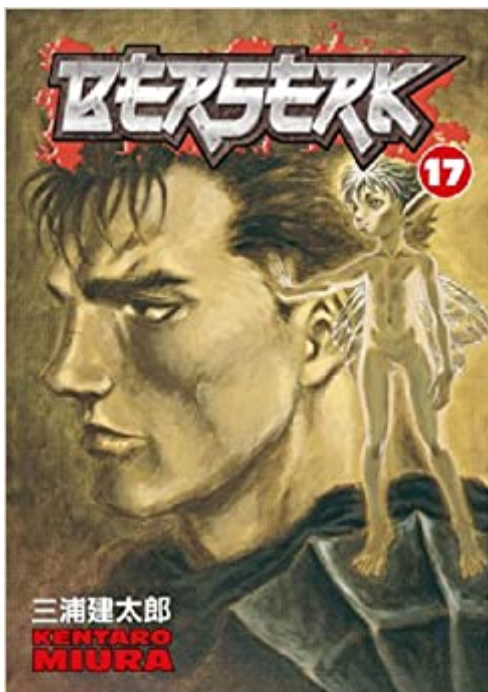


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## Berserk, Vol. 17



## Synopsis

Warrior supreme Guts, the Black Swordsman, has seen better days and more popular in the kingdom of Midland, a land he once defended as captain of the Band of the Hawk. But the Hawks were betrayed and slaughtered, and now the holier-than-thou Holy Iron Chain Knights have captured Guts and plan to whip some repentance into him literally. But Guts isn't so easily held at bay, at when he manages to escape with the Holy Knights' leader, Farnese, as his hostage, the demons that are drawn to Guts' Brand of Sacrifice are all too willing to show her the teeming darkness in her own soul!

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

This story is unapologetic. Its characters are anything but simple, nothing is sugar coated and no punches are pulled. The series of Berserk has always been deeply introspective, at least for our protagonist, but this novel is where the author shows that he can write a story as broad and wide as it is deep. This novel in particular gave me some genuine life lessons about dealing with personal emotional struggles. I should say though that this novel has the one scene in the entire series that forgets character motivation and exists only as repetitive foreshadowing, but that can be forgiven because it is still cool. Beautiful art, great story, and better characters. What more could you want in a story?

This book starts out with Guts kidnapping Farnese, and showing her a world the likes of which she couldn't have dreamed, one that is sure to give her nightmares (and perhaps a fantasy). After

fending off his night-time attackers, Guts rests while Farnese becomes stricken by his strength and courage, which only adds to her personal conflicts. As a whole, there is interesting dialogue and chemistry between Guts and Farnese, but Guts is devoted to vengeance. He does, however, seem to derive joy from taunting Farnese about her religion, and how naive she's been up 'till now. The main purpose of this book as a whole seems to be to set the stage for upcoming events. That's not to say plenty doesn't go on in the meanwhile, as it paints a desperate picture of the world at its breaking point, one with Plague in Midland, famine in the Holy Lands, sinister evil masquerading as the word of God, dreams of a white hawk amongst the people, and prophecies of its return. Couple all that with an appearance from Zodd and the Skeleton Knight, the course is set for something big looming on the horizon. Guts has a terrifying dream about Casca being burned for heresy, and awakes to see Casca's Demon child in the shadows, who warns him of the dream's truth. He now has a new mission, and visits Godo's house in the mountains to find Casca's been missing for a month. He takes a break to get his equipment repaired at the hands of an older Rickert who is taking up the blacksmithing trade as Godo is in bad sorts at his age, but is still cognizant enough to give Guts advice to move on with his life after he finds Casca and give up his quest for revenge. While resting in the cave away from the spirits that torment him, he begins to reflect on the past, and receives a visit from the Beast within him again, but shrugs the encounter off to my joy as he appears to resist being swayed by it -for now. With his equipment repaired, he sets off to find Casca. Casca is being cared for by a group of prostitutes in the Holy See, who are wise enough to protect the fragile and aloof Casca by wrapping her face in bandages and keeping the men at bay with misgivings of Syphilis. But it's in the Holy See that we are introduced to Mozgus, the inquisitor. We find out that Mozgus is a madman who kills a ton of people in gruesome ways under the misguiding that he's doing it for god, and the people are very upset at him for it. He also travels with a group of servants to help torture and kill, who, as a group, would make for a tough fight even for the Black Swordsman. All the players are in place, the stage is set for Griffith's return, and Guts is still looking for Casca who might be in danger. As you can see, there's a ton going on in this book, a lot of plot development, a lot of character development, it's a little light on swordplay though. On the upside to action junkies, there's decent gore, but this book is crucial to the forthcoming plot and acts accordingly. But it's an interesting read anyway, I highly recommend it as you will miss out in later books not knowing the set-up this book provided.

love this manga

it's berserk. it's intense.if you're looking at volume 17, you're already familiar with the series and know how amazing it is. lots more character development and some good action scenes!

Classic Zerk. What else to say.

Starts the Tower of conviction.

Nice

Book claimed to be new, but looked to be anything but. The book was bent halfway, the shrinkwrap was open completely, and it looked like it had some age behind as well. Almost as if someone just sent their old worn down copy instead of the intended item.

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