

Ren's Lotus (Reader Insert)

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Submitted: March 27, 2007

Updated: March 1, 2008

A reader insert about You and Ren Enjoy! The description won't let me put anymore.. >_<!!!

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1. Ren's Arrangement

"As you know son... you are in the Tao, and you must follow the path that all Taos hath followed." Ren, looked down at the ground, as he always did when his father seemed to ramble on about the Tao in an almost boring anecdote form. "Yes, father.." he said with darkness shrouding his eyes. En sat in his chair rubbing his chin thoughtfully. "Hmmm... I guess it has come for me to tell you. You are arranged to marry a young maiden in about a month. You have been engag-" Ren's eyes bolted up and his blood seemed to stiffen and his mouth agape. "What?! F-father you can't-" "I will do what I please with you. Now sit back down before you recieve punishment.. Ren." Ren's hand balled into a fist and En saw the look of hatred in his eyes that he had come to expect from his own son. Ren's hair that was always in his face, seemed to roll to the side, as if to guide a path for Ren's hurtful stare towards his father. "You can't make me marry someone." "Ah, but you see... indeed I can." "No you cann-" Ren was stopped to silence as En's hand slammed against Ren's body and he thrusted onto the cold, hard stone floors. He gasped for breath as he landed and he heard something crack as he lay there beneath his father's oversized hand. "You will do as I say Ren... Follow the Tao... and everything will be... at peace." Ren's body went limp on the stone and his eyes nearly closed. He looked at the side, and into the doorway where Jun was standing, her eyes wide and her hands drawn to her mouth in fear for his life and in many other emotions. "J-jun..." he said trying to move his hand to reach for her when his father's hand pressed down on him and he screamed in pain as it was crushing every bone he had. His body then completely went numb and he blacked out as his head fell back and hit the stone. Jun stepped back slightly and put her head in her hands. *There's nothing I can do now... Ren will be punished by father again... he might not survive...* She thought in terror. She looked up from her hands and saw the blood that came from his limp body. "REEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEENN!!!"

Note: This is only the Prologue. The rest of the chapter will be longer.

2. "It doesn't affect me."

That day had haunted Ren for the rest of his life. And as his father had told him, in a month, he had married the lady, and that was that. He knew there was no point arguing. Arranged marriages ALWAYS seemed to be a pain in people's sides. About 5 weeks after this had happened, he decided he needed to get away for a while. Maybe Yoh could help him out. I mean, he was also in an arranged marriage, and it was to Anna, the Devil herself. He didn't see why Yoh let her push him around, and he would probably never will, but that didn't stop him from getting on the train, and heading for funbari. "Bocchama... did you tell Maria-Yu where you were planning on going?" asked Bason in a worried tone. "No. She doesn't need to know. I go where ever I choose, regardless of anyone else." He said fast and quick as he looked out the window and began to leave the cherry blossom china trees and descend towards Japan. Bason lunged forward in disbelief. "Bu-but Bocchama, she's your wife!! Don't you think she will worry about your well-being? Where you are? And if you are safe?" Ren jerked his head to the left, away from the window, and Bason. "I don't care if she worries. But... if she is smart, she'll leave me alone, and know not to doubt my ability to take care of myself. I don't need her anyways. She's a thorn in my side..." Bason gasped. "Bocchama, you can't be serious..." "I may have married her.. but it was against my will. Father made me... I had.. no say in the matter, as you already know." he said, revealing a soft spot for a moment before hardening back like a rock, as if no emotions but hatred were present. Hatred, and agitation. Bason tried to touch his shoulder. "Bocchama..." Though he was a ghost, sometimes he pretended that Re actually felt his touch on his shoulder, as a reminder that he was always gonna be his spirit guardian, and be there for him. Sometimes it seemed that way, because though Ren couldn't feel his hand, he sensed it was there and would look up at him. But not this time. Ren shifted in his seat, not wanting Bason, or anyone to interact with him at the moment. He closed his eyes and looked down, with darkness cascading over his dark eyes. Bason looked away, feeling Ren's depression deep inside rub off on him. He realized that this matter was out of his hands now. Ren had defeated his father once before, and gained a powerful friendship it seems with Yoh, but... his father soon began to dominate Ren's life again, and Bason knew Ren wasn't gonna let that happen, even though marrying against his will took him one whole leap in that dreadful direction. Bason's thoughts on the situation trailed off as they arrived in funbari. Ren looked tired, but he hadn't slept on the train at all, and he rarely got sleep at home. They stepped off the train and went into the city. He was one step closer to hopefully finding some answers, but what he found instead, was a fight. As he traveled the dark alleyways in the rain, he grumbled. "Bason, we do have the right directions to Asakura's house correct?" "Er.. uh.. yes. I'm sure of it Bocchama." Ren sighed. "Well I don't want to continue in the rain." Ren walked through another alley when he was suddenly pushed against the metal fence behind him. His hair globbed in front of his face and he looked up as he saw a dark figure. "Got any money punk?!" Ren's eyes beamed with anger. "Get your hands off of me." He said as he grabbed the man's hand and twisted it behind his back before kicking him to the ground. He pulled out his Kwan Dao and aimed it at his face. "This is where your life ends..." The figure, once seeming powerful and fearless, was now weak and on the ground begging. "Please... stop. I'll.. i'll leave you alone!! Please!!" "Beggars can't be choosers..." He said as he rose it above his head and stuck it down with such force. He heard a splash and gasped seeing what had happened. The boy had been pulled back by someone at the last minute and Ren's Kwan Dao had stabbed the muddy ground and a small mud puddle, making a splash. Ren looked up before he was roundhouse kicked in the

