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# Fullmetal Alchemist, Vol. 5: The Ties That Bind



## Synopsis

It's only been a year since the Elric brothers set out on their journey to find the elusive Philosopher's Stone. But a lot has happened in that short time. For one thing, Edward has become an official State Alchemist. And, as such, he often finds himself in the thick of one dangerous situation after another. Now, sidelined with a fever in a remote village, Edward is unexpectedly reunited with a childhood friend. Even though he's become a valuable member of his country's military organization, Edward can't help feeling a pang of jealousy. While he and his brother's fate is inexorably bound to recent life-altering events, his friend is busy studying to become a doctor and making his dreams come true. Suddenly, Edward starts questioning the purpose of his life. Stories from the childhood of Edward and Alphonse Elric--not seen in either the manga or anime! Also includes the heartwarming story, "Roy's Holiday," featuring Colonel Mustang and Lieutenant Colonel Hughes.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 8 and up

## Customer Reviews

I recently bought this novel along with two others and doesn't take too long to read with 225 pages (I think it took me a little over an hour to read through it, though I tend to go through a book quickly when it's short). The inside cover page features a colored illustration while the others in the novel are three black and white images and a sketch illustration at the end of the book. The book's size is

small enough for comfortable reading and the chapters are separated with title pages. Overall I think the story was good, though the ending fight seemed resolved quickly and the afterword for this novel has a short comic strip about Ed.\*NOTE: I was looking around for information about the novels and thought it was odd that and other websites I looked at had the summary of the fourth novel (Under the Faraway Sky: [...] for the summary of this novel. The copy I bought was not titled "To Each His Own Bonds" like the image on here (my attached images are of the version I received without a Vol 5 on the cover and titled "The Ties That Bind", which I'm guessing was the version included in the 27 volume box set of the manga).

At this point everything that I thought would sustain the story through its conclusion has been revealed. I am on the edge of my seat (so to speak) waiting to finish the series. Great read, quality addition, cheap as.... Definitely worth it over the kindle addition.

what else can we say? FMA is fantastically written and drawn. The characters are expressive and relatable, and the story is, maybe not "gripping", but you definitely won't want to put it down for awhile.

The fifth volume of Fullmetal Alchemist heavily features the Amestris military and its members, as well as the series major villains. After fighting Gluttony, the Elric brothers come face to face with the man who created the Homunculi. It's quite interesting to see the full power of the villains on display, and I'm not sure where the series is going to go from here. The entire 15th collection is devoted to a flashback to the Ishvalan civil war. Arakawa clearly had one eye on the occupation of Iraq when writing this, and it features some truly haunting artwork. This is definitely one of the better collections

In the world of Fullmetal Alchemist there are many alchemists, two of which are the main characters: Ed and Al Elric. These two brothers broke one of the sacred laws of alchemy, using it on a body. They performed human alchemy, trying to bring a dead person back to life. They paid dearly for that crime. Ed lost his right leg but Al lost his whole body. Ed gave up his left arm as well, so that he could put Al's soul in a suit of armor. During the years after that, Ed and Al sought to break that rule again so that they could restore their bodies. They returned to their teacher and found a clue to what they sought, a picture that had been taken in front of a bookstore. In the photo they saw the book that they needed, a tome that was available when the picture was taken but later banned

everywhere. They hoped there would still be a small chance they could find it if they traveled there. The Elric brothers secretly left their teacher because they knew she would disapprove of their plan. While walking to the train station they were attacked by a pack of chimera, monsters created by alchemy. Before the chimera could strike, a voice warned the brothers to run away. The chimeras chased the voice, so they were able to escape. They safely arrived in the town where the bookstore was located. Luckily they bumped into a boy named Kip who was the adopted son of the store's owner. His parents were killed in the Ishbalan war. His father Luon was best friends with Kip's real parents. Luon was the assistant to a crazy doctor who was working on a formula that he hoped could make him eternally young and bring dead people back to life. The book wasn't there, so they decided to seek out the doctor and see if he would be willing to share his research. On the way there they met Ed's friend Colonel Roy Mustang. Roy worked for Luon when they served in the military together. He asked Ed to convince Luon leave the doctor and return to the side of justice. Will Ed be able to save Luon from the darkness? Will he find the research he needs? To find out, read this excellent book!

Just as the title suggests, this omnibus only has 3 volumes included. The series is great and this book is too!

Purchased this for my son's Girlfriend as a Christmas gift - she was thrilled to have it in her collection!

Great series. If only the anime could have been as good

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