

# Berserk Official Guidebook

Deep within the nightmare realm of Casca's dreams, Schierke and Farnese battle endless horrors to reach the dark secret that has imprisoned Casca's mind for so long. But the dreamworld dangers are no mere phantasms of the unconscious--they are a lethal reality to the intruders from the material world! From creator Kentaro Miura comes the latest chapter of Berserk, a sprawling adult fantasy epic of horror, humor, and fierce imagination and the inspiration for the wildly popular anime series.

Will you dare to immerse yourself in the troubling universe of Bersek in order to discover the themes, the depth and the genius of this artistic, philosophical and symbolic work? Anyone who dares to analyze Berserk embarks on a quest that is almost as painful as that of Guts. And those who read Berserk will sink down in the same way, alone and incessantly, into Kentaro Miura's troubling universe. For 30 years, this unique author has been developing a story whose every page has its readers trembling with fear and pleasure, given its themes, depth and genius. Berserk is not just a story of adventure, it is an artistic, philosophical, symbolic work that is an ode to the dark side of human nature, a declaration of love for the imaginary. For you, Quentin Boëton has braved the borders of Midland to analyze every aspect of the work: its characters, its story, its themes and its secrets. Discover a detailed analysis of all aspects of Bersek's complex universe, including its characters, its story, its themes and its secrets. ABOUT THE AUTHOR Better known under the alias of "ALT 236", Quentin Boëton is a video maker who passionately explores the dark corners of human imagination.

Two feudal kingdoms, Midland and Chuder, battle for supremacy in what will become the final

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clash in a century-long struggle. Spearheading the Midland forces is the Band of the Hawk, a legendary cadre of elite mercenaries led by the charismatic Griffith and with the fearless Guts as its berserker champion. The Hawks' ferocity, courage, and fearsome skills - not to mention Guts' enormous broadsword - are just what Midland needs to turn the bloody tide, but during the fray, Guts and Griffith's most trusted lieutenant, Casca, fall together from a cliff into a raging river. Miraculously, both barely survive, and Guts tends to Casca's wounds as she tells of having her life saved by Griffith, her induction into the Band of the Hawk, and her deep feelings toward Griffith. She even seems to finally be warming up to the grim Guts. But this greeting-card moment won't last long, for Chuder warriors are on the prowl, and the only greetings they carry are on the points of their spears!

Yotsuba met a robot at Ena's house! Betcha haven't met one ever! It was THIIIIIS big - but not bigger than Jumbo or anything - and it ate money! Yotsuba's never met anyone who ate money before! Maybe it gets more powers with more money!?! Yotsuba should try giving it more money next time! Huh...what happens when money-eating robots get full? Do they have to go to the little robots' room? Hmmm...

Griffith, charismatic leader of the elite mercenary Band of the Hawk, has seen better days. His fearless champion, Guts, has left the Band, defeating Griffith in personal combat as his ticket out. With his judgment clouded by this unthinkable humiliation, Griffith eases his pain in the arms of the daughter of Midland's king. But the King doesn't take kindly to an employee picking the royal flowers, and the next stop for Griffith is the dungeon and the torture rack! Without Griffith and Guts, the Hawks become easy prey for Midland's army, and the AWOL Guts may be the only answer to the Hawks' — and Griffith's — lethal problems.

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The Band of the Hawk — what's left of them — are on the run, Guts and Casca having rescued the Hawks' leader, Griffith, from the horrors of the King of Midland's dungeons. Starved, tortured mercilessly and imprisoned in an iron mask, Griffith hangs to life and sanity by a thread... and he'll be no help against the King's latest charges sent to bring him back to pay for his dalliance with the King's daughter. Now the depleted Hawks will have to face the Knights of the Black Dog, led by the merciless, bestial Wyald... one bad dog who's even worse when he unleashes the beast within!

Berserk has conquered the worlds of manga and anime, and now comes the essential roadmap to the sprawling Berserk universe, exploring the characters, creatures, settings, and stories of Berserk's first 38 volumes. Profusely illustrated and including never-before-seen art (including an eight-page color section) and author notes by Kentaro Miura, the Official Guidebook is a comprehensive tour through the epic adventure, shocking horror, and graveyard humor that can be only Berserk!

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 hyolier-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!

