

E3

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[00:00] ---

Rinshi!!

[00:00] ---

Ekoda-chan

[00:04] Ekoda

I'm having a side dish of saury today.

My plan is to salt it and grill it.

[00:08] Ekoda

Before I cook it, I mess about with it a little
to find out what it's like to own a pet.

[00:13] Ekoda

"Aw, don't bite me!" Stuff like that.

[00:16] Ekoda

"Birds of prey."

[00:17] ME

Look, a birdie!

[00:19] ME

This kitty's *so cute!*

[00:20] ME

A bear! Yay!

[00:22] Ekoda

Is she an animal lover?

[00:24] ME

It's a moo cow!

[00:25] Ekoda

No, something about this
scene suggests otherwise.

[00:29] Ekoda

Or is it just me?

[00:31] News

*This is Tanaka-san, who grows
flowers on his property every year.*

[00:35] Tanaka

*I want to cheer up everyone
who passes my garden.*

[00:38] Ekoda

I feel you.

[00:39] News

Being a newscaster must be tough.

[00:42] Bird

*It is, but I try to make everyone happy,
and do my job with a smile on my face.*

[00:45] Ekoda

I sorta feel you, I guess.

[00:47] Idols

With our cheerful singing and dancing...

[00:49] Idols

...we wanna help everyone dream!

[00:51] Idols

So we're gonna sing!

[00:52] Idols

Meow, meow, meow.

[00:55] Ekoda

Is that really how it works? I'm not convinced.

[00:58] Sis

Hey, I know my business better
than anyone, so don't butt in.

[01:03] Ekoda

My big sis *sounds* like she knows everything.

[01:05] Ekoda

But does she really?

[01:08] Ekoda

After all, my sister has yet to realize...

[01:11] Ekoda

...she's been eating in her sleep.

[01:14] Ekoda

I bought a dog carrier
at the second-hand store.

[01:18] ME

D'you think it's a kitty? Or a puppy?

[01:20] ME

Can I take a peek?

[01:22] Ekoda

Trying to flaunt your cute side, huh?

[01:25] Ekoda

It won't work this time.

[01:26] Ekoda

Tell me, little bird of prey:
how are you going to react to *this*?

[01:31] Horse

What was in there?

[01:32] ME

The *cutest* little purse you've ever seen!

[01:34] Ekoda

Those birds of prey! They score
top marks for cuteness every time!

[01:38] Ekoda

I concede defeat.

[01:39] Sam

Ah, wholesome Japanese high schoolers.

[01:42] Sam

They must be about 15 or 16.

[01:45] Sam

By the time they get to my age,
some of them will be in college,

[01:49] Sam

most will be married, and a few
will have headed off overseas.

[01:53] Sam

And one or two... will have died.

[01:56] Ekoda

Do you have some beef with
Japanese high school girls?

[01:59] Ekoda

Um, I'd like a cheeseburger, hold the pickles.

[02:03] Clerk

Right. One cheeseburger, hold the cheese.

[02:05] Ekoda

She misheard me!

[02:07] Ekoda

Uh, actually...

[02:08] Clerk

Okay, so that's a cheeseburger without cheese...

[02:12] Clerk

Wait, that's just a regular hamburger.

[02:14] Ekoda

Talk about realizing you're
wrong but not knowing why.

[02:19] Friend

I don't have any sexual proclivities.

[02:21] Friend

I don't know if I'm dominant or submissive,
or if there are any fetishes I'm into.

[02:25] Friend

And I'm hopeless at talking dirty.

[02:27] Ekoda

There's nothing wrong with that.

[02:29] Friend

But I don't like not knowing these things.

[02:31] Friend

So I bought some rope just to try it out,

[02:33] Friend

and before tying myself up with it,
I decided to boil it so it'd soften up a bit,

[02:37] Friend

but my dad lifted up the lid,
thinking it was oden.

[02:40] Friend

Ever since, it's been awkward between us.

[02:42] Ekoda

I'm not sure which bit of that
you want me to comment on.

[02:46] Ekoda

Ekoda-chan's rules for doodling.

[02:48] Ekoda

Draw a fish on rice omelets.

[02:49] Ekoda

Footprints in the condensation.

