

EXT. OUTER SPACE/INT. PLANETARIUM

A view of Outer space was interrupted by a red light. The view went out of focus for a moment and comes back with a clearer circular frame. Footstep was heard hurrying closer. Hastily knock on the door follows.

MURAMATSU

HAYATA! Are you there?

Movement of the frame reveals it was from a telescope. HAYATA's eye lingers on the phenomenon before turning to the door. Unlocking the heavy antique door reveals MURAMATSU, the senior holding a pile of picture and notes. Muramatsu found himself a table and spread his documents over the messy desk, earning an audible irritation from Hayata.

MURAMATSU

Listen, remember the lake incident I told you three days ago? Got an update on that, actually. Why don't you come with us for an investigation.

Hayata turns his attention to the documents on the table, unimpressed. He drags a stool under the telescope before using it to reach and tweak the telescope.

HAYATA

Yeah, the one debunked by Elk News. Did you bring drinks?

MURAMATSU

(reveals a graph from the notes)

Well, the thing is...Fuji found something new. There are researchers sent by the governments. Look at this radiation signature, familiar?

Hayata reads the graph in disbelief. Muramatsu starts packing things for him immediately.

HAYATA

It's the signature of the blue entity we observed...

HAYATA

You serious about this? You know I can't get in anymore trouble with you again right? I can't lose this place.

Muramatsu can see the struggle underneath Hayata's retaliation.

****ABANDONED DRAFT**** [Cannot establish status quo.]

EXT. OUTER SPACE/INT. PLANETARIUM - DAY

A view of Outer space was interrupted by a red light. The view went out of focus for a moment and comes back with a clearer circular frame. Movement of the frame reveals it was from a telescope. HAYATA's eye is fixated on the red phenomenon before getting distracted by a school bell noise. Window binders parted to reveal students walking into campus far away. Hayata picks up a cup of coffee from the frame and left as sun.

EXT. CAMPUS EXTERIOR

The planetarium makes a secluded landmark from the campus ground. Muramatsu hurries by a news stand. Tread back to grab a sheet while taking a glance at the lonely planetarium. Muramatsu violently skim through most of the pages before finding the article he is looking for. The rest of the paper are thrown in a can outside of a classroom.

INT. CLASSROOM

Muramatsu sits in the back row of the classroom. As the other students come in, one empty seat adjacent to Muramatsu's points to a sore vacancy. Muramatsu spend all his attention on his news clip during class.

EXT. CAMPUS HALL

Muramatsu sits along the wall of the campus hall waiting for someone. After a while, a sharp-dressing young woman with a camera and a bag of documents shows up beside Muramatsu. Muramatsu gives her a cigarette and gestures for her documents. FUJI takes the cigarette, but did not recuperate the gesture. Instead, she sits beside Muramatsu.

FUJI

Hayata didn't show up?

MURAMATSU

Nah, didn't see him in dorm or classroom.

FUJI

How long has it been? Two weeks already? You sure you don't wanna go to him again?

MURAMATSU

Nine days, actually. And YES. I AM going to drag him out of his den this time, and for that I need your findings. So, would you gracefully cut to the chase and hand me the documents.

FUJI
(hands the document over, but retract before Muramatsu reach it)
Are you sure you can convince him this time?

MURAMATSU
Do I need to show you my rehearsal? Come on now, I got this.

FUJI
(again with the same gesture)
Oh and one more thing. I'm coming with you.

MURAMATSU
Are you sure? This has nothing to do with you.

FUJI
You aren't gonna leave me out of it this time. You asked me for help. It's our business now. It's always us three, remember?

Muramatsu sighs and gestures Fuji to follow him. The two walk towards the planetarium.

INT. PLANETARIUM[Add something about signals and water]

HAYATA lies on a blanket, staring at the roof through a book on his face. He hears a knock on the door and got up instantly. Hayata mumbles as he paces around the room in panic. Another knocking hit the door before Muramatsu speaks.

MURAMATSU
HAYATA~~~ We know you're there.

Hayata was taken aback by his visits. He snapped back after a second and attempted to tidy up the enormous mess of an observatory. The door is blocked by a mountain of appliances. Hayata crawl through it as another string of knocking is heard.

The door is pried open as Hayata peeks out, finding an enthusiastic Muramatsu.

HAYATA

What's this? Don't you guys have class today?

MURAMATSU

We're here to deliver some news for you, actually.

Hayata peek behind Muramatsu, noticing Fuji holding a box of paper and notes. Muramatsu responds with a shit-eating grin. Hayata sighs and closed the door.

