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Genki Life

Magazine

32

夏 2018

Summer

June 21-September 20

SUMMER
SWIMSTART
ISSUE!

30 Years in
the Making: Japan

Summer 2018 Conventions

DARLING in the FRANXX

Manga Inside!

Also

Seiyūs of Spring 2018

Log Horizon: Game Mechanics
and Human Rights





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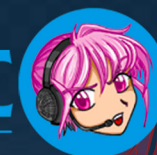


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Issue 32, Summer • June 21 – September 22, 2018

Genki Life Magazine (fan magazine) is published seasonal, quarterly, by *Studio ArtMix: Intelligent Graphic Design*. Subscription of this magazine is free of charge. Please email glm@studioartmix.com your request to subscribe to this digital publication as well as any other inquiries about this publication.

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Editor's Note

This past spring quarter was the best time of my entire life. Nothing previously cannot ever, EVER, compare. How many of you have ever lived something you dreamt of since you were a kid? I waited thirty-plus years for this! I finally, finally ... went to Japan! I was there from the beginning of April for fifteen, activity-filled, days. This was better than any anime or comic convention I've ever went to. This is the reason why I haven't been in the convention scene since WonderCon in March. And I do not plan to go to any convention, with the exception of San Diego Comic Con, until autumn. This issue has an article about my experiences in Tōkyō. It's also a quick guide and tips on places I've been to and how to get around. This article is only the first part. In the next issue, the article will continue with my experiences south of Tōkyō to Kyōto.

- Ed Gomez

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GLM masot by
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Darling in the FranXX
ダーリン・イン・ザ・フランキス

TV • Jan 2013 – present • 50 Episodes
Trigger • CloverWorks
Crunchyroll

<http://www.darli-fra.jp>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darling_in_the_Franxx

Director: Nishigori, Atsushi
Music: Tachibana, Asami

Cast:

Code:016 Hiro = Uemura, Yūto
Code:002 Zero Two = Tomatsu, Haruka
Code:056 Goro = Umehara, Yuichirō
Code:015 Ichigo = Ichinose, Kana
Code:326 Mitsuru = Ichikawa, Aoi
Code:556 Kokoro = Hayami, Saori
Code:214 Futoshi = Gotō, Hiroki
Code:196 Ikuno = Ishigami, Shizuka

PARLING THE FRAN XX

*What Does It Mean
to Be Human?*

Studio Trigger [株式会社トリガー] is one of my favorite animation studios due to their thought provoking initiatives within their anime. While I have really only seen *Kill la Kill* [キルラキル] from them since the founders Hiroyuki Imaishi and Masahiko Otsuka left GAINAX [株式会社ガイナックス], I did enjoy their contributions to the anime *Neon Genesis Evangelion* [新世紀エヴァンゲリオン] and *Tengen Toppa Gurren Lagann* [天元突破グレンラガン]. Many enjoyed all three of the anime I have just named and will say all of them are great without much debate to the opposition.



Studio Trigger's newest anime, *DARLING in the FRANXX* [ダーリン・イン・ザ・フランキス] has had mixture of love and intense hatred in its reception by the denizens of anime culture, one that is more of a tug-o-war than the titles I have previously mentioned. *Neon Genesis* is considered a classic of another era, *Kill la Kill* was praised because of its over the top antics, and *Gurren Lagann* was incredibly straightforward with the anime's meaning. I feel that *DARLING in the FRANXX* is of the same caliber, but it is for a more mature-thinking audience.

I think everyone is entitled to their own opinion, though, I do not believe most of those who dislike the show get or understand the symbolism depicted within the anime; only being focused on the happenings in the show without taking into account their real-world counterparts and the resemblance it is trying to show through their perspectives. "What does it mean to be human?" This anime showcases that question in the most obvious, yet elusive ways and does so in such a casual fashion I people are not catching the meaning, which is also semblance for how easy it is to ignore the plight of others.

SPOILER ALERT — This article will be covering content that has occurred within the first 18 episodes of *DARLING in the FRANXX*, it is advised you have watched to this point to avoid spoilers.

Am I Good Enough?

One of the main internal struggles introduced thus far is everyone questioning, "am I good enough?", a constant recurring theme amongst a few of the characters. You have a girl who is focused on becoming human, yet, this could easily stand for wanting to be the same as everyone else. Would [Code 002] Zero Two really want to become human so badly if everyone also had klaxosaur blood running through their

veins? What about if [Code 016] Hiro had been the same as she was when she first met him? It all seems to boil down to "fitting in" or "become good enough," that she as herself is not enough due to being an oddity. [Code 326] Mitsuru wanted to live up to Hiro's expectations and was constantly comparing himself to his rival while also longing to gain his respect and admiration. Furthermore, we have [Code 214] Futoshi was even willing to begin starving himself in episode 16, "Days of Our Lives," probably because the other's had lightly teased him about his weight and he could also believe that is the reason that he is not having his feelings reciprocated by [Code 556] Kokoro.

It is very apparent in the show that they use "acting human" as an insult; showing that Zero Two is supposedly lesser because she is something other than what everyone else is. Despite being able to pilot a FRANXX as a lone pistil without the actual need for a stamen, or the superior strength and agility she possesses in comparison to everyone else... she still believes she is not good enough. This is portrayed many times throughout the series thus far, but really comes to a head during episode 12, "The Garden Where it All Began." Zero Two began to break mirrors, grow a distasteful attitude towards everyone, and even was fine with going into "Rampage" mode while piloting Strelizia and not caring whether or not Hiro would die from her recklessness.

As an African-American and growing up in an urban environment, I was often teased for being different due to my proper pronunciation and liking things like anime, rock and novels. I can get what it is like to simply want to fit in with everyone, to the point I even practiced on slang, cursing and integrated the "n"-word into my everyday conversations so it felt more natural. I wanted to fit in so bad to the point where I was willing to alter most things about myself because it is possible to feel alone in the world despite being surrounded

by people. The internal conflict Zero Two possesses is a true 1:1 of how I once felt; outcasted by being different than everyone around you and wanting so badly to change who you are at your core that the desperation is enough to make you hate your own reflection.

Mitsuru was willing to take an injection which has an extremely low survival rate, all so he could become a parasite and become recognized by his idol, Hiro. With the memories of Code 016 being altered where he did not remember the promise he made, Mitsuru became increasingly angry and had a complex about whether or not he was as capable as Hiro while simultaneously vying for his approval all the same. In episode 3, "Fighting Puppet," he wants to ride with Zero Two mainly because Hiro feels the need to do so and has not gained the authorization; "I'll be fine. Even Hiro here could ride it, so there's no way I couldn't". That statement alone was him attempting to belittle Hiro while showing he was superior, even taking all the risks and [Code 002]'s nickname as "The Partner Killer" into account, Mitsuru was so set on proving he was on even ground with Hiro that he was willing to put himself into harm's way to try and show

that he could also be an exemption to the effects of riding with Iota, but to no avail.

The real world example of this I can think of is trying to show you are better than someone you admire who fails to recognize you as an equal. You will purposely go out of your way in order to gain their approval and show you are worth, blow-for-blow, every bit of praise they have ever received. Not only that, you often times want to show you are BETTER than they are to calm your own fears about being inferior. Placing someone on a pedestal and not gaining their acknowledgment can feel you with scorn and jealousy, this is often felt by us who are writers, dancers, musicians, anything that has a standing where ambition is involved and you have a friend that also shares that, yet they do it better.

Futoshi never really reflected on whether or not it was a bad thing to be heavier than the others, even if they did light teasing. However, as he realized that Kokoro was probably lying about staying by his side forever, he realized that it could be a weight issue and attempted to starve himself by barely eating or throwing it up whenever he actually did eat (Zorome actually says that he caught him in episode 16).

9'Ø, Two Zero, Ikuno, Ichigo & Miku





Goro, Zorome, Hiro, Mitsuru & Futoshi

Sometimes we only begin to really question ourselves when we wonder what would make us good enough in the eyes of others to reciprocate what we give without a second thought.

Living with Rejection

This series addresses something we all have to get use to, something we all fear with every new venture or relationship we come across, and something that lurks in the back of our mind and rears its ugly head when we are on our darkest days—rejection.

Rejection is a completely natural part of life, you will not always succeed and you will not always get the person you so desperately long for. However, living through those heartaches and not allowing that to hinder your progress as a person is what life is all about, to take those chances with optimism as there is no reward without risk. We find this most through Ichigo, Goro and Futoshi.

Ichigo has loved Hiro for a very long time, and may be the first to really understand what romantic feelings actually are from how she reacts to him. You can tell how badly it hurt to

refer to Hiro as merely a “sibling” in the self-titled episode 6, “DARLING in the FRANXX,” since Ichigo realized that he felt the same way about Zero Two as she felt about him. Even with confessing her love to him in episode 14, “Punishment and Confession,” she still had to willingly transport him to Zero Two in episode 15 and hear their declarations of love for each other over the shared communication system within their squad’s Franxx. Despite the emotions that swelled within her, and the tearing of her soul from realizing that her beloved had been taken by another, she has tried to be mature about it by welcoming Zero Two back within their ranks and even attempted to console her after her and Hiro’s reuniting.

Think about how this affects most of us. Sometimes we hold someone so dear and we have them snatched from us by someone who we had not known even existed until a bit ago; that the feelings you want to share are only one-sided and you are forced to do what is in the best interest of the person you love rather than yourself. Even beyond that, you have to watch their antics and be around that person knowing full well they are the reason you do not get what you want, that they are the reason that you have unrequited feelings that will never be reciprocated. It is a sad reality, but many of us have been through this and will have to watch them be happier with someone who is not us.

Goro, I feel bad for, only because he knew that there was nothing he could do to change how things were. While he was not fully aware of his own feelings, he was able to tell Ichigo’s for Hiro without a second thought. Even confessing after being saved back in episode 9, “Triangle Bomb,” Goro knew that he was telling Ichigo his feelings merely for himself while knowing full well that her heart belonged to only Hiro. Worse than this, he had to hear Ichigo’s confession to Hiro firsthand when he walked outside of their living



quarters as Zero Two was to depart with the 9th, including watching them kiss (though he did not know it was the second time they had done so). Though, he could easily be biding his time to try once again since Ichigo has to give up her feelings since Hiro and Zero Two are an item who have pronounced feelings for one another.

Many of us surely understand this scenario, of someone you like definitely having feelings for someone else before you even get a chance to say anything. Hell, to the point where you may have developed liking them only after they had already been in love with someone else for a period of time. Goro may have not garnered such a strong reaction as Ichigo merely because he already understood his place, Ichigo's feelings, and what would happen if he let his emotions cloud his better judgment. I have had this happen on a number of occasions where I have liked someone only for them to end up liking my best friend and me not saying anything, or me letting my feelings be known knowing I would not have a chance until only after they realized it was futile to chase the person they were going for. Life is a bit harsh sometimes, but in these scenarios there is nothing you can do but wait and hope that the odds land within your favor.

Futoshi like Kokoro, anyone in squad 13 can tell you that readily. In fact, out of everyone his feelings were probably the most transparent with how he acted, maybe coming in second only behind Zero Two referring to Hiro as "Darling," but that seem more out of promiscuity rather than genuine feelings (at least initially). During episode 11, "Partner Shuffle", Futoshi said to Kokoro "H-Hey, I'll keep working to be the best partner you could have... So... could you promise to be my partner forever?!" to which she replied "Sure. I promise.". However, when they asked if anyone would want to try using a different partner, she was the first one to raise her hand so she could become Mitsuru's pistol for a bit (while originally this seemed like it was so she could help out Mitsuru who had failing synchronization numbers, it turns out it might have been because of romantic feelings instead) and hurt the feelings of Futoshi. Not to mention he had to witness the marriage of Kokoro and Mitsuru, knowing that she had given her heart to someone (and she even slept with Mitsuru the previous night which means she may even be pregnant at this point) and settled on the role of the priest for their ceremony.

Imagine, doing *everything* you can because of someone and for someone, only to have them go to someone else. She knew he liked her, would do anything for her and was overly emotional ... and still she chose Mitsuru. True, Mitsuru did come to the garden she tended from time to time, he was



still always cold to her up until a certain point and did not show nearly the amount of interest that Futoshi showed on a regular basis. Since Kokoro loved to tend to flowers and watch them grow, perhaps she saw Mitsuru as a flower that needed the proper amount of water, sunlight, and love to properly flourish and in the process she became drawn to him. I have seen many women in my day go for guys who are incomplete and uninterested rather than someone who would willingly through their life away for the other's benefit. Though, to avoid drama sometimes we throw away our own feelings even still and



consider the person who we felt did not give us a fair shot, all so that they could have the gift of happiness we will never be able to receive from them. I have been here many times, and I am currently within this own situation myself ... but it is of my own doings and I never should have left the girl in the first place or I would have certainly been married to her right now.

What's Wrong with Me?

Sometimes we feel ostracized from those around us due to thinking we are abnormal. Sometimes it is simply that we feel like we are different, but not in terms of “fitting in” rather that we were made as a square trying to fit into a circle molding ... it simply was never supposed to be in the first place. We find that mainly through Kokoro and Ikuno; though we could easily say this as well about Hiro and Zero Two, he was fine with asking questions and Zero Two was only worried about being good enough for her darling.

Kokoro has always wanted something more than what she had and this could be explained about why she has wanted a baby in episode 17, “Eden.” We know that Kokoro has had something on her mind since she found that book in episode 7, “Shooting Star Moratorium,” but it really came to a head in episodes 17 and 18. When confronted by the 9’s, Kokoro seemed to breakdown and when Mitsuru found her she was apologizing and stating that she was wrong about everything. The entire time she was carrying a burden that they were meant for something beyond what Papa had intended, and realized that those thoughts probably were the cause of her unhappiness as far as feeling fulfilled in life. Though she was happy in episode 18, “When the Sakura Blooms,” she quickly had a look of shock when she heard about being perceived as “dangerous” by Papa and the others. The whole time she has had an internal struggle which seemed to never let up.

This is one that reflects so many things about so many people — wanting more than what you are given and not being satisfied merely by what you have been offered. Sometimes it may feel weird or foreign simply because everyone around you seems as though they are perfectly fine living in their current environments without asking questions or seeking greater ambitions. It takes a profound amount of courage to speak out against the crowd and to even suggest something that defies the status quo, especially when no one else seemed to ever have an inkling about meaning beyond that in front of them. When finding new information and new light arises, most people simply disregard the information or stay down the beaten path without worrying about where their curiosity can lead them and if it will be better than the road already taken.

Ikuno is the true meat of this meal however, as she is the first homosexual we have seen within *DARLING in the FRANXX*. Confessing her love for Ichigo in episode 18, Ikuno says “I’m a creep, aren’t I? I get insanely jealous of boys who get to stand beside you just because they’re boys. I want to keep you all to myself. That’s so selfish, right? It’s a pain, isn’t it? Why am I like this? I hate being like this!”. While this could easily be interpreted as her being the same as Ichigo and Goro and not knowing what “love” is, Ichigo made the comment about boys which lets her know that it appears abnormal for a girl to feel this way about another girl and she wonders why she is “like this.”

Obviously the real world counterpart to this are people who turn out to be homosexual, sometimes wondering why they are attracted to the same sex. In the modern day, I find it to be more accepting of those who love the same sex than it was in previous decades due to the the LBGTQ (lesbian, bisexual, gay, transsexual, questioning) community, gay pride and more awareness spreading around. However,



in a world such as theirs, it makes sense that she has no idea what it means to be gay; she has never heard of pairings outside of male and female, stamens and pistils. One of my best friends, who is like a brother to me, came out as gay a few years ago. While we all knew it, you could tell he had a fear building up within him and was afraid to admit anything ... and one person (who is no longer my friend) was very religious who knew him, immediately judged him and gave him absolute hell for his decision. There have been reports to many gay people committing suicide from being found out or confessing and having themselves become ridiculed, or simply maintain an image of heterosexuality while secretly indulging who they really are...hurting everyone, including themselves, in the process.

Final Thoughts

It would take me a lot more sections to list everything that *DARLING in the FRANXX* is covering, but I believe you got the gist of what I am trying to convey. Life has many twists and turns and is different for us all.

Coming from the same place with the same upbringing can still produce a universe of difference between the individuals who grew up there, each one with their own trials and tribulations to overcome. It is very easy to dismiss things that we do not know or will not affect us directly, but sometimes it is worth looking into the pain of others as you will find tiny traces of yourself within them.

DARLING in the FRANXX does a good job of highlighting interpersonal relationships thus far, displaying how

emotions can greatly alter individuals as far as their thinking, decision making, and perspective of themselves and the world around them. Also, it does a good job of asking exactly what is it to be human, what exactly is the definition of humanity, and that it is okay to be incomplete and flawed rather than seeking perfection through conforming uniformity. Often they mention that the bird known as “Jian” is born with only one wing and it requires another to take flight. This is a perfect symbolism of how we need one another to be elevated higher, but even more than that we have to be in rhythm with the same goals in mind.

I am greatly looking forward to how this series plays out, and whether-or-not we see more things as we draw closer to the finale of the most compelling anime I have currently watched this season. Only time will tell whether there are more lessons to be learned and the solutions that the problems they face yield. ❖ **Rok the Reaper**



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CONVENTION SCHEDULE

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June 21–24
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
South Portland, ME
www.portconmaine.com/site/

Desucon

June 22–24
Norges Varemesse
Lillestrøm, Norway
www.desucon.no

Hamacon

June 22–24
Von Braun Center
Huntsville, AL
www.hama-con.com

Maple Gel Con

June 22–24
Holiday Inn Oakville (Centre)
Oakville, Ontario
maplegelguild.tumblr.com

OokiisoraCon

June 22–24
Radisson Colonial Hotel
Helena, MT
www.ookiisoracon.org

Q-Con

June 22–24
Queen's University Belfast
Belfast, NI UK
www.q-con.org.uk

SunnyCon

Anime Expo Newcastle
June 22–24
St James' Park,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK
www.sunnyconanimeexpo.com

Supanova Pop Culture Expo - Perth

June 22–24
Perth Convention

& Exhibition Centre
Perth, WA Australia
www.supanova.com.au/events/perth-2018/about/

Titan Con

June 23
CSU Fullerton
Titan Student Union,
Fullerton, CA
www.csufTitancon.com

Taikai Con

June 23
The Glenn Massay Theater
Palmer, AK
www.taikaicon.com

FanQuest

June 23–24
Red River College Exchange
District Campus
Winnipeg, Manitoba
www.fanquestcon.com

Animaritime

June 29 – July 1
Fredericton Convention Centre
Fredericton, New Brunswick
www.animaritime.org

Anime Blues Con

June 29 – July 1
Memphis Cook Convention
Center
Memphis, TN
www.animeblues.com

Anime Festival Wichita

June 29 – July 1
Hyatt Regency Wichita
Wichita, KS
www.afwcon.org

AnimeCTX

June 29 – July 1
Austin Marriott North
Round Rock, TX
www.animectx.com

Arkansas Anime Festival

June 29 – July 1
DoubleTree Suites/Four Points
Bentonville, AR
www.arkansasanimefestival.com

Cosplay America

June 29 – July 1
Embassy Suites Durham
Research Triangle, Cary, NC
www.cosplayamerica.com

JAFAX

June 29 – July 1
Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and
Devos Place Convention Center
Grand Rapids, MI
www.jafax.org

SoDak Con

June 29 – July 1
Rushmore Plaza Civic Center
Rapid City, SD
www.sdcon.org

ArlingCon

June 30
University of Texas at Arlington
University Center, Arlington, TX
arlingtonlibrary.org/arlingcon/

Anime Expo

July 4–8
Los Angeles Convention Center
Los Angeles, CA
www.anime-expo.org

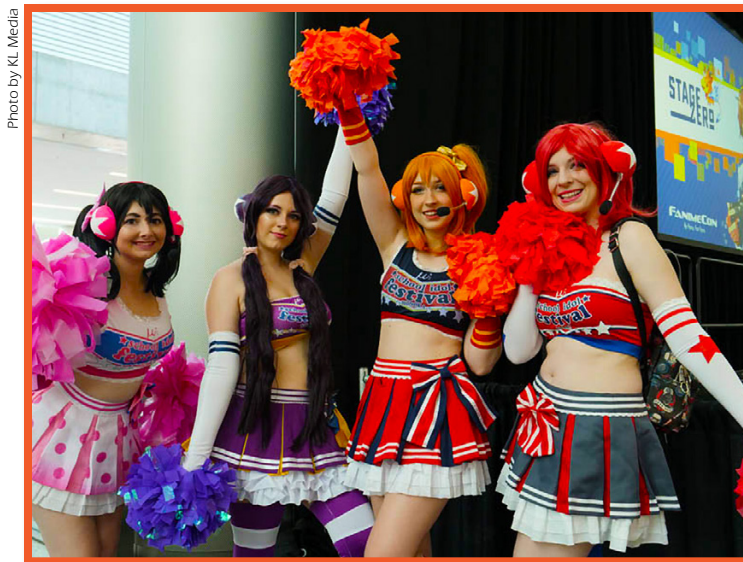


Photo by KL Media

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CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Summer 2018 *Continued*

Japan Expo

July 5–8
Paris-Nord Villepinte
Paris, France
www.japan-expo-paris.com

Anime Midwest

July 6–8
Hyatt Regency O'Hare
Rosemont, IL
www.animemidwest.com

Fan World

July 6–8
The Conference
& Event Center Niagara Falls
Niagara Falls, NY
www.fanworld.us

Montreal Comiccon

July 6–8
Palais des congrès de Montréal
Montreal, Quebec
www.montrealcomiccon.com

Sausomecon

July 6–8
KCI Expo Center
Kansas City, MO
www.sausomecon.com

Anime Friends

July 6–9
Anhembi - Centro de Eventos
São Paulo, SP Brazil
animefriends.com.br

ConnectiCon

July 12–15
Connecticut Convention Center/
Hartford Marriott Downtown/
Hilton Hartford, Hartford, CT
www.connecticon.org

Florida Supercon

July 12–15
Greater Ft. Lauderdale/Broward
County Convention Center
Fort Lauderdale, FL
www.floridasupercon.com

Anime-zing!

July 13–15
RiverCenter, Davenport, IA
www.qcanimezing.com

Animelowa

July 13–15
Iowa Events Center
Des Moines, IA
www.animeiowa.com

Delta H Con

July 13–15
Houston Marriott Westchase
Houston, TX
www.deltahcon.com/

Hazard Con

July 13–15
Ambassador Banquet and
Conference Center, Erie, PA
www.hazardcon.org

HYPER JAPAN Festival

July 13–15
Olympia London, London, UK
www.hyperjapan.co.uk

Kobe-Kon

July 13–15
Everett Mall, Everett, WA
www.kobekon.com

TFcon Toronto

July 13–15
Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale
Mississauga, Ontario
www.tfcon.ca

Tokyo in Tulsa

July 13–15
Cox Business Center, Tulsa, OK
www.tokyointulsa.com

SF Anime & Cosplay Festival

July 14
Japantown Peace Plaza
San Francisco, CA
japancentersf.com/events/sf-anime-cosplay-festival-2/

Feria Mundo Anime Santo Domingo

July 14–15
Centro de Convenciones
Mirex, Santo Domingo,
Dominican Republic
www.feriamundoanime.com

G-Anime Summer Edition

July 14–15
Palais des Congrès de Gatineau
Gatineau, Québec
etc.ganime.ca

Glass City Con X Midwest Media Expo

July 14–15
SeaGate Convention Centre
Toledo, OH
gcc.midwestmediaexpo.com

SMASH! Sydney Manga and Anime Show

July 14–15
ICC Sydney
Sydney, NSW Australia
smash.org.au

Comic-Con International: San Diego

July 19–22
San Diego Convention Center
San Diego, CA
www.comic-con.org



Photo by KL Media



Photo by KL Media

Metrocon

July 19–22
Tampa Convention Center
Tampa, FL
www.metroconventions.com

AVCon

July 20–22
Adelaide Convention Centre
Adelaide, Australia
www.avcon.org.au

Kitsune Kon

July 20–22
KI Convention Center
Green Bay, WI
www.kitsunekon.com

Okashicon

July 20–22
Courtyard Austin Pflugerville
Pflugerville, TX
www.okashicon.com

Anime Ohio

July 21
Sharonville Convention Center
Cincinnati, OH
www.animeohio.com

Imagi-Con

July 21
ImaginOn: The Joe
& Joan Martin Center
Charlotte, NC
www.imaginon.org/blog/imagi-con-2018

MiniComi Vancouver

July 21
The Pipe Shop
Vancouver, British Columbia
minicomivancouver.org

Ganbatte

July 21–22
TCU Place
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
www.ganbatte.ca

SBC Anime Festival

July 21–22
Bossier Civic Center
Bossier City, LA
www.sbcanime.com

Närcon Sommar

July 26–29
Linköpings Universitet
Linköping, Sweden
2018.narcon.se

Anime Austin

July 27–28
Holiday Inn Austin Midtown
Austin, TX
www.animeaustin.com

Atsusacon

July 27–28
Ghent ICC
Ghent, Belgium
www.atsusacon.be

Ai-Kon

July 27–29
RBC Convention Centre
Winnipeg, Manitoba
www.ai-kon.org

AkaiCon

July 27–29
Wilson County
Exposition Center
Lebanon, TN
www.akaicon.com/six/

Alias Entertainment Expo

July 27–29
Tunapuna Village, Saint George,
Trinidad and Tobago
www.alias-expo.com

AmeCon

July 27–29
University of Warwick, Warwick
Arts Centre, Coventry, UK
www.amecon.org

Blerdcon

July 27–29
Hyatt Regency Crystal City at
Reagan National Airport
Arlington, VA
www.blerdcon.com

ConBravo!

July 27–29
Hamilton Convention
Centre, Hamilton, Ontario
2018.conbravo.com

Dokidokon

July 27–29
Radisson Plaza Hotel at
Kalamazoo Center
Kalamazoo, MI
www.dokidokon.org

MechaCon

July 27–29
Hyatt Regency New Orleans
New Orleans, LA
www.mechacon.com

Radiant Northwest

July 27–29
Red Lion Hotel Bellevue
Bellevue, WA
www.radiantnorthwest.com

Raleigh Supercon

July 27–29
Raleigh Convention Center
Raleigh, NC
www.raleighsupercon.com

SaikouCon

July 27–29
Econo Lodge Conference Center
Allentown, PA
www.saikoucon.com

Lock City Anime & Comic Con

July 28
Best Western Plus North Haven
Hotel, North Haven, CT
www.lockcitycomiccon.com



Photo by KL Media

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

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Summer 2018 *Continued*

Animania Wichita Falls

July 28–29
MPEC, Wichita Falls, TX
www.animaniawf.com

Asheville Anime Regional Convention

July 28–29
U.S. Cellular Center
Asheville, NC
www.ashevillearc.com

TexArk Anime

July 28–29
Holiday Inn Texarkana Arkansas
Convention Center
Texarkana, AR
www.texarkanime.com

ToshoCON

August 3–4
Viridian Event Center
West Jordan, UT
www.slcolibrary.org/teen/tosho-Con/index.htm

AnimagiC

August 3–5
Congress Center Rosengarten
Mannheim, Germany
animagic.animania.de

Animanga

August 3–5
Pamona Fairplex
Pomona, CA
www.animangausa.com

Anime Festival Orlando

August 3–5
Wyndham Orlando Resort
International Drive
Orlando, FL
www.animefestivalorlando.com

Anime Revolution

August 3–5
Vancouver Convention Centre
Vancouver, British Columbia
summer.animerevolution.ca

Genki

August 3–5
Farum Arena
Farum, Denmark
2018.genki.dk

KuroNekoCon

August 3–5
Spokane Convention Center
Spokane, WA
www.kuronekocon.com

Otakuthon

August 3–5
Palais des congrès de Montréal
Montréal, Quebec
www.otakuthon.com/2018/home/

Seoul Comic Con

August 3–5
COEX, Seoul, Republic of Korea
www.comiccon.co.kr

Tokonatsu

August 3–6
Boyd Memorial Camp Site and
Activity Centre
Henlow, Bedfordshire, UK
www.tokonatsu.org.uk

Get Your Geek Con

August 4
Slover Library
Norfolk, VA
www.norfolkpubliclibrary.org/Home/Components/Calendar/

Out Con

August 4
Miami Airport Convention
Center, Miami, FL
www.outconvention.com

Ama-Con

August 4–5
Amarillo Civic Center
Amarillo, TX
ama-con.amarillolibrary.org

AniBash

August 4–5
Seneca Park, Longhouse Shelter
Rochester, NY
anibash.webs.com

Gamma.Con

August 4–5
Exhibition Park in Canberra
Mitchell, ACT Australia
gammacon.org.au

Liverpool Anime & Gaming Con

August 4–5
Liverpool Marriott Hotel City
Centre, Liverpool, UK
www.liverpoolanimecon.com

Photo by KL Media

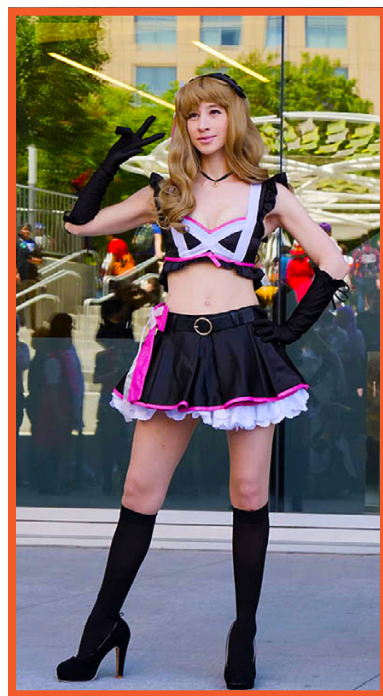


Photo by KL Media

Magical Girl Day

August 4–5
Park Inn by Radisson
Houston North, TX
www.magicalgirlday.com/

GoDaikoCon

August 4–6
Edward Hotel
and Convention Center
Dearborn, MI
www.godaikocon.com

Alliance GlitchCon

August 10–12
Holliday Inn
& Convention Center
Springdale, AR
www.glitchcon.com

Animethon

August 10–12
Shaw Conference Centre
Edmonton, Alberta
www.animethon.org

Comic Market

August 10–12
Tokyo Big Sight
Tokyo, Japan
www.comiket.co.jp

Cosplay Fantasy Campout

August 10–12
Hide-A-Way Lakes
Yorkville, IL
www.cosplayfantasycampout.com

Fandomfest

August 10–12
Omni Louisville Hotel
Louisville, KY
www.fandomfest.com

NiuCon

August 10–12
Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy
we Wrocławiu
Wrocław, Poland
niucon.pl/en/

