

= Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru =

Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru (????????????? , lit . The Maidens Are Falling in Love with Me) , commonly known as Otoboku (?????) , is a Japanese adult visual novel developed by Caramel Box and released on January 28 , 2005 playable on Windows PCs . The game was later ported to the PlayStation 2 and PlayStation Portable (PSP) with the adult content removed . The Windows version was released in English by MangaGamer in 2012 . The story follows the life of Mizuho Miyanokouji , an androgynous male high school student , who transfers into an all @-@ girls school due to his grandfather 's will .

The gameplay in Otoboku follows a branching plot line which offers pre @-@ determined scenarios with courses of interaction , and focuses on the appeal of the six female main characters by the player character . The game ranked as the second best @-@ selling PC game sold in Japan for the time of its release , and charted in the national top 50 several more times afterwards . Caramel Box went on to produce two fan discs released in 2005 and 2007 in Caramel Box Yarukibako and Caramel Box Yarukibako 2 , respectively . Caramel Box later produced a sequel to Otoboku titled Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru : Futari no Elder released on June 30 , 2010 playable on Windows PCs . Futari no Elder was ported to the PSP with the adult content removed . The story follows Chihaya Kisakinomiya , an androgynous male , who transfers into the all @-@ girls school that was the setting of Otoboku .

A manga adaptation of Otoboku was serialized in ASCII Media Works ' Dengeki Daioh , and a manga adaptation of Futari no Elder was serialized in Kadokawa Shoten 's Comp Ace . Comic anthologies , light novels and art books were also published , as were audio dramas and several music albums . A 12 @-@ episode Otoboku anime produced by Feel aired in Japanese between October and December 2006 , and an extra original video animation (OVA) episode was released in April 2007 . Media Blasters licensed the anime and released the series in three DVD volumes . The Otoboku anime was generally panned in reviews at Anime News Network where the series was described as " cruelly unimaginative " with " obnoxious quirks and technical shortcomings . " In a review of the anime by Mania Entertainment , the series is thought to be " very predictable and bland . " A three @-@ episode OVA adaptation of Futari no Elder produced by Silver Link was released between August and October 2012 .

= = Gameplay = =

Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru is a romance visual novel in which the player assumes the role of Mizuho Miyanokouji . Its gameplay requires little player interaction as much of the game 's duration is spent on reading the text that appears on the screen , which represents the story 's narrative and dialogue . Otoboku follows a branching plot line with multiple endings , and depending on the decisions that the player makes during the game , the plot will progress in a specific direction .

There are six main plot lines that the player will have the chance to experience , one for each of the heroines in the story . Every so often , the player will come to a point where he or she is given the chance to choose from multiple options . Text progression pauses at these points until a choice is made . To view all plot lines in their entirety , the player will have to replay the game multiple times and choose different choices to further the plot to an alternate direction . Each scenario is divided into eight episodes , one interlude episode and an epilogue . At the end of an episode , an announcement of the next episode appears showing a preview of what is to consist in the next episode . Each episode takes place within the span of one month between June and March from episode one through the epilogue . The interlude episode is placed between the second and third episodes .

In the adult versions of the game , there are scenes with sexual CGs depicting Mizuho and a given heroine having sex . When the game was ported to the PlayStation 2 (PS2) console , the gameplay was somewhat altered . The PS2 version , and later the PlayStation Portable (PSP) version , both had the sexual content removed , and in these versions there is no evidence that physical relationships actually take place between any of the students .

There are ten additional sub episodes and a special sub episode . The CD and DVD Windows editions contain four sub episodes , the fan disc Caramel Box Yarukibako contains four sub episodes and a special episode , Caramel Box Yarukibako 2 contains two sub episodes , and the PS2 version contains six sub episodes , though the order in which they appeared was altered .

