



What Did You Eat Yesterday?, Volume 1

Fumi Yoshinaga

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

What Did You Eat Yesterday?, Volume 1

Fumi Yoshinaga

What Did You Eat Yesterday?, Volume 1 Fumi Yoshinaga

From award-winning author Fumi Yoshinaga comes a casual romance between two middle-aged men and the many meals they share together.

A hard-working middle-aged gay couple in Tokyo come to enjoy the finer moments of life through food. After long days at work, either in the law firm or the hair salon, Shiro and Kenji will always have down time together by the dinner table, where they can discuss their troubles, hash out their feelings and enjoy delicately prepared home cooked meals!

What Did You Eat Yesterday?, Volume 1 Details

Date : Published March 25th 2014 by Vertical (first published November 22nd 2007)

ISBN : 9781939130389

Author : Fumi Yoshinaga

Format : Paperback 200 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Manga, Graphic Novels, Food and Drink, Food, Lgbt, Comics, Fiction, Realistic Fiction, Slice Of Life, Yaoi, Cultural, Japan, Romance

 [Download What Did You Eat Yesterday?, Volume 1 ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online What Did You Eat Yesterday?, Volume 1 ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online What Did You Eat Yesterday?, Volume 1 Fumi Yoshinaga

From Reader Review What Did You Eat Yesterday?, Volume 1 for online ebook

Phoebe says

Finally: a manga whose visual language I understand (with my American sensibilities), and a series I can joyfully read and revisit. In addition to the unique formatting - half episodic 'sitcom', half cooking diary - What Did You Eat Yesterday features lovely, sensitive art, sympathetic characters, a sharp eye for nuance, and humor that carries across the cultural divide(s). The characters' sexual identities are important, but do not take over the story --refreshing and unusual!

Very much looking forward to more.

Angie says

Very cute book about a very cute couple. It's a great look into how they fit in to their culture, and how food plays such a large role in their lives.

Josephine (biblioseph) says

This manga is old, and though it isn't the usual lurid m/m exploitive fare, it isn't own-voices and it shows.

However, for a slice-of-life manga about a couple who love food, you can't do much better. Well, you could. But I haven't read it yet.

Aurora Serenity Sildatke says

I would call this less of a yaoi and more of a slice of life. It's a sweet story about a gay couple in their forties, and what they have to eat.

I love Japan, and I love food, so this was great for me. There were simplified versions of most of the recipes at the end of each chapter. I'm looking forward to trying some of them and adapting them so they're vegan. Mostly I just read this one because I love to cook. It focuses much more on the cooking and the day to day activities than the yaoi aspect, and it is very chaste, so don't expect much romance, sexual tension etc. if you're a yaoi fan.

Really, this is the kind of manga you want to read if you like slice of life, cooking and food.

Alexandra says

Love, love, love this series. What's not to love about uncontrollable salivation while reading anyway. Along with reading about the meals Kakei is preparing, there are these great short stories of Kakei and Yabuki's day to day lives. Humorous, delicious, wonderful. There's also some serious subject matter that's handled well,

like DV and Kakei's parents misguided attempts at accepting his sexuality. cough

First Second Books says

This is a really wonderful, lovely, slice-of-life series that's about a guy who enjoys making dinner.

In every chapter, he makes a new dinner!

Things that are especially good about this:

Fumi Yoshinaga's art is delicate and beautiful, as usual.

Dinner is made so explicitly that you can use the comic as a recipe.

Though the comic is actually really just about making dinner, bits of the characters' lives creep in, so it's actually about the meaning and social conventions of dinner as well as about the food itself.

The food looks fantastic!

Dorrit says

This was nice! Lot of food! Which mostly flew over my head because it used a lot of Japanese ingredients (which even if i could learn because of the helpful notes, i would never be able to find in my pos city). But. It was only the nice. It's primarily slice of life so the story lines aren't all that captivating. I don't think I'll be reading any more... The best of it was obvs no doubt the manga stuff like the absurd exclamations and the marvelous face expressions. Thank god for that.