face. He fell backwards dropping his Kwan Dao and hitting the muddy ground. Bason appeared and gasped. "Bocchama!!" Ren slowly looked up to see the figure that had saved the boy. It was a girl with long purple hair and jeans and a black t-shirt on. She had stains on her clothes and mud splattered on her cheek. "Leave Tyson alone!" Ren grumbled wiping blood from his lip. "He was trying to mug me.." The girl grabbed Ren by the hair and held him up, face to face. "Give me all the money you have." Ren growled. "Why?! Are you so poor that you must steal to get even the most mediocre things?!" She then kned him in the nuts and let go of him, reaching into his pocket as she did, and pulling out his wallet. Ren held his legs together and fell back down on the ground, with rain pelting his red hot face like tears. Why was he so weak??! He was a shaman, a very experienced one at that, and she was a street rat! As he fell back he hit his head against a lock on the metal fence and felt the thick crimson liquid fall down his neck from the back of his head. The last thing he remembered was seeing the girl's hand glow as she opened up his wallet and speak. "A shaman..." *She... was a shaman too..?!* he thought as against his will, he blacked out. The girl looked down at Ren, reading the name in the wallet. "Tao Ren... he's a powerful shaman. But I guess he was in a weak state today." She looked down at his bleeding head and sighed. "I don't care what happens to him..." She said coldly. "It doesn't affect me." She said looking down at his body. She sighed looking at his helpless self. "He's... kinda cute.. and.. what me and I brother did was wrong..." she picked up his body and ran off through the rain. Bason followed her. Thinking she was a shaman, he tried to speak to her. "Miss, where are you taking Bocchama?" She looked at Bason as she ran. "So you'r his spirit, eh?" She sighed as she looked back in front of her with her brother following close behind. "Somewhere safe. There are others worse than us that might get to him." "Why are we saving him, Jovi?" "Can it Tyson. What we did was bad.." She said reaching a pale shack. "We need to help him... fast!!"

