



Grimgar of Fantasy and Ash: Volume 2

Ao Jyumonji, Eiri Shirai (Illustrator), Sean McCann (Translator)

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Why are we doing this...?

When Haruhiro came to, he was in the darkness. Not knowing why was he here, or where "here" even was. With him were others who also remembered little more than their own names. What they found when they came out of the underground was a world that was "just like a game." In order to survive, Haruhiro forms a party with others in the same situation as him, learns Skills, and takes his first steps forward into the world of Grimgar as a Trainee Volunteer Soldier.

Not knowing what awaits him... This is a tale of adventure born from the ashes.

Grimgar of Fantasy and Ash: Volume 2 Details

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Author : Ao Jyumonji , Eiri Shirai (Illustrator) , Sean McCann (Translator)

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From Reader Review Grimgar of Fantasy and Ash: Volume 2 for online ebook

Tarl says

The second book of this series finishes off exactly where the first season of the anime ends, which was kind of nice.

My first take away is that the way the events in the Kobold minds work out in the anime is actually better than in the light novel. Sure, you don't get the same interactions between the characters, which I think is very important, but the interaction with Death Spots worked better in the anime than in the light novel.

This series continues to be one of my favorites for how it handles a lot of the classic fantasy tropes extremely well, and also presents a fairly realistic fantasy world. It is also handles the isekai trope far better than other light novels I have read or are reading. Though there are hints of where they came from, plus their relationship to each other, it's not overpowering or game changing. Instead, we are presented with people who have had to learn how to adapt to a fantasy world where death is a very real thing without the usual over the top mary sue elements. (though the 'line' for the main protagonist is starting to get fairly close to that...)

My main sticking point with the series is Ranta, because honestly any real party would have kicked him at this point. He creates internal conflict and is a good person for the party to push against, but in this book we get a look inside his head and I think that ruined him because it showed he doesn't really have any good in him. He's not the misunderstood character, but rather actually is kind of a delinquent. This may change later on, but until then, a lot of time is spent on exposition in regards to how the party is feeling about him and his antics. Hopefully there is a payoff.

Still, I really did enjoy this book. The writing is along the lines of most other light novels, though you don't get a lot of the terrible writing choices you see in other books. Instead, this one is a lot closer to 'normal' western writing, which is nice to read as an author because I'm not wincing at certain things. I really recommend this series. There is a reason even people giving it one star are still reading it. It's good, and the characters and situations are interesting. The characters have agency and it really helps to drive the plot, and there is genuine feelings involved. Worth reading if you have a chance.

Sanji Wakyo' says

Just too much pressure on this Level on main character, cannot wait next level \^/>. Hang on Haru team

Tristan Clendenning says

Amazing!

Sukma Wardana says

The adventure of Haruhiro party continue again....

The feel from this book is so similar with first volume, so people who can't stand slow progress and heavy self deprecated inner monologue can try to pick another book. However, in my opinion this book is not that bad the focus of this book is about adventure and character development.

Yes, character development is the premise of the second volume of Grimgar of Fantasy and Ash. On this book you will see the development of Haruhiro, which how hard for passive and indecisive person to take position as party leader. Some people might be hate how much Haruhiro feel inferior showing from his self deprecated inner monologue, but if you try to put in Haruhiro shoes I think is pretty normal. The burden of leading a party on dead or alive mission for teenager, I believe the party age average is 16-18 years old, would be very hard.

This book is not only about Haruhiro, the other character who share the same amount of stage is Ranta and Merry. I would say that this volume should focus on Merry and his past, if on the first volume about avenging Manato, then on this book is about how Merry overcome his past, the dead of his party and even though the story was using Haruhiro point of view I could say that Merry problem is resolved very good. To release the curse of undead king from his former comrade.

The other character that have good impression is Ranta. Well, I believe he have a lot of fan who hate him because of his character, but deep down in his heart I believe he also wanted to be recognized by his comrade. The reason I could said this because in the end of the story which he deliberately sacrifice himself (even though he said he wanted to look cool) for the sake of his comrade.

Among many good things from this second volume, the only bad thing for myself is the resolution fighting between Haruhiro party and the boss, Death Spot. I believe there is must be another way to end the fight, but maybe it's used for the next volume material, who's know. Overall I like this story of Grimgar of Fantasy and Ash.

Mary says

Haruhiro isn't deep enough to sustain so many inner monologues, but the other crew members aren't exactly riveting either. Everyone is so dang wishy-washy and timid that it's hard to work up any enthusiasm for their exploits.

Ricardo Matos says

This book focuses way too much on only 2 of the 6 main characters. It's important to show their progress, but at the same time a bit boring. Looking forward to book 3

Re-read with J-Novel club translation! WOW what a difference can a better translation make. Way more enjoyable! Here I go for book 3

Terrence says

Volume 2 of Grimgar is a heavily character centric affair, focusing mainly on the hothead Dreadknight named Ranta and the self-conscious Thief leader Haruhiro.

This chapter feels pretty small. Most of the chapter concerns our heroes moving to new hunting grounds, a mine of Kobolds. The ploddingly paced structure shouldn't be too much of a surprise after volume 1.

As mentioned before, Ranta is a major focus here. His mindset and his interactions within the group are key to the success of this volume. It was refreshing to see the narrative shift to his view point a few times as well, though the comedic moments in those scenes went on a bit long.

The romance angle of the series also gets a slight push this chapter. The main characters all display one newfound skill as well, so those add variety to some of the approaches in combat.

Pedro says

It's not that well written, but damnit I can't stop reading the series.

Tomcat says

Good sequel.

A good sequel from the first book. Although the author tends to repeat over and over descriptions about spells and skills to the point that gets boring. Also the editor should be more careful reviewing the translation, there is a lot of grammar and nonsense sentences through out the book.

Alec Rebert says

Very good book, love Mary's character and the darker side of fantasy that this series brings to the table.

4.3

Eldon Siemens says

Character growth, plot resolution

Was a great addition to volume 1, expanding on the characters and resolving the second storyline the author initiated in the first book. This leaves volume 3 open to wherever the author wants to take it, which I look

forward to reading
