

My Chronicle

Short Storys

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Kapitel 1: Part 1: Endlessly

Endless is the rain that is falling from the sky. Dark and red is the rain, that is falling above me. Why everything is every time so unclear. Why everything is against me. Is it because i am different?

I cannot stop the rain from falling. I cannot stop the wound from bleeding. I cannot stop my eyes from crying. I wonder if i am able to stop anything that hurts me. Love? Can i stop this? Can i stop the pain that come from loving someone. I cannot. Everyone has to deal with such pain. I wonder if there is anyone who could end my pain. I need someone to hold me. Will be anyone to come for me? It was a rainy, dark, bloody, day in summer 1532, when i asked myself that question. A story like mine should never be told. She is forbidden as she is fragile.

It was a cold autumn day in 1523. Japan . Everything seems to be like every day live. Some warriors, soldiers or samurai came by and eat something in the little teahouse near the street. I saw them the whole day. Walking in, drinking, eating, resting, and then go away. I wonder if i would be able to go someday. This house was like my prison. Unable to break out, unable to fly like i wish i could. I worked there for six years now. I am sixteen years old. My parents sold me to this teahouse. My mother was ill.

I nearly forgot this time that i spend with my family. I already forgot.

There he was. I saw him nearly every day. A samurai, handsome. I never saw such a beauty before or again. He was the only one nice to me. Everyone else treat me like a whore or slave. Men touch me perversely. He protected me, if he was around. One day, i remembered, as it was yesterday he taught me how to handle a sword, how to protect myself. He was there today, smiled at me.

„I will go on a long journey now. I won't come back for a long time,“ he said to the house lady. I was shocked and the dishes i hold fell to the ground. I begged for pardon, but the house lady wanted to hit me. The samurai stopped her. I was thankful. The house lady was strong and her hits hurt.

He went away. I never heard of him again for nearly a year. But his face, his smile gave me courage. I hide it deep in the bottom of my heart und broke out, ran away from this house with the last words of the samurai, and his sword he gave to me. Will i ever be free, will i ever be loved? That were the questions i asked myself every night, when i slept under the stars. The stars where beautiful and bright. I always see up to them. I wonder who made them. Who decided to make them so light? Are the dead people up

there, her mother? I got up when the first glance of the sun came through the trees. I did not sleep very much. Everywhere out there could be a foe, a enemy, a potential threat to my life. So i stay awake the whole night. I went to an old city. No one was there. But i could feel it. Someone looked at me. I was not afraid, i knew how to defend myself. The nameless samurai told me how. Why i had never ask for his name i wonder. Maybe only his near was good enough for me. He taught me how to breath, how to life.

I turned fast. I heard that was coming up to me. Our swords clashed together. I knew that face. It was him. He forced me to my knees. He was as strong as he was one year ago. He was the man of my memories. „You are weak, little girl. Did you already forget our lesson? Never to underestimate your enemy, never become soft, even with an familiar face upcoming?“ I went to my knees, bow before him and begged for pardon. He kneeled as well and lifted my face. I was forced to look into his eyes. He had wonderful eyes. He said: „Thank goodness you are alive.

I came back to the teahouse to get you. The House lady told me that you fled one year ago. I was nearly about to abandon hope. But yet here you are.“ I did not understand. The man of my dreams, my light has searched me and wanted to get me. „If you are willing to come, I'll make you my girl, my wife. I fell in love with you, your pureness, your awakened courage and strength long ago.“ I was overwhelmed. „I do. I want to be by your site for the rest of my little live. I love you since the first time you set a foot into the teahouse. You set my free. You showed me how to life. My live is all yours.“ Once again i fall on my knees to bow. Once again he lifted my face. „No more bowing. You are not a servant girl anymore. You are a free girl, free samurai, my girl.“ I was about to cry. All my dreams came true in a single moment. If this was a dream, please god never let me wake up from this. He kissed me in an instant and i fell for him once again. Once and for all. If you are willing to fight, i learned, you can get everything. You just have to go on, to live on and the fate will be good to you. I learned that.

Today i learned another rule of live. The dead. He is coming out strong, takes what he can and than let those who are living back in pain.

I held him in my arms. Dead. He was taken away from me. I couldn't do anything. Just watching. The days till he made me his wife, i did not train very often. I got weak. He tried to defend me and died. Now everything is red. Even the sunset, the rain, my heart. I swore revenge to that guy. That is when my fate, my story began.

Now i am twenty six years old. One year after my beloved husband died by the hands of another girl. A ninja. I decided to train again to get this girl between my fingers to crush her bones. I wanted her dead. She deserved the death. I went to Edo . It was the year 1533, tenth years after I ran away from the teahouse. Now i was a good woman. Without husband, with a dead bringing sword. Edo was in chaos at this time. Many people of the shinsengumi were there. I saw them; saw the bloodlust in their eyes. They all were born to kill unlike me. I was once a servant girl not made for killing not made for wielding a sword. I was just... trained to do so. The town was nice and beautiful. I never was in such a big city before. Everywhere where people on the street, buying good for the daily need. Like rice or fish, fruits and vegetable. I saw them, heard them and could smell the scent of expensive perfume. Somewhere on this street market was someone rich, someone with relations. A great person who held power. The scent bitted in my nose. I disliked scent like those. Way to intrusive. But it was only for a moment, the man was gone. I went to a teahouse and ordered a

tea and one oden. I was very hungry after my journey from my village, where i lived with HIM, to Edo . I was happy with my live at this time. But sometimes things like that happen. And people have to learn how to deal with those things, accidents.

