



## Otomen, Vol. 4

*Aya Kanno*

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## Otomen, Vol. 4 Aya Kanno

Asuka est un “otomen” (un homme efféminé) ! Mais depuis qu’il est petit, il étouffe sa vraie personnalité pour ménager sa mère, traumatisée par l’abandon de son mari. En effet, ce dernier a quitté le domicile conjugal pour réaliser son rêve, devenir une femme. Cependant, sa rencontre avec Jûta, un mangaka de shôjo, et Ryô, un garçon manqué, lui permettra d’être enfin lui-même.

## Otomen, Vol. 4 Details

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Author : Aya Kanno

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## From Reader Review Otomen, Vol. 4 for online ebook

### Lady Knight says

[Otomen just keep on popping up... and proving that there is more than one way to be manly and yet still have girly interests! (hide spoiler)]

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### Mizu says

#### ?SYNOPSIS

Volume 4 starts with Ryo's birthday coming around and now Takeshi wants to give his daughter the birthday that he always wanted but the problem is, he needs Asuka's help to understand what women would like! Plans are made and the next thing, Ryo has other plans, which throws everyone's into a spin but is that true? Who knows until you read this volume but that's not all folks, a new Otomen has come into the picture with a pure love for flowers and a nice trip to a beach to save a show from going under. Asuka has so much going on, how will he ever manage to win over Ryo? One must keep reading Otomen to find out!

#### ?OPINION

I really enjoyed the beach theme of this manga and the relationship building between Ryo's father and Asuka and that was amazing read because I really hope things progress smoothly. Then again, the introduction of a new character and their relationship progress amuses me.

The rivalries, the friendships, they all come together in this lovely tale sprinkled with cuteness and words cannot describe how amazing this manga is so far, at this point, one still has 14 volumes to go.

#### ?PRO

More Otomen are making their appearances, it's great.

Character progress and development.

#### ?CON

None that I can contribute here

#### ?FINAL SAY

"As long as I'm with the person I love... The Ocean really sparkles..." This manga sparkles with the cuteness and purity as a cinnamon roll. I really cannot emphasize how cute this manga is and how it seems to use strong themes. I cannot wait to see where this series takes me, what new things invoke all sorts of emotions and the best part is seeing where all the characters end up. Hopefully together filled with joy.

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### Mary-Jean Harris says

I love this series so much! The characters are great and it's really witty and fun.

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## **Marsha says**

Asuka is reminded that he isn't the only one with issues about his girly nature. In this volume, he meets a mysterious young man who is ashamed of his fondness for—flowers?

While the romantic content is light in this volume, it does not lack for tension. Rivalries, mixed-up passions and the ever-constant question of “what makes a man?” ratchet up the tension considerably in this volume as Asuka is forced to set aside his gentle nature in order to settle scores with an envious rival.

This volume shows the advantages and disadvantages of being “manly”. The question is never a settled one. The slightest hint of girlishness is enough to topple any man from his designated throne. We see the confusion, frustration and downright terror of men forced to confront a feminine world in which they have no place, don't understand the rules or the “language”. We see a teenager constantly attempting to assert his manhood against a rival who couldn't care less.

But most importantly we see an Asuka who grows more comfortable with his so-called girlish ways as he shows them to the world and to the admiring Ryo.

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## **Sophia F says**

I laughed so hard during this volume, I'm surprised my mother wasn't concerned. (She's stopped caring what it is when I randomly start belly laughing at something in a manga.)

Aya Kanno uses clever tactics to bring back characters as regulars, such as starting the volume off with Asuka and Ryo's father's bonding time together. Later we are introduced to a flower loving giant named Kitora Kurokawa. This was the point that I realized that things were starting to get a little unrealistic, because of course there'll be plenty of girly guys, but it's not likely that Asuka would simply "bump into" another Otomen so easily. Or if he did, I'm sure they would probably keep it a secret more protectively than how Kurokawa did. Later, we have the cliche beach scene which allows some easy fanservice for the readers, (what's up with all the cliche parts??) and this gets everyone involved including adorable Yamato. I'm glad he wasn't forgotten about!! (He just kinda seemed like one of those one episode/one chapter kind of characters...) Oh, and Tonomine showed up too, so the whole gang was together! Except he kept challenging Masamune to tasks. Why do I feel a familiar Special A atmosphere at these moments?

I bet we'll be seeing the Sea Dragon employees again, likely coincidentally transferred to our main character's school.

Like before, Asuka and Ryo's relationship is developing... Okay maybe not really developing. I like to think so, but really they haven't grown closer. Ryo is still pretty thick headed and probably doesn't realize how much Asuka really cares for her. Tachibana'll probably be freaking out in the next volume (lets see how predictable this manga will be), but I can't wait until Asuka finds out his friend's true identity. Hehe >:D

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## **Angie says**

This series is really cute, and I'm a big fan of the artist and her style, but I really wish it would get a move on. I am not new to the manga world and I am aware it takes a friggin' decade for characters to admit their love

for one another, but there also needs to be some sort of underlying conflict or plot device rather than introducing a new character each book that resolves itself right away!

