

= NG Life =

NG Life (Japanese : NG??? , Hepburn : NG Raifu) is a Japanese manga written and illustrated by Mizuho Kusanagi . It was serialized in Hakusensha 's Hana to Yume from December 2005 to March 2009 . The individual chapters were then encapsulated and released in nine tank?bon volumes . The series was licensed for an English @-@ language release in North America by Tokyopop between 2008 up to 2011 when Tokyopop 's North American publishing company was closed down .

The story follows Keidai Saeki , a teenager who retains memories of his past life as a gladiator in Pompeii . In the present , Keidai is reunited with his past life 's wife who has reincarnated as a male ; meanwhile his male best friend is reincarnated as a female with feelings for Keidai . Reviews have been mixed about the series with reviewers praising or panning the art style and characters . In Japan , the sixth volume of NG Life was ranked 25th on the Tohan charts .

= = Plot = =

Keidai Saeki is a high school student with memories of his past life as Sirix Lucretius Fronto , a gladiator in Pompeii who lost his wife Serena in the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD . In the present , he is reunited with Loleus , Sirix 's male best friend who reincarnated as a girl named Mii Serizawa , and with Serena , who has reincarnated as a male middle school student named Yuuma Ujoh . Keidai has to deal with the feelings he has for Mii and his past love for Serena . As the series progresses , Keidai meets other people who retain memories of Pompeii and discovers that Sirix 's guilt in failing to save his friends is the reason why he retains his memories . When Keidai falls into a coma , he is able to relive the last moments of Pompeii where his actions put Sirix 's suffering to rest , allowing him to move on with his life and confess his love to Mii .

= = = Characters = = =

Keidai Saeki (?? ?? , Saeki Keidai)

Keidai is a high school student with memories of his past life as Sirix Lucretius Fronto (????? ??????? , Shirikusu Rukuretiusu Furonto) , a Pompeiiian gladiator . His life is thrown into turmoil after he meets Yuuma Ujoh , the reincarnation of Sirix 's wife . Keidai is also linked to his family 's incarnations ; his mother , Renka Saeki (?? ?? , Saeki Renka) , was Sirix 's younger sister , Aria (???) , while his father , Shuugo Saeki (?? ?? , Saeki Shuugo) , was Sirix 's rival Raoul Lucius Verus (??? ? ??????? ? ????? , Rauru Rusutiusu Werusu) . He is friends with Mii Serizawa , the reincarnation of Sirix 's close friend . He is unaware of Mii 's feelings towards him and his own feelings of her . As the series progresses , Keidai 's feelings for Mii grow as he starts to distance himself from Sirix 's memories .

Yuuma Ujoh (?? ?? , Ujoh Y?ma)

Yuuma is the reincarnation of Sirix 's wife Serena (???) , a maiden who captured the hearts of men with her beauty and kindness . Yuuma retains Serena 's feminine face and is often mistaken for a female . As a result , he aims to become more masculine to stop the confusion . Yuuma develops a secret crush on Mii early in the series , but his feelings are not reciprocated . He decides to give up on those feelings believing Keidai and Mii belong together and tries to push them together in order to help Keidai move on from Serena . It is revealed that Serena was reborn as a boy because in her final moments she felt that had she been a man , she could have been at Sirix 's side in the final days of Pompeii , rather than be left behind waiting for him .

Mii Serizawa (?? ?? , Serizawa Mii)

Mii is the reincarnation of Sirix 's best friend Loleus (????? , Roreiusu) . Serizawa met Keidai in seventh grade when they helped a trapped bird and was the first to learn about his past life . She has a crush on Keidai but remains silent about it , fearing it would ruin their friendship . Serizawa is very popular with boys , though they do not make advances , believing she and Keidai are a couple . In her past life , Loleus helped Sirix meet Serena . Kusanagi reveals Mii 's name comes from

Serizawa Kamo .

Shinogu Kagami (??? ? , Kagami Shinogu)

Shinogu is Yuuma 's older male cousin and the reincarnation of Serena 's overprotective older sister Smyrna (???? , Sumiruna) . Like Keidai , he retains memories of his past life , and hates Keidai for abandoning Serena during the volcanic eruption . He has an aversion to hot weather because of his strong memories of that day . He began working as a student teacher at Keidai 's high school after Yuuma 's family moved to town . Shinogu despises males except for Yuuma , and is a womanizer . Shinogu holds a grudge against Souichi Mikage because in his past life as Delos , he betrayed Aglaia .

