

what are we watching on dvd?



YUMERIA VOLUME 1

3 episodes previewed, Rated TV 14 SD (ADV Films), Release Date: October 11. (12 episodes total)

Remember that feeling when you watched “Ah! My Goddess” or even “El Hazard” for the very first time. Parallel worlds, fun and interesting characters that made the anime so enjoyable, you just can’t wait to see more?

That is how I felt after watching the first three preview episodes for “YUMERIA”, a anime series based on a PS2 video game by NAMCO.

The story focuses on high school freshman Tomokazu Mikuri. Doing bad in school and your typical pervert. Well, maybe not typical but it shows.

In the first episode, it seems that when Tomokazu sleeps, he’s brought into this unusual world. There he meet’s short and petite Mone battling enemy alien beings.

What an unusual dream? But to his surprise, he wakes up and finds Mone sleeping next to him. And the only word she can speak is “Mone” (Mo-neh).

We are then introduced to his well-endowed guardian Nanase Senjou (a Ranma 1/2 Kasumi-ish type of character and surely enough, voiced by the same Japa-

nese voice actress, Kikuko Inoue). We are introduced to his classmate Mizuki Azuma who seems to like Tomokazu and a teacher who despises him.

In episode 2, when Tomokazu sleeps, he brings in Mizuki to his dream and meets another person in the dreamworld named Silk.

It appears that when Tomokazu falls asleep, he is taken to a dreamworld where he gives recharging power to the warriors that go against the aliens when he grabs on to them.

Being the pervert that he is, he doesn’t mind but for the new female warriors, they try to grasp their new powers in the dreamworld and wonder why this is happening.

In episode 3, we are introduced to several more female characters who turn to warriors which include a strange young girl named Koneko (who carries her cat Neneko) who calls Tomokazu her fiance after he grabs her.

We also meet Kuyou Senjou, Nanase’s younger sister and someone who appears to like Tomokazu

and also appears to have knowledge of the dreamworld.

So, each of the girls along with Tomokazu rise up to go against the alien beings trying to infiltrate the dreamworld and get into reality.

What makes this anime so much more enjoyable for me is the fact that each character is very enjoyable. In the same vein as “El Hazard”, “Tenchi Muiyou”, “Ah! My Goddess” and even “Sailor Moon” (especially with the costume transformations) it’s great to see the alternate world and reality type storyline again with interesting characters to go along with it.

Also, unlike these anime where the main male character is good hearted and pure, Tomokazu is quite an interesting with his views on his school education and his perverted way. Although, not in the same realm as Ataru Moroboshi (Urusei Yatsura).

As for the animation, I really enjoyed the character animation for this anime. Although, Tomokazu looks a bit too cool to be the nerdy pervert, the animation is very nice.

Of course, this anime has fan service but fortunately it’s not too overboard.

The English voice dubbing is done very well. Fits each characters very well. First time I would find myself writing this but the perverted humor works very well with “YUMERIA” and I’m lovin’ it!

Because of the hilarious perverted humor, this anime easily separates itself from the many other anime out there that features one guy and many girls.

Definitely an anime to keep an eye on! Expect to see a full review for “YUMERIA” on J!-ENT very soon. — DENNIS A. AMITH