3. Reimi Yoshikawa

Ren slowly opened his eyes, suddenly feeling a sharp pain course through from the back of his head, down his spine. He grunted and sat up slowly, when someone lightly grabbed his shoulders and pushed him back down. He was tired of being pushed like he was a child. He brushed off the person's hand and looked at them. It was the girl who had saved him. She smiled. "Feeling better, Ren?" He sat up again in surprise. "How do you know my name?! Where am I? What have you done to me?" She laughed. "Well, I looked in your wallet and found your name, your at my house, and I have done nothing to you but bring you here." "After kicking me in the face and trying to mug me.. you're just like all the rest... filthy... repulsive beings... tha-" "Bocchama please don't revert back to your old ways." Ren sighed. "You're right Bason. Only a handful of people are like that.." he shot a glance at her. "Too bad you're not one of the ones who know of kindness." She growled. "What?! I was kind enough to bring you here!!" "Well I wouldn't have needed to come here if you and your brother hadn't have been so poor and needing to rob others of their fortunes to suit your misfortunes!!" She whimpered beneath her breath and left the room. Ren rubbed his head feeling the bandage around his head. His head once again throbbed, bringing Ren back to laying upon the bed, holding his head in torcherous pain. "The pain... won't seem to fade." "Bocchama, maybe you should get more rest." Ren sighed, trying to find a peaceful thought in his mind. "You're right, Bason... then maybe afterwards I can visit Asakura." He said getting comfortable before closing his eyes.

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Ren awoke to a knock on the door. "Hmn...agh... Come in.." He sat up in bed, feeling better, before looking over at the person who was entering the room. You entered in with a smile on your face, and your black hair neatly brushed and tucked behind your ear, although it was very wavy today and it poked out from behind your right ear slightly. You smiled at Ren coyly. "Um.. hello Mr.Tao. My sister told me to wake you for lunch. It will be pretty big considering you didn't eat breakfast. You were sleeping and I didn't wish to wake you." Ren grunted. "I'm not hungry." "But.. Mr.Tao... you must eat something." "I said i'm not hungry. All I want is some water and a door out of here." You sighed. "As you wish.." You walked out and came back in with a water bottle and held the door open. "You may leave." Ren was surprised that you weren't holding him here, or telling him how he shouldn't leave like others were. He slowly took the water bottle, as if unsure if he should accept it or not and he exited with Bason following behind him. "By the way... I'm sorry about my sister Jovi and my brother Tyson. We are rather... poor and our parent's died... and we don't have mu-" "Please spare me your unfortunate life story please. Publish it in a book and have someone read it." Ren said slightly annoyed. You looked down at your feet and sighed. "As you wish.." Ren looked at you strangely before stepping towards you. "Uh.. do you have directions to.. the En Inn? The Flame Inn, where the Asakura's are staying at?" You looked up and smiled. "Oh.. yes. I am a good friend of Yoh and Anna. I can escort you there if you wish." Ren turned away hiding a blush. "Th-thank you." You smied and opened the dirty brown door and closed it, leaving the meduim sized shack behind. Ren looked at You as they walked down the street. "So... why do you act so..." he stopped speaking a moment, trying to gather his words together. "...well.. why do you have an exterior attitude of someone who lives good, and yet you don't, and your brother and sister are that way?" You sighed looking away. "We are not blood siblings. Tyson and Jovi are, but I'm not.

But we were at the same orphanage, and one person, named Jenne, took all 3 of us in. She was a nice old woman, and she took care of us.. and we took care of her.. but one day she died and we buried her in the backyard. We never told anyone and we only went out at night cause we didn't want to go back into the orphanage. So now this is how we live. They do things to gain food and money. Bad things... but I don't. I wasn't raised that way, because I had my parents longer than they've had. They never even known their parents..." Ren looked away and thought a moment. "That's... depressing." "Yes.. but I find a way to smile." You said placing a large grin on your face. Ren blushed slightly and smiled. "How are you able to do that?" You smiled looking up at the sky and stopping walking. "I think of my family... Jovi and Tyson... and my friends Yoh and Anna and Manta... and I remember that my parents want me to be happy, and it works." You looked over at Ren. "And since I'll be seeing you more often at Yoh's house now, I can think of you when I smile." Ren went red and looked ahead. "If-if that's how it works for you then okay..." You smiled at Ren a moment before looking back in front of you and continuing walking. "We're almost there." Ren thought a moment as he continued walking beside you. *I don't get it... she has it this bad and she can be happy... so easily. I mean... my life is bad but hers is worse... and she is happier than me...* You looked at Ren. "Mr.Tao, we're here." You said looking back towards the house. "Well... thanks. And. just call me Ren." "Ren, got it." You said waving and running off. Ren quickly turned around. "Wait!!" You turned towards him with a concerned face. "What shall I call you?" You giggled a bit before blushing. "My name is Reimi... Reimi Yoshikawa, Mr.Tao.. I mean, Ren." Ren smirked. "Well, good day to you Reimi." he said to you. You waved and ran back home. Ren turned around and walked towards Yoh's house. *She's rather... nice... I guess.* Ren thought to himself, comparing her to Jovi, which he wasn't too fond of. He reached out his hand in a fist and lightly knocked on the door. As he did, he gasped as he saw that his arranged wife answered the door. "Nice of you to show up Ren. Who was she?" Ren stepped back. "Agh! Maria-Yu!! What are you doing here?!"

