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# Whistle!, Volume 1



## **Synopsis**

Sho Kazamatsuri wants to be the best football player he can possibly be. He's the spirited leader of the Josui Junior High team and everyone looks up to him. In turn, he tries to keep the team together at any cost!"

## **Book Information**

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Age Range: 11 - 15 years

Grade Level: 6 - 10

## **Customer Reviews**

When Japan made it to the World Cup in 1998, it was the perfect time to come out with another soccer manga, and this one has definitely succeeded in capturing the attention of readers all over the world. Whistle! is the only quality manga / anime about soccer that I have seen since the introduction of the outstanding Captain Tsubasa, and therefore, has filled a much needed void. The story centers on the struggle of Sho Kazamatsuri, a very small kid, whose dream is to play soccer. Since the school he was attending had a great squad and there was no hope for making the team, he did the only reasonable thing left to do, he changed schools! Thus starts the journey of this underdog. After a very embarrassing first meeting with his new teammates, Sho dedicates himself thoroughly to improve his skills, and shows everyone his great love for the game. The character development is pretty good, and I particularly liked how Daisuke Higuchi created a couple of characters that allow him to introduce an emotional element in the story. I am referring to Sho's brother, an irresponsible guy, who works as an escort for ladies, but who when it comes to Sho, shows the qualities that define an exemplary brother. And also to Oyassan, an old man who owns a

food stand and who establishes a special relationship with Sho. Higuchi does an OK job with the drawings, and even though these may not be the best quality I have seen, he is proficient in conveying the feel for the action, which is one of the hardest aspects to perfect in a sports manga. The main problem with this manga is the mistakes in the translation.

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