



## Barefoot Gen, Volume Five: The Never-Ending War

*Keiji Nakazawa, Project (Translator)*

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Barefoot Gen Volume Five ?"The Never-Ending War" ? As the people of Hiroshima face a massive food shortage and horrendous health problems, Gen is in school, but he is forced to choose between making money to support his family or staying in school to be a part of society, but when his mother becomes sick, the choice is further complicated.

## **Barefoot Gen, Volume Five: The Never-Ending War Details**

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### Teguh Affandi says

saya masih terperangah dengan seri barefoot gen, dan terima kasih gramedia yang telah menerbitkan sampai jilid lima ini (konon ada sepuluh jilid). masih seputar keluarga gen yang harus bangkit kembali usai bom atom. setting pada jilid ini ialah pada dua tahun pasca bom atom. perang pasific sudah selesai, tapi luka dan peperangan dalam kehidupan gen dan sekitarnya belum juga usai.

sekolah gen kacau. ryuta teman lama gen terjebak dalam kelompok mafia yang bertugas memeras dan membunuh orang. kemudian ekonomi maish saja sulit. kemudian ibu gen mulai sakit dan muntah darah, yang itu pertanda efek radiasi mulai tampak dalam tubuh ibu gen. pemimpin kelompok yang dahulu enggan menolong orang, kini mendadak mencalonkan sebagai wakil politik. tapi yang paling ngenes adalah masih adanya orang-orang yang memanfaatkan dengan menjadi lintah bagi orang-orang yang masih belum bisa sembuh dari luka bom atom. juga soal pihak medis amerika yang memanfaatkan tubuh-tubuh orang terkena radiasi sebagai spesimen penelitian. sedih....

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### Yulia Windayani says

Saya harus bilang buku kelima ini: ironically amazing!

Saat gen akhirnya bertemu dengan Ryuta. Meskipun Ryuta sudah menjadi anggota Mafia. Bagaimana Gen berusaha membantu Ryuta agar keluar dari kelompok mafia.

Yang paling menyedihkan tentu saja efek bom atom yang perlahan-lahan semakin merusak. Semakin banyak orang sakit gara-gara radiasi bom. Dan yang membuat kecewa adalah, disaat seperti itu banyak org memanfaatkan situasinya. Saat Amerika membuat lembaga penanggulangan bom atom, orang-orang hiroshima mengira mereka mendapat pengobatan, tetapi ternyata mereka tidak lebih menjadi kelinci percobaan agar mereka bisa meneliti dampak bom sebenarnya.

Sangat tidak sabar menunggu seri selanjutnya!!

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### Juan Manuel says

Two years after the war, the life for the Nakaokas has settled somehow. They are still struggling to survive, and this volume centers more on the chaos unleashed after society has been broken. Yakuza mafias are taking over and there's little that police or authority can do to help. Although the bomb is still ever present, looming over everything in the story, we are now into society dynamics, into loyalty friendship and love. I absolutely love this Barefoot Gen series and kind of wish that everyone read it at least once. It is simple and clear: War is wrong and it only hurts all of us.

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## **VaaRida says**

baca versi inonesianya keereeen

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## **RyuKatayama08 says**

Another entry in the spectacular series of the Barefoot Gen series by Keiji Nakazawa, this book finally reintroduces Ryuta as a lower-class yakuza. The reunion is slightly bittersweet as Gen doesn't want him as a criminal but still is happy to see him. This reunion though led Ryuta to abandon his post and start living with Gen again, alongside Ryuta's friends Musubi and Katsuko. If I can describe this book in a phrase, it would be the importance of brotherhood. Although Ryuta and Gen aren't true brothers, their brotherhood is shown because they trust each other dearly and will not sell each other for profit. Truly a great piece of literature that everyone should read.

119 words

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## **Heather says**

Volume five begins with a decent recap of the first four books--I'd actually recommend that if a reader doesn't want all of the gory details of the bombing but still wants to read Gen's story that they start with this volume.

Gen tries to get Ryuta and his friends Musubi and Katsuko away from the crime family with which they've become associated. Meanwhile, Gen's family is still having trouble making ends meet. Although Gen is still with them, he and the other kids also build their own house and adopt an older man who lost his whole family in the bombing as their "papa."

As Gen's mother Kimie begins to develop symptoms of radiation poisoning, the family gets a tip from a doctor that the Americans have a hospital where they'll help a-bomb victims. After they take Kimie there, it's revealed that the hospital is not helping victims at all, but only collecting specimens for their research on the effects of the a-bomb on human bodies. The Japanese doctors are sending people there in exchange for expensive medicines. Gen seeks out the greedy doctor who sent them to the Americans and, in revenge, smears him with his own excrement and pees on him.

Gen's older brother Koji feels that it's his duty to go away and take a job working in the coal mines in an effort to make money for their mother's medical care.

Gen and his friends discover a boy selling the skulls of bomb victims to the Americans. Although disgusted and angry at first, they soon find that it's a lucrative business and hope to shame the Americans through doing it as well as make enough money to send Gen's mother to a real hospital.

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### **nur'aini tri wahyuni says**

menguras emosi. dampak radiasi mulai muncul di keluarga Gen, sememtara kehidupan mereka belum juga membaik.

banyak konflik luar yg datang, ditambah emosionalnya Gen ketika melihat Kaisar Jepang datang ke Hiroshima.

