

= Sakura ( Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle ) =

Sakura ( ??? ) , also known as Princess Sakura ( ???? , Sakura Hime ) , is a fictional character and one of the protagonists from Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle , a manga series written and illustrated by Clamp . In the series , Sakura is a princess from the Kingdom of Clow who has her memories separated from her body and sent to parallel dimensions in the form of feathers . Finding Sakura catatonic and near death , Syaoran , her childhood friend , goes on a quest to recover her memories . As a payment for travelling , Sakura will never recover her memories regarding Syaoran , who she was in love with . Nevertheless , as the journey continues , Sakura forms new bonds with Syaoran , and together they learn how the sorcerer Fei @-@ Wang Reed was responsible for the loss of her memories and will benefit from their recovery . Besides Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle , Sakura also appears in other works from Clamp including xxxHolic and the drama CD series Holitsuba .

The character of Sakura and her relationship with Syaoran were both based on Sakura Kinomoto , the protagonist from Cardcaptor Sakura . Her character has been well received by Japanese readers and audiences , appearing in various popularity polls not only from Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle but also for anime and manga series in general . She has also received praise from media publications for her personality , her relation with Syaoran , and her development across the series .

= = Character outline = =

= = = In Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle = = =

First introduced in Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle , Sakura is the princess of the Kingdom of Clow . A force fragments her soul , including her memories , into feathers , which are scattered across various parallel worlds . To retrieve the feathers and save her life , she and Syaoran go to Y?ko Ichihara , who gives them Mokona Modoki to help them travel to parallel worlds . The cost for her help is Sakura 's memory of Syaoran , which causes him to be absent from any memories restored to her . Sakura is initially confused , and constantly tired , but she grows stronger as she regains her feathers . She becomes very friendly with the group 's new members , Fai D. Flowright , Kurogane and Mokona , and she grows close to Syaoran again . Even though she notices that she has forgotten somebody from her memories , whenever Sakura realizes the one missing is Syaoran , her memories revert to before her realization . Over time she also starts recover various abilities , including seeing spirits of nature , ghosts , and visions of the future .

As the journey continues , Sakura comes to regard Syaoran as her most important person , but at the same time he betrays the group to Fei @-@ Wang Reed , the sorcerer who can control him and created him based on another teenager . Sakura learns that Fei @-@ Wang was responsible for scattering her memories and set up the journey to recover them for his own plans , but she still decides to continue in order to save Syaoran . From that point on , Sakura becomes very distant from the group , especially the newly arrived original Syaoran , because of his similarities to the clone whom she has come to know . When she sees a future involving Fai killing the original Syaoran as part of Fei @-@ Wang 's curse , Sakura attempts to change it and succeeds in taking Fai 's place , in that moment sending her soul to the Dream World and her body to Celes . Her soul is destroyed by the Syaoran clone when trying to recover her feathers . Just before her death , Sakura reveals that she is a clone of the original Sakura and asks Syaoran to go back to his previous self . Fei @-@ Wang created the clone Sakura to increase the power from the feathers , and as a backup in case the original Sakura died in the journey . After the destruction of her soul , the power stored in her soulless body is used by Fei @-@ Wang as part of his plan to revive Y?ko .

Since clones cannot properly die , the Sakura and Syaoran clones are reconstructed by Y?ko , who wishes to compensate them for how their existences were used . She causes them to be reborn as humans , who eventually meet and start living together . Sakura gives birth to the original Syaoran and they realize they are in their own past . They raise him until it is time for him to begin the events of the series , then they seal themselves in a glass tube in order to await the time when Fei @-@

Wang will attempt to shatter reality . After breaking free from the tube , Sakura and Syaoran reverse Fei @-@ Wang 's damage to the dimension using the magic they inherited from the sorcerer Clow Reed during their reincarnation . They disappear after Fei @-@ Wang is killed by Kurogane , leaving behind only a feather which the original Sakura and Syaoran absorb .

= = = Other appearances = = =

Besides the manga and anime series from Tsubasa , Sakura also appears in the animated film *The Princess in the Birdcage Kingdom* in which she still travels with Syaoran , Fai , Kurogane and Mokona across dimensions . She is also a playable character in the two Nintendo DS video games from Tsubasa . In the drama CD series , *The Matinée of the Palace* , the group performs a play that reenacts the series ' story while searching for one of her feathers .

