

= Chi ( Chobits ) =

Chi ( Japanese : ?? , Hepburn : Chyi ) is a fictional character in the manga series Chobits and its anime adaptation . Chi is a Chobit , a type of personal computer called a persocom that is far more technologically advanced than regular persocoms , and who are said to possess true machine intelligence rather than relying on software programs like other persocoms . She is found by Hideki , a high school graduate who has no idea about her unique abilities or of her past . Over the course of the series Hideki tries to discover what type of persocom Chi is , being told that she is something special . He finds her a job , and has to deal with her being kidnapped at one point . Chi learns about the things around her and what it means to be in love . At the end of the series , Chi finds the person " just for her " , and her forgotten identity is revealed , causing Hideki to confront his feelings .

In two interviews describing the series Chi 's creators , CLAMP , said it would be much easier if computers could speak to you when they had errors . Chi is voiced by Rie Tanaka in the anime and Georgette Rose in its English counterpart . The manga and anime follow Hideki 's find of Chi and their relationship , but differ in the storyline . Chi 's critical reception has been mostly positive , with reviewers calling her " cute " . In addition to Chobits , she is also a crossover character in the series Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle and is referenced in other works .

= = Concept = =

In an interview when describing Chi 's character , CLAMP member Satsuki Igarashi stated " Lately we 've been saying that the easiest to understand is Chii from ' Chobits . ' Errors occur with computers . Things like ' Although it 's fine to speak the instructions ' and ' Please fix this problem here ' might be spoken in a cute voice . " In addition , an explanation for Chobits 's plot was given by Igarashi who stated : " Back then , when our computer had problems all we would get were these inscrutable error messages . However , we had no idea what was wrong because it wouldn 't tell us any more " . CLAMP also describes Chobits as a variation of the " boy living with mysterious girl " genre . Chi 's design as a personal computer resulted from Ohkawa 's wish to increase the sense of " emotional discomfort " around becoming emotionally involved with something considered to be merely a lifeless machine .

The name " Chobi " , came from the name of a cat at the place of Nekoi 's former employment , which the group made into " Chobits " , as the characters Elda and Freya were twins . In the series , CLAMP had Chi 's creator , Ichiro Mihara ( a character from their shared universe work Angelic Layer ) , use the word " Chobi " to describe anything he thought was " small and hopelessly adorable " ; two Chobi ( the sisters Elda and Freya ) become " Chobits " .

= = Appearances = =

= = In the manga = =

Chi first appears atop a trash pile in an alley where she is found by Hideki Motosuwa , a high school graduate who knows very little about computers or the androids known as " persocoms " ( personal computers ) that have become the fashionable item to have in the city . Unlike other persocoms , her activation switch is located in an unusual place : her crotch . She has difficulty communicating with Hideki at first ; the only word that she says is " chi " , which becomes her given name , but slowly she learns how to speak . Having no memory of her past life , she is taught by Hideki to perform simple tasks . Hideki 's neighbor Shinbo and computer prodigy Minoru determine that Chi is no ordinary persocom , and may be a legendary " Chobit " , possessing synthetic intelligence .

At one point Hideki considers having to take on a second job due to his poor financial state . He is eventually able to convince his former employer Hiroyasu Ueda to hire Chi at his bakery during his anniversary sale . Chi eventually finds herself kidnapped by Yoshiyuki Kojima . Yoshiyuki initiates a

program that he had created especially for Chi , which is designed to break through her firewalls , and when he embraces and gropes her , Freya intervenes by binding him with wires connected to Chi and releasing a powerful , concussive blast . Hideki and Shinbo find her , and Freya vanishes , causing Chi to collapse from the energy used . She recovers and briefly reunites with Hideki , before losing consciousness . Shinbo then forces Yoshiyuki to transfer his persocom Kotoko 's registration to Hideki to prevent Yoshiyuki from deleting her memories , so that a record of his kidnapping exists .

Hideki later learns that before he found Chi , her name was Elda . After Ichiro 's wife , Chitose Hibiya , noticed that Freya ? the first Chobit who was created to be the daughter she and her husband could never have ? was becoming increasingly depressed as time went by , Elda was created to be her younger sister to cheer her up . Freya , however , had fallen in love with Ichiro , and the emotional pain of her unrequited love and her wish to not disturb her parents ' happiness eventually caused her to severely malfunction . Elda took Freya 's program , which included her mind and memories , into herself to preserve her memory . Before losing her own memories as a result of her actions , Elda requested to be left alone outside , away from her family , so that she would not have the possibility of suffering the same fate as her sister . Her father then gifted her with a program which will delete the recognition programs of all persocoms if she fails to find her soulmate , while her mother authored the children 's book series A City with No People , a story within a story about the relationships between persocoms and people , to help Chi in her quest .

