

Hakusho

BEAT!



**Yu Yu Hakusho's
30th
Anniversary Zine!**

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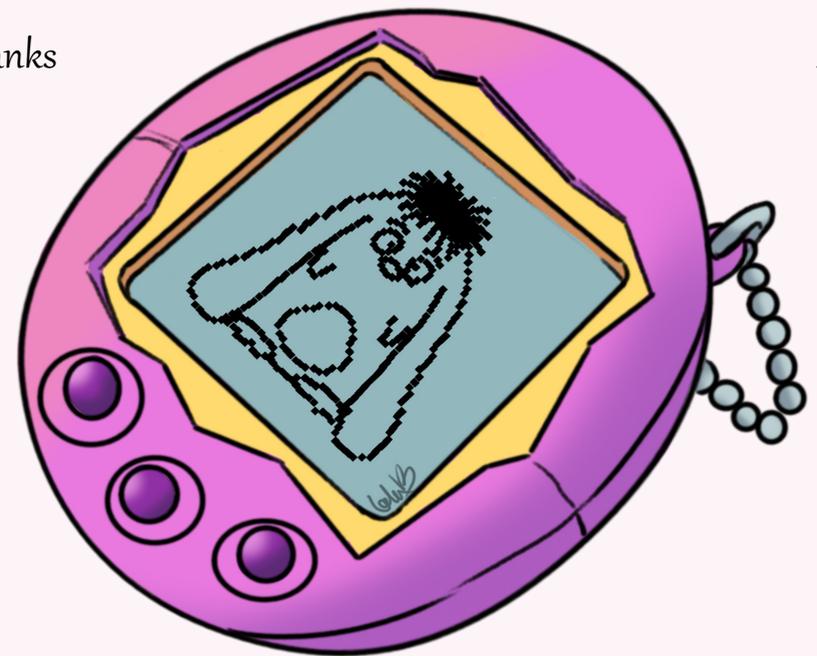
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Happy 30th Birthday

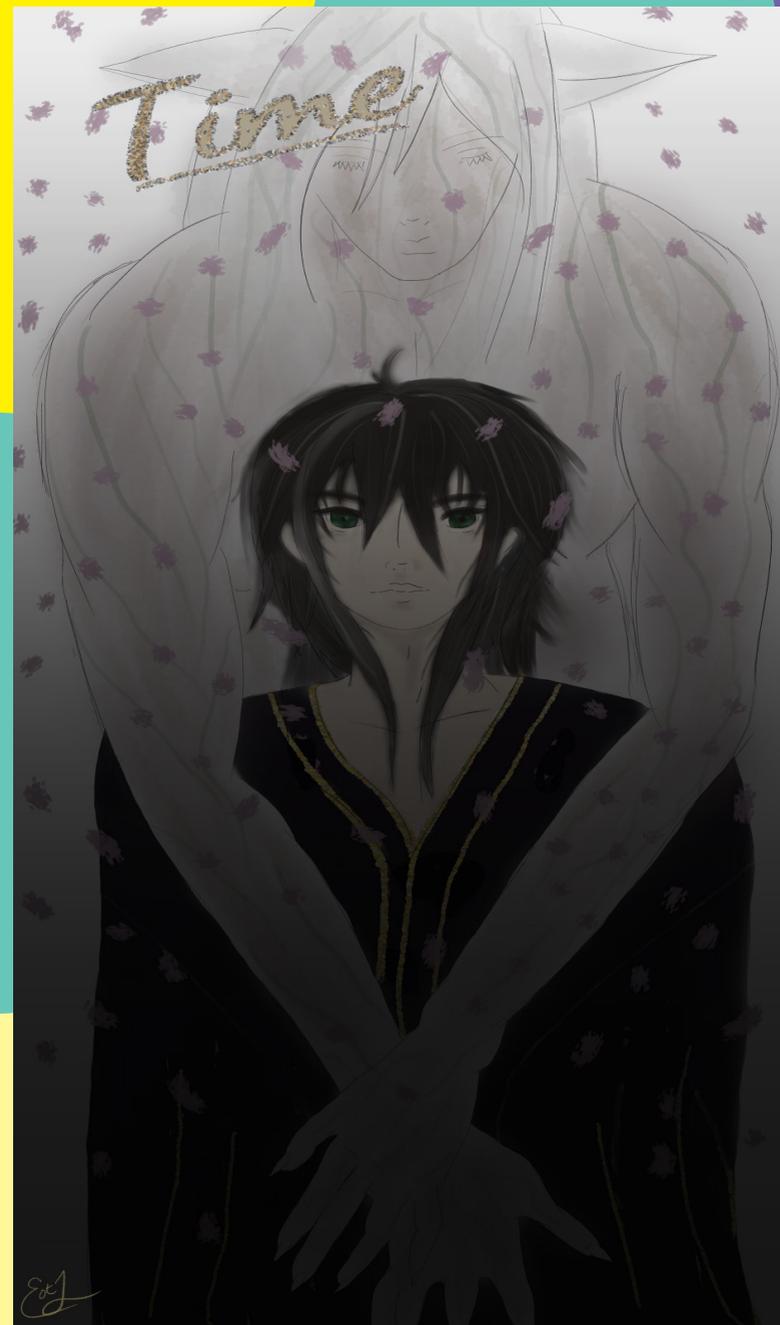
I cannot believe YuYu Hakusho is already 30 years old!

It has been my favourite show since I was thirteen, and it brings me so much joy to see the fandom still going strong after all those years. A big thank you to every person managing events, drawing and writing about YYH. I love you all!

I decided to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the show by drawing our favourite gang as if the story was set in Algeria, my homeland. I love to see the difference in the dub of each country. I have seen the show in Japanese, French and English and I hope to see it in Spanish soon!



An old HiKura drawing from when I was fourteen.



Which YYH character are you most like? Take this quiz to find out!

1. What's most important to you?

- a. Love. b. Power.
- c. Being true to myself. d. Family.

2. Would you ever fight someone beneath you?

- a. No, there's no honor in that. b. No, they're not worth it.
- c. If they deserve a beating, sure. d. If it is absolutely necessary, yes.

3. Is honesty important to you?

- a. People should be honest if they can. b. No.
- c. Doesn't matter to me, I lie often myself. d. Yes, but it isn't always easy to be honest.

4. If you could only bring one thing with you to a remote island, what would it be?

- a. Uh, probably my favorite music to pass the time. b. Nothing, I'd enjoy the peace.
- c. A boat, duh. d. A telephone with proper reception in the area.

5. A crush of yours discovers your deep, frightening secret. What will you do to keep them safe?

- a. Protect them with all of my strength!
- b. Leave them so they're safe from me and those seeking to harm me.
- c. Probably try to keep them close, fight those who want to hurt them, but they can handle themselves, too.
- d. Try to erase their memories or confuse them, so they forget about the secret and are safe through ignorance.

