

The Ooze

Tatsumi gains a living teigu, sometimes considered a parasite type, it bonds with Tatsumi. It can make weapons, armor, tentacles, and can eat poison. So Tatsumi names it Venom. Together they manage to save his friend Ieyasu and end up joining Night Raid.

Tatsumi/Ieyasu/Harem

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Characters

Tatsumi: A young man with average height, he has green eyes and medium length brown hair, with a cowlick. He has a muscular physique from his training with the sword and learning hand to hand combat. He is known for having a kind and innocent smile.

Ieyasu: A young man of average height, he has brown eyes, and short, unruly, dark brown hair. He wears a white martial arts headband. He is known for being very cheerful and hoped to be famous one day.

Sayo: A young lady with long black hair and black eyes, she had a white flower hair accessory. She was known for being very sensible, kind, cheerful, knowledgeable, and quick tempered; often seen as the big sister to Ieyasu and Tatsumi despite being the same age.

Leone: A young curvaceous woman, she has short blonde hair with two long tufts that frame the sides of her head. Her eyes are golden, and is often seen wearing a revealing outfit consisting of a black tube top, detachable sleeves, pants, boots, and a scarf around her neck. She is known for being very chill and relaxed, tending to display lady-like manners.

Bulat: A tall, muscular young man, with blue eyes. He had black hair which he wore combed up in a heart-shaped

pompadour. When not wearing Incursio he wears a black shirt with green shoulders, and even wears a black leather jacket. He considers himself very passionate and hot-blooded, but he had a calmness especially in battle.

Akame: a pretty young girl with long black hair that reaches down to her knees. She has red eyes, her usual attire consists of clothing of white, black, and red. While appearing to be serious and cold hearted, she is socially awkward, and cares a lot about her friends. She loves to eat and is known to be quite protective of her food.

Mine: a young girl of below average height. She has very long pink hair tied in twin-tails, on the right and left side of her head. She has big pink eyes, and her love of pink extends to her outfit. She's a self proclaimed Genius Sniper, she is quick to anger and easily irritated with those that don't know her well.

Sheele: a young woman with an average height, she's slender but has curves. She has long purple hair and purple eyes. Her usual attire consists of lilac colored dress and white boots. She wears glasses and has a scar on her right cheek. While an airhead, she is very kind and caring to her friends. She is known for apologizing to those she kills.

Lubbock: a young man with shoulder-length green hair, that covers his left eye. He has green eyes, and wears red goggles

on his head. He is often seen wearing a long green jacket with a fur trimmed hood, he wears a white and red shirt and blue jeans with brown shoes. He's known for being an easy going individual and a perv.

Najenda: a woman with short silver hair and purple eyes. She wears an eyepatch where her right eye should be. She wears a black suit and has a mechanical right arm. She is known for being a sharp minded tactitian. She is level headed and leads her team with a gentle but firm air.

Chapter 1

Tatsumi was given a strange artifact from his village. The chief said it would protect him. He wasn't sure why it appeared to be just some old idol. What he didn't know was what lurked within.

The boy had no idea about Teigu or the toxic nature of the city. He was just one of the strongest warriors in the village, going to the city to make money and save his village. Tatsumi left the village with his two friends Sayo and Ieyasu. They were quite the team together, but after a danger beast swarm attacked they got split up and swore to make it to the city.

In the middle of the fight, the totem was cracked but protected Tatsumi from receiving a fatal wound. Inside the totem was a teigu, a living teigu, and a parasite type. Even though the totem it could feel Tatsumi, feel his warmth and kind-hearted nature. It also could feel his blood lust, lurking deep down inside him, coming out in times of rage.

‘He’s perfect!’

The ooze began to leak out of the totem. “Whoa am I bleeding?” Tatsumi inspected the item and found it cracked, leaking out a strange black goo. Without thinking Tatsumi touched it. “Hey it's warm, and it makes my skin all tingly. Is this a healing ointment or something? The elder should have told me!”

He began putting the stuff on his wounds, just a few scratches here and there but that was all the invitation needed for the ooze. “Whaa hey!” the goo began to spread over his skin, slipping under his clothing. “What’s going on!” It covered his arms and hands.

The ooze produced tentacles removing his upper clothes bit by bit. Tatsumi blushed as his goo-covered hands moved to allow him to pull off his jacket, his vest, and his undershirt. The goo spread over his exposed muscle. “Warm...tingly...” he shivered. The goo clung to him like a second skin.

His upper body was encased. The ooze doing something strange, it felt like he was being massaged. ‘**So good!**’ his nipples hardened as the goo groped his pecs, before focusing on his nipples.

Tatsumi shivered. ‘What is happening?’ His hands moved down to remove his pants. “No...not that...” he blushed and looked around. He was alone in the woods. The ooze manifested more tentacles causing him to remove his boots and drop his pants.

Tatsumi was wearing a fundoshi, to his surprise his cock began to tent his underwear. ‘Why am I hard...I haven’t jerked off in a while but still...’ the goo spread over his legs and covered his feet.

‘So nice!’ the good began massaging his legs and feet. Like with his arms, back, pecs, and abs, the ooze was stimulating his muscles. Tatsumi had no idea his body was being stimulated and invigorated, though it was hard to think with his blood rushing south.

His cock was now fully erect and leaking pre-cum.

‘What is this feeling?’

‘What is this feeling?’

‘I feel excited!’

‘Excited?’

‘I feel hot!’

‘Hot!!!’

The ooze ripped off Tatsumi’s underwear, causing his cock to snap up into the air. “Ohh!” the ooze spread, swallowing his balls and cock, while it spread over his hips and hugged his ass. “Ohhh ohh my!”

Tatsumi writhed in pleasure, his butt was groped and his cheeks spread. His testicles were stimulated giving off the sensation of being sucked and licked in tandem. The ooze worked his cock, it squeezed him, pumped him, and slurped away his pre-cum. “Ahhh ahh fuck Aaaahhh~”

The young man couldn't take such pleasure for very long and soon came. The goo absorbed his seed as fast as it erupted from his dick. **'Oohhh this is good!'**

Tatsumi was left panting, rocked by a very strong orgasm. His arms and legs felt like jelly, but it seems the ooze wasn't done with him. Like with the rest of his body, the ooze began stimulating Tatsumi's cock and balls. The boy's natural hormones were processed and used to fuel his manhood.