Otakon

August 10–12
Walter E. Washington
Convention Center
Washington, DC
www.otakon.com

Anime California

August 17–19
Los Angeles Marriott Burbank
Airport, Burbank, CA
www.animecaliforniacon.com

Kentokyocon

August 17–19
Lexington Center
Lexington, KY
www.kentokyocon.com

Liberty City Anime Con

August 17–19
New York Marriott Marquis
New York, NY
www.libertycityanimecon.com

Power Morphicon

August 17–19
Anaheim Convention Center
Anaheim, CA
www.officialpowermorphicon.com

Shine Con

August 17–19
Tuscany Suites & Casinos
Las Vegas, NV
www.shineconvegas.com

Photo by KL Media



AnimeFest

August 17–20
Sheraton Dallas Hotel, Dallas, TX
animefest.org

Cosplay Matsuri

August 18
Ontario Science Centre
Toronto, Ontario
www.cosplaymatsuri.com

Fandemicon

August 18
Utica Public Library
Utica, NY
www.fandemicon.com

AniManGaki

August 18–19
Sunway Pyramid
Convention Centre
Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia
www.animangaki.com

StocktonCon

August 18–19
Stockton Arena, Stockton, CA
www.stocktoncon.com

Kin-Yoobi Con

August 19
Newark Pavilion, Newark, CA
iie540.wixsite.com/kinyoobi-con2018

Queen City Anime Convention

August 23–26
Hilton Charlotte University
Place, Charlotte, NC
www.queencityanimecon.com

J-Con

August 24–25
The Riverside Centre
Derby, UK
www.j-con.co.uk

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

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Summer 2018 *Continued*

Abunai

August 24–26
NH Koningshof
Veldhoven, Netherlands
www.abunaicon.nl

Comic Con Palm Springs

August 24–26
Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa
Rancho Mirage, CA
comicconpalm Springs.com

Geek.Kon

August 24–26
Madison Marriott West
Middleton, WI
www.geekkon12.net/

Matsuricon

August 24–26
Hyatt Regency Columbus/Greater
Columbus Convention Center
Columbus, OH
www.matsuricon.org

Anime Getaway: Clarksville

August 25
Riverview Inn,
Clarksville, TN
clarksville.animegetaway.com

SakuraNatsu

August 25
Gainesville Garden Club
Gainesville, FL
sakuranatsu.webs.com

A.G.S Con

August 25–26
Ashbury Hotel & Suites
Mobile, AL
agscon.weebly.com

Comic World Hong Kong

August 26
Kowloonbay International
Trade & Exhibition Centre
Hong Kong, China
www.cwbk.org

AsiaPOP Comicon

August 27–29
SMX Convention Center
Manila, Philippines
www.asiapopcomicon.com/manila/

Alcon

August 30 – September 2
De Montfort University Leicester
Leicester, UK
www.alcon.org.uk

FanExpo Canada

August 30 – September 2
Metro Toronto Convention
Centre, Toronto, Ontario
www.fanexpocanada.com/en/home.html

Dragon Con

August 30 – September 3
Atlanta Marriott Marquis,
Hyatt Regency Atlanta, Atlanta
Hilton, Sheraton Atlanta,
Westin Peachtree, Atlanta, GA
www.dragoncon.org

AniNite

August 31 – September 2
METASTadt, Wien, Austria
www.aninite.at

Izumicon

August 31 – September 2
Reed Conference Center
Midwest City, OK
www.izumicon.com

MetaCon

August 31 – September 2
Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
Minneapolis, MN
www.metaconvention.com

Nan Desu Kan

August 31 – September 2
Sheraton Denver Downtown
Hotel, Denver, CO
www.ndkdenver.org

SacAnime

August 31 – September 2
Sacramento Convention Center/
Sheraton Grand Sacramento
Sacramento, CA
www.sacanime.com

San Japan

August 31 – September 2
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention
Center/San Antonio Grand
Hyatt Hotel, San Antonio, TX
www.san-japan.org/

Saboten Con

August 31 – September 3
Sheraton Grand Phoenix
Phoenix, AZ
www.sabotencon.com

Crunchyroll Expo

September 1–3
San Jose McEnery Convention
Center, San Jose, CA
www.crunchyrollexpo.com

Colossalcon East

September 7–9
Kalahari Resorts
Pocono Manor, PA
www.colossalconeast.com

Connichi

September 7–9
Kongress Palais Kassel
Kassel, Germany
www.connichi.de



Photo by KL Media

Rose City Comic Con

September 7–9
Oregon Convention Center
Portland, OR
rosecitycomiccon.com

Tracon

September 7–9
Tampere-talo
Tampere, Finland
2018.tracon.fi

Animara Con

September 8–9
Hotel Delta and Conference
Center, Sherbrooke, Quebec
www.animaracon.com

Singapore Toy, Game & Comic Convention

September 8–9
Marina Bay Sands
Singapore
www.singaporetgc.com

Cosplay Culture

September 9
Burton Market Hall
Burton-on-Trent, UK
www.cosplayculture.net

Ancient City Con

September 7–9
World Golf Village Renaissance
Resort, St. Augustine
www.ancientcitycon.info

Albacon

September 14–16
Best Western Albany
Airport Inn
Albany, NY
2018.albacon.org

Anime Sekai

September 14–16
Abilene Convention Center
Abilene, TX
www.animesekaitx.com

Comic Con Africa

September 14–16
Kyalami Grand Prix
Circuit & International
Convention Centre
Midrand, South Africa
www.comiconafrica.co.za

J1-Con

September 14–16
Showboat Atlantic City
Atlantic City, NJ
www.j1con.com

JABEcon!

September 15
Courtyard Marriott
Mount Juliet, Mount Juliet, TN
www.jabecon.com

Super Dimension Convention

September 15
Torrance Cultural Arts Center
Torrance, CA
superdimensioncon.wixsite.com/deculture/

Madman Anime Festival Melbourne

September 15–16
Melbourne Convention
& Exhibition Centre
Melbourne, VIC Australia
www.animefestival.com.au

Anime Weekend Atlanta

September 20–23
Renaissance Atlanta Waverly
Hotel & Convention Center/
Cobb Galleria Centre
Atlanta, GA
www.awa-con.com/

Anime Fargo

September 21–23
Ramada Inn, Fargo, ND
www.animefargo.org

CampAnime

September 21–23
YMCA Camp Woodstock
Woodstock Valley, CT
www.campanime.com

Ramencon

September 21–23
Century Center, South Bend, IN
www.ramencon.com

Senshi Con

September 21–23
Dena'ina Civic and Convention
Center, Anchorage, AK
www.senshicon.org

Santa Rosa Toy & Comic Con

September 22
Sonoma Country Fairgrounds
Santa Rosa, CA
santarosatoycon.com

Kraken Con

September 28–30
Oakland Convention Center
and Marriott, Oakland, CA
www.krakencon.com

F.A.C.T.S.

September 29–30
Flanders Expo
Ghent, Belgium
www.facts.be

Windsor ComiCon

September 29–30
Caesars Windsor
Windsor, Ontario, CA
www.windsorcomicon.com

Anime Senpai

October 5–7
Gateway Center
Collinsville, IL
www.animesenpai.org

Tsubasacon

October 5–7
Big Sandy Superstore Arena
Huntington, WV
www.tsubasacon.org

Retro Con

October 13–14
Greater Philadelphia
Expo Center
Oaks, PA
www.retrocons.com

Epic ACG Fest

October 27–28
Albany Community Center
Albany, CA
eacgfest.org

KigaCon

Christopher Newport University,
Freeman Center
Newport News, VA
www.kigacon.com

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Pop Culture with an Anime Twist

SACANIME

Aug. 31st - Sept. 2nd, 2018

Sacramento Convention Center

www.sacanime.com



CHRISTOPHER SABAT

MY HERO ACADEMIA, DRAGONBALL SUPER



CAITLIN GLASS

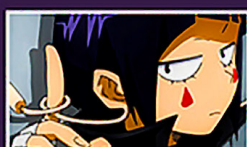
MY HERO ACADEMIA, DRAGONBALL SUPER



MONICA RIAL

MY HERO ACADEMIA, DRAGONBALL SUPER

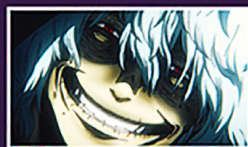
FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



TRINA NISHIMURA

MY HERO ACADEMIA, ATTACK ON TITAN

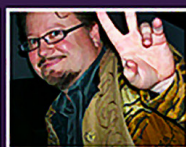
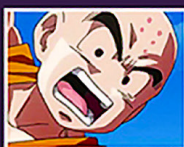
FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



ERIC VALE

MY HERO ACADEMIA, DRAGONBALL SUPER

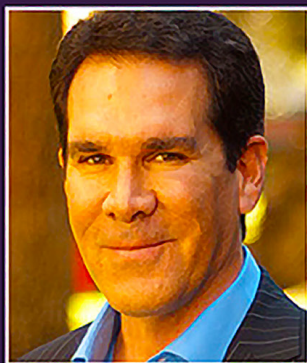
FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



SONNY STRAIT

MY HERO ACADEMIA, DRAGONBALL SUPER

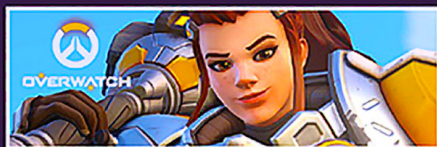
FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



TONY ANSELMO

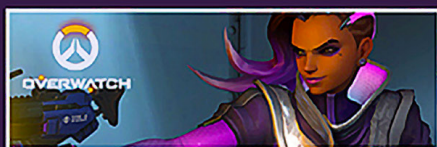
THE VOICE OF DONALD DUCK
(DUCK TALES, KINGDOM HEARTS)

FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



MATILDA SMEDIUS

THE VOICE OF BRIGITTE (OVERWATCH)



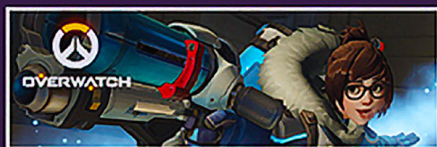
CAROLINA RAVASSA

THE VOICE OF SOMBRA (OVERWATCH)



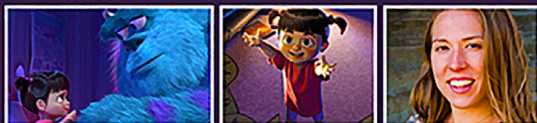
GREG BRYK

THE VOICE OF JOSEPH SEED (FAR CRY 5)



ELISE ZHANG

THE VOICE OF MEI (OVERWATCH)



MARY GIBBS

THE VOICE OF BOO (MONSTERS INC.)

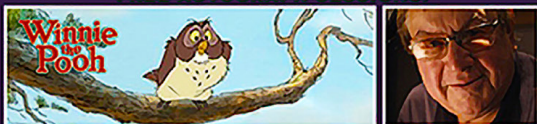
FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



MICHAEL GOUGH

THE VOICE OF GOPHER (WINNIE THE POOH)

FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



ANDRE STOJKA

THE VOICE OF OWL (WINNIE THE POOH)

FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



MORGAN BERRY

MY HERO ACADEMIA, BOY AND THE BEAST

FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



JAMIE MARCHI

MY HERO ACADEMIA, FAIRY TAIL

FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



BRITTNEY KARBOWSKI

SOUL EATER, FAIRY TAIL

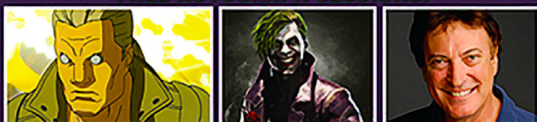
FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



JOSH GRELE

MY HERO ACADEMIA, ATTACK ON TITAN

FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



RICHARD EPCAR

GHOST IN THE SHELL, INJUSTICE 2

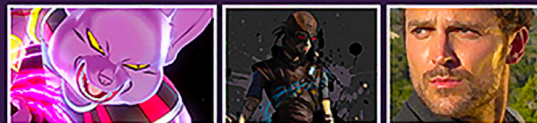
FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



ELLYN STERN

POKEMON GENERATIONS

FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



JASON LIEBRECHT

DRAGONBALL SUPER, BORDERLANDS



IAN SINCLAIR

MY HERO ACADEMIA, DRAGONBALL SUPER



JASON DOUGLAS

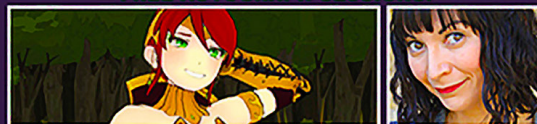
DRAGONBALL SUPER, RWBY, WALKING DEAD



DAVID MATRANGA

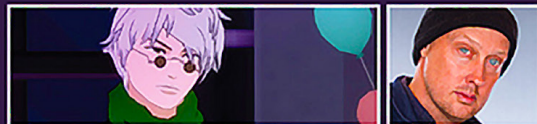
MY HERO ACADEMIA, ATTACK ON TITAN

FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!



JEN BROWN

RWBY



SHANNON MCCORMICK

RWBY



MICHAEL JONES

RWBY, FAIRY TAIL



QUINTON FLYNN

KINGDOM HEARTS, METAL GEAR RISING



DEREK STEPHEN PRINCE

JOJO'S BIZARRE ADV., NARUTO

FREE AUTOGRAPH SESSIONS!

ログ・ホライズン

LOG HORIZON Game Mechanics and Human Rights

This essay is meant to be less of a review and more of analysis of the show being examined. It contains plot spoilers for the Log Horizon anime.

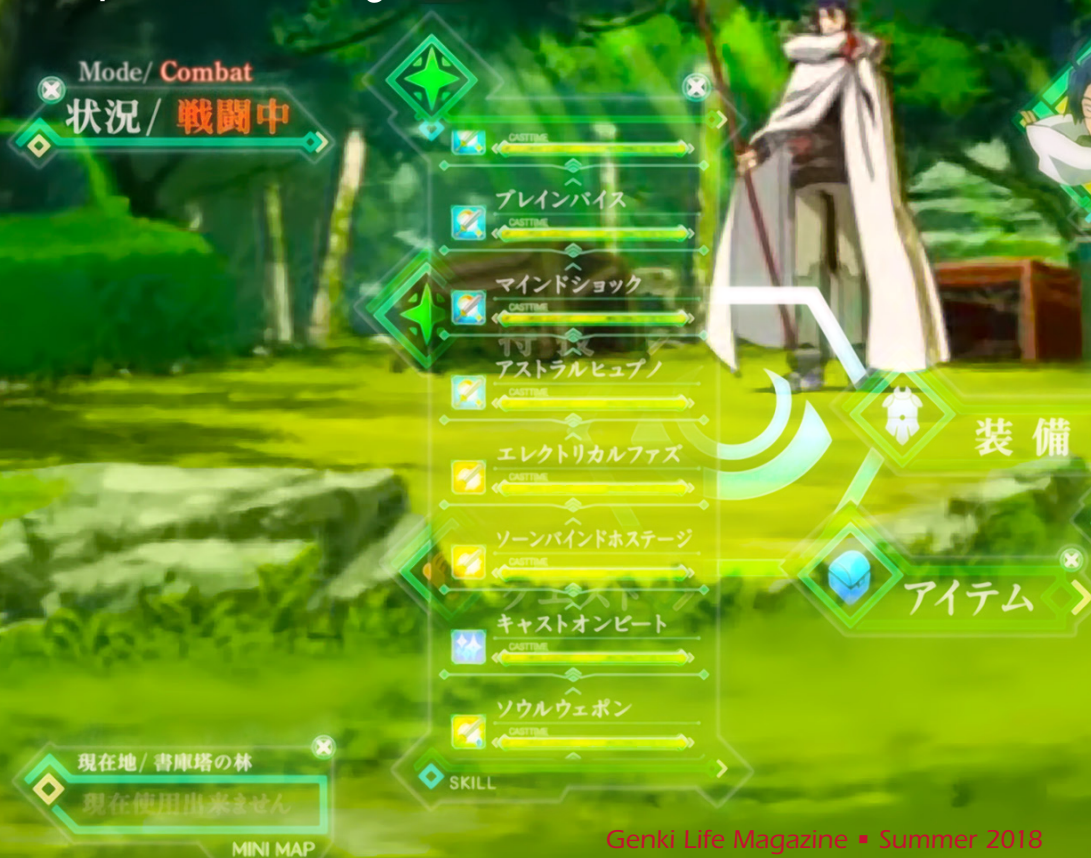
Log Horizon ログ・ホライズン

TV • Oct 2013 – March 2015 • 50 Episodes
Satelight • J.C. Staff
Sentai Filmworks

www9.nhk.or.jp/anime/loghorizon
lhpg.com/lhz/announce
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Log_Horizon

Director: Ishihara, Shinji
Writer: Nimoto, Toshizo
Music: Takanashi, Yasuharu

Cast:
Shiroe = Terashima, Takuma
Naotsugu = Maeno, Tomoaki
Akatsuki = Katô, Emiri
Marielle = Hara, Yumi
Lenessia Erhart Cowen = Ise, Mariya







シロエ Shiroe

種族 / ハーフアルヴ

エンchanター
付与術師 Lv.90

HP

8303 / 8303

MP

10879 / 12088

付与効果

なし

Race

: Half-Alv

状態

なし

Lv. 90 Enchanter

所持スキル

なし

STATUS

パーティー

Human rights, at least as they were initially conceived, trace their origins back to the Age of the Enlightenment. Enlightenment philosophers were attempting demonstrate an objective value in humanity that, if not altogether rejecting the existence of a higher power, can stand independently from reasons of religion (i.e. Humans were God's chosen people). Many rulers of old based their legitimacy to lead on divine law (They were God's chosen rulers), which to some Enlightenment thinkers could be tantamount to tyranny. Europe was also recovering from the bloody religious wars that took place just before the Enlightenment, their traumatic memories spurring advocacy during the period itself for the separation of church and state. What the Enlightenment philosophers came up with in response to the supposed irrationality of religiously motivated oppression and violence was the concept of the law of nature, divorced from heaven's mandate. Core to every fiercely debated

Enlightenment interpretation of the natural law was entitlement drawn from rationality. Humans are rational beings. Because humans are rational beings, they are inherently and universally entitled to certain rights. These rights were natural and inalienable.

It is by this understanding that it is unreasonable for natural rights to be violated arbitrarily by other rational beings, and provides a justification for rational beings like human ones to take up arms so as to have these rights establish respect. John Locke believed that men were entitled to the rights to life, liberty, and property in his *Second Treatise of Government*. Thomas Jefferson reinterpreted these rights for men as the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in the American "Declaration of Independence," the official reason for the American colonies' separation from the British Empire. This document would become one of the inspirations for the later French "Declaration of the Rights

of Man and of the Citizen," the official manifesto of the French Revolution. Decades later, like the American one before it, the French document became one of the blueprints for the "United Nations (UN) Declaration of Human Rights." The reasoning behind human rights is grounded in theories concerning natural rights that were originally formulated in the Enlightenment era. The designation of rationality and the entitlement that comes backseat with it expanded overtime, being applied first to



"Our next is one of human rights... that these human rights apply not only to us Adventurers, but also to the People of the Land."



white men, and then to all men, and then to all men and women... to all humans.

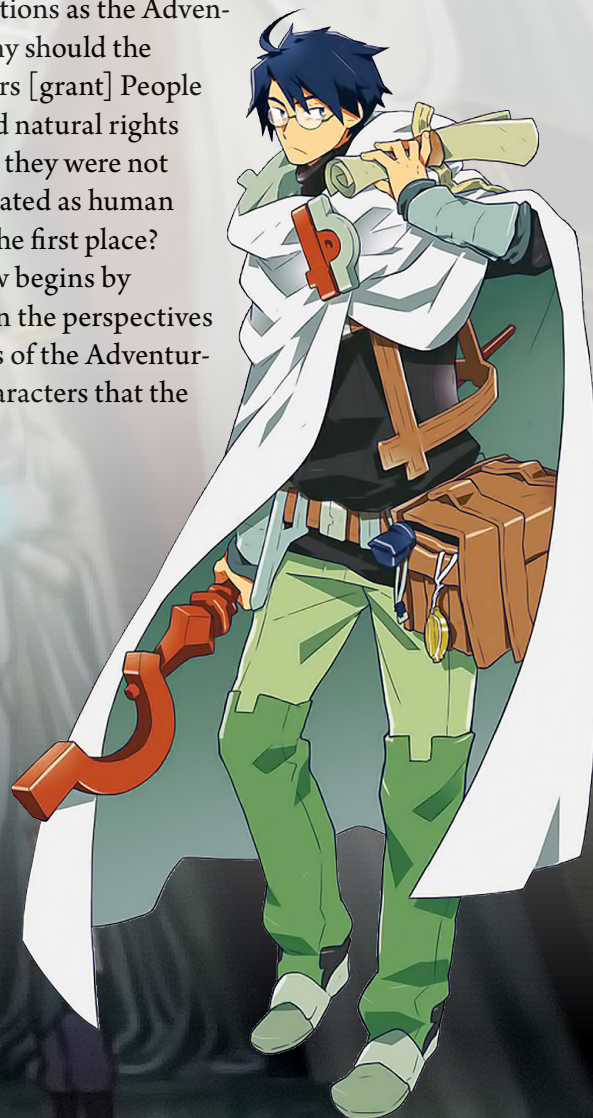
Quite apart from the more typical low-brow affairs that trapped in a fantasy world *isekai* shows busy themselves with, *Log Horizon* also concerns itself with the topic of natural rights in a video game. In typical *isekai* set-up, *Log Horizon*'s real-life human players are trapped in the MMO [ed: massively multi-player online] world of their fantasy playground, attempting to figure out how to get by in their familiar yet unknown surroundings. In not-so-typical *isekai* fashion, *Log Horizon*'s trapped player characters (the "Adventurers") find themselves arguing around a round table of whether NPCs (the "People of the Land") [ed: non-player characters] also possess natural rights. At its core, natural law dictates that the Adventurers, by their nature as humans, hail from entitle them to certain rights. These natural rights exist under the understanding, whether designated by a God or not, that human beings exist for their own sakes — as ends in themselves, to paraphrase the late Enlightenment thinker Immanuel Kant. However, the Adventurers know that the People of the Land, by their nature as human pixel fantasy facsimiles, were created by real human game developers. We, the audience, knows that NPCs in MMOs are not exactly human. They are a digital resource for players for engage with for their entertainment. The People of the Land were not originally created for their own sakes, but for the Adventurers'.

***"We cannot get by without them, but they would probably get by without us. If we cannot govern ourselves, then before too long, relations with them will be damaged beyond repair."* -Shiroe**

It's not totally unexpected then that some Adventurers have continued treat the People of the Land as mechanics to objectively exploit. As they rob their goods and even take their lives, these particular Adventurers prejudicially continue to regard the People of the Land with the chattel-like mentality that they always understood their existence by. By their original nature as NPCs in a fantasy MMORPG, the People of the Land were created to serve as the property and playthings of the Adventurer player base. In light of these cases of exploitation and the larger round table discourse on natural rights in the anime during

the Akihabara round table discussions (from protecting Adventurers from being exploited by other Adventurers to protecting the People of the Land being exploited by Adventurers), what's the rationale then to claim that the People of the Land should be accorded the same freedoms, dignities and protections as the Adventurers? Why should the Adventurers [grant] People of the Land natural rights even when they were not exactly created as human beings in the first place?

The show begins by focusing on the perspectives and plights of the Adventurers, the characters that the



audience would be able to most immediately identify with. Dislocated from their previous lives and families and with no foreseeable hope of being able to return back home, the Adventurers to replicate the previous systems and comforts they've known from their old world inside their new one. The existences of the People of the Land are only nominally acknowledged at this point, being only treated at this stage as the player resources that they've always been understood to be: the more traditional vendors of services and wares or the more novel targets of looting and other depredations.

As Shiroe, Marielle, and friends discover how cooking functions in their new world and sell the fruits of their discoveries on the market, they note the kinds of people lining up for their food. Their clientele consists not only those Adventurers who have gone by without a delicious meal

in so long. They also include those People of the Land who are curious and delighted to try something that shakes up their diets.

The show follows this simple observation up by gradually introducing the direct perspectives of notable People of the Land characters to the audience. On a macro level, the nearby People of the Land polity of the League of Freedom Cities of Eastal infiltrates the Adventurer polity of Akihabara with spies to search the intentions of their new neighbors, a development that Shiroe takes note of. Eastal treat diplomatically with Akihabara, first to enlist its aid against a massive scripted goblin invasion, and later to establish amicable relations between the two states.

On a micro level, the audience is introduced to the direct perspective of one of these People of the Land characters,



Lenessia Erhart Cowen rallying the people of Akihabara to enlist their help to fight against the Goblin invasion.





Bandit Adventurers attacking People of the Land.

Lenessia. She is portrayed aside from the pretensions, intrigue, and politics of her realm as this cynical, indolent, and self-deprecatory individual ambivalent about her in-born status and responsibilities as a princess. She cares about her people despite these reservations, and takes her duty to protect them despite her lazy, selfish, and cynical disposition. She also vocalizes an important point about the Adventurers in relation to the People of the Land.

During her attempts to rally the Adventurers in Akihabara to protect her realm against a massive scripted goblin invasion, she remarks at how rational the Adventurers seem in a crowd when analyzing the looming threat. During her speech to them, she admits that at the thought of her peers attempting to manipulate Adventurers into fighting for them as though they were just resources and property for the People of the Land to rely on. Far from the stereotypical artifices that constitute the decorative roles that female royalty often occupy in fantasy worlds, Lenessia demonstrates equal complexity with Shiroe and the other Adventurer protagonists, and far more complexity as a character than the many Adventurers that mill about in the background.

That the People of the Land and the Adventurers share both a common desire for good food and a common capacity for dehumanization that the latter group is just as barbaric, exploitative, ignorant, sentimental, empathetic, and rational as the former. People of the Land can be just as cruel to the Adventurers (i.e. exploiting them for free protection) as Adventurers can be to each other (i.e. exploiting them for cheap labor). At the same time, the People of the Land can be just as conciliatory and compassionate toward the Adventurers (i.e. Lenessia's honesty to the Adventurers) as Adventurers can be with themselves (i.e. Akihabara punishing slavery-esque practices). Given the rationality demonstrated by both groups in the show, it seems like a easy argument to advocate that natural rights belong to both Adventurers and People of the Land.

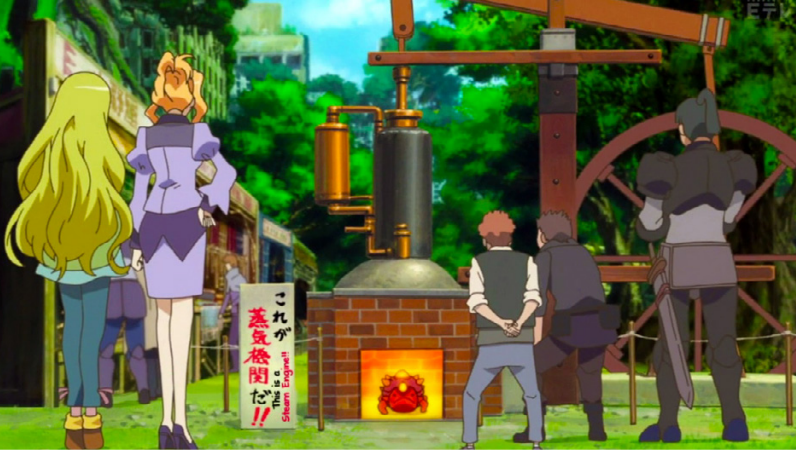
Unfortunately, that argument runs into a problem upon contemplation of the root word of natural: [by] nature the

Adventurers were originally humans from the real world, and the People of the Land were originally NPCs from a made-up one. Human-seeing in mannerism and appearance as many of them are from even the non-human customizations of some Adventurer avatars, the People of the Land don't possess the same real world human pedigree as the Adventurers. Humans, after all, according to Enlightenment thinking, are supposed to live for their own sakes.

The argument behind the Enlightenment interpretation of natural rights is that rights apply to those that are not only rational, but also those who were created to be ends in themselves. It has been long been argued that humans deserve natural rights because they were created to be free-thinking individuals. NPCs were originally created in their explicit forms not to have sentience or free will, but to be exploited by human players for the resource of their entertainment. Even if the NPC People of the Land were rational like the human Adventurers, and even they bore agency now like the human Adventurers, some may be tempted to con-

To prove that People of the Land could do anything, Rudy became an Adventurer.





The race to invent is about start after realizing actions don't have to be menu driven.

would ignore the myriad concrete examples of them demonstrating their complexity, agency, and overall personhood — their personalities, their worries, and their aspirations. The actual logic of natural rights, as Enlightenment thinking understands it, was designed to the accommodate for the absence of God's formal and direct hand over His creations.

