



Arki 1

Keiichi Arawi, Antti Kokkonen (Translator)

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Kumpi voittaa painiottelun - rehtori vai peura? Miksi lukiotytöllä on selässään valtava vieteriavain? Ja miksi nuorukainen saapuu kouluun vuohella ratsastaen? Näihin ja moniin muihin kysymyksiin, joita et koskaan ole edes uneksinut kysyväsi, vastaa hullunkurinen Arki. Sarja josta on arki kaukana.

Arki 1 Details

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Author : Keiichi Arawi , Antti Kokkonen (Translator)

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From Reader Review Arki 1 for online ebook

Sylwia (Wish Fulfillment) says

Strange but boring. DNF after 1.5 chapters.

Nicola Mansfield says

I can't express how smitten I am with this. Extremely quirky with dry humour and subtle wit while the outrageous is happening. Not what I had expected from Japanese humour, at all. It's a slice of life high school story where most, though not all, of the characters, are girls. Not so much of a plot other than recurring day to day school issues. This is off-beat, strange humour and just the thing that tickles my funny bone. I adored it! The best part was when the principal goes at it with a deer in the school yard. One girl is a robot made by another girl who is a bit of a mad scientist. Another girl is quite normal but when she gets angry she takes out imaginary guns and shoots people in the head. There is a boy who is the eldest son of his family "The House of Something" and he dresses like an Edwardian man, comes to school with a manservant, riding upon a goat, but is really only the son of a farmer. There is a smart, book-reading girl who doesn't see the point of games and how she takes the fun out of it for everyone when forced to play makes me love her, as I feel the same way. LOL. Looking forward to reading the next volume.

Mary Rose says

(3.5) I enjoyed this; it was quirky and funny and relatable as hell, actually.

Amanda at Nerdification Reviews says

You definitely need to be in the mood for something quirky to read this. You get thrown into the antics of these characters without any explanation or plot. It's fun.

Skjam! says

"The ordinary lives that all of us lead every day might perhaps be a succession of miracles."

This is the story of four ordinary high school girls living their ordinary everyday lives. Yukko, cheerful but not very bright; Mio, who's of average intellect and has an artistic streak; the quiet and book-smart Mai; and Nano, who's a robot with a wind-up key in her back. They all have their little quirks, and strange things happen often, but it's all a part of ordinary life.

Nichijou ("Everyday") is a shounen (boy's) comedy manga that ran from 2006-2015, with an anime adaptation in 2011. There isn't much of a narrative arc; most of the stories depict short scenes from the lives

of one or more characters' daily lives...strange as those events may be. There are some recurring themes, the most frequent of which is Nano's desire to blend in with humans, and her frustration with her inventor/ward, eight year old mad scientist Professor Shinonome, who refuses to remove the key in her back.

In this first volume, we are introduced to the main characters as they head to school in the morning (Nano doesn't quite make it.) Yukko tries to figure out why Mai is ignoring her. Nano has difficulties with new functions the Professor installed in her body. The pretentious Sasahara (drama club president) and hot-tempered Misato (kendo club member) try to decide what to do for the cultural festival.

There's a school assembly led by Principal Shinonome (who may or may not be related), known for his "dad jokes" and the intensely shy Ms. Sakurai. Yukko witnesses a wrestling match between the principal and a deer—and can never tell anyone. Yukko and Mai play rock-paper-scissors. Yukko and Mio build a card house (this is a silent chapter.) Yukko fails to study for finals, and the questions seem indecipherable.

Yukko tries to finish her lunch despite dropping a key ingredient. Nano and the Professor have cake. Ms. Sakurai tries to enforce school rules on Sasahara. Mio belatedly remembers she drew an embarrassing picture in her notebook when Yukko tries to borrow it. Mio gets a part-time job that sucks. Yukko finally did her homework on time, but didn't remember to bring it back to school. Nano suffers from over the top comedic reactions due to the Professor's latest modifications.

The short pieces are usually funny, though some of them rely on Japanese conventions of comedy that might be opaque to newer readers of manga. The lack of focus and chapters where nothing much happens might also make this less appealing to some readers. Also, there's some slapstick violence.

I especially like the card house chapter, which utilizes suspense and the previously established characterization to build to a silly conclusion.

The art in this first volume is less than stellar, and suffers greatly from "same face"—the artist improved greatly over the course of the series.

A word or two more about the anime: It does not present the sketches in the same order, allowing it to have a plot arc where Nano has to convince the Professor to let her attend school. It also has interspersed gags from the creator's other series Helvetica Standard, and in the second half of the season, the closing credits feature a different song each time.

I recommend this series for fans of sketch comedy and magical realism.

Holly Letson says

I picked this up from the library on a silly whim, just because I liked the quirky cover with silly-looking schoolgirls and deer on a desk. I am glad I did. This was a fun, silly read full of randomness. I'd love to read more of this series.

If you like series like Azumanga Daioh, Yotsuba&!, My Neighbor Seki, or Mitsudomoe, then definitely give this series a try as well. I can't help but wonder if the anime is good as well.

Artemy says

Nichijou is Simply The Best.

