

# GOGAI! iVAGOO

Central Park Media's  
Industry Fanzine  
& Literary Review

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fig. 1: *Narutaru's* Shiina and a dysfunctional dragon / *Narutaru* © Mohiro Kitou / Kodansha

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# Dragons, Angels, and Turkeys

*(A musing on what November means to me)*

By Peter Tatara

October is over, and with it Halloween has gone away. No more ghosts and goblins. No more mountains of discount candy. In their wake, looking about, the days have become shorter, the air is a bit more brisk, and the attuned can perceive the aroma of cornbread drifting in from somewhere. November's here. Whether it be the cranberry sauce, leaves turning red and yellow, or standing in line for the voting booth, there's a lot that makes November distinct.

*Gogai! Gogai!* is going to try to celebrate everything that makes November great, be it a decked out Thanksgiving table or wearing a scarf and hat for the first time. Granted, if you don't live in the Northern latitudes, most of my talk about the changing weather is meaningless to you, but I'll be taking about things that are universal, too. Like anime.

Whether you're reading this from New York, Tennessee, or the *USS Ross* somewhere out at sea, your eyes are right here because you like anime. That's why I'm here, too.

There's something special about the stories animated in Japan. Something about them makes them appeal to men and women, young and old, all around the world. While the language of the dub may be different, the core of what makes anime *anime* remains no matter where it is seen. On cold mornings, I can see my breath before me as I wait for the Seven Train. While many may be able to relate, many more haven't ever experienced a crisp autumn, and many, many more have no clue what a Seven Train is. But regardless of origin and geographic location, if I talk of *Utena* or *Narutaru*, there'll be understanding nods all

around. *World Peace through Shared Popular Culture* is Central Park Media's slogan, motto, and mission. And world peace starts with nods – understanding – all around. Anime is a medium that crosses borders and mitigates differences. I've spoken to men and women in Brazil, the Netherlands, and France, and while we've all grown up in different countries, cultures, and environments, to appreciate anime, it doesn't matter where you're born.

So, what does all this have to do with November? Growing up, when I thought of November, I thought of sharp morning air, sleeping beneath heavy blankets, and pumpkin pie spiked with cinnamon.

Working at Central Park Media, when I think of November, what do I think of? World peace. A little bit grandiose?

Guilty, but what I'm doing every day is bringing a little bit of another way of life to people across North America. As of late, this peace comes in the shape of dragons and angels, CPM completing the cautionary tale that is the chilling *Shadow Star Narutaru* and readying the first volume of the robotic romance *Angel Shop*. What about the turkey in the title? Well, that's just about Thanksgiving, but it's not a normal turkey, no. See, I'm one of those seditious vegetarian folks, so come Thanksgiving Day, I dine on a ball of tofu that roughly approximates the shape of a roasted bird.

If you're scratching your head, everything will be explained before this issue is through. Welcome to the November issue of *Gogai! Gogai!* I'm thankful for dragons, angels, turkeys, and all of you. Got a drumstick in hand? Let's go!



fig. 2: Elegant gothic Yuri / Angel Shop © 2003 Sook Ji Hwang

# Robots in Aisle Three

*(An exclusive from CPM to you)*

By Peter Tatara

Yuri Angel has fallen in love with a boy at school; however, she doesn't know how to tell him. After a great deal of thought, she decides she'll build a robot in his image. That'll get his attention! (Yuri's father, Doctor Angel, is a genius when it comes to the world of robotics, so Yuri's decision to build an automaton doesn't come completely out of the blue.) But when the boy, Boris, finds out, rather than being impressed, he's horrified.

Locking the machine away, Boris storms over to Yuri's house. Pretending to be his robotic counterpart, he'll infiltrate Yuri's life before extracting his revenge. A good idea? Boris thought it was, but to pull off the plan, he's got to first convince Yuri he's her metal toy – that means obeying her every command and doing *anything* she wants.

This is the story of *Angel Shop*, CPM Press's newest book. An intricately drawn story about a boy who pretends to be a robot and a lonely girl with a robotic heart, *Angel Shop* is a shoujo masterpiece blending romance, drama, and humor into what is going to be one of CPM's big books of 2006.

However, *Gogai! Gogai!* readers won't have to wait to get their first taste. Central Park Media has a limited number of *Angel Shops* already printed and available exclusively to all of you! Wanting to reward everyone who's signed up, the first volume of *Angel Shop* is a unique gift from CPM. You won't find *Angel Shop* in bookstores or elsewhere online.

To get your copy, follow these three steps...

1) Log onto the Anime University site at [www.centralparkmedia.com/animeu/](http://www.centralparkmedia.com/animeu/)

2) Click on the Store

3) Enter code **YURIANGEL**

You'll find the first volume of *Angel Shop* at the top of the store. How much does Volume 1 cost? \$10.95. The bragging rights? Priceless.

