



Drifting from
Camilo's
black hair
which flows
in waves,
always,

was the
grapefruit
scent of his
shampoo

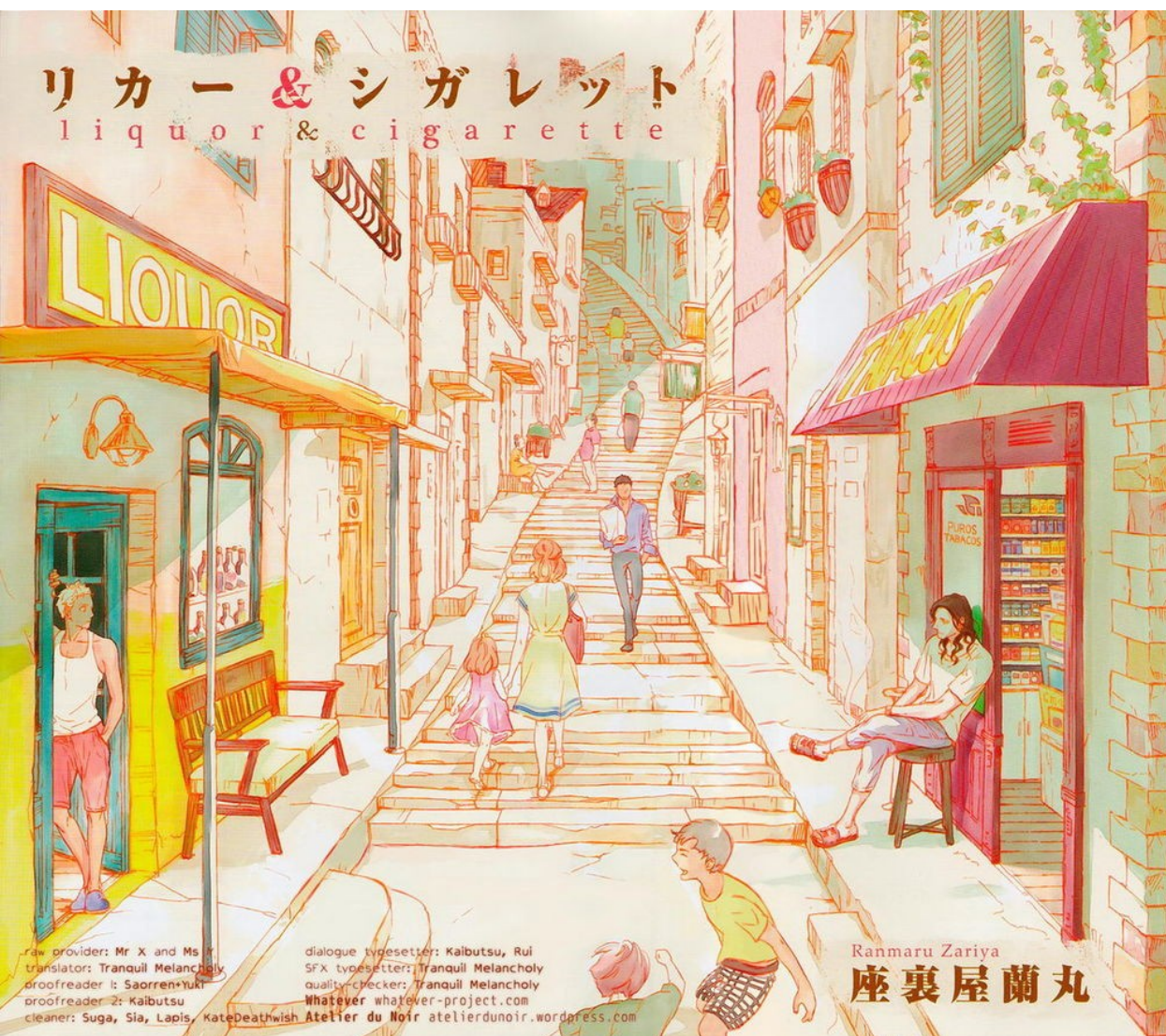
リカー & シガレット
liquor & cigarette

Ranmaru Zariya

座裏屋蘭丸

リカー & シガレット

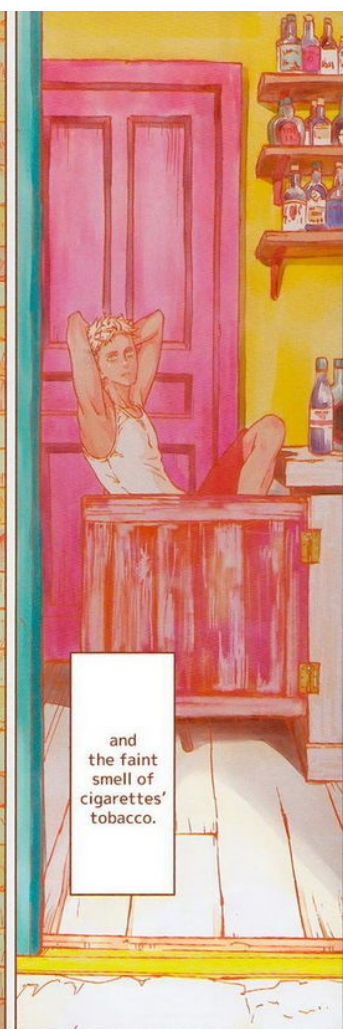
liquor & cigarette



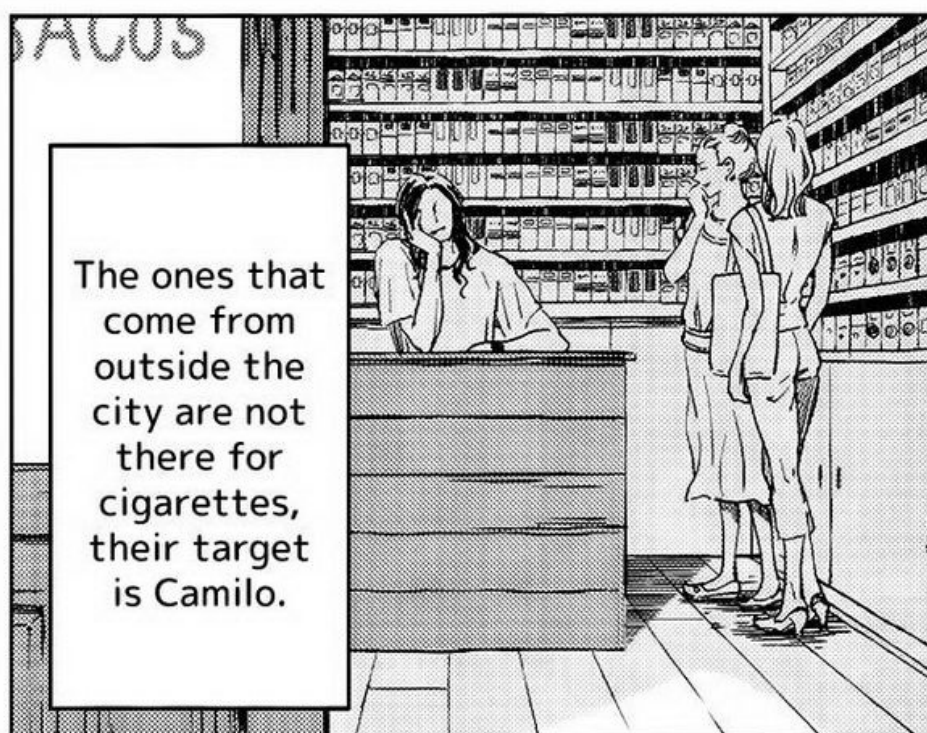
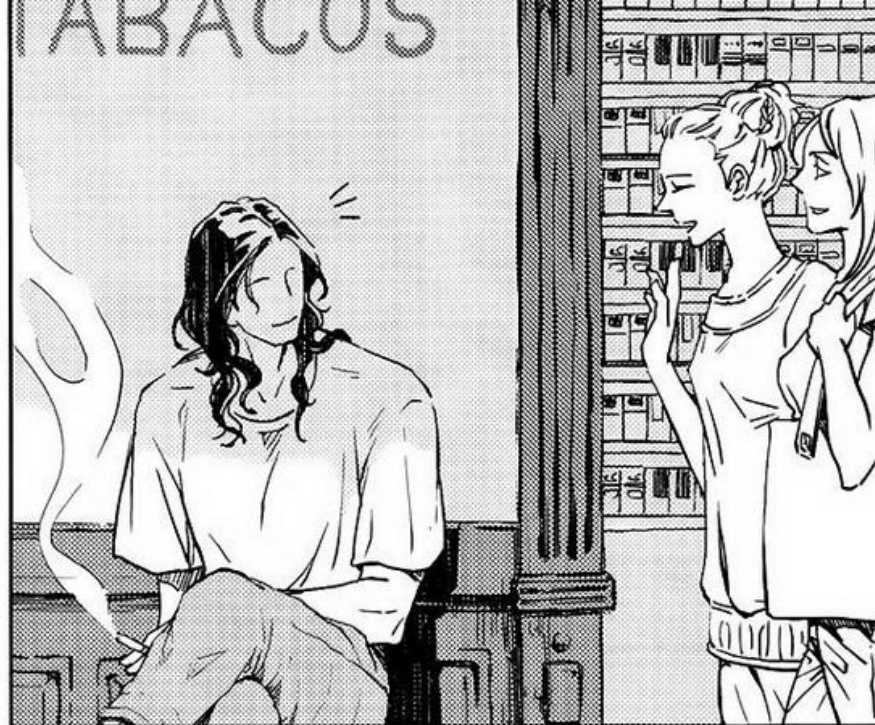
raw provider: Mr X and Ms Y
translator: Tranquil Melancholy
proofreader 1: Saorren-yuki
proofreader 2: Kaibutsu
cleaner: Suga, Sia, Lapis, KateDeathwish