[02:51] Ekoda

And... on your knees, draw faces.

[02:54] Ekoda

It's been so long, knees!

[02:57] Ekoda

It's a great way to spend an evening
when your nerves are frazzled.

[03:33] Narrator

They say that ten different people
produce ten different versions.

SIGN Ten Versions

SIGN Ten People

[03:37] Narrator

But what if there were new Ekoda-chans?

SIGN Sugii

Gisaburo

SIGN Takahashi

Ryosuke

SIGN Daichi Akitaro

SIGN Mochizuki

Tomomi

SIGN Misawa Shin

SIGN Takahashi Takeo

SIGN Yonetani

Yoshitomo

SIGN Kobayashi

Osamu

SIGN Kojima

Masayuki

SIGN Shigino Akira

SIGN Nagahama Hiroshi

SIGN Morimoto Koji

SIGN 12 Women

SIGN 12 Versions!?

[03:43] Narrator

12 women, 12 versions?!

SIGN Over the course of the next 12 episodes of the anime "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan," we'll be checking in with the directors of each episode, and the voice actress portraying Ekoda-chan!!

[03:46] Narrator

Over the course of the next 12 episodes of the anime "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan,"

[03:49] Narrator

we'll be checking in with the directors of each episode,

[03:52] Narrator

and the voice actress portraying Ekoda-chan.

[03:54] Narrator

This time, we unveil the director of Episode 3: Shigino Akira,

SIGN Director

SIGN Shigino Akira

[03:59] Narrator

and Ekoda-chan's VA: Tatsumi Yuiko!

SIGN Playing Ekoda-chan

SIGN Tatsumi Yuiko

[04:01] Narrator

In Episode 3, to everyone's shock, all the characters were animals!

SIGN Episode 3's Ekoda-chan

SIGN Tatsumi Yuiko

SIGN Episode 3's Director

SIGN Shigino Akira

[04:05] Narrator

Ekoda-chan as a bunny?!

[04:07] Narrator

We'll find out the director's reasoning behind the change!

[04:10] Narrator

"Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan" special feature:

The Director and Ekoda-chan's Naked Chat!

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-Chan

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN Naked Chat

SIGN Naked Chat

SIGN Naked Chat

[04:15] Narrator

We're baring all for you!

SIGN Shigino Akira

[04:17] Akira

Well, I generally don't turn
down a lot of work,

SIGN The reason the director accepted the job

SIGN Shigino Akira x Tatsumi Yuiko

SIGN Shigino Akira

SIGN Rinshi!!

Ekoda-Chan:

The Director

and

Ekoda-chan's

Naked

Chat

SIGN Episode 3's Director

Shigino Akira

SIGN Episode 2's Ekoda-san

Tatsumi Yuiko

[04:22] Akira

but I actually read the
manga, back in the day.

[04:25] Kataoka

I see.

[04:26] Akira

And I remember thinking
it was interesting.

[04:31] Akira

But I imagine, if I'd never read it,

[04:35] Akira

I might've had doubts about
whether I could adapt it properly.

[04:40] Akira

But I had read it.

[04:42] Akira

So I figured it could be fun.

[04:45] Akira

And when I heard it was a short-form anime,

SIGN Project/Production

Manager

Kataoka Yoshiro

[04:47] Akira

with 12 different directors working on it...

[04:49] Kataya

Right.

[04:50] Akira

I thought that was interesting, too.

[04:52] Akira

It feels like it's been a while
since I was actually at a recording.

SIGN Looking back on today's recording session

[04:56] Akira

So that was fun, too.

[04:58] Akira

Since I turned the
characters into animals,

[05:02] Akira

I was curious how it'd turn out
when it came time to record.

[05:07] Akira

Yeah.

[05:08] Yuiko

Let's see...

[05:09] Yuiko

Well, since it's only a five-minute run-time,

[05:14] Yuiko

there weren't a whole lot
of actual lines to record.

[05:18] Yuiko

But I was struck by how different
it was from the source material.

[05:23] Yuiko

And because of that difference in tone,

[05:25] Yuiko

deciding how to voice her
was more spur-of-the-moment.

[05:29] Yuiko

That was the main feeling I got.

