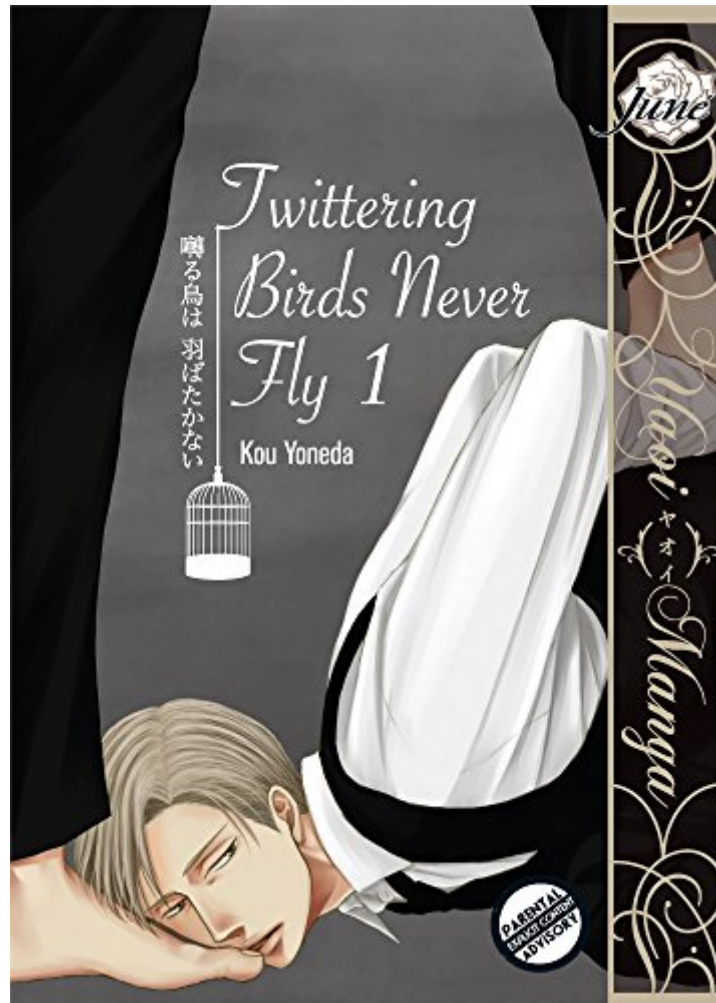


The book was found

Twittering Birds Never Fly Vol.1 (Yaoi Manga)



Synopsis

Yashiro is the young leader of Shinseikai and the president of the Shinseikai Enterprise, but like so many powerful men, he leads a double life as a deviant and a masochist. Chikara Doumeki comes to work as a bodyguard for him and, although Yashiro had decided that he would never lay a hand on his own men, he finds there's something about Doumeki that he can't resist. Yashiro makes advances toward Doumeki, but Doumeki has mysterious reasons for denying. Yashiro, who abuses his power just to abuse himself, and Doumeki, who faithfully obeys his every command, begin the tumultuous affair of two men with songs in their hearts and no wings to fly.

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Customer Reviews

I have been waiting for my preordered copy of Saezuru Tori wa Habatakanai (Twittering Birds Never Fly) for a very long time. I finished reading it immediately after I received it, a few days ago. Yoneda Kou never ceases to amaze me with her mature, removed, but almost comical usage of dark themes in the context of the modern world. Her main character Yashiro capitalizes on underworld crime and indulges unapologetically in one of the most deviant sexual tastes: masochism. His unlikely first love, which took place in his highschool years, is told in a short story at the back of the volume. Regrettably, this is an unrequited love and the front of the volume includes a short story

where Yashiro's crush, years later, is seen falling in love with someone else. Compared to a classic, more warm-hearted BL like Sekaiichi Hatsukoi (The World's Best First Love), the story sets itself up by framing our main tale in a character history that dispels the butterflies of romantic happily-ever-after. Wedged between the unfolding misfortune of Yashiro's past years is the actual title story of the volume: Saezuru Tori wa Habatakanai (Twittering Birds Never Fly). Yashiro again picks an unlikely love interest (well, the fact that he can love at all, in this volume, is debated and considered miraculous in and of itself). This time, it is his subordinate in the yakuza, Doumeki whom he fancies (or LOVES? well that isn't clear yet). Doumeki is impotent. Although most of the readers of Yoneda Kou tend to be on the older side, there are some young BL readers that need clarification on the specifics - impotence is psychological or biological erectile dysfunction (as it is normally called). Doumeki, our seme(or tachi) experiences psychological impotence.

No doubt that this story has such an enticing story and characters. The art style is nicely done and one of the best. The only downfall is the way this English adaptation was handled. There's awkward wording in the dialog, sometimes you can't even tell who's doing the talking, and jokes have gone flat. The underlings/lower yakuza members don't address the upper level people properly, which takes away from the nobility/respect that they have for their bosses/higher ups. Below are a couple of bubbles (at different points in the volume) that stand out for the wording portion. "...So my brother did know...that money too....it really was..." No idea if this is true to the translation or what, but it's awkward, especially the last part. "If you're having such a hard time forgetting about my ass...come over to my place anytime. I'll be waiting with an open ass..." Yashiro is smart, taunting, and should have a way with words. Using "ass" twice on the same page/sentence is displeasing as there are other words that could have been used. I feel like a lot of the wording was done to simplify to an American/English audience and takes away a lot of the character's personality and story's deeper qualities that should really be there and what originally brought me into the series. The publisher should have taken better care in how to write things out. Regardless of my nitpicky, still can't wait for volume 2. Edit: After looking around at other sites for reviews, it seems like a lot of other people have issues with how the translation was handled for the book.

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