

THE MOE ISSUE

CAL ANIMAGE ALPHA presents

KONSHUU

HATSUNE MIKU
Vocaloid

Art by HELEN WANG

THIS WEEK'S FEATURED SERIES



ANIME RECOMMENDATION

MAHOUTSUKAI NO YOME (THE ANCIENT MAGUS' BRIDE)

Chise Hatori, having given up on life, sells herself into slavery—but an unexpected magician named Elias buys her and proclaims that she will be his bride and apprentice instead. Chise witnesses both the wonders and horrors of the magic world, but is doomed to die a premature death due to her limitless magical powers. Can Elias find a way to cure Chise, or will her new life as a magician be cut short?



Fall 2017, Wit Studio
Directed by Norihiro Naganuma



Story & Art by Sui Ishida
Sequel to *Tokyo Ghoul*

MANGA RECOMMENDATION

TOKYO GHoul:RE

In Tokyo, man-eating creatures called Ghouls lurk behind the scenes. An organization called the CCG investigates and resolves dangerous cases involving Ghouls. Haise Sasaki is a First Class CCG Investigator assigned to hunt Ghouls, but his memories do not add up in relation to his past. Later, he will eventually come to a crossroads: will he choose to side with the Ghouls or the Investigators?

ANIME, BEER, AND THE INTERNET



KATRINA LUQUE

4TH YEAR, ENGLISH

Good for health, bad for education.

STAFF WRITER

A personal favorite moment in anime was when Shinji Ikari of *Neon Genesis Evangelion* opened up Misato Katsuragi's fridge and was shocked that the only product inside of said fridge was cans upon cans of beer. Misato, an inveterate slob and possible alcoholic brought a comedic element to the show through her fondness of drinking and having an all around good time. Other characters and anime fans have experienced similar enjoyment in drinking and discussing beer. This article will celebrate the carefree spirit of drinking beer that anime embodies by relating various examples of "anime x beer" crossovers I have found online.



One of the strangest websites I have discovered involves comparing anime girls to certain brands of beer. The author of the site appears to be a beer connoisseur and he provides thoughtful reviews of the beer he samples. However, I am completely lost when it comes to his pairings of beer and anime girls. A quote from his website states, "Etna from the *Disgaea* series was used in this pairing since the days of the Midnight Brunch Arrogant Bastard, a Maple and Coffee bourbon barrel Strong Ale. That beer had left such an impact that I wanted to bring her for this one. Her colors compliment the red of Canada as it comes in the form of the flag, the mounties and the very maple syrup itself. Sweet, Dark, and intriguing is what makes all the qualities fit with this rarity of a whale." Other articles I have found of a similar nature are "Top Ten 10 Anime Characters Who Always Have a Drink in Their Hand," the chat forum "BEER!"

"ANY ANIME ABOUT OR HAS BEER OR ALCOHOL," and the Reddit thread "Why do people always make Pterodactyl noises after they drink beer in anime?" (someone is finally asking the right questions).

"Top Ten Anime Characters Who Always Have a Drink in Their Hand" lists Revy from *Black Lagoon* as the top drinker in anime. I cannot argue with this assessment given that Revy is paid in alcohol and her greatest claim to fame is that she can outdrink Rock, who wields impressive skills as a former salaryman. In fact, Revy is so impressive that she inspired me to try shotgunning vodka which did not look very cool nor work out well on a personal level.

The coolest article I stumbled across when researching beer and anime was about an ad that the staff of Production I.G. made for an Irish beer company. Although I would have never put Irish Beer company and Production I.G. together in my mind, someone else made the mental leap and thought it would be a fantastic idea. And, as it turns out, Irish Beer + Production I.G. is one hell of a combo. According to Kotaku, "the commercial was called *Last Orders*, and tells the story of a cyberpunk metropolis, where a gang of six samurai race against the clock in order to...reach a pub before it closes so they can grab a pint of Murphy's Irish Stout."



Apparently the success of *Ghost in the Shell* in the British Isles inspired Japanese executives to initiate collaborations with British companies, allowing for commercials such as this one to be made. The commercial itself is rife with neon colors, that sweet sweet 90's animation that is unlike anything else in the world, and yakuza (what's not to love about yakuza?). Please watch, preferably while popping open a cold one. But not if you're under 21. *This publication does not endorse underage drinking.*

THE CASE FOR C.G.D.C.T. SHOWS (FT. YURU CAMP)



BOGEUN CHOI
3RD YEAR, APPLIED MATH

Ever since I kept a consistent sleep schedule I've never felt more alive.

STAFF WRITER

Cute Girls Doing Cute Things (aka CGDCT). It's a sub-genre of anime that's pretty self-explanatory. Most (if not all) CGDCT shows are slice-of-life shows—hence the sub-genre distinction. For some people, CGDCT shows (and slice-of-life in general) equal a show where nothing happens.

