



chapter 3:
diamonds are
a demon's
best friend

INT. SORA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Sora sits on the couch between Ken and Halo, while the sounds of Kari YELLING at Zanom echo from the kitchen.

Halo sips some tea, while reading a book. Every time Sora tries to cuddle up to Ken, he fidgets away from her in agitation.

KARI (O.S.)
What in Jigoku is wrong with you?

ZANOM (O.S.)
I was trying to diffuse the situation!

KARI (O.S.)
With our... Our intimacy?

ZANOM (O.S.)
Here we go...

CUT TO:

THE KITCHEN

Zanom stands in front of the fridge with his arms folded. Kari stands in front of the sink. She flails around as she SCREAMS and paces around the kitchen in a manic huff. Zanom doesn't even twitch.

KARI
That's such a personal thing,
Zanom! I would think you'd respect that!

ZANOM
So I tarnished your honor a little bit. You think I have any honor left after what happened to Yume?

KARI
Honor? You think there's any freaking honor in any of this? We're at war, Zanom! It's time you treated this like more than just a mind game for your own pleasure!

ZANOM
Now hold on just one...

KARI

No, shut up! I'd give my life, not
for honor, but for you!

Zanom unfolds his arms as silence consumes the kitchen.

Kari starts to tear up.

KARI

I can't say what will happen to us
while we're here or after we get
back to our timeline, but I do know
I'll never love anyone else. Not
like I love you, Zanom. You killed
my sister. My sister who was
everything I had left in this
world, and you killed her in cold
blood. I still love you with all my
heart even after all that. Godor
only knows when you'll ever be able
to tell me you love me, and I still
love you.

Zanom looks down at the floor for a beat and looks back at
Kari. Kari's tears start rolling down her face.

ZANOM

Kari... I...

KARI

I've lost everything that's ever
mattered to me, Zanom. Don't make
me lose us, too. Don't take away
the one thing I have left to hold
on to.

ZANOM

I'm... I'm sorry.

Zanom embraces Kari for a moment while she sobs on his
shoulder.

Ken opens the door.

KEN

Everything alright in here? It got
quiet all of a sudden, and we
weren't sure if anyone killed each
other.

ZANOM

Piss off, Ken.

Kari pulls away from Zanom and turns toward Ken, wiping tears from her face.

KARI

I think what he meant to say was that we were having a moment, but everything's okay now. You don't have to worry about us.

KEN

You, no, but I'm watching him.

ZANOM

Oh, yeah? Well watch this!

BACK TO

SORA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Sora fidgets with a worried look on her face, while Halo turns a page in a novel he's reading.

ANGLE: THE NOVEL

Halo reads THE GRAND ADVENTURES IN PANGAEA BY RAVEN ANGELGATE.

The SOUNDS OF MELEE AND FISTICUFFS echo through the apartment.

KARI (O.S.)

Guys! Guys! Please, stop! Zanom!
No! Ken, really now!

Halo turns another page in his novel.

HALO

Are you morbidly curious about this one, or is it just me, this time?

Sora glares at Halo.

HALO

Right. I suppose I should intervene before they hurt themselves.

Halo marks his page, shuts the novel, and places it on the couch next to him. He gets up and walks over to the kitchen door.

HALO

Would you like some more ice for your ankle, while I'm in there?

SORA

No, thank you.

HALO

Yes, I do suppose you have the ice taken care of, already.

Sora sulks and sticks her tongue out at Halo.

INT. SORA'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN

Kari stands at arm's length between Ken and Zanom when Halo enters. Zanom's eyes glow golden, while Ken stands in a karate fighting stance.

Ken's aura is blue and surrounds him like a flame. Zanom's aura is red and glows brightly around his body.

Halo bypasses all of this and walks toward the fridge. He opens the fridge and withdraws a pitcher of a green liquid.

HALO

By the way, Zanom, I've meant to ask. Just how did Yinaku gain the ability to travel back in time?

The bait has been cast. Zanom cools down and bites the worm.

ZANOM

Well... I was pursuing him through the Kigokan Ruins in Sinai, which is where the Temple of Kigoku used to be, when he pushed through all our defenses and grabbed the Diamond of Time. While I chased after him to stop him, this bright light engulfed him. Then he was gone.

KEN

The Diamond of Time?

KARI

You've heard of it?

KEN

It's an ancient source of power for my people. The temple elders all thought it was lost ages ago, and you say Yinaku has it?

HALO

Well, really, it's just the future timeline's Diamond of Time. This timeline's Diamond should still be lost somewhere.

KEN

This is bad! He can do this over and over again, and you're just telling us this, now?

KARI

Calm down, Ken. He didn't know.

INT. SORA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Sora breathes a deep sigh of relief. A loud KNOCK at the door startles her. Zanom jumps out of the kitchen and calls out to the visitor.

ZANOM

Who's there?

RUNA (O.S.)

It's Runa! Who's this?

SORA

It's fine, Runa! Door's open!

ZANOM

(whispering)

It's open?

SORA

(whispering)

Yeah.

ZANOM

(whispering)

Did you forget about the demon from the future trying to murder you?

SORA

(whispering)

Well, what do you want me to...

The door opens and RUNA, 27, walks in. Runa is a blonde replica of Sora. The two are sisters; that much is obvious.

SORA

Hi, Runa!

