

S M I L E

CHAPTER 6

YOUR DEAREST SMILE

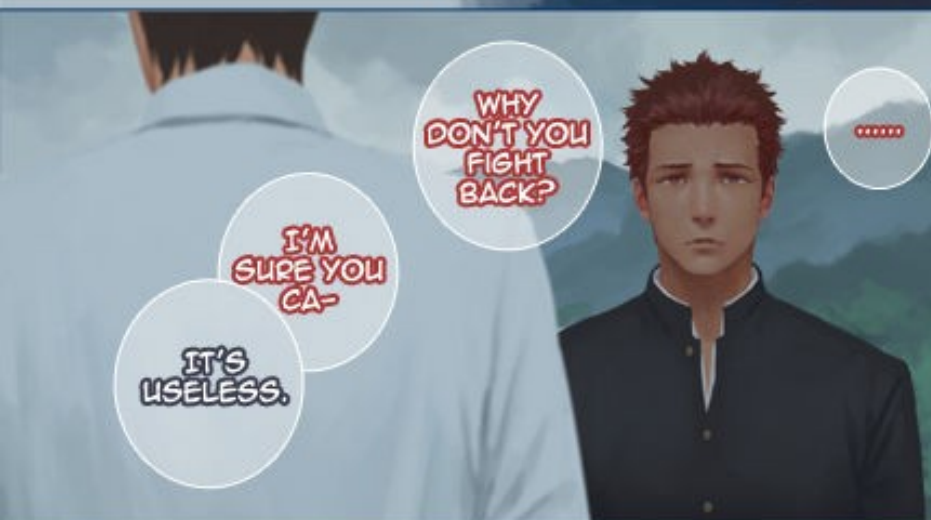






HOW
EMBAR-
RASSING.

HEH...



WHY
DON'T YOU
FIGHT
BACK?

I'M
SURE YOU
CA-

IT'S
USELESS.

.....



I SEE...

SO YOU
SAW IT...



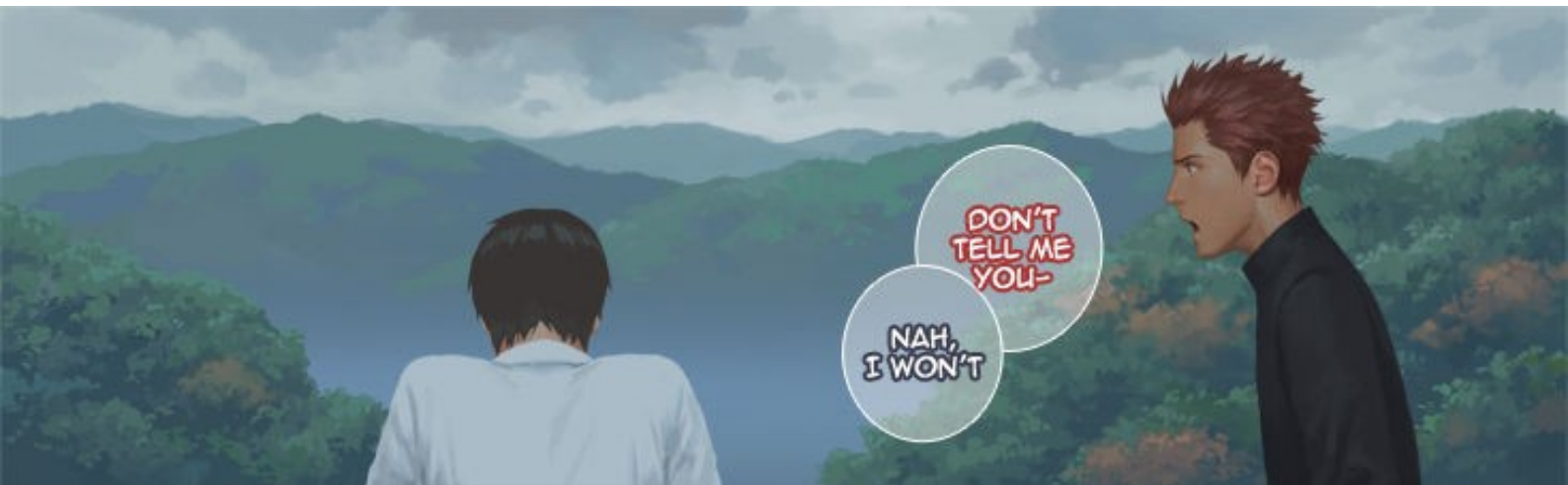
I MIGHT BE
ABLE TO STOP
WHAT THEY'RE
DOING, BUT
THEY WON'T
STOP LOATHING
US.

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,



IT'S
JUST
BULLYING.





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

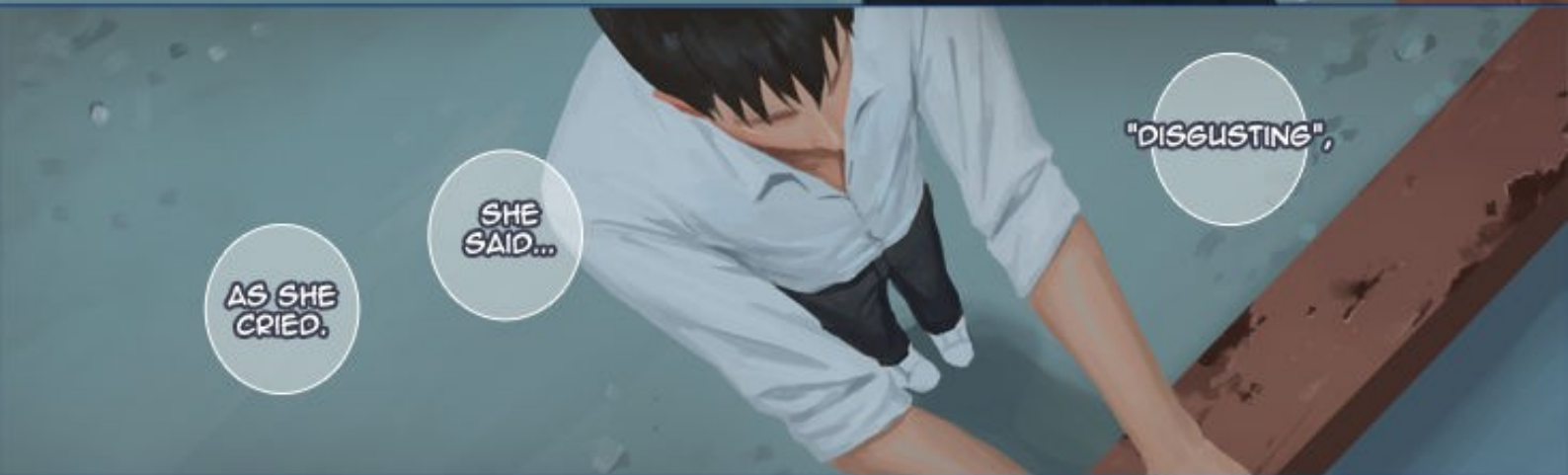


HEH,
THINGS
JUST AREN'T
GOING WELL,
ARE THEY?



...DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN?

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



AS SHE
CRIED.

SHE
SAID...

"DISGUSTING",

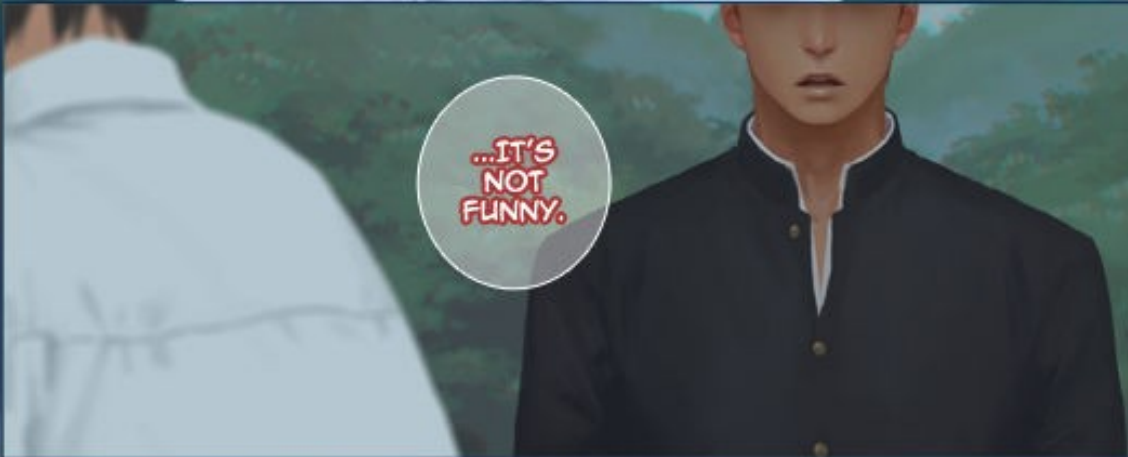
AS IF I WAS
SUFFERING
FROM SOME
FATAL
DISEASE.

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.



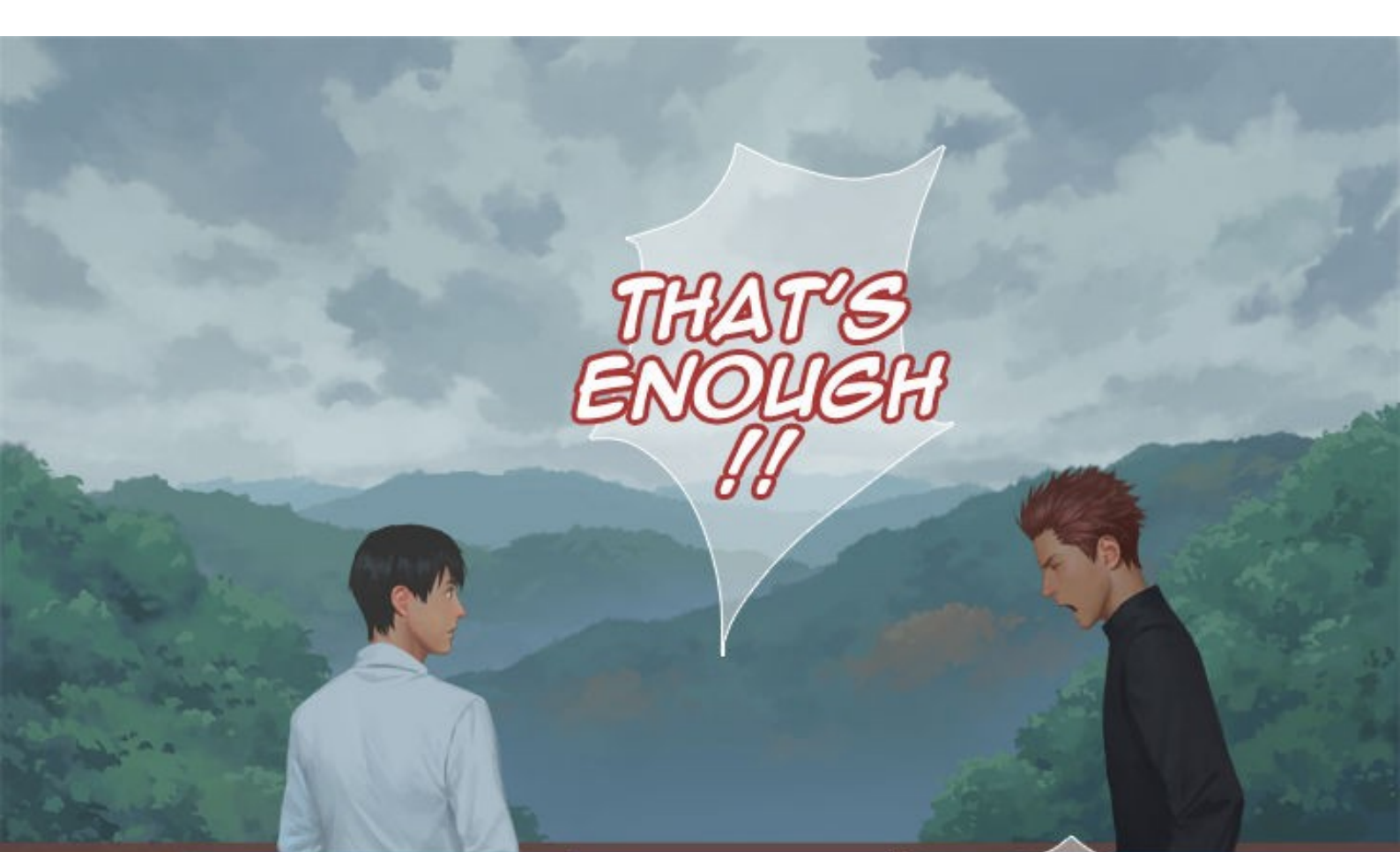
CUT IT
OUT.

