

Anime • Videogames • Manga

Genki Life

Magazine

2

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Winter

Dec 21-Mar 19

SPACE
BATTLESHIP

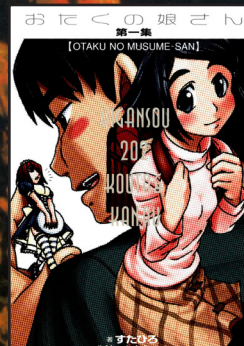
Space Battleship
Yamato Movie

Cross Game
New DVD Releases
Winter Conventions

Manga Inside!

Also

All Top Girl Anime
Seiyûs of Fall 2010



Animé Los Angeles 7



Los Angeles Airport Marriott
January 7 - 9, 2011

JANUARY 7-9, 2011
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MARRIOTT

\$45 PRE-REGISTRATION

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ROOM RATES WILL AGAIN BE \$109 FOR SINGLE, DOUBLE, TRIPLE, AND QUAD.

TOASTMASTER WILL BE TADAO TOMOMATSU. OTHER GUESTS OF HONOR TO BE ANNOUNCED.

SEE YOU THERE!



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Cover is of Space Battleship Yamato before first flight.

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Editor's Note

It's that time of the year again! Happy holidays! A lot has happened this past fall... anime-wise that is. There was just so much to watch. I would have to say half and half was very good mind you, not excellent though. There was also a few series that I still don't have time to watch that I will—maybe—when this deadline is done.

Let's see, last month was very busy for me. I volunteered my services to help out with Animé LA's program guide. It was really fun. I happen to volunteer last year, but it was already too late in the year to help out. Anyway, I wanted to volunteer because I've been a fan for so long that I haven't contributed to it, so in my little way, this was it.

With the completion of the program guide, I could concentrate with this deadline of Genki Life. The one thing I forgot was to keep up with the reminders. But luckily everything turned out good in the end.

- Ed Gomez

Graphic Designer
Editor-Genki Life, President-GIE



anime.studioartmix.com • borgman_eiji@studioartmix.com



Itsumo Futari de

Tanimachi Mizuho has big dreams of living in Daikanyama and becoming a famous writer. In the middle of the winter, this strong-willed 26-year-old moves to Tokyo from the snowy countryside. Never doubting her ability, she keeps telling herself that if her desire to realize her dreams is strong enough, they will come true. What is waiting for her in Tokyo though, is something altogether different.

Morinaga Kenta is an up-and-coming variety program scenario writer. Kenta moved to Tokyo five years ago, and with luck on his side, he became well-known in no time. Kenta and Mizuho are from the same hometown, and were friends growing up, but their friendship never blossomed into anything else. "Hachiko," as Kenta was known as when he was growing up, just goes with the flow and doesn't really have any big aspirations for himself.

This drama about childhood friends Tanimachi Mizuho (Matsu Takako) & Morinaga Kenta (Sakaguchi Kenji). Is like any Strange love triangle/ square what have you drama. the childhood friends blow each other off and claim to be only friends but as soon as they relive their childhood with each other they grow closer and as soon as one of them starts dating one will get jealous and move out. Only later to have the one that let them move out realize that their with the wrong person and run to get the friend they loved all along.

Itsumo Futari De is one of my favorite dramas and I recommend people to see it because of the fact everybody can relate. But overall the story is a bit cheesy. To rate it I'd give it a 6 out of 10. It gets a 6 because of it's relateability to the viewer. But also because the story is so confusing and is like 3 stories in one. So if you haven't seen it I say you should try it out. ♦ Hinata Aoi



Matsu, Takako



Sakaguchi, Kenji

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TOP • Girl ANIME

By:
The Goon

So there comes a time in a girls life when she just has to say "STOP WITH THESE BOY ANIME"... Well not all girls, but girls like me. A 'good' girl anime to me has a combination of love, drama and true connection to the characters. I don't know about you ladies but when I see the same anime harem over and over again just with a different title I tend to lose interest. There are tons of great 'girl' anime through out the years but these are my top within the last 5 years. I recommend these to those ladies who just started watching anime or who are looking for a good time. Enjoy my list!

(Synopsis brought to you by myanimelist.net & mangaupdates.com)



Bokura ga Ita

Alternative Titles: We were there - **Type:** TV - **Episodes:** 26

Aired: Jul 4, 2006 to Dec 26, 2006

Nanami Takahashi welcomes the start of her high school life. There is much talk among the girls about a popular boy, Motoharu Yano. When Nanami asks Yuri Yamamoto, the girl sitting next to her, about Yano, the latter curtly replies that she dislikes him. Nanami is clueless of who Yano is until the day of the class nomination when she made a fool of herself by calling the name of her new friend wrongly. It turns out that she has actually met Yano along the corridors

(unaware of his true identity) and he tricked her by providing a random name, resulting in the embarrassing incident in class. Nanami was initially mad at Yano but after a few encounters with him, she begins to find herself liking him.

Nodame Cantabile

Type: TV - **Episodes:** 45 (Not including Specials)

Aired: Jan 12, 2007 to Jun 15, 2007, Oct 10, 2008 to Dec 19, 2008, Jan 14, 2010 to Mar 25, 2010

During his 4th year at Japan's top music university, Chiaki happens to meet Noda Megumi; or as she refers to herself, Nodame. On the surface, she seems to be an unkempt girl with no direction in life. However, when Chiaki hears Nodame play the piano for the first time, he is in awe at the kind of music she plays. To Chiaki's dismay, Nodame moves into the apartment next to his and finds out that she is head over heels in love with him. Nodame Cantabile tells the story of Chiaki and Nodame, as they not only learn to deal with each other, but learn lessons from one another as they strive for the top of the musical world.





Itazura na Kiss

Alternative Titles: It Started With A Kiss - **Type:** TV - **Episodes:** 25

Aired: Apr 4, 2008 to Sep 27, 2008

High school senior Aihara Kotoko has had a crush on Irie Naoki since freshman year. But she's been discouraged from confessing to him by a few things: he's a member of "Class A," the top ranking class in school, whereas she's in "Class F"; he gets the top score on every exam; and he's so smart, popular, and handsome that he's been class president every year. When Kotoko finally musters up the courage to present him with a love letter, though, Naoki outright refuses it, telling her point blank--with a look of disgust and boredom--that he doesn't like "stupid girls." Poor Kotoko's worst nightmare! Her heart is broken, but then a change in circumstance forces Naoki and Kotoko to be together every day....!?

Kimi ni Todoke

Alternative Titles: Reaching You - **Type:** TV - **Episodes:** 25

Aired: Oct 7, 2009 to Mar 31, 2010

Kuronuma Sawako is completely misunderstood by her classmates. Her timid and sweet demeanor is often mistaken for malicious behavior. This is due to her resemblance to the ghost girl from "The Ring", which has led her peers to give her the nickname Sadako. Longing to make friends and live a normal life, she is naturally drawn to Kazehaya Shouta, the most popular guy in class, whose "100% refreshing" personality earns him great admiration from Sawako. So when Kazehaya starts talking to her, maybe there is hope for the friendships Sawako has always longed for. Maybe...there is even a little hope for some romance in her future. (Season two in the works for 2011!)



Lovely Complex

Type: TV - **Episodes:** 26

Aired: Apr 7, 2007 to Sep 27, 2007

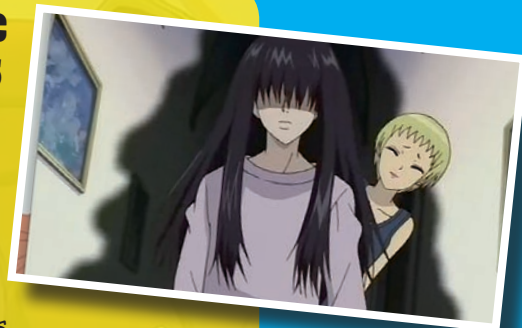
Risa and Otani are always being laughed at as the comedy duo. Risa, a girl, is taller than the average girl, and Otani, a boy, is shorter than the average boy. The two are always bickering and even their teacher sees them as a comedy act. But as their friendship develops, so do Risa's feelings toward Otani.

Yamato Nadeshiko Shichi Henge

Alternative Titles: The Wallflower - **Type:** TV - **Episodes:** 25

Aired: Oct 4, 2006 to Mar 28, 2007

It's a gorgeous, spacious mansion, and four handsome, fifteen-year-old friends are allowed to live in it for free! There's only one condition - that within three years the guys must transform the owner's wallflower niece into a lady befitting the palace in which they all live! How hard can it be? Enter Sunako Nakahara, the agoraphobic, horror-movie-loving, pockmark-faced, frizzy-haired, fashion-illiterate recluse who tends to break into explosive nosebleeds whenever she sees anyone attractive. This project is going to take more than our four heroes ever expected: it needs a miracle!



クロスゲーム



C R O S S G A M E

Many people are not up to date on what anime that has been released since most are busy with work, school or life itself. I have been very busy with school and just finished this year. I just started to get back into anime again and browsed around on an anime information website. I decided to check out the months that I've been in school for any interesting anime. At this time, the last anime I watched was a sports anime, "The Prince of Tennis." I wanted to watch another sports anime that is exciting and entertaining.

As I searched, an anime that came within the same time period when I was in school was, "Cross Game." This anime was labeled under the sports genre as a baseball anime. I understand the game of baseball and the rules. I was getting ready for this anime thinking that it would be a story of two rival teams and characters with special moves. This anime turned around to a whole different scenario that I did not see coming.

This is a story of two 5th graders, Koh Kitamura and Wakaba Tsukishima. Both were born on the same day and year, and are neighbors. Koh is an only child whose family owns a sports shop, while Wakaba is the 2nd Tsukishima daughter whose family owns the Clover Café and batting cages. Every year they celebrate their birthdays together exchanging gifts. After exchanging their gifts this year, Wakaba shares her dream with Koh about the Koshien Stadium, the stadium where the high school national baseball championships take place. Wakaba dreamt that Koh was the star pitcher in the fully packed stadium. Koh could not believe her and thought it was only a dream. It was only Wakaba who kept that dream of Koh as the star pitcher.

Unfortunately, the story takes a turn for the worse after a couple of days after their birthday. Wakaba had an accident leaving Koh with feelings that's hard for him to deal with. Koh then recalls the dream that Wakaba told him about and started to believe in it. This one dream from one special girl starts the amazing story of this series.

When I started watching this anime, I was hoping for suspense game play and special moves but with the twist of the how it was written, it turned out to be a coming of age anime. From watching it from the beginning to the end of the series, it shows determination of how far a



*Koh Kitamura and Wakaba Tsukishima
as 5th graders*

person is willing to make a dream come true. Even though the main character tries his best, there were bumps along the way to get to his goal.



