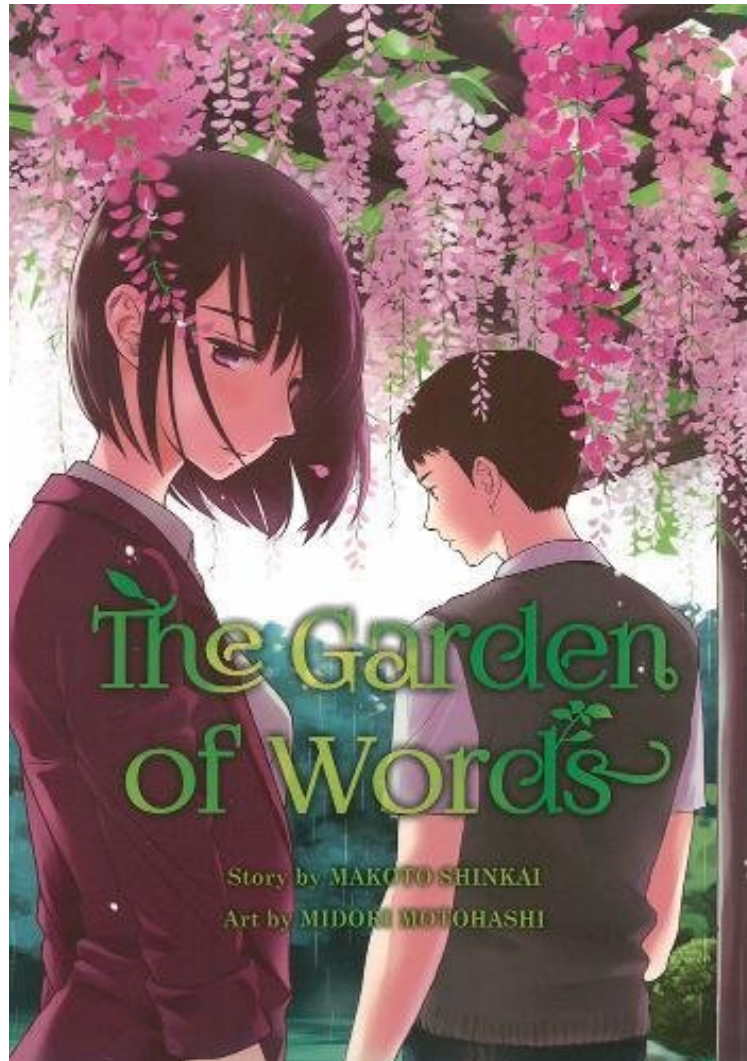


The Garden of Words

Makoto Shinkai

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Makoto Shinkai : The Garden of Words before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Garden of Words:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Better Than the OriginalBy FredTownWardThe Garden of Words is justifiably famous as one of the brilliant results of creator Makoto Shinkai, neither a movie, an OVA, or a TV episode, but rather, at only 46 minutes long, something extraordinary, a video short story: a couple of misfits, divided by age, are nevertheless drawn together by circumstances and weather until they are driven apart but with hope for the future.Takao Akizuki is a 15-year-old high schooler, planning to become a cobbler, whose maturity so towers over his eleven years older brother and his divorced mother dating younger men that other high school kids barely even register

with him, Yukari Yukino is a 27-year-old so bullied by the world around her that she has all but ceased to function, but following a chance meeting in a park during the rain, they find themselves drawn to each other. What follows is a rainy season's worth of casual meetings, culminating in a crisis. Shortly after finishing the film, Mr. Shinkai wrote this manga version of *The Garden of Words*, illustrated by Midori Motohashi, and while it is mostly the same, I could not help but notice that everywhere it is different, it is better than the film. The thought balloons, the less accusatory rant by Takao, and most especially the extra scene at the end, which has Yukari WEARING the shoes, all improve the story IMHO, and given Mr. Shinkai's participation in both, that is rather telling. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. This Manga Struck Me Like 'A Clap of Thunder...' By Kevin This manga brings one of Makoto Shinkai's latest and most beautiful masterpieces into a brand new form. While the character designs may look different from what you may have seen in his film but the designs and illustrations done by Midori Motohashi fit perfect into the manga's own work. One great thing about the manga is how it is able to go more in depth to the film as if the viewer is discovering deleted scenes never before put into the movie. On one note some of the wording and placement might seem a bit off at first even for those who are experience in reading manga, but once you get used to this fresh style of manga writing you are in for a ride. The ending of the story also has cute mini-comic that I liked and thought was a nice touch. I truly enjoyed reading this manga and was able to feel it come to life as I continued to read which made it feel all as much as real to me. This one is truly a title worth being in any manga fan's collection! Manga Genre: Drama, Slice of Life, Romance Story by: Makoto Shinkai Illustrations and Art by: Midori Motohashi 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great story By Mr. Mercury I really liked this manga, this story is simple and short, but I really recommend watching the anime first before reading, the music and animation make you care about the characters, and the manga really brings back the emotion you feel upon first viewing, and made the reading better in my opinion.

The Garden of Words brings to the manga page all the beauty and mystery of the award-winning film from artful animator Makoto Shinkai. Beloved for the simple grace of its artwork as much as the poetic elegance of its text (adapted by Midori Motohashi), *The Garden of Words* begins with a chance, rainswept encounter between Takao, a young man who dreams of becoming a shoe designer, and Yukari, an enigmatic woman he finds sitting alone, nursing a beer on a park bench. The spare interaction of these two lonely souls sparks a spiritual transformation for the young man, and perhaps the woman as well. As this intriguing, understated story unfolds, their lives will become further intertwined amid rain, beer, school, and shoe cobbling. Words are not often necessary, but in this case just a few words can make a difference in one's heart.