



The Roses of Oshiro Village

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Nakamura and his daughters:

Nakamura: The natural father of Aisareta and adopted sire of the other five, Nakamura is a skilled fighter turned devout pacifist and peacemaker. His joy is his daughters.

Shiro Bara: (*White Rose*) With the departure of Aisareta, is the defacto leader of the sisters. Level headed and wise for her age.

Pinkuro Bara: (*Pink Rose*) Twin Sister of Orenji, Pinkuro is a happy go lucky optimist who is very loving and universally adored by her sisters.

Orenji Bara: (*Orange Rose*) Twin sister of Pinkuro, Orenji is much more a realist. Sarcastic and sometimes unpleasant she is often the voice or reason.

Akai Bara: (*Red Rose*) Akai is a bit special... she is an extremely talented fighter but prone to psychotic breaks when she feels threatened or intimidated.

Kiiroi Bara: (*Yellow Rose*) Kiiroi is a dreamer and believer in prophecy. She reads the skies, cards and tea leaves.

Aisareta: (*Beloved Rose*) The natural daughter of Nakamura is several years older than the others. She is sempai (senior) in training but has a weakness for power and is able to be influenced. She is impatient and quick to temper.

The Villains, aka the Nekuromansa:

Hitsumi Pesuto: (*The Necromancer*) The leader of the Nekuromansa, the governing body of the land. Has power over the dead and revitalizes herself every decade by consuming one of her apprentices.

Kuroi-Akuma: (*The Demon*) A creature from the Nether who enjoys meddling with this plane of existence. Supernaturally powerful and sadistic.

Awaishi: (*The Pale Hand of Death, aka the Assassin*) A bringer of death from the shadows. A professional killer.

Yin and Yang: (*Light and Dark*) Twins and extremely powerful. Skilled fighters who are supernaturally strong. Very aware of their power and boastful.

Tadeki: (*The Zombie*) A villager turned zombie. Resents being undead and only serves the Nekuromansa because he has to.

In the Village

Kenja: The village “wise” man and old friend of Nakamura.

Waitress 1 and 2: Waitresses at the local tavern.

Tokumura: An ancient priest of the region

Acolyte: Tokumura’s assistant

Kaname and Itsuke: villagers and tavern regulars.

The Roses of Oshiro Village premeired at Laney High School in a run from May 1st 2019 to May 4th. The original cast is as follows:

Nakamura: Hyrum Van Slyke

Shiro Bara: Ana Stinson

Pinkuro Bara: Olivia Buffkin

Orenji Bara: Arabella Grigley

Akai Bara: Lexi Gates

Kiiroi Bara: Jasmine Jones

Aisareta: Allie Pooley

Hitsumi Pesuto: Killian Spangler

Kuroi-Akuma: Josh McGhee

Awaishi: Alex Vitamvas

Yin and Yang: Vincent Costagliola and Nate Contreras

Tadeki: Devin Phillips

Kenja: Bella Myers

Waitress 1 and 2: Cassidy Fitz-Randolph and Autumn Lee-Reed

Tokumura: Clarence McGillicuddy

Acolyte: Antanazia Ellerby

Kaname and Itsuke: Antanazia Ellerby and Layla Quinn

Granddaughters: Autumn Ash, Zayda Chatfield and Jordan Harris

Directors Note: This play is performed out of sequence, as the story unfolds in a non-linear fashion a la Quentin Tarantino. For our run, we had a TV in our theatre that would show the timeline for audience ease. For example, when the show was ten years in the past the screen would read “Ten Years before the Death of Nakamura.” Everything was based off the timeline of his death. Also, while this show most certainly has a Japanese flavor, it does not need to be portrayed with accents or by Asian born actors.

(Lights up... We Are in the middle of a confrontation as four teen girls square off against a single foe. Kuroi Akuma, the black demon is extremely powerful but the girls are prepared)

Kuroi-Akuma; You dare challenge me in my own temple?
(thunder) You march into my dwelling and think you are going to vanquish me as easily as you did the simple minded fools who came before? NEVER! *(thunder)* I will rip apart your flesh and feast on your hearts! I will destroy you piece by piece and when I am finished I will do the same to everyone you have ever loved! You will live just long enough to understand the stupidity of crossing the black demon! Prepare yourselves for death!! *(Thunder)*

Akai: *(deadpan, deadly serious)* Are you threatening me?

(there is a beat)

Kuroi-Akuma: *(trying to build again)* You challenge me in my own temple...

Akai: It's a simple question black head. Are. You. Threatening. Me?

Kuroi-Akuma: *(with a little less energy...to Shiro)* Is she serious?

Shiro: It's her thing... being threatened. *(she shrugs)*

Akai: Answer the question!

Kuroi-Akuma: Of course I'm threatening you!

Akai: *(energetically)* Then it's on!

(Kuroi-Akuma looks to the others who all just kinda shrug and get into a fighting stance)

Kuroi-Akuma: I will enjoy swallowing your souls!

Pinkuro: *(thinking aloud)* We've heard that before haven't we?

Orenji: *(reminding her)* The Assassin.

Pinkuro: *(yeah!)* That's right. The ninja told me that right before Akai stabbed her through the chest!

Kuroi-Akuma: Silence!! *(thunder)* Within me lies the power of all of the souls I have robbed of their existence! There are many within me, and can be forced to serve me! *(the lights go out and when they come back on there are three more dressed just like the black demon)*

(All four now speak)

Kuroi-Akuma: When we have finished with you...you too will join us!

Orenji: We didn't plan on four of them!

Akai: *(ready to fight)* We have them right where we want them now!

Shiro: We only have one pair of gloves!

Akai: A technicality!

(the three demons fan out)

Shiro: How's that a technicality??

Akai: *(rushing to Kuroi-Akuma)* Then I'll just have to make this quick!

(and the fight starts... Each of the demons is squared off against one of the teen girls. This fight sequence will have a very animated "kung fu" feel to it but will not be in slow motion, as that will be a vehicle for several moments later on. At first, the demons are clearly getting the best of the girls)

Pinkuro: *(as she hits the ground next to Orenji)* They hit hard!

Orenji: *(as Akai and Shiro hit the ground in their area)* Understatement.

(at this all four girls are in the center of the stage surrounded by the four demons.)

Shiro: *(in a whisper)* I wonder if we have to kill all four?

Orenji: What?

Shiro: I wonder if we have to kill all four?

Akai: *(misunderstanding)* I agree. I think we should kill all four.

Pinkuro: I wonder if we can?

(The demons laugh)

Shiro: But I wonder if we have to?

Orenji: Have to what?

Shiro: Kill all four!

Akai: Great plan! Let's kill all four! *(she jumps up and the fight starts again)*

(the fighting continues for a second with Akai getting more and more agitated...finally she breaks through Kuroi-Akuma's defense and lands a clear strike. When she does all four demons shudder)

Shiro: What was that?

Akai: Didn't like that too much did you?

Kuroi-Akuma: *(all four)* You wear gloves blessed by Tokumura!

Akai: Not just ANY gloves... but the LAST gloves to be blessed by Tokumura!

Orenji: I don't think he needs to know that much...

Kuroi-Akuma: The old fool is dead?? How?

Pinkuro: *(not thinking)* Akai killed him.

(all four demons look confused)

Akai: It was an accident! *(sheepishly)* I apologized!

Kuroi-Akuma: *(just the one speaking)* That old man has vexed me for a generation. For his death, I would have rewarded you, but you had the nerve to come here and challenge me. For this you shall die!

Akai: Are you threatening me??

Kuroi-Akuma: Yes!

Akai: I thought so!

Kuroi-Akuma: *(contemplative)* But answer me this. Why would you seek your certain death at my hands?

Pinkuro: You killed our family!

Orenji: our whole village. Everyone.

Kuroi-Akuma: What village? Wait... you are from Oshiro? *(thinking)* The prophecy...

