

S M I L E

CHAPTER 6

YOUR DEAREST SMILE





.....?

REN!!



CATCH YOUR BREATH FIRST.

WHAT'S WRONG, WAYNE?

**THANKS...
'PANT'
GOODNESS...
'PANT'**



EHP

I... I'M SORRY.



THINGS WERE ALREADY TOUGH FOR YOU AT SCHOOL.

AND I WAS EVEN MEAN TO YOU...

I LOST MY TEMPER AGAIN,



HOW EMBARRASSING.

HEH...



I SEE...

SO YOU SAW IT...



WHY DON'T YOU FIGHT BACK?

.....

I'M SURE YOU CAN-

IT'S USELESS.



I MIGHT BE ABLE TO STOP WHAT THEY'RE DOING, BUT THEY WON'T STOP LOATHING US.

NO MATTER WHAT I DO, NOTHING WILL CHANGE.



IT'LL EVENTUALLY DIE OUT AND PEOPLE WILL JUST FORGET ABOUT IT.

EVEN IF I JUMPED FROM THIS BRIDGE AND MADE THE NEWS,



DON'T
TELL ME
YOU-

NAH,
I WON'T

IT'S
JUST
BULLYING.



REN?

AH...
UM...



DID YOU
TELL YOUR
PARENTS
ABOUT IT?

.....



.....



I DIDN'T CARE WHAT PEOPLE SAID ABOUT ME...

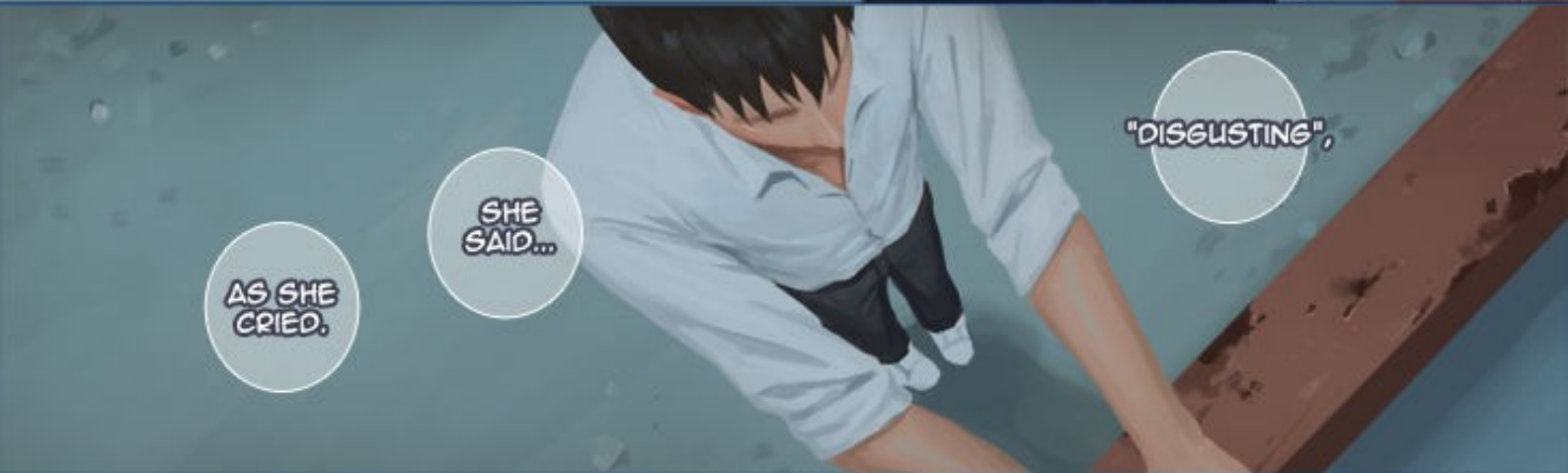


HEH, THINGS JUST AREN'T GOING WELL, ARE THEY?



...DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

...AS LONG AS MY FAMILY WAS ON MY SIDE.



AS SHE CRIED.