I did. I searched something to forget all this sadness, built up my grudge against the woman who killed my husband. I learned not to show my emotions to everyone. To be cold and reserved if I am with people. Learned not to say too much, not let anybody know what i think. Until now, it works. Very good. No one ever thought of me something different like i wanted them to see me. If i wanted to be a not talking fool, they always thought i am. I was like a spy. I learned that those woman i searching for, works for the tenno, the emperor of the country in Heian-kyō , the old capital of Japan . The edo-jidai was very hard for a woman to live. If you are not married, or you are not a daughter of nobles, you a less worth than a horse. You were no more like a good. Men could handle them like things, like they wanted, as whores or slaves. Women didn't have any rights. Besides they had power. I learned to hide my power, so that no one could ever see my as a danger for men. So that's also the reason, why i hide my sword under my clothes. No one was allowed to see the real me. No one. Only the one i would kill.

I hesitated for a while and waited. My hand was on the handle of my sword and rested there. Perhaps, I hoped at least, he would think it is that nobody was here. but this hope has ever been destroyed as he looked at me and our eyes met. In his eyes I could see the brutality and the cold, which also had the samurai the Shinsengumi. I did not hesitate a moment and drew my sword. The sound of the now free metal filled the forest. I went up to him but he had already drawn his sword and parried my blow. Shortly afterwards he expressed his sword at my throat I was below him on the ground. It seemed to be gone forever. But in reality there were only a fraction of a moment. He was strong and fast. I had to exercise any of his movements. Was the difference between us really that big?

I looked at him. "Your movements are too large. You need a lot of time to perform an action. Who is your master?"

I did not answer. "Are you afraid, you're dumb? Before me you need have no fear. Young swordsman should stick together."

Furthermore, I didn't said a word. Should he hold me but for a stupid dumb idiot. But I would not give him the opportunity to see the real me. As long as he thought that I am a boy like him, I could not seem to pass anything. He freed himself from me and put back the sword into the scabbard. I sat up. He handed me a stick with a grilled fish. He ate himself in silence. I ate as well, after I had bowed gratefully. This night I would not suffer hunger. The rest of the night we both were silent. Alternately, we kept watch. That night, I learned that it brought benefits, not to travel alone. The sleep refreshed me and I felt relaxed when I awoke the next morning. The boy was not there, the fire was out. It was smoking just slightly. Long he could not have gone. I listened to the environment. As a branch broke behind me I turned around with a drawn sword. "Hey, hey. Stay calm. I only got some water from the river. You are much too nervous." I put away the sword. And after that, I said, "What's your name?" I tried to use the language of men. Through my dead husband, I knew I had to use it. He put down the bowl and looked at me. He seemed surprised that I spoke. But I could no longer remain silent. The man fascinated me in some way. He seemed not much older or younger to be like me. About my age, I would appreciate. But he was more mature and more experienced than I, especially in relation to the sword. "Takashi. You?" Short

question. And although I now had expected that he would speak to me that I can even talk yet. "I.. Lee." I could not call him after all my real name. Inuki, English ghost dog, has been at the time a popular name for unloved daughters. Inuki was a figure of horror stories and tales that were told naughty children. A three-headed demon dog that lived in the dark abyss and lived by Viscera and flesh of men. I thought no more about it long. But men were not so-called "cursed 'name as Inuki who has such a strong contact with the underworld. Only women, they could not fight, could not be heirs. To be woman was said to be always employed in the bottom of the food chain. Lee however, pointed to strength and the fact that you are not even from here but from the mainland. " Korea ? Interesting? So you were on the mainland. Your fighting style must therefore be from there. "I knew nothing about how they fought there. My husband was Hyunsung, he also came from Korea . He knew the style and had taught me. I knew nothing else. "This is not good. In Japan , one fights differently. With your style, you will die quickly. A Katana does not fit it." What had to do that now with the sword? You fought in Korea , with other weapons? I remembered only vaguely because Hyunsung had a different weapon. It resembled a katana. But now that I thought about it ...

I watched the fire and remained silent. I found I had already said enough. If my style was not good enough for Japan , then I just had to get another one. I looked at him again. "Teach me." He hesitated. "I'm not a master. I can not teach." "But you can fight, can't you? So you can show it to me. There is something that I must do." "Who does not need that, "he said casually. Already voted. Either one was carrying a sword because it was part of the cataract or the Shinsengumi, or you wanted something else. Without any reason they do not carried a sword with them. "Agreed. I'll show you how to fight in Japan . But only the basics, everything else you have to learn yourself. "I nodded.