4. Madly in Love

5. Mothers Gift

You wiped your eyes as you stepped in the door and looked up at an angry Jovi. "You left AGAIN! You have responsibilities!!" You sighed and leaned on Jovi, crying your heart out. "I'm sorry.. it's just.. I.." Jovi looked down with wide eyes. "Reimi.. what's wrong?" Even without getting an answer, Jovi knew you were hurting and she wrapped her arms around you. "Reimi... whatever the problem may be... it'll be ok." You sighed, and somehow managed a small smile. "Thanks Jovi..." Jovi let go and pushed you along lightly. "Go get some rest Rei." You hurried off to bed, just so you could look out of your window and look out at the stars, hoping it would make you feel better. You felt the cool air coming from outside and you found a way to smile. You thought of Jovi, and Tyson, and Yoh and Anna. You tried to think of Ren with a smile but you could feel your nose stuff up, a headache rise in your head as tears began to flood over. Your red face, still grinning, couldn't hide the pain you felt. You wiped your face and buried your head under the covers and placed your hot face on a cool pillow, found a comfortable place, and drifted off to sleep.

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You woke up the next day, hearing Tyson screaming. Your heart raced, with several bad thoughts entering your mind. "Tyson.." You got up and jumped out of your room and into his room. "What's wrong?!" Tyson, grinning, turned around. "Nothings wrong! I'm happy!!" You rose a brow. "Happy?" "Yes! Someone left us a coupon to get a free dinner at the China 1 Wok in downtown." You smiled. Downtown for ya'll was as if we were going to Busch Gardens. The sights there, a wonderful dinner. This sort of charity only came around about once in a month. You smiled hugging Tyson. "Yea! Tonight is gonn be fun!" "What about tonight?" asked Jovi, clearly mad that she had been woken up by their screaming. Tyson held up the coupon. "We're gonna eat like kings tonight!" Jovi snatched it out of his hand. "Kings? Hardly.. but we will get some good food today. Who gave it to us?" Tyson's grin faded a bit as he shrugged. "Who cares. I just found it on our front door with a note.. written in japanese." Jovi grabbed it and looked at it. "I know japanese.. this is not japanese." You took it, a bit rudely, but you knew chinese, and it could have been chinese writing. It was.. and it read "Hello Jovi, Tyson, and Reimi. I heard about your misfortunes and decided to treat you to a wonderful dinner tonight. I won't be there, but my wife Maria-Yu will be there... besides, it's for you guys. Enjoy! Sincerely, Tao Ren." You read outloud. Your face filled with color as you smiled. "See! Ren does care! He's the one whom gave us this dinner!" "Well i'll be a monkey's uncle, he did?" said Tyson totally flabbergasted. "Yes." Said Jovi smiling. You hugged your arms around yourself. *He does care... Even if he doesn't act like it, he does.* You smiled big and wide.