The brunette gasped as his cock grew larger, and his manly balls began to grow in kind. **'More seed, yummy seed, more more More!'** the ooze began jerking Tatsumi off again.

"Wait I just came...I can't..." His eyes bulged as he gazed down at his now even larger cock and his huge gonads. His legs spread, and the ooze began to invade his ass. "I've never touched there....oooohhhh!" Tatsumi's eyes rolled up.

The ooze milked him of a few more orgasms as it changed Tatsumi from the inside out. **'Good host, best host!'** it manifested a phallic tentacle and began stuffing Tatsumi's ass, sensing a spot that would make the boy cum more and more.

Tatsumi passed out from the pleasure and the ooze finished its work on him. Their union was complete, Tatsumi was an evolved human, his body awakened to the greatest depths of his potential. He was a fine host indeed for the living Teigu.

When the young man awoke he was in shock, his clothes were scattered around him. “I’m naked...wait...I’m not naked?” the bodysuit he found himself in was a wicked black. His massive cock and huge balls were perfectly contained, the goo making a make-shift sheath that contained both his cock and his balls together, while giving a sexy bulge, with a white spider-like crest over his crotch.

The Ooze was made from a Tyrant Beast, one that had lived for a long time hopping from host to host, granting them power in exchange for the ride. One could discover the truth by the spider mark on their body. Some called it a spider others a slime, some even said it was a weird hybrid of both, but most called it a parasite. It matters not, as this beast fell and from it, this teigu was born. Though it wasn’t so easily tamed...

Tatsumi felt up his body, he was always a bit of a twink, no matter how much he trained or worked out he couldn’t pack on the muscle as he wished. He wouldn’t be putting the bodybuilders to shame any time soon but he had muscle, a six-pack, chiseled pecs, and his arm and leg muscles were the perfect mix of flexible and tight. “Whoa!” he flexed a bit. “How is this possible?”

“It is because of you!”

“Who said that?”

“I did!” the ooze rippled over Tatsumi’s body making the boy squirm and shiver.

“The goo? How did you do this?”

“The human body is full of hormones and proteins, muscle development can fail if you have an imbalance in your body. I correct the imbalance and adjusted your cells to optimize the output.” the ooze chuckled to himself. **“It was your training that gave you this body, I merely gave it a hand.”** Had Tatsumi been an ordinary man it probably wouldn’t have been able to do as much, but Tatsumi ate right, trained hard, and developed quite a bit of skill.

“What are you?”

“A living teigu, I was called a parasite type and deemed too dangerous and was thrown away. The people of your village found me made that idol out of my container and kept me safe for all these years. Now I am free and we are one!”

“Wait, we?” It was hard to wrap his head around this. “Did you fuse with me?”

“So to speak, I merged with your body. I can’t live without a host, even when I was made into a teigu. My instincts drove me to find a host to survive!”

Tatsumi felt a little bad. “Well, you don’t plan to hurt me right?”

“Of course not, if you die, I die, can’t have that.”

“So is this a symbiotic relationship, you helped me and I help you stay alive?”

“Precisely.”

“How are we even talking right now?”

“We are linked, we can speak through our thoughts.”

“That’s kinda cool, it’s like having a friend always watching my back.” He chuckled happily. “I feel a lot stronger, with this strength I’m sure to get a good job in the city and support my village!”

The ooze had found quite the interesting host indeed. Tatsumi wasn’t a complicated guy, he had a firm belief in right and wrong. The fact he had saddled himself with a parasite, wasn’t really bothering him. He felt great.

Any idea of trying to get rid of the ooze was gone from his mind upon hearing the ooze would die if it left him or if he died. The ooze did toy with him though, which was a bit embarrassing.

“Do you have any issues with my plans for the future?”

“Not at all, I may have a suggestion now and then, but I’ll follow your lead partner.” The ooze could read Tatsumi like a book and didn’t feel any ill will in him.

“Sounds good to me partner.” He wanted to put on some clothes, but the ooze had him covered, the goo shifting and transforming becoming a spitting image of his original attire, only now it was a mix of black, white, and red. The mix of colors suited Tatsumi. The goo formed a speedo to hug Tatsumi’s butt and perfectly hug his crotch. “Whoa cool!” He grabbed his sword and pack.

They began to head towards the city. “Hey, what’s your name, what do I call you?”

“My Teigu name is the Ooze.”

“That’s a bit informal, I don’t wanna call you Hey Ooze!”

“Call me what you want, we are one being after all.”

“I’ll think up something good, just you wait.”

To be continued

Chapter 2

Tatsumi was heading to the capital when he saved two men from a danger beast. “I’m heading to the capital, so remember my name, Tatsumi!” His goal was to become a famous soldier in the city.

“Oi young man, you should be careful.”

“Hmm?”

“The city isn’t as it was...”

“Oi stop, don’t fill his head with stuff he doesn’t need to know!” the second man insisted.

“He saved our lives we should tell him.” The first man got close to Tatsumi. “Listen, the city has become full of monsters, though they look like people, they are monsters on the inside.” He claimed these monsters were more dangerous than the danger beast he just killed.

Tatsumi wasn’t sure what the guy was talking about, monsters in the city? **‘I think you should heed his warning.’**

‘What do you mean, if monsters are in the city wouldn’t the soldiers take care of them?’

‘Sigh, some monsters are able to pull strings, just be careful.’ Tatsumi didn’t get it but decided to be on his guard.

He entered the city and went right to the enrollment office. He was told that after enlisting he'd be evaluated and with his strength he was sure he'd be put into Captain class. There was a long line at the recruitment office when Tatsumi finally got up to the recruiter. "I'd like to enlist!"

