## Sailor Santa - Sweet Days Sailor Santa Saga - Part 05

Von migele

Kapitel 2: Intermezzo
Intermezzo
Warnings: WAFF again. Battle Royal and some blood as well. Originally this was supposed to be a rather WAFFy one without much pain but I think that after Ranma ditched his fiancées and such there is a huge chance that there be an escalation. I think that IF Kuhn Lo would try it would be now, before Ranma is bonded even more with Kasumi and the Senshi.
Special Thanks to: Gate, innortal, gemstoo, RanmaRS

Nabiki was keeping tabs on things and was actually spending time with Ranma, without making him pay for it. At first it surprised him but he wasn't going to look a gifts horse into the mouth. Especially since it kept some attention away from him. After all not many girls wanted to come closer to the Ice Queen. That Nabiki's subordinates were swarming around them pestering her for this and that was side effect. Hiroshi and Daisuke actually accepted that Nabiki was closer.

"Ranma, I have a really bad feeling. I hope that you don't mind if I make a big betting pool about it." Nabiki asked.

Ranma blinked. "Huch?"

"Things are going to be crazy soon."

"And you think that I will be in the middle of it." Ranma went on understanding.

"It has been quiet around you." Hiroshi nodded.

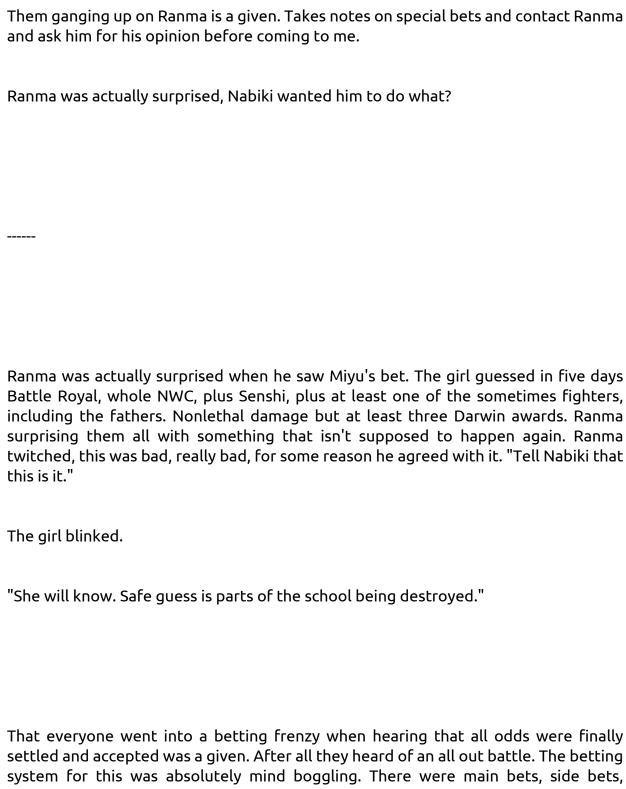
"Midori is really worried, she thinks, things will go straight to hell." Daisuke added.

Ranma lent back and looked at everyone. "I place the first bet. Things WILL go straight down to hell and I bet it will include Amazons this time. Shampoo has been rather tame before Valetines but now it has been five days without a single trace of her. I bet that this will come to haunt me soon. I can't tell the day but I might just as well enjoy things till then."

Nabiki felt very faint as Ranma said that. "How much destruction?"

Ranma nodded to himself. "At least one big building, safest guess is a lot of damage to the school."

Nabiki nodded and made some notes. "Girls here is the deal. We will take bets on the place and on the time. Number of active participants. Consider Amazons a given.



settled and accepted was a given. After all they heard of an all out battle. The betting system for this was absolutely mind boggling. There were main bets, side bets, betting conditions that covered things that would hold no meaning to non Nerimians. Miyu actually changed one part of her bet later. 'Old come new.' Was guessed to be a fighting technique. Ranma adjusted his too, to him getting help.

When rumors of this came up they actually extended the deadline by a day since half of Nerima went betting. Biggest surprise was Kasumi. Senshi interference on Ranma's behalf, them dealing a lot of damage to the 'idiots' attacking him and getting him out of a pinch, as well as keeping him from killing anyone stupid.

To say that Nabiki became even more worried after this was an understatement. When she went off to prepare the hospital, the police, the fire brigade and the ambulances things went weird again as they called in side bets. Like amounts of damage, broken arms and such things depending on who it was.
This was the day of doom. Ranma woke up with a really bad bad feeling. Genma found it out the really hard way when he tried attack Ranma. He wondered if his jaw was broken, when Ranma actually painfully dislocated his arm, Genma passed out.
Akane was stupid enough to try to attack Ranma, that he just moved out of the way ignoring her was a testament to his patience.
"Nabiki, it's going to be lunch break, try to keep everyone away from the front yard. I'll be waiting for them out there."
Nabiki choked on her food. "Kasumi thanks, give Ranma my bento I have to hurry and prepare." Nabiki ran off to the telephone and called a single number and spoke just a few words. "You sure?" She called out to Ranma.
"Unfortunately!" he answered.

Most of the school was standing at the further windows during break, police, ambulances and the fire trucks were littering the surrounding area at a safe distance, that meant outside all routes that could be used to approach school from the Tendou's, Ukyo, St Herebeke, Neko-haten.

Nabiki sat in her classroom, waiting for the command to evacuate. "We took in 27 million Yen in bets?" That she was going crazy about this was a given, so much money was not something to be frowned upon, the only reason she wasn't in trouble already was because the town elders had made bets too, as well as some lawyers and such. She now started thinking about taxes and registering this betting pool. If this came out without official coverage even the Tendou-dojo wouldn't be enough to cover the taxes and fees.

\_\_\_\_\_

"Son-in-Law." Ranma turned as he walked cross the front yard and saw the person he expected. He nodded. "Old ghoul."

When she didn't attack, he smiled. "So what are you going to do about it." he stood tall and proud.

Nabiki gave a last look from the window and stepped back. "We will reform on the roof of the side building, it should be far enough."

Ranma nodded. "My answer is no."
Kuhn Lo had expected this answer. She pulled something out and made a slashing motion.
Ranma's eyes widened, he felt it burn, his heart was burning.
"Great grandmother, what you do to airen?" Shampoo had arrived, with Mousse following.
"The Binding of Souls."
Happosai who had come to school for a panty raid had heard this and decided to panic. "Kuhn Lo, are you nuts? This destroys the victims soul, personality, he will be nothing more than zombie!"
"He belongs to the Amazons, it was decided the moment he defeated Shampoo. Do not interfere with Amazon business."
"Ranma Saotome prepare to die!"
All heads snapped around. Seeing Ryoga come and attack Ranma who was in no condition to fight was bad.
"So the foul sorcerer is being a victim to his own foul devices." Kuno had arrived.