This anime/manga is a member of the Holy Trinity of Japanese high school comedy, together with Azumanga Daioh and Lucky Star. Azumanga is the OG straight take on the genre and is rightfully considered a classic; Lucky Star is more meta, Japanese pop-culture centered show/book; and Nichijou's thing is comedy through exaggeration. Needless to say, it's one of my all-time favourite anime, and now that I'm finally able to read the manga, I can say it's just as great as the show.

Ever seen Scrubs? Nichijou's humour is kinda like JD's daydreaming sequences. It takes regular everyday life events and shows them not as they objectively are, but as they are emotionally experienced by characters themselves, and it does that in absolutely hilarious, creative and brilliant ways. Here's a couple of prime examples of the show's humour, and some of my favourite gags from the whole thing (there are so many to choose from!):

Exhibit A, the Sausage incident

Exhibit B, Yukko goes to a coffee shop

If you think these are funny, you are in for an absolute blast, whether you choose to watch the anime or read the manga (though, once again, I would recommend anime first because it's GORGEOUSLY animated and the music is so lovely). Having seen the anime a while ago, I am now thoroughly enjoying revisiting the characters and the stories once again in the manga, but either one is an excellent choice for when you're feeling particularly down and could use some solid laughs in your life.

Ran says

This manga is a series of gags and spoofs on the Japanese high school genre rather than a narrative story. Being rusty, I didn't really get that until about halfway in - but luckily it doesn't really take much time to get through one of these volumes.

My favorite bits: high school non-achiever, Yukko, forgot that after being out sick for three days, her English final was the very next school day. She struggles hard, and it's very funny. Secondly, Sasahara is a riot as he is a punch at all the rich aristocratic high school boy figures in manga. Kid wears a jabot, yet doesn't know what it's called. I very much enjoyed Tachibana's random weaponry, though it appeared ineffective against Sasahara.

There, that is a feeling I know.

Shannon says

Some of this book had me chuckling but other parts had me scratching my head. The parts that were confusing could've just been jokes lost in translation though. If you like either Azumanga Daioh or Yotsuba&! I think you'd enjoy this slice-of-life weirdness. I'm hoping after this volume that the characters' personalities will be built up more instead of just more panels of the running jokes in this book.

Not anywhere near my favorite manga, but at least it wasn't the worst!

Sesana says

Just not feeling it. It's neither funny enough nor strange enough to keep my interest. It's not exactly Azumanga Daioh, but it's in the ballpark.

Liam says

One of my favourite anime, the manga doesn't disappoint. Far too short though, I need to buy a batch of them next time.

Selena says

This manga is called "Nichijou: My Ordinary Life." By the cover, I'm sure you can tell that there's nothing "ordinary" about this series.

It's a slapstick slice of life comedy that pretty much is every anime stereotype in a nutshell, but somehow original all at the same time. All the chapters are one shots, but occasionally gags carry over from chapter to chapter. You'll pretty much know if this is for you from the first chapter. The jokes change, but the same humor carries throughout.

If you like strange humor, you'll probably get a laugh out of it. Not much knowledge of Japanese culture is needed for this one, either, so if you know a newbie to manga that has a weird sense of humor, this would be good for them.

Jason says

This review is for the first three volumes, since they're all about the same in tone and content.

This series is a combination of short stories and strips centered around a group of students in a Japanese school. It's very strange, even surreal, throughout. I really liked how unusual it is, but I felt like I didn't get a lot of the jokes. I couldn't tell whether or not it was because they were related to Japanese culture, or because

they just weren't funny. There's a lot of slapstick-type humor here and well, and whether I would laugh or not was kind of hit or miss. It was kind of a more bizarre, less funny iteration of Azumanga Daioh. I would be reading and get to a point where I was like, "Why am I still reading?" and then something would make me bust out laughing and so I'd keep going.

Wing Kee says

Absolutely outrageous , zany, insane, ridiculous, over the top, absurd and weird, this manga is awesome!

I actually found this manga because I saw a screen shot of the anime series of the same name and immediately like the MOE art style, I did some digging and found out it was a slice of life comedy and I was in. It's hard and easy to describe Nichijou because it is at once so, etching you would expect and also something you would not:

World: Japanese high school this is the world, but it's hyperactive and insane, it's over the top and absurd it's ridiculous and it's awesome. To describe this world I would also need to talk about the art, it's MOE and clean and over the top, you'll see a goat in the school, a kid carrying a bazooka, an android girl yeah it's cool. The world is nothing new, merely there for the insanity of the story (or lack thereof) to happen and that's the highlight of the series.

Story: This isn't sketch absurdist comedy, it's over the top stupid and insane. There is barely any story progression other than for the sake of the gag. Chapters can range from 3 pages to 20, it's everywhere. Normally I'm not really a sketch type of reader, but there are some series in the past that I have read because such a good job at it it makes it hard to resist, Yotsuba and Azumanga Diao are two off the top of my head. If you like this two series, Nichijou will be awesome for you. Highlight of this volume I think is the principal fighting the deer...hehehe.

Characters: Weird and fun, they are the archetypes one sees in MOE and it's done well. There is the studious student that's a goody, the lazy slacker friend, the genius with a hidden weird side, a rich boy with a goat for a bike...yes he commutes to school via goat. It's awesome! Of course I have a soft spot for Nano.

It's a fun series and if you want a good laugh and enjoy absurd comedy that's light hearted you will enjoy this one.

Onward to the next book!

Naailah says

I can't believe a tree was chopped down to make this...