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You appeared at the China 1 Wok resteraunt in your black tattered dress and your coupon. Tyson was wearing his normal brown baseball cap that he twisted around backwards, and his clean blue shirt but dirty jeans. Jovi had her long purple hair up in a bun and wore a long white dress. It had few stains, it was a gift from her mother, and she only wore it to special places, and when she did, she was careful to not get it ruined. The man looked at them nd scoffed. "Excuse me, we donot give charity, and if you come in, I expect you to pay for everything you

order." he said as if expecting that they were poor and couldn't pay for much. You gave him the coupon with pride, as if to prove him wrong, and he rolled his eyes. "Come this way, your table is over here with Mrs.Tao." He said pointing over to Maria-Yu's table which was reserved with 3 seats all on the opposite side of her. She sat there filing her nails with her hair also up in a bun, but more fancy and her hair was clearly washed and a bleach blonde. She was in a red miniskirt and a fancy blue top with frills at the edges, as if she was trying to show how much more rich she was. It looked like a rock at on her finger as you looked at her wedding ring on her right hand that was like a huge diamond with pure gold at the edges with the name "Maria-Yu" carved on one side and "Ren" carved on the other. You felt embarrassed to be dressed like this before her and you hated the way she looked at you in pure disgust, with a hint of jealousy that you couldn't identify the reason of. As you and Jovi sat down, Tyson took the seat near her and she scooted to the side a bit, scoffing, trying to act more important. You smiled none the less. "Hello Maria-Yu. Hows Ren doing?" "We are doing fine, in love by the way." She said. You rolled your eyes. *I was asking about Ren, not you AND Ren.* You could tell that she wanted to make you jealous. But you wouldn't let it get to you. You were the better person, and you knew that. "So... tell Ren thanks for inviting us." "Your welcome." she said to Jovi, as if SHE were the one who did it, and not Ren. Another thing that began to tick you off. Tyson smiled. "You look very nice Maria-Yu." "Yes, I know." She said rudely, not even thanking him nor looking at him. Another thing that seemed to make your face go red in rage, before you calmed as your food came. The coupon had a set meal with it for each of them so they didn't even have to order. Tyson got the Pu Pu Platter, which he wanted just because of the funny name, Jovi got the order called "General Tso's Chicken", which looked and ended up tasting good. And you got some Sweet and Sour chicken, with bowls of Chow mien, Low mien, Chop Suey, and rice, that you all(except Maria-Yu of course) ended up sharing. Maria-Yu looked at the man and whispered something into his ear. A couple minutes passed and he came back with a platter of food that could feed 3 kings. She knew she couldn't eat it all, yet she ordered it because she could, and it shown how much richer things she could afford. "Thanks." she said to the waiter. You smiled at Maria-Yu. "Woah.. that's a huge plate. And that's a lot of food." "Yes, I know, the most expensive thing I could buy. The speciality platter that has nearly everything on it for a fraction of the cost. Yummy too!" She said pulling it closer to her and away from them as she saw their mouths water. You shrugged it off and began to eat. It tasted so good. You hadn't had a decent meal in months it seemed, and Maria-Yu was too full of herself to make it worthwhile, case everything she began to talk about, made you want to vomit. Suddenly she looked at Jovi's dress. "Oh.. how simple a dress." Jovi smiled. "Simple but beautiful. I love it! It was a gift from my mother before she died." Maria-Yu looked away with disgusting feelings of pity. "Ugh.. how quaint." Tyson looked at the fact that she hardly ate any of her food. "Er.. Maria-Yu, are you gonna eat the rest of that?" He asked reaching his hand for it. Maria-Yu smacked his hand away. "Of course!! Get away from it!" As she smacked his hand, she knocked over her glass of wine, and it toppled over, spilling its contents all over Jovi and her priceless dress. You watched as Jovi's eyes filled with tears. "My... my dress!!!" She screamed, and nearly everyone in the restaurant looked over. Tyson gasped with his hands going to his mouth. You looked at Maria-Yu, knowing how mean she was, but still expecting her to at least apologize. You were wrong. "Oh.. it was an ugly dress anyways." You had never done anything like this before. Your anger took hold and you jumped across the table at Maria-Yu and pinned her to the ground. "You witch!!!" "How dare you!!!" screamed Maria-Yu. "You cannot just do that to someone and not say sorry! Say sorry to my sister!!!" Maria-Yu smiled. "Fine then. I'm sorry...sorry that your so poor you need Ren's help to have a normal dinner!" You grabbed the bowl of rice on the table, that was half empty and smashed it over her head, with rice falling all over her. It was silent for a long time before Jovi, still upset about her dress, got up and ran out of the restaurant in tears.

