

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

The sushi master with a sword

Final Draft

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INT. SUSHI JOYFUL - DAY

On the grand opening day of a small sushi restaurant called sushi Joyful, a young man has been standing at the counter for hours doing nothing. No customers in the restaurant. He is staring at the other sushi restaurant, sushi Eden, across the street.

INT./EXT. SUSHI EDEN - DAY

There is a long line in front of Eden. Eden looks like a normal restaurant except for two robots wearing a pure white uniform and making sushi rhythmically. GEEK GEEK

INT. SUSHI JOYFUL - DAY

At sushi Joyful, the man signs waving his head. He is,

ETHAN (24), After several years of hard training, he finally opened his restaurant on that day.

ETHAN

What a hell...

Ethan looks at a small household shrine near the ceiling.

ETHAN (cont'd)

Jiro, What should we do...

On the shrine, besides small food and a charm, a photo is displayed - The middle-aged sushi chef with a big knife, which is like a samurai sword, is cutting a big tuna. He is,

JIRO (45), the legendary sushi chef who first opened a sushi restaurant in the city. He used to be a great mentor for many young chefs but now no one knows where he is.

ETHAN (cont'd)

If only he were here...No, Stop  
Ethan. He is like a legendary chef.  
No one knows where he is.

INT. SUSHI EDEN - DAY

At the back of the Eden, The TV crew is interviewing an middle-aged plump man. He is,

ADAM (53), CEO of the robot technology company. His company creates the sushi robot.

REPORTER

So, Could you tell me the benefits of your sushi robot?

ADAM

Well, unlike humans, they never get tired, sick, or complain about their salary. Look at this. My robots can make the same sushi every time. And they are rechargeable and dishwasher safe. Even children can use them.

Adam takes a glance at Joyful.

ADAM (cont'd)

We don't need to spend much time, effort ,and money to become sushi chefs anymore. hahaha.

INT. SUSHI JOYFUL - DAY

Watching the interview on the TV in his restaurant, Ethan strikes the counter. BANG. Then he starts making sushi. he goes straight to Eden.

INT. SUSHI EDEN - DAY

Ethan runs into Eden and yells at customers.

ETHAN

Hey, This is the real sushi robot can't make! Have a real one at my restaurant!

The Reporter gets annoyed and tries to complain. Adam stops her.

ETHAN (cont'd)

Don't be fooled by this shit!

Ethan slaps the robot's head. SLAP! The next moment, He holds his right hand.

ADAM

my robot is bulletproof and as hard as a tank.

The robot continues making sushi as if nothing happened.

ADAM (cont'd)  
Okay, let my robots make the same  
sushi as yours. Ah, Tuna, Salmon, and  
shrimp. all right.

INT. SUSHI EDEN - DAY

Adam orders those to the robot. Two robots complete their  
order in no time.

Adam brings it to the reporter.

ADAM  
Could you taste and compare these?

INT. SUSHI EDEN - DAY

The reporter gets excited and asks her crew to film her  
eating.

First, she tries Ethan's.

THE REPORTER  
Good. Hmm, but pretty normal.

As she eats the robot's sushi, she squints and sighs.

THE REPORTER (cont'd)  
Gosh, I can't believe this is sushi.  
This is...an art!

She gets amazed. Adam grins and looks at Ethan.

ADAM  
I'm sorry but you should change your  
job.

Ethan is so humiliated that he is blushing. The camera is  
filming everything. He runs away.

ADAM (cont'd)  
Wanna win my robot? you should bring  
legendary Jiro. But No one knows  
whether he is still alive or not.haha

FADE OUT

INT. SUSHI JOYFUL - DAY

A few days later. There are still no customers in Joyful. A  
boy and his mother are passing by.

BOY

Mom, I saw him on TV. He is a loser!

The mother stops the boy and takes him away quickly.

INT. SUSHI JOYFUL - DAY

Ethan gets mad and throws a wet towel at the front window. It goes in the wrong direction and hits the household shrine. Then the photo falls on the floor.

Ethan picks it up and stares at it.

As tears come out of his eyes, Ethan realizes there is a small road sign behind Jiro in the photo. It says a name of a fishing village.

He wipes tears out and goes out of the restaurant.

EXT. FISHING VILLAGE EDO - DAY

Ethan gets to the village and walks around there asking people for Jiro. Nobody knows the name.

EXT. SMALL VILLAGE PIER - DAY

Ethan sits on a pier, looking at the photo. Suddenly, a strong wind blows his photo. BLOW

ETHAN

Oh Shit, wait!

