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"I think you've been getting a little too lonely lately," Marie scolded. "To think you'd go to such lengths to satisfy your own lust...and *alone* on a *Saturday* in the *classroom*. Have you gone insane?"

"Uhh...*no*, I went insane over a decade ago," Chinatsu answered calmly. "And besides, it's not like it's illegal for me to—"

"Yes it fucking is!" Marie cried. "Ever hard of sexual misconduct?"

"Oh my, how scary of you," Chinatsu laughed sarcastically. "So are you gonna sell me out? And say, what're you doing back here so soon?"

"Stop changing the subject!" her puppet cried. "We're talking about trying to *seduce* your own student! You could get fired for this! Or arrested—hell, it'll probably be *both*!"

"Well, it's only *misconduct* if he doesn't like it," Chinatsu answered. "Right?" she giggled, turning to Raizo.

"I...don't think that's how the law works," Raizo answered nervously.

"The *law*? Oh, forget that, I was just wondering if you wanted me to do it or not. If you do then there's technically nothing legally stopping me. There's a little loophole in the changes of a puppet's rights from when they were human that allows me to have intercourse with him if it's consensual," Chinatsu said. "And as for the 'in the classroom' part...oh, who gives a fuck?"

"You're too old to try this sorta thing," Marie sighed. "Or, rather, you *look* too *young*."

"I said the same damn thing," Raizo shrugged.

"B-b-b-but why do all of *those* girls get to be all lovey-dovey with you?" Chinatsu complained. "And besides, Marie hasn't been with a man in over a dozen years! What does she know?"

"Sh-shut up!" Marie cried. "My relationship status has nothing to do with this!"

"Maybe getting laid again will help you chill out," Chinatsu suggested. "Just a thought. I mean, I've heard people complaining about how stuck-up you seem sometimes. And besides," she said, "look at that Mariko Nakano girl. She used to be so serious, even in class. Sure, her language was a little coarse, but she's never been this laid back! Or, well, not before their relationship began!"

"Excuse me, but how do you know about that?" Raizo interrupted.

"Mistress has been thoroughly looking into your background," Marie answered. "It's for administrative purposes, I assure you. The point is, she was able to determine that you're a killer, and a damn good one at that. But that aside—and I know this'll sound totally unrelated but believe me, this was part of our investigation—are you really intending on having a personal harem?"

"Do I have to answer that?" Raizo sighed.

"Yes, you do," Chinatsu replied. "Though it's technically legal, the school staff need to know what's going on with you. It's for administrative purposes. I promise."

Raizo shrugged. "Well, fuck," he mumbled. "Yeah, I'm with *three* girls at the moment."

"Oh? 'At the moment,' hmm?" Marie mumbled. "I suppose that's good news for *some* people. But three? I could've sworn I counted nine..."

"Where'd you get *that* number from?" Raizo inquired.

"Don't worry about it," Marie replied calmly.

"Listen, alright?" Chinatsu said. "There have been a lot of recent complications—"

"Just tell him the truth," Marie interrupted.

"I...I can't do that," Chinatsu replied.

"Fine then, I'll tell him," Marie shrugged. "Your little lolita of a teacher is in love with you," she told Raizo, "and your class' nurse is extraordinarily lonely."

Raizo sighed. "You're kidding, right?"

"What, so we *are* too old for your taste?" Chinatsu pouted.

"I already told you that *age* isn't the problem. You're both adults," Raizo said.

"Come on," Marie poked his arm. "Just do it. You've got nothing to lose."

"Weren't you *just* saying it's wrong?" Raizo laughed.

"I was saying that it's wrong for you to be doing it *here* on a *weekend*. And more importantly, it's Chinatsu's mistake for trying to take you for herself," Marie answered, winking at him.

"What is this corruption?" Raizo complained.

"Hey, you can say no," Marie reminded him.

"How much you wanna bet that it won't change anything?" Raizo chuckled.

"Alright, let me ask you something," Chinatsu sighed. "That other day...why'd you save me? If you didn't care—if you didn't want me to have feelings for you—why'd you do it? Was it just instinct? Respect? What was it?"

Raizo paused. *Wait, she's right*, he thought. *I don't...know why I saved her. I don't know why I was so compelled to protect her.* He bit his lip. "I'm not sure," he answered truthfully.

"Maybe I'm just not ladylike, or maybe I'm just dumb," Chinatsu continued, "but it's hard to change the fact that no man has ever been there to be my 'knight in shining armor,' alright? And I...maybe I'm overreacting too, but this is honestly the first time I've felt my heart flutter like this...we're similar, you and I. And what's more, you're the kind of man who'd look out for everyone he loves. I know that. I can see that. I...I guess I just wanna be a little spoiled for one, y'know?"

"And you want me to make you my little princess?" Raizo asked.

"Y-yeah," Chinatsu answered, blushing.

"Then let me ask you this," Raizo sighed. "What do I gain? And what do I lose?"

"I can't say you'll gain or lose anything in particular," Chinatsu said. "You'll gain my love. You'll gain...well, you'll gain *me*. And, I mean, you'll kinda get Marie as an added bonus, I guess."

"HEY! Why am I just some *add-on prize*?" Marie complained.

"As for what you lose," Chinatsu continued, ignoring her puppet's complaints, "I suppose you'll lose a bit of free time? Is it that big a price to pay?"

Raizo chuckled. "No, I don't believe so," he answered. "That was just a little test."

"Oh?" Marie laughed. "So you did a little psychological assessment of Chinatsu? If she promised you'd gain a *lot* and lose nothing, then it's obviously a farce. If she promised you'd gain nothing and lose a lot, it becomes too risky of an investment. However, if she promises a small gain and a small price, both of which being realistic..."

"Then her feelings would likely be genuine, because *no one girl* could offer a man everything," Raizo nodded. "I'd say, in fact, that no woman could give a man more than her love and her physical being. Her heart and soul, so to speak. And for me, that's enough," he added. "Anything to give me more reasons to come home alive when all's said and done."

"Well said," Marie smiled in approval.

"So...what's the verdict?" Chinatsu asked, blushing even harder than before.

Raizo placed a hand on her chin, drawing her in for a kiss. Moments later, he pulled away slowly. "Does that answer your question?" he chuckled.

Chinatsu nodded.

"Quite bold of you," Marie said, "but I'm still here, y'know?"

"Right," Raizo nodded, standing up from where he sat and walking over to her. Planting a kiss on the puppet's lips, he reached a hand out, which Chinatsu grabbed onto happily.

"I wonder where he went," Satomi mumbled as she strolled along the paved path. Looking out to the distance, she spotted the clock tower informing her that it was nearing noon. "Damn, and I was gonna make him some lunch too," she mumbled. "I miss my Raizo already..."

Scouring the area, she spotted her teacher dragging the object of her affections along towards the staff dormitory. "Hold on, what's going down here?" she asked herself. *I should follow them*, she thought. *Just in case. Yeah, it's just as insurance. I'm not being creepy at all*, she assured herself.

Making sure nobody was watching her, she slowly began to in the direction of the staff dorm, keeping her eye on the clock tower's moving arm in the distance.

"Wow, this place is...*fancy*," Raizo mumbled as he entered the room.

"The staff dorms seem extravagant," Marie said, "but we just get a lot o space and nothing to do with it. True story."

"Now, let's eat first," Chinatsu suggested. "Marie, go make us something."

"Just saying," Marie sighed as she turned to head to the kitchen, "a good housewife needs to know how to cook."

"A *wife* isn't necessarily a *housewife*," Chinatsu answered confidently.

“Hmm...sure, keep telling yourself that,” Marie shrugged as she walked off.