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Yuki Midorikawa

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Nedda says

Something that disappears when touched... It's just like snow isn't it? I probably won't be able to look forward to summer for a long time. My chest will hurt. My tears will be overflowing. But this warmth in my hands and these summer memories will live on in my heart --- ?????

Anna J. Shelby ? says

Need to see the movie tomorrow and cry my eyes out.

Magdalen says

Probably 3,5*

Hotarubi no mori e <3

Alice Lam says

If only Yuki Midorikawa wrote a different ending...!

or,

Wrote another short story of how Gin miraculously comes back,
however, I have a strange feeling that this is only wishful thinking.

Overall: a nice change of pace to a fleeting but special little story that could thaw any icy-heart and send anyone into a plethora of tears as it did me.

Gusfina says

--- Forest of Fireflies ---

Plot: Ok

Gambar: Ok

Penokohan: Ok

Sebuah oneshot yang menyajikan kisah dari empat musim, karya pertama Midorikawa sensei yang saya baca. Bagi saya, semua ceritanya terkesan begitu rapuh dengan taburan perasaan yang menghangatkan. Saya

suka penggambarannya yang cocok dengan penceritaannya. Kesannya dalam, penuh perasaan. Tapi untuk saya ini tipe komik yang dibaca satu kali, tapi bisa membekas karena plot ceritanya menarik.

Dalam empat musim yang disajikan, saya tentu saja paling gemar dengan cerita di musim panas (Forest of Fireflies). Di sini, rasanya kebahagiaan dan kesedihan di mixer menjadi satu. Tiap pertemuan seperti makin menipiskan jarak hubungan, membuat mereka dekat dan juga rapuh disaat yang sama.

Overall cerita yang lainnya itu 7.3/10, tapi karena Forest of Fireflies... saya terjunkan ke-8. Rasanya klise sekali kalau saya bilang cerita kedua ini favoritku, tapi... menurutku memang begitu.

[8/10]

Luula says

Earlier today I was stumbling the internet, and found myself looking at a film called "Hotarubi No Mori E" or, as it's called in English, "Into the Forest of Fireflies' Light". I went and checked it out on wiki, and found that it was written by Yuki Midorikawa. I finished reading the current chapters of Natsume's Book of Friends a few days ago, and had found myself wondering what I was going to do with my life.

This book contained a series of short stories.

1) Upon Hearing a Flower Song (Spring Story) - This showed a girl on cleaning duty of a school building which had been closed for several years. One day she heard the sounds of a guitar coming from it.

This was fairly cute, a good way to pass the time if you have it to spare.

2) Into the Forest of Fireflies' Light (Summer Story) - One day Hotaru, 6 years old, becomes lost in the forest. She is found by a spirit who is unable to touch humans, otherwise he will disappear. Each summer she comes back to visit him, growing up to become his age.

This was the cutest story of the volume. Often said to be the inspiration (not sure that's quite the word I was looking for) for Natsume. IT MADE ME CRY

3) The Falling of Autumn Leaves (Autumn Story) - A girl makes up a crazy plan to stay with Kaede, but doesn't realise she may be causing him more trouble by doing that.

Um, I didn't really get this one, but it was good for wasting the time.

4) Deepening the Scar (Winter Story) - A brother and sister, spilt when their parents separated, are reunited 8 years later. Gradually they find themselves feeling something more than sibling love for each other.

This was a bit weird, but very gentle. It was nice to see that they understood that they couldn't be together though.

Just a lovely volume of short stories. The artwork is as gentle and simple as ever.

hawa says

the stories are cute and nostalgic, if blandly so! the wispiness of the art is appropriate for the wistful undertones, although annoying to follow along at times. and of course, the one-shot that stood out the most was the one that the anime film was based on - to the point where i would even call it "pure". it's not without

its flaws, but i feel like i can get away with calling it masterful - because it honestly is! the rest of the other stories are sort of vague and mediocre and interchangeable, and felt almost like throwaway templates for typical shoujo themes! but [Into the Forest of Fireflies' Light]! it had undeniable character! it had the sort of atmosphere and narrative that isn't as sweetly nondescript as its brethren, and felt like the one where the author had a clear idea of what she wanted.

& ofc we had the ever so popular westermarck effect in play. never gets old, never gets less uncomfortable.

Mina says

Hace tiempo había visto la película, la cual me hizo llorar a mas no poder.

AL fin pude leer el manga y no estaba enterada que el tomo era una selección de historias. 4 para ser exactos.