dialogue typesetter: Kaibutsu, Rui
SFX typesetter: Tranquil Melancholy
quality-checker: Tranquil Melancholy
Whatever whatever-project.com
Atelier du Noir atelierdunoir.wordpress.com

Ranmaru Zariya
座裏屋蘭丸



and
the faint
smell of
cigarettes'
tobacco.



The ones that
come from
outside the
city are not
there for
cigarettes,
their target
is Camilo.

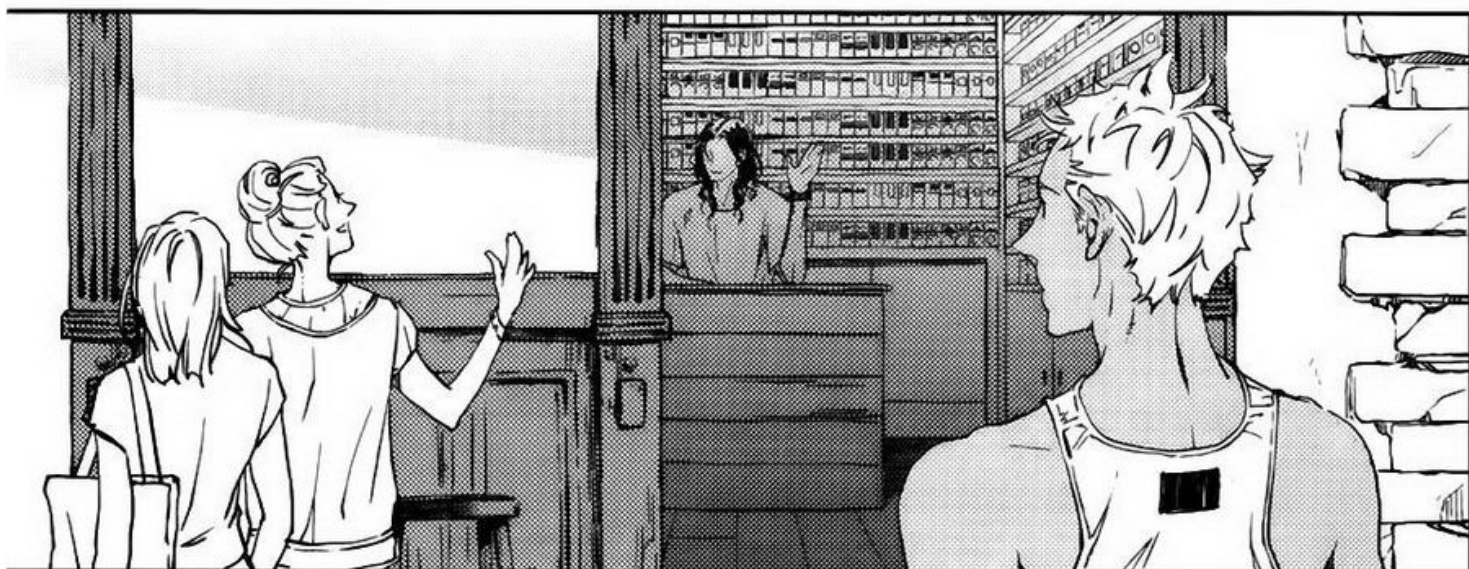
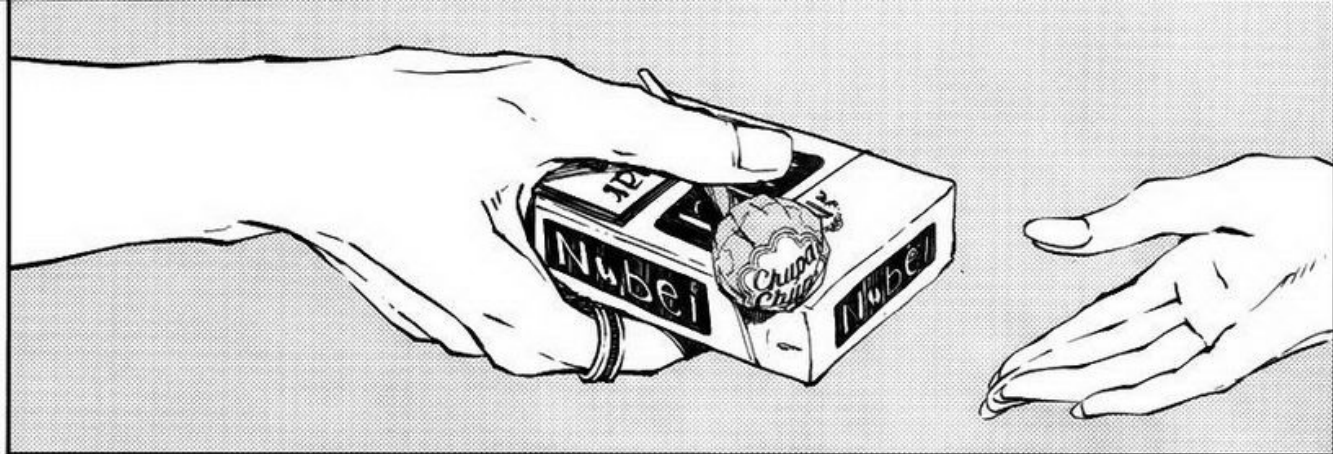


His
cigarette
store has
endless
patrons.



THEY
OBVIOUSLY
AREN'T
SMOKERS.





Both of us succeeded our family businesses left to us by our parents who jumped on early retirement and now are living a carefree life in the next town.

Camilo and I have been in each other's company since we were just babies.



Camilo,
a tobacco-
nist.



So now,
I am
a shop-
keeper
of a
liquor
store.





I'M TRULY
HONOURED
TO BE THE
ONLY ONE
YOU LET IN
ON THE
SECRET.

HEEY,
TEO.





THAT'S NOT
HAPPENING!
I'M A LIQUOR
STORE OWNER,
YOU KNOW?!

THAT
YOU ARE
A LIGHT-
WEIGHT.

BUT ISN'T
IT BETTER
IF YOU
JUST LET
EVERYBODY
KNOW
TOO?



WHICH IS
WHY I'M GOING
THROUGH THIS
'INTENSIVE
TRAINING'
EVERY NIGHT,
SO I CAN FINALLY
DRINK THE SAME
AMOUNT AS
OTHER PEOPLE!
IT OUGHTA
WORK!

IT'S NOT LIKE
A PERSON'S
OCCUPATION
AND THEIR INNATE
CONSTITUTION
ARE LINKED.
YOU WERE JUST
BORN WITH LOW
ALCOHOL
TOLERANCE.



WHAT'S
THAT
ALBUM?

OH,
THIS
?



I
WONDER
ABOUT
THAT...



HMM,
CAN I
SEE IT?

DON'T
LAUGH.



IT'S MUM.
SHE TOLD ME
TO SEND SOME
OF GRANNY'S
PHOTOS OVER
BY THE END OF
THE MONTH.

SHE WANTS
TO MAKE
A MEMORY
SCRAPBOOK
FOR HER
80TH
BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION.



WOAH,
YOUR
FATHER
DOESN'T
HAVE A
BEARD
HERE.

