KOYOHARU GOTOUGE

I'm Gotouge. Here's volume 10. Thank you very much to everyone who cheers for me and helps out. I'm grateful from the bottom of my heart for the many letters and presents. You should absolutely be proud to say, "I'm the one who helped this artist rise up!" It might be fun to snort triumphantly and thrust out your chest too. For the readers, I will continue to raise my combat abilities to attack and defend at will, and work hard!
In Taisho-era Japan, young Tanjiro makes a living selling charcoal. One day, demons kill his family and turn his younger sister Nezuko into a demon. Tanjiro and Nezuko set out to find a way to return Nezuko to human form and defeat Kibutsuji, the demon who killed their family!

After joining the Demon Slayer Corps, Tanjiro meets Tamayo and Yushiro—demons who oppose Kibutsuji—who provide a clue to how Nezuko may be turned back into a human. On a new mission, Tanjiro boards a steam train and joins up with Rengoku, the Flame Hashira. A lower-rank demon attacks the train, but they are able to protect the passengers and defeat the demon, but Rengoku is killed in the process.

To overcome Rengoku’s death, Tanjiro and others take on a new mission to investigate reports of a demon in the Hanamachi entertainment district in town.
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SO WE'RE TAUGHT TO PULL BACK WHEN OUR LIVES ARE THREATENED.

...I WAS A KUNOICHI—A FEMALE NINJA...

...AND I'D NEVER BE AS STRONG AS A MALE SHINOBI.

IT WASN'T ALWAYS LIKE THIS.

I WASN'T AFRAID TO DIE.

THAT MAY SOUND STRANGE GIVEN YOUR PROFESSION, BUT THAT'S HOW I WANT IT.

THINK ABOUT YOUR LIVES FIRST. YOU ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE MISSION.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT YOU HAVE TO LEAVE BEHIND; JUST BE SURE YOU RETURN TO ME.

THINK ABOUT YOUR LIVES FIRST. YOU ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE MISSION.
YOU THREE COME FIRST...

...THEN RELIABLE ASSISTANTS...

...AND THEN ME.

I DECIDE WHO SHINES BRIGHTEST AND TAKES PRIORITY.

I MAY BE THE FLASHIEST, BUT YOU'RE MOST IMPORTANT TO ME, SO DON'T GET YOURSELVES KILLED.

SINCE I'M THE ONE IN THE DEMON SLAYER CORPS, I'LL PROTECT THE BORING, ORDINARY PEOPLE.

...?
IF I PRIORITIZE MY OWN LIFE, HOW WELL CAN I REALLY DO MY JOB? IT MAKES NO SENSE.

IS THAT REALLY HOW HE WANTS IT?

AFTER ALL, THAT'S HOW TENGEN WANTS IT.

I THINK IT'S ALL RIGHT.

MOST PEOPLE LIVE THAT WAY. I'M SURE IT'S FINE.

...AND AVOIDING DEADLY DANGER AREN'T BAD THINGS.

WANTING TO LIVE...
PAT

JUST WHAT I'D EXPECT FROM MY WIVES!

I HEAR YOU'VE BEEN MAKING THINGS REALLY FLASHY.

PAT PAT
THOSE WORM-BELT THINGS WENT DOWN THESE HOLES AND ESCAPED!

HEY! YOU! GOD OF FESTIVALS!

SHOW ME SOME RESPECT, THEN WE'LL TALK!

ZIP IT! THEY SAVED THE PEOPLE WHO WERE CAPTURED! THEY DID GREAT! DON'T QUESTION ME!

OH, WE'RE GOING AFTER THEM! FOLLOW ME! FAST!

TENGEN, THINGS WILL GET WORSE IF WE DON'T GO AFTER THEM!
OUTTA THE WAY! OUTTA THE WAY! UZUI'S COMIN' THROUGH!

WA HA HA HA!

YEOW! HE'S FAST!
THE FRAGMENTS ARE RETURNING TO HER BODY!

ARE THE OBI ATTACKING HER...? NO...!
I KNEW IT! A HASHIRA HAS FINALLY COME!
HIS LORDSHIP WILL BE SO PLEASED!

(Hope Uzu! And the others are with Inosuke and Zenitsu!)

That smell is horrible! It's burning the back of my throat numb!

She transformed!
Hey! What're you doing?!

Don't fight in front of my shop!

Oh, no! Bystanders!

You're safer inside!

No! Stay away!

How rude!

Hmph!
AM
I CAN HELP YOU. TIE A Tourniquet ON YOUR ARM.

STAY CALM.
AN UGLY HUMAN'S LIFE HAS NO VALUE. YOU'LL GET ALONG WELL WITH THE OTHER ROTTING CORPSES.

STOP!
I WON'T LET YOU...

WHAT?
ARE YOU STILL TALKING? THAT'S ENOUGH OUT OF YOU. YOU UGLY THING!
FOR PITY'S SAKE, STAY INSIDE!

