

*Golden Cain*by [Katherine Keller](#)

*Reviews may contain information that could be considered 'spoilers'.
Readers should proceed at their own risk.*

Publisher
Be Beautiful<http://www.BeBeautifulManga.com>**Credits**

Writer: You Asagiri
Artist: You Asagiri
Distributor: Central Park Media
Translator: Ikoi Hiroe
ISBN: 1-58664-955-8

Grade: 7

Golden Cain is an enjoyable read for anybody looking for a mostly character driven story with a few "dramatic" plot twists. But let me be honest — these dramatic plot twists were so absurd that they had me choking back a few snickers in places.



Shun is a quiet, hard working student who is trying to live up to the image he has of his (perfect) older brother, Keiichi, tragically injured while saving Shun's life. Shun is also a fan of the beautiful and exotic male model, Cain.

Anyhow Shun goes to a night club that turns out to be a gathering place for a black mass and Shun is about to be raped as a sacrificial virgin when Cain shows up, kicks ass, and saves Shun. (Look, I warned you the "dramatic plot" was stupid.)

What follows this first meeting of Shun and Cain is what kept me reading the story instead of dying with laughter. Shun and Cain talk and get to know each other. Turns out Cain knows Shun's brother from time Keiichi spent in London. Cain talks about how freaky it is to walk down a street and have people know you because they've seen you in ads. Shun talks about the burdens of having a perfect older brother.

The two also become very obsessed with each other and through Cain's love Shun begins to understand that he is worthy in his own right and doesn't have to try to be as perfect as his brother ... because Keiichi wasn't exactly perfect. See, Keiichi was in love with Shun, but in hearing Keiichi describe Shun, Cain started to fall in love with Shun too and wanted to meet him.

There's a few more plot twists of the absurd kind, and plenty of pages of Shun and Cain going at like rabbits, but *Golden Cain* works for me because creator You Asagiri does manage to create two genuinely interesting characters in Cain and Shun, and the two of them bond believably during the scenes where they talk about the trials and joys of every day life.

The sex in the story seems more graphic than it really is. Readers never see much more than vague outlines of genitalia, but because there's genuine emotional weight to the encounters, they're actually hot. Asagiri also has a beautiful and elegant line style that delights the eye.

If not for the silly plot elements that detracted from the real meat of the story (the relationship between Shun and Cain), I would have enjoyed this manga a lot more. As is, I did enjoy it quite a bit. Enough in fact to be dissapointed that there's not a sequel.

Written: November 15, 2004

Published: December 1, 2004

RELATED REPORTS

Tart: [Katherine Keller](#)

Manga: [Golden Cain](#)

Series:

December 2004: [All](#) | [Manga](#)

