



Vinland Saga, Omnibus 1

Makoto Yukimura

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For honor & vengeance

As a child, Thorfinn sat at the feet of the great Leif Ericson and thrilled to wild tales of a land far to the west. But his youthful fantasies were shattered by a mercenary raid. Raised by the Vikings who murdered his family, Thorfinn became a terrifying warrior, forever seeking to kill the band's leader, Askeladd, and avenge his father. Sustaining Throfinn through his ordeal are his pride in his family and his dreams of a fertile westward land, a land without war or slavery... the land Leif called *Vinland*.

Vinland Saga, Omnibus 1 Details

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Author : Makoto Yukimura

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From Reader Review Vinland Saga, Omnibus 1 for online ebook

Sarah Schanze says

One of my new favorite mangas, I desperately hope this does well so Kodansha can bring more volumes to the US. They give it a great treatment and you get a good bit of story for your money.

Ben Wright says

Wow !

This is gorgeous. I get the hype, I really do.

The art in this manga is gorgeous, and they really know how to do battle/fight scenes, the choreography is stunning. I also love how it wasn't afraid to do a more comedy artstyle during light hearted moments.

I was worried going in that this could be just a drudge of angst however that was shortly rectified when the volume showed the lighter sides of the characters (including Askeladd who may or may no be one of my favourite characters of the year so far, I really love this guy).

Thorfinn is a really cool, character and I look forward to seeing how he grows as a character, and if he'll manage to break focus from his revenge goals. I love the relationship he has with Askeladd, both a hatred but also a kind of mutual respect.

The story was intriguing and I love the blend of fiction and real historical people, which made the story that bit more believable.

A truly fantastic start to there series, can't wait to marathon the rest.

Sud666 says

I really enjoyed the Vinland Saga. So much so that I went out and purchased some of the volumes I was missing. Volume 1 starts the entire epic action story.

The story starts in the Frankish Kingdoms. We run into Askeladd, Thorfinn and many of the other major characters participating in an attack on a Frankish fortification. After helping themselves to the booty the Norsemen leave the fray to disappear.

Later in Denmark we find that Askeladd's band celebrating-but all is not well. The superb young fighter Thorfinn hates Askeladd. The story unfolds as we see a 6 year old Thorfinn and his father Thorrs. In light of an English attack on the Danelaw that killed many farmers and claimed the life of Princess Gunhilde, the daughter of King Sweyn of Denmark. Sweyn is going to launch an inasion of England and has called for all of his fighting men. Apparently Thorrs, Thorfinn's father, was once Thorrs the Troll a Captain of the elite Jomsvikings mercenary force.

From there we see how Thorfinn begins his tragic tale. It was very interesting to see how the Floki-Askelaad

connections works. The death of Thorrs at Askelaad's hand is the driving force for Thorfinn's story.

This is a great start to what is an epic manga. The artwork is excellent and the action is non-stop. It has all the hallmarks of an epic Japanese manga, but it is set in the time of the Viking invasions of England. An addicting series. Has quickly grown to be one of my favorite series to read.

Skye Kilaen says

Initially, I wasn't 100% on board with the premise of this manga: a child named Thorfinn raised by the rival Viking tribe that murdered his father, working towards his goal of killing their leader. At over 450 pages for one volume, and it's an incredibly long ongoing series. Was I really in the mood for several thousand pages of guys fighting?

What I didn't realize was that Yukimura would first delve deep into Thorfinn's past with his family, making me love them, and especially making me love his father. I read the second half of the first volume trying to will Thorfinn's past to change as I watched his father's death come closer. Surely if I just gripped the book harder, his father could be saved! Sadly, of course, no. Any frustration I had with young, hotheaded Thorfinn evaporated the moment his father fell, and I realized I was now stuck reading the next bazillion pages because I really cared about what happened to this kid.

Now I'm nine books in and I'm addicted because of the personalities, political drama, conspiracy, friendship, and even humor. The good news is that it only takes me a little over an hour to read each volume, so it hasn't eaten as much of my life as I thought it would to read the nine omnibus volumes that are out so far. C-Man goes slower because he's more into all the military details of various battles.) If your library has a manga collection, I'd imagine they have this or would consider adding it.

Whitney says

Listen to the Vikings tv show soundtrack while reading.

Zerong says

The book is a action packed manga series that will make you crave for more after you finish the first book. I would recommend this book to you if you like medieval times.

Nelson says

Nearly perfect. Historically accurate, as far as it can be. Great plot told mostly through flashbacks in this first book. Amazing art with really well done action and some of the best visual storytelling I've seen in sequential fiction. Absolutely read it if you like manga, and I'd even go as far as to say that it's one of the best gateways for western comic fans to get into manga.

