

\*\*\* [!] Lorenshi climbed down the ladder and walked toward the main room. As she turned the corner she was surprised by the group of members standing there waiting for her.

[Members] Everyone yelled “HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!”

[Grade-12][Track] Lorenshi Sumentureo put her finger up. “Who told you guys-”

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto says “Me.”

[Grade-12][Track] Lorenshi Sumentureo says “Why would you tell them, it’s quite literally just another day.”

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto says “We’re your friends, Lorenshi.”

[Adult] Odette E. Laresca says “It’s still important to us.”

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto says “We wanted to surprise you.”

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto smiled.

[Grade-12][Track] Lorenshi Sumentureo says “I don’t see a point to this, but the thought is nice. I guess.”

[Adult] Odette E. Laresca chuckled friendly. “Sounds like something I would say.”

[College][B] Chris V. Santos says “C’mon. Stop being emo. Have fun!”

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto says “I’m gonna get changed.”

[Grade-12][Track] Lorenshi Sumentureo waved them off. “Go get in line.”

[Adult] Odette E. Laresca walked off to change.

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto asks “Is this all the members?”

[College][B] Chris V. Santos says “Looks like it.”

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto says “Line up.”

[Adult] Odette E. Laresca pulled out a piece of paper on a clipboard and began to write something down.

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto demands “Straighten the line.”

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto stared at them. “Hello, Bonten Manji.”

[Grade-12] Eiden Yokuto says “Hello, Yuji.”

[Grade-12] Sora Kuznetsiva-Solas bowed to her higher ups then looked back at Yuji. “Good afternoon.”

\*\*\* [!] The eerie sound of chains dangling, and pins dropping crept through the room, the echo bouncing off each wall. Each member of the gang stood single file, while the people higher up on the hierarchy stood across watching, and planning what was set out for the day. The room felt unusually hot, exhausting and bringing sweat to those wrapped in heavy clothes.

[Adult] Odette E. Laresca would adjust her collar, feeling the heat infiltrate drastically.

[Grade-12][Track] Lorenshi Sumentureo moved herself out of the room groaning, putting her head into her hands. “I just need a minute, I’ll be back. I need to recollect myself and, well, change.”

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto turned to Lorenshi. . . but she was gone.

[Adult] Maeko Onitake listened carefully, hearing the conversations from the front room echo throughout the underground location. Once she had heard that Lorenshi had wanted to take a step aside to take a breather from the surprise commotion, Maeko changed into an outfit, completely

covering her body and then strapped a ballistic mask to her face to make her completely anonymous. Then, she picked up a large manila folder containing files of every gang member and squeezed it between her arm and torso so she could still use both hands. Then, before exiting the room, she quickly placed her file on the floor with the rest of the loose papers in the back room and lit it ablaze, leaving no physical proof she was part of the gang and reducing all the leftover files to a pile of carbon. Finally she would quietly sneak out of the door and look to the right where she would spot Lorenshi, her head down and not paying attention to her surroundings. Lunging toward Lorenshi, Maeko would place her hand over Lorenshi's mouth and pulled a knife out from a holster and held it to her neck. She whispered in Lorenshi's ear "*Shut up or I'll slice your throat open.*" After she went quiet, Maeko slowly moved out of the meeting room and into the center room holding her hand over Lorenshi's mouth and the blade to her throat. "Nobody try anything or else your beloved Lorenshi here gets to bleed till death right here in this room!"

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto says "..."

[College][B] Chris V. Santos says "..."

[Grade-12] Eiden Yokuto says "..."

[Grade-12] Daiyu Laresca says "..."

[Grade-12] Monosuke Y. Kurosame says "Huh? What the hell?"

[Grade-12] Eiden Yokuto blinked.

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto stared at the two, shocked, but he didn't seem to be frightened of the knife. "Cool it. Drop the knife."

[Grade-12][Track] Lorenshi Sumentureo her eyes were wide open, her mouth lost all the moisture it previously held. Lorenshi moved her to look at Yuji, fear evident in her eyes.

[Adult] Maeko Onitake pulled back on the knife a little, putting a bit more pressure to her neck by the blade to encourage her not to speak as she took her left hand off Lorenshi's mouth and grabbed the manila folder and held it up in the air. "This here are the files of every single person on the gang roster. Your real names, your ages, your phone numbers and addresses. Even some of your loved ones." She threw the manila folder down onto the floor in front of everyone, the files slipping out of the folder, displaying various pictures of the members on each page. The files looked to be photocopies and not the originals. "Take a look if you think I'm bluffing. They aren't the real ones though; those are not even in this location anymore. And everything else in that room must be burned to a crisp by now." After the group had seen enough of the photocopied files on the floor, Maeko used her free hand to grab the zippo lighter she had, struck it to light, and then threw it over the files on the floor; them bursting into flames nearly blinding the room. "I know what you're all about, and I despise every last one of you. You *will* cease your actions in this city or else I'll be paying a visit to your families. Lorenshi here was unlucky today. Be glad I'll be leaving you all with just a warning this time. Don't try to chase after me, I'll be gone the moment you lose sight of me."

