



Mars, Vol. 8

Fuyumi Soryo

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A bad boy can change a good girl forever. Rei is the school delinquent. Kira is shy and studious. What they see in each other is a mystery to their friends. What they find in each other is a miracle to themselves. With a style that is artistic and chic, this tale of restless and confused high school love will appeal to young women everywhere.

Mars, Vol. 8 Details

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Author : Fuyumi Soryo

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From Reader Review Mars, Vol. 8 for online ebook

Lynn says

Today's post is on MARS volume 8 by Fuyumi Soryo. It is the eighth volume in the MARS series and is published by Tokyopop. The cover has Kira on it looking pale and pretty. The intended reader is young adult, enjoys teen drama, and hard issues. There is some mild language, talk of rape, and some violence in this volume. Because of content older teens and adults only. The story is told from Kira's perspective. There Be Spoilers Ahead.

From the back of the book On The Move

Is Kira and Rei's love built to last? Mixed signals abound in this on-again, off-again relationship. Every time Rei tries to make a move on Kira, she freaks out and pushes him away. Finally, Rei guesses she's hiding a horrible secret from her past. What could it be?! Meanwhile, Kira's mother gets out of the hospital and tells Kira they're moving. When Rei finds out, he tell Kira to come live with him, but she doesn't want to leave her mom's side. Could this be the end of Rei and Kira's love?

Review- We finally get what is going on with Kira. There is a lot of heavy stuff going on in this volume. Kira talks about being raped repeatedly by her stepfather, her mother leaving him over it, but now he is back and says he is sorry. That makes Rei lose it. He does not believe that her stepfather is really sorry or would never do it again. I think that the subject of rape is handled well. Kira is shown to still have pain over it but she is also shown that there is life after. I wish that Soryo would put Kira in therapy like she did Rei over his brother's death but I think being willing to talk about rape at all is a big step. Of course the drama is high with all that happens over the course of this volume. It end with them breaking up but that's just the cliffhanger for this volume. Rei does make one very good point, that Kira's mother is choosing her own personal comfort over her daughter's safety. Again a big issue and I am just going to have to see how it is handled. More drama next week.

I give this volume a Five out of Five stars. I get nothing for my review and I bought this manga with my own money so long ago.

Rob McMonigal says

Mars continues to be an amazing manga, and the reason for this is that it doesn't try to sugarcoat anything. The characters aren't flawed to be funny, they're flawed because humans are flawed.

Kira's humanity probably has never been so spotlighted as it is in this trade, where we learn for the first time the truth of her dark secret. It's no shame on her--but because she internalizes so much, she presents it in that manner. Rei, who is refreshingly quick on the uptake as to why Kira has problems with intimacy, tries to help as best he can, but Kira's selflessness goes so far over the edge (not unbelievably so, but close), even he may not be able to deal with her any longer.

I'm purposefully being obtuse here because I don't want to give up the big reveal. Suffice it to say that what

happens to Kira is horrible and yet definitely plausible, and I actually had very strong feelings of hurt for her and the decisions she feels she must make as her mother places her in an impossible position by the end. It is very rare for me to care that much about a fictional character, so that just tells you how good this manga really is, for those of you who wince whenever the manga reviews pop up.

I can't recommend this series highly enough, and I am happy to have no clue where this is going to end up--I believe I am now roughly at the midpoint, and definitely want to read more. (Library, 07/08)

Spring Holbrook says

So far Mars has mainly focused on Rei and his issues, and we finally get some insight as to why Kira starts out the way she does - withdrawn and extremely quiet.

Kira's mom had gone to the hospital and when she's discharged, Kira gets the upsetting news that her stepfather is back in the picture. When she simply gives in and defends him to Rei, Rei breaks up with her.

Rereading this series, I can see that a lot of it seems to be painstakingly set up from the first volume, even though the payoff is much later. As I read this volume in particular, I felt myself getting sucked into the story in such a way that I marathoned a few more volumes in the same day. At this rate, I'll finish within a couple days.

Adrya Ribeiro says

O que essa mãe tem na cabeça hein?! Deixar ela ter que passar por essa situação.

Leila Anani says

Drama piles onto drama in this series - we've just escaped a psychopath trying to kill Kira and her mother being taken into hospital to learn of another trauma. Kira's fear of intimacy is very real - she was raped by her stepfather who returns to live with them when her mother comes out of hospital. Unable to cope Rei does the unthinkable and dumps Kira.

The path of true love never runs smooth and indeed in the world of Mars it runs red with the blood of psychopaths, rapists and suicides. Geez how much trauma can these people suffer?

