



Red River, Vol. 28

Chie Shinohara

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Over 15 million copies sold in Japan! R to L (Japanese Style).

Final Volume!

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During the ceremony to install her as Tawannana, Yuri tells Kail she's pregnant. Then, in a glimpse into the near future, Kikkuri recounts a day in his life as the chief trainer for the kingdom's horses, and Yuri gets herself into a bit of a fix while visiting Cappadocia. And in the concluding tale, love finds its own road in the events leading up to the marriage of Ramses, now the Pharaoh of Egypt, and Kail and Yuri's granddaughter Naptella.

Red River, Vol. 28 Details

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From Reader Review Red River, Vol. 28 for online ebook

Luna says

Overall series review, 4 Stars.

I started Red River a few years ago but finally got round to finishing it this year.

Brendy says

Finally finished way toooooooooooooooo long, and not up to my liking but for a few chapter , besides of it? next.

Lindsey says

Ok so instead of writing a review for each vol. I figured I'd simplify things by reviewing the entire series at the end. Here goes!

I have absolutely fallen in love with this genre!! This series was much more grown up than any other series I have read so far! It added a whole new dimension to the series, which I really liked, but the sex & violence may not be for everyone, and be warned, there is a lot of both! What I really loved though was that there was so much more to the series than the sex and violence. It had genuine, deeply developed characters. The heroine is VERY strong, so while she is still frequently rescued by her man, she has absolutely no trouble taking care of herself. I may not agree with her eagerness for marriage and babies, but within the context of the story and the world it creates, I don't have any problems with it, and in fact, it makes sense. In addition, I absolutely LOVED Kail (aka the hero). He had the characteristic traits of a hero of the genre -- amazingly attractive, frequently nude for no apparent reason (LOL not complaining about that though ;), strong moral code, etc -- but what really made me love him was the fact that he wasn't completely perfect. He occasionally makes stupid decisions (particularly where Yuri is concerned), and legitimately struggles with the responsibilities and choices he must face over the course of the series. Almost all of the other characters in the series were every bit as well developed, even the bad guys. I particularly liked Ramses, although I'm not sure if you would call him a good guy or a bad guy lol... He made a perfect rival for Kail though.

I absolutely LOVED the world of the series, especially how they integrated the fantasy with history. I kept thinking wow, the writer must have done a LOT of research to write this series! Very exotic, very well rounded and detailed. The art was absolutely gorgeous as well! So beautiful!

All in all, this series has confirmed that I am now a full-fledged sh?jo addict! LOL. Trying not to feel too guilty. Maybe I should go read some high-concept sci-fi and try to regain some self respect... *lies to self, runs off to find more manga*

Lexie says

Welcome to the volume 28--the final volume and one that not only wraps up the wedding, but also gives us some interesting side stories.

I want to first say that when I first read Red River (or Anatolia Story or Sora wa Akai Kawa no Hotori) I knew nothing about the Hittite Empire. Oh I read about them in conjunction with Egypt, but it didn't interest me overmuch. After re-reading the entire series I want to know more.

What saddens me about this though is that Shinohara goes on to explain--in one of the companion stories "Orontes Love Story"--that thought Kail and Yuri had a peaceful and prosperous reign the Empire didn't stay as such. The decline began soon after their deaths and I can see how that would happen. They were the driving force behind change and action in that country (or so the story goes, history is...different as no one really knows what happened to Hattusa. 150 years after their deaths the country just...vanishes).

We have their wedding (which is super cute) and that closes the official "Red River" series.

The short story "A Day in the Life of Kikkuri" features our Kikkuri, but is based on an actual set of tablets found about horse training by a man named Kikkuri (they haven't found them all). Shinohara posits that maybe this is what his life was like (twin daughters, twin sons...)

The short story "Cappadocia Story" is classic Yuri from start to finish. Its set 10 years after she takes the throne as Queen, but she's still as reckless and headstrong as ever. This time her son, Crown Prince Dail, comes to collect her (and chide her).

Then of course there's "Orontes Love Story" which takes up the bulk of the book. Its worth reading because we find out what has happened to the Hittite Empire as well as Egypt and the ending is...well I think it suits the kind of person this Yuri was and the kind of person our Yuri was. But it leaves me with such bittersweet feelings. I like to believe that Yuri and Kail lived for a long time and had a prosperous empire, but it sounds more like it broke down into squabbling once they passed away. That's a true shame.