PLEASE!
SOMEONE HELP!

OH HIRO!
HIRO!
Inosuke’s crow, stuck to Inosuke.

Excellent!

The sparrow still thinks Zenitsu is missing.

The Crow Corps (Including a Sparrow) Goes Wild

Isn’t the Hashira here yet?!
...I MUST ADMIT THAT I'VE WRONGED YOU.
I see that you and Senjuro have been corresponding for at least four months. I pulled away and drowned myself in sake.

And as I wallowed in self-pity over my own incompetence... when we first met.

He read the guide to flame breathing, and even with only three volumes...

He made himself into a Hashira!

Thank you for mourning Kyoujurou. I am embarrassed by my behavior...

Even when I stopped teaching him...

Kyojurou proved a much better son than I ever was.
AND KAMADO, YOU HAVE...

...AN EVEN GREATER POWER.

...ARE BORN WITH A RED MARK ON THEIR FOREHEADS.

...ARE DESTINED TO WIELD SUN BREATHING...

...I WASN'T BORN WITH THIS MARK.

SO I'M CERTAIN THAT YOU...
AND I GOT THIS LOOK WHEN I WAS WOUNDED DURING FINAL SELECTION.

I GOT IT PROTECTING MY LITTLE BROTHER...

...FROM A BRAZIER HE KNOCKED OVER.

...BUT NOT ME.

I'M DEFINITELY...

I HEARD MY FATHER WAS BORN WITH A FAINT MARK ON HIS FOREHEAD...

...I DON'T HAVE THE POWERS OF A CHOSEN ONE...

...EVEN IF...

...NOT A CHOSEN ONE.
...there are times in life when you simply...

...can't back down!

Monsters who take life without hesitation, remorse or regret.

Because there are monsters in this world, monsters with no souls.

Their aggression...
...IS SOMETHING I CAN'T FORGIVE!
A life that's lost can never return.

It's gone forever.
I've heard them somewhere. These words... Why do you ruin them?

Isn't made of human flesh. A demon's body...

Why do you steal peoples' lives?
WHAT IS IT THAT MAKES LIFE INTERESTING?

WHAT DO YOU THINK LIFE IS?

I DON'T KNOW HIM.

WHO IS THAT?
HOW COULD YOU FORGET?

MEMORIES FROM LORD MUZAN'S BLOOD!

SURELY YOU STRUGGLED AGAINST PAIN AND SUFFERING. YOU MUST HAVE SHED TEARS.

DON'T YOU SEE?

THIS ISN'T ME. THESE AREN'T MY MEMORIES.

EVEN YOU WERE ONCE HUMAN...

Weren't you?
I'm a demon now. That's all that matters.

Lose anything!

I don't remember such things. The past is past.

We never lose anything!

We don't get sick...

We don't get old...

...and we never die.

We don't need money to eat.
AND WE'RE STRONG! DEMONS CAN DO ANYTHING WE WANT!

WE NEVER FADE. WE'RE ETERNALLY YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL.

BUT I'VE HEARD ENOUGH.

SO YOU SAY.
THIS WEB LEAVES YOU NO ESCAPE!

YOU CAN'T STOP ME, YOU FOOL!
I SENT PIECES OF MY BODY OUT TO ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF THE HANAMACHI.

YOU BARELY SURVIVED BEFORE. THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN HANDLE MY FULL BLOOD DEMON ART!

THEY'RE MUCH FASTER NOW THAT I'M WHOLE AGAIN.

I WILL SLASH YOU AND YOUR DULL SWORD...

THIS IS THE END. GOODBYE.

...AND THEN I AM GOING AFTER THE HASHIRA!
BURNING BONES, SUMMER SUN!

HINOKAMI KAGURA
Such pain...

But I struck him deep!

...and I can't regenerate!

The wound burns...

My hands are shaking. Is this me? Or Lord Muzan?

Plus my obi is tougher than ever before!

How can he cut through it?!

Usually my victims fall to pieces if they keep moving after a blow like that.
WHAM KNOCKOUT

SO STRANGE!

STRANGE.

HE'S FASTER THAN BEFORE!

CAN'T HE FEEL PAIN?

ISN'T HE HUMAN?!
NICE TRY, LITTLE PEST. BUT...

...MY HEAD WON'T BE TAKEN BY THE LIKES OF YOU!
In their letters, Tanjiro and Senjuro like to gossip about Zenitsu and Inosuke. The stories make him laugh out loud.
I can't cut something with so much give!

When I strike the cloth it stretches!

Zwsh

Fwp
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY, YOU UGLY BRAT!

REALY SLOWLY!

I CAN'T DODGE THEM ALL!

MORE OB! THIRTEEN OF THEM!

EXCEPT... THEY'RE MOVING SLOWLY.
YOU GOT LUCKY LAST TIME!