Now as a CGDCT fan, I can agree with this. It's true that nothing really happens: CGDCT shows are characters just living their lives, however boring or crazy they may be. When I searched for the definition of slice-of-life on Google, I literally got that "slice of life describes the depiction of mundane experiences in art and entertainment" (thanks Wikipedia). Now there may be more of a plot in CGDCT shows than there is in a typical slice-of-life show, but by and large they still share the same light-hearted tone. So why exactly are CGDCT shows some of my go-tos during the beginning of any anime season? Well that's why I'm here today: to talk about the joys of CGDCT anime. In other words, what makes them so fun to watch despite their simple premise?

Uhh... I can explain.



Before I get into that, though, I want to talk a little about a show that's currently airing this season: *Yuru Camp (Laid-Back Camp)*. The plot of the show can be described in one sentence: cute girls going camping.

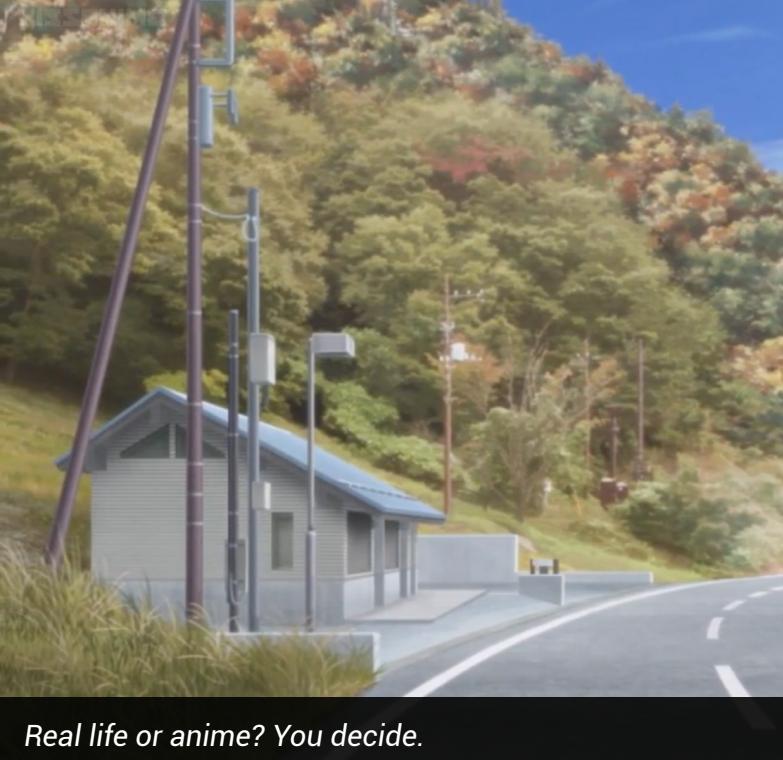
Yuru Camp tells the tale of a girl named Nadeshiko who just moved to an area near Mt. Fuji. She decides to bike to Mt. Fuji to see it in person, but faints halfway through the trip. Meanwhile, a girl named Rin is camping by herself in the area. The two meet and Rin helps show Nadeshiko the joys of camping, leading her to join her school's Outdoor Activities Club, occasionally going camping.

Halfway through its airtime, *Yuru Camp* has shown itself to be one of the most promising CGDCT shows out there, and if it continues its pace, one of my favorite shows. It does so by executing the following aspects of a CGDCT show, the stuff that makes them fun:

1. Makes the boring interesting

This is one of the biggest things that a CGDCT show does, and it's out of necessity. Like I said before, CGDCT shows, at their core, are about the mundane experiences in life. That then has to be presented in an interesting way so it isn't boring everybody. I mean, my favorite show (*OreGairu*) is literally a loner who joins a club and makes friends. But there are so many more intricacies that make it a fun, engaging show to watch.

In the case of *Yuru Camp*, the show is literally about girls going on camping trips, yet the way the show presents this subject makes it a very enjoyable watch. Adding humor and a comfy atmosphere to the show helps engage the viewer and add a certain depth to it—you laugh at the girls' silly moments, and you feel a sense of comfort as you relax along to the great backgrounds of nature with folk-inspired music.



Real life or anime? You decide.

There's another great thing about CGDCTs that is sort of related to the previous point:

1b. Makes stuff I never thought about interesting

There's a lot of anime out there, and it's hard to differentiate yourself with the other thousands of shows out there. After all, you can only handle so many high-school based slice-of-life shows. So why not have a high-school based slice-of-life show—but more? Think shows like *Hibike! Euphonium*: a show about a high-school girl being a member of the band. As somebody who never was in band, I wasn't drawn in by that aspect of the show (main draw: KyoAni show). But after finishing it, I now have a soft spot for the euphonium, and an appreciation for band members everywhere. It's the same case for a lot of other shows I've watched before: anime helped me get into topics like volleyball, rural town problems, and (unfortunately) idols.

