

2008 Holiday Gift Guide

The DVDs
By Jeremy Lynch

The holidays are always stressful, with parties and visiting relatives, but we here at Crimespree are looking to make things a little easier by offering up some gift ideas for the crime fans on your list.

Television:

HBO wants your holiday money this year and have put together some rather nice packages in hopes of opening up your wallet. They are releasing special boxed sets of *The Sopranos*, *Deadwood*, *Get Smart* and *The Wire*.

Sopranos: The Complete Series: This box set not only contains the entire series, but some rather cool extras as well: 16 deleted scenes, An interview with *Sopranos* creator David Chase conducted by *Sopranos* fan Alex Baldwin. *Supper with The Sopranos:* This is two featurettes that were filmed at a New York Italian restaurant. The first features Chase and some of the writers, while the second has various actors from the show. Also included will be *Sopranos* parodies from SNL and others. The Paley Center for Media (Formally the Museum of Television and Radio) panel discussion on death and *The Sopranos*. This was hosted by Bryant Gumbel and featured Drea de Matteo (Adriana La Cerva), Steve Buscemi (Tony Blundetto), Vincent Pastore (Big Pussy), Annabella Sciorra (Gloria Trillo) and David Proval (Richie Aprile). They discussed the various ways their characters bit the dust. There will also be a 56-page book and a 16-page episode guide and 3 CDs of music.

Sounds good? It should with a suggested price tag of \$399 (You can find it on sale).

Deadwood: The Complete Series .Extras: "The Meaning of Endings": David Milch on the conclusion of "Deadwood," "The Real Deadwood: Out of the Ashes," Q&A with cast and creative team, *Deadwood 360* tour, Al Swearengen audition reel (as performed by Titus Welliver). Suggested price of \$179.97

The Wire: The Complete Series Gift set with 23 discs that contain all 60 episodes. \$249.99 is not a bad price for the greatest series in the history of television! This set sadly only has a couple of new features: The trio of pre-season five prequels that give us a look at Bunk/McNulty, Omar and Prop Joe and a gag reel. I wish they would offer up a little more.

But, for anyone that does not have the individual seasons, this is a wonderful gift. I cannot stress enough just how great *The Wire* is.

Get Smart: The Complete Series

"Missed it by that much." Words uttered by the legendary Maxwell Smart. While the recent movie had its moments, it is still a pale imitation of the original 60s series. This extras include interviews with Barbara Feldon and Buck Henry, commentary tracks with Mel Brooks as well as a very fun 75th birthday roast of star Don Adams. \$199.95

The Man from Uncle: the complete series \$199.92 (This is the one that has had Mr. Jon pumped...well, more pumped than usual. This, as the title says, contains the complete series and comes with some nice extras, including footage from cast appearances on television, photo galleries, featurettes and interviews.

Little House on the Prairie: The Complete Television Series. Fans of Nellie, Laura and whoever else was on the show can now have the entire series. This set, priced at \$279.98, contains three discs of bonus materials including interviews, commentary tracks and more.

Shout! Factory is doing what should have been done long ago: Presenting a proper edition of **Sports Night. Sports Night: The complete series 10th Anniversary edition** contains both seasons, as well as commentary tracks and some nice featurettes. One that really caught my eye was a comparison to ESPN's Sports Center. The show's crew praises Sport's Night's authenticity.

This is one of the best shows never to make it. Aaron Sorkin (*The West Wing*) was responsible for this fantastic show. It gives us a look behind the scenes at a Sports Center type show. It starred Felicity Hoffman (*Desperate Housewives*), Jousha Malina (*The West Wing*), Peter Krause (*Six Feet Under, Dirty Sexy Money*), Robert Guilme (*Soap, Benson*), Sabrina Lloyd (*Sliders, Numb3rs*) and Josh Charles (*In Treatment*).

Any fan of good dialogue, anyone with a heart and sense of humor MUST own this set. It features both seasons of the show, plus some very enjoyable extras. Retail is \$69.99, a pittance for the entertainment you will get.

Paramount has issued ***The Wild, Wild West: The complete TV series.*** Robert Conrad and Ross Martin starred in this 60s series that was a mix of western and sci-fi.

This collection features all 104 episodes plus the 1979 and 1980 television reunion films with a retail of \$129.98.