Shiro: We now know all about the prophecy, Kuroi-Akuma.

Orenji: And we've come to fulfill it.

Kuroi-Akuma: *(all four)* That prophecy died with your village!

Shiro: We shall see.

(The fighting starts again but as the fight progresses and Akai starts to land more shots on Kuroi-Akuma the other demons lose power and collapse. Eventually it is only Kuroi-Akuma and Akai in the center fighting. The others start to help her)

Akai: Stay back, he's mine!

Kuroi-Akuma: You will die just like your family!

(the action stops, they are breathing hard)

Akai: Maybe so. But you're going first.

(At this Akai uses the blessed gloves to grab a hold of Kuroi-Akuma's head... there is thunder as Kuroi-Akuma tries to shake the grasp. There is a build and then as Kuroi-Akuma strikes Akai in the abdomen with both hands there is an explosion. The two are blown away from each other. Akai is on her back, as is the demon. The demon starts to rise, but as Shiro blocks his path, the demon collapses.)

Kuroi-Akuma: My death doesn't change a thing. It doesn't bring your village back.

Shiro: Perhaps not. But you killed my father. Now, you will never kill again.

(Black out. When the lights come up we are in the training hall where the four girls, as well as Kiiroi and Aisareta are working through a martial arts form. As they finish in unison)

Aisareta: *(correcting)* Pinkuro, stay together.

Pinkuro: Sorry Aisa! *(Aisareta gives her a stern look)* Sorry Senpai!

Aisareta: There is no beauty in this form without unity!

Kiiroi: I think there can be beauty in chaos...

Aisareta: But not in kata! *(harshly)* Not in training! If we can't count on discipline in kata, can we count on it in combat?

Akai: We're hardly ever in combat!

Aisareta: *(to them all)* Do you think you're ready for violence?

Akai: *(exuberant)* YES!!

Aisareta: Someone other than Akai.

Akai: What's wrong with Akai?

Aisareta: More things than I can list.

Akai: Are you threatening me?

Orenji: Here we go again...

Shiro: *(defusing)* I think you can be ready for violence without desiring it.

(Akai makes a pssshhh sound)

Aisareta: *(thinking)* Maybe so. But to be ready for violence, one must have discipline. Discipline and unity.

(Nakamura has entered. He is listening but they do not see him)

Pinkuro: I have a question, senpai.

Aisareta: What is it?

Pinkuro: Father is a renown fighter yet he hates to fight, preferring peace. He spends as much time painting and singing as he does training for war. Is that a lack of discipline?

Aisareta: Sensei has his own way of doing things. Although they are not the way I would..

(Nakamura interrupts)

Nakamura: What Aisareta is trying to say is that you must train hard, with focus and discipline in order to be ready for violence if the

time comes. It is better to be ready and never need your skill than to need it and not have trained hard enough.

Aisareta: *(with some sarcasm)* Nice of you to join us Sensei.

Nakamura: I was in no hurry daughter. I know you will teach your little sisters in the way with no assistance from me. *(to Pinkuro)* I may or may not have finished baking that cake I was hungry for this morning.

Pinkuro: You didn't!

Nakamura: Maybe, just today, preparing something my girls would enjoy was more important than training.

Aisareta: Nothing is more important than training!

Akai: Absolutely! *(smelling the air)* Did you make the one with the strawberries and sweet cream?

Nakamura: I did.

Orenji: You told us you the market had no strawberries!

Nakamura: I did?

Orenji and Akai: You did!

Nakamura: Ahh. *(thoughtfully)* I see. Well... I lied.

Orenji: Well played, Oyagi.

Kiironi: I knew you were up to something.

Nakamura: Did you read it in the skies?

Kiironi: Maybe... or maybe I looked through your market purchases!

Nakamura: I will hide them better next time!

Akai: *(she bows deeply)* While training is always important, in this I submit to your wisdom and think a break is appropriate.

Nakamura: I thought you might. May we adjourn this conversation to the dinner table?

(the five rush out excitedly as Aisareta stays behind)

Nakamura: *(seeing she is staying behind)* Not coming daughter?

Aisareta: I don't like cake.

Nakamura: *(laughing)* Since when?

Aisareta: It is better to stay and train longer.

Nakamura: *(joking)* Who are you trying to stay tiny for? Which of those boys do I have to go threaten?

Aisareta: No one! I have no time for that.

Nakamura: You should make more time for that. Had I known how brief a time I would have to hold your mother, I wouldn't have found time to train at all. Speaking of your mother...she sure did like cake. *(dreamily)* But it only showed in the places men want it to. *(pause)* She had a big back yard.

Aisareta: Father!

Nakamura: *(snapping back to it)* Yes Aisa?

Aisareta: I need to train. *(she stands up)* I need to be ready.

Nakamura: Alright. We will make sure to save you some for when you change your mind.

(Aisareta is already moving through her form again)

Part 1: Yin and Yang.

(When the lights come on several men and women are having drinks at a village pub. A pair of very harried waitresses fret over the customers)

Tadeki: What does a man have to do to get a refill here?

Waitress 1: So sorry, Tadeki-san. Let me get that right now.

(She takes his drink to refill it's contents)

Tadeki: *(continuing the conversation)* I tell you, something has to be done!

Kaname: You like to say that so loud when you think no one is listening!

Tadeki: Taxes on this! Tariffs on that! *(he was getting louder and then realized the waitresses were listening and quieted)* I am just saying that something has to be done.

Kaname: You need to be more careful with your words!

Tadeki: Or what?

(The waitress returns with the drink)

Waitress 1: Here you are Tadeki-san.

Tadeki: Arigato.

Kaname: People go missing all of the time and I don't want to wake up one morning needing to find myself a new bamboo supplier!

Tadeki: If things don't change there will be no supply left to distribute! Nekuromansa is driving me into poverty!

(at the word Nekuromansa everyone goes quiet)

Kaname: You can't go around saying that!

Tadeki: What? That the illustrious Pesuto-san deals in the unliving? *(everyone else is uncomfortable)* It's been said for decades.

(Waitress 2 approaches)

Kaname: You're going to get us in trouble!

Tadeki: Stop acting like a child.

Waitress 2: Excuse me Tadeki-san.

Tadeki: What?

Waitress 2: I am going to have to ask you to leave.

Tadeki: *(confused)* Why?

Waitress 2: You are upsetting the other customers again. We've talked about this.

Tadeki: *(Standing up)* A bunch of frightened little girls! Fine! If my being here makes you so scared... *(at this the door crashes in and two men enter. One dressed in all white, the other in all black)*

Yang: *(loudly)* Ok, which one of you is Tadeki Hirokono

(everyone is silent. No one moves)

Yin: *(more sinister)* Maybe you did not hear my brother speak. We are looking for the bamboo supplier Tadeki Hirokono.

(More silence)

Yang: *(moving around the crowd)* A little bird told us that he was here...

Yin: *(also stalking the crowd)* One of the same little birds that has listened as a certain foolish, foolish man has complained so loudly about being cheated in his business.

Yang: *(moving right up to one customer)* Do you know how hurtful it is to our sweet, wonderful...

Yin: Gentle, benevolent...

Yang: Employer to know that the men and women he protects are so ungrateful for all he does for them?

(silence)

Yin: You fine ladies and gentlemen aren't ungrateful to Pesuto are you?

(silence)

Yang: *(in a burst of anger)* Are you??

(at this all of the customers and waitresses gush with praise about Pesuto)

Yin: Silence!

(they all fall silent)

Yin: *(to his brother)* That didn't seem sincere.

Yang: *(dramatically)* And after all we do for them.

(A beat)

Yin: So which one of you is Tadeki?

(silence)

Yang: So ungrateful...

Yin: Someone is going to see Pesuto this evening to air out all of their problems face to face. Either we can all go...

Yang: Dead or alive, you know it doesn't really matter which...

