



## Hana-Kimi: For You in Full Blossom, Vol. 1

*Hisaya Nakajo, David Ury (Translator)*

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## **THE PRETTIEST BOY IN SCHOOL...ISN'T A BOY!**

Japanese-American track-and-field star Mizuki has gotten herself a transfer to a high school in Japan...but not just any school! To be close to her idol, high jumper Izumi Sano, she's going to an all-guys' high school...and disguising herself as a boy! But as fate would have it, they're more than classmates...they're roommates! Now, Mizuki must keep her secret in the classroom, the locker room, and her own bedroom. And her classmates--and the school nurse--must cope with a new transfer student who may make them question their own orientation...

Plus a bonus story, "The Cage of Summer"!

## **Hana-Kimi: For You in Full Blossom, Vol. 1 Details**

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Author : Hisaya Nakajo , David Ury (Translator)

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## From Reader Review Hana-Kimi: For You in Full Blossom, Vol. 1 for online ebook

### outraged says

First, let me clarify that I'm only giving this manga 5 stars in terms of how much I loved it, and not because it's the best thing in the Shojo genre out there. It is, however, the first manga I've ever read- so the experience was both confusing (at the beginning) and immensely enjoyable! I loved all the characters (though my favorites by far were Nakatsu, the doc, and the American friend- they were hilarious). It made me laugh and care for Mizuki, Sano and everyone else like they were real people, and - most importantly - it introduced me to the wonders of manga (and eventually anime) and turned me into the Otaku I am today :) Recommended for anyone who is new to manga and/or new to the Shojo genre (though its length can be daunting, it's pretty easy to get into and you're soon hooked on).

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### Steph Sinclair says

Still loved it the second go round!

This is one of my favorite shoujo mangas ever. I love how it challenges gender expectations and the romance is completely adorable. If you've never read manga before, the strange, exaggerated mannerisms of the characters may throw you off, but trust me when I say nothing throws your feels around in a glitter machine on acid like a shoujo manga romance. The series does have a huge gap that might get you a little frustrated (side story lines and frustration at the main character), but the ending brought on the water works.

Looking for an in-depth discussion? Check out this post.

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Re-reading!

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One of the best manga series I've read. I'm not going to individually add all of the books (there are 23), but I've read them all and LOVED them. I plan to re-read these again.

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### Kristin says

Mizuki has always wanted to see her favorite high jumper jump in person and that is exactly what she is going to do. She devised a plan to convince her parents to allow her to go to school in Japan. However, she leaves out the part about it being an all boys school. She chops off all of her long hair and pretends to be a boy so that she can get close to Sano. Turns out that they will get even closer than she expected when she finds out that they not only have classes together but they are roommates as well!

I thought that this was a very cute manga. There is no crazy bad guys or any plot twists. Just a funny story

about a girl pretending to be a guy to get close to her idol. Sano of course finds out that his roommate is a girl but plays along for her sake, pretending that he is clueless. Meanwhile, Mizuki thinks that she has everyone fooled and in some cases she does. There is a boy named Nakatsu in her school who is fighting his attraction to Mizuki and he is freaking out over it. He's not gay and tries to justify some of his actions with Mizuki. Poor guy has no idea that he really isn't gay, Mizuki is actually a girl.

I thought the whole book was funny.

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### **Stephanie says**

Another series that I love. It's your classic Japanese-American girl disguises herself as a boy to go to an all boys school in Japan; all to become friends with her crush who's a high-jumper and funny scenarios happen.

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### **Zaz says**

After numerous re-reads... This first volume is a nice introduction to the characters and the last part totally starts to build the emotions and the care you have all along the series. However, it's messy and, for a first read, it's probably not easy to fully follow what's happening and who are the characters.

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### **Theresa ? says**

Hanazakari no Kimitachi he. I love the title of this series.

Anyway, I haven't read the whole entire series, so I'll just give my opinion for those of you scrolling through reviews wondering what manga will be your next favorite read.

First of all, I first discovered Hana-Kimi in Asian Drama form. I LOOOOOOOVE the drama of Hana-Kimi. The drama is adorable and addicting to watch. It's one of my favorite asian dramas.

When I saw Hana-Kimi in manga form sitting on the shelves of my school library, I immediately whipped it off the bookshelf.