WASN'T
THAT
YOU?

TEO,
YOU USED
TO LIKE
HER,
RIGHT?

OOH,
THIS'S
THE KID THAT
MOVED AWAY.
WHAT'S HER
NAME AGAIN?



AAH,
IT WAS RIGHT
BEFORE THE
GRADUATION
CEREMONY,
HUH~

HERE, YOU
FRACTURED
YOUR BONE
THEN.



WHERE?

LOOK,
YOU'RE
WEARING
A CAST
IN THIS
ONE.



YOUR
MUM WAS
SOO MAD.

WAF...

YOU WERE
TRYING TO
CATCH A
GIANT STAG
BEETLE
AND FELL
FROM THE
SECOND
FLOOR,
RIGHT?



The
smell of
grape-
fruit-
scented
shampoo
and
ciga-
rettes.



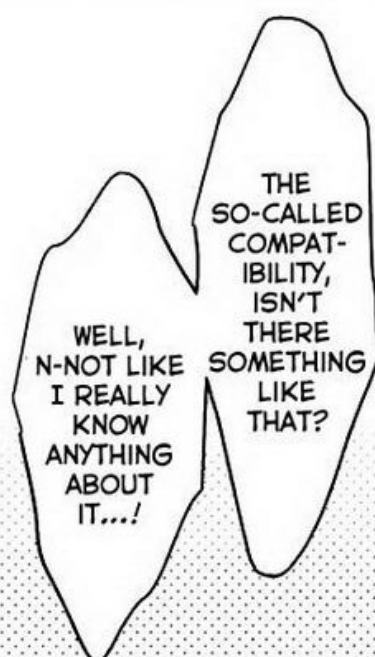


I,
on the other hand,
am straight

...or so I thought...









THAT'S
FINE,
JUST
LEAVE.
I'VE
GOTTA
WAKE UP
EARLY
TOMOR-
ROW!



I WANT YOU
TO SERIOUSLY
THINK ABOUT
THE TOPIC
WE HAD
EARLIER...

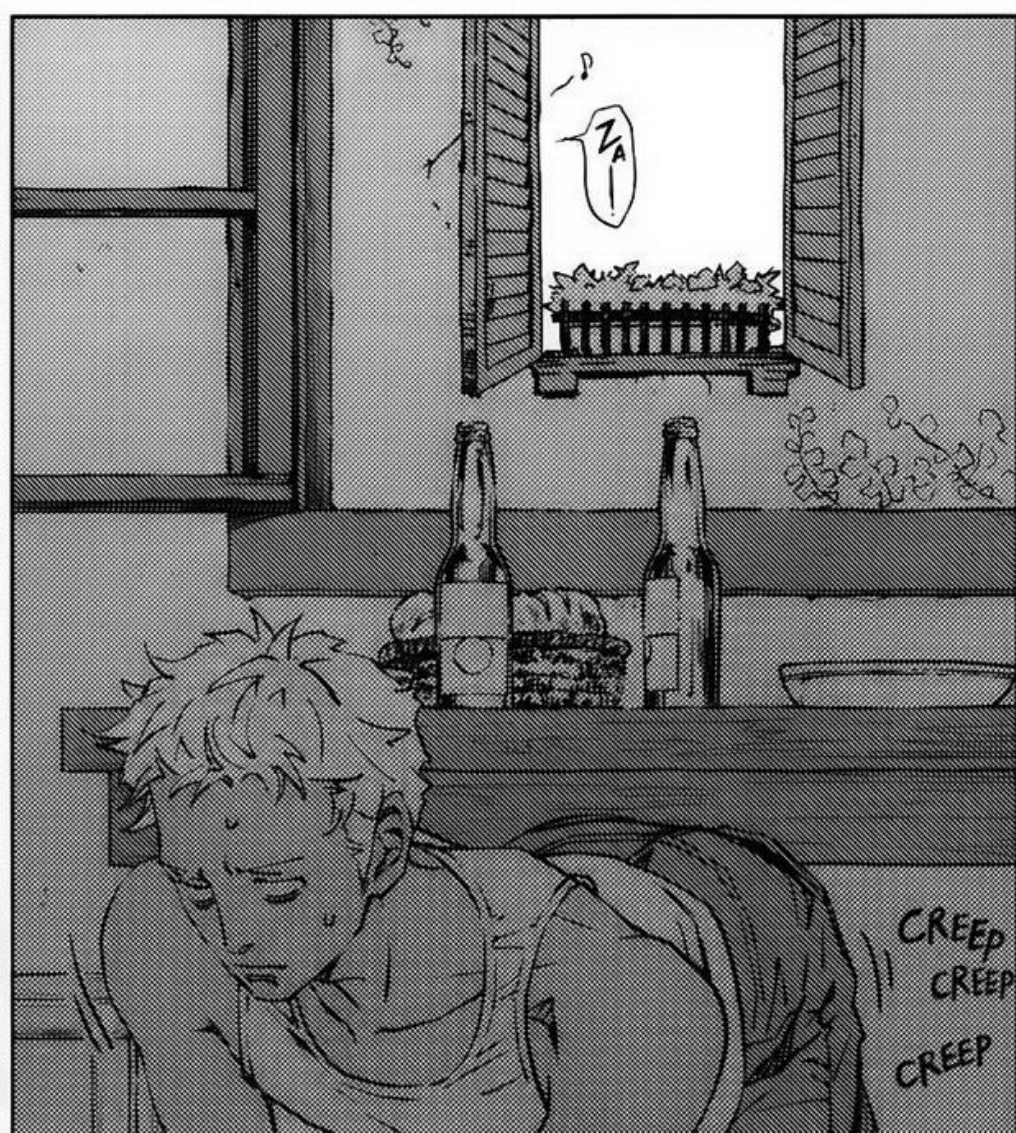
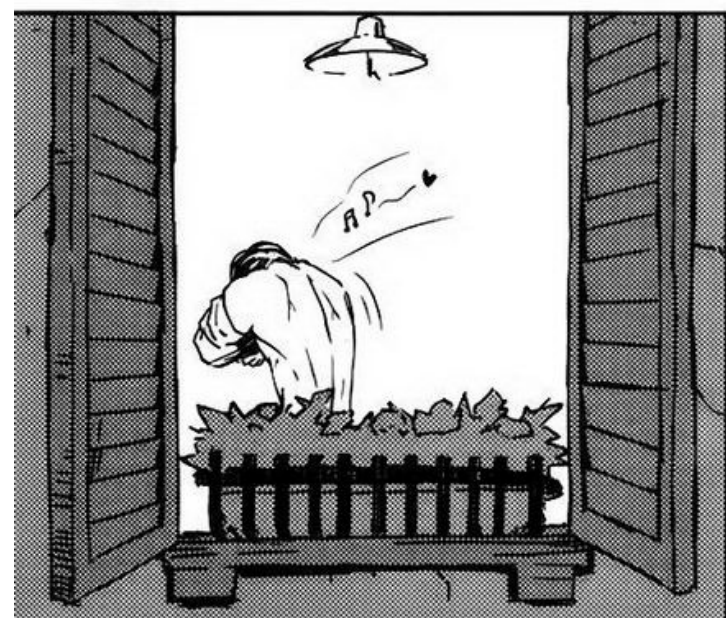


