X-DAY

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X-DAY

Volume One

By Setona Mizushiro

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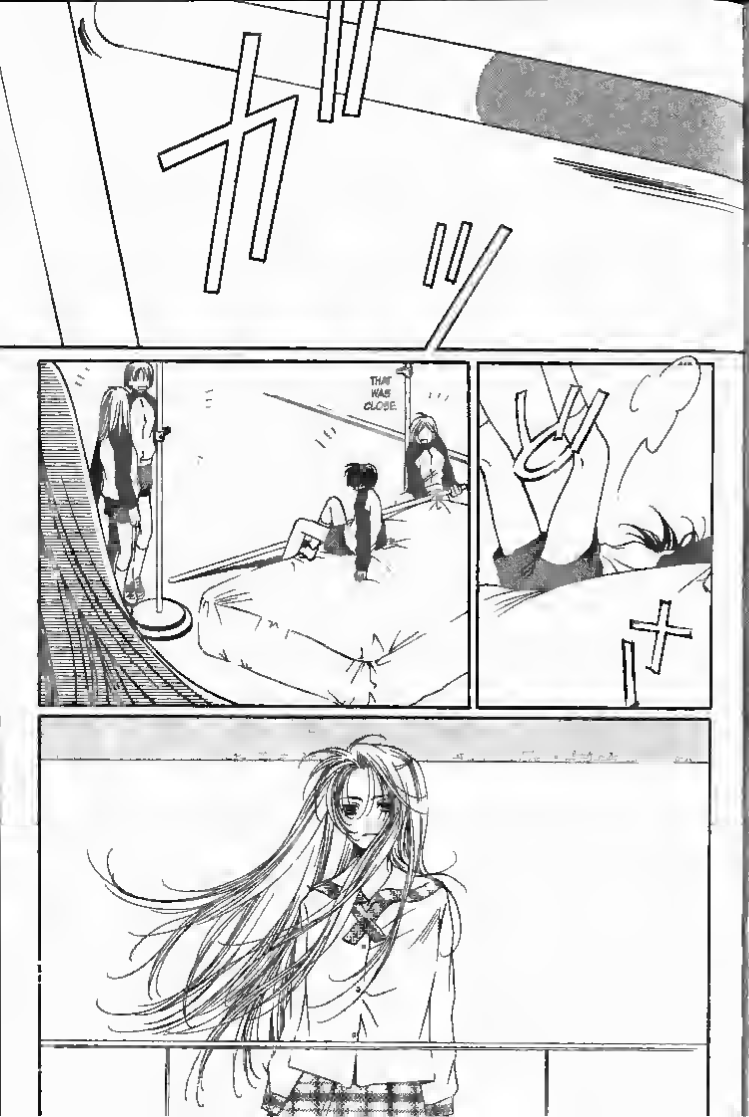
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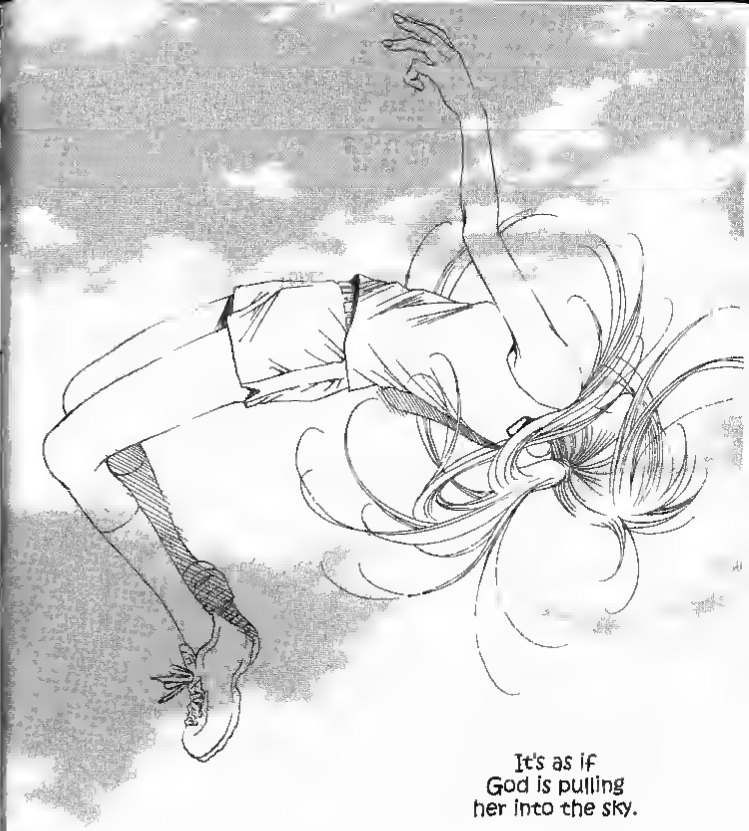
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It's as if
God is pulling
her into the sky.

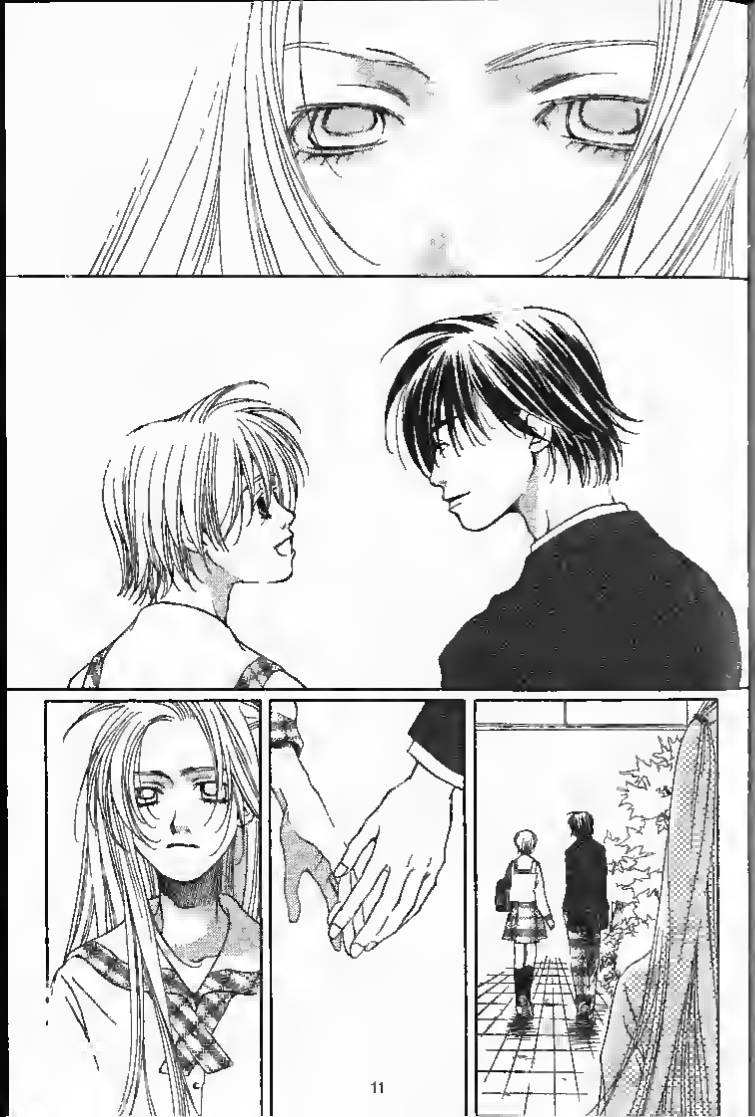
That's
what someone...

...said about me.


HEY, RIKA!
HI!


KAKO, ARE YOU GOING HOME?
WHAT ABOUT TRACK?
OH...
I HAVE SOMETHING TO DO TODAY
WHAT...?
THIS IS IMPORTANT, RIKA! PLEASE COME BACK TO THE TRACK TEAM.
EVERYONE MISSES YOU.
THEY'RE UPSET THAT RIKA THE STAR QUIT
YOUR INJURY IS BETTER NOW. ISN'T IT?
WHA...? OH...YEAH.
THEN, RIKA...
...LET'S BE TEAMMATES AGAIN!
PLEASE!


RIKA...
UHHH
YEAH.
SORRY.
...I'M A SENIOR NOW SO I HAVE TO STUDY FOR EXAMS AND EVERYTHING
YOU KNOW.
BUT SEE...
THANKS.
ANYWAY, PLEASE COME TO VISIT, OKAY?
EVERYONE WILL BE THRILLED.
OKAY, BYE!



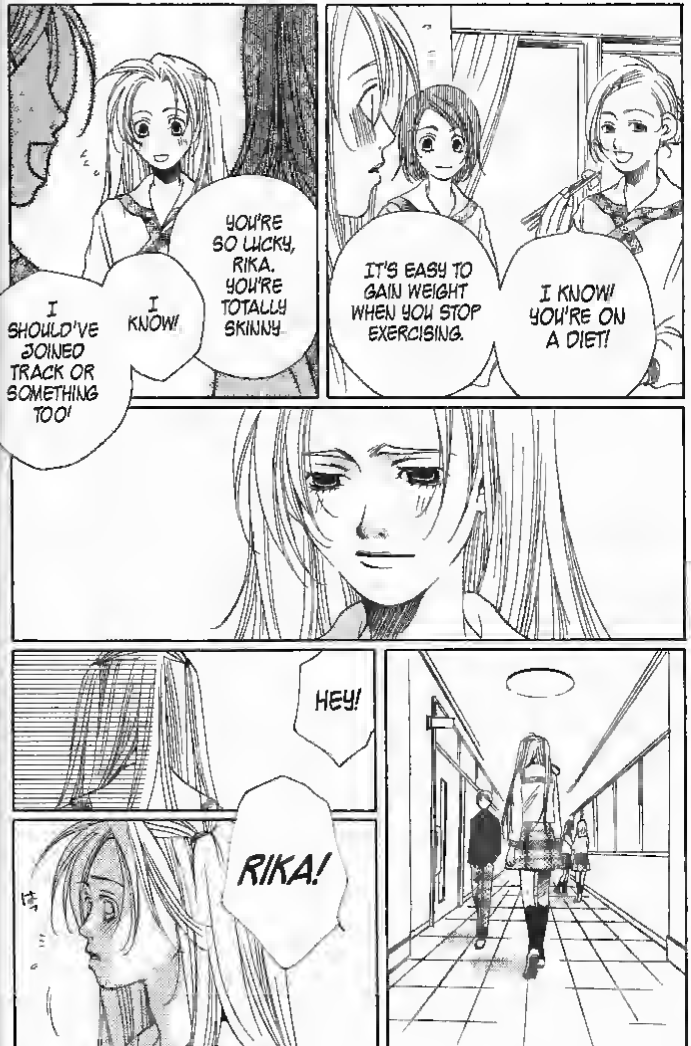


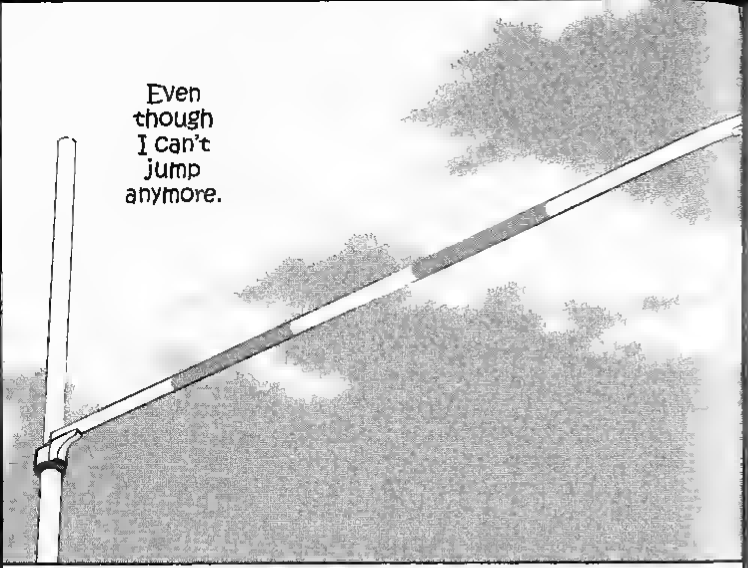


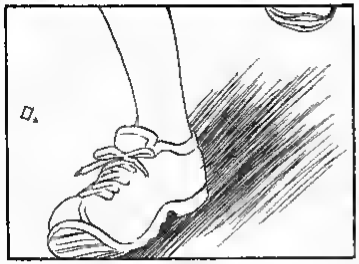


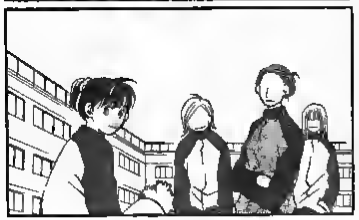
He was my boyfriend until a month ago.


OH, YES I'M OKAY.
WELL, THAT'S GOOD.
SO.. HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR MIND YET?
ABOUT?
HOW ARE YOU DOING?
YOU SEEM A LITTLE CONFUSED.
OH... MS TOGAWA.
NO...
DO YOU WANT TO GIVE IT A TRY?
IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE.
I WANTED YOU TO GO FOR FIRST PLACE THIS YEAR.
I STILL THINK IT WAS A MISTAKE TO QUIT TRACK. YOU WENT ALL THE WAY TO SECOND PLACE AT THE INTERHIGH CHAMPIONSHIPS.


I SHOULD'VE JOINED TRACK OR SOMETHING TOO!
I KNOW!
YOU'RE SO LUCKY, RIKA. YOU'RE TOTALLY SKINNY.
IT'S EASY TO GAIN WEIGHT WHEN YOU STOP EXERCISING.
I KNOW! YOU'RE ON A DIET!
HEY!
RIKA!



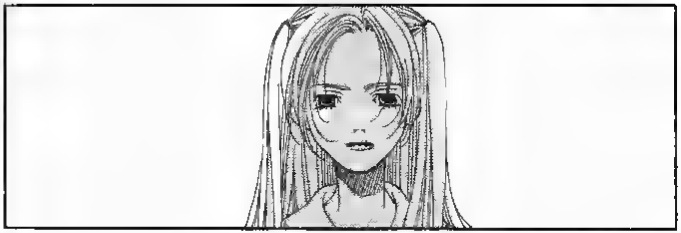














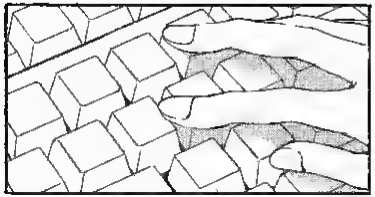
Ms. Togawa and Kako too...

They want me to be the same as I was before my injury.

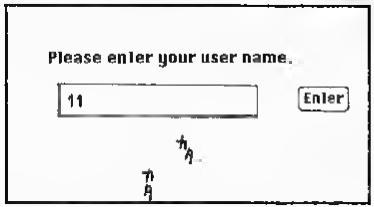


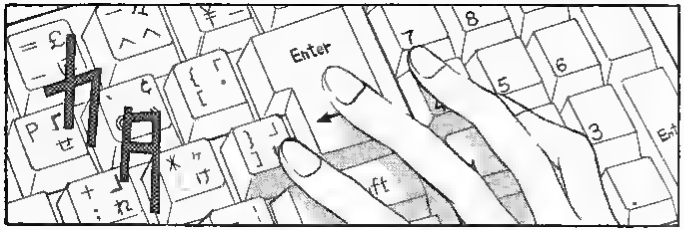

COMPUTER ROOM


YES! I BROKE MY RECORD!



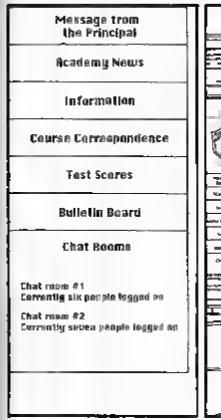


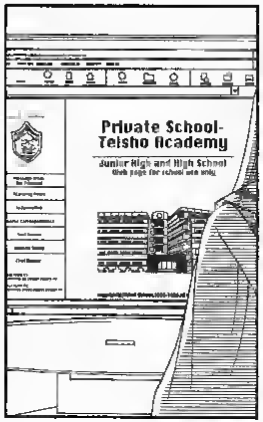




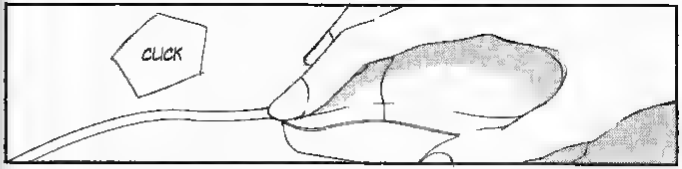
Polaris: I hate it.
Don Protector (Fox): I know! I can't even stand getting up in the morning.
Mr. Money: I know. It's really tough.
Jangalian: This isn't a young people's conversation.
Tamami: Too much homework! On top of afternoon lessons.
Tamami: We don't need school. It's meaningless.
Don Protector (Fox): Yeah, it's pretty stupid.

<<11 joins in>>

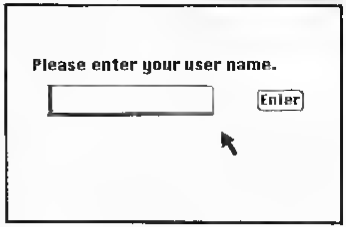


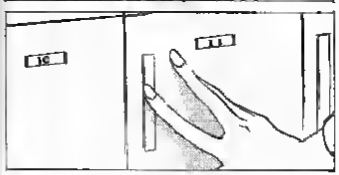


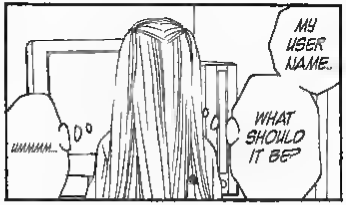












Don Protector (Fox): Hello!
Tamami: Welcome!
Polaris: Come on in.

11: Hello. What were you talking about?

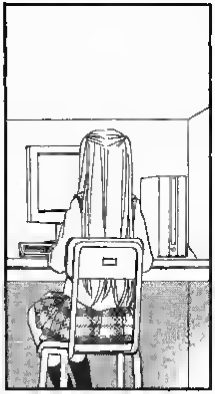


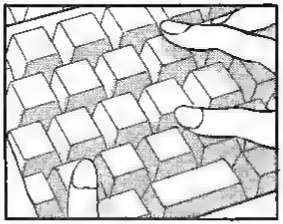
Don Protector (Fox): Yeah, it's pretty stupid.

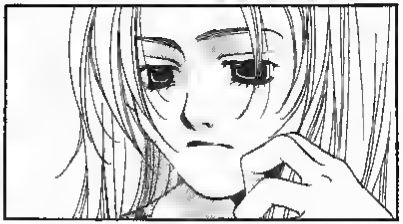
<<11 joins in>>

Tamami: My allergies are really bad too.
Mr. Money: Welcome, 11!
Don Protector (Fox): Hello!
Tamami: Welcome!
Polaris: Come on in.

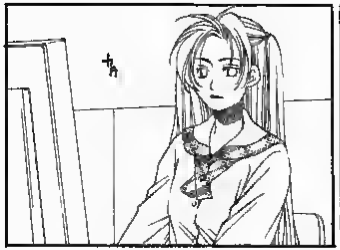
11: Hello. What were you talking about?
Iris Iris: Hello, 11. We're all just bitching.
Jangalian: Let's discuss something fun next, please.
Mr. Money: It's all bitching. Boring.
Tamami: You have to at least bitch.
Don Protector (Fox): All the teachers are annoying too!
Jangalian: True. Yeah, yeah.
GG: And this place is once again a place to bitch.
Iris Iris: Saito from Classics pisses me off!!!





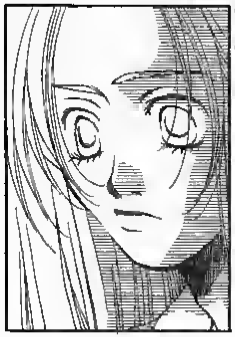


GG: And this place is once again a place to bitch.
Iris Iris: Saito from Classics pisses me off!!!
11: I wish this place called school would just disappear.

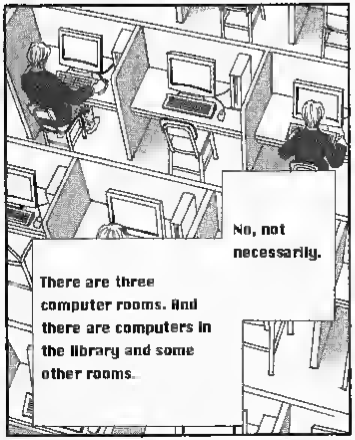




11: I wish this place called school would just disappear.
Don Protector (Fox): Yeah, yeah.
Jangalian: This is a jail. We're under house arrest five days a week. Bang bang. Let me out of here.
Polaris: That sounds good. Should we get rid of it, then?



ood. Should we get rid of it, then?



Polaris: I'm serious. If you're not going to do anything, just shut up and watch.
Mr. Money: Everyone suddenly changed
Don Protector (Fox): Are you insane??
Polaris: You're the one who's saying things because I can't see your face
Mr. Money: But can you make a bomb, Polaris?



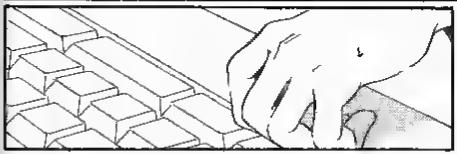
Polaris: You guys all complain, but you really can't exist anywhere except here. I'll erase you.
Don Protector (Fox): Are you insane?? (Ha ha ha) Are you insane?? (Ha ha ha) Are you insane?? (Ha ha ha) Are you insane?? (Ha ha ha) Are you insane?? (Ha ha ha) Are you insane?? (Ha ha ha) Are you insane??





Polaris: That sounds good. Should we get rid of it, then?
Iris Iris: What? What are you saying, P?
Polaris: You were all complaining. Let's do it.
Polaris: What we don't need should disappear.
Polaris: Let's use our strength! Let's be free!
Don Protector (Fox): There's someone dangerous here. Ha ha ha.

Polaris: Let's blow this school to pieces.