"Fine, fine, here's your contract, you'll start as a Foot Soldier." Foot Soldiers were sent out to remote regions for mostly border patrol and lookout details.

"But sir, once you evaluate me, you'll see I'm strong enough to be captain class!" he said and brandished his sword for emphasis. He wasn't bragging per se, he had trained his life for this and needed to make money to support his village. He couldn't do that on a Foot Soldier salary. Not to mention how long it took for a Foot Soldier to even be considered for a higher position.

Tatsumi was tossed out. "Hey! You could at least evaluate me!"

"What era are you living in boy, you need to win the lottery just for the chance of being a soldier." he pointed at Tatsumi angrily. "Do you have any idea how many applicants we get each day? There is no way we can evaluate them all." There was also a limit of how many got hired, and most had no say where they ended up.

"What...really?"

“Now that you got it, get lost, you little runt!” The door was slammed shut on him. Tatsumi sighed, he had no idea, everyone talked the city up like it was full of opportunities. He sulked around for a bit before he bumped into a blonde-haired woman. She had his number right quirk, just another young man from the country wanting to make it big in the big city. While she wasn’t wrong, and she wasn’t a bad person necessarily she tried to teach the young man about trust. She got him to treat her for a meal, where she wracked up a huge tab with food and booze. “You said you could help me join the ranks of the military.”

“Well, there are only two ways, Connections, and Cash!”

“Cash huh?” Tatsumi revealed he actually had a quite large sum of money, much to the Ooze’s objections. They had made that money on the way, hunting Danger Beasts.

“So you are strong, with this you’ll definitely be made captain.” She went to take his gold, but his hand wouldn’t release the bag. It was the ooze, not releasing his hold. **‘This woman may not mean us arm, but I sense she is not being honest.’**

Tatsumi put his money away. The woman protested a bit.

“You say you have connections, then let me meet them and I’ll give them the money myself.” He had her, she saw the

money herself, if she was as trustworthy as she claimed she'd be able to arrange the meeting.

“Smart lad, I'm impressed,” She gave him a song and dance. “I'll bring my contact here, just you wait,” she pulled him in for a huge. “Welcome to the big city.” She patted his back.

She left Tatsumi alone, unaware that The Ooze made a switch, she did get some of his cash, but the Ooze swapped most of the coins with some heavy nuts. The lady had no idea, but Tatsumi waited, and waited, until closing time. When he went to pay the bill he thought his coin bag had been stolen, but the ooze had his back.

They were looking for a place to sleep when some muggers tried to rob him. They were easily beaten up and left on the side of the road. “These guys too...man what is with this city?” Tatsumi hoped his friends were okay. ‘Did you guys make it here, are you going through these issues too?’

The Ooze hugged Tatsumi as he sat down on the ground. “Should I keep looking for them what am I gonna do?” he buried his face in his knees.

A carriage approaches only to stop next to Tatsumi. “Does that person not have a place to stay? How unfortunate...”

One of her guards flinch. “Again, my lady?!”

“I can’t help it!” her guards share a look as the young noble girl goes over to Tatsumi. She invites Tatsumi to stay with her, which since the brunette just got cheated he was a bit wary of this random girl.

He lies and says he doesn’t have any money. The girl just laughs and extends her hand and once again invites him to stay with her. Tatsumi eyes her guards and can tell at a glance they were strong. In the end, he goes with the girl and is shocked at her lavish mansion.

Not only was the young lady kind, but her father and mother were sweet to him as well. According to the girl’s parents, she takes in strays all the time. Her father claimed to offer them room and board till they could get on their feet or he finds them work. Tatsumi for a brief moment believed he finally found some good people in this city!

-X-

He shared his story and his desire to raise money to support his village. He talked about Ieyasu and Sayo, hoping to see his friends soon. Aria’s father slapped the table and laughed.

“Well you are in luck young man, I happen to have several contacts in the military. Stay with us for a bit, and I’m sure we can find you a place among the captain class.”

“Is that really okay?”

Aria's mother made them tea. "Of course dear, we are happy to help those in need."

Tatsumi felt so touched by their actions. Aria took hold of his hand. "Don't worry Tatsumi I'm sure you'll meet your friends soon!"

He drank the tea, surrounded by happy smiles. He let out a yawn and was given a room to stay in. Once they were alone. **"Tatsumi...the tea was poisoned..."**

"What?!" he clutched his throat.

"It was laced with venom from a snake-type danger beast, I already filtered it from your body and absorbed it. It's slow-acting it would have knocked you out in a couple of hours and you wouldn't have known what hit you."

"Whoa, you can do that?" He shook his head. "Never mind that, why would Aria and her family do that to me?"

"Those guys warned you didn't they? These people might look harmless and human but they might be monsters on the inside."

"What are we gonna do?" he crumpled down in tears. Just when he thought he had found a safe haven, he entered the home of some kidnapping psychopaths.

"Let's check it out!" the ooze morphed forming a skin-tight bodysuit around Tatsumi, even morphing around his head to

give him an almost faceless appearance. When he opened his eyes he could see through two white spots over the face.

-X-

Tatsumi slipped out of his room, the ooze was able to stick to things, so he was able to climb on walls and even the ceiling. When he passed by the guards the suit went full-on camo mode blending into the walls. They walked past him as if he wasn't even there. 'This is so cool!'

He looked around and found the mother leaving the house to go to a weird building in the backyard. There were two guards stationed there. 'Well, that's not suspicious.'

Tatsumi got all the proof he needed these people were corrupt. Aria's father was currently practicing with a sword, but what made Tatsumi's heart sink was what he was practicing on. Normally one practiced on a wooden dummy, but the dad had a human strung up.

He would have jumped in, but the victim wasn't making noise, the number of wounds he had on him, fresh and old, and the lack of blood flow, the guy was already dead. The father kept slashing and stabbing. "It's not as fun once they stop screaming." He sighed. "Perhaps I should have a fresh one brought to me."

'A fresh one?!' Tatsumi's blood was boiling.

‘Tatsumi wait, that building outback, there could be people we need to save.’ The Ooze told him.

