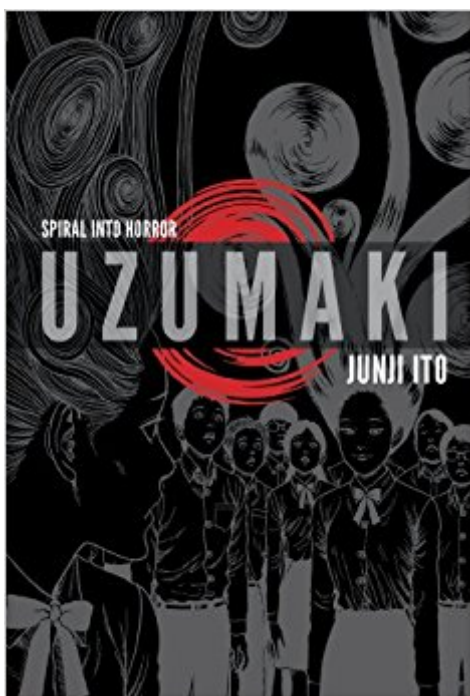


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Uzumaki (3-in-1, Deluxe Edition): Includes Vols. 1, 2 & 3



Synopsis

A masterpiece of horror manga, now available in a deluxe hardcover edition! KurŃfŃzu-cho, a small fogbound town on the coast of Japan, is cursed. According to Shuichi Saito, the withdrawn boyfriend of teenager Kirie Goshima, their town is haunted not by a person or being but by a pattern: uzumaki, the spiral, the hypnotic secret shape of the world. It manifests itself in everything from seashells and whirlpools in water to the spiral marks on people's bodies, the insane obsessions of Shuichi's father and the voice from the cochlea in our inner ear. As the madness spreads, the inhabitants of KurŃfŃzu-cho are pulled ever deeper into a whirlpool from which there is no return!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Junji Ito debuted as a horror manga artist in 1987 with the first story in his successful Tomie series. Uzumaki, drawn from 1998 to 1999, was adapted into a live-action movie, which has been released in America by Viz Films and Tidepoint Pictures. It's influences include the classic manga artists Kazuo Umezu and Hideshi Hino, as well as authors Yasutaka Tsutsui and H.P. Lovecraft.

I would just love to see the pitch meeting for this book. It's like "Hey publishers, I know Japan is the most overflooded graphic novel in the world, and you hear a million pitches a week, but I have one for you. A book with several horror stories on one theme, about the scariest thing in the world? Zombies? No, it's not zombies. No, it's the spiral. Yes, the SHAPE. Yeah, it's a scary shape! And I am going to spend years doing an incredible amount of art and writing about a town

INFESTED WITH SPIRALS!"And that's just what Junji Ito did. And it is some of the best horror ever. At least five times in this book I turned the page and let out an audible gasp at the truly disturbing nature of what I was gazing upon. Only down side with this edition is that they included a bunch of bonus material and a cut story at the end. Well, given how this book ends, having anything after that that takes place BEFORE it is really out of place, and is very clunky. But other than that, this is the real deal in horror.

After casually watching Linkara's Longbox of the Damned review of this series I wasn't fully invested at first. I think I might've had the same mindset others had with the concept, "A town haunted by spirals?...K..." But after seeing it for a reasonable price and thinking about wanting to add to my manga collection I figured I'd grab it, and I'm glad I did. This has become my favorite manga, horror or otherwise. This story (which kind of has an anthology feel to it) embraces and displays many different facets of horror from gore, body horror, some traditional Japanese horror tropes to full on Lovecraftian horror. Typically horror comics don't faze me much but this one gave me the willies on more than one occasion. The art is great, although it may not be for everyone as it falters very slightly here and there, and just a bit of a spoiler I hope no one is hoping for a happy ending to this tale. To keep from rambling on about this and potentially spoiling it I'm just gonna say this; Are you a fan of horror? Are you a fan of manga regardless if it isn't like others with anime adaptations? If you answered yes to either of these questions than you have no excuse, buy this if you don't already own it. If you already own it, why are you reading my review? Go read Uzumaki and get lost in the spiral!

I got this book then immediately started reading. The whole thing is so good. I've loaned it to my friend and he loved it too, and he's not even a horror fan! The art is amazing. The story is great. The scares are earned. The characters....are the main flaw. They're not very deep. They don't have much to them. And they can be idiots (the main girl tries to deliver her boyfriend lunch IN THE MIDDLE OF A TYPHOON). It honestly doesn't matter though, they're not the focus. The story and the curse in the town is the focus. Besides they aren't horrible, just lack luster. Okay there are 2 or 3 stories that aren't very good. Jack in The Box, Medusa and Galaxies come to mind, but again they aren't horrible, just not up to par with the rest of the book. If you like Manga, horror, or just quality work, it's definitely worth the money.

Having been previously introduced to Junji Ito's works through his Tomie series, I was eager to pick

up this Deluxe Edition of Uzumaki. It follows the story of a teenage girl named Kirie Goshima, and the people and events she observes, in the Japanese village of Kurouzu-Cho. When strange happenings occur in the village, Kirie's boyfriend points out a pattern that seemingly ties the strange events together; not a person or location, but a shape, that of the spiral. As the story progresses, the town becomes even more haunted by Uzumaki, the mysterious Spiral. A psychological horror story, Ito delves into the bizarre and macabre to set the mood and to always keep the reader guessing. Uzumaki brings something original and fresh to the table to appeal even to longtime fans of the horror genre.

This is a fantastic book. One of the best horror manga I have read, although I will admit I haven't read that many of them. The art is amazing, and there is some quite a bit of detail in each panel. The book is told through a series of short stories that eventually all tie together, almost seamlessly. The stories get weirder and weirder as you continue reading. The main characters develop well through the stories and how they react to what is happening to their town is just as interesting as what is happening to their town.

I read the Chinese version of this comic book years ago, and now I bought this English version just for collection. It was quite a unique experience reading it, the stories are gory but in a grand way, it's almost a religious experience, seeing everything at the end of the judgement day of this spiral world.

If you enjoy things that make you uncomfortable, this is the manga for you. Junji Ito has the amazing talent to make you feel discomfort and confusion with his intricate depictions of horror. That said, to me, Uzumaki was a prime example of his amazing ability to make a person feel scared and uncomfortable through beautifully horrific art and storytelling. As a fan of Junji Ito, I would say anyone who enjoys his work must read Uzumaki. It can feel long at times, but it definitely draws you in. You would not think a spiral could exist in so many different aspects of life, from simple to complex. It is amazing how many turns this story takes and how grotesque it becomes. Please grab a copy of Uzumaki if you like manga and horror; it is truly a masterful combination of the two.

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