Mousse realized that this was his chance to remove Saotome from the picture. "For trying to get my Shampoo die."
Cologne's eyes widened, Ranma was in no condition to fight thanks to the spell working on him. This was bad since she could not fight all of them, maintain the binding to her will and defend Ranma from all attack at the same time.
"Amazon's are at fault, new spell. We had that conditions somewhere, We are still missing Ukyo, Kodachi, and Akane, Konatsu is already lurking in the shadows. The fathers should appear about now." Nabiki told her girls.
"Don't you dare go with the amazons!" Soun in demon head appeared.

"Are you a girl that you can't fight off such a simple weak spell?" Genma cried crocodiles tears.	Ł
"Ranma no baka!"	
"Ranchan!"	
"Ranma-sama!"	
"Who do you think will come, Nabiki-sempai?"	
"Ranma guessed for Taro. Look up, there he is."	
It was the truth, Taro's weird form was descending upon them.	
"Next will be the Senshi."	

Eyes widened. Nuku-Nuku felt something. A tug, a painful tug at her soul. "Nuku-Nuku has to go!" she jumped up and out of the window.
Her teacher sighed. "Atsuko leaving early, who thinks she will get into a fight?"
Everyone nodded.
Eimi had been on the way to the Tendou dojo, Kasumi was really nice person and didn't look down on her just because she had a kids body.
When she felt something wrong she didn't hesitate one moment and transformed. Only to scream in pain. Something was very wrong. Ranma was in danger.
She collected herself and sped up, she left behind her a streak of superheated air as she defied laws of physics and went at almost impossible speeds.
Nuku-Nuku transformed and cried out,"Ranma!" as crystals grew all over her body as armor and her extended claws formed, she too went at speed that defied physical laws.

\_\_\_\_

Ranma could feel the pull on his sanity, on his essence, he didn't want to risk transforming since he knew that the bonds he shared would give the pain on to the others. He needed something to protect his sanity, he needed to lock it away and still be able to fight. Something that didn't need to think, like a wild animal.

Ranma screamed in pain as Kuno and Ryoga closed in on him and summoned it, the beast inside his soul. He just hoped that locking away his sanity was enough to make him last until his friends arrived.

\_\_\_\_

Kuhn Lo needed Ranma to survive until he was under her control so she could order him to remove those fools. The stone she held started to heat up and she saw Ranma drop onto all fours. He was snarling like a beast, the eyes that looked on her spoke of pain, and pure hatred.

"Mreow!" Was the battle cry the creature unleashed as it swiped at Ryoga, the umbrella exploding with a burst of splinters that sent him flying back. Kuno swung down but Neko-Ranma butted his head into the kendoist.

Kuno fell over puking food and blood.

Nabiki's face was gray as she watched, her voice was cold and grave. "Kuno down, heavily injured. Old technique used, Neko-ken. Normally I'd say get Kasumi to calm him down, but I don't want her here with what Cologne is doing and everyone acting like rabid dogs. I just hope the Senshi manage to protect everyone and arrive before those stupid amazons manage to get us all killed.
Happosai attacked the Amazon Elder. "He is fighting it, and I will help him, he is worth too much for you to have him."
"Fool, he will never be released of this spell. He will be mine, don't try to defeat me." The Elder warned as she dodged and jumped back as a few Happo-daikirin exploded all around her.
"Don't pick on Ryoga." Akane charged Ranma Mallet in hand.

"He will attack, he doesn't want her any more, name Akane for the first Darwin award."
The way the mallet exploded in her hand and cuts in her arm appeared made Akane impact on the ground, really hard. "He attacked me, Ranma attacked me." She grew angry. "Die Ranma!" Anger turned to rage.
Konatsu decided that for survival measures Ranma had to snap out of it, even if it put him back under the control of the spell. He ducked in, not attacking and splashed Ranma.
Ranma-chan howled and swiped at the ninja.
Konatsu barely made it out of the way with his front clothes and the fake breasts shredded.
Ukyo jumped in and threw her spatulas, however they were avoided with ease.

Mousse cursed, Ranma-chan had not snapped out of it, trying to entangle the crazy girl was impossible, he was already bleeding from five different wounds. Now the crazy girl was going to get herself killed. The matriarch had lost her mind, a soul bind was a forbidden technique, sure Ranma was good but this was too much. If he

survived he was going to leave the Amazons. Shampoo was approaching Ranma-chan to try to calm her down, that Ranma-chan was hissing at the girl was really bad. "Shampoo, NO!" he jumped his crazy childhood crush and just got her out of the way as a long crater formed where she had stood and the school building took the hit. That it made a crater two stories high in the walls was a minor concern to Mousse.

"Mousse ... He attack me, Ranma attack me." Shampoo stammered.

"Cologne," Mousse spat, "is trying to control him, only those that he absolutely trusts would be safe now I think. And only if she hasn't corrupted his soul yet.

-----

"No!" Yuki screamed as the pain bled into her very soul. "Those fools! I will destroy them." she snarled. Clothes melted away and she summoned the power that her chosen ones had offered her. The pain increased as she embraced it, a snowstorm formed in the building.

"It's impossible to teleport out here, this is protected by the highest magic." One of the other Elves screamed past the winds.

Yuki was beyond hearing now, her world had narrowed down to the pain of her loved one, and the desire to help him or her even if it meant killing his or her enemies.

"World of Ice!" She chanted, a scythe of ice forming in her hand. She would find who it was that was under attack and help him or her. No one harmed Hotaru and Ranma and got away with it.

----

Hotaru Tomoe almost fainted as she felt the pain. "I don't feel good, I'm leaving." She didn't listen to the Inners as she got to her feet and collected her things. It was painful, she knew one of her loved ones was in danger. She staggered out of the classroom they had met in for break, sweat forming on her brow and ignoring the calls behind her. She left the building and the Glaive appeared in her hand without being summoned.
"I accept." Hotaru Tomoe, Senshi of Saturn, ceased to be, Hotaru Tomoe, Silence of Saturn was born as she accepted the immeasurable power her patron offered her.
Pain was burned away and replaced with pure energy and rage. "Death to those that stand in our path."
Sailor Elf felt the power and embraced it. "Blizzard Teleport"
"Silence Teleport" Saturn responded.

Amy's eyes widened as her computer beeped. "Oh my god, Pattern Silence."
Usagi jumped before saying "I trust her."
Minako and Makoto looked at Usagi as she gave them a smile, it wasn't a cheerful one "I just know it, but I have the feeling that it will be bad."
"A new Enemy?" Makoto asked, hoping for some action.
Usagi shook her head. "It's personal."
"Let's go watch." Minako decided.
Amy nodded in agreement. "Massive power levels building in Nerima, oh my god."
"What?"
"It's crazy. We need to go there fast."
"Let's get Setsuna and teleport there."

Neko-Ranma-chan felt the power that her mates were giving off, it soothed her soul, they were coming for her. She attacked that lusting female, she was not wanted, she was dangerous to those she cared about.