Yin: Or Tadeki can go.

Yang: Because death is only as permanent as Pesuto needs it to be.

Yin: But Someone is going. *(beat)* So I ask you again, which one of you is Tadeki.

(At this every person in the establishments points right at Tadeki. At this Yin and Yang move up to him.)

Yang: *(sinisterly)* It is very nice to finally meet you.

Yin: You have an appointment with our master in 20 minutes and we can't be late.

(black out)

(when the lights come back up Shiro is alone sharpening her sword, which is her weapon of choice. She seems impatient as Kiiroi and Pinkuro walk in)

Shiro: *(not looking up)* I have been ready to leave since dawn. What is taking them so long?

Kiiroi: I wouldn't be in such a hurry to leave if I were you.

Shiro: Is that something you ready in the tea leaves?

Kiiroi: No.

Shiro: Then what?

Kiiroi: Orenji.

Pinkuro: You know how she is.

Kiiroi: You have packed like you aren't ever coming back.

Shiro: *(definitively)* I'm not.

Kiiroi: *(mysteriously)* Is that so?

Shiro: *(agitated)* Don't do that.

Kiiroi: *(innocently)* Do what?

Shiro: I guess you have seen a dream of me rebuilding our home here.

Kiiroi: Would that be so bad?

Pinkuro: You had another vision? When?

Kiiroi: *(playing)* I don't think Shiro wants to hear about it.

Shiro: I don't.

Pinkuro: I do! Please tell me what you saw!

Kiiroi: I saw you both! Here, with small children of your own!

Pinkuro: *(astonished)* You didn't!

Kiiroi: You were very happy! Orenji was there too and...

Pinkuro: You?

Kiiroi: *(avoiding that)* and you were married!

(Pinkuro squeals)

Kiiroi: To Taka Ichiro!

(Pinkuro stops)

Pinkuro: The rat catcher?

Kiiroi: A noble profession.

Pinkuro: He is almost sixty! And has no teeth! *(pause and then in disgust)* We have children?

(Kiiroi starts to laugh)

Pinkuro: You're joking right?

(Kiiroi laughs harder)

Pinkuro: Oh thank God. I was about to ask you if I appeared to have suffered a head wound in your vision.

Shiro: *(Gets up to leave)* I don't have time to waste on this.

Kiiroi: *(assuredly)* It was a vision.

Shiro: Father may have humored your visions, but he is gone and I am in no mood to laugh and won't be until his killer is dead. If our sisters ever get ready you can catch up with me on the way to Kenja!

(Shiro storms out)

Pinkuro: *(after a beat)* I don't know why she is being like this.

Kiiroi: Father's death has hurt us all. She'll come around. I've seen it.

Pinkuro: Thank you for making me laugh. These last three days I have felt like I'd never want to laugh again.

Kiiroi: Father would want us to laugh... he was so good at it himself.

Pinkuro: Kiiroi... can I ask you a question?

Kiiroi: I think I already know what you're going to ask?

Pinkuro: Seen a vision of that too?

Kiiroi: No. I just know you and you want to know why I seem the least sad over father's death.

Pinkuro: *(quickly)* It's not that I doubt you loved him, but I have done nothing but cry every time I think about him...

Kiiroi: Little sister, I miss him too, but I know I'm going to see him again. I know when I breathe my last, that Oyaji is going to be there waiting for me ready to answer all of my questions on how we are going to spend eternity and beyond together.

Pinkuro: I wish I knew that as well.

Kiiroi: He'll be waiting for you when your time comes as well. Many years from now after you have raised children and grandchildren and taught them his lessons.

(there is a gentle moment when Orenji comes in with Akai in hot pursuit)

Orenji: You know the more you harass me the longer it's going to take!

Akai: We were supposed to leave at dawn!

Orenji: Standing on the other side of the door telling me to "pinch it off" every five minutes is never, ever going to make it happen faster!

Kiiroi: Is that why we haven't left yet?

Orenji: I am a delicate flower, with a delicate digestive system!

Akai: There are plenty of places to go on the way! We are going to be in the woods! You can go anywhere!

Orenji: *(aghast)* You know damned well I will only go in a strange place if it's absolutely necessary!

Akai: We are on a mission to avenge our Father! It's necessary!

Orenji: Starting such a mission with a stomach full pain and butterflies is a bad omen! Isn't that right Kiiroi?

Kiiroi: *(taken aback)* I..uh... *(sees the look from Orenji)* Yes?

Orenji: *(to Akai)* See??

Pinkuro: Are we ready now?

Orenji: We would have been ready half an hour ago had jabberjaws just left me alone!

Akai: You had been in there all morning! I wanted a turn!

Orenji: *(raging)* I have delicate bowels!

Akai: I have heard that over and over and over *(mocking)* I have delicate bowels... *(raging)* That's all in your head! *(proudly)* I have a warriors bowels!

Pinkuro: Warriors bowels?

Akai: I can go anywhere at any time. Right now, sparring, eating dinner, I never miss a beat.

(there is a moment while all of this sinks in)

Orenji: Where's Shiro?

Akai: She had better not be in the bathroom.

Kiironi: Shiro's having a tough time. She already left for Kenja's.

Pinkuro: She's taking this hard.

Akai: That reminds me. We got a response this morning at dawn... while Shiro and I were waiting for the rest of you.

Pinkuro: From Aisa?

Akai: Hai. I'm afraid so.

Orenji: What did it say?

Akai: Our letter came back by a messenger from Nekuromansa castle. *(She hands the letter to Orenji.)*

Orenji: She didn't even open it?

(Pinkuro grabs it and reads)

Pinkuro: It's her writing on the front...it says... I have no sisters. This is not my family.

Orenji: No wonder Shiro is having such a rough time. As close as they were? That must have hurt.

Kiironi: I wonder if she knows Father is gone?

Akai: Well if she doesn't it's her own fault. Come on, let's catch up with Shiro.

(Blackout)

(At the home of Takashi Ichiki, known as the Kenja...or wise one, it is a simple dwelling.)

Kaname: *(continuing an argument the two are having)* You are such a fraud!

Kenja: *(trying to be sincere)* Why would you say such a thing? I have known you since you were a child!

Kaname: My honorable father said your own sire was the wisest, most learned man on the island. He told me, on his death bed, "once I am gone you can always trust the blood of Takashi Kenja!" But what has come of it? How could you have possibly invested all of my money into rice that does not need water to grow??

Kenja: It sounded like a revolutionary idea...

Kaname: (*ranting*) That time you had me mist my cherry blossoms with sugar water, the concoction for ridding my house of floor gnats...every single time... Disaster!

Kenja: (*getting defensive*) Now you just wait a minute! You must have mixed that floor gnat remedy all wrong! There is no way that...

Kaname: (*Calming down*) Just shut your mouth. Please. Not to dishonor my own father, but I am going to assume he was losing his senses at the end, or maybe he didn't really love me like I thought.

Kenja: I don't know what to say...

Kaname: I am going to go home and rethink my life.

(*at this moment the five daughters of Nakamura walk up*)

Pinkuro: Greetings Kaname-san, how are you?

Kaname: (*storming past*) Even worse than your father!

Akai: (*interjecting*) But our father is dead...

Kaname: (*stopping, mocking*) Well good for him! He's still better off than me! Now get out of my way!

Akai: (*snapping into her alternate character*) Are you threatening me?

Kaname: What?

Akai: I said...(grabbing her by the throat) Are you threatening me?

(*Akai slaps Kaname hard across the face*)

Akai: There are two things you will not do. The first, is insult the memory of my father and the second is... you will NOT threaten me.

(*Kaname shrugs out, backs up and then hurries off.*)

Orenji: I never liked her much anyways.

Akai: I was really hoping she would try to say one more thing...

(*The five see Kenja and bow low*)

Kenja: (*seriously*) Of all I know, only you five can imagine the sadness I felt when I heard what happened to Nakamura.

