



## Tokyo Crazy Paradise, Vol. 1

*Yoshiki Nakamura*

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Set in a futuristic Japan where crime has elevated and apathy prevails, Tsukasa is brought up as a boy in order to protect her from the crime-ridden Japan. When the murder of Tsukasa's parents leaves her and her brothers homeless, she finds herself turning to the same people responsible for the deaths of her parents - the yakuza and fellow classmate/Yakuza head, Ryuji. From their very first meeting, Tsukasa finds herself in debt to Ryuji, and the only way to pay it off is to become his bodyguard. Yet, the incurring debt seems to greatly increase, regardless of how much Tsukasa works. Perhaps Ryuji has other reasons for keeping her by his side?

## **Tokyo Crazy Paradise, Vol. 1 Details**

Date : Published December 25th 1996 by ??? (first published December 1996)

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Author : Yoshiki Nakamura

Format : ??? 186 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Manga, Romance, Shojo, Graphic Novels, Lgbt, Genderqueer, Action



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## From Reader Review Tokyo Crazy Paradise, Vol. 1 for online ebook

### **Fresiako says**

This review is for the entire series.

Tokyo crazy paradise has some of the best characters. Tsukasa is adorably hilarious and bad ass. The plot is great, the action and fighting scenes are hella cool. The first couple chapters are a bit confusing to read, but pretty soon the chapters become addictive and well done. The romance between Ryuji and Tsukasa is really sweet. My only complaint is that I wish the author just said they were 17 years old. They are soooo not 14 years old. LOL. Just pretend these characters are 17, cause they seriously look like adults already.

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### **Cary says**

I loved this manga, the art style is unique and the characters are so detailed you can't help but love them especially Tsukasa. Tsukasa has got to be one of my favourite main female characters of all time as apart from the fact that she totally kicks ass her whole personality is so much fun.

I gave this manga 5/5 as it has everything you'd want in a manga it's got the action, the comedy, the drama, the romance (Ryuji x Tsukasa) and don't forget the tear jerker scenes (Kamo-san noooo) this manga is definitely worth a read.

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### **Silvia Gutierrez says**

Rate for full series 5 full awesome stars.

It has everything. You can't stop reading. There's blood, there are some boobs but is not meant in the ecchi way to just get viewers. Is funny, it has a real plot and it doesn't give you a feeling that the author made bad choices in the ending. The age thing is not a problem. I have seen reviews of people complaining about the age and trust me is not an issue. The Characters of Game of thrones are even younger in the book and nobody complaints about that.

My only complaint would be the fact that as any fan girl I would love to see a more romantic happy ending but hey, nothing is perfect.

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### **Cheyenne says**

This is such an amazing series and an all-time favorite of mine! I've reread it multiple times. It's a shame that it doesn't garner the same attention that Skip Beat does. There's honestly only a hair's breadth of difference between how much I love Tokyo Crazy Paradise and Skip Beat. *Yoshiki Nakamura* is a genius.

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## Miriam says

EDIT 12/17/17: review for the 4.5 volumes i read (1-4, and the latter half of 19): **this series is extremely overrated** and i'm not sure how all the books have more than 4 stars average rating on GR.

initial review for this book:

My problem with this wasn't with the plot. In fact, as far as shoujo manga plotlines go, this was pretty good. My main problem is with the characters. The author claims all the main characters are 14. They all look to be *at least* in their old teens, and act like they're 8. Either way, it was an okay read.

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## June says

Yoshiki Nakamura is my goddess. I LOVE all her manga, and all her characters. She's got the perfect blend of comedy, action, and story-telling that just BLOWS you away.

Tokyo Crazy Paradise was a LONG ASS SERIES, don't get me wrong, but it was just so perfect that I really found myself not having a problem with how long it was because I never wanted it to end. This mangaka also created the Skip Beat! manga, and I'm also in love with that one as well!

For any of those who love strong female protagonists, this book is definitely the one for you!

P.S. I have a guilty pleasure for underworld-gang type stuff in stories so this was right up my alley!

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## Christina (A Reader of Fictions) says

For more reviews, Cover Snark and more, visit A Reader of Fictions.

