



Blade of the Immortal, Volume 6: Dark Shadows

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MANGA ACTION ADVENTURE WITH THE IMMORTAL SAMURAI MANJI, WHO WILL NOT HAVE HIS CURSE OF ETERNAL LIFE LIFTED UNTIL HE HAS KILLED 1000 EVIL MEN. WORKING AS A BODYGUARD FOR THE YOUNG GIRL RIN, MANJI MUST FIGHT THE RENEGADE ITTO-RYU SWORD SCHOOL TO AVENGE THE DEATH OF RIN'S FATHER. BLADE OF THE IMMORTAL HAS WON JAPAN'S 1998 MEDIA ARTS AWARD AND THE USA'S WILL EISNER AWARD.

Blade of the Immortal, Volume 6: Dark Shadows Details

Date : Published October 10th 2000 by Dark Horse Manga (first published 1997)

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Author : Hiroaki Samura

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From Reader Review Blade of the Immortal, Volume 6: Dark Shadows for online ebook

Tom Bell says

A lot of character development in this one so not my favorite of the series but hopefully the buildup pays off.

Matt says

It's at this point that I start to lose track of the characters and the different factions. I think this is not helped by the fact that some of the characters are nondescript in appearance or look like other characters. I think is also in part to the fact that the illustrations are in black and white.

That said, the art is beautiful and characters remain complex. The story remains interesting and nobody's quite all good.

Adrian says

Entertaining, violent ninja lore. A great sketchy look helps to complete the experience.

Nidah (SleepDreamWrite) says

Good volume.

Alex says

its awesome . love the series

John Wiswell says

While Samura's art style has matured past the stage of excessive blood and gore, the narrative of this volume returns to some juvenile excuses for fight scenes. A character shows up, is introduced and kills someone in the first seventy pages. While the characters seem interesting and have promise, excessive violence is the biggest weakness of this series. *Blade of the Immortal* needs to be careful to earn its violence, and execution like this makes it seem like a perverse wish fulfillment. The translation also suffers in this volume, with countryside language making for some embarrassing lines, like, "I don't care where you go in this world... a man who strikes a woman is a damned rascal!" This is uttered before the speaker snaps a man's neck.

The big positive of this volume is that it propels the Itto-Ryu plotline out of its introductory phase. Their

sword school is applying to be part of the government, and there are shadowy forces working for and against it. Political intrigue mixes with the violence and backstabbing, and nagging questions, like why the government hasn't come after them before, are answered. Manji doesn't even show up until the last quarter of this volume, when other schools ironically try to coerce him into helping fight the villains he's been against all along. Their error highlights their own insecurities and questionable morals, casting another layer to *Blade of the Immortal's* moral dimension, as well as setting up a heck of a ride in the chapters ahead.

Nicolo Yu says

I've heard a lot about Eisner Award winning American reprint of a Japanese manga that I just had to try it when I chanced upon a few random volumes in a bargain bookstore.

Dark Horse made this book left to right reading orientation instead of the original Japanese right to left. It didn't settle for a straight mirror image though, but reposted the original panels to make it a more Western reading experience. The publishing company took care to respect the author's original intentions.

Blade of the Immortal is a much darker read than the usual shonen manga that I follow. It appeals to a much mature audience. My only gripe is that it end abruptly and I have no idea where to get the next volume. This title is definitely on my hunting list every time I do my regular bargain book hunting.

John May says

The plot thickens, as a second set of villains appear.

Will Chin says

Perhaps not as stellar an entry as volume five, but this entry in this series sets up the next arc in an intriguing way. There is a new faction in town that is going after Anotsu and his men. Even though they are technically on the side of Manji and Rin, they don't all seem like good men to begin with. If this is the kind of moral dilemma that others told me about before starting the series, then I am well on board with what it has to offer. It's a little 'setty-uppy', but the confrontations should be a joy to read.

Shea says

Fuck you Shira for decapitating a dog. Fuck you Shira for killing Taito's whore. This whole thing would have gotten a five IF YOU DIDN'T KILL THE GODDAMN WHORE (or the dog).
