

# UNIQUENESS OF JAPANESE MANGA

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# TOPICS

- Comparing to American Comics
- Different genres/ audience
- Magazines
- Negative Perspectives
- Black and white vs color

# BRIEF EXPLANATION

Manga is...

Japanese word for comics

Anyone can read it

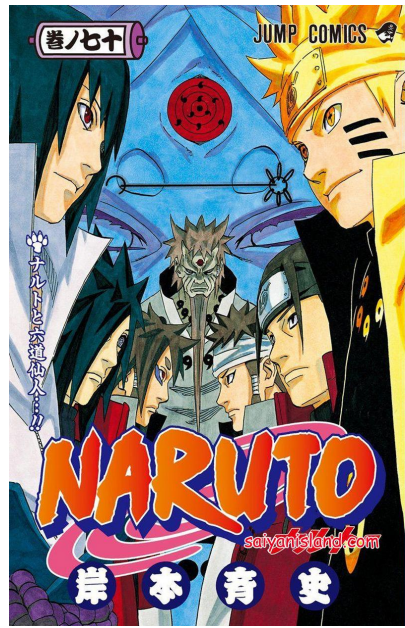
Works of art

# COMPARING JAPANESE MANGA AND AMERICAN COMICS

- One of the biggest differences are the many differences in style and distribution.
- Most manga are sold either as a tankobun (book) or in a weekly magazine
- Usually printed in black and white and are fairly clunky, almost like a digest.
- American comics are distributed and styled in a different way.
- American comic books are usually sold as magazines (est 32 pages) with colored print.

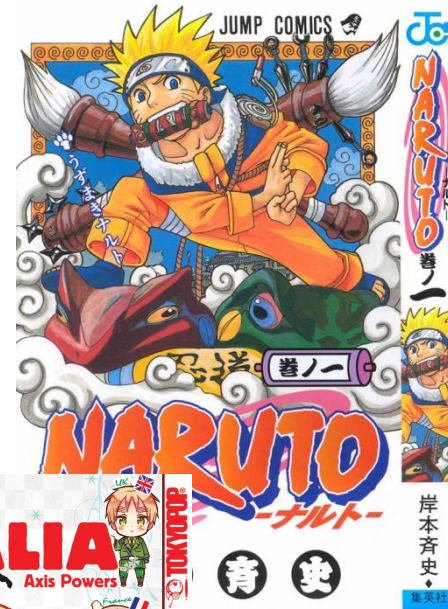
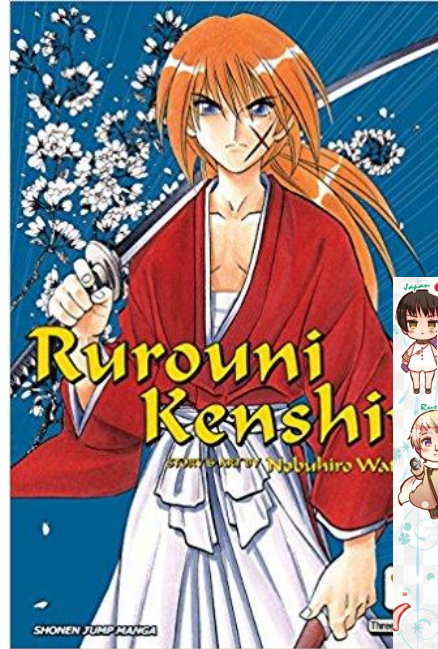


