



Crimson Spell Bd. 4

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Auf den Schultern von Prinz Vald lastet die Schuld an Rulcas geschwächtem Zustand schwer. Er will sich auf die Suche nach einer magischen Beere begeben, um seinen angeschlagenen Begleiter zu heilen. Der Weg dorthin führt angeblich über einen Drachen, doch stattdessen bekommen es Vald & Co. mit einem anderen, ungebetenem Gast zu tun ...

Crimson Spell Bd. 4 Details

Date : Published August 2011 by Tokyopop (first published November 25th 2010)

ISBN : 9783867197724

Author : Ayano Yamane

Format : Paperback 180 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Manga, Yaoi, Fantasy, Romance, M M Romance, Magic, Boys Love

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From Reader Review Crimson Spell Bd. 4 for online ebook

Chiara says

2.5

Cornerofmadness says

This is one of the few yaoi I like. I'm not a fan of the falling in love with your rapist themes in many of them and there is dub-con in this one. At least it's done a bit more realistically. Now that Prince Vald has realized that Halvir has been using sex to control the demon inside of Vald – while Vald's own personality is submerged and not conscious of what's happening – he's pretty furious. It's compounded by his hurt feelings because he had truly become close to Halvir. But he's having trouble accepting that Halvi has been basically raping him.

The front half of this volume is both of them still nursing these hurts. And Vald begins to act more and more reckless in his attempts to save a friend that Halvir becomes equally furious. Before long they're not speaking and Halvir takes a job for a wealthy man in need of a mage to do some boring bureaucratic stuff. Panicked he might be losing Halvir, Vald has to get into the castle to talk to Halvir but the wealthy fellow is a total poon-hound so only women are let in. (I was pretty annoyed by this because really he's letting Halvi off too easily. Like I said one thing I dislike about the whole BL genre is the prevalence of the loving your rapist crap. It's disrespectful really)

Naturally Vald is great and practiced at pretending to be a woman (eye roll so hard I might have hurt myself. This is so not my trope). I will say this particular manga doesn't shy away from showing sex on the page.

It is well drawn and at least has a plot. I do like it but the mangaka does tend to get distracted from her plot to show sex scenes. I'm probably the only one reading this who gets annoyed by this.

Miriam says

Whereas I described the first volume as generic high fantasy with sex scenes shoved in, the vibe here is totally romance novel with fantasy backdrop. There's the traditional romance trope of a falling-out caused by unwillingness of both parties to discuss their feelings in a mature way. There's even a ball, basically for no reason other than as an excuse to dress the characters up pretty. Vald is the overwrought heroine -- although to be fair that whole demonic possession thing seems to cause mood swings and irrationality. We're also reminded in passing that he's actually quite young (18 or 20, I think) and has spent his life dutifully learning to be a good ruler, so everything that's happening both on a personal and plot level is new to him.

Vald snuck into the ball in a dress.

Also Rulca the bunny/dragon/whatever is cuter than ever.

The new character that was introduced at the end of last volume is quite ambiguous so far and seems connected to the larger plot arc with the origin of the cursed sword. Am looking forward to finding out what he's up to.

Kanna says

Cross-dressing super sensitive prince. I'm not feeling it.

Kynthos-the-Archer (Kyn) says

The story is interesting that the usual standard yaoi fare and the artwork is worth drooling over. All is well but they are sudden changes of scene from time to time that I find to be rather confusing and disruptive to the story flow.

* 12 Sept 2015

Ekene says

Wasn't too sure about this series since the first book fell flat for me but slowly gets better. I am enjoying the relationship between the main 2

Darlene says

Excellent series

Susana says

With every new volume of The Crimson Spell I am more hooked to this series. In volume 4, Vald has serious doubts about what happened between Havi and himself. Partly because of his pride, and also because he wants to keep his friends safe (and he thinks that being with Havi is too distracting for that purpose) he tells Havi they cannot be together again. This hurts Havi, but not as much as seeing Vald endangering himself to help his friends. His bold and irresponsible behavior makes them grow apart, and their stubbornness prevents them from talking and clarifying things. When Havi disappears after a visit to a border town, Vald is convinced he is so angry that he is dumping them, never to come back. When he learns that the governor is throwing a party to welcome his new wizard, he devises an absurd plan to recover Havi's affection... Well, this was a really funny one. Vald is a mess, he has all these mixed feelings inside and he does not know what to do. He wants Havi so badly... and at the same time he does not want to feel what he is feeling.