Outside Tsubasa , Sakura makes various appearances in Clamp 's manga *xxxHolic* , showing some of the events happening in Tsubasa : *Reservoir Chronicle* . Sakura also appears in later volumes when her soul is separated from her body and sent to the Dream World . There , she meets Y?ko 's assistant , a teenager named Kimihiro Watanuki , whom she finds similar to the original Syaoran . One of her feathers ? that of her memories of Syaoran ? appears in Watanuki 's world and gives the medium Kohane Tsuyuri the ability to exorcise spirits . After Kohane wishes for the removal of her ability , the feather stays with a black Mokona Modoki . Sakura does not appear in the animated adaptations of *xxxHolic* until the original video animations series *xxxHolic Shunmuki* , in which she appears in the Dream World talking with Watanuki .

The drama CD series *Holitsuba Gakuen* features Sakura as one of the students from the fictional school Holitsuba , which includes characters from both Tsubasa and *xxxHolic* .

= = Creation and conception = =

Similarly to the characters created by Osamu Tezuka and his *Star System* , Sakura was based on the protagonist of Clamp 's previous manga *Cardcaptor Sakura* , Sakura Kinomoto , and her relationship with Syaoran Li . Both Sakura and Syaoran 's counterparts from *Cardcaptor Sakura* had a happy ending ; Clamp said that the Tsubasa protagonists would have to overcome trials throughout the series to get their " own happy ending " . Sakura losing her memories of Syaoran and struggling to once again develop feelings for him is one of the main themes of Tsubasa : *Reservoir Chronicle* , showing the value of relationships throughout the series .

= = = Voice actresses = = =

Sakura is voiced by Yui Makino in the anime adaptation , and by Monica Rial in the English adaptation . Sakura 's character was Makino 's first work as a voice actress and she states she did not have to adjust her voice for that , finding the character similar to her . During the series ' original video animations ( OVAs ) , Makino mentioned that one of Sakura 's scenes was very sad , and worked to make it appealing .

= = Reception = =

Singer Maaya Sakamoto wrote the anime 's insert song " *Spica* " based on Sakura 's character , describing how she moves forward across the series but still shows weakness at times . Various types of merchandising have also been made based on her appearance , such as plushes and keychains .

Sakura 's character has been well received by publications for manga , anime and other media . While commenting on the series ' protagonists , Ed Sizemore from *Comics Worth Reading* stated that Sakura had " natural grace and charm " , indicating how she changes as the series continues . Comparing her with her *Cardcaptor Sakura* counterpart , Carl Kimlinger from *Anime News Network* found Sakura a likeable female lead character based on her personality and how she cares for

others . Animefringe writer Lesley Smith commented that Sakura was " becoming a much larger character " the more feathers she recovered , but even so " her relationship with Syaoran can never be the same . " Sakura 's change in the second half of the manga has also received many comments . Carlo Santos of Anime News Network called it a large improvement , as she starts manipulating events in order to obtain what she wants . On the other hand , Mania Entertainment 's Sakura Eries had mixed feelings about this , stating that while it is not surprising she volunteers to get involved in a dangerous task , the outcome was " unbelievable " due to how she ended facing the creatures from Tokyo . Megan Lavey from the same site found Sakura 's death in a later volume unexpected , and the revelation that Sakura was a clone like Syaoran made her feel " cheated " since the two of them were the series ' initial protagonists .

Sakura 's relationship with Syaoran and the way in which she begins caring for him again even without her memories has often been described as one of the series ' strongest points . Carlo Santos stated that the relationship even makes up for the issues in the anime , while Active Anime 's Christopher Seaman found such a romantic relationship one of the most mature developments of the series . IGN 's N.S. Davidson mentioned that the series would still be appealing to those who dislike romance , because of the " haunting " situation of these two characters . Megan Lavey called it a " pretty simple love story " , but liked their personalities though .

Sakura has been popular among readers from series , placing second among all the characters in Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle in a popularity poll held by Weekly Shōnen Magazine in 2005 right behind the Syaoran clone . She took a lower spot in the following poll behind Fai and the Syaoran clone , but has maintained a high ranking in other related polls from the series . In the Animage 's Anime Grand Prix poll from 2006 , Sakura was voted as the fifth most popular female anime character , and the following year she was seventh . In the Animedia " 2006 Animedia Character Awards " , Sakura ranked highly in several of its categories . The most notable include second place in the categories " Most Beautiful / Loveliest Character Award " and " Most Heroic Character Award " .