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!

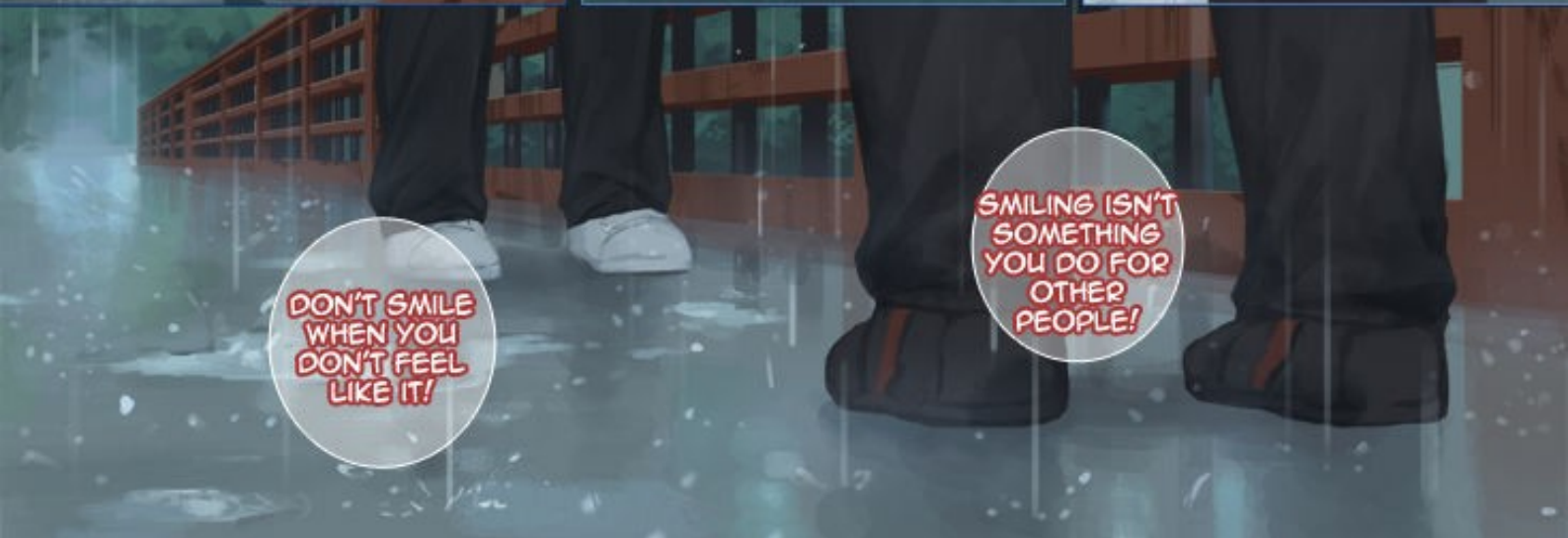


PUTTING ON A
BUSINESS
SMILE LIKE
NOTHING
HAPPENED...

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
FUCKING CRY
IT OUT TO ME!**



**I'M YOUR
BOYFRIEND
GODDAMMIT!**



**YOU THINK
I LIKE
DOING IT?**



I TRIED MY
BEST TO
COPE WITH
EVERYTHING.

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

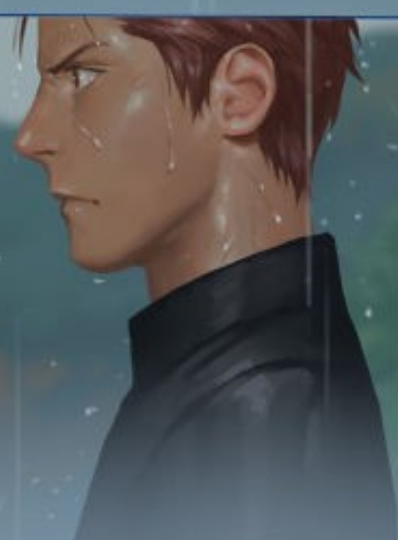


I HATE TO
SMILE
ABOUT
THIS TOO!

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?P

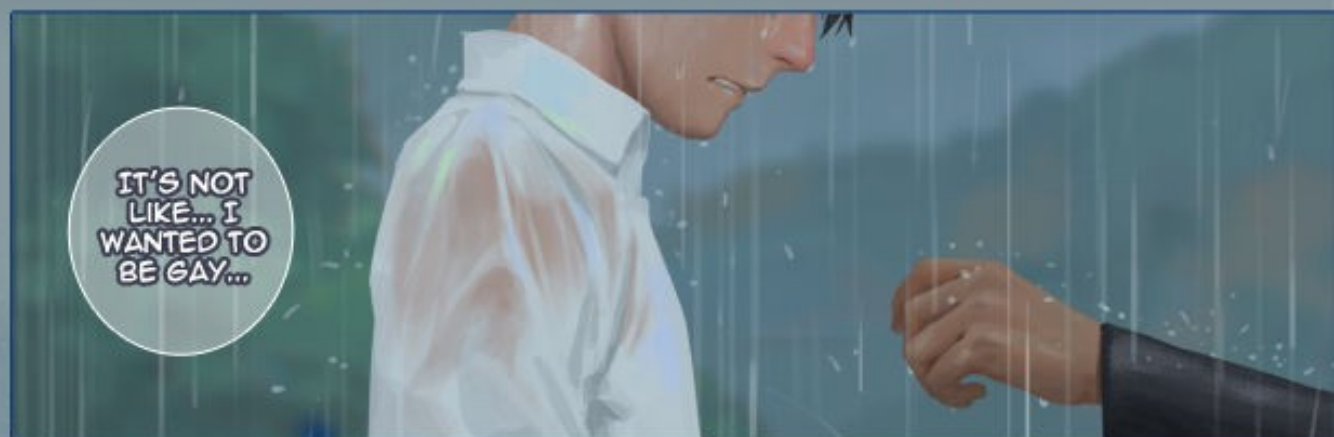
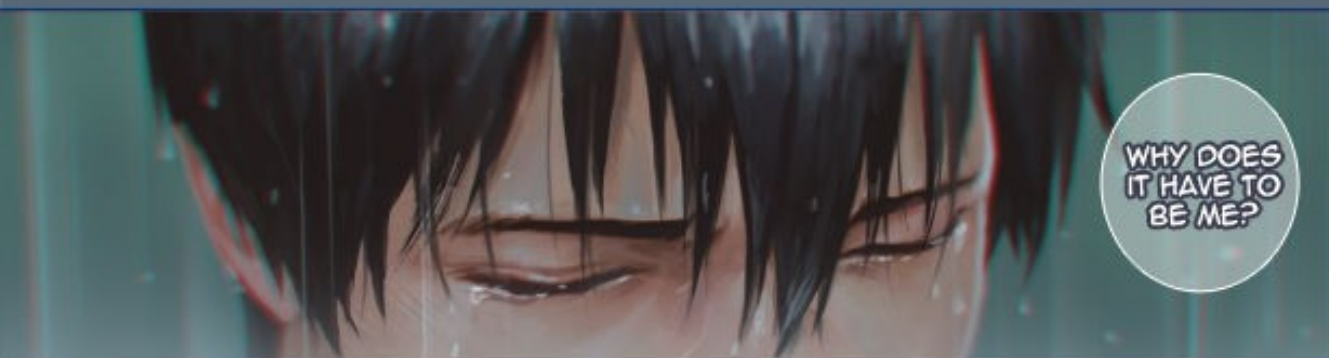
IF I DON'T
SMILE TO TRICK
MYSELF INTO
BELIEVING THAT
EVERYTHING'S
GONNA BE
ALRIGHT,