Tyson followed after her. "Jovi!!" As he did that Maria-Yu pushed you off and threw the bowl at he wall, breaking it. "You're just jealous that i'm married to Ren and that you'll never have him!!" Yelled Maria-Yu throwing the Chow Mien bowl at you. You grabbed the bowl but it still spilled on you, and it was very hot so you yelped a bit before grabbing a handful of sweet and sour chicken and chucking it at her head. It got all in her hair and on her clothes and the sauce stained them. She screamed. "My clothes! And my hair!!" You turned the table over and grabbed her, smacking her into the wall. "Don't you dare disrespect my family again!! EVER!! We may be poor, but at least we love eachother! Ren doesn't LOVE YOU!!!" You yelled in anger. Maria-Yu slapped you and picked up a chair, about to throw it when you grabbed it and pushed her against the wall. Just then, the manager and a cop grabbed you and forced you out of China 1 Wok. As you were forced out, Maria-Yu cried to cops of how she was attacked. You looked at Jovi. "Jovi... I'm sorry about your dress... really I am." Jovi sighed, wiping away tears. "It's ok.. thanks for sticking up for me..." You forced a smile, trying to make Jovi happy. "No problem." Tyson looked at the dress. "That'll never come out.." Jovi smiled and sniffled a bit before huggi you and Tyson close. "It's ok, mothers gift was important to me.. but at least I've got you guys.." You smiled. "Of course... now let's go home." you said with you, Jovi, and Tyson running off, leaving Maria-Yu, with some cops that hardly did anything about the situation besides telling her that the food should come out of her clothes and hair.

6. North Korean Ties

7. Maneater

Hyoka was out of breath when the battle ended. She placed her hand on her knees and he panted some, before looking toward the girl she had been against. "Now.. we see who is the best.." You looked over at your friend and you stood up straight, out of breath as well. "I guess so." Suddenly a voice was heard, and the letters, "S and B" were shown on the tv screen. Hyoke jumped up with her fist in the air and screamed. "Woooo! Look who's better at Canon-D on hard mode nooooo?! " You laughed some and wiped some sweat from your forehead. "Yeah, I guess so. You've really practiced PIU haven't you?" Your friend nodded in reply and she crossed her arms. "Wanna do it again?" Her eyes grew dark like she was challenging you. "Loner on Nightmare Mode..." Your eyes grew wide and you stepped back some, off of the PIU dance mat. "Wh-what?! You can do THAT?!" Before Hyoka responded to you, she started it up and you watched in awe as your friend layed out the steps on the two PIU dance pads. When she was done, she nearly collapsed to the ground, but she was grinning as another "S" was shown on the tv screen. "See!" You rolled your eyes and helped up your friend. "I see.. I haven't seen you in a long time though. It's obvious that you've been so bored in Korea that you decided to adopt this as a sport of sorts." Hyoka brushed herself off and shrugged like it was no big deal, but something seemed to be on her mind. She just looked up and smiled. "C'mon. I wanna go do stuff today, since we haven't seen eachother in years." You stopped and looked around her house. It was HUGE. "There.. is nothing else to do HERE?!" You exclaimed. "Well.. there is but.. it gets rather boring. We should go out somewhere.. and get ice cream! Ooooh I would kill for a Klondike bar right now." You both laughed and were soon, out of Hyoka's home. (FYI, PIU or.. Pump It Up, is a dancing video game, similar to DDR, Dance Dance Revolution)

