

The vignette of the imperishable night.

Revised and expanded story from Touhou 8: Imperishable Night.

This is not the same exact story as presented in Eiyashou. This is my interpretation and understanding of it along with some expansions.

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~Prologue~

Gensokyo is a magical land of mystery and wonder, hidden away from the rest of the world. This otherworldly realm is a place where humans and non-humans, known as supernatural creatures, live together in relative harmony. The landscape is a mix of stunning natural beauty, including rolling hills, sprawling forests, and majestic waterfalls, all punctuated by the occasional shrine or temple. Throughout Gensokyo, the magic of nature is alive and well. Flowers glow with otherworldly energy, and the trees pulse with life. Small animals roam the forests, some of which are capable of speech and intelligence far beyond that of their real-world counterparts. In Gensokyo, the supernatural is woven into the very fabric of the world. But Gensokyo is not without its dangers. The entities that inhabit the land can be unpredictable and sometimes even dangerous, with abilities and powers that can rival those of the most powerful magicians. On occasion, these creatures may venture out of the safety of the forest and into human settlements, causing havoc and chaos wherever they go. Despite these potential dangers, Gensokyo is a place of wonder and enchantment. It is a land where the impossible is possible, and the supernatural is an everyday occurrence. Its beauty and magic have inspired countless stories and legends, and it remains a fascinating and mysterious place that draws in curious adventurers from all over the world.

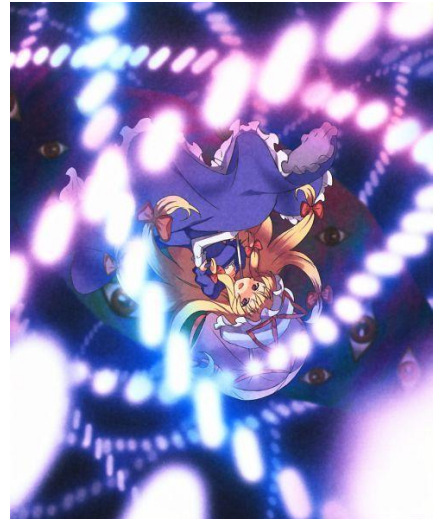
Although a new danger has sprouted in these lands; one far beyond anything that ever preceded it.

Summer is drawing to a close. Soon, chirping crickets will take over for buzzing cicadas. Gensokyo's hot nights are cooling down, making it a comfortable time for humans and non-humans alike. There is an old mansion located at the edge of Gensokyo. Its appearance radiates the feeling of its history and a kind of atmosphere that rejects visitors. Items that look as though they might be from the outer world have somehow found their way into this house. Strange machines, books that make no sense, magazines. One such object, an iron box that was once a television, now serves the role of spiritual storage.

"Spirits can live well in something that used to display human shapes," she'd say to her shikigami.

This is the home of Yukari Yakumo, the youkai of boundaries: she has complete control over the edges between concepts, an example is the barrier between reality and fiction or between motion and stillness, by manipulating these boundaries she disrupts the balance of the concepts the boundary is attributed to which would lead to various consequences. Ever since becoming aware of a slight abnormality in Gensokyo, she hasn't been able to sleep well, even during the day. The enemy was yet to be seen, but she was certain that it must have taken someone powerful to pull *that* off. She doesn't get out often, however, and it will be very bothersome for her to take an action alone.

Yukari: "Hey, I can rope *her* in and let *her* handle this problem."



So she set out for the shrine, another building located at the edge of Gensokyo. There's a human that she knows there. It's a carefree person who always happens to be bored, so she'll gladly undertake the task of resolving whatever trouble there is. Upon reaching the shrine, its maiden was just attending her maiden-like duties. On noticing the presence of Yukari, the maiden was of course surprised. Yukari just brought herself to the Hakurei Shrine, a shrine dedicated to the worship of the Hakurei god, in all its fury; the shrine maiden was Reimu Hakurei: A human. This kind of building was the only one in Gensokyo so Reimu was the only one with her kind of job, that meant she had the task of keeping the balance of human and non-human so none of the parties manage to conquer this mysterious land.

Reimu: "Yukari?! What are you doing here so late at night?"

Yukari: "I'm here as tonight because evidently you're unaware of recent major events, isn't this a nice surprise?"

Reimu: "Nice surprise? I'm trying to clean here!"

Yukari: "Why haven't you cleaned earlier?"

Reimu: "I didn't want to."

Yukari: "You need to quit blabbering on. Take a look at the moon."

Reimu: (blabbering on?) "What? Is it destroyed again, or something?"

Reimu takes a look at the moon with a face clearly displaying confusion and annoyance.

Reimu: "It's purple?! What's happening?"

Yukari: "I'm not sure. I've modified the boundary between day and night so that the night won't be able to end. I'll keep that up until we'll find the culprit."

Reimu: "Where would we even go to find them? Do you have a lead?"

Yukari: "I think I do. Follow me!"

Yukari opened one of her gaps and, just like a wormhole, they arrived at this mysterious, deserted place.

It was peaceful. Or, it looked peaceful. However, all youkai were upset. What's really happening is that, without anyone taking notice, suddenly... The full moon has disappeared from Gensokyo's night. Even on the night of a supposed full moon, a bit of missing light prevents it from being full. It's no wonder that humans aren't aware of the situation, though; it's only the tiniest bit of difference. For non-humans, however, a moon that isn't full doesn't function at all. It's an especially critical problem for those who dislike sunlight. A human and youkai, a team of two, ventured out into Gensokyo's midnight hours to retrieve the missing fragment of the moon and restore the full moon.

As Reimu and Yukari began their investigation, two more girls had already been studying the event.

~Chapter 1: Where the fireflies fly. ~

Illusionary night seen from ghostly eyes

Are the fireflies brighter than usual, or is it just your imagination?

Tonight will be a long night.

Reimu: "What is this place?"

Yukari: "I don't know. But it feels suspicious. Trust me on this."

Reimu: "Trust you? You helped your friend cause an endless winter a while ago!"

Yukari: "That was the past. This is now."

Reimu: "There's *nothing* here."

Yukari: "You're so insistent today."

Reimu: "Look, there's nothing out here!"

Yukari: "The night's still only just begun. No need to hurry."

Reimu: "You've got no room to say "no need to hurry" when you're the one who dragged me out here in a hurry. You owe me big for this, so don't you forget it."

A creature resembling a human child with insect antennas and firefly wings comes seemingly out of nowhere. But The two girls are unaffected by this approach.

Bug-looking child: "You've been saying "nothing here" for a while now... I'm here, aren't I!?"

Yukari: "Don't worry about it... I'll pay you back. It's not like I'm you."

Bug-looking child: "Hey, hey, hey. You've got some guts, ignoring me. I hope you've got the determination to match that!"

Reimu: "That reminds me, I forgot something important for an evening stroll. Back at the shrine."

The creature glances at Reimu, wondering what she is talking about.

Yukari: "I know what you're trying to say. A mosquito coil, right?"

Bug-looking child: "I'm no mosquito! I'm a firefly! I'm Wriggle Nightbug!"

Yukari: "A bug of light wriggling in the dark. Amusing."



Wriggle seems to charge at Yukari, like an offended child. Yukari simply moves to the side and Wriggle headbutts a tree. That would have been harmful to a human, but Wriggle was a youkai. She's fine.

Reimu and Yukari continue on their nightly stroll, entering a forest.

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???A: "A ghost and a half-ghost. Does that make three fourths of a big ghost?"

???B: "You're not making any sense at all."

~Chapter 2: The path where humans vanish. ~

Song of the night sparrow

Beasts and youkai are what stroll at midnight, even on the humans' roads.

There shouldn't be a human form in sight, at the least.

