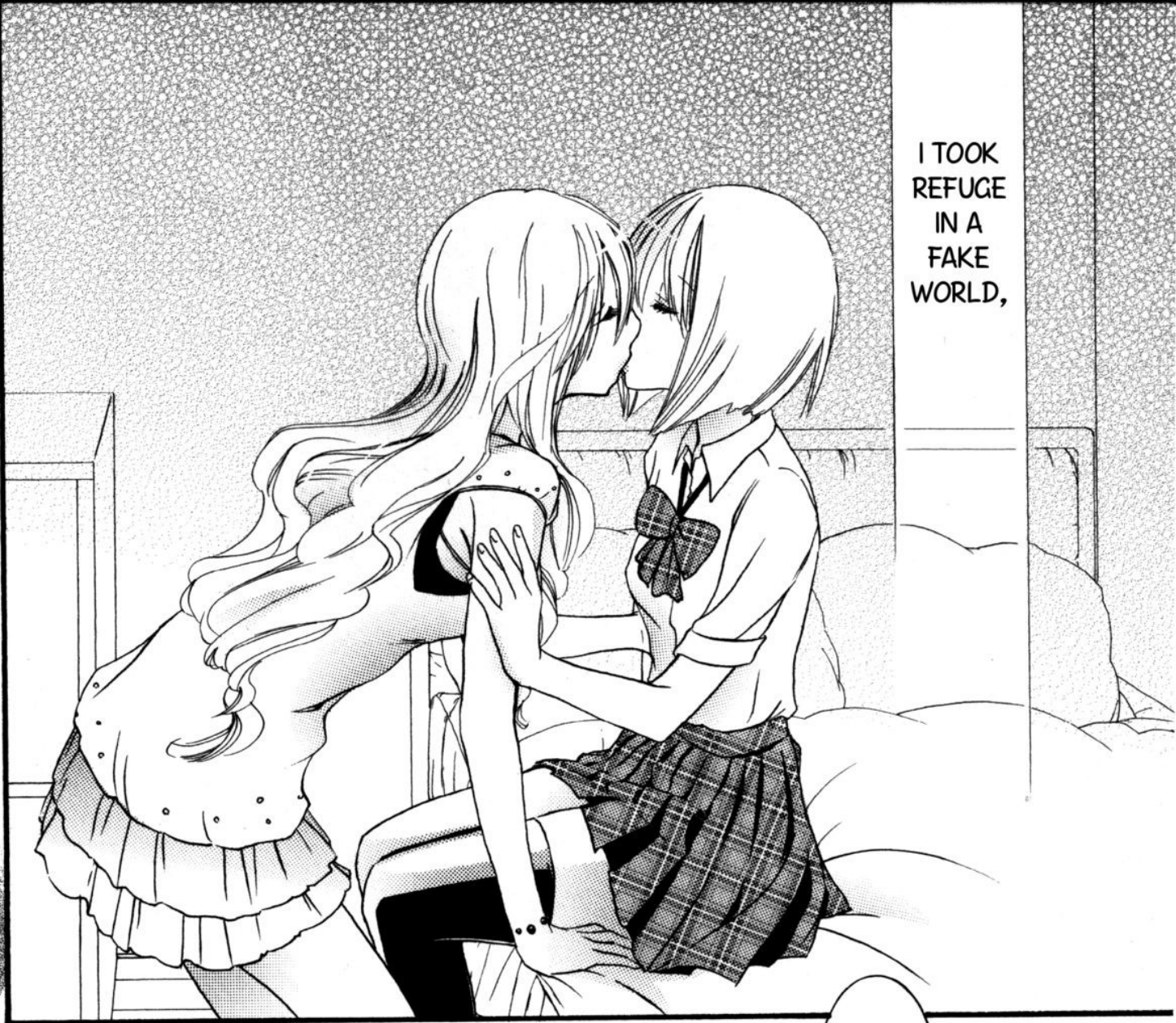


WHAT
TIES ME
TO THE
WORLD
ROKUROICHI

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.

...ANY-
ONE
WOULD
HAVE
BEEN
FINE.

...NNG

SNFF...

I MET HER
THROUGH
THE
INTERNET.

?

What?

WHAT'S
WITH HER
OVERDONE
TRENDY
LOOK?

NOTH-
ING...

I
STILL
LIKE
HIM!

UGHHH,
COME
ON,
YUURI.

BUT,
RIKA-
KO...

OF CLINGING
TO A NAIVE
MIDDLE
SCHOOL
CRUSH,

YOU
SHOULD
JUST
DUMP
HIM,
THEN.

OF
CRY-
ING
EVERY
DAY,

I WAS
SO
TIRED

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





HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU?

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

THAT'S PRETTY BAD, RIGHT?

I SURE SCREWED UP!

Ahaha!