And so the days passed. We ran four to five hours and spoke little. Then we stopped for a rest, trained and looking for food. What is not always as easily proved, I must say. At night we took turns Guard. Takashi said that it would be too dangerous to travel at night. But I did not know this as well. I knew so much about the outside world does not, so I was always grateful that Takashi was there and told me many things and taught. He never asked for, where I wanted it, what would I do then. I did the same. When we talked then about the villages we passed through, plants or training. Have we not languages. We learned to understand us without a word. By the time I felt really safe with him. I would not have thought at the beginning. He was young, mature and knew what he was doing. In every respect he was like a man even if he is as old as I seemed to be. He was attractive and athletic. I was allowed me to never allow him to consider. Men looked at women only, women only men. Everything else has been described as abnormal. And since he knew me as a man and should think odd me as such, I had to behave accordingly. I did not give up before my camouflage. At night I sometimes felt a little bad, it hide such an important aspect. But who knew what he was carrying secrets with him. It was like the way to Heian-kyo. One free samurai was not groundless to Heian-kyo. There was the Emperor. There it was dangerous with a weapon. Who then went and hired who wanted to kill, or. I wanted to kill. What was Takashi I did not ask. We were already only companions. As soon as we would be in Heian-kyo, our paths would be separated for ever and I would never see him again. Maybe I was also forced to fight him and kill him. But through the many training, I knew that it was much too early. I experienced and skilled with the sword, but he always knew was what I was doing and beat me the blade in his hand. I never gained

the upper hand. And even if I thought I had it he had misled me and put me out of action. We fought against each other often to keep fit. Travelers also we tried to avoid. Takashi said that all around here Heian Kyo were dangerous. No one could tell who one of the Shinsengumi was and who is not. From this statement, I concluded to me that he did not intend to be a part of the Shinsengumi ZUW. I was not sure though.

One day, when the rains came on was, Takashi and looked around. "We can not continue, the rain is too dense. The night is fog lay over the land. We should find a resting place." I agreed with him in silence. I would not mind a hot bath. But after, I would probably have to wait until we were in the capital. Somewhere, said at least Takashi, should there be a hostel. I saw nothing. There was only forest. Where should it here ... But after a while I looked out from a roof of a building, peering out of the trees. The fog began already. Takashi seemed right to have sought after. Here we would spend the night. Behind the house rose to steam. "I guess that will please you. A bathhouse." And he was right. An Onsen was exactly what I needed after the trip. Blood and dirt stuck to both our body and our clothes were ragged and I doubted we would get into it at all so there. But really and we were offered yukata took while our clothes and mended. Takashi was apparently known here. Takashi and was apparently recognized here. Who was he? Was not that important. "The first thing we should take a bath, it is already prepared. The food is then taken." In that moment I was shocked and overjoyed to be the same. Yeah, a bath sounded tempting. But I had not thought that it was perfectly normal for two boys at her age to go together to the bath house. My camouflage threatened to dissolve. "What? Are not you ashamed of me?" He grinned cheekily. This secure atmosphere here seemed to loosen up a bit and cheer. He seemed more open than the forest roads. The door was postponed and a maid walked in with food and sake. "Dinner is ready, Lord." Lord? Languages here every so on? Takashi saw not look like a lord. We then sat down on the cushions on the little table and ate in silence. Then we allowed them both and even some of the rice wine. Then covered the girl from the table and brought a small oil lamp. Takashi said: "The bath is finished. We would now like to go into the bath house." The maid nodded. "It is all provided to your satisfaction." She left the room. Even now well strengthened and enlivened by the Sake, rang my alarm bells. I tried to maneuver out somehow. I am not talking about working out with fatigue. And before I knew it, we were in the locker rooms, a bucket and towels with us. And he began to undress. He was really well built, muscular and attractive. He looked over at me. I was still dressed and looked at him in silence. He was amazing, now where were the shells fell. I wondered if he did not come from a noble house and he was therefore treated here with so much respect. He came up to me. "Would not you take off your clothes yourself?" I did not know what to do and went backwards. Away from him. My gaze wandered over his body, his tight belly, his well-shaped chest and got stuck on his face. His eyes found mine and we found ourselves in a moment. Until he finally broke the silence. For me it felt like an eternity. "Are you one of those guys who stand on guys?" I shrugged and shook his head hastily. Instinctively. No, I was not. He nodded and then said that it was a good thing. The fact that I would need have no fear then yes, he would have none of these guys. He put his hands on my tub and took him out of my hands and then the protective towels. His hands he placed on my hips and my stomach began to cramp. A bolt of lightning or something similar transit my body as he pushed my top up and touched my skin. "But you have soft skin. Almost like a girl." That was no miracle. I was a girl. Then he stopped suddenly and looked at me bluntly. "You're a woman." He

touched my breast. Even if it was not much that I wore before me, it could only be described as a breast. I said nothing. "Oh. For a woman you fight too well." He laughed easily. Then he twisted around and pointed to the pelvis. He wanted to wash herself in the bathroom and would wait for me. Whether I wanted to come, he left much of my decision. He probably knew for sure that I was a woman, so he had stopped. And now he did not want that I thought my cover was blown. He was a good person. I sighed and got rid of me shortly after my things, washed me and took my towel to the pool. The towel in front of the body, I let myself slowly slide into the water. Light mist as the water was very warm, hung over the bath. I could just see his silhouette. When I was in the water I could hear waves, noise. He moved. Suddenly he was before me, leaning slightly forward. His hands rested behind me from the edge. He looked at me with sharp eyes. "Elegant and delicate as a woman. Short hair. Breast. Sword. Can Kill People. You explain to me somehow what a woman like you're one has before?" Again I said nothing. He sighed. "You got me the last seven days cheated. You have given a man. What you are not. Did you think I would not have noticed. From the first moment, I knew you're a woman. Your movements, your face when you sleep, everything is soft and elegant. elegant than a man could ever be. But I said nothing because I thought, you will have your reasons. But now I want to know those reasons. Although I believe they know them." I looked at him. He therefore knew all the time. Why had he never made remarks. "I have to find someone." "You mean you have to kill someone. Otherwise you would not spend as male sword fighter. If that's the only reason is good." I was taken aback. "What could it be otherwise for other reasons." "Do not act dumber than you are. No later than upon arrival at the residence know you had it." I just looked at him quizzically. Residence?

