



## InuYasha Ani-Manga, Vol. 1

*Rumiko Takahashi*

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## **InuYasha Ani-Manga, Vol. 1** Rumiko Takahashi

Inu Yasha Visual Manga, Volume 1 covers the events of the first three exciting episodes of the TV and video series, using actual, full-color film frames to narrate the story. High-school coed Kagome lives with legends - a legendary tree, a legendary well, and a legendary fortune-teller grandfather. When her little brother goes into the shrine that houses the well, Kagome goes in to stop him from playing in dangerous places. Suddenly a demon appears and drags her into the well and out the other side into ... a legend. Rumiko Takahashi's vibrant tableaux of feudal Japan is filled with magic, demons, and a half dog-demon boy who is thrown together with the spirited, modern girl, Kagome, on an epic quest. This is where legends begin.

## **InuYasha Ani-Manga, Vol. 1 Details**

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Author : Rumiko Takahashi

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## **From Reader Review InuYasha Ani-Manga, Vol. 1 for online ebook**

### **Otis Otis says**

I loved the love story between InuYasha and Kagoma, and I also loved all the battles they went through. But after awhile it got kinda boring, it was just the same thing over and over agian.

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### **Kandy Stipler says**

This is a superb book for Manga fans really enjoyed it .

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### **Lauren says**

What first drew me to this series was the romantic historical aspect. I loved how a modern day girl gets pulled back into the past. I don't know what it is about those stories that attract me so much, maybe it is the difficulty for the girl of fitting in and having to rely on the guy so much to be able to get along in the world.

I also really liked the group aspect to this series and the corresponding relationships that affect each of the characters.

I would really recommend this series to fans of Red River, it has a lot of the same concepts.

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### **Alixendra says**

I loved this version of Inuyasha so much! I liked how it was in color and the Japanese names for the weapons and other creatures, or whoever, were the actual names. They weren't 'Americanized' if you know what I mean...

Plus, I love Inuyasha all together so it goes along pretty well with the TV show.

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### **Yoshi Ishikawa says**

Amazing!!! Must read. Has and anime, watch in Japanese

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### **Shanelle says**

I absolutely love Inuyasha and I can remember many years ago, my late night ritual of staying up in order to watch the television show. Reading this ani-manga brings back those memories, especially since all the images are taken from the television show itself.

I honestly can't say anything bad about Inuyasha, except that I'm sad to see that they do not print the ani-manga volumes anymore.

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### **Gaia Di Lorenzo says**

my fav and first manga

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### **Aki says**

I loved this manga it was cutte and frendly, and kinda violent. I would read this again and again.

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### **Wawa says**

Good story so far. Love the colours.

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### **Petros says**

Ah, boy, had I fallen in love with this series when I first read the first dozen chapters. I was left practically speechless with the amount of details, fast pace and lovable characters. I used to consider this series the best fantasy/adventure manga of all times. But... the magic didn't last for as long as I thought and now I have very little respect for it.

### **ART SECTION: 7 [Doggy ears... I want to touch them...]**

Visually, the series is very good. The continual switch from daily life of modern times to epic quest during the feudal era was very interesting, while the level of detail is rather average with some moments of good. The characters usually are drawn simple and the backgrounds feel empty when not showing long panels but nothing tragically bad. Surprisingly, the atmosphere of the series has a huge contrast, as there are episodes full of slapstick violence, as well as gruesome ones, full of corpses and bloodshed. It has "normal" areas, such as rural villages and modern day Tokyo, but also nightmarish ones, such as a tomb made of myriads of bones and a castle covered in acid fog. The variety alone is enough to keep reading every new chapter.

The character figures are generally simple and rather cute-looking, a trademark of Rumiko's style. Improbable hair colors are kept only for special monsters, so normal people all have black hair. That is quite rare in anime! The details on secondary characters are rather poor, so if a new villain looks lame, you know he will die right away. The flashy costumes and the weird shape most monsters have are enough to attract the average viewer.

