



## Strobe Edge, Vol. 1

*Io Sakisaka*

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Having no experience in romance, the vibrant Ninako curiously explores the meaning of what "love" really is, and is surprised to feel a colorful range of emotions as she grows closer to the school hearthrob, the quiet yet gentle Ren, who also happens to be involved in a longtime relationship. With every intention of keeping her head held high, Ninako prepares to face the mental pain of this one-sided love that she had allowed to take root, facing a series of trials that would either contribute to her growth as a headstrong woman, or break her as it did with other girls. However, is this really a one-sided love? Or had something been silently sown in the most hidden part of Ren's heart?

## **Strobe Edge, Vol. 1 Details**

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Author : Io Sakisaka

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## From Reader Review Strobe Edge, Vol. 1 for online ebook

### Holly Letson says

Ninako is young, and has never been in love. But, the latter part is about to change.

Daiki is Ninako's childhood friend, and in his eyes, Ninako is the sheer picture of what love looks like. He cannot imagine himself ever being with anyone except her. You'd think he'd want to tell her right away, but no, he's too shy to confess.

All Ninako's gal pals are rooting for Ninako to get with Daiki. All Daiki's male buddies are rooting for him to get with Ninako. You'd think that's exactly what would happen. But, not in their case.

Enter Ren, the most handsome guy in school, and the one that all the girls are crushing on. The heartbreaker that won't give any of them a chance.

Then, he steps on Ninako's cell phone charm on the way home on the bus one day. He offers to replace it. And, just the fact that he spoke to her at all starts a chain reaction for Ninako. Suddenly, he's popping up everywhere she is. He probably always was, but she starts to notice it after that.

As she falls deeper and deeper in love with Ren, everyone but Ninako can tell that Daiki is growing more and more jealous. Unlike Dreamboat Ren, Childhood Friend Daiki actually has the guts to come forward and confess his true feelings to Ninako. But, she feeds him the classic line about how Ren not feeling the same about her doesn't change how she feels.

Later, the confrontation we all sensed would come does come, and it comes out that Ren is dating Daiki's model sister, Sayuri. But, still, that doesn't change Ninako's feelings, either. She decides to spy on a date that Ren has with Sayuri. But, her heart remains the same. She finally tells poor Daiki that she cannot be with him, because her heart belongs to Ren, no matter what.

Funny thing about that is Sayuri shows up after Ninako leaves, and tells Daiki the exact same things that Ninako just did, and we are left with the impression that Sayuri was dumped by Ren.

In the end of this volume, we are shown Ninako getting off the bus behind Ren at his stop, with every intention of confessing. But, we don't see that happen. It could still go either way.

Will Ninako confess in Volume 2? If so, will Ren say that he feels the same way about her?

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This volume was provided to me as an eARC by VIZ Media via Edelweiss, in exchange for an honest review. All opinions expressed in this review are my own.

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### Anne Freya says

Wow, kupikir tdk akan ada lagi shoujo manga kontemporer yg lebih kusukai drpd Hibi Chouchou dan love button/Kokoro Botan, tapi hei...aku salah besar!! Jika diberi ranking utk komik shoujo yg bertemakan cinta remaja di sekolah yg pernah kubaca selama ini, maka Strobe Edge ada di urutan pertama!, utk saat ini. Bagi yg suka shoujo manga, WAJIB baca yg satu ini, dijamin bakal tergila-gila sama ceritanya (dan sama Ren-kun juga, hihih... ;p). Ceritanya memang simpel bgt dan ending cerita pun bisa ditebak (khas cerita

shoujo deh), tapi prosesnya ke ending itu yg bikin para pembaca cewek tergila-gila sama manga ini. Jadi ikutan nyengir ga karuan, berdebar-debar, senang sekaligus iri melihat perjalanan cinta kedua tokoh utama.

Aku suka bgt dgn heroine dlm komik ini. Bahkan aku suka dgn semua tokoh dlm cerita ini, setiap tokoh dlm komik ini, bahkan yg pendamping sekalipun punya cerita cintanya sendiri dan karakternya bnr2 dikembangkan pengarang dgn sangat baik.