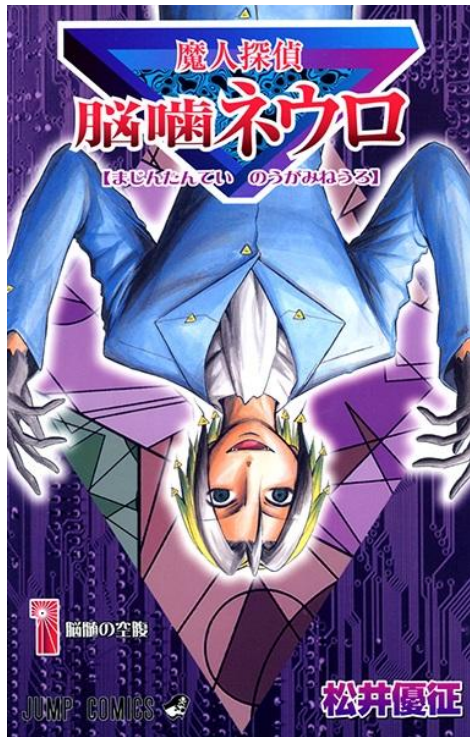
- Japanese Manga tend to have longer stories compared to their American counterparts.
- American Comic Books like Marvel or DC have a shared universe between all their heroes.
- Japanese Manga only have one author whereas numerous people work on comics



# MANGA: GENRE AND RATINGS

- Many different genres like novels and movies
  - ◆ Ex: Romance, Horror, Action, Fantasy, etc.
- Targeted age groups or people
- One manga can fall into different genres
  - ◆ Ex: Naruto- Action, Comedy, Martial Arts, Shounen





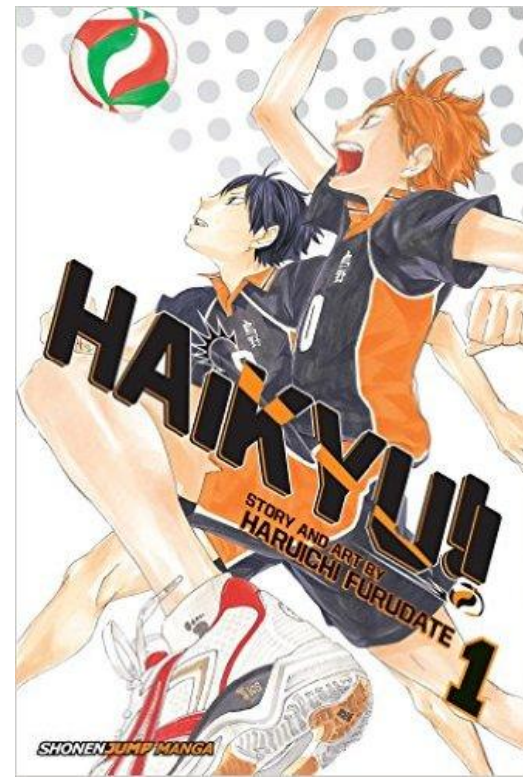
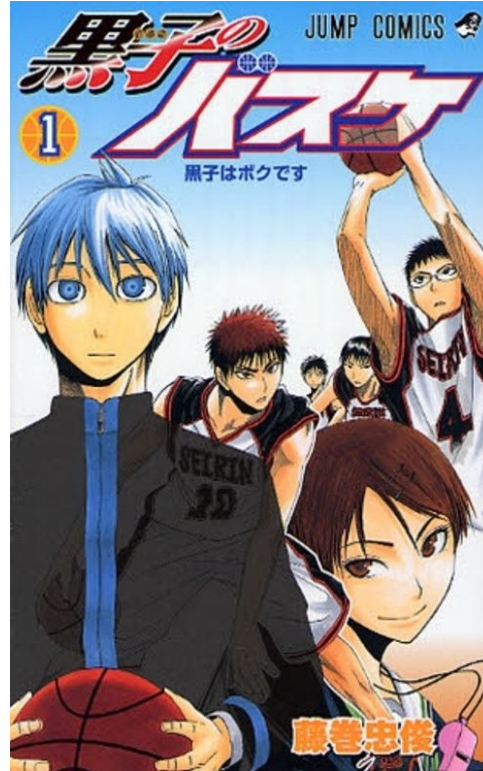
# MYSTERY



- Not really targeted for any gender or age group
- Mostly for teenagers and adults
- Ex: Mononoke
  - ◆ Genre: Mystery, Seinen, Demons, Horror, Historical, etc.
- Ex: Demon Detective Nougami Neuro
  - ◆ Genre: Mystery, Shounen, Supernatural