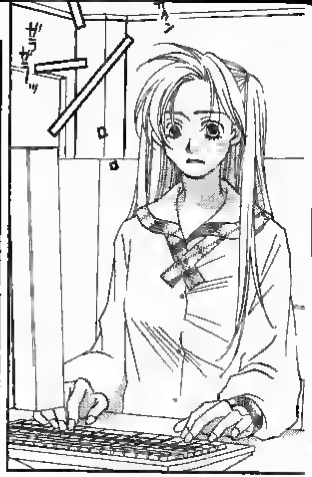




Polaris: Let's blow this school to pieces.
GG: There's a terrorist here... Ha ha ha.
Iris Iris: A terrorist?
Don Protector (Fox): Don't take them seriously, everyone. They're just being crazy because we can't see their faces.
Tamami: Say what you want. I'm sure it's all just talk anyway.
Jangalian: All right, all right. Everyone calm down.

Mr. Money: There's the bell.
Mr. Money: Too bad, it was just getting interesting.
Jangalian: Anyway, it's all wide open now.
Tamami: Well, it was fun, Firecracker.
Polaris: I'm telling you, I'm serious.
Polaris: Anyone who wants to join me, come to Polaris' room.





Polaris: Anyone who wants to join me, come to Polaris' room.
Polaris: The hints are "tail" and "sleepless nights."
Polaris: If you're serious, come and find me.
Polaris: See you.

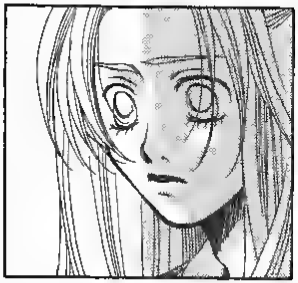
<<Polaris has left the chat room.>>

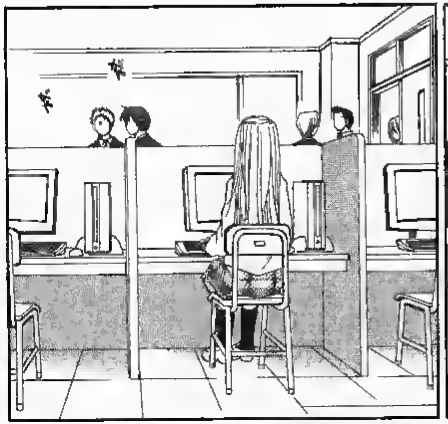
<<Polaris has left the chat room.>>

GG: What a dangerous one.
Tamami: So stupid.
Mr. Money: Okay, everyone, bye.
Iris Iris: It's been awhile since I saw such an idiot. Oh well, it was fun. Bye bye.

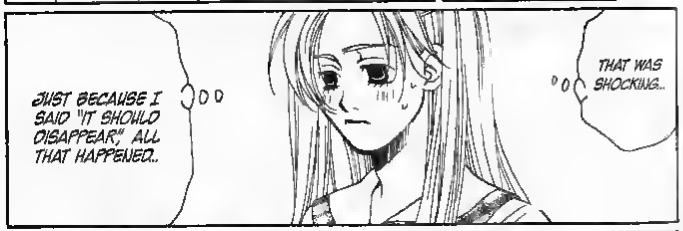
<<Mr. Money has left the chat room.>>
<<Iris Iris has left the chat room.>>

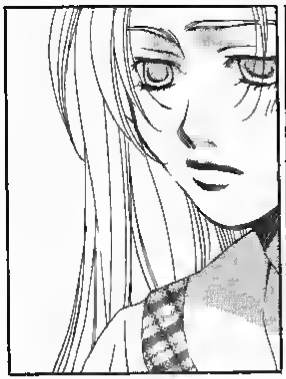
Don Protector (Fox): Those idiots. I wanted to mess with them more.

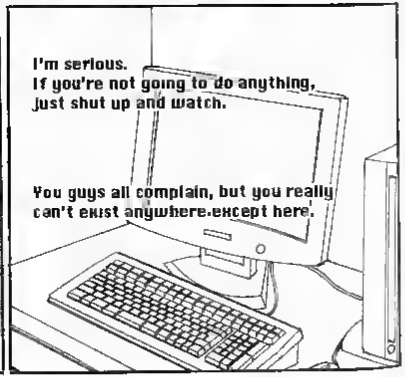








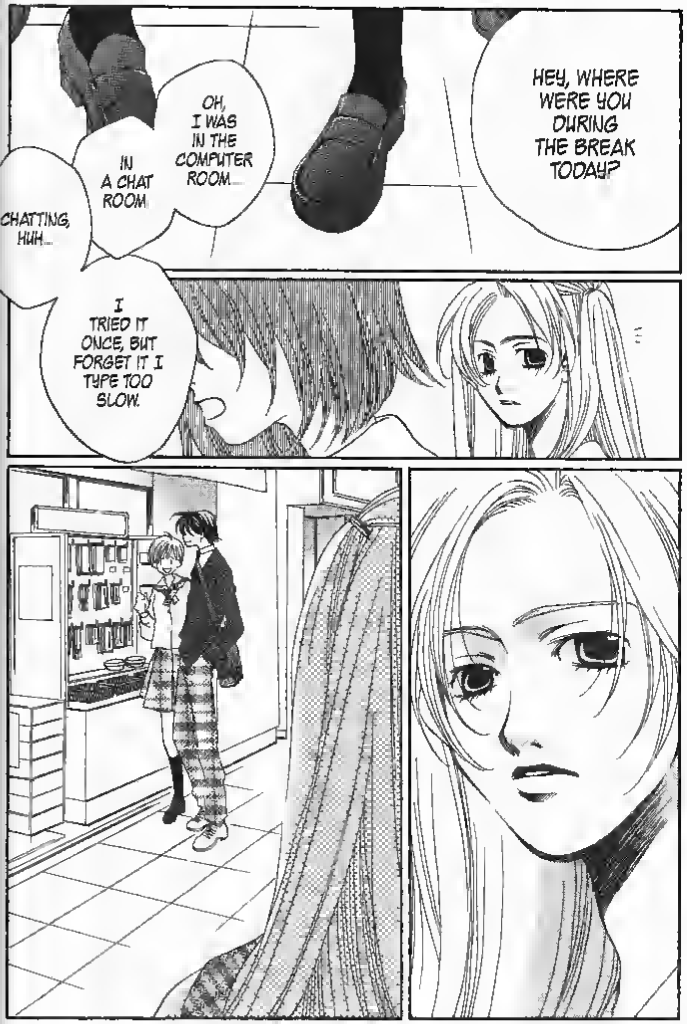





THE HINTS ARE "TAIL"...
...AND "SLEEPLESS NIGHTS!"
I WONDER WHAT IT MEANS...
tail
sleepless nights
..."TAIL" AND "SLEEPLESS NIGHTS"?
"ROOM" MEANS WEB-SITE...
RIGHT?


WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT?
I AM. SHOULD WE STOP SOMEWHERE?
ARE YOU HUNGRY?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU'VE ONLY BEEN EATING LIKE HALF OF YOUR LUNCH
NO, I'M NOT REALLY.
WHAT?
OH, BUT RIKA. YOU'RE ON A DIET.



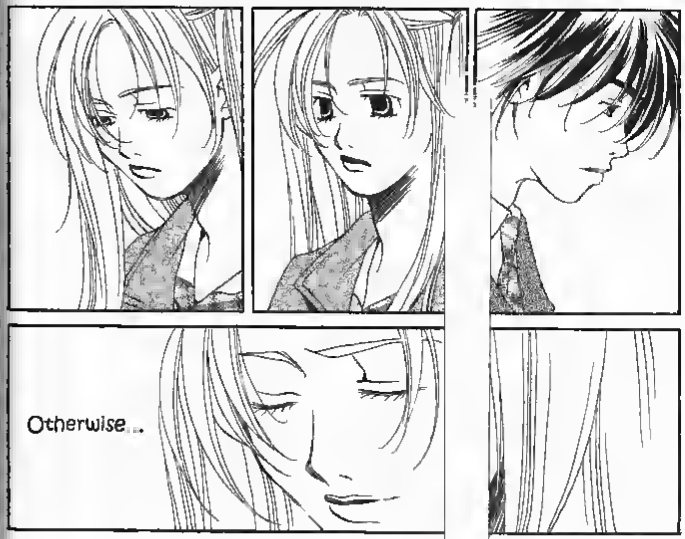

HEY, WHERE WERE YOU DURING THE BREAK TODAY?
OH, I WAS IN THE COMPUTER ROOM...
IN A CHAT ROOM.
CHATTING, HUH...
I TRIED IT ONCE, BUT FORGET IT. I TYPE TOO SLOW.


RIKA?
OH, YEAH

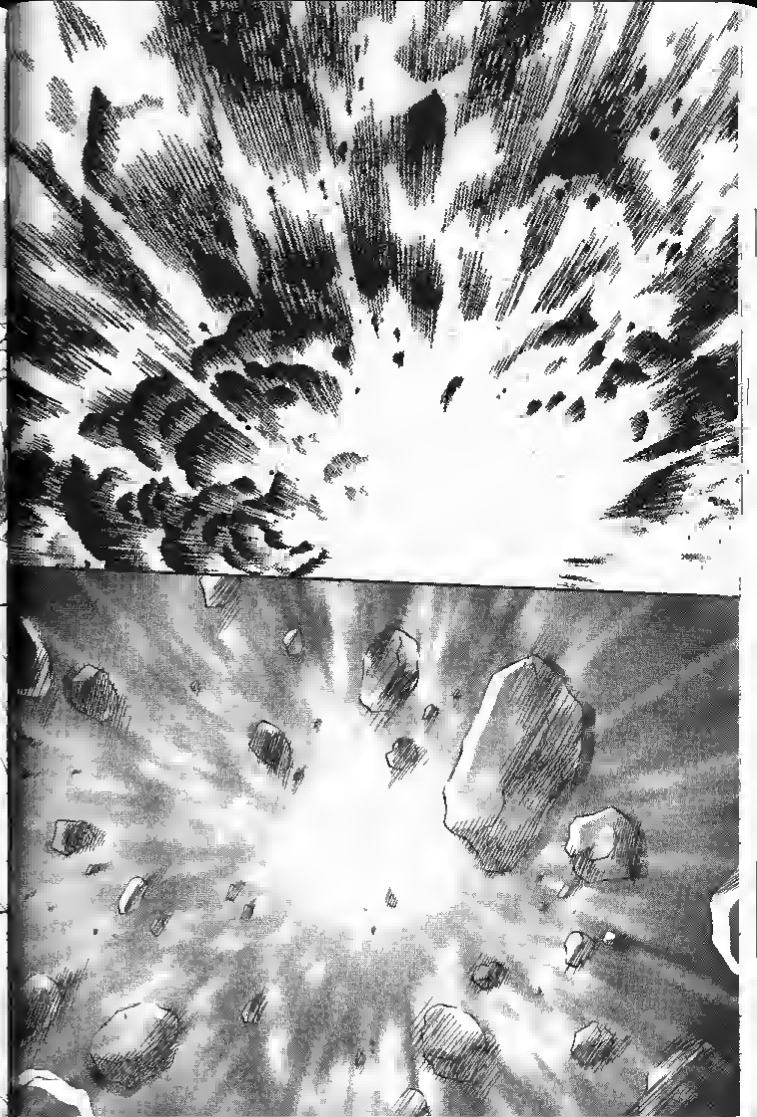

I have to keep smiling.

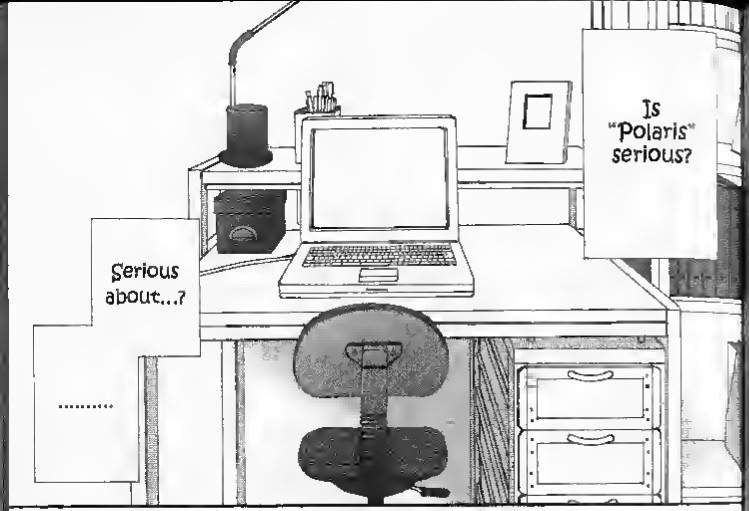

I would have seemed...
...like a sad and pathetic girl.


I acted like I didn't care...
I didn't ask...
...why he liked her.

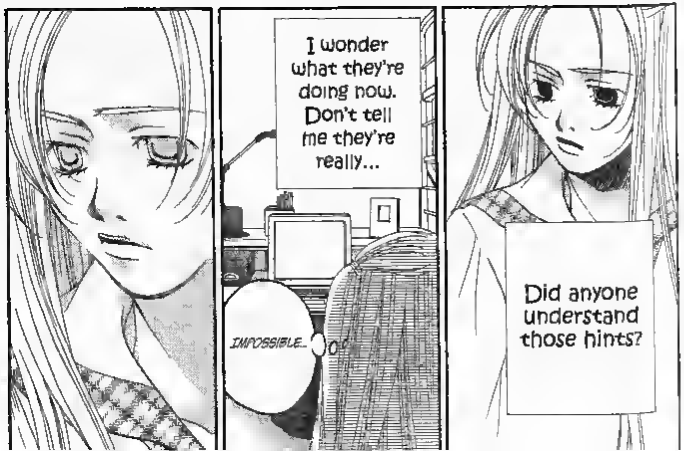

Otherwise...

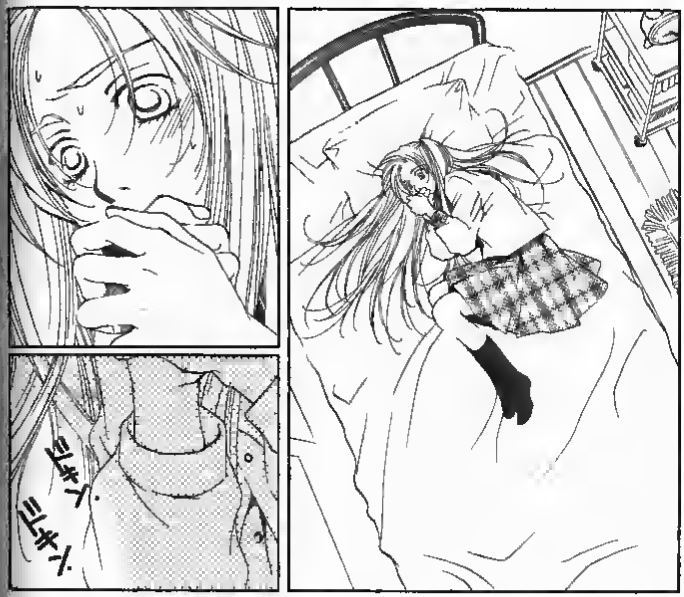

It's okay.
It's not a big deal.
It's not anything to be hurt by.
I need to keep smiling.
It's only Tuesday. I need to go there again tomorrow.
Tomorrow... ...and the day after. And the day after that. .
...and next week.
Forever...



Polaris: Anyone who wants to join me, come to Polaris' room.
Polaris: The hints are "tail" and "sleepless nights."





Should we get rid of it?

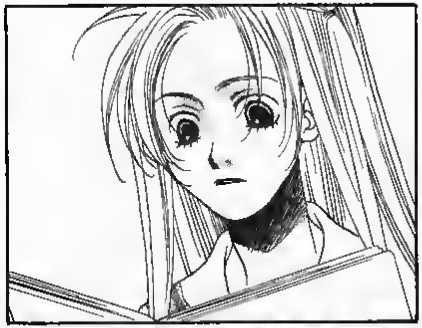


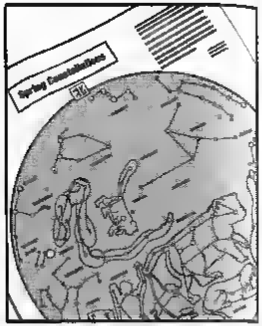

I WONDER IF IT'S.
POLARIS?
I WONDER WHAT POLARIS IS?
MAYBE IT'S "R"...
MAYBE IT'S NOT EVEN ENGLISH.
IT'S NOT HERE.
Po·la·ris[poularis] n. 1 North Star (polestar).
POLARIS...
POLARIS...

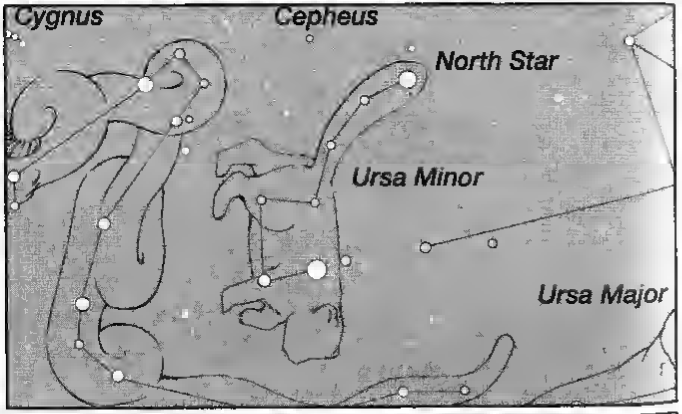

THIS SENTENCE IS IN THE SUBJUNC-TIVE PAST PERFECT
LET'S USE OUR STRENGTH! LET'S BE FREE!
TAIL...
WHAT TAIL?
TAIL... TAIL...
LET'S USE OUR STRENGTH!
LET'S BE FREE!

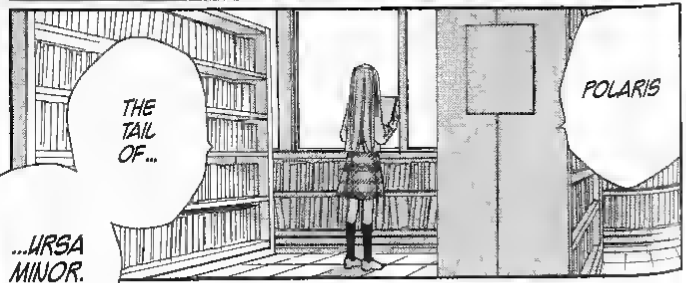

I WANT ONE.
OH, THE OTTER'S CUTE TOO AND THE FLYING SQUIRRELS
OH MY GOD MY HOROSCOPE FOR THIS WEK IS TERRIBLE
WHAT'S YOUR SIGN, RIKA?
IM SCORPIO
Just thinking about other things distracts me.
I don't have to think about...
..track or about him or about Kako.

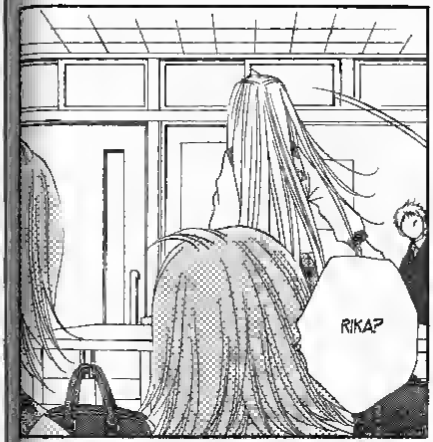

AND WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH TAIL?
THE NORTH STAR?
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT, RIKA? AN ANIMAL REFERENCE BOOK?
OH, YEAH.
OH, A MOUNTAIN CAT HOW CUTE
TAIL
TAIL...

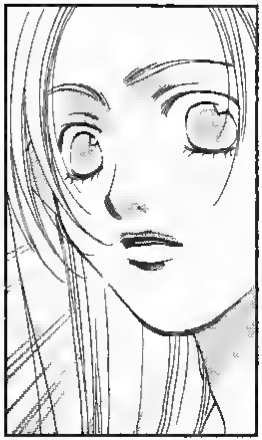


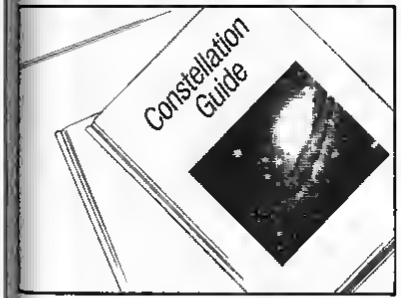

Spring Constellations

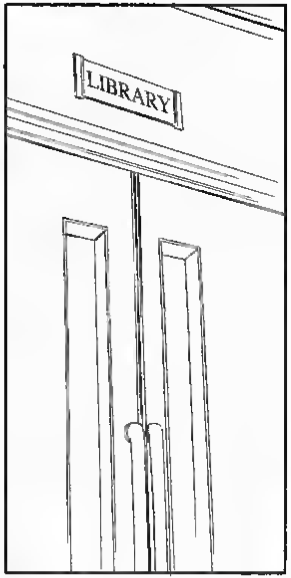

Cygnus
Cepheus
North Star
Ursa Minor
Ursa Major


THE TAIL OF...
...URSA MINOR.
POLARIS

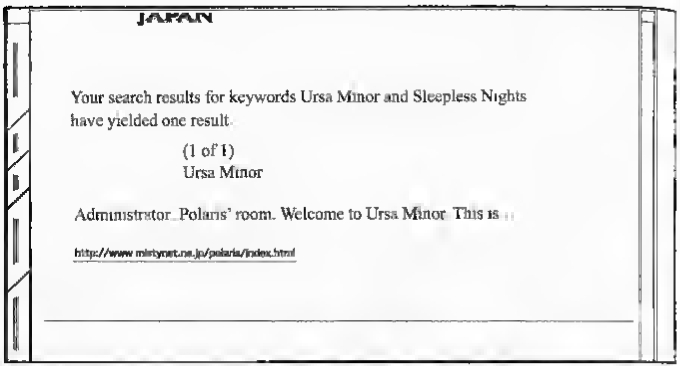

RIKA?



