

# Unknown Paths

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*What happens when one of Keitaro's American friends comes to visit? Could this mean love for one of the residents?*

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# 1 - Chapter 1

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Now that that's all out of the way on with the story.....

## **Unknown Paths**

It was a beautiful morning at Hinata-Sou, but fate always has that strange way of turning on you when you least expect it. It is just a pity that no one warned the young man coming up the steps that.

He was a tall man, around six feet, who was in his mid to early twenties. His hair was a golden blonde that came to about halfway down his shoulders. His deep blue eyes were hidden behind a pair of black sunglasses. He wore a white dress shirt with the sleeves rolled up, and a pair of baggy black jeans. He carried with him a large duffel bag slung over his shoulder, a guitar case in his left hand, and a long wooden box in his right.

As he stood at the top of the steps he gazed at the building silently. Then he placed the box under his left arm and reached into his pocket to remove a piece of paper. He looked at the paper quickly to make sure he was at the right place and then placed it back in his pocket.

He then proceeded to the door of the dormitory, and after putting down his guitar, he knocked at the door. After a few moments when no reply came, he tested the door to find out, to his surprise, that it was unlocked. He slowly slid open the door and leaned his head inside.

"Hello!" he called out, "Is anyone here! I'm a friend of Keitaro Urashima. He invited me to come here."

When no one answered, he decided that it would be best to wait until someone showed up. So, he removed his shoes at the doorway and sat himself on the couch in the living room. After a few minutes of waiting, he pulled out his guitar, and after tuning it began to play a classical tune. As he continued to play, the notes rang through the empty halls.

Meanwhile in the hot springs, Motoko had just sat down to soak in the water. She had decided to stay at the dorm, while the other girls and Keitaro went shopping. She personally did not like shopping to much so she decided to catch up on her sword training. The tension from her session was still fresh upon her muscles, but the soothing effects of the springs seemed to rejuvenate her down to her very soul.

As she closed her eyes and soaked in the warmth of the springs. She drifted into a Zen-like state of relaxation. Where she heard the faint sound of music drifting to her ears.

'Wait a minute.' She thought to herself, 'I've never heard that tune before.'

She opened her eyes and to her surprise, she could still hear the faint melody floating across the grounds. This spiked her curiosity as to who could be playing inside the building. So, after wrapping a towel around herself and grabbing her sword she walked out of the springs in search of the mysterious player.

She followed the melody down the halls until she came to the living room. As she peered into the room to see who was inside she saw on the couch a strange man playing a guitar. Figuring he was a burglar or even worse a rapist she quickly but quietly snuck behind him, and readied her sword.

"I was wondering when you'd show yourself." He said over his shoulder as he stopped his playing.

"So you can sense ch'i?" she asked seemingly unimpressed.

He sat the guitar down on the couch and slowly got up to face her. "Yes that and so much more."

"Who are you?" she asked him coldly.

"Before I answer that don't you think you should change into something more appropriate?" he told her while keeping eye contact.

She quickly realized that he was referring to the fact that she was still in the bath towel, and her cheeks turned a bright red. The man could not tell if whether from anger or embarrassment, but his instincts told him to be careful. Very careful.

Her grip tightened around the hilt of her sword, "You pervert!!" She yelled out while charging at him.

He was surprised by how quickly she moved, but still managed to dodge the attack with relative ease. As she continued to slash at him, he continued to avoid them. Which with each miss her frustration grew until she decided to pull out a trump card.

She first jumped back to make some distance between them. "God's Cry School Sword Technique: Cutting Evil Sword! Second Form!!" She yelled while sending the energy wave hurtling towards him. 'This fight's in the bag.' She thought to herself.

However, to her surprise he just stood there and held up his hand as if to stop the wave. The wave collided with some sort of barrier before reaching him, and sent it speeding back towards her. As it hit her, the energy threw her back and cut thru the towel, but before she hit the ground, he caught her in his arms.

She was shocked as to how strong and fast he was, but as she looked at her reflection in his deep blue eyes. Her cheeks once again turned a prominent shade of crimson.

"Are you all right?" he asked concerned. All she could seem to do was nod in response.

"Um-humph!" came a voice from the front door.

As they, both looked towards the noise they found Keitaro and the girls starring at them very much confused.

"Um... hi Keitaro." The man said slightly uneasy as he became aware of what the current situation must have looked, and knew he was going to have a lot of explaining to do.

Well that is the end of Chapter 1. Hope you enjoyed this due to the fact I was basically making this story up from the top of my mind till around Chapter 7. If you did like this please leave a review. If not please tell why. Until next time. Bye

## 2 - Chapter 2

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### **Unknown Paths:**

#### **Ch.2**

Later on after things began to settle down, and the group had gathered around the living area to find out about the new arrival.

"Well I guess I should probably explain myself." The man said, "Well where exactly should I begin?"

"I think you should start with your name." Keitaro told him.

"Oh yeah sorry." he said while slightly chuckling, "My name is Amadeus Gallimus and it's a pleasure to finally meet the girls that Keitaro talked about so much." He said while giving a small bow.

"How do you know Sempai Mr. Gallimus?" Shinobu asked.

"Please just call me either Amadeus or just Deus, and I met Keitaro at a dig site where my company A.R.A.M.A. Inc was completing field test on some new equipment. We usually like to get feedback from the people who are actually going to use it and Seta happened to be one of the best to go to."

"A.R.A.M.A. what's that?" Su asked, "Is it delicious?"

Deus smiled nervously at that, "No A.R.A.M.A. is a company that I started back when I was in high school, and it seems to be doing pretty well. Being as it's one of the world's fastest growing company."

"Yeah I've heard about you. You're considered one of the world's 50 richest men." Kitsune said eyeing him.

"Really? Didn't think I was that rich." He said scratching his head. "Well anyway back to the first question after that I decided to show him around town, and we soon became friends. Then Seta and I decided to teach him some martial arts."

"So you also taught Keitaro?" Motoko asked.

"Yeah he really had a knack for it."

"Well what brings you here?" Mitsumi asked.

"Well I'm here mainly to finish negotiations on opening a new branch out here in Japan, and after that I thought I'd take a couple months of vacation. However, as I was getting ready to leave I remembered that Keitaro had mentioned that he was the landlord of a dormitory close to Tokyo. When I called, he insisted that I stay here instead of renting an apartment. I didn't want to impose, but he insisted that I come here."

As he said that, the girls looked towards Keitaro who was trying to sneak out of the room. He just smiled and began to laugh uneasily as he knew that he was now in the spotlight.

"Oh Keitaro why didn't you tell us about this? Or at least tell me?" Naru asked with that certain gleam in her eye.

He began to laugh sheepishly, "I was going to but it slipped my mind."

"Well see if this jogs your memory!" she yelled while hitting him with her trademark atomic punch, and sending him into the far reaches of the stratosphere.

"Oh-kay" he said slightly shocked by what just happened, and made a rational decision not to end up like Keitaro, "Well I guess I'll be going. Hope I wasn't any burden and sorry about the trouble." and with that he grabbed his bags and headed towards the door.

"Oh please don't go. You can stay here. In fact you can even stay in my room." Kitsune said while blocking his path and grinning at him.

"What?!" Motoko said shocked, "How can you make that choice we don't even know him."

"I don't know. It seems like you two know each other quiet well from the scene we saw earlier." Kitsune said while grinning mischievously at Motoko who just turned a bright shade of red.

"I...I just mean we don't even know if he's a pervert like Keitaro." she retorted while trying to bring the color of her cheeks back to normal.

Amadeus decided that it would be best if he spoke up for himself, "I may be a lot of things but one thing that I am definitely not is a pervert. But she has a point none of you, minus Keitaro, know anything about me. Are you really sure that you'd want me around?"

"Of course we're sure." Naru said, "Just call it women's intuition."

"Yeah plus you smell nice." said Kitsune who'd managed to snuggle up a little to close for Amadeus's comfort.

Motoko just glared at her, "Will you stop throwing yourself at him Kitsune."

"Why? Have you already confessed your undying love for him?"

"I do not love him!!" Motoko retorted her face once again red. "I can't even stand to look at him. So to settle this I challenge him to a duel. If he wins I'll allow him to stay, but if I win he goes."

"Now Motoko there's no need to be so mean to him. He hasn't done anything wrong yet." Shinobu pleaded with her.

"Yes he has!" she shot back, "He has disgraced me and he must pay. So will you accept my challenge, and the terms therein?" she said pointing her sword at him.

He stood there for a second and then a small smirk came upon his face, "Sure I accept, might even be fun."

Later as they stood around the patio, the two fighters faced each other. Motoko stood with her sword ready, determination embedded on her face. Meanwhile Amadeus stood casually with his hand in his pockets.

"Aren't you going to ready yourself?" Motoko asked him.

He just grinned at her, "I think I'm pretty ready as is. Are you sure you don't want to give up?"

"I should ask you the same thing." she said returning the smile.

"You know you're very cute when you smile. It fits you well."

She began to blush again.

By this time, Kietaro had returned from the next town, and walked up on the patio to see the scene unfurling.

"What's happening?" Keitaro asked slightly confused.

"Motoko challenged Amadeus to a duel." Naru told him.

"I'm betting on Motoko!" Su said happily.

"What!?!!" he yelled in shock, "She can't beat him!"

"Nah you worry too much Kietaro." Kitsune said while sipping her sake.

"Yeah Kei-kun Motoko can handle herself." Mutsumi said while trying to calm him down.

Meanwhile, Motoko had more important things to worry about as she faced Amadeus.

"One last chance to surrender. Cause I won't go easy on you." she warned him.

He just continued to grin, "Give it your best shot."

"Gladly!" she told him as she charged him. Her plan was to end this quickly with a throw. But as she, thrusting trying to throw him, he moved slightly to the right, and the blade went thru the space between his left arm and body. Before she knew it, he had turned his entire body to the right, and catching her off balance. Thus, he succeeded in disarming and throwing her in one move.

The rest of the group was stunned by the sudden outcome. To them it looked like Motoko had tripped and fallen.

"Uh what just happened?" Kitsune asked more than slightly confused.

"I think Motoko lost." Naru said equally stunned, "I guess he stays."

"Oh my. Fu, fu, fu." Mitsumi added confused.

Later that night Amadeus sat on the rail of the patio staring at the starry sky. When he heard someone coming up the steps. He turned to see Motoko walking towards him.

"Yes Miss Aoyama is there something that I can help you with?" he asked her.

She just kept her head down low, and didn't say anything for a few moments. Then she spoke, "I know that you made it look like I had tripped. So that you would not embarrass me more by defeating me in front of my friends. For that I thank you."

He was about to reply when she continued, "But for me I was still defeated, and that leaves me without honor." She knelt on her knees, bowed her head, and placed her sword in front of her at his feet, "So I leave my fate in your hands."

Amadeus stared at her a second and thought about what had happened. Then he walked over to where she was, and knelt down in front of her. He then reached out his hand to her, and gently lifted her face to meet his. He could see the pain in her eyes.

"No your fate is in your own hands. I cannot change that, nor would I ever make anyone do something they didn't want. My only command is that you follow this," he said while placing her hand over her heart, "Learn to listen to what it whispers to you, and once you learn to do that you'll find out that honor is what you make it."

He grabbed her sword and helped her to her feet, and as he handed it to her, he said, "As for my view on honor. Someone once told me honor is not how you died, but how you had lived."

And with that, he walked past her, and headed down the stairs. Motoko just stood there as he left. Then she looked up at the sky as her heart slowly began to beat faster.

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If you've liked it so far please leave a review and if not please tell why. Until next time. Bye

## 3 - Chapter 3

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#### **Ch. 3**

A few days had passed since Motoko's defeat by Amadeus, and he had begun to stay there. However, the residents hardly ever saw him due to his business arrangements. He would leave before anyone got up and didn't come home until late at night. But, even without his constant interventions, his presence had begun to affect certain residents.

"98...99...100!" Motoko counted as she practiced, but something seemed to be on her mind.

'Why can't I get him out of my mind? Why did he consul me instead of humiliating me when he had the chance? Why do I feel nervous whenever I'm around him, and my heart beats faster just thinking about him? I have only had these feelings for Kietaro. Could that mean that I'm falling in love with him' she thought to herself, 'I can't let these thoughts distract me from my training, but there's still something different about him.' These thoughts continued to drift thru her mind.

Meanwhile up in his room Amadeus sat at the desk typing away on his laptop when a knock came at the door.

"It's open." He said while still typing.

The door slid open and Shinobu came in carrying a tray with some snacks.

"I thought you might be hungry Mr. Gallimus. So I brought you something to eat." She said smiling.

"Please just call me either 'Amadeus' or 'Deus.' You don't have to be so formal to me I don't deserve the honor from such a beautiful woman." He said smiling.

She blushed slightly, "It's no problem." She said as she sat the tray down, "Can I ask you a question?"

"Sure." He said closing up the laptop.

"Where did you get your name? I mean not that it's not a nice name." She said slightly embarrassed.

He chuckled slightly, "Well it's kind of a weird story. My last name is from my families' Roman descent, and my first name comes from the fact that my parents said I would move in the womb when Mozart was played. Any particular reason you ask?" he asked smiling.

"Oh no!" she blurted while blushing, "Just curious."

As she looked over the clutter on the desk, she noticed a picture frame at the corner. It held a picture of Deus and a girl with fire red hair holding each other.

"Who's this?" she asked while picking up the frame, "Is she your girlfriend?"

"No she was my wife." His tone changed more serious.

"What happened?" she asked concerned.

"No she died a couple of years ago."

"I'm sorry." She said as she set the picture on the desk.

"Don't be." He said cheering up, "It's shouldn't be your worry. So is there anything else you needed to know?"

"Not really I just thought you might need something to eat. Oh yeah, don't worry about breakfast tomorrow. After all there's no need for you to overwork yourself while your here." She said winking.

"It's really no problem. I just can't stay here and let so many beautiful women do everything while I do nothing." He said while giving her a small smile.

She blushed slightly at his remark.

"Oh before I forget, Kietaro told me that you're trying to get into Tokyo University."

"Yeah I'll be taking my entrance exam soon." She said cheerfully.

"Well I wish you luck, and if you need any help don't be afraid to ask, and hopefully after I finish up these loose ends maybe I can spend some time viewing the local scenery. It'd be fun to spend it with you and the other girls." He noticed that her face still kept a slight shade of pink, "Sorry if I seem to forward in asking."

"Oh not at all. Well I'll leave you to your work." And with that, she turned and left.

As she closed the door, his attention turned back to the picture on the desk. He gazed at the picture and slowly traced the outline of the girls face with his finger. After a few minutes, he decided to cool off in

the hot springs. So, he grabbed a towel and headed downstairs.

As he made his way towards the hot springs, he passed through the living room. To find Kitsune watching a soap while sipping on some sake.

"Where ya' going?" She asked as he walked through.

"I was going to use the bath if that's okay."

She got a sudden grin on her face, probably from the alcohol, and snuggled up to him. "No I don't have a problem with that. In fact we could both take a bath together."

"Thanks but I'd prefer to take this bath alone."

"Well it's best to go in pairs so that you can keep an eye out for peeping toms." She said while circling her finger across his chest.

He had to grin at that, "And how do I know that you're not one yourself?"

"Now you know I can't promise that." She said still grinning at him.

He just smiled, "I'll keep that in mind." And with that, he walked to the bath.

Later as he sank into the water, he began to feel the stress of the past few days melt away. Then as he finally began to relax, all Hell broke loose.

"You pervert!" came a shout followed in turn by a large crash.

The next thing he knew Kietaro busted thru the door. Fear streaked across his face.

"HELP ME DEUS! THEY'RE GOING TO KILL ME!" Kietaro begged him.

"Um...Who's going to kill you?" he asked confused. As he tried to pry him off his arm.

"There he is!" Motoko said as she and Naru ran into the room, and by the look in their eye's he could tell someone was going to die.

As the girls came in, they saw a terrified Kietaro cowering behind a confused Amadeus. Who was dressed only in a towel wrapped around his waist. When Motoko saw him, her face began to glow a bright red.

Naru's mind on the other hand was set on one thing, the death of Kietaro, "Get over here Kietaro and take it like a man!"

"But it was an accident I swear!" he pleaded, "Please Deus you have to tell them!"

