

E331 - A Bowl of Ramen

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

[00:05] (Flashback) H

Here's your ramen!

[00:07] I

Late on New Year's Eve,

[00:09] I

that scruffy-looking man ordered not
New Year's soba, but a bowl of ramen.

[00:16] I

"I can't eat this much."

[00:19] I

Saying that, the man took two extra cups,
divided his ramen into three portions,

[00:23] I

and shared them with my husband and me.

[00:26] I

And after devouring his
portion in an instant,

[00:30] I

he left, walking down the wintry
streets with his stomach rumbling.

[00:38] I

The next year, and the year after that...

SIGN Hokuto Shinken

[00:41] I

Every New Year's Eve, that man would visit.

[00:44] I

He would always use
what little money he had

[00:48] I

to order a bowl of ramen
and share it with us.

[00:53] I

Each time, my husband would
divide it into three portions,

[00:56] I

load one of them up with pork topping,
and serve it to the man.

[01:01] I

Meanwhile, he would slurp on
ramen that was nothing but soup.

[01:05] (Flashback) H

Ikumatsu.

[01:07] (Flashback) H

This is our restaurant's
year-end tradition now.

[01:12] (Flashback) H

Should anything happen to me,
make sure you keep it going.

[01:17] I

That would turn out to be the last
bowl of ramen my husband ever made.

[01:22] I

It would also mark the end of the little
year-end tradition the three of us shared.

SIGN Gintama

SIGN Slip Arc

SIGN A Bowl of Ramen

SIGN Hokuto Shinken

SIGN Watch the Slip Arc in a bright room
and at a safe distance from your TV!

[03:07] I

He didn't come last New Year's Eve, either.

SIGN Ramen

[03:11] I

Ever since my husband passed away,
he hasn't shown up at all.

[03:15] I

He was a strange one.

[03:17] I

He clearly had no money to spare,
but he'd share his ramen with us

[03:21] I

and then leave, still hungry.

[03:23] I

He must've been really lonely.

[03:26] I

Maybe he was coming here
for company, not ramen.

[03:31] I

Who knows where he is
and what he's doing now?

[03:34] I

Meanwhile, here I am,
upholding my husband's last wish

[03:36] I

and waiting for him with a bowl
loaded up with pork topping.

[03:40] I

Here's your ramen—

[03:42] Shin

Don't try to hog the pork!

[03:45] Gin

Shut it! I'm the one who won big at pachinko!

[03:47] Gin

You sit there and sip on the soup!

[03:49] Kag

The egg! Let me just have the egg!

[03:50] I

Jeez, you three.

[03:52] I

Why not drink a soup of the dirt in that
old man's nails while you're at it?

[03:56] I

I hope he's doing just as
well as you seem to be.

[04:00] I

I can't help but be worried.

[04:02] Kat

Ikumatsu-dono, I would say
your concern is unnecessary.

[04:06] Kat

If that poor, lonely man was coming here
seeking company at the end of the year,

[04:12] Kat

it's actually a good thing
that he stopped showing up.

[04:16] Kat

He must've settled down in life

[04:17] Kat

and found someone he can eat traditional
New Year's food with instead of ramen.

[04:21] Kat

Or maybe the ramen here got
worse once you took over—

[04:25] I

Here's your soba!

[04:27] Shin

Y-You know that's not right, Katsura-san!

[04:29] Shin

Ikumatsu-san's ramen is the best in Edo!
No, the best in the universe!

[04:33] Shin

There's no doubt that man is just
dying to have it one more time, too!

[04:36] Shin

Right, Ikumatsu-san?

[04:37] Kag

He's got some nerve to not show any
gratitude after all that pork he ate.

[04:40] Kag

If he's got money now, he should come
back and share some ramen with us.

[04:44] Shin

What do you have to do with anything?

[04:46] I

This is a task my husband left to me
after worrying about it until the end.

[04:51] I

Taking over the restaurant was all well
and good, but this lingers with me.

[04:55] I

And I haven't returned that scarf, either.

[04:57] I

But you're right.

[04:59] I

He must be leading such a happy life that
he forgot all about this dingy ramen shop.

[05:05] I

I'll just assume that's what happened.

