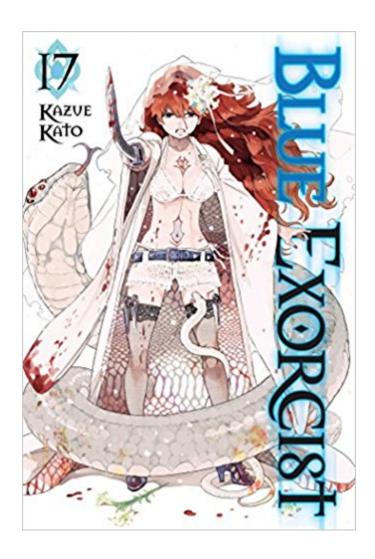


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Blue Exorcist, Vol. 17





Synopsis

Rin and his exorcist classmates are caught in a secret war against the forces of darkness. Raised by Father Fujimoto, a famous exorcist, Rin Okumura never knew his real father. One day a fateful argument with Father Fujimoto forces Rin to face a terrible truth $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a}$ $\neg\hat{a}$ oe the blood of the demon lord Satan runs in Rin $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a}$ $\neg\hat{a}$, ϕ s veins! Rin swears to defeat Satan, but doing that means entering the mysterious True Cross Academy and becoming an exorcist himself. Shura Kirigakure has always been one of Rin and Yukio $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a}$ $\neg\hat{a}$, ϕ s closest and most trusted friends and mentors, but her past is a mystery. When Shura suddenly goes missing, Mephisto sends the Okumura brothers to the cold and wintry backcountry of Aomori Prefecture to find her. The journey is a chance for Rin and Yukio to talk over recent events, and try to sort out where things stand between them. Out in the frozen hills, Shura reaches her destination, and a meeting with an entity who will impose an ancient curse upon her $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a}$ $\neg\hat{A}$

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Manga creator and illustrator Kazue Kato was born in Tokyo on July 20. In 2000, she won the prestigious Tezuka Award for her work Boku to Usagi (The Rabbit and Me) published in Akamaru Jump. From 2005 to 2006 her series Robo to Usakichi, a sci-fi adventure featuring a rabbit (again!) was published in the monthly magazine Shonen Sirius (Kodansha). Her latest series, Blue Exorcist, began in Jump Square in April of 2009.

Blue Exorcist has become one of my favorite shounen manga currently being published, and volume seventeen does a nice job of highlighting some of the best things about the series. The art has a certain effortless feel to it. The poses feel more natural than in your average shounen fighting manga. It's fun to see the characters battling ancient creatures in their casual sweaters and jackets. I'm also consistently impressed with the variety in the character designs (many different body types and facial features! for both male and female characters!) and the various creatures, gods, and monsters that show up in the series. In particular, the snake creature that functions as the main antagonist in this volume has a very impressive and unique design. As for the story, this volume focuses on Shura and finally reveals her past. It's all very interesting stuff, but I do wish she'd been a little more active in her own story (Rin and Yukio get the lion's share of the action). But considering how tough Shura has proven to be already, I can let this slide. Speaking of the exorcist brothers, it was nice to see them get some screen time together outside of battle or their brief interactions in their dorm. The running gag about the old lady who runs the inn making assumptions about their relationship was hilarious. Volume seventeen is a lot of fun, but it has its dark and serious moments as well. This volume is pretty much a self-contained story, but it builds on the rich mythology of the series and hints toward some exciting things to come. Something to note, especially for parents who might be buying this for younger readers, there is a bit of uncensored, above-the-waist female nudity here. I didn't find it gratuitous at all, but I didn't see nudity mentioned in the list of other things the volume contains next to the rating, so I thought I'd point it out just in case.

My son enjoys every edition

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