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*Reviews may contain information that could be considered 'spoilers'. Readers should proceed at their own risk.*

**Publisher****DrMaster Publications, Inc.**<http://www.DrMasterbooks.com>**Credits**

Writer: Josev

Other Creators: Jerry Cho

**Grade: 6**

*My tears dry with my heart and  
my gun.*

— From a song Anna is playing  
on her guitar.

Combining both serenely beautiful and vomit-worthy, horrific scenes, volume #2 of ***Journal of the Vampire Hunter [1]: Claws of Darkness*** is written around two disturbing events where the woman character involved in each is subjected to great bodily distress, which I will discuss in arrogant detail, so spoilers are unavoidable. There are truly unnatural goings-on in the Mexican town of Santa Anna.

In the first event, vampire hunter Nicholas Bane catches up to a female vampire who has kidnapped an unlucky bloke. "The more frightened you are, the better your blood will taste," she purrs before she is interrupted by Nick. During



their battle, her left hand gets sliced off, then she loses her left foot to a steel tourniquet. Finally, pinned to a tree by flying daggers, the monstrous vampire receives the coup de grace and her head jettisons away.

Next, it's the bad guys' turn. An innocent girl is gagged, raped, tortured, maimed, decapitated. Her poor brother can only helplessly watch. The panels hint at more than actually show. Illustrator Jerry Cho must have gone through at least a couple bottles of red ink in this section. (Well, you wouldn't be reading a VAMPIRE horror comic in the first place if you were afraid of seeing a little blood.)

At this point, if you're a feminist reader, you might want to take a letter opener and stab all the male characters to a cartoon death, but then the story would end too soon. The reader is supposed to be a passive spectator and not doing rewrites.

***Journal of the Vampire Hunter [1]: Claws of Darkness*** was adapted by author and illustrator Jerry Cho from a novel by Jozev. This comic is rated for ages 18-plus and is only for veteran comic readers who won't hurt themselves reading it nor be too shocked by all the blood dripping off the pages.

Written: February 26, 2006

Published: March 1, 2006

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