Katie says

see full review @ Katie's Corner

I have been postponing writing this review for a long time. Not because I had no idea what to write, but because there was too much I wanted to write about. I even wanted to write more than one review, but somehow every time I had this idea I didn't know where to stop. In essence, there was a great place to stop and write the review, but even when I was reading the book for the 3rd time, it still captivated me too much for me to even stop reading to write the review. I remember the 3rd time I was reading it, that was during the conference in April 2016, I even bailed on my teammates' party just so I could experience it once again. So, what's so interesting about it?

If this was a video review, I believe I would be talking for at least an hour, but as you have to read it, I'll try to keep it as short as possible, but no promises here. First of all, keep in mind that the story started releasing in 1995 and it was ongoing for a couple of years, well, there are around 28 volumes. Therefore, don't ignore it, if you do not like the art, in the beginning, you'll get used to it. I loved it a lot! There were moments when I wished the author didn't know how to draw dead bodies. But I'm going on the topic right now. The story follows a 16-year-old Japanese girl - Yuri. The opening pages are great, and you wonder if the story will

happen "now", but that's where I'm going to disappoint you, or maybe elate you. Due to some circumstances, Yuri is dragged into the past, specifically in 12 B.C. into Hatti era. In the very beginning, I didn't add everything together, because I learned Hattie's under a bit different name in my history class. Therefore, if you are a fan of historical romance, tonnes of action and battles, politics and court intrigues, get ready for a fantastic rollercoaster called - Red River!

Here's another thing you should know, in essence, this was the initial story that made me crave historical romance. It was the reason I read Legend of Basara, Crazy Girl Shin Bia and Legend of Nereid. But let's get back to the story, you can always read the review for others on my blog. As I have mentioned, before I have read the story 3 times, and I'm pretty sure I will read it once again after some time. Why do I love it so much? It has a strong plot line and fantastic characters. I love reading about strong female characters, and Yuri is just like that! You can argue that she did depend on Kail, but if you look at it, she grew as a character much faster than him. Her charm made even me fall in love with her. My boyfriend is getting jealous, so I'll have to rephrase it. Her wit and her ability to assess the situation very fast made me like her as a character a lot. She has a sense of humour, she's loyal, and she doesn't fear to fight for what she believes is hers. But let me introduce her partner - Kail, sorry I have a selective memory when it comes to his surname. He's a fantastic politician and caring person. Don't get me wrong, but I do make a difference between a politician and person in this story. He falls in love with Yuri unconsciously, and it is a fantastic moment when they finally acknowledge their feelings and overcome most of the barriers on their way to happiness.

Another character that needs to be mentioned is Queen Nakia, or for you to better understand our villain, pretty much for the whole story. There were some others too, but it was ultimately the behind all of it. Her reason and goals are quite normal for an ambitious queen as well as for a queen of that era. I didn't quite get why a Tawananna had a second highest position, even if the king had a wife (that's when Yuri goes in Egypt and meets Nefertiti). Yup, we have a lot of famous historical people appearing in the story and trust me you'll never get bored. There's always something on the way of Kail's and Yuri's happiness, in the beginning, it was Yuri's dream to go back to Japan, it was ... I'm actually trying to spoil the best part of the story! Sorry, for that! I don't really want that. My hand is writing all by itself without me registering anything... are you ready to plunge into 12 century B.C.? don't forget, it's absolutely different from the 21st century. Get to know, how a person's life can change in a matter of seconds. And how will characters overcome different problems that will arise on their way to ultimate happiness.

I remember I read somewhere that leaders are born, but without special circumstances, they might never nurture their full potential. I believe it's the same with Yuri, if she didn't come to the past she would have been just another normal person, but she got to experience a lot of traumas both physical and mental, but will she be able to overcome them? That's what I will leave for you to find out! I believe anyone should read this story. It's not only a romance story. It's a story of true leadership and loyalty. Of a single desire and how it could change the course of history!

I hope you'll find some time to read this fantastic work, I'll be coming down from the ecstasy this story gives me for another couple of days! Enjoy it to its fullest and don't forget to share your thoughts below. Stay tuned for more reviews as well as promos! Don't miss your next favourite book or manga! Happy reading!

XOXO

Katie

Rani Radtra says

Akhirnya kelar jugaaa... Berasa cape banget baca series ini.

Ibu tiri yg jahatnya ga habis habis, dan cerita yg seperti dipanjang-panjangin (kayak sinetron bgt dah).