Created by Kentaro Miura, Berserk is manga mayhem to the extreme - violent,

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horrifying, and mercilessly funny - and the wellspring for the internationally popular anime series. Not for the squeamish or the easily offended, Berserk asks for no quarter - and offers none! His name is Guts, the Black Swordsman, a feared warrior spoken of only in whispers. Bearer of a gigantic sword, an iron hand, and the scars of countless battles and tortures, his flesh is also indelibly marked with The Brand, an unholy symbol that draws the forces of darkness to him and dooms him as their sacrifice. But Guts won't take his fate lying down; he'll cut a crimson swath of carnage through the ranks of the damned - and anyone else foolish enough to oppose him! Accompanied by Puck the Elf, more an annoyance than a companion, Guts relentlessly follows a dark, bloodstained path that leads only to death...or vengeance.

Guts, the Black Swordsman, joins forces with a most unlikely ally, the fiendish Nosferatu Zodd, in a desperate attempt to defeat the Kushan emperor's malevolent astral form. But Griffith, Guts' former commander and friend reborn as a demonic lord of the Godhand, has plans of his own for the emperor, and for Midland itself. Guts and his companions' only hope is to reach the promised safety of the elf Puck's homeland, Elfhelm, but if Griffith and the emperor turn their attention back to this motley band of travelers, there may be nowhere left for Guts and crew to hide!

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Escaping the port city of Vritannis is no easy task, for even the finest ship is useless if it can't be reached, and a horde of Kushan monsters stalks the city's docks. Led by a powerful necromancer who has mastered both the elements and the monsters of the deep, this hideous brigade may be too much for Guts the Black Swordsman and his companions to handle, even if Guts and Schierke are able to join forces and control the awful wrath of the Berserker armor. And will it even matter, if the Kushan emperor makes Guts an offer he can't refuse? He is Guts, the Black Swordsman, a warrior of legendary prowess — relentless, fearless, merciless. As cold and brutal as the iron of the massive sword he wields. Bent on revenge against the unholy forces that have branded him for sacrifice, but especially on Griffith, one of the demon lords of the Godhand. But Griffith was once a man, the leader of the Hawks, a renowned cadre of elite fighters with a young Guts as its fiercest champion. Though forged in a crucible of cruelty and violence, nothing could prepare Guts for a confrontation with Nosferatu Zodd, a superhuman beast who slaughters Guts' comrades as easily as a scythe cuts wheat. Even Guts and Griffith are no match for the abomination's power...but something Griffith wears around his neck may well be! The acclaimed adult horror manga is now presented in deluxe hardcover editions in the original oversized serialization format. Though Guts the Black

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Swordsman lies near death from battling the dragon knight Grunbeld and his demonic legion, the witch Schierke has a dangerous tool to put Guts back in the fight: the unholy Berserker Armor. But the accursed shell unleashes its host's inner demons, which might send the tormented Guts into eternal darkness!

Collects Berserk volumes 25–27, including three fold-out color posters.

Warrior supreme Guts has returned, and just in time to save the weakened Band of the Hawk from certain destruction... and to form an intimate bond with the beautiful warrior Casca. But job one is to find a way to free Griffith, the Hawks' leader, from the dank dungeons and round-the-clock tortures of the Hawks' former benefactor, the King of Midland. But while the flayed and starved Griffith may be in isolation, he is not alone. Horrors beyond imagination await Guts and the Hawks in the catacombs, and those who die may just be the lucky ones!

The reigning king of adult fantasy manga now in deluxe 7x10 hardcover editions!

Born in tragedy, raised in abuse and neglect, young Guts is hardened into a warrior of fearsome prowess and fearless will, drawing the attention of the charismatic Griffith, commander of the elite mercenary legion, the Band of the Hawk. This crossroad will take Guts to fame and glory . . . and to damnation!

Kentarō Miura's Berserk has cast its enormous shadow for three decades, creating an international legion of acolytes and inspiring a parade of TV series,

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feature films, and video games. And now celebrating its thirtieth anniversary, the entire Berserk series is being released in handsome oversized bookshelf format, each collecting three volumes of the original manga.