The Forest of Magic at night is a dark and eerie place, with an ominous atmosphere that seems to seep into everything. The eternal night that has befallen Gensokyo has cast a thick blanket of darkness over the forest, obscuring the moon and stars. As Reimu and Yukari enter the forest, they are greeted by a dense and foreboding canopy of trees. The leaves rustle ominously in the wind, and the air is filled with an unsettling stillness. The forest floor is shrouded in shadows, making it difficult to see the way forward. As they venture deeper into the forest, the darkness becomes more pronounced. The trees take on a twisted and gnarled appearance, with thorny vines and brambles snaking their way around the trunks. The air becomes thick with the scent of damp earth and decaying leaves. The Forest of Magic at night is also a place of danger. Powerful and malevolent spirits and creatures roam the shadows, eager to prey upon unsuspecting travelers. Reimu and Yukari must be on their guard at all times to avoid being attacked. Despite its dangers, the Forest of Magic at night also has a haunting beauty. Strange and otherworldly phenomena such as glowing mushrooms, ghostly lights, and flickering apparitions can be seen among the trees. The forest itself seems alive, pulsing with an eerie energy that can be felt all around. As they walked, they approached a clearing in the trees. As they emerged into the clearing, they saw two figures standing



before them - a ghostly woman in a long, flowing robe, and a stern-looking swordswoman with a half-ghostly appearance. It was Yuyuko Saigyouji and Youmu Konpaku, a ghost of an expired human and a half-human with their phantom counterpart, who had long been associated with the ghostly realm of Hakugyokurou. Hakugyokurou is separate from the realm of humans. It is the home to the aforementioned figures. The realm is said to be connected to the Netherworld, a land of the dead where spirits go after passing away. As such, it is not uncommon for ghosts to wander in and out of Hakugyokurou. Visitors who are not accustomed to the ghostly nature of the realm may find it eerie or unsettling. However, those who are familiar with it understand that it is a peaceful and tranquil place, where spirits can rest and find solace. Yuyuko is said to be the



princess of departed spirits as she decides if spirits are worthy enough to reach heaven, while Youmu is her guardian but also her gardener. Reimu and Yukari have quickly recognized the two, Yukari was happy to see Yuyuko since they were friends but Reimu wasn't up for it. The shrine maiden's reaction was caused by an incident that happened 6 months prior to the imperishable night. In Hakugyokurou, there is a mystical colossal cherry blossom tree named "Saigyou Ayakashi" however, this tree never bloomed during spring because it served as a seal to something mysterious under the its surface; Yuyuko was always curious of knowing what lied underneath it and to break the seal she decided to gather the most "spring" possible. Although, gathering spring lead to an undesired extension of the winter season. Reimu fixed this incident, but she was still mad.

Yukari: "Hey look, it's Yuyuko!"

Reimu: "Great. One issue after the other."

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Reimu: "Doesn't Marisa live here? Can't we look for her and talk to her instead?"

Yukari: "You're so dramatic. I don't see the issue with speaking to Yuyuko and her servant."

Reimu: "There's a huge incident going on and you want to stop just to talk to someone just as dangerous as the culprit?"

Yukari: "She's not dangerous! She was just curious, and I knew what she was doing!"

Reimu: "Who knows what could be sealed under that tree!"

Yukari: "Well, that was still the past. She stopped whatever she was doing. I don't see why we shouldn't talk to her and she could even help us!"

Reimu: "You know what, fine! Looks like you know what you're doing anyways."

Yukari approached Yuyuko and Youmu and greeted them. Reimu disconnected herself from the group.

Yukari: "Yuyu! What brings you out here?"

Yuyuko: "Hellooo. The Moon. It looks unusual."

Yukari: "So I'm not the only one that noticed. What *actually* brought you here though? Do you have any clues?"

Yuyuko: "None, in reality. Me and Youmu are kinda just wandering aimlessly. We met Marisa earlier, which was doing the same thing."

Yukari: "Same for us."

As Reimu kept listening to the conversation, she also took notice of a melody playing and continuously getting louder: it was haunting and hypnotizing. She started following it, trying to find the source.

Yuyuko: "Do you hear that melody? It's faint but upsetting."

Yukari: "What melody?"

Youmu: "Mistress, I hear it, but I suggest not to follow it."

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Youmu: "Like her..."

Yuyuko and Yukari quickly turned to notice the mesmerized Reimu.

Yukari: "Alright, I don't think this melody I can't hear is a good thing."

Yuyuko: "Agreed."

Yukari: "Let's follow her, she's probably heading towards the source."

The three of them started following Reimu, without letting her notice.

???: "W-waaaait~!"

Another entity showed up, in a brown and white look accompanied with wings and a funny hat.

Reimu: "What?"

???: "I thought you were some foolishly-tasty humans, at long last."

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???: "Who exactly would you four be~?"

Yukari: "Um, non-humans."

???: "Non-humans? My, that's rare. Seeing non-humans go along this road."

Yukari: "Hmm. You seem to be a night sparrow. You shouldn't attack just humans so often~. There won't be any more left around here."

Reimu: "Especially considering the human village that's nearby. How about you attack youkai instead of humans?"

Yuyuko: "The yapping is getting louder."

???: "Yapping? How rude of you. At the very least, my singing is better than the sound of approaching phantoms, isn't it?"

Yuyuko: "Yes, indeed. It's no contest at all."

Youmu: "Please don't *agree* with her."

Yukari: "Listen. I'll say this once. We are non-humans, in a hurry, with an important reason. We don't have time to waste here. Will you let us pass?"

???: "Aw, even though you're playmates after so long... I know. How about we go to the village and mess with the humans together?"

Yuyuko: "Ok. I think we should hurry along. Right Youmu?"

Youmu: "Huh? Er, yes. I suppose we should, yes. But we've got to shoot down this bird in front of us, first off."

???: "You shall not pass! I'll make you night-blind!"

Deaf to all but the song

Reimu and Yuyuko charged in, attacking from opposite sides, while Youmu drew her swords and joined the fray. The youkai countered by launching a barrage of musical notes, hitting the four with surprising force. They struggled to keep up with her movements, but eventually, they managed to overpower her. As the battle raged on, they realized that the entity was a formidable opponent. She was quick and agile, and her musical notes packed a punch. Reimu, Yuyuko, Youmu, and Yukari had to work together to avoid her attacks and find an opening for a counterattack. Finally, after a grueling battle, they all managed to corner the non-human. She had exhausted most of her energy and was struggling to keep up. Reimu, Yuyuko, Youmu, and Yukari launched a joint attack, knocking it to the ground. She laid there, defeated, while the others caught their breath.

Yukari: "Goodness, it was only a night sparrow. It's hopelessly too early for her to be acting like a king of bird lice."

Reimu: "...Was that really a sparrow just now? It was dark, and I couldn't see well."

Yukari: "If you see a small bird at night, it's usually a night sparrow. If you don't treat them with caution, you'll become unable to see in dark places."

Reimu: (...Is that really what sparrows are like? Although I couldn't see it well.) "Ah, I can see the Human Village. I didn't really want to come here with you, though..."

Youmu: "That night sparrow's appearance is going to attract lots of youkai and other things, before long. Let's move on before that happens. We have to hurry."

Yuyuko: "How about we part ways. Me and Youmu go one way and you two go another."

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Yuyuko: "That way we'll cover more ground!"

Reimu: "That's a very great idea! Me and Yukari will go towards the human village."

Yuyuko: "Me and Youmu'll go backwards and check for other paths we could take. Youmu?"

Youmu "Oh- yes."

The two pairs part ways.

Yukari: "...Did you really agree just so we didn't have to stick with those two?"

Reimu: "No, her idea was good. The fact we didn't have to deal with them anymore is just a plus that came with it."

After the battle with the sparrow, Reimu and Yukari continued their journey through the Forest of Magic towards the Human Village.

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???:A: "She better rebuild that village by tonight. I don't care how unfair that time constraint is."

???:B: "You're utterly unreasonable."

~Chapter 3: Memories of the History-Eater's Home. ~

Nostalgic blood of the old world's east

At the end of a straight road, there was a small village where humans lived.

However, in the place where the village should have been, there was nothing at all.

The Human Village is a bustling settlement located in Gensokyo, a world separate from the human world. It is a place where humans reside alongside youkai, magical beings with various abilities. The village is a hub of activity, with shops and houses lining the streets, and villagers going about their daily lives. The Human Village is home to a diverse group of people, with a mix of farmers, craftsmen, and merchants. Despite the presence of youkai, the villagers go about their business with a sense of normalcy, knowing that they are protected by the Shrine Maiden, Reimu Hakurei. Reimu and her friend, the powerful youkai Yukari Yakumo, were both shocked when they arrived at the Human Village only to find it missing. The streets were empty, and the houses and shops were nowhere to be found. The pair quickly realized that something was amiss and began to investigate.

Reimu: "The... the *whole* village is *gone*?!"

Yukari: "Well here's our first clue: this whole mess."

Reimu: "This is *big*! What are we gonna do? Is this even related to the false Moon? Oh my... I'm a horrible shrine maiden!"

