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REVIEW



DNA²: Metamorphosis

Running time:
Approx. 75 minutes

Release info:
Available February
2003 in the US from
Central Park Media

Karin is the future's number one DNA pilot, an operative who, for a price, manipulates the DNA of individuals for the good of all mankind. Karin's latest assignment is to travel back in time 100 years and alter the DNA of the man largely responsible for the overpopulation of Earth, the Mega-Playboy.

Once she arrives and hunts down the legendary womanizer, Junta, she finds him a weak and pitiful sight with a strange allergy that causes him to vomit uncontrollably at the mere sight of a babe. Even though she finds it hard to believe this dork is history's most "wanted" man, she busts a DNA-changing cap in him.

Unfortunately, Karin used the wrong bullet! Now with altered DNA that makes him the wielder of an awesome, though unpredictable, power over women, Junta has truly become the most charismatic and sexiest stud-muffin the world has ever known—at least until Karin figures out a way to clean up this mess.

DNA²: Metamorphosis is a light-hearted anime that has a lot of fun digging at the romantic anime genre. With a storyline based on the whims of Junta's new powers, it wanders to and fro with witty plot twists as Junta encounters different girls and situations. But it is always entertaining and keeps itself centered on the comical.

Visually, **DNA²** is well animated and rides toward the high end of the classic animation style with pleasing, sometimes alluring, character designs. The backgrounds and scenery often run far above average in terms of detail and liveliness.

The English language dub is well done, though, with the many close-ups required to carry the humorous, over-the-top, romantic drama that the studly Junta spews, it is at times a little off in timing, but understandably so. Overall, Liam O'Brien (Junta) and Jessica Calvello (Karin) give exemplary performances of Neil Nadelman's solid translation from the Japanese.

With a good sense of humor, attractive artwork and some vigorous voice

acting, **DNA²: Metamorphosis** is a title that is sure to please fans that like some good, though maybe not so clean, fun. If you get the chance to check out **DNA²**, don't pass it up. We all could use a good chuckle, and **DNA²** certainly delivers.

—GERRY POULOS