In *Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru : Futari no Elder* , the player assumes the roles of the main protagonist Chihaya Kisakinomiya and the secondary character Kaoruko Nanahara . There are six main plot lines that the player will have the chance to experience , one for each of the heroines in the story . In the adult versions of *Futari no Elder* , there are scenes with sexual CGs depicting Chihaya and a given heroine having sex . The gameplay is somewhat altered in the PSP version . The PSP version has the sexual content removed , the scenarios of Utano Sasou and Kaori Kamichika that appeared in the Windows version are removed , and it contains newly added scenarios of You Kashiwagi and Hatsune Minase . There are three additional sub episodes in the Windows version of *Futari no Elder* .

= = Plot = =

= = = Setting = = =

The primary setting is at a private all @-@ girls school named Seio Girls ' Academy , also called Seio Jogakuin Christian Education , which was founded in 1886 by Mizuho 's ancestor . Seio was originally named Keisen Girls ' Academy (????? , Keisen Jogakuin) , which was used in original Windows version , the drama CD of the visual novel , and for the Caramel Box Yarukibako fan disc . This name was later ascertained to be similar to a name of an actual school , and the school 's name was changed to Seio Girls ' Academy (????? , Sei? Jogakuin , ????? as written in PlayStation 2 version) . Seio is used in the PlayStation 2 version , DVD Windows edition , Caramel Box Yarukibako Fukkoku @-@ ban and anime series . The secondary setting is at a dormitory building named Sakura @-@ yakata (??) , which Mizuho , Mariya , Yukari and Kana are boarding at . There are four other former dormitories named Tsubaki @-@ yakata , Enoki @-@ yakata , Hisagi @-@ yakata and Hiiragi @-@ yakata .

= = = Main characters = = =

The player assumes the role of Mizuho Miyanokouji , the protagonist of *Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru* . He is a kind high school student who impersonates a girl at an all @-@ girls school , which he transfers into per his grandfather 's will . He spends his time with many fellow attendees , some of which live in the nearby dormitory , and enjoys helping them with any problems they may have . His childhood friend Mariya Mikado attends the school with him , and helps in his female transition . She has a spirited personality with a bit of a temper , and has been a support for Mizuho in the past . Mizuho meets a classmate named Shion Jujo who has a silent voice and demeanor ; she quickly figures out that Mizuho is actually a boy , but tells no one . The previous year , she had to be hospitalized soon after she was elected as the Elder due to an illness .

At the dormitory lives an energetic first @-@ year student named Yukari Kamioka . She is on the track and field team along with Mariya , who is her Oneesama (???? , meaning " Older sister ") , and has low confidence in her ability to run . Another first @-@ year at the dormitory named Kana Suoin meets Mizuho on the day he moves in , and soon after Mizuho becomes her Oneesama . Kana is more than happy to serve Mizuho any way she can , since she admires him immensely . A hyperactive ghost resides in Mizuho 's room named Ichiko Takashima and is shown to speak very fast when excited . She says that Mizuho looks very much like her previous Elder love interest , who turns out to be Mizuho 's deceased mother . The student council president at Seio is Takako Itsukushima who tends to have a serious personality .

= = = Story = = =

Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru revolves around the main protagonist Mizuho Miyanokouji , a male high school student . After Mizuho 's grandfather dies , his will is reviewed , which explains his desire to have his grandson transfer to Seio Girls ' Academy , the same one his own mother attended and his ancestors founded . Abiding by the will , Mizuho cross @-@ dresses to attend the school . The headmistress , the deputy head teacher (visual novel only) , Mizuho 's homeroom teacher Hisako Kajiura and Mariya Mikado initially know his secret ; Shion Jujo and Ichiko Takashima also eventually find this out . Mizuho is very popular among the other students , who often talk about how pretty , nice , and athletic Mizuho is . This rampant popularity escalates to him even being nominated against his will to join in on the Elder election . By these terms , the current student council president , Takako Itsukushima , runs against Mizuho .

