



## +Anima 3

*Natsumi Mukai*

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In a new town, Cooro befriends Shadow, a young man who dreams of flying to help provide for his family. Igneous and his army show up again and create new problems for the +Anima. Could Cooro and his companions have finally found a place where they will be accepted or will they remain wanderers and outcasts forever?

## +Anima 3 Details

Date : Published January 9th 2007 by TokyoPop (first published November 2001)

ISBN : 9781598163490

Author : Natsumi Mukai

Format : Paperback 208 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Manga, Fantasy, Graphic Novels, Adventure

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## From Reader Review +Anima 3 for online ebook

### **Sarah Maddaford says**

I was a bit disappointed with this volume. The story is still pretty disjointed with nothing really connecting each chapter other than the characters. Also, I can't tell if the last half of the previous volume happened or if it was some kind of alternate universe. For another thing, we still don't know any of the characters very well other than the fact that they are +Anima and basically one trait per character. We know nothing or very little about their back stories and side characters tend to only appear for one chapter. I am intrigued by the military guy and his scholar friend, but we didn't see very much of them either. Hopefully, the story becomes more cohesive or I may just give up on it. There's a little bit of violence in this one, but not much at all. The only "sex" or sexual situations are a bathing scene (where nothing shows) and a scene where Husky proves to Nana that he's a boy (where only butts show). There may be a couple of minor curse words, but nothing terribly traumatic.

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### **Rena says**

Yeah. These kids just bounce from town to town doing odd jobs to pay for their food. Still no idea if they are actually heading to a certain destination. I think they just want to roam around with the company of each other who are just like them. I can understand why. There are so many towns that seem to have at least one person who despises +anima. Not even to mention that military commander who has a special grudge against Senri. Oh Senri! It is really hard not to love a big, loving, protective bear. Cooro is such a sweet, clueless crow. Nana is the slightly stealth, fashion-loving, girly bat. Husky is a grumpy, stubborn fish who amuses me greatly. Rose is desert cat. No explanation needed on that one. They come across some spare +anima, but for the most part that is the group.

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### **Lys Robison says**

Check out my thoughts on the book by reading them on my blog <http://lysbooklist.blogspot.com/p/ani...>

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### **R says**

I love reading this series and seeing the amazing illustrations. It is such an interesting concept and you really start to care about the characters!

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### **Smaileh says**

Cooro helps a young man use his glider to save his family when rain washes the road out and medicine needs to get through. Our little gang is given shelter by a blacksmith and his ward, Margaret. Interesting tidbit--she used to be a + Anima (a deer) but now that she has a home and feels safe, her deer aspect vanished. So being

a + Anima is not a permanent thing?

Anyway, good old Igneous (the commander from the previous volume) shows up and demands that the blacksmith repair all the swords for his company. The blacksmith refuses--he hasn't had anything to do with swords since he rescued Margaret. Then Cooro has an idea, and the swords are all transformed into tools such as knives and axes.

Nana becomes convinced that Husky is really a girl, so he finally strips off to convince her. Of course, he makes Cooro strip off too. Finally, the group encounters Rose again at a hot springs which is supposedly haunted. A buffalo + Anima was injured and has been coming to the healing springs at night. Now that he has been healed, he agrees to go on his way.

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## **Emerly Jaimes says**

This book was basically about a group of animas traveling and surviving on what they have/ making friends but also they get hunted down by the knights because they consider animas a threat to the people. This book was pretty interesting to read because mostly I love how the characters are half anima which means they are half animals. I mean who wouldn't love to be half animals but if you really think about it, it might not be a good life since you gotta avoid knights and getting killed or imprisoned. I can kinda relate to two of the main characters, they are Senri who is a bear anima and Cooro who is a crow anima. I can relate to them because like Senri I am the basically the parent in my group of friends and like Cooro we both get distracted easily and by the littlest things. My favorite part was when a bar owner lady asked Husky, an anima who is part fish, to be a maid at her bar even though she didn't realize Husky was a male. Plus the part I loved the most was where the blacksmith, Harden, makes cooking utensils instead of the swords the knights ordered. The reason I loved that part the most was that the smith was saying that it's better to think about their daily lives or for their wives. My thoughts on this book were mostly that what if our world had anima people and if it would ever be the same. By that I mean here in the present. Would people disown them? Would people attack them or kill them? How cool would it be to be part animal? Would still have the problems we face today? I would recommend this book to people with a sense of imagination and wonder plus those who love manga.

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## **Rhapsody says**

I'm liking this story more with this volume. The four friends keep on traveling.

Cooro meets a boy who is developing a kind of air-glider so that he can come down from the mountains for medicine when the rain has washed away the roads. The boy and him become friends until Cooro exposes his wings. The boy is resentful and tells him to leave, but Cooro returns to help him fly his device when another rainstorm hits.