Special effects are measured by the tons. During major battles, the pages will remind you of DBZ. Striking issues like, why is everyone wearing only one set of self-repairing cloths, or why do they yell their attacks,

may take away some of the fun those of you find in realism.

#### STORY SECTION: 7 [Get power-up, fight Naraku, repeat process.]

To make a long story short, the first 50 chapters are amongst the best an action anime of its kind can possibly offer. They had a gazillion ideas, from time travel, to demon slaying, to a quest for magic relics, to avenging a sinister someone, to comedy, to romance, to drama, to mystery, to whatever you can think and love seeing in anime. Story, characters and enjoyment were a solid 10 in every single one.

But then... Why, oh why did they murder the awesome story? Rumiko, I hate you! You created a wonderful story and a marvellous cast... and then you stopped caring. Go hang yourself. You do the same in all your series; but here... You promised an epic-scaled story instead of a simple slapstick comedy. It is not the same.

Sadly, after the initial masterful 50 chapters, the series turns to an average shonen manga, full of pointless power-ups, repetitive plot, stale characters and a perpetual on-going hunting for the arch-villain. No matter what you may think the story adds or resolves, it never truly offers a solid resolution for any of its list of unfinished side-stories. Up until the final arc, Inu Yasha never comes to terms with his evil side, Miroku doesn't undo his curse, Sango doesn't find her brother, Kikyo doesn't resolve her undead nature, Naraku keeps evading them, the Shikon-no-tama is not completed, and nobody admits their true feelings for one another in a serious and lasting way.

The first chapters featured not only fast pace and continual revelations but also had strategy in battle. A simple Youkai-of-the-week needed at least one episode and lots of planning in order to be defeated. Yet, this wonderful feature went away in just 15 chapters, when Inu Yasha got himself a super sword that could kill any Youkai with a swing. A few dozen episodes later, he could kill a thousand Youkai at will, without planning anything. Even worse, he kept gaining new tricks that could undo any possible defense even the strongest Youkai possessed, thus clearly becoming the strongest thing alive in about 60 chapters. Only Naraku, the arch-villain, kept escaping and only by continually leveling-up and forcing Inu Yasha to do the same, only to fail in defeating him and beginning another quest for the next power-up. It got tiresome pretty fast and frankly speaking, the only reason each battle lasted more than 5 seconds was because Inu Yasha wasn't using his super-kill-everything special attack right away. How stupid is that?

The manga eventually ends with closure but felt dry for everyone other than the main cast. Like all this fuss happened for nothing, as each one of its several dozens of side stories and secondary characters that were building up for 500 chapters were over in about 5 seconds of totally boring ways. Failure is not a strong enough word for what Rumiko did with the pacing of the story. Damn you Rumiko! 500 episodes and it still felt dry.

I give the series 7 in story, because it offers closure but also because it promised to be epic in proportions and yet quickly devolved to mediocrity by having a million filler scenes and stale romance.

#### CHARACTER SECTION: 7 [Sit! Play Dead! Shake hands! Good boy!]

The cast of the series is simply stunning. Each one of them has a different demeanour, personal goals, backdrop story and special attacks. Very conveniently, all their goals end up being the defeat of Naraku, so

that took away the initial feeling of individuality.

-Inu Yasha is clearly the main character, as the series' name implies, so everyone pretty much becomes an underling in his quest. Or not... For even he is just a lap dog for Kagome, the cute Japanese schoolgirl that keeps abusing him and punishing him in the most ridiculous ways. I mean, they are supposed to like each other and yet express their feelings by having the otherwise bad-ass half-demon that can kill a thousand monsters with a swing, being the slave to a nagging high-schooler, who seems more troubled in getting to college than saving the time-continuum by a merciless demi-god. I don't know if you dig this sort of tsudere thing but I find it ridiculous.

-Miroku is an ero-monk who doesn't miss the chance to feel some girl's ass and be slapped really bad by his love interest. It was very funny for the first 30 times but then it just became annoying, as he clearly loves her and yet keeps cheating her.