If someone would ask me "What anime I would recommend?" I would have to say "Cross Game" at this moment. My reason for choosing this anime is because of the first episode. The first episode really grabbed my attention, pulled me in as if I was in it, and started to shed tears because it made you feel like you were actually in the story. I'll admit, no anime has done that to me before and kept me interested in watching what will happen next. Give this anime a try. It surprised me and now I'm adding this type of anime to my genre list. ❖ [yukimura82](#)



Anime Schedule 2011



Kimi ni Todoke 2nd Season

君に届け 2nd Season

Production I.G · 01/04 · NTV

Sequel to the first season. Kuronuma Sawako is completely misunderstood by her classmates. Her timid and sweet demeanor is often mistaken for malicious behavior. This is due to her resemblance to the ghost girl from "The Ring," which has led her peers to give her the nickname Sadako. Longing to make friends and live a normal life, she is naturally drawn to Kazehaya Shouta, the most popular guy in class, whose "100% refreshing" personality earns him great admiration from Sawako.



Rio - Rainbow Gate

リオ レインボーゲート!

XEBEC · 01/04 · TOKYO MX

The Howard Resort, a resort hotel which draws custom from around the world with the lure of the possibility of winning a fortune.

Within resort is a casino. One of its dealers is the beautiful Rio Rollins, following in the footsteps of her famous mother. To achieve her goal, she is working to gather together the legendary "Gate" card-set. For the person who gathers all 13 Gates is bestowed the title "Most Valuable Casino Dealer."



Mahou Shoujo Madoka Magika (Puella Magi Madoka ★ Magica)

魔法少女まどか★マギカ

SHAFT · 01/06 · TV Tokyo

Magical Girl Madoka Magica is an original anime television series to be produced by SHAFT and Aniplex. It will be directed by Akiyuki Shinbo, character designs by Aoki Ume with Takahiro Kishida doing character designs adaption and screenplay written by Gen Urobuchi. Music will be composed by Yuki Kajiura.

Winter Season



IS: Infinite Stratos

IS<インフィニット・ストラトス>

8-Bit · 01/06 · TBS

Japan engineered an armed powered exoskeleton “*Infinite Stratos*” (IS) and it became the mainstream of weapons. Since only women can operate IS, women dominate the society over men. Oromura Ichika is a 15 year old boy and accidentally touches an IS placed in the IS pilot training school. He is found to be the only man who can operate IS and forced to enter the training school. Ichika's busy school life surrounded by girls has begun.



Yumekui Merry

夢喰いメリー

J.C. Staff · 01/06 · TBS

Ten years ago Fujiwara noticed he had a power to see multicolored auras surrounding the person's body. Ever since then he's been having a weird dream about a war with cats. Then one day a mysterious girl falls on top of him.



Wolverine

ウルヴァリン

Madhouse · 01/07 · ANIMAX

Next in the four-part Marvel Anime project and broadcasts after the Iron Man anime. Wolverine is a mutant, possessing animal-keen senses, enhanced physical capabilities, three retracting bone claws on each hand and a healing factor that allows him to recover from virtually any wound, disease or toxin at an accelerated rate.



GOSICK

GOSICK -ゴシック-

Bones · 01/07 · TV Tokyo

GOSICK takes place in 1924 in a small, made-up European country of Sauville. The story centers on Kazuya Kujo, the third son of a Japanese Imperial soldier, who is a transfer student to St. Marguerite Academy, where urban legends and horror stories and all the rage. There he meets Victorique, a mysterious yet beautiful and brilliant girl who never comes to class and spends her days reading the entire content of the library or solving mysteries that even detectives can't solve.



Cardfight!! Vanguard

CARDFIGHT!! ヴァンガード

TMS Entertainment · 01/08 · TV Tokyo

TV anime based on the game that is a collaboration between Yu-Gi-Oh! R manga creator Akira Ito, the original Duel Masters technical advisor Satoshi Nakamura, and Bushiroad President Takaaki Kidani.

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

Anime Schedule 2011



Freezing

フリージング

A.C.G.T · 01/08 · AT-X

One day the earth was invaded by extra-dimensional beings known as "The Nova." Using manufactured tissue called "Stigmata" and branding it into their bodies, a new breed of female warriors was born. Taking a younger boy as a partner, the two fought as a pair of combatants. These girls are also the only power on earth that have the power to resist the Nova's freezing effect.



Winter Season *Continued*



Mitsudomoe Zouryôchû

みつどもえ 増量中!

Bridge · 01/08 · MBS

Sequel to the first series. The 11 year old Marui triplets could not be any more different. The oldest one, Mitsuba, is sadistic and kind of mature for her age. The middle one, Futaba, is perverted and very athletic and has the strength of a full-grown man. The youngest one, Hitoha, is generally very quiet and gentle but when push comes to shove, she might just be the strongest, the most perverted and the most sadistic out of the three.



Beelzebub

べるぜバブ

Pierrot · 01/09 · YTV

The story follows the "strongest juvenile delinquent," Oga Tatsumi, a first year in "Ishiyama High" the school for delinquents. One day while sleeping next to a river he sees a man floating down it, he pulls him to shore and the man splits in half revealing a baby boy. This boy is the son of the demon king and he has been chosen as the one to raise it with the baby's demon maid Hilda. The story follows his life with the child and at the delinquent school.



Kore wa Zombie desu ka?

これはゾンビですか?

Studio DEEN · 01/10 · Teletama

Aikawa Ayumu is a normal high school boy. One day he is killed by a serial killer and revived as a zombie by a necromancer named Eucliwood Hellscythe. He starts to serve Eu as her guard but he happens to deprive the mahou shoujo Haruna of her magic power. Haruna orders Ayumu to fight against the anti-mahou shoujo system "Megale" in her place.



Level E

レベルE

Pierrot×David Production · 01/10 · TV Tokyo

Tsutsui Yukitaka is a freshman who finally convinced his parents that he can live on his own. But when he arrives at his new apartment, he finds a young man who claims that he is an alien and that he is suffering from amnesia.



Dragon Crisis!

ドラゴンクライシス!

Studio DEEN · 01/10 · Chiba TV

A normal high school boy Kisaragi Ryuji's peaceful life is turned into an adventure by the return of his second cousin Eriko. Ryuji and Eriko seize a relic box from a black broker. In the box, they find a red dragon girl Rose. In order to protect Rose from the black organization, Ryuji decides to fight using his power.

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.



Anime Schedule

2011 Winter Season *Continued*



Fractale

フラクタル

A-1 Pictures · 01/13 · Fuji TV

Then story takes place in an island, where a "Fractale System" is beginning to collapse. One day, Crane finds an injured girl called Phryne under a cliff. She disappears leaving a pendant. Crane sets out for a journey with the girl-shaped avatar Nessa to look for Phryne and discovers the secret of the Fractale System.



Hourou Musuko

放浪息子

AIC · 01/13 · Fuji TV

Shuuichi Nitori is a 5th grade student who likes to bake and has always been something of a feminine boy. When he transfers to a new school, Shuuichi is mistaken for his 6th grade sister on his first day. Then he ends up sitting next to Yoshino Takatsuki, a tall, boyish girl who everyone calls "Takatsuki-kun." They both have secrets they can't let anyone know...



Suite Precure♪ (TV)

スイート プリキュア♪

Toei · 02/06 · TV Asahi

New Pretty Cure anime in the franchise by Izumi Todo. The series' official website finally opens up as well as the confirmation of two new cures: Cure Melody and Cure Rhythm. Their alter egos were confirmed as well, under the names Kanade Minamino (for Cure Rhythm) and Hibiki Kitajou (for Cure Melody).



Onii-chan no Koto Nanka Zenzen Suki ja Nai'n Dakarane

お兄ちゃんのことなんかぜんぜん好きじゃないんだからねっ!!

ZEXCS

Junior High student Nao's brother complex is so strong, it's almost at the point of incest. She's determined to make her brother, High School student Shuusuke, see her as a woman. So determined, that she goes as far as going into his room to throw away all his non-incest related porn. But as she's looking for his porno stash, she finds a photo album... and she's not in any of his childhood pictures. What is going on?



Mai no Mahō to Katei no Hi (TV)

マイの魔法と家庭の日

P.A. Works · KNB

Eight-year-old second-grader Mai Tatsumi uses magic to understand her family's feelings. Moeko Shimizu created the original concept with "Getsuyōbi wa 'Katei no Hi'" (Monday is "Family Day"), the winning entry in a writing contest she entered in 2005 when she was a fourth-grader.

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JEOPARDY**

**AND MUCH
MORE!**

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CONTEST**

Kitsune Kon

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COSPLAY CHESS

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EATING CONTEST**

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**AT
THE RADISSON
PAPER VALLEY HOTEL
APPLETON, WISCONSIN**

SPACE BATTLESHIP



It is the year 2194. The Gamilas, an enemy of undetermined form, began an invasion of Earth. The nations of Earth pool their forces and fight back, but their armies are defeated and most of humanity is wiped out.

The Defense Force of Earth equips the Space Battleship Yamato with a previously unknown propulsion system, a “wave-motion engine” based on plans found in the capsule. Kodai rejoins the Force, and resolves to set out aboard the Yamato. With the fate of the Earth in their hands, the crew blasts off for distant Iscandar. They have one year until radiation drives humanity to extinction and to complete their mission. Kodai’s great battle has begun. Carrying humanity’s last hope with it, the Yamato blasts off!

Space Battleship Yamato was the groundbreaking anime that became a sensation when it hit American television under the title *Star Blazers*’ back in the mid-70s. First appeared as a two-hour “condensed” movie and then a syndicated series a couple years later. Detailing a ragtag group of astronaut’s desperate mission to retrieve advanced technology from a distant planet in order to prevent Earth’s imminent destruction by aliens, ‘*Star Blazers*’ is beloved by a whole generation who, as kids, found in the show’s mature themes and engaging storyline not just an antidote to the more simplistic American cartoons of that time.

Later, two other subsequent story lines aired, the *Comet Empire* and the *Bolar Wars*. Though available in America in the early 80s in syndica-

tion, they were rarely aired on the television. Or if available, shown in some ungodly time where only the most die-hard fanatic would make time to watch. *Space Battleship Yamato III* is the third TV season of the *Space Battleship Yamato* franchise, the *Dark Nebula* series. There were also a couple spinoffs: *Yamato 2520* and *Dai Yamato Zero-go*.

Lesser known to most American fans were the animated movies. The first two theatrical movies, condensed telling of the first two television series. *Space Battleship Yamato: The New Journey*, was a television movie that was first broadcast on Fuji TV. This was supposed to be the third movie in the *Space Battleship Yamato* saga, but *Be Forever Yamato* is the third theatrical film. The *Space Battleship Yamato* saga (known as *Star Blazers* in the United States) ended in 1983 with the fifth theatrical movie, *Final Yamato*.

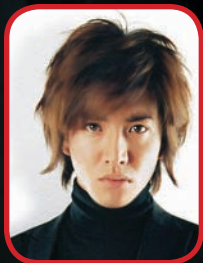
Over a decade later, *Space Battleship Yamato: Resurrection*, set in the year 2220, when Earth is in danger of being swallowed by a cascade black hole. Earth must move its entire population 27,000 light years away to planet Amahr, in the Sairam star system, across space controlled by the hostile SUS Empire. This movie alone is an epic in itself.

