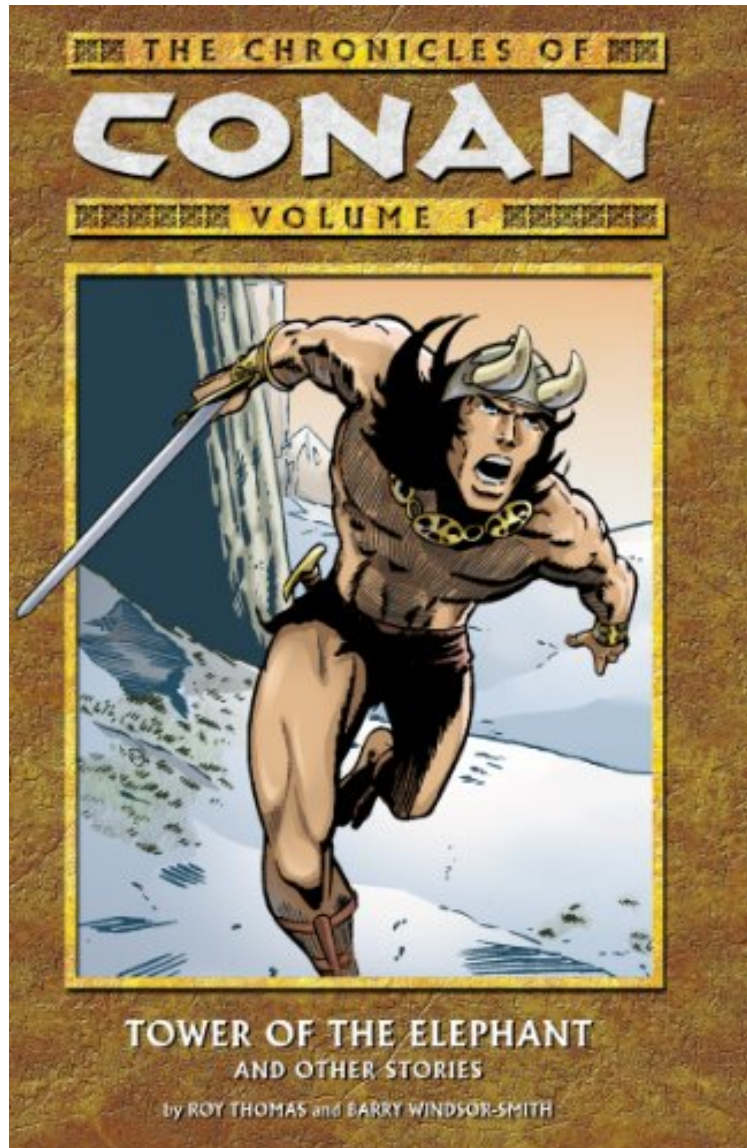


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# Chronicles of Conan Volume 1: Tower of the Elephant and Other Stories

*Von Roy Thomas, Barry Windsor-Smith*

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**Von Roy Thomas, Barry Windsor-Smith : Chronicles of Conan Volume 1: Tower of the Elephant and Other Stories** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chronicles of Conan Volume 1: Tower of the Elephant and Other Stories:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Thomas

