

KONSHUU

vol. 52 #4
Mafia



Fuyuhiko Kuzuryu and Peko Pekoyama

Danganronpa 2: Goodbye Despair

Art By Athena Chen



The Sacrifices

Katekyo Hitman Reborn

Art By Sharrel Narsico



"Mafia"
wotaku ft. Hatsune Miku
Art By Káte Bushmareva

I'M A
HOUSE-
HUS-
BAND.

YAKUZA AS HOUSE HUSBAND MATERIAL?



KHALEA RIDAD

4th Year, English

Tough, but actually soft boys have my whole heart.

Writer

SPOILERS FOR GOKUSHUFUDOU

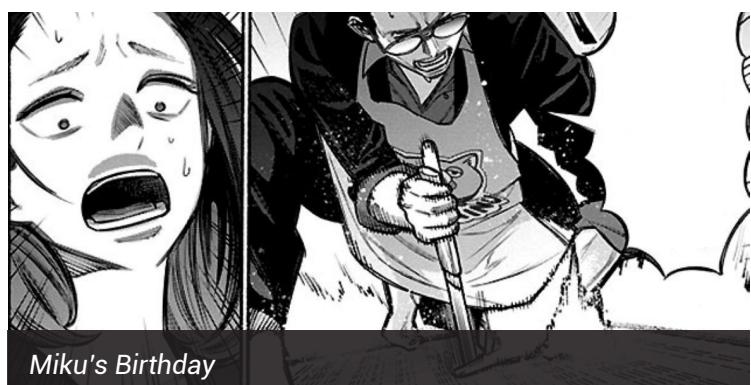
What characteristics do people look for in a significant other? Traits like kindness, reliability, responsibility, loyalty, or nurturing, are a few of the many attributes that people look for. Even intimidating yakuza men are not immune to love. However, it can be hard to picture them as good house husband material. In Kousuke Oono's "Gokushufudou" or "The Way of the House Husband", we follow the renowned legend of the yakuza world, "The Immortal Tatsu", as he fulfills his household duties as a full-time house husband. In this slice-of-life comedy, we see this former yakuza annihilate chores and skillfully navigate encounters with former colleagues and rivals to fellow housewives.

One of the many reasons how this manga maintains a comedic tone is by using one of my favorite tropes of the "tough bad guy, but is actually soft". Although Tatsu left the yakuza life, old habits die hard as he continues to talk in a Yakuza-like manner and dress semi-formally in sunglasses. However, he adds a domestic touch to his otherwise frightening appearance with a cute apron. Unfortunately, Tatsu's cute apron does nothing to help alter his menacing appearance as he runs into rivals, former colleagues, friends, and police who assume the worst. Tatsu may come off as a threatening yakuza member, but he deeply cares for his wife, Miku, and the people he befriends.

Along with Tatsu's contradicting appearance and personality, his interactions with other characters add another layer of com-



edy to the story. Tatsu's interactions illustrate him in an endearing light as people misunderstand his speech and behavior. To begin, who would marry a yakuza member? People of the same background? What about a professional designer who loves an anime called "Crimewatch Pricure"? You would never expect a cute, hardworking wife domesticating the great "Immortal Tatsu". Tatsu's wife, Miku fondly calls her husband Tat-chan and is just as eccentric and strong as Tatsu when it comes to things she loves. In a later chapter, Tatsu prepares a present for Miku, who wanted something else from her husband. Not understanding what his wife wants and thinking that his gift was inadequate, Tatsu assumes that he has to repent by cutting off his pinky. Horrified, Miku rushes and tackles him resulting in him crashing through their balcony sliding door. In another chapter, he berates former rivals who had a grudge against him because they grabbed the wrong merchandise at a sale. Many of Tatsu's interactions result in various misunderstandings that you would never expect. With the added enjoyment of dramatic irony, we see the feared Immortal Tatsu fulfilling his duties as a household husband.



"Gokushufudou" is filled with adorably wholesome content for a former yakuza member. Tatsu's interactions with his wife are so adorable they hit your feels and you can't help but smile at the hilariously bizarre and outrageous situations that arise from misunderstandings with neighbors and other yakuza members. Fortunately, "Gokushufudou" has grown in popularity since its release in 2018! Currently, there is a live-action drama airing depicting many of the humorous events from the manga while adding new events and characters specific to the drama. Netflix even recently announced that they will be releasing an anime adaptation of the yakuza turned househusband coming in 2021! I am excited to see this adorable manga brought to life next year!

