



Witchcraft Works, Vol. 1

Ryu Mizunagi

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Honoka Takamiya is an average student. Ayaka Kagari, his classmate who sits next to him in class, on the other hand is the class "Princess". Ayaka is tall, strikingly gorgeous and has a regalness to her that almost exudes a royal attitude. Despite their promixity in school, over the school year the two have never shared much conversation...until today.

So today as class ended, Takamiya was suddenly attacked by a cat-eared witch and her band of bunny-costumed thugs! And if that were not enough of a shock, this average joe would then be saved, like a Princess by none other than Ayaka Kagari... a witch herself!

Witchcraft Works, Vol. 1 Details

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From Reader Review Witchcraft Works, Vol. 1 for online ebook

Julie (Manga Maniac Cafe) says

2.75 - 3 stars

What did I just read?? What a weird book. The first chapter is just bizarre. Takamiya is just an average guy. His classmate, Kagari, is known at school as "Princess." She is smart, beautiful, graceful, and has her own fan club. For some reason she keeps sitting by Takamiya. They are always on class duty together. She rides the same bus he does. All of this gets him into hot water with Kagari's fan club, whose members are fiercely jealous and protective of their idol.

Then one day, the tower in the courtyard collapses and almost falls on Takamiya. A weird girl with fuzzy ears attacks him with an army of large, creepy bunnies. Kagari rescues him, and he learns that she is a fire witch, he is her "princess," and she will protect him at all costs.

Ooookayyyy. Takamiya, for reasons unknown, is wanted by the evil Tower Witches. Kagari is a good Workshop Witch, who protects the world from the Tower Witches. I didn't really understand what the hell was going on, and clearly, neither did Takamiya. He has been kept in the dark about why these evil witches are out to get him and his white stuff. What is his white stuff? Who knows, though we all know what Takamiya thinks it is.

There is a ton of action, but since I didn't understand the point of all of these attacks and rescues, it didn't really capture my attention. Takamiya is constantly waking up in Kagari's private room at school after she rescues him. He's an okay character, I guess, but he is kind of weak and pathetic and therefore, not very interesting. Kagari is more noteworthy, just because she seems to be a badass with her fire magic, but she, like the other women in the story are there more for the big boobs and short skirts than anything else.

The art is crisp and clean, with fine line work. The characters' noses look strange, and I found them distracting. The actions sequences conveyed a good sense of motion.

I checked this out from the library because I have volumes 4 – 9, courtesy of Vertical. I will try to pick up the story again with volume 4, because the library currently has only volume 1 in their collection. I don't think this series is going to be successful for me. I didn't find it particularly amusing, and the chapters felt a bit repetitive, but I'll read at least what I have.

Sara says

This is one weird manga. I haven't read anything quite like this yet. It is about high school students, witches, illusory magic for which I don't yet see the purpose, fuzzy evil bunnies that kill, lots of fire burning fights (though I don't see that anyone was seriously injured yet they should be dead), pantie shots, and big boobs.

For some reason, this really popular high school girl who is also a witch has taken a liking to an ordinary guy. Yet it seems he's important. Not sure why yet. He doesn't yet know, either.

I think I may read the next one. These scenes of fighting the evil bunnies and their attendant witches with

lots of violence and fire were just bizarre.

Russell Grant says

This one was a bit of a mixed bag. Basically a guy is being protected by a witch for reasons unknown. It will probably be better explained in Volume 2, which is a problem since this volume is such a confusing mess it doesn't really grab you to want to read a volume 2. Art is nice, but again, so over the top it's near impossible to follow what's happening in the plentiful battle scenes. Hopefully things straighten out in volume 2.

Amber says

this was cute and kind of cheesy but I enjoyed it

Kathleen says

There's a sort of frustrating lack of questions actually being answered in this volume, but I love the character designs!

Catherine says

“Princess” lol

Teena Evans says

What the hell just happened... I am not sure what I just read! The conversation didn't flow at all and a lot of time I was unsure what was going on!

The art was a little bit too busy and sometimes I struggled to decipher what was happening. There were sexual connotations I think... unless it's my dirty mind! Also, people's boobs just aren't that big!!!

