

# Reality bites

Von abgemeldet

Just a little ficlet ;)

Reality bites

„You should stop that!”

Ran shot around and found herself face to face with a pretty woman, glad in jeans and a white t-shirt. She really didn't want to take this after the argument she just had with Shinichi.

“And who the hell would you be?” she asked bitinglly.

“Doesn't matter!” the woman replied. “I'm just here to tell you to stop it. Or you'll lose him forever.” She was so damn calm, it was abrasive.

“Who ARE your?” Ran almost screamed at her.

“Do you really have to ask?”

Shiho just looked at Ran. She knew it was a close call. Ran didn't stop to pester Shinichi for the fact that he left her alone for such a long time, often in such dire situations. She understood, kind of. But he was losing his nerve. And he had endured enough. He would be her first call for eternity, no matter how well she could understand the girl.

Meanwhile Ran was just staring at her, obviously thinking hard. And then she clearly put the pieces together. Disbelievingly she almost breathed, “Ai...how...how...”

Shiho just grinned evilly. “See...you can make the right conclusions.” her voice dripping cynism. She knew Shinichi would hate her for what she was about to do, but she had no doubt it was the only way to make Ran realize what she was doing.

“And now...go on thinking.” Shiho bit out, “Think further. Think about...why Shinichi

would leave you alone...THINK...Who was there all the time, no matter what? Who risked his life for you? Who did you suspect to be the one you love more than once?"

There was a kaleidoscope of feelings on Ran's face. Disbelief, shock, surprise, denial.

Shiho just was calm. It was the point of no return. She hadn't wanted to jump in for a while now. Chris had warned her, Jody had warned her, Yousako had warned her, but there was one thing; Shinichi. None of them knew Shinichi like her. SHE had been with him. SHE had seen him fight for Ran no matter what. SHE knew how despondent he was on HER.

Ran was Shinichi's focus. She was the center of his life. She was the one thing he fought for. She was the one reason he had survived. AND she had to realize this.

"NO!" she screamed. "NO...that's not true!"

'God...how blind is that girl? If I didn't love you so much I would leave now.'

"Ran...do you know how much I hate you?"

It was the truth. Shiho didn't like it, but it was the truth. "You got something, that's so rare, you don't even know it. You got love without any condition." Shiho had ditched the hope, to get something like that. She hadn't been able to get Shinichi Koudo's love. She couldn't imagine anyone else's.

"Do you know how often I wished it was for me? He...I didn't even know men like him existed. He loves without any conditions. And he never wavered. Not once. There was never the hint of a doubt. And he kept QUIET. Do you know WHY?...To protect YOU."

She sat there, on the ground; tears streaming her cheeks now. Shiho knew Ran had it. She had realized the truth, no matter if she wanted or not. She KNEW who had protected her.

"How?"

"A poison I developed...They wanted to kill him at the tender age of seventeen. There are just two people who survived this. Him... and me. And Shinichi retaliated. He survived. And he struck back. He fought nail ant teeth. And he won. What do you think, why, Ran?...He was at your side all the time. He never left you. He wasn't able to. I'm sure he didn't realize it, but he loves you so much, he would die for you...and he kind of did.

"I know you lost Conan...when Shinichi left to do the final deed. I know you never understood and I know you think you can't forgive him. But you've got to know, you'll lose everything if you don't. You'll lose them both. That's all I can say...except probably...that you will kill him, if you continue like this." And with that she turned and left. It was all she was able to do. It was all she could give Shinichi. It was all she could do for him.

And she just could hope it worked.

end