

# Cardcaptor Sakura

## Volume Number 3

Lucy Robin

### Intro

There's no time to waste! Another card is on the loose!

We're Lucy and Robin, and we'll be your guides through CLAMP's Wonderland!

### Check-In

- **Fyi**, we are now including scripts for each episode!
  - If you follow us on Twitter, you may be familiar with my periodic attempt to get caught up on transcripts.
    - It's bad, guys, there are only, like, two.
  - But I know that having a written version of episodes is very helpful (and in some cases necessary) for many people.
  - So, we've started including rough scripts with each episode as we put them out.
  - These are not replacements for transcripts! They are messy and sometimes incomplete, because they are literally the scripts we use to record the episode. Sometimes we go on tangents or expand on something in a way that wasn't in the script. So this is not a permanent solution to transcripts, but it's a temporary option for people who want and need a text version.
  - So far only new episodes have the scripts included, but I'm working to add them to back episodes as well.
  - There will be a link to view them, as pdfs, in the text for each episode. It's in the same area where we link our social media stuff.
- Lucy's busy year continues at a breakneck pace
- **Robin** is more chill but Robin has no chill so what little good it does her
  - Also Robin's got her hands full with rat health problems x...x
  - And my birthday is coming up so I have to pick out an episode theme for our patreon episode! It might get weird, guys.
  - I've gone completely maudlin by this point so I might read poetry if you're not careful.
  - Oh! My new baby rats, Ziggy and Stardust, are doing great. Lurky accepted them as his underlings and now they're a happy family.
- **Also** we verified that Yukito gets called Yuki most of the time in the TP translation, so that's why I was like never using his actual name. I tried to be better about that in this episode!

## Background

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## Summary

- We begin with a cheerful introduction from Sakura, catching new readers up on her name, hobbies...and you know, the fact that she can do magic.
  - She's on her way home from grocery shopping, but when she gets home, she's greeted by Yukito!
    - She's a little flustered to find Yukito greeting her at her own door, and even more excited when she learns he's giving Touya a haircut.
    - Of course she wants him to cut her hair as well!
    - All he really does is trim it, but Sakura is over the moon.
    - From outside the house, however, we can see that this cute moment is being watched by the same long-haired mysterious figure we saw at the end of the last volume.
- Meanwhile, Sakura's friend Chiharu is out shopping with her boyfriend (I guess) Yamazaki.
  - Who, you may remember, is the best
  - He's spouting some not-so-true facts about emperor penguins, when Chiharu notices a girl who looks just like Sakura.
  - She calls out to her, but the girl doesn't acknowledge her. What's worse, she knocks over a display of penguin stuffed animals, and runs away!
- The next day, Chiharu asks Sakura if she was at the toy store the day before.
  - Of course she wasn't--she was getting her hair cut by Yukito at the time.
  - Chiharu is relieved to hear it wasn't Sakura who made a scene...but Shaoran overheard that she had Yukito cut her hair, and kind of freaks out.
    - ADORABLE
      - Yamazaki stops things from getting too heated, and tells him they should settle things on the badminton court today.
        - Doesn't Shaoran know that badminton is a traditional dueling sport?
        - It's not, but this is one of those things that makes Yamazaki the best...he presents wild, tall tales as fun facts, and sometimes they fool at least one of the other kids!
          - Just like his selective information about Valentine's day, this has fooled Shaoran, oh no!
      - It ends up being a pretty entertaining match, because both Sakura and Shaoran are pretty athletic and driven...but unfortunately they are so evenly matched that the the game had to be left at a draw.
      - Afterwards, Tomoyo and Sakura are eating ice cream and talking about the match, and Tomoyo asks if Sakura would let her cut her hair next time.
      - When Sakura asks why, Tomoyo says it's because she likes her.

