

CCS Volume 9

Episode 72

Lucy

Robin

Intro

Sakura is getting stronger with every card she transforms...but will it be enough to help Yue before he (and Yukito) disappear?

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

Check-In

- Welcome to another fun-filled episode, brought to you by ECCC-prep hell!
 - (Robin cries)
- I'm beginning if we will ever have a "normal" month again...I think doing this podcast mostly during the pandemic may have altered our expectations a bit. Not that I mind being able to go places and do things, but having a social life again does leave less time for podcasting.
- BUT, we are having so much fun with CCS!

Background

- Time for a timeline check-in! These chapters came out in 1998 and 1999, and you'll notice from some cameos that Angelic Layer started around this time, too!
 - According to Wikipedia, both this volume and the first volume of Angelic Layer were released in July of 1999, so they were probably running concurrently.
- In 1999, they also started the Suki manga and the CLAMP School Paranormal Investigator light novels.
- In anime-land, the Cardcaptor Sakura tv show started in 1998, and the first movie was released in 1999, as well as the Clover short OVA (which was basically a music video).
- Also, I mean, 1999 is just an auspicious CLAMP year...for obvious X-related reasons.
- But other than that, there's not much new to discuss as far as background info goes...so on to the summary!

Summary

- This volume opens with a cute little chapter that is a callback to the previous volume. It's White Day, the day people who received Valentine's Day chocolate return the favor with a gift of some kind.
 - Since it's a weekend, Sakura is going to from place to place to make her deliveries...but her journey begins at home, when her dad gives her a new backpack in thanks for the chocolate she gave him.

- It's a very cute oval backpack with CLAMP's signature spiral wings on each side, and apparently, Fujitaka made it himself!
 - I am mad impressed; I have made bags, and they are not easy.
- After Sakura runs off, Fujitaka gets a phone call. It's Sonomi...and something about Sakura's great-grandfather. Dun-dun-dun!
- But Sakura has no idea, and as she heads on her deliveries, she runs into Eriol.
 - She explains White Day to him, and he says that in England they only celebrate Valentine's Day, and people tend to give gifts more than chocolate, and it's usually the guy's who buy things for girls.
 - Sakur asks if this means he's never gotten chocolate on Valentine's Day before, but Eriol, looking slightly surprised, says that he actually has. He'll just say that the someone was very pretty.
 - Of course this intrigues Sakura, and she says she'd like to meet her someday.
 - But, as she runs off, Eriol says to himself (and, well, us), that Sakura has already met that girl.
 - Interesting!
- Sakura's first stop is at a cafe where she's meeting Tomoyo, and she presents her with her present: a little pouch Sakura's star symbol on the front, and wings on the side, that apparently her dad (Master Bag Maker, it turns out) helped her make.
 - Tomoyo is delighted, and CLAMP uses lots of space on the page to show the bag and Tomoyo's reaction to it. It's clearly very special to her, because it came from Sakura.
- Meanwhile, Syoaran is hard at work in his apartment, still trying to trace the owner of the coat that was left behind after an attack in the previous volume.
 - He's having no luck at all, and concludes that whoever owns the coat must be very powerful.
- He's very surprised when Sakura shows up, asking to be buzzed in to his apartment. He was not expecting her at all, but quickly prepares tea.
 - Sakura compliments Syoaran on his place--it's very clean, especially considering he lives alone.
 - He's happy to see her, of course, but he's flustered at finding her here. I mean, we never did see him give her chocolate...so why is she here on White Day?
 - Well, it turns out someone left chocolate in her mailbox on Valentine's Day, and even though there was no note, she *knows* it was him. After all, *he* made it.
 - But, she is worried: isn't there a girl he likes? Should he really be giving Sakura chocolate?
 - Of course, Syoaran says it's fine, and Sakura is relieved that she doesn't need to return the chocolate--especially since she already ate it.