6. You have a chance to make a magical wish for anything. What do you wish for?

- a. For true love to find me! b. For the strongest weapon in existence.
- c. For a million bucks, or a billion, or a trillion.
- d. For the safety and happiness of all of my loved ones.

7. You are cursed to lose one of your senses. Which will you let go of?

- a. Not my hearing! Probably taste?
- b. Not my sight. I can do without taste or the sense of pleasure.
- c. Hell no, I'm keeping my taste. I can probably do without hearing. Less nagging, you know?
- d. I could get by with sign language if I were to go deaf, but at this present time I may be persuaded to part with my sense of smell. Humans do not rely greatly on that one.

8. An old friend finds out you did something horrible to them in the past and they confront you. How do you react?

- a. What? I'd never hurt my friends!
- b. Shrug. They should have known better than to trust me or believe a label of 'friend' would protect them from me.
- c. Apologize, I guess. Unless they deserved it, in which case, tell them they deserved it.
- d. Make it up to them in any way I can, perhaps by doing them favors, until my debt is repaid.

9. Your life's goal has been reached and you are facing a long life without any more trouble in it. What do you do with your newfound peace?

- a. Settle down, marry someone nice, maybe have a kid or two. Probably adopt a lot of cute animals. A peaceful life. b. Find a new purpose. There's never an end to "trouble."
- c. Open up a little store, maybe settle down, or not; who says I can't keep doing what I love doing?
- d. I don't know. My life would change profoundly. I'd probably just enjoy the peace for as long as I can.

10. You want to get a pet. What do you get?

- a. A cat! They're cute and fluffy, and they can take care of themselves.
- b. Something fierce and powerful. With claws and fangs.
- c. Oh man, something useful, I guess. Like a horse, maybe?
- d. A potted plant. They are not as likely to make you weep if they die, and they're easily replaceable.

If you answered mostly...

As: Kuwabara

Bs: Hiei

Cs: Yusuke

Ds: Kurama



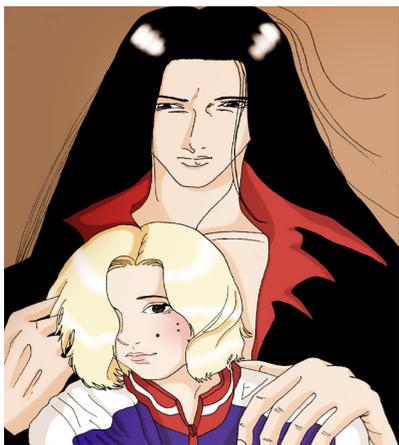
Q AIRWALK

THEN VS NOW



Karasu is a Quest class demon and a longtime member of Team Toguro, one of the most brutal teams competing in this year's Dark Tournament. He has captured the essence of tall, dark, and gruesome with his jet-black hair, violet eyes, and ominous aura. As a result, Karasu has gained a following of fans who would probably give their right arm for a chance to be alone with him.

So, we just had to name him the first-ever Hakusho Beat hottie. After traveling to Hanging Neck Island, Karasu sat down with Hakusho Beat to answer a Q&A for your reading and viewing pleasure. Have fun getting to know the real Karasu, he's got a grim sense of humor, but he's all hunk.



Hakusho Beat: How do you feel about being a Hakusho Beat hottie?

Karasu: This is the most foolish thing I have ever heard of. But you're right in choosing me.

HB: What's a typical day for you?

Karasu: It's pretty much like everyone else's day, except mine comes with a body count.

HB: Do you have any hobbies?

Karasu: Creating unique bombs or explosives and collecting beautiful things. I also enjoy a fine wine from time to time.

HB: What advice would you give for someone who wants to be in the Dark Tournament?

Karasu: The only thing I recommend is not to ask me for tickets to any matches. It won't end well.

HB: Favorite color?

Karasu: Blood red.

HB: What is Kurama from Team Urameshi like?

Karasu: From the brief interaction I've had with him, I can tell he has a masochistic urge that needs... proper attention. Also, he should use a better hair conditioner.

HB: What annoys you?

Karasu: Cowards. Especially weak cowards.

HB: What do you look for in a partner?

Karasu: Someone beautiful with a good heart. I especially like it when it fits in the palm of my hand.

HB: What would you like to do on a date?

Karasu: I'm not sure that what I like to do on dates can be printed in this magazine.

HB: What is love to you?

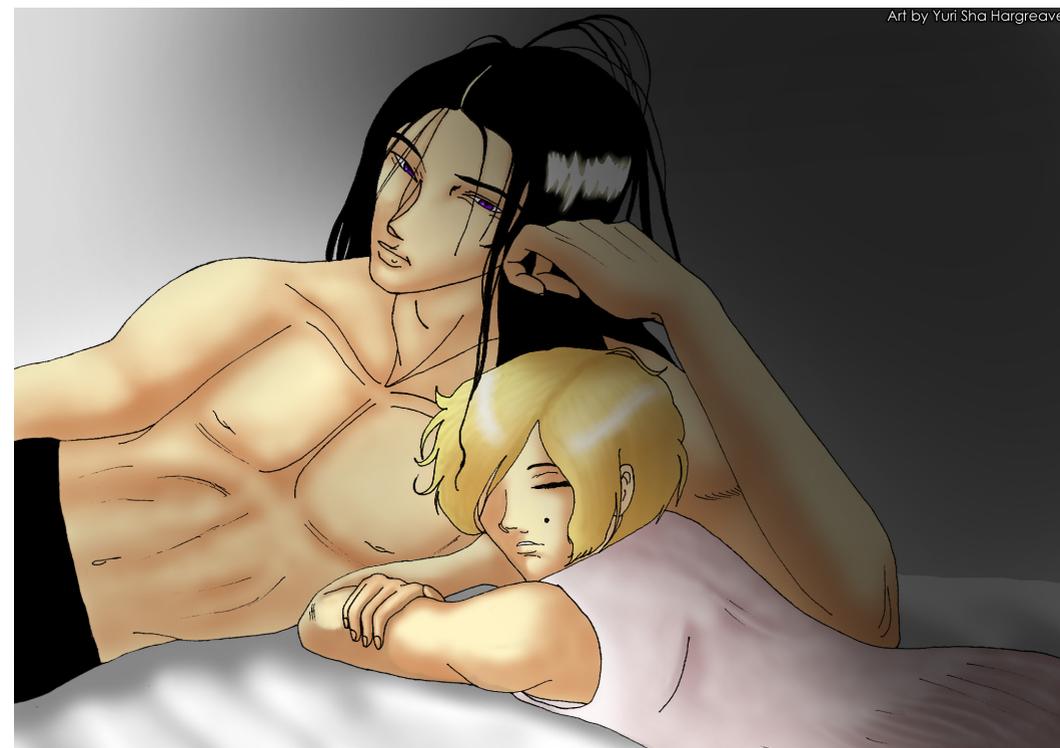
Karasu: Love is fragile and most beautiful when captured between the precipice of life and death. Such intimacy is stunning because it only lasts for a short time and is thus undoubtedly appreciated more.