[05:06] I

Either way, there's nothing I can do
but stay here and keep making ramen.

[05:14] Gin

Hey, Zura.

[05:16] Gin

Unlike you, I'm a busy man.

[05:19] Kat

I'm not Zura. I'm Katsura.

[05:20] Gin

I'm in luck today.

[05:22] Gin

The dice and the cards
are all waiting for me.

[05:25] Kat

What's that saying? A fool with a big
mouth and his money are soon parted?

[05:29] Kat

I said what I did earlier out of
consideration for Ikumatsu-dono.

[05:32] Kat

But Gintoki, what do you think
happened to that man, honestly?

[05:37] Gin

He had no home or family,
and he was old to boot, right?

[05:41] Gin

Probably died on the streets, at best.

[05:43] Kat

Probably.

[05:45] Kat

But that's only if the
man was truly homeless.

[05:48] Kat

This scarf he forgot at the restaurant...

[05:51] Kat

It's worn out from use,
but it's a high-quality item.

[05:55] Kat

It would also have stuck out like a sore
thumb if a homeless man was wearing it.

[05:59] Kat

We might be able to find him.

[06:01] Kat

If he's still alive, that is.

[06:04] Kat

But if you truly are in luck today,

[06:07] Kat

I might be able to clear
my tab at Hokuto Shinken.

[06:10] Gin

Not happening. Anyway,
what I want to know is...

[06:13] Gin

Zura, did you get all the way
to **** base with Ikumatsu?

[06:19] Kat

O-Of all the disgusting
accusations! Have some shame!

[06:22] Gin

I mean, you're always on
her side for some reason,

[06:24] Gin

and I keep running into you every

time I go there for ramen lately.

[06:28] Gin

So you haven't sealed the deal yet, huh?

[06:29] Gin

And here I thought you'd already sucked on something else besides ramen.

[06:32] Kat

Don't be stupid!

[06:34] Kat

As if Ikumatsu-dono and I would ever have , **get **** and** ,

[06:37] Kat

or worse, ** like *****!**

[06:40] Gin

Uh, I never said anything that vulgar.

[06:43] Gin

Yeah, you have always been the passive sort.

[06:47] Gin

So you wanna pound the pavement here and then pound Ikumatsu while you're at it, huh?

[06:52] Gin

If that's how it was, you shoulda said so sooner.

[06:54] Gin

I can give you a discount on the cupid service.

[06:57] Kat

I didn't ask for that!

[06:58] Gin

Don't play dumb! I know your tastes inside and out!

[07:01] Gin

You've always been into married women.

[07:01] Shin

That's one weakness I didn't expect.

[07:03] Gin

Come to think of it, your first love as a kid was a neighborhood widow—

[07:07] Kat

You dare insult a samurai?! Keep it up and I won't hesitate to cut even you down!

[07:11] Kat

I'm not into married women!

[07:14] Kat

I'm into cuckoldry!

[07:16] Shin

You just exposed a fetish that's

totally unbecoming a samurai!

[07:18] Kat

And it's not Ikumatsu-dono
that I'm in love with!

[07:21] Kat

It's the taste of her soba!

[07:23] Kat

She inherited that from her husband,

[07:25] Kat

and I just want to make that
man eat it one more time.

[07:28] Kat

Eat that bowl of ramen she
promised her husband to serve.

[07:31] Gin

How admirable.

[07:33] Gin

You wanna pound the pavement to help her
fulfill her promise with your love rival?

[07:38] Kat

Unfortunately, we're not rivals in love.

[07:41] Kat

It's not something I will ever be.

[07:44] Kat

Because Ikumatsu-dono only
has eyes for one man.

[07:51] Bum

Hey, what's all that about?

[07:53] Bum

That's one young newcomer.

[07:56] Kat

Pleased to meet you.

[07:58] Kat

I grew sick of being a samurai,
quit sticking swords in people,

[08:02] Kat

and chose to stick myself in a cardboard box.

[08:04] Kat

My name is Katsura Kuzutaro.

[08:06] Kat

I hope to get along with all of you.
You may casually call me Kuzura.

[08:10] Bum

For someone who grew sick of his life,
you're awfully lively, Kuzura-san.

