

# Asai Kuniko (Kuniko Asai)

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"Through wind, I am silent. Through water, I am swift. Through earth, I am strong. Through fire, I am **power.**"

-- [Asai, Kuniko]

Kuniko Asai, or colloquially by tradition, Asai Kuniko, is a determined, calculating, and stern fighter of the famed Asai clan. Embalmed with the mythical Nemean Oil that makes her skin invulnerable to weapons and most elemental conditions, she's raised to be a perfect combatant at a very young age. With every consecutive match, she remains undefeated until she met Adi Badawi, the only person to be caught in a constant deadlock with.

With the Crossroads beckoning her AND Adi to join, Asai reluctantly accepts the joint with her longtime rival. Her wish remains a secret, and won't reveal it to anyone, especially to Adi.

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## Backstory

Kuniko was born as the sole heiress to a powerful Lord and Lady of the famous Asai clan. Foretold by a seer of her future fate as a fighter and symbol to the clan, Lord Masao gave permission to have her be bathed in a legendary elixir known as the Nemean Oil. From then on, her skin is impervious to cuts, bruises, and extreme lacerations by physical weapons, granting her a skin of steel.

From an early age, Kuniko was given a martial arts trainer to teach her the ways of combat, strengthening her physical prowess and mental fortitude. However, she wanted her father to teach her the ways of Hi'Ken, believing to be a sacred martial arts style granted by their patron goddess, Mokutan. Unfortunately, Masao refused, unconvinced that she has the burning desire to wield such a fighting style.

### Asai Kuniko



Art by Greteh

#### Aliases/Nickname(s)

The Impenetrable Dragon

### Profile Data

#### Race

Human

#### Pronouns/Gender/Sex

She/Her, Female, Lesbian (privately)

#### Age

24

#### Weight/Height/Build

- 124 lbs
- 5'6 feet
- Lean

# Abilities

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## Unbreakable Skin

When Asai was a baby, she was doused in a legendary elixir known as the *Nemean Oil*, giving her a "skin of steel." This means her body can't be pierced, stabbed, hacked, or penetrated by any means; that includes weapons like swords, bullets, cleavers, spears, etc. The coating has also given her an incredibly high pain tolerance, so when she fights, the slashing and stabbing of physical or ranged weapons won't inflict as much pain as normal humans do. Her own skin has become her only armor, practically making her invincible to physical attacks. Asai is also highly resistant to natural conditions like the cold, and fire/acid burns.

Asai's skin of steel makes her dependence on armor unnecessary, for they only weigh her down when it comes to a quick and decisive victory. Even when scantily-dressed, it's showing her bold, unrelenting demeanor in the face of danger.

## Martial Arts Mastery (The Iron Crane)

Through her mentor, Takara, Asai has learned the advanced Xuonglese Martial Arts technique of Tetsu No Tsuru/The Iron Crane. Thanks to her "skin of steel," she's able to use her skills to her fullest extent without hesitation. The Iron Crane has made her use her legs as her primary weapons, to strike down those willing to get close to her, while using her agility to strike them down swift and easily. Her kicks are strong enough to shatter bone, and her swift reactions can lead a lot of her opponents with several injuries.

# Strengths

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Asai's strategic analysis of her opponents has made her a tricky fighter to counter, always planning several steps ahead of them. No matter the power her opponent has, she will always find certain weak-points to catch them off-guard when given the chance. She leaves little to no room for error during her matches, and always has a backup when necessary.

Asai's sheer willpower and cold determination has granted her a fearful reputation within the fighting arena, making her declaration towards her challengers without uttering a word. She sets her emotions aside to keep a calm, stoic, and iron-jawed expression to not only intimidate her fighters, but also demonstrate what she can really do.