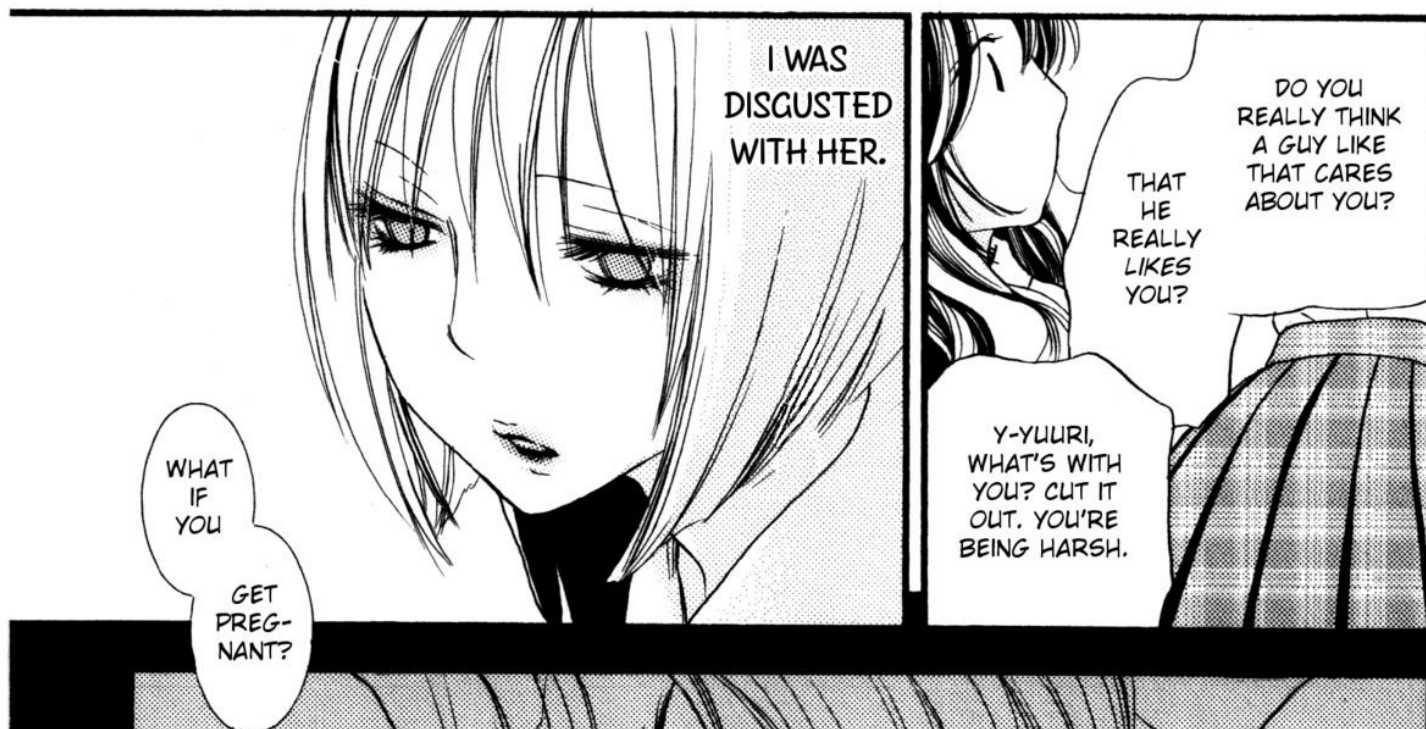
YESTERDAY, MY BOYFRIEND WANTED TO DO IT RAW.

SO THAT WAS OUR FIRST TIME UNPROTECTED! WHOOPS!

ka-chunk

THUD

.....



I WAS DISGUSTED WITH HER.

WHAT IF YOU

GET PREG-NANT?

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

THAT HE REALLY LIKES 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.

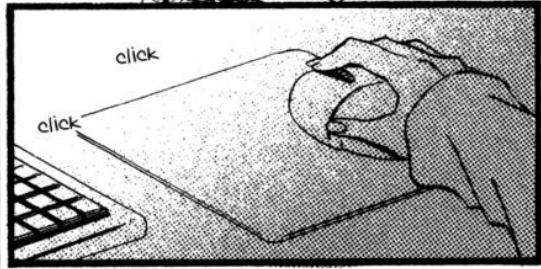
COULDN'T
MAKE HER
UNDER-
STAND.

I
COULDN'T
REACH
HER,

NOTHING
GOT
THROUGH
TO HER.

click

I JUST
WANTED
TO RUN
AWAY.



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



I'D STAY
JUST A
LITTLE
LONGER
IF I
COULD.

ACTUALLY,
HOLD ON
A SECOND.

...I WISH
I DIDN'T
HAVE TO
GO TO
WORK.

...ALREADY?

OH.



ASUKA
-SAN.

THAT'S
FINE.

I HAVE
WORK,
SO I
SHOULD
GET
GOING.



OKAY,
HERE.

