



Baron: The Cat Returns

Aoi Huiragi

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The story follows a girl called Haru, a quiet, shy and unassuming high school student who has a long-suppressed ability to talk to cats. One day, she saves a darkly-colored, odd-eyed cat from being hit by a truck on a busy road. The cat turns out to be Lune, Prince of the Cat Kingdom. In return, the cats shower her with gifts of catnip and mice. She is then offered the Prince's hand in marriage.

Baron: The Cat Returns Details

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From Reader Review Baron: The Cat Returns for online ebook

Rachel says

I am a fan of the movie, The Cat Returns, which was based on this manga. I was curious as to how different the book might be as opposed to the Studio Ghibli movie.

The book does contain some subtle (and other less subtle) differences in character design, but as a whole the movie follows the plot of the book fairly closely. The book expands on certain details about the Kingdom of Cats that aren't touched upon in the movie that add some significant impact on certain characters where there weren't any before. Some connections and relationships with characters go deeper than the movie indicates, which makes some scenes more heart wrenching.

As a book, it's a quick read and straightforward adventure for all ages. I would recommend it to anyone who likes a bit of whimsy in their stories and can break away from reality... after all, it would be strange to see a cat walking around on two legs!

Selena says

This is a very fun manga. Simple as that. Fun characters, fun story, fun settings.

If you like cats, this is the perfect book.

Rebecca McNutt says

My parents ordered me this book back in the third grade. I'm not usually a fan of anime but the story, the drawings, the characters, it's all so surreal and beautiful! You could sort of call it an Alice in Wonderland with cats. Every character, from enigmatic Baron to awkward but kind Haru to chubby comic relief yet very noble Muta is unique and original. The drawings are detailed even in black-and-white, they look amazing, and although at first glance it seems like just a fun little adventure book about cats, it has an underlying message about life after death and helping others. It's definitely an enjoyable graphic novel for all ages, I highly recommend it!

Kelso says

My wife got this for me. We really like the movie "The Cat Returns" put out by Studio Ghibli and we were pretty interested in the book the movie was based on.

It was not disappointing. I think I would say it's better than the movie and different enough that if you've already seen the movie, there are still plenty of surprises. Also, there's a setup for a sequel at the end. Recommended if you like manga!

Eva says

One of the rare instances where the movie is better than the book.

Brigid says

I admit I saw the movie first, and many times, before I read this graphic novel. I liked the movie so much, I checked this one out and it didn't disappoint me. Haru's daily life goes by in a series of accidents and mishaps, so it's no surprise that by doing a good deed for a cat, she gets into serious feline trouble. Luckily for her, the Cat Office (called the Cat Bureau in the movie), in the form of the Baron, Muta, and Toto, help Haru out of her fishy situation. I do like this version, but I'm grateful for the movie director's additions that let Haru gain some self-confidence.

Lorien Rhys ~ Live for tomorrow says

YES! Finally read it! Who knew it would take only a relocation? The manga in some parts ARE better than the movie HOWEVER, the Baron looks waaay more enchanting and spiffing in the movie than in the manga. The funny thing is that Haru, I think, is beautiful in here. And Muta, and Toto? Um, their quarreling is definitely better displayed in the movie for sure! Overall, loved the artwork, the characters, and just everything!

Mahra says

this manga gave me life

1. I am a huge HUGE fan of 'The Cat Returns' ghibli animation, it always left me happy and motivate about life.
2. i was so happy and excited to read it, made me laugh and excited and all filled with emotions
3. Oh i love the Baron!! i wanna visit the cat office one day!
4. and Lune and Yuki omg I love so much! (although Lune was more dressed like a prince in the animation film but i love his cat earring in the manga too!)
5. AND THeY FOUND THE CAT QUEEN! WE NEED MORE PAGES!1
6. also when the cats came to take Haru, before they came, Haru felt a breeze and Baron said 'a breeze in this world means that someone is coming' that gave me DiannaWJ feels about Chrestomanci..
7. oh i just adore all this, i wish the author would write more of the Baron adventures and the cat office!!

Jill Kenna says

This was such a cute little book! I loved the story and the artwork was really adorable.

Holly Letson says

4.5*

Simply amazing! I could not put it down!

Meaghan Steeves says

I think I actually prefer the film version though I did quite enjoy this origin story and seeing how events got switched around.

Rosemarie Short says

I am a huge Studio Ghibli fan and my two favourite Ghibli films are definitely "Howl's Moving Castle" and "The Cat Returns". This manga version of the latter film is enchanting. The drawings are great - beautiful and yet always conveying the drama, humor and gentleness combined which makes this story one of the sweetest and best.

Fun Fact: I had a massive crush on Baron as a teenager - yes, I do know he's a cat. No, I don't care.

Booknerd says

I was very fortunate to find this Manga at the public library book sale and also appreciate my friend for having me watch this movie when we hung out. This Manga is adapted from the movie and reminded how funny, cute and creative it was.

Pari says

This was amazing.

It was so much more fun than the movie! Muta was and still is my favourite character of them all. I'm glad that I'm discovering these manga, one by one. Reading all of these makes me so happy.

Lyzitea says

This is a very fun manga. If you like cats, this is the perfect book.