- I love how Tomoyo is not hiding her feelings, even if Sakura is not entirely catching on.
  - And so far nothing Tomoyo has asked for has been any kind of real trespass, just sweet kid stuff.
  - They get interrupted by a sudden scream, and a girl speeds by on rollerskates...a girl who looks eerily like Sakura, even down to her smile.
  - The girl is gone quickly, but Sakura's friends are hot on her heels, and they want to know why Sakura toppled another store display.
  - Of course, Sakura was here with Tomoyo the whole time...they even have the half-eaten ice cream to prove it!
  - It must have been the girl who looked just like Sakura!
- Of course, Sakura takes this information back to Kero.
  - And good news! They now have enough cards to do a simple fortune telling reading to determine who she's up against.
    - He has Sakura shuffle the cards, split the deck a few times, and then deal them into a formation on the table. He tells her a chant to say, and then instructs her to pick up one card at a time.
      - The first card, Windy, represents "news" or "transmission," and, combined with the behavior of the Sword card in one of their previous adventures (seeking her out, instead of accidentally crossing her path), Kero deduces that the cards are now aware of Sakura's existence.
        - Not only that: they also know about her personality. They know they can use her friends to attack her, since she could never be able to hurt them. They even know her family--the Shadow card went after Touya's workplace, after all.
      - To follow that train of thought, Sakura lifts another card. This time it's the Sword, and Kero says this tells them that the Shadow was probably testing her.
        - While this sounds bad, it doesn't actually mean that *all* the cards from now on will be coming after her. Some cards are still asleep, wherever they are, and others don't have that kind of personality. But the game has changed.
      - Next, Kero has her raise three cards, which will be clues to the card that's after them. The cards Sakura lifts are: Illusion, Watery, and Shadow, so it's something related to those three.
- Meanwhile, Touya is biking home from school, when he sees his sister. At least...it looks like his sister.
- Kero has Sakura turn over the last card for a hint at current danger. It's the Flower card, and Sakura instantly thinks of peach blossoms...and knows Touya must be in danger!

- Remember, peach is in his name.
- **Though** considering her entire family is named after flowers, I'm guessing she had some magic intuition helping her out here, too.
  - **In the** Dark Horse translation its clear she makes this connection because it's peach blossom season!
  - **Ohhhh!** That makes actual sense, thank you!
- **Fake** Sakura is guiding Touya into the park, while real Sakura (and Kero) race to save him.
  - **They** are going purely off Sakura's instincts here; she just knows which way to go.
  - **They** spot Touya's bike at the edge of the park, but once they enter the forest, Sakura can't sense him anymore.
  - Or, more accurately, she senses *too many things* now.
  - **It's**, uh, clearly those ghosts that haunt this part of the forest (remember, they mentioned it in a previous volume!), but Kero tries to hide that fact, since Sakura is so scared of ghosts. If only he had his full powers, he could find any active card!
  - **Meanwhile**, fake-Sakura is telling Touya to go further and further into the forest, looking for something she supposedly dropped. He goes so far into the underbrush that he slips, and finds himself dangling from a cliff!
    - What a park!
  - Sakura is meanwhile kind of melting down, she is so scared for her big brother.
  - Fortunately, Shaoran pops out of a bush. He sensed the presence of a card also, and came to find it.
    - **He** doesn't seem like he quite knows what to do when he sees her crying, but Sakura actually does, despite her tears.
      - He has his rashinban—can't they use it to find the card that is threatening her brother?
    - The forest is too dense for them to fly to help Touya, but they are on their way on foot!
  - **Meanwhile**, poor Touya loses his grip and falls off the cliff.
    - He isn't too hurt, though, thank god.
    - At least, he's awake, and doesn't seem too like...concussed or whatever.
    - **Despite** his condition, he asks Fake Sakura where the thing she lost is, and promises to stay with her until she finds it.
    - Even though he doesn't think he can stand, he'lls do whatever he can to help her find it...but can she stop using his sister's form, please?
      - **Yep**, Touya was not fooled for long, but he played along because he wanted to help her.