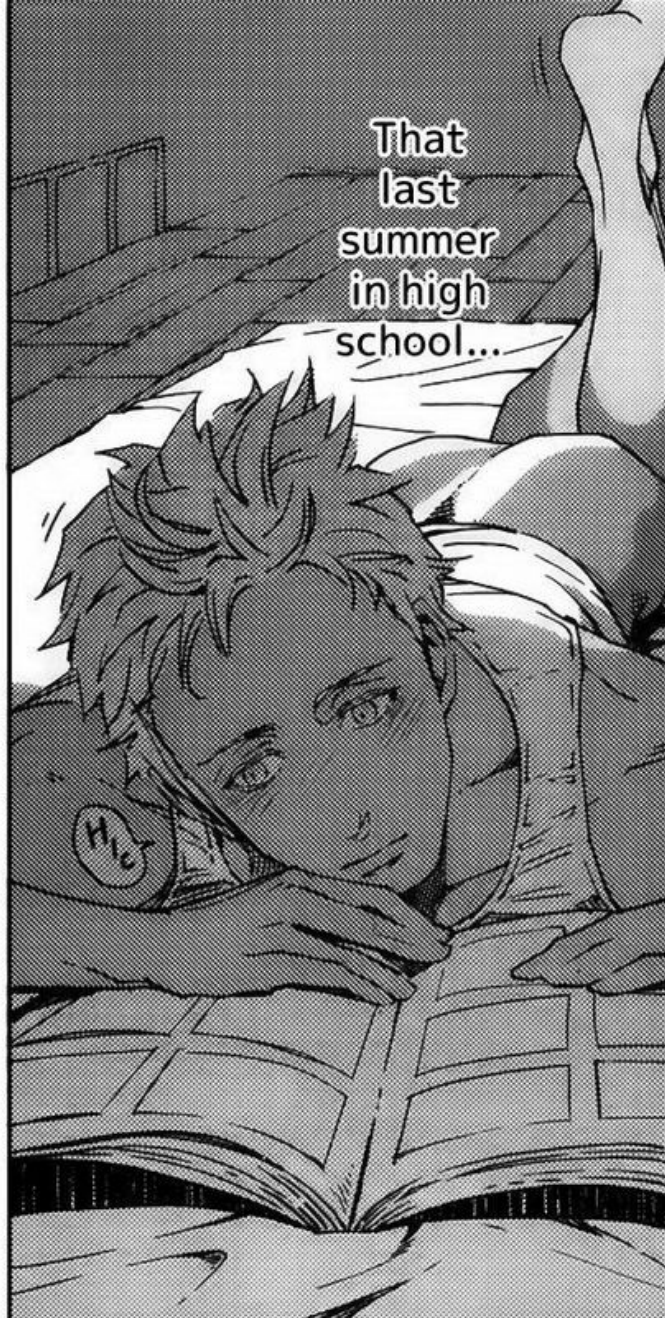
IT'S FINE
IF YOU TAKE
YOUR TIME,
I WANT TO
HEAR GOOD
NEWS.

DON'T
REPLY
IMMEDIATELY.









That
last
summer
in high
school...



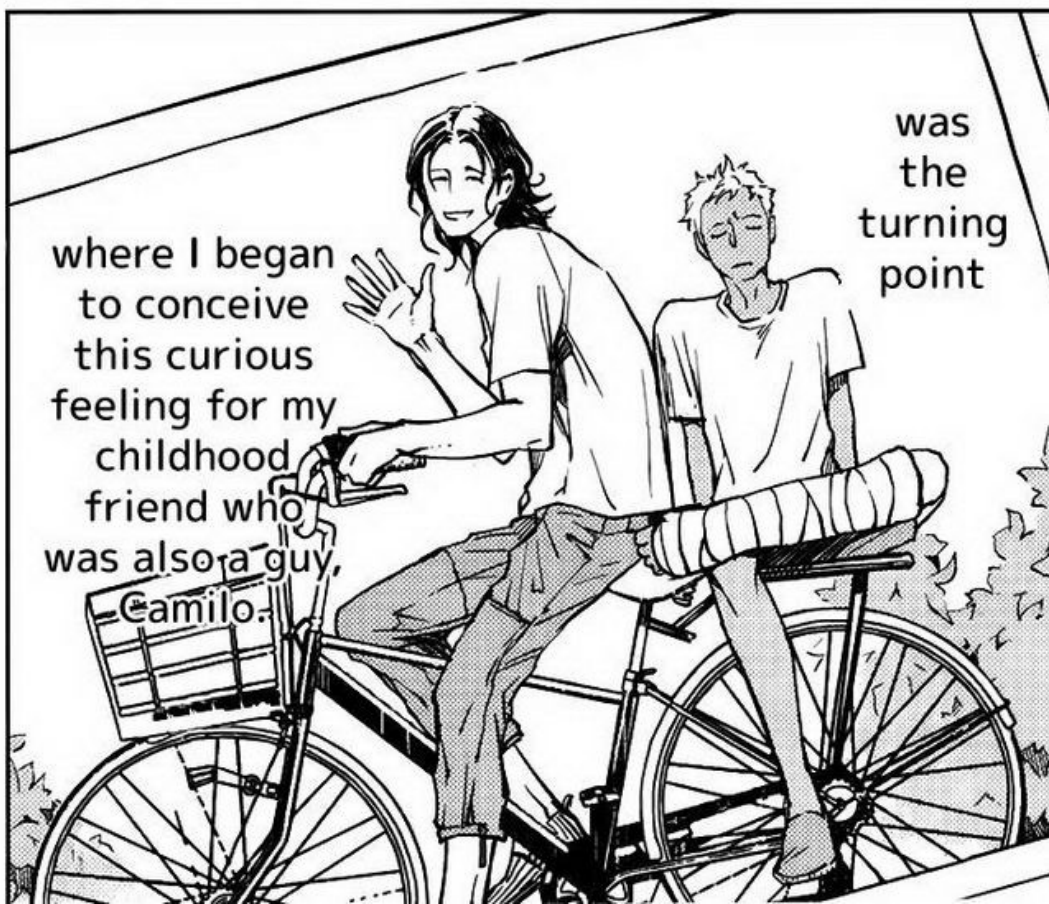
Aside from
my low
alcohol
tolerance,
I have
another
big secret.

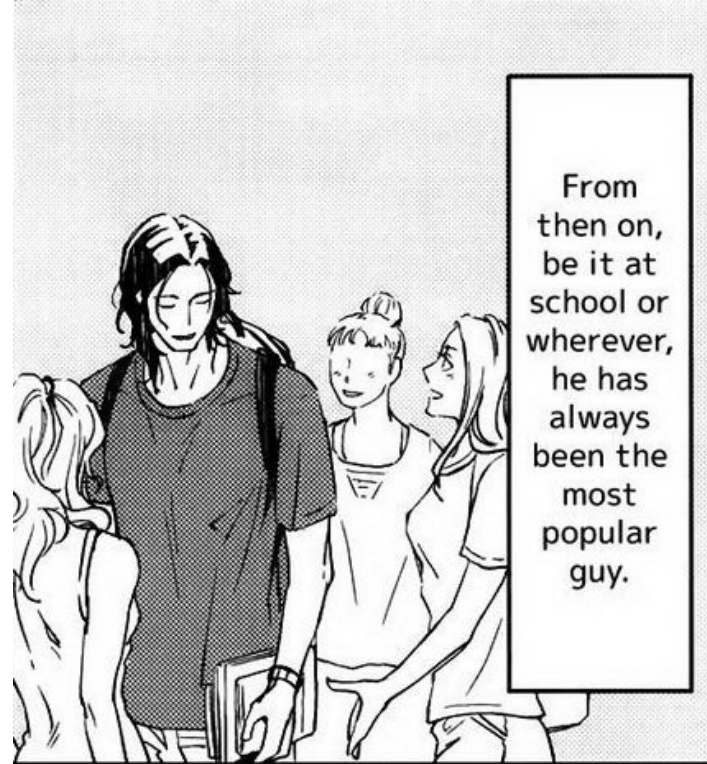
HAA
...

Camilo and I
attended
the same
school from
kindergarten
until the end
of high school.

where I began
to conceive
this curious
feeling for my
childhood
friend who
was also a guy,
Camilo.

was
the
turning
point





From then on, be it at school or wherever, he has always been the most popular guy.



His voice also changed to that of a man.

When we started high school, he suddenly shot up.



Camilo let me sit on the back of his bicycle every day to school and took great care of me one way or another.

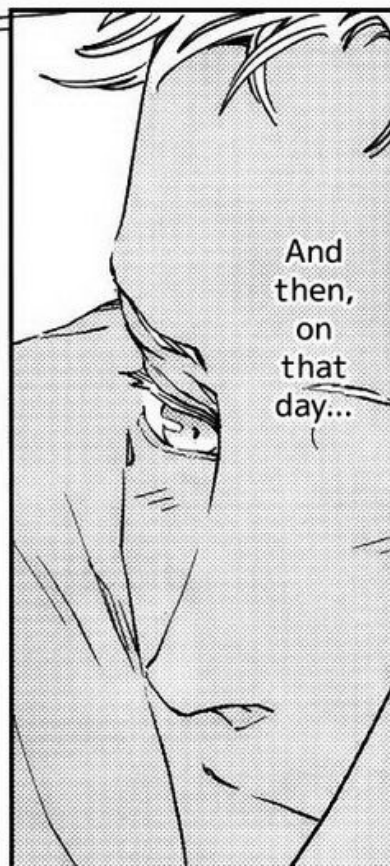


I fractured my leg the summer before graduation ...



YEAH.

HEH~ YOU ALONE, TEO?



And then, on that day...



Camilo, carry me too ♡

Get down, Teo!

