

= Syaoran (Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle) =

Syaoran (?? , Shaoran) is a fictional character and protagonist in Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle , a manga series written and illustrated by Clamp . Syaoran is introduced as a young archaeologist who is in love with Sakura , his childhood friend and the princess from the Kingdom of Clow . When Sakura 's memories are scattered throughout parallel dimensions , Syaoran goes on a quest to recover them , at the cost of Sakura never remembering him . Later in the series , Syaoran is revealed to be a clone created by Fei @-@ Wang Reed ? the sorcerer who caused Sakura to lose her memories . As a seal from his original self placed on the clone 's body breaks , Syaoran becomes one of the series ' antagonists , moving according to Fei @-@ Wang 's will . Syaoran has featured in other works by Clamp , including the manga xxxHolic and the drama CD series Holistuba .

Syaoran 's character is based on Syaoran Li , a character from Clamp 's Cardcaptor Sakura manga and had several changes to appeal to the series ' demographic . The character has been well received by readers of the series , placing high in popularity polls from Tsubasa and manga and anime series in general . He also received positive comments by manga and anime publications . Syaoran 's role as an antagonist has also received positive comments ; some writers use nicknames to differentiate his antagonistic self from his original self , often calling him evil .

= = Appearances = =

= = = In Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle = = =

Syaoran is introduced in Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle as a young archaeologist who often visits the Kingdom of Clow and is in love with his childhood friend Sakura , the kingdom 's princess . Syaoran is the adopted son of the late archeologist Fujitaka , who found him as a child in the street with no memories of his past . Syaoran often accompanied his father on expeditions , and following his father 's death , he lived alone while continuing his father 's job . After Sakura 's memories are scattered in the form of feathers throughout many dimensions , Syaoran meets Y?ko Ichihara , a witch who gives him , Fai D. Flowright , and Kurogane ? her other clients ? Mokona Modoki ; a creature that can transport them to different dimensions . Syaoran pays Y?ko for the use of Mokona with all of Sakura 's memories that involved him .

Throughout the journey , Syaoran starts bonding with Sakura again , and becomes friends with Fai , Kurogane , and Mokona . Syaoran specializes in hand @-@ to @-@ hand combat , mainly focusing on kicks taught by hunter Seishir? during his childhood when he had no visual perception of depth because he was blind in his right eye . He later trains blindfolded with Kurogane to overcome this weakness . Kurogane also teaches him swordsmanship to make him a stronger fighter , and he gains Hien (?? , lit . " Scarlet Flame ") ? a sword with magical properties that allow it to create fire .

Syaoran is a clone of another teenager ; the sorcerer Fei @-@ Wang Reed created the clone to find Sakura 's feathers . The original Syaoran placed some of his " heart " within the clone 's right eye , allowing the clone to develop his own personality . After the seal breaks , Syaoran loses all his emotions and Fei @-@ Wang uses him to collect feathers in other dimensions on his own , betraying his friends . Syaoran becomes immune to pain , which makes him ruthless and strong . Before leaving his former friends , he devours Fai 's left eye to gain his own magic powers , which grow stronger every time he uses them . When fighting his original self , Syaoran destroys Sakura 's soul ? which is revealed as another clone who asks Syaoran to recover his heart just before disappearing . Despite being shocked by this , Syaoran is again emotionless when the original Syaoran , Kurogane and Fai go to fight Fei @-@ Wang . In the course of the battle , Syaoran betrays Fei @-@ Wang to help his original self kill him . When Fei @-@ Wang tries to kill the original Syaoran , the clone intervenes and is impaled by Fei @-@ Wang 's sword . As his body is about to be destroyed , Syaoran apologizes to his friends ? including the original Syaoran ? leaving only the eye he took from Fai .

Y?ko later rebuilds Syaoran 's and Sakura 's bodies using the remnants left after their apparent deaths . As neither could properly die , Y?ko grants their wishes to be reborn as normal humans , which Syaoran accepts because Sakura tells him she wants to stay with him . As both grow up as normal humans , they meet and live together . He and Sakura have a son , who is the original Syaoran , creating a time paradox . Because they realize that all the previous events would be repeated and their son would not be able to save the original Sakura , they seal themselves inside a glass tube hidden in Y?ko 's shop . Being reborn as a descendant of the sorcerer Clow Reed , Syaoran and Sakura break free from the tube and use their new powers to help their friends defeat Fei @-@ Wang . As their creator dies , Syaoran and Sakura vanish , leaving two feathers that merge within their original selves ' bodies .

= = = Other appearances = = =

Syaoran appears in other adaptations of Tsubasa , including the animated film *The Princess in the Birdcage Kingdom* , in which he still travels with Sakura , Fai , Kurogane and Mokona across dimensions . He is included a playable character in two Nintendo DS video games from Tsubasa . In the drama CD series *The Matinée of the Palace* , Syaoran 's group perform a play that re @-@ enacts the series ' story while searching for one of Sakura 's feathers . Outside Tsubasa , Syaoran appears in Clamp 's manga *xxxHolic* , which shows events in Tsubasa : *Reservoir Chronicle* . He does not appear in the animated adaptations of *xxxHolic* until the original video animation (OVA) series *xxxHolic Shunmuki* , in which he appears in the Dream World to confront the original Syaoran . In the spin @-@ off drama CD series *Holitsuba Gakuen* , Syaoran is featured as a new student in a school named " Holitsuba " , which includes characters from Tsubasa and *xxxHolic* . While he shares traits with his Tsubasa persona , such as his relationship with Sakura , he is portrayed as the identical twin of the original Syaoran .

