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Ryohgo Narita , ??? ??? (Illustrator)

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Ikebukuro has a slashing problem.

Ikebukuro, Tokyo. A place where the clumsy and inept at love gather. A high school girl worried about her status. A third-rate magazine reporter covering the Ikebukuro beat. A teacher suspected of sexual harassment. A thug wearing a yellow bandanna, who is said to be the toughest around. A young man who deals in all manner of sensitive information. And a headless rider on a coal-black motorcycle. As these individuals and more are drawn into a whirl of unlucky incidents, Ikebukuro itself will begin to crumble...

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Author : Ryohgo Narita , ??? ??? (Illustrator)

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Rolaka Pisarka says

Przez wzgl?d na pewne okoliczno?ci uda?o mi si? zdoby? tom 2 i 3 Durarary, których nie czyta?am, cho? jestem ju? na 10 tomie. I powiem jedno, to nie jest za dobry tom. Nie mog? powiedzie?, czyta?o si? ?wietnie, ale kiedy w tomach od 4 niemal nie mog?am si? oderwa? od czytania, tak przy tym czasami nawet lekko przesypia?am. Du?o my?li, du?o wg??biania si? w psychik? bohaterów i przez to towarzysz?ca nam nuda. Naprawd? przez ponad po?ow? tomu niewiele si? dzia?o. No, co? tam by?o, ale sama struktura tomu nie przypomina?a tej z kolejnych cz??ci.

Mimo wszystko, warto przeczyta? (ewentualnie obejrze? 1 sezon anime, bo wiernie zekranizowali ten tom).

Sherlock says

Two big knots have been disentangled. Two shocking facts come to light. (Spoiler alert!). So exciting. Two of the trio are actually the ringleaders of the two powerful forces in Ikebukuro: Kida ringleads Yellow Scarves and Anri ringleads Saika Academy. Just as Izaya said, Ikebukuro is now split up into three gangs: Dollars, Yellow Scarves, and Saika Academy, and the most ironic truth of all is the heads of three gangs are highschoolers and best friends.

It is as if all this farce happens according to Izaya's grand script. Now as the curtain has risen, what will become of Ikebukuro and its folks? Can wait to read the next volume.

Dana says

More DRRR!! It's in a very similar vein as the first one, so if you liked that one this is a nice follow up. Or, obviously, if you liked the anime this will flesh some things out, and I'd recommend to anyone who liked the show. The anime was a pretty faithful adaption, but you get some additional detail in the novel. I liked the Saika arc - I like Anri, and I liked getting inside her head. This is really her book, too - the first three books focus on the main trio of characters, and how none of them are the normal school kids they seem to be at first. I also like Shizou, and he gets quite a bit to do in this book, along with Celty.

It's also written more like a mystery than the first one, and I think the conclusion to that mystery works well. It follows several different threads and plot-lines, and it's very satisfying to see them come together at the end.

I'm reading the Yen Press translation, which I generally think it pretty good, although the writing came across as stiff in parts. I think that's part and parcel of translating from a Japanese light novel, though, and otherwise the story flowed really well.

Allison says

Reading the second volume of *Durarara*, I was a bit surprised that the whole thing came off as half coherent in the end. The style here is ultimately more important than the plot, and for me, that worked. It's fast, disjointed, and plays with typesetting and scene switches in order to convey the psychological states and personalities of the numerous characters, which is an interesting technique. In the end, I'm not sure all the strands quite came together, but I'd almost rather be massively entertained by a light novel that has problems because of ambition than read one that's well written, but adheres to a close formula.

If you've watched the anime or read the manga for this series, this book covers the Saika arc, which was my least favorite. It works better in text, as there's a pivotal character I was bored by on the show who is made more interesting by merit of her thoughts being on the page and, in the more chaotic novel, not such a strict object of focus. The story in and of itself isn't much different, but the way that it's told is different enough that this certainly isn't boring.

Patrick Bake says

A direct sequel to *Durarara!!* Vol. 1, placed six months after the finale of the first book, and deals primarily with, if not directly, Anri Sonohara and her ordeals, either it be a perverse teacher, or a demon. Mikado's reveal to a select few at the end of the first book leaves matters in Ikebukuro a little awkward as tension between the Dollars and Yellow Scarves begin to flare as a string of slashings turn the normally cheerful city, paranoid and unsettled.

New to town is Shuji Niekawa, a writer for a third-bit tabloid, looking for the strongest man in Ikebukuro, tracks down both Celty, the "Black-Rider", and Shizuo, the "Number One Person Not To Fuck With".

