



Moyasimon: Tales of Agriculture, Volume 1

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BACTERIA TO SCHOOL

Tadayasu is a new, fresh-faced university student hiding a bizarre secret: He can see germs with the naked eye. Between the machinations of an eccentric professor determined to unlock the power of the microbial world and the doomed agricultural experiments of his fellow students, will Tadayasu ever find the cool college atmosphere he so desires?

Moyasimon: Tales of Agriculture, Volume 1 Details

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From Reader Review Moyasimon: Tales of Agriculture, Volume 1 for online ebook

Jose says

A weird tale about a boy who can see bacteria and his adventures in an agriculture school. Characters could better, we'll see how this goes.

Noran Miss Pumkin says

never knew bacteria could be this much fun!

Wen says

I watched the anime before reading the manga. I really liked the anime and it was pretty true to the manga. Regardless of the ridiculous premise of the ability of the protagonist to see bacteria and viruses, it is entertaining and educational. And it isn't just about microbiology and the science of fermentation, but also to some extent the Japanese culture and how they are covered by the Japanese cultural phenomenon that is anime and manga.

The fact that a story like this can be created to be entertaining to young adults and grown ups while being largely educational is a tribute to the Japanese manga culture. Sure, there's a lot of other stuff in that space that most consider simply escapist and trope-ridden, but once in a while, something like this comes along that is refreshingly original and informative.

The world of bacteria and fermentation has been studied for thousands of years and an integral part of human history. The advent of mostly western medicine and anti-biotics has perhaps caused something of a setback to how we study the subject matter. Recognition that simply killing all germs is not the way to go and that antibiotic resistance is a huge problem, books like this can help to bring a different perspective and new interest in the topic and perhaps help inspire young people to study how we can have a more harmonious relationship with microbes.

Graham P says

A uniquely fresh entry into the world of manga - no big titty super-heroines, no supernatural sidekicks, no teenage angst, and no apocalyptic landscapes filling up every frame. What Ishikawa does here is lay down a simple tale of a young man entering an agricultural college right outside of Tokyo. What makes him unique is that he can see bacteria - every type of germ - from the common cold virus to yeast and even e. coli (which propels the book's most memorable scene, thanks to somebody not washing their hands and making a beef curry). It's a strange combo of 'coming-of-age' and scientific lectures, and while not much really happens in the way of action and drama, it is playful, unique and oddly memorable.

Geoff Sebesta says

This is the best educational manga I've read for a long time. It's a story about a little boy who can see germs with the naked eye, and in all other ways it is a perfectly normal high school manga. There's nothing special about the story in any way at all, it's just a method for transferring microbiology information from the author's head to yours, and it works remarkably well at that.

YLKwan says

Never thought I would enjoy a Japanese Manga about bacteria! Turns out to be very educational and informative and presented in a humorous way.

Miriam says

Bacteria party! Everywhere!

Diana Dang says

Bacterias are microscopic organisms. They surround us constantly, from being in the food we eat to the insides of our bodies. No one can see them with a naked eye. No one, except Tadayasu Sawaki.

A new student at an agriculture university, Sawaki is able to see germs that surround him. With his special ability, he gets tangled up in funny situations and meets a couple of odd people here and there. An absolute hit series in Japan, Moyasimon is brought to North America to reveal an adorable and educational world of bacterias and agriculture.

When I first saw the manga, I automatically thought it was in novel-format because of the cover. That was until I realized it was backwards and was indeed a manga. I also question the cover because as you can see, it is mocking the American flag, which I find is cute. Except, isn't this made in Japan?? I assume the cover is so because the publisher is trying to bring the hype from Japan over to America.

There are interesting facts involving the things you could learn in an agriculture university and the different uses of bacteria. I actually didn't know there were universities existed solely for agriculture until I read this manga. You could obtain many scientific information from this series and the mangaka made it fun to read.

I love the drawings Masayuki Ishikawa gave to each group of bacterias. Scenes and characters are sometimes drawn to be humorous. The art style is easy on the eyes and there are very clear transitions in the panels. I found it pretty comical in one scene where Sawaki was hit by a massive wave of bacteria and he was unable to see where he was going while to regular people's eyes, he just seemed weird.

I do recommend Moyasimon for manga readers who want something different from the usual shojo or shonen series out there. This series however takes time to digest because there is a ton of information given in some panels.

heidi says

This was my first time reading manga, and it took a little to figure out how to read it: left to right, top to bottom, and the fine print is a translation of the writing in the scene, for instance on signs. This is a very fun story of a college freshman who has a superpower - the ability to see microorganisms with his naked eye. A story of fermentation and the role that bacteria and yeast play in the health (and infection) of our lives unfolds. The illustrations are detailed and the story is full of microorganism-fueled adventure.

The story doesn't really end, though. I need to track down the second volume.

Benjamin Uke says

A cute manga about a freshmen college student at an agricultural university, who has a unique ability to see and communicate with bacteria.

Anny says

If ??? Silver Spoon 1 Gin no Saji Silver Spoon 1 was a perfect book to whet your appetite on the bounty of nature, then Moyasimon must be a perfect book to turn it off.

I do enjoy reading all the trivia and knowledge about microorganisms, but I don't recommend reading this before eating.

Jessica says

The premise is interesting, but not particularly funny.

Vicki says

Notes are just on volume 1.

I love Moyashimon! Its a series about a groups of students (and their professors) at an agricultural university, where one of the students happens to be able to see microbes with the naked eye...and he sees them as cute little blobs with faces, in varying different shapes.

Here are some of the things I like most about it:

- It sits firmly in the slice-of-life genre, giving a somewhat meandering glimpse into the life and times of the characters without any particularly strong over-riding plot (so far: this is only volume one tho so you never know)

- You can actually learn a little about the fermentation process, and various fermented foods, thanks to interesting little mini-lectures that crop up via various characters throughout

- The microbes are cute! They have different looks and personalities (and say different things) depending on what type of microbe they are. I'm a sucker for strange-yet-cute things, and this is 100% it.

- The characters are quite unique and interesting, and you want to know more about them. Why does Kei look like a girl although he's a boy? What will Itsuki's next insane fermentation project be? How can Tadayasu see microbes? (tho I'm not sure if I ever expect to find this out - I think its supposed to be pretty random) And will Tadayasu's ability mean he is completely taken advantage of at a university where usually they would need complex and expensive equipment to see some of the microbes they want?

I would recommend this to anyone who wants to try out a comic that is not like anything else. Also, anyone who appreciates the slice-of-life genre, learning a little something from their comics, and quirkily cute things should get a kick out of this series.

Stephanie Griffin says

MOYASIMON: TALES OF AGRIGULTURE, is a manga with intelligence and humor. Written by Masayuki Ishikawa, it centers on Tadayasu, a young man from a rural family, along with his best friend Kei. Tadayasu has the power to see and communicate with bacteria of all kinds. This comes in handy when the two friends go off to an agricultural college in Tokyo. After all, bacteria are everywhere.

As soon as they enter the college, Tadayasu and Kei encounter bootleggers, smelly buried seals, initiation rites, yogurt, filthy dorm rooms, and angry grad students.

By the end of this first volume you will know how to brew your own sake, and how different bacteria figure into the fermentation process, so its an informative book as well as entertaining.

The drawings of the different bacteria forms are so cute, I just fell in love with this book and I look forward to volume 2!

Vesper says

Tre stelle e 1/2