THE GIRLS GOT SO JEALOUS OF ME AND WERE SO ANNOYING.



TEO!



DON'T BE SIL-! I'M FINE, REALLY. DON'T DO POINTLESS THINGS LIKE HIM TOO!

ALRIGHTY THEN! TODAY, I'LL BE THE ONE TAKING YOU HOME.



I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF THOUGH. THAT GUY'S JUST A WORRYGUTS.

HOW UNUSUAL, WHERE IS CAMILO?



...FINE, I GOT IT.

RIGHT, PLEASE HAND HIM OVER GENTLY.

HAVE YOU FINISHED THE ERRAND FOR THE TEACH?



NO, TEO. DON'T YOU SEE?

I BET HE WAS GOING TO USE ME AS A DUMB-BELL.



HE JUST WANTED TO HOLD YOU.

WHAT?



Ow Ow



OKAY?
YOU
UNDER-
STAND?

TEO,

...PLEASE
NEVER
LET
ANYONE
ELSE
HOLD
YOU
AGAIN.

An
expres-
sion of
jealousy
mixed
with in-
security
painted
on his
face.

It was
the first
time
I saw
Camilo
looking
like
that...

...Y-

...
YEAH.

At that moment...

His existence within me

slipped slightly from that place called "a normal childhood friend".



HAA
...



that
Camilo
did not
look at
me as
a mere
childhood
friend...

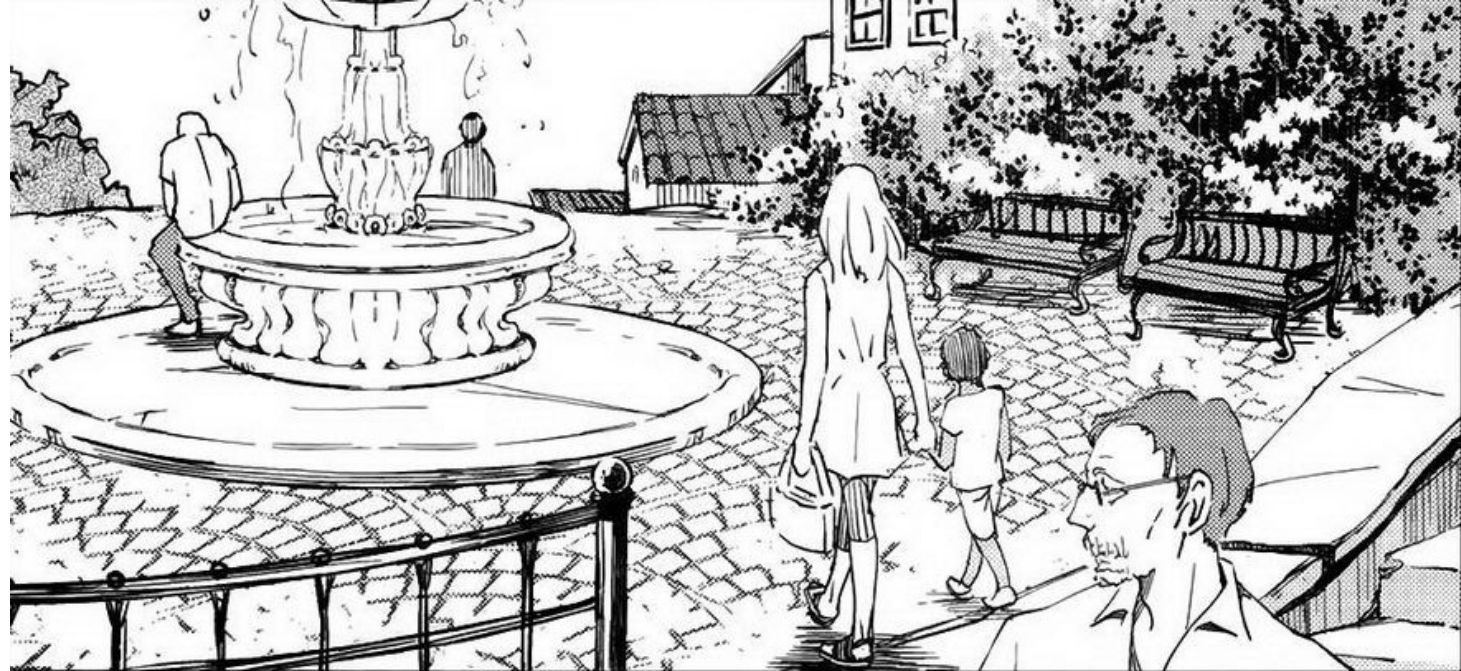
And
it was
also
then
when I
first
noticed



IT'S
ONLY WITH
HIM THAT
I...

BUT
SO FAR,
I'VE ONLY
FALLEN IN
LOVE WITH
GIRLS...

DO I
REALLY
HAVE AN
INCLINATION
TOWARD
THAT
SIDE?



IN OTHER
WORDS,
THE USUAL
HATEFUL
GATHERING
...

...AAH,
THE GRAPE
HARVEST
FESTIVAL
IS COMING
UP AGAIN,
HUH?...



DESPITE BEING A LIQUOR STORE OWNER, YA NEVER ONCE PARTICIPATED.

Y'KNOW WHAT I MEAN, THE WINE-TASTING CONTEST OF THE HARVEST FESTIVAL THAT'LL TAKE PLACE NEXT MONTH.

HAAAH ?

HEY. YA'LL JOIN THIS YEAR, RIGHT?

DIEGO !!



THE HELL'RE YOU SAYING!! WHAT A COCKY BASTARD FOR A NEWCOMER!! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO STOLE MY CUSTOMERS AWAY!!

THAT STORE IS DEAD IN THE WATER, NOBODY GOES THERE. JUST CLOSE IT DOWN ALREADY. THERE'S NO NEED FOR TWO LIQUOR STORES ON THE SAME STREET.

W-WELL-IDIOT-IF I GO THERE, THEN WHO'LL TEND TO THE STORE DURING THAT TIME!

WHY NOT? THERE'S THIS IRONCLAD RULE SINCE LONG AGO THAT CALLS FOR THE ABSOLUTE PARTICIPATION OF ALL LIQUOR STORE OWNERS, DON'T YA KNOW? ARE YA BREAKING OUR IRONCLAD TRADITION, HUUH?

AND WHY WOULD I PARTICIPATE IN SOMETHING LIKE THAT?



YOUR PARTICIPATION WILL MAKE NOOO DIFFERENCE.

AAH, IT'S FINE, YOU DON'T HAVE TO JOIN, REALLY. AFTER ALL, I'M GOING TO WIN AGAIN.

IT'S ONLY NATURAL, SINCE I'M LAST YEAR'S WINNER~

WHAT STEALING, I DID NO SUCH THING. ISN'T IT BECAUSE I'M SO WELL-VERSED IN BOOZE THAT CUSTOMERS JUST COME FLOODING IN?



DON'T
THINK YOU
CAN WIN
THIS
YEAR!!!

FIINE!
I JUST
HAVE TO
JOIN THAT
WINE-TASTING
CONTEST,
RIGHT!!?



I
OBSOULE
CAN'T
PARTICIPATE IN
A WINE-TASTING
CONTEST! THE
WHOLE TOWN
WILL FIND OUT
ABOUT MY
SECRET!!!

IDIOT.
IDIOT.
I'M AN
IDIOT!!!
WHAT
SHOULD
I DO!!



AFTER
BRANDING ME
AS A TOTAL
BOTTOM...

DAMN
CAMILO
HUMMING
TO HIMSELF,
DON'T YOU
KNOW I'M IN
TROUBLE?



UUUGH.
I'VE
GOTTA
DO SOME-
THING...

HAA!



...then
it
was
your
fault...



ABSOLUTELY
NOT!!
THERE'S
NO WAY
I'M A
BOTTOM!!!



TOTAL
BOTTOM
...