Now that I've finished volume 1 of Hana-Kimi, I just wanna say that if I had to choose between the manga and the drama, I would choose the drama (which isn't the best sign because the manga is the original story). Both the manga and the drama are different, but even though I prefer the drama, the manga is still fairly good.

It's a cute comedy about a girl who comes to a boy's school from America in order to encourage her idol (who has quit his sport of jumping) to continue jumping. It's very adorable.

3-stars. :) I am definitely continuing this series.

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## Nikki says

Synopsis: This book is about a Girl named Mizuki who ends up developing a crush on a Japanese-American high jumper named Izumi Sano. She likes him so much, that when she finds out that he goes to an all boy school in Japan, she transfers there and disguises herself as a guy, so that she can spend some time with him.

Classification

Audience: 10 +

Purpose: Entertain

Medium: Graphic Novel

Genre of setting: Realism Fiction

Genre of style: Idealism

Genre of plot: Romance/drama

Criticism: I rated this book 10 + because it's pretty easy to read. There is some talk about gay people, but it's not that bad. So I think elementary kids can handle it. I really liked this volume. I'm hoping I can find some more volumes at the library. I really liked how a girl could get away with disguising herself as a boy at an all boy school, even though she's a girl. So far, only two people in Japan know she's a boy, Sano, and the doctor. The doctor doesn't rat her out, because he's gay and he knows what it's like to love somebody so much. I really like the doctor in the book because he's gay, and I love gay people. So, since this book has gay people, a risky girl, cute dudes and an adorable dog in it, it's pretty much the perfect book to me. So I definitely want to read some more volumes from this series. There's also a mini-chapter in this book from, another manga series, so I might read that series too. Anyways, if you like Japanese manga, I would suggest that you read this book because it was really good.

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## Bookaholic (reads every mortal thing) says

3.5

Let me get this out first-

The Art? **Meeeeeeeh**

Mizuki? **I dont 'get' her and what the ever hell she's doing.**

Izumi? **Sounds like a complete prick, if you ask me.**

Her New Friend Whose Name I Cant Seem To Remember Because Its So Complicated? **This guy is cool. Not nearly enough of him, though**

The Dog? **Best. Character. Ever.**

The Doctor? **He's cool. For now.**

Despite all this, despite not liking, or exactly *approving*, with half the characters above and the art being so-so, **I liked it.**

It was cute, light and moved pretty fast, which I always appreciate in any book.

Also, my instant liking for this manga *may or may not* correlate with the fact that the K-Drama adaption is one of my favorites.

Maybe.

## Batool Sayed Bader says

My favorite manga of all time. Probably because its the only manga I've read. But the only reason I haven't read anything else is because I don't think anything would top it. Its a feel-good manga, very uplifting.

## **Renoa says**

Mary says

*"I'm disguising myself...so I can sneak into a boys-only school. And all so I can meet **him**."*

Alright, if you're new to manga, this isn't one to start with. Unless you get Japanese humor and are completely cool with outlandish things happening because shojo.

Like Hana Yori Dango, this manga gave birth to countless dramas and earned praise everywhere and baffled others. *This isn't the kind of story you read for logical things to happen. It's literally a mesh of wacky Japanese comedy and cultural references.*

All in the first volume, Mizuki establishes her stalker level is over 9000 by somehow not taking any medical exams to check her gender. She doesn't choose to attend the *all-girl's school across from the one she's at* because if she did that, she wouldn't get to be there to see Sano EVERY. SECOND.

Her parents are somehow cool with her flying from America (she's half-Japanese) to stalk her man and attend a boy's school because YOLO. And yet the school nurse and even Sano himself realized she's a girl from the first chapter.

Nakatsu has no idea so he's angsting over the fact that he's possibly gay lol despite the fact that Mizuki is a girl. You just gotta go with it. Anyways, funny, creepy, stalkerish things happen. And it was ok. If you understand a lot of the references, it makes the experience more enjoyable.

I will however say that I really enjoyed the one-shot at the end of this manga. I usually get annoyed with one-shots because they don't grip me but this one did.