\*\*\* [!] The reducing moisture in the air encouraged the flames to continue growing, some of the half burnt papers floating up into the air with ash. The smoke filled the room, sprouting at the

roof and spread across the entire underground turf. The members of the gang would feel somewhat overheated, and likely sweating due to the heat of the room, and being trapped within it.

[College][B] Chris V. Santos would be frozen in place, wondering if there was anything he could do to try to ease the situation.

[Adult] Odette E. Laresca stared at the unknown individual with darting eyes. A sense of anger completely showered her.

[Grade-12][Track] Lorenshi Sumentureo a small tear trickled down her eye as a little line of blood continued into the fabric of her shirt. Lorenshi's body was stiff as slight groans escaped her lips through each knife puncture to her skin. Lorenshi's eyes fell to the floor looking for any sort of. . . well, defensive tactic.

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto stared at the files on the ground that had subsequently been set ablaze. He didn't know what to do, especially as the masked individual held a knife to Lorenshi's throat. He grew more angry, but didn't move an inch. "WHAT THE FUCK DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?"

[Adult] Maeko Onitake says "This."

[Adult] Maeko Onitake lifted her left hand to hold Lorenshi's head stationary as he quickly dropped the knife from her throat, brought it out a little and then jammed it into her side, putting a blade sized hole in her liver. With a softened voice meant for Lorenshi alone, yet loud enough so the rest could hear, "*This is your warning, Lorenshi. Happy Birthday.*" As she started to twitch from the pain of the stab wound, Maeko pulled the blade from her flesh and held it out in front of her, threatening everyone. Then, squatting down just slightly, she swiped the door keys off of Lorenshi's person and started backing toward the exit to the streets. "STAY BACK! DON'T FOLLOW ME!" she exclaimed. Then, swiftly climbing the ladder, she would leave the line of sight of the members and then would disappear into the streets of Karakura.

[Grade-12] Eiden Yokuto says ". . ."

[Adult] Odette E. Laresca let her vision slide amongst everyone before mumbling something in Russian.

[Grade-12] Daiyu Laresca stared at Lorenshi, looking horrified from the situation.

[College][B] Chris V. Santos says "We need to get her medical attention, quick!"

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto had a glaze fixated upon Lorenshi, not knowing what to do as she started to bleed out. He turned to the members and began to give orders. "Half of you, go get changed and take her to EMS. The other half of Bonten Manji, **hunt them down.**"

[Members] Everyone yelled "Yes Sir!"

[Adult] Odette E. Laresca quickly ran off to change.

[Grade-12] Eiden Yokuto ran toward Lorenshi as sight of the assailant was lost. He lay her flat on the ground, applying pressure to the wound. "Hey, Yuji! Do you remember those medkids I stole from that one house?"

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto says "Bro, take her to EMS! Chris, go with him!"

[College][B] Chris V. Santos says "On it."

[Grade-12][Track] Lorenshi Sumentureo felt nothing but a pinch while the knife pierced through her skin and into her liver. As the blade poked out on the other side of her waist, her eyes lingered at her wound, watching as a slow trickle of blood turned to a flow being absorbed by her shirt. Lorenshi's eyes grew more and more dilated as her lips lost all the moisture turning a light shade of purple. Loren's skin tone paled, as her body grew weak. Toppling onto her knees, she looked around the room once more; fear and horror filled her grayish green orbs. A few milliseconds passed and her body fell to the ground, limp as blood pooled around her.

\*\*\* [!] An ever growing pool of blood began to form around Lorenshi's body.

[Grade-12] Eiden Yokuto asks "How are we going to explain it?"

[College][B] Sheldon Tokugawa says "Worry about that when we get there."

[Grade-12] Eiden Yokuto says "Fine. You guys, help me carry her."

[Adult] Odette E. Laresca assisted in picking Lorenshi up gently.

[Grade-12] Monosuke Y. Kurosame would be shivering slightly as he stared at Lorenshi, clearly shocked and unsure of how to react before quickly following the rest of the members.

[Grade-12] Monosuke Y. Kurosame says "What the fuck. . ."

[Grade-12] Daiyu Laresca asked "Was. . . That a test?"

[Grade-12] Eiden Yokuto says "Ballistic mask, black suit. . . That's like every criminal in Karakura?"

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto took a few steps forward, his eyes losing color. Could it be fear? Maybe even stress?

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto says "Get changed, we're going to hunt down the entire city."

[Grade-12] Eiden Yokuto says "Sounds good."

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto had a changing expression. He now seemed. . . empty.

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto yelled "Don't just fucking stand around!"

[Adult] Odette E. Laresca says "Let's move."

[Grade-12] Monosuke Y. Kurosame says "Yuji, what do you mean? We clearly don't even know who that was. Could've been anyone, no?"

[College][B] Yuji Yokuto yelled "I don't care! Just go look for them! They couldn't have gotten far. They must smell like smoke since there was just a fire. They're out there somewhere. So everyone! Move out! Now!"

\*\*\* [!] Everyone silently yet swiftly left the room going their own respective ways. Lorenshi was then taken to the hospital where she was given emergency surgery, saving her life, but not her entire liver. The other members sent out to track down the mysterious figure came back unsuccessful, as if she turned to mist in the cool, humid night.