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Ren looked toward the man with sunglasses and an all black suit on as he spoke to him with authority, while Ren looked to the side like he was NOT interested. "Tao Ren! You've RUINED your chances with siding with North Korea! You and Maria-Yu aren't fit to lead the Tao Family if---" Ren stood up, his voice booming with power and more authority than this man could ever hope to muster. "I am the only FIT one to lead this family! The Tao Family needs me! They can always replace YOU! So who ever told YOU what to tell ME to do?! I never took orders from my father.. and I'll be DAMNED if I let you order me!" The man stepped back some and waved his hands in front of him wildly. "N-no! Tao Ren do not misunderstand me!" "What is there to misunderstand, SIR?" He said with a tinge of irritation in his voice, as if looking for another reason to snap at the man. The man sighed and fixed his glasses higher upon his nose, rather disdainfully. "Well.. I said that you and Maria-Yu weren't fit. I never said..." he crossed his arms over his chest. "...You alone." Ren glowered toward the man, but said nothing. Nothing of agreement but.. nothing of disagreement either.

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"Look what the cat dragged in." Hyoka said, looking at the girl who stood in front of them at the ice cream shop. Maria-Yu scoffed and looked down at her finely manicured nails, before looking over at Hyoka's who's were plain. "Look what the cat coughed up." "Maria-Yu, we're not looking for trouble!" You said crossing your arms some. Maria-Yu didn't seem convinced. "Oh?

Well trouble has found you. I haven't forgotten your act of disrespect Hyoka. However, I DO know how you can make ammends toward me. Simply.." Maria-Yu trailed off some. "Get on your knees and beg for my forgiveness." Hyoka growled and her blood boiled with fierce anger. "What are you a Queen?! You're NOTHING! And I don't have to do anything you say. I don't even WANT to 'make ammends,'" Hyoka said with a tinge of anger in her voice. Maria-Yu stepped past Hyoka and looked toward you. "I know you're attracted to Ren." You seemed to be taken aback. Sure she liked Ren's company, but was it true that she could be.. attracted to him? "Wh-what?" You asked insinuatingly. "I know. But you see.. I've got Ren wrapped so tightly around my little finger than on a command, I could get him to cut off all ties with you and your little Korean mutt." "Now just hold on one second!" Hyoka screamed before Maria-Yu grabbed Hyoka's arm and tossed her over her shoulder, spilling her ice cream onto the ground. You gasped at that. Maria-Yu seemed to be one of the prim and proper girls that would never do such a thing. But it seemed she was wrong. "I was taught Kung-Fu by Ren's family. You like?" Hyoka looked up in awe. This girl had really... brought her to the ground. But it was known. No one.... NO ONE... crossed Hyoka without being punished. "Stand back Reimi!" Hyoka called out to you before jumping up from the ground and swiping her leg beneath Maria-Yu's, tripping her. Maria-Yu hit the ground with a hard 'thud' before realizing that she scraped her knee on the surface of the concrete. She was bleeding. "You tripped me!" "That's not all I'll do when I'm through with you." Hyoka said, snarling. Maria-Yu jumped up and aimed a punch at Hyoka when she put up her arm and knocked it to the side. Maria-Yu kept throwing punches but Hyoka was quicker, until Maria-Yu pulled out Ren's Kwan Dao from her secret pocket in her almost skintight short and red chinese style dress and slashed it outwards, cutting Hyoka's cheek. You gasped and stepped up beside Hyoka. "You stole Ren's Kwan Dao!" "I did nothing of the sort. What's his is mine, and what's mine is his. We are in love." She said with her eyes narrowing, a grin placed upon her lips. "Something YOU will never understand." She said before she jumped toward Hyoka and swung it again. This time, YOU caught it. "Reimi!" Hyoka shouted, worried for her safety, when you twisted your hand. If Maria-Yu didn't let go, the Kwan Dao would break. She felt it twist and be jerked from her hand and you had it in your possession now. Maria-Yu growled and she made a move to grab it back. "That's not YOURS!" "It's not YOURS either!" You screamed slashing it back toward her, but something else grabbed it. You looked up to see that Ren stood there, his hand tightly holding the Kwan Dao. "R-ren.." You muttered, hoping he didn't see her as the bad one here. He said nothing, he only watched as you let go of the Kwan Dao, letting him have it back in his possession. Ren broke it up into its hollow pieces connected by a chain and he placed it in his pocket. "I don't want us to EVER see those two again!" You gasped. Was Ren really so into her that if she wanted him to never see her or Hyoka again.. he would obey?" Ren nodded and he turned around. "Okay." Maria-Yu kissed him on the cheek and flashed a smirk toward the two girls left standing. "Toodles." You couldn't believe it. As they walked off, Hyoka looked toward you. "How could he.." "Don't get worked up, Reimi. Ren isn't the bad one here." She said before looking back to the bleach blond as she walked off. "The bad seed.. is that girl, Maria-Yu." She said narrowing her eyes some. "She's a maneater." Hyoka said rubbing her cheek, where she had been cut. You looked down to the side and wrapped your arms around yourself. It always seemed to be two steps forward... and three steps back.

