

VAMPIRE PRINCESS MIYU

The Title: The actual kanji reading of the title of the series is “Kyuuketsuhime Miyu,” which literally translates to “Vampire Princess Miyu.” However, the series creator, Kakinouchi Narumi, used a variant reading of “Kyuuketsuki Miyu,” which translates to just “Vampire Miyu,” and this is the official Japanese title of the series. With the permission of Sooeishinsha, we decided to use “Vampire Princess Miyu” because it more accurately conveyed the original meaning of the Japanese title.

Shinma: There is no word in English that properly conveys the meaning of the word “Shinma.” In fact, the word was created by Ms. Kakinouchi by combining the kanji for “Kami (God)” and “Ma (Demon/ Devil).” As any given kanji may be read one way by itself, and in one or more other ways when used in combination with other kanji, a Japanese writer who wishes to coin a new word has a great deal of flexibility in deciding how it will be read. Thus, in “Shinma,” the first kanji, “Kami,” is read “Shin.” As the word cannot be easily expressed in English, it has been left unchanged.

Spellings: Due to the smaller number of phonemes in Japanese, when converting names into English, alternative spellings are often possible. The spellings used are the ones preferred by Ms. Kakinouchi and Sooeishinsha. A good example is “Larva.” In Japanese, this is phonetically spelt “Labaa,” which has led some viewers to believe that the character is named either “Laba” or “Lover.” However, when you realize that “Remuresu” (who will appear in Volume 2) is actually “Lemures,” then the correct names become more apparent.

Additional liner notes materials, including Japanese and English Voice Actor and Staff lists, can be found on our website at:

<http://www.animeigo.com/liner/vpm.t>