The Elder election is an old tradition at Seio Girls ' Academy where every June one of the students is elected by her peers to be the " Elder " , who is seen as the number one " Elder Sister " in the school . Until her graduation , she is referred to by her peers as Onee @-@ sama (????) . To become an Elder , a candidate must gain at least 75 % of the votes . If none of the candidates get at least 75 % in the first round of voting , one of the candidates hands over her votes to another candidate , and the candidate who finally obtains at least 75 % of the votes becomes the Elder . If there is no one else in the election , the current year 's student council president becomes the Elder . In Otoboku , Mizuho gains 82 % of the votes in the first round , effectively becoming the 72nd Elder in the school 's history . After becoming Elder , Mizuho progressively gets more popular among the student body since he is now a symbol of the school 's excellence . In the following months , Mizuho starts to get to know some of the girls better and helps them with their problems .

= = = = Futari no Elder = = = =

Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru : Futari no Elder is written from the viewpoints of main character Chihaya Kisakinomiya and secondary character Kaoruko Nanahara . Futari no Elder begins about two years after Mizuho 's graduation . The main protagonist Chihaya Mikado was truant at his school because of harassment in the school and of a distrust in men . His mother cannot bear to watch him be in trouble , so she makes him transfer to Seio Girls ' Academy , her old school . He dresses as a girl and introduces himself as Chihaya Kisakinomiya . Chihaya meets another protagonist Kaoruko Nanahara , who once rescued him from a playboy , and he begins to live in the dormitory building . He becomes the focus of public attention due to his attractive face and figure , and due to high grades at studies .

In the 75th Elder election , there are four finalists ; Hatsune Minase hands over her votes to Kaoruko and Makiyo Shingyouji hands over her votes to Chihaya . Then Chihaya and Kaoruko gain the same votes of 368 together . Though a candidate which gains 75 % or more of the votes becomes the Elder , Hatsune , as the student council president , proposes that both Chihaya and Kaoruko become the Elders ; the motion is adopted unanimously . This is the first time there have been two Elders in the history of Seio Girls ' Academy .

= = Development = =

Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru is the fourth visual novel developed by Caramel Box . The scenario is written by Aya Takaya , and this was the first time Takaya was staffed on a Caramel Box game . Art direction and character design is done by Norita , who was staffed on Caramel Box 's debut release Blue as an artist . The super deformed illustrations featured in Otoboku were drawn by the game illustrator Yoda . The music was composed by the music team Zizz Studio .

The original title uses the kanji ?? (shojo) , which means " virgin " , but is very close to the word for " young lady " , sh?jo . The creators added furigana subscript to indicate they wanted it read " otome " meaning " young maiden " . Additionally , furigana was added above ???? (onee @-@ sama) to indicate that they wanted it read " boku " . Despite the different kanji , the official reading is " Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru " . When the game was ported to the PlayStation 2 , it was rewritten as

???????????? with the same pronunciation of " Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru " , which uses the actual " otome " (??) kanji . The latter name was kept for the manga and anime releases .

= = = Release history = = =

A free game demo of Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru can be downloaded at the game 's official website . The game was released as an adult game on January 28 , 2005 as a limited edition , playable on a Windows PC as a 2 @-@ disc CD @-@ ROM set . The limited edition came bundled with a special story book entitled Tsunderera . The regular edition was released on February 18 , 2005 , and one select lot of this version contained a limited edition sticker . An updated version with full voice acting was released on April 28 , 2006 as a DVD . Another updated version compatible for Windows Vista / 7 was released on May 27 , 2011 . The Windows version of Otoboku was released in English by MangaGamer on November 23 , 2012 .

Caramel Box released a fan disc of Otoboku on June 24 , 2005 in a collection called Caramel Box Yarukibako , which contained additional scenarios that furthered the story from the original visual novel ; the fan disc came with a small figurine . The collection was re @-@ released under the title Caramel Box Yarukibako Fukkoku @-@ ban on January 26 , 2007 . A second fan disc was released on October 19 , 2007 in the collection Caramel Box Yarukibako 2 , which again contained additional scenarios . Alchemist released a PlayStation 2 port on December 29 , 2005 , which removed the adult elements of the game . Additional scenarios were included in the PS2 version written by Kiichi Kan? . A version of the adult game featuring only Sion 's scenario playable on iOS devices was released in six volumes between March 29 and June 4 , 2010 . A PlayStation Portable (PSP) version titled Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru Portable was released on April 29 , 2010 by Alchemist .