Harebell says

when i was 18~19 this was one of my favorite series. back then i read it in Japanese and in scanlated English. this was the official translation, borrowed from the library... it wasn't the worst translation, but there were a lot of moments you could tell the translator was too literal and just picked the first dictionary definition for a word or phrase. a lot of very awkward transitional phrases that didn't sound like natural English, for example.

this is supposed to be a light-hearted slice-of-life story about two middle-aged men who are dating and live together, one who is a lawyer and the other a stylist, and the lawyer loves to cook. every chapter begins or ends with him making a tasty meal that the reader can then cook for themselves. however, now that i've been out and living as a gay man for a few years, it's just... cringy. i don't want to assume the author's sexuality, but it REALLY reads like a straight person's attempt to address daily homophobia gay people get from clueless straight people, but it feels very cliché and like it makes light of things in very weird and inappropriate ways. i don't know if this is the translation, i'll have to re-read the original Japanese someday. one thing i wasn't fond of was the fixation both have on their partner finding any other men attractive, and also the stylist obsessed with his boyfriend interacting with a woman he dated two decades ago when trying to convince himself he was straight. not that gay men can't be obsessively jealous but it's like.... it just doesn't read realistic to me, since most gay men i know love to talk about hot dudes with their partners. and i think

(would hope) most gay people will understand having a period of trying to force straightness.

especially when the dudes are in their 40s...

also the book is weird about weight and i wish the author wouldn't devote an entire chapter to how the characters are so skinny for their age and that's why they're handsome.

it's pretty cute if you can overlook that... it'd be super cute if the author just didn't try to address homophobia.

i am going to try to cook the recipes someday, though.

Dragomir Mirela says

Meh...

Miriam says

I'm really enjoying this and have learned of some new edibles (konjac is an "edible corm"), flavor combinations (sweet potato with spicy cod roe!), and food facts (burdock root's bitter polyphenols add savoriness so don't soak it in water before using).

It does have complete recipes and instructions for the dishes. And in contrast to a more famous food manga, *Oishinbo*, which is an elevated approach to ideal food traditions, this does consider pedestrian concerns such as frugality (they always repurpose leftovers), healthiness, and how long it takes to make a dish -- these characters work full time and are cooking dinner when they get home.

Zero notion why the library recommends *Poop Detectives* for people who want this book.

Justin says

There are plenty of anime and manga about food out there, from the fantastical, like *Restaurant to Another World*, and *Delicious in Dungeon*, to the more contemporary, like *Food Wars*, and many in between. It's a crowded market. So, what sets *What Did You Eat Yesterday?* apart? Well, it's about a gay couple, and provides a rather stark look at how homosexuality is viewed and treated in Japanese culture, for one. It's also at times more of a cookbook than a traditional narrative.

Let's start with the former part first. Shiro and Kenji are a little bit of an odd couple: the straight-laced lawyer, paired with the (mostly) carefree hair stylist. I say mostly, because Kenji has an unfortunate jealous streak, but I'll get to that in a moment. For the most part though, they come across as genuine people just looking to live their lives. It's nice to see gay people portrayed as just regular folks for a change.

See, Japan has what you might call an...antiquated position on homosexuality as a whole. A lot of gay characters in anime, manga, and games are so over-the-top flamboyant that it's impossible to see them as anything but jokes. But Shiro and Kenji are just a normal couple...it's just that many of the other characters don't see them that way. Shiro actively hides his relationship from his boss and coworkers, and his parents seem to be perpetually waiting for him to "come to his senses," for lack of a better term. Kenji is outwardly more comfortable in his sexuality, but seems at times oblivious as to how others might view his relationship. Deep down though, he seems to buy into stereotypes about gay people being...shall we say, slutty. He's got a major complex about Shiro leaving him for another man. The first time it happens, it feels believable. The second time, it seems like a bit of a call-back joke, maybe...but then it just keeps happening. It feels like half the people Shiro interacts with prompt Kenji to glare at him and spout off some variant of, "I bet it was some hot guy, wasn't it?" It gets tiresome *very* quickly.

Now, for the other half of the equation: the food. Any food-centric manga demands loving illustrations of its dishes, and *What Did You Eat Yesterday?* does not disappoint. From soups, to main courses, to desserts, it all looks as appetizing as black & white food can. And most dishes are accompanied by step-by-step recipes as Shiro prepares them. It's admittedly a bit surreal (if not wooden), to read a character narrating to himself about how he's cutting up a potato, or frying a fish, but it does do a good job of presenting the meals. And in a narrative sense, cooking does serve as a way for Shiro to unwind, and maintain his bond with Kenji.