SHE SAID...

"DISGUSTING",

AS IF I WAS SUFFERING FROM SOME FATAL DISEASE.

THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN MY PARENTS SO SAD,




BUT THE
SITUATION WAS
ACTUALLY
MORE CRITICAL
BACK THEN.
FUNNY,
ISN'T IT?

HEH,
WHEN I WAS
HOSPITALIZED
BACK THEN,
SHE DIDN'T
EVEN CRY THIS
MUCH.



...IT'S
NOT
FUNNY.



CUT IT
OUT.

EH?



LIKE I SAID,
IT'S NOT
THAT BIG OF
A DEAL.

AWW,
COME ON,
WHY THE
LONG
FACE?



**THAT'S
ENOUGH
!!**



**WHAT THE FUCK ARE
YOU SMILING AT!?**

**THERE'S NOTHING
FUNNY ABOUT IT!!**



**HOW IS IT NOT
A BIG DEAL!?**

**BEING DENIED BY
YOUR OWN PARENTS...
HOW COULD IT NOT
HURT?!**



WHAT FOR!?

STOP TRYING TO BE A GOOD KID!



PUTTING ON A BUSINESS SMILE LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED...

EVEN WHEN THINGS ARE OBVIOUSLY TOUGH FOR YOU!



YOU'RE ALWAYS LIKE THIS.



DON'T SMILE WHEN YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE IT!

SMILING ISN'T SOMETHING YOU DO FOR OTHER PEOPLE!



WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO TOLD ME THAT IT'S ALRIGHT TO CRY?!



**IF YOU ARE
SAD JUST
FLUCKING CRY
IT OUT TO ME!**



**I'M YOUR
BOYFRIEND
GODDAMMIT!**



**YOU THINK
I LIKE
DOING IT?**




I TRIED MY
BEST TO
COPE WITH
EVERYTHING.



I HATE TO
SMILE
ABOUT
THIS TOO!

BUT
EVERYONE
JUST WON'T
FLUCKING MIND
THEIR OWN
BUSINESS!

BUT WHAT
CHOICE DO
I HAVE!?



CRYING
WON'T FLUCKING
CHANGE
ANYTHING!



SO I CAN
ONLY SMILE
THROUGH IT!




HOW AM I
SUPPOSED
TO DEAL WITH
ALL THIS
SHIT?!

IF I DON'T
SMILE TO TRICK
MYSELF INTO
BELIEVING THAT
EVERYTHING'S
GONNA BE
ALRIGHT,



I DON'T
LIKE THE
WAY I AM,
EITHER!



BUT I WAS
BORN WITH
THIS BODY...
WHAT CAN I
DO...



WHY DOES
IT HAVE TO
BE ME?



IT'S NOT
LIKE... I
WANTED TO
BE GAY...

