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Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood Returns to Streaming on Funimation ========== Funimation has once again made Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood available for streaming in both subbed and dubbed formats, as of November 20th. This is not the first time that the series has been restored to its previous home – it had previously become unavailable due to a rights issue. Recently, both Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood and the original anime were made available on Netflix, with Hulu also offering both versions in subbed and dubbed formats. The movie adaptation, Conqueror of Shamballa, is currently available on Crunchyroll. Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood first premiered on TBS Television in Japan from October 4th, 2003 to October 2nd, 2004. It later aired on Cartoon Network's Adult Swim block in the United States from November 7th, 2004 through March 19th, 2006. The movie adaptation was released in Japanese theaters on July 23rd, 2005 and premiered in the US on August 24th, 2006. A new anime, Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood, which is an independent second anime series adaptation that directly follows all of the events of the original manga, started broadcasting on MBS and TBS. This version was released by Funimation from February 8th, 2005 to September 12th, 2006 in the US.uses "Melissa," but it uses it as an ending theme, and it doesn't have an opening theme. For episodes 14–25 the opening theme is "Ready Steady Go" by L'Arc-en-Ciel and the ending theme is "Tobira no Mukō e" (扉の向うへ; "Beyond the Door") by Yellow Generation. For episodes 26–41 the opening theme is "Undo" by Cool Joke and the ending theme is "Motherland" by Crystal Kay. For episodes 42-51 the opening theme is "Rewrite" by Asian Kung-Fu Generation and the ending theme is "I Will" by Sowelu (except the finale episode, which has a voiceover with the credits instead of an ending theme song). All episodes that originally opened with "Melissa" and "Undo" were later replaced with these tracks. The Elrics' journey through Lior is marked by their struggle against Cornello's schemes. As they uncover the truth behind the philosopher's stone, their bond with Rosé and the townspeople deepens. The episode's climax sees Ed's alchemy clash with Cornello's illusions, revealing the cost of their actions. Meanwhile, the Elrics' past is explored through flashbacks, showing their early fascination with alchemy and their mother's influence. Their quest to restore Al's body drives them to seek knowledge, even as they face moral dilemmas. The episode ends with the Elrics leaving Resembool, their resolve hardened by the trials they've endured.25, 2003 (2003-10-25)November 28, 2004[18] On their way to Central, the Elrics stop at a train station where they hear of an alchemist named Majhal, whose name had appeared several times in their father's correspondences relating to human transmutaion, and decide to pay him a visit. Upon entering Majhal's village, they encounter a girl named Clause, who tells them that a zombie has murdered her older sister and several other villagers. When the brothers meet Majhal, he tells them that the mysterious zombie is believed to be his former lover Karin, who died in an accident several years ago. After further investigation, the brothers discover that Majhal has been attempting to revive Karin by using mannequins that look like her, and using alchemy to attach the souls of the village girls he has kidnapped to the mannequins. Ed discovers that Karin had not died, but temporarily lost her memories. Once her memories returned, she had sought out Majhal, but he was already too possessed by his passions of reviving Karin to recognize her. Majhal refuses to accept the wrinkled old woman as his Karin, and he attempts to kill Ed. Ed knocks Majhal's weapon out of his hand, which flies into the air and impales Majhal, killing him. 5"The Man with the Mechanical Arm" ("Dash! Automail")Transliteration: "Shissō! Ōtomeiru" (Japanese: 疾走! 