

Anime • Video Games • Manga

Genki Life

Magazine

38

冬 2020

Winter
Dec 21-Mar 19

Uchi no Musume: LN vs. Anime

Sasami-san@Ganbaranai: Religion,
Tradition and the New Ageo

Kanata no Astra

Winter 2020 Conventions

Manga Inside!

Also

Seiyūs of Autumn 2019

River City Girls Game Review





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January–March

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Editorial

Issue 38, Winter • December 21, 2019 – March 18, 2020

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 Notes

This autumn has been very slow for me on the fandom front. The only convention I've been to was Super Dimension Convention, a *Super Dimensional Fortress Macross*-themed convention in Torrance, CA. I had a good time at the convention. There were a lot to do and events to watch. There were also a lot of good friends that were there too. The only thing that was out of place was the absence of Mari Iijima, the voice actress of the character Lynn Minmay and a regular since the inception of this con. All in all, it was good single-theme convention.

Of all movies that I had watched since the beginning of was *Joker*. It's a movie that I had no interest in, much less to watch. I was cajoled to watch to recover from a veteran's drinking event. As it may, I really enjoyed the movie! It had a great story and acting by Joaquin Phoenix. I have realized only recent that there was a lot of weird things going in the movie industry: changing movies to be Chinese-friendly, forced agendas, forced inclusivity, etc. All the older popular movie franchises that had rebooted movies that flopped big-time. I also realized that a lot of the newer fans are begin combative to opposing criticism. I was told to many times that I'll "lost my nerd card" for not watching new shows and movies everyone else is watching. With the state of modern fandom the way it is, I don't want it. I'll only watch shows I'm interested in. I do consider recommendations, not forced ones.

- Ed Gomez
Graphic Designer
Publisher & Editor



GLM masot by
Jennifer Tourtilloitt



Genki Life Magazine

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Our staff is comprised of volunteer fans. We're always looking for contributors to this magazine in the fields of writing, reporting, reviewing, photography and graphic design. If you would like to contribute to this magazine, please e-mail me at: glm@studioartmix.com or on Facebook: www.facebook.com/GenkiLifeMag

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SUPERNATURAL

GHOST WHISPERER

NCIS:
LOS ANGELES

AARON KUDER
CREATOR/ARTIST



SUPERMAN

GREEN LANTERN

Fantastic Four

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY

GHOST RIDER

PHILLIP HESTER
CREATOR/ARTIST



BATMAN
BEYOND

GREEN ARROW

VAMPIRELLA

NIGHTWING

JEREMY HAUN
CREATOR/ARTIST



THE REALM

BATMAN
BATWOMAN
CONSTANTINE

BEAUTY

THE RED MOTHER



Sasami-san@Ga Religion, Tradition and

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Sasami Tsukuyomi



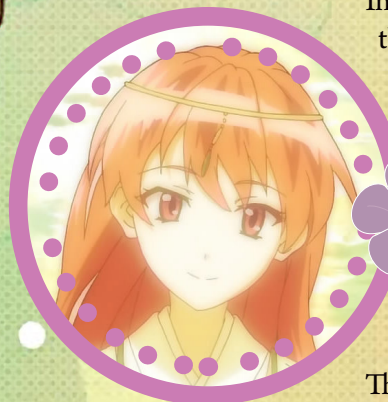
On the surface, *Sasami-san@Ganbaranai* is a strange concoction of battle spectacles, religion, and eccentric and risqué behavior brewed out of a Haruhi-inspired cauldron. The premise is a riff off of a Haruhi-inspired archetype, a girl who subconsciously alters the world using god powers she can't consciously control. Inspiration is not imitation, however. While I'm not going to deny the influence *The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya* has had on Sasami-san's narrative, I'm confident in expressing this: Sasami-san's is more ambitious than Haruhi's, if not quite as smoothly well-written. It's willing to talk about controversial issues in contemporary Japanese society that the *Haruhi* series is not really equipped to discussing. The show combines its fight scenes with its universe's mythos, not unlike *Monogatari*, to craft a social commentary on Japanese religion and spirituality, as well as culture and lifestyles, in the New Age.

Unlike *Monogatari* though, Sasami-san's universe is built primarily from extant Shinto kami mythology. However, all that needs to be known (if not fully appreciated) about this mythology to understand the show's social commentary can be found within its narrative.

In the beginning, there was the great steward sun goddess Amaterasu. Tired of doing her job, she decided to seal her god powers within a female human vessel.

That vessel went by the surname Tsukuyomi.

These god powers were passed down, from generation to generation, through hereditary daughters dating their ancestry from the first vessel, the first Tsukuyomi Priestess. To maintain the quality of the vessels, these hereditary daughters were conceived via inbreeding



to maintain the purity of the bloodline. These daughters also underwent self-denial training. Desires of duty toward humanity, the world and the family would be emphasized. Desires of distraction that may have the potential to bend reality to their god powered wills would be suppressed. These god powers passed from Sasami's ancestor, to Sasami's mother, and finally, to Sasami Tsukuyomi herself.

Even a brief wandering of the mind, even an momentary impulsive longing can have the potential to bend reality to their own subconscious egos. Many of the overt conflicts of the series is based around Sasami accidentally triggering a reality-bending alteration of the world.

This alteration is countered in the universe by an equilibrating mechanism in the form of the three Yagami sisters, who have been tasked toward restoring the world to its original form. They are also there to protect and support Sasami as guardians, friends and family. The true identities of the three

Yagami sisters hail from the eldest Yagami, Tsurugi.

Tsurugi (bottom right) is an alias for the goddess Amaterasu. Kagami and Tama are aspects of Amaterasu that have been split from the original body. As the, albeit now severely underpowered, Amaterasu, Tsurugi is representative of the old Japanese religion of Shinto.

Kagami (bottom center) is representative of scientific religion in the Japanese context, which, demonstrated by her abilities, combines both old religion and spirituality with emerging technology. Emblematic of the potential destructiveness (as well as constructiveness) of this emerging technology (the actual devastation having precedent in Imperial Japan), the narrative describes her backstory as one where she was raised for evil when she was

kidnapped from Tsurugi, but tamed for good when she was retrieved back by the same person.

Tsurugi's and Kagami's character conceptualizations are derived from Shinto deities, Tsurugi being Amaterasu and Kagami being Kagutsuchi.

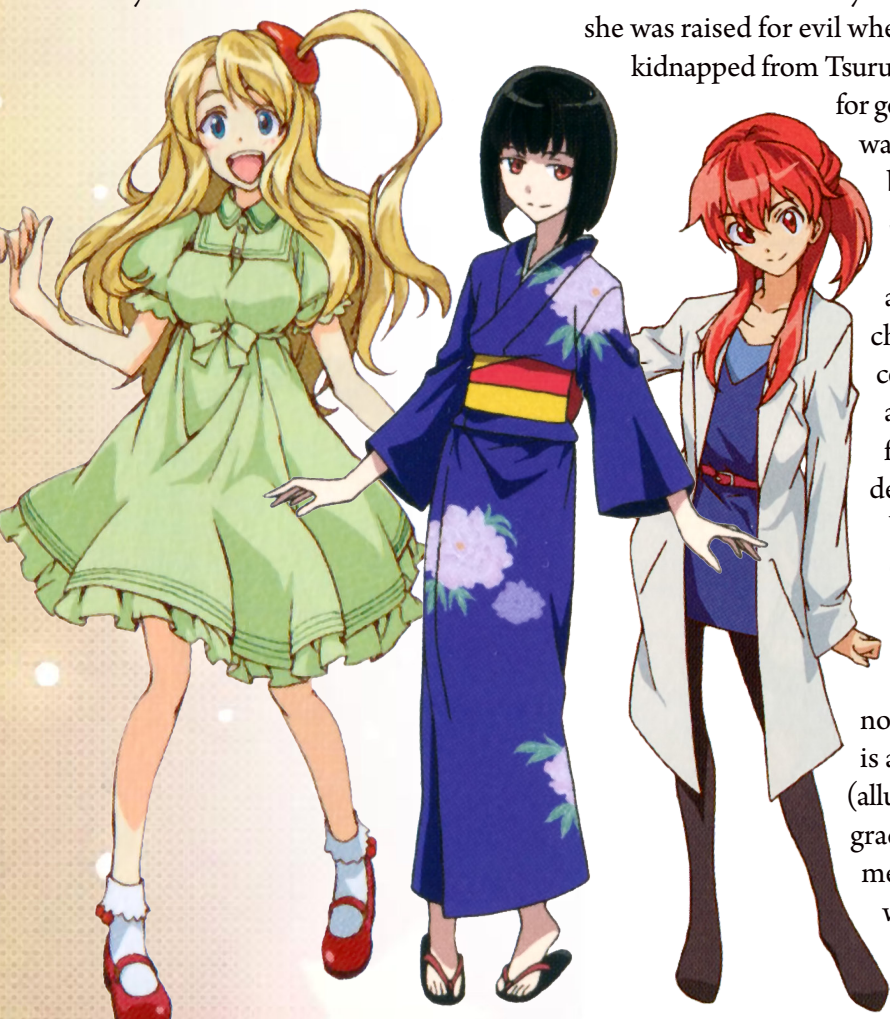
Tama's is not. Tama (left) is a new god (alluded to by her grade schooler mentality) that whose defin-



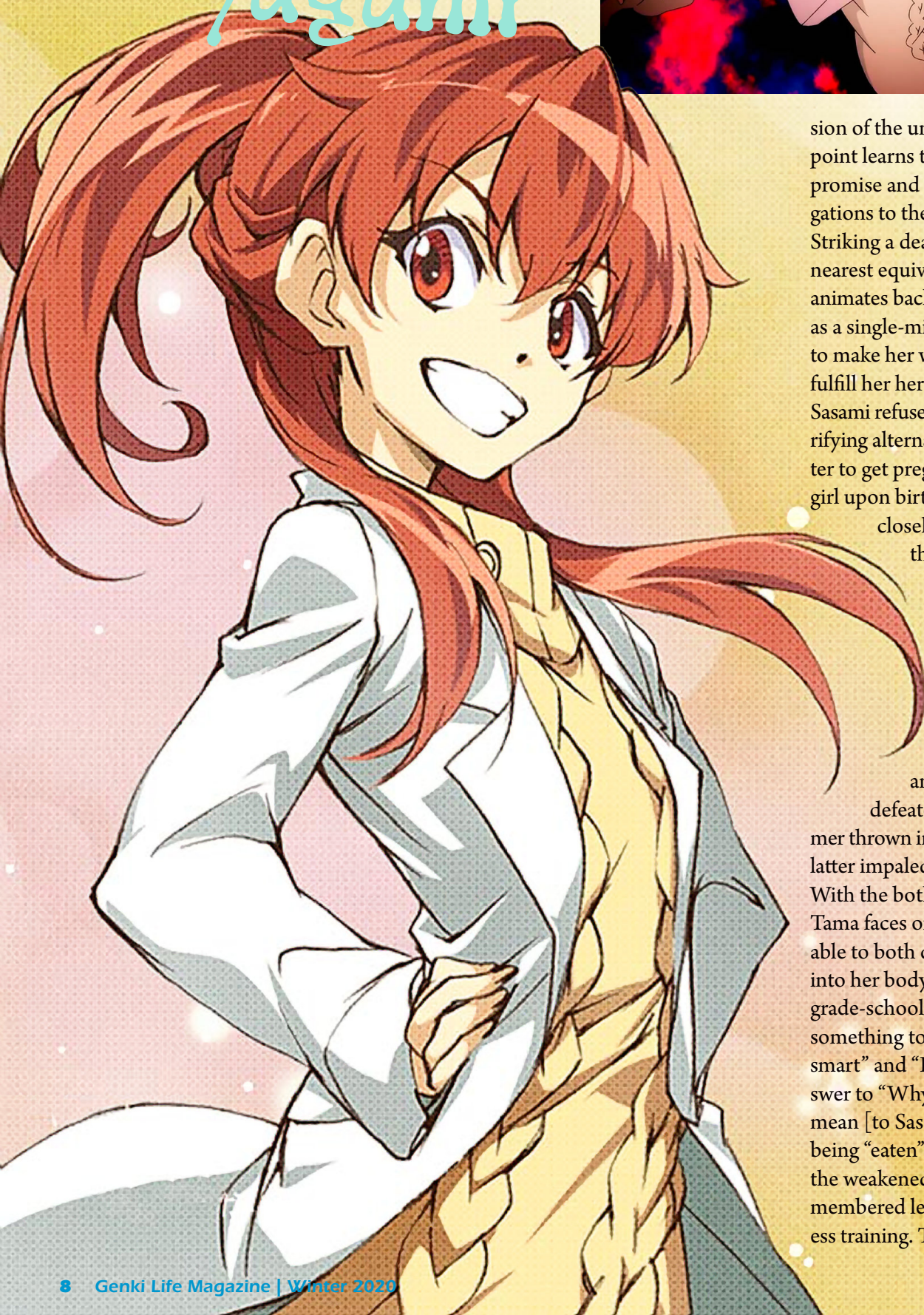
ing ability is "eating." This "eating" is interesting, especially in light of the conflict between Tama and Juju. Wait... who's Juju?

The story goes from there that Sasami's mother and the last arguably "true" Tsukuyomi Priestess, Juju Tsukuyomi, died. She died during Sasami's childhood because of her frail constitution (which may or may not have anything to do with incest). Sasami's austerity and training as a Tsukuyomi Priestess, incomplete at the time of her mother's premature passing, wasn't enough to make Sasami ready for her priestess duties like her mother Juju. Sasami as a kid saw what her mother did as awesomely literal superhero work. As she grew though, Sasami as a teenager began perceiving that work as less awesome and more of a burden. Without her mother's presence to discipline and reassure her of the value of their hereditary clerical role, she took it less and less seriously over time. Exacerbated by a brief exposure to Akihabara and in charmingly modern vices (anime, manga, video games, the internet, otaku paraphernalia) she finally abandons everything that she was previously raised for. Her austere practices, her traditional clothes, and even the family shrine... she leaves them all behind for the outside world and its floating pleasures.

Sasami promised Juju that she would take her place as a Tsukuyomi Priestess before she died. Either as some lingering spirit on earth or some wandering shade in a corner of yomi, Shinto's ver-



Tsurugi Yagami



sion of the underworld, Juju at some point learns that she abandoned her promise and ran from her familial obligations to the world and humanity. Striking a deal with Susanō, Shinto's nearest equivalent to the devil, Juju re-animates back into her decaying corpse as a single-minded entity, determined to make her wayward daughter Sasami fulfill her hereditary destiny. And if Sasami refuses, well... the rather... horrifying alternative of forcing her daughter to get pregnant with a girl. The new girl upon birth would then be trained closely by a zombified Juju in the ways of austerity, free of the external corruption of otaku modernity that Juju perceived as having compromised Sasami.

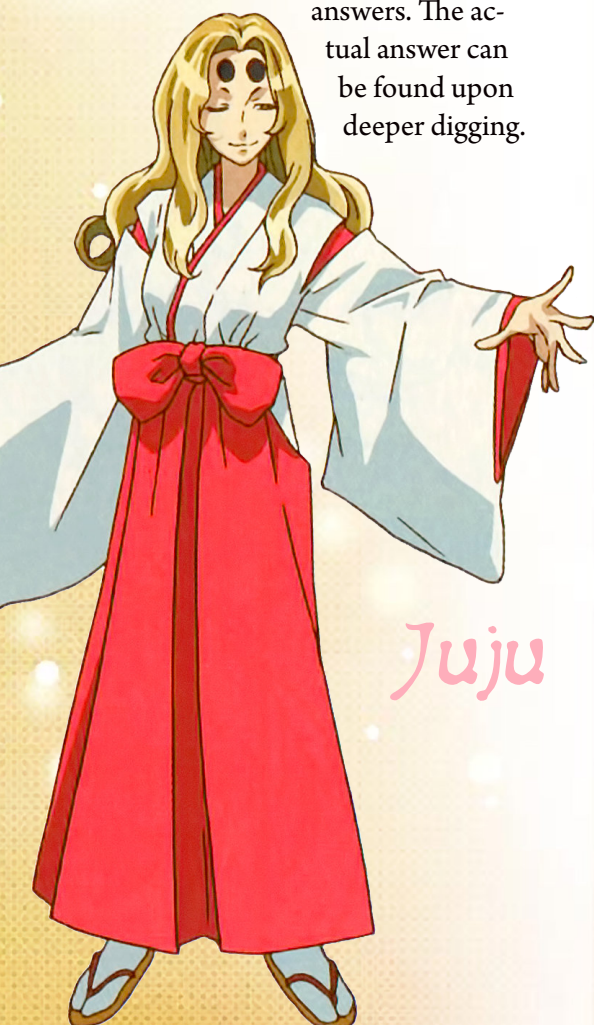
The Yagami sisters spring into action to protect Sasami. Tsurugi and Kagami are quickly defeated by Juju, the former thrown into yomi, and the latter impaled through the chest. With the both of them incapacitated, Tama faces off against Juju. Tama is able to both disarm her and "eat" holes into her body, all the while throwing a grade-schooler tantrum while yelling something to the effect of "I'm not smart" and "I don't know" to Juju's answer to "Why [do you] had to be so mean [to Sasami]?" On the verge of being "eaten" to oblivion, Sasami binds the weakened Juju with a spell she remembered learning during her priestess training. Tsurugi appears from yomi



via a portal and throws the bound Juju back into it. The fighting ends.

How did Tama prevail where her Tsurugi and Kagami didn't? What exactly about Tama allowed her to defeat Juju? Out of the Yagami sisters, Tsurugi is the eldest and wisest of the three, and Kagami is basically packing everything from missile launchers to Gatling guns. Tama is the youngest of the three, and she has the mentality of a kid. She fights during the standoff with Juju like a kid. "I guess her powers can do that" or "I suppose she was lucky." Those answers are too contrived, too easy contrived

answers. The actual answer can be found upon deeper digging.



Movement in Japan, a more modern way of thinking religion, spirituality, culture, and lifestyles. In contrast to Juju's mother, who represents the old conservative approach in Japan to religion and spirituality, Tama represents a newer, more liberating approach.

1. Juju is a strict believer of the traditional conceptions of Shinto, conceptions that demand certain kinds of austerity from its adherents through a dogma that connects the moral with the physical. These old conceptions demand absolutes in self-denial, discipline, and sacrifice in exchange for spiritual nourishment inextricably tied with the order of the world and humanity.
2. Tama is a new god, conceived by Amaterasu in the narrative, yet without any equivalent or precedent in actual Shinto mythology. Her place in the fight and in the show stresses the spirit, if not the exact law, that spiritual nourishment doesn't have to be necessarily tied to the strictures of dogma found in traditional old conceptions of Shinto. These new conceptions provide the alternative notion that spiritual nourishment should be something that should make people happy, above everything else. As a result, people should approach spiritual fulfillment by choosing and sticking with whatever spiritual beliefs make them personally happy, regardless

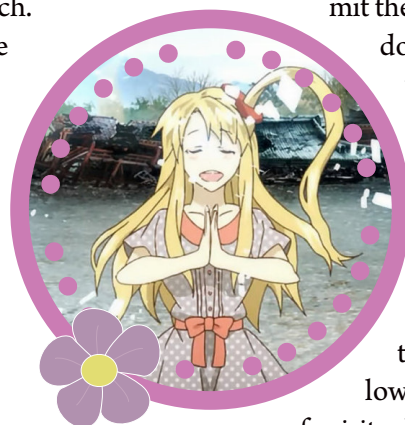
The answer is all thematic metaphor. Tama isn't a child in the narrative because of fetishism or just because. She's a child because she is representative of a sort of New Age

of whether or not they deviate from an established religion.

Within the heart of most religions, Shinto included, is the notion of a distinction between the sacred and the profane, the holy and the vulgar. Traditionally, the former is anathema to the latter. Juju and her traditional religious worldview rejects absolutely everything that Tama stands for. Believing in what Tama represents for, according to Juju, is arbitrary, too easy, too unearned, and thus "inauthentic." Tama and her new spiritual worldview is willing to entertain and incorporate, in syncretic fashion, the doctrines and rituals of other religions, Juju's included, as well as permit the creation of new

doctrines and rituals altogether.

Believing in what Tama represents, according to Tama herself, may be arbitrary. It may allow for the creation



of spiritual practices that

are not austere to the level of established religious custom. It may cherry-pick practices from other religions that aren't rigorous to the same degree as the established religious norm. This selectiveness doesn't mean that this approach to spirituality is "inauthentic." There is no essentialism, no indivisible core to what constitutes "true," "real" and "authentic" in this context save whether or not it provides personal happiness to the person concerned. It is the individual that decides their faith.

Tsurugi and Kagami were ultimately unable to best Juju principally because their combat abilities and their very existences are derived from the same traditional Japanese Shinto understanding. Most, if not all, of Tsurugi's god powers are sealed away. Kagami relies on modern, but nonetheless pro-



fane, armaments. Juju is a Tsukuyomi Priestess reanimated from death in what appears to be her prime combat condition. Her prime was when she was killing supernatural and godly beings on a daily basis with divine and sacred armaments. Even if it was possible in a scenario for the profane to harm the sacred, the former would be typically characterized as weaker and inferior to the latter.

Tama's existence doesn't make the same distinctions between sacred and profane. Her "eating" ability is a reflection of an approach to spirituality by an individual that is open to entertaining anything that is sacred for their spirituality. Her acts of "eating" into Juju is a reflection that the individual is open to incorporating any religious be-

lief and practice into their spirituality, whether that happens to be the whole of existing faiths or parts of existing religions. The resulting product of this new spiritual approach are new religions that operate according to their own logic.

Tama can weaken Juju to this extent because Tama's abilities do not play by Juju's rules.

They play to Tama's own. As long as Juju is supernatural, Tama can "eat" and defeat her.

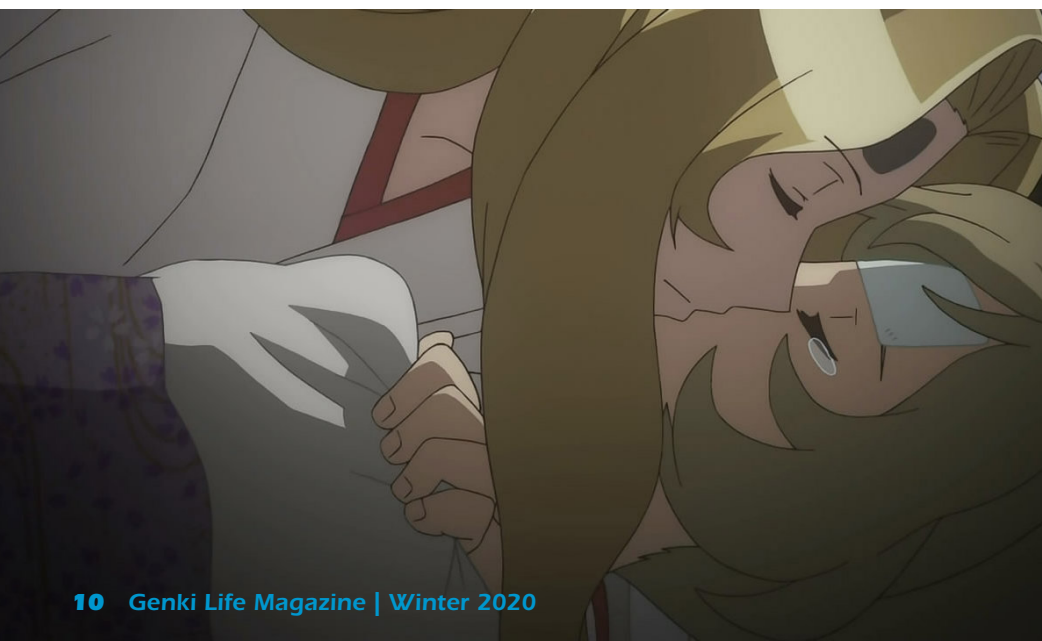
This new approach to religion and spirituality can be applied to culture and lifestyles as well. Religion and spirituality affects how people see culture and practice lifestyles in the obvious ways. However, it also affects common sense perceptions of approaching tradition. In

the traditional Japanese context, strict adherence to tradition, as encompassed in ideas such as filial piety and family obligation, is something that is seen as a grave and inherent sin to violate because of how it is objectively intertwined to the welfare of the moral and physical order of the world and humanity.

Juju insists that Sasami fulfill her Tsukuyomi duty as a Tsukuyomi Priestess for the world and humanity. However, in the combined modern, globalized and New Age context, the physical order is not largely seen to be intertwined objectively to the moral order, and thus people are seen as free to follow or deviate from tradition how they like. Tama insists that Sasami should be allowed to refuse her duty as a Tsukuyomi Priestess. The world and humanity is not automatically Sasami's responsibility. She should choose how she approaches that duty based on what makes her happy.

In the middle of these diametrically opposite ideological camps is Sasami herself, who is a new generation of Japanese torn between two sides, two worlds. On the one hand, she embraces many of the values of the New Age. She finds personal happiness in her new lifestyle with the Yagami sisters, different in many radical respects to her old lifestyle in the family shrine. On the other, she was born and raised by the old generation and taught its traditions. Sasami was raised by a Juju who both believed in these traditions as Juju, Tsukuyomi Priestess, but none-theless adored, cared for, and, despite the austerity training, occasionally doted on Sasami as Juju, Sasami's mother. Sasami loved her in turn. That affection did not reverse as she aged.

