

Battle at the Canteen

Shiga decided that I wasn't allowed to write a story about him but there's nothing he can stop me from doing maybe probably. That conversation went a little something like this:

Hey, Shigaisen are you ready for chapter 2?

SSC: No I'm too stupid and arrogant for you to write a second chapter about me!

You're right but I believe in you. This is going to be a great story.

SSC: Ok master, I will do everything you say. You're also a really cool and mysterious ghost with a lot of experience.

Yes.

SSC: And your drawing skills are just over the top! I'm so jealous of you, you are the greate-

SC: *"Shut the fuck up you stupid headache. I'm trying to sleep."*

Didn't we decide that it would be fair if I wrote the story while you didn't have to concentrate on anything?

SC: *"Too bad for you! I always give my best, even if it's with falling asleep. How else do you think I manage such a perfect schedule?"*

My plans foiled again by the great SSC!!!

SC: *"That's right! No plan will work without my consent! Also, stop copy-pasting that typo."*

What typo?

SC: "SSC"

OHOH! No plan gets past you, you say? What do you think of this then! SSC is not a typo but actually stands for: "Stupid Shigaisen Chouchin". HOHOHOHOHO I bet you didn't think of that! And you even approved of it by saying: "That's right!"

SC: *"Amazing, Beautiful, Cool, Delightful, Enchanting, Fabulous, Great, Holy, Intelligent, Jolly, Knowledgeable, Lovely, Magnificent, Neat, Outstanding, Perfect, Quick, Rational, Sympathetic, Talented, Unbeatable, Valiant, Worthy, Xenodochial, Youthful, Zaftig."*

What?

SC: *"These are all adjectives that can be considered compliments and as you might have realized there is one for every letter of the alphabet. If it's this easy for me to come up with a*

compliment for every letter then surely you can come up with one insult for one of the most common letters of the alphabet. What a boring excuse."

Oh wow, these are some great adjectives. Thanks for compiling this list for me. That's very zaftig of you.

SC: *"That's not even how you use that adjective. If you're really a ghost can't you just go somewhere else and write that story there instead of annoying me with this?"*

What a brilliant idea! I can't believe I haven't come up with that before *wink wink*. I'm off then!

SC: *"Stop winking to yourself, brain damage"*

As I was saying, I'll have to tell you what happened from the perspective of the future. This might become a problem because of how bad my memory is but I'll try my best.

After finishing the first part of his first day, Shigaisen had already "befriended" everyone in his class. I say "befriended" because his definition of "friends" is... well, a little one-sided. Bob Jillian, the person whose initials are not PG, started admiring Shiga for his videogame knowledge. The punk that wanted to start a fight was actually pretty easy to deal with. All he had to do was show more confidence than the other guy could and if there's something Shigaisen Chouchin has enough of then it's confidence. According to his analysis, that punk was only behaving that way because he was imitating his idol. *"A spoiled kid who thinks he can behave however he wants"* is what Shiga called him. Two of the girls were polar opposites. One of them had such high standards that it required Shiga to "collect" a harem before she would even talk to him while the other one had such low self-esteem that all he needed to do was replicate a scene from one of the many romcoms that girl watched. The problem was just that she was a little bit tall but it worked regardless.



I hear you thinking: “Why were all the relationships with the girls romantic?” To that I say, please lower the volume of your thoughts they’re kind of obnoxious and hard to over-hear. Thank you. Technically these relationships are neither romantic nor platonic but even if they were honest relationships it’s still stupid of you to assume that because I mentioned examples of “romantic” relationships that all of them are like that. Seriously, what kind of question is that? How dare you even think about it? You know this is pretty damn disgusting but I’ll forgive you because I’m such a nice ghost. Anyway, the most common approach to the students was as follows: He walks up to them, shows interest in something they are interested in, and then also shows them that he’s superior in every way at that thing. And once he had conquered his class and assembled the whole gang he was ready for lunch break.



But not before posing like this. This definitely happened. Don’t ask Shiga, he’d lie. I never lie.