機械鎧(オートメイル))Shinsaku SasakiShigeru UedaAya YoshinagaNovember 1, 2003 (2003-11-01)December 5, 2004 The Elrics are told by Mustang to board the train that is currently leaving the station. Their train is hijacked by a group of terrorists led by a man named Bald. They take General Hakuro and his family captive and demand that their leader is released from prison. However, the Elrics fight back, and meet Major Maes Hughes, who helps them defeat Bald and rescue Hakuro. The train arrives safely at the station and the military moves in to arrest the terrorists. Bald manages to escape, but Mustang demonstrates his abilities as the "Flame Alchemist" and restrains Bald. Mustang then informs Ed that the grateful Hakuro has given him special permission to take the state alchemist examination, which surprises and annoys Ed because of the implication that Mustang manipulated him. 6"The Alchemy Exam"Transliteration: "Kokka Renkinjutsushi Shikaku Shiken" (Japanese: 国家錬金術師資格試験)Kazuki TsunodaJōhei MatsuuraNatsuko TakahashiNovember 8, 2003 (2003-11-08)December 12, 2004 The Elrics begin preparing for the state alchemy examination while lodging with Shou Tucker, known as the "Sewing-Life Alchemist", who is credited for creating intelligent chimeras. The brothers become fast friends with his young daughter Nina and her dog Alexander. Hughes and his wife Gracia throw a birthday party for Ed, interrupting a chance to cram. During the party, Gracia goes into labor and they witness the birth of Elicia. Ed discovers at this time that he can perform alchemy without a transmutation circle. After the written portion of the test, Mustang forces Al to drop out due to his absence of a body, and the suspicions that this fact would raise were it to be discovered by his higher-ups. Ed successfully passes the interview and passes the practical portion when he saves the entire prospective state alchemist group with his quick thinking, courage, and ability to transmute without the use of a circle. 7"Night of the Chimera's Cry"Transliteration: "Kimera ga Naku Yoru" (Japanese: 合成獣が哭く夜)Kenji Yasuda,Seiji MizushimaKenji YasudaShō AikawaNovember 15, 2003 (2003-11-15)December 19, 2004 Ed is now a state alchemist. Mustang gives Ed a silver pocket watch, a symbol of his rank and an alchemical amplifier. Suspicious of Tucker's silence concerning the talking chimera that he created two years ago, Ed investigates at the state library but is denied access. On the way out, Ed encounters a mysterious man with a cross-shaped scar across his face, and a strange tattoo on his right arm. Brigadier General Basque Grand learns of Ed's investigations and orders him to stop, having the Elrics move out of Tucker's mansion. The Elrics sneak into Tucker's basement laboratory, where he has just finished creating another speaking chimera. Ed then pieces together that Tucker used his wife for his first chimera, and has now used Nina and Alexander for the new one. Tucker tells Ed that he is just as guilty for his human transmutation efforts, and Ed nearly beats Tucker to death in response. As Tucker is arrested, Ed manages to free the chimera, which encounters the scarred man. He declares it to be a sin against nature and destroys it. The scarred man disappears, and the Elrics discover Nina-Alexander's bloody remains on the alley wall. 8"The Philosopher's Stone"Transliteration: "Kenja no Ishi" (Japanese: 賢者の石)Masaki TachibanaYoshito HataShō AikawaNovember 22, 2003 (2003-11-22)January 2, 2005 Anguished by the horrible demise of Nina, andThe Fullmetal Alchemist: A Tale of Redemption and Discovery ========== Ed, a young state alchemist, finds himself entangled in a world of mystery and danger after Tucker's untimely death. The philosopher's stone, a coveted artifact rumored to grant immense power, becomes his primary objective. Lucky for him, his brother Al, an experienced alchemist, stumbles upon the stone's existence among Tucker's papers. Ed's incredulity at the concept is palpable, but he soon realizes that with Al by his side, they can overcome even the most daunting challenges. Winry, a close friend, is kidnapped by Barry the Chopper, a butcher-turned-serial killer who dons multiple disguises. Ed and Al must join forces to rescue her, facing their mortality in the process. As the story unfolds, Ed becomes the unwitting "Fullmetal Alchemist," earning the nickname from the enigmatic Führer King Bradley. With each passing day, Ed's resolve strengthens as he delves deeper into the world of alchemy. Mustang, a seasoned military leader, eventually offers his assistance, warning Ed to keep him informed about their progress. Ed's next assignment brings him face-to-face with Yoki, a ruthless military commander, in the town of Youswell. The locals harbor distrust for the state military, and Ed must navigate this complex web of loyalties. With Al by his side, they thwart Yoki's sinister plans, solidifying Ed's reputation as a hero. In Lior, Ed exposes Cornello, a con artist with a talent for deception. However, their return is short-lived, as they become embroiled in the pursuit of Psiren, a cunning cat burglar with alchemical expertise. The truth behind her motives slowly unravels, revealing a complex web of motivations. The Elrics' quest to find the philosopher's stone leads them to Xenotime, where sickness and despair have taken hold. They soon discover that an imposter has taken their name, stirring up tension in the town. Ed, Al, and a series of unlikely allies embark on a perilous journey to uncover the truth behind the red water and the true intentions of those involved. The journey is fraught with danger, but Ed's determination fuels his quest for redemption and self-discovery. With each step forward, he edges closer to uncovering the secrets of the philosopher's stone, leaving behind a trail of mystery and intrigue that will leave readers eager for more.The toxic water slowly creeps into our minds like a thief in the night. 