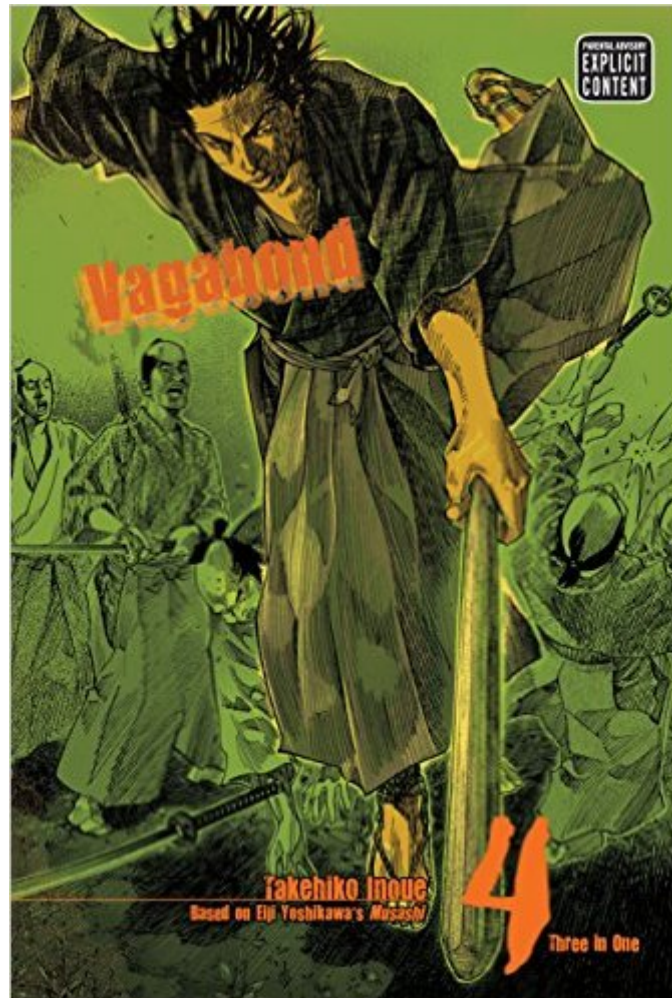


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Vagabond, Vol. 4 (VIZBIG Edition)



Synopsis

R to L (Japanese Style). Infinite Universe Musashi endeavors to take on sword master Yagyū Sekishūsai, a man recognized by many to be the greatest swordsman of his time. Although Sekishūsai is far past his prime, Musashi still believes killing him will take him further along the path. Little does he know that going against a man of such depth and proportion means much more than just killing a seemingly helpless old man in his sleep.

Book Information

Paperback: 200 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #128,482 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Historical Fiction #644 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Media Tie-In

Customer Reviews

Vagabond is one of the few stories I have read that make me sweat with anticipation before flipping to the next page. The action becomes so intense you will feel bad you're flipping through the pages and missing the superb artwork in your haste to discover the outcome of the last few pages. Overall the action is some of the best I have seen in the manga format. A powerful story of one man's quest to become "invincible under the sun", Miyamoto Musashi drifts through the world questioning his one principle: his strength. A raging beast in battle, Musashi, only knows what it is to fight but gradually learns of the world beyond strength, blood and death throughout the course of his duels. Some fights take up entire volumes but they are well worth it. The one negative aspect of Vagabond would have to be that not all the volumes are translated yet, and the reader might have to wait for the next volume to come out. Maybe the age-old story of "the quest" might seem cliché to some readers but if you can stomach it, Vagabond does its take on Musashi's journey in swordsmanship incredibly well. I am not a Samurai buff, or even a big action fan but Vagabond's has me sold. I have read most (no lie) of the English translated manga you can find in America and

easily place Vagabond right up there with Nausicaa, Maison Ikkou, GTO, Akira and Ghost in the Shell. I believe that all types of comic readers can appreciate Vagabond although shojo manga (girls comics) readers might be a little put off by all the blood and death. A must have.

This 3-in-1 volume monster of a book is very well presented, perhaps the best quality trade paperback for an omnibus manga you will currently buy. I own Naruto (soon to be Bleach and it's practically the same quality), Until Death Do Us Part, Neon Genesis Evangelion and Lone Wolf & Cub omnibus mangas... all of these titles pale in comparison to this VizBig Edition manga! When this book came in the mail it was a little heavy but upon opening the package I understood and immediately accepted the fact I will be purchasing all of these volumes. You will get your money's worth. Everyone else wrote accurate enough reviews on the story of Vagabond so I would recommend reading those. I wanted to share my experience on actually owning the book. Even if you own the previous volumes, I would find a way to own the omnibus edition for the additional features like more colored pages.

By far one of the best series. I would recommend the Vizbig edition because the art on the exterior of the book, especially the continuing picture on the spine, is much better than other editions I have seen. I also received the book in good condition.

The Vizbig edition of volume 4 contains "regular" volumes 10-12. Miyamoto Musashi succeeds in provoking the Yagyu swordsmen into a fight, getting past them only to find Otsu guarding her master. Musashi must ask himself what honor there is in killing a bedridden old man, and why he is so obsessed with becoming invincible? To answer that question, he must exorcise the memories of his abusive father. When he leaves the Yagyu, Otsu and Jotaro follow after him, having their own brief adventures. Matahachi/Kojiro makes a brief appearance leading us to a formidable new opponent, Shishido Baiken, master of the chain and sickle technique. But Baiken is an imposter, and his master is someone you wouldn't expect... Amazing historical detail, rousing action, intriguing plot, and complex characterization combine with jaw-dropping artwork to make this an absolutely outstanding manga series. Highly recommended!

The story is very engaging and the characters are becoming complex as you can get. The art of this manga is awesome. I really like the big volume version. The quality is excellent. My only complaint is that it is heavy :D

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