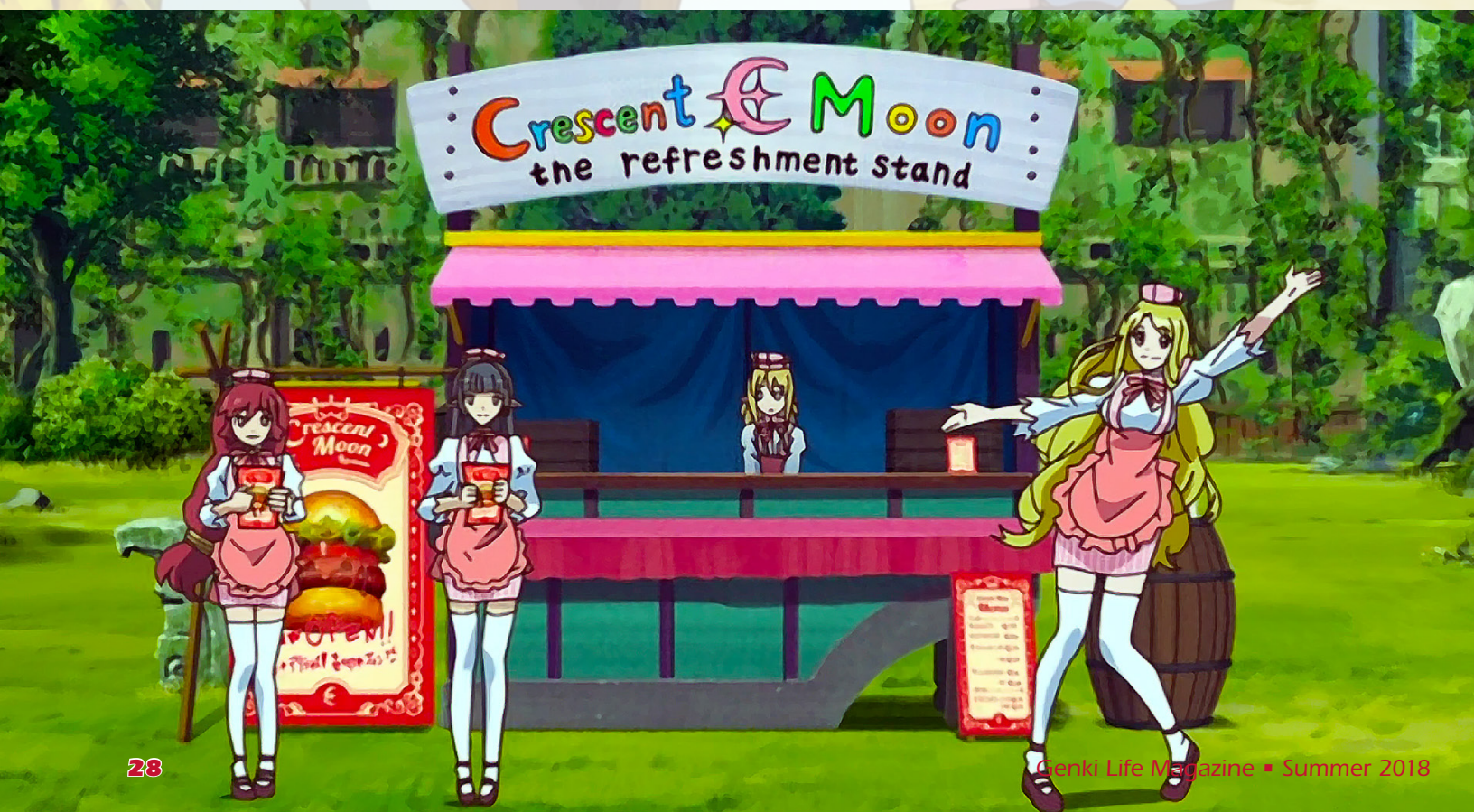
Assuming that my argumentation thus far has made a compelling case, beyond gut instinct, that Adventurers and People of the Land both possess natural rights, we can now extrapolate from conclusion that both the Adventurers and People of the Land are entitled to fight back against those that threaten their natural rights. It is the inherent entitlement of the rational, as per the Enlightenment thinking in both its English, American and French contexts, to instigate a restorative revolution when the status quo is found to be in

violation of those natural rights. After Marielle of Crescent Moon concludes her report to the Akihabara round table discussions about Adventurers and People of the Land alike enjoying their culinary discoveries, Shiroe of *Log Horizon* notes that the personhood of the Land of the Lustrous makes them not only capable of enjoying good food.

It also makes them capable of resisting the Adventurers on a systematic level in response to being mistreated, the consequences of which would prove disastrous to the Adventurers who rely on the People of the Land for their services and wares. Upon mention of this view, Crusty of D.D.D. immediately agrees to join Shiroe's scheme of setting up an Adventurer government in Akihabara. The Black Sword Knights and Honesty, initially skeptical resistant to Shiroe's to form a government for the intent of policing player behavior, quickly follow suit behind D.D.D. And so, as part of its official platform, the newly formed Akihabara Round Table Alliance would actively respect the natural rights of not only other Adventurers. From human players to former NPCs, it would also respect and defend the rights of The People of the Land. ❖ [ZeroReq011](#)



ReqZero011: A social scientist and history buff who dabbles in creative writing and anime analysis, ZeroReq011 has a Twitter you can follow and runs a Blog called Therefore It Is. He is a Features Writer on *Crunchyroll* and has contributed articles to *Anime Feminist*, *Anime News Network*, and *Genki Life Magazine*.



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Anime Schedule 2018 Winter Season



Erin, Mikasa & Armin
– Shingeki no Kyojin



Hanebad! はねバド!

Kentarō Tachibana is a high school badminton coach who has a lot more enthusiasm than some of the members of his very small team. One day, he meets the quiet-voiced student Ayano Hanesaki, who is effortlessly physically capable and experienced in badminton. He tries to recruit her, but she seems to have no interest in the sport at all. Due to a series of circumstances, she eventually ends up joining the team. Coach Tachibana is determined that with her on board, they'll be champions!

July 1
LIDENFILMS
Tokyo MX, KTV,
BS11, AT-X



Overlord III

In the year 2126, a Dive MMORPG called Yggdrasil was released. It stands out among all other DMMORPG's due to its unusually high ability for the player to interact with the game. After an intense 12-year run the game servers are about to be shut down. Within the game exists a guild, Ainz Ooal Gown, once consisting of 41 members. Now only 4 of the members remain. The elder lich character named Momonga, continues to play as the guild leader and maintaining their headquarters, The Great Tomb of Nazarick. The third season of *Overlord*.

July 1
MADHOUSE
AT-X, Tokyo MX, SUN,
KBS, TVA, BS11, MBS



Island アイランド

Urashima, an island far from the mainland. The people who live there lead carefree lives. But five years ago, the island's three great families suffered a series of misfortunes, and succumbed to suspicion. The people of the island cut off all contact with the mainland, and began a slow decline. The key to saving the island lies in three girls who belong to the three families. But they are bound by old traditions, and are conflicted. On that island, a lone man washes ashore. The man claims to be from the future, and he begins a solitary struggle to change the island's fate.

July 1
feel.
Tokyo MX, SunTV,
AT-X, BS Fuji



Shingeki no Kyojin 3 Attack on Titan 3 進撃の巨人 第3期

Hundreds of years ago, horrifying creatures which resembled humans appeared. These mindless, towering giants, called "titans," proved to be an existential threat, as they preyed on whatever humans they could find in order to satisfy a seemingly unending appetite. Unable to effectively combat the titans, mankind was forced to barricade themselves within large walls surrounding what may very well be humanity's last safe haven in the world. The third season of *Shingeki no Kyojin*.

July 1
Wit Studio
NHK G



Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and days.

Anime Schedule 2018 Summer S



Back Street Girls バックストリートガールズ

A group of three yakuza failed their boss for the last time. After messing up an important job, the boss gave them two choices: honorably committing suicide or go to Thailand to get a sex reassignment surgery in order to become “female” idols. After a gruesome year long training to become idols, they successfully debut, with overwhelming popularity, much to their dismay. This is where their tragedy truly begins.

July 3

J.C. Staff

BS11, Tokyo MX, MBS



Isekai Maō to Shōkan Shōjo no Dorei Majutsu

How NOT to Summon a Demon Lord Magic

異世界魔王と召喚少女の奴隷魔術

In the MMORPG *Cross Reverie*, Takuma Sakamoto is so powerful that he is lauded as the “Demon Lord” by other players. One day, he is summoned to another world – but with the same appearance he had in the game! There, he meets two girls who both proclaim themselves to be his summoner. They had performed an Enslavement Ritual, instead, it was the girls who had become enslaved!

July 5

Ajia-Do

AT-X, Tokyo MX,
BS Fuji, SunTV



Senjūshi The Thousand Noble Musketeers 千銃士

In a world that was devastated by the nuclear war, people are all suppressed and deprived of their own lives by the strong rule by the World Empire. A resistance team secretly keeps fighting. The team challenges the fight with the “antique guns” called “Musketeers” appear and join the team. In their battles with the incarnations of contemporary guns who represent and are dispatched from the Empire, the “Musketeers” turn their “Absolute Noble” mode to give a powerful boost to themselves, and bring hope to the world!

July 3

TMS Entertainment
Tokyo MX, SunTV,
TVA, BS11



BANANA FISH バナナフィッシュ

Nature made Ash Lynx beautiful; nurture made him a cold ruthless killer. A runaway brought up as the adopted heir and sex toy of “Papa” Dino Golzine, Ash, now at the rebellious age of seventeen, forsakes the kingdom held out by the devil who raised him. But the hideous secret that drove Ash’s older brother mad in Vietnam has suddenly fallen into Papa’s insatiably ambitious hands—and it’s exactly the wrong time for Eiji Okamura, a pure-hearted young photographer from Japan, to make Ash Lynx’s acquaintance.

July 5

MAPPA

Fuji TV (noitaminA)



Ash Lynx & Eiji Okamura
- BANANA FISH





Shichisei no Subaru Seven Senses of the ReUnion 七星のスバル

In the popular MMORPG world Union, there existed a legendary party... Subaru. This party, made up of a group of childhood friends and elementary schoolers. Due to an incident which resulted in a death, 'Union' ended its service and the group of childhood friends went separate ways... six years later, highschooler Haruto logged into the new 'Reunion' and reunited with a single girl. Asahi—one of old Subaru party members, and his childhood friend who should have died six years ago. Is she a digital ghost?

July 5
Lerche
TBS, BS-TBS



Harukana Receive はるかなレシーブ

The story takes place in Okinawa, where Haruka forms a beach volleyball pair with Kanata. Kanata, who couldn't handle the pressure put on her by her short height, had given up on beach volleyball already, but is convinced by Haruka to step back on the sand once again and aim for the junior tournament.

July 6
C2C
AT-X, Tokyo MX, TVA,
SunTV, RBC, KBS Kyoto,
TVQ, BS11



Yume Okoku to Nemureru 100 Nin no Oji-sama Dream Kingdom and the 100 Sleeping Princes

夢王国と眠れる100人の王子様

The "Dream World" is currently being threatened by monsters that devour dreams called the dream eaters (yumekui). People deprived of their dreams, drifting in a sleep they can't wake up from. A heroine awakens the sleeping princes and recovers the dream world with them. Forgotten dreams, lost dreams, hidden dreams inside one's heart... they will certainly be of help to someone.

July 5
GCREST
Tokyo MX, STV,
AT-X, BS-11



Ongaku Shōjo Music Girls 音楽少女

Hanako Yamadake encounters the obscure, low-selling 11-member "C-list" idol unit Ongaku Shōjo. Their producer Ikehashi thinks the unit needs a new member. Together, Ongaku Shōjo and Hanako strive for the top of the music world.

July 6
Studio DEEN
AT-X, Tokyo MX, BS11



Chio-chan no Tsūgakuro Chio's School Road ちおちゃんの通学路

The "dramatic extreme going to school comedy" manga follows the titular female high school student Chio Miyamo and her adventures to commute to school every day. Chio runs in to problems both big and small, such as construction, a biker gang, a sudden urge to use the bathroom and more.

July 6
diomedéa
Tokyo MX, GBS, Mie TV,
SunTV, KBS Kyoto, BS11



Satsuriku no Tenshi Angels of Death 殺戮の天使

13-year old Rachel awakens to find herself trapped in the basement of an abandoned building. Without any memories or even a clue as to where she could be, she wanders the building, lost and dizzy. She comes across a man covered in bandages. He introduces himself as Zack and he wields a grim reaper like sickle. A strange bond is struck between them, strengthened by strange, crazy promises... These two, trapped in this strange building, don't know why fate has placed them there. But they will work together desperately to find a way out?

July 6
J.C. Staff
AT-X, Tokyo MX,
KBS Kyoto, TVA, SunTV,
TVQ, BS11



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Anime Schedule 2018 Summer S

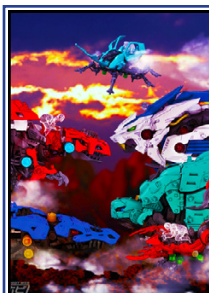


Chūkan Kanriroku Tonegawa Middle Manager Tonegawa

中間管理録 トネガワ

Chūkan Kanriroku Tonegawa is a spin-off of the Kaiji series, which follows Tonegawa, the right hand man of Kazutaka Hyōdō, the president of the Teiai Corporation and owner of numerous gambling tournaments. After Kazutaka is getting bored with his life, he orders Tonegawa to organize a so called “game of death” as it is his and his subordinate’s job to keep the president in a good mood. Tonegawa must cooperate with his subordinates in order to make the president happy.

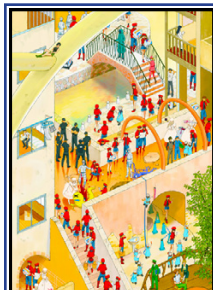
July 7
MADHOUSE
NTV AnichU



Zoid Wild ゾイド ワイルド

Zoids Wild is the newest *Zoids* anime series. It will begin airing on Mainichi Broadcasting System. Little has been announced about the series, but it is notable that characters are depicted riding on top of Zoids rather than within an enclosed cockpit as in previous *Zoids* series.

July 7
Oriental Light and Magic
MBS, TBS



Hataraku Saibō Cells at Work!

はたらく細胞

The average human body contains about 60 trillion cells and each of them has work to do! But when you get injured, viruses or bacteria invade, or when an allergic reaction flares up, everyone from the silent but deadly white blood cells to the brainy neurons has to work together to get through the crisis!

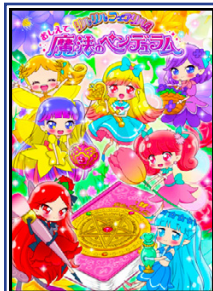
July 7
David Production
Tokyo MX, BS11, GYT,
GTV, MBS, TV Aichi,
RKB, HBC



Asobi Asobase あそびあそばせ

The “surreal gag” comedy manga revolves around three classmates who play simple hand games. One of the girls is good at games, but hates them as she always lost to her older sister and forced to do chores while growing up. Another girl is of American descent, but raised in Japan, and who only pretends to be bad at Japanese. Another girl usually observes their games, and loses to the other girls.

July 8
Lerche
AT-X, Tokyo MX,
KBS Kyoto, BS11,
SunTV, TV Aichi



Oshiete Mahō no Pendulum: Rilu Rilu Fairilu

おしえて魔法のペンデュラム〜リルリルフェア
リル〜

In a strange magical world of Little Fairilu live the Fairilus: small magical fairies representing flowers, insects and other entities who all born from the Fairilu Seed. Each Fairilu is born with its own key, the Fairilu Key. The story centers on a girl who stumbles upon a relic known as the “Magic Pendulum,” and uses it to get to the Fairilu world. She goes on adventures as the show portrays her growing up. The third season of *Rilu Rilu Fairilu*.

July 7
Studio DEEN
Kids Station, Animax,
Tokyo MX



Hyakuren no Haō to Seiyaku no Valkyria

The Master of Ragnarok
& Blesser of Einherjar

百鍊の覇王と聖約の戦乙女 (ヴァルキュリア)

Some urban legends are best left untested! Yūto Suō gets more than he bargained for when he joins his childhood friend Mitsuki Shimoya in testing out an urban legend. When he uses his phone to take a picture of himself with the local shrine’s divine mirror, he is whisked off into another world — one heavily steeped in the lore of the old Norse myths.

July 8
EMT Squared
Tokyo MX, BS11





Planet With プラネット・ウィズ

Sōya Kuroi lives a peaceful life despite having no memories of his past. One day, the world ends up under attack by huge unidentified floating objects known as “Nebula Weapons” which soar the skies and cause panic. Seven heroes show up to fight the unknown threat. They fly up in the sky in a glow of light while enveloped in big robot frames. Along with the cat-like sensei and the gothic lolita girl Ginko, Sōya is dragged into the fight. He apparently has to fight off the heroes now.

July 8

J.C. Staff

Tokyo MX, MBS,
BS11, AT-X



Agū: Tensai Ningyō Agū: Genius Dolls

偶 -天才人形-

Ai is an ordinary girl and a dancer. Her friend Machi is also a dancer, but Machi is a genius. Watching Machi’s talent often makes Ai feel down. One day, Ai finds out Machi’s secret: the existence of the Agū, palm-size entities who grant genius talent upon those who hold them. In order to save Machi, who has become a “Seamstress” who makes Agū, Ai becomes a “Savior.” The Saviors are a group of people who have fought the Seamstresses for generations.

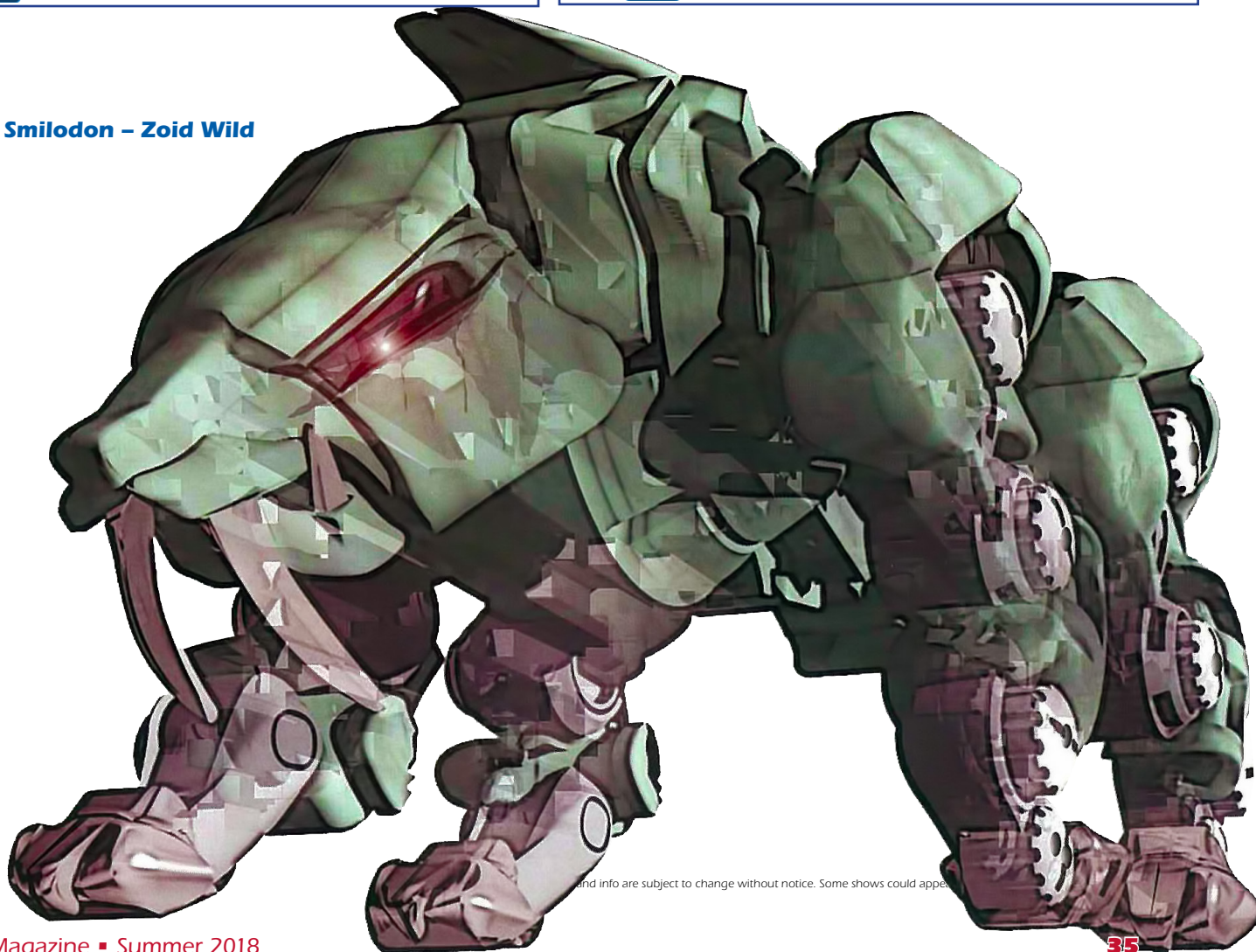
July 9

Studio DEEN

Tokyo MX, SunTV,
KBS Kyoto, BS11



Concept Smilodon – Zoid Wild



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Anime Schedule 2018 Summer S



Jashin-chan Dropkick Dropkick on My Devil!

邪神ちゃんドロップキック

Jashin-chan Dropkick is a violent slapstick comedy about a delusional gothic lolita, Yurine, who summons a demon girl with the tail of a cobra, Jashin-chan. They'll have to live together until Yurine finds a way to send Jashin-chan back to hell or until Jyashin-chan kills Yurine.

July 9

Nomad

BS-Fuji, Tokyo MX,
SunTV, CTC, GYT,
Mie TV, RNC



Kyôto Teramachi Sanjô no Holmes

都寺町三条のホームズ

This "light, antique mystery" series revolves around a "spiteful," handsome Kyôto boy and a high school girl. The story is set at an antique shop in Kyôto's Teramachi Sanjô shopping district. High school girl Aoi Mashiro unexpectedly runs into Kiyotaka Yagashira, the son of the shop's owner, and ends up working part-time at the shop. Kiyotaka is called the "Holmes at Teramachi Sanjô," and he and Aoi solve odd cases brought to them by various clients.

July 9

Seven

TV Tokyo, TV Osaka,
TV Aichi, BS Japan, AT-X



Phantom in the Twilight

The story takes place in London at "Café Forbidden," a mysterious café that only opens at night. The protagonist is a girl who is in London to study abroad. She meets the handsome men who work this place where the guardians of the boundary between the human and shadow world gather.

July 9

LIDENFILMS
Tokyo MX, BS Fuji



Shinya! Tensai Bakabon Shinya! Genius Bakabon

深夜!天才バカボン

Tensai Bakabon is the tale of a child prodigy and his "philosophical" father. Bakabon's father has his own philosophy and leaves no stone unturned in his quest for answers. Despite his ability to trouble, for some reason, Papa Bakabon is regarded as "The Great Philosopher," and is sought after for advice, which of course ends up in disastrous results. Tensai Bakabon joins his father in his philosophical quests which drives the people in their town crazy. New adaptation of *Tensai Bakabon*.

July 10

Pierrot Plus

TV Tokyo, TV Osaka,
TV Aichi, BS Japan



Jashin-chan – Jashin-chan Dropkick





Angolmois: Genkō Kassen-ki アンゴルモア 元寇合戦記

The traditional historical epic adventure centers around a samurai defending Japan against the first Mongol invasion of 1274.

July 11

NAZ

SunTV, Tokyo MX,
KBS Kyoto, TV Aichi,
TVQ, BS11

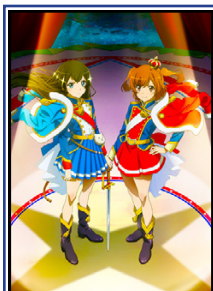


Free! -Dive to the Future-

In this new series, Haruka, who is attending college in Tōkyō, meets Asahi again and reawakens his memories from his middle school years, including those of Ikuya. Makoto is working toward a new dream while he is in Tōkyō together with Haruka. Rin has an unexpected meeting in Sydney. As they await their new futures, will they see a new fight ahead? Or will they instead confront the past they left behind?

July 11

Kyoto Animation
ABC, Tokyo MX1,
TVA, BS11



Shōjo☆Kageki Revue Starlight 少女☆歌劇 レヴュー・スタアライト

The franchise centers on “Starlight” — the song and dance revue troupe loved throughout the world. Karen and Hikari make a promise with each other when they’re young that one day they’ll stand on that stage together. Time passes, and now the girls are 16 years old. Karen is very enthusiastic about the lessons she takes every day, holding her promise close to her heart. Hikari has transferred schools and is now away from Karen. But the cogs of fate turn, and the two are destined to meet again.

July 12

Kinema Citrus
TBS, CBC, BS-TBS,
MBS, RKB



Tenrō: Sirius the Jaeger Sirius the Jaeger 天狼 シリウス Sirius the Jaeger

Imperial Capital, 1930. A strange group of people carrying musical instrument cases landed on Tōkyō Station called “Jaegers”, who came to hunt vampires. Amongst them, there stood a young man with striking serenity and unusual aura. His name is Yuliy, a werewolf whose home village was destroyed by vampires. Yuliy and the Jaegers engage in deadly battle over a mysterious holy arc only known as “The Arc of Sirius.” With eternal affinity and spiral of conspiracy entwined, the highly anticipated action-thriller anime begins!

July 12

P.A. Works

AT-X, Tokyo MX, BS11



High Score Girl ハイスコアガール

It’s 1991, and 6th grader Yaguchi Haruo only has video games to live for. The only thing he has going for him is that he is good at video games. One day at the local arcade, he plays Akira Ōno, a fellow classmate but who’s popular, smart, pretty and a rich girl that absolutely destroys him at *Street Fighter II*. Not only does he lose to her 30 times, he can’t beat her at any game. Haruo can’t seem to shake Akira off as she follows him from arcade to arcade everyday after school and beats him every time. As weird as it sounds, the odd couple begins a strange bond and friendship.

July 13

J.C. Staff

Tokyo MX, BS11, MBS



Lord of Vermilion: Guren no Ō Lord of Vermilion: Crimson King ロード オブ ヴァーミリオン 紅蓮の王

Tōkyō 2030. A high-frequency resonance sounds are observed around Tōkyō and at the same time, the city is surrounded by red mist. Whether human beings or animals, everyone loses consciousness. This phenomenon is said to be an unknown virus. Six days after the phenomenon called ‘Dai Kyoumei,’ the people and animals who had lost consciousness suddenly awoke as if nothing had happened. Young people awaken to unleash the power hidden in the blood are being pulled by each other’s powers to inevitable encounters.

July 13

Agreed

Tokyo MX, BS11,
x, TV Aichi



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Anime Schedule 2018

Summer Season

Continued



Grand Blue ぐらんぶる

A new life begins for Iori Kitahara as he begins his college career near the ocean in Izu City, full of excitement for his new life. He will be moving into his Uncle's diving store "Grand Blue." There he finds the beautiful ocean, beautiful women and men that love diving and alcohol. Will Iori be able to live his dream college life?

July 14

Zero-G

MBS, TBS, BS-TBS, AT-X



Tsukumogami Kashimasu Tsukumogami For Rent

つくもがみ貸します

Set during the Edo period in the Fukagawa ward of old Edo. Prone to fire and flooding, residents rent everyday items like pots, futons and clothing from shops instead of purchasing them. Obeni and Seiji, an older sister and younger brother, run one such rental shop called Izumoya. However, mixed in with their inventory are tsukumogami, objects that have turned into spirits after a hundred years of existence. They can see and talk to these spirits and other tsukumogami often come to the store after hearing of the famed siblings.

July 22

Telecom Animation Film
NHK



Happy Sugar Life ハッピーシュガーライフ

High-schooler Satō Matsuzaka has a reputation for being easy, but one day her lifestyle of sleeping with one boy after another comes to an end. It happens when she meets the child Shio, for whom she is convinced she feels true love for the first time. Satō may seem sweet and innocent, but there is nothing she won't do to protect their life together, including committing murder. But from where did she acquire the little girl, and how long can their "happy sugar life" together last?

July 14

Ezo'la

MBS, TBS, BS-TBS, AT-X



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Muhyo & Rōji's Bureau of
Supernatural Investigation

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Are you a victim of unwanted spirit possession? Is there a ghost you need sent up and away... or down to burn for all eternity? If the answer is yes, then you need Muhyo and Rōji, experts in magic law. Serving justice to evil spirits is their specialty.

August 3

Studio DEEN

SKY PerfecTV!, Animax



Yuragi-sō no Yūna-san Yūna and the Haunted Hot Springs

ゆらぎ荘の幽奈さん

Fuyuzora has spirit abilities. This has caused a lot of trouble in his life, but now also very poor, homeless and hoping for a happier, more normal, high school life. He found a cheap boarding house called Yuragi-sō, formerly a popular hot springs inn. The house is haunted by the spirit of a high school student whose corpse was found there. Yuragi-sō's ghost is a 16-year-old girl named Yuna. Fuyuzora doesn't hurt a ghost girl, but helps her to figure out her unfinished business.

July 14

Xebec

Tokyo MX, BS11



FLCL Alternative Fooly Cooly Alternative フリクリ オルタナ

Many years have passed since Naota and Haruko shared their adventure together. Meanwhile, the war between the two entities known as Medical Mechanica and Fraternity rages across the galaxy. Enter Hidomi, a young teenaged girl who believes there is nothing amazing to expect from her average life, until one day when a new teacher named Haruko arrives at her school. Soon enough, Medical Mechanica is attacking her town. But why did Haruko return to Earth? What happened to her Rickenbacker 4001 she left with Naota?

Sep 7

Production I.G
Theatrical Screening



MIKU EXPO

HATSUNE MIKU EXPO 2014

2018

初音ミク
HATSUNE MIKU

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Microsoft Theater

JUL 01: San Jose, CA
City National Civic Auditorium

JUL 06: Dallas, TX
The Bomb Factory

JUL 08: Austin, TX
H-E-B Center

JUL 12: Washington DC
The Anthem

JUL 14: New York, NY
Hammerstein Ballroom

JUL 19: Mexico City
Pepsi Center


<http://org.mikuexpo.com/usamx2018/>



30 Years In The JAPAN

My initial interest in the culture of Japan was not from my fandom in anime, but for more mundane reasons. When I was a kid, my dad would come home after a long deployment overseas and bring back souvenirs and gifts. A couple of them were a pair of geisha dolls and of things—a

rice cooker. If I remember correctly, it was a brand called Tiger. It wasn't totally about the rice cooker, but the instruction manual that it came with. The instruction manual was printed in "strange" language I didn't know at the time which really fascinated me. This led to my



“As long as you know in which station and at what hour you should wait, which train to take and if necessary when and where to get off that train to take a different line, to take a different train, you shall be accepted as a smart traveller!”

— Mehmet Murat İldan

making an

Part 1 of 2

lifetime interest in the culture and anime fandom.

My trip was set for the beginning of April, which supposed to be beginning the sakura (cherry blossom) flowering season. The flight to Japan was uneventful, just a passenger-filled, long, 12-hour trip. We arrived at Narita

International Airport “later” on that Friday afternoon.

After going through immigration, I took an Airport Limousine to my hotel in Shinagawa, the Shinagawa Prince Hotel, which at the time didn’t know was high-end. This is where I stayed for my first week and the base for my trips.