= = = Sequel = = =

A sequel to the visual novel titled Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru : Futari no Elder (????????????? ? 2?????? ?) was released as an adult game on June 30 , 2010 as a limited edition , playable on a Windows PC as a DVD . The same staff that worked on Otoboku returned for the sequel . The limited edition came bundled with a 96 @-@ page guide book , an original card from the Lycée Trading Card Game , and an original pouch . A free game demo of Futari no Elder can be downloaded at the game 's official website . The regular edition was released on July 30 , 2010 . Settings and characters from Sakura no Sono no Étoile , a novel written by the scriptwriter of Otoboku as a sequel to Takako 's story , appear in Futari no Elder . Also , the release date of June 30 coincides in @-@ story with the day of the election day of the 75th Elder sister . A PSP version titled Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru Portable : Futari no Elder was released on April 28 , 2011 by Alchemist . A downloadable version of the PSP release via the PlayStation Store was released by Alchemist on December 1 , 2011 .

= = Related media = =

= = = Novels = = =

Two novels written based on the original game written by Saki Murakami and published by Paradigm were released in Japan in June and August 2005 . The first released was Toraware no Himegimi : Sion @-@ hen (?????? ? ??? ? , Imprisoned Princess : Sion Chapter) centering on Sion , with the second entitled Tomadou Juliet : Takako @-@ hen (??????????? ? ??? ? , Perplexed Juliet : Takako Chapter) centering on Takako . These novels contain erotic content . A single volume titled Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru written by Chihiro Minagawa with accompanying illustrations by Ume Aoi was published by Jive in August 2005 , and centers on Takako 's scenario . Sion 's scenario was ported to the iPhone as an e @-@ book between March 29 and June 4 , 2010 by DML . A semi official d?jin novel was written by the original scenario writer for the game , Aya

Takaya , called Sakura no Sono no Étoile (????????? , lit . Étoile in the Cherry Orchard) , with illustrations by the original game artist Norita . The novel contains a two short stories that is a sequel of Takako 's scenario , and Kana and Yukari have little sisters . The revised and completed edition of the d?jin novel was published as an official novel by Enterbrain on December 25 , 2007 .

Three volumes based on Futari no Elder were written by Tasuku Saiga and published by Paradigm between September 30 , 2010 and January 19 , 2011 . The first volume centers on Kaoruko Nanahara , the second is around Kaori Kamichika , and the third centers on Utano Sasou . A single volume written by Reiji Mai titled Knight no Kimi no Love Romance (????????? , Love Affair of You , the Knight) was published by Kill Time Communication on December 3 , 2010 . These four novels contain erotic content . Three volumes written by Aya Takaya were released by SoftBank Creative between December 15 , 2010 and January 15 , 2012 . The first volume titled Futari no Elder (???????) is the story until Chihaya Kisakinomiya and Kaoruko Nanahara are elected as Elders ; the second titled Madogoshi no Ih?jin (??????? , The Stranger Through the Window) is the story until the end of first term and it mainly focuses Kaoruko Nanahara , You Kashiwagi and Hatsune Minase ; and the third titled Kin no Ori , Ibara no Torikago (????? , lit . The Golden Cage , The Birdcage of Thorns) is the story between summer vacation and September and it mainly focuses Awayuki Reizei and Utano Sasou . There were five novels published by Multi Bunko between June 30 , 2011 and March 29 , 2012 : three volumes written by Tasuku Saiga are around Utano Sasou , Fumi Watarai and Awayuki Reizei ; one volume written by Ricotta is around Kaoruko Nanahara ; and a volume written by Mitsuru Iiyama is not dependent on any heroine 's scenario . These eight novels are not erotic .

