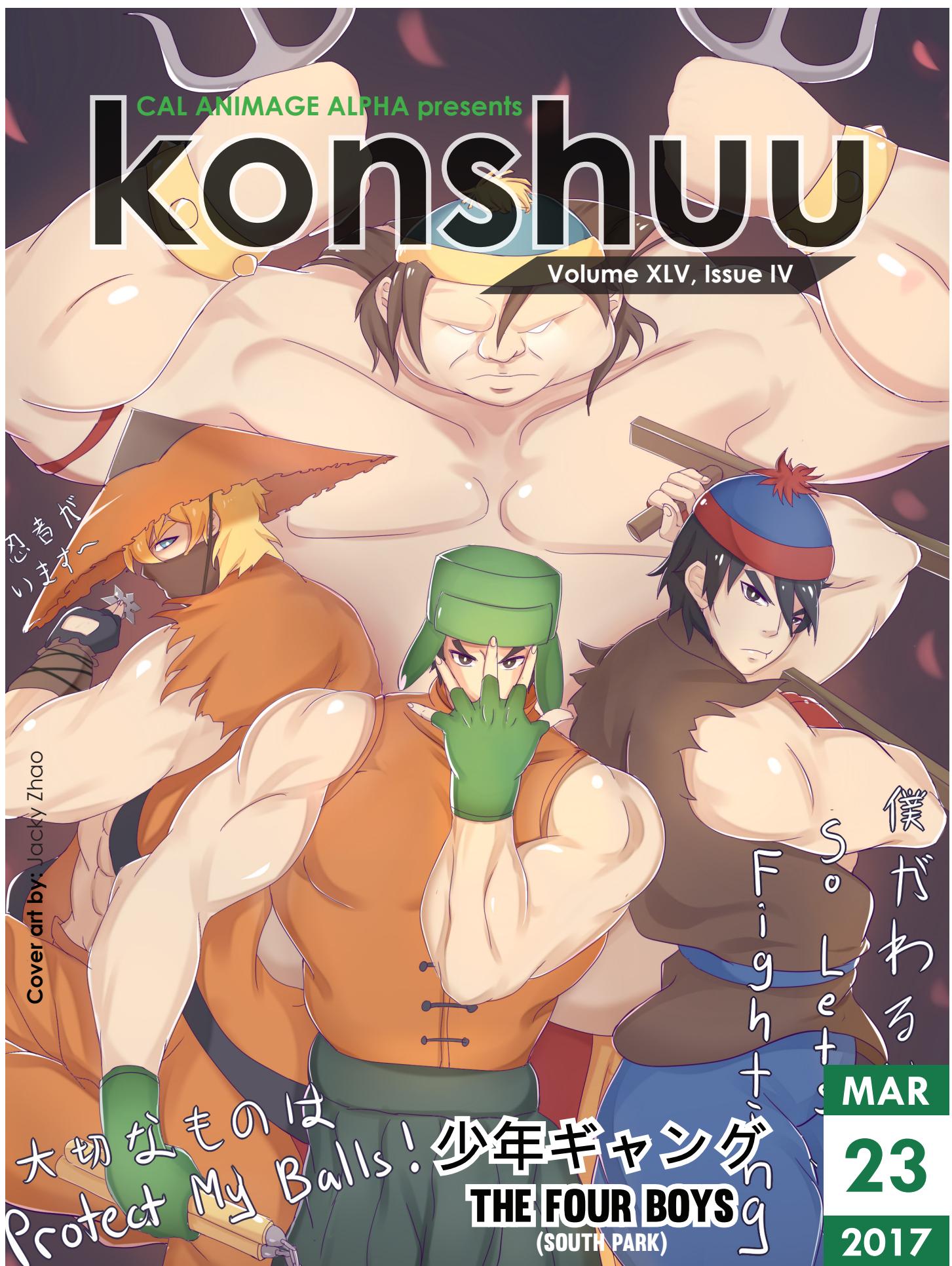


CAL ANIMAGE ALPHA presents

Konshuu

Volume XLV, Issue IV

Cover art by: Jacky Zhao



THIS WEEK'S SERIES

MANGA SOCIAL

THE LAW OF UEKI

2002-2005 | Weekly Shonen Sunday | Tsubasa Fukuchi

The Battle of the Supernatural Powers is an elimination-style tournament between the gods that will determine their new leader, the God of Heaven. One hundred gods are candidates for this new position, but they won't be doing the fighting — instead, each god must select a junior high school student as their champion. The student is given a unique power called a "talent", usable for both the tournament and the student's real life, such as the ability to study, amazing luck, charisma, amazing speed, turning garbage into trees, or fast swimming. The winner of the tournament will become the God of Heaven, and their junior high partner will receive the "blank talent" — which will grant them any power of their own creation. Who will be the next god of the Celestial World? Who will get the talent of their choice, and what will it be?