Shiro: Thank you Kenja-san.

Kenja: You were really the light of his life... what can I do for you today, ask it and it will be yours!

Akai: We want to know where to find Yin and Yang.

(*there is a pause*)

Kenja: Yin and Yang?

Akai: They are responsible for the death of our father.

Shiro: Along with several others.

Akai: (*under her breath*) who we will get to in due time...

Kenja: But what do you want to do with Yin and Yang? Surely you can't...

Akai: We're going to kill them.

Kenja: Kill them? How?

Akai: (*fearing she may have rattled him*) With...weapons...

Kenja: But this is the last thing Nakamura would have wanted!

Shiro: We talked about that and we aren't so sure. When Oshiro village was destroyed, he was alone and despite the fact that it was Nakamura, only one man can do so much.

Kiuroi: But he trained us...

Orenji: and I think the plan was that one day we were going to help him right that old wrong.

Kenja: Your father loved peace...

Pinkuro: He did! But in the end...

Kiuroi: It got him killed.

Akai: And now we're going to fix it.

Kenja: You're going to fix it?

Akai: Yes! That's what I just said!

Kenja: But they will kill you!

Kiuroi: No they won't.

Kenja: You may think you see visions, Kiuroi Bara, but I know better. I have seen these men. People disappear...and worse... Your father would not want that for you.

Shiro: Let us be the judge of that Kenja-san. We need your help.

Kenja: If you were to listen to my words, you would abandon this at once!

Shiro: But we're not going to do that. So please listen...

Akai: We need to know where to find them.

Kenja: Where to find them?

Akai: (*To the others*) Why does he always do that when I say something? I say "kill them" and he says "Kill them?" I say we need to find them and he says "Find them?"

Orenji: Don't know. Didn't notice until now.

Pinkuro: We're going to try to find them with or without your help.

Kenja: Well, it's going to have to be without. I won't be any part of this...

Shiro: Do it for our father!

Kenja: That's exactly why I am doing it. Now seriously girls... go back home. Or even better, go to the Izakaya and get a drink. Toast your great father and don't disrespect his memory.

Kiuroi: We would never disrespect his memory.

Kenja: Then go home. I am sorry. I will not help you.

(With this, Kenja leaves. A beat follows)

Akai: I could probably beat it out of him.

(they all shoot her a look)

Orenji: Well, Kenja is the only lead we had. It is exactly who father would have gone to if he wanted to find someone.

Pinkuro: Why do we have to start with Yin and Yang? Are one of the others easier to find?

Orenji: We already discussed this!

Pinkuro: I know, but I didn't understand. We don't think they call the shots right?

Shiro: Pesuto calls the shots.

Pinkuro: Right...Pesuto. So why aren't we going after her first?

Akai: That's what I said!

Shiro: It's simple. Pesuto is too powerful. We need to get rid of her allies first and then hit her when she has no one left to help.

Akai: *(sarcastically)* And this has absolutely nothing to do with the fact that Aisareta works for the Nekuromansa.

Shiro: *(deadpan)* Nothing whatsoever. She's too powerful.

Pinkuro: And she's powerful because he can do all the dead person stuff.

Kiitroi: Necromancy.

Pinkuro: I always forget that word. *(Saying it)* Necromancy... necromancer. Dead people.

Orenji: It's not like he's going to get less powerful.

Kiitroi: So we start with Yin and Yang first. A sound decision.

Orenji: Then the pale death and the black demon. Fun times ahead!

Pinkuro: And then the...

Kiitroi: Necromancer.

Pinkuro: Necromancer. Necromancy. I don't know why I can't remember that.

Orenji: So... that came up empty. Where to now?

Shiro: To the Izakaya.

Akai: Why would we go to a tavern? I'm not in the mood for sake, or people.

Orenji: Are you ever in the mood for people?

(Akai makes a rude gesture)

Shiro: Well, I'm in the mood for both.

Kiitroi: But why? *(realizing it)* Oh..... People hear things...people know things....

Akai: And we can beat it out of them!

(another beat)

Orenji: Can we leave her here?

(Black out)

(people are once again at the tavern and the waitresses are serving them.)

Waitress 1: *(to waitress number 2)* We are low on cash five.

Waitress 2: I'll change it!

(Tadeki comes in, but he is not as he was. His clothes are torn and he is very obviously a zombie)

Waitress 1: Hello Tadeki-san! The normal?

Tadeki: *(groaning)* uhhhhhh! Two!

(Waitress 2 rushes up to waitress 1)

Waitress 2: What happened to Tadeki??

Waitress 1: *(undertone)* I will tell you about it later...in private. Go change cask 5.

(waitress 1 walks to Tadeki)

Waitress 1: We missed you last night! It's such a...relief to see you back!

Tadeki: *(in zombie tones)* Work. Busy. Killing me!

Waitress 1: *(uneasy)* Well, your drinks will be right up!

Tadeki: Ari...gato...

(the five daughters come in and sit at a table)

Waitress 1: Welcome to Okina Dagu! Sit where you like!

Orenji: I wonder if their sushi is fresh?

Akai: Disgusting.

Orenji: You are the only of us that feels that way, Red.

Akai: Once warriors learned how to cook fish, we stopped eating it raw.

Pinkuro: I'm going to go see what they have at the bar.

(she leaves and eventually sidles up to Tadeki)

Kiuroi: I just don't think you've had it prepared correctly.

Akai: Preparing it correctly requires a fire! A stove, some boiling water or oil!

(at the bar Pinkuro has noticed something is seriously wrong with Tadeki. She comes back immediately)

Pinkuro: *(in a hushed whisper)* The guy at the bar!

Shiro: What about him? *(they all look)*

Pinkuro: Narcolepsy!

(confusion)

Kiuroi: Say what?

Pinkuro: Narcolepsy! The guy at the bar!

(Tadeki looks back at them as Waitress 2 delivers his drinks)

Waitress 2: Here you go Tadeki-san!

Shiro: What am I looking at here?

Akai: He looks wide awake to me.

Pinkuro: Huh? No! Dead people?

Orenji: Necromancy?

Pinkuro: Yes!

Shiro: What about it!

Pinkuro: That guy! He's dead.

Akai: He doesn't look dead. Hold up a minute.

(Akai gets up and walks over toward Tadeki, who notices her and smiles. Akai gets within a few feet and the smell hits her like a brick wall. She starts flailing trying to fan the smell away. She immediately returns)

Akai: He's dead.

Shiro: You sure?

Akai: Go over there and smell! That guy's ripe!

Kiironi: Is that what stinks in here? I thought it may be the cooking.

Shiro: Why is there a dead guy in here?

Akai: We could use him to take us to Pesuto!

Shiro: We don't want Pesuto yet!

Akai: The hell we don't!

(At this the door crashes in again and Yin and Yang walk into the bar)

Yang: *(Seeing Tadeki)* There he is!

(Tadeki tried to be inconspicuous when they entered, now Yin and Yang walk up to him.)

Yin: You can't go and leave the castle when you want to now Tadeki.

Tadeki: *(still with the zombie voice)* I was just getting a couple of drinks...

Yang: But you work for Pesuto now and she wants you to stay at the castle.

Yin: You don't want to make Pesuto angry do you?

Tadeki: What worse could she do now? Huh?

Yang: Oh, he could do a lot worse! You know, Tadeki-san it would be hard to take a drink without hands.

Yin: Or arms, or with your mouth sewn shut.

(Tadeki groans)

Yang: So get back to the castle now!

(Tadeki downs his drink and gets up, grumbling)

Yang: *(To the crowd)* Just another happy new employee of the Nekuromansa! *(looking at a particular customer)* If you know what's best for you, you won't stare so much.

Itsuke: Sorry sir!

Yin: You know what? We won't be missed for a while. *(to waitress 2)* A Sake for my brother and I!