The Juju who reanimated and tried to force Sasami back into the family role (and later tried to forcibly impregnate her when her those efforts failed) purged herself of her mother side so that she would be unable to temper the extremes of her ideology with the com-





Kagami Yagami



Sasami-san@Ganbaranai

ささみさん@がんばらない

TV • January – March 2013

12 Episodes

Shaft

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sasami-san@Ganbaranai>

<http://www.tbs.co.jp/anime/sasami/>

Director: Shinbo, Akiyuki

Music: Hashimoto, Yukari

Writer: Takayama, Katsuhiko

Cast:

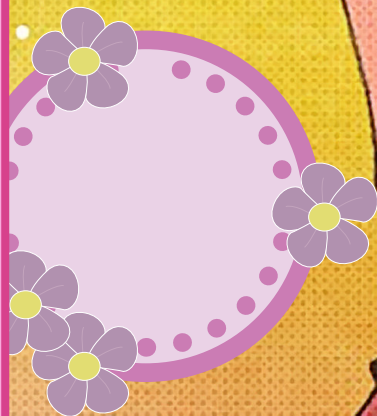
Tsukuyomi, Sasami = Asumi, Kana

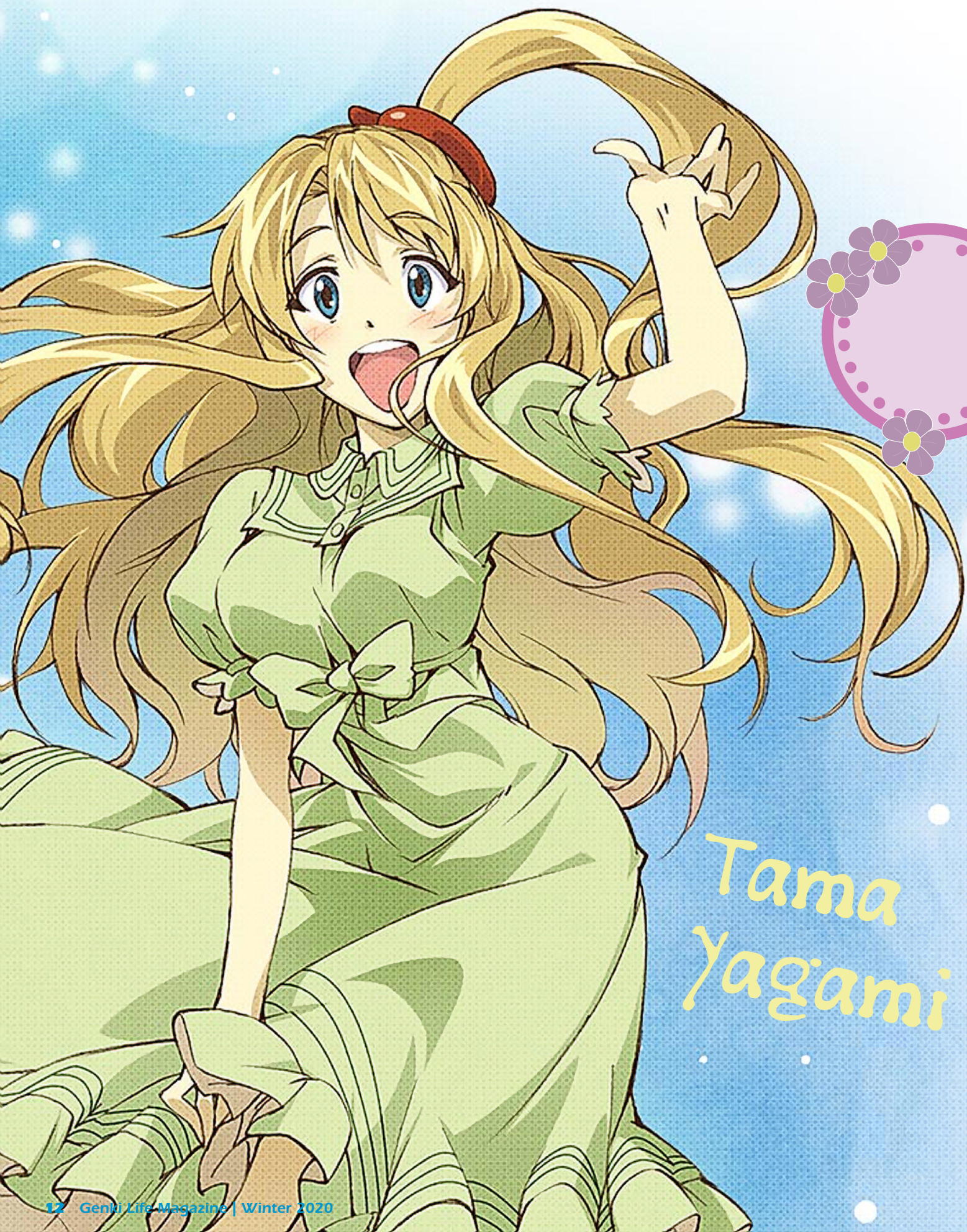
Yagami, Tsurugi = Saito, Chiwa

Yagami, Kagami = Hanazawa, Kana

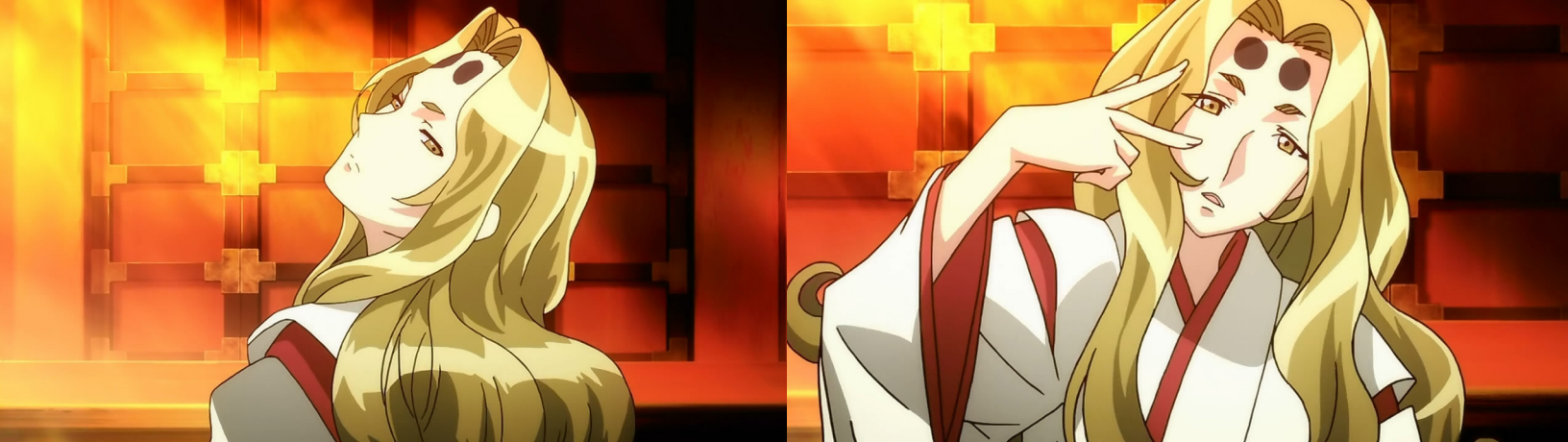
Yagami, Tama = Nonaka, Ai

Tsukuyomi, Juju = Asakawa, Yū





Tama
Yagami



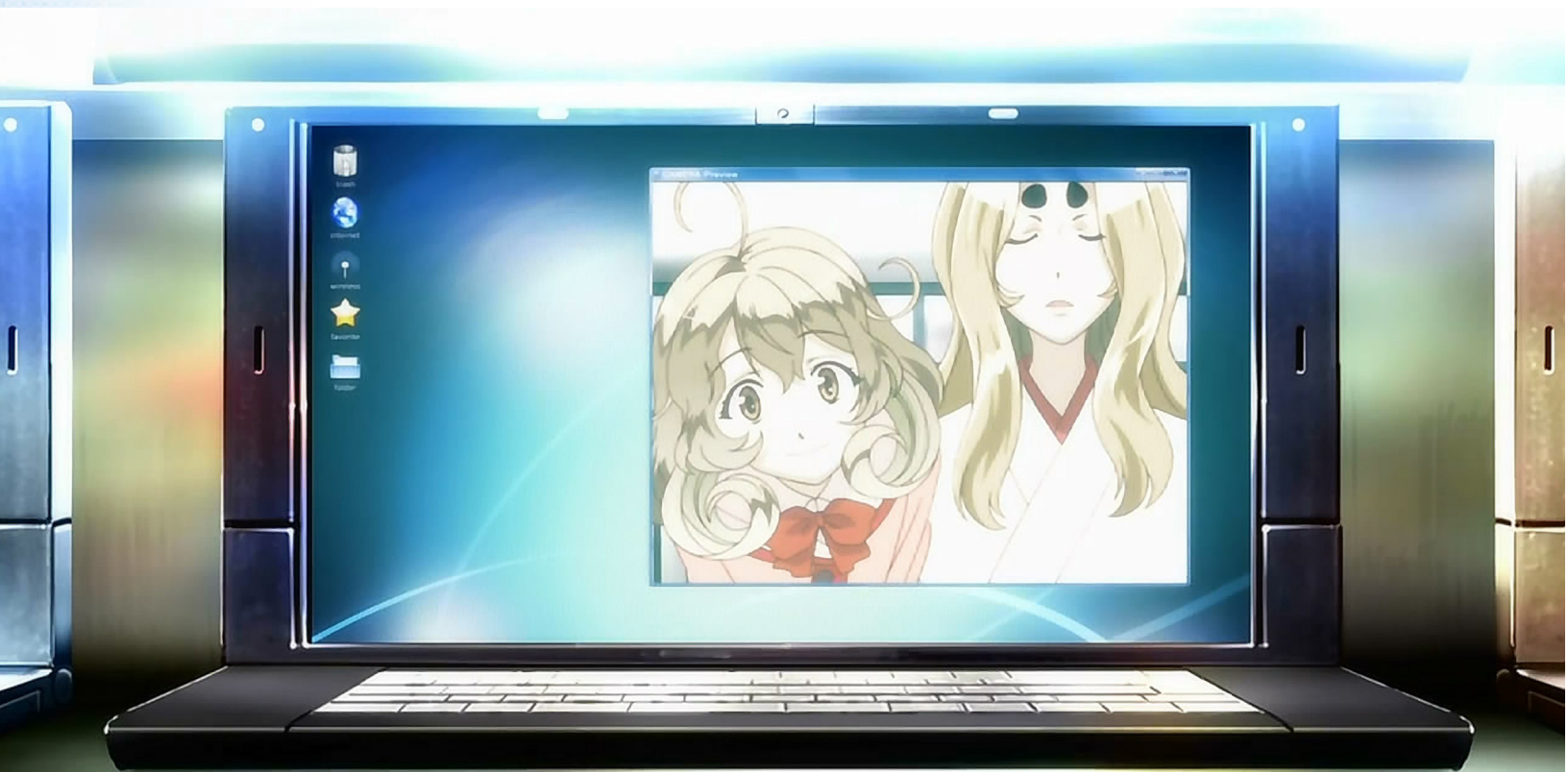
passion of her human motherliness. At the same time, her ideology serves the practical function of storing Amaterasu's god powers within a relatively safe place. Within that place, it would not be abused by others for nefarious purposes. Sasami was taught of this practical function while being raised by someone who was important to her. She re-discovered how important serving that function happens to be.

Sasami comes up with a compromise between the two camps. She will not return to becoming a Tsukuyomi Priestess in the way that Juju and tradition had originally intended. She will transfer Amaterasu's god powers to a conveniently revived (and not zombi-

fied) Juju that is both Tsukuyomi Priestess and her mother. Knowing that her mother will not always be there to fulfill the Tsukuyomi Priestess function, she has promised to take back those god powers when she is older. It allows her the opportunity both to live her own life and mature from her own mistakes until the point comes that she's ready to deal with storing those god powers as a responsibility she freely chooses to take up.

What Tama and even Sasami, compromising as Sasami in particular may be, represent is a deviancy from conservative and, to a certain extent, mainstream Japanese values. Conservative and mainstream Japanese have to ten-

dency of disavowing themselves from these alternate religious, spiritual, cultural, and lifestyle approaches. They have a tendency to alienate themselves from those that depart from tradition. This conflict within societies, Japanese society especially, between tradition and New Age in culture and religion is why the issue is so controversial. The level of sophistication and nuance Sasami-san goes into, using *Monogatari*-like metaphor, to illustrate and comment on this issue is nothing short of enlightening. ❖ ZeroReq011



Pop Culture with an Anime Twist



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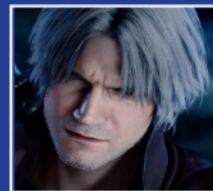
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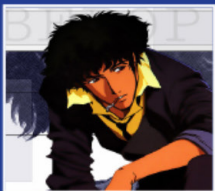
JOHNNY YONG BOSCH

Devil May Cry, Bleach



REUBEN LANGDON

Devil May Cry, Street Fighter



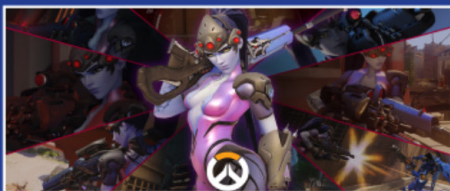
STEVE BLUM

Cowboy Bebop, Mortal Kombat



MARY E. MCGLYNN

Cowboy Bebop, Mortal Kombat



CHLOE HOLLINGS

Overwatch's Widowmaker



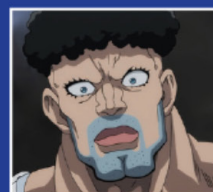
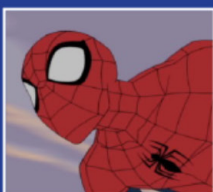
MAX MITTLEMAN

One Punch Man, Borderlands 3



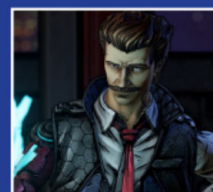
ROBBIE DAYMOND

One Punch Man, Spiderman



RAY CHASE

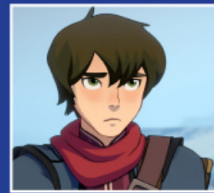
One Punch Man, Borderlands 3





MICHAELA MURPHY

Avatar: The Last Airbender



JACK DE SENA

Avatar, The Dragon Prince



The Cast of

THE DRAGON PRINCE

*Sasha Rojen, Paula Burrows,
Adrian Petriw, Racquel Belmonte,
Jesse Inocalla, Jason Simpson*



GOBLIN SLAYER

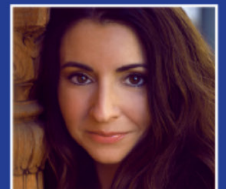
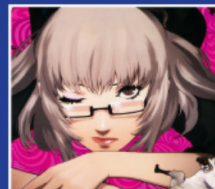
*BRAD HAWKINS - Goblin Slayer
HAYDEN DAVIAU - Priestess*



The Cast of

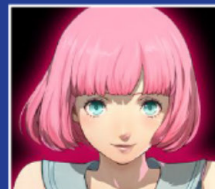
RESIDENT EVIL 2 (2019)

*NICK APOSTOLIDES - Leon
STEPHANIE PANISELLO - Claire
JOLENE ANDERSEN - Ada Wong*



MICHELLE RUFF

Catherine: Full Body, Bleach



BRIANNA KNICKERBOCKER

Catherine: Full Body, Shield Hero



DAWN M. BENNETT

Reincarnated as Slime, Fairy Tail



BRITTNEY KARBOWSKI

Reincarnated as Slime, Fairy Tail

FreeCon16



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Convention Schedule Winter 2020

Con+Alt+Delete

Anime

December 20–22, 2019
Hyatt Regency O'Hare
Rosemont, IL
conaltdelete.com

Nashville Anime Day

Pop Culture Market

December 21–21, 2019
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Murfreesboro
Murfreesboro, TN
animecons.com/events/info/13760/nashville-anime-day-2019

Comic Fiesta

Comic

December 21–22, 2019
Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
www.comicfiesta.org

Rainbow Gala

Cosplay

December 22–22, 2019
Kowloon Bay International
Trade & Exhibition Centre
Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong
www.rainbow-gala.com

Ikkicon

Anime

December 27–29, 2019
Renaissance Austin Hotel
Austin, TX
www.ikkicon.com

Comic Market: Winter

Comic

December 28–31, 2019
Tokyo Big Sight
Tokyo, Japan
www.comiket.co.jp

Anime-Zap!

Anime

January 3–5
Embassy Suites by Hilton East
Peoria Riverfront Hotel &
Conference Center
East Peoria, IL
animezapcon.com

SacAnime: Winter

Anime

January 3–5
Cal Expo, Sacramento, CA
www.sacanime.com

Taiyou Con

Anime

January 3–5
Mesa Convention Center
Mesa, AZ
www.taiyoucon.com

Téli MondoCon: Winter

Pop Culture

January 4
Hungexpo, K Conference Centre,
D Pavilion & Reception Building
Budapest, Hungary
www.mondocon.hu/2020_winter

Cosmic Comic Con

Comic

January 4–5
Pheasant Run Resort
St. Charles, IL
cosmiccomiccon.com

Fandom PDX

Pop Culture

January 4–5
Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel
Portland, OR
www.fandompdx.com

Animé Los Angeles

Anime

January 9–12
Ontario Convention Center/
DoubleTree
Ontario, CA
www.animelosangeles.org

Ichibancon

Anime

January 9–12
Embassy Suites Concord
Concord, NC
ichibancon.com

AniMore

Anime

January 10–12
Hyatt Regency Baltimore
Inner Harbor
Baltimore, MD
animorecon.com

Long Beach Comic Expo

Comic

January 11–12
Long Beach Convention Center
Long Beach, CA
www.longbeachcomicexpo.com

Akumakon

Anime

January 17–19
National University of Ireland
Galway, Galway, Ireland
www.akumakon.com

G-Anime: Winter

Anime

January 17–19
Palais des Congrès de Gatineau
Gatineau, Québec, Canada
www.ganime.ca



Convention Sc

Continued

MarsCon

Science Fiction
January 17–19
Doubletree by Hilton
Williamsburg, VA
www.marscon.net

PAX South

Video Game
January 17–19
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention
Center, San Antonio, TX
south.paxsite.com

Arisia

Science Fiction
January 17–20
Westin Boston Waterfront
Boston, MA
www.arisia.org

Anime Blues Con Winterfest Remix

Anime
January 18
Memphis Botanic Garden
Memphis, TN
animebluesremix.com

Anime Shogatsu

Anime
January 18
Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
animeshogatsu.com

Anime Impulse

Anime
January 18–19
Fairplex Exposition Complex
Pomona, CA
www.animeimpulse.com

Pasadena Comic Convention and Toy Show

Comic
January 19
Pasadena Convention Center
Pasadena, CA
www.pasadenacomiconandtoyshow.com

Colossalcon Cruise

Anime
January 24–27
Royal Caribbean's Enchantment
of the Seas, Cape Canaveral, FL
colossalconcruise.com

Uchi-con

Anime
January 25
University of Chicago, Ida
Noyes Hall, Chicago, IL
www.uchi-con.com

Setsucon

Anime
January 25–26
Blair County Convention Center
Altoona, PA
setsucon.com

STCE's Comic Con

Comic
January 25–26
Texas A&M International
University Student Center
Laredo, TX
www.stcelaredo.com

Anime North Texas

Anime
January 30 – February 2
Sheraton Arlington Hotel
Arlington, TX
animenorthtexas.com

Anime WTX

Anime
January 31 – February 2
MCM Elegante
Lubbock, TX
animewtx.com

Kami-Con

Culture
January 31 – February 2
Birmingham-Jefferson
Convention Complex
Birmingham, AL
www.kamicon.net

Savannah Animazing Con

Anime
January 31 – February 2
National Guard Armory
Sports Complex
Savannah, GA
www.savannahanimazingcon.com

Seishun Con

Anime
January 31 – February 2
Atlanta Marriott Marquis
Atlanta, GA
seishun-con.com

Anime Flea Market

Pop Culture Market
February 1
Fontane-Haus Kulturzentrum
Berlin, Germany
animefleamarket.wordpress.com

Toracon

Anime
February 1
Sarasota School of Arts & Sciences
Sarasota, FL
www.ssastoracon.net

Anime Expo Santiago

Anime
February 1–2
Centro Cultural Estación Mapocho
Santiago, Chile
www.anime-expo.cl

Kanpai!Con

Anime
February 7–9
Ramada Plaza by Wyndham
Omaha & CoCo Key Water Park
Omaha, NE
www.kanpaicon.com





ODUcon

Pop Culture

February 7–9

Old Dominion University - Webb Center, Norfolk, VA

oduminicon.wordpress.com

Star City Anime

Anime

February 7–9

Holiday Inn Roanoke - Valley View Roanoke, VA

www.starcityanime.com

Ushicon

Anime

February 7–9

Courtyard by Marriott Austin Pflugerville and Pflugerville Conference Center, Pflugerville, TX

www.ushicon.com

ArtCon

Pop Culture

February 8

Neosho Civic Center, Neosho, MO

www.neoshoarts.net/artcon.html

Animangapop

Anime

February 8–9

Future Inn Plymouth Hotel Plymouth, United Kingdom

www.animangapop.co.uk

Cardiff Anime & Gaming Con

Anime

February 8–9

Mercure Cardiff Holland House Hotel and Spa Cardiff, United Kingdom

www.cardiffanimecon.com

Anime Milwaukee

Anime

February 14–16

Wisconsin Center / Hilton Milwaukee City Center Milwaukee, WI

www.animemilwaukee.org

Katsucon

Anime

February 14–16

Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center National Harbor, MD

www.katsucon.org

London Anime & Gaming Con

Anime

February 14–16

The Rocket Complex London, United Kingdom

winter.londonanimecon.com

NashiCon

Anime

February 14–16

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Columbia Columbia, SC

www.nashicon.com

Orcon

Gaming

February 14–17

Hilton Los Angeles Airport Los Angeles, CA

www.strategicon.net

Zipcon

Anime

February 15

University of Akron Student Union Akron, OH

zipcon.weebly.com

FanExpo Vancouver

Pop Culture

February 15–17

Vancouver Convention Centre Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

www.fanexpovancouver.com/en/home.html

NotCon at Sea

Anime

February 17–21

Royal Caribbean's Enchantment of the Seas, Cape Canaveral, FL

www.jsjnotcon.com

Anime

Crossroads

Anime

February 21–23

Indianapolis Marriott East Indianapolis, IN

www.animecrossroads.com

Con Nooga

Pop Culture

February 21–23

Chattanooga Convention Center Chattanooga, TN

www.connooga.com

Lvl Up Expo

Video Game

February 21–23

Las Vegas Convention Center Las Vegas, NV

lvlupexpo.com

Ai-Kon: Winterfest

Anime

February 22–22

RBC Convention Centre Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

www.ai-kon.org



Convention Sc

Continued

Florida Game Con

Video Game

February 22–22

University of South Florida,
Recreation Center, Tampa, FL
vgcusf.club

Arizona Matsuri

Culture

February 22–23

Heritage and Science Park
Phoenix, AZ
www.azmatsuri.org

MiyakoCon

Anime

February 22–23

Quality Suites Keizer, Salem, OR
www.miyakocon.com

Desucon Frostbite

Anime

February 24–26

Sibelius Hal, Lahti, Finland
www.desucon.fi

Expo TNT Anime Manga Cómics

Anime

February 28 – March 1
Centro De Convenciones
Tlatelolco
México City, México
www.tnt-web.net

GalaxyCon: Richmond

Pop Culture

February 28 – March 1
Great Richmond
Convention Center
Richmond, VA
galaxycon.com/richmond

Japan Expo Sud

Anime

February 28 – March 1
Marseille Chanot - Palais des
Congrès et des Expositions
Marseille, France
www.japan-expo-sud.com

Pensacon:

Pensacola Comic Con

Comic

February 28 – March 1
Pensacola Bay Center, Pensacola, FL
www.pensacon.com

AnniCon

Culture

February 29
Anniston City Meeting Center
Anniston, AL
www.annicon.com

FreeCon

Anime

February 29 – March 1
Florida State University Student
Services Building (SSB) & the
Center for Global Engagement
(the Globe), Tallahassee, FL
tallahasseeanime.com

Lubbock-Con

Pop Culture

February 29 – March 1
Lubbock Memorial Civic Center
Lubbock, TX
www.lubbockcon.com

RubikCon

Video Game

February 29 – March 1
Cégep de Drummondville
Drummondville, Québec, Canada
www.rubikcon.ca

Fandom Legacy Con

Pop Culture

March 6–8
Hyatt Regency North Dallas
Richardson, TX
www.fandomlegacycon.com

Kikori Con

Anime

March 6–8
Little America Hotel - Flagstaff
Flagstaff, AZ
www.kikoricon.com

Minami Con

Anime

March 6–8
Novotel Hotel
Southampton, United Kingdom
www.minamicon.org.uk

Supanova Pop Culture Expo: Melbourne

Pop Culture

March 6–8
Melbourne Showgrounds
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
www.supanova.com.au

Anime Recharge

Anime

March 7
Drake University Olmsted Center
Des Moines, IA
sites.google.com/view/animerecharge

Mississippi Anime Festival

Anime

March 7
Mississippi Trademart Center
Jackson, MS
msanimefest.com

Monaco Anime Game International Conferences

Anime

March 7
Grimaldi Forum
Monaco, Monaco
www.magic-ip.com



Schedule Winter 2020

My-Con

Anime
March 7
Wyndham Orlando Resort
International Drive, Orlando, FL
www.mystic-con.com

Queen City Kamikaze

Gaming
March 7
Manchester Memorial High School
Manchester, NH
queencitykamikaze.com

Vaca-Con

Pop Culture
March 7
Ulatis Community Center
Vacaville, CA
www.visitvacaville.com/events/vaca-con-2019

AgamaCon

Pop Culture
March 7-8
H.O. Weeks Activities Center
Aiken, SC
www.agamacon.com

Madman Anime Festival: Sydney

Anime
March 7-8
ICC Sydney
Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
www.animefestival.com.au

Paris Manga & Sci-Fi Show

Anime
March 7-8
Paris Expo - Porte de Versailles
Paris, France
www.parismanga.fr

Puchi Con!