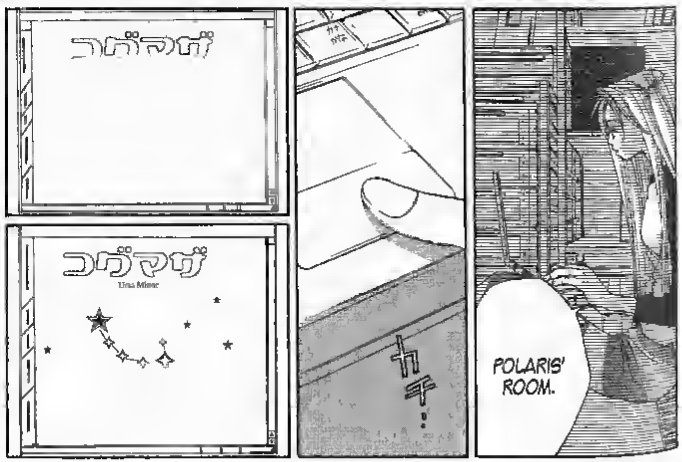

Constellation Guide

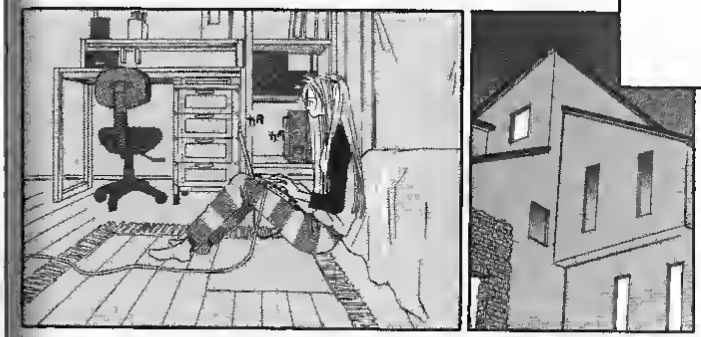

LIBRARY

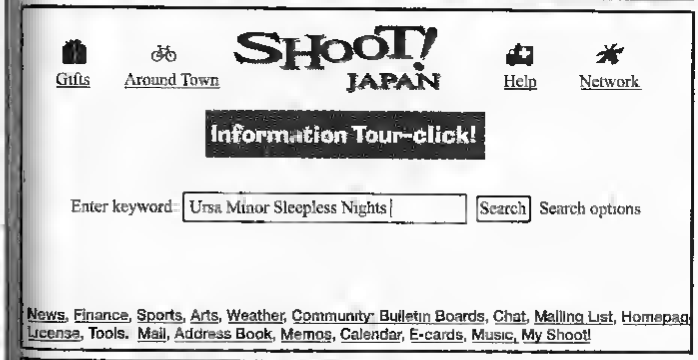

Constellation Guide

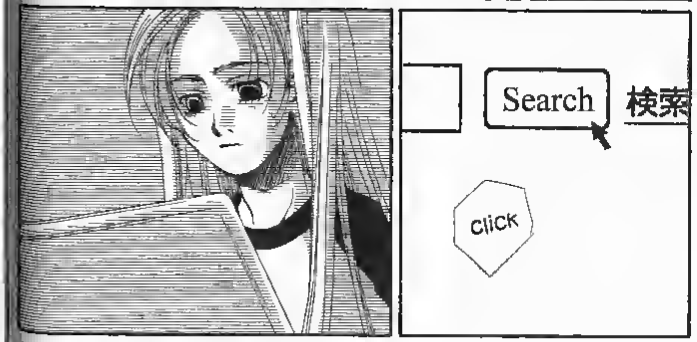

JAPAN
Your search results for keywords Ursa Minor and Sleepless Nights have yielded one result.
(1 of 1)
Ursa Minor
Administrator: Polaris' room. Welcome to Ursa Minor. This is
http://www.mintynet.ne.jp/polaris/index.html


Polaris' room...


コグマザ
コグマザ
Ursa Minor
POLARIS' ROOM.




Gifts
Around Town
SHOOT! JAPAN
Help
Network
Information Tour-click!
Enter keyword: Ursa Minor Sleepless Nights
Search
Search options
News, Finance, Sports, Arts, Weather, Community: Bulletin Boards, Chat, Mailing List, Homepage, License, Tools, Mail, Address Book, Memos, Calendar, E-cards, Music, My Shoot!

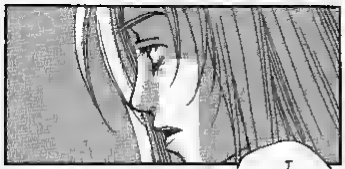

Search
検索
click

Those of you who cannot sleep, please enter

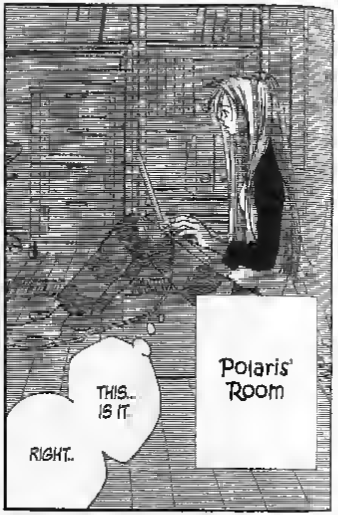
But you may be barred from entering at the webmaster's discretion

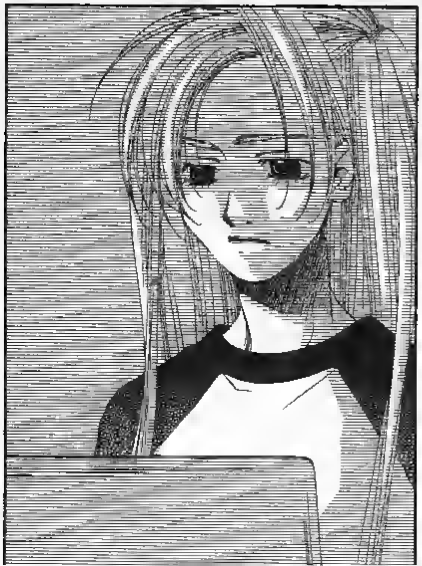
Please be aware of this

To enter the chat room, please enter your user name

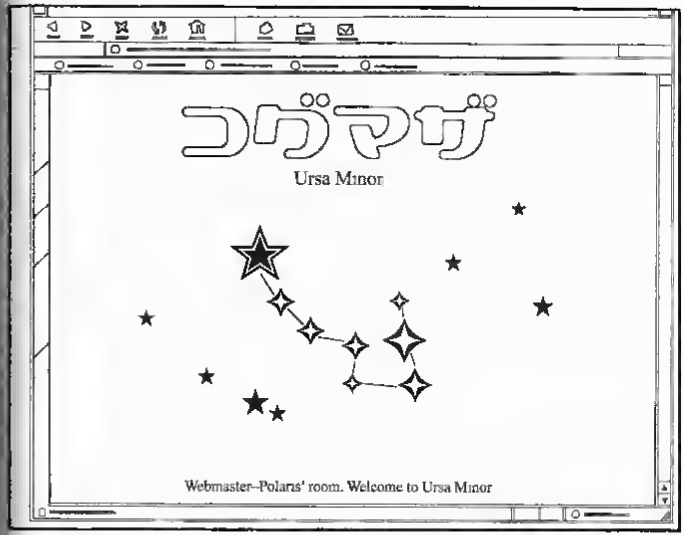












Webmaster–Polaris' room Welcome to Ursa Minor

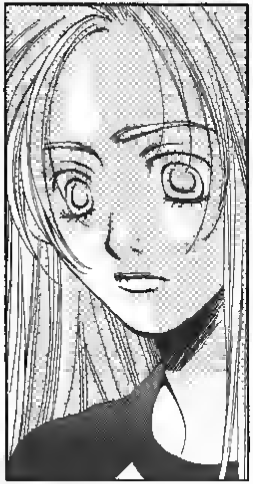
This is a chat room only site.
Those of you who cannot sleep, please enter.

But you may be barred from entering at the webmaster's discretion.

Please be aware of this.

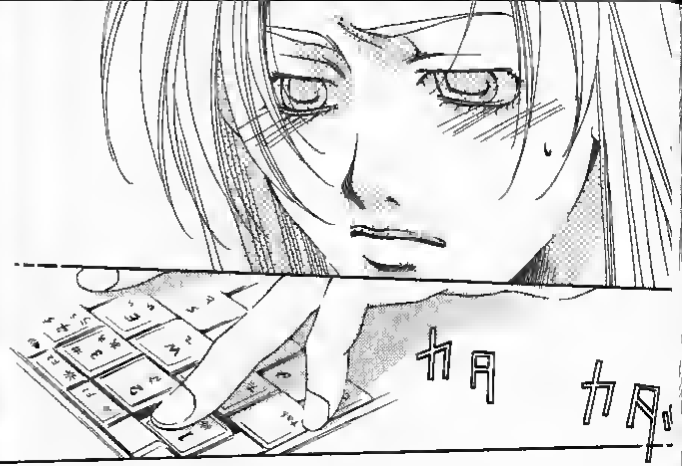
To enter the chat room, please enter your user name

polaris@mistymat.ne.jp



ex.2





To enter the chat room, please enter your user name.

11 Enter

ease enter your user name.

Enter

stynet.ne.jp

ex 1/end

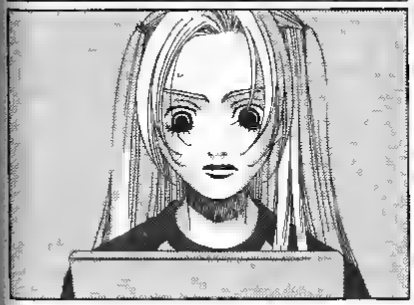
Polaris: What else? I want to see more, Jangalian.
Jangalian: Bear.
Jangalian: There are these too. Woof, woof. Meow, meow.
Jangalian: Oink!
Mr. Money: Ha ha ha! Funny!!

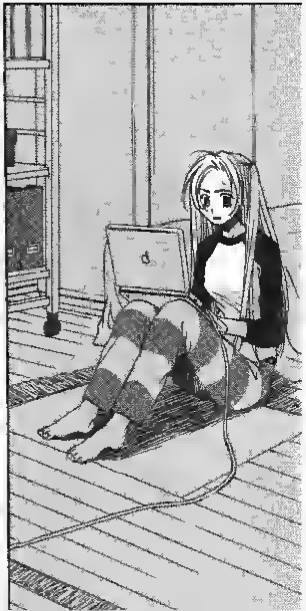
<<11 has entered the chat room >>

Enter

da-ling

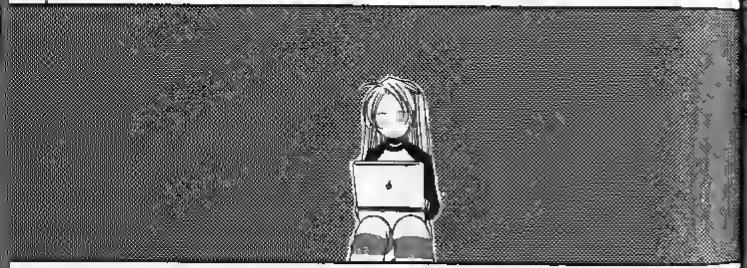
<<11 has entered the chat room >>
Polaris: You're so cute, Jangalian.
Jangalian: Hey... a guest.
Mr. Money: Hey.
Polaris: Heeey!





Mr. Money: Hey.
Polaris: Heeey!
Polaris: Welcome, 11.
Mr. Money: Welcooome, 11.
Jangalian: Welcome.

Ente







Jangalian: Welcome.
11: Hello...
Polaris: You were able to find
Mr. Money: Good job finding
Jangalian: C-o-n-g-r-a-t-s!

Polaris: I put restrictions on this chat room.
Polaris: Meaning, no one other than 11,
Mr. Money and Jangalian can come in here--
even if they find it.

Enter

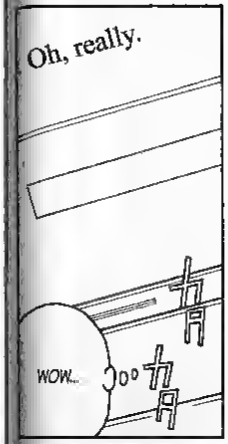
even if they find it.
Mr. Money: Were we picked by you? Ha ha ha.
Polaris: Right. I don't want to be harassed
by people who piss me off.
Jangalian: Thank you!
11: Me too? Does that mean you picked me too?



11: Me too? Does that mean you picked me too?
Polaris: Of course! You're the one who said it first.

Enter



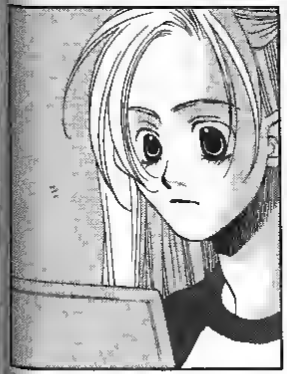


Jangalian: C-o-n-g-r-a-t-s!
11: When did Mr. Money
and Jangalian come to the
chat room?
Mr. Money: That same night.
Polaris: I was so happy they
both found me right away.
Jangalian: Heh heh heh.

I don't know...

I was imagining something more...

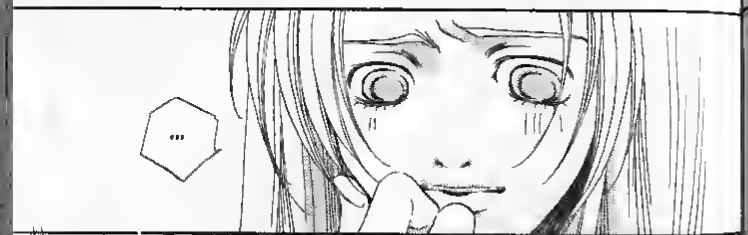


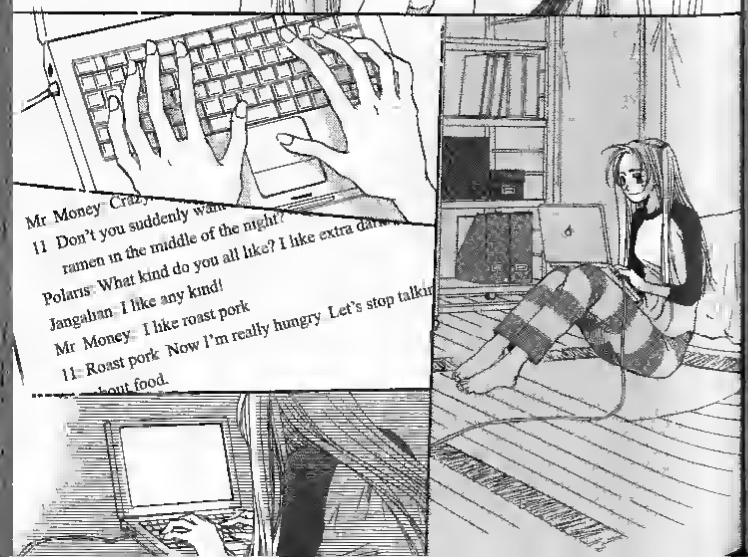


Mr. Money: This makes the third person.
Mr. Money: Maybe there'll be more.
Polaris: There won't be any more.
Mr. Money: What?
Jangalian: Why not?

REMEMBER WHAT THEY WERE SAYING...
ABOUT THE SCHOOL?

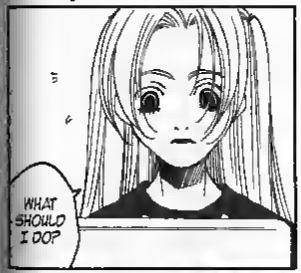


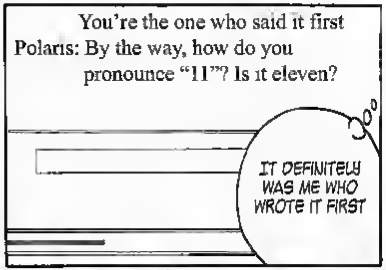


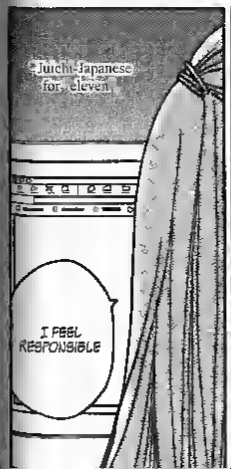


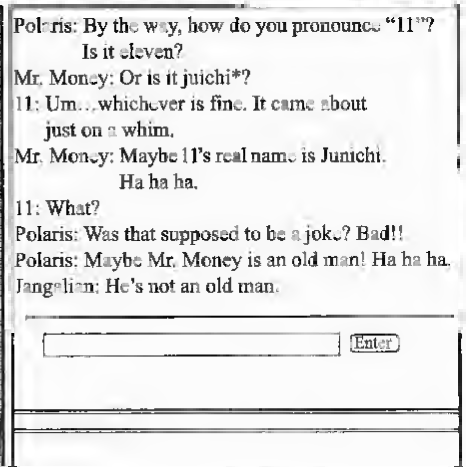
You're the one who said it first.





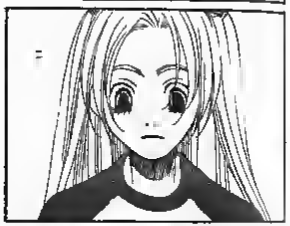


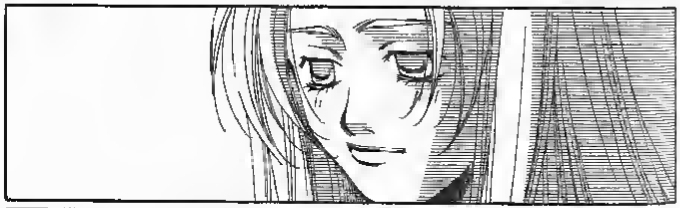




Polaris: Oh! 11!
11: What?
Polaris: Thank you so much for coming.
I was really happy you

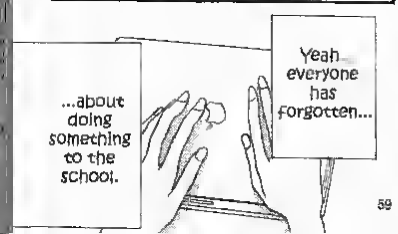
<<Mr. Money has left the roo
11: Okay, see you. Good night.
Polaris: Oh! 11!







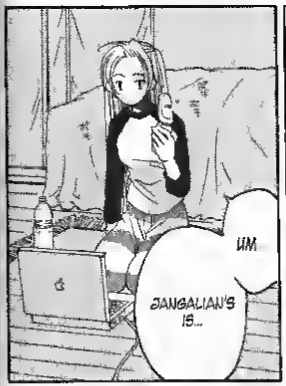




Polaris: Jubital's new song comes out tomo
Jangalian: Jubital??
Mr. Money: You mean Jupiter's Tale? You
Polaris: I love them!!! They're awesome.





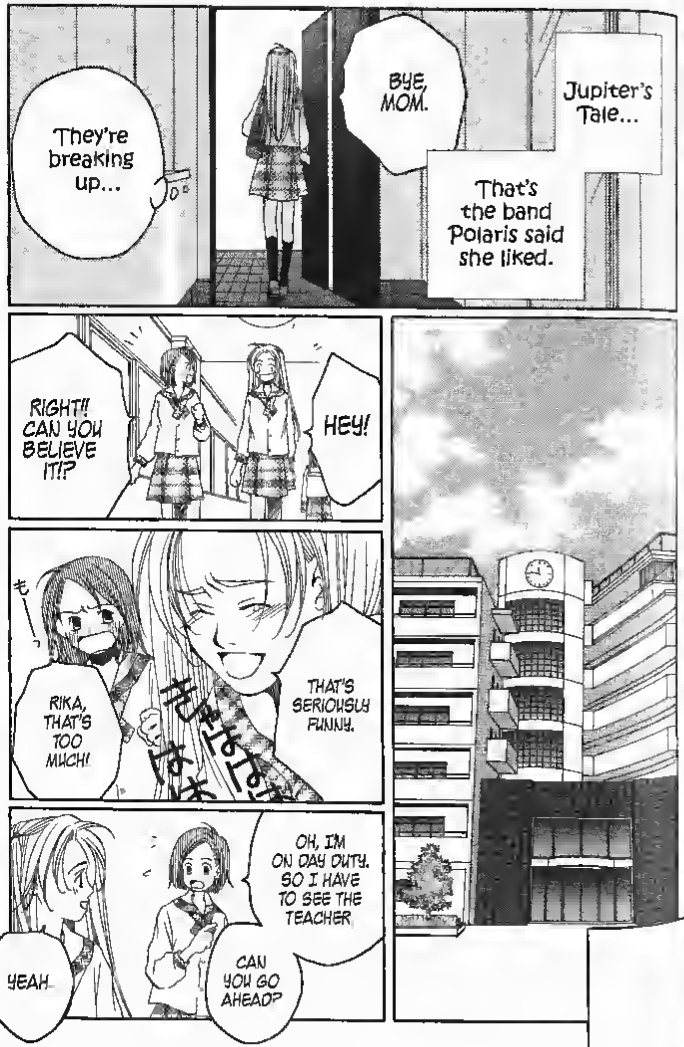


Jangalian: Whoa. It's almost 2:00 in the morning.
Mr. Money: Oh, I better get to sleep.
Polaris: Me too. Okay.
Polaris: Oh! Wait! Let's exchange phone numbers for text messaging!
Jangalian: Okay.
Mr. Money: Yeah, hold on a second.
Polaris: I'm putting it out. Ready?

