



YELLOW DAWN

Developed and Created by
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LOGLINE

Years after surviving an ethnic genocide, a disgraced Ronin joins forces with a wanted fugitive to liberate her lost planet from the imperialistic Order.

SYNOPSIS

Yellow Dawn is a martial arts, science-fiction drama set in the far reaches of space, where Solians are isolated in their ways. This series is also a social commentary on the consequences of cultural imperialism and racism.

Planet Solia was a traditionally governed, isolated planet filled with peaceful people. However, in 80年, hardline military units called "The Order" invaded the planet and massacred the Solians to expand their power.

Despite this incident, pockets of resistance remain, and the tales of courage, strength, and resilience come from those who stand up to injustice and fight to reclaim their homeland. Led by Genji Amari and Hayate Kato, the surviving rebels formed a resistance group called "**YELLOW DAWN**" in 87年.

However, the heroes' predicament is worsened as Solia has gentrified into a heavily urbanized, cyberpunk city inhabited by "New Solians." The public sees the Yellow Dawn as villains, and the heroes must step up to quell an inevitable uprising that pits herself against the "New Solians" and reclaim her culture's lost identity.

Ultimately, this culminates with a large-scale climatic battle between Yellow Dawn and The Order.

It is a story told from Genji's perspective. It details her ascension to become the Empress and her challenges to protect her reign.

Structurally, the series is serialized. Each episode has major cliffhangers as Genji dives further into the Order's devious schemes. The stakes become higher throughout the series.

SETTING

Solia is the planet that is central to the series. Although it is a tranquil, peaceful place, it is notorious for its staunch traditionalism and lack of modern technology.

Thus opening them up for an invasion, where even the best warriors are no match for the superior technology of the Order.

Formerly villages governed by a monarchy, it has turned into a sprawling city. However, the dark history of the Order belies this bustling city.

The settings should be vibrant: strong, contrasting colors between the yellow and orange sunrise to vibrant blue lights at night. The stark visual contrast plays a central role in depicting the cultural differences between native Solians and the Order.

This planet is inspired by **Japan** in the mid-1800s, during the Meiji Restoration, when Japan became westernized, but lost its samurai traditions.

The years that the entire series takes place are between 80-97 年. The first season occurs in 80年 and 87年, during the Solian Massacre and the time skip where the main events occur, respectively.



Old Solia (before the massacre)



New Solia (cyberpunk city)

VISUAL ELEMENTS

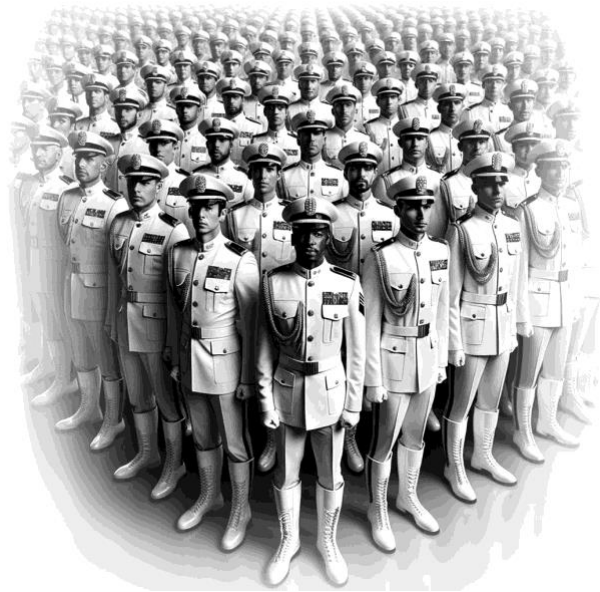
With the series focused on ethnic conflicts, there will be a stark difference between the original Solians (called Old Solians) and the Order. Aside from different complexions, Old Solians wear large, long-flowing clothing and sport jet-black hair.

The Order and the new Solian citizens (that displace Old Solians) wear tighter clothing. They are more vibrant and brighter than those of Solians (the bible cannot showcase the colors as it is black-and-white).

Although seemingly harmless, these visual differences are a telltale sign of discrimination. Elements of visual contrast are highlighted in the story, where depending on one's appearance could mean being an outcast in society (or even a life-and-death situation).