Waitress 2: *(nervously)* Yes sir! Right away! *(she hustles off)*

(the rest of the bar is nervous with these two present...at the table of the daughters)

Shiro: That's them!

Orenji: What are the odds?

Akai: Let's attack them now!

(she starts to get up)

Shiro: Wait! We need a plan!

Akai: We have one! Five of us, two of them!

Pinkuro: I heard they were super strong!

Kiironi: And almost impossible to kill!

Akai: Am I talking to a group of little girls here?

(A beat)

Akai: Ok, maybe I am...but you are girls trained by Nakamura!
Come on, we got this!!

(Orenji grabs Akai and steers her to her seat)

Orenji: We need a plan.

(Yin and Yang are wanting to mess with the patrons)

Yin: You guys look so grim!

Yang: I thought Okina Dagu was the place to be!

Yin: *(overly dramatic)* You know Yang, I wonder if it could be us?

Yang: *(grabbing waitress 1)* Am I the reason you aren't having fun?

Waitress 1: *(nervously)* Of course not. I'm...just tired.

Yang: You see Yin? she's just tired!

Yin: I think we can fix that!

Yang: I do too! *(grabs the customer)* Here...stand up!

Waitress 1: No thank you...I...

Yang: *(forcefully)* Stand up!

Yin: *(pulling out a knife)* Now, ladies and gentlemen we are about to have a little fun with... What's your name ma'am?

Waitress 1: Migi.

Yin: With Migi here! If you are smart, you will sit, be a good audience and pay attention.

Yang: Not a one of you parasites better move! *(shouting)* Do you understand??

(then...a voice from the crowd)

Akai: Are you threatening me?

Yang: Who said that?

Akai: *(standing up)* I did.

Orenji: No she didn't. *(pulling on Akai to sit)*

Akai: Yes I did!

Yin: *(to Yang)* Is she challenging us?

Yang: I don't know. *(to Akai)* Are you challenging us?

Akai: Are you threatening me?

Yang: *(To Yin)* Did we?

Yin: I don't remember... let me think.

Yang: I told no one to move.

Akai; That's was it!

Orenji: This is stupid.

Yang: Are you calling us stupid?

Akai: Are you threatening my sister??

Yin: That's your sister?

Akai: Yes...adopted.

Yang: Then yes, we are threatening your sister.

Akai: *(walking right up to the two)* Is that so? Well, we were planning to kill you anyways...

Yang: Is that so?

(she slaps him across the face)

Akai: Don't interrupt me! We were coming to kill you for Oshiro village and for Nakamura..

Yin: Who?

(she slaps Yin)

Akai: No interruptions! But now, since you have threatened me and my sister, I will take a lot of pleasure in this.

Yin: The two of you are going to kill the two of us?

(at this Shiro, Kiiroi and Pinkuro stand, all branding their weapons.)

Shiro: The five of us are going to kill the two of you.

Yang: Oh.... Five small girls are going to kill us.

Yin: I feel bullied, don't you?

Yang: Most definitely.

Akai: *(pissed)* are you mocking me?

Yin: Of course not!

Akai: Good. *(pause)* Was that sarcasm?

Orenji: Of course it was!

Akai: Your impending death is now going to be 12 percent more painful.

Waitress 1: *(rushing to Akai grabbing her arm)* You're going to have to take this outside.

Akai: *(to the waitress)* I will cut you.

(she lets go)

Shiro: We are the daughters of Nakamura.

Yang: Who is Nakamura?

Pinkuro: Nakamura of Oshiro Village.

Yin: The old man.

Yang: The daughters we've been looking for!

Shiro: You killed our father.

Kiuroi: And you're going to die now.

Yin: Oh, are we?

Kiuroi: I have seen it.

Yang: We'll just have to see about that.

(at this the fight begins...but a foreword about combat... in this I have chosen each of the girls to use different weapons... this may or may not be possible for other directors, but if it is go for it. Shiro uses a katana, Pinkuro a short sword and shield, Kiuroi sai, Orenji Tonfa and Akai a very short, as in six inches, stick. Yin and Yang can either use weapons or just be overpowered and strong. I choose to have them use swords as well. In this fight the girls fight in tandem against the stronger foes and at first it goes poorly for them. Akai is a fierce warrior and despite having a laughable weapon is a handful for either warrior who has to deal with her. As the fight wears on the girls land small shots that start two build...eventually Pinkuro is hurt and put out of the fight and then Kiuroi...but Akai lands a particularly brutal shot which falls Yin. Yang knocks Orenji unconscious as Shiro and Akai double team Yang. Finally Shiro lands a cut that puts Yang to his knees...he is obviously dying)

Yang: The Necromancer will hear about this.

Shiro: We're counting on it.

Yang: *(he struggles to breathe)* He will avenge us.

Akai: Is that a threat?

Shiro: *(putting a hand up to calm her sister)* You killed our father.

Yang: He was a fool.

(At this, Akai jumps on him with her small stick, pinning his arms and using the stick to dig into his neck. He howls in pain)

Akai: That was for my father.

(his breathing is now ragged but she jumps on him again, digging away at his neck with her stick...he howls)

Yang: What was that for?

Akai: That was the 12 percent I promised you.

(Yang dies. Black out)

(many moons before...Nakamura and his daughter are awaiting a meeting... Aisareta is about eight years old and shows no signs of the woman she becomes)

Aisareta: But daddy, I 'm going to miss my friends back in Kaichi!

Nakamura: I know you will my love, but Oshiro village will be a wonderful place for you to grow up. You'll make new friends here and you will be such a help to me.

Aisareta: What will I be helping with?

Nakamura: *(getting excited)* It's going to be the best thing ever! We have been brought to Oshiro to teach the daughters of the mayor, and several of his merchant friends.

Aisareta: What will you be teaching them?

Nakamura: We will be teaching them all kinds of things! They are younger than you and you will assist me in teaching them their letters, as well as our family system.

Aisareta: We are going to teach them how to fight?

Nakamura: Only for defense. You are going to have to model that for them! You are going to be senpai!

Aisareta: *(excited)* I am going to be senpai?

Nakamura: Of course you are! And you are going to be the best senpai ever!

Aisareta: When do I get to meet them?

Nakamura: First thing in the morning, but first we have practice and then bed.

Aisareta: *(she gets up to start practicing)* Daddy?

Nakamura: Yes?

Aisareta: I love you.

Nakamura: *(he walks up to her and kisses her on the forehead.)* I love you too and I always, always will.

(The other half of the stage lights Kuroi-Akuma, In the room with him is the hooded Necromancer. Kuroi-Akuma is in a trance and then awakes)

Kuroi-Akuma: It is not an exact art. What I have seen is not necessarily what will be.

Necromancer: But the results are the same?

Kuroi-Akuma: They are. In every viewing I have seen the daughters of Oshiro Village rising to destroy us.

Necromancer: What exactly do mean by the daughters of Oshiro Village?

Kuroi-Akuma: It's difficult to explain. When you view the future from the Nether planes you don't see things like you do with a looking glass.

Necromancer: But you see...

Kuroi-Akuma: The same thing every time.

Necromancer: When?

Kuroi-Akuma: A year, ten years...longer. Time does not pass on the Nether planes like it does here.

Necromancer: It is time to move then.

Kuroi-Akuma: Move?

Necromancer: We destroy Oshiro Village.

Kuroi-Akuma: The entire village?

Necromancer: We could kill the young girls, but the only way to guarantee this particular prophecy will not come true is to eliminate everyone.

Kuroi-Akuma: You won't get an argument from me. Do you want me to get the others?

Necromancer: You will take Yin, Yang and the Assassin. This needs to be the last sunset Oshiro village ever sees.

Kuroi-Akuma: I will make the preparations and collect the others.

Necromancer: Be ready to leave before dawn.

