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Overlord, Vol. 1 - Light Novel



Synopsis

For twelve years, the virtual world of > has served as the playground and battlefield for the skeletal lord Momonga and his guild of fellow monsters, Ainz Ooal Gown. But the guild's glory days are over, and the game is shutting down permanently. When Momonga logs in one last time just to be there when the servers go dark, something happens--and suddenly, fantasy is reality. A rogues' gallery of fanatically devoted NPCs is ready to obey his every order, but the world Momonga now inhabits is not the one he remembers. The game may be over, but the epic tale of Ainz Ooal Gown is only beginning...

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kugane Maruyama is the author behind the Overlord novel series. so-bin is the artist behind the Overlord novel series.

Compared to some other reviewers, the packaging of my copy of this book was quite adequate to protect it and it arrived in perfect condition with a nicely illustrated dust cover. The ONLY possible complaint that I might have is that while the text pages are nicely bound to a cloth backing, the book's boards are merely covered in paper. I would have been more than willing to pay a bit more for cloth covered boards, but for only fifteen bucks, this was still acceptable. Now, as to the story itself, I first encountered this story with SkytheWood's online translations and fell in love with the story about a leader of monsters in a virtual reality game finding himself in an alternate reality after

the shutdown of the game's servers. The pacing of the story is perfect and the main character's continuing dilemma of finding himself thinking more like an evil skeletal Overlord as opposed to his former kinder self as a human is both touching and hilarious at different times. I particularly enjoyed his trying to come up with a suitably "evil" reason for doing the "good" deed of saving a nearby village as this definitely appealed to my admittedly warped and twisted sense of humor. So I, for one, am extremely happy that this wonderful story by Maruyama Kugane is finally available in a licensed English publication and I will eagerly await each new volume that gets released in English so that I can properly support the author that up to now, I have been enjoying for free online. I only hope that the author and Yen Press will see the online translations as the FREE advertising that they were meant to be since SkytheWood dropped this series as a project as soon as the news of this series being licensed came out.

I began developing my love of fantasy novels by reading Tolkien and then R. Salvatore (The Forgotten Realms), and also other works like "The Black Company". Overlord is not a traditional fantasy, but it is rather a story written by the author, with numerous suggestions added in from online readers. This adds a robust and detailed world and writing style, reminiscent of Victor Hugo, that has the darkness of a gothic work, and the relaxed reading feel of a leisure article. The chapters each have a wonderful and darkly enchanting illustrations, of which I wish there were more of, and the author Kugane Maruyama spends significant time and energy building and clearly conveying to the reader an increasingly interesting storyline. This is the type of read that I would suggest for any teenager or older, who might be interested in fantasy novels. It is easy to read, has a fun, ever developing storyline, and a plethora of characters to get attached to. The only negative of this work, for which I cannot, in good faith, bring myself to penalize it for, is that due to it being originally written in Japanese, some parts of the translation are convoluted or difficult to understand, even though the translator did, in my estimation, an excellent job. The editor could have minimized this issue by ensuring a proper application of commas and punctuation. Otherwise, I encourage everyone to read this work and its upcoming volumes. Having had read it already in its earlier online form (before it was a commercial product for sale), I can guarantee you that you won't be disappointed with where the story goes. Enjoy!

Imagine waking up one day to discover you've become Skeletor, with all his power and forces, but with no He-man to get in your way. That's the simplest way I have to explain Overlord to you. This volume is mostly concerned with setting up the premise, but still manages to tell a compelling story

on its own. Highly recommend especially considering where the story is going.

The novel is great but this is a review for the physical copy. I had bought this in order to support the author whose work I've already read online. Skythewood stopped his translations whose work was being brought over to America. So I finally had the chance to support the author and purchase my own physical copy. I'm also looking forward to buying the books up to if they were to be translated volume 09 where the current series is at and volume 10 is supposedly to be released this year in 2016 in Japan. I bought the HC version and it comes with plenty of art designed by Soo Bin. The font is very easy to read. The translations look good from my pov and spell Ainz name with a "z" instead of a "s" like the anime did. My only problem is that there are some spacing issues in the text throughout the novel, which might've been some formatting problem.

While the writing can be a bit disconcerting at times, I generally really enjoyed it. Official translations are much more palatable than the fan made ones. The story is great on the other hand. The protagonist is interesting, particularly with his newfound inhumanity. I really enjoyed the world building and am looking forward to more.

Yen Press has been hit and miss over the years, their translations ranging in quality from amazing to Google Translate-tier. I'm happy to say Overlord's translation was very readable with only a few questionable translation choices and deviations from the source material (maybe four or five instances in total across the entire book).

Great introductory story, the chapters are well structured and you are engaged into the world. The translation has a lot of typos and grammatical errors that a good publisher shouldn't allow in a book.

Best book ever! I can't wait for the next one. If only they could translate faster. I have read it online first about a hundred times but I got the book to support the author. I want him to write a ton more of these books! They are amazing. This, along with the Graphic novel and the Animated show, are amazing! I want so much more! He has an amazing writing style. One of the best out there. I haven't read a real book since I started college. This book got me back into reading. I love it! Best book for gamers too. This will get gamers back into reading. Best book for college and high-school students who don't like to read all that much.

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