HB: How do you feel about your fans?

Karasu: They're all terribly misguided people, really.

HB: What are your plans for the future?

Karasu: Ridding the world of the Toguro brothers, mostly, though my immediate goal is gazing at a specific red head's face after I add it to my collection.



Cosplay



“Thank You For Waking Me Up”: Finding Myself in Yu Yu Hakusho

It would be difficult to describe, let alone imagine, my life without Yu Yu Hakusho in it. In some ways literally - the manga first released the year I was born. There's a part of me that feels really silly saying so, but I want to resist that shame, that self deprecation. It can be so easy to sink into, to let myself dismiss the importance of “just a cartoon.” But I'm a storyteller, onstage and on page, and so I owe it to myself to recognize how significant a story can become.

I have a distinct memory of the first time I watched Yu Yu Hakusho, and eternal fondness for my first episode. In the dark at a sleepover, when I was technically too young to do so, I watched Yusuke defeat Suzaku in Season 1 Episode 21. I think in some ways this was the perfect introduction to the show: Yusuke making life-threatening sacrifices, Kuwabara also risking his life to save him, Hiei being snarky and condescending to Kuwabara, and Kurama being quietly fond of all of them. The next week at the same friend's house I saw the show start again at Episode 1. Then I sadly didn't have the chance to watch more until it started airing on Toonami about a year later and - by some great stroke of fate - I tuned in just in time for Episode 2. It was true love from that moment on.

Shortly after that Yu Yu Hakusho became a point of connection with the person who would be my best friend from middle school all the way through college. I know now that I am autistic - a neurodivergence characterised by atypical social interaction - and YYH was and remains a special interest, which makes it even more important I found someone to share that joy with. It was in middle school I would get a huge crush on Kurama that has never quite gone away, and with the appearance of Yoko Kurama, a particular affinity for silver-haired inhuman bishounen that also hasn't really gone away. I know now this was probably due to my, at the time, deeply closeted lesbianism. The way that fandom makes safe spaces for romantic exploration, especially for young queer folks, is something I'm still fascinated by today. So much so that I'm currently applying to graduate school in hopes of researching this phenomenon. I can never fully express what having that space meant for my younger self, and what it still means to me today.

When I was young I was mostly isolated from fandom at large. I thought everyone who published fanfiction or drew fanart was my age, and that when I became an adult I would simply lose interest in this seemingly childish pastime. It was surely just a phase. I was shocked I didn't just “grow out of it” by the end of high school, and sure I would by the time I graduated college. After all, I thought from deep in the closet, how would I explain the folders full of half-written smutty fic and pornographic fanart to my eventual husband? I didn't know that thinking I wanted a husband was the phase.

And then I met the woman who would become my wife.

It seems so fitting now that in the early months of our relationship she watched all of Yu Yu Hakusho just because it was my favorite anime. She's made space for all the show means to me, both as it's own story and for what it means to mine. Not only has she encouraged me to write fanfiction but she reads it, helps edit it, and best of all, really likes it. In adulthood I've been gifted online rp and discord servers and other grown ups writing fanfiction, drawing beautiful art, sharing the most serious and silly of headcanons and more. I didn't have to abandon Yu Yu Hakusho when I grew up because it has grown up with me. I couldn't imagine, at twelve, what this story would mean to me at thirty. I look forward to learning what it means at forty, sixty, ninety. I wish the same for every young person just discovering it.

My heart is full of gratitude for Yoshihiro Togashi, every artist of every kind who worked on the anime, the film adaptations, the OVA'S both recent and older, and of course the stage plays. I'm even looking forward to the live action series, and the chance to see how things play out in a new medium.

But mostly and especially I am grateful for this fandom. For your artistry, your enthusiasm, and your dedication to a story that means the world to me. Here's to skipping detentions, and video games, and human mothers, and various crimes, and happy endings on the beach.





The cutest grils from Hell are releasing their brand new album!

The Cult Trio is back from this Underworld with 10 new songs on vinyls record and compact disk. On top of that Ruka, Juri and Koto will reveal their **best kept secrets** in this exclusive interview included in the CD version.

Are those so called "demon-girls" really from Hell? **What type of boys do they like?** You will know all that and more by buying **The Cult Trio** new album!

♡ See you in Hell! ♡

He's definitely immature in matters of love - He'd rather horse around with his guy friend than date.

Mine's really goofy, although he doesn't realise it himself.

He looks really cold and hard to approach, so I just decided he's gotta be really sweet on the inside!



Which YYH Girl Should You Date?

Which of these colors do you like best?

- A-Blue
- B-Pink
- C-Green
- D-Brown

What possible date sounds the most fun

- A-Spending the whole day together, maybe some shopping, and a sunset walk along the beach
- B-Exploring somewhere neither of us has ever been before, or maybe even going up in a hot air balloon
- C-Ice skating and then drinking hot cocoa by the fire
- D-Something simple, beers and playing pool in the local bar

What do you value most in a partner?

- A-Loyalty
- B-Adventurous
- C-Kindness
- D-Down-to-earth

Which quality would you most like to have?

- A-Intelligence
- B-Hard-Working
- C-Staying kind in the face of terrible things
- D-Physical strength

You wake up from a nightmare. How would you like to be comforted by a loved one?

- A-They make you something hot to drink, but don't push you to talk about it
- B-They discuss the whole dream with you from start to finish, helping you look up the meaning of every detail
- C-They just sit with you, reminding you that you're safe
- D-They make you a strong drink and put on your favorite tv show

Which of these places would you most like to live?

- A-In a small town surrounded by nature with loved ones close by
- B-In huge metropolis full of places to go and people to meet, always bustling with life
- C-In the mountains, with few neighbors and lots of snow
- D-You can make a good life anywhere

Pick an ice cream flavor:

- A-Vanilla
- B-Strawberry
- C-Mint
- D-Rocky Road

Things are heating up between you and your partner. Which best describes your first time together? (feel free to skip this question if this isn't something you look for in a datemate)

- A-After dinner at a favorite restaurant, sharing an intimate night with rose petals scattered on the bed and lots of candles. A step forward in a committed relationship
- B-Lots of giggling at first, but you have a really good time once you get past the initial awkwardness.
- C-It just sort of happens one night when you're alone together. Not life-changing, but special nonetheless
- D-Barely making it to the car because you can't keep your hands off each other. Scrambling in the backseat, the possibility of getting caught is part of the fun

Mostly A's: Keiko Yukimura

People probably don't understand what you and Keiko see in each other, but as far as you're concerned it's true love so who cares? You've known each other literally forever and nobody can quite say when friendship became something more. You two are willing to face down anything together, but at the end of the day you'd just as soon be curled up on the sofa taking turns reading a favorite book out loud



B's: Botan, Pilot of the River Styx

There's rarely a dull moment with Botan. She's always ready to chat about any and everything, try new things, and demand to be heard. When Botan picks something - or someone - to care about, she commits all the way. That goes for work, friendship, and romance. You're both the kind to wear your hearts on your sleeves. You yell when you're angry, cry when you're sad, and laugh loudly when you're happy. You might also both be workaholics, but you find time to have adventures together.