Rebekah says

I'm finally done with this series. It wasn't bad, but it was very repetitive and I couldn't help thinking that Yuri only survived because she was the main character. She kept making reckless choices and putting herself in the midst of battles that should have killed her. Honestly, she annoyed me quite a bit. Still, the story was interesting and made me curious about the time period. I wonder how much of the story is based on real history and how much was completely made up.

Amy Sanderson says

Read this series long ago and pretty certain I loved it more back then. There's a bit too much of the will-they, won't-they type deal, and it drags on for far too long. However, the characterization of historical figures and their usage in this series is absolutely exquisite! It's always fun reading historical fiction like this.

Nidah (SleepDreamWrite) says

Good volume. These series has been good.

Viny says

A romance fiction with real historical background.. Chie Shinohara always good with detail, love it! I read the English version online though..

Judith (Judith'sChoiceReads) says

Goodreads Summary

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Final Volume!

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During the ceremony to install her as Tawannana, Yuri tells Kail she's pregnant. Then, in a glimpse into the near future, Kikkuri recounts a day in his life as the chief trainer for the kingdom's horses, and Yuri gets herself into a bit of a fix while visiting Cappadocia. And in the concluding tale, love finds its own road in the events leading up to the marriage of Ramses, now the Pharaoh of Egypt, and Kail and Yuri's granddaughter Naptella.

My Thoughts

With 28 volumes it is difficult to review every single one, and that is putting it *very* lightly! I took heed from a few readers and decided to review the last one as a giant summary of the series. It will be brief and just my notes on incidents and characters.

----- Beware of Possible Spoilers! -----

This series was excellent, and I thoroughly enjoyed learning the history between the Egyptians and Hittites. I bet Ms. Shinohara did a butt-load of research to pull off something so amazing, and it definitely showed by how knowledgeable it was! Shinohara had a way of educating and entertaining with intelligent humor, and I liked that a lot about this series.

I loved Kail, and was in love with his adoration for Yuri! Man they were so sweet. Seeing them in this final volume is such a far-cry from the first where she was like, "I hate you. Get away!" Now it was like, "C'mon sugar, yeah!" Lol, they were cute. I cannot begin to describe what a **strong** heroine Yuri was! Girl had fire and it was *hot!* She comes from the 20th century but still manages to strategize the whole Hittite army to victory, not to mention rule like a boss! I respect, very much.

You know who I also respect? Ursula. (view spoiler) I felt bad for that guy she was going to marry, I mean to say that her loss would have been so hard! And still he was so loyal, truly admirable.

The other character that was a favorite was Hadi. Her toughness was just killer and she was beauty and skill all in one, so totally a beast! I didn't care for her sisters however, and thought them quite foolish to fall for the *same* guy and *both* know about it. I do not share men. **Ever.** Plus Kikkuri was so not a catch! He took care of horses and didn't have any desirable qualities or looks whatsoever; he was just *there*, and giving him both girls was such a waste.

The ending was also a little weird for me and although I hoped there would be a little extra snippet with Yuri ruling, instead there was just a summary of sorts and closing with the same aggravating Kikkuri. (view spoiler)

I also never saw the promised marriage between Yuri and Ramses grandchildren; that would have been so cool, finally a union! Still, it ended pretty decent and I was left with a slight case of mixed feelings for Urhi and the Queen. (view spoiler)

Most of the regrets I have are expressed above, although another, and equally important, area of concern is the slight smuttiness of this manga. I wasn't expecting it. Nudity, yes, but not the depictions of Kail having sex with Yuri and her throwing her head back in ecstasy as she nibbles on his (sorry to say) less than defined chest. It felt a little like porn at times, (not good), and I was so grateful that there was no drawn genitalia. That would have been more than a little much!

Also I did not really appreciate the way every man with a penis loved Yuri. Attraction does not work that way, but every man wanted her, like *really* badly and it was awkward. I pained for Rusafa and frowned deeply at this author when she did what she did to him! UNCALLED FOR!! That's another thing, Shinohara is so casual with her disposal of characters that it is painful. Obvious examples such as Usula. Tito and Zananza were hard to swallow being swept away, and in that aspect the author did not prepare the reader nearly enough. Not for their abrupt passing or the easiness in which it is soon forgotten.

Rusafa was a great guy and I think she should have killed Kikkuri instead of him. Just saying.