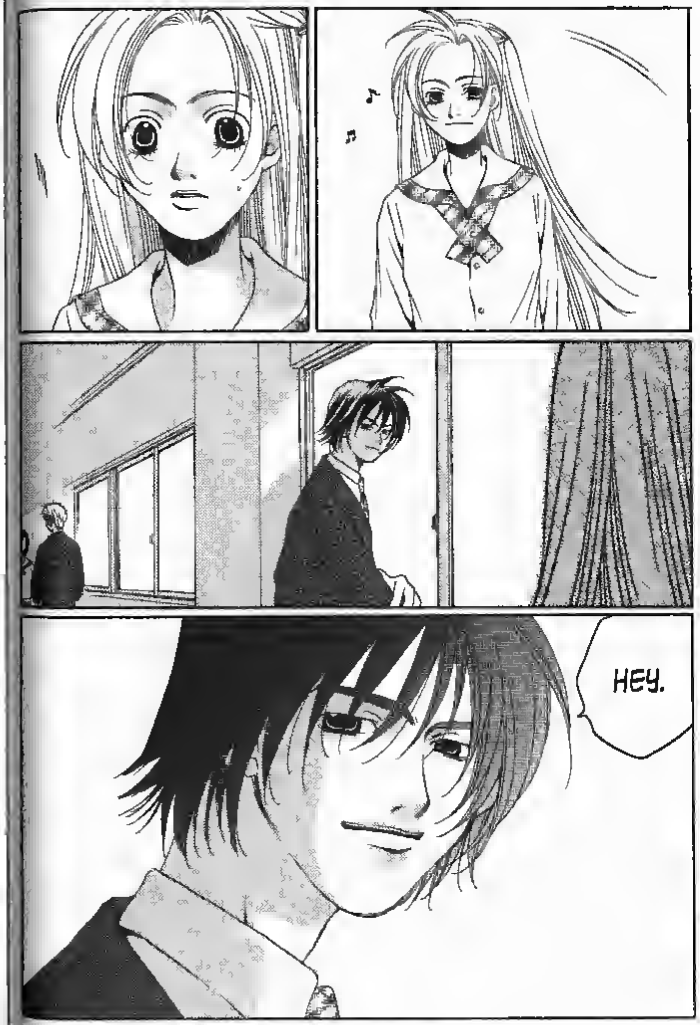
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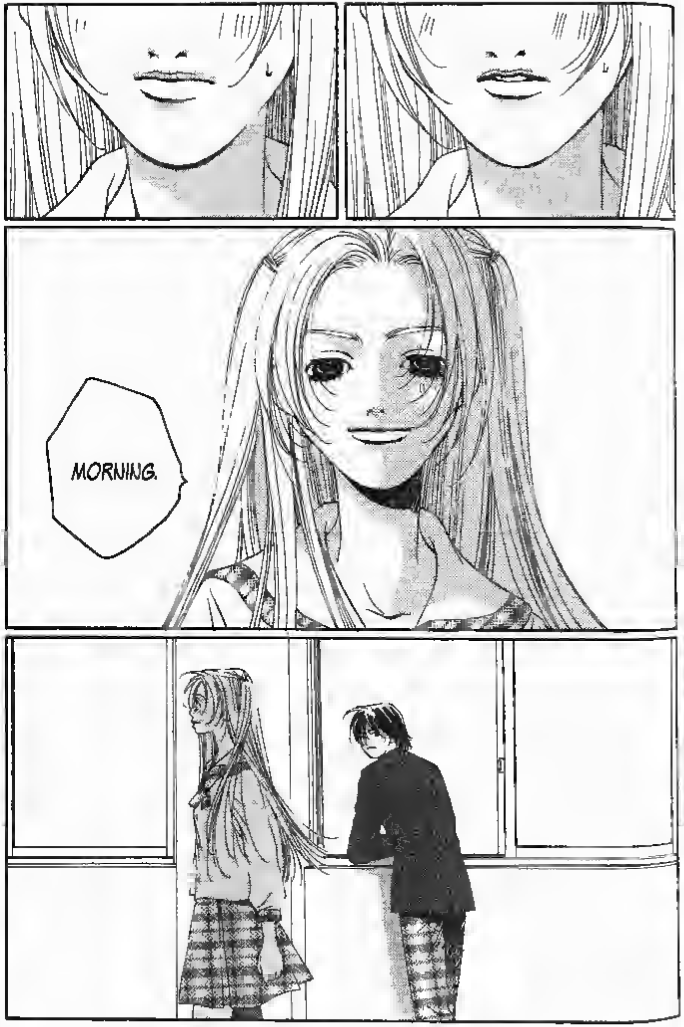
Jangalian: G-n-i-g-h-t. See you.
Mr. Money: Good night.
Polaris: Good night. See you.

<<Jangalian has left the room >>
<<Mr. Money has left the room >>


They're breaking up...
BYE, MOM.
Jupiter's Tale...
That's the band Polaris said she liked.
RIGHT!! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT!?
HEY!
RIKA, THAT'S TOO MUCH!
THAT'S SERIOUSLY FUNNY.
OH, I'M ON DAY DUTY. SO I HAVE TO SEE THE TEACHER.
YEAH.
CAN YOU GO AHEAD?

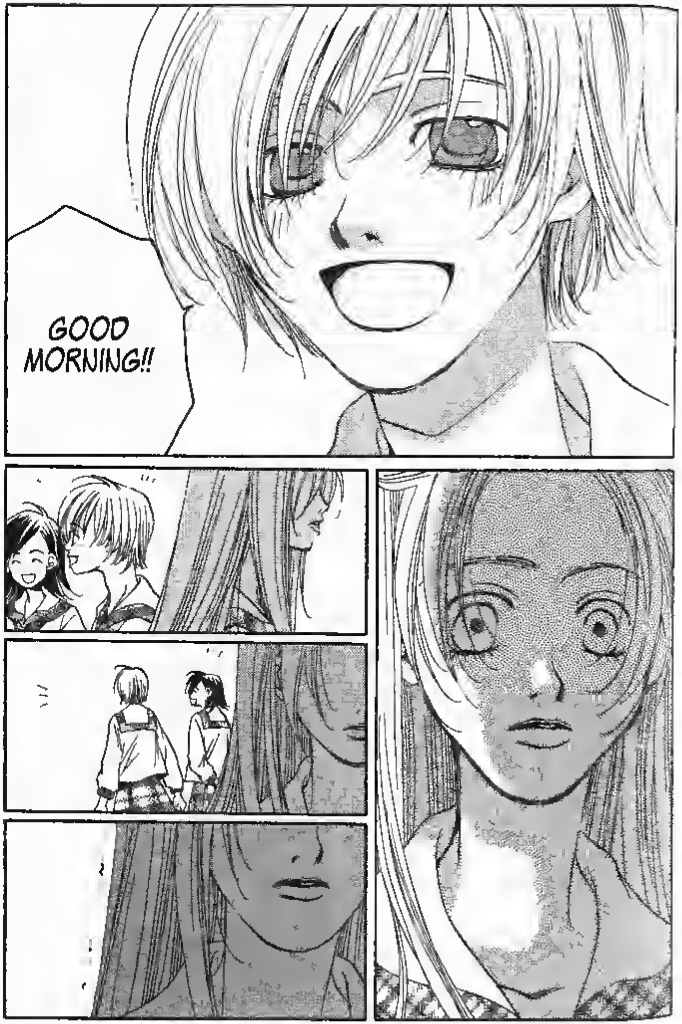

YOU'RE LATE YOU OVER-SLEPT.
I DIDN'T SLEEP ENOUGH.
AT LEAST HAVE SOME YOGURT OR SOMETHING!
"Our first news story is..."
World's Morning Entertainment News
Jupiter's Tale
電撃解散!!
"They have a new song coming out today. However, due to their sudden breakup,
"...Jupiter's Tale, a band popular with young people, has suddenly broken up!"
this will be their last single. Their fans are crushed."
Then why...
...did everyone...
...gather together at Ursa Minor?
RIKA!
HURRY UP!

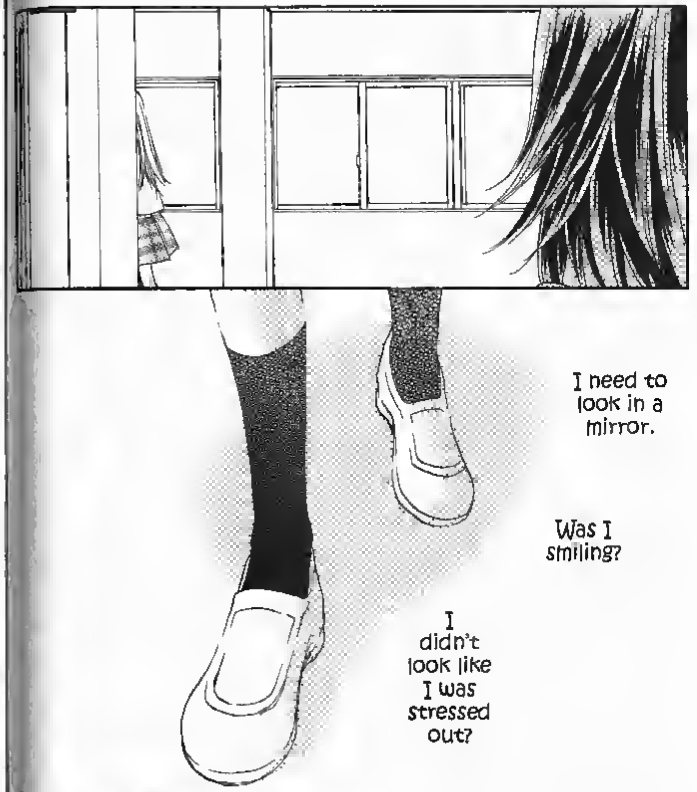

HEY.


MORNING.

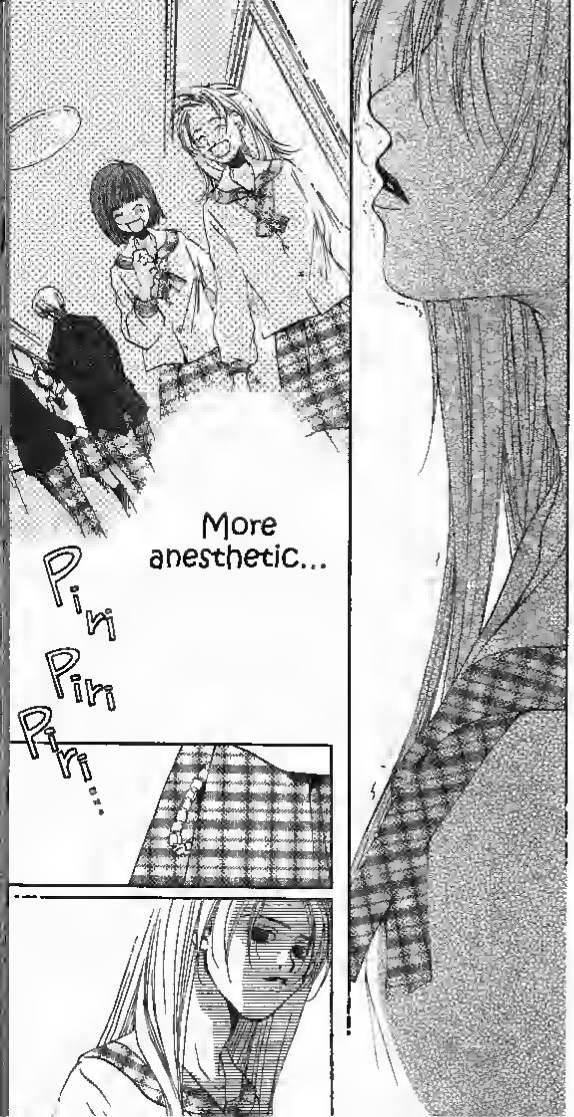

YOU'RE DOING WELL WITH YOUR NEW GIRLFRIEND, AREN'T YOU?
THE SAME GOES FOR YOU
WELL, YEAH, ACTUALLY...


WHY DO YOU CARE?
I AM GOOD
YOU LOOK GOOD.
I WOULDN'T MIND SEEING YOU A LITTLE BUMMED OUT
WELL, AS THE GUY WHO BROKE UP WITH YOU...
YOU'RE PRETTY COLD THAT WAY.
BUT I GUESS THAT WOULDN'T HAPPEN.


GOOD MORNING!!

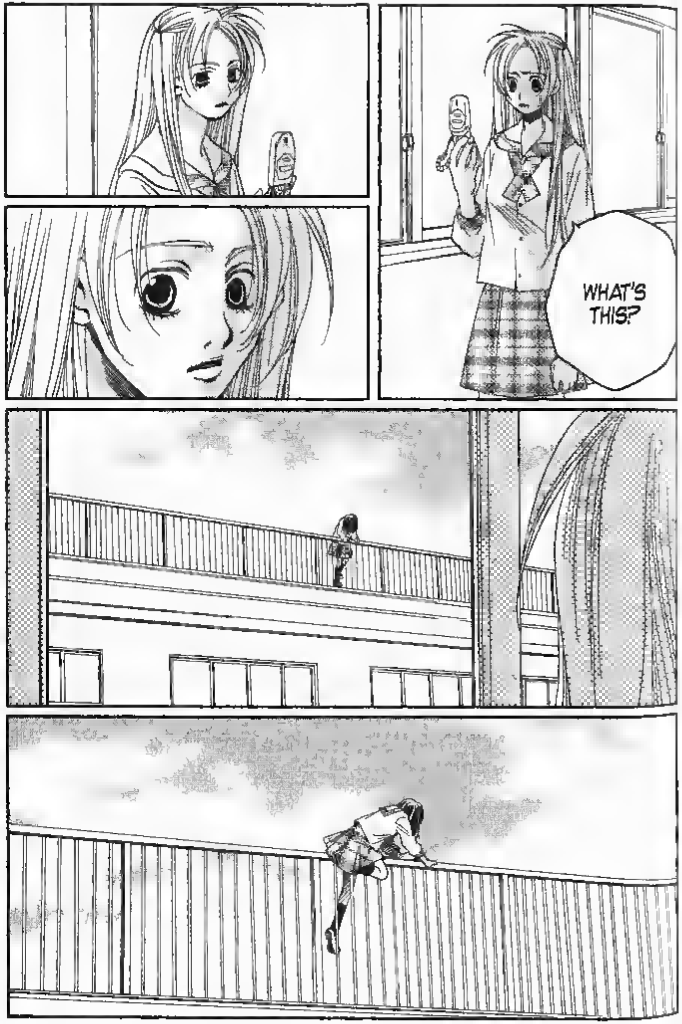

I need to look in a mirror.
Was I smiling?
I didn't look like I was stressed out?


Because I'm already...
HEY, RIKA.

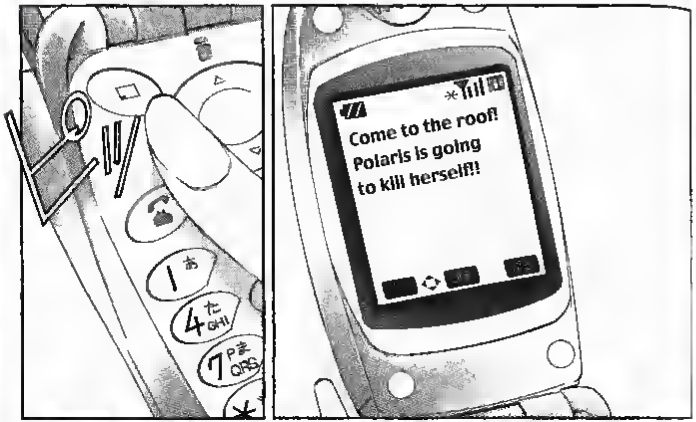


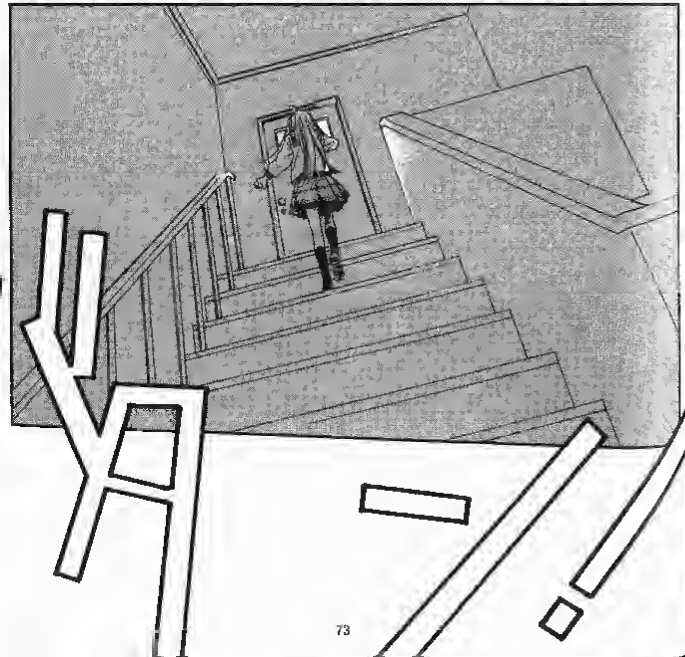
I need more anesthetic.

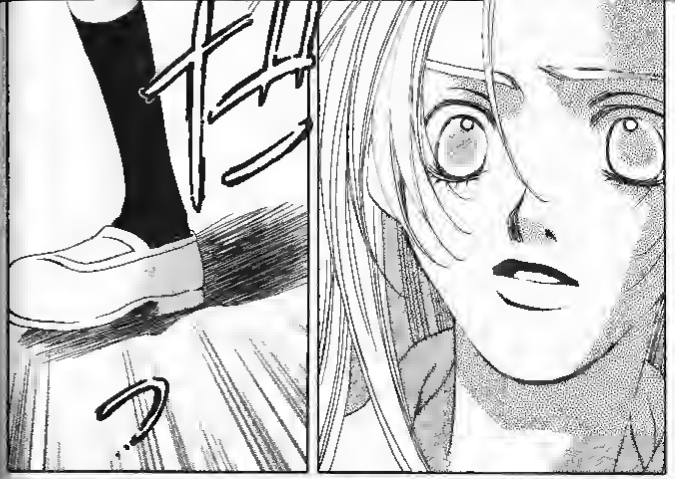


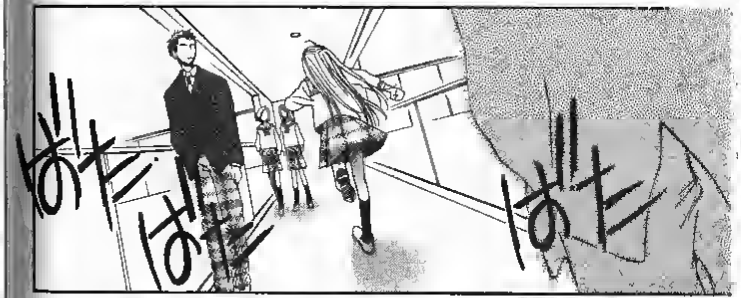

WHAT'S THIS?

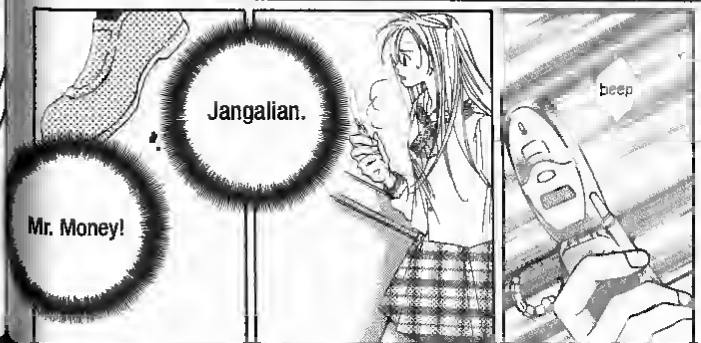

You have a message from Polaris.
A MESSAGE.
IT'S FROM POLARIS
What?
Sorry.
I can't go
on anymore.
Thanks for last night
Goodbye.


Come to the roof!
Polaris is going
to kill herself!!





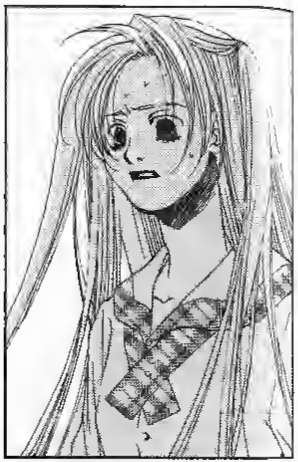



Jangalian.
Mr. Money!
beep

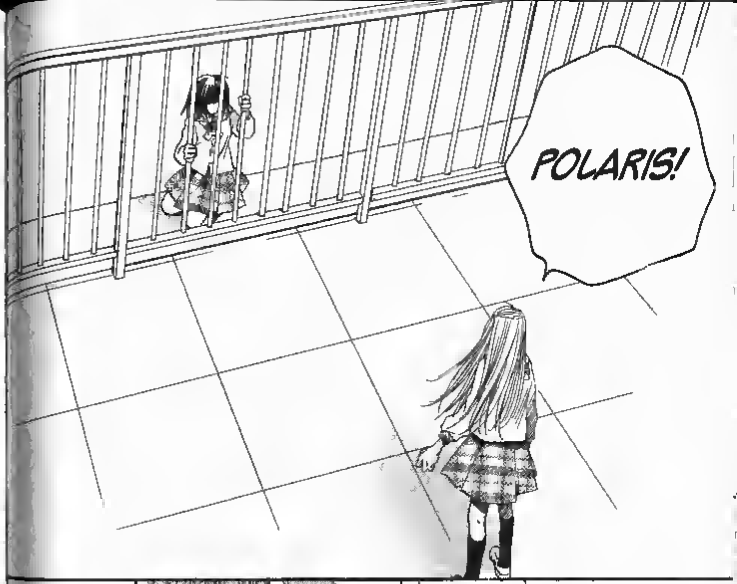

DID WE EVER TALK?
HER NAME IS... UM
I think she was in my class as a sophomore.
She's in my grade.
Her name...