Mostly C's: Yukina the Ice Maiden

You got Yukina! You both understand how hard it can be to stay kind and keep caring about people when terrible things have happened to you. Make no mistake, if any one tries to mess with you or your girl, they will quickly find out that kind does not mean pushover. Because you've been through your share of trauma, the world feels a little too big and scary at times, and so cozy, intimate dates are a favorite for you two.



Mostly D's: Shizuru Kuwabara the Hairstylist and Psychic

You are down to earth, and not afraid to get your hands dirty. People probably think you're the scary one in your friend group, and you and Shizuru together have frightened off your fair share of harassment. Nobody can beat you two at the pool table, and you've drunk more than your fair share of tough guys under the table. There's the occasional ghostly visitor to grapple with, but together there's little you two can't face.





6/2/21

Snapshots

He'd thought, at first, that it had been a flash of silver.

It wouldn't have been the first time that he'd caught sight of his reflection out of the corner of his eye and thought, for a moment, that he'd seen Youko Kurama looking back at him. After a closer inspection of his reflection in the bathroom mirror, however, Kurama realised that it wasn't a persistent strand of imaginary silver hair.

It was a grey hair. His first grey hair.

It wasn't that unusual. He was a forty five year old man, after all, and his body was human even if the soul inside it was not. Human bodies aged and ageing humans often developed grey hairs. He already had fine wrinkles around his eyes and at the corners of his mouth. A few grey hairs were nothing to be concerned about.

Frowning, Kurama plucked the offending hair out, twirling it thoughtfully between his thumb and his forefinger.

“What the hell are you doing?”

Kurama dropped the grey hair and turned to look into the bedroom through the open bathroom door. Hiei glared at him from inside his cocoon of blankets, wide awake and apparently not particularly pleased about that fact.

“Ah ...” Kurama looked a little shamefaced, running a hand through his hair, “I'm sorry for waking you, Hiei. I was lost in thought.”

“Thoughts about a grey hair?”

“I hoped you hadn't seen that,” said Kurama with a rueful smile.

Hiei raised an eyebrow, communicating his disdain very effectively without words but deciding to speak anyway. “I hoped you hadn't seen that,” said Kurama with a rueful smile.

“After all these years, I thought you'd have learned not to underestimate what I can see.”

“I said I hoped you hadn't seen it.” Kurama made his way out of the bathroom to rejoin Hiei on the bed. “I'm not surprised that you did.”

Hiei hadn't aged in any significant way over the last thirty years. He was a little more muscular, perhaps, maybe an inch or two taller, but he looked as if he was in his early twenties at the most.

The flash of white in his hair had been there since his infancy.

“I know that look, Kurama,” said Hiei, readjusting his position in order to settle his head in Kurama's lap. “I couldn't have missed it even if I'd wanted to. You're worrying about something stupid, aren't you?”

“I'm not worried,” he insisted, combing his fingers through the fire demon's tousled hair, “Merely ... introspective.”

Hiei didn't say anything and, for a while, Kurama stroked his hair in silence. It was difficult to tell which of the two of them found the act more soothing.

“You know,” said Kurama eventually, “I'm now the same age that my mother was when we first met.”

Hiei reopened eyes that had drifted closed in response to Kurama's ministrations, looking up at him with drowsy affection as much as confusion.

“Time passes, Kurama. That's what it's supposed to do.”

“I don't resent the passage of time,” he assured Hiei, his hand moving from his hair to his cheek, his thumb stroking over Hiei's bottom lip, “I was just thinking about the fact that I look more and more like I'm robbing the cradle with every passing year.”

“You're at least a thousand years older than I am,” pointed out Hiei with a snort of derisive laughter.

“Not according to my human body.”

“I don't care about your human body.”

Kurama laughed.

“You wound me, Hiei! I was under the impression that you were rather fond of my human body.”

“Shut up,” said Hiei, cheeks colouring, “You know what I mean.”

He did. Hiei meant that he didn't care about the mores of human society. Neither did Kurama. He did what he needed to do to please and protect his mother and his stepfamily, but humanity in general wasn't particularly important to him.

However, this wasn't just about humanity. Hiei was fond of his human body now. In another thirty years, when Kurama had even more wrinkles and his red hair had been entirely replaced by grey, the fire demon might find himself starting to care after all.

"You're getting introspective again." Hiei reached up and gave Kurama's hair an admonishing tug. "Stop it. I don't give a damn if you age. I don't give a damn if you have red hair or silver hair or grey hair. You're mine, Kurama, and I'm not letting you go."

Although he had no doubt that Hiei believed that, Kurama wasn't sure if he believed it. He wanted to believe it, though, so he leaned forward to kiss him instead of spoiling the moment.

He was spectacularly selfish, wasn't he? While the delegates of the United Nations were hard at work debating the minutiae of the proposed Universal Declaration of Demon Rights, he was distracted by grey hairs and something as perfectly ordinary, as perfectly natural, as the ageing process.

The declaration wouldn't have any legislative power but, if it was ratified, it would serve as a powerful symbol of humanity's willingness to accept that demons not only had but deserved a place in their world. Gazing down at Hiei's face, Kurama couldn't help but smile. He already knew his place in this world. It had taken him a long time to find it, and it was nothing like the life he'd thought he'd wanted in the days when he'd been Youko Kurama, but it would take more than the passage of time to dislodge him from it.

Running out of his bedroom at top speed, Kuwabara dodged the minefield of children's toys on the floor in the hallway, jumped over the sleeping cat, and hurtled down the stairs and into the kitchen where the rest of the family were preparing to enjoy a peaceful breakfast. He greeted each of the twins with a kiss on the cheek - "Good morning, Papa!" - and turned to Yukina, sweeping his wife away from the stove and into his arms. Running out of his bedroom at top speed, Kuwabara dodged the minefield of children's toys on the floor in the hallway, jumped over the sleeping cat, and hurtled down the stairs and into the kitchen where the rest of the family were preparing to enjoy a peaceful breakfast. He greeted each of the twins with a kiss on the cheek - "Good morning, Papa!" - and turned to Yukina, sweeping his wife away from the stove and into his arms. He was running late, but Kuwabara had started every day since their wedding nearly twenty years ago with a kiss from his wife and he wasn't going to let a little thing like an alarm clock that didn't go off when it was supposed to change that.

