

The Story of Shuen no Shiori in Nine Thousand Words

<- it was supposed to be only 6k.

by Nameless, local self-proclaimed CEO of shuenpro since 2019

(note: underlined text has links)

If you want to know what Shuen no Shiori Project even *is*, read THIS first.

- Also, use that website if at any point you want to decide to read / get into Shuen no Shiori for yourself. I worked hard on that thing.
- **Important Note:** Shuen no Shiori is an abandoned project (last heard of from 2015/2016) that has an UNFINISHED/incomplete story (Why?). As such, do not expect every loose end to be tied up in this document.



Gist

Shuen no Shiori (a.k.a. **Bookmark of Demise** or 終焉ノ葉) revolves around two separate high school clubs, who meet in the same room in the same school ten years apart from another, with the present-day (2009) club, called the **Occult Club**, investigating the **Bookmark of Demise**, an urban legend exclusive to their school that was supposedly responsible for the mysterious deaths of the 10-years-ago (1999) club, the **Film Club**. There are a lot of weird parallels going on between these two clubs, and the lines between what happened 10 years ago vs. present, what happens in a

dream vs. fiction vs. reality get blurred a lot. Mysteries are more readily introduced into the story rather than solved, and the question of whether or not supernatural forces are even *involved* in the story has a dubious answer at best. Unreliable narration does NOT help with this confusion.

Regardless, Shuen is not really presented in this way at first.

There is both a manga and light novel adaptation of Shuen no Shiori. For the most part, I will use the light novels for reference (exception: Light Novel 3) when talking about the story.

About the Occult Club

At first, we only know about the occult club, whose story takes place in **2009**. They're an unofficial club composed of an eccentric group of kids who meet together in the music room in an abandoned school building, which is on the same grounds as their main school building.



*From left to right: **A-ya**, **B-ko**, **C-ta**, and **D-ne***

The occult club consists of four members:

1. **A-ya**, who formed the “club”, and is OBSESSED with things related to rumors, urban legends, and the supernatural.

- A-ya is perpetually bored with his mundane life, and wants exciting Not Normal stuff to happen.
 - His hobby is to *spread rumors* that toe the line between truth and lie, such that they can reach far and he can observe their spread. (I suppose he could also be called a people observer.)
 - The most social oddball out of everyone in the occult club, because he kind of does not gaf. On the other hand, he's generic-looking enough that he fades into the background of any crowd, which works well for his rumor-spreading hobby
 - He's childhood friends with C-ta.
2. **B-ko**, who is the school's #1 perfect academic, kind, and attractive girl that is so popular she has both boys AND girls confessing to her.
- But her thing is that she's a Huge masker. With the occult club, she shows herself as a loud and argumentative (but also very anxious) person. Outside of it, she tries quite hard to maintain the image of an attractive and likeable student.
 - It's mainly due to the fact that she frequently moved schools when she was younger that she learned how to adapt so that people wouldn't hate her.
 - She's a bit lonely underneath this.
 - She and A-ya are kind of the only members in the occult club who have any sort of genuine interest in the occult
3. **C-ta**, who is an Akechi-esque character but only to the extent that he is Very gay, does morally questionable things, and has brown hair.
- At school, C-ta is sort of an in-between in terms of social standing between A-ya and B-ko, who are on opposite ends of the "do/don't give a fuck" spectrum. C-ta deliberately tries to blend in with the crowd and Be in the middle of whatever hierarchy so his peers neither harass nor envy him.
 - As a result, he kind of Appears almost the most normal and level-headed occult club member, but really only on the surface.
 - The main thing that stands out about him is his relationship with A-ya. To be blunt, he has a hero complex.

- He has a one-sided codependent relationship with A-ya where he is incredibly possessive over A-ya and believes that A-ya *needs* and relies on him for his help, because to him, C-ta is A-ya's one and only best friend, and C-ta believes that A-ya would be completely helpless without him.
 - His catchphrase is "You're so helpless, A-ya." (しょうがないな, A弥)
- This stems from the fact that A-ya did not express or communicate his feelings well at all when he was much younger, so his childhood friend, C-ta, would often step in to say things in A-ya's stead.
- However, in present-day, A-ya is kind of oblivious about C-ta's attitude about him. He doesn't really ever ask C-ta for help or anything, but C-ta just assumes He Needs Him. He feeds on A-ya's approval in order to validate his self-worth
- C-ta's obsession is intense to the point that he installed cameras in A-ya's room and watches him sleep.

4. **D-ne**, who is similar to A-ya in that she kind of dgaf.

- She actually compares herself to A-ya in that they're both pessimistic-looking. except D-ne probably comes off to people outside the occult club as just a normal girl.
- D-ne doesn't really have a stable sense of self, so she latches onto Ideals and tries to mimic / copy the object of her affections.
 - At first, this was a doll in her childhood named Ririka, and then, she fell in love with B-ko.
- Similar to how C-ta's obsessed with A-ya, D-ne is obsessed with B-ko, and genuinely head-in-heels in love with her. C-ta probably has internalized homophobia NGL so he would never admit that about A-ya.
 - But D-ne is very open about how much she loves B-ko (and she says that she loves both the brash and beautiful sides of her). She casually admits this in conversation on multiple occasions, but no one really realizes that she's serious.
 - She gets very possessive and jealous over B-ko and really does not give much of a fuck about C-ta and A-ya at all. Her interactions

with the occult club do reflect this, because while she is nothing but affectionate to B-ko, with A-ya and C-ta, she displays a sort of sarcastic attitude around them.

- ALSO SHE HAS BEEF WITH C-TA.
 - Unlike C-ta, who is in denial that he derives his sense of worth from being relied on by A-ya, let alone that his relationship with A-ya is so one-sided in the first place, D-ne is sort of aware of how her sense of identity and purpose is dependent on her love for B-ko.
 - Seeing C-ta be so Hidden about it kind of pisses her off, so one day she actually directly calls him out for it in a one-on-one conversation, stating that they're similar in this way. This of course angers C-ta because it feels like an attack on his bond with A-ya. so now they have Beef the other two are unaware of lol

C-ta and D-ne especially get highlighted a lot when it comes to the "here are the 'Eviler' two members of the club", but none of them are actual antagonists in the end. The reason why the occult club is written to be so chaotically dysfunctional is so they can easily be pitted against each other, which ends up becoming very relevant when an antagonistic force's goal is to get them to separate and distrust each other and die in the process. Because they're not all exactly the most trusting group of friends to begin with.



Art of the occult club by Saine, from Light Novel 1

Story: Occult Club, Light Novel 1

The beginning of the story. The opening act.

Outside of the window was a cloudy sky. The season in which summer has not yet started. There existed a single rumor whispered about.

No one knows the details. No, no one was supposed to know them.

Just that, even if the empty book and bookmark are found, it is said that they must never be touched.

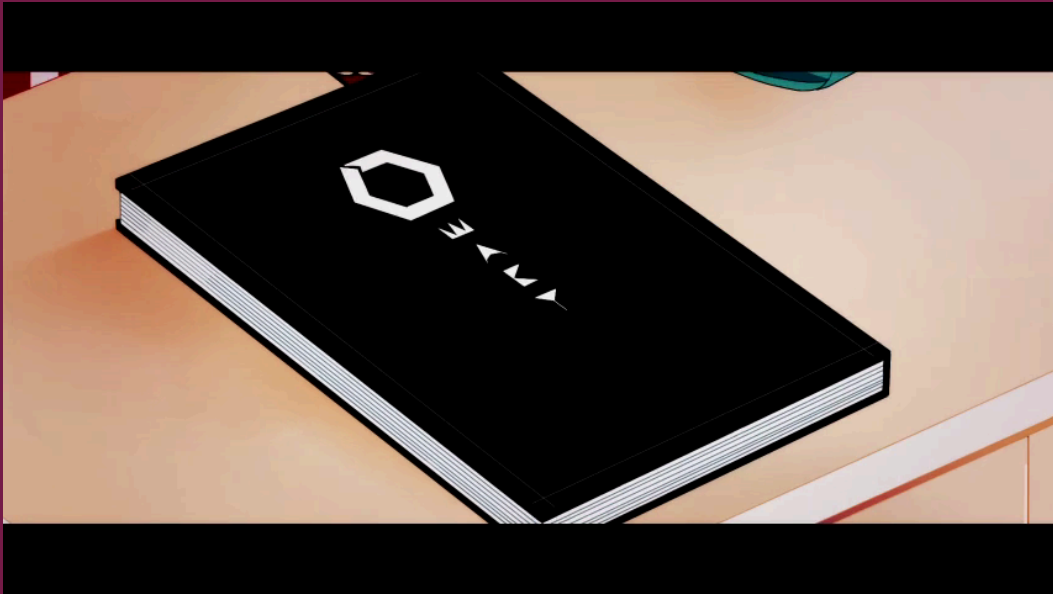
(Novel 1, Prologue, re-missedcall-blog1)

The way Shuen's story is told, all of the light novel chapters are written in first-person POV. For the first two novels, each "arc" takes place over the same period of time, but is written from a different character's perspective (so we get to witness the same story four times). Part of the mystery becomes unraveled through this, because the same

events from one character's perspective can look Very different from another's. Hence what I mean when I say unreliable narration is such a big part of Shuen.

