

Okami

It was the night of a full moon. It was the day of the Kamiki festival, the day the demon lord Orochi imprisoned the most beautiful woman of the village. The brave warrior, Susanoo, made his way to the Moon Mansion to rescue the Snow Princess. A legendary being that brings winter wherever she goes. The Sun Goddess, Amateratsu, joined him to get rid of Orochi. They travelled Shinshu Field, defeating any evil spirits in their way. They were both very quiet, focused on their objective. As they arrived in front of the Moon Mansion, they were both ready to get rid of this wicked being.

Before intruding the mansion, Susanoo took out his bottle of sake and drank a good junk of it. Amazed, the Sun Goddess couldn't believe the fact that he would be drunk when their opponent could kill him in a flash. As they entered the mansion by busting the door open, they were greeted by a soothing cherry blossom scent. The hall they were in was filled with high quality paintings, ornamented golden carpets and beautiful lanterns covered with mystic jewels. "Are you sure we're in the right mansion?" asked Susanoo with a confused expression. "Orochi is quite fond of his house. He's a bit...extravagant..." admitted Amateratsu. They followed the hall leading to an enormous door made out of gold with beautiful designs and jewels decorating it. Susanoo was amazed by its gorgeous sight. "You know, if I was rich, I would have built a house like that too." He commented. "We're not here to get a tour! Focus on what you have to do!" The Goddess slapped him behind the head, annoyed by his behavior. They both pushed the massive door and entered the room. As they entered, it felt like the room sparkled. The walls were covered with beautiful paint work and the furniture were all authentic. Sitting on his throne in the center of the room, Orochi was sipping the content of his cup. He silently looked at them and lightly smiled. "Oh my...I have unexpected guests? Would you like to join me? It is tea time." said the demon with a relaxed voice. "Sorry, I'm not a fan of tea...Maybe next time?" answered the warrior. Yet again, he received another slap behind the head.

“Your evil reign of terror ends here, Orochi! Prepare yourself!” shouted the angered Goddess.

An awkward silence filled the room. Orochi laughed “My evil reign will end? How amusing. I could say the same about your existence!” In an instance, the room became dark. The demon gently placed his cup of tea on a plate and slowly stood up from his throne. “Prepare to meet your end, foolish creatures.” He said in a dark tone. He rose his hand and quickly pointed at them. A terrible aura surrounded him. Seven dragon heads gushed out, charging toward Susanoo and Amateratsu. Panicked, they were able to dodge the attack. “Is that all you got?!” shouted Susanoo in a mocking tone. “Don’t be too confident...it might turn against you!” the Goddess said to him. They both charged at the demon with incredible speed. With a graceful movement, Orochi evaded the attack with ease. “You’re quite fast but you lack accuracy...” he whispered to himself. He smirked at them. “I’ll show you how it is done!” He summoned a storm of fire balls surrounding him. The fire charged straight for them. Susanoo clumsily tried to avoid the attack but the Goddess seemed to have no trouble doing so. The fight seemed endless; the room was now a mess. “This can’t keep on going...” said Susanoo, exhausted from the fight. He wiped the sweat off his forehead and tried to stand still. “Oh my? Are you already tired? Let me grant you eternal rest!” replied Orochi, frantically laughing. “Susanoo! Let’s use the power of your sword to finish him!” proposed Amateratsu. He grabbed his sword and pointed it toward the sky. “I’m ready!” he shouted, waiting for the Goddess.

The Goddess summoned the moon with a majestic chant. The moonlight shined on the warrior’s sword, Tsumugari, making it unleash its true power. Its white blade was now colored with a golden light, lighting the room. “This sword?! Tsumugari?!” said the demon in terror, trying to cover his eyes with his long kimono sleeve. “How? How did you obtain this artifact?!” He took a few steps back, frightened by the sword. It was the only weapon that could banish him. Created by the Gods and blessed by the power of the moon: Orochi’s only weakness. Orochi was still blinded by the light, unable to move.

Susanoo took the opportunity to strike. He quickly charged at him, letting out a fierce battle cry. Blood started to pour out of the demon's stomach. Susanoo's sword pierced Orochi's flesh, stained with his blood. "To think that you would be the one to kill me..." Orochi said with difficulty, coughing out blood. He removed the sword from his wound, turned around and slowly walked toward his throne. He was losing a lot of blood but he insisted to sit on his throne. He stared at Susanoo and told him: "You may be proud of yourself, warrior, but remember: there is a greater evil that roams this world and one day... that evil will consume you..." Orochi slowly closed his eyes and sat still, smiling on his throne. "Looks like it's over..." Susanoo said in relief. "Yes. Let's go find the princess." The Goddess replied to him. They both headed to the door located behind the throne, leading to some sort of dungeon. Typical dungeons are dark and humid, but this one was different... The halls seemed more elegant and the candles were ornamented. The cells were made out gold with silver patterns on them. The inside was like a bedroom. Bed, tables, lanterns, bookshelves... A real hotel. As they admired the magnificent hallways, they could hear a faint voice coming from the furthest cell. They quickly ran toward the door and burst it open. Behind it, the princess was relieved. She was finally freed from this prison. "Thank the Gods! I am finally free from this place! How can I ever thank you?" She sweetly said to Susanoo, elegantly walking toward him, completely ignoring the Goddess by his side. She gave him a kiss on his cheek and gently giggled. The brave warrior blushed a little and tried to hide his embarrassment by scratching his head. "Heh... it was nothing! I'd save a beautiful woman such as yourself every day!" He laughed a little. "If you're done now, I'd like to get out of here already!" Amateratsu was getting bored and wanted to get back to the village so she could enjoy the festival. "Alright... I was starting to like this place too..." whispered Susanoo. The three of them headed straight for the exit.

As they returned to the village, fireworks illuminated the sky. Everyone came up to them, thanking them and praising them. Everyone was jolly. They all danced together, they drank some sake, Kamiki's speciality, and they played all night long until morning. They were finally able to celebrate the Kamiki

festival in peace for years to come. They were finally rid of the curse of the demon haunting them.

The End

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Class 521