



The Story of Saiunkoku, Vol. 8

Kairi Yura (Illustrator) , Sai Yukino

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Shurei Hong, destitute but of noble birth, has always dreamed of working as a civil servant in the imperial court of Saiunkoku, but women are barred from holding office. The emperor Ryuki, however, refuses to take command, leaving everything to his advisers. Shurei is asked to become a consort to the emperor to persuade the ne'er-do-well ruler to govern.

Shurei has been falsely accused of cheating on the Imperial Exam by those who don't want women working as civil servants. Shurei must attend an inquiry to prove her innocence, but her opponents are plotting to make sure she never arrives at the palace.

The Story of Saiunkoku, Vol. 8 Details

Date : Published October 2nd 2012 by VIZ Media LLC (first published October 26th 2011)

ISBN : 9781421549460

Author : Kairi Yura (Illustrator) , Sai Yukino

Format : Paperback 168 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Manga, Shojo, Historical, Historical Fiction

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From Reader Review The Story of Saiunkoku, Vol. 8 for online ebook

Amanda says

This manga is absolutely worth the read, however the final volume falls short. Nothing is resolved, and the ending is lazy. This is a nine volume manga covering a twenty-two volume light novel, and the last novel is just side stories.

The ending of the light novel is utter bullshit. After waiting for her for twelve years, Ryuuki and Shurei finally get married, then she dies in childbirth. It's an awful, stupid ending to series that deserved better.

Seriously, it's like Princess Tutu all over again.

I'm traumatized.

Jean says

This volume concludes the trials of Shurei's training for a civil servant position and sets up for the next arc. It was quite engrossing. There really isn't too much to say about this except that the side story reveals Shurei's feelings toward Ryuki and it's pretty much the I love you but not in love with you speech. It's no surprise. It's pretty much have always been one-sided. No chemistry between the two really. oh well.

Estara says

This volume is mostly denouement of the civil servant exam arc. The strongest threads are intrigue and comedy - especially with the unmasking of Minister Ko, the return of Ensei and Kourin (although she doesn't even reunite with Shurei here) and the setting up and intensification of the Sa Province arc (if it's true that the manga adaptation ends at volume 9 we won't get to see that. I'm quite happy that the second series of the anime was fansubbed so I know what happened there: it's not as if the light novels were licensed in a language I could read).

I quite enjoyed Ryuki really showing up that corrupt official, together with all his allies - but the strongest bit was probably Shurei's uncle Reishin: the influence of the Hong family on the fabric of commerce in Saiunkoku is shown, he delivers the verbal death thrust to the corrupt minister and manipulates the worthy but modest testing official Ro to accept a higher rank in the government.

The comedy highlight, well handled in art (you can't after all show matchless beauty) was the unmasking of Minister Ko *grin* (also very nicely added in the short bonus manga, which this time was all comedy).

Shurei's strongest hour was most probably her realisation that she can be a woman and a civil servant and that she wants to be both, her acknowledgement that she wants to stand by Ryuki's side as his helper (she wants to be a civil servant to protect others) and not as his wife. Ryuki accepting that but also reiterating that he wants to wait for her, even as he has helped her achieve her dream ((view spoiler)).

Nidah (SleepDreamWrite) says

Another good volume. The art style keeps getting better. The story's also good. And I like some of the characters.

Victoria says

Is a great book to read

Amanda Setasha Hall says

Annoyingly cute plot and chapters.

Laurianne Uy says

I really like that Ryuki's relationship with Shurei is basically impossible because she's more interested in a career. It's an unbelievably empowering but also heartbreaking story.

Rachel (Sfogs) says

Shurei proves them wrong!
Eigetsu and Shurei get the most surprising placements!!!
The little extra story on the 'cross dressing' is hilarious!!

Smile Sami says

Generally I love this series

Kate says

Volume 8 is another solid installment for *The Story of Saiunkoku*. What is not to love about Shurei? She's intelligent, she's loyal, she's strong, and she knows what she wants to do with her life. Recommended.

Kayla Eklund says

2.5 stars.

Miss says

Yeah, okay, that was an extraordinarily goofy way to resolve the Ministry of Rites conflict. xD None can stand up to Minister Ko's devastating beauty! All shall love him and despair! (I found myself head tilting at this point, like beauty is subjective, it's not possible for someone to exist who could have the kind of devastating effect Ko has on literally everyone. And then I slapped myself upside the head because this is shoujo okay, suspension of disbelief is necessary! Just think of it as magic if you have to!)

Looking forward to watching Shurei handle her first job next volume! 3 stars