Now for the actual plot. The occult club gets together to discuss urban legends and the like. Their meetings mainly consist of A-ya rambling about an urban legend or story he heard, and everyone else listening to him or sometimes chiming in with thoughts related to the level of truth a particular rumor or legend may have. In a way, I suppose they're sort of the type to enjoy investigating mysteries.

There's one urban legend in particular they're Very interested in because it's exclusive to their school, and supposedly has connections to an incident that happened at their school ten years ago: As the legend goes, there exists a cursed book that contains Every single urban legend to exist in the world—the **Book of Demise**. The book is said to always be accompanied by a special bookmark with the design of a cat on it, called the **Bookmark of Demise (Shuen no Shiori)**. Whichever urban legend is on the page marked by the bookmark becomes real upon opening the book.



The Book of Demise, and the Bookmark of Demise

Only one group of people has ever gotten their hands on the Book and Bookmark of Demise, and that was the occult club of 10 years ago. Supposedly, they were 4 students (just like present-day occult club) who, shortly after obtaining the Book of Demise, died in mysterious and gruesome ways.

Recently, A-ya stumbled across an old **exchange diary** that was passed around by the 4 students 10 years ago, detailing the club's activities and such, as well as containing instructions on how to obtain the Book of Demise. So of course, those instructions are exactly what the present-day occult club decides to follow. Great idea, A-ya! Let's summon a cursed book that will definitely get us killed!



A-ya holding the exchange diary

The method for getting the book involves them playing Kokkuri-san, a ritual/game that involves communicating with a spirit via the Japanese version of a Ouija board. In the process of the occult club doing this, however, this starts a death game called the Demise Game. (Shuen loves naming things ____ of Demise. It's fun tbh. It's why I called the art week I ran the "Week of Demise"). They're told through a creepy television the rules of the Demise Game:

Rules of the Demise Game

A game with a single traitor, a "fox", has begun.

If you wish to escape, pay attention to the following conditions, and seek the end.

—Now, the beginning of a fun Demise Game begins.

- *To reach the end of the game, the "fox" must be killed.*
- *If the "fox" cannot be found, everyone else will die.*
- *While searching for the "fox", Kokkuri-san's demands must be met.*
- *Kokkuri-san's demands will be sent via letter.*
- *You will be given one week to fulfill Kokkuri-san's demands.*
- *If the demands are ignored, you will die.*

- *If the demands are shown to someone outside of the game, that person will die.*
- *Until the end of the game is reached, you absolutely cannot escape.*

(Novel 1, Prologue, re-missed-call-blog1)

This is how the Demise Game goes: they each receive a letter as well as the Book of Demise. The Book of Demise opens up to a page that says something along the lines of:

—— [Name of Urban Legend] - Author: [character] ——

and the letter tells them what they should do to either properly enact or survive their assigned urban legend. They react with Varying degrees of distress that get themselves and each other killed; no one wins. Each character has a song associated with their urban legend.

1. A-ya's song is **Lonely Hide and Seek**, associated with "**One-Man Hide and Seek**", which is a game/ritual that involves playing hide-and-seek (or tag) with oneself and a stuffed doll.
 - Prior to the Demise Game beginning, he speaks about how recently, he has felt as though he "feels a gaze", or that he is being Watched by someone.
 - He is the first to receive a letter from Kokkuri-san, but it is first found in his shoe locker by a classmate. Uncertain if the rules of the Demise Game should be believed, A-ya makes the mistake of letting his classmate read the letter.
 - His classmate is later found dead, with the top and bottom halves of his body separated. School is subsequently closed for a week.
 - While at home, A-ya decides to read the letter. The instructions for enacting One-Man Hide and Seek are detailed within. He decides to use the rabbit doll that C-ta gave to him as a kid for the ritual, and proceeds to follow the instructions for One-Man Hide and Seek.
 - Despite following the letter correctly, A-ya is killed while in hiding, stabbed repeatedly to death by an unknown figure with a boxcutter.

2. B-ko's song is Impostor Advisory, associated with "**Doppelganger**", an urban legend that states that if you see your doppelganger, you will die in 3 days.
- She is made immediately anxious by the Demise Game, but is comforted and then kissed by D-ne in the school library (B-ko has a bit of a sexuality crisis). She finds that her ribbon is missing when she gets home afterwards.
 - When B-ko receives the letter and the Book & Bookmark of Demise, she panics and chooses to throw them away.
 - Throughout the week, she hears repeated rumors of people seeing her in places where she shouldn't be, and locks herself in her house out of fear.
 - Eventually, her doppelganger repeatedly rings her doorbell, and breaks into her house. As B-ko cries for A-ya to save her, her doppelganger kills her with a pair of scissors.
3. C-ta's song is Perfect Crime Love Letter, associated with "**Mearry-san**" (more accurately "Mary-san"), an urban legend about an abandoned doll called Mearry who repeatedly contacts the girl who abandoned her, and tells her her location ("I am Mearry, and I am at the park."), with each subsequent message getting closer and closer to where the girl is. In the end, Mearry-san says "I am right behind you." and kills the girl.
- C-ta accidentally witnesses A-ya show his letter to his classmate causing him to become suspicious of A-ya.
 - When C-ta receives his letter, he does not read it. Instead, he spends the following days watching A-ya through his cameras, becoming increasingly paranoid about the possibility that A-ya is the Fox or has been impersonated / replaced by the Fox.
 - At one point, C-ta becomes convinced that A-ya has been replaced by the Fox, and resolves to "kill the Fox in order to save A-ya".
 - C-ta breaks into A-ya's house, and witnesses A-ya stabbing and sewing the rabbit doll C-ta had given to him during their childhood (which is a part of One-Man Hide and Seek). Additionally, he overhears A-ya naming the doll, "C-ta", further feeding into his belief that A-ya has been replaced by the Fox and is planning on killing him next.

- Angrily, C-ta marches to A-ya's hiding spot and kills what he believes to be "the Fox" by stabbing A-ya to death with a boxcutter.
 - C-ta completely dissociates afterwards, going several days forgetting he ever did this.
 - His memories only return after he begins getting Twitter DMs from Mearry-san (under the username ***mearry1713***), who vaguely references the setting from the night C-ta killed A-ya (including the fact that it was under a bright red moon)
 - C-ta very expectedly breaks down in grief and horror over his actions, as he had realized too late that he killed his best friend and not an impostor.
 - During his distress, C-ta gets a phone call. Kokkuri-san's letter states, "Don't answer a call from Mearry-san." However, C-ta, having never read the letter, picks up the call, and is killed by Mearry-san, who is "right behind him".
4. D-ne's song is [**Aimless Imitation Musical Chairs**](#), associated with the "**Monkey's Paw**", which is definitely the most well-known out of these four, so I dunno if I really need to explain it. The Monkey's Paw is a wish-granting mummified monkey's paw that operates on the law of equivalent exchange, meaning that for everything gained, something of equal value must be lost or traded.
- After the Demise Game begins, D-ne comforts a very frightened B-ko in the school library, and vows to protect B-ko before kissing her.
 - When she goes home, she finds the Monkey's Paw, as well as the letter in her bag, which says, "Use the Monkey's Paw, and defy fate." This paw has five wishes as opposed to three from the original story.
 - D-ne first wishes she could have (1) B-ko's ribbon, which causes the ribbon to mysteriously disappear from B-ko's end. She cuts her hair to be as short as B-ko's and ties her hair up into a similar style.
 - D-ne begins to go out in public like this, which causes rumors to spread about B-ko's doppelganger.

- Then, she wishes for (2) B-ko's shoes, and then to have (3) B-ko's eye color, which causes a classmate with B-ko's eye color (purple) to lose her eyes in a freak injury accident.
- D-ne decides to save her 5th wish to save both her and B-ko from the Demise Game. To carry this out, however, D-ne needs to explain the situation to B-ko.
 - D-ne attempts to visit B-ko, who is at this point so terrified she has locked herself inside her house.
 - She repeatedly rings the doorbell and knocks the door with increasing intensity to no avail before breaking into B-ko's house, determined to save her.
 - However, D-ne finds B-ko shaking and crying for *A-ya's* help.
 - D-ne, who already suspected that B-ko had a crush on A-ya, is filled with envy and a sense of betrayal at her suspicions being confirmed true. To her, this wasn't her perfect, ideal B-ko anymore.
 - Instead, *she* would become the perfect B-ko. In a matter of moments, D-ne wishes to (4) become B-ko herself (e.g. complete copy in appearance; a true doppelganger), and kills B-ko with a pair of scissors.
- The last one alive. D-ne's last wish is for (5) "all of her misfortunes to disappear".
- She steals B-ko's identity altogether at school. However, as an equivalent exchange for her wish to become B-ko, she takes on all of *B-ko's* misfortunes, Demise Game curses included. D-ne is killed by B-ko's *actual* supernatural doppelganger.