"Whoa, wait just a minute here." Deus said quieting the two sides, "What exactly did he do?"





## 4 - Chapter 4

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Okay hopefully this chapter might clear up some questions anyone might have on anything. This chapter might get a little weird, and the part of the Horsemen is not particularly my personal belief they are just the way I made it in my stories.

Okay now on with the story...

### **Unknown Paths:**

#### **Chapter 4**

As the moonlight reflected off the freshly lain snow, it cast an eerie glow across the forest floor. All was silent thru the endless rows of trees save for the sound of snow crunching under someone's feet.

Deus ran with all his might, fear gripping his heart. The fear of possibly losing someone close to him was present in his mind. As he came to a slight clearing, he saw a lone woman dressed in white. Her fire red hair hanging down her back. He stood there in shock as he tried desperately to say something.

"J-Jessie..." he stuttered, "Is it really you?"

She turned around to face him, and a loving smile spread across her face. He fell to his knees at the sight of her face, "I thought I'd lost you."

Then an evil chuckle echoed thru the icy still, "Ah but you did loose her. All because you couldn't protect her from me."

Deus's eyes narrowed as he heard the voice. He had hoped that he'd never have to hear that voice again, and his fist began to clinch up and his muscles tighten.

"And now Deus you'll loose her again." The voice said with a hint of joy in his tone.

As he heard this, he saw a tall dark figure appear out from between the trees behind Jessie and level two fingers at her back. Then a glowing red orb formed at the tips of their fingers.

"No!" was all Deus could do before the figure sent the attack hurtling towards her. He watched in horror

as the beam hit her from behind piercing thru her heart. As she fell forward, he caught her in his arms and cradled her close to his chest. He looked into fading green eyes, the pain evident in them, and she gave him a faint smile as she quickly passed away.

As she died he embraced her as close as he could so as if to keep her soul from leaving him. His heart became consumed with grief, but was quickly replaced by an uncontrollable hatred. He glared at the figure, rage burning in his eyes.

The figure just laughed, "You know I always found it so humorous how you humans cling to life so desperately."

Deus slowly rose to his feet while still holding his wife's body in his arms. "So you find it humorous." He said, the anger swelling thru him, "Then let me show you how it feels!"

As he said that, a flame surrounded his body, and as his anger grew so did the fire. The figure stood there unmoving, whether from fear or lack there of. Deus continued to build his anger until he could hold it no longer, and he let it loose with a yell that reached down to the depths of his soul. His aura exploded spreading his wrath thru out the forest. Consuming all including the figure.

Deus sat up with a start. He looked around to see that he was still in his bed at Hinata-Sou. He could still feel his heart beating from his dream, and his brow was beaded with sweat. As he looked at his clock, it read five-thirty. So he got out of bed and threw on a short sleeve t-shirt and baggy pants. He then grabbed the wooden box as he left his room.

As he passed down the hall, he walked past the other tenants' rooms. He hoped that he had not awaken any of the girls, but unknown to him someone else was awake. After he had passed by Motoko's room her door slowly opened, and she peered out of the door.

'Where's he going this early?' she asked herself, and she quietly began to follow him.

As she followed him to the front yard, she quickly hid behind one of the many trees lining the building. She watched as he began to open the box and pulled out a two-handed sword. As he removed the blade from its sheath, he slowly examined the blade.

'At last I get to see how good he really is.' She thought to herself as he adjusted his stance to begin. However, she didn't expect what she saw.

As he got into a crouched stance, he placed his sword low across his left side and closed his eyes to help him focus. He stayed in this stance for a second until his eyes shot open and his aura ignited in a raging inferno. He then crossed the open area while slashing his sword in a horizontal cut. As he reached halfway thru the cut he changed his grip, and then brought his blade down vertically ending in the same stance he'd began.

Motoko was in shock. To her she had just seen him appear from one end of the field to the other before she could even blink. But as amazed as she was at his display more surprises were in store for her as she continued to watch him.



Deus then gathered ch'i in his left hand and shot a series of balls around him. As soon as he had fired the last one, he placed his sword at the ready. For the balls, that he had just fired were veering back towards him with all intention on hitting him. He dodged the first by jumping into the air, and continued to dodge them as they came hurtling at him. Nevertheless, what surprised Motoko the most was not by how easily he dodged the attacks, but the fact that he was dodging all of them while still floating in the air.

He dodged the attacks with relative ease, and she was amazed at how fluid his movements were and how seemingly flawless his technique was. As he continued to dodge, she noticed that the speed and frequency of the attacks began to increase. She could also see that he was starting to have trouble defending the volleys, and as he dodged out of the way of one another speed towards him from behind.

‘Oh no he won't be able to dodge it!’ she thought, “Look out behind you!” she yelled to him.

He quickly looked in her direction, surprise evident in his eyes, but his gaze was distracted by the attack hurtling from his right. She watched in horror as the ball hit him and the others soon followed it. As they hit they exploded into a brilliant blue flash that left nothing but a smoking cloud where he once was.

“Oh my god I killed him.” She quietly said to her self as tears began to well in her eyes.

“You know it's not very nice to spy on someone.” Came a familiar voice from behind her.

She spun around to see Deus floating behind her with his sword resting across his shoulders. He was unscratched save for the singes on his clothes. She was relieved to see him still alive, but there was something strange in his eyes. They seemed to paralyze her very soul and take her breath away.

“You shouldn't have seen that.” He said as he approached her.

She continued to stare into his eyes petrified by his stare, and as he reached out his hand to her only one thought rang thru her mind, ‘Oh God he's going to kill me!’ with that she swat his hand away and ran back to the house.

As she ran into the house, she found Shinobu preparing to start breakfast.

“Good morning Motoko.” She greeted, but she could see something was wrong with the Kendo girl, “What's the matter.”

Just then, Deus came into the room, “Wait a second Motoko you didn't allow me to explain myself.”

Motoko quickly tucked Shinobu behind her and grabbed a knife off the counter thrusting it at him. “Stay back. I won't let you hurt us.”

A look of confusion crossed his face, “Huh... Hurt you? Why would I hurt you? None of you have done anything to be hurt for.”

“Because I found out about your secret.”

"Yes I am slightly upset about that, but not at you. If anything I'm angry at myself for not being more trustworthy." He told her.

"What do you mean Deus?" Shinobu asked, "What secret is she talking about?"

"If Motoko will calm down I'll be more than willing to explain." He said as he sat down at the table.

The two girls sat down opposite of him while Motoko kept a close eye on his movements.

"I am the result of a top secret genetic experiment by the U.S. government."

"What do you mean?" Shinobu asked.

"Well during the late seventies the government began to see the beginnings of the fall of Communist Russia, and they figured Russia would take a gamble and attack NATO so as to save its economy."

"How would that help them?" Asked Shinobu.

"Well it's been proven that thru history a war is the quickest way to boost one's economy and patriotism. So when they figured this NATO knew that they could never muster enough soldiers to match a Communist threat so they instead decided to create a small group of powerful genetically enhanced humans."

"How enhanced?" Motoko asked as her interest was raised.

"Well I haven't found out all of the details, but I have found that my fellow subjects and I were created as the ultimate fighting machines. We have the ability to use around 80% of our brain mass compared to a normal human's 10 or less. We also have super quick reflexes due to a higher synaptic rate, but due to the increased brain usage, it makes us require more energy. Plus as an added bonus we have a better control over ch'i."

"Wait a second" Motoko interrupted, "you mentioned more test subjects. How many were there?"

"The project was to start with 10 subjects, 5 men and 5 women, but Congress cut funding before all of us could be made. So the outcome was seven, 3 men and 4 women."

"Well how did you escape if you were an experiment?" Shinobu asked meekly.

"I never really escaped. The experiment started with the selection of an expecting family then the embryo would be injected with the gene-altering drug when the mother came in for her checkups. All of this was done without the knowledge or consent of the parents. Then when the child was born they were kept under constant supervision from a distance. The only reason I know this is because you learn a few things having a company that works with the government."

"You also mentioned that you have the ability to manipulate ch'i. How advanced is your control over it?"

"Well it's not really how well I can control it, but by how much I can gather. The human body by itself is

like a rechargeable battery and has a certain amount of ch'i flowing thru it at all times. However, thru training you can gather more and gain more control. The only bad thing is that the human body can only channel so much raw energy due to the frailty of the body. My body, on the other hand, was created to be over 10 times stronger. This in turn means I can gather and contain much more than any normal human." He explained to them. Motoko seemed to understand but Shinobu had a look of confusion on her face. "Here let me show you."

He laid his hand on the table with his palm facing upwards.

"Okay now Shinobu place your hand on top of mine." She did as she was told, "Okay here is what happens when you gather ch'i. My palm should be getting warmer. Do you feel that?" she nodded her head in response. "Okay now if you'll remove your hand I'll show you a small example of what I can do."

As she removed, her hand from his it suddenly began to emit a faint blue glow. Then the aura began to converge into his palm until it formed a glowing sphere.

At that, Shinobu jumped back out of her chair, and even Motoko seemed startled by the display. He noticed their uneasiness and quickly dissipated the ball.

"Sorry about that I didn't mean for that to frighten either of you."

"So is that everything?" Motoko asked as she calmed down.

"Not really, besides creating ch'i attacks I can also use ch'i to fly at some unbelievable speeds for a short period. That's all to the experiment but not to the story." He paused for a moment so as to decide on how to continue, "This next part's a little hard to believe so I'll just tell you. I'm one of the Four Horsemen."

The two women's faces held a look of shock, "The Four Horsemen?"

"Yeah the riders found in chapter 6 of the books of Zechariah and Revelation. Sent across the Earth to prepare the way for the second coming of Christ. I am the fourth horseman, also known as Death."

"But I thought the four horsemen where angels?" Shinobu asked.

"Well the Bible never mentions them as angels although wings did come with the package. The way it happens is that each generation only has one horseman in it shaping their timeline, and when the time came for the next human successor to take their place. They would be brought to them and challenge the previous one. Once they proved their worth, they would receive the powers of that particular one. This process would continue until the 'Generation of the Rapture' where all four horsemen would be present in the period leading up to the Rapture. So that's it and I hope I've explained everything. I only ask that no one else learns of them." He said.

"Why? What would happen?" Shinobu asked concerned

"Well as a small example try to imagine how people could react to finding out about the existence of super humans."

"Oh...I see." She said as she began to see his point.

"Very well Deus we shall keep your secret safe." Motoko said and Shinobu nodded in agreement.

"Thank you. Both of you. Now if you'll excuse me I am in desperate need of a shower." And with that, he got up from the table and began to head out of the room. As he reached the doorway, he turned around to them, "After I clean up it would be an honor if I could help you make breakfast Shinobu."

"Why yes I'd enjoy that very much." She said smiling at him.

"Thank you." He said giving a slight bow and headed up the stairs.

Well that's the end of Chapter 4. If you did like it please leave a review. If not please tell why. Until next time. Bye

## 5 - Chapter 5

Author's note: This is a crossover with the Love Hina manga and my personal Abiotic Factor stories. This takes place two years before Keitaro and Naru are married. This is my first fic here so be honest in all post.

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Now on with the story...

### **Unknown Paths:**

### **Chapter 5**

The rest of the morning went by without too much of an incident. That is if you don't count Kietaro getting the living daylights beat out of him on almost an hourly basis.

Later as Deus sat on the patio, playing his guitar he began to think about the events that had happened earlier.

'I wonder if it was the right thing to do to tell them that about me?' but he quickly shrugged the thought aside, 'Oh well, what's done is done.'

Then he felt something land upon his head, "Huh?" he said as he reached to find a little yellow turtle perched atop his head.

"Hey there little guy? Where did you come form?" he asked the turtle

The little turtle just looked at him and gave a happy, "Myuh!"

He smiled at the little animal, and as he stared at the animal, a thought crossed his mind. "Hey I got an idea! Do you want to hear a song?"

"Myuh!"

"All right then." He said as he sat the turtle down, and slowly began to pick at his guitar. As he began to lightly sing the tune, he was surprised when the turtle began to hum along. He then heard a slight giggle come from behind him, and as he turned, he saw Mutsumi standing at the top of the stairs.

She smiled at him, "I see that Tama-chan likes you."

"Yeah I guess so." He said as he patted the turtle on the head, which mewed happily. "She's seems like

a lovable turtle isn't she?"

She just smiled as Tama-chan flew over and rested on her shoulder. Then the turtle seemed to whisper into her ear. "Oh my really." she said to the turtle, "Tama-chan says that you have a really nice voice and you play very good."

He smiled slightly, "Thanks Tama-chan. Hey Mutsumi aren't you supposed to be at either school or work right now?"

"Oh my no. This is my day off from both." She said giving him a warm smile.

As she smiled at him, she began to fall forward. He jumped off the rail and grabbed her before she hit the deck.

"Mutsumi are you alright? Mutsumi?" he said as he checked her pulse. When he could not find a pulse, he began to panic a little. "She needs a doctor and fast, but the quickest way I know to get there is to fly. However, if I do that she could find out about my past. No, I can't worry about that when her life's at stake."

As he cradled her in, his arms and stood to leave. Her eyes popped open and she looked up at him, "Oh my did I pass out again?"

"What?!? You mean you've done that before?" he asked in shock.

"Oh my I guess no one told you that I'm very anemic. So I have the ability to pass out every so often." She said sheepishly as she rubbed the back of her head.

"You call not having a pulse normal?" he asked still a little confused.

"Well I'm fine now so you can put me down." She said blushing at there closeness.

He sat her down, "Sorry is there something that you needed?"

"Oh no I was just going to tell you that I'm going to go get some groceries."

"Well then let me accompany you."

"Oh don't worry about it I can handle it."

"I insist." he said smiling, "After all no self respecting gentleman would let you leave with a chance of you having another spell."

She smiled and clapped her hands together, "Oh yeah it'll be a date!" she said happily.

"What?" he said confused once again.

She waved his comment off, "Don't worry about it I'll be ready in just a minute. Meet you down stairs."

she said as she skipped down the stairs.

"Um... Okay." he said as he stood there scratching his head. He then looked at Tama-chan, "Is she always that happy?"

"Myuh!" the turtle replied.

"Guess so, well I better get ready can't let her pass out somewhere." and he headed down the stairs.

Later as he came down the stairs, he saw Mutsumi standing at the door already. She was dressed in a sky blue blouse and a long brown skirt. While he was dressed in, a pair of olive cargo pants and a light yellow button up t-shirt with his hair pulled back loosely in a ponytail.

"You look very beautiful." He said bowing slightly

"Thank you Deus." she said giggling.

"Well shall we?" he asked as he opened the door. She giggled again and they left.

Later after they had finished with their shopping and where casually passing by the shops, Mutsumi saw something in one of the windows that caught her interest.

"Ooo Deus look at this!" she said excited as she gazed in one of the windows.

He looked around the bags that he was carrying to see what she was referring to. He saw her looking at a gold necklace with a turtle pendant. The turtles shell was a bright emerald that was faceted to reflect every ray of light. As he watched her eyes glow at the jeweled pendant a thought crossed his mind.

"Isn't White Day coming up?" he asked.

"Huh?" she said, as her concentration was broken.

"At least I think that's what Kietaro called it?" he said pondering.

"Why yes it's March 14th. That's only three day's from now. Why do you ask Deus?" she said happily.

"Oh no particular reason, it's just something that happened to cross my mind." He told her as he tried to hide a slight grin. "Hey would you like to grab a bite to eat?"

"Why yes!" she said happily.

"Well then let us go." and with that they headed to get something to eat.

As they walked down the street, looking for a place to eat someone came up from behind them and pushed something into their backs. Then he heard someone whisper into his ear, "If you value your girlfriend's life you'll do what we say."

Their mysterious assailants led them down a back alley and stopped them. "Now turn around slowly."

They did as they were told, and Deus saw that their abductors were a pair of boys probably not even out of high school yet. The one that held the gun seemed to be the leader of the two.

"Okay now hand over your money, and you can go." He said waving the gun at them.

Deus sighed to himself, "Man I hate dealing with punks."

"Didn't you hear me!" the kid said obviously nervous.

"All right just give me a second to get my wallet." He said as he handed the bags he was carrying to Mutsumi, "Would you mind holding these for a second."