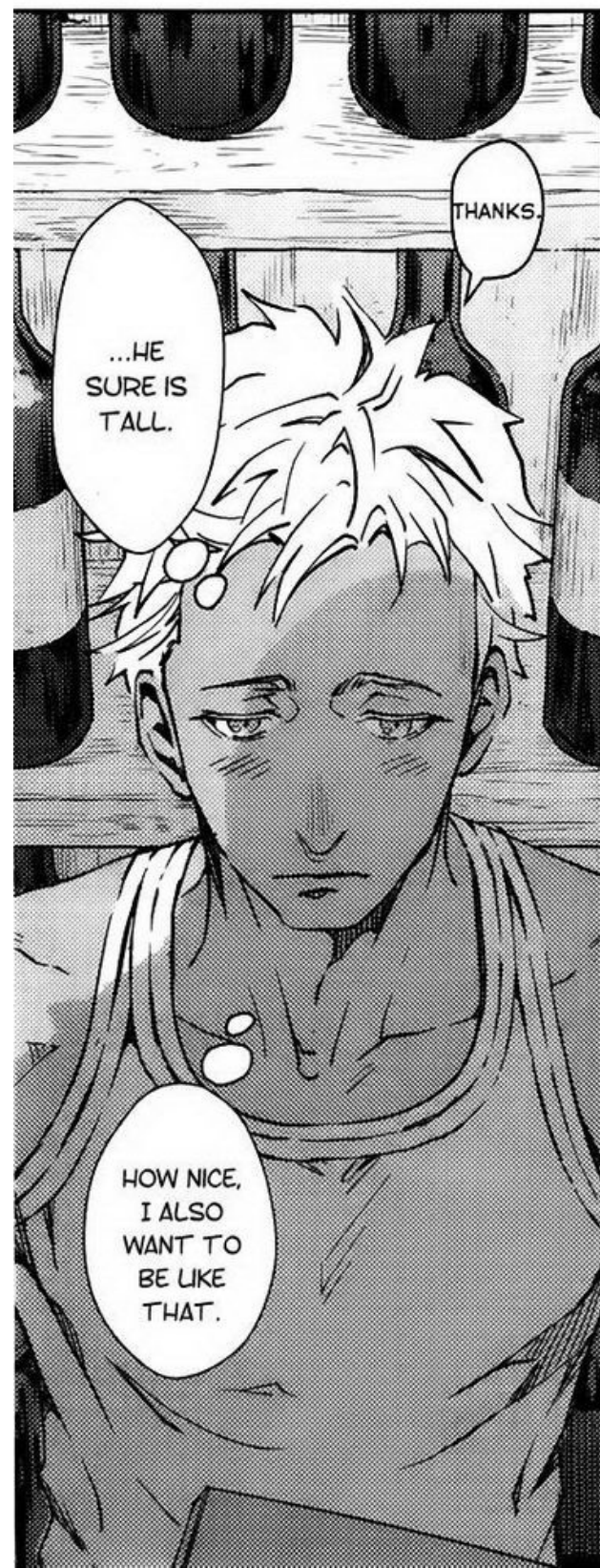


At that time,
Camilo planted
the feeling
of elation
supposedly
felt by the
fair gender
in me...



A
burning
gaze
from
the
finest
man.

The
sweet
feeling
from
being
deli-
cately
handled.





HA H

!!...
EH?

...YOU'RE
MAKING
THAT
FACE
AGAIN.



TEO?

A THICK
NECK.

THERE'RE
PROBABLY
MOUNTAINS OF
GIRLS THAT'D
ASK HIM TO
EMBRACE
THEM...

AND
UNEXPECTEDLY,
HE HAS
A BROAD,
MUSCULAR
CHEST...



...
H-HOLD
BACK
FROM
WHAT?

YOU'RE
SO FULL OF
OPENINGS.
I DON'T THINK
I'LL BE ABLE
TO HOLD BACK
BEFORE I HEAR
YOUR ANSWER
LIKE THIS...



H-HUH...
AM I
CAUGHT
UNDER
HIM?

CA-
CAMILO
...?



...TEO, I'M
SAYING THIS
BECAUSE YOU
SEEM TO BE
AGONISING
OVER YOUR
OWN CONCEPT
OF LOVE.



BUT
I THINK
YOU'LL
PROBABLY
BE FINE
WITH IT...

IF IT'S A
PERSON YOU
TRULY LIKE,
REGARDLESS
OF THEIR
GENDER...

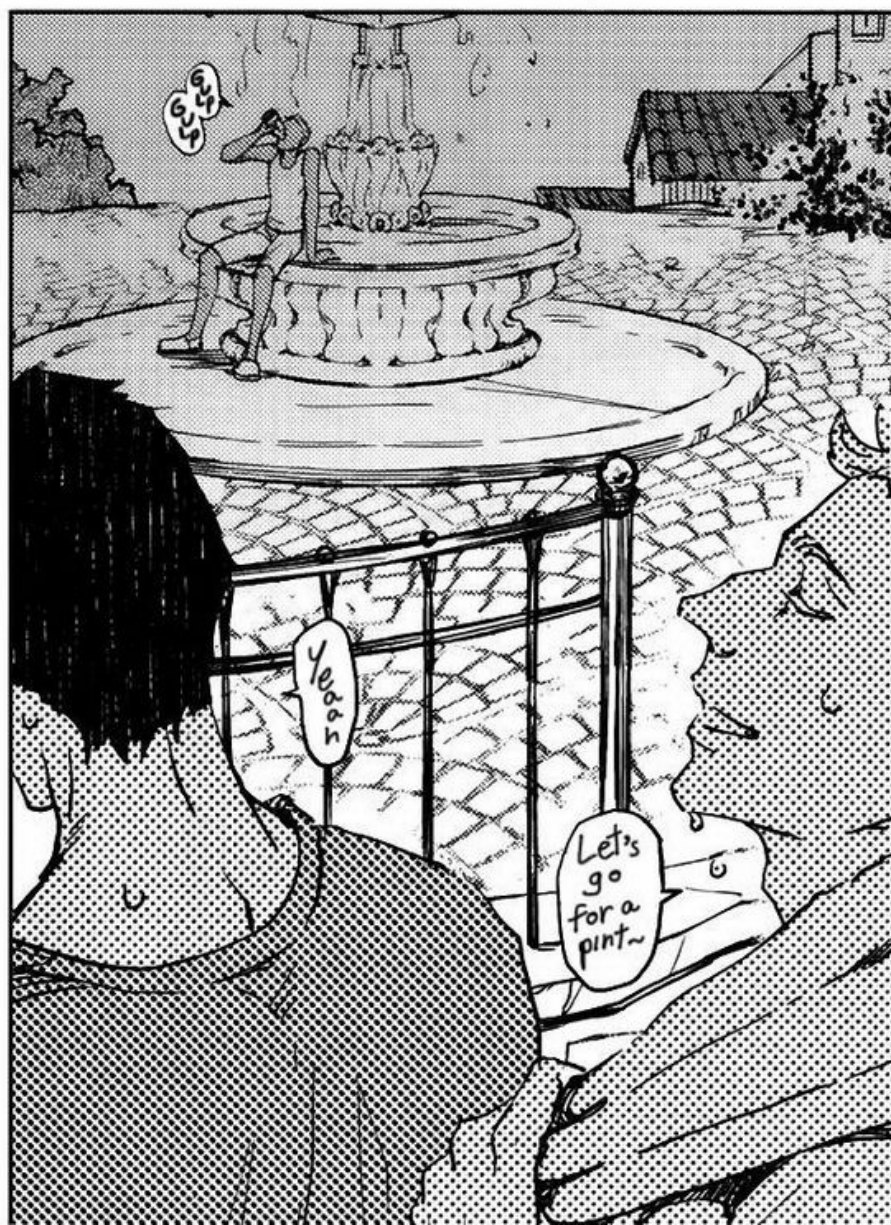
YOU
ACTUALLY
KNOW IT
YOURSELF...
RIGHT?

TEO,
ARE YOU
IIN?

CA-
CAMILO
...

BA-DUMP







AAAH~
IMPOS-
SIBLE~

I HAVE NO
COURAGE
TO FACE
HIM
TODAY.



GULP
GULP



AM I BI
AFTER
ALL?
...OR IS
IT JUST
BECAUSE
IT'S
CAMILO?





IT'S
NOT LIKE
YA CAN'T
ENJOY
YOURSELF
WITHOUT
DRINKING A
LOAD.

SWI
SHA

WHAAT
!?

DON'T
CRY OVER
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT.
IT'S UNCOOL,
MAN.

Why's
it gotta
be you

DAMN IT...
THIS IS A
NIGHTMARE...
OF ALL
PEOPLE-

IF WE'RE
TALKING
ABOUT THE
WINE-TASTING
CONTEST, YA'LL
HAFTA DRINK
A LOAD FOR
THAT THOUGH.

RAAIGHT?!
I ACTUALLY
UNDERSTAND THE
BOOZE TASTES,
Y'KNOW?! I THINK
I CAN AT LEAST
DRINK UNTIL I
FIGURE OUT THE
DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN GOOD AND
BAD ALCOHOL,
Y'KNOW!?