Towards the end of the series , Zima and Dita , persocom agents for the Japanese government who know the outcome of Chi 's special program , arrive at Hideki 's apartment . A minor scuffle ensues between Dita and Chi , before Zima restrains Dita , wishing to see the outcome of Hideki 's decision and ultimately too falling under Chi 's influence . Hideki confirms his love for Chi , only to find that Freya has taken control of her body . Learning that he that he can never engage in sexual intercourse with Chi without rebooting her systems , erasing everything that makes her a unique individual , Hideki states that he will love Chi regardless . Freya confirms that while Chi and herself are indeed the legendary Chobits , they possess neither sentience nor emotions , but rely on software programs just like every persocom . Again , Hideki stands by his love for Chi . Hideki declines her offer to tell him about Chi 's special ability , and Freya vanishes after imploring him to take care of her sister . Chi awakens , embracing Hideki . The series ends with Chi holding Hideki 's hand with visible rings Chi had chosen for the two of them .

= = = In the anime = = =

Chi 's character is voiced by Rie Tanaka , and Georgette Rose in its English counterpart . The anime and manga storylines are essentially the same , but they differ slightly . These differences include the events in the ending , other things such as describing Elda 's memory loss , and her special program . In the anime for example , it is explained that Hibiya reset Elda 's memories after her husband 's death rather than Elda losing them when she took Freya 's program in . Another difference is the special program that was placed into Elda in the anime , this program appears to have an alternate effect . If Chi finds the Person just for her , all persocoms would be granted the ability to feel emotion . The reason for this is since Ichiro Mihara was the creator of persocoms , he viewed them all as his children . His wish was that if Chi were able to find someone who loved her in return , all his children would be able to share in this happiness by being able to feel emotions the way humans do .

In the anime , an organization known only as " The Syndicate " is aware of Chi and her special programming . Under the impression that something terrible will happen if her program executes successfully , they send two persocoms , Zima and Dita , to destroy her . Towards the end of the series Chi tells Hideki of her love , asking if it is requited . Hideki responds with a yes , and they embrace briefly before Chi 's program executes . Chi floats up to the roof of the apartment and begins to run her program . Hideki makes his way on to the roof to save her . Chi is able to complete her program but chooses not to . She retreats inside herself , and Freya takes control as Chitose Hibiya arrives on the rooftop .

Freya explains how she came to inhabit Chi 's body . She reveals that she and Chi merely switched places inside the body , but Chi has shut herself away and Freya cannot contact her . Hideki asks why , and Freya explains that Chi discovered there were certain things that humans could do that she could not , leading her to believe that while Hideki would love her , it would make her existence unbearable . Hideki protests that it would not , but Freya tells him that Chi thought otherwise . She then tells Chitose that the time has come to destroy both of them , and she reluctantly agrees . Against Hideki 's protestations , she deactivates Freya . Chi , however , has survived the deactivation and comes to the conclusion that while life with Hideki may seem painful because of her limitations , it is even more painful without him . She regains control of her body and completes her program , giving every persocom the ability to love then embraces Hideki .

= = = In other media = = =

Chi makes several appearances in Tsubasa : Reservoir Chronicle , and is voiced by in the anime by : Kaori Nazuka ( Japanese version ) and Trina Nishimura ( English version ) . In this crossover series , she is created by Fai D. Flourite as a guardian of the pool where his brother 's body , and eventually the sealed Ashura @-@ ou are kept . Fai modeled Chi after his memories of his mother , and was created using one of Princess Sakura 's feathers . Chi eventually disintegrates after the feather is removed and given back to Sakura . Another version of Chi appears in episode 32 of the anime where she is the queen of a world that is in a never @-@ ending night . Chi 's character is also cosplayed in the anime adaptation of Hanaukyo Maid Team : La Verite . While trying to sell manga at the " Comic manga market " , Ikuyo Suzuki has the cast of characters cosplay and Mariel goes as Chi .

= = Reception = =

Reviews of Chi 's character have been mostly positive . Nanase Ohkawa of CLAMP stated : " We had a lot of letters with comments saying Chi was really cute " THEM Anime Reviews critiqued Chi for being a main character but " not having a personality " in the series . Tony Chen from Anime News Network said that " The way CLAMP executes the development of Chi 's character , growing her from what is basically the mental equivalent of a five @-@ year @-@ old child to a much more intelligent and complex being , is not only clever but also very cute . " On the website Screen Junkies , Chi is ranked number 3 of 10 of a " Top 10 anime girls " pick and number 6 of 10 for best anime couples ( Chi and Hideki ) . In his book The Anime Machine : A Media Theory of Animation , Thomas LaMarre describes Chi as " lighter than air " and a " slight slender undefined " body and with not much potential for physical movement . Thomas also describes Chi as " bony " and skeletal " in a physiological way and compares her to a curled up cat when reclining . Chi is also a cosplayed character by fans at anime conventions and related events .