-Said love interest, Sango, is looking for a way to save her brother, but since she never finds one for the most part, she just exists to hit Miroku and nag like a Japanese housewife. Rumiko clearly loves having her female characters beating the crap out of her male ones, as means to steam-out for all those millennia of male abuse. Pf!

-Then there is Shippo, the cute mascot animal of the story. He had a reason for being with them in the first chapters but quickly turned to a comic relief character and moe-attraction for the fan-girls. So did Kirara, the bestial demon cat that was supposed to play a major part in defeating Naraku but ended being just flying means of transportation for the gang and another cute kitten for the neko-lovers.

-And let's not forget of Sesshomaru, the coolest character and main antagonist, as well as the big bad, Naraku. Their motives are somewhat blurry as their common sense is not present all the time, despite their genius intellect. They kept messing around but never truly accomplish anything up until the last parts of the story.

There are hundreds of other characters, who exist purely as dressing and fan pleasing. They are all likable but remain stale as well. Heck, most of them never appear for more than 5 chapters.

In general, the characters began cool and awesome at first but their repetitive jokes, continual nagging and total lack of development for the most part (power-ups are not character development, if you didn't know) made them simply likable but not great. Damn that Rumiko. All those years of Urusei Yatsura and Ranma taught her nothing! Or maybe she does it on purpose, as she knows fanboys and fangirls will keep following, no matter what she offers them.

#### ENJOYMENT SECTION: 7 [Oh, what a cute kitten! ... Hey, who's feeling my butt?]

Despite the lack of development for most of the story, most arcs are still bearable, with many of them being hilariously funny or very mysterious or epic in action. If it had less dead time, and a stronger conclusion for more of the characters, it would be a masterpiece.

#### OVERALL SECTION: 6 [I need money... No, don't perform the diamond-shower attack!]

Clearly Rumiko Takahashi's best work to date but still slow and repetitive to the point of madness. Re-read value for the initial and final chapters is pretty high. Most in between will probably be skipped entirely.

#### VERDICT

It should have been a short, solid series than a long, storyless one.

## SUGGESTION LIST

Good Ones:

Urusei Yatsura

Ranma ½

Bastard!!

The Vision of Escaflowne

The 12 Kingdoms

Bad Ones:

Magical Knight Rayearth

Fushigi Yuugi

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### **Lillian Yee says**

There are no words to describe Inuyasha. Well, maybe there are. This is definitely an interesting, supernatural-themed manga.

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### **Jen says**

InuYasha and Kagome meet Takeda Nobunaga on his way to rescue Princess Tsuyu, whose husband's soldiers have been kidnapping young women. InuYasha and Kagome kill the demon and recover its jewel shard, liberating the women from the eggs. In the modern times, a woman approaches the Higurashi shrine to have a flesh-eating Noh mask exorcised, but the mask escapes and takes over her body. Because the mask's body is disintegrating, it tries to compensate by eating more and more people. When the mask attacks Kagome for her jewel shards, she runs away and sends Sota to the well to summon InuYasha. InuYasha follows them and destroys the mask, recovering the jewel shard which was animating it. Back in the Feudal era, a child demon named Shippo steals Kagome's jewel shards, seeking revenge on the Thunder Brothers Hiten and Manten for his father's death. Manten senses that Shippo has some shards and goes after him.

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### **Jeremiah says**

Inuyasha is a good ani-manga because it has a lot of love and romance and fighting to get back the diamonds they lost in battle. Inuyasha gets help from a girl named Kagome to get it back.

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### **Risheau says**

This is so hilarious because of this half demon which is half wolf and half human who is looking for the sacred jewel. He fights other people for the shattered pieces. Read this anime adventurous book

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**Meghan Hatadis says**

I'm not gonna add every single Inu Yasha book cuz there's a lot. I think there's over 50 or so. I've read the whole series and it was amazing (:

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