



## Kare Kano: His and Her Circumstances, Vol. 21

*Masami Tsuda*

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### **Kare Kano: His and Her Circumstances, Vol. 21** Masami Tsuda

The final volume of Kare Kano is here! As graduation approaches, Yukino and Soichiro announce their happy news. Plans solidify for the coming years--college and work, family and friends, hopes and dreams, ambition and love. Which path will each relationship take? For this close-knit circle, the future is wide open!

### **Kare Kano: His and Her Circumstances, Vol. 21 Details**

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Author : Masami Tsuda

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## From Reader Review Kare Kano: His and Her Circumstances, Vol. 21 for online ebook

### Jerjonji says

\*\*\*Spoilers!!!\*\*

The story begins when Yukino begins high school. Yukino has devoted most of her young life to being the best in everything she does. She is the top student at school, perfectly dressed, and her peers adore her. Content to live life with this mask on, Yukino is convinced that she has life under control. Things start to crumble around her when the newest student in school, Soichiro Arima, shows her up in every area. Soichiro has his own problems. Unable to live the life he wants, he is determined to be the "good kid" so that his aunt and uncle will never be disappointed in him. The abuse he suffered as a child has severely scarred him and it is doubtful that he will ever be able to take off the mask he wears and be himself. This is the Kare Kano storyline I love- angsty, emo-ish, full of hurt and anger, and a lot of love to redeem things. As Yukino finds her hatred of Soichiro turning into love and they try to figure out who they are without the masks, the story takes you back to Arima's past and his parents mistakes. For most of the volumes, the manga-ka did a fine balancing act between dark and light, and I eagerly waited each book. After volume 20, the story felt done to me and I couldn't believe there was one more... the mop up volume in which she ties up all the loose ends, I guess.

I'm trying to figure out exactly what I hated about volume 21. It may be that she started the story off in the future with Arima dead and Yukino married to Arima's best friend, Hideaki, and then took it back. It was like that was the story she wanted to write, but since it didn't go anywhere, she pulled away from it. And then there was the storyline where Yukino and Arima tell Hideaki that Yukino is pregnant, and Hideaki knows 1. it's a girl and 2. it's his soulmate. So when Yukino's daughter is 17, she tells Hideaki that she loves him. It felt way too contrived and WRONG to me. Plus, she tries to reveal the truth about Hideaki's past (and only kind of does it) when she should have put that story string in much earlier when we all cared about why he was a womanizer.

But in the end, I think it's because she makes life so much easier for them after they grow up. They have children too young, have to put a career on hold, and everything is sweet and beautiful. Soichiro works too much, but everyone loves him anyway. Yukino's kids are beautiful and perfect. Hideaki is a famous artist who lives next door and babysits while Yukino goes to med school and then starts work... it's like she totally doesn't know how tough it is to be a real adult. It doesn't ring true and it feels like lies. She lost her way in this story, I think, and went for the easy ending- the one people wanted to read instead of the ending the story required. I'm sure all the fans are happy, but I'm a bit disappointed. This was the manga-ka who had the courage to tell the producers of the anime that they couldn't use her storyline anymore if that's what they were going to do with it. I wonder if she's happy with the ending or just happy that it's over....

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### Izlinda says

There's an epilogue of sorts, 16 years in the future after graduation.

It's nice to catch up with them, but it seemed to pat and neat that *nobody* broke up at all and they're all together. Nobody's single except one or two people, I think... It's sweet, and I suppose if they had different partners it would take more to explain it, and if people died or whatnot but...a bit unrealistic. If I was reading this when I was younger, and having my first relationship in high school, I may be more susceptible to

believing in romantic, fairy tale endings and end up being disappointed even *more* than I am now. (Or more cynical.)

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## Carmen says

I finished my first manga series ever! But seeing as how I've never wrote a review for it, I'll summarize its story a bit. It's about this seemingly perfect girl who only acts perfect because she loves to be flattered. She holds up this facade of hers and is always number one in her class... that is until she gets to high school where she meets this boy.... who is even more perfect than she is and beats her out for the number one position. She starts to panic and works even harder to regain her status but through some unfortunate circumstances, her perfect image slips and is revealed to him. She's forced to do his work or he'll reveal her for who she is-- a shallow and conniving girl-- but somewhere along the way, she ends up falling for him. He already likes her for her imperfections.. and eventually they both promise to let go of their facades and just be themselves. Thus begins this love story as our heroes are forced to face their real selves that they've been hiding. They have to also deal with the people who only see them as perfect and now are being told that it was only a ruse. Along the way, more characters and their stories are told as the heroes start making real friends and opening themselves up.