OLD SOLIAN OUTFIT



THE ORDER UNIFORM

PILOT

Downfall – In an introduction to the series, we see Genji and Hayate as teens and their chemistry. Suddenly, an armada of large spaceships and carriers arrive, and troops with heavy artillery tear apart the entire villages and the people. Genji and Hayate sneak through the onslaught and escape through a stolen shuttle. Seven years later, Solia has turned into a city. While in hiding, Genji is confronted by Hayate, offering her a chance to start a rebellion...

SEASON

The first season focuses on Genji and Hayate's reunion, where Genji is initially dismissive of Hayate's plans to create a rebellion. In the second episode, a death squad captures Hayate and is about to execute him. However, Genji intervenes in the execution and saves Hayate's life. The pair escapes the city. However, deep down, she knows that her intervention makes her a prime target for the Order.

With the Order pursuing them every step of the way, Genji begrudgingly continues following Hayate's lead, serving as the sidekick for a chunk of the season. Although initially apathetic, Genji reveals that she attempted to repress the horrific memories of the massacre.

She eventually comes to terms with the massacre and becomes an active protagonist, a turning point in the story.

The pair embark on rescue missions, saving prisoners and survivors, increasing their numbers. They lead a rebellion squad, and the finale revolves around the heroes overthrowing the Order, although Hayate dies in battle.

Ending – Having overthrown the Order, Genji seeks to restore Order by appointing herself as the Empress of Solia. However, her coronation only worsens the situation. The New Solian citizens, having displaced the native population, begin an uprising.

SERIES

It now falls on Empress Genji to silence the uprising, not by violence or brute force, but by diplomacy. She learns to reason with the citizens, knowing that the citizens have the advantage of the sheer number. Throughout Season Two, she will face challengers to her rule who capitalize on the uprising.

Subsequent seasons also feature remnants of the Order, who attempt to spearhead a rebellion against her.

OVERVIEW

Throughout the series, Genji learns to become a better warrior, be a better communicator in turbulent times, and maintain the respect of her friends and allies to earn the care of the "New Solians."

The series is about Genji's journey from being a lowly rebel to being a leader, becoming the Empress, and overcoming various challenges. It is also a hero's journey, tailor-made for today's audiences, and addresses relevant issues.

THEMES

Yellow Dawn is about the need to stand up and have their voices heard. Although Genji initially refuses to aid Hayate in his rebellion out of fear of being caught and potentially killed, the Order marks her as a wanted target due to her association. As a result, it demonstrates that ignorance does not help in the face of injustice and adversity.

This series deals with genocide, imperialism, and ethnic conflicts. Ultimately, the series depicts the need for leaders and the government to adapt to the changing political and social landscape.

In subsequent seasons, the series deals with the need to unite different people with ethnic differences after Season One's conflict. In short, the need for unity and coexistence are two major themes in the series, alluding to cultural differences.

STYLE

The series is an homage to seventies and eighties Hong Kong flicks, incorporating wide, sweeping shots during action sequences and hard-hitting fights and stunts.

CHARACTERS

GENJI AMARI

Genji becomes a hero of unlikely circumstances. Although an excellent warrior, she is willing to forsake her potential if it means saving herself. Unlike her partner, Hayate, she avoids conflicts rather than faces them head-on.