- She gives him her gift, which is another handmade pouch with her star and wings on it. This one is much narrower, and Syoaran says that it's a great chopstick case, even though Sakura intended it to be a pencil case.
 - He's very blushy and flustered, and she's kind of self-conscious about her craftsmanship...they're both very cute and awkward, it was adorable.
 - All smiles, Sakura says that she's glad she and Syoaran finally became friends. He's so kind and wonderful, she's sure the person he likes must like him back. She encourages to him to ask her out.
 - Which is very cute and supportive, but given that the girl Syoaran likes is Sakura herself, it's not terribly helpful.
- Sakura is not the only one going on visits today--Touya goes to Yukito's house, and finds him collapsed outside in a bush!
 - Apparently Yukito was supposed to come over to the Kinomoto house, but he never showed up, and then when he didn't answer his phone either, Touya got worried and came looking for him.
 - Touya's able to wake him up, and Yukito explains that he wanted to deliver a present to Sakura for White Day, but he's just so very sleepy.
 - Even as they talk, he falls back asleep, slumping into Touya's arms.
 - And, most troubling of all, as Touya watches, Yukito's arms become translucent, as if he's disappearing.
 - Touya holds him, and, even though Yukito can't seem to hear him, he says "figure it out..."
- Fujitaka has also gone on his own journey--he meets Nadeshiko's grandfather in a park.
 - It's a tense meeting. They haven't actually seen each other since he delivered their wedding invitation.
 - Grandfather has the chocolate that Sakura gave him for Valentine's Day. He was very touched that she did just what Nadeshiko used to, including the flower and the letter.
 - He has a present for Sakura as well, for White Day, but he also wants to tell Fujitaka something.
 - He apologizes to Fujitaka, and thanks him for making his granddaughter so happy.
 - And, Fujitaka says he understands...after all, he has no relatives and apparently doesn't even know where he was born. It's natural someone would be suspicious of him.
 - UMM THIS IS INTERESTING NEW INFORMATION BUDDY
 - But grandfather says that he was just stubborn; he didn't want to give his granddaughter up so young. But he can see now that she chose the right husband for her, and she was very happy.
 - He hopes that she can also hear his apologie, and Fujitaka says he's sure she can hear him, wherever she is.
 - ...which turns out to be right here, because we can see Nadeshiko's spirit watching this encounter, and smiling.

- And we're not alone. Although Fujitaka and her grandfather are none the wiser, Eriol is perched very high in a tree, and he meets Nadeshiko's eyes, and her smile.
 - When she disappears, he gazes down on Fujitaka, watching him.
 - So uhhh that's a lot of...something? I don't even know.
 - When Sakura gets home from her deliveries, her father gives her her grandfather's present, and Sakura is overjoyed.
 - He doesn't tell her he met with grandfather, though...he says the present was delivered today (which I guess isn't a lie, exactly).
 - When she opens it, it's a beautiful dress, and when she tries it on, it reminds her so much of the dress she got from that old man when they stayed at the summer cottage.
 - HMMM
 - Sakura asks her dad if he thinks great-grandfather understands how happy her mother was, and he says that he thinks he does.
 - And when she asks if he thinks she'll ever get to meet him, he says he's sure of it.
 - Next chapter! It's Spring! Sakura's loving the, well, sakura, and she's loving life—Yukito gave her a watch for white day, and she even has a letter from Kaho!
 - She's so excited to read it she bursts into her room—but this time Kero-chan evades the slamming door! She has no time to hear him gloat about this because she's gotta read that letter!
 - It's cordial as always, but kaho says there's not much she can do from far-off England—her part to play has come and gone.
 - But she adds an extra page where she reminds Sakura that everyone loves her—and she has an unbeatable spell.
 - When she recalls her spell—Everything will definitely be all right!--she thinks of Clow...and wonders why?
 - Well no matter, she's all cheered up now and ready to go make dinner—but when she rushes downstairs, her brother is slumping in supporting an unconscious Yukito! That's no good!
 - They get him comfortable in bed, and Touya explains that he's been falling asleep in class a lot and just passed out on the way home.
 - He says he's not sick but...and instead of finishing that sentence with whatever he DOES think is happening to Yukito, he tells Sakura he'll probably be hungry when he wakes up, and they go to make dinner.
 - When they're gone, Kero-chan checks on Yukito—who is of course the temporary form of his fellow guardian/built-in bestie, Yue.
 - He's worried that even though Sakura is getting stronger and stronger with each card she changes...she may not have enough magic to keep Yue powered up.
 - And if Yue disappears...so does Yukito, of course.