Anime
March 7-8
Embassy Suites by Hilton Secaucus
Meadowlands, Secaucus, NJ
www.puchicon.com

Sacramento Toy Convention

Pop Culture Market
March 8
Scottish Rite Masonic Center
Sacramento, CA
sactoycon.com

Manga-Comic-Convention

Comic
March 12-15
Messe Leipzig, Leipzig, Germany
www.manga-comic-con.com

Supanova Pop Culture Expo: Gold Coast

Pop Culture
March 13-14
Gold Coast Convention
& Exhibition Centre
Broadbeach, Queensland, Australia
www.supanova.com.au/events/gold-coast-2019

Kigacon

Anime
March 13-15
Christopher Newport University -
Freeman Center, Newport News, VA
www.kigacon.com

KiraKira Con

Anime
March 13-15
University of North Carolina
Student Union, Charlotte, NC
www.kirakiracon.org

Made in Asia

Video Game
March 13-15
Brussels Expo, Brussels, Belgium
www.madeinasia.be

Naka-Kon

Anime
March 13-15
Overland Park Convention Center &
Sheraton Hotel, Overland Park, KS
naka-kon.com

ToyCon

Pop Culture Market
March 13-15
East Side Cannery, Las Vegas, NV
vegastoycon.com

Fubuki Con

Anime
March 14-14
Daemen College - Wick Student
Center, Amherst, NY
dcanimeclub.wixsite.com/fubukicon

Chicago Cosmic Con



January 4 and 5

Pheasant Run Resort
St. Charles, IL

Convention

Schedule continued

Winter 2020

Dublin Comic Con

Comic
March 14–15
The Convention Centre Dublin
Dublin, Ireland
www.dublincomiccon.com

SwampCon

Pop Culture
March 14–15
J. Wayne Reitz Union at University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
swampcon.org

Animatic Con

Anime
March 20–22
Holiday Inn Eastgate
Cincinnati, OH
www.animaticcon.com

Aselia Con

Anime
March 20–22
DoubleTree DFW North
Irving, TX
aseliacon.com

Clockwork Alchemy

Steampunk
March 20–22
Hyatt Regency SFO
Burlingame, CA
www.clockworkalchemy.com

Colorado Anime Fest

Anime
March 20–22
Denver Marriott Tech Center
Denver, CO
www.coanimefest.com

EvilleCon

Anime
March 20–22
Holiday Inn Evansville Airport
Evansville, IN
www.evillecon.com

MidSouthCon

Science Fiction
March 20–22
Hilton Memphis
Memphis, TN
midsouthcon.org

Omni Fandom Expo

Pop Culture
March 20–22
The Florida Hotel
& Conference Center
Orlando, FL
www.omniexpo.com

Triad Anime Convention

Anime
March 20–22
Embassy Suites Hotel
Winston-Salem, NC
www.triadanimecon.com

Zenkaikon

Anime
March 20–22
Lancaster County Convention Center, Lancaster, PA
zenkaikon.com

Kelowna Fan Experience

Pop Culture
March 20–23
Kelowna Community Theatre
Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada
kelownafx.com

Ani-Me Con

Anime
March 21–22
Big Fresno Fairgrounds
Fresno, CA
www.ani-me.com

Tiger Con

Anime
March 21–22
James H Rainwater Conference Center, Valdosta, GA
www.tigerconvention.com

Tora-Con

Anime
March 21–22
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rochester, NY
toracon.org

AnimeJapan

Anime
March 21–23
Tokyo Big Sight
Tokyo, Japan
www.anime-japan.jp

AnimeCon Arkansas

Anime
April 3–5, 2020
Holiday Inn Airport Hotel
Little Rock, AR
www.animeconarkansas.com

Causeacon

Anime
April 24–26
Beckley Raleigh County Convention Center
Beckley, WV
www.causeacon.com

AniFest

Anime
April 25
Torrance Cultural Arts Center
Torrance, CA
www.anifest.org

Late Night County Pop Culture Con

Pop Culture
May 23
Lake County Fairgrounds
Grayslake, IL
countypopculturecon.com



KANATA NO ASTRA

彼方のアストラ

ASTRA LOST IN SPACE



Astra Lost in Space

(Kanata no Astra)

異世界はスマートフォンとともに

TV • July – September 2019

12 Episodes

Lerche • Tezuka Productions

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Astra_Lost_in_Space

<http://astra-anime.com>

Director: Andō, Masaomi

Music: Yokoyama, Masaru
Nobusawa, Nobuaki

Writer: Kaihō, Norimitsu

Cast:

Kanata, Hoshijima = Kobayashi, Yūsuke

Aries Spring = Suwa, Ayaka

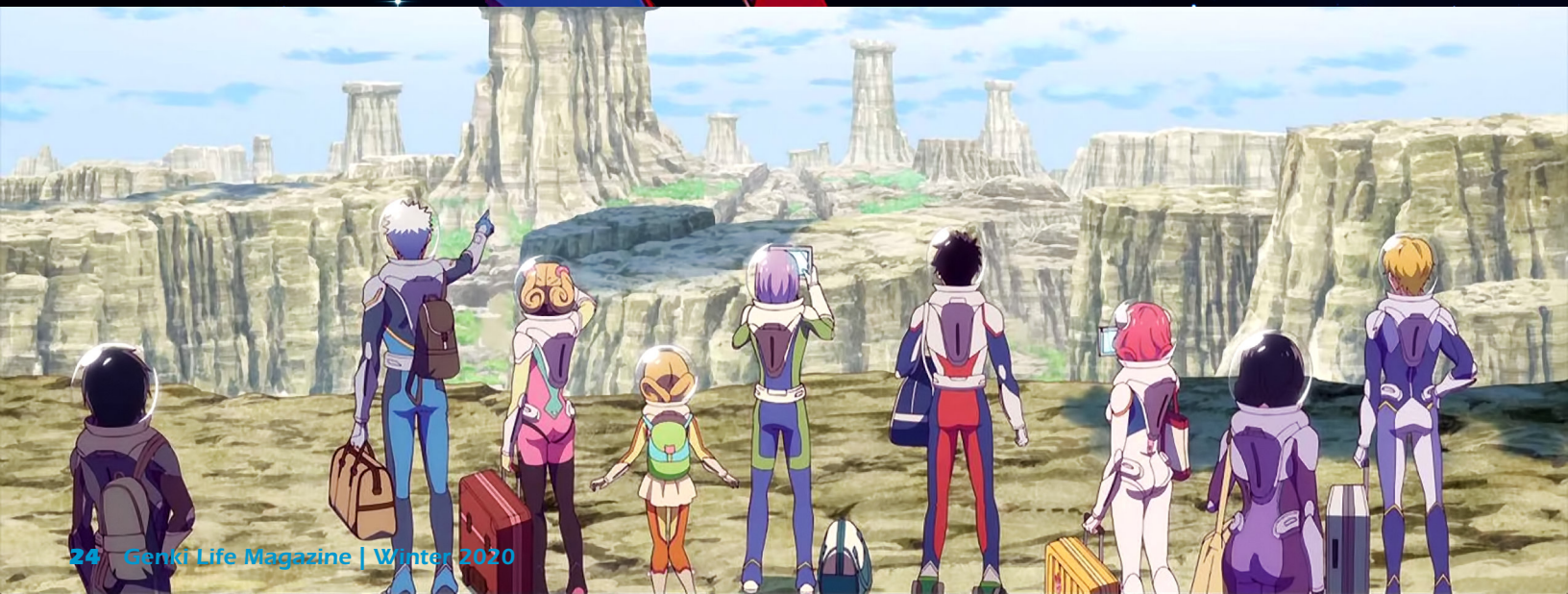
Zack Walker = Hamano, Daiki

Quitterie Raffaëlli = Lynn

Charce Lacroix = Hoshi, Sōichirō



I can't recall the last time I saw an anime with as inconsistent writing quality as *Kanata no Astra*. I swear, this anime flip-flops between being really cool and being downright stupid every five minutes. It makes for a very strange viewer experience but if nothing else it sure keeps you curious.



I'll put it this way: the actual premise and setting of *Kanata no Astra* is really intriguing. Space anime that aren't mecha are rare enough to begin with, but to on top of that make it a sort of survival story with a great deal of exploration of the unknown celestial bodies of space is a great combination. You can also definitely tell that the author had a clear idea of how the story would finish before he started writing it, and as a result the overarching main mysteries of it all are quite interesting and a bit surprising as well. You'll be able to guess some of it but certainly not all of it, and those surprises might just be all you need to make it a worthwhile viewer experience.

But on the other hand, where *Kanata no Astra* really suffers is more in the details of it all. Anyone that actually pays attention will notice lots and lots of minor things throughout the story that either just plain don't make sense or feel way too dependent on random coincidences. For starters

there are the planets that the characters end up visiting throughout the series which somehow all end up feeling about as one-dimensional as the procedurally generated ones in *No Man's Sky*. It's all one big biome with an ecosystem that is seemingly very small but still filled with nothing but over-the-top fantastical organisms, not to mention they're still conveniently edible for humans (not to mention the device that measures the level of organism edibility). Then there's the pacing which feels very jumpy considering that there are several weeks in-between every planetary stop for our main characters, yet they seem to always pass by in a breeze as if nothing of note happened meanwhile, even if some massive plot point had just been brought up in the past episode. It's not like the travel time is the same as going through a loading screen in a video game but it often feels like the plot treats it as one. It just doesn't really make much sense.

The crew of the Astra: Aries Spring,
Charce Lacroix, Zack Walker,
Ulgar Zweig, Hoshijima Kanata,
Funicia Raffaelli, Yun-Hua Lu,
Luca Esposito & Quitterie Raffaelli



Sometimes the author does try to come up with an explanation to make an otherwise one-in-a-million coincidence plausible, but it still often ends up feeling rather forced. For example, there's one episode where he clearly wanted the main characters to randomly come across a certain object on a planet they were visiting, so thus naturally on this particular planet it just so happened that only a very thin strip of land around the equator was actually habitable, and it just so happened that on a certain part of that strip there was a bunch of hazards which could cause you to crash your ship, and it just so happened that the characters not only do so but then also end up disembarking and walking to the exact they needed to find the object in question... etcetera. Like it's not illogical but it's just layered coincidences upon coincidences to force the plot in a specific direction rather than feeling like an organic universe and as a result, it just doesn't come across as natural at all. Now the mysteries in *Astra* that are more closely tied to the main plot are eventually explained further down the line, albeit some in more satisfactory ways than others, but again it's the details along the road that are not really properly addressed.

The characters themselves are also a bit of a strange bunch. Some of them are supposed to



be geniuses but sometimes they end up doing some really stupid decisions anyway. But either way I still in the context they're presented, and when all is said and done and you know the truth behind their respective pasts, it definitely gives them a better outlook than it does at first.



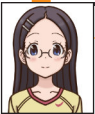





















At the end of the day, the idea of exploring the unknown in space has always excited me and honestly, that's still the main reason why I enjoyed this anime despite everything. For the most part, *Kanata no Astra* doesn't have the best writing and there's no way around that fact, but it still has its moments where it shines. More importantly though, in the end, I'm not sure it really matters. Yes, it could potentially have been a really great anime if it had been better researched and polished, but it is still an enjoyable anime in a very unusual setting and that also has a proper conclusion. That's a lot more than can be said for most anime. I think the best thing you can do is to simply try to not take it more seriously than necessary because if you can look past all the triggering little details spread out throughout it then you should have a much better viewing experience. ❖ HaXXspelten

MAL





























January 一月

























	1 Mito, Anji <i>Guilty Gear X</i>		9 Arima, Ayumi <i>Kono Yo no Hate de Koi o Utau Shōjo YU-NO</i>		16 Saitō, Kaede <i>Yama no Susume</i>		24 Ishigaki, Tetsurō <i>Ano Natsu de Matteru</i>
	2 Shinjō, Akane <i>SSSS.Gridman</i>		10 Ryūsekidō, Chinatsu <i>Idol Jihen</i>		17 Mochizuki, Momiji <i>New Game!</i>		25 Satō, Hiroshi <i>Saiki Kusuo no Sai-nan</i>
	4 Ishigami, Senkū <i>Dr.STONE</i>		11 Ikoma, Murasaki <i>Grisaia: Phantom Trigger</i>		19 Kanzato, Shin <i>Persona 3</i>		27 Fine Motion <i>Umamusume Pretty Derby</i>
	5 Narumiya, Mei <i>Dia no Ace</i>		13 Fuyuzora, Kogarashi <i>Yuragi-sō no Yūna-san</i>		21 Sagisawa, Rui <i>Nil Admirari no Tenbin</i>		28 Fukushige, Mitsuru <i>Hitorijime My Hero</i>
	6 Kinokuni, Nene <i>Shokugeki no Sōma</i>		14 Tsukuyomi, Mana <i>Muv-Luv Unlimited</i>		22 Dorothy Hyatt <i>Eiyū Densetsu Sora no Kiseki</i>		29 Kiryū, Shōgo <i>Isshukan Friends</i>
	7 Shinazugawa, Genya <i>Kimetsu no Yaiba</i>		15 Kaburagi, Issa <i>Yowamushi Pedal</i>		23 Takimoto, Hifumi <i>New Game!</i>		31 Isozaki, Mana <i>Silent Möbius</i>

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

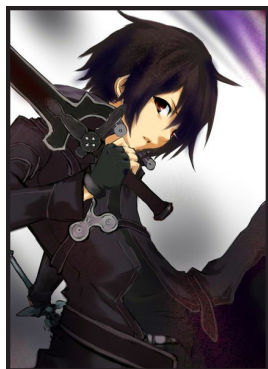
February 二月

	1 Kageyama, Hikari <i>Butlers: Chitose Momotose Monogatari</i>		6 Chain Sumeragi <i>Kekkai Sensen</i>		12 Yoshioka, Chie <i>ToHeart2</i>		24 Shinsen <i>D-Fragments</i>
	2 Rem <i>Re:Zero kara Hajimeru Isekai Seikatsu</i>		7 Ashihara, Takumi <i>Room Mate</i>		19 Sakura, Futaba <i>Persona 5</i>		25 Kisaragi <i>Senran Kagura</i>
	3 Ram <i>Re:Zero kara Hajimeru Isekai Seikatsu</i>		8 Himeji, Kyōko <i>Joshi Kōsei: Girls-High</i>		20 Heinz Nerich <i>Windermere Macross Δ</i>		26 Kurokawa, Chiaki <i>The Idolm@ster</i>
	4 Tōsaka, Rin <i>Fate/Stay Night</i>		9 Chipp Zanuff <i>Guilty Gear X</i>		21 Yamakaze <i>Kantai Collection</i>		27 Akebono, Hishi <i>Umamusume Pretty Derby</i>
	5 Kumi <i>Senran Kagura</i>		10 Sasamiya, Saya <i>Asterisk Gakusen Toshi</i>		22 Cid Highwind <i>Final Fantasy VII</i>		28 Meroune Lorelei <i>Monster Musume no Iru Nichijō</i>
	6 Ms. Joke <i>Boku no Hero Academia</i>		11 Asano, Fūka <i>The Idolm@ster</i>		23 Yamagishi, Saki <i>Isshūkan Friends</i>		29 Yunyun <i>Kono Subarashii Sekai ni Shukufuku o!</i>

March 三月

	1 Aihara, Nana <i>Kimi Kiss</i>		10 Ikeda, Chizuru <i>Yuru Yuri</i>		17 Toyotomi, Hideyoshi <i>Ikemen Sengoku</i>		24 Otto Suwen <i>Re:Zero kara Hajimeru Isekai Seikatsu</i>
	4 Irei, Mizuka <i>Robotics;Notes</i>		11 Shinozaki, Hinoe <i>Corpse Party:Blood Covered</i>		18 Gloxinia <i>Nanatsu no Taizai</i>		25 Julian Minci <i>Ginga Eiyū Densetsu</i>
	5 Hiyama, Kazuma <i>12-sai.</i>		12 Tennōji, Yūgo <i>Steins;Gate</i>		19 Draco <i>Monster Musume</i>		26 Fujiwara, Nenene <i>Code:Breaker</i>
	6 Romeo Alfa <i>Uchū Senkan Tiramisu</i>		13 Kanbara, Yayoi <i>Kyōkai no Kanata</i>		21 Norman <i>Yakusoku no Neverland</i>		27 Tachibana, Kaori <i>High Score</i>
	7 Mizuno, Ai <i>Zombieland Saga</i>		14 Takamiya, Naho <i>orange</i>		22 Tanaka, Sachiko <i>Schoolgirl Strikers</i>		29 Hibiki, Joe <i>GATCHAMAN Crowds</i>
	9 Kaga, Akari <i>Kimi no Iru Machi</i>		15 Aino, Seiji <i>Ren'ai Bōkun</i>		23 Kashima, Kotarō <i>Gakuen Babysitters</i>		31 Sanada, Ririna <i>Koi to Uso</i>

Top Male Ranking†



1

Kirigaya, Kazuto

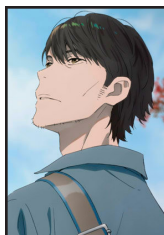
桐ヶ谷 和人

Sword Art Online



2

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



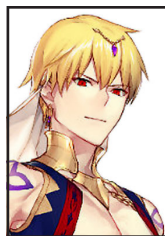
5

Kanomura,
Shinnosuke
金室 慎之介
Sora no Aosa o Shiru
Hito yo



8

Ishigami, Senkū
石神 千空
Dr. Stone



3

Gilgamesh
ギルガメッシュ
Fate/Grand Order-
Absolute Demonic
Front Babylonia



6

Kōgami, Shin'ya
狡嚙 慎也
Psycho-Pass



9

Nagumo, Hajime
南雲 ハジメ
Arifureta Shokugyō de
Sekai Saikyō



4

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



7

Kamado, Tanjirō
竈門炭治郎
Kimetsu no Yaiba



10

Edogawa, Conan
江戸川 コナン
Meitantei Conan

Top Female Ranking†

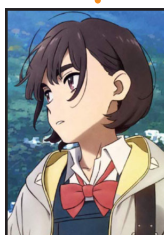


1

Yūki, Asuna

結城 明日奈

Sword Art Online



2

Aioi, Aoi
相生 あおい
Sora no Aosa o Shiru
Hito yo



5

Alice Zuberg
アリス・
ツーベルク
Sword Art Online



8

Tsunemori, Akane
常守 朱
Psycho-Pass



3

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



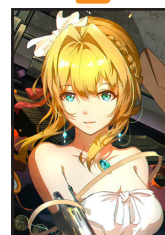
6

Nami
ナミ
One Piece



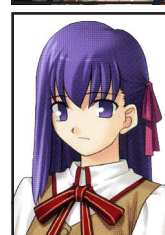
9

Ishtar
イシュタル
Fate/Grand Order



4

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



7

Matō, Sakura
間桐 桜
Fate/stay night



5

Kamado, Nezuko
竈門禰豆子
Kimetsu no Yaiba

PANELS ♥ ARTISTS ♥ GUESTS ♥ COSPLAY ♥ VENDORS ♥ RAVE ♥ MORE!



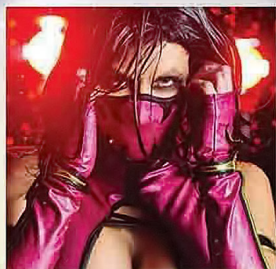
LAUREN LANDA
(SAILOR MOON, ATTACK ON TITAN)



JEREMY INMAN
(DRAGON BALL Z, YURI!!! ON ICE)



TRINA NISHIMURA
(ATTACK ON TITAN, STEINS;GATE)



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CINCINNATI, OHIO



2020 THEME:
MAGIC
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Anime Schedule Winter 2020



January 1, 2020

White Fox

Tokyo MX, AT-X, BS1



Re:Zero kara Hajimeru Isekai Seikatsu: Shin Henshū-ban **Re:Zero – Starting Life in Another World: Extended Edition** **Re : ゼロから始める異世界生活 新編集版**

After leaving a convenience store, high school student Subaru Natsuki is summoned away to another world. He meets a silver-haired girl who saves him from death, but both were suddenly killed. Subaru awakens once more in the new world and learns he holds “Returns by Death,” a power that allows him to rewind time through his demise. This “edition” edits the first season into one-hour episodes with new cuts of animation leading up to the second season in April.



January 3, 2020

Nexus

Tokyo MX, BS11, GTV,
GYT, AT-X, YTV, TVA



Darwin's Game

ダーウィنزゲーム

An unknowing Kaname Sudō is invited to try out a new mysterious mobile app game called *Darwin's Game*, but later realizes that he's in for more than he's bargained for when he finds out that there's no way to quit the game.

Aqua, Ram & Rem **– Re:Zero kara Hajimeru Isekai Seikatsu: Shin Henshū-ban**



Anime Schedule

Continued



Koisuru Asteroid

恋する小惑星

As a little girl, Mira Kinohata met a boy named Ao at a campsite. Gazing at the starry sky together, Mira learns that there's a star with the same name as herself, but no star named Ao. The two then promised to one day explore asteroids together and find a star to name it after him. Some years later, Mira enrolls at the Hoshizaki high school and decides to join the astronomy club. She learns that the astronomy club will be merged with the geological research society. Reluctantly, Mira goes to the club room and is reunited with Ao Manaka—is shocked to learn that she is a girl!

January 3, 2020

Doga Kobo

AT-X, Tokyo MX, SUN,
KBS, TVA, BS11



Magia Record: Mahō Shōjo Madoka ☆ Magica Gaiden

Magia Record: Puella Magi Madoka Magica Side Story

マジアレコード 魔法少女まどか☆マギカ外伝

In exchange for the fulfillment of a wish, Magical Girls keep fighting, unbeknownst to the rest of the world. But Tamaki Iroha can't seem to remember her wish. "When I became a Magical Girl, what did I wish for again?" There is a gaping hole in her life. Something important has been lost. A rumor begins to spread "Magical Girls can be saved if they go to Kamihama." The story of Tamaki Iroha, in search of her lost wish begins.

January 4, 2020

Shaft

Tokyo MX, GYT, GTV,
BS11, MBS



Eizōken ni wa Te o Dasu na!

"Keep Your Hands Off Eizōken!"

映像研には手を出すな!

Asakusa Midori wants to create an anime, but she's too disheartened to make that first step by herself. By pure chance, she meets Mizusaki Tsubame, an up-and-coming socialite secretly dreaming of becoming an animator. Together with Midori's money-loving best friend Kanamori Sayaka, the energetic trio slowly work towards making their "ultimate world" a reality!

January 5, 2020

Science SARU
NHK General TV



ID:INVADED

イド：インヴェイデッド

Set in a virtual world, the visually stunning ID:INVADED follows Sakaido, a detective looking to solve the grisly murder of Kaeru, a young girl. But solving this case is unlike any other as the world begins to twist and turn around Sakaido, challenging what he thinks and believes.

January 5, 2020

NAZ

Tokyo MX, BS11, TVA,
KBS, SUN



Yatogame-chan Kansatsu Nikki 2

Satsume

"Yatogame-chan Observation Diary 2"

八十亀ちゃんかんさつにっき 2さつめ

Jin Kaito is a second year of high school student who moved to Aichi from Tōkyō. He meets Monaka Yatogami, who has a heavy Nagoya dialect, and he learns about Nagoya through joining photography club. Second season of Yatogame-chan Kansatsu Nikki.

January 5, 2020

Creators in Pack, Saetta
TVA, Tokyo MX, AT-X



Murenase! Seton Gakuen

"Flock Together! Seton Academy"

群れなせ！シートン学園

Seton Academy, a school full of animals where, thanks to population decline, there are fewer humans than any other creature. Mazama Jin, an animal hater and the only human male in his class, falls in love with Hino Hitomi, the only female human, the moment he lays eyes on her. However he soon finds himself entangled with various other creatures after he reluctantly joins the pack of Lanka the wolf, the only other member of her pack.

