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Hunter X Hunter, Vol. 1



Synopsis

When Gon learns his father Ging--whom he thought was dead--is a famous Hunter, he aspires to follow in his footsteps and track down monsters, treasures, and words of magic. Rated for older teens.

Book Information

Series: Hunter X Hunter (Book 1)

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Customer Reviews

Hunter X Hunter is good series with engaging, mysterious characters and an intriguing storyline. However, the long "Hunter Exam" arc may not appeal to everyone and the occasionally inconsistent artwork will likely upset some fans of Togashi's previous works. (There may be some SPOILERS ahead).The story is easy to follow and contains many clever and creative twists. Hunters are people with access to confidential information, restricted locations, and loads of wealth. To become a Hunter, you must acquire a liscense by passing the Hunter Exam. We are introduced to Gon, a young and ambitious inhabitant of Whale Island with a skill for communicating with animals. Gon aspires to obtain a Hunter's License and find his father Ging, a famous and successful Hunter. Througout Gon's journey to reach the Exam Hall, he encounters two interesting characters: Kurapika and Leorio. The three eventually become friends and together they tackle the rigorous and grueling Hunter Exam, meet remarkable adversaries, and struggle to acheive their goals.The first volume has a solid translation with what may seem like promising artwork to some. The art isn't bad but the quality varies too often. The first volume doesn't show this as well as later volumes which contain a few more inconsitencies (examples are the ending chapters of volume six with very

sketchy designs). The characters are what really kept me reading. Gon seems a bit shallow and slightly immature but he is fiercely loyal and a skilled combatant. The designs of Leorio and Kurapika aren't fully developed when they are first introduced but they gradually fall into place. Leorio, despite seeming conceited and obsessed with money at first, is an admirable (and at times determined) character.

That doesn't mean I don't like Yu Yu Hakusho, because I have all 19 volumes but, Togashi's writing in that series really prompted me to get into Hunter x Hunter. The back stories of the characters, the character development and also the subplots are so well delivered and they often overlap in very unique ways. This kind of writing is very hard for me to like, and the author presents it without it being confusing for me. (The overlapping plots in CLAMP's Tsubasa Chronicles for example hurt my brain, so I stopped reading the series). The artwork is not as advanced as Yu Yu Hakusho, but there are points where the work becomes very detailed and shows just how talented a drawer that the author is. There is much more dialogue, as well. This book is quite a bit bloodier, and the characters run into a lot of life or death situations. If you've read Yu Yu Hakusho you may notice similarities between the four lead characters and the Hunter x Hunter characters. Gon takes after Yusuke but very minimally, he is much more light hearted and gentle. Killua takes after Hiei as far as the gore is concerned... Leorio is a definitive Kuwabara, and Kurapika is the blonde version of Kurama. Still, these characters do have their own traits that separate them from other stories and make them very likable. I recommend this to anyone who wants to read a story, a very, very big story! You'll really love it. Edit: I feel it necessary to elaborate on the character's personalities a little bit more. Gon - He is neither good or evil, very neutral most of the time but he has a heart of gold and a love for all living things, even the bad guys. He tends to be very curious, and loves to learn about new tools, techniques and take on crazy challenges.

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