En cuanto a la historia principal, por así decirlo... Hotarubi No Mori E, no tengo ningún pero, pues aunque ya sabía lo que pasaría (pues como mencione antes, había visto la película) no pude evitar sentir las mismas emociones. Fue como si no supiera nada de esta historia. Pues los diálogos entre los personajes es fluido, te deja avanzar de poco en la relación que se va desarrollando, a pesar de no poder tener contacto alguno. Me lleno de suspiros, melancolía y un dolor que deje salir en lagrimas. Nunca me cansare de leer esta bella historia, así como verla en su versión animada.

Y al leer las demás historias (si, primero lei Hotarubi No Mori E) sentí que fueron un bello y melancólico complemento. Pues cada una de ellas fue hermosa y fue desarrollada de una bella manera.

Anya says

Five stars alone for Hotarubi no mori e. I'm slayed.

bakanekonomama says

Tertarik baca komiknya setelah nonton animenya, "Hotarubi no Mori e". Kirain satu buku ini kisahnya tentang Hotaru dan Gin semua, tapi ternyata ini manga kumpulan one shot yang di dalamnya ada empat cerita. Cerita pertama tentang seorang siswi bernama Shima SMA yang selalu mendengar suara denting gitar yang lembut dari gedung sekolah lamanya. Siapa yang memaikannya? Tenang, ini bukan cerita horor. Suara gitar itu ternyata ada hubungannya dengan teman seangkatannya, seorang laki-laki berwajah sangar dan selalu membuat masalah, bernama Fujimura.

Cerita ketiga tentang Kaede dan Tsubaki, yang berteman sejak kecil. Kaede adalah anak orang kaya yang kesepian, sedangkan Tsubaki adalah anak dari keluarga miskin yang tinggal di apartemen bobrok. Ketika masih kecil, Kaede pernah hampir diculik, sehingga sejak itu Tsubaki bertekad untuk selalu melindungi Kaede. Namun, pada suatu hari, Kaede mengancam akan memutuskan tali persahabatan mereka jika Tsubaki masih selalu melindunginya. Oh iya, yang cowok itu yang Kaede. Hehehe

Cerita keempat tentang sepasang adik-kakak yang terpisah karena orang tua mereka berpisah. Mereka yang ketika kecil begitu akrab, selama delapan tahun tidak saling bertemu, hingga akhirnya kedua orang tua

mereka memutuskan untuk berbaikan kembali. Karena bertemu di masa remaja, ketika keduanya telah menjadi pria dan wanita, keduanya merasa canggung dan merasa ada benih-benih perasaan lain yang timbul di antara keduanya. Cerita keempat ini yang bikin saya nurunin satu bintang. Padahal udah siap mau ngasih empat waktu selesai baca cerita ketiga... -,-

Lalu cerita kedua, cerita yang membawa saya kepada komik ini. Yang kisahnya begitu manis tapi pahit sekaligus. Kisah tentang seorang anak manusia bernama Hotaru dan "seorang" siluman bernama Gin. Hotaru dan Gin bertemu ketika Hotaru masih kecil dan tersesat di hutan. Gin, yang selalu bertopeng rubah, menolong Hotaru kembali ke rumah kakeknya (ini di animenya disebut pamannya, tapi pasti salah deh. Yang bener kakeknya... Pelafalannya emang mirip-mirip sih, tapi aneh aja orang Jepang ke rumah pamannya tiap tahun -,-).... Selepas pertemuan di hutan, yang kabarnya ditinggali oleh dewa gunung yang dikenal dengan Yamagami-sama itu, Hotaru secara rutin menemui Gin setiap musim panas. Kenapa hanya musim panas? Karena hanya pada waktu itulah Hotaru pergi ke rumah kakeknya, sehingga hanya pada masa-masa singkat itulah mereka bisa bertemu.

Tahun demi tahun berlalu, Hotaru telah menjadi siswi SMP, lalu kemudian SMA. Gadis kecil itu telah berubah menjadi seorang wanita. Ia menyadari bahwa Gin telah menempati tempat khusus di hatinya. Tapi, Gin bukan manusia. Ia juga tak beranjak tua. Suatu saat nanti, Hotaru akan menjadi dewasa, tua, lalu mati. Sementara Gin, bisa hidup selamanya asal dia tidak menyentuh manusia. Jika ia menyentuh anak manusia, Gin akan lenyap seketika....