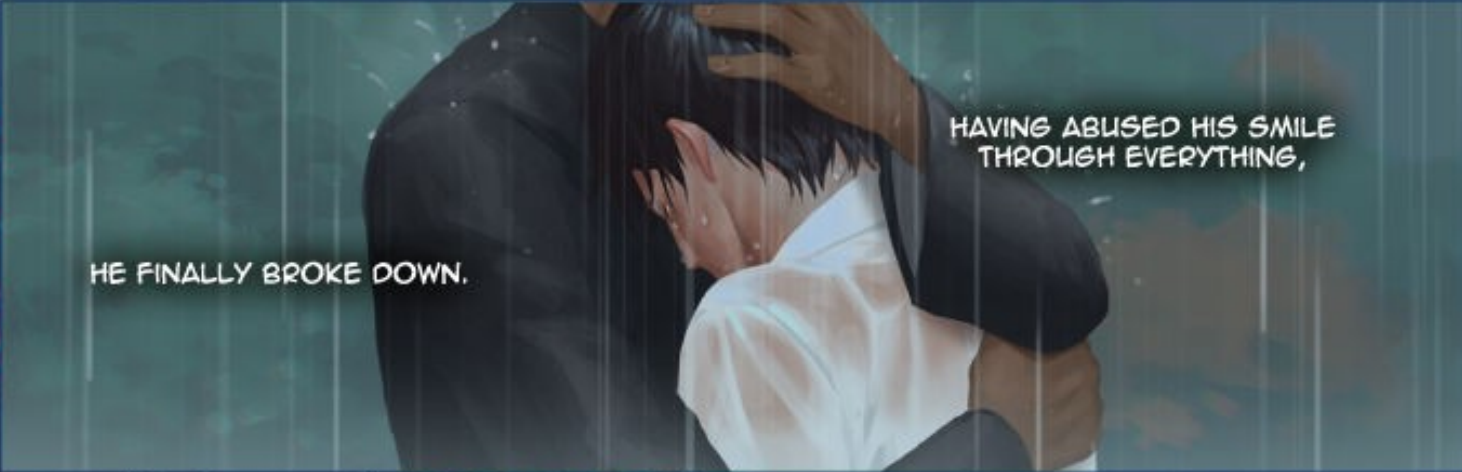


REN...



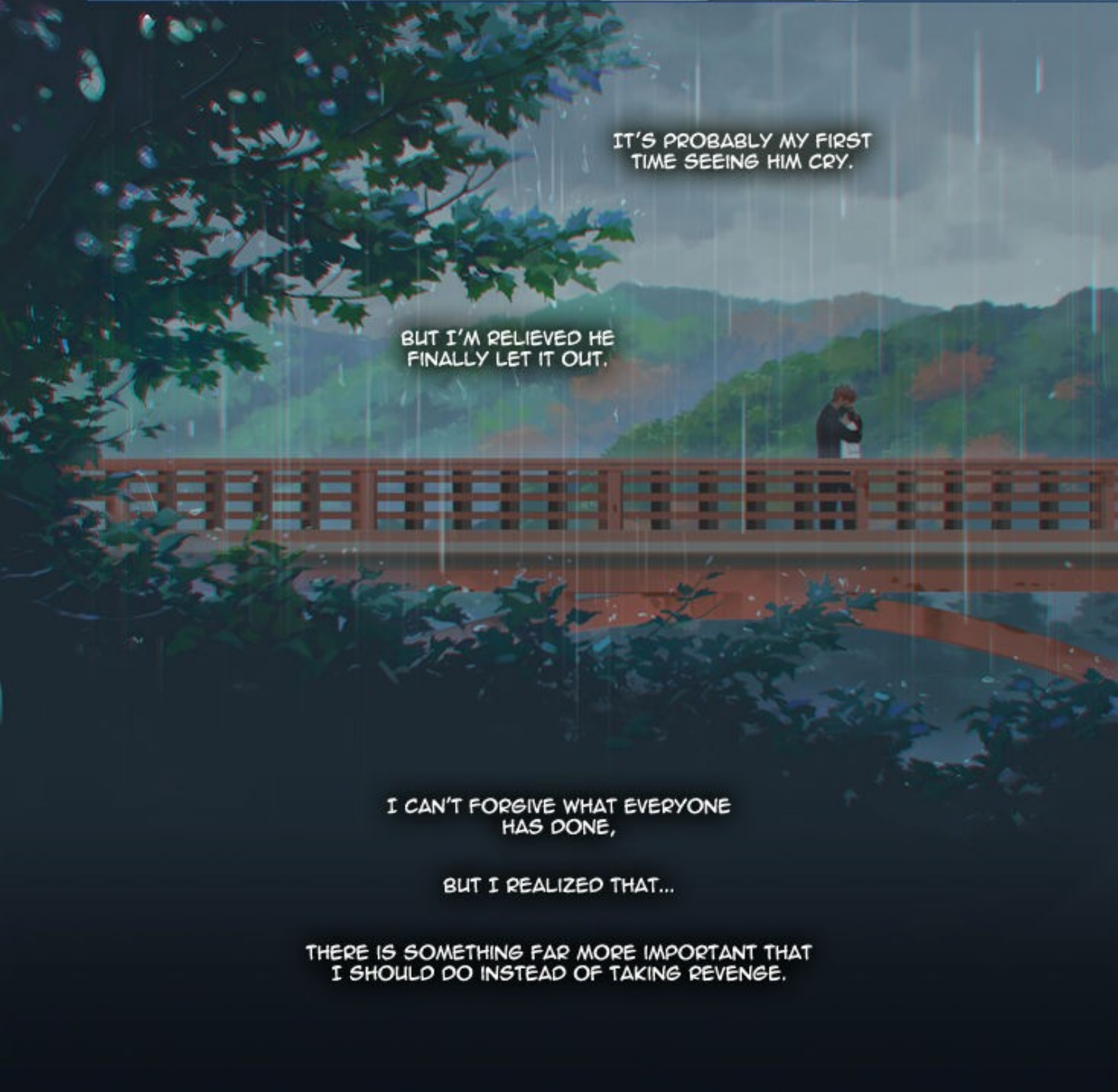
ARE WE
REALLY...

