Assassination Classroom

Yusei Matsui

Viz Media, 2014

Reviews

- School Library Journal (1 Oct. 2015.): "When everyone else has given up on these kids, it's the superpowered, tentacled weirdo who shows them they are worth something, and sometimes that all that is needed for kids to excel."
- School Library Journal (1 Apr. 2015.): "An entertaining adventure story ranging from darkest to lightest comedy that will leave readers clamoring for the next books in the series."
- Publisher's Weekly (13 Apr. 2015.): "Kuro-sensei...has challenged his students (and the rest of Earth) to kill him, and yet he continues to hang around to give them every opportunity to knock him off while teaching them to be better in every aspect of their lives, including their studies."
- The Graphic Library (10 May. 2021.) "Koro-Sensei is nearly the perfect teacher who gives his entire heart and soul to his students."
- No Flying No Tights (6 Apr. 2015. Comics with Twists): "The evil Koro Sensei is charming, endearing, and he could easily fill the role of Caring Adult Number One in any ABC after-school special."

Awards

Eisner Best US Edition of Internation Material-Asia nominee, 2016

Lists

- YALSA Great Graphic Novels for Teens, 2016
- Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, 2016

Response to challenges

• Staten Island, NY-8 February, 2019: "Assassination Classroom is not about actual violence. It is a story about a class of misfit students who pledge to stop an alien super-villain disguised as a teacher from destroying the world."

- Anderson, TN-4 April, 2023: "17 books reportedly in the Anderson County public libraries, that some people have asked to be removed."
- <u>Cleburne, TX-19 May, 2023</u>: "The following books have been removed from school libraries as they do not meet the selection criteria set out in Board Policies EFB Local *Instructional Resources Library Materials.*"
- Horry County, SC-16 November, 2024: "Assassination Classroom Manga Banned in South Carolina School District"
- Vero Beach, FL-7 April, 2023: "Three books from the Assassination Classroom series, about a junior high classroom whose homeroom teacher is really an alien with superpowers, were removed last month from the Gifford Middle School library"
- Brookfield, WI-12 April, 2023: "The Elmbrook School District in southeastern Wisconsin added five books from the series in its e-library starting with the 2021-2022 school year, but removed it last month after a parent raised concerns that the district might be promoting gun violence against teachers with the series. Elmbrook's Director of Library Services Kay Koepsel-Benning said the claim is "inaccurate." Another parent raised concerns about the depiction of violence and the sexualization of minors in the series."
- Richmond, VA-12 April, 2023: "House Bill 1379, which requires school principals to keep a catalog of all audiovisual content, and keep track of which books contain sexually explicit content in the school's library, and make those information available to parents, passed the House of Delegates in February, and was up for debate in Senate subcommittees. Delegate Tim Anderson, who sponsored the bill cited the Assassination Classroom manga, and said he took issue that the series is available in some school libraries."
- Utah-8 August, 2024: "Utah bans 13 books at schools"
- Pender County, NC-15 February, 2023: "When asked if Korn had read the books, he
 admitted he had not. He said he became aware of them through Pavement and saw
 images showing students with weapons. When pressed on whether he believes the
 absurd premise of "Assassination Classroom" truly promotes violence, he shot back
 questioning whether it has any educational value."