The First Night



With so many places to go and see, it was difficult deciding what to do, where to go and how to do it. I had only two weeks in Japan so I had to make up my mind and make the most of it. So I played everything by ear for the most part and accomplished most of what I wanted to do by the end of my trip. Let's start with getting around Tōkyō-to (Metropolitan Tōkyō). The major way of getting around the city is either by train, subway or bus. It's a city built around people rather than cars and trucks. When ever people talk about Tōkyō, it's often referred to as a city, hence will be referred to from this point on. It's actually made up of a lot of individual





2018年 4月 6日(金) 21:58

伝票	25	車番 B	3
品名	数量	金額	
メガカレー	1	670	
瓶ビール	1	410	
商品代	1,080円	(内消費税)	80円
合計	1,080円		

毎度ありがとうございます。
 今後の来店をお待ちしております。

My first meal and transaction in Japan, Mega Curry and beer around Shinagawa Station.



cities or boroughs, locally referred to as wards. Wards are further divided into districts. I've visited most of popular wards of Tōkyō in the prefecture as well as cities in other prefectures. This trip evolved into an anime pilgrimage, encompassing both cultural and anime fandom aspects of each place I visited. I'll start with the wards of Metropolitan Tōkyō (north, going clockwise), the outlying prefectures and then Kyōto Prefecture. This article will be come in two parts. This article will be about going around Tōkyō. The second part, in the next issue, will be about my travels outside Tōkyō in the

southern prefectures.

As a traveler, I recommend getting a JR Pass. It's a train pass that's only available to only foreign visitors, issued by the Japan Railways (JR) Group, the major rail company in Tōkyō, for unlimited rides up the pass' expiration date. The pass is a little pricy, but you could used for unlimited rides on any local JR line and on the JR Shinkansen bullet trains. Another good pass to get is the Suica or Pasma cards if you want to go the least expensive route and not plan to travel far. It's like a prepaid card bought at kiosks or station offices you load up so you don't have to keep

buying tickets. They could even be used to make purchases and most station stores. Swipe the card at the train gate as you enter the passenger area, ride your train then swipe out when you exit at your destination. You won't get charged until you swipe out because the fare is based on the distance of your destination. These cards are for local trains belonging to JR and most company train systems in Tōkyō. There's an initial ¥500 (approx. \$5.00) deposit that you get back when you return the card. The main train line, the Yamanote Line by JR, circles around Metropolitan Tōkyō.



It was recommended to me that I visit the TenQ Space Museum for the limited time Sailor Moon Exhibit.

Bunkyo Ward is the location of the Tōkyō Dome City entertainment complex. The Tōkyō Dome baseball field is part of the greater complex and home of the Tomiuri Giants baseball team. An amusement park, shops, museums and small music venues make up this entertainment complex. Big name entertainers, both domestic (Japanese) and foreign, hold concerts here. A friend of mine mentioned there was a special *Bishōjo Senshi Sailor Moon* (Pretty Guardian Sailor Moon)

exhibition in the area that was going to end soon, so I had time to check it out between hotel moves. The exhibition was at the TenQ (pronounced 10-Q) Space Museum, a 20-minute walk south of Kurakuen Station. The tour of the museum began with three video presentations. After that, we were brought to the exploration museum that presented the history of the Japanese space program, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). The next area in the interactive area. There are



many family-oriented activities that are fun, entertaining and educational. The Tōkyō Dome City entertainment complex area could be reached by the Marunouchi or Nan'boku Line (Tōkyō Metro) at Kurakuen Station. Other routes are the Mita Line (Tōei) and the Chūō-Sōbo and Chūō Lines (JR) at Suidōbashi Station.



Taitō Ward is a major tourist destination next to Bunkyo Ward. This is where I also stayed my second week in Japan at the Asakusa Sunroute Hotel in the Tawaramachi area. Sensō-ji Temple, a Buddhist temple in the Asakusa district is the major tourist area. Though only a 10-minute walk from my hotel, the temple is even a shorter walk from Asakusa Station by way of the Ginza (Tōkyō Metro),

Asakusa (Tōei Subway) and Tōbu-Skytree (Tōbu Railway) Lines. Kaminari-mon is the gate to the temple grounds. Around the temple grounds is a shopping arcade and many food stalls offering many local desserts and delicacies. During busy tourist days, the temple grounds are really packed. Outside the temple grounds, you could find rickshaws you could ride to take a tour around the district.



Sensō-ji Temple was a very festive place.



Sumida

Next to Taitō Ward is Sumida Ward. It's the location of the telecommunications tower, Tōkyō Skytree, a tall, 600-meter successor to Tōkyō Tower. As a tourist attraction, there are many shops and restaurants at the base of the tower. You could go up the tower to one of two observation decks. The lower Tembo Deck is about ¥2,000 (approx. \$20 US) and the upper Tembo Galleria deck, a little more. The Tembo Deck has a photo spots, a couple bars and a souvenir store. A section of the lower floor of the deck has a glass floor where people look down to the ward below and the adjacent Sumida River.

On each side of the river are walkways where you could take a leisure stroll and enjoying the sights. The walkways are



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Open Hours 8:00~22:00 | Final Entrance Time 21:00





Although a windy day, it was a nice walk along Sumida River.

Left and bottom is the Tōkyō Skytree and its surrounding area.

accessible at bridges. On this particular day, there were strong wind gusts. Asahi Beer headquarters is also located in Sumida—the building with the “golden cloud” which actually looks like a giant, golden turd.

Sumida Ward is where the anime *Taiho Shichauzo* (*You're Under Arrest*) takes place. And yes, motorcycle patrol officers do dress like Officer Nakajima

from the anime.

Tōkyō Skytree could be accessed by two train stations. The closest of the two is Tōkyō Skytree Station by way of the Tōbu-Skytree Line (Tōbu Railway). The other is Honjo-Azumabashi Station by way of the Asakusa Line (Tōei Subway) which is about a 15-minute walk, but there's also a lot to see along the way.





South of Bunkyo is Chiyoda Ward. This is where the famous Tōkyō Station is located and is a major connecting point of all major rail lines, including the JR Shinkansen bullet trains. This station that was built in the early 20th century, nearly destroyed during World War II and rebuilt soon after. It was renovated in 2012 with the restoration of the original third floor that hasn't been there since the war. A multitude of underground shops and restaurants were added that stretched from the Marunouchi side to the Yaesu side. On the west side of the station is the new Tōkyō Station Hotel.

I made a quick visit to the East Garden of the Imperial Palace through Ōte-mon Gate on a tour. The garden could be easily accessed by a short

Top is the gate to the Imperial Palace Gardens.

Rebuilt Tōkyō Station which the JR Shinkansen departs from amongst many other trains.

15-minute walk from Tōkyō Station though a newly paved, white marble walkway from the station to the garden. Chiyoda is also the location of the National Diet Building (their legislature) and Japan's prime minister's official residence.

The Akihabara area is located in the northern-most part of the ward, right off of the JR Akihabara Station. Also known as “Electric Town” or “Akiba,” it's where many electronics, home appliances, electronic parts and radio parts—rare and common—could be found. Over time, Akiba became the center of anime, video game, cosplay and other Japanese popular culture of the world. Many anime-related shops could be found around the area: Animate, Mandarake and Partners to name a few. There are also many game arcades also

located there like the Sega Game Center. Akiba also has a lot of themed and maid cafés which are fun and pretty cool to experience. The ones I experienced are Kawaii Café and Bar Akiba Zettai Ryoiki and maidreamin (Akihabara LIVE RESTAURANT Heaven's Gate location).

Although Akiba is the setting of many anime to name, one video game stood out to accurately depict the streets of Akihabara, *Akiba's Trip*. *Steins;Gate* is also another anime that's set entirely in Akihabara with most places depicted are actual places.

Akihabara could be reached by JR's Yamanote, Chūō-Sōbo and Keihin-Tōhoku Lines. Tōkyō Metro's Hibiya (Akihabara Station—not connected) and Ginza (Suehirochō Station) Lines are alternate lines to Akiba.

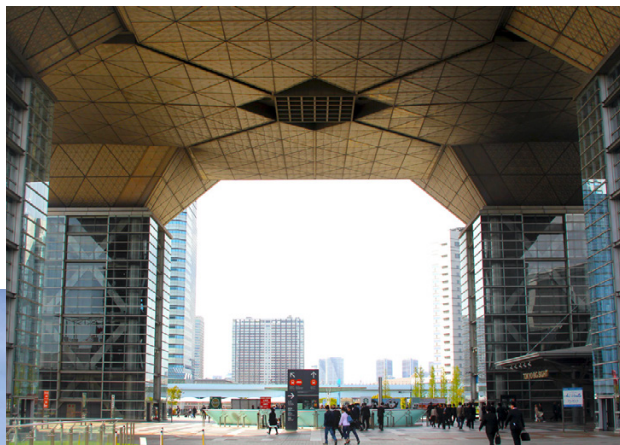


Akihabara is the center of otaku culture off JR Akihabara Station.

Myu-chan was my “maid” when I was at Kawaii Café.

Tōkyō Tower is a national landmark and tourist attraction synonymous to Japan.

Tōkyō Big Sight Convention Center, the most recognizable landmark in Odaiba.



Going a short distance south is Minato Ward, location of the famous communications tower, Tōkyō Tower. At one time, Tōkyō Tower was the largest structure in Japan and a national landmark. Because of the growth of skyscrapers in Tōkyō in the past four decades, television and radio signals couldn't reach some areas. This is the reason Tōkyō Skytree was built as its replacement.

Now a major tourist attraction, Tōkyō Tower has a shops and restaurants around its base, called FootTown. There's also an *One Piece* anime-based indoor park called Tōkyō One Piece

Tower and a corresponding shop to purchase merchandise. Aside from anime popular culture, Tōkyō Tower has been destroyed and rebuilt many times in *Gojira* (*Godzilla*) and other

tokusatsu movies. Tōkyō Tower could be reached by the Ōedo Line through Akabanebashi Station and the Mita Line through Shikakoen or Onari-Mon Stations (Tōei Transportation). It could also be reached by the Hibiya Line at Kamiyachō Station northwest of the tower. Other ways from the JR Hamamatsuchō and Daimon Stations, but it's a long walk through Shiba Kōen passing by a lot of temples and shines.

Across Tōkyō Bay is the artificial island of Odaiba, is also in Minato Ward. It's most famous location among anime and manga fans is Tōkyō Big Sight, a convention center featured in a lot of anime...most notably in *Genshiken* and *Comic Party*. It's the location of major anime and manga conventions such as Comiket (Comic Market), which specializes in *dōjinshi* (self-published) comics—original or based on other anime characters.

minato





Other than Akihabara, Tōkyō Big Sight is place where all anime fans should go on an anime pilgrimage.

A Statue of Liberty (officially from France) was bought by local business in the late 90s to commemorate France's friendship with Japan. This statue's face is turned towards those businesses that bought the statue.

At the front of Diver City shopping center stands a full 1:1-scale RX-0 Gundam Unicorn (a giant robot)...from the *Kidō Senshi Gundam Unicorn* (*Mobile Suit Gundam Unicorn*) anime. Inside the shopping center is Gundam Base Tōkyō, a shop that specializes in "Gunpla" (Gundam plastic models). It also doubles as model workshop and museum of Gunpla manufacturing history.

Also inside Diver City are high-end shops, restaurants and a Round One entertainment center. A similar shopping center across the pedestrian walkway is Aqua City. Next to it is Island Mall which has the Sega Joypolis arcade and a small Legoland.



Odaiba

The full size Gundam Unicorn had it's transformation at night.

On the following page is the Ōedo-Onsen-Monogatari, a hot springs resort.

One thing one must do on a trip to Japan is to experience an onsen, an outdoor hot springs bath. I found one close to my hotel called Odaiba Ōedo-Onsen-Monogatari in Odaiba (of all places) and made a reservation for a cheaper rate. This was a first for me and quite an experience! First of all, anyone with any “visible” tattoos aren’t permitted in onsens. It’s a taboo in Japanese culture. Those with tattoos must find one that allows it, rare as it may be.

After you check in at the registration desk, you’re given a wristband with a locker key and barcode. You’re given a yukata and obi (a traditional Japanese garment and sash) to change into next. At this point, men and women are segregated. You change in the locker rooms into your yukata while leaving your undergarments on. Nothing else is permitted but phones. Next is an area is the hirokōji, a “plaza,” where you could buy souvenirs, play simple festival games and eat great food. You





pay by your locker key barcode, so you have to be mindful of your purchases. If you decide to eat—I had sushi and beer—you could do that before you go the bathing area.

Next is the locker room in the bathing area. You're given a large and small hand towel to use. You have to completely undress and leave your large towel in the locker before bathing, but bring your hand towel. For many people, especially foreigners, being naked in front of people is a psychological and cultural issue, so this is your time to back out and hang out at the hirokōji.

If you proceed, there's a wooden container by the entrance filled with hot water to warm and clean yourself up. If you prefer, there's a washing area with soap and shampoo. You have to be clean before going into the hot springs bath out of custom and courtesy. Don't put your hand towel in the water. It's considered rude and also prevents the spread of bacteria.

Instead, fold it and lay it on your head or lay on the side of the bath. Stay in as long as you like, but get out when you start feeling a little dizzy.

Now relax, let go of all your worldly worries and socialize with people around you. This onsen has several kinds of spring baths you could experience, but I chose to stay in the indoor bath because it was cold and raining outside on this particular Tuesday. You can go in and out of the bathing and hirokōji areas as many times as you want...getting dresses and undress, of course. I stayed a little over three hours, but it was very relaxing.

When you leave, change back into your yukata and your regular clothes (reverse order), then go back to the registration counter. Turn in your locker key and the staff member will scan your barcode for purchases. This is the time you will pay for your purchases. Lastly, you're given an exit ticket to give to the person at the exit.

Other areas in Odaiba are Fuji Television Studios and Zepp DiverCity, a concert venue, where the Japanese rock band "X" (X-Japan for the rest of the world) held a concert later that evening. I was lucky enough to find out about and bought a souvenir keychain. Cruises around Tōkyō Bay could be done from the mainland at such places as Symphony Cruise, which was part of a Tōkyō tour.

Odaiba could be reached by an automated monorail, the Yurikamome Line (Tōkyō Metro) from Shimbashi Station, across Rainbow bridge, through Odaiba, to Toyosu Station. You can also get there by the Rinkai Line (Tōkyō Waterfront Area Rapid Transit) from Ōsaki Station in Shinagawa to Tōkyō Teleport Station.



Shinagawa



The Wing Takanawa West shopping center where I ate at Ann Miller's and Mango Tree Café. It also leads to my hotel, the Shinagawa Prince Hotel.

Our next place of interest is Shinagawa Ward. As I mentioned earlier, this is where I stayed for my first week in Japan at the Shinagawa Prince Hotel. The area around the hotel and Shinagawa Station was my first taste of Japan. My first night, I was overwhelmed with the large crowd in Shinagawa Station... 10:30 at night! From what I understand by talking with locals, it's the average size of Japan Rail (JR) stations in Tōkyō, which is much larger than any train station I've been in the US. As I explored the huge station, I came out of the East Kōnan Exit into the station plaza.

Past the plaza is a narrow street lined with small restaurants and bars each side while still packed with people. There was a Denny's! What's also numerous around here are Karaoke Joysound studios, which I regret not experiencing their karaoke firsthand. Shinagawa Station is also known at the "gateway to Japan." It's a major connecting point to Haneda Airport by way of the Keikyū Line that connects to the Keikyū-Kūkō Line (Keihin Kyūkō). JR's Yamanote and Tōkaidō (Shinkansen) Lines are but a few trains that could be taken from here.

"Japan" continues on page 95



Inside of Shinagawa Station and the Kōnan Exit Plaza where a Datsun fans showcased their cars.





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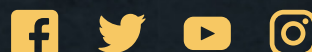
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Who's That Seiyū



Waki, Azumi

和氣 あず未

DOB: September 8, 1994
Tōkyō

Blood Type: O

Current Roles...



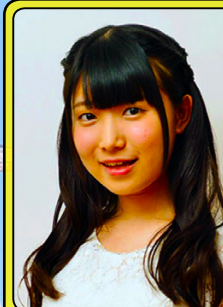
Tsuda, Minami

津田 美波

DOB: June 8, 1989
Kanagawa

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



Akao, Hikaru

赤尾 ひかる

DOB: June 16
Saitama

Blood Type: NA

Current Roles...



Special Week
Uma Musume Pretty Derby



Yanase, Mai
Toji no Miko



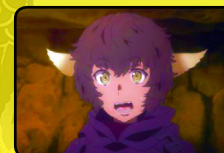
Natsuno, Hanabi
Tachibana-kan To Lie Angle



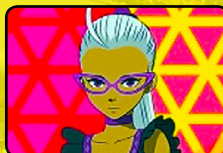
Jaguar
Kemono Friends



Moeta, Kaoruko/Kaos
Comic Girls



Lulune Louie
DanMachi



Domina Dorsey
BBK/BRNK



Higuchi, Eri
Ani Tore! EX



Shiratori, Hime
Aikatsu Stars!



Proserpina
Kōkaku no Pandora



Upierzyca
Märchen Mädchen



Suelle Marlen
Atelier Lydie and Suelle



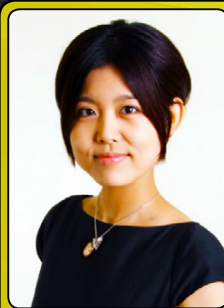
Maeno, Tomoaki

前野 智昭

DOB: May 26, 1982
Ibaraki

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



Sawashiro, Miyuki

沢城 みゆき

DOB: June 2, 1985
Tōkyō

Blood Type: O

Current Roles...



Miyano, Mamoru

宮野 真守

DOB: June 8, 1983
Saitama Prefecture

Blood Type: B

Current Roles...



Leon Lau
Jūshinki Pandora



Tachibana, Akira
Butlers



Kitarō
GeGeGe no Kitarō



Koyanagi, Hanako
Wotaku ni Koi



Reinhard von Lohengramm
Ginga Eiyū Densetsu



Ijūin, Kaoru
Tada-kun wa Koi wo Shinai



Aihara, Shō
citrus



Usaida, Yoshihito
Gakuen Babysitters



Juliana Lloyd
Devils' Line



Suzuki, Mayuko
Yōkai Apartment



Anzai, Tamaki
Devils' Line



Leo
Fire Emblem Warriors

Genki Life Magazine of Spring 2018



Ishikawa, Kaito

石川 界人

DOB: October 13, 1993
Tōkyō

Blood Type: AB

Current Roles...



Serizawa, Yū

芹澤 優

DOB: December 3, 1994
Tōkyō

Blood Type: NA

Current Roles...



Kimura, Juri

木村 珠莉

DOB: June 7
Fukuoka

Current Roles...



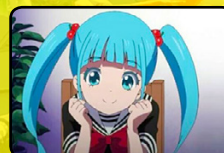
Mahō Shōjo Ore
Mahō Shōjo Ore



Subaru, Ichinose
Uchū Senkan Tiramisu



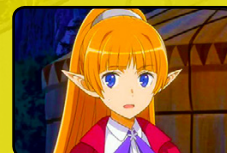
Igarashi, Iroha
3D Kanojo



Anazawa, Nijimi
Magical Girl Site



Kuze, Tsugumi
Nil Admirari no Tenbin



Lefiya Viridis
DanMachi



Ida, Ten'ya
Boku no Hero Academia



Foreteller Gula
Kingdom Hearts HD



Yumemite, Yumemi
Kakegurui



Shindō, Yukika
Seikai Suru Kado



Tōno, Kyōko
Seiren



Aoi, Yui
12-Sai.



Tōyama, Nao

東山 奈央

DOB: March 11, 1992
Tōkyō

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



Nakamura, Yūichi

中村 悠一

DOB: February 20, 1980
Aji, Kagawa

Blood Type: B

Current Roles...



Sakura, Ayane

佐倉 綾音

DOB: January 29, 1994
Tōkyō

Blood Type: B

Current Roles...



Tsubaki, Aoi
Kakuriyo no Yadomesbi



Chloe Lau
Jūshinki Pandora



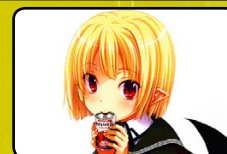
Tada, Mitsuyoshi
Tada-kun wa Koi wo Shinai



Irvin
Grancrest Senki



Rise
Alice or Alice



Gaspar Vladi
High School DxD



Shima, Rin
Yuru Camp



Amano, Nozomi
Battle Girl High School



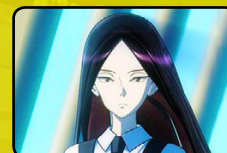
Kanbe
Net-jū no Susume



Osawa, Shū
Rāmen Daisuki Koizumi-san



Osawa, Yū
Rāmen Daisuki Koizumi-san



Bort
Hōseki no Kuni



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Manga Releases

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A Terrified Teacher at Ghoul School!, Vol. 3

Mai Tanaka
Yen Press
June 26



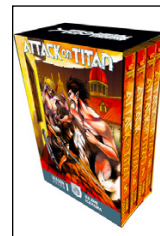
Air Gear, Vol. 37

Oh!Great
Kodansha Comics
June 26



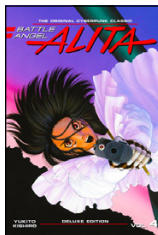
As Miss Beelzebub Likes, Vol. 2

matoba
Yen Press
June 26



Attack on Titan Season 1, Part 2 Manga Box Set

Hajime Isayama
Kodansha Comics
June 26



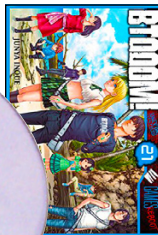
Battle Angel Alita Deluxe Edition, Vol. 4

Yukito Kishiro
Kodansha Comics;
Deluxe edition
June 26



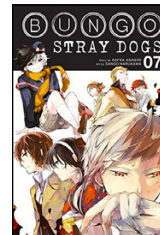
Big Order, Vol. 5

Sakae Esuno
Yen Press
June 26



BTOOOM!, Vol. 21

Jun'ya Inoue
Yen Press
June 26



Bungo Stray Dogs, Vol. 7

Kafka Asagiri,
Sango Harukawa
Yen Press
June 26



Captive Hearts of Oz, Vol. 4

Ryō Maruya,
Mamenosuke Fujimaru
Seven Seas
Entertainment
June 26



Cardcaptor Sakura: Clear Card, Vol. 4

Clamp
Kodansha Comics
June 26



Devilman Grimoire, Vol. 3

Gō Nagai, Rui Takatō
Seven Seas
Entertainment
June 26



Fire Force, Vol. 10

Atsushi Ōkubo
Kodansha Comics
June 26



Freezing, Vol. 21-22

Dall-Young Lim,
Kwang-Hyun Kim
Seven Seas
Entertainment
June 26



Gantz G, Vol. 1

Hiroya Oku, Keita Lizuka
Dark Horse Manga
June 26



Itsuki Minami
– Air Gear

Information presented here is as accurate as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. Yaoi/yuri/yuri and "hentai" titles for mature audiences 18+.

Manga Releases

Summer 2018 *Continued*



Goblin Slayer, Vol. 3

Kumo Kagyu,
Kōsuke Kurose,
Noboru Kannatuki
Yen Press
June 26



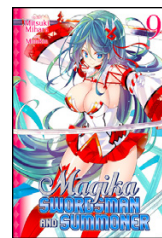
How NOT to Summon a Demon Lord, Vol. 1

Yukiya Murasaki,
Naoto Fukuda
Seven Seas
Entertainment
June 26



Little Witch Academia, Vol. 1

Yō Yoshinari, TRIGGER,
Keisuke Satō
JY
June 26



Magika Swordsman and Summoner, Vol. 9

Mitsuki Mihara, MonRin
Seven Seas
Entertainment
June 26



Mononoke Sharing, Vol. 2

coolkyousinnija
Seven Seas
Entertainment
June 26



My Monster Secret, Vol. 11

Eiji Masuda
Seven Seas
Entertainment
June 26



The Elder Sister-Like One, Vol. 2

Pochi Iida
Yen Press
June 26



The Irregular at Magic High School, Vol. 8 (L)

Tsutomu Satō,
Kana Ishida
Yen On
June 26



The Strange Creature at Kuroyuri Apartments, Vol. 1

Gao Yuzuki
Yen Press
June 26



Though You May Burn to Ash, Vol. 2

Kakashi Oniyazu
Yen Press
June 26



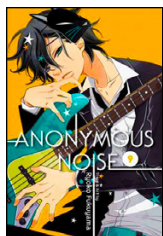
To Love Ru Darkness, Vol. 5

Saki Hasemi,
Kentaro Yabuki
Ghost Ship
June 26



Today's Cerberus, Vol. 9

Ato Sakurai
Yen Press
June 26



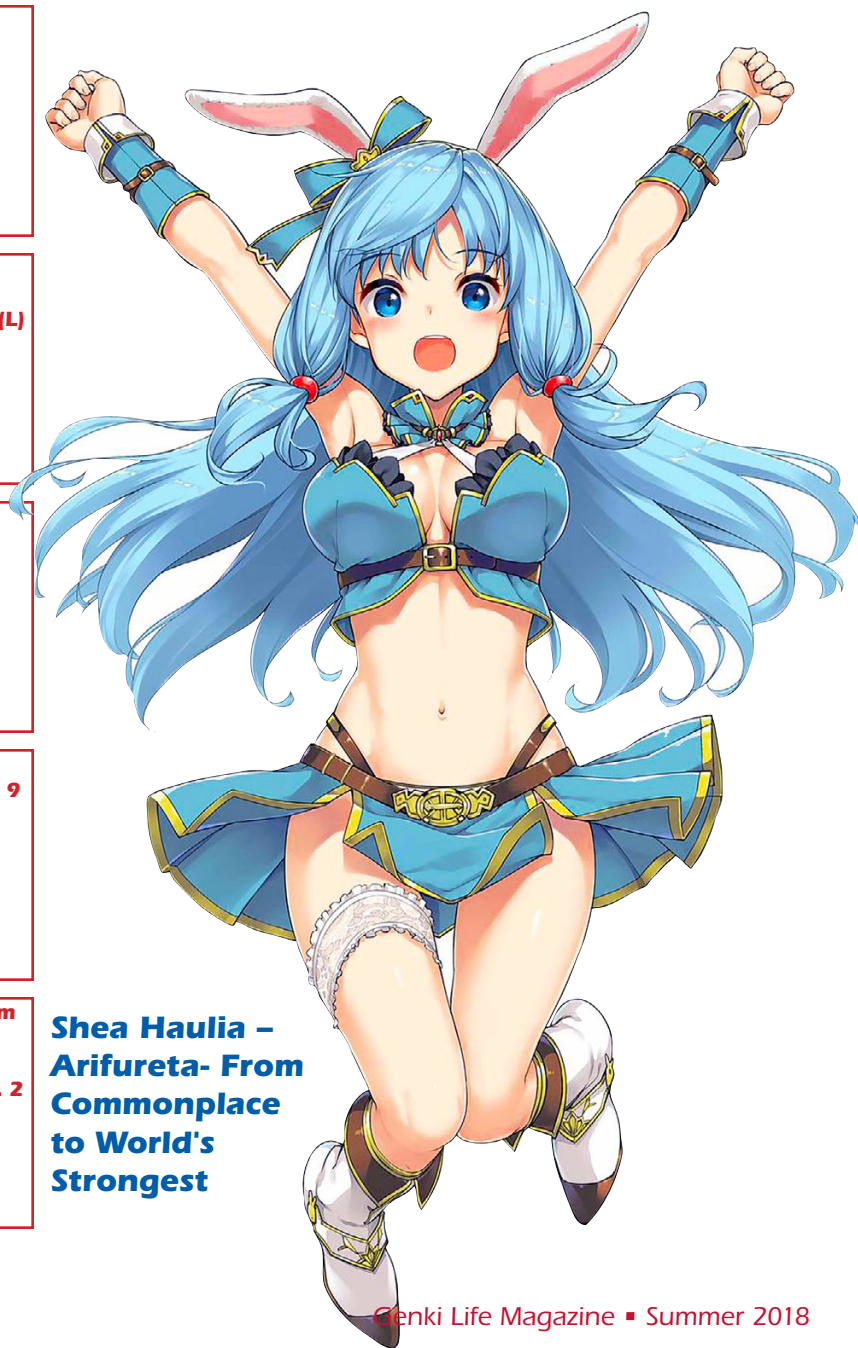
Anonymous Noise, Vol. 9

Ryōko Fukuyama
VIZ Media, LLC.
July 3




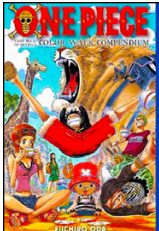
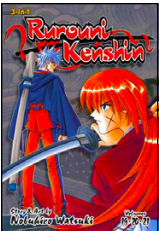




Arifureta: From Commonplace to World's Strongest, Vol. 2

Ryō Shirakome, RoGa
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 3



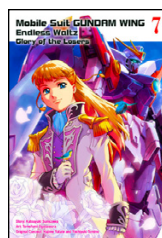
**Shea Haulia –
Arifureta: From
Commonplace
to World's
Strongest**

	Attack on Titan, Vol. 25 Hajime Isayama Kodansha Comics July 3		Bleach, Vol. 73 Tite Kubo VIZ Media, LLC. July 3		Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba, Vol. 1 Koyoharu Gotōge VIZ Media, LLC. July 3		Dragon Ball Super, Vol. 3 Akira Toriyama, Toyotarō VIZ Media, LLC. July 3
	Giant Spider & Me: A Post-Apocalyptic Tale, Vol. 2 Kikori Morino Seven Seas Entertainment July 3		Haikyuu!!, Vol. 25 Haruichi Furudate VIZ Media, LLC. July 3		Kaguya-sama: Love Is War, Vol. 3 Aka Akasaka VIZ Media, LLC. July 3		Kenka Bancho Otome: Love's Battle Royale, Vol. 2 Chie Shimada, Spike Chunsoft VIZ Media, LLC. July 3
	Mushroom Girls in Love† Kei Murayama Seven Seas Entertainment July 3		My Hero Academia: Vigilantes, Vol. 1 Hideyuki Furuhashi, Betten Court, Kōbei Horikoshi VIZ Media, LLC. July 3		Naruto (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 23 Masashi Kishimoto VIZ Media, LLC. July 3		One Piece Color Walk Compendium: East Blue to Skypiea Ei'ichiro Oda VIZ Media, LLC. July 3
	Rurouni Kenshin (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 7 Nobuhiro Watsuki VIZ Media, LLC. July 3		The Demon Prince of Momochi House, Vol. 12 Aya Shōoto VIZ Media, LLC. July 3		The Seven Deadly Sins, Vol. 27 Nakaba Suzuki Kodansha Comics July 3		The Water Dragon's Bride, Vol. 6 Rei Tōma VIZ Media, LLC. July 3
	World's End Harem, Vol. 2 Kotarō Shōno Ghost Ship July 3		YO-KAI WATCH, Vol. 9 Noriyuki Konishi VIZ Media, LLC. July 3		Attack on Titan Character Encyclopedia Hajime Isayama Kodansha Comics July 10		Attack on Titan: Junior High, Vol. 5 Hajime Isayama, Saki Nakagawa Kodansha Comics July 10
	Case Closed, Vol. 67 Gōshō Aoyama VIZ Media, LLC. July 10		Eden, Vol. 2 bash Gen Manga Entertainment July 10		Grimgar of Fantasy and Ash, Vol. 7 (L) Ao Jyūmonji, Eiri Shirai Seven Seas Entertainment July 10		Little Devils, Vol. 1 Uuumi Seven Seas Entertainment July 10 <small>Not Accural Cover</small>