MANGA SOCIAL

PRUNUS GIRL

2009 - 2013 | Gangan Joker | Matsumoto Tomoki

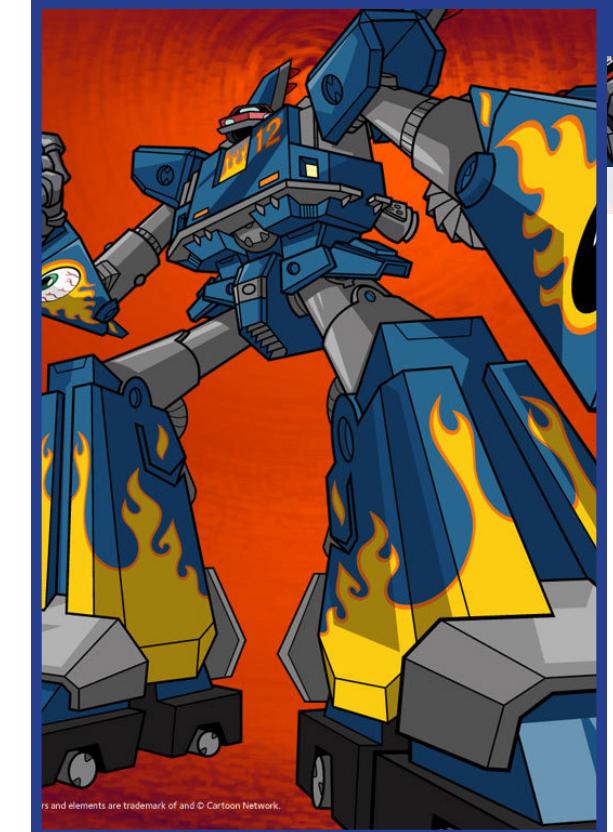
In this manga serialized in *Gangan Joker*, Maki Makito meets a beautiful girl while checking the results of his high school entrance exams. As it turns out the girl he meets, Aikawa Kizuna, not only goes to the same school as him, but is also in his class. However, on the first day of school Aikawa reveals to the class that despite appearances she is actually a he! Maki's dreams of being together with his dream girl quickly shatter, yet he is never quite able to act normally around Aikawa. Despite his reluctance to the idea, Aikawa quickly befriends Maki and the two share an uncomfortable friendship, one in which Aikawa constantly teases Maki with his girlish charm and taunts him to decide whether Aikawa is a girl or a boy - and whether or not that ultimately matters.

ANIME RECOMMENDATION

DIRKS' BIZARRE ADVENTURE

Winter 2420 | Unluckyland Productions | Directed by Hideo Tsuda

Nicholas Dirks-san enjoyed a peaceful life as the chancellor of Bakure University. He was admired and well-liked by the students; and he strove to make the university a great place for learning. That was, until Carol Christ-chan arrived. Christ-chan swore that she would ruin his life and take control of the campus. Within days, she was able to frame Dirks-san for misusing the school's public funds to build a fence around his private estate. While looking into the matter, he discovered ancient seals on the campus that granted bizarre powers when stepped on. Determined not to lose the trust of his precious students, he gambled on the rumors of the seals. When his foot hit the cold earth, he began to feel a great surge of energy flow into him. He had awakened the power within him, and it manifested as the stand OSKI PLATINUM. Quickly, Dirks-san realized what he must do; he must use this power to stand up to Christ-chan and her ZA WALDO.