He slipped away as the old man finished “practicing” he jumped to the building in the back. The guards had no idea what was happening, when the mother left, she thanked the guards for their hard work. Tatsumi crawled into the building before the door was shut. ‘They knew, they knew and did nothing.’

Tatsumi was greeted with the smell of death. There were people in cages, beaten, mutilated, drugged, some were even left to starve to death. It was too much for Tatsumi, all too much, and it only got worse as he spotted his friends.

Before he could break, the Ooze grounded his senses. **‘He’s still alive, go to him!’** Ieyasu was inflicted with various poisons and diseases. He was the pet project of Aria’s mother, she documented her tortures, what poisons did, how they affected the body, the mind, all kinds of twisted stuff.

“Ieyasu!” The ooze pulled back exposing his head.

“Tatsumi...is that you...?” his vision was blurred. “Did they get you too?” Ieyasu began to cry.

He was weak, out of his mind from the mix of pain and poisons pumping through his system. They were close, the Ooze had seen it through his memories. “Please don’t die, you can’t die!”

“I’m trying man, that bitch, she tricked us, they took us in, drugged us!” Aria’s compulsion, her bad habit, finding strays...Tatsumi felt sick to his stomach. It was too late for Sayo, Aria had strangled her to death yesterday.

“Ooze, can you save him, you filtered the poison in me can you save him?” he was crying.

“I can try, we must form a link.”

Tatsumi knew how, he kissed Ieyasu and the Ooze was able to suck the poison and toxins from his body. ‘Hey...I think I know a perfect name for you, in my village we had medicine men who used venom to counteract poisons and disease, you seem to be able to counter poison and venom, so that’d make you the ultimate venom.’

The poisons and venoms were sucked away and Ieyasu was saved but he needed some rest. ‘I’m gonna call you Venom!’ The Ooze rather liked the name. He got Sayo down.

‘What do we do with the family and guards?’

‘No mercy!’ Tatsumi transformed, Venom enhancing his muscle mass, now his face was twisted and more monstrous. Little did Tatsumi know this family was already targeted for assassination.

To be continued Rampage!

Chapter 3 Rampage

The Empire's corruption had trickled down, seeping into noble families, the higher you go the more vileness you see. Many of the old King's guards protested some of the changes and twisted acts perpetrated, but soon many accidents befell them. The new Emperor was too young and naive to know the horrors surrounding him and the hell his people were going through. To make matters worse he was being led astray by Honest.

Despite his name at his core was an immensely greedy, cruel, and sadistic man. His madness only being fueled by his cannibalism. He was a true demon, a monster who wore the mask of a calm and gentle person. He worked behind the scenes to get the young Emperor the throne, working from the shadows to twist the empire for his own selfish ends.

Honest was even approving of illegal experimentation to create strong soldiers to further strengthen his power. He found the most twisted of souls and gave them teigu to increase their power and further their brutality.

The former Prime Minister was away dealing with other countries trying to help build the empire in a productive way. Chouri was unaware of Honest's plot, or the sickening hold he had the Capital in already. Little did he know the great empire he and the former king built was rotting away.

-X-

Night Raid was a group of assassins and a resistance group trying to end the corruption and keep it from spreading. Their HQ was tracking the corruption locating targets to bring down when they could. Their current target was a noble family and the guards that facilitated their evil.

Aria's family was wicked, using their kindhearted appearance and welcoming nature to lure in unsuspecting people. Never to be seen again...alive anyway...

The family guards not only knew but assisted in covering up their horrors. Night Raid played a game of rock paper scissors to decide who would be the invading team, and who would be on the lookout/back up.

Sheele, Akame, and Leone were the lucky ones invading the mansion. Lubbock put up a string barrier around the compound with the other members of Night Raid standing by to get rid of anyone who may try to escape. They also had to keep watch to avoid any surprises.

Aria's mother was giddy, having added another entry into her diary. She kept a log of the poisons and toxins she used on her victims, and all the side effects, results, and their reactions. Like her daughter, she saw it as a hobby she can't stop, instead of the sick torture, it was. Her family even made

money selling the results to the military. Her efforts increased their ability to torture and interrogate people.

Her death happened so quickly. Sheele, a long-haired purple-haired woman, wielding a scissor blade weapon teigu, cut her in half. Her upper half was severed, she cut her arms dropping into a blood pool. “Huh?” It happened so fast, her brain didn’t even realize she was dead until she hit the floor.

Sheele gave a bow. “I’m sorry!”

Leone found the father in his study. He begged for his life, even using his daughter as a card to save his own skin. “No worries you’ll be seeing her soon.”

“Even my daughter? You’ll show no mercy?”

Leone laughed. Hearing mercy come from this sick bastard’s lips was truly laughable. This man beat men to death to vent his frustrations, who took honest and kind heart men in drugged them, and used them as his own personal punching bags. He robbed this world of more light, much-needed light.

His crimes ran deeper than that, but Leone didn’t have all night to list them all. So she crushed the man’s skull to put an end to him.

Aria was rescued by the guards and taken out of the mansion. They planned to bring her to the shed, there was a panic room there where she’d be kept safe. The shed was reinforced, to

begin with. Akame had killed most of the guards already, there were only three left.

“It’s over, you shall be killed!” The guards tried to keep her at bay with their guns, but it was a losing battle. In more ways than one.

The shed doors burst open and a hulking monster emerged. “Wha...what is that thing?!” the men screamed.

“Not a target...unknown entity!” Akame backed off as the monster stepped out, growling and trembling with rage.

“Ah aaahhh!” One of the men shot at the creature, but the bullets didn’t do a thing. Its body makeup made such projectiles useless, sinking into the vast array of ooze not even reaching Tatsumi’s body. He extended his claw.

Ooze shot from the palm and grabbed the gun and the guard’s arms. “Waaaahhh!” He was hauled in and his gun was crushed.

“**ENEMY!**” he growled.

