

# **BLOOD BOUND**

by

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## **LOGLINE:**

The heiress of an overthrown dynasty returns home to avenge the traitors that killed her brother, igniting a civil war between two dueling families.

## **GENRE & FORMAT:**

Serialized hour-long epic fantasy drama.



## **BACKSTORY**

It all started long ago. The feud between two rival clans, the Kumori (powerful Asian warriors) and the Luhr (strong Nordic soldiers) came to a halt when the Gods sent the Oracles, immortal human-like creatures with the gift of foresight, and gave humans another chance at peace.

With the holy messengers as their guides and the future in their hands, both clans annihilated armies, conquered nations and spread the word of the Gods. They had no match. Soon the empire of Baikali took over the Eastern Continent.

But the clans still had to pay for their previous sins. Peace had a price. In exchange for forgiveness and the help of the Oracles, all newborn princesses were to be offered as a sacred tribute. This offering brought peace and the empire flourished. An army that knows the future can't be defeated; a man who knows his destiny can't be killed.

Yet the sacrifices prevented the blending of the bloodlines of the clans' royal families, and so the balance of the empire hanged by a thread.

It was a very delicate balance, which was abruptly fragmented when the Kumori ignored the godly command and kept one of their princesses alive.

You see, twins were born, one girl and one boy, and her family convinced the world that she was a he and the princess was raised as a prince. But time was both their ally and their enemy, for the princess grew older making it difficult to hide the truth. Her family feared retaliation, so on her thirteenth birthday the "prince" was sent away on a decade long mission. Ten years passed until news of his death reached Baikali... and so did his "widow."

No questions were asked. The empire mourned the "prince" and the truth remained hidden... until that dark day when the Oracles discovered that not only had a princess been kept alive but also, as the first born, she was the true heiress of the Empire.

The Gods had been cheated and they demanded blood. The Kumori Royal family was massacred, the twins executed, and the Luhr took the throne.

# THE ARENA

The show begins a year after the Kumori Royal Family was massacred. Small rebellious groups that sympathize with the survivors of the Kumori Clan have started opposing the new regime. All of them are willing to follow a single leader: Ryuu, cousin of the massacred Kumori twins and the army general of the Kumori rebel army.

However, allies remain hesitant, for the whole world knows that, according to the visions of the Oracles, Ryuu will soon die. They all believe he can defeat the enemy army, but they don't believe he can cheat the Gods.

We enter this world on the night that Ryuu is set to die, on the same night that Saya returns and saves his life. This simple moment changes the balance of powers: For the first time the Oracles are wrong in their predictions!

This has a snowball effect on the rebellion. Suddenly, all those that were afraid of the Oracles' retaliation, begin to second guess their own fear, their own faith. Still, things are not that simple. The leaders of this rebellion are willing to follow Ryuu... not the princess that turned the Gods against them. Saya is the one person that can give the Kumori the victory over the Oracles, but she's also the one person they want erased from history.

## MAIN CHARACTERS

### **SAYA (29):**

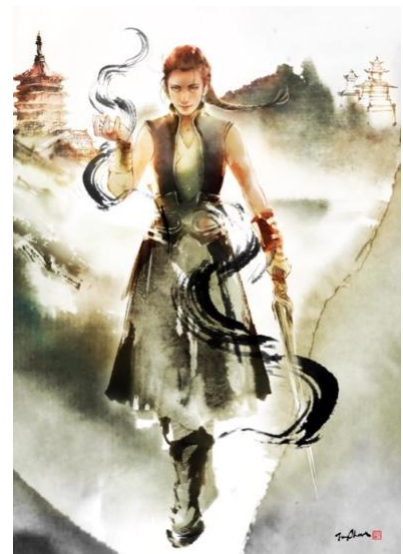
She is one of the Kumori twins and the rightful heiress to the throne... but she's a woman, hence, she should have never existed in the first place.

Her existence is what triggered the war and her survival only endangers the rebel's claim over the throne. Her clan's victory depends on her remaining hidden.

Saya is a warrior the empire army will quickly learn to fear. She is fast, precise and her battle instincts are almost supernatural. She can see and arrow coming her way before it has even left the archer's bow.

Saya comes back with a single goal: To annihilate the royal family that betrayed hers. She will hunt down and kill the 9 Luhr princes, including Eindrige, the man she once loved, the man that executed her twin brother Etsu, the man that killed her... or so he thought.