I WON'T LET YOU TOUCH MY NECK AGAIN!
He used the side of his blade to parry all of them to one side...
I'll blow you away!

Do you think you've stopped me?
BUT I CAN MOVE THEM WITH A THOUGHT AND HE'S SO FAR AWAY... SO THEY CAN'T FLEX!

HE WANTS THE OBI PULLED TIGHT...
CAN HE CUT ME?

HUUH?

HE'S SO FAST!

IT'S SIMPLE! I JUST NEED TO FINISH MY FOLLOW-THROUGH BEFORE SHE FLEXES...

THIS TIME I CAN DO IT!
PLEASE!

BIG BROTHER! BREATHE!
HUMAN BEINGS HAVE TWO LIMITATIONS.

WHEN THEY REACH THEIR PHYSICAL LIMIT...

THEM: WHEN THEY REACH THEIR PHYSICAL LIMIT.

...THEY'RE WRACKED WITH PAIN AND CANNOT MOVE.

...FUELED BY ANGER SO STRONG THEIR EYES BLEED!

BUT ONE CAN IGNORE THIS PAIN AND KEEP GOING...
ONCE THAT LIFE FORCE IS GONE, DEATH IS CERTAIN.

TANJIRO IS ABOUT TO PASS THAT LIMIT.

...AND YOU WILL VOMIT BLOOD FOR YEARS!

CROSS THAT THRESHOLD FOR EVEN ONE SECOND...

...EVEN WHILE FIGHTING A DEMON...

...THEN DEMONS WOULD HAVE BEEN WIPED FROM THE EARTH.

IF ANGER ALONE COULD CARRY YOU THROUGH...
No matter how hard you try, this is all you've got. How unfortunate.

You humans are so miserable.

I can only hear the sound of my heartbeat.

My vision is going dark.

I passed my limit a while ago.

Can't stop coughing. Can't... breathe...

You won't have time to notice...

Koff

Get up!

Your wounds will heal very slowly...

Koff

Raise your sword!

Koff

...but don't worry about that.
...because I'm about to cut off your head!
MEMORIES
STIR IN HER.

...SUCH A HIGH CONCENTRATION OF KIBUTSUJI'S OWN BLOOD.

NEZUKO HAS NEVER ENCOUNTERED A DEMON WHOSE VEINS CONTAIN...

DAKI IS AN UPPER-RANK DEMON.
I CAN’T BELIEVE IT! I CAN’T BELIEVE YOU DID THAT!

YOU!

WHY DID YOU DO THAT?!!

YOU’RE THE ONE HIS LORDSHIP WAS TALKING ABOUT!

HUMAN BEINGS HAVE LIMITS.
WHAT ABOUT NEZUKO?

BUT DEMONS?

HER ANGER IS INFINITE!

IT DRIVES HER ON UNTIL SHE WIPES HER ENEMY FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

HER ANGER BURNS JUST AS HOT, BUT IT HAS NO LIMITATIONS!
FIND HER. FINISH HER. YOU'RE MY ONLY HOPE.

 THERE IS ONE DEMON WHO ESCAPED MY GRIP—LIKE TAMAYO DID.

...AND A CHECKERBOARD OBI.

YOU'LL KNOW HER BY HER KIMONO. IT HAS A HEMP PATTERN...
I'll kill her slowly and then lay the proof at your feet!

Yes, my lord.
IS KICKING HER ONLY ABILITY?
YOU! STRIPLING DEMON!
TANJIRO...

...I GET SCARED WHEN YOU'RE ANGRY.

YOU AND NEZUKO ARE VERY MUCH ALIKE. YOU'RE BOTH KIND, BUT...
...AND SHE GOT ANGRY. SHE DEMANDED HE APOLOGIZE.

...WHEN A MEAN GROWN-UP CARELESSLY INJURED A LITTLE KID. NEZUKO SAW IT HAPPEN...

I REMEMBER A TIME...

PEOPLE WHO GET ANGRY FOR THE SAKE OF OTHERS...

...DON'T WORRY ABOUT THEMSELVES.

THERE WERE LOTS OF GROWN-UPS AROUND SO IT TURNED OUT OKAY.

BUT I WAS SCARED.

...YOU COULD LOSE EVERYTHING, AND THAT SCARES ME.

BECAUSE OF THAT...
YOU'RE WEAK.

YOU NEVER FEED ON HUMANS.

HOW DID YOU ESCAPE HIS LORDSHIP'S CONTROL?

YOUR BODY IS COMING APART LIKE FALLING TEARS.

YOU POOR WRETCH.
QUICKLY REGENERATE THOSE WOUNDS.

A HALF-DEVELOPED DEMON LIKE YOU...

AND IN THE MORNING I'LL EXPOSE YOU TO THE SUN AND KILL YOU.

BUT SINCE YOU ARE A DEMON, I WON'T TOY WITH YOU ANY LONGER.

I'LL WRAP YOU UP INSIDE MY OBIS...