- Downstairs, Sakura asks Touya what could possibly be wrong with him, and he mutters 'Come on Yuki figure it out' she wants to know what the hell that means, but he just nags her to peel carrots!
- After dinner—which Yukito did wake up for apparently—Sakura offers to go make tea and that leaves the boys alone together.
 - After a panel where they both sit across from each other in tense silence, they both talk at the same time, broaching a conversation with the other's name. Yukito's a sweetie though and tells Touya to go first.
 - He does—or tries to—saying "I don't know if you realize, but things can't go on like this," and he reaches out to touch his face. But when he says "I know that you--" Sakura interrupts this fairly intimate moment by barging in with tea! Yukito jumps up to help her, removing himself from Touya's touch (was he embarrassed?!)
 - Touya deals with this situation by going to work—but he tells Yukito to just stay there and recover, he'll take him home later.
 - Sakura is overjoyed to have an evening quietly doing homework with her crush!
 - But of course she's worried about him—especially when he...seems to go slightly transparent for a moment?
- That was bad enough, but when we turn the page we're confronted by a panel of Sakura being struck by something—the sense that CLOW is nearby!
 - She makes a WEAK excuse to Yukito, about needing to go to the bakery for tea cakes, and collects Kero-chan on her way out.
- When next we see her, she's in an adorable fluffy sheep onesie with a big bell and giant...clove hoof boots?
 - This is a Tomoyo original, and she's here filming of course. Sakura promised she'd call her if something happens! Much to Kero's chagrin, Sakura called Shaoran, too, since she also promised him.
- They're at the park with the big penguin slide, and something's weird here...the penguin has shifted location somehow???
- And to Sakura's shock it not only moved but left a BIG GAPING HOLE in the ground in its original spot!
- We get a panel from inside looking up at our heroes and...it's deep yo.
- Sakura uses fly to give herself a chance to peek at it from the air!
 - She dives into the hole, but Kero-chan can't follow—it's like there's an invisible barrier! One that can withstand a lightning spell from Shaoran!
- Inside the pit, Sakura is seeking the source of CLOW's power...which means going down, down...
 - Until a fluffy stuffed sheep falls on her head!
 - It's so cute—but more sheep start coming and they don't stop coming!
 - I want one—but only one. Or maybe two??
- Tomoyo hears Sakura cry out, and she, Shaoran, and Kero-chan just want to help her, but how?