Thus everyone dies. The true "Fox" is neither found nor revealed, because none of those four were the Fox to begin with. An unknown narrator comes in and speaks of how this outcome was very expected, and simply just another one of the Demise Game's boring time loop iterations where everyone dies. They seem disappointed in this.

Story: Occult Club, Light Novel 2

The story's continuation, a curtain that can't be closed...

Just like the cloudy sky beyond the window, it stirs up uneasiness once again.

Summer has yet to begin. In this season, there was a single rumor that never disappeared.

No one knows the details. No, they mustn't ever be known.

All that was told was that even if the blank book and the cat bookmark should be found, no one must ever touch them.

For that was the Bookmark of Demise.

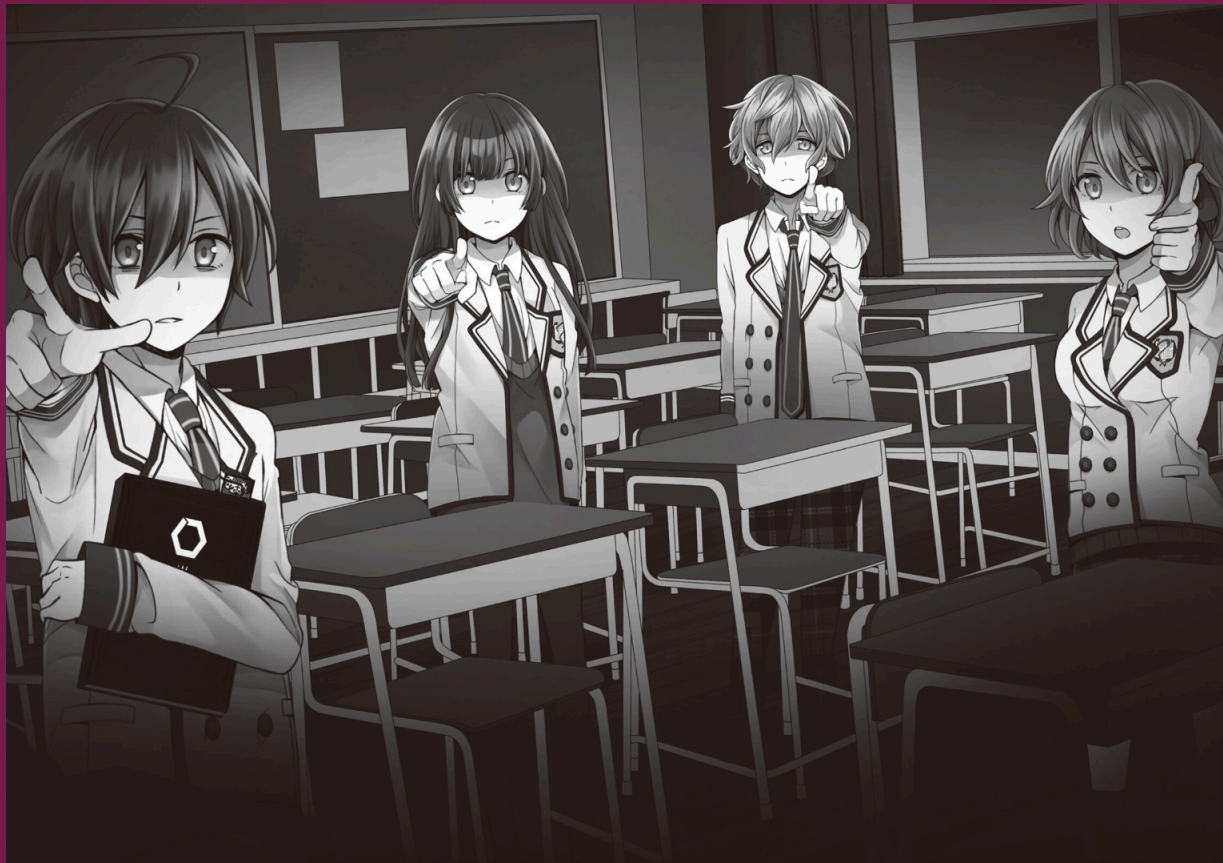
(Novel 2, Prologue, AmeSubs)

Another iteration begins (novel 2), where things begin similarly, except the characters' urban legends have rotated, and the POV order has been reversed. D-ne gets One-Man Hide and Seek, C-ta gets Doppelganger, B-ko gets Mearry-san, and A-ya gets Monkey's Paw.

This time, the characters take on less of an antagonistic role towards each other, and attempts are even made to cooperate with each other and investigate What the fuck is actually going on.

- Weird things happen, like A-ya's feeling of being watched hinted to be something more than just C-ta, and some characters getting déjà vu (D-ne thinks she sees her eye color change to B-ko's at some point, which is weird).
- In the library, B-ko finds a newspaper article that suggests the club involved in the incident 10 years ago was a *film club*, rather than an occult club.
- A-ya finds a clipping in the library relating to the incident with the headline, "4 dead, 1 in serious condition", contradicting their previous assumption that the club from 10 years ago only had 4 members.
- At the end of each arc, the focus character supposedly dies, with a cryptic redacted message being each character's dying words.
- The reader is made to believe that in this iteration of the time loop, A-ya killed C-ta and committed suicide, while D-ne killed B-ko and also died.

The unknown narrator returns, once again stating how predictable and boring this outcome was. They open the door to the occult club's meeting room (music room), only to unexpectedly find all four of them Alive and pointing directly at them in accusation. The occult club had worked together to trick them. In their investigative process, A-ya had deduced that the Fox must be someone outside the four of them. A-ya also brings up Schrodinger's Cat, how a subject is not Dead or Alive until it is assumed to be by an outside observer, etc. it's one of my favorite chapters TBH, so let me just [link it](#).



There's a bit of fourth-wall breaking here, but the conclusion they come to is this:

"As I thought, the fox was you." (this was the redacted dying message)

"This time, the "fox" of the Demise Game is... you!"

You, the Reader.

Well, except the answer can't be THAT simple, can it. because the mystery deepens a little when the Fox / mysterious narrator gets a letter in their pocket, which says this:

————The Dream's Conclusion - Author: ****————

Don't turn the page.

turning the page, is...

"Don't do things differently from the dream."

Then, the perspective switches to that of someone hinted to have been hospitalized and unconscious for a very long time, for whom the "Bookmark of Demise" is but a distant memory... who begins to dream of Something.

Between 10 Years Ago and Now

This sleeping narrator is soon revealed to be a boy named E-ki, a member of the **Film Club** from 10 years ago.

At the beginning of the third novel, E-ki has a dream where he sees the realistic severed limbs of human corpses, which he almost immediately forgets after waking up in a cold sweat. For now, he dismisses this dream, deciding to start his ordinary school day. After school, he makes his way to a certain music room in a certain building to meet with his friends: the film club.

Up until E-ki had dragged his four friends into joining it, the film club had been on the verge of being abolished. As such, the five members had yet to do anything in terms of activities. This changes when E-ki proposes the idea to make a certain movie, for which E-ki would be the director, screenwriter, and producer, while his friends A-no, B-ka, C-na, and D-suke would be the actors. It would revolve around four students and their encounters with a certain urban legend, through which the four-person club would discover a cursed book and meet their untimely demise.

It is through this film which an indubitable connection between two clubs separated by ten years of time can be made. After all, it's a film whose idea would fade into a mere urban legend a decade later, and whose characters and story would come to life in order to solve the mysteries of its origin.

An ordinary story that would later become anything *but* ordinary.

The name for this film? **Bookmark of Demise (Shuuen no Shiori)**.



(Source: [Manga Ch. 17](#), TL Shuen Scanlations)

