



## Natsume's Book of Friends, Vol. 6

*Yuki Midorikawa*

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Takashi rescues a young boy named Kai from an abandoned house, where he had been locked in a box. But this isn't just a case of bullying gone too far. Kai has been complaining about being chased by ghosts. Does he see yokai too, or is there something darker going on?

## **Natsume's Book of Friends, Vol. 6 Details**

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## From Reader Review Natsume's Book of Friends, Vol. 6 for online ebook

### **Mariah says**

There was a really touching short story at the end about a girl and her love for her teacher. In real life I might find it a touch creepy but when I read it in a manga I just "aww." Kai was rather sweet and I truly hope we get to see more of him in the future.

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### **Anne Skelding says**

Last volume introduced the first multi-part Natsume story; in this one, the whole main part of the book follows one story line! I like serialized stories.

This volume also has a short story, "The Corner of the Schoolhouse." Bit awkward. High school girl with crush on teacher. Not my cup of tea.

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### **Mizuna says**

4.5

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### **Sophie says**

I really liked the longer story about Natsume, Natori and Kai, and I would love to have more stories about the little fox because he is seriously adorable. The short story about the girl and the teacher wasn't bad, but it also didn't really do anything for me.

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### **Rici says**

Erneut gute Kurzgeschichten, die immer deutlicher machen, dass Natsume zwischen den Menschen und den Yokai steht, sodass er sowohl Vermittler als auch das Problem sein kann.

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### **Mely says**

The series shifts to something less episodic and more arc-based. I'm neutral to positive on this; I like the series' steady emotional continuity and subtle change, and am happy we're apparently going to see more of it, but I also enjoyed the miniature grace of the individual episodes. It's a big plus not to have to reread the origin story of the Book of Friends in *every single chapter*, though.

So, we have a three-chapter arc about Natsume's encounter with a young boy who sees spirits and a conflict with Natori, showcasing Natsume's growing connections to and emotional openness with both humans and yokai. Taki shows up again, too. The arc comes to a pause but not a stop; there will clearly be further follow-up.

It is a real joy to see Natsume able to be honest with people -- Taki, the young boy Kei, and even Natori, much as they misunderstand each other.

Filling out the volume is an unrelated short story about a student/teacher romance, which is about as inoffensive as manga student/teacher romances get: it starts with her crush, the teacher doesn't encourage it, the student behaves responsibly rather than stalkerishly, they kind of talk around maybe getting together after she graduates but they can't do anything while she's in school. I still hate student/teacher romances. Please stop trying to make me sympathetic to your massively problematic abuses of authority as signified by imbalances in age, authority, presumed emotional maturity, and power, mangaka of Japan!

Munch says

4.5, I took off .5 for the boring nothing related to Natsume or yokai story at the end

## Sarah Maddaford says

The chapters in this one are largely more episodes, but we do see more of Natori and Taki. Natsume is forced to decide whether to protect humans or youkai. He is also subjected to youkai who trick humans because of loneliness and a desire to be a part of the world into which he himself is trying to enter.

The manga includes some violence including evidence of bullying, fights between youkai, Natsume and Nyanko-sensei, but the worst results seem to be cuts, bruises and talk about eating people (very rarely do people actually get eaten in the series). There isn't any cursing. Nyanko-sensei is a drunkard, who spends most of his time in a Lucky Cat form.

This volume includes a separate bonus manga that has nothing to do with the Natsume story line. The manga has a student in love with her teacher. Nothing happens, but the teacher tells the student that if she is patient he might change his mind. In Japan, such things are okay as fantasy, but here in the States, that is a bit of a challenge for parents to explain.

**Chris says**

This one was pretty good.

**Krista says**

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### **Miriam says**

One long and several short stories structured around the theme of loneliness.

In the series' first three-episode arc, Natsume encounters his most powerful yokai yet. Appearing again are Taki, the girl who can't see yokai herself but knows about them, and Mr Natori the actor/exorcist.

Two of the shorter stories also have returning characters -- the bullied orphan fox spirit (so sweet! I wish he would get a better deal) and Reiko herself.

For some reason the collection ends with a completely unrelated story about a high school girl who develops feelings for an unfriendly teacher. It is well done and fits the loneliness theme but is not fantasy, doesn't have any of the usual characters, etc. In short, I have no idea why it appears in this collection.

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### **Estara says**

I really liked the three part story about Natsume's dilemma of standing beside his human AND yokai friends and I loved seeing the little fox again, but I didn't like that we did not get a resolution of the situation between Natsume and Kai.

The short story with Reika was fun but a bit of a tease (if I can read about her, give me more of her story, please), and for a teacher-and-student love story, that bonus story is quite powerful - and quite squicky from my perspective as a teacher (probably because it seems to be based on ordinary people - I quite adore the kink in Kazune Kawahara's *Sensei!!* because I don't think the teachers would have had any chance of being such in real life, however nicely they worked as dramatic foils for the teenagers there ^^).

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### **Rowan says**

The entire Kai arc broke my heart. I am fucking serious. I, like our characters are fooled by Kai disguising himself as a human. And then Natsume has to make a choice between Kai or Natori and throughout the entire read, I keep thinking to myself "Why can't there be a compromise?".

Fox child is super adorable and I like how he is drawn when he is running. :)

I am still laughing at how Hinoe met Reiko. Nyanko sensei is right. What did Hinoe see in Natsume's grandma? The events itself is not that extraordinary but I guess when you are in love, you tend to see things differently although even Hinoe herself admits that her first meeting was not that special.

The love story at the end of the volume was underwhelming but it's interesting to see the author write a love story. I can see why she decide to not put romance in *Natsume Yuujinchou...*

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**Lissibith says**

I'm torn on this volume. On the one hand, I think this is the first time when the conflict between his yokai friends and his human friends has been thrown into sharp relief. People have said he'd have to decide, but in this issue, we finally see it being a major point. More Taki and Natori is welcome as always. :)

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**Elias Alexander says**

The story is just getting better and better. I also really liked the short story at the end. I wonder who those two are. Maybe they could be his parents. Maybe we find out in the next volume

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