Kodachi finally saw the killing intent, her eyes widened.

"Stop Ranma-kun!" Kitty called out as she appeared before the mad gymnast and formed multiple layers of Crystal between them.

The crystal shattered and Neko-Ranma-chan's claws bit deep into her armor, penetrating it and the Fuku. Her bones stopped the assault.

Ranma-chan eyes widened as she smelled the blood. She knew this person, this person was safe, but it had defended her prey.

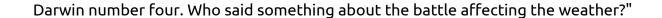
Cologne saw that Ranma-chan was hesitating and bent her mind onto the crystal that had scorched her hand. "He is MINE!"

\_\_\_\_

"Cologne for Darwin. Senshi are here and save the day." Nabiki was glad.

"Until the others arrive, don't expect too much." Sailor Android said appearing beside her. "All we can do it try to keep them away from her. But since she is a girl her speed is incredible." Android looked up. "The Cavalry is arriving."

Nabiki looked up and saw the sky change, clouds formed and turned dark. "Taro



"Damn him! I'll save him from Ranma even, if it kills him." Android called out and went off like a bullet.

-----

Indeed Taro wanted to knock the crazy girl out so he could maybe trade her for a new name, or at least get rid of her. Seeing that Ryoga was already coming back to battle the girl he tried to hit her, and got his whole arm cut up for the trouble, right to the bone. As blood sprayed everywhere he howled in pain and jumped back, the almost casual swipe that would have gutted him just made four deep wounds in his stomach.

"Ranma, here!" Said a voice of power.

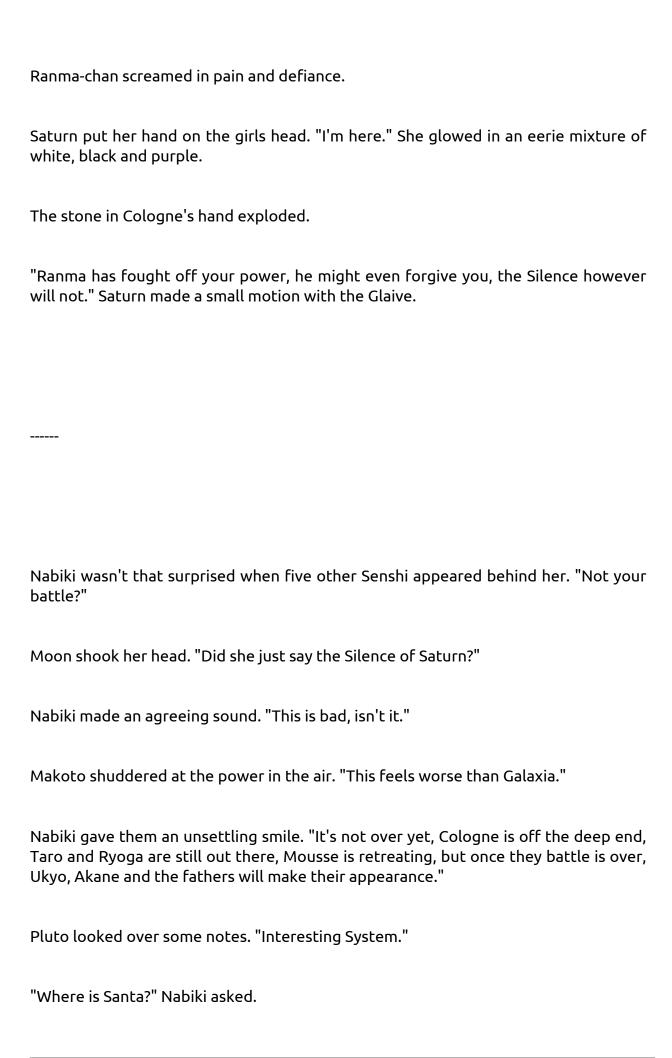
Hearing the voice, Ranma-chan ducked and jumped into the dust as it started to snow and violent winds picked up.

The dust cleared and they saw Ranma-chan next to Sailor Saturn, the Christmas cap was still there,

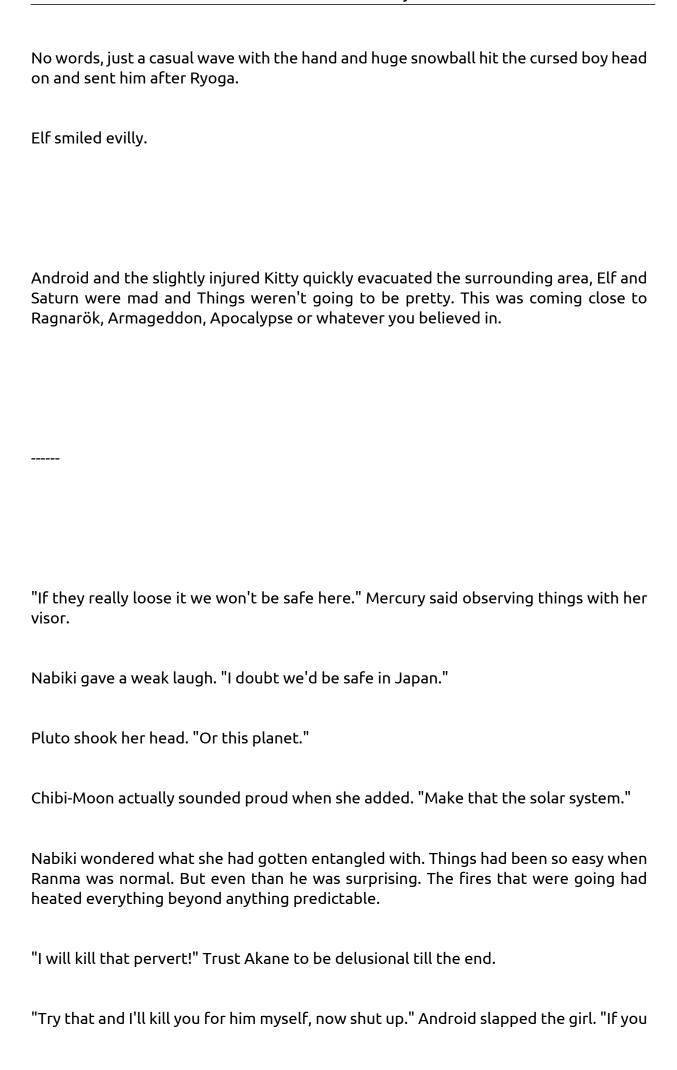
"Times change, attacking the soul, forgotten pasts and delusions are things that we can't allow to thrive. You try to destroy what is holy."

The Glaive was pointed at the Amazon Matriarch. "I, The Silence of Saturn warn you, Kuhn Lo of the Amazons. If you or any other Amazon don't stray from your present paths and ever try such forbidden methods ever again, The silence will come over your homes and I, Sailor Saturn, will personally end the age of the Amazons, you already live on borrowed time, don't make me call it in. For I will, even if I have to clean the world from your Village."