Batman: The Complete Animated Series. You might, at first glance, think this is simply for your kids, but YOU WOULD BE WRONG. TAS is an amazing Emmy award-winning series with great visuals, outstanding storylines and top-notch voice actors. Kevin Conroy does a bang-up job as Bruce Wayne/Batman, but look for Mark Hamill (Luke Skywalker of Star Wars) as the Joker as he is killer!

This set contains 17 DVDs, with 109 episodes, and contains featurettes, commentary tracks and a new documentary as well as a very cool 40-page collector's book. Retail is \$107.92.

One final TV pick, and this could also be considered film:

Acorn Media has released **Agatha Christie: Mystery Lover's Collection.**

This set contains five stories (The Secret Adversary, The Affair of the Pink Pearl, The Body in the Library, The Mysterious Affair at Styles and The Pale Horse) that feature Hercule Poirot (David Suchet), Miss Marple (Geraldine McEwan) and others. Retail is \$39.95.

Films:

Is there a Hitchcock fan on your list? If so, you have plenty to choose from!

Universal has released remastered DVDs of three of Hitchcock's biggest films: *Vertigo*, *Rear Window* and *Psycho*. Priced at \$26.98 each, extras are as follows:

Psycho: Feature Commentary with Stephen Rebello (author of "Alfred Hitchcock and the Making of Psycho"), newsreel Footage: The Release of Psycho, The Shower Scene, The Shower Scene: Storyboards by Saul Bass, The Psycho Archives, Posters and Psycho Ads, Lobby Cards, Behind-the-Scenes Photographs, Production Photographs, Production Notes, Theatrical Trailer, Re-Release Trailers, The Making of Psycho, In the Master's Shadow: Hitchcock's Legacy, Hitchcock / Truffaut Interview Excerpts, Alfred Hitchcock Presents "Lamb to the Slaughter"

Rear Window : Feature Commentary with John Fawell (author of "Hitchcock's Rear Window: The Well-Made Film"), Production Photographs, Production Notes, Theatrical Trailer, Re-Release Trailer Narrated by James Stewart, Rear Window Ethics: An Original Documentary, A Conversation with Screenwriter John Michael Hayes, Pure Cinema: Through the Eyes of the Master, Hitchcock / Truffaut Interview Excerpts, Breaking Barriers: The Sound of Hitchcock, Alfred Hitchcock Presents "Mr. Blanchard's Secret"

Vertigo: Feature Commentary with Associate Producer Herbert Coleman, Restoration Team Robert A. Harris and James C. Katz and Other Vertigo Participants, Feature Commentary with Director William Friedkin, Foreign Censorship Ending, The Vertigo Archives, Production Notes, original Theatrical Trailer, Restoration Theatrical Trailer, Obsessed with Vertigo: New Life for Hitchcock's Masterpiece, Partners in Crime: Hitchcock's Collaborators, Hitchcock / Truffaut Interview Excerpts, Alfred Hitchcock Presents "The Case of Mr. Pelham"

Each of these is amazing. The picture quality is phenomenal and the extras provide insight into Mr. Hitchcock and his work.

Not to be outdone, MGM has **Alfred Hitchcock Premiere Collection**. This set contains 8 "restored and remastered" films (Spellbound, Notorious, Oscar-winner Rebecca, Sabotage, Lifeboat, The Lodger, Young and Innocent, and The Paradine Case.)

Many casual fans know *Psycho*, *Rear Window* and *Vertigo*, but this set contains some of Hitchcock's finest work. *Notorious* is, in my opinion, one of his best films and Rebecca snagged the Oscar.

Each DVD also contains extras including radio plays, interviews and documentaries. The set also comes with a 32-page book with "trivia, production notes and more." The set has a retail of \$119.98. *Spellbound*, *Notorious* and *Rebecca* are also available separately for \$19.98 each.

But it would be foolish to bypass the set for just one or two films. Actually, it would be foolish to bypass the set for any reason. The films look fantastic and the extras are top notch. Fans of classic films will get hours of enjoyment out of this set.

Universal is also offering up Orson Wells' classic **A Touch of Evil**. This, like the Hitchcock titles, has been remastered and comes with many extras: Bringing Evil to Life, Evil Lost & Found, Commentary featuring Charlton Heston, Janet Leigh and Restoration Producer Rick Schmidlin, Commentary featuring Restoration Producer Rick Schmidlin, Theatrical Trailer, Theatrical Version: Audio Commentary featuring Writer / Filmmaker F.X. Feeny, Preview Version: Audio Commentary featuring Welles Historians Joanthan Rosenbaum and James Naremore

Like the Universal Hitchcock titles, this runs \$26.98

Speaking of Wells, Criterion is releasing a Blu-ray of **The Third Man**. TTM stars Joseph Cotten, Alida Valli, and Orson Welles. This classic gets the proper treatment we have come to expect from Criterion, with two commentary tracks, one featuring filmmakers Steven Soderbergh (Sex, Lies and Videotape) and Tony Gilroy (Michael Clayton), and a second with film scholar Dana Polan.