So which brings us to the fall of 2009. Rumors abound about an up-

come live action movie for later 2010. So when the trailer became available, fans rejoiced! Space Battleship Yamato has all the ingredients of a box office smash: mind-blowing special effects, a sprawling, epic storyline, the love story between Susumu and Yuki, band of brothers and a legion of devoted fans who have been waiting decades for a big screen, big budget adaptation. Toho Studio's new live action feature is destined to be the perfect blockbuster, except for one small problem—most moviegoers in America don't even know it exists.

The Space Battleship Yamato movie is based on the original first season airing. Directed by Takashi Yamazaki, the movie stars Takuya Kimura as Susumu Kodai and Meisa Kuroki as Yuki Mori for the leading roles. It also

stars Tsutomu Yamasaki as Captain Jūzo Okita and Naoto Ogata as Disuse Shima. In addition with almost all live action renderings, some changes were made from the original storyline. Most not notably, Yuki Mori is now a Cosmo Zero fighter pilot instead of a navigator, radar operator, nurse and all around yeoman. Another is that the role of Doctor Sakezo Sado is played by a female actress. Starsha of Iscandar is simply named as Iscandar. Instead of finding the Iscandar capsule on Mars, it arrived on Earth. And some elements of the Comet Empire season were incorporated though not readily noticeable. Even with these changes, the movie is still Yamato and what makes it Yamato at it's very core. With any luck, Yamato will hit the US shores. ❖ [Ed Gomez](#)



Kimura, Takuya
as Kodai, Susumu



Kuroki, Meisa
as Mori, Yuki



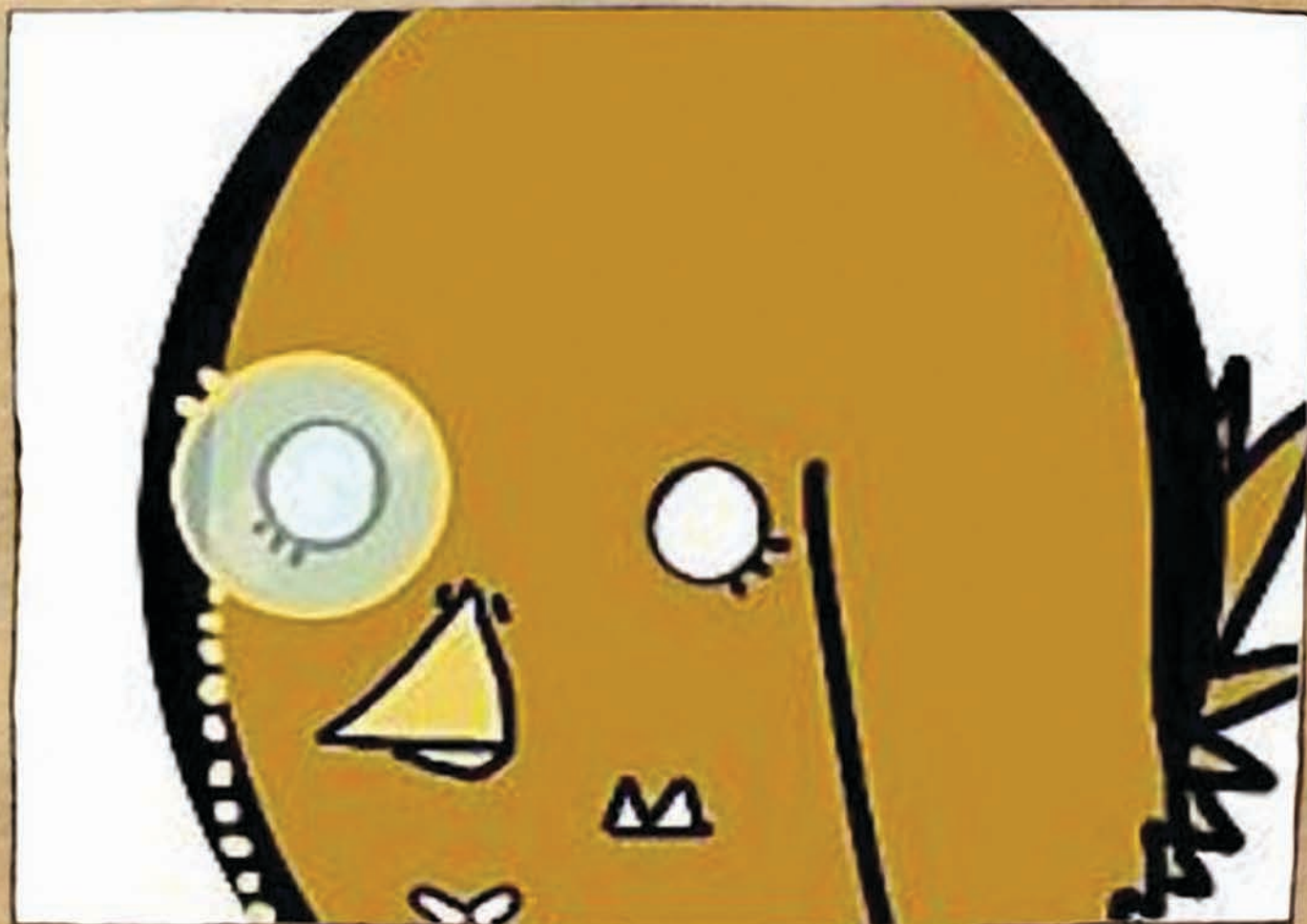
Yamazaki, Tsutomu
as Captain Jūzo Okita



Ogata, Naoto
as Shima, Daisuke

WANTED

<http://anime.gccnj.edu>



1400 Tanyard Rd., Sewell NJ 08080

DEAD OR ALIVE?

KotoriCon

Gloucester County College Anime Convention

January 14-15, 2011

20 Pre-registration, \$25 cash at the door

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SONOTA NO SOSHIKI TO DOITSU NO MEISHOU GA GEKICHI NI TOUJYOU
SHITATOSHITEMO JITSUZAI NA MONOTOHA ISSAI MUKANKEIDETH.

MARINE



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Jan. 22, 2011



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At door guests will be admitted at 12p.m.

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OTAKU BAR
CONSOLE GAMING & TOURNAMENTS
TABLE TOP GAMING
and
MORE...

1
Day
ANIME
CON.



Convention Schedule

Winter 2011

First Night Boston

December 31, 2010
Hynes Convention Center,
Boston, MA
firstnight.neanime.org

Ikkicon

December 31, 2010 - January 2,
2011
Hilton Austin, Austin, TX
www.ikkicon.com

MEWcon

December 31, 2010 - January 2,
2011
Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel,
Portland, OR
www.mewcon.com

Animé Los Angeles

January 7-9, 2011
Los Angeles Airport Marriott,
Los Angeles, CA
www.animelosangeles.org

Ichibancon

January 7-9, 2011
Charlotte Marriott Executive Park,
Charlotte, NC
ichibancon.com

Sac-Anime

January 7-9, 2011
Radisson Hotel Sacramento,
Sacramento, CA
sacanime.com

Taiyou Con

January 7-9, 2011
Hilton Phoenix East in Mesa,
Mesa, AZ
www.taiyoucon.com

KotoriCon

January 14-15, 2011
Gloucester County College,
Sewell, NJ
anime.gccnj.edu

Arisia

January 14-17, 2011
Westin Boston Waterfront,
Boston, MA
2011.arisia.org

Ai-Kon Winter Festival

January 15, 2011
Winnipeg Convention Centre,
Winnipeg, Manitoba
ai-kon.org

Chibi-Pa Sampler

January 15, 2011
Crowne Plaza Hotel West Palm
Beach, West Palm Beach, FL
chibipa.com

Nashville Anime Day

January 15, 2011
Holiday Inn Opryland Airport,
Nashville, TN
nashvilleanimeday.com

Anime-Zap!

January 15-16, 2011
Holiday Inn City Centre,
Peoria, IL
animezapcon.com

SoDak Anime Convention

January 15-16, 2011
Best Western Ramkota Rapid

City, Hotel & Conference Center,
Rapid City, SD
sdcon.org

Orlando Anime Day

January 22, 2011
Ramada Orlando Celebration,
Resort & Convention Center,
Kissimmee, FL
orlandoanimeday.com

Sukoshicon: Birmingham

January 22, 2011
Howard Johnson Inn - Birming-
ham, Birmingham, AL
sukoshicon.com

Ohayocon

January 28-30, 2011
Greater Columbus Convention
Center, Columbus, OH
ohayocon.org





Setsucon

January 29-30, 2011
Penn Stater Conference Center
Hotel, State College, PA
setsucon.com

Ushicon

February 4-6, 2011
Wingate by Wyndham Hotel &
Conference Center,
Round Rock, TX
ushicon.com

G-Anime

February 5-6, 2011
Palais des congrès de Gatineau,
Gatineau, Quebec
ganime.ca

London Anime Con

February 5-6, 2011
London Metropolitan University,
The Rocket Complex,
London, UK
www.londonanimecon.com

Anime-SPARK!

February 10-14, 2011
Clarion Hotel & Convention
Center, Cedar Rapids, IA
animespark.org

Genericon

February 11-13, 2011
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute,
Troy, NY
genericon.union.rpi.edu

Anime Milwaukee

February 18-20, 2011
Hyatt Regency Milwaukee / Fron-
tier Airline Center,
Milwaukee, WI
animemilwaukee.com

Katsucon

February 18-20, 2011
Gaylord National Resort & Con-
vention Center,
National Harbor, MD
www.katsucon.org

Naka-Kon

February 18-20, 2011
Hyatt Regency Crown Center,
Kansas City, MO
naka-kon.com

Midlands MCM Expo

February 19, 2011
Telford International Centre,
Telford, UK
www.midlandsmcmexpo.com

Queen City Kamikaze

February 19, 2011
Manchester Memorial High
School, Manchester, NH
queencitykamikaze.com

Animation On Display

February 19-20, 2011
Hotel Kabuki, San Francisco, CA
www.aodsf.org



Con-G

February 19-20, 2011
Holiday Inn Guelph Hotel &
Conference Centre,
Guelph, Ontario
www.con-g.com

Kami-Con

February 19-20, 2011
University of Alabama Ferguson
Center, Tuscaloosa, AL
kami-con.net

KitsuneKon

February 25-27, 2011
Radisson Paper Valley Hotel,
Appleton, WI
kitsunekon.com

Anime Fannatiku

March 11-12, 2011
St. George Holiday Inn Hotel,
St. George, UT
animefannatiku.com

Animeland Wasabi

March 11-13, 2011
Red Lion Hotel Denver Southeast,
Aurora, CO
animewasabi.com

Kawa Kon

March 11-13, 2011
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Clayton, MO
kawakon.com

MomoCon

March 12-13, 2011
Technology Square, Atlanta, GA
momocon.moonfruit.com

A & G Ohio

March 18-20, 2011
Holiday Inn Eastgate,
Cincinnati, OH
aandgohio.com

Anime Matsuri

March 18-20, 2011
The Woodlands Waterway Mar-
riott Hotel & Convention Center,
The Woodlands, TX
animematsuri.com

Minami Con

March 18-20, 2011
Novotel Hotel, Southampton, UK
www.minamicon.org.uk

Zenkaikon

March 18-20, 2011
Valley Forge Convention Center,
King of Prussia, PA
www.zenkaikon.com

Hatsume Fair

March 19-20, 2011
The Morikami Museum & Japa-
nese Gardens, Delray Beach, FL
support.morikami.org

NashiCon

March 19-20, 2011
University of South Carolina,
Columbia Campus, Columbia, SC
web.sa.sc.edu/clubnashi/index.php

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

Who's That Seiyū



Watanabe, Akeno

渡辺 明乃

DOB: November 18, 1982
Funabashi

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



Yuki, Rito
Motto To Love-ru



Kôsaka, Yoshino
Ore no Imôto



Sarah
Asobi ni iku yo!



