

Death's Final Dance - A Danganronpa Executions Fanzine

This is a working document. It will be updated as it progresses and may contain spoilers to the DR Games.

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 - STATUS: FINISHED!! •
 - Here is our charity donation receipt! THANK YOU ALL!!! •



Updated as of April 6th, 2024.

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Introduction

"It's punishment time!"

Death's Final Dance is a Danganronpa zine dedicated to non-canon or alternate executions featuring characters who did not receive their own executions, or different executions for canon killers. This zine will likely cover main games, UDG and the DR3 anime.

Moderators

Mod Paul: Head Mod (Organization, Communications, Shipping, Finance, Co-Formatting) | princepqul

Hey everyone! My name Paul and I have taken up emergency position of head moderator, including shipping/finance and communications. This will be my first time modding a zine, but I am ready to give it my all! I've always been fascinated with the gory side of Danganronpa, so I am more than thrilled to see what our contributors have in store!

Mod Paul is also (in the time during this zine's production) a moderator for *Hear Me Out... A Tumblr Sexyman Zine*.

Mod Char: Socmed Mod | Charburst_

Hi everybody! I'm Charburst but people call me Char! I'll be a co-communications mod alongside Asteria. This is my second time modding a zine. I'm looking forward to working with everyone and bringing this zine to life! I've always been a big fan of Danganronpa and it's gruesome executions.

Charburst has also modded with the sdr2rpg zine.

Mod Sabi: Art Mod | sabimilia

Hello~ I'm Sabi and I'll be the art mod for this zine! I actually can't stand gore, but if you color the blood hot pink, then suddenly I can tolerate everything. Nice to meet everyone :)

Mod Sabi is also the co-moderator of Streetsof Zine.

Mod Harper: Graphics Mod | harpoon__gun

Meowdy! My name's Harper, but my friends call me Harp! I'm going to be making the graphics for DFD, alongside Asteria! I love illustration and design and am super excited about being a zine mod for the first time! The executions are what got me originally hooked on Danganronpa all those years ago, they're such a cool element of the series! So I'm super pumped, it's punishment time, baby!

Mod Harper has also makes graphics for Collaberonpa: a Danganronpa collab project.

Mod Mai: Formatting Mod | ADREM0RA

Hiya! I'm Mai, some people call me Kiwi, but that's besides the point. I'm one of two lead mods for this zine! I am happy to work on another Danganronpa fan publication, and I hope you all are excited for it as well!

Pleased to meet you~

Mai is the head mod (organisation, finance, shipping and format) of Girls Day Out, head mod (finance, shipping, format) of Recipe for Despair, and format mod for Dreams of Distant Days.

Mod Asteria: Communications Mod | OuraniaAstraea

Merha, merha! I'm a Psychology student who likes to bake and Kazuichi Souda is one of my precious little babies $\setminus (\circ \hat{} \circ \circ) / \text{Nice to meet you!}$

Asteria is the head mod (general and social media) of The Journey Within: an A3! Fantasy Storybook Zine, Organisation mod of Cutting Edge: a KNY Cyberpunk and Social Media Mod of Stylish: a HQ! Captains Fashion Zine.

Mod Glownary: Writing Mod | glownary

Hiya! I'm Craig, and I'm the writing mod for this zine. The executions of Danganronpa have always been my favorite visual aspect of the games, and a lot of them are super creative conceptually, too! I'm excited to get to work on this project with everyone.

Craig is also the head mod of Oumota Zine, writer mod of I am the Mastermind!, writer and finance mod of Colors of Despair, and writer and finance mod of My Fiction, Our Reality.

Mod Soul: (MIA) Head & Production Mod | soulimagines

Evening, y'all! Most people usually call me Soul, but I'll respond to just about anything! I'm handling the head mod duties and half of the production duties and am dedicated to making this the best it can be! I've always loved studying the canon and cut executions, and this is no different!

Mod Soul has also been the Head mod for *I Am Ferdinand von Aegir, New Dawn, RANK UP!*, and *Bloom For You*, and has been the Finance mod for *XDivination*, *Inside The Halls*, and [[BIG SHOT]]

Timeline

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1 July (2021) - Zine is launched
3 July - Interest Check Opens
31 July - Interest Check Closes
6 August - Interest Check Results
8 August - Contributor Apps Open
3 September - Contributor Apps Close
Mid September to April (2022) - Creation*
May 1st - 17th - Finalization
May 18th - June 30th - Pre-orders
August 26th (2023) - September 30th - Fundraiser
October - TDB - Production/Shipping
January 12th - March 22nd 2024 - Leftover Sales
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*Subject to change.

