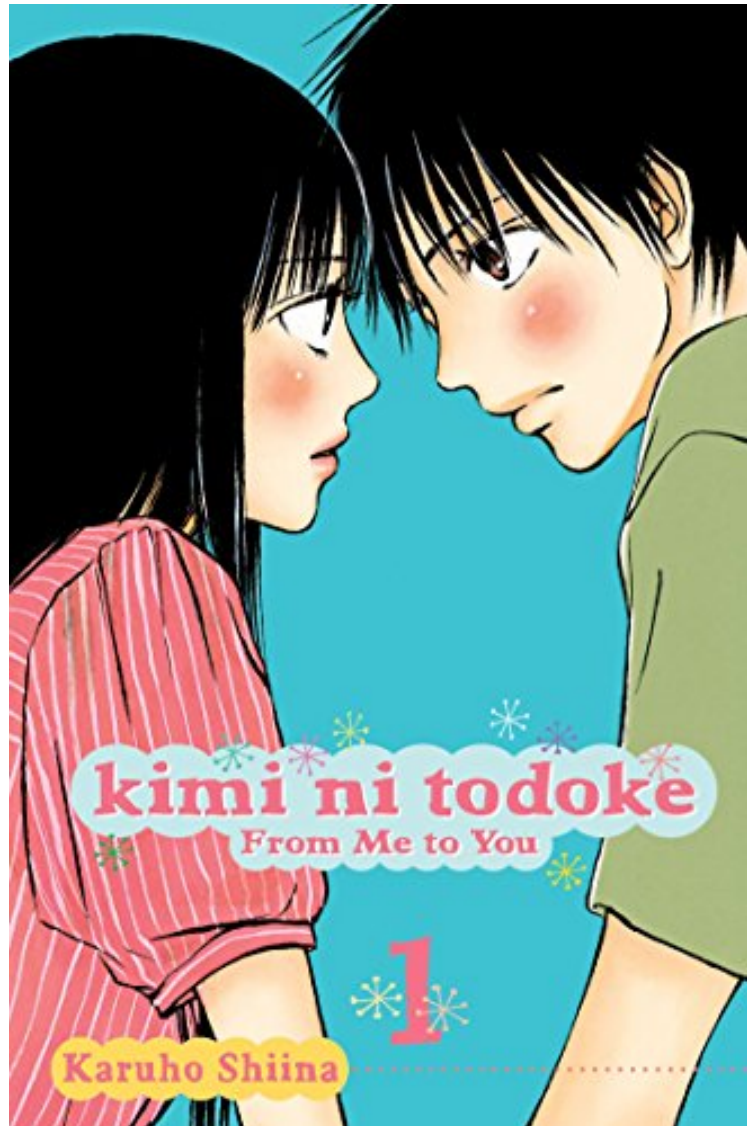


(Download ebook) Kimi ni Todoke: From Me to You, Vol. 1

## Kimi ni Todoke: From Me to You, Vol. 1

*Karuho Shiina*

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**Karuho Shiina : Kimi ni Todoke: From Me to You, Vol. 1** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kimi ni Todoke: From Me to You, Vol. 1:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Story of Friendships and Romances By Anne M From back cover: Sawako Kuronuma is the perfect heroine.... for a horror movie. With striking similarities to a haunting movie character - jet-black hair, sinister smile and silent demeanor - she is mistakenly called Sadako by those around her. But behind her scary facade is a very misunderstood teenager. Too shy to fit in, all she wants to do is make some friends.

But when the most popular boy in class befriends her, she's sure to make more than just that - she's about to make some enemies too!

**Review:** Sawako Kuronuma is beginning her first year of high school. Because of her appearance, she has the nickname "Sadako" - the name of a fictional character behind a 'cursed video'. Sawako is shy (and naive and trusting and....), but determined to make friends. She meets another first year student named Shota Kazehaya who is in her class. Kazehaya is naturally friendly and is also very popular. Based on Kazehaya's positive interactions with Sawako, other students begin to talk to her as well. Sawako has been ignored/ostracized for so long that she feels unworthy of what many would consider common politeness. Sawako credits Kazehaya with being responsible for her new friends and the improvement in the way other students view her. Sawako clearly has a case of hero worship for Kazehaya, but finds that her feelings for him are different than her feelings for other (male) classmates who are polite to her. Kazehaya shows signs of special feelings for Sawako as well. He is happy for that she has female friends (her first) who invite her to do things with them, but.... he wonders how long he will have to wait for her attention. I found Kazehaya especially well written since he had to deal with his own interest in Sawako, but doesn't want to interfere with her budding friendships. The book ends with Sawako being accused of spreading rumors about her new friends. Due to her shyness and lack of communication skills, the misunderstandings are likely to increase. This series does move slowly, but I found this a very satisfying introduction to Sawako and her classmates. I give book 1 of *kimi ni todoke* a 4.5