Eienblog says

Le manga renverse un rien le codes (c'est la fille qui doit protéger un gars pas très dégourdi) mais j'ai du mal à m'attacher aux personnages. Ils ne sont insupportables mais pas vraiment dignes d'intérêt. Le fan service n'est pas trop marqué pour un titre clairement destiné à la gent masculine. Mais bon, je ne le poursuivrai pas.

Marine says

graphismes intéressants et sorcières à gogo mais le fan service à coups de gros boobs et les réactions du fan club de kagari sont assez insupportables. A voir ce que la suite réserve ...

Amber says

Nope. It's terrible that I got volumes 1-7 from the library because I should just read them because I have them, but I don't think I can survive. This book is basically just action sequence to action sequence with little explanation as to what is happening. The sequences are the same the guy gets attacked, taken, and the witch saves him with ease. The bad guys then run away and then try again and again very Team Rocket style. It's just reusing ideas and flaunting the point that it is with asides. Just nope.

Dorcas says

Kinda fluffy. I'll check out the second volume to see if it deepens up any.

Jenny O'Neill says

This is a weird one for me. It has magic, a fun main character in Karagi, pretty artwork, and magic. The pacing is good, the writing is good, it has a lot of what I like. So why am I not that satisfied after reading it? I feel like the main reason is the expressions that characters wear, or more accurate lack thereof. I want to make it clear that up until recently, I never gave character expressions a second thought. For the most part, mangaka go all out with them and are seen frequently enough that I never paid close attention to it. Witchcraft Works, at least from this volume, does not have very expressive characters. I'm not saying that they have to be in every panel like in Magi, My Hero Academia, or Assassination Classroom, but at least some would go a long way. There are particular scenes where something dramatic is happening or someone is in danger, and the main character Takamiya will look mildly concerned rather than horrified or surprised. It kills the mood because the reader feels the weight of the scene but it's not being conveyed by the main character. This isn't necessarily a deal breaker purely because the story is solid and the characters are fun, but it does bother me considerably since it pulls me out of the experience. I will be continuing with the series and I hope I can get past my qualms and enjoy it.

Allie says

I'm surprised at the low ratings on this one. I liked it! I just skimmed through the other reviews to see what people had a problem with and, mostly, they said it's weird. Um... it's **manga**. How did they *not* expect weird? So, yes -- this was weird. But cool!

And yes, the boobs are over the top. (Insert sexual innuendo here)

(Ps: I read this whole book while waiting in the doctor's office. Yet another reason why it's always smart to carry around a book. Or two.)

Amber says

A very solid first volume. I like the magical elements and the MCs. It's pretty awesome to get a strong female heroine taking care of her male counter-part. It shows that females can be kick-ass and males can be more sensitive. I look forward to seeing the rest of the series and learning more about the unique magic system.

Mehsi says

I watched the anime and loved it and I was sooo excited when I heard the manga was licensed by Vertical!

Now I finally have read this and I must say, points to Vertical. Many publishers for manga have one problem: Often you can't read the text bubbles or see the images because the pages are bound in too close to the back(spine) of the manga and you have to bend the whole manga at times to just see what they are saying. Vertical however, has a bit awkward format (a bit bigger), but this is ok, because they made big margins and you don't need to bend the book at all, you can just carefully open it (and not break the spine) and you can read everything clearly without problems. Yeah for Vertical! I am really looking forward to more manga by you.

Now for the manga. It was pretty much the same as the anime (so I have to say, yeah!, for the anime following the manga pretty well), so it was a bit boring. However it has been a few months since I saw Witchcraft Works so I am delighted to see everyone again. The Tower Witches, the Workshop Witches, our main character and various others. It was hilarious to see how Kagari and Takamiya met each other, how Takamiya is totally oblivious to everything that happens around him (especially the part where he was thinking about how coincidental it all was that Kagari was always close by and he didn't get it).

The illustrations are gorgeous, we have some 2 page illustrations and wow, feast for the eye!

The manga is packed with action, lots of magic and also a big pinch of comedy.

All in all I can't wait to read the next volume (coming in December). I would really recommend this manga to all. Are you looking for something fun? Something action-packed? Looking for a manga about witches and war? Then this one is your new manga!

Review first posted at <http://twirlingbookprincess.com/>
