

# The Last Uniform VOL 1

## Taking devotion to a new level

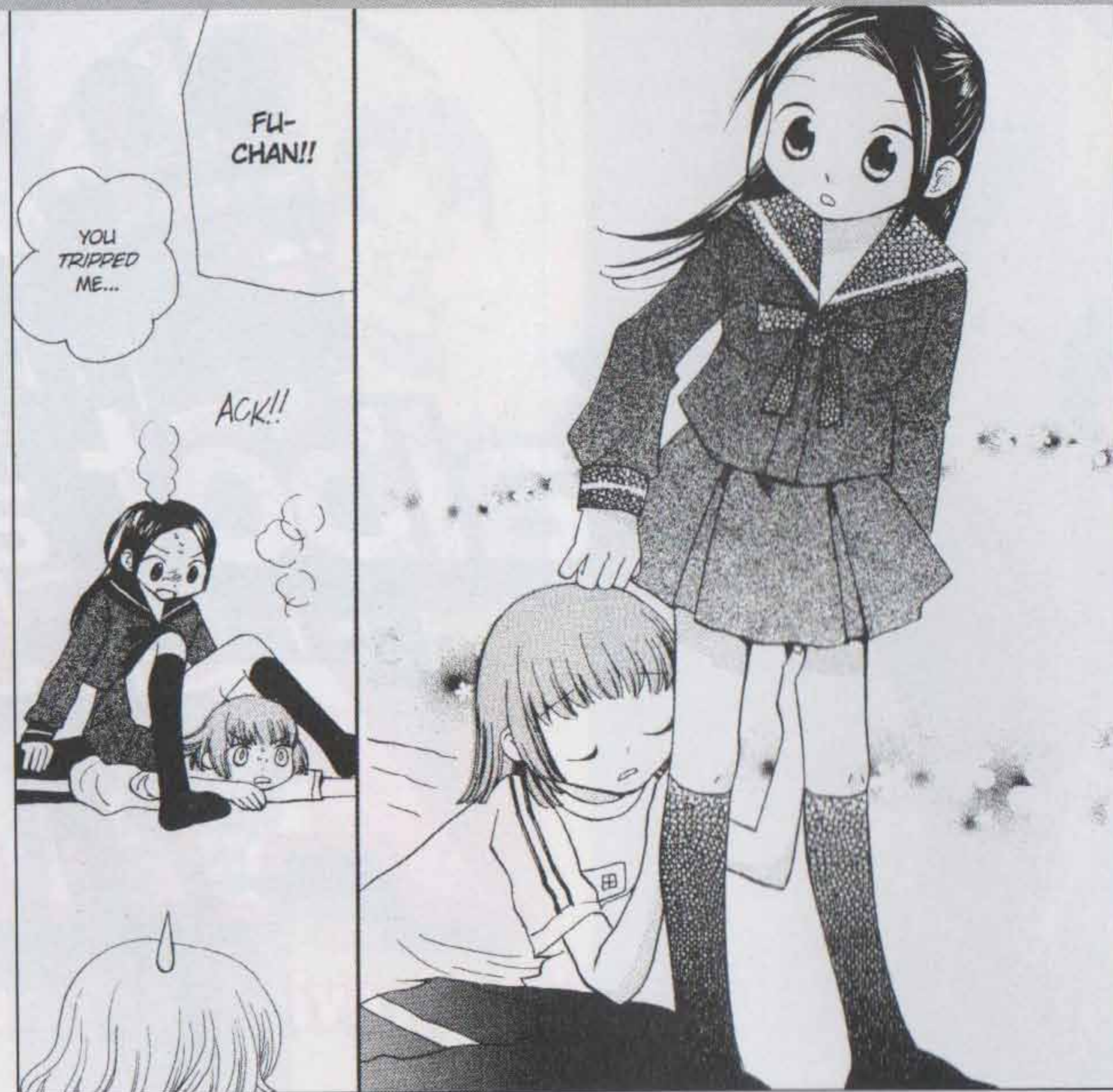
Set in the Tsubakigaoka Academy, *The Last Uniform* seems at first to be just another boarding-school manga—but it has a twist. Each girl in the dorm is paired together, and for the most part, they become devoted to one another. Mera Hakamada's manga focuses chiefly on two sets of girls, Ai/Fumiko and Beniko/Tsumugi, and sees the girls' devotion become something much deeper—quite fitting given that *The Last Uniform* is part of Seven Seas' Strawberry line of *yuri* manga.

Unlike many *yuri* series, for the most part *The Last Uniform* comes across as being much more innocent, one where the girls sit drinking

tea each evening—at least until the last few chapters, when it becomes a touch more racy. The characters are beautifully drawn, as if their physical appearance is a representation of their emotive states, and their romantic attraction to each other seems more like a crush than actual love.

If you've never read any *yuri* before, then *The Last Uniform* is a great place to begin. It introduces the reader to a growing genre with enchanting characters who experience the highs and lows of their heartfelt crushes. It's a beautiful start to an intriguing series.

—Lesley Smith



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