

WHAT
TIES ME
TO THE
WORLD
ROKUROICHI

私と世界を繋ぐもの





I TOOK
REFUGE
IN A
FAKE
WORLD,



YUUKO-
CHAN

WHERE
SOMEONE
CALLED ME



I
LOVE
YOU...

BY A
FAKE
NAME.

THE
TRUTH
WAS,
ALL I
NEEDED

drip

AH...

Hah

WAS
OUR
BODIES.

YOU'RE
SO
SOFT,

YULI-
CHAN...

PINCH

MM

I
LOVE
YOU.

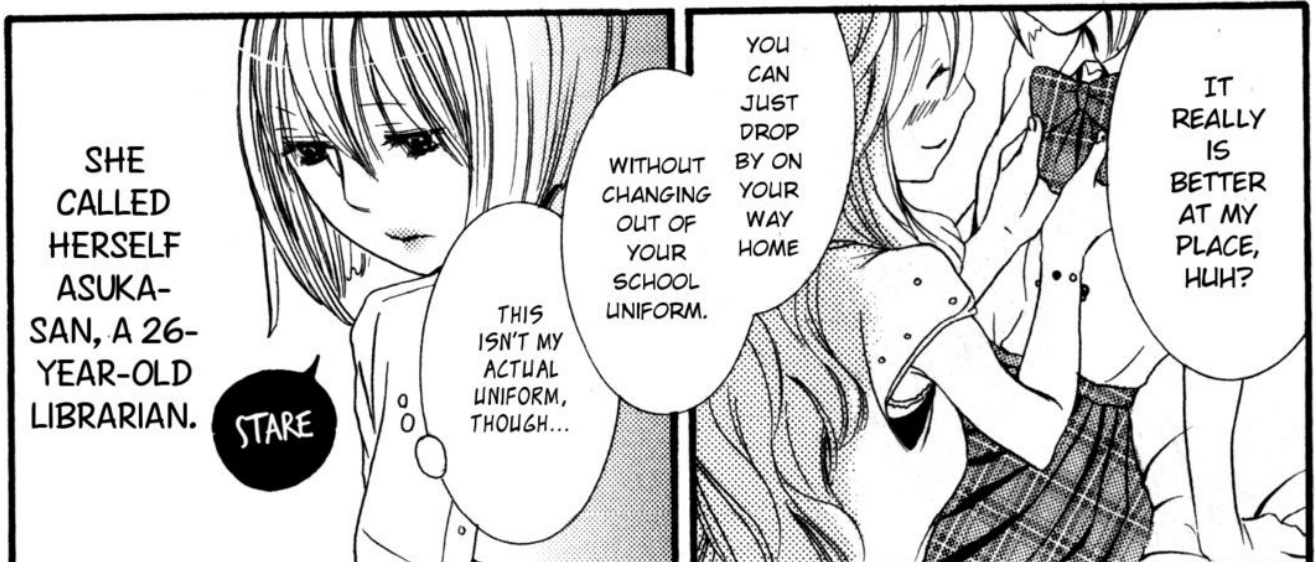
AH



FOR
ME,
THAT
TRULY
WAS

ASUKA-
SAN...

THE
MOST
PRECIOUS
PLACE IN
THE
WORLD...



SHE
CALLED
HERSELF
ASUKA-
SAN, A 26-
YEAR-OLD
LIBRARIAN.

STARE

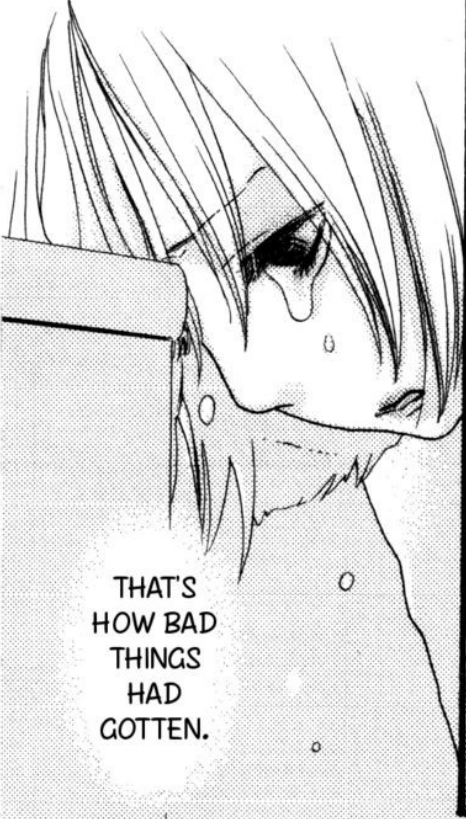
THIS
ISN'T MY
ACTUAL
UNIFORM,
THOUGH...

WITHOUT
CHANGING
OUT OF
YOUR
SCHOOL
UNIFORM.

YOU
CAN
JUST
DROP
BY ON
YOUR
WAY
HOME

IT
REALLY
IS
BETTER
AT MY
PLACE,
HUH?

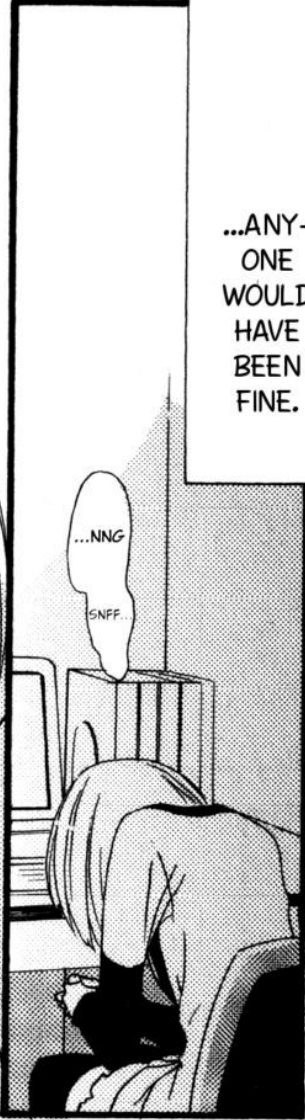
WHEN I CRIED, I WOULDN'T DRY MY TEARS. THAT WAY IT WOULDN'T SHOW ON MY FACE THE NEXT DAY.



THAT'S HOW BAD THINGS HAD GOTTEN.

I MET HER THROUGH THE INTERNET.

...ANY-ONE WOULD HAVE BEEN FINE.



...NNG
SNFF.

NOTHING...

?

What?



WHAT'S WITH HER OVERDONE TRENDY LOOK?

I STILL LIKE HIM!
UGHHH, COME ON, YUURI.
BUT, RIKAKO...
OF CLINGING TO A NAIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL CRUSH,



YOU SHOULD JUST DUMP HIM, THEN.

OF CRYING EVERY DAY,



I THINK MY BOY-FRIEND'S CHEATING ON ME.

I WAS SO TIRED



YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND, RIGHT? BRING HIM HOME AND INTRODUCE HIM TO YOUR MOTHER!

MOM, NO, NOT TO DAD...

SOONER OR LATER...

OF LIVING SUCH AN UN-STABLE LIFE,

SO, WHAT KIND OF PERSON ARE YOU INTO NOW? LIKE, WHAT'S YOUR TYPE?

SORRY,

I CAN'T GET OFF WORK.

WE ALREADY GOT RID OF THE GIRLS WITH BOY-FRIENDS.

LET'S GO TO THAT MIXER WITH WEST HIGH.

HEY, YUURI,



AND SO-

OH, JEEZ, WHAT DO I DO?



WHAT IS UP WITH ME?



OF THE DAYS AND DAYS OF LIES...



HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU?

THIS ISN'T JUST A "SCREW-UP." WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?

Ahaha!

THAT'S PRETTY BAD, RIGHT?

I SURE SCREWED UP!

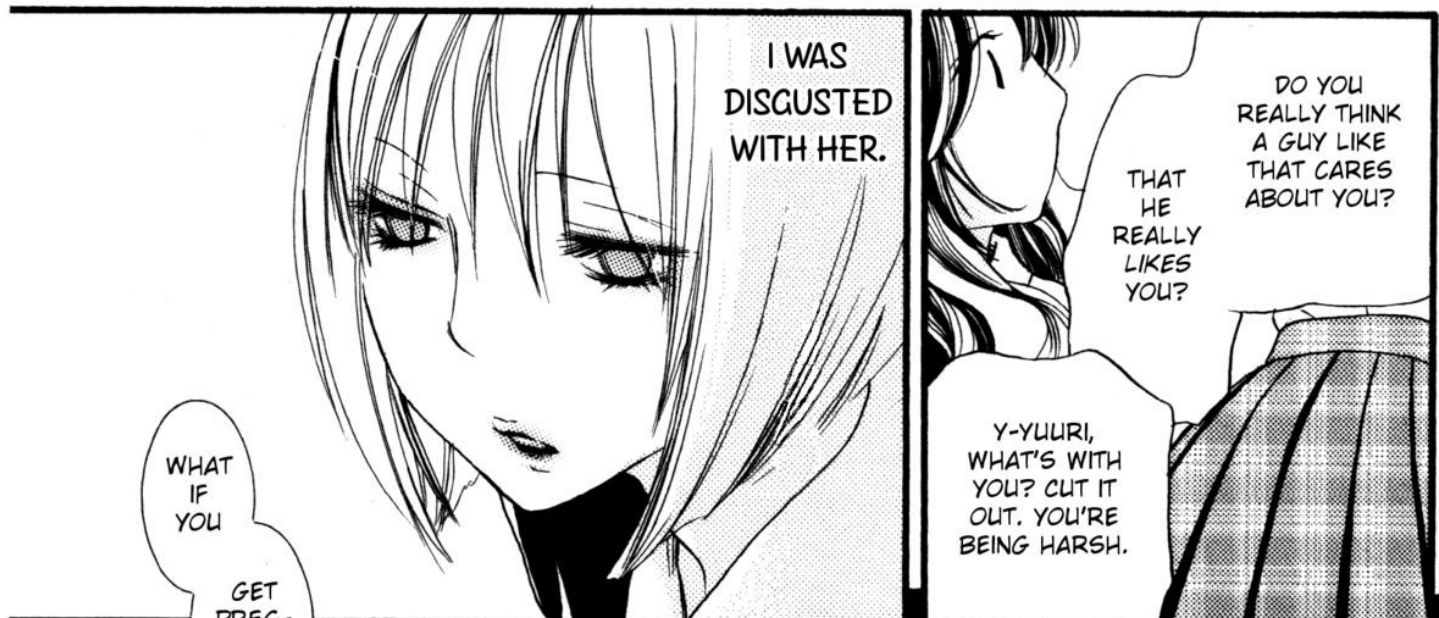
THUD

.....