- He does think she's a ghost, though, and assumes her lost item is her unfinished business. He asks her to say "hi" to his mom when she moves on, and this seems to touch her.
  - But, then he faints...so maybe I was wrong about the "not too concussed" thing.
- Him being unconscious does mean that Sakura and company can fly down and fight the card uninhibited, however.
- Sakura tries to use Windy on it, and then Water, but neither has any effect.
- Kero concluded it must be a Special Card, if neither restraint nor attack cards will work on it.
- Special Cards have kind of a Rumpelstiltskin deal going on (my words, not his). You have to guess their name.
- Sakura approaches the card--who, at this point, is actually looking kind of melancholy--and thinks about the facts she has. It's a card related to Watery, Illusion and Shadow.
- And just then, Sakura notices that the Fake Sakura--the card--is imitating her. Almost like...yep, it's the Mirror card!
- This turns the card back into her true form--a girl with long hair, traditional robes, and a mirror on her forehead. She kisses Touya's cheek and says "I'm sorry," and when she looks back to Sakura, we can see she's crying.
  - She does look a bit like Hinoto from X, but the mirror on her forehead reminds me of the Yata no Kagami, the mirror that is one of the 3 sacred treasure of Japan, like, the crown jewels...the other two are the sword Kusanagi and a jewel called Yasakani no Magatama.
    - Mirrors have great spiritual significance in Japanese culture, especially linked to sun goddess Amaterasu--but we could be here all day on this! Back to our good kids:
- Sakura seals her away, and hugs her (still unconscious by the way) brother in relief.
- But don't worry, they get Touya home...somehow? He is a big big dude and they are small, small people, but maybe they used Windy or something. Sakura brings him a snack in bed, since he can't walk, and he seems to find this a little suspicious...but not as sus as Kero, who is pretending to be a toy. Touya eyes him with great distrust.
  - As Sakura leaves, she tells him "sorry." She won't say for what, though.
  - But, he has visitors! Yukito and Tomoyo have come over, and Tomoyo brought him a cake.
  - Yukito goes up alone to talk to Touya, and asks him if this tumble off a cliff had anything to do with the ghosts he's mentioned seeing in that park.
  - Touya said that she was gone when he woke up, so she must have been satisfied.



- He's slightly concerned when they tell him where Sakura has gone, but Fujitaka is certain that Sonomi would never do anything to hurt Sakura...
  - **And** while she's a bit bitter about Fujitaka marrying her bestie/crush, Sonomi really doesn't seem to harbor any ill will towards Sakura—she asks her about her athleticism!
    - Even though Sakura says she not thaaaat good, Tomoyo insists she is, and Sonomi jokes that here's a place where she's different from her mom—her mom was a total klutz!
      - **This** train of thought reminds Sonomi of a particular incident
      - And stop me if you've heard this one, but it involves Nadeshiko climbing a tree to help small animals.
        - In this case a nest of baby birds
        - When she slipped from her perch!
        - And fell—right on Fujitaka!
          - Who says, as he recovers from being flattened on the ground, that he thought an angel had fallen from the sky!
            - Part Kotori-and-then-Kamui-climbing-the-tree AND part Wish meet-cute!
          - **Just** the thought of that cheesy line sends Sonomi into a rage—BUT when Sakura admits that her dad has talked more about her mom than about himself, and asks Sonomi to tell her more about HIM...
            - She's a complete sweetheart and does so
            - She grudgingly admits that he was handsome, kind, a good cook, good at EVERYTHING— his only fault is that has no faults!
              - This makes Sakura so happy!
              - **And** back at her house, it makes Fujitaka sneeze, as there's a Japanese folkway about sneezing meaning someone is talking about you~
  - **SONomi** is called away, releasing the girls back to their business in Tomoyo's room.
    - Kero is upset that they ate cake without him, but actually they brought him a slice
      - He feels he especially deserves it because after all, he's been locked up in that room with a Clow card this whole time!
      - Tomoyo is delighted he could tell.
    - **It's** in a jewelry box that Tomoyo just can't seem to open any more.
    - It rejects the key when they try it in the lock!