# Weaknesses

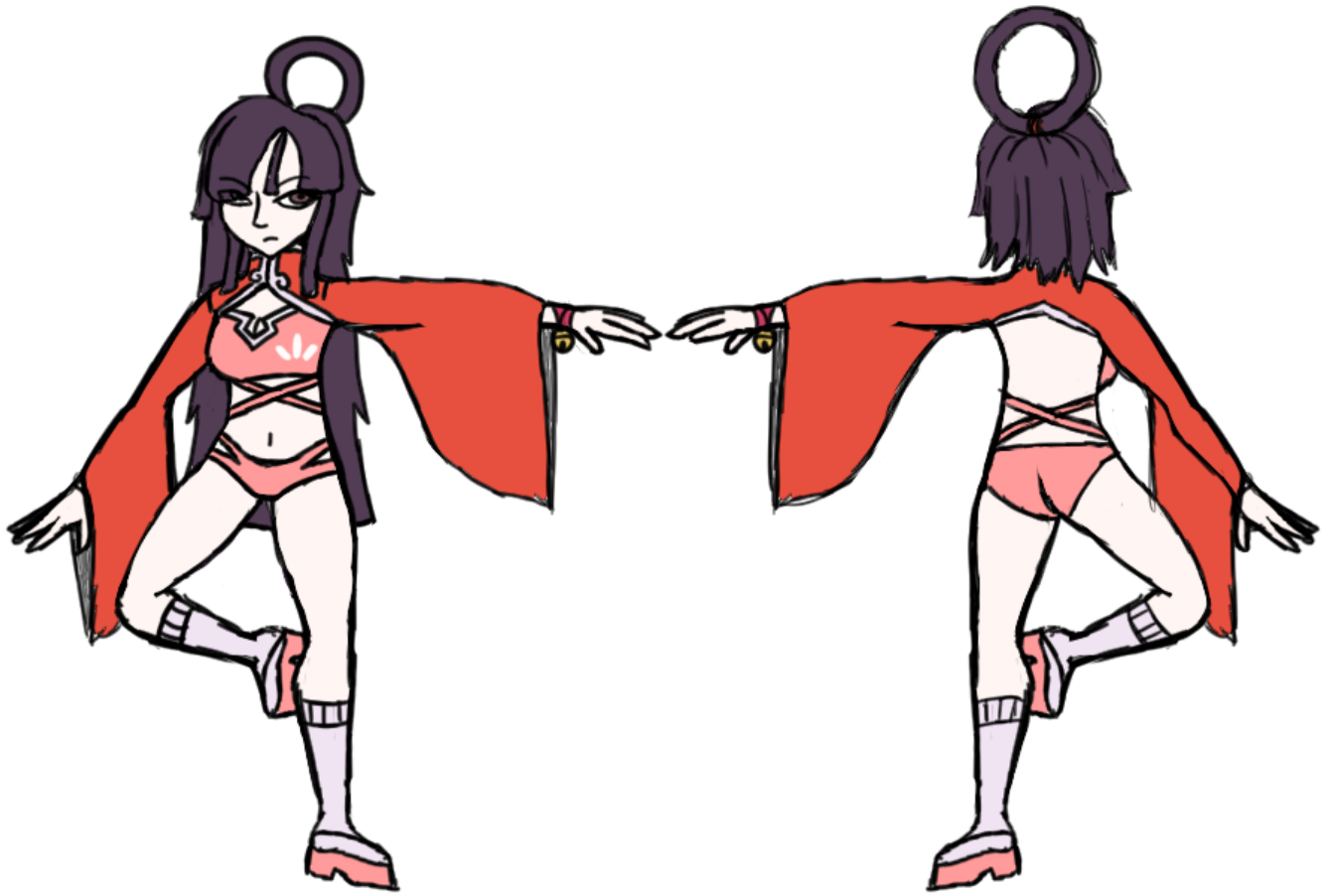
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Even with her advanced skills, and a skin of steel, Asai is still vulnerable... on the literal inside. Powerful punches and heavy bludgeoning objects can still fracture bones and rupture organs without breaking the skin, even with the resilience. This is what makes Adi such a challenge for Asai to fight due to her Hi'Ken, able to land hits that surpasses through her resistance.

Asai may have high pain tolerance, but that doesn't make her numb or immune to damage. Doing several strong blows will eventually bring her to her knees, and like every other combatant, she can and will tire out after a long, strenuous fight.

# Gallery

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Asai Kuniko's reference sheet

## Author's Notes

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- Asai Kuniko was an adopt by [IStarLunal](#) on DeviantArt.
  - The Iron Crane was inspired by the real-life Korean martial arts, Taekwondo, which uses various kicking moves.
  - Her name Asai Kuniko is actually an East-Asian/Japanese way of having her family name stated first before her actual name, it's to show authenticity and normalization.
  - Kuniko in Japanese translates to "Elegant child", while Asai translates to "Shallow Well." As part of royalty, her surname could tie her lineage ages back to where her ancestors were reliant on shallow wells for survival.
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