Shooti
Pokémon: Best Wishes!



Yûki, Aoi

悠木 碧

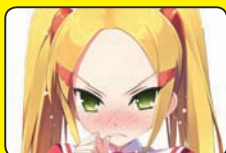
DOB: March 27, 1992
Chiba

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



Jûbei Yagyû
Hyakka Ryôran



Aoyama, Mio
Kami nomi zo Shiru Sekai



Iris
Pokémon: Best Wishes!



Yuki, Rito
Yumeiro Patissiere



Taketatsu, Ayana

竹達 彩奈

DOB: June 6, 1989
Saitama

Blood Type: O

Current Roles...



Isurugi, Mio
MM!



Kôsaka, Kirino
Ore no Imôto



Simone Aragon
Star Driver



Takahara, Ayumi
World God Only Knows



Ono, Daisuke

小野 大輔

DOB: May 4, 1978
Kôchi

Blood Type: O

Current Roles...



Saitô, Yakumo
Psychic Detective Yakumo



Hasekura, Kohei
Fortune Arterial



Koizumi, Itsuki
Suzumiya Haruhi



Tohzuki, Suzuya
Starry Sky



Tomatsu, Haruka

戸松 遥

DOB: February 4, 1990
Ichinomiya

Blood Type: B

Current Roles...



Lala Satalin Deviluke
Motto To Love-ru



Kinjô, Manami
Asobi ni Iku yo!



Princess Hitei
Katanagatari



Micott Bartsch
Gundam Unicorn



Taguchi, Hiroko

田口 宏子

DOB: March 29, 1974
Kanagawa

Blood Type: AB

Current Roles...



Yuki, Haruna
Fortune Arterial



Kasugano, Sora
Yosuga no Sora

yu of Fall 2010



Konno, Hiromi

今野 宏美

DOB: September 13, 1975
Hokkaidō

Blood Type: O

Current Roles...



Nakata, Sae
Amagami SS



Letuchaia
Kiddy Girl-and



Nazuka, Kaori

名塚 佳織

DOB: April 24, 1985
Tōkyō

Blood Type: B

Current Roles...



Ayatsuji, Tsukasa
Amagami SS



Kotegawa, Yui
Motto To Love-ru



Lynette Bishop
Strike Witches 2



Hayami, Saori

早見 沙織

DOB: May 29, 1991
Tōkyō

Blood Type: AB

Current Roles...



Yuno, Arashiko
MM!



Ikaros
Sora no Otoshimono Forte



Aragaki, Ayase
Ore no Imōto



Agemaki, Wako
Star Driver



Yahagi, Sayuri

矢作紗友里

DOB: September 22, 1986
Tōkyō

Blood Type: O

Current Roles...



Sairenji, Haruna
Motto To Love-ru



Hiiiragi, Noa
MM!



Mitsuha (No.38)
Sekirei



Kaya, Miyoshi
Bakuman



Itō, Shizuka

伊藤 静

DOB: December, 5, 1980
Tōkyō

Blood Type: O

Current Roles...



Morishima, Haruka
Amagami SS



Kaori Kanzaki
Toaru Majutsu no Index II



Ōta, Nanami
Iron Man



Belle
Pokémon: Best Wishes!



Maeno, Tomoaki

前野 智昭

DOB: May 26, 1982
Ibaraki

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



Tachibana, Junichi
Amagami



Nagato (child voice)
Naruto Shippuden

Upcoming Anime DVD/

Winter 2011

December 21

Eyeshield 21 Collection 3

Sentai Filmworks
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Oh My Sex Goddess

Kitty Media
DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁹

One Piece Season 3 Part 4

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Tenchi Muyo! GXP : Complete Collection (Viridian Collection)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$39⁹⁸

December 28

Baccano! Complete Collection (Viridian Collection)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$39⁹⁸

Dragon Ball Movie 1: Curse of the Blood Rubies

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$14⁹⁸

Dragonaut: The Resonance Complete Collection

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁸

Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood Part 3

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸
Blu-ray · MSRP \$54⁹⁸

Gintama Collection 03

Sentai Filmworks
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Kaleido Star: Season 2 + OVAs Collection

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$39⁹⁸

Queen's Blade Vol. #3

Media Blasters
DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁹

Ragnarok: Complete Collection (S.A.V.E. Edition)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁸

Snow Night

Kitty Media
DVD · MSRP \$24⁹⁹

January 4

Gravitation Complete Collection

Nozomi Entertainment
DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁹

Hayate The Combat Butler Part 8

Bandai Entertainment
DVD · MSRP \$39⁹⁸

Koihime Muso Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Kurokami Part 5

Bandai Entertainment
Blu-ray · MSRP \$24⁹⁸

Tsubasa, RESERVOIR CHRoNiCLE OVA Collection

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁸
Blu-ray · MSRP \$34⁹⁸

January 11

11 Eyes Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Black Butler Season 1 Part 1

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$64⁹⁸



January 18

Kampfer Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

My-Otome 0 ~S.fir~

Bandai Entertainment
DVD · MSRP \$24⁹⁸

Phantom: Requiem for the Phantom Part 1

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$64⁹⁸

Phantom: Requiem for the Phantom Part 2

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$64⁹⁸

Read or Die (R.O.D.) The Complete Blu-Ray Box

Aniplex USA
Blu-ray · MSRP \$199⁹⁸

January 25

Disgaea Complete Collection

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$39⁹⁸

Durarara!! Part 1

Aniplex USA
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Blu-Ray Releases

Gantz Complete Series (Classic Line)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Ghost Sweeper Mikami Collection 2

Sentai Filmworks
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Naruto: Shippuden Box Set 05

Viz Media
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁵

Pandora Hearts Vol. 2 Premium Edition

NIS America
DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁹

Pokemon Elements Collection 2

Viz Media
DVD · MSRP \$29⁹²

Sacred Blacksmith Complete Series

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$64⁹⁸

Vampire Knight Complete Series

Viz Media
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁵

February 1

Dirty Pair: The Original TV Series Part 2

Nozomi Entertainment
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁹

Ikki-Tousen: Dragon Destiny Complete Collection Media Blasters

DVD · MSRP \$34⁹⁹

Initial D Stage 2 Collection

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁸

You're Under Arrest: Fast & Furious Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks
DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁸

February 8

Chrome Shelled Regios Part 1 (also w/limited edition)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁸/\$64⁹⁸

Chrome Shelled Regios Part 2

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁸

Code Geass: Lelouch of the Rebellion The Complete First Season Anime Legends Edition

Bandai Entertainment
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Dragon Ball Movie 4-Pack (Remastered)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$34⁹⁸

Eyeshield 21 Collection 4

Sentai Filmworks
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

FLCL Complete Series

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$39⁹⁸
Blu-ray · MSRP \$44⁹⁸

Sgt. Frog Season 1 Collection

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Terra Story

Kitty Media
DVD · MSRP \$19⁹⁹

the Garden of sinners Blu-ray Disc Box

Aniplex USA
Blu-ray · MSRP \$598⁹⁸



Upcoming Anime DVD/

Winter 2011

February 10

Chrono Crusade Complete Series

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

February 15

Needless Collection 1

Sentai Filmworks
DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁸
Blu-ray · MSRP \$69⁹⁸

One Piece Season 3 Part 5

FUNimation Entertainment,
Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Queen's Blade: The Exiled Virgin Collection

Media Blasters
DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁹

Summer Wars

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁸
Blu-ray · MSRP \$34⁹⁸

February 20

Our Home's Fox Deity Vol.2 Premium Edition

NIS America
DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁹

February 22

Chobits Complete Series (Classic Line)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸
Blu-ray · MSRP \$54⁹⁸

Crying Freeman Complete Collection

Discotek
DVD · MSRP \$29.95

Dragon Ball Z Dragon Box 5

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁸

Ga-Rei Zero Complete Series (also w/Limited Edition)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.
DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁸/\$64⁹⁸
Blu-ray · MSRP \$59⁹⁸/\$64⁹⁸

Gintama Collection 04

Sentai Filmworks
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Moribito: Guardian of the Sacred Spirit Part 1

Media Blasters
Blu-ray · MSRP \$49⁹⁹

Redline

Manga Entertainment
DVD · MSRP \$26⁹⁸
Blu-ray · MSRP \$34⁹⁹

March 01

Junjo Romantica Season 2 Complete Collection

Nozomi Entertainment
DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁹



Blu-Ray Releases



Samurai Champloo Complete Series (Classic Line)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Blu-ray · MSRP \$54⁹⁸

Shin Koihime Musou Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks

DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

xxxholic Complete Series (S.A.V.E. Edition)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁸

March 08

Akane iro ni Somaru Saka Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks

DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Black Butler Season 1 Part 2

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁸

Dragon Ball Z Kai Season 1 Part 4

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Blu-ray · MSRP \$54⁹⁸

El Cazador de la Bruja Complete Series

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind (BD/DVD Combo)

Buena Vista Home Entertainment

Blu-ray · MSRP \$39⁹⁸

Speed Grapher Complete Series (S.A.V.E. Edition)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁸

Tales From Earthsea

Buena Vista Home Entertainment

DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁸

March 15

Clannad Movie

Sentai Filmworks

DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁸

D.Gray-Man Season 2 Complete Collection

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$69⁹⁸

Gunslinger Girl Complete Series (Classic Line)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁸

Hero Tales Part 1 (Limited Edition)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$64⁹⁸

Hero Tales Part 2

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁸

Heroic Age Complete Series (S.A.V.E. Edition)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

Blu-ray · MSRP \$34⁹⁸

Rideback Complete Series (Limited Edition)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$64⁹⁸

Soul Eater Part 1-2 Collection

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$69⁹⁸

Blu-ray · MSRP \$69⁹⁸

March 22

Darker Than Black Season 1 Collection

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Eden of the East Movie 1: King of Eden

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁸

Blu-ray · MSRP \$34⁹⁸

Ghost Sweeper Mikami Collection 3

Sentai Filmworks

DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Kenichi: The Mightiest Disciple Season 2 Complete Set

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$59⁹⁸

Rin: Daughters of Mnemosyne Complete Series (Viridian Collection)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$49⁹⁸

Shigurui: Death Frenzy Complete Series (Classic Line)

FUNimation Entertainment, Ltd.