Aih, nangis bombay deh nonton animenya.... T__T Pantes durasinya cuma sekitar 45 menitan aja, karena memang diambil dari manga satu episode saja. Ilustrasi di animenya begitu cantik dan manis. Sendu tapi penuh warna. Heuheuheuu.... Buat yang suka cerita romantis dan manis tapi melow-melow pahit, boleh banget nonton animenya dan ikut naik kereta ke Feeladelphia bersama saya... TT_TT #halah

PS 1: Topengnya Gin berasa familiar banget, deh. Kayaknya pernah lihat beberapa kali orang pakai topeng macam itu pas ada festival jepang-jepangan. Entah dia lagi cosplay jadi Gin atau cuma biar keren aja... ^^;

PS 2: Cerita tambahannya tentang Gin dan teman-teman silumannya di hutan bikin pedih dah...

PS 3: Pengarang cerita ini sama dengan yang ngarang Natsume Yuujincho. Saya cuma ngikutin animenya doang sih, tapi pantesan pas lihat ilustrasi animenya kok kayak familiar gitu. Suka deh sama gambar-nya Midorikawa-sensei.... :>

Vanessa Kay says

Warning: There's some huge spoiler ahead so read at your own risk.

I first knew about this manga when I accidentally watched a fan made music video of its film adaptation. I did tell you on some of my previous reviews that I love heartbreak stories, and when I found out that Hotarubi no Morie E is one of them, I instantly added it in my TBR.

I didn't really read the synopsis when I added this one to my TBR coz at that time, I didn't see any reason why I should be. I love the graphics and the story was kind of heartbreak and that's enough. So imagine my surprise when I found out that this book is a collection of 4 one shot stories. I was surprised and was a little disappointed. This book comprises of 4 different stories representing the four seasons, summer, spring,

fall and winter. So I guess it'll be wise if I'll divide my review based on each stories.

Summer - Hotarubi no Mori e (Into the Forest of Fireflies' Light)

The first story happens every Summer. It's the story of Gin and Hotaru, they're both familiar as they were the ones I saw in the trailer.

This story started when Hotaru, who was just 6 year old at that time got lost at the Yamagami Forest, where is known as inhabited by youkai (monsters). While crying, a teenage boy who's wearing a fox mask appeared. She got so relieved that she immediately ran towards him for a hug but ended up being hurt as he dodge her hug. She then found out that he can't be touched by a human or he'll disappear forever. Right after that meeting, they became good friends and been seeing each other every summer since it's only during those season that Hotaru stays at her grandfather's house.

This is only a one shot story so I understand why there's been a lot of time jump as Hotaru starts to grow up while Gin still looks the same. I believe it was because of the magic that's been keeping him alive. (Curious? I'm not gonna tell, haha, or it'll be a total bummer *wink) There's been some innocent yet sweet scenes between them as well as some funny one too so it wasn't a surprise that I've learn to love both the main characters, especially Gin. I really pitied his situation, good thing all the youkai (monsters) living in the forest really cares for him a lot. And then when he met Hotaru, he became a little livelier I guess.

I know I already dropped some spoiler above but I want to refrain from giving one (well, only for this one shot though hehe) because I want you to find it for yourself. The ending was really really heartbreaking. I'm not really sure what will Hotaru do after that. I guess it's going to be pretty obvious what will happen, but I bet you'll wonder how will that happen eh? It wasn't really that special, it's just a bit sad really.

Spring - Hanauta Nagaruru (Overhearing a Flower Song)

For this story, I was confused most of the time reading it. I guess I was still having a hangover after that tragic ending with the first one shot *wink.

This story is about a girl who accidentally heard a sweet melody outside an old abandoned building in their school. Then she came across a guy who's known as violent and keeps on fighting with other students. She accidentally heard him humming the same melody she heard at that old building so she assumed he's the one's who's been playing the guitar. She then became close to him and got to see the good side of him.

This one's pretty cliché. It's like a girl dating a gangster but the guy in this story wasn't that bad and was not in part of any gang. After the unfortunate accident he went through, he became more violent and been fighting with the guys in the school. He got close to the girl and then slowly started caring for her. The ending for this one wasn't that clear for me really. The drawing/sketch wasn't clear enough. Absolutely my least favorite of all one shots in this book.

Autumn - Kurukuru Ochiba (The Falling of Autumn Leaves)

For this story, it's a story of a guy who comes from a very rich family and a girl who is poor. Yep, pretty cliché right? After saving the guy from almost being abducted, the girl then started to act like his protector since then. It's been so long that she hadn't realized that the true reason why she wants to be by his side all the time is because she's starting to fall in love with him. I guess the feeling was mutual because of the ending. The conflict was that the girl always protecting the guy thus making him feel useless but at the same time he allows that because he's afraid that if she realizes that he can now take care of himself, she'll leave him.