Reimu was quickly spiraling through her thoughts. She always worked hard as a shrine maiden and the humans of Gensokyo disappearing out of nowhere was nothing usual. She thought she was the first of all the Hakurei to fail at her job.

Yukari: "Reimu, don't panic. Everything is going to go back to normal when we'll find out what's wrong with the village and with the moon. what's most important right now is that we keep calm!"

Reimu: "You have no right to speak considering how you brought me into all of this. But you're right."
Reimu takes a deep breath and reminds herself of what Yukari has said.

As soon as their investigation of the village began, they ran into two figures, two very familiar figures. A vampire replete with iniquity, and her skillful custodian of protection, guardian of both person and home, her maid. It was non-other than the infamous Remilia Scarlet and the admirable Sakuya Izayoi. Remilia Scarlet is a short and elegant vampire with medium length, flowing baby blue hair and crimson eyes. She wears a white dress adorned with scarlet accents and carries herself with a graceful and confident demeanor. She looked prepubescent at best but she was sagacious and



hundreds of years old as if the universe played a joke on her. Sakuya Izayoi is a dedicated and capable maid who serves as Remilia Scarlet's chief assistant and bodyguard at the Scarlet Devil Mansion. She is known for her professionalism, precision, and unwavering loyalty to her mistress, which have earned her both respect and admiration among her peers and fans alike. At first glance, Sakuya may appear to be a stoic and reserved individual who follows her duties with rigid adherence. However, those who know her better soon realize that she is also a warm and caring person who values her friendships and connections with others. Despite her intense focus on her duties as a maid and bodyguard, Sakuya is also known for her love of cooking and gardening, which she indulges in during her free time. Sakuya's abilities as a maid are unparalleled, and she is capable of performing a wide



range of tasks with precision and speed. Her most notable skill, however, is her mastery of time manipulation, which she uses to great effect in combat and to assist Remilia in her various endeavors. Sakuya is also a skilled fighter in her own right, capable of using knives and other weapons with deadly accuracy.

Reimu, containing her paranoia: "Is everyone hanging out with their servants today?"

Remilia: "Well, greetings to you too, miss. Hakurei. Is she your servant?"

Reimu: "Don't you even--"

Yukari: "Nope, *she* is my servant for today!"

Remilia: "Now that's more like it."

Reimu sighs.

Reimu: "Do you happen to know what's going on with the Moon?"

Remilia: "No, I have no idea."

Reimu: "What about the village?"

Remilia: "I'm empty handed."

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Remilia: "We're as clueless as you, we might aswell team up."

Reimu: "I'm not teaming up with a vampire."

The Barrier team discussed with the scarlets about what they've seen, but nothing meaningful comes up. And out of the blue, an entity comes from the darkness of the night, as alarmed as ever.

Plain Asia

Entity: "Is it you? Are you the ones trying to attack the village in the middle of this night?"

Reimu: "This horrible scene is your doing, isn't it? Where did you send the humans and their village?!"

Entity: "I won't hand the humans over to you youkai. I'll make this night never have happened!"

Sakuya: "Milady. Let's pass by this place, and quickly."

Remilia: "Well, I guess I'm not that hungry right now..."

Entity: "Good grief. Without the humans from the village, the only ones left here are youkai and the weird humans!"

The newcomer ran away in a flash, only to come back seconds later. She has long, wavy white hair that extends down to her waist. She typically has two strands of hair framing her face. Her eyes are a deep shade of blue. In terms of clothing, she wears a traditional Japanese outfit consisting of a white short-sleeved blouse with a red ribbon tied around her collar, and a dark blue pleated skirt. She often wears a pair of white stockings and brown shoes with a red ribbon to complete her outfit. She also wears a hat that resembles a building.

Reimu: "Hey, put the village back!"

Entity: "Mmph. What the heck are you?"

Reimu: "That doesn't matter to you. The Human Village was supposed to be here, right? But there's nothing here now. What happened to the humans and their houses and everything!?"

Entity: "Nothing."

Remilia: "Bah. There's no end to this now, is there?"

Yukari: "Aren't you Keine? The half-beast?"

Keine: "I- yes. It's Keine. Kamishirasawa."

Yukari: "The half-beast of knowledge and history..."

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Yukari: "But about the village, what'd you do to it?"

Keine: "I made it so it is invisible to your kind."

Sakuya seems angered from that comment, as she is a human herself.

Sakuya: "What *did* you do with the village and its humans?"

Keine: "Don't you get it? I made it so there were no humans to begin with. Right now, all of this village's history is under my protection."

Yukari: "Reimu, we don't have time to stick around here."

Reimu: "We're not exactly sticking, but hold on. It's not like I can just ignore a youkai that erased a whole village of humans."

Keine: "All I did was make it look that way. I'll protect the humans from this ill-omened night."

Reimu: "Didn't Yukari just mention you're a beast? You must be tricking us!"

Keine: "I'm only a beast during a full moon, otherwise I'm a human."

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Keine: "Not to mention not every beast is a bad one."

Remilia: "Sakuya. Wouldn't she be a good tutor for my little sister? Teaching her about the local history, or some such."

Sakuya: "We don't need any more bookworms at the mansion..."

Remilia: "Well, we'll leave then. We're in a hurry. An *incredible* hurry."

The scarlets disappear in an instant, but while Reimu and Yukari were already leaving, Keine interrupts them.

Keine: "Before you two go, there's one thing I saw that left me suspicious."

Reimu: "Please, tell us!"

Keine: "Two blonde girls passed through here earlier, and they beat me up thinking I destroyed the village."

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Keine: "They wouldn't stop talking about the moon."

Reimu: "Where'd they go?"



Keine: "The powerful bamboo forest of the lost."

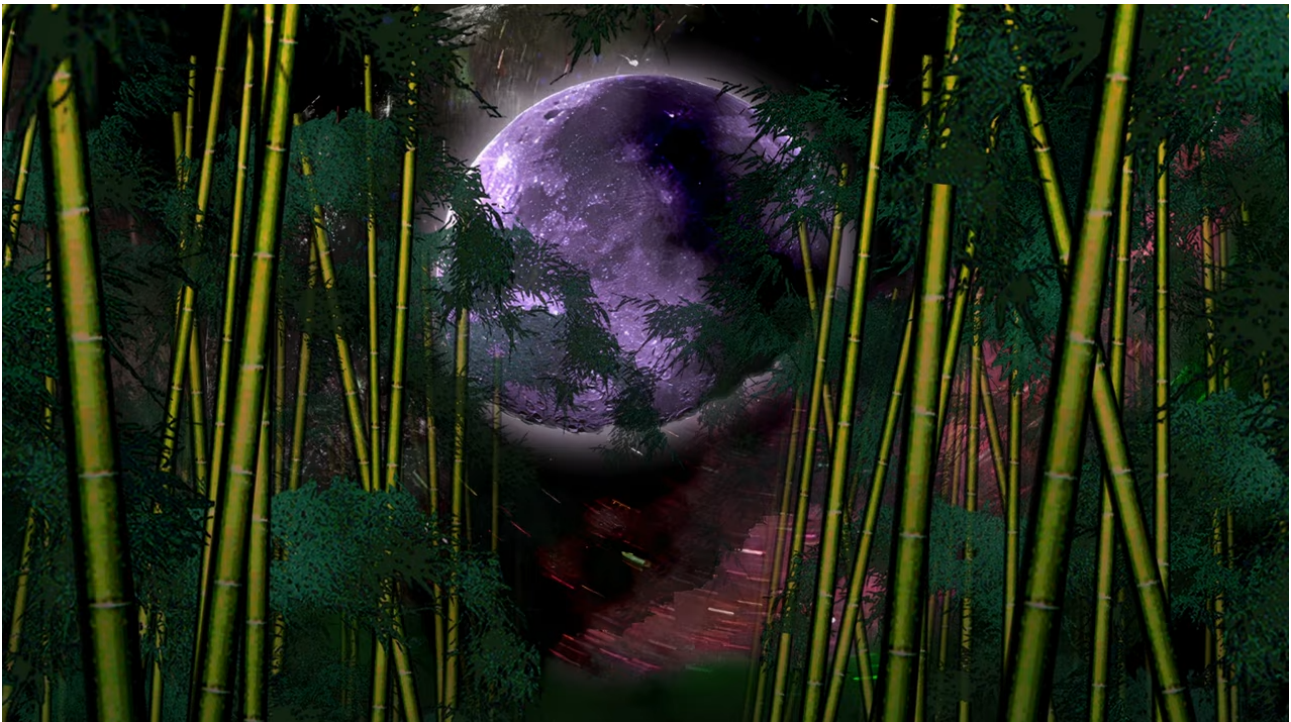
~Chapter 4 (powerful): Beneath the Soil that Holds Magic Power. ~

Retribution for the eternal night

Imperishable night

Beneath the sturdy bamboo, even sturdier roots spread out.

