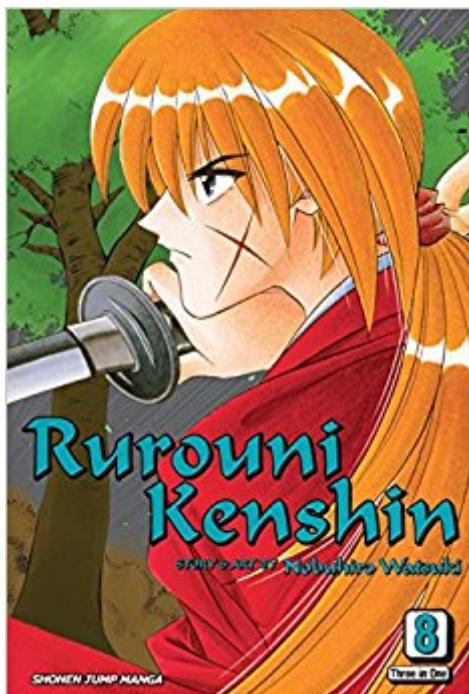


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Rurouni Kenshin, Vol. 8, Vizbig Edition



Synopsis

Change your perspective: get BIG R to L (Japanese Style). Sin, Judgment, Acceptance Making good on his promise to attack the Kamiya Dojo, Enishi and his comrades pounce on Kenshin and company and quickly fight them to a standstill. Seeking to break the impasse, the masked puppet master Gein prepares to unleash his greatest creation, IwanbM Version Three. Now the battle has three fronts: Sanosuke vs. Inui Banjin and his indestructible gauntlets, Yahiko vs. the deviously deadly Otowa HyMko, and Kenshin vs. Gein's latest toy. Not wanting to be left out of the fun, SaitM Hajime happens by in time to clash with the freakish Yatsume MumyMi, but has this all been a calculated step in Enishi's master plan? For the first time since his appearance in Tokyo, Enishi unveils his awesome fighting skills, a deadly combination of both Japanese and Chinese techniques. Believing that Kenshin's death alone will not satisfy his departed sister's soul, Enishi prepares to cast Kenshin into a living hell of remorse and regret. Will Kaoru become a sacrifice on the altar of Enishi's bloody revenge? Action, romance, and historical intrigue help make Nobuhiro Watsuki's *Rurouni Kenshin*, the tale of a wandering swordsman set against the backdrop of the Meiji Restoration, one of the most popular Shonen Jump titles among fans to date. Himura Kenshin, once an assassin (or *hitokiri*) of ferocious power, now fights to protect the honor of those in need.

Book Information

Series: *Rurouni Kenshin* (Book 8)

Paperback: 608 pages

Publisher: VIZ Media LLC (December 8, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 142152080X

ISBN-13: 978-1421520803

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 1.6 x 5.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (128 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #168,639 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Historical Fiction #579 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Science Fiction #866 inÂ Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Media Tie-In

Customer Reviews

EDIT: Evidently, it seems that some reviewers are unaware that placed reviews that were originally written for the first release of "Rurouni Kenshin Volume 1" under the reviews for the "VIZBIG" edition

(if you're not on that product page, feel free to skip to the Review segment beneath this edit). Since many people seemed to only give a cursory glance at the line telling the date on which the review was written, they might not have realized that my review was intended for an older product. Let me note that it was which has placed many of these reviews under the VIZBIG edition, without the consent of the reviewers (and it is 's right to do so). With that out of the way, here's a brief review of this new release:3 out of 5 stars (this rating in no way reflects my impression of the quality of the actual story--this portion of the review covers the aspects of the new release). The story and the translation of Rurouni Kenshin seem, for the most part, to remain intact, with little to no edits made to the text of the original releases (and for those wondering, they have NOT censored the profanity, as has become customary of VIZ translations). The VIZBIG is essentially an omnibus collection of three volumes of Rurouni Kenshin in one. Make no mistake: This is an excellent purchase if you do not already own the series and desire to do so. We are given a decent cover (one not taken from any of the existing single-edition volumes) that depicts our protagonist (although he is drawn in what later becomes Watsuki's customary style). The printing quality of this release is superb, with the blacks dark and clear, and the whites untainted and crisp. The lines are distinct; there is no blurring or ink stain.

Let me start off by saying, I have not seen the anime of Kenshin. The only thing having to do with the series that I have seen is the *Samurai X: Trust and Betrayal* DVD. So this is coming from the viewpoint of someone who isn't familiar with the general story, only up to what is in this volume of *Rurouni Kenshin*. First, some hard facts: Pages - 201 (Without the back advertisements) Chapters - 6 Kenshin - Himura Battosai Rurouni in the City Tokyo Samurai *Kasshin-Ryu Reborn* The Fight Merchant Face Off: Sagara Sanosuke Other Stuff - The original one shot written 1 year before that was a prelude to *Kenshin*, "Rurouni: Meiji Swordsman Romantic Story" Character Profiles Glossary of terms that appear in the manga Okay, now for the review! I'll start with the cover. I've seen 3 variations on the web so far. The one in 's picture, which is downright ugly, the design that mangabits.com has for their review, and the mangabits one except the green is replaced with blue. The one from is the green one, which is not bad. It could have been better, but it could have been a lot worse. I actually like the jungle green floral pattern of the cover; it looks very "medieval" J. I particularly like the shot of Kaoru, the coloring of her face is very nice, but *Kenshin*'s orange hair clashes with his red robe thing. I think the actual logo (The *Rurouni* *kenshin* with the sword in the middle) is cheesy, but meh, it's a small part. 6/10 I'm mixed with the artwork. I like the designs of the characters, and some of the backgrounds are very well done (I like that shot in the restaurant, pg

129, top panel, as it achieves being busy without giving me a seizure J But the battle scenes are most definitely not my favorites.

And cheering me is what this manga has done. "Rurouni Kenshin: The Meiji Swordsman Romantic Story" has a long subtext, but certainly has an engaging potential. I, for long, have waited for an English version of this manga, as many anime-literates say that the anime version of Rurouni Kenshin isn't completely true to the creator's original work. Now it's here in all it's beauty, thanks to VIZ. Speaking of beauty, the artwork is full of it. The characters, while a little cartoon-ish at times, are very expressional and it proves that each well-made character has a sense of personality. It's a little unpolished since this is the 1st volume, but the artwork will get better with future releases, and its charm will definitely sets in. The first volume consists of 6 irresistible chapters that were from the first four episodes of the anime series, and as a special bonus, it contains the creator's first work which is a precursor to the RuroKen saga, simply titled "Rurouni". It's good to know how the series was made, and having this so-called 'side-story' as an extra was the right move for VIZ to kept intact for the US release. It wasn't a right move, however, for VIZ to translate the sound effects, but since I was so engage with the story, I hardly care about that. On the subject of translations, some people were peeved with the translation of the manga not being literal. What's their beef? So what if it's not as accurate as its import counterpart, I checked the actual translation notes and I think the manga's English translation is just fine and it's good for VIZ to jive it up a bit so the story doesn't sound boring. Be satisfy that Kenshin's famous catchphrase "Oro?" was kept in the English version; he never says it dubbed.

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