Our advance print run of *Angel Shop* is very, very limited, so order fast. It's our plan to offer the first book online for one month, but they could easily be gone in only a week. As soon as our current supply dries up, that's it. CPM is proud to make this offer exclusively through *Gogai! Gogai!* and Anime U, and if the response is positive, look for more soon.

# Otaku in Space!

By Peter Tatara

***(And other fresh tales from Japan!)***

Daisuke Enomoto, known to his friends as the phonetic Dice-K, is a former executive of Livedoor, one of Japan's most prolific web portals and ISPs, and a self-described otaku. After Livedoor went big, Dice-K went off on his own, currently doing the venture capitalist thing from a homebase in Hong Kong. So, what does a young, wealthy businessman (who just happens to be raving *Gundam* fan) do next?

Why, book a ticket into outer space! Following in the footsteps of Dennis Tito, Mark Shuttleworth, and Gregory Olsen, Dice-K has given \$20 million to the folks at Space Adventures and will be blasting off in a Soyuz TMA rocket destined for the International Space Station in 2006. Of course, Dice-K isn't content just to orbit the Earth. Nope, to live out his Space-noid fantasies, Dice-K plans to dress up as Char Aznable along the way.

I'm serious about that Char thing. Come next fall, you're gonna turn on the news one night to find *Gundam's* Red Comet glowering down over you. When that moment comes, there's a personal decision you're going to have to make. Will you laugh? Will you cry? Will you stare up at the stars and dream?

Personally, I hope Dice-K brings some model kits with him into space. I'm crossing my fingers for some snazzy zero gravity robot battles broadcast on the 10 o'clock news. Come on, you know it would be cool.

For confirmation on all the above, peruse the below links to your heart's content...

<http://www.dice-k.com/>  
<http://www.livedoor.com/>  
<http://www.spaceadventures.com/>  
<http://msnbc.msn.com/id/9924251/>

Hideo Kojima, mastermind of Konami's *Metal Gear* game series, recently began his own blog – in English! What insight does the head of Kojima Productions bring to the digital table?

*I told him I am a big fan of Jessica Alba, who plays Nancy. With a joking smile he responded: "All men are big fans of Jessica Alba." He is a marvelous gentleman with great, intelligent sensibilities.*

*I bought a take-out lunch on the fifth floor and ate my fried breaded pork cutlet while checking email. Mrs. Yamanaka and some others went to the restaurant Mikawayaya. I would love to join them. I want to eat menchi or chicken katsu.*

Read Kojima-san's blog yourself at...

[http://www.blog.konami.jp/gs/hideoblog\\_e/](http://www.blog.konami.jp/gs/hideoblog_e/)

A Japanese governmental panel, after long debate, has proposed allowing women to ascend to the imperial throne – given that no male heir has been born into the royal family for the past 40 years. The panel's leader was Hiroyuki Yoshikawa. He has cool hair. See for yourself at...

<http://home.kyodo.co.jp/modules/fstPhotos/index.php?photoid=9057>

Taiwanese airline EVA Air has a new plane graced by an image of Sanrio's *Hello Kitty*. The jet, an Airbus A330-200, is now making daily flights between Taipei and Fukuoka. Really...

<http://evakitty.evaair.com/>

Lastly, J-Pop duo Puffy AmiYumi are marching and singing in this year's Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade!



fig. 3: The Delaware Anime Society's mascots looking a little bit elegant and a little bit gothic by Nico Deyo

# Candied Pumpkin Kaisers

***(October's Poll Results and Winners!)***

**By Peter Tatara**

*Gogai! Gogai!* asked you all two questions in October. Do you remember what they were? That's right! *Do you still trick-or-treat?* and *Do you buy single DVDs or boxsets?* What were the results? Looking at the trick-or-treating question first, out of all responses...

## **62% Trick-Or-Treat**

What about boxsets? Get ready to be blown away...

## **95% Buy Boxsets**

Pretty amazing, no? Pretty unexpected? Not really.

Alright, alright, now to get to what you've been waiting for. Who's taking home swag?

Nico Deyo, Savannah Mitchell, the Delaware Anime Society, and the Scarlet Kitsune Anime Club are all taking home

boxes of CPM prizes including *Legend of Himiko*, *Geobreeders*, and *DNA2* DVDs. (Each box is also packed with some genuine CPM office supplies!)

Nico Deyo and the Delaware Anime Society won for Nico's art featured to the left, and Savannah Mitchell and the Scarlet Kitsune Anime Club won for Savannah's response to our poll. If you (and your club) want a stab at free CPM swag, any art, stories, editorials, recipes, etc. you send in will be entered into a monthly drawing. All responses to our monthly polls are entered into their own lottery.

That's two chances to win every month. So, start sending in sketches, diatribes, and experimental photography. And what's this month's poll? Something to do with turkey? Maybe real cranberry sauce vs. the jellied stuff in the can? Turn the page to find out!

