

Originally, I did not find this story comical. I do now.

## [Ashuta arc] [5] [A date with the crazy] [9605]

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Past five years after settling down on Freedom colony, Ashuta kept a low profile perfectly. He took mostly easy task from Freedom colony agency.

His bank account was nearing a million and he was planning to purchase a personal shuttle for himself.

It was a usual day for him. He woke up on 8 AM, took a shower, took an energy pill with some dummy food and went straight to the agency.

But there was something different at the agency. He had been seeing a pre-teen girl who seemed to boss around the staffs at the agency from time to time. The girl was by the entrance, seemingly inspecting every agents or mercenaries who were entering there.

Wearing a bright pink top tank and a pink mini skirt to go with, she was very noticeable. She had her hands on her waist and was looking up and down on everyone who was entering and leaving the agency.

Ashuta tried not to mind her. After all, he had done nothing wrong or at least he believed so. As he passed by her, she looked up and down on him and soon her attention moved to next guy.

“Hey.” A staff greeted him. He had gotten known numerous staffs at the agency. Due to his unusually good behaviors as an independent mercenary he was highly regarded at the agency. In fact, he had been offered few opportunities to become a dedicated agent for Freedom colony but he had so far refused all of the offers because he was forced to take an interview.

Interview and Ashuta were like water and oil. He had never been successful in every single job interviews on Moon and he literally grew allergic of interviews after years of failures. In the end, he immediately rejected any career opportunities if it involved him having to get interviews.

“Hey,” Ashuta responded. “The cord please.”

The staff behind a counter gladly handed over a cord to him. He picked an easy job and left the agency as usual.

But there she was. The pre-teen girl was standing in front of him, essentially blocking him.

“Hey, kid!” Exclaiming, she pointed at Ashuta lively. “You are coming with me.”

At first, Ashuta played a fool. He ignored her blatantly and tried to get past her. He had his reasons because he was referred as “kid”. He wasn’t a kid after all.

When he passed her, the girl looked annoyed and jumped up and down. “Hey! Don’t ignore me! Hey!” Turning around to keep track of him, she continued to shout. “Hey! Wait!”

But he continued to ignore her and walked away while pacing up.

Next thing he knew was a sharp pain between his legs. Groaning painfully, he fell on his four.

“I told you not to ignore me!” She screamed at him from behind.

“Who the hell are you?!” Ashuta talked back fiercely. “And I am not a kid!”

“I am Sae! I’ve been looking at you!”

Sae. Yes, that name rang a clear bell.

Sae the little witch, the most brutal assassin ever existed in human history.

Sae the little witch, the most childish assassin ever existed.

Sae the little...

“The hell?!” He ignored the pain from his nuts and stood up at once, turning to face her as well as pointing her. “You can’t be her! You are just a kid!”

“Dude.” Pouting, Sae crossed her arms. “I am over a thousand years old, kid.”

Ashuta was loss at words. He was truly loss at words. A pre-teen girl was a thousand year old hag?

“I am not a hag!!!” She screamed as if he read his mind. “My pussy and ass are as tight as a teen’s!” She smiled and nodded proudly.

Yes, proudly.

“So..., what do you from me ..., ma’am?”

Addressing her ma’am was just weird to him.

“You are coming with me.”

“But I have a task to do today...”

Sae dashed inside of the agency and came back out again in 10 seconds. “Your mission has been kindly cancelled.”

“Say what?! But the collateral...”

“No worries! You won’t lose any collateral because I cancelled it!” She made a V shape with her fingers proudly.

He felt like he was really dealing with a pre-teen kid.

The next thing he knew, he was at a docking bay. To be more precise, he was in Sae’s private shuttle. The interior was so bright ... with pink color. There was few small and big teddy bears hanging on walls.

“Where... are we going, ma’am?”

Activating the shuttle's mainframe, Sae was awfully happy in her voice. "We are going to Smuggler's Den, Woohoo!"

Ever since his arrival, he had never left Freedom colony. It was partially due to his fear of being arrested. Besides, he had no outstanding reason to leave the colony in the first place. He was content with how his new start went. He was just one mission away from being able to afford his own shuttle.

"Ma'am, I'd like to get off."

"You may not!"

"Ma'am, I am serious. I shouldn't be out of the colony. I am a wanted criminal."

"Doh, you are only a class C terrorist. What do you think I am? I am a class AAA first-degree assassin."

In other words, Sae's presence alone was enough to warrant a military actions in both Sol and Andromeda. Compared to her, he was certainly a small fish and his excuse wouldn't work on her.

"Why do you want me in your mission? I don't even know you."

"Oh, we know you."

We?

"Who are we?"

"Lila and Reed. We've been keeping eyes on you, kid."