Farfetched and melodramatic in the extreme this series does get very wearing. Kira spends most of this volume in tears which is not exactly endearing either. Still it's got something addictive like a soap opera and you can't help rooting for Rei & Kira to end up together.

Jenny Clark says

So now we find out Kira's big secret. Rei is supportive again, and a big twist comes.

I can't believe her mother would take her back to the man who abused her just because he promised and apologized. I understand Kira not wanting to leave her mother, and also Rei telling her to leave and his feeling that her mother chose her ex over Kira, and Kira's anger at Rei saying that. She said what I have said many times- Don't insult my parent. They are all I have. I feel for all three of them. Kira cant just leave her mom, her mom wants to provide for her and send her to college, but now she can't work and Rei just wants her to be safe...

Nidah (SleepDreamWrite) says

Rei figures out what's going on with Kira. And even more stuff happens later. And a cliffhanger ending that makes you wonder, now what's going to happen?

Shannon Fay says

I recently re-read this entire series, and this is absolutely one of my favourite volumes. The drama is real, but it doesn't feel manufactured or stupid. Normally teen drama bothers me, because it's so trivial, but the drama in Mars is for the most part, pretty serious. Mars overall touches on some heavy topics, like suicide, sociopathy, assault, and this volume is no exception.

All of Mars as a whole is exceptional, really, the entire series is just phenomenal, and every time I re-read it, I recall the little details about just how brilliant it is. Not only is the story line compelling and intense at times, but the romance is swoon worthy, you really get a sense of the characters and come to root for them, their development is great, and artistically, Soryo's style is just GORGEOUS. There's so much attention to detail, and not just amongst the characters, but in every single one of the backgrounds and other stuff. This whole series is truly a classic of shojo manga, and volumes 7, 8, 9, and 10 are some of my favourites, because they're so intense, and beautifully emotional.

Nathália says

eu lembro que li esse volume quando adolescente e não acreditei que uma mãe agiria como a mãe da kira...daí os anos se passaram e eu conheci uma pessoa q passou pelo mesmo e a mãe fez até pior. ah, a inocência.

Camy says

I could guess Kira had been raped, but by her stepfather is pretty awful. But then her living with him again because of her mother's poor health and lack of money is a terrible twist to the plot. Nice job. Rei breaking up with her because of that ... kind of convenient.

Vicky says

Rei is the type of guy that Kira couldn't stand; flirty, reckless, and a biker. When a chance encounter leads to Rei saving Kira from a teacher with bad intentions, neither of them know the extent to which the other will impact them.

On the outside, MARS is a typical coming-of-age story centered on the relationship between good girl and a bad boy. But underneath the romance lie stories of suicide, rape and murder; the idea that everyone has a secret to hide, even those who seem most innocent. When the dark pasts of Rei and Kira come to light, they struggle to keep their relationship together.

This is definitely one of my favorite manga series out there, I highly recommend it for the shoujo fan! :)

Dayana Gonzalez says

I fall in love with the story a little bit more with each volume I read. Mars is now in my top favorites. I just hope it has a happy ending o.O Can't wait to keep reading....

Michelle. D. says

OK, this is for the overall series which I finished on January 8, 2011.

Masao is just a phsyco! He is crazy man, I say crazy. With all those stuff and the stuff he says and with his mind tricks and anger problems. He's a m*****. Though he says that he isn't. He is though. Remember at the end?! He fully is and I don't care what people think. He fully is one.

OMG! It is so horrible what happened to her! D:

The first thing I wanna point out is that Kira cries a lot. She cries when she is happy. She cries when she is sad. SHE cries when she is angry. She cries when she is scared. SHE CRIES ALL THE TIMEEEEE! Like seriously. It kinda annoyed me. A lot. Some times. Occasionally. But she does cry a lot. A LOT.

Rei isn't that hot. I like his personality though. :D

The overall series is OK. It was slow during different times. There was always a lot of times where this major thing happened and then the chracters get over it and then some random stuff that happenes and then something big again. Kinda a pattern.

I like Sei even though he wasn't really alive.

Children. HA!

So overall, that is all I have to say which isn't much.. I give the series 3 stars. I think it could have been better.

HAHHAHA. They did that thing. That part surprised me.

Teresa says

I liked this one a lot better than the recent ones because we FINALLY GOT THAT DOUBLE DATE with Kira/Rei and Harumi/Tatsuya, but I still want more with the latter, dang it, and not as only devices to further the plot >:T

Sarah Maddaford says

[sexual abuse by a step parent (hide spoiler)]
