

Amamiya Sae Manga Artist

Debuted in 1996 in ANISE (currently discontinued), which at the time was the only commercial lesbian and bisexual magazine in Japan, with the story "Prica-chan". Amamiya is currently serialized in "LOUD NEWS", which is issued to the members of the LOUD Center for Lesbian and Bisexual Women (<http://www.space-loud.org/>), and on the website of LOVE PIECE CLUB (<http://www.lovepiececlub.com/>), a sex goods shop for women.

1) Who was the first anime or manga character you fell in love with? When?

Anthony from "Candy Candy", in my early years of elementary school. With manga (but not anime) female characters, I liked Momo Ranger from "Gorenger" when she was untransformed. This was probably when I was in 3rd grade.

2) Did it have a strong influence on you?

Perhaps...

3) Have you talked about it with others? When?

No, I haven't.

4) What is your current favorite Yuri anime or manga?

None in particular.

5) What is your most favorite Yuri anime or manga?

I'm not sure if you could really call it "Yuri manga", but I like Yamaji Ebine's "LOVE MY LIFE" and "Miyuki". You could say that I was also influenced by Ariyoshi Kyouko's "Applause".

6) Who is your favorite Yuri couple?

Shunack and Sara from "Applause", I guess. Hmm... it's hard to say.

7) What made you decide to draw/ write/ get involved in Yuri?

At that time, there weren't any works that I thought were either interesting or felt realistic.

8) What do you think of the Yuri boom that's currently occurring? What are its good points and bad points?

I haven't been watching it too closely *laugh* so I don't really know. However, just when I was delighted to see reprints of Yoshiya Nobuko's girls' short stories, I was amazed to see that they had attached a careful explanation emphasizing that this was not lesbian literature but rather a "pure" situation that had nothing to do with sexual desire.

9) What do you think of "Yuri Shimai" and all the similar Yuri anthologies that are appearing?

I haven't been looking too closely at those, either, so I wouldn't know.

10) Do you think that Yuri is more or less popular than when you started to read/draw/write it?

Although they call this a Yuri boom, perhaps the fact that commercial publications like the old ANISE have disappeared means that both authors and readers have cut themselves from reality and now enjoy Yuri as fantasy.

11) What is your ideal Yuri story?

I'm not too interested in fantasy Yuri right now. I'm more interested in realistic stories, such as those dealing with how coming out affects the relationships between family and friends, or lesbian couples in their older years.