ka-chunk

YESTERDAY, MY BOYFRIEND WANTED TO DO IT RAW.

SO THAT WAS OUR FIRST TIME UNPROTECTED! WHOOPS!



I WAS DISGUSTED WITH HER.

WHAT IF YOU

GET PREG-NANT?

THAT HE REALLY LIKES YOU?

DO YOU REALLY THINK A GUY LIKE THAT CARES ABOUT YOU?

Y-YUURI, WHAT'S WITH YOU? CUT IT OUT. YOU'RE BEING HARSH.



SNFFF

BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO HURT HER.

IF I COULDN'T HELP HER, I AT LEAST WANTED HER TO BE HAPPY.

BUT

I SAID YOU SHOULDN'T DO THAT.

I KNOW, BUT,

IT WAS JUST A FAVOR I DID FOR HIM.

COULDN'T MAKE HER UNDERSTAND.

I COULDN'T REACH HER,

NOTHING GOT THROUGH TO HER.

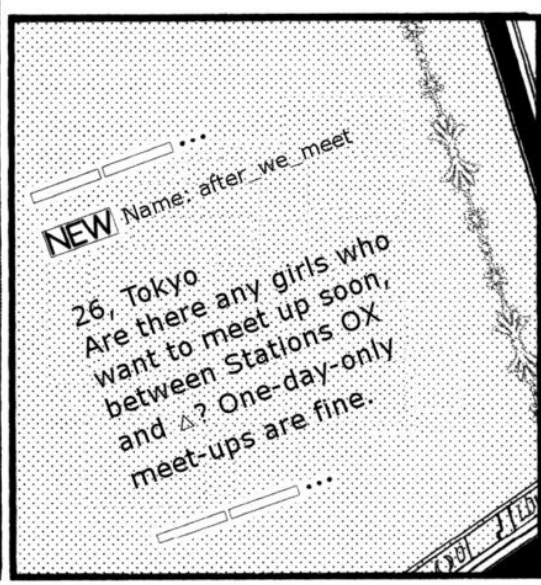


click

I JUST WANTED TO RUN AWAY.



click



NEW Name: after we meet

26, Tokyo
Are there any girls who want to meet up soon, between Stations OX and Δ? One-day-only meet-ups are fine.

I STOPPED BEING ME.



SO I LEFT HER SIDE... AND THIS WORLD.



AND SO I FOUND MY WAY TO HER:



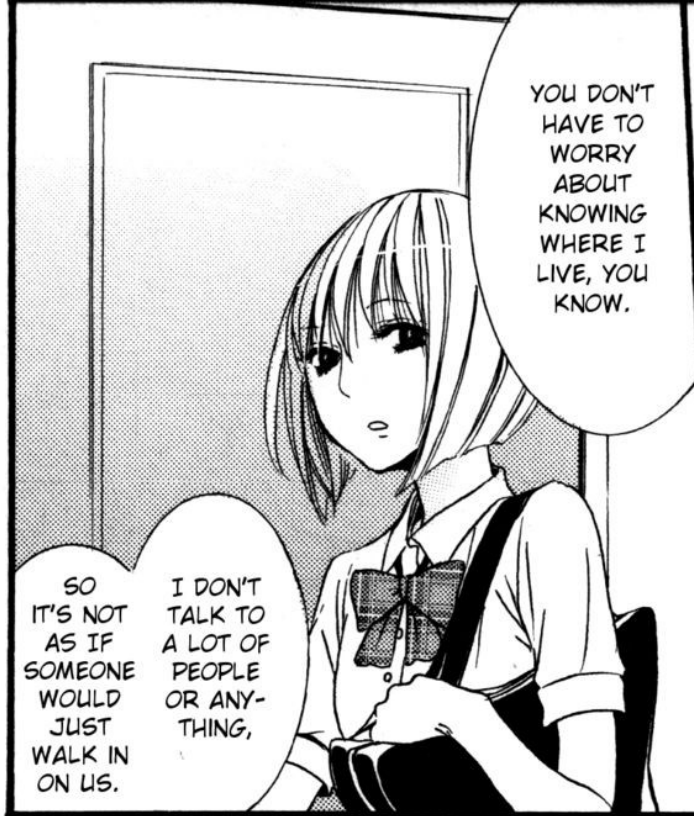
YULI-CHAN, WHAT KIND OF FOOD DO YOU LIKE?

I'LL MAKE YOU DINNER.

HEY,

fluff





IT WAS A BITTER KIND OF LOVE.

ONE MEANT TO REPLACE HER.



TO EMBRACE THE REAL ME.

WAS THE FIRST PERSON

HA...
YULI-CHAN, YOU'RE SO CUTE.



AFTER ALL, ASUKA-SAN

AH...

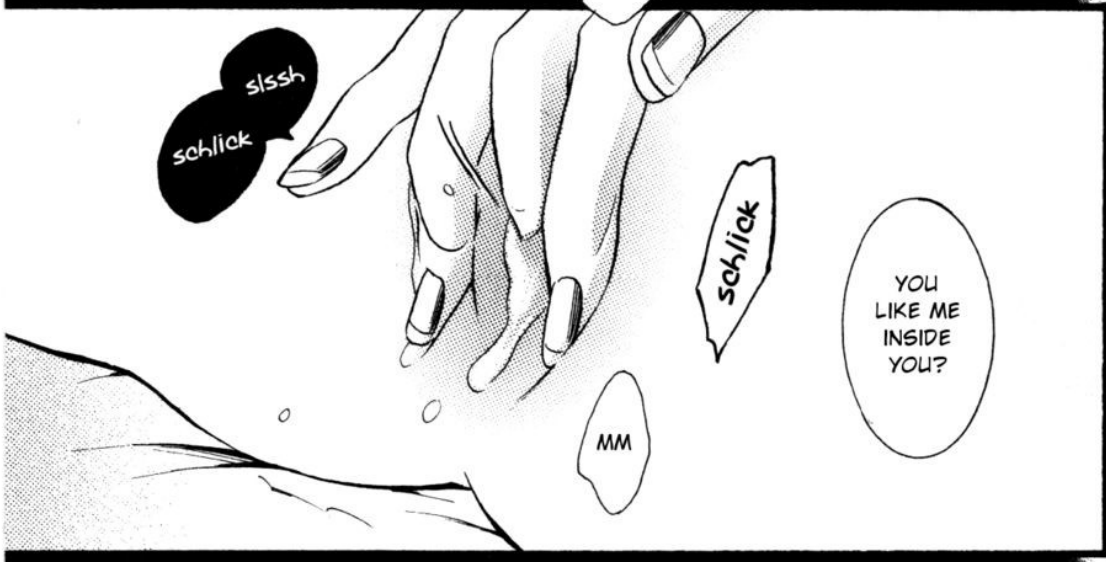


YOU'RE SO SENSITIVE...

AH... MM...

THERE?

THERE...



slssh
schlick

schlick

YOU LIKE ME INSIDE YOU?

MM



WHEN I FIRST MET HER,

I WAS DEFINITELY HAPPY ABOUT IT.



SHE WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO REALLY KNOW ME.

TOUCH ME DEEPER...



MORE...

Haa...

AHH



SHE WAS SO IMPORTANT TO ME BECAUSE OF THAT.

SHE TAUGHT ME THE WARMTH OF ANOTHER PERSON'S BODY.



sting



"Just a Bit of spending money."

"Here."



...MAYBE
I'LL
GET A
DRINK...



