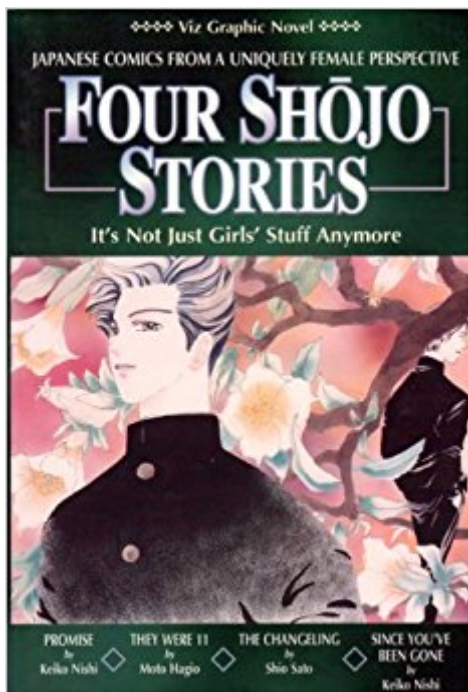


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Four Shojo Stories



Synopsis

An unprecedented collection of stories by the greatest shojo manga artists of our time! * PROMISE by Keiko Nishi * THEY WERE 11 by Moto Hagio * THE CHANGELING by Shio Sato * SINCE YOU'VE BEEN GONE by Keiko Nishi *

Book Information

Paperback: 261 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (4 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

In his introduction to this wonderful graphic novel, translator Matt Thorn called shÃfÂ´jo manga: "...a unique forum in which Japanese girls and women can discuss and debate among each other (and now you) what it means to be a Japanese girl, woman, a human being in relationships with other human beings." The hallmark of all shÃfÂ´jo manga is its focus upon human relationships and emotions; it is the characters that drive the shÃfÂ´jo manga tale, not external conflict or action. This introspective, personal focus confers upon shÃfÂ´jo manga an amazing literary quality unique to the comic books of any culture or country. Four ShÃfÂ´jo Stories is definitely the best compilation volume of this unique art form ever printed in English-translation. Each of the four short stories contained within was originally serialized in comic book form in Viz Communications extremely short-lived Viz Flower Comics imprint, and was selected for its maturity and literary quality. It shows. Unlike many examples of shÃfÂ´jo manga, which span multiple volumes and thousands of pages, Four ShÃfÂ´jo Stories contains only short tales with definite conclusions. The book is truly stand-alone, and is all the better for being so. These are not "just comic books". The stories are equal parts philosophical and poignant. I've included brief summaries of each of the four stories, but, unfortunately, no poor words of mine will prepare the reader for the quality, sophistication, and

delicate beauty that each of these tales possesses."Promise" by Keiko Nishi A mysterious boy swears to a little girl that they will meet again. Years later, the boy reappears, somehow unchanged, and teaches the now embittered girl how to live. Raw and emotionally charged.

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