portrayal of women throughout this story.

The art seemed basic and too muddy at times but I felt it fit well with the storyline and character.

Paul Riches says

Jonah Hex Offers No Way Back

Jonah Hex. He really has had a troubled life. To put it mildly.

And the graphic novel Jonah Hex No Way Back clearly shows this.

This tale, created by Justin Gray, Jimmy Palmiotti and Tony DeZuniga takes the decades old DC Comics old west character and not only refine and redefine him, but adds new vibes to the who and what of Hex.

Jonah Hex, and please ignore that movie claiming the same title, has always been a bounty hunter who lived by his own code and has absolutely no compunction about killing. This plus a seriously disfigured face, a nasty anti-social attitude, and a massive almost destructive taste for alcohol and woman, make Jonah someone you love reading about but never want to meet. DC mucked Hex up in the 1980's by pushing him into a Mad Max future, and in the 1990's by having him face over the top supernatural menaces.

But Palmiotti and Gray were given the keys to Hex some years back and did wonderfully great things over the course of two series, including the recently cancelled All Star Western.

No Way Back shows us a Jonah Hex who is just going about what he always does, collecting bounties and spending the money on vices, when he finds out about a reward offered for his mother. This sets Hex out on a quest to find her, even though he has not seen her since he was a child.

Hex finds his mother, makes no peace with her, but finds out he has a half brother. Hex seeks the man out, and in a lot of ways this becomes a road not traveled type of story. To compound this feeling, flashbacks are liberally scattered in the tale showing Hex's childhood with his caring mother and violently abusive and sadistic father. The brutal punishment Jonah tolerates and survives is an obvious factor of who he is, but not something Hex himself would never ruminate on.

To complicate his journey, a mysterious and vicious villain is carrying out a vendetta against all things Hex. El Papagayo and his gang causes endless death and misery on his mad quest to take on and destroy Jonah.

Which reminds me, Jonah Hex is fairly violent even before Palmiotti and Gray took over, but these creators take this up a notch to HBO levels. This graphic novel pushes that even more with the violence and subject matter and deeper questions asked.

Jonah Hex No Way Back slams headlong into the nature nurture question, just as so many alternative worlds stories DC has done featuring Kal-El. Jonah himself is not one for introspection, an act he would consider a colossal waste of time, but this tale is structured to make Hex face so many of his childhood traumas. But really it is the reader as bystander who sees and feels and lives what Hex goes through and the processing of it all. As I said earlier, Jonah is not one for dwelling in the past, and what little learned morality Hex does express in this story still says volumes about who and what he is.

The Hex presented here, tweaked and even more grounded in reality than ever before, is a character who can generate countless grad school essays of a psychological and sociological basis. The final few pages alone provide endless fodder for speculation of how Jonah came to be Hex.

I have a strong feeling No Way Back was the impetus for adding Arkham to the Hex mythos when All Star Western was launched as part of The New 52. Which makes this another reason why I love this book so much.

Jonathan Maas says

My intro to Jonah Hex - and it was a good one. Gray and Palmiotti do not sugarcoat the character, who is such an antihero he makes the Punisher look nice. Nor do they sugarcoat the other characters in this world. Like A Game of Thrones - there are few people that are good enough to hang on to in this world. Bad guys run free, and worse guys are the only ones who can catch them.

But a great tale, with great art by Tony DeZuniga. Gray and Palmiotti have now got me into Jonah Hex, and for that I am grateful!

Frank says

More Jonah Hex greatness that I read this year & forgot to add to my list. This book is just western fun. Gray and Palmiotti flex their writing muscles and kill it on this volume. If you are a Jonah Hex fan, this is a great read!

Mohammed Abdi Osman says

De Zuniga's art is the best i have seen with Jonah Hex along with Jordi Bernet. He could draw Hex in so many different emotions.

The story was very good too as always when its about Hex's family,nemesis.

Don says

Like most of the Jonah Hex stories by Palmiotti and Gray, this was outstanding. All the stuff with Hex's mother and El Papagayo probably has more significance for people who know more about the history of the characters than I do, but I enjoyed the book anyway. (Hex killing El Papagayo is like Batman killing the Riddler. He's not his #1 foe, but he's up there. Plus, this is a comic book. "Dead" characters show up again all the time.)

I'm sure a lot of people will be turned off by Tony DeZuniga's artwork, but I enjoyed the stylistic manner of it. I think it worked well for the series. Plus DeZuniga co-created Jonah Hex back in 1972. Bashing his art is like saying Joe Shuster drew Superman poorly. There are some things you just don't do.

PJ Ebbrell says

A full length epic, a gritty, brutal spaghetti western of a comic book/graphic novel. Lots to get your teeth into. Not sure, if I approve of finding more Hex relations, but a great contrast of the family and the damage that can happen. It is nice to know that Tony DeZuniga is still drawing, but not as sharp as his earlier work and there is some historically inaccurate clothing in a couple of panels, but this might have been editorial inking.

Not for the faint-hearted and great to see the western comic book firing on all cylinders.

Jesse A says

I just love Jonah Hex. Another bloody, good story.

Jeff says

3.5 stars

Revenge is a dish best served cold - by psychopathic cowboys.

Yee Haw!

There's nothing like a tale about screwed up family members looking for vengeance. Jonah Hex, disfigured

bounty hunter, is still smarting about being abandoned by his mother and left with his cruel father. When he gets word that she's wanted for murder, Holy Oedipus, he's in hot pursuit.

To make matters worse, El Papagayo's family was wiped out by Hex's father and he's looking for Hex to even the score.

Does anyone see this ending with hugs and a handshake?

If you're interested in Jonah Hex, the collection gives good insight into what motivates him.

The writing's good; the artwork, not so much. Tony DeZuniga style is much like Richard Corben's but its muddier and lacks definition.

Very violent and not for the kids.

Chris says

I've been a fan of the "Jonah Hex" comics for years, and this book's a favorite... but the best thing about it for me is the personal touch... I had it autographed on the inside front cover by both Jimmy Palmiotti and Tony DeZuniga (Palmiotti even added an original "Hex" sketch for good measure).