12"The Other Brothers Elric: Part 2" ("The Land of Sand: Part 2")Transliteration: "Sareki no Daichi: Kōhen" (Japanese: 砂礫の大地・後編)Shinsaku SasakiMasakazu AmiyaManabu IshikawaDecember 20, 2003 (2003-12-20)January 30, 2005 Ed and Al are forced to leave the mansion, their hearts heavy with the knowledge of what they have done. Fletcher and Russell are trapped, their fate hanging in the balance like a scales weighing justice. The air is thick with the smell of decay as Mugear's sinister plans unfold. The Elrics learn that Nash Tringham, the father of Russell and Fletcher, was once a researcher on the philosopher's stone, but his work was twisted by Mugear's promises of wealth and prosperity. The result was toxic water, a poisonous legacy that still haunts the town. A mysterious alchemist doctor, Tim Marcoh, holds the key to unlocking this tragedy. Ed uses deception to trick Mugear, freeing Nash's sons from their prison. But as he confronts Mugear, Ed is met with resistance, and the mine shaft collapses, releasing the toxic water into the world. The Elrics must act quickly to save the town, using alchemy to neutralize the threat. Edward and Alphonse bid farewell to Tringham and board a train for East City, leaving behind the shadows of their past. 13"Fullmetal VS Flame"Transliteration: "Honō VS Hagane" (Japanese: 焔VS鋼)Masahiro AndōMasahiro AndōShō AikawaDecember 27, 2003 (2003-12-27)February 6, 2005 The Elrics report to Mustang, and the truth about Marcoh's research begins to unravel. Master Sergeant Kain Fuery tries to adopt a dog, but his efforts are in vain. The military is divided on Marcoh's fate, with some arguing for mercy and others demanding justice. Ed challenges Mustang to a duel, risking everything for the truth. In the heat of battle, Ed finds an opening, and Mustang yields, revealing the truth about Marcoh. That night, Hughes reveals that Scar is behind Bradley's move, setting the stage for a larger conspiracy. 14"Destruction's Right Hand"Transliteration: "Hakai no Migite" (Japanese: 破壊の右手)Tarō IwasakiTarō IwasakiShō AikawaJanuary 10, 2004 (2004-01-10)February 12, 2005 Civil unrest erupts in Lior as Envy uses his shape-shifting powers to disguise himself. The Elrics find Marcoh, but Grand and his soldiers arrive too late, confiscating the information on the philosopher's stone. Scar appears, and his true nature is revealed in a bloody showdown with Marcoh. The Elrics escape into a tunnel, only to be saved by Major Armstrong, who reveals that Scar was once an Ishbalan alchemist. 15"The Ishbal Massacre"Transliteration: "Ishuvāru Gyakusatsu" (Japanese: イシュヴァール虐殺)Kenji YasudaKenji YasudaShō AikawaJanuary 17, 2004 (2004-01-17)February 19, 2005 Armstrong tells the Elrics that Scar is a monster who has destroyed countless lives. Marcoh's research led to the Ishbal massacre, a tragedy that still haunts him. Mustang and his colleagues are forced to confront their own morality as they deal with the aftermath of the massacre. Ed and Armstrong search for Al, but their efforts are hindered by Lust and Gluttony, who have other plans. 16"That Which Is Lost"Transliteration: "Ushinawareta Mono" (Japanese: 失われたもの)Tomoki KyodaMasakazu HashimotoShō AikawaJanuary 24, 2004 (2004-01-24)February 26, 2005 The Elrics return to Resembool, where Armstrong helps them repair their bodies. But Lust and Gluttony are waiting in the shadows, their hunger for power driving them to destroy all that is good. Ed's rage consumes him as he searches for Al, but his efforts are in vain until a mysterious girl steals his automail leg. The game of cat and mouse between the Elrics and their enemies continues, with no end in sight.Ed's leg is returned to him, and he explains that he lost it during the Ishbal rebellion. He wishes to keep his wound as a reminder of the event. Meanwhile, Al is taken by a boy who wants to prove himself by raiding an enemy's mansion. Al scares the boy by claiming he is haunted. Armstrong appears, grabbing Ed and the other Elric, and they chase after their train. The brothers Ed and Al are on a mission to create the philosopher's stone. They visit the laboratory