# SPORTS

- Covers many sports
  - ◆ Ex: Rugby, Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball
- Many sports manga's are targeted for male audience's
- Ex: Haikyuu
  - ◆ Genre: Sport, Shounen, Comedy, Drama, School
- Ex: Kuroko no Basket
  - ◆ Genre: Sport, Shounen, School, Comedy





# ASSASSINATION CLASSROOM

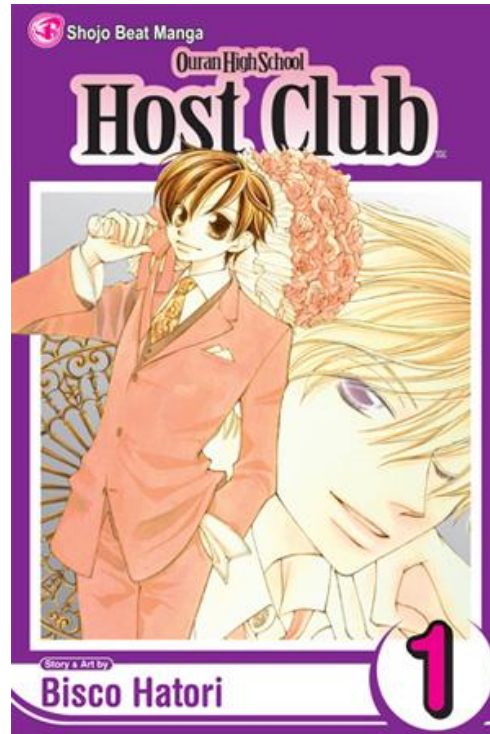
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STORY AND ART BY  
YUSEI MATSUI

8

SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED

# SCHOOL



- A genre that is mostly targeted for teenagers
- Manga's for both genders
- Ex: Ouran Highschool Host Club
  - ◆ Genre: School, Shoujo, Comedy, Romance, Drama
- Ex: Assassination Classroom
  - ◆ Genre: School, Shounen, Comedy, Action

# SHOUNEN AND SHOUJO

## → Shoujo

- ◆ Targeted for teenage girls
- ◆ Age group: 10-18

## → Ex: Skip Beat

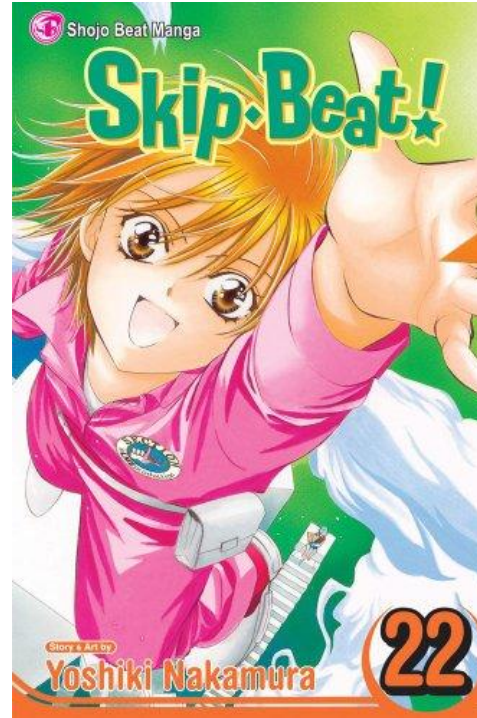
- ◆ Genre: Shoujo, Comedy, Slice of life, Drama

## → Shounen

- ◆ Targeted for teenage boys
- ◆ Age groups: 10-18

## → Ex: Fairy Tail

- ◆ Genre: Shounen, Action, Comedy, Fantasy, etc.





