

Touhou: Heart of the Tiger

The main goal of the story from my eyes is to get people to like Shou. Nazrin's already popular, Kogasa is Kogasa, Ichirin is in the fighters, Murasa is in 17.5, Byakuren is a final boss, and Nue is an extra stage boss. I want to give Shou her own spot to shine.

Flashback

???: This is Shou Toramaru, the most honest Youkai of the entire mountain. Through her, we can help lead the Youkai to better lives.

???: I see; from the outset, her heart seems pure. Shou Toramaru, do you pledge yourself to become my disciple, so you may help make the world a better place?

Shou: Lord Bishamonten, it would be an honor.

Dramatic Sound Effect, maybe a bell

1,200 Years Later

Cue to some noisy ambience, the sounds of a bar. We flash to a CG picture of Shou...

Shou: Ah! That's the spot! *In the CG, Shou happily holds up a glass of alcohol with a huge smile on her face.*

Shou: I could go for one more.

Drinking Game: Hold down the button to drink.

???: Aren't you from the temple? I thought Bhuddists weren't supposed to drink alcohol...

Goes to the standard bar scene. Has Shou and an initially silhouetted figure.

Shou: You're right, we aren't actually. But... Ah! I can't help it! (Grinning Drunk).

???: *Sigh.* A clear violator of key rules, and yet you still keep your job, you remind me of someone...

The figure's revealed to be Kasen Ibaraki.

Shou: Ehrrrrrr...

Shou: Oh, it's you! You're the hermit who helped solve the Urban Legend incident, right?

Shou: Uh... Kasen! Yeah! Thanks for keeping us safe!

Kasen: Hm, I'm not really used to being thanked...

Shou: You deserve to be! The work you do for Gensokyo is essential.

Kasen: ...Hmph.

Kasen smiles.

Kasen: You're welcome.

Shou: Sooooooooooooo, what brings you down for a drink today?

Kasen: I felt like unwinding after a weird day.

Shou: Mmmm.... Mind talking about it?

Kasen: I guess not.

Cue Thought Bubble

Kasen: I know this girl who works for the Yama.

Kasen: She was sent to monitor me since I've lived an extended life...

Kasen: But she's such a slacker that we ended up becoming friends instead.

Kasen: Whenever I need someone to talk to, she's always there.

Kasen: So, I also try to be there for her... Which led to this morning.

Kasen: Earlier today, she charged into my house: 'You've gotta hide me!' She yelled.

Kasen: I thought she was being chased by a monster or something, so I managed to seal us into a room.

Kasen: I asked her what was going on and...

Komachi: My boss caught me slacking on the job, and she's furious! I need to hide until she calms down!

Kasen: ...As you can imagine, I was pretty mad!

Kasen: "Why did you drag me into this!? I don't want to anger the Yama!"

Komachi: "You've already annoyed her on account of living so long anyways!"

Komachi: "Besides, you're the person I trust the most!"

Kasen: "...What?"

End Thought Bubble

Kasen: ...Wait, why did I mention that last bit!?

Kasen: Ack!

Shou: Ah! So that's what has you stressed then!

Shou: Well, what do you think about this girl?

Kasen: She's lazy and she gets on my nerves...

Kasen: But she's also really fun to be around.

Kasen: She helped save my life once...

Kasen: She, I, She...

Kasen: ...

Shou: Hehehehehe... Heartache, huh?

Kasen: ...Y...Yeah...

Shou: Hm hm... What to do, what to do...

Shou: Oh, I know!

Shou: Lemme show you something.

Shou pulls out a deck

Kasen: A... A deck of cards? What kind of Bhuddist are you?

Shou: We don't prohibit gambling, we prohibit excessive gambling!

Shou: Besides, we're not gonna bet anything!

Shou: Anyways, take a look.

Blackjack: Win 3 times.

Minigame in the midst

Shou: I worked with Hijiri for a long time, you know.

Shou: I trained with her for years, and it was fun!

Shou: We got along really well, since we both seemed to want to help other people.

Shou: But, gradually my heart started to shake. I'd start sweating oceans when I was around her.

Shou: I used to make excuses to myself, but I realized what was happening eventually.

One card face down; game follows suit

Shou: I was scared, and I didn't want to ruin my relationship with Hijiri.

Shou: But I realized eventually: I would never really be satisfied until I got an answer.

Shou: After realizing my feelings, I had to take a risk.

All cards face down

Minigame's over

Shou holds out a 10 Card.

Shou: I had to conquer my fears.

Hit! A second card appears: it's a Jack.

Shou: ...She loved me too!

Shou: And, it's been centuries since!

Shou: It was one of the best things I ever did!

Kasen: ...

Kasen: You're right. Maybe she'd say no, but...

Kasen: I need to try! I need to know!

Kasen gets up.

Kasen: It's been a pleasure talking to you, Mrs. Toramaru.

Shou: Same! Do your best!

Kasen walks away...

Shou: (...I should probably get home before Hijiri gets worried...)

Super Paper Mario Style Text Cut-ins and Sounds

Distant yells can be heard from the background

Two different colors of text: Purple and Orange

Orange: The tea's ready, lady Hijiri.