where they meet the mysterious homunculi, Scar and Gluttony. Tucker shows them around and reveals that they have been given an opportunity to achieve their goal. Ed is put through a series of challenges as he attempts to transmute the philosopher's stone. He faces off against Envy, who forces him to try again and again until he fails. The military intervenes and rescues the brothers, but not before Ed's body reacts badly to the incomplete stone, destroying his surroundings. Later, Ed is scolded by Ross for almost dying and receives a visit from Winry, who is still contemplating what Barry told her about Al's true nature. Al decides to confront Ed about his fears, asking if he was really an artificial soul. The brothers then reunite with Al after he runs away in search of answers. They reaffirm their bond and meet Scar, who has been hiding among refugees from Ishbal. The leader of the mercenaries is killed by Furher Bradley's secretary, revealing her to be a homunculus. The story continues as Ed and Al decide to follow Scar to learn more about the philosopher's stone. Along the way, they notice that Rush Valley, a town known for its automail shops, is en route. Hughes investigates the laboratory and discovers a connection between it and the war in Ishbal, but he is attacked by Lust before escaping. Mustang investigates Hughes' murder and concludes that a high-ranking military member may be responsible. Meanwhile, Izumi Curtis, their teacher, shows up at Central looking for them and finally catches up after missing them by a few days. The story takes a turn as the brothers are brought back to Dublith, where they must face their past mistakes. As Ed and Al reflect on their journey, they realize that the path ahead will be difficult but ultimately worth it. ========== After finding out about the scars on the boy's right arm and left leg, Ed discovers that the boy is a homunculus who took his limbs during their failed attempt at human alchemy. Yoki spots Scar in a group of Ishbalans arriving at a refugee camp. He runs off to contact the military, hoping to be reinstated. The military believes the mysterious boy to be a homunculus and captures him in South Headquarters. A chimera called Bido discovers the same and Izumi storms South Headquarters to rescue him, but she soon finds herself in a five-way fight over the boy. Amid the confusion inside South Headquarters, Envy manages to take the homunculus boy from Izumi. Kimblee and Bido come to battle for the same purpose as the boy remembers all his past after consuming small fragments of the Philosopher's Stone. Edward and Alphonse battle the new homunculus known as Wrath, who wants the rest of Edward's body to make himself human. Izumi interrupts the fight by separating the combatants with a deep chasm. After Wrath escapes, Izumi sends Edward and Alphonse to meet her alchemy teacher, an old woman named Dante, to learn an important lesson about the principle of equivalent exchange. At Dante's house, they discover that Lyra has become her apprentice, and Greed's party comes and battle the Elrics. Marta hops inside Alphonse's armor and slows him down just enough for Loa to overpower Al, and the kidnappers take him to their headquarters for a rendezvous with Greed. While Ed searches through town to discover any information on Al's whereabouts, Izumi goes to see Dante. In an intense conversation, Dante reveals that the kidnappers left an emblem revealing the name of the pub Al has been taken to. At the hideout, Greed reveals to Al that he desires the knowledge of how souls can be bound to inanimate objects, such as Al's suit of armor. Izumi bursts onto the scene to rescue Alphonse from the powerful homunculus and his cohorts, but is later joined by Edward. They are unable to cause harm to him, however, as he utilizes his Ultimate Shield whenever attacked. Before he and Ed can truly battle, the military bursts into the building to take over. During the escape, Greed discovers that Kimblee has betrayed his team, but has no time to deal with him, as the kidnappers must take Al and leave. Before Ed is able to run after them, he is cornered at gunpoint by the military. Archer has Edward as well as Izumi and Sig Curtis in custody. Archer reinstates Tucker as a state alchemist under his command and orders his men to take no prisoners hunting down Greed and his associates. As Greed tries to escape with his cohorts, Strongarm bursts through the wall and battles with Law until Law collapses the wall, ensuring the group's escape. While Greed and co. recover in a small shack, Lust and Gluttony appear. Dolcetto and Law unwaveringly step up and sacrifice themselves allowing Greed, Al, and Marta to escape. In a forest, Greed instructs