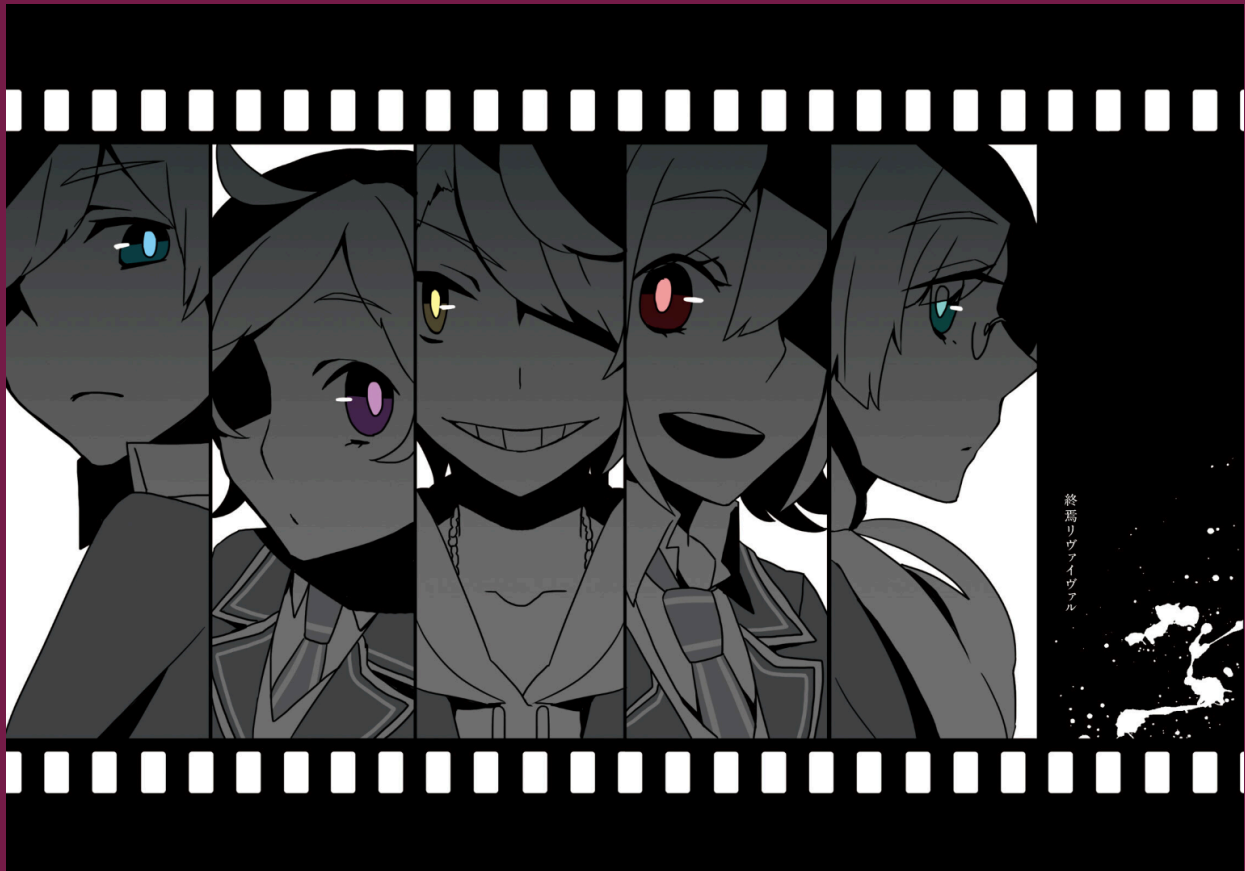
About the Film Club

The film club is a group of oddballs that meet in the music room in the old school building in **1999**, ten years prior to the occult club, and prior to said building becoming unused and abandoned. It starkly contrasts the occult club of 2009 in certain ways.

- It's an *official* club, with a club advisor named **W-sensei**.
- As opposed to the surface-level connections shared among the occult club members, the film club members are a more tightly-knit group of friends that carry a lighthearted atmosphere about them.

- Their schema (and uniform) color is tinted **blue** as opposed to the occult club's **red**.

Despite this, there are many parallels that can be drawn between the two clubs...



From left to right: **D-suke**, **B-ka**, **E-ki**, **A-no**, and **C-na** (source: Light Novel 2, artist Saine)

The film club consists of five members:

(Nameless Note: Starting from here is sadly where my knowledge of Shuen starts to fall apart due to 1) limited availability in translations of later content and 2) the incompleteness of Shuen no Shiori. Especially song-to-story-wise. Which is really sad considering I adore the Film Club ten times more than the Occult Club.

While the occult club's character-focused songs are focused on the urban legends in their respective arcs in Light Novel 1, the film club's songs are strange in that they seem to portray events that are never explained or written into Shuen no Shiori's story. If the voice drama is anything to go by, each song is supposedly *also* associated with an urban legend. But to deduce what this means for each character from lyrics

alone (and no MV to help)? Their songs are as cryptic to me as they may be to you, and my interpretations are in no way fact.)

1. **A-no**, who is a spirited and outgoing girl who loves retro games—though it is later revealed she's not very good at them.
 - She's described as a bit of a "tsundere" type of character.
 - She frequently gets into (often physical) fights with E-ki for being #Cishet (Uhm. I'll explain this later.)
 - She portrays the character "**B-ko**" in the film, though she's not very confident about her acting skills.
 - Her song, **Fighting Girl**, seems to suggest that she once didn't have many friends, and instead had a history of making enemies and getting into physical fights with peers at school, prior to meeting a boy described as a "slightly awkward ghost looking for friends" who has a "striking smile" (E-ki?????), whom she developed a crush on
2. **B-ka**, who is the "moe" character in Shuen. He's very shy, very clumsy, and easily flustered.
 - Unfortunately, a gag is made out of him being "very feminine for a boy", which is probably my second least favorite thing about Suzumu's writing for the film club next to E-ki being infused with the perverted cishet guy trope. (fuck off Suzumu)
 - He dislikes fights, and is often the one who tries to break up conflict between other members.
 - He portrays the character "**A-ya**" in the film, who he pulls off acting... suspiciously well!
 - His song, **Gentle Ghost Story**, is a cutesy song about a very lonely B-ka befriending and spending time with a ghost at 2AM(?), before eventually having to say goodbye to said ghost and left behind a good-luck charm in the form of a ribbon
 - My personal running theory is that every film club song ties back to E-ki somehow. so the ghost...?
 - There are so many ways that I think B-ka is super Suspicious in terms of themes, design, and patterns. I will elaborate on this later.

3. **C-na**, who is the big occult / horror nerd in the film club. like, freakishly so (to A-ya levels).
 - She REALLY enjoys horror films, which definitely reflects when she acts in the more intense scenes while portraying character "**D-ne**" in the film.
 - Despite this, she and D-suke are the calmer / more relaxed members in contrast to A-no, B-ka, and E-ki.
 - Her song, **Nostalgia Junk Food**, seems to suggest that she had once been trapped in a lonely cycle of self-isolation and depression at school, until reached out to by a person (E-ki????) wanting to help pull her out of it
4. **D-suke**, who is the big Food fan in the film club. As in, most art drawn of him is probably just him eating chips. He's kind of funny in this way.
 - He's very chill and carefree.
 - He's a bit of a weirdo (affectionate) in that he randomly knows where to find a realistic-looking prop to use for the Monkey's Paw.
 - He portrays "**C-ta**" in the film.
 - His song, **The Secret Seller of the 4th Block**... is completely incomprehensible to me. I could not tell you what it's about. Something about selling rumors...? honestly when I read the lyrics it comes off as a very A-ya-core song to me
5. **E-ki**, who is the main (and only) narrator for the film club's story.
 - He's unfortunately written with a lot of "perverted male" gags in mind, which are really annoying to read (thus what I mean when I say he is #Cishet). If you ignore that, he's a pretty fun character.
 - In contrast to A-ya, who describes himself as "pessimistic", E-ki describes himself as being "energetic" to the point it's his "only redeeming quality", which! is a bit sad.
 - He's fun-loving, spontaneous, and probably not the smartest member, but the rest of the film club loves him.
 - And he loves all of his friends back. Maybe too much. It shall become a double-edged sword for him, as we'll soon see.

- He's the **director**, **screenwriter**, and **producer** for their movie, and said to be responsible for the creation of "Shuuen no Shiori" (as an urban legend) in the first place.
- His song, **Therese's Sigh**, seemingly speaks of E-ki's repeated attempts to reach out to and ease the sorrows of a lonely crying girl in a portrait (named Therese) at 2AM. In the end, the song's lyrics turn grim as it warns to "never talk to that girl at two in the morning", or else she will become "so happy she'll take you away"

Cherish these characters while you can, because as you know, their story has *already happened*.

Story: Film Club, Light Novel 3

The third novel of Shuuen no Shiori focuses on the film club's efforts to film "Bookmark of Demise", the idea for which is revealed to be inspired by "**Nameless Bookmark**", an ongoing series of anonymous internet confessions corresponding to serial murder incidents happening in the world, the popularity of which has grown due to its treatment as an urban legend.

(Nameless Note: before you ask, no, this is not where my name came from)

"NAMELESS BOOKMARK"

A SERIES OF
CRIME CONFESSIONS
THAT WERE POSTED
ON A HUGE INTERNET
MESSAGE BOARD.

SERIAL MUTILATION
MURDERS THAT
HAD TAKEN PLACE IN
THE REAL WORLD.

THE CULPRIT
IS A CHILD.