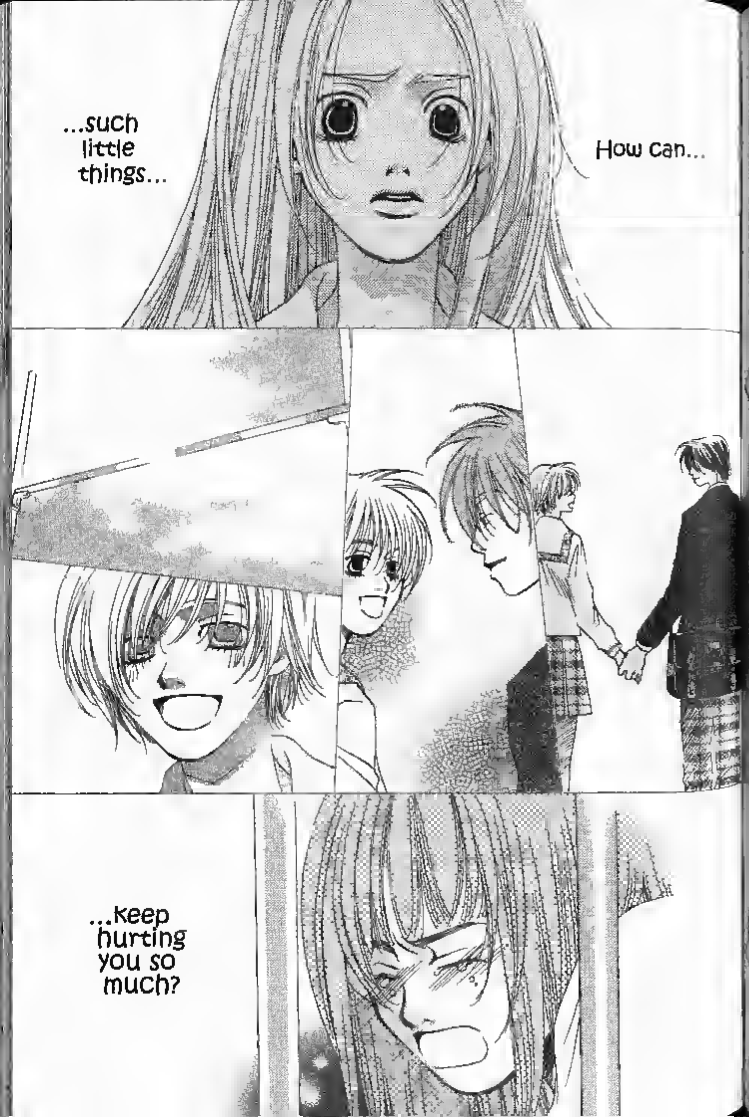

NO, DON'T COME NEAR!
NO, LET ME GO!!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! STOP IT!!!




I CAN'T TAKE IT!! I DON'T WANT TO LIVE ANYMORE!!!
NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY...
ONLY BAD THINGS HAPPEN IN THIS WORLD!!!

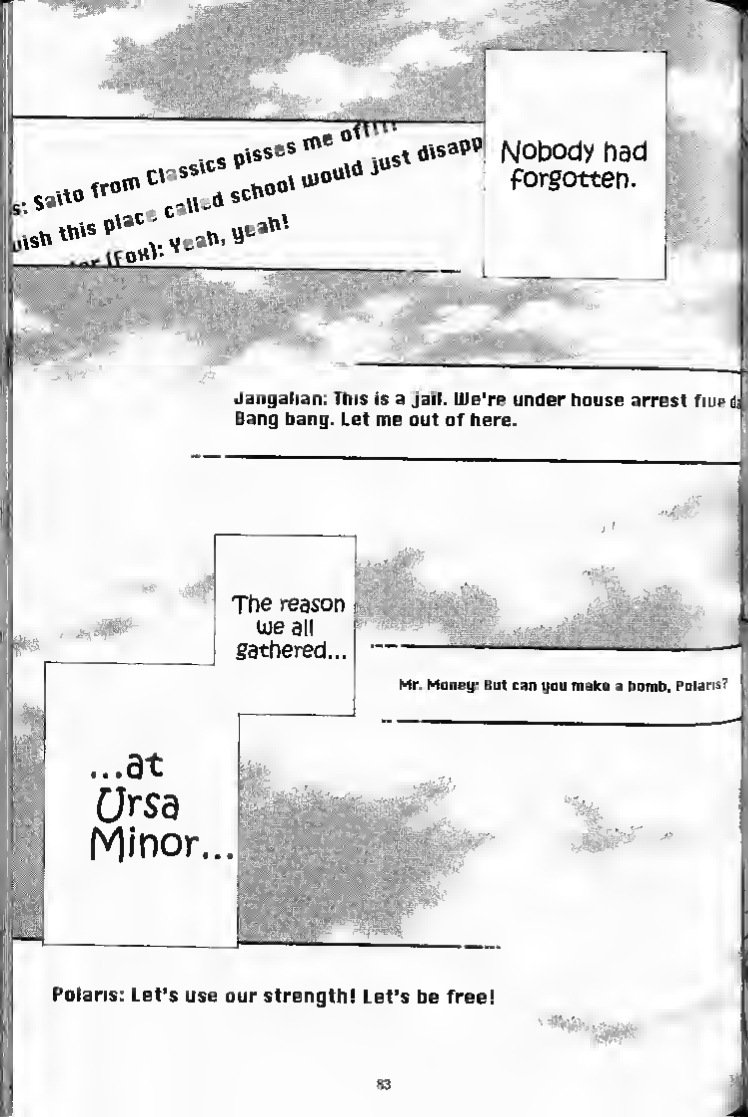

POLARIS!

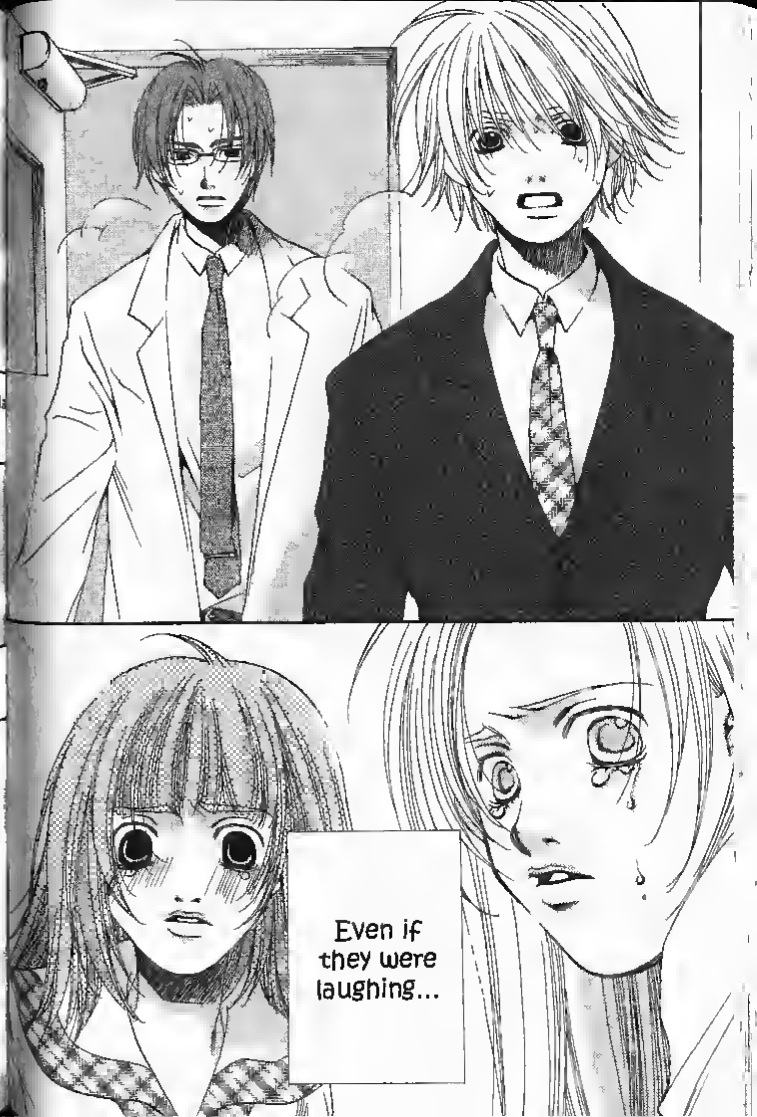

11!


...such little things...
How can...
...keep hurting you so much?


THE WATCH THAT I LOVED BROKE!
JUPITER'S TALE IS BREAKING UP!!
I DON'T WANT TO BE ON THE RUSH HOUR TRAIN ANYMORE!!
A GIRL SITTING ACROSS FROM ME LOOKED AT ME AND LAUGHED!
I GOT INTO ANOTHER FIGHT WITH MY FATHER THIS MORNING!
I DON'T WANT TO LIVE ANYMORE!!
DON'T!
IT'S NOT LIKE ANYONE'S GOING TO BE HAPPY JUST BECAUSE I...


I CAN'T TAKE IT...
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE EITHER!
I know that feeling too.
THEN...
WAIT! 11?!
I WON'T LIVE ANYMORE EITHER!!!
I'M GOING TO JUMP TOO!!
11?!
THEN I'M GOING TO DO IT TOO!!!

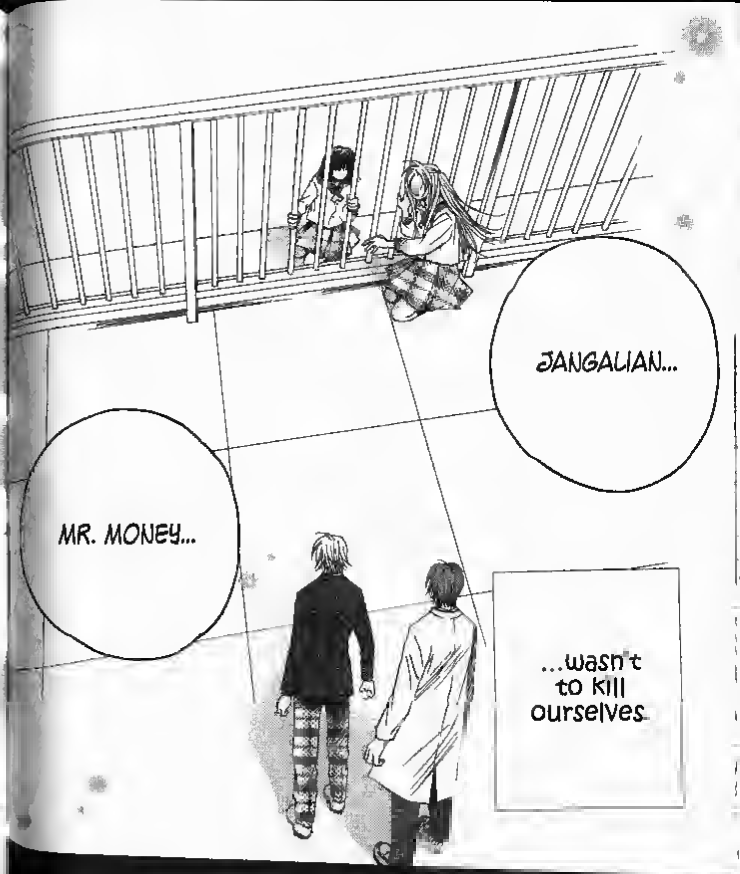

s: Saito from Classics pisses me off!!!!
uish this place called school would just disapp
tor (Fox): Yeah, yeah!
Nobody had forgotten.
Jangalian: This is a jail. We're under house arrest five d
Bang bang. Let me out of here.
The reason we all gathered...
...at Ursa Minor...
Mr. Money: But can you make a bomb, Polaris?
Polaris: Let's use our strength! Let's be free!


Even if they were laughing...

ex.3

The wind blew...

...and someone said...



It was to destroy this world.


Every day is filled with stuff I can't take, but...
It might have been me who said it.
It might have been someone else.
...at that moment...


Let's make the plan happen.





...I think everyone was thinking the same thing.

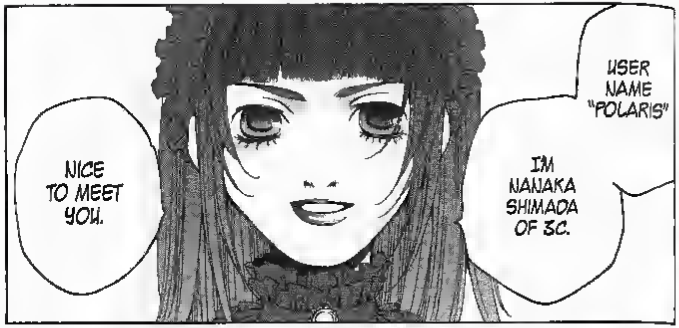
Until that day...

...X-Day...

...let's keep going.


WHAT IS POLARIS THINKING?
HAVING A MEETING AT A FAMILY RESTAURANT?
NO.
POLARIS ISN'T HERE YET?
HEY!
HELLO.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO IN THIS MEETING?
WHO KNOWS..
I'M HERE.
OH, POLARIS
...

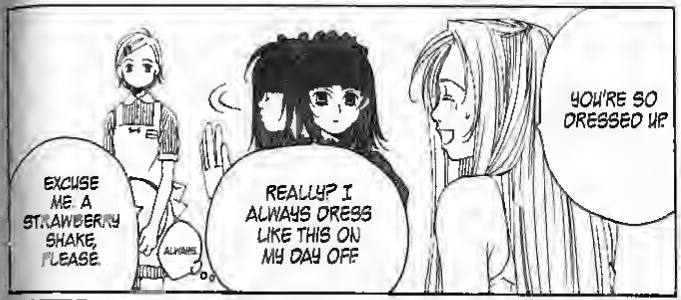

Y-YEAH
CAN I SIT HERE?
SORRY I'M LATE.
UH..
NOTHING...
WHAT?

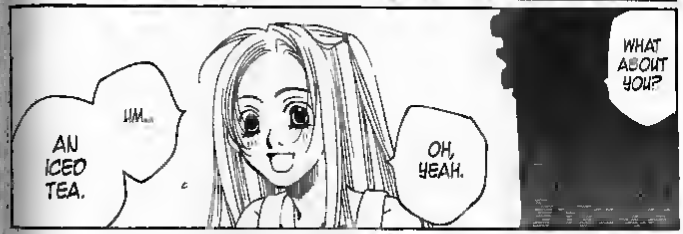

USER NAME "POLARIS"
I'M NANAKA SHIMADA OF 3C.
NICE TO MEET YOU.


OH... I'M "I."
RIKA SAGINUMA OF 3A.
NICE TO MEET YOU.


I'M "MR MONEY" HOW EMBA-RASSING.
YUMIHIKO TSUKUMURA OF 2A.
I'M THE YOUNGEST OF US. NICE TO MEET YOU.


HUH?
WHAT?
THAT MEANS...?


YOU'RE SO DRESSED UP.
REALLY? I ALWAYS DRESS LIKE THIS ON MY DAY OFF
EXCUSE ME. A STRAWBERRY SHAKE, PLEASE.
ALWAYS

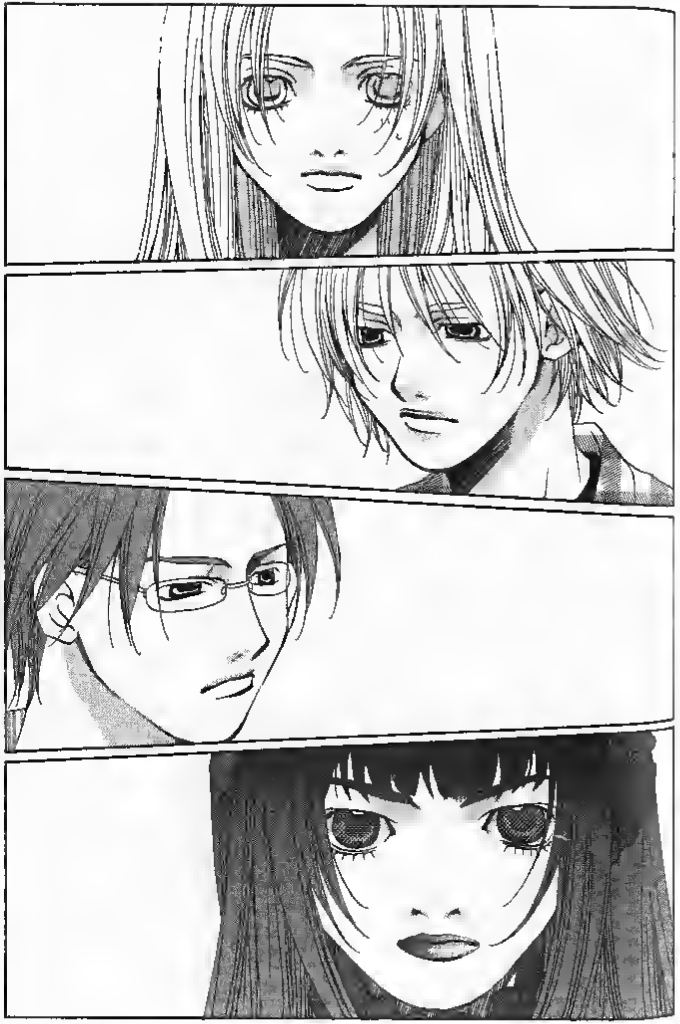

WHAT ABOUT YOU?
OH, YEAH.
UM... AN ICED TEA.

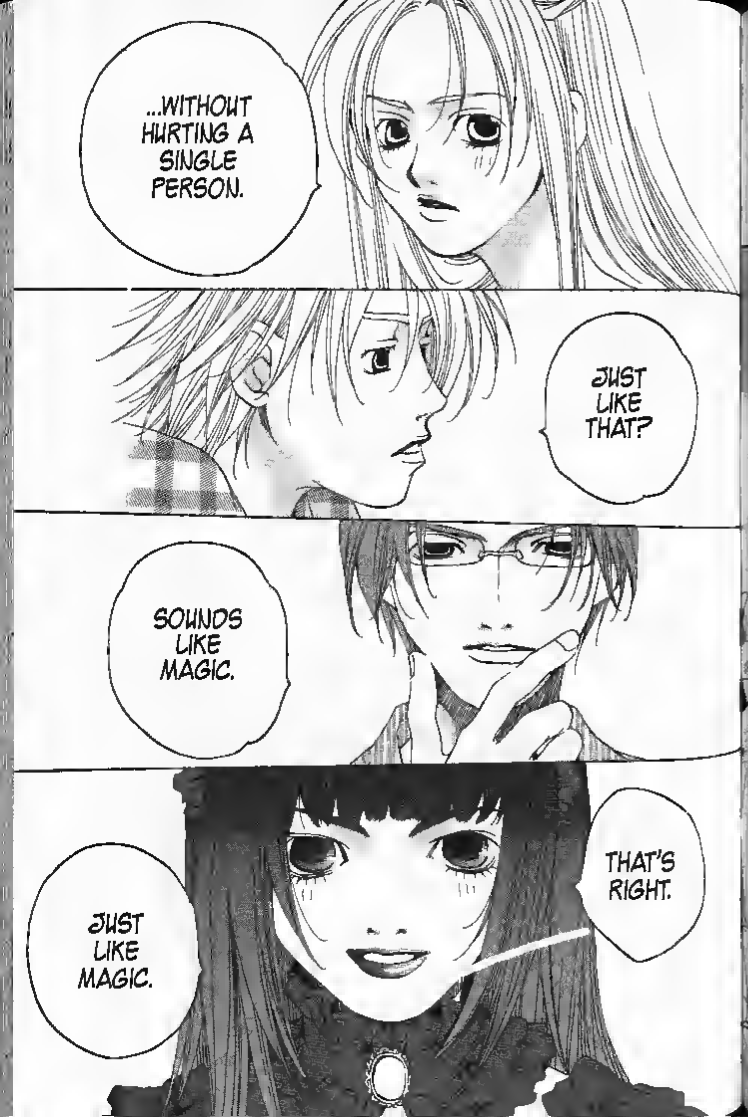

I thought...
...Polaris was shy and didn't say anything at school.
This is a totally different side of her.
OKAY
WELL, LET'S START WITH INTRODUCTIONS


I'M "JANGALIAN"
I KNOW YOU ALL KNOW ME... ..BUT I'M ALSO KNOWN AS REICHI KATANO, BIOLOGY TEACHER.
WHAAAT?!
☆☆ヾ(＊ˆ▽ˆ＊)〃〃☆☆
YOU'RE JANGALIAN?!
NO WAY I THOUGHT IT WAS THE OTHER WAY AROUND.
HEY, DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH IT?
..THE INTRODUCTIONS ARE OVER.
SO LET'S GET TO THE REAL TOPIC.
NOW...
I GUESS YOU CAN'T TELL HOW SOMEONE REALLY IS UNTIL YOU MEET FACE-TO-FACE
YOU SEEM SO DIFFERENT.


FIRST OF ALL...
..LET'S MAKE SURE WE'RE ALL THINKING THE SAME THING.
THE SAME THING?
RIGHT.
THE REASON WE'RE ALL HERE TODAY...
...IS TO BLOW UP THE SCHOOL.
RIGHT?

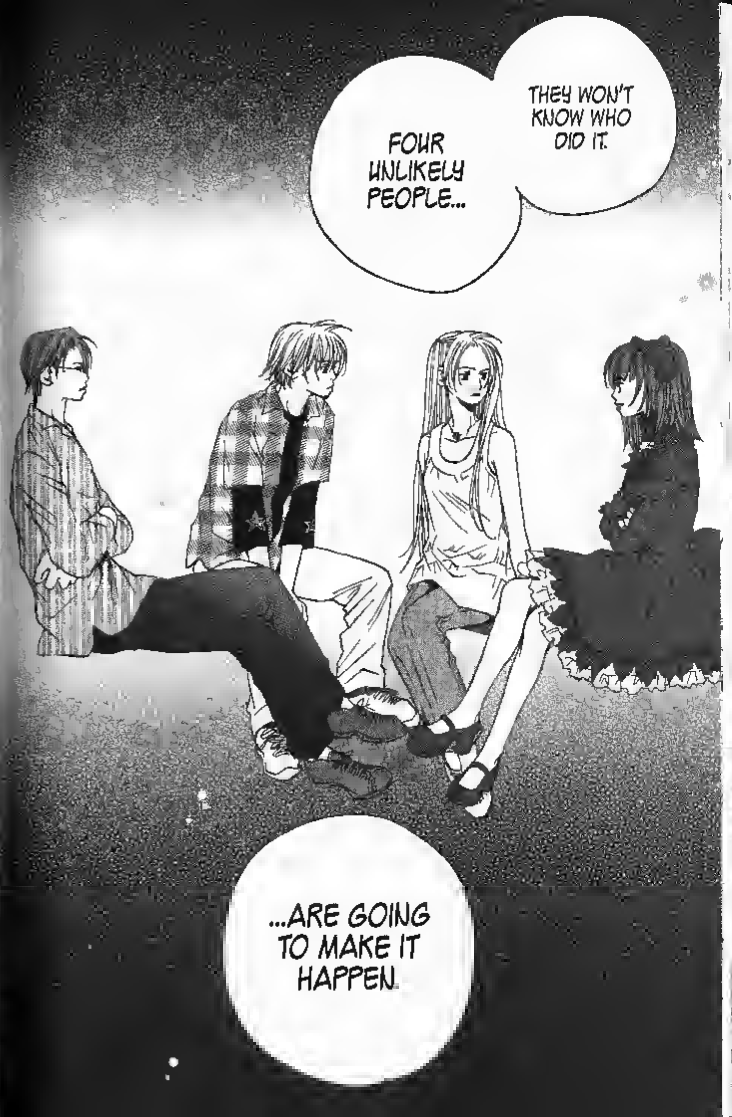

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EMERGENCY EXIT
HERE YOU GO.

