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Rurouni Kenshin, Vol. 14

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Synopsis

Packed with action, romance and historical intrigue, Rurouni Kenshin is one of the most beloved and popular manga series worldwide. Set against the backdrop of the Meiji Restoration, it tells the saga of Himura Kenshin, once an assassin of ferocious power, now a humble rurouni, a wandering swordsman fighting to protect the honor of those in need.Ã Â A hundred and fifty years ago in Kyoto, amid the flames of revolution, there arose a warrior, an assassin of such ferocious power he was given the title Hitokiri: Manslayer. With his bloodstained blade, Hitokiri Battosai helped close the turbulent Bakumatsu period and end the reign of the shoguns, slashing open the way toward the progressive Meiji Era.Ã Â Then he vanished, and with the flow of years became legend. In the 11th year of Meiji, in the middle of Tokyo, the tale begins. Himura Kenshin, a humble rurouni, or wandering swordsman, comes to the aid of Kamiya Kaoru, a young woman struggling to defend her father's school of swordsmanship against attacks by the infamous Hitokiri Battosai. But neither Kenshin nor Battosai are quite what they seem...

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

He won an honourable mention prize in the Shonen Jump. "New Manga Hop Step Award" with the work Podomakku. Later, while he worked as an assistant, he presented works such as Sengoku No Mikazuki (Crescent Moon in the Warring States) and Rurouni-Meiji Kenkaku Romantan (Meiji Swordsman Romance Story). The serialization of Rurouni Kenshin started in 1994 and concluded in 1999. His hobbies are to draw, read, play video games, read American comic books, and make

model figures.

Rurouni Kenshin has long been considered a classic Shonen Jump manga and after finally reading this volume I can see why.The story tells the story of Kenshin, a samurai who wanders the countryside in a time where only those who are part of the government are aloud to have a sword. Kenshin' s life is changed when he meets Oro, a young woman who is trying her best to keep her family dojo alive. As a whole volume 1 does a nice job of introducing characters and the world of Kenshin. It has a nice mix of comedy and serious moments. With a nice cast of charming characters.An odd note for the kindle version is in the last chapter, they accidentally added part of the first chapter in it. Which was a bit confusing at first. And a word of caution for those who care, Kenshin does get gory in a few times.

A few years ago, I began to start watching anime, and decided to try manga. Okay, to be honest, it wasn't entirely that way. I had thought of reading manga before as I had thought of watching anime before, but I just didn't know where to start reading first. A relative, who knows my tastes in fiction, and my beliefs, found a manga of a character that I could enjoy watching.*Rurouni Kenshin: Meiji Swordsman Romantic Story*, or plain-old *Rurouni Kenshin* (or *RuroKen* even more so) for short, is a manga about a wandering swordsman named Himura Kenshin, who rescues a young girl from a fight with a hulking killer who claims to be the legendary ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“BattousaiÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•, the deadliest of a group of assassins (known as the Hitokiri) who fought during the recent war inaugurating the Meiji era in Japan.The girl, a young heir to the dojo of her father, who was slain in the recent war, is named Kamiya Kaoru. She is grateful, though a tad peeved at Kenshin for his goofy ways. She also is a tad prejudiced against him for his
ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“RurouniÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• ways. Rurouni means
ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“wandererÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• (though it should be noted that is a fake word that the mangaka - Watsuki-sensei - made up), and that is what Kenshin has done lately. This is not exactly considered respectable. Eventually, the reason is revealed why, when she learns that he is, in fact, the *true* Hitokiri Battousai.In guilt over his past as an assassin, as well as for other reasons, Himura has changed his path, and wanders around, doing good, with his reverse-bladed sword. With this peculiar blade, it is almost impossible to kill someone, which is just how he wants it to be. He can still do so, but prefers to avoid that irrevocable step. Eventually, a lonely and grateful Kaoru invites him to stay with her at her dojo as a boarder. At this point, it should be noted, nothing romantic occurs, he is just her friend.This manga appealed to me for a number of reasons. First of