Ninako si heroine dlm cerita ini bukan damsels in distress atau cewek manja yg sering kita jumpai di cerita shoujo lainnya, tapi juga bkn cewek super kuat yg jago berkelahi. Malahan dia itu cewek yg mungiiil bgt (kaya anak SD), tapi hatinya sangat kuat, tegar, polos, lugu, jujur, baik hati dan selalu berusaha keras dlm hal apa pun juga, juga selalu ceria dan berpikir positif biarpun dlm kesulitan apa pun. Bisa dibilang dia itu mirip dgn 'Mikan' dari Gakuen Alice. :)

Ninako juga selalu jujur pada dirinya sendiri, tdk plin plan, selalu berpikir dulu sblm bertindak dan tdk pernah memperalat perasaan cowok lain utk membantunya melewati proses patah hatinya, yg notabene sering kita liat di komik2 lain di mana cewek2nya jadian dgn cowok lain supaya bisa melupakan cowok yg sudah menolaknya. Perasaan cinta Ninako pada Ren (cowok tokoh utamanya) tak pernah tergoyahkan sedari awal hingga akhir, walaupun tampaknya melihat situasinya sudah jelas tdk akan ada harapan sama sekali baginya. Ninako juga bukan tipe cewek yg sering menangis, dan bahkan ia selalu berusaha menahan airmatanya di hadapan org lain sebisa mgkn. Aku suka bgt dgn kepribadiannya yg satu ini. Meskipun dia itu termasuk pemula dlm cinta (krn ini pertama kalinya ia mengenal cinta terhadap lawan jenis), dia tahu bnr bahwa sangat salah jika dia jadian dgn cowok lain supaya bisa melupakan cowok yg disukainya.

Tdk seperti komik lainnya yg biasanya ceritanya langsung segera jadian trus fokus ke masalah2 yg muncul dlm hubungan romantis mereka, komik ini justru membahas awal mula Ninako mengenal cinta secara perlahan-lahan, bagaimana perasaannya saat tahu cowok yg disukainya sudah punya cewek, apakah ia akan berusaha merebutnya? apakah ia akan berusaha membuat cowok itu suka padanya? Well, tdk sama sekali. Ninako tdk pernah berusaha merebut ataupun melakukan serangan PDKT yg biasanya dilancarkan cewek2 yg agresif. Selama 10 volume komik ini, Ninako cuma menjadi dirinya sendiri. Dan dgn menjadi dirinya sendiri, lambat-laun org2 di dekatnya menjadi jatuh cinta dan sayang padanya.

Sementara si cowok tokoh utamanya, Ren, juga adalah salah satu tokoh yg karakternya yg jarang ditemui di komik2 shoujo lainnya. Tau kan, yg kalo ga bad boy, pasti kutu buku yg pintar, atau sadistis yg posesif. Ren yg dianugerahi wajah yg super rupawan ini adalah cowok yg sangat baik, perhatian, polos, pendiam, canggung dan pemalu. Ga heran kalo semua pembaca cewek cemburu bukan buatan pada Ninako, sekaligus bertanya-tanya apakah ada cowok seperti ini di dunia nyata? Too good to be true.

Serius, cowok ini gantengnya bukan main, sama seperti Izark/Izaku di komik Kanata Kara/Dunia Mimpi, bahkan lebih ganteng dari para bishounen komik Vampire Knight. Terus terang, ini kedua kalinya ada tokoh utama cowok dlm komik yg bikin aku berlama-lama menatap tampangnya di 1 halaman, yg pertama tentu saja adalah Izark dari Kanata Kara. ;)

Memang banyak cowok ganteng dlm komik shoujo lainnya, tapi kurasa yg menambah nilai plus Ren adalah karakternya yg pemalu, rendah hati, dan sangat baik hati. Karena wajahnya itu, ia dijauhi para cowok dan digilai semua cewek. Tapi krn dia itu sangat polos, ia justru tdk tahu knp begitu digilai para cewek.

Menurutnya, bagaimana bisa para cewek itu menyukainya jika mrk sama sekali tdk mengenalnya? Yap, ia benar sekali. Cewek2 itu sama sekali tdk tahu kualitas Ren yg sesungguhnya. Mrk cuma suka melihat tampangnya, bkn kepribadiannya.

Beda dgn Ninako, yg menyukainya krn melihat apa yg ada di balik penampilannya. Ninako jatuh cinta padanya bkn krn tergila-gila pada tampangnya, ia hanya menganggap Ren sebagai idola sekolah yg cukup dikagumi dari jauh seperti idola2 di majalah. Tapi ia akhirnya jatuh cinta pada Ren saat Ren menunjukkan

sisi dirinya yg tdk diketahui org lain, dikarenakan para cewek hanya mengaguminya dari jauh dan cowok2 juga tdk begitu suka padanya.

Tentu saja, Ninako ditolak krn Ren sudah punya pacar yg seorang model, namanya Mayuka. Ninako sendiri juga tdk berharap bisa jadian, hanya ingin mengutarakan perasaannya saja... baginya bisa berbicara dgnnya saja sudah cukup. Sama sekali tak terpikir olehnya utk berusaha merebut Ren dari Mayuka, krn ia yg masih polos dan pemula dlm cinta itu belum mengenal keserakahan dlm cinta. Berteman saja sudah cukup baginya. Apalagi Mayuka juga ternyata adalah gadis yg baik.

