

SO BASICALLY this starts out as a magic-free NORMALWORLD AU.

HOWEVER, some sort of space radiation or dust has begun to cause strange effects on Earth. Namely, some children have begun to mutate into monsters. The symptoms almost always come on just before or at the beginning of puberty, with transformation complete in the early to mid teens. By the late teens, corruption of the human body leads to degenerative illness, with 100% fatality by age 25. This “cosmic disease” has become known as “sorcery syndrome”, an unexplainable and cruel illness that seems like it could only be caused by some dark magic.

Research on the subject of sorcery syndrome has been a combined effort by the medical and astrophysics communities. Chief in the former has been the Church-funded Sorcery Syndrome Research Institute, headed by one Dr. Kotomine Risei. This research hospital doubles as a group home for the affected children of wealthy donors looking for a safe place to send children considered both unsightly and potentially dangerous by society at large.

DANGEROUS IS A THING BECAUSE!! Well, first of all no one knows how the disease spreads. The older you are the less likely you are to get it, but beyond that ~it is a mystery~! Sometimes it appears in clusters amongst kids who are related or who spend a lot of time together, but other times it appears as a completely isolated incident. Sometimes a child’s alterations are subtle for years, but no one around them ever changes. Sometimes a child is quarantined immediately when symptoms appear and their siblings or classmates still mutate. No one’s sure how or why this works, but they sure are trying to figure it out!!

Unfortunately, things at the research institute are getting pretty shitty lately. This is mainly because Risei got old and kicked it and now his son Dr. Kotomine “Sadistic Butthole” Kirei is in charge. (But now they named the place after Risei HOW SWEET)!!!

NOTABLE RESIDENTS OF THE HOUSE INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

Cu Chulainn - Change began at **11**, currently **18**. Not actually rich. Cu is a poor-ass street kid who was volunteered for research by his guardian and older brother. Rather than getting the disease naturally, he was part of a series of human experiments attempting to recreate the onset and progression of sorcery syndrome with the aim of documenting how it works. His mutation is **dog features**.

Diarmuid ua Duibhne - Change began at **10**, currently **17**. The adopted son of a wealthy musician. His transformation was relatively painless and didn’t have any particular trauma, and he doesn’t really differentiate between “before” and “after”. However, the excessive attention caused by the scent of his flowers has caused some drama and damage to his self-image, and he now tends to withdraw during flowering periods. His mutation is **growing rosebushes and charm-scent flowers**.

Arturia Pendragon - Change began at **9**, currently **15**. The daughter of a family both wealthy

and charitable who is still, legally, the heir to their fortune. As she has every intention of leading her family's company well some day, she takes participating in research very seriously. She finds the rest of the residents' chaotic behavior irresponsible and baffling, but nevertheless ends up befriending some of them. Her mutation is **glowing in the dark and spontaneous cloning**.

Gilgamesh - Change began at **10**, currently **16**. The son of a business tycoon descended from royalty. He hasn't adapted well to losing his position as heir and has become extremely mentally unstable and violent towards the other residents. He likes gaudy things and anything that shines, and has a habit of stealing trinkets (even silverware) and storing them in the rooftop greenhouse he's converted to a lounge. His mutation is **infinite space zippers**.

Archer - Change began at **12**, currently **18**. Also not actually rich, also part of the human experiments Cu participated in. However, instead of participating mostly willingly he was kidnapped as a hostage against his own brother, who happens to be a rather shady and ruthless figure investigating the possibility of sorcery syndrome not having come from space after all. Archer is a butt. His mutation is **cat features**.

Tohsaka Tokiomi - Change began at **16**, currently **19**. The eldest child of the family closest to Gilgamesh's. He is a unique case in that he is not only one of the only people to survive a late-start transformation, but he is the only documented case of a 100% transformation. Since usually death is caused by incompatibility of the new features with the old and damage to the human system, theoretically Tokiomi would never sicken and die (since there's nothing human left), and he's stopped aging at 16. However, he's murdered before this is able to be proven. His mutation is **lots of tiny clockwork bits**.

Matou Kariya - Change began at **11**, currently **20**. A childhood friend of Tokiomi. He's already begun to get sick and die, and is really angry that apparently Tokiomi never will. On top of that, he's angry that he seems to have been forgotten by both his family and by his friends when he was put into the home. However, he doesn't wish illness on people who don't deserve it, so he does his best to further the cause of the hospital. Kirei thinks he's really funny. His mutation is **bug scales and eyes where they shouldn't be**.

Irisviel von Einzbern - A nurse at the research hospital, only she never seems to go home. Why is she there 24/7? Why does she look so inhuman? Why does she like playing dress up with the residents so much? And who is that "hot date" she keeps saying she has every Friday night?

ROUGH TIMELINEING FOR TOKIOMI??

- Comes to the hospital at age 16! Is a butt to everyone at first in a very “suck it up and deal with the experiments, it’s for medical progress! / don’t mind being dissected so neither should you!” He gets a really big sensei-crush on Kirei.
- You can’t give Tokiomi anesthesia and it’s kind of annoying to have to deal with so Kirei installs an electronic thing in his head that halts the movement of some major gears in his brain and renders him essentially “off” (creepily dead-like!). It works by remote control. Tokiomi is OK with this because SCIENCE.
- Continues to be rude for a good year or so before Kirei backstabs him in a really embarrassing and public manner. After this, he kind of retreats into the basement and doesn’t talk to people for awhile!
- A few of months of heavy bullying and crazy shit later, Tokiomi has a temper explosion at Archer at dinner! Everyone is surprised. From this point he starts to have weird anger issues, wherein he basically vents all of his negative emotions by being grouchy. He can push back when he feels threatened by getting righteously angry, and it prevents him from having to admit to being hurt or sad or lonely or anything like that.
- Things stabilize here for awhile! Then when he’s 19, shit starts Happening in short succession!
- First thing: Cu and Diarmuid run away. This is nice for them but leaves everyone else having to deal with increased security and not having their bright and shining faces around to keep everyone else’s morale up.
- Kariya dies! It’s messy and reminds everyone of how they’re doomed to deteriorate and die and only Tokiomi will escape this fate. This puts some tension in the mix.
- Tokiomi gets fed up enough to ask Rin for help. She never responds to his letters again :(He doesn’t know this is because of miscommunication and parents and Kirei and etc.
- Kerrytugu shit in the BG makes Kirei extra weird and the remaining trio of not-Gilgamesh start becoming closer in order to help each other cope.
- Six months laterish, Tokiomi gets put in a furnace incinerator and melted to death.
YAAAAY.