January 6, 2020

Studio Gokumi
Tokyo MX, SUN, KBS,
BS11, Animax



e 2020 Winter Season



January 6, 2020
Geno Studio
Tokyo MX, BS11, AT-X



Pet ペット

There are people who can get into people's mind and control their memories. This power is used to eradicate mysteries and cases or worse, to assassinate. The potential of the power is strong enough that it is able to destroy people's mind, however, can backfire and eat up their own heart. To counter it, chains are used to lock and protect each other's weak and dangerous heart. From one's growing fear and disdain, they're consequently called as a "Pet."



January 7, 2020
ALBACROW
ETV



Breakers ブレーカーズ

Anime focusing on Parasports. Do humans have the power to release their potential under various conditions? Those who break through the wall named the limit... that's a parathlete! A story where boys and girls who met Naru Narita gained hints from Narita and opened up the "door of possibility" as a parathlete. All four series: wheelchair basketball and ball; para track and field/high jump; goalball edition and para swimming.



January 7, 2020
Studio Deen
AT-X, BS Fuji,
Tokyo MX, Wowow



Majutsushi Orphen Hagure Tabi Sorcerous Stabber Orphen 魔術士オーフェンはぐれ旅

Once the top student sorcerer of the famous Tower of Fang, Orphen now spends his time chasing clients as a moneylender. Un-willingly being dragged in to the plan, he encounters a monster who has long been his goal since the day he left the Tower of Fang. Between those who seek to kill the monster and Orphen, giving everything to protect the monster, his lousy but peaceful days end. Trying to turn back his sister, Azalie, to her true form leads to many more mysteries and the key to the secret to the world.

Orphen & Claiomh Everlasting - Majutsushi Orphen Hagure Tabi



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

Anime Schedule

Continued



Itai no wa Iya nano de Bōgyoryoku ni Kyokufuri Shitai to Omoimasu.

"I do not want pain, so I would like to focus on defense."

痛いのは嫌なので防御力に極振りしたいと思います。

Kaede is invited to play a virtual reality MMO game. She doesn't dislike games, what she really dislikes is being in pain. Creating a character, Maple, decides to put all her points in VIT to minimize pain. As a result, she acquires a skill "Absolute Defense" With her ability to nullify damage, she goes on adventures.

January 8, 2020

Silver Link

AT-X, ABC, Tokyo MX, TVA, BS11



Kūtei Dragons

Drifting Dragons

空挺ドラゴンズ

It's time to see what the dragon tastes like! The crew of the airship Queen Zaza makes their living hunting dragons. Succeed, and the reward is riches and all the meat they can eat! Fail, and all that awaits them is a messy end. Follow the grand hunting and cooking adventure of the Queen Zaza as they chase dragons across the sky!

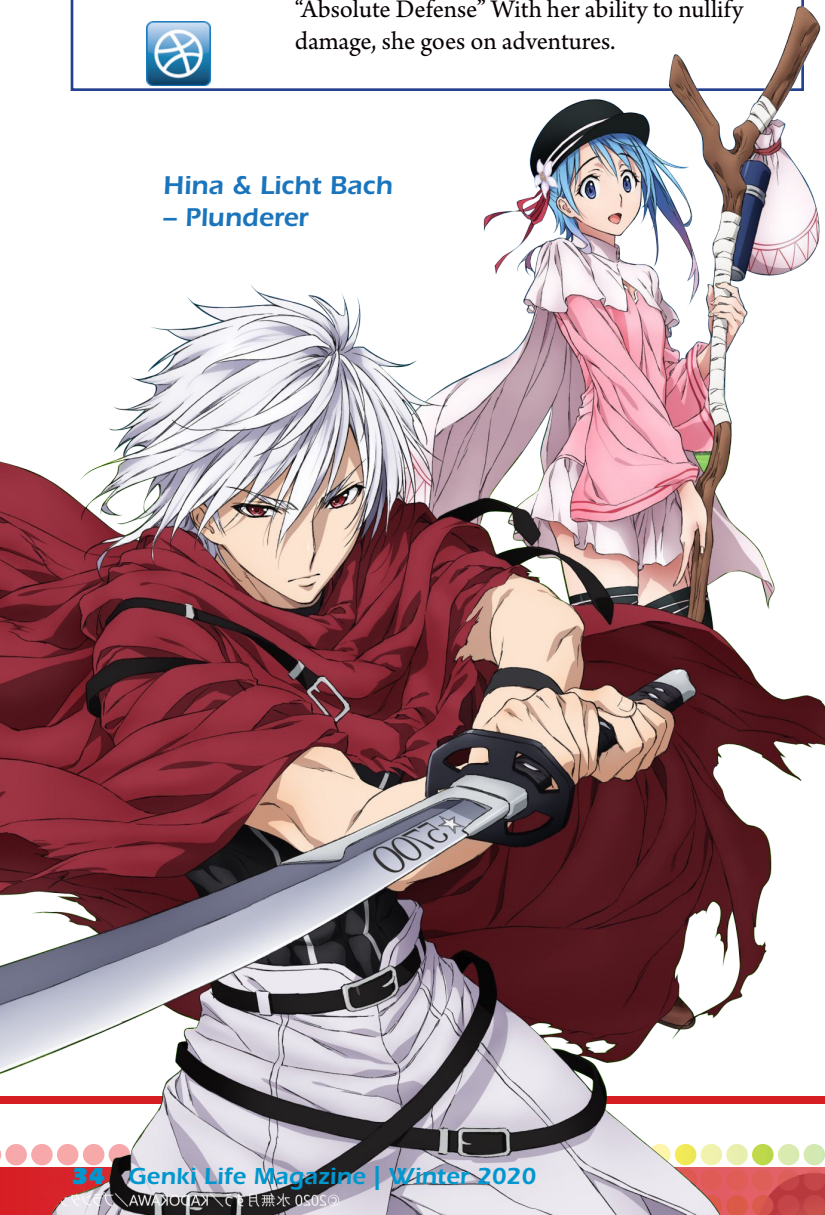
January 8, 2020

Polygon Pictures

Fuji TV (+Ultra), KTV, THK, TNC, UHB, BS Fuji



Hina & Licht Bach – Plunderer



number24

number24 (ナンバー・トゥーフォー)

The college rugby story centers on Yuzuki Natsusa, who expects to be an ace on the rugby team when he enrolls in college. However, he is no longer able to play rugby due to certain circumstances. Ueoka Ibuki is an older fellow student who quit rugby. Tsuru Yasunari is a younger student who finds Yuzuki disagreeable. Yū Mashiro is a younger student who admires and follows Yuzuki. Sei'ichirō Shingyō is Yuzuki's close childhood friend. Together, they compete in the Kansai university rugby league.

January 8, 2020

PRA

Tokyo MX, STV, KBS, TVA, BSN, AT-X



Plunderer

ブランダー

It's the year 305 of the Alcan calendar, and the world is controlled by numbers. Every human born is branded with a "Count," which could mean anything from the number of kilometers walked to the amount of people who have said your food is tasty. And if your Count drops to 0... you'll be sent into the Abyss! After Hina's mother's Count dropped to 0, her last request is for Hina to look for the Legendary Red Baron.

January 8, 2020

Geek Toys

Tokyo MX, KBS, TVA, SUN BS11, AT-X



e 2020 Winter Season



Hatena☆Illusion はてな☆イリュージョン

Fresh in his first year of high school, Makoto Shiranui came to Tōkyō to seek an apprenticeship under his parent's acquaintance, world famous Illusionist Mamoru Hoshisato. Ever since watching them, Makoto wanted to be a Illusionist. The couple's daughter Kana (nicknamed Hatena) was also his childhood friend. As the Hoshisato residence was known as a haunted house, Makoto receives a warm welcome from the butler and the maid, and meets Hatena once again. However, as much as Hatena welcomes Makoto's arrival, she and he don't really get along and in the end...

January 9, 2020
Children's Playground
Entertainment
BS NTV, MBS, Tokyo MX



Nekopara ネコぱら

Minazuki Kashō leaves his home, a traditional long-established Japanese sweets shop. As a pastry chef, he was preparing to open his own cake shop, La Soleil. In a baggage sent there, Chocolat and Vanilla, humanoid cats kept in their parents' house were inside. Kashō pleaded desperately for them to go back. Older sisters Azuki, Maple, Cinnamon and Coconut came to help Kashō and have a fun and lively time. One day, Chocolat encounters a strange kitten on the way. A heart full cat story that starts from an encounter with a kitten that is worried somewhere starts here!

January 9, 2020
Felix Film
AT-X, Tokyo MX, BS11



Hōsekisho Richard-shi no Nazo Kantei The Case Files of Jeweler Richard 宝石商リチャード氏の謎鑑定

A "heartwarming jewel mystery" series that enters on the handsome, jewelry appraiser Richard Ranashinha Dvorpian and the bright and cheerful college student Seigi Nakata as they uncover the hidden messages that lies within jewels.

January 9, 2020
Shuka
AT-X, Tokyo MX,
BS11, Wowow



Oshi ga Budōkan Ittekuretara Shinu "I'd Die If the One I Support Makes It to the Budōkan"

推しが武道館いってくれたら死ぬ

The story about "Eripiyo," an extreme idol fan. She is wildly enthusiastic about Maina, the shy and lowest-ranking member of the minor underground idol group Cham Jam from Okayama Prefecture. She gets so wrapped up in her love for Maina during a particular performance, that she has a major nose-bleed. Eri will continue to give her complete devotion to Maina until the day she can perform at Budōkan (a major performing venue in Tōkyō).

January 9, 2020
8bit
TBS, BS-TBS



Infinite Dendrogram インフィニット・デンドログラム

In the year 2043, Infinite Dendrogram, the world's first successful full-dive VRMMO was released. In addition to its ability to perfectly simulate the five senses, along with its many other amazing features, the game promised to offer players a world full of infinite possibilities. Nearly two years later, soon-to-be college freshman, Reiji Mukudori, is finally able to buy a copy of the game and start playing. With some help from his experienced older brother, Shū, and his partner Embryo, Reiji embarks on an adventure into the world of *Infinite Dendrogram*.

January 9, 2020
NAZ
AT-X, Tokyo MX,
BS11, SUN



Show By Rock!! Mashumairesh!! ショウ・バイ・ロック!! ましゅまいれっしゅ!

New anime focusing on the band Mashumairesh!! Metropolis of music, MIDICITY. A kitty girl wearing gothic lolita clothing named Cyan is scouted by Maple Arisugawa, the president of a music agency. From there, she meets three other girls. Together, they form the band named Plasmagica, and aim for the top of the world. However, the path there is long and tough, and keeping in high spirits is important. By battling against other strange bands, Plasmagica slowly grows toward a top-grade band.

January 9, 2020
Kinema Citrus
Tokyo MX, BS Fuji, UHB,
SUN, TV Tokyo



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

Anime Schedule

Continued



Somali to Mori no Kamisama Somali and the Forest Spirit

ソマリと森の神様

The world is ruled by spirits, goblins and all manner of strange creatures. Human beings are persecuted to the very point of extinction. One day, a golem and a lone human girl meet. This is a record of the pair; one a member of a ruined race, the other a watchman of the forest. It tells of their travels together, and of the bond between father and daughter.

January 9, 2020

Satelight

AbemaTV, Tokyo MX,
BS-NTV



Oda Shinamon Nobunaga

織田シナモン信長

In the “one-of-a-kind samurai-general-reincarnated-as-a-canine comedy,” Nobunaga perishes at Honnōji as in history. He is reincarnated in modern-day Japan as a dog named Shinamon. Other Warring States era warlords such as Shingen Takeda eventually join him ... also as dogs.

January 10, 2020

Studio Pierrot

TV Tokyo, TVA, TVO, AT-X



Haikyū!! To the Top ハイキュー!! To the Top

Shōyō Hinata is aiming to become the next “Small Giant” and joins his middle school volleyball club. After finding new members, they set out for the middle school tournament, where they’ve cross paths with a formidable school with the “King of the Upper Court,” Tobio Kageyama. Junior high school student Shōyō Hinata continues pushing his volleyball club forward, aiming to improve on the results he has achieved so far. Fourth season of *Haikyū!!*

January 10, 2020

Production I.G

MBS/TBS



Rikei ga Koi ni Ochita no de Shōmei Shite Mita.

“Science Fell in Love, So I Tried to Prove It.”

理系が恋に落ちたので証明してみた。

Shinya Yukimura and Ayame Himuro are two scientists that want to find out if love can be solved by a scientific theory. These two scientists also have feelings for each other and want to be able to solve their feelings through similar theoretical facts. With this perfect opportunity, these scientists will attempt to solve the theory of the love they express for each other.

January 10, 2020

Zero-G

Tokyo MX, BS11, RNC,
GTV, GYT, MBS, CTC



Jibaku Shōnen Hanako-kun Toilet-Bound Hanako-kun

地縛少年花子くん

“Hanako-san, Hanako-san ... are you there?”

At Kamome Academy, rumors abound about the school’s Seven Mysteries, one of which is Hanako-san. Said to occupy the third stall of the third floor girls’ bathroom in the old school building, Hanako-san grants any wish when summoned. Nene Yashiro, an occult-loving high school girl who dreams of romance, ventures into this haunted bathroom ... but the Hanako-san she meets there is nothing like she imagined! Kamome Academy’s Hanako-san ... is a boy!

January 10, 2020

Lerche

TBS, SUN, CBC, BS-TBS



Runway de Waratte Smile Down the Runway

ランウェイで笑って

Runway de Waratte starts with the story of Fujito Chiyuki, an aspiring fashion model and daughter of a fledgling Modeling Agency, Mille Neige. Ever since she was little, Chiyuki’s dream was to be the star model of her dad’s agency and perform at Paris Fashion Week. With great looks and a gifted environment, it seemed like she was on the right track to fulfill her dream, but she soon found herself faced with a seemingly insurmountable wall when her height stopped growing at 158 cm ... too short to be a professional model.

January 10, 2020

Ezola

MBS, TBS, BS-TBS



e 2020 Winter Season



January 10, 2020

J.C.Staff

AT-X, Tokyo MX, BS11,
MBS



Toaru Kagaku no Railgun T A Certain Scientific Railgun T とある科学の超電磁砲T

In the futuristic Academy City, which is made up of 80% students, many of whom are espers possessing unique psychic powers, Mikoto Misaka is an electromaster who is the third strongest of a mere seven espers who have been given the rank of Level 5. The series focuses on the exploits of Mikoto and her friends; Kuroko Shirai, Kazari Uiharu and Ruiko Saten, prior to and during the events of *Toaru Majutsu no Index*. Third season of *Toaru Kagaku no Railgun*.



Kuroko Shirai &
Mikoto Misaka
– Toaru Kagaku
no Railgun T



January 11, 2020

A-1 Pictures

Tokyo MX, GTV, GYT,
BS11, ABC, Metele,
CS Nippon, AbemaTV



22/7

One day, a letter suddenly arrived for Miu Takigawa. She was selected as a member of the new project. She went to the place written in the letter with skepticism, and there were seven girls who were also gathered. It's a huge confidential facility. While at a loss, Miu is told "I will make a major debut as an idol unit." A new idol never before born is born here.

The group based on the concept of "idols who cross dimensions" has eight anime idol characters, with their respective voice actresses performing as idols in the real world.



January 11, 2020

EMT²

AT-X, Tokyo MX, BS Fuji



Boku no Tonari ni Ankoku Hankaishin ga Imasu.

A Destructive God Sits Next to Me ぼくのとなりに暗黒破壊神がいます。

The story follows Seri Koyuki, a high school student who tries to avoid strange people because he knows he will just end up being the straight man to their antics. Enter Kabuto Hanadori, Koyuki's classmate who has chūnibyō (second-year middle school syndrome) and claims his eyepatch seals his god of destruction alter ego. Everything about Hanadori exudes the need for a straight man to keep him in check, and sure enough Koyuki is drawn in.



January 11, 2020

Passione

AT-X, Tokyo MX, KBS,
SUN, BS11



Ishuzoku Reviewers

Interspecies Reviewers

異種族レビューアーズ

Beauty truly is in the eye of the beholder! From elves to succubi to cyclopes and more, the Yoruno Gloss reviewers are here to rate the red-light delights of all manner of monster girls... The only thing is, they can never agree on which species are the hottest!

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

Anime Schedule

Winter 2020

Continued



Kyokō Suiri In/Spectre

虚構推理

The 17-year-old Kotoko has a unique situation. When she was a child, she was kidnapped by spirits called yōkai and returned missing one leg and one eye. Since then, she has been able to communicate with otherworldly forces, both benevolent and dangerous. Kotoko is alone with her power until she learns that the crush she's watched from afar, Kurō, has had his own encounter with yōkai! For a girl who's used to dealing with spirits, winning love might prove to be the bigger challenge!

January 11, 2020

Brain's Base

TV Asahi, MBS, BS-NTV



ARP Backstage Pass

ARP (Artists Republic Production) is a dance vocal group which holds live performances — featuring singing, dancing and interactive talking with the audience — in real-time using the latest augmented-reality technology. The ikemen (handsome) group members include their de facto leader Shinji, the talented dancer León, and the members of the Rebel Cross duo (designer Daiya and composer/writer Rage).

January 13, 2020

Dynamo Pictures

Tokyo MX, BS11



Dorohedoro ドロヘドロ

In a city so dismal it's known only as "the Hole," a clan of Sorcerers has been plucking people off the streets to use as guinea pigs for atrocious "experiments" in the black arts. In a dark alley, Nikaidou found Caiman, a man with a reptile head and a bad case of amnesia. To undo the spell, they're hunting and killing the Sorcerers in the Hole, hoping that eventually they'll kill the right one. But when En, the head Sorcerer, gets word of a lizard-man slaughtering his people, he sends a crew of "cleaners" into the Hole, igniting a war between two worlds.

January 12, 2020

MAPPA

Tokyo MX, BS11, MBS



Isekai Quartet 2 異世界かるてっと 2

A mysterious switch appeared one day. When pressing it, they were sent to a different alternate world!! There are also characters from other alternate worlds gathered together! Second season of *Isekai Quartet*.

January 14, 2020

Studio PuYUKAI

Tokyo MX, MBS, BS11,
AT-X, TVA



A3! Act! Addict! Actor! Season Spring & Summer エースリー

"Director! Please help us bloom!"

In Tōkyō, there is a place called Velude Way. It is a district notorious for its performers and theatrical groups. Izumi Tachibana, who was previously a stage actress, arrives with a letter that reads, "Full of debt! Zero customers! Only one actor!" It describes the current state of the once-popular theater group Mankai Company. Her task is to rebuild the company to its former glory as the new owner and chief director.

January 13, 2020

3Hz, P.A. Works

Tokyo MX, STV, KBS, BS11



BanG Dream! 3rd Season バンドリ

When she was a child, Kasumi Toyama (played by Poppin' Party's lead singer, Aimi) felt a heart-pounding thrill every time she gazed at the stars, and she's been looking without success for something that could inspire the same feeling ever since. One day, she comes across a star-shaped guitar in a rundown pawnshop and, for the first time, discovers the thrill she's been searching for. Kasumi becomes determined to form an all-girl band, and her search leads her to four like-minded souls: Saya, Arisa, Rimi, and Tae (all brought to life by the members of Poppin' Party).

Jan 23, 2020

Sanzigen

Tokyo MX, KBS, BSN,
STV, OBS



Tiger con



Free Autographs
Maid Cafe
Dealers and Artists
Panels
Cosplay Contest
AMV Contest
Gaming
Your Favorite Vocaloids
Live in Concert!



Tony Oliver
Actor/Producer/Director



Tiffany Grant
Actress



Alice Infinity
Cosplayer



Geek Out Studio
Cosplayer



Valdosta, GA
March 21-22, 2020

www.TigerConvention.com

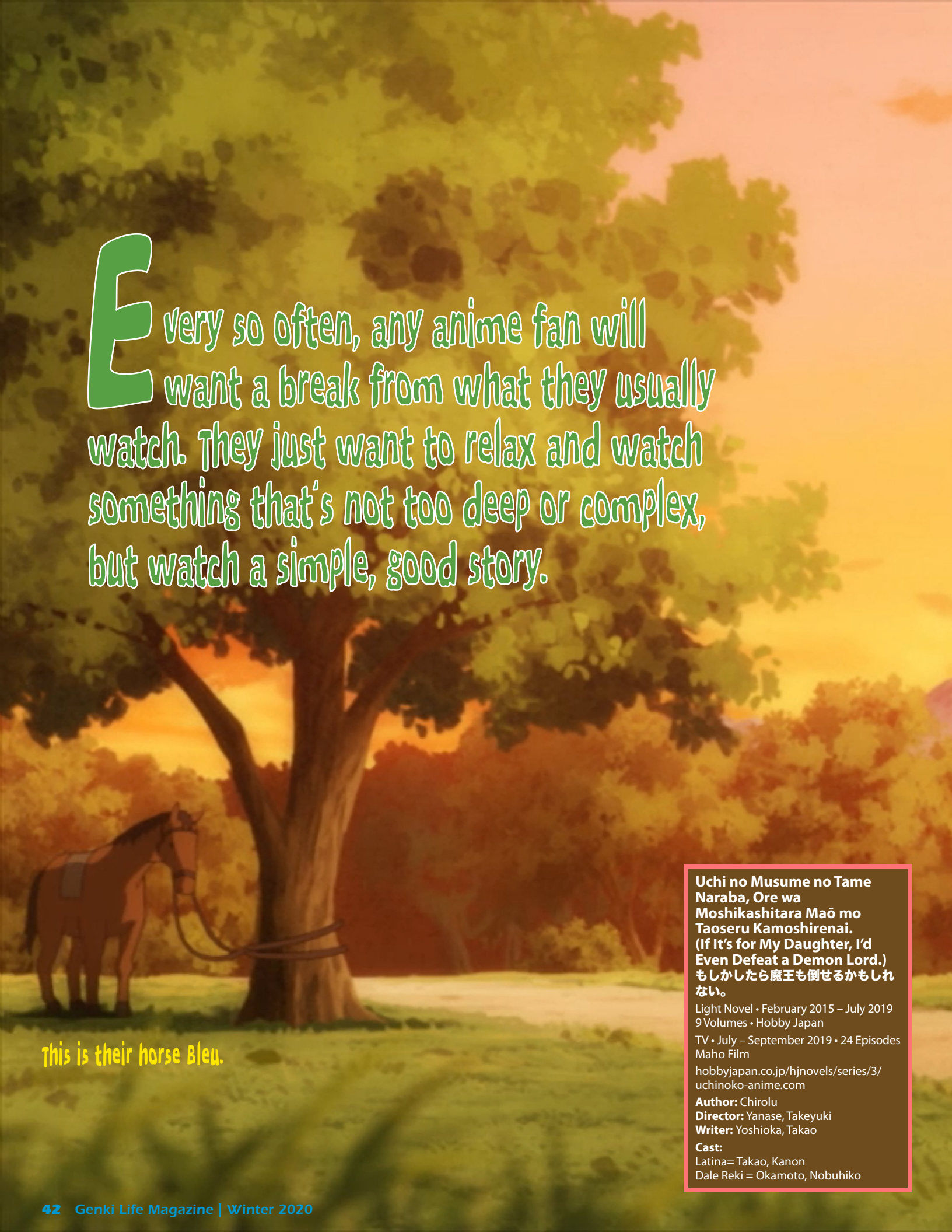


うちの娘の為なら
俺はもしかしたら
魔王も倒せるかもしれ

If It's for My Daughter
I'd Even Defeat a Demon
A Comparative Medium

らば、
ない。
ter,
on Lord.:





Every so often, any anime fan will want a break from what they usually watch. They just want to relax and watch something that's not too deep or complex, but watch a simple, good story.

this is their horse Bleu.

Uchi no Musume no Tame Naraba, Ore wa Moshikashitara Maō mo Taoseru Kamoshirenai.
(If It's for My Daughter, I'd Even Defeat a Demon Lord.)
もしかしたら魔王も倒せるかもしれない。

Light Novel • February 2015 – July 2019
9 Volumes • Hobby Japan

TV • July – September 2019 • 24 Episodes
Maho Film

hobbyjapan.co.jp/hjnovels/series/3/uchinoko-anime.com

Author: Chirolu

Director: Yanase, Takeyuki

Writer: Yoshioka, Takao

Cast:

Latina = Takao, Kanon

Dale Reki = Okamoto, Nobuhiko

One such anime I watched was summer 2019's *Uchi no Musume no Tame Naraba, Ore wa Moshikashitara Maō mo Taoseru Kamoshirenai* (*If It's for My Daughter, I'd Even Defeat a Demon Lord*). That's a mouthful. Although this show sounds like your typical *isekai* (other world) show, it's actually far from it. There are no characters that have been reincarnated, teleported or summoned to this world. This heartwarming story is about an adventurer, Dale Reki, who one day finds an orphaned, malnourished devil girl with a missing horn in the forest while winding down from a mission. Dale decides to take her into his care and raises the devil girl, Latina, as his adopted daughter. So begins the story of these two main characters in their every day lives—well, mostly Latina—in the town of Kreuz, Laband.

Uchi no Musume was first published as an online web novel by Chirolu in 2014. The following year, the imprint was taken in by Hobby Japan Novels (HJN) and published in bunkoban (light novel) form in eight volumes. A manga of *Uchi no Musume* came out in 2017 which was published by Kadokawa Shoten. The next year, the light novel was licensed to J-Novel Club to be released in the English language for North America. Illustrations for *Uchi no Musume* are by Truffle in volume one and then by Kei for the remaining volumes.