DOING
SOMETHING
SO
WRONG...?



HE FINALLY BROKE DOWN.

HAVING ABUSED HIS SMILE
THROUGH EVERYTHING,



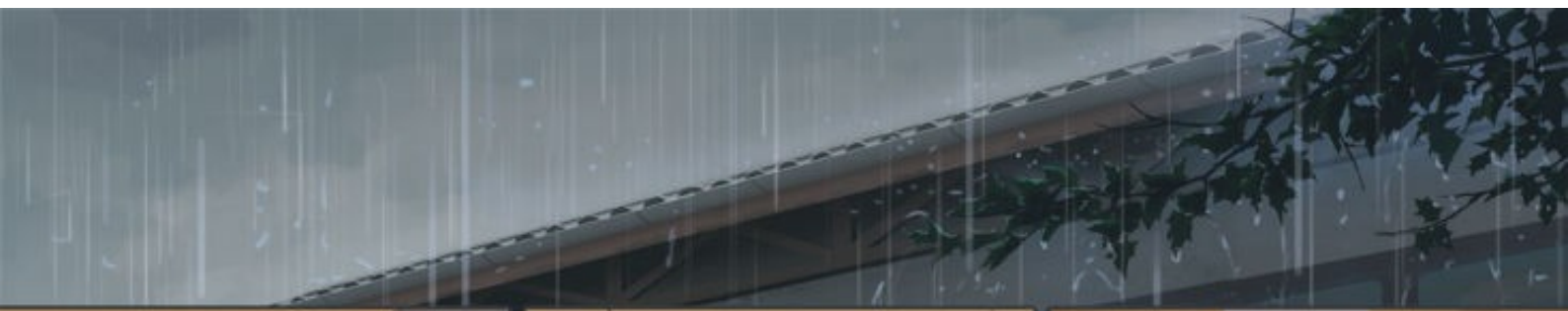
IT'S PROBABLY MY FIRST
TIME SEEING HIM CRY.

BUT I'M RELIEVED HE
FINALLY LET IT OUT.

I CAN'T FORGIVE WHAT EVERYONE
HAS DONE,

BUT I REALIZED THAT...

THERE IS SOMETHING FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAT
I SHOULD DO INSTEAD OF TAKING REVENGE.



