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Natsuki Takaya

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Fruits Basket manga creator Natsuki Takaya will launch the Fruits Basket another sequel manga. The manga will take place after Tohru has graduated high school, and will feature a girl named Sawa who has just entered the high school.

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Meghan Coffey says

I really hate when in sequels the next generation are carbon copies of all their parents. Whether that's because the author is unoriginal and can only write the same sets of characters or if it's the audience's inability to let go of their favorites, it seems to be really prevalent right now with anime/manga sequels.

This series shows promise with their main heroine, Sawa Mitoma. In many ways, I can see how relatable and important she can grow to be for readers since she has very strong social anxiety and has little in terms of self-worth. Plus, it only leaves her room to grow, which is perfect at the beginning of the story.

Unfortunately, because her anxiety and low self-esteem are her defining characteristics, there's a hazard of her being very unlikeable, like she was for me. Her nervous tendencies and clumsiness reminded me way too much of Tohru and because of that, I was constantly drawing comparisons between the two and couldn't really get into the story.

Speaking of drawing comparisons...all of the Next Gen Sohmas are carbon copies of their parents. Even though it's not explicitly said who their parents are, it's super clear based on what they look like, their personalities, and hints of the past generation of Sohmas who attended the high school. I had a hard time loving these new kids because they really weren't their own people, they were just their parents. For example, I felt myself gravitating towards liking Hajime just because he's a lot like Kyo towards the end of high school. Not as hot-blooded as his father, but just barely. (on the plus side, I loved the little detail that he's totally a mama's boy.)

But yeah, overall, this wasn't intriguing enough to get me into it if everything is going to be exactly like Fruits Basket, minus the Zodiac Curse (since they don't even transform when hugged by the opposite sex anymore). And I'm just not that into slice of life.

Hayley says

Fruits Basket the original manga practically raised me and made me who I am today, but... this story is just kind of fanfiction. Definitely gives me nostalgia and inspires me to go reread the series though.

Mary says

I'm interested to see where this story will go. It doesn't have the added wildness of characters becoming animals (as the original story) but it does have how the next generation after the curse is dealing with how life is now (while those surrounding them still remember the curse, etc.). Also, I won't mind if this is more of an emotional slice-of-life, I always enjoyed that aspect of the original series more than the curse plotline anyway - even though I also enjoyed that aspect.

Artemis says

My favourite manga series of all time didn't really need a sequel. The Zodiac curse does get broken, and everyone's stories are wrapped up. It's over, done. I believe in letting stories just end. In furthering a popular series - usually because of money and not because of creativity and a need to tell a new, brilliant story - there is always the danger of diminishing it; cheapening and/or exploiting what made it so good and popular to begin with. Love it and understand it as it is, and let it go. Let it be and move on. Be happy with what you got. Do something new. Otherwise all we're currently left with is published fanfiction, more often than not.

With that said, I think that 'Fruits Basket Another, Vol. 1' is okay. At best it's serviceable.

It starts out exactly like a typical high school drama manga, and yes, the characters - the new Sohma kids - are carbon copies of their parents from the previous series. Callbacks or laziness, you decide. Nothing much happens, I didn't find it funny, just awkward, and since there is no curse there is no more intrigue, neither is there much of an inciting incident; it's just the characters who go through nearly the same motions as their predecessors. So why did this need to exist? I was worried I might end up hating 'Another'.

But surprisingly, by the end I found myself being rather touched by it. The emotions and character development of Sawa Mitoma, the protagonist who is a shier and more insecure Tohru Honda, are very well done, I thought. She's a wallflower, a shrinking violet, who hates to be a burden to others. So she keeps to herself, always worrying that helping people - talking to them, even noticing them - will make things worse, and everyone will hate her for it. In being involved with the Sohmas and the student council (not by her choice, mind you), she gradually grows in confidence, little by little; even making nice female friends on the side, who do genuinely like her.

I found I related to Sawa a lot. Her inner turmoils and low self-esteem, and the causes for them, are realistic, and may resonate with some readers.

For all I may criticize Natsuki Takaya for drawing her characters way too similarly throughout her career, and this is especially true here, I give her credit for not making Sawa a clone of Tohru. Though they are both clumsy.

