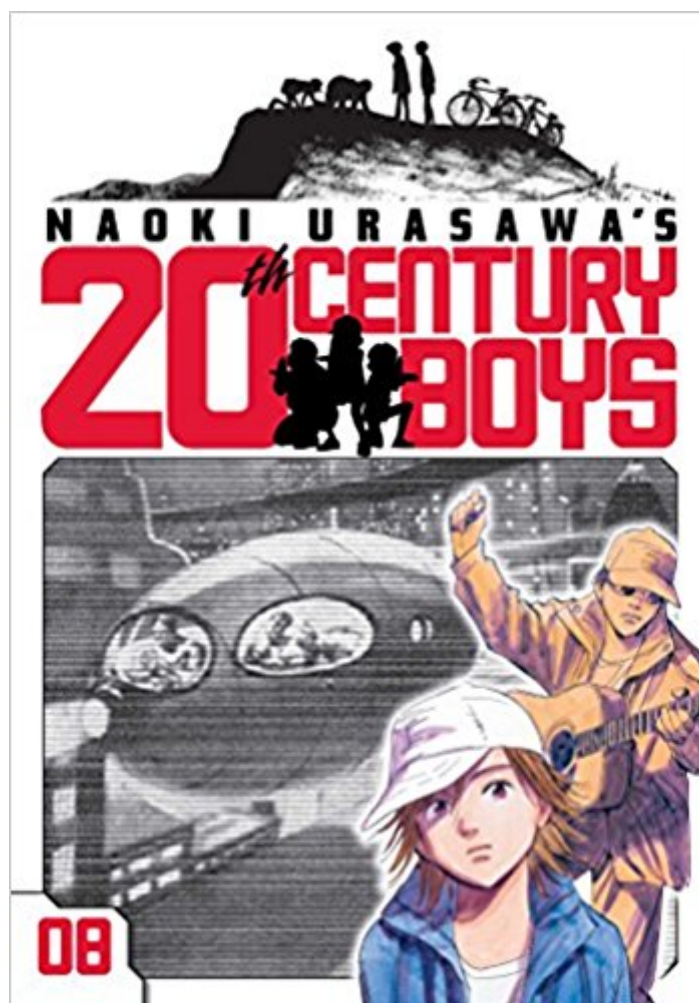


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# Naoki Urasawa's 20th Century Boys, Vol. 8



## Synopsis

This is the story of a group of boys who try to save the world!; As boys, Kenji and his friends came up with a bunch of stories about an evil organization bent on world destruction. As adults, someone is now turning their fantasies into reality! R to L (Japanese Style). This is the story of a group of boys who try to save the world!; As boys, Kenji and his friends came up with a bunch of stories about an evil organization bent on world destruction. As adults, someone is now turning their fantasies into reality! What really happened on Bloody New Year's Eve? Kenji, Otcho and Maruo have just driven their dynamite-loaded truck under the robot where they see what a poor relation to the giant robot they dreamed up in their childhoods it actually is: just two legs with caterpillar treads, held together by an enormous hot air balloon, with cloth hanging down to disguise the underside. Meanwhile, at the meeting of the government's crisis control committee, Manjome Inshu unveils the Friend's benevolent plan to distribute worldwide a vaccine against the virus being spread by the robot. The Friends, he says, have been developing such a vaccine since the terrorist germ attacks of 1997. At the same time, the Friends will contribute a monument they were building for their headquarters to serve as a blockade against the robot. The Friends are saving the day! Or are they?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Born in Tokyo in 1960, Naoki Urasawa's career as a manga artist spans three decades and has firmly established him as one of the true manga masters of his generation. A graduate of Meisei

University, Urasawa debuted with *Return!* in 1981 and hasn't stopped his impressive output since. Well-versed in a variety of genres, Urasawa's oeuvre encompasses a multitude of different subjects, such as romantic comedies (*Yawara! A Fashionable Judo Girl*), gritty urban dramas (*Pineapple ARMY*), swashbuckling detective stories (*Master Keaton*), captivating psychological thrillers (*Monster* and *20th Century Boys*) and modern reinterpretations of the work of the God of Manga, Osamu Tezuka (*Pluto: Urasawa's Tezuka*). Many of his books have spawned equally popular animated series, and 2008 saw the theatrical release of the first of three live-action Japanese films based on *20th Century Boys*. No stranger to accolades and awards, Urasawa has received the Kodansha Manga Award, and is a three-time recipient of the prestigious Shogakukan Manga Award and a two-time recipient of the Osamu Tezuka Cultural Prize. Similarly, *Monster* has been nominated twice for the Eisner Award in America. Urasawa has also become involved in the world of academia, and in 2008 accepted a guest teaching post at Nagoya Zokei University, where he teaches courses in, of course, manga. Combining a breathtaking cinematic visual style with stories known for their penetrating psychological depth and maturity, Naoki Urasawa remains one of the most exciting creators working in the medium of comics today.

With the latest volume 8 of "*20th Century Boys*", the reader is given insight of what took place when Kenji and friends tried to enter the Friend's giant robot. But the primary storyline centers around student Kyoko Koizumi who is brought to Friend Land and is paranoid that something bad will happen to her. Fortunately, she finds the aging Yoshitsune who works at Friend Land but happens to have his faction staying underneath the park to monitor Friend activities. But hoping to use Kyoko in order to find out the identity of the Friend, while the other story arc features Kyoko reaching the bonus stage and going to the virtual world and find Kenji and friends. Which makes people wonder, how can someone know so much about what had taken place with Kenji and friends at the time? Is the Friend, someone they know and hung out with? As always, Naoki Urasawa knows how to grab the attention of the reader. His artwork and how he is able to capture the sense of action and emotion through the pages is magnificent and so far, this series has been engrossing and highly enjoyable thus far. Needless to say, readers are being setup for something huge and I definitely can't wait for the next volume. Overall, a wonderful eighth of Naoki Urasawa's "*20th CENTURY BOYS*". If you haven't started already and you are looking for a deep, well-drawn, well-written manga series, Naoki Urasawa's "*20th CENTURY BOYS*" is highly recommended!

**WARNING THE PRODUCT DESCRIPTION ABOVE HAS SPOILERS!** *20th Century Boys* is the

story of a group of friends who grew up in 70s Japan dreaming of a final battle that would end the world in the year 2000. Then as middle aged men in the year 2000 they found someone was making their old kid's game come true! Volume 5 got up to the final battle but then jumped ahead to 2014 leaving us with only vague clues what happened. In this book we finally get some information on what happened in 2000, what was the secret of the Friend's robot, and starts to build the next chapter of the plot. Unfortunately the product description spoils some of this, so if you've not seen it LOOK AWAY!! I was starting to worry for a bit but this book hooked me right back in.

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