[05:32] Yuiko

And the lack of direction
I got also surprised me.

[05:37] Yuiko

I got nothing from the
director or the audio director.

[05:39] Yuiko

So I'm actually sitting here
feeling kinda nervous about it all.

[05:44] Yuiko

But it was a lot of fun!

[05:45] Yuiko

It was so much fun, but I'm still sorta nervous about how it'll turn out.

[05:48] Yuiko

I've been looking forward to hearing how it was taken.

[05:51] Kataoka

Well, she's different from the manga version.

[05:53] Kataoka

No kidding. She really is!

[05:56] Yuiko

I read the manga a lot before showing up to the recording,

[05:58] Yuiko

so when I saw the video, I was like, "Wait, what? This is totally different!"

[06:03] Yuiko

So I'm not sure my response to that was the right one...

[06:06] Yuiko

But I tried to give the best performance I could.

SIGN Behind the scenes stories from Episode 3 of the "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan" anime

SIGN Shigino Akira

[06:14] Akira

Well, she's almost always naked in the original manga.

SIGN The reason behind turning the cast into animals

SIGN Shigino Akira

SIGN Shigino Akira x Tatsumi Yuiko

[06:19] Akira

But this is TV, and there are certain things you just can't show.

[06:24] Akira

So instead of using mosaics or something similarly ugly to cover up the "naughty" bits,

[06:32] Akira

I figured nakedness wasn't an issue if she was an animal.

[06:36] Akira

That's basically why.

[06:37] Yuiko

I see!

[06:38] Yuiko

So that explains why she was a bunny...

[06:39] Akira

And then...

[06:41] Akira

Actually, all the characters are naked.

[06:42] Yuiko

Right, everyone in the episode is naked.

[06:43] Kataoka

So they are.

[06:46] Kataoka

That's true.

[06:47] Yuiko

I get it now.

[06:48] Kataoka

Animals do walk around naked, after all.

[06:50] Akira

Right.

[06:51] Yuiko

That's such an interesting
way of looking at it.

SIGN What you thought after seeing the animal version of "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan" for the first time

[06:53] Akira

I didn't predict her transforming
into an animal because of the nudity,

[06:58] Akira

but since the change made
it seem more kid-friendly,

[07:02] Akira

I sorta thought that
was how it should sound.

[07:05] Akira

The art style really gave
me that impression.

[07:07] Akira

But the actual content
is the same as in the manga.

[07:09] Yuiko

Right, exactly! The scenarios
themselves didn't change.

[07:12] Yuiko

There's actually something
I was curious about.

[07:15] Yuiko

There are so many strips. What made
you adapt these particular ones?

[07:19] Akira

Well...

SIGN The reasons behind which strips got chosen for adaptation in Episode 3 of the "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan" anime

SIGN Shigino Akira

SIGN I just picked out the ones I found funny.

[07:23] Yuiko

I see. As straightforward as that?

[07:25] Akira

Yeah.

[07:27] Yuiko

That makes sense.

[07:28] Akira

I mean, sometimes, when the author's a woman,

[07:31] Akira

there are things men have trouble understanding.

[07:36] Akira

And I wanted to avoid those strips, because I wouldn't know how to approach them,

[07:42] Akira

so I picked out ones that spoke to me.

[07:44] Akira

And since I mostly do comedies,

[07:47] Akira

I wanted ones that a wider audience would find funny.

[07:52] Akira

So I chose the strips that worked for me in that sense,

[07:55] Akira

and they're the ones I ended up using.

[07:59] Akira

If I don't personally find something funny, I have trouble knowing what to do with it.

[08:03] Akira

And I also wanted to have a selection of characters to bring balance.

[08:08] Akira

So her sister is in it, and Sam's in there,

[08:11] Akira

and I thought about adding her boyfriend in, but we didn't have enough run-time for that.

[08:16] Akira

The part where the crab walks past...

[08:18] Yuiko

Oh, I remember that!

[08:20] Akira

I would've liked to have done that one.

[08:23] Akira

So it's a bit of a shame.

[08:24] Kataoka

When you look at Maa-kun and Sam...

[08:26] Kataoka

There are a lot of funny guys in the manga.