In a nutshell, this series is half social commentary, and half cookbook. Your enjoyment will largely depend on your enjoyment of the slice of life genre, cooking, and Japanese culture. I enjoy reading about all three, to varying extents, hence the four-star rating. It's not perfect, but I enjoyed my time with this first volume quite a bit.

Skye Kilaen says

The covers don't do this gay foodie manga justice, but trust me on this one. Shiro is a middle-aged lawyer who spends his nights cooking gourmet multi-course meals at home. He shares the meals, and his home, with his hairdresser boyfriend Kenji - but Shiro isn't out at work. The series bounces around between different happenings in Shiro and Kenji's lives, past and present. Foodies will love the in-depth step-by-step recipes and Shiro's explanations of why he prepares the food as he does. The rest of us can skim those parts and get to the next "adventure" as Shiro stays closeted at work, Kenji doesn't, ex-partners pop up, legal cases arise, and grocery prices are tracked very closely. (If there was extreme couponing in Japan, Shiro would do it.) There are super-touching moments, some absolutely hilarious parts, and it's such an interesting look into a facet of gay life in Japan.

I've read up through the latest volume out right now. It's very slow-moving for character and relationship development, and I know some folks have had trouble with that, but it's worth trying the first several volumes to get a real feel for the series. Shiro's character, especially, has a lot going on with his family and his identity as a gay man in a culture that isn't welcoming, and sometimes he does things that seem to undervalue his relationship with Kenji. I never worry, though, because by now I know the author is going to circle back around and allow him to keep growing.

One of my favorite manga!

Tove says

Even my love of cooking couldn't make this volume more tolerable. I don't know if it's a translation issue or what, but this story is riddled with jokes about homophobia, transphobia, and even a couple about domestic abuse -- all trying to be funny, but landing, to me, as plain hurtful.

The protagonists have NO chemistry despite supposedly being a romantic couple, and they have no meaningful conversations with each other. As a matter of fact, EVERY character comes off as cold or just two-dimensional and unlikeable.

I don't even like the art.

Hard, hard pass.

Rachel (TheShadesofOrange) says

4.5 Stars

This is an adorable, hilarious slice-of-life manga featuring an older gay couple with a passion for food. I particularly loved the main character who combines his love of cooking with his goal of frugal living. I highly recommend this one to anyone who loves Japanese culture and good food.

Ruth says

The first volume of What Did you Eat Yesterday? from Vertical, Inc., is slim and unassuming. The front cover is lovely in its simplicity, with the two lead characters examining a prepared dish and descriptions of other dishes scattered about the rest of the cover. However, for as slim as the volume is, it packs in luxurious descriptions of foods and cooking processes, much more than one might expect from 154 pages of content.

The story itself is a day-to-day look at the lives of Shiro and Kenji, 40-something men who have been in a relationship for several years. Most chapters begin with a snippet of one character's day or the other's and concludes with their shared meal. The flow of the story feels very much like vignettes as there isn't much of an underlying plot holding each chapter together. They generally fit together quite well, but they could serve as short stories in their own right in most cases. However, the story is unimportant in many ways. It seems to exist solely as a vessel by which Ms. Yoshinaga can draw and write about carefully crafted meals. Each meal depicted is given tender, loving descriptions of the steps, choices of seasoning, and pairing with dishes. There are also recipes and other food details (such meal ideas for leftovers) in between each chapter.

While the recipes and food descriptions really make up the bulk of the volume, it's the characters that really hold everything together. Kenji provides a certain lightness to the story in his role of the open gay man who gets to fulfill the reader's fantasies by eating the delicious foods described. Shiro, on the other hand, has a heavier personality, not only due to the detailed nature of his cooking, but also because of his uncertainty with his place in the world. While he doesn't question his orientation, he's extremely concerned that other people will suspect that he is gay. In a world where being different can be a crushing experience, he clings to a front of "normalcy" even while he cherishes his relationship with Kenji. The story itself doesn't touch very heavily on this, but we're given little hints about Shiro's private nature and uncertainty which help to give the volume more heft than it would otherwise have.

The first volume of What Did You Eat Yesterday? doesn't make a huge splash. It's relatively understated, it doesn't have any mysteries or moments of climax to draw a reader in. Honestly, it might be a difficult sell for many people. However, for those who appreciate cuisine and the preparation of food, it will likely be a welcome entry to their graphic novel collection.

