

AR Issue #30 Goodbye summer and Inuyasha review

August 2024, Issue #30



It's August and summer is almost over! Recently I started rewatching *Inuyasha* with my little one (it's in "adult" accounts of Netflix) and they will only watch dubs to my disappointment. I am a bit of snob when it comes to Japanese animation and love the original voices because the cast is usually so much better! Will write a bit more about *Inuyasha* below. Overall it's been a strange summer, hot weather and disasters everywhere. I am saddened by news about what is causing hospital strikes in India and hope my friends who have family there will be able to make changes in their society to protect females better. Please enjoy the rest of August before the September storm hits!

- JF Garrard

Latest Artsy Raven Podcast Episodes



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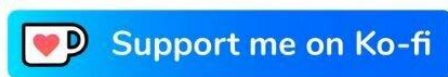
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Artsy Fun - *Inuyasha* Review



Inuyasha (犬夜叉, lit. "Dog Yaksha" with yaksha meaning nature spirit) is a Japanese manga series written and illustrated by Rumiko Takahashi (1996-2008, 56 volumes). Between 2000-2004 Sunrise studio adapted the manga into an anime television series (167 episodes (8 seasons), four feature films and an original video animation (OVA).

The plot follows Kagome, a modern day Japanese school girl who lives on the grounds of a family Shinto shrine. On her fifteenth birthday, she is dragged into a well by a centipede demon and sent back in time into the Sengoku period (1546). It turns out she is the reincarnation of Kikyo, a priestess who had guarded a Shikon Jewel which evil demons and humans can use to become super powerful. Kagome meets Inuyasha, a half dog demon and half human being and they strike up a friendship. After Kagome inadvertently shatters the Shikon Jewel, the two of them go on a quest, battling demons and humans across Japan to gather up pieces of the jewel.

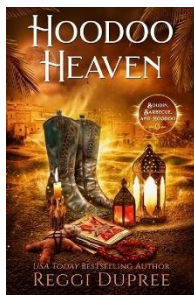
Rumiko Takahashi is a very talented high fantasy writer and *Inuyasha* delivers on weaving the modern and fantasy feudal worlds together. The plots are pretty tight and many episodes are about Inuyasha and Kagome encountering a demon or human they have to fight in order to find a piece of the Shikon jewel. This can seem a bit repetitive, but there are side stories weaved into the plot explaining the relationships between demons and humans as well as the origin of the Shikon Jewel. Every episode has a lot of action and my little one was screaming their head off almost every episode out of fear or excitement (it was a bit hard to tell). Given the dark nature and animated violence, it's best parents are around to calm down younger kids if they are watching this. For those that enjoy Japanese mythology and fantasy stories, *Inuyasha* is highly recommended. The cast of both Japanese and English voices are done very well, but I was a bit disappointed that the Netflix release couldn't get permission to include the Japanese opening theme songs and are replaced by an instrumental piece. If I had to rank the anime out of 10, I would give it a 8.

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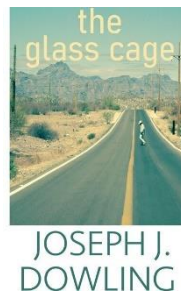


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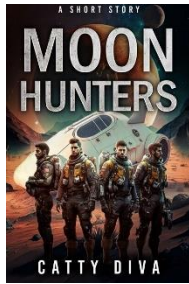
Hoodoo Heaven by Reggi Dupree ([click to download](#)). All I need to do is stay alive until my forty-fifth birthday, and then the rest of my life will be mine to screw up without the help of my family's curse. A couple rogue vampires and the hottest man I've ever laid eyes on will do everything they can to derail my plans.



The Glass Cage by Joseph J Dowling ([click to download](#)). Sonya Celeste and her minder, Ryan Harding, hatch a plan to sacrifice Sonya's body double and disappear into anonymity. With Sonya haunted by terrifying visions of her dead lookalike, and her father keen to ensure she is never found and claim a vast insurance payout, how far south will the pair need to run in order to escape?



The Assassin Heiress by Corinne M Knight ([click to download](#)). The Assassin Heiress is set in Roslyn Academy (England, UK), Prior Park Mansion (Bath, UK) and Corvin Castle (Hunedoara, Romania) and features secret societies, supernatural creatures, and action-packed adventure with a side of thrilling plot twists, love, betrayal, and the battle between light and dark.



Moon Hunters by Catty Diva (click to download). This is a complete short story that leads into the Moon Hunters series. Cash owes Razar a favor but it turns out to be much harder than he thought. He has to go in person to get this done before he can get back to his security business.



Slice by Drew Briney (click to download). Half orphaned and struggling to survive, a broken young man risks everything to save his family with a drug that enhances his feeble powers. With mounting obstacles threatening and surrounding him at every turn, Tzun fends off one enemy only to discover his gravest challenge is worse than anything he could have imagined.



Rainshadow by Mark Jenkins (click for preview). When Jamie Coutts she receives a mysterious phone call from her sister Chloe — whose dreams are driving her to search for their reclusive grandmother — Jamie takes time off work and travels to meet her wanderlust sibling. After a severe storm threatens their survival, the sisters confront an ancient supernatural presence.



The Pack's Dragon by Rachel Adams (click to download). Senias and his mate escaped their world to elude death, leaving their kindred lovers behind. They've found a new home by befriending a pack of wolf-lycan. But how long can this last? Kieran and his pack are fighting for the freedom



Wrath of Persephone (War on the Gods, #0) by A. P. Mobley (click to download). Kore, a daughter of Demeter and Zeus, has a perfect life—that is, until the night she catches the eye of Hades, King of the Underworld. Hades kidnaps her and forces

of all lycan from their elven masters. Meeting the pair of dragons that needed a home was a boon to their cause. But even with the dragons on their side, will the fighting ever be finished?

her to marry him. To survive her new role as Persephone, Queen of the Underworld, Kore will have to embrace the darkness and grow into the vengeful goddess she was always destined to be.



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