

NinjaPunk TCL Short

written by

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FADE IN:

INT. KENJU'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Sunlight streams through sheer curtains, painting KENJU (30s, athletic with a ponytail) and AYUME (30s, graceful) in a soft glow.

Their modest apartment exudes warmth and hope.

Kenju pours tea, his movements precise yet gentle.

Ayume sits at the table, her hand resting on her slightly swollen belly.

KENJU
(soft smile)
How is he?

AYUME
(playful)
Awake. Like me most of the night.

Kenju sets the tea down, kneeling beside Ayume. He places his hand over hers on her belly.

KENJU
(vulnerable)
This life, Ayume. Away from the shadows, the violence... We can build something... pure. Together.

AYUME
(cupping his face)
You deserve this. We deserve this, Kenju. You've paid your dues. You don't owe them anything.

Ayume scans Kenju's face -- his eyes move to the floor.

She lifts his chin up towards hers.

AYUME (CONT'D)
What's done is done.

They share a tender kiss, a moment of perfect peace.

Then--

BOOM! The door EXPLODES inward. Tranquility shattered.

Chaos erupts. YAKUZA ASSASSINS flood the room.

Kenju fights desperately, but a shot to his knee brings him down.

SMILEY, a man wearing a disturbing holographic grin mask, grabs Kenju's hair, forcing him to watch as others seize Ayume.

SMILEY
 (cold amusement)
 You can't leave Yakuza for free.
 Payment is due.

Ayume struggles, reaching for Kenju.

Their fingertips almost touch-

BANG!

A gunshot shatters their world.

KENJU
 AYUME!

CUT TO:

EXT. CITYSCAPE - DAY

Kenju's eyes snap open, blazing with purpose. He's perched on a neon-drenched rooftop, encased in a sleek, high-tech cybernetic suit strengthened with machine intelligence.

Surrounded by towering skyscrapers, holographic billboards, and the distant wail of sirens.

The city's lifeblood, neon luminescence, bathes Kenju's form as he opens his eyes. A ninja faceplate woven from countless nano-technology beads fortifies his face.

Kenju taps his temple, activating an AR overlay. Data streams across his vision, analyzing the urban sprawl.

KENJU (V.O.)
 The Yakuza's grip tightens. They
 have taken everything from me. Now,
 the city suffers under their rule.

His vision enhancements flicker on, allowing him to survey the urban jungle below.

KENJU
 They have made a pact with the Oni.
 Now we live amongst pure evil.

FLASH CUT

Several DEMONIC CREATURES prowling the city streets.

Wreaking havoc...

Different alleyways, nightclubs, stores, subway station...

BACK TO SCENE

Kenju stands, his suit shimmering with nano-tech adjustments.

KENJU (V.O.)

Five years. Five years of
preparation, of becoming more
machine than man.

The entire landscape starts to de-rez and flicker to reveal:

INT. KENJU'S HIDEOUT - LOS ANGELES 2065 - NIGHT

Kenju meditates on the floor of a tech-filled room. Holo-screens flicker with surveillance footage and data streams.

He taps his right temple as he rises to his feet.

KENJU

Any activity?

BLUE (A.I. ASSISTANT)

(androgynous voice)

Wind, 17 knots...

Air quality, red, unhealthy

Movement detected nearby,

KENJU

Just how I like it.

Kenju approaches a wall of weapons, selecting a pair of nano-tech blades.

BLUE

Perimeter breach! Multiple hostiles
inbound.

The door BURSTS open. Yakuza thugs pour in, led by SMILEY.

SMILEY

(mocking)

Hiding in plain sight? You've gone
soft, Kenju.

Kenju's suit activates, a wave of energy pulsing across his body.

KENJU
(deadly calm)
Who said I was hiding? I was
waiting...

Smiley enters and directs his men where to go.

**What follows is a brutal, lightning-fast fight. Kenju moves with inhuman speed, his fighting style a mix of brute force and cat-like agility.*

A shimmer travels from Kenju's midsection to his extremities...cybernetic fighting activated. This time, he's ready.

Henchmen draw guns and point them at Kenju's head.

Kenju drops to the ground doing the splits to avoid the bullets, drawing short swords and slicing the midsection of the two guys directly in front and behind him.

Smiley hangs back, tapping his ear.

SMILEY
We need reinforcements.

As the Henchmen fall Kenju grabs their bodies, using them to block the bullets from the remaining 4 henchmen.

He rolls off to the side, using his swords to skewer another henchman, once again using his corpse to absorb the bullets heading in his direction.

Three left.

Kenju kicks the body off the swords using his enhancements like a kabob in the direction of one of the remaining 3.

The body launches and slams that guy into the wall, knocking him out cold.

As the other two henchmen fire at him, Kenju backflips into a wall and does a tumble turn.

He explodes off it the wall and does a one-two punch to knock the two goons right on their asses, dazing them.

He turns, hears more footsteps coming from his front door, and runs for his windows.

Smiley, impatient pulls out a gun and begins firing at Kenju.

Kenju tucks and crashes through his windows.

Smiley walks up to the window and stares out. He taps his ear again, talking into an invisible receptor.

SMILEY (CONT'D)
Send the creature.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

Kenju lands in a small puddle of water in slow motion.

Glass rains down as he stands up next to a motorcycle.

Kenju mounts the bike and activates his cyber-sword, which transforms with a mechanical whir. The blade gleams under the city lights.

He taps his right temple

BLUE
Rerouting power to the bike. All systems operational.

KENJU
It's time to finish what we started.

Kenju revs the engine and speeds down the alley, the neon-lit buildings blurring past him.

As he turns a corner, blocking his path is a monstrous figure - the ONI. Part demon, part machine, its multiple eyes glow with malevolent energy.

ONI
Your journey ends here, Kenju.

KENJU
No. This is where it begins.

Kenju skids to a halt, dismounting his bike. He draws his cyber-sword, ready for the confrontation.

FLASH CUTS

Kenju and Ayume.

A lovely life once lived.

Laughing together, gentle moments.

BACK TO SCENE

CLOSE ON Kenju's revenge-stricken face.

Ready...

Kenju dismounts his bike.

His blades HUM to life.

KENJU (CONT'D)
This is for Ayume.

They charge at each other, **man versus monster**, a clash of steel and claw.

FADE TO BLACK.

BLACK TITLE CARD--

NINJAPUNK