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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

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Customer Reviews

Togashi, author of the popular Yu Yu Hakusho, has created another kids' manga juggernaut. Our hero, Gon, is an impossibly cute 11-year-old with spiky hair who has an uncanny ability to befriend wild animals. He wants to follow in the footsteps of his father and become a hunter—the most prestigious career in this world. Hunters are licensed to go anywhere and are respected by all; they are the protectors of the human and natural world. Gon's father is one of the world's greatest hunters, and Gon shares many of his gifts, but there's a catch: only one in 10,000 applicants for a hunter's license even makes it to the examination hall, and the odds worsen from there. In this volume, Gon leaves home and befriends two other hunter hopefuls: the mysterious Kurapika, who is the last of [his] clan, and Leorio, who seems a superficial moneygrubber yet actually has a heart of gold. Together they solve riddles and overcome obstacles, but their journey is only beginning. Togashi shows a deft touch with this standard manga story, already a hit in Japan. Gon and his companions are endearing and complex, and they complement each other well. The artwork is clear and graceful, though the last chapter shows some graphic violence that may upset younger readers. Those looking for the next Pokémon or Yu-Gi-Oh can stop searching. (Mar.) Copyright ©

Hunter x Hunter is not meant to be a deep and philosophical manga that delves into the nature of love, humanity, religion, or life in general. It IS meant to be a fun and entertaining romp through a colorful setting with colorful characters, and it succeeds at this well. Now, this comic is not exactly very fighting heavy, at least early on. If you buy comics only to see people beating the tar out of each other you may be disappointed. Instead, early on Hunter x Hunter relies more on dangerous situations that must be overcome using the main characters' wits. So, think of it kind of like Indiana Jones but without guns tanks, and in a sort of modern fantasy setting. Now, the translation is pretty darn good and nothing appears to be censored as there are quite a few violent scenes. However, there is one thing keeping me from giving this manga a solid five stars and that's the art-style. Don't get me wrong, the art style is good, however occasionally things will look a little, under drawn. Often times this is actually a pretty neat effect, but other times it's a bit distracting and some people will not like it. All things considered however, I highly recommend this title to anybody that is a fan of adventure or manga in general. I think most anybody will walk away feeling pleased with their purchase after reading the first volume or two.

Son enjoys

Hunters are greedy, honorable, highly skilled people who collect, steal, protect, and hunt down valuable animals and relics. The story is about a boy, Gon, whose father was a Hunter and he wants to be a Hunter too. The art work is kind of lame, the character design could be better, and the story itself is kind of slow. But the characters, their merits and flaws, are solid and the setting seems fantastic enough to be interesting. Kind of reminds me, slightly, of One Piece, but not as good.

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 straight 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. The one thing that makes him identical to a character like Yusuke is, Gon is heroic, can take a beating and usually gets incredibly angry at anyone who kills others.

Leorio - He's not the sharpest tool in the shed sometimes... He tends to act on impulse and lose his cool. Still, Leorio is a sweet character, with very strong ambitions and is also very loyal. Surprisingly though, he starts to take on a very strategic and calculating personality as the series moves on.

Kurapika - I didn't particularly care for Kurama's character, he bored me when I first got into Yu Yu Hakusho. Kurapika has that calm, super-intelligent style, but he is much more interesting and his rage sets him far apart from Kurama. He has serious motives, and while he is respectful to the other lead characters, he doesn't seem to me like a loyal character to anyone but the people from his past.

Killua - Of the four, I adore this character the most. He's rebellious, aggressive, somewhat hot-headed but he has a very child-like demeanor. He's bright, he watches everything and out of everyone is really is the most skilled when it comes to tracking things down or playing life like it's a poker game. He's a little on the dangerous side, being from a family of assassins but, he forms a very close bond to Gon very early on and becomes extremely loyal. I noticed a lot of reviews mentioning the artwork... Togashi started this not to long after Yu Yu Hakusho, and he had some health issues during the final stages of the series that made it hard for him to illustrate sometimes. I think the inconsistencies may be due to that, and they disappear rather quickly as the series progresses.

After watching Yu Yu Hakusho, I decided to watch Hunter x Hunter (2011) because I heard that they have the same author, after finishing it and hearing that the story continues in the manga I decided to continue there and start collecting the volumes so I can support the creator and 1% possibility of stopping his hiatuses so here we go :Gon is a little boy (12 years old) who wants to become a Hunter... not someone who kills animals and other s***, but a Hunter someone who has amazing

skills (I won't tell you what kind of skills because it is a spoiler) , hunting down criminals or demons or magical beasts, tracking down treasures , exploring dangerous locations and other stuff (how they find food to eat without working on a job which gives them money is another spoiler).The reason I started collecting the series was because of how interesting the characters and the plot are, and believe me the worst arc was only 8/10 !The series starts a bit slow, but not much later the real thing begins, it may seem a little childish at first... but believe me or not its not, and the later arcs become dark.Unlike other Shounens the main protagonist its not the only one interesting, expect the fact that we have another 3 mains like in YYH, a lot of side characters are also interesting and likeable, the characters (even mains) come and left, and there is no main villain unlike a lot of other comics.It has a lot of plot twists and you can never tell what will happen... never.The only bad for me its something that every manga has... they are colored black and whiteI have 9 volumes for now, and am gonna get more soon, hope I helped you a bit...

HUNTER X HUNTER

Excellent drawing details and plot.As much as you might think Hunter x Hunter is for little kids, it's not. There will be quite a bit of gore later on in the series. Hunter x Hunter is by far my most favorite series ever.

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