Since I started reading *isekai*-genre stories for the last

few years, I occasionally come across the *Uchi no Musume* title. I've never thought about reading it back then because I didn't think it would be the kind of story I would read by just looking at the cover picture and reading the synopsis. When I read news this past Winter that it would be made into an anime, it piqued my curiosity to watch it. When the first episode aired that July, it led me to start reading the light novel. After the anime finished its run, I continued reading the remainder of light novels. The anime corresponded to the volumes one and two, and to around the first three chapters of volume three. After that, the story dances around which led to a condensed end to the anime. Although this article is about *Uchi no Musume*, it is by no means a review of the show. I'm here to primarily discuss, point out the differences and fill in the story gaps between the light novel and the anime. Therefore, if you have an interest either reading the light novel or manga, and watch the anime, this article will contain a lot of spoilers. Proceed with if you want.

As mentioned before... well, Latina was actually the one who finds Dale. But before this, the light novel sets the foundation of the world these two characters live in. We learn that their world is "overseen" by seven Gods, the "Gods of the Seven Colors:" The Red God, Ahmar, god of war and arbitration/judgment; the Orange God, Quirmizi, is the god of agriculture; the Yellow God, Asfar,



Latina (Platina),
daughter of Mov



Latina found Dale in the forest.

god of education and leaders; the Green God, Akhdar, god of travels and information; the Blue God, Azraq, god of business; the Indigo God, Niili, god life and death, diseases and medicine; and the Violet God, Banafsaj, god of creation, destruction, reincarnation and leader of the Gods. In the anime, there are only vague mentions of the Gods with their role, relationships to the world and people.

Also not mentioned much in the anime are the role of rainbows. The novel explains that some important event by the Gods happens when they appear. In the human world, when a rainbow appears in the sky a person is born into the world favored by the Gods or divine providence (“protection” in the novel). Whereas for devils,

a new ruler is born... a Demon Lord. In this world, devils are a race of demi-human who are intelligent, well versed in magic and have little contact with the rest of the world. They are often feared because of the little contact with the world, but just like humans, have both good



Dale Reki

and bad. Same thing with Demon Lords. Only the bad Demon Lords cause trouble for humans therefore, for humans, all devils were lumped together regardless.

In episode four (volume one, chapter six) where the incident with Latina occurs, we learn more about Dale. What happened in that incident, a new priestess of Asfar, whom double as teachers, found out that Latina is a devil child threw a tantrum and went on a rant. This caused so much trauma to Latina that she broke off her other horn. We learn that Dale, other than being an adventurer who has magic abilities, he’s also a priest with divine providence, has high connections and privy to “special” information. This detail about Dale was barely mentioned in the anime. The only hint we had during the incident was the “high-class black robe” priest uniform he wore when he went to the temple of Asfar to talk to the head-master. We didn’t know at the time that it was a priest uniform. Other than this, the story about this incident jumps around in the novel but linear in the anime.

In episode four (volume two, chapter seven) is when Dale and Latina travel to Dale’s hometown of Tislow—spelled “Teathlow” in the official Crunchyroll translation, but took it upon myself to look up the original. Tislow is closer to the original spelling “ティスロウ,” but could go either way. Before they started on their

Latina’s classmates: Rudy, Sylvia, Anthony, Marcel and Chloe.



trip to Tislow, in the anime, Dale happens to be in the capital of Laband, Ausblick. Although mentioned in one sentence that he needed permission from the Duke for the trip, the novel goes into further detail why. Dale has a contract with Duke Eldstedt therefore cannot go off on his own accord for any extended length of time. Doing so would lead to suspicion that he was working with another nation and would put him in trouble. Meeting with the Duke had to be done in person. During his time in Ausblick, we also learn why Dale picked the proper travel clothes for Latina. Meeting Helmine, Dale's past adventure party member and romantic interest, by coincidence, she helps Dale by giving him advice on proper magical attire and equipment for a mage on a trip. Otherwise he would buy the prettiest attire and best equipment for their trip, though not practical.

Of the events that were left out during their travels are nights when they are out camping in the wilderness. Purposely taken out in the anime because it doesn't affect the overall story, it's nice to read about their interactions during these times. Some readers might find these sections rather boring, unlike "filler" episodes in anime, but adds to their character development and likability. During these nights when they were camping, Latina was in charge of the cooking which she wanted

to do to improve herself. Also in the anime, the name of first big town they enter wasn't ever mentioned. Haas was the name of that town with the red-colored accents.

A couple cool things we learn when they arrive in the port town of Qualle, Latina has named their traveling horse Blau, that surprised Dale. Also the fancy restaurant that they dinner and meet Glaros, the devil woman, is called the Silent Seagull. During their three-day stay in Qualle, the novel goes into more detail in what they



(Below) Port town of Qualle. (Right top) The silent seagull restaurant. (Right) Glaros meeting Latina.





Latina and the phantasmic beats, the soaring Wolves.

were doing during that time. There were more interaction with the local merchants and food they ate. On their second day, it was raining. They pretty much stayed in the inn all day preparing to continue their trip. And on their last day, as with the anime and novel, they met with Glaros that early evening where she works.

A somewhat major change was when they continued on their trip to stop by at a beastman village. Also during this time, the novel told that they stopped at some villages before. They also had a chance to relax along the roadside to admire blooming flowers as well as having a meal. As they continued on their trip, they arrived at the beastman village to be greeted by a local in the novel. There's also a long-winded explanation about beastmen given by Dale to Latina because she never saw one before. In the anime, while having a meal amongst the blooming trees, Joseph Bündte meets them, then they continue on towards the village. While at the beastman village, Dale and Latina were witness to the fruits of a hunt... two gigantic, magical beast boars. From here, the novel and anime separated. In the anime Maya (Joseph's daughter) took Latina to play with her after a talk with Dale. Whereas in the novel, Latina witnessed the butch-

ering of the magical beasts "as part of her studies."

Before their arrival in Tislow, an entire chapter in the novel (volume two, interlude) was dedicated to Latina's letters to her friend Chloe and Rita at the Dancing Tabby Cat. The novel calls the bar Dale and Latina stays at the Dancing Ocelot. I looked up the kanji from the original text, 踊る虎猫亭, (odoru toronekotei), which translates to "dancing tabby cat." In the anime, the letter to Chloe was shown in the intro of episode nine. The letter to Rita was briefly shown. Unlike in these letters, Dale goes around town introducing the townsfolk to Latina in the novel. For the summer that they were in Tislow, Dale introduced Latina to Master Cornelio Cacace, a priest of Asfar and former teacher, and Clarissa, Master Cornelio's daughter and Dale's childhood friend. Dale wanted Latina to continue her education while they were in Tislow. Also in the novel, we learn more about the village of Tislow in greater detail.

Unlike the novel, the ending for the anime was fairly rushed. In the light novel, the end lasted for almost all of volume three. On their way back from Tislow, they stopped again in Qualle. The difference in the anime is that Dale and Latina were having a quiet drink at a cafe

when Rose, the Priestess walked by. In the light novel, they were shopping in a souvenir shop when Rose came walking down the street. Back in Kruez, the second half of episode 11 of the anime, Sir Jilvester brought Dale and Latina to his friend's house to see cats. In the light novel, this scene takes place long after the "ending." The second half of the final episode was really rushed. We leave the story where Dale goes on a "final" mission with Helmine. After that, Vint, the soaring wolf pup, shows up at the Dancing Tabby Cat. At the same time Joseph and Maya from the beastman village show up also. Although Vint shows up in the light novel, Joseph and Maya never did. The events that lead to the birth of Theo are quickly told in the ending credits of the anime.

It's been long known that if some long light novels are made into anime or a movie, it usually doesn't turn out very well. The main factors for this is the condensation

of a story that spans volumes into a limited number of episodes, length of a typical movie/OVA, story flow into a different format or monetary budget. For example these two "epic" light novels I read: *Death March Kara Hajimaru Isekai Kyōsōkyoku* (*Death March to the Parallel World Rhapsody*) and *Isekai wa Smartphone to Tomo ni* (*In Another World with My Smartphone*). Both shows started out as light novels with *Death March* (18 volumes in Japan, 10 volumes US) and *Smartphone* (18 volumes in Japan, 17 volumes in US) currently as of November 2019. Both light novels had anime shows that only spanned 12 episodes... with a majority of their stories still untold. *Uchi no Musume* itself totals eight volumes. Therefore, if you do find the premise of this light novel interesting, you can read more about Latina growing up and learning about her past. Reading the entire series will answer some of the plot holes in the anime. ❖ Ed Gomez

Maya Bünete and Vint, the soaring wolf pup with Latina at the Dancing Tabby Cat.



Who's That Seiyū



Toyosaki, Aki

豊崎 愛生

DOB: October 28, 1986
Tokushima Prefecture

Blood Type: AB

Current Roles...



Yamashita, Daiki

山下 大輝

DOB: September 7, 1990
Shizuoka

Blood Type: NA

Current Roles...



Hanae, Natsuki

花江 夏樹

DOB: June 26, 1991
Kanagawa Prefecture

Blood Type: B

Current Roles...



Ristarte

*Kono Yūsha ga Ore Tsūe
Kuse ni Shinchō Sugiru*



Saginomiya, Shiori

Joshi Kōsei no Mudazukai



Kisaragi, Amatsuyu

*Ore wo Suki Nano wa
Omae Dake ka yo*



Arahabaki, Tetsurō

No Guns Life



Katsuragi, Maki

Hoshiai no Sora



Yui, Kōtarō

*Stand My Heroes:
Piece of Truth*



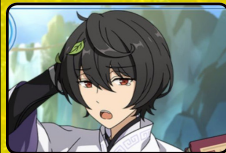
Angel White

Maō-sama, Retry!



Sōma, Isuzu

Fruits Basket



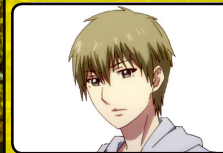
Sakuma, Ritsu

Ensemble Stars!



Narancia Ghirga

*JoJo no Kimyō na Bōken
Ōgon no Kaze*



Kurata, Takeru

Kono Oto Tomare!



Crab Long Bao

Food Fantasy



Murase, Ayumu

安野 希世乃
DOB: July 9, 1989
Tokyo

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



Tomatsu, Haruka

安野 希世乃
DOB: July 9, 1989
Tokyo

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



**Saitō, Machiko
(Machico)**

齊藤 真知子 (まちこ)

DOB: March 25, 1992
Hiroshima

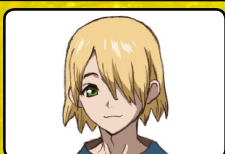
Blood Type: B

Current Roles...



Suzuki, Iruma

Mairimashita! Iruma-kun



Ginro

Dr. Stone



Sanshokuin, Sumireko

*Ore wo Suki Nano wa
Omae Dake ka yo*



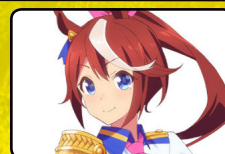
Killer Queen

Maō-sama, Retry!



Kokura, Hikari

Rifle is Beautiful



Tōkai Teiō

Uma Musume Pretty Derby



Hachi

*Dōkyonin wa Hiza,
Tokidoki, Atama no Ue.*



Yasaka, Kazuki

Sarazanmai



Kitanaga

Ueno-san wa Bukiyō



Aina, Rumina

*Dumbbell Nan-Kiro
Moteru?*



Ithea Myse Valgulous

WorldEnd



Ibuki, Tsubasa

*The Idolmaster Million
Live!*

of Autumn 2019



Waki, Azumi

和氣 あず未

DOB: September 8, 1994
Tōkyō

Blood Type: O

Current Roles...



Adele von Ascham/Mile
*Watashi, Nōryoku wa
Heikinchi dette Itta yo ne!*



Kujō, Shion
Sōnan desu ka?



Salacha Schicksal
Assassins Pride



Horie, Ao
*Midara na Ao-chan wa
Benkyō ga Dekinai*



Iguchi, Yuka

井口 裕香

DOB: July 11, 1988
Tōkyō

Blood Type: AB

Current Roles...



Myne
Honzuki no Gekokujō



Patricia Pearl
Fairy Gone



Cow Girl
Goblin Slayer



Yukimura, Aoi
Yama no Susume



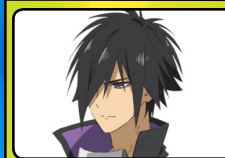
Umehara, Yūichirō

梅原 裕一郎

DOB: March 8, 1991
Shizuoka

Blood Type: O

Current Roles...



Ryūgūin, Seiya
*Kono Yūsha ga Ore Tsuē
Kuse ni Shinchō Saguru*



Mima, Soī'ichirō
Daiya no Ace



Kuroi Sēshi
One Punch Man



Prince Chamechamecha
RobiHachi



Tomita, Miyu

安野 希世乃
DOB: July 9, 1989
Tokyo

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



Ogata, Rizu
*Bokutachi wa Benkyō ga
Dekinai*



Yamamoto, Minami
Joshi Kōsei no Mudazukai



Midori
Hōkago Saikoro Kurabu



Nijino, Yume
Aikatsu on Parade!



Sasahara, Yū

篠原 侑

DOB: April 30
Kumamoto

Blood Type: NA

Current Roles...



Namaki, Rin
Kandagawa Jet Girls



Li Xuelan
Märchen Mädchen



Salsa
Lapis Re:Lights



Curren Chan
Uma Musume Pretty Derby



Suwabe, Jun'ichi

安野 希世乃
DOB: July 9, 1989
Tokyo

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



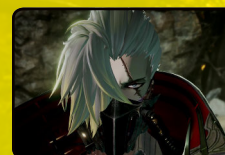
Inui, Juzo
No Guns Life



Kyle
Carole & Tuesday



Ran, Nagisa
Ensemble Stars!



Jack Rutherford
Code Vein

GUNGRAVE GORE

Coming January 29





Manga & Light Novels

Winter 2020



A Terrified Teacher at Ghoul School!, Vol. 8
Mai Tanaka
Yen Press, LLC.
December 24, 2019



A Witch's Printing Office, Vol. 1
Mochinchi
Yen Press, LLC.
December 24, 2019



As Miss Beelzebub Likes, Vol. 8
matoba
Yen Press, LLC.
December 24, 2019



Bungo Stray Dogs, Vol. 13
Kafka Asagiri,
Sango Harukawa
Yen Press, LLC.
December 24, 2019



Case Study of Vanitas, The, Vol. 6
Jun Mochizuki
Yen Press, LLC.
December 24, 2019



Goblin Slayer Side Story: Year One, Vol. 3
Kumo Kagyu
Yen Press, LLC.
December 24, 2019



Happiness, Vol. 10
Shūzō Oshimi
Kodansha Comics
December 24, 2019



How to Treat Magical Beasts: Mine and Master's Medical Journal, Vol. 4
Kaziya
Seven Seas
Entertainment
December 24, 2019



Natsuki Saotome – Val x Love



Konosuba: An Explosion on This Wonderful World!, Vol. 3
Natsume Akatsuki,
Kasumi Morino
Yen Press, LLC.
December 24, 2019



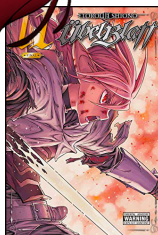
Little Devils, Vol. 3
Uuumi
Seven Seas
Entertainment
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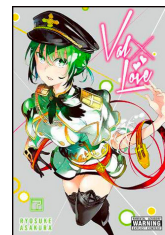
Plunderer, Vol. 3
Sū Minazuki
Yen Press, LLC.
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Species Domain, Vol. 7
Noro Shunsuke
Seven Seas
Entertainment
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Übel Blatt, Vol. 11
Etorōji Shiono
Yen Press, LLC.
December 24, 2019



Val x Love, Vol. 7
Ryōsuke Asakura
Yen Press, LLC.
December 24, 2019



Versailles of the Dead, Vol. 3
Kumiko Suekane
Seven Seas
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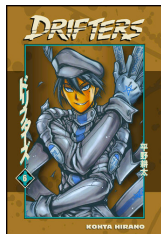


your name. Another Side: Earthbound, Vol. 2
Makoto Shinkai,
Jyunya Nakamura,
Arata Kanō
Yen Press, LLC.
December 24, 2019

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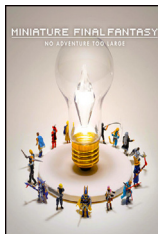
Drifters, Vol. 6

Kôta Hirano
Dark Horse Manga
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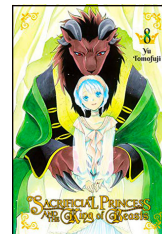
Machimaho: I Messed Up and Made the Wrong Person Into a Magical Girl!, Vol. 4

Sôryu
Seven Seas
Entertainment
December 31, 2019



Miniature Final Fantasy Hardcover

Square Enix,
Tatsuya Tanaka
Dark Horse Books
December 31, 2019



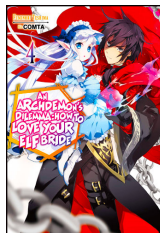
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Yû Tomofuji
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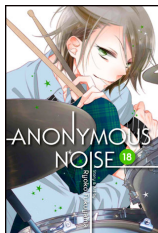
Akashic Records of Bastard Magic Instructor, Vol. 8

Hitsuji Tarô, Tsunemi Aosa
Seven Seas
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An Archdemon's Dilemma: How to Love Your Elf Bride, Vol. 3

Fuminori Teshima,
COMTA, Hikoki
J-Novel Club, LLC.
January 7



Anonymous Noise, Vol. 18

Ryôko Fukuyama
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January 7



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Vertical Comics
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Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba, Vol. 10

Koyoharu Gotôge
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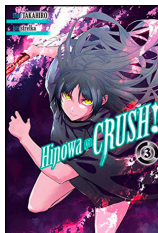
Haikyuu!!, Vol. 36

Haruichi Furudate
VIZ Media, LLC.
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Harem Days: The Seven-Starred Country, Vol. 13**

Momo Sumomo
Akita Publishing Co., Ltd.
January 7



Hinowa ga CRUSH!, Vol. 3

Takahiro, stelka
Yen Press, LLC.
January 7



In Another World With My Smartphone, Vol. 18**

Patora Fuyuhara,
Eiji Usatsuka
J-Novel Club, LLC.
January 7



Infinite Dendrogram, Vol. 4

Sakon Kaidô, Taiki
J-Novel Club, LLC.
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Kaguya-sama: Love Is War, Vol. 12

Aka Akasaka
VIZ Media, LLC.
January 7



Magic User: Reborn in Another World as a Max Level Wizard, Vol. 1*

Mikawa Sôhei, Ryôta-H
Seven Seas
Entertainment
January 7



Mushoku Tensei: Jobless Reincarnation, Vol. 4*

Rifujin na Magonote,
Shirotaka
Seven Seas
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My Room is a Dungeon Rest Stop, Vol. 1

Tôgoku Hudô,
Takoya Kiyoshi
Seven Seas
Entertainment
January 7



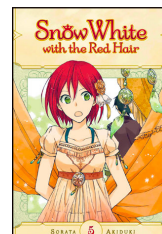
PERSONA 5 the Animation Material Book

PIE International
PIE International
January 7



Promised Neverland, The, Vol. 13

Kaiu Shirai,
Posuka Demizu
VIZ Media, LLC.
January 7



Snow White with the Red Hair, Vol. 5

Sorata Akiduki
VIZ Media, LLC.
January 7

Novels Winter 2020



Tales of Berseria, Vol. 2

Nobu Aonagi, Bandai Namco Entertainment
Kodansha Comics
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Yowamushi Pedal, Vol. 13

Wataru Watanabe
Yen Press, LLC.
January 7



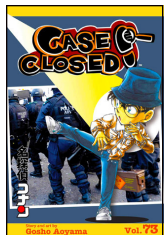
Magic in this Other World is Too Far Behind!, The, Vol. 3**

Gamei Hitsuji, COMTA
J-Novel Club, LLC.
January 8



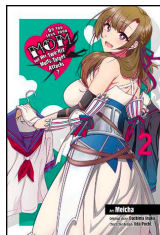
Demon Lord, Retry!, Vol. 2**

Kurone Kanzaki, Makoto Iino
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Case Closed, Vol. 73

Gôshô Aoyama
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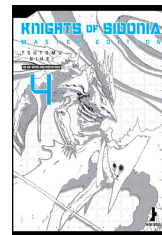
Do You Love Your Mom and Her Two-Hit Multi-Target Attacks?, Vol. 2

Dachima Inaka, Meicha, Pochi Iida
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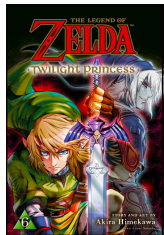
Karneval, Vol. 9

Tôya Mikanagi
Yen Press, LLC.
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Knights of Sidonia, Master Edition 4

Tsutomu Nihei
Vertical Comics
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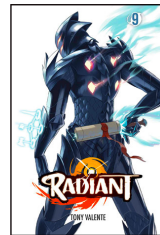
Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess, The, Vol. 6

Akira Himekawa
VIZ Media, LLC.
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Persona 5, Vol. 1

Hisato Murasaki
VIZ Media, LLC.
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Radiant, Vol. 9

Tony Valente
VIZ Media, LLC.
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Yen Press, LLC.
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January 14



To Love Ru Darkness, Vol. 14

Saki Hasemi, Kentarô Yabuki
Ghost Ship
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World's Strongest Rearguard: Labyrinth Country's Novice Seeker, The, Vol. 1

Tôwa, Hûka Kazabana, Rikizo
Yen On
January 14



Yamada-kun and the Seven Witches, Vols. 21-22

Miki Yoshikawa
Kodansha Comics
January 14



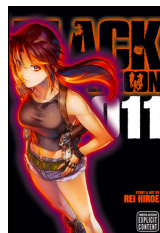
Arifureta: From Commonplace to World's Strongest, Vol. 5

Ryô Shirakome, RoGa
Seven Seas Entertainment
January 21



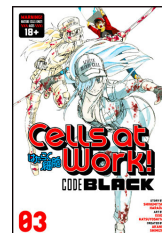
BEASTARS, Vol. 4

Paru Itagaki
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January 21



Black Lagoon, Vol. 11

Rei Hiroe
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Cells at Work! CODE BLACK, Vol. 3

Shigemitsu Harada, Akane Shimizu, Issei Hatsuoyoshiya
Kodansha Comics
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Children of the Whales, Vol. 14

Abi Umeda
VIZ Media, LLC.
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Final Fantasy Lost Stranger, Vol. 4

Hazuki Minase, Itsuki Kameya
Yen Press, LLC.
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High School Prodigies Have It Easy Even in Another World!, Vol. 6

Riku Misora, Kôtarô Yamada, Sacraneco
Yen Press, LLC.
January 21
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I'm Standing on a Million Lives, Vol. 5

Naoki Yamakawa, Akinari Nao
Kodansha Comics
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Manga & Light

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I've Been Killing Slimes for 300 Years and Maxed Out My Level, Vol. 1
Kisetsu Morita
Yen Press, LLC.
January 21



Im: Great Priest Imhotep, Vol. 1
Makoto Morishita
Yen Press, LLC.
January 21



Is It Wrong to Try to Pick Up Girls in a Dungeon? On the Side: Sword Oratoria, Vol. 10
Fujino Omori
Yen Press, LLC.
January 21



Konohana Kitan, Vol. 7
Sakuya Amano
Tokyopop
January 21
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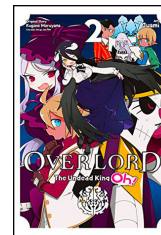
Leviathan, Vol. 2
Haruhisa Nakata
VIZ Media, LLC.
January 21



Murciélago, Vol. 13
Yoshimurakana
Yen Press, LLC.
January 21



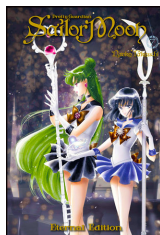
No Guns Life, Vol. 3
Tasuku Karasuma
VIZ Media, LLC.
January 21



Overlord: The Undead King Oh!, Vol. 2
Kugane Maruyama,
Juami, so-bin
Yen Press, LLC.
January 21



Saga of Tanya the Evil, The, Vol. 9
Carlo Zen, Chika Tōjō,
Shinobu Shimotsuki
Yen Press, LLC.
January 21



Sailor Moon Eternal Edition 7
Naoko Takeuchi
Kodansha Comics
January 21



Seven Deadly Sins, The, Vol. 36
Nakaba Suzuki
Kodansha Comics
January 21



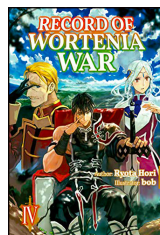
Sorry for My Familiar, Vol. 6
Tekka Yaguraba
Entertainment
January 21



Though You May Burn to Ash, Vol. 6
Kakashi Oniyazu
Yen Press, LLC.
January 21



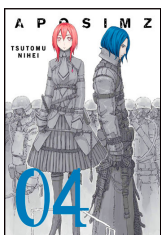
How NOT to Summon a Demon Lord, Vol. 12
Yukiya Murasaki,
Takabiro Tsurusaki
J-Novel Club, LLC.
January 26



Record of Wortenia War, Vol. 4
Ryōta Hori, bob
J-Novel Club, LLC.
January 27



Aoharu X Machinegun, Vol. 16
Naoe
Yen Press, LLC.
January 28
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APOSIMZ, Vol. 4
Tutomu Nihei
Vertical Comics
January 28



Dungeon of Black Company, The, Vol. 4
Yōhei Yasumura
Seven Seas
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January 28



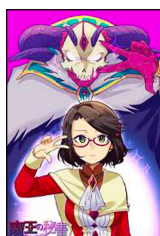
Magika Swordsman and Summoner, Vol. 12
Mitsuki Mibara, MonRin
Seven Seas
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January 28



My Monster Secret, Vol. 19
Eiji Masuda
Seven Seas
Entertainment
January 28
Not Actual Cover



Saki the Succubus Hungers Tonight, Vol. 1
Mikokuno Homare,
studioHIP-CATs
Ghost Ship
January 28



Satan's Secretary, Vol. 3
Kamotsu Kamonabe
Seven Seas
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January 28
Not Actual Cover



Stravaganza, Vol. 2
Akibito Tomi
Udon Entertainment
January 28



Yokai Girls, Vol. 9
Mikokuno Homare,
studioHIP-CATs
Ghost Ship
January 28

Novels Winter 2020



Yuuna and the Haunted Hot Springs, Vol. 8

Tadabiro Miura
Ghost Ship
January 28



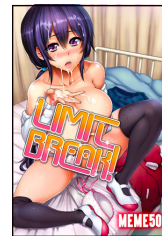
How a Realist Hero Rebuilt the Kingdom, Vol. 3^{††}

Dojyomaru, Satoshi Ueda
J-Novel Club, LLC.
January 29



Otaku in 10,000 B.C., The, Vol. 2^{††}

Nagashima Chōsuke
FAKKU Books
January 30



Limit Break!^{††}

MEME50
FAKKU Books
January 30



Ao Haru Ride, Vol. 9

Io Sakisaka
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 4



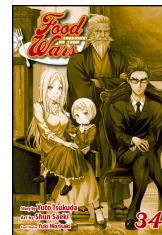
Arakawa Under the Bridge, Vol. 7

Hikaru Nakamura
Vertical Comics
February 4



Blue Exorcist, Vol. 23

Kazue Katō
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 4



Food Wars! Shokugeki no Soma, Vol. 34

Yūto Tsukuda, Shun Saeki,
Yuki Morisaki
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 4



Full Metal Panic!, Vols. 1-3 Collector's Edition Imitation Leather[†]

Shōji Gato, Shikidōji
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 4
Not Actual Cover



How NOT to Summon a Demon Lord, Vol. 8[†]

Yukiya Murasaki,
Takabiro Tsurusaki
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 4



If It's for My Daughter, I'd Even Defeat a Demon Lord, Vol. 7[†]

Chirolu, Kei
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 4



JoJo's Bizarre Adventure: Part 4-Diamond Is Unbreakable, Vol. 4 Hardcover

Hirohiko Araki
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 4



Shera L. Greenwood
& Rem Galleu – How NOT
to Summon a Demon Lord

The information presented here is subject to change without notice. † Yaoi/yuri/men's; †† hentaï titles for mature audiences; †† light novel; †† digital format.