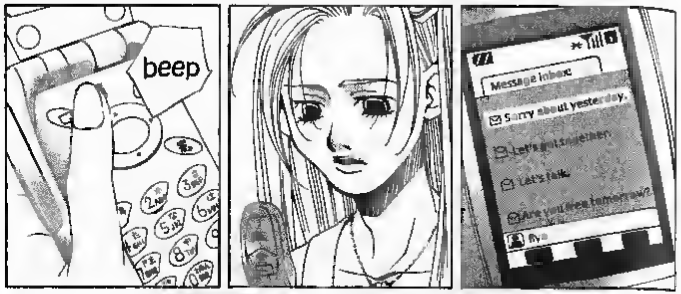



...WITHOUT HURTING A SINGLE PERSON.
JUST LIKE THAT?
SOUNDS LIKE MAGIC.
THAT'S RIGHT.
JUST LIKE MAGIC.


TRY TO IMAGINE IT.
ONE DAY WHEN EVERYONE GOES TO SCHOOL...
...IT'LL BE A MOUNTAIN OF RUBBLE.
THE PLACE WILL BE TOTALLY DESTROYED..


Piri Piri Piri
You have a message from Ryo.
I HAVE A MESSAGE.
OH, SORRY.
Tsu ru
W-WAIT, SORRY
.....


FOUR UNLIKELY PEOPLE...
THEY WON'T KNOW WHO DID IT.
...ARE GOING TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.


beep
Message Inbox
Sorry about yesterday.
Let's get together.
Let's talk.
Are you free tomorrow?


Sorry about yesterday, but Kako's the one I love. Don't think about it. I'll call you tonight.





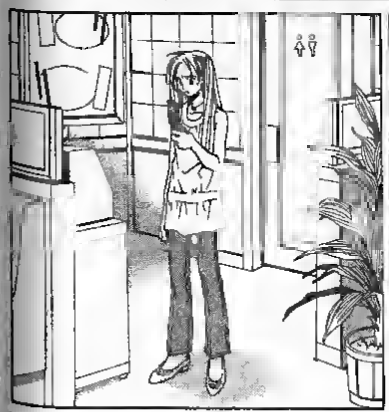



WHAT?
IM BUSY RIGHT NOW.
IT'S ME.
.....

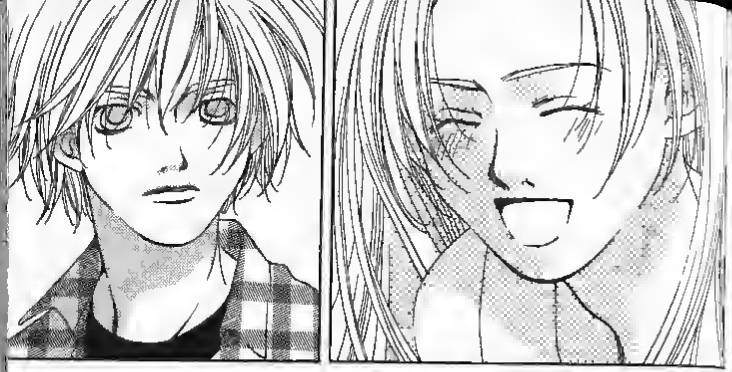

YEAH.
WHAT IS IT?
DID YOU JUST GET A MESSAGE?

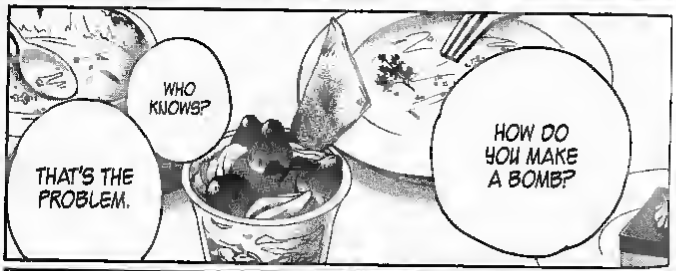

HEY, RIKA?
IT'S ME.

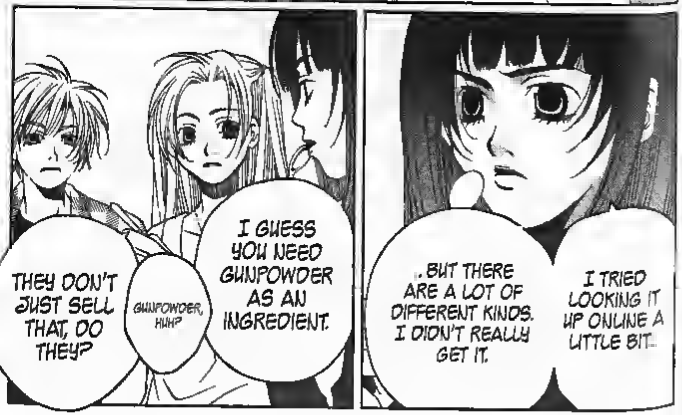

THAT WAS MEANT FOR SOMEONE ELSE.
SORRY!

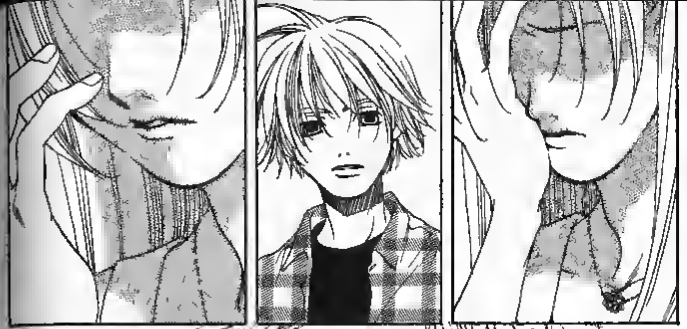


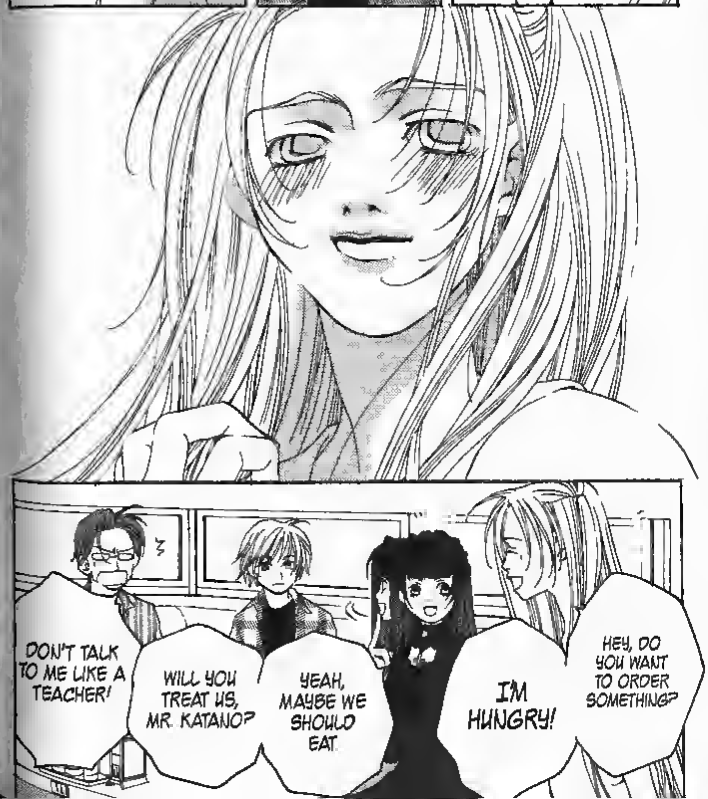

THAT'S ALL. SEE YOU.
WHAT?




WHO KNOWS?
THAT'S THE PROBLEM.
HOW DO YOU MAKE A BOMB?


THEY DON'T JUST SELL THAT, DO THEY?
GUNPOWDER, HUH?
I GUESS YOU NEED GUNPOWDER AS AN INGREDIENT.
.. BUT THERE ARE A LOT OF DIFFERENT KINDS. I DIDN'T REALLY GET IT.
I TRIED LOOKING IT UP ONLINE A LITTLE BIT.

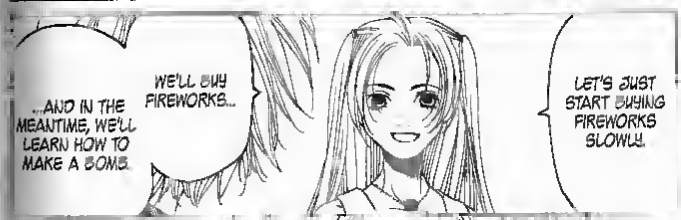



DON'T TALK TO ME LIKE A TEACHER!
WILL YOU TREAT US, MR. KATANO?
YEAH, MAYBE WE SHOULD EAT.
I'M HUNGRY!
HEY, DO YOU WANT TO ORDER SOMETHING?


LET'S DO IT!


DON'T YOU NEED A LOT OF GUNPOWDER TO BLOW UP THE SCHOOL?
FIREWORKS!

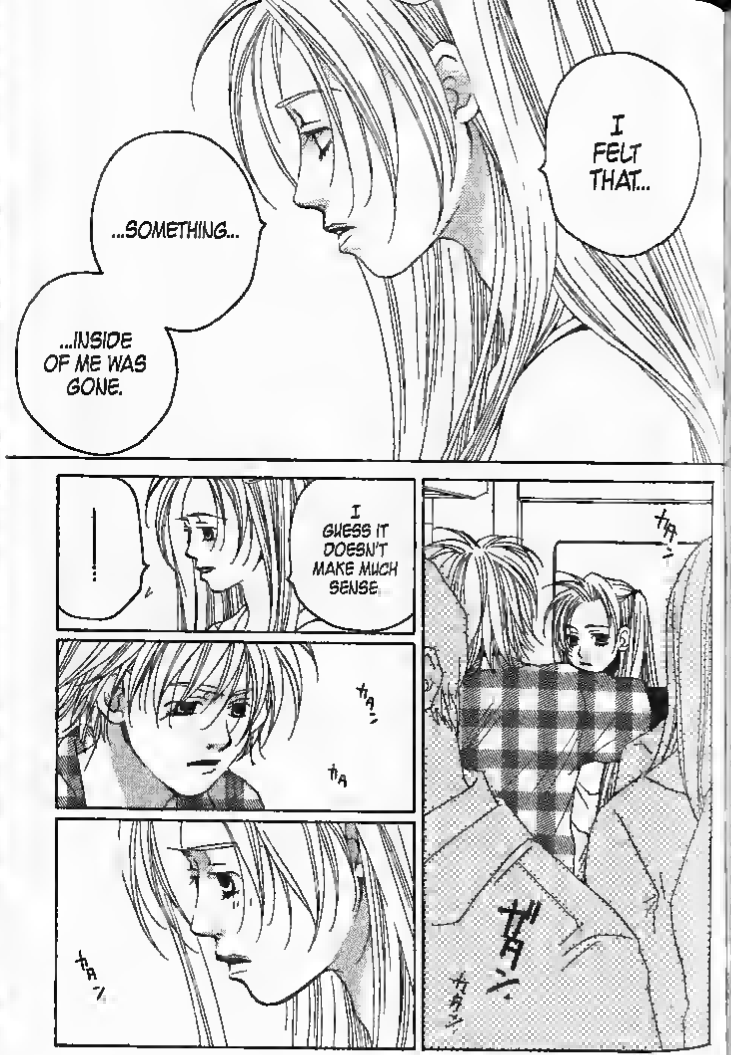

GUNPOWDER IS USED IN FIREWORKS.


...AND IN THE MEANTIME, WE'LL LEARN HOW TO MAKE A BOMB.
WE'LL BUY FIREWORKS...
LET'S JUST START BUYING FIREWORKS SLOWLY.


LET'S START THERE.
OKAY.


サタン
サタン
サタン
サタン
サタン
サタン
サタン
サタン
ちゅう

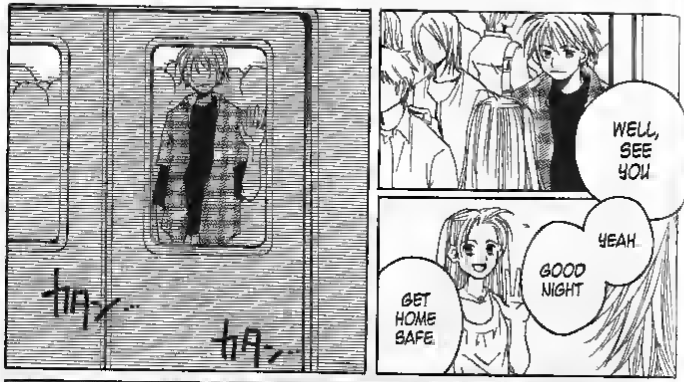

サタン
サタン
サタン
YOU REALLY JUMPED BEAUTIFULLY.
I REMEMBER.
THANKS.
I QUIT TRACK, THOUGH.
WHY?
I HURT MY LEG
I'VE SEEN YOU BEFORE.
YOU USED TO DO THE HIGH JUMP, RIGHT?

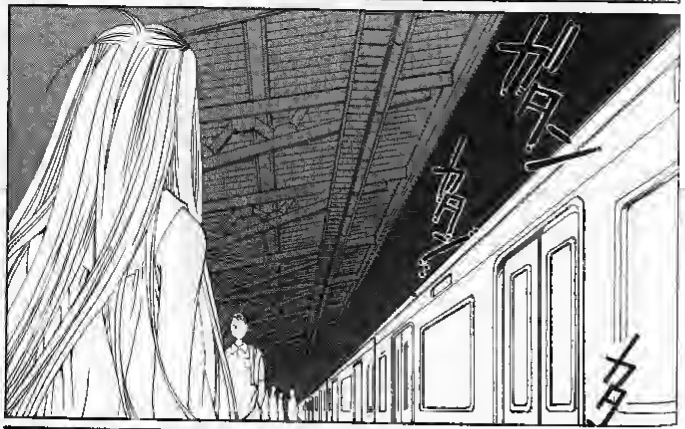

I FELT THAT...
...SOMETHING...
...INSIDE OF ME WAS GONE.
I GUESS IT DOESN'T MAKE MUCH SENSE.

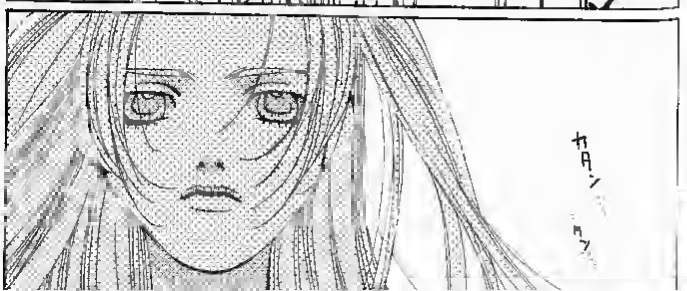

NO.
THE INJURY WASN'T THAT BIG OF A DEAL.
WERE YOU HURT BADLY?
...I FELT THAT SOMETHING HAD CHANGED.
WHEN I WENT BACK AND JUMPED AGAIN...
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN IT.
...OR EVEN THE PAIN I FELT AFTER I JUMPED.
..OR THAT I COULD START AGAIN WITH PRACTICE.
IT WASN'T THAT MY SENSES WERE AFFECTED FROM THE TIME OFF.


SOMEONE TAKES THEM.


...STARTED LIKING SOMEONE ELSE.
THIS GUY I WAS GOING OUT WITH..
.EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT ANYTHING LIKE THAT BEFORE.
.....
I HAD NEVER...
THINGS YOU LOSE...
...DON'T JUST DISAPPEAR INTO THIN AIR.


WELL, SEE YOU
YEAH
GOOD NIGHT
GET HOME SAFE.

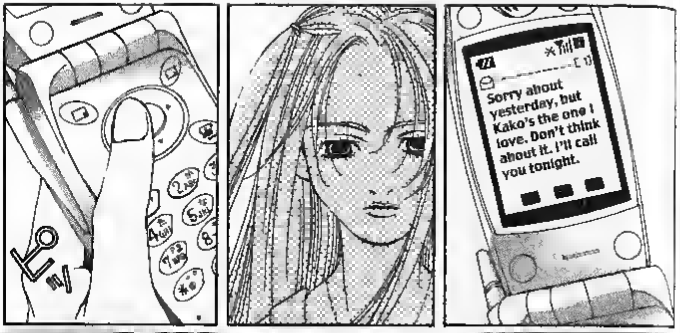




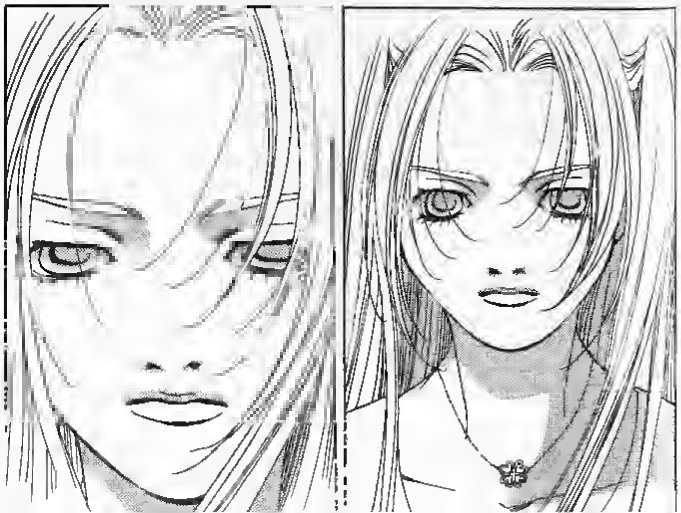

I'M BEING REALLY DEPRESSING
GOD, WHAT AM I SAYING?

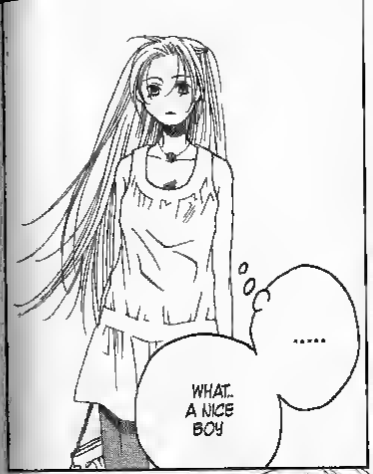

ICHIKEDAI..
THIS IS ICHIKEDAI.

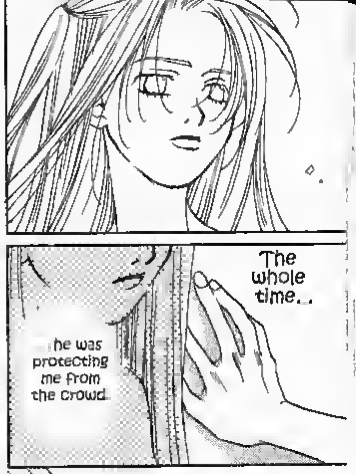


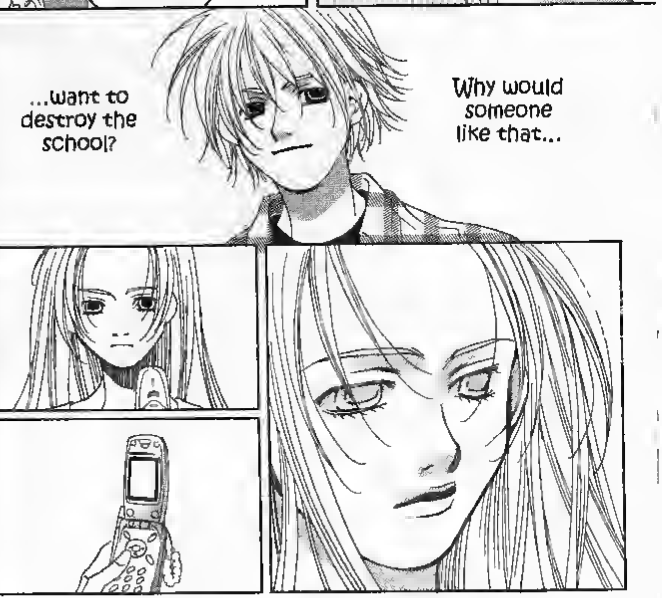

Sorry about yesterday, but Kako's the one I love. Don't think about it. I'll call you tonight.


Message deleted.




.....
WHAT. A NICE BOY


The whole time...
he was protecting me from the crowd.


...want to destroy the school?
Why would someone like that...

ex.4

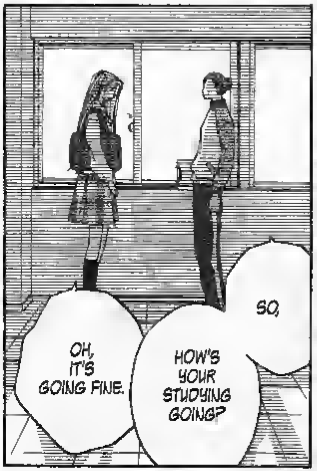


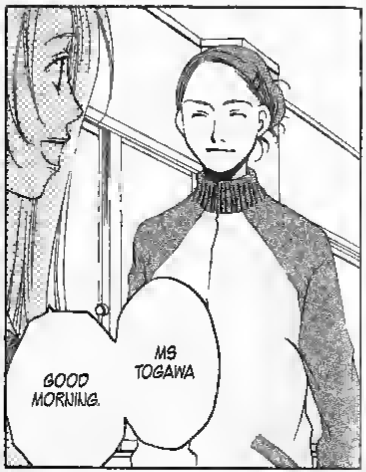
They weren't selling...

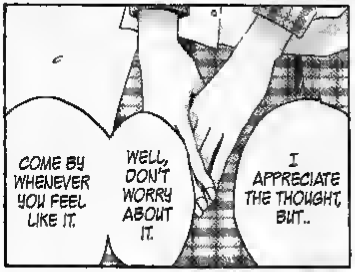
...fireworks yet.