DVD · MSRP \$29⁹⁸

Blu-ray · MSRP \$29⁹⁸

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

Hentai and the LAW



As many of my friends know, I've been an anime (called "Jap-animation" back in the day) fan (otaku) for the longest time. Probably longer than most of you who are. At times, I've been a causal, poser-type, fan but for most part, really deep into it. There was even a time in my life of self-discovery when I didn't touch the stuff for a few years. We all know, as fans, that there are a many facets of anime and being an anime fan.

There's just too many things to know about anime for any one person know, short of breathing, living and sleeping all about it. But if there is such a person, I bow to you... "Ota-King." Other than the mainstream anime that "posers" are into, real fans know what's new before they even hits the US shores. This brings up another aspect of being an anime fan that most of us don't talk about publicly or talk about jokingly—hentai. As defined by Wiki, "Hentai is a Japanese word that, in the West, is used when referring to sexually explicit or pornographic comics and animation, particularly those of Japanese origin such as anime, manga (Japanese comics) and computer games." For this opinion, let's use this definition. Whether or not this is an accurate definition will be up to you. This opinion will be focused on hentai as it is by the eyes of the current statutes of the law.

In my search for cases, I came across the 2007 case of "US vs. C. S. Handley." By coincidence,

a topic about sexual predators in my studies. The case involved the defendant, Christopher Handley, was charged "with receipt of obscene visual representations of the sexual abuse of children and possession of obscene visual representations of the sexual abuse of children." Hadley had violated statutes 18 USC § 1466A(a & b) and § 1461, 2. You could look up these statutes in your own time if you're interesting in knowing them in detail. If that sounds too deep, in common terms related to anime, he was in the possession of hentai material, was caught and charged by the law. Are we not protected by the First Amendment, the freedom of speech? We are, but there are some exceptions. In the case, it was stated that the material "are drawings from Japanese anime comic books that were produced either by hand or by computer, and the drawings depict fictional characters."

Let's face it, as anime fans, we know that these materials are easily obtainable (either at conventions, through mail order or the internet) and what type of material they depict and/or represent. This brings up the question "is the possession of these materials against the law?" The mere possession of obscene material is not a crime, but in the case of most hentai, I'm afraid my answer is "yes." Here's the reason. If you get caught, you have to prove that the material you have is not obscene to mainstream society standards and must have some artistic value to society. It's called the **Miller Test**. If you can't prove it to a jury of your peers, then the material is obscene. In this case, a majority (almost all) of your peers are not anime fans, so you're up the creek. In addition to possession, there also the matter of how it's obtained. In current statute, § 1466A, it's illegal to receive or distribute obscene mate-

rial though interstate commerce. Meaning, we, anime fans, cannot buy, sell or download most hentai and not realizing what it is and what it's about. Doing so is, in fact, the act of committing a crime. So, what about those retailers who sell hentai at conventions or through the internet? That's a good question. Legally, I really don't know the real legality of it when it comes to retailers. Personally, it's a violation of § 1466.

I'm not an expert at the law, trying to scare you or put a damper in your hobbies. It's just my interpretation of the law as a student. I scare myself sometimes when I learn how law relates to anime. It makes me think twice sometimes. But I do feel that this is an issue of Japanese culture that we, as anime fans, have to address in our own society. Are you familiar with the show, "Taboo," on the National Geographic Channel? Good show. And just like the show, we cannot say that what's acceptable in one culture is acceptable in another, mainly ours. Anime is still a niche hobby in mainstream America that's, for the most part, still largely misunderstood and too alien. You know the look in people's faces when you tell them you're an anime fan. The media mostly feeds the negative aspects of anime to the mainstream. When was the last time you heard anything good through mainstream networks about anime? Disney doesn't count! For those of you who attended **Anime Expo 2000**, remember the fiasco with the irresponsible retailer? Some retailer sold some material to a minor. The Anaheim Police were called in all hentai material was banned from that day on. People still talk about that incident today. We have to be responsible fans for the growth of our hobby or the mainstream will just see and label us, all, as "hentai." ♦ **Ed Gomez**

USHICON

- * Feb. 4-6th, 2011
- * Wingate Inn & Conference Center
Round Rock, TX
- * Ages 18 and up
Registration: \$26
- * Events Include:

Iron Artist, Video Rooms, ShouJo
PJ Party, The Manly Man Rally,
Who Will Win, Anime Karaoke,
Cosplay, and more!

www.ushicon.com

Search Ushicon on Facebook!



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Manga Releases



AiON, Volume 1

by Yuna Kagesaki

TOKYOPOP · December 28

Tatsuya Tsugawa loses his wealthy parents in the middle of high school. Trying to fulfill his father's dying wish of becoming an upstanding man, Tatsuya attempts to save a girl from obsessive bullies only to be consumed with intrigue and slight obsession himself. But what will Tatsuya do when his good will and earnest efforts lead him into a twisted fantasy world infested with mermaids and mind-controlling parasites?



Chibi Vampire Official Fan Book

by Yuna Kagesaki

TOKYOPOP · December 28

In this must-have for all CHIBI VAMPIRE fans, manga-ka Yuna Kagesaki takes you on a behind-the-scenes tour of the best-selling series, unveiling some never-before-seen artwork, pop quizzes, horoscopes, and much, much more.



Hetalia Axis Powers, Volume 2

by Hidekaz Himaruya

TOKYOPOP · December 28

All of the fan favorite world powers are back to... celebrate Christmas?! How will Germany react when he finally meets the famous Roman Empire only to discover he's exactly like his grandson? And what other hijinx will the Axis Powers get into? Volume 1 has sold more than a million copies in Japan and was released for the first time in English by TOKYOPOP in September.



Hagakure: The Code of the Samurai (The Manga Edition)

by Yamamoto Tsunetomo

Kodansha International · January 3

Reminiscent of The Arabian Nights in structure, Hagakure is a collection of tales and anecdotes that offer instruction and insight into the philosophy and code of behavior that foster the true spirit of Bushido—the Way of the Warrior. A young, upcoming samurai seeks the advice of an older, seasoned warrior who has become a Zen monk. The ambitious young samurai humbly begs to learn from the old master, who consents. So begins a series of eventful meetings.



Inuyasha, Volume 56

by Rumiko Takahashi

VIZ Media LLC · January 11

The demon Naraku's true intentions are finally revealed! Then, Kagome is swallowed up by the Meido. Is she finally beyond her friends' reach? And will the final battle over the Shikon Jewel draw Inuyasha and Kagome together...or pull them apart forever?!



Cross Game, Volume 2

by Mitsuri Adachi

VIZ Media LLC · January 11

Wakaba's last dream before she set off on that fateful day was of Ko pitching in front of a packed house at Koshien. Ko's been training every day since, trying to emulate the best pitcher he knows—Wakaba's sister Aoba. But will Aoba's seeming hostility toward him and a new high school coach who only cares about winning prevent Ko from fulfilling the dream?

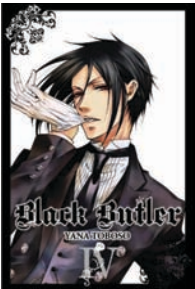


Magic Knight Rayearth Omnibus Edition

by Clamp

Dark Horse Comics · January 18

Umi, Hikaru, and Fuu are three schoolgirls out on a field trip to Tokyo Tower, whisked suddenly away by a strange voice and light to Cephire, a world full of spirits and sorcery. They were summoned here through the last remaining strength of the Princess Emeraude, who hopes that they are the trio destined to become the magic knights legend says can save her realm! But how are a bunch of junior-high-school kids supposed to defeat the dark might of the sinister Lord Zagato... with only an exceedingly strange bunny creature named Mokona as their guide?



Black Butler, Volume 4

by Yana Toboso

Yen Press · January 25

London - the capital of the Great Empire - is once again under siege, as a string of bizarre attacks on British citizens returned from India sends rumours flying and casts a pall upon Queen Victoria's rule. Sent in by Her Majesty, young Earl Phantomhive and his most capable butler, Sebastian, follow a trail that collides head-on with an Indian youth who claims to be a prince. And this prince possesses an extraordinary butler of his own! As an intense rivalry between the two butlers begins to form, will the kitchen be the dueling duo's final battleground?!



Black Jack, Volume 13

by Osamu Tezuka

Vertical, Incorporated · January 25

An Animator Suffering from Cancer: In a chapter devoted to Pinoko, we follow her to the pool where she is starting to take swimming lessons. The nineteen-year-old in a tween's body is struggling with her slow development and is anxious to learn to do what most everyone else her age takes for granted. Death of an Actress: Marilyn Swanson, the top female actor of the 40's, is suddenly seeing a revival among the cinema intelligentsia.

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

Manga Releases *Continued*



Naruto, Volume 50

by Masashi Kishimoto

VIZ Media LLC · February 1

Naruto is a ninja-in-training with a need for attention, a knack for mischief and, sealed within him, a strange, formidable power. His antics amuse his instructor Kakashi and irritate his teammates, intense Sasuke and witty Sakura, but Naruto is serious about becoming the greatest ninja in the village of Konohagakure!



One Piece, Volume 56

by Eiichiro Oda (Illustrator)

VIZ Media LLC · February 1

Thank You With Ivankov's help, Luffy now struggles to make his way back out of Impel Down in order to prevent the execution of his brother Ace. All the prisoners will have to work together if they ever hope to get past the dangerous Warden Magellan. But will an earth-shattering proclamation by the World Government turn everything upside down?



Black Bird, Volume 7

by Kanoko Sakurakoji (Illustrator)

VIZ Media LLC · February 1

Misao knows her relationship with Kyo is dangerous, but she's used to being the one in peril! Will she be able to stand it when the tables are turned and Kyo is threatened? As leader of the tengu clan and boyfriend of the Senka Maiden, Kyo gets a lot of attention in the demon world, and very little of it is good. From the wrath of a reincarnated dragon to the hatred of a demon hunter, Misao must face the fact that she isn't the only one at risk in the relationship. But how can she just stand by while Kyo is threatened?!



Bakuman, Volume 3

by Tsugumi Ohba

VIZ Media LLC · February 1

Average student Moritaka Mashiro enjoys drawing for fun. When his classmate and aspiring writer Akito Takagi discovers his talent, he begs Moritaka to team up with him as a manga-creating duo. But what exactly does it take to make it in the manga-publishing world?