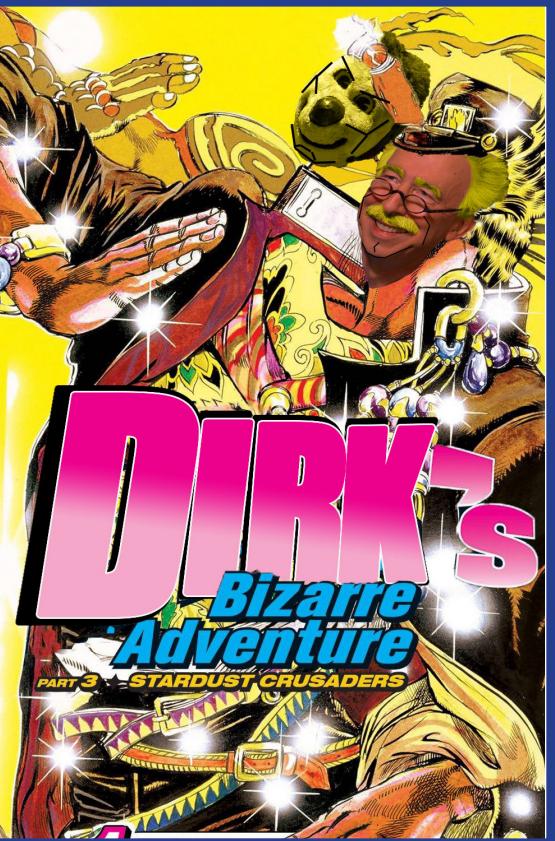


THIS WEEK'S SERIES

ANIME RECOMMENDATION

DIRKS' BIZARRE ADVENTURE

Winter 2420 | Unluckyland Productions | Directed by Hideo Tsuda



ANIME RECOMMENDATION

MEGAS XLR

2004 - 2005 | Cartoon Network Studios | Chris Prynoski

A century has passed. Mankind must fight an intergalactic battle between an alien race known as the Glorft. On the losing end of the war, humanity somehow managed to find a prototype mecha from the Glorft known as MEGAS: Mechanized Earth Guard Attack System. The plan was to send this mecha back to the most critical point in the war, where it would be piloted by the ace Kiva Andru. But suddenly, MEGAS was transported into the wrong hands: into the hands of Coop. Coop modifies the robot by spicing it up with hot flames and adding the acronym XLR, short for "extra large." Thus, the legend himself was born: Coop, a lazy bum video gamer, piloting the illustrious MEGAS XLR.



THE THINGS I LEARNED FROM WATCHING ANIME: A VERY SERIOUS ARTICLE

Ah, anime. It's been almost 1.5 years since I started taking you seriously. Coincidentally, it's been almost 1.5 years since I've been truly happy. In these last 1.5 years, I've learned some things, both good and bad (mostly bad).

It's been a fun time, and by fun I mean a downward trend that I haven't recovered from since. You know, the usual. As the famous Hayao Miyazaki once said, "anime is a mistake". But what exactly can we learn from this mistake? From life lessons to the stupid stuff, here's some of the very serious things I learned from watching anime:

1. Your favorite show is never getting another season.
If there's one thing to take away from this very serious article, it's that your favorite show is never getting another season. Sorry, but unless your favorite show sells hella copies or is a long-running shounen, it ain't happening. *Spice and Wolf* season 3? *Haruhi* season 3? *Index/Railgun* season 3? *Oregairu* season 3? More unlikely than *Half Life* 3. Speaking of which, there's a scary amount of the number 3 in that last sentence. It's almost as if 3 is a special number which happens to be the number of sides of a triangle, which is the shape of the symbol of the Illuminati... hmm... well whatever.

2. To get girls, be a dense harem protagonist.
Have you never had a significant other? Never had someone of the opposite gender go head-over-heels for you? Cry yourself to sleep at night? If you answered yes to all of the questions above, you're probably me... or you're having trouble with your love life. Companionship is nice to have, but it's been as elusive as Atlantis for you. But don't fret: there's a solution thanks to anime! Just emulate a harem protagonist! By following a few easy steps, you too can be surrounded by people of all kinds who are devoted to have your privates for themselves (or on their mantle). Just follow the mantra of the dense

harem protagonist: be dense.

Imagine yourself as a great neutron star in the galaxy, and then make yourself ten times denser. That's the level of dense that people such as Raku from *Nisekoi* and Ichika from *Infinite Stratos* are and that many harem protagonists strive towards. A girl suddenly act unusually friendly? Act like everything is normal! Somebody handing you a confession note? Appreciate the paper's quality and ask them where they got it! It's scientifically proven too! When you become a dense anime protagonist, your denseness creates a gravitational force that causes the objects around you to gravitate towards you. Thus, the denser you are, the higher the gravitational force is, and the greater number of people (hopefully of the opposite gender) approach you! So if you're down in the dumps, be a dense harem protagonist! What could go wrong?



