



Akira, Vol. 5

Katsuhiro Otomo , Yoko Umezawa (Translator) , Mary Jo Duffy (Translator)

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In the 21st century, the once-glittering Neo-Tokyo lies in ruins, leveled in minutes by the infinite power of the child psychic giant, Akira. Now a wasteland of rubble and anarchy, the Great Tokyo Empire rises, a ragtag group of zealots and crazies who worship and fear Akira and his mad prime minister, Tetsuo, an angry teen with immense powers of his own -- and equally immense twisted ambitions. The planet at large is not taking the threat lying down, however, and the might of the world is ready to take on the Empire, but will technology's most advanced weaponry be enough to destroy Akira -- and is Tetsuo an ever greater threat? The fifth chapter in a sweeping epic of over 2000 pages, Akira vol. 5 is the penultimate act of a mind-blowing graphic-novel masterpiece of awe-inspiring imagination and gut-wrenching power, and the inspiration for the classic Akira animated film.

Akira, Vol. 5 Details

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Author : Katsuhiro Otomo , Yoko Umezawa (Translator) , Mary Jo Duffy (Translator)

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From Reader Review Akira, Vol. 5 for online ebook

Nigel says

Kanedaaaaaa's back! Where was he? Who knows! How'd he get back and how'd he survive? No idea! But he's just the thing to liven up the quiet life of Neo Tokyo with a bit of his healthy rebelliousness and undying thirst for revenge against his once-best-friend Tetsuoooooooo! But Tesuooooo wants to hit the moon's eye like a big pizza pie and also throw a few fighter jet planes around like toys and begin his disgusting mutation into a mindless blob of flesh and metal.

Eric says

(I read *Akira* in one huge go over a weekend, so I will be cutting and pasting this review for all 6 volumes)

Akira is an epic work of science fiction sequential art. The storyline is complex and consistent. There is social commentary, ethical musing, and morality woven through an action packed storyline of science gone wrong. The "romance" portion of the story is believable as well. The two characters are drawn to one another over time, and the world doesn't stop for them to wallow in their newfound twitterpatedness.

The art is beautiful, especially the detailed cityscapes and technical drawings. The main characters were easy to recognize, regardless of their circumstances or outfits, which is not true of many manga.

My complaints about the work are small. The placement of speech bubbles, particularly when characters are shouting, was not always clear. The foreign characters were really just Japanese with funny hats on. The difference between Akira and Tetsuo at the height of their powers is never really explained.

I first became aware of the manga because I was a fan of the anime. The manga is far more complex and satisfying.

C says

This series gets better and better. This has become the more dramatic of the bunch as Tetsuo loses his human side into the darker-side of The Power, stripping away all sense of morality, self, and value into the webbing of an omnipresent power. Violence and risks are stacked high in the risk of reward for closure of a story gone amok in such beauty that is as chaotic as the things of creation. Omoto is on a locomotive roll careening into a pitfall of extreme momentum. Cannot wait for the Final Act!

???? says

One of the Best Manga Science Fiction Ever Published. If there is one thing when it comes to anime, people will always remember Akira. When it comes to manga, this is a one read people should invested on. I love Akira personally because of its sheer epic story of man versus Godhood and any thing that writes about

power, this is the book people of all reader types should read.

30 years ago in 1992, an explosion in Japan cause the beginning of World War III. In 2028, Tokyo has become Neo-Tokyo, a place where society is on the rise of political distrust and Japan's top secret military army is trying to prevent one of its biggest secret to leak out to the world... until an accident on a highway towards where the origin of the explosion starts a chain of events that will lead to... Akira. Two friends (Kaneda & Tetsuo) will be fighting for their lives on friendship, love and the fate of Japan.

I love Akira ever since its anime was released in 1989. When I watched it, I was floored by its cell animation, its story and its science fiction action dystopian future. I never knew there was a manga series (but that was after I read Yukito Kishiro's Battle Angel Alita, and it still is one of my favorite mangas of all time, next to Akira) and it took me a while to finally waited long enough to get the compilation series in six volumes and read it at one go. This to me... is nothing more than one of the best sci-fi manga series ever written and drawn. There is so much to explore here and so much to love. Not many authors or creators these days are bold enough to write some thing this good and this is one of the best 1200 over pages I have ever read. Yes, there are some issues on the book that is overlook and not answered at all but to much of its own, it has answered a lot when it comes to its main story, not the back story. For me, if you want to pick up a manga title and its your first time ever - this is the manga series to invest on.

p/s: Lately my reviews are getting shorter and shorter in writing. I would definitely explore back and write more if I had time.

Social_Sloth says

The series continues with amazing art and a story that is starting to come to its end. Kaneda and Kei are getting ready for the final battle against Tetsuo, though they have very different methods of achieving this goal. The Colonel, Miyako and the military of Russia and America all want to take care of the problem that Neo-Tokyo has become, but their knowledge and power is limited compared to that of Akira and Tetsuo.

Maja Shinigami says

Tetsuo damn you fine.

