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Sengoku Nights Volume 2 (v. 2)



Synopsis

The finale to "Sengoku Nights" erupts in a chilling, bloody climax as Masayoshi tries to decipher Oni-hime's deal with the devil. Rated for older teens.

Book Information

Series: Sengoku Nights

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: TokyoPop (April 11, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1595329463

ISBN-13: 978-1595329462

Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 5 x 0.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #976,673 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #104 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Asia](#) #2262 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga](#) #5555 in [Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Fantasy](#)

Customer Reviews

This is a two-volume series, complete. The hero is a teenaged boy who finds out he is the reincarnation of an evil warlord named Oni-hime. When his parents sell their sacred ancestral lands, it releases the horrible curses of Oni-hime's many victims. These angry spirits don't care who they hurt in order to get to Oni-hime. And they aren't even the worst of what's after her. The result is spooky, folklore-inspired supernatural horror. There is an emphasis upon the harm that is done to ordinary people and bit characters by the clashes of those "great" warlords, and the focus on common folk in the past is matched by concern for innocent bystanders in the present. The fact that the hero feels his responsibilities in this respect strongly makes him very likeable. Yet the burden of being Oni-hime seems so terrible that we can relate to his denial and reluctance to accept the truth. This isn't one of those comics where we roll our eyes at the hero's obligatory "but I want to be normal" shtick. I only wish that it had been longer, as some important aspects of the story seem under-explored. The hero's coming-to-terms with the fact that he is One-hime was certainly the most intense and interesting part. Yet it is rushed, and to a large extent something we aren't even privy to. Some plot points remain incoherent even upon re-reading (perhaps I need to bone up on Japanese folklore). And frankly, in the short time I've been reading manga, I've seen enough

towering brutes coming on to skinny teenaged boys to last me as long as I live. But I love the artwork, the empathetic hero, the grandmother, the vengeful spirits, the wacky transfer student. It somehow makes an emotional impact transcending its flaws and is not quite explained by its virtues.

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