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*Shuzo Oshimi*

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## ????????? 1 Details

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Author : Shuzo Oshimi

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## From Reader Review ??????? 1 for online ebook

### Galleane says

Ce premier tome m'a beaucoup plu. J'ai aimé le principe de l'histoire, la façon dont les choses se déroulaient. Même si j'ai eu du mal au début avec le personnage principal, avec la façon dont il se comporte une fois qu'il est dans le corps de Marie, ça reste compréhensible. Au final le contenu nous fait nous poser pleins de questions, qui amènent des réponses qu'on a très envie d'avoir. Le mangaka réussi donc haut la main à ce qu'on souhaite lire la suite sans tarder.

Ma chronique complète : <http://bloggalleane.blogspot.fr/2015/...>

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### Narcissus Heian says

What if you swapped bodies? What if you found yourself in the body of the person you most admired, the “angel-like” school idol who you pass every night (and possibly stalk)? Well that’s what life has install for Komori Isao, a hikikomori who lives for no one else but himself, playing games and masturbating endlessly on repeat. Until he becomes Mari of course.

Oshimi explores gender expectations, and the complex fabric of social hierarchy and friendships, which Komori must now maintain as Mari. Moreover, Oshimi utilises the “body swap” to question the idea of self-at one point the protagonist admits they are no longer either Isao or Mari, but Mari-Isao. A character with both the memories and minds of Isao and Mari. Through the double lens of Mari-Isao, the original “Isao” is able to gain deeper insights into the world and into relationships, that they would not have been able to make, if not for the unbelievable situation.

Inside Mari is an interesting twist on the body swap trope, that provides commentary on social and philosophical issues. However, I would warn readers that it contains nudity, sexual scenes and suggestions of abuse, in case that is something you would like to avoid.

Inside Mari is available to read on Crunchyroll premium member and is still currently being published in Japan. Fan translations can also be found online.

Extra: From what I have read, in the manga and on forums, I believe Inside Mari is also an exploration of psychological issues and mental disorders.

Extra: I think the characters are better fleshed out than in Aku no Hana, however, that may just be the skewed perception of my memories. I think Aku No Hana was very impressionistic- it created direct and forceful scenes that were vivid and playful, deviant and repulsive. There are less explosive moments in Inside Mari, it speaks to you more directly (or so I feel).

I agree with other fans who say that Inside Mari is Aku No Hana graduated. Although again, the fallibility of memory.

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### **Nore says**

[This entire series is a discourse on femal

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### **Thalyssa says**

<https://dragonlyre.wordpress.com/2015...>

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### **GateGypsy says**

NOTE: I read the simulpub version of this manga on the CrunchyRoll subscription service, not the French or original Japanese trade publication. Actually, given the information I was able to find on this book, I effectively read as much manga as would have filled 7 volumes of collected issues last night. This certainly covers some very interesting ground, and I'm really looking forward to where the series ultimately goes. Volume One covers the introduction to the premise of the series and the cast of characters. Not a lot of character growth here, but some very good foundation laying.

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### **Safen says**

Oshimi really brings out the suspense in this manga. Just like "Flowers of Evil" I really found this one to really look into characters and their mind. Komori and Mari are very different and yet their loneliness and lack of identity are just as similar. Now the weirdness of the story itself is based on the suspense of the "body change/transfer identity" and I really find it interesting how Oshimi delivers that identity is so human-made and truly artificial and therefore identities are neither real or fake.

Also the Oshimi's afterword is something else too!

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### **Ruben Lopez says**

The story has been done countless times: body swap, gender swap, a walk in someone else's shoes. Maintaining lies, awkward encounters, secrets being figured out - tried and true sources of tension. The spark that sets this story apart from similar manga is hard to explain without spoilers. The reader is awarded for their attention to detail, and the whole story ties together nicely.

Negative elements: The story is a bit long at 82 chapters, and floats between "fun teen manga read" and "artistic storytelling" too much to be considered a tight story.

I would recommend to graphic novel readers who appreciate magical realism and who don't mind an initial shonen setting.

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## **Terrence says**

Read this recently. The first volume feels like it never really gets off the ground. It's a very slow build up. Basically, it's a body swap story, which we have seen before, but with a more mysterious coat of paint: Our hero doesn't know where the real Mari went.