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Manga Releases

Summer 2018 *Continued*



Mobile Suit Gundam WING, Vol. 7

Tomofumi Ogasawara,
Katsuyuki Sumizawa,
Yoshiyuki Tomino,
Hajime Yodate
Vertical Comics
July 10



RIN-NE, Vol. 27

Rumiko Takahashi
VIZ Media, LLC.
July 10



Secret Devil-Chan, Vol. 3

Emu
Digital Manga Publishing
July 10



Sorry for My Familiar, Vol. 2

Tekka Yaguraba
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 10
Not Accural Cover



Spirit Circle, Vol. 4

Satoshi Mizukami
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 10



The World's Greatest First Love, Vol. 10

Shungiku Nakamura
SuBLime
July 10



In Another World With My Smartphone, Vol. 9 (L)

Patora Fuyuhara,
Eiji Usatsuka
J-Novel Club
July 12



Children of the Whales, Vol. 5

Abi Umeda
VIZ Media, LLC.
July 17



Golosseum, Vol. 2

Yasushi Baba
Kodansha Comics
July 17



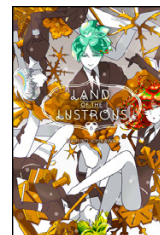
Hanger, Vol. 1

Hirokata Kisaragi
Tokyopop
July 17
Not Accural Cover



Kiss Me at the Stroke of Midnight, Vol. 6

Rin Mikimoto
Kodansha Comics
July 17



Land of the Lustrous, Vol. 6

Haruko Ichikawa
Kodansha Comics
July 17



The Bride & the Exorcist Knight, Vol. 1

Keiko Ishihara
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 17



Wake Up, Sleeping Beauty, Vol. 5

Megumi Morino
Kodansha Comics
July 17



Demon King Daimaou, Vol. 6 (L)

Shōtarou Mizuki,
Sōichi Itō
J-Novel Club
July 21



Akame ga KILL!, Vol. 15

Takahiro,
Tetsuya Tashiro
Yen Press
July 24



Cardfight!! Vanguard, Vol. 12

Akira Itō
Vertical
July 24



Didn't I Say to Make My Abilities Average in the Next Life?!, Vol. 1

FUNA, Neko Mint
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 24



Durarara!! RE:DOLLARS Arc, Vol. 2

Ryōgō Narita, Aogiri
Yen Press
July 24



Final Fantasy Ultimania Archive, Vol. 1

Square Enix
Dark Horse Books
July 24



Gabriel Dropout, Vol. 4

UKAMI
Yen Press
July 24



Hakumei & Mikochi: Tiny Little Life in the Woods, Vol. 1

Takuto Kashiki
Yen Press
July 24



Is It Wrong to Try to Pick Up Girls in a Dungeon? On the Side: Sword Oratoria, Vol. 4

Fujino Ōmori, Takashi Yagi,
Kiyotaka Haimura,
Suzuhito Yasuda
Yen Press
July 24



Murciélago, Vol. 7

Yoshimurakana
Yen Press
July 24



Overlord, Vol. 7
Kugane Maruyama,
Satoshi Ōshio,
Hugin Miyama, so-bin
Yen Press
July 24



Sacrificial Princess and the King of Beasts, Vol. 2
Yū Tomofuji
Yen Press
July 24



School of Horns, Vol. 1
Mita Aoi
Yen Press
July 24



Sekirei, Vol. 5
Sakurako Gokurakuin
Yen Press
July 24



Servamp, Vol. 11
Strike Tanaka
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 24



So I'm a Spider, So What?, Vol. 3
Okina Baba,
Asahiro Kakashi
Yen Press
July 24



Taboo Tattoo, Vol. 11
Shinjiro
Yen Press
July 24



The Saga of Tanya the Evil, Vol. 3
Carlo Zen, Chika Tōjō,
Shinobu Shinotsuki
Yen Press
July 24



The Voynich Hotel, Vol. 1
Seiman Douman
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 24
Not Actual Cover



Val x Love, Vol. 3
Ryōsuke Asakura
Yen Press
July 24



Yuuna and the Haunted Hot Springs, Vol. 3
Tadahiro Miura
Ghost Ship
July 24
Not Actual Cover



Clockwork Planet, Vol. 8
Yū Kamiya,
Tsubaki Himana,
Kuro
Kodansha Comics
July 31

**Tsukiumi, Matsu,
Musubi &
Kusano – Sekirei**

Manga Releases

Summer 2018 *Continued*



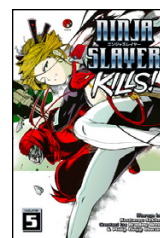
Dragon Half Omnibus, Vol. 2
Ryūsuke Mita
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 31



Made in Abyss, Vol. 3
Akihito Tsukushi
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 31



Magical Girl Spec-Ops Asuka, Vol. 3
Makoto Fukami,
Seigo Tokiya
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 31



Ninja Slayer Kills, Vol. 5
Kōtarō Sekine,
Bradley Bond,
Philip N. Morzez
Kodansha Comics
July 31



No Game No Life, Vol. 7 (L)
Yu Kamiya
Yen On
July 31



Precarious Woman Executive Miss Black General, Vol. 1
Jin
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 31



Species Domain, Vol. 5
Noro Shunsuke
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 31
Not Acutal Cover



The Tarot Cafe Manga Collection, Vol. 1
Sang-Sun Park
Tokyopop
July 31



The Testament of Sister New Devil, Vol. 9
Tetsuto Uesu,
Miyakokasiwa
Seven Seas
Entertainment
July 31
Not Acutal Cover



UQ HOLDER!, Vol. 14
Ken Akamatsu
Kodansha Comics
July 31



WorldEnd: What Do You Do at the End of the World? Are You Busy? Will You Save Us?, Vol. 1
Akira Karenou, ue
Yen On
July 31



The Rising of the Shield Hero, Vol. 9: The Manga Companion
Aneko Yusagi
One Peace Books
August 1



Again!!, Vol. 4
Mitsurō Kubo
Kodansha Comics
August 7



Attack on Titan: Colossal Edition, Vol. 4
Hajime Isayama
Kodansha Comics;
Combined edition
August 7



Black Clover, Vol. 12
Yūki Tabata
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



Black Torch, Vol. 1
Tsuyoshi Takaki
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



Blood Blockade Battlefront, Vol. 10
Yasuhiro Nightow
Dark Horse Manga
August 7



Didn't I Say to Make My Abilities Average in the Next Life?!, Vol. 2 (L)
FUNA, Itsuki Akata
Seven Seas
Entertainment
August 7



Fairy Tail Blue Mistral, Vol. 4
Hiro Mashima,
Rui Watanabe
Kodansha Comics
August 7



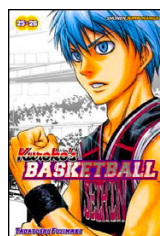
Food Wars!: Shokugeki no Soma, Vol. 25
Yūto Tsukuda,
Shun Saeki,
Yuki Morisaki
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



Haikyuu!!, Vol. 26
Haruichi Furudate
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



JoJo's Bizarre Adventure: Part 3 - Stardust Crusaders, Vol. 8
Hirohiko Araki
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



Kuroko's Basketball (2-in-1 Edition), Vol. 13
Tadatoshi Fujimaki
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



Monster Girl Doctor, Vol. 3 (L)
Yoshino Origuchi, z-ton
Seven Seas
Entertainment
August 7
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My Hero Academia, Vol. 14
Kôhei Horikoshi
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



One Piece, Vol. 87
Ei'ichiro Oda
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



Platinum End, Vol. 6
Tsugumi Ôba,
Takeshi Ôbata
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



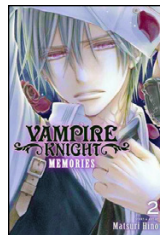
Sweet Blood, Vol. 10†
Seyoung Kim
NETCOMICS
August 7



The Promised Neverland, Vol. 5
Kaiu Shirai,
Posuka Demizu
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



Toriko, Vol. 43
Mitsutoshi Shimabukuro
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



Vampire Knight: Memories, Vol. 2
Matsuri Hino
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



Yona of the Dawn, Vol. 13
Mizuko Kusanagi
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 7



Arifureta: From Commonplace to World's Strongest, Vol. 7 (L)
Ryô Shirakome,
Takaya-ki, Ningen
J-Novel Club
August 11



A Strange and Mystifying Story, Vol. 4†
Tsuta Suzuki
SuBLime
August 14



Accomplishments of the Duke's Daughter, Vol. 1
Reia, Suki Umemiya
Seven Seas
Entertainment
August 14



Arakawa Under the Bridge, Vol. 4
Hikaru Nakamura
Vertical Comics
August 14



Cutie Honey: The Classic Collection
Gô Nagai
Seven Seas
Entertainment
August 14
Not Accutal Cover



Fire Force, Vol. 11
Atsushi Ôkubo
Kodansha Comics
August 14



Fullmetal Alchemist: Fullmetal Edition, Vol. 2
Hiromu Arakawa
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 14



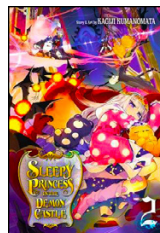
I Am a Hero Omnibus, Vol. 7
Kengo Hanzawa
Dark Horse Manga
August 14



In/Spectre, Vol. 8
Chasiba Katase,
Kyô Shirodaira
Kodansha Comics
August 14



Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic, Vol. 31
Shinobu Ôtaka
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 14



Sleepy Princess in the Demon Castle, Vol. 2
Kagiji Kumanomata
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 14



To Your Eternity, Vol. 6
Yoshitoki Ôima
Kodansha Comics
August 14
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The Rising of the Shield Hero, Vol. 12
Aneko Yusagi
One Peace Books
August 18



Akashic Records of Bastard Magic Instructor, Vol. 4
Hitsuji Tarô,
Tsunemi Aosa
Seven Seas
Entertainment
August 21



Battle Angel Alita Deluxe Edition, Vol. 5
Yukito Kishiro
Kodansha Comics;
Deluxe edition
August 21



Black Butler, Vol. 26
Yana Toboso
Yen Press
August 21
Not Accutal Cover

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. †Yaoi/yuri and †hentai titles for mature audiences 18+.

Manga Releases

Summer 2018 *Continued*



BTOOOM!, Vol. 22
Jun'ya Inoue
Yen Press
August 21
Not Acutal Cover



Defeating the Demon Lord's a Cinch (If You've Got a Ringer), Vol. 1
Tsukikage
Yen On
August 21
Not Acutal Cover



Devils' Line, Vol. 11
Ryô Hanada
Vertical Comics
August 21
Not Acutal Cover



Final Fantasy Lost Stranger, Vol. 1
Hazuki Minase, Itsuki Kameya
Yen Press
August 21
Not Acutal Cover



Forbidden Scollery, Vol. 4
Moe Harukawa, ZUN
Yen Press
August 21



Mobile Suit Gundam Thunderbolt, Vol. 8
Yasuo Otagaki, Hajime Yatate, Yoshiyuki Tomino
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 21



RWBY: Official Manga Anthology: Mirror Mirror, Vol. 2
Monty Oum, Rooster Teeth Productions
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 21

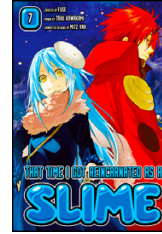


Saint Seiya: Saintia Sho, Vol. 3
Masami Kurumada, Chimaki Kuori
Seven Seas Entertainment
August 21
Not Acutal Cover

Rimuru Tempest – That Time I Got Reincarnated as a Slime



Tales of Wedding Rings, Vol. 3
Maybe
Yen Press
August 21
Not Acutal Cover



That Time I Got Reincarnated as a Slime, Vol. 7
Fuse, Taiki Kawakami
Kodansha Comics
August 21



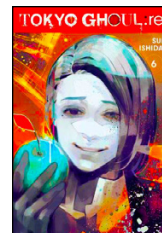
The Case Study of Vanitas, Vol. 4
June Mochizuki
Yen Press
August 21
Not Acutal Cover



The Testament of Sister New Devil STORM!, Vol. 4
Tetsuto Uesu, Fumihiko Kiso
Seven Seas Entertainment
August 21



Today's Cerberus, Vol. 10
Ato Sakurai
Yen Press
August 21
Not Acutal Cover





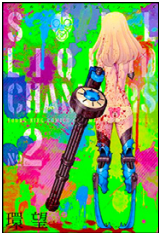



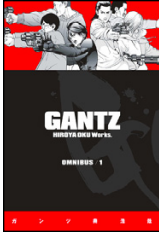


Tokyo Ghoul: re, Vol. 6
Sui Ishida
VIZ Media, LLC.
August 21



Trinity Seven: The Seven Magicians, Vol. 14
Kenji Saitô, Akinari Nao
Yen Press
August 21
Not Acutal Cover



Yowamushi Pedal, Vol. 9
Wataru Watanabe
Yen Press
August 21
Not Acutal Cover

	Alice & Zoroku, Vol. 4 Tetsuya Imai Seven Seas Entertainment August 28 Not Acutal Cover		Holy Corpse Rising, Vol. 5 Hosana Tanaka Seven Seas Entertainment August 28 Not Acutal Cover		How to Build a Dungeon: Book of the Demon King, Vol. 4 Yakan Warau, Toshimasa Komiya Seven Seas Entertainment August 28 Not Acutal Cover		Magical Girl Apocalypse, Vol. 15 Kentarō Satō Seven Seas Entertainment August 28 Not Acutal Cover
	My Monster Secret, Vol. 12 Eiji Masuda Seven Seas Entertainment August 28 Not Acutal Cover		Soul Liquid Chambers, Vol. 2 Nozomu Tamaki Seven Seas Entertainment August 28 Not Acutal Cover		Ultra Kaiju Humanization Project feat. POP Comic code, Vol. 1 POP, Shun Kazakami Seven Seas Entertainment August 28 Not Acutal Cover		Anonymous Noise, Vol. 10 Ryōko Fukuyama VIZ Media, LLC. September 4
	Boruto: Naruto Next Generations, Vol. 4 Ukyō Kodachi, Masashi Kishimoto, Mikio Ikemoto VIZ Media, LLC. September 4		Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba, Vol. 2 Koyoharu Gotōge VIZ Media, LLC. September 4		Dr. Stone, Vol. 1 Ri'ichiro Inagaki, Boichi VIZ Media, LLC. September 4 Not Acutal Cover		Gantz Omnibus, Vol. 1 Hiroya Oku Dark Horse Manga September 4
	Haikyu!!, Vol. 27 Haruichi Furudate VIZ Media, LLC. September 4		Mobile Suit Gundam WING, Vol. 8 Katsuyuki Sumizawa, Yoshiyuki Tomino, Hajime Yatate, Tomofumi Ogasawara Vertical Comics September 4 Not Acutal Cover		One Piece (Omnibus Edition), Vol. 25 Ei'ichiro Oda VIZ Media, LLC. September 4		Persona Q: Shadow of the Labyrinth Side: P4, Vol. 3 Mizunomoto, Atlas Kodansha Comics September 4
	Queen's Quality, Vol. 5 Kyōsuke Motomi VIZ Media, LLC. September 4		Seraph of the End, Vol. 15 Takaya Kagami, Daisuke Furuya, Yamato Yamamoto VIZ Media, LLC. September 4		Skip-Beat!, Vol. 41 Yoshiki Nakamura VIZ Media, LLC. September 4		Street Fighter: The Novel: Where Strength Lies Takashi Yano, Yusuke Murata Udon Entertainment September 4
	The Tarot Cafe Manga Collection, Vol. 2 Sang-Sun Park Tokyopop September 4		Twin Star Exorcists, Vol. 13 Yoshiaki Sukeno VIZ Media, LLC. September 4		Yokai Girls, Vol. 4 Kazuki Funatsu Ghost Ship September 4		Didn't I Say to Make My Abilities Average in the Next Life?!, Vol. 3 (L) FUNA, Itsuki Akata Seven Seas Entertainment September 11 Not Acutal Cover

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Manga Releases

Summer 2018 *Continued*



Hayate the Combat Butler, Vol. 32
Kenjiro Hata
VIZ Media, LLC.
September 11



How a Realist Hero Rebuilt the Kingdom, Vol. 1 (L)
Dojyomaru, Fuyuyuki
Seven Seas
Entertainment
September 11



Konohana Kitan, Vol. 2
Sakuya Amano
Tokyopop
September 11
Not Acutal Cover



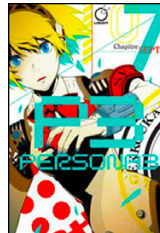
Lord Marksman and Vanadis, Vol. 8
Tsukasa Kawaguchi,
Nobuhiko Yanai
Seven Seas
Entertainment
September 11
Not Acutal Cover



Miss Kobayashi's Dragon Maid: Kanna's Daily Life, Vol. 3
coolkyousinnija,
Mitsuhiro Kimura
Seven Seas
Entertainment
September 11



Neon Genesis Evangelion: The Shinji Ikari Raising Project, Vol. 18
Osamu Takahashi,
Khara, Michael Gombos
Dark Horse Manga
September 11
Not Acutal Cover



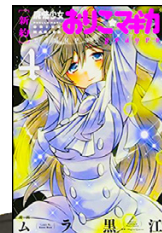
Persona 3, Vol. 7
Atlas, Shuji SOGABE
Udon Entertainment
September 11



Persona 4, Vol. 7
Atlas, Shuji SOGABE
Udon Entertainment
September 11



The Ancient Magus' Bride, Vol. 9
Kore Yamazaki
Seven Seas
Entertainment
September 11
Not Acutal Cover



Puella Magi Oriko Magica: Sadness Prayer, Vol. 4
Magica Quartet,
Kuroe Mura
Yen Press
September 18
Not Acutal Cover

**Kanji Tatsumi, Yukiko Amagi,
Chie Satonaka, Yu Narukami
& Yosuke Hanamura
– Persona 4**





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- Concerts
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Game With
Holographic Package



SEGA Genesis
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PS4

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NINTENDO
SWITCH



32 Page Art Book



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**IN STORES
SUMMER 2018**
SonicTheHedgehog.com



ありふれた

ARI



Arifureta Shokugyō de Sekai Saikyō
(Arifureta: From Commonplace to
World's Strongest)

ありふれた職業で世界最強

Light Novel

June 2015 – present • 8 Volumes

Overlap Bunko • J-Novel Club

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arifureta:_From_](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arifureta:_From_Commonplace_to_World%27s_Strongest)
[Commonplace_to_World%27s_Strongest](https://over-lap.co.jp)
<https://over-lap.co.jp>

Story: Shirakome, Ryō

Illustrator: Takayaki

Genre: Fantasy, Another World,
Supernatural, Action, Harem

Format: ePub

Price: ¥745 MSRP each volume

Main Characters:

Nagumo, Hajime

Yue

Shea Haulia

Tio Klarus

Shirasaki, Kaori

Magic Circle Drawing by markolios

Genki Life Magazine • Summer 2018

た職業で

ARIFURETA SHOKUGYOU DE SEKAISAIKYOU

世界最強

ARIFURETA:
from commonplace
to world's strongest
the light novel

back in high school, there's always one kid everyone looks down upon. Basically a good-for-nothing kid that's always demeaned and bullied. You know the type: the nerd, the socially inept, the outsider and so on. Have you ever wondered what ever happened to these kids now? I guess not. This light novel, Arifureta Shokugyō de Sekai Saikyō, is the story of one of those kids, Hajime Nagumo, a high schooler. Aside from being bullied because he was a “gross” otaku, but the one-sided friendship with the most popular girl in their class, Kaori Shirasaki. It was her who was always engaging him while he only wanted to be left alone.



One day, Hajime's class had been transported to the world of Tortus. They were summoned by god, Ehit, through the Holy Church, to become heroes to save the humans of this world. The pope, Ishtar Langbard, explained how they were summoned and to be trained as warriors to fight their was against heretic beastmen and demons. For a class of high schoolers, this was so insane that they can't fathom fighting, much less becomes warriors, considering they're from a peaceful, modern society. Compared to children of Tortus of the same age, these high schoolers were mere children sheltered from the outside world.

Eventually, the high school class accepted to become warriors after the self-proclaimed leader of the class, Kōki Amanogawa, gave a charismatic speech. Each of the students had elevated stats and skills bestowed to them by Ehit. Just like a typical role-playing game, they were given a numerical value for their stats such as strength, vitality, defense, agility, magic and magic defense. They also have levels, a job title and skills. While the average person had stats around 10, the summoned heroes were much higher and varied. Except Hajime, who had average stats...lowest in the entire class. For a few weeks, the class were training under Captain Meld to hone their fighting skills. Even as Hajime trained, it didn't amount to much. His only useful, non-combat skill was transmutation. As his peers raised their levels from what they started off with, Hajime was still at the very bottom, barely raised a couple levels. Even Aiko-sensei, their teacher was second above Hajime by a wide margin. This lead to more bullying from Daisuke Hiyama and three others that "helped" him with "additional" training.

When the class was ready for their first excursion into a dungeon to test their new skills, they were taken to the Great Orcus Labyrinth. This dungeon was massive that spanned a hundred floors, but only the first 47 floors were mapped out. This was first time they experienced actual combat. They eventually made it to the 20th floor where they were surprise-attacked by a Rockmount, their toughest fight yet. After defeating the Rockmount, they found this beautiful, blue glans crystal protruding from a wall that the monster smashed into. Captain Meld ordered that nobody touch it. Too late. It's a trap! One of the students, Daisuke Hiyama, greedily wanted the crystal for himself. As he touched the crystal, a magic circle appeared underneath them, engulfing the class. They were transported to the 60th floor!

They were greeted by one of the dungeon's most dangerous monsters, the Behemoth. Even a group of high level adventurers weren't able to defeat this monster, much less a class of green, freshly trained high schoolers. Captain Meld ordered a retreat back up the upper floors. During their retreat, they were blocked by an army of undead Traum Soldiers. The class fought hard to break through the soldiers and trying

to hold the Behemoth at bay. In a last ditch effort to escape the Behemoth, Hajime tried to trap the Behemoth in rock by using his only skill, transmutation. The rest of the class fought through the Traum Soliders. Running low on magic, the Behemoth broke though and began its attack. The most powerful magicians of the class started to cast offensive magic against the Behemoth to slow its advance. During the barrage of magic, the rock bridge started to crumble and collapse. While he was trying to regroup with the rest of the class, a fire-ball struck Hajime and sent him flying back towards the Behemoth. Whether design or by accident, he didn't know. Later on in the story, Hajime didn't care who did it, but casually confronted him. He and the Behemoth fell into the abyss as the horrified class watched on, not being able to do anything.

Was he dead? **Stop reading because of spoilers.** He woke up from is fall into the abyss in nothing but darkness, but he survived. As he started walking around, he encountered a Kickmaster Rabbit that was after him. Right before the attack, the rabbit was attacked by a Claw Bear. After the Claw Bear ate the rabbit, it turned around stared at Hajime. He tried to run away as the Claw Bear started to attack him. One attack from the Claw Bear severed his left arm. With some distance between them, Hajime turned around to see the Claw Bear eating his left arm. In shock, he tried to get away by transmutating a tunnel until he fell unconscious by running out of magic. As he regained consciousness, he felt this liquid dripping into his mouth. His physical pain



began to subside. In his safe haven and still in shock, he began suffering from mental trauma. Wanting to live on, his state of mind started to change, from one being hunted to one who hunts. Kill or be killed. Kill all enemies. Learning that the liquid kept him alive, it wasn't enough. His hunger pangs hurt more than his physical pain. This led him outside of his sanctuary to hunt...his only weapon...his transmutation skill. He trapped and killed his first monsters, the Twin-tailed Wolves after some difficulty. Out of hunger, he tore bits of flesh from the wolves and ate them. As it turns out, monster meat is very dangerous to humans. Hajime felt intense pain in his stomach. He ran back to his haven to drink more the liquid. He got better, then the pain came back, drank some more and kept repeating. During his recoveries, he started to change physically. He grew taller, more toned muscles, his hair went from black to white and most of all, his stats increased. He also realized he gained the ability to manipulate mana, the source of magic, and acquire skills from monsters he ate. Next on the menu was the Kickmaster Rabbit and finally his old arch-enemy...the Claw Bear. Hajime

became a monster himself surpassing levels, skills and stats of his former classmate that he doesn't care for anymore.

The only mission for Hajime is to find his way back home instead of fighting for the people of Tortus. As the story progresses, Hajime meets a few companions during his travels that join him. I have only read up to volume five of the series that was released in North America, so may gain more companions in the future. Maybe not.

The first person Hajime meets is a cute vampire girl deeper into the Great Orcus Labyrinth, Yue. She's a vampire princess that was sealed by her uncle. When the vampire race died out two centuries before, Yue is the last of her kind. She's expressionless when Hajime first releases her from her incarceration. She has accelerated healing and has an affinity for wind magic. As the weeks progress for them in the labyrinth, they learned to trust one another and became lovers.

Shea Haulia is a cute, well endowed bunny girl from the rabbitmen tribe of Haulia. She's an anomaly among the beastmen race, she was born with the ability to manipulate mana, as beastmen didn't have the ability to use magic of





HAJIME BEFORE AND AFTER HIS TRANSFORMATION.

any kind. Even among the rabbitmen, Shea had light blue hairs while dark blue hair was the norm. Because of this, she was to be executed if the beastmen leaders learned of her. The tribe decided to raise her in secret, but eventually was discovered so they had to free their home in the Haltina Woods. She first met Hajime and Yue when she was saved by them, nearly becoming lunch for a Dihedwa, a two-headed tyrannosaurus. She has a really carefree, ditsy, overly emotional, but loyal personality. Shea has the ability of Future Sight, a sort of clairvoyance, and to unconsciously harden her body. During a ten-day training period, she became superbly proficient at the mace. Shea pleaded to Hajime and Yue to accept her to join their party because she had found other people like her. Initially seen as a worthless bunny girl, she proved her mettle in the first labyrinth with her. Never once complained, Shea grew to become a trusted and respected companion, though she still has her moments.

Tio Klarus is a member of nearly extinct dragonman race, the Klarus clan. Hajime, Yue and Shae first encountered her on a mission to search for a missing adventure party. Tio appeared as a black dragon after Hajime's group found a sole survivor of the party, Will Cudeta. The black dragon appeared to have a vendetta against Will and tried to attack him disregarding the rest of the party. When Hajime subjugated her by sticking a rod into her back end, she gave up fighting. After running out of mana, Tio transformed into

her human form, a gorgeous, voluptuous and masochistic woman. She explained to them that she was under some mind control magic until Hajime knocked her silly in their fight. While she was under mind control, she was ordered to kill all witnesses to the buildup of the monster army that Will's party accidentally discovered. Tio has the power of dragon's breath. On her own recognizance, she joined Hajime's party.

Kaori Shirasaki is one of Hajime's classmates that was transported to Tortus along with him and the rest of the class. She is a kind and gentle girl that became a priest specializing in healing magic. She was the only person in her class that wanted to talk to Hajime. This is because ever since they met in middle school, she fell in love with him. So much so that she went as far as learning the otaku culture he was into so she had something to talk about with Hajime. They wound up being in the same class in high school. When they arrived in Tortus and had to become heroes, Kaori tried to comfort Hajime because of the bullying. She made a vow to protect Hajime when they enter the labyrinth. This never saw the light. Before her eyes, she saw Hajime fall to his death. In an emotional fervor, she pleaded with the class to try to save him but to no avail. Since then she still "believed" that Hajime was still alive and will do anything to find him. This is why she joined Kōki's group so she could become stronger to find Hajime. Eventually, she discovered and reunited with



Hajime, a changed man, physically and mentally. Kaori confessed to him to the chagrin of the class and joined his party.

Arifureta Shokugyō de Sekai Saikyō may seem like your typical isekai-based story, but there more to it. It's also more than a boy gets girl harem story, though it happens. The story deals with a lot of real life issues...in a fantasy world setting. One main issue that's prevalent in this story is the issue of bullying at the beginning of the story. At one time or another, regardless of our social status, some have experienced or witnessed bullying to some degree. It must be human nature that the self-proclaimed "I'm better than you are" people always picked on others that are different from them or mainstream society. Hajime Nagumo was one of these kids. He was tormented on a daily basis because of his hobbies by the ringleader Daiske Hiyama and two others, Kōki Amanogawa and Ryutarō Sakagami. Even when they appeared in Tortus, the bullying became more intense and physical because he had the worst stats of all classmates. The class began to see him as dead weight and beginning trading him as such, thus leading to his attempted murder in the Great Orcus Labyrinth.

While Hajime survived, he was beginning to lose his sanity. Coming from the peaceful society of Japan and being high school students, this type of violence is seen only in the media and detached from it. As with people of any developed, civilized, modern society, the thought of violence is unfathomable. Their mental state prevents them from accepting the truths of human nature to utter denial about reality. You often hear people say things like "That's unbelievable!" or "How could that possibly happen?" when they see violent acts on TV. Ironically, people get excited when they see those violent acts on the big screen and praise those kinds of movies. Because they never experienced this, they could never accept the fact this would ever happen to them and only happens in TV or movies. To Hajime, this was his reality. His mental state was crumbling to the verge of insanity. At the last moment before he could be saved, he realized he wanted to live...to go home to Japan. Snapping from his fantasy world, reality hit him hard on what he needed to do. The pacifist values he grew up with won't help him survive. He needed to fight back, to kill those who try to kill him. To survive this labyrinth and this world, he needed what he needed to do...to kill. Such extremes of circumstance changed Hajime from being the meek prey to being the hunter with no remorse.