DEMONS FIGHTING DEMONS...

...IS SUCH A WASTE.
She did regenerate her leg! But even so, how can she stand?

Wait, what's going on?

Definitely cut through her.

...I cut her in half.

I know that.

Drip!
AS QUICKLY AS AN UPPER-RANK DEMON...

...OF HER REGENERATION...

THE SPEED...

NO!

SHE'S REGENERATING AS QUICKLY AS AN UPPER-RANK DEMON!
WHAT'S THIS FEELING? HER MENACING AURA HAS CHANGED.

GRRR

ANOTHER KICK!
NEXT I'LL TAKE YOUR HEAD.

THE FOOL STILL HAS ONIXOKE ATTACK.
"IMPOSSIBLES, THAT WOULD MAKE HER REGENERATIVE POWERS EVEN GREATER THAN MINE?"
NEZUKO ISN'T HERSELF ANYMORE!

TANJIRO, HELP!
CHAPTER 84: WHAT IS IMPORTANT
LET ME UP, YOU BRAT!
I'll cut you into little pieces and scoop them into my obi!
GUSH

SEVERED LIMB??

SHE STOPPED ME WITH...

DRIP

THE BLOOD HAS SOLIDIFIED...

NO!

IT'S NOT SEVERED!

Foom
I'm burning!

FIRE!

WHERE HER BLOOD SPLASHED ME...

SLURR SLURR
DON'T DO IT, NEZUKO!

BE STRONG!

NGAAAH!

NEZUKO!

FIGHT IT!

FIGHT THE HUNGER!

YOU CAN DO IT!
She was terribly injured while I was out cold.

I can smell Nezuko's blood all around.

I'm sorry I made you fight!

Forgive me!

Heru's blood all around.
I'M SO SORRY!

BUT I'M HERE NOW!

I CAN TELL HOW MUCH YOU'VE BEEN HURT!

CALM DOWN, NEZUKO!

GO TO SLEEP AND HEAL!

YOUR BIG BROTHER IS HERE TO PROTECT YOU! YOU'RE SAFE!

NEZUKO!!

WHUP

URAAAH!
They're coming through the floor!

What?! Look out!

Chomp

Grrrr

Please sleep!

Nezuko!

Gaaah!

Koff

Ngh!

Shh

Yaaaaah!
I can't believe you were able to do that.

And you can even use a blood demon art.

A strange blood demon art that burns only demons.

I'll take a while to heal all this.

Strange blood demon art even for me. It's really irritating!
...THE INNOCENT BYSTANDERS!

HAVE TO PROTECT

IS IT SAFE TO LET NEZUKO GO?

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

GRRR!

SHE'S GONNA ATTACK...

AND THE WHOLE BUILDING WILL FALL!

THUMP

THINK!

THINK!

FMP GRRR!

I'LL SAVE THE PEOPLE FIRST!
HER DEMONIZATION IS REALLY ADVANCING! VERY FLASHY!

WOW! IS THIS REALLY NEZUKO KAMADO?

HE'S HERE HIMSELF!

YOU TALKED BIG IN FRONT OF THE MASTER, BUT HOW IS SHE REALLY DOING?!

SHUT UP. I'M NOT TALKING TO YOU.
YOU CAN'T BE AN UPPER-RANK DEMON.

YOU AREN'T THE ONE I WAS LOOKING FOR, RIGHT? YOU'RE TOO WEAK.

WHAT THE-?
Taisho Whispers & Rumors

Uzui's Crow is ultra-chic. Apparently, it's a fashion leader in the crow world.
CHAPTER 85: WEEPING
DID UZUI JUST CUT OFF HER HEAD?!

HER HEAD FELL OFF! INCREDIBLE!

NEZUKO! GRARRR!

THIS FIGHT ISN'T OVER. DO SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR SISTER.
I don't need a snarling little brat to worry about while I'm in battle.
What should I do, mother?

It's no use. I'm not getting through.

She won't listen at all.
SING SOMETHING SOOTHING. A LULLABY.

WHEN I WAS SMALL...

...WHY ARE YOU...

BABY RABBIT...

...EARS SO LONG?

...ON THE HILL-SIDE...

...HUSH, HUSH...

GRRRAAHH!!

...AND THAT'S WHY...

...MY EARS ARE LONG.

...MOTHER ATE THE LEAVES OF A TALL TREE...
NEZUKO...

"...why are your eyes so red?"

"hush, hush... baby rabbit on the hillside..."
"...AND THAT'S WHY MY EYES ARE RED."

"WHEN I WAS SMALL...

...MOTHER ATE THE FRUIT OF THE RED TREE..."

SO WILL HIS EYES BE RED TOO?

MAMA, YOU ATE THAT FRUIT...

...WHEN TANJIRO WAS IN YOUR STOMACH.
SHE'S ASLEEP.

SHE FELL ASLEEP.

UZUI...