Specs and Guidelines

Specs

- A5 zine featuring both artists and writers the current estimate is 30-40 page artists, 5-8 merch artists and 5-10 writers including five to six guests. This is subject to change. The ratio of art to writing pages in the printed zine is estimated at 4:7 and is subject to change on the final product.
 - Edit (3/31/23): Due to several contributors leaving our project, we now have 18 artists, 3 merch artists, and 6 writers total. The ratio of art to writing is still roughly 4:7.
- Writers will have a maximum word count of 1500 and a minimum of 200, with 2 tiers to work on: 200-1000, or 1000-1500. Poetry that can fit within 2 pages is welcomed in this zine.
- Small merchandise and possibly digital items will be available to purchase with the zine.
- No romantic pairings nor interactions are allowed in this zine.

General Guidelines for Applicants

- This zine will depict gore to a certain degree and character deaths. If you are sensitive to either topic, you are advised to proceed with caution.
- Must be 18+, and have Discord for ease of communication.
- All samples provided should show your skill and capability as an artist or writer.
- Creators who use their platform to spread hate or vitriolic messages to their followers will automatically be disqualified. This includes and is not limited to racism, sexism, anti-LGBT, and harrassment.
- For page and merch artists, you may submit one portfolio site and up to five pieces of your best works. Three of the five are compulsory. For merch artists, if a merch item is part of a set (e.g charms or sticker sheets) you may post the full collection as one sample. If you want to apply as a comic artist, you may submit a full comic as one sample. We will not distribute the comic and/or submitted samples outside of the mod team for judging apps.
- For artists, it is encouraged but not necessary to have pieces depicting characters from Danganronpa. If you would like to create a print, or a page illustration, a minimum of one piece containing a background is required in the portfolio and sample works. Backgrounds are not limited to, but include scenery, indoor scenes, and details to fill blank space.
- For writers, it is strongly encouraged but not necessary to have pieces featuring the character you would like to write.
- For writers, you may submit up to three of your works no longer than 1500 words per sample. Two of three are compulsory. If you would like to write shorter fics for this zine (200-500 words long) you may submit samples of that length. One sample should be complete, and one sample from the Danganronpa series.

- Samples with artistic nudity are allowed to be used in your application. If this is so, please reflect in the application form with the checkbox that samples with nudity are being used.
- Strictly NO non-con, emeto, incestuous relationships, or NTR/cheating in your submissions as some of the judging mods are not comfortable with viewing works focusing mainly on these topics.
- You are more than welcomed to submit pieces featuring gore. If your piece contains a lot of violence or an excessive amount of gore, please reflect in the application form that violent samples are being used.
- You must be able to commit to finish a minimum 1 piece for the zine within the 4 months of creation. Artists and writers may do more than 1 work outside of the assigned character, provided they can pace themselves and ensure quality is not sabotaged because of doing multiple pieces. Artists and writers may sign up for 2 assignments from the get-go during apps, and if accepted for 2 assignments, will likely be assigned one for the main printed zine, and one for the digital accompaniment.
- To add to the above point, writers and artists may be asked to work closely with moderators to create promotional material for the zine such as simple character sprites, sketch comics or stories. More details will be given to accepted contributors, but in the total of 4 months of creation, 1-2 months is to be used on solidifying the final pitch to be featured in the zine, and to create this promotional material.

Role Outlines

Writers

- Journal writers are expected to complete a minimum of one journal entry in first person, from the perspective of a character who had to witness an execution: for example, Shuichi's reaction and personal reflections to Himiko's death. You may be paired with an artist who draws for Himiko's execution if you are open to collaboration. We strongly encourage, but do not require, pitches for this position.
- Monologue writers expected to complete a minimum of one monologue in first person, from the perspective of the blackened: for example, Sayaka reflecting on her actions of murder as she is executed, ending the monologue with her death.
- Poets are expected to complete a minimum of one poem themed around a character's execution. It can be centred around the character being executed, or from the perspective of those witnessing it. For example, a poem themed around Akane's execution from the perspective of Nekomaru. We strongly encourage, but do not require, pitches for this position.
- Traditional writers are expected to complete a minimum of one piece for this zine, in a traditional fic writing style common in zines, such as narration-driven pieces, descriptive pieces, or a mix of both. Different styles of writing are more than welcomed!

Artists

The cover artist will be creating the art used on the front of the zine, on the front and back covers. The artist may choose to do a spread or 2 illustrations for the

cover. This artwork will not be featured inside the zine and a level of polish is expected for the cover.

- Page and spread artists will create the interior pages of the zine and are required to finish a minimum of one piece for the zine. If they are collaborating with a writer, they may do small fic decorations for the written piece, on top of their illustration. The full page illustration assigned should be prioritised over fic decorations a level of polish is expected in illustrations.
- Comic artists will create comics for this zine. They do not need to collaborate with a writer but are allowed to bounce ideas with a moderator to create ideas and dialogues for the comic. They are assigned up to 5 pages, but do not need to use all of them. Comics are required to be in colour this includes limited colour palettes.
- Merch artists will create the accompanying merchandise for this zine. This includes, but is not limited to: digital merch items (wallpapers), prints, pins, acrylic charms and sticker sheets.