- And she can't just abandon that box, because it contains things that are important to Tomoyo and her mother.
- Well, that's fine because Sakura can't abandon that card—she's vowed to collect every one!
  - That's great, Tomoyo has an outfit for her to battle in!
    - She says it's simple but it's a cute tailored long jacket with detailing and like, little shorts and boots. Very runway.
- They inspect the box further...but when Sakura tries to tap it with her stick, she's blocked by a—well, its shaded with toner and no lines very much like the kekkai in X, but much simpler.
- That's all Kero needed to see—this is the Shield card! A defensive card.
  - Tomoyo didn't see the effect, but Sakura wonders if it attached itself to Tomoyo because it knew she was her friend?
    - But Kero says no, it's actually that Shield wants to protect things that are important to people—it has a very agreeable personality~
      - And, Kero points out (to the camera Tomoyo is holding, not to Sakura's face, because that guy is born, er, created, for showbiz) that Sakura HAS a sword that can cut through anything, doesn't she?
      - The sequence where she summons her sword (did we...mention enough that the sword card's image is a sword bound in chains that is VERY VERY X????) is beautifully drawn, very dramatic and full of elegant but powerful action—and it goes off without a hitch!
      - The shield is beautifully designed with the wing motif that carries through so much of the Clow cards—and when she strikes it with her rod and bids it return to its true form, its own card artwork has a similar bound-in-chain motif!
        - Quick, someone write BDSM fic shipping these two cards
- Now the box can be opened!
  - As Tomoyo unlocks it to reveal a big bouquet of cherry blossoms, Sonomi barges in—and she swoops on the flowers, overcome with emotion at seeing them again.
    - After all, this was Nadeshiko's wedding bouquet.
      - Sonomi reveals that they were her favorite flower, and she always said she'd name her daughter Sakura after them.
      - Sakura is touched.
      - But then Sonomi drags her off to make her dinner—oh, so instead of having a cook do it she wants to do it herself?

- Tomoyo and Kero-chan have a moment when he spies her precious object that had been locked in that box.
  - Its a little drawstring bag...
  - And inside is a rubber eraser—the first thing Sakura ever gave her. It is her precious treasure, and a secret even from Kero-chan.
- Poor Sakura gets a late start for our last chapter in this volume. Kero-chan couldn't even wake her up!
  - As usual she crabs at her brother but sweetens up for her dad, wolfs down her food, and heads out.
    - But we do get a weird tidbit of info—her brother has reverted from his motorcycle to his old bike...Sakura doesn't understand why, but her Dad (and we) think it's probably secretly for her—she couldn't keep up with a motorcycle on her rollerblades, after all!
    - Sakura does manage to catch up to Touya (it might help that Yukito riding on the back of his bike weighs him down) but they have to make a detour due to some construction.
      - This takes them by a shinto shrine they've never noticed before, Tsukimine.
      - Touya's a little weird about it—maybe he has noticed it before? Hmm...
    - Sakura manages to arrive RIGHT BEFORE their teacher, earning applause.
    - After that excitement dies down, she's able to talk to her pals about this Tsukimine shrine...and Naoko knows all about it because she loves the supernatural! (Naoko is the one with glasses.)
      - Naoko says the charms you can buy there are really potent, and she lists what they're good for—like good grades, and love—
      - 'Love' is all Sakura needs to hear, she's totally hype!
        - And Shaoran...is hype, too, in his own stoney-faced, intense way.
        - To diffuse that tension, Yamazaki-kun pops up to tell an outlandish tale about how charms—we're talking about omamori, by the way. Also translated as 'talismans' these are a ubiquitous good luck charm sold at both Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples; they usually look like colorful silk rectangular bags with knotted cord at the top that's also how you tie them onto things to keep them close to you; inside they have a written prayer. They can be very specific—for good luck on tests, for love, to protect from traffic accidents—or more general, and people often get them at New Years to get their luck and blessings in order for the year.