Tapi, yg namanya jatuh cinta itu, lama-lama pastinya menginginkan lebih bkn? Stlh ditolak, bisa berteman dan terus berbicara dgnnya saja sudah merupakan suatu kemewahan. Namun, jika sudah berteman akrab pastinya ingin hubungannya lbh dari sekedar teman bkn? Apa yg akan terjadi saat perasaan "menginginkan lebih" itu akhirnya hadir di hati Ninako? Apakah Ninako akan berusaha membuat Ren berpaling padanya? Kegundahan hatinya saat perasaan "menginginkan lebih" itu benar2 meremas hati pembaca yg melihatnya. Wah, baru kali ini aku begitu berharap sekaligus merasa sangat bersalah krn menginginkan Ren putus dgn Mayuka supaya bisa jadian dgn Ninako. Apalagi Mayuka juga bukan cewe jahat yg cukup klise seperti di komik shoujo lainnya.

Seperti yg bisa diduga semua org, lambat-laun Ren akan jadian dgn Ninako. Dan itu sangat wajar melihat betapa serasinya mereka satu sama lain. Bahkan sesungguhnya Ren itu sudah terpikat pada kepribadian Ninako sedari awal pertemuan mrk, namun krn ia itu agak lamban soal ini, butuh waktu lama baginya utk akhirnya sadar akan perasaannya itu. Ren yg punya banyak rem dlm hatinya ini (seperti kata Andou, sahabatnya si playboy yg suka dgn Ninako), tdk mengijinkan hatinya berpaling sepenuhnya pada Ninako, krn ia masih terikat dgn Mayuka. Lalu, apa yg akan dilakukan Ren, putus dari Mayuka saat perasaannya pada Ninako sudah tak terbendung lagi? Tindakan Ren yg penuh pertimbangan dan respeknya yg mendalam pada hubungan cinta benar-benar bikin aku salut padanya.

Aku suka bgt dgn karakter cowok ini, sangat berbeda dari para cowok cakep dgn karakter arogan dan menyebalkan di komik shoujo lainnya. Ia begitu polos dan murni yg membuatnya tampak semakin menggemaskan. Walaupun ia digilai para cewek, ia tak pernah arogan atau jadi playboy karenanya. Dlm hatinya, ia cuma seorang cowok pemalu nan canggung yg terjebak dlm penampilan yg rupawan. Bayangkan seperti apa kerepotannya saat ia harus menghadapi tingkah penggemarnya yg menggelikan. Ia juga dibenci para cowok dan terisolasi dari pergaulan waktu SMP, hanya Andou yg mau menjadi temannya. Sampai akhirnya pertemanan mrk putus gara2 ceweknya Andou memanfaatkan Andou utk mendekati Ren. Saat di SMU, keadaan blm berubah banyak, ia masih tetap kewalahan krn diserbu para cewek dan ia masih tetap terisolasi dari para cowok biarpun sekali ini ia punya 2 teman cowok yg memahami dirinya yg sebenarnya.

Aku senang sekali krn berhasil menemukan komik yg bagus seperti ini. Semua karakter dalam komiknya mengalami perkembangan dan kedewasaan. Awalnya, krn masih dlm keadaan tergila-gila pada komik Kokoro Botan, aku mengunjungi forum komik tsb dan disarankan utk membaca Strobe Edge yg menurut mereka bahkan lebih bagus dari Kokoro Botan. Saat melihat sinopsisnya, ceritanya terkesan simpel. Tapi oh my gosh, aku langsung jatuh cinta pada komik ini waktu melihat kualitas gambarnya dan REN!! Dan ternyata alur ceritanya juga ringan dan santai bgt, tapi sangat menarik! Dan tentu saja, jatah tidur berkurang krn 10 volume habis dibaca semalam. Bayangkan berapa lama waktu yg dibutuhkan utk membaca scanlation 10 buku lewat monitor komputer ketimbang lewat buku fisik. Sudah begitu, dibaca ulang sekali lagi dari nomor 1. :p

Wah, rasanya ga puas kalau ceritanya sudah berakhir di volume 10. Tapi kurasa sangat wajar kalau hanya sampai di nomor 10. Pastinya akan menyebalkan kalo terlalu banyak drama dan problem yg muncul terus2an, walaupun pastinya senang juga kalo bisa melihat lebih banyak interaksi antara Ren dan Ninako,

hehehe. Yg pasti, Strobe Edge jelas masuk dlm daftar komik yg pasti akan kubeli saat terbit di sini. Bakal sering dibaca ulang nih. :)