There was a part where the guy (Yoshizaka) inhabiting Mari's body says to one of her friends that when he was a dude he "followed Mari from the convenience store" but that he wasn't a stalker. Umm, no, you are. And the first thing he does when one of Mari's friends shows affection by hugging her is to feel her up. Now, the book points out that one was wrong of course. You wonder if they'll try to show him that he his interests in her were very superficial, that he can't be an idiot who just falls for a pretty face, and also that Mari actually is bothered by this stuff (they had a scene early where he was upset at people staring at him as Mari, like they were lustng after her, so just hope to see maybe more on that kind of interaction than a throwaway scene / line).

Again, doesn't feel like much happens this volume. It ends with a suspicious girl learning the "truth", though it's very tough to prove that you know things someone else knows that couldn't be obtained from either a) stalking or b) social media / researching records. The "him" that he thinks he is he may not be either. Gotta wonder about where this is going identity wise. I'll definitely check out volume 2, especially because the afterward was nicely introspective and I want to see this through. But this volume felt too short.

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## **Alexis U says**

I read this via crunchyroll's (really shitty) manga reader app, which is my absolute least favorite way to read things and I'm very bitter about it. I wasn't planning on reading this at all because I have an innate distrust of body-swap narratives, but then I found this article: "Me, Myself, and I: Sexual Politics Inside Mari's Body Swap Narrative" through my favorite blog Anime Feminist. I'm glad I gave it a second shot, but I also feel like everything I would have been impressed by, had I given this a blind read-through, was spoiled by the article. So I'm conflicted. I will say that if you expect the worst of these types of stories, give this a shot! It's good at subverting your expectations in ways you don't expect (unless, of course, you're EXPECTING for all of your expectations to be subverted.) It deals a lot with the psychological aspect of body-swapping rather than going for the easier, comical fanservice take on the situation. I'm looking forward to reading more (especially anything past what was discussed in the article, but that may take me a while.)

I hope this eventually gets a physical English translation so I can stop reading on this horrible app, but until then I believe CrunchyRoll is the only place to (legally) find this manga.

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## **rosyu says**

Was a melancholy psychological rooted read with an interesting plot considering the popular idea of switching bodies, would love to see more from the author. I think with a little openness and acceptance, most people can find the story rather moving and almost tragical in nature. For me, I thought it was well written and well illustrated.

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### **Hasnain Bahleem says**

Okay this was one of the most interesting mangas i've read so far, theres actually no clear plot line involved but theres a concept, and the concept is stretched and pulled in different directions and dimensions. Watching the plot mold and twist in such extraordinary proportions is mind boggling, and the deep rooted message of this manga had really touched me. This is one of the few gems hidden in a vast multitude of gender bending and eechi mangas which speaks about the most important lesson of all, how to love yourself.

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### **mwr says**

Shuzo Oshimi excels at drawing out the feeling one has with being uncomfortable with oneself -- or at least he does that well here and in Flowers of Evil. This doesn't have quite the same slow opening burn as FoE, but I have a feeling it'll take a sharp turn further down the line. Only wish it weren't 2 months before I could get my hands on the next one. Thanks, Denpa.

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### **Chibineko says**

Incredibly disturbing, this has to be one of the more interesting mangas I've read so far this year. The premise screams "cutesy cutesy", but this is far from cutesy. It's probably going to turn into one of the most disturbing series I'll read this year, but I definitely recommend it.

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### **Erik Wirfs-Brock says**

(Review of the whole series) Starts out as a pretty cliche genderbending comedy, and has some repetitive plotting along the way (seriously the protagonist goes into a coma twice in one nine volume series), but a good series about twisted, damaged characters and whether one person can really understand another, with yeah some shopworn gender gags that will probably always be funny.

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### **Vendela says**

(placeholder for all 9 volumes)

there are some things you expect when reading a “body-switching” manga: one person feeling the other up, wacky misunderstandings and then ultimately some kind of realisation that “huh, maybe people are different and that’s good”. i thought that was what i was getting into here, but it’s decidedly not. the reality of “body-switching” is that it’s a nightmarish idea, which is well-explored here. the fun, racy idea of a man inhabiting the body of the woman he desires reaches its inevitable outcome as he now is imprisoned in this “desirable” body. he sees through himself, and is disgusted by what he finds.

it’s clear via the few authors notes that the author of the manga has a blurry sort of gender identity and this translates well into the text and art. all in all, this is a manga that takes a tired old trope and finds the

disturbing, kafka-esque core that was always there.

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