(Black out)

(when the lights come back on, Akai, Orenji, Pinkuro, Shiro and Kiiroi are in a fidgety line. They are waiting for their class to start. They are about four years old although played by the teen actresses.)

Orenji: *(having a hard time standing still)* I have to pee.

Akai: You always have to pee!

Orenji: Do not!

Shiro: Shhhh!

Pinkuro: I don't want to train today.

Akai: I do!

(Aisareta walks in)

Aisareta: Line up!

(the girls snap to attention as Nakamura walks in)

Aisareta: Sensei No-Rei!

(all bow)

Nakamura: Hello girls. Have you had a nice morning?

All five girls: Hai Sensei!

Nakamura: Sit down please. *(they sit. He goes to sit as well then to Aisareta)* You too daughter. *(she sits)*

(Nakamura makes a big show of sighing and looking tired)

Kiiroi: Are you alright Sensei?

Nakamura: *(yawning)* Yes.... It's just that... Aisa... do you feel like training today?

Aisareta: Yes, Sensei.

Nakamura: Well, I don't. *(at this Kiiroi, Shiro, Pinkuro and Orenji brighten up)*

Akai: *(Stunned)* You don't? Why??

Nakamura: *(smiling)* Because I think we need a day off!

(the four girls cheer as Akai is disappointed)

Nakamura: So Aisa... what do you think we should do instead?

Aisareta: *(playing along)* We could go inside and practice our letters!

(the five younger girls look horrified)

Nakamura: That's not a bad idea...but nah. *(the girls see hope!)*

Aisareta: Have we cleaned the dojo this week?

(Horried again)

Pinkuro: Senpai!

(Aisareta starts to laugh but stifles it)

Nakamura: I cleaned the dojo last night, so what should we do today?

Akai: We could fight with live weapons!

(the others look at her)

Kiiroi: Could we visit Tokumine the fortune teller again?

Nakamura: I was thinking and I have already talked to you parents and I have decided...

(a dramatic pause)

Nakamura: That we are going to have a beach day!

(there is a stunned silence and then total celebration)

Nakamura: This will be the first time I have taken you overnight from your parents but I have their blessing and I think this would be a good chance for us to have a good time and get in some beach training as well.

(the girls stand up and start celebrating as Pinkuro rushes up and hugs Nakamura. She immediately realizes her mistake and backs up and bows to him, he then winks, pulls her back in and hugs her again.)

Nakamura: Now go get your packs, we will leave as soon as you are ready.

(The girls run off excited)

Aisareta: *(smiling at him)* You always feel like training.

Nakamura: But sometimes I feel like going to the beach. Don't you agree?

Aisareta: Of course! I was packed and ready to go before you were!

Nakamura: *(sighing)* We are about to take five small girls half way across the island. Six months ago I never would have imagined this.

Aisareta: *(laughing)* Me either! But it will be fun.

(the girls all come back on excited)

Nakamura: Are we ready to go?

All five girls: Yes Sensei!

Nakamura: Then why are you still standing here?

(they all exit excitedly... the lights don't go out but several moments pass and Kuroi-Akuma, Yin, Yang and the Assassin enter.)

Kuroi-Akuma: There can be no survivors.

Assassin: Understood.

Kuroi-Akuma: Kill the women and young girls first.

Yin: Fire?

Kuroi-Akuma: Every building. Nothing left standing. *(To the Assassin)* You are on the perimeter.

Assassin: No one will escape.

Kuroi-Akuma: *(To Yin and Yang)* I will meet you two at the center of town.

Yang: I bet I get there first!

(Yin and Yang leave, as does the Assassin)

Kuroi-Akuma: *(booming)* Oshiro-Village! We bring you regards from Nekuromansa Castle!

(at this, Yin, Yang and the Assassin enter... they spread out as the lights dim.)

PART 2: The Pale Hand of Death

(as the lights come on Kiiroi is on stage with cards laid before her, she is meditating as Shiro enters.)

Shiro: No matter how early I get up, you are always up before me. Couldn't sleep?

Kiiroi: I slept.

Shiro: *(a pause)* You've had the cards out a lot recently.

Kiiroi: *(starting at anger)* Please, don't start.

Shiro: Sister, you know I never do. While I don't believe the way you do, I am not Akai or Orenji.

Kiiroi: I'm sorry Shiro... I didn't mean...

Shiro: Is everything alright?

Kiiroi: *(everything is NOT alright)* Yes. Everything is fine...

Shiro: Really?

Kiiroi: *(pausing, not knowing what to say)* It's just that... I can't see much farther no matter how many times I look at the cards, the stars or into the fire.

Shiro: Hasn't that happened before?

Kiiroi: Never. There's always something...even the things that only might happen...I have always seen things. Even when we were little girls, remember?

Shiro: I do.

Kiiroi: I didn't think it would be like this.

Shiro: What are you talking about?

Kiiroi: *(realizing she has said to much, starts collecting the cards)* It's nothing.

Shiro: *(grabbing her hand)* It's something. Kiiroi... what?

Kiiroi: I'm going to die.

(pause)

Shiro: No you're not.

Kiirroi: But that's not what's scaring me. I have been seeing my own death for almost two weeks now. I'm prepared... I'm...

Shiro: Stop talking like this! You're not going to die!

(Kiirroi looks at Shiro...beat...)

Shiro: Are you sure?

Kiirroi: I have always been able to see things... weeks...years... into the future. Many have come true. Pinkuro's cat, father's duel with Omigani...but right before father's death I saw the sign of the pale hand in the cards and the fire. I thought that it was for father, at least after... but since then I have seen little else.

Shiro: Could it be something else?

Kiirroi: I don't think so.

Shiro: It has to be something else!

Kirroi: You can't tell the others. Especially Pinkuro.

Shiro: You're not going to die.

Kirroi: I think I am. But that's not why I am scared. In my visions of the pale hand, I see a yellow rose cradled in old hands. I know that when my times comes, Oyagi will be there for me.

Shiro: Oyagi...

Kirroi: He used to hate it when we called him that... but then...

Shiro: We need to stop talking about this. You're going to be fine.

Kirroi: I know I will be. I am scared for you.

Shiro: For me?

Kirroi: For you and the others. The Nekuromansa can destroy souls. If he does that to you, or Pinkuro...Orenji... You will not be able to go where I will be... with father.

(at this we hear Akai and Orenji laughing as Pinkuro comes in)

Kirroi: *(To Shiro)* Not a word. Not yet.

Pinkuro: It's not funny!

Orenji: How did you say it again?

Pinkuro: It's necromancy! There I said it right!

Akai: That guy at the tavern! What did you say he had?

Orenji: Narcolepsy!

(Akai and Orenji both start acting like zombies and then fall out sleeping, snoring aloud)

Pinkuro: *(to Kirroi)* You've been at the cards again?

Kiirroi: *(forcing happiness)* I have. And you know what I just saw?

Pinkuro: What?

Kiirroi: Orenji's unspeakable rash is going to come back with a vengeance.

(Orenji immediately stops laughing)

Orenji: You lie!

Kiirroi: *(coyly)* Do I?

Orenji: That's not funny! I couldn't sit right for weeks!

Kiirou: Just telling you what the cards say!

(she gives Shiro a smile as she puts the cards away. Black out)

(Aisareta and Hitsumi are sweeping the floors at the Nekuromansa castle. To all appearances, Hitsumi is a girl of about the same age as Aisareta but it will later be revealed that she is the necromancer. It will make sense then. As for now, she is just a girl with a slightly dark side, much like Aisareta...)

Aisareta: I would have thought that six months in, I would be doing more than sweeping floors.

Hitsumi: I don't know. It could be worse. I've been here four times longer than that! You are doing very well in your lessons though.

Aisareta: Thanks to you! I've hardly spent any time with Pesuto at all.

Hitsumi: It was the same way when I got here. I learned most of the early lessons second hand as well, from Hanahara.

