



# HIGHLIGHTS

## CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF MANGA



**1988:** Dark Horse releases its first manga, Kazuhisa Iwata's *Godzilla*, as a six-issue comics series.

**1989:** Dark Horse releases its first manga trade paperback collection, *Outlanders* Volume 1. No ISBN or BISAC codes are needed, as graphic novels aren't sold in bookstores yet!



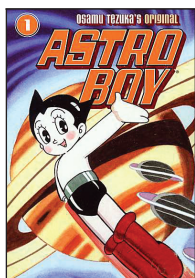
**1993:** Adam Warren's *The Dirty Pair*, a licensed American adaptation of the original Japanese series, comes out. Warren later does an American adaptation of *Bubblegum Crisis* with creator Kenichi Sonoda's approval.

**1995:** Masamune Shirow's epic science fiction tale *Ghost in the Shell* is released as an eight-part comics series.



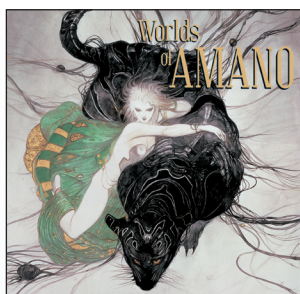
**1999:** *Star Wars* by Hisao Tamaki wins Dark Horse its first Eisner Award for manga.

**2000:** Kazuo Koike's *Lone Wolf and Cub* launches in a *bunko* format (4 x 6 inches) and sets a land-speed record, with twenty-eight volumes published in twenty-eight months. As well as being a multiple Eisner and Harvey Award winner, it becomes one of Dark Horse's best-selling series.



**2002:** When Osamu Tezuka's *Astro Boy* comes out, Dark Horse becomes the first American publisher to release the lighter side of Tezuka, with other titles showcasing Tezuka's earlier manga history to follow, including *Metropolis*, *Lost World*, and *Nextworld*.

**2005:** Dark Horse leads the charge of publishing anime-related novels with the best-selling *Vampire Hunter D* (which will become its most popular prose novel series of all time) and follows it up with the anime spinoff novel *Blood: The Last Vampire*.



**2007:** Dark Horse forges a relationship with renowned artist Yoshitaka Amano with the publication of *Worlds of Amano*. The publisher would later print over a half dozen of Amano's art books, including *The Sky: The Art of Final Fantasy*.

**2007:** Dark Horse wins an Eisner Award for Garon Tsuchiya and Nobuaki Minegishi's gritty revenge series *Old Boy*.



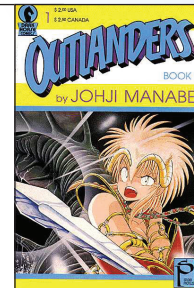
**2008:** The most-demanded sci-fi/action manga of all time, Hiroya Oku's *Gantz*, is released.

**2009:** The wildly successful CLAMP omnibus program begins with *Clover*, followed by *Chobits*, *Cardcaptor Sakura*, *Magic Knight Rayearth*, *Angelic Layer*, and *Tokyo Babylon*.



**2012:** Dark Horse releases Tsukasa Fushimi's *Oreimo*, a contemporary title based on the Japanese light-novel phenomenon.

**1988:** Studio Proteus begins a long association with Dark Horse, beginning with the sci-fi comics series *Outlanders*. In conjunction with Studio Proteus, Dark Horse would later publish such notable titles as *Akira* and *Ghost in the Shell*.



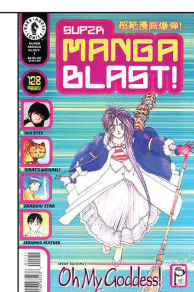
**1993:** *Weekly Super Comic Maker*, a weekly comic collecting the best Dark Horse offerings, is released in Japan. Dark Horse is the only American publisher to have done this.

**1994:** Kosuke Fujishima's *Oh My Goddess!* series is released. Still published to this day, *Oh My Goddess!* is the longest-running ongoing manga series in English.



**1996:** Hiroaki Samura's *Blade of the Immortal* series is first published.

**2000:** *Super Manga Blast!* begins, a bimonthly serialized magazine dedicated solely to manga (titles include *What's Michael?*, *Cannon God Exaxion*, and *Shadow Star*).



**2000:** Regarded by many as the finest manga series ever produced, Katsuhiro Otomo's stunning science-fiction masterpiece *Akira* is published.

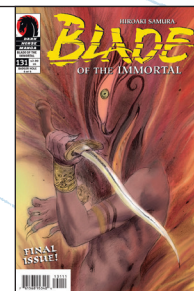
**2003:** Yasuhiro Nightow's *Trigun*, Kentaro Miura's *Berserk*, and Kohta Hirano's *Hellsing* launch, with all three quickly ascending to the best-seller list; to date they have sold almost two million copies. Dark Horse's first books in *tankobon* size (5 x 7 inches), these titles are also formatted as the publisher's first non-Westernized manga (right-to-left reading).



**2006:** Dark Horse publishes the anime art book *Gungrave Archives*, by creator Yasuhiro Nightow, which is soon followed by another art book, *Roman Album: Samurai Champloo*, based on the popular anime.

**2007:** The most controversial manga of all time, the multivolume series *MPD-Psycho*, comes to America.

**2007:** The last comic issue of *Blade of the Immortal* (#131) is printed. *Blade* is not only Dark Horse's longest-running manga series in comic book format, but also the last manga to be published in this format.



**2009:** The first volume of *New York Times* graphic novel bestseller *Neon Genesis Evangelion: The Shinji Ikari Raising Project* comes out. It is followed by another hit series spinoff, *Neon Genesis Evangelion: Campus Apocalypse*.

**2013:** Yoshitaka Amano's original fantasy novel, *Deva Zan*, is printed. It is released in America *before* being released in Japan or elsewhere.