JUST A
BIT OF
SPENDING
MONEY.



NO,
THANKS.

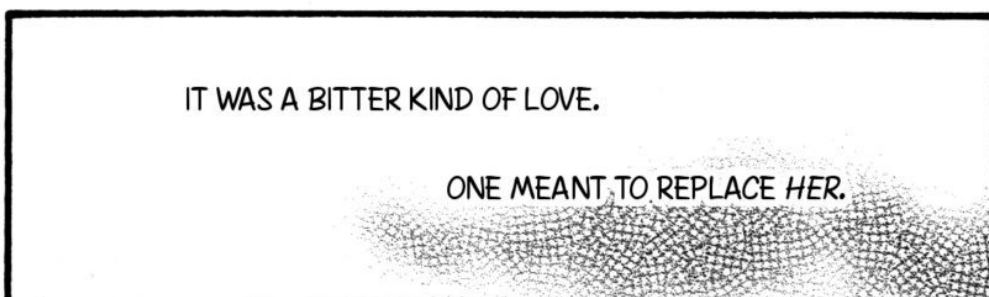
smack



UM... WELL,
IF WE JUST
MEET AT MY
PLACE, WE
WON'T HAVE
TO PAY FOR
ROOMS,
RIGHT?

SO,
THIS IS
THAT
MONEY
BACK.

.....



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

MM
YOU
LIKE ME
INSIDE
YOU?

WHEN I
FIRST
MET
HER,

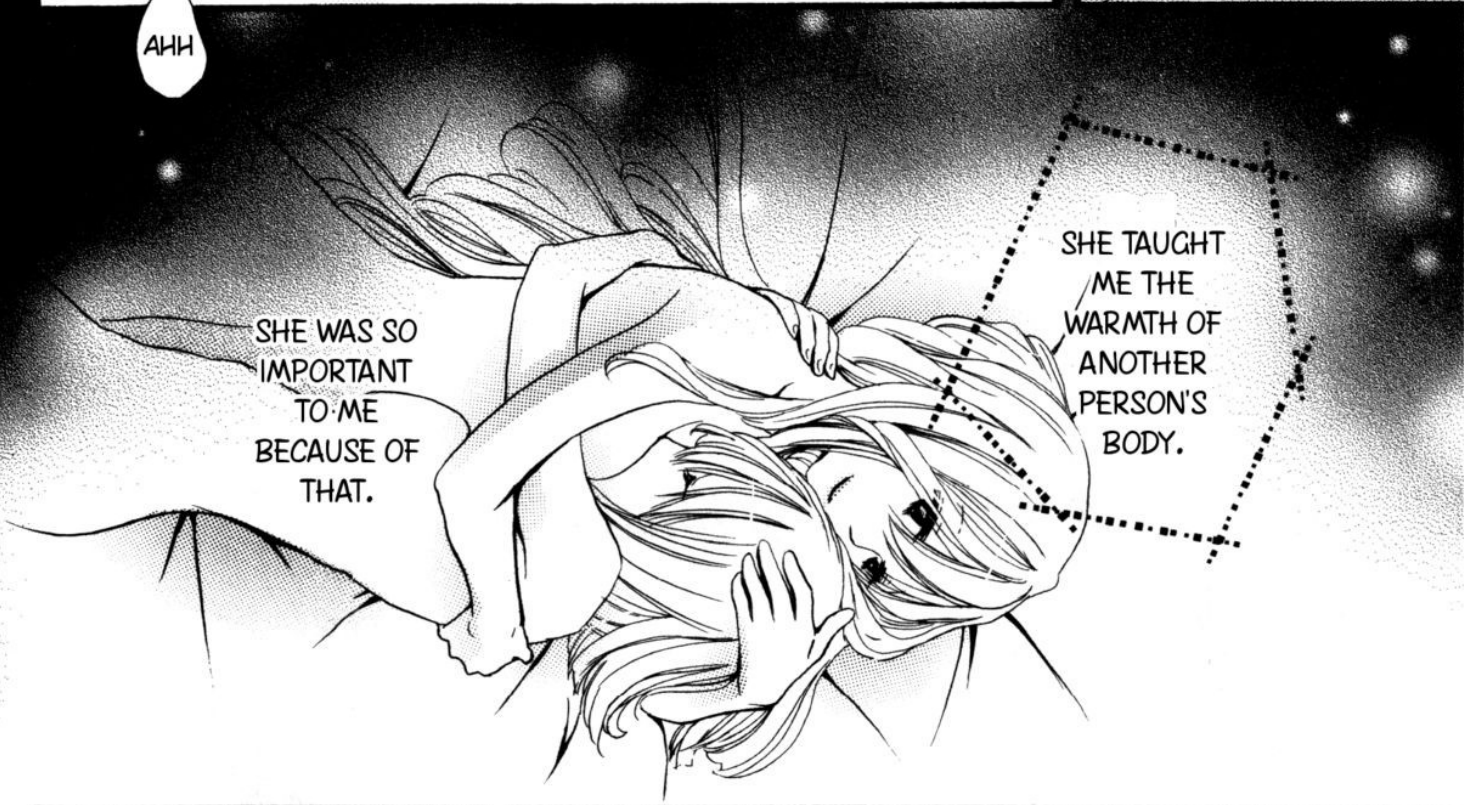
I
WAS
DEFINITELY
HAPPY
ABOUT
IT.