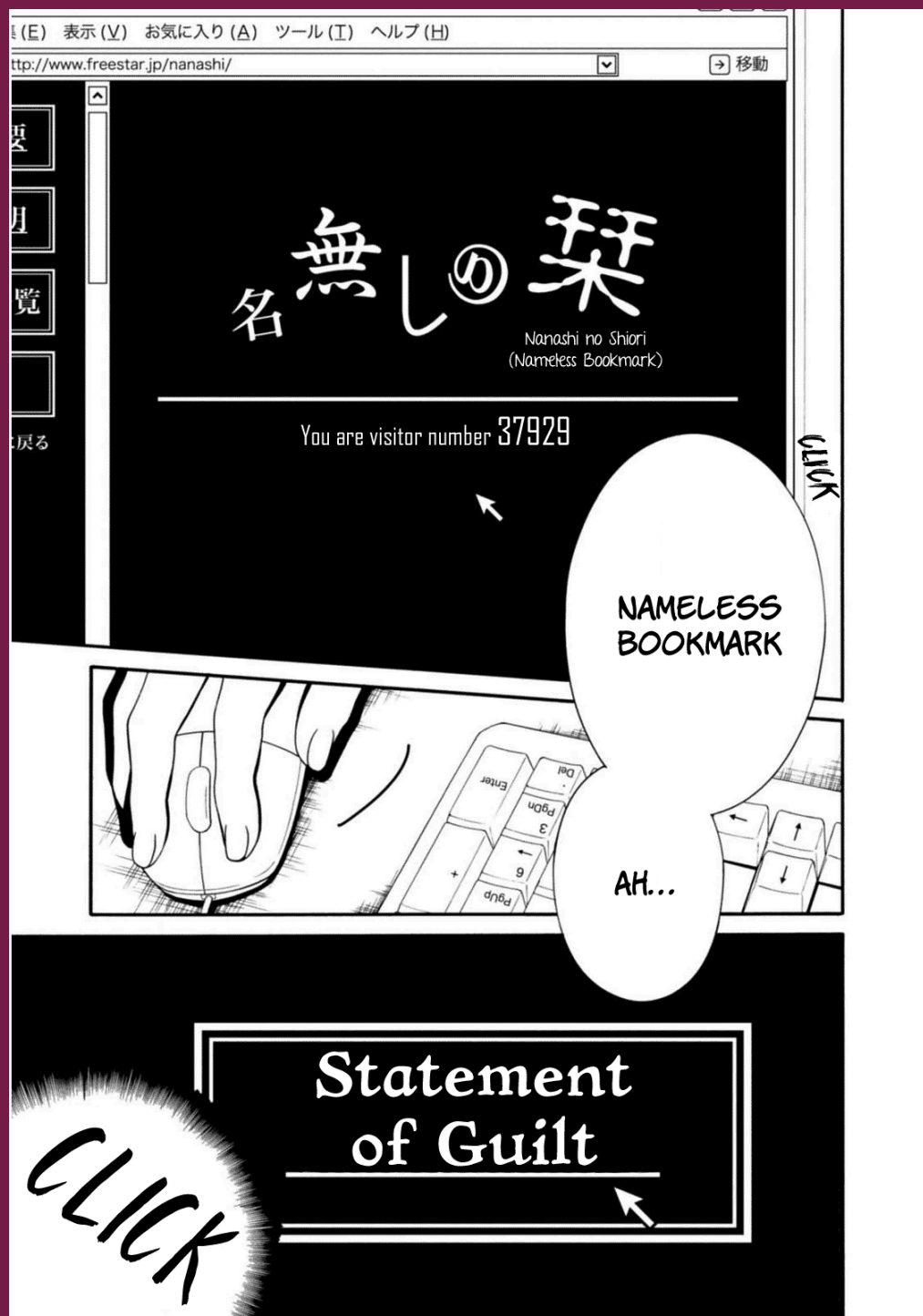
THERE
ARE MULTIPLE
CULPRITS.

NO, THIS CRIME
WAS COMMITTED
BY AN ADULT.

THEY'RE THE
ACTIONS OF AN
EMERGING
RELIGIOUS GROUP
THAT BELIEVES
IN APOCALYPTIC
THEORIES.

EVEN NOW,
THE CULPRIT'S
IDENTITY REMAINS
UNKNOWN.

NAMELESS @
BOOKMARK



(Source: [Manga Ch. 18, TL Shuen Scanlations](#), and [Manga Ch. 19, TL Träumerei Scans](#))

The “Bookmark of Demise” would be a new, fictional urban legend inspired by this—that the film club creates for the purposes of their movie.

(I’m going to refer to “Bookmark of Demise” (film) as “Shuen no Shiori” from here on out.)

Summary for the film club's process of making "Shuuen no Shiori":

1. A-no, B-ka, C-na, and D-suke gather information about as many urban legends as possible from around their school and write them down in an **exchange diary**, which will eventually be used as a prop in their movie.
2. From their collection, the film club selects four urban legends to be assigned to the characters in the movie.
 - **A-no's** character is assigned "**One-Man Hide and Seek**".
 - **B-ka's** character is assigned "**Doppelganger**".
 - **C-na's** character is assigned "**Mearry-san**".
 - **D-suke's** character is assigned "**Monkey's Paw**".
 - At some point during their discussion, B-ka brings up "**The Dream's Conclusion**", a story about a woman who has a recurring nightmare about being stabbed to death by a man while on her way home from a convenience store. One day, she sees the same culprit from her dreams while shopping at a convenience store, and hurries home as soon as possible to avoid the same fate in her dreams. Just when she thinks she's home and safe, she hears a voice from the outside of her house door: "—Don't do things differently from the dream."
 - They decide not to use this urban legend for their movie because it's too scary.
 - However, both (1) in order to cheer up B-ka and (2) to feel less lonely about being the only one without a story, E-ki declares that unrelated to the movie, *he* will be in charge of doing **The Dream's Conclusion**.
 - great foreshadowing isn't it
3. E-ki writes the script for the movie. In order to decide the characters' names, A-no suggests using the club members' names as reference. Thus:
 - **A-no's** character is named **B-ko**.
 - **B-ka's** character is named **A-ya**.
 - **C-na's** character is named **D-ne**.
 - **D-suke's** character is named **C-ta**.
4. They film their parts in descending alphabetical order (D-suke, C-na, B-ka, A-no).

- The premise, characterizations, and character relationships of “Shuuen no Shiori” are very similar to the ones we read in Light Novels 1 & 2 about the occult club.
 - yeah the occult club members are essentially the film club’s OCs. Don’t look at me like that. I have no clue how this makes sense either.
- Some things differ:
 - The exchange diary is used as a prop for their movie; it’s a diary that the four “occult club” members take turns writing in to share interesting rumors and urban legends.
 - The Demise Game does not exist in the film club movie’s version of “Shuuen no Shiori”.
 - The movie’s occult club still plays Kokkuri-san in order to summon the Book/Bookmark of Demise. However, instead of the Demise Game, this ends with:
 - Kokkuri-san becomes increasingly angry at the questions asked, and threatens the “occult club”
 - “A-ya” grows fed up with Kokkuri-san and tears the board to pieces, risking getting possessed by Kokkuri-san in the process. Fortunately, nothing bad seems to happen... immediately!
 - The movie’s occult club one-by-one are visited by the Book of Demise afterwards.
 - The characters’ urban legends differ from both of the previous iterations we’ve seen, so some things expectedly change there as well
- (all four actors do very well in playing their roles for the film :D. Each actor is applauded after recording their set of scenes. E-ki is especially impressed by his friends’ amazing acting skills)
- Various things happen outside of filming.
 - D-suke casually gets an anatomical model of a child’s hand and paints it to look like a Monkey’s Paw.
 - After C-na’s scenes, E-ki announces he has applied for their film to be shown at their school festival.

- B-ka is revealed to have a giant scar on his leg (though the origins of this are not explained). E-ki finds it cool
 - The stuffed bunny that B-ka made for art class is used as a prop for One-Man Hide and Seek
 - Ominous scenes implicating the film club is being watched by an outside party
5. At some point, the film club has their movie approved for screening at the school festival.

Story: Film Club, **Light Novel 4**



[awww, look at them. so happy :\)](#)

The film club spends the first day of the school festival screening “Shuuen no Shiori”. This ends up being a massive hit with the students at their school. At some point in the middle of the day, after they’ve screened their movie to the public three times, E-ki

zones out and recalls the same dream he had at the beginning of Novel 3, but in much greater detail.

- The setting of his dream is in the evening, as the sun sets.
- During the dream, E-ki encounters the gruesome sight of the dismembered body parts of his friends strewn about a classroom floor and desks. The body parts of each member are present to varying degrees:

- **(GRAPHIC DESCRIPTIONS; highlight to reveal)**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

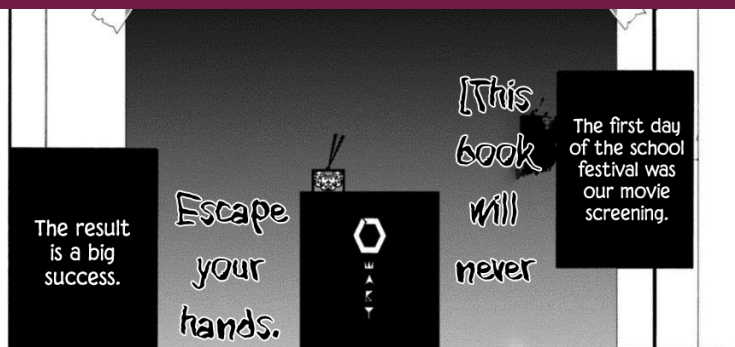
- While in shock, E-ki wanders to another classroom, and encounters the words “Bookmark of Demise” written on a chalkboard, similar to the way he wrote it when first announcing the movie’s title.
- An unknown person comes up behind E-ki and knocks him out with a baseball bat. As his dream ends, E-ki hears unknown words being spoken.

