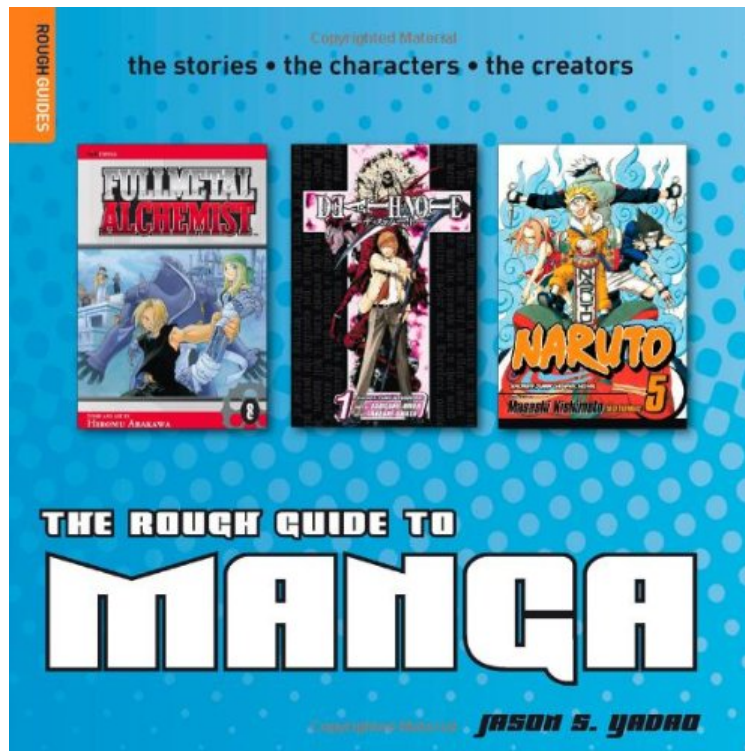


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The Rough Guide to Manga (Rough Guide Reference)

Jason S. Yadao

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Jason S. Yadao : The Rough Guide to Manga (Rough Guide Reference) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rough Guide to Manga (Rough Guide Reference):

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Bought for my library By Meme in Missouri This was a purchase for work - I thought this would be a great addition to the children's collection in the library where I work. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Very detailed By setlib Don't let its small size fool you; this book is packed with amazing detail. I think it's a bit too detailed for someone truly new to manga, they might want to start out with something that gives a basic introduction to the format, like Manga: The Complete Guide instead. However if you're ready to learn more about manga, this book has a lot of information to share. The first 50 pages contain a history of manga ranging from 12th-century picture scrolls to 19th-century to cartoons to, of course, the postwar influence of Osamu Tezuko. The history of manga in the 20th century provides many specific examples, including discussions of Korean manhwa and Chinese manhua. The author also analyzes various publishers in detail, describing their history, successful titles, strengths and weaknesses. The next twenty pages provide a brief "primer" on manga styles and the various categories/genres including shonen, shojo, seinen, josei, yaoi, yuri and hentai. The middle section includes the essential "canon" of fifty titles. Of course, it is impossible to please everyone when you can only pick fifty titles. But I applaud the author for including a diverse range of titles in the canon. There are titles for younger readers (DragonBall, Fruits Basket) and titles for adults (Lone Wolf Cub, Ghost in the Shell). There are historical titles (Barefoot Gen, Vagabond), mecha, fantasy, horror, etc. I especially appreciate the large number of shojo/josei titles

(Love Roma, Banana Fish) included, which is something that other volumes on manga have neglected. The entries for each of these fifty titles average about two pages in length and are somewhere in between summaries and reviews, often including plot/character analysis and interesting publishing trivia. There are no ratings given for quality (although I'd have to assume all fifty titles should be considered highly recommended by virtue of their inclusion in the book) and relatively few illustrations. There are some cover shots and excerpts but all are in black and white. If you really want something in color, consider 500 Essential Graphic Novels: The Ultimate Guide which lacks the factual information but does have an attractive presentation. The last third of the book includes discussions of anime, live-action films, video games, and major publishers -- including some interesting profiles of now-defunct publishers. You have to be a true otaku to enjoy the degree of detail in this book, but if you're ready to learn more about manga, this is guaranteed to teach you something new.

"The Rough Guide to Manga" is the ultimate handbook offering a comprehensive overview of one of the most fashionable genre's in today's popular culture. The guide features the manga story: from manga's twelfth-century roots to the rise of English-language manga with profiles of influential creators like Leiji Matsumoto and CLAMP as well as publishers to look out for. You'll find an overview of manga's unique styles, techniques and genres decoded as well as a canon of fifty must-read manga, including the iconic "Astro Boy", global hits "Fruits Basket" and "Battle Royale", plus less well-known works like "Please Save My Earth". "The Rough Guide to Manga" demystifies unfamiliar terms and genres for newcomers whilst offering manga fans plenty of new recommendations including listings for manga magazines and websites along with a glossary of terms. Crammed with illustrations, and including a section on the anime connection, this is must-have Manga for beginners and enthusiasts alike.

About the Author Jason Yadao is a Manga, expert and journalist