That's something I feel like CGDCT shows do a really nice job of. They bring awareness to something you didn't really have an interest in and advertise it to you. In return, you learn more about the subject, and become a more well-rounded individual... optimistically.

Yuru Camp is a great example of this phenomenon: as you can guess from what you know about the plot, *Yuru Camp* is inspiring people everywhere to go camping. Even me, somebody who's never gone camping, can't help but feel like going on a nice fall/winter camping trip with my friends, enjoying the nature and eating nice food over the campfire. Of course, if I actually did that where I live I would probably die from frostbite (thanks Wisconsin). But still, it's a nice thought and here in Berkeley it would actually be somewhat feasible. Truly, this is the power of CGDCT anime.

2. Good characters

One of the nice things about CGDCT shows is that because there isn't much in the way of plot, characters play a huge role in how good a show is. Your standard generic tropes won't cut it here: characters actually need to be fleshed out for the CGDCT to be good. Well, somewhat. Let me give an example of a currently-airing show that doesn't follow this: *Slow Start*, like *Yuru Camp*, is a CGDCT show. Amazingly, its plot is even simpler than *Yuru Camp*'s: it's about a girl who starts high-school a year late. With that amazing plot, you need some good characters to make up for it. Unfortunately, that's not the case here. We have shy protagonist Hana, genki girl Tama, kuudere lolita Kamuri, and onee-san type Eiko. There's nothing special about these characters, and as a result, I dropped this show after 2 episodes.



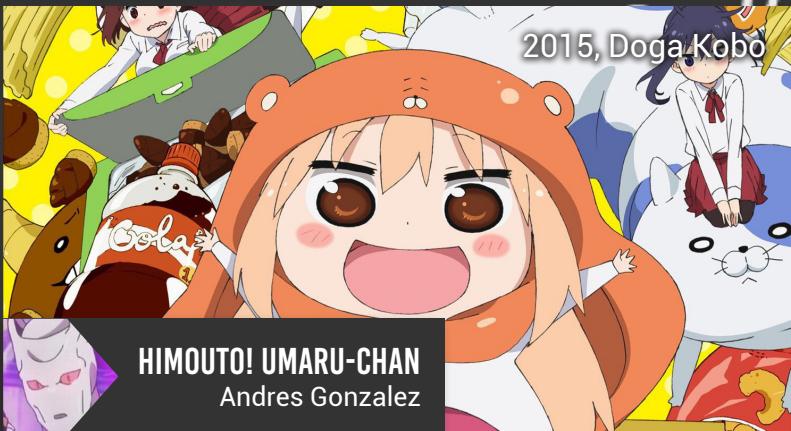
Can you guess which is which? I bet you can.

Now compare that to *Yuru Camp*. Though its characters can still be reduced to tropes, there's a bit more to them than their stereotypes. Rin is the kuudere type, but she also has a geeky chuuni side to her. Nadeshiko is the standard genki girl, but she also cooks really well and has an obsession with Mt. Fuji. Then we have the other girls: the two Outdoor Activities Club members Aoi (relaxed Kansai girl with the best voice) and Chiaki (leader type with glasses and big forehead) as well as Rin's friend Ena (has a dog). The fun characters play a huge role in why the show is so well-received.

3. Living vicariously through the characters

This is somewhat related to point #1 above, but it's a sadder take on the idea. Instead of actually doing the things the cute anime girls are doing, why not just vicariously experience it? Close enough, right? After all, why go camping? It's cold, you get dirty, the sleeping bags are uncomfortable, etc.. Just stay inside all day and watch anime. Get all of the experiences without doing them—my lesson of the week.

LEAST FAVORITE MOE SHOW



Dear Konshuu-sensei

Got a question about school? Need some advice? Don't worry, Konshuu-sensei is here for you! Our newest feature is an advice column catered towards our readers! Submit your questions based on next week's theme and Konshuu-sensei will (try to) help you out.

THIS WEEK'S THEME: MOE

Anonymous asked:

I'm a guy who usually watches shounen anime but my friend wants me to watch some moe shows with her. I'm not really sure what I'm getting into. Konshuu-sensei, what should I expect?

Moe anime consists of cute girls doing cute things. So you're in for a whole lot of innocence, clumsiness, and adorableness. Girls are going to talk in small cute voices, trip over themselves, and there will definitely be roses in the background. You're going to think it's weird at first. Then you're going to fall in love with it.