Buat yg pengen mengenal karakter para tokoh utama lebih jauh sebelum membaca bukunya, bole baca review berikut ini yg kutemukan di Google! :)

<http://huamulan03.blogspot.com/2011/0...>

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## Sen says

### **Update (5/27/2012)**

I am a bit late to find out, but Viz Media has licensed *Strobe Edge* ! First volume of an English copy will be released in November 2012~! (it's about time)

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**\*\*There are 10 volumes to *Strobe Edge* ; I've started and finished all of them in the month of March 2012.**

**Now instead of me reviewing each volume separately, I am reviewing all volumes right here! \*u\*/  
oi!\*\***

*Where did I read it? manga.animea.net*

Let me break it all down:

The first 52.8% (yup, I did the math with mah calculator) of the whole manga is a 3-star rating from me. The rest is a 4-star rating. I follow Goodreads, which means a 3-star is "I liked it" and a 4-star is "I really liked it"  
^^

The first chapter, right away, shows its potential! Ninako Kinoshita is your typical clumsy girl. She can be really idiotic, but has a kind personality overall. However, she is inexperienced when it comes to love. As a high school student, she never understands the feeling of having a crush on someone. That is...until her train encounter with the most popular guy in school, Ren Ichinose. I really adore how an apple is compared with love in the first chapter! Ninako: *Come to think of it, that "really delicious" apple was actually pretty sour. And for the first time I realized it, when I tried it myself* (just like how it is her first time falling in love~woot!--oh, that heavy feeling stuck in the heart...)

From the start, *Strobe Edge* seems cliched, which is very true. But trust me, the way Sakisaka Io lays it all out is more important. Io does it brilliantly. The structure of the plot is slow, but will eventually get better. This brings me back to the "52.8%". From chapter 1 to chapter 19, the pacing feels really dragged. Patience is a virtue when it comes to this manga. Ninako likes Ren, but Ren already has a girlfriend (the girlfriend's a model too~oooh), so Ninako's love is unrequited for many chapters. As the reader, it was darn frustrating. My heart hurt for Ninako... lieeeek, I really wanted the manga to progress faster, just so Ninako could be with Ren at last!!!! \*selfish fangirl thoughts\*

My wish was finally fulfilled in chapter 19 (view spoiler). Chapters 20 and onward were where the sweetness comes in!

Is there a love triangle? Yes.

But I wish...

that the author will give more insights on the family parts of the characters. The only family background that I come close to knowing is probably Daiki's...and that's all. Come to think of it, I know nothing about Ren's family! In my opinion, family scenes will sweeten a shoujo manga more.

Overall, *Strobe Edge* can be described as a bite of an apple, which can be very sour but sweet at the same time (referencing with chapter 1, ahahaha).

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Check out these MMVs of *Strobe Edge* :

???? Safe [Strobe Edge MMV]

Catch Me

Strobe Edge HeartBeat [HBD]

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### **David Schaafsma says**

I had just read Kawahara's High School Debut, which seems pretty similar to this, in som ways, but both are pretty great for what they set out to do. Both feature a completely inexperienced heroine looking for love. In this one, Ninako is finally read to explore what love really is, so she sets out on a quest. She discovers she has all these new emotions as she carefully considers hot popular guy Ren, who actually breaks her cell phone, replaces it, is nice to her, kind (not just hot, in other words). Ren is also is taken, but this doesn't stop her (and half the girls he comes in contact with) from having these feelings. Unrequited love! Anguished, Ninako nevertheless appreciates that her feelings are rich and beautiful, so not wasted. She's learning!

Another guy, Daiki--someone who is just around all the time, a friend—suddenly approaches her, wanting to be her boyfriend, but oops, Ninako feels no emotional response. Unrequited love, version two!

It appears that Ninako will learn from this process about the nature of love. The art work is typically manga silly, but the story and characterization has space for serious character development and reflection.

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### **DonutKnow says**

Cute XD I wonder what's going to happen next after everyone's been confessing to each other ??

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### **IzamaRi H. Fabela says**

## **RESEÑA COMPLETA → <https://goo.gl/XKr0K6>**

Ninako es una chica tan distraída que no ha notado que su mejor amigo Daiki tiene sentimientos hacia ella desde la secundaria a pesar de que todo el mundo lo sabe. Pero ella es tan despistada que

necesita ayuda de sus amigas para entender que siente algo por Daiki aunque no está segura de si es amor porque ella se siente atraída por Ren Ichinose, el ídolo de la escuela por el que todas las chicas suspiran. Ella no está precisamente enamorada de él pero le llama la atención que Ren nunca sonríe y que siempre parezca tan frío.