“M-m-monster!” One of the men attacked Tatsumi with a sword. Venom slammed the guy he grabbed into the man with a sword. He did it again and again, the guy with the sword was beaten to death, but the guy with the gun was still alive, bloody but alive.

With a flick of the wrist, he was sent flying into a tree. His body broke with a sick crack. Night Raid couldn't believe their eyes, watching this creature go nuts. "That must be a teigu!"

"I've never seen such a monster!" Lubbock gasped.

"I can take it out!" A pink-haired girl named Mine said.

"Easy, that thing may not be our enemy, let's not make it one." a guy clad in armor said.

Venom crushed the remaining guard leaving Aria alone.

"Who...What...Are you?" The ooze pulled back to reveal Tatsumi's face. "Tatsumi-kun?" His eyes were cold. Leone came back just in time to see the young lad's face.

'No way!' The ooze pulled back over him and Venom spoke.

"YOU HURT OUR FRIENDS, YOU TRIED TO POISON US, YOU KILLED SAYO!" To name a few, that shed had the long time dead and the recently dead.

Aria pretended to be innocent. "It's a lie! I didn't know there was a place like this!" she turned on the crocodile tears.

"Please Tatsumi, I saved you, I helped you, I swear I had no idea."

"She's lying!" Leone stepped up. She actually wanted to recruit Tatsumi if she ran into him again. Leone felt bad for

trying to steal from him before but was surprised that he was able to turn the tables on her.

“WE KNOW!” He growled. Aria gasped and backed away, her true colors came up.

“So what!?” She snapped. “You’re just worthless hicks from the country, right?!” She saw them as cattle. “I should be allowed to treat you however I want!” She hated Sayo, especially just because Sayo was prettier than her, and had better natural hair than her.

“This is the darkness lurking in the empire!”

“Eliminate...” Akame said.

“NO...SHE’S ALREADY DEAD!” with one swipe of his claws he killed Aria. Her death was slow and painful, choking on her own blood. Leone was impressed, Akame didn’t care.

Venom roared, Tatsumi’s anger and despair running through him. He grabbed a nearby tree, pulled it up from its roots, and threw it into the mansion. “He’s lost it, we should end him!”

“Akame wait!” The girl charged and tried to slash the guy, her curse spread along the ooze. “Shit!”

The spider mark above his crotch glowed and drew the curse in nullifying it. “Whoa!”

“ARE YOU OUR ENEMY?”

“No, we are good. Rage it out big guy we’ll look after your friend and clean up here.” Venom tore into the mansion.

“What are you up to?” Akame asked.

“I owed him one, besides sometimes you need to vent.” One of his friends may have survived but the other had died. “He must feel awful.”

Sheele couldn’t believe there were any survivors with how the mother was poisoning them. “This guy has an interesting teigu. I think we need him on our side. He’s got potential.”

Akame just sighed. “Mission complete.”

She had good instincts, as Venom’s rampage made it look like a danger beast did all this. He was tearing through walls as slime tendrils smashed and whipped about. A good cover for Night Raid. Tatsumi returned after wrecking the mansion, he finished off with the shed destroying the tools they had used in their evil. Slime tentacles whipped out and the place crumbled.

Poor guy was exhausted and the ooze receded. Not only healing poison three times, plus going into berserker mode. Tears fell down his cheeks. ‘Sayo....I’m sorry...’ Before he could pass out he felt himself get picked up. “Huh wha...HEY!”

“You are coming with us little man, you and your friend!”

“EHHH!”

“You really impressed me. So you are gonna join Night Raid!”

“What...no...let me go...” He tried to struggle but his body was wiped. Even Venom was tired, they both needed time to recover. These people didn’t appear to be threats to them. He saw Ieyasuwas with them, alive but unconscious as well.

“That was quite the show little man, you didn’t let your rage consume you.” the guy in the armor said. “Good job!”

“Are we really bringing this scary guy along?” Lubbock asked.

“Yep, I’ll vouch for him.” Leone said. “You can call me Big Sister!”

“Sorry partner, I went a little crazy, we won’t be moving for a while.” Venom told him. Tatsumi fell asleep, when he’d come to he’d be at the secret base for Night Raid.

To be continued

Chapter 4 Night Raid

Tatsumi and Ieyasu were brought to the nearest Night Raid base. The two slept like the dead, after everything they went through it was no surprise. Tatsumi had dreams of Ieyasu and Sayo, growing up, their training together, the good times and bad. Sayo was often like their big sister always pulling them out of trouble. Now she was gone...

When the two finally came to, they were in a daze. A dark mourning period. Sometimes they felt they could see her or hear her, only for it to be a vision. Sayo was given a nice burial and grave near the base. The trio had felt so invincible, with one gone it shook them to their core. The two hadn't spoken or eaten, the Night Raid agents kept their distance out of respect.

These three were innocents having so much taken from them in an instant. They had walked into a den of beasts without even knowing it. Their innocent world was shattered into pieces and filled to the brim with twisted horrors no one should see.

The duo stood at Sayo's grave.

"Tatsumi...you aren't gonna die on me right?" Ieyasu was shaking. He had been so close to death but he had hung on and survived. Tatsumi held him.

“No, I’m not gonna die, I don’t think Venom will let me.”

Venom had saved their lives, a miracle given the cruelty of this world. “I know you won’t die, you are a survivor!”

Ieyasu cried and clung to Tatsumi for dear life. They had lost Sayo and had fallen into a trap that had meant to kill them all.

It was a lot to take in, they felt regret, anger, guilt, pain, loss, sadness, and other emotions that just made everything so hard to process. Night Raid gave them space, three days since they woke up. Leone went to cheer the boys up and bring them into the fold. “Buck up boys, do I have an opportunity for you two.”

They got dragged into the base. “You boys should join Night Raid!”

“What?!” Tatsumi gasped.

“Are you kidding me?” Ieyasu gasped.

“Well your friend here has a teigu, that means he’s got an in. If you are as skilled as him, I’m sure the boss will accept you. We’ll train you both to be the best killers around!”

“Killers?!” They struggled to get away, but Leone was just too strong.