all, it was unique compared to American comics. It was not filled with super-heroes, or some adaptation of a popular book or movie, for instance. In other words, it wasn't the typical ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“comic-bookÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• fare. It was a historical drama. Granted the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“historyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• was played with, as the author freely admits. That in itself, I will add, was quite refreshing. All too many authors try to pretend their stories are more accurate than they truly are. The author here does the opposite of this, freely admitting the story is largely fabricated. The premise is also interesting to me, as it centers on the adventures of a former warrior in late-19th century Japan who did his best to fight for justice. He also, as we see in later volumes, seeks to atone for his misdeeds and mistakes and struggles with self-worth. As a veteran, I empathize and identify with this character type.The other part I liked was that his philosophy was one I agree with entirely. I freely admit that I enjoy it when the hero of a story shares my beliefs instead of trashing them. In this case, this is not beliefs of a religious nature. The author seems to have studiously left out religion for the most part, and, from what I have heard, when there are some Christian bad guys later on, they are made clear to not be typical Christians, but guys who are misusing their faith. In general, the author, Nobuhiro Watsuki, stays away from political and ideological issues of today. That is not to say that politics or religion are not dealt with, but that they are limited to those issues that the characters would have dealt with and discussed *at the time* when the story takes place. This does take the story into condemning later evils like imperialism beginning to rise.Philosophically, Kenshin is someone who is mostly a pacifist, but *WILL* fight when the need arises. Even then, he will not kill normally, but he will do so if he has no other choice. He just tries to avoid each step of the way, and when he does have to do what he would rather not, he takes no pleasure in doing so.The dynamic for the character is sort of similar to that for Superman in his stories, where there are some bad guys who can pose a physical threat to Big Blue, but it is much more a story of Superman's personal and moral struggles. Here too, few can defeat Kenshin, but there are enough people who are good enough to challenge him to the point that he has to fight hard enough that he risks killing them. It is the personal struggle at heart here that makes the tale so interesting.Most people may not care for the philosophy quite as much as I do, because they might not share it, or might even find it weird and absurd. In our darker and edgier age of movies with guys that freely kill, a highly moralistic and extremely pacifistic character is not welcome to most, but he is to me. I can't recommend this enough.You see, I can sympathize with Kenshin, because I feel the same way for similar reasons. I didn't assassinate folks like the fictional Kenshin (based, as all the characters are, *very loosely* on an actual historical figure) did, but I was affected by a recent war, and I do hate violence, but if it is necessary to be violent, I hate any and all

sadistic enjoyment thereof. I am a lot like the character in that regard, though certainly not similar in actual fighting prowess (obviously!).For those who also like insights into the author's thoughts, there are character sketches and tidbits from the author about the work in progress. This is an incredible manga and If really can't recommend it enough.

This series gets better and better! I love the inclusion of colorized pages and the notes from the author! I feel like I am along for the ride as the series is getting released because of the notes, and it's really a unique experience to have with a series that at this point is quite old. Im already on the 5th VizBig book (volume 13,14,15 of the series) and I can't set it down!

Warning: SPOILERS!!!!The series revolves around Kenshin-he is the protagonist and his story takes center stage. But Sanosuke is my favorite character and one of my favorite characters of all time and he gets a lot of attention in this volume. To begin with, the first chapter detailing Saito's attack on Sano is in full-color. That's a little gruesome, as Sano is stabbed and left critically injured and there's a lot of blood, but Watsuki's artwork is, as always, gorgeous. There is a second full-color chapter dealing with Kenshin's meeting with Misao, but it's full-color Sanosuke that gets me.It's also interesting to see that the anime followed Watsuki's work in this volume so closely. The shot of Sanosuke being found by his friends is exactly the same in the anime, down to the angles. Also the scene of him being treated by Megumi, with Kaoru and Yahiko assisting her, is very close in the anime. That's how good the artwork is-it even translated perfectly to the screen. There's another great section where Sanosuke confronts Saito after he's back on his feet, and the part where Sano meets with Monk Anji and learns the Futae no Kiwami, a powerful fighting technique. There's also a touching scene where the ghost of Captain Sagara, the man Sano admired the most and from whom he took his name, visits Sanosuke.There's another color chapter towards the end where Kenshin reaches Kyoto, and we meet Makoto Shishio for the first time in this issue. As always, the VizBig edition is just that, BIG, with lots of room for the artwork. There are "Secret Life" sections on various villains and Hajime Saito, who was a real person and is not exactly a villain in Kenshin. Watsuki refers to him as someone who is allied with Kenshin but never becomes his friend. There's a cast of characters, a full table of contents, musings by Watsuki throughout the book, and a glossary at the end. There are also sections at the end with information about the Boshin War, the surrender of the Shogun, and the end and legacy of the Shinsengumi.

about 2/3 way threw and I love it!If you love samurais you will love this.quick history lesson: in

Japan a reverse katana blade was actually found, that's what this is about. The Rurouni is a wandering samurai that uses a reverse-blade katana to save and help people.If I go further in depth I may spoil things people may not want spoiled.

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