TOUCH
ME
DEEPER...

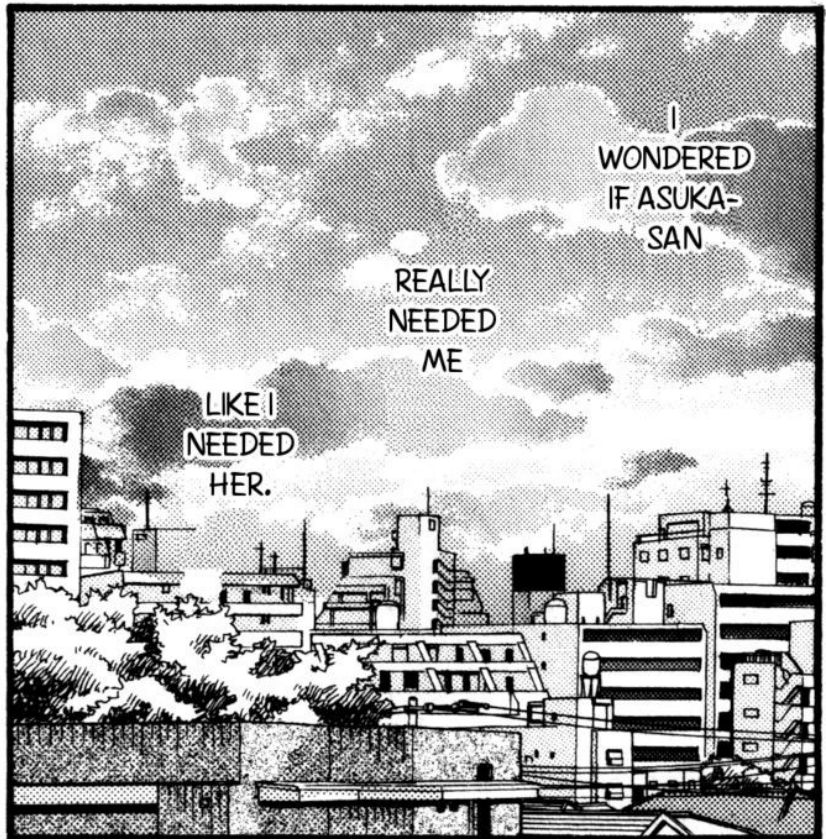


AHH





...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.



diiing
dooong

diiing
dooong

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 SOME-
THING?

I REALLY
WENT
CRAZY
WITH THE
PREGNANCY
TESTS!

Haaa...

FWISH

PLOP

BOFF

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 WAS
FINALLY
ABLE TO
SAY WHAT
WAS IN MY
HEART.

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

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.