"Attack her!" She forced all her power on the command.



"She will not be coming."
"Chibi-Moon!"
"Hey mom!"
Nabiki blinked, Sailor Moon was the mother of Sailor Chibi-Moon? That was interesting. "She will clean up once Ranma is off to safety. I doubt it will be pretty, but than again she always was too nice for this world."
"Ranma, for cheating on Akane" Ryoga attacked the girl as Saturn was stalking towards the Amazon Elder.
"Mooohhhh!" Taro agreed and tried hitting the girl with his good arm.
A huge snow ice ball shoot from the sky impacted in front of them tossing Ryoga into the school building and collapsing part of it on him as Android backed the attack up with a few grenades.
"MMMOOOOUUUHHHH!" came Taro's howl as the snow cleared, some.
Elf stood there in the middle of angry swirls of snow, the scythe made of ice in her hand had its blade going into Taro's arm on one side and out of it on the other side.
Taro feared for his life as the woman looked at him.



had accepted him first case none of this would have happened. Now your part is over, unless you wish for your death."

Akane stared. She had been slapped, by a Senshi no less. "I'll kill him for doing this to me!"

Yuka and Sayuri inched away from the scene, Akane was clearly crazy.

"Kitty bind her."

"Meow!" Kitty agreed as she dropped the struggling Kuno at their feet. "Grow my Crystal."

That Akane became covered in strands of crystal that even covered her mouth and held her in position was in everyones opinion good. The battleaura she was giving off wasn't so pleasant. Pluto fixed that by using pressure points to drain the aura.

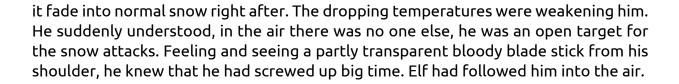
"You are injured." Moon mentioned as she saw the red blood dripping from Kitty's arm.

Kitty stared at her arm and shrugged. "Kitty heal already, Kitty no care about scratch."

The Other Senshi wondered that she would consider a serious injury than.

-----

Taro dug himself from the rubble and the snow and saw Elf walking to him, the blood on the scythe already frozen and a part of the deadly weapon. Coming to Nerima today hadn't been one of his better ideas. He decided to high tail out of there. He jumped spread his wings and flew off. Only to get hit by increasingly big and sharp bits of ice coming from the clouds above. He dodged a block as big as himself and saw



\_\_\_\_

Cologne pulled another artifact out. "I will not be defeated." She threw the box at the girl coming closer. She needed to get to Ranma-chan and fast. There was another way to bind him now that the first one had failed.

"Silence Wall" the box broke and magical energy lashed out seeking the source of it's obstacle.

The wall suddenly flaring with purple and black energy, erased the minor magic the Amazon had used. "No you don't." From Saturn's hand purple lighting shoot to her left, hitting seemingly nothing and than showing Cologne as the one in front of the Silence faded away.

Cologne screamed, as pain beyond anything she had ever felt washed over her.

"I am the Eternal Guardian. I am the Silence. I am the last warrior of Saturn. Your weak powers never interested me, not even 10.000 years ago when they were at their peak. I warned you, now your home is gone. If you want your village do disappear too, fight on and get blamed as the Elder that destroyed a whole village out of pride and her own petty desires." Saturn turned the Glaive and slammed the blade into the ground.

Even through the snow in the front of the school the black and purple column of power was visible.

<b></b>
"Where the power came out all structures have been erased." Mercury said studying her computer.
Nabiki was shivering. "The Neko-haten is no more."
Makoto's eyes widened. "She wiped out a building just like that?"
Hiroshi decided to explain. "That ugly Elder who started this is living there. I guess defying them is not good."
"There is Taro." Daisuke pointed.
"Shit. " This came surprisingly from Sayuri.
Taro was falling. His right wing was broken and he hoped that the blood freezing in the wounds was a good thing. The hellish pain wasn't, it just reminded him again of his stupid idea of beating Ranma up to get Happosai. The last thing he saw was Happosai throwing bombs at him.

"He better be grateful for me breaking his fall." Happosai said as the tall creature impacted on the ground. The old Pervert stepped on the cursed boy and challenged Elf that was descending on a pillow of snow. "He is finished, I do not wish to fight you but I will if I have to."

Elf gave him a casual glance and turned away. "I have a pig to find."

Nabiki sighed. The microphones she had installed everywhere and the cameras were showing a lot, and it was going from bad to worse. "Pig?"

"Lost boy always turn into pig when gets hit with water." Kitty supplied.

Nabiki froze. "Damn it, he probably promised, we girls were the only ones who didn't know."

Android nodded. "I heard that the fathers were giving Ranma a hard time because of this."

A muffled squeak turned their attention to a trembling Akane.

"They even have the same bandanna!" Nabiki remembered. "Ranma did all but outright spell it, you said the fathers knew?" Nabiki growled.

The two Senshi nodded.

"I'll kill them." Nabiki blinked when Android handed her a silver pine cone.

"Stun charge, will knock them down and they shouldn't be able to escape for some time." The girl explained with glee. "I'd recommend frag grenades but they'd damage the house."

-----

Ryoga had dug himself out. Cologne was writhing in pain on the ground, covered by purplish lightning. Ranma-chan was ignoring that and alternatively looking at the girl coming for him and the one torturing the elder. Ryoga's head snapped back at the girl coming for him. "Shi Shi Hodokan!"

Seeing his blast slam into a ball of snow and detonate was not good. "Ultimate Shi Shi Hodokan!" Ryoga summoned his best technique. And found himself pulled out of the calm state by sharp pain.

Elf smiled as she glowed with power, the idiot had thought he would get her while ignoring his own blast. The two dozen ice needles puncturing him now should turn his mind back to the task at hand. Namely the exploding blast, the new crater with him in the middle, flat and face down and most of the school building collapsing on him.

Am ice barrier took care any ruble that would hit her. Elf spoke up loudly. "Kitty, Android, get him out of there. I'll calm Ranma down."

----

Cologne felt the magic items she had taken with her being destroyed one by one. She knew that her home was no more. "I accept your conditions." Seeing her cane shatter underneath the power that the girl was radiating and the ground crack helped in her decision.

"You misunderstand me old woman. It's not yours to accept. I demand it, if you can't join the circle of life, the circle of change and still force others to your old will you and all that are like you will disappear from the face of this planet. This is what I promise, your rules are old, they might work where you live but here we try to believe in what hearts say. He can't choose any more since he has been bound by us already, but the choice was still his. Leave and never come back." The attack faded out.

Cologne knew that she had just faced death and had been given a small respite to warn her sisters at the village. When both women hugged Ranma-chan and glowed she understood.

Ranma had bonded his soul already, and it wasn't Kasumi, but she had no intention of approaching anyone with this. If she couldn't have him than neither would they, he was out of their reach and this was something all of Nerima had to accept. "Shampoo, Mousse we leave."

