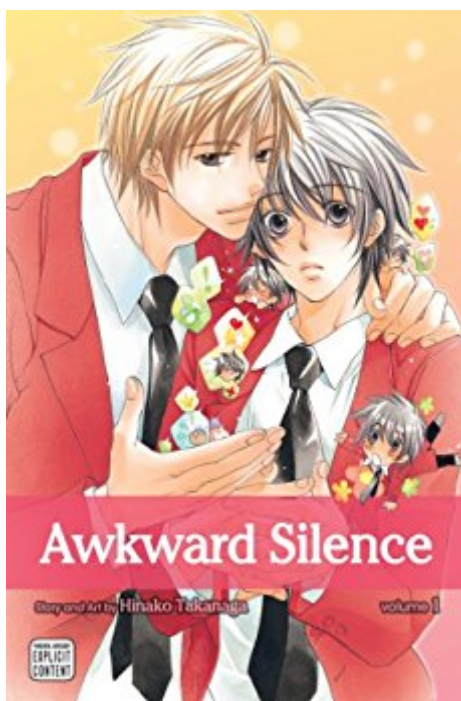


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# Awkward Silence, Vol. 1 (Yaoi Manga)



## Synopsis

Satoru is an introvert with a longtime crush on Keigo, a popular boy on the baseball team. But much to his surprise, Keigo comes up to him and asks him out! Satoru is so overcome he can't respond. Will Satoru be able to get past his shyness, or will he lose his chance with the boy he loves?

## Book Information

File Size: 161023 KB

Print Length: 200 pages

Publisher: VIZ Media: SuBLime (June 20, 2012)

Publication Date: June 20, 2012

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00H9KZQ3K

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #232,812 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #36

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Erotica #53 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Erotica #109 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Yaoi

## Customer Reviews

I want to thank SuBLime for bringing this wonderful manga stateside. It has been a favorite of mine for a few years now, and to finally have it on my shelf (and in my iPad) is a dream come true. Hinako Takanaga's "Awkward Silence" starts off focusing on high-schooler Satoru Toono (or Satoru Tono in this release) and his growing relationship with Keigo Tamiya. Theirs would be an uncomplicated love, if it wasn't for the fact Tono has a difficult time expressing emotion! (This is a curious twist on the average uke, if I do say so myself.) It takes Tono great effort to share his thoughts and feelings with anyone, including his new lover. This can lead to miscommunications, which often result in messy situations for Tono and Tamiya. Outgoing Tamiya and introvert Tono face many obstacles as their love grows, but these obstacles only serve to teach them how to best express and share their

feelings for one another. Takanaga is one of my favorite manga artists and storytellers, both in and out of the BL genre. She has a sweet art style which is usually accompanied by a sweet story, and this is the case for *Awkward Silence*. While this isn't the funniest or sexiest of her works, it certainly is my favorite -- I've read *Awkward Silence* several times since scanlations started floating around the web, I own it in Japanese as well, and with the release of it in the states, I now own SuBLime's release in both PDF format (available on their website) and print. (Does this seem like overkill? Maybe. But when I support my favorite artists, I like to give my all!) I'm fond of the sugary sweetness in these kinds of stories, of silly miscommunications, and of unwavering affection between the two lead characters.

~3.5-4/5[Also available on my blog.]I was really surprised by this book, particularly by how much I liked it. Now, I don't read very much yaoi. It's not that I don't like it, I just don't really care one way or another, and I don't usually go looking for it. I mean, the smut is usually pretty good, but sometimes the art isn't all that good (it always seems so broad shouldered and squared and overly manly, and I just don't care for that), and, again, I just don't go looking for it. But, and I know I am very biased, when I heard that VIZ was starting up their own yaoi line, I jumped on that wagon real fast. (Although I was a bit disappointed that so many went directly to digital and not print, given that I don't have any kind of e-reader and I prefer reading print books than digital, although I understand why.) And then none of my bookstores would get a single volume in. I was super disappointed, but finally one of them got some in, which is great. And I'd had my eye on this series for a while, if only because the title gave the hint of my type of characters, and I was so right. I'm so glad that I started with this volume, because it was so good. My favorite part of this book is the main character, Satoru. He's awkward, and his expression never changes, no matter if he's shocked or sad or excited, and he doesn't know how to express his feelings. He feels awkward saying things aloud, but he doesn't know how to show them, and he gets a bit frustrated by this. I love this kind of character, but they're so hard to find, especially in the main role, so I was very excited to read about him. And, really, Satoru is just adorable. I think Takanaga did a really good job, in a clever way, of showing the reader what he's actually feeling.

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