It might not do any harm to check out 'Fruits Basket Another' after all, if you're a 'Furuba' fan. Even with the fantasy element gone (for now), there are still themes of family, friendship, and attempting kindness and understanding. Near the end of its run, 'Fruits Basket' barely included the Zodiac animals, and the drama was much more human, and it worked out brilliantly. The same could be said for its continuation.

There is nevertheless very little reason for this sequel to exist, and it is nowhere near as powerful and original as the--well, the original. It is an awkward manga, following along the heels of a massively successful series that ended ten years previously. But nothing is damaged, at least. No character derailed. No legacy bastardized. No scroll torn.

Curiously, I wonder how Tohru and Kyo are doing now...

Final Score: 3/5

Danielle says

GIVE IT ALL OF THE STARS. ALL OF 'EM.

Ughh, I loved this so much! It felt like coming home, truly. It had that Fruits Basket feeling that I love and miss so much. The characters are all so endearing. Mitoma breaks my little heart. Hajime has stolen my heart.

(Also, Hana's little brother being a teacher??? and offering to curse people for Mitoma???? Bless me)

There are definitely things I could nitpick about this, but I'm not going to. I just want to enjoy it as much as I possibly can.

Amber says

The sequel no one asked for (but will read anyways). Do not attempt to read if you haven't read the original series, there is zero explanation and it will most likely spoil it for you!

I found this manga very confusing and very unrealistic. Confusing, as in kid! Haru (Riku was it?) has a strange scene where he gets angry at the main character, and the reasoning doesn't make sense. The main character doesn't make sense (her motivations, her thoughts). I suspect there are reasons behind why the Sohmas are basically adopting her and her memory issue that will clear up in later versions but what a rocky start. It's also been years since I've read Furuba, so maybe it's on me

So yeah... see you in volume 2.

Abigail says

This really was Fruits Basket 2.0.

All the kids look just like their parents and have similar temperaments. The new protagonist (already forgot her name) is just like Tohru only more annoying. Why are they all going to the same school??? You'd think they'd branch out a little.

There's an obsession with their parents (which is referenced in the story) and it's really off-putting. I'm also guilty though because I couldn't care less about the kids - I wanted to know how their parents were doing. ESPECIALLY Momiji who, in my opinion, got the short end of the stick at the end of Fruits Basket. But this parental obsession is really just a continuation of the original series - everyone had parental issues out the wazoo and it got tiring after a while. This time it's more positive but it's still tiring. Be your own person, people!!

Also, confusion abounded later in the volume because I wasn't sure if I was looking at Kyo or Kyo's son (forgot his name already) - compounded by the presence of the bracelet Kyo always wore so I was very confused.

Charly says

I'm happy to revisit the world of the story I loved so much, but to be honest I feel lukewarm about this volume. The main character Sawa is so meek and constantly apologizing- I'm sure she has her reasons and I should emphasize, but frankly I found her annoying.

The story also felt rather muddled. I had trouble keeping track of all the various Sohmas - they were introduced so quickly one after the other I had a hard time keeping track of names, how they are related to each other, let alone to the previous generation of Sohma characters.

It was ok. I'll read the rest for completions sake but these won't be purchased, cherished or have a place on my bookshelves.

.Louise.? says

My review available here: <https://alittlefoolreads.wordpress.co...>

Mairéad (is roaming the Undying Lands) says

{February 5th, 2016} INTITAL THOUGHTS

5 nostalgic stars.

Since this is an on-going serialization, I have to do this differently primarily because I HAVE FEELINGS.

While the intital reports had mentioned that *Fruits Basket Another* was a sequel, there was no mention of how far in the timeline it meant. It does not take place a couple years after Tohru, Yuki, Kyou, and the others graduated; it features their children. The surprise was startling as we mix the old and new together for another story.

Those that read and loved the intital series (I, myself, included) will enjoy this, the nostalgia factor is strong here. There are returning characters that are older, a pleasure to see and relish. Like saying hullo again to old friends. Of course the new cast are an interesting lot, featuring a good portion of children of the Furaba cast. It was fun guessing which was whose children, and comparing traits.

In terms of the new cast, the story centers around a girl named Sawa. Unlike the clumsy, polite and lovable Tohru--Sawa is skittish, withdrawn, shy and worries nonstop about burdening others. For me, Sawa reminded me a lot of myself. Although I've gotten a bit better since, I couldn't help but feel for Sawa, her struggles mirrored my own. Although there are not many chapters released yet, the unfolding developments are interesting and is truly a trip back in time.