HAYATA

Hold on a second.

The door closed and noises of furniture shuffling were heard. Beat. Hayata opens the door to let the two in. Muramatsu swiftly find a place for his bag, retrieving two cans of beer. Fuji dumps her box of paper on the already messy desk. Hayata groans before Muramatsu snatches his attention with him, opening both can with each hand. Muramatsu gave him an eyebrow raise and a light shake of the can. Hayata stares at him, then takes a sip of his cold coffee.

FUJI

Last time we investigated Kussharo, The locals said there was a crater, right?

HAYATA

But the police denied it, and we didn't find anything substantial, so?

FUJI

(pointing at the weather data on the paper)

Indeed, but look at what we've found from the local weather bureau. The amount of rain the lake received compared to the data from three months ago.

HAYATA

Couldn't these just be a rainy year? How does this prove anything?

MURAMATSU

The interesting part is this. (puts another graph on the table) Data shows that during this storm no significant increase of water level is recorded. Then, local government started blocking access to the mountain area citing heavy mist.

FUJI

And now there are rumors that the village nearby is being evacuated.

Beat.

HAYATA

So what's your hypothesis?

FUJI

There's something that dropped inside the lake. A creature? A device? Something that mess with the weather around that lake.

MURAMATSU

Something that would warrant government investigation.

Hayata walks off with the papers towards a wall covered in notes and a map. He takes a look at a line drawn across the map pointing towards the lake. It's the trajectory of the red entity. Hayata turns to a picture on his desk. The picture depicts Muramatsu, Fuji, Hayata and a much younger boy next to the trio. The astronomy student takes a deep breath and turns to his inquisitor.

HAYATA

Well then, what's the plan, captain?

Muramatsu and Fuji gives Hayata a devilish smile.

EXT. ROAD OUTSIDE CAMPUS - DAY

Hayata and Fuji stood on the side of a vacant road outside campus. The two carry multiple packages of supplies and observation equipment.

HAYATA

So... Where did Muramatsu find these people? I don't remember him ever doing something in welfare.

FUJI

Charity Club. He got in touch with a lot of people during these two weeks. From hospital to school. He basically knocked every door in the vicinity of TTT.

HAYATA

(shaking head in

disbelief)
What did he even do that for?

FUJI
Well... Someone had to continue
the investigation, don't you
think?

Fuji's side-eye and smirk made Hayata wince. Fuji
sighed as she turns back.

FUJI
He tried very hard to help you
out, you know. It's worrying
seeing you like this.

HAYATA
How's Hoshino doing?

FUJI
There's... progress.

HAYATA
Well, that sound VERY convincing!

FUJI
More progress than you do. That
I'm sure.

Silence. Hayata looks disturbed and anxious.

Fuji intends to apologize but was interrupted by a
truck arriving. Muramatsu gets off the vehicle with two
other university students. They start loading the truck
with the supplies and equipments.

MURAMATSU
Quick, strap those stuff on
truck. Which one's our equipment?

FUJI
Those marked reds.

MURAMATSU
Put them under, then. Supplies
should be on top.

IDE
AH HOLD ON! I have canvas. Here,
put them over the cargo. Then you
don't have to worry about hiding
the stuff.

HAYATA
Thanks. Name's Hayata.

IDE
IDE, physics major. Heard a lot

of good things about you.

Muramatsu took the canvas from Hayata and begins covering the cargo with Fuji.

MURAMATSU

Hayata, go turn on the truck.
You'll drive.

HAYATA

What? NO! They own the truck. Why
not just let them drive?

Muramatsu gave Fuji a look.

IDE

(winks at Hayata)

Actually, this is from our org.
But still appreciate the trust,
bro.

Muramatsu walks up to Hayata and slaps him on the back.

MURAMATSU

Great, strap on then.

Hayata is confused.

CUT TO:

INT. TRUCK - DAY

The engine roars as Hayata and Fuji grab on the door railings for dear life. Their face contorted and pale. The whole truck trembles like an ascending rocket.

FUJI

HAYATAAAA! I'M SORRY! COULD YOU
PLEASE DRIVE NEXT TIME? [Put a
callback to Hayata's revoked licence]

EXT. MOUNTAIN SIDE ROAD - HEAVY MIST/ INT. TRUCK

The truck stops at a checkpoint set up by the local police. Bars and cones guards the entrances to a wall of mist. An Officer comes up to the truck and knocks on the door window.

OFFICER

Shimon Charity? Name?

IDE

Yes, sir. This is Nihei and...

MURAMATSU
(interjects Ide)
Kobayashi! I'm sorry sir, but we
are running a bit late.