= = = Manga = = =

A manga adaptation is illustrated by Kanao Araki and was serialized in ASCII Media Works ' magazine Dengeki Daioh between the November 2006 and August 2008 issues in Japan . Two tank?bon volumes were released under ASCII Media Works ' Dengeki Comics imprint , the first on August 27 , 2007 and the second on September 27 , 2008 . A four panel comic strip manga was published by Enterbrain in 12 comics anthologies released between March 26 , 2007 and March 25 , 2009 .

A manga adaptation of Futari no Elder illustrated by Akuru Uira was serialized between the July 2010 and February 2012 issues of Kadokawa Shoten 's Comp Ace . Three volumes were published between November 26 , 2010 and January 26 , 2012 . Three volumes of a four panel , comic strip manga of Futari no Elder were published by Enterbrain between September 26 , 2010 and January 29 , 2011 . Two comic anthologies were released by Ichijinsha between October 25 and November 25 , 2010 .

= = = Internet radio show = = =

An Internet radio show to promote the anime series was broadcast between October 5 , 2006 and March 27 , 2008 called the Seio Girls ' Academy Broadcasting Station (????????? , Sei? Jogakuin H?s?kyoku) . It aired every Thursday hosted by Miyu Matsuki and Yuko Goto who played Sion Jujo and Ichiko Takashima in the anime , respectively ; it was produced by Animate TV . There are thirteen corners , or parts , to the program which correspond to the general life of the characters in the story , and 74 episodes were produced . There were several guests to the show such as Chiaki Takahashi in episodes six and seven as Takako Itsukushima , Akemi Kanda in episodes eleven and twelve as Kana Suoin , Ayano Matsumoto in episodes fifteen and sixteen as Yukari Kamioka , and Madoka Kimura in episodes nineteen and twenty as Kimie Sugawara . The radio show episodes were released on four CDs released between May 9 , 2007 and February 6 , 2008 .

= = = Anime = = =

An anime adaptation is produced by the animation studio Feel , directed by Munenori Nawa ,

written by Katsumi Hasegawa , and features character design by Noriko Shimazawa who based the designs on Norita 's original concept . The anime contained twelve episodes which aired between October 6 and December 24 , 2006 on several UHF networks including TV Kanagawa and Chiba TV . The episodes were released on four DVD compilations released in Japan as limited and regular editions . A single original video animation (OVA) episode was released on the final limited edition DVD on April 4 , 2007 . Media Blasters released the series , including the OVA , as English @-@ subtitled DVDs between June 24 and October 7 , 2008 under the title Otoboku : Maidens Are Falling For Me ! .

A three @-@ episode OVA adaptation of Futari no Elder is produced by the animation studio Silver Link , directed by Shin 'ya Kawatsura , written by Michiko Yokote , and features character design by Keiichi Sano who based the designs on Norita 's original concept . The episodes were released on three Blu @-@ ray Disc / DVD volumes between August 29 and October 24 , 2012 .

= = = Music and audio CDs = = =

The Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru visual novel has three theme songs : the opening theme " You Make My Day ! " by Yuria , the ending theme " Itoshii Kimochi " (???????) by Yui Sakakibara , and " Sayonara no Sasayaki " (???????) by Sakakibara as an insert song . The original soundtrack for the visual novel titled Maiden 's Rest was released in Japan on February 25 , 2005 by Digiturbo . The Futari no Elder visual novel has four theme songs : an opening theme , an ending theme , and two insert songs . For the Windows version of Futari no Elder , the opening theme is " Underhanded Girl " (????????? ? ???) by Yuria , and the ending theme is " Hidamari no Naka e " (???????) by Aki Misato . For the PSP version of Futari no Elder , the opening theme is " Crystal Wish " by Miyuki Hashimoto , and the ending theme is " Tamerai , Fuwari " (???? ? ??? ?) by Shiori . The insert songs , both sung by Sakakibara , are " Utsuriyuku Hana no Y?ni " (?????????) and " Kimi no Mama de " (?????) . An album was released containing the theme songs for the Windows version of Futari no Elder on May 26 , 2010 by Lantis . A single was released containing the theme songs for the PSP version of Futari no Elder on April 27 , 2011 by Lantis .