Cannot wait to read more (and I will update this with a better review).

Chess Desalls says

Rating 3.5 stars (rounded up) for this intro volume. There's so much potential given how lovely the original series was. I'm curious to see where the author takes this.

Lexie says

Welcome to a review I never expected to have to write because who thought Furuba/Fruits Basket would get a continuation/sequel series?

I'm not gonna bother marking this as spoilers - if you read Furuba then nothing in this volume will spoil you for who got with who. If you didn't read Furuba, why are you reading this and second you won't likely understand the references that are spoilers so it doesn't matter.

Furubana is...confusing. At least if you try to connect the "new generation" to the old. It doesn't help that our main character is so... lacklustre. Tohru had the redeeming quality that despite her hardships she had two friends who genuinely CARED for her and a mother who loved her so so much when she was alive.

And destiny but don't trust that fickle bitch because you'll wind up thinking that Yuki and Tohru will wind up together and be heart broken when he Medea-complexes himself straight to the FRIEND ZONE.

I'm still bitter, bite me.

Mitoma is...just there. Like a shadow. She's brow beaten, depressed and timid. Her mother appears to be THE WORST and she has no friends at all since she's new to the school (yes the same one every single Sohma seems desperate to attend). She's rescued by Yuki's oldest son Mutsuki (who's practically Ayame) from Mr. Class Present Takei from the original series who is now a teacher and OMG he pervs on Mutsuki and is STILL PROFESSING LOVE AND WORSHIP OF YUKI.

Which seems fair since Hanajima's brother is also a teacher (love love love) and...I forget the Prince Yuki fan club president's name, anyhow her daughter runs the Sohma Clan Appreciation Cult.

History repeats itself.

We meet Yuki's son, Rin/Haru's twins, Tohru/Kyo's son, Hatori/??'s daughter (please be Hanajima's daughter), Yuki's other son who appears to possibly be unable to go outside for some reason and Yuki's niece (Manabe's brother's daughter). The vaguest of all references are made to the original cast, though in the asides they're more explicitly referenced. Other vague allusions to the now broken curse as well.

Overall I was underwhelmed. Mostly because I don't want to follow such a dreary girl - maybe if this was longer but it'll only be three Vols and I would have preferred three "slice of life" adventure Vols of how all the kids are then an introduction to a new unrelated completely gal.

Julie says

Mmmm. I liked this, but it's not as good as the original. I mostly just liked seeing everybody's kids, but Tohru and Kyo were supposed to have a daughter according to the end of the original so where is she?? Anyway I want to see a family tree for the Sohma family now lol and I wish we could see all of the grown up versions of my faves.

laurooou says

Well. I was thrilled to see that a sequel of Fruits Basket had been published.

However, I was extremely disappointed to realise when I finished reading it that :

- 1) The sequel was not completed (and I have no idea if it ever will be);
- 2) This sort of brought back the little things that I couldn't stand in Fruits Basket, rather than reminding me of all the things that I loved about this series.

Let me expand on my 2) point. I absolutely adored the Fruits Basket series, or rather the plot with the curse of the Sohma family. I was extremely fond of the Sohmas, their wide range of personalities, their 'animal' counterparts, and to see how each of them dealt with the curse. I adooored Kyo and Yuki. However, I did not like the insecurities in the main female character (Tohru Honda). I did not like that she was so 'nice' that she continually let other people walk over her (until the very end...).

Anyways, this sequel is basically just that. An insecure girl, who constantly repeats the same thing: I'm not good enough, I should disappear. She relies soooo heavily on what others think of her, and she has all those scenarios going on in her head, every time she does anything that may be perceived as intrusive, it's just plain unrealistic. No wonder she's always looking at the ground, she must be exhausted! Reading about a depressed/anxious female character could be interesting if a more in-depth analysis of her personality was done, which is not the case here. We can clearly see that she suffers from severe social anxiety, but we don't know why she is this way and we don't understand her actions. Hence, we can't relate and she just becomes an annoying character.

Becky says

I did not know what to expect with this, but I dig it. I feel like there were a TON of characters introduced very quickly, so I'm having some trouble keeping them all straight. I'm also hurting my brain trying to figure out who everyone's parents are, but I think the kids' personalities kind of mirror the parents'. I think. Anyway, yeah, I'm into it.
