

# GODZILLA

A dynamic illustration of Godzilla, the iconic kaiju, breathing a powerful beam of atomic breath. The creature is depicted with dark, scaly skin and a blue-tinged head. The background features a cityscape with buildings and a bright, fiery sky. The overall style is reminiscent of classic comic book art.

**\$3.99**

**THE COMPLETE HISTORY  
OF GODZILLA COMICS WITH  
IDW PUBLISHING. LOADED WITH  
ARTWORK FROM EVERY SERIES  
PUBLISHED SO FAR AND  
BEHIND-THE-SCENES  
INFO!**

**THE IDW ERA**



# GODZILLA: THE IDW ERA



WRITTEN BY **MIKE FORD**

PRODUCTION BY **REBEKAH CAHALIN**

EDITS BY **BOBBY CURNOW**

CREATIVE CONSULTANT **CHRIS MOWRY**

COVER ARTWORK **MATT FRANK**

## FEATURING ARTWORK FROM THESE STORIES:

### GODZILLA: KINGDOM OF MONSTERS

Written by Eric Powell & Tracy Marsh (Issues #1-8), and Jason Ciaramella (Issues #8-12)  
Artwork by Phil Hester (Issues #1-4) and Victor Santos (Issues #5-12) • Colors by Ronda Pattison  
Inks by Bruce McCorkindale (Issues #1-4) • Letters by Chris Mowry and Neil Uyetake  
Series Edits by Carlos Guzman

### GODZILLA: GANGSTERS & GOLIATHS

Written and Lettered by John Layman • Artwork by Alberto Ponticelli • Colors by Jay Fotos  
Series Edits by Bobby Curnow and Chris Ryall

### GODZILLA

Written by Duane Swierczynski • Artwork by Simon Gane • Additional artwork by Dave Wachter  
Colors by Ronda Pattison • Letters by Chris Mowry • Series Edits by Bobby Curnow

### GODZILLA LEGENDS

Writers: Matt Frank, Jeff Prezenkowski, Jon Vankin, Mike Raicht, Chris Mowry, and Bobby Curnow  
Artists: Matt Frank, Simon Gane, Tony Parker, E.J. Su, and Dean Haspiel  
Colorists: Josh Perez, Ronda Pattison, Ian Herring, and Priscilla Tramontano  
Series Letters by Chris Mowry • Series Edits by Bobby Curnow

### GODZILLA: THE HALF-CENTURY WAR

Story and Artwork by James Stokoe  
Color Assists by Heather Breckel  
Series Edits by Bobby Curnow

### GODZILLA: RULERS OF EARTH

Written by Chris Mowry • Artwork by Matt Frank  
Additional Artwork by Jeff Zornow (Issues #5, #9, #13)  
Colors by Ronda Pattison (Issues #1-2) and Priscilla Tramontano (Issues #3-current)  
Letters by Shawn Lee • Series Edits by Bobby Curnow



Special thanks to Yoshiko Fukuda and everyone at Toho for their invaluable assistance.

**IDW**



[www.IDWPUBLISHING.com](http://www.IDWPUBLISHING.com)

IDW founded by Ted Adams, Alex Garner, Kris Opriska, and Robbie Robbins

Ted Adams, CEO & Publisher  
Greg Goldstein, President & COO  
Robbie Robbins, EVP/Sr. Graphic Artist  
Chris Ryall, Chief Creative Officer/Editor-in-Chief  
Matthew Ruzicka, CPA, Chief Financial Officer  
Alan Payne, VP of Sales  
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Lorelei Burjes, VP of Digital Services  
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**G**reetings. Every day (well, at least Monday through Friday) I live a dream. I work on a property that I've loved since I can remember. I'm writing a series about Godzilla. I'm lettering books about Godzilla. I'm answering questions and taking calls about Godzilla. It's truly a dream come true. I'm the luckiest guy in the world and I let anyone who will listen know it. I believe it was on the third day or so of my employment with IDW Publishing that I asked the question "have you ever thought about going after the Godzilla license?" Back then, the company had a few licensed properties and I knew that they were always looking. But one thing that IDW has done very well is not just acquire a license and make good comics... they seem to find a way to do something remarkable with them, too. So as the years went by, I'd continue to ask, until one day when Chief Creative Officer/Editor-in-Chief Chris Ryall broke the news that we were going after it. Now, to get the license and actually be able to work on a book in some degree was great, but I knew that IDW had to do something special and something that nobody had done before: "you should try to get the rights to some other monsters" I said. You know what? They did.

So there you have it. IDW was going to do Godzilla books. And not just books with the big guy himself, but 12 of his co-stars. Ryall let me pick the list of monsters and while it was incredibly difficult to narrow down 12 of them, I knew that some just HAD to be there. I've been a fan since I can remember, so choosing just what monsters to use was incredibly tough. MOTHRA, MECHAGODZILLA, GIGAN, and of course KING GHIDORAH, for starters. Others were picked for not how popular they were, but more along the lines of whether they could fit into a story well or not. BATTRA, for example. Battra could go well in a Mothra story. Hedorah would be perfect for a standalone story somewhere down the line. KUMONGA? Well, spiders freak people out. Now make that spider as big as Godzilla and you've got the stuff of nightmares.

