

**MORAL VALUE OF PROTAGONIST'S STRUGGLE IN KOYOHARU
GOTOUGE'S *DEMON SLAYER: KIMETSU NO YAIBA***

A THESIS

By

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**SUBMITTED TO
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Medan, 22 November 2024
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APPENDIX

Author's Biography

The manga artist Demon Slayer, writing under the pen name Koyoharu Gotouge. He is 34 years old and from Fukuoka Prefecture in Japan. The mangaka's home is on the hilly island of Kyushu. Which has a large population and is one of Japan's main industrial centres. This is in stark contrast to the setting of Demon Slayer, which incorporates numerous real-life sites around Tokyo.

To retain anonymity, the author adopts a pen name, which is popular in the manga and anime communities. Although they have opted not to display their face, instead presenting themselves as an avatar of an alligator wearing glasses, there are some subtle hints to their identity.

The author of the serialised Demon Slayer writing under the pen name Koyoharu Gotouge, was published by its first chapter in 2016. The manga follows Tanjiro, the teen protagonist, as he trains hard to combat demons while feeling enormous empathy for these once-human monsters.

Over the years, Gotoge published many one-shot shonen comics, including Rakkotsu-san and Haeniwa no Zigzag. However, Gotoge's Kimetsu no Yaiba, which debuted in 2016, irrevocably changed the manga landscape. This pioneering series, largely based on the original Kagurigari, grew into the formidable Demon Slayer franchise.

Characters

Tanjiro Kamado

Tanjiro Kamado (竈門 炭治郎, *Kamado Tanjirō*) is the oldest son of charcoal sellers Tanjuro and Kie, whose family was killed by Muzan Kibutsuji while he was away selling charcoal; his sister Nezuko survived, but was turned into a demon. Since then, his goal has been to find a cure for her and turn her back into a human; to this end, he decides to become a Demon Slayer.

Nezuko Kamado

Nezuko Kamado (竈門 禰豆子, *Kamado Nezuko*) is the second child and oldest daughter of Tanjuro and Kie, who was turned into a demon during the massacre of her family and survived despite Muzan assuming that he failed to sire a sunlight-resistant demon. She serves as motivation and support for Tanjiro, who becomes a Demon Slayer to find a way to turn her back to normal. Though her mind was lost, she retains enough of her memories to keep herself from killing Tanjiro.

Zenitsu Agatsuma

Zenitsu Agatsuma (我妻 善逸, *Agatsuma Zen'itsu*) is a cowardly boy who was forced to join the Demon Slayer Corps around the same time as Tanjiro in order to pay off his debts. He serves as comic relief, with his flighty personality serving as a contrast to Tanjiro's steadfast determination. He trained in the "Thunder Breathing" (雷の呼吸, *Kaminari no kokyū*) style with the former Thunder Hashira, but was only able to learn the first form; as a result, he often belittles himself despite being highly skilled.

Inosuke Hashibira

Inosuke Hashibira (嘴平 伊之助, *Hashibira Inosuke*) is a boy who was raised by wild boars and taught to speak by an old man after his mother, Kotoha, sacrificed herself to save him from Doma, the Upper Rank Two. He is illiterate as a result of his upbringing and often forgets or mispronounces names. He uses a self-taught style called "Beast Breathing" (獣の呼吸, *Kedamono no kokyū*) and dual wields two indigo-gray serrated swords; when he gets new swords, he purposely chips them to match his preferences and fighting style. He is brash and prone to violence, and while appearing to be dim, has proven himself in battle. He normally hides his face behind a mask made from the head of his deceased boar mother, which he wears to honor her.

Kanao Tsuyuri

Kanao Tsuyuri (栗花落 カナヲ, *Tsuyuri Kanao*) is a girl who joined the Demon Slayer Corps at the same time as Tanjiro, Zenitsu, and Inosuke. She is the adoptive sister of Shinobu Kocho, the Insect Hashira, and is trained as her Tsuguko, a successor to a Hashira. She uses the "Flower Breathing" (花の呼吸, *Hana no kokyū*) style. Despite being a skilled fighter, she struggles to function without other's orders as a result of growing up in a poor, abusive household and being sold as a slave, leading her to shut off her emotions to cope.

Genya Shinazugawa

Genya Shinazugawa (不死川 玄弥, *Shinazugawa Gen'ya*) is another Demon Slayer who joins at the same time as Tanjiro. He is harsh, independent, and obsessed with killing demons but mellows out later on when he fights alongside Tanjiro to save the Swordsmith Village. Unlike other Demon Slayers, he is unable to use breathing techniques or traditional sword fighting styles; instead he consumes parts of the demons

he fights, which, through his special digestive system, allows him to temporarily gain their powers. How strong he becomes varies on the strength of the demon he devours, and this also makes him vulnerable to a demon's weaknesses.

Demon Slayer Corps

Kagaya Ubuyashiki (産屋敷 耀哉, *Ubuyashiki Kagaya*)

The 97th leader of the Demon Slayer Corps, whose family established the organization. He is a distant relative of Muzan, resulting in his bloodline being cursed with a disease that slowly kills them before reaching their thirties due to their connection with Muzan's blood. He is gentle but firm and has dedicated himself to leading the Corps, garnering the respect of the Demon Slayers he commands.