After he handed the bags to her, he turned to face the two. The leader kept his gun trained on him, as he appeared to reach for his wallet. But before the kid knew it, Deus had closed the gap between them. He leaned back in shock at his sudden movement, but didn't have much time to do anything else as Deus sent him reeling into a wall. As the other robber watched his partner fly into the wall, he began to rethink his current life plans, but he too didn't get much further before he too was sent into the wall, landing beside his buddy.

Then Deus walked over to where the two lay against the wall; clutching their sides in pain. He bent down to the two, they cowered at him, "Now I'll let you two go this time but I would seriously think twice before you try an act like that again."

"Y-Y-yes sir." The two stuttered.

"Now get out of here." And as he said that, the two scattered as fast as they could out of the alley.

After the two had left Deus walked back to where Mutsumi was and took back the bags, "Okay now that that's over let's find that restaurant." And they continued on their journey to find a bite to eat.

Later back at the Dorm Motoko was busy practicing her sword form while Su and Shinobu watched from the side.

"Advanced Cutting Air Spark!" she cried as she released the attack flawlessly.

"Yay Motoko!" the two said from the side.

"Thanks you two." As she said that, they heard someone coming up the stairs.

"Hurry up Deus!" Mutsumi said as she skipped up the last of the steps. "What's taking you so long slowpoke?"

"It'd be a whole lot easier if I didn't have to carry all the bags." He said as he trudged up the stairs, "Don't you think you should calm down so you don't pass out again."



"Don't worry I feel fine!" she said still giggling at him.

However, no sooner than she said that her face grew pale and she began to wane.

"Whoa! Watch it!" he said as he dropped the bags and caught her. "Oh great she's passed out again."

As he held her up the other girls ran towards them. "Mutsumi are you okay?" Shinobu asked as they came up.

Deus just looked at her, "I guess she is. She said that this has happened before."

As he said that Mutsumi's eyes fluttered open. "Are you okay Mutsumi?" he asked her.

"Oh my I must have passed out again." She said as she gazed into his face.

What she did next surprised Deus, but not as much as the girls. As she, kissed Deus Motoko and Shinobu stared in shock at her forward approach, but they weren't the only one. Amadeus just stared at her in confusion as she finished her kiss.

"Uh ... What was that for?" he asked slightly taken aback.

"Oh I'm sorry I just wanted to say thank you for today. You where great." And with that, she skipped back into the house. Leaving the group speechless from the recent display.

"Oh Deus..." he heard Motoko call.

He turned to see Motoko and Shinobu looking at him with a look that sent a slight chill down his spine.

"Um... Yes." He said chuckling uneasily.

"What did she mean by `you where great'?" Shinobu asked with a pleading look in her eyes.

Su just giggled, "He, he looks like Deus is in trouble."

Well that's the end of Chapter 5. Sorry that it might not be as good as the previous chapters, but I decided to throw a wrench in the works so to speak. If you've liked this so far please leave a review. If not please tell why. Until next time. Bye

## 6 - Chapter 6

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### Unknown Paths:

### Chapter 6

Later that night as Motoko sat in the hot springs starring into the starry night sky. Her mind began to wander on questions of her heart.

'I know that Mutsumi is naturally an open person but she didn't have to kiss him.' She thought to herself, 'Still I wonder what it was like?'

She quickly found herself blushing profusely as she thought on the possibility. Then she heard the bath door slide open. She looked to see Deus standing in the doorway wearing nothing but a towel around his waist. As she saw his perfect masculine form, her body began to warm.

She then remembered her own situation as she covered herself up. "Deus what are you doing here!?"

He just gave her a slight grin as he began to walk towards her, "I just wanted to make sure you didn't misunderstand earlier."

"W-What do you mean?" She said as she slowly backed up.

He continued his advance until he had backed her into a rock. As he closed the gap between them, her heart began to race. He leaned down towards her and tilted her face up with his hand. She looked into his blue eyes and saw the desire in them, and she hoped that he didn't see the longing in hers.

He leaned his face in closer to hers and soon there faces were just inches apart. As she felt his breath upon her skin she closed her eyes and let her body take over. When he kissed her, she felt her entire body feel like it was on fire. Her mind began to swirl and she let out a moan as he began to trail down her neck.

"Motoko are you in here?" she heard a voice call, startling her.

As she looked around, she saw that she was now alone in the bath. "It was a dream?" she said touching her lips the sensation still fresh on them.

"What dream?" asked Shinobu as her and Su walked into the bath.

"Oh nothing." she said a slight disappointment in her voice.

"He, he, he" Su giggled, "You where fantasizing about Deus huh?" she said grinning at Motoko.

"What?!?" Motoko blurted as she began to blush, "That's absurd!"

"Do you like Deus?" Shinobu asked meekly.

"No of course not." she told them, but as she said it, something tugged in her chest.

"Why you ask Shinobu? Are you trying to be Deus's girl?" Su said still giggling.

Shinobu just turned a bright red, "Well he is very handsome, well mannered, and..."

"So you are!" Su said happily. Shinobu just continued to blush.

As Su continued to pick at her Motoko felt the feeling in her heart build up again. `Why does this happen whenever I think or hear of him?" she thought as she got up to leave.

"Are you leaving already Motoko?" Shinobu asked as she noticed her get up to leave.

"Yeah I have a test in the morning, and I really need my sleep."

"Well goodnight then." she said as Motoko walked out.

As she walked down the halls to her room, she couldn't shake her thoughts of Deus. When she passed by the courtyard she saw Deus sitting next to a tree, his sword lying beside him. She could see that he was deep in thought by his somber expression. Then he noticed her staring at him. He got up and began to walk towards her.

"Is there something you need Motoko?" he asked.

"No not really."

"Then I shall bid you good night." he said as he gave small bow and began to walk past her.

"Shinobu told me about your wife, I'm sorry." She said.

"Thanks but as I told her it really shouldn't be any worry to you or the others." he said over his shoulder.

"How long ago did it happen?"

"Almost three years ago."

"Do you still love her?" she said softly turning to face him.

"Yes" he said.

As they stood there in silence, a cold wind passed between them, sending a cold chill thru Motoko's damp body. As she shuttered under the wind's onslaught she felt him wrap his powerful arms around her and pull her close to his chest. Blocking her from the wind.

"You shouldn't be standing out here in the cold while you're still wet. You could catch a cold. You're already cold to the touch." He said softly

She heard only half of what he said as her mind raced, `He's actually worried about me? God he feels so comfortable. What? Where did that come from? Still Kitsune was right he does smell nice. It's so relaxing."

However, her daydreaming would not last long as Deus quickly picked her up, and jumped into the air as an energy attack landed where they were.

"I see that you've been busy since the last time I visited." they heard a happy voice say.

They turned to see a very beautiful woman with long black hair. She was dressed in the same kind of outfit that Motoko usually wore, and carried a long zatochi style katana.

"Onee-san what are you doing here?" Motoko asked obviously shocked in seeing her older sister.

"Why I'm here to visit my little sister. Is there something wrong with that?" She asked giving Motoko a suspicious look.

"Um... no of course not." Motoko said smiling nervously.

Motoko's sister just looked at the picture of Deus holding Motoko in his arms with a slightly confused look on his face. As she looked at them, a sly grin crept across her lips, "My, my Motoko you have been busy. So are you going to introduce me to your handsome fiancée?"

"What?!?" the two said in unison, and Motoko quickly jumped out of his arms blushing madly. "We're not engaged."

"Oh really?" She said teasingly as she walked up to Deus. "But it sure didn't look that way when I showed up. So tell me do you like my sister?"

"Tsuruko please!" Motoko shouted embarrassed by her sister's forwardness.

All Deus could do is scratch his head as he did not know why he was now the subject of an interrogation. "Excuse me but who are you."

"Oh my I'm so sorry." she said giggling, "I'm Motoko's older sister my name's Tsuruko."

"It's nice to meet you Tsuruko my name is Amadeus Gallimus, but you can call me either Amadeus or just Deus." he said bowing to her.

Tsuruko giggled again, "My he's so polite you definitely picked a good one Motoko."

"We're not engaged!" Motoko said again still blushing

"Well I believe you two have some catching up to do, and I'm in desperate need of some sleep so I'll be off. Goodnight to the both of you, and it was a pleasure to meet you Tsuruko." and with that he bowed again and left towards his room. `Well this place sure keeps you entertained \*yawn\* I'm pooped. That bed sounds so good right now.' he thought to himself.

While he walked down the hall, he tried desperately to keep his eyes open but failing miserably. He was startled out of his groggy state when he heard some screaming followed closely by a loud crash. The next thing he knew Kietaro flew past him down the hall bouncing off the walls as he went. Then after he disappeared down the hall, he saw an enraged Naru stomp down the hall.

"Where'd he go?" she asked him.

He just pointed towards the direction Kietaro had flown, and as Naru stomped off in that direction, he just yawned once more.

"Hope she doesn't kill him." he muttered to himself as he reached his room.

Once he had gotten into his room he didn't bother to turn on the lights as he undressed and climbed under the covers. As he settled into the bed he began to doze off, and soon all was black as he went to sleep.

Well that's the end of Chapter 6. Personally I'm more than likely going to something down right evil and wrong to my character in the next chapter. After all why should Kietaro have all the fun. Until next time. Bye

## 7 - Chapter 7

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### **Unknown Paths:**

### **Chapter 7**

As the sun rose the next morning, it cast its waking light across the dorm complex and onto the sleeping face of Deus. He opened and shielded his eyes from the sun's onslaught. He yawned as he sat up on his bed.

'Man I overslept.' he thought to himself as he looked at the clock next to him, 'Guess those meetings took more out of me than I thought.'

Just then, he heard a small moan come from the bed next to him and a pair of slender arms wrap around his waist. Then he felt a soft breath on his ear as someone whispered into it.

"Hmmm, why don't you lie back down? He, he, he"

He looked over his shoulder to see a pair of fox eyes and a devious grin.

'Oh it's only Kitsune...Wait a minute?' he thought still drowsy. Then his brain kicked into overdrive and came to one immediate conclusion.

"OH MY GOD!!!" was the next thing that rang thru the dorm grounds.

Within seconds Naru, Motoko, and Tsuruko rushed into Deus's room and where taken aback by the scene. There was Deus lying on the floor in nothing but his boxers and a tank top. While Kitsune was sitting on top of him wearing, what, at best, could be described as black lingerie. Deus seemed to be muttering incoherent sentences as she wrapped her arms around his neck.

Then Kitsune noticed the group watching them, "Oh my honey looks like we have company." She purred into his ear.

As he looked towards the group, he could read by the shocked looks on their faces and by what had just happened. Only one thing rang thru his mind: This would not end well.

Later as Deus sat tied up on the floor he began to wonder how he could get himself into this mess.

"Now to start off with, what did you do last night? And remember that we don't take kindly to liars." Naru asked him as the other's looked on.

"I didn't do anything wrong." he stated plainly. "After I talked with Motoko and Tsuruko last night I went to bed. Then this morning I woke up to find Kitsune in my bed."

"Well what do you have to say about his alibi Motoko?" Naru asked.

"He did speak with us, but it did seem that he was going to bed early." Motoko said while Tsuruko nodded in agreement.

"You're not helping." He said softly to Motoko giving her a cross look. As he did that, he thought he saw a smirk cross her lips and a giggle come from Tsuruko. He sighed, "I went to bed early because I was tired from all the meetings I've been going to."

"You weren't that tired." She said just loud enough for them to hear and a strong blush crept across her cheeks.

He just stared at her in shock for a second before gathering his thoughts, "Kitsune are you trying to get me in trouble?"

"So you deny her allegations?" Motoko asked.

"Yes for two very good reasons. Number one, when you found us we where still partially dressed. Number two, I don't joke about that subject. Now can you please let me go?" but as he asked no one moved to untie him.

Just then, they heard a knock from the door and they looked to find Shinobu peaking her head inside the door. She tried to suppress a giggle as she took in the sight. Deus was tied-up on the floor and was surrounded by the older girls of the dorm. "Oh my, did I interrupt something?"

"Shinobu will you please untie me?" he pleaded to her.

She thought it over for a second and then asked him. "Well they don't do this for any reason. So what happened?"

"They think I slept with Kitsune." He said plainly.

She gasped and turned to face the fox girl, "You two didn't really do anything did you?"

Kitsune just grinned slyly, "Maybe we did and maybe we didn't. Why are you trying along with Motoko?" At that, Motoko and Shinobu turned a slight shade of pink.

"Um... excuse me but... "Deus started but was cut off by Kitsune.

"Not that I can blame you he's rich, good-looking, well-mannered ..."

"Plus he looks like he has a lot of stamina." Tsuruko added.

"Tsuruko!?!?" Motoko said startled by her sister's comment.

"What?" she asked, "Can't I make an observation?"

"It's not that but you're married."

"So?" she said, "Doesn't mean I can't make an observation."

"Um... I'm still tied up here." Deus started again but was once again ignored by the girls.

"Well neither you nor Shinobu have made any advances so why can't others try?" Kitsune said as the two girls in question turned red.

By this time, Deus was getting tired of sitting there, and had concluded that he was going to have to get out of this mess without their help. So he began to scoot towards his pants that were lying on the ground. Once he had reached his pants, he pulled out a pocketknife from one of the pockets. He then used the blade to cut thru the restraints on his wrist.

As he rubbed his wrist, he felt the pants vibrate slightly. He reached into a pocket and pulled out his cell phone. It had a simple text message on the screen.

Need help. AMU-21

Hirato

He sighed slightly, 'Can this day get any better?' he thought to himself. As he put on some clothes, he overheard the end of Kitsune's lecture.

"... But my ultimate fantasy would have one of those sex chairs and a jar of honey." Kitsune said blushing madly as she finished describing her fantasy to them.

"My husband and I have tried that, but instead of honey we used whip cream." Tsuruko said blushing slightly at the memory.

The other girls were slightly shocked as they heard the two go on. While Deus let out a sigh as he gave up on trying to figure out what was really going on. He gave a look to the other girls to see that Motoko and Shinobu's eyes were slightly glazed over. He could see that they were muttering something, but he could only make out a few words about him and tight leather.

He made a quick decision to excuse himself from the conversation before it made its way to him. So he grabbed his keys and walked out the door unnoticed by the girls, and no sooner than did he do that than did Kitsune direct a question for him.



"Well what do you think about it Deus? ... Hey where'd he go?"

The other girls looked to where Deus used to be to see just a set of ropes lying where he once resided.

"Where'd he go off to?" Shinobu asked confused.

The girls just shrugged at her comment just as confused as she was. Save for one who stood with a devious grin across her face, "hmm... interesting."

Meanwhile Deus made his way down the halls to the garage trying to remain as quiet as possible. So as not to arouse any unwanted interest by a certain group at that moment. As he walked down the hall he came upon a very recently awoken Mutsumi.

'Yawn' "Good morning Deus." she greeted drowsily, "Where are you going so early?"

"There's a small situation to deal with at work, but I hope it doesn't take too long." He told her as he began to make his way back down the hall. However, after a few steps he stopped and turned around again, "Oh, Mutsumi please don't tell the others where I've gone."

She smiled slightly at that, "Oh my, did you get in trouble?"

He chuckled slightly remembering his rude awakening, "Yeah you could say that."

"Don't worry they won't find out from me, but what do I tell them when they ask."

He thought for a second, "Tell them I went to finish a science project." and with that he left down the hall.

Well that's the end of Chapter 7. Until next time. Bye

## 8 - Chapter 8

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### Chapter 8

'A Science project....' he thought to himself with amusement as he drove to his companies testing grounds outside of Tokyo.

He continued down the road until he came to an exit and veered off the freeway onto a mountain road. As he went further down the road, he could begin to see his destination ahead, a large white building in a clearing at the base of the mountain that was blocked by the trees from any prying eyes. After he had cleared the tree line, he came upon a guard shack with a roadblock.

He rolled down his window as he pulled up to the guard shack the guard stepped out and told him, "This is a restricted area I'll need to see some ID." Deus handed him his badge, which the guard looked over carefully before returning it to him, "Thank you Mr. Gallimus have a nice day."

"Thank you and you do the same." Deus said as he retrieved the badge and waited for the barricade to be raised before continuing to the building.

