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Monster Musume Vol. 9



Synopsis

"This book reads from right to left, Japanese style"--Colophon.

Book Information

Series: Monster Musume (Book 9)

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Customer Reviews

The new volume of Monster Musume is out and this one is another winner. Our resident drama queen Mero has been ordered home by her mother, an actual queen, and the gang tags along. They soon find themselves in palace intrigue and matching wits with a scylla named Octo. I am going to assume in the original format, Octo spoke with a regional Japanese accent; for the translation, it sounds like she's from the Deep South. We also find out where Mero gets her doomed romance fixation. If anything, Mother takes matters to a level greater than Mero ever has and it leads to a great climax. The second story stars Lala. She meets a girl with a terminal illness who takes advantage of the opportunity to speak with a grim reaper about what will happen when she dies. Lala decides she wants to do something but it might involve breaking the rules on interfering with someone's fate. Kimihito points out "From the time you first meet someone, you've already started to interfere with their fate, haven't you?" Lala's solution shows she is new at helping people but her heart's in the right place and she might just have done the right thing.

Not a surprise, Mero is a princess and she is being asked to return to her people. So Kimihito and party go with her to see that not all is better down where it's wetter and that someone is trying to ruin the interspecies treaty. Then Kimihito is held at a hospital for observation because despite all his

injuries, accidents and near death experiences he just pops back up like new. Lala then meets a young girl who is dying and wants to know if she should help her, with a surprising ending. This one was a fast read and enjoyable. Seeing the girls in an environment normally out of their reach is funny, and to see another side of Lala was adorable. Enjoy this one.

This is a cute, fun story, and definitely not for kids. It's heavy on the fanservice but that same fan service is part of the story and the whole theme of the manga, so I don't find it disruptive or out of place. As I've said in reviews of earlier volumes of the series, Seven Seas tosses in far too many puns for my taste, but the puns in this volume are out of control and really detract from the story. "Oh my cod?" Really Seven Seas? REALLY?! The fan translations for this volume were much better than this and I'm glad I read those after this - it made me appreciate the series again. Still, I like the manga so I decided to buy it in order to support the author.

Volume 9 of Okaydo's Monster Musume prominently features both Mero and Lala on the cover and for good reason, as both girls have stories that take up a majority of this particular entry into the series. Beginning with Mero who when we last left off was about to introduce us to her mother, who we meet, and learn that the apple truly doesn't fall too far from the tree when it comes to their love for romantic tragedies. Afterwards is Lala's story, where she joins the luckless Kimihito in the hospital as he recovers from the ending of Mero's story. Here Lala meets a girl who is on the brink of death, and being a real life messenger of the afterlife, she decides to take on this little girl's case herself. Only two major plots this time round, which makes the book feel more complete but somewhat shorter than the previous few volumes. As always Seven Seas continues to amaze me with their horridness dialogue choices, making what should be a simple sentence into a complex and stupid pun filled experience. I found that skimming through the text actually seemed to help, but I still recommend that anyone who wants a more literal translation of what the Japanese reads should go find one of the few groups who are doing fan translations. And don't feel bad about it, you already bought this book and supported the author, so at the very least you should be able to enjoy the true experience.

That's all I'll say about Mero being called back home. Being hospitalized and having a grim reaper visit you, out of concern, is a new spin on an old cliché.

one of my favs

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