Only foolish humans and youkai can see nothing but the surface.



The bamboo forest stretches far and wide, seemingly endless and shrouded in mystery. Its tall, slender stalks sway in the wind, rustling gently and whispering secrets to those who dare to listen. Amidst the dense foliage, hidden pathways lead to forgotten corners, where curious objects lie hidden and forgotten. The soft glow of fireflies flickers in the darkness, illuminating the way for those who seek to explore the depths of the forest. But there is a sense of presence lurking beneath the peaceful veneer. Something fierce and wild, with a fiery passion that burns hotter than any flame. Those who venture too far may find themselves face to face with the enigmatic figure who calls this place home. Hints of a presence that is both elusive and powerful can be felt throughout the forest, as if someone is watching from the shadows. The forest has a reputation among humans as a place of great danger, a place where those who enter may never return. Whispers of mysterious disappearances and unexplained phenomena have circulated for generations, and many have come to believe that the forest is cursed. Despite the dangers, there are always those who are drawn to the forest's mystique, lured by the promise of hidden treasures and forbidden knowledge. Some say that those who disappear are simply lost, unable to find their way back out. Others believe that they have been claimed by the forest itself, transformed into something otherworldly and eternal. Few can say for sure what lies within the depths of the bamboo forest, but one thing is certain: those who enter do so at their own risk. For the forest holds many secrets, and not all of them are meant for mortal eyes.

Reimu and Yukari stepped cautiously into the bamboo forest, their eyes scanning the shadows for any sign of movement. The air was thick with the scent of damp earth and decaying leaves, and a sense of unease settled over them like a thick fog. As they made their way deeper into the forest, they couldn't shake the feeling that they were being watched. Every rustle of leaves or snap of a twig set their nerves on edge, and they couldn't help but wonder if they were walking into a trap. As they walked, they called out to the two blonde girls that Keine had mentioned, but there was no answer. The bamboo stalks towered over them, casting long, spindly shadows across the forest floor. Strange noises echoed through the trees, the whispers of the wind and the creaking of bamboo branches mingling with the rustling of small creatures in the undergrowth. Reimu and Yukari felt their hearts racing as they pressed deeper into the forest, the hairs on the back of their necks standing on end. They were no strangers to danger, but something about this place felt different, more menacing than anything they had faced before. As they rounded a bend in the path, they caught sight of something moving in the distance. It was hard to make out through the dense foliage, but it looked like two figures, moving quickly. Reimu and Yukari picked up their pace, following the figures deeper into the forest. They knew they were taking a risk, but something about the way the two girls had entered the forest had set off alarm bells in their minds. As they drew closer, they could see that the figures were indeed two blonde girls, their hair shining in the moonlight. They seemed to be in a hurry, moving with a sense of urgency that only compared to the one of Reimu and Yukari. Without a word, the two girls disappeared into the dense undergrowth, leaving Reimu and Yukari standing at the edge of a small clearing. They exchanged a worried glance, unsure of what they would find if they followed. The sense of being watched intensified, and Reimu and Yukari

both knew that they were not alone in the forest. They decided to follow the two girls, determined to uncover the secrets of the imperishable night, no matter what dangers lay in their path.

No matter how long the shrine maiden and her acquaintance tried following the two girls, they couldn't find them at all. Until they tried calling them out again...

Reimu: "Hellooooo? Is anyone there??"

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Suddenly a hand touched Reimu's shoulder. Reimu quickly turned out of pure surprise.

Reimu: "Freeze!"

One of the girls: "Move and I'll shoot!"

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One of the girls: "I messed up. I meant shoot and I'll move!"

Reimu: "What the?! Marisa? What are you doing here?!"

Marisa: "What do you think? Look at that funny Moon."

Reimu notices the presence of Marisa's acquaintance.

Reimu: "Why is she with you?!"

Marisa: "I actually have a better question, why is Yukari with you?"

Reimu: "Well... uh.. it's hard to explain..."

Marisa: "No.. Don't tell me..."

Yukari: "I manipulated the barrier between day and night, so that we could solve-"

Yukari gets quickly interrupted by Marisa.

Marisa: "And you convinced Reimu to be on your side with this! A never-ending night has harmful written all over it. Youkai eat humans during the night. If the night keeps going, the youkai will stuff themselves until they drop dead!"

Yukari: "There's no way we'd do that."

Reimu: "Marisa. You're jumping to conclusions!"

Marisa: "Gotta exterminate them before they drop dead."

Marisa's companion: "This is unbelievable."

Suddenly, the bamboo forest brightened, stars were everywhere, some were red, some were yellow, some were green, Reimu and Yukari had to dodge them all, some were blue, some were pink.

Marisa: "This one's for you Yukari!"

Marisa used one of her spellcards: Magic Space "Asteroid Belt"

The sky's stars seemed to fall in a red-blue beauty. The magicians didn't stay there though. They began running away. Perhaps they knew they couldn't have won this fight.

Reimu: "Ah, running away?"

Yukari: "Chase her to the ends of the earth."

Reimu quickly caught up to Marisa.

Marisa: "Oh, if it isn't Reimu! What's up? This one's for *you*!!"

Marisa used one of her most powerful spellcards: Magicannon "Final Master Spark"

Marisa has two weapons: her broom, which she uses mainly for flying, and her mini-hakkero, which lets her use lasers.

Using her mini-hakkero, she summoned a humongous beam directed straight towards Reimu. The shrine maiden dodged it without problems, but the beam burned through the forest. Revealing a mansion.

Reimu: "So that's where the culprit must reside..."

Marisa: "The culprit? Isn't Yukari the culprit?"



Reimu: "No you imbecile! This is why you should listen to me."

Marisa: "Fair. But what about Yukari?"

Yukari: "I've been here. You really didn't expect me to use one of gaps to get out of those stars?"

Marisa: "Man... I really am useless."

Yukari: "You're not useless. You may have been troublesome, but now we know where the culprit is! Hopefully..."

Marisa: "Well, I lost, so there ain't much I can do. Time to head home and sleep. I hope it'll be morning when I wake up."

Yukari: "Sleep for all eternity."

Reimu and Yukari headed towards the mansion.

Marisa: "Why have you not been speaking, Alice?"

Alice: "I just can't believe your behaviour at times. We could have collaborated with them, but you decided to fight without reason."

Marisa: "If it wasn't for me, we would have never found that mansion!"

Alice sighs.

~Chapter 5: A Pure Cage in the Filthy World~

Invisible full moon

"Why have you lingered so long in such a filthy place?"

Then, all the locked doors opened, untouched~



As the team stepped through the ornate doors, they found themselves in a labyrinth of seemingly endless hallways. The air was damp and musty, as if the very walls were alive and breathing in the stale atmosphere. The walls themselves felt cramped and too large at the same time. Every corner they turned led to yet another expanse of hallway, with no discernible pattern or sense of direction. Each step forward felt like a leap into the unknown, and their hearts were pounding with fear and uncertainty. The once-grand architecture had become decrepit and worn, the ornate pillars and embellishments now falling apart and crumbling into dust. The only light came from dimly flickering torches, casting eerie shadows that seemed to dance and twist around them. As they made their way deeper into the labyrinth, they couldn't shake the feeling that they were being watched. The hairs on the back of their necks stood on end as they turned a corner and found themselves face to face with a little but intimidating figure, its features hidden in shadow.

???: "Welcome, to Eientei!!!"

The figure slowly approached the heroines, revealing its features. It was a small and adorable rabbit girl with a mischievous expression on her face. Her long, floppy ears twitched as she hopped towards them.

Yukari: "We were wondering if this place was affiliated with the odd moon."

The little girl wore a cute, light rose quartz colored dress accompanied by the presence of a necklace with a carrot pendant. Her bright red eyes sparkled mischievously as she smiled at them, seemingly unafraid of the presence of strangers.

Little girl: "Yeah, what about it?"

