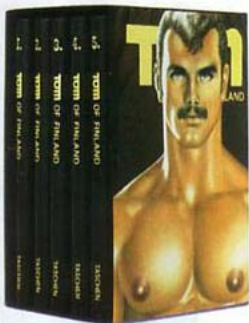


MAN BOOKS



TOM OF FINLAND *The Comic Collection*
Edited by Dian Hanson
Taschen America, 4" x 5 1/2," 5 Volumes in a Slipcase, 960 pages,
\$39.99, www.taschen.com

Everyone has heard of Tom of Finland and knows what the drawings look like. But for most of us, what we've seen are a handful of the exaggerated, erotic leatherman illustrations here or there. Now there's a great selection of the artist's hot-and-heavy work from 1968 to 1986—plus a never-before-published, 18-page erotic art story from 1948.

Bikers, cops, sailors, soldiers, cowboys and all kinds of tough guys get it on in this neat, 5-volume collection that fits in the palm of your hand. Each of the five 192-page volumes features eight or more complete illustration-stories, including all 27 episodes of "Kake," Tom's ultimate leatherman.

Tom of Finland (Touko Laaksonen, 1920-1991) was in fact born in Finland but studied art in Canada and then moved to the United States. Original artwork for this collection was provided by Durk Dehner, Tom's archivist and co-founder of the Tom of Finland Foundation in Los Angeles. A legend in erotica herself, editor Dian Hanson has written a great introduction covering Tom's life and work, with photos included. This is an amazing collection and a real bargain. ■