Usually, Shiga prefers eating alone outside of the canteen but the first day of school is an exception and what a wonderful exception it is! If he hadn’t thought of it as an exception ~~he would never have met Kumin-sama~~. Oh, excuse me that was a spoiler. Let me cross that out for you. What? it’s already crossed out? Yes, I just crossed it out, I don’t know what you mean. A crowd had been gathered at the food depositing place. What do you call that? I don’t know, I never went to school. I’m just too wise for it. It looked like they all just desperately wanted food but on closer inspection, the formation of the crowd actually resembled a ring, a ring with two people in the middle. Shiga curiously approached the crowd and witnessed a very strange scene. A lady was on the floor, next to her a broken tray, and standing before her stood a student. Black hair with the perfect balance between being chaotic and combed, professionally-looking rectangular glasses, and a facial expression which could probably eat you if it wanted to. Metaphorically of course maybe probably.

??: *“There is nothing in this world more valuable than your dreams. There is also nothing less valuable than your dreams. Working at a canteen full of seemingly egoistic students*

must be hard but everyone needs to fulfill some sort of role in this society. While these students seem like they don't care about you at all, you would seem exactly the same to them. It is not a lack of care that is the problem but a lack of communication. You see each other as being in a different world and so you wouldn't even consider saying what is on your mind to them so you let it build up and release it in such a violent manner. Don't you agree that this is not the way things should be?"

Lady: "Y-yes, Kumin-sama..."

He took her by the hand and pulled her up from the floor but he didn't stop once she was on her feet. Instead, he kept going and spun her around once. All of the food residues that were on her clothes flew across the floor.

KS: "A MOP!"

??: "YES KUMIN-SAMA!"

And seemingly out of nowhere, one came flying to him but it was still just a mop. He couldn't possibly clean up a whole emptied-out tray with just a mop, everyone thought but the time it took for us to think of that was enough time for him to finish the job. He threw the mop in the same direction it came from and turned back to the lady who had only now recovered from being dizzy.

KS: "Promise me that you will not hold in your emotions again!"

Lady: "Yes, Kumin-sama!"

KS: "And that if the world seems uninterested in what you have to say, that you will come to me. I will always have an ear for you."

A tear ran down the lady's cheek and her face brightened up with a big smile.

Lady: "Yes, Kumin-sama."

*hands not touching, to keep it
sfw



And before she could say her thanks Kumin had already turned around and was about to head out of the crowd. This was the moment when I remembered how grateful I was for being able to read people's thoughts, especially Shiga's. Contrary to what some people might think, not all of your thoughts are phrased in your head. This was the case with the thoughts I was perceiving from him. They were the most indescribable mixture of hate and admiration that I had ever seen (heard? felt?). I even made up a word for it: "Hatemiration" I expect this word's usage to take off once I release this chapter. People will be asking me left and right "Oh, Mr. Great Ghost, how do you come up with these brilliant ideas?" and I won't respond because I'm not just great but also really cool and everyone knows cool ghosts don't talk to interviewers. They just pull up their sunglasses and smile smugly, I think. Anyway, I was talking about Shiga. He just couldn't stand this situation and so he had to butt in.

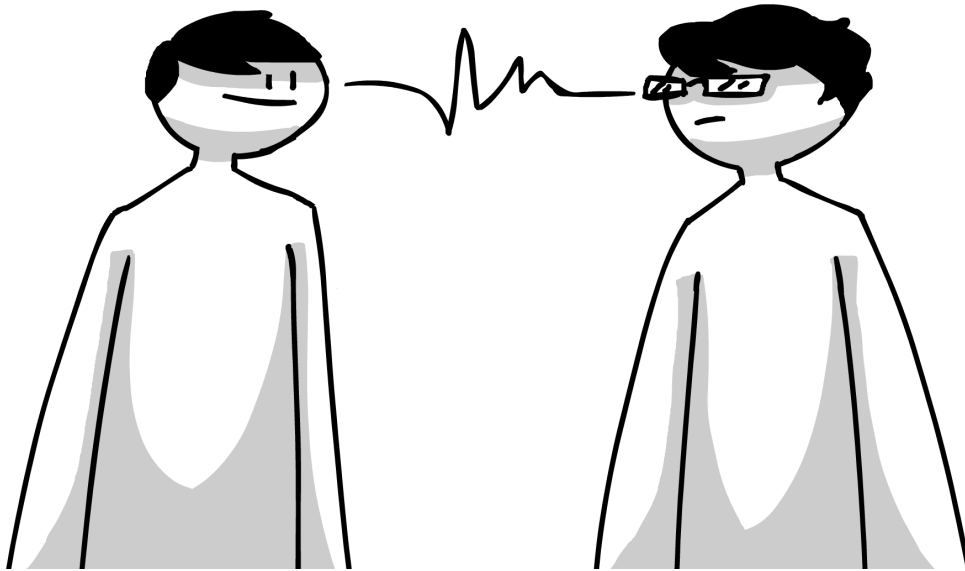
SC: *"And how exactly did you help this lady?"*

This was pretty unexpected for Kumin-sama so he paused longer than he usually would. The crowd started murmuring.