Ignoring the theatrical groans from the children, who were resigned to this sort of display after eight years of dealing with their father's romantic antics, Kuwabara wrapped his arms around Yukina's waist, pulling her close and kissing her soundly.

When he finally drew back, Yukina, blushing happily, looked up at him with a pleased but slightly confused expression on her radiant face.

"Being late for work is a small price to pay for a kiss from my love," he explained, lifting her hand to his lips so he could place another kiss to the back of her knuckles.

"But Kazuma, you don't have to worry about being late for work ..."

"Yukina!" he exclaimed, "You know using the Dimension Sword to skip rush hour would be an abuse of my psychic powers!"

The twins giggled and Hina, the youngest of the pair, piped up.

"Papa, you don't need to worry about being late for work because it's Saturday."

Kuwabara blinked, looking at Yukina for confirmation.

"... it is?"

"It is," she confirmed gently, giving his hand a soothing squeeze.

"And we're going to the zoo today, remember?" added Genkei, holding up his beloved stuffed fox to illustrate his point and make absolutely sure that his father hadn't forgotten.

As surprised as he was, Kuwabara recovered well. It had been a long week - a long week and a long month and a long year and a long decade that had started when the existence of demons and the Demon World had been revealed to an astonished human race - and, between his shifts at the hospital and the current political situation, it wasn't exactly a surprise that he'd got a little bit confused. Sometimes, he was so exhausted that the days started to blur together. The twins deserved a trip to the zoo, though. They deserved to get to be normal kids for a little while.

It wasn't always easy to protect Genkei and Hina from the complications that came with their half demon, half human heritage. Now that they were old enough to ask questions, every protest, every court case, every anti-demon opinion piece in the newspaper or on the television gave the pair more to think about. Although they surrounded their children with family and friends who both loved and understood them, working out how to shelter them - how to shelter them without smothering them - was a constant struggle for Kuwabara and Yukina. They did their best, though, and they could definitely do this. They could take the twins to the zoo to distract them from what was happening at the United Nations and maybe, by the time they got back, the world would have changed for the better.

(Kuwabara had always been fairly optimistic but, now that he had Genkei and Hina to protect, he had more than just the blind optimism of his love for Yukina to drive him. There was no power in any of the three worlds that could stop him from making sure the universe became a safe place for his children to grow up in.)

“Of course I do!” he said, despite all evidence to the contrary, “I was just testing you.”

He reached across the kitchen table to ruffle Genkei’s mop of blue curls with one hand and give Hina’s ginger pigtails a playful tug with the other.

“You know, since it’s a weekend, I think we’ve probably got time for another couple of kisses before breakfast.”

Beaming, Yukina wrapped her arms around his neck and, behind them, Hina sighed the long suffering sigh of a child whose parents were disgustingly in love.

(Evidentially, when it came to distracting a child from the wider world, there was nothing more effective than the power of embarrassment.)

“Auntie Shizuru says that Papa has always been like this,” Hina told her brother in a stage whisper.

“Yuck!” exclaimed Genkei.

The city of Sarayashiki had changed a great deal over the last thirty years. More buildings, more people, more demons. A lot more demons.

Hiei didn’t care that the abandoned construction sites and derelict buildings that he’d once slept in had been turned into towering office buildings and fancy apartments. He didn’t need them anymore. It was the growing populations of humans and demons that concerned him. Their presence - their conflicts - threatened the safety of the small handful of people that he actually gave a damn about.

He wasn’t sure exactly when things had changed. It might have started when he’d held his newborn niece and nephew in his arms for the first time. It might have started when he’d kissed Kurama for the first time. It might have started even earlier than that, when what he now knew to be a true friendship with the rest of Team Urameshi had been forged in the crucible of the Dark Tournament or when Yusuke had made the inexplicable decision to trust him at the Gate of Betrayal or when he and Kurama had fought side-by-side for the first time to defeat Yatsude.

Whenever it had happened, and despite what he’d always expected (and what he continued to claim if anyone pressed him on the subject), Hiei no longer loathed dividing his time between the Human World and the Demon World. He couldn’t watch over Yukina, Hina, Genkei, and the others from the Demon World, after all, but he could watch over them from the rooftops of Sarayashiki.

“Here you go. Extra scallions, extra bamboo shoots.”

“Thank you.”

The customer accepted the steaming bowl of ramen and unfolded his newspaper, disappearing behind the pages and allowing Yusuke a chance to read the headline for the first time. The United Nations were still deadlocked and, according to the subheading, violent attacks on demons had risen sharply since those stuffed shirts had announced their intention of drafting a Universal Declaration of Human Rights six months ago.

To say that the news pissed him off would have been an understatement. Demons moved to the Human World for a lot of different reasons, but the most common reason by far was to find a better life for themselves and their family. There shouldn’t be anything wrong with that. Humans moved from one country to another for the same reason all the time! Why did so many stupid bastards hate demons for trying to do the same thing?

He knew the answer. Humans were scared of things that they didn’t understand, especially when they’d been hearing horror stories about those things for centuries. Demons were everywhere, from dusty old religious books to cheesy horror movies, and now they were living in the house next door, too. Things might have improved over the last ten years, but the old stereotypes weren’t going to disappear overnight.

Yusuke didn’t have the patience for this sort of shit.

Hell, a lot of the time he didn’t even have the patience for his customers. There were only a couple of guys left at the ramen cart, the man with the newspaper and a bored looking businessman already well into his third beer. As soon as they finished up and paid their tabs, he’d be able to pack up for the evening and, to try and hurry them up, he started to pointedly clean away everything that he could.

Why did these guys have to be the slowest eaters in the whole damn country?

Thoughts of the apartment he shared with Keiko - where he’d be able to grab a few beers of his own and forget all about stupid politics for a while - were a pleasant distraction from his bad mood, but he wasn’t so distracted that he didn’t notice the man with the briefcase and the pinstriped suit peeling away from his little group as they passed the ramen stand on the way to the train station. The man walked by once, twice, and finally a third time, staring at Yusuke every step of the way.

If he wanted to pick a fight, he wasn't exactly hiding it.

"It's you, isn't it? It's really you!"

Recognition shone in the man's eyes as, on the fourth pass, he finally gathered up the courage to speak.

"That depends on who you think I am," said Yusuke with feigned nonchalance, grabbing a rag and pretending to clean the countertop of the cart. The guy looked and felt like an ordinary human, but that didn't mean that he wasn't dangerous. Yusuke had a lot of friends, but he had a hell of a lot of enemies too. He wasn't necessarily expecting a fight, but he was always ready for one.

"You're Yusuke Urameshi."