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



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





HE FINALLY BROKE DOWN.

HAVING ABUSED HIS SMILE
THROUGH EVERYTHING,



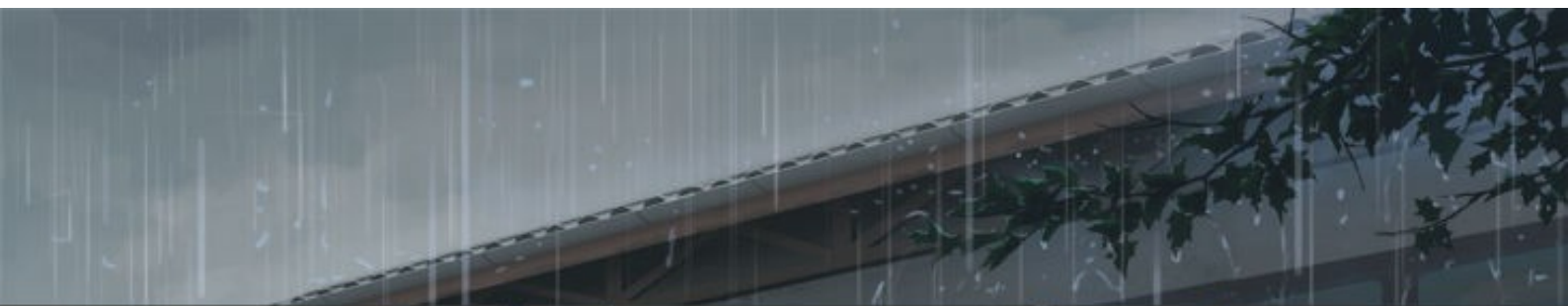
IT'S PROBABLY MY FIRST
TIME SEEING HIM CRY.

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?

