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Embracing Love #3

by [Kat Avila](#)

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Publisher

Be Beautiful

<http://www.BeBeautifulManga.com>

Credits

Writer: Youka Nitta

Artist: Youka Nitta

Distributor:

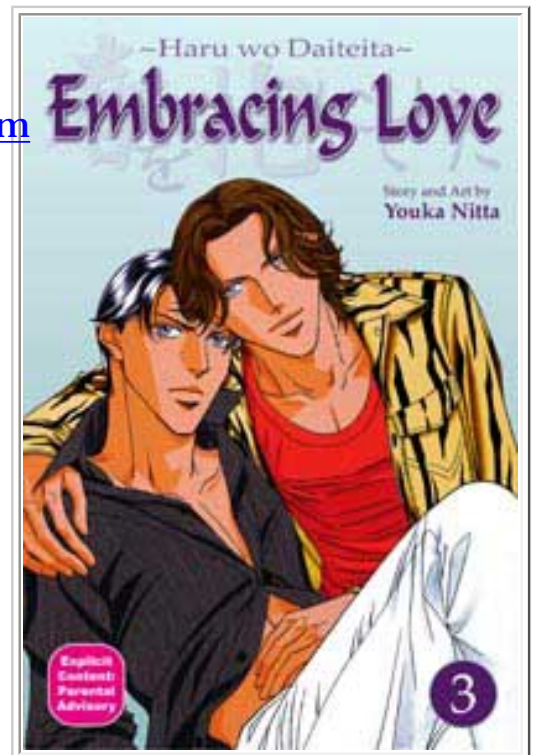
Translator: Melanie Schoen

ISBN: 1-93344-004-X

Grade: 9

Is the age difference between Kyosuke Iwaki and Yoji Katou finally going to come between them? Iwaki-san is almost thirty, and he can't quite keep up with Katou's demands for sex: "I'm *not* a dog in heat!" So starts volume 3 of Youka Nitta's yaoi manga *Embracing Love* in "Paradox Dogs."

The romantically touching "Innocent Vamp" takes Iwaki-san to Fuji TV (I recognized the panel shot) where he meets up with the cross-dressing Mr. Nagisa Sawa whose independent film of his own novel *Embracing Love* made Kyosuke Iwaki a star. As innocent a meeting as it is, Katou starts to think the worst. His lover is up to something.



The close-up of a suspicious Katou with his face sunken in Iwaki-san's butt crack is, uh, unique and shows artist Youka Nitta's mischievousness. In **Be Beautiful's** translation, Katou blandly comments, "He really didn't seem like 'another man' to me..." to his lover. I like better an alternate translation I was given where a jealous Katou says, as if he were in the middle of an inspection, "It doesn't feel as if you've been with a man earlier," which makes the panel hilarious.

In "Always," Katou goes through the adult videos his lover acted in. "Wow! There are *hundreds* of 'em!" he exclaims as he looks in Iwaki-san's closet. But as they prepare to move into a new home, will Iwaki-san want to keep these mementos of a past he's not proud of?

The two-part "First Cry" begins with a sad event in Kyosuke's life that forces him to return to Niigata to meet with his well-to-do family who rejected him because of his adult film career. His older brother Masahiko turns out to be as hardheaded as Iwaki-san.

The B&W title splash for part 1 of "First Cry" is the same as the beautiful one-page color insert in the original, which is reproduced in its entirety and in color but much smaller on the back cover of the translation. The image is a refreshing underwater shot of Iwaki-san and Katou swimming side-by-side.

An unexpected bonus in ***Embracing Love***, volume 3, is the translation of "A Visit to Iwaki and Katou's New Home!!" It's a transcript of a tour of the lovebirds' luxurious nest with a floor plan and interior shots included. You learn things like who takes out the trash and why they have separate(!) beds. Other translated features are "A Peek Inside Iwaki's Bag" (of course there's a handkerchief [see volume 2]) and "A Peek Inside Katou's Bag" (a Prada bag).

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