



Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex, Volume 1: The Lost Memory

Junichi Fujisaku , Kazuto Nakazawa (Illustrator) , Camellia Nieh (Translator)

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Since being formed as a shadow peacekeeping organization, Section 9 has faced almost countless adversaries both in the real world and in cyberspace, but none like "The Awakened," a group of terrorists who seem to have the ability to take over the minds and bodies of almost anyone and use them to commit crimes against the state, leaving their pawns unaware of who was controlling them. When Major Motoko Kusanagi is able to capture one of the boys used as a pawn she hacks into his cyberbrain to find out who the ringleader is, but what she discovers will take her and the operatives of Section 9 on a journey deep into the heart of cyberspace, and the answers she finds will shake Section 9 to its core.

Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex, Volume 1: The Lost Memory Details

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Author : Junichi Fujisaku , Kazuto Nakazawa (Illustrator) , Camellia Nieh (Translator)

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From Reader Review Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex, Volume 1: The Lost Memory for online ebook

Tina says

This is a good one...based on the TV series Ghost in The Shell, Stand Alone Complex, this one is about a faction of terrorists that implant a real-life tragic event into a manufactured sexual memory, in order to provoke angry violent thoughts in the cyber-brains of teenagers; these thoughts force them to commit suicidal terrorists acts. Section 9 needs to figure out who's behind it all, before they strike their next target: an Islamic diplomat.

This is a light novel, so it isn't high lit--it's something written for older teens; but it's well done!

Made DNA says

The Good Morning terrorists are a group of seemingly unassociated teenagers ranging from 14 to 16. The one thing they all have in common though are missing memories. When Section 9 gets involved they are able to bring one of the boys, they dive into his e-brain to look for clues!

The Lost Memory was written by Junichi Fujisaku, who was a script writer (at the behest of Mamoru Oshii) for the Ghost in the Shell Complex TV series. Thus this novel contains the same grit, action, suspense and well-devised plot as the series did. Mr Fujisaku understands the characters that Shirow Masamune has created, and he faithfully re-creates them.

Jordan says

Based on Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex, this light novel reads pretty much like an episode out of the series. While having seen the series is probably best before reading this book, as its nice to know the characters well beforehand, it could also be read on its own with little confusion. Brief mention is made of the Laughing Man from SAC season one, but other than that it's fairly independent.

The story follows section nine in their attempt to solve the logic behind a rash of seemingly spontaneous teenage terrorists dubbed as the Good Morning Terrorists. Most of the story focuses completely on the Major and Yo Kazei, a teenage student whose roommate was a Good Morning Terrorist. Most of the other characters of section nine are given little time in the plot and mostly serve as background. The characterization and feel was fairly consistent with the television series. Even the occasional specifications about cyberbrains or weaponry feel true to the series.

My only complaint would be some of the odd descriptions or strangely out of place details. For example, only a few pages from the end of the story Batou is referred to as "Batou, the lens-eyed man". I found this odd for two reasons. First, it's nearly the end of the books, it shouldn't be necessary to still have to give what seems like introductory descriptions of the characters in order to identify them. Second, Batou is not the only "lens-eyed man" in section nine, so the description becomes potentially confusing. Not sure whether this was

translation weirdness or if it was just as out of place in the original.

Overall it's a nice addition to the world of GitS. It sticks with the feel of the series while having an entertaining plot of its own that could easily be a missing episode. I'd recommend it to fans of the series, though anyone looking to start on GitS for the first time might want to become familiar with the characters first through the series before picking this up.

vonblubba says

Premessa: questo romanzo è unicamente rivolto ai fan dell'universo di "Ghost in the shell" di Masamune Shirow.

Non aspettatevi alta letteratura: lo stile dell'autore è perfettamente funzionale alla narrazione dell'ottima storia, ma nulla di più.

Detto questo, se vi interessa approfondire il background dell'universo di "Ghost in the shell" (in particolare la serie tv), questo è il libro per voi. Vengono forniti numerosi dettagli ad esempio sul funzionamento dei cyberbrain (dettagli mai menzionati nel fumetto nè nella serie tv).

[boredom.is.overrated] says

This reads just like an episode! 5 stars may be a high rating for a light book from a well known franchise, but I really enjoyed how it fit right in with the series. I have known people to call Stand Alone Complex, bloated, pompous, boring, and overly-complicated for the sake of being over-complicated.

That's what I like about it. It's like a modern version of Blade Runner and they don't care if you get it or not. So, if you're like me, you just keep trying to get it. (Sometimes you start the episode over or go back a page or two to make sure.)

This book fits right in with that and then has the big action-y ending everyone expects. Everyone loves the Major.

Meredith says

I love the whole 'Ghost in the Shell' series and this light novel is a great representation of the universe created in the manga and anime. It follows the anime series and provides another great look at the story line.

D. Logan says

It wasn't the most amazing book I ever read, but it followed along in the style of the movies/series and definitely kept my attention. If you enjoyed the movies, series or manga, you will probably enjoy this book as well.

Siina says

What can I say...novels based on something hardly ever work on their own. The story was extremely sporadic and didn't introduce its characters. This happens often with "based on" stories, when the writer believes everyone knows the original product by heart. I've read Ghost in the Shell manga and seen the movie and I liked them a lot - I especially loved Kusanagi. Now we only got a glimpse of her and Batou. The whole setting was unclear and the pieces didn't really fit together well.

The plot is average with its conspiracy. Fujisaku tries to create this great mystery that in the end reveals to be something more. The problem is that there are too many characters and most of them don't have any role in the book. The Good Morning Terrorists have a role only in name and then we have this weird airplane fiasco, which is stupid, really. Like why wait for six years to reveal the true happenings behind the plane crash? Makes no sense. The whole ghost boy thing was lame too as its potential was lost along the way. I didn't really get why Fujisaki had to depict the guns so thoroughly either and tell their history too. All in all this book is mainly for those who've seen the Stand Alone Complex series and loved it to boot - for anyone else this offers next to nothing.

Alithea says

The first of the Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex light novels was really enjoyable. It isn't too heavy on the tech-speak, and a lot of the tech was well explained without detracting too much from the story. The Major rocks as always.

Mary says

I love Ghost in the Shell.

Chance says

Just finished reading this short novel. It was mostly "meh".

I am partially biased here. I felt like it was filled up with too much introductory information on characters that I'm already super familiar with due to my obsession with the TV series.

The story wasn't too bad...this one explored memory manipulation which is a fun concept. I thought the end was really lackluster and felt kind of rushed. In fact, in the last chapter I counted 3 different urban myths that sort of spoiled my immersion in the fiction.

It wasn't terrible, but I would only recommend it for GitS fans.
