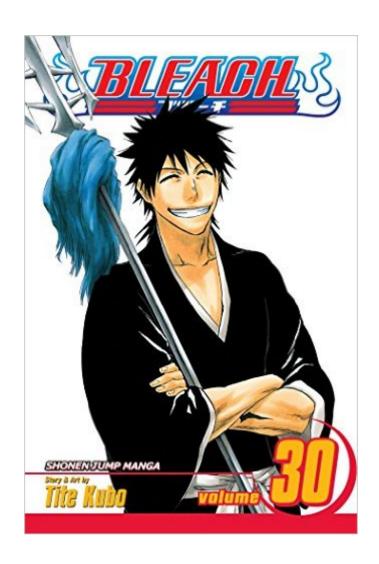
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Bleach, Vol. 30





Synopsis

Cleaning up the afterlife â "one spirit at a time!R to L (Japanese Style). Hot-tempered 15-year-old Ichigo Kurosaki, the hero of the popular fantasy-adventure Bleach, has the unsettling ability to see spirits who are unable to rest in peace. His sixth sense leads him to Rukia, a Soul Reaper who destroys Hollows (soul-devouring monsters) and ensures the deceased find repose with the Soul Society. When she's injured in battle, Rukia transfers her sword and much of her power to Ichigo, whose spiritual energy makes him a formidable substitute Soul Reaper. But the orange-haired teenager isn't sure he wants the job: too many risks and moral dilemmas. Cleaning up the afterlife â " one spirit at a time!; Strawberry and the Soul Reapers There Is No Heart Without You Ichigo and his friends are moving ever closer to the center of Hueco Mundo and rescuing Orihime. But their battles against the Arrancars are testing them in ways they never thought possible. Can they keep their honor in a world where it doesn't exist, or will Hueco Mundo leave an indelible mark on their souls?!

Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: VIZ Media LLC; Original edition (March 2, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1421523884

ISBN-13: 978-1421523880

Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 0.6 x 5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #597,962 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #70 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Comics & Graphic Novels > Media Tie-Ins #796 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels

> Action & Adventure Manga #1103 in Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy >

Sword & Sorcery

Customer Reviews

Rukia Kuchiki has big, big, big emotional issues that have overshadowed her life for many years. And "Bleach Volume 30" is especially hard on her by bringing her face-to-face with someone from the bloodest, most traumatic part of her past -- and that subplot what elevates this far above the usual shonen hack'n'slash'n'boom that is going on elsewhere in Hueco Mundo. First, Chad manages to defeat his enemy with his newly-enhanced powers, only to get taken out by the sadistic Nnoitra.

And Renji is being faced down by the crazy scientist, Szayel-Aporro Grantz (boy, is that hard to type), who turns out to be a formidable enemy because he can actually seal Renji's bankai. But the worst encounter is when Rukia encounters the ninth Espada -- and when he takes off his mask, he turns out to be a figure from her long-ago past. Even worse, he claims that he will forgive her past actions if she kills her own friends. Now she must overcome the last of her tormented feelings and self-doubt, or be destroyed by the most gruesome, unnatural Hollow there is. Rukia Kuchiki dealt with some of her emotional issues a couple arcs ago, but "Bleach Volume 30" yanks them out into the sunlight (literally) and slams her face-first into them. While there are a couple of humorous moments (Renji ends up spending a few chapters wedged under Dondachakko's butt), most of this volume is a rather bleak, bloody affair -- although it seems to eradicate the remainder of Rukia's angst. And Tite Kubo fills it with the usual stuff -- splatters of blood, impalements, flashbacks to happier times, and very unusual hollow.

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