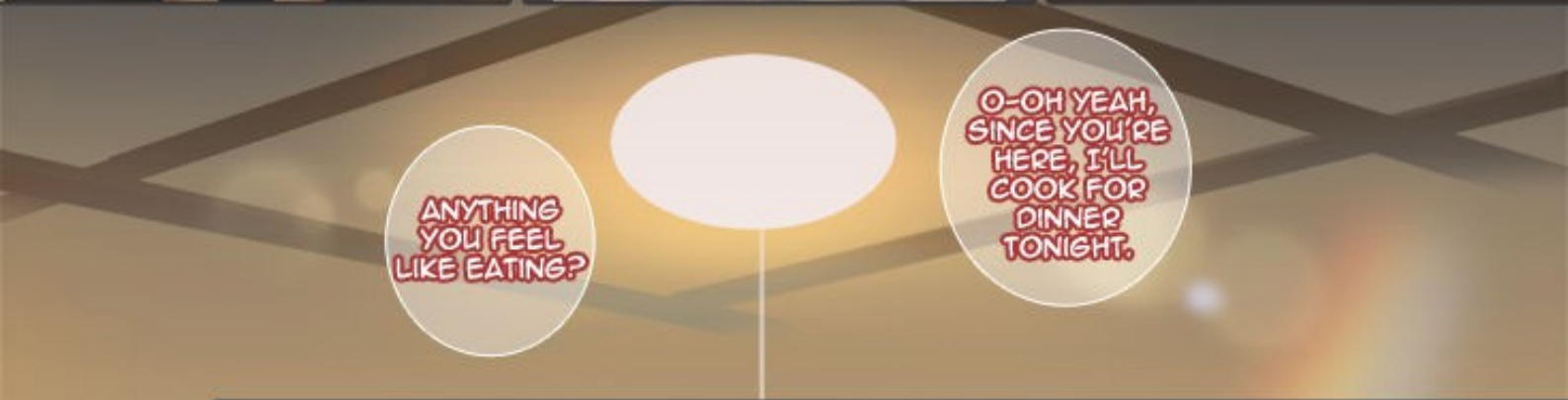
I'll call to inform your parents about it.



STAY HERE FOR TONIGHT, OKAY.



WAIT A SECOND, I'll GO GET THE TOWELS.



ANYTHING YOU FEEL LIKE EATING?

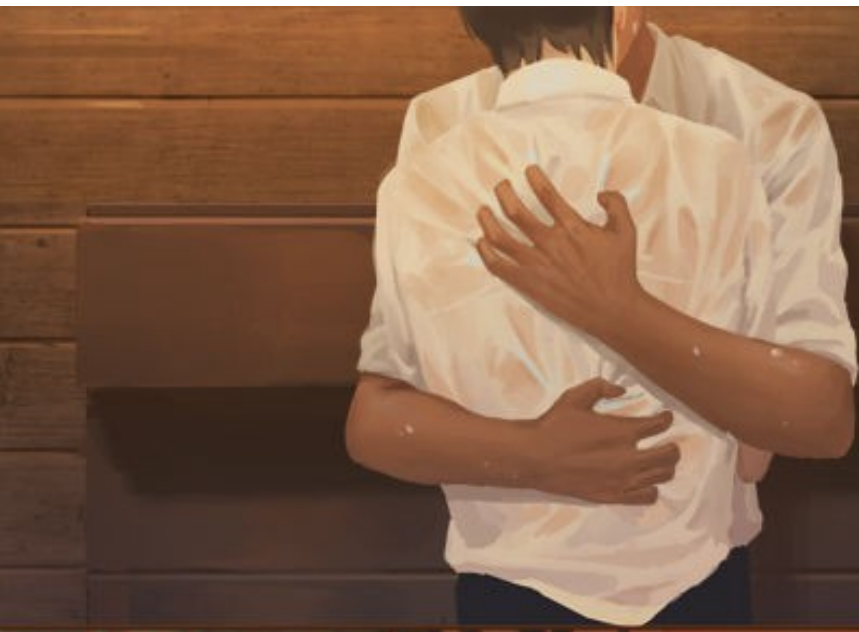
O-OH YEAH, SINCE YOU'RE HERE, I'll COOK FOR DINNER TONIGHT.



I PRACTICED COOKING AFTER THAT, SO IT SHOULD BE GOOD.

WE TALKED ABOUT IT LAST TIME, DIDN'T WE? YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO TRY MY COOKING.