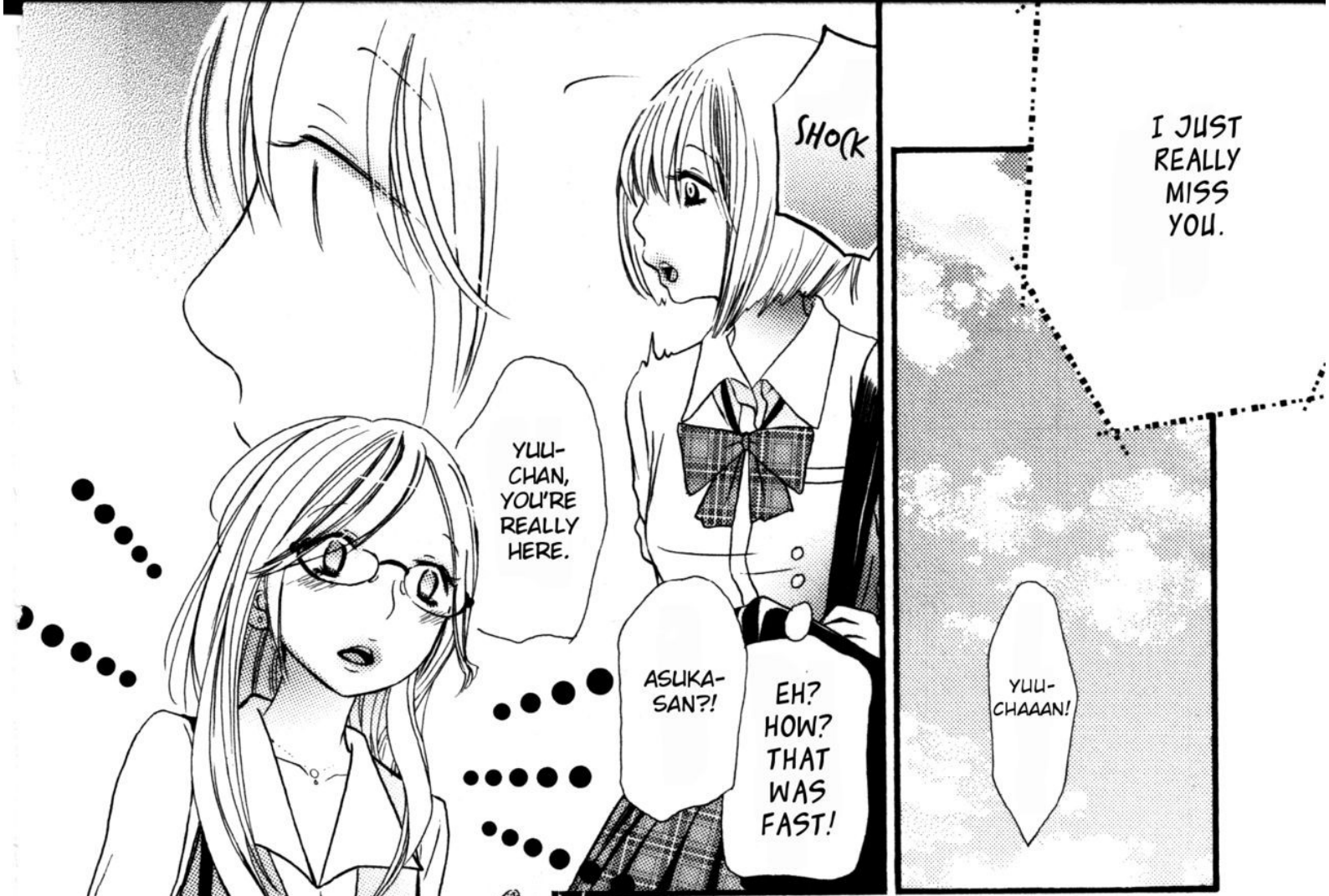
I WANT TO SEE YOU.
I'LL BE AT THE STATION,
SO PLEASE TEXT ME
BACK WHEN YOU CAN.



SENT

BOOP

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



YUI-CHAN, YOU'RE REALLY HERE.

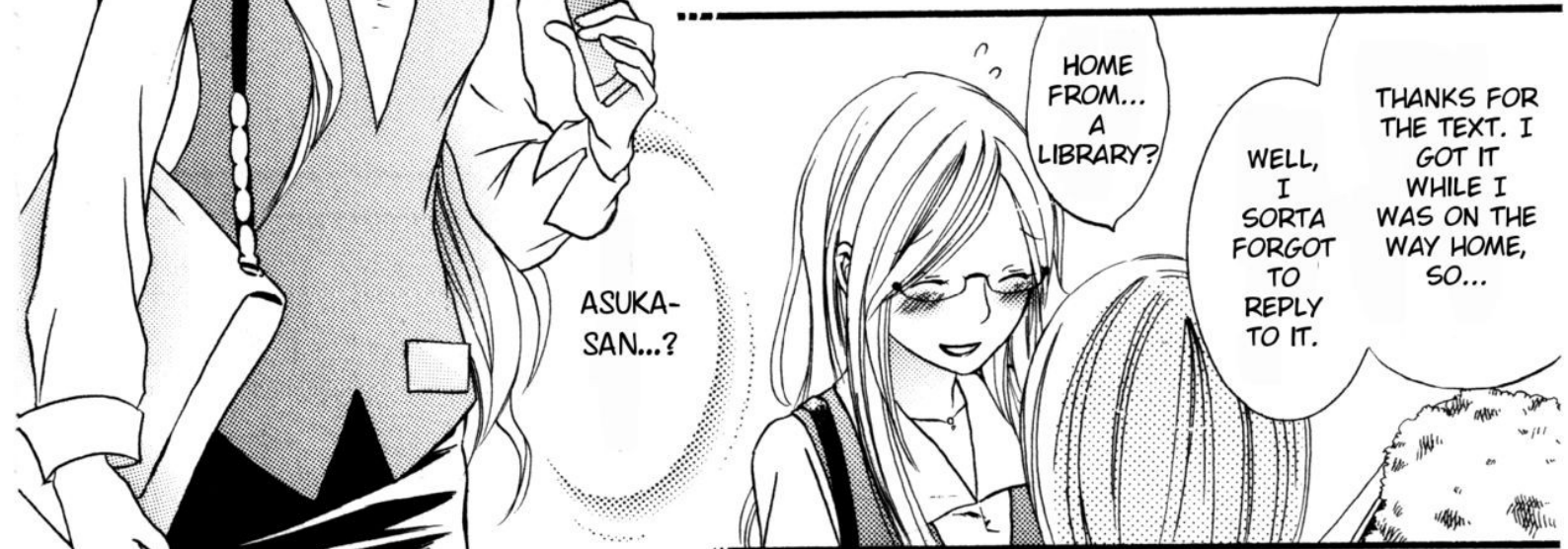
SHOCK

ASUKA-SAN?!