RUNA

I heard about the earthquake last week, and I just wanted to come by and make sure you're okay with that broken ankle of yours and all.

Zanom stares at Runa a beat. Runa notices.

RUNA

Who's this?

SORA

This is Zanom. He's my physical therapist.

Zanom leans into Sora's ear.

ZANOM

(whispering)

Physical therapist?

SORA

(whispering)

It's the best I could come up with.

ZANOM

(whispering)

I don't even know...

Runa leans in to listen, but Zanom and Sora stand at attention.

RUNA

Is everything okay? I'm not interrupting anything, am I?

SORA

No, of course not.

Runa inspects Zanom's face. Zanom leans back, unsure of what to make of this.

RUNA

You know... You're kinda cute. Call me up some time.

Runa pulls a business card out of her purse and hands it to Zanom.

RUNA

Here's my number. Don't worry, I don't bite... Much.

A beat.

Runa laughs.

ZANOM

Um...

RUNA

Oh, don't worry. I'm just joking.

ZANOM

Right.

Zanom nods and smiles.

ZANOM

(internal)

The one time I could use Ken to
pick a fight...

Ken walks into the living room and freezes.

ZANOM

(internal)

Saved by the putz!

Ken turns around and walks back into the kitchen.

ZANOM

(internal)

Traitor!

RUNA

So, who was that?

Runa prods Sora with her elbow.

SORA

His name is Ken, and I have my eye
on him.

RUNA

Oh! You hussy, you! I bet you're
not really a physical therapist at
all, are you?

Zanom shrugs.

ZANOM

Oh, well. Guess the cat's out of
the bag, now...

RUNA

So I am interrupting something!

Sora glares at Zanom.

SORA

No, no! It's nothing like that!

Kari walks out of the kitchen. Runa nearly faints. Sora turns pale.

RUNA

Oh, my goodness! Does Daddy know?
Oh, he'll just be devastated if he
knew about your alternative
lifestyle!

KARI

What?

RUNA

You don't have to say another word,
honey. I can keep a secret. Oh, and
before I leave, did you hear about
that mess up at Blue Gate?

ZANOM

We've heard.

RUNA

Well, now they're saying that guy
was after some fancy diamond that
some guy was trying to sell on the
black market. The Roma Police
caught him after they secured the
space station, and the diamond's
being sent to the
Dia-somethin'-or-other Temple over
on Sol. Go figure! The thing's been
missing for centuries.

Ken bursts out of the kitchen with a sandwich hanging from his mouth. He tears a piece of the sandwich with his teeth and nearly chokes, swallowing it.

KEN

Did you say Sol?

RUNA

Yeah. You been?

KEN

I grew up at the Diamonten Temple
there!

Zanom and Kari look at each other with one thought on their mind.

RUNA

That's the name of the place! What you just said!

KEN

Thank you so much for that information. You have no idea how much help you've just given us.

RUNA

Well, gee... You're welcome, I guess. Anyway, I gotta run. I just wanted to check up on my baby sister. Oh, and I guess Mom doesn't know yet, either, huh? Bye!

Runa runs out of the apartment and slams the door shut behind her.

SORA

(shouting)

I'm not a lesbian!

Sora looks at Kari and shakes her head.

SORA

I'm so sorry. She thinks we're a same-sex couple now.

KARI

Zanom!

ZANOM

Don't look at me!

SORA

It really wasn't his fault.

Zanom folds his arms.

ZANOM

Besides, you heard Aunt Runa. We've got more important problems. I'll bet Yinaku already has a head start on us by now.

Ken walks over to the kitchen door and opens it to call to Halo.

KEN
C'mon, Halo! We're leaving!

HALO (O.S.)
What did he say to you this time?

KEN
Nothing! We're going to Diamonten Temple!

HALO (O.S.)
The hell we are! That's four days away! What're we going there for?

KEN
Yinaku!

Halo runs out of the kitchen with the pitcher of the green liquid still in his hand.

HALO
Right behind you.

Sora raises an eyebrow.

SORA
You realize you're drinking gelatin, right? I ran out of bowls.

HALO
Whatever it is, it's refreshing.

Halo takes another swig.

ZANOM
Put that away and let's go.

SORA
What about me? Who's going to look after me while you're gone?

The shamans all look at each other and back to Sora.

SORA
Shit.

CUT TO:

EXT. DIAMONTEN TEMPLE - EVENING

The sun sets on Sol as the Diamonten Temple hovers in the evening sky.

The temple almost looks like a synagogue on Earth, but

everything seems to be made out of some rough, white stone unlike anything found on Earth.

Super Yinaku and Masa float among the sulfurous clouds in the sky.

MASA

How do people live here? These clouds are making me itchy. Can't we just destroy it and get it over with?

SUPER YINAKU

Patience, Masa. We must wait for Zanom to arrive.

MASA

Then what?

SUPER YINAKU

We have our fun.

MASA

Whatever.

A beat.

MASA

You sure Vayelan the Wise lives here? I haven't seen anyone but those two guards all day?

SUPER YINAKU

He lives here; I know it.

MASA

Hey, how are we getting past those guards, anyhow?

SUPER YINAKU

We don't. While Zanom fights them, we swoop in and claim the Diamond of Time.

MASA

Don't you already have one?

SUPER YINAKU

You ask a lot of questions, Masa. Enjoy the serenity before we plunge it into chaos.

FADE TO BLACK.