THE CHADDEST YAKUZA OF THEM ALL



MITCHELL MADAYAG

1st Year, Undeclared

"Kiryu-chan!~"

Writer



SPOILERS FOR YAKUZA 0

What makes a good yakuza? Most characters in the Yakuza game series believe it is someone who stays loyal to the family and does whatever it takes to ensure the clan's success, no matter the immorality of their actions. But one man threw these convictions away and showed the underground crime syndicate of Japan that a true yakuza can be powerful, but righteous. That man is The Dragon Of Dojima, The Kamurocho Chad, the one and only Kazuma Kiryu.



As intimidating as he may look, Kiryu is quite the gentleman. Despite being busy fixing his reputation with the Tojo Clan, he always goes out of his way to assist the citizens of Kamurocho, both young and old, male and female, sane and...insane. As lively as they may be, there are many memorable but questionable individuals who Kiryu meets, including a wannabe yankee rockband and even a dominatrix in training. My personal favorite moment was when Kiryu had to undergo a heroic stealth mission to buy a sketchy shrink-wrapped magazine to satisfy a young boy's curiosity. These various side quests are a great distraction from the main plot, though it usually ends with another fistfight as Kiryu has to protect his newfound friends from local thugs or enemy yakuza.

Kiryu is such an honorable man who holds high morals that it



is hard to believe that someone like him could ever be responsible for the Empty Lot murder in *Yakuza 0*. Sure, he can get rough sometimes, but Kiryu always knows just the right amount of strength to use so his beat-up opponents can hobble back home, no matter how hard he shoved their face into the pavement or crushed them with a nearby motorcycle. In Chapter 1, he even punches two drunkards into sobriety, saving them several trips to rehab. However, having been sentenced to death for bringing unwanted trouble to the Dojima Family, Kiryu is forced to fight through streets full of angry yakuza in order to survive. He eventually escapes with his sworn brother, Akira Nishikiyama, but surprisingly offers his life up to Nishiki, so he won't be labelled as a traitor, too. In the end, Nishiki is unable to pull the trigger on Kiryu, but it reveals the lengths Kiryu will go to to ensure the safety of his loved ones.

I think many will enjoy the Yakuza games for its mix of intense drama and fun substories. Even real life yakuza confirmed the series' accuracy in terms of story and setting and that it captured yakuza stereotypes perfectly. I knew I was hooked the moment I played *Yakuza 0*, and I can't wait to see what epic and hilarious antics Kiryu will get himself into in later installments. Sadly, this doesn't include a chance to duke it out with Nintendo's greatest icons in *Super Smash Bros Ultimate*. This is because Yakuza series director, Toshihiro Nagoshi, officially stated that he wouldn't allow Kiryu to join the game's roster since he doesn't wish to see Kiryu hitting women. It's a real shame, but funny enough, it does stay true to the legendary yakuza's character. Oh well, at least we can continue to enjoy the recent trend of *Baka Mitai* memes. *Dame da ne...dame yo...*

AFTER MOTORCYCLES AND BLONDE HAIR DYE



TONY T.

1st Year, Intended Economics and Data Science

Wow, I can't believe my writing is on here! If you're inclined after reading this article, please give *GTO* a try!

Guest

The original *Shonan Junai Gumi* is fairly indicative of trends within "delinquent" manga series such as *Crows*, *Angel Den-setsu*, or *Kyou kara Ore wa*. School delinquents are shown as motorcycle enthusiasts skipping class and dyeing their hair blonde as a form of rebellion. Thus, it is fitting that the sequel, featuring one of *Shonan Junai Gumi*'s characters as the titular *Great Teacher Onizuka*, presents a more modern take on delinquency. The premise of a former delinquent-turned-teacher using brutal and rather inappropriate measures to discipline students may initially seem blasé, typical of the role switching that anime comedies often use to create comedic scenarios. While this is true, *GTO* is so much more than a comedy. Onizuka Eikichi himself is most entertaining in exposing flaws within society and resolving them through his sheer indomitable will. Explaining why the series is so great, then, requires both an explanation of its portrayal of a toxic school life and the reason why the *GTO* is so captivating.

While *Shonan Junai Gumi* is not necessary to understand *GTO*, reading the series gives a deeper insight into the character of Onizuka Eikichi. A legend amongst delinquents, Onizuka obtains a seemingly paradoxical role as a teacher at a private school teaching (generally) upper class students. Though many interpret the character as "a totally badass dude" in how he disciplines his students, the answer is a bit more complex. In truth, the man is something of a wannabe. He displays a sort of awkwardness carried through from the previous series; Onizuka's self image of himself is similar to the way many readers interpret him, but his clownish antics and perversion all point away from that view. What Onizuka is, is not necessarily a bastion of badassery, but rather of extreme willpower. He isn't willing to give up on almost anything, which produces interesting chemistry with his students, the majority of which have given up on school. Onizuka's willpower does not make him infallible, though, which is what makes him endearing to both his students and readers, instead of a "Mary Sue" character.