By Peter Tatara

# (Taste the Democracy!) Gogai! Gogai! Mascot! Elections! '05!

Democracy, like apple pie, is one of America's greatest exports, and we're paying tribute. This month, *Gogai! Gogai!* is holding our first mascot contest, and we're letting you all pick the guy, gal, or robot that's going to represent this webzine until we decide to hold another election. How's it work?

We've got three diverse mascot candidates – Anthy, Munto, and Scopedog – but only one mascot position available. Their bios, platforms, and measurements follow. To vote, e-mail animeclubs@teamcpm.com with *Anthy*, *Munto*, or *Scopedog* in the subject. Adding a sentence or two as to why you're backing your candidate isn't required, but if you do, it may make it into our next issue. And, yes, every vote cast will be entered to win a prize.

**Anthy**



**NAME:** Anthy Himemiya  
**AGE:** 14  
**OCCUPATION:** Rose Bride  
**CAMPAIGN PROMISES:** A rose in every pot! A sword in every garage! As mascot of *Gogai! Gogai!*, I pledge to revolutionize the world, and do it with a lot less bureaucracy than a certain pink-haired someone. Also, tiaras for all.  
**RUNNING MATE:** A monkey rat  
**FROM:** *Revolutionary Girl Utena* © 1997 Be-Papas / Chiho Saito / Shogakukan / Shokaku / TV Tokyo

**Munto**



**NAME:** Munto  
**AGE:** Several hundred years old  
**OCCUPATION:** King  
**CAMPAIGN PROMISES:** As King of the Heavenly Realms, I single-handedly saved both Earth and my own dimension from total annihilation – all with impeccable style. As mascot of *Gogai! Gogai!*, I promise free hair gel.  
**RUNNING MATE:** A little girl who can see islands floating in the sky  
**FROM:** *Munto* © 2003 Kyoto Animation

**Scopedog**



**NAME:** ATM-09-ST Scopedog  
**AGE:** Rusting  
**OCCUPATION:** VOTOM  
**CAMPAIGN PROMISES:** As a VOTOM (Vertical One-man Tank for Offense and Maneuvers), I brought an end to a fierce war in the Astragius Galaxy. Now, I plan to bring peace to Earth. Under the dictatorial control of my cold, metal fist.  
**RUNNING MATE:** SAT-03 60mm solid shooter bazooka and a cute puppy  
**FROM:** *Armored Trooper VOTOMS* © 1983 Sunrise



fig. 4: Vote Scopedog / Armored Trooper VOTOMS © 1983 Sunrise / 1/12 Scopedog courtesy Yamato Toys

# Fun Facts About Canada!

## (An interview with CPM's Canadian National Sales Manager!)

By Peter Tatara

Eddie Stenkowski is Central Park Media's Canadian National Sales Manager. He's the point person when it comes to any questions regarding Edmonton, Toronto, or Saskatchewan, and he sat down with *Gogai! Gogai!* to talk a little bit about himself, his job, and Japanese Animation in Canada.

*Where'd you grow up?*  
Long Island.

*What did you do before coming to CPM?*  
I worked in a bank. Let me see if I can put that in a humorous way. No, I can't.

*What's CPM like?*  
It's an adventure every single day. How can I say this without sounding cheesy? It's different from any other organization I've worked for before. I'm always learning. And it's great working every day with something I love.

*What is a National Sales Manager?*  
I work with our Canadian distributor, Koch, and we work together to get CPM's DVDs out to Canadian retailers such as HMV, Best Buy, and Superclub Videotron.

*When was the first time you went to Canada?*  
The first time I went to Canada was fifteen years ago when I went to Ontario Land.

*Ontario Land? Are you serious?*  
I think it was called Ontario Land. No, no. Ontario Place! That was the name of it! It's an amusement park. They have water riders, games, cotton candy, and stuff. I can't remember if they have roller coasters. I remember the water rides very clearly, though.

*Who's the Prime Minister of Canada?*  
Paul Martin.

*Any interesting Canadian facts?*  
Canada is the second largest country in the world. Canada is home to the fifth largest island in the world. Canada's national animal is the beaver. Canada has six time zones. Canada was founded by French explorer Jacques Cartier. The word *Canada* comes from the Iroquois and Huron word *Kanata* which means village.

*What are some common misconceptions people have about Canada?*  
That it's always cold and is filled with polar bears. People need to actually get up to Canada to see what it's really like. Canada is dotted with amazing cities, with beautiful landscape in-between. Yes, it is cold – sometimes – but there's a lot more to Canada you've got to see.

*What's your favorite hockey team?*  
The New York Rangers, my home team.

*If fans want to see more anime in Canada, what should they do?*  
Letting Koch and CPM know is important, but most important it talking to retailers. Tell the shops you shop at what you want and want to see. They'll listen. If you let retailers know there's a demand, you'll start to see more *Descendants of Darkness*, *World of Narue*, and *Kakurenbo*.