Un día después de la escuela se encuentra con Ren en el tren de camino a casa y en ese encuentro Ren termina tirándole su celular y rompiendo su colgante por lo cual al día siguiente se presenta ante ella con un nuevo colgante muy femenino que si bien no es el estilo de Ninako lo usa pues es un obsequio preciado para ella. Estos encuentros en el tren siguen dándose y pronto descubrirá que Ren no es tan frío como se muestra sino que detrás de esta fachada serena hay una persona noble que se preocupa más por el próximo que por sí mismo y cuando Ren por fin sonríe le hará entender que el amor que siente por Daiki es meramente platónico pues su primer amor sin duda se trata de Ren Ichinose.

Tengo que empezar diciéndoles lo feliz que estoy porque Panini haya decidido publicar otro manga de Io Sakisaka pues las historias de la autora de verdad que son increíbles. Ya les he dicho en incontables veces que los mangas de la autora lograban regresarme a épocas pasadas como el primer amor y en este nuevo manga ese sentimiento vuelve.

Otro de los puntos fuertes de la autora es que a pesar de que suele escribir sobre clichés como lo son los triángulos amorosos o que la chica buena se enamoré del “malo”, siempre logra llevar bien su historia evitando que al lector le suene aburrido o repetitivo. En lo personal creo que es un gran logro conseguir eso pues a pesar de que no nos presenta nada nuevo sus personajes y las emociones que transmiten son tan buenos que logran resaltar entre ese mar de clichés.

Al ser este el primer tomo no puedo contarles mucho sobre los personajes pues a penas los estoy conociendo pero sí puedo decirles que la historia va que vuela para llenar ese hueco que Aoha Raido va a dejar y al igual que con Aoha Raido les recomiendo mucho la historia si lo que les gusta son buenos romances juveniles...

## **RESEÑA COMPLETA → <https://goo.gl/XKr0K6>**

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### **Alienor ✕ French Frowner ✕ says**

? *Review for the entire series*

Don't ask, guys. I have no idea what I really think. I know what I'm *supposed* to think (it would be so easy to hate it, frankly) - but I'm honest, so here we go.

**Over the top, cheesy, basically plotless and repetitive, totally frustrating, a love-triangle, but so cute, oddly comforting, compelling and picturing great friendship.**

Yet I could say that the girl's life revolves around the boy she likes. I definitely could say that and complain endlessly. But... She is *forteen*. I was over dramatic and obsessed at 14! I would have probably eaten that shit at 14. No kidding.

Perhaps I've been brainwashed. That's a possibility to contemplate, considering that I kinda want to yell "I LIKE YOU REN KUN!" (not really) and then giggle like the mad woman I am (for real).

(I still think that they need some medicine to develop their memory, though. I mean repeating yourself is fine, *to a certain extend* that they've reached a whiiiiile ago. Just saying)

GAH. Crazy stuff I'm telling you.

Recommended if you want to stop thinking for a while (and are able to stand everything mentioned above + the fact that the MC looks like 10 at times)

**As for me, I liked it as it was, and it was perfect to put me in a giddy mood. MY SMILE IS REAL RIGHT NOW.** Enough said.

*For more of my reviews, please visit:*

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### **Sesana says**

I was surprised by how much I ended up liking this book. Romance fails at least as often as it succeeds with me. And the cover art is nice, but a little overwrought. It actually does start slow. The first chapter was dull and felt too much like a dozen other series I've read before. But I stuck with it, because I was interested by the author's explanation of the title. It's about those brief moments in time when your point of view can change dramatically. That was enough to make me hopeful that it would improve. And it did, so I'm glad I persisted.

There's nothing dramatically original about any of these characters. Ninako could be a thousand other shoujo heroines, especially at the beginning. Her lack of self awareness can be irritating, but she's growing. And by the last chapter, she's acting in a remarkably mature way when faced with the prospect of an impossible, unrequited first love. I liked that her group of friends are supportive and understanding and completely have her back. I like that the love triangle (more like a love pentagon, by the end) is handled with a minimum of jealousy, fuss, and hurt feelings. And I'm proud of Ninako for falling for Ren not because he's handsome (though he is) but because he's kind.

I have to say, I didn't expect anything out of this book, just another formulaic romance. And it isn't exactly cutting new ground here, but it is sweet and heartfelt and without undue drama. Which, combined with the consistently good art, is enough to keep me reading.

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## **Courtney says**

Not bad. Standard romance with some drama to spice things up. The plot is pretty lacklustre in the first volume, but I might continue on with the next couple to see if they draw me in any better.