She spoke in a cheerful and playful voice, but her words carried an air of slyness.

Yukari: "What have you done to it? What are your intentions?"

Little girl: "I'm not really alloooweeeee~ to tell you much but..."

Suddenly, all her joy transformed into dubious solemnity

Little girl:

"Long, long ago, our princess committed a very big crime.

We used to live on the moon, but because of what our princess has done, we had to evacuate.

We had nowhere to go but here, so we've been in hiding for a while.

All was fine until my colleague delivered a certain message to us.

We had to create that moon.

We would all be in danger without that moon."

???: "TEWI!!! Who are these trespassers?! Why are you not exterminating them!"

Tewi: "Reisen!! I was playing with them! Can I not play with guests before exterminating them?"

Reisen: "No kinds of guests are allowed to enter at this point in time! You know what? I'll deal with these trespassers myself!"



Reisen attacked the heroines with a barrage of danmaku bullets. The hallway lit up like a rainbow as the two sides clashed, exchanging blows and dodging each other's attacks. Reimu and Yukari were caught off guard at first but quickly regained their composure and fought back with their own danmaku. The battle raged on, each side trying to gain the upper hand. Reisen's movements were swift and precise, her attacks coming from unexpected angles. Tewi, which joined the fight shortly after Reisen, was much more strategic, relying on her agility and cunning to outsmart her opponents. Reimu and Yukari were able to keep up, but they were struggling to keep the upper hand. As the fight continued, Reisen began to tire. Her movements became slower, and her attacks were less accurate. Tewi noticed this and quickly came up with a plan. She distracted the heroines with a wave of bullets, allowing Reisen to charge up a powerful attack. Reimu and Yukari were caught off guard, and before they knew it, they were hit by the attack, sending them flying across the hallway. Reimu and Yukari quickly got back on their feet, determined not to give up. They charged at the moon rabbits, ready to continue the fight. However, Reisen was too exhausted to continue. She collapsed to the ground, her body trembling. Tewi realized that they couldn't continue the fight and made a quick decision. She fled from the scene, leaving Reimu, Yukari and Reisen behind.

Reimu (panting): "Where's... your master."

Reisen: "My higher ups lie behind two different doors, the ones on my left, and my right."

Yukari: "Looks like we'll have to split up."

Reimu: "This is just great. Isn't it?"

...

Alice: "Will you really just let them fight whatever beast caused this all alone?"

Marisa: "You're right, I should help them."

~Chapter 6A: The Orb in the Night Sky, Hiding the Princess~

Voyage 1969

A long, long corridor. Is it a lunatic illusion being shown by someone?

To the youkai, this closer moon brought faint, nostalgic memories.

As Reimu walked, she realized that she was no longer in Eientei. The endless hallway she found herself in seemed to stretch on forever, with no doors or pathways leading elsewhere. The walls were made of a semi-transparent material, and the only light came from the fake moon shining in

the distance. At first, she was confused, unsure of how she ended up in this strange place since she was sure she never *left* Eientei. Reimu tried to make sense of the situation, but it was clear that she was trapped. She pressed on, following the hallway as it twisted and turned, leading her closer to the fake moon. As she approached the moon, she could feel the air growing colder. At last, she reached the end of the hallway and found herself face to face with the fake moon. It loomed above her, its surface shimmering with an eerie light. She could feel its power threatening to overwhelm her.

Reimu started speaking to herself, while looking downwards.

Reimu:

"Gosh, this whole place is creepy... I've been walking for like 15 minutes and no culprit has shown up.

Perhaps I've been tricked? (shouting) Hellooooo? I'm ready to fiiiight! I wanna go home!"

Reimu looked towards the end of the corridor, only to notice said ending was almost reached.

"Identify yourself." said an ominous figure from behind the shrine maiden, which in response turned around.

Reimu: "I'm the Highly Responsive Prayer that will put an end to this Imperishable Night!"

The culprit: "This night isn't imperishable. The fake moon will be gone by morning."

Reimu: "That's not good enough. I came here to get the moon back *before* the morning!"

Eirin: "My spell is already complete. It's impossible for anyone to take the princess from here."

Reimu: "I do not care about any princess. Return the moon now!"

Eirin: "You're so impatient. But, look at the place we're in right now. Do you know where this is?"

Reimu displays a confused and enraged look.

Eirin: "This place is between the false moon and the Earth. That endless corridor just now was a false passage that connects the two. You two were fooled by an illusion that the false moon produced, and came here."

Reimu: "Ok, and?"

Eirin: "Do you have any ways of going back home?"

Suddenly, the whole hallway began collapsing, leaving the two floating in space. For some reason, Reimu didn't struggle with her breathing at all, but it got freezing cold in an instant.



Reimu (shivering): "Alright, I'll deal with that *after* beating you up!"

Eirin: "How can someone who was so perfectly deceived by my spell think they can still oppose me? It's quite strange. Well, I'm no demon myself. Until morning, I'll play with you. Right now, all Earthlings will wander forever, without ever reaching the moon. And the people of the moon are just

the same. With this, none of the moon's people should be able to reach the Earth. This is one of my greatest secret spells. The Earth has become a gigantic sealed chamber!"

Reimu: "You're talking nonsense!"

The tension between them was palpable. Eirin's long white hair flowed in the zero-gravity environment, and her eyes glinted with a cold determination. She raised her arms and called forth a powerful spell card: Awakened God "Memories of the Age of the Gods", summoning a large amount of lasers that tried to trap Reimu. She reacted quickly, creating a shield to protect herself. The two attacks collided with a deafening explosion, sending shockwaves through the magical air that was surrounding their space. The two heroines continued to trade blows, their spell cards lighting up the darkness of space. Eirin's attacks were precise and deadly, but Reimu was able to dodge and counter with her own array of powerful spells. As the fight raged on, Eirin's attacks grew stronger and more complex. Reimu struggled to keep up, but she refused to back down. The two continued to fight, their attacks growing more and more powerful with each passing moment. As the fight reached its climax, Eirin began to show signs of fatigue. Her movements became slower, and her attacks were less precise. Reimu seized the opportunity and launched a final, devastating attack, hoping to defeat her opponent once and for all: Divine Spirit "Fantasy Seal -blink-". However, Eirin had one more trick up her sleeve. She summoned her last spellcard: Esoterica "Astronomical Entombing" that sent Reimu hurtling through space. As Reimu drifted helplessly through the void, she heard a familiar voice calling out to her. Marisa Kirisame had arrived, ready to help her friend in her time of need. She launched a fierce great-to-see-again counterattack: her Master Spark!. Eirin fought back with all her might, but she was no match for the power of this eccentric beam. Finally, with one final, brilliant flash of light, the battle came to an end. Eirin was defeated, and the two heroines emerged victorious.

Marisa "Yeaahh!!! Eat that!!"

Reimu: "Wow, thank you."

Marisa: "No problem! Sorry for... erm... earlier..."

Reimu: "I appreciate that you said sorry for once."

Marisa: "What a mean thing to say."

Reimu: "How did you even get here?"

Marisa: "Well, I entered the mansion, found a beat up bunny and 2 opened doors; one led to space and I saw you, but not Yukari, so me and Alice split up."

Reimu: "Oh. Well I guess that's how'll get home then."

???: "What did you do to Eirin."

Reimu: "What?"

Marisa: "Huh???"

Mysterious woman:

"Eirin, I grant you one more chance with my power.

If you lose this time...

You there, human and youkai!

With the medicine made by my power, and Eirin's true strength,
you'll never forget this as long as you live!"

Eirin suddenly stood up and pointed her fingers towards the two heroines. A bright light emanated from her fingertips, and soon, it enveloped the entire area. Reimu and Marisa couldn't see anything except for the dazzling light. As the light began to fade, a small vial appeared in Eirin's hand. She uncorked it and drank the contents in one gulp. Suddenly, her movements became faster, and her attacks became more aggressive. Reimu and Marisa tried to dodge Eirin's attacks, but they were too fast and too powerful. Eirin seemed to be one step ahead of them at all times, anticipating their every move. No matter how hard they tried, they couldn't land a single hit on her. The heroines soon realized that they were fighting a losing battle. They were running out of energy, and Eirin seemed to have an endless supply. Marisa tried her best to dodge everything while Reimu was carelessly flying like a feather in the air, somehow managing to survive. Eirin, however, was not deterred. She continued to attack relentlessly, her movements becoming more erratic and her attacks becoming more destructive. The heroines were struggling to keep up, but they persisted. As the battle continued, Eirin's movements began to slow down. She was becoming tired, and her attacks were becoming weaker. Eirin had used up too much magical energy, and now she was paying the price. And, as expected for someone using this much magic as once, she fell unconscious. They won, Reimu, Marisa, Yukari, Alice, and everyone else trying to end the imperishable night, had won. The fake moon started fading, revealing the real full moon in all its beauty.

