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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

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.

Overlord finds itself as the latest entry in the growing field of trapped in a game world series. YenON publishes other series of this type (Log Horizon, Sword Art Online, No Game No Life), so fans of their books will easily find themselves at home here. What sets this one apart is that instead of having a lead who provides all the solutions to every problem with his epic skills as the fated human, we have a big bad raid dungeon boss of an undead variety who has no other allies except the ones he created who faces the challenge of trying to spread his guild's name while trying to be somewhat human. Easily he ranks high up on the list for leads that actually kill characters and at times one wonders if he is an antagonist but I think he stays somewhat human. This makes the book very interesting. The writing starts off a bit slow with little to no conflict provided beyond just detailing the world, but that sort of mystery provides the intrigue to keep people interested. Why is Satoru Suzuki trapped in this world? Are there other humans here? How does this world have elements of Yggdrasil in it? Will the guardians of the floors turn back on him ever? All this and more are things that kept my interest and will keep my interest in the series. The cast is filled with great characters who have many rich interactions with each other and with the lead character. I can't wait for more time with many of them. Easily this is the best fantasy book of this year thus far. Quality wise, excellent paper choice chosen for this hardcover book helped to enhance the great colored artwork on the pages. So-bin has great art and the style works well with the paper choice, it truly feels like an ornate tome you'd find in any medieval setting. There were about four noticeable grammar typos though. Minor but noticeable.

I absolutely enjoyed reading the series online, and I am thoroughly ecstatic to be able to finally purchase it in English and have a physical copy! I give the series a perfect 5/5 but the treatment it received on the shipping to me would be a 1/5. Good packaging but the back of the book sleeve had a scratch that goes from one side to the center, I would have hoped for better handling when

it was being shipped out.....

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 is some spacing issues in the text throughout the novel, which might've been some formatting problem.

The book came today but I read it last year. It's great as far as plot. Book 1 is the foundation of everything to come so it's not especially thrilling. It's rather short compared to most American novels but that's due to national differences in their standards. Treat this book as an introduction into the morally ambiguous dark fantasy of Overlord. The book itself is fairly decent quality. It's not some collectors edition Tolkien hardcover, but it's definitely up to standard. The illustrations are great. I'm planning on buying all of the hardcover volumes as they come out. No complaints. As for shipping I was slightly disappointed. My copy didn't have any damage but it probably should have. The book was just tossed into a small box with a small amount of rough brown paper to keep it safe. When I was opening it the book was sliding all over the place. Maybe that's a testament to the durability of the book?

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