In the next chapter, they come across an army official who is trying to force a local blacksmith to make weapons. The blacksmith stopped making weapons when he married a +anima. The group stays with him and his wife for a while and inspire him to make farming and kitchen implements with the metal instead, which the soldiers really like despite the official's anger. Cooro gets a small axe for his trouble.

Nana becomes convinced that Husky is a girl, but he finally proves her wrong at the end when he gets sick of her antics.

The group go to a hot spring in the area and learn that it's being harassed by a +anima. They offer to handle the problem in exchange for not having to pay. The +anima turns out to be an injured bison who has been using the springs to heal. He's surprised to see that they're +anima and promises to leave since he's already healed.

The last story I found sad. For some reason, I got curious about the bison. I would have liked a slightly more optimistic resolution, like him meeting the innkeeper and working out an arrangement. As it was, he was basically told to get lost.

It's episodic, but charming, and we heard from the blacksmith's +anima wife that her powers went away when she married him, which makes me think that maybe there's more to being a +anima than we know about yet. Also, the army official has a friend who knows about Cooro. Probably that's going to be part of the main plot, which really hasn't started as of yet.

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## **Leila Anani says**

This 3rd volume of +anima is still very episodic although we are getting recurring background characters suggesting this may well get plotty (I hope so!)

The first story deals with a boy who makes mechanical wings to get medicine across some mountains. Crow hybrid Cooro ends up helping him out.

Next we have a story about a swordsmith who learns that there is more to life than forging weapons.

Then there's a very silly gender bending story in which Nana is convinced that Husky the merman must be a girl because he's so pretty.

Lastly we have a tale about a hot spring terrorised by a bison +anima.

+anima is shonen manga with super cute artwork and hybrid children with hearts of gold - it is a tad moralistic and sweet, with less attitude than things like Saiyuki, but its fun nonetheless and worth checking out for the art alone.

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## **78sunny says**

Meine Meinung:

Für Mangaleser, die gern Fantasy lesen und auf niedliche, total alberne Charaktere stehen ist das hier ideal – für mich eher nicht. Mich hat hier die Story überhaupt nicht angesprochen. Es geht um ein paar Kinder, die alle Eigenschaften von Tieren haben und gemeinsam durch die Gegen streifen. So einen richtigen Sinn konnte ich dahinter nicht entdecken, aber ich habe auch mit Band 3 angefangen und kenne die Vorgeschichte nur aufgrund der Zusammenfassung am Anfang dieses Bandes. Die Dialoge fand ich nicht nur kindlich sondern kindisch albern. Das ist ja gar nichts für mich und auch der Grund warum ich nur wenige

ausgewählte Mangas richtig gut finde.

Was mir allerdings absolut gefallen hat ist der Zeichenstil. Hier mag ich die niedlichen Charaktere und auch den Fantasyanteil. Absolut süß!

Meine Wertung:

3 von 5 Sternen

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### **Christina says**

Cooro and company have arrived in a seemingly normal town inhabited by shepherders in the mountains, and normal townsfolk on the lower land. The first person that Cooro befriends from this village is the somewhat outcasted dreamer Shadow, who is trying to create a flying machine to fly up and down the mountain to carry medicine whenever needed if ever the only rode up the mountain were to be blocked in a storm again like the night a loved one of his passed away...

Later, Cooro, Senri, Husky, and Nana stumble upon a swordsmith and his wife while looking for work. This particular swordsmith was the very same one that forged the series of swords called the Guardian Heart that Astaria used to beat back the Ki-mun-kur in a previous battle, and now they want him to forge another! The swordsmith refuses, because he can no longer put his heart into something that he knows will be used unjustly, but that night the Astarian soldiers find Nana trying to steal an axe from them and take her hostage...

This was awfully cute. I remember reading this volume too. This was during the end of the period where I would do absolutely nothing but read, so much so that I never turned in a bit of my homework and almost failed two grades. Around this time, however, I was trying hard to get my mind off of my boyfriend whenever he was absent (except for a few days to a week after I would last talk to him because even then, his presence lingered <3) and it succeeded! Until I would finish a volume, anyway. I was able to shut off almost everything around me and immerse myself in the story as if I were right there inside of it. But now... I can't do that, and because I can't, it makes everything seem much more bleak. What could that be..? Has my outlook on life just become that dreary and so it affects even the way I read now..? How very depressing...

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### **Sarah Carpenter says**

I really liked the character development in this volume. It was a bit interesting to learn a little more about Husky's past, and I'm glad that Rose decided to join the group. I think that in this volume a clear long-term plot line is starting to become more visible, and the chapters are becoming less like individual short stories and more like connected chapters in an overall story. I can't wait for the next volume!

