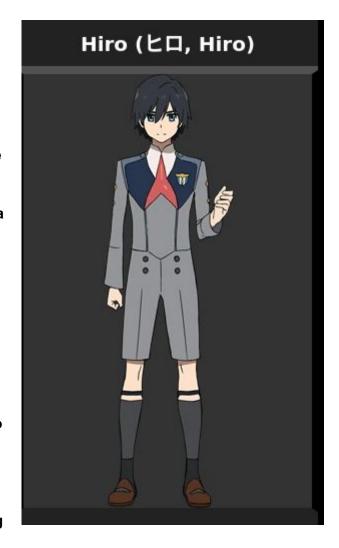
## Hiro

**Hiro** ( ∟ □, *Hiro*) is the main protagonist of DARLING in the FRANXX. He was a Parasite with the codename "016" and was once known as a prodigy among the Children. However, he failed to synchronize with his partner **Naomi** and was considered nothing but a failure as a pilot. As a result, he did not know where he belonged and struggled to find his place in the world. However, upon being partnered and piloting with **Zero Two**, he became an official Parasite and found a new reason to live. Hiro and Zero Two were the newest members of the 13th **Plantation**, piloting a **FRANXX** called Strelizia.

Over the time spent together he began to reproduce feelings of romance with Zero Two, and when their relationship as partners began to take a turn and slowly crumble, he reawakened his previous feelings during childhood with her, along with his current feelings of love. The two



eventually began a relationship together before their demise. Although motivated to fulfil his duty as a parasite, he later makes it his purpose in life to free all the parasites from APE's control and he selflessly sacrifices his own life to protect his friends and the planet.

A thousand years later, Hiro and Zero Two's souls reincarnate as a pair of children that meet each other again and rekindle their romance.

## **Appearance**

Hiro had an average build, height, and a standard "slim" male physique. He had black, shaggy hair and rich blue eyes. His checkered past had left him with an emphatic expression on his face. He was often seen in the standard Stamen Parasite uniform.

Starting from <u>Episode 05</u>, he had a blue tumor-like mutation in his chest, caused by piloting with Zero Two, which increased his yellow blood cell count, the polar opposite of what happened when Zero Two rode with other parasites. This mutation later grew larger due to piloting with Zero Two again, however Hiro was able to

overcome the mutation using his willpower, and completely got rid of it, although a scar was left on his chest.

Starting from Episode 14, Hiro developed canines and he also began sprouting small blue horns due to his "saurification". His horns eventually lengthen significantly and glow blue, the same way Zero Two's do when emotionally agitated. His eyes become luminescent, changing from a dark blue-green to bright blue. His irises also gained more blue hues and rings, and he also developed a blue eyeliner similar to Zero Two's. His fangs grew out when he was enraged. Right before his demise, Hiro was shown to have blue skin, akin to that of the klaxo-sapiens.