Purple: Thank you, Shou!

Orange: ...I heard the humans say something.

Purple: Hm?

Orange: They're calling you a demon... A danger...

Orange: They say it's because you're working with Youkai.

Orange: Maybe... Maybe if you left us, you'd...

Purple: Stop.

Orange: What?

Purple: I help Youkai because they need my help.

Purple: If I didn't help them, then I wouldn't be doing my job right.

Purple: We need to keep helping as many people as we can, no matter what other people think.

Orange: ...You're so wise, lady Hijiri.

Orange: I... I...

Purple: I know, hehe!

Another Day

Ring Ring Ring.

Shou walks into the bar, a sad expression on her face.

Drinking Game: Hold down the button to drink.

There's a slight fade out...

The sounds of audience ambience are back. Shou once again has a smile on her face.

Shou: Hehe!

???: This seat taken?

Shou: No, go ahead!

???: Sweet!

Raiko sits down.

Shou: Say, that's a cool jacket.

???: Thanks! It tends to be a hit when I perform.

Shou: Perform... Perform what?

Raiko: Music. I'm Raiko Horikawa, and I play with the Prismriver Sisters.

Shou: Oh! Perform music!

Shou: I think my friend Ichirin went to see one of your concerts then.

Shou: Name's Shou Toramaru, and I'm a leader at the Myouren Temple!

Raiko: A living drum walks into a bar and sees a drunk Buddhist... Crazier things have happened in my life.

Shou: Hahaha!

Shou: Are ya just here to talk?

Raiko: Yep! Meeting new people is one of the many ways I like to spend my life!

Raiko: ...Although, I did want to bring someone here.

Raiko: You seem trustworthy, can I let you in on a little secret?

Shou: My ears are WIIIDDDEEE open right now!

Shou: Any secret's safe with me!

Raiko: Alright, so it's like this:

Flashback Scenes

Raiko: So I have this bandmate, right? She's a bit crafty.

Raiko: She's the one who sets up the concerts, and the one who tends to lead her sisters during group fights.

Raiko: When I first joined the band, we worked together to manipulate a Tengu into giving us premium press coverage...

Raiko: And sparks kind of just flew from there.

Raiko: Behind the scenes: It's great!

Raiko: Whenever we're not on tour, we eat together, talk about our dreams, and even play some private love songs.

Raiko: But whenever I try to talk to her in public...

Lyrica: Not now! Think about all of the fans!

Raiko: ...

Raiko: I love her, really, I do.

Raiko: But that calculating side of hers can be so frustrating.

Lyrica: If some of the fans found out two women were dating, do you know what'd happen?

Lyrica: There'd be articles out the wazoo!

Lyrica: The fanbase would divide, tickets sales would dwindle.

Lyrica: All of the interviews we'd have to do to handle all of that...

End Flashback Scenes

Raiko: And, she just goes on and on.

Raiko: Why can't I just spend quality time with her?

Shou: Your bandmate reminds me of someone... It was...

Shou: No... Hang on...

Shou: Ah! It was me!

Raiko: Huh? You!?

Shou: Yeah uh, let me think back a bit more.

Shou: ...You know, I've heard it's gotten worse now, but,

Shou: When me and Hijiri were in the Outside World around uh, eight hundred years ago, girls could love each other just fine. At least, in Japan.

Shou: Our issue was something else instead.

Shou: Even after one hundred years, Youkai were still uneasy about Hijiri preaching to them.

Shou: I was meant to be the bridge to them...

Shou: But that plan became a teennnnsy bit complicated when we fell in love.

Shou: I remember one day back in the Outside World, Hijiri and I went on a walk together.

Shou: We ended up seeing a beautiful sunset, and she leaned in to try to kiss me...

Shou: But there were so many Youkai surrounding us!

Shou: She was still a human back then...

Shou: What would everyone think of a human and a Youkai in a relationship together?

Shou: So I brushed her aside...

Raiko: Wow, that's pretty cold...

Shou: Yeaahhhhhh...

Shou: I was thinking about the temple... What if Youkai stopped coming? They'd lose the path to enlightenment.

Shou: And maybe uh, your bandmate was probably thinking about you and her sisters, less success would make it harder for you all to live.

Raiko: I see...

Raiko: Hm? So, should I respect her wishes then?

Shou (Smiling): I wouldnnnnnn't say that.

Shou: You're a musician, right?

Raiko: Yep.

Shou: Can you sing?

Raiko (Smirking): Hell no.

Shou: Then this will be perfect!

Shou: Here, take this microphone and follow my lead!

Karaoke

Shou: Ah...

Raiko: That was fun!

Shou: Yep. Karaoke's when you can just let loose.

Shou: Whether you're a professional singer or you manage a library, you're still true to yourself when you sing.

Shou: And it feels great, right?

Raiko: Yeah, it does.

Shou: So, sure: if people know about you and your bandmate, you might lose a few fans.

Shou: But you'll know that you were true to yourself, and get that same feeling you do when you sing.

Shou: Plus, would you really want fans who aren't accepting of who you are anyways?

Raiko: Hm... I guess not.

Raiko: You're really wise Mrs. Toramaru.