*Who are you voting for in the mascot contest?*  
*Utena* is timeless, and *Munto* is beautiful, but I'm a sucker for a good robotic dictatorship. Long live the reign of Scopedog! Hopefully he'll make me CPM's Martian National Sales Manager.

*Anything else?*  
I've got a big TV, I can speak Japanese, I play my PSP on the subway, and I just bought an iPod. It's a really big TV.



# It Burns, Sempai, It Burns!

## *(Spotlight on the Delaware Anime Fans)*

CPM's spotlight is on the Delaware Anime Fans this month. Last month, we profiled the Delaware Anime Society, but Delaware's got a second kickin' club! Let's see what makes 'em tick...

*How long has DAF been around?*

Delaware Anime Fans started December 22, 2002.

*How'd you start, and how've you grown?*

DAF started with a simple want – to have more anime friends in my area and to see more anime. I created this club during my senior year of high school. During that time, I didn't have many friends that were into anime. How was I to get exposed to more anime if none of my friends were into it? "There have to be others out there like me." With that idea, I created the club.

*How has club membership evolved?*

Members come and go, but we have had a lot of new faces since it first began.

*How often do you meet? Where?*

The club meets twice a month, sometimes more, at the Rogue's Den in Claymont, Delaware. The Den is an internet and gaming café that sells anime, manga, food, comics, and even Renaissance Fair-type clothing. The members love it.

*Delaware? What state is that in?*

Funny. Ha Ha. I get this question all the time. Delaware is actually a state. We're in fact the first state. We're that iddy biddy state between NJ, PA, and MD.

*What's the greatest thing about living in Delaware?*

Tax-free shopping! When an anime is \$19.99, it is \$19.99. Not \$21.05 due to taxes. All you need is a \$20 bill. No need for pocket change to cover tax.

*Red Bean or Green Tea ice cream?*

I've never had either myself, but my fiancé says he likes red bean over green tea ice cream.

*How do you promote your club?*

Word of mouth has been our biggest help. In addition to that, networking with other anime clubs by linking together our homepages and working with their leaders via Anime Clubs Unite.

*Do you have a website?*

Yes we do, [delawareanimefans.com](http://delawareanimefans.com).

*Have you reached out into any other activities other than watching cartoons?*

Of course! We're an anime club but only watching anime would make things dull and uninteresting. We do tons of other things such as viewing Asian cinema, video game days, and outings. Recently, we took a trip to Philadelphia for the opening of *Howl's Moving Castle*. In addition, we've taken trips to local anime stores and arcades.

*Anyone in the DAF been to Japan?*

We've had quite a few who've been there. A handful of them can speak Japanese.

## *An Interview with DAF's President Latasha James*

*What type of anime most wows your members?*

The guys like the action-based anime for the most part, while most of the girls are big fans of yaoi. Given that we have a wide range of ages though, we tend to stick to the action-comedy genre. When we do show some of the more risqué titles, we make sure to post age rating recommendations as well as ask for parental consent forms wherever possible so the parents know what their kids are watching.

*If it was your job to write the fortunes on fortune cookies, what would be the first fortune you'd write?*

"Good luck will come your way."

*Anything else?*

Our meetings start out with two hours dedicated to video games. It gives everyone a chance to show up if they're running late and caters to the others who can't get enough *DDR*.

# Top 10 Thanksgiving Fixings! (And Sweet Potato Pie!) By Peter Tatara

CPM's staff gets Thanksgiving Day off to go home and get fat. What are our favorite Thanksgiving dishes? It's no surprise what's number one, but the rest of the list may (or may not) surprise you. Below's CPM's Top 10 Favorite Thanksgiving Fixings, culled from a random poll of CPM staffers during a lunch break...

10. **Squash**
9. **Corn**
8. **Sweet Potato Pie**
7. **Yams**
6. **Cranberry Sauce**
5. **Mashed Potatoes**
4. **Stuffing**
3. **Newton Grant**
2. **Pumpkin Pie**
1. **Turkey**

What was my vote? Personally, I went for the sweet potato pie. If you've never indulged in this seasonal pleasure that's good all year round, whip up a pie from my personal recipe.

- 7 cups sweet potatoes**
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon**
- 3 tablespoons vanilla**
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg**
- 2 teaspoons lemon extract**
- 2 1/4 cups sugar**
- 4 large eggs**
- 2 pie shells**

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Bring the sweet potatoes (chopped and cooked until tender), vanilla, cinnamon, nutmeg, sugar, lemon, and eggs together in a bowl. Blend until thoroughly mixed. Equally distribute the mix into the pie shells. Bake for 45 minutes. That's it. Nice and simple. Too simple to screw up? Not entirely. The first time I made this recipe, I mixed the sweet potatoes too much, creating almost a meringue with the amount of air I had whipped in. The resulting pies were light and fluffy with an intricate sugar lattice structure inside. Beat your own mix to a ridiculous level if you want to try it at home.



fig. 5: Makin' sweet potato pie / Kakurenbo © YAMATOWORKS / D.I.C.