This also contains a couple of radio plays (Ticket to Tangiers" episode of The Lives of Harry Lime series, written and performed by Orson Welles, and the 1951 Lux Radio Theatre adaptation of The Third Man) as well as two documentaries and a BBC feature on novelist Graham Greene.

For those unfamiliar with TTM, it tells the tale of pulp novelist Holly Martins, who travels to postwar Vienna and ends up investigating the death of an old friend, black-marketeer Harry Lime.

I only discovered The Third Man a couple of years ago and immediately felt stupid for not knowing of it previously. Fans of Noir should pick this up. The price is \$39.95

Everyone has seen **the Godfather**, but none have seen it like this. Here we have the remastered, restored trilogy. You can find my review elsewhere in this issue, but let me say that this is a treasure trove for any fans of the films. Parts 1 and 2 have been completely restored, a process that took over a year. The result is utterly amazing and worth having. Not only are all extras from previous editions included, but some top notch new ones as well.

The trilogy (Well, the first two films) picked up 9 Oscars and earned every damn one of them!

This set is available on DVD (\$69.99) and Blu-ray (\$124.99).

If you have not seen these remasters, then you have not seen Shakespeare as it was meant to be seen.

Casablanca (Ultimate Collector's Edition) is priced at \$59.98 (Blu-ray: \$64.99) and features the previous 2 DVD edition, along with the 1993 documentary: *Jack L. Warner: The Last Mogul*. It also contains a Memo from Hal Wallis that "Casablanca" is the new title, Memo from Wallis to Jack Warner strongly urging casting of Bogart over George Raft, Letter from Publicity head Charles Einfeld to publicist Marty Weiser to "sell" Bogart as a romantic lead, Victor Laszlo's "letter of transit as well as a branded passport holder, luggage tag, photo book and a mail-in offer for a movie poster. This is available as DVD and Blu-ray.

Fans of Inspector Clouseau can rejoice! MGM is releasing a special box set of the series. Not only does **Pink Panther Ultimate Collection** contain all of the films, but over 18 hours of Pink Panther cartoons as well. Included are the only two cartoons in which the Panther speaks!

This set also features 60 minutes of previously unseen footage from the 1964 The Pink Panther. How could any fan not want this?? I was jacked beyond words when I heard of its release. Retail is \$199.98 but that gets you nine films and over 18 hours of cartoons. Time to enjoy Peter Sellers at his finest.

If you like sweaty, blood covered, semi-naked men (And who doesn't?), then **300: The Limited collector's edition** is something to include on your list for Santa Claus. Of course, he might choose to give you a good self-help book instead.

This contains the previously released 2 disc set as well as a new doc entitled: *To The Hot Gates A Legend Retold*, a 52-page book, six photo cards and a Lucite display that contains an image from the film. Retail is \$49.92. The warmonger in your life will be thrilled.

Mystery Science Theater 3000: 20th Anniversary Edition is a four-disc set that comes in a nifty tin. For those of you (Heathens) that are unfamiliar with MST3K: Joel is a janitor that has been shot into space and stranded on a space station. An evil scientist now forces him to watch stinky old films. Fortunately, he has constructed a pair of Robot companions, Tom Servo and Crow, to keep him company. The trio watches, and comments on, these films.

Trust me, it is hysterical. The commentary is loaded with jokes based on sports, history, art, pop culture and more.

This set features First Spaceship on Venus," "Laserblast," "Werewolf" and "Future War. For extras, we get new interviews with the entire cast as well as lobby cards and a Crow T Robot figurine. Retail is \$69.99

This collection of gift ideas should make your buying a little easier this year. And should any of them prove to be a miss, you can (with the exception of Little House on the Prairie) send 'em my way.

The Books, by Jon Jordan

TORCHWOOD, THE OFFICIAL YEARBOOK (Titan Books)

For fans of the show this is a must have. Culled from the Torchwood official magazine this is full of interviews and behind the scenes content. It also has some short stories to add to the mystique of the series. Everything a fan of Torchwood needs to know is in here.