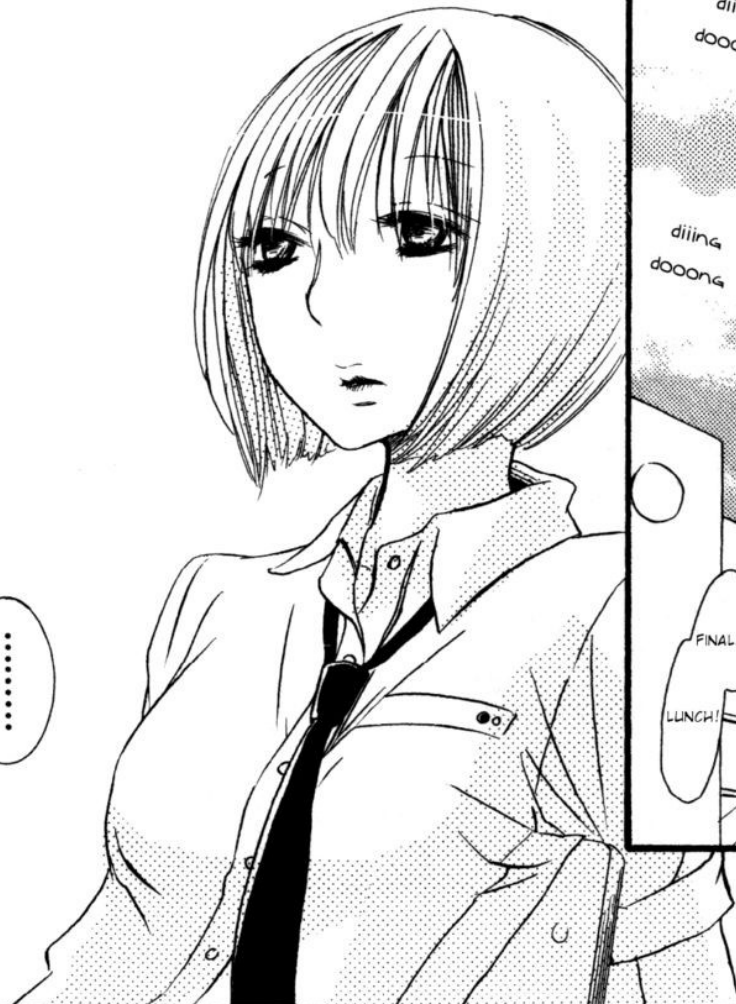
I
WONDERED
IF ASUKA-
SAN

REALLY
NEEDED
ME

LIKE I
NEEDED
HER.



I HADN'T
HEARD
BACK
FROM
ASUKA-
SAN.



diing
doong

diing
doong

chatter

FINALLY,

LUNCH!

chatter



LET'S GO TO THE ROOF, THEN.

I'M GONNA BUY SOME BREAD.

I'M FINE WITH WHEREVER.



RIKAKO, WHERE SHOULD WE GO TO EAT?

IS NOT TALKING TO HER REALLY BOTHERING ME THIS MUCH?



YEAH, THEY'RE THE WORST!

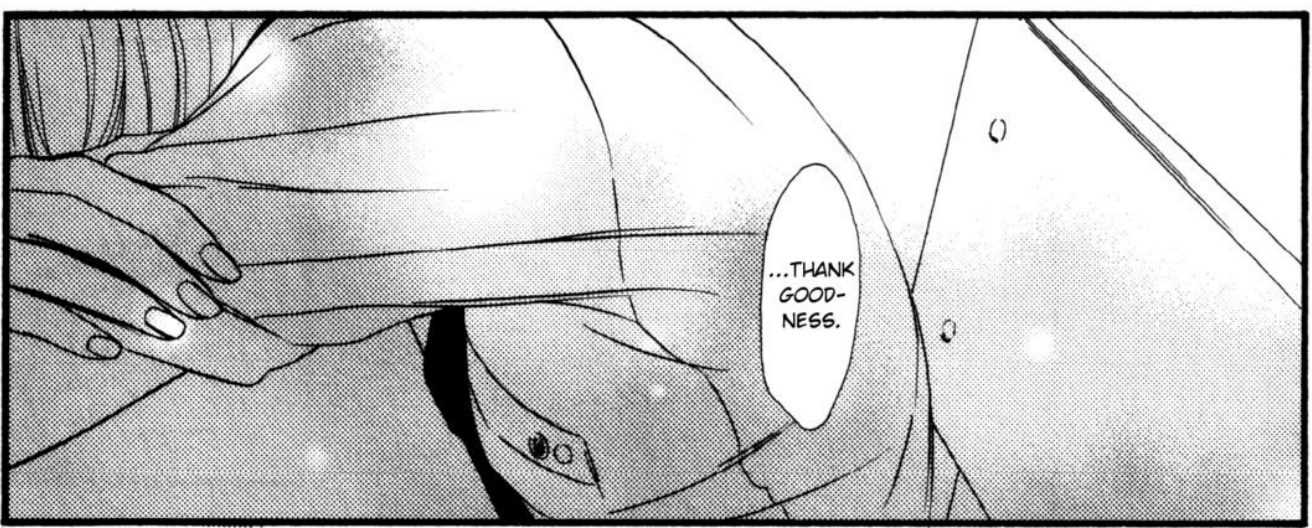
BAD PERIOD CRAMPS, RIKAKO?

AHH, MY STOMACH!

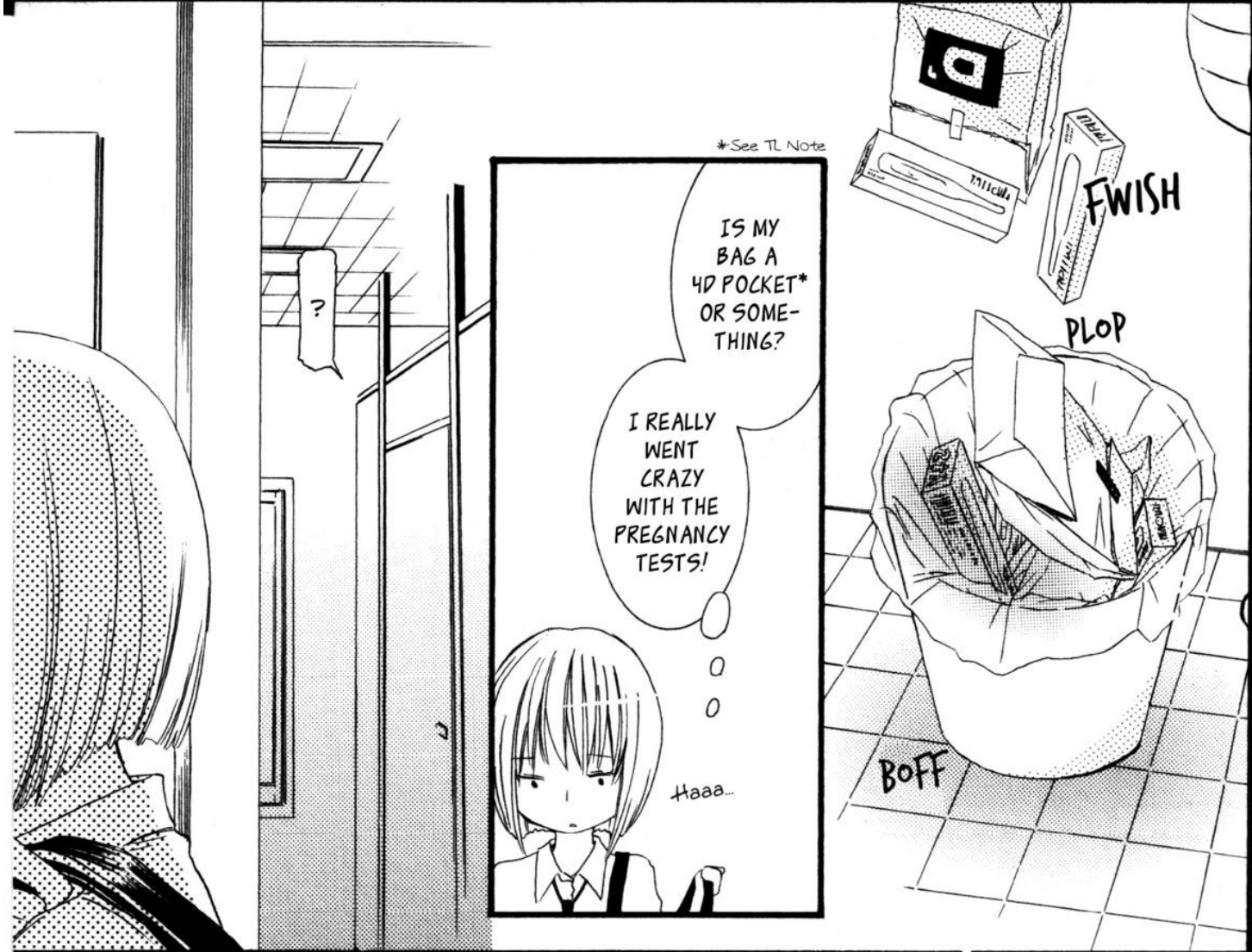


RIKAKO, YOU IDIOT.

.....



...THANK GOODNESS.