- Only, she walks in on that with a little ‘Now, we can’t have that!’
  - And NONE OF THEM SENSED HER AT ALL!
    - So powerful she can hide her power level! Gasp! Very DBZ.
  - She introduces herself to them—she recognizes them from her class, and reminds them that if they’re ‘on their guard’ they can’t very well study!
  - Then she turns to Sakura and asks her if she found what she was looking for the other day?
    - When Sakura replies that she didn’t, Kaho says she’ll have more luck today.
    - And we get a whole page of flowers and lace and light as a blushing Sakura tells us that Kaho’s so beautiful, she makes her feel all floaty inside.
    - Then Kaho says something mysterious again– “You don’t look much like him, do you?”
    - And to help us connect the dots, this is when Touya shows up to hand over Sakura’s recorder for music class, which she left behind that morning.
    - And when Touya sees Kaho, he acts weird, just like when he saw Tsukimine shrine.
    - Only way, way more so—his eyes are wide, and the pace slows down again, two full pages with very few panels, to just really hammer home how he’s in wide-eyed shock at seeing her. He says her name, with no honorifics.
    - She merely smiles warmly and says ‘You’ve grown, Touya.’
- And we do not get any closure on this. Next we see, Sakura and company are in music class, and she explains to her friends that she had no idea Touya knew their new teacher!

- And while Tomoyo didn't realize he was all that shocked (he isn't the most demonstrative person) Sakura insists he was.
  - They would have liked to talk to Shaoran about it, but Shaoran seems to be struggling with music class a bit so they leave him alone.
- You know who isn't just leaving someone alone?
- Yukito! He brings a cup of coffee (and a huge bag of groceries) to the school lunch table for Touya, who is just staring despondently.
  - And he very comfortably brings up this mysterious and beautiful Kaho.
  - He can tell it's affecting Touya, but when he asks if Touya really doesn't want to talk about it, Touya responds by taking his bun for himself and deflecting with an 'I'll tell you later.'
  - Which Yukito is fine with!
    - Also kudos to the Dark Horse team who translated the comment on the HUGE SUB SANDWICH YUKITO STARTS EATING as just 'yikes!'
- Finally, Sakura makes it to the shrine after school that day, Tomoyo in tow. They were closed the day before, but they're open today (just as Kaho intimated) and that's great because Sakura REALLY WANTS THAT LOVE CHARM–
  - –And it seems like maybe Shaoran does, too, since he bursts onto the scene looking a bit intense.
  - But before they can do anything, the world shifts behind them
  - And suddenly the three kids are standing in front of a strange and giant maze!
  - TO BE CONTINUED!

### Discussion

- I felt like there was a bit of a tonal shift here. The incident with the Mirror was I think the first time it's felt like there was real danger associated with a card. Touya hanging on the cliff was pretty intense!
  - And Sakura really responded to that, more so than just the challenge Shaoran represents as a rival, or the general responsibility to find the cards and stave off mischief. I think she feels the threat the cards pose in a more real way now.
  - And speaking of which, we're getting so much ominous foreshadowing from Kero! It's not all in this volume, of course, but it's definitely building.
  - Honestly, we're too familiar with this series to make proper predictions...but it definitely gives me those X vibes sometimes.
  - I agree! And thank you for pointing that out, I was so absorbed in reading it that I kind of glossed over how important it was that this volume, like, ramped things up. The stakes are rising, the mystery deepening, and we don't know who we can trust. So far nothing really bad has happened, but like you said, we had some real danger and Sakura wasn't there to help.



- Some need to be defeated—maybe even with a specific card (like the Shield needed the Sword?)
- Some you need to figure out and call them by their names! (Rumplestiltskin-style!)
- Which cards does Sakura have now?
  - Windy
  - Watery
  - Wood
  - Jump
  - Fly
  - Illusion
  - Flower
  - Thunder
  - Sword
  - Shadow
  - Mirror
  - Shield
- That's a pretty good haul! We know there's a Fiery and an Earthy, but we don't know quite what else Clow Reed has in store for us. We'll have to find out next week!

Outro (edit for flavor)

In our next episode, we'll actually be having a special guest! So if you still need to get volume 4 or the second omnibus, you have a little more time.

Until then, you can follow us on twitter, Tumblr, and Instagram @Clampcastpod, on Facebook as Clampcast in Wonderland, and on our website clampcastinwonderland.com.

You can support us on Patreon, by making purchases through our Bookshop.org store, or just by writing a review or sharing this podcast with your friends.

Thanks for coming with us on our journey through CLAMP's Wonderland!

Until next time, remember that everything will be alright—

—and try not to lose an eye!