EH? HOW? THAT WAS FAST!

YUI-CHAAAAN!

I JUST REALLY MISS YOU.



ASUKA-SAN...?

HOME FROM... A LIBRARY?

WELL, I SORTA FORGOT TO REPLY TO IT.

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



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

EH?!

OH!



... SURE.

YOU SHOULD TRY COMING BY SOMETIME, MAYBE.

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

STARE

ASUKA-
SAN, A
26-YEAR-
OLD
LIBRAR-
IAN.

IT
WAS
TRUE.

NO,

IT'S
FINE.

IT WAS
ALL
FINE...

SORRY,

I'VE
BEEN
REALLY
OUT OF
IT...

UGH...
UGH...
UGH...

CRAP,
WILL
WE
BE
OKAY
NOW?

AND,
ACTU-
ALLY...
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-

AND
SO...

HOW
COME
YOU
NEVER
TEXTED
ME?

slump

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

Besides,
you
would've
gotten
mad at
me.

AFTER
PULLING
THAT
MONEY
OUT,
TALKING
TO YOU
AGAIN
WOULD HAVE
COME
ACROSS AS
CLINGY...

YOU SAID
"SEE YOU"
BACK
THERE, BUT

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

I THOUGHT
SHE WAS
SO MUCH
LIKE RIKAKO.

I
THOUGHT
YOU
PROBABLY

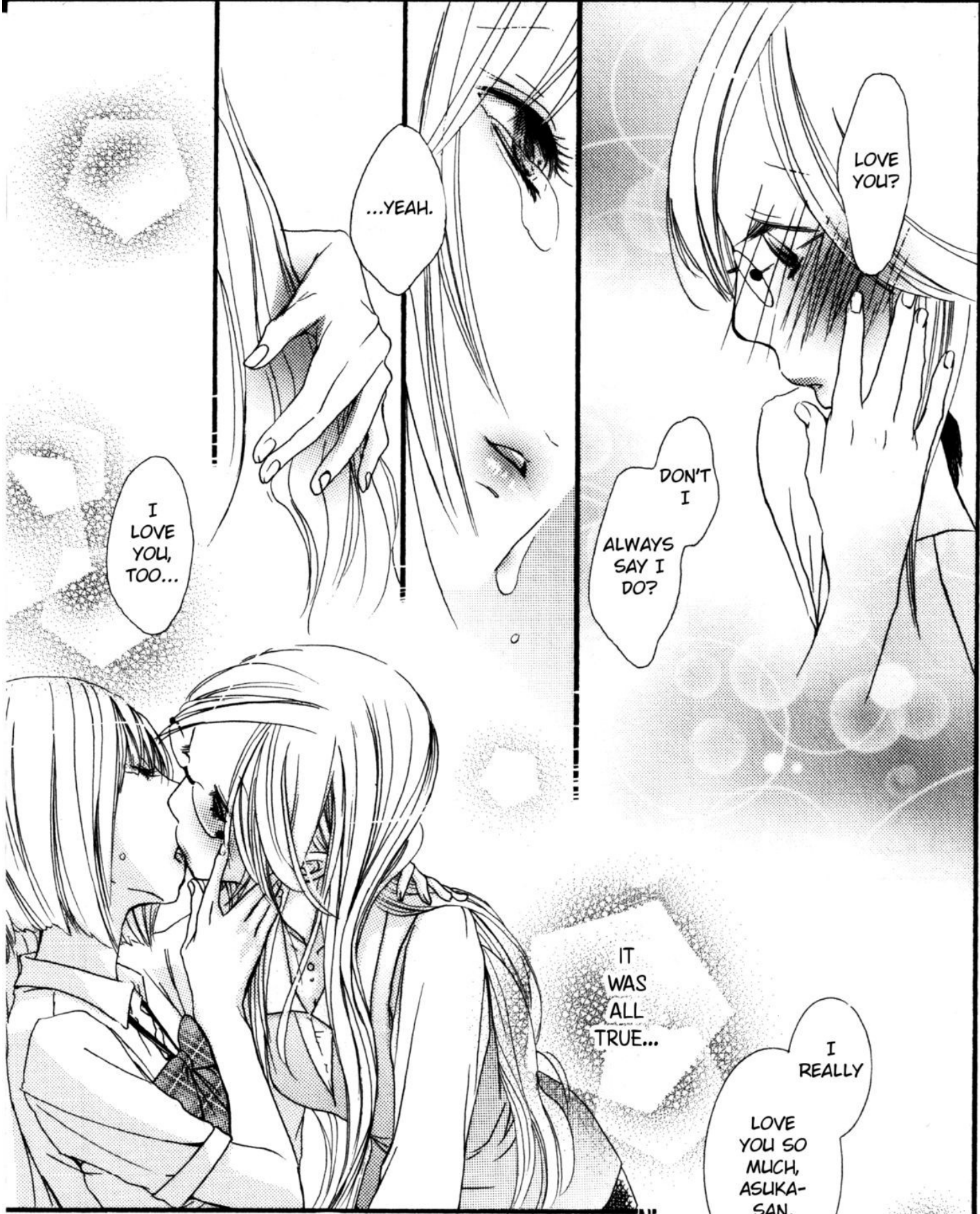
JUST
SAW ME
AS
ANNOYING.
SO, I
COULDN'T
FIND