As he parked the car in front of the building, he barely had enough time to get out of the car before he heard the patter of a pair of little feet and felt something latch onto his leg. "Yay! Uncle's here!" a young girl's voice squealed happily.

"Hi there Katie I'm glad to see you to." He said as he ruffled the girls black hair causing her to giggle and squeeze tighter, "Um... Katie...can you loosen your grip... losing feeling in leg."

As he tried to relieve some of the pressure, the child was applying to his leg he heard a stifled laugh come from the front door. He looked to see a beautiful woman in her early twenties with shoulder length brown hair streaked with blonde highlights. She wore a knee length black skirt with a silver blouse, and held a digital work pad in her left hand. Her right hand was covering her lips as she tried not to laugh too hard at the sight in front of her.

"You always did have a way with women Deus." She told him as she watched him try unsuccessfully to remove the child.

"Ha, ha very funny Lacey." he said mockingly to her, "Can you help me out with your daughter before I don't have a leg to save anymore."

She laughed one more time before addressing the girl. "Katie let go of your uncle." As Katie heard this she looked at her mother with pleading eyes, but after her mother gave her a stern look she reluctantly let go.

"Aw you're no fun mommy." The girl said as she began to pout.

"Don't worry Katie we can play later, promise." He said giving her a smile and ruffling her hair some more.

With that, she immediately began to cheer up, "Okay!"

"Thanks for the assist Lacey." he told her while rubbing his leg, "So what is it that Hirato needed to see me for that he had to call me on my vacation?"

"We're still having a problem with the Integrated Pilot Control System; it's not connecting with the relays for the appendages."

"Well have you run a diagnostic yet?" he asked as he began to think on the possibilities of the cause.

"Do you think we would have called you in if the problem could so easily be solved?" she asked him while raising an eyebrow at him.

"Okay then what do we know already?"

"Here are the results from the last series of test." She said as she handed him the pad, "At first we thought it might have been one of the piggyback ECU's but they're running fine."

"hmm." he said, as he looked thru the results of the different test programs. As he continued to gaze thru he began to feel the steady throbbing of a headache coming on. 'Great and so the day from Hell continues.' he mockingly thought to himself.

"Is something wrong Deus?" Lacey asked as he began to rub the bridge of his nose.

"No, I just foresee a very long day ahead of me."

"Well anyways what can you make of it?" she asked him.

"I'm not quite sure." He told her as he continued to stare at the pad, "Where's Hirato I need to ask him some things about a few of these readouts."

"Come on then he's in the hanger with the rest of everyone else." she said taking Katie's hand and began to lead them through the facility. "So how have you enjoyed your stay at Keitaro's?"

"Oh it's quite the adventure over there." He said looking up from the pad, "You should see some of the situations that he gets himself into with his fiancée. The odd thing is he could prevent most of them if he would just watch where he was going, but that doesn't really matter much to her when she punches him into orbit. In fact she kind of reminds me of you as far as a temper goes."

"And what's that supposed to mean?" she asked narrowing her eyes at him.

"You know what I mean." He said giving her a knowing look.

"Whatever." she muttered as she brushed his remark off and opened the door to a large room at the back of the building.

As they walked into the room, he saw the bustling of technicians as they went about their various duties. The room itself looked big enough to hold a large cargo plane, but instead it was occupied by two towering robotic figures. The techs scurried around the figures checking their results with the different systems on the machines in a seemingly chaotic manner.

At the center of the chaos stood a lone man who was directing the workers and reviewing over readouts. He was approximately the same age, height, and physical frame as Deus. His hair was black and framed a handsome face that most girls would swoon over. He watched over the workers with a pair of hawk like brown eyes. As Katie saw him she quickly ran over to the man.

"Daddy!" she said happily as he turned to meet her.

"Hey there pumpkin." he said as he picked up the giggling girl into his arms

"Uncle Deus is here!" she told him excitedly.

"Really? Where? I don't see him." He asked as he looked wildly around causing her to laugh at his actions.

"Over there silly!" she said as she pointed towards Deus's direction.

"Hey Hirato how's it going?" Deus asked as he and Lacey came up.

"Not too good I'm afraid. Your little toy is broke and we don't have a clue on what's wrong. In addition, to that it's the main attraction at our product expo next week. So can you tell me why you couldn't leave the product design and development to my crew while you did your job and stayed in your office? I mean I thought you would have quit designing new products a long time ago." Hirato joked lightly with Deus as he shook his head.

"Please Hirato we've known each other before high school and I know that if I don't continue to give you problems you'll slack off at the first chance you get. So let's just call these designs of mine initiative to keep you on your toes." he told him.

Hirato threw his free arm up in defeat. "Alright I give, but couldn't you have designed something in a field that we have more data in than a bipedal mecha? I mean we could've shown our reverse polarity ion engine that NASA has been drooling over for the past quarter."

"Don't worry I already have those being shipped for the show. Plus you know as well as I do that piloted mechs are the future of robotic technology, and as president and founder it's my job to keep this company leagues ahead of any competition. That's why we are the leaders in so many different fields ranging from household items to faster than light space research."

Hirato scratched his head as he let out a sigh of defeat, "Yeah I know but if we can't figure out the reason why the IPCS keeps messing up we may have to cancel the demonstration of the prototypes. Which you know as well as anyone that we'd definitely lose orders and a mess of money from the ones

that have already been made."

Deus nodded his head in agreement, "Tell me about it, but I have a few ideas of what..." he started before his cell phone began to ring, "Just a sec. Hello."

"Greetings Deus. Long time no see." A deep voice said over the receiver.

"What do you want Hammond? Now is not a good time." Deus asked in slight agitation.

"Always to the point with you." Hammond said with a slight chuckle, "Anyways I just heard from some little birds that you plan to show a few new toys at your demonstration next week and one toy in particular is becoming quite popular. In fact it's creating such a buzz that my superiors have ordered me to purchase the project from you."

"What's the matter G.O.D. can't develop a mech with all the technological advancements that you have?" Deus asked with a hint of sarcasm in his voice.

"We could but it's always been cheaper and better business practice to buy out our competition. Thus in the end we receive a working prototype and loads of precious research data for very little effort."

"Sorry but no go. If you want the AMU you're going to have to buy a contract like everyone else after the demonstration." and with that he hung up the phone.

"You know I never did trust him." Hirato said after Deus had put up his phone.

"I know what you mean, but we'd better tell Omega and Ginger to tighten up security anyways. We all know how determined our 'creators' get when they see a chance to increase their position in the eyes of the politicians."

"Will do. Now come with me and I'll show you what we have." Hirato said as he led Deus towards one of the robots cockpit.

Meanwhile a dark figure closed their phone, "Well that ought to spice things up. While dear Deus is busy with his toys I think it's time I checked up on those delectable treats back at the dormitory." and as he said that the figure vanished in a flash.

Back at the Dorm things, where still buzzing over that mornings events especially for one certain tenant.

"What's wrong with me? The longer he stays here the harder it is not to think of him. But why is everyone else being so forward to him, even Tsuruko's been nagging them on." Motoko said to herself.

"What am I doing?" she heard a familiar voice from behind ask. Motoko being deep in thought was just barely able to dodge the oncoming attack.

As she landed, she turned to see Tsuruko standing with her sword across her shoulder and smirk on her face, "You're lacking on your practice sister. Is something or 'someone' on your mind?"

"Wh... what do you mean?" she stuttered.

"Don't play dumb with me sister. Your face has always been easy to read. It's about Mr. Gallimus am I right?" she asked smiling more.

Motoko sighed and nodded her head in defeat. She had to tell someone, and her sister seemed like the best choice. "It started back when he first showed up at the dorm a few weeks ago..."

Well that's the end of Chapter 8. Until next time. Bye





## 9 - Chapter 9

Author's note: This is a crossover with the Love Hina manga and my personal Abiotic Factor stories. This takes place two years before Keitaro and Naru are married. This is my first fic here so be honest in all post.

Legal Disclaimer: Love Hina is not mine nor are the characters, minus Amadeus and the other added characters, are mine either they belong to Ken Akamatsu (lucky guy).

### Chapter 9

Later that day as the sun began to set, basking the sky in varying hues of red and pink Deus meditated over the day's events. As he sat in the courtyard watching the surreal picture in front of him he had to almost laugh at how odd the day had been. From waking to find Kitsune in his bed to the run of events at work that took most of the day to fix to finally where he sat at the present.

'Man what a day this has been. If I have too many more days like these, I am going to need a vacation from this vacation. Well I had better go get cleaned up for supper.' he thought to himself as he got up to leave. It was then that he felt the presence of someone watching him from the shadows.

"You know I now see where Motoko got her hobby of spying on people. In fact I'd say that if you two watched me anymore I'd think the two of you where stalking me." he said with amusement to a group of shadows over his shoulder.

"Oh my you could still sense me even though I had masked my signal that's quite impressive indeed." Tsuruko said smiling as she walked out of the shadows. As she came up to him, she gave a small bow. "Sorry to disturb you but I had to find out if my suspicions on what I was told about you where true and I must say that I'm quite impressed."

"Really and what else did Motoko tell you about me?" he inquired knowing instantly who her informer was.

"She said that you are a very powerful warrior this I can tell from the strong presence that surrounds you. She seems to hold you in high regards, but something that she said has me slightly puzzled."

"Really and what's that?" he asked as he raised an eyebrow.

"She said that you fight with a style that she had never seen, and I was wondering if you could show me or tell me the style that you use."

"It doesn't have a name."

"I don't quite follow." she said slightly confused.

"Well early in my studies I found out that all the styles had a weakness of some sort or another. So I decided that I would take the styles from all over the world and peel away their weaknesses until I was left with an unbeatable style. In fact I went as far as designing a sword specifically for the style," he said as he drew the sword and handed it to her, "as you can see it's not like other swords yet it's made of them all."

"Truly impressive." she said as she looked at the blade she held. She then turned her attention to him again as she handed back the sword. "Could you show me this style?"

"I suppose" he said as he returned the blade to its sheath, "but we might want to move to a more secluded area so as to limit the damage we might cause. Keitaro already has enough bills to pay from the damage he causes when he's dealt punishment."

She smiled and nodded her head in approval, "Very well but I still have more questions that I need answered."

“Well I shall try my best to answer them.”

“Then follow me please.” She said as she vanished from in front of him.

‘She's fast.’ Deus stated in his mind as he tried to find her signature. As he located her he was off and soon hot on her heels jumping from rooftop to rooftop in a high speed game of cat and mouse. After a few minutes they found themselves deep in the woods surrounding the town. “Well shall we begin?” he asked her as they faced each other.

“By all means but before we begin I'd like to inquire you on something.” She asked as her voice took on a more serious tone.

“What's that?” he asked as he stretched his back.

“What are your feelings towards Motoko?”

“What do you mean?” he asked quizzically, “I mean she cares for her friends and is a skilled swordsman that possesses great potential, but she is held back because she is unsure on how to handle her emotions. This, I believe, is the reason why she is a little short tempered at times.”

“I mean could you love her?” she asked bluntly.

As she said that she saw his expression change more thoughtful as if how best to reply to the question, till finally he looked up and she saw a grin creep across his lips. “How about we make a wager if I lose I'll tell you. How does that sound?”

“Very well then.” She replied as she began to gather her energy causing the winds to swirl around her.

`This could end badly.' He noted as he felt her level continue to rise, and he raised his to match hers.

As their auras continued to envelope them they stood eying each other as they looked for a possible opening. Tsuruko was the first to strike as she charged at him drawing her sword in a horizontal arc. She figured that she was moving too fast for him to block successfully, but to her surprise her sword connected with his still sheathed sword. Then without losing any momentum or leverage he used her blade that was pushing against his sheath to draw his blade quicker than normally.

She was surprised by the speed of his draw and had to jump back, just barely missing the tip of his blade. Deus wasted no time in taking advantage of her retreat, and switched to an underhand grip as he closed on her. He thrust at her with his elbow which she parried to the side but due to his grip it left them in a struggle for control.

"Your skill is admirable." She said as she pushed against him.

"So is yours but I wouldn't expect less from a Master of the God's Cry School." He said as they pushed away from each other.

They launched themselves at each other again with greater ferocity than before and were soon entangled in a deadly dance of blades. Again and again they collided, with such speed that they soon appeared as two blurs. Then as Deus was about to try again Tsuruko vanished in front of him.

`What... Where'd she go?' he thought to himself before he picked up on her from, `above.'

He looked to see her high above him with her sword above her head as she charged her energy into it. "God's Cry School Ultimate Strike! Shin Lightning Slash!" she cried as she launched the powerful energy bolt towards him.

The attack came at such speed that he was barely able to raise a barrier to block the blast. As the energy pushed against the wall of the shield he strained as he applied more power to his defense. After a few moments he was able to deflect the blast, but to his dismay Tsuruko had once again seemingly vanished.

“That was a little close for comfort.” He said as he scanned for her signature, and he tried to formulate some kind of strategy on how to deal with his opponent. “That attack along with the others that I've observed from Motoko shows that their form relies on launching powerful, energy laced, wind attacks. So the only way to counter them is to get in close as she gets ready to launch her attack, but someone of her skill will expect this. So how to do it?”

He was knocked out of his thoughts as he picked her up and was just able to sidestep to avoid her blade. He lashed out with his leg hoping to knock her down but she jumped away and disappeared into the surrounding trees once more.

“This isn't going to work. In this environment she has the advantage and if this keeps up it'll only be a matter of time till she wears me down. Plus I cannot risk turning into Death because I may lose control and hurt her. So the only option left is to even the playing field.”

He quickly flew into the air barely avoiding another attack as Tsuruko flew past where he had stood only moments before. As he watched her jump up after him he raised his hand toward her approaching figure and began to concentrate his energy into his palm. When he had gathered enough he began to fire a series of blast that headed towards the swordswoman but they zoomed past, missing by mere centimeters.

“Your aim is quite poor Mr. Gallimus.” She said as she swung her sword towards him.

He raised his sword in time to block her attack and a small grin crept across his face, “Is it?”

She looked to see that he had indeed hit his intended target. The blast had cleared an area of the forest big enough so that she couldn't effectively use the trees for cover. She didn't dare look away long from her opponent and she soon renewed her attacks as they fell. Before they hit the ground she managed to grab onto Deus's shirt and place him between her and the approaching earth. As they hit Tsuruko's

knees where implanted into Deus's ribs forcefully knocking the wind out of him.

Tsuruko quickly got to her feet as he fought to regain his breath; she raised her blade over his now crouching form to deliver the final blow. "Boulder Cutting Blade!!!" She yelled as she brought the attack down to bear on him.

But before the attack struck him he raised his sword in his right hand, blocking the main blunt of the blade but it still cut deep into his shoulder, and he placed his left firmly against her stomach. "Gottcha." He said with that same grin, and he launched a powerful shockwave of air before she could raise a defense.

As she flew back her sword was thrown from her grip and she landed on the ground a short distance away with a thud. She laid there for a moment before she tried to get up but her arms were sore and she struggled as she sat up. As she sat there trying to revive from the attack she heard him softly approach, and as she looked she saw him leaning on his sword while gripping onto his bleeding shoulder.

"Do you wish to yield or shall we continue?" he asked as extended his blood soaked hand.

"No, you have proven to be the better swordsman." She said as she took his outstretched hand and as he helped her up she noticed the cut in his shoulder. "I'm sorry for your wound."

He smiled, "Don't be I've always been a fast healer. But I'm not the better swordsman I mean you almost had me on more than one occasion. If anything this fight has shown me that I still have a long road ahead of me till I reach my goal, my victory was only by pure chance. Therefore, by admitting my own loses I shall keep up my side of our wager from earlier. Motoko does hold a very special place in my heart." He said as they sheathed their swords, "Now I think we should get back to the dorm before the others begin to wonder where we are."

"Yes I believe that we should." She said as she smiled at what he had told her, and they began the long journey back to the dorm.

Well that's the end of Chapter 9. Sorry, if the story so far doesn't make much sense (example: the dark figure that's been watching) but I hope the next couple of chapters will explain where I'm going, and you might even see Motoko finally confess her feelings. Until next time. Bye



## 10 - Chapter 10

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### Chapter 10

It was a calm night at the dorm, as Motoko looked out from the patio at the surrounding town. The cicadas buzzed a steady tone, which seemed to have a calming effect as she watched the flickering lights from the town below, and reminisced over the conversation she had had with her sister earlier that day.