# VOTE ANTHY

*for the revolution of the world*



fig. 6: Vote Anthy / Revolutionary Girl Utena © 1997 Be-Papas / Chiho Saito / Shogakukan / Shokaku / TV Tokyo

# Entire Episodes Online

(Download anime for free from CPM!)

## On the iPod

By Peter Tatara

Visit [www.centralparkmedia.com/ipod/](http://www.centralparkmedia.com/ipod/). What do you see? Anime. And lots of it. All free. Central Park Media not many weeks ago became the first anime company in the world to offer anime content for the iPod, and we've been updating our iPod page with more content virtually every single day since.

Right now, we have trailers to a number of titles including *Munto*, *Wrath of the Ninja*, *Kakurenbo*, and *World of Narue*, but these are only the appetizers, as if you look carefully, amid the teasers, CPM has uploaded the first episodes of *Record of Lodoss War: Chronicles of the Heroic Knight* and *Descendants of Darkness* (that's *Yami no Matsuei* to all the purists).

And we're not stopping here. By the time you're reading this, we've no doubt added a number of new trailers and episodes. I believe a special *Black Jack* extended preview was the next lined up to go.

Why's CPM doing this? Historically, do you know who was the first North American company to put anime on DVD?

Who was the first company to release a dual-language DVD anywhere? What about the first company to offer anime content for the PSP? All the answers are CPM.

It's part of CPM's philosophy to explore and invent. Never satisfied, we're always going to pursue new avenues and new technologies. Of course, it's also about necessity. Lots and lots of CPM staffers take the subway into work and need something to do during the commute. The moment the video iPod was announced, a good part of the office all had the same idea. By the end of the day, we were watching *Descendants of Darkness* as we headed home.

What if you don't have an iPod? Fret not! As long as you have a computer with Quicktime, you'll be able to watch CPM's iPod downloads, so you can explore the first episodes of a number of CPM's shows whether on the go or from the comfort of home.

And as was said above, CPM's also got videos online formatted for the PSP, so if you prefer Sony's widescreen portable,

load up on trailers and episodes at [www.centralparkmedia.com/psp/](http://www.centralparkmedia.com/psp/). What's next? Can't say, but we may have some plans. What I can say is that if there's something you want to see on the iPod or PSP, let us know. Or if there's some other way to get you anime you want us to try, don't be afraid to raise your voice.

We're all very excited about offering anime content for the iPod, and this news continues to waves in both the anime and Mac worlds. We've received a lot of coverage so far, with new articles popping up every time we turn our heads.

It's amazing thinking about when I got into anime back during the days of VHS. Things have changed so much since everything moved to DVD, and with high-definition discs and downloadable episodes sprinting up fast, there's no telling where we'll be so much as a year from now. (Maybe microwave-beamed data crystals?) Anime fans have always adopted new technology early, and CPM is doing our best trying to keep up with our fans.

The final volume of CPM's *Shadow Star Narutaru* hit stores this month. If you've been following *Narutaru*, it's time to wrap things up. If you've never ever watched *Narutaru* before, now's the time to start (and a bundle pack exclusively offered in the *Gogai! Gogai!* online store may help).

*Narutaru* starts off simply enough. It's the story of a girl and her adventures with her star-shaped dragon friend; however, unlike other kiddie monster adventure tales, *Narutaru* takes a hard turn into something far more macabre. If I gave a twelve-year-old a monster that could blow up a city block, what would happen to that city block the moment the twelve-year-old didn't pass a test or got harassed for their lunch money? Boom.

I visited with my college's anime club last month and brought some *Narutaru* with me. Not everyone knew about *Narutaru* before I arrived, but as I headed back to CPM, everyone was clamoring for more. *Narutaru* is a show that sneaks up on you. Unassuming at first, it comes to a spectacular, sinister finale.

# Cute, Creepy, and Complete!

By Peter Tatara (*Shadow Star Narutaru Comes to a Close!*)

fig. 7: *Narutaru's* Shiina and Hoshimaru / *Narutaru* © Mohiro Kitou / Kodansha



# I Survived Yaoi-Con!

By Peter Tatara

## *(Be Beautiful Announces Four New Books and a Contest!)*

Central Park Media publishes anime, manga, and manhwa under a number of different titles. Most of our releases are under US Manga Corps, a brand encompassing our shounen, drama, and comedy shows. CPM publishes more

esoteric animations under the Software Sculptors name. Documentaries and family titles are released simply as Central Park Media. CPM Press is an umbrella book imprint covering our general manga and manhwa titles. CPM's

most recent line is Be Beautiful, under which we release yaoi manga and animation. While Be Beautiful is the newest addition to CPM's family, it has very quickly picked up steam. Be Beautiful is a pioneer and leader in North American yaoi publishing, and CPM is very proud of both its titles and its fans. From the book imprint's unveiling at Yaoi-Con 2003, Be Beautiful has had a tremendously supportive fanbase every step of the way.