Two singles were released for the opening and ending themes for the anime adaptation . The first called " Love Power " by Aice5 contained the opening theme of the same name . The other single entitled " Again " by Yui Sakakibara contained the ending theme entitled " Beautiful Day " . The A @-@ side track from that single entitled " Again " was used as an insert song in episode eleven . Both singles were released on October 25 , 2006 by King Records . The soundtrack for the anime was released on November 22 , 2006 by King Records . Three character image song albums were released sung by voice actors from the anime adaptation . The first album was by Yui Horie as Mizuho Miyanokouji , Miyu Matsuki as Sion Jujo and Masumi Asano as Mariya Mikado . The second album featured Ayano Matsumoto as Yukari Kamioka , Akemi Kanda as Kana Suoin and Yuko Goto as Ichiko Takashima . The third album was recorded by Chiaki Takahashi as Takako Itsukushima , Madoka Kimura as Kimie Sugawara and Yui Sakakibara as Hisako Kajiura . These CDs were released between July 26 and September 21 , 2006 .

Seven drama CDs based on Otoboku have also been produced . The first was based on the visual novel and was released on September 22 , 2005 . Four more based on the Otoboku anime adaptation were released between October 25 , 2006 and April 11 , 2007 . A drama CD based on the novel Sakura no Sono no Étoile was released on January 29 , 2010 . The last one was based on a special episode contained in the fan disc Caramel Box Yarukibako with voice actors from anime adaptation released on January 29 , 2010 .

= = Reception = =

According to a national ranking of how well bish?jo games sold nationally in Japan , the Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru limited edition Windows release premiered at number two in the rankings . The limited edition achieved a ranking of four out of 50 in the ranking for the next two weeks . The regular edition Windows release premiered at number six in the rankings , and stayed in the top 50

for a month and a half until mid @-@ April 2005 . The regular edition was again in the rankings for May 2005 , managing to rank in at 38 and 49 . The Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru Windows edition playable as a DVD premiered at number 13 in the rankings and stayed at that rank for the next listing . The DVD edition ranked twice more over the next month : the first at 43 and the last at 33 . From May to June 2010 , Otome wa Boku ni Koishiteru : Futari no Elder ranked third in national PC game pre @-@ orders in Japan . Futari no Elder ranked second in terms of national sales of PC games in Japan in June 2010 .

The first two anime DVD volumes released by Media Blasters were reviewed by Anime News Network . In the review of the first DVD , the reviewer Carl Kimlinger generally panned the volume , commenting how the three episodes were " cruelly unimaginative " where " afterwards it 's one long slide into a torturous hell of girls ' school tripe where not even humor or romance can pierce the veil of pain . " The Catholic girl 's school premise is likened to Maria @-@ sama ga Miteru and Strawberry Panic ! , and is considered to be used " merely as visual spice . " For the second DVD volume , Kimlinger wrote that " while the onslaught of squealing , caffeinated moe @-@ bait has abated somewhat in its ferocity , a sagging of the already listlessly undirected plot ensures that the series ' sophomore outing is only marginally more tolerable than the first . " Further , the series is described as having " obnoxious quirks and technical shortcomings . "

The first two anime DVD volumes released by Media Blasters were also reviewed by Mania Entertainment . In the review of the first DVD , the reviewer Chris Beveridge felt the anime reminded him of " parts of Princess Princess , especially when it came to the Elder status piece . It 's even reminiscent of Strawberry Panic in this way . " The series is described as " all about the " moe " factor , bringing about an atmosphere that makes you like the characters , care about them and feel good about seeing them interact . It does it well even if it doesn ' t have an amazing hook . " For the second DVD volume , Beveridge commented that the series continues to be " very predictable and bland " which is " at this point fun but entirely forgettable . " Beveridge also wrote how " the characters are all pleasant , nicely designed and with mildly interesting personalities that could lead to something more but never does . "