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For Immediate Release:

Princess Jellyfish 1 Among Top 50 YA Books of 2016: New York Public Library

Only manga on prestigious Best Books for Teens list selected by 20 librarians

New York, New York (December 1, 2016) – Today, the New York Public Library system announced that *Princess Jellyfish 1*, published in English by Kodansha Comics in March 2016, was selected for inclusion on its annual 50 Best Books for Teens list.

The list is compiled by 20 librarians working for the NYPL, which is the largest municipal public library system in the world. The title, which follows the lives of a group of geeky female roommates who must brave the outside world of the “stylish” when their unique Tokyo dorm is threatened, is the first manga ever selected for the list, which typically includes a wide range of English-language fiction and nonfiction.

Explaining the pick, Chantelle Uzan, an NYPL librarian, called *Princess Jellyfish* a “great introduction to manga, and wonderful for reluctant readers!” Her colleague Katrina Ortega added, “The characters are so unique and not characters that are commonly found in YA reading; even so, their fears and doubts and passions are all relatable, no matter your age.”

“That *Princess Jellyfish* has been selected for this award is a huge honor,” said Ben Applegate, director of the Kodansha Comics publishing team, “but the most gratifying thing is that this might encourage more readers to pick it up. It’s a cute, uplifting, and surprisingly sophisticated story about misfits who grow and mature without losing what makes them special. Now, more than ever, we need stories like this, to remind us that it’s okay, even good, to be what other people might consider ‘weird’.”

An anime adaptation of *Princess Jellyfish* won acclaim when it was released in English by Funimation in 2012. Kodansha Comics published the second and third volumes of the manga later in 2016, and the fourth volume is due out in February 2017. Each American edition is about 400 pages long and includes two of the original Japanese volumes. In November 2016, the series was named among the “Best Graphic Novels of 2016” by Amazon, and multiple volumes have made the New York Times Bestseller List for manga.

About Kodansha USA Publishing, LLC

Established in New York in 2008, Kodansha USA Publishing (KUP) is a subsidiary of Kodansha, Japan's largest publisher. KUP's first works under the Kodansha Comics imprint were Katsuhiro Otomo's *Akira* and Masamune Shirow's *The Ghost in the Shell*. KUP has expanded their catalog to include such titles as *Fairy Tail* by Hiro Mashima, *Attack on Titan* by Hajime Isayama, *Noragami* by Adachitoka, and *Sailor Moon* by Naoko Takeuchi. Kodansha Comics is distributed by Penguin Random House Publisher Services.

<http://www.kodanshacomics.com>