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YAKUZA

DEMON KILLERS



CHAUHAN ■ POWELL ■ RUSSELL ■ DILLON

STORY SO FAR...

After overcoming a swarm of demons, two thieves named Ochita and Rizzo have aligned themselves with their unlikely rescuers, the Yakuza. This criminal syndicate has been embroiled in a secret war against the invading monsters for decades. The Yakuza leader, Hayato, offers to train Ochita after seeing strategic value in the mystical sword fused to her arm. But Hayato's generosity disguises sinister motives.

YAKUZA

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ISSUE THREE OF FOUR

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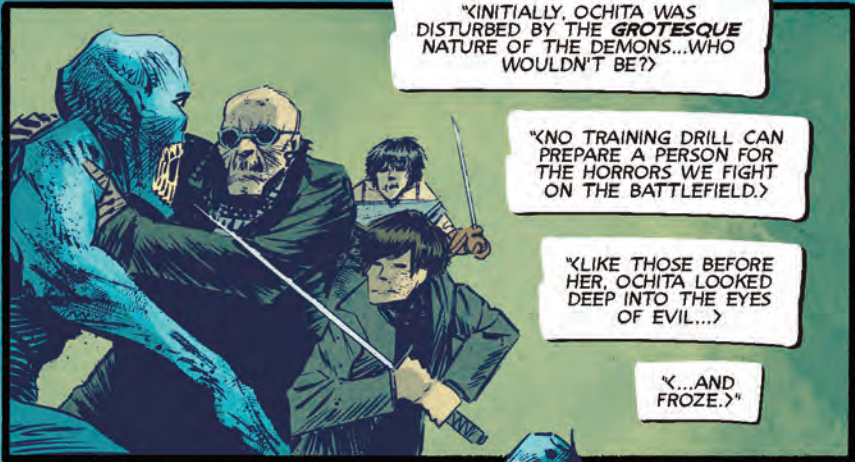
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Osaka, Japan.

"IT'S BEEN A YEAR SINCE OCHITA BEGAN HER TRAINING."

<HER PROGRESS HAS BEEN...>

<...IMPRESSIVE.>



"INITIALLY, OCHITA WAS DISTURBED BY THE GROTESQUE NATURE OF THE DEMONS...WHO WOULDN'T BE?"

"NO TRAINING DRILL CAN PREPARE A PERSON FOR THE HORRORS WE FIGHT ON THE BATTLEFIELD."

"LIKE THOSE BEFORE HER, OCHITA LOOKED DEEP INTO THE EYES OF EVIL..."

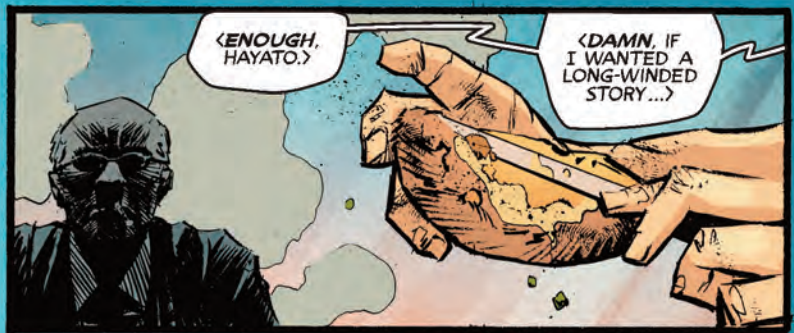
<...AND FROZE.>



"BUT GREAT WARRIORS FACE THEIR FEARS AND FIND A WAY TO TRIUMPH."

"OCHITA DEVELOPED A SYMBIOTIC BOND WITH HER SWORD. SHE GRANTS THIS SENTIENT WEAPON FREE REIN IN COMBAT TO MAIM DEMONS."

"WITH OCHITA'S SKILLS RAPIDLY INCREASING, I FEEL SHE'LL BE INCREDIBLY VALU-->"



<ENOUGH, HAYATO.>

<DAMN, IF I WANTED A LONG-WINDED STORY...>



<...I'D GO TO THE FUCKING CINEMA.>

CHOMP

Annual Yakuza Summit.