The last of these issues is the ability to kill with no hesitation. Humans began as hunters in order to eat and survive. Killing something is as natural as drinking water or breathing...basic human nature. It was something that needed to be done. As people congregated into larger and larger communities, this instinct had to be suppressed and became taboo. Still, there are individuals loose control of this instinct

and do kill. We hear about it the news every day. The people of Tortus haven't forgotten this. People, humans, in Tortus live daily with the fear of death because of monsters and demons. Now, bring in people who lived in peaceful society from another world. They don't have that state of mind, believing that killing is morally wrong even if others won't hesitate to kill you. In one instance, one of Hajime's classmates made a contract with a demon to exterminate his class was caught after a major battle. Their teacher pleaded with this kid to turn around so he could be helped. In the end he couldn't be saved and Hajime killed him without second thought. This shocked his teacher and several of his classmates that were with him. The locals totally understood why he had to do it. This act totally tore apart the psyche of his teacher and classmates. As summoned "heroes," they eventually had to kill people, whether bandits, thieves or criminals. This was an act they couldn't come to terms with.

Arifureta Shokugyō de Sekai Saikyō began as web novel written by Ryō Shirakome on the Shōsetsuka ni Narō novel website. Shirakome-sensei is a self-admitted "chūni lover," something like pretending you're some protagonist and acting like one... delusional. As rare as it may, as a beginning writer, his story was bought by Overlap to become a light novel. Sure the light novel had a few shortcomings from a beginner, but he did a good job at tying the story arch together. Some story events that were told from their own perspective were tied together at some point perfectly. Though there is some lacking detail in the background story of some character and settings, it doesn't matter much at the end. Enough detail is given to that the reader could imagine the setting. In the addition, the art style of Takayaki does an excellent job in bringing the cute characters to life. I wish there were more illustrations of places around Tortus to bring Shirakome-sensei's descriptions to life. At first, I didn't think this was I would be interested reading this. I though I could pass time reading this title during the long, twelve-hour flight

to Japan, but the time where Hajime dies hooked me into continue reading. The story paces very well with a good balance of adventure, romance and light-heartedness... not to mention the occasional inappropriate joke and remark. I can't say I highly recommend this, but if you want something good to read without having any deep thoughts about it, this light novel would be enjoyable. The manga version, published by Seven Seas Entertainment, began this previous March. An anime is slated to air in Japan next year. ❖ Ed Gomez

KAORI SHIRASAKI



THE ANNUAL ANIME CONVENTION OF



NEWPORT NEWS, VA

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Seoul
COMIC CON

3 - 5 AUGUST • 2018



Razha

Saboten Con

August 21 - September 3

Sheraton Downtown Phoenix,
Phoenix, AZ

www.sabotencon.com

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SWIMSUIT SUMMER SPECIAL

2018

Sora Yorimo Tōi Basho

Shirase Kobuchizawa & Mari Tamaki

Devil Survivor 2 The Animation

Airi Ban & Io Nitta

Steins Gate Zero

Rumiho Akiha, Kurisu Makise & Mayuri Shina

4 Killing Bites

Eruza Nakanishi, Hitomi Uzaki & Ui Inaba

Two Car

Megumi Meguro & Yuri Miyata

BanG Dream!

Tae Hanazono, Arisa Ichigaya & Kasumi Toyama

Dive!!

Kayoko Asaki, Reiji Maruyama, Ryō Ōhiro,
Shibuki Okitsu, Yōichi Fujitani & Tomoki Sakai

Amanchu!

Hikari Kohinata, Futaba Ōki

New Game!

Momiji Mochizuki, Aoba Suzukaze
& Hifumi Takimoto

Senki Zesshō Symphogear AXZ

Maria Cadenzavna Eve, Tsubasa Kazanari
& Chris Yukine

Isekai wa Smartphone to Tomo ni

Leen, Yae Kokonoe, Elze Silhoueska,
Linze Silhoueska, Yukina Urnea Belfast & Paula

citrus

Mei Aihara & Yuzu Aihara



宇宙より遠い場所

A story that leads to the Antarctic...



デビルサバイバー
DEVIL SURVIVOR 2



Steins;Gate

シュタインズ・ゲート・ゼロ

There is no end though there is a start. — Fichte.
It has been power, it ruins, and it goes through the history.
The fish that lives in the sea doesn't know the world on the land. It also swims and goes if they have wisdom.
It is funnier that man doesn't know the world on the land. It also swims and goes if they have wisdom.
It can be said that this is a final prediction from the people who can fight.



キリングバイト

KILLING BITES



TWOCAR
つうかは
RACING SIDECAR

Bang Dream!

バンドリ★





DIVE!!!



あまんぢや!



new GAME!



異世界はスマートフォンと泳ぐ。

In Another World With My Smartphone





citrus

【シトラス】

Upcoming Anime DVD/Blu-Ray Releases

Summer 2018

June 26

-Owarimonogatari- Set Vol.3 (LE)

Aniplex of America

Blu-ray + \$89⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

Baldios the Movie

Discotek Media

DVD + \$24⁹⁵ MSRP

Bananya: Complete Collection

Discotek Media

Blu-ray + \$24⁹⁵ MSRP

Clockwork Planet: Complete Collection

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Eat-Man: Complete

Series Collection (SD)

Discotek Media

Blu-ray + \$39⁹⁵ MSRP + Sub

Albus, Zero & Yōhei

- Grimoire of Zero

Grimoire of Zero: Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

**Grimoire of Zero:
Complete Collection (LE)**

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$99⁹⁸ MSRP

**Haruka Nogizaka's Secret - Purezza:
Complete Collection**

Discotek Media

Blu-ray + \$44⁹⁵ MSRP + Sub

**Haruka Nogizaka's Secret:
Complete Collection**

Discotek Media

Blu-ray + \$44⁹⁵ MSRP
+ Sub

Hunter x Hunter (2011): Set 4

VIZ Media, LLC.

DVD + \$39⁹⁹ MSRP

Hunter x Hunter (2011): Set 4

VIZ Media, LLC.

Blu-ray + \$49⁹⁹ MSRP

**Kenka Bancho Otome -Girl Beats Boys:
Complete Collection**

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$34⁹⁸ MSRP

Like the Clouds, Like the Wind

Discotek Media

DVD + \$19⁹⁵ MSRP + Sub

**Lupin the 3rd, Part IV:
The Italian Adventure**

Discotek Media

DVD + \$49⁹⁵ MSRP + Dub



Upcoming Anime DVD/Blu-Ray Releases

Summer 2018 *Continued*

Lupin the Third: Bye Bye, Lady Liberty

Discotek Media

Blu-ray • \$24⁹⁵ MSRP

Sakura Quest, Part 1

Funimation

Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Sister Princess - Re Pure: Complete Collection

Discotek Media

Blu-ray • \$39⁹⁵ MSRP • Sub

Sister Princess: Complete Original Series Collection

Discotek Media

Blu-ray • \$59⁹⁵ MSRP

Skip Beat!: Complete Collection

Pied Piper/TRSI

Blu-ray • \$59⁹⁵ MSRP • General release

July 3

A Centaur's Life: Complete Collection

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Assassination Classroom the Movie: 365 Days' Time

Funimation

Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$34⁹⁸ MSRP

In Another World With My Smartphone: Complete Collection

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

In Another World With My Smartphone: Complete Collection (LE)

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$84⁹⁸ MSRP

JoJo's Bizarre Adventure: Set 2

VIZ Media, LLC.

DVD • \$39⁹⁹ MSRP

JoJo's Bizarre Adventure: Set 2 (LE)

VIZ Media, LLC.

Blu-ray • \$69⁹⁹ MSRP

Magic of Stella: Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

Mobile Suit Gundam 00: Season 1 Collection

SUNRISE/TRSI

DVD • \$59⁹⁹ MSRP

Mobile Suit Gundam 00: Season 1 Collection

SUNRISE/TRSI

Blu-ray • \$74⁹⁹ MSRP

Sanae Kōzuki,
Yoshino Koharu,
Maki Midorikawa,
Ririko Oribe
& Shiori Shinomiya
– Sakura Quest



Mobile Suit Gundam Age: Memory of Eden

SUNRISE/TRSI
DVD + \$29⁹⁹ MSRP + Sub

Mobile Suit Gundam Age: Memory of Eden

SUNRISE/TRSI
Blu-ray + \$34⁹⁹ MSRP + Sub

Sweet Blue Flowers: Complete Collection

TRSI/Nozomi Entertainment
Blu-ray + \$39⁹⁹ MSRP + Sub

July 10

Ai Tenchi Muyo!: Complete Collection

Funimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$49⁹⁸ MSRP

Garō the Movie: Divine Flame

Funimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$34⁹⁸ MSRP

Katsugeki TOUKEN RANBU (TV): Complete Blu-ray Box Set

Aniplex of America
Blu-ray + \$159⁹⁸ MSRP

LOVE and LIES: Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray + \$59⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

The irregular at magic high school THE MOVIE -The Girl Who Summons the Stars-

Aniplex of America
Blu-ray + \$49⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

The Tibetan Dog

Maiden Japan
Blu-ray + \$29⁹⁸ MSRP

July 13

Mobile Suit Gundam the Origin, Vol.6 (CE)

Bandai Visual
Blu-ray + \$99⁹⁸ MSRP + Import

July 17

Alice & Zoroku: Complete Collection

Crunchyroll/Funimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

GRANBLUE FANTASY

The Animation, Vol.2

Aniplex of America
Blu-ray + \$99⁹⁸ MSRP

Long Riders!: Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray + \$59⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

Monster Hunter Stories - Ride On: Season 1, Part 3

Funimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

NANBAKA, Part 1

Crunchyroll/Funimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Puzzle & Dragons X, Part 3

Funimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

July 24

Battle Girl High School: Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray + \$59⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

Legend of the Galactic Heroes: OVAs + Films Collection (LE)

Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray + \$799⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub Sentai
Filmworks Shop exclusive

Saiyuki Reload Blast: Complete Collection

Crunchyroll/Funimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Twin Star Exorcists, Part 1

Crunchyroll/Funimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$54⁹⁸ MSRP

Twin Star Exorcists, Part 1 (LE)

Crunchyroll/Funimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

July 31

Star Blazers 2199, Part 1

Funimation
DVD + \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Star Blazers 2199, Part 1 (LE)

Funimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$84⁹⁸ MSRP

Welcome to Pia Carrot! 2 DX: Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks
DVD + \$29⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

August 7

Mobile Suit Gundam 00: Season 2 Collection

SUNRISE/TRSI
DVD + \$59⁹⁹ MSRP

Mobile Suit Gundam 00: Season 2 Collection

SUNRISE/TRSI
Blu-ray + \$74⁹⁹ MSRP

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

Upcoming Anime DVD/Blu-ray Releases

Summer 2018 *Continued*

August 14

Eromanga Sensei, Vol.2

Aniplex of America

Blu-ray + \$64⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

August 21

Armed Girl's Machiavellism:

Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray + \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

Armed Girl's Machiavellism:

Complete Collection (LE)

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray + \$99⁹⁸ MSRP

Oreimo 2: Complete Blu-ray Box Set

Aniplex of America

Blu-ray + \$159⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

August 28

Aura Battler Dunbine:

Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray + \$99⁹⁸ MSRP

MIND GAME

GKIDS/Shout! Factory

Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$22⁹⁷ MSRP + Sub

No Game, No Life Zero

Sentai Filmworks

DVD + \$19⁹⁸ MSRP

No Game, No Life Zero

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray + \$29⁹⁸ MSRP

No Game, No Life Zero (LE)

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$49⁹⁸ MSRP

September 4

Mobile Suit Gundam 00 the Movie:

A Wakening of the Trailblazer

SUNRISE/TRSI

DVD + \$29⁹⁹ MSRP

Mobile Suit Gundam 00 the Movie:

A Wakening of the Trailblazer

SUNRISE/TRSI

Blu-ray + \$34⁹⁹ MSRP

Mobile Suit Gundam 00:

10th Anniversary

SUNRISE/TRSI

Blu-ray Ultra + \$259⁹⁹

MSRP + SE: Sub

Mobile Suit Gundam 00:

Special Edition

SUNRISE/TRSI

DVD + \$49⁹⁹ MSRP

+ Sub

Mobile Suit Gun-

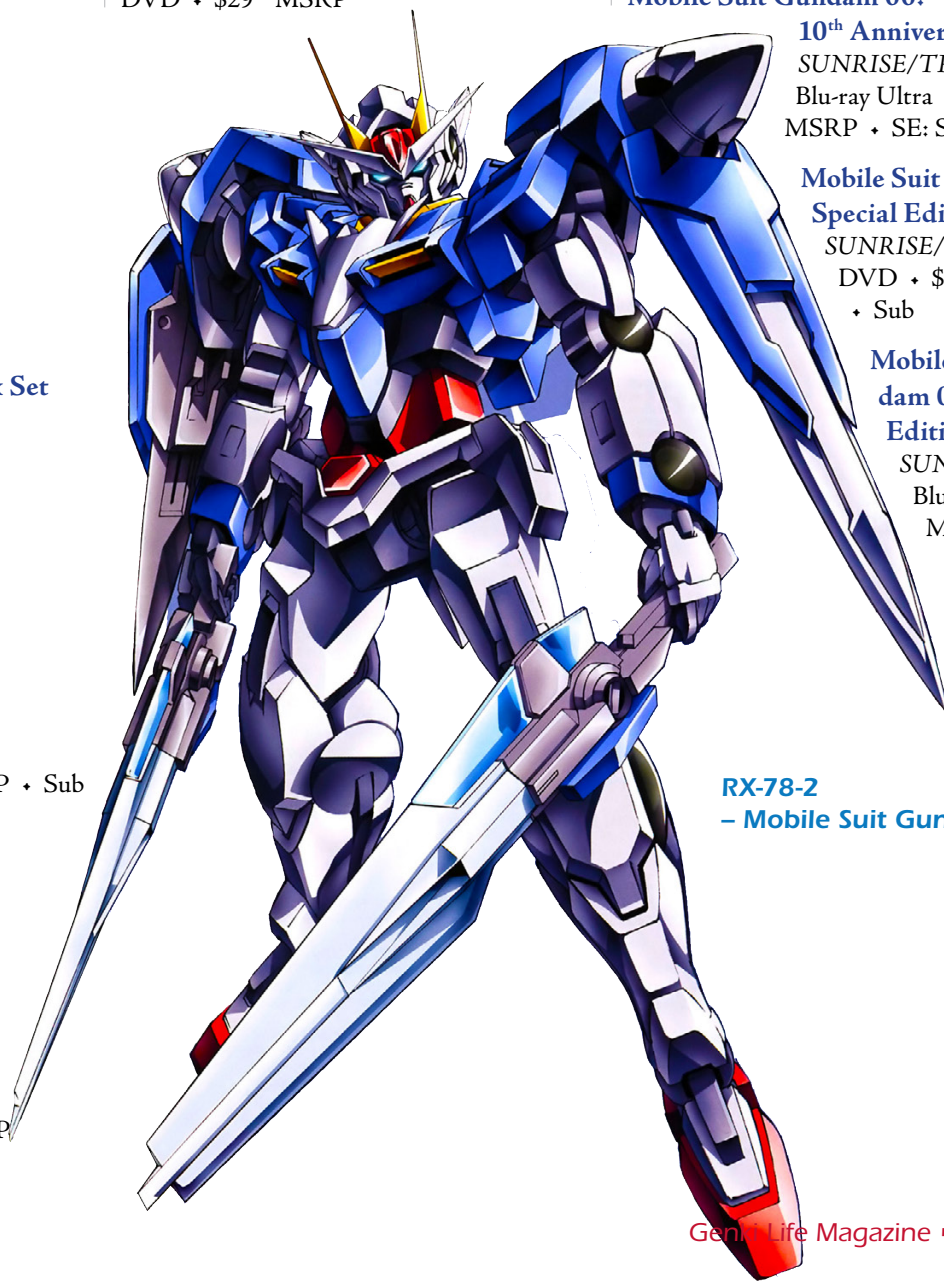
dam 00: Special

Edition

SUNRISE/TRSI

Blu-ray + \$59⁹⁹

MSRP + Sub



RX-78-2

– Mobile Suit Gundam 00



Shibuya



Shibuya Ward is famous for its fashion centers and Shibuya Crossing, “the busiest crossing” in Tōkyō. From all the pictures and videos I seen of the crossing, the intersection didn’t appear to be all that large. It’s like a large, two-lane, four-way stop, but with additional crisscrossing crosswalks from each corner. Nevertheless, it was a sight to behold when hundreds of people walk it all at once!

The Shibuya 109 building is an area landmark as well as a high-end fashion shopping center. I figure it was too rich for me so I only took a peek inside the first floor. Another well-known

landmark is the statue of Chūken Hachikō (Faithful Dog Hachikō) right off the north JR Hachikō Exit plaza. Hachikō was a faithful Akita dog that waited for his (deceased) master at this spot, day after day, until he died... a true story. Before the widespread use of mobile phones (keitai), to meet up with people, you had plan out in advance where and when to meet. The statue of Hachikō is a popular meeting spot to up for dates. In the same street corner, there a greed train car. Though it looks comepletely out of place there, it’s acutally tourist information center. Check it out when you

Previous page is Shibuya Crossing, the Shibuya 109 building and the famous Hachiko statue.

The right is the north exit of JR Shibuya Station.

Below is Meiji Jungū shrine with one of the shrine gates, sake barrels and the torii.



can. While walking around Shubiya, I blindly headed northward through some backstreets.

I came across the AiiA 2.5 Theater Tōkyō after I reached a main road. It's a theater venue where the growing popularity of 2.5-dimensional musical plays are performed year-round. Most 2.5-D musical plays are based on anime like *Naruto*, *Yowamushi Pedal* or *Sailor Moon*.

Beside the theater is the entrance to Yoyogi Kōen (park) where the Koku-ritsu Yoyogi Kyōgi-jō (Yoyogi National Gymnasium), used in the 1964 Tōkyō

Olympics is located. At the beginning of spring, the park is a popular spot for hanami (cherry blossom viewing). By the time I was there, there were a few cherry blossoms left.

Yoyogi Kōen could be reached by Tōkyō Metro's Chiyoda Line at Yoyogi-Kōen and Meiji-Jingūmae Stations, the Odakyū Line at Sangūbashi Station or the Fukutoshin Line at Kita-Sandō Station. There's JR's Yamanote Line at Harajuku Station also.

Right beside the park to the east is Meiji Jingū (Meiji Shrine), a Shinto



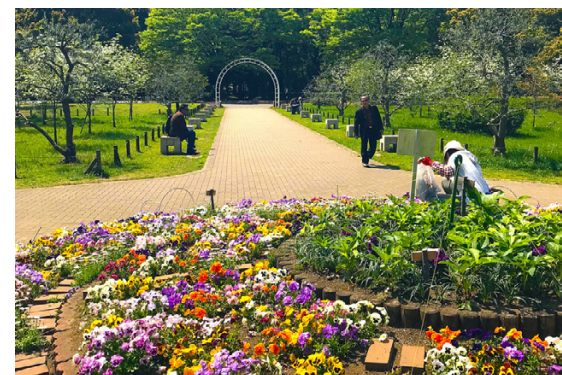


shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji. As with all Shinto shrines, there are tori that are located at all entrances/exits. Tori are gates that mark the boundary between the secular and spiritual world. It's customary to bow when you enter and exit a Shinto shrine at the tori out of respect. As a tourist attraction, there is a cultural center and restaurants on the path from the Harajuku side, where the main entrance is located right off Harajuku Station. Meiji Jingū could also be reached by the Chiyoda Line at Meiji-Jingūmae Station.

Right across Meiji Jingū is the Harajuku District of Shibuya, a youth-oriented area famous for sub-culture fashion such as kawaii (cute), Lolita and Harajuku street styles. Takeshita-dōri (street) is a famous tourist spot for it's many cafés and boutiques. The one show that comes to mind when I think of Harajuku is *Paradise Kiss*, an anime about a group of fashion school students making a name for themselves. Though the setting doesn't take place there, it may have played a part. Also in Harajuku are a multitude of high-end fashion

Above is the AiiA 2.5 Theater Tōkyō showcasing 2.5-dimensional musicals.

Yoyogi Koen, a beautiful park that has three spouting water fountains and gardens.





shops mainly catered to women. Every now and then, you could see photographers or entertainment scouts around Harajuku either taking photos or recruiting fashionable people of both genders. The popular anime *Hataraku Maō-sama!* (*The Devil Is a Part-Timer!*) takes place in Shibuya Ward in the Sasazuka District. All the places referenced in the anime are Keiō Sasazuka and Hatanaga Stations, Shibuya-ku Sasazuka Toshokan (Shibuya Ward Sasazuka Library), Yoyogi Keisatsusho (Yoyogi Police Station) and even the east exit of Shinjuku Station.

Above is the fashion street Takeshita-dori. There are also a bunch of dessert places to try out.

To the right is the store of the world-famous shoe designer, Jimmy Choo.

Below are every day people going about their business in Harajuku.





Shinjuku

Just north of Shibuya, is Shinjuku Ward. Shinjuku...specifically, Shinjuku Station is the busiest and largest of the stations in Tōkyō. The station itself houses a huge department store called Odakyū...spanning multiple floors in two buildings. The other building, Odakyū HALC, specializes in electronics and sporting goods. It's main store is Bic Camera, an electronics and home appliances store that spans four floors. Around Shinjuku station are a multitude of other restaurants and shops. The basement floor of the main Odakyū building has

restaurants and train platforms.

Shinjuku is also the home of Square Enix, the video game company, makers of the *Final Fantasy* and *Dragonquest* video game franchises. The Artnia Square Enix Café is right next door to their headquarters. A friend of mine recommended that I visit the Artnia Café. On my last day in Japan, I went there. I got lost a little and accidentally found Square Enix headquarters in the

Above the Square Enix Artnia Café with a showcase of new products and new merchandise for sale. You can have an adult beverage while browsing around.

Shinjuku Station.



Shinjuku Eastside Square building.

A 15-minute walk east of Shinjuku Station takes you to Shinjuku Gyo-en National Garden, a huge park that showcases Japanese, English and French gardens. Admission is only ¥200 and well worth the price. The only garden that I walked through is the Japanese garden. I had no interest to see the other gardens. Sakura flower season was just about over with many trees loosing their flowers. There were still a few spots where cherry trees still had flowers which tourists flocked to. Though I only spent a few hours there, but you could spend the whole day visiting the three gardens.

Shinjuku Ward is the setting of many anime including Makoto Shinkai's *Koto no na no Niwa* (*Garden of Words*) in Shinjuku Gyo-en, *Kimi no Na wa* (*Your Name*) and *5 Centimeters per Second*. In the film *Koto no ha no Niwa*, there's a small shelter the main protagonist spends a lot of his time studying while ditching school on rainy days during the rainy season and meets the main female lead. The shelter is real. By entering the park from the west entrance, take the next right turn after entering. You will pass an open field to a wooded area that leads the the Japanese garden. Continue walking until you see the pond, continue straight towards the pond and

across the bridge, you will see the shelter depicted in the film to your left. I wish I realized it back then and took a picture of the shelter. The selfie I posted on Instagram in April was wrong photo. The one pictured below is the correct photo with the scene from the film.

Since there are many, many train lines that lead to Shinjuku Station, the JR Yamanote Line is good choice. Train lines that take you closest to Shinjuku Gyo-en are Chūō and Chūō-Sōbu Line (JR) at Sendagaya Station, the Maruouchi Line (Tōkyō Metro) at Shinjuku-Gyoenmae Station and the Ōedo Line (Tōkyō Metro) from Kokuritsu-Kyōgijō Station.



Shinjuku Gyo-en National Garden entrance (left), the Japanese garden (below) and the garden shelter featured in *Koto no na no Niwa*.



nakano



The entrance of Nakano Sunn Mall across the street from Nakano Station above.

Freshly made takoyaki, pieces of octopus encased in a pancake-like batter.



West of Shinjuku is Nakano Ward. It had recently become popular to anime fandom due to shops and arcades in the Nakano Broadway building. When you exit Nakano Station from the North Exit, right across the street is Nakano Sun Mall. The mall, more accurately—a shopping arcade, is lined on each side with shops and eateries of all kinds at reasonable prices.

About a third of the way from the entrance, on the right side, is a takoyaki stall, Gindako. Their takoyaki was amazing! Much like the Japanese festivals here in the U.S., they sell freshly made takoyaki everyday. Every day! A set of six pieces is ¥650 with a variety of toppings. There's a good sushi place, Gansozushi, about halfway from the entrance that's fairly priced. It's a revol-

ving sushi restaurant where prices range from ¥125–¥400 per plate, depending on the color plate you happen to get. Be careful. You could easily go over your budget...which I did. My bill wound up to be ¥1,650. I expected to pay half that.

For dinner, we ate at a steak restaurant at one of backstreets of Nakano Sun Mall, Ikinari! Steak. It was a moderately-priced steakhouse. The beef they serve are actually imported from the US. I had the rib-eye steak, I think. It was about ¥2,500 for my steak dinner which didn't include sides or drinks. I don't remember the total price because my cousin treated me.

Inside the actual Nakano Broadway building, adjacent to the mall at the north end, is made up largely of anime-



Nakano Broadway, the “second Akihabara,” full of anime shops.

My first and last steak dinner in Japan at Ikinari! Steak.

View from Shin-Ōkubo Station and an anime store.



related shops. Mandarake makes up most the shops. Each of the shops specialize in different products and facets of anime fandom and popular culture. For example, one store specializes in anime figures, another shop will sell manga and other books, while others sell model kits.

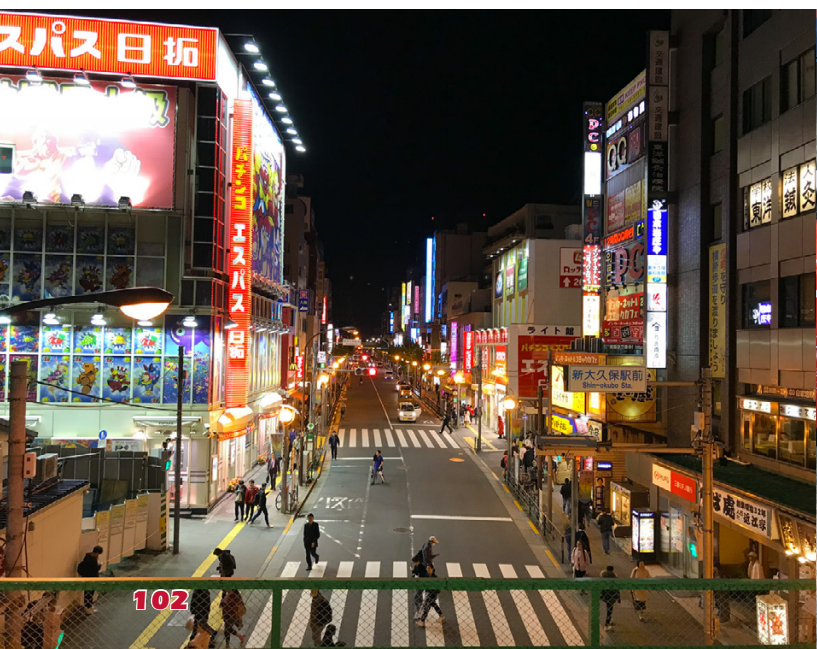
There's a wide gamut of merchandise you could search for, spend the entire day looking around and spending a lot of money! There's also a multitude of independent and national retail shops in Nakano Broadway. Haruya Book Store, a nationwide (Japan) book chain,

has a large store located here. I could've picked up an entire sets of light novels I'm reading right now like *Isekai wa Smartphone to Tomo ni* (*In Another World with My Smartphone*), to add to my collection, but I only bought volume twelve which came out this past March.

One group shops caught my interest. These shops sell figures and other small merchandise that are showcased within glass cubes. Sets of figures and other merchandise are displayed with their prices. When there's an item you want to buy, tell the proprietor which

one you want, they'll get it for you... brand new and pay for it.

World-famous composer, Ryūichi Sakamoto is from here in Nakano. He's famous for composing the music for the *Ōritsu Uchūgun: Honnēamise no Tsubasa* (*Royal Space Force: The Wings of Honnēamise*) animated film from the mid-80's. Nakano Station could be reached by the Chūō Main Line (JR) from Shinjuku Station. There's also the Tōzai Line (Tōkyō Metro) that you could catch at Takada-no-baba Station, north of Shinjuku Station.





The final ward I visited is Toshima, north of Shinjuku and west of Bun-kyō. My main interest for going here is the Ikebukuro district. it's where the Pokémon Center Mega Tōkyō store is located within the Sunshine City complex.

Before that, I decided to walk around Ikebukuro for a while to explore the area. Right across the east exit of Ikebukuro Station, the Book Off store caught my eye so I headed in that direction. While walking through some alleys and backstreets after a hour or so, I arrived at Minami-Ikebukuro Kōen... a park where I rested my tired feet and ate some snacks. I'm still

flabbergasted that vending machine for drinks are everywhere!

After resting, I continued walking and found a Mandarake store to check out. I felt out of place when I realized where I was...the famous Otome Road. Otome Road is an area east by north-east of the station that has shops that cater to female anime fans, fujōshi fandom. It was an interesting experience being the only male looking around in these shops. Even when I went to buy a few *Yuri on Ice* (an anime) merchandise, female clerks would gave me a big smile and heard some giggles. They must've thought I was into yaoi or something like that.

After leaving Otome Road, I continued looking for the famous Sunshine City complex, which turned out to be right around the corner. I almost missed it because I was adamant about wanting to turn the other corner until I saw a sign, in Japanese, pointing to the complex. I made an about-face and walked across the street to the complex.

Sunshine City was much bigger than I expected. The complex comprised of four buildings and a Prince Hotel. The building that I entered was the World Import Mart building that has a lot shops, entertainment centers and restaurants comprising of four floors. There's even an aquarium!

Above is Sega Entertainment Center.

The Pokémon Center Mega Tokyo store and Namja Town amusement center.





This is where the Pokémon Center Mega Tōkyō store is located. I originally thought it was a street-side store from stories I heard from other people. Later on, I found out there was one at Tōkyō Skytree which I completely missed. It wasn't what I expected, but I enjoyed myself nevertheless.