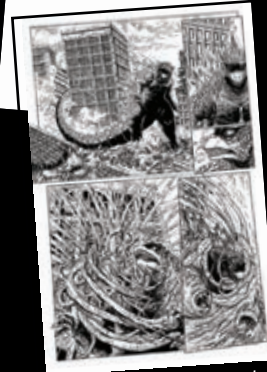
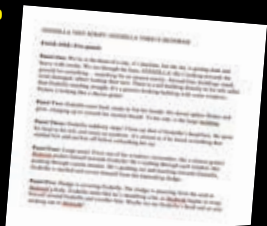
When the deal was signed and we were ready to announce that we'd be publishing Godzilla, we needed to get a creative team going. Getting stories approved would be one thing, but getting artists approved would be an entirely different one. Originally, artist E.J. Su (who would later go on to draw Issue #4 of **GODZILLA LEGENDS**) did some sketches so IDW had something to show Toho, but once the contract was approved, I wrote a quick, three-page script featuring a fight between Godzilla and Hedorah. This script was sent to artists as a way for them to submit their work for approval. Since Toho Co., Ltd. was reviewing art submissions sent to them by IDW, this only helped streamline the process for not just future projects, but to get started on that all-important first series.

The rest, as they say, is history. Three years later, IDW has produced some truly wonderful pieces of fiction involving Godzilla and his fellow monsters. We've been lucky to work with some amazing creators and help them share their visions with readers. We've made some great relationships with not just our friends at Toho, but in the Godzilla community as well. Kyle Yount (Kaijucast) and SciFi Japan's Keith Aiken and Bob Johnson come to mind. With 2014 being his 60th anniversary, IDW making comics, and a ton of new merchandise coming out... there is no better time to be a fan of Godzilla. And if you're not a fan, let's change that.

Right. Skreeonk-ing. Now.

Chris Mowry  
Writer / Creative Consultant

APRIL 2014



Artist James Stokoe presents his rendition of the first page of IDW's test script.



Early Godzilla character study by E.J. Su.

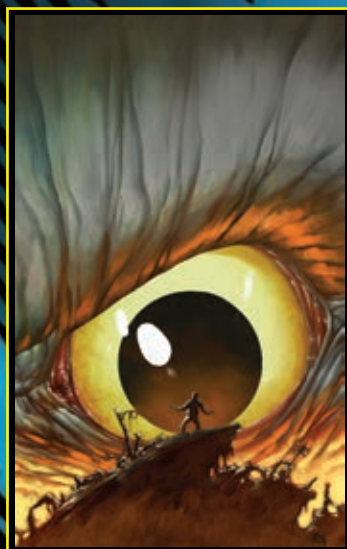


# GODZILLA

## KINGDOM OF MONSTERS

The first title released by IDW was titled **GODZILLA: KINGDOM OF MONSTERS**. When it hit stores in March 2011, it was clear from the start that IDW's version of Godzilla was going to be very different from what came before. Aside from the roster of Toho's monsters making their comic book debuts, **GODZILLA: KINGDOM OF MONSTERS** offered readers a story filled with not just gigantic, rampaging monsters, but one rich with political and social satire as well. With giant monsters suddenly appearing across the globe, the governments of the world struggle to maintain order and control of the situation. As the world leaders are shown time and time again, there is little they can do against the greatest monster of all, Godzilla.

Spanning 12 issues, the series introduced a number of characters (both human and monster) to what would become the "IDW Universe" and serve as the foundation for two series that would come later, **GODZILLA** and **GODZILLA: RULERS OF EARTH**.



Above: Phil Hester and Ronda Pattison present Godzilla's first appearance for IDW in **GODZILLA: KINGDOM OF MONSTERS** #1. Right: The Eric Powell image used for promotion was also a cover for Issue #1. Below: Eric Powell's tri-fold cover for Issue #1.





Matt Frank's template for what would be IDW's "smashing" hit Godzilla promotion.

## A SMASHING SUCCESS!

**GODZILLA: KINGDOM OF MONSTERS** #1 launched with one of the most ambitious and successful marketing strategies in the comic book industry. What better way to announce the return of Godzilla to comic book shops than to have your favorite store crushed under the big guy's foot? Seen here is the image sent to retailers to gauge interest, and did it ever! With over 90 retailers signing up and various other exclusive covers, the first issue featured over 100 covers, some collected as a special fundraising book for disaster relief in Japan following the devastating 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

**FUN FACT: GODZILLA: KINGDOM OF MONSTERS** originally had a different name, but was changed as a play on words with the original film's U.S. release title **GODZILLA, KING OF THE MONSTERS**.



Sergeant Steven Woods (above, not knocked unconscious) helps an orphaned girl survive a world of monsters. Sgt. Woods returns in a starring role in **GODZILLA: RULERS OF**

Godzilla rages in **GODZILLA: KINGDOM OF MONSTERS** #5.





Issue #1 cover by Alex Ross.



Issue #2 cover by Phil Hester. Colors by Ronda Pattison.



Issue #4 cover. Artwork by Eric Powell, colors by Dave Stewart.



Issue #5 cover by Jeff Zornow.

Artist Matt Frank created the Retailer Incentive (RI) covers for **GODZILLA: KINGDOM OF MONSTERS**. These eleven covers featured pin-up images of the roster of monsters available at the time to IDW. Presented here are the RI covers for Issues #2-12 starring (from left to right): Rodan, Anguirus, Mothra, King Ghidorah, Kumonga, Battra, Mechagodzilla (1990s version), Gigan, Hedorah, Titanosaurus, and Space Godzilla.