and Windsor-Smith begin their epic run on "Conan" Von Lawrence Sanders Barry Windsor-Smith is my favorite comic book artist. Even though I have been selling off a lot of my old Marvel comic books, if Windsor-Smith drew the issue or just the cover, then that comic is a keeper. The irony is that when he drew his first comic book for Marvel comics, literally drawing his pages on park benches in Central Park, we all thought he was the worst artist in the history of the world. But as you can see in "Tower of the Elephant and Other Stories," the first volume in "The Chronicles of Conan," in which Dark Horse reprints the first eight issues of Marvel's "Conan the Barbarian," Barry Windsor-Smith was quickly developing one of the most distinctive drawing styles in the history of comic books. The key in these first eight issues of "Conan the Barbarian" are when Thomas and Windsor-Smith work from some of Robert E. Howard's original stories. Issue #4, "Tower of the Elephant" is prominent in the title of this collection because it is the first classic "Conan" comic book, but the adaptations of "The Grey God Passes" (#3), the poem "Zuakal's Hour" (#5), "The God in the Bowl" (#7), and a synopsis by Howard that Thomas uncovered (#8), were all crucial in helping the team find their voice and look in these comics. Just as the writing by Thomas becomes more than standard comic book fare, so does the artwork by Windsor-Smith because more stylized. Sal Buscema's inking of Windsor-Smith's pencils clearly defines this period, but I like the pages done by Dan Atkins a little better. Frank Giacoia's inks were just too different, but the final story, inked by Tom Sutton and Tom Palmer, hints at what we would see when Windsor-Smith would ink himself (did I mention I have the splash page of issue #8 as a black light poster?). I have been happy to pick up the Marvel black and white reprint collections in the Essential series, but Conan is the exception to the rule. I do not want to take my comic books out of their bags, but with the remastered color of these comic books these reprints look a whole lot better than the originals. With its exotic locales, strange creatures, and gaudily dressed characters, "Conan" is a comic that especially benefits from remastered color. The results are extremely impressive. Both Thomas and Windsor-Smith continue to make great improvements over the next dozen issues of "Conan the Barbarian," so I look forward to Volume 2 of "the Chronicles of Conan." Hopefully Dark Horse can reprint Thomas and Windsor-Smith's black and white Conan stories that they did in "The Savage Sword of Conan," especially "Red Nails," the splash page of which I had blown up on a giant poster board and colored in myself. I treasure that almost as much as the Windsor-Smith print we have in our bedroom that is signed and inscribed with our names and the date we got married.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Typischer Auftaktband einer groen Reihe Von schlimmerdurstIch tue mich schwer, diesem Band nur 3 Sterne zu geben. Aber auch wenn ich die Conan-Reihe auch noch so liebe, mehr ist fr diesen Auftaktband einfach nicht drin. Sowohl Autor als auch Zeichner suchen noch ihren Stil, und gerade die Zeichnungen sind weit entfernt von dem, was Barry Smith in den Folgebänden auf Papier zaubert ("I must be mad, drawing all those coins!" sage ich nur zu dem fast obsessiv detaillierten Stil der spateren Bände). Die Recolorierung ist herausragend gut gelungen, und nur Rosarote-Brillenträger können ernsthaft die alten Comics mit Conans pinkfarbener Haut besser finden. Sehr gelungen finde ich auch die ausführlichen Nachworte von Roy Thomas in diesen Bänden, die einen Blick hinter die Kulissen erlauben (und Thomas verliert sich nicht in Schwärmereien, sondern redet Tacheles). Diesen Band als Auftakt holen für einen der gefeiertsten Runs der Comicgeschichte in einer brillanten Neuauflage, und in Band 2, 3 und 4 erkennen, was Smith und Thomas da an bester Fantasy heraufgebracht haben.

**Kurzbeschreibung** In the early 1970s, Robert E. Howard's Conan the Barbarian exploded on to the comics scene. Writer Roy Thomas teamed with a young artist named Barry Smith, and together the two mapped out some of the most stirring and memorable Conan adventures to come along since those written by Howard himself. Over the course of their 24 issue run together, Thomas and Smith defined Conan for a generation of comics readers, and now those stories are collected in this series. Featuring completely remastered color and text corrections, and containing material not available for nearly thirty years. **Pressestimmen** The List, 9-23 September 2004, review by Matt Fielder: "Fidelity or no, the Thomas/Windsor Smith strips remain the best." **Kurzbeschreibung** In the early 1970s, Robert E. Howard's Conan the Barbarian exploded on to the comics scene. Writer Roy Thomas teamed with a young artist named Barry Smith, and together the two mapped out some of the most stirring and memorable Conan adventures to come along since those written by Howard himself. Over the course of their 24 issue run together, Thomas and Smith defined Conan for a generation of comics readers, and now those stories are collected in this series. Featuring completely remastered color and text corrections, and containing material not available for nearly thirty years.