



???? 5

*Yuki Shiwasu*

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## **From Reader Review ??? 5 for online ebook**

### **Victoria says**

Jealousy makes Hana explore what she might really be feeling about Takane. God these two are adorable.

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### **Claire says**

I really enjoyed this one.

'What good is hanging around with people if you can't be yourself'

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### **Mandy says**

So cute! Christmas and new character drama!

There are relationship developments with Hana's friends as well as Hana.

Can't wait for book 6!

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### **Cat Lewis says**

♥♥♥

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### **Joti says**

Hana meets Hiromi, Takane's nephew who wants to be just like that that it's freaky LOL but also cute. The next big thing is Christmas & they're all planning parties & presents & in the midst of all this, Rino shows up, Takane's female friend from school & it's clear that she likes him & Hana's trying to act indifferent about it - but it's actually annoying her. And on the day that she & her friends have this party, with Rino, Takane & Luciano, SHE DISCOVERS RINO IS ACTUALLY A GUY. HE'S TAKANE'S HIGH SCHOOL FRIEND BUT A CROSS-DRESSER. So it's shocking but he still actually loves Takane since he helped him out way back then. On the day of Christmas, Takane dresses up as Santa & takes Hana out to see the lights and stuff because she'd said that's what 'commoners' do (SERIOUS TAMAKI VIBES FROM OURAN LMFAO) SO CUTE <3

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### **Vivian Lu says**

[I actually think it's weird all her female friends are coupling up with pretty much people within that friendship circle. Yet honestly, whatever th

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### **Thamy says**

While I can say this volume was an improvement from the fourth volume, it's mostly stabilized in general. Still, it makes me fidgety for these two actually getting together way more than any other of this trope.

3.5.

If you don't know this series, it's about how Hana had to sub for her older sister to go to an arranged marriage meeting with Takane. He did notice the change and ever since, they've been going on with the charade despite the age difference and personality clashes. But don't expect their arguments to go the same way it always does in similar stories, Hana is smarter than that, and she has Takane feeding in her hand thanks to his weak point—his pride. Of course I can't recommend you start from this one but the story is easy enough to follow if you do, it's almost episodic.

Now if you're following the story and also felt the fourth book was too much of the same, I think the fifth had a slight discovery. Yuki Shiawasu still seems to be exploring all the cliché situations in shoujo manga but she's back to surprising us with how she develops them. I'm glad, since it's what I like the most—second only to how I've come to ship the main couple.

Now we meet a young member of Takane's family, who's basically a mini Takane, and a high school friend who seems to be in love with him and with whom Takane may have made some promise a long time ago. Plus, Christmas is nearby, so Hana is busy making plans and buying gifts.

I think I already made clear my overall feelings about the volume, but I have to add that I loved the new characters. There's another comment I have to add very carefully not to spoil anything but I admired how Shiawasu treated Takane's friend, that was more than a step up from what I expect from Japanese manga. Many points to Takane for how he acts about it too.

But really... in this manga the two felt much closer to a couple, I think it was the first time they acted to explicitly about their relationship. Although I admire how Shiawasu is actually taking her time to make them grow closer, I'm itchy! How will they get together?

This manga is already 11 volumes in Japan and ongoing, but it's also a very entertaining read with charismatic characters and smart comebacks from the heroine. If you're a shoujo manga fan, this a need for your collection!

Honest review based on an ARC provided by Edelweiss. Many thanks to the publisher for this opportunity.

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### **Jenny O'Neill says**

I'm going to be blunt, I have very mixed feelings about this volume. While the comedy was on par and there

were some genuinely funny scenes, I had a hard time with the romance factor. My main problem is with this insufferable back and forth of, "I can't tell him how I feel, too embarrassing! I can't tell her how I feel directly, that would make a rational adult!" I can't believe I'm saying this, but Hikurako/Take Jun's and Nicola/Mizuki's relationships were better portrayed in this volume for the simple fact that at least ONE member of these couples' is true and outspoken with their feelings.

Look, I get it. This is a rom-com manga, we have to keep the drama going and build up to the inevitable confession and all that fun stuff, but honestly I'm so tired of it at this point. I am now five volumes into this series and I have been witnessing the same back and forth nonsense for way too long. I know this is standard in most rom-coms, hell even in shounens, but having read other series that are quicker to establish a relationship (Say I Love You!, Honey So Sweet, Horimiya) I'm just getting tired of this. At least with series like Kaguya-sama Love is War, the whole point is that the confession is unnecessarily drawn out because Shinomiya and Shirogane are prideful geniuses who don't want to "lose" by confessing first. That's funny and there are many fresh ways of playing out that gag. Takane and Hana is simply dragging this out without making that much progress because both parties are too prideful and incapable of basic communication to just tell each other how they feel. Oh, and I feel the need to mention that the childhood friend love interest still bugs me and confuses me. Seriously, the dude has so little personality that it's kind of incredible. I am continuing with the series because, as was mentioned earlier, I still enjoy the comedy and I do like Takane's character. Hana has some good bits, but she can still be pretty annoying.

