So... what's going on, Youko?
ペルソナおれん
PERSONA KAREN
第2話
玄鉄絢

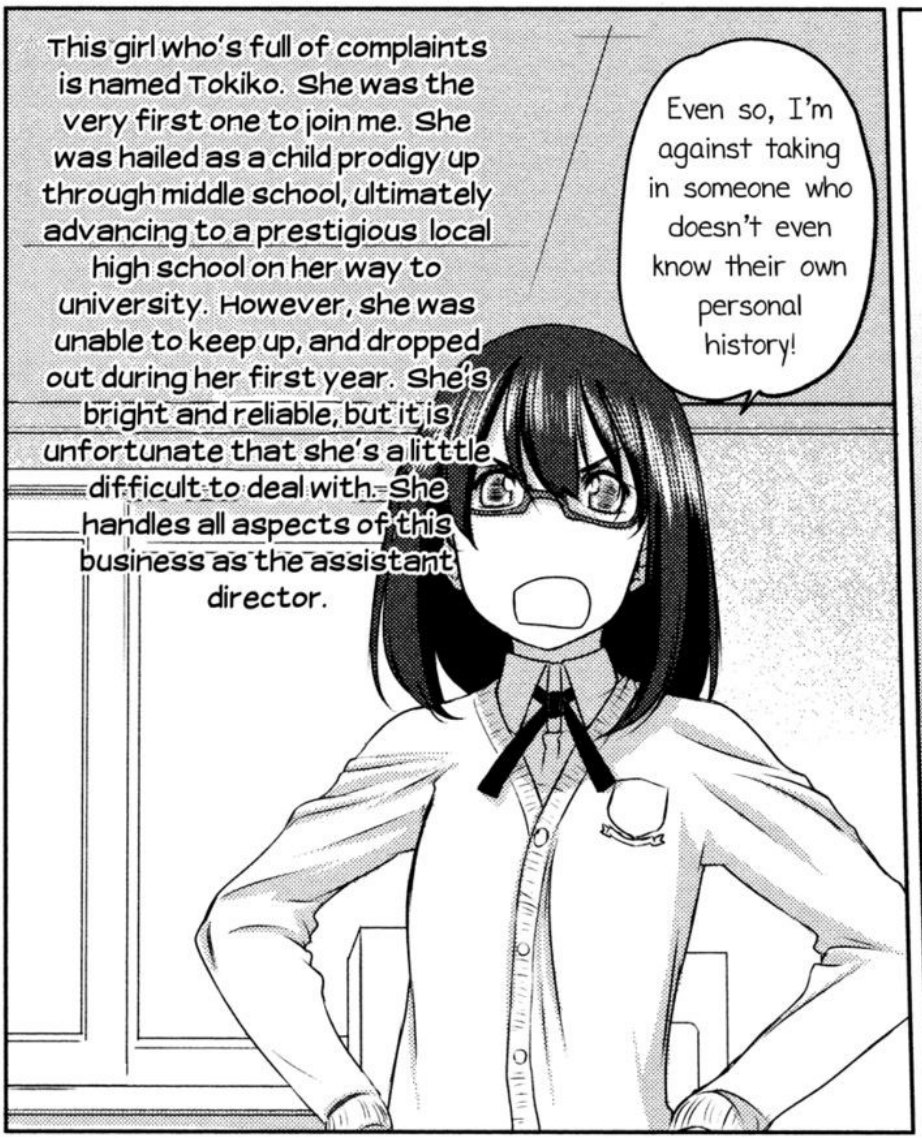
I'll have you know that I'm against this!
Have you been listening to me? Or can you not even tell?
HER CHEST, IN PARTICULAR, DOESN'T RESEMBLE YOURS.
Is this girl your mother or some-thing?