SHE FELL ASLEEP...

PHE!

SHE FELL ASLEEP, MOM.
HOLD ON A MINUTE! WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?!

YOU BORE ME, SO DIE ALREADY.

ARE YOU STILL WHINING?

YOU WOHN'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU CUT OFF MY HEAD!

ALSO, WHY'D YOU SAY I'M NOT AN UPPER-RANKER?

GET OVER YOURSELF!

*SWORD: AKKIMESSATSU, DESTROYER OF DEMONS*
I'M UPPER-RANK 6!

I'VE NEVER LOST IN BATTLE! NOT ONCE!

BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT AN UPPER-RANK DEMON.

HAS YOUR BRAIN DRIPPED OUT TOO?

YEAH? THEN WHY IS YOUR HEAD CUT OFF? YOU'RE CLEARLY NOT STRONG ENOUGH.

CLEARLY YOU LOST TODAY.

I'VE NEVER LOST IN BATTLE! NOT ONCE!

I EARNED MY UPPER RANK!

NOT VERY CONVINCING.

BUT I'M GONNA KEEP GETTING STRONGER!

I'M UPPER-RANK 6! I'M REALLY STRONG!
I have a number on my eye and everything!

Because I'm so amazing!

It's true! I really am upper-rank 6!
SERIOUSLY? SHE'S CRYING LIKE A BABY.

EVERYBODY, DIE! DIE! DIE!

GYUTARO, SAVE ME!

HE CUT OFF MY HEAD!
YOU'VE LOST YOUR HEAD.

YOU SHOULDN'T PIN IT TO YOUR SHOULDERS.

AND THAT ONE... THAT CAME OUT OF HER BACK—WHO IS HER? HIS REFLEXES ARE INCREDIBLE!

CRYING WON'T HELP.

I TOOK HER HEAD OFF, BUT SHE ISN'T DYING.
WHEN YOU HAVE AN ASSET LIKE THAT, YOU HAVE TO PROTECT IT.
AND YOU WERE SO CUTE.

OH NO... YOUR FACE IS BURNED.
YOU BLOCKED MY ATTACK...

WOW...

YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD.
AND I WAS REALLY TRYING TO KILL YOU.

YOU'RE GOOD.

YEAH... DEFINITELY GOOD.
The sparrow finds Zenitsu.
IT IS A JOB DESCRIPTION, NOT A PERSON'S NAME.

...THAT REFERS TO THE BARKERS WHO CALL OUT TO PASSERSBY AND ENTICE THEM INTO THE ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT.

...WHO TOOK THE TITLE OF HIS JOB FOR HIS NAME.

GYUTARO WAS THE ONLY ONE...

...THAT'S STILL THE ONLY NAME HE HAS FOR HIMSELF.

EVEN NOW, WHEN HE BARELY REMEMBERS HIS HUMAN LIFE...
YOUR SKIN IS GOOD TOO. NO STAINS OR MARKS OR SCARS.

I BET WOMEN FAWN ALL OVER YOU.

AND YOU'RE SO TALL. HOW BIG ARE YOU...?

OVER SIX FEET!

WELL, LOOK AT YOU!

... YOU HAVE SUCH A NICE FACE.

JUST DON'T LET YOURSELF GET FLABBY.

WITH SUCH BROAD SHOULDERS.
AND I HOPE YOU GO PAINFULLY.

MAYBE FLAYED ALIVE WITH YOUR STOMACH SLICED OPEN...

I MUST ADMIT THAT I'M JEALOUS... TRULY JEALOUS.

JUST DIE ALREADY.

YOU GOTTA KILL THE ONES WHO BURNED ME TOO!

GYUTARO! IT'S NOT JUST HIM! THERE ARE MORE!
But they came along and messed it all up!

I fought as hard as I could!

They ganged up on me!

I really tried, all on my own!

My adorable little sister, trying as hard as she could... left with no head on her shoulders.

I'll kill everyone who messed with her...

Yeah... oh no... we can't have that.

We'll pay you back for what you did to us!

I'm gonna collect what's due.
"...That was Gyutaro who sent you to the afterlife!"

"And as you lie dying, don't forget..."
SICKLES?

WHAT ARE THOSE...?
IS THERE A NEW DEMON? I SMELL UZUI’S BLOOD. WHAT’S GOING ON?

I HAVE TO HELP!

...AND FLYING BACK! THEY DON'T BELONG TO THE OBIDEMON!

I MADE IT! I'M HERE!

Hey, STUPID! GRAH!

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME!

Zenitsu!

WAIT... IS HE ASLEEP ?!

Inosuke!
LEAVE THIS TO ME AND REST EASY! GRAH!

ME—LORD INOSUKE!

I'M GONNA GO WILD!

HURRY!

GO IN AND HELP UZUI!

I'M GONNA BE REEEEEAL FLASHY!

HIS MIND IS EASILY INFLUENCED.