Contributor Compensation

- At minimum, contributors will be compensated with a digital copy of this zine.
- If we do not break even on sales, the profits will be donated to a charity (or several charities) and contributors will only receive a digital zine, unless they would like to purchase items at manufacture cost.
- If we break even on sales, all contributors will receive either free shipping on their purchase at manufacture cost, or a complementary zine depending on how well sales go.
- If sales go exceedingly well, all contributors will receive a full bundle as well as a cut of the profits. This project is going forward with the split profit model, hence a cut of the profits will go to charity. The charity(s) of choice will be discussed between moderators and contributors, though it will likely be one focusing on mental health. The rest of the money will be distributed between contributors and mods.
- Each contributor will receive shares depending on how much completed work is done for the zine. For example, if a contributor finishes one piece, they are entitled to one share, and if they finish two pieces, two shares. The cover artist will be given two shares for the cover art, and comic artists will be paid per page completed.

Specific Writer Guidelines

- Writers are required to finish one piece for the zine additional pieces are not compulsory. If a writer would like to commit to more than one piece, you may indicate as such on the app form. Do note that you will receive a higher cut of shares if you write more than one fic.
- Writers may write short fics from 200-1000, or 500-1500 words long. Word counts for writers will ideally be assigned based on the samples given during the application, based on availability as well as the type of submission a writer would like to produce.
- Collab writers should be comfortable with being paired with an artist to collaborate with for the final piece and promotional material. The ideas for the assigned character may be discussed in private between the paired artist and writer, and to be approved by the moderators. More information regarding pitches and pitch approval will be given upon acceptance.
- Non-collaborating writers will be assigned to a character that does not have an assigned artist. They may seek assistance from a moderator, and a moderator may collaborate with them to create the promotional material for this zine.
- If a writer would like to be paired with more than one artist, they are more than welcomed to due to the short nature of the fics planned for this zine. Do reflect this in the application, or ask in the question and answer channel when you are accepted. If you decide to do this at a **later point in creation**, the artist is not expected to change their pitch, however it may be discussed between the two of you.
- Vulgarities will be allowed in this zine though not excessively. NO slurs or overly offensive language is allowed.
- We will allow writers to have creative freedom on the most part we only ask that the descriptors are not overly gory/triggering.

Specific Page Artist Guidelines

- Artists are required to finish one piece for the zine additional pieces are not compulsory. If an artist would like to commit to more than one piece, you may indicate as such on the app form. Do note that you will receive a higher cut of shares if you create more pieces. Spread pages are counted as one illustration.
- All work is to be done following the template(s) provided by the moderators, at 350dpi in CMYK colour mode. If you require a file type outside of .psd due to software limitations, please let Mod Mai know. Do NOT work on canvases below 300dpi. Spread artists will also be given a template.
- Traditional artists are allowed to participate, provided that they are able to scan their pieces in a high quality format at 300ppi. (e.g. .tiff, .psd) No submissions in .jpeg are allowed.
- Works should contain stylised depictions of blood, and no excessive gore (no gutting, please!).
- Collab artists should be comfortable with working with a writer to create an idea for the final piece and the promotional material. The ideas for the assigned character may be discussed in private between the paired artist and writer, and to be approved by the moderators. More information regarding pitches and pitch approval will be given upon acceptance.
- Non-collab artists may seek assistance from moderators to discuss and finalise
 pitch ideas, and possibly collaborate with a moderator to create the promotional
 material for the zine. This includes the cover artist.
- All artists will receive more information about pitch approval and creation of promotional material for the zine when they are accepted.

- If you would like to create more than one piece, you are welcome to, provided you have finished, or are finishing, your assigned page already.
- If a non-collab artist suddenly decides to seek a collaboration, you may or may not get the collaboration spot for a character you want as the pairing is decided based on the artist and writer application. You may be asked to be paired with a moderator, or another writer of a character not of your choice.
- Artists will have creative freedom for the most part moderators simply ask of you that nothing triggering or overly violent is shown. Gore to the levels of, if not slightly more than, Danganronpa series has shown in the past is fine. Do check with moderators if you feel your piece may not fit our guidelines!

Comic Artist Guidelines

- Comic artists are required to finish a minimum of one page of comic for the zine and are capped to five pages they are paid per page completed.
- All pages should be done in full colour, which includes limited colour palettes.
- All work is to be done following the template(s) provided by the moderators, at 350dpi in CMYK colour mode. If you require a file type outside of .psd due to software limitations, please let Mod Mai know. Do NOT work on canvases below 300dpi. Spread artists will also be given a template.
- Works should contain stylised depictions of blood, and no excessive gore (no gutting, please!).