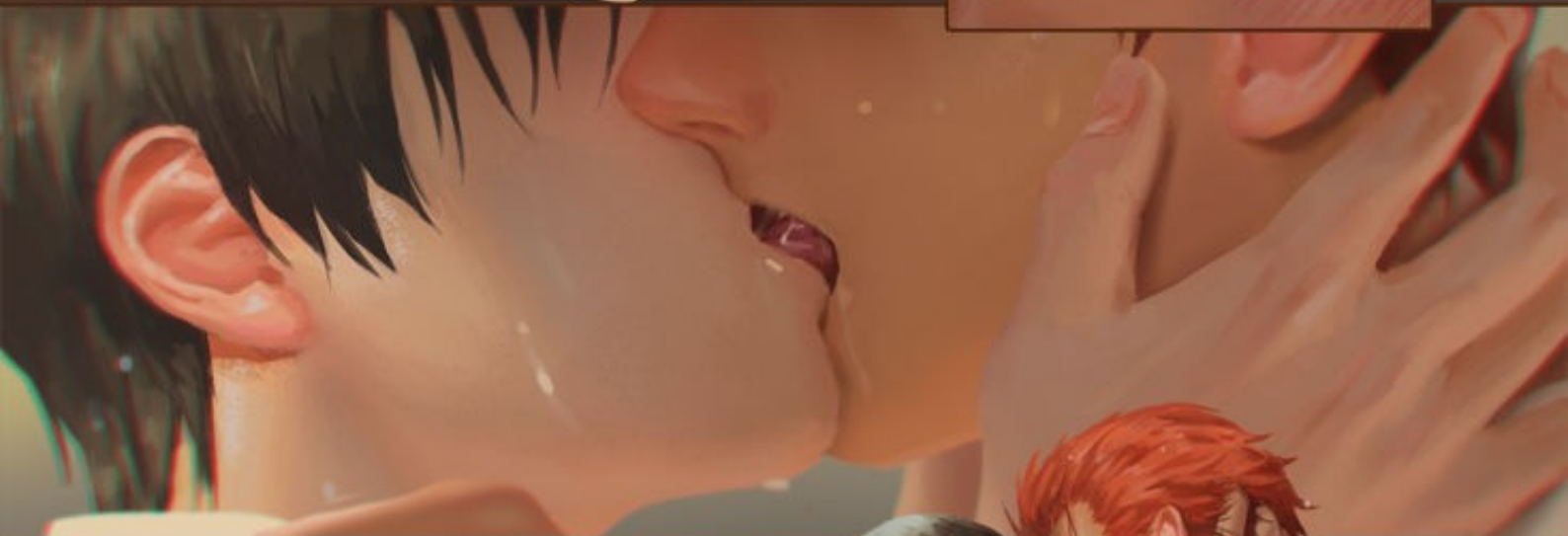
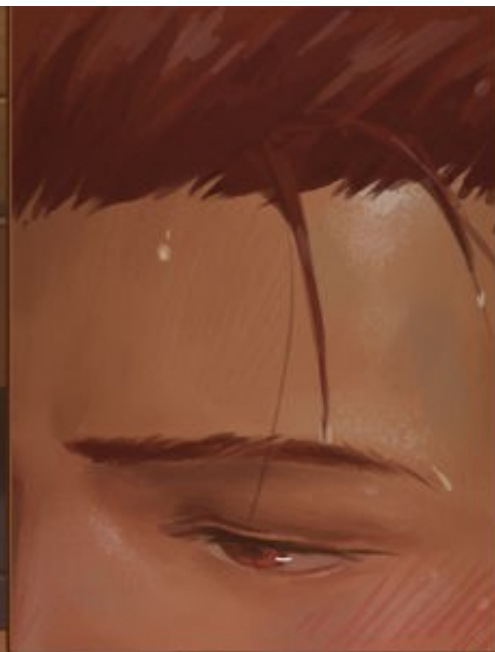
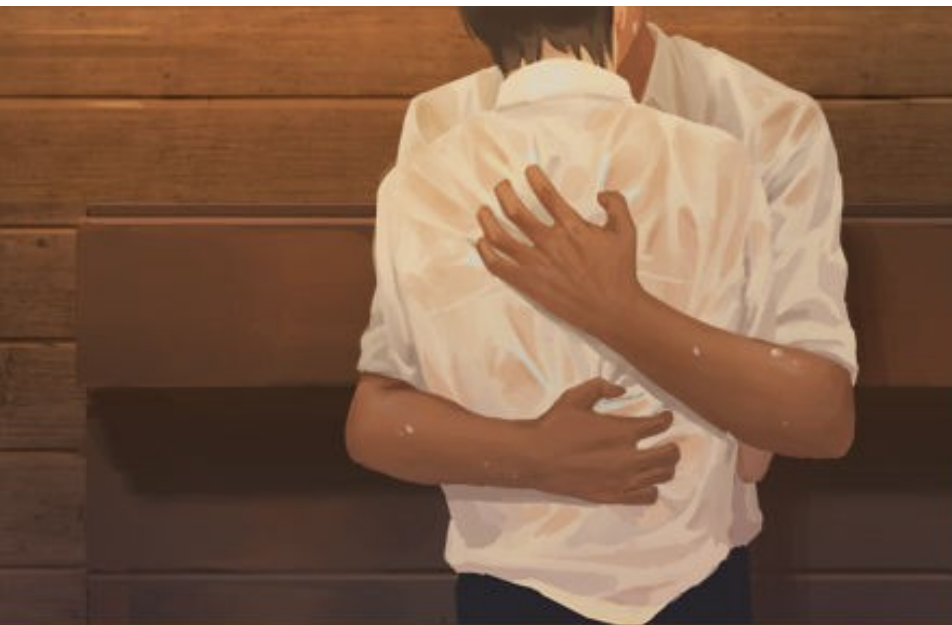
O-OH YEAH,
SINCE YOU'RE
HERE, I'LL
COOK FOR
DINNER
TONIGHT.



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.

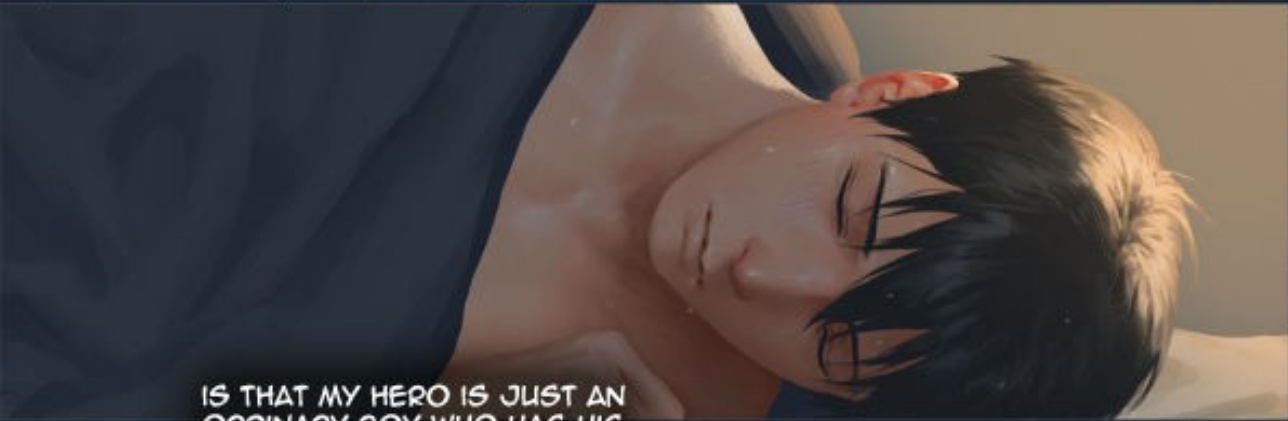




I'M NOT CAPABLE OF CHANGING
THE WAY PEOPLE SEE US,

NOR DO I KNOW HOW TO DO IT.

BUT ONE THING I DID LEARN...