"But Airen ..." Shampoo said looking at Ranma.

"I'm not going, I'm leaving the Amazons." Mousse answered. "Forbidden is forbidden for a reason, rules apply even to elders."

Cologne wanted to strike out but the eyes in her back told her otherwise as well as her non existent strength. "You foolish male, you will obey me and ..."

An ice needle embedding itself in her good hand distracted her. "I believe you were told to abandon you old ways and adjust them to the present time, or at least only use them where they fit and with whom they fit, that means your village and with those that agree with them."

\_\_\_\_

"You came." Ranma-chan felt weak, felt sick, and felt herself healing under the touches from the Silence and Yuki. "You accepted, as did you." Ranma-chan gave them a small smile. Her emotions were still a mess, she felt empty and savored the feelings the two were giving her.

"The war is over, now the clowns will make their appearance." Nabiki said, making a small motion indicating to let Akane go.
The other Senshi quickly broke the girl free and she ran off, to punch some sense into a certain pervert.
"She walking to her own funeral."
The other Senshi stared.
"What?"
"Venus, that was actually correct." Moon said.
Chibi-Moon grinned. "Look there they come."
It was the fathers.
"Meet the two biggest morons on earth." Nabiki introduced them.
"Soun Tendou, father to you, the crazy girl and another nice girl, and Genma Saotome, turns into a panda and is Ranma's no good for nothing father." Mercury pulled the information up.
Nabiki looked it over. "Looks pretty correct to me."
Mercury smiled. "Thanks."

"Boy stop this foolishness and marry Akane, now that the Amazons are away there is no problem any more." Genma said.
"You will merry my little girl and stop associating with these" the demon head stared at the skimpy clad Senshi.
"Ranchan are you alright?"
"Ranma!" Akane had arrived.
"Found him." Kitty called out.
"Silence Dome"
Everyone ran into an invisible dome a few meters from Ranma and the two Senshi.
Kitty and Android actually passed through it without problem. Each of them dragging Ryoga by one leg.
"Ranma is his own person, decisions will not be made for him any more. Promises he made personally and of free will he will not break, but all other things are invalid. Since those that made them trample them with their feet." Elf declared, causing huge gasps.
"Genma Saotome and Soun Tendou knew of this and allowed it to continue, blaming Ranma for this situation that they created."

Ranma knew what they meant. "But I caus"
Saturn gave him a soft smile. "You did and you saved his life many times, and how did he repay you? It takes more than person to make honor possible. If you get stabbed in the back because of honor nobody will be happy."
Elf made some ice melt and turned Ryoga into P-chan. To most it was old news, to Akane it was
"Ranma no baka how could you! I bet you and Ryoga laughed about me behind my back."
Nabiki's face was ashen. "She was right, if it had continued the Tendou dojo would soon be no more, even without their help."
Those that knew of it nodded. Those that didn't were quickly informed.
"Get Kasumi, if anyone can keep this from going to hell, she is the one."

"She never listens." Ranma-chan complained with a painful expression on her face.
"It wasn't his fault."
"Everything is his fault." The raging girl screamed.
Ranma-chan shook her head. "It's hopeless, I give up."
"To remedy honor you must marry her!" Genma tried.
"Ryoga should do it since he slept with her." Elf corrected.
Soun seemed to actually see what had happened. "It was supposed to bring them together."
"It drove them apart." Saturn replied and tossed the pig to Ukyo.
"You use him, play cute and yet when he does something you don't like he is a jerk. Grow up."
"It's over with the Amazons, and Akane knows about P-chan now. I doubt much more will happen today." Nabiki said.
Chibi-Moon pointed one thing out. "Santa hasn't come yet."
Pluto finally snapped. "You are doing that on purpose! Playing the all knowing."

Chibi-Moon gave a certain smirk Nabiki recognized.
"No way!"
"It isn't, at least not the way you think."
Nabiki sighed in relief. "It's confusing enough as it is."
Ukyo saw Akane growling, Saturn giving her evil looks and decided to retreat, after all she couldn't get to Ranchan and Ryoga seemed rather out of it. Kitty was eying her in a rather disturbing way. Android was playing with a rather long gun. Ranma was currently sitting like back in Neko-ken and was being petted by Elf. Only that she as talking seemed to show that the girl was, probably, sane again.
"See you tomorrow Ranchan." The responding "Meow" didn't fill her with confidence.
"Let's got." Saturn said.
The others nodded.
"Silence Teleport."
<del></del>

"Tell everyone the show is over and that it will take about two days to route out all the bets and confirm them successful or not, especially with the multiple condition ones. You can release the notes so that they can look it up on their own." Nabiki ordered her girls. "What a mess."
"The show is over." Pluto decided.
Moon pouted.
Chibi-Moon turned to Nabiki and motioned her closer. Nabiki complied and Chibi-Moon whispered two small things that once again threw Nabiki into a loop. "I'm from the far future, Ranma-kun is there too." The girl jumped to the others and waved. "Keep it a secret."
A flash and they faded away.
Everyone relaxed and faded to normal wear.
"My place this time?" Yuki asked recognizing the surroundings.
Hotaru nodded.
Nuku-Nuku and Eimi looked outside. "Looks cold."



<del></del>
"This is a mess." Nabiki moaned as she contemplated the implications of Ranma being alive in the future.
A soft tingling made her look over. Sitting with crossed legs on a reeling was Santa herself.
"You, the only one missing." A few glares from Nabiki sent everyone scrambling. "I want to know some things. The small one, Chibi-Moon said that Ranma is there, in the future. Is it true?"
Santa shrugged. "I'm from the present, but unless someone killed him on the way, sorry her at the moment, it's a safe bet."
Nabiki blinked. "What do you mean?"
"Ask Kasumi."
"One more thing. Why weren't you there?"
"We all have out secrets, and who do you think told the crews when to come." Santa smiled playfully flicking the bells on her cap.
"You are playing with me." Nabiki accused Santa.
"Yes"
"Treat me seriously!" Somehow being angry at Santa was really hard.

"Why should I?" Santa uncrossed her legs, and slid over to Nabiki, who wondered if being alone with this Senshi was safe.
"I'm not going to do anything with you, I'm already taken. But you wanted one of those so much, I'll exchange it for something personal of yours." Santa waved a signed card of her with a Christmas tree in the background. And one with her arm around Nabiki.
Nabiki was speechless. "What?"
"Use your imagination." Santa turned and was calmly walking for the edge of the roof
"You want my"
"It's obvious that you live with Happosai. If you don't have anything more interesting than that than sorry. Your panties don't interest me one bit, I wouldn't mind some, but not from you."
Nabiki wondered if she should be offended or not. She froze, she had something. "My diary."
Santa stopped. "I accept." She handed the cards over."
"It's at home." Nabiki said.
Santa was being surrounded by snow swirls. "Try working on trust some time." She faded away.
"Trust." Nabiki wondered.