THE
COURAGE
TO...

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
EMBAR-
RASSING...



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
EMBAR-
RASSÉD?
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!

YULI-
CHAN

DON'T
JUST
STICK
TO

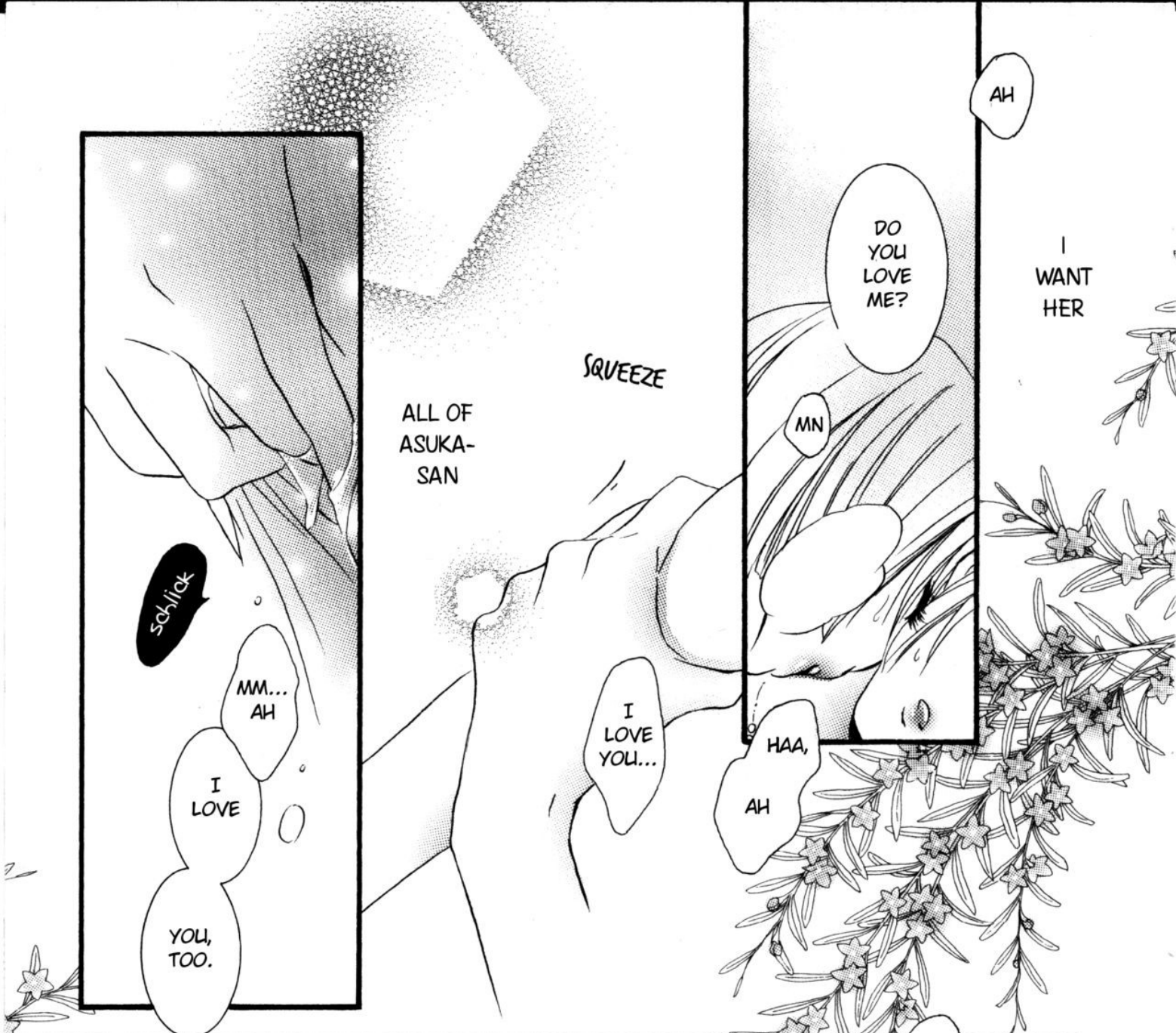
THE
SAME
PLACE...