However, Saya has a dark secret: She is turning into an Oracle herself, and killing Eindrige will complete the transition. Their lives are now linked. If he dies, she dies. If she kills him, she will turn into the thing she hates the most. **Is that a sacrifice she'll be willing to make?**





## **EINDRIDE (29):**

Eindrige is the first born of the Luhr clan.

Along with the twins, he was trained in Kumori battle tactics, economics, politics, languages, you name it, he learnt it.

He has the mind of a politician and the skills of a warrior. A dangerous man to rival.

Eindrige believes the end justifies the means and will do anything to protect the empire. When the Oracles ordered the execution of the Kumori twins, it was him who carried out the sentence. They promised the twins' death would preserve peace, instead, it triggered the current conflict. Eindrige is now skeptic of the Oracles' loyalty.

Even though his clan is fighting to protect their claim over the throne, Eindrige is fighting to destroy the same creatures that bestowed on his family the right to rule.

He is disciplined and collected but has also developed a nasty addiction to the red petals, a drug that keeps Saya's memory alive. This addiction will become his greatest weakness.

**Eindrige is convinced that the Empire must free itself from the Oracle's control. To achieve his goal, he will blackmail his friends, sacrifice his brothers and challenge the rules of the Gods.**

## **RYUU (30):**

He is the heroic leader of the rebels and Saya's strongest ally.

His father, Saya's uncle, trained him to be the next leader of the imperial army and gave him a single task: protect the twins at all cost. Then, the war happened.

Now, he is the General of the rebel army and the leader the Kumori allies will follow. He is the person they want on the throne, ironically, that is the last thing he wants.

Ryuu knew from a very early age that Saya was a woman. He resented the "friendship" she had with Eindrige in their childhood years and he disapproved of their relationship.

We are not sure if he feels love, anger or adoration for Saya, but he's the only person she really trusts, and the only one that knows early on that she is turning into an Oracle.

**He wants Eindrige dead, Saya safe and the Kumori honor restored.**



## **RIMMUR (19-looking):**

She is the Head Imperial Oracle and the main villain of the story. She will do anything to hold onto her position and immortality, no matter the cost.

She might look like a young delicate flower, but there is no clarity on how old she is. Since Oracles are immortal, she could be nineteen or a thousand years old.

Rimmur is untouchable, both literally and figuratively. Touching her is like drenching your skin in liquid nitrogen, a quality that only emerges in Oracles with a long life.

Moreover, **NO ONE QUESTIONS HER WORDS**, for her prophetic skills are unrivaled. It is she who discovered Saya's gender, it is she who hunts her, and it is she who plays puppet master with the leaders of the Luhr.

**Rimmur speaks for the Gods, and therefore, she decides the future of the empire. Her mission: All Kumori traitors must die.**



## **SECONDARY CHARACTERS**

**LIAM (23):** Liam is one of Eindride's younger brothers. Even though he has never witnessed war, he'll be forced to step up as general of the imperial army when Saya kills his brother, Aksel.

He spent the last five years exploring unknown lands in search of a new source of red petals, the drug the Oracles need to see the future. He's an outsider who's jumping into a very complex conflict and he understands very little about the origins of the war. But he is smart and courageous and will become the leader the imperial army will follow.

In turn, Saya will become his mortal enemy, and his hatred for her will only grow as she kills his brothers, one by one. His desire to kill her is his weakness, for he would rather put a sword through her heart, over winning the war. Liam has never seen Saya's face and in a twisted turn of events, he will fall in love with her. Will history repeat itself?

**HANNA (A.K.A. THE WIDOW) (29):** Hanna Etsu's widow and Eindride's future wife. She is a princess of the matriarchal kingdom of Asra, a powerful territory that limits with Baikali. Even though her army is an asset that could determine who wins the war but so far, she has refused to summon her military forces. She will do anything to protect her own people and this is not their war.

After Eindride killed the Kumori twins, Rimmur instructed Hanna to marry the Luhr prince. The empire needs an heir, and she is still the empress the Gods chose. Her one year mourning is coming

to an end and the clock is ticking. Either she marries the murderer or she challenges the Gods and pulls her people into a foreign war.

**OLD ORACLE aka Mrs. WU (70):** She is the Old Oracle that inhabits the mountain temple. She used to live in the palace and was responsible for witnessing the birth of every royal baby. It was her who allowed Saya to live. Her motives, however, were selfish for the one thing this Oracle desires is to die, and legend tells that the bonding of the clans will strip the Oracles of their immortality.