[08:14] Kat

I'm not Kuzura! I'm Katsura!

[08:16] Kat

And this here is my partner, Kuzuta—

[08:20] Gin

Hey, how did things end up this way?

[08:22] Bum

The other guy's got the same
look in his eyes as us.

[08:25] Bum

Welcome, Kuzuta-san.

[08:27] Bum

Hey, nice to meetcha.

[08:27] Gin

As if! Don't lump me in with you lot!

[08:29] Kat

The best people to ask about a
homeless man are the homeless.

[08:33] Kat

I came up with this cover to
make them less wary of us...

[08:36] Kat

But I'm amazed you blended in
instantly. That's my Kuzuta.

[08:40] Gin

That doesn't make me happy!

[08:42] Gin

I really should've gone looking for the
scarf store with Shinpachi and Kagura.

[08:46] Kat

Sorry, but who among you
knows a lot about this stuff?

[08:49] Kat

I have a lot of questions
regarding the cardboard life.

[08:52] Bum

Oh, then you should go meet the Lawd.
You can introduce yourself, too.

[08:56] Kat

The Lord?

[08:57] Bum

Yeah. The chief of cardboard boxes
and leader of all the homeless here.

SIGN Lawd

[09:02] Bum

We call him Lawd, for
Leader At the Waste Dump.

[09:04] Bum

The Lawd knows all, and he can

solve most problems you might face.

[09:08] Musashi

What's going on? It's awfully noisy.

[09:11] Bum

It's the Lawd! The Lawd has
graced us with his presence!

[09:19] Gin

Hey, what are you doing, Hasega—

[09:23] Mu

Men, throw these two out of Eden at once.

[09:27] Gin

Uh, what are you talking about?
What the hell is "Eden"?

[09:30] Gin

Hey, stop talking through an interpreter.

[09:32] Gin

You're totally made in Japan.

[09:35] Mu

These two bring disaster wherever they go.

[09:38] Gin

Uh, I don't wanna hear that
from a walking disaster.

[09:42] Gin

I'm willing to ask as many times as it takes.

[09:43] Gin

What are you doing? Why are you
here at your age, Hasega—

[09:47] Mu

Quit chanting the Hasegawa death spell!

[09:50] Gin

It's your damn name! And use
your own mouth to speak!

[09:52] Gin

You're pissing me off!

[09:54] Mu

The lower realm's mores don't apply here.

[09:57] Mu

This is Eden.

[09:58] Mu

A different world where those who have
been liberated from everything gather.

[10:02] Gin

That so?

[10:03] Gin

I don't care if you're Hasegawa-san
or the Lawd anymore.

[10:05] Gin

Just trash either way.

[10:06] Mu

Who're you calling trash?!

[10:07] Gin

Say, did you ever see anyone
wearing this scarf—

[10:10] Mu

Can't answer that.

[10:12] Mu

Everyone here is truly free.

[10:15] Mu

Nobody is allowed to pry into
or bring up their past lives!

[10:18] Mu

And we have no information
to share with outsiders.

[10:22] Mu

If you wish to become one of us so badly,

[10:25] Mu

offer me 30 bags of empty cans and

[10:28] Mu

60 discarded convenience
store lunch boxes as tribute.

[10:31] Mad

Got that, uh... Kuzuta-san, was it?

[10:34] Mad

Only the people who were at rock bottom in
the lower world can make it to the top here.

[10:40] Gin

If you're gonna laugh, do it yourself!

[10:44] Bum

Lawd!

[10:48] West

Pick up empty cans?

[10:50] West

Save yer sleeptalkin' for when yer asleep.

[10:52] West

I thought we made it clear this was our yard.

[10:56] West

All the empty cans and discarded
convenience store lunch boxes are ours!

[10:59] West

You louts hurry up and get
outta this park already!

[11:01] Gin

Who the heck are those guys?

[11:02] Bum

The Westside Gang!

[11:03] Bum

The armed cardboard gang who control
the west side of this park!

[11:07] Gin

What the hell is an armed cardboard gang?

[11:09] Bum

They're upstarts that use violent oppression
to expand their rule on cardboard!

[11:14] Gin

Wait, what? Did we enter the Warring
Cardboard Era while I wasn't paying attention?

