



Good Luck, Yukikaze

Chōhei Kambayashi

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A sequel to Yukikaze (Haikasoru, 2010)

The alien JAM have been at war with humanity for over thirty years...or have they? Rei Fukai of the FAF's Special Air Force and his intelligent plane Yukikaze have seen endless battles, but after declaring "Humans are unnecessary now," and forcibly ejecting Fukai, Yukikaze is on her own. Is the target of the JAM's hostility really Earth's machines? And have the artificial intelligences of Earth been acting in concert with the JAM to manipulate Yukikaze? As Rei tries to ascertain the truth behind the intentions of both sides, he realizes that his own humanity may be at risk, and that the JAM are about to make themselves known to the world at large.

Good Luck, Yukikaze Details

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Author : Ch?hei Kambayashi

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Dolores Fawn says

Struggled through the first half over the course of months. Just couldn't finish it. The characters seem totally changed from then first book with no explanation and the (slight spoiler) intense and widespread paranoia of a covert JAM invasion seems sudden and out of place. There's no reason for them to believe this, yet the reader is supposed to sympathize with these characters' fears rather than with the fact that they have both clearly gone off the deep end?! The writing also seems totally different. While the first book at least pretended to be intellectual, with long inner monologs about sentience and what it is to be human and such, this one just read like a cheap sci-fi light novel. Maybe there was a different translator for this book than the first?

Maybe it picks up but I'm too slow a reader to hold on to a book that I'm not engrossed in. I loved the first book, so I was always annoyed that it seemed like a totally different story.

galicae says

In this book we follow the exploits of pilot extraordinaire Rei Fukai and his sentient plane, Yukikaze, as they fight against the JAM, mysterious alien AIs. Probably.

While reading this book it was never clear to me what it wanted to be. It tried too hard to make sure I understood why the protagonists did what they did and said what they said, to the point of reading like narrated anime scenes. The overall aesthetic was an anime one anyway - the book reminded me a lot of Area 51, except replacing the moral dilemma of a civil war and mercenary fighters with the one of war against mysterious, implacable enemies.

I did not particularly enjoy this book; the characters were not very convincing and mostly clichés (Yukikaze, the plane AI was more compelling than anybody else, probably because we didn't know too much about it/her/him), the prose was not particularly impressive, and the plot was not more involved than that of a shonen manga. I don't know how much the book suffered in translation, but I am inclined to believe it is not a book I would have enjoyed anyway.

Rhoddi says

Not as enjoyable as the first book, as there was too much over analyzing and it made things drag. The sense of adventure from the first book just wasn't there.

Paxnirvana says

wow... nothing like the anime (oh, you can definitely see where they pulled things from but...) This is much more hard speculative scifi than the aerospace-porn of the anime implied. Liking it!

Logan Young says

Disclaimer: I didn't finish the book. Like all the novels I choose to read I gave it a chance of at least 100 pages. After 2 weeks of struggling to get myself to continue I got to page 100 and it was slow moving, repetitive, and uninteresting. I was pretty excited to read this book since I was a fan of the first one but it just failed to keep my attention at all.

Luis Arenas says

Muy buena ciencia ficción con toques existencialistas y un examen de lo que nos hace ser humanos.

Jason Seaver says

I rather liked this book's predecessor, *Yukikaze* [Yukikaze\[/book\]](#), but found this one to be a real chore to get through. Where the first was a story of emergent intelligence disguised as military sci-fi action, this one spends its time on the idea of trying to understand a potentially-unknowable alien species, and it is a mess. The opening segment plays with the idea of pilot Rei Fukai having some sort of telepathic link to his now sentient fighter plane, but that's abandoned as the book goes on. A lot of time seems to be spent on confusing politics played out by very polite sociopaths, and when things finally do start to come together, the race against time seems not to be part of the story, but a case of seeing that only a few dozen pages of a thick book are left, which isn't enough for a proper climax. We're left with neither satisfying resolution or exciting cliffhanger.

Also, I'm not sure whether it's Chohei Kambayashi's style or the translation work, but the writing itself can be an awful slog. I lost track of the number of times a paragraph would go "*statement, restatement, in other words/in short re-restatement*". JUST SAY IT ONCE, IN THE MOST CLEAR WAY!! It wasn't just one character who would talk like this, but all of them and the omniscient narration to boot, and it made just getting from one paragraph to the next irritating.