He twitched at being referred as a kid but he couldn't talk back on it. "What would you keep eyes on me for? I haven't done anything wrong," He argued.

“Exactly. You haven’t done anything wrong and kept a good low profile.”

He was confused in what Sae was trying to say.

Sae continued, “You see, there are two kind of losers that flow into the colony. The first kind is real losers. The second kind is just losers.”

He frowned. He wasn’t even sure whether Sae was sane at this point.

“Real losers cause all sort of troubles while they stay at the colony. They don’t finish tasks well. They back out on tasks. They spend their earnings on booze, drugs, sex, and lottery and complain why they aren’t winning any shit.” Sae laughed out. “Of course, they can’t win shit! That’s what lottery is for!”

Just as she said, the shuttle took off the ground and she continued.

“The second kind is losers who were forced to come here. They try to make their lives straight. They try to find a decent job. They try hard to finish tasks so that they were entrusted. They save money. They want a stable life.” She emphasized. “A stable second life.”

He had a feeling that he was falling into the second kind but that still did not explain what was happening to me at the moment. “What does that have to do with me?”

“We want you,” Sae declared firmly.

He recalled being given numerous opportunities to join the agency. He had been refusing because he had to go through an interview.

“They told me that you freaked whenever you were mentioned of interviews, so I’ve invented a new type of interview!”

He did startle when he heard the word “interview”. And he started to worry about his life genuinely.

“Where are you taking me?!” He exclaimed and attempted to open the door. The shuttle was taking off but they were still in the docking bay, and being as hyper human, he could still jump off and land unharmed.

“I told ya!” Sae yelled as she jumped up and down in her pilot chair. “To the Smuggggglerrrr’s Deeeen!”

He exclaimed in desperation. “Open the door! Let me out! You are crazy!”

“I AM crazy!” She affirmed with glee.

He rushed to the pilot’s seat and pressed a comm. button and yelled, “Help! Help!”

“Oh, cut it out, kid!” Sae punched Ashuta in the face and he was thrown away all the way into the back and he was knocked out.

When he woke up, he saw Sae on top of him. He was tired and muttered, “Just kill me and be done with this.”

“Oh, quit with your doom and gloom. You aren’t going to die. At least, not yet anyway.”

“I might as well die. I am not going to survive whatever you are going to put me through.”

Sae got off him and he slowly stood up.

“You aren’t going to die. No one dies in my interviews.” And she chuckled. “You might lose your limb or two though.”

Sighing deeply, he shook his head. “Why isn’t your nickname the crazy, I will never know.”

Sae was playing with a teddy bear that was as big as her. Hugging it tightly, she asked, “Wanna fuck me, kid?”

“No.”

Not in a million years.

“Come on, I am not an old hag, I told you.” At this point, she was rolling around with the teddy bear.

“Hag or not, no. I am not having sex with a child.”

“Doh, kid, I am over a thousand years old.”

“That is beside the point. You look like a pre-teen and that is what matters to me.”

Sae gradually stopped rolling around. “If all men were like you, the world would be a whole lot better.” She mumbled which Ashuta couldn’t hear.



Over past two weeks, Sae attempted to persuade him into having an intercourse with him. Ashuta was firm in his decision that he wasn't going to sleep with a child.

And they eventually arrived at Freebie trade outpost.

As her shuttle was slowing down in a docking bay, Sae told Ashuta.

"Get ready to run, kid. Don't look behind and just run, kid. Follow me. Don't lose me. If you lose me, well, just go to a jail. I will get you out in few hundred years."

***And Ashuta's awkward nightmare began.***

Guns were blazing. Hyper human guards ran at her as if hungry wolves were dashing toward a fleeing mouse.

"Muhahahahaha!" Sae was laughing out loud as she ran through station guards, defenses, and even barricades. "This is *funnnnn!*"

And there was Ashuta who was just barely fast enough to keep up with her. The truth was that Sae had slowed herself down for him.

"How dare you come here again!" A certain female security guard dashed toward her. "You ruined my career!"

Sae deflected her blade with ease with her bare hand and kept on running. “Agent Ekka, yeah?”

“It’s Ehka!!!” Veined popped on her face and she screamed. “Die!!!” However, Sae dodged easily. Laughing, She continued to make fun out of agent Ehka’s name.

“Hahah, Ekka! Ekka!”

It was strange. No one was paying attention to Ashuta. Everyone was so die-hard on catching Sae that not a single person was minding his presence. In fact, he was running along with agent Ehka behind Sae.

“Stop! Stop, you witch!” Ehka cried her lungs out and Ashuta was right next to her. Ehka glanced at him once and never minded his presence.