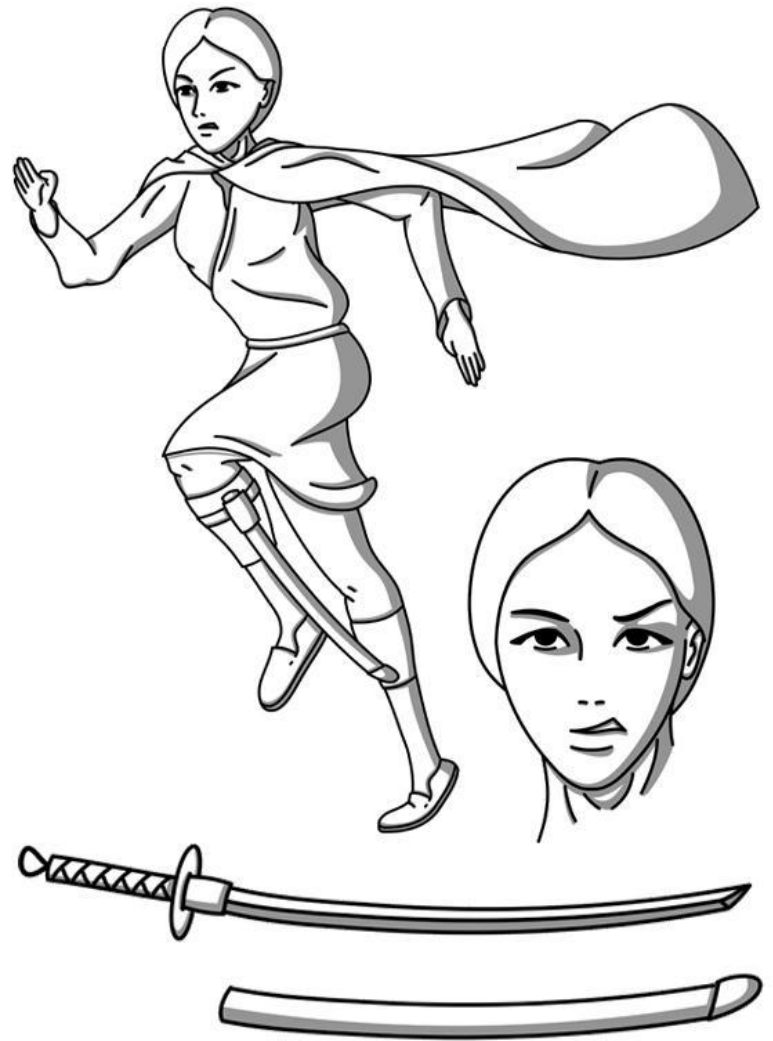
Despite her non-confrontational personality, it is through her struggles that she confronts, which allows her to fulfill her potential to become a great leader.

Although the pair could not be any more opposite, Hayate is the flame that ignites Genji's spark of brilliance.

She is a swordmaster, faster than the wind and stronger than titanium. Her martial arts abilities and physicality are superhuman.

However, her greatest power is her intellect. She gained her friends and allies through her diplomacy and helped reclaim their homeland.

She is seen wearing a loose-fitting outfit, rather than a usual combat uniform worn by her fellow soldiers.



Genji concept art

HAYATE KATO

As the leader and founder of **Yellow Dawn**, he is the most proactive character in the series.

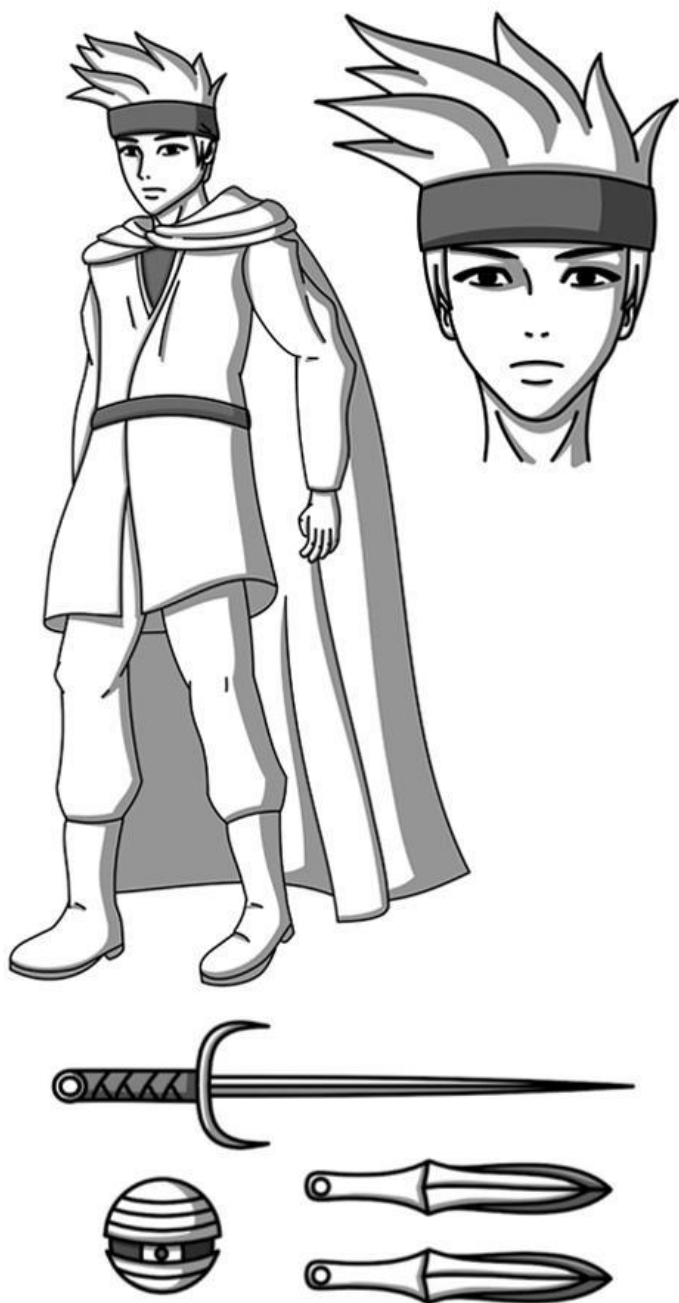
Although younger than Genji, he becomes a leader during the first season.

