



## Blue Morning, Vol. 3

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Clinging to his fierce, unwavering love for Katsuragi, Akihito moves ever closer to an engagement to the daughter of Duke Sajo. Firmly focused on his future, Akihito asks his friend Ishizaki's father to be his go-between in the marriage talks, but Ishizaki insists that in exchange he wants Tomoyuki Katsuragi! Around the same time, former houseboy Amamiya discovers mysterious documents relating to Katsuragi's lineage.

## Blue Morning, Vol. 3 Details

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Author : Shoko Hidaka

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## From Reader Review Blue Morning, Vol. 3 for online ebook

### Mal says

This brought me more feelings than I expected.

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### Haruka says

Akihito is such an admirable, beautiful man. I love how he develops during the story, how intelligent he is when he makes choices, and yet how sensible and honest, blunt and vulnerable he is with his feelings towards Katsuragi. The scene when Katsuragi is brimming with anger towards him for a faulty decision Akihito made in his opinion, and Akihito instead of becoming agitated by being confronted by Katsuragi, answers relaxed and calmly. One brilliant, among the countless brilliant things about ??? is, how Hidaka Shoko portrays reality. From the outside people of high class, beautiful and smart, are always looked up upon, people thinking they are gods and perfect. A feeling towards them that they are absolutely flawless, and their way of life works just as flawlessly. However, it's not like that. And perhaps the way in which it is portrayed is the most brilliant thing of all. Because it is portrayed as if unaware of it, straight from the hearts and minds of these seemingly glorious personalities. This is a valuable display of how people who are looked up upon with beauty and high class, of any kind, are very different from the perception people incorrectly have of them. I love how Katsuragi "hated" Akihito from the beginning, and Akihito relentlessly, naturally, made him realize he really didn't. Usually a behaviour like Akihito's in such a situation is looked down upon as desperate, but it so brilliantly and naturally makes one think completely differently in confronts of Akihito. This because he acts in such an admirable and unique way in regards to his own values and personal desires. A perfect, unique balance in between the two, when it comes to Akihito. He is so vulnerable and honest with his feelings towards Katsuragi, to the point where most people would probably think it is desperate and submissive, however, those people will soon be forced to change their mind, since that is in this case, what completely seduces the poised and seemingly perfect Katsuragi. And to mention, that it is not because of the behaviour in itself that Katsuragi is seduced, it is because of Akihito himself. Implying, Akihito's true self is much stronger than what the reader might think initially. It is so brilliantly and subtly portrayed how Akihito matures into a very intelligent and sensible young man, how naturally and undeniably the reader can sense that. He takes complete control of his life, proving everyone wrong about him being childish and irresponsible. The person who is the most shocked to realize this is Katsuragi, who's reaction to his growth is priceless. The dynamic of their relationship is incredibly fascinating. It is love, yet it is problems. Real problems unlike most other relationships. It's caring, yet there's a bitter feeling one cannot quite explain in words, nevertheless as tangible as can be. Furthermore, Hidaka Shoko supports the passion exuding the work itself, with a mysterious, intriguing and intelligent plot, existing and acting as independently and eager to say its point like the main element of the story itself.

On a technical level Hidaka Shoko plays brilliantly with the element of passion and how to stimulate the reader the most. She does this through truly stripping down passion and excitement into the most simple, most basic formula it can be described into being. She does so in absolute poise and class, awaiting the exact right moment, in a manner which I never cease to be amazed by when it comes to her unique work. I am always so impressed by how she portrays intimacy and vulnerability in such a unique and intelligent way. She is in control of the passion by reflecting passion right back. Passion in itself is the dictator, however, it is passion with a point. Instead of thinking of how to release the passion as soon as possible, she thinks about

how to accumulate as much passion as possible. That is the main goal, rather than exercising it. How can I keep the passion, instead of throwing it out? This, makes the passion play out, exactly in the right moments, and be built up in the rest of them, the story naturally exuding that very passion through every simple act, seemingly unrelated to the main stimulation of typical yaoi readers. When there is a passion with a point, the story naturally unfolds deeply in every aspect of the story itself, taking the enormous unbridled power of passion to reach another level. Hidaka Shoko works in such an instinctual, yet incredibly intelligent and imaginative wise. She is not interested in what stimulates passion, but in passion itself. This alone, makes a work of art, pure, and endless, exactly because of its purity. The difference between the passion itself, and the things that stimulate passion. The latter I believe, can be described with the analogy of intaking a thing cooked or manipulated, contaminated even, and not intaking it in its true, raw, pure, vital form. Thus, making Hidaka Shoko's work a dazzling, incredibly fascinating untouchable work of art, independent and able to satisfy itself by its own greatness it couldn't care less about. All there truly is, is passion, passion with a point. Brilliant. I admire her immensely.