Anonymous asked:

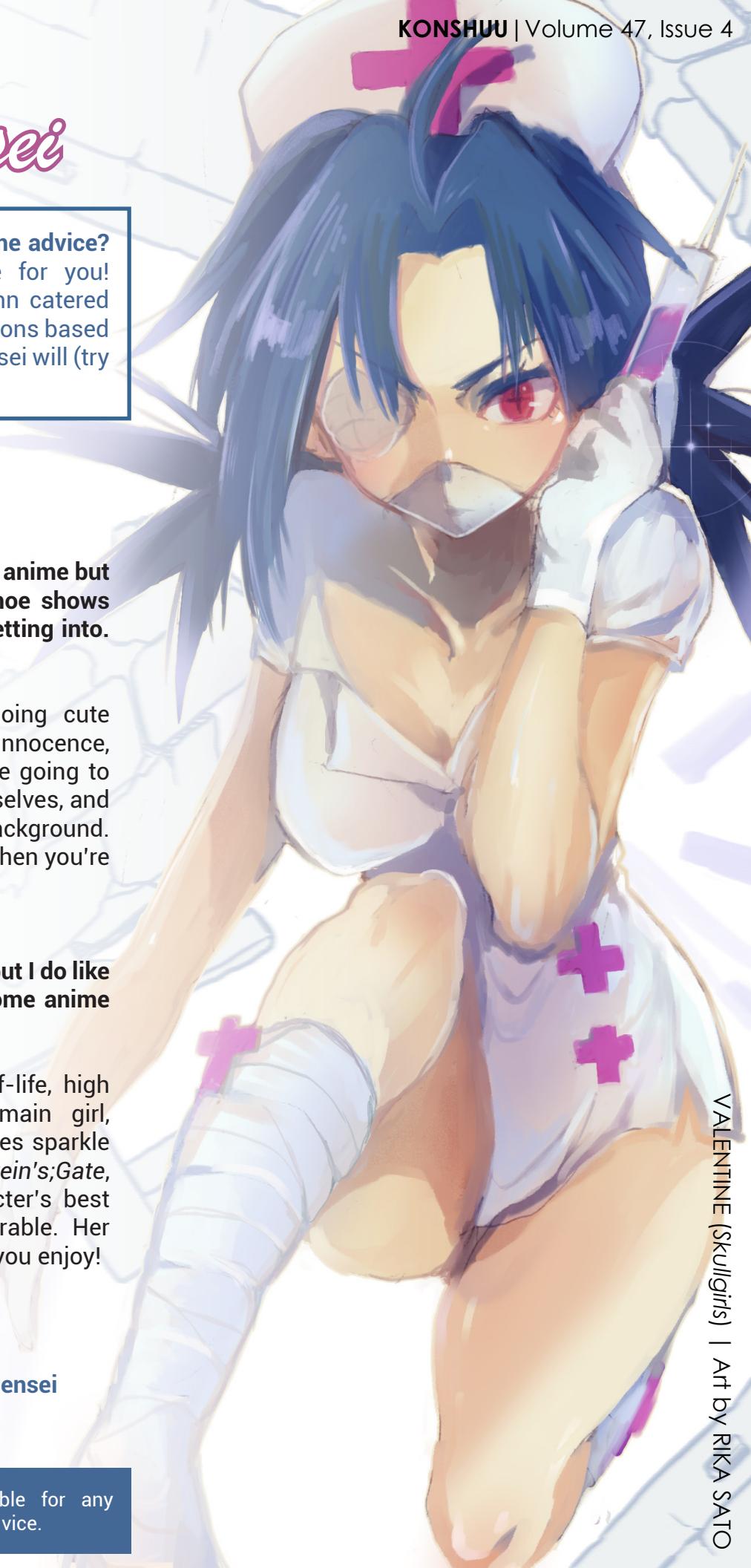
I don't really like watching moe shows, but I do like moe elements. Can you recommend some anime with just a little bit of moe?

Hyouka is a good start. It's a slice-of-life, high school mystery anime, where the main girl, Chitanda Eru, is moe. Her big purple eyes sparkle every time she's curious. Then there's *Stein's;Gate*, a sci-fi thriller where the main character's best friend, Mayuri, is both ditzy and adorable. Her "Tuturu!" gives me life everytime. Hope you enjoy!

NEXT WEEK'S THEME: STUDIO TRIGGER

Ask a question at tinyurl.com/konshuusensei and you could be in the next issue!

Disclaimer: Konshuu-sensei is not responsible for any consequences that result from following their advice.



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Konshuu accepts guest submissions from club members! If you'd like to have content featured, please visit:
J.MP/KONSUB

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Game Nights: Thurs, 8pm - 10pm, Wheeler 222

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RICKA TAKANASHI (*Chuunibyou demo Koi ga Shitai!*)