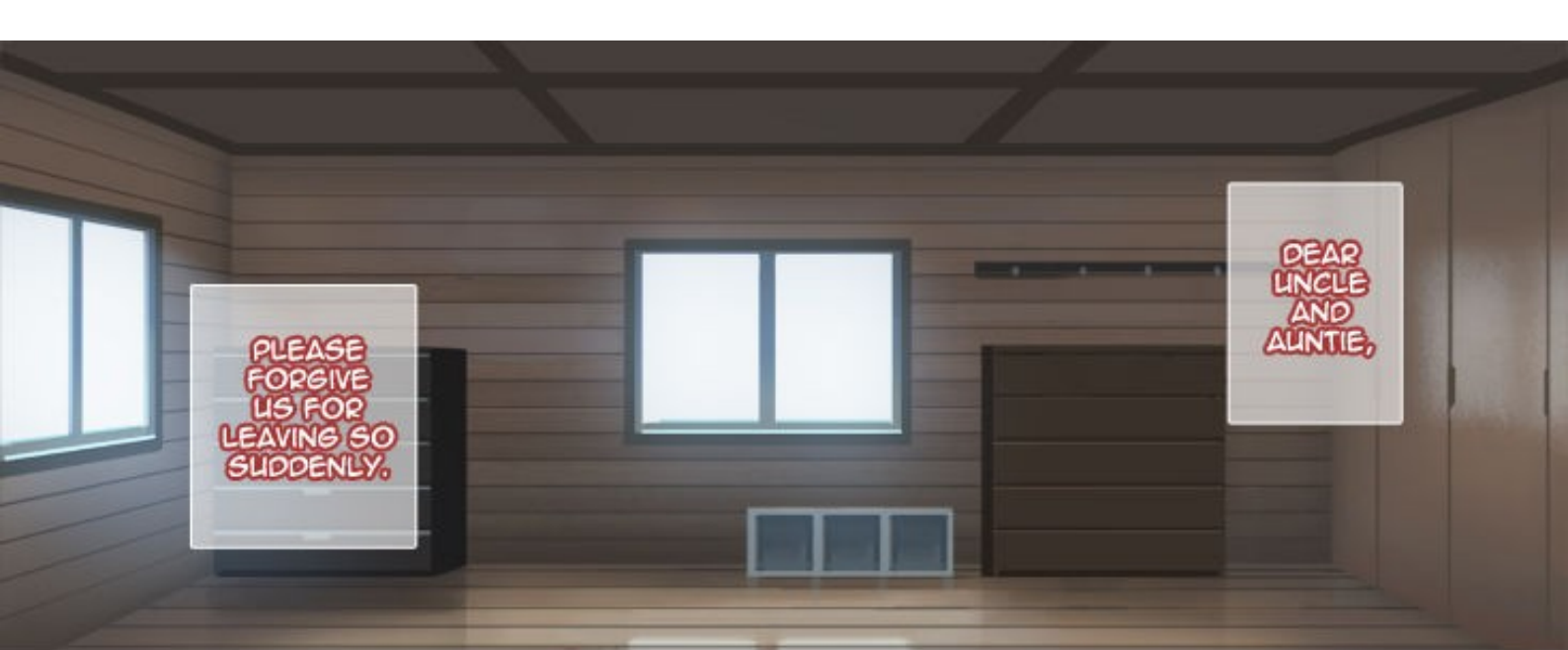


IS THAT MY HERO IS JUST AN
ORDINARY BOY WHO HAS HIS
VULNERABLE SIDE, TOO.



AND I MUST DO EVERYTHING
I CAN TO PROTECT HIM.





PLEASE
FORGIVE
US FOR
LEAVING SO
SUDDENLY.

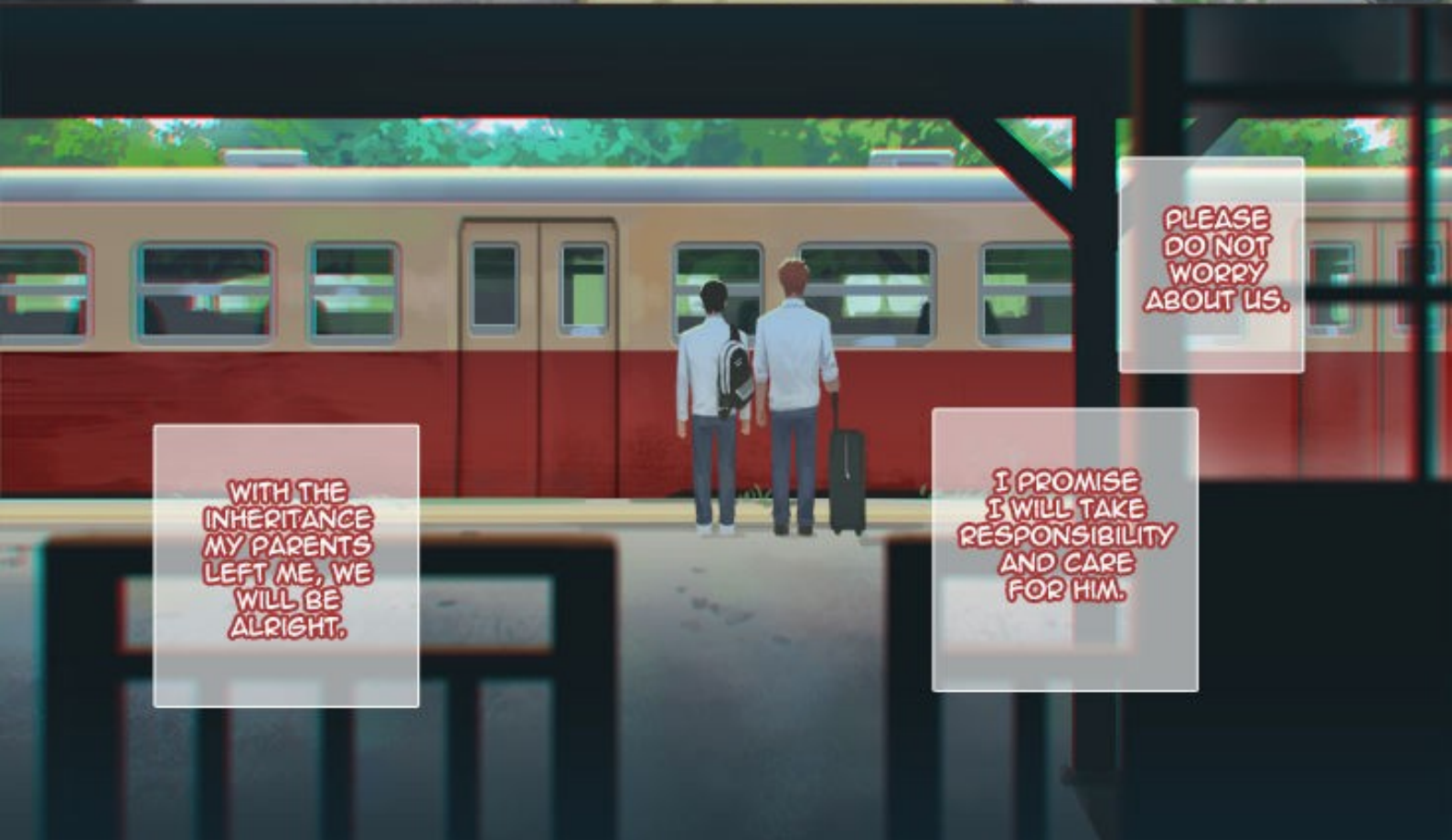
DEAR
UNCLE
AND
AUNTIE,



AS WE
ALL NEED
SOME TIME
TO THINK.