Quite corny if you ask me, but I guess it was better than the second story.

Winter - Hibi, Fukaku (Deepening the Scar)

Unlike the other three stories, this one wasn't about romance but about sister and brother relationship. Growing up, they've been pretty close until their parents got separated and then her brother came with their father because he can't leave him alone. The only communication they have was through writing letters. After 8 years, their parents get back together and so her brother and father came back to their house. They're both grown up now so their relationship were kind of awkward. Her brother is graduating in high school soon and he told her that he'll leave again after that.

The ending really had me thinking so hard. I keep on reading this one over and over again but I always come up with the same understanding. And what is that? I believe that both of them love each other but romantically. Absurd right? I hope I'm wrong though. The drawing wasn't really clear at all or maybe it's the translation?

Overall, I guess it was a decent read minus the cliché. Of all four stories, the Summer one shot is my favorite, next I guess was the Winter story.

This book ended with a little follow-up story of Hotaru and Gin before the disappearing act happened and it was really cute. I also love the compilation of pictures too which I guess was taken from the movie. And speaking of movie, I'll definitely watch it soon *wink.

Rating: 2.5 out of 5 stars

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Eristina says

First story is great. Others... not so much. And this mangaka draws all people the same. Be ready for that ?

Buttons says

Some time ago I came across a beautiful amv named 'you can be king again', you can watch it on youtube. After I watched it I just had to watch the anime shown in it. It was the animation of the second story of this manga, it's beautiful and really sad... Then a few weeks later I came across this manga and when I saw the cover I immediately knew it was the story from the sad anime. If you liked the second story in this manga you have to watch the anime, it is really beautiful and sad...

Well, about this manga, the story is beautiful and sad, the style somehow fits, it is simple and gentle like the

story. Reading it made me feel calm and a bit sad.

Sara says

"I probably won't be able to look forward to summer for a long time. My chest will hurt. My tears will be overflowing. But this warmth in my hands and these summer memories will live on in my heart."

Tamara says

Gah. There's some invisible pressure on my chest... :(

This manga has several oneshots:

- 1) Overhearing a Flower Song
- 2) Into the Forest of Fireflies' Light (Hotaru no Mori E)
- 3) The Fallling of Autumn Leaves
- 4) Deepening the Scar - deals with incest, and it displays the feelings of a sister towards her brother

First one shows how tiring it is to make your crush see you other than a friend, third one is childhood friends turned to lovers, 4th one deals with incest, and it displays the feelings of a sister towards her brother. All of these three are kinda meh stories and meh art but the second one is AWESOME!!!

I'm very particular about the artwork ok? I want my artwork to be pretty. This manga kinda sucks on that department but when I get to the 2nd chapter story swept in I was like omg I don't care about the artwork anymore! The story is just too beautiful!

To all you masochists out there who wants to bawl your eyes out within an hour or so WATCH THE ANIME MOVIE!!! I've watched it last year and after the end I felt like I needed therapy. It was the saddest movie since Grave of the Fireflies.

Gin my baby <3 <3 <3

Okay, so it depends on how emotional you are, but I MUST warn that this film/short story will cause you to feel a boat load of anguish & despair. **Not only did I endure a plethora of tears & chest pain from watching this, but could also not stop thinking about it for weeks.** This BEAUTIFUL movie is very tragic. You've been warned! It's a bit obvious of what happens in the end & there's really no silver lining, something I was desperately convinced would appear. This movie/story is extremely touching & heartfelt, but just flat

out tragic. I couldn't believe that it ended in the way it did. I'm still not over it, and now that I've read the manga/short story version I can't stop crying once again.

It's hard to describe Hotarubi no Mori e because the character starts out with a brother-younger sister relationship then slowly shifts to one that's romantic. The only thing I can tell you is the story is beautiful. A girl meets a boy in the woods. She wants to hug him because she was so scared of her mind that she was lost. The guy says no and explains that if a human touches him he's going to disappear. The girl decides to come visit him whenever she can. And that's all I can tell you.

First let me show you some nice pictures from the movie~

Now let me show you how I was at the end of the movie I was like~

DEAR MASOCHIST,

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU STILL DOING HERE?

GO READ THE STORY (JUST THAT ONE) OR WATCH THE MOVIE OR DO THE BOTH SO THAT WE CAN CRY-HUG TOGETHER!!!