Aisareta: What happened to her?

Hitsumi: Got fed up one day and left. No one has seen her since. I was in the study when she stormed in and said she had had enough.

Aisareta: What did Pesuto say?

Hitsumi: Nothing at all. She just let her go.

Aisareta: She still scares me a little.

Hitsumi: She did me at first too. But I can do things that seems impossible before I became her student, so it's worth it.

Aisareta: I know. I just...

(The Assassin walks in)

Assassin: I need to see Pesuto.

Hitsumi: *(giving him a look)* Pesuto is indisposed.

Assassin: It's important.

Hitsumi: We are under orders that Pesuto is not to be disturbed under any reason.

Assassin: Yin and Yang are dead.

Aisareta: Dead?

Assassin: *(seeing Aisareta)* I am not here to talk to a servant.

Hitsumi: *(seeing Aisareta start to get angry)* Aisa is not a servant, but a student in the art of Pesuto just like I.

(The Assassin gives Aisa a nasty look)

Hitsumi: Aisa, would you please go and let the door watchman know that the master is to be ready for a visitor.

Aisareta: But...

Hitsumi: Please, just let Agar know.

(Aisareta bows and leaves)

Hitsumi: Do you know what happened?

Assassin: What I've been told makes no sense.

Hitsumi: I don't understand.

Assassin: I have...questioned...several witnesses and it would seem that the two strongest fighters on the island were killed by five young girls.

Hitsumi: Magic?

Assassin: No, weapons only as far as I can tell.

Hitsumi: Impossible!

Assassin: I would have thought so too, but I was very thorough in my questioning.

Hitsumi: Who are these girls and how were they strong enough to defeat the brothers?

Assassin: I don't know, but I am going to make it my mission to find out.

(Black out)

(Back at the home of Kenja)

Waitress 2: *(on the outside of the Kenja's door)* I know you're in there Kenja! You can't hide forever!

(the girls walk up)

Waitress 2: The next time Otomi is going to send a leg breaker instead of me to collect on your bar tab! Do really want that?

Shiro: Is the Kenja not home?

Waitress 2: The "wise one" is hiding from me over his overdue bar tab!

Kiirōi: How much does he owe?

Waitress 2: 12 silver and some change.

Pinkuro: Wow. Is the kenja trying to buy the whole bar?

Waitress 2: The "Kenja" likes to drink more than he likes to pay.

Kiirōi: I can pay it.

Akai: What?

Kiirōi: I can cover Kenja's fees.

Waitress 2: Now why would you want to do that?

Kiirōi: *(answering simply)* Out of kindness?

Waitress 2: Child, I can't allow you to...

Kiirōi: *(taking out money)* I insist. *(handing it to her)* 13 silver... enough to cover his debt and allow him some minor pleasures in the future.

Waitress 2: *(impressed...bowing)* You are very kind to help out such a *(loudly)* Low life, lying phony! You hear me Kenja? But thank you very much. I've been trying to collect this debt for weeks.

Kiirōi: You are very welcome.

(Waitress 2 leaves)

Pinkuro: Kiirōi...you had been saving that for so long! You were going to buy that gazing ball...

Kiirou: I know little sister... it was just the right thing to do.

(Kenja enters tentatively)

Kenja: Is she gone?

Orenji: She's gone.

Kenja: *(whispering)* are you sure?

Akai: She left when Kiirou paid off your debt?

Kenja: *(stunned)* You paid my debt?

Kiirou: *(embarrassed)* I did.

Kenja: Why would you go and do that?

Orenji: Brain damage.

Kiirou: You were our father's closest friend. He would have wanted it.

Kenja: If you say so! Oh, did you hear?

Shiro: Hear what?

Kenja: They're dead!

Pinkuro: Who's dead?

Kenja: Yin and Yang! You were looking for them but someone got to them first! Problem solved!

(there is an awkward silence)

Kenja: Wait...

Akai: *(matter of factly)* No one threatens me.

Kenja: No!

Pinkuro: Yup!

Kenja: How?

Orenji: With weapons. Particularly the ones we use.

Kenja: This is horrible!

Akai: I was thinking more like "Glorious"

Orenji: But that's not even the best part...

Kenja: What are you talking about?

Orenji: We're just getting started.

Kenja: Getting started?

Akai: We're going after Awaishi next!

Kenja: Awaishi? The assassin? Are you insane?

Shiro: The Necromancer's assassin took part in the destruction of Oshiro village and was there when our father died. Awaishi is next.

Kenja: You should quit while you are ahead!

Shiro: We won't rest until our father is fully avenged.

Kenja: Why tell me? What do you need me for?

Kiirou: We need you to tell us how to find the pale death.

Kenja: Find Awaishi? You don't find the Assassin, the Assassin finds you!

Orenji: We're going to need you to be a little more specific than that...

Shiro: *(thinking)* No we don't.

Orenji/Kenja: You (we) don't?

Shiro: *(bowing to Kenja)* Thank you for your help Kenja-san.

(She goes to leave)

Akai: Where are we going?

Shiro: To the Izakaya!

(as they follow her)

Pinkuro: Okina Dagu? Why?

(Black out)

(Back at the Tavern, Tadeki is talking up Customers, several other mill around, his voice is still zombie like)

Tadeki: To be totally honest, it's not all that bad. Other than the fact that I am cold all the time, which you get used to, everything else has gotten better.

Kaname: How?

Tadeki: I don't get tired, so when I get done with my duties at the castle I have a lot of down time.

Itsuke: But you're dead...right?

Tadeki: *(kind of offended)* Do I look dead to you?

Kaname: Kind of..

Tadeki: I can talk, can't I? Dead people can't talk! I can walk, drink sake...

Waitress 2: *(walking by)* Run up a big tab and sneak out...

Tadeki: I haven't gotten paid yet!

Kaname: *(confidentially)* Do you get paid?

Tadeki: *(whispering back)* I don't know.

Waitress 2: I heard that!

(he waves her off dismissively)

Itsuke: I heard that Pesuto can control the dead, has he done that to you?

Tadeki: I don't think so.

(at this, the five daughters of Nakamura enter)

Waitress 1: *(Angrily)* Hey! You five left a mess in here last time! I had to clean that up! You can't just come in here and kill people!
(she has marched up to the girls)

Shiro: But they were evil!

Waitress 2: Let them slide Migi, they're the ones that paid of Kenja's tab.

Waitress 1: That's all well and good, but if you start another fight, I'm throwing you out!

Akai: (*growing very serious*) Are you threatening me?

Waitress 1: I'm just telling you the facts, girl.

Akai: (*to Orenji, honestly inquiring*) Is she threatening me?

Orenji: Yes.

(*Akai starts to fire up, but then*)

Orenji: Just kidding, she's not threatening you.

Akai: That's not funny!

(*Orenji, Pinkuro and Kiiroi are laughing*)

Akai: Why are you laughing? I could have killed this serving wench?

Waitress 1: (*offended*) Serving wench?

Akai: No offense.

Waitress 1: Too late. I'm offended.

Akai: That's not how this works. I said no offense, which negates your being offended.

(*this is starting to build again when waitress 2 jumps in*)

Waitress 2: How about you girls come sit over here?

Kiiroi: This will be fine, thank you.

Waitress 2: Can I get you girls something?

Kiiroi: Five of your mixed fruit special please!

Waitress 2: (*impressed*) So the spending continues!

Pinkuro: Kiiroi! You shouldn't!

Kiiroi: Five please. (*to Pinkuro*) It's only money.

Waitress 2: Five coming right up.

Pinkuro: If we're going to be downing fruit drinks, I need to make room. Be right back. (*she leaves to go to the restroom*)

(*after she is gone*)

Orenji: (*To Kiiroi*) Ok... so what gives?

Kiiroi: What?