True, this was not a hostel. He was known and he was apparently a noble man, or the son of a noble man. And here they were out of any other guests. Again he sighed. "You really do not know, I am the Togu, the son of the present Emperor. The next emperor." I shrank back. He was the heir to the Japanese throne. She had tried to kill him and already expected to do it again. to try again. I looked at him. I could not believe it. He laughed easily, smiled almost only. Somehow he seemed to find funny that I did not know who I had to do it all the time. "I'm so sorry." As a slave can not learn much from the outside world and then I lived far offside. "This should not be a cheap excuse. But maybe it should be a justification. He looked at me and stopped with the laughter. He took me in his arms and held me down on him. Never before had a man I had been so close, had died since my husband. And even he was not on me to do this job. My heart raced and my breath for a wager. I was incredibly warm. My cheeks were filled with blood. I blushed. I was breathing erratically from my hot breath and could not move me. His skin touching mine. I did not care. It was beautiful. His body was built to be very good, moist, warm and easily through the water. I could feel his breath and his muscles. Heard his heartbeat. "A slave, and where did you then learned sword fighting and how to escape you are." Again he smiled. I felt sure that he did not want to answer. He pulled me over to him. "Now you're here. With me. I'll leave you never go back. You know why I wanted to kill you at night?" He wanted what? I winced. His words were so contradictory. He wanted me to not let go, and a sentence later he said he wanted to kill me. "Many women follow me on my travels. As a woman, slave or how you as a man Just to make myself at them closely. Just make me fall in love with her. Many I have already been killed because they wanted training. And then weak. As a man, you have to desire to the right with another man. As a

woman you have no right to disturb the Togu and desire. You did not know who I was. You even tried to kill me, seriously. Therefore, I always been reluctant to take your life. You did not seem to me, or to a marriage to be with me. That's why you're still alive. You were keen to become stronger. So I trained you. But now. You looked at me with eyes of a woman. I felt that look more often from you. You bring it tries to camouflage your not noticed. But now times you stay a woman. Your eyes are normal. If you would not see, I would have wondered. But nevertheless, I thank you and your hearted response. You do not knew who I was and still You were attracted to me. You have seen me as a man than you were looking at me, not the son of the Tenno." I closed my eyes and gave myself up to his touch, his embrace, to the full. I listened to his words and let me go back through the head. I felt myself drawn to him, was true. But I was not going to follow him from now on as a woman. No matter what he might think of me. No matter what he might say. My wife-side would only come again if I had brought this person to track. I detached myself from him. He let me go voluntarily. I looked at him. With the eyes of a man. "Tell no one. I want to bring to an end what I started." He nodded and leaned next to me on the edge. So it should be: two companions who relaxed. Nothing else.

When we awoke the next morning I was alone in the room. "Takashi?" I stood up and pulled me about. His things were already put together. His sword was not there. A maid came in the room. "Togu-sama is already gone. He begs her to forgive Lord Lee. An urgent matter called in to the palace." I saw the door to questioning. An urgent matter? In the palace? So he had not lied and he was the next emperor of the Tenno and his son had called to him. Probably he would now travel to more official way. In palanquin or on horseback. For me, things were ready. Men things. Takashi'd probably be set ready for me. The maid did so well that I was a man. She talked me formally to Lord. In their eyes I saw the normal respect, the women had to pay with men. Fear, and respect is mixed. I got up and got dressed. My sword I tied myself to a sash and around the hip. Then I left the estate and continued my journey to Heian-kyo alone gone. The capital was perhaps only a day's journey away. It should not be a problem that I was on the evening in the city. I ran quickly. Without a break. I wanted to reach the city before the darkness began. That was dangerous. Everywhere were lurking bandits. I felt broke in like the uncertainty. The loneliness overran me. I missed him. I had never noticed that I had myself so bound to him. Why? But one thing was clear: I felt drawn to him. But that could not be. He was a part of my enemy. His father commanded the unit that my husband had been killed. I would never be able to stand himself at the head of a country that kills people as they please. I also doubted that Takashi was it something I might be interested. I was not a woman of nobility. I was a former slave. And now I was a woman in male clothing. A woman who challenged the world of men. The hours passed. I saw the border. There I would probably not get through. As the Emperor celebrated the wedding of his oldest daughter, it was not out of control in the city. I heard on the estate of a maid. I had no papers or the like. I would never come into it. Not so shabby. They would also take off my sword. I thought about something. Takashi Why was not here. He knew that I would not come clean? Did not he want that I came to Heian-kyo? Why should he want it? Was last night a bye? I could not understand. Why was this happening? I sat on a stone by the roadside and watched the entrance to the city for a while. I learned how the guards behaved, whom she ran through what they are looking for and controlled, and whom they could not enter. As I had imagined, I fell into the category I was not allowed into