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## **Kuroi says**

Well, well. What an interesting manga. It started off typically shoujo and ended pretty much the same way, but when the plot was developing, it was a really compelling manga. I really appreciated two things about this manga. The first is the character development. Everyone matures, learns lessons and comes out the better for it and no one denies their feelings (for the most part). The second was the sympathy the mangaka created for every character. Under ordinary circumstances, Mayuka would have been a character no one liked, but her mature behaviour and the introduction of her back story made her a believable, likable person. This is the kind of thing that saved Strobe Edge from relapsing into shoujo sappiness. The artwork was decent through. The guys were very well drawn, without falling too much into bishounen category. I thought that Ninako could have been better drawn or prettier at least. One wants to feel that women have a chance with looks too. But still, a good manga. Deserves 3 and a half stars actually.

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## **Mary says**

**"Falling in love with someone...all kinds of people do it everyday."**

WOW. This was just the thing I needed after so many paranormal YA and manga. Sure, they're great, but a good, realistic story is what you need every once in a while. I was so worried I wouldn't like this the first time I picked it up. All I remember was thinking how cute it was but it wasn't until my friend gave me her extra copy of volume 2, that I finally sat down and took it seriously. And even if you're a guy, I think this is a story you should read. There's a lot to think about and appreciate.

Everyone can relate to Ninako and Daichi. While I had my first crush in Kindergarten lol that I still to this day think back on fondly, Ninako experiences these feelings at possibly the worst time you could: high school. Dealing with such powerful, new and scary emotions while trying to fit in is terrifying to say the least.

Daichi has liked Ninako for a few years and everyone but Ninako knows this. She's just trying to fit in, get good grades, etc. She's not the best student, her friends aren't ideal, and she doesn't seem to pick up on these details until she starts talking to Ren, the love interest and popular guy at school. At first I was pretty annoyed that the love interest was the popular guy, but Ren quickly won me over. He's kind, mysterious, good looking and a compassionate individual.

**"What does love feel like? It makes your heart pound. It's upsetting..it makes you want to cry for no reason. Your heart kinda feels like it's been stabbed...but it's not unpleasant."**

Ninako is desperate to understand her emotions. Is it simply an infatuation? Her imagination? Is she romanticizing the idea of love rather than actually being in love? And those are some tricky questions. Heck,

I don't have a clue what love really is! I have an idea, and I might have been in love before, but for something considered so powerful and deep as love, do we really even know?

To complicate things even more, Ren is dating Daichi's sister. And Daichi's been having family problems and occasionally sees his sister...so Ninako is walking a tight line. And thankfully, she isn't stupid. She tells her friends that even if Ren is dating someone and even though she can't let these feelings go, she won't push anything. She's content to have her feelings be unrequited. And that's when I thought, "Damn, Ninako and I share so much in common right now." She doesn't go out with Daichi either, because she knows it's wrong to date him when she doesn't have the same feelings for him despite her friends insistence!! :D

The only thing that irked me was Daichi. Yes, I know the dude's been dealing with issues, and I feel bad for him...but that's no reason to start getting all jelly and pushing around another guy simply because the girl you like has been paying attention to him instead of you. I hate how he tried to push his feeling on Ninako and then blew up at his sister. Not cool at all.

So, I am very pleased. It's a good read posing real questions everyone has thought of before. And our heroine has a good head on her shoulders. I'm expecting her to stumble because she is new to all of this and no one is perfect. So I'm ready to forgive her (unless it's infuriatingly stupid) and since I have 7 volumes, I am ready to read this series now.

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VERY CUTE. Thank you so much for the recommendation! Amazon sent it a little late but it was worth the wait:)

### **Julie (Manga Maniac Cafe) says**

So freaking cute!! Is Vol 2 out yet??? (scurries off to check)

Review -

When I first read the book blurb above, I thought it was pretty lame. After reading Strobe Edge, though, I think it very accurately and very succinctly describes this high school romance. Ninako is shy and reserved, and everyone thinks she and her childhood friend, Daiki will eventually get together. Daiki makes no secret of his feelings, but he has never voiced them, leaving Ninako, who is kind of clueless, thinking that they are just friends. After circumstances have her and school heartthrob Ren cross paths several times, Ninako discovers how kind and thoughtful he is, and she falls in love with him.

Strobe Edge captures all of the awkwardness and exhilaration of falling in love for the first time. Ninako falls head over heels for Ren, and who can blame her? He's gorgeous, and better yet, he is nice. What a combo! As her feelings for Ren grow, so does her guilt over them. She has finally picked up on Daiki's feelings, and she feels awful about her lack of feelings for him. She blames herself for leading him on, and though she doesn't want to hurt his feelings, she knows that she has to level with him. So along with the giddy rush she experiences whenever she sees Ren, she realizes that her feelings are going to hurt one of her closest friends.