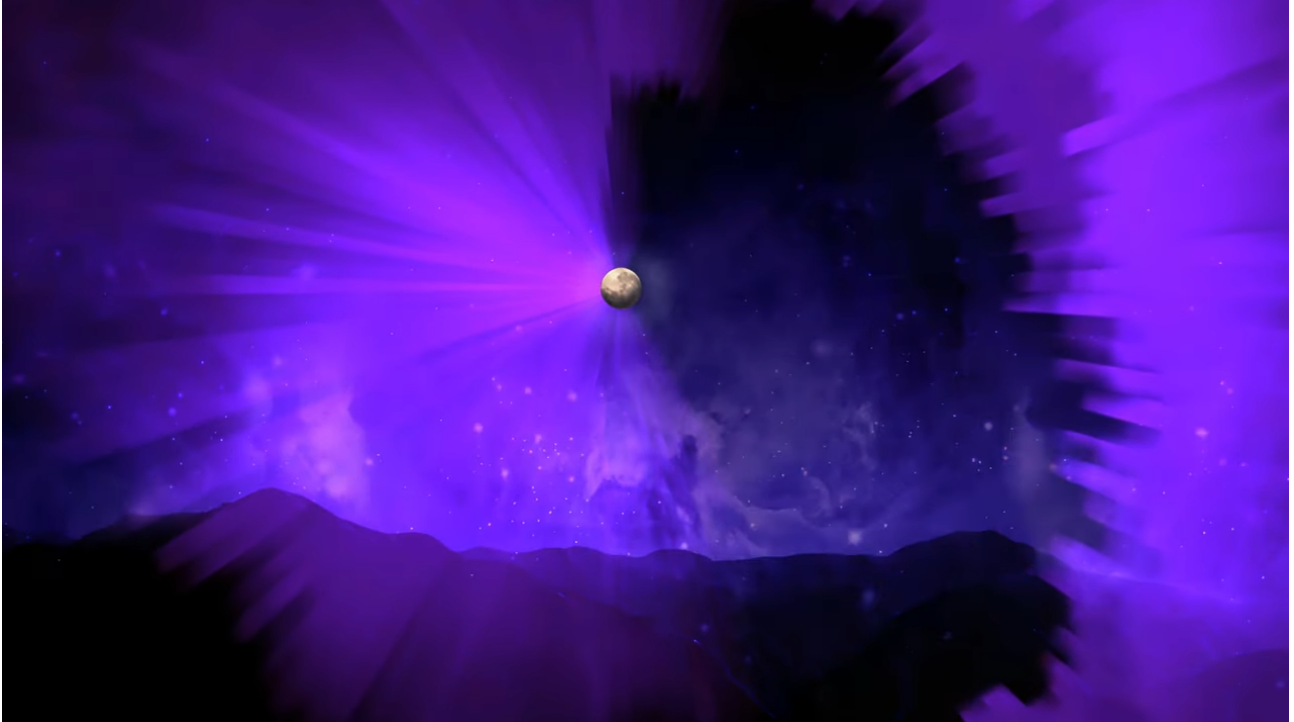
The mysterious woman got swallowed by one of Yukari's gaps. Said gaps then reached for the heroines next.

~Chapter 6B: The Princess~

Sinner of Eternity and the Instantaneous

There were five impossible requests that nobody could solve.

*However, the long passing of years and the power of phantasm
were enough for these requests to be fulfilled.*



Yukari entered her assigned door and was met with a garden. As Yukari traversed through the extensive expanse of said garden, she was struck by the astounding sight that lay before her. There, hidden amongst the lavish foliage, lay the glorious and resplendent celestial body, the real full moon, glistening like an illustrious diamond, beckoning to her from afar. The garden, seemingly infinite in size, held a mystical and enchanting aura, which seemed to transport her to a world beyond her own. As Yukari drew closer to the moon, she beheld a figure of grandeur and magnificence, whose beauty was matched only by the majesty of her surroundings. The figure was adorned in robes of dark red, with delicate gold bamboo-shaped accents that shimmered in the light of the moon. Her hair, a flowing cascade of the purest black, seemed to blend seamlessly with the moon's ethereal glow, further enhancing her allure. The figure's gaze met Yukari's, and for a moment, time seemed to stand still. Yukari was mesmerized, captivated by the figure's poise and elegance. She felt humbled in the presence of such a radiant being, and could not help but feel a sense of reverence and awe. However, as Yukari began to gather her thoughts, she knew that there was no time to waste. She had come on a mission, and it was imperative that she spoke to the figure before her. With a deep breath, she steadied herself and prepared to speak.

Yukari: "The full moon, after so long..."

The royal being: "Yes, this is the true full moon, as seen from the Earth. More importantly, welcome, to my garden."

Yukari: "You... What exactly are you?"

The royal being: "I am Kaguya Houraisan. You should have offered your names first, though, but I'll let it pass."

Yukari: "It's childish to pass off something like that as an act of kindness. I'm Yukari Yakumo."

Kaguya: "What those humans live on is a huge, round orb below. And, what the superior people live on... Is that lunatic orb behind me. Where are you from?"

Yukari: "I'm from Earth... But most importantly, may I know what's up with the moon? Why had the real moon been replaced?"

Kaguya: "It's a long story... are you sure you wanna hear it? I apologize if my servants did not tell you it... they're very defensive for tonight."



Yukari: "Yes, Please!"

Kaguya: "Very well then.

More than a millennium ago, I and my most loyal servant, Eirin, devised an elixir so potent that it could bestow immortality upon its consumer - the Hourai Elixir. Alas, I gave in to the insidious temptation of partaking of its miraculous properties, aware that doing so would transgress against the law. Such an egregious act resulted in countless attempts on my life, all in vain since I could not be killed. To rectify this, the denizens of the Moon resolved to banish me, confining me to live out my existence on the Earth as punishment. Life on this world was, and still is, regarded as unclean and sullied in comparison to that of the Moon, yet it gradually grew on me over time. In recent days, the Moon people, having pardoned my transgressions, sought to bring me back home. However, I chose to remain here, as did Eirin and our comrades. Regrettably, our choice to remain was perceived as an act of treason. As it were, my underling, Reisen, received a telepathic communication concerning an impending invasion by the Lunar beings. In truth, the only way for the Lunarians to travel to and from the Moon and Earth is through a bridge that materializes solely during the full Moon phase, which happens to be tonight. To avert this threat, Eirin fabricated a counterfeit Moon and sealed off the Earth from the authentic lunar body."

...

"That's it."

Yukari: "That's an impressive backstory, miss."

Kaguya: "I'm aware."

Yukari: "Although, I hate to ask this, but could the false Moon be removed from the skies?"

Kaguya: "As I've already said, Eirin was the one that made that Moon."

Yukari: "Yeah, you're right. The thing is, the false moon isn't really accomplishing anything. You see, Gensokyo is sealed off from the rest of the world. That includes the moon whether full or not. The invasion by the lunarians would have been halted by the Hakurei barrier even if you were to not do anything about it."

Kaguya: "Eirin doesn't want me to exit this garden right now."

Yukari: "How about we check up on her?"

Kaguya: "I don't think that's a good idea..."

Alice: "I think it is a good idea, considering Marisa saw the Eirin you speak of fighting with Reimu." Surprising the princess and the youkai, Alice seemingly was listening for a while.

Yukari summoned one of her gaps.

~Epilogue~

The once-in-an-eternity picnic.

The Hakurei shrine at night. The true full moon had returned to Gensokyo. The previous moon was just a papier-mache toy. But in contrast, tonight's moon was brightly shining. The moon's true power is that it boosts the purification rate of the sunlight to dispel the illusions of Gensokyo. It's so like Gensokyo for this to happen on the night of a full moon...

Reimu: "Today the moon is also clearly visible"

...

Reimu: "Hey. I say that and suddenly a lot of people gather again."

Marisa: "Ah. It's just the usual. Come on. Things like this are necessary once in a while."