But no book except the truly celestial ones can leave zero signs of dissatisfaction; and I accept that this work was better than most despite my perceived failings in certain areas. Like I mentioned, having some things different would have been more my cup of tea, but it was as final in presentation as I had expected of the series closer, and with that I have no issue.

Starbubbles says

my goodness, the final volume, finally!

so i finally get to read this thing, and while it was decent, it was completely not needed. i loved the proposal. but i thought yuri's response was covered, oh, 7 books ago. i mean, come on! the day before you get married and your questioning if he wants to get married? what?! really?! i mean, he's even being totally nice about it and proposing! dweeb!

moving on. so there was the marriage, and that was it. end of yuri and kail's story. i was a little taken back that the rest of the stories were about other characters, their kids, grandkids, etc. i think that they could have been spread out as bonus stories throughout the series. well, a couple of them anyway. i mean, it's not like it wasn't already known that one of their grandkids was going to egypt. that bonus story could have been in that volume. the lovely horse training story and the funny mountain story could have stayed in this volume. but i wanted more about their married life or something. reaction to grandkids, yuri's death, something! after the marriage, you only see kail like in two more scenes, one kissing yuri, and the other dead. lovely.

i just feel like this series fizzled towards the end. it lost its spark like 4 or so back. it's still good, and i know i will read it again sometime soon, but it just seems like if it kept up the awesomeness from the beginning, it could have been so much better. i guess shinohara just ran out of ideas. it's tough writing a 28 volume series, i get that. oh well.

Christina says

Though I do think its SOOO cute, when her son Dail shows up and shes like, uh oh crap!! Sees him and says Hi son! like nothings wrong.... HELLO?!?! oh thats nice! Do you know how worried we all have been..... once she collects herself she tells twohy she can date her son (since she has no bros)

Wow talk about contradictions and mess ups! Yuri's "crown" is randomly completely different than the one they made before in past books. They have already gone thru all the ceremonial stuff to get married and she has said several times that she will become his wife and tawanana, yet when kail asks yuri to marry him, since he technically hasn't... she's still likewell I don't know if I'm fit....Seriously?! I know that fits Yuri's character BUT still, after EVERYTHING and telling Rusafa that his dream is finally true....its like oh well we are back to the beginning again and I don't think I can do it. Seriously!?! An i did think they extended the book too much cuz I remember getting a lil bored at some points...you think she would change a little bit and try to show her credentials a bit or something to show she is a queen.

I don't understand the part w/ Twohy and she sees her ppl and loveryet sometime later when they are found, they run away and see that all the ppls are actually dead. odd way of explaining...

In this same book, it says they have 5 kids....yet in the last story it shows only 3. Also it adds in other names, which they didn't include previously and didn't include all the kids they named previously either... an Twohy is someone else's concubine...unless they changed names? gah!

If it wasn't for my fan girling I wouldn't read this series as much LOL

I also don't think she would have died 1st, she did have vaccinations and such from her world, which kept her alive from the 7day disease, but she dies from something simple?! Yeah right! Why couldn't her an kail die at the same time? ;p

Rune says

The entire series may have dragged on for a little too long. But, eh, it was still an enjoyable read.

Liza says

Volume review is 4/5

Whole series review is 5/5.

Honestly, this is how a shoujo should be written.

Who needs that high school romance when you can have a story about a girl coming into her own.

I guess this series can be considered the 90s version of *Akatsuki no Yona*?

Yuri gets her own harem too but it is less straight forward.

Anyway the series itself follows the story of Japanese girl Yuri as she is transported to the BC era and has to adapt to living in the Hittian empire. It can be considered "inappropriate" to some but THINK OF THE TIME PERIOD.

If this kind of story happened in a modern setting it probably would be problematic but this is a time period where the stuff in the series actually happened(I don't want to spoil anything). So I overlooked a lot of stuff that would annoy me in any other setting.

Yuri has character growth. At first she's scared(Who wouldn't be?) but she grows into her own throughout the series. And this is the main thing I loved.

The supporting cast is great too and I love each and every one of them and the "villains" were alright in the end.

Why does this volume have a lower rating?

Sadly volume 28 is only about Yuri and Kali...for maybe 30 pages? The rest are just side stories which I didn't feel like they had the same magic as the rest of the series. It was nice to see where everyone's lineage ended up though.

I have to say, I like the headcanon that the duo at the end traveled to Japan, thus closing the circle(and making it kind of weird xD)

On a final note...I'm so sad it's all over now...