I don't want to spoil any other plot points, so instead I'll urge you to give Strobe Edge a try if you enjoy series like High School Debut and Kimi ni Todoke. This introductory volume will leave you smiling as

Ninako slowly begins to blossom, shedding her reservations and allowing herself to come out of her shell. She knows that her heart will more than likely get broken, but for the time being, she is enjoying how she feels about Ren. Because she is so sweet, and because she is taking this huge risk, you can't help but cheer her on. Will things work out between her and Ren, or is Ninako doomed to heartbreak? I don't know, but I can hardly wait to find out!

Grade: wavering between a B+ and an A-

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### **Phoenix2 says**

First Strobe Edge volume was so easy to read that it only took me two hours. The story is very interesting, though I'm not a big fan of the art : ( Still, I like the characters so far and the story is promising. Thankfully, I've watched the movie ages ago and I don't remember the plot very well!

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### **Nanna says**

[nggak ada yang jadian, heroine dibiarkan jomblo, atau merasakan yang namanya asam manisnya pe

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### **Theresa ? says**

ALRIGHT! I do feel...that I have to redo this review for this book. WHY?

1. I reread the review I gave this thing in 2011 and.....this book seriously deserves a better review.
2. With more FEELING. more...more EMOTION.
3. More ALL CAPS.
4. MORE GIFS (since I finally learned how to insert them about a year ago)
5. MY LIBRARY HAS STROBE EDGE, WHOA. I didn't even know it was going to be released in the US but yet....'twas.....

So. Let's us begin.

Okay. 1-5 star. FIVE STAR, FIVE?! THATS IT?! It should be from 1-1000. -\_- because 1000 is a HUGE NUMBER. Huge enough to portray HOW AMAZING this series is.

So I'm going to pretend that 5 star...equals 1000 stars.

So yes. This book is indeed.....5 stars. Super super ultra sparkly, radiating, EYE BLINDING sparkly 5 stars.

Why?

Because

1. BEAUTIFUL ART. If you're a person who is attracted to manga through their art, and you're into the Shoujo, PRETTY kind of anime (just as pretty as the art for Clannad \*O\*), then YES. You'd end up being attracted here.
2. LOVEY DOVEY.

Okay let's pause here for a second ARE ANY OF MY FELLOW REVIEW READERS IN LOVE?

Comment below? (You don't have to, but you know...)

Love and IN LOVE are two different things.

You can tell a best friend "GIRLFRIEND, I love you!"

But who can you say "I am in love with you" to?

In love is a SERIOUS THING. not just a fairy tale or a glittery, fluttery feeling, it is SERIOUS.

See, if you would look at the before and afters:

BEFORE: I can pay attention in class!

Teacher: THERESA! Juliet says WHEREFORE ART THOU ROMEO, but 'twhat does that mean, young lady?

Theresa: Means..."why are you called Romeo?" (\*thinks\* Stupid story...Romeo and Juliet is just gross. TOO ROMANCEY!)

AFTER:

Teacher: THERESA! (\*asks question)

Theresa: ...

Teacher: Theresa!

Theresa: .....

Teacher: EXCUSE MEEEEEE!

Theresa: Huh?

Teacher: (\*repeats question)

Theresa: ....sorry, what story are we on?

BEFORE: I remember things I'm supposed to remember.

Best friend Gabby (that I've known since the 4th grade): Theresa!!!! (\*holds out arms)

Theresa: GABBY COME TO MY HEART!

(\*rams)

AFTER:

best friend Gabby: THERESAAAAAA!!! (\*holds out arms)

Theresa: Oh, um...Guh--Gee--um.....uh.....uhhh (\*spaces off like robot that just ran out of batteries)

.....

Theresa: Did someone call me?

Other side effects include:

1. Flushed face (like a fever)
2. Woozy head
3. Upset tummy
4. Aching chest
5. CRYING FOR NO REASON

6. All kinds of emotions
7. Daydreaming
8. Hallucinating
9. Immediate reflexes (doing things before thinking)
10. Overthinking
11. Craziness
12. Fits of jealousy.
13. Stupidity
14. Nervousness
15. Paranoia
16. Effected self esteem
17. Dizziness

**BEING IN LOVE IS SOME KIND OF SICKNESS.**

And it gets so, so, SO MUCH WORSE when he tells you, "I love you too."  
Every side effect increases by like...10.

"But it does not feel unpleasant" GAH! HYAAAH it can feel very very VEEEERY unpleasant sometimes.

Like:

1. When you two fight.
2. When something scares you (maybe he likes another girl...maybe he's going to break up with me...)
3. When he says something that hurts you.
4. When you say something that hurts him.
5. When you think about him so much that he takes up your WHOLE MIND AND YOU CAN'T FOCUS RIGHT BECAUSE YOU CAN ONLY FOCUS ON HIIIM.