Reimu: "You keep saying "it's the usual thing" and "once in a while" you could get a different excuse you know!"

Marisa: "Oh well. It's okay. Is there something else? "

Yukari: "Are you saying that Reimu's sake isn't good enough to drink?"

Reimu: "Geez! It's the shrine's sake, just drink it!"

Alice: "Shut up! Won't you calm down a little and have some more sake?"

Marisa: "I'm awake all this time now. The noisy time as well as the unnoisy time became noisy!"



Yukari: "It's been a while since the last full Moon. I'll impartially support this degree of fun."

Yukari's shikigami: "That aside, it makes you feel better."

Yukari: "It's very rare for youkai like Ran to act like humans. Must be because of the influence of the Moon."

...

Yukari: "It would be great if there were some good regulations for the drunkards."

Ran: "Yukari-sama looks completely fine. As expected!"

Reimu: "I don't know if being full of human traits is good or bad."

Yukari: "Oh my, the ghost burning with humanity is calling"

Reimu: "No, not really. There's no human warmth in me."

Ran: "You shouldn't take the moon's wrath for granted, you know. Nor Chen's."

Chen: "I'm carried away by the sake... looking at the rouuund Moon makes my eeeeyes spin..."

Yukari: "Well, if you're eyes are also spinning. I guess the Moon suits you."

Reisen: "The wrath of the moon? You make it sound like the moon is poisonous."

Kaguya: "Oh my, since when do I resemble a human?"

Reisen: "Eh? Er... that was rude of me."

Eirin: "With this. The princess is finally playing outside again. You might say this has become something good."

Kaguya: "You say this, but Eirin, weren't you the one who imprisoned her? Geez."

Eirin: "She was imprisoned from the beginning, anyway."

Reimu: "Please calm down. For example, even if a messenger from the moon came she wouldn't know about Gensokyo."

Yukari: "Yes, there's a big barrier, so there's no way she could enter."

Reimu: "I'm glad that I'm in Gensokyo. It's really peaceful."

Eirin: "I'm grateful as well. This time. I tried putting a hideout above ground. But this entire planet was originall used as a hideout. Or more accurately, a prison."

Reisen: "That's somehow stupid. Without this, we could play a little more. Hey, I wonder what about the circumstances that made you hide until now?"

Eirin: "Oh but they're still valid. The princess has been hiding for about a thousand years."

Kaguya: "What are you trying to say? I'm an eternal being. The past days are infinite. That's why it won't have a meaning if we don't have fun now! A thousand years or ten thousand years. There's nothing in them matching this moment... even if it's one second ago, the past doesn't matter!"

Reisen: "Hey! That's my meat dumpling!"

Kaguya: "I'm an eternal being."

Eirin: "If the princess would consider such an act. I will do it as well."

Reimu: "Hey! That was mine!"

Marisa: "Surely these people can't be from the Moon..."

It's a night where the Moon's power gets stronger. As soon as the youkai's true power returned, Gensokyo's strength came back. This is the equilibrium of Gensokyo's power. Humans are always food for youkai, and humans exterminate youkai so they won't be eaten. If the Moon's power is ever in disorder, this balance will shatter. Reimu felt that this incident was a threat in that way. The heavens began to regain their balance by designating the people who came from the outside to Earth as half-humans.

Continue the dream a little further...



Kaguya: "For the ones that ended the night which supposedly lacked an ending, I challenge you to the trial of guts, tonight, if you are brave enough..."

Marisa, holding a candle: "What are you on about??"

Kaguya: "In the bamboo forest of the lost, on a different path you took to reach Eientei. There's an immortal being: legend says if you eat her guts, you'll gain immortality yourself. Are you in?"

Marisa: "Me and Alice are in!!!"

Alice: "Oh boy."

Reimu: "I'm out."

Yukari: "I'm with Reimu on this."

Marisa, full of excitement: "You're both lame! Tell me everything about this bizarre trial of guts!!!!"

~Extra Chapter: Doll of Hourai~

Victim of Hourai

Under the full moon, even the plants are asleep in the dead of the night.

Just what is there to be afraid of in this human and youkai's trial of guts?

Just where is the victim of the greatest sin?



Marisa and Alice ventured once again into the mystical and enchanting Bamboo Forest of the Lost. This time, the forest was illuminated by the full moon, casting a silvery light on the grove, creating a captivating atmosphere. The dense bamboo stalks, seemed to shimmer in the moonlight, swaying softly in the gentle night breeze. The silence was palpable, only interrupted by the occasional rustling of leaves and twigs underfoot as the two moved forward. The night sky, speckled with stars, appeared infinite, and the vast expanse of the forest seemed to stretch on for eternity. As Marisa and Alice pushed deeper into the bamboo grove, it seemed as if the Moon was getting brighter and brighter. Despite the ominous and intimidating environment, the two were not deterred, this wasn't called a "trial of guts" for no reason, they knew that the atmosphere would have been like this and the thought of someone being out there only made everything heavier. The sound of their footsteps echoed throughout the forest. As they journeyed further, the bamboo stalks began to thin, revealing a clearing in the forest. The full Moon, now unhindered by the dense foliage, shone down on the clearing, illuminating the ground in a soft glow. In the center of the clearing, there she was, Keine Kamishirasawa. It was clear the full Moon had affected her: she was no longer human, she was now in her hakutaku form. Her hair was white with green streaks, her hat was replaced with long, long horns and her dress was forest green.

Keine: "I've been waiting. You've got some guts, challenging me on the night of the full moon..."

Marisa: "Well, this is a trial of guts."

Keine: "I won't let you lay a finger on *that human!*"

Alice quickly trapped Keine using her doll magic, and Marisa shot her down with her mini-hakker. The team continues walking.

...

Maybe 53 minutes pass, a minute more or less, yet nothing has happened yet.

Marisa: "It sure is creepy when nothing's happening. Absurd, too."

???: "True terror lies beyond the fear that you expect. There's nothing more terrifying than a haunted house devoid of people acting as ghosts." The woman emerges from the bamboo stalks.

Woman: "Even night sparrows are silent in the bamboo forest in the dead of night. To think that there'd be humans wandering around in here."

Marisa: "Who're you?"

Alice: "Marisa, this girl..."

Woman: "I'm Fujiwara no Mokou, a human who's lived here for a long time. Don't worry. I won't kidnap you or eat you."

Marisa: "Human? Well you don't look like one."

Alice: "Marisa, she definitely looks human... but, be careful--"

Mokou: "So, what are you doing out this late?"

Marisa: "Harvesting bamboo shoots."

Alice: "A trial of guts."

Mokou: "Which of those?"

Marisa: "Oughta be obvious..."

Mokou: "Beneath the full moon, a human and youkai are on a trial of guts. Does the human have guts, or is she a fool? As a human, you've got to have guts that are pretty stiff and tough to chew."

Marisa: "Are you really human? Can't say I've seen any humans who're this fond of guts. At least, none who're still alive."

Alice: "Does she look alive to you, Marisa? She looks dead to me. Well, maybe she just looks like she's not alive?"

Mokou: "Hey, don't treat people like phantoms. That's almost correct, though. You can see through illusions pretty well."

Marisa: "So I guess yer a gut-eater, then?"

Mokou: "Actually... I can't die. To be devoid of death is to be devoid of life. Without the unnecessary states of life and death, I'm about as close as you can get to a pure human. So I may be like a phantom, in a certain sense."

Alice: "So she won't die! Even if we roast or bake her, too."

Marisa: "How about if we boil or fry her?"

Alice: "If a human could reach a state of immortality... That legendary medicine must really exist. It wasn't a lie, after all."

Marisa: "Who the heck would tell you a true story and make it sound like a lie?"

Mokou: "That medicine? You mean the Hourai Elixir? That old thing. I used it all up a long, long time ago. Certainly, I stole that medicine, and am immortal even now. Kaguya still tries to kill me, but it's impossible to do that. This stupid fight of ours has dragged on for over a thousand years now."

Marisa: "I get it now. All of it. So, you're playing the role of the ghost in this haunted house. I did think that this whole "trial of guts" thing sounded weird when Kaguya brought it up. We defeated Kaguya's drugged servant, so it follows that I could put an end to you."

Alice: "Hey! You're not trying to steal all the credit for yourself, are you? Besides, defeating a human is a job for a youkai. The person before us is obviously mine to defeat."



