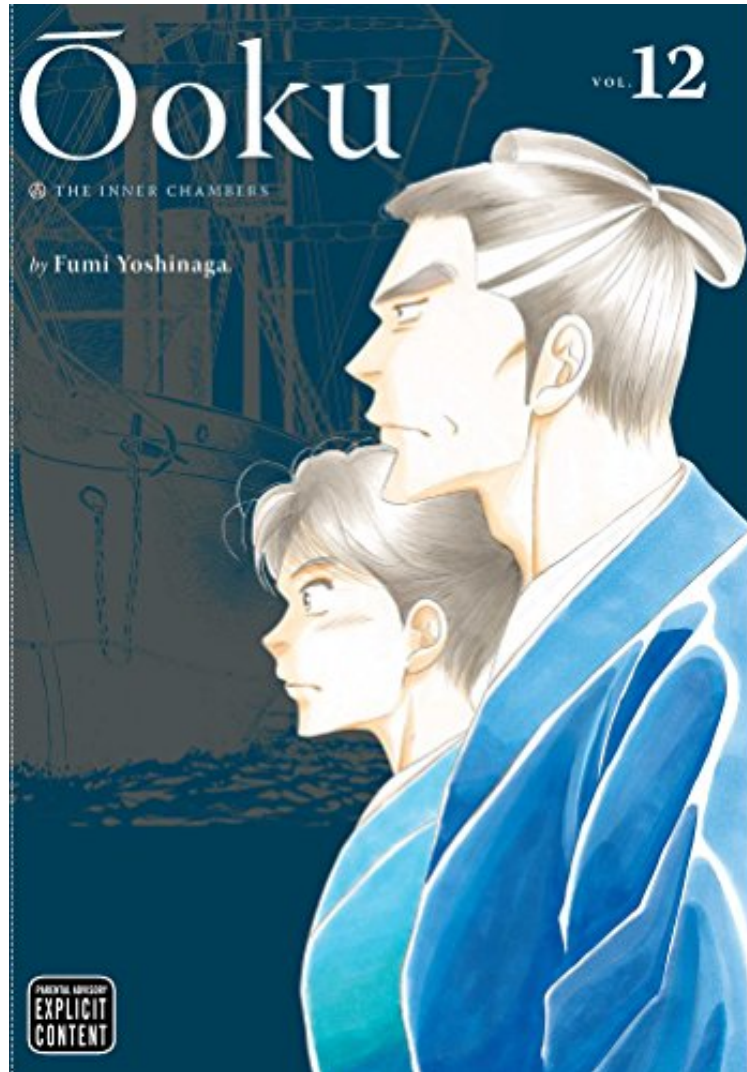


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*Fumi Yoshinaga*

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#292003 in Books Yoshinaga Fumi 2016-11-15 2016-11-15 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.25 x .80 x 5.75l, .0 #File Name: 1421586436240 pages Ooku The Inner Chambers Volume 12 | File size: 19.Mb

**Fumi Yoshinaga : oku: The Inner Chambers, Vol. 12** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised oku: The Inner Chambers, Vol. 12:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating alternate history of feudal Japan By Johanna Draper Carlson As Fumi Yoshinaga's alternate history gets closer to the modern era, and the opening of Japan to the rest of the world, events move faster and more dramatically. Even with the delay between volumes beautifully detailed historical interactions take time to draw I had no problem catching up here. The thorough cast of characters pages help, but so does the universality of the main story. Its all about how the new shogun wants to implement a universal vaccination program, now that they know that the red face pox, the disease that killed so many boys and men and left the country

to be governed by women, can be beaten. The challenges are manifest: \* an ineffective leader whose actions are controlled by his murderous mother \* public confusion over the risks and rewards of inoculation \* how to succeed without raising the ire of powerful leaders \* a distracting concubine who appears to have lost her mind after her child died \* how to benefit from the knowledge of other languages and cultures \* the conflict between hereditary positions and staffing those who actually have the knowledge needed for accomplishments. It all ties together in complex, satisfying ways. For something set so very long ago, in another culture, it's very relevant to see the importance of the vaccine and the torment felt by those who lose children to such a terrifying disease. The fear of a country trying to hide its weakness from the international community by demanding tight borders also struck a chord. I don't know much about Japanese history, but even I know, with the giant ship on the last page, that's about to change. (Review originally posted at ComicsWorthReading.com.)

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. The effects of boredom on leaders

By L. McClung Ooku vol. 5, much like the previous volumes isn't just a story of the Shogun and the men behind the Ooku wall but about an entire society and how it changes. This alternate history shows both the good and the bad, the real human desires that make people act as they do from pride, lust, to vanity, boredom and obsession. Ooku volume 5 keeps to the high standards of the rest of the series, which if you don't have, I recommend buying now. Only instead of the story of tragic lovers, as in an earlier volume, or a hard woman, keeping the empire together (another volume) here is an examination of how a shogun like so many world leaders, can change over time. Pressured on one side not to adopt but create her own heir, past the point of reason, and swayed not by her own mental illness but the sudden madness of one close to her, our female Shogun makes laws and atmosphere in the Ooku which is soon reflected in the rest of Japan. We follow the female Shogun and the male High Court official, who both start as those who care about the empire, while one may care a bit more about personal gain. But as time continues, and one of the two forgets the Japanese people and empire, and is bored, and so the things that boredom leads to leaves the other to try and pick up the slack. Ooku is unique in that it is telling a history, both the good leaders and the poor ones, but all interesting, and all had their own reasons for acting. But we finish this volume hoping that history can be turned around, not so much that men take over but that the Shogun, or the Emperor cares about the people again, and that corruption and slack become part of the past, not the present ruler. Any thought that this is a dry read, is only because I don't want to reveal plot points and back conspiracies. This is a great work, one which I read as soon as it comes out and I have no regrets in doing so, I only wish Viz added even more titles to the Signature Line as their selection seems to be spot on.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I absolutely love this series

By Customer I absolutely love this series, the characters are well developed and there is so much intrigue and murder and I like how this book took a huge step forward in the search for the cure of the redface pox and it feels like an ending but leaves the door right open for a new chapter. What I really hate is how much time I have to wait for the next book. I do have a tiny complain is that in this book I can see some awfully drawn side characters, it is distracting and I hope it won't happen in the next volume

In Eisner-nominated Fumi Yoshinaga's alternative history of Edo-era Japan, the men of Japan are dying out, and the women have taken up the reigns of power including the shogun's seat!

In Edo period Japan, a strange new disease called the Redface Pox has begun to prey on the country's men. Within eighty years of the first outbreak, the male population has fallen by seventy-five percent. Women have taken on all the roles traditionally granted to men, even that of the shogun. The men, precious providers of life, are carefully protected. And the most beautiful of the men are sent to serve in the shogun's Inner Chamber... Ienari is determined to see his country safe from the scourge of the Redface Pox, but his mother's cruel grasp on the reigns of the power of the shogunate means he must act in the shadows to achieve his lofty goals. And now that he has finally convinced the banished Inner Chambers scholars that he is sincere in his aims, perhaps a cure is finally within reach!

About the Author Fumi Yoshinaga is a Tokyo-born manga creator who debuted in 1994 with *Tsuki to Sandaru* (The Moon and the Sandals). Yoshinaga has won numerous awards, including the 29 Osamu Tezuka Cultural Prize for *oku*, the 22 Kodansha Manga Award for her series *Antique Bakery*, and the 26 Japan Media Arts Festival Excellence Award for *oku*. She was also nominated for the 28 Eisner Award for Best Writer/Artist.