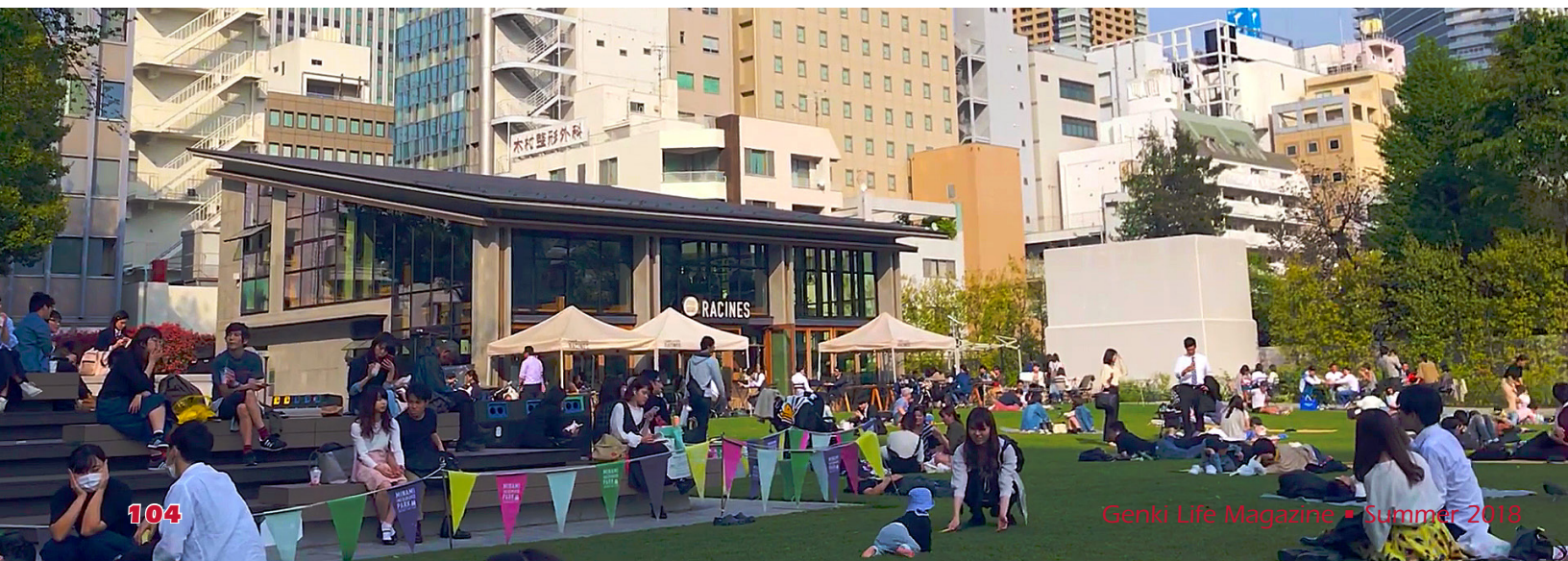
Inside the World Import Mart building is also J-World Tōkyō & Namco Namja Town. J-World Tōkyō is a *Dragon Ball*, *One Piece* and *Naruto* indoor theme park. The other, Namco Namja Town, is a dessert-themed indoor park created by Namco, the video game company. This indoor parks' main attractions are gyōza, ice cream and more.

If I had known what attractions Sunshine City had, I would have made time to say there longer to enjoy what they have to offer. It was already getting late so I just spied them from the outside. Ikebukuro district is the main setting of the *Durarara* light novel, manga and anime.

The main line to Ikebukuro Station is the JR Yamanote Line. The closest station to Sunshine City is Higashi-Ikebukuro by way of the Yūrakuchō Line (Tōkyō Metro). ❖



There are many anime-related shops along Otome Road.
Below is Minami-Ikebukoro Koen.



Places Visited

Transportation

All Nippon Airways
Japan Railways Group
Suica
Pasmo
Tōkyō Metro
Toei Subway
Tōbu Railway
Yurikamome

Bunkyo Ward

Tōkyō Dome City
TenQ Space Museum

Chiyoda Ward

Hotel Sunroute Asakusa
Sensō-ji Temple

Sumida Ward

Tōkyō Skytree

Chiyoda Ward

Tōkyō Station City
Kōkyo Higashi-gyoen
National Diet Building
Akihabara
Animate
Mandarake
Partners
Kawaii Café & Bar
Akiba Zettai Ryoiki
maidreamin

Minato Ward

Tōkyō Tower
Symphony Tōkyō Bay Cruise
Tōkyō Big Sight
DiverCity Tōkyō Plaza
Gundam Base Tōkyō
Aqua City Odaiba
Round One
Sega Joypolis
Odaiba Ōedo-Onsen-Monogatari
Zepp DiverCity

Shinagawa Ward

Shinagawa Prince Hotel
Shinagawa Station
Ann Miller's
mango tree café + bar
WIRED CAFE Shinagawa

Shibuya Ward

Aogaeru Tourist
Information Center
Shibuya Crossing
Shibuya 109
Chūken Hachikō
AiiA 2.5 Theater Tōkyō
Yoyogi Kōen
Meiji Jingū
Takeshita-dōri (Harajuku)
Book-Off

Shinjuku Ward

Odakyū Department Store
Odakyū HALC
Bic Camera
Artnia Square Enix Café
Shinjuku Gyo-en
National Garden

Nakano Ward

Nakano Sun Mall
Nakano Broadway
Gindako
Gansozushi
Ikinari! Steak
Mandarake
Haruya Book Store

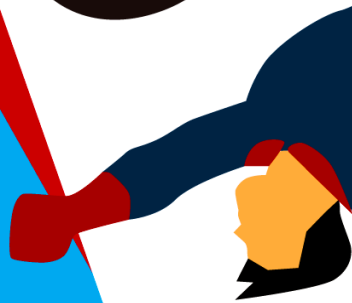
Toshima Ward

Minami-Ikebukoro Kōen
Sunshine City
Pokémon Center Mega Tōkyō
J-World Tōkyō
Namco Namja Town
Otome Road



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2018

FURTHER
Animation Comic Game
2018



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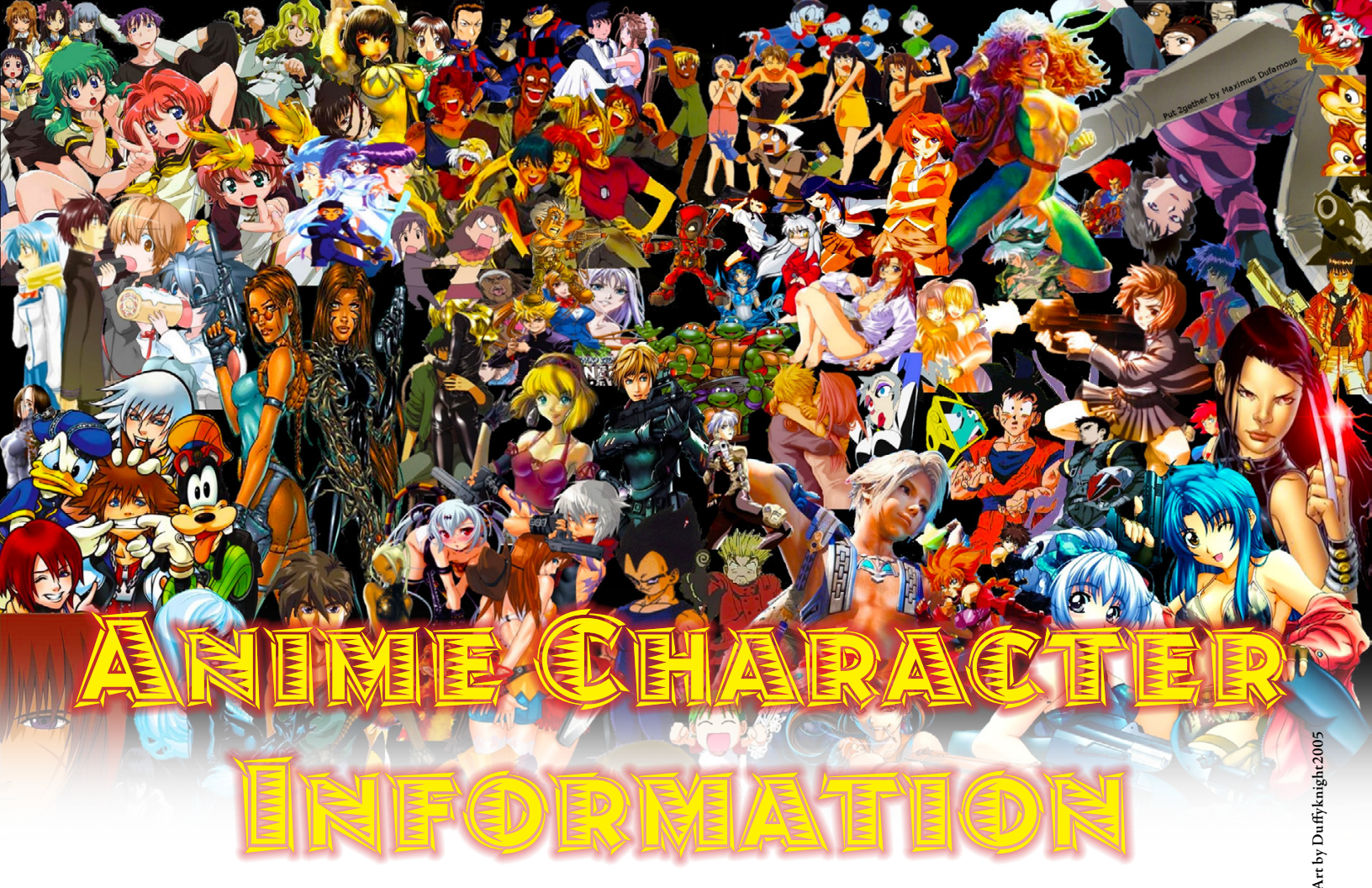
☀ <http://www.etsy.com/shop/ARedThreadClothing>

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Three Days of Gaming & Anime

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Art by Duffyknight2005

July 七月










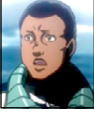










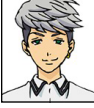



	1 Shiina, Anzu <i>Flying Witch</i>		11 Yukimura, Teruhiko <i>Yōkoso Jitsuryoku Shijō Shugi no Kyōshitsu e</i>		17 Terakado, Makiko <i>Nozoki Ana</i>		24 Tanizaki, Jun'inchirō <i>Bungō Stray Dogs</i>
	5 Hagakure, Hiroko <i>Zettai Zetsubō Shōjo: Danganronpa</i>		12 Hayami, Rinka <i>Ansatsu Kyōshitsu</i>		18 Hoshi, Nanami <i>Idol Memories</i>		25 China, Moeka <i>High School Fleet</i>
	6 Samidare <i>Kantai Collection</i>		13 Fūki, Inchō <i>Abo-Girl</i>		19 Shinohara, Natsuki <i>Summer Wars</i>		26 Sasha Blouse <i>Shingeki no Kyojin</i>
	8 Honjō, Ranko <i>Hajimete no GAL</i>		14 Onigata, Masami <i>Siren</i>		21 Nase, Hiro'omi <i>Kyōkai no Kanata</i>		28 Kangetsu, Kyōko <i>Inari, Konkon, Koi Iroha.</i>
	9 Yomo, Renji <i>Tōkyō Ghoul</i>		15 Jean-Jacques Leroy <i>Yuri on Ice!!!</i>		22 Kujō, Miu <i>Kurogane no Linebarrels</i>		29 Kasamatsu, Yukio <i>Kuroko no Basket</i>
	10 Anzu <i>Hanamaru Yōchien</i>		16 Nanashiro, Nanami <i>Nogizaka Haruka no Himitsu</i>		23 Shinomiya, Himawari <i>Vividred Operation</i>		31 Inukai, Akira <i>ReLIFE</i>

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

August 八月

	1 Enomoto, Kei <i>Hatsukoi Unlimited</i>		9 Suzuki, Moka <i>Wake Up, Girls!</i>		16 Kôgami, Shinya <i>PSYCHO-PASS</i>		24 Ôtori, Chihaya <i>Rewrite</i>
	2 Leo De La Iglesia <i>Yuri on Ice!!!</i>		10 Fragrant Olive <i>Log Horizon</i>		17 Mikumo Guynemer <i>Macross Δ</i>		26 Mimosa Vermillion <i>Black Clover</i>
	4 Kitamachi, Susumu <i>ALL OUT!!</i>		11 Cloud Strife <i>Final Fantasy VII</i>		18 Kaizuka, Yuki <i>Aldnoah.Zero</i>		27 Miyazawa, Kenji <i>Bungô Stray Dogs</i>
	5 Motoba, Takeshi <i>Himôto! Umaru-chan</i>		12 Hisakawa, Maachi <i>Gokujo Seitokai</i>		19 Tokiwa, Midori <i>Tamako Market</i>		28 Koyanagi, Hanako <i>Wotaku ni Koi wa Muzukashii</i>
	6 Hawk <i>Nanatsu no Taizai</i>		13 Hanabusa, Sumireko <i>Akuma no Riddle</i>		20 Miwa <i>STRANGE+</i>		29 Maiko, Shû <i>Nisekoi</i>
	7 Celine <i>To LOVERu -Trouble-</i>		14 Tamaizumi, Hiyoko <i>Oretachi ni Tsubasa wa Nai</i>		23 Namori, Mana <i>Schoolgirl Strikers</i>		30 Eight <i>Final Fantasy Type-0</i>

September 九月

	2 Rose <i>Dragon Crisis!</i>		9 Fukagawa, Haruka <i>Lovely Complex</i>		16 Nishimiya, Ryô <i>Sanrio Danshi</i>		25 Kamikaze <i>Kantai Collection</i>
	3 Rex <i>Macross 7</i>		10 Mikita, Yûri <i>Ao Haru Ride</i>		17 Yami, Sukehiro <i>Black Clover</i>		26 Doma, Umaru <i>Himôto! Umaru-chan</i>
	5 Kaneda, Shôtarô <i>AKIRA</i>		11 Wolf Redfield <i>Terra Formars</i>		18 Yamashiro, Kazusa <i>Muv-Luv Alternative: Total Eclipse</i>		27 Joseph Joestar <i>JoJo no Kimyô na Bôken, Part 2: Sentô Chôryû</i>
	6 Jericho <i>Nanatsu no Taizai</i>		12 Oribe, Ririko <i>Sakura Quest</i>		20 Ujimatsu, Chiya <i>Gochûmon wa Usagi Desu ka?</i>		28 Kitahara, Mio <i>Ano Natsu de Matteru</i>
	7 Nina Wang <i>Mai-Z-HiME</i>		13 Michele Crispino <i>Yuri on Ice!!!</i>		21 Asahina, Subaru <i>Brothers Conflict</i>		29 Sakura, Sae <i>sola</i>
	8 Saiko, Metori <i>Saiki Kusuo no Ψ-nan</i>		14 Koshigaya, Komari <i>Non Non Biyori</i>		24 Kazama, Sôya <i>World Trigger</i>		30 Mikuriya, Chisato <i>Nana Maru San Batsu</i>

Top Male Ranking[†]



1

Syaoran, Li
李小狼
Cardcaptor Sakura



2

Kirigaya, Kazuto
桐ヶ谷 和人
Sword Art Online



3

Lelouch Lamperouge
ルルーシュ・ランペルージ
Code Geass:
Hangyaku no Lelouch



4

Archer
アーチャー
Fate/Zero:
Ultimate Bladeworks



5

Char Aznable
シャア・アズナブル
Kidō Senshi Gundam



6

Tsukishiro, Yukito
月城 雪兎
Card captor Sakura



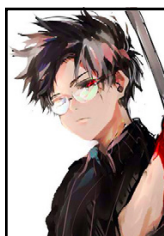
7

Kishinami, Hakuno
岸波 白野
Fate/EXTRA
Last Encore)



8

Sugimoto, Saichi
杉元 佐一
Golden Kamuy



9

Sasaki, Haise
佐々木 琲世
Tokyo Ghoul:re



10

Emiya, Shirō
衛宮 士郎
Fate/stay night

Top Female Ranking[†]



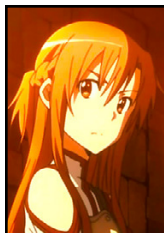
1

Kinomoto,
Sakura
木之本 さくら
Cardcaptor Sakura



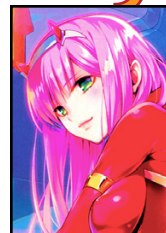
2

Saber Arturia
Pendragon
セイバー・アルトリア・ペンドラゴン
Fate/zero



3

Yūki, Asuna
結城 明日奈
Sword Art Online



4

Zero Two
ゼロツー
DARLING in the
FRANXX



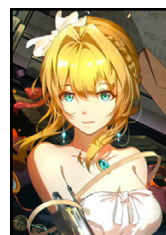
5

Kohiruimaki, Karen
小比類巻 香蓮
Sword Art Online
Alternative - Gun
Gale Online



6

Tōsaka, Rin
遠坂 凛
Fate/stay night



7

Violet Evergarden
ヴァイオレット・エ
ヴァーガーデン
Violet Evergarden



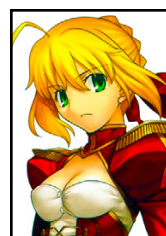
8

Izumi, Kyōka
泉 鏡花
Bungō Stray Dogs



9

Freyja Wion
フレイア・ヴィオン
Macross Delta



10

Nero Claudius Caesar
Augustus Germanicus
ネロ・クラウディウス・
カエサル・アウグストゥス・
ゲルマニクス
Fate/EXTRA Last Encore

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. †NewType The Motion Pictures Magazine

【シトラス】

citrus

As you all know from my article dealing with my first impressions on *citrus*, I was ready to see what the rest of the anime held due to its fantastical start. As I said before, my first shōjo-ai anime happened to be *Sakura Trick*, but I never finished it all the way through for one reason or another. I wanted things to be different with *citrus*, so I committed myself to the anime and finished watching all 12 episodes!

cirtus

シトラス

TV • January–March 2018 • 12 Episodes

Passione

Crunchyroll

<http://citrus-anime.com>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citrus_(manga))

Citrus_(manga)

Director: Takahashi, Takeo

Writer: Hayashi, Naoki

Music: Takahashi, Ryō

Cast:

Aihara, Yuzu = Taketatsu, Ayana

Aihara, Mei = Tsuda, Minami



This is my first anime review in quite sometime, so I will be doing so in a format different from those in the past by addressing the main points I think should be explored, yet I will be leaving my final thoughts and rating system unchanged. I feel this will be better going forward, so I hope you enjoy it!

Presenting the Plot

From the very first episode the plot of citrus is laid out before your eyes; Yuzu is in a new environment, attending a new school, has a new stepfather which comes along with slightly younger stepsister that came in tow when her mother, Ume, remarried. Having to adjust to the world around her, she faces hardships with her day-to-day life attempting to meld herself into a place she feels rejects her way of doing things.

Being a *gyaru*, Yuzu is outspoken and flashy, everything

she is mirrors that of her new sister, Mei. Mei is head of the student council, aloof and somber and is more of an introvert compared to her more extroverted new sibling. However, things take a weird turn when Yuzu finds herself smitten over Mei due to her seemingly random acts of depravity, leaving Yuzu in a state of sexual tension and confusion.

Within the first few episodes the entirety of the season is planned out very well, I absolutely love how things are setup and it brings a realistic look into what this situation could possibly be like — finding yourself in love with a new family member who has stolen your first glimpse into what attraction to someone is like. In romantic slice of life anime like this, having characters that resonate believability is so much more important than the impossible circumstances that they wind up in. From Yuzu's reactions to Mei's seemingly random acts of affection, to the confusion of exactly what is going inside of their heads, I was sold 100%.

The thing that made the sell so easy in the opening episodes was that Yuzu had no experience whatsoever with anyone else; she was always wanting something more and never had the opportunity with anyone she had ran across. In fact, we find this girl lying in the very beginning of episode one to her now-then friends about what transpired with the boyfriend she was no longer dating, or perhaps someone she had met at a mixer. Often times we can find ourselves infatuated with someone who shows us interest or awakens within us feelings and emotions we never knew existed, it is intoxicating and alluring.

Setting the stage so well is just a start, unfortunately. No matter how well things are lined up for you, how things actually play out makes a difference whether-or-not that beautifully decorated set piece was worth the trouble.

Sisterly Love

The fruit of any anime like this is going to come down to conflicts — how should you act when romantically attracted to a sibling, also it heavily leans on what should you do when it is made clear that it is taboo to be with someone of the same sex? These are very real life issues that need to be addressed, and unfortunately this anime really only touched on one of them.

Sisterly love in an impure way is one of the main conflicts within this series; though it does not appear to be done as well as it should have. While they could have mutually agreed to try and be sisters, they both instead choose it as a way to mask their insecurities and uncertainties. This seems more realistic in theory but the execution was rather poor. Mei crossed plenty of boundaries knowing what she was doing and yet she insisted on not taking things further because of being both sisters and women, yet she crosses that line even after mentioning it. Yuzu also longs for Mei, trying to think of how to be a good sister yet will let her entire being speak of how she wants Mei for a lover rather than a family member.

Yuzu & Mei Aihara





Do not get me wrong, I understand this anime tries to use confusion as a stepping stone but it fails when Yuzu clearly knows what she wants and attempts to build things around Mei's fluctuating persona. This backfires simply because the series tries to use supporting characters to act as if both Yuzu and Mei do not understand each other feelings and are simply missing how the other views them; that is wrong. Mei and Yuzu are both very clear in their stances for the other, yet only Yuzu openly displays that actual goals for longevity exist within her emotions besides fleeting moments of passion.

Conflicts

Drama was always going to be something I expected in citrus, they needed something to shake it up; so they added in potential love interests on both sides of Yuzu and Mei. This was very cheap and a cop out, not helping the overall plot due to the fact that things were just not fleshed out enough with them; backstory, time spent with the protagonists, and their ability to lend aid were all evaluated and judged to be poor at best.

The problem is that no one seems to make a move in this show unless they see someone else has made it first; everyone is constantly chasing and pursuing without aggressively seeking things out first. Rather than a natural occurrence which was bound to happen according to the backstories they are given, conflicts appear to be happenstance that are simply convenient to whatever is relevant at the time. It feels artificial, it looks artificial, and you just want it to be out of the way. The cliché "I have been interested in her longer than she has known you, therefore she belongs to me!" is quite played out, it never works in any anime and I hated that *citrus* did not deviate from this age-old trend.

The potential love triangles caused by external sources should have been more sincere; they should have been fueled with passions or perhaps failed confessions in the past to actually add a spark of realism to them. If someone has been feeling love or admiration for someone for years, I do not think they could bottle it up for as long as these characters did without making it known in some form or another; the way they act, the way they talk or general nervousness due to touching, how their crush looks, or even a compliment.

Seeing love and support and then a confession is much more believable than headsprung jealousy that rears its ugly head out of seemingly nowhere. Even more than that, when you introduce someone who is accompanied by a flashback that only explains things in the most simplest of terms ... it does not work and it does not work here.

More so than that, Mei's own personality is arguably the biggest antagonist of this entire series. Without going into too much detail, it feels as though her lack of meaningful relationships makes her act inappropriately. Seeking out anyone who is in need of her, openly discarding her own feelings and anyone else who might be hurt simply because she wants to feel she matters. This makes sense to me. Often times we see people with interpersonal relationship problems with family members, or those who did not have good ones, begin to tie their world around gaining that affection. A perfectionist attitude and weakness to kind words could very well be the mark of someone who simply feels as though she is not enough.

The problem with Mei's personality is that she does not express openly anything she thinks. This woman is the same from beginning to end with only slight changes in her character without much in the way of evolution or progress. Often times her current emotional state is declared by someone else, this makes things even worse since it leaves the audience to guess if Mei is sincere or simply defaulting to her defensive mechanisms.

Supporting Characters

Something I feel this anime fails at heavily is its supporting characters. There are quite a few of them that are introduced on both sides (Yuzu and Mei), yet they seem to only exist to further along the ploy of the protagonists. They seem simply to exist without much reason, that in itself worries me since we do not get to explore their spectrum of emotion and the things that make them tick.

In my personal opinion, only a few characters actually got a supporting role that was good; they provided good insight to their friend and furthered the plot along by allowing solutions to problems. They helped out when needed, were selfless in their actions, and they acted on what they knew without having to question why. Unfortunately, I find that these characters, as good as they are, did not receive enough screen time. A vast majority of the emphasis was put into characters who had essential conflict with one or both protagonists and were given little in terms of a personality worthy of the viewers admiration.

Perversion

This show has a heavy emphasis on yuri-related content, that means that the perversions scenes we have are going to be inspired by this. It makes sense why this was the case

because of Mei's personality and how she uses the allure of sexuality as a mechanism to feel wanted and desired. Despite those reason of Mei's, which are completely valid to the character and experience, I feel like some of the fan service was simply done to keep the audience interested. Sex sells, I know. That is all well and good, but this series was making it plain that things had reasons to them and all those acts of perversion tied in somewhere; they did not.

They did not explain a few things — how did Mei's best friend know where her weak spot is and how did Yuzu figure that out? Why some of the random gropings? Why did no one say anything when Yuzu encountered Mei in the very first episode and openly molested her in front of the entire student body? It makes no sense and that what frustrates me; I see no purpose. Some anime do it for the shock factor, some anime do it simply because that is their whole schtick, and sometimes they do it in order to convey a message or add to the emotion of the scene ... this anime has a habit of doing it for seemingly no reason.

Though, I will be fair, during some scenes it could become tense or funny as I showed in the above picture ... but often it was simply a teaser that lead to nothing. More so than not it was also used when the character could have spent that valuable time trying to convey themselves in a way that furthered along character development, instead it often shunts that idea and leave the viewer more frustrated than before.

The Verdict: Not Worth Watching

Strengths — Very good beginning, nice art style and colors, Harumin is an awesome character.

Weaknesses — Plot unfolds poorly, very bad supporting characters, boring conflicts, unfulfilling ending and poor character development.

Final Thoughts

The end of this anime makes it feel as though no true conclusion was reached. Mei showed more emotion towards someone she chose not to be with than someone she apparently chose ... even that was not made readily apparent. This anime had so much potential to explore the human psyche and how it deals with loneliness and feelings of abandonment, how people deal with forbidden love and lust, and the harsh realities of unrequited love.

citrus started off brilliantly as captivating and down-to-earth, only to end up as nothing more than daddy issues and indecisiveness as their biggest conflicts expressed through half-hearted love triangles and nonsensical monologue. I had hoped for more from my first episode impression and was left severely disappointed as this anime bloomed into nothing that I thought it could be, settling instead for reused plot devices in an uninspiring way.

I cannot recommend this anime to anyone, I would not want them to sit through this and hope that the construction of the plot mirrors the thoughtful opening episode. A beautiful stage was set, all characters gained their proper position, but it quickly became clear that the writing was not up to par with the rest of the presentation. ❖ Rok the Reaper



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Entertainment

Genki Life Magazine ■ Summer 2018



PS4™



XBOX ONE



The image displays the logos for two video game consoles. The top logo is for the PlayStation 4 (PS4), featuring the PlayStation symbol (a stylized 'P' and 'S' combined) to the left of the text 'PS4'. The bottom logo is for the Nintendo Switch, featuring the Switch console icon (two Joy-Con controllers joined by a central bar) to the left of the text 'NINTENDO SWITCH'.

nisamerica.com/games/snk-heroines/

Console & Desktop Gaming Summer 2018



Dana
– Ys VIII:
Lacrimosa of Dana



June 22

Mario Tennis Aces

Nintendo Co., Ltd. • Camelot Co. Ltd.

E • Sports • Switch

New Gundam Breaker

BANDAI NAMCO Studios Inc.

T • Action • PC, PS4

Slime-san

(Superslime Edition)

Headsup Games •

Fabraz Company

E • Action, Adventure, Indie • PS4, Xbox1

June 26

Far Cry 3 Classic Edition

Ubisoft Entertainment SA

M • Shooter • PS4, Xbox1

Lumines Remastered

Enhance • Resonair Inc.

E • Puzzle, Arcade, Lifestyle, Party • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

Ys VIII: Lacrimosa of Dana

NIS America, Inc. • Nihon

Falcom Corporation

T • Role-Playing • Switch

June 28

Bomb Chicken

Nitrome Games Limited

E • Action, Puzzle, Platformer • Switch

Fighting EX Layer

Arika Co. Ltd.

T • Fighting • PS4

Pro Cycling Manager: Tour de France 2018

Focus Home Interactive •

Cyanide Studio

E • Racing • PC

Tour de France 2018

Focus Home Interactive •

Cyanide Studio

E • Racing, Sport • PS4, Xbox1

June 29

Crash Bandicoot

N. Sane Trilogy

Activision Publishing, Inc. • Toys

For Bob

E • Action, Platformer • PC,

Switch, Xbox1

MXGP Pro - The Official Motocross Videogame

Milestone S.r.l.