"Tadaima" Santa said as she entered Yuki's house.
Yuki and Hotaru blinked as they heard that. A questioning look assaulted Santa.
"Home is with people, not a place." Santa explained. "Let's hit the pub. Girls, you better transform, it's cold outside."
Four flashes later the Senshi left Yuki's home.
"Look, there is more of them."
"Yes."
"Think they make orgies?"
"No."
"Spoilsport."
"Pervert."

"Rudolf, why ain't I wondering about you being here." Santa called out.
"You again." Rudolf turned, and once gain sprayed his drink all over the table. "How many of you are there?"
"We are complete."
"Kitty want milk with honey and catnip."
"You have iced tea?" Eimi asked.
"Punch for me and Yuki, Hotaru?"
"Hot chocolate."
Rudolf sighed. "Put it on my tab. So why are you here?"
Santa sighed. "It all started with a bad feeling not long ago." Santa told the complete story. Including the last few moments and teasing Nabiki.
"I have some really nice lacy stuff you can take any time." Yuki teased.
Santa blushed before grinning. "I wouldn't mind a set after all, Hotaru you have something matching hers?"
Hotaru started blushing and stammering.
"I doubt it, Hotaru we are going shopping tomorrow!" Yuki declared. "Nuku-Nuku, Eimi



wall. "I'm starting to wonder if honor is rally what it's all cracked up to be."

Nabiki shivered, it wasn't good, it was getting worse by the moment. "Honor can't feed you, money can."

He gave her a nod. "True, maybe, but I'm not yet ready to give up on the idea."

Nabiki felt safer than in the last few days.

"Ranma!" Akane screamed.

"I wasn't allowed to. But I tried, no matter what I did it was always, don't pick on P-chan, don't pick on Ryoga and a hit to the head." Ranma answered tiredly.

"You should have told me."

"It's over." He said.

"The engagement is off."

"I agree." Ranma replied.

Akane froze, this was not supposed to happen. "You pervert you planned this all along. You just want to go to those floozies."

Ranma jumped out of the way of a descending mallet.

"Nope didn't plan, didn't want." Ranma replied. "And since we both agree it's official."

"You must marry Akane for the sake of honor." Genma preached.

Soun wailed. "My baby doesn't like her fiancé."

Before Ranma could voice his opinion on this honour bit Nabiki decided to speak up.



"Sorry Sumi, I didn't want to drag you into this."
"It's okay Ranma-kun." Kasumi smiled.
"So the Senshi saved you? Please tell, then we will talk about this engagement."
The living room was so quiet that a falling needle would be heard. At the moment Kasumi's laughter was heard. In response Akane growled, before she was silenced again.
Kasumi looked at Ranma in pity. "You just can't win."
Ranma nodded. "That's why I'm really going to screw honour sooner or later."
Kasumi nodded. "Can you really do it?"

"It is the right thing." Ranma looked serious now. "My fiancée will not only be a housewife."

Kasumi froze. "But it's only so you can meet with them."

"You need a hobby, or something else, that's my condition." Ranma made it clear that he was serious.

"But all I can do is clean and cook." Kasumi said.

"Go to medical school, I know you want to be a nurse." Ranma suggested. "Even if I think that you would be better suited for being a doctor."

Kasumi blushed. "Me a doctor? But I can't ..."

"Your treatment for my wounds is almost as good as Tofu's with the things you know how to do. Those that you don't know you improvise for long enough that I can get to him."

Kasumi was squirming, the idea seemed to stick. "But the money."

"Is no problem, leave it to me." Ranma cut her off.

"Who will cook and clean the house?" Kasumi asked.

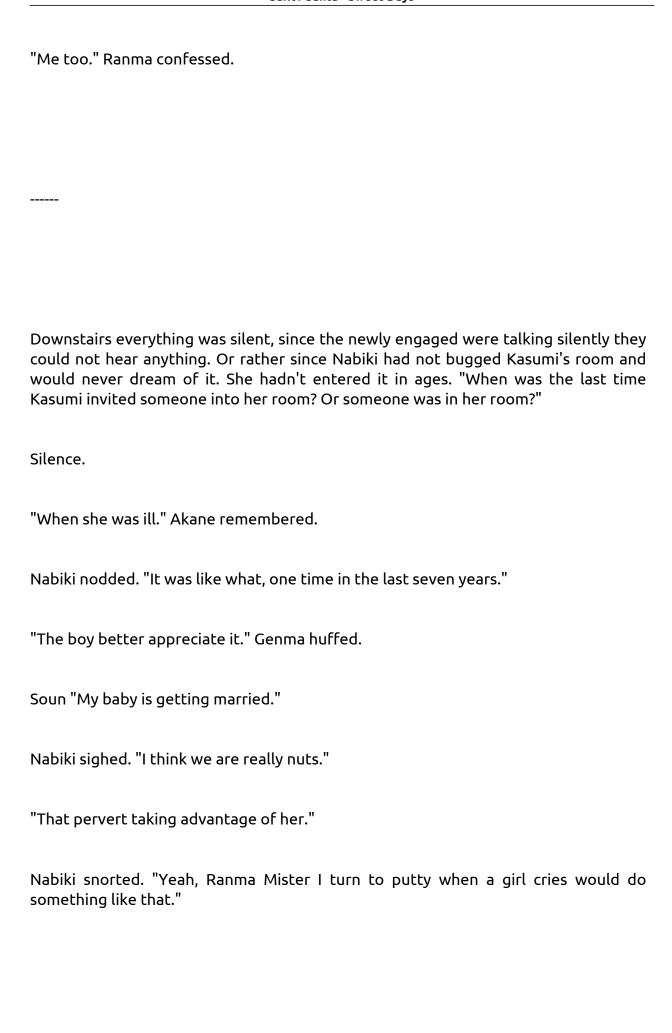
Ranma shrugged. "I'll help and they will have to move their lazy butts and do some work at home, you are not a slave, are you?"

Kasumi vehemently shook he head.

"Than act like it, tomorrow I'll see what you need to do to get into medical school." Ranma said.

Kasumi liked the idea. But it seemed so wrong, she would be leaving the house, she





"So I think I'll head in early, it was a rather crazy day after all. Kasumi, I still think you are nuts." Ranma decided. Kasumi nodded happily. "I'll help you tomorrow with breakfast." Ranma offered. She shook her head. "No need to Ranma-kun." "I mean what I said." Ranma responded. "Every bit of it." Kasumi saw the rather evil grin. "Meet me after school, no wait, I'm feeling still a bit edgy, so maybe on Friday?" Kasumi wanted to say something but a finger landed on her lips. "Don't even think about it." Ranma threatened. "You will come." Kasumi blushed and nodded without speaking. "It's a date." Ranma thought about. "You know that it's the first time I willingly invited a girl on a date before it happened?" Kasumi opened her mouth to correct him, but there had always been something else else that made him go or rather do it. He had never really done that on his own, or

said so. There was no way she could say no, especially with him helping her in the

household.