YOU GUYS GET IN THERE!

YOU'RE PARDONED!

UH... THANKS.

PARDON ME FOR A MINUTE...

...BUT I'VE GOTTA PUT NEZUKO BACK IN HER BOX!
I'M JEALOUS.

YOU REALLY ARE...

I BET THEY SMOTHER YOU IN GRATITUDE.

THEY OWE YOU THEIR LIVES.

YOU LOOK SO COOL...

...AND YOU PROTECT PEOPLE.

YOU SAVE THEM.

A GOOD MAN.

YES.
OF COURSE!

I’VE EVEN GOT THREE WIVES.

I’M A FLASHY, BRILLIANT, SEXY GUY!

OKAY. THAT’S TOO MUCH! EVEN I CAN’T FORGIVE THAT!

YOU HAVE THREE WIVES?
I can't block them all and protect the others! Thin blades of blood... and so many!
AND DROPPED TO THE FIRST FLOOR. WHAT? HE EXPLODED!

RUN! HIDE YOURSELF!

YAAAAH!
FLYING BLOOD SICKLES... TURN!

NICE TRY, BUT YOU CAN'T GET AWAY!
HE DOESN'T JUST THROW THEM... HE CONTROLS THEM!

...WILL THEY BOTH DIE?

...HE'S THE MAIN BODY? IF I CUT OFF THE BROTHER'S HEAD...

SHE DIDN'T DIE EVEN WHEN I CUT OFF HER HEAD.

THEY'RE SIBLINGS, SO MAYBE...

THE SLASHING BLOOD BLADES FLY AROUND UNTIL THEY HIT!
THE PEOPLE UPSTAIRS HAVE FLED BY NOW.

BY THE SOUND OF IT...

EITHER WAY, I HAVE TO TRY!
THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE EASY.
BECAUSE NOW WE FIGHT AS ONE!
These two are trying to join the fight.

*He means the explosions.

Stop the boom-boom or we can't get in there!
CHAPTER 87: GATHERING

...I'M STAYING IN IT TILL THE END!!

I CAN STILL FIGHT.

I CAN STILL MOVE.

BUT THIS TIME...
CHAPTER 87: GATHERING
YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER HASHIRA I'VE KILLED.

I MEAN IT, I'M JEALOUS. I WANT YOU DEAD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

I BET YOU WERE SPECIAL SINCE YOU WERE BORN.

“TALENT”? HA!
YOU’VE GOT A PRETTY ROSY OUTLOOK ON LIFE IF THAT’S WHAT YOU THINK.

DO I LOOK LIKE I HAVE TALENT TO THINK?

THEN AGAIN, YOU’VE BEEN HIDING OUT HERE FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS...

THIS IS A BIG COUNTRY AND...

...IT’S TEEMING WITH INCREDIBLE PEOPLE.

THEN AGAIN, YOU’VE GOT A PRETTY IGNORANT VIEW OF THE WORLD.

...SO I GUESS YOU’VE GOT A PRETTY IGNORANT VIEW OF THE WORLD.
...AND A FEW HAVE A NATURAL WAY WITH THE SWORD...

...AND BECOME A HASHIRA IN TWO MONTHS.

YOU HAVE NO CLUE HOW MUCH I'VE LOST OVER THE YEARS!

SO I'M CHOSEN? GIMME A BREAK.

THEN HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN IT?

I CAN'T BE LIKE RENGOIKU.

THAT'S RIGHT.
MY BLOOD SICKLES ARE POISONOUS...

WHAT'S GOING ON?

ENOUGH LIES!

I'M FROM A FAMILY OF SHINOBI—NINJA.

BUT NO MATTER HOW LONG I WAIT, YOU DON'T FEEL ANY EFFECTS!

YOU DIED YET?

MY BLOOD SICKLES ARE POISONOUS...

THEY DIED OUT IN THE EDO PERIOD!

I'VE BUILT UP A RESISTANCE TO POISON.
By the time I was 15, seven were dead.

The only survivors were me and my younger brother.

My little brother...

...was just like my father. He was just as cold and heartless.

...so he forced us all through intense training.

My father was afraid the clan was doomed...

I could never be like that.

He had no respect for others.

He was stubborn and cold.

Minions were expendable, and his wife was just for making babies.
...THE PATH YOU CHOOSE IS A HARD ONE.

TENGEN...

...AT THE SAME TIME THAT YOU'RE FIGHTING ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE.

IT IS HARD TO REJECT THE VALUES YOU LEARNED AS A CHILD. YOU MUST ALWAYS FIGHT YOURSELF...

...I TRUST YOU TO ALWAYS FIGHT FOR ME AND TO PROTECT INNOCENT LIVES.

BUT IN SPITE OF YOUR MANY INNER CONFLICTS...
YOU ARE A WONDERFUL CHILD.

THANK YOU, TENGEN...

MASTER, IT IS WHO AM THANKFUL...

