



## Louise's Quandary vol.1

魔女露露的煩惱 1

Artist: JULAI Illustrator: JULAI Publisher: Dyna Books

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**BFT2.0 Translator:** William Serrano

Louise Scarlet, an aspiring witch, finally receives the long-awaited invitation to begin her internship. However, her mother—once the most powerful witch of her time—puts obstacles in her way. She gives Louise three choices: 1) abandon magic, 2) pay the costs of being a daughter, or 3) study with the brilliant but unpredictable Hain Sado, a person Louise despises.

Reluctantly, Louise teams up with Hain, and their prickly but eventful internship begins.

Set in a unique modern magical world, this charming story explores the struggles and triumphs of teenagers pursuing their dreams. With JULAI's signature humor and vibrant style, it's a tale of self-discovery, growth, and unexpected companionship.



JULAI, a Taiwan-based comic artist and illustrator, is known for her vibrant style that blends humor, warmth, and poignant storytelling. She specializes in whimsical yet melancholic narratives. A graduate of the Savannah College of Art and Design with an M.A. in Sequential Art, JULAI has earned several accolades, including being a finalist for Best New Talent at the 2023 Golden Comic Awards, a Bronze Award at the 2020 Original Comic and Script Awards, and a 2015 Red Dot Award for Cel Animation.



## Louise's Quandary: The Connection Between People Is a Kind of Magic, Too

By Tzu-Ning Huang

Louise's Quandary is set in a postmedieval witch hunt world, where witches and humans coexist. Girls with witch blood can use magic, while boys can heal. However, if a witch falls in love and has a child, she loses her powers and becomes a normal human.

Louise's mother, once hailed as the "strongest witch," gave up magic to have Louise. She opposes Louise becoming a witch. For Louise to pursue her dream, she must either pay the costs of her upbringing or complete a task: team up with a boy (whom Louise despises) and pass through a number of tests. For Louise, this choice is nothing short of a life-changing gamble.

The story unfolds through Louise's

vibrant perspective, inviting readers to delve into profound questions about humanity and life. As the young characters pursue their dreams, they discover their potential and uncover hidden truths about the world. The author skillfully contrasts the inexperienced main characters with the long-lived witches, crafting narratives rich with poignancy, regret, and growth.

Although the plot appears to revolve around magic, the story offers a deeper reflection on life's challenges. Does magic solve problems, or does it create new ones? Often, the true solutions lie in human connection and compassion. For both aspiring witches and everyday readers, this is the true "magic" of the real

world. Whether you're a teen or an adult, the book provides relatable and engaging moments that resonate with real-life struggles.

Louise's Quandary focuses on conflict and mutual understanding. For instance, it contrasts a reckless girl who ultimately shows integrity with a seemingly kind boy who hides selfish motives. Louise's mother—who gave up her powers and remains decisive even as death nears—is juxtaposed with a witch who, after living a long life, struggles with confusion and uncertainty about the future and relationships.

The first volume builds the world and introduces hints for future characters.

JULAI, a rising Taiwanese comic artist,

is known for her humorous, distinctive style. She frequently shares short comics with her large social media following, delighting fans with her creative takes. Her passion for the magical world shines through her work, leaving readers eagerly anticipating her next creations.

Tzu-Ning Huang is an editorial consultant. She loves to listen and tell stories, enjoys conversations and encounters with others, and appreciates time alone. She also loves to use photography and writing to explore the world.





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