"The Cage of Summer" is about a responsible girl named Toko. Her family takes in her second cousin, Kaede, for the summer since his parents are divorcing. He looks like "an angel" but he's really a dirty playboy. When Toko catches him, things quickly spin into lust, angst, and an unhealthy relationship. I liked how drastic the tone of this was compared to the gives-no-shits Hana Kimi.

I'll give the one-shot a 3.5 and Hana a 3. I'm curious how things will play out so I might as well keep reading. And I already have the series so might as well :P

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### **Gillian Berry says**

MY MANGA VIRGINITY HAS BEEN TAKEN.

#IllMakeAMangaOutOfYou

I was mightily confused by much of it, but it's also hilarious and manic. Crazed, cross-dressing stalker girl possessed with the social graces of a puppy switches schools and countries and genders to be near the guy she loves who she's never met: Sano, WORLD JUNIOR HIGH JUMP CHAMPION, or something else equally hilarious. Then things get confusing, there's a dog, people are chasing her? Then she's knocked unconscious? I don't know I'll figure it out. MANGA IS FUN!

This seems like a good manga to start on if you're a manga newbie like me. TIP: Read the speech bubbles right to left. Yes, it took me like two whole minutes to figure this out. Whatever.

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### **Kimikimi says**

This is a sweet little story about a girl who moves continents to go to an all boy's school because she likes one of the athletes. It's surprisingly uncreepy, despite that.

One problematic element is how they deal with gay characters. On one hand they have full story lines and characters, and on the others they are often caricatures and comic relief. Some scenes really bothered me, but on the other hand it's rare to even see gay people with their own plot lines in western media so I can't tell if it's a step forward or backward.

I read this in the midst of a sad personal crisis of my own and scenes made me tear up. I'm pretty sure that it wouldn't happen in a normal state of mind, but I kind of related to some of the friendship aspects of this story.

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### **Starbubbles says**

i love this series. it's funny and romantic, and barrels of fun!

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### **Kaitlin says**

Who flies half way across the world to join an all boy high school just so you can admire your athletic crush?

This kind of girl:

Overly attached girlfriend!

*What a strange little book.*

I picked this up because it seemed some what similar to Ouran High School Host Club.

Ok... Side note: **I swear to God that one day I will stop mentioning that series in my reviews** But today is not that day!

Anywho, gender-bending and wrong identities are always great for a laugh. I was hoping to like this better though. I guess I didn't really feel Mizuki's reason for pretending to be a boy. Mizuki seems weirdly clingy.

This plot really reminds me of that movie "She's the man". Girl dresses up as boy, gets roomed with hot boy crush, athletic theme, etc. And that movie is of course based on Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night", which is also reminiscent of this plot.

I am kind of loving the character of Shuichi Nakatsu. The fact that he finds Mizuki attractive and keeps telling himself that he's "not gay...right?" made me giggle. I might continue the series just for his sake.

And one more thing. I really, really, really, wish the character didn't look so dang similar. I mean some points I did have a hard time distinguishing Mizuki from Nakatsu. Ugh. Why do manga artists do this? I feel like this is Vampire Knight all over again...

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## **Nicole says**

This is a fun (and popular) series - romance with plenty of hi-jinks. Mizuki, a Japanese-American student, is distraught when her favorite track and field star from Japan - Izumi Sano - disappears from the lime light and competitions. She convinces her parents to let her attend school in Japan...cleverly leaving out the fact that she is secretly disguising herself as a boy so she can attend the all-boy school that Izumi attends. To make the situation even more absurd, Mizuki becomes the assigned roommate to Izumi...developing not only into Izumi's friend, but also falling in love with him. Of course, there are plenty of crazy situations that ensue thanks to Mizuki's deception - including a love triangle - and it's great fun to watch the characters get themselves in and out of such messy situations.

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## **Laura says**

Este fue mi manga favorito hace unos 15 años y entiendo por qué me gustó tanto en ese momento. Pero al releerlo ahora descubro que no soporta el paso del tiempo o mejor dicho está dirigido a una Laly de 15 años, no a la de 30. Y en este momento solo le veo las falencias u.u La base en la que está construida la historia no tiene ni pies ni cabeza, y muchas de las acciones de los personajes son muy forzadas. También el dibujo a veces juega en contra y deja varias escenas poco claras.