The century-spanning war between Midland and Chuder continues unabated. The two warring kingdoms, vying for supremacy, launch headfirst into what will become the final battle. Leading the Midland forces are the Band of the Hawk, lead by the charismatic Griffith, with the fearless Guts as his trusted champion. But should the Hawks triumph again on the battlefield, the war with Chuder may end, but the secret war within Midland may begin as those who seek to rise within the court see the ambitious Griffith as an obstacle to obtaining power. And nothing is more formidable than an enemy unseen!

Guts, the feared Black Swordsman, is on the rampage — and it's personal. Mozgus, the malefic master Inquisitor of the Holy See, in his murderous campaign against heretics, has captured Guts' former lover Casca and has her at the ready to be burned at the stake in the Tower of Conviction, little knowing that Casca's demonic Mark of Sacrifice is drawing hideous dark powers to the Tower. It'll take everything Guts has and more to defeat Mozgus — who is much, much more than a man — and even if he can, will he be able to save Casca from the hordes of Hell amidst the inquisitor's disintegrating citadel?

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Berserk Official Guidebook Dark Horse Comics

Guts, the Black Swordsman, goes from the frying pan to the fire as he must enter the mating chamber in the horrifying lair of trolls to rescue his love, Casca, and the Lady Farnese from the loathsome attentions of the hideous beasts. But while even an army of trolls cannot stand against Guts's boundless fury, the mightiest of warriors is no match for a demon lord. And so when Slan of the Godhand manifests from the entrails of slain trolls and takes Guts into her deadly embrace, Guts discovers he may not only be fighting for his life, but for his very soul!

Guts the Black Swordsman and company reach the isle of Skellig in hopes that Elven magic can cure the afflicted Casca, but the cure could come at a deadly cost. Meanwhile, Guts' Band of the Hawk comrade Rickert journeys to the city of Falconia, the seat of power for Griffith, the resurrected former Hawks commander. But the glittering towers of Falconia cast the darkest of shadows, and a legion of demonic monstrosities dwell in the darkness! From creator Kentaro Miura comes Berserk, a sprawling adult fantasy epic of fierce imagination One of the most popular long-running adult manga series ever published. First new Berserk volume since 2013! The inspiration for three anime feature films and two TV series. New Berserk anime TV series to air in 2017.

“One of the best manga ever conceived.”—University Press of North Georgia ”A

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glorious, gory fantasy epic, a truly one-of-a-kind work.”—Manga Test Drive “The Godfather of manga.”—anime-planet

The first Berserk novel, conceived by series creator Kentaro Miura and written by Makoto Fukami, novelist and screenwriter for the Berserk anime, Psycho-Pass and Resident Evil: Vendetta. The Flame Dragon Knight also presents ten full-page illustrations by Kentaro Miura. The Flame Dragon Knight traces the rise of the warhammer-wielding warrior Grunbeld from humble beginnings to become the all-powerful Apostle who will one day face Guts in mortal combat! Featuring all the grisly supernatural action and sinister courtly intrigue Berserk readers have come to expect.

Kentaro Miura's epic adult fantasy/horror series is an international sensation and is now featured in 7x10 deluxe hardcover editions! Griffith, the mutilated leader of the Band of the Hawk mercenaries, offers up his command to the demon lords of the Godhand in exchange for a rebirth into beauty--and terrible power. But the Hawks' berserker champion, Guts, will take on perdition itself to save his lover, Casca, from the profane violations that only Hell can offer! Collects Berserk volumes 13-15, and includes Berserk Prototype, the original Berserk submission story.

Kentaro Miura's legendary adult fantasy/horror manga is now available at its

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original published size in handsome deluxe hardcover editions, each collecting three volumes of the acclaimed series. Guts the Black Swordsman is on a rampage as Mogus, master inquisitor of the Holy See, readies Guts' beloved Casca to be burned at the stake as a heretic in the forbidding Tower of Conviction. But Casca's demonic Brand of Sacrifice is drawing hideous dark powers to the Tower, and even if Guts can defeat the mighty Mogus, can he save Casca from the ravenous hordes of Hell? Collects Berserk volumes 19-21. The once unbeatable Band of the Hawk is smashed, and their former leader, Griffith, has made an unholy pact with the demon lords of the Godhand, sacrificing his former troops to resurrect his crippled body and ascend to stand in power beside these profane gods. The Invocation of Doom has unleashed a plague of unspeakable horrors upon the earth, and the first battle not only shatters the Hawks, but the hand of their champion, Guts, and the mind of their captain and Guts' lover, Casca. And while time may heal some of Guts' wounds, it will not heal his desire for vengeance. And his discovery of a gigantic, dragon-slaying sword might be just the ticket to deal out some king-sized payback! Also included in this volume: "Berserk Prototype," the very first Berserk story, created during Kentaro Miura's college days as his audition that sold the series!