\_\_\_\_

Next morning both Kasumi and Ranma's behaviour unnerved the whole family. They had these 'we know more than you do' and 'you don't want to know' smiles that drove Nabiki right up the wall.

"Nabiki? How did it go with the bets?"

Nabiki sighed. "I'm not even halfway through it. But I think with all the conditions you set and since yours and Miyu's are longest ones, each of you will manage to get about ten to twelve times the stake. All others are below. The winnings will range from half the original stake to several times the money. The system is fairly complex, as I said, the more conditions the more money you get. The less chance of winning. I'll have to register this one, most of Nerima bet after all."

Ranma blinked. "So let's say someone who got it all right, would get maybe 15 times as much. And you adjust all other in relation to the biggest bet."

Nabiki blinked. "You know how to use that thing called brain after all."

"I have had some good influence in my life lately." Ranma replied grinning.

"Ranma no baka." Akane was angry, she tried lifting the table and smashing him with it, Ranma however had put his hands on it.

She strained and couldn't do a thing. "I hate you."

"I don't care any more." Ranma replied. "Kasumi, don't forget."

Kasumi smiled and nodded.

"I'm off, Nabiki want to go with me?" He offered the middle sister, if someone had asked it him why he would have shrugged.

Nabiki put the things she was holding back on the table and nodded. "Just wait one moment. Can you get the bentos?"

Ranma nodded as he collected the dirty dishes and brought them into the kitchen, he was ignoring Akane's and Genma's things however.

-----

Seeing Ranma arrive with someone was nothing new. That one being Nabiki however, that was new. The two of them chatting and Ranma grinning was either a really good thing, or a sign of the apocalypse. Since the school was already half destroyed the more common opinion was that it was a good sign.

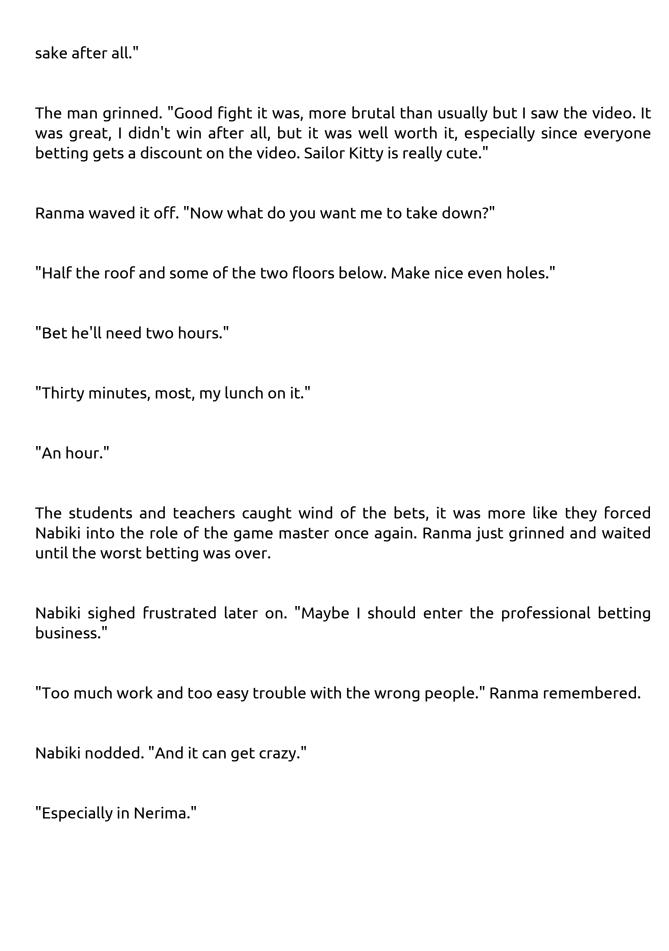
"So basically we just help out where we can?" Ranma asked a worker.

The worker actually felt unsure what to do. "Yes, that's about it."

"Are there still parts you want to have removed?" The boy asked.

"The two upper floors are unstable in the region of the big hole, it would be saver if we removed them. But the demolition crews are usually not needed in Nerima." The man replied. "I don't think that they will come before tomorrow."

Ranma grinned. "Just tell me what parts you need removed and in what order and I'll do it. It was my fault after all. I didn't do most of it but Saturn and Elf came for my



One day later
Hotaru woke up, something dark, evil was growing, her senses were working overdrive. Even before Amy called her she was up and had transformed. Ever since she had assimilated the Silence itself her body growth was becoming normal and her strength was already past that of normal humans, she wasn't yet at Ranma's level but than again who was. Ranma was still trying to reach Nuku-Nuku's power.
"Close to the graveyard, someone seems to open some portal."
Saturn shook her head. "Not portal, it is a gate, a Hell Gate to be exact."
"How do you know?" Amy asked.
"I am the Silence." Was the response. "I'll meet you there. Silence Teleport."
The battle was raging, Makoto and Rei had been the first ones in place, followed by Pluto. They were fighting against hordes of hell spawn while the larger summoning was still taking place. Things were looking only a bit better when Uranus and Neptune came as backup. Moon Venus and Mercury were last. Or so they thought.
"Die suckers!" That was Android with her Gatling Gun. Her firing rate made up for the rather small shots, however blessed pine needles had a +200% damage bonus against

hellspawn, a rather nice thing when comparing that two of those were supposed to take a Youma down.

Saturn just moved on. Demons avoided her and parted before her to let her pass. The one that tried to jump her, shocking everyone was dealt with accordingly.

Moon wanted to warn their team mate but she already acted.

Moving between the claws she caught the thing by the face, crushing the dog-like snout easily. A fast move of her hand the creature's body flew one way while the head knocked another one over.

A slightly bigger one attacked her in retaliation. She didn't even look as she cut it apart with her Glaive, coincidently a burst of energy vaporised the demons behind it.

As Saturn was being left alone, the others found themselves flooded with demons, very much to Androids delight who threw several fragmentation grenades into the crowd and cackled evilly as they tore demons apart.

Saturn came to the inner circle, she sighed at how stereotypical it was, three young girls, probably virgins since Naru was with them barred as offering for the demon, one summoner and a big glowing summoning circle. It was like from one of these rather cheap horror movies.

"Too late I summoned a demon lord." The summoner spoke.

"Yada, yada, yada, heard it all before, where is it?" Saturn spoke up, to the other Senshis shock and Android's glee.

"Appear!"

Naru sighed, like usually she was going to to get saved last minute by Moon and everything would be fine. Some pink spell and the world was going to be saved once again. Boy was she wrong this time.

Saturn smirked as it glowed brighter and it came out. Huge it looked like a minotaur, but she didn't care.