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### **Rainbowfittania says**

blijft super hup naar deel 6

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### **Gláucia Renata says**

Esse volume se inicia em dezembro de 1947, dois anos após a explosão da bomba atômica e os desafios de sobrevivência na vida dos japoneses de Hiroshima continuam. Existe a máfia japonesa, a desvalorização do iene, os americanos tentando encobrir ao mundo a verdade sobre a bomba e suas pesquisas nada éticas a fim de aprender sobre seus efeitos imediatos e principalmente tardios.

Histórico de leitura

02/07/2017

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"Cidade de Hiroshima, dezembro de 1947."

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### **Soraia says**

E a tragédia continua...

O foco neste volume é contar a questão dos idosos que se encontram sozinhos sem a possibilidade de trabalhar, já que a grande maioria está debilitada ou doente. Tem também as crianças abandonadas que chegam a casa de milhões e que para sobreviverem acabam se envolvendo com a Yakuza.

Mesmo após perderem a guerra, as crianças japonesas continuam sendo ensinadas a reverenciar o imperador nas escolas, tamanha a lealdade - ou seria burrice? - deles.

A parte que mais achei interessante foi sobre a ABCC (Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission), comissão criada pelos EUA para estudar os efeitos da bomba atômica, mas que a população não tem muito noção do que se trata, achando ser uma espécie de clínica, quando na verdade tem o propósito inteiramente científico.

Tirando as desgraças, tem partes engraçadinhas e outras que abordam certos costumes que são mantidos até hoje, tipo a tradição japonesa de comer mochi no ano novo para ter sorte o ano inteiro.

Pra variar termina com uma notícia trágica.

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### **Chris Blocker says**

The farther the *Barefoot Gen* storyline gets from the atomic bombing, the more it feels like an epic story. The first few books were dominated by a singular event: the bombing and its horrific aftermath; although the bomb certainly is the central thread of the following books (and probably the whole series), by the midpoint, the series is so much more about family, friendship, faith, and resilience. Clearly, the series has always been about survival, but the further it moves from the bomb, the more it seems is at stake.

In the fifth volume, *The Never-Ending War*, more than two years have passed since the bombing, and the Hiroshima at the center of Nakazawa's *Barefoot Gen* is descending into the chaos of organized crime and American occupation. This has probably been my least favorite in the series, as the various plots and subplots seem more disjointed from the story of the previous volumes. There are some new characters which will take some getting used to, but I'm sure they'll be welcome to the established (but dwindling) cast.

I picked up this particular volume on the seventy-first anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. I have every intention to finish this series in the coming weeks, but I do not intend to leave my study of the atomic bombs there. Undoubtedly, there are images in these pages that are forever seared into my memory, a testament to Nakazawa's heartfelt and honest illustrations.

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### **Orion says**

The Barefoot Gen series of 10 graphic novels tells the story of the World War II atomic bombing of Hiroshima Japan through the eyes of a young boy Gen Nakaoka who relates the events lived through by the author Keiji Nakazawa. Book 5, The Never-Ending War starts in December 1947, two and a half years after the war has officially ended. Hiroshima is being repaired and is occupied by American troops. The Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission has set up labs to evaluate the effects of the blast on the people. Gen's father, sister and brother were killed during the blast, and his mother now suffers from radiation sickness. Gen's older brother Koji has to leave to work in a coal mine to earn money for the family, leaving Gen and his younger brother Akira to care for their sick mother and find food and medical care. Gen has befriended a group of street orphans who have been working for local racketeers and helps them escape a life of crime. This is a difficult book because it portrays the hardships that continue long after war is over. The Never-Ending War is the constant struggle that Gen, his friends and family must endure years after the war ended.

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### **Karyl says**

It is now December of 1947. It's been two and a half years since the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, but life is still incredibly difficult for the residents of that city. Gen lost his father, sister, and a brother to the blast and subsequent fires, and later his baby sister, born the day of the bomb, died of malnutrition. Now he

and his older brothers, returned from the Navy and from being evacuated to the countryside, must find a way to take care of themselves and their sick mother. But there is no money -- the bosses at their jobs have no way to pay them for the work they have completed. Without money, there is no way they can buy what little food there is to be had. Gen and his family are still starving with no relief in sight.

To make things worse, the Japanese are still obsessed with worshipping the emperor. It seems like Gen is the only one who dares to speak out against the emperor and against the mentality of blind obedience. This gets him into major trouble.

Gen does not let Americans off the hook either. He realizes that they must have known that the bomb would cause many more injuries than just because of the initial blast, and he is angry that the Americans have come back to gather specimens from victims of the blast. He hopes that they will help his mother, but they only want to glean information from her.

This book teaches us that the suffering of the Japanese wasn't limited to just August, 1945, that their hardships lasted for years. This is a lesson we should not forget or gloss over.

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### **David says**

by volume Five, I was beginning to wonder, will life EVER get better for Barefoot Gen? of course it does...

...but with life getting better, in however small increments... Barefoot Gen is also growing up. With growing up comes the sight and knowledge of things Adults DO. Not always good things.

He started out innocent and outraged, but now Barefoot Gen is starting to see that the world is not drawn in black and white, but in a vast range of grey... what would YOU do to feed your family? protect your friends?

These are things our protagonist has to decide... it is a new world he struggles in. Things are not so simple anymore.

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### **Eddie Avila says**

This book tells a lot because it shows the tragic things that took place. It also helps realize that people should be grateful for what they are able to do and not face tragical things. It's very breathtaking how people that they barely know do the best to survive.

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