Thankfully, it was just a dream.

...Right?

[SCREAMING CRYING SCREAMING CRYING SCREAMING CRYING SCREAMING CRYING
WAILING BAWLING WAILING AGONY PAIN NOISES OF DYING SCREAMING CRYING
SCREAMING SCREAMING SCREAMING SCREAMING SCREAMING]

Prior to the final screening of their movie, the film club members reflect on the cherishable memories and experiences they made while making the movie, from which a mutual feeling becomes apparent—a desire to not have this fun end. During the final screening of “Shuuen no Shiori”—which is made a private one—they observe a weird recording anomaly in one of the scenes in their movie: static during one of A-no’s scenes. Though unable to immediately deduce the cause, it serves as good enough of an excuse for the film club, who were already eager to continue their activities, to attempt filming again. They end the day on this note.





The [manga's summary of the events](#); [Light Novel 4](#) goes into much greater detail about them

On the second day of the school festival, E-ki spends time with each of his friends exploring the different available activities at the festival.

- E-ki and D-suke sign up for a "food battle" tournament (eating competition). E-ki, having only signed up on a whim (and because he was hungry), is shocked to find out how serious and professional all of the other competitors are in the tournament, and even more shocked when D-suke easily becomes the champion of the tournament (and is revealed to be "the food warrior of legend").
- E-ki and A-no enter a retro game tournament. This backfires when it is revealed that A-no... absolutely sucks at video games. Despite this, A-no is determined not

to give up after the two lose a round of Bomb Man (parody of Bomberman) to two gaming club members. She and E-ki, with their combined persevering spirit, are able to intimidate their opponents into many rematches until the two win. A-no is very happy about this :)

- E-ki and C-na go through a haunted house. C-na is completely unphased by all of the jumpscares, while E-ki downright screams or jumps at any scare. C-na notices this, and attempts to kindly lead E-ki to the exit of the haunted house, only for him to stumble while clinging onto C-na and causing them to both fall on their way out #loser ~~(and land on top of her in an awkward position, Which... Sigh.)~~ Contrary to E-ki's expectations, C-na doesn't get angry at him, and only laughs at the revelation that E-ki is in fact terrible with horror.
- E-ki and B-ka tour the festival stalls, with B-ka buying a lot of sweets and candies from the stands. Eventually, they pass by a candy-sculpting stall, which catches B-ka's attention. B-ka gives it a try, and impressively sculpts an E-ki-shaped candy sculpture. The two of them together then make candy sculptures of the rest of the film club, with B-ka's sculptures of C-na and D-suke turning out accurate, while E-ki's sculptures of A-no and B-ka shaping to look like absolute fucking crap. honestly E-ki me too. Despite this, B-ka seems very happy nonetheless with the sculpture E-ki makes of him.
 - Afterwards, they reunite with the rest of the film club and gift them the candy sculptures.
 - they're all really happy about them :) even A-no likes hers despite it not turning out well

E-ki then gets in trouble for not helping with his own class's festival event, a maid and butler café. When making up for it, he persuades the film club to help him. A-no, B-ka, and C-na dress up as maids, while D-suke and E-ki dress up as butlers. W-sensei also dresses up as a maid.

Chosen by the End of the End of the End

After the school festival is over, the film club almost immediately begins their work on recording the sequel to "Shuen no Shiori", which acts as a "revival" of sorts.

Supposedly, the events of their second movie turn out similarly to the events we read in Light Novel 2, with the final scene being the one where the characters accuse the audience of being the culprit*.

- “A-ya’s” dialogue seems to imply that the Demise Game (or something like it) does exist in the film club’s second version of “Shuen no Shiori”.
- *Note that up until now, the term used for their films seems to have been “culprit” rather than “Fox”.



[beautiful. I love parallels](#)

For full immersion, the film club insists that the final scene of their second movie *must* be recorded at night. Though technically unable to get permission from the school, they are able to beg their advisor (W-sensei) to lend them his keys for getting into the school building.

Knowing that security guards roam the building, as a measure of precaution, E-ki decides on a “secret code” to share among the club for allowing re-entry into the music

room after one of them leaves. Supposedly, it's something that the film club would "never forget, no matter how much time had passed". This exact code is unknown.

In the middle of recording the final scene, the film club decides to take a short break. This... is where things go downhill. Very fast.

- At first, B-ka leaves the room to supposedly go use the restroom.
 - He does not return.
- After some time passes, the film club worries that B-ka may have been caught by a security guard. D-suke volunteers to go look for him.
 - He too does not return.
- Ten minutes after D-suke leaves, the remaining three members begin to grow concerned. C-na insists on leaving to check the night duty room alone, despite E-ki's and A-no's hesitant protests. She promises to yell or scream for help should anything bad happen.
- This leaves A-no and E-ki in the room alone. As they have a light, awkward, conversation, and as E-ki ominously reflects on what will happen after their film production ends, they hear C-na's scream.
 - This causes A-no to panic and run out of the classroom and into the hallways alone. E-ki tries to chase after her, only to trip and lose sight of her.
 - E-ki grabs a flashlight and the video camera on his way out of the classroom.
- E-ki suddenly gets a pounding headache, and remembers, once again, the **dream** he once had of his friends' corpses. He is filled with an intense sense of dread and fear.
 - He begins to nervously walk through the hallway in search of his friends, and does various things to cope with his fear.
 - Surely, he suggests, they were all just pulling (albeit in bad taste) a prank on him? They're all really convincing horror actors, after all.
 - (He'd much prefer that to be the case, rather than the terrible, terrible alternative.)
 - He calls out each of his friends' names, hoping they would come out of hiding.

- He holds his camera up, and begins to record.
 - He hears a sudden noise and sees a light come from one of the classrooms, and runs to it.
- And then...

(GRAPHIC ART + DESCRIPTIONS; expand heading)

I couldn't process the scene that I was seeing before me.

As if everything was normal, in the seats that everyone always sat in, were bloody corpses.

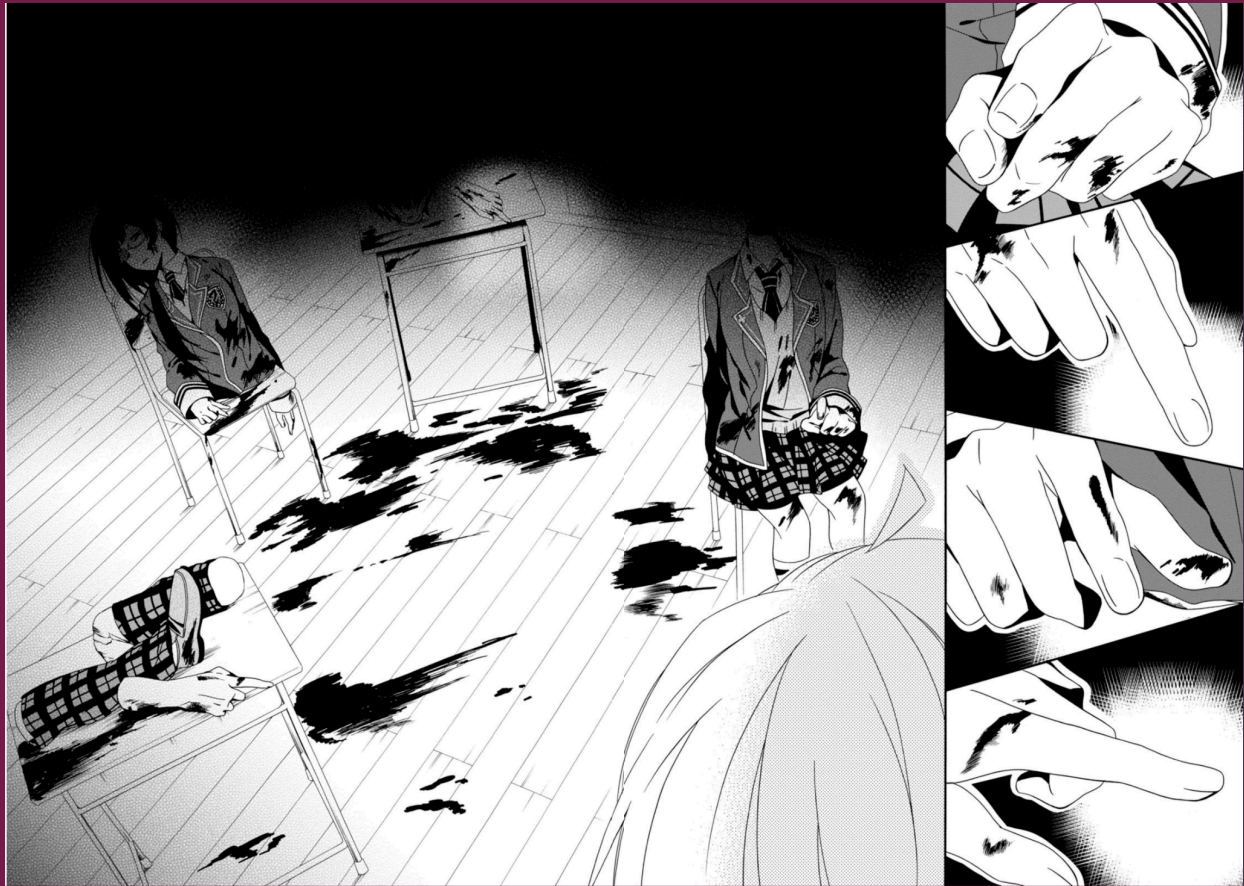
In A-no's seat sat a headless corpse, pointing in my direction.