Storylines converge in typical *Durarara* fashion that snowball within days to a full out state of emergency, at least for street gangs. The saviours being of course, the only reasonable people in the entire story. (Names withheld but come on you know who they are).

A great sequel that slows down for a breathe of fresh air from the tense first volume. A fan of the anime and light novel before will enjoy it immensely, and those who aren't a fan of Japanese storytelling will love the series for an interesting little gang story that it can also be.

Niquie says

Ryohgo Narita knows how to write, *Durarara* I honestly feel that this is one of the better written light novels series I've had the chance to read.

So thank you Ryohgo Narita, I appreciate you.

But back to *Durarara!!*, vol 2 takes place a year (?!?) after the first book, and focuses on the characters Anri and Shizuo. Who turn out to be surprisingly similar.

This book is solid. I don't know how else to describe it. The characters are interesting, the plot worked, and there was a decent amount of character and plot development.

There were two cases of 1st person pov, I got the first case, not sure why that other character got a 1st person pov but it didn't distract from the book it just seemed kind of random.

To be honest I wasn't sure about this series. Vol 1 was interesting, but I wasn't invested in the characters and I wasn't sure where the plot was going. I'm still not sure where the plot is going (besides war!), but I'm not as bothered about that as I was. Plus the characters grew on me. In fact I was surprised I recognized most of the reoccurring cast.

It's funny, but Anri, Mikado, and Masaomi are more similar than even they realize, guess that's why they get along so well even though they seem pretty different personality wise. Which just makes the misunderstanding at the end suck hard. I wonder if these three will still be friend when this series is over, or...

Final Thoughts: This is a good book, so I'm definitely going to read the next vol. I may not be excited by this series, but I feel like I can rely on it.

Lyndsi Mckay says

again better than the anime but I think its because its more described. shizuo and anti being the focal points was absolutely wonderful and seems that shizuo is my favorite character in the anime even before my precious izaya :p it was nice to see him fleshed out more as a character. onto book three.

Lexa^ | B&B says

3.5

LJF says

*Is anyone in this city **not** crazy?"*

-Third-Rate Tabloid Writer

Ikebukuro hasn't changed much since last time. Still full of crazy people, crazier backstories, and even crazier adventures. But now, a Slasher is stalking the streets. Eye-witnesses claim to be attacked by a red-eyed man wielding a katana- but he doesn't kill anyone, just slashes them- why?

ANRI SONOHARA has a problem. Her best "friend", MIKA HARIMA, has abandoned her in favor of SEIJI YAGIRI, her new boyfriend. No big deal, she's got her two new, *real* friends, MIKADO RYUUGAMINE and MASAOMI KIDA (although at least one, if not both of them, is in love with her). The real problem is that she doesn't know where she stands- what is her purpose in life, she wonders, and after the tragic incident five years ago, will she ever be able to love again?

TAKASHI NASUJIMA is a teacher rumored to have harassed female students before, so when he comes sniffing around Anri, she goes searching for the only one who might know the truth about him- HARUNA NIEKAWA, a second year girl who supposedly left Raira Academy due to his harassment. Just who *is* Haruna, and why does Nasujima tremble at the very sound of her name?

A third-rate tabloid writer is charged with a mission- find out who the strongest person in Ikebukuro is, and write an article about them. Everyone has their own opinion: the Black Rider, SIMON the sushi chef, KADOTA, KARISAWA, and YUMASAKI- yet when he goes to each of them to ask if it's true, they all say the same thing- the strongest man in Ikebukuro is, without a doubt, SHIZUO HEIWAJIMA. But Shizuo knows the truth- when it comes to true strength, he is, without a doubt, the weakest in Ikebukuro- perhaps the world.

Of course, IZAYA ORIHARA knows (*almost*) everything that is going on- and is manipulating it from behind the scenes. Even his new secretary, NAMIE YAGIRI, is shocked by his plans- just what kind of war is he planning?

SHINRA KISHITANI is happy- more or less. The one he loves, CELTY STURLUSON, the dullahan known as the Black Rider, has finally admitted her feelings for him. But Celty has real problems to worry about before dealing with a newfound romance- the slasher has attacked her, and since he didn't know she was headless, she can only assume he was really trying to kill her- why? Between Shinra, the slasher, and helping Shizuo, she has her hands full.