"It started back when he first showed up here a few weeks ago. When I first saw him I mistook him for an intruder and challenged him." Motoko began.

"And then what happened?" Tsuruko calmly asked as she sipped her tea listening to her sister's story.

"I was defeated but in the end he didn't try to humiliate me or gloat about his victory. He just gave me some advice, treating me as an equal instead of someone lower than him and since that night whenever I think of him I become nervous and lose my train of thought." She said slightly embarrassed at telling her sister the situation.

"What was the advice that he gave you?" Her sister asked curiously.

"He told me to follow my heart." Motoko said quietly as she placed her hand over her heart

remembering the moment.

“Well what does your heart tell you?” Tsuruko kindly asked her.

Motoko remained quiet for a moment as she thought on what her feelings told her, “I love him.”

“Well,” Tsuruko said as she sat down her cup, “it seems that Mr. Gallimus is a very wise man.”

“But what should I do? I know that some of the others have their eyes on him and I don't know if he sees me in the same way.” She pleaded with her sister.

Tsuruko just quietly got up grabbing her sword, “I believe that you should follow your heart and tell him of your feelings.”

“But how?”

Her older sister just gave her a warm smile, “You will know when the time comes. Now if you will excuse me I have someone that I need to talk with.” And with that, she walked into the dorm.

“I'll know when the time comes.” Motoko repeated as she thought about what her sister had told her, “But how do I tell him.”

“Tell who.” A familiar voice said from behind.

She turned to see the man that plagued her thoughts standing there. He was dressed in a pair of jeans and a black t-shirt that hugged his frame. His hair hung freely on his shoulders, still damp from a bath he had apparently just taken. As she saw him standing there, looking at her with those blue eyes of his she

began to feel nervous.

“Nothing.” She said as she quickly turned her gaze back to the town.

She heard him walk up and lean on the rail next to her, “It's quit a view from up here.” He said as he too looked out at the town.

“Yes it is. I come here when I need to think out my problems.”

Deus turned his attention to her to see the moonlight reflecting off her obsidian hair and white skin, giving her the appearance of a serene goddess. As he watched her, he remembered what Tsuruko had asked him earlier.

“Could you love her?”

‘Can I?’ he thought to himself, ‘It's true that I've felt something strong towards her since we meet, but can I keep her safe from my enemies? Or would I lose her like I did Jessie?’ He continued to delve in his thoughts as he looked towards the moon.

Motoko looked up at him to see him gazing at the moon. His eyes seemed distant as he seemed to be deep in thought over something. As she continued to look at him her heart fell as she saw worry on his face. She gently placed her hand on his shoulder to get his attention, but as her fingers touched his skin, she heard him hiss slightly at the gesture.

“What is it?” she asked him but she felt something warm soak her fingers. She removed her hand to see a red liquid on her hand and his shirt.

“Don't worry about it. It isn't that bad.” He said as he tried to reassure her.

“Don't worry! Your bleeding we need to get that cleaned before you get an infection. Come with me.” She said as she dragged him to her room. “Now sit and take off your shirt while I get the kit.”

He sat down, “Really Motoko it isn't that bad.” He told her as she came up with the kit.

“I don't care now take that shirt off.” She said firmly. Deus sighed in defeat as he removed the shirt revealing a cut on his shoulder. She could see that it was not life threatening but it still needed cleaning. She took out a swab and began to clean up the area around the wound.

She quickly glanced up at him to see him gazing out the window at the moon again, “Are you thinking about your wife?”

He looked at her and tried to cheer up his expression, “Yeah I was just dwelling on past memories.”

“Oh” she said softly as she sterilized the cut. She bit her lower lip as she thought on how to continue, “How did she die? That is if you don't mind telling me.”

“Are you sure you want to know?” he asked her as she slightly nodded her head, “It was about three years ago and Jessie and I were enjoying some time together at my mountain home. I was getting ready to finish-up a light practice in my training room downstairs as she took a shower in the bathroom next to our room upstairs. That's when it happened.”

Jessie grabbed a towel as she turned off the shower, and began to dry her damp body. Then after she had put on a bathrobe, she began to dry her long auburn hair. She walked into the bedroom that was connected to the bathroom and sat in front of a vanity mirror. As she finished drying the hair, she picked up a brush and began to run it through the damp tresses.

As she continued her task, she suddenly felt like she was being watched. “Deus is that you?” she asked over her shoulder. Just then, she thought she saw the reflection of something passing by the

window behind her from the mirror. She walked to the window and opened it, as she looked out she saw nothing out of the ordinary. Then as she was about to close it she heard the faint sound of something scraping against the side of the house.

Just as she looked towards the sound, a strong hand gripped her by the wrist and a gruff voice spoke, "Hello there pretty."

She looked at the owner of the hand to see what appeared to be a grey-skinned man. He was about five feet tall but had a very stocky muscular build. He wore a tunic that seemed to be made of some kind of hide. His face was vile and wicked looking with sharp yellow teeth and a pair of deep-set black eyes.

As he began to approach her, climbing up the side of the house, she screamed and broke his hold on her as she jerked her hand back. Now free from his grasp she ran for the door of the room but she didn't get far before she was knocked to the floor and the pungent smell of sulfur flooded her nose.

Meanwhile Deus had stopped in mid stroke when he heard his wife's scream. He wasted no time as he quickly ran towards their room. As he burst through the door, a sense of rage began to swell through him. There pinning his wife against the floor was a distorted gray skinned man. The man barely had time to look towards the newcomer before Deus's fist connected with his jaw with a sickening sound that sent him against the wall limp.

"Are you okay?" Deus asked his distraught wife as he helped her to her feet.

"I think so?' she said shakily. " Who was that?"

"I don't know, but..." he stopped as he heard a noise from the roof above. He silently raised the sword he was still holding in a defensive position, and tucked his wife behind him. He whispered to her over his shoulder, "Jessie listen to me I want you to grab the pistol from under the bed, then I want you to make a break for the woods. Find a place to hide and stay there till I come for you."

"No!" she firmly said as she stood by his side. "I'm not going to leave you."

“Jessie please I couldn't live with myself if something happened to you.” He pleaded with her, “I'll follow you shortly, please.”

She sighed, “All right but you'd better not die on me Amadeus Gallimus or I'll kill you my self.” And with that, she wrapped her arms around his neck giving him a small kiss then left out of the room.

As she left, he slowly raised his power level in preparation for whatever might come. He continued to follow the sounds from the room until the room fell suddenly silent. He waited for what he did not know but he waited.

Suddenly the wall to his right erupted in a cloud of smoke and splinters. He quickly shielded his eyes from the oncoming debris. As the dust began to settle he looked to see five grey-skinned figures coming thru the hole in the wall, and he guessed that they weren't here for a friendly chat.

“Where's the girl?” the tallest of them demanded.

“She's not here and the only way to get to her is thru me.” Deus said determination in his eyes.

The intruders erupted into laughter at that and the taller one spoke again, “What does a mortal expect to do against five demons...” he was cut off as Deus's sword removed his head.

“Four demons.” Deus corrected and then turned his attention to the others, “Last chance leave now or end up like your friends.”

“You'll pay for that mortal!” one of the others declared as he and the rest of them charged Deus, claws drawn for blood. As the first two swiped at him he blocked them with his sword, and then jumped back to avoid a swipe at his legs. Then he delivered a kick of his own against the jaw of the fourth.

"I hope Jessie is okay." He thought to himself as he dodged another attack.

Jessie ran through the woods, the snow crunching under her feet. She pushed a menacing limb out of her way as she continued on, but as she looked behind her to see if anyone was following her, she ran into something solid.

"Ow!" she said as she landed on her rump. As she began to rub the sore spot she looked to see, what she had ran into. There in front of her stood a tall pale-skinned man with his arms crossed over his chest, and was dressed in all black. He had long black hair and eerie red eyes that held a strong glint to them as he stared at her.

"You know it's not very bright to be roaming the woods late at night all by yourself. You never know what may find you." He said in a voice that sent a chill down her spine, and he slowly began to approach her.

She backed up until she hit a tree, "Stay back!" she warned as she leveled the pistol at him.

He stopped an arms length away from her, and looked annoyed by her threat. Before she had time to react, he had grabbed her wrist and began to squeeze it until she cried out in pain and dropped the gun.

"Silly human you believe that all I desire is your body." He said as he knelt down and placed an icy hand around her trembling throat, pulling her closer until their faces were just inches apart. He looked into her eyes and she saw an evil grin spread across his lips. "Then again I'm not over having a little pleasure before we get down to business." And with that, he pressed his cold lips against hers.

She struggled against his grip as she felt his tongue force itself into her mouth. As he continued his oral assault, she desperately dug thru the snow for some kind of weapon, until finally she came upon a rock. Gripping it in her palm, she bit down on his tongue causing him to reel back from the pain. As he did so, she slammed the rock against his head, knocking him off her.

She wasted no time in trying to escape, but as she passed him, his hand shot out tripping her. He quickly had her pinned again as he wiped the blood oozing from his lip.

“That hurt you know, but...” he grinned at her again, “still very kinky. Now to make sure that we don't have anymore mishaps it looks as though I'm going to have to tie you down.”

“When my husband gets here you're going to wish that you had never touched me.” She shot at him.

“I doubt that.” He said as tentacles began to pop out of his arms and started to wrap around her legs. Tears started to well in her eyes as the objects worked their way under her bathrobe and around her torso. Higher they went, pinning her arms to her side, until they finally ended around her throat.

“Now maybe we could get down to business.” With that, he began to forcefully kiss her again. She tried desperately to get out of her bonds as he trailed down her neck. Then a cold wind rushed upon her body and she felt his roaming hands reach under her robe and they began to forcefully knead her breast. As tears began to stream down her face, she prayed that Deus would arrive soon.

Deus moved and swayed to avoid his attackers. He swung with his sword chopping off one of the demons arms, and as it drew, back gripping the remains of the limb he wasted no time in upper cutting him spilling his organs on the floor. Then he rolled to the side to avoid being clawed in the back. As he finished the roll, he quickly got up and severed the demon's head and the body landed in the ground with a thud.

“Leave.” Was all he said to the remaining demon.

The demon clenched his fist in rage, “How dare you! I will never run from a mortal.” He charged at Deus claws raised to cut him down, but as he struck Deus dodged to the left making the demon lunge to far. The demon barley had a glimpse of Deus's cold eyes before his skull was cut in half.

Deus didn't say a word as he placed the sword back into its sheath, and quickly left the room in search if



his wife. As he came to a clearing, he stopped as he saw his wife. She was being held by the back of her throat by a tall man with eerie red eyes. Jessie's body was covered with bruises and she bled from multiple small cuts. Her robe hung on her in tatters and he noticed that she was restrained by some kind of cable. As he saw her wince from the pain, his anger began to build and he tried desperately to keep it under control as he asked the stranger, "Who are you?"

The man smiled a wicked smile as he replied, "The name is Messor and my lord is very interested in you and your friends. That's all that you need to know."

"Let's get two things straight first I don't care about what your `lord' is interested in and second all I want is the girl."

"Oh you must mean this tasty little thing." Messor said as he ran a finger along her cheek causing her to wince at his touch, "But I should warn you she's a feisty one."

Deus wanted to rip the stranger's heart out at what he'd done but he couldn't risk attacking him while he still held her, "Just send her over and I may let you live."

Messor just smiled at the remark, "Well being as you put it that way here she comes."

As he said this, the cables released from around her and he released her neck. Now finally free from her bonds she ran towards Deus. But as soon as he had released her he leveled two fingers towards her retreating form, and an iridescent glowing ball began to form at the tip of his fingers. Then with that same smirk on his face, he launched the ball towards her fleeing figure.

Deus could see the attack gaining on his wife, but was too late to react before it hit her. Life seemed to go in slow motion as he watched it go thru her chest and he stood in shock as it grazed his left shoulder burning the flesh. He snapped back to reality as he caught his wife's falling body and hugged her close to him. As he looked down into her fading emerald eyes he could feel the pain swelling through her body.

"I'm sorry." She weakly said as she tried to force back the pain.

“Don't be you're going to be alright.” He said as he gave her a weak smile and brushed a few strands from her eyes.

She tried to smile but the pain was too much, “Don't lie Deus... I'm sorry we couldn't grow old together and raise a family.” She stopped for a moment to gather her strength and she placed one of her blood soaked hands on the side of his face, which he softly leaned into. “It's getting dark... promise me that you'll try to... find happiness... .. Deus... kiss... me.”

He gently raised her until their lips met. As they kissed, he could feel her soft lips becoming cold on his and after a moment, all he held was her lifeless body. He broke the kiss and looked upon her pale face, she was gone, he couldn't believe it as he cradled her body hoping that she'd come back to him. It was then that he heard a chuckle and he looked up to see Messor observing his work with a gleam of satisfaction in his eyes.

“How romantic it almost brought a tear to my eye.” He said still snickering.

“Why?” Was all Deus could say.

“Oh it's complicated. Don't worry we'll meet again many more times I promise you.” Messor told the grieving Deus as he turned around and began to disappear, leaving Dues cradling his dead wife's body.

“We buried her on the mountainside where she loved to go.” He said as he finished his story. His face held a solemn look but he chuckled slightly, “It's odd really I was created to defend millions but I couldn't even protect her.”

Motoko had already finished bandaging his wound and now looked at his back. She noticed the scar on his left shoulder, it was barely visible anymore but she could tell that the wound was still fresh on his heart. She gently wrapped her arms around him and laid her head on his shoulder.

“You shouldn't blame yourself. There was nothing you could have done.” She stopped for a moment to gather the feelings in her heart. “You've suffered so much.” She traced a finger over the scar. “Please let me help you heal them.”

She blushed slightly as she said this, she didn't know why she was speaking so openly, but she only knew that she wanted to ease his suffering. But she was more surprised when Deus turned to face her and cupped her face in his hands. Her heart pounded in her chest as their faces drew closer until she could feel his breath. As their lips meet, she closed her eyes and her body felt like it was on fire. She soon gave into her desires as she wrapped her arms around his neck deepening the kiss.

But not all things are meant to last forever and Motoko was left wanting more as they pulled away from each other. As she settled into his embrace she listened to the steady rhythm of his beating heart, and she was soon drifting to sleep as she breathed in his scent.

Well that's the end of Chapter 10. Bet all of you were thinking that nothing was ever going to happen between the two. Well anyways now the fun begins (he, he, he). Till next time, bye.

P.S. Please send any reviews, suggestions on what you'd like to see happen, etc. I wait with anticipation.

# 11 - Chapter 11

Author's note: This is a crossover with the Love Hina manga and my personal Abiotic Factor stories. This takes place two years before Keitaro and Naru are married. This is my first fic here so be honest in all post.

Legal Disclaimer: Love Hina is not mine nor are the characters, minus Amadeus and the other added characters, are mine either they belong to Ken Akamatsu (lucky guy).

## Chapter 11

Early the next morning the sun began its steady rise over the horizon casting away the cloak of night from the town of Hinata. The morning birds began to sing a song of happiness, as they seemed to celebrate in the starting of a new day. As their chirping drifted thru the dorm, it found its way to a certain open patio door and the people that slept there.

Amadeus closed his eyes tighter against the prying light but to no avail, and he was temporarily blinded by the morning sun when he finally opened his eyes. As his sight slowly returned to him a small smile crept across his face at the view presented to him. After a few moments, a cold morning wind blew thru the doorway and he felt something tighten around his waist and nuzzle against his chest.

His smile deepened as he looked down at the girl, who only moments before, had slept peacefully in his arms. As he wrapped her closer to him and she settled back down he was transfixed on how beautiful she looked. From her silky black hair that flowed down her back, contrasting against her milky white skin, to her full red lips that were slightly parted as she continued to slowly breathe. When he gently brushed a few stray hairs away from her face her eyes fluttered open, revealing those dark brown eyes that just seemed to draw him in.

He watched with slight amusement as a light blush crept across her cheeks as realization of where she had slept began to dawn on her. A smile began to form on his lips as he watched her trying to decide on what best to do next, when he saw her begin to bite her lower lip he couldn't stop himself and he decided to make the first move.