The officer looks at the rest of the crew. All three
gives weak smile following the rocky ride. He turns
back to Ide.

OFFICER
The exclusionary zone is
expanding. Have you guys enter
before?

IDE
No, sir. But we have maps. No
worries.

The officer glances at the map in Ide's hand. His
gesture unconvinced. The officer walks off saying
things into his radio. Muramatsu and Ide exchange a
worrying look.

The officer stroll back to Ide.

OFFICER
It's pretty dangerous ahead. You
guys will follow our car.

Ide exchange a glance with Muramatsu. The ladder
signals approval.

IDE
Thanks, sir. You go right ahead.

Ide's truck follows the police car into the
exclusionary zone. As they enter the misty road, the
police car gradually becomes two faint red lights
floating ahead.

IDE
So pick up at five, yeah?

MURAMATSU
That's the plan.

OTHER MAN
Wait. How would we meet up under
this weather?

MURAMATSU
We'll meet up at the village. Let
the police guide us out. Easy.

HAYATA
The police will likely not wait

for us.

MURAMATSU

If that's the case, we can wait
for another truck to pick us up.

IDE

Huh? I thought this is a one-day
operation. I got class tomorrow!

MURAMATSU

Saturday? C'mon, man, just skip
it! Let's go for dinner. Bar?

OTHER MAN

HOT POT!

FUJI

HOT POT ON TOSHINO!

MURAMATSU

Wait WHAT?

The whole truck started chanting for Muramatsu, expect
the subject. The road bump intensifies. Ide hit the
brake out of the blue, jolting the crew forward. The
passengers hold their head in pain.

OTHER MAN

WHAT THE FUCK IDE!

Ide's eyes are fixated in front. He frantically pats
the dazed Muramatsu. Only a dead end hides behind the
thick layer of mist. The police car is nowhere to be
found. Muramatsu shakes down his window. The outside is
completely in silence. No bird, No insects, only a
slight hint of wind and water surrounds the crew.

OTHER MAN

How the hell did you lost the
police?

IDE

I DID! Their trail light suddenly
went left, so I followed!

OTHER MAN get off the truck and paces forward in an
attempt to find the police car. Hayata pats Ide in a
worry as the man's silhouette is about to disappear.

HAYATA

Follow him quick!

Hayata holds a rope in his hand.

HAYATA

OOOYYY! Sir!!!

IDE
(interject)
Arashi!

HAYATA
ARASHI SAN! Take this with you.

ARASHI reemerges from the mist, confused. Hayata gets off and toss one end of the rope to Arashi. The latter buckles it on his belt and goes back searching for the missing officers.

Beat.

Arashi has been walking among the mist for a good few minutes. Ide's truck slowly follows as Hayata feeds the rope from the side of the truck. Only the slow humming of the truck and wet footsteps from Hayata and Arashi could be heard. The rope in Hayata's hand jolted sideways. Hayata grab onto it trying to pull back.

HAYATA
ARASHI, STOP RIGHT THERE!

No respond. Ide speeds forward. The crew all shouted at the scout. Following the rope, the truck arrives at a small cliff. The crew gets off the truck to find Arashi knee-deep in mud facing in another direction. Just then, Arashi realizes his detour.

ARASHI
What happened guys? How did you get up there?

FUJI
How did YOU get down there?

ARASHI
I just walked straight till the road becomes mud.

MURAMATSU
You didn't hear us calling?

IDE
Muramatsu. Look.

Ahead of Arashi are broken remains of the police car, half-sunked in the mud. The door seems pried open. The polices were nowhere to be found.

MURAMATSU
What the fuck is wrong with this place?

HAYATA
There's definitely something influencing us.

FUJI

The Mist?

HAYATA

Muramatsu, did you bring kit?

Muramatsu took out a box of testing paper from the cargo. Hayata and Fuji collect some dew from the canvas and dip the paper in. In the meantime, Arashi attempts to step towards the car, but the mud makes it difficult. A few seconds passed. Only a few papers changed color.

HAYATA

This just looks like normal rain water.

MURAMATSU

If we rule out the mist, then what do we have?

HAYATA

No, it might not be the water itself. But there might be something transmitted through the mist. An electromagnetic wave or some sort.

FUJI

That tricks our perception... could it be a creature?

HAYATA

My hypothesis is that there is some kind of aquatic predator in that lake. It's releasing the mist to expand its influence above water to... you know.

IDE

Then what do we do now? Find the monster? There's a village nearby!

MURAMATSU

We make sure we are safe. Then, we can think about helping the villagers. Hayata, do you have any idea how the predator locates us?

