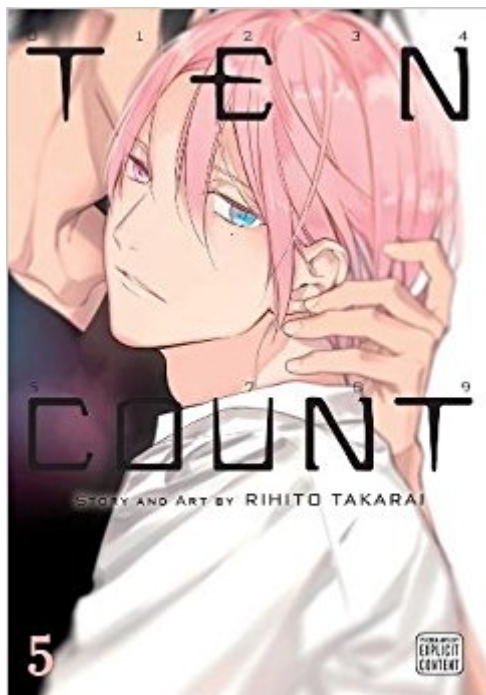


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## Ten Count, Vol. 5



## Synopsis

Corporate secretary Shirotani suffers from obsessive-compulsive disorder in this doctor-patient romance fraught with compulsion! Corporate secretary Shirotani suffers from obsessive-compulsive disorder. One day he meets Kurose, a therapist who offers to take him through a ten-step program to cure him of his compulsion. As the two go through each of the ten steps, Shirotani's attraction to his counselor grows. Seeing Kurose for the first time in two months, Shirotani takes a big step forward in their relationship and his treatment by kissing Kurose's hand when asked. Then, after Kurose fails to invite him home, Shirotani chases after him! Could this new, more impulsive side of Shirotani signal a new phase in their tumultuous relationship?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is Rihito Takarai's second English-language release, with her first being *Seven Days*. She has also been published in French, Spanish, and German. Born in Hiroshima Prefecture in October, she's a Libra with an O blood type.

~4/5It's really hard to tell where this couple stands. A couple of times already, it has seemed like they were making up and taking a step forward, and then suddenly they're not speaking again. It feels like they've finally accepted their feelings for each other in this volume, but then the ending gives the sense that something else is coming along to mess it up. But even without that, they're still not quite used to each other yet. This is a guilty pleasure romance, and I really enjoy reading it, but it

keeps reminding me how unhealthy it really is. When we see what happened to Kurose when he was younger that led to his behavior, it's actually even more unsettling. He has some even bigger problems than Shirotani does, and it makes me second guess them being together, if he's even worse for Shirotani than it seems. They both have some serious stuff to work through. And I am undoubtedly going to read the next one, because I'm hooked. It's dirty, questionable smut, but it's hot and intense and the art is really good, and I can't get enough. [More of my reviews are available on my blog, Geeky Reading, to which there's a link on my profile.]

Such an awesome story between these two guys. I love who this volume went into Kurose's background. Though I can't wait to see what happens in future volumes. I also hope this show gets an anime. :)

Ten Count continues directly where volume 4 left off, with Shirotani and Kurose dealing with the repercussions of being stuck in an elevator together. While we are thankfully finally given some of Kurose's backstory, a lot (probably too much) of this volume is furthering their sexual intimacy. But of course, Takarai's illustrations continue to be quite lovely for this rather distinct love story. Synopsis, The typhoon that trapped them in an elevator has snarled traffic all throughout the City. When the two finally find a taxi, Shirotani will end up sharing it with Kurose - leading to a night of furthering Shirotani's boundaries. But at the same time, Kurose comes to terms with why he has fallen so hard for Shirotani and the parallels to a relationship he had when he was younger. We've had hints of Kurose's past being unusual and of course there is no way Kurose would have had a normal upbringing any more than Shirotani did. Takarai continues to push the boundaries of reader comfort and I imagine that many will not like the backstory nor the way it is presented. Takarai always seem to suggest a codependent relationship of broken individuals rather than romantic love. A very unusual angle for the genre. It is noted by the author that the story is wrapping up soon, perhaps even in the next volume. Included in volume 5 are two small side stories - one about Kurose and the other about the drama CD and steamy sex scenes. Reviewed from an advance reader copy provided by the publisher.

This volume explains quite a bit about Kurose's backstory, and the romantic relationship continues to develop. Still quite a ways to go, but the main characters seem to be facing things together now instead of being at odds. Well done story which is different from the usual fare. Highly recommended.

Another great addition. I love this couple. Hoping to see them advance even further. I reread this series often and live the images. This is a must buy for yaoi readers.

I will be super sad when these end. I've really enjoyed their journey.

Excellent story about dysfunctional people who don't want to be alone anymore - #5 tells Kurose's back story and gives you insight into his love for Shirotani. I want to read more!

As much as I thoroughly enjoyed the previous four volumes of Ten Count, the fifth volume seemed far too rushed and thrown together for me to give the book anymore than 3/5 stars. Bought volume five from a Barnes&Noble six or so days before it was released on , and boy was I hyped up for what felt like nothing but a sub par, jumbled up mess of ideas that were thrown together to make a significantly shorter edition to the actual series. Granted I did appreciate however, that Kurose's past, and why he is the way that he is get's put into the spotlight, gave me some clarity with the characters reasoning for being the way that he was. Spoiler: Shirotani never ends up getting the chance in this volume to explain why his number 10, is his number 10. So maybe, just maybe, if Takarai manages to produce a 6th and final volume, that Shirotani will get to finally give a thorough explanation for choosing what he did.

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