Richard Stark's Parker Novels

The Richard Stark "Parker" novels are being reprinted by the University of Chicago Press. This is a great series and has really been one of the best crime series for years. Parker is a criminal who lives by his own code. This is the series that has inspired movies and lots of other writers. This is one of the best hardboiled series ever. The first three are: THE HUNTER (which was the basis for the movie Point Blank with Lee Marvin), THE MAN WITH THE GETAWAY FACE, and THE OUTFIT. A nice addition to any crime fiction lover's library. And affordable trades priced at \$14.00 each.

THE ALFRED HITCHCOCK STORY (Titan Books) by Ken Moog

This book is about all you will ever need on Hitchcock. This oversized picture filled masterpiece starts with a forward from Janet Leigh and moves to the man himself getting into information on locations, collaborators and the people in the films. It also has a film by film look at the movies. There is even a section letting you know where to find all his cameo appearances in the films. A must have for all movie buffs

DARK SPACES by Ellen Baumer with photos by J.M Cooper

A look at Montana's penitentiary at Deer Lodge, Dark Spaces is filled with haunting pictures and tales from a prison with a storied past. Built in 1870 and functioning till 1979 Deer Lodge endured riots and the comings and goings of many violent men. This is an extremely interesting book, both historically and for the tales.

Books From Minnesota Historical Society Press:

The Story of Cole Younger by Cole Younger

An auto biography by the famous outlaw. Interesting reading even if he does seem to fictionalize his families involvement in the famous robberies.

John Dillinger Slept Here by Paul Maccabee

A terrific book for fans and enthusiasts of famous gangster this book goes into great detail of the time Dillinger spent in Minnesota. Researched from actual FBI files, police records and interviews this book is engrossing. Informative and entertaining this book will be well read.

Shipwrecks along Lake Superior's North Shore by Stephen B. Daniel

A fascinating look at some shipwrecks along the coast of Lake Superior in Minnesota. It's set up as a guide for divers with locations and safety tips, but it also has wonderful history of each wreck.

Strange Days, Dangerous Nights by Larry Millett

For three decades, starting in the 1930s and ending in the 1950s, the Speed Graphic camera was synonymous with photojournalism. Championed by acclaimed photographers like Arthur Fellig (a.k.a. Weegee), the Speed Graphic was lightweight and incredibly durable-and it could produce stunning images. Press photographers of the day created a new

visual style that was as blunt, powerful, and immediate as a left hook. Driven by the desire to fill newspaper pages with sensational images, press photographers shot everything, day and night: automobile accidents, fires, murders, all the cop news that fought for a hot spot on the Front Page. They also covered uncounted numbers of civic affairs-pictures called "grip-and-grins" in the trade: school events, sports, celebrities, oddities both of nature and humanity. "Fat men's" races and fallout shelters, murder victims and loose women, cheerleaders and immigrants, celebrities and hurt children were just some of the urban curiosities splashed across the pages of city newspapers. Veteran journalist and mystery writer Larry Millett has unearthed over 200 such images from the archives of the St. Paul Pioneer Press and the St. Paul Dispatch. He tells the stories behind the pictures and offers brief biographies of some of these pioneering photographers. An evocative look at another time, *Strange Days, Dangerous Nights* is a visual history of the era like no other, a feast for fans of photography and photojournalism, crime buffs, and urban historians-and a testament to the craft of those photographers who documented their era one shot at a time.

Twin Cities: Then and Now by Larry Millett

This book is an engaging, startling, and at times heartbreaking look at the dramatic evolution of landscapes in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Larry Millett, author of *Lost Twin Cities*, explores the changing appearances of Minneapolis and St. Paul from the vantage point of their relatively static streets. Seventy-two historic photographs, taken from the 1880s to the late 1950s, are paired with Jerry Mathiason's elegant new black-and-white photographs to provide superb visual comparisons between then and now. Millett's lively, informative essays examine the often astonishing changes wrought by time and circumstance.

Lost Twin Cities by Larry Millett

A terrific photo book with buildings now gone from the twin cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis. The photos are haunting and fascinating and Millett's research into the buildings is entertaining and informative. This is a book that will stay out to scanned over and over.