- Sakura remains clueless, but when Eriol steps up to (kinda very touchy-feely-wise) guide Shaoran, telling him to focus 'only on the goal'--he gets a clue and makes the basket!
- Sakura and Tomoyo cheer!
- But Shaoran is taken aback when Eriol tells him he'll get stronger if he calms down and ignores distractions...
 - Picking up from what he was saying at the sheep pit, perhaps?
- Anyway SHAoran contemplates Eriol's words, watching him walk away into the crowd of other kids.
- Next we see poor Yukito, who's saying he's so tired he thinks he could fall asleep standing up--and now he passes Eriol.
 - And He faints, transforming into Yue! (Good thing this is behind the school and no one is around!)
 - And YUE immediately cries out--Clow! He's supposed to be dead-how--why has he returned in that form?
 - Eriol, small and be-spectacled, just looks up at him and smiles pleasantly.
 - And Yue swoons, unable to keep his power up--or maybe Eriol does something to him?
 - Tiny Eriol cradles the much bigger form of Yu, with his flowing hair and robes, and says--perhaps to the camera, not really Yue at all--that there's something he wants. Something he's been hiding from Yue and Cerberus.
 - But he goes on to note that Yue's running out of power and if he can't get enough from his master (sakura) there's someone else he could get it from.
 - It must be hard, he says, for Yue to have two hearts...
 - He admits he's enjoying how everything is turning out differently than he expected.
 - But he doesn't want Yue--or Yukito--to know his identity just yet.
 - So he holds a hand over his head, causing a great glow...and tells him to forget.
 - When Yukito wakes up on the lawn next to a kneeling Eriol, he's just surprised that Eriol could carry him at all!
 - He climbs back over the fence into his own schoolyard and runs into Touya.
 - Touya gets a read on Eriol for the first time--and he ALSO thinks he reminds him...of his dad???
 - Yukito can see it--glasses, kind smile.
 - Touya says no...it's the inside not the outside that feels the same to him.
 - AS Eriol walks right outta this scene, he says he hopes his temporary form can sort out his heart soon...Yue.

- Shaoran is over at Tomoyo's house!
 - She serves him tea (and serves him LILY OF THE VALLEY REALNESS in the cutest dress ever, so grown up yet so fairylike and fanciful! AA!) and also serves him...the T.
 - Showing him the video playback of him futilely beating on that barrier with his fists when it just...wasn't going to work.
 - She knows he's in love with Sakura, and he's embarrassed and surprised to hear it so clearly.
 - When's he going to tell her?
 - But Shaoran doesn't feel like he can...when she likes someone else.
 - Tomoyo points out that LOTS of people love Sakura because she's so fucking great...
 - Like Eriol, Shoaran says.
 - But Tomoyo thinks he likes her in a different way, like he's watching over her because she's important.
 - And Shaoran understands how deeply Tomoyo has been paying attention to Sakura. Maybe he even gets an inkling as to how Tomoyo feels. He's certainly affected by this moment.
 - And that is when Sakura walks out in the outfit she's been putting on—its maybe the prettiest thing we've seen so far, very petal-like, just hits me right in the flower-fairy zone.
 - Shaoran is so flustered he bumps into the camera and replays the embarrassing scene again.
 - But Sakura is touched that it means he cares so much about her.
 - They have a nice little moment—but then she senses Clow again! AT the school this time
 - They go collect Kero-chan, who is deeply hurt that they ate cake without him—
 - But the ever-thoughtful Tomoyo brought him some!
 - Shaoran notices how much Tomoyo does—especially for Sakura. Even making her clothes...and he's upset he can't seem to do anything for her.
 - But Tomoyo says there's so much he does for her! He just needs to have more faith in himself.
 - Then they have to hurry and catch up before they're left behind!
- So when they head into the school, things seem normal other than the MASSIVE load of magic they feel...until they open a door that goes...somewhere it has never gone before!
 - Every door they slide open leads to some room that's nowhere near where it should lead. The doors have all become portals to other places in the school!
 - Sakura is a bit tense about this, but Shaoran says they should follow where she senses the power the strongest!
 - So they take a step into the art room.
 - Which somehow leads to the music room?
 - Tomoyo is filming everything but suddenly a door slides closed on her!
 - And Sakura loses it!