...
R-

SWALLOW

IT'LL
MAKE
YOUR LIFE
EASIER,
DON'T YA
THINK?

STILL,
ISN'T IT
BOTHERSOME?
SHOULDN'T
YA JUST COME
OUT WITH
THE TRUTH
ALREADY?

OH WELL,
DO THE
BEST YA
CAN.







CAN YOU WALK? SHALL I CARRY YOU?



I'M FINE. I'M FINE.

WOAH, YOU'VE GOTTEN SO DRUNK. YOU ALRIGHT?



WERE YOU DRINKING ALONE?



CHUCKLE

IT'S THE SAME. WHEN IT COMES TO AN IMPORTANT PERSON, BE THEY A MAN OR A WOMAN, I'LL TOUCH THEM GENTLY.



DO YOU... TOUCH MEN AND WOMEN DIFFERENTLY?

TEO?

...

HUUH? WHY DO YOU SUDDENLY ASK?

DO YOU TOUCH GIRLS IN A SEXIER AND GENTLER WAY? I SUPPOSE IT'S DIFFERENT WHEN YOUR PARTNER IS A GUY?



...THAT'S
RIGHT.

...EVEN
THOUGH
YOU'RE SO
POPULAR...
I HAVEN'T
SEEN YOU
TOGETHER
WITH ANYONE
LATELY...
IS IT
BECAUSE
OF ME?

...AND
RIGHT NOW,
I'M TOUCHING
YOU IN THE
GENTLEST
WAY.



...
CAMILO,



AND EVEN
WHEN I
FACE MY OWN
FEELINGS,
I CAN'T DO IT
AS STRAIGHT-
FORWARDLY
AND BOLDLY
LIKE YOU...

...SO
EVEN IF
I...

...I KNOW...
THAT MY VIEW
OF GENDER IS
CONSERVATIVE
AND OBSOLETE,
SO MUCH THAT
EVEN I AM
AGONISED
BY IT.



OR IF
YOU WILL
FALL IN
LOVE
WITH
ME.

ISN'T IT
FINE IF WE TRY
GOING OUT AS
A TEST? ...SEE
WHETHER YOU
CAN ACCEPT
A MAN...



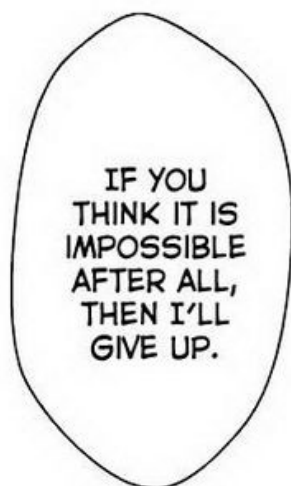
...BEFORE
YOU DO
THAT, WHY
DON'T WE
HAVE A
SHORT
TRIAL.

EH?

DIDN'T I
ASK YOU
NOT TO
REPLY
IMMEDI-
ATELY?

WAIT.

EVEN
IF I...
L-LIKED...
YOU...



IF YOU
THINK IT IS
IMPOSSIBLE
AFTER ALL,
THEN I'LL
GIVE UP.



A...
A TEST
...?



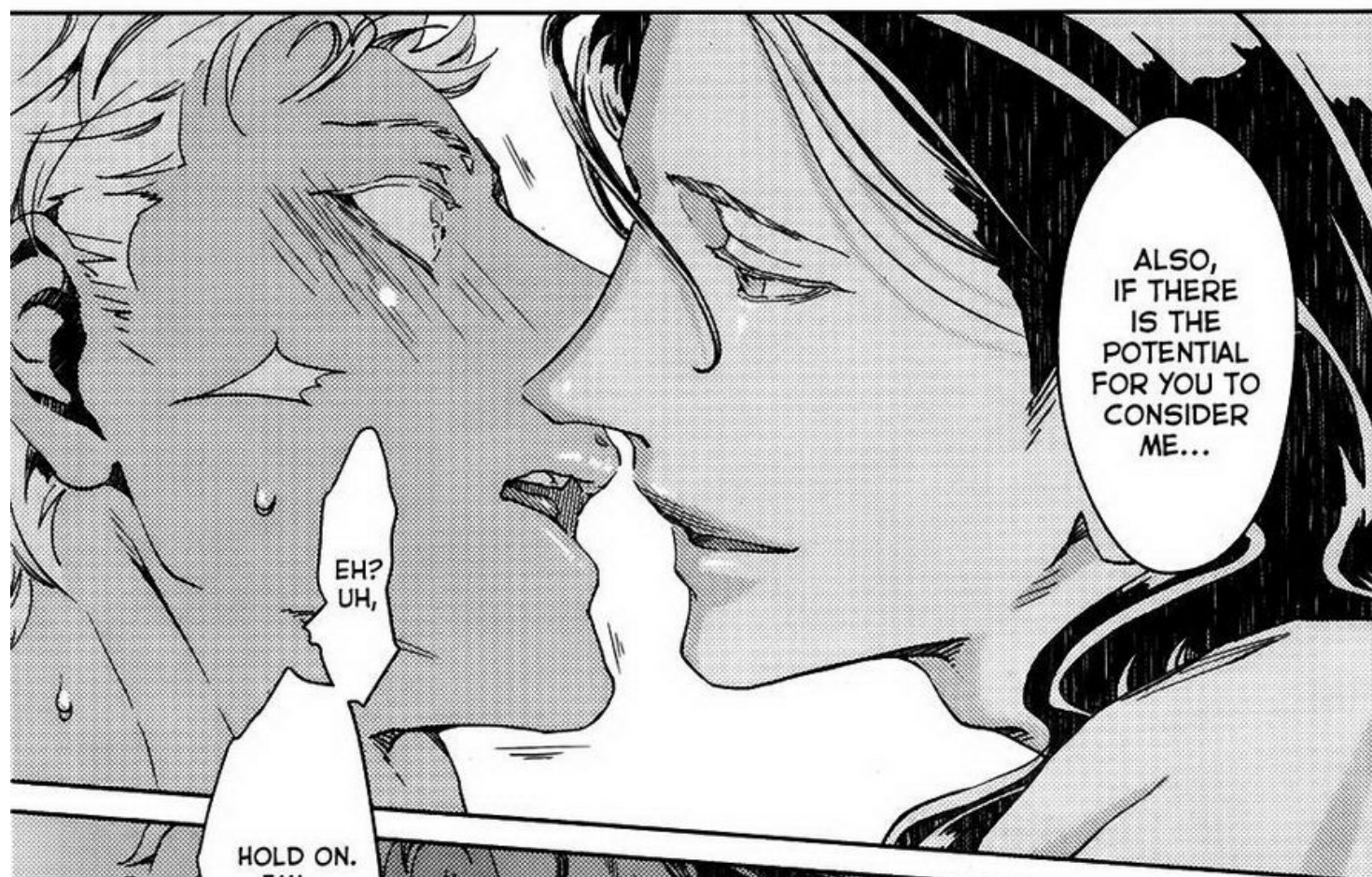
...B-BUT...
USING YOU
LIKE A
GUINEA PIG...
JUST TO
TEST IT
OUT...

I'M
PERFECTLY
FINE WITH
IT.



AND
MY LONG
UNREQUITED
LOVE WILL,
THEN...
COME TO
AN END.

SO... UNTIL I
RECEIVE AN
ANSWER FROM
YOU, CAN WE
TRY TO BECOME
CLOSER? IT'S
ALRIGHT IF WE
GO SLOWLY,
STEP BY STEP.



ALSO,
IF THERE
IS THE
POTENTIAL
FOR YOU TO
CONSIDER
ME...