This manga series was awesome.. because it encourages you to be yourself despite how imperfect we may be. It's about facing our pasts and our histories to be able to face the present. I'm a little sad that I'm finished with the series... but it was a good while it lasted.

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## Lynn says

Today's post is on Kare Kano: his and her circumstances volume 21 by Masami Tsuda. As it is the last in the long running series you need to have read the first twenty volumes to understand the story. It is 186 pages long and is published by Tokyopop. The cover has Yukino and Soichiro on it as adults. The intended reader is someone who likes high school romance, drama and happy endings. The story is told from third person god. There Be Spoilers Ahead.

From the back of the book- The final volume of Kare Kano is here! As graduation approaches, Yukino and Soichiro announce their happy news. Plans solidify for the coming years--college and work, family and friends, hopes and dreams, ambition and love. Which path will each relationship take? For this close-knit circle, the future is wide open!

Review- A happy ending for great characters and all's well that ends well. Everyone ends with who they love and they have some success in life. Yukino and Soichiro have three children in total and are very happy. Yukino is a doctor and is going to run the hospital one day. Soichiro is a detective who always gets his man. I have really enjoyed this series with its real light-hearted look at life. Yes there was real issues like child abuse talked about and yes there was teenage pregnancy but in the end it is a light and funny story about two people meeting and falling in love. There are worse things to read about than that.

I give this volume and this series a Five out of Five stars. I get nothing for my reviews and I bought this manga with my own money.

## Travis says

I liked this series quite a bit, even when it took a turn for the angsty and started focusing on Arima (actually I think I liked his story best of all).

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## Allison says

I loved this series when I saw it as an anime, and because of the cliffhanger ending of the anime series, I decided to continue reading the series where the anime left off.

If you don't know the plot of this story DO NOT SKIP AHEAD! Missing all of the little bumps and curves just to get to the ending will ruin the experience. Anyway, this was, hands down my favorite volume of the series because it was absolutely perfect. Although everything ends on a happy note, don't assume everyone gets a perfect happily-ever after.

I especially loved the final act, which takes place 15 or more years after the anime. We get to see all of our favorite characters, and what they have become. It's just the icing on the cake and wraps up everything perfectly!

A great end to a fantastic series! Bravo!

(It's 2 AM, sorry if my review is choppy)

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## Luisa says

**Di sicuro la capacità di comprendere cosa sia la felicità e cosa l'infelicità risiede in un luogo che la mano dell'uomo non può raggiungere.**

Dopo Fruits basket (letto il mese scorso), un altro manga che mi ha abbastanza devastato è Karekano... no, non volevo farmi del male a distanza di poco tempo però mi chiamava, ero curiosa di iniziarlo pertanto mi sono buttata nella lettura.

La storia mi ha intrigato fin dai primi volumi: leggeri, spassosi, divertenti quasi. E pian piano ho fatto la conoscenza di tutti i molteplici personaggi che sono ben caratterizzati e molto umani, ognuno con i propri difetti, paure, colpe, segreti a cui è impossibile non affezionarsi ♥

In particolare le tematiche affrontate - oltre a quelle tipiche dell'adolescenza (amore, amicizia, prime difficoltà della vita) - riguardano soprattutto il reprimere la propria personalità e l'apparire belli e perfetti per essere accettati, l'indossare una maschera per integrarsi nella società e rispettare le convenzioni sociali perchè altrimenti non sei nessuno; l'importanza che si dà alla materialità; l'abbandono; l'abuso e la violenza (fisica e psicologica) domestica; le dinamiche famigliari e l'educazione; la solitudine; il perdono e la redenzione. Insomma tematiche delicate ed attuali, difficili da mandare giù, che portano inevitabilmente a riflettere, a guardarsi dentro.

E' un manga diverso dal solito, forte e intenso, che ferisce... infatti verso la metà comincia a prendere una piega più cupa e dolorosa e quanta angoscia e tristezza ho provato! Quasi avevo paura di proseguire... ma

d'altronde così è la vita: si va avanti nonostante i dolori e i traumi. Alcuni purtroppo si lasciano inghiottire dalle tenebre senza avere la fortuna di incontrare qualcuno che li aiuti; altri invece che, come Soichirou, dopo aver toccato il fondo riescono ad affrontare se stessi e i demoni interiori in un percorso di rinascita e trasformazione per arrivare all'agognato lieto fine, sentendosi finalmente alleggeriti e liberi. Perché io pur trattandosi "solo" di un manga, voglio ancora crederci che esista un lieto anche nella vita reale nonostante le sofferenze. Il passato non può e non deve essere dimenticato ma bisogna che venga superato per riuscire a voltare pagina. Le situazioni di Lui&Lei insegna proprio che il cambiamento in positivo è possibile, quando meno ce lo si aspetta e magari nel momento in cui si smette di sperare in un futuro migliore. Insegna quanto sia necessario andare oltre le apparenze, le etichette che affibbiamo e ci vengono affibbate a causa dei pregiudizi; che imparare dai piccoli e grandi errori serve per mettere in moto la vita e giungere ad una felicità duratura.

