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Gangsta., Vol. 2



Synopsis

The Handymen, Nic and Worick, ply their trade in Ergastulum, a city run by the Mafia and ruled by violence. Recruited into a battle with a gang, they find themselves up against one of the "Twilights," mercenaries with superhuman abilities generated by dangerous drugs. Nic, who is also a Twilight, fights back with the same savagery and skill until Worick has to step in to save him from himself. Partners and equals now, in the past they were anything but, yet both men are bound together by the chains of a tragic past as they face an uncertain future. Reads R to L (Japanese Style) for mature audiences.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gangsta vol. 2 directly builds off of events in the first volume and what we've already learned about the characters. It's best to start reading at the beginning. Someone wants to shake up Ergastulum's rough balance of controlling influences, and The Handymen are sure to get caught up in the ensuing bloody chaos. There's several intriguing layers to the narrative, all unfolding at a nice pace and interwoven beautifully. One of the biggest plot backbones seems to be the social integration/tolerance of the Twilights, and the impending fate hanging over their heads. We're given a fair bit of information on both, including "The Three Laws" meant to keep them under control. There's also significant attention given to the ruling mafia families and their conflicts. The best thing about the story though is that it continues to be firmly character driven by complex, flawed people. Their various motivations, problems and loyalties are at the heart of everything and make their lives

compelling to follow along with. The past will come back to haunt our "heroes," particularly Alex...My one reservation about this volume potentially has to do with the translation. A couple of key statements and "The Three Laws" seem to contradict each other as well as things that we've already seen. I feel like some nuance was lost. It could be translated perfectly and part of the plot, but if so it passed the boundary from curiosity to confusion. Or I could just be missing something in my reading. Either way I'm sure it'll be clearer as things proceed and it wasn't a big deal at this point, but it took me out of the story a bit so is worth mentioning. The art is as strong as in vol. 1 and really compliments the tone of the story.

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