Al to wait for him until sunrise, and for Marta to watch after him while he goes to take care of business. Marta realizes he is headed for Dante's house and tries to go after him, but Al refuses to allow her to do so. When Greed arrives at Dante's, he is greeted by Lyra, who knows his purpose for returning to Dante's. She guides him to a parlor, where he discovers Dante's body split down the middle, seemingly by a sword, and a complex alchemy circle on the ceiling and floor. Before he has time to react, Lyra uses alchemy to forcibly eject the Philosopher's Stone fragments that Greed has consumed in his life. She exits, leaving him in pain, as Ed enters. Shocked at Dante's corpse, he blames her death on Greed. While they fight, Ed discovers the secret to his human shield through logic, and uses alchemy to undo it. He manages to stab Greed in through the chest, which surprisingly causes Greed to collapse in pain.Edward is informed by Greed that the only way to kill a homunculus permanently is through physical harm near its human creation site, and he also reveals letting Al go. With this information, Greed hopes to ensure the demise of other homunculi. However, Edward has never killed before and is shocked by Greed's death. Meanwhile, Marta departs from Al, knowing that Greed won't return. The brothers reunite with Winry, Izumi, and Sig and bury Greed and Dante. They bid farewell to Izumi and Sig, stating they'll find the Ishbalans next. Lust and Envy discuss Greed's recent demise in a restaurant, while Lust recognizes Lujon, a man from her past, who heals a child using a ring similar to Cornello's. A flashback shows Lust and Gluttony watching victims of a landslide being rescued by Lujon. Meanwhile, Edward, Alphonse, and Winry are on their way to the Ishbalan camp when they encounter thugs in the forest; they save Lydia, who is searching for Lujon to create a second Philosopher's Stone. As Lujon, Lust, and Gluttony ride back together, Lujon reveals his Philosopher's Stone has weakened significantly. The flashback continues, revealing how Lujon's failed attempts to cure the plague led Lust to teach him refined alchemy arts. However, Lust only stayed with him due to faint memories she couldn't identify. Once he learned the secrets to curing the illness, he saved Lydia but left her at the altar for Lust, who laughed about their plan's success. In present time, Lujon confronts Lust in his village before being stabbed dead by her. The villagers perish, and minutes later, Edward and Alphonse arrive to witness the tragedy. Lydia runs into the fog before they can stop her, found lying dead next to Lujon's corpse, succumbed to the disease as Lust rides away in her carriage.Mustang was shocked when he discovered Kimblee's involvement with the military in Ishbal. He had a difficult conversation with Al and Ed, trying to convince them that staying behind would be for their own good. Meanwhile, Scar's past was slowly revealed through his conversations with Rosé, who struggled to speak but found her voice through Lyra's help. Scar's plan to create a Philosopher's Stone without harming the people of Lior came to light, but Führer Bradley's true identity as Pride and his orders for Kimblee to bring Ed back dead sent shockwaves through the group.The city was in shambles as Scar's lifeless body lay on the ground, its presence still radiating a strange energy. Ed rushed to his brother's side, only to discover that Scar had transformed the entire city into a twisted reflection of himself and the soldiers who had followed him. Lust appeared, her voice urgent as she instructed the brothers to flee, warning them that they would soon be hunted down by those seeking revenge. The streets were filled with chaos as Winry and Sheska arrived in Resembool, only to be met by a stranger who introduced himself as Hohenheim of Light, Edward and Alphonse's father. Meanwhile, Mustang's brigade closed in on the Elric brothers, not out of military duty, but as a personal vendetta against them for not seeking his protection. As the battle raged on, Rosé and Lyra descended into an ancient church, where they were greeted by the homunculi who bowed to their power. Later, Hohenheim confronted Dante, the leader of the homunculi, and offered to reveal her darkest secret in exchange for leaving his sons alone. The story unfolded as Hughes' death was revealed, and Hohenheim battled Dante, their shared past emerging from the shadows. Tucker made a deal with Alphonse, offering to teach him the secrets of the philosopher's stone in exchange for using it to resurrect Nina. Lust offered to aid Edward in exchange for making her human. The factory became the stage for an epic confrontation as Edward, Lust, Wrath, and