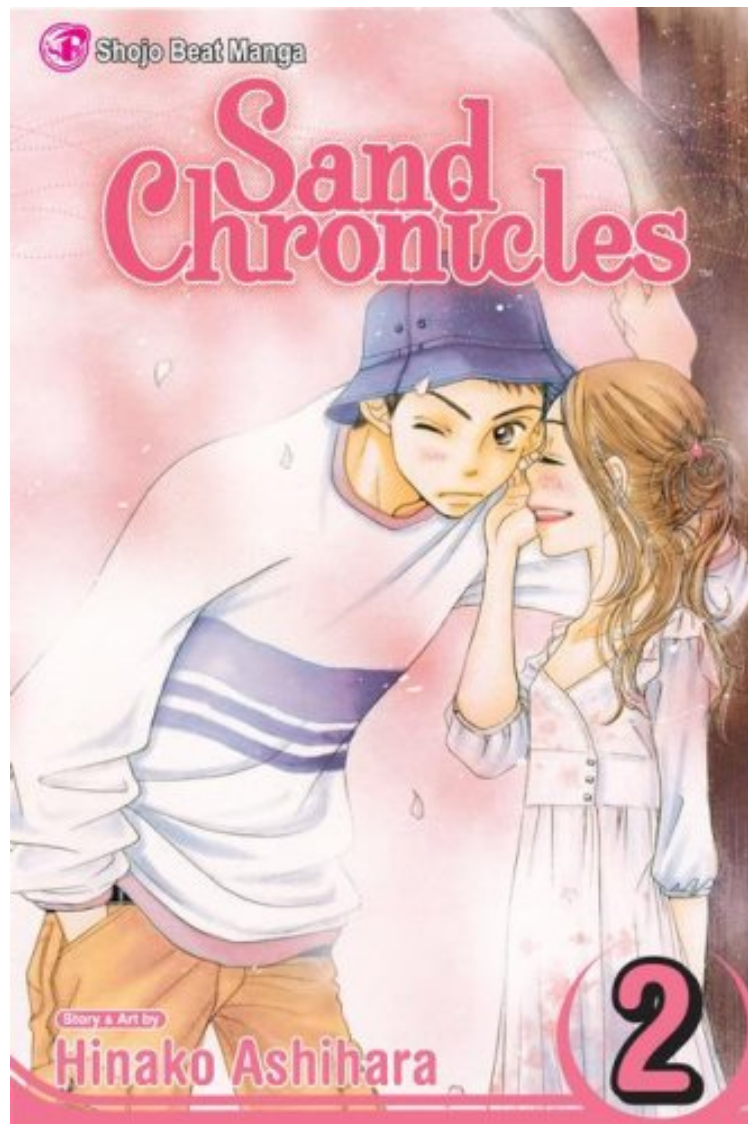


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## Sand Chronicles, Vol. 2

*Hinako Ashihara*

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**Hinako Ashihara : Sand Chronicles, Vol. 2** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sand Chronicles, Vol. 2:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Not Just for Teens! By M. Smith Sand Chronicles is a shoujo manga series that isn't just for teens. And, in fact, one might get more out of it the older one is. It's the story of Ann, who moves to a rural part of Japan when her parents divorce. A framing technique is used at the start of the story, with the adult Ann looking back on her life. Thusly, the story is structured like a series of recollections and snapshots in time. It

induces strong nostalgia in me for those days--the me I was, the things I did, the people I used to see every day--and I think a distance of some years from one's adolescence is required for that kind of wistful retrospection to flourish. As regards the story itself, I really love both chapters included in this volume. In the first, Ann must decide whether to remain in Shimane with Daigo and her friends or to return to Tokyo to live with her father. The depiction of her divided loyalties and struggle to decide is very well done and I was impressed by how much of an emotional response the conclusion to the chapter provoked in me. In the second, the love triangle that's been developing since the first volume gets explored. I really like that neither of the boys involved is an easy shoujo stereotype. One is more reserved than the other, but there are no fiery hotheads involved. Seriously, y'all. Read this manga.

Just when Ann has adjusted to life in the countryside--and even has a boyfriend!--her father invites her to move back to Tokyo to live with him. Now she must choose between a father she hardly knows and a young man she is just beginning to know. But she soon discovers they aren't the only ones vying for her affections!

About the Author Hinako Ashihara won the 50th Shogakukan Manga Award for Sunadokei (Sand Chronicles). She debuted with Sono hanashi okotowari shimasu in Bessatsu Shojo Comics in 1994. Her other works include SOS, Forbidden Dance, Ten-nen Bitter Chocolate.