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Guts, the Black Swordsman, is marked with the Brand, which draws the forces of evil to him, but, with a gigantic sword and an elf companion, Guts battles the damned with a vengeance.

The acclaimed adult fantasy/horror manga now in 7x10 deluxe hardcover editions! Guts, the feared Black Swordsman, has saved the Band of the Hawk mercenaries from annihilation at the hands of the army of Midland, but he must now descend into the dungeons of Windham Castle to liberate Griffith, the Hawks' charismatic leader. Imprisoned and tortured for his tryst with the King of Midland's daughter, the flayed and starved Griffith may be in isolation, but he is far from alone. Unspeakable horrors dwell within the dank catacombs, where the living may truly envy the dead! Collects Berserk volumes 10-12. Kentaro Miura's Berserk has ruled in hell for three decades, creating an international horde of disciples and inspiring anime TV series and feature films, video and card games, and a blizzard of related products. And now, the entire Berserk series is being released in handsome oversized bookshelf editions, each collecting three volumes of the original manga. Collects Berserk Volume 10, 11, and 12. From his days as a young mercenary to his time as captain of the Band of the Hawks' Raiders, Guts's life has been defined by his ability to fight and his will to win. Now cursed with the Brand of Sacrifice — a sigil that will forever mark him as

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prey for the damned — and with his companions dead, his lover's mind destroyed and his one-time commander and friend reborn as a malevolent demon lord, it seems that more than ever Guts must rely upon his instinct to survive. But Hell has many faces, and when what appears to be an innocent country village proves to be a den of tragic secrets, the horror of a fairy tale perverted by pain and hate may prove to be more than Guts can handle!

Guts, the feared Black Swordsman, finishes his desperate battle with the monstrous Count, cutting and blasting him to gory scraps when the presence of the Count's daughter makes the monster hesitate. But Guts won't even have the time to clean his gigantic sword when the Count's dying pleas activate the Behelit, summoning the five God Hands, demon lords of immeasurable power. Guts' journey so far has been a long road of pain and death, but that's a walk in the park compared to fighting his way out of Hell itself!

The Band of the Hawks' rescue of their leader, Griffith, has brought them no ease. Broken beyond healing, a frail ghost of his former glory, Griffith is now more an object of pity than a man, and the Hawks, who've grimly hung together under duress and death during his absence, are now on the verge of splintering to the winds. But Griffith's dreams and ambitions, built on the bodies of his troops and the countless enemies they have slain, have not gone unnoticed in

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the spirit realm, and though Griffith has nowhere to go as a man, he may yet have a future . . . a future borne on jet-black wings in the company of the demon lords of the Godhand!

Guts, the Black Swordsman, and his companions have finally broken free of the monster-infested wilderness and arrived at the port city of Vritannis. But the band finds out all too quickly that humans can be just as monstrous as the nightmarish creatures and apostles they battled in the forest. As Schierke and Isidro face off against pirate slavers, Farnese's power-hungry family tries to force her once again under the yoke of their political ambitions. The group's only hope is to find a ship out of the city, but even if they manage to secure a vessel, will everyone be free to leave?

The world of Guts, the Black Swordsman, is changing in a hurry. Though a demonic maelstrom has leveled the dreaded Tower of Conviction and ended the reign of terror of its grand inquisitor, Mozgus, peace has not returned to Midland. The Tower's fall has heralded the unexpected return of Griffith, Guts former leader, last seen transformed from a shattered husk into one of the demon lords of the Godhand. but Griffith looks like his old self again — and with his dreams of carving out a kingdom by his own hand still intact. He's raising a new Band of the Hawk, but this time he's recruiting from the dark side to fulfill his deadly

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destiny!

