



Ink (The Paper Gods Book 1)

By Amanda Sun

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Ink is in their blood.

On the heels of a family tragedy, Katie Greene must move halfway across the world. Stuck with her aunt in Shizuoka, Japan, Katie feels lost. Alone. She doesn't know the language, she can barely hold a pair of chopsticks and she can't seem to get the hang of taking her shoes off whenever she enters a building.

When Katie meets aloof but gorgeous Tomohiro, the star of the school's kendo team, she is intrigued by him...and a little scared. His tough attitude seems meant to keep her at a distance, and when they're near each other, strange things happen. Pens explode. Ink drips from nowhere. And unless Katie is seeing things, drawings *come to life*.

Somehow Tomo is connected to the kami, powerful ancient beings who once ruled Japan—and as feelings develop between Katie and Tomo, things begin to spiral out of control. The wrong people are starting to ask questions, and if they discover the truth, no one will be safe.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up-Still distraught over her mother's sudden death, Katie is unwillingly transplanted from New York to live with her aunt and attend high school in Shizuoka, Japan. Her already off-kilter life turns truly surreal when she has a run-in with the school's handsome yet troubled kendo star, Tomohiro, who draws sketches that seem to come to life. Determined to uncover the truth behind his supernatural artistry, Katie becomes entangled in a web of secrets involving the ancient gods of Japan. Readers will relate to the spunky heroine, even as she makes some questionable decisions. Her presence exacerbates Tomohiro's powers, causing his drawings to turn dangerous, yet she finds herself unable to stay away from him. The plot and Katie and Tomohiro's deepening relationship build gradually, leading to a suspenseful third act involving the Japanese mafia and an ending that will leave teens eager for more. Due to the author's experience of living in Japan, the book's setting is authentic, and the depiction of an outsider learning to belong in a new culture rings true. Manga and anime fans will likely understand most of the Japanese vocabulary used, but those unfamiliar with it may feel overwhelmed. While this story may not break new ground in the realm of paranormal romance, it puts an imaginative spin on Japanese mythology.-Allison Tran, Mission Viejo Library, CA(c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

As if being uprooted and sent to live in Japan was not a difficult enough transition, American high-schooler Katie Green finds herself at the heart of a paranormal mystery. She develops a dangerous attraction to aloof Yuu Tomohiro, a senior who is able to bring ink to life through the act of writing or drawing. For reasons unknown, Katie's presence galvanizes this gift, and Tomohiro's drawings become increasingly difficult to control, which eventually attracts the attention of the Yakuza (the Japanese mafia) and the Kami (Japanese gods believed to be mythical but who are very much alive). Initially antagonistic, Katie and Tomo's relationship comes together over the shared grief of having lost their mothers. But the ink indicates that they should stay away from each other—a warning they successfully ignore with dramatic consequences. Katie's tendency to jump to conclusions, cry, and act before she thinks is frustrating, but it leaves plenty of room for growth. The descriptions of life in Japan—particularly teen life—create a strong sense of place, and set a vivid backdrop for this intriguing series opener by a debut author. Grades 9-12. --Kara Dean

Review

"Readers will come away more enlightened about contemporary Japanese high schools...an enjoyable peek at a world very different from America, yet inhabited by people whose hearts are utterly familiar." -Publishers Weekly

"The descriptions of life in Japan...create a strong sense of place, and set an exotic backdrop for this intriguing series opener by a debut author." -Booklist

"The unique setting and observing how Katie learns to live in...foreign surroundings...make this story special." -VOYA

"The work of a master storyteller." -Julie Kagawa, New York Times bestselling author of The Iron Fey series

"A modern day fairytale." -Amber Benson of TV's Buffy the Vampire Slayer and author of the Calliope Reaper-Jones novels

"A captivating story of love, passion, and the choices people make to keep themselves safe." -Jodi Meadows, author of Incarnate and Asunder

"Ink is a book that you sit down to read when you have a spare few minutes and then you look up and hours have passed a completely captivating story." -Book Passage Bookstore

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Barbara Richardson:

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading addiction give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the actual information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The knowledge you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want attract knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want experience happy read one having theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. The Ink (The Paper Gods Book 1) is kind of e-book which is giving the reader capricious experience.

Craig Harrison:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book might be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the e-book untitled Ink (The Paper Gods Book 1) can be fine book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

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Steven Allen:

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