He gently hooked a finger under her chin and tilted her face towards his as he began to slowly close the gap between them until their lips were just millimeters apart. At that distance, he could hear her nervous breathing and smell her intoxicating scent of sakura blossoms and morning glories that drove him further. When his lips met hers, he felt her tense at first but she soon relaxed and allowed him to deepen the kiss.

As he broke the kiss he gently cupped her cheek and gave her a gentle smile, "Morning."

"You know that's the second time you've kissed me without my permission." She said as her cheeks took on a deeper shade of red.

A slight grin crept on his lips as an idea came to him, "Alright would you rather have a warning beforehand?"

She looked at him a little confused which, in his opinion, made her look irresistible, "Like what?"

"How about hello would that be acceptable?"

She thought for a moment before giving him a nod of approval, "Yes that would be acceptable."

His grin deepened when he heard this, for he knew that she had just walked right into his trap. "Alright then, hello." He said as he closed the gap claiming her lips again.

She offered no resistance as his lips meet hers, caressing and worshipping her, sending bolts of electricity throughout her body. When she felt him begin to lightly run his tongue across her lips, begging for entrance, she could not help but let out a small moan. As she parted her lips he wasted no time in slipping his tongue into her mouth, gently exploring the gift he had been given.

She felt his tongue run across hers and she let out another throaty moan as she slowly began to return the gesture earning a moan from him. As he pulled her tighter to him, pressing her soft curves against his muscled form, she ran her hands over his broad chest to rest on his shoulders and as she squeezed she felt his muscles tense in her grip.

“Sorry!” She said pulling away from fear of having hurt him.

“About what?” he asked a little confused at her reaction but then realized that she was referring to the dressing on his shoulder, “Don't worry it hardly hurt's anymore you just surprised me that's all.”

“But it was my sis...” she started but was cut off when he placed a finger on her lips.

“Neither you nor your sister should feel sorry for such a small wound alright.” She nodded her head but he could tell by the look on her face that she still wasn't fully convinced, “But if it'll make you feel better I'll go see a doctor after breakfast.”

She nodded in agreement but her face grew more serious, “Agreed but only if I can come.”

He chuckled slightly, “You know you look cute when you do that.” He teased causing a new blush to creep on her cheeks to which earned her another light kiss from him. When he pulled away he could see that the color on her cheeks had deepened but she continued to stare at him till he finally gave in. “Alright but just remember that I'm not liable for the consequences.”

“What does that mean?” she asked tilting her head.

He just continued to grin at her, “You'll find out soon enough.”

She just sighed and shook her head, “Whatever.” She said as she got up to leave and take a bath but

he quickly grabbed her wrist and pulled her back into his lap.

“What's the rush?” he whispered huskily into her ear sending shivers down her spine as his breath attacked her body's weak spot.

“I need to take a bath.” she managed to say.

“Really” he continued to whisper in her ear as he slowly inhaled her scent, “because I think you smell utterly delectable.”

“P-please stop that... I don't like it.” She said as she tried to catch her breath.

“What? This?” he said teasingly as he lightly blew across her ear earning him another shiver from the girl in his arms.

“Y-y-yes th-ah!” she started but her train of thought was cut off as she felt him lightly brush his lips along the back of her ear. She closed her eyes and let out a series of light mews when she felt him begin to lick and nibble her sensitive earlobe.

Just then a knock came from the door before it was opened and Tsuruko stepped in, “Motoko are you... oh my.” Was all she said before she gasped and a light blush spread across her cheeks at the sight she saw. Her younger sister was sitting in Amadeus' lap, with a deep blush on her face as her breath came out in labored pants. While the man in question held her protectively in his arms. At first she just stood there with a look of shock but it soon turn into the wide smile that Motoko knew all to well.

“This isn't what it looks like!” Motoko desperately tried to explain as she got up, but it fell on deaf ears as her sister soon embraced her in a crushing hug.

“Oh I'm so happy that both of you have finally confessed your feelings for one another. Come sister we

simply must tell everyone the good news and there is so much I have to tell you!” she exclaimed happily as she dragged her pleading sister out of the room leaving a bewildered Amadeus sitting on the floor.

Amadeus just lightly laughed to himself as he shook his head, “Here we go again.” and with that he grabbed his shirt and headed out of the room. As he walked down the hall he pulled out his cell phone and quickly dialed a number. He waited for a few moments till someone picked up on the other end. “Hey how's it going, yeah this is Amadeus I was wondering if you had an opening for me this morning. Really. Thanks I'll see you later then.”

As he disconnected the call and put away the phone, he came up on Shinobu who was leaning against the wall at the bottom of the steps. He thought she looked a little sad but once she noticed him, she quickly replaced any trace of it with one of her trademark smiles.

“Good morning Amadeus.” She said happily.

“Good morning Shinobu. Where is everyone?” He asked as he looked around for the other residences.

“Sensei is out on the roof practicing and Tsuruko and the other girls are in the bath.” As she spoke, her expression once again grew a little sad and her voice now came soft and unsure. “Amadeus?”

“Hmm,” He said noticing the change in her voice, “what's the matter?”

“Tsuruko mentioned that you and Motoko have gotten together, and I was wondering if it was true?” she asked as she waited for his reply, secretly hoping it to be false, but when he waited in answering her she felt her heart fall a little at the learning of the truth.

“Yeah I guess we have, although I don't know if it's as exaggerated as Tsuruko is probably making it look like.”



“Oh I see.” She said as she could feel her eyes slightly water at his words. She knew from the beginning that she probably didn't stand a chance against her friend but that did not stop her from feeling something for the man. Still she was happy for her friend, but before she threw in her cards she had to at least let him know how she had felt for him.

Amadeus grew concerned when he thought he saw her eyes begin to tear up as he verified the newest rumor, and he reached for her hoping to find out what was bothering her. “Shinobu are you...” he began but was cut off when he felt her lips press against his. Yet as soon as it happened, it was over and she pulled away, leaving him slightly stunned. After a few moments, he was able to find his voice, “W-What was that about?”

She just giggled at his shocked expression, “It was nothing, just getting something off my chest. Breakfast will be ready shortly.” And with that, she turned and skipped to the kitchen leaving Amadeus standing in the living room scratching his head at what just happened.

Later that morning as Amadeus' car pulled up to the white research building and the passenger door opened as a slightly irritated Motoko stepped out. ‘I can't believe Tsuruko. Now everyone thinks me and Amadeus are going to get married. Then again she did come in at a bad time.’ She thought to herself blushing as she remembered that her sister had found them in.

“Something the matter Motoko?” She heard Amadeus ask as he locked the car.

“W-What? ...oh it's nothing.” She told him as she tried to shake off the thoughts floating thru her mind.

“All right then.” He said as he inwardly smiled. He had a pretty good guess at what she was thinking about at that moment. “Well then shall we?” He asked as he gently motioned the direction they where to go.

Once they entered the building she followed him down a series of halls till they arrived at a waiting room. Behind the counter sat a receptionist who, as they came up to the desk, was busy with someone on the phone. Motoko noticed that she was a young woman with short black hair and glasses and she was wearing the typical medical smock. When she saw them approach the counter she placed her hand over the receiver.

“Hello Mr. Gallimus, Dr. Samuels has been expecting you. She's currently busy with another patient but you can wait in Examination Room #3 if you'd like.” She told him pointing to the door on her left.

“Thank you.” He replied with a nod of his head and they headed through the door down to the room. Shortly after they'd entered the room Amadeus turned to Motoko, “Now before the doctor comes I should probably warn you that she likes to tease people.”

“Why's that?” she asked raising an eyebrow in curiosity.

“Now, now Deus you're not exaggerating again.” Said a sexy feminine voice from the doorway behind them. Motoko looked to see a beautiful young woman with long brown hair leaning against the doorframe, her lips curled in a seductive smile and a hungry look in her eye. She was wearing a white lab coat over a black skirt and lavender blouse, which did little to hide her womanly curves. She walked over to Amadeus and embraced him in a loving hug, pressing her ample bosom against his arm. “After all you know how much you enjoy being my little toy.”

“Sure whatever helps you sleep at night.” He muttered under his breath.

She just smiled more and began to play with his long hair, “Ooo... still playing hard to get I see. Mmm... I just love a challenge.” She purred in his ear but stopped when she heard an irritated Motoko clear her throat, “Deus don't be rude introduce me to your little girlfriend.”

“Motoko this is Dr. Carolyn Samuels, an old friend from high school, Carolyn this is Motoko Aoyama a resident at the Hinata Inn.” He then whispered to Carolyn in English. “I know this means nothing but go easy on her.”

She just waved off his last comment as she walked up to Motoko and began to look her over with a cynical gaze as Motoko, who refused to back down to the woman in front of her and instead returned the challenge. The two women continued their showoff for a few moments till Carolyn gave Motoko a loving smile and extended her hand, “It's a pleasure to meet you.”

“Likewise.” Motoko said as she returned the smile and shook the outstretched hand.

As Carolyn shook her hand she turned to Amadeus, “So Deus this is the woman who stole your heart well I must say she is a cute one.” She said teasingly as she once again gave Motoko a look over, causing the samurai to blush.

“What do you mean by that?” Motoko asked beginning to feel uncomfortable under the woman's gaze.

“Please the only person that Deus never liked me teasing was Jessie. He likes to hide his true emotions from everyone but he was always easy for me to read. So tell me how far have you gotten with him? Come on I want to hear all the juicy details.” Motoko just continued to blush harder as Carolyn continued to try and pry some information from her.

She let out a small sigh of relief as Amadeus diverted the doctors' interest. “Carolyn we didn't come here just so I could watch you embarrass her.”

“Aw your no fun.” She said giving him a small pout, “Oh well let's see this wound of yours.” After Amadeus had removed his shirt she gently began to remove the dressing so as not to reopen the wound. “Well, well, well how did you get this one? Find someone who could put you on your place, or perhaps it was some rough foreplay.” She said winking at the swordswoman who's cheeks once again took on a pink tint.

“Carolyn...” Amadeus said in a warning tone.

“Oh alright. I swear you always try to ruin my fun. Well anyways it's a clean cut no major blood vessels cut or serious muscle damage. Given our bodies you should be all healed in time for the expo next week, but just to be safe I'm going to clean this and seal it with some medical glue.”

“What do you mean `our bodies' do you mean that you're from the same project as Amadeus?” Motoko inquired causing Carolyn look at her with a slightly shocked look in her eyes.

“You mean he's already told you about us?”

“Yes but you're the first one besides him that I've met.”

Carolyn just let out a small chuckle as she went over to one of the drawers and removed the glue and the applier. She continued as she began to apply the glue over the wound. “Well Motoko it seems that you two are closer than I thought if he trusted you enough to tell you that guarded of a secret. Anyways the rest of the gang is going to be getting together this weekend to go shopping for next week, and you're more than welcome to come cause I know the others will definitely be interested in meeting any girl that caught Mr. Picky here's eye.”

Amadeus just huffed at that last comment before muttering under his breath in English, “I'm not picky I just have high standards.”

“Yeah like I said you're picky.” Carolyn retorted smiling to which Amadeus crossed his arms ignoring the brunette.

“Thank you I'd love to come.”, Motoko said as she turned Carolyn's interest from her patient.

“Great, well I have to go check up on another patient while I wait for the glue to dry. We'll discuss this in more detail when I get back, and Deus don't go doing anything I wouldn't while I'm gone.” She said winking at them as she closed the door. Leaving a shocked Motoko, while Amadeus just shook his head while mentally regretting in coming.

Back at the dorms everyone had gone about his or her usual routines. Keitaro, Naru, Mutsumi, Su , and Shinobu had all left for school. Tsuruko currently was meditating in the garden while Kitsune sat in the living room watching a soap on the television.

She mindlessly took a sip of her tea as she continued to watch the show when a knock came from the front door. She gave a small sigh as she sat down the cup and got up to head to the door. "Just a minute I'm coming." She said to the shadow at the door.

When she opened the door she was greeted by a middle-aged man dressed in a grey business suit and shades, "Can I help you with something?"

He just gave her a gentle smile, "Yes mam, I'm sorry to interrupt but my name is Mark Hammond and I was told that Amadeus Gallimus is currently staying here."

"Why yes he is but he's not here right now. Is there a message you wanted me to give him?"

"No you've told me all I need to know." He said as he grabbed her wrist in an iron grip.

"What do you th-" Kitsune started but stopped as she saw the man start to turn to an eerie black mist which began to swarm around her. She covered her mouth trying to not inhale the foul smoke but to no avail, and as the smoke made it's way into her lungs she began to feel herself loose control of her body.

As the smoke dissipated it left a now possessed Kitsune standing in the doorway with an evil grin on her lips, "Ah much better." She said as she flexed her hand, "Now to find out from this girl what my dear Amadeus has been up to." As the spirit began to dive through Kitsune's memories the grin on her face deepened, "My, my Deus you have been busy. I'll have to check in on this Motoko Aoyama."

She quickly made her way to Motoko's room and silently opened the door. Once inside she began to rummage through the room to find anything to help her cause. She stopped momentarily when she came across Motoko's stories, as she read a small frown formed on her lips, "humph, Humans rely too much on their emotions." She said as she laid the papers back down.

It was then that she noticed something in the corner of her sight. She turned to see an old suit of samurai armor sitting in front of one of the walls, but what caught her attention was the sleek black katana that sat at the base of the armor.

As she neared the sword it reacted to her presence as she heard a voice ring out in her head, `Who are you? You may possess a human's body but I can see that you're anything but that."

"Who I am is not important at this time, but rather who you are?"

`My, my aren't we secretive. I am known as the Hina Blade, I was the most feared and powerful sword throughout Japan. But now I have been reduced, by that witch Motoko Aoyama, to nothing more than a mere tool to be used at her whim.' The blade spoke with obvious disgust for the woman.

"What if I told you I could break the seal placed on you?" but no sooner than did the words leave her lips than was her mind filled with uncontrollable laughter.

`HA! HA! HA! Do you possibly think that I haven't tried, so if I couldn't do it what makes you think you can?' the sword said mocking her but she remained unfazed at its insult.

"It wouldn't be wise to mock the one who's going to set you free, or would you rather I leave you in your current state serving the whims of a human woman." She calmly stated as a evil grin tugged at her lips.

The sword grunted at the mention of the woman again, `Very well then what do you propose/'

"I shall break your seal and allow you to possess this Motoko, and in return I ask for your help in finishing some business with a certain acquaintance of mine."

`If you can do what you say and let me use her as she has used me I'll help you kill anyone you want.'

"No, I do not wish them dead, not yet at least, just broken and ready for the next phase of my plan." The

possessed Kitsune said as the grin spread.

`And who may I ask is getting all the special attention?' The sword asked, curious to as who could catch this stranger's interest.

"A man by the name of Amadeus Gallimus."

'I know of him.' The blade stated. `It seems that Motoko is infatuated with him and he with her apparently.'

"I know but you must not take control of her till the right time. When that time comes I want you to turn the two against each other, the result should be most... pleasing." She said letting a small chuckle escape.

'Indeed. Very well I shall do as you ask and hold off on my revenge till the appropriate time. But what name shall I give my deliverer.'

"You may call me Messor." She simply said as she began to gather her power, her aura whipping over her body.

At that same time in the garden Tsuruko was knocked out of her meditation when she felt the sudden surge of demonic power, "That's coming from inside!" she said as she grabbed her sword and headed for the power as fast as her legs could carry her.

Meanwhile Messor's attention was swayed by the now ever nearing Tsuruko, "It seems that my welcome has been overstayed, but remember our deal Hina Blade. Cross me and I shall sure your appropriate." And with that he vanished, releasing his hold on Kitsune, and leaving the fox girl standing confused in Motoko's room.

“What? How did I get here? Man that's the last time I put that much spirits in my tea it's starting to affect my memory.” Kitsune said to herself as she walked out of the room.

Tsuruko stopped suddenly at the base of the stairs, the presence had all of a sudden vanished without a trace, `That's odd it`s gone now. I've never felt an aura that strong before, and I have a feeling that this won't be the last time either.'

Yay! More than likely I'm going to revamp the previous chapters. You know the routine tell me what you've liked or haven't liked so far, and any ideas on how to make this story better.



## 12 - Chapter 12

Author's note: This is a crossover with the Love Hina manga and my personal Abiotic Factor stories. This takes place two years before Keitaro and Naru are married. This is my first fic here so be honest in all post.