And it was same for Freebie station security guards. He dared looking back and there were a packed crowd of station guards chasing her and shooting at her same time. But Sae would dodge and evade every shots, slashes, traps, and barricades they prepared in advance. She was running on floor for a moment and then she was running on a side wall. She’d vanish for a second and she was running on ceiling.

Basically, a long human train was chasing her.

“Hahahahaaaa,” She continued to laugh out loud. “Woohoo!”

Her movements were very unpredictable and Ashuta at one point lost her. She who was running ahead simply vanished from sights.

Agent Ehka and other station guards paused and looked around swiftly.

“Where the hell did she go?!” Agent Ehka shouted and demanded others to spot her.

“I don’t see her!” A guard shouted in response.

“I don’t see her, either!” Another shouted.

Stomping her foot repeatedly, Ehka muttered with a very frustrated voice. “God damn it! She was right in front of me a sec ago!”

Ashuta was looking around as well. At the same time, he slowly made a distance away from the security guards. After all, he was with Sae. He eventually made his way back to Sae’s shuttle and there she was.

There was Sae who was leaning her back against the shuttle door.

“What took you so long?” She muttered. “I was about to leave alone.”

“You just vanished. I didn’t know where you were.”

“Rule one.” She pointed her index finger up. “When you lose your leader in a mission, you immediately return to your base or extraction point. No need to play a hero.”

“I came back as fast as I cou-”

“Nope.” Sae cut him off. “You looked for me. You were lucky that they were so preoccupied looking for me. If they weren’t, they would have questioned you because you weren’t even wearing a Freebie station uniform.”

She had a point.

Sighing, he apologized to which Sae responded by making V sign again with her index and middle fingers.

“Rule two,” She said, “Can you guess why I was acting like a crazy motherfucker out there?”

*‘Because you are really crazy?’* was what he almost said.

“It’s not because I am crazy!” She yelled and then she moaned, crossing her arms.

“Okay, well, I AM crazy. Well, anyway, you saw how many I was dragging out with. It’s a diversion. If this was a real mission, a real team would be doing their thing while I created a havoc outside.”

She was actually making sense except...

“Why are you telling me all this?”

“Cuz I am bored. That’s all.”

There was some truth in her statement though.

“Let’s go back to...” When she was about to turn around and open the shuttle door, agent Ehka and station guards rushed in.

“There she is!” Ehka shouted as she pointed at Sae and again she didn’t pay any attention to Ashuta. “Get her!”

Sae hastily opened the shuttle door and gestured Ashuta to get in.

“Hurry, kid! Hurry!”

As soon as Ashuta got in, Sae followed and shut the door. "Get to the pilot seat!"

"What? Me? I am going to pilot?"

"You do know how to pilot a shuttle, don't you?" Sae rushed to a window to see what was happening outside. "Hurry up and launch the shuttle! Activate shields ASAP!"

He did know the basics of shuttle operations. He did read up from the Net since he had been interested in purchasing a shuttle for himself.

Setting himself in a pilot's chair, he quickly activate its mainframe and lifted it off the ground.

"The shields! The shields!" Sae yelled as the shuttle started taking shots.

He quickly activated the shields and piloted the shuttle out of the bay.

"Are we safe?"

"I think not. That agent Ekka is really itching to get me. This ain't over, I bet."

Narrowing his eyes, he wondered what would happen. "What now? What's going to happen?"

"I see few cruisers undocking!"

A shuttle would stand no chance against a single cruiser, let alone "few". Even a reinforced military-grade shuttle would still have no chance against a single cruiser.

"Fuck, what now?!"

"Kid, seal the pilot's cockpit!"

He had no idea what she meant. “What?!”

“Go to misc under main menu! Activate seal cockpit. It will seal up the cockpit area!” Sae was busy looking through a rear window.

“What are you trying to do?!”

“Isn’t that obvious?! I brought you here for an interview! If I bring your dead body to Lila, she will kill me!”

“So? What are you going to do?”

“I am going outside and destroy the cruisers! Seal the damned cockpit already so I can go out!”

Widening his eyes, Ashuta looked back toward Sae with amused eyes. “Are you fucking nuts?! You can’t survive in space!”

“Hah!” Laughing off, she was readying to override safety protocol on the shuttle door. “You will see, kid!”

“Holy crap, she’s really going to open it!” He quickly went to misc under main menu and found the option. A retractable insulated aluminum door was coming down right behind his chair. Seeing the cockpit being sealed, Sae waved as she overrode the safety protocol. “Just keep going, kid! I will be back soon!”

ESPs and hyper humans had a certain capabilities to survive in space for a short time. Higher their classes were, the longer they would survive in space without a spacesuit. But what Sae was trying to do was a whole different kettle of fish.

“You ARE crazy!” He shouted which Sae could no longer hear; she was already outside.