[08:27] Yuiko

You're so right!

[08:28] Yuiko

The guy who follows her around, too.

[08:30] Kataoka

Right.

[08:30] Yuiko

Ekoda-chan kinda has this free-spirited approach to her relationships with men.

SIGN On how "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan" feels more friendly as a result of everyone becoming animals

SIGN Shigino Akira

[08:35] Yuiko

There are plenty of examples of that in the manga, right?

[08:37] Yuiko

So that tends to spring to mind when I think about it. It leaves a strong impression.

[08:42] Yuiko

And the way this episode glosses over that,

[08:45] Yuiko

and instead, serves up these warm, conventional kind of jokes...

[08:47] Yuiko

There's something about that...

I'm not sure how to put it...

[08:51] Yuiko

It makes it feel a bit surreal, and I really loved that about it.

SIGN Difficulties in recording

[08:55] Yuiko

Let's see, what difficulties did we face?

[08:58] Yuiko

The pace was one thing. It was so fast.

[09:01] Yuiko

I mean, it's only five minutes, so it's just beat after beat after beat,

[09:05] Yuiko

with the story changing
from one moment to the next.

[09:07] Yuiko

It felt like I was struggling to keep up.

[09:12] Yuiko

That's the main thing, yeah.

[09:15] Kataoka

Was there anything you particularly
focused on in your performance?

SIGN Things you paid special attention to, as Ekoda-chan

SIGN Shigino Akira

[09:18] Yuiko

Let's see...

[09:20] Yuiko

Well, instead of trying to stick
closer to the original Ekoda-chan...

[09:25] Yuiko

The one from the manga, I mean,
which I read before coming in...

[09:28] Yuiko

I wanted to try to match the art style,
and the atmosphere of each segment.

[09:34] Yuiko

That's what I decided on seeing them.

[09:35] Yuiko

And that was one bit of direction I got.

[09:38] Yuiko

And I realized, "Oh, *right*."

[09:40] Yuiko

So what we ended up recording today,

[09:43] Yuiko

the voice that's going
to be in the final product,

[09:47] Yuiko

is what we came up with on the day.

[09:48] Yuiko

It sounded totally different
when I was practicing at home.

[09:51] Yuiko

And I was a little anxious about
how different it turned out.

[09:56] Akira

Sorry about that.

[09:57] Yuiko

Oh, it's totally fine!

[09:58] Yuiko

I was just curious how it turned out,

[10:01] Yuiko

since there wasn't a lot of direction.

[10:04] Yuiko

I got kinda nervous about it...

[10:06] Director

Well, giving lots of specific directions...

[10:10] Director

I mean, I personally don't like that approach.

[10:12] Yuiko

Yeah, but with the other characters...

[10:15] Yuiko

There were quite a lot of retakes for them.

[10:21] Director

Oh, that's a separate issue.

[10:24] Akira

Color, I'd say. I mean, hm. Yeah.

SIGN Things you pay special attention to, as a director

[10:28] Akira

I have to admit, I don't really
like using a huge palette...

[10:35] Akira

Although, the color gets added
after the voice recording,

[10:37] Akira

so we're talking about future stuff here.

[10:40] Akira

But that's the way I like to go with it.

[10:41] Akira

A long time ago, in kids' magazines,

[10:45] Akira

they had pages that were
printed using only four colors.

[10:49] Akira

I want this to have that kind of look to it.

[10:53] Akira

Not bursting with every color under the sun,
but with a sort of cohesion to it.

[11:02] Akira

Something about that
limited palette is soothing.

[11:07] Akira

There are less distractions for the eye.

SIGN Focusing on backgrounds

[11:09] Akira

Something I realized about
backgrounds on "Osomatsu-kun"

[11:14] Akira

was how the backgrounds in Akatsuka-san's manga were really just lines.

[11:19] Akira

So they're just symbolic, really.

[11:21] Akira

Ever since then, I've felt like, all backgrounds need to do is get the idea across.

[11:25] Kataoka

I understand what you mean.

[11:26] Akira

A lot of times when I see more realistic backgrounds nowadays,

[11:29] Akira

I think to myself that it doesn't really work.