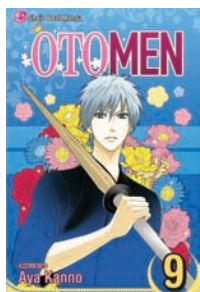


Magic Knight Rayearth 2 Omnibus Edition

by Clamp

Dark Horse Comics · February 1

The sequel to Magic Knight Rayearth! Umi, Hikaru, and Fuu have returned to Earth from Cephire, but all three know they have been forever changed by their adventures there. Haunted by the decisions they made and the unresolved war between Zagato and Emeraude, the Magic Knights journey to Cephire once more, this time with a sense of duty. But who was it that had the strength of heart to summon them again, if it wasn't the Princess Emeraude? Is it the person who, as Clef says, could replace her as the Pillar of Cephire?



Otomen, Volume 9

by Aya Kanno

VIZ Media LLC · February 1

An anti-otomen campaign takes over the school! Asuka's cousin and campaign enforcer Kasuga Masamune starts hunting down boys who have even an ounce of girly traits in them--and his first target is...?!



D.Gray-man, Volume 20

by Katsura Hoshino

VIZ Media LLC · February 1

Set in a fictional 19th century England, D.Gray-man is the story of Allen Walker, a 15-year-old boy who roams the earth in search of Innocence. Washed away to unknown parts of the world after The Great Flood, Innocence is the mysterious substance used to create weapons that obliterate demons known as akuma.



Black Jack, Volume 14

by Osamu Tezuka

Vertical, Incorporated · February 15

The Third Call: A man who's mother recently passed away calls Black Jack's home office. As soon as the surgeon picks up the phone, the stranger on the other line goes into a long tirade about hospital conditions and the lack of care his mother's doctors were able to provide. Transcient Love: A young woman is dying from what has long been considered a terminal illness. With only about a month or so to live she shares her dying wish with her parents.

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

Manga Releases *Continued*

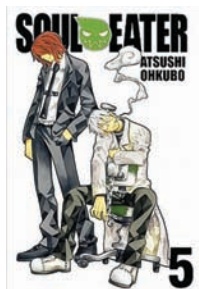


Sumomomo, Momomo: The Strongest Bride on Earth, Volume 7

by Shinobu Ohtaka

Yen Press · February 22

The head of the Boar Clan has never forgiven Unken Inuzuka for “stealing away” the once-beautiful Kimie Nakajima. His only child, Shintarou Inoue, has been groomed since birth to become a mighty, masculine warrior who will challenge Koushi Inuzuka for position as leader of the Eastern Army...The only trouble is, Shintarou might not be the man he thinks he is...



Soul Eater, Volume 5

by Atsushi Ohkubo

Yen Press · February 22

On the night of DWMA's anniversary celebration, every meister and weapon in Death City has gathered at the school for an evening of music and dancing. Little do they know that the witch Medusa is about the crash Shinigama-sama's party. Trapping the meisters inside, the witch makes her way to the chamber where the First Kishin is imprisoned. Will the few meisters who've managed to escape be enough to prevent Medusa from rousing the madness that slumbers far below in the Kishin's domain?



Bleach, Volume 34

by Tite Kubo (Illustrator)

VIZ Media LLC · March 1

King of the Kill To Ichigo's surprise, his childlike friend Nel Tu reverts to her true form to shield her human protectors. And yet, an unforeseen turn of events leaves Nel and everyone at the mercy of the enemy, who is a heartbeat away from exterminating them. What hope is there for Ichigo and his friends now?



Maid Sama! Volume 8

by Hiro Fujiwara

TOKYOPOP · March 1

Misaki gets involved in Sakura's love life when she's invited along to meet Sakura's favorite (goth-rock) band. But when Sakura's crush is more interested in everyone's favorite maid-in-hiding than Sakura herself, it's up to Usui to intervene!



Right Here, Right Now!, Volume 2 (Yaoi)

by Souya Himawari (Artist)

Digital Manga Publishing · March 8 · Not Appropriate For Children

At the war's height, Takakage and Mizuo once again cross paths. The two embrace, profess their unending love for each other, and swear mutual oaths...but there is talk of Takakage getting married. With their personal crisis and the war ripping apart the nation, how will the two men be able to stay connected?



RIN-NE, Volume 5

by Rumiko Takahashi

VIZ Media LLC · March 8

Rin-ne revolves around Sakura Mamiya, a high school girl who became able to see ghosts after she was “spirited away” for a week when she was a child, though she does not remember the details of the experience. Once in high school, Sakura wishes to be rid of her extrasensory perception, which is an annoyance to her.



Black Jack, Volume 15

by Osamu Tezuka

Vertical, Incorporated · March 15

A Life to Live: Black Jack is called in to treat a young flower arrangement master. The talented artisan is suffering from acute porphyria which is impacting her digestive and nervous system. A Star is Born: In a rare chapter where Black Jack does not perform an operation, the good doctor must treat a previous patient’s heart and soul. Award-winning actress Igusa Sugunami says she owes all her success to the treatment she received from BJ years ago.



Freefall of Japan's



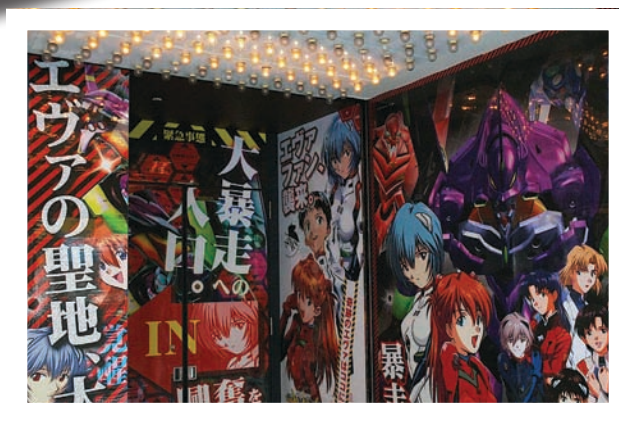
Since its introduction more than half a century ago, anime has risen to become one of Japan's most recognizable cultural icons. It has served as the initial contact between individuals and Japanese society, and has brought us the likes of Gundam, Pokemon, Astro Boy and Dragonball Z. Anime films like "Akira" have gone on to become cult classics, while the works of Hayao Miyazaki have been lauded as masterpieces around the globe.

Now, however, the industry is running the risk of becoming extinct.

To the casual observer, Japanese anime doesn't seem to be faring for the worse. Such couldn't be farther from the truth. Many Japanese who have considered a career in the anime industry have been put off by insanely low wages and the long, tedious hours required of its animators. As a result, the number of individuals working in the anime industry (and consequently, the number of anime series produced by the *Land of the Rising Sun*) peaked around mid-decade and have declined year after year. After year. After year.



Anime Industry



It has reached a point where anime is bordering on the point of irrelevance. The lack of fresh faces in the industry has led to lack of innovation and save the occasional gem ("Code Geass" being such for myself), the same basic plot keeps getting recycled. People notice and go, "Hey, haven't I seen this before?" generalize that the same must be true of all new anime series and move on from anime into other forms of entertainment. Less people watch new series, there's less money to entice new animators and the cycle of decline continues.

It doesn't help that new anime series are increasingly being directed towards niche audiences ("little girls" may give you an indication of what that means). I really don't understand the reasoning behind it. It's a cul-de-sac. The focus has led to a plunge in profits for anime studios and has made new anime series ridiculously difficult to understand unless religiously followed. And most mind boggling of all, they keep doing it! I know it takes creativity to make something truly artistic and sometimes that requires a bit of "encouragement", but producers in the industry really do have to get off whatever they're smoking.

Then there's the whole economic aspect of the issue. The shrinking number of workers has led to a mass export of anime-related work from Japan. And by work, I do mean work-work. Jobs are going to Vietnam, India and Thailand, where tedious in-between frames are drawn and sent back to headquarters in Japan for final assembly. A shrinking number of jobs coupled with a shrinking number of workers can't be considered a good thing.

You also have China and South Korea, which in their economic rise, Otaku Life Magazine ■ Winter 2011

have created a whole host of rival anime series in competing (with the Japanese) for the hearts and minds of anime lovers. I'm not against healthy competition. In fact, I'm all for it. The Japanese anime industry, however, seems to have turned inward and has refused to compete, and have basically given both the Chinese and the South Koreans the keys to the kingdom.

As with all other forms of entertainment (save maybe theater productions), piracy continues to take a huge chunk away from the bottom lines of anime studios. Such ultimately affects the developmental budget of future anime series and the future of anime as a whole.

So, what would I like those influential in the industry to take away from this article? Get your act together. Stop making lolicon, little girl series for otakus and focus on the more lucrative mainstream market. Stop committing cultural harakiri in outsourcing jobs to developing countries. And for pete's sake, stop treating your animators like slaves and give them decent wages.

And you, Japanese government (I'm looking at you, Minshuto), stop seeing this as a minor issue and put some funding into the industry. You can afford to inject trillions of yen into the economy but can't scrounge up enough to save part of your cultural identity?

Kira Yamato from *Gundam SEED* once said, "There are some things you can't protect without fighting." As part of Japan's cultural identity and a tour de force in Japan's soft cultural power around the world, both the government and anime studios have to realize that this is one of those things. ♦ Peter Dyloco