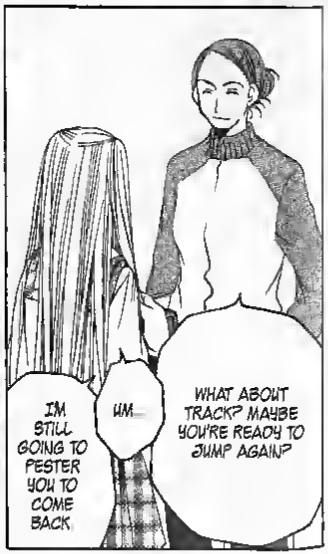


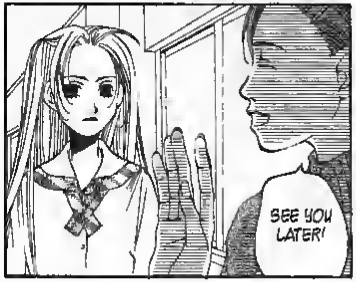
I stopped by three different mini-marts.


OH, IT'S GOING FINE.
SO, HOW'S YOUR STUDYING GOING?


GOOD MORNING.
MS TOGAWA


COME BY WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT.
WELL, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I APPRECIATE THE THOUGHT, BUT..


I'M STILL GOING TO PESTER YOU TO COME BACK.
UM...
WHAT ABOUT TRACK? MAYBE YOU'RE READY TO JUMP AGAIN?


SEE YOU LATER!

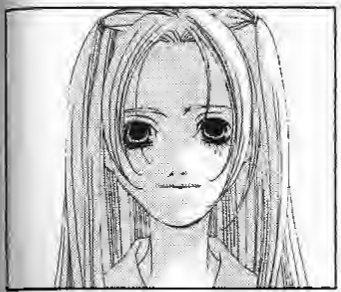

RIKA!

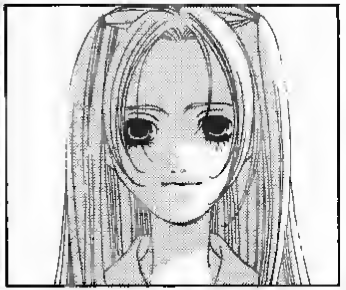

Shy and quiet.
Polaris


The anti-social biology teacher.
Jangalian

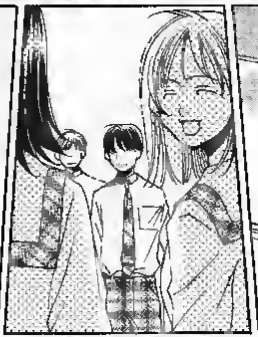

The friendly under-classman.
Mr. Money



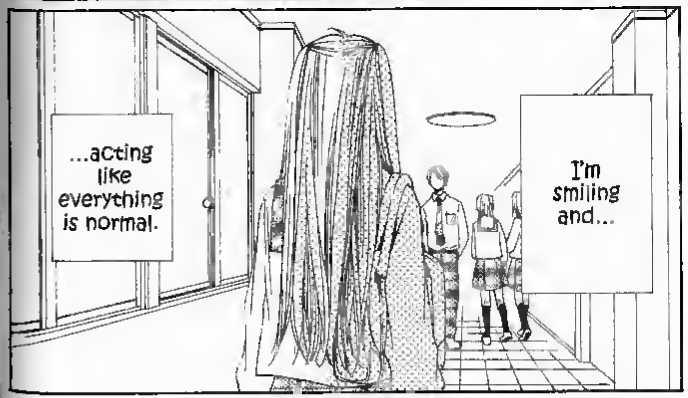


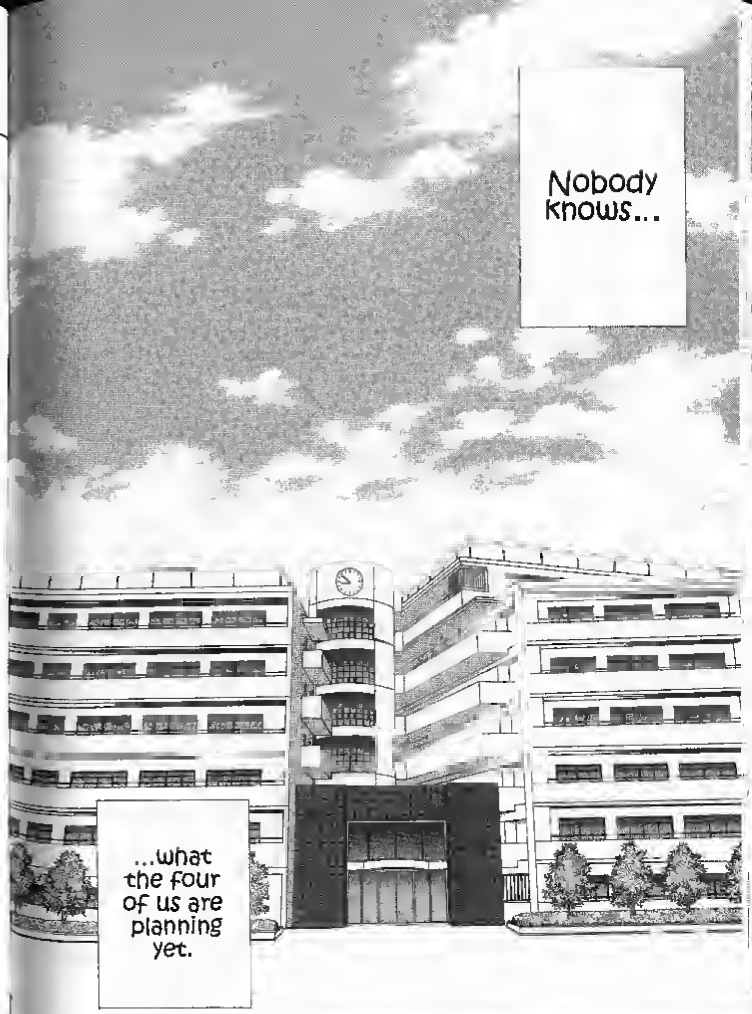






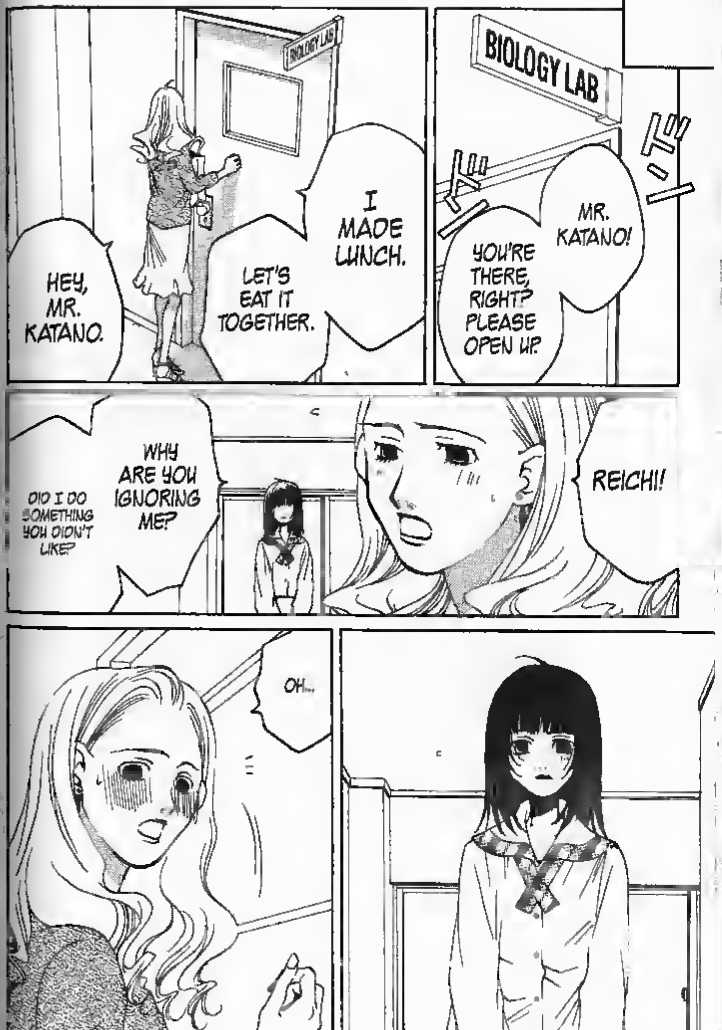



...acting like everything is normal.
I'm smiling and...


Nobody knows...
...what the four of us are planning yet.


WHAT DOES HE HAVE PLANNED FOR THE FACULTY MEETING TOMORROW?
IS MR KATANO STILL SAYING THAT?
BUT I'M SURE HE'S ULTIMATELY GOING TO GO WITH THE STRONGER SIDE.
HE KEEPS SAYING, "I DON'T LIKE TAKING SIDES!"
...IF HE'S ON THE PRINCIPAL'S OR THE CHANCELLOR'S SIDE.
HE REALLY NEEDS TO DECIDE...
.....
REALLY?!
I HEARD THEY'RE ENGAGED.
RIGHT.
BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, THE CHANCELLOR'S DAUGHTER.
MR KATANO'S ESSENTIALLY ON THE CHANCELLOR'S SIDE.


EXCUSE ME.
MR. KATANO?
.....
JANGALIAN.
.....

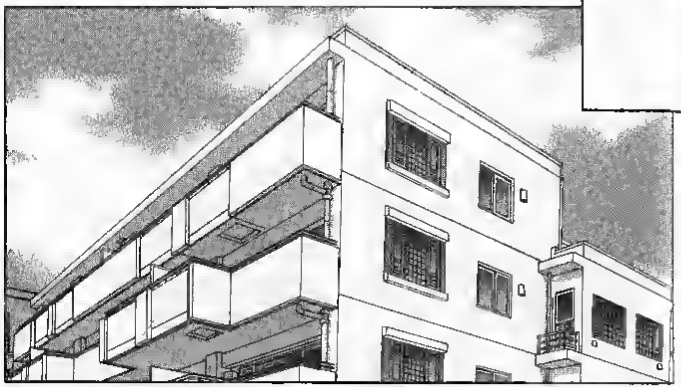

BIOLOGY LAB
HEY, MR. KATANO.
I MADE LUNCH.
LET'S EAT IT TOGETHER.
BIOLOGY LAB
MR. KATANO!
YOU'RE THERE, RIGHT? PLEASE OPEN UP.
REICHI!
WHY ARE YOU IGNORING ME?
DID I DO SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T LIKE?
OH...


I DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN SILLY POLITICS.
IT'S UN-COMFORTABLE FOR ME THERE
...TO THAT MS. KUNIMOTO?
ARE YOU...
...ENGAGED...
UM, I HEARD A RUMOR.
IS THAT WHAT SHE SAID?!
ENGAGED?!
OF COURSE NOT. WE'RE NOT EVEN GOING OUT.


UM, I ASKED FOR YOU AT THE FACULTY OFFICE.
THEY SAID YOU ARE ALWAYS HERE.
YEAH.


JEEZ...
IF I COULD JUST TRANSFER
THE CHANCELLOR SPOILED HER WHILE SHE WAS GROWING UP SHE REALLY IS A PAIN
I'M SURE SHE SPREAD IT HERSELF
AND?
DID YOU NEED SOMETHING?

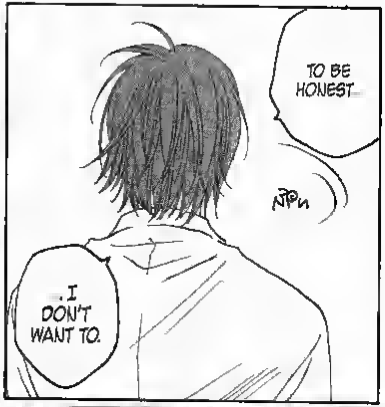

AND YOU LIVE BY YOURSELF, RIGHT?
I THINK WE NEED SOMEWHERE SECRET WE ALL CAN MEET.
IT'S ABOUT TONIGHT.
UH
YES..
I WONDERED IF WE COULD..
.. USE YOUR HOUSE AS OUR HEADQUARTERS?
.....




201
Katano


OH MY GOD.
IT'S SOOOOOOO CUTE!!!


I DON'T LIKE TO LET STRANGERS INTO MY HOUSE.


TO BE HONEST...
NRN
...I DON'T WANT TO.


.....


IF IT'S FOR PLANNING...


I GUESS IT'S NECESSARY
WELL,


IF I WEAR MY OWN CLOTHES AND MAKEUP I FEEL LIKE, "YES! NOW I'M MYSELF!"
I CAN'T BE MYSELF AT SCHOOL.
IT'S NOT THAT IT CHANGES.
YOUR PERSONALITY CHANGES THAT MUCH WHEN YOU WEAR THOSE CLOTHES?
IT'S SO STRANGE.

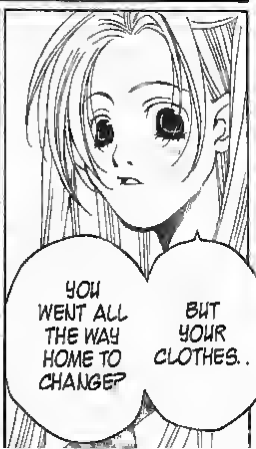

LET'S WEAR THEM TOGETHER AND TAKE PICTURES.
IT'LL LOOK GOOD ON YOU, I SWEAR!!
WHAAAT?
NO, I DON'T THINK IT'S FOR ME.
WHAAAT?


I THINK YOU'D LOOK REALLY CUTE!
DO YOU WANT TO TRY IT TOO?
REALLY..
IS THAT HOW IT WORKS?


*Jangalian is a breed of hamsters
YEAH, SORT OF. I JUST MADE UP A NAME.*
IS THAT WHERE YOUR USER NAME COMES FROM?
YEAH.
IS THIS A HAMSTER, JANGALIAN?
IT'S SO SMALL AND SO CUTE!


HEY, DON'T BE SO ROUGH WITH HIM.
I WANT TO EAT IT.


IT'S TOO HARD TO TRY TO TALK TO THE NORMAL POLARIS
YEAH
BECAUSE JANGALIAN TOLD ME TO.


YOU WENT ALL THE WAY HOME TO CHANGE?
BUT YOUR CLOTHES..

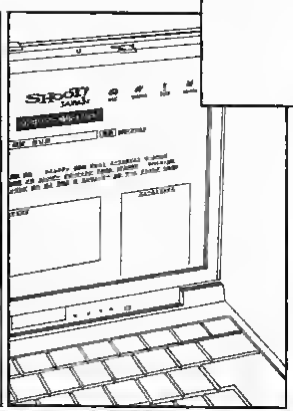

OH, I BROUGHT SOME ICE CREAM
SHOULD WE TAKE A BREAK?
YEAH, WE SHOULD.


OH, GOD!
I'M STARTING TO FEEL LIKE BOMBING THE SCHOOL IS IMPOSSIBLE!
LET'S JUST TAKE OUR TIME...
...AND GO SLOWLY


THERE'S ALSO CHOCOLATE-CARAMEL.
WE HAVE STRAWBERRY!
WHICH DO YOU WANT?

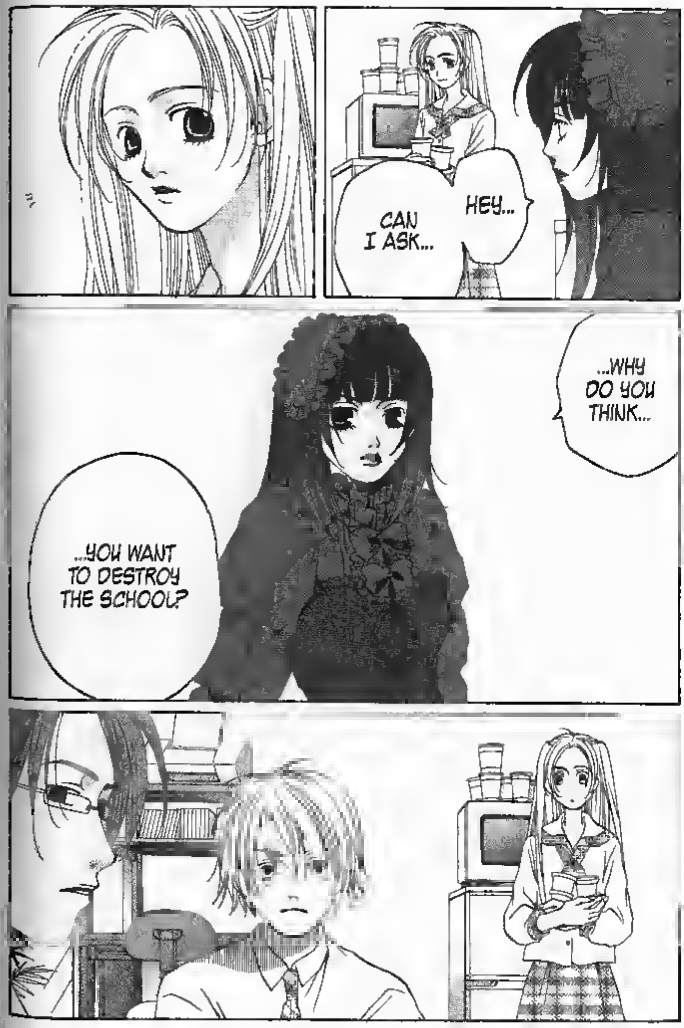



BUT THERE REALLY AREN'T ANY SITES THAT GIVE DIRECT INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO MAKE A BOMB.
WOW
A LOT OF STUFF COMES UP WHEN YOU DO THE RESEARCH.

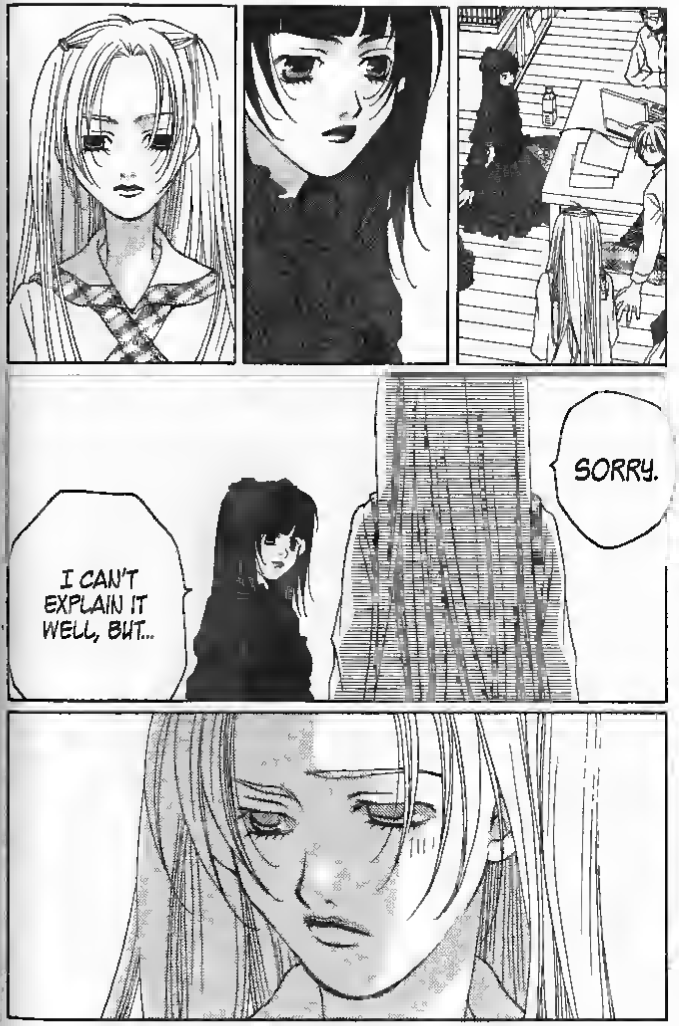



CAN'T YOU JUST WHIP UP A BOMB?
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!
YOU'RE A TEACHER AND WE CAN'T USE YOU.
STOP CALLING ME A TEACHER WHEN IT'S CONVENIENT FOR YOU!

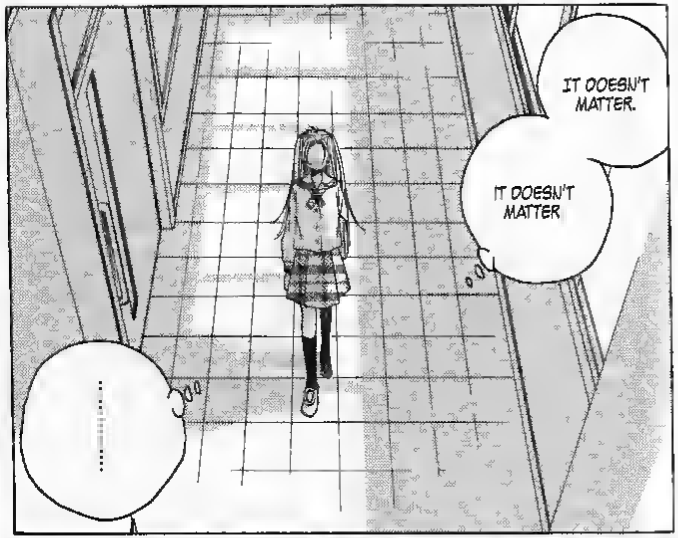

I TRIED LOOKING FOR BOOKS ON IT AT THE BOOKSTORE...
...BUT I'M NOT THE SCIENCE TYPE. JUST LOOKING AT THEM GAVE ME A HEADACHE.
THAT'S TRUE THE ONLY ONE HERE WHO'S REALLY SCIENCE-ORIENTED IS JANGALIAN

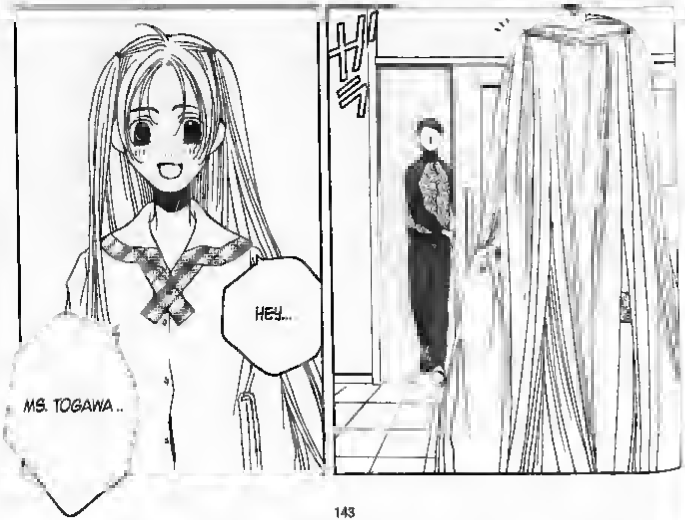

HEY...
CAN I ASK...
...WHY DO YOU THINK...
...YOU WANT TO DESTROY THE SCHOOL?