De todas formas, lo quiero leer completo, es probable que en unos tomos mejore (o no xD).

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## **Christina (A Reader of Fictions) says**

Comments from Third Read:

I've actually read Hana-Kimi twice before, so this was both nostalgic and somewhat eye-opening. Early on in my manga obsession, which began in the summer of 2008, I read Hana-Kimi. It was one of the first I picked up and I was IN LOVE with it completely. I thought it was the best. Thus, I later had to reread it, only to find it didn't live up to my memories of it, now that I had a larger basis for comparison. My third read through is a bit more balanced, seeing both the good and the bad.

Read the full review at [A Reader of Fictions](#).

Comments from Second Read:

I've actually read this manga a couple of times. The first time was in 2008 when I first discovered the wonder of manga. Literally, I think it was like the third manga I ever read. I just ate it up. Totally adored it. I was so involved and I was shipping Mizuki with Sano so hard.

I reread it a couple of years ago and I was seriously disappointed, since I remembered enjoying it so much. It's not awful, and it's still entertaining, but it doesn't stand out at all.

Gender benders are among my favorite plot lines, but they have been done better than in Hana-Kimi. She is attending as a school dressed as a boy not because she needs a scholarship or to play a sport, but because she has a crush on a boy who goes to that school. Even worse, she's never met this guy. And it's not so much a crush as that she's just obsessed with his high jumping skills. Not only that but she's American, so she freaking moves to Japan to do this.

The problems I have with this are plentiful. First off, she somehow manages to apply and get into a boy's school in another country. They apparently don't have any system of checking her ID or anything. All they do is check hair length. Yeah. She manages to do this without her parents finding out that it's an all boys school. Am I supposed to believe her parents never once researched the school they sent their daughter across the world to? No. If they were rich and neglectful, maybe, but I think the family was fairly middle class, so this would have been a huge expense and required a lot of support.

Whatever. She gets to the school and manages to convince everyone she's a boy. She is conveniently assigned to be the roommate of her high jumper, who has, *sacre bleu!*, quit doing the high jump. Again, I am frustrated by the lack of sense this makes. It wasn't that he'd quit particularly recently, so I really don't get how his number one fan didn't know.

Moving on to some good things. There are a lot of awesome gender bender hijinks, as she falls for her roommate, who quickly discovers she's a girl and decides to hide her secret even to the degree of not telling her, and other boys fall for her. One of the best things, I think, is Nakatsu's hopeless crush on Mizuki. The poor boy has no idea she's a girl and is convinced he is gay. This has many hilarious consequences. He's a genuinely nice guy, and his crush on her isn't obnoxious, because she does nothing to lead him on.

Sano and Mizuki do have some nice chemistry, and I did root for them both times. The rest of the cast of quirky characters is generally likable and amusing.

The other main problem, aside from the setup stuff already detailed, is the story's length. There are a number of mini plot arcs that could easily be removed without at all harming the story. This story drags. It would have been much more believable and enjoyable if she hadn't managed her charade for so long.

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### **Julie says**

I'm not sure about the art at the moment with this manga, which isn't a good sign because that tends to be the highest factor when considering whether to continue a manga for me. Sorry, I just like 'em pretty. I think I'll read the next volume to see where the story goes but I don't know if I'll read the entire series. We shall see.

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### **Holly Letson says**

I originally started reading this (& DNF'd it!!) several years ago. I just could not get into it at that time. (Yeah, I can hear the fangirls staring at me, and wondering why. The stares are THAT loud!) Then, I watched (& LOVED!) the J-drama of this series, so I figured that, one day, I would get around to wanting to try to read the manga again, and actually go through with it. Fast-forward to September 2014, when I found some of the series in the North Spokane Library, and I checked out the first 4 volumes.

This series is pretty basic stuff as far as gender-bender/crossdresser shoujo's go. Nothing really all that exciting. Every guy likes the girly "guy", and questions his sexuality, except the gay doctor and the guy she came for that knows "he" is actually a she.

Sports-based gender-bender shoujo mangas are not usually my cuppa. But, I did like the little I read of \*Power!!\* ( ), and I am enjoying this series right now.

There's also a fun side-story about a girl falling in love with her second cousin as well.