[11:20] Mu

Get outta here!

[11:22] Mu

This is a free utopia!

[11:24] Mu

We won't hand it over, no
matter how many times you try.

[11:26] Gin

You're stepping on the Lawd!
He was trying to say something!

[11:28] Mu

We won't give in to violence!

[11:30] Mu

We only fall to our knees
in our cardboard boxes!

[11:33] Gin

But the Lawd's totally giving
in to violence beneath you!

[11:35] Gin

And this interpreter's just
running his mouth now, isn't he?

[11:38] Bum

Interpreter? What are you saying, Kuzuta-san?

[11:41] Bum

This is the Lawd.

[11:43] Gin

What?! *He* was the Lawd all along?!

[11:46] Gin

Then what was with the old man next
to him who was dressed all godlike?

[11:49] Bum

That's the guy always mumbling
something by the Lawd's side.

[11:52] Gin

In the end, you've hit rock

bottom in this world, too!

[11:56] Bro

Now there's a face that takes me back.

[11:58] Bro

I found an unexpected diamond
buried in the trash.

[12:03] Bro

I see.

[12:04] Bro

So you came here, too...

[12:07] Bro

Katsura!

[12:08] Kat

Y-You're...

[12:14] Gin

Who are you, again?

[12:15] Bro

Don't interpret for the
people watching at home!

[12:17] Bro

Don't tell me you forgot...

[12:20] Bro

How you got me thrown in jail for that woman

[12:23] Bro

and reduced me to being homeless!

[12:29] Gin

I see.

[12:30] Gin

After crossing swords with
you at the Land of Korin,

[12:32] Gin

I never expected you to return as a cyborg.

[12:35] Bro

That's Mercenary Tao!

[12:37] Bro

Just look at the quality
difference in our comebacks!

[12:39] Kat

I remember now! You're Ikumatsu-dono's
brother from back then...

[12:43] Kat

Fancy running into you here.

[12:46] Bro

I'd rather you didn't sum it up so easily.

[12:49] Bro

I mean, ever since then, I've lived my
life thinking of nothing but you guys.

[12:54] Bro

You two ruined my life,

[12:55] Bro

so I was chomping at the bit for a
chance to get my revenge on you two!

[13:00] Kat

Oh? By becoming king of
this cardboard mountain?

[13:04] Kat

Talk about a roundabout revenge.

[13:06] Bro

Look, I know that you're
here to look for that man.

[13:12] Kat

What are you talking about?

[13:14] Bro

Don't play dumb.

[13:16] Bro

I know all about it.

[13:18] Bro

How my brother desperately looked for
him here while he was still alive.

[13:23] Kat

Ikumatsu-dono's husband did what?!

[13:25] Bro

How that man visited that
filthy ramen place every year,

[13:30] Bro

and just who he is, too.

[13:37] W

Um, if I may ask, where did you get this?

[13:42] Shin

Oh, we're looking for its owner, too.

[13:46] W

This crest on the lining
certainly is Nishikiya's.

[13:50] Kag

Really? Does it ring any bells?

[13:53] Kag

Did some filthy old man come here to buy it?

[13:56] W

This isn't one of our products.
It belonged to the master of Nishikiya.

[14:00] Kag

Master? Like the boss of this place?

[14:04] W

Yes. I remember him wearing it

with style whenever he went out.

[14:10] Shin

Where is he? Where is he now?

[14:13] W

He passed away around 20 years ago.

[14:18] W

Why would this thing show
up after all this time?

[14:20] Shin

Um, was it given away to
someone after he died?

[14:24] Shin

Are there any family members who might know?

[14:27] W

Just the young miss.

[14:29] W

But she was very young when her father died.

[14:34] W

She probably doesn't remember anything.

[14:36] W

Nishikiya is a textile store that the
master and mistress built themselves.

[14:42] W

Right when they'd overcome hard times
and put up shop, the master passed away.

[14:47] W

After that, the mistress made the
store grow this big all by herself.

[14:51] W

But she died six years ago, too.

[14:54] W

On top of that, the young
miss lost her husband.

[14:59] W

So even if she doesn't
remember anything anymore,

[15:01] W

I'm sure the young miss will
be delighted if she sees this.

