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The Lonely Egotist (Yaoi Novel)



Synopsis

Minami has gotten a hot start as a young interior designer. In fact, he's just been chosen as the primary designer of a new luxury hotel. When Minami enthusiastically goes out to meet his client, Asakura, the hotel owner turns out to be a dazzling, sexy man. On top of that, the overwhelmed Minami finds his contract is actually for a love hotel! Seeing as how Minami lacks experience in this particular area, Asakura promises to show him the ropes. But is it really necessary to try out ALL the beds...?!

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Customer Reviews

It is often said that mixing business and pleasure is not a wise thing to do, but what about situations where it cannot be helped? Kasuga is a young architect who gets employed to design the interior spaces of a new hotel, only to fall into the trap of its beautiful, yet somewhat strange owner, Asakura. This book is not really the sort that will be enjoyed by every yaoi fan out there. If seduction and non-con situations make you nervous, you should skip this one. The writing is well done, but at times it seems things happen too quickly. I will give Masaki-sensei extra points for intensity. The accompanying illustrations by Masara Minase are as elegant as the rest of her work. The translation

flows nicely and there is a bonus color page. A final word of advice to my fellow yaoi fans: for whatever reason, major retailers (Borders and included) usually get books of this type rather late, sometimes weeks after the announced street date. As I write this review, the products page states that it would take 1-3 weeks to ship the book and there are several offers of used copies, starting at \$75 and going all the way up to \$999! Please do not pay that much for it - this simply isn't worth more than \$9. Every time a yaoi title is late there are ridiculous offers from third-party sellers, even for items like this one, which shouldn't be out of print. Instead of spending all that money, I suggest that you look for a small local comics shop or anime retailer, if there are any around. That's how I managed to get this title and many others right when the publisher said they would be available. You'll have your book on time and at the normal retail price and you'll be able to help the local economy and support your favorite artist/ publisher.

A 23 years old virgin raped at first encounter with 30ish old male and then have to work together! The nerve of Asakura looking at Minami the next day like nothing happened! I must say that I read this novel twice! I got so in love with Minami and Asakura that I could not breathe while reading this. At first, I did not like the drawings but while reading the book I can see the resemblance of the characters in them. I do not give this a five stars because I found some misspelling, misused verbs, and I feel that some things were lost in the translation.

First the positives: Pretty good translation- text is not choppy, and though there are some editing errors, there is some style in the translation. Excellent when compared to some other yaoi novels. Art is gorgeous- I have always loved Minase's work, and this book is no exception- scenes are well chosen and beautifully drawn. Negatives: I figured that there would be noncon, so that wasn't what bothered me, as it is common in yaoi and I was expecting it. However, this book walks a fine line- in most yaoi, everyone seems to accept noncon to a degree where it doesn't even seem strange- in this book, refreshingly, many people are aware that it is wrong. But despite rape being portrayed negatively, it still went for rape -> physical response = true love. This bothered me even more in a format where rape is seen badly. (I have never liked this in manga- but most of the time the situations are so unreal that the wrongness I can just ignore.) I suppose it would have been too much to expect a single novel to break the one of the most common tropes of yaoi, but it led to a weird melding of reality and fantasy that came off as uncomfortable to read, at least to me. I didn't even want to finish the novel, I just skimmed it after a certain point.

Maybe I've just lost infatuation with Yaoi/BL novels because I used to burn through them but this one was a pain to slog through. It is translated better than some others in that it feels smoother to read, but the characters were unpleasant to me. They were not particularly likable and as usual the uke seemed to have pronounced homophobic and generally overly conservative opinions on things. The seme was an unabashed rapist who was apparently just lonely. In the end of course, after much pseudo-rape, it turns into absolute 100% destined pure love. So it was probably the worst setup, the worst characters, the worst ending I've read. It portrays their relationship as so pure and good honestly, that all characters are backing aside for it while it's still rape. You even have the protective older brother figure who gets enraged at the idea of the uke being hurt but knows it's true love so he steps aside. I personally didn't find the art appealing. If you like the cover, you'll like the art inside. I rarely enjoy the art in these books though. Having also read *Sleeping With Money* and *Immoral Darkness*, which both follow similar themes, I'd easily put them both higher than this in spite of only liking one of them.

If you don't like rape scenes, do not read this book. Asakura is like a lot of semes, self important and pushy. Minami gets a chance to end it and instead he fights with his boss to stop him. He could have fought this in many different ways. He chooses not to because he secretly wants it. He is attracted to Asakura the moment he meets him but he is confused. A better story would have explored this more. There is a reason why Asakura actually likes him. This should have been explored as well. The third sex scene is left out and I am disappointed. This is where Minami's feelings change, I wanted to read that. I wanted the scene where he begins to enjoy himself and wakes up feeling good. A scene like that would have been enough to earn another star from me. The story ends satisfactory and the characters have some growth development.

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