3. Anime romances go nowhere.

If there's one thing I'm irked about, it's that romances in anime don't go anywhere. I mean, it's so annoying how most protagonists are so dense and can't get a sense of the situation around them. Like, why would you write a character like that?

It's so pointless and annoying watching the protagonist

fumble around like that. Yet somehow they end up with all of the girls. That's totally not how it works in real life. I mean, who would think that being a dense person would get you girls? Whoever thinks like that is a loser and should go die alone. But that's not me: I'm self-aware and stuff. Yeah. Totally.



4. Everybody's opinion is trash except for yours

Well, in my case you = me. So for me, everybody's opinion is trash except mine. When you've been around the community for long enough, you meet people with opinions. Unfortunately, none of those opinions are yours. Some of those opinions may be close to yours, but they are never the exact same (and if they are, that's actually really amazing and y'all should get married or something). Thus, by induction or some other mathematical baloney, your opinion does not equal other people's opinions. And so what can we conclude from this statement? Well, your opinion is something you think is right. Other people's opinions are not equal to your opinion. Thus, other people's opinions are not right. And from that, we declare that those opinions are trash. And from this, I have succeeded in making you think that "opinion" isn't a word.

5. You can find some of the weirdest fetishes.

Truly, another thing that can be found in anime is the weird fetishes that the community has. Sure, we have some tame ones around. I mean, you have the standard ones: monster girl, loli, tentacles, etc. Those are all fine and dandy. But there are some really messed up ones that pop up. Like the monstrosity that is *Zettai Ryouiki*. I mean, that's some weird stuff. Socks? Skirts? And SKIN? Truly the world has gone mad. What's next, short skirts? The horror.

6. "Best Girl" wars are the best discussion topics.

I don't know about you, but whenever I look at discussion

threads of episodes of anime, I truly appreciate the posts about who the best girl of a show is. It's in these posts that the intelligence of human society truly shines. You know, the posts that start with "X best girl" and the replies start piling up with such insightful comments such as "Wow, more like Y best girl" or "Z best girl FTFY" or "lol wtf you think X is best girl kys". Screw all of those 5 page essays about how the 11% increase in black in the backgrounds symbolize the inner conflict of the heroine's sister's pet octopus. Reading is for nerds anyway; if I wanted to read a book, I'd be reading manga. Best girls wars bring us together in one hateful circle. Can essays do that? I think not.

7. Moe is killing the industry.

Moe is killing the industry. It sneaks up on studios and forces itself onto them, making it more famous in the process to the detriment of many. We must not let this Moe get into any more studios. After all, how hard is it to stop one man into getting into these places? You'd think that animation studios would have better security. I mean really... wait, excuse me a minute, I'm getting a phone call.

Mm-hmm... yes... oh, I see... thank you very much. Goodbye.



Uhh, it seems I have made a mistake. Thus, let me update point 7:

7 (updated). Moe is the best thing ever.

Moe is truly a great thing. Where else can you get cute anime girls? Nowhere, except in anime. Truly, we live in a golden age.

Well, I hope you learned something from all of this. And to send you off, a message from my friend Jason: "Why are you messaging me at 3 in the morning, you freaking weeb? Get a life."



TEXHNOYZE: A NONSENSICAL REVIEW, EPISODES 1-5

Warning: Spoilers Ahead!

[Intense techno opening that has a sci-fi noir vibe, this is going to be a promising show. Bonus points for the monochromatic color scheme and random shots of railroad tracks.]

Episode 1

Enter MC wearing what appears to be a black bikini bottom. Is he a swimsuit model? Is that a shower he's walking into or a gas chamber? I have so many questions and I'm only five seconds into the anime.

It's a shower, albeit the filthiest shower in the universe. MC stares pensively into the mirror, cue nonsensical flashback. I get the feeling I'm not going to understand anything for the next 5 episodes. Oh boy.

MC is seduced (?) by scary pale lady who sounds like she's having an asthma attack. The scene is interspersed with random shots of railroad tracks. Those railroad tracks really set the mood.

Whoa. That's a really long tongue. Like, reaaaally long.

Don't stick your finger in his eye during sex. Don't stick your finger in his eye during sex. Don't stick your finger in his eye during sex. DON'T STICK YOUR FINGER IN HIS EYE. DON'T DO IT.

She did it.

MC is hiding in a sewer full of severed limbs.

There has been no dialogue so far. Only groaning.