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

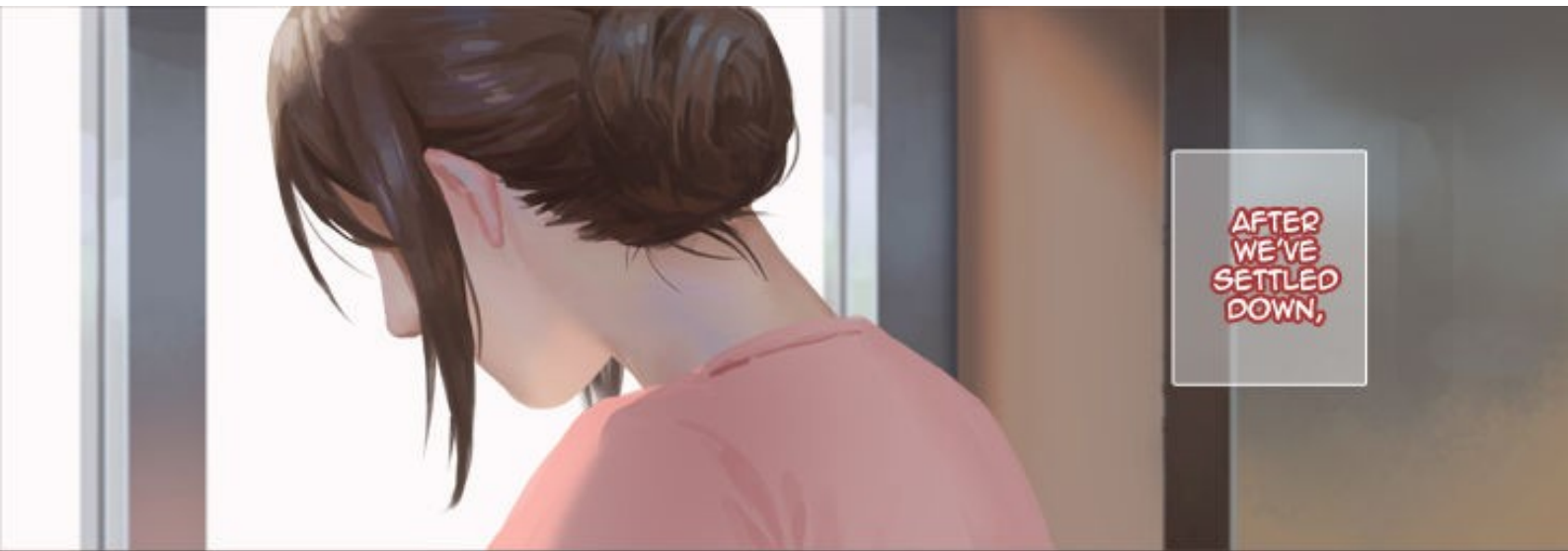
IT
PROBABLY
SOUNDS
SELFISH
OF ME,



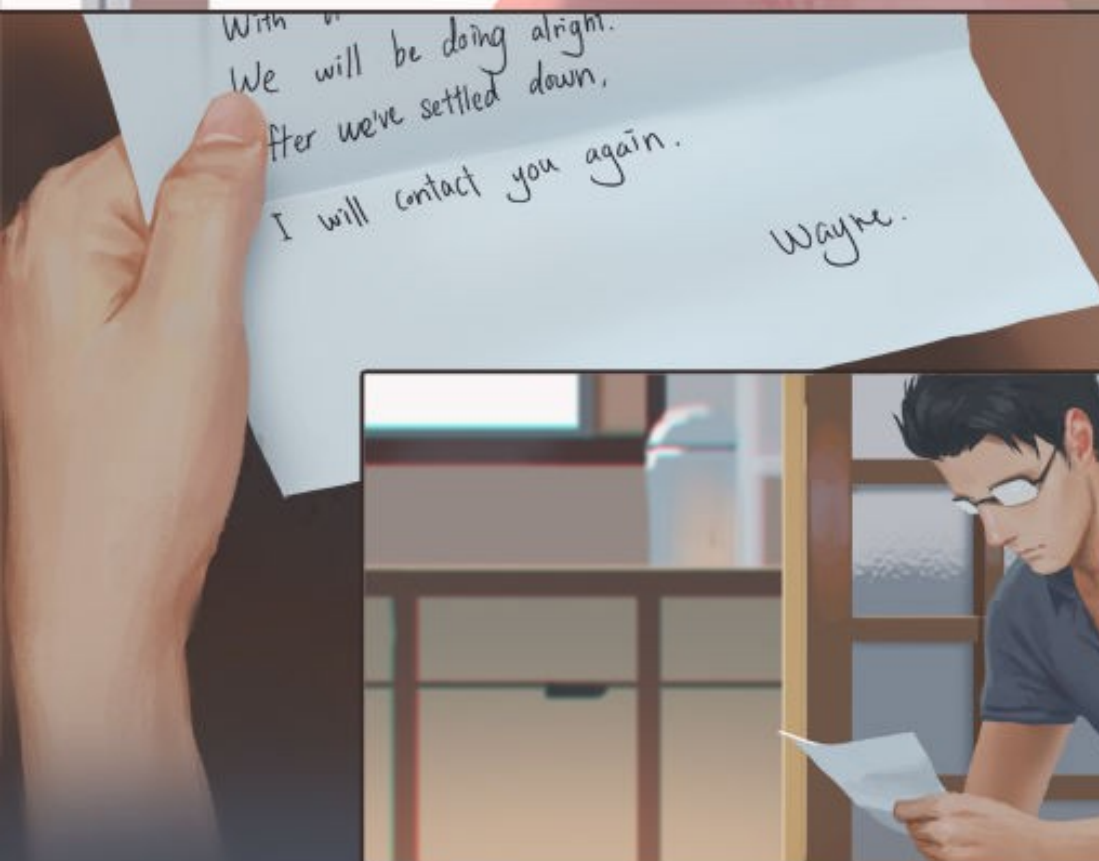
PLEASE
DO NOT
WORRY
ABOUT US.

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

I PROMISE
I WILL TAKE
RESPONSIBILITY
AND CARE
FOR HIM.