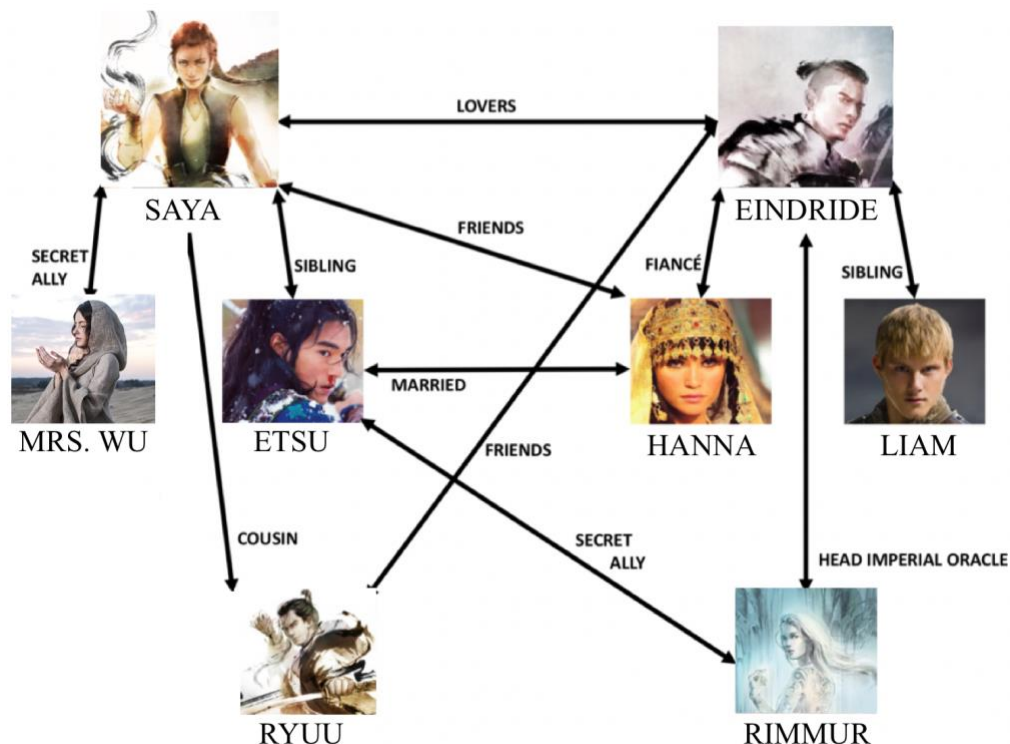
Her single goal is for Saya and Eindride to conceive the baby that will finally allow her to die.

**ETSU (29):** He is Saya's twin brother, Hanna's dead husband, and the person that was supposed to rule Baikali. We only meet him through flashbacks and hallucinations. He is impulsive and aggressive yet honest and has a sense of justice that Saya lost the day he was killed.

Etsu will be Saya's councilor, Hanna's comfort, Ryuu's ally and Eindride's torture; he will be a memory that every now and then speaks to them as if he was a ghost. It is through these different perspectives that we get to see him as a compassionate brother, yet a ruthless ruler.

## MAP OF ALLIANCES

This feud has been brewing for years. Below, some of the character alliances have been clarified/revealed. Be it family, murder, love or sacrifice, everyone here is bounded by blood.



# MYTHOLOGY OF BAIKALI

## THE CLANS:

### THE KUMORI:



The Kumori are warriors by nature. They are impulsive, passionate and fearless people and masters of strategy when it comes to battle.

Their skills in the art of war are only comparable to those of the warriors from the mythical city-state of Sparta. Women are as fast and lethal as their men and children grow up with a sword in hand.

It was the fearlessness of this clan of warriors what molded the invincible imperial army and expanded Baikali's territory.

KUMORI ROYAL FAMILY: Saya, Ryuu, and Etsu.

### THE LUHR:



On the other hand, the Luhr clan is made of witty individuals. They might not be as fearless as the Kumori, but they are smart political strategists.

All the trade roads and riches of the empire were made possible thanks to their vision. Patient and dogmatic, they are the masters of long-term tactics.

Like Athens, the Baikali flourished under their guidance.

LUHR ROYAL FAMILY: Eindride, Liam, 7 remaining brothers.

Centuries merged these two powerful clans transforming Baikali into an unstoppable threat for neighboring kingdoms. War and Politics found the perfect balance and their philosophies intertwined. However, blood is thicker than water and the royal families remained divided. The empire was built on blood and a fake idea of balance.

## THE RED FLOWER:

Used as a trance-inducing drug, the Oracles need the flower petals to trigger their visions of the future. However, some characters will use it as a hallucinogen, not understanding the powerful properties of the flower.