The base was up in the mountains, it was quite large. Leone took it upon herself to show the boys around the compound. They bumped into Sheele. “How you boys doing?”

“Fine, I guess.”

“As good as we can be.”

“Oh, dear was that not the right thing to say?” She checked her book. “I’m sorry.” The two blinked at her. “Have you decided to join Night Raid?”

“They haven’t yet, why not give them some words of encouragement.”

“Hmm...okay...” she pointed at them. “Tatsumi, you have a teigu you either join us or we’ll have to kill you and take it. Ieyasu you know where our base is if you don’t join we’ll have to kill you!” Their jaws dropped.

‘Is she nuts?!’

“That was so encouraging it brought tears to my eyes,” Ieyasu said.

Leone was laughing herself silly. She did have a point. Sheele went back to her book. *How Not To Be An Airhead...*

‘She’s totally crazy!’

Another girl burst in, she had pink hair in twin tails. “Hold it, Leone!” She protested the guys being here. “The one with the teigu I can understand he’s worth something, but for him...” She pointed at Ieyasu. “He’s worthless I can see it on his face.”

“Hey!” Ieyasu snapped. “What’s your deal?”

“Don’t be mad, Mine’s like that with everyone.” Mine huffed.

“Look even if I have a teigu, Ieyasu is my friend and we are both skilled warriors.”

“Oh, well if you two can stand up to Bulat you might survive a day.” She laughed.

“Who’s Bulat?” The two shared a look.

-X-

“Hut! Hut! Hut! Hut!” A large muscular man was training. He was shirtless, the sun glistening off his amazing pecs, his rock-hard abs, and fabulous back muscles. The man was a lean, mean, fighting machine. When he noticed Leone approaching with Tatsumi and Ieyasu approaching he cranked up the exercises to the max. “WHOAAAHHHH!”

“And there is Bulat, stinking of sweat.”

“Whoa, he’s so strong!”

“Look at his form amazing!” He handled his weighted training weapon expertly. He was working up a nice sweat, it made his muscles glisten, and he gave off a nice manly aroma.

“He’s just showing off.”

“Ahh Leone and the young lads.” Bulat greeted warmly. He grabbed a towel and began to dry himself off. Bulat came

over to greet the young men. “How are you boys holding up?”

“Having each other helps.”

“Yeah.” Tatsumi holds Ieyasu’s hand. The duo did have a warm glow about them.

“That’s true having comrades to lean on when you are going through loss is a big help,” Bulat spoke from experience. “My name is Bulat, but you can call me Big Bro!” He hugged the two. “My room will be open for you two, come to me if you have any troubles.”

“Oh um thanks!” Tatsumi got out, while Ieyasu was smothered by Bulat’s massive pecs.

“How about a bath guys? We have amazing hot springs!”

“A bath does sound nice.”

“Yeah, you boys get clean, the boss should be coming back soon.” Leone said.

“A bath is the perfect thing, to relax the body and mind!” He scooped the two up and carried them on his broad shoulders.

“Let’s go!”

The guys stripped and rinsed off before hitting the hot springs. They ran across Lubbock. He was spread eagle in the bath. “Yo!” He winked.

“Sup Lubbock!”

“Gah...wasn’t it Leone’s turn for the bath?” He covered himself.

“Still got a death wish,” Bulat said with a laugh.

“Nonsense, the girls will fall for my natural charisma!” Bulat sighed. Lubbock was cute and all, but none of the girls here were attracted to him that way. The guys got in and shared a sigh of delight.

“How’s your scary teigu?” Lubbock asked.

“Ah Venom, the poor guy has an upset stomach. Eating diseases upsets his tummy, he said he’ll be fine in a couple more days.”

“Tell him I appreciate it,” Ieyasu said. “I can’t believe there was a creature inside that idol!”

“Not a creature a teigu!”

“A living teigu, quite rare.” Bulat pointed out.

“You turned into a real monster though, that must be your Ultimate Trick!”

“I guess so, I don’t really know much about Venom, we haven’t been together long.”

“I’d be happy to help train you Tatsumi!” Bulat said with a wink.

Lubbock gave them a run-down of teigu and how they work.

“So that means there could be a teigu that can save Sayo?”

Ieyasu got all excited. “We just need to find it Tatsumi.”

“Ieyasu!” Bulat snapped. He had a serious look on his handsome face. “There is no teigu that can bring back the dead! Life is a precious gift...if such a thing existed the previous emperor would not be gone today.”

“But...” he teared up. Tatsumi hugged Ieyasu.

“I think we’ve relaxed enough let’s go.” The two got out.

“Nice going!” Lubbock said.

“He needs to know, it might seem harsh, but they must reach acceptance if they are gonna move past this.” Lubbock felt bad for those guys.

Bulat wasn’t heartless, he was in their shoes once, he was bright-eyed and innocent. He was dragged into the kingdom’s corruption and when he tried to stand against it...well there was a lot of innocent blood on his hands.

-X-

Tatsumi and Ieyasu had a long talk, Akame gave them some food and let them rest some more. They were called to meet the leader of Night Raid Najenda. “So boys, are you going to be joining us, or will you not leave this room alive?”

The boys were quiet. “I know we might seem scary, but we have an important job to do.” She looked at Tatsumi.

“Tatsumi, you have bonded with a teigu so you have some special exception. Of course, I’ve been made aware it’s not active right now, so I trust you’ll be cooperative.”

“We talked it over.”

“And we’ll be joining Night Raid!”

“Yes!” Leone cheered.

“You can’t be serious captain!?” Mine protested. “Akame talk some sense into her.”

“Don’t care!”

“Akame!”

“Welcome to the family you two!” Sheele said.

“You two joined up faster than I thought. Not that I’m complaining.”

“We talked, we can’t revive Sayo, but we can keep something like what happened to her from happening again.” It was true, the twisted family wouldn’t lure in innocent travelers anymore to be killed.

“This is a job right, which means we can earn pay?” Tatsumi asked.

“That’s right.”

“We want to send money back to our home village to support it,” Tatsumi said and Ieyasu nodded.

