

Stella *loves* sweets. What kind of best friend would Rei be if she didn't learn how to make them for her?

Okay, and maybe she also wants to impress Skye. Just a little.

The point is, Rei is going to learn how to make Dango!

She has a bounce in step as she enters Dan's workshop, perhaps a little *too* eager about this. Who doesn't love Dango, after all? Plus, rumor has it, Dan is looking for an apprentice to teach *mochi making* to!

What a girl wouldn't give to learn *that*.

Dan's workshop is in the back of the dango shop, and it's both weird and thrilling to be behind the counter. Rei *ooh's* and *ahh's* over the ingredients until Dan comes out of the back room. She quickly straightens up.

He's always got an aura of calm around him, which Rei finds to be... well, *calming*. Like she has nothing to worry about.

"Are you ready to begin?" He asks, and she nods quickly, stepping up to the prep station.

Dan shows her how to work the flavoring into the rice flour and water, the perfect proportions for each, and Rei nods along with him, though... well, when she tries, it doesn't exactly go to plan.

It ends up too sticky and she pouts, not sure what went wrong. She *thought* she measured it all right-

Dan pours some more rice flour over the mixture and hums. "There," he says simply, "try kneading that."

Rei blinks, but tries again, and with the added flour incorporated, the little balls of dough come out just perfect! "Whoa!" Rei picks one up, looking at it like it's a marvel. Because honestly, it is.

"That's all there is to it?" She asks, looking at Dan, who chuckles.

"Not quite." He picks up the dango sticks then, and she flushes. Oh, of course! She's almost forgotten the most important part!

Dan shows her how to put the dango on the stick, then how to cook and add the glaze, and by the time they're done, hers look a little... well, not perfect. A little lopsided maybe.

But they taste *so good!*

She hums as she bites into it, the sweet peach dango just what she needed today. Rei is pretty sure she won't be getting called back for the Mochi making apprenticeship, but it was still nice to learn how to make Dango.

Dan even sends her home with some ingredients to try more on her own! She still leaves with a skip in her step.