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Rurouni Kenshin, Vol. 2



Synopsis

Things are settling down at the Kamiya dojo. Former "fight merchant" Sanosuke has come to grips with his past, realizing that things may not be quite as black and white as he thought, that good men may serve bad causes, and vice versa. Yahiko, the angry-fisted young man, is learning to relax. And Kenshin is enjoying Kaoru's cooking. But even in these strange early days of modern Japan, there is such a thing as pure evil - Udo Jin-e, black-hatted, crazy-eyed former assassin, is still chasing the scent of blood, his mad thirst for vengeance felling the innocent and guilty alike. If a man kills too many, for too long, as Kenshin says, he loses his original purpose, and succumbs to the spell of blood. When hitokiri faces hitokiri, can Kenshin withstand the hypnotic power of Jin-e?

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Customer Reviews

Rurouni Kenshin is great a series that really grows over time and becomes incredible in a few more volumes. I've read all 28 of the fan translated volumes and can't wait to buy the rest of the volumes as they're released by Viz. I have to wait for so long!! Vol 1-6 = Tokyo Arc, this is where the introductions of main characters are made. It sets the stage for a much bigger picture. Vol 7-17 = Kyoto Arc, the arc that made the anime series so popular. It's a great arc with an amazing story and great fights, and you just can't put it down. It also has much character development, and you love Kenshin and his group all the better. The saga is so well planned out that it's perfect. Vol 18-28 (end) = Jinchu(Revenge arc, human judgement) arc, just when you think Kenshin will settle down, the story gets better! We finally learn about Kenshin's famous scar and his past. People from Kenshin's past are back to haunt him and carry out their long-awaited revenge. This saga is the best

of the series and was unfortunately never animated except in an OVA, which only showed how Kenshin got his scar. In the manga this is the end of vol. 19, all of 20, and the first few chapters of 21. Kenshin's past is a true tragedy, but he finally finds his answers in this arc. I can't believe that they left this incredible story unanimated. The TV series had nothing to do with the manga story after episode 62, and the OVA is dramatically different from the manga also. Anyway, Kenshin really grows in art and storytelling throughout the series and never gets weak nor drags like the TV series after the legend of Kyoto. It's the best series ever! You have to read it to experience all the humor, drama, fighting, and romance. It just grows on you!

After such an amazing first volume, I had no idea what to expect of number two. But just as I hoped, it was even better than the incredibly awesome first installment. Kenshin is a wonderfully worked, and developed manga masterpiece. With the amazingly intelligent mix of suspense, action and romantic comedy that always leaves you craving more. With a cast of characters with their own deep and interesting backgrounds, Kenshin truly is a work of art. After all the revelations of the first novel, we find Kenshin in the middle of a fight with the future friend, Sanosuke. They obviously work things out and the end result is another main character to love!! We learn many things about Kenshin's rather shady past as a killer pops up for Kenshin to capture. During the fight he almost turns killer himself until Kaoru's voice stops him from reverting back to his old ways. With all that happens, you're left loving the series, and Kenshin himself even more! There is also obviously more of that hilarious Kenshin comedy that is just to die for!! This book is so funny!!! No matter how dramatic this series will get, it will only take one "oro?" to lighten the mood. And of course there are more of his adorable facial expressions that will leave you giggling like you just got out of a mental institution. With all there is to love about Rurouni Kenshin, it's almost a crime not to read this series!! So just stop hurting yourself, GO READ RUROUNI KENSHIN TODAY!!!

Rurouni Kenshin is a great manga that rewards rereading and the VizBig edition is a worthy setting. This is a large volume that really lets the reader see all the details of Nobuhiro Watsuki's artwork, and that artwork is well worth seeing. It starts on the cover, with a full-color portrait of the protagonist, Kenshin Himura, and continues inside with detailed drawings that bring all the characters to life. Volume 2 has a full-color chapter, a table of contents, a cast of the characters with pictures and a description for each one, and a glossary of terms for the Meiji Restoration, as well as a brief description of the Bakumatsu, the final years of the Edo period when the Tokugawa shogunate came to an end. There is also a bonus in the form of Crescent Moon in the Warring

States, Watsuki's debut work. The volume has more of the "secret lives" of the characters, as well as side notes from Watsuki. It covers Megumi's rescue from Kanryuu's mansion up to the reunion of Sanosuke with his childhood comrade, Katsu, another survivor of the Sekihōtai massacre.

Okay, I am an avid Kenshin fan so this is highly biased. now that that is out of the way, here it goes. Kenshin starts off with the battle between Zanza and continues on all the way through the fight against Kurgosa (the Black Hat) until we meet Megumi-dono and Sano (formerly known as Zanza) and Kenshin kick the butts of those pursuing her when she enters into the gambling hall where they are situated. So MUCH content. So that's 9 CHAPTERS or Acts, as they are known in the manga. GREAT fighting scenes and emotional pull. A BIG PLUS is that they keep the Japanese honorifics. -san, -chan, -dono, -sama. As well as certain parts as the Hiten Mitsurugi style (with translations below it) Battousai, Hitokiri..... It even provides a glossary for historical events that took place in Japan; since this IS a Historical Fiction series. AND..... The drawings are very well done, normally in manga you can see some over exaggerate figures. Faces that are slightly warped, and such but in here they are very nicely done. While Kenshin's appearance is different than in the anime that is because his character is continually being developed and you'll recognize him as he is in the anime in the next book or one after. WOW, it even gets better in the art section as it goes along, and that is an awesome bonus. I think the translations are okay as mentioned and I love the fact that they kept everything intact, from the comments of the Watsuki to the Character background that is intertwined in the manga. The best, EVER!

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