A Male fisherman who is fishing at the end of the pier catches the photo. He is staring at the photo for a while.

ETHAN (cont'd)

(panting)

Thank you, sir. Could you give it back?

FISHERMAN

Do you know him?

ETHAN

No way. I'm looking for him.

FISHERMAN

For what?

ETHAN

I gotta tell him to beat the sushi robot. otherwise, all sushi chefs are gonna be wiped out.

Fisherman starts laughing loudly.

FISHERMAN

(returning the photo)

You should give it up. He won't.

ETHAN

Do you know Jiro?!

FISHERMAN

Just give it up.

ETHAN

take me to his house, Please! I wanna talk to him.

FISHERMAN

No.

The fisherman goes away.

ETHAN

Wait!

Ethan is following him.

EXT. SMALL VILLAGE SMALL HOUSE - DAY

The fisherman gets to a house - an old white house, located right next to the sea. He takes a glance at Ethan and sighs.

ETHAN

Please take me to Jiro's house.

JIRO

Here.

ETHAN

Huh?

The fisherman takes off his straw hat. His face is tanned and has so many wrinkles.

FISHERMAN

I am JIRO. Stupid.

Ethan gets shocked and can't say a word. Ethan realized the big Japanese sword beside the front door. Even though it is rusty, he realizes it is the sword in the photo.

JIRO

I get old and rusty. I've retired. I don't wanna make sushi anymore for the stupid who is happy with robots sushi. Fuck sushi chefs, it's out of date.

Before Ethan says a word, Jiro goes into the house and closes a door. BUMP.

ETHAN

I won't leave here until you accept my offer!

Ethan sits down in the front yard of the house. Jiro sees him through the window and waves his head. SIGH.

Ethan comes close to the sword. It's horribly rusty. he comes up with something and goes away. He goes back with a sharpening stone and some oil.

As he starts sharpening the sword, it starts raining. But Ethan continues to sharpen the sword. The rust on the blade is so thick that he can't remove it easily.

EXT. JIRO'S HOUSE - DAY

The next morning, It's sunny. Jiro opens the front door and yawns. Next moment, he is surprised because Ethan is asleep on the ground holding the sword.

Jiro gets surprised again because now the sword is completely polished.

Ethan wakes up and comes to Jiro. he hands the sword towards Jiro.

ETHAN

See? I did it.

JIRO

...Why do you stick to sushi chef? Making sushi is a lot of work and little pay. And you never make a compromise on every single piece of sushi.

ETHAN

But we can make people happy with our  
sushi. Whenever my customers say  
'It's so good', I feel satisfied.

Ethan grins. Jiro looks at Ethan. Jiro feels as if he is  
looking at younger himself.

Jiro takes the sword gently. The blade shines reflecting  
sunshine. There are some Japanese words near the grip.

ETHAN (cont'd)

What does this say?

JIRO

"Always think of your customers and  
make them happy". My master gave me  
this sword a long time ago.

Jiro looks at Ethan straight.

JIRO (cont'd)

I can't accept your offer.

Ethan looks down.

JIRO (cont'd)

But, I can help you beat the robot.  
YOU beat the machine yourself.

ETHAN

...Me? But...

Jiro swings the sword. SWING! Ethan gets scared.

JIRO

Do or Don't!?

ETHAN

I'll do! I'll do!

JIRO

Be here tomorrow before sunrise.

START OF MONTAGE

- Ethan is swinging a big Japanese sword many times.
- Ethan tries to catch a fish with his bare hands.
- Ethan is running with a big fish on his back



- Ethan tries to walk on the surface of the sea as Jiro does and he fails.

END OF MONTAGE

INT. LOCAL RESTAURANT - DAY

One day, Jiro invites Ethan to go to a local restaurant. Some local people are waiting for them.

JIRO  
Make sushi for them. You and I. And  
let them taste and compare it.

They start making sushi at the same time. Ethan can make sushi much faster and smoother than before.

They make the same sushi. It looks the same in appearance.

People eat Ethan's first. It's not bad.

Then people eat Jiro's. As they put his sushi into their mouth, they are all shocked a bit and, smile. People eat up Jiro's sushi quickly while they leave Ethan's.

ETHAN  
This again...

Jiro looks straight at Ethan and says.

JIRO  
While I was making sushi...

Ethan looks up at Jiro

JIRO (cont'd)  
I was seeing what you were not  
seeing.

ETHAN  
What?