THEN
HERE,
TOO.

slide

twitch
twitch







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

SO,



MY
NAME'S
NOT
YULIKO.

IT'S
KAMI-
ZAWA
YULIRI.



MY
PRECIOUS
LOVE...



GULP

AH...

S-
SORRY,
YULI-
CHAN...



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



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

EH?

YULI.



HAHAHA!

ASUKA-SAN,
YOU'RE
SO
CUTE.

YOU'RE
28?



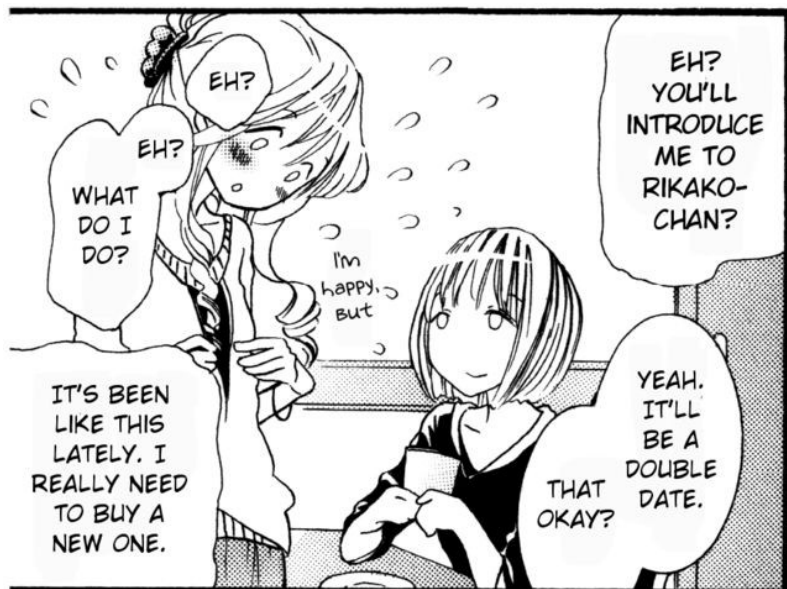
I JUST
WENT
AHEAD AND
USED THE
TRENDY
CLOTHES
AND STUFF

TO HIDE IT,
BUT IT STILL
SHOWED
THROUGH?!

I'm so
sorry!

WAAAAH!

ONE
YEAR
LATER



EH?

EH?

WHAT
DO I
DO?

I'm
happy.
But

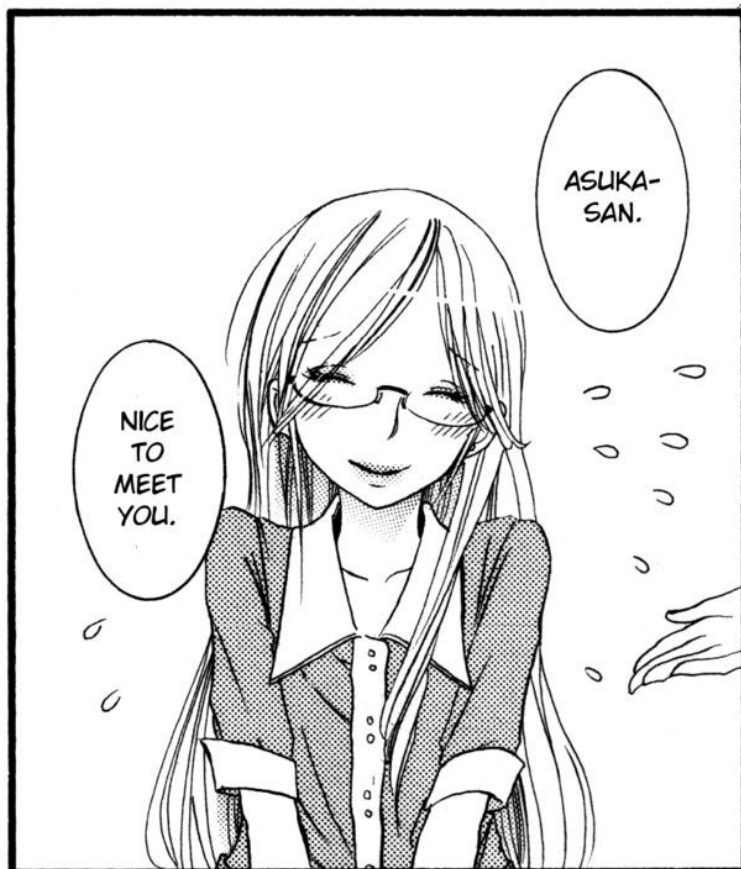
IT'S BEEN
LIKE THIS
LATELY. I
REALLY NEED
TO BUY A
NEW ONE.

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.



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.