8. Love and Hate(Mini Chapter)

You stepped out of your skin for awhile. You stepped into your unfeeling, unnerving side. You didn't want to feel any upset at the current moment. I mean.. you didn't even know Ren that long. But it seemed evident that you felt something toward him. You crossed your arms rather irritatingly, as you closed your eyes. You began to put yourself into your subconscious, and to the rest of the world, be a calm female, when inside, you wanted so badly to be at least Ren's friend, and wanted so badly to crush Maria-Yu like a fly... whichever came first. You were caught on whether you cared more about your love for Ren and your friendship, or more about your hate for Maria-Yu. Love and hate. Two forced, equal in measure, profound in power. You let your body fall onto your makeshift bed and pulled the pillow from the ground and brushed it off. Turning it over, you placed it beneath your head and sighed in relaxation. You had a pounding headache. You needed some rest. Hyoka was busy packing her things. She would be departing to Korea soon. You wanted to have more time to hang out with her before she left but you didn't have it in you. Hyoka understood. That is something that happens when you grow apart. You get used to it.

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Maria-Yu sat on the couch in her bathrobe, watching tv and munching lightly on some thin mints. She loved those girl scout cookies. Ren stepped in from the training room, seeing that it was 1:00 am, and he figured that Maria-Yu would be asleep by now. They were both fairly wet. Maria-Yu had just taken a shower, but Ren had sweat all over him; tears of the body they say. Ren was typically stressed and he took notice to hardly anything else. He pulled his towel from around his neck and dabbed his face with it before looking toward his 'darling' wife. "Go to bed. We have a big day tomorrow." He said before walking into the kitchen and grabbing some ice cold milk in his usual glass bottles. Maria-Yu looked toward him and ran her fingers through her blond hair and tilted her head to the side. "What for? What are we doing tomorrow." "Just do it." Ren repeated before opening his glass of milk and beginning to chug it all. Maria-Yu smiled and stood up. She would've given Ren a hug, but he was all sweaty, and she was cleaned up. "Oh? A surprise! Oh I love you Ren!" She chirped as she pecked him on the cheek and grabbed the sash that was around her bathrobe and pulled it tighter around her waist, revealing her curves. She winked some and smiled. "I'll be waiting for you.." Maria-Yu said as she slowly began to retreat to the bedroom they shared in the Tao Manor that existed here in Japan. Ren blushed slightly, but made no real comment. He didn't exactly think of Maria-Yu in that way. She was hardly tolerable to say the least. He looked out of the window, up at the stars, and he sighed some. A look of longing was in his eyes. "Hm...m..." He seemed to be caught on whether he truly loved Maria-Yu, or whether he was confusing it with the hate he was so used to. Caught between love and hate... but also for another girl. His thoughts were on you. Reimi Yoshikawa. Did he indeed feel love for her... or did he hate her? And if so.. was that only because Maria-Yu wanted him to? He sighed and closed his eyes. He was going to sleep on the couch this night...