[11:32] Akira

Other than that, one of my favorite background artists

[11:37] Akira

is a woman who did the backgrounds on "Shizuku-chan."

[11:44] Akira

So when I was doing the "Shin-chan" movie,

[11:47] Akira

I found out the company she was working at did stuff for the "Shin-chan" TV series,

[11:52] Akira

so I asked her to head up the art side of things.

[11:57] Akira

We came up with this sort of... strange setting for it.

[12:01] Akira

And she's good at that, and giving it a personality of sorts.

SIGN Regarding the 12 Directors and 12 Ekoda-chans

[12:04] Akira

With 12 directors, you get lots of variation...

[12:06] Yuiko

Yeah, that totally makes sense.

[12:07] Akira

Different background artists, too.

[12:08] Kataoka

More than anything I've done before, this project has really made me appreciate

[12:12] Kataoka

the role the director plays in the production of a show.

[12:16] Kataoka

It's incredible how many different tools
you have to expand your own interpretation.

[12:21] Kataoka

And it results in an animation style
no one else would come up with.

[12:25] Akira

I think it's rather flattering

[12:28] Akira

that I was chosen as one of the 12 directors.

[12:28] Yuiko

Right!

[12:30] Yuiko

You did a great job!

[12:30] Kataoka

Nobody else would've thought of animals.

[12:32] Yuiko

You're on a whole other level!

[12:34] Yuiko

No one else would've come up with that.

[12:36] Yuiko

I was so surprised!

[12:36] Kataoka

Especially considering how cute they are.

[12:38] Yuiko

Right!

[12:39] Yuiko

To think that something that looks like
this could've been inspired by Ekoda-chan...

[12:43] Akira

Well, there are 12 voice actresses, too.

[12:45] Yuiko

Oh, yeah, and they'll all have
their own take on the character.

[12:48] Akira

People might compare...

[12:49] Yuiko

Ah, don't say that!

[12:50] Yuiko

I think, because the content is
so different for each episode,

SIGN After the break,
we'll talk about the characters
in "Rinshi!! Ekoda-Chan"

[12:53] Yuiko

I'm not as worried as
I would be otherwise.

[12:56] Yuiko

"Well, of *course*! It's meant to be different!"

[12:59] Yuiko

That's what I'll say.

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan

SIGN The Director and

Ekoda -chan's

Naked Chat

SIGN Episode 3's Ekoda-chan

SIGN Tatsumi Yuiko

SIGN Episode 3's Director

SIGN Shigino Akira

SIGN Rinshi!!

Ekoda-Chan:

The Director

and

Ekoda-chan's

Naked

Chat

[13:06] Narrator

In the first half, we chatted about how Ekoda-chan had been turned into a bunny!

[13:10] Narrator

In the second half, we'll hear what they thought

[13:13] Narrator

about the various characters in "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan."

[13:16] Narrator

Not only that, we'll hear about when Director Shigino was 24 years old.

SIGN The characters of

"Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan"

SIGN Shigino Akira

[13:25] Question

Your favorite lines from "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan"

SIGN Shigino Akira x Tatsumi Yuiko

SIGN Shigino Akira

[13:25] Yuiko

Well, it wasn't actually one of my lines.

[13:30] Yuiko

But out of all the characters, I like Sam a lot.

[13:34] Kataoka

Sam?

[13:35] Yuiko

He's the foreign guy.

[13:36] Yuiko

I really like it when he
shows up in the manga.

[13:39] Yuiko

And when I saw the line: "And one
or two... will have died," in the script,

[13:42] Yuiko

I was like, "There it is!"
I got a bit excited about that.

SIGN Favorite stories from the original "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan" manga

[13:45] Yuiko

I like how Ekoda-chan's kind of...
What do I want to say?

[13:51] Yuiko

She doesn't think things through,
she's just spontaneous,

[13:54] Yuiko

and often, things don't work out
like she thought they would.

[13:57] Yuiko

I can seriously relate to that.

[14:00] Yuiko

She did this one thing that I'd done in real
life myself, and it made me laugh hard.

[14:04] Yuiko

It was at a time when
I'd gotten tired of eating hotpot.

[14:07] Yuiko

I was just putting kelp and stock in,

[14:09] Yuiko

and since I had it all the time,
I was getting bored of it.