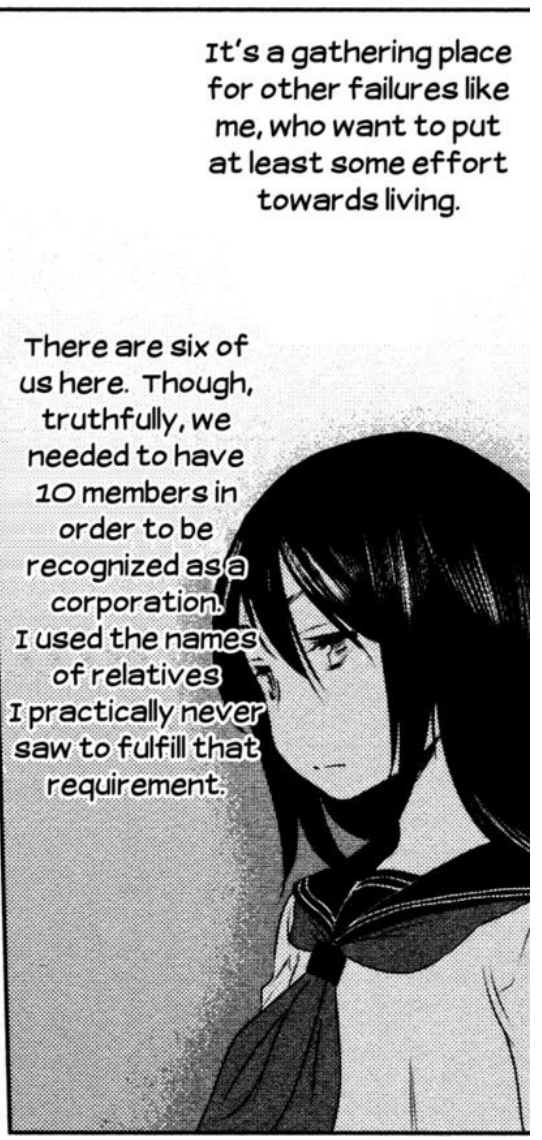
What's the problem?
Youko said she wants to have this girl stay here.
Here you are.
I don't see much of an issue. She's not going to cause problems if somebody sees her here.
There are a whole bunch of problems! We're still an official corporation.
There's no telling when the police will start looking into her whereabouts. It would be hard on her to be placed into a health facility for a long period of time.