...TO YOU.

I SEE WHAT MUST BE DONE, AND I DO IT.

PEOPLE WHO STRUGGLE WITH THEIR INNER CONFLICT ARE FOOLISH WEAKLINGS.

YOU SHOWED ME SOMETHING WORTH RISKING MY LIFE FOR. DOING SO IS MERELY A MATTER OF COURSE.

HEY?

YOU!

HEY!
IT'S JUST TAKING EFFECT VERY SLOWLY. YOU ALMOST BLUFFED ME INTO THINKING THAT IT WASN'T!

I'M IN PEAK CONDITION. I COULD DANCE AND SING AND EAT A DOZEN BOWLS OF TEMPURA RIGHT NOW—WITH STYLE!

THAT POISON'S WORKING AFTER ALL, ISN'T IT?
NOBODY KICKS MY SISTER!

YOU SCUM!
And they go off at the slightest impact.

She always gets hurt first!

Those beads explode with enough force to hurt demons.

Her obi accidentally cut one.
SWISH

The sword can stretch...

...but he's holding it by the blade!
GRIP

NTANG

SHH!

TSK!

I didn't finish off THIS ONE!
THAT BIG JERK SLICED MY NECK AGAIN!

GAAAAAAAAH!

WHY DO I ALWAYS GET CUT?!

THIS IS SO UNFAIR!

OH. SO YOU'VE NOTICED?
BECAUSE SOONER OR LATER YOU'RE GOING TO DIE.

EVEN IF YOU HAVE NOTICED, IT DOESN'T MATTER.

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?

BIT BY BIT, WE'RE GRADUALLY GETTING CLOSER TO WINNING.
OH... AND MY UNDERLING TOO.

YOU HAVEN'T TAKEN ME INTO ACCOUNT!

NEVER FORGET—LORD INOSUKE!

YOU'RE WHO EXACTLY?
BONUS CHAPTER: INOSUKE'S FAIRY TALE

I DON'T KNOW WHY THE BOARS WERE RAISING INOSUKE.

INOSUKE HASHIBIRA WAS A BOY RAISED BY WILD BOARS.

MAYBE THE MOTHER BOAR LOST HER CHILDREN. IT Doesn'T MATTER.

BUT WE KNOW THAT INOSUKE IS QUITE FLUENT.

WHY IS THAT?

I AM KING OF THE MOUNTAIN!

IF A CHILD ...

... DOESN'T LEARN ANY LANGUAGE BY A CERTAIN AGE, IT BECOMES DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO PICK IT UP LATER.
Wants a bride.

He was a good, hard-working lad who lived with his beloved grandfather.

His life was dull and repetitive, but one day...

It's because of this young man: Takaharu.

Lucky ears.

He returned home and his grandfather was feeding a strange animal.
Takaharu loved his grandfather.

...He took care of the old man as best he could.

Are you going senile?!

Grandpa! Don't feed strange animals, you old coot!

Okay, I understand.

It might bring its parents next time!

Listen, Grandpa!

Don't feed that thing! It's dangerous!
"...but now that we're together, it's difficult."

"For you...

...I thought I could give my life...

I know you're lonely, but get out of here!

Stop fussing over him! He isn't your grandson!

Shoo! Shoo!

Why are you reading Hyakunin Isshu* to him?!

No!

Okay. I understand.

*A book of classical Japanese poetry
I RECKON THAT'S YOUR NAME. YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER GAVE IT TO YOU, SO BEAR IT WELL.

IT SAYS, "INOSUKE HASHIBIRA."

HE'S STILL A BOAR MONSTER. YOU CAN'T TEACH HIM TO TALK!
SHUT UP, BOY! GO GET ME SOME CRACKERS! THIS IS MY YARD NOW!

GYAAAH! THE MONSTER TALKED!

AND THAT'S HOW INOSUKE LEARNED TO SPEAK... APPARENTLY.

THE END.
CHAPTER 88: HOW TO DEFEAT THEM

THIS WAY!

EVERYBODY RUN!
EVERYONE DIES, SO DON'T BOTHER GETTING ALL WORKED UP.

NO MATTER HOW MANY LOW-RANKERS YOU BRING, ALL OF YOUR FUTURES ARE BLEAK.

HMMPH

ARE THEY BOTH UPPER-RANK-6? ARE THEY JOINED SOMEHOW?

THERE ARE TWO DEMONS, WHAT'S GOING ON?

AND WHY ISN'T THE OBI DEMON DEAD?

HE SMELLS DIFFERENT. THE IMPACT OF HIS SCENT...

IT MAKES MY THROAT NUMB.

THAT GUY IS DEFINITELY THE CORE ONE.
AND DON'T UNDERESTIMATE HUMANS!

LISTEN UP, DEMONETTE! WE'LL WIN AND WE'LL DO IT EASILY!

