

Exploring Japan's Diverse Manga Universe

Hidden Gems for an International Audience



©Nemu Yoko/SHODENSHA Publishing Co., Ltd.

3 a.m. Dangerous zone

Nemu Yoko

Three volumes in total
1st volume:
December 2008

Woman's manga

Outline / Summary

Can one swamped with overtime work have a love life?

Momoko, who had dreams of becoming an illustrator, is working at an extremely busy design agency that works exclusively for pachinko parlors. She was just getting accustomed to the crazy work hours and her quirky co-workers when she suddenly finds herself broken up with her boyfriend. She is conflicted. Does she or doesn't she want to leave this company that leaves her no time to find love? Come on Momoko, what are you going to do?

Licensing status (Published/To be published): French, Italian, Spanish, Korean

Contact: Publisher: SHODENSHA Publishing Co., Ltd.

Digital Business Promotion & Rights Management Division
MURATA Yuko (Ms.) **email:** murata_yuko@shodensha.co.jp



© AI KOZAKI / SHOGAKUKAN

Cecil's Queen

Ai Kozaki

Seven volumes (ongoing)
1st volume:
March 2022

Historical drama

Outline / Summary

The story of a man who made Elizabeth I the Queen. A new courtyard drama from Ai Kozaki, creator of *Asahinagu*. The year is 1533, in England.

Twelve-year-old William Cecil, whose father is the Keeper of the Royal Wardrobe, is taken to the Palace by his father for the first time. However, the Ruler at the time is the tyrannical, absolute monarch, Henry VIII. William is devastated to find the Palace is not the wonderful place he had imagined. That evening, he meets Queen Anne Boleyn, and vows to serve the unborn future "king" she is carrying in her womb.

Licensing status (Published/To be published): French, Thai

Contact: Publisher: SHOGAKUKAN

email: rights_inquiry@shogakukan.co.jp



©Warugi Wanai ©Shinobu Shinotsuki

Futsu to Bakemono (Normality and Monsters)

Artist:
Shinobu Shinotsuki
Writer:
Warugi Wanai

Two volumes (ongoing)
1st volume:
September 2023

Romance, Horror,
Yuri (LGBTQ+ elements)

Outline / Summary

A tale of high intensity teenage girl frustration and desires.

Ms. Ito is socially awkward, and envies her classmate Ms. Takahashi, who is quiet but is friends with everyone. Then one day, Ms. Ito is shocked to see Ms. Takahashi swallowing a person whole. She is a monster in human form! "Wait. A terrifying monster is able to just fit in with the rest of the class? How cool! I definitely wanna be her friend!"

Ms. Ito learns about what "normal" behavior is in social situations from the monster.

She is thrilled, but the monster has an ulterior motive.

Licensing status (Published/To be published): English, Korean, Chinese

Contact: Publisher: KADOKAWA Corporation

SUZUKI Shoko (Ms.) **email:** suzuki-sho@kadokawa.jp



©Ameishi

KAIKA Apartment

Ameishi

Two volumes (ongoing)
1st volume:
December 2023

Mystery, Crime, Thriller

Outline / Summary

Everyone living in this building has a story.

At the end of the Taisho era, translator Fuji moved to a beautiful and classy building, Kaika Apartment, where all residents are keeping secrets.

There is a Mrs. Poison who killed her husband with poison, a detective duo with a large age gap, and two married couples unnaturally affectionate with each other.

This is a tale of bizarre, intertwined relationships between eccentric residents in a shared housing complex. Ameishi's debut manga!

Licensing status (Published/To be published): Korean, Chinese

Contact: Publisher: KADOKAWA Corporation

SUZUKI Shoko (Ms.) **email:** suzuki-sho@kadokawa.jp



©YAMAJI Ebine

Living as a Girl

YAMAJI Ebine

One volume in total
June 2022

History, Family,
Drama, Feminist

Outline / Summary

Salma is a 10-year-old girl living in Saudi Arabia, where polygamy is still legal.

Her classmate's older sister is marrying someone eight years older than her, whose face she has never even seen. Salma needs to wear a hijab to go outdoors, and is no longer allowed to play soccer, which she loved to do. Morocco, India, Afghanistan, and Japan: these are stories of 10-year-old girls from different countries, religions, and cultures.