the city. I sighed. Now it was my goal so close that I could almost reach and yet it seemed to have receded into the distance through the border post. Suddenly I heard a voice that was familiar to me. I stood up and looked to the entrance. Takashi stood there and talked to the guards. I saw him and tried him for me to draw attention. However I am subject of the first attempt. Was certainly not a good idea. Takashi was well dressed in the robe, which was allowed to carry only the son of the emperor. So he was here on the orders of the Emperor. It was me, a young swordsman, pay no attention. So I sat down again. He came to me. I looked up. "Lee here you are. Here thou I had been worried you would not find the way. Forgive my sudden departure. My father asked for me." I looked at him. Confused. The guards were just as confused. "Togu-sama, this tramp harms your reputation." Takashi turned around. "This 'tramps' as you call it, my friend and faithful companion is." To me changed, he said: "Come with me." I got up and followed him in silence. I paid no attention to the guards. They stood there like stuffed dummies and looked after us. I smiled inwardly. They were really stupid. But the fact that they had called me a tramp, I could never forgive them. Takashi sensed my discomfort, that more and more was, the closer we came to the palace. "If it is the guards, then I let them beheaded. Is it the immensity of the palace, I can let you relax." I looked at him quizzically. His words were to be understood literally and heavy. I had never spoken with someone from the imperial house. The housekeeper would have beaten me together. But I understood what he wanted to tell me. "Let her live. As a man, I must decline your offer Takashi." He stopped. He seemed a bit disappointed. "And as a woman?" He did not wait for that, I answer, but climbed the long stairs and we went inside. I stopped under the crushing weight of the reception room of the palace. Everything was so dark, I assumed that it had to be either heavy beech. But much of it I do not mind. Takashi said that the emperor resided in the back rooms. He even further forward, together with his relatives. My room would be his. He did not want that others came near me, he said. "I will not sleep with you Lee. But I have one request of you." We went into his room and sat down. He seemed to strain something serious. I wanted to relieve his suffering so much. As I walked as a man, I knew what he needed.

A night with a woman. But I could not and would not give him. At the moment I was a man even if I had the feeling that this case, this protection, threatened in his neighborhood decay. "Give me your real name." "Is that your request?" Because if it was, it was not much that he wanted from me. But what the emperor's son might as well already from someone like me want. He shook his head. I answer then. "My real name is Inuki. As in ghost dog." He looked at me. "Ah. The damned three-headed hound of hell from children's stories. I see. Inuki. This name fits you. Not because he is cursed, but because it expresses risk. And you're fighting a woman can and hides behind a mask. This is dangerous, for the men of whom you will desire." I sighed softly. "Takashi. What is your request?" "Get to the woman for me. My father wants me to the wedding ceremony engaged. He can no longer tolerate that I am in country travel. I told him that I'm looking for a wife. Alone. And that I travel because of it. But now Whether he tired of waiting. my wife, my beloved, only for the time we are in the capital. "I will lie to the Emperor? I want him to play an engagement? "This is going too far Takashi. When he finds out, he beheads me. I can not meet you this request. I came here as a man and stay a while I would not will do that have to do is. Please do not compel me to a wife." He came up to me and took me in his arms. "You're already a woman Inuki. The moment in the bath house, as you looked at me, your camouflage is

gone. All you have to do is to accept it. You were born a woman and should live as a woman." I pushed him from me. "The only reason that my cover is blown, that you are! You make me weak. You make me a woman. I miss your protection if you're not there. I do not want to be dependent on a man, never again." "Never again? You a widow? Are you a virgin?" I shrugged. "I'm both. widow and a virgin. My husband did not want it. He has never touched me. Never kissed. We were only intimately connected to the gods, I never had the feeling to be his wife." He took me in his arms. He was so loving, I need not. "Let me go. I am a man" He shook his head. "You're a woman. And you know that" He put his hand on my cheek and stroked me gently. I closed my eyes. It felt incredibly great. I leaned slightly against his hand. Then I felt his lips on mine. He kissed me. But that was not a simple kiss, that was pure madness. That was a firework of emotions and feelings. This kiss was more intimate than anything I knew. I lost myself in him. I would never be able to free myself from him, I knew at that moment. I had fallen in love with him. But I wanted? He was the Togu. I just a bad girl. A wrong man. Nothing was I, when we looked at it more closely. He did not solve the kiss. I replied. He wished that I fall prey to him, I felt clearly. He wished that I succumbed to his charm and he had made it. But already much earlier. This kiss was not necessary. He knew. I knew that. From the moment in which he had stopped me in my first attack and pinned to the ground, I was already forfeited to him hopeless. Forfeited be to someone. I had had such a feeling before. When I thought about it Hyunsung had been shown, I have respected and admired him. But I never had desired him. I had never lie so this desire in a man as now. But I am still broke from him. "Takashi. Stop it. I am a man" He was silent and stood up. He seemed disappointed. My face was hot and red. Also, I got up and went to him. I put my hand on his back and leaned timidly at him. "I can not give you what you are looking for." Inuki ... "He turned and took my hands in his. "You know how much I had to hold back all the time? Do you know that I had left the hostel, so I do not fall upon you? I am a man Inuki. You are a woman. You'll wake instincts in me that I did not know before. And just because you're different than other women. You are strong, you see me as human beings not as crown prince. You want to fight. You are so much. And yet you also need the protection of a man. You wake a protective instinct in me that I have never experienced such. Do not you Inuki. I can not give you any more." I looked at him and backed away. I shook my head. What was only driven it in? Would he hernehmen me now to sleep with me? Would he rape me now? I felt like I came back the weak, women were weak. I put my hand got closer to the handle of my sword as Takashi. "Do not come closer or I'll blow off his head." He smiled. "You can not, you know that" He was right. I was too weak, but I would never give up without a fight. The door opened. "Onii-sama? The ceremony will begin soon. You shall make you ready. "The girl did not look up. But I heard her voice that she was very young. Takashi nodded. The girl disappeared. "Well ... no Inuki Lee. If you want to stay a man, then it permanent. But still I want you to me are doing society. Between these noble people, I feel overwhelmed. I could use someone to stand by me. A friend. "I bowed. "Togu-sama." He laughed. "Not yet. Takashi I stay up for Lee. "I felt like my front again solidified me as he again began to call Lee and see a man. He offered me clothes from him. I had never worn anything so beautiful. The most expensive was silk. I did not know how expensive. We went into the hall. The emperor was sitting in his chair, throne. Or whatever I could describe it. He radiated power. I felt out of place. What did someone like me, a slave at all here? Takashi stood next to me. "I will introduce you to my father. Do not worry, Lee, I am with you. "And so we went to the ruler of the country.

