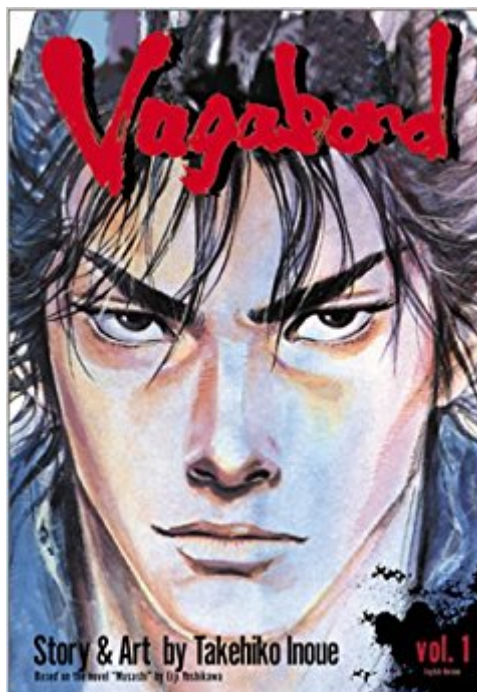


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Vagabond, Vol. 1



Synopsis

This is an adaptation from the fictionalized biography of "sword saint" Miyamoto Musashi by Eiji Yoshikawa. In Japan, a new government has taken power and the land is in disarray. Amidst the turmoil, a young man sets out on a journey seeking spiritual enlightenment by the sword, prepared to slay anyone who gets in his way. Though strong and adept, Takezo is on the losing side of the battle of Sekigahara. Seeking refuge with a beautiful woman and her daughter, Takezo and his sidekick Matahachi must defend the women from the bandit leader Tsujikaze Tenma.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (46 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,379,178 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #383 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Historical Fiction #2417 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Romance #3970 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Media Tie-In

Customer Reviews

I'm a fan of manga who remains very selective about the titles I read - particularly when that title is 'Lone Wolf & Cub', and means drowning yourself in 9000 pages of bloody vengeance, bushido and the path to Meifumado; or 'Berserk', with 37 volumes of weird pseudo-European fantasy that cranks the gore to 11 and sucks you in with Kentaro Miura's incredibly detailed draftsmanship and idiosyncratic story-telling. The pacing and structure of manga is very different from American comics or Bande Dessinee, with the action unfolding in a cinematic manner that might spread a single action sequence over dozens of pages when an American comic would compress the same material to two or three. This 'uncompressed' approach means that getting hooked on 'Lone Wolf & Cub' or 'Blade of the Immortal' will require purchasing close to 30 volumes per series, not to mention a heavy investiture of time and emotion. These books, and others like 'Akira', 'Uzumaki', and 'Tekkon Kinkreet' are masterpieces of the artform that will always be worth the cost. 'Vagabond' is another modern classic of manga. Writer/Artist Takehiko Inoue is finally approaching the end of

his account of the life of Miyamoto Musashi, the most famous samurai of all time and the author of 'The Book of Five Rings'. After over 16 years some 40 volumes, each around 200+ pages in length, the scale of Inoue's achievement is massive. A quick survey of the artwork in any volume will make clear just how talented an artist he is; the level of detail and texturing is so meticulous, it seems miraculous it didn't take him twice as long.

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