Faith Hicks says

I was really excited to read this. I really enjoyed *Planètes* (which is sadly out of print) by the same author, and even tried to get *Vinland Saga* in French, thinking it'd never make its way over to the English market. Thankfully it did, and I wasn't disappointed. Most of this volume (which is actually volumes 1 & 2, so extra value) is in flashback to the childhood of Thorfinn, and the knowledge of what happens in that flashback hangs over the entire book. The art is gorgeous, a combination of beautiful cartooning and realistic backgrounds. Yukimura is also a master of pacing, both in frenetic battle scenes and charged emotional moments.

I haven't had a regular manga series to follow since *20th Century Boys* wrapped up; I'm thrilled *Vinland Saga* lived up to my expectations, and I'm really looking forward to following it. Next volume is out in January.

Mike says

I never cared much about Vikings. They're so often depicted as terrible criminals wearing ridiculous helmets that I've unfortunately grown to tune out their stories when they turn up.

Vinland Saga may change that. In this manga series, Vikings are depicted as fierce warriors, yes. But they are humans, not soulless killing machines.

This first volume starts with the breaking of a siege, with Thor-Finn, a young man with amazing skills in battle, playing a big part in the victory. Subsequently, he challenges the leader of his group of warriors to a duel to avenge his father, who he says was killed by this leader.

The rest of the book takes place ten years earlier, as we see how Thor-Finn's father got to the place where he was killed. This journey is an adventure of warships and melee battles.

Vinland Saga is a violent book. But all the bloody battles are balanced out by the humanity of its characters. Thors, Thor-Finn's father, has known battle before, and is a fierce warrior, but he knows that it should be avoided at all costs. And the ones who want to fight most are young men who only want it because they haven't seen how terrible war is.

The gorgeous art from Makoto Yukimura would be worth looking at even if the story was wordless. Long battle sequences that would become tedious in many comics shine here.

Recommended for manga fans, history buffs(I get the impression Yukimura has done his homework) and anyone who is in the mood for a nuanced adventure story.

James DeSantis says

I read this 2 years ago and thought was okay. Now re-reading it I still wouldn't go with "great" but I'll go with good now for sure.

So the story is really two volumes in one. So the first one is a high speed, bloody, adventure of vikings doing what they do best. Kill and take over places. That's their life. You follow the story of a young warrior named Thorfinn. You can tell right away he works with the vikings, he's strong, and extremely fast but he does not like them or their leader. Why does he do what he does? Well you learn that in the 2nd half with much more background on how Thorfinn became a part of the vikings in a sad yet hopeful tale of childhood.

Good: The 1st half is entertaining at times but nothing special, it's the 2nd half that shines. A deep look into family, the way of the villagers and vikings, and some great fights. The art is always good throughout and shine. The pacing is solid with no big long overdrawn moments.

Bad: The first half just kind of feels "been there" and not in a bad way but not all that interesting. I also thought the humor was more miss than hit, but that usually happens in manga for me.

Overall this was good. A step up from my first read. The art is still the best part of the book but I have a feeling the story is going to build and get better from word of mouth of friends. A 3 out of 5 to start.

J.M. says

I rarely read manga. If they were all like Yukimura's Vinland Saga, I'd read a shit ton more. This is storytelling done right. Characters, pacing, dialogue, art, action, betrayal, mythology, and Vikings! All of it is top notch here. Guess I'll be getting the next one, folks, and also looking for more stuff by Makoto Yukimura. Highly recommended. 4+ stars.

Koen Claeys says

I liked this first volume very much. VERY VERY MUCH!!!! Hardcover containing 500 pages of superior manga at \$20!

ManiacalBookUnicorn says

This review is spoiler free

So...

It...

Sigh

This series... I just...wow. This is one case of judging a book by its (beautiful hard)cover gone completely right. It just happened to catch my eye when I was cruising my local library seinen (older male) manga shelves, and I picked it up without even glancing at the premise. I've been sitting here trying to sum this series up into a coherent review but, nope, I just can't right now. The ART. Ugghhh, I feel...like...*sigh*

Nooooo ***metal slap*** , I need to get serious here, I appreciate this series too much to not try my best to form an actual review here.

Okay so in short this on-going saga, which I have currently read every volume available in English (seven 2-in-1 omnibus volumes/100 chapters) as of today, is something I'd normally never touch in my life: A historical fiction. At that some of you may have groaned inwardly like I would have, but trust me, you'd be seriously missing out if you pass this up. For one thing the art is a **MASTERPIECE**, and if you're even a halfway decent manga/art fan, heck even if you've never even heard of manga (Japanese comics), this series is a must. Overall **8/10 Unicorn Horns**.

For the full, detailed review please visit My blog @Maniacal Book Unicorn

Rachel says

I've never read manga before. This book was given to me for my birthday and I loved it. It's illustrated historical fiction with Vikings! What's not to love? Great characters, intriguing art, compelling storyline. I look forward to reading more manga and more of this series.

Connor says

Woah this is so good! I wish I hadn't delayed so long, but now I can get the next ones sooner! I loved the characters and the story. It was awesome that it included some historical figure names and groups. This is definitely a new favorite manga series in the making!