Dal punto di vista grafico ammetto che i disegni a tratti mi piacevano a tratti non tanto, li trovavo poco espressivi e curati. In ogni caso gradevoli.

Detto ciò: se cercate una storia divertente, commovente, dolcemente nostalgica, introspettiva e che lasci il segno non può che fare al caso vostro. Io la consiglio assolutamente! E non fatevi spaventare dalla mole (21 volumi) perché scorre e si divora che è un piacere.

Mi mancherà :')

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### **Ivy says**

The whole series is great. Read it for the wonderful characters, funny slice of Japanese high school life. It would be a perfect series except for this very last volume which left me feeling a little bit icked out. Sure there's one other relationship that is a bit incestuous, step brother and step sister but the epilogue went one step too far for me.

I know Japanese culture is OK with May-December romances and students falling in love with teachers are the stuff of shoujo mangas but seriously for most Western readers this is pretty gross. Relationships like this in manga are also always a much older man and younger female. In this case she's practically a girl and the man is old enough to be her father is actually her father's best friend. Gag and blech on the epilogue portion of the series. (Asapin the main couple's best friend winds up with their daughter who he practically helped to raise.)

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### **Nidah (SleepDreamWrite) says**

Good volume.

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### **Manga\_inamorata says**

### **WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO!**

I loved this manga! I loved it more than anything! I first watched the anime but it ended too soon for me so I went on the hunt for the manga. Everything was going great. I loved how their relationship was growing and getting better when all of a fucking second that ENDING was basically a huge screw you!

Why the hell would you do that? As if Arma hadn't been through hell and back! I can't even get a happy ending? Are you kidding me!

URGH!

I say read from 1-21 but once you see the \*Ten Years later\* close the book and walk away! I so wish I did! Urgh man!

it just sucked!

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## Hira says

Second Reread:

The past few days I've read some shoujo manga, and I felt like they were trying too hard to make the stories sound meaningful and I recalled having read Kare Kano, one of the series that I had actually enjoyed. I felt like revisiting Kare Kano's story, so i went back and started reading from Volume 1.

It starts off as a relatively typical comedy series. Some people may have felt like it's all wrapped up in the first volume even and don't bother to read further because of the cliché nature of the series, however they'd be surprised when they see what comes in the later volumes. Reading the first few volumes, you may think that Miyazawa is the main character, however Arima's character is the most worked on throughout the series, and the most complex imo.

As the series progressed, more characters were introduced, and each of them were given their own stories that were told. Not just the main leads' characters developed, but so did everyone attached to them. The only one of their stories I felt lacking was Asaba's, he was one of the more central side characters yet we are not given closure.

I wasn't expecting how dark this series would be. It deals with individuality and people who struggle with it, our need to be loved and also how to love. Another thing I loved about this was how they wrap up the relationship aspect pretty early on (I think the first/second volume?) - and focuses more on their emotional growth IN the relationship. Having read so many manga where they deal with the leads barely holding hands until the end of the series, it was a fresh breath of air.

Overall I'd rate this a solid 9.5/10 (I did not like the final volume), and hope to revisit it again sometime in the future.

First Reread:

~~Finished within 2-3 days. It starts off as a pretty fluffy read, first volume is fairly interesting, and it grows darker as the story progresses. Arima's character develops much throughout, and Miyazawa's is developed in the first few. All characters are interesting enough and each have stories of their own. They have stereotypes involved, like most manga, but these are bearable, and doesn't lessen how much you enjoy the story. Arima's story was the one most focused on, and the darkest. The ending was kind of typical-ish and made me cringe...but oh well. Overall a nice enough read.~~

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## neeecole says

Update (10/12): I finished the entire manga series--my first ever! After being an adoring fan of the anime series, my buddy Tyler finally convinced me (by buying me the first couple for a birthday gift) that I really needed to make the switch to the manga series. Really, I think he just wanted someone to be a little more even with him on the nerd scale. Well I was convinced after reading the first volume post anime (the volume with the play was rad!). The series is completely awesome! One of the youth I work with made fun of me for reading it and being into the "teen drama" anime's--but I think I am drawn to these anime's because of the type of sarcastic humor and character development the authors and creators often focus in on. Kare Kano is no exception and though the ending came together rather nicely (at least the last volume), it wasn't that "it all fits together like a cute little safe puzzle J.K. Rowling style" closure. Manga's are great because they are a really quick read--I can usually get through one or two volumes in an hour (or even less sometimes). Though the habit can be expensive so I recommend borrowing from friends, or the library, or buying used.