Amane Ubuyashiki (産屋敷 あまね, *Ubuyashiki Amane*)

Kagaya's wife and caretaker, who later takes his place during meetings with the Hashira when he cannot attend. She also assists in leading the Corps and was responsible for rescuing and recruiting the Mist Hashira, Muichiro Tokito. She dies in the explosion of the Ubuyashiki estate due to staying with her husband.

Hinaki Ubuyashiki (産屋敷 ひなき, *Ubuyashiki Hinaki*)

The first of the Ubuyashiki children with her twin sister Nichika and the eldest daughter of Kagaya and Amane, who serves as his aide during meetings with the Hashira. She dies in the explosion of the Ubuyashiki estate due to staying with her father.

Nichika Ubuyashiki (産屋敷 にちか, *Ubuyashiki Nichika*)

One of the Ubuyashiki children and second eldest daughter of Kagaya and Amane, who, like Hinaki, acts as Kagaya's aide. She dies in the explosion of the Ubuyashiki estate due to staying with her father.

Kiriya Ubuyashiki (産屋敷 輝利哉, *Ubuyashiki Kiriya*)

Kagaya's only son and the third of the Ubuyashiki children, who appears during Tanjiro's Final Selection. Following Kagaya's death, Kiriya becomes his successor, commanding the Demon Slayer Corps in the final battle against Muzan and his forces. After Muzan's death, Kiriya officially disbands the Demon Slayer Corps, as their mission to vanquish him and all demons has been accomplished.

Kuina Ubuyashiki (産屋敷 くいな, *Ubuyashiki Kuina*)

The fourth of the Ubuyashiki children, and the older twin sister of Kanata. After the death of her family, she assists Kiriya in leading the Corps during the final battle.

Kanata Ubuyashiki (産屋敷 かなた, *Ubuyashiki Kanata*)

The fourth of the Ubuyashiki children, and the older twin sister of Kanata. After the death of her family, she assists Kiriya in leading the Corps during the final battle.

Demons**Muzan Kibutsuji**

Muzan Kibutsuji (鬼舞辻 無惨, *Kibutsuji Muzan*) was the first and strongest demon in existence. He was originally a sickly young man who lived during the [Heian period](#), who was turned into a demon as a result of an experimental treatment intended to save his life. Since then, he has dedicated himself to using his blood to sire demons in an effort to create a

demon immune to sunlight. This goal motivates him to attack Tanjiro's family in an attempt to turn them into demons, and after Nezuko, the sole survivor of the attack, manifests an immunity to sunlight, he focuses his efforts on capturing and devouring her.

The Twelve Kizuki

The Twelve Kizuki (十二鬼月, *Jūnikizuki*) is a special group of demons who serve Muzan and have a special mark of their membership engraved on their eyes. Second only to Muzan, they are the most powerful demons to have lived. The six weakest are known as the Lower Ranks and have a single eye engraved, while the six strongest are called the Upper Ranks and have both eyes engraved. After Rui's death, Muzan decides to eliminate the Lower Ranks and have only the Upper Ranks under his command.

Tanjuro Kamado (竈門 炭十郎, *Kamado Tanjūrō*)

The husband of Kie and father of Tanjiro and Nezuko, who Tanjiro inherited his earrings and the Hinokami Kagura from. Despite his frail body and illness, Tanjuro was skilled at using the style, never tiring during his yearly night-long dance in frigid weather and being able to decapitate a large bear with ease.

Kie Kamado (竈門 葵枝, *Kamado Kie*)

Tanjuro's wife and mother of Tanjiro and Nezuko. After her husband's death, she was left to take care of them by herself, with Tanjiro helping her. She managed to support and keep her family happy until her death.

Takeo Kamado (竈門 竹雄, *Kamado Takeo*)

The third child of the Kamado family and Tanjiro's first younger brother. Unlike his family, he is more reserved and introverted.

Hanako Kamado (竈門 花子, *Kamado Hanako*)

The fourth child of the Kamado family and Tanjiro's second younger sister. She adored him and wanted to follow him when he left to sell charcoal, but Kie forbid her from leaving. Tanjiro told her to wait for him until he returned, but was killed by the time he returned.

Shigeru Kamado (竈門 茂, *Kamado Shigeru*)

The fifth child of the Kamado family. Like Hanako, he adored Tanjiro and wanted to follow him, but was killed by the time he returned.

Rokuta Kamado (竈門 六太, *Kamado Rokuta*)

The youngest child of the Kamado family, who was killed despite Nezuko trying to protect him. She is often reminded of him when she sees other humans.

Sumiyoshi (炭吉)

An ancestor of the Kamado family who was friends with Yoriichi Tsugikuni, the creator of Sun Breathing, and developed the Hinokami Kagura based on a demonstration Yoriichi made to him and his family. He also received from Yoriichi the Hanafuda earrings which Tanjiro wears.

Sumihiko Kamado (竈門 炭彦, *Kamado Sumihiko*)

A 15-year-old boy who is Tanjiro and Kanao's descendant in modern times and resembles Tanjiro.

Kanata Kamado (竈門 カナタ, *Kamado Kanata*)

A 16-year-old boy and one of Tanjiro and Kanao's descendants in modern times. He is Sumihiko's older brother and resembles Kanao.