For an untrained consumer, the flower induces an acid-like trip with psychedelic effects. Without knowing, Eindride and Saya will be able to speak with each other, their bodies and minds connected. Similarly, Ryuu and Liam



will witness events miles away and out-of-body experiences. This is a powerful drug with various effects depending on the user, however, it is highly addictive and the withdrawal symptoms can be mortal. Think of it as opium.

## THE ORACLES:

The Oracles are ice-cold beings presumed to be immortal. Even though their origins are a mystery, there are a few rules that apply to these creatures:

- Trance/Foresight: Oracles access the future by consuming **petals from the red flower**. The more they access the trance, the more they lose their empathy for humanity.
- Water and cold: Oracles need only cold and water to survive. These also regenerate their bodies making them eternally young. They heal fast in the presence of either.
- Lineage: Oracles inherit their lineage, but the transition can only be triggered if they are murdered. To fulfill the human-to-Oracle transition, the subject must take the life of the person that killed him/her in the first place (this person is known as the oracle's anchor.)
- Mirror effect: If a human hurts and Oracle, his/her own body will be wounded.
- The "Anchor": These are the humans that killed the Oracle in the first place. The Oracle's life and body are connected to the murderers, like a long-distance Mirror Effect that bonds the nervous systems of both. It's a strange connection that can only be broken when the Oracle takes the life of the Anchor. This is an agonic deed that takes the last bits of mortality from the Oracle. The connection remains until the Anchor dies, so it is in a very literal way, like murdering yourself. If the Anchor dies by the hand of another, so will the Oracle.





# FIRST SEASON EPISODES

- **EPISODE 2:**

Ryuu is alive and a Luhr prince has been publicly assassinated. Ryuu, Saya and Kimiko flee the northern city of Hyunan and head towards the Kumori HQ camp. As they enter ally territory Saya is forced to hide her face. It is clear she is persona non-grata. The plan seems to work, until Tora, Ryuu's father, recognizes his niece.

Back in the capital, the Emperor's health is getting worse. The remaining Luhr princes are summoned to prepare for their father's death. Liam, on the other hand, is forced to continue his journey to Hyunan. Meanwhile, Eindride is being haunted by the memory of the twins.



- **EPISODE 3:**

The news of Ryuu's survival spread fast across the empire. Kumori allies begin to gather again.

Tora is now aware of Saya's survival and will do anything to protect her. On the other hand, Saya is secretive and will do anything to avoid sharing details of her whereabouts for the last year.

When a division of the imperial army discovers the location of the Kumori HQ, Saya and a group of rebels follow and hunt them down. Her eerie battle skills begin to shape the legend of the *Ghost Warrior*.

Back in the Capital, the city welcomes the Luhr princes that begin to arrive from faraway lands. Hanna visits the dying emperor and reveals to the man that she will always remain a Kumori ally, and then... kills him.

- **EPISODE 4:**

The mourning period is over and Hanna is forced to fulfill her duty as the Womb of Baikali. With the emperor dead and the Kumori gaining strength, Eindride is forced to set a wedding date. He will win the war, even if it means marrying a woman he hates.

Liam finally arrives to Hyunan. Like it or not, he is in charge and his men are expecting orders.

Meanwhile, Kumori allies are gathering in the northern territories. It is then that the news of Hanna and Eindride's wedding reaches them. With the Kingdom of Asra as their ally, the Luhr will certainly prevail. The wedding must be stopped.



Following Saya's advice, Tora makes the gory war proposal: All Luhr princes must die for Ryuu to sit on the throne and for the Kumori honor to be restored.

- **EPISODE 5:**

Saya has a secret: She sealed a deal with an Oracle. The ramifications of this deal are not yet clear. She keeps this information hidden from her uncle but Ryuu soon discovers the truth.

As the assassination plan to kill the Luhr princes takes form, two Kumori spies are captured. Ryuu and Saya disobey Tora's orders and go after them.

Liam welcomes one of his brothers to Hyunan, for he's arriving from the north. When news of the captured spies reaches them, Liam asks his brother to join him in the interrogation.



- **EPISODE 6:**

The two Luhr princes come face to face with Saya, aka the *Ghost Warrior*; Liam miraculously survives but his brother is brutally murdered. He demands the blood of this ghost and refuses to go back to the Capital until he finds the warrior, whose face he never got to see.

But the interrogation already took place and the assassination plan is out in the open. The report reaches Rimmur, who decides to keep that knowledge undisclosed. Another intrigue begins to shape.

Saya kills one of the Luhr servants and infiltrates Liam's ranks as the deaf girl that preps the General's chamber. He has never seen her so she remains veiled and he remains oblivious.