In order to come up with an overall review/rating for the series and this specific book within the series, I used the following criteria:

**Character development:** Excellent (5). This series is about teenagers and their relationships; primarily focused on the high school environment and activities. The characters are very real and human. I would be surprised if anyone reading this could not find someone that they can relate to. The characters grow and we learn more about them in a consistent manner. In the 20+ books that I have read of this series, I have not noted any actions that seemed out of character based on the character development and story line. Characters have changed, but they have changed in ways that are logical and consistent with what the reader knows of them.

**Art:** Is slightly better than average (3.5) I enjoy this series a great deal, but the art could be improved especially the faces.

**Relationship development:** is Excellent (5) Although this series does move slowly, this means that the relationships develop as they would in real life. The shy girl doesn't get the guy by the end of the first book, friendships don't develop (or end) abruptly and for no reason, etc.

**Overall Story:** Very Good (4). This is not my 'typical' genre of manga, but I did enjoy reading the books. My big complaint is that it seems to move so so slowly. It is about relationships - love, friendship, frenemies, and acquaintances. Sawako agonizes for chapters over decisions. Since I do the same thing, I can't fault her, but at the same time, it does make the story move very slowly.

**Author's notes/extras:** Not every author includes author's notes, however, Karuho Shiina has. I enjoy learning more about the person behind a book so I appreciate the extra effort that the author takes to tell us about herself.

**Will I re-read?** Excellent (5). Yes, I will re-read this series. As a matter of fact, I DID. I read most of the books (the first time) on-line, but felt guilty that the author and publishing company were not benefiting. I purchased the books and have found that the print version from the publisher is the better way (for me) to enjoy these books.

**Will I recommend?** Very Good (4.5). If you enjoy this style of manga, I believe you will enjoy this series.

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Volume 1 - Introducing Sawako

By Amelia

Sawako is a sweet, optimistic and generous teenage girl seriously handicapped by her resemblance to Sadako, a character from a horror movie. She has no friends because she doesn't know how to get past all the absurd paranormal things her classmates believe about her. Her lonely existence takes a turn for the better when the extremely popular boy Shota Kazehaya takes an interest in her. Kazehaya's acceptance of Sawako leads to other classmates giving her a chance to show her true kind nature. Encouraged by two of her female classmates, Chizuru Yoshida and Ayano Yano, Sawako starts learning how to turn her scary appearance and reputation into a positive thing, first by secretly play the role of a ghost on a class outing, and then learning to tell ghost stories. Naturally, many of the other girls in her school are angry and jealous of the time and attention Sawako gets from Kazehaya. An unnamed wavy haired girl puts in a few appearances, and I'm thinking she's going to turn out to be a significant antagonist in this story. The last two pages of vol. 1 show Yoshida and Yano hearing that Sawako is spreading ugly rumors about them. Of course to the reader, who has been privy to Sawako's thoughts and gotten to know her, this is preposterous, but it looks like vol. 2 will be concerned with further instances of Sawako trying to clear up misunderstandings about herself. Sawako is prevented from being a pathetic, pitiable character by her endless optimism and willingness to help others. She doesn't spend time feeling sorry for herself, nor has her isolation and the often cruel treatment of her classmates made her bitter. She is unfailingly generous with her time and her understanding of their school work. Sawako learns and grows from the difficulties she runs into. Watching as she develops her friendships (and what I'm sure will become more than a friendship where Kazehaya is concerned) is a good read. I'm looking forward to volume 2!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Teenager Loved It

By Lunabug

My daughter read this and lost her mind. She immediately demanded Volume 2 which I did purchase for her after some negotiation. Considering she was willing to work to get the next book, it must have been great. Her goal in life is to do as little as possible so that was unexpected.

R to L (Japanese Style). Sawako Kuronuma is the perfect heroine...for a horror movie. With her jet-black hair, sinister smile and silent demeanor, she's often mistaken for Sadako, the haunting character from *Ringu*. Unbeknownst to but a

few, behind her scary faade is a very misunderstood teenager. Shy and pure of heart, she just wants to make friends. But when Kazehaya, the most popular boy in class, befriends her, she's sure to make more than just that--she's about to make some enemies too!

About the AuthorBorn October 23rd, Karuho Shiinas favorite movies include The Apartment, The Shawshank Redemption and My Neighbor Totoro. Her previous series, Crazy for You, was also published in Germany. Kimi ni Todoke is her latest hit manga.