I MAY BE POISONED, BUT I'M STILL MORE THAN YOUR EQUAL!

YEAH! THAT'S RIGHT!

THEY'LL STAND TRUE TO THE END!

THESE THREE ARE THE VERY BEST OF ALL MY MINIONS!

CUT OFF THEIR LIMBS AND THEY'LL FIGHT WITH THEIR TEETH!
BESIDES, I'VE ALREADY FIGURED OUT HOW TO BEAT YOU TWO!

IT'S CUTTING OFF BOTH OF YOUR HEADS SIMULTANEOUSLY!

I'M RIGHT, AREN'T I? YOU KNOW I AM!

OTHERWISE, YOU'D JUST ABSORB YOUR LITTLE SISTER AND CONSOLIDATE YOUR POWERS! BUT THAT'D MAKE YOU VULNERABLE!

YOU GUYS ARE SO SIMPLE!

WE'VE PRACTICALLY WON ALREADY!

HA HA HA!! I'VE GOT IT!
Including some Hashira.

I've eaten 15 of you...

...and my sister seven more.

Many Demon Slayers have died trying to accomplish that "easy" task!

...and the long night is always on our side!

Until dawn breaks, none of you are safe...

So why don't you all just give it up now?
YOU GUYS HANDLE THAT MANTIS!

LEAVE THE WORM-WOMAN TO ME AND SLEEPY-HEAD!

LET'S GO!

WE WILL.

WATCH YOURSELVES!

NOT IF MY LITTLE SISTER HAS ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT IT.
BEFORE YOU DIE, I HAVE A TASK FOR YOU.
AND WHAT MAKES YOU THINK AN UGLY THING LIKE YOU CAN TALK TO ME LIKE AN EQUAL?

Spare me the boring lecture.

YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS.

THOSE GIRLS ARE NOT TOYS.

THAT PAYS FOR THEIR CLOTHING, FOOD AND HOUSING, BUT...

TO THE GIRL WHOSE EAR YOU NEARLY TORE OFF IT MAY BE YOUR MONEY...
THOSE WHO PROVIDE NO VALUE DON'T DESERVE TO BE TREATED LIKE HUMANS. THE UGLY HAVE NO RIGHT TO EAT.

THEIR OWNERS CAN SELL THEM, BUY THEM OR BREAK THEM.

YOU WERE MISTREATED IN THE PAST, BUT THAT MEANS YOU KNOW IT'S BAD TO TREAT OTHERS THAT WAY.

IF I DON'T CAUSE MISERY EQUAL TO MY OWN UNHAPPINESS, I'LL NEVER BALANCE THE SCALES!

...ON WHAT TO DO TO OTHERS AS REVENGE!

THE SUFFERINGS OF MY PAST WERE LESSONS...
AND WE KILL ANYONE WHO TRIES TO TELL US OTHERWISE!

THAT'S HOW IT IS WHEN YOU'RE A DEMON!

...WE'LL SLIT YOUR THROATS TOO.

AND IN THE SAME WAY...
HE POISONED UZUI...

I HAVE TO PROTECT HIM!

BUT THEN, I AM FACING AN UPPER-RANK 6 DEMON!

STAND FIRM!

I'M COVERED IN GOOSE BUMPS!

SUCH POWERFUL EVIL!

THE MOMENT HE MOVES, EVEN THE TINIEST BIT...

I'LL SWING MY SWORD THE MOMENT HE MOVES.
WHAT AM I DOING?!
HE HAD TO DEFEND ME!
I'M HOLDING HIM BACK!
UP ABOVE...
A SWARM OF OBI!
I CAN SEE EVERYTHING! EVERY MOVE YOU MAKE!

WITH GYUTARO AWAKE NOW...

...I CAN USE MY FULL STRENGTH!
THEY AREN'T NEARLY AS GOOD AS YOU SAID.
THAT WON'T DO. THAT WON'T DO AT ALL!

YOU WERE LYING ABOUT THEIR CAPABILITY AS TSUGUKO.
ALL RIGHT, LET’S SING!

IS THAT SOME KIND OF MONSTER?!

NO, A SONG, LIKE THIS...

YOU CAN SING A SONG ABOUT FLYING CARP STREAMERS.

DO YOU KNOW ANY SONGS, INOSUKE?

YES! I’LL KILL YOU!

WOOT! TONIGHT IS CHILDREN’S DAY! LET’S SING!

SO WHAT!

CARRRRP...

HIGH-ERRR... THAN ROOFTOPS...

LET’S DECORATE WITH FLOWERS! PEACH BLOSSOMS!

LET’S TURN ON THE LIGHTS! LAMPS WITH PAPER SHADES!

...STREEEM-ERRRS...

AND YOU’RE OFF-KEY! UGH!

YOUR PITCH RISES AT THE END OF EVERY VERSE!

THAT SONG IS FOR GIRLS’ DAY!

YOU TOO?!

TANJIRÓ...

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