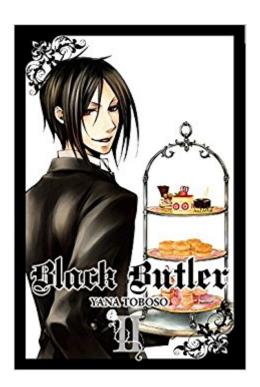


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# **Black Butler, Vol. 2**





## **Synopsis**

As high society's social calendar opens up and the Season draws to a close, London is gripped by fear. Someone has taken to stalking women of the night and painting the town red...in their blood. The name on everyone's lips seems to be "Jack the Ripper" - and as a result, the name on Queen Victoria's lips is Phantomhive. Summoned to London to clean up the mess created by this madman, Ciel Phantomhive arrives with Sebastian, his extraordinary butler, at his side to pour him tea, polish his silver, and...investigate a serial killer. And with the aid (and occasional interference) of a few of the Phantomhive house's numerous acquaintances, little stands in the way of the young earl getting to the bottom of this mystery. However, one question remains...can he handle the shattering truth behind it?

### **Book Information**

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#### Customer Reviews

Yana Toboso is the creator of the wildly popular series BLACK BUTLER which is currently serialized in Square Enix's magazine MONTHLY GFantasy. Her previous work was a single volume entitled RUST BLASTER.

Black Butler is one of my favorite anime, but I think the manga could be even better. Where the first volume establishes the characters and the setting, this one really gets into the action and introduces great characters like the "real" Grell Sutcliff, Lau, and the Undertaker. Unlike in the anime, the manga takes advantage of the format and gives you glimpses into Sebastian's thoughts about Ciel

(his only talent is getting kidnapped) and the servants (apparently he sees them as imbeciles). In fact I really felt more like I "knew" Sebastian the character after reading the manga. The author really goes through some involved twists to finally get Ciel into a party dress, and I did find it hilarious. Black Butler is great and one of those hard-to-find things; a wholly original idea executed beautifully.

This manga is about a young boy who promised his soul to a demon in exchange for help finding the identity of the people who killed his parents and getting revenge against them. In the meantime, the demon masquerades as his butler and takes orders from him. The setting is in Victorian England, and the artwork is beautiful. I often find myself wanting Ciel's clothes. The storylines are at times funny and at times dark and serious. I especially enjoyed reading the author's behind-the-scenes stories at the very end of the manga, which you don't get if you only read the manga in serialized form. Some of the themes in the manga are dark, so it's more suitable for older children and adults.

Black Butler is a fun sort of paranormal, steampunk, alternate victorian reality romp. I really enjoy it. If you're coming to the manga from the anime, there are some character differences, and a little dissonance. The english Funimation dialog was quite good, but the manga is better with backstory, innuendo and some slapstick. I will continue to buy them, as I enjoy the series so far. The characters are quirky and often hilarious (Undertaker LOL).

This was a gift for my sister and she loved it. Great quality and in perfect condition.

My niece loves the book.

The Jack the Ripper arc is my absolute favorite arc from Kuroshitsuji because it introduces Grell  $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A}$   $\tilde{\Xi}$   $\tilde{\Xi}$   $\tilde{\Xi}$   $\tilde{\Xi}$  a | as who he really is and because I love the suspense that Ciel has to face from Sebastian hiding the true identity of Jack the Ripper. I also adore Undertaker and his quirky personality and love how Lau still tries to pretend like he knows what's going on! Best arc in my opinion  $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A}$   $\hat{\Xi}$ ,  $\phi\tilde{A}$   $\hat{A}$ 

There are some pages missing, example it has blank pages from 124-130. not sure why. I thought my app was broken at first but as I kept swiping the story came back. I know enough of the story to piece together what happened, but for those who dont, and do not know the TV show then they

might feel just a tad bit confused. (it really is not that important to the story line)

I really liked volume 2. It is nice to see a little more of Sebastian's evil side peaking out with every new volume. I didn't think I would like this series when my daughter insisted I try it, but it has become one of my favorites. The weird relationship between Ciel, the young master, and Sebastian, his devil bound manservant is interesting in itself. The bumbling house staff and interesting touches of victorian England flesh out the stories nicely. Ciel is in service to the Queen and has to track down the infamous Jack the Ripper. This is the first part to that story, which also introduces some interesting new characters (love the creepy undertaker!). As usual the artwork is really beautiful, though I sometimes wish she wouldn't use such small print for her side notes. Overall, you won't be disappointed in this one.

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