[15:07] I

I wonder about that.

[15:09] I

After having the scarf
taken without permission

[15:11] I

and people sniffing around
without her knowing,

[15:14] I

even the gentle young miss might get angry.

[15:17] I

Just kidding.

[15:18] I

Delivery for you, Osono-san.

[15:21] Bro

Katsura, I came here to kill that man.

[15:27] Bro

"That man" being Ikumatsu's dad,
who is said to have died 20 years ago.

[15:43] I

Oh, you're trying to find that
homeless man using this scarf?

[15:48] I

Jeez, you could've just told me.

[15:51] I

Sorry you went through all
this trouble for my sake.

[15:56] I

Yes.

[15:57] I

The scarf belonged to Nishiki Matsugoro,
Nishikiya's founder, who died 20 years ago.

[16:03] I

And I'm Matsugoro's daughter,
Nishiki Ikumatsu.

[16:08] Shin

Y-You're Nishikiya's heiress?

[16:13] I

Sorry I didn't mention it.
It's just not me, you know?

[16:17] I

Running a ramen restaurant
suits me much better, right?

[16:20] I

Of course it does.

[16:21] I

Nishikiya may be one of the
top textile showrooms now,

[16:25] I

but until it was started,
we lived in abject poverty.

[16:29] I

But while life was hard, we had fun.

[16:32] I

Even if we had nothing to eat, the three

of us supported one another as we lived.

[16:37] I

But it all came crashing down the moment
we became able to live a decent life.

[16:42] I

Ironic, right?

[16:43] Shin

If I may ask, how did your father pass away?

[16:47] I

I was really young back
then, so I have no idea.

[16:51] I

Besides, he was living elsewhere
with his mistress back then.

[16:57] I

As soon as our store got on track,

[17:00] I

he apparently made a move on
one of the girls working here.

[17:03] I

Mom found out and threw him out.

[17:06] I

Not long after that, we heard
that he'd died of illness.

[17:11] I

People were saying he deserved it for
abandoning his wife and daughter,

[17:16] I

but I still remember how
sad my mother looked then.

[17:22] I

I don't know how the scarf found
its way to that homeless man,

[17:26] I

but I'm guessing it means my dad
was living a similar life to him.

[17:32] I

Thinking about it that way, I just
can't think of him as any old man.

[17:36] I

Sorry I made you waste your time for me.

[17:39] I

Ultimately, maybe people are best off when
they have to fight to live another day.

[17:46] I

The moment we have more than we
need, our eyes start to wander.

[17:51] I

I feel like we could clearly see what was important when we were poor.

[17:57] I

If it weren't for that, I'm sure his eyes wouldn't have strayed from us.

[18:04] I

And we would've been able to forgive him, too.

[18:10] Kat

Ikumatsu-dono's father is alive?!

[18:13] Bro

That's right. He was barely scraping by in this dump.

[18:18] Kat

No way. You mean the homeless man who kept visiting the restaurant was...

[18:24] Bro

Wait, you really didn't know?

[18:27] Bro

And Ikumatsu didn't realize that he was her father?

[18:33] Bro

That's funny.

[18:35] Bro

She forgot what her own dad looked like?

[18:40] Bro

Of course you'd forget about a scumbag who left his family for another woman.

[18:46] Bro

Isn't that right?

[18:47] Bro

How long are you gonna stay silent? I know you're here.

[18:52] Bro

Whatever.

[18:53] Bro

I'm sure the kindhearted Katsura-san can't sit tight after learning all this.

[18:57] Bro

Katsura, you bring Ikumatsu's old man to me.

[19:00] Kat

What?

[19:01] Bro

Don't get any funny ideas.

[19:05] Bro

I control pretty much all

the homeless in this town.

[19:08] Bro

I think some starving homeless even camp out at the dump near the Hokuto Shinken.

[19:13] Kat

You knave!

[19:15] Bro

This is my revenge.

[19:17] Bro

Bring me the head of the father of the woman you love.

[19:26] Bum

Lawd, what should we do?

[19:29] Bum

The Lawd was right.

[19:31] Bum

Those guys really brought about a disaster.

[19:34] Bum

We should've thrown them out right away.