"These are my offering to you." The summoner pointed at the three girls.

"Leave and I won't destroy you." The power behind those soft and emotionless words made everyone stop.

Senshi and demons alike stared at the two facing off.

"I will make you my toy." The demon roared.

Saturn shook her head. "Like in a bad movie. You had your warning, now die."

Darkness arched all over her and flooded the summoning circle. The demon lord opened it's mouth in a scream, but no noise came forward. "Feel the power of the Silence." The demon dropped to it's knees and seemed to bed. Hotaru raised the Glaive and the bells made an agreeing sound. "Silence Glaive Surprise"

This one was different, the manifestation was a purple-black ball of pure power that condensed in front of her and hit the demon head on. The ball faded into the demon lord.

Without a noise the demon lord and the summoning circle faded away.

The summoner pulled a gun and shoot Saturn.

She slapped the bullet aside. Dark lighting arched over her and hit him.

Moon looked sick, as before the pain was obvious but no noise came forth.

"Scum is supposed to die, but I will offer your life to those that you wanted to sacrifice. His life or the police?" Saturn turned to the three girls that Android was already helping up. The other demons were clearly in no mood for battle, it seemed that the display of power had impressed them.

"Police" "Death" "Police"

"Police it is." She took the Daimonicon from him. One of the elder books, the one of darkness. In her hand it started burning with a purple flame.
"It's supposed to be indestructible." Pluto whispered.
"Only if you don't have enough power to destroy it. Even you or Moon could have done it if you knew how. With the proper training all of you could." Saturn told them.
Android pulled a disk out. "Here, everything was recorded."
Saturn took it. "See you soon."
Android nodded in response.
The Glaive was smashed into the summoners spine as he tried to crawl away. "Silence Teleport."
"The Silence is scary." Moon voiced her opinion.
Everyone but Android nodded.
Android shrugged. "She misses them, their bond is growing and yesterday disrupted the growth, they need some time together," she was happy that they were there for each other, "Kitty and me share a bond with them too but it's weaker. I don't need them as much as they do each other but even I feel trigger happy."
All the others nodded.

"I wish they would finally get together and get over with it. It's obvious that they love each other, hell, need each other. Maybe I should warn Kitty of their mood swings?"

Moon shuddered. "Are they going to be okay?"

Android waved it off, shouldering her weapon. "Go home, and I mean all of you." The demons looked at each other and started snarling, read chanting. A gate opened and they left.

Mercury looked around. "Well seems like they decided to stay alive." She shivered. "We need to get the others together with Saturn and fast."

Android nodded. "We will meat up on Friday, maybe we can get Santa or Ranma into joining us, than everything would be alright."

Moon sounded helpful. "What about you?"

Android grinned. "I just took my aggression out, Kitty had a fight earlier the day I heard, the property damage was major this time."

The others shivered.

Venus asked the main question everyone dreaded. "Elf and Santa?"

Android shrugged. "Will seek each other and Saturn once the realize what's going on. Santa is a special one, but she could probably heal on her own, Ranma however can't. Since they are calmer in nature and didn't assimilate a higher entity, it's not a major problem in their case, this doesn't mean that they will leave Saturn alone in her healing." She smiled suddenly. "Well all done, they will be back to normal after a good nights rest tomorrow morning." She glared at Uranus. "And If you disturb them or make a fuss I'll shoot you personally and many times. I'll prep a grenade launcher with itching powder and I'll haunt you for a month or maybe more if I'm bored."

Uranus shivered violently and made calming motions that were lost on the ranting girl.

\_\_\_\_

Nabiki meanwhile was sitting in her room, dead on her feet, with the last bets finally ordered. It had taken long and now finally everyone could be paid off. It had been a lot of work, it had taken a long time and all of her helpers. But she felt good. Her profit margin was 7.51% even after paying off all taxes and fees. With the amount of betting Nerima had set for the killing bets, things were looking good, she had the first two years off university easily in her pocket, for both her and Kasumi. Things were looking up. People were already asking her to place a betting pool for White Day. She decided to ask Ranma about it, she just hoped that he and Kasumi enjoyed the money they had won. The three killing bets, Ranma, Miyu and Kasumi were holding a total of 20% of the complete winnings, an truly outrageous sum.

-----

Saturn faded into reality in her room and made an angry fist. She had almost lost it there, oh how she had wanted to spill his blood for forcing people.

"Welcome home Hotaru."

She spun around and launched herself at the owner of the voice. One very surprised Ranma-chan. "I'm here now, you were there for me I'm there for you."

"It hurts." Hotaru sobbed. "I can still feel the pain."

"So do I, but I'm used to it."

"That sounds so wrong." Yuki said as she stepped out of a portal. "At least I'm not the only one with temper problems."

"What got your panties in a bunch?" Ranma-chan asked.

"A group suitors that didn't want to take a no for an answer." She replied. "But I got them alright and I think someone should find them before they freeze to death."

Ranma-chan and Hotaru looked at each other.

"I took out a demon lord that didn't listen and almost killed it's summoner that wanted to sacrifice three girls."

Ranma-chan sighed. "I had it best, I was jumping at shadows all day and I think I broke Kuno's jaw, if he had a brain he'd have a severe concussion. Oh, and I'm engaged to Kasumi now, she actually got all weepy over me yesterday." Ranma-chan caught Yuki's arm and pulled her close. "Now who else thinks that the bed looks really comfy?"

\_\_\_\_\_

Haruka stared and couldn't decide what to do. There were Hotaru and Yuki, that was fine, perfect even, but the redhead in the middle with the big chest was weird. After all she was a boy in truth.

"They look perfect together." Michiru told her lover.

Haruka nodded, it was the simple truth.

Yuki was spooning Ranma-chan who was spooning Hotaru. The three were in a cocoon of pure power. Some colours they could recognize. Santa's red, Saturn's purple,

Silence's black, Yuki's light blue, a lot of white, some green and lots of pink that made them even feel loved by just looking at it.
"They have already chosen." Haruka sighed depressed.
Michiru pulled Haruka into an embrace.
"I have never even heard of a bond that strong between three people." Setsuna said from behind the two lovers causing them to look at her. "They could drop they bodies any moment and become literary one."
This was a surprise.
"They are consciously slowing the bonding, they want to stay who they are but they know that they belong together." Setsuna continued. "Small Lady dropped a hint last time I mentioned them. 'Where ever they are, even when separated, you can still see them joined at the hips.' So we can expect things to get even weirder in future."
Haruka and Michiru shared a glance, just what did Hotaru get herself involved in.
Authors Notes v0.0: It kept longer and longer. this one is a bit of war like. Next will be a bit funnier and will bring the end of the Amazons.
Author's Notes v0.1: Massive restructuring. Now it's all serious and the next one
mostly Waffy, some things are so sweet that I can barely handle them myself, and I wrote it. I know it's inconsistent, but hell, I jump into series that are completely