# SEINEN AND JOSEI

## → Seinen

- ◆ Targeted for Adult men
- ◆ Age group: 18-40

## → Ex: Tokyo Ghoul

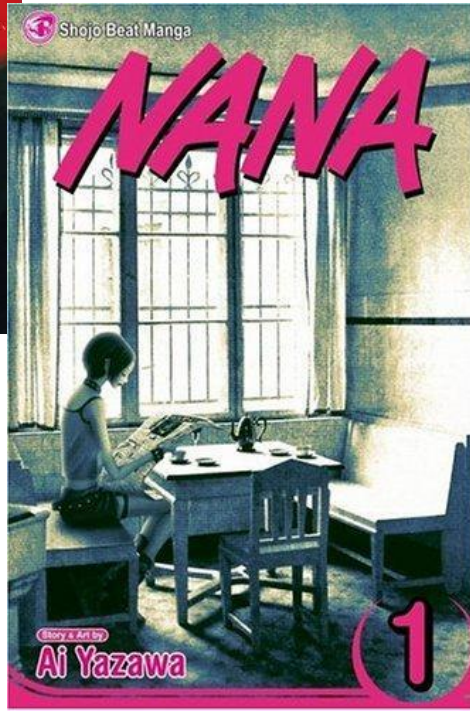
- ◆ Genre: Seinen, Psychological, Supernatural, etc.

## → Josei

- ◆ Targeted for Adult women
- ◆ Age group: 18-40

## → Ex: Nana

- ◆ Genre: Josei, Romance, Slice of life, Music, Drama



# MANGA MAGAZINES



# EXAMPLES:

## Weekly Shonen Jump

- Weekly shonen magazine
- Best selling manga magazine and one of longest running
- First release in 1968
- Titles like One Piece and Hunter x Hunter



# EXAMPLES CON.

## Nakayoshi

- Monthly shojo magazine
- Includes small gifts
- First release in 1954
- Titles like Cardcaptor Sakura and Sailor Moon



# EXAMPLES CON.

## Weekly Young Jump

- Weekly seinen manga
- First release in 1979
- Titles like Kingdom and Tokyo Ghoul



# EXAMPLES CON.

## Be Love

- Monthly josei magazine
- Leading manga magazine for a women
- First release in 1980
- Titles like Peach Girl and Chihayafuru





# WHY MAGAZINES:

- More genre focused
- Not really same in other places
- Online vs. Hardcopy
- Different layout
- Translated
- Individual not anthology



# MANGA IS A CRIME?

- Texas v. Castillo 2000
- Clerk convicted for selling manga
- “Not art”
- U.S vs Handley 2006
- No criminal record beforehand
- “Sexual deviancy”
- R. vs Matheson 2010
- Importation of obscene material
- Denied basic rights
- Not informed of why
- Misunderstandings
- Gray Area
- “Comics are for Kids”



# FEAR FOR POSSESSION OF MANGA

- Negativity toward Manga
- Impact on artists and consumers
- Paranoid
- Hampers Research
- Sense of Vulnerability
- Tried by local laws



# CENSORSHIP LAWS

- Lack of Knowledge
- Medium, not a genre
- Variety
- Free Speech
- Risks?
- Certain Words not allowed



# B&W VS COLOR

- ❖ Printing B&W is cheaper
- ❖ While it's B&W, the artist can really use a variety of shadow techniques
- ❖ It gives a unique feeling to the reader
- ❖ The production length varies
  - some artist barely make the quota
- ❖ Requires more time to produce
  - It will be more difficult for some artist
- ❖ Gives a different vibe
  - Especially if it's digital
- ❖ Printing in Color is more expensive
  - Only popular manga get some color printings, if they have funds for it





# RESOURCES

- <http://cblfd.org/criminal-prosecutions-of-manga/>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_manga\\_magazine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_manga_magazine)
- <http://www.webtoons.com/en/>
- <http://www.saturday-am.com/>
- <http://kurutta.blogspot.com/2010/04/akira-color-versus-monochrome.html>
- <https://www.quora.com/Why-are-comics-colored-and-mangas-not>