In B-ka's seat, only a leg and an arm were placed, pointing in my direction.

In C-na's seat, only the upper half of a body had been placed in the chair, pointing in my direction.

In D-suke's seat, a head and arm had been placed on the desk, pointing in my direction.

All that was there, were hunks of meat.



[\(source\)](#)

(NO MORE GRAPHIC ART / DESCRIPTIONS)

- The other film club members are dead. Every detail of the scene is nearly identical to E-ki's dream.
- At first, E-ki is in complete disbelief at the gruesome sight. After all, how could the people he had walked with, talked with, and laughed with not too long ago end up like this?

- Then, he is overcome with the reality and despair of it.
 - He finds himself recalling the fun times he spent with each member during the school festivals.
 - Except—how? How could this have happened exactly as it did in his dream? After all, dreams are just dreams, right? The line between dream and reality begins to blur for him.
- While frozen in his shock and grief, a “familiar silhouette” strikes him in the head with a baseball bat.
 - In the manga, this figure is shown to be wearing the same school uniform as the film club.
 - The last words he hears before losing consciousness are the following:
 - “You said you’d be in charge of **The Dream’s Conclusion**, didn’t you, E-ki?” (Novel 4, Chapter 2, whisperscrawls)

It is revealed that E-ki has been asleep for 10 years (as of 2009), residing in a hospital room numbered **1713**. The actual wording feels ambiguous, but I interpret E-ki’s last bits of narration to imply that E-ki has, for that entire time, been repeatedly *dreaming* of the days he spent filmmaking with the rest of the Film Club members—or in other words, the events described in Novel 3 & 4—and that said dream always ends in the same way: his friends are murdered, and he discovers their corpses.

To E-ki, what’s reality, fiction, or a dream—no longer matters to him, so long as he can continue to relive the happy memories of his friends in bliss. And despite the fact that his dreams will always have a “bad ending”, so long as the moments before the ending are full of happiness, then it’s a “happy dream” to him.

Congratulations for reading until this point. I’d like to present to you [a song](#) before we move on. It’s called, “[Repeatragedy](#)”.

It’s a part of the Shuuen -Re:mind- album. The interesting thing about this song is that the lyrics seem to relate more to the occult club’s time-looping tragedy, but the art that goes alongside the song in the -Re:mind- crossfade features...

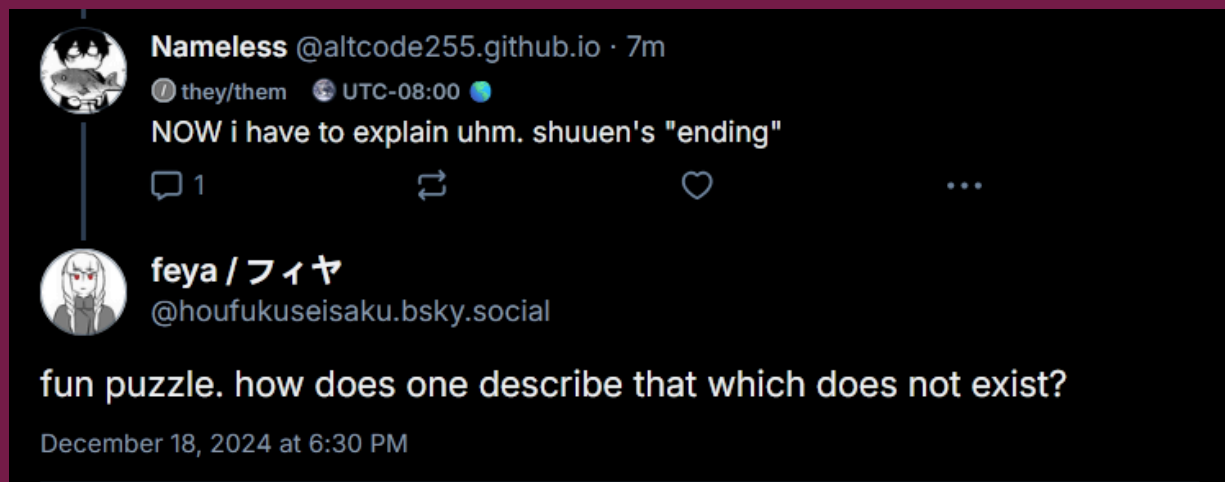


The film club, of course.

Oh, and if you haven't already, you should consider checking out [Conclusion Dreamelody](#). The [lyrics](#) are a fun time.

And with that, let's get to...

Shuuen no Shiori's Ending (Or Lack Thereof)



From this point on, the events of the light novels and the manga diverge. Due to the nature of Shuuen no Shiori's incompleteness, the manga gets its own original, open-ended ending separate from the light novels, while the last light novel written (4) has an

ambiguous ending intended to be followed up with a 5th Light Novel, which would have been named *Ketsumatsu Yumelody* (Conclusion Dreamelody).

I'll try to summarize both "endings", though keep in mind this: about here is where I truly stop being able to answer anything.

The Manga's Ending (Chapters 31–33)

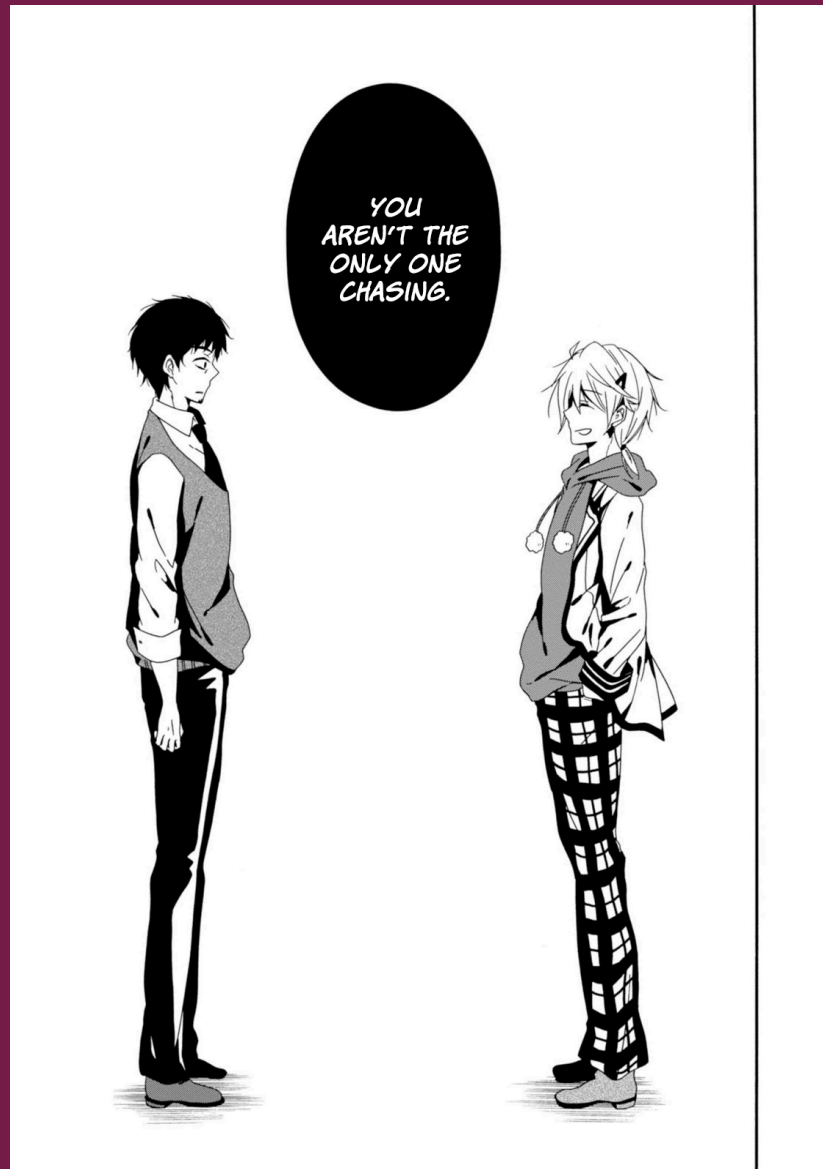
In the manga, on the following morning of the incident, W-sensei discovers the gruesome scene of the dismembered film club members, as well as an unconscious, bleeding E-ki in the middle of the classroom. W-sensei calls for help to get E-ki to the hospital as soon as possible. However, when he asks about the other students, he finds that the scene of the crime has been completely cleaned up, and the bodies of the other film club members have completely gone missing.

