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Fruits Basket Collector's Edition, Vol. 1



Synopsis

After a family tragedy turns her life upside down, plucky high schooler Tohru Honda takes matters into her own hands and moves out...into a tent! Unfortunately for her, she pitches her new home on private land belonging to the mysterious Sohma clan, and it isn't long before the owners discover her secret. But, as Tohru quickly finds out when the family offers to take her in, the Sohmas have a secret of their own--when touched by the opposite sex, they turn into the animals of the Chinese Zodiac! A perennial favorite of fans and librarians alike, Natsuki Takaya's beloved bestselling Fruits Basket series returns to print in gorgeous deluxe English-language omnibus editions with beautiful full-color illustrations that are not to be missed!

Book Information

Series: Fruits Basket Collector's Edition (Book 1)

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Customer Reviews

""Do not walk, do not run - fly out and get it." -- AnimeOn DVD.com --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Story by NATSUKI TAKAYA. Anime also available. The #1 Selling Shojo Manga in Japan! #1 most requested Manga in the U.S.! Inspired the Hit Anime --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

once again has pushed reviews over from a different version of this product. In this case, most of the 150+ reviews here are for the out of print Tokyo Pop version of this manga. I do not like 's

practice of doing this and I want you to know that THIS review is for the actual Yen Press Collectors Edition of Fruits Basket that came out in the U.S. in June of 2016. My "real" score for this version would be 4.5 stars if I would let me dock a half star. This edition is not perfect but because Fruits Basket is such a strong manga, it makes up for the few shortcomings. The book itself is an over-sized manga, a bit bigger than most that are released today. If you get other manga from Seven Seas or Shonen Jump, you will see immediately that the size of this book is bigger by an inch on both sides. That's a good thing as there is more room for Takaya's art to spread out as intended. I always found Furuba a difficult manga to read as a fan-sub because of the odd panel shape that Takaya uses for much of her layout. It is wonderful to see in print and flows well in a two-page layout. The book is also not without a few shortcomings. The Tokyo Pop version released previously contained all the authors side notes that had been included in the Japanese versions. Those have been removed in the new Collector's Editions and Takaya explained that she did this because most were out of date and not relevant anymore. If you are familiar with these, you will know that many of the notes were about her gaming habits and eating habits - interesting tidbits but hardly worth saving for posterity. I, personally, do not miss them but some purists might balk that they have been removed. Another thing I do not like about the book is the cover. They used a flat, non-glossy cover on these editions. For a "Collector's Edition" I would have expected better. The flat cover feels a bit chalky in the hand and it certainly will not slide onto a shelf easily when you put your books away. I'd have rather seen a nice glossy cover on these editions. (Update - Yen Press seems to have changed the cover paper (from volume 3 on) to a semi-gloss that's a bit shinier and smoother than the paper they used for volumes 1 and 2. It's much nicer paper and feels better in-hand. It also can be wiped off and doesn't show fingerprints or dirt as badly as the first two volumes. It's a welcome change and improves an already outstanding manga.) These editions do contain full color pages at the beginning. I believe many of these were included with the Japanese versions as well and they have been collected from the original volumes and reprinted here. Yen Press DID use glossy paper for the color pages and they look wonderful. The black and white printed pages are also nice to look at. I compared this edition to some of my Shonen Jump manga and can say that the paper quality seems better on this Yen Press version than the Shonen Jump titles. It's a bit smoother and the artwork is nice and crisp. Finally, the story itself is truly a manga masterpiece. If you haven't read Furuba yet, you owe it to yourself to pick up this new version and start losing yourself in the world of Tohru Honda and the Sohma. And if you've only seen the anime version of this story they I can't stress enough how much more you will enjoy the manga. There is so much more to this rich story. You will also not be disappointed with the translation offered here. Yen Press did a fine job

translating this from the original Japanese and I have yet to find any problems as I read through the first volume. It's easy to follow and is a huge step up for those of you who might have only seen this as an "Engrish" fan-sub. Yen Press has also included translation notes at the end of the book that clarify cultural differences that might have been left in place during translation. These are very helpful and enhance the story. Overall, this version is well done and highly recommended for those of us who were not able to obtain copies of Fruits Basket because it had gone out of print. These new versions truly fill a void that had existed in the manga world during the time that Furuba wasn't available. And for those of you that might have only seen the anime, you owe it to yourself to read the manga. There is so much more to this story and you will not be disappointed with this true manga classic.

It may seem odd for some reading this to see that I find Fruits Basket charming. But I do! This first volume just pulls you in with a sweet charm that is rather unexpected. To be sure, as you read on, you will find this charm has a darkness to it, but that only makes it that much better! As with all manga series, this first volume sets the stage and introduces the main characters. Easily my favorite character is Kyo. He's the cat from the zodiac story and is as tragic as the animal he represents. I enjoyed all the characters in the book except for Kagura. She is just a little too over the top for me. She also doesn't seem to fit in. Each of the characters, up to the point of Kagura's introduction, have a vulnerability -- something that tugs at your heart and makes you like them. Not so with Kagura. In fact, I was relieved she was only a part of the story for a few pages. As for the plot and pacing of the story: I love it. As soon as I finished this volume, I wanted to pick up volume two. Natsuki Takaya has done a great job creating a story that quickly pulls you in and keeps you hooked. She reveals one secret only to tantalize you with another. She has also done a great job giving the characters personalities that play well off of each other and really fill out the story and bring it to life. It is so easy to relate to all the characters (except Kagura), but it's especially easy to relate to the characters of Yuki and Kyo. They embody vulnerabilities that we all deal with. And watching Tohru draw them out is really great. Since this is manga I can't help but to comment on the artwork. I'll admit that if I only look at the art, I would have to say it's not my favorite. This style is a bit too simplistic for my tastes. However, the good story more than makes up for it and I find I really don't notice that this is not my preferred drawing style. All things considered, I'd highly recommend this series. This volume in particular is a very good first volume. I will say, having read the complete series already, that the series does not stay as light as it is right now. The foreshadowing in this volume is not in vain.

I am soooo thankful for this anniversary series. One of my favourite series of all time and now I can have updated binding and extra illustrations. I also appreciate that for an omnibus book they made the page firms and size just right so it's a great deal but not overly heavy and hard to read on the go. It may still be much for some people but compared to Dark Horses' I prefer this style. My old Tokyopop ones were really getting worn out, now I can support the series all over again.

I was waiting for so long for a reprint of Furuba! It is really beautiful, especially the color pages :)

Fruits basket Collector's edition how it was meant to be read! Enjoy quality pages and coloring (on a few)!

I loved the series the first time I read it and I'm so happy to see it back on the market! (The translation differs slightly but it makes little difference)

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