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### **Jamie says**

Haha, I do love this series! Birthday revelations bring Asuka closer to Ryo and her father and then... Bring on the flowers...and more flowers...and more... Yes another boy hides his love of flowers then is set free upon the world (Asuka what have you unleashed?!)

I loved the Beach bar the boys and Ryo work together to save. Several overlapping competitions, beach fun, and lovely ladies make for a fun break from school!

I was either constantly smiling or laughing while reading this. All the happy feels

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### **Sara says**

This has some super cute stories in it! I love the one with Ryo's dad. It's cute and sweet.

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### **Candice Snow says**

Comic perfection!

One of the side characters introduced in this volume is *literally in love with flowers!* His girlfriend even broke up with him over his obsession!

He's constantly saying things like "flowers are my life" and beautiful things deserve beautiful flowers".

Here's an actual quote: "*I loved flowers too much! I'm a terrible man. It is sinful of me to love flowers.*"

**What?!? LOL**

This nonsensical madness reminds me a lot of *Ouran High School Host Club* (one of my all time favorite mangas). I CANNOT GET ENOUGH!

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### **Jaylee says**

Lol, even more "guys with feminine hobbies!!!" I feel like this series is being stretched thin by its concept. I wish Ryo had a bigger part or we got to see more "girls with masculine hobbies!" It's still hilarious, though, and super cute art, so I'm here for it.

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### **Georgina Howlett says**

Another really great volume. I didn't care that the whole beach thing was cliché; Aya Kanno's drawing style and the whole way in which she did it was awesome! I honestly can't get enough of Otomen, I hope she doesn't end it any time soon... My question about Ryo and Asuka was actually answered in this volume, too, so that's no longer an issue! I'm glad that they're a couple, they're so cute together x3 Asuka's plans didn't go right, but at least everybody had a great time in summer! And that kendo rival guy came back :D

Really awesome.

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### **Viridian5 says**

Asuka is still a charmer but to me this volume was mostly boring filler. As happens in a lot of animanga series, the supporting cast gets larger and larger, but Otomen's supporting cast isn't getting filled with interesting characters. You guys know how much I love some supporting cast characters in other series, but too many of these are pale shadows of Asuka. Worse, stories involving them keep pushing out more progress on the main line of Asuka and Ryo and Tachibana. The long beach cafe story had almost nothing to do with Ryo or Tachibana and had very little reason for Asuka to be involved much either. The story introducing mysterious and boring flower boy was far more about new guy than our leads.

Plus, using supporting characters to further draw out the storyline makes our leads come off worse. I can't believe Ryo continues to be that clueless about Asuka's feelings for her even if she is "the guy" in the relationship. If the series let us know that she realizes but is playing clueless because she just wants to be friends and wants to avoid an emotional scene I'd feel much better about it, but the series doesn't let us know much about Ryo's inner life and thoughts. The one section in volume #4 I liked was Ryo's father going to Asuka to find out what girls like, Asuka happily taking advantage of an opportunity to go to places he wouldn't be able to just for himself, the dad admitting that he did this for Ryo because he sees some deficiencies in how he raised her after his wife died, and Ryo saying in the end that she wanted her dad to continue teaching her how to be "the manliest man" and her dad being so happy about that.

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### **Destiny Valentine says**

Kurokawa CRACKS ME UP!

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### **Joss says**

June 2016: 3.5 Stars (Shown as 3)

Honestly, this volume didn't really do it for me. The ever-common Beach Chapters didn't feel like anything new to me, and I wasn't really interested in the drama. It's almost like Asuka is too laid back in his relationship with Ryo. His passion for her flares up so rarely, I forgot that they've been a couple for what? A volume now? Maybe 2? I forgot.

However, I DID really enjoy the first chapter, that revolved around Ryo's birthday and her father wanting to bond with her. I love how Kanno wrote that episode, and how Asuka got to bring them closer together in his

own way too. I also love his relationship with Ryo's dad; that alone made the chapter worthwhile to me. I'd also like to add that Kitora, who makes his debut of sorts in the following chapter, is such a sweetie. I'm glad his trope isn't that "flowers aren't manly", because I think we already have enough characters who use that ideology as an excuse.

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### **Poly Dell'amore Purple says**

Nuevos personajes, nuevos escenarios y aún así siento que esta historia no avanza, si bien los capítulos en la playa estuvieron divertidos la verdad es que no estoy reteniendo mucho de la historia, al punto que hasta ya olvidé la primera mitad de este volumen.

Tengo que pensar mucho y entonces creo recordar algo vagamente. Si bien apenas leo el capítulo me gusta, lo encuentro tierno, lindo y divertido... eso dura hasta pasar al siguiente, y así de rápido olvido el anterior. Creo que por el momento no seguiré con la historia.

Quizá la retome más adelante, eso seguro, pero no me siento ansiosa de seguir con la lectura en este momento

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