He is forthright, virtuous, and forgiving but can be tough and high-strung when situations go awry.

Like Genji, he is a warrior with excellent abilities and is wise beyond his years. However, unlike her, he is less impulsive.

He is a fallen hero, as his great potential is cut short during the first season finale. As a result, he never had a chance for his abilities to shine.

Instead, Genji takes Hayate's place as a leader and fights in his stead.



Hayate concept art

DUKE SILVA

As the leader and mastermind of the Solian Genocide, he single-handedly wiped out most of its population.

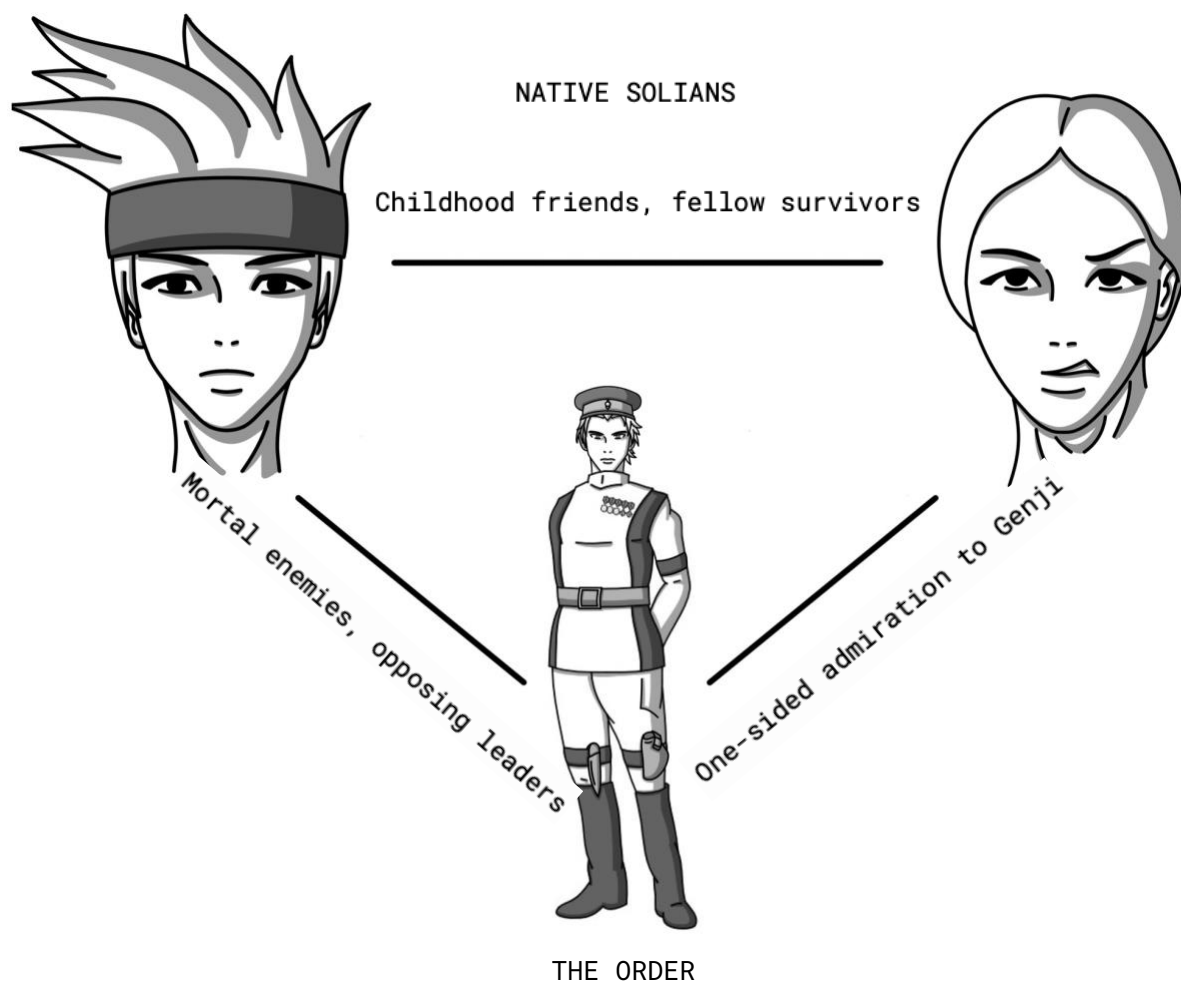
Although strongly prejudicial against the Solians, upon hearing about Genji and Hayate's survival and escape from his troops, he develops a newfound respect for the pair, if only to prove his superiority by fighting the heroes.