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### **Gigi says**

I just can't put the books down! It's so hard! Every time I try to leave something new and interesting is revealed. Ugh!

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### **Online Eccentric Librarian says**

This truly is an incredible series and it just gets better and better with every volume. The depth of storytelling, historical accuracy, and delicate nuances all combine to make this one of the best titles in the entire Viz manga lineup.

In volume 3, Katsuragi's history will finally be revealed, explaining why he was removed as heir and replaced with the then-sickly Akihito. These revelations from the former house boy Amamiya will have an impact on both Katsuragi and Akihito as it relates to the expanding landscape of the Kuze family. For the groundwork laid by Katsuragi twenty years previous will be greatly affected by Akihito, who suddenly begins to take the reins as head of the Kuze viscountcy. An arranged marriage with a Duke's daughter and a devil's bargain with the merchant family Ishizaki will either make or break the Kuze's family fortunes. And at heart, is the relationship between the two men and the desperation of their situation.

The politics and conventions of early 20th century Japan are completely fascinating and so intricately wound within a strong story. In this volume especially, the social mores and confines of the nobility are laid out through the story of Katsuragi's birth and Akihito's predecessors. I'd recommend this for the love story at the heart but really, the haunting artwork and historical information are also so vital to the importance of this manga.

This series definitely has my highest recommendations. Volume 3 reveals so much more in the story and ends with a stunning revelation by Akihito as he continues to pursue his own agenda away from the machinations of Katsuragi.

Received as an ARC from the publisher.

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### **Jascha says**

I ABSOLUTLY love this manga. In the most manga (not only BL) you know just from reading the few first pages how it will end. In this manga, okay, I think its obvious that the two maincharakters are going to love each other but you absolutly don't know what will happen the next and mainly because of the time where this book plays and the situation you can't say how it'll end. And by the way it's sooo cute and absolutly heartbraking!!!!

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### **Heather says**

Again, 9/10 of this book was a history lesson and convoluted plot and 1/10 had anything to do with the main "couple." Finally, in this volume, the butler Katsuragi begins to acknowledge feelings towards his master and even initiates kissing and lovemaking. But the bulk of the book is about the main character trying to convince the noble families to let him marry a very high-ranking noble woman to gain his own bloodline more prestige. All the political play is very boring. And the series thus far has been building up to make you believe the couple are actually siblings or something. It finally comes to light that they may be uncle and nephew, but Katsuragi says his mother was such a loose concubine that he long ago gave up trying to figure out who his real father is. So it seems that question will never be resolved and neither of them cares, anyway, so...not sure why the author made it such a big question mark up to this point. I'm only still reading because I already bought the whole series but at this point I'm kind of skimming all the filler crap, to be honest. There are too many players in this series to keep track of anyone.

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### **Sophie says**

I really feel like the strength of this series is its atmosphere, and its art. The characters are difficult to relate to for me, but still what they do and what happens to them is heartbreaking. It's not the kind of manga I can see myself rereading a lot, but reading it is a pleasure and very different to most BL manga out there. It captures the period and the trappings people found themselves in during it very well, I think, and the art is just beautiful.

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### **Anna C says**

1st read : 8 Feb 2014  
2nd read : Aug 2014

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### **Adam says**

As Akihito becomes more and more confident in himself and the way he carries his family's name, Katsuragi is forced to confront the way he truly feels. I'm quite enjoying how political the story has become, especially

with how it relates to the relationship between Akihito and Katsuragi. Another great volume.

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### **Diane says**

I really loved this 3rd book in the Blue Morning series. It's very well done and I'm looking forward to reading the next two books in the series.

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### **Caro says**

Akihito being a clever boy is really so much better than in volume 1 where he didn't get anything :=) Love it!

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### **asuka says**

I thought the first two volumes were great but this one is outstanding. It's just so fun to read and unpredictable. There was also a lot of character development ( the characters are actually 3-dimensional, yay! ) and some improvement in the relationship between Katsuragi and Akihito. The story is starting to get more interesting in this volume and I believe this volume has begun to take a new turn.

Anyways I won't be saying any more than this or I'll be spoiling the volume.. read the book!

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### **duniamimpigie Anggi says**

SEBAL. GEREGETAN.

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### **Sophie says**

I absolutely love the way this unfolds. Whenever I read books like this, though, I keep thinking that nobility and royalty are so \*weird\* and ?????.

Unrelated to that I discovered a new kink: naked inner upper thigh and fundoshi. Hel-lo.

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### **scarlettraces says**

Blue Morning has smooth, expressive art (Hidaka-sensei does especially nice faces) and the most complex socio-historical plot I've seen in full-blown yaoi yet, but what I love most about it is watching Tomoyuki lose his shit.

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