In the last few months, I've gotten back into my manga obsession. I've not fit in a LOT of manga reading, but I'm making sure to keep reading consistently, if not speedily. Because I have this weird thing with order and didn't track my manga reading well in the past, I'll be rereading a lot of stuff I've read before, even if I didn't much like it. I already know this isn't entirely sane, but don't mind me. Anyway, I'm trying to keep my manga reviews to those licensed in the US, as well as the most hilarious, notable or amazing ones otherwise. Tokyo Crazy Paradise is notable for being by the author of Skip-Beat! which I love. My expectations were high, but it couldn't possibly be bad, right? WRONG.

Man, I am still upset that Tokyo Crazy Paradise didn't work out for me. I mean, there's gender bending and an incredibly strong heroine who doesn't change who she is when she falls in love. On the surface, this is something I should love, and I do admire those parts of the series. The heroine, Tsukasa, really is pretty fabulous. She's a great fighter, she's loyal to a fault, determined, and completely silly. She saves the series from being endlessly boring.

The romance is...well...kind of okay. I don't ship it, that's for sure, but Nakamura puts in a real slow burn and I can respect that. Also, I respect that Tsukasa never becomes a girly girl. She's more comfortable

crossdressing, and has no desire to act any different after she falls in love. Ryuji's totally okay with that, though he does also love seeing her in women's clothes. Ryuji also keeps the "stay away; I'm dangerous" and hiding things from Tsukasa for her own good to a minimum. He respects her strength and they act like equals. These are the good things.

To explain the core element in why I didn't like Tokyo Crazy Paradise, I need to talk about a YA book. You might have heard of it: Legend by Marie Lu. Tokyo Crazy Paradise has the same problem: the main characters are too young for me to find them believable. Tsukasa and Ryuji are both FOURTEEN. Yet, he's as tall as anyone else in the series, he's so hot much older women try to seduce him constantly (partly for his position as head of a yakuza group, but barf) and she, when she puts on women's clothes, has an incredibly voluptuous body with huge breasts. Now, I'm not saying teens never develop early, but if her boobs are as big as depicted, then how is she able to flatten them so well? Doesn't it hurt? Also, is no one else grossed out at ALL THE ADULTS perving on freaking fourteen year olds? NO? \*shudders\*

Aside from that, the story was just way too long. There were unnecessary plot lines and an abundance of wordy dialog. There's so much talking but also somehow too much mindless action. Tsukasa and Ryuji should have died a million times over. Ryuji's yakuza group shouldn't have had any men left in it by the end, since so freaking many died in the course of the series. While the contrast between the dark plots and killing and how sweet the yakuza guys could be is amusing, it's not really enough to carry the series.

The worst part, for me, was that the series takes turns into absurd science fiction. Where it had been fairly straight forward mobster stuff, suddenly there was a guy in another guy's body, people with guns for arms, and a drug that turns people into incredibly strong enslaved fighting forces. It's way too much and I was just laughing every time a new plot element was revealed. On top of that, many of the fights scenes are simply impossible.

What it comes down to really though is that the story failed to invest me. Tsukasa's fun, but she and Ryuji, while okay, didn't make me set to sailing. And, actually, if I were a shipper, the ending would have really frustrated me, because you totally don't get much of a payoff. I think the most interesting parts for me were Ryuji's relationship with Kamo-san and the relationship between Asago and the cop, even though it still had the icky age gap factor.

This was totally not what I was expecting from having read much of Skip-Beat!, and ultimately it's not my thing. I think if you're more open to absurd gangster plot lines and unrealistic action, then it might amuse. As a more romance-focused manga reader, I was bored bored bored...and grossed out.

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### **Nina {????s ??? ?????} says**

I really liked this series. It's as good as Skip Beat! It's darker and still, sometimes a little unrealistic, but the stories that are interwoven and the relationships that Yoshiki Nakamura has created are truly something to be read. I thoroughly enjoyed this.