CPM likes to say thank you to our supporters, and we've been attending Yaoi-Con for the past three years as a part of this. Yaoi-Con 2005 took place a handful of weeks ago in beautiful San Francisco, and while it was Be Beautiful's third, it was my first. How'd it go?

I had a wonderful time. Everyone hosting and attending was there to have a good time, and the vibes resonated throughout the con. My favorite part?

Either the Bishounen Auction (an absolutely indescribable event) or meeting mangaka Kazuma Kodaka. Kodaka-sensei was Yaoi-Con's Guest of Honor and is the author of Be Beautiful's *Kizuna: Bonds of Love* manga series.

CPM announced four new books at Yaoi-Con – *Boku No Koe*, *YEBISU Celebrities*, *Play Boy Blues*, and *Midaresomenishi*. The last, *Midaresomenishi*, is a book by Kodaka-sensei, and she was nice enough to sign two *Midaresomenishi* banners we had made up (as well as a copy of *Kizuna: Bonds of Love* Volume 4 for a friend's upcoming birthday). Want to win one of our *Midaresomenishi* banners? You can!

Be Beautiful is letting fans decide the English title of *Midaresomenishi* and each entry registers you to win one of the Kodaka-signed banners. You can enter from now until the first of December at [BeBeautifulManga.com](http://BeBeautifulManga.com).



fig. 8: Kodaka-sensei signing at Yaoi-Con

# Exclusives! Discounts! Deals!

*(November's Specials in the Anime U Store)* By Peter Tatara

*Gogai! Gogai!* had a great response to our first store offerings in October, and going with some suggestions and some ideas of our own, we've selected a handful of new manga and DVDs to offer just to you. Where's the store? Visit [www.centralparkmedia.com/animeu/](http://www.centralparkmedia.com/animeu/) and click on the *Store* link in the menu bar. Because it's exclusive to Anime U members, you'll be asked for a password when you click on the link. Where can you get a password? Right here.

November's code, as a tip of the hat to the main character in *Angel Shop*, is...

## YURIANGEL

So, what's in the store? We've got one exclusive comic, two entire series, and a special shoujo manga bundle, and everything at special *Gogai! Gogai!* prices. Stock is limited, so order fast or you may be out of luck. Now, let's get to the listings...

### Angel Shop: Vol. 1

Not available anywhere else!

When Yuri wanted to get Boris's attention, she built a robot that looked just like him. It got Boris's attention, but rather than being flattered, he was enraged. Now, Boris plots to get his revenge by pretending to be Yuri's robot. This first volume of one of CPM's newest graphic novels won't be sold anywhere else until 2006. Get it at *\$10.95 – Available exclusively here!*

### Shadow Star Narutaru Bundle

All four volumes at an unbeatable price!

The makers of *Howl's Moving Castle*, *Big O*, *Hellsing*, and *Gunslinger Girl* pooled their talents to create *Narutaru*, a unique series that starts off so cute but turns so, so, so very creepy. Now, it's only *\$49.95 – Save over \$35!*

### Maze Boxset

Own CPM's *Maze* at mega savings!

When a girl named Maze wakes up in a strange house, she's confused. When she learns she can summon a giant robot, she's befuddled. When she transforms into a hormonally over-charged guy when the sun goes down, she's totally lost. Originally *\$129.95*, CPM is repricing *Maze* to *\$39.95* on December 20, but you can now own the *Maze* TV series at the lower *Gogai! Gogai!* exclusive price of *\$29.95 – \$100 off the original price!*

### Tomoko Taniguchi Bundle

Fall in love with shoujo's leading lady!

Tomoko Taniguchi is a master of the art of shoujo. Her storylines and artwork gorgeous, intricate, and lush, she is able to expertly capture intimate emotions with only a few lines from her pencil or

strokes of her brush. *Gogai! Gogai!*'s Tomoko Taniguchi bundle contains all of *Call Me Princess*, *Just A Girl*, *Let's Stay Together Forever*, and *Popcorn Romance*. Together, that's four complete stories and five books normally retailing for over \$50. Through *Gogai! Gogai!*, you can own them now for the exclusive price of only *\$19.95 – Save over \$30!*

*Angel Shop*, *Maze*, the *Shadow Star Narutaru* bundle, and Tomoko Taniguchi bundle will only be available until the next issue of *Gogai! Gogai!* is sent out. And, as has been said, supplies are limited. In other words, if you don't order what you want early, it might not be there when you come looking for it.