EH?
UH,

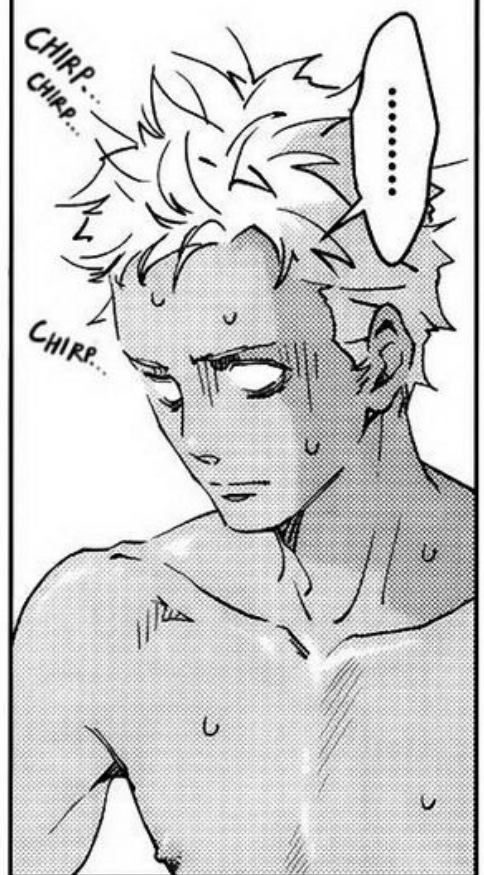
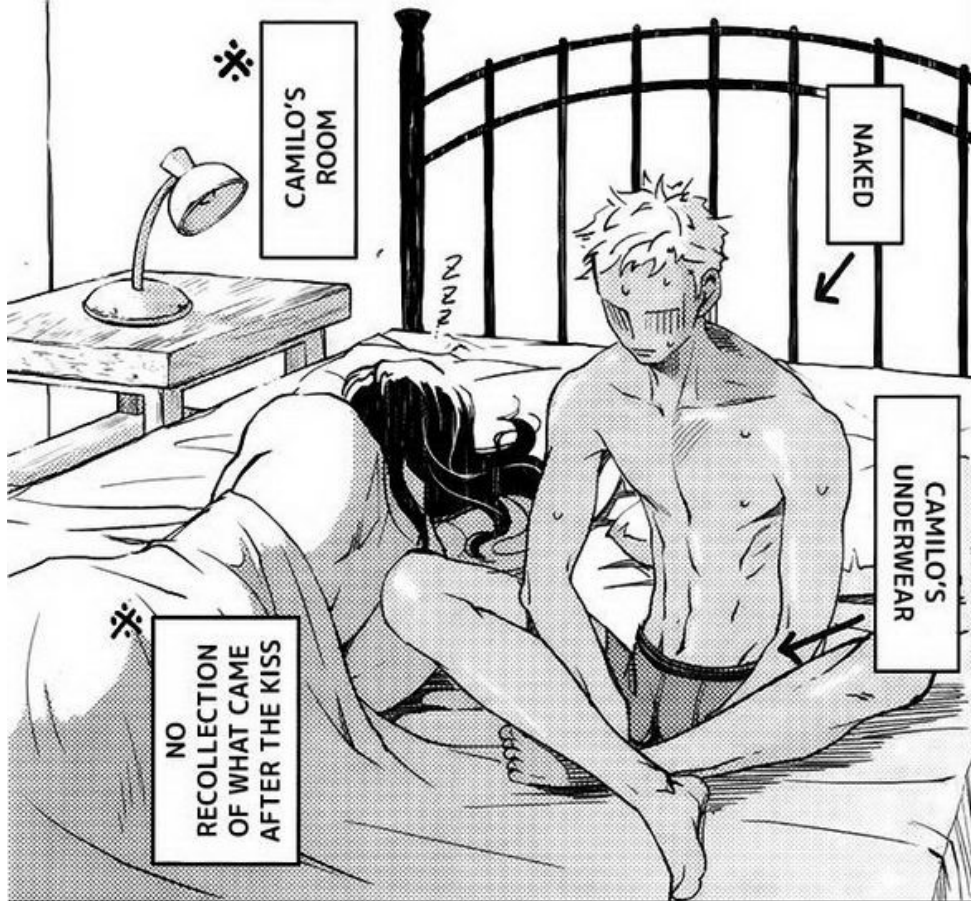
HOLD ON.
I'M...
SUPER
DRUNK
RIGHT
NOW...

IN
THAT
CASE,



YOU
CAN BLAME
IT ALL ON
ALCOHOL.

CHIRP...
CHIRP...
CHIRP...





AAA
AA
AA
H

WHILE
STRIPPING
OFF YOUR
TANK TOP,
I LICKED
YOUR
CHEST
ONCE.

AND
THEN YOU
MOANED
ANH, IT
WAS SO
CUTE.



FOR
JUST
A
BIT...

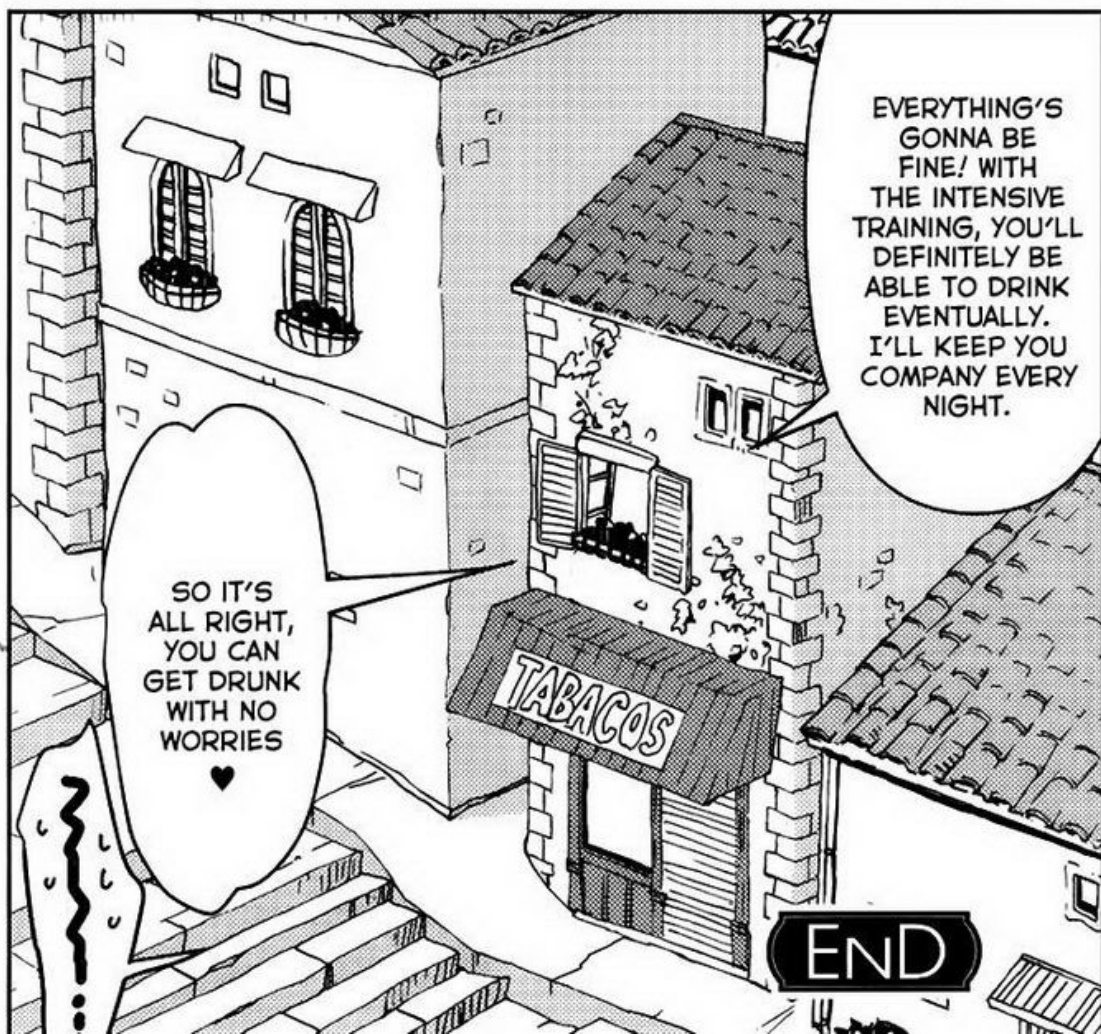
EH!?

OH,
ONE
THING
THOUGH.



I REALLY
WANT TO
OFFICIALLY
BECOME
YOUR LOVER
SOON~

YOU KNOW,
I AM ALL
FIRED UP
FROM
YESTERDAY.



SO IT'S
ALL RIGHT,
YOU CAN
GET DRUNK
WITH NO
WORRIES

EVERYTHING'S
GONNA BE
FINE! WITH
THE INTENSIVE
TRAINING, YOU'LL
DEFINITELY BE
ABLE TO DRINK
EVENTUALLY.
I'LL KEEP YOU
COMPANY EVERY
NIGHT.

BY
THE WAY,
I HEARD
THAT YOU
ENDED UP
SAYING YOU'D
PARTICIPATE
IN THE WINE-
TASTING
CONTEST?

YEAH.

END