Despite his despicable actions, he believes he is morally obliged to displace the native population with those of his race and ethnicity due to his perception of the natives as socially and technologically inferior.

Unlike Genji and Hayate, he wears a tight-fitting uniform with his insignia. In addition, his physical complexion is much different from his heroes, highlighting the racial disparity between the characters.



Silva and his troops

DYNAMICS

HAYATE AND GENJI

Genji and Hayate were childhood friends. However, the massacre forces the pair to split up and isolate themselves from the Order's troops.

Given the fallout of the massacre, Genji actively cuts ties with Hayate in fear for her own safety. This is apparent in the pilot episode, where Genji refuses Hayate's offer to join a rebellion. However, deep down, a part of her still cares for his safety.

Through their interactions and their mutual goal of survival, they eventually work together efficiently. Genji fights on his behalf after Hayate dies in Season One's finale.

Genji is older than Hayate. It would be interesting to dive into the mentor-mentee relationship between the pair. There is an interesting dynamic and friction between the pair.

HAYATE AND SILVA

Although Hayate is good-natured, if a bit tough, he expresses a seething hatred for Silva for his actions. Despite Hayate's forgiving nature, he expresses no qualms about wiping him out.

This dynamic explores the moral dilemma of retribution. This series ultimately takes the stance that although retribution is not inherently virtuous, the necessity of Silva's death would prevent even more catastrophe due to his widespread actions.

They share the parallels of being both leaders of opposing sides and causes, and they cannot be any more different in ideology and personality. However, despite Silva's actions, they are committed to their ideals and believe they are justified in committing atrocities if it means self-preservation.

GENJI AND SILVA

Silva has a one-sided respect for Genji. With Genji escaping from the Order multiple times, he expresses a newfound respect for her abilities, to the point of capturing her in an attempt for her to join his side as an enforcer.

CHARACTER ARC

Genji is a troubled young adult from the beginning of the series. Having lost her livelihood during the ethnic genocide of Solia, she turns to hide, with nothing left to fight for... until her reunion with Hayate.

By the end of the pilot episode, she is emotionally broken down, a woman with nothing to live for but still struggling to survive.

Her interactions with Hayate, battles against the Order, and the brutality of native Solians become a tipping point for Genji's characterization.

She becomes more empathetic, committed to rescuing her fellow survivors and overthrowing the oppressive empire. As a result, she becomes well-equipped to conquer the Order and become a leader by the end of the season.

She develops her fighting abilities throughout the subsequent seasons, gradually gaining new allies. However, she learns to become a better person and leader.

NEW SOLIANS

New Solians refer to the current populace of Solia who inhabit this planet after the Solian Massacre. Although ethnically different from the Old Solians (the original populace), it is crucial to understand that they are not necessarily evil but are misled by The Order (seen as nationalistic heroes).

This dynamic paints these people in a different light and could pose significant themes in later seasons.

Ultimately, Genji's challenge is to quell the uprising, unite the opposing parties, and gather evidence to expose The Order's corruption before her enemies can gain supporters and potentially cause an uprising.

CREDITS

Images drawn by AARON HALL

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