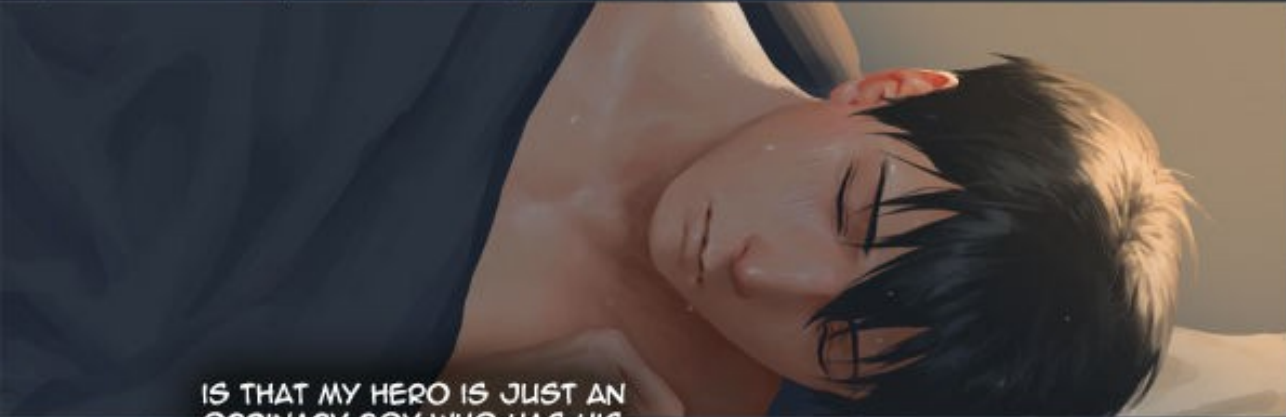





I'M NOT CAPABLE OF CHANGING
THE WAY PEOPLE SEE US,

NOR DO I KNOW HOW TO DO IT.

BUT ONE THING I DID LEARN...



IS THAT MY HERO IS JUST AN
ORDINARY BOY WHO HAS HIS
VULNERABLE SIDE, TOO.



AND I MUST DO EVERYTHING
I CAN TO PROTECT HIM.





PLEASE FORGIVE US FOR LEAVING SO SUDDENLY.

DEAR UNCLE AND AUNTIE,



AS WE ALL NEED SOME TIME TO THINK.

BUT I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER TO TAKE REN AWAY FROM HERE,

IT PROBABLY SOUNDS SELFISH OF ME,



PLEASE DO NOT WORRY ABOUT US.

WITH THE INHERITANCE MY PARENTS LEFT ME, WE WILL BE ALRIGHT.

I PROMISE I WILL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND CARE FOR HIM.

AFTER
WE'VE
SETTLED
DOWN,

With
We will be doing alright.
After we've settled down,
I will contact you again.