Suburban World: The Norling Photos by Brad Zellar

Irwin Denison Norling spent the 50's and 60's taking mesmerizing black and white photos of Bloomington Minnesota. Found as negatives by Brad Zellar this collection shows all facets of life in a small suburb and it is truly absorbing

MURDER HAS A PUBLIC FACE – larry millett

Another book by Larry Millett this is a coffee table size tome full of photos from murder cases in the 40's and 50's taken from the pioneer press archives. Fans of crime fiction and true crime will enjoy the nourish pictures and the writing by Millett is fascinating. This could very well inspire some writing.

From Quirk

SUBURBAN LEGENDS – TRUE TALES OF MURDER, MAYHEM AND MINIVANS by Sam Stall

Filled with absolutely bizarre and true tales from the suburbs this book is a great distraction and great fun. I really enjoyed the section on "Really Desperate Housewives". Filled with ghosts, criminals and just plain weirdness SUBURBAN LEGENDS will entertain for hours.

Kung Fu For Girls by Simon Harrison

The Big Book Of Porn – Seth Grahame-Smith

While not for everyone this book is highly entertaining and actually a well researched look at the history of porn movies. It has sections on movies that became classics, famous stars, and great moments in porn history. It also has tips for making your own movie including an equipment list and a travel section of famous porn places, including the now revamped Times Square.

Stacked Decks – history of erotic playing cards – Rotenberg collection

This is actually just what it sounds like, a coffee table book of photos of erotic playing cards. These are basically cards up to the early 70's so while there is nudity of course they are not porn by today's standards. It's an interesting book actually and it's interesting to see the changes in the cards through the years. This could be fun just for the nostalgia view point. It's seems like something that would fit in with a collection of books on noir.

24: Official CTU Operations Manuel – Denise Kiernan and Joseph D'Agnese

This is a very complete guidebook for the over popular television show. It analyzes all sorts of different aspects of the show with loads of photos. If you have a fan of 24 on your list this is a can't miss gift idea.

From Gemstone:

Gemstone is owned by Stephen Geppi, the man behind Diamond Distributing (the biggest distributor of comics in the world). Geppi is a collector and lover of the comics medium and so it seems a natural that his publishing company in addition to the other books they do would bring back the classic EC comics for everyone to enjoy, The EC Archive editions are over size hardcover's reprinting the controversial comics from the 50's. Filled with art by Harvey Kurtzman and Wally Wood, Johnny Craig and Al Feldstein this is also a primer for some of the great creators of comics. The stories are different than most comics as these actually don't mind saying war is bad, or at least not glamorous. The crime stories and most of the horror stories have morals. Reading these today you can see how much influence these comics really had on not only today's comics, but also movies and television and popular fiction. Some of the original letters are in these along with some house ads. They are gorgeous. The only problem with these wonderful collections is that an urge to own them all starts to form...

THE VAULT OF HORROR volume 1 has an introduction from RL Stine and contains the first 6 issues each hosted by our friend the Vault Keeper. Wonderful horror stories with classic art. **WEIRD SCIENCE Volume 2** starts with a forward by Paul Levitz and runs issues 7-12 of the wonderfully strange comic. Science Fiction was peaking in the 50's with the promise of a new era just around the corner and these stories reflect the imaginations of the times. **TALES FROM THE CRYPT volume 3** showcases issues 13-18 and this was the premiere horror comic of its day. It eventually spawned a long running television show and is still some of the best horror fiction around. This volume has a forward by comics scholar Bob Overstreet. **TWO FISTED TALES volumes 1 and 2** are straight forward adventure tales and the original comics had a large readership ranging from teenage boys to military men. The tales pulled no punches. William Gaines and Harvey Kurtzman wrote almost everything for this title and their take on war was not one the recruiters would want to use. But they show bravery and honor. These are probably my favorite volumes. Wrapping up this recommendation for titles is **CRIME SUSPENSE STORIES volume 1** with a great forward by Max Allan Collins. Wonderful noir crime stories with really great art embracing what made noir films so great, people doing things they wouldn't normally do, and cops and detectives trying to stop them. This is worth owning just for the inspiration it could provide.

These are all super books and if anyone you know likes comics at all this is a perfect thing to give them.

Image Comics is rereleasing American Flagg, a wonderful comic from the 1980s by Howard Chaykin with **AMERICAN FLAGG ARCHIVE #1** collecting the first full story arc. The series is about Rueben Flagg, an actor and Plexus Ranger. What is Plexus? Well you see the future is run by corporations and nations are bought and sold. The masses are kept in line with media, hyper media. Flagg pisses someone off and is sent to work as a ranger in a dangerous area near Chicago. What he discovers is a bit disturbing as everyone seems to have hidden agendas. He eventually comes to embrace his new lifestyle and become a hero. Howard Chaykin for my money did some of his finest work on this comic, writing and drawing. It's got action, humor and a somewhat scary look at the future. This is a must have for fans of comics and also for people who just love damn good stories.