Sae was outside on top of the shuttle. She was somehow securing her feet onto the shuttle hull.

“Is she laughing? In space?!” Ashuta was monitoring her through a camera. Sae looked like she was laughing out loud.

Soon, both of her arms below elbow started to ooze with some kind of black substance and then she posed to dash.

“What the hell is she doing?!”

Three cruisers were chasing after the shuttle and Sae was in direct view of them. When she dashed, she created a mild shockwave which rocked the shuttle. He quickly adjusted external camera angle to see what would happen.

Her whole body started to envelope in oozing dark substances and her whole figure became something of an oozing black bullet. And then she went right through a cruiser’s frontal shield and crashed into its hull. The cruiser started to explode in quick succession from the spot Sae crashed into and a chain reaction of more explosions occurred which eventually blew up the whole cruiser.

“Holy shit,” Ashuta uttered in awe.

She dug herself out of exploding cruiser and dashed toward the next cruiser and the same thing happened to the second cruiser. The third cruiser quickly turned around.

“Holy crap, she did it. She destroyed two cruisers with bare hands.”

Sae the little witch. Her nickname had its merit.

She returned to the shuttle and knocked the retractable cockpit seal. The retractable door slowly rolled itself up. She was covered with soot and ashes, but she was alive and well.

“Okay, kid, outta the seat. This is my shuttle after all.”

He wasn't going to argue. After what he had observed, he wasn't going to argue or even talk back. The girl was a monster. He didn't mind being called “a kid”, either, at this point.

He stood up at once and moved away from the seat. Soot and ash covered Sae sat into the seat.

“We are going back to the colony now.”

“Yes, ma'am.”

He wasn't going to argue. He wasn't going to talk back. And then she asked out of blue.

“Wanna fuck me now?”

“No, ma'am!”

This time, it wasn't because she looked like a kid or anything. It was out of both fear and respect.



When they were finally back, Lila and Reed were waiting.

“Hey, mom and dad.” Sae casually greeted them as she exited her shuttle. Ashuta followed right behind. Lila smacked Sae’s head as soon as she was in range.

“Hey, what was that for?!” Sae yelled in protest.

“I told you to give him an interview!” Lila exclaimed. “I did not tell you to take him to Freebie station and cause havoc!”

“But mommy!” Sae had tears in her eyes.

“I am not your mother!”

Meanwhile, Reed approached Ashuta.

“Hail, my name is Reed. And that is Lila.”

“Hello.”

“I apologize for this. I assure you that this was not meant to happen.”

Reed was Gvew’s only son. He and Gvew never saw things eye to eye and Reed eventually parted ways.

Chuckling, Ashuta replied with a grin, “It was ... some experience.”

Reed chuckled. “I bet. I went through a similar experience when she gave me an interview.” He approached and whispered. “I hope you weren’t raped?”

They both laughed pleasantly.

Ashuta was eventually taken to Lila's office. Reed stood by her.

"I am sure that you know why you are here," She told him.

"Yes, I was told you want to hire me."

She nodded and added, "You being here still alive means you passed her tests."

Reed added, "If you had slept her, she would have killed you and kicked you out of her shuttle."

Ashuta had cold sweats on his back. Although it was never in his mind that he'd sleep with her, Sae attempted to seduce him for over a week. It wasn't easy to keep repelling her. At one point, he felt like just giving in and get it over with.

"Since you passed her test, I will not ask you anything from you. You are hired," Lila declared. "Unless you wish to reject this offer."

"If you don't mind me asking, what is it like to working for Freedom colony? And is pay any better?"

"Those are genuine questions," Lila replied indifferently.

According to Lila, he would no longer take tasks and missions from the agency anymore. He would report to her directly and take missions from her. She was uncertain of the wage however.

“If you kept yourself busy with jobs from the agency, you could have been making more than what we pay you,” She said, “You will be on a fixed wage regardless how many missions you take. You may make less money but you will have way more spare time.”

Lila said Ashuta would be paid 25,000c per season.

Seeing Ashua made almost a million in five years, he would be making way less money.

“By the way,” Reed said. “I heard you were looking to buy a shuttle. We can provide you with one, for free.”

***Done deal.***

“I do have a question. Why me? Why me of all people?”

Lila and Reed glanced at each other and Lila gave Reed a faint nod.

“There have been only two people who came back alive from Sae’s tests,” Reed said. “I was the first one. You are the second. Does that explain enough for you?”

Not really but Ashuta chose that as an acceptable answer.

“Welcome to the team.” Standing up, Lila extended her hand for a handshake.

*Oh, well...*

Ashuta struck out his hand as well for the handshake. “Thank you, ma’am. I am looking forward working with you.”

**Fin**