“You know it’ll be dangerous, without a teigu you might die.”

“I’m gonna have Tatsumi’s back, and he’ll have mine. We’ll survive, and work to bring down those bastards!”

“Very well, it’s a deal. If we run across a teigu that matches you, you can have it. You both will begin training to be top assassins of Night Raid.”

To be continued

Chapter 5 Path of Carnage

The group didn't really have time to celebrate. Lubbock freaked out. "Intruders!" He shouted.

Najenda was calm. "What are their numbers and locations?" She asked.

"From the reaction of my barrier, it's probably 8 people!" Lubbock reported. "They've infiltrated close to the hideout."

"They're good to sniff out this place means...they're probably mercenaries of another clan." She got a cigarette and lit it.

"There's no other way...Emergency State! Don't let any of them return alive!"

The air in the room turned sinister in a second, the orders were given and like a switch was flipped, they were ready to kill. Tatsumi and Ieyasu could feel it; chills running up their spines. 'These are the assassins of Night Raid...' Tatsumi gulped.

'I can feel their pressure, these guys are pros.' Ieyasu sweats.

"Go!" Mine rushed off to get into position, as a sniper she had to set up. Akame rushed off ready for the fight. The others scattered in different directions.

Venom was still in stasis, but Tatsumi wasn't without skills. Tatsumi and Ieyasu follow Bulat, trusting him out of the others. "You boys wanna come with me?"

“Yes sir!” They said.

“Drop the sir, you don’t need to be so formal. You can call me Big Bro or Handsome!” He winked.

“Okay, Big Bro!” He was a nice guy.

“All Right!” Bulat got pumped up. “Allow me to show you something cool.” He skids to a halt. “Stand back a bit!” He activated Incursio and became clad in armor.

Ieyasu was shocked. “Whoa!” Tatsumi exclaimed.

“That’s cool!” Ieyasu said.

“This is my teigu Incursio!” He declared. He spun his weapon around, showing his skill with it. “It is an armor-type teigu, it enhances the user's speed, strength, and agility, while also being a great source of defense. There are all different kinds of teigu with different abilities, but never forget a teigu is only as good as its wielder. Some teigu masters have been able to get their weapons to evolve or draw out new powers.” Bulat explained.

“Oh man, I’m so jealous I want a teigu!” Ieyasu said.

“Be vigilant and keep an open mind, if we come across a teigu you can try to synchronize with it, if you bond with one it’s yours!” Bulat explained further, patting the young man on the shoulder.

Bulat was taking charge of these two.

-X-

Akame located three intruders by the river. The trio were arrogant. “If she’s here means their hideout is somewhere around here...it was worth searching this far out!”

“What a cute girl.” The largest one said.

“Looks like we can have some fun with her before we kill her!” The middle one said. The third drew his weapon, but Akame was already moving, with her assassin skill she zipped past them, a slashing sound penetrating the air.

“Ah...”

“Huh?” Their throats were slit.

“You guys are too relaxed in enemy territory.”

“How could that...” Blood gushed from his neck.

“She’s too...fast...” The middle choked out.

“Shit!” The third one covered his wound with one hand and held his weapon in the other. He watched his friends collapse dead on the ground. “I’ll take you down with me!” His heart pulsed and his eyes widened.

From his wound markings spread through his body. “Poison? No...some kind of curse from the wound...” Akame sheathed her sword, the teigu Murasame.

“One slash certain kill.” The killer was dead in a second, joining in his comrades in the afterlife. Their deaths triggered the others. Each of these assassins wore a smiley face badge, that would alert the team should they fall.

One of the killers made a run for it. ‘It seems our infiltration was noticed, my brothers in arms may have fallen, but this means their hideout is nearby. That information alone is worth a fortune!’ He moved swiftly. ‘I’ll survive and report back to the empire!’

Mine had him in her sights tracking him with her gun-like teigu Pumpkin.

One of the killers found her and lunged at her. “Gotcha!” He called, machete drawn.

“You really shouldn’t give yourself away before attacking.” Mine didn’t even move. A giant pair of scissors came swinging in slashing through the enemy and slicing him in two. “Nice job Sheele.”

Her weapon Cutter of Creation: Extase, a teigu with tremendous cutting power, is believed to be able to slice through anything.

Mine got back to work because she was in danger for a moment, Pumpkin’s power increased. The gun Roman Artillery: Pumpkin boosts in power when the owner is in a pinch. With one shot she fired a concentrated beam of energy

that turned the running enemy to ash. “Nice pinch, right on target!”

Leone heard the gunshot from where she was. She was currently sitting on her opponent who she beat the hell out of. The man’s arms and legs were broken and his face was swollen and purple. “Oh looks like Mine got one, I don’t know how she uses that bothersome teigu.” She flexed her claws. “I turn into a beast and beat my enemy to death...easy to understand right?”

Her opponent coughed up some blood in response. Her teigu was The King of Beasts Transformation: Lionel. She crushed the guy’s skull to make sure he was down for the count.

Lubbock had his own prey. He had caught a woman trying to slip in through some cave tunnels. Too bad for her the tunnels were lined with traps set up by his teigu, Infinite Uses: Cross Tail. “Aww too bad.”

“Please...save me...spare me...I’ll do anything!” She batted her lashes. “I promise, if you let me go, I’ll do anything you ask of me.” Lubbock didn’t say anything. “You can have me...I’ll gladly please you...just please don’t kill me...”

Her words seemed genuine, her tone held the right mix of panic, desperation, and seduction. While her pretty face masked her true intentions. ‘This little loser must be a virgin, I can trick him into bed and finish him off.’ She had a false

tooth containing a poison that'd mix with her saliva, a kiss, a bite, oral or even eating him out would have the same effect. He would die and she'd escape.

“You'll let me go won't you?” She batted her lashes once more. Lubbock's face turned cold.

“Nooope.” The wire threads holding her body tightened, cutting into her body. Lubbock tightened the threads more. “I knew a guy who died by seduction. You are cute but I'm not stupid.”