= = Creation and conception = =

Clamp designed Syaoran using the ideas of manga author Osamu Tezuka and his *Star System* . Syaoran was based on Syaoran Li , a character from *Cardcaptor Sakura* ? another series written by Clamp . Syaoran and Sakura were chosen to be the series ' protagonist because their *Cardcaptor Sakura* counterparts had a happy ending , but Clamp said that the characters would have to go throughout the series to get their own happy ending . At the start of the manga , Syaoran 's character was already planned to go through development . The characters Fai D. Flowright and Kurogane were added to provide additional characters who were older than Syaoran . In early versions of the manga , Syaoran was portrayed as a mechanic rather than an archaeologist , with Fujitaka having taught him about machines . In the original design , Syaoran wore a cap , a different outfit and an enormous adjustable spanner .

Clamp said Syaoran became popular with male readers as a hero . After events of the Oto country where Syaoran participated in several battles fighting for the king Ashura and was at disadvantage , Clamp 's editor for Tsubasa , Kiichiro Sugawara , wrote that he wondered whether " anything good ever happen [s] to Syaoran " ; Clamp said that their publishing company , Kodansha had received demands from readers for Syaoran to become stronger , and advised Clamp to let him have occasional good experiences . In order to make his fight scenes more entertaining , Clamp thought about giving Syaoran named sword techniques like those of Kurogane but in the end this was not added to the series .

In the animated adaptations of Tsubasa : *Reservoir Chronicle* , Syaoran is voiced by Miyu Irino in Japanese , and by Jason Liebrecht in English . Irino said that ever since the introduction of the original Syaoran ? who he also voiced ? he sometimes had problems voicing both characters . Fellow voice actress Yui Makino also discussed Irino 's role , saying that he was the most difficult character to cast because of the requirement to portray the two Syaorans .

= = Reception = =

Syaoran was well received by Japanese readers of *Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle* . In two popularity polls held by *Weekly Shōnen Magazine* , Syaoran was the most @-@ liked character . He was also highly rated in other polls , which included best groups and best scenes from the series . In March 2010 , Syaoran was ranked twenty @-@ third best male anime character of the 2000s by the Japanese magazine *Newtype* . In the *Animage* 's *Anime Grand Prix* poll from 2006 , he was voted as the twelfth most popular male anime character . In the same year , he remained the fourteenth most popular male character . In the *Animedia* " 2006 Animedia Character Awards " , Syaoran was nominated in categories including " Strongest Character Award " , " Best Newcomer Award " , " Most Heroic Character Award " and " MVP (Most Valuable Player) Award " ; his highest rating was in the " Best Newcomer Award " , where he was ranked third . Various types of merchandising have been made based on Syaoran 's appearance including plush , keychains and patches . In the 2007 *Seiyu Awards* , Miyu Irino was a nominee in the category " Best New Actor " for his portrayal as Syaoran , but lost to Tetsuya Kakinaka and Masakazu Morita .

Publications for manga , anime and other media have commented on Syaoran 's character and role in the series . He received mainly positive responses . Ed Sizemore from *Comics Worth Reading* called him as " the perfect young hero " because of his seriousness , with points given for his care for Sakura . Although Carl Kimlinger found differences between Syaoran and his *Cardcaptor Sakura* counterpart , he found the traits of the former appealing . Michael Aronson from *Manga Life* found that while the characters behaves differently from Syaoran Li and act considerably older , it helps readers who have not read previous Clamp series understand the series .

Japanese singer Maaya Sakamoto said that in the animated adaptation of *Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle* , Syaoran 's straightforward feelings and strength to protect Sakura were very touching . Therefore , in the song " *Kazemachi Jet* " ? the closing theme of the second season of the anime ? she tried to capture the image of Syaoran growing from his naïve self into a young man through the meetings and partings over his journey and Syaoran 's continuing protection of his loved one in spite of adversity . When writing " *Saigo no Kajitsu* " , Sakamoto described Syaoran 's fate as sad because he becomes the antagonist of his friends and is a clone . Singer Kinaya Kotani also described sadness in Syaoran 's strength , and said he had both forwarding @-@ facing and backward @-@ facing characteristics .

The plot twist in which Syaoran is revealed to be a clone and his fight against his original self has been regarded as " a titanic clash " by Chris Zimmerman from *Comic Book Bin* . Following this , Syaoran was called " evil Syaoran " and " Syaoran 's evil clone " . The twist has been a " potential real upset " because Syaoran is revealed to have been created by the series ' main antagonist , Fei @-@ Wang Reed . The relationship between both Syaorans has also been found confusing for some readers to understand ; others said that while there was confusion in this scene , the events led to a well @-@ executed ending . They also highlighted the bond both have through their eyes . Sakura Eries from *Mania Entertainment* said Syaoran 's actions after the twist were disturbing because of his violent acts . Syaoran has been labeled as " an agent of destruction " because he ignores seemingly mortal wounds and encounters various opponents in a single manga volume . Eries said that she felt cheated after the revelations of Syaoran 's and Sakura 's true natures because it changed the readers ' views of them .

Mania Entertainment 's Megan Lavey said Syaoran 's and Sakura 's initial relationship is a " pretty simple love story " , and liked their personalities . *IGN* 's Jeff Harris said Syaoran 's role is interesting because he sacrifices his relationship with Sakura and his own life to recover her memories . *Active Anime* 's Christopher Seaman said the romantic relationship between them is one of the most mature parts of the series , and it helped balance the other fantastic themes , which added more variety for the series ' audience . Kimlinger said their relationship made up for some problems in the anime adaptation . Kimlinger also said Jason Liebrecht 's role as Syaoran 's English voice is better than Irino 's work . However , Kimlinger praised both performances because of the way Syaoran 's emotions are played .