[14:12] Yuiko

So I tried to liven it up with some miso,
but it just became miso soup.

[14:16] Yuiko

And she literally did the same thing!

[14:19] Yuiko

"Oh, maybe it'd be tasty with some miso in it!"

[14:21] Yuiko

But then, it's seriously just
miso soup! A big pot full of it!

[14:24] Yuiko

I remember how depressed it made me.

[14:26] Yuiko

When I saw her do it, too,
I was just like, "Wow, same."

[14:31] Yuiko

It really made me realize I'm not alone in doing really goofy things.

SIGN The character of "Big Sis"

[14:36] Akira

Her sister is really cute.

[14:39] Akira

Though, I really wanted to make her take a long drag on a cigarette.

[14:42] Kataoka

Right, right.

[14:43] Yuiko

That didn't work.

[14:43] Akira

But y'know, it's anime, so I figured, maybe not.

[14:45] Yuiko

It was a selfie instead.

[14:46] Kataoka

We were asked not to use cigarettes,

[14:49] Kataoka

so we went with the smartphone, instead.

[14:51] Kataoka

I think out of all the characters, her sister is the simplest to understand.

[14:55] Kataoka

The "bird of prey" is much harder by comparison.

SIGN The "bird of prey" archetype

[14:59] Kataoka

The "bird of prey" is a hard one.

[15:01] Kataoka

The idea that such girls exist...

[15:03] Kataoka

I mean, I believe people when say they've met one, but I've never met one, personally.

[15:08] Kataoka

Do they actually exist?

[15:10] Yuiko

"Birds of prey"?

[15:12] Yuiko

Well, there are these women

[15:13] Yuiko

who are loved by everyone, aren't there?

[15:14] Akira

And those are "birds of prey"?

[15:16] Yuiko

I'm not sure if they really are, or if

that's just how Ekoda-chan sees them.

[15:19] Yuiko

The thing is, the "birds of prey" Ekoda-chan talks about aren't doing anything wrong.

[15:23] Yuiko

The way they sorta... just pretend to be airheads, you know?

[15:27] Yuiko

I don't know if that's an outdated way of putting it!

[15:31] Yuiko

But the way they do that, and then, treat other women with contempt...

[15:34] Yuiko

That's a horrible trait you see a lot in that type of woman,

[15:39] Yuiko

but for Ekoda-chan, the "bird of prey" isn't like that.

[15:42] Yuiko

Which actually makes Ekoda-chan more frustrated!

[15:45] Yuiko

But I really like how she gets all sensitive about it.

[15:49] Kataoka

Ekoda-chan's reaction, you mean?

[15:50] Yuiko

Right!

[15:50] Yuiko

Like, it irritates her, but she can't actually get mad about it.

[15:53] Yuiko

I really like that about her.

[15:55] Kataoka

Her "let's steer clear of this" attitude?

[15:57] Yuiko

Right, right! That's it exactly.

[15:59] Kataoka

How she doesn't want to pick a fight,

[16:00] Yuiko

Right, right! Precisely.

[16:01] Kataoka

but also wants nothing to do with them.

[16:02] Yuiko

In the manga, she says she doesn't want to turn into one of them.

[16:07] Akira

The funniest part with the "bird of prey"

[16:09] Akira

was when she was going,
"Look, a birdie! Look, a kitty!"

[16:13] Akira

Then, "It's a moo cow!"
while she's eating beef.

[16:17] Akira

Something about that really
made her a figure of fun for me.

[16:21] Yuiko

The guy she was with... Was he a horse?

SIGN He's a dog

[16:23] Yuiko

Some sort of... horsey boyfriend?

[16:23] Akira

I think it was a dog.

[16:25] Yuiko

So he was a dog?

[16:27] Yuiko

The way he just grins the whole time...
That left an impression.

[16:32] Kataoka

His neck seemed long for a dog.

[16:34] Akira

Oh, was he a horse, then?

[16:36] Yuiko

I kinda thought he was.

[16:37] Akira

The characters were all
designed by the same person.

[16:39] Yuiko

Oh, that's how it was done?

[16:41] Yuiko

There are lots of different animals.