He was smiling. Was that a good sign or did it just mean that the guy was crazy? There was something kind of familiar about him, especially around the eyes, but Yusuke couldn't place him. Had they gone to the same school before Yusuke had dropped out?

"Yeah? What about it?" he growled.

"Oh, I'm sorry!" The man wrung his hands anxiously. "I've thought about seeing you again so many times, but I wasn't expecting it to happen today. I've forgotten everything I planned to say!"

His smile was wider than ever. The guy with the newspaper was watching them both curiously over the top of the printed pages.

"I'm not surprised that you don't recognise me," the man continued in an excited rush, "It has been thirty years and I was just a little boy when we met. My name is Masaru, Masaru Otani."

It still took Yusuke a few more seconds, but he got there eventually.

"Holy crap! It's you! The kid with the ball!"

"The kid whose life you saved," corrected Masaru, pink cheeked with pleasure.

Thanks to Botan, Yusuke knew that wasn't true. Even if he hadn't interfered, Masaru would have been just fine. Saving him hadn't achieved anything except Yusuke's first death. He was actually tempted to tell him that, just to wipe that adoring look off his face, but that would have resulted in a lot of uncomfortable questions.

Even after thirty years and saving the world too many times to count, Yusuke wasn't used to being treated like a hero.

Keiko had long since gone to bed, but Yusuke couldn't sleep. He'd tried to watch television for a while, but every damn channel seemed to be talking about demons and the United Nations. He couldn't concentrate on video games either. (He didn't even bother trying to read something.) In the end, he sent a quick series of text messages to Kuwabara and Kurama and, within the hour, he was sitting at a bar not far from the arcade they'd used to haunt as teenagers, nursing a beer while he waited for his friends.

Kuwabara lived nearest and arrived first, taking the empty stool on Yusuke's right and gesturing to the bartender for a drink of his own. They sipped their beers in a comfortable and companionable silence for a while before Yusuke spoke.

"Guess who I met today." Since he didn't actually want or expect Kuwabara to answer, Yusuke carried on without giving him a chance to speak. "The kid I saved from the car."

"Whoa, really?"

"Really. And he's not a kid any more. He's some bigshot lawyer now."

"Damn," said Kuwabara, pulling a face. He was a law abiding citizen these days - something that Yusuke loved to tease the guy who'd once called himself the biggest punk in Sarayashiki Junior High about - but he had too many friends who weren't to be entirely comfortable with lawyers.

"I think he might be one of the good ones," said Yusuke, laughing at his expression, "Apparently he works for some big human rights organisation in the city."

He finished his beer and set down the empty bottle, which was replaced by the bartender in a matter of seconds. He was going to give the guy a hell of a tip if he kept that up.

"Guess what his last big case was?" he continued.

"What?"

"He's been branching out. He doesn't just work on human rights stuff any more. Turns out he's been working with the United Nations on their demon rights campaign."

“No way! It’s a small world, huh?” Kuwabara rubbed the back of his neck, looking suitably thoughtful.

“Guess you saved him for a reason.”

“I didn’t save him at all, remember? Botan said he’d have been fine even if I hadn’t interfered.”

“He might have been,” said Kurama, sitting down on Yusuke’s other side and acting as if he’d been there all along, “But I can’t say the same for the rest of us. Your death was a pivotal moment, Yusuke. It changed a great many things for a great many people.”

“If you’re going to expect me to listen to this sort of sentimental drivel,” said Hiei, taking the fourth stool, “I’m going to need a bigger drink.”

“I’d hardly call a statement of fact ‘sentimental drive’, Hiei. Are you suggesting that Yusuke’s death wasn’t important?”

“Can you stop talking about me like I’m not here?” Yusuke grouched.

“I’m sorry, Yusuke: I just wanted to make it clear that your actions that day were not in vain, for many different reasons. The fact that he’s now working to support demon rights legislation is a remarkable coincidence, but it’s almost incidental compared to everything you’ve achieved yourself.”

“Keep talking like that and his head is going to get so swollen that it won’t be able to fit out of the door,” laughed Kuwabara, jabbing Yusuke with his elbow so hard that his unsuspecting friend fell backwards off the stool. Hiei laughed raucously and, if it hadn’t been for the breaking news broadcast that filled the television screen above the bar, Yusuke would probably have thrown a punch as he stumbled to his feet.

All of the member states of the United Nations had officially ratified the Universal Declaration of Demon Rights, which firmly and irrefutably stated that demons were sentient beings with the same rights as humans.

And, that same night, a teenage ogre had been hospitalised following a brutal hate crime right in the heart of Sarayashiki.

“Damn it,” growled Yusuke, the neck of his beer bottle fracturing under the pressure of his angry grip,

“One step forward, two steps back.”

“One step forward, two steps back is still one step forward,” pointed out Kurama, patting Yusuke on the shoulder.

“I’ll drink to that,” said Kuwabara, ordering a round of drinks for the group. Accepting the new beer and re-taking his seat, Yusuke couldn’t help but smile. The four of them had taken plenty of steps forward and plenty of steps backwards over the years, but they’d made it this far. As long as they were together, they could wait for the rest of the world to catch up.

TEAM URAMESHI

WHAT IN THE THREE WORLDS ARE THEY DOING NOW?



YUSUKE URAMESHI, 32

CURRENTLY:
 -HIS RAMEN CART HAD BECOME A FAMOUS SPOT IN THE CITY.
 -ON WINTER SEASON AND WEEKENDS HE WORKS AT THE YUKIMURA'S. WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE HIS COOKING CAREER AT THE DINER WHEN THE ELDERLY YUKIMURA COUPLE RETIRES.
 -HAD RECENTLY RENOVATED THE OLD HIDEOUT OF THE GANG HE DEFEATED INTO THE FIRST OFFICE OF HIS 'PARANORMAL DETECTIVE AGENCY'.
 -KEIKO FINALLY SAID 'YES'

LATEST CONCERN:
 -DESPITE APPEARING LIKE HE COULDN'T REALLY CARE LESS ABOUT WEDDING PREPARATIONS, HE ACTUALLY WANTS TO GIVE KEIKO THE PERFECT WEDDING AND THE EERIE PEACEFULNESS OF THE RECENT YEARS IS GIVING HIM A BAD VIBE. HE DOESN'T WANT ANY NEW VILLAIN APPEARING WHEN HE'S ABOUT TO GIVE HIS WEDDING VOWS!



KAZUMA KUWABARA, 32

CURRENTLY:
 -WORKS AS A REKNOWED VETERINARIAN IN THE CITY.
 -HE VOLUNTEERS ON ANIMAL RESUE MISSIONS AND GIVES FREE MEDICAL SERVICE AT SARAYASHIKI'S LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER DURING HIS DAY OFFS ALONG WITH YUKINA.
 -HAS MASTERED A TECHNIQUE THAT ALLOWS HIM TO SENSE PEOPLE WITH CLOSE BLOOD TIES IN ORDER TO PURSUE HIS PROMISE TO YUKINA ABOUT HELPING HER FIND HER BROTHER.