Merch Artist Guidelines

Merch artists are not required to collaborate with writers, but may receive
inspiration for their piece from existing contributor pitches. Merch artists will
still be allowed to make their own original pitch if they would like to.

- All work is to be done following the template(s) provided by the moderators, at 350dpi. If you require a file type outside of .psd due to software limitations, please let Mod Mai know. Do NOT work on canvases below 300dpi.
- The amount of work required of a merch artist may be different from artist to artist. At minimum, each merch artist will be assigned to one item. Depending on the complexity of the designs expected of them, a merch artist may have up to 3 assignments. Taking on more merch assignments is not compulsory, and the priority is on the main assignment(s) a higher cut of the shares will be given based on the amount of work done.

FAQ

Q: Will this be physical or digital?

We will be offering both a physical and digital run due to the overwhelming support in our interest check. Thank you so much for showing your support!

Q: Is this for profit or charity?

A: An overwhelming amount of people have asked for a split profit model! We will prioritize the distribution of funds to charity, then to contributors after contributor compensation of zines is settled. Our charity of choice will be Doctors Without Borders.

Q: What is the ratio of art to writing?

A: There will be 35-40 art pieces, and around 10-15 pieces of writing each being 2-5 pages long. Writing may vary from longer descriptive and/or narrative pieces, to short journal entries or monologues. This leaves the page ratio of art to writing to about 4:7. There may be more writing in this zine, if there are writers who would like to contribute to 2 fics rather than one. This ratio does not include potential contributors who would like to draw comics for this zine.

-> Edit (3/31/23): Due to several contributors leaving our project, we now have 18 artists, 3 merch artists, and 6 writers total. The ratio of art to writing is still roughly 4:7.

Q: Why won't you accept minors into the zine?

A: Due to the nature of the content being featured in the zine, the mods are concerned about minors' involvement in a zine primarily featuring gore/mostly character death as ratings vary across countries and we want to play it safe.

Q: Can I apply for more than one role?

A: Of course! You may apply to more than one role, however we do want to avoid double assignments (e.g writer-artist, page-merch artist) as much as possible to ensure a variety of contributors in our zine.

Q: Is this NSFW?

A: No NSFW material outside of artistic gore is permitted in this zine, and the gore portrayed must also be kept within acceptable levels. Strictly no nudity or sexual themes are allowed within this zine.

Q: What type of content is allowed?

A: Please check our guidelines in our info doc above! However, if you do not wish to scroll, the basics are here: **No nudity or sexual themes**, no slurs, no hateful content, no ships or romance, no overly offensive language or visuals. Characters should remain in their canon attire and hairstyles.

Q: Are you going to do background checks or kick people from the zine for their activity outside of the zine?

A: We will do a brief social media check to ensure you do not have bigoted views (e.g. racist, LGBTphobic, etc). We will not judge you for ships, nor the content you create.

Q: Will you be allowing artists and writers to have creative freedom, even for characters with canon or beta executions?

A: Yes, of course! We strongly encourage our contributors to take their own spin to the executions portrayed, including those with canon or beta executions. Since this is focusing on alternate and non-canon executions, the pieces in this zine should not follow canon or beta executions exactly.

Q: Will there be opportunities to work alongside a writer if you are an artist? For instance illustrating a "cover" for their fic or art to go along with it?

A: Of course! If you'd like to be paired with a certain writer (provided you are both accepted), you may reflect as such in our application form when we are accepting applications. Else, if you just want to be partnered up with any artist or writer sharing the same character, you need not specify who your collaboration partner is - the mods will take care of that for you! Covers, spot illustrations and/or half page illustrations are all acceptable methods of collaboration!

Q: Will comics be featured?

A: If you'd like to draw a comic, we ask that your comic take up no more than 5 pages. If you are keen on doing a comic, you may submit comic samples that you have done in the past alongside your portfolio. If you want both a comic and illustration spot, that is also permissible, however you would need to submit samples for both!

Q: Will this zine feature ships?

A: No romantic ships, undertones nor interactions will be allowed in this zine. We want to keep this ship-free and so would like our contributors to write any featured character interactions as strictly platonic.

Q: I am turning 18 just as contributor apps are closing, or within 2021. Can I apply?

A: Please only apply when you are 18, or we will void your application.

Q: How is payment accepted?

A: We are doing Bigcartel for international orders and an Etsy for the UK/EU (due to the change in VAT laws). All payments will be accepted via Paypal and Stripe, which accepts card payments.

Q: I have a question not answered here! How do I reach you?

A: Submit your burning questions to our CuriousCat, or submit asks/DMs on our social media. Thanks for your interest!