Videogame Releases

21 Dec 2010

TrackMania DS
Nintendo DS

Battlefield Bad Company 2 Vietnam
PS3, Xbox 360

22 Dec 2010

A World of Keflings
Xbox 360

27 Dec 2010

Dead Rising 2: Case West
Xbox 360

29 Dec 2010

Battle vs. Chess
Nintendo DS

03 Jan 2011

Get Fit With Mel B
Wii

Battle vs. Chess
PSP, Wii

04 Jan 2011

Venetica
PC, Xbox 360

Lost in Shadow
Wii

**Sherlock Holmes and the Mystery of
Osborne House**
Nintendo DS

05 Jan 2011

StarDrone
PS3

Iloilo
Xbox 360

Emergency 2012
PC

11 Jan 2011

Kingdom Hearts Re:coded
Nintendo DS

Ghost Trick: Phantom Detective
Nintendo DS

12 Jan 2011

A Shadows Tale
Wii

18 Jan 2011

Ys I & II Chronicles
PSP

Little Big Planet 2
PS3



Plants vs Zombies
Nintendo DS

Mindjack
PS3, Xbox 360

Sackboy's Prehistoric Moves
PS3

**The Mysterious Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr.
Hyde**
Nintendo DS

Mass Effect 2
PS3

25 Jan 2011

Two Worlds II
PC, PS3, Xbox 360

Lord of Arcana
PSP

You Don't Know Jack
Wii

Dead Space 2
PC, PS3, Xbox 360

30 Jan 2011

Gabrielle's Ghostly Groove
Nintendo DS

Trapped Dead
PC

01 Feb 2011

Duke Nukem: Critical Mass
Nintendo DS

Knights Contract
Xbox 360

02 Feb 2011

Shadow Harvest: Phantom Ops
PC



08 Feb 2011

Trinity: Souls of Zill O'll Zero
PS3

You Don't Know Jack
Nintendo DS, PS3, Xbox 360

Test Drive Unlimited 2
PC, PS3, Xbox 360

Naruto Shippuden: Shinobi Rumble
Nintendo DS

Tactics Ogre: Let Us Cling Together
PSP

Dungeon Raiders
Nintendo DS

Lego Star Wars III: The Clone Wars
Nintendo DS, PC, PS3, PSP, Wii, Xbox 360

Nascar 2011
PS3, Wii, Xbox 360

09 Mar 2011

Patapon 3
PSP

15 Mar 2011

Yakuza 4
PS3

Okamiden
Nintendo DS



22 Feb 2011

Bulletstorm
PC, PS3, Xbox 360

Killzone 3
PS3

de Blob 2
Nintendo DS, PS3, Wii, Xbox 360

Assassin's Creed: Brotherhood
PC

Radiant Historia
Nintendo DS

22 Mar 2011

F.E.A.R. 3
PC, PS3, Xbox 360

Crysis 2
PC, PS3, Xbox 360

Ape Escape Fury! Fury!
PS3

Body and Brain Connection
Xbox 360

11 Feb 2011

EverQuest II: Destiny of Velious
PC

Fate of The World
PC

15 Feb 2011

Marvel vs Capcom 3
PS3, Xbox 360

27 Feb 2011

Gun Loco
Xbox 360

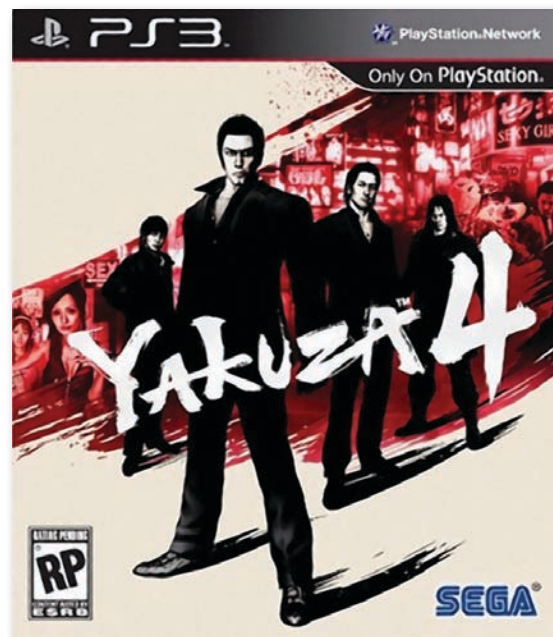
08 Mar 2011

Dragon Age 2
PC, PS3, Xbox 360

God Eater Burst
PSP

Homefront
PS3, Xbox 360, PC

Major League Baseball 2K11
PS3, Xbox 360, Wii, PSP



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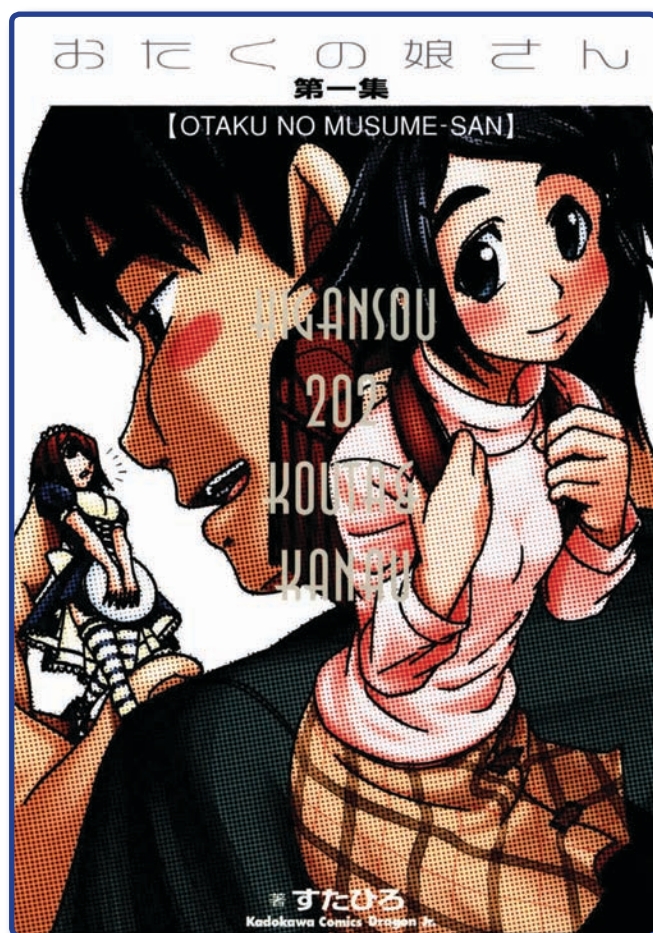


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Otaku no Musume-san

by
Stu-Hiro

Let's meet Kouta Mirosaki, assistant mangaka. He's just your over-average otaku; collectioning figures, watching anime, reading manga, playing eroge games and so on. Being single for all his young adult life affords him time to do all his hobbies while working as a manga assistant for a well-known mangaka.

One day, a little girl show up claiming to be her daughter. Kouta is totally shocked about this and doesn't know how to take it. After a short and believable explanation by Kanau, her accepts her as his daughter. Kanau starts her life with her father, Kouta, in their apartment complex.

How will Kouta cope with a sudden change in lifestyle? How will Kanau feel about his father being a hard core otaku? Will both of them find common ground? What about the other residents and friends feel about Kouta and Kanau? Let's continue with chapters three to five.

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Otaku no Musume-san

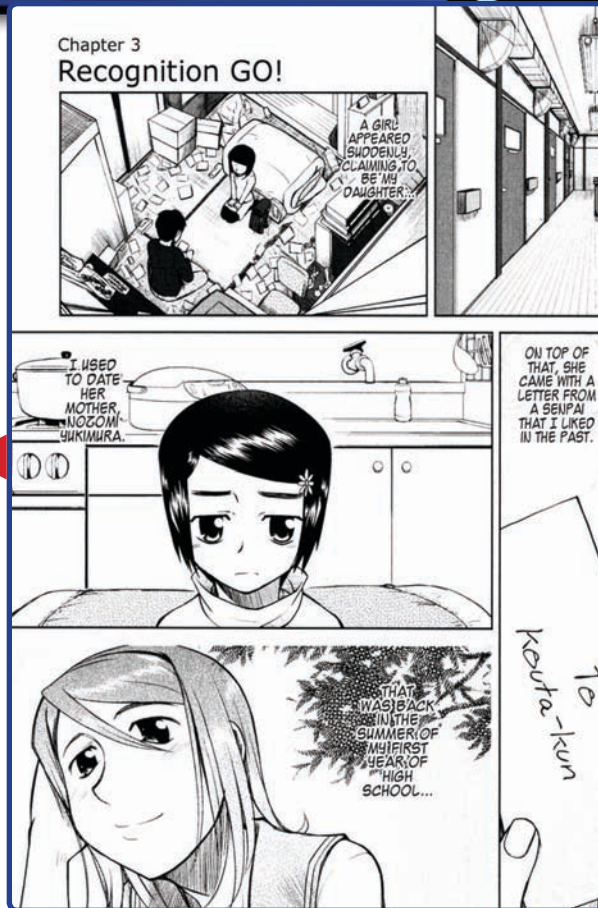
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Otaku no Musume-san