Manga & Light

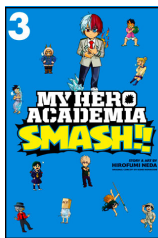
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Jujutsu Kaisen, Vol. 2
Gege Akutami
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 4



Magic in this Other World is Too Far Behind!, The, Vol. 7+
Gamei Hitsuji,
Ao Nekonabe
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 4



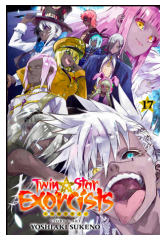
My Hero Academia: Smash!!, Vol. 3
Hirofumi Neda, Kôei Horikoshi
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 4



My Hero Academia, Vol. 23
Kôei Horikoshi
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 4



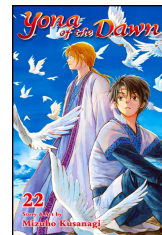
Seraph of the End, Vol. 18
Takaya Kagami,
Yamato Yamamoto,
Daisuke Furuya
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 4



Twin Star Exorcists, Vol. 17
Yoshiaki Sukeno
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 4



We Never Learn, Vol. 8
Taishi Tsutsui
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 4



Yona of the Dawn, Vol. 22
Mizuho Kusanagi
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 4



Faraway Paladin, The, Vol. 2++
Kanata Yanagino,
Mutsumi Okubashi
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 5



Infinite Dendrogram, Vol. 3++
Sakon Kaidô, Kami Imai
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 5



Outer Ragna, Vol. 1++
Kasugamaru,
NAMCOOo,
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 8

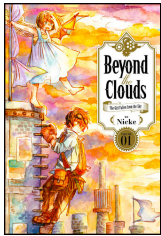


A Man and His Cat, Vol. 1
Umi Sakurai
Square Enix Manga
February 11
Not Actual Cover



The Goblin Slayer

Novels Winter 2020



Beyond the Clouds, Vol. 1
NICKE
Kodansha Comics
February 11



Don't Count Your Tanukis, Vol. 8^{††}
Mayu Minase
Futabasha Publishers Ltd.
February 11



Elfen Lied Omnibus, Vol. 3
Lynn Okamoto
Dark Horse Manga
February 11



Fullmetal Alchemist: Fullmetal Edition, Vol. 8 Hardcover
Hiromu Arakawa
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 11



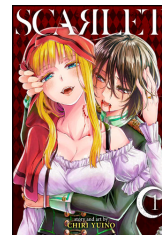
Given, Vol. 1[†]
Natsuki Kizu
SuBLime
February 11



Hayate the Combat Butler, Vol. 35
Kenjiro Hata
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 11



Kino's Journey: The Beautiful World, Vol. 5
Kei'ichi Sigsawa, Iruka Shiomiya, Kohaku Kuroboshi
Vertical Comics
February 11



Scarlet, Vol. 1
Chiri Yuino
Seven Seas
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February 11



Transformers: The Manga, Vol. 1 Hardcover
Masumi Kaneda, Ban Magami
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 11



Yarichin Bitch Club, Vol. 2[†]
Ogeretsu Tanaka
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February 11



Seirei Gensouki: Spirit Chronicles, Vol. 3^{††}
Yuri Kitayama, Futago Minaduki
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 12



Black Tights^{††}
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February 13



Black Tights: Deep^{††}
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FAKKU Books
February 13



Teogonia, Vol. 1^{††}
Tsukasa Tanimai, Kouichiro Kawano
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 15



After-School Bitchcraft, Vol. 1
Yu Shimizu, Kazuma Ichibara
Yen Press, LLC.
February 18
Not Actual Cover



Arifureta: From Commonplace to World's Strongest ZERO, Vol. 2
Ryō Shirakome, Ataru Kamichi
Seven Seas
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February 18



BTOOOM!: Dark, Vol. 26
Jun'ya Inoue
Yen Press, LLC.
February 18
Not Actual Cover



BTOOOM!: Light, Vol. 26
Jun'ya Inoue
Yen Press, LLC.
February 18
Not Actual Cover



Combatants Will Be Dispatched!, Vol. 2
Natsume Akatsuki, Kakao Lanthanum
Yen Press, LLC.
February 18
Not Actual Cover



Edens Zero, Vol. 6
Hiro Mashima
Kodansha Comics
February 18



FAIRY TAIL: 100 Years Quest, Vol. 3
Hiro Mashima, Atsuo Ueda
Kodansha Comics
February 18
Not Actual Cover



Goblin Slayer: Brand New Day, Vol. 2
Kumo Kagyu, Masahiro Ikeno
Yen Press, LLC.
February 18
Not Actual Cover



Golden Kamuy, Vol. 14
Satoru Noda
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 18



Greatest Magicmaster's Retirement Plan, The, Vol. 4^{††}
Izushiro, Ruria Miyuki
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 18

The information presented here is subject to change without notice. † Yaoi/yuri and †† hentai titles for mature audiences 18+. ‡ Light novel. †† digital format.

Manga & Light

Continued



How to Train Your Devil, Vol. 2

Tonchi Kataoka
Seven Seas
Entertainment
February 18



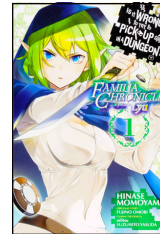
I'm a Behemoth, an S-Ranked Monster, But Mistaken for a Cat, I Live as an Elf Girl's Pet, Vol. 1

Nozomi Ginyoku,
Yanomitsuki
Yen Press, LLC.
February 18
Not Actual Cover



Interspecies Reviewers, Vol. 3

Amahara, masha
Yen Press, LLC.
February 18
Not Actual Cover



Is It Wrong to Try to Pick Up Girls in a Dungeon?: Familia Chronicle Episode Lyu, Vol. 1

Fujino Omori,
Hinase Momoyama
Yen Press, LLC.
February 18



Mobile Suit Gundam Thunderbolt, Vol. 13

Yasuo Otagaki,
Hajime Yatate,
Yoshiyuki Tomino
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 18



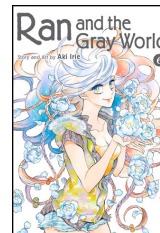
Nicola Traveling Around the Demons' World, Vol. 2

Asaya Miyayama
Seven Seas
Entertainment
February 18



Overlord à la Carte, Vol. 3

Kugane Maruyama,
Various Artists
Yen Press, LLC.
February 18
Not Actual Cover



Ran and the Gray World, Vol. 6

Aki Irie
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 18



Saiyuki, Vol. 1 Hardcover

Kazuya Minekura
Kodansha Comics
February 18



Tokyo Ghoul: re, Vol. 15

Sui Ishida
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 18



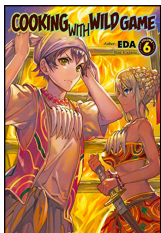
Trinity Seven: The Seven Magicians, Vol. 19

Kenji Saitō, Akinari Nao
Yen Press, LLC.
February 18
Not Actual Cover



Urusei Yatsura, Vol. 5

Rumiko Takahashi
VIZ Media, LLC.
February 18



Cooking with Wild Game, Vol. 6

EDA, Kochimo
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 22



Welcome to Japan, Ms. Elf!, Vol. 3

Makishima Suzuki,
Yappen
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 23



Tearmoon Empire, Vol. 1

Nozomu Mochitsuki, Gilse
J-Novel Club, LLC.
February 24



Ancient Magus' Bride, The, Vol. 12

Kore Yamazaki
Seven Seas
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February 25



Brave-Tuber, The, Vol. 2

Takahito Ōsaki, Ikuro
Seven Seas
Entertainment
February 25
Not Actual Cover



Hi Score Girl, Vol. 1

Rensuke Oshikiri
Square Enix Manga
February 25



In/Spectre, Vol. 11

Chasiba Katase,
Kyō Shirodaira
Kodansha Comics
February 25
Not Actual Cover



Land of the Lustrous, Vol. 10

Haruko Ichikawa
Kodansha Comics
February 25



Magus of the Library, Vol. 3

Mitsu Izumi
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February 25



Mushoku Tensei: Jobless Reincarnation, Vol. 10

Rifujin na Magonote,
Yuka Fujikawa
Seven Seas
Entertainment
February 25
Not Actual Cover



Otherworldly Izakaya Nobu, Vol. 6

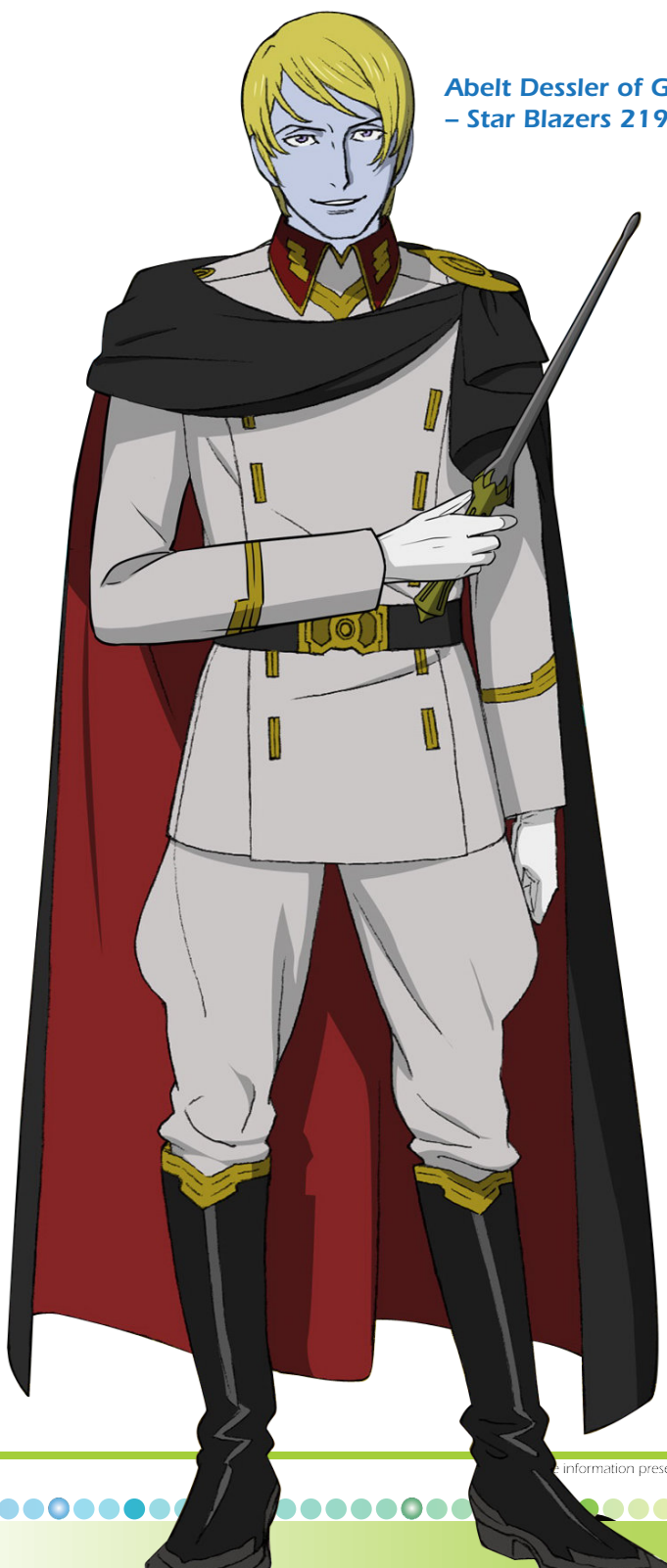
Natsuya Semikawa,
Virginia Nitōbe
Udon Entertainment
February 25



Reincarnated as a Sword, Vol. 4

Yū Tanaka, Llo
Seven Seas
Entertainment
February 25

Novels Winter 2020



Abelt Dessler of Gamilas
– Star Blazers 2199



Skeleton Knight in Another World, Vol. 4†

Ennki Hakari, KeG
Seven Seas
Entertainment
February 25



Star Blazers 2199 Omnibus, Vol. 2

Michio Murakawa,
Yoshinobu Nishizaki,
Yuki Nobuteru
Dark Horse Manga
February 25



Stravaganza, Vol. 3

Akibito Tomi
Udon Entertainment
February 25



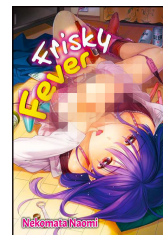
What's Michael?: Fatcat Collection, Vol. 1

Makoto Kobayashi
Dark Horse Manga
February 25



World's End Harem: Fantasia, Vol. 2

LINK, SAVAN
Ghost Ship
February 25
Not Actual Cover



Frisky Fever††

Nekomata Naomi
FAKKU Books
February 27



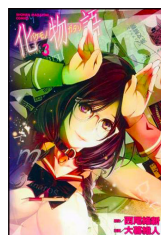
An Archdemon's Dilemma: How to Love Your Elf Bride, Vol. 4†

Fuminori Teshima,
COMTA, Hikoki
J-Novel Club, LLC.
March 3



Aria: The Masterpiece, Vol. 5

Kozue Amano
Tokyopop
March 3
Not Actual Cover



Bakemonogatari, Vol. 3

NISIOISIN, Oh! Great
Vertical Comics
March 3
Not Actual Cover



Black Clover, Vol. 20

Yuki Tabata
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3



Crest of the Stars, Vols. 1-3 Collector's Edition Imitation Leather†

Hiroyuki Morioka
J-Novel Club, LLC.
March 3
Not Actual Cover



D. Gray-man, Vol. 26

Katsura Hoshino
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3

Information presented here is subject to change without notice. † Yaoi/yuri and †† hentai titles for mature audiences 18+. ‡ Light novel. †† digital format.



Manga & Light

Continued



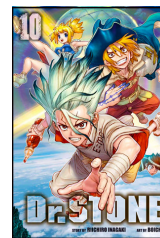
**Danganronpa:
Goodbye Despair 2,
Vol. 1**
Sucker Punch Productions
Dark Horse Manga
March 3



**Demon Prince of
Momochi House,
The, Vol. 15**
Aya Shōoto
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3



**Demon Slayer:
Kimetsu no Yaiba,
Vol. 11**
Koyoharu Gotōge
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3



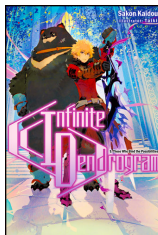
Dr. STONE, Vol. 10
Ri'ichiro Inagaki, Bo'ichi
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3



**Dragon Ball Super,
Vol. 8**
Akira Toriyama, Toyotarō
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3



Haikyuu!!, Vol. 37
Haruichi Furudate
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3



**Infinite
Dendrogram,
Vol. 5***
Sakon Kaidō, Taiki
J-Novel Club, LLC.
March 3



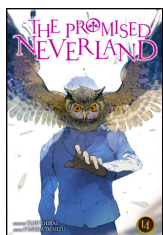
**Kaguya-sama: Love
Is War, Vol. 13**
Aka Akasaka
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3



**My Hero Academia:
School Briefs,
Vol. 4**
Anri Yoshi, Kōbei Horikoshi
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3
Not Actual Cover



**One-Punch Man,
Vol. 19**
ONE,
Yusuke Murata
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3



**Promised
Neverland, The,
Vol. 14**
Kaiu Shirai, Posuka Demizu
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3



**Samurai 8: The
Tale of Hachimaru,
Vol. 1**
Masashi Kishimoto,
Akira Okubo
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3
Not Actual Cover

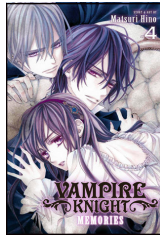


**Giyū Tomioka, Sabito,
Makomo, Sakonji Urocodaki,
Nezuko & Tanjirō Kamado
– Demon Slayer: Kimetsu
no Yaiba**

Novels Winter 2020



Snow White with the Red Hair, Vol. 6
Sorata Akiduki
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 3



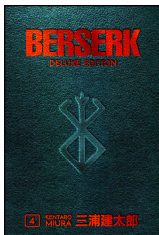
Vampire Knight: Memories, Vol. 4
Matsuri Hino
Yen Press, LLC.
March 3



Demon Lord, Retry!, Vol. 1**
Kurone Kanzaki,
Amaru Minotake
J-Novel Club, LLC.
March 4



Arifureta: I Heart Isekai, Vol. 2
Ryō Shirakome, Misaki Mori
Seven Seas
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March 10



Berserk Deluxe, Vol. 4 Hardcover
Kentarō Miura
Dark Horse Manga
March 10



Cherry Magic! Thirty Years of Virginity Can Make You a Wizard?!, Vol. 1
Yū Toyota
Square Enix Manga
March 10
Not Actual Cover



Danganronpa Another Episode: Ultra Despair Girls, Vol. 2
Spike Chunsoft,
Hajime Tōya
Dark Horse Manga
March 10
Not Actual Cover



Gigant, Vol. 1
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Seven Seas
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March 10
Not Actual Cover



My Status as an Assassin Obviously Exceeds the Hero's, Vol. 1
Matsuri Akai,
Hiroyuki Aigamo
Seven Seas
Entertainment
March 10



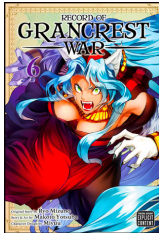
Noragami: Stray God, Vol. 21
Adachitoka
Kodansha Comics
March 10



Penguinindrum, Vol. 2
Kunihiko Ikubara,
Ikunichawder,
Isuzu Shibata,
Lily Hoshino
Seven Seas
Entertainment
March 10
Not Actual Cover



Radiant, Vol. 10
Tony Valente
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 10
Not Actual Cover



Record of Grancrest War, Vol. 6
Makoto Yotsuba,
Ryō Mizuno, Miyū
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 10



Rin-ne, Vol. 32
Rumiko Takahashi
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 10



Unwanted Undead Adventurer, The, Vol. 2**
Yū Okano, Haiji Nakasone
J-Novel Club, LLC.
March 11



Rising of the Shield Hero, The, Vol. 16
Aneko Yusagi
One Peace Books
March 15



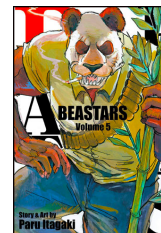
20th Century Boys: The Perfect Edition, Vol. 7
Naoki Urasawa
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 17



A Witch's Printing Office, Vol. 2
Mochinchi,
Yasuhiro Miyama
Yen Press, LLC.
March 17
Not Actual Cover



Ajin: Demi-Human, Vol. 14
Gamon Sakurai
Vertical Comics
March 17



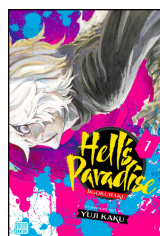
BEASTARS, Vol. 5
Paru Itagaki
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 17



Cardcaptor Sakura Collector's Edition 4 Hardcover
Clamp
Kodansha Comics
March 17
Not Actual Cover



Cocoon Entwined, Vol. 2
Yuriko Hara
Yen Press, LLC.
March 17
Not Actual Cover



Hell's Paradise: Jigokuraku, Vol. 1
Yūji Kaku
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 17



I'm Standing on a Million Lives, Vol. 6
Naoki Yamakawa,
Akinari Nao
Kodansha Comics
March 17
Not Actual Cover

The information presented here is subject to change without notice. † Yaoi/yuri and †† hentai titles for mature audiences. ISBN: light novel. ** digital format.



Manga & Light Novels

Continued



Im: Great Priest Imhotep, Vol. 2
Makoto Morishita
Yen Press, LLC.
March 17



Leviust/est, Vol. 3
Haruhisa Nakata
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 17



Mob Psycho 100, Vol. 4
ONE
Dark Horse Manga
March 17



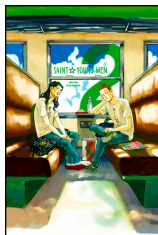
No Guns Life, Vol. 4
Tasuku Karasuma
VIZ Media, LLC.
March 17



Reborn as a Polar Bear: The Legend of How I Became a Forest Guardian, Vol. 3
Chibihiro Mishima
Yen Press, LLC.
March 17
Not Actual Cover



Saint Seiya: Saintia Shō, Vol. 9
Masami Kurumada,
Chimaki Kuori
Seven Seas
Entertainment
March 17
Not Actual Cover



Saint Young Men 2 Hardcover
Hikaru Nakamura
Kodansha Comics
March 17



So I'm a Spider, So What?, Vol. 7
Okina Baba
Yen Press, LLC.
March 17

SPECIAL MUSICAL GUEST

FEMM



That Time I Got Reincarnated as a Slime, Vol. 12
Fuse, Taiki Kawakami
Kodansha Comics
March 17
Not Actual Cover



The Girl From the Other Side: Siuul, a Rün, Vol. 8
Nagabe
Seven Seas
Entertainment
March 17



Toilet-bound Hanako-kun, Vol. 2
AidaIro
Yen Press, LLC.
March 17
Not Actual Cover



Witch Hat Atelier, Vol. 5
Kamome Shirahama
Kodansha Comics
March 17

ANIMÉ LOS ANGELES 16

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River City

リバーシティガールズ

GIRLS

熱血硬派くにおくん外伝



I was excited to hear that the people behind the Shantae series were going to make a game within the River City Ransom universe. The very first trailer for it had me incredibly hyped, so I definitely wanted to get it for review for you guys.

After spending some time with the game and beating it a few times with a friend through Shareplay (the game only has local co-op, no netplay whatsoever), I have a good grasp on the game!

!STORY

The story for *River City Girls* is quite simple; Kyoko and Misako's boyfriends, Riki and Kunio, have been beaten up and kidnapped. Wanting to be reunited with them, the girls have taken it upon themselves to track down whoever is responsible and save their boyfriends.

The story for *River City Girls* is pretty straightforward overall, the basic concept of saving someone in trouble. However, we do not get many games where girls are avidly trying to rescue

their counterparts since usually it is guys who are going after their girlfriends. A premise is usually all that is needed for a beat 'em up game to excel, but *River City Girls* has tried to go an extra step further by adding story elements into it via RPG dialogue-esque cutscenes, bits of animation during boss introductions and animated manga comic segments for explanations and backstories.