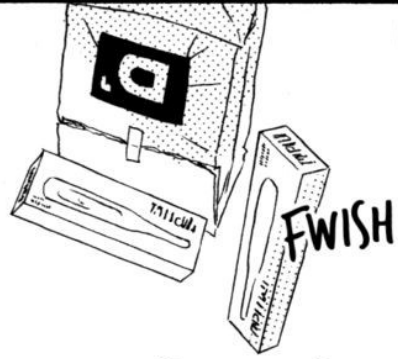


*See TL Note

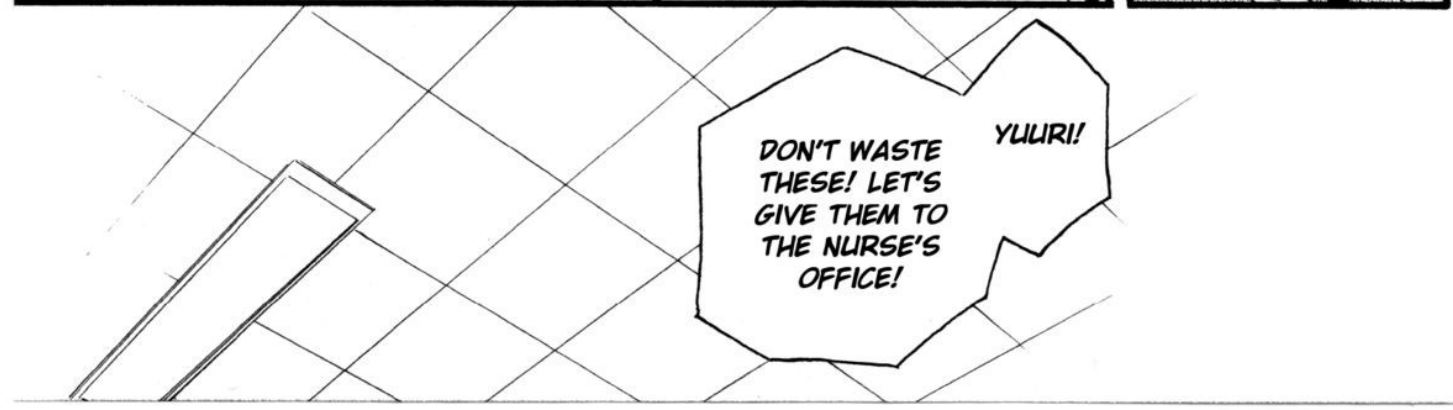
IS MY BAG A 4D POCKET* OR SOMETHING?

I REALLY WENT CRAZY WITH THE PREGNANCY TESTS!

Haaa...



IT'S NOT LIKE I'D USE THIS MANY...
DUMMY...



DON'T WASTE THESE! LET'S GIVE THEM TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE!
YUURI!





I BEGAN
TO MISS
HER.

AFTER
THAT,

AS IF
SOME-
THING
HAD
CHANGED
INSIDE
ME.

I FELT AS
IF I'D
FOUND
SOME-
THING
WITHIN
MYSELF...

I WAS
FINALLY
ABLE TO
SAY WHAT
WAS IN MY
HEART.

click

click
click



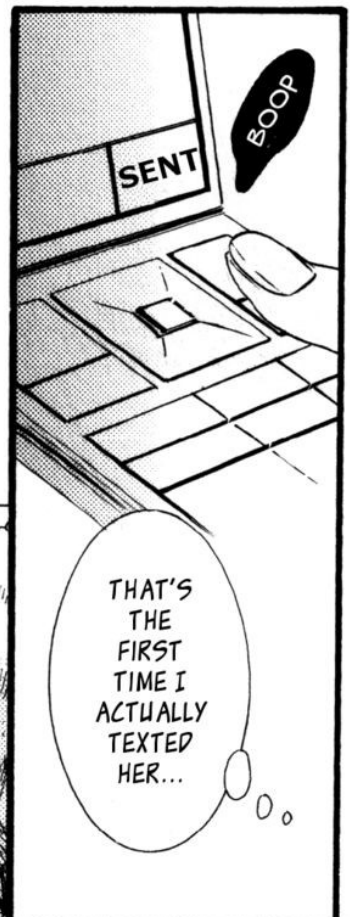
IF IT HAS
TO BE
ABOUT
MONEY,
LET'S JUST
ACCEPT
THAT...

We'll
donate it or
something!
(A Rikako-
type move)

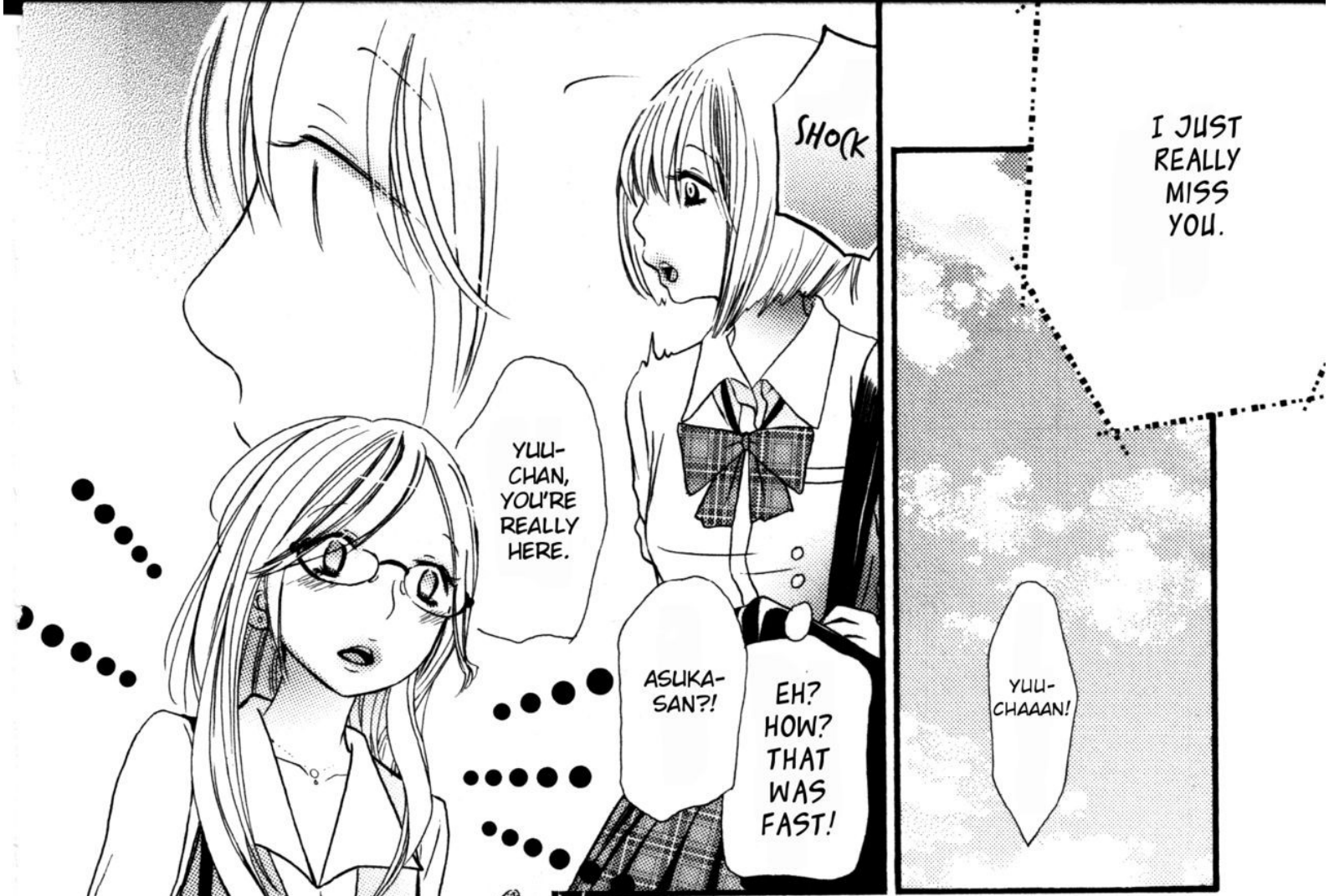
BUT

ASUKA-SAN, I WANT
TO APOLOGIZE FOR
WHAT HAPPENED
RECENTLY.

I WANT TO SEE YOU.
I'LL BE AT THE STATION,
SO PLEASE TEXT ME
BACK WHEN YOU CAN.



THAT'S
THE
FIRST
TIME I
ACTUALLY
TEXTED
HER...



YU-CHAN, YOU'RE REALLY HERE.