If you have any suggestions for other titles or deals you'd like to see, send an e-mail to us at [animeclubs@teamcpm.com](mailto:animeclubs@teamcpm.com) and we'll see what we can do for you. (No, we can't do \$1 DVDs.)

**(A Licensing Epiphany brought on by Painkillers!)**

# Tatara Goes To The Hospital!

By Peter Tatara

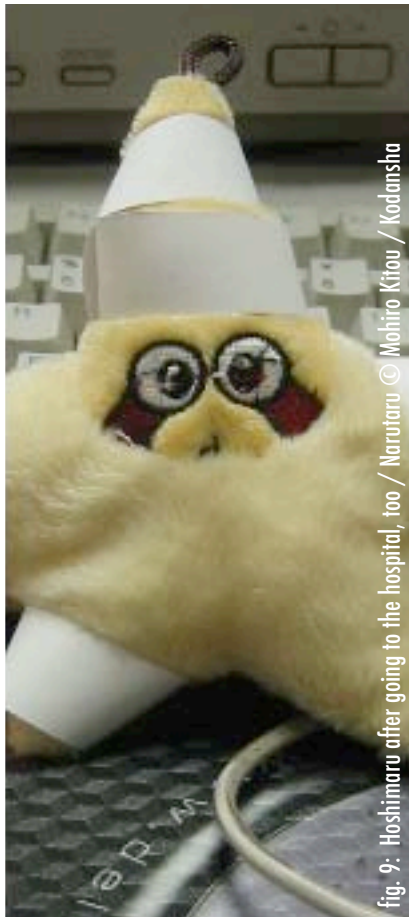


Fig. 9: Hoshimaru after going to the hospital, too / Narutaru © Mohiro Kikou / Kodansha

Conventional wisdom teaches that kidney stones are caused by too much red meat in the diet. Convention wisdom is wrong. How do I know? After a weekend of excruciating pain, I stumbled onto the street and with my last strength signaled a taxi. Before I knew it, I was in the emergency room screaming about a pain in my appendix. A blood test and CT scan later, I was diagnosed not with appendicitis (Google's diagnosis) but with a kidney stone working its way through my body.

Speaking with the ER guys after I stopped screaming, they told me that kidney stones are in fact caused by a lack of proper hydration. Without enough fluids going through your system, stuff in your kidneys begin to crystalize. Not wanting a repeat performance of my weekend in agony, I've since been downing (what seems like) several

gallons of water a day. Is it working? Well, there are no more sharp pains in my side, and beyond that, I feel great. Proper hydration not only prevents horrible pain but also improves general homeostasis. Doctor Tatara's advice to all of you is to be sure to drink a big, tall glass of water before you go to bed.

What does this story have to do with anime? Now, I know you're going to think I'm going to try to hook it into *Black Jack* because of the whole medical angle, and while *Black Jack* is one of my favorite shows, we're not going to talk about Osamu Tezuka's detective doctor at all. Instead, as I was staring up at the ceiling, trying not to think of the pints of blood being drained out of my arm, I had a vision.

What kind of vision? I saw a show. A television show. An animated television

show. An animated television show produced in Japan. An animated television show produced in Japan and currently unlicensed in North America. An animated television show produced in Japan and currently unlicensed in North America named... Well, that I can't tell you; however, should the stars align and everything work out, there will be tremendous yelling and screaming about my painkiller-induced masterstroke.

There may even be a DVD bonus feature exploring the kidney stone and its involvement in the acquisition of the animation.

I sure am hyping up something I can't mention by name, huh? Yes, I am, but just trust me. And say a prayer for this mystery show every night after drinking that glass of water. Now, if you'll excuse me, I've got another quart to down.

NOTE: I AM NOT A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL. PLEASE CONSULT A REAL PHYSICIAN BEFORE FOLLOWING MY ADVICE.

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# Robot 101 *(A brief guide on how to blend in with our mechanical friends)*

By Peter Tatara

If after reading the first volume of *Angel Shop* anyone gets the bright idea of pretending to be a robot, here are a few key pointers to follow as so not to blow your cover or generally get yourself killed. Enjoy!

1) Gotta go? Only slip away to the washroom when no one's around, otherwise they may not buy your "oil leak" excuse.

2) Robots are gourmet chefs and masters of flower arrangement. Study up.

3) While robots may think diesel fuel tastes delicious, it's deadly to humans. Remember this.

4) You can tell people you can lift 500 tons, but don't actually try it, otherwise a trip to the hospital will follow.

5) AC or DC? AC.

6) If alone with other robots, talking about overthrowing your stupid fleshy, human masters is a time-tested icebreaker. You may even get a robo-date.

7) Don't pick fights with other robots. Many have buzzsaw hands. Some shoot rockets.

8) If asked to cook something in your internal microwave, tell your master the TV remote is interfering.

9) Memorize obscure facts about the Periodic Table and 15th Century History. Robots are supposed to know this.