The acclaimed adult fantasy manga now in 7x10 deluxe hardcover editions! The hundred-year war between the kingdoms of Midland and Tudor nears an end as the legendary Band of the Hawk mercenaries, led by the charismatic Griffith and his fearless berserker champion Guts, turn the tide in Midland's favor. But impending victory ignites a secret war within Midland, as those seeking courtly favor see the ambitious Griffith as an obstacle to power. And nothing is more powerful than an enemy unseen! Collects Berserk volumes 7-9. Kentaro Miura's Berserk has reigned in darkness for three decades, creating an international legion of acolytes and inspiring anime TV series and feature films, video and card games, and a phalanx of related products. And now celebrating its thirtieth anniversary, the entire Berserk series is being released in handsome oversized bookshelf editions, each collecting three volumes of the original manga. Collects Berserk Volume 7, 8, and 9.

Now that the evil Count has been killed and dragged to Hell by the demon lords of the Godhand, Guts, the Black Swordsman, hooks up with his former benefactor, the mercenary Gambino. But it's a deadly reunion, one that nearly takes Guts' life. The following years see Guts wandering from battlefield to battlefield, where his awesome skills as a slayer catch the eye of both warring

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parties, including the legendary Griffith, warrior leader of the Band of the Hawk, who is eager to test his combat skills against those of the Black Swordsman. As usual, anytime that Guts is involved there will be hell to pay!

The GOAT adult horror manga continues in deluxe oversized hardcover editions. Guts and his companions have finally arrived at the sea, but their respite is short-lived as bloodthirsty beasts possessed by malefic Kushan sorcery emerge from the surf. Guts must again don the Berserker Armor to give his troupe any hope of survival, but the accursed shell threatens his very soul . . . and the lives of his comrades! Collects Berserk Volumes 28-30, including three fold-out color posters.

What Guts the Black Swordsman and his companions had seen as an island refuge for monstrous sea creatures and the ghost ship of the demonic Bonebeard is, in fact, the very lair of the malefic sea god that controls them. With no avenue of escape, Guts must once again don the Berserker armor to give his company any chance of survival. But without the protective influence of the sorceress Schierke, Guts risks being forever lost within the cursed armor and becoming an even greater threat to his comrades!

Back in the day, Guts the Black Swordsman was a top slayer for The Band of the Hawk, an elite mercenary unit led by Griffith, whose calm demeanor and callow

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beauty belied his fighting prowess and steel will. While in a king's employ, the attraction between the king's daughter and Griffith and the growing favor of the king towards the Hawk leader raises the hackles of the king's jealous son, who plots to have Griffith summarily assassinated. But if the plot fails, the king's son will likely have to deal with Guts and his titanic broadsword, and the results of such confrontations are rarely pretty... or easy to clean up.

Desperate to find a sanctuary where his lover, Casca, will be safe from the demons drawn to her Brand of Sacrifice, Guts the Black Swordsman pushes his motley band of followers onward towards fairy Puck's homeland, Elfhelm. With new allies who make their home in a mystically guarded woodland paradise, Guts' goal seems within reach, but danger lurks in the shadows of even the most dazzling utopias, and even fairy witchery may not protect the wondrous kingdom from an army of marauding, murderous trolls! Created by Kentaro Miura, Berserk is a runaway manga locomotive, a crashing colossus of teeth-rattling action, spine-chilling horror, and taboo-breaking humor that fires the boilers of its devoted devotees and burns the rest. Ashes to ashes!

From creator Kentaro Miura comes Berserk, a sprawling adult fantasy epic of horror, humor, and fierce imagination and the inspiration for the wildly popular anime. To cure the afflicted Casca, Guts and company battle Elf Island's magical

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defenses and finally reach Elfhelm, where the elven ruler opens the Corridor of Dreams, projecting Schierke and Farnese into the forbidding wasteland of Casca's mind. But horrors lurk there, some more foul than any in the material world!

Desperate as Guts, the Black Swordsman, has been to reunite with his former captain and lover, the now-mad Casca, he's quickly learning that being together is as dangerous as being apart. What should be a simple journey to the safety of Puck's homeland proves to be a gauntlet of perils, as the Mark of Sacrifice each bears brings the fury of Hell down upon them, and Guts discovers that in his darkest moments he himself is the greatest danger to the woman he loves.

Created by Kentaro Miura, Berserk is a fiery manga apocalypse, an ominous omnibus of furious action, fearsome horror, and funereal humor that strikes a power chord in the hearts of its devoted followers and strikes down the rest like a scythe through wheat. Bring in the sheaves!

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