Perhaps most mysterious of all is SAIKA, someone who is posting obscure messages of the chat room frequented by SETTON, KANRA, and TAROU TANAKA. No matter how many times Kanra tries to block them, Saika keeps coming back- and the posts get more and more disturbing. From the posts, Saika gives every appearance of a girl deeply in love- but it's wrong, twisted somehow. Just who- or what- is Saika? All these problems come to a head. Who are WALKER and ERIKA? What is Shizuo's secret? Can Anri ever move on? Why are so many kids around town wearing yellow scarves- could it really be the rebirth of the Yellow Scarves Gang? If so, what is the identity of the mysterious "Shogun" they keep talking about? And, perhaps most importantly, what is the connection between the slasher and Saika?

A great sequel to the amazing first book, *DRRR!! x2* does not disappoint. This series doesn't miss a beat, seamlessly jumping back and forth from one thing to another. (One thing I really appreciated was that Yumasaki finally referenced a story I knew! (*Yotsuba&!*)) Ryohgo Narita keeps us on our toes, guessing until the very last page- can't wait for more *Durarara!!!*

Ricardo Matos says

You can't go wrong with the *Durarara!!* novels! Simply amazing and rich in characters and story

Clara says

[como Anri siendo Saika o Masaomi siendo el líder de las bufandas amarillas(si se dice así, yellow scarves)
(hide spoiler)]

Camy says

WOW seriously good book in this series! The twist near the end was great and like the other books in this series, it made me reread the book to catch all the nuances of what's going on. I liked the insight into Anri's character and personality, it really made me like her a lot.

Rêveuse Eveillée says

Après avoir eu un coup de coeur pour le premier tome de cette série, je n'avais qu'une seule envie : avoir au plus vite la suite entre les mains.

On retrouve les personnages du tome 1 alors qu'une nouvelle machination ce met en place : quelqu'un semble s'amuser en agressant la population d'Ikebukuro à l'aide d'un katana, mais personne ne sait qui est cette personne... Sans compter sur le fait que des choses vraiment étranges se passent sur le tchat, provenant d'une certaine "Saika".

Cette fois-ci, la parole est donnée à des personnages qui étaient peu présents dans le premier tome, par exemple Sonohara qui ne parvient pas à trouver sa place dans le monde suite à un tragique événement. On apprend aussi à connaître un peu mieux certains personnages, par exemple Heiwajima et sa force surhumaine.

Des indices, concernant ce qu'il se passe, sont semés dans chaque chapitre entre des événements plus surréalistes les uns que les autres. Ici aussi, on retrouve des passages complètement surréalistes et totalement loufoque. Je pense notamment à une certaine déclaration d'amour qui m'aura beaucoup fait rire !

Une fois encore, les personnages auront leur lot d'alliances et de trahisons en tous genres. ce qui me plait beaucoup dans cette série c'est que les relations entre les personnages évoluent constamment.

L'intrigue est très bien menée : on comprend vraiment tous les enjeux que vers la fin. De plus, tout devient plus intéressant et plus clair une fois qu'on a appris à distinguer les personnes qui parlent sur le tchat.

Le dernier chapitre permet aussi une ouverture vers une nouvelle aventure : j'espère qu'Izaya fera une plus grande apparition dans la suite ! Il n'apparaît que trop peu dans ce tome.

Vous l'aurez compris, une fois de plus j'ai été séduite par cette série décalée et surréaliste mais à l'intrigue tellement bien menée qu'il est impossible de lâcher le livre. J'ai vraiment hâte d'avoir la suite entre les mains !

Noshin Rahman says

Loving this series so far, especially the light novel version. Again, like my last review, I'm going to repeat how much easier it is to follow along with the novels. Everything's so much more straight forward. Narita Ryohgo is probably one of my favorite authors now. I just have one question... Did this man study psychology??

It could be said that this entire series is about the human condition... And boy, did Narita get so much stuff spot on.

Well, I'm too tired to say anything else, I'm currently holding myself back from buying the 3rd and 4th novels until the 5th one is translated in November.

Franklin Teixeira says

O anime é bacana, mas estou achando os livros mais envolventes. Todos os personagens são mais críveis, e as situações absurdas são tratadas com o peso e reações que merecem.

O texto não tem grandes aspirações, mas por outro lado isso dá aos livros um ar despretensioso que é compatível com o misto de rotina mundana e fantasia urbana da série. O Narita consegue entreter, sempre oferecendo vários pontos de vista pitorescos de uma mesma situação. O segundo volume não foi tão forte quanto o primeiro, mas ainda assim é uma leitura satisfatória.