Oh, two things I want to briefly address before wrapping this review up. First up, Rino's character. Not much to say, honestly: she's the stereotypical "has known main love interest since school and is solely there to create a rival for Hana" character. I thought it was nice that is transgender to add representation, however as a cisgender person I cannot speak to how appropriately/correctly she was represented, so I'll leave it at that. Second, Takane's younger (and I mean he's in fourth grade) cousin makes a comment after bonding with Hana that he is somewhat interested in her. Why? Why was this necessary to add into the story? He's in FOURTH GRADE, COME ON!!!! Didn't sour the entire volume, but I found it trite and unnecessary.

Anyway, that's all for this volume, on to volume 6!

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### **Elinor Master of Gifs says**

<3 <3

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### **Raven R. (AvalonReadsBooks) says**

I loved this.

It's still a little creepy that this older guy is interested in a significantly younger girl, but they are super cute together and really, all he's done is kiss her. Wow. Listen to me rationalize this.

Either way this was adorable. I loved Hana and Takane together. She makes him a better person and that's what he needs.

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## Usagi Tsukino says

This review is for the Italian edition.

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## Dani - Perspective of a Writer says

*Check out more **manga and graphic novel reviews** @ *Perspective of a Writer...**

Hana is pressed into a marriage meeting with Takane, a scion of a business empire, impersonating her sister to save her father's job! Ready to put that fiasco behind her Hana is shocked that Takane actually seems interested in her! She is exasperated by his immaturity but intrigued despite herself at the fun she has as they try to outwit one another...

This is an incredibly fun manga... It neatly combines an unusual romance with comedy, friendship and the pains of life!! But what makes it real... why I keep coming back to it... is because of how well the mangaka develops these two. Takane & Hana vol 5 takes our hero and our heroine and shows us sides of them that we haven't seen. We explore their relationships and see how they react in tough situations! It truly is awe inspiring and gives all the fun and funny heart!

And that is reflected in the art! You'll read in my vol 1 review that I saw the art as "typical manga style" - I did also see the promise in how she frames things... but I've come to see just how good that art is... there isn't anything typical about it! I love that I always recognize everyone and that I laugh just as much at the art as I do the situations and the dialogue. It really is a super version of what a manga is.

One of the things that I enjoyed in Takane & Hana vol 5 is the introduction of a LGBT+ character! It shines a light on Takane that one may assume he doesn't have. We've seen glimpses of the good man he is but now we learn that he doesn't mind going up against prejudice. Anyone reading this may say, "this is just the same old rival lover" but I will fight anyone who does! I think it really is a great portion of the story that takes into account our changing society and even better it motivated Hana to do something she hasn't been brave enough to up to now...

I really appreciate how there are different pressures on Hana... She has her friends, one of which has a little thing for Nikola, and the things they do together, i.e. not totally disrupting her high school life! Then there is Takane. How does she really feel about him? How does she feel about easing into his life? What about his adult friends and contemporaries? And then she meets someone important to Takane and who is even worse to deal with than he is! It's fun to learn these things and experience their road to love...

Takane & Hana vol 5 really ups the ante in the story... We have a nice crew who I adore and we see a genuine merging of his and her friends! And an important meeting happens plus we meet another spark in Takane's life... Will Hana be able to hold on?! Well what are you waiting for? You need to check out the Takane & Hana series!

????? Authenticity

????? Tension

????? Plot

????? Art

*Thanks to Edelweiss and the publisher for providing me with a copy in exchange for an honest review. It has not influenced my opinions.*

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You can find this review and many others on my book blog @ Perspective of a Writer. See my manga and graphic novel reviews in a special feature called Saturday Morning Cartoons...

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### **Mary says**

I'm really enjoying the story. It's one of the few I've read that really makes me laugh out loud.

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### **Nidah (SleepDreamWrite) says**

Another good volume.

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### **Chelsea says**

Volume Contains Chapters 22 - 27: This was a really fun volume and I enjoyed seeing the rest of the school festival story arc as well as the cute Christmas Chapters included in this volume. This volume also introduces a few new characters including Tanane's cousin Hiromi. I look forward to seeing what happens next in this story.

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