"Father? May I introduce you to my faithful companion and friend? Lord Lee. "I respectfully fell to his knees and waited for the Emperor rose to speak. "Lord?" He spoke out as would doubt it. This was of course right, no question. But he had noticed that I came from a tea house and had worked there as a slave? "Look at me, Lord 'Lee. You seem to come from Korea, I presume?" I sat up. Bowed again just before I spoke. I use the language of men. "No sir. My parents came from there. I was born here. I call Japan my home. "He smiled. "That's good. These young men I've liked in my house. Would be welcomed. "I bowed again. His eyes I did not see it was not the emperor to see directly. So I did not. Takashi escorted me away and then laughed when we were out of earshot. "The guards will find that you are petite, and how a woman cast. So fragile. My father thinks you're a weakling, because you're so thin. "I looked at him. So he did not know that I was a woman. That was good. That was my next concern. After all, he had stressed the Lord rather strange. I sighed. Takashi patted my head. "Good girl." Again he laughed. "Wait here, I'll be right back. Entertain yourself. "That was easier said than done. Everything was full of noble men. The Shinsengumi were also here. They guarded the emperor and his retinue.

I looked around carefully. Was she here? Moment. Would she ever be a woman here. They probably had the same camouflage as I was, and dressed as a man. Most likely I would not recognize.

"So who do we have here? The little Lee. Who knows why he has so many feminine traits." I turned and looked at the men. They belonged to the Shinsengumi. Their uniforms showed her arms. They were big and strong. Quite different from my or Takashi. These were grown men. Samurai. But one of them was smaller and slighter. His face looked softer. In that moment I knew who it was. This was the woman. She was was a good actress when she her face so well adjusted. I could not. The feminine traits remained. I had this very androgynous. One of the men came up to me. I put my hand to the place where should be my sword. But there was not. Takashi had it taken from me. He said only members of the Shinsengumi were allowed in the throne room lead to a sword. I was therefore removed. "This movement ..." He grabbed my hands and examined it. "These hands. Petite, but sent. You are sword fighter. "I gave him my hands quickly withdrew. I knew a good samurai could read the techniques of a skilled swordsman's hands. How exactly this worked, I did not know. But it hung together well with callus formation. At various intervals, the skin was a different shape, different color and its thickness was different. This was now working as they led the sword. He should learn nothing about me. Nor should she not know. Only when it was too late and I would cut off her head. "A little guy, the sword-fighter. Did you ever saw. The sword is not too heavy for you?" I did not answer. If they can enjoy making fun of me yet. Each semi-strong would be freaked out, I remained calm and orderly. This nakedness I would not give me. To this end, we were also well in the wrong place. Takashi saw us and came to me. He pulled me away.

Shinsengumi the opposite, he had as little power as I do. They heard only on orders from his father. Eventually they had to swear loyalty to him or leave the capital. But that meant they put the arms of the Shinsengumi need to. I doubted that there would be many who would follow Takashi. I heard they were talking about him. He was out with an androgynous guy. He had also already one of these guys. Gay. And that could not be. "Takashi. I should go. They are already talking." "Let them. Then my father may decide not to marry me." I stopped. Even though I already knew he had so informed me. But it still shocked me. "What is. The girl in Lee jealous?" I looked at him angrily. I