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### Chapter 12

Amadeus let out a sigh of exhaustion as he lay back from the desk he was sitting at. For most of the night, he'd been busy reviewing over the final details of the upcoming expo.

The expo was scheduled for the day after next and all that was left were the papers that required his approval. For a short time, it seemed that the event was destined to fail, but thanks to the hard work of his employees and a little bit of good luck, everything now seemed to be falling into place.

As he laid on the floor he began to hear the noises of some kind of commotion coming from outside. It was an almost daily event at the dorm, shortly after dawn Motoko and Keitaro would practice their sword drills in the courtyard. In fact, since he'd been staying there he'd often sit through their practices. At first, it was just to see how much Keitaro had improved, but more recently, it had to do with his ever-growing affection towards Motoko.

"Well better get these finished, because they're not going to sign themselves." He said to himself as he began to look over the papers again trying to ignore the commotion from outside. Nevertheless, after a few minutes, his natural curiosity got the better of him and he soon found himself heading towards the commotion.

Once outside he noticed that he wasn't the only one who had taken an interest in the match as he saw Tsuruko already sitting on the patio sipping some tea. As she saw him come through the door, she sat

down her cup and gave him a polite smile.

“Good morning Mr. Gallimus I trust you slept well.”

“Yes what little I did get, and please it's just Amadeus no need to be so formal. After all I'm around the same age as you.” He said returning the smile.

“Very well then Amadeus would you care to join me?” she asked offering him a seat.

“Thank you.” He said taking a seat and the cup of tea she offered him.

As they sat and watched the match, Amadeus was amazed by how much Keitaro had improved in such a relatively short time. Then again, he reasoned, with someone like Motoko as your opponent you had no choice but to get better, least you become some beaten pulp under the fury of her blade. They sat and watched as the two combatants attacked and parried across the courtyard, neither one willing to give the other the advantage.

After a few minutes, Tsuruko turned her attention to Amadeus, “So how are things coming along?”

“Well even though he's improved Keitaro's skill still isn't up to par with Motoko's. So he's going to have to rely on defense till hopefully he can find an opening if he plans to win.” However, as soon as he finished he heard Tsuruko laughing lightly, “What? Do you believe my conclusion is wrong?”

Tsuruko just continued to laugh until she finally brought the laughter under control, “No your deduction is quite accurate but I wasn't referring to the fight. I was more interested in the status of your relation with my sister.”

“Oh...my bad.” He said sheepishly as he began to chuckle, “I'd like to say that we've become closer and for once in a long time I'm happy. She just has a calming effect on me and it makes me want to do

whatever I can to make her happy.”

Tsuruko just continued to smile, “I’m glad to hear that my sister has found that special someone meant just for her. To be honest I had always been worried that she might never find that special someone since that day she saw my future husband and me kissing.”

“Really, what happened?” he asked, but she just smiled at him.

“It’s probably best if she answered that question herself.” She told him before they heard a loud crack.

They looked to see Motoko standing over a defeated Keitaro, who was rubbing his sore posterior. “Oww... Motoko you didn’t have o hit so hard.”

“There’s no mercy given in a real fight so don’t expect me to give it in a practice match.” She told him.

“Aw geez that’s a little rough.” Keitaro whined.

“Not really. Maybe it’ll help you learn to stop over-extending your leg when you attack. I’ve been telling you that since I met you.” Amadeus said as he and Tsuruko walked up.

“Then perhaps you’d like to demonstrate the proper way.” Motoko said as she pointed her bokken at him. “I challenge you.”

“Are you sure after what happened last time.” He asked as he stared at the point of the wooden sword that wiggled menacingly close to his face.

“Last time I wasn’t prepared this time I’m plenty warmed-up.” She told him with a determined look in her

eye and a confident smile.

“Very well then.” He said returning the smile, “Keitaro may I borrow your bokken for a little while.”

“Um...sure.” Keitaro said as he handed over the wooden weapon.

Amadeus gripped the sword at each end and raised it over his head stretching a little before bringing it to a ready position. But Motoko raised her hand stopping him.

“Wait. Not here I want to fight you away from everyone else so you won't have to hold back.”

He paused for a moment to think her proposition over before he lowered the sword. “Okay then lead the way.”

“Very well then.” She said as she led him out of the courtyard.

“Very sneaky sister.” Keitaro heard Tsuruko say to herself as the two walked away.

“What do you mean Tsuruko?” Keitaro asked a little confused at what the elder Aoyama sister meant.

“They're going to have some special `training' away from prying eyes. My husband and I used to do the same thing when we wanted some time together.”

“What?” Keitaro asked in his over-exaggerated tone as naughty visions filled his head. “You mean that they're going to go do that?”

Tsuruko just smiled her normal kind smile before turning and heading back in, "Maybe, maybe not."

After they'd walked a ways into the surrounding woods, she stopped and turned to him. "This is far enough now can you show me your `angel form.'"

"Why the sudden interest?" he asked a little puzzled by the sudden demand.

"Cause I'm curious about it and I couldn't very well ask while my sister and Keitaro were around."

"Hmmm...sneaky." He said with a playful smirk, which she returned. "Alright then stand back a little bit."

As she, stepped back she saw him began to gather his ch'i and the air around him began to take on a charged feeling. After a second, she could start to make out the shape of what looked like a pair of glowing wings coming from his back. Then in a sudden flash of light, the wings took on a physical appearance of the whitest wings she had ever seen. As the wings folded behind him, he opened his eyes that seemed to glow as well for a moment before returning to their normal blue hue.

She slowly approached him in a small state of awe at his new appearance. As she reached out and touched one of the wings she tried to find her voice, "S-so... does this mean that your part heavenly being?"

"No... I'm just a man that has been given the tools needed to complete the job that was given to him. These" he said referring to the wings, "are just a conversion of raw energy into a physical appearance. The power is with me all the time."

"Amazing." She said as she began to stroke the wing causing it to flutter in response and she noticed that Amadeus as well reacted to the gesture with what sounded like a purring noise. "They're very beautiful."

“Not as beautiful as you.” He said as he leaned down and lightly kissed her. She responded by wrapping her arms around his neck deepening the kiss. As they slowly broke the kiss Amadeus quietly asked, “Can I ask you a question Motoko?”

“Of course.” She replied looking up at him.

“Well” he began as he took a seat under a tree and offering his hand for her to follow, “What made you want to come here?”

“What do you mean?” She asked a little confused as she took a seat in front of him and leaned back against his chest. His arms and wings wrapping protectively around her.

“Well when I was getting to know Kietaro during his stay in the U.S. a couple of years back. He told me about all of his adventures as the male manager of an all female dorm full of all types of `interesting' girls as residents. So I guess I was just wondering what brought you here.”

“To be honest I guess it was because I was angry at my sister getting married.” She said thinking back, “You see my sister and I have always been close and I would look up with pride to her growing up. But as she grew older, she began to show an interest in a male student who was training at the dojo. It continued until one day our father told that Tsuruko was engaged to the man and that I would be taking over her position as head of the school.”

“I was shocked at the news because it was always her greatest joy to be head of the God's Cry School, but she could no longer hold the title if she got married. So I headed off to ask my sister about this in person but when I opened the door to her room I found them kissing.”

“At that moment I felt anger towards her fiancée for what I thought was seducing my sister and making her forget her duty as head of the school. So I tried to find a way to make the man leave I even tried to steal his pet turtle but the stupid thing bit me. After everything failed I decided to leave the school and received permission from Grandma Hina to stay here because of her connections with my family.”

Amadeus lightly chuckled as she finished the story. "So that's why you're afraid of turtles."

"Hey that turtle was mean." She said as she turned around and poked him in the chest.

"And what would you do think of your sister's decision now?" he asked.

"Well after I had stayed here a while and meet everyone else I began to understand that she had made her choice out of love and not duty.

"So who becomes the head of the school if you get married?" he asked with a playful grin.

She diverted her face from his with a slight blush, "Well I suppose if that was to happed the title would go to the first-born from either Tsuruko or I."

"And is there anyone you have in mind that might persuade you from your current duties?" He asked leaning closer to her.

She tried to hide a grin as she diverted her face from his, "I don't know but I'll be sure to let you know when he does show up."

He gently turned her face back towards him, "Well then I guess they're going to have to just try really hard."

But the moment was broken upon hearing a series of muffled whispers coming from one of the surrounding foliage. Amadeus dissipated the wings as the two quickly jumped to their feet.

“Who's there, show yourself!” Motoko demanded as she brandished the bokken at one of the bushes.

A young woman with white hair stood up from behind the bush and moved over to the two, “Hey Deus how's it going.”

“Hello Ginger who else is back there?” Amadeus said as he crossed his arms clearly not amused with being spied upon.

“Just Hirato and Omega.” She said which was quickly followed by a shush from the two that were still hidden, “What? It was your two's talking that got us caught in the first place.”

“Yeah but that doesn't mean that you had to rat us out.” Hirato said as he and a man with waist-length spiky purple hair stood.

“Motoko I'd like to introduce you to three more of my meddling friends. The woman is Ginger Duncan and the man with the long hair is her husband Omega Duncan, they're head of Security Operations for A.R.A.M.A. While the loudmouth is Hirato Jorik who is one of the head developers at the company. They're also from the same project as me.” He said gesturing to the three in turn.

“It's a pleasure to meet you.” She said lowering the bokken.

“Like wise.” Ginger said smiling at her.

“So what are all of you doing here so early I thought we weren't going to meet for a few more hours?” Amadeus asked them.

“Well we where, but once Carolyn told us that we'd be meeting Miss Motoko here we just had to come early.” Grinning mischievously.



“Yeah and I'm glad that we did cause after seeing her I'm actually thinking about leav- oomph!” Omega started, but was swiftly brought to his knees by a swift punch to the gut by Ginger.

“Don't even think about finishing that sentence if you plan to live anymore.” She said as she cracked her knuckles in a threatening fashion.

“Yes mam.” Omega said as he cowered under his wife's glare.

“So where's the rest of the group?” Amadeus asked expecting them to be hiding somewhere close by.

“They're back at the dorm, but once Keitaro told us where you two had gone we decided to check out the rumors for ourselves.” Hirato said as he grinned, “So let me ask you something Motoko is your relationship with Amadeus as hot and steamy as everyone says it is.”

Motoko was shocked by the suddenness of the question, but her expression was quickly replaced by one of anger as her grip on the bokken tightened, “You PERVERT!”

Hirato didn't know what hit him as he found himself flying through the air towards the dorm. As they watched him fly away, Ginger came up to Motoko and embraced her as if she was a long lost sister.

“I can see that you're going to get along just great with the other girls Motoko.”

“Yeah well I suppose we should go make sure the idiot is alright.” Amadeus stated as they began to make their way back towards the dorm.

As they approached the building they were greeted to the sound of scurrying feet and a happy voice. “Auntie Ginger! Auntie Ginger! Did you see it? Daddy came falling from the sky!”

“Did he now.” She said smiling at the child while giving a knowing wink to Motoko.

The little girl just smiled wider as she began to recall what`d happened. “Yeah Keitaro said we could all take a bath in the hot springs when all of a sudden SPLASH daddy fell into the hot springs. He was all wet and speaking real funny and mommy says that he got what he deserved. What do you think Auntie Ginger? Yay you found Uncle Deus!” She squealed as she latched onto his leg.

“Hey Katie how's it going?” he said ruffling her hair causing her to giggle.

It was then that Katie took notice of Motoko's presence and grew a little shy as she lightly tugged on Amadeus's pants leg to get his attention.

“What's up Katie?” he asked kneeling down to the girl's level.

“Who's that?” she whispered into his ear.

“That's Motoko. Why don't you introduce yourself?”

Her eyes lit up and she turned to the swordswoman, “Hi my name's Katie what's yours?”

“My name's Motoko.” She said kneeling down to the child's level.

“You're Uncle Deus's girlfriend that Aunt Carolyn told my mommy about. You're pretty like that Tsuruko lady. Are you two sisters? Do you like my Uncle? Are you going to marry him? If so are you two going to have kids?”

The little girl continued to flood the young woman with questions until one of the doors slid open and Lacey came out calling for the girl. "Katie did you want to take a bath in the hot springs?"

"Yeah, but can't I take a bath with Motoko, mommy?" she asked her mother with a hopeful look.

"I think you should ask her first."

"Motoko will you go with me to the hot springs? Prwetty please." She begged the swordswoman while giving her her best pair of puppy eyes.

"Very well then." She said, as she couldn't resist the face that this little girl was giving her.

"Yay!" Katie said happily, as she began to lead Motoko towards the hot springs.

Lacey chuckled as her daughter dragged the poor girl past her, "Don't worry I'll make sure that Katie doesn't ask her too many questions." She told Amadeus as she followed them inside.

As he watched them go in, he let out a sigh as he rubbed the bridge of his nose, "Why do I have a bad feeling about all of this?"

Omega just laid a hand on his shoulder, "Don't worry what's the worst that could happen with all of us here?"

"That's what I'm afraid of."

“Huh?” Omega said not really understanding what his friend meant.

“Never mind.”

I kind of wanted to make this one a little longer but I decided to put the mall incident in the following chapter cause that's going to be enough by itself ^\_^ . You know the routine tell me what you've liked or haven't liked so far, and any ideas on how to make this story better.

## 13 - Chapter 13

Author's note: This is a crossover with the Love Hina manga and my personal Abiotic Factor stories. This takes place two years before Keitaro and Naru are married. This is my first fic here so be honest in all post.

Legal Disclaimer: Love Hina is not mine nor are the characters, minus Amadeus and the other added characters, are mine either they belong to Ken Akamatsu (lucky guy).

### Chapter 13

"It's a pity that everyone couldn't come." Ginger stated as they walked into the mall. Shinobu and Su decided to stay back at the dorms to study for a practice exam the next day, while Tsuruko just decided to stay saying that she didn't want to impose. "But we'll still have fun, won't we Carolyn....Carolyn?"

She turned to see Kitsune, Carolyn, and Lacey standing in awe at the rows of stores that greeted them. "Oh my, it's so beautiful." Carolyn finally said. Lacey on the other hand couldn't seem to find the words to express the feelings of happiness that she felt.

"I know it's almost as if it was placed here just for us." Kitsune said as the group embraced with tears of joy in their eyes.

"What's up with them?" Keitaro asked a little bewildered by their actions.

"They're shopaholics." Omega nonchalantly explained as the rest of the group walked around the three, trying to ignore them. "Just ignore them they'll be fine in a couple of minutes."

“Hey we heard that Barney.” Lacey said glaring at the purple-haired man.

Omega stopped in his tracks at the mention of his old high school nickname. He turned to face the woman who was currently glaring a hole in the back of his skull. “What did you call me?” He asked raising an eyebrow in inquiry.

Her lips turned into a smug smile knowing that she'd hit a nerve, “You heard me Barney.”

He slowly approached the woman until he stood towering over her hoping to intimidate her. “You know I hate that nickname. So stop saying it.”

However, she didn't back down as she began to jab him in the chest with her finger. “Well that's too bad Barney.”

That was the final straw for him as he lunged at Lacey, but she avoided his attack and soon took up refuge behind her husband and daughter. All the while chanting the nickname over and over like a child in a playground.

“Stop saying that!” He shouted as he tried to reach her, but she just laughed and continued chanting outside his reach.

Katie watched her mother with excitement and figuring it to be some kind of game began to chant along, “Barney! Barney! Barney!”

“Aw, not you to Katie.” He said a little downtrodden that Katie had turned against him as well.

“Don't feel bad. You know what they say like mother like daughter.” Ginger said as she patted her husbands back.

As they, all got a good laugh at Omega's misfortune Carolyn kept her eye on the real reason why she had thought up this shopping expedition. The further progression of Amadeus's relationship with Motoko whether they wanted her help or not, and she had just spotted the perfect store to start at.

"Come on Motoko I found the perfect store for you." She said as she grabbed the samurai's arm and began to pull her towards one of the nearby shops.

"Wh-what are you talking about?" Motoko asked as she was dragged along. Upon stopping, she looked to see that they had stopped in front of a clothing store that looked to sell clothes of a questionable nature. Her cheeks took on a crimson tint as she looked at the grinning doctor. "You can't be serious."

