



GROWING UP CAN BE PAINFUL!

NANAKA 6/17

100 minutes, 4 episodes, Rated: TV PG V
ADV Films

Imagine being a high school student, studying hard to make it into the best college but at the same time alienating your classmates and your childhood friend because all you talk about is getting into a good college and preaching it to others. This is the life of Nanaka Kiristato.

Nanaka's life changes after an argument with her childhood friend Nenji who has had enough of her belittling. After calling their friendship quits, Nanaka is shocked and falls down a flight of stairs and suffers a head trauma.

Nenji and Nanaka's father are shocked to find out that once Nanaka has woken up, she is no longer the same. In fact, due to amnesia, she has regressed to her childhood self. Age six to be exact.

For Nanaka, she believes that her childhood dream of wanting to become an adult has come true and

that Nenji and her are now older.

As a big fan of the anime "Magical Domoko", Nanaka is now to live her life as a 6-year-old while attending high school.

Nanaka's father entrusts Nenji to watch over her while she tries to live a normal life as a young girl trapped in a young woman's body.

But what happens when Nanaka returns back to her school and she's no longer her stuffy, preaching self. How will her classmates deal with her? Also, what happens when she starts to regain her memory?

This is the basis of the storyline of "Nanaka 6/17". An enjoyable and fun anime that may look simplistic in anime-style but from beginning to end, it does have its comedic and also its serious moments.

With a May release from ADV Vision, after watching the three preview episodes, I just want to say that the English dub for this anime is wonderful. It's one of the best dubs that match the characters very well.

The 12-episode series will be re-

leased in the US with the first four episodes which will include a clean opening and closing animation, a Magical Domoko music video and ADV previews.

In the first episode, we are introduced to the characters of the series and get to learn how Nanaka is as a teenager and how her classmates feel about her. Also, how strained her relationship with her childhood friend Nenji.

We learn that Nenji has become more of a thug and doesn't care about school and cares more about fighting his rivals.

Through Nanaka's injury, Nenji discovers the friendship that the two once had and how it was lost. But because of that friendship from the past, he can't turn away and must help Nanaka through her injury.

In the second episode, we are introduced to Nanaka as she tries to settle in with her classmates. Many are surprised how bubbly she has become and is put in charge of playing the piano for a school choir.

In the third episode, we learn that one of Nenji's rivals has fallen in love with bubbly Nanaka but the rival's sister will not allow Nanaka (who she's think is a floozie) be anywhere near her brother and challenges her to a duel.

"Nanaka 6/17" is a very fun anime series with a very enjoyable storyline but is hampered with simplistic animation and stills at times. Although this can be a sign of low budget anime, it's one of the few anime that I feel despite how simplistic it may be, the storyline is engaging enough that I was able to look beyond the animation and truly enjoy it for what it is.

B+ —DENNIS A. AMITH