LATEST CONCERN:
 -FOR SOME REASON, HE HAD BEEN HESITANT TO USE HIS NEWLY MASTERED TECHNIQUE.
 -HAD ADOPTED A MEAN LOOKING CAT WHO GIVES HIM ODD VIBES. IT DOESN'T SEEM HARMFUL BUT HIS INSTICTS TOLD HIM TO KEEP THE CAT.
 -YUKINA ASKED HIM TO A DATE!!!



KURAMA/SUIICHI MINAMINO, 33(1000+)

CURRENTLY:
 -WORKS AS VICE-PRESIDENT OF HIS STEPFATHER'S COMPANY. HE IS PREPARING TO INHERIT THE COMPANY SINCE HIS YOUNGER BROTHER DECIDED TO PERSUE A DIFFERENT CAREER.
 -INVESTED ON YUSUKE'S NEWLY ESTABLISHED DETECTIVE FIRM FOR SUPERNATURAL CASES
 -MOVED OUT OF THE HOUSE AFTER HIS PARENTS DECIDED TO HAVE AN EARLY RETIREMENT TO GIVE THEM PRIVACY
 -RECENTLY FINISHED HIS OWN GREEN HOUSE WHERE HE EXPERIMENTS WITH HIS PLANTS. (BEWARE, DON'T ENTER WITHOUT HIM OR ELSE...)
LATEST CONCERN:
 -IS CURRENTLY DEALING WITH A PROBLEMATIC AND A LITTLE ECCENTRIC BUT IMPORTANT CLIENT.
 -AFTER KOKODA INTRODUCED HIS SIGNIFICANT OTHER HIS MOTHER HAD NOT BEEN VERY SUBTLE ABOUT INQUIRING ON HIS.
 -THE LATEST KUWABARA-HIEI SITUATION HAD HIM WALKING ON TIGHT ROPE
 -HE WAS WOKEN UP MULTIPLE TIMES BY YUSUKE'S CALL ASKING FOR HIS ADVICE ABOUT THE SMALLEST THINGS. HE'S HAPPY TO HELP BUT THE LACK OF SLEEP IS TAKING A TOLL ON HIM



HIEI, 35

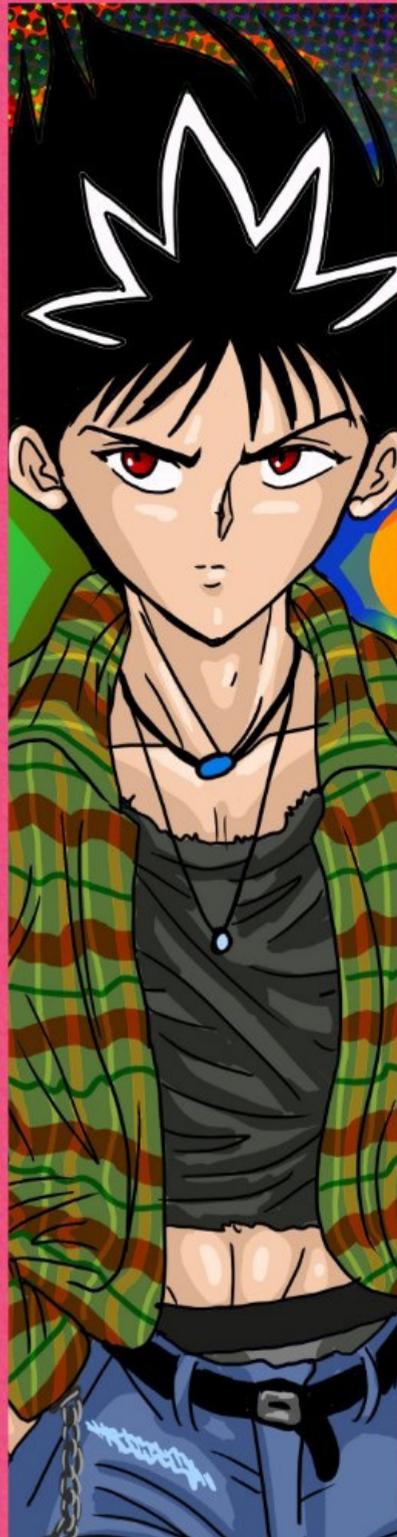
CURRENTLY:
 -MUCH TO HIS CHAGRIN, HE HAD NOT WON A SINGLE DEMON WORLD TOURNAMENT. HE MANAGED TO MAKE IT TO THE SEMIFINALS WITH THE FOX LAST TIME ONLY FOR THE ROUND TO END IN THE DOUBLE LOSS. IT WAS A FUN FIGHT.
 -TOOK LESS BORDER PATROL DUTY TO SPEND MORE TIME IN THE HUMAN WORLD AFTER THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIS SISTER AND THE CURSED OAF'S RELATIONSHIP.
LATEST CONCERN:
 -HAD CAUGHT WIND OF KUWABARA'S NEW TECHNIQUE AND HAD BEEN AVOIDING HIM MORE THAN USUAL. THIS MADE SPYING ON THEM A LITTLE MORE DIFFICULT.
 -HAD FOUND HIMSELF IN THE COMPANY OF A FERRY GIRL WHILE TRYING TO OBSERVE YUKINA AND AVOID KUWABARA. THE COMPANY WASN'T AS UNPLEASANT AS HE ASSUMED, AND AS THE FERRY GIRL INSISTED WAS AN EASIER WAY TO SPY ON THE COUPLE WITHOUT BORDERLINE BREAKING THE DEMON WORLD'S LAW AGAINST MISCHIEF IN THE HUMAN WORLD.
 -HIS SISTER ASKED KUWABARA TO A DATE!



BY ORIONKNIGHT07

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YYH Revival Doujinshi Project

I started the group way back in 2017. My introduction to doujinshi was through YYH, and as a teenager I consumed all the scanlated doujinshi I could find. As an adult, I realized I could contribute to the library of doujins we already had in the fandom by buying them myself. Lots of friends helped over the years, people who had doujinshi and scanned them for me or gifted them to me, people who helped edit and clean the pages, people who helped by providing translations – I thank each and every one of them for all their help!

We're still going strong now and have a website where we post the doujinshi. We're always looking for more help, too, so if you think you'd like to help out, please contact Lola at yyh.revival@gmail.com!