DC comics has a number of really great titles out that would make wonderful gifts.

THE ABSOLUTE SANDMAN Vol. 4 is the latest volume recollecting the groundbreaking series by Neil Gaiman. These are oversized slip cased edition with extras added to each volume. While fantasy based the stories run the gamut from the complexities of everyday life and society to mystery and suspense. Volume four coming in at 608 pages collects issues 57-75 which brought the original run of the book to an end.

Y: THE LAST MAN Deluxe Edition Book 1 is the rerelease of another, more recent groundbreaking and extremely popular series. When a plague of unknown origin instantly kills every mammal with a Y chromosome, unemployed and unmotivated slacker Yorick Brown suddenly discovers that he is the only male left in a world inhabited solely by women. Written by Brian K. Vaughan with art by Pia Guerra & Jose Marzan this is a hardcover collection that looks beautiful, coming in at 256 pages and covering the first 10 issues it's the first of these editions.

FABLES: Covers by James Jean This is one of my favorite series and this collection of covers is pure bliss for fans of great artwork. James Jean is amazing and this hardcover should be on the shelves of every fan of this series.

THE ALCOHOLIC Written by Jonathan Ames with art by Dean Haspiel. For Jonathan A., writing and drinking come easy. The hard parts of life are love and hope. From a touching relationship between Jonathan A. and his aging great aunt, to an inebriated evening with a group of college co-eds, to the devastating aftermath of 9/11, we see the universal struggles all of us can relate to.

"The Alcoholic is a @&#ed-up, brutal beauty of a man whose demons are his gifts and whose ugly truth is his beauty. Dark and earnest don't often go hand in hand, but for THE ALCOHOLIC it does." —Sarah Silverman, creator/star THE SARAH SILVERMAN PROGRAM

HEAVY LIQUID is written and drawn by Paul Pope. For the first time in hardcover comes Paul Pope's Eisner Award-nominated epic. In a future where New York has evolved into a sci-fi metropolis, "S," a man addicted to "heavy liquid," a substance that is both a drug and an art form, finds himself trapped in a mystery. Top notch story telling in a hardcover edition.

DEMO by Brian Wood and Becky Cloonan is a wonderful collection of stories about a group of teens dealing with every day stress and typical teenage thing, plus having superpowers. Poignant and wonderful this is a nicely priced softcover trade.

CAIRO

Written by G. Willow Wilson with art by M.K. Perker this was reviewed in these pages when it came out in hardcover by Ruth Jordan. It's a great book and now you can get it in softcover. This magical-realism thriller interweaves the fates of a drug runner, a down-on-his-luck journalist, an American expatriate, a young activist and an Israeli soldier as they race through bustling present-day Cairo to find an artifact of unimaginable power.

HEROES VOL. 2 The sequel to last year's top-selling HEROES hardcover is here. This stunning new volume collects the incredibly engaging online comics based on the smash-hit, Emmy Award-nominated NBC TV series Heroes! Collecting every online chapter from Season Two, this volume features the work of top TV and comics writers. Included are the stories "The Ten Brides of Takezo Kensei," "The End of Hana and Drucker," "The Golden Goose" and many more.

JOKER by Brian Azzarello; Art by Lee Bermejo and Mick Gray; Cover by Lee Bermejo. This is reviewed elsewhere in this magazine. A must have!

WATCHMEN HC Written by Alan Moore; Art and cover by Dave Gibbons. What can I say, the best selling collection ever at DC Comics is one of the best book I've ever read. I mean books, not comics. I reread this once a year or more. It is quite simply an amazing story that gets better with each reading. With a major motion picture in production for release spring 2009 from Warner Bros., Paramount Pictures and director Zack Snyder (300), this is DC Comics' first-ever hardcover edition of the Hugo Award-winning epic from writer Alan Moore and artist Dave Gibbons, offered at DC's standard trim size. One of the most influential graphic novels of all time and a perennial bestseller, WATCHMEN has only grown in stature since its original publication. This volume features a new cover by Gibbons and contains the high-quality, recolored pages found in WATCHMEN: THE ABSOLUTE EDITION, which were restored by WildStorm FX and original series colorist John Higgins. Also included are selected bonus sketch materials.