E • Racing • PC, PS4, Xbox1

The Crew 2

Ubisoft Entertainment SA •

Ivory Tower - A Ubisoft Studio

T • Racing, Action • PC, PS4, Xbox1

Wolfenstein 2:

The New Colossus

Bethesda Softworks LLC •

MachineGames Sweden AB

M • First Person, Action,

Adventure • Switch

July 3

Red Faction:

Guerrilla Re-Mars-tered

THQ Nordic GmbH • TBC Games

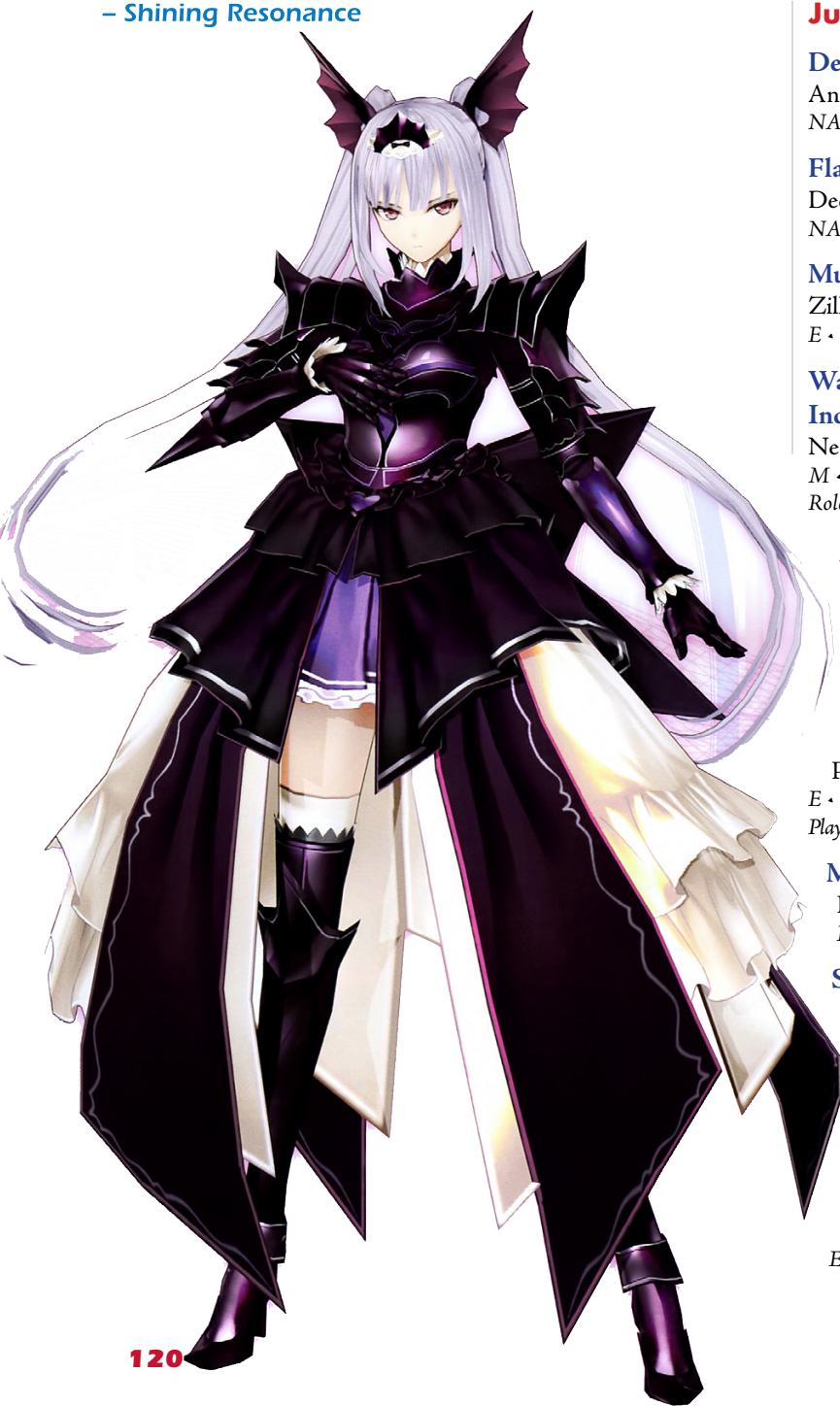
M • Shooter, Action • PC, PS4, Xbox1

ESRB rating at time of publication. The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

Console & Desktop Gaming

Summer 2018 *Continued*

Excela Noa Aura
– Shining Resonance



July 5

Detached

Anshar Studios S.A.
NA • Action • PSVR

Flat Heroes

Deck13 • Parallel Circles
NA • Action, Indie • PC, Switch

Mushroom Wars 2

Zillion Whales • Creat Studios Inc.
E • Strategy, Action • Switch

Warhammer 40,000:

Inquisitor - Martyr

NeocoreGames
M • Action, Adventure, Indie,
Role-Playing Game • PS4, Xbox1

July 10

20XX

Fire Hose Games •
Batterystaple Games
E • Action • PS4, Switch

Insane Robots

Playniac
E • Adventure, Casual, Indie, Role-
Playing Game, Strategy • PC, PS4, Xbox1

Muddledash

PQube Limited • slampunks
E • Action • PC, Switch

Shining Resonance Refrain

Sega Games Co., Ltd.
T • Role-Playing Game • PC,
PS4, Switch, Xbox1

July 11

20XX

Fire Hose Games •
Batterystaple Games
E • Action • Xbox1

July 12

Icons: Combat Arena

Wavedash Games
NA • Platform, Fighting • PC

July 13

Captain Toad: Treasure Tracker

Nintendo Co., Ltd. • Nintendo
EAD Tokyo, EAD Tokyo Group
No. 2, Nintendo Entertainment
A&D, 1-UP Studio
E • Puzzle, Strategy • 3DS, Switch

Earthfall

Holospark LLC.
T • Action • PC, PS4, Xbox1

Hotel Transylvania 3: Monsters Overboard

Outright Games Ltd. • Torus
Games Pty. Ltd.
E • Strategy, Adventure • PC, PS4,
Switch, Xbox1

Octopath Traveler

Nintendo Co., Ltd. • Square
Enix Holdings Co., Ltd.
T • Role-Playing Game,
Adventure • Switch

July 17

Adventure Time:

Pirates of the Enchiridion

Outright Games Ltd. •
Climax Studios
E • Adventure • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

Chicken Assassin (Reloaded)

Akupara Games • OneShark
T • Action, Role-Playing Game •
PS4, Switch

Sonic Mania

(Sonic Mania Plus)

Sega Games Co., Ltd. • Christian Whitehead, Headcannon, Pagoda-West Games, Hyperkinetic Studios
E • Action, Platformer, Arcade, Multiplayer • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

July 19

Impulsion

Playdius, Plug In Digital • Driving Force Games
NA • Action, Indie • PC

July 24

Mega Man X Legacy Collection 1 & 2

Capcom Co., Ltd.
T • Action, Compilation, Platform • PC, Xbox1

No Man's Sky

Sony Interactive Entertainment Inc. • Hello Games Ltd
T • Adventure • Xbox1

The Banner Saga 3

Versus Evil, LLC • Stoic, LLC
T • Strategy • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

The Persistence Lands

Firesprite
M • Action, Adventure, Horror • PSVR

Train Sim World

Dovetail Games
E • Simulation, Strategy • PS4

Train Sim World: Founders Edition)

Dovetail Games
E • Simulation • Xbox1

July 26

Sleep Tight We Are Fuzzy

E • Arcade, Strategy, Action • PC, Switch

July 27

Go Vacation

Nintendo Co., Ltd. • BANDAI NAMCO Studios Inc.
E • Sports • Switch

July 31

Graveball

3D Realms • Goin' Yumbo Games
NA • Action, Indie, Sports • PC

Titan Quest (Console Edition)

THQ Nordic GmbH
T • Action, Role-Playing Game • Switch

August 3

Wario Ware Gold

Nintendo Co., Ltd.
E • Party, Action • 3DS

August 6

Hyper Universe

CWave, Inc. • NEXON America Inc.
T • Action • Xbox1

August 9

Okami HD

Capcom Co., Ltd.
T • Action • Switch

August 10

Madden NFL 19

EA Sports • EA Tiburon
E • Sports • PS4, Xbox1

August 14

Death's Gambit

White Rabbit Interactive • Adult Swim Games
T • Action, Role-Playing Game • PC, PS4

The Walking Dead: A Telltale Game Series - The Final Season

Telltale Games
M • Adventure • PC, PS4, Xbox1

World of Warcraft: Battle for Azeroth

Blizzard Entertainment, Inc.
T • Strategy • PC

August 21

All-Star Fruit Racing

PQube Limited • 3DClouds.it
NA • Action, Indie, Racing, Sports • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

August 24

F1 2018

Koch Media GmbH • Codemasters
E • Sports, Racing • PC, PS4, Xbox1

August 28

Fire Pro Wrestling World

Spike Chunsoft Co., Ltd.
T • Sports, Wrestling • PS4

Monster Hunter Generations Ultimate

Capcom Co., Ltd.
T • Action, Role-Playing Game • Switch

Monster Hunter: World axe user.



ESRB rating at time of publication. The information presented here is as accurate as possible at the time of publication. ESRB ratings are subject to change and may vary by region. Please refer to the ESRB website for more information.

Console & Desktop Gaming

Summer 2018 *Continued*

Strange Brigade

Rebellion Developments Limited
NA • Action, Adventure, First Person Shooter • PC, PS4, Xbox1

Yakuza Kiwami 2

Sega Games Co., Ltd.
M • Action, Role-Playing Game • PS4

August 30

Pro Evolution Soccer 2019

Konami Digital Entertainment Inc. • PES Production
E • Sports • PC, PS4, Xbox1

August 31

Naruto to Boruto:

Shinobi Striker
BANDAI NAMCO Studios Inc. • Soleil Ltd.
T • Racing • PC, PS4, Xbox1

September 4

Destiny 2 – Expansion III: Forsaken

Activision Publishing, Inc. • Bungie, Inc.
T • Action, Adventure, First Person Shooter • PC, PS4, Xbox1

Dragon Quest XI: Echoes of an Elusive Age

Square Enix Holdings Co., Ltd.
T • Role-Playing Game • PC, PS4

September 6 Zone of the Enders: The 2nd Runner Mars

Konami Digital Entertainment Inc.
T • Action • PC, PS4, PSVR, Steam VR

September 7

Immortal: Unchained

Game Odyssey Limited, Sold Out Sales & Marketing Ltd. • Toadman Interactive
NA • Action, Role-Playing Game • PC, PS4, Xbox1

Marvel's Spider-Man

Sony Interactive Entertainment Inc. • Insomniac Games, Inc.
T • Action, Adventure • PS4

SNK Heroines:

Tag Team Frenz
NIS America, Inc. • SNK Corporation
T • Fighting, Arcade • PS4, Switch

September 11

NBA 2K19

2K Games, Inc. • Visual Concepts Entertainment
E • Sports • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

September 14

Black Clover: Quartet Knight

ILINX Software • BANDAI NAMCO Studios Inc.
NA • Action, Adventure, Role-Playing Game • PC, PS4

Shadow of the Tomb Raider

Eidos-Montréal, Crystal Dynamics, Inc. • Square Enix Co., Ltd.
NA • Action, Adventure • PC, PS4, Xbox1

September 21

8-Bit Armies

SOEDESCO • Petroglyph Games
E • Role-Playing Game • PS4, Xbox1

Spyro Reignited Trilogy

Activision Publishing, Inc. • Toys For Bob
E • Platformer, Adventure • PS4, Xbox1

September 28

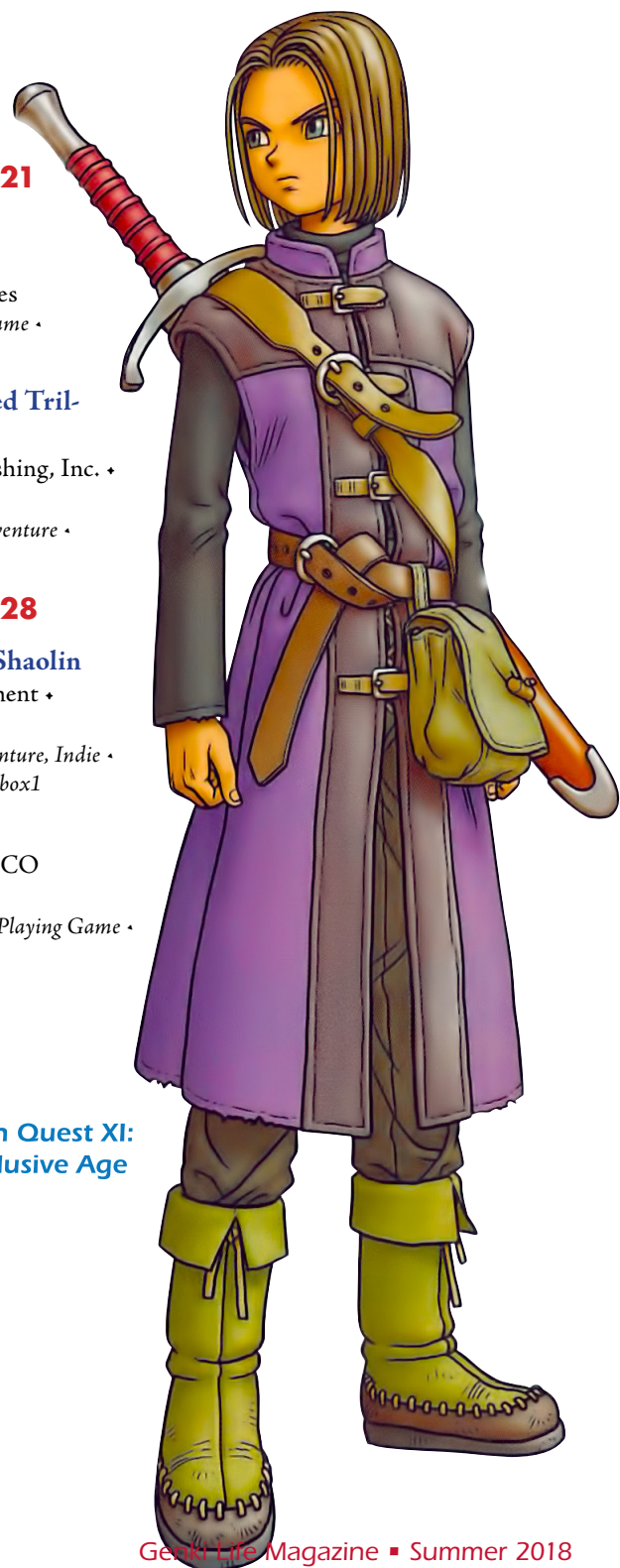
9 Monkeys of Shaolin

Buka Entertainment • Sobaka Studio
NA • Action, Adventure, Indie • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

Code Vein

BANDAI NAMCO Studios Inc.
NA • Action, Role-Playing Game • PC, PS4, Xbox1

Hero of Dragon Quest XI: Echoes of an Elusive Age



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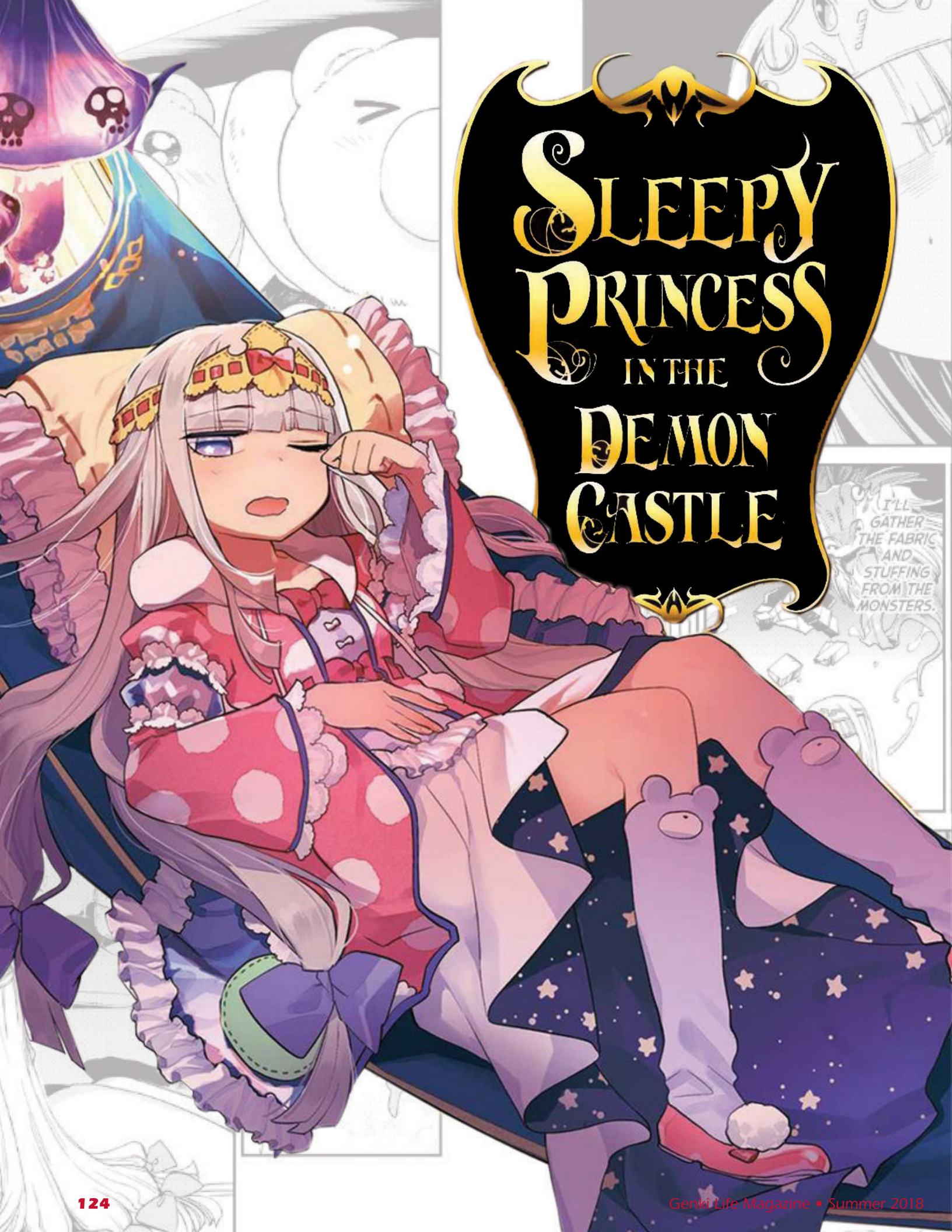
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SLEEPY PRINCESS

IN THE

DEMON CASTLE

I'LL
GATHER
THE FABRIC
AND
STUFFING
FROM THE
MONSTERS.



Sleepy Princess in the Demon Castle seemed like it was going to be very interesting when I posted up the news article detailing the announcement of the manga. Beyond this my friend who helped me design this website, Raven, was interested in the book and was wondering if it would be worth picking up this series or not. Thankfully I was graciously able to obtain a copy for review from the people over at VIZ Media, so I will be able to share my thoughts with you guys and girls!

Reading the synopsis on the back of the book, I immediately figured that it was going to be comical (how could it not be with a name like *Sleepy Princess in the Demon Castle*?), including things like making DIY bedding, and apparently having the princess die repeatedly?! As good as it sounds, the proof is in the pudding. So I am making sure to read and give an honest review over everything Vol. 1 of *Sleepy Princess in the Demon Castle* has to offer!

Story Impressions

The story for *Sleepy Princess in the Demon Castle* Vol. 1 is pretty straightforward; the Demon King has captured Princess Aurora Sya Lis Goodereste (Princess Syalis for short) of the Human Nation and is holding her prisoner in his castle, disrupting the harmony that everyone lived in for so long. Dawner the Hero from the Unified Human Nation of Goodereste is set on a journey to rescue the princess from the Demon King's evil clutches, all while himself and his nation believe that she is braving unspeaking acts of torment and torture from her captors.

While this is the stage the opening pages set, you come to find out the plot the manga followers is entirely different.

The humor comes from the manga following Princess Syalis on her quest for a goodnight's sleep, much to the dismay of the Demon King, his demonic attendants who see to the castle, and the hero who is actively trying to save her. While being incredibly fatigued since she arrived to the Demon Castle, she begins to essentially troubleshoot why it feels like she can sleep for hours upon hours and still feel extremely tired and lethargic. From crafting new pillows to seeking out new bedding, from stealing items and using parts of demons she encounters that fits her needs it is quite comical the entire way through.

The way they act out the story seems to be a mix of a role-playing game and random occurrences of savageness from the princess. They have clever ways of fitting in methods to wipe her gains on sleeping back to zero while simultaneously keeping the hero at bay to continue the trend in Vol. 1 of this manga. To be honest, everything fits together rather well and essentially reminds me of the Phineas and Ferb cartoon in how two different things are occurring simultaneously, yet they find a way to intersect and one affects the other to great effect.

The only problem I can potentially see with this manga is how the actual agenda of the princess could become increasingly trite as the volumes continue to expand; that finding new and inventive ways to lull herself into a peaceful sleep can run stale unless they find a way to keep it new and

Sleepy Princess in the Demon Castle
(Maō-jō de Oyasumi)
魔王城でおやすみ

Manga

2016 – present • 6 Volume (ongoing) JP
2018 – present • 1 Volume (ongoing) NA
Shogakukan • Viz Media, LLC.

<https://www.shogakukan.co.jp/books/09127342>

<https://www.viz.com/sleepy-princess-in-the-demon-castle>

Story: Kumanomata, Kagiji

Illustrator: Kumanomata, Kagiji

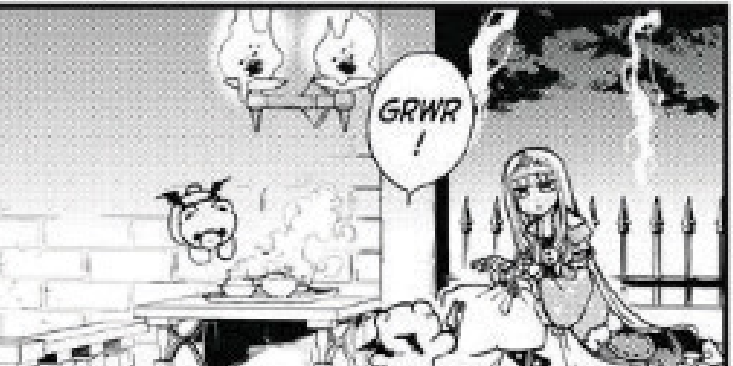
Genre: Comedy, Fantasy, Shōnen

Format: Softcover

Price: \$10 MSRP each volume

Main Characters:

Aurora Suya Rhys Kaymin



fresh. I do have some hope as a bit of ecchi comedy towards the end of the book actually caused me to laugh out loud, breaking some of the blandness I begin to feel midway through the book; this tells that mangaka Kagiji Kumanomata's may have some tricks up his sleeve when it comes to unfolding this story further (it is rated T for Teen after all).

Not bad, but also not great either. It had some moments where it was certainly finally and a few times it seemed to drag on, I am hoping we receive something further to spice it up beyond a few RPG references and moments of sadism from our beloved Princess Syalis.

Character Impressions

Characters within this book are both hit and miss, being the whole highlight of some chapters while causing you to yawn on others. Despite the story being somewhat meh at parts, I think that a big part of that mediocrity came from interactions with non interesting characters versus having a bad idea of what to do next.

This book is banking off of the antics of the princess and those she encounters, so having interesting, eccentric, or unusual characters with different mannerisms (that are often conflicting) makes for the best read.

A Demon Cleric able to revive anyone who has died in the castle, Teddy Demons that are adorable and deadly, and the attitude of Great Red Siberian, The Demon King's Dog who strictly upholds the castle rules are some of the interesting persons you encounter. However, just as you have a myriad of personas who make things interesting with their diverse run-ins with the princess, you have other characters who come off as mundane and uninspired; Ghost Shroud, Poison Apple Men and even the Forbidden Grimoire Alazif. Though, the biggest problem I had was that the Demon King himself was not nearly appealing enough as a character (which is a shame since he does actually look fairly awesome).

Princess Syalis herself floats in limbo between

being naive, a bold trickster and a dark humored loli. To be honest, I do not really mind when she seems to just kind of be there in comparison to when her presence is felt through something she has did which appears to be out of her character due to her appearance, social standing, and previous mannerisms. Her actions are what causes reactions in this book, so everything begins and ends with her essentially. Syalis is designed well enough so that you love her when she gives you a reason and to not think ill of her when she has only the most minimum of efforts to offer, so I believe they have got themselves a winning combination for a main character.

Oh! One other thing I would like to mention is

"The way they act out the story seems to be a mix of a role-playing game and random occurrences of savageness from the princess."

that they happen to also detail every character you run across in the manga with a brief info page. It tells things like their name, a brief synopsis, a random state that is judged by stars based on potency of said skill, and sometimes their favorite food (which all seems to be steamed monster bird egg custard whatever that is).

Miscellaneous

This book heavily relies on Role-Playing Game references for some of its humor; such as acquiring items and their effects, the entire questline of Dawn-er the Hero, and how anyone who is killed within the Demon Castle is resurrected after death. Anyone who is a fan of Japanese Role-Playing Games will no



doubt have plenty of laughs from how they illustrate typical JRPG. ts into some of the panels.

I also want to point out that there are a few other references too, such as a reference to *Naruto* as one that could be interpreted of Vergil from *Devil May Cry* quote when he turns Devil Trigger in *Ultimate Marvel vs Capcom 3* in one of the change class drawings that are present outside of each chapter. There seemed to have been one more referencing something else, however, I failed to actually catch that one.

The Verdict

STRENGTHS - Adorable main character, plenty of Japanese role-playing game references, some interesting characters, humor can be incredibly funny.

WEAKNESSES - The plot in itself can become bland, some characters are not cool nor interesting, the Demon King is the main antagonist and not interesting enough.

Overall, I am looking forward to *Sleepy Princess in the Demon Castle*, Vol. 2, and feel that this book did a solid enough job in its opening volume. However, it is going to have to do a better job with how it handles the storytelling from this point forward. You can only have someone go after the same goal over and over while resetting their progress for so long without it becoming uninteresting. Introducing characters with more humorous interactions would prove to be all that they need, that and to give The Demon King himself a personality worth the wait of seeing him interact with our [main character]. The characters are literally what make this manga worth reading, so they need to focus upon them heavily in the next volume.

I recommend this book for anyone who is a fan of light-hearted humor, a story that does not take itself too seriously with an adorable main character, yet advise against it for those who is looking or humor

within a serious plot line (such as *Negima*). ❖

Rok The Reaper





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Arc

He fell asleep during the online game and was awakened to another world as the avatar of his game character...a skeleton. Arc is equipped with the strongest equipment of the game Berenus' armor, Night sky cloak, Teutate's heavenly shield and the Sword of the Thunder (Carradoborg). He has maxed out stats, an abnormal high degree of power and a multitude of magic. Arc thinks that he being a skeleton is a curse.

Gaikotsu Kishi-sama, Tadaima Isekai e Odekake-chū

by
Hakari, Enki (秤猿鬼)

Arc fell asleep while playing an online game. However, he awoke in a strange world with his game character's appearance. In a state of shock, he noticed that he was equipped with nothing but his strongest weapon and armor. To make matters worse, our hero's appearance was changed by the special avatar skin 'Skeleton' when he enter this new world. The protagonist wanted to live without drawing attention, but he got acquainted with the dark elf, Ariana, and received her request.

Here's a preview of the two chapter. Be sure to support the author.

These pages are meant to read in spreads, side by side.
The story flow will be off, if read page by individual page.

Gaikotsu Kishi-sama, Tadaima Isekai e Odekake-chū
(Skeleton Knight, in Another World)
骸骨騎士様、只今異世界へお出掛け

Overlap • Comic Gardo

February 2017 – ongoing,
2 Volumes

<https://ja.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

<https://over-lap.co.jp/gardo/>

Author: Hakari, Enki

Art: Sawano, Akira

Genre: Action, Adventure, Another World, Supernatural

Format: Softcover/Manga

Price: ¥1,300 MSRP each volume

מבוא לתוכנית לימודים

130



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かいたる けし-さん、いらいん せし e 006/24-011



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カイトウ キチ-サン、マダモ イロイロ オモエカ-ン



מבוא לתורת המשפט

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מבוא לשיטת הלימודים, תוכנית הלימודים ותוכן השיעורים

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מבוא לתורת המשפט

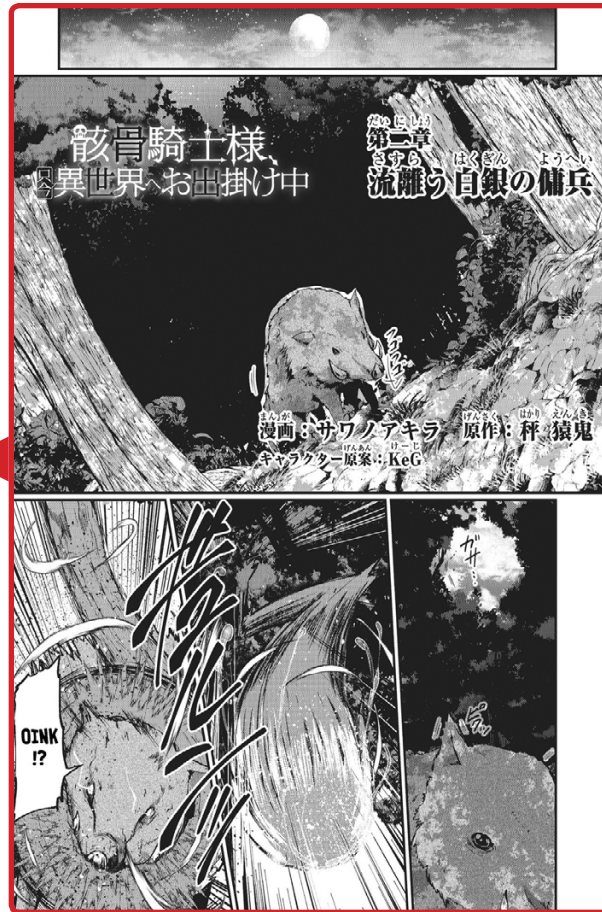
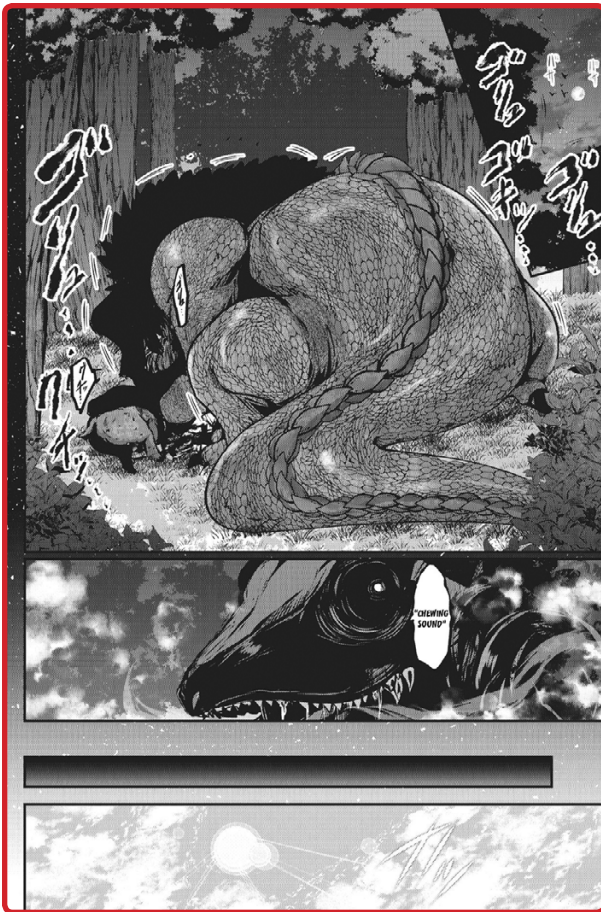
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Genki Life Magazine, Summer 2018



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Genki Life Magazine, Summer 2018



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airoteki kishi-sama, tadaino sekai e oidekake-cho



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このマンガは、
「Gaikotsu Kishi-sama,
Tadaima Isekai e Odekake-chū」
というタイトルで、
Kinokuniya Bookstores
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your local Japanese manga retailer.

**Stop
Reading
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This concludes our preview of
**“Gaikotsu Kishi-sama,
Tadaima Isekai e Odekake-chū”**

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