Sloth clashed in a final showdown, their creation hanging precariously in the balance. The Elric brothers fled Lior, bound for Resembool, while Mustang's brigade pursued them with a mix of duty and anger. In another part of the city, Armstrong declared his intention to rebel against the Führer, but Envy entered, disguising herself as Winry, and kidnapped Alphonse. Edward pursued Envy, only to be intercepted by Wrath, who attacked him for killing Sloth. The woods provided a temporary respite as Izumi intervened, and Edward joined forces with her to track down the other homunculi. A bookstore in Central became a hub of activity when Russell and Fletcher pretended to be Edward to avoid paying for books, only to find themselves captured by the military. However, they were saved by Brosh and Ross, who led them into an unexpected alliance with Edward and Izumi as they pursued the Führer. Izumi stood tall against Archer, a cyborg enemy who had turned against her and the others. Meanwhile, Mustang and Hawkeye emerged from hiding, their plan to attack the Führer under way. As they neared their target, the car ride provided a chance for Edward and Mustang to reconnect before going their separate ways. The gates of truth beckoned as Envy delivered Alphonse to Dante's hidden city beneath Central. Edward soon discovered this new world through a diary page, leading him to confront his nemesis in a final showdown. The fate of Rosé's soul hung in the balance as Dante planned to transfer it into her body using the philosopher's stone from within Alphonse. The world around them descended into chaos as zeppelins rained bombs upon London during World War I, and Edward found himself in the midst of a war-torn city, Hohenheim by his side.Transliteration: "Munich Senkyūhyakunijūichi" (Japanese: ミュンヘン1921) ========== Edward reawakens to see his body fully healed as well as his right arm and left leg are now flesh and blood. However, Alphonse has been taken by the Gate of Truth as a consequence. After having Rosé take an injured Wrath with her and flee to Resembool, Edward attempts human transmutation to resurrect Alphonse, offering his own life. Meanwhile, Mustang successfully kills Führer Bradley with the help of his son Selim, who unintentionally weakens his adoptive father by bringing him the remains of the human from which the Führer was originally based. The Führer responsively strangles his son to death out of anger before Mustang takes his advantage.Looking forward to the next installment of the Fullmetal Alchemist series, where we'll see a drunk Winry, who is furious at Edward because she thinks he's in a relationship with Noah. ========== Winry, intoxicated from partying, storms into Edward's apartment, her face red with anger. "You're seein' someone else?" she slurs, pointing an accusatory finger at Edward. Edward, taken aback by Winry's outburst, tries to calm her down. "No, Winry, I'm just here for dinner," he explains patiently. But Winry won't be placated. She's convinced that Edward is with Noah, and she's determined to put a stop to it. Her anger boils over into a passionate speech about how she can't bear the thought of Edward being with someone else. Edward listens patiently, trying to soothe her hurt feelings. Meanwhile, in another part of town, Alphonse sets out on a quest to find his brother Edward. He travels through modern-day Japan, following a trail of clues that lead him to Studio Bones, where the Fullmetal Alchemist series was produced. However, when he arrives, he's unable to fit through the door due to his large armor form. Undeterred, Alphonse continues his search for Edward. Along the way, he encounters the viewer, who is introduced as a new member of the military. The viewer is tasked with rescuing the Elric brothers from the homunculi, along with Mustang's troops and reinforcements. As they embark on their mission, the group faces numerous challenges, including a trap set by Lust, Gluttony, Sloth, and Wrath. But with the viewer's alchemy ring, they're able to overcome these obstacles and reach the heart of the enemy's stronghold. In the end, the viewer emerges victorious, having successfully rescued Edward and Alphonse from the homunculi. The brothers congratulate the viewer on their hard work before departing themselves.The Fullmetal Alchemist: Premium OVA Collection was released on September 26, 2007 in Japan. The official website states that the release date has not yet been determined for North America and Europe. ========== Steel Ball Run is a manga series written by Hirohiko Araki and illustrated by Arakawa Masaya (assistant artist). It was serialized in Weekly Shonen Jump from August 1997 to October 2004, with 38 chapters published.