



Swan, Volume 5

Kyoko Ariyoshi

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The trials and triumphs of hopeful prima ballerina Hijiri Masumi continue in the CMX version of this beloved international hit. When the naturally talented Kyogoku Sayoko injured her ankle, the chance of a lifetime fell into Masumi's lap. She's now faced with the challenge of representing Japan in a competition in Russia, far from home. Masumi is up against two of the finest Russian dance prodigies, but the tremendous stress and fear cause her to lose her hearing. Can Masumi dance the finest performance of her life without music to inspire her?

Swan, Volume 5 Details

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Author : Kyoko Ariyoshi

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From Reader Review Swan, Volume 5 for online ebook

Cassandra Cornain says

very cool story :)

Dana Al-Basha ????? ?????? says

I loved that the author/artist showed us the whole dance of Swan Lake.

Masumi must challenge her Russian rival, in a contest for the lead role; but who will win?

When the legendary Dame Margaret Fonteyn encourages Masumi to be herself and express her inner strength through dancing, Masumi gains the hope and confidence she needs to rise to her next challenge.

In Russia, Masumi will audition for the lead role in a special performance, but she will be competing against Russia's own prodigy, Larissa Maximova. Will Masumi use Margaret Fonteyn's advice, or be defeated by Larissa's perfect skills?

Alison (AlisonCanRead) says

Drama-rama! What would a shoujo manga be without drama overload. Yet this isn't the same form of romantic melodrama that we see so often in manga. Instead, it's all about the high stakes audition for a role in Swan Lake.

The plot of Swan Lake is a huge part of this volume. The story is told piece by piece spread out over most of the pages. Hijiri is dancing for a lead role in Swan Lake. She dances the White Swan and the Black Swan.

While the drama is so overdone that it becomes a bit silly, I do like the fact that it is mostly conveyed through the drawings. Ariyoshi is able to draw movement and emotions in such a way that the reader feels a strong connection to the characters. Plus, a plethora of exclamation points just so we know that everything is important!

I'm almost halfway through this series. I want to keep reading it to find out what happens, but the fascination is also petering out. It's becoming increasingly unrealistic with Hijiri's innate talent leading her to beat highly accomplished ballerinas despite that her technical training is lacking. But I'll keep going at least for now.