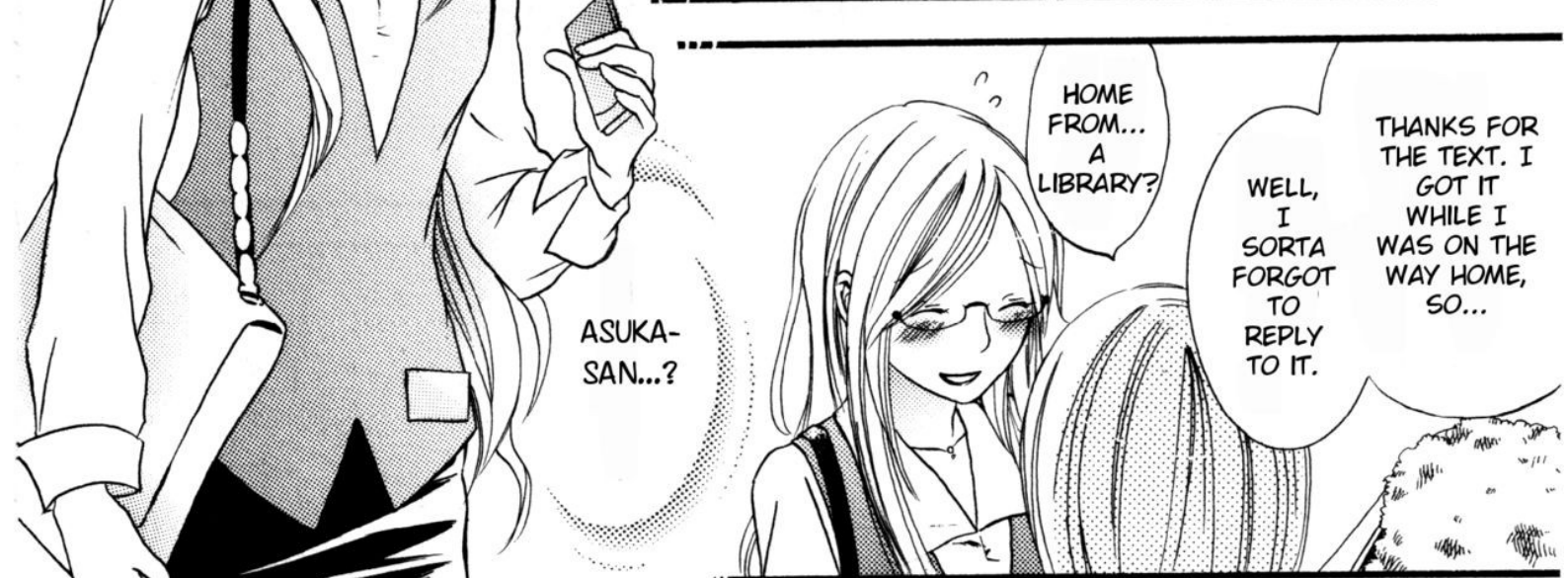
SHOCK

I JUST REALLY MISS YOU.

ASUKA-SAN?!

EH? HOW? THAT WAS FAST!

YU-CHAAAAN!

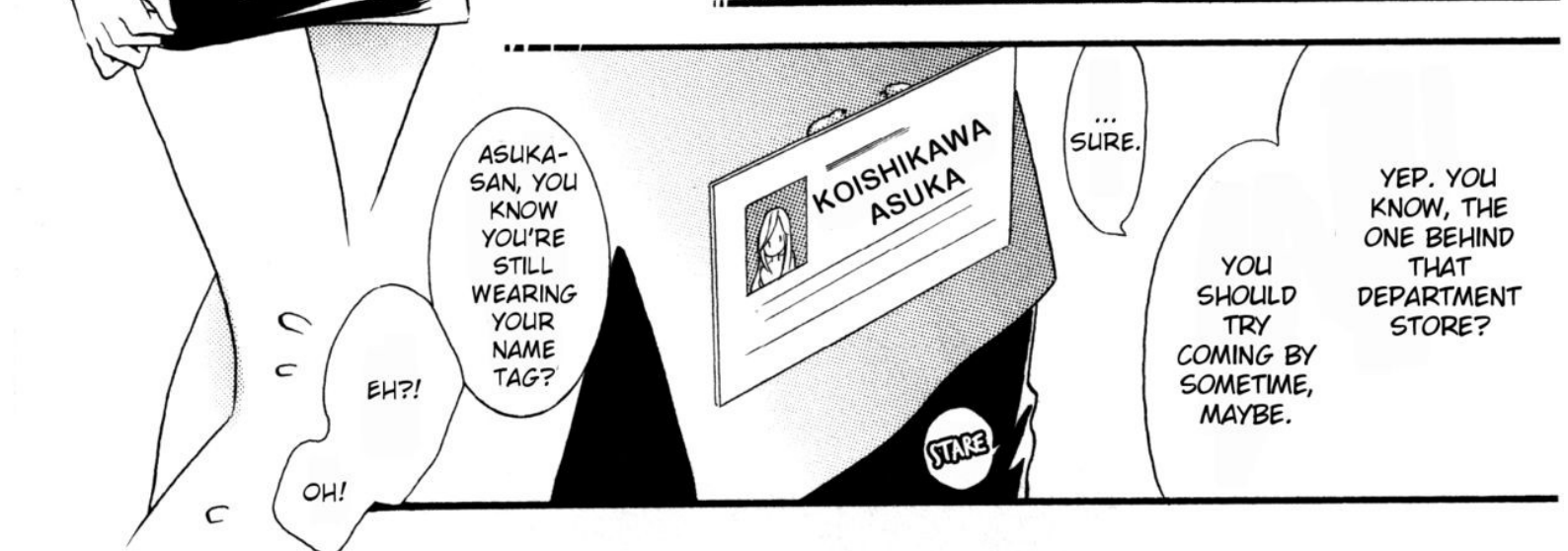


HOME FROM... A LIBRARY?

THANKS FOR THE TEXT. I GOT IT WHILE I WAS ON THE WAY HOME, SO...

WELL, I SORTA FORGOT TO REPLY TO IT.

ASUKA-SAN...?



ASUKA-SAN, YOU KNOW YOU'RE STILL WEARING YOUR NAME TAG?

...SURE.

YEP. YOU KNOW, THE ONE BEHIND THAT DEPARTMENT STORE?

YOU SHOULD TRY COMING BY SOMETIME, MAYBE.

EH?!

OH!

STARE

ASUKA-SAN, A 26-YEAR-OLD LIBRARIAN.

IT WAS TRUE.

NO,

IT'S FINE.

IT WAS ALL FINE...

SORRY,

I'VE BEEN REALLY OUT OF IT...

LIGHHHH...

CRAP, WILL WE BE OKAY NOW?

AND, ACTUALLY... SORRY FOR

LOTS OF OTHER STUFF, TOO.

HERE.

SHE WAS DRESSED IN NOTHING LIKE SHE'D WORN BEFORE.

YET ASUKA-SAN WAS JUST THE SAME AS ALWAYS.

EVERY BIT OF IT-



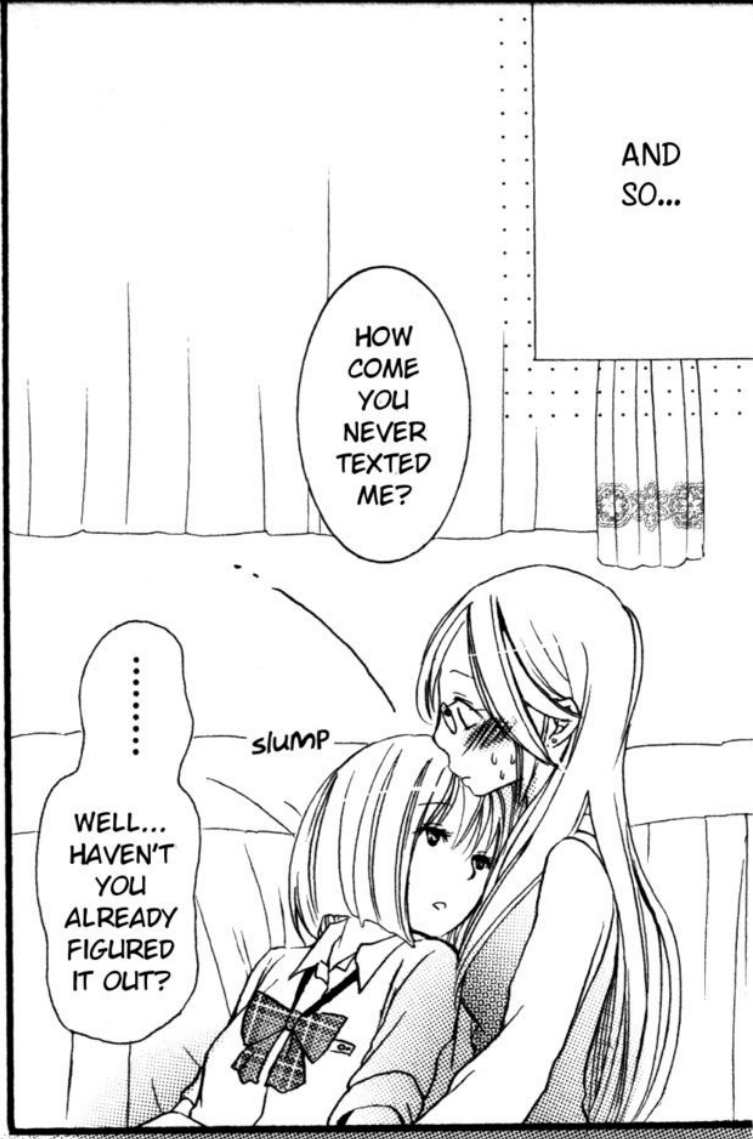
YOU SAID
"SEE YOU"
BACK
THERE, BUT



TALKING
TO YOU
AGAIN
WOULD HAVE
COME
ACROSS AS
CLINGY...

AFTER
PULLING
THAT
MONEY
OUT,

Besides,
you
would've
gotten
mad at
me.