As for Havi... He is a difficult one to read. He is crazy about Vald, but at the same time he seems to be willing to give up really easily. He is mercenary to the bone, and sometimes you do not know what he is up to. I really love him. The plot is great: there is adventure, sword fights, monsters to slay, humour and scorching hot sex. The only drawback of this series is having to wait for the next volume to be released. I want it now!!!

Jana Denardo says

I'm still relatively disturbed by the dub-con in this. At least there's a decent story line and fantastic art.

Michelle says

Rulca collapses after his battle with Vald. Vald goes off in search of magic berries to heal him. Fights a demon, saves a dragon, returns triumphant with the berries. Havi gets a job stamping hands. A steamy sex scene on the balcony at the ball. One more book to go and we're no closer to breaking the curse than when we started. At least AY keeps things sexy.

Leila Anani says

Vald distances himself from Havi not wanting complications and still uncomfortable with submitting to the beautiful sorcerer. The party arrive at a town and Havi goes off to masquerade as their newly appointed sorcerer. Vald is terrified Havi will leave him for good and stay on as the town wizard - so he dresses up as a princess to get Havi's attention....

Highlight of this one is clearly Vald in a dress and the seduction that follows but I also love his interaction with rabbit spirit Rulca and his determination to heal him.

The artwork on this series is stunning and for those of you who like their yaoi with a fantasy setting this really is at the top of its game. I can't believe there's only one volume left! Nooooooooooooooo!

Amanda Setasha Hall says

More great art and story. Loved the twist that happens at the end.

Marsha says

Prince Vald's discovery that the sorcerer Havi has been raping him while his human self was dormant has led to a wild see-sawing of his emotions and increasingly reckless behavior. The fact that Havi is utterly

without remorse over his actions doesn't help.

Rape is hard to accept as a story element; the author manages to dodge the issue by never using the word. Vald himself doesn't quite recall the times when he had sex as a demon. His main objections to it stem from the fact that he enjoyed it and was the seme during the acts.

The context of Havi's actions and his motivations must be taken into account—Vald's demonic side needed taming and had to be bound lest he fly out of control and murder anyone who came near him. Sexual binding to a powerful sorcerer was the most expedient way to manage this. (The fact that Vald is young, handsome and sexually uninhibited while a demon were strong incentives.)

The previous volume had Havi being taken to task for his oblivious treatment of Vald. This one has Vald putting himself needlessly in danger. This is partially because he now fears hurting his friends and companions. But there is a deeper underlying motive—he is skittish about his further emotional involvement with Havi. His ambivalence, uncertainty about what his changed feelings mean and sexual shyness lead to contradictory, dangerous behavior and others have no problems taking him to task over it.

Combining as it does social interaction, emotional turmoil, friendship, emotional suppression, jealousy and suspicion, et al., Crimson Spell continues to surprise, delight and titillate. As always, the sexual scene is really great, naughty and slightly kinky. In short, all the elements that have made this a highly successful series are here in one glorious volume, keeping this reader wonderfully primed for volume five.

Eva Rose says

This volume is basically all about Havi and Vald having thoroughly consensual sex, Vald struggling with his gayness because he had sex with Havi and really enjoyed it so he breaks up with Havi. Havi being hurt by the break up and tons of other non important events that just provided a back drop for Havi and Vald's relationship troubles.

I just read it for the pretty art and the detailed sex.

Yes, I have no shame.

Online Eccentric Librarian says

More reviews (and no fluff) on the blog <http://surrealtalvi.wordpress.com/>

In volume 4, we get hints that Vald may be far more than a demon possessed prince as a coupling causes a startling transformation. Meanwhile, Rulca desperately needs a rare dragon berry and Vald will do whatever it takes to save his friend.

Story: Rulca lays dying with the only cure coming directly from a dragon. Vald agrees to battle a dragon but instead finds himself and Limris captured by a dragon hunter and his giant pet lizard. In order to free the

dragon, Vald will need to use his demon powers to their fullest – nearly losing his life in the balance. Meanwhile, Havi assumes the role of a missing sorcerer in order to gain access to a City where there is more information on Vald's curse. But Vald worries that Havi is leaving them permanently. He will enact a daring ruse in order to gain access to the sorcerer: dressing as a lost princess. But Vald may be far more attractive than he bargained and attracts the wrong attention. Limris' secret, meanwhile, will be revealed.

There was a surprising amount of humor in Volume 4: giant smirking lizards and cross-dressing princes notwithstanding. But a lot of conflict is introduced in Vald and Havi's relationship as Vald really starts to realize what it means to be the beast demon and protect his friends. In trying to protect them, he may end up destroying them. Should he let Havi push him away?

In all, definitely the guilty pleasure of Crimson Spell continues. Reviewed from an ARC.