<THIS SCENE IS THE ONLY THING THAT NEEDS BUTTERING UP IN THIS ROOM.>

<SO PLEASE, GET TO THE POINT.>

<GOTO, YOUR PROMOTION FROM UNDERBOSS TO HEAD OF THE NAKAHARA-MORI FAMILY HAS AFFECTED YOUR EARS.>

<IT WOULD BE WISE TO LISTEN AND NOT INTERRUPT YOUR ELDERS AT THIS TABLE.>

<BUT TO MY POINT, BROTHERS, I ASK FOR APPROVAL TO INITIATE OCHITA INTO THE WAKAHISA FAMILY.>

Underboss Benny Nijo
Tanaka Family

Boss Tadao Tanaka
Tanaka Family
Import & Exports

Underboss Gorou Mifune
Mifune Family

Underboss Shoji
Nakahara-Mori Family

Boss Goto Mori
Nakahara-Mori Family
Vice & Gambling

Boss Daichi Mifune
Mifune Family
Criminal Operations

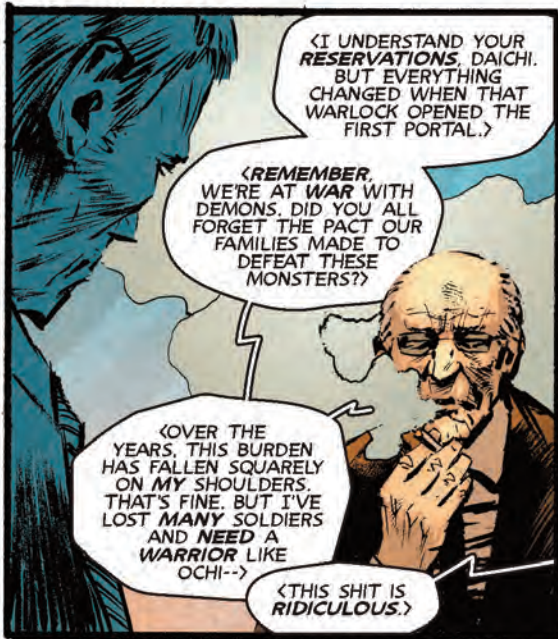




<INDUCT A WOMAN INTO THE YAKUZA? HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND?!

<WOMEN HAVE THEIR PLACE, HAYATO. AS WIVES, HOSTESSES OR WHORES...>

<...NOT AS PEERS.>



<I UNDERSTAND YOUR RESERVATIONS, DAICHI. BUT EVERYTHING CHANGED WHEN THAT WARLOCK OPENED THE FIRST PORTAL.>

<REMEMBER, WE'RE AT WAR WITH DEMONS. DID YOU ALL FORGET THE PACT OUR FAMILIES MADE TO DEFEAT THESE MONSTERS?>

<OVER THE YEARS, THIS BURDEN HAS FALLEN SQUARELY ON MY SHOULDERS. THAT'S FINE, BUT I'VE LOST MANY SOLDIERS AND NEED A WARRIOR LIKE OCHI-->

<THIS SHIT IS RIDICULOUS.>



<LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT. YOU WANT US TO FORGO TRADITION FOR THIS WOMAN? I LOVE THAT YOU'VE CONVENIENTLY GLOSSED OVER THE FACT SHE'S A FUCKING JUNKIE!>

<THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME. YOU SHOULD BE FOCUSING ON OTHER ISSUES, HAYATO. LIKE YOUR HEIR...WHAT'S HIS NAME?>

TATSUYA.

<YEAH, THAT GUY, THE MUTE! HOW'S A MAN TOO SCARED TO SPEAK GOING TO LEAD A CRIME FAMILY?!>



<YOU OBVIOUSLY MISSED A VALUABLE LESSON, GOTO.>

<A WAGGING TONGUE DOESN'T MAGICALLY TURN A MAN INTO A GREAT LEADER. IF IT DID, YOU'D BE A GENERALISSIMO.>



<EMPIRES ARE OFTEN CREATED BY THE BRAVE BUT ALWAYS MAINTAINED BY THE WISE.>

<TATSUYA QUIETLY OBSERVES, CALCULATING HIS NEXT MOVE, LIKE A TRUE LEADER, HE PROTECTS OUR FUTURE BY SACRIFICING HIS OWN IN SUMMONING THE BEAST.>

<SO NEVER SPEAK ILL OF MY SON AGAIN.>



<THOUGH I DISAPPROVE OF GOTO'S TONE, HE HAS A POINT ABOUT THE GIRL. EVERYONE AT THIS TABLE FROWNS UPON DRUGS, HAYATO.>

<SHE'S CLEAN... NO ONE HERE IS A SAINT. WE ALL HIDE SKELETONS. I FEAR YOUR JUDGMENT IS SKEWED BECAUSE OF OCHITA'S GENDER.>

<DON'T BLAME THE VICTIM, BLAME THE SOURCE. SHE BOUGHT HEROIN FROM STREET URCHINS IN KABUKICHO...>



<...WHICH IS GOTO'S TERRITORY.>

<WHAT? ME? FUCK YOU!>

<UH-UH. WASN'T ONE OF MY GUYS. I DON'T DEAL DRUGS. PROBABLY SOME OUTSIDER.>



<OUTSIDERS? DEALING ON YAKUZA TURF WITHOUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE? THAT'S WORSE THAN YOU PEDDLING JUNK. IT MAKES US LOOK WEAK.>

<THE RED-LIGHT DISTRICTS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM, OR WE'LL FIND SOMEONE WHO CAN.>

<THIS IS EMBARRASSING, GOTO... I DEMAND YUBITSUME AS ATONEMENT.>



YUBITSUME?!