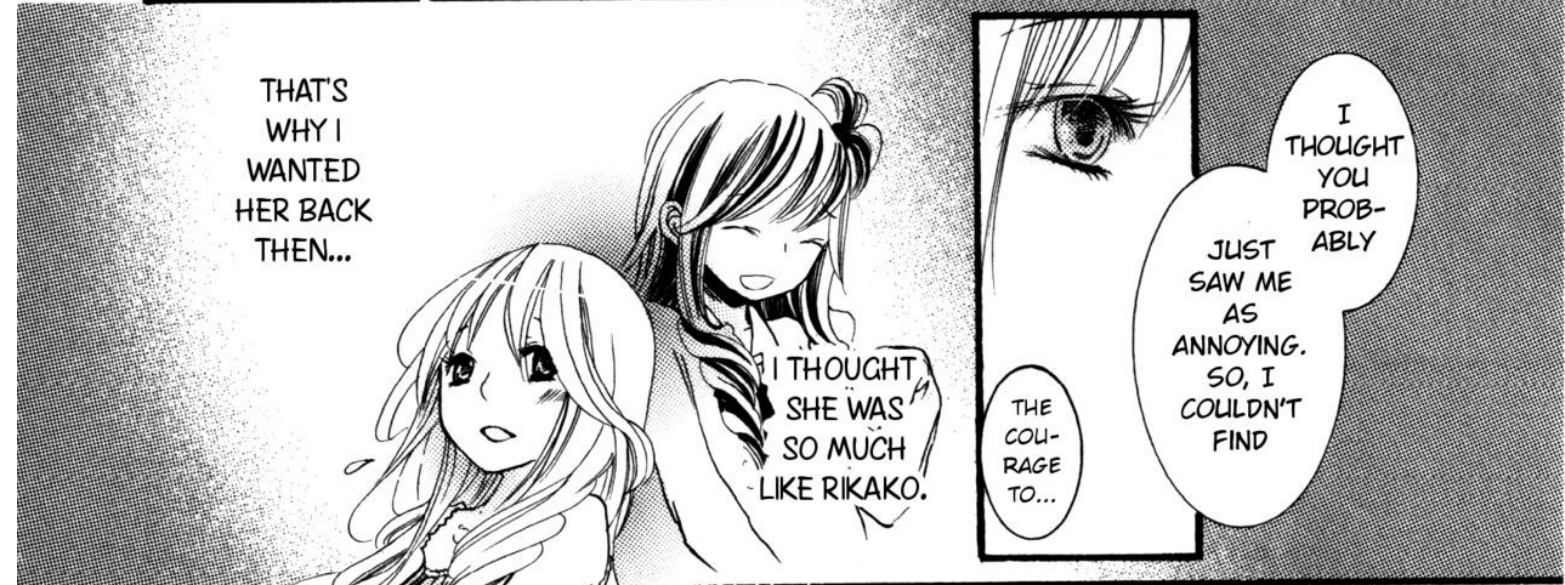


AND
SO...

HOW
COME
YOU
NEVER
TEXTED
ME?

slump

WELL...
HAVEN'T
YOU
ALREADY
FIGURED
IT OUT?



THAT'S
WHY I
WANTED
HER BACK
THEN...

I THOUGHT
SHE WAS
SO MUCH
LIKE RIKAKO.

THE
COURAGE
TO...

I
THOUGHT
YOU
PROBABLY
JUST
SAW ME
AS
ANNOYING.
SO, I
COULDN'T
FIND



DO
YOU
LOVE
ME...?

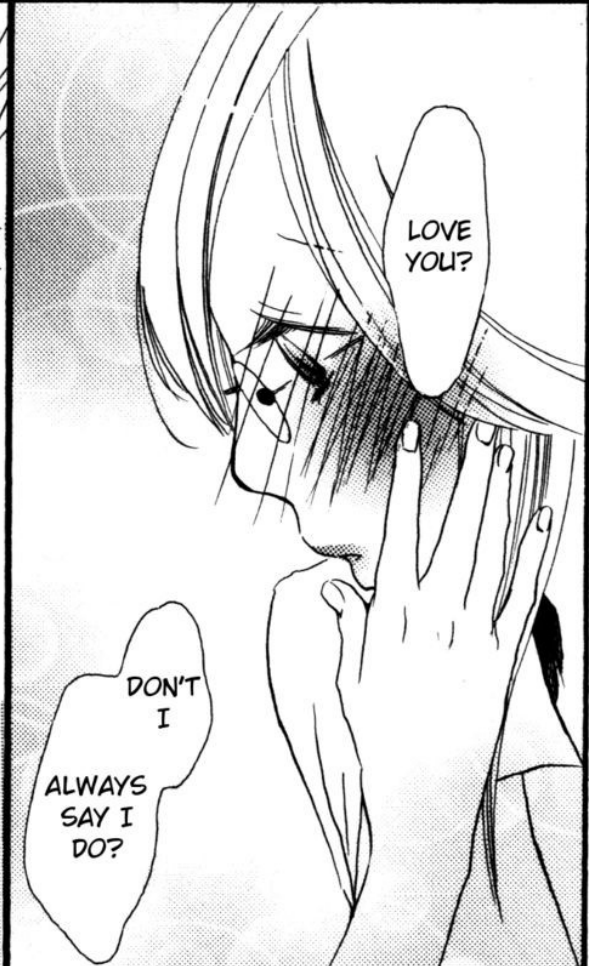
THEN,
ASUKA
-SAN,

BUT
WHAT
DOES
SHE
THINK
ABOUT
ME...?



...YEAH.

I LOVE YOU, TOO...



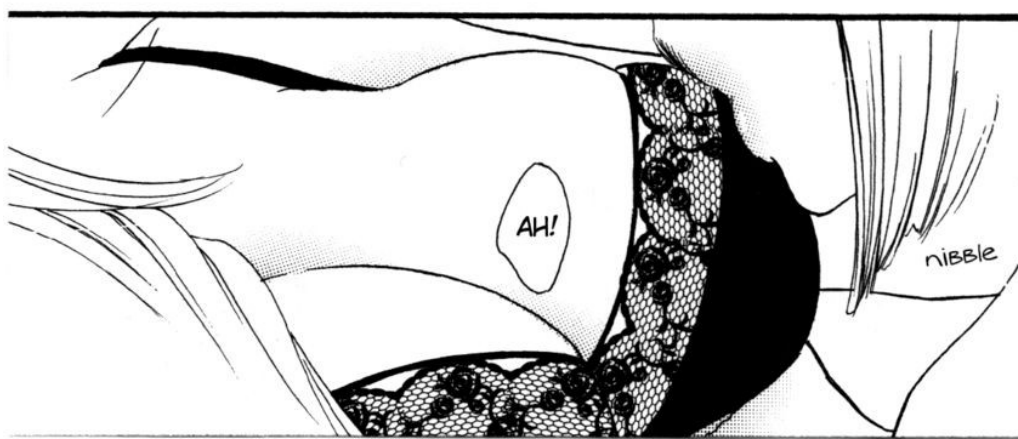
LOVE YOU?

DON'T I ALWAYS SAY I DO?



IT WAS ALL TRUE...

I REALLY LOVE YOU SO MUCH, ASUKA-SAN.



AH!

nibble

I MISSED HER.



YOU—

THOSE KINDS OF PLACES.

SAYING THAT MAKES THIS SO EMBARRASSING...



WHAT?

I WANT TO SEE THAT FROM YOU, TOO.

AH...

...MM

RUB

RUB



WAIT,

YULI-CHAN,

THERE, I'M—

flick



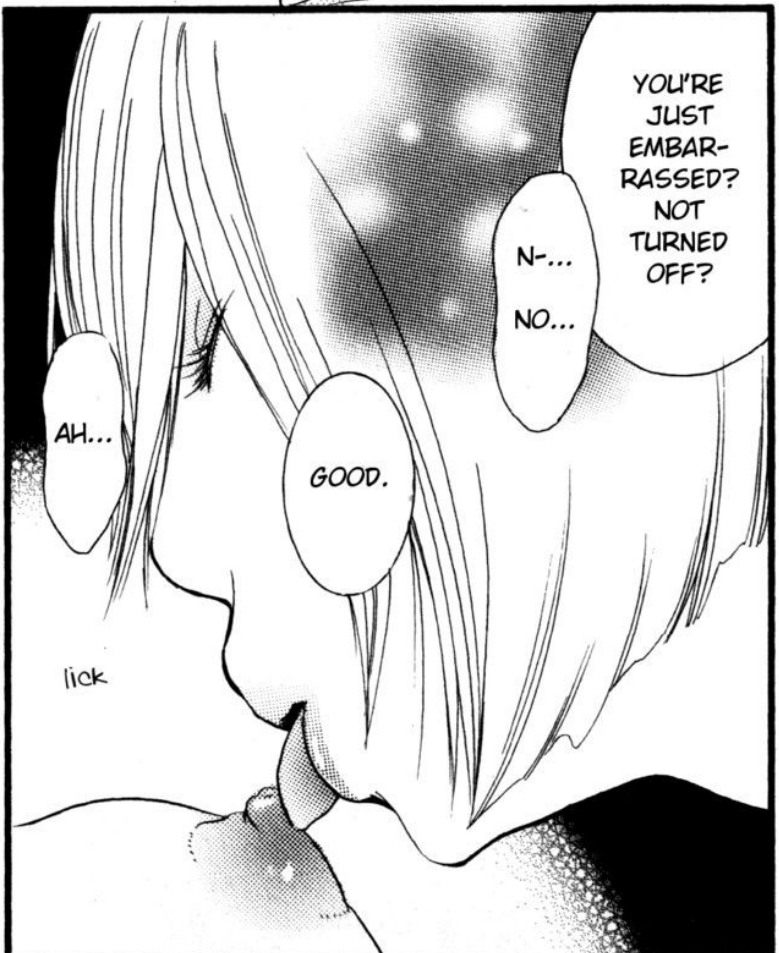
IT WAS ALL TRUE.

HER WARMTH,

HAAH

HA...

MM



YOU'RE JUST EMBARRASSED? NOT TURNED OFF?

N... NO...

