



The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya, Vol. 1

Nagaru Tanigawa, Noizi Ito (Character Design), Gaku Tsugano (Illustrator)

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Kyon is your ordinary high school freshman who has long given up on his childhood dreams of encountering the fantastic and supernatural...or so he thought. From the very first day of school, his classmate-the beautiful but eccentric Haruhi Suzumiya-makes it very clear that her only desire is to meet aliens, time travelers, and psychics! A chance conversation between the two inspires Haruhi to form the SOS Brigade, a school club created for the sole purpose of gathering together such supernatural beings. The initial members consist of the mute bookworm Yuki Nagato, the timid but voluptuous Miharu Asahina, and the polite and ever-smiling Itsuki Koizumi. By the end of this first volume, Kyon quickly finds out that these seemingly "helpless victims" of Haruhi's are actually members of secret organizations-both futuristic and alien-with the single aim of keeping watch over Haruhi Suzumiya as she is the pinnacle of some major calamity on the horizon...

The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya, Vol. 1 Details

Date : Published October 28th 2008 by Yen Press (first published January 1st 2006)

ISBN : 9780759529441

Author : Nagaru Tanigawa , Noizi Ito (Character Design) , Gaku Tsugano (Illustrator)

Format : Paperback 208 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Manga, Fantasy, Science Fiction, Comics

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From Reader Review The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya, Vol. 1 for online ebook

Grace the Book Queen says

This is my first time with this series (since I haven't watched the anime) and I really enjoyed it. It was a bit of a slow start, but I got more into it the further I read. I also really like Haruhi since her eccentricity reminds me of me! I will definitely be reading the next one!

Rachael says

I picked this up because I wanted to see how scenes were translated from book to anime and I was not disappointed. This book is in first person and is from the point of view of Kyon, an average high school student, who ends up getting involved with Haruhi Suzumiya, a girl wanting more to life than just boring school.

The writing was pretty descriptive and could get a bit wordy at times but it was entertaining to read from someone point of view, who stopped himself from expecting things to happen that was out of the norm. Kyon's thought process kept the story going though most of this book, however at various other points in the text, the pages dragged on when Kyon was describing certain topic over and over again. This book contains more telling than showing but it's understandable, since this is basically Kyon thoughts and dialogue (with himself and other characters.)

When thinking about the characters, basically everyone had a generic personality. Characters were simple and really didn't show promise for character development (though based on this story, they really aren't meant to) and just reading the first volume, it's hard to tell if Haruhi and Kyon will go through some development (I don't know yet, since I never finished the anime).

Again, I really enjoyed reading this and my favorite parts were the theories about the world and life. My least favorite parts were how male character talked about the girls but I over looked that, since I care more for plot. I would recommend that one at least reads this and give it a try, though if you wanted it, I would watch the anime before reading to get an understanding how the world is in the book. Nagaru Tanigawa did a really great job with the writing and the creation of the world within the book.

Sesana says

I see that this is very popular, but wow is it not for me. I was trying to think of something that I liked about it, but... Nothing. I don't like any of the characters, who really have no characterization to speak of anyways. I didn't like the frantic pace of the storylines, which rush by so fast that there's no real point to any of them. Almost like the manga was more concerned with getting over with than with telling a story. The art does nothing for me. And if I was still sitting on the fence, I couldn't stand the way one character was casually and almost continuously harassed, for laughs. Not funny. It may be popular, but I was just glad to be done with it.

Setsanata says

~~I've read some of it, but I wanna wait until it comes out into the store to really get into it.~~

I found out that this book was released earlier than it's original date 10/28/08, so I have already read this book.

It is very good in my opinion. The story is progressing. The manga is different than the anime in various ways, but they both have their ups and downs. I just miss Kyon's sarcasm towards everything... that made it all better...

Dara Salley says

I read this book somewhat under duress. A friend recommended it to me. It's certainly not the sort of book I would have ever picked up on my own. I tried to come to it with an open mind but the farther I got into it the more I hated it. It was painful to finish the last twenty pages. If I ever met the main character in person, I would punch him in the face. The book is sexist and filled with garbled paranormal philosophy. The back cover of the book stated that the novel has sold over 4.5 million copies. This makes me doubt the future of Japan and humanity as a whole.

Ashley Salisbury says

If you're into science fiction, this is the manga for you. Full of Espers (people with ESP), time travelers, and aliens, and lots and lots of twisted adventure. Twisted as in strange but neat at the same time. This is probably the strangest manga book I've ever read. At the same time it's highly intellectual. Very science based. It makes you feel smart just reading it.

Megan M says

I'm surprised by how much I enjoyed this. I prefer to read reviews before I sit in a long waiting list at the library for a manga, something I'll read in maybe 30 minutes. The reviews on GR are seriously lackluster, with just about everyone saying that I should just watch the anime. But coming from not knowing anything (except the dance) about Haruhi Suzumiya, I had a great time with this volume.

Haruhi is a high school student obsessed with aliens, time travelers and espers and Kyon somehow gets dragged into her world. The story moves at pretty fast pace, but that matches with Haruhi's personality and I think it fits. There is a lot of fan service in this manga, but I'm not too worried about it, because Haruhi's frustration as to why she can't just dress up in a bunny costume at school is hilarious. Things about the story are fairly predictable if you're ever seen any high school based sci-fi show ever, but I like the characters - especially Kyon and Nagato. I will definitely be picking up more of the series.