[16:43] Akira

I think I asked for a dog
when I laid out what I wanted.

[16:45] Yuiko

I see...

[16:46] Yuiko

Well, maybe it's in the eye of the beholder.

SIGN Is there anything about the characters you relate to?

[16:49] Kataoka

I tend not to overthink things,

[16:52] Kataoka

and I usually think, as long
as it's funny, anything goes.

[16:57] Kataoka

But the thing about having a woman
as the protagonist, it's kinda...

[17:02] Kataoka

I know how this might sound to some,

[17:05] Kataoka

but when it's something like
"Ashita no Joe," it's easier to empathize.

[17:09] Kataoka

But when it's a female main character...

[17:11] Yuiko

I know what you mean.

[17:12] Akira

First of all, I find it hard to
believe she's naked all the time.

[17:16] Akira

That's one thing I can't identify with, at all.

[17:18] Yuiko

So you basically have trouble
with the whole premise!

[17:21] Akira

I don't think I'd like someone like that.

[17:23] Akira

I definitely wouldn't want to
be in a relationship with her.

[17:25] Akira

I mean, being butt naked
at home all the time...

[17:28] Kataoka

Well, there are nudists out there.

[17:30] Akira

Well, yes, but even so...

[17:31] Akira

I don't think most men are nudists.

[17:32] Kataoka

Yeah, I agree with that.

[17:34] Yuiko

So there are more women nudists?

[17:34] Kataoka

You always have drawers on at least...

[17:36] Akira

I mean, you've got to have underwear on.

[17:39] Yuiko

Yeah, I've never heard of anything like it.

[17:42] Akira

So because of that...

[17:43] Akira

It's like, the first thing I notice about her is something I can't relate to.

[17:47] Yuiko

Makes sense, with the way Ekoda-chan is.

[17:50] Kataoka

I see.

SIGN Going into the recording, did you see any similarities between yourself and Ekoda-chan?

[17:51] Yuiko

Well, let's see...

And this might just be because

[17:54] Yuiko

of the particular strips that were picked out for the episode,

[17:58] Yuiko

but I agree with what Director Shigino said...

[18:03] Yuiko

That it's less about how Ekoda-chan lives her life, and her values...

[18:08] Yuiko

and more about the comedy value of the stories, and how fast-paced they are,

[18:13] Yuiko

so I didn't think too deeply about it in the recording.

[18:17] Yuiko

I was more focused on the tempo of the story when I was giving my performance.

SIGN When he was 24...

SIGN Shigino Akira

SIGN Shigino Akira x Tatsumi Yuiko

[18:28] Kataoka

Putting aside whether you do the things depicted or not...

[18:31] Yuiko

I really don't!

[18:32] Yuiko

Is there anything about what she does that you find impressive?

SIGN Do you think Ekoda-chan is admirable?

SIGN Shigino Akira

[18:35] Yuiko

Anything that strikes you as being admirable?

[18:37] Yuiko

It's a good question.

[18:39] Yuiko

I mean, she's 24 years old, right?

[18:42] Yuiko

Well, I'm 31 right now,
and considering her age...

[18:48] Yuiko

It makes me wonder what kind
of person she'll be at my age.

[18:52] Yuiko

I mean, when I was 24...

[18:55] Yuiko

I was sort of... still a snot-nosed punk, really.

[18:59] Yuiko

But here is an adult woman!

[19:01] Kataoka

True.

[19:01] Yuiko

She seems really grown up!

[19:03] Yuiko

It makes me wonder if
she's actually older than me.

[19:06] Yuiko

So she seems like she's
from a different world,

[19:08] Yuiko

but I'd kinda like to have
the bohemian life she does.

[19:12] Yuiko

I mean, it's completely different from mine.

[19:14] Kataoka

So in your next life, you might try it?

[19:16] Yuiko

Well, maybe not!

[19:17] Yuiko

Let's say, three or four lives down the road.

[19:19] Kataoka

Right, I understand.

[19:21] Yuiko

I'm just curious how it'd turn out.

SIGN Stories from when Director Shigino was 24, Ekoda-chan's age

[19:24] Akira

When I was 24, or around that age,

[19:27] Akira

I started working in anime.