Look it's a Magical Fox Girl!

Magical Fox Girl meets up with Pimp Mustache Guy. I hope this isn't a harem anime.

Apparently Magical Fox Girl can see the future, and the future isn't looking too good. Honestly, I'm not surprised. Already suspicious of Pimp Mustache Guy. I mean yeah, his smile is charming, and his eyes sparkle in the

fluorescent lighting, but the dude glued a dead marmot to his upper lip.

MC is captured. Has arm cut off by eye-finger lady. Man, that looks painful.



Episode 2

Officially addicted to the intro.

Guns! Big guns, small guns. All of the guns. All of the time.

Classy Yakuza Man converses with sexy Ice Queen Scientist Lady. His legs are robot legs. There is a goldfish floating in midair.

MC lost another limb. He's really torn up about it poor guy. Heh.

MC tries to get revenge but falls flat on his face. Can life get any worse?

MC tries to get a meal and falls flat on his face.

MC hallucinates about an endless staircase and falls flat on his face.

I feel like I've fallen flat on my face. Emotionally.

Ice Queen Scientist Lady takes MC home. Is hope in sight or just more nauseating sex scenes? Dear god please not another sex scene.

Episode 3

A man is suspended in midair. A woman kneels on the ground and starts to cry. I'm just going to go with it. Is this a flashback or a dream???? What is happening? Why does this anime exist? Why do I exist? What is the meaning of life?

More shots of railroad tracks.

MC wakes up in a body bag. Seriously, I am not making this shit up.

I.Q. walks over to the wall and pulls out a severed arm, she throws the arm at MC who clutches it to his chest and starts to moan. Soothing jazz music plays in the background.

MC has been naked for 80% of this anime. I.Q. should take him shopping.

MC: "A mechanical arm and leg, I don't need those things."

MC: Falls flat on his face.

I.Q.: Bitch plz.

Episode 4

Pimp Mustache Guy takes a tour of the city, which looks like the landscape of a Prozac commercial before the drug kicks in and the patient has an epiphany about "The Beauty of Life".

Pimp Mustache Guy has a fantasy about Magical Fox Girl. Maybe, at this point I am not sure what is fantasy and what is reality. It is only episode four.

F*ck.

If the MC groans one more time I don't know what I'll do. Someone finally explained what "texhnolyze" means. I think I was better off not knowing.

Classy Yakuza Man lays on a maroon couch dully gazing off into the distance while his assistant/lover/sister(?) strokes his mechanical leg in a suggestive manner. Is this supposed to be character development?

I.Q. straddles naked MC while explaining advanced scientific terminology. That's definitely going to help him grasp the concepts of thermonuclear bioengineering and neural plasticity. *Shoutout to Shinji and the thermal boob experiment.*

I.Q.: Undresses and then starts talking about consent.

MC: Stares off into the distance.

MC: You don't understand what consent means, do you?

I.Q.: What does what mean?

Pimp Mustache Guy takes out a picture of Classy Yakuza Man and has a casual conversation with it. Do they even know each other???

Introducing the Salvation Union AKA a stand in for the Communist Party. Now they are dragging socialism into

the mix, as if this anime wasn't difficult enough without politics.

Is it just me or does their emblem resemble a swastika? "Those of the Salvation Union are of one heart and one flesh." #skinship

Texhnolyze: An anime about the endurance of the human spirit in the face of adversity and how to comfortably have sex in a car.



Episode 5

Enter Shinji, the only character who doesn't look like he's slowly being eaten up by despair.

MC: looks at his prosthetic arm.

MC: "This isn't my arm."

I.Q.: I thought we went over this two episodes ago.

Pimp Mustache Guy: "Tell me where there is a nice place I can go."

Shinji: Have you seen where we live?

Pimp Mustache Guy: Sorry, I forgot that this city is a giant pile of garbage.

Shinji and Pimp Mustache Guy share a BL moment (Pimp Mustache Guy would make a phenomenal power uke).

MC falls down two flights of stairs. Lands flat on his face. I haven't seen that before.

MC has a mental breakdown in the sewers because nobody values his unique personality. I have a mental breakdown watching MC have a mental breakdown.

Pimp Mustache Guy goes clubbing.

Meets a literal pimp.

Pimpin'

Magical Fox Girl watches all this shit go down. Does nothing.

Somewhere, in the distance, Ichise falls on his face.

A surprisingly large number of humans and animals were harmed in the making of this anime.