GOOD.

AH...

lick

HER
WORDS,

HER
KINDNESS,

EVERYTHING
SHE GAVE
ME,

TO
THINK
I
COULD

ACTUALLY
FEEL
THIS
HAPPY...

AH,

AHH

AHH

YAAH

MM...

MM!

YUJI-
CHAN

DON'T
JUST
STICK
TO

THE
SAME
PLACE...

THEN
HERE,
TOO.

twitah
twitah

slide



AH

I WANT HER



Schlick

MM...
AH

I LOVE

YOU, TOO.

ALL OF ASUKA-SAN

SQUEEZE

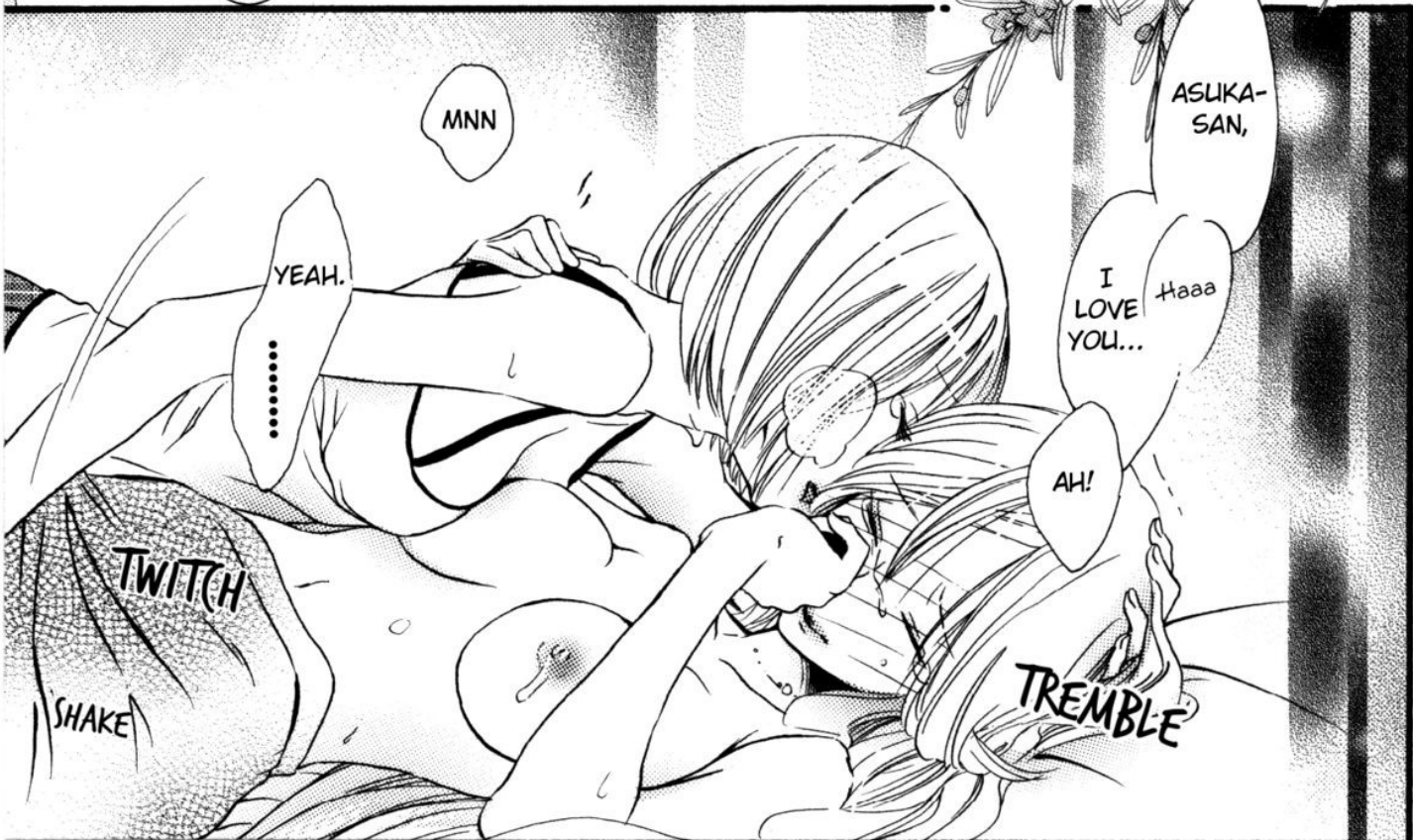
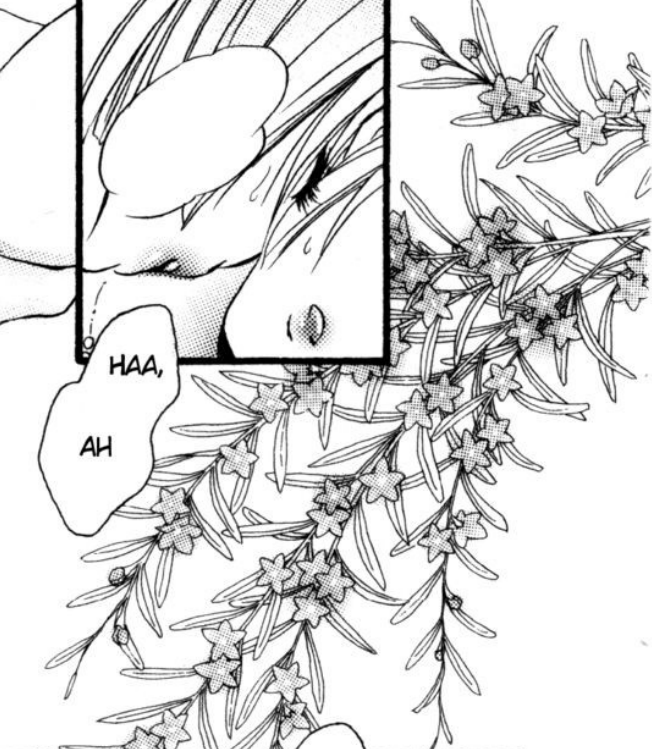


DO YOU LOVE ME?

MN

I LOVE YOU...

HAA,
AH



MNN

YEAH.
.....

TWITCH

SHAKE

ASUKA-SAN,

I LOVE YOU...
Haaa

AH!

TREMBLE



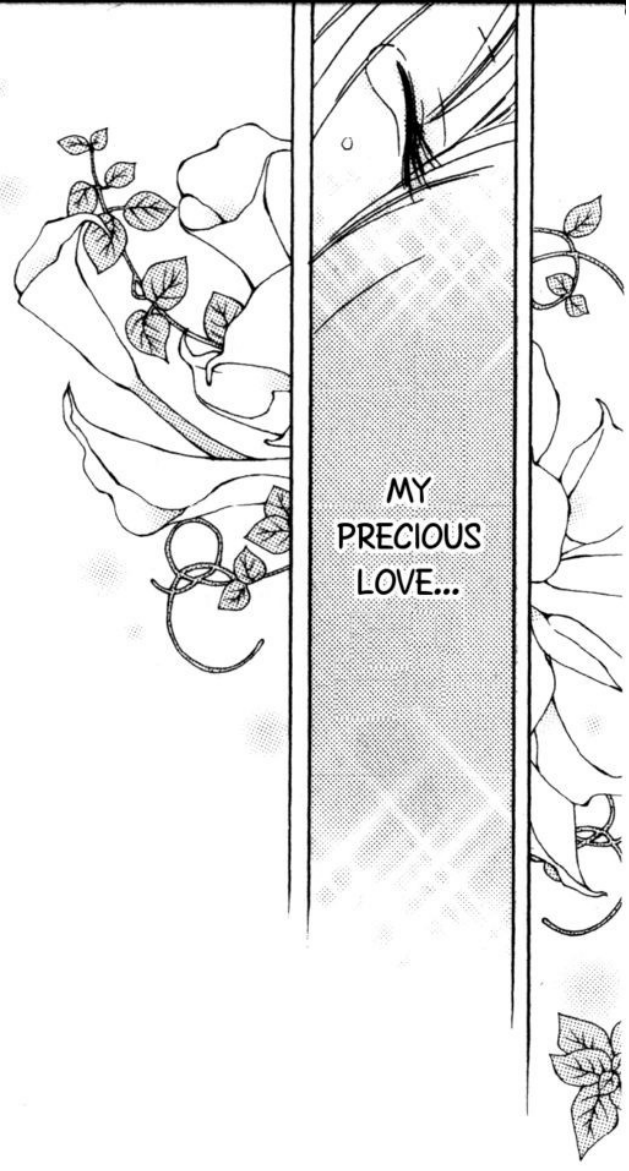
IT'S FINE TO KEEP CALLING YOU "YULI-CHAN," HUH?

SO,



MY NAME'S NOT YULIKO.

IT'S KAMI-ZAWA YULURI.



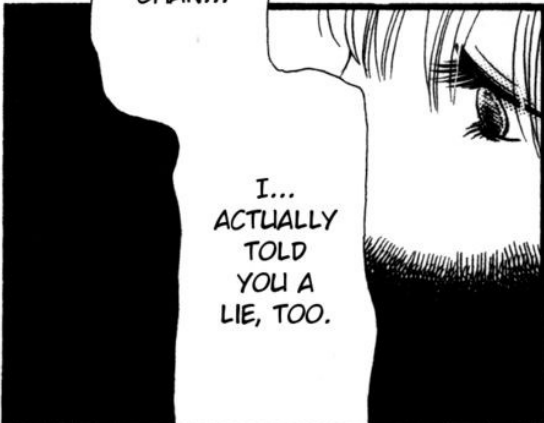
MY PRECIOUS LOVE...



