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What Did You Eat Yesterday?, Volume 12



Synopsis

As his clients get on in years, Kenji starts offering house call haircuts, which leads to the most emotional moment of Kenji's career as a stylist. Shino asks for someone to split the burden of clerical work at the office and the firm ends up with a very perceptive new employee. And Kohinata calls Shiro in a panic asking for help with Gilbert, and ultimately makes Shiro a very intriguing offer...

Book Information

Series: What Did You Eat

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Customer Reviews

"What Did You Eat Yesterday?" inspires me in two ways: Shiro's meals always include tasty-sounding side dishes that show me more ways to include vegetables in a better balanced diet, and I'm touched by the love and respect expressed through cooking for those you care about. Comics Worth Reading"

Over the past decade few female comic artists have been as beloved or as recognized for their work internationally as Fumi Yoshinaga. Born in Tokyo, Japan in 1971, Yoshinaga is a graduate of Tokyo's prestigious Keio University. A lifelong comic artist and story teller, she made her professional debut in 1994 with her short series, The Moon and the Sandals, serialized in Houbunsha's monthly Boys Love anthology Hanaoto. Since her debut Yoshinaga has penned more than a dozen, with a good number of them having been adapted into motion pictures and animated TV series. Her work on Antique Bakery sent her into international fame and she has since been

nominated in the United States for the Eisner Award for her titles - Flowers of Life and Ooku. In 2009 she was recognized with the James Tiptree Award for her literary contributions covering the topics of gender in speculative fiction in her title Ooku. Ooku also received the Osamu Tezuka Award and the Shogakukan Manga Award.

Always a fun read. This volume lives up to the rest of the series. I like the characters and the recipes are entirely doable.

As this series has progressed, Fumi Yoshinaga has expanded the world of her characters. Shiro and Kenji now share meals with a lot more people than each other, as we see more about the wider circles of their lives. For example, in the first chapter, the administrative assistant from Shiro's law firm has taken her co-workers out to her parents' restaurant. That's the setting to find out a bit more about what kind of life a woman of her age might have, including her marriage plans. (That comes full circle in the last chapter, as Shiro is quizzed about his future plans for career and marriage.) I enjoy the cultural insights these kinds of chapter stories give us, especially when it comes to food items I've never heard of. For example, the croquette sandwich consists of a breadcrumb-coated, fried patty of ground meat and mashed potatoes on a slice of bread with some cabbage. I suppose it's a crunchier variation on our meat loaf sandwich, but the frying makes it sound much more decadent. With his own family, Shiro has to take care of his father while his mother is in the hospital for surgery. When she's home, they all prep and eat food together. Although their conversation is mostly about how delicious the meal is, there's an undercurrent of reassuring emotion, reinforced by the traditional meal. Shiro and Kenji get together with another couple to make fancy ricotta pancakes with all kinds of toppings. Kenji gives himself a makeover to combat worries about growing older. Everyone's thinking about increasing age, as Shiro's parents start cleaning out their house. It's natural for middle-aged adults to think about these kinds of concerns, and it's another thing that sets this series apart, that its characters aren't teens or young adults. (The publisher provided a review copy. Review originally posted at ComicsWorthReading.com.)

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