

PRISON SCHOOL

PANEL 1

Narration: Two societies. Worlds apart...

Visual: Hillside. Two cities balanced at opposite ends of a justice scale. An imposing monument with a cynical facial expression stands in the middle, seemingly supporting the precarious “balance.”

The lower world is a decrepit, industrial wasteland hanging at the bottom of a valley. (Industrial hellhole.)

The other, “The New World,” looms enticingly from its mountain perch. (Sparkling, commanding affluence.)

*Justice Scale in the positioning of the scene, with the poor city teetering at the low end and the high, “new society” at the upper end, on the mountain perch.

PANEL 2

Narration: All movement from the lower society to the “New World” is strictly prohibited with a single exception:

PANEL 3

Narration: A school between the two nations that promises a bridge to the affluent “New World for the families of those who graduate.

Visual: Tucked in a snowy valley, a glimpse of a courtyard surrounded by fine institutional architecture. The façade of an old country estate alongside a couple of sleek modern buildings.

PANEL 4

Narration: Destitute, the lower society piles all hope in having their youth graduate from the school.

Visual: Rusty, metal bones of a car pulls up in front of heavy iron gates. The haggard faces of parents sit up front; a young boy’s in the back.

PANEL 5

Narration: But with only one student being allowed to graduate each year...

Visual: Parents drive off, leaving their frantic kid hopelessly stranded in front of the school's gates. There is an imposing image of a tiger with wings on the gate.

PANEL 6

Narration:...once entered, chances are...they NEVER get out.

Visual: The school's isolation and means to ensure it. Hemmed in by mountains. Cut off by walls. Fenced in by wires. (Boxes within boxes.)

PANEL 7

Narration: Stranded in a no man's land without citizenship rights and up against thousands of competing students shouldering the dreams of their families, entrants must either graduate...

Visual: The nervous, young new student* stands amidst a throng of schoolmates in a hallway. The students - of all ages - eye him viciously.

*The same kid who was dropped off by his parents.

PANEL 7

Narration: or die trying...

Visual: Ornate wrought-iron gates, heavily guarded and surrounded by two large tiger statues. The name of the school above the gates reads: "Tiger Gate Academy". The kanji for "Tora No Mon" is written below the school's name.

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