Jesse says

One of the best series's I've read. Gotta get volume 6. I ordered it almost a week ago. COME ON AMAZON!

Ed Correa says

Aunque quizás es el más "flojo" de todos los tomos mantiene el nivel de la narración ágil y fluido. El regreso de Kaneda ayuda mucho al entretenimiento, por lo que, aunque se vuelve algo más político con la inclusión de personajes militares más acartonados siempre es una lectura amena. Estuve pensando en ponerle "solo" 4 estrellas, pero las últimas 150 páginas vuelven a elevar el potencial de la obra como tal, justo a tiempo para

el final del manga.

Gustavo says

No sé que más puedo decir sobre este manga, es todo excelente. En este tomo cada una de las facciones a favor o en contra de Akira se preparan para una confrontación final. Es muy interesante la forma en la que Otomo narra el viaje interno de Tetsuo, lo convierte en un personaje que es mucho más que el matón del principio de la historia, casi en una víctima de su propio poder. En mi opinión, esos grises son lo que hacen que este manga sea tan complejo y hermoso.

nooker says

Well worth the read

Jedi JC Daquis says

[with superpowers America and Russia having significant roles (hid

Dus T' says

Masterpiece!

Sarah Giffen says

Pure and total chaos; every book has more and more happening, the danger increasing for everyone in it. It is hopefully a precursor to the end.

Rascal says

Amo a Katsuhiro Otomo, amo como encuadra, como dibuja, como te cuenta la historia. Quiero ya el tomo 6.

Kurtis Burkhardt says

Don't see what all the hype is about this series, I rarely ever drop a series... Unfortunately thought this was complete Shist:/???????

Randal Schmidt says

One of the strongest volumes in the series. If you like science fiction or 80s action movies, you'll love this. The art is incredible, and the storyline picks up speed here after a lackluster volume 4.

I read the 35th anniversary collector's edition in hardcover, recently released at the end of 2017, which I would strongly recommend if you like Akira already. The overall collection, box, and even the physical book itself are works of art. Most books in hardcover have a drab cover underneath the dust jacket, but I actually let out an audible "whoa..." when I slid the dust jacket off of this one. Kodansha did an amazing job with this edition!

Coffee&Quasars says

2.9 stars.

More of the same. Ho hum.

Andrew Kyle Bacon says

Just as the first four volumes of AKIRA, vol. 5 delivers on incredible art and motion continuity between the frames. Unfortunately it is the lightest volume in terms of story and character. Kei gets quite a bit of development, which was a nice change, but all of the other characters become little more than action props. This book, by the way, and more than the previous four books, is just action, action, action. It's all well designed and presented, but not quite as stimulating as the previous volumes in the AKIRA saga. For some reason, I just never got into this one. It still has some great ideas and moments, but they feel rushed and little-developed. All that being the same, this has been my least favorite volume so far, but, even with that being the same, I still thoroughly enjoyed it and can't wait to read vol. 6, which is the final chapter in this story.

Alexander Engel-Hodgkinson says

4.4/5

The fifth volume brings us closer to the end, and even though we're *this* close to the finale, Otomo is *still* introducing us to a new set of characters, most of whom are isolated on an American aircraft carrier. Tetsuo's brash captain initiated a violent turf war with Miyako in the previous volume, and continues to push for Miyako's complete destruction. Bio-weapons are secretly being smuggled into the ruins of Neo-Tokyo, Tetsuo shows off an incredible display of power that knocks the world even further out of whack as he begins to manifest into something more, and all forces concerned with Tetsuo and Akira's presence are beginning to converge for the final battle.

Oh, and Kaneda's back. Somehow.

I've noticed that despite the significant increase in strong profanity in this translation, the 16+ rating remains.

Usually profanity this frequent and harsh would automatically up the rating to an 18 or something. I'm not sure how this particular publisher's ratings work, though. I'm not bothered by it, and obviously this wouldn't be any more or less appropriate for readers of any age without profanity due to all the violence, anyway. I just thought it was funny, is all. More of a pointless musing than anything.

Anyway, I'm excited for the final battle. *Vol. 6* can't arrive to my door soon enough. Otomo's artwork is still amazingly detailed and fluid, and his handling of all these characters and subplots is nothing short of impressive. My only complaint is that Kaneda seems to be more loud and annoying than usual. I mean, he was never respectful or quiet to begin with, but in this volume, his more vocal and brash characters seem to have doubled in excess since before his weird disappearance a while back.

My two cents.

I'm still stoked.

Brynna says

These are some of the most incredible graphic novels I've ever read in my life. If you are looking for something that contains depth of character, well developed storyline, incredible imagination, and spectacular art, you've found it. Akira pulls no punches and is not interested in playing it safe - it'll grip you from start to finish and have you itching for more.

I highly recommend pacing yourself with these. I was so excited to read the next one that I couldn't wait to get my hands on it. Because my local library at the time had a waiting list for them, it forced me to be patient. This is how I would advise you read them - in chunks. Savor them like a good dessert or wine, because you will have a LOT to think about.