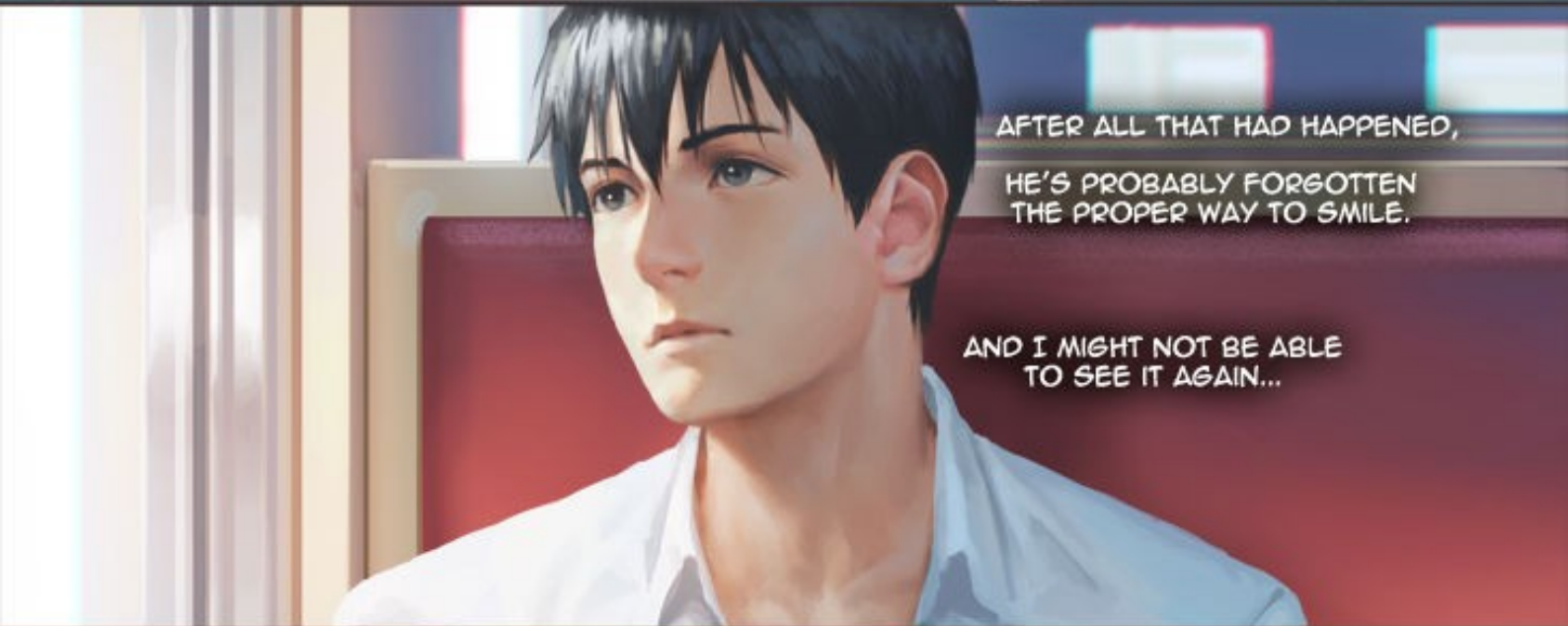
Wayne.





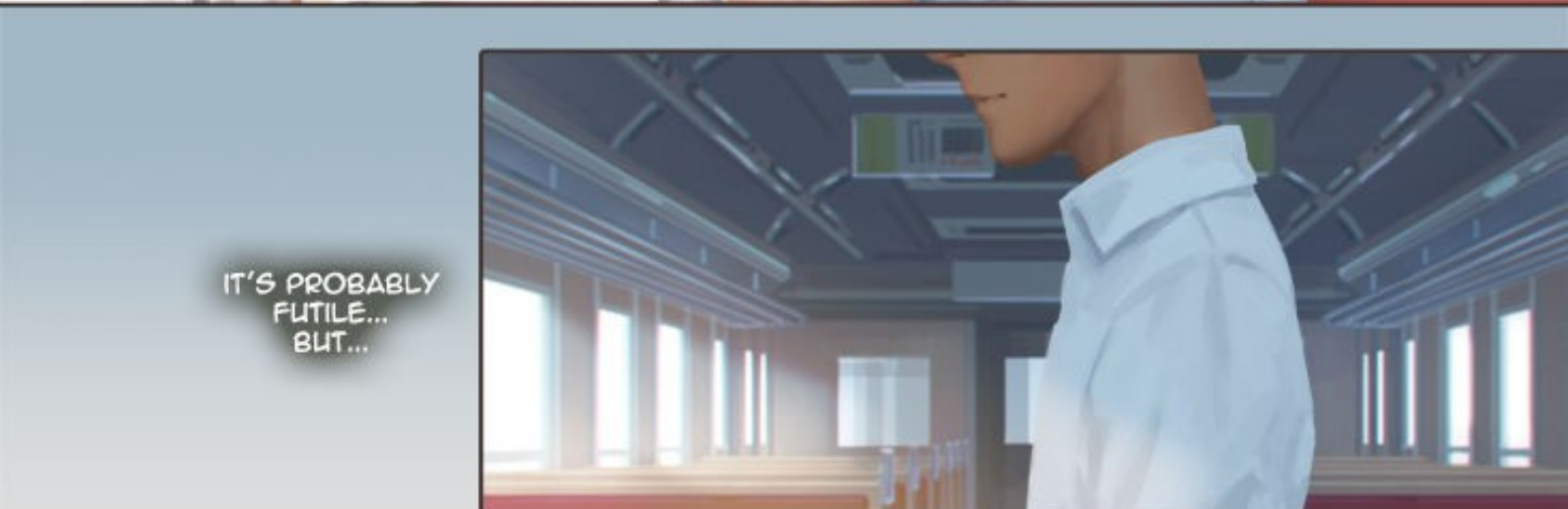
REN HASN'T SMILED
ONCE SINCE THEN.