<THAT'S INSANE, TADAO. WE'RE AT A BUSINESS MEETING. I DON'T HAVE THE TOOLS TO CUT OFF MY DAMN FINGER.>

<YES YOU DO, GOTO.>



<IRONICALLY THE TOOL IS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS.>

<THIS?!

<IT'S A FUCKING BUTTER KNIFE!>



<WELL, YOU'D BETTER PRESS DOWN HARD THEN.>

<FOR THE SAKE OF TRADITION.>



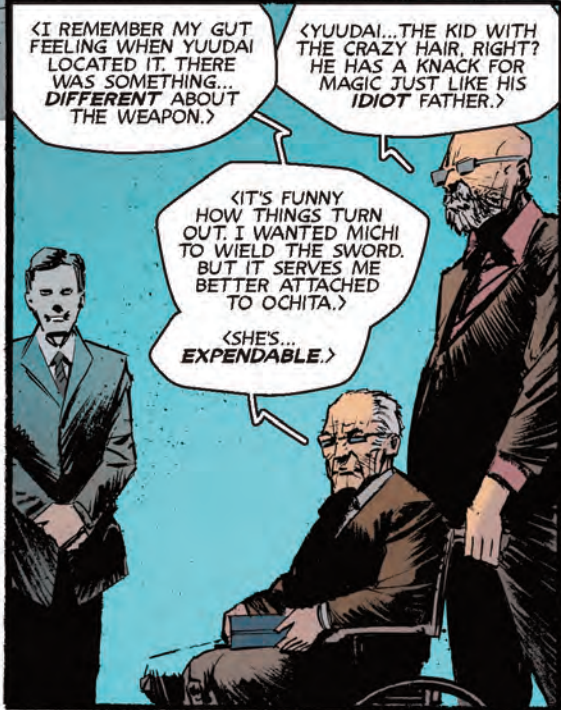
<THAT WAS FUN, HAYATO.>

<YOU NOW OWN A PIECE OF THAT FOOL GOTO.>

<IT'S A MERE CONCILIATION, TADAO. I HAD HOPED THE OTHER BOSSES WOULD APPROVE OF OCHITA'S INDUCTION.>

<WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT THIS GIRL?>

<THE GIRL'S A PAWN. HER BLADE IS THE REAL PRIZE.>

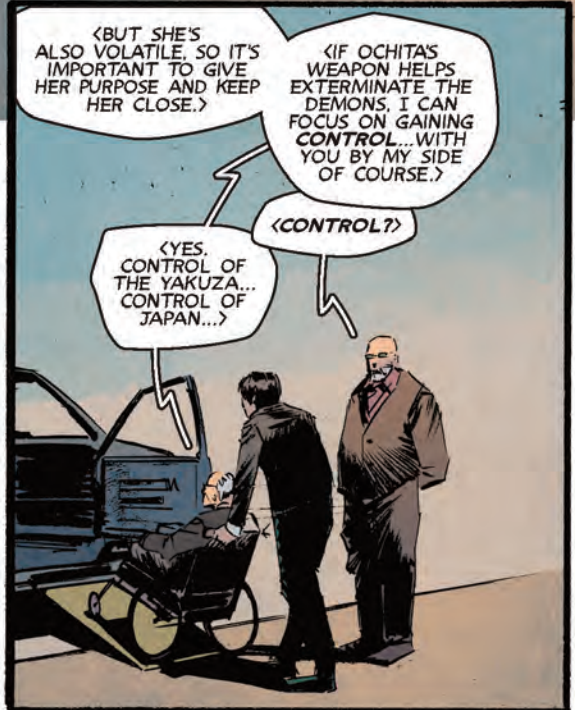


<I REMEMBER MY GUT FEELING WHEN YUUDAI LOCATED IT. THERE WAS SOMETHING... DIFFERENT ABOUT THE WEAPON.>

<YUUDAI... THE KID WITH THE CRAZY HAIR, RIGHT? HE HAS A KNACK FOR MAGIC JUST LIKE HIS IDIOT FATHER.>

<IT'S FUNNY HOW THINGS TURN OUT. I WANTED MICHU TO WIELD THE SWORD. BUT IT SERVES ME BETTER ATTACHED TO OCHITA.>

<SHE'S... EXPENDABLE.>



<BUT SHE'S ALSO VOLATILE, SO IT'S IMPORTANT TO GIVE HER PURPOSE AND KEEP HER CLOSE.>

<IF OCHITA'S WEAPON HELPS EXTERMINATE THE DEMONS, I CAN FOCUS ON GAINING CONTROL... WITH YOU BY MY SIDE OF COURSE.>

<CONTROL?>

<YES. CONTROL OF THE YAKUZA... CONTROL OF JAPAN...>



<"...CONTROL OF THE WORLD.">