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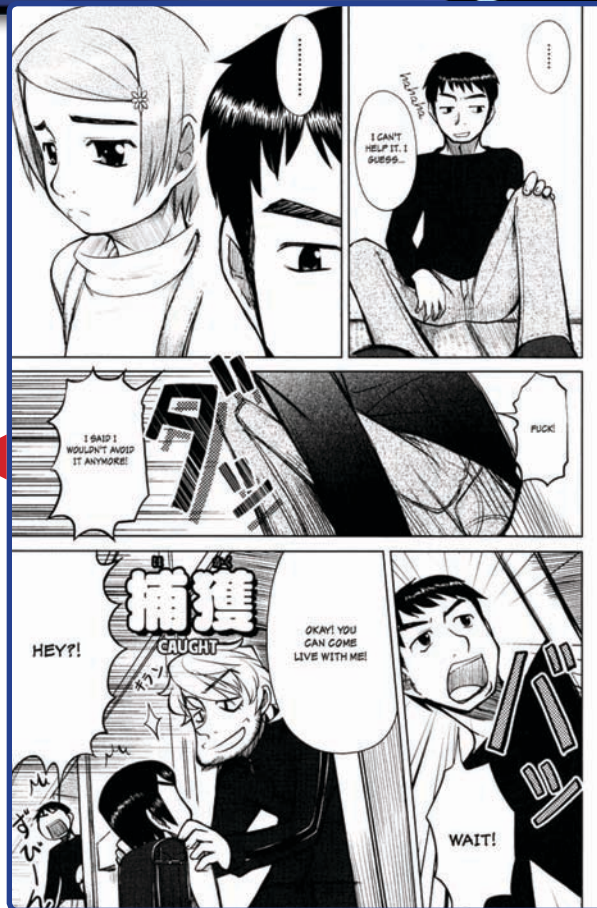
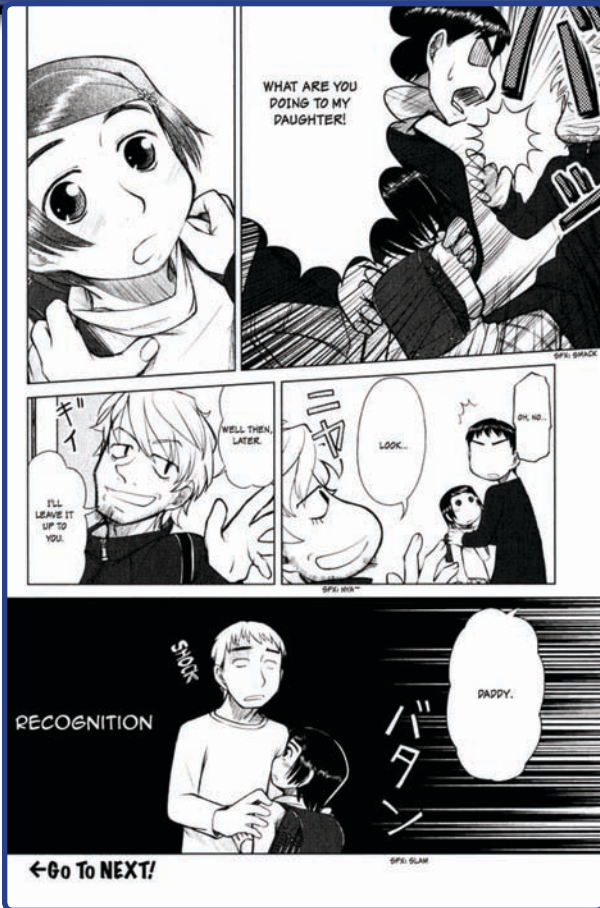
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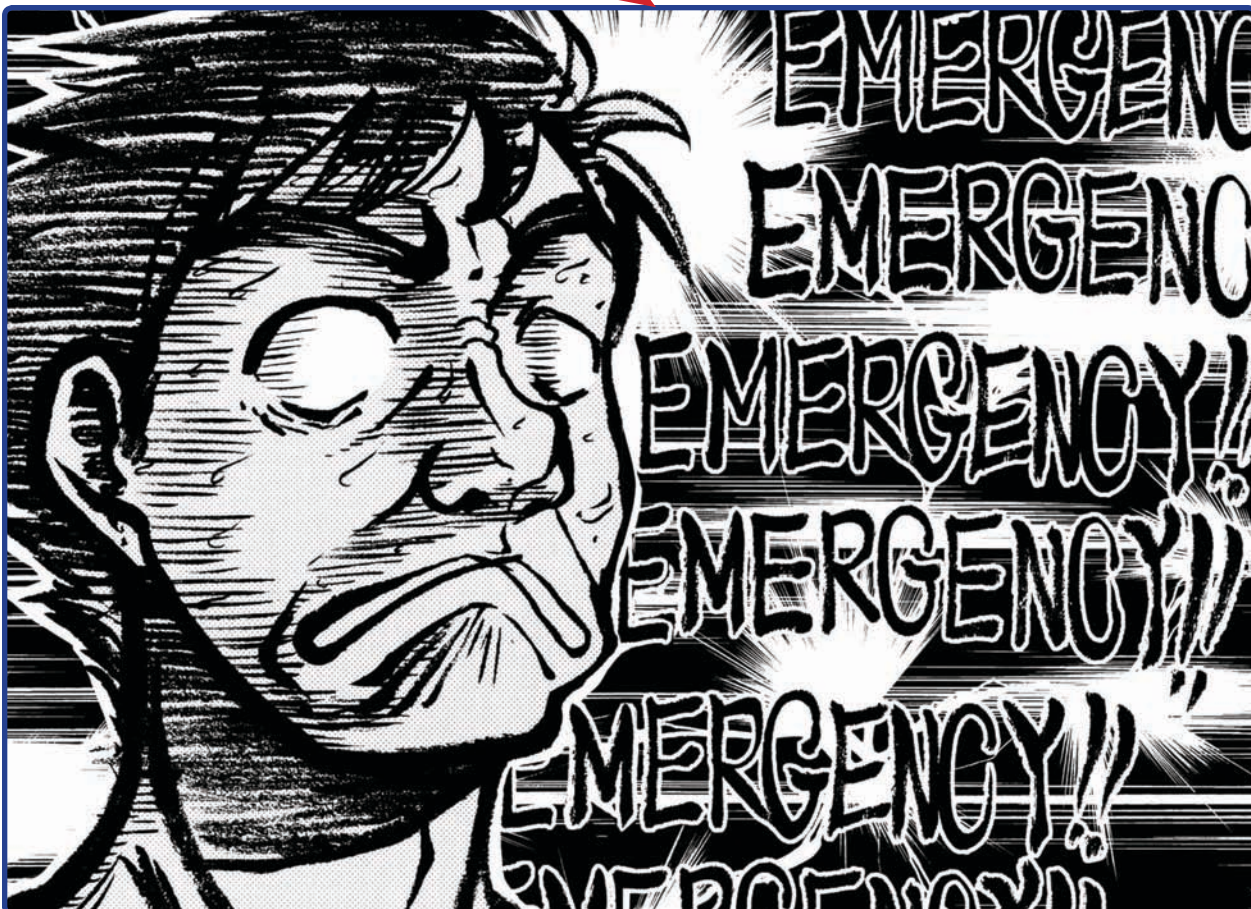
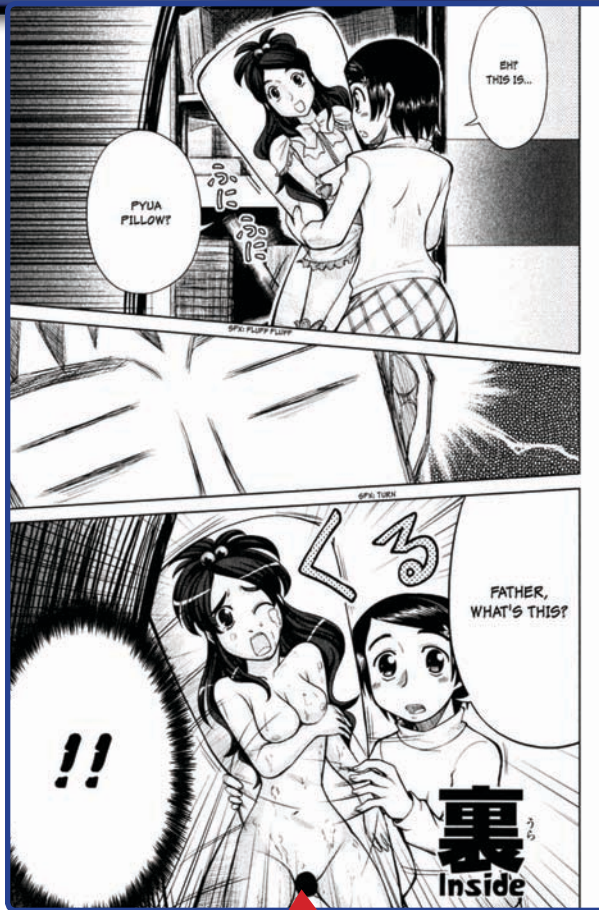
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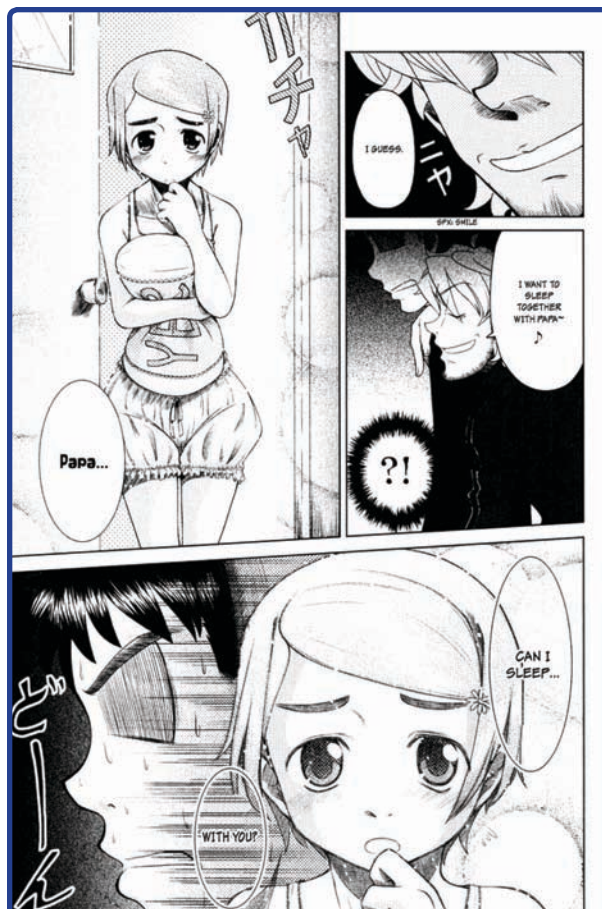
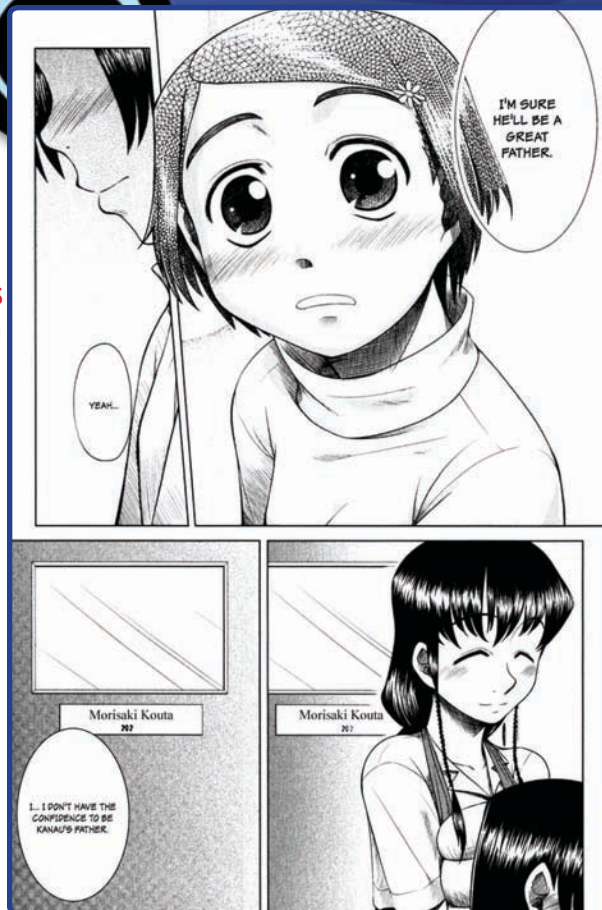


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Omake:
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← Go To NEXT!

To be continued...
the last
three chapters
in the next issue.



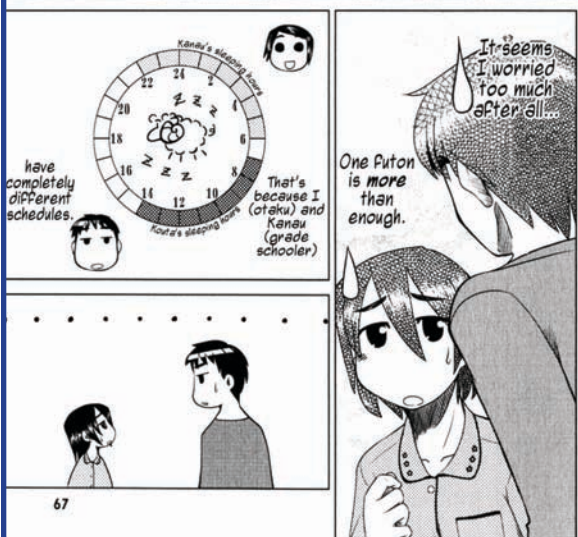
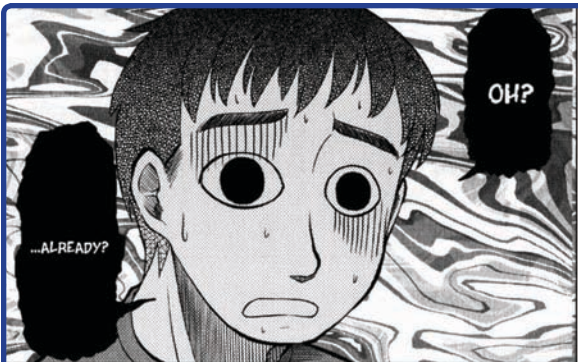
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So...
Forgive me.





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