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## Jasmine Rose says

I had a bit of a bumpy ride with Kare Kano overall. The anime was one of the first I watched when I just started getting into it all. The non-ending really sucked so I was looking forward to getting the whole story with the manga. I meant to read it right away, but my library only had a few random copies, so here I am approximately two years later having finally collected and read all 21 volumes. Maybe all that time got my hopes up a bit, but whatever the reason, I couldn't quite see what everyone else seems to see in the series.

The last few volumes were pretty good, but the first half of the series was a huge letdown. There really isn't much of a story to speak of for that first half. It's basically about Yukino and Soichiro getting together and then some random stories with a few poor excuses for conflict thrown in.

Things finally start to get good when it's time for Soichiro's side of the story. I mean, he has next to no personality before the focus is solely on him. I wish some more focus had also been given to some of the side characters. They were pretty fascinating once more of their character started to show, but I feel like we only ever scratched the surface. Well, I suppose that's not entirely fair as Tsubasa and Kazuna got two whole volumes to themselves. Which, honestly, come on! I would have been happy with anyone else. Honestly, those two volumes pissed me off. I never cared all that much for Tsubasa as a character anyway, and I certainly didn't want to see them get together. If any character deserved to volumes to themselves, it was Asapin. He was with them from the start and I always felt like there was so much more to his story that we couldn't see.

Although, Asapin did seriously disturb me with his feelings at the end of the story. I can't even imagine how weird that would be for Yukino and Soichiro.

I did appreciate the 16 year leap into the future. You don't often get that big of a jump and it was really interesting to see how everyone was doing after all that time. Tsuda did a wonderful job wrapping up everything and leaving me with a nice fuzzy feeling.

Also, the arc with Soichiro's dad was pretty interesting and definitely not something I could have predicted.

Overall, I'd have to say Kare Kano just didn't work for me as a series, but I think Tsuda managed to pull a good ending out of it all anyway.

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## Sarah says

Kind of a spacy ending, but whatever. First time I'd read the ending.

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## Carmen8094 says

Dopo gli importantissimi eventi narrati negli ultimi numeri, mi sono approcciata al volume 21, l'ultimo de Le situazioni di lui & lei covando grandi aspettative... naturalmente deluse.

In realtà avrei dovuto prevedere un volume più leggero, in cui si potesse tirare il respiro dopo tutte le rivelazioni precedenti. Che facesse da epilogo.

In questo numero, infatti, si cerca di indagare meglio Asaba, rimasto un po' ai margini della storia negli ultimi tempi e poi, dopo una breve incursione della zia Eiko, tutti i ragazzi protagonisti della storia prendono una propria strada, che li porterà inevitabilmente ad allontanarsi gli uni dagli altri. Mentre il loro posto, a scuola, viene preso dalla nuova generazione, impersonata da Kano, la sorella minore di Yukino.

Nell'atto finale, l'autrice ci catapulta nella storia ben sedici anni dopo gli eventi di cui abbiamo letto, e lo fa prendendo inizialmente in giro il lettore sulle sorti di lui e lei (ammetto che a me sarebbe piaciuto molto se le cose fossero andate davvero in quel modo).

Possiamo così fare una capatina nelle vite dei due protagonisti - ma che tristezza, Soichiro padre più che altro assente - e dei loro ex compagni di liceo.

Sono rimasta un po' perplessa per ciò che è stato scelto per Asaba, che alla fine si è rivelato un personaggio di gran lunga migliore di quello che pensassi (e che probabilmente ho bistrattato nelle recensioni). Non sono sicura che mi piaccia ciò che è stato lasciato in serbo per lui.

Benché Le situazioni di lui & lei non mi abbia del tutto conquistata e, per alcuni aspetti, non mi abbia sempre del tutto convinta, mi è dispiaciuto lasciare definitivamente tutti i suoi personaggi, dopo averli visti praticamente crescere sotto i miei occhi.

Credo che ciò significhi che la storia ha fatto il suo dovere.

<http://iltesorodicarta.blogspot.it/20...>

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