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Yona Of The Dawn, Vol. 1



Synopsis

Princess Yona lives an ideal life as the only princess of her kingdom. Doted on by her father, the king, and protected by her faithful guard Hak, she cherishes the time spent with the man she loves, Soo-won. But everything changes on her 16th birthday when she witnesses her father's murder! Yona reels from the shock of witnessing a loved one's murder and having to fight for her life. With Hak's help, she flees the palace and struggles to survive while evading her enemy's forces. But where will this displaced princess go when all the paths before her are uncertain?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gr 8 Up-In the very first image of Princess Yona, a beautiful illustration depicting her cloaked and standing powerfully against a dawn-lit sky, readers immediately get a sense of who she is. This is a confident, courageous, and capable young woman with the weight of the world on her shoulders. But she wasn't always like this. She used to be carefree, a princess of a peaceful kingdom, doted on by her family. But a betrayal and a coup force Yona to flee, along with her childhood friend, the brash yet kind General Hak. This first volume spends its time well, establishing the characters through differing perspectives, interactions, and flashbacks, as well as the overall feel of the series. In particular, moments of remembered sweetness and even levity temper the tragic tone. The art is strong, with Kusanagi tweaking the shoujo style as needed and delivering on the emotional notes.

To help readers equate the setting with the place of inspiration—ancient Korea—she puts a fair amount of care into the period details of buildings and clothing. **VERDICT** This title shows great promise as an emotional coming-of-age story, perfect for lovers of fantasy and historical romance. Especially recommended for fans of Yuu Watase's "Fushigi Yugi" or Sorata Akizuki's "Snow White with the Red Hair."-Rachel Forbes, formerly at Oakville Public Library, Ont.

I watched the anime a couple of weeks ago, fell absolutely in love with it, and have rewatched it three or four more times. I got a friend hooked on it as well. IT IS THAT GOOD. So of course I was going to buy the first volume of the manga! I preordered it, it arrived on the release day, and read the whole thing that night. For those who have watched the anime, this volume covers episodes 1-3, and I'm happy to say the anime follows pretty closely. For those who have not seen the anime and do not know much about Akatsuki no Yona (or Yona of the Dawn), it follows the story of Yona, a pampered 16 year old princess who witnesses the murder of a loved one and is now on the run for her life. Accompanying her is her childhood friend/bodyguard Hak, who has vowed to protect her at all costs. In order to survive, Yona must not only pick up a sword and a bow, but also track down the Four Dragons of the old legends; only then will she discover her true destiny. A warning to those just picking up the manga and who do not know where this story goes: Yona is pretty annoying in the beginning. She's a princess who has never known pain or weariness, and is only concerned with winning the heart of the man she loves (not Hak...that would be far too simple!) and how horrible she thinks her red hair is. In the anime, you discover at the end of the second episode where her character development leads to (by far my favorite scene in the whole series--seriously, just watch it, people), and that gives you an incentive to keep watching because that girl is NOT the same spoiled princess you've spent some time with. Volume 1 of the manga centers around Yona's pampered life and childhood memories, before any character development takes place, and she is definitely your classic helpless princess in distress. Do yourself a favor and don't give up just yet!! Her story gives room for fantastic character development, and it definitely doesn't disappoint. If you don't have the patience to sit around waiting for the English translation of the manga to be released every few months to be hooked, watch the anime and get a feel for Yona's journey. You'll be glad you did. Yona of the Dawn has something for everyone. Action, humor, a bit of romance, lovable characters, a controversial and complex villain that you love to hate, a strong fantasy-like appeal (it's pretty clean stuff--no nudity, witchcraft, hardcore magic and spells, etc. that often comes with the fantasy genre; I personally like fantasy that way, but I know others that see it as a sort of watered down coffee), and an overall engaging story. I HIGHLY recommend it, though don't judge

the whole story and Yona's character on this one section.

This is most likely my all-time favorite manga series, so I am ecstatic that it's finally being published in English! The first volume of this series sets the stage of the world Yona used to live in, and the life she has been violently thrust into. Kusangai-sensei really knows how to develop a character; Yona, having grown up in luxury with no knowledge of hardship, is understandably fragile-minded and "weak" when she leaves the castle. Over time however, the author lets her flourish into this amazing, strong-willed person which is awesome to read. The best thing Kusanagi-sensei does for this series, in my opinion, is takes her time to flesh out all of her wonderful characters so they develop with the story. The story is very interesting as well; this is one of the few series where I actually care about the over-arching plot just as much as the characters/relationships/etc. It's got elements of fantasy, war tactics/strategy, romance, friendship...it's got something for everyone! It only gets better with time, too. I don't want to give too much away, but I strongly encourage you to pick up the next volumes because Yona of the Dawn only gets better and better.

she would've created this. If you are an Austen Fan, a character drama fan, a fantasy fan, or just a person that can read please buy this. Obsessed. I've now purchased the Kindle version, the physical version, and all digital episodes of the anime. I'm seriously considering ordering the original Japanese volumes even though I can in NO WAY read kanji. (Sadly that's not something you can pick up from years of subtitled anime.) I've been a semi casual anime fan for a long time (subs are amazing to do cardio to!) but never really made it to manga. I'm not a comic/graphic novel fan and the opportunity cost for finding translations on the few that peaked my interest after the anime (ex: Erased) was too high (or "not on torrent or iTunes" -- yes, I'm lazy). However, after episode 5 of the anime I knew I must own all of the Yona noa. Suffice it to say I've now read everything there is at least twice (thank you fan translations

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