ARASHI

GUYS, HELP! There's someone stuck in the mud!

The crew turn to Arashi, who is now deeper in the mud near the car remain.

MURAMATSU
USE YOUR ROPE! WE'LL PULL!

Arashi releases his rope and tie it to the body under the mud. Meanwhile, water rises from the ground around Arashi.

HAYATA
WATCH OUT!

Arashi feels the body descend suddenly. He tries to grab on the rope, but the force overpowers him. The rope was being rapidly draw away. Muramatsu, Fuji and Ide jumped to catch it. The three landed on the slope with just the end of the rope. Hayata reach out to Muramatsu.

HAYATA
Muramatsu!

MURAMATSU
Take the rope! Tie it!

But Hayata can't reach the rope. The water continue to rise, slowly consuming Arashi. Fuji and Ide struggle to hold their ground. Hayata heard something from far above. The rear-view mirror reflects a pulsating red star from far away. As the red star draws near, the water suddenly stops. However, the crew's brief relief is met with an even thicker mist. Muramatsu turns to Hayata shouting something, but his voice was gone under the thick mist. Hayata is alone with the truck.

EXT. MOUNTAINSIDE ROAD - DAY

Hayata's hand trembles, face pale and breath quickens. He looks around and takes a deep breath.

HAYATA
Okay now. Where are you, and WHY
are you hiding?

Hayata gets into the drive seat. A second of thinking gives him an idea. He turns on the truck and starts blasting music. Pedal pressed to the max as the truck

roars on the mountain road.

Hayata drives along the road while dodging trees and cliffs. From the rare view mirror, Hayata sees a pond of water gathering behind the truck. The water seems to be following the vehicle. Hayata smirks. He takes another glance, noticing the red star slowing following. Hayata stops the truck. The water quickly surrounds the lone driver. Several bubble surfaces in the muddy water. Hayata opens the door and slowly put his foot down. The water licks his boot like a hungry carnivore being tempted by flesh.

The red spark reflects on the water. The entity in the sky seems to scary off the elusive water beast as the water vapidly dissipates. Hayata looks around and starts sprinting towards the lake.

EXT. LAKE - DAY

Hayata runs into the lake till the water is knee-high. He stomps on the water bed.

HAYATA
WHERE ARE YOU? COME OUT, YOU
COWARD.

Hayata takes off his bandage and squeeze on his cut finger. The few drops of blood did not elicit any reaction. Hayata pulls out his pocket knife[Need to foreshadow these elements earlier], hesitates, then slices his wrist. Hayata groans as he squeezes the cut. Streaks of blood drops in the water. The bubbles return as the water turns red. Hayata looks up. The sky is also illuminated red by the star. The water bed starts quaking. He's almost there. After a roar, Hayata dip his wrist in the water. Cracking noises and hollowing roar echoes from the bottom of the lake as the lake boils and ground descend to drag Hayata down. The red entity responds with a shining white light and a screech of energy gathered to a point. The entity shoot out a line of laser, engulfing Hayata and the lake in a burning white light.

CUT TO:

EXT. LAKE WITH RED SKY - DAY

Hayata stands knee-deep in the lake. Everything seems to be the same, except the blood-red sky illuminating everything crimson. The water is quiet. Hayata plants himself directly in place, looking around, trying to make sense of the situation.

VOICE
What compels you to throw your

life away?

HAYATA
Wuh... Am I dead?

VOICE
What compels you to sacrifice
yourself?

HAYATA
... to lure out the monster?

VOICE
Was it worth?

HAYATA
What do you mean?

VOICE
Your friend. Was it worth it?
Will they miss you?

HAYATA
I... I don't know...

VOICE
Then what compels you?

HAYATA
... I... had to repay them. I
made mistakes, yet they're here
for me. I owe them.

Beat.

VOICE
Bemular has not yet be defeated.

HAYATA
(lower his head)
... I figure.

VOICE
Shin Hayata, I purpose a
contract: I lend you strength; in
turn, show me how you will right
those wrong.

Something materialized on Hayata's right hand: a cylinder-shaped device with a button and a red orb reminiscent of the red entity. Hayata clench hard on the device. His reflection in the lake looks back at his tired face. He holds his breath and press the button. The red orb hums and shines as energy filled the device. The orb cracks, releasing a blast of light consuming Hayata.

CUT TO:

EXT. LAKE -DAY

A huge explosion blasts the lake. Among the flying sand and water, a silver and red giant emerges.

CUT TO:

TITLE CARD: ULTRAMAN