I've been thinking. At first I think I was attracted to this series because of Tsubasa's relationship with Ryuji. But then of course Nakamura drew me into the story with the words. I do think their ages are kind of a bit young, but it's set in the future, in an environment, where in the end, I thought the ages were appropriate. But like **Wild Ones** which also deals with Yakuza, even if the main character is not as active as Tsubasa in a fighting sense, they have a similar kind of mentality, which drew me in. It's hard to put in words what was

fascinating about this manga. Maybe when I find the words, I'll update this review!

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### **Amy says**

Just finished the entire series <3 Action, romance, sci-fi, drama, gangsters, a strong heroine...this one has it all. I've been power reading through the volumes over the past few days so finally finishing it is bitter sweet. While I would have loved more cute scenes at the end, I can't really argue with how it ends. It was satisfying. One of those mangas that really makes you feel like the characters are old friends by the time you reach the end.

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### **Emiko Salim says**

Awesome female lead. One gotta ignore their age though.  
I lost count on how many times I've re-read this.

Peneman masa sakit :D Just imagine that Tsukasa's fighting your illness for you instead of the bad guys lol.

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### **MyWolfs\_Booktaste says**

\*\*LOVE THIS MANGA!! Its a reread for me for the 100th time. I just love the characters, the story behind it, the action, the romance, the art. Its frikin perfect!

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### **Hanna says**

From the same author as Skip Beat! and just as good. Might even be better, because this series finished at the top while the other one is still going (and I'm not sure of the direction yet). Fantastic strong heroin and unendingly funny. A really really good series.

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### **Rhina Luu says**

Top 3 must read shoujo manga

1. Red River
2. Tokyo Crazy Paradise
3. Basara

This is my favorite out of the three. IT'S HILARIOUS! Oh God. I remembered staying up all night laughing my ass off! The mangaka's side comments are the best! The romance is definitely hater (ish) to lover. The girl is a true badass, but there is still enough hero saves heroine to keep me going (but most of the time it's heroine saved hero). Don't be discourage by the art (same goes for number 1 n 3), because this is AMAZING! My only problem are the heroes' age (THEY ARE NO WAY THEY ARE 14! so I pretend they are 21!) and the ending (I NEED MORE! YOU CAN'T DO THAT TO ME AUTHOR! I DEMAND A

WEDDING AND SOME KIDS! Okay... just a wedding would be fine..). Aside from that, this is a must read!

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### **Sharon says**

For me, the storyline of this was hilarious, romantic, and action-filled manga gave me several surprises throughout. And to be honest, this is one of the few action plots that I've come to enjoy as well. Though I can understand why some might not like this series, I found that it was mainly the storyline that drew me in and how the definition of "good" was captured from this fictitious world of crime. Although the art itself isn't as great as Skip Beat!, Vol. 01, I found that Yoshiki Nakamura's style in drawing each characters' expressions did not lack in any sense.

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### **Miku says**

There are some comedy manga that I can quietly snicker to, but this one? ... NO POSSIBLE WAY!!! I love this author's other work Skip Beat too (I actually read SB first) and yeah the art is similar (duh!!) but It's different in a way (it seems more angular and more shaded) and I love that!!!!

Also, This has got to be the funniest manga I have ever read in my entire life. The deformed facial expressions and the hilarious dynamic between the male and female protagonists are super entertaining. Amidst all the comedy and laughter lies a dark and complex plot, an ancient legend of sort, romance (love triangles/rectangles? haha), and awesome action scenes. The main character isn't your normal damsel in distress. In fact, she's a super bad ass personal bodyguard (not to mention bad tempered) of a Yakuza leader and can slash down any enemy with her metal chain whip...though that's not to say there aren't any knight in shining armor scenes.

There is obvious tension, both relationship-type tension and violence-type tension (seeing as it's a yakuza manga) but it's more of a battle-comedy with love intermixed than a love-comedy with battles (however that would work) and it's refreshing.

The author never delves too far into the romance aspect but I didn't feel that is was lacking because of that. The comedic antics of the two main characters totally captured my heart and the range of emotion from each of the more prominent characters was very realistic (rather than the simplistic emotions displayed in most shoujo or avoided in some battle manga). It was all balanced quite nicely.

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