He visits E-ki in the hospital, and encounters E-ki's older sister, as well as her 6-year-old child, a shy boy who looks like a much younger splitting image of his uncle. E-ki's sister tells W-sensei that they don't know when/if E-ki will ever wake up. Back at school, after W-sensei's insistence on investigating the classroom, traces of blood on the floor are found using a luminol test, causing a crime investigation to be opened. Days later, the film club's corpses are mysteriously rediscovered elsewhere.

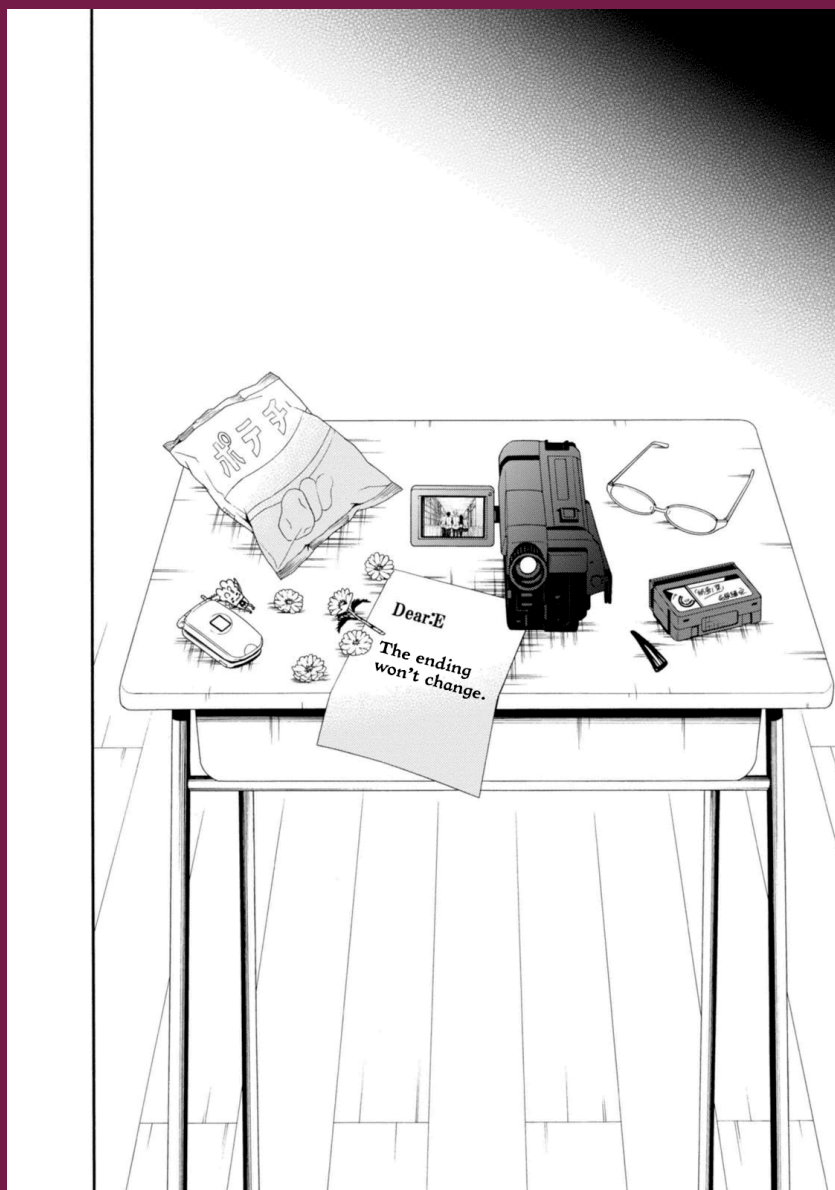
In the aftermath, a grieving W-sensei resolves to chase the answers to the mystery behind the film club's incident, no matter how long it takes. Ten years pass, from 1999 to 2009. Despite W-sensei's repeated, dedicated attempts at investigation over the years, he has been unable to find any answers. W-sensei is shown to visit a still-asleep E-ki from time to time, hoping that he will one day wake up. Returning to work at the same school as a health teacher, he witnesses a casual interaction in the present-day occult club, which fondly reminds him of the film club.

On one occasion while visiting the old school building, he encounters the occult club again, surprised to find students here. Just as he is about to tell them to go home, he sees a student he nearly mistakes in appearance for E-ki standing in the music room. This boy is revealed to be E-ki's identical-looking nephew—with a ponytail—named E-noru, who has now grown to be the same age as E-ki when the incident happened, and seems to be acquainted with / part of the occult club. E-noru greets W-sensei, and

thanks him for the time he got E-ki to the hospital after the incident. Prior to leaving to catch up with the rest of the occult club, E-noru turns to reassure W-sensei: he's not the only one chasing the truth.



As W-sensei begins to cry out of relief, the panel zooms out from a shot of the occult club's backs to reveal...



Dear: E - The ending won't change.

Light Novel 4's Ending (Chapters 3–5)

In chapter 3 of the fourth light novel, a “stage greeting” is held, supposedly disconnected from the story events, where the occult club holds a discussion about the mysteries that have unfolded and been introduced in Novels 3 and 4. They comment that it feels as though they have hit a dead end, despite the fact that nothing has been concretely solved at all (the mystery having only deepened).

A-ya says that we can't be certain of how many characters including the culprit are involved in the story (for both clubs), because we know neither the number of culprits nor whether or not the culprit is someone within the group.

A-ya asserts that a truth *can* be ascertained, but only if the same testimony can be obtained from everyone—including all of the film club members.

For the mystery of Shuen no Shiori as a whole, he uses the analogy of a puzzle that is still missing a piece even after completion; you can neither know if the puzzle is defective until the missing piece is found, nor be guaranteed to understand it even after it is found. He suggests, however, maybe if a lost puzzle piece were found, despite “never intended to be on the stage”, the story would be able to move forward, even if only just a bit.

They bet on the existence of this last puzzle piece, and the stage greeting ends there.

Back to regular story in the next chapter, A-ya encounters a mysterious transfer student, heavily implied to be E-noru, who claims to have information about the Bookmark of Demise. A-ya lets him accompany him to meet the rest of the occult club members, only for E-noru to ask the occult club to follow him to the hospital.

When they arrive at the hospital, E-noru leads the occult club to E-ki’s hospital room.

E-noru clarifies the misconception of the rumor surrounding the incident 10 years ago—there were not 4, but instead 5 people involved. He then explains that the person lying on the bed (whom we know to be E-ki) is one of those five people, as well as the creator of the Bookmark of Demise.

The occult club, bewildered, asks E-noru to introduce himself, to which his response is cut off as a cliffhanger, intending to be continued by the (nonexistent) fifth light novel.

(Though “E-noru” is obviously not named in this novel, we know it is him from matching appearance descriptions / art, the manga, and his appearance in the last Shuen -Re:act- voice drama track.)

The fourth novel of Shuen no Shiori ends there.

And such is the extent of my knowledge on Shuen no Shiori’s manga and novels... I’d like to note that not *everything* about Shuen no Shiori has been translated into English. As of writing this, there are no publicly known translations for:

- most -Re:act- voice drama tracks, except d07 (epilogue)
- the third light novel, anything past Chapter 3 Part 2
- the re:mind narrated instrumentals
- probably more things I'm not thinking about

[check this website](#) if you want to check out the available public translations there are of things

I'm honestly really sleepy. Yea, sure, like E-ki. goodnight

Frequently Asked Questions

my favorite section. also feel free to comment/suggest to leave more questions

Why is the series abandoned / unfinished?

Copy and pasted from [this](#):

Shuuen no Shiori's Incompletion

On October 10th, 2015, Suzumu, who wrote the song lyrics and story for Shuuen no Shiori, [confessed to claiming ghostwritten songs as his own](#) and earning dishonest profit from them, and announced that he would be retiring from all Vocaloid-related activities ([Translation here](#)).

The full extent of Suzumu's plagiarism is unknown. Additionally, because Suzumu had written/arranged songs outside of Shuuen no Shiori, we do not know if it extended to his involvement with the series.

Since the incident, both 150P and komine seem to have gone completely inactive without notice. Consequently, although the manga got its own original ending shortly afterwards, **the project itself has never received a proper conclusion** (and more than likely never will).

Where can I find a list of translations for the light novels / manga / songs / etc. ?

I made a [website](#) for this!

Why are their names like *that*?

The popular consensus is that the characters are named [letter] - [name suffix] to parody the placeholder names that Japanese media outlets use when describing minors / juveniles who are involved in a crime (e.g. Boy/Girl A, B, C, D....), as their identities are protected by law.

Who is the Fox? / Who killed the Film Club? / Who is E-noru? / (How) does the Occult Club exist? / Does the supernatural actually exist in Shuen no Shiori? / etc.

great question. idk

- There are many possible answers for all of these questions. I would elaborate on the Many that I have thought of before, but this document is already too long as is
- for any real theorycrafting, go read shuen first. I obviously can't include every detail ever here