GULP

AH...

S-SORRY, YULI-CHAN...



I... ACTUALLY TOLD YOU A LIE, TOO.



YULI.

AND YOU'RE JUST THE SAME AS WHEN WE FIRST MET, RIGHT?

EH?



AHAHA!

ASUKA-SAN,
YOU'RE
SO
CUTE.

YOU'RE
28?



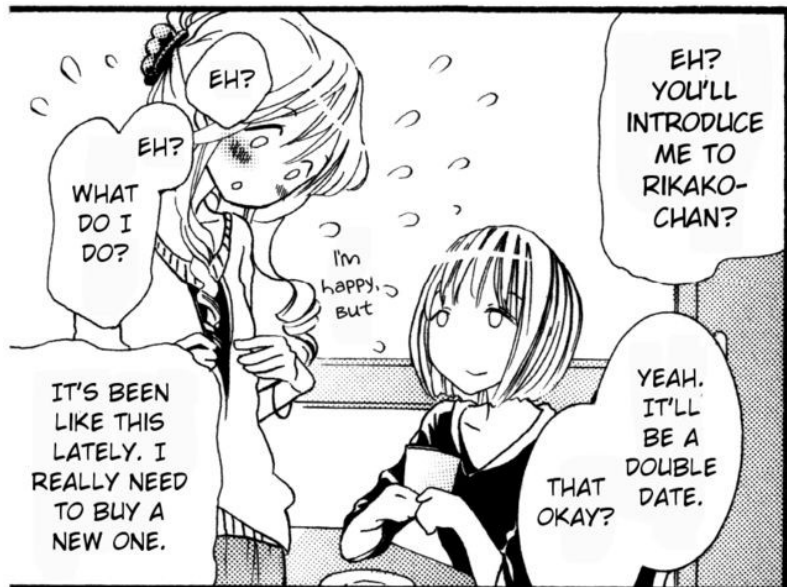
I JUST
WENT
AHEAD AND
USED THE
TRENDY
CLOTHES
AND STUFF

I'm so
sorry!

TO HIDE IT,
BUT IT STILL
SHOWED
THROUGH?!

WAAAAH!

ONE
YEAR
LATER



EH?

EH?

WHAT
DO I
DO?

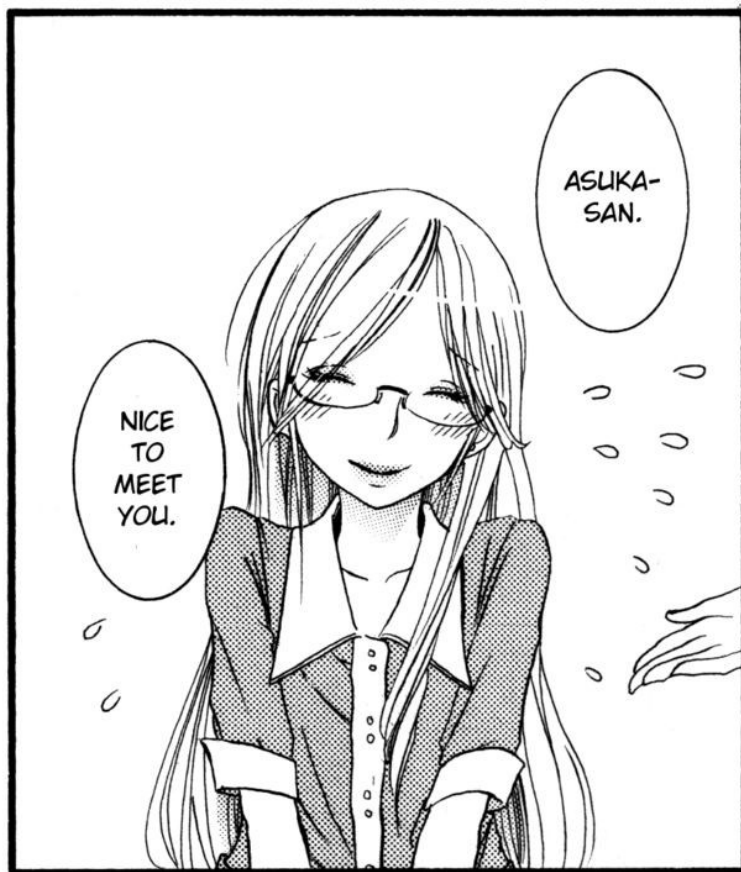
I'm
happy.
But

EH?
YOU'LL
INTRODUCE
ME TO
RIKAKO-
CHAN?

YEAH.
IT'LL
BE A
DOUBLE
DATE.
THAT
OKAY?

RIKAKO
FINALLY
GOT
ANOTHER
BOYFRIEND.

HE'S AN
OLD FRIEND
OF HERS,
SOMEONE I
KNOW, TOO.
HE SEEMS
LIKE A GOOD
GUY.



ASUKA-SAN.

NICE TO MEET YOU.

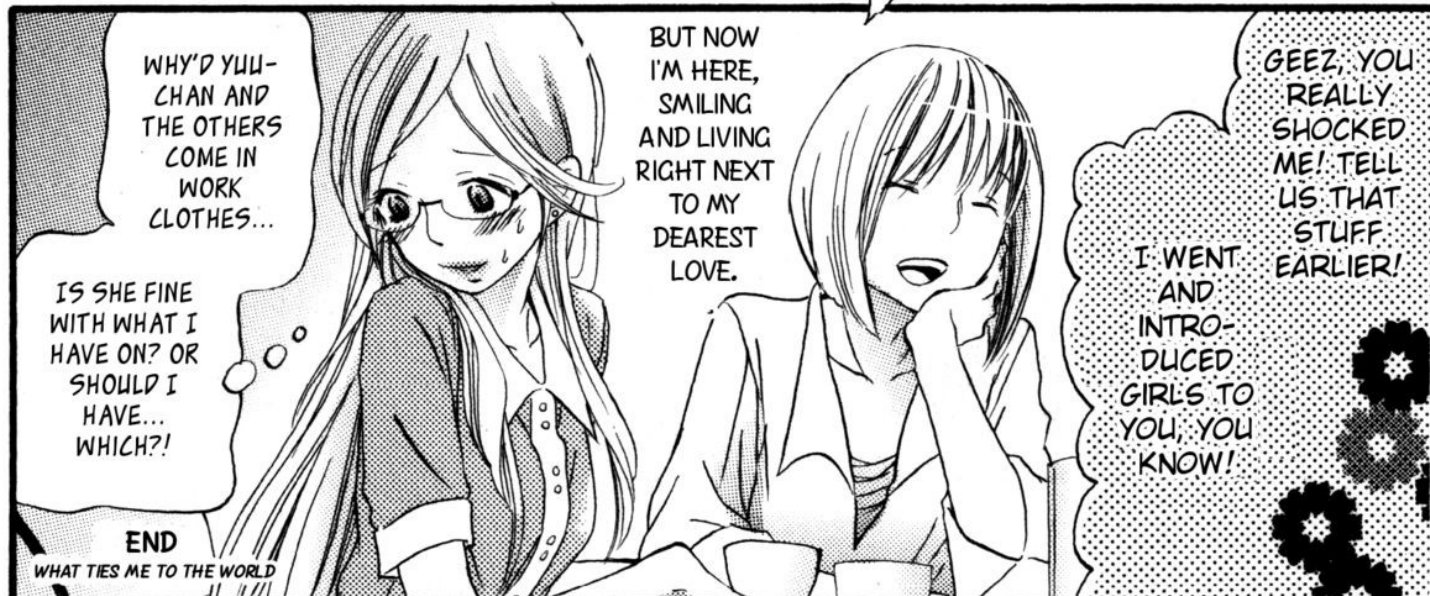
I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE

MY GIRL-FRIEND.



IT MAY HAVE BEEN COMPLICATED,

EHHHHH?



WHY'D YUU-CHAN AND THE OTHERS COME IN WORK CLOTHES...

IS SHE FINE WITH WHAT I HAVE ON? OR SHOULD I HAVE... WHICH?!

BUT NOW I'M HERE, SMILING AND LIVING RIGHT NEXT TO MY DEAREST LOVE.

GEEZ, YOU REALLY SHOCKED ME! TELL US THAT STUFF EARLIER!

I WENT AND INTRODUCED GIRLS TO YOU, YOU KNOW!

END

WHAT TIES ME TO THE WORLD



WHAT TIES ME TO THE WORLD

Artist: Rokuroichi Translation/QC: Tralfamatore
Editing/QC: Rabbit Raws: sadpanda

This one-shot originally appeared in *Girl X Girl Collection Volume 3* (2011).

Don't forget to join our Discord server! Click the moon-rabbit image on our blog's front page!



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Tralfamatore's Translation Tidbits:

When throwing out the pregnancy tests, Yuuri's mention of a "4-D pocket" is in reference to the manga and anime *Doraemon*, where the title character has a bottomless front pouch of the same name. I rarely see Rokuroichi make pop culture references in their manga, but the ubiquitous appeal of this one makes it less surprising; it's not unlike having a character in an English comic make a passing Looney Tunes reference.