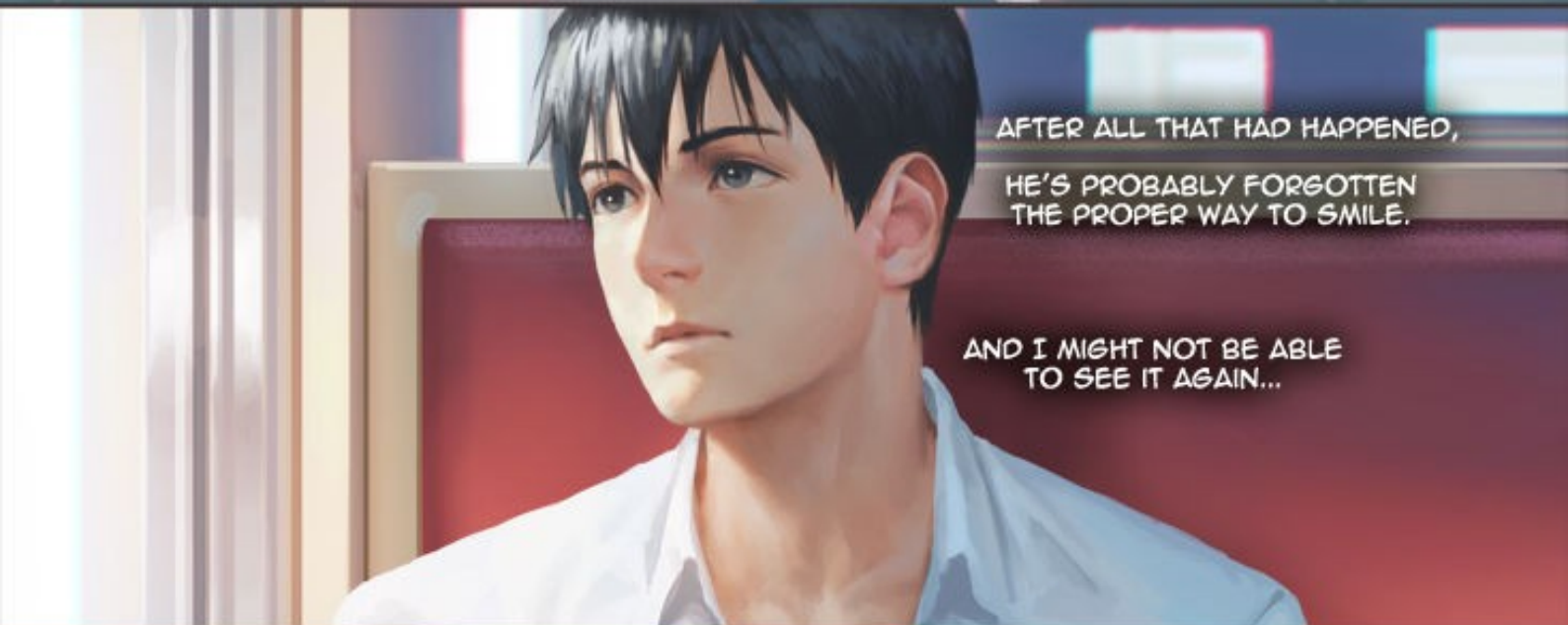
AFTER
WE'VE
SETTLED
DOWN,





REN HASN'T SMILED
ONCE SINCE THEN.

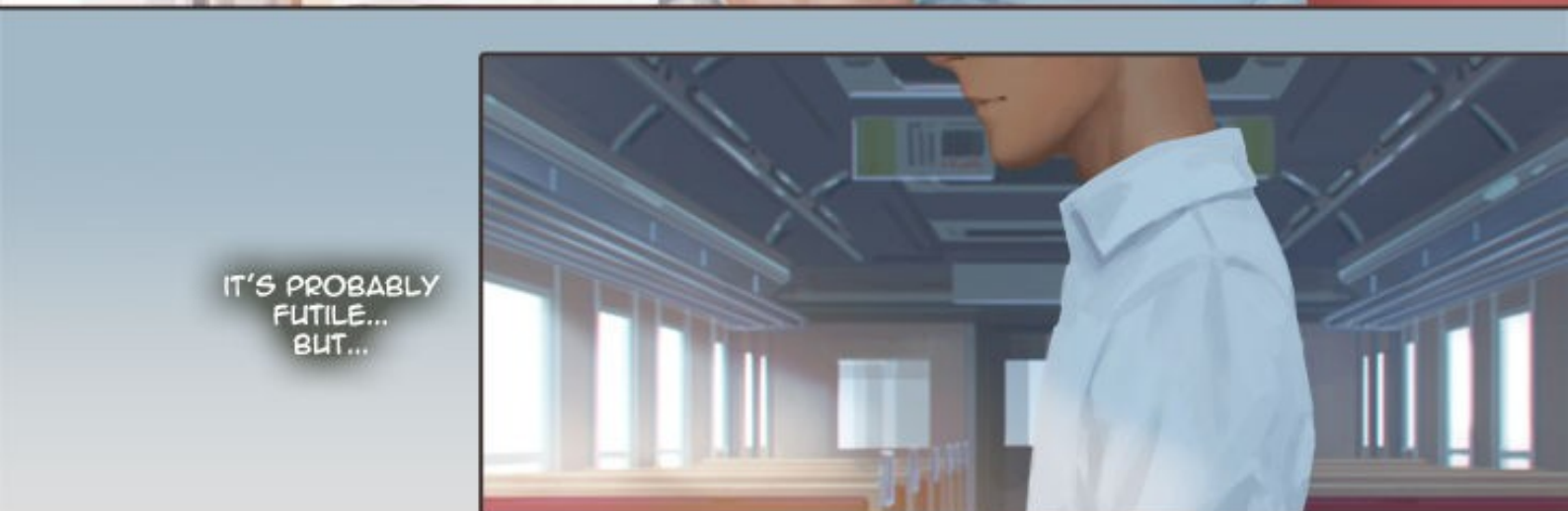
HE BECAME REALLY QUIET,
AS IF HE HAD BECOME A
DIFFERENT PERSON.



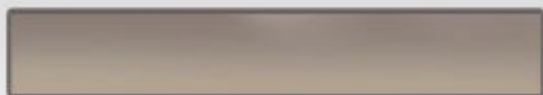
AFTER ALL THAT HAD HAPPENED,

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