was not a girl. "No. Definitely not. For there is no girl in me that could be jealous. "" Good. Let us sit down my friend. "I sat down and we ate and drank. My gaze wandered again to the woman. Takashi noticed this "What?" "That man is not a man" Takashi followed my gaze and looked at him. Or rather they. "How do you know?" "He killed my husband. Because of her I came to Heian-kyo. "Takashi looked at me confused. "The Shinsengumi kill but only on the orders of the Emperor, when the welfare of the people is in danger. Who was your man?" I looked at him. I did not know what he was. "Hyunsung Doon." I said softly. Takashi looked at me horrified. "Doon? He was a revolutionary. He was dangerous. All of Korea, the Korean army, was under his command. "I looked at him. I did not. Takashi stood up. "Come with me. I think you have to explain to me a lot. "I followed him into the outside area. The garden was large, spacious. Typical of a palace will say again. Everything was beautiful and well maintained. The garden, the sand around the small pond, the flowers and fish. It all seemed so perfect. "Hyunsung Doon was the head of the Korean martial elite. The Shinsengumi him have been searching and trying to arrest. How did you get him?" I said nothing. I thought about how far I could still trust Takashi now. I wondered whether he would arrest me, now that he knew who was my husband. "I met him when I was still a slave, as a servant in a tea house. He was always nice to me. He had always protected me from the other sick men who saw me as a prostitute. Eventually he stopped coming. He had trained myself so that I can protect myself. But after he did not come, I fled from there to my own way to go. A year later he found me and made me his wife. We lived hidden. And a few years. Until a woman came and killed him. They let me alive. "" Did you know who he was?" I shook my head. "I knew that he could fight. But today, many can. "Takashi was silent, and together we crossed a small arched bridge over a narrow creek. On the other side was a scale with great attention of Japanese gravel garden with a small pavilion. We sat down. "He has made us much trouble. The year you had mentioned, that's probably been the time of the uprising here in Heian-kyo. He was a leader. He killed my older brother. He then leader of a unit of the Shinsengumi. "I looked at him. I assumed that he hated Hyunsung for it. He continued. "I never wanted to be the Togu. Togu as you have no space for more. You have to do what is asked of you. My father allowed me even more than my brother. But just because I did not used to control was to become so extreme. This trip was intended that I find a woman. Otherwise, if my father never allowed me to leave Heian-kyo. "I assumed he had found no one. Otherwise he would hardly come back. Otherwise, his father would make it unlikely that he was engaged. But that had to take place because of all the wedding of his sister? I looked at him. "I loved him. I knew nothing of his deeds. The time we spent, we were simple people. He had killed no one. "Even though I was not sure what he had done at night, when I had thought he was working. Maybe he was murdered and I not only said. "He was taken from me. I can never forgive. "Takashi stood up. "You should get a grip on the imperial family set, I will not defend. Then we are enemies. "Internally shrugged his wife together in me. Because the woman he had fallen in love with him. But the man had been already prepared to fight against him one day. But I did not think it would happen. I looked at him. "I have promised myself, rather I can not become a woman before I'm just not Hyunsung." Takashi stood up. "You want to avenge a criminal? That makes you even for criminals Inuki. "" I'm Lee. And if so. What business is it of yours?" Takashi hissed at me. "Leaving the building, or I'll kill you." I looked at him angry and then fled over the wall into the forest. The Shinsengumi were Takashi is applied voice and his threat. "Togu-sama, we should adjust it." Takashi said no. "He will come again." Time being

not. I had to kill this woman before, come what may. And apparently was referring to the fate wished me well. The Shinsengumi did not listen to Takashi and followed me on the orders of the Emperor, after they had told him everything. There were three experienced men and my sacrifice. The first thing I would have to think about a strategy. But it was too late. They had split up. I did not know which of the four I now pursued directly. I did not know which way the others would get three. But one thing I know. My pursuer was faster than me. I listened to his step. I was pushed to the ground in order reversed. I saw it. She held the sword in his hand. The other hand was at my throat and held me. "You whore. What do you want? First Hyunsung, then Takashi. "I looked at her confused. "Do not play the stupid. I loved Hyunsung. We wanted to Korea. But then he met you. When I learned that the Shinsengumi was looking for Hyunsung, I've connected them in order to kill you. But I could not. I had no statement. Instead, I had to kill the man I love. He loved me. "I hissed at her, willing to keep up my facade. "Who is Hyunsung. I'm a guy and certainly not gay. "Selling me for an idiot." She let go of my throat and grabbed me in the crotch. "You're not a man had, you are saved slave of the Hyunsung. And you you staid up to Takashi. But he sees through you and sent you away. "She was mistaken. I had not been him Biederman. On the contrary, I had it rejected. But I said anything about that. I also said nothing of Hyunsung. "Finally I can kill you officially. I've been waiting so long ... Inuki. "They knew my name. I had to act, but had not my sword with me. So I stepped into her belly and the moment in which she writhed, I rolled out from under her. I remembered Hyunsung and what he had taught me. I was a woman. Also. I knew where their weak points were. "Do you think I fight fair, and place my weapon or why you look at me like that?" She laughed. That was not necessary. She came up to me.

I wondered Lee 'and became Inuki. A woman. I dodged it with a flat rotation, and turned behind her. I grabbed her wrist and turned it back up as long as she dropped the sword. I flicked it with his foot up a bit and grabbed the weapo. Now, the tide had turned. And I could kill her. She seemed not to be impressed or intimidated. She seemed convinced that I could not beat her. "No man has ever defeated me. And you long to have the sword out as a man. "She was right. I did not like fighting like a woman. But it reminded me that Takashi said that my style of fighting was very soft and elegant. Unlike the men's. So I put it to them. Even if it would not succeed. I was at least not die without a fight. I waited. I waited too long. The other Shinsengumi members had found us. "Do not Shuffle. His head is mine. "She went to one of the men and took the sword. Now we both were armed. Certainly not equal. I did not believe that my previous training was sufficient to defeat it. She attacked me and I could respond just as still and parry. She had an incredible strength for a woman. That was probably the reason that she has been accepted as quickly as a samurai in the elite unit. She slammed over and grinned. I could do nothing else than to defend myself. Why was she so strong? I did not understand. She turned and struck me with the blunt side of the sword in the side. The back of the sword alone did pain already. The rotation they would have to turn the sword nor extra to use the blade. Why had she not done? I lay on the floor, holding my side. That had hurt much. "Get up, you worm. Creep you later when I'm done with you." I am slowly struggled to my feet. And trying to find my balance again. I felt weak In my own body, as a woman, if she did play against a man. Even if it was a woman ahead of me. She had a tremendous force. No wonder. They had defeated Hyunsung. I concentrated. I am dazzled by all from around me. I reminded myself not to the training of Hyunsung. He was defeated. I thought