Jenny says

[Ch. 1-5]

This was seriously one of the worst mangas I've ever read. I've seen the show, and I've read the book that was based in this volume, but seriously, they messed up pretty much everything. Kyon doesn't seem like Kyon. He's not sarcastic and dry like he normally is. He actually seems to agree with Suzumiya on some things. I hate how they changed everything up too. I *would not* recommend this, but I'm going to read the rest of the volumes just because I made a promise to myself that I would read all the manga from the animes I've watched.

Arpita Tonney says

The story raises a lot of questions which were not answered. I expected a lot of twists as it's a sneaker award winner book. But the ending was a cliche.

E.S. says

The concept is cool but Suzumiya is kind of annoying. I hate how she treats other people.

Λ?ΣXI? IVΛ? says

3.75

Lol thought I'd read the light novel, since I've been in love with the Haruhi Suzumiya franchise ever since I was a kid. Kyon's voice somehow is somehow even MORE sassy in the original material than in any other adaption XD I didn't think that was even POSSIBLE. Haruhi is still a little s*** XD Mikuru is still adorable, Yuki is still epic, and Koizumi is still a useless f*** with a perfect smile XD

Can't wait until I'm up to The Disappearance, because that movie still gives me chills, and I've been dying to read the original!

Congratulations on reading your first light novel, Alex! ???

Jose Manuel Real says

El primer tomo se centra en exclusiva en el instituto y no deja de echarnos a la cara el contraste Kyon-Haruhi, pero el cómo va desarrollando la premisa y metiendo a los secundarios en el ajo es magistral. Haruhi tiene una personalidad un poco cargante, pero el hecho de que sea el centro (cuasi literal) del universo es un

argumento muy interesante y que quiero ver hacia donde va.

Sarah says

Actually rating 1.5 star for volume 1

Plot and thoughts

Kyon is an average freshman at high school who has the misfortune (or fortune) of sitting in front of a very eccentric girl, Haruhi Suzumiya. Her one great desire? To meet aliens, time travelers, and psychics. A chance conservation between Kyon and Haruhi leads her to found the SOS Brigade, a school club dedicated to finding such people. Haruhi drags Kyon into her 'club' along with Yuki (who really just came with the room), kidnaps Miharu Asahina (to be in the club).

So...I've been watching the anime and trying to figure out how the series ends since I can't find an actual anime ending. There are rumors of a season 3 being needed, which makes sense because season 2 had no actual ending, but I digress. The anime ran 2006 and 2009, it bothered me having no ending because it obviously isn't getting one. So I decided to read the manga and see if it had an ending. Cause, why not??? Book series usually have conclusions! Anime in book form, yeah? Uh no...

I went through some of the reviews to see if anyone else felt as I did, and man there are a lot. Apparently I should try the novelizations instead...The manga misses so much! Kyon isn't filled with dry humor he normally is. He doesn't seem to constantly be cursing his life decisions for the viewer's entertainment...So disappointed. I mean, I didn't love the anime absolutely to start with and now, in the manga, a bunch of parts that kept me reading are just missing. The story line rips along, missing a lot of the plot present in the anime...it was just a disappointment.

In Conclusion

I bumped the star rating to 2 because I imagine, had I not watched the anime I would have enjoyed...well, disliked it less. This manga is not something I would have normally read anyway, and the fact that it is missing some of the important qualities of the anime just solidifies that. I will read the 2nd volume to give it a 'fair shake of the stick" but I'm not holding my breath.

Sruthi says

Hello you idiotic fools:

I'm Haruhi Suzumiya, not like I would be telling because you clearly don't need to know you unworthy fool.

I'm a really spiteful and annoying girl who is neurotic and perverted and uses way too many ands in a sentence.

I also forced these 3 losers (Description below) to join my club.

Kyon: I'm a sarcastic sort of a loser who follows Haruhi around like a slave and joins her stupid clubs just because she's *looks around, then whispers* special.

Mikuru: I'm a shy doormat who is obedient and subservient to Haruhi's every need and dresses up as a French maid just to please her!

Yuki: I'm a mindless drone that does nothing but read books. I don't look up, or speak for that matter. Bye.

REAL REVIEW:

Just stahp with the recyclable "Cute highschool girl who looks like an anime can destroy the universe and creates club to help stop her from misusing her own powers" shpiel.

Honestly.

ERMAHGERD!

This book got EVERYTHING WRONG!

MC says

I have greatly enjoyed the two volumes that I have read so far of the light novel *Haruhi Suzumiya* series, by Nagaru Tanigawa. They are fun and quirky. I decided to try out this manga adaptation, and I'm kind of unsure what to think. I guess the best way to classify them is as an alternate universe of the story.

This is because the first volume of the manga so far is different. It seems to tell the first half of the first light novel, *The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya*. In an effort to make the story work in a more visual medium like manga, it was changed. This lead to some confusion for me. Some parts of the plot are left out altogether, and other parts are changed for the sake of making it more understandable.

I think that they could have done a better job of this. But in general, I enjoyed the story. I'm not sure how much I understood from the manga and how much was knowledge from the light novels that I had previously read.

Then again, to be fair, I might be prejudiced by how much it *isn't* like the original novel. That might be the cause of my confusion. I know that the much briefer (due to the format) explanation of certain concepts doesn't lend itself well to a good understanding on the part of the reader.

Despite the above, it was enjoyable to read this manga. The artwork was top-notch, and appears to be either the same artist as the light novels, or based heavily on his work. The translation style may have been imperfect, but it was still passable, and easily saved by the beautiful artwork inside.

If you are a manga fan, I recommend this series, but I would add the caveat of reading the corresponding light novels for each story arc first. For this one, that means the first book.
