

EXT. ALLEYWAY - DAY

Nestled between two buildings is a small alley, full of trash and a few boxes.

The COURIER pulls their bike into the short alley, and drives to the end.

They dismount their bike, and turn to face the entrance, drawing their weapon.

MASKED FIGURE walks into the alley. They're wearing a cloak and a simple white mask.

COURIER

Why the hell have you been following me?

MASKED FIGURE

I'd say it's nothing personal, but it totally is personal.

COURIER

Wonderful. You're just as hard to get an answer out of as you are to lose.

The masked figure chuckles.

MASKED FIGURE

Fire of 2015.

COURIER

What do you have to do with that day?

The courier charges forward, threatening the masked figure with their weapon.

MASKED FIGURE

So I was right. You're one of the survivors.

COURIER

You're clearly here to tell me something about it. So spill. Now.

MASKED FIGURE

Slow down there, partner. One step at a time.

COURIER

Then get on with it.

MASKED FIGURE

So. How much do you know about the underworld?

COURIER

Enough. I'm a courier for a reason.

MASKED FIGURE

So then you probably know that someone in the underworld was behind the fire.

The courier growls angrily.

COURIER

Even a child could see that. Nothing else could cause a blaze like that out of nowhere.

MASKED FIGURE

Of course, of course.

He pauses briefly for emphasis.

MASKED FIGURE

But you don't know how. You may have survived that day, but you're seeking answers.

COURIER

Get. To. The. Point.

A bunch of thugs turn into the alley, armed with various melee weapons.

THUG LEADER

There he is! Get him!

MASKED FIGURE

Oh dear, they found me. If it's not too much of a problem, would you mind helping me out?

COURIER

You are insufferable.

Start battle. The courier beats the thugs up.

THUG LEADER

We'll be back! You haven't seen the last of the yellow dragons?

MASKED FIGURE

Well, thank you for that. Now, where were we?

COURIER

The fire. Now.

MASKED FIGURE

Aw, you don't want to know why they were after me? Very well, then. It was an experiment.

COURIER

An experiment on what?

MASKED FIGURE

The boundaries between worlds. The supernatural sometimes encroaches upon our world.

COURIER

So that explains some of the strange stuff I've seen...

MASKED FIGURE

Exactly. Now, they tried to control one of those rifts, and I think you can guess what happened.

COURIER

They lost control.

MASKED FIGURE

Exactamundo! And until the government got it under control, strange beings frolicked in the flames.

COURIER

Alright. Then what the hell is your angle? Why are you telling me this?

MASKED FIGURE

I'm wounded. All I want is your help, after all.

COURIER

You seem to want to annoy me, too.

MASKED FIGURE

It's very simple. You've got a knack for encountering the weird, so I want your help figuring something out.

COURIER

And what is that?

MASKED FIGURE

Why, I'm trying to find out who was behind that experiment, of course!

COURIER

You're just going to hound me further if I don't work with you, aren't you.

MASKED FIGURE

What can I say? You're worth it!

COURIER

Just... no. I'll work with you until we find that information, then we go our own ways.

MASKED FIGURE

I'm wounded, you don't want me around?

COURIER

No!

The masked figure takes off their mask and hood, revealing a young woman with dark black hair going down her back.

MASKED FIGURE

Alright, I'll tone it down. It's just that you're so easy to mess with! Oh, and my name's Evelyn!

COURIER

Well, at least you've got that much courtesy. I'm [Player name.]

EVELYN

To the start of a wonderful partnership.

COURIER

Also. How did you piss off that gang earlier?

EVELYN

Oh, just a little espionage.

COURIER

Why did you commit espionage on a worthless street gang?

EVELYN

A girl's gotta have hobbies, you know?

The courier just groans.

EVELYN

Anyway, get back on your job. I'll call you later tonight with what I've found out so far.