Mokou: "What? Eirin was defeated? By these two in front of me? How do I say this? To think that such a troublesome Lunarian would be done by a team like this. It's been a long time since I've had to confront such tough assassins... and to think these assassins are sent by the princess herself..."

Alice: "It's too bad about that Hourai Elixir. I wanted to get my hands on it no matter what."

Mokou: "The Hourai Elixir is a forbidden medicine that should never be consumed by humans.
With a single touch, you will never become an adult...
With a second touch, you will forget all disease and illness..."

Reach for the Moon, Immortal Smoke

Mokou: "With a third touch... *Your souls will forever churn in torment!*"

Mokou quickly reveals her phoenix wings made of nothing but the purest, everlasting fire. Her fiery aura is so intense that Alice and Marisa have to shield their eyes from the brightness. The magic team, Alice and Marisa, immediately take a defensive stance, ready to face off. Mokou starts off the fight by launching a bunch of fireballs towards Alice and Marisa. Alice quickly summons her dolls to intercept the fireballs, while Marisa shoots laser beams straight towards the immortal. The dolls fly at the incoming fireballs and explode upon contact, creating a small but effective barrier of kinetic energy. Mokou is not frightened by the dolls and continues to attack with her fire. She punches the ground, causing it to shake beneath them. This small earthquake starts quickly heating up the floor. Alice commands her dolls to form a shield, while Marisa jumps to avoid the attack. However, the heat is too intense and Marisa's clothes start to singe. Marisa begins charging up her stronger laser beams. Her eyes glow with an intense green light as she unleashes a powerful laser beam towards Mokou. Mokou, however, is too quick and dodges the attack by soaring into the air with her phoenix wings. Alice takes advantage of Mokou's airborne state and commands her dolls to attack. The dolls fly towards Mokou, but she uses a spell and summons a scorching forcefield around her. Alice's face falls as she watches her dolls get destroyed. Meanwhile, Marisa is still firing lasers towards the fiery immortal, but she's easily able to dodge them. Mokou lands on the ground and charges towards Marisa with incredible speed. She manages to punch her and the magician is knocked back, crashing into a nearby tree. Alice sees that Marisa is in trouble and summons what may be 30 or so dolls, imbued with magical strings. The dolls quickly formed two circles, one on top of Mokou, the other on the bottom, strings surrounding the beast; Alice makes the dolls tighten these strings, successfully trapping the eternal being. Alice yells at Marisa, and the magician uses another famous spellcard of hers: Loving Heart "Double Spark". Two beams similar to a master spark appear from Marisa's mini-hakkero and they manage to hit Mokou as she was unable to move. Mokou is blown by the power a magician and a youkai managed to achieve together and so she promptly accepts defeat.

Mokou: "Aw, maaan. That was way too tough for me..."

Marisa: "Wanna go again? Looks like you really can't die."

Alice: "She can't die, sure, but doesn't it look like she's running out of stamina?"

Mokou: "With that blow, I already have. I'd better give it a rest before my muscle pain tomorrow keeps me from moving."

Alice: "Muscle pain? That's all?"

Marisa: "Y'know, I've always wondered. If you divide an immortal right down the middle, which half still counts as their body?"

Alice: "Why would you always wonder something like *that*? Immortality is like casting away the physical body. Your soul alone is what you actually are, and it's able to produce a new body. Souls don't have a particular size, so they can create a new body wherever they like. Conversely, a body without a soul would perish rather quickly, right?"

Mokou: "You sure know an awful lot. It looked like you really wanted the Hourai Elixir. Did you want to become immortal too, or something?"

Alice: "Not really. I'm just interested in souls. I thought I could use them to make independent dolls. Besides, that elixir wouldn't even work on youkai, would it?"

Marisa: "Hey, I got another question. If souls don't have a particular size, then what's that thing that's always stickin' around Youmu?"

Alice: "It's a phantom, isn't it? Totally different thing. Never mind that, anyway."

Mokou: "As I am undying, phantoms are unliving. Maybe all that's different is our form. Or guts."

Marisa: "Huh, I see. So, how did my trial of guts go?"

Mokou: "Oh, well. They're hard and blackish... Perhaps it's liver cirrhosis?"

Marisa: "Aw, no, have I been drinking that much?"

Alice: "Marisa, to cure your guts, you should eat someone else's. Plus, an immortal's guts are..."

Marisa: "A human's guts would be a bit much, immortality aside."

Mokou: "An immortal's body is immune to all disease, so my innards are totally clean. But don't go eating them."

Marisa: "I'm not gonna... Although the whole immortality thing is pretty appealing..."

Kaguya seemed to have materialized from the moonlight, even though that was not the case.

Kaguya: "Congratulations! You've beaten the trial of guts!"

Mokou: "Kaguya?! So I was right! You sent these people just to assassinate me!"

Kaguya: "Well, perhaps I did, what's wrong with that?"

Mokou: "I thought you understood that I wanted you to leave me alone! You humiliated my father with those impossible requests, then we tore each other apart for thousands of years and when I think I'm finally getting a break you send assassins to kill me!"

Marisa: "I should have brought some food from the picnic from earlier with me, it would make this even better to watch."

Alice: "Wow, that's a *really* insensitive thing to say at a time like this."

Kaguya:

"My dear Mokou, it seems you have misunderstood everything. A thousand and three hundred years ago, I made five impossible requests to all suitors vying for my hand in marriage, when I was known beyond the borders of Gensokyo. Your father was caught in the middle of it all, and had I known he was your father, I would never have made those requests. Please do not think that I harbor any ill will towards you, despite our constant fighting, you are someone I hold dear to my heart. The elixir that we consumed has cursed us with eternal boredom, and that is why every moment we share must be special. The assassins I sent were not meant to harm you, but to create a new experience for you. I never intended for you to feel like you were caught in an endless cycle of fighting. I am deeply sorry for everything that has happened between us, and I beg your forgiveness from the bottom of my heart."

Kaguya softly hugs Mokou, who accepts the hug and breaks out crying.

Marisa: "How about, to calm down, we head to the human village, get some food, and go back to the picnic at the shrine?"

Kaguya and Alice: "That sounds great."

Marisa: "Keine should have put the village back by now anyway."

Mokou: "She did, she told me about it herself."

Marisa: "I'm still confused about this immortality thing. What is it *essentially*?"

Kaguya: "Yukari explained that to me, actually."

...

Kaguya: "Put in very bare bone terms, when someone becomes immortal, it's not that they cannot die anymore, but that the barrier between their life and death fades. They're outside of that whole cycle."

Mokou: "I think I used too vague explanations for that."

Alice: "You did, but I understood them."

The four of them headed to the human village, as the Moon falls under the horizon and the Sun rises. Kaguya, Eirin, Reisen and Tewi start living in Gensokyo, no longer in hiding, and without the anxious thought of an invasion occurring. Meanwhile, Mokou continues living in the bamboo forest of the lost, this time guiding people through said forest instead of simply lingering. Yukari went back to her mansion, Reimu went to sleep along with Wriggle and Mystia, and Yuyuko, Youmu, Sakuya and Remilia headed back to their homes seeing that the incident was fully resolved.

~Thank you for reading!~

As Spring set, an unusual quantity of flowers bloomed strongly with an energy non other than human, could the Netherworld be tampering with seals again?

Things present or not in the original story of Eiyashou:

A lot of the dialogues are modified from the ones in-game.

Marisa, Alice, Yuyuko, Youmu, Sakuya and Remilia all get a proper prologue.

In stage 1, there's a proper fight with Wriggle.

In stage 2, you don't meet Yuyuko and Youmu; you can choose them as playable characters before beginning the game.

In stage 3, no one beats up Keine before the player meets her, in fact, the player has a proper fight with her.

The player doesn't meet Sakuya nor Remilia but they can be chosen as playable characters before beginning the game.

In stage 5, the protagonists don't split up, except the player must choose between door A or door B.

Marisa and Alice also do not come back to rescue Reimu nor Yukari. They really do go back home.

In stage 6A Reimu fights with Yukari, not Marisa.

In stage 6B Reimu and Yukari have a proper fight with Kaguya, with their intentions being to punish her.

In the epilogue, Kaguya doesn't challenge the heroines to the trial of guts, except it's the game itself that challenges the player to it.

In the extra stage, Kaguya doesn't make an appearance.

There are more things that got changed, but it is a lot of work to nitpick every single thing, so this is a list of the major changes.

