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Yotsuba&!, Vol. 12



Synopsis

Oops! Your shoe! Your shoe! Your shoe came untied! But don't worry! Tora taught Yotsuba how to tie a bow like a butterfly! Now Yotsuba can tie Juralumin's ribbon aaaall by herself. Huh? Why are Yotsuba's hands blue? Well, see, there was this reeeally pretty blue paint...and Yotsuba thought Daddy would want his stuff to be reeeally pretty blue too... Are Yotsuba's hands gonna stay blue forever and ever?!!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The twelfth volume of Kiyohiko Azuma's charming comic "Yotsuba&!" has finally arrived. As you know, the joyful manga series follows the everyday life of a cute little girl named Yotsuba. For her, the ordinary world is full of wonderful things. Below is the list of the chapters of the twelfth volume: Yotsuba & Torako, Yotsuba & Blue, Yotsuba & Helmet, Yotsuba & Halloween, Yotsuba & Camping (1), Yotsuba & Camping (2). It's Halloween in five-year-old girl Yotsuba's town, and she also gets candies, but in a very unique way. (She gets pumpkinized first.) In another episode Yotsuba finds a can of blue paint in her house. Well, I think you know the consequences when a little girl like her has something beautiful like that in your house. The latest volume has only six chapters (Volume 11 has seven) because it contains a very long two-part episode Yotsuba & Camping. Yotsuba and friends (plus her enemy Yanda) go camping and have a good time. Obviously the creator Kiyohiko Azuma likes

outdoor recreation, as his detailed descriptions of the nature and activities Yotsuba enjoys will show. But my favorite episode is the first one, in which Torako, next-door neighbor Asagi's friend, shows always curious Yotsuba how to make a butterfly knot. The result is something unexpected: Torako, for which alone the volume is worth reading for me. Enjoy it and enjoy Volume 12.

In a nutshell, this is about an eccentric single dad and his little girl, Yotsuba, who is having a terrific childhood. Still one of the greatest comic book series of all time. Completely family-friendly for almost any family -- the raciest this gets is a dad clowning around in his boxer shorts to amuse his kid. Milder than a TV sitcom, and funnier, too. Full of great observations about life and, especially, the life of a young girl. Kiyohiko Azuma's prior hit series, *Azumanga Daioh*, was an unusual breakout comic because it was a comedy about half a dozen high school girls who don't battle aliens, don't pilot giant robots, don't fight crime, and don't even worry about dating. It's a non-political story, told over the course of their high school years, that's just about their lives and friendships. It's well-observed and hilarious, sweet without being sappy, funny without being too unrealistic. Azuma brings the same observational and character skills to *Yotsuba* in a different format, no less charming. It's not exactly the same sort of thing, since it's more narrative, but it deserves comparison to things like *Peanuts* and *Calvin & Hobbes*, but it's more girl-friendly, too.

Kiyohiko delivers again with *Yotsuba!* volume 12! The chapter where Yotsuba dresses up as a pumpkin and goes trick-or-treating reminds me of my time living in Japan on a US military base. Halloween isn't usually celebrated in Japan, but because the base was near, all the local kids would dress up and find someone to get them on base so they could get candy! It was the one time during the year where they didn't just get free candy--they got copious amounts of free American candy! They'd all dress up as classic Halloween characters (witches and ghouls and ghosts) and have various levels of success saying "trick or treat" (much like Yotsuba). Reading that whole chapter just made me feel very nostalgic! My favorite scene in this volume was when Yotsuba attempted to paint a table. The look on her Dad's face was priceless! It reminded me of all my friends who are parents when they catch their kid up to mischief. If you love slice-of-life stories, and you're not afraid of a beautifully drawn but slow paced story, please check out *Yotsuba!* It will warm your heart while making you laugh and you'll feel like your time reading was well spent. :)

I've read many manga already and this is the first that I've bought all of the volumes for. It's a

manga about the adventures of a very young, cute girl with her adoptive father in Japan. She's a little bit crazy at times, but her adventures in town are always fascinating and always makes me laugh. I strongly recommend it to those that want to delve on the childish side in them. That's the main reason why I bought all of the volumes: to laugh and enjoy life a little more.

This volume is slightly better than the last in that it is generally more cheerful than volume 11 and the Halloween chapter's artwork looks just like the classic original summer arc from Volumes 1-5; also everyone is, mostly, in character up until the camping story. However, I can't give it more than two stars because the cringe inducing camping story is a major turning point in the series as all the characters personalities seem to fully change inexplicably. It even has Yotsuba make a statement on the last page which reads very much like a sort of goodbye.

The continuing adventures of young Yotsuba and her friends on a camping trip this Time along with Halloween hijinks. The tagline at the end says it all: Enjoy Everything! The Wonders of Life through the eyes of a pre-school Japanese girl. Wonderful Fun!

No spoilers. Yotsuba and company continue to warm my heart and make me burst out laughing throughout this volume. If you're up to #11, why did you waste time reading my review? You know you want it! If you simply stumbled onto this book, go grab Volume 1. You'll soon be hooked into getting all the rest!

Yotsuba is adorable as ever. Clean, cute, and uplifting humor. The art and tone are as easy on the eyes and soul as ever.

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