



Arifureta: From Commonplace to World's Strongest, Vol. 1

Ryo Shirakome , Takayaki (Illustrator) , Ningen (Translator)

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Seventeen year old Hajime Nagumo is your average, everyday otaku. However, his simple life of pulling all-nighters and sleeping in school is suddenly turned upside down when he, along with the rest of his class, is summoned to a fantasy world! They're treated like heroes and tasked with the duty of saving the human race from utter extinction. But what should have been any otaku's wet dream quickly turns into Hajime's nightmare. While the rest of his class are blessed with godlike powers, Hajime's job, Synergist, only has a single transmutation skill. Ridiculed and bullied by his classmates for being weak, he soon finds himself in despair. Will he be able to survive in this dangerous world of monsters and demons with only a glorified blacksmith's level of strength?

Arifureta: From Commonplace to World's Strongest, Vol. 1 Details

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From Reader Review Arifureta: From Commonplace to World's Strongest, Vol. 1 for online ebook

Jason A Williamson says

A very fun book

I liked it so much a read it twice in one month. The second one is good but a little slower.

Justus Stone says

I review Light Novels on YouTube
Click on the link to view my Review of Arifureta Volume 1

Ernest Chamberlain II says

Very fun

Interesting twist on a reoccurring troupe. And love how the main character actually changes but still retains their personality. The history of the world is interesting as well.

Damien King-acevedo says

Surprising

I was very surprised by how much I enjoyed this book. I've tried reading a few LNs and they always seem shallow and totally lacking in conflict; not so here. While a lot of the plot is pretty shallow, it's more than made up for with the characters and the near constant conflict.

David Anthony Beard says

Must read!

The Official novel version is so much better than the unofficial web version. It is not first reading but it has been several years since I have read any Arifureta. It is a story about a kid you gets transfer to a new world with the weakest stats then getting betray falling into an abyss and pulling himself back up stronger then ever. It is a must read for any light novel fan.

Tomcat says

Recommended reading.

Is nice to see a good book in such a common genre. Good story, well narrated with nice characters. Some cool references to other stories and really an entertain reading.

Andrew says

I loved the fantasy vibe the book gave off. It was the perfect combination of that child fantasy and adult humor. If you love that kind of stuff, I highly recommend it.

Terrence says

Another Isekai? With high schooler protagonists? Yeah. Arifureta actually pulls from a lot of different anime and manga traditions to cobble it's plot together. I was reminded of Fullmetal Alchemist, Shield Hero, and even Tokyo Ghoul. The main hero is an Otaku, and the author of the book explains in the back that this was originally conceived by the author under his pseudonym Chuuni Lover, though those Chuuni aspects were toned down and only really apparent in side stories. Still, it's apparent the author is writing with Otaku interests in mind.

Protagonist: Hajime

High school confidant: Kaori

Typical hero male: Kouki

Vampire Lolita Maiden on the cover: ???

Lets get this out of the way: This book is for mature audiences. There is blood and there is sex (Not just your typical innuendo). While nothing is ever described in super detail, it isn't left up to imagination.

The early part of the novel is solid. There's tension created between our Otaku hero and his jealous classmates over the affection unwillingly received from the beautiful Kaori. This tension comes to a head midway through the book, but because of circumstances, the book becomes less about those High schooler interactions and more about survival. I'm curious how they'll revisit these feelings in future volumes.

Battles are bloody. The monsters are clearly lethal. Much of the story reminded me of a bloodier Sword Art Online in that there is this labyrinth of monsters to get through for our heroes. I certainly felt like anything could happen to set the tone for this series. I hope grimdark developments have the potential to happen down the line and this doesn't become too lighthearted / feel good of a series. That edge, the fact that you need to have a beast like mentality to defeat the beasts, is something I appreciated.

I liked the battles, but I was eh about the quick relationship development. The story could have taken a very dark turn, but it chooses to only skirt that line. I'm hoping for maybe more drama going forward, but it appears this may become more harem focused, which I'm not totally on board for. But as a single volume, the story of a man's journey from weakling to not so weakling, it's good. It had some surprises in store, which is all you can ask for.

Mike says**Good book**

A nice start to the series and a surprise excited to see how the protagonist progresses and how challenge is maintained despite the characters strength

honephiim says

Mixed feelings about the volume. Barely enjoyed the 1st half, because of various problems that I think that the volume has. But, I enjoyed the 2nd half quite a lot, despite still having the initial problems that made me dislike it at the beginning.

Really like the setup that this volume made. Extremely curious to what will happen from here. One good point of the series is the enjoyable dialogue that it has. Loved the Bonus stories, laughed pretty hard on the chess one.

Plus, kinda nice seeing a relationship going further than holding hands.

Rebecca says

Despite having a lot of distinctly derivative elements, this is pretty good, and it definitely goes a few places most isekai light novels don't.