It is heart aching. Especially when he loves you back, it's even heartaching then.  
When you're in love, it's like you're trapped. Like you're stuck, and no matter what you do, you're always going to feel this way.

But let me tell you something: all this might seem a little wonderful when it can be heartaching, and heartaching might seem terrible.....

But it's worth it. He's worth it.

Bato makes me angry and sad and mad and scared and happy and frustrated and giggly and relieved and worried ALL AT THE SAME TIME. but it's fine. I love him, he's worth everything to me.

This one person can drive my feelings. My full happiness depends on him. I want to be there for him and protect him and I want him happy, but I also want him to be MINE--

Love. ONE PERSON can make you feel all these emotions. ONE. FREAKING. PERSON. A GUY nonetheless!

This manga shows that.

It's not a story where a super pretty magical girl sees a handsome guy and blushes on like every page they share together.

It shows what Ninako feels. What is in her heart, what she's feeling, what she wants, what she

GRADUALLY realizes--if you're not in love and you've never been, you come to this book and read and you'll understand it just a little better.

Those in love who don't realize that they're in love can read and say "Oh...so...I AM in love."

Those who ARE in love and know it and follow Ninako and say, "Yup. Welcome to the love cage, girlfriend."

Love is hard to explain, but this story will clear it up for you if you don't quite understand it yet.

I'm typing this on my phone, I can't add GIFS yet but I will soon.

You don't have to if you don't wanna but...read my November 2011 review on this book. Back when I was a GOODREADS NOOB.

Tumtum? TUHREESAAAH.TUMBLR.COM.

...yup.

AS OF NOVEMBER 2011

Strobe Edge was beautiful enough to receive Theresa's five-star rating!!

Now first of all, I haven't read the whole series. I've only read volume one--so this review is going to be purely on Volume One. When I finished the series, I shall get my butt back over to this review and review the entire series.

Anyway, this review will contain spoilers. So unless you haven't read volume one of Strobe Edge yet, or unless you want to read my spoilers, PLEASE DO NOT READ PAST THE BOUNDARY LINE BELOW!!

If you dare to read ahead, you will get into spoiler territory, MWAH HAHAHAHAHAHA!!!! So . . . you have been warned!!

The reason why I'm going through a bunch of time to type my boundary line is because I really want my review readers to find out what happens in Strobe Edge for themselves!!! I love my review readers and I want them to experience the same awe that I did!! You'll be truly amazed!! I want to give my readers a choice!!

But the reasons why these spoilers have to be included is because I want to review over what I thought of the book as well. Soooo...please proceed if you dare!!!

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||<-THERE IS THE EPIC SPOILER ARROW!!! (It's crooked!! >:O)

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-----SPOILER BOUNDARY LINE!!-----

Alrighty, you have crossed into spoiler territory!! Anyway . . .

This series seriously did make me smile. The art was beautiful and EVERYTHING!!!!

This volume is basically about a girl named Ninako, who has never experienced her first love. She realizes that the fellow classmates surrounding her are always watching Ren, a handsome boy who rejects even the cutest of girls.

One day, on the train, when Ren is hurrying out when the doors open for his stop, he knocks Ninako's cellphone off of her lap, and he accidentally steps on the charm that hung from it. He asks what class Ninako is in. This is how they first meet.

As Ninako continues to talk to Ren, she notices that she's gradually falling for him.

That's basically the basic plot of this volume.

Alrighty, so basically the way Ninako falls for Ren is very adorable. :)

However, Ninako's best guy friend, Daiki, is in love with Ninako. The small love triangle between the three of them teaches a valuable lesson that I learned through experience.

Daiki asks Ninako out, knowing that she likes Ren. Although Ninako rejects him, saying that she likes him but the "like" she feels is not "love", Daiki allows her to know that Ren already has a girlfriend. And that girlfriend is Daiki's older sister.

Now that Daiki knows that Ninako is aware that Ren has a girlfriend, Daiki asks Ninako out again--feeling that she might accept his feelings and no longer be in love with Ren.

The important life lesson taught here is that if you really love someone, it doesn't matter who they love. Your love for them still remains the same--and all you want is to see them smile. This lesson is shown by Ninako admitting that her feelings for Ren haven't disappeared.

But she is aware that what she feels towards Ren is an unrequited love.

I love romance manga that teach lessons such as these, especially since I've been through unrequited love before.

Plus, the plot didn't bore me one bit. Every page of this manga counted.

I seriously can't wait to see how Strobe Edge turns out! My next review of Strobe Edge will be on Volume 2--so I shall see you then!

I LOVE MANGA!!! :D

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