KS: *"A problem is just a situation you don't like. There is no objectively bad situation and so it makes as much sense to change your perception of that situation as it is to change the situation itself."*

SC: *"Yet blaming everything on yourself when you've so obviously done little wrong will only result in even more problems. Telling her that she should talk about her problems might relieve some stress but it still wouldn't solve the actual problem at hand, like a cigarette that you smoke after a hard day at work, even talking about her problems might turn into a deadly problem over time."*

The crowd is conflicted. "Who is this boy who speaks at the same level as our beloved Kumin-sama? Is he just an arrogant brat or might he indeed be equal?" The answer is both but only I, and now you, know this.



KS: "This is a very interesting point but I'm kind of busy so I'll need to go now."

SC: "Are you perhaps trying to deceive me by using your duties as an excuse to remove yourself from a discussion you're losing? Doesn't that contradict your philosophy of communication?"

Now that was something unheard of in the history of the school. Plainly put, Shiga was accusing Kumin of being a chicken. The crowd became very uneasy.

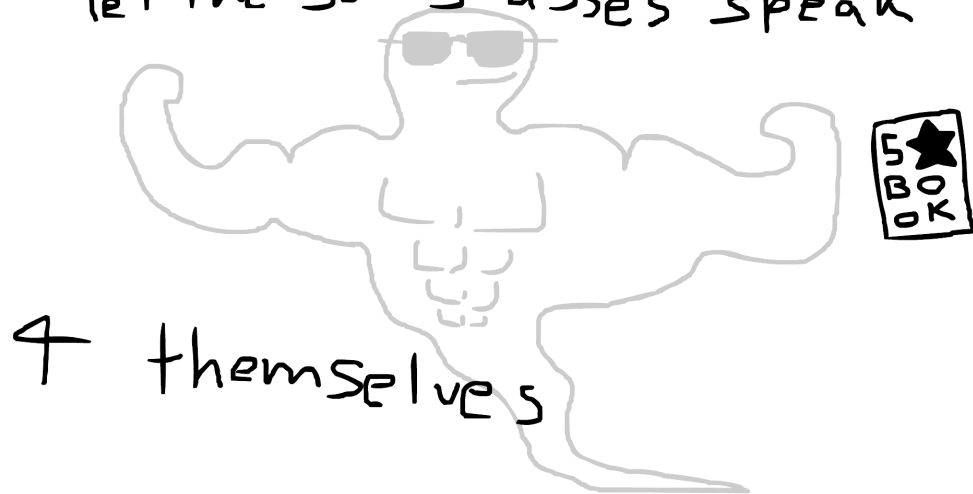
KS: "That is incorrect but I must say that I like the way of thinking you portray yourself to have. If you wish to continue this discussion I hereby invite you to the debate club. Thursday, every week, I don't expect you to reject my invitation."

SC: "I don't need an invitation as I will be joining all of the clubs."

KS: "A fellow hardcore clubber, I see? I'm looking forward to it."

With that said Kumin-sama left the scene and the crowd calmed down again but the atmosphere was much different from your average canteen atmosphere. As if most of the radiation from a nuclear fallout was gone. It was safe to leave the bunker but it wasn't safe enough for people to completely ignore the higher risk of cancer. Shiga's classmates rushed to him and asked him all sorts of questions about that conversation but he wasn't interested in answering any of them. He was more interested in knowing more about Kumin-sama's reputation. He asked why people were giving his name this weird suffix but none of them could really answer where it originally came from. This was his ultimate chance at school superiority. If he could assert himself as superior to Kumin-sama he would be considered superior to everyone in the school and with that thought he decided that he needed to research more about him before thursday but that was a task that would prove to be very difficult. I bet if I go back to Shiga's room now I'll find him still awake thinking about Kumin-sama. Oh, nope he's already asleep. I guess it's time for the chapter to go to sleep as well so here's a little present that you'll be very grateful for:

let the sunglasses speak



Yes that is a painting of me after the requests for interviews start flowing in.