- **EPISODE 7:**

Liam discovers the Kumori are building an army of allies, and it is growing fast. He calls for the imperial army to march towards the north.

Meanwhile, Tora shapes a new plan: Trick Eindride into killing Hanna. This would turn Asra into a powerful ally for the Kumori. Saya and Ryuu convince Tora of letting them join the small team of assassins that will carry out the plan. The wedding will be the arena for the gory revenge.

Back in the Capital, Eindride reveals to Hanna that it was Tora who gave him the whereabouts of Etsu the night he killed him. He convinces her that giving him a child and her army is the best way to get revenge on the man.

- **EPISODE 8:**

The imperial army begins its advance towards the Kumori hideout. The rebels have grown strong but they won't be able to fight against the enormous army.

False news of the *Ghost Warrior* haunting the Capital reaches Liam. The young general, obsessed with killing the ghost, confides the command of the army to one of his brothers and heads back to the Capital, he takes the deaf girl with him.

Ryuu discovers that Saya's life is now connected to the life of her murderer. If Eindrige dies, Saya dies with him, and although Tora's plan involves keeping Eindrige alive, Ryuu is not sure Saya will spare the traitor's life. But the plan is already in motion and the wedding celebrations are about to begin, and most importantly, Saya is the central piece of the show.

- **EPISODE 9:**

Liam reaches the Capital and locates the Kumori assassination team. The *Ghost Warrior* is not among them. He is furious. Meanwhile, Ryuu reaches out to Hanna begging her not to marry Eindrige. he reveals to her that Saya is alive.

The wedding celebrations begin and Saya sets the plan in motion. She tortures Eindrige with whispers and apparitions pushing him into thinking he is losing his mind. A mixture of drugs and poisons turn him violent.

She sneaks into his room to kill him... but Hanna stops her. They can both flee, be free of the Oracles and this messed up war. Breaking down in Hanna's arms and seeing the potential of a future, Saya agrees to leave.

- **EPISODE 10:**

Eindrige wakes up alone. He is finally losing his mind... but he's alive.

Back to Saya, she and Hanna try to flee the palace. But it's too late, the wedding celebration reaches its peak... and the Kumori attack.

In battle Eindrige and Saya finally face each other once again. He is shock to the core when he realizes SHE IS ALIVE.

A very similar scene to the season's opening moment when Saya tries to kill Eindrige. But this time, he doesn't fight back, he wants her to kill him... but she can't do it.

She runs away. As she disappears into the woods... we see Rimmur following.



# SEASON ARCS

- **SEASON 1:**

We enter this world a year after the Kumori have been betrayed. Saya assumes the identity of a dead warrior and joins the small rebel army in their attempt to kill the Luhr royal family.

But as the season moves forward and the Kumori gain strength, she will be forced to face the dilemma between taking revenge and losing herself in the process, or running away and having a second chance at life.

By the end of the season, the Kumori army is crushed, however they have gained the allegiance of Hanna's kingdom. Saya has given up on her revenge and disappears once again.



- **SEASON 2:**

After her last confrontation with Eindride, Saya is nowhere to be found. The empire crushes the Kumori army. Ryuu escapes with the survivors to Asra where he forms an allegiance with Hanna. Asra is now a Kumori ally. Eindride is wounded and Liam takes control of the imperial strategy. A gruesome war begins between Baikali and the bordering kingdom.



Liam becomes obsessed with an Oracle priestess from one of the small temples in the mountains; the same place he believes holds the secret of the red petal's power. He discovers that the Oracle is Saya, who, trapped in a deep Oracle trance, has no memories. Liam keeps it a secret thinking he can use her against her own people, but tables turn when he falls for the silent and stoic priestess.

Even though Liam tries to keep her existence a secret, Eindride soon finds her. He tries to escape the war and drag her with him but she refuses to go. He's a stranger after all. However, while in battle, Tora recognizes his niece. While trying to reach out to her he is killed-- his death awakens her from the Oracle trance.

- **SEASON 3:**

As Saya rejoins her army the dawn of Baikali begins. Asra has prevailed and now they are moving into Baikali's territory. The Kumori now lead a powerful force and for the first time in centuries, the empire can't fight the invaders. Once again Baikali splits into two clans.

The Oracles are losing control over the royal families of both the empire and the neighboring kingdoms. Similarly, the relationship between the two imperial brothers, Eindride and Liam, is falling to pieces. To regain their power, the Oracles reveal a sickening secret: Etsu is alive... or as alive as an Oracle can be.