"Oh, but I'm very serious. By the time I'm done with you today Amadeus won't be able to take his eyes off you, and if where really lucky maybe even more. Now come on!" And with that, she dragged the protesting woman into the store.

The rest of the group walked up to the store just in time to see Carolyn pull Motoko into the store. As the girls followed them in the guys remained outside with somewhat nervous looks on their faces.

"You know what this means guys." Hirato said to the others while still looking ahead.

"Yup." The others replied almost in unison.

"Well we should get it over with quickly then."

"Yup." They said again, and after a deep breath, the guys entered the store ready for whatever would happen.

Meanwhile as the other girls rummaged through the racks of clothes, Carolyn pulled Motoko to the back of the store to the changing rooms. As she opened on up she pushed the samurai into it before closing the door.

“Now wait here and I'll go get some things for you to try on.” She shouted in before she left.

“Wait a mi-...” Motoko started but Carolyn had already left before she could finish.

After a few minutes of waiting, she returned and handed in a couple of outfits. “Here try these on. I had to guess at your sizes but they should be close.”

Motoko's cheeks turned a slight shade of pink as she held up the first articles of clothing that she was handed, a lacy pair of black boy shorts and a garter belt. “I can't wear this it's embarrassing.” She pleaded as she stuck her head out of the door.

“Aw come on I think it'll look cute on you.” Carolyn said smiling at her. “Here I'll show you how you're supposed to wear it.” She said as she jumped into the changing room.

“What are you doing get out of here!” Motoko protested to the intruder.

“No I have to make sure you put it on right, and first things first we have to take off these old clothes.”

“Wait! No! Don't touch that!”

The guys could clearly hear the struggle that was going on in the changing room from where they stood at the other side of the store.



“Sounds like Carolyn's forcing Motoko to try on some outfits. You worried Deus?” Hirato asked grinning slightly.

Amadeus just shrugged his shoulders, “Not really, Motoko can take care of herself. Plus whatever Carolyn picks out has got to be better than that prank you pulled on Kietaro when he went back to Japan.”

Hirato's grin widened as he leaned on something remembering what he liked to call his greatest prank to date. “That reminds me how did they enjoy their gifts Kietaro?”

Kietaro just laughed as he scratched his cheek remembering how the girls reacted when they found out that their gifts were Victoria Secrets lingerie. “Yeah they were pretty shocked over it, but I think I got off easy that time because they hadn't seen me for so long.”

“I'll bet they were but they probably weren't as surprised as Lacey was once she saw the credit card bill. Needless to say, that was a doozy to explain. Ha, ha, ha...” He laughed but he soon stopped when he heard a young woman clear her throat and tap him on his shoulder. He looked to see young sales clerk standing behind him, who seemed really embarrassed about something.

“Excuse me sir.” She said timidly.

“Yes can I help you?” He asked a little curious on what she wanted.

“Um... could you please not molest the mannequins.” She asked her cheeks turning redder as she said it.

“Huh?” He said still confused. The clerk just pointed to where his hand was, obviously too embarrassed to go into further detail.

Hirato turned to see that the object that he had leaned against was a mannequin torso that was displaying some provocative lingerie, and that his hand was indeed rested firmly upon one of cheeks of the model's derrière. He quickly removed his hand and hoped that his wife had not seen the act, but he was soon corrected in the error of that thought as he saw Lacey and Naru walk up.

“Hirato! Just what did you think you were doing just now?” Lacey asked as she crossed her arms and gave him a scowl look. Daring him to say or do something stupid.

“I was just standing here leaning...” But he was cut off by his lecturing wife.

“I swear I can't leave you alone for five minutes before you're doing something perverted.”

Meanwhile Katie just stood there smiling as she watched her mother lecture her father. She just giggled and pointed her finger at her father, “Daddy's a pervert.”

“That's right Katie.” Her mother said as she continued to stare her husband down.

As Hirato was lectured by his wife, Naru leaned over to Kietaro, “You know that's something I kind of expected you to do Kietaro.”

“Yeah me to, but I'm glad it's not me. I think I'd rather get punched by you than get brow-beaten by Lacey.” Kietaro said the others just nodding in agreement.

“What was that?” Lacey snapped at them after overhearing the last part.

“Nothing.” Omega said as he began to laugh nervously which made him look guiltier.

Lacey was about to say something else but she was cut off by Carolyn calling over from the dressing rooms. "Amadeus could you come over her for a moment?"

"Sure." He said eagerly as he jumped up and secretly thanked Carolyn for getting him out of that situation. "What did you need?" He asked her as he came over.

"Deus may I present to you the all new Motoko Aoyama." She said as she pulled the swordswoman out from the dressing room.

Amadeus was speechless for the first time in a long while as he took in the woman who stood timidly in front of him. Her legs were clad in a pair of black thigh-high stockings that had a single white strip that wrapped around the top. Attached to the top of the stockings he could see what looked like to be garter straps, but they were hidden under the pleated folds of her black miniskirt. Her top was covered with a simple black tank top that had a plunging neckline that showed off a modest amount of cleavage. And to finish off the ensemble she had a black choker around her neck.

"Well what do you think? Do you like it?" Carolyn asked to him, yet all he did was nod his head in approval. "Good cause I already have a whole bunch of other outfits picked out. Credit card please."

Amadeus just continued to stare at Motoko in awe as he removed the card from his wallet and handed it to the brunette. Shortly after she left to pay for the items, Motoko began to fidget under his looks.

"Please, it's embarrassing when you stare at me like that." She said as her cheeks turned red and she looked down at the floor.

He was knocked out of his stupor as he scratched the back of his head a little embarrassed by his actions as well, "I'm sorry it's just that you look really cute in that outfit. Not that you don't always look cute."

She smiled as he tried to explain himself, "You really like it? I'm glad to hear that . I was worried that you might not like it."

He took her into his arms, “ I don't think that there's anything in the world that wouldn't look good on you.” He said as he lightly kissed her.

`Wow!' She thought to herself as she returned the kiss., `I'm beginning to really like this outfit.'

“Now, now you two. Are we going to have to separate you before y'all start humping like rabbits.” Kitsune said as they quickly broke the kiss, and Motoko buried her head into Amadeus's chest her cheeks beet red at being caught.

“You've got to be kidding me. Can't we get some alone time?” Amadeus muttered under his breath as he looked towards the sky as if asking for some kind of divine intervention. Yet all he received was a muffled laugh from Motoko as she tried to bury her face deeper into his shirt.

“Afraid not lover boy, we have to keep an eye on you two, or who knows what trouble y'all would get in.” Kitsune said as she nudged him in the arm.

“Fine, whatever. We'll behave.” He said with sarcasm as he gave a sigh of defeat.

“Now there's a good boy and remember no more PDA now.” She said winking to them as she walked away.

As she walked away Amadeus made, a quick look around to make sure that no one else was spying on them. Once he saw that all of the attention was over where Lacey was still chiding on Hirato he leaned down and whispered into Motoko's ear.

“What do you say we leave this party for a little while?” She just nodded her head in agreement. He gave her a smile as he grabbed her by the hand and they began to make their way to the door by ducking behind the clothes racks like a couple of teenagers.

A few minutes after they disappeared, Carolyn came back, bags in hand. She looked around a little confused on where the two could've gone. Then her brows furrowed when she realized that they'd left the store. Quickly she pulled out her cell phone and dialed Amadeus's number, the phone rang for a moment before he answered.

"Hello Carolyn."

"Don't you `Hello Carolyn' me. Where are you two?" She demanded as she placed a hand on her hip. She heard him chuckle on the other end.

"That's for us to know and you to find out."

"Don't you play games with me mister. You two get back here right now."

"Sor-...can't hea-...must have...a...bad con-on...see you la-." He said his voice fading in and out.

"Hey don't you hang up..." But it was too late he had already ended the call, "Think you can get away from me and ruin my plan do you? Well we'll see about that. Hey Ginger could you do me a favor?"

"What's that?" she asked her friend a little worried about what she could want.

"Do you think that your people over in security could trace Deus's phone?" she asked hopefully.

"Well sure but..."

"Then do it!" She commanded. As Ginger dialed the number of her job, Carolyn began to plot her next step. "So Deus, you and Motoko want to play hide-and-seek huh? Then let the games begin."

"Oh boy she sounds mad." Amadeus said as he hung up the phone and began to take out the battery.

"What are you doing?" Motoko asked him a little confused with his actions.

"Well if I know Carolyn like I hope I do she's going to try and trace my phone to find us. So by taking out the battery it should hopefully sever any signal that they could track. After all we don't want them to find us before we want them to now do we?" He said giving her a grin which she returned, and they began to walk through the mall hand in hand.

Meanwhile the Carolyn had gathered the rest of the group around Ginger as she finished talking to her office. As she closed her phone she let out a sigh, "They can't find a signal to trace, he must have turned off his phone."

Carolyn let out a growl of frustration, "Fine then we'll do this the old fashioned way then. Ginger, you and Omega take the northern area. Lacey, you Hirato and Katie go to the left. Kietaro, you and Naru take the right. While Kitsune, Mutsumi, and I will take the upper level. Remember if any if you find them call the rest of us and we'll take them down as a group. Everybody got it, good, let's go."

Motoko felt like she was floating on air as they walked down through the mall. She was finally alone with Amadeus and they didn't have to worry about being interrupted at least for a little while. They walked in front of the stores chatting about this and that, stopping only to look at the displays in the store windows. In fact, it almost felt like if they were on a date if there wasn't the chance of being found by the others.

As they passed by a jewelry store, she saw a necklace that caught her attention. Amadeus noticed her staring at the necklace, it was thin gold chain that had a gold pendant hanging from it.

"Do you like it?" He asked noticing the sparkle in her eye as she looked at the necklace.

“Yes, but it's too expensive.” She said a little saddened.

“Then say no more. If that is what milady desire's then that is what milady shall have.” He said as he began to walk into the store.

“Wait Deus! I can't let you spend that much money on me without being able to pay you back.” She said stopping him.

“Nonsense, spending time with you is more than enough for payment, but if that's not good enough then I'll accept this as payment.” He said as he claimed her mouth with his in a deep kiss. When he finally ended the kiss, he gave her a smile. “Payment accepted. Shall we go.” She just nodded as he led her into the store.

Upon entering the store they where greeted by an elderly gentleman who gave them a smile, “Hello and what can I do for you today.”

“Yes the lady would like the gold necklace you have in your window outside.” Amadeus told the man.

“Of course madam, an excellent choice.” The clerk said as he went and retrieved the necklace, “The pendant on this particular one can be engraved with a saying of your choice. Is there anything you'd like it to say?”

Motoko thought for a moment before replying, “Unknown paths, please.”

The clerk looked a little confused at first but he quickly gave her a warm smile, “Very well then madam. Just give me a minute to get it ready and ring you up.”

As the clerk made his way into the back Amadeus had to ask the question that was running through his mind, "Unknown paths huh? Does it have a certain meaning to you?"

Motoko just gave him a small smile, "Of course, it means that throughout life you never know where the path that your on will take you, or who you might meet along the way."

Amadeus smiled warmly at her, "Wow, I didn't know you were so philosophical."

"There's a lot you don't know about me Mr. Gallimus." She said as her look turned more mischievous.

Just then, the clerk came back out and handed the necklace to Amadeus who in turn gave him another credit card. As the clerk left to ring up the order Amadeus placed the necklace around Motoko's neck. After the necklace was on he gently wrapped his arms around her waist resting his head on her shoulder and whispered into her ear.

"That sounds like a challenge I just have to win."

She felt her skin grow hot under his touch, but she wasn't going to let him win this one. She turned around to face him and gave him a light kiss before leaving his hold, as she began to walk away from him she turned back to face him. "Then let the challenge begin Amadeus." With that, she turned back around and walked to the door of the store her hips swaying in a seductive manner.

As he watched her walk away the clerk came back and handed him his receipt and credit card, and as he placed the card back in his wallet, a devious grin came across his lips. "Tally ho." He said as quickly left to catch up with her.

The elderly clerk smiled as he watched the young man chase after the woman he was with, "Ah to be young again."



Unknown to Amadeus and Motoko they were being watched as they exited the jewelry store. "So are we going to tell the others?" Kietaro asked Naru from where they were hiding.

"Maybe later but for now I say let them enjoy themselves." She said winking at him. "Come on, I want to see where they're going next."

"Hey wait up Naru!" Kietaro called to his fiancée as she tried to keep up with the two.

Meanwhile in another part of the mall Carolyn's group wasn't having any luck. "So Carolyn why are we looking for Motoko and Deus?" Mutsumi asked.

"Cause they might unknowingly ruin all my plans for them." She answered as she continued to scan the crowd.

"Why the interest in their relationship so much?" Kitsune asked curious to know the reason. Carolyn just gave a small sigh.

"I just want him to be happy. You see I've known Amadeus and his family for most of my life, and I consider him as kind of a brother. So it really hurt me to see him in such pain after Jessie died. Even though he may look fine from the outside, he's still hurting inside, and I was happy once he told me that he was seeing Motoko. That's why I have to make sure that they get together, cause I believe that she's the only one that can finally complete him." She said with determination in her eyes.

As she finished she heard a snuffle from behind her, she turned to see Kitsune and Mutsumi wiping away tears from their eyes. "That was so beautiful. Okay we'll help you to the end."

Carolyn smiled warmly, "Thank you both of you." Just then, she heard a growling noise, "What was that?"

“Oh my, I'm sorry that was my stomach I guess it's getting towards lunchtime.” Mutsumi said as she lightly laughed.

As the words sunk in, realization dawned on Carolyn. “That's it! Kitsune call everyone else I know where we're going to find them! Mutsumi you're a genius!”

“Am I really?” Mutsumi wondered as Carolyn dragged her and Kitsune through the crowd.

“So where are we going?” Kitsune asked her as she was pulled along.

“To the food court, cause there has always been one solid truth when it comes to Amadeus Gallimus, and that is that he's always ready to eat.”

“This was a great idea Motoko.” Amadeus said as he returned to their table carrying two ice cream cones. He handed one to her, “Your strawberry cone milady.”

“Thank you kind sir.” She said smiling as she took the out-stretched cone. “So how much longer do you think we can avoid the others?”

He just took a lick from his cone, “Probably not much longer. In fact I wouldn't be surprised if they weren't closing in for the kill as we speak.”

“How convenient that you should put it like that.” He heard a familiar voice say from behind him.

He just casually looked at his watch as he looked over his shoulder, “Congratulations Carolyn, it only took you an hour to find me this time.”

“One of these days you're not going to be able to wander off.” She said narrowing her eyes at him, which he just shrugged off.

“Maybe so, but not today.” He said smiling at her. She continued to glare at him but as she looked over at Motoko and noticed the necklace hanging around her neck, she smiled back at him.

“Someday you will. So what have you two been doing since you ditched us? Nothing to risqué I hope.” Carolyn asked as her, Kitsune, and Mutsumi joined them at the table.

“Nothing really.” Motoko said with a slight blush as she cast a glance at Amadeus, who just smiled back and took another lick from his cone.

“Oh no you're not getting off that easy spill it sister.” Kitsune said noticing the glance.

Motoko was about to break under the three when she heard her saving grace cry out. “Motoko!” This was quickly followed by an excited child who latched onto the woman's waist. “We found you and Uncle didn't we mommy?”

“You sure did.” Lacey said as the others walked up.

“Hey where'd you get the ice cream?” Hirato asked to which Amadeus pointed over his shoulder to an ice cream stand. “Come on Katie let's go get you some ice cream for doing such a good job.”

“Yay!” The girl exclaimed happily, as she took her father's hand and they headed towards the stand.

“Well now that we found you two we have one last place to go, and that's to get the dress clothes for the dinner gala for after the expo.” Ginger said as she took a seat at the table.

“And being as we had to look for Deus and I still have his credit card. Guess who's going to be paying for them.” Carolyn said as she waved the piece of plastic in victory.

Amadeus just sighed in defeat as he raised his hand, and leaned over to Motoko and whispered to her. “I guess our fun is going to have to be postponed till later.”

“Hey, you two no secrets now.” Mutsumi said as she smiled at the two who just leaned back to there seats, a light blush on Motoko's cheeks.

You know the routine tell me what you've liked or haven't liked so far, and any ideas on how to make this story better. Till next time bye.