HE BECAME REALLY QUIET,
AS IF HE HAD BECOME A
DIFFERENT PERSON.

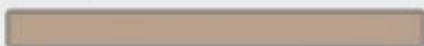
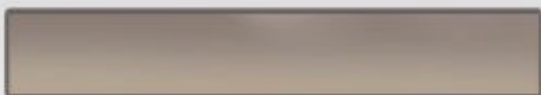


AFTER ALL THAT HAD HAPPENED,
HE'S PROBABLY FORGOTTEN
THE PROPER WAY TO SMILE.

AND I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE
TO SEE IT AGAIN...



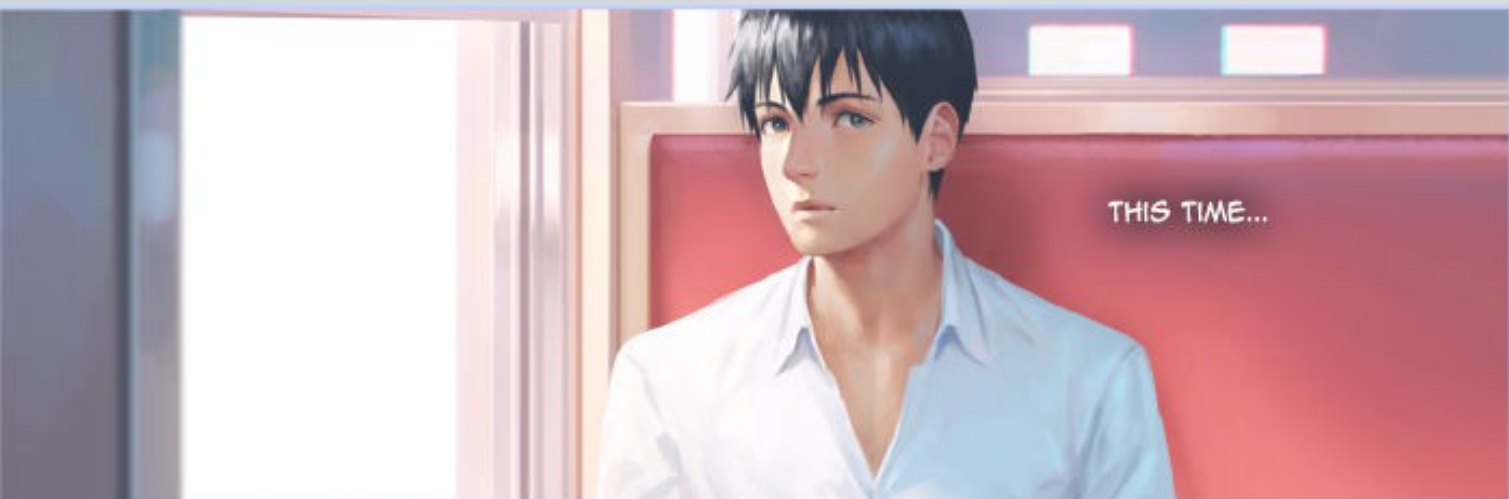
IT'S PROBABLY
FUTILE...
BUT...



JUST LIKE HOW HE MADE
ME ABLE TO CRY AGAIN,



THIS TIME...



NO MATTER HOW LONG
IT TAKES,



I WILL MAKE HIM SMILE AGAIN.



END