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### **Kira Nerys says**

Some of the gender dynamic here becomes clunky and binary in a way that bothers me now that I know how to enunciate it. The whole series casts gender in a comedic light, from Husky playing a mermaid princess and then rejecting it to Nana simultaneously desiring pretty things but not wanting to be called weak. It bothered me on this read-through, though I recognize how the jokes aim toward supporting those two gender

identities. The writing's too-quick exposition disappointed me, though I'm sure it characterizes manga and I simply didn't read with such a critical eye last time. People trust extremely quickly; random characters explain the location with astonishing ease; the twist isn't always hard to guess. But I did love this series and its world when I was younger, and I might try to finally finish it.

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## **Mike says**

So far +Anima is episodic and the stories stand well enough on their own. Still, the early volumes introduce all of the main characters so it's best to start reading at the beginning.

Volume 3 brings more stand alone adventures of a chapter or two. It begins with the two part Cooro centric tale Wings of the Wind. Cooro wanders off and befriends a young man mocked and ostracized for his obsession to find a way to fly up a mountain. It's a predictable story, but a good one. Cooro is a adorable character and a great lead. His is a perfect depiction of a naive but competent child who takes everything at face value. It's impossible not to root for him.

Next up is another two chapter tale called Guardian Heart. A familiar army regiment tries to get a retired blacksmith to make them swords. There are several great character moments and Cooro in particular really shines again here.

Husky takes center stage in the single chapter Husky's Depression. Nana's imagination exacerbates an old sore spot of Husky's. Kind of meh, but there is some insight added into Husky's character.

We finish with the single chapter Scar. I suppose it was about time for the hot springs chapter. Thankfully since the cast is mostly children this story is about self consciousness and the difficulties of life for the +Anima and isn't played for fanservice at all. Decent enough.

While it would be nice to have some more structure and an overarching plot start to develop, the episodic adventures continuing to be presented are very good. Overall this is a strong volume with the two longer stories being especially great.

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## **Lanie says**

I like the art. The character designs are really good.

& the general idea of the story is good. People with animal powers cast out by society.

Except they really don't seem all that outcast, do they? ./ I mean, even the army guy who clearly hates the mountain tribe doesn't seem all that upset? I suppose you could argue that it's for preteens... Except I've read way better mangas for kids & preteens. ("Hollow fields" and "recast" are excellent.)

I think my main issue with this is just how juvenile it is. ./ it could be something really sad and dark and epic. The basic plot is perfect for a darker old teen type manga. (Like my favorite, "black butler").

But instead, we're given a very simplified, goofy version. To me, it feels very dumbed down from what it could have been, you know? It's cute enough, & kind of entertaining for the hour or so it takes to read this. Cause like I said, the art is nice to look at. & the idea really is cool.

It's just the execution that ruins it for me.

Plus, we've seen very little in the way of world building, like explaining where the anima+ actually come from and why they are so "hated". & very little character development. We got an attempt at fleshing out Husky, which was nice, I GUESS I can understand now why he's not a fan of girls. But it simply wasn't enough.

I want to know more about these characters! Their world! Their desires!

I want more plot than just them having goofy little adventures every few chapters. Cause while the stories are kinda cute, they have a very episodic feel to them, like most manga/anime of course. but specifically "anima+" seems very lacking in an over arching plot. :/ kinda like the writer had no basic idea as to what would happen to these characters over the course of the series. It feels like they just had a bunch of random ideas and threw them together with this world. It shows and it really affects the plot.

:/

I think I'll finish the series, to see if it gets any better. They are kinda cute & super easy to read. Plus, the whole series is at my library. I'm not one to pass up on free manga.

But it's definitely become a series I know I'll never read again. Or recommend. :/

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## **Brianna says**

I love these books! They are so adorable and lovable. They are well-thought out and interesting and wonderful. Her characters all seem so real. They all have problems and really specific and personal histories that go back pretty far. Her characters aren't perfect, and she is able to make them come to life and feel like real human beings.

I love the idea behind this manga. I love the idea of being able to transform into an animal and have cool powers and be special. (I wish I could do it. That would be so cool!)

My best friends gave these to me to read. They were the first manga I ever read in my entire life and I didn't get it at first. They had the books and I tried reading it, but I couldn't figure out how to read it backwards, and so the first book they read it out loud to me <3 Aren't they sweet? Anyways, I decided that I wanted to continue reading them online, and I was just planning to just look at +Anima a little bit and I ended up reading like the first 7 books in two days (It would've been sooner except I had school and sleep and whatnot, stupid distractions!)

Senri is my favorite!! He is so adorable! I definitely recommend these books to those who love mangas, and to those who love animals, and to those who love interesting stories. This is a very good series with wonderful writing and amazing art!

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