10) Have meaningful conversations with the dryer.

## Super Bonus Happy Wacky Silly Crazy Small Text!

To protect ourselves from lawsuits, it's time to conclude with some super bonus happy legal jazz...

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## *(Two Sayings to Amaze Family, Pets, and Friends)*

Come Thanksgiving, odds are you're going to be spending a lot of time with extended family. While you may have a lot to talk about, there'll probably be a moment or two of silence. *Gogai! Gogai!* is here to help get you through those

awkward pauses. Just repeat the following phrases at any odd moment when conversation has dulled. Don't worry about using them in context, and disregard strange looks. Simply smile. Let's get to the phrases...

## Nihon Endnotes

By Peter Tatara

*I will protect you with my sword!*  
Ore wa kono ken de kimi o mamoru!

*Watashi no rajio o tabemashita ka?*  
Did you eat my radio?

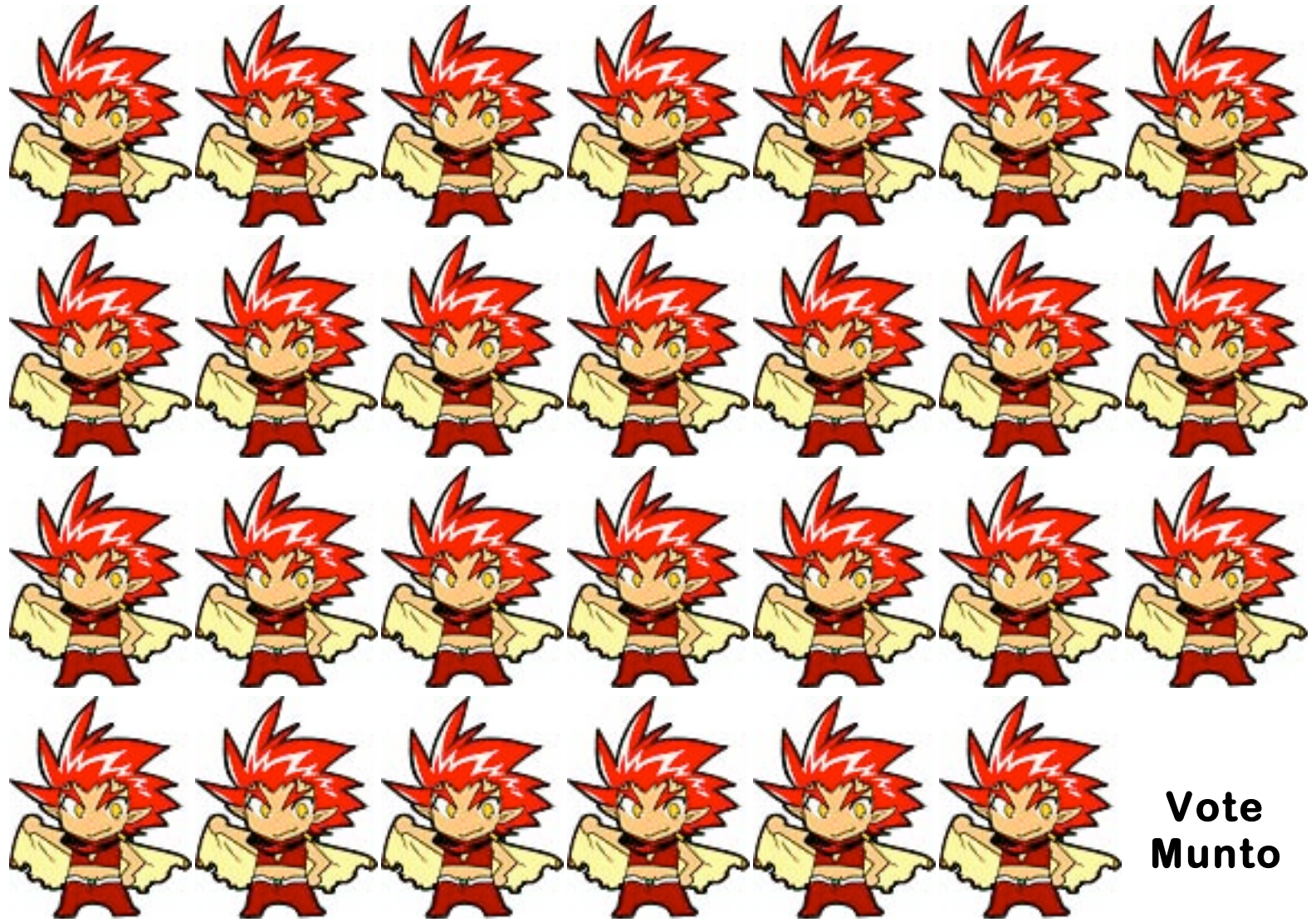


fig. 10: Vote Munto / Munto © 2003 Kyoto Animation