

Evan Ramseur

10/14/2022

CRW-203-001

Sandra Lee

### Writing Assignment #3

The door creaked open, making a ‘errrr’ sound as it did so. There was nothing but silence and the sounds of nature outside. I had been to this part of the school during school hours before. Before, the lights were on, students walked up and down the hallway, and in and out of classrooms. People talked about plans they had after school and gossiped about certain students, events, new games, anime, food, and love interests.

Now, the school was empty, the lights were off, and the silence was deafening. So deafening, you could hear a pin drop. So deafening, for the first time since I enrolled here, I could hear myself inhale and exhale in the hallways.

“Man, I don’t know why the Council President wanted to meet me here of all places. Also, why now! Why the middle of the night?!! I should be back home, asleep!!” I whispered.

Well, that was the plan at least, but Gosh Dang, the silence really amplified my voice. It also amplified my footsteps. Everytime I took a step, it echoed throughout the hallway. Since I’m a man, I don’t wear heels (I tried it once for just lols and the only lols I heard were from my friends when I fell down), but my steps echoing throughout the building would make someone think otherwise.

As I rounded a corner, I then saw a light on in a classroom. My first thought was “Oh shoot, someone’s here!”. Then I remembered that the council president asked me to meet her after hours to discuss.... Something.

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*You know Ms. President, I would be more open to doing this if you told me what the heck this was about!!*

As I approached the door, I began to tip-toe. My parents always told me to keep my head on a swivel, especially now more than ever due to recent events. Not only that, I was shaking in my pants. I mean, I was about to meet THE student council president, the daughter of the prestigious Jitsuryoku Clan: Jitsuryoku Sakura.

I would sometimes see her walking through the hallways during school. Every step she took was graceful, like a noblewoman's. She was often flanked by other ladies of the student council and had a menacing aura about her.

Getting to the door, I took a deep breath and knocked...

“Hello, this is Jaison Mecklenburg, Madam President!”

Since she was older than me, I had to respect that power dynamic. Back in American schools, there wasn't as much of an emphasis on hierarchy as there is in Japan. I found that out the hard way when I spoke to a 2nd year in a casual voice and got slapped. Yeah, not a fun time.

“You can come on, Mecklenburg-san.” said another female voice. Must be one of her student council associates. As I entered the room, I saw three ladies sitting at a row of desks. The one furthest from me had glasses, white hair, a white beret, and a white dress on. The girl closest

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to me had tanned skin, Carolina blue hair, and big muscles. She did not look like she fit into her school uniform at all.

And then there was Jitsuryoku Sakura, the Class President herself. Everything about her screamed authority. Her jet black hair, her serious, stern facial expression, her militaristic attire, her long black boots, and let's not forget the massive katana sheathed on her side.

“So... You are Mecklenburg-san, correct?” Jitsuryoku said in a serious voice.

“Ye-ye-yes... Yes, I am Madam President. And if you don't mind me asking... Why did you want to meet with me at 10:00PM at night?”

“That is because I need to discuss a very important matter with you here, Mecklenburg-san. This matter is one I cannot risk being overheard.”

“Ok, what do you need from me?”

Jitsuryoku looked at the two ladies flanking her, each of them giving a slight nod. She then took a deep breath and did a slight nod herself before she spoke.

*Shoot, what this is about seems really serious. But more importantly, why am I gonna be involved in this?*

“As you may know, I am the daughter of the prestigious Jitsuryoku Takagi. The very same Jitsuryoku Takagi who founded our academy, Higashikawa Academy.” she said.

“Yes, I remember.” I said.

“That being said, Higashikawa Academy has another purpose: A training facility for the Jitsuryoku Sect of Sakurakai, or as you would call it, the Cherry Blossom Society.”

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“The Cherry Blossom Society? Wait, wasn’t that one of the militaristic Japanese factions that helped turn Japan into a dictatorship back in WW2?”

“Yes, we are aware of the bad reputation our name has, but I can assure you, the Sakurakai has little in common with its historic counterpart. Thanks to the efforts of our most famous leader: Rev. Higashikawa Atsushi, the Sakurakai has taken on a new creed: Keep Japan safe for everyone.”

“Ok..... so, why are you telling me all of this?” I said suspiciously.

“Because, Mecklenburg-san, we believe you to be a perfect candidate for our forces.”

“Forces? You mean like military forces? The Sakurakai has a freakin’ army?!!” I said. This just went from 0 to 100 really fast. How can a secret organization have an army? How does the Japanese government not know of this?!!

“Yes, we have an army. Which brings me to my proposal: We want you, Mecklenburg Jaison, to lead a squad of our forces on a couple ‘errands’ for us. “We have assigned you to-”

“HELL NO!!!” I screamed.

But how could I not? I had no combat experience and no leadership experience. Heck, I’m afraid to even come to the building after dark BY MYSELF!

“What?” said Jitsuryoku in a half surprised, half upset tone.

“How dare you speak to Lady Jitsuryoku that way!! Watch your tongue!!” said the white haired girl harshly.

“How the heck am I supposed to react to a curveball proposal like that?!” I said.

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“But, you realize you are throwing away a once in a lifetime opportunity, right?!!” said

Jitsuryoku.

“Uh yeah, because this whole offer is crazy!! You are literally asking a guy who has no combat or fighting experience to lead a squad of special forces to do God-knows-what that is part of an organization with a heinous past. Of freaking course he is going to say no!” I said.

Great, I could be playing that new game I bought a week ago right now, in my cozy room, eating snacks, and yet here I am, receiving a ridiculous offer.

“You know what, forget it.” I said “I’m gone.”

“JAISON PLEASE WAIT!! THERE’S MORE TO THIS!! I promise you will not regret this, JUST PLEASE I’M BEGGING YOU, WAIT!!” screamed Jitsuryoku.

“NO!” I screamed “WHY SHOULD I? This whole thing is ridiculous. WHY ME?!!”

“BECAUSE OF THE POWERS YOU POSSESS!!

*Powers?* I thought.

“What powers?” I said.

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