SHE GETS PRETTY GOOD GRADES AND SHE WENT TO THE INTERHIGH CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR TRACK.
11 IS ALWAYS SMILING WITH HER FRIENDS AT SCHOOL.
I'M SURE EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN.
REASONS...
I CAN'T IMAGINE..
..WHAT A PERSON LIKE 11 WOULD HAVE TO STRUGGLE WITH.


SORRY.
I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT WELL, BUT...

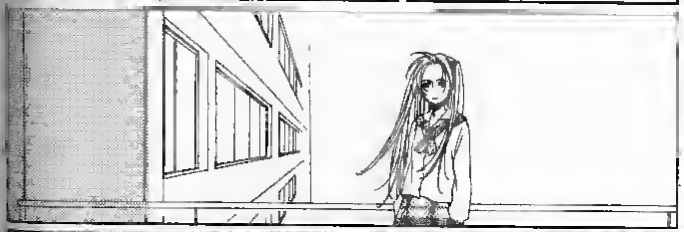

...I HAVE...
...MY REASONS.

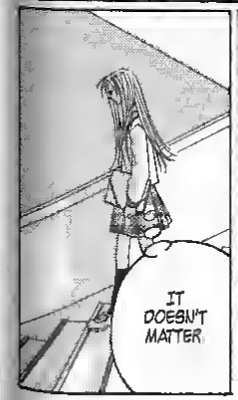

IT DOESN'T MATTER.
IT DOESN'T MATTER
.....


HEY...
MS. TOGAWA..

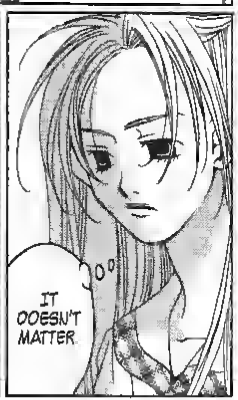

I'LL GO CHANGE. WAIT FOR ME.






IT DOESN'T MATTER.


IT DOESN'T MATTER


IT DOESN'T MATTER.


I'VE BEEN HAVING SO MUCH FUN JUMPING.
YOU'RE LOOKING REALLY GOOD LATELY
I HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR YOU! KEEP IT UP!
OKAY! I'LL DO MY BEST.


Please...
..just please...

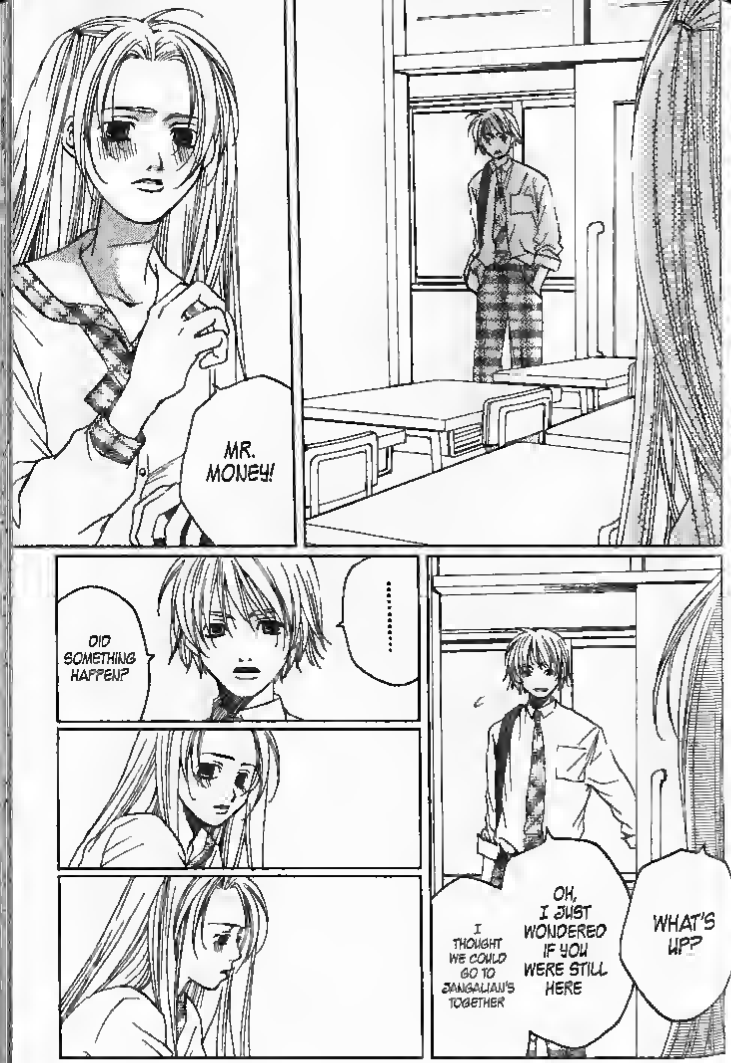

KAKO!
.....

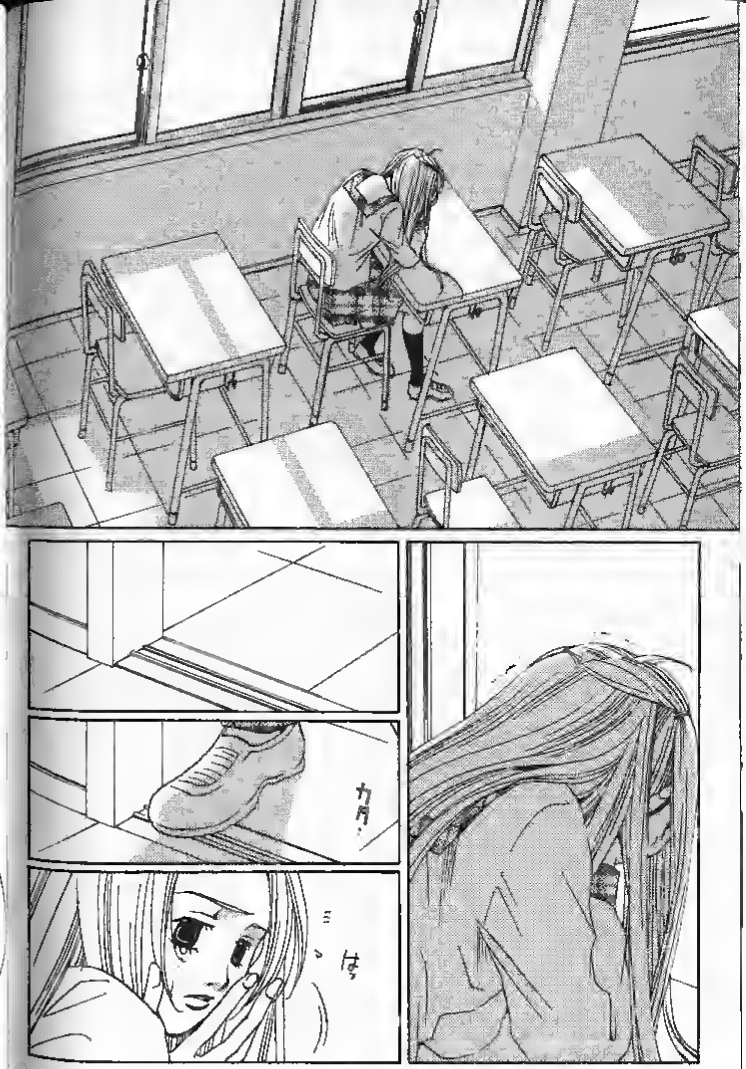



YES!



...don't take every last thing.


MR. MONEY!
.....
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
I THOUGHT WE COULD GO TO ZANGALIAN'S TOGETHER
OH, I JUST WONDERED IF YOU WERE STILL HERE
WHAT'S UP?

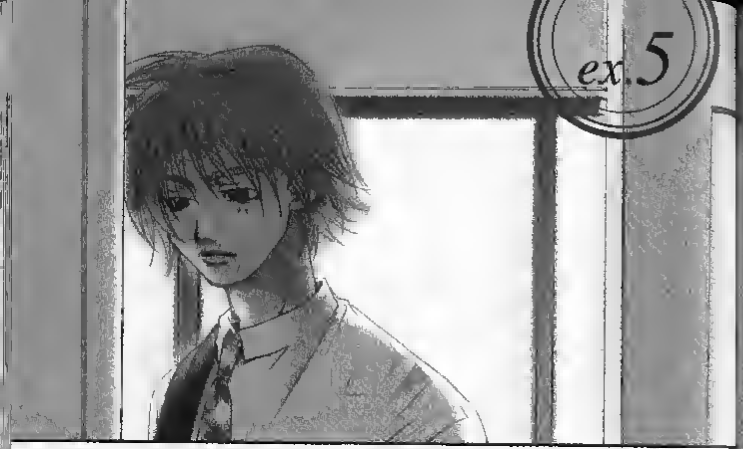

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ン
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CAN YOU GO AHEAD?
SORRY.
I'LL GO AHEAD.
OKAY, THEN.
SORRY.
OH, YEAH.


...IS MYSELF
WHAT I WANT TO DESTROY...
I...
I'M SO WEAK AND UGLY AND HORRIBLE!

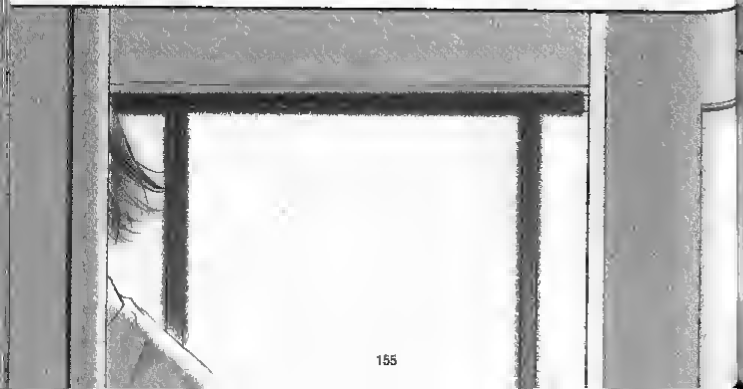



.....
AT LEAST, I...
YOU'RE NOT UGLY.
SORRY.



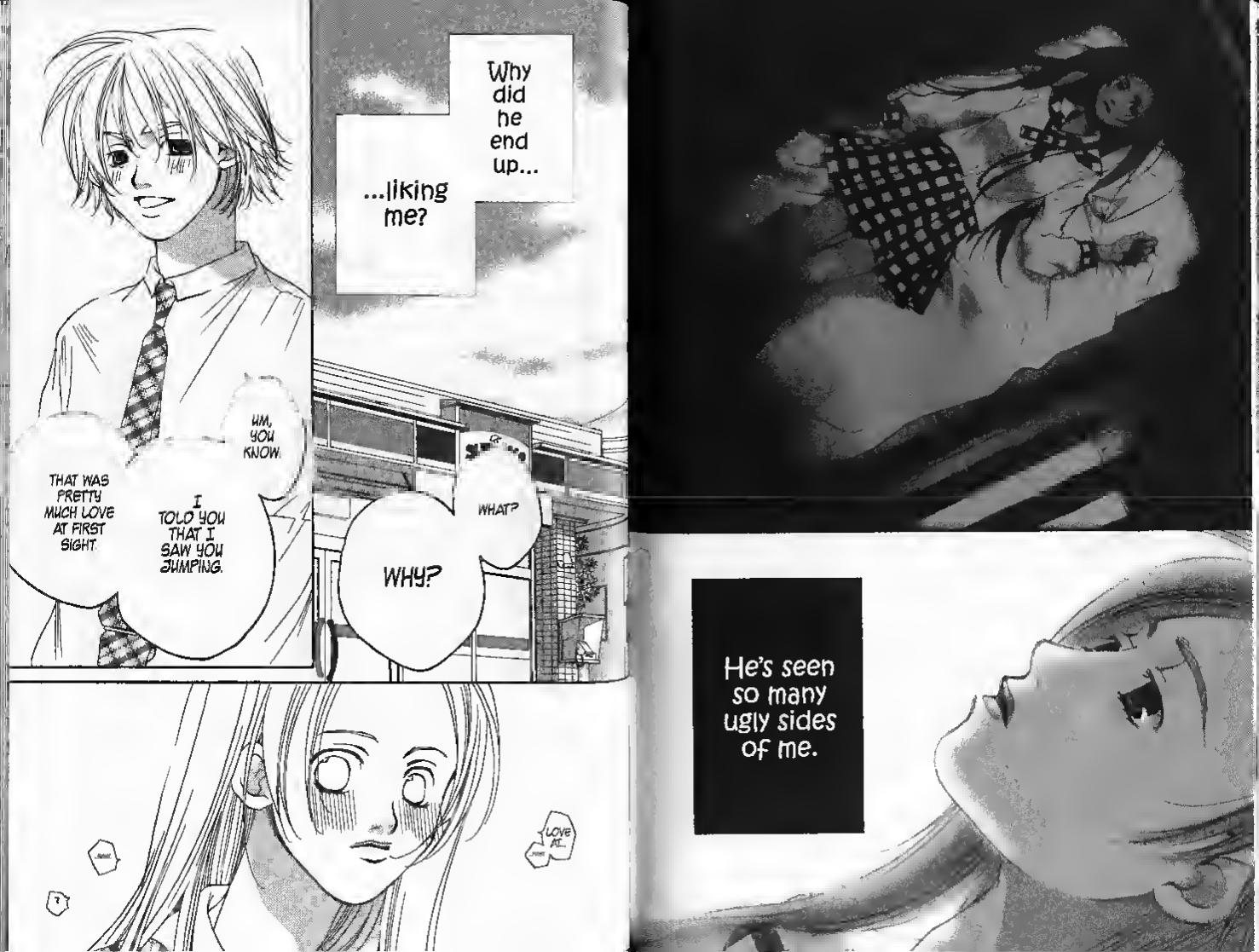
At least, I...

...like you.

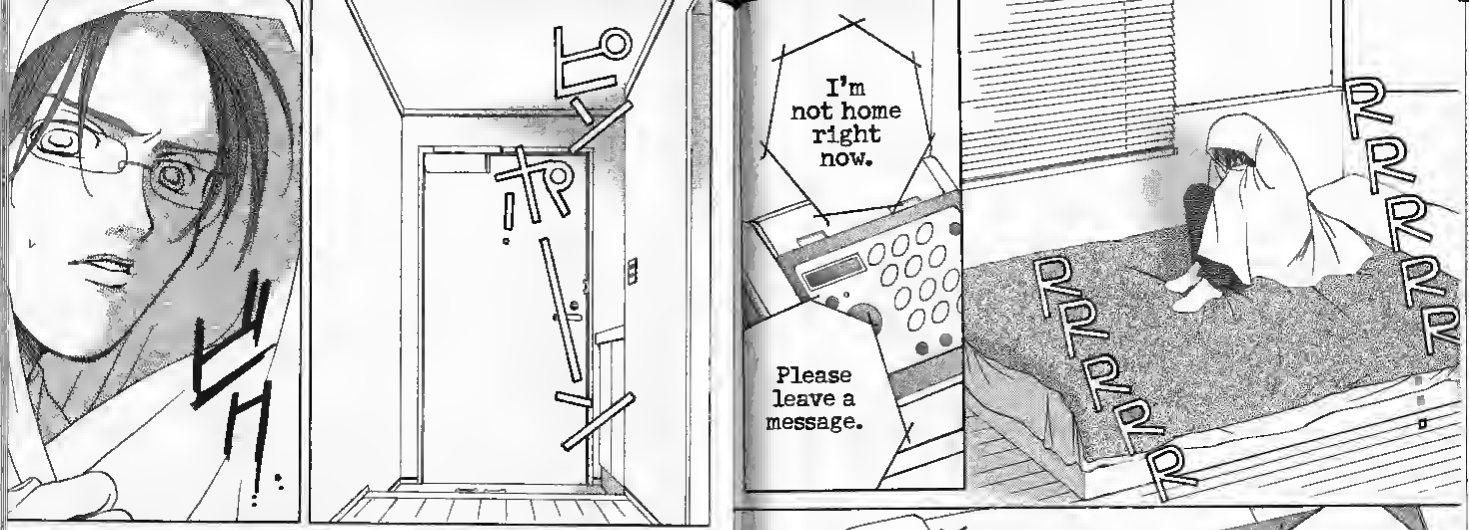


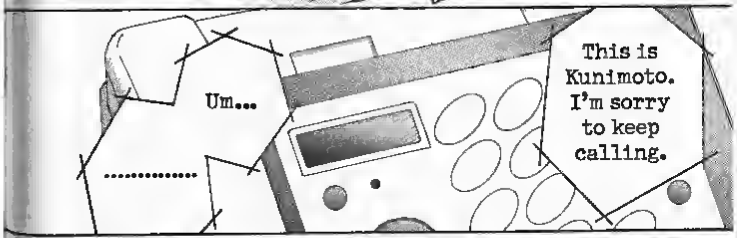


ex.4/end

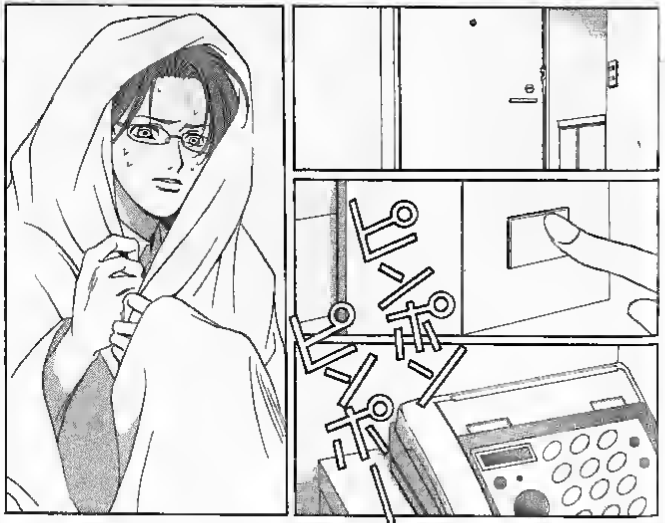

Why did he end up...
...liking me?
UM, YOU KNOW.
I TOLD YOU THAT I SAW YOU JUMPING.
THAT WAS PRETTY MUCH LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.
WHAT?
WHY?
He's seen so many ugly sides of me.


He might be all right.
Mr. Money
He's younger.
But he is a nice boy.
...about an old love.
He might help me forget...
OH, YEAH, OF COURSE
SORRY
I'M EMBARRASSED TOO
HEY, LOOK...
THEY HAVE FIREWORKS!
IT'S...
...KIND OF...
...EMBARRASSING TO BE SAYING THAT TO THE PERSON
THEN...
..LET'S START WITH THREE SETS.
THEY MIGHT GET SUSPICIOUS IF YOU BUY TOO MUCH AT ONCE.
FOUR DOLLARS A SET
OH, YEAH
SHOULD WE BUY SOME?

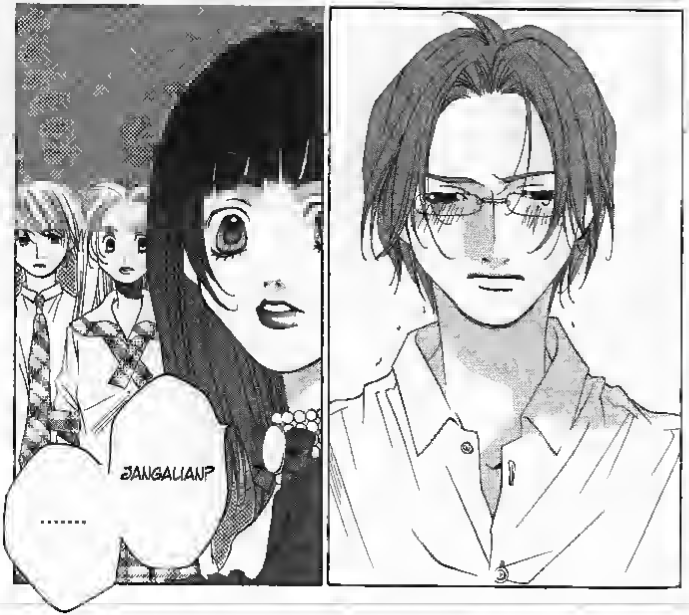

I'm not home right now.
Please leave a message.
RRRRRR
RRRRRR


Um...
.....
This is Kunimoto. I'm sorry to keep calling.


.....
I'll call again.

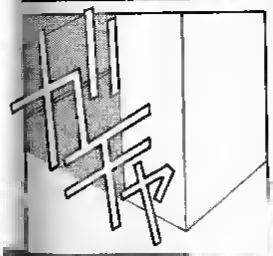



HEY, POLARIS
YOU'RE HERE.
YEAH, I JUST GOT HERE.
LOOK, WE BOUGHT FIREWORKS.
OH, I DID TOO!
IT MAKES ME WANT TO DO IT RIGHT NOW.


JANGALIAN?
.....




YOU'RE NOT HOME?
JANGALIAN?


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I COULDN'T GET THROUGH TO YOUR CELL EITHER. SO I WAS WONDERING WHAT HAPPENED.
YOU'RE HERE.

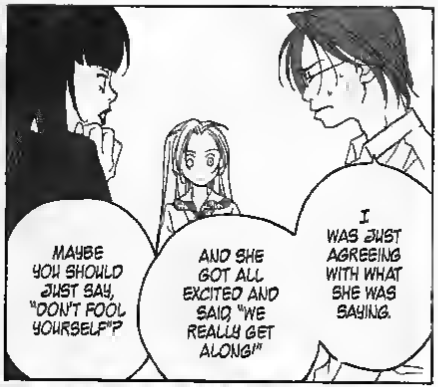

THERE, THERE..
WHAT'S WRONG?


BUT WE'RE NOT GOING OUT!
WE ALL HEARD THAT YOU WERE GOING OUT WITH HER.


WE HAD DINNER TWO OR THREE TIMES
SHE INVITED ME TO DINNER WHEN I FIRST STARTED MY JOB.


12 MESSAGES ON YOUR ANSWERING MACHINE, ALL FROM KUNIMOTO
SCARY