From the very beginning, we are given a manga opening sequence and are given clear direction where the story should be going. We meet up with characters later that have some idea on how to help Kyoko and Misako, but it becomes a game of "this person says this, so we should go do

River City Girls
リバーシティガールズ

September 2019
WayForward Technologies, Inc. • Arc
System Works

Platform: PC, PlayStation 4, Nintendo
Switch, Xbox One

Genre: Fighting

<https://www.kuniokun.jp/rcg/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_City_Girls

Producer: David White
Glenn Seidel
Takaomi Kaneko

Artist: Priscilla Hamby
Valeriya Sanchilo

Rating ESRB: E

this.” There are never really times where you discover anything that someone has not said (such as finding clues), in order to progress the story along. *River City Girls* is made out to be comical but does not pack enough actual humor into it to account for a lack of a thrilling story direction.

The ending to *River City Girls* makes the game feel like it was entirely pointless; while I know it is meant to be comical, it feels empty and unrewarding. I wish that they had handled the story better to give bigger build-up and a better payoff, but it is what it is. I feel many people will not care for the lackluster ending and it really took away from the entire experience.

MECHANICS

All of the game’s mechanics are pretty straightforward and to the point. The revival ability is HILARIOUS, the fact you have to forcibly put their soul back into their body is definitely one of the better ways to do. Also I have no problem with being able to enhance yourself via accessories.

The bad side of mechanics however, seem to outweigh the good of it. Shops having “???” for their description until you buy and try something makes ZERO sense. You would never buy something without having a description of it, even worse is the fact you cannot even see a summary of its abilities until after you use it (even if you bought it).

One of the main mechanic problems of the game are the doors to go into the next area. In order to traverse to the next location you have to push (Ⓢ), but if you are busy mashing it to take down enemies you may accidentally exit into the next place. I think they should make this one of the shoulder buttons instead, map it to one that will ONLY be pushed when you are actually trying to get into the next area to avoid these types of problems.

- **Combat:** You have light attacks (Ⓢ), heavy attacks (Ⓢ), special attacks (Ⓢ), and the ability to jump (Ⓢ). You have the ability to grab dizzied enemies by walking into them, pummel on them with Square, and then toss them. You can also block (R1) and even parry by timing your block perfectly and leaving you at an advantage to strike. You also have the ability to

stomp downed enemies.

Additional moves are unlocked and also become available for purchase at Dojos once your level increases.

- **Dojo:** A place where new moves can be acquired as a person levels up and acquires new abilities. Prices vary and features additional combo moves, special attacks, and launchers.

- **Revival:** You are able to resurrect your downed teammate by standing over their dead body and literally stomp their soul back into their bodies with Ⓢ.

- **Money:** Money is gained from defeating enemies, completing bonus objectives, and finishing off certain areas. They are used to purchase Health/Enhancement items, Accessories, and additional moves at Dojos. Money is halved when you die (without being resurrected).


- **Accessories:** These are purchased in shops or are gained from defeating bosses. They provide different stat bonuses or abilities that enhance your combat prowess or rewards (example: 5% damage against male enemies).

- **Shops:** Places where you are able to purchase new Accessories or Food Items. They vary in effect and price, and most of their abilities are unknown until they are actually purchased and then used.

GAMEPLAY

Here we are, the meat and potatoes of the *River City Girls* game. I will say that the gameplay, as a beat 'em up, is actually pretty good, but not the greatest. Being able to combo people with a variety of moves and abilities is certainly something I want to see from more games of this nature. However, I do feel a few things were poorly executed in some areas, but the effect they made is quite noticeable.

River City Girls suffers from having pretty much one optimal combo path or route to do damage or to repeatedly stun characters so you can grab them, pummel, throw and get a knockdown attack. I played Kyoko, and she certainly seems to be able to do a lot more than the rest of the cast (such as a grounded combo, into a launcher, an aerial attack into an



air special move). Something like this for everyone would have been great, but it seems as though the most will be a few hits into a move, which is actually fine for a beat 'em up but their appearance would suggest more.

One thing I do not like is how I cannot grab an opponent without them being stunned. Grabbing someone and slinging them into a group of enemies is useful, also you may simply want to finish an enemy without worrying about them blocking and counter attacking. Most other beat 'em up style games allow you to grab someone automatically by just walking into them.

Also, team-up moves or fancy moves in general from wall bounces or launchers are hard to time and pull off. Being on the same line as someone to set up a dual attack attack is so-so; I would have preferred a better juggling system to allow for some pretty dynamic combos between coordinated players.

Weapons within this game are also an issue, a big one. Most of the weapons within this game are single-hit knockdowns and I feel as though they do not do enough damage, finishing off an opponent slower than if you were to go at them hard with a combo. Throwing anything in this game has a chance for you to damage yourself if you're too close where it bounces off, you can even hit your co-op partner's character (even with Friendly Fire Off). I find that weapons in this game are just not worth it to pick up half-the-time unless your life is low and you want to take the extra boring approach and knock an enemy down four or five times to finally defeat them so you can find an health shop.

Speaking of health, it does not drop nearly often enough within this game. Most of the time you are going to get health items are the few vending machines that you have to break, or by buying them within the shops. I find that *River City Girls* is more than stingy in its approach to free health items (at least in co-op), which is bad considering if you do not save your co-op partner their money will be split in half. Sure, they can come back with full health whenever you go to the next screen, but you need that money for Dojo moves.

Something else I want to note, which might be

a bug, is Kyoko's "Spike" move. It is supposed to be (△+⊙) in the air, but instead we keep getting the Cammy-esque Canon Drill move. I have managed to pull off Spike, but only from going directly from her (↓+△), Jumping, and then doing it. So either this move can only be pulled off directly another move, or maybe it is the apex of the jump. Whatever it is, Way-Forward should either specify it or give us the ability to map a button for (△+⊙) so it reads correctly.

Though, something I want to point out to leave here on a positive note is the homage to classic fighting games. You have moves that mimic multiple fighting game characters and mechanics, such as *Street Fighter III: Third Strike*'s parry, Chun-Li's Lightning Legs/Spinning Bird Kick, Cammy's Canon Spike, and even K' from *The King of Fighters* desperation move where he throws his shades and proceeds to combo.

MUSIC

River City Girls features music from NatesWants-ToBattle, Chipzel, Christina Vee and some more people. Honestly, the regular music for *River City Girls* is not that memorable when you compare it to something along the lines of *Scott Pilgrim v. The World the Game*. Even the music with lyrics (such as "Bully"), is great, but does not really fit this type of atmosphere. To be fair, I have listened to a few of the vocal tracks when working on other things because it is great music, but unfortunately it feels as though it would have been better if it were more suited to a beat 'em up.

I feel that better choices within music would have made the game a lot more enjoyable. Seeing as Arc System Works oversaw this game, I figured they would have had some input since they are so well known for creating great music, but perhaps they just looked at the fighting aspects of it.

NEW GAME+

Finishing off the game unlocks an option for New Game+ (among other things). I figured that I would play through this mode to see if anything changed, and sadly, nothing really did. Enemies are suppose to be tougher (i.e., hit harder and more life), but I did

not notice too much of a difference (aside from late game enemies appearing near the beginning this time around). I felt like New Game+ just did not have any bells and whistles that would make another play-through all that more exciting.

A few issues with New Game+ did arise that were not in the normal game however. On the in-game map, you can pull up in the menu and are able to see locations you have not been to yet (grey), places you have been (light purple), and little icons indicating if there are bus stops or shops there. When you begin anew, you have to get access back to all the places you unlocked (which is not an issue), but everywhere on the map is light purple like you have been to them already. This means that you have to guess and remember places you have not been to yet on this play-through since you cannot tell at a glance since it keeps the areas you once visited within the first play-through. Thankfully a red exclamation point shows up in areas that needs an objective completed, but that does not help with making sure you have visited all places within a certain area.

THE VERDICT HALF AND HALF

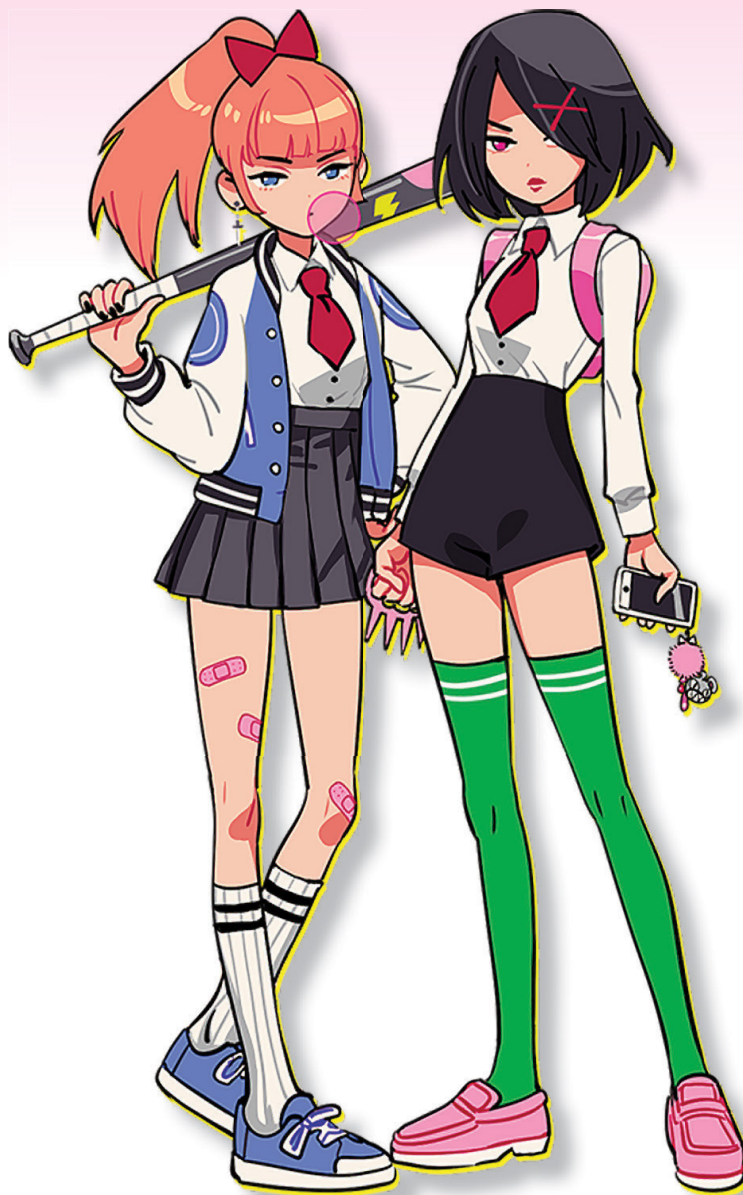
STRENGTHS: Fun gameplay, beautiful aesthetic, decent beat 'em up, great music (vocal songs).

WEAKNESSES: Weapon items are bad, story is a bust, combat is lacking some flare, the music with vocals do not fit this game, and New Game+ feels the same (low replay value).

FINAL IMPRESSIONS

River City Girls was a game I was crazily excited about, however, I feel like it did not live up to that potential. It was a fun beat'em up for the hours it did take me to beat it, but I felt like it was missing so many elements to the combat, story and music that I cannot rightfully recommend it without cautioning you on how lackluster it feels. Do not get me wrong,

many people are in love with this game due to their love of beat 'em up, the cutesy nature of Kyoko and Misako, and just the overall nostalgia of the River City Ransom series. However, I do not think that is enough to tide over those who want to be able to play this game for days on end, as I believe it lacks the beat 'em up replayability of something like *Charlie Murder*. At the end of the day, I believe that \$30 for this game is asking a bit too much for the lack of content and online playability; I feel like this game would look much more attractive if the price was set at \$20. ♦ **Rok the Reaper**





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Discotek Media

Blu-ray • \$69⁹⁵ MSRP

KILL la KILL:

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Aniplex of America

Blu-ray • \$119⁹⁸ MSRP

January 7

A Certain Magical Index III, Part 2

Funimation

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BERSERK (2016 & 2017):

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Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray • \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

Black Clover: Season 2, Part 2

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$54⁹⁸ MSRP

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Blu-ray • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

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Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Pokémon: DP - Battle Dimension:

Complete Season

VIZ Media

DVD • \$44⁹⁸ MSRP • Dub

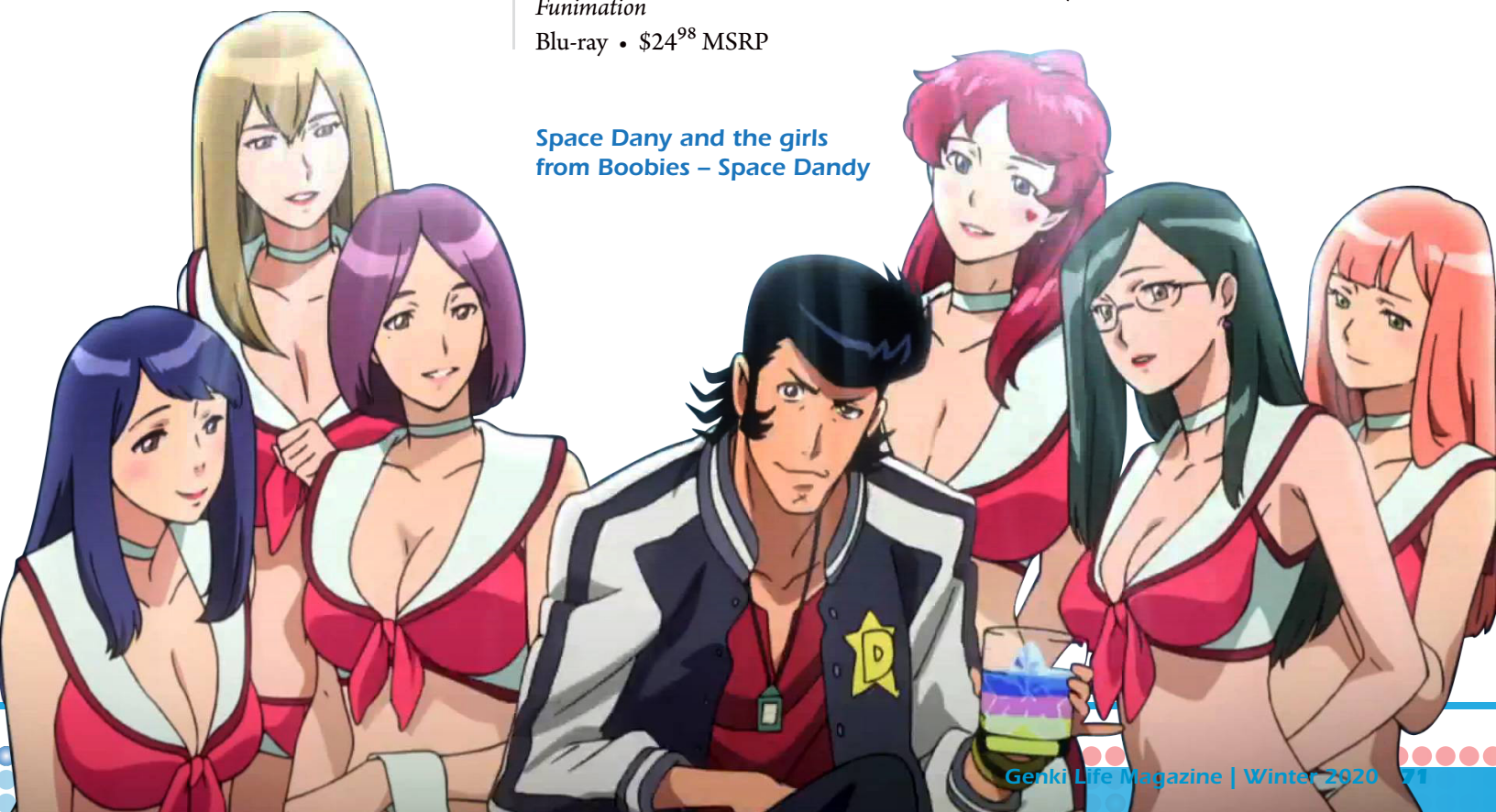
Space Dandy:

Complete Collection (Classics)

Funimation

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Space Dandy and the girls
from Boobies – Space Dandy





DVD & Blu-ray

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Sentai Filmworks

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Funimation

Blu-ray • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP

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Crunchyroll/Funimation

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ZOMBIE LAND SAGA: Season 1 Collection (LE)

Crunchyroll/Funimation

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Sacchū, Tamara
Volkova, Mia
Cyrus, Kurumi
Mugen &
Asuka Ōtori
– Magical Girl
Spec-Ops Asuka

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Funimation

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Dragon Ball Super, Part 10

Funimation

DVD • \$39⁹⁸ MSRP

GAMERS!: Complete Collection (Essentials)

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP

Knight's & Magic: Complete Collection (Essentials)

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP

Magical Girl Spec-Ops Asuka: Complete Collection

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

The Price of Smiles: Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

January 21

Alice & Zoroku: Complete Collection (Essentials)

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP



BORUTO - NARUTO NEXT GENERATIONS: Set 4

VIZ Media

Blu-ray • \$44⁹⁸ MSRP

BORUTO: NARUTO NEXT GENERATIONS: Set 4

VIZ Media

DVD • \$39⁹⁸ MSRP

D-FRAG!:

Complete Collection (Essentials)

Funimation

Blu-ray • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP

Monster Musume: Everyday Life with Monster Girls: Complete Collection (SteelBook CE)

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray • \$99⁹⁸ MSRP

No Game, No Life: Complete Collection (SteelBook CE)

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray • \$99⁹⁸ MSRP

Summer Days with Coo

GKIDS/Shout! Factory

Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$26⁹⁹ MSRP • Sub

The Morose Mononokean II: Complete Collection

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

January 28

-Zoku Owarimonogatari-: Set (LE)

Aniplex of America

Blu-ray • \$74⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

BoogiePop and Others: Complete Collection

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Concrete Revolutio: Complete Collection (Essentials)

Funimation

Blu-ray • \$34⁹⁸ MSRP

JoJo's Bizarre Adventure: Set 5

VIZ Media

DVD • \$39⁹⁹ MSRP

JoJo's Bizarre Adventure: Set 5 (LE)

VIZ Media

Blu-ray • \$69⁹⁹ MSRP

Saiyuki Reload Blast: Complete Collection (Essentials)

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP

SSSS.GRIDMAN: Complete Collection

Funimation

Blu-ray • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

SSSS.GRIDMAN: Complete Collection (LE)

Funimation

Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$84⁹⁸ MSRP

Tsugumomo: Complete Collection (Essentials)

Crunchyroll/Funimation

Blu-ray • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP

Tsurune: Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray • \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

Tsurune: Complete Collection (LE)

Sentai Filmworks

Blu-ray • \$99⁹⁸ MSRP

February 4

A.D. Police:

To Protect and Serve (SD)

Right Stuf/Nozomi Entertainment

Blu-ray • \$29⁹⁹ MSRP

February 11

Beyblade Burst Turbo: Complete Collection

Cinedigm

DVD • \$24⁹⁷ MSRP • Dub

February 18

Hunter x Hunter (2011): Set 7

VIZ Media

Blu-ray • \$49⁹⁹ MSRP

Hunter x Hunter (2011): Set 7

VIZ Media

DVD • \$39⁹⁹ MSRP

Kaguya-sama: Love is War: Season 1 Blu-ray Set

Aniplex of America

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Those Who Have Passed



Ichihara, Etsuko

Seiyū

January 24, 1926 Chiba

January 12, 2019 Tōkyō

Cyborg 0010 - *Cyborg 009 Kaishū Sensō* (1967)

Granny - *Miyori no Mori* (2007)

Miyamizu, Hitoha - *Kimi no Na wa.* (2016)



Yoshino, Takumi

Light Novel Author

NA

February 20, 2019

Rain (2005)

Bōkyaku no Haō Roland (2010)

Rain Gaiden Vampire Master (2012)



Maeghan Albach

Voice Actress

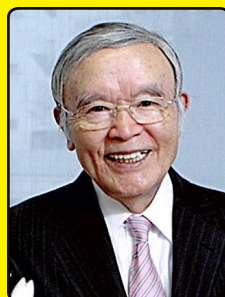
May 21, 1974 San Antonio, TX

January 22, 2019

Kyoya Fangirl - *Ouran High School Host Club* (2006)

Aono, Kasumi - *Rosario + Vampire* (2008)

Galuna Demon - *Fairy Tail* (2009)



Satō, Yasuta

Company Founder

1925 Fukushima

February 26, 2019

TAKARA Co., Ltd. (Satō Vinyl Industries, Ltd.) (1955)



Sakuya

Light Novel Author

NA

January 27, 2019

Cut & Paste de Kono Sekai de Ikiteiru (2016)



Shiraishi, Fuyumi

Seiyū

October 14, 1936 Beijing, China

March 28, 2019 Tōkyō

Yowai, Totoko - *Osomatsu-kun* (1966)

Hoshi, Akiko - *Kyojin no Hoshi* (1968)

Yashima, Mirai - *Kidō Senshi Gundam* (1979)



Arimoto, Kinryū

Seiyū

February 11, 1941 Tottori

February 1, 2019

Edward Newgate/Whitebeard - *One Piece* (1999)

Nakajima, Raizō - *Macross Zero* (2002)

Masaoka, Tomomi - *Psycho-Pass* (2012)



wowaka

Musician/Producer

November 4, 1897 Kagoshima

April 5, 2019

Mahō Shōjo Madoka Magica (2011) ED

Hitorie (2011) band

Divine Gate (2016) OP



Oniyazu, Kakashi

Artist/Mangaka

March 16

February 2, 2019

Pantser Princess (2009)

Banana no Nana (2010)

Tatoe Hai ni Natte mo (2015)



James D. Hudnall

Writer

April 10, 1957 Santa Rosa

April 9, 2019

Silent Möbius (1988)

Macross II (1993)

Golgo 13 (2006)

Note: Japanese titles are given to the Japanese artists and English titles for Western artists for their works.

Those Who Have Passed



Monkey Punch (Katō, Kazuhiko)

Creator/Writer

May 26, 1937 Hamanaka, Akkeshi, Hokkaidō
April 11, 2019
Lupin the 3rd (1967)
Cinderella Boy (2003)
Gundō Musashi (2006)



Fujimoto, Yuzuru

Seiyū

September 24, 1035 Tōkyō
June 10, 2019
Kojima - *Kidō Senshi Gundam: Dai 08 MS Shōtai* (1996)
Endō, Daisuke - *Inazuma Eleven* (2008)
Uranus - *Appleseed* (2004)



Kawakubo, Kiyoshi

Seiyū

November 18, 1929 Yokohama
April 16, 2019
Quincy - *Bubblegum Crisis* (1987)
Fuyubachi - *Mōsō Dairinin* (2004)
Guame - *Tengen Toppa Gurren Lagann* (2007)



Yousuke@HOME (Miyuchi, Yōsuke)

Musician/Song Writer

1982
June 20, 2019
Hakuto Pascal (2013) band



Koike, Kazuo

Creator/Writer

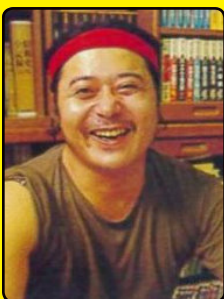
May 8, 1936 Akita
April 17, 2019
Kozure Ōkami (1970)
Crying Freeman (1986)
Shura Yukihime (2001)



Ishida, Naomi

Colorist

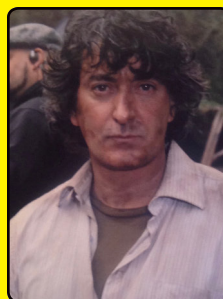
1970
July 18, 2019 Kyōto
Inuyasha (2000)
Suzumiya Haruhi no Yūutsu (2006)
Koe no Katachi (2016)



Ogino, Makoto

Mangaka

May 26, 2019 Gifu
April 29, 2019
Kujakuō (1985)
Yashagarasu (1994)
Kenjūshin (2000)



Peter Kelamis

Actor/Voice Actor

December 11, 1967 Sydney, Australia
July 23, 2019 Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
Son Gokū - *Dragon Ball Z: Dead Zone* (1990)
Canada
Tataka, Shuichi - *Key the Metal Idol* (1994)
Wing Saber - *Transformers: Cybertron* (2005)



Pua Magasiva

Actor

August 10, 1980 Apia, Samoa
May 11, 2019, Wellington, New Zealand
Shane Clarke (Red Wind Ranger) - *Power Rangers Ninja Storm* (2003)



Shimaka, Yū (Shimaka, Yutaka)

Seiyū

May 6, 1945 Nagano
July 28, 2019
Mikhail Kaminsky - *Kidō Senshi Gundam 0080: Pocket no Naka no Sensō* (1989)
Senba, Ryōga - *Code Geass: Hangyaku no Lelouch* (2006)
Valke Shultz - *Uchū Senkan Yamato 2199* (2012)



Kiriyama, Taichi

Mangaka/Character Designer

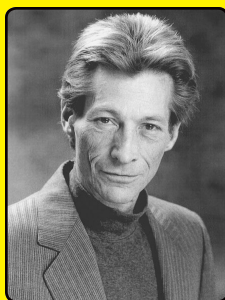
NA

July 2019

MAID in HEAVEN SuperS (1998)

Sexfriend (2003)

Sweet Home ~H na Onee-san wa Suki Desu ka?~ (2011)



Robert Axelrod

Voice Actor

May 29, 1949 New York, NY

September 7, 2019 Los Angeles, CA

Lord Zedd - *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers* (1993)

Dr. Sane - *Farewell Space Battleship Yamato* (2007)

Dr. Zero - *Space Pirate Captain Harlock* (2012)



Morinaga, Ai

Mangaka

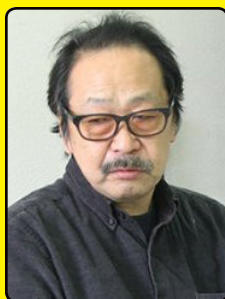
April 28

August 2, 2019

Yamada Taro Monogatari (1996)

Boku to Kanojo no XXX (2002)

Kirara no Hoshi (2010)



Azuma, Hideo

Mangaka

February 6, 1950 Urahoro, Hokkaidō

October 13, 2019

Nanako SOS (1980)

Ochamegami Monogatari Korokoro Poron (1982)

Shissō Nikki (2005)



Nakamura, Kazuko (Katō, Kazuko)

Animator

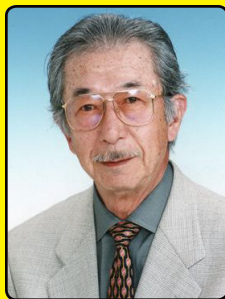
1933

August 3, 2019

The Big O II (1999)

APHENTO ΣOMA (2000)

Boruto: Naruto Next Generations (2017)



Nakamura, Tadashi

Seiyū

December 24, 1929 Aichi

November 11, 2019

Kōmei, Shokatsuryō - *Giant Robo* (1992)

Quincy Rosenkroitz - *Bubblegum Crisis: Tokyo 2040* (1998)

Theo Argent - *Lupin III: Tōhō Kenbunroku ~Another Page~* (2012)



Sonoda, Konami

Mangaka

May 3, 1977 Hyōgo

August 4, 2019

Choco Mimi (2003)



Takiguchi, Yukihiro

Actor

May 29, 1985 Chiba

November 13, 2019

Ōishi, Shūichirō - *Tennis no Ōji-sama* (2006) Musical

Hayase, Akira - *Kamen Rider Drive* (2014)

Miroku - *Inuyasha* (2017) Musical



Michael Lindsay (Dylan Tully)

Voice Actor

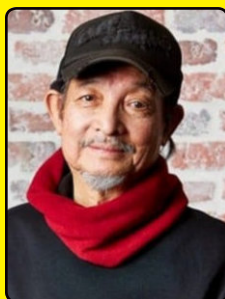
May 9, 1963 Washington, D.C.

