

She can't sleep.

Which is not all that surprising. Even before she came to this island to participate in the show, Yuzu had many sleepless nights, all of which she used to focus on doing something else until the sun finally rose from its slumber once more. Most of the time, she blames it on the fact that even during the time where she is meant to rest, the gears of her mind continue to move. Right now, she blames it on the adrenaline that came from everything that had happened this week.

She sighs quietly, moving the blanket away and sitting up on the bed, listening quietly. Only the sound of steady breathing can be heard filling the room, a sign that everyone else is sound asleep. That causes her to huff softly. Good, she doesn't want anyone to bother her while she's in the middle of gathering her thoughts and looking back at all the things that had gone down during the day. Without so much as making a sound, Yuzu makes her way out of the room, getting out of the cabin. The cold air of the night immediately hits her skin and the purple-haired girl can feel her mind becoming clearer and more relaxed than it was hours ago.

Now that her mind is becoming clearer, she can begin gathering her thoughts.

In all honesty, despite the carefree and relaxed manner she carries herself in, Yuzu is completely taken aback by how things turned out. She was...She was sure that Screaming Gophers would've been in the lead, considering that Killer Bass had lost three of their members during the beginning of the show and Screaming Gophers had only lost one, putting her team at a disadvantage if more of the members got eliminated and kicked off of the island. But then... The unexpected happened, and the team completely managed to turn the tables in their favor, gaining the upper hand during the challenges and the likes, making sure that they remain in the competition as long as possible, until one of them finally comes out as the victor of the show.

Yuzu will be lying if she says that she had expected to make it this far, no. In fact, she was expecting to be eliminated early—and she was so close to being eliminated from the show today, but somehow, she managed to secure her spot three times in a row. Yuzu doesn't know if she should be grateful that she can continue competing even further, or if she should be scared and start questioning about how the hell did she manage to be this lucky.

(It's both.)

She doesn't think that she will be one of the strongest players of Killer Bass either. In contrast to how she usually carries herself, Yuzu isn't fully confident in her own skills during challenges, only hoping for the best and wishing that somehow, things will turn to her and her teammates' favor. And luckily for them, it did, though the flow of the events that happened during the past few days still bewildered her to no end with how quickly everything turned in their favor, leaving her asking herself "*what in the world just happened?*". She's not complaining about it, however. As long as it keeps both her and her teammates in the competition, she is absolutely thankful for it and thinks of it as a miracle that has been bestowed upon them.

And the more time she spends with them in this show, the more she appreciates her teammates. The strong, unbreakable bonds that she has with most of them are something that she will always treasure with her whole heart. And even though there's one particular member that she doesn't like, Yuzu can't deny that they are an important member of the team. It doesn't matter how she personally feels toward them, if she needs to cooperate with them to ensure that Killer Bass wins the challenges and gains invincibility to save them all from elimination, then she is more than willing to put their dispute with each other aside and work with them to achieve their goal. Sometimes, your enemy makes the greatest ally, after all, especially if you share something in common—even if she still couldn't hold herself back from saying something just to irk them off, especially whenever there's a chance for her to do so.

Letting out a soft exhale, she looks up at the star filled sky.

When she first came to this island, Yuzu didn't have any confidence that she would get far in the competition, let alone becoming the winner of the show. But as days passed, she felt something being ignited within her. A competitive flame, urging her to keep on moving forward and to not lose now. The bigger the flame grows, the more she feels the desire to win, to reach the top spot of the competition, and she refuses to let anyone or anything get in the way, refusing to use anything but her own hands and hard work to achieve that goal. If she doesn't achieve it by using her own efforts... Then that victory will not mean anything to her. The flame burns bright and Yuzu knows that it will take a long time and a lot of effort to put it out, something that she doesn't see will happen anytime soon. The journey to achieve her goal is still long, perhaps longer than she might have expected, but that's alright. She has all the time and patience in the world. She doesn't need to rush anything. If she does, it will lead to nothing but her own downfall. Yuzu is very aware of that fact, that's why she doesn't try to speed things up. She doesn't need a repeat of what happened a few years ago.

Even though she has long accepted it... it still left a bitter taste in her mouth.

...She's getting sidetracked from her original thoughts, just a little bit. That won't do. She needs to focus on the original train of thoughts, instead of something that she shouldn't think of anymore.

Yuzu takes a deep breath, her gaze focused on the starry sky as she mutters under her breath.

"I'm going to win this," she says, "I'm going to win—And I won't let anyone or anything stop me."

The flame of determination grows bigger within her chest, and it's enough to fuel her to keep on moving forward. As long as it continues to burn, then nothing can prevent her from reaching the top.