- Our last chapter for this volume opens right where we left off—Sakura calling out for Tomoyo!
 - And we've seen a similar moment before, when she captured the Light and Dark cards—being separated from her friends really gets to her.
 - We know she can get through this—but she also has Shaoran to help this time, and he needs to put what he's been told into practice.
 - He halts her tears, reminding her that they just need to focus right now. He's steady and calm, controlling his own emotions better than usual!
 - They discuss this magical problem: opening doors won't help because there's no discernible pattern—even opening the same door over and over leads to different places and might NEVER get them back to the art room.
 - They've been tracking Clow using his magic...but Tomoyo doesn't have any of her own to sense.
 - Kero gives Shaoran some shit as usual—doesn't he have some magic that can track people?
 - Well he DOES—but he'd need something from that person to start with (very bloodhound-esque here.)
 - Sakura remembers that Tomoyo has an umbrella stashed in the classroom!
 - But—if they could just go get it, there wouldn't be a problem in the first place.
 - There's a very cute almost film-strip sequence of Kero-chan thinking SO HARD—but he ends up at a loss.
 - Sakura thinks about how Tomoyo must be scared, all alone like this...
 - But then she hears—not senses but actually hears—something.
 - Tomoyo's voice! She's singing!
 - Recall that Tomoyo is a celebrated singer at their school.
- For one lovely full page spread, Sakura is swept up in the brave beauty of her best friend's song...
 - Then she looks down at her own shadow, made frilly and beautiful with the outfit Tomoyo designed for her, and has an idea!
 - She picks out what she hopes against hope is the right card—
 - Shadow! She bids it capture the singer's reflection, and as it goopily slithers away, they follow it—right to the art room where Tomoyo's singing!
 - There's a panel which WOULD be ominous, Tomoyo standing, smiling, under the billowing folds of Shadow's empty robes, but it's just a happy scene because Shadow is just one of Sakura's loyal cards.

- Sakura apologizes for taking so long, but Tomoyo says no...she KNEW Sakura would save her.
 - We pull out to see Eriol, perched on a tree branch as per usual, observing them.
 - Then Sakura notices CLow's power is gone again!
 - Everything goes back to normal...
 - And Eriol observes that with each card she transforms, she gets more powerful—as she should.
 - Why does that still feel a little ominous???
 - Anyway, Sakura and Tomoyo discuss what happened—Sakura admits she might have lost it without SHaoran calming her down and helping them focus.
 - But it was Tomoyo's singing that did it. It was all she could think of—she didn't have anything else to make noise with!
 - (Well, unless she wanted to mess up the art room but she's so well-mannered I guess that didn't even occur to her???)
 - Sakura says the singing felt like she was being cheered on, and she thanks her friend for giving her hope.
 - And Tomoyo thanks her for finding her, with a sweet little squeeze of the hand.
 - Which she turns into a comedic moment by lamenting that she didn't capture THIS heroic Sakura feat on film either! She's missed 2 in a row!!!
 - While Kero-chan poses for Tomoyo to ease this pain, Sakura thanks a blushing SHaoran more directly.
 - He remembers something Tomoyo said earlier, about Sakura being so carefree that she just will not get it unless he tells her he likes her JUST as directly.
 - And he REALLY TRIES—but Kero-chan interrupts again (for a group photo/film shoot of course.)
 - Because we gotta get a good old CLAMP interruption.
 - Well, we had to get one last one in, because things are about to change a little...
 - I'm getting ahead of myself a little. We're back at school—they're drawing outside for art class. I want to go draw outside damnit!
 - Anyway, Sakura tells Eriol he's such a good artist, and admits he reminds her so much of her dad! She even invites him over to meet him some time, which Eriol is uncharacteristically hesitant about.
 - Shaoran is watching them, and boy does he have it bad for Sakura now that he's admitted it to himself, at least.
 - Tomoyo, ever-observant, notices, and checks in with him about how he WAS going to tell her and just didn't get a chance. She encourages him to try again today (in an adorably fangirl-y type way) and he's flustered—even more so when Sakura comes over to talk to him!