ミームが好きですか?

"Do you like memes?" Konshuu staff draw their favorites.





THE ASTONISHINGLY ACCURATE REPRESENTATION OF THE HUMAN RACE IN MANGA

From the moment it was introduced into the world, manga has accomplished exactly one thing correctly: getting life down on paper. I don't mean to say manga gets one or two things about life right; I mean to say that there is no other existing art form that has managed to depict the qualities of human life as accurately as manga. From the tasteful styles of art that capture the physical qualities of humans to the tropes that relate the truths of human relationships and culture, manga has been able to astonishingly accurately represent the human race.

Manga perfectly depicts how people look in the 3D world. Not even Leonardo da Vinci and his Vitruvian man comes as close as manga in showing realistic physical characteristics.

Unlike other art forms, manga captures the existence of *ahoges*, also known as the large lock of hair that usually protrudes from the top of one's head, just like for people in the real world. Besides the shades that depict the numerous natural hair colors of blue, green, and pink, manga also captures the dramatic and extensive bangs that real people have.



In more realistic manga (that is, shoujo manga), manga characters' eyes are as accurate as they could be. The eyes, just like in real life, encompass half the face, cover all shapes and sizes, and detail inch-long eyelashes, a densely concentrated pupil, and the reflection to portray

the most authentic eyes known in art form. It's simply spectacular work.

There are always two constants when it comes to the body: the lack of body hair and the prominence of breasts. Manga manages to paint a perfect picture of the hairless body we are all blessed with in reality. There is no reason to buy razors to shave legs or armpits—that hair doesn't exist.

What manga gets most accurate, I have to say, is the breasts. Not only do mangakas capture the shape, size, and roundness of beautiful breasts, they convey the enjoyment women have towards their huge F-cups. After all, there is nothing more delightful than five pounds of fat hanging from our fronts. Nothing. More. Delightful.

And how can we forget tropes that are predominant in manga culture? While there are too many to recount here, I will touch bases on the most popular ones.

We all know how many hot boys are out there—they're kind, smart, cool, popular, and seemingly perfect. And no matter how unattractive, naive, or clumsy we women are, these boys will fall in love with us. Even if we're dressed as boys (especially if we're dressed as boys).

We all know the feeling of getting a nosebleed in the presence of a highly attractive individual. It's always handy to keep a pack of tissues and a protein bar in case we get dizzy. After all, we never know just when a hot person will grace us with their presence. Oh wait, I forgot; since manga is an accurate representation of the human race, that means literally all the time.

Why go to history books in order to understand humans when you have manga? There's nothing out there that has ever been able to capture the human essence as well as manga. In the end, manga is not only a description of human life, it is a handbook on how to live life. After all, you can never go wrong with manga.



THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITY

Meme time! Can you identify the origin of these screenshots that showcase some of the best art and animation anime has to offer?



Answers: 1. Nuruto, 2. Yuu on Leelli, 3. Fate/Stay Night, 4. One Piece, 5. Sword Art Online, 6. KonoSuba

LAST WEEK'S POLL

What is your favorite board game?

RESULTS

Game	Percentage
Danmaku!!	55.6%
Settlers of Catan	22.2%
Werewolf	11.1%
Bay Area Regional Planner	5.6%
Other	5.6%

THIS WEEK'S POLL

Who is your favorite Harambe in anime?

1. Kondou Isao (Gintama)
2. Chitoge Kirisaki (Nisekoi)
3. Guillotine (Samurai Flamenco)
4. Captain Gorilla (One Piece)
5. Other

Vote now at: BIT.LY/KONPOLL4504

Volume XIV, Issue IV – 03.23.17



Konshuu proudly accepts guest submissions from club members! If you'd like to have content featured, please submit to:
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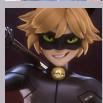
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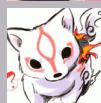
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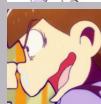
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Artist

WEEKLY EVENTS

真宮寺 是清
KOREKIYO SHINGUJI
(JOHNNY THE HOMICIDAL MANIAC)
(DANGANRONPA V3: KILLING HARMONY)

(DANGANRONPA V3: KILLING HARMONY)

Manga Social: Thurs: 5:30pm - 6:30pm; 106 Dwinelle
Game Night: Thurs: 8:00pm - 10:00pm; 106 Dwinelle
Check Facebook for location announcements!

Art by: Jamie You