Shou: I try my best!

Raiko: Thanks for the advice! I'll talk to my bandmate tomorrow.

Raiko: Until then...

Raiko: Wanna sing some more?

Shou: It'd be a pleasure!

The scene fades away

Super Paper Mario Text Flashback

Purple: They've come to seal me.

Orange: Do we run?

Purple: No, they'll just keep chasing us. I'll ward them off.

Orange: I'm coming with you.

Purple: ...It's not you they're after. It's me.

Orange: B...But...

Purple: Please, don't worry about me.

Purple: And remember...

Purple: I...

Final Day (if there's time to add more couples, then I can add on later)

Ring Ring Ring.

Shou walks into the bar, a sad expression on her face... No fade out this time.

Shou: ...

A new figure walks in and sits next to Shou.

???: ...

Shou: ...

???: Shou Toramaru, currently working with Byakuren Hijiri at the Myouren Temple.

Shou: ...Ah, it's you, the child of Miare.

Shou: Akyuu.

Akyuu Appears

Akyuu: Yes, a pleasure to meet you again.

Shou: And why are you here to...

Akyuu: *(Downs a glass of alcohol)*

Shou: Ha..Hang on a second! You have to be careful with your...

Akyuu: With my frail body, right?

Akyuu: You know, funny story about that.

Akyuu: Earlier today... Someone asked to marry me.

Shou: !!!

Flashback

Akyuu: I go to her family's store a lot to rent books.

Akyuu: The girl who works there, she's naive, in over her head, and a bit annoying at times...

Akyuu: But she's really sweet, really smart, and...

Akyuu: She said that she loved me more than anyone else in the world.

Akyuu: And that she wanted to make the rest of my life as happy as possible, thus the proposal.

Akyuu: ...

Akyuu: I said no.

End Flashback

Shou: Wh...What? Why?

Akyuu: You know about my shortened lifespan, right?

Shou: Yes, and I'm sorry...

Akyuu: I don't have much more time...

Akyuu: I think I'll be gone in around ten years.

Akyuu: I'd be in her life for a moment, and then I'd be gone.

Akyuu: And she'd be left alone for the rest of her life.

Akyuu: If I were with her, then I'd be being selfish.

Selfish

Selfish

Selfish...

Orange Text: Let me tell you about a story.

There was once a tiger who fell in love with a Bhuddist magician. The Buddhist magician loved her too.

The Buddhist magician worked to make a better world for humans and Youkai alike. To help her work with humans, the tiger pretended to be a human.

But the humans grew wary of the magician's constant interactions with Youkai... And they sealed her away.

The tiger, she wanted to save the magician. She really did.

But, there was still so much work to be done at the temple.

*It would be **selfish** of her to leave her duties for her attachment to the magician... Right?*

Orange: She's gone.

Orange: She's really gone...

Orange: What...

Orange: What do I do?

Shou: What do I do!?

...

A cup of alcohol appears on the screen; the player has to hold down the button to drink the entire glass.

Back to the present

Shou: I... I did save her eventually...

Shou: One thousand years later.

Shou: She understood my choice, and she still loves me.

Shou: But...

Shou: I never...

Shou: I never forgave myself.

Shou: In Buddhism, we learn the difference between love and attachment.

Shou: Attachment is a sticky thing, it's when you go after something or someone purely for yourself.

Shou: I thought if I were to go after Hijiri, then I'd be falling prey to this...

Shou: But...

Shou: I didn't want to save Hijiri so I could feel better...

Shou: I wanted to save her so she would feel better.

Shou: This...

Shou: This is what I think love is.

Shou: This girl who wants to marry you, it sounds like she truly loves you.

Shou: You think that when you're gone, she'll be sad.

Shou: But Akyuu, she doesn't want to marry you for herself.

Shou: She wants to marry you... For you.

Akyuu: ...

Shou: *Sniff...*

Akyuu hugs Shou. (CG will go here if implemented in time)

Akyuu: I... I do love her.

Akyuu: ...And I'll do my best to make her happy too.

The scene fades.

After Everything

Shou: ZZZ...

Ring Ring Ring! A figure enters the bar. She grabs Shou and carries her. Outside at night, Shou would groggily come to...

Flash to a picture of Byakuren carrying Shou.

Shou: Mmmm... Hijiri?

Byakuren: Hello, Shou.

Shou: Ahahaha, I'm sorry for drinking.

Shou: I'm a bad buddhist...

Byakuren: Hehe! Well, we are taught that drinking alcohol is wrong, but do you know what else we're taught?

Shou: Hm?

Byakuren: That we shouldn't expect everyone to be perfect, and to just love people for who they are.

Byakuren: And who are you? You're strong, you're caring, and...

Byakuren: You're Shou.

Shou: ...*Psh!*

Shou falls to the floor.

Byakuren: Shou!?

Shou smiles. She gets back up and kisses Hijiri.

Shou: Love you...

The title flashes: Touhou: Heart of the Tiger

The vocal theme of the game starts to play. In an epilogue, we see pictures of the other couples being happy thanks to Shou's advice. At the end of all of this is a picture of Shou and Byakuren together.