



X (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 2

CLAMP, Lillian Olsen (Translator)

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Reads R to L (Japanese Style).

X, the epic series from CLAMP, is now available in this deluxe collector's edition. The pages have been recomposed in the original right-to-left reading order and restored to the highest quality. Each volume contains three of the original graphic novels, along with gorgeous, full-color illustrations never before published outside Japan!

Japan's greatest seer, the blind prophet Hinoto, has foretold the end of the world. At the center of her prophecy is a young man named Kamui Shiro, who possesses startling psychic powers. But Kamui is far from alone in this destiny. Armies are gathering, other people with unique powers: the "Seven Seals," who seem to be Kamui's allies, and the "Seven Angels," who might be his enemies. All are somehow linked to the destruction to come, and all are now coming to Tokyo to choose sides in the upcoming battle.

X (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 2 Details

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Author : CLAMP , Lillian Olsen (Translator)

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From Reader Review X (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 2 for online ebook

Ron says

Reading through *X* again, I'm struck by how long it takes for this series to hit its stride. The artwork is gorgeous--some of CLAMP's best work from that era--and the momentum steadily builds as the Dragons of Heaven and the Dragons of Earth gather around Kamui in preparation for the End of the World.

That said, this particular volume is full of "as you know, Bob" dialogue, in which characters explain (and sometimes re-explain) concepts that they should already understand by now. I don't know if this is a result of the series's serial format, or if it was a by-product of publishing hiatuses back in the way. Either way, it makes rereading the series a bit tedious.

On the other hand, the repetition of certain key scenes (specifically, Hinoto's visions and Kotori's dreams) does highlight the theme of inevitability woven throughout the story. It is fairly effective, even if there's only so many times a reader can watch Kotori's death before it begins to lose its shock value.

The early volumes of *X* are all about the setup. It's important world and character building for what happens next. It just takes an awful long time to get there.

Maggie Gordon says

X the manga moves very slowly. I suppose this is partially attributed to a sporadic release schedule for independent issues, but when squished together, it's painfully obvious to see how often Clamp repeats their dramatic declarations of fate without moving anything forward. On the other hand, it's all very pretty? Well, save for the graphic violence that keeps popping up. Reading *X* is very much emotional whiplash because the bits of humour and then people being beheaded (which happens far more frequently than one would think).

Nicola Mansfield says

Reason for Reading: Next in the series.

This omnibus edition collects volumes 4-6 of the previously published series. The first Vol. (collecting vol. 1-3) left me intrigued but very confused, this being my first read by Clamp I didn't know what to expect. While I agree the artwork is absolutely gorgeous and the inclusion of the colour pages will certainly satisfy fans, I am underwhelmed by the series in general and will not be continuing. The story is still rather confusing, though this volume does get into the back story attempting to explain the whole plot so I did end up somewhat understanding the general concept. However, the characters really bothered me. One minute they are all serious about saving the world and the next they are acting like complete goofs. One guy is more interested in getting a girl to like him, one of the main female characters is so subservient and whiny it is painful and I can't get a grip on the main character Kamui. What's up with this guy who has major attitude and can't decide if he should follow his destiny of saving the earth or help destroy it? Tough choice to make, huh? There are also brief overtones of BL in this volume which is so not my thing that I do not want to go

any further down that road. So, this story is not winning me over and I won't be continuing with the series. I don't know if it is typical of Clamp or not. I've always had *xxxholic* on my want to read list and am now not too sure.

FoxClouds says

Volume 5 was a bit meh, but volume 6 was great! The right mixture of angst and pretty boys ;) We are introduced to more characters and even though the plot didn't move until the end of vol 6, it still is very good.

Got first mentions of Seishiro and Subaru. Now I want to read *Tokyo Babylon* too!

Nameh dah says

Solo el que ya aparezca el Sakurazukamori lo hace de 5 estrellas.

Andrea Peterson says

Reading this series again is such a huge nostalgia hit. Though it's only now I realize how melodramatic and repetitive much of the writing is (yes, we get it already, he has two futures! Can we move on from this??) I'm still eating it up and eagerly awaiting the next one.

Mika says

Read 07/09

Some unfiltered, a bit incoherent thoughts:

SUBARU, MY BABY, OMG COME TO ME!

We round out some of our cast with Yuzuriha <3

Man Kotori is cute but kind of a lame character. She's pretty pigeonholed by her gender. I mean, she has MAJOR PTSD, and Fuuma protects her, but I think it might have been better if she had coped when her mom died, with a nice licenced MHW. I do still like her, she's...sweet, but I feel like she's too one dimensional for me. I feel bad saying it though. (view spoiler)

Kamui is edgelord in these first volumes. Oh Kamui.

Also, feelings. "If anyone ever makes you cry...I'll protect you from them."

(Oh. I have such an interesting time re-reading these early Fuma chapters.)

Jonathan says

How many times can a manga have a full page spread about realizing your destiny? Apparently about every four pages.

V Mignon says

I think part of my enjoyment of this series comes from the fact that I learned to stop taking it seriously long ago. Why does everyone's hair have to fly up in the wind when a revelation comes to pass? Why does everyone stare so seriously at each other? And why can't I get Wonderboy out of my head?

Daniel says

I am in love with CLAMP's work. Deep story, beautiful art. Everything I've read so far makes me go "wow"! I can't recommend enough.

Bianca Woods says

This reprint continues to be lovely. The 3-in-1 volumes are a bit uncomfortable to hold for long, but the high quality paper, fine print quality, and addition of colour art makes it all worth it.

As for the actual content, well... it's early CLAMP. The overall tale is good, but many of the characters are rather melodramatic. No surprises here. The pacing of the storyline, especially when presented in these 3-in-1 volumes, really shows that CLAMP hadn't yet mastered how to present story information in a way that worked for both the original monthly issue releases AND the eventual collected volumes. Many plot points in this volume are repeated over and over, which is forgivable in the monthly issues but deeply frustrating when everything is collected together.

That said, I still enjoyed this volume. Despite Kamui's mood swings and the constant repetition of key plot points, some good plot movement happened (mostly thanks to Sorata. There are a million reasons to love this character).

X is never going to be CLAMP's best work, but it *is* reasonably enjoyable at this point and is, overall, substantially better than their prior titles. It also improves a lot as it goes. As such, I'm definitely looking forward to future volumes.

Miss Susan says

Gosh you can really tell this is early work. CLAMP today is capable of so much more artistry. I still like

reading it though, there's something fun about getting to look at their work from their baby days. :') I don't really have a whole lot of opinions this volume other than Sorata: still the best! Karen: had better not die! (female, adult, presented in a sexualized manner. Don't think I'm not suspicious CLAMP. I know how you play this game. Let Karen live!) 3 stars

P.S. Kamui. Child. What is going on in your head. I don't think save or destroy the world ought to be a difficult decision. I don't understand what's going on here, I would get him wavering if it was presented in terms of him wanting to opt out entirely but CLAMP isn't really playing it that way. :/ Maybe we'll get more explanations in volume three, with the omnibus editions that should bring us halfway through the manga)