- Tomoyo leaves them alone to continue their talk from the other day, and Shaoran REALLY TRIES (okay so there's another interruption) but they're interrupted yet again--by something less innocent this time.
- There's a commotion on the high school sports field next door. Kids are surrounding Yukito, who just collapsed.
 - While Sakura is distracted and Shaoran is having a tiny heart attack, frozen stiff from tension, things are not going great over there.
 - Touya carries Yukito off the field, past the curious Ruby Moon (in Nakuru form) and into the nurse's office.
 - To the camera, Nakuru taunts "he's almost out of time~"
- And when Yukito comes to, trying to be his normal oblivious self about 'oh no i'm just so tired'--Touya wants to cut the bullshit. He tells Yukito there's something wrong with him, and he can figure it out.
 - We get a familiar "Yukito, you--"
 - And Nakuru TRIES to interrupt, but like I said, Touya is done with this crap. Even though Nakuru tries to convince him he'll be in trouble if he doesn't get back to the field for...a baseball test...which might not be fake but sure sounds fake to me (maybe because i clearly would never pass a baseball test) Touya looks at the helpless, hapless Yukito and notices that when he turned to go....Yukito actually grabbed his shirt to stop him.
 - That was all he needed to push aside everything else and focus on what matters--this conversation.
 - Yukito is surprised at himself that he did something like that (as small a gesture as it is, it's...more full of, uh, agency shall we say, than he usually has?)
 - And Touya gives Nakuru a quick, no-nonsense 'I NEED TO TALK TO YUKI ALONE.'
 - Which does get rid of them.
 - We follow Nakuru for a few pages as they storm off to talk to Suppii. "At this rate Touya's 'special someone' will become..." they're saying...and Suppii says "It can't be helped, it's what he wants." Whether he's talking about Touya or Yukito/Yue is ambiguous, but I think he means Yukito?
 - They discuss how this might cause some problems for Eriol...but maybe this is also how Eriol would like things to go anyway?
- Back in the nurse's office, Touya sits down on the cot and touches the side of Yukito's face. "Listen," he says, and finally finishes his sentence after how many chapters? "I know you're not a human being. SO you don't need to hide it any more."

- With this, the shocked face of Yukito is swept up in Yue's feathers, and he transforms into Yue, who also looks weak, but still spectacular (and bitchy as always..)
- Touya is unphased, even a little bit amused. "So we finally meet," he says, and asks who he is.
 - Yue introduces himself, and admits that Yukito didn't want Touya to know what he was—just a temporary power-saving form, not a human being, so he couldn't transform in his presence.
 - Actually Yukito didn't know how he felt until that moment when he subconsciously reached out for him—then he understood that Touya is special to him.
 - Yue remembers that Touya once told Yuki he didn't want to lose him. But that's what could happen if his "current master" (Yue doesn't call Sakura by name here) doesn't have enough power to sustain him.
 - Does Touya understand the implications? Does he understand what he needs to do here?
 - And yes, Touya does—he can give up his own powers to save him.
 - That will mean never seeing his mother again.
 - And while that may have given Touya pause, he quickly says that it was hardly fair that only he could see her anyway.
- His only hesitation, the only thing he wants to bargain for, is that without his own powers, he can't help Sakura if she's in danger—and he asks Yue to do that for him.
 - This surprises Yue for a moment.
 - Then he comes back with his true grumpiness, stating that's a ridiculous request because he'd give his LIFE for his master already!
 - But Touya responds with equal grumpiness that that isn't great—after all, if Yue gives his life, Yukito will disappear and that defeats the purpose of all of this!
 - So he bargains: he'll give him his power, but he has to protect himself as well as Sakura.
 - Yue doesn't look thrilled, but maybe that's just his face.
 - He promises to try.
 - Touya says Yue and Yuki really are alike, and cracks a grin.
 - Then Yue embraces him, and we get a full page of magic effects as the power transfer happens. Touya stands stiffly, his hands in fists, while Yue floats in front of him, wings and ribbons wrapping around them both.

- And this time its Touya who collapses.
 - Yue remarks that the “pulse” of his magic is like Clow’s. But then, why wouldn’t it be, since he’s part of his new master’s family.
 - And he tenderly touches the unconscious Touya’s cheek.
 - “What can I say but Thank You?”