Akai: Orenji and I have talked. First you gave up the money you were saving for the gazing ball and now you are buying expensive drinks. Did some rich uncle we didn't know about die?

Kiiroi: No...

Orenji: Then What?

(*Kiiroi gives Shiro a look*)

Orenji: (*To Shiro*) You know something!

Shiro: No... no I don't.

Akai: You are such a crappy liar! What is going on?

Shiro: Kiiroi...

Orenji: Kiiroi?

Kiironi: *(a beat)* I'm going to die.

(There is a pause and then laughter from Akai and Orenji)

Shiro: *(In a harsh whisper)* It's not funny!

Orenji: *(still laughing)* And I thought it was something serious!

Akai: I take it the stars told you?

(Orenji and Akai laugh)

Kiironi: It's pointless for us to talk about this.

Orenji: *(trying to act serious)* Well, if your time comes sister, it has been an honor fighting with you.

Kiironi: Just leave it alone?

Akai: If this had happened before Nekuromansa destroyed our home, I would have asked if I could have your room once you are dead, so this is a bit of a disappointment.

(Kiironi starts to get up)

Orenji: Sit down! We're just picking with you.

(The Waitress delivers five drinks)

Waitress 2: Here you go, girls. The best we have!

(the four sisters thank the waitress)

Akai: Here's to our wonderful far sighted sister! *(looking directly at her)* May your years be many and if not, well then I will...

Kiironi: Finally have to admit you were wrong for once!

(They continue to talk while Pinkuro comes back, she is stopped by the conversation at the other table)

Kaname: Hey girl! Come settle an argument for us!

Pinkuro: Well, ok. If I can.

Itsuke: Our friend Tadeki here works for Pesuto, but claims that the common people don't know much about her.

Pinkuro: Oh, I think most people know.

Tadeki: What do you think you know about Pesuto girl.

Pinkuro: *(she can't remember the word)* Oh, well that thing that everyone knows.

Itsuke: I told you!

Tadeki: She hasn't said anything!

Kaname: She said that everyone knows.

Tadeki: What is it that everyone knows, girl?

Pinkuro: Everyone knows that Pesuto is into...

Tadeki: Into?

Pinkuro: *(saying it confidentially)* Necrophilia.

(The three look confused)

Kaname: *(To Tadeki)* Well, that one is new to me.

Tadeki: Where did you hear that?

Pinkuro: Well, everywhere really...

Itsuke: Well, I guess that explains the long hours you work at night...

Tadeki: What's that supposed to mean?

Pinkuro: Well, I should really get back to my own group now.

(She leaves the three, arguing, returning to her own table)

Akai: *(Seeing the men)* What did you say to those guys?

Pinkuro: *(Not wanting to talk about it)* Nothing important...just answering a question.

Orenji: You know this drink is pretty incredible, but *(to Shiro)* You still haven't answered why we came here in the first place.

Shiro: I have a plan.

Kiironi: What kind of plan?

Shiro: A plan to get us noticed. A plan to bring the Assassin to us.

Akai: I already like this plan!

Shiro: *(getting the attention of Waitress 1)* Excuse me, maybe you can answer a question for me.

Waitress 1: I'm busy, make it quick.

Shiro: Does Awaishi come here often?

(everything goes quiet)

Shiro: What?

Waitress 1: We aren't supposed to talk about Awaishi!

Kaname: Did she just talk about Awaishi?

Tadeki: *(Bragging)* You know I work with Awaishi!

Itsuke: No, you don't. You work for Pesuto!

Kaname: And now we know what he does for Pesuto!

Tadeki: That's a lie! *(To the other table)* You girls, other than the stupid one there.

Akai: Are you talking to me??

Tadeki: No, the one next to you. *(indicating Pinkuro)*

Akai: *(seeing it's not her)* Oh. Ok. Yeah, she's a bit dim.

Pinkuro: Akai!

Akai: No Offense.

Tadeki: Have any of you ever heard that Pesuto is into...

Orenji: Into what?

Tadeki: *(embarrassed to say it)* Into...necrophilia?

Orenji: What's Necrophilia?

(Akai whispers into her ear what it is)

Orenji: *(To Akai)* Ew. *(To Tadeki)* Oh that! Yeah. I've heard that.

(Customer 2 and 3 laugh heartily)

Tadeki: Well, I've had enough, I'm going back to the castle!

Kaname: Can't get enough can you?

(The customers laugh)

Shiro: Wait!

Tadeki: *(he stops)* What?

Shiro: You said you work with Awaishi?

Tadeki: Foolish girl, I wouldn't say that name if you want to live to be my age.

Shiro: I need you to deliver a message to Awaishi.

Tadeki: Do I look like a messenger boy to you?

Shiro: Uh... no?

Tadeki: Well, good!

Shiro: But could you tell Awaishi anyways, uh...since you're going to the castle?

Tadeki: *(Takes a moment)* Damn it... I guess so. What's the message?

Akai: You tell that scum sucking piece of garbage that we're going to find her and rip her teeth out one by one, and after that we're going after her eyebrows, and then we're going to take out her spleen...

Tadeki: *(thinking)* I don't think I want to deliver that kind of message. You are on your own with that. *(he goes to leave)*

Shiro: Akai! I can handle this.

Akai: Fine! Then handle it.

Shiro: Wait! Please just tell Awaishi that the daughter of Nakamura look forward to meeting her soon. Very soon.

(Black out)

(In the past, Nakamura and his daughters are dead serious as they stare at the remnants of Oshiro Village)

Aisareta: Daddy... who could have done this?

Nakamura: I don't know... the destruction...

Pinkuro: *(calling out)* Mommy! Daddy!

Shiro: *(pointing)* My house... it's gone!

(The daughters are on the verge of panic)

Nakamura: I need you all to listen to me.

(They don't)

Nakamura: It's very important to...

(They are still not focused)

Nakamura: *(sharply)* Kiotsuke!

(at this, all six girls snap to attention and look at Nakamura.)

Nakamura: Aisa. I need you to take the Kohai out to our training spot near the stream.

Aisareta: But father...

Nakamura: *(sternly)* You will do exactly as I say!

Aisareta: Hai Sensei.

Nakamura: *(pulling her aside)* I need to search for survivors and I need the girls away from here. Please keep them hidden. I will be there shortly. *(he turns to leave)*

Aisareta: Daddy...

Nakamura: *(looking back)* Yes?

Aisareta: Please be careful.

Nakamura: Take care of the girls. *(he leaves)*

Aisareta: We are going to the dojo by the stream.

Akai: But the fight is here!

Aisareta: Our fight is for another day! Now move! I better not beat any of you there!

(They all run off as the lights go out. The Lights shift and we are in the chamber of the Necromancer. She is there with the Kuroi-Akuma, the Assassin and Yin and Yang)

Necromancer: It is done?

Kuroi-Akuma: It is.

Necromancer: No survivors?

Kuroi-Akuma: None.

Assassin: I tracked all movement for the day and waited for those missing to return. They are all dead.

Necromancer: You have all served me well.

Kuroi-Akuma: Thank you, my master.

Necromancer: I want it spread that the mayor of Oshiro Village had made a pact with an evil spirit and this was the result of his meddling in the nether world.

Yin: We can make it known in the Taverns.

Necromancer: Start at once, but I also want it rumored at least that the Nekuromansa was behind it.

Yang: You want the common people to know we are behind it?

Necromancer: I want them to think we could be behind it. It's the threat that matters.

Assassin: Rule by fear.

Necromancer: There is power in fear. Always remember that. You are dismissed. *(All but the Kuroi-Akuma leave)*

Kuroi-Akuma: I will consult with the Nether, but I am positive that your legacy is secure.

Necromancer: My legacy...speaking of which I have almost trained my apprentice to the point that he is ready.

Kuroi-Akuma: Which means we need to be ready to search for a new apprentice.

Necromancer: Thus is the price of immortality.