only of Takashi. I thought only of the training from him. He had shown me struggle as I had not known it. The woman before me would not have guessed that Takashi had taught me a different style. I loved him. I did not mean that he hated me.

And so I lowered my sword. I should not have to think of him. Now I had another wife. Weak and helpless. I was back at the mercy of men. "What, done already, you worm?" I kept my eyes lowered. I tried to stay calm. I was not Lee. I realized that I could not maintain this site when I thought of Takashi. I loved him too much. He said he would see me as an enemy, if I stand against the imperial house. The Shinsengumi are part of the imperial house. I could not move. I could not fight anymore. Hyunsung and the desire to avenge him, had to leave my heart. What remained was only Takashi. "You're a cruel man Takashi." You heard me. She shrugged. She went off on me. At that moment I knew that she loved Takashi. She adored him. She wanted him for himself. Only for that reason, they pretended to be a man. She wanted to be near him.

What a cruel fate that we met again in such circumstances. First Hyunsung that we both loved, and now Takashi. I shrank instinctively step aside. And then, from the wrist and quite slowly, I raised the sword up and pierced her throat. The blood flood hit me. I did not know how long did this attack actually had. For me it was an eternity. It had taken a long time. I had moved in slow motion. I pulled back the sword and it fell to the ground. My face was red with their blood. I looked at her. Had I actually been killed? I felt not. I did not feel relieved. It was kind of an incredible void in my heart kicked. I had not noticed that the Takashi samurai had meanwhile accepted. It was here and had seen it all. From the beginning. He had seen it all. He had heard everything. I saw nothing more at this moment. Only the color of blood. Red It started to rain. Endless is the rain that is falling from the sky. Dark and red is the rain, that is flying above me. Why everything is everytime Sun unclear. Why everything is against me. Is it because i am different? I can not stop the rain from falling. I can not stop the wound from bleeding. I can not stop my eyes from crying. I wonder if i am able to stop anything that hurts me. Love? Can i stop this? Can i stop the pain that come from loving someone. I can not. I could remember. So I stood there. They shed tears easily. Incessantly. And she could not suppress. "Lee." I heard his voice like a distant echo. His voice was dark. I looked in his direction of blowing. He stood in the rain. He looked at the man, the woman ahead of me. His face was furious and angry. "I told you never put a hand against the imperial house." Furthermore, I looked at him. I could say nothing. What should I say? I did not know how long he had been standing there. I knew I had lost his confidence. He would hate me. Love was cruel. So I would live as a man on. Until end my days and my pain would. Takashi ordered to go to the Samurai. You should take the corpse. They would then discover, however, that she was a woman. Takashi was quite clear. Had that been his intention? I could not think clearly. I was crying. He came up to me as the others were gone. I let fall the sword and closed his eyes. I waited for that he killed me. But he took me in his arms. "Forgive me. ... I have not protected you Inuki." I opened my eyes suddenly and was not sure whether it all really happened. "You're not to blame. I've seen it all. I ought to keep you with me. I had planned from the beginning." "From the beginning?" I murmured softly. "When I saw you I knew that you're a woman. From then on I had decided to protect yourself at all costs. Even though my conscience was sometimes a bit different." Kill me. He had told me this before, that he had planned it. He had not been able to finish. He let me go. "You have fulfilled your task. Let me now kill Lee. Let me get back Inuki." "If I can be Inuki." He smiled softly and nodded. "You can. I am completely sure. Let us go

back. After I had killed Lee." He went back to the tree where he had stood. There were clean clothes. A beautiful woman kimono. He came up to me. I couldn't still move me. He pulled me out. And wiped the blood from my skin. He opened my hair. They were meanwhile shoulder. He attracted me. His hands on my skin meant that I was hot. It tingled. I wish he would undress me and touch me again and again. He stroked my cheek and brushed some hair behind my ear. "You're beautiful. Unbelievably beautiful. No one could think that you just have someone killed. No one will believe that you were Lee. "

At that time I was not sure if things were as I wanted. Some were perhaps more interesting stories to tell. Many did not. I had lived for a year as a boy and was made a girl. Through my husband I was born again. But one thing I learned in that time. One should always remain loyal. The girl I could only defeat, in which I confessed my feelings and Lee had again become Inuki. As a man I would not be able to defeat the Nameless One. I had never asked her name.

Ten years had passed. Takashi and I reign in harmony with Japan. Many rumors are still who I am and where I came. Suddenly I was standing there. But life is sometimes strange ways. And the heart does things which the head does not understand. I gave birth to a son and a daughter. Soon they would come to our place. Soon they would see how hard life was. Takashi and I do not make any of them spoiled heir. They both should get life. But that's another story ...