Contrasting Onizuka's old-school delinquency are his students. Onizuka's students, typically privileged and intelligent, are overlooked by society - they are expected, because of their

backgrounds, to be diligent students and they generally succeed under those parameters. As such, their harassment of teachers and general lack of regard for others is not properly addressed by teachers tiptoeing around sensitive topics, treating them as children. In essence, they have been taught to memorize information, not to be functioning members of society. This itself is a rather strong facet of Asian educational culture which *GTO* generally criticizes. Onizuka, because of his background, understands his students far more than anyone else as a direct result of his delinquent past, despite the socioeconomic differences. His overall willpower drives him to make the best decisions possible that ensures his students learning not just academic skills, but basic social skills. Because of this, *GTO*'s dynamic of Onizuka educating his students through, say, throwing them off a bridge, calling a motorcycle gang on them, or consecutively beating 100 men in arm wrestling (yes, this really happens), swerves around just being a comedic element into being the aspect of the series driving its fairly dramatic subplots. *GTO*, then, functions both as a genuinely hilarious comedy and as a criticism of institutions including but not limited to the education system in Japan.

Now that I've explained the core dynamic which makes *Great Teacher Onizuka* so compelling, one might wonder how to best experience this series. Attentive readers might also see that I've used the term "readers" rather than "watchers" throughout this write-up. Let me elaborate. While the anime adaptation for *GTO* is fairly accurate, I really have to recommend the source material as it tells a fulfilling, though slightly over exaggerated, narrative in its entirety. The art in the series is also better experienced in the manga. *Great Teacher Onizuka*, despite being a weekly manga serialization throughout its run in *Weekly Shonen Magazine*, features very unique and expressive artwork normally seen from manga with far looser deadlines. The manga's visuals aren't exactly the pleasing, wallpaper-worthy type but rather are impressive in how the characters' facial features are contorted to show different emotions, for both dramatic and comedic effect. Fujisawa Tooru's artwork is by no means pretty, with somewhat lackluster backgrounds and "same-face" issues, but I would deem it very suitable for this type of manga. I will also include a warning that, while most of the series is rather light hearted, some parts of it can be slightly offensive in its depiction of certain content. With that said, if you can look through these flaws that *GTO*'s narrative and art contain, I highly implore you to read this absolute gem of a manga.

Staff Picks:

FAVORITE MAFIA CHARACTER

ASH LYNX

BANANA FISH



ROHIT AGARWAL

Smart, talented, tough, hot mafia boss with a soft side.

BRUNO BUCCiarati

JJBA PART 5: VENTO AUREO

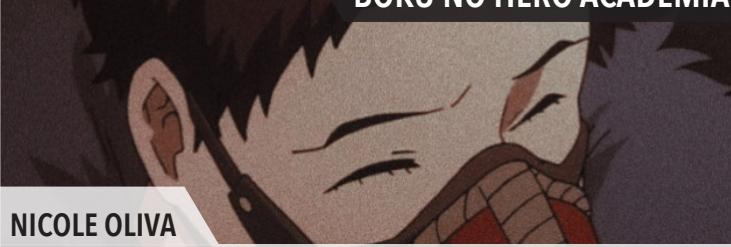


NICK WONOSAPUTRA

A caring leader whose resolve to protect his family transcends the laws of nature

OVERHAUL/KAI CHISAKI

BOKU NO HERO ACADEMIA



NICOLE OLIVA

Young, attractive, morally unstable yakuza head whose terrifying power centers around touch. Ironic considering his severe aversion to germs. CEO of wearing masks, so would arguably fare well in this society though, gotta give him that.

FUYUHIKO KUZURYU

DANGANRONPA 2: GOODBYE DESPAIR



MITCHELL MADAYAG

Boss Baby before Boss Baby

HIBARI KYOYA

KATEKYO HITMAN REBORN



NERISSA HSIEH

Does anyone else have the KHR pairing numbers become an integral part of your memory or is it just me

CHUUYA NAKAHARA

BUNGO STRAY DOGS



KHALEA RIDAD

I am a sucker for hot-headed, tough, characters. Absolutely adorable, powerful, and awesome.

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j.mp/konsub

Tatsu and Miku
The Way of the House Husband
Art By Miranda Zhang