Shuna Sakakibara (?? ?? , Sakakibara Shuna)

The reincarnation of a noblewoman named Aglaia Felix (????? ???? , Aguraiya Ferikusu) , Shuna was reborn into a wealthy family and retains memories of Pompeii . She loses them at seventeen when she wishes to move on from her past . Shuna is a kind @-@ hearted young woman willing to help anyone in need . When she was two years old , she called her newborn sister Serena due to their physical resemblance ; her parents , misheard and named the child Reina . At the age of 10 , Shuna meets Souichi Mikage , who also retains his memories of Pompeii , where he served as her bodyguard henceforth . Shuna initially hates Souichi due to his past betrayal , but her feelings for him grow over time and she falls in love with him .

Reina Sakakibara (?? ?? , Sakakibara Reina)

Reina is Shuna 's younger sister who closely resembles Serena and dresses in gothic Lolita @-@ style clothing . She grew up hearing stories of Pompeii and developed a crush on Souichi . After Reina has her confession rejected by Souichi , she runs away and happens upon Keidai and the others . She discovers that he also has memories of Pompeii and brings them to Shuna hoping it would bring back her memories . She is in the same class as Yuuma where their similarities make them seem like twins . Reina and Yuuma grow close as friends and begin to speak to each other about their problems . They connect over their predicament of having romantic feelings for those who only see them as a younger sibling . Reina is later revealed to be the reincarnation of a girl named Tina (???) , a friend of Serena . Her appearance of resembling Serena is explained as Tina 's wish to experience the same love Serena has with Sirix .

Souichi Mikage (?? ?? , Mikage Souichi)

Souichi is the reincarnation of a mercenary named Delos (???? , Dirosu) , who served as a bodyguard to Lady Aglaia in Pompeii but later betrayed her . He retains all of his memories of his life in Pompeii and encounters Reina and Shuna when he is fifteen . After discovering that Shuna still has her memories of being Lady Aglaia , he begins working to regain her trust . Souichi blames himself for the her memory 's disappearance , claiming that her hatred towards him is the cause . Later in the series , it is revealed that Delos fell in love with Lady Aglaia even though he was mercenary hired by the House of Britius to betray her . After framing Aglaia for murder , Delos sought revenge against the House of Britius and murdered every member of the family .

= = Release = =

NG Life , written and illustrated by Mizuho Kusanagi , had its first chapter published in The Hana to Yume on December 26 , 2005 . It was then serialized in Hana to Yume beginning with the second chapter on March 20 , 2006 and ended its run on March 5 , 2009 . The first tank?bon volume was released by Hakusensha on November 19 , 2006 and the ninth on June 19 , 2009 . Tokyopop licensed the series in 2008 and released the English adapted tank?bon between March 17 , 2009 and April 12 , 2011 . After Tokyopop was shut down , the license was returned to Hakusensha .

During the planning of NG Life , Mizuho Kusanagi discussed with her editor about having a female lead protagonist allowing the readers to relate more to the protagonist . However , a male lead was settled for and the story was written in a romantic @-@ panic comedy style . Kusanagi planned to end the series in its fourth volume , but wanted to add more to the story as it progressed resulting in more volumes . She also commented that even though she struggled with the plot , she enjoyed drawing the characters in the end . In the final chapter , the author revealed she had planned to pair

Keidai with Mii since the beginning .

= = = Volume list = = =

= = Reception = =

The sixth volume of NG Life was ranked 25th on the Tohan charts between January 20 and 26 , 2009 . Erin Jones of Mania.com commented on the unoriginal plot and typical sh?jo art but praised the characters ' distinctive designs and the art sense used to convey a dramatic scenes . He concludes that the character relationships are the " selling point " of the series . GraphicNovelReporter.com 's Courtney Kraft comments that the art style is adequate but criticizes the " kookyness " citing the drama at the end of volume one was necessary to balance it . Comics Worth Reading 's Johanna Draper Carlson heavily panned the manga for its art and " two @-@ dimensional characters that are predictable and uninteresting . "