Our website is: <https://yyh-revival.blogspot.com/>



YYH Best Street Wear

What good is winning the Dark Tournament if it can't be done in style? While known for its battles, Yu Yu Hakusho has its share of fashion moments. Some outfits reveal a hero's personality, while others hint towards their powers or past. Fashion is an aesthetic we can all enjoy in anime, and the 90's streetwear of Yu Yu Hakusho is still a fashion flex that works today. Here are some hand-picked selections from the series that have defined the series as much as the characters who wore them.

Kurama

While heralded as one of the series' top bishies, Kurama drew the short end of the stick in finding outfits that match his shocking red hair. Up until Chapter Black, he'd be seen in his school uniform or an Eastern-inspired fighting outfit. But it was one orange jacket that truly turned heads. Paired with a white t-shirt over dark jeans, the color combination of red, orange, and blue should not have worked at all. Yet, it was the forgoing of his usual softer lines for a harder look that helped him manage to pull it off. Proving that clashing casual can be the center of attention and also sexy.



Botan

Botan's outfits are so enviable because you can pull them out of your closet half the time. Sweaters, cute pj's, pink kimonos, Botan has an outfit for every occasion under the sun. But it's her red jacket that is the jewel of her closet. Her sky-blue hair pops against a dark red silhouette that shows her curves in a flattering manner. The added white boots bring just a touch of flair. And armed with her steel bat, her look is more than enough to prove she's capable of more than just mentoring the spirit detective.



Yusuke

Perhaps the most beloved of all outfits from Yu Yu Hakusho is Yusuke's iconic streetwear. Not necessarily a "smart casual" outfit, Yusuke's green jacket has seen a lot of use throughout the series. It's a look that works for him in almost any situation he's in, whether he's kicking demon ass or taking Keiko to the movies. Paired with a yellow sweater and flannel shirt, his clothes look good enough to steal as sleepwear. While he refuses to sacrifice comfort for fashion, he's still able to dress to impress even if it wasn't his intention.



Juri

Juri's clothing isn't so much a look as it is a statement. And that is notice me, damnit! And see her we do, with her skintight bodysuit, which is both flashy and sexy. It shows off just the right amount of skin while not being too revealing for the Dark Tournament audience. She is still looking for the right guy, after all! The touch of pink ribbons throughout belies Juri's softer and more gentle nature, giving off a duality of nature for her character while she oversees the bloodshed during the second half of the tournament. And the bow is just plain adorbs.



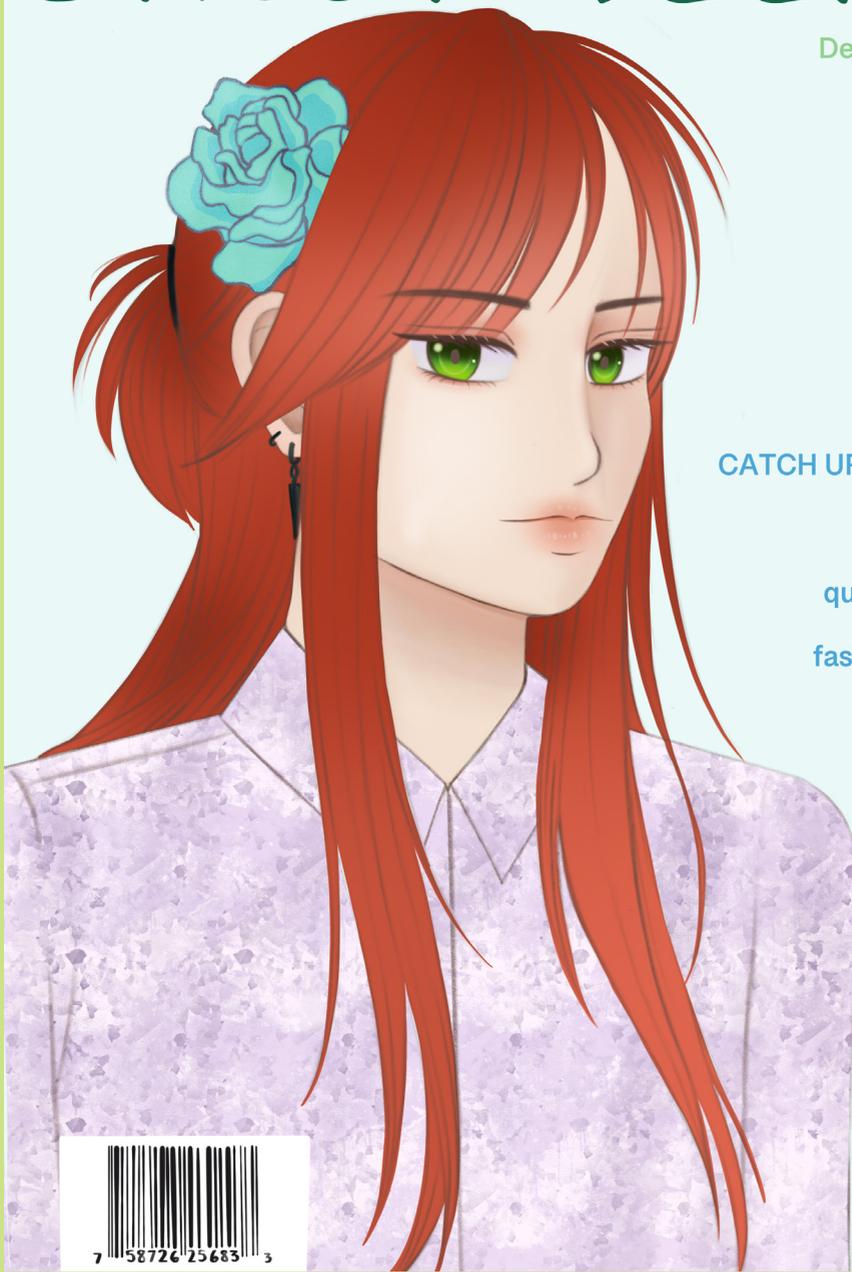
Kuwabara

At first glance, many would not think of Kuwabara as a style icon with his pompadour hairdo and simple features. But paired with the popped-up collar of his white coat seen during the Dark Tournament, he is a striking figure. Modeled after stereotypical Japanese bikers, Kuwabara presents as a man of honor, proving he is more than just a street brawler. His jacket is decorated with his family name on the back, showing he takes pride in it as well as his convictions. It's a look that works well for him and makes him a dark horse of fighter fashion.



GHOST WEEKLY

December 2021



CATCH UP WITH THE GANG

quiz: are you a
fashion disaster?

Plus: much
more!



**FOREVER
FORNEVER**

Thank you!

A big thank you from the team!

This was our first zine and we had lots of fun working on it, and seeing all the wonderful content you guys created. I hope those reading this zine will enjoy them just as much. Yu Yu Hakusho is more than just a show for us – it's a community, it's a passion, it's a hobby. We are so happy we could help contribute to the fandom. Thank you so much for reading and supporting our talented contributors!



*Madame
Leota*

Tara-hime