August 31, 2019

Matsūra, Yū - *Marmalade Boy* (1994)

Amuro Ray - *Mobile Suit Gundam - The Movie Trilogy* (2002)

Urahara, Kisuke - *Bleach* (2006)



Inoue, Makio

Seiyū

November 30, 1940 Yamanashi

November 29, 2020

Captain Harlock - *Ginga Tetsudo 999* (1970)

Hanagata, Mitsuru - *Shin Kyojin no Hoshi* (1977)

Ishikawa, Goemon - *Lupin III: Part III* (1984)

LANGRISSER I&II

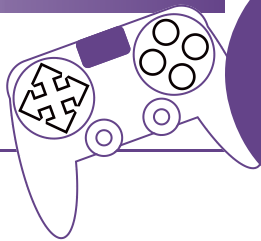


Coming March 10



PS4





Console & Desktop Gaming

Winter 2020

December 23, 2019

Down to Hell

Red Dev Studio • Ultimate Games
T • Action, Arcade, Fighting, Role-Playing • Switch

DreamBall

JanduSoft
E • Arcade, Multiplayer, Party, Sports • Switch

Mushroom Quest

Drageus Games S.A.
E • Board Game, Strategy, Puzzle • Switch

Rush Rally 3

Brownmonster Limited
E • Racing, Simulation, Sports • Switch

December 24, 2019

Drawnleon: Dungeons of Ink and Paper

Drageus Games S.A.
T • Action, Adventure, Role-Playing • Switch

Funny Bunny Adventures

Drageus Games S.A.
E • Action, Adventure, Arcade, Puzzle • Switch

December 25, 2019

8-Ball Pocket

SuperPowerUpGames
E • Arcade, Multiplayer, Simulation, Sports • Switch

Barbarous: Tavern of Emyr

SQRT3 • QubicGames
T • Adventure, Simulation, Strategy, Lifestyle • Switch

Demon Pit

Psychic Software, DoomCube • Digerati Games
T • Shooter • Switch, Xbox1

Oniken: Unstoppable Edition & Odallus: The Dark Call Bundle

Digerati Games
T • Platformer, Arcade, Action, Adventure • Switch

Straimium Immortaly

Anthony Case • Caiysware
M • Action, Arcade, Platformer • Switch, Xbox1

Tamashii

Digerati Games
M • Arcade, Puzzle • Switch

XenoRaptor

Digerati Games
E • Action, Arcade • Switch

December 26, 2019

Akuto: Showdown

Hut 90 • QubicGames
T • Action, Arcade, Fighting, Party • Switch

The Clocker

E-Home Entertainment
Development Co., LTD • indienova
E • Puzzle, Trivia • Xbox1

December 29, 2019

Big Pharma

Positech Games • Klabater
M • Simulation, Strategy • Switch, Xbox1

Chaos on Deponia

Daedalic Entertainment
T • Adventure • Switch

EarthNight

Cleaversoft
NA • Action, Adventure • PS4

Gungrave G.O.R.E.

Iggymob • Blueside
M • Action, Shooter, Third-Person • PS4

Cheni Quartz Angel
– Gungrave G.O.R.E.





Console & Desk

Continued

Slime-san: Creator

Fabraz, David Laskey • Headup
NA • Action, Adventure, Indie • PC

Spirit Roots

FredBear Game Ltd • Drageus Games S.A.
E • Action, Adventure, Arcade, Platformer • PC

January 9

Monster Hunter World: Iceborne

Capcom Co., Ltd.
T • Action, Role-Playing • PC

January 14

Atelier Dusk Trilogy Deluxe Pack

Koei Tecmo Games Co. Ltd. • Gust Co. Ltd.
T • Role-Playing • PC, PS4, Switch

Super Mega Space Blaster Special Turbo

Bare Knuckle Development
E • Action, Arcade, Multiplayer • PS4, Switch

January 16

Maitetsu: Pure Station

CIRCLE Entertainment
T • Adventure • Switch

To the Moon

Freebird Games
NA • Role-Playing, Adventure • Switch

January 17

Dragon Ball Z: Kakarot

CyberConnect2 • Bandai Namco Entertainment Inc.
NA • Action, Role-Playing • PC, PS4, Xbox1

Tokyo Mirage Sessions #FE Encore

Nintendo Co., Ltd.
T • Role-Playing • Switch

January 21

Mega Man Zero/ZX Legacy Collection

Capcom Co., Ltd.
T • Action, Platformer • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

Moons of Madness

Rock Pocket Games • Funcom Oslo A/S
M • Adventure • PS4, Xbox1

Psikyo Shooting Stars Alpha

City Connection • NIS America, Inc.
E • Shooter • Switch

Psikyo Shooting Stars Alpha: Limited Edition

City Connection • NIS America, Inc.
E • Shooter • Switch

Rune Factory 4 Special: Archival Edition

Marvelous USA, Inc. • XSEED Games,
Marvelous USA, Inc.
NA • Action, Role-Playing • Switch

January 23

Final Fantasy Crystal Chronicles: Remastered Edition

Square Enix Holdings Co., Ltd.
NA • Action, Role-Playing • PS4, Switch

Rugby 20

Eko Software • Bigben Interactive S.A.
E • Sports • PC, PS4, Xbox1

January 24

Commandos 2: HD Remaster

Yippee! Entertainment, Pyro Studios •
Kalypso Media Digital
T • Strategy • PC

January 28

Effie

Inverge Studios
T • Action, Adventure, Casual, Indie • PC

Journey to the Savage Planet

Typhoon Studios • 505 Games
NA • Adventure, Action • PC, PS4, Xbox1

January 31

AO Tennis 2

Big Ant Studios • Bigben Interactive S.A.
E • Sports • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

Wizardry: The Labyrinth of Lost Souls

ACQUIRE Corp. • XSEED Games,
Marvelous USA, Inc.
T • Adventure • PC

February 4

Life is Strange 2 Collector's Edition

Dontnod Entertainment • Square Enix Holdings Co., Ltd.
M • Adventure • PC, PS4, Xbox1

Monster Jam Steel Titans

Rainbow Studios • THQ Nordic GmbH
E • Racing, Simulation, Sports • Switch

Zombie Army 4: Dead War

Rebellion
M • Shooter • PC, PS4, Xbox1

February 8

Monster Energy Supercross: The Official Videogame 2

Milestone S.r.l.
T • Racing, Sports • PC, PS4, Stadia, Switch, Xbox1

February 11

Ori and the Will of the Wisps

Moon Studios • Xbox Game Studios
NA • Platform, Adventure, Metroidvania • PC, Xbox1

The Yakuza Remastered Collection: Day One Edition

Ryu Ga Gotoku Studio • Sega Games Co., Ltd
M • Action • PS4

Yakuza 5

(The Yakuza Remastered Collection)

Ryu Ga Gotoku Studio • Sega Games Co., Ltd
M • Action • PS4



February 14

Best Friend Forever

Starcolt • Alliance

T • Role-Playing, Simulation, Indie • PC, Switch

Darksiders Genesis

THQ Nordic GmbH

T • Action • PS4, Switch, Xbox1

Railway Empire:

Nintendo Switch™ Edition

Gaming Minds Studios • Kalypso Media Group

E • Simulation, Strategy • Switch

Snack World:

The Dungeon Crawl: Gold

LEVEL-5

T • Role-Playing • Switch

WARRIORS OROCHI 4 Ultimate

Koei Tecmo Games Co. Ltd.

T • Action • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

February 20

Devil May Cry 3: Special Edition

Capcom Co., Ltd.

M • Action • Switch

Under Night In-Birth Exe:Late[cl-r]

French-Bread, Arc System Works Co., Ltd. •

Aksys Games

T • Fighting • PS4, Switch

February 25

Mega Man Zero/ ZX Legacy Collection

Capcom Co., Ltd.

T • Action, Platformer • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

February 28

Ciel Fledge:

A Daughter Raising Simulator

Studio Namaapa • Ciel Fledge: A Daughter

Raising Simulator

NA • Simulation • PC, Switch

Marvel's Iron Man VR

Camouflaj • Sony Interactive Entertainment

T • Action, Adventure • PVR

One-Punch Man:

A Hero Nobody Knows

Spike Chunsoft Co. Ltd. • Bandai Namco Entertainment Inc.

NA • Action, Fighting • PC, PS4, Xbox1

Romance of the Three Kingdoms XIV

Koei Tecmo Games Co. Ltd.

NA • Simulation, Strategy • PC, PS4

February 29

Conglomerate 451

RuneHeads • 1C

Entertainment

NA • Role-Playing • PC

Overpass

Maximum Games • Bigben Interactive S.A.

NA • Racing • PC, PS4, Stadia, Switch, Xbox1

March 3

Final Fantasy VII Remake

Square Enix Holdings Co., Ltd.

NA • Role-Playing • PS4

March 10

Langrisser I & II

NIS America, Inc. • Chara-Ani

T • Role-Playing • PC, PS4, Switch

March 13

Nioh 2

Koei Tecmo Games Co. Ltd., Team Ninja •

Sony Interactive Entertainment

NA • Action, Role-Playing • PS4

**Aerith Gainsborough,
Tifa Lockhart,
Cloud Strife
& Barret Wallace
– Final Fantasy VII Remake**





Console & Desktop Gaming

Continued

March 17

MLB The Show 20

SIE San Diego Studio • Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC
NA • Sports • PS4

March 19

Fairy Tail

Gust Co. Ltd. • Koei Tecmo Games Co. Ltd.
NA • Role-Playing • PC, PS4, Switch

March 20

Animal Crossing: New Horizons

Nintendo Co., Ltd.
NA • Simulation • Switch

Doom 64

id Software, Nightdive Studios • Bethesda Softworks LLC
M • Action, First-Person • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

Doom Eternal

id Software, Nightdive Studios • Bethesda Softworks LLC
M • Shooter • PC, PS4, Xbox1

Role-Playing Maker MV

Kadokawa Games • NIS America, Inc.
E • Role-Playing • PS4, Switch

March 24

Bleeding Edge

Ninja Theory
T • Action • PC, Xbox1

Kasumi Shitorizawa of the Phantom Thief – Persona 5: The Royal

March 27

One Piece: Pirate Warriors 4

Koei Tecmo Games Co. Ltd. • Bandai Namco Entertainment Inc.
T • Action • PC, PS4, Switch, Xbox1

March 30

Half-Life: Alyx

Valve
NA • Shooter • PC

R.B.I. Baseball 20

MLB Advanced Media
E • Sports • PS4, Switch, Xbox1

March 31

Persona 5: The Royal

Atlus Co., Ltd. • Atlus Co., Ltd., Sega Games Co., Ltd.
NA • Role-Playing • PS4

April 3

Aeolis Tournament

Beyond Fun Studio
NA • Action, Casual, Indie, Sports • PC, Switch

April 16

Cyberpunk 2077

CD PROJEKT S.A.
NA • Role-playing • PC, PS4, Stadia, Xbox1

April 24

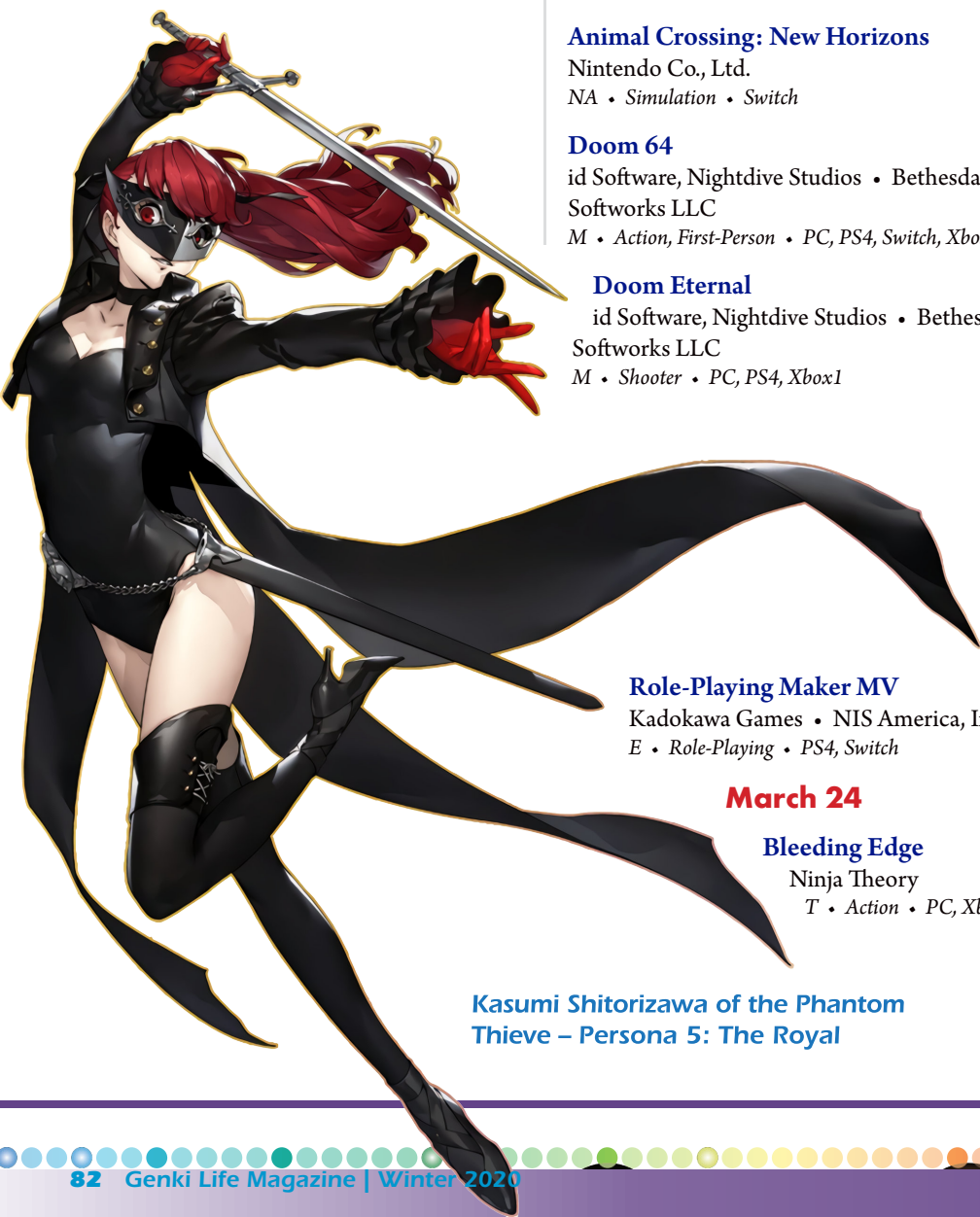
Trials of Mana

Square Enix Holdings Co., Ltd.
T • Action, Adventure, Role-Playing • PC, PS4, Switch

May 15

Marvel's Avengers

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



ファミリー アニメフェスタ 2020

おいでよ、アニメの輪の中へ!
みんなのダイスキが集まる場所!

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Manga Preview:

Criminale!



Ichimura, Tamito

A natural born victim and the main protagonist. His crime and victim awareness is high. He has terrible social skills and awkward.



Komori, Hinako

A stalker. She's not the pervert type, but has the ability to reflect on her own behaviors and return to common sense.



Christie Sarah Tsukiko

Hinako's best friend of mixed blood and a hitman. She's a very calm and composed person which comes from a long line of assassins.



Momozono, Momoka

She has the habit of "indecent assaults," violating her prey against their will. Can't tolerate love stories and dirty jokes.

Criminale!

by

Mizuiro, Suimin (水色すいみん)

Tamito Ichimura, is a criminal magnet. Ever since he could remember he had attracted criminals from kidnappers kidnapping him when he was just a newborn to robbers stealing his toys. He is determined to start a new life and make new friends after moving into a new city. At the start of the day, he was bombarded by all sorts of crime. After encountering a knife wielding killer in broad daylight, he saves a young girl that coincidentally belongs to the same class as he does. But something seems off about this girl and his new class too. It seems like our protagonist's magnetic pull on crime and criminals is getting stronger. He find out that he belongs to a class of criminals and suspects.

Here's a preview of the first 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.

Criminale!
(Criminale!)
クリミナーレ!
Shogakukan • Ura Sunday
July 2015 – May 2017 • 4 Volumes
https://csbs.shogakukan.co.jp/book?book_group_id=11155
Author: Mizuiro, Suimin
Genre: Action, Drama, Romance, Comedy, Harem, Adventure, Shōnen
Format: Softcover/Manga
Price: ¥552 MSRP each volume plus tax

Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

CRIMINALS!

Stop
Reading
Here



Start Reading Here

Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.



CRIMINALS!

Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

CRIMINAL!

Stop
Reading
Here



Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

AH... THINK SO.

ARE..... YOU OKAY ...!?

tremble tremble

drop

PIYO PIYO PIYO PIYO IT ...

HURTS

P!

BECAUSE THIS ALWAYS HAPPENS ...

!?



Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

CRIMINAL!

**Stop
Reading
Here**



Start Reading Here

Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

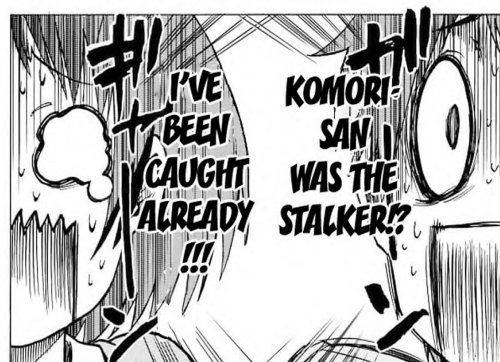
CRIMINALS!



Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

CRIMINAL!

Stop Reading Here





-She's speaking in a dialect, but I'm not sure how to translate that into English.



Start Reading Here

Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

CRIMINALE!

Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

CRIMINAL!

Stop
Reading
Here



CRIMINAL



**Start
Reading
Here**

Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.



**This concludes our preview of
"Criminale!"**

**This manga is available at
Kinokuniya Bookstores**

www.kinokuniya.com

or at

your local Japanese manga retailer.

CRIMINALE!

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G E O F F P A S C U A L

Pascual

Japanese Don't Care About Puritans!

For quite some time now, American society is becoming askewed. Although, our country was founded by freedom on speech, a few, but vocal minority are trying to put a stop to that. Not entirely thought. But attacking people who have views that are not socially and culturally progressive. Views that oppose their own and not the majority. They're the social justice warriors... SJWs, NPCs (liberals who don't think for themselves and go with the flow) or Puritans, as most people call them now.

From their point of view, they feel that they're doing right. Is it not a good thing that American society progresses forward with civil rights, multiculturalism and all the "isms" out there. I do believe that we are moving forward. The reality... it doesn't happen quickly and that's what Puritans are attempting and want to happen. There's an old saying that "people don't change overnight." It takes generations of change and it goes both ways. There are many things now in society that are accepted not that was not years ago and vice versa.

It's one thing that be vocal about one's own country. culture and society, but another country? Really? Puritans are now attempting to invade other countries with their own views. It's one thing to try to impose your own personal views on your own country, but to impose those views on another country's culture and society that's vastly different for your own?

Over the past few years, Puritans have been making attempts into pushing their own (Western... usually American) views and agenda on Japanese culture and pop culture... especially the otaku culture. Here are a few examples of the different types of otaku culture they complain about. Most of the complaints made by Puritans happen to be about female animated characters having

Manga cover of Yūna Yunohara in Shōnen Jump.

The most publicized of

these "controversies" is the use of fictional character, Uzaki-chan of the anime *Uzaki-chan wa Asobitai!* (*Uzaki-chan Wants to Hang Out!*) in a Japanese Red Cross blood drive. The problem Puritans have with this is the fact the character on the poster is a character with big breasts. They believe that have such an over-sexualized character for a blood drive is inappropriate and demeaning to women. Well, the Japanese Red Cross does this all the time in conjunction with anime companies. They never saw this as problem and had a successful blood drive.

Shōnen Jump is a publishing company that prints manga (Japanese comics) regularly. The "controversy" about this company is from a manga called *Yuragi-sō no Yūna-san's* (*Yūna and the Haunted Hot Springs*) cover. It depicts the main character, Yūna Yunohara, a ghost, with her breasts exposed while bathing in a hot spring. In Japan, it is culturally considered very rude to bathe in gender-segregated hot springs with clothing on. There were strategically placed steam that covered up the breasts.

In video games, many past games had female characters with large breasts and disproportionate bodies. The one game the Puritans have been



The fictional character Uzaki-chan on the Japanese Red Cross poster (top) and manga cover (above).



vocal about is the new Japanese video role-playing game *Ryza no Atelier ~Tokoyami no Joou to Himitsu no Kakurega~* (*Atelier Ryza: Ever Darkness & the Secret Hideout*) which wasn't even released globally when complaints came out. The main character, Reisalin "Ryza" Stout, was a bit "thicker" and busty... basically, a body type that's somewhat common in the West.

Other than complaining about busts, another anime Puritans have been targeting is *Tate no Yūsha no Nariagari* (*The Rising of the Shield Hero*). The main controversy of this anime deals with the main character Naofumi Iwatani. In the beginning of the story when the heroes were summoned, they were given funds and party members to aid them in their quest. Naofumi, the Hero of the Shield, didn't get any party members. Myne S. Melromarc, the first princess joined him. After purchasing their equipment, supplies and turning in for the night in separate quarters, Naofumi woke up to find his money, equipment and Myne gone. After explaining to the King what happened, it happened that Princess Myne set him up accusing him of rape... causing the other heroes and everyone else to go against him. A false accusation! After being treated like dirt and a criminal, Naofumi wants to clear his name. And this is what the Puritans didn't like.

One final controversy happens to deal with anime dubbing. Over the past few years, writers for Funimation have been writing in some of their own views and agendas in scripts. But first, it has always been standard practice in English dubbing to rewrite some dialog to fit the mouth movements of anime characters. While some past (back in the day)

Naofumi Iwatani after he was summoned in Shield Hero (below). Junichi Hashiba and Yukana Yame of Hajimete no Gal (right).



Reisalin "Ryza" Stout, main character of the new Japanese role-playing game *Ryza no Atelier*.

dubbing have been really terrible, it has gotten much better over the years. We, in the anime community, like to think that we are pretty open-minded when it comes to anime, there are a few that are not. Anime journalist and YouTubers have exposed Funimation of this. Dubbed versions of *Hajimete no Gal* (*My First Girlfriend Is a Gal*), *Prison School* and *Kobayashi-san Chi no Maid Dragon* (*Miss Kobayashi's Dragon Maid*) have been found to have line(s) of Puritan viewpoints and agendas.

As try as Puritans may, Japanese don't find any of these "controversies" controversies at all. Just like the producer of *Shield Hero*, Junichiro Tamura, states in a question asked about this, "There have not been any controversies regarding the series in Japan, so it is difficult to say." If a majority of Japanese don't see these as issues, why do Westerners? Puritans like to impose their views and agendas on others, but not directed towards them. Remember, the vast majority don't share these views. Although, I haven't dug very deep in the "why's" of the Puritans, it's clear, in my mind at least, that they're doing more harm to our society and culture than good. ❖ Eiji Tanaka





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