Licensing status (Published/To be published):

Italian, French, Vietnamese, Traditional Chinese, Korean

Contact: Publisher: KADOKAWA Corporation

SUZUKI Shoko (Ms.) **email:** suzuki-sho@kadokawa.jp



©Shima Shinya

LOST LAD LONDON

Shima Shinya

Three volumes in total
1st volume: January 2021

Mystery, Crime, Thriller

Outline / Summary

A new kind of crime mystery. "A single event can change your entire life." The mayor of London has been murdered in the Underground. Al, an ordinary university student, happens to be on the same train. Ellis, a detective with challenges of his own, is assigned to investigate the case. The case draws them together, and a strange fate begins to unfold.. A new kind of crime suspense surrounding the murder of the mayor of London. "Give me a hand. We're going to find the real culprit."

Licensing status (Published/To be published): English, French, Spanish, German

Contact: Publisher: KADOKAWA Corporation
SUZUKI Shoko (Ms.) **email:** suzuki-sho@kadokawa.jp



MAGAZINE RONDO © 2022 Hiromi Matsuo / Jitsugyo no Nihon Sha

Magazine RONDO

Hiromi Matsuo

One volume in total
December 2022

Comics and illustration book

Outline / Summary

This work is a full-color comic and illustration book that follows *RONDO*, a ladies' fashion magazine about to celebrate its 100th anniversary. Through manga and illustrations, it portrays the articles and advertisements that embellished the magazine throughout each era and the stories of those involved in its making. The fictional magazine *RONDO* is Hiromi Matsuo's way of expressing the inspiration and excitement she feels from vintage Japanese and foreign fashion magazines. Most importantly, *RONDO* encapsulates Hiromi Matsuo's passion and support for the magazine culture.

Licensing status (Published/To be published):

Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Spanish, Russian

Contact: Publisher: Jitsugyo no Nihon Sha, Ltd.
Rights & Business Development Dept. **email:** jnrigh@j-n.co.jp



©MOMO SUMOMO (AKITASHOTEN) 2018

Princess Marguerite of the Ruined Country

MOMO SUMOMO

Fourteen volumes (ongoing)
1st volume:
December 2018

Medieval European
Historical Fiction

Outline / Summary

Marguerite was a young princess in the Kingdom of Lunaria. Her parents were killed, and her country was destroyed by the Kingdom of Lorendia. She lived a quiet life in a rural area, hidden from her enemies. After growing up, Marguerite moved to a city to work. One day, she sees the murderer of her parents accompanying the Queen of Lorendia in a parade. She decides then to find out what really happened to her country!

Licensing status (Published/To be published): South Korea (Digital distribution)

Contact: Publisher: Akita Publishing Co., Ltd.
<https://akitashoten.zendesk.com/hc/ja>



©Yu-hachi/SQUARE ENIX

Spis the store clerk

Yu-hachi

One volume (ongoing)
1st volume: July 2024

Comedy

Outline / Summary

It doesn't talk, move, or have facial expressions. The name of this enigmatic fish is Pis. Pis, with a cast of characters such as the mischievous manager, mysterious insects that are ready to work, and the innocent yet ruthless children who come to play, liven up the store where they work. The enigmatic fish Pis, still as a statue, stars in this light and surreal working-fish comedy that takes place in a convenience store.

Licensing status (Published/To be published): none

Contact: Publisher: SQUARE ENIX CO., LTD.
GANGAN pixiv editing team
MORISHIMA Yutaro (Mr.) **email:** moyutaro@square-enix.com



©Yuu Utatane/Ichijinsha

The Skirt Rings at the Landing

Yuu Utatane

Four volumes (ongoing)
1st volume: June 2021

Yuri (LGBTQ+ elements)

Outline / Summary

Kiki Haruma is a second-year student in the ballroom dance club at Sakuragamori High School. She has always wanted to dance as a follower (the female role), but she is tall and always has the leader (male) role because it suits her. One day, her childhood friend and dance partner ends their dancing relationship, so Kiki must find someone new. Finding a new partner is not easy, however, and after school, she dances as a follower by herself. Then Michiru Toribami, a petite and graceful first-year student who has been watching Kiki, takes her hand and asks, "Will you be my follower?"

Licensing status (Published/To be published):

Taiwanese, Cantonese, Korean, French-speaking regions, Thai

Contact: Publisher: ICHIJINSHA INC.
Inquiry Form: <https://www.ichijinsha.co.jp/inquiry/>

For more information,
please access the QR code!



Japanese Publishing
Promotion Project

organized by  Agency for Cultural Affairs,
Government of Japan