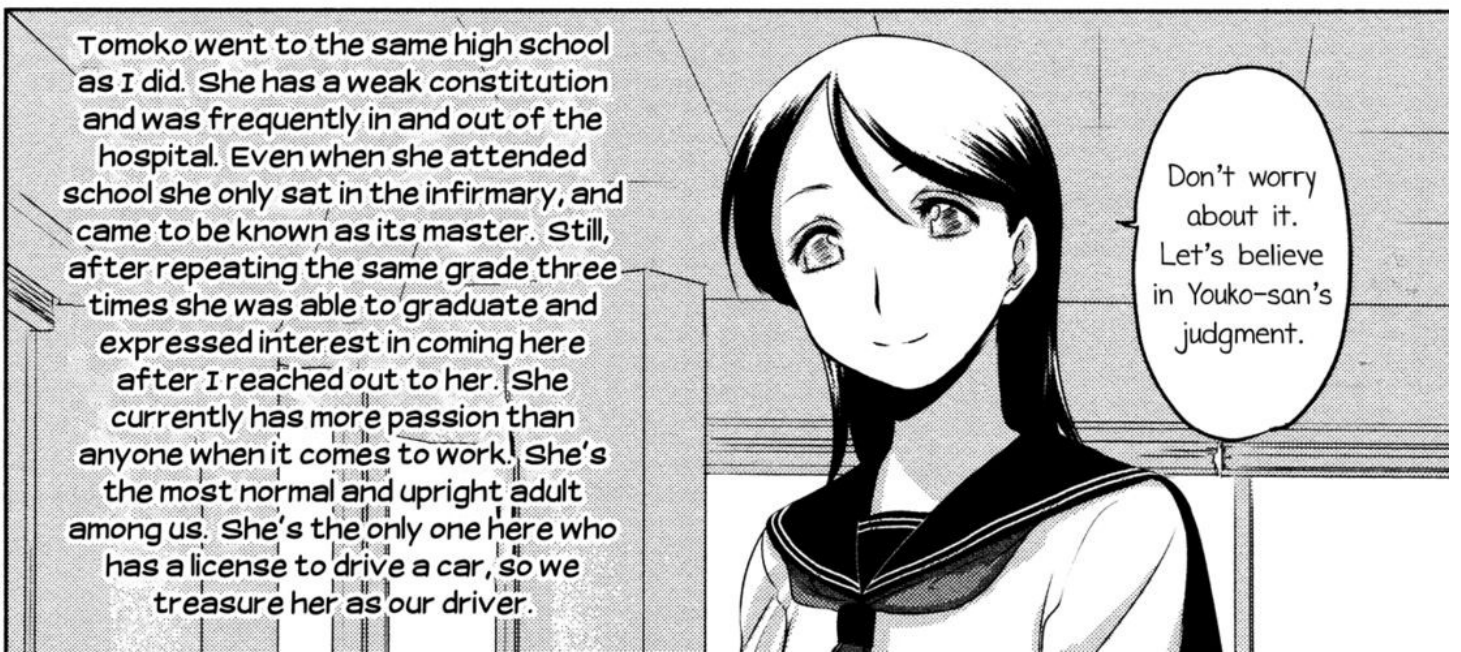
If she's the one who saved your life as you say, you should have more info on exactly who she is!
It's not like you two are strangers, either.
Yeah, I guess.
That's precisely the issue here!
At any rate, this place is Youko-san's castle. We don't have any right to criticize her decisions.
I told you, I don't know anything.

It houses the NPO Corporation, which I created to help me live for tomorrow after I dropped out of high school.

This place is my castle.







In contrast to her, this unmotivated short girl is Shiho. She repeatedly tried and failed to commit suicide. On the day she vowed to finally end her life, Tomoko happened to be driving the car that she jumped out in front of. In the end, an accident was avoided and she was brought here under observation. She may have awakened thanks to Tomoko's lectures, and she'll do any work that Tomoko asks her to. She's our youngest member.

This is Yae. Despite not being fond of bathing, she's extra sensitive to the odors of others. She ran away from home and used to spend her nights wandering from cafe to cafe. Tokiko just happened to come across her after she collapsed out of hunger, after which she was brought here and became a member. It's surprising they formed a connection that way, but Tokiko does find her annoying.

This is Junko-san. She worked in an office for two years, but slept with a superior in order to advance her career. After this was discovered, contrary to her expectations, she was placed in a dead end position. Unable to cope with all the gossip and pressure to resign at work, she resolved to throw herself in front of a train. I happened to be at the train station she went to and noticed her fading away into darkness on a bench. After leaving her job, she became unable to pay her rent and ended up living here. I never see her do anything else but lie in bed. However, she is a grown adult with experience out in society, so we keep her around in case her experience might be useful to us.

And so the six of us are able to earn some money and continue on without collapsing.
Honestly, it's not like you're my pet.
It was Tomoko's idea to transform the concept of her going to the infirmary every day into a corporation. But I'm no teacher, and we can't do anything that resembles a school's activities here. Instead we hold seminars, give each other counseling, and work hard enough to stay out of the red. Those activities and killing time here is our current occupation.
... I don't know.
Eh!? How long has it been since you last washed yourself?
Come ON! Get your hands away!
OW! THAT STINGS!
Nope.
I don't.
... Do you really not remember me?
It doesn't look like she's faking it.
Okay...

.....
But... there's no mistaking her physical appearance.
Hey,
would you mind?
?
Hmm?
!

To be continued

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