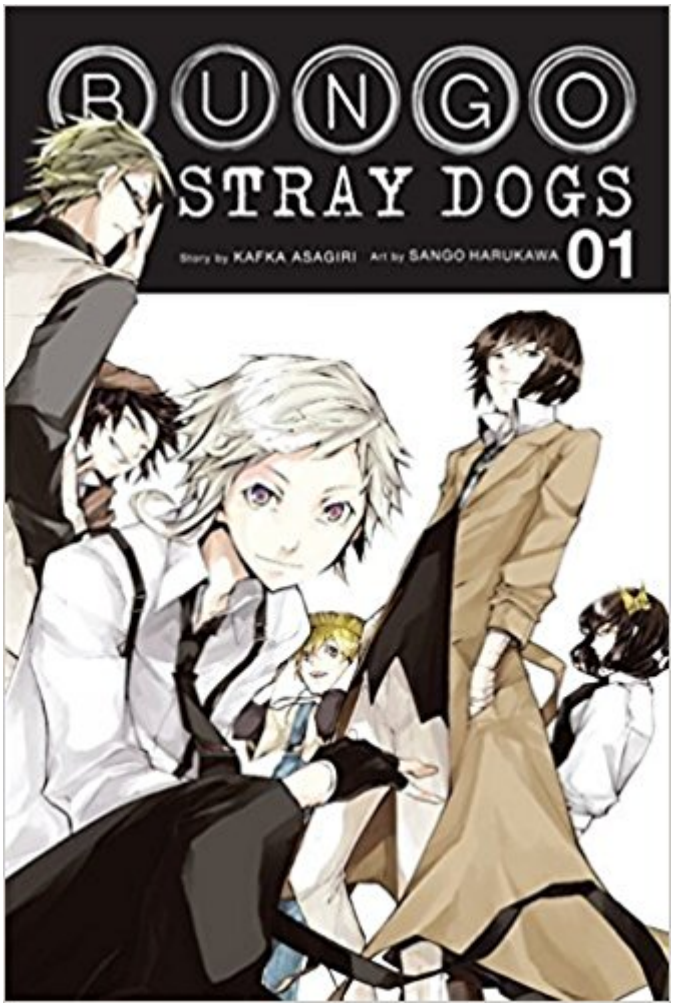
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Bungo Stray Dogs, Vol. 1



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Synopsis

Having been kicked out of the orphanage, a despairing young man by the name of Atsushi Nakajima rescues a strange man from a suicide attempt--Osamu Dazai. Turns out that Dazai is part of an armed-detective agency staffed by individuals whose supernatural powers take on a literary bent!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kafka Asagiri is the creator and author of Bungo Stray Dogs. Sango Harukawa is the artist of Bungo Stray Dogs.

While I love the series itself, there’s a great story to tell and it’s an excellent choice for lovers of Seinen mystery manga, Yen Press did not impress me with their translation. It sounds unnatural and reads like a half translated piece. This isn’t the quality I’ve come to expect from YP, so it strikes me as odd.5 stars for bungo stray dogs2 for Yen Press’ translation.

Originally, I had read the manga online and LOVED it. Once I saw the anime, I knew I had to buy a physical copy of the manga.Although a bit slow in the beginning, this series is both an absolute joy and anticipating action-thriller. The plot can be occasionally predictable, like in many of the side mysteries, but what really makes this series amazing is the characters. There’s only a few characters I dislike, and even then I don’t mind them at all. The main character, Nakajima Atsushi, is

emotionally relatable and an amazing hero to see grow and develop. Another character, Osamu Dazai, becomes a BRILLIANT character later on, especially in the Guild Arc. The first couple of volumes (first season of the anime) don't entirely focus on one specific plot, so the story is slow and aimless at times. But it immediately makes up for it within later volumes; tons of new abilities, characters, conflicts and stories are introduced to really bring a dark action plot together. The first volumes have their strengths and benefits though, of course, such as the comedy and mystery, but the later volumes show more promise.So, if you're not really feeling Bungou Stray Dogs at first, I urge you to make it past the first major arc. But regardless, I adore this series and I can't wait to buy the later volumes!

I purchased this book on a whim after it appeared in my recommendations; and oh boy, am I glad that I did! It is the interesting, highly amusing tale of a young man who was kicked out of his orphanage and, after a unusual chance meeting, joins the ranks of a truly eccentric detective agency, as the book describes it. The main character Atsushi is a timid, extremely likable young man; and the members of the Armed Detective Agency have some of the most wonderfully quirky personalities that I have ever encountered. Dazai and Kunikida in particular had me laughing uproariously for much of the volume! The characters are also named after famous, Japanese authors and have personalities and abilities that are based on both the authors themselves and their works which is a brilliant idea. I can't wait to see what happens next!

I devoured the anime on Crunchyroll (where it's licensed) and needed more, so I bought the manga. I did try to read it online - uh, "free" - while waiting for the volume to arrive, and since it's been licensed, there's very limited options. Those fan translations are not great - I would classify them as "decent" or "passable" rather than "good" - especially in comparison to the subbing on the anime, and the "official" English translation - which you get here, in this volume.I mention that because another reviewer commented on the English translation in this volume and compared it unfavorably to fan translations. I respectfully disagree. The English translation in this volume is quite smooth, and still conveys the charm of the characters' personalities and the tone of the "shenanigans" that are the first few chapters of Bungo Stray Dogs' first story arc. It's not as smooth as it, perhaps, could be, but I think that's the case with most translations, and by no means is it clunky. It's definitely much more true to the "feel," tone, and meaning of the original Japanese than the fan translations I've seen - and since a large part of translating across languages (which is part of my degree) involves translating across cultures, especially in text media where meaning must be conveyed

entirely in word choice rather than tone of voice, I take this as one of the official translation's advantages.The art style is *kisses fingers* and the crispness/clarity of the artwork is truly a delight. The book itself arrived in excellent condition - no tears, spills, mis-prints, etc. The cover is glossy, as opposed to matte, if that's important to you.Truly, my only regret is that the manga got licensed comparatively recently, because that means I have to wait a year or more to collect the story in English.

This is my first Yen Press manga. I'm used to reading Manga published by Tokyo Pop , Viz, Dark Horse Manga, and Digital Manga Publishing.So I was expecting this manga to read as natural as those companies works do. I planned on using this book, along with its original Japanese version, to help me check with my Japanese comprehension. But this will do me no good because it reads like a bad fansub.Beyond the translation the content is pretty light. Characters talk a lot in the beginning to set basic character development. After that the rest of the manga features action panels with little to no dialogue. The art is competent, characters look distinctive and are very expressive but backgrounds and action scenes are somewhat generic.For anime fans coming into this, the first volume manga feels unsatisfying. Since I liked the anime so much, I'm willing to give it another chance with the second volume. However the reviewers on Japan indicate that the plot and action in upcoming volumes will always remain thin. Which is kind of a minus for me because I'm really seeking a plot heavy manga.Nevertheless, the series' charm is with its characters and their relationships with each other: specifically, Dazai, Chuya (not introduced in the first volume), Akutagawa, and Atsushi. Although I can enjoy a plot thin manga with great characters, I'm unsure if YP's translations will successfully convey the camaraderie that exists between the characters in future volumes. Until I hear that YP improves its translation with this series, I'll hold off buying future volumes in English.

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