JIRO  
Why are you making sushi?

ETHAN  
...

JIRO  
You only saw me. Your sushi has the  
same appearance as mine. But that's  
not enough.

Ethan gets puzzled.

JIRO (cont'd)  
You already know the answer.

Jiro leaves the restaurant with local people. Ethan is left alone. He eats some Jiro's sushi. Something is different from Ethan's. Suddenly, something strikes him.

ETHAN  
It could be...

He starts making sushi again.

INT. JIRO'S HOUSE - NIGHT

At Full moon night. Moonlights shine through windows. Jiro is awake sitting on a couch and drinking hot green tea.

GEEK. The door behind him slowly opens. Ethan comes in.

ETHAN  
It took me a bit longer than I expected. Wanna try this?

Jiro takes the sushi and eats it. He nods several times.

JIRO  
Not salty nor sour. Fish is easy to eat because it's sliced thinner than usual. Good.

ETHAN  
You are a bit older so I want to make it simple.

JIRO  
This time, you could adjust the ingredients depending on your customer. That means you could see your customer. Not bad.

Jiro stands up and brings something - the sword.

JIRO (cont'd)  
Take this. As of now, this is yours.

ETHAN  
But...

JIRO  
I SAID TAKE THIS!

Ethan takes the sword. He feels the weight of it in his hands.

JIRO (cont'd)  
I have nothing left to teach you. Go  
and do what you're supposed to do.

Ethan shakes hands with Jiro. The light of dawn shines through the window.

FADE OUT

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Ethan goes back to the city. Now, robot sushi restaurants are everywhere.

EXT.INT SUSHI EDEN - DAY

Ethan goes to the first Eden. The restaurant is crowded as before. Adam is having a meeting about a new restaurant open with his staff. Ethan opens the door of the meeting room gently.

ETHAN  
Let's have a match again.

Adam takes a glance at Ethan's sword.

ADAM  
Hmm, you'll end up with the same  
result. All right, you're making  
sushi for my customers again?

ETHAN  
No, for you.

ADAM  
Sorry?

ETHAN  
I'm making sushi for you.

Adam snickers.

INT. SUSHI EDEN COUNTER - DAY

Surrounded by many customers, Ethan and the robot starts making the same sushi. When he takes the sword, audiences are surprised.

The robot can make sushi much faster than Ethan because he never stops to think about something.

In contrast, Ethan is taking his time - he carefully measures the amount of sources and cuts ingredients with caution.

Since the robot has done its job much earlier than Ethan, Adam tastes its sushi first.

ADAM

Perfect. The taste hasn't changed  
since I opened the restaurant.

Ethan completes his job much later than the robot. He puts the sword back into its sheath gently.

ADAM (cont'd)

Such a long time human need, huh.

As Adam eats one salmon sushi, he loses his word. The fish is fresh and tender but is not greasy. The rice is neither salty nor sour. Vinegar, sugar, and salt are perfectly balanced.

ADAM (cont'd)

This is...

ETHAN

Like I said, I make sushi only for  
you.

Something strikes Adam. He tries another one. As he eats it, he can clearly imagine that Ethan is caring about him while making the sushi.

Adam is standing without words.

ETHAN (cont'd)

Adam?

ADAM

(turning around not  
to be seen his face)

Your sushi reminds me of my mom. When  
I was younger, our family couldn't  
afford to eat out. So my mom made  
sushi for me. Even if she was tired  
at work, she did. Sometimes, it's  
salty and sour. It's not perfect,  
but...

Before finishing his story, A drop of tear comes out from Adam's eye.

INT. SUSHI EDEN COUNTER - DAY

Customers can't understand what happened at first, then they are all yelling. They want to try Ethan's sushi.

ETHAN

Come to my restaurant. It's over there.

FADE OUT

INT. SUSHI JOYFUL

Sushi joyful is packed with customers. Ethan is working busily at a counter. Ethan looks at the place where there used to be the first Eden. Now it is vacant land. Little flowers bloom there.

An old man with a straw hat comes into the shop.

ETHAN

Welcome. Oh,

Jiro grins. Ethan chuckles and takes Jiro to the seat in front of him so that Jiro can see his work.

ETHAN (cont'd)

So, what can I make for you today?

JIRO

I'll leave it to you.

Ethan starts cutting fish with the sword. Customers get excited. A young boy takes his smartphone out. He takes a picture of Ethan cutting fish.

The boy looks up at the little household shrine above.

The picture he just took looks like the photo of young Jiro on the shrine.

END