[19:36] Bum

Who's Ikumatsu's old man, anyway? I've never even heard of someone like that.

[19:40] Mu

No need to worry.

[19:42] Mu

We already found Ikumatsu's father.

[19:47] Mu

Hurry up and take this man in shades to that punk.

[19:51] Mad

What're you pulling the Lawd's strings for?!

[19:54] Mad

Who're you calling Ikumatsu's old man?!

[19:56] Kat

You must endure this, Hasegawa-dono.

[19:58] Kat

Ikumatsu-dono has practically been taken hostage.

[20:01] Kat

We can't do anything unless we shut up that knock-off Mercenary Tao.

[20:04] Mad

Before that, do something about this knock-off Commander Ikari!

[20:08] Mu

Listen up. Use Shades as a decoy to distract the enemy.

[20:13] Mu

In the meantime, I'll guide these men
outside the park via this secret passage.

[20:18] Mad

Why's the Lawd getting into it, too?

[20:21] Kat

Lawd...

[20:23] Mu

Instead of looking for her father,

[20:27] Mu

you must first ensure the daughter's safety.

[20:31] Mu

Don't lose sight of your cause.

[20:33] Mu

And my cause is... No matter whose
father or how big a scumbag they are,

[20:38] Mu

I will protect everyone here!

[20:40] Mad

But you're not protecting me at all!

[20:43] Mu

We should work together.

[20:44] Bum

What are you talking about, Lawd?

[20:46] Bum

You're half-senile, fool.

Can you really show them the way?

[20:49] Mu

Who're you calling a fool?!

[20:51] Mu

I plunged into the straight man
routine the moment I was born!

[20:53] Mu

This way! Follow me!

[20:55] Bum

Where are you taking a plunge now?!

[20:58] Bum

Hey, we'll handle things here,
so take care of the Lawd.

[21:03] Mad

In the end, I get to lead
this band of idiots?

[21:06] Mad

I'm done with this crap. I'm gonna
leave this place and find a proper job.

[21:09] Kat

I still can't believe that homeless

man was Ikumatsu-dono's father.

[21:14] Kat

He was going to see her
unbeknownst to all, huh?

[21:17] Kat

And he hid who he was due to the
guilt over abandoning his family?

[21:21] Kat

In that case, why did he
suddenly stop showing up?

[21:25] Kat

Because he'd seen that his daughter
was blessed with happiness?

[21:28] Gin

She lost her husband, and now a weird
guy with long hair is stalking her.

[21:32] Gin

Nobody would consider her blessed.

[21:33] Kat

I never stalked her!

[21:35] Gin

Keep it down. What if they hear you?

[21:37] Gin

You're not used to straight man
work. Don't push yourself.

[21:39] Mu

Yeah! Let me plunge into the
straight man routine instead!

[21:41] Mad

Seriously, where do you think
you're taking a plunge?!

[21:44] Mad

The Lawd's getting swept away!

[21:45] Gin

You've got it wrong, Hasegawa-san.

[21:47] Gin

This straight man really wants to
plunge into Ikumatsu's pus—

[21:50] Mad

Hey, knock it off!

[21:51] Mad

I can't handle these three stooges!

[21:54] Gin

H-Help!

[21:55] Gin

I... I can't swim!

[21:55] Kat

Screw you!

[21:57] Kat

When did I say I wanted to plunge into
Ikumatsu-dono's , , or *****?

[21:59] Mad

*Look, we don't have time for that!
Help me rescue him!*

[22:03] Mu

I'll take the plunge instead!

[22:05] Mad**

Why?!

[22:06] Mad

I can't deal with this!

SIGN To Be Continued

SIGN Preview

[23:41] Mad

Once this chaos blows over,
I'm going to seriously look for a job.

[23:45] Mad

I mean it. This isn't a death
flag or anything, okay?

[23:48] Mad

I'm serious, by the way.

SIGN A Family

[23:50] Gin

Next time: "A Family."

SIGN A series of surprising reveals

SIGN from a complex web of relationships.

SIGN The next episode features so many twists and turns,

SIGN you'll stop worrying about who would ever hire Madao.

Revision #1

Created 2024-03-07 21:19:47 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-03-07 21:19:48 UTC by whimsee