[19:28] Yuiko

Oh, really?

[19:29] Akira

I started relatively late.

[19:31] Akira

At first, I was working at Tatsunoko...

[19:34] Akira

at the age of 24.

[19:35] Akira

I see, I see.

[19:36] Akira

I was involved with the "Time Bokan" series and "Yatterman."

[19:42] Akira

I seriously worked my butt off.

SIGN Why he started working on anime

[19:45] Akira

I actually wanted to be a manga artist, and that's why I came to Tokyo.

[19:52] Akira

But it's not that easy to just become a manga artist,

[19:56] Akira

so I was doing lots of different jobs, making my way through life.

[20:00] Akira

One job and then, another... Just this and that, you know?

[20:05] Akira

And then, one day, I saw an ad for Tatsunoko.

[20:10] Akira

And I thought, "Well, it's not manga, but anime is kinda similar,

[20:14] Akira

so I might as well give it a try."

[20:16] Akira

I was pretty casual about it.

[20:18] Akira

I started the job without knowing a thing about how anime was actually made.

[20:21] Yuiko

So it wasn't because you particularly liked anime?

[20:24] Akira

I didn't even know what shows Tatsunoko made.

[20:27] Yuiko

It's impressive how you started like that

[20:29] Yuiko

and just kept going!

[20:29] Akira

Yeah, it really is.

[20:31] Akira

I mean, I've been in the biz forty years now.

[20:33] Yuiko

That's amazing...

SIGN Your thoughts on today

[20:35] Yuiko

I've watched the live-action
show, and read the manga,

[20:39] Yuiko

so I honestly wasn't sure
if I was capable of...

[20:42] Yuiko

well, this kinda surreal,
but also hard to pin down,

[20:48] Yuiko

character of Ekoda-chan,
who's a real free spirit.

[20:53] Yuiko

But after seeing the scenes
Director Shigino had chosen,

[20:58] Yuiko

and the heartwarming look
of the super cute artwork...

[21:03] Yuiko

It was kind of a different spin
on Ekoda-chan from the original,

[21:08] Yuiko

and I was really glad
I got to take the character

[21:12] Yuiko

in such a unique direction.

[21:15] Yuiko

Then, after actually coming in today,
and having a great time doing the recording,

[21:19] Yuiko

and even getting to do this round
table, it was all very interesting.

[21:23] Yuiko

Getting to spend even a little bit of time
in Ekoda-chan's shoes made me really happy.

[21:29] Yuiko

I'm really glad to have been involved,
and I hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

[21:32] Akira

It was my first time meeting
a lot of the folks who worked on this.

[21:36] Akira

And that was probably the most fun I had.

[21:38] Akira

And this is only maybe
my third time in this studio...

[21:42] Akira

I haven't come here much before.

[21:44] Akira

So there's an overall feeling of freshness,

[21:46] Akira

along with sorta being disappointed

[21:50] Akira

that it's all over after today.

[21:53] Yuiko

Since it turned out well...

[21:54] Akira

Like, "Don't bother coming in next week!"

[21:56] Yuiko

Even if you want to.

[21:57] Kataoka

That's true.

[21:59] Kataoka

It was fun.

[22:00] Kataoka

I mean, that said, there's
still a lot of work to do.

[22:06] Kataoka

And I'm gonna do my best to produce
a really entertaining Ekoda-chan.

[22:08] Kataoka

Okay.

[22:10] Narrator

And that brings today's
discussion to a close.

SIGN Next Episode Preview

SIGN Next time on "The Director and Ekoda-chan's Naked Chat,"

[22:17] Narrator

we'll hear from the director of Episode 4

SIGN Ekoda-chan's

VA

SIGN Director

[22:19] Narrator

on whether or not he thinks
Ekoda-chan is his type.

SIGN Director

SIGN Ekoda-chan

[22:23] Narrator

Ekoda-chan's voice actress
will ask the burning question!

SIGN Director

SIGN Ekoda-chan

[22:27] Narrator

Look forward to it!

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN Naked Chat

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan

SIGN Until she's ready

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan

Until she's ready

SIGN Ekoda-chan

SIGN Dog carrier

SIGN Face

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan

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