Discussion

- **Wow**, what a volume! I remembered most of the things in this volume, but I didn’t expect them to happen so soon. Although, I guess we do only have three volumes after this one, and if you figure around two of them will be swept up in climactic shit, and most of one will be some kind of denouement, then we really are nearing the end.
 - ROBIN WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITHOUT MORE CARDCAPTOR SAKURA MANGA???
 - **Watch** the anime, of course!
 - **Oh**, right...I’m not ready to think about the logistics of that, god!
- **I love** how Valentine’s Day and White day were much less gendered than I’m used to seeing them in anime. That’s probably because we’re dealing with elementary school kids (I mean, this is true in the US too...I know in elementary school I gave everyone in my class little Valentine’s Day cards and stuff, and it didn’t really have anything to do with crushes or whatever...although that sometimes factored into the card you made for someone...).
- **I wish** we could make predictions, because this half of the series has so many delicious clues that it’s dropping...but unfortunately I think we both remember all the plot twists too well.
- **I do** like how part of Eriol’s weird mystery is that he does seem to be personally helping them—telling SHoran how to calm down and focus, helping Sakura make the teddy bear...and then we see him pull dangerous magical pranks on them!
 - But maybe those are meant to help them, too, in the long term?
 - If that’s the case...why do it this way?
 - **Yeah**, and he felt bad when he initiated an attack while Sakura had that cold in the last volume. He definitely seems to be trying to play fair. It almost feels like he’s training them. Is that stargazing? I honestly don’t remember how he rationalizes all this, so I think it’s actually just a theory! So there!
- **I also** especially love that Spinel Sun and Ruby Moon...kinda aren’t doing anything? Like they are maybe helping Eriol, and Ruby Moon aka Nakuru is definitely tormenting Touya and Yukito...but mostly they just kind of hide in the shadows and make snide remarks. Even about Eriol!
 - They were actually kind of getting on my nerves at first, but I can get behind lazy snarkiness. I bet they would be real fun to watch Drag Race with.

- Tomoyo: the BEST? Or the BEST? (this is not just to antagonize Ian, who we congratulate again on his CLAMPdown books shipping!! But actually because she's just so great in this volume; putting Syaoran's feelings above her own in such a kind, selfless, helpful way. Also her outfits are fucking on FIRE in this volume.
 - They are! And I love her so much!
 - But side note, yes we've seen pictures of Ian's book arriving at people's houses and OMG I WANT IT SO BAAAAD ROBIN. You and your bro did such a good job on the cover!
- Touya's sacrifice! Yukito's feelings! Yue's bitchface!
 - Yeah, god, even knowing this was coming, it still was such a gut-punch knowing that he won't be able to see his mom anymore. And he's so straight-forward about it; he knows what he has to do, and that it will suck, but it's still what he's going to do. Definitely Grade-A CLAMP Stoic Boi, righ there.
 - I have fully extended my he's-just-repressed theory to include Yukito as Yue, at this point. I think they're separate personalities because they're both trying to keep down part of themselves. Part of me wants to see what they would be like as one character with both memories and a mix of personalities...but part of me also doesn't want to lose the two characters we have now.
- We'll come back to this when we watch teh anime, but by this point teh anime was like, very much in progress so they had to have kinda...two endings in mind? And we're now ¾ of the way through CCS! So that means we're in the home stretch—and I like how we got a mystery solved thanks to Touya and Yukito being uncharacteristically decisive!
 - Especially cute since Tomoyo was like, pushing the idea of being direct XD
 - Yeah! And I really liked all the work towards Syaoran having more control over his emotions. We're really seeing a lot of character growth all around!

Outro

In our next episode, we'll be discussing Cardcaptor Sakura volume 10!

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

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

Until next time, remember that everything will definitely be alright—

—and try not to lose an eye!