“No...damn it...damn it....gaaaahhh!” Her death came and Lubbock dropped her to the floor.

“Ah, what a waste! This occupation can be so cruel.” Lubbock left the caves.

Tatsumi and Ieyasu were tasked with guarding the last route out of the area. “This is a total newbie role.” Ieyasu groaned.

“I know he told us to guard this spot but it does feel like we are just put in the corner to stay out of the way.”

“Is the enemy really gonna come through this way?” Ieyasu asked. The universe answered as the boss of the group came charging through the brush freezing at the sight of the two.

“So they had someone stationed even here!” He took a fighting stance as Tatsumi and Ieyasu bolted up, weapons

drawn. The enemy was wearing an animal mask, he was larger and muscular and carried a machete-like weapon.

“We can’t let you pass!” Tatsumi had a sword, while Ieyasu was dual-wielding blades. Tatsumi had killed someone before, but Ieyasu was conflicted. This wasn’t like killing a danger beast or some monster, this man was human. Ieyasu didn’t know it but even Tatsumi held some kind of hesitance.

When he killed before he was full of resentment and anger. Despite their doubts, one thought rang true for them. ‘If I hesitate here...I’ll die...’ Their grip on their weapons tightened.

“To think Night Raid would hire children to do its dirty work. You both seem around the age of my own kid.” He hesitated for a moment. “Why don’t you boys run off somewhere, say you never found me. I’d hate to have to kill you.”

“Not gonna happen!” Tatsumi said.

“Do you even know who you are working for?”

“Do you!?” Ieyasu snapped. “You are working for the empire, do you not realize what they are doing?” The man chuckled.

“Looks like there’s no talking my way out of this one.” He drew his weapon, and his aura flared. “Even though you’re both young, I won’t hold back.” His killing intent was fierce.

“You should have let me go when you had the chance!”

-X-

“I wonder if the newbies are dead.” Mine pondered.

“I don’t think it will be a problem. One of them crossed blades with Akame after all.” Sheele said.

“Well that’s true, one might have potential given he has a teigu, but the other one...he might be just dead weight.” Mine huffed.

“I think both of them are quite strong, judging from how close they are the two share years of experience together. It’s likely their friend was also quite strong, and had they not been deceived they’d have made a powerful team together.”

“It’s rare for you to evaluate someone.” Sheele nodded.

“Both of them have experienced loss, and one had survived a terrible ordeal. Even the most trained fighters will grow even further when the conditions are hard enough. Akame told me, that fighting Tatsumi, that he’s a cluster of potential. If his friend is equally skilled then the two will become quite powerful in their own right, but together...”

-X-

Tatsumi and Ieyasu fought in perfect sync, the guy stood no chance against their teamwork. He was slashed left and right and thrown back from their combo. “How’s that...” Tatsumi glared.

“The three of us worked hard...” Ieyasu snapped.

“THESE ARE THE MOVES WE BUILT UP!!!” Tatsumi short-range, Ieyasu mid-range, capable of supporting Tatsumi or defending Sayo, and Sayo was long-range. Their combos made it so they could bring down danger beasts they couldn’t fight alone.

The two weren’t even out of breath. “I beg you...let me go...if I die my village...my family will...” The two tensed. Ieyasu’s hand was trembling.

‘He’s doing this for his hometown just like us.’ Ieyasu thought. ‘But...’

Tatsumi felt his resolve waver for a moment, the murderous look in his eyes softening. “Hahaha, you’re too naive, I’ll have you die for my clan!” He lunged at Tatsumi, his blade swinging towards him.

The brunette was caught off guard but Ieyasu blocked his attack. “Never again...I won’t lose someone again!” Tatsumi and Ieyasu killed the man, but the death weighed heavily on them.

Akame and Bulat watched from afar. “Seems like they did it.”

“It’s not enough, they cannot be allowed to waver.” Bulat eyed the two boys, they had been dragged into this darkness, this blood-soaked path of carnage.

“They remind me of myself when I was younger.”

“You can’t protect them, not from this.” Bulat couldn’t help but chuckle.

“You are always so sharp.”

-X-

Everyone came back to the base Ieyasu and Tatsumi was more shaken up than the others. They had all killed their targets, the invaders were completely wiped out but they were in higher spirits. Ieyasu was dealing with the impact of taking a life, Tatsumi was dealing with his own issues, reflecting upon his weakness and hesitation nearly cost him his life.

They had tried to beat their opponent not kill him, they wavered when they realized he was much like them. What happens if he was lying, or they encounter someone who lies, or worse they telling the truth. The weight of being assassins was heavy on their souls. Bulat and Leone started drinking, food was brought out and they seemed to celebrate a job well done.

“Nice job you two, not bad for your first battle,” Najenda told them.

“Y-yeah...” Tatsumi said, rubbing his arm comfortingly.

“Thank you, ma’am.” Ieyasu was shaken up.

“I’ve listened to Akame’s and Bulat’s report and there are things I’m uneasy about.” She pointed at them. “You two are skilled fighters yes, but there are skills and elements you lack. You have much to learn and not a lot of time to learn it.”

“Yes...” They said.

“Listen well, if you both can’t handle this you will die. You both want to survive right?”

Sayo crossed their minds, and the two looked at each other.

“Yes!”

“Then steel yourselves, there will be good days and bad, but as long as you keep fighting and surviving there will be more days to be had at all.” They’d each be put with different members of Night Raid to learn from them. Akame was first.

“Akame get these boys in top shape.”

“Uh-huh...”

‘Just like that?’ Tatsumi thought.

“You can cut them down if they can’t keep up.”

“Uh-huh...”

‘Does she really get it?’ Ieyasu thought. The two stared at her and she got really protective of the meat she was carrying around.

“It’s mine go get your own!”

‘She’s crazy!!’ The two thought.

To be continued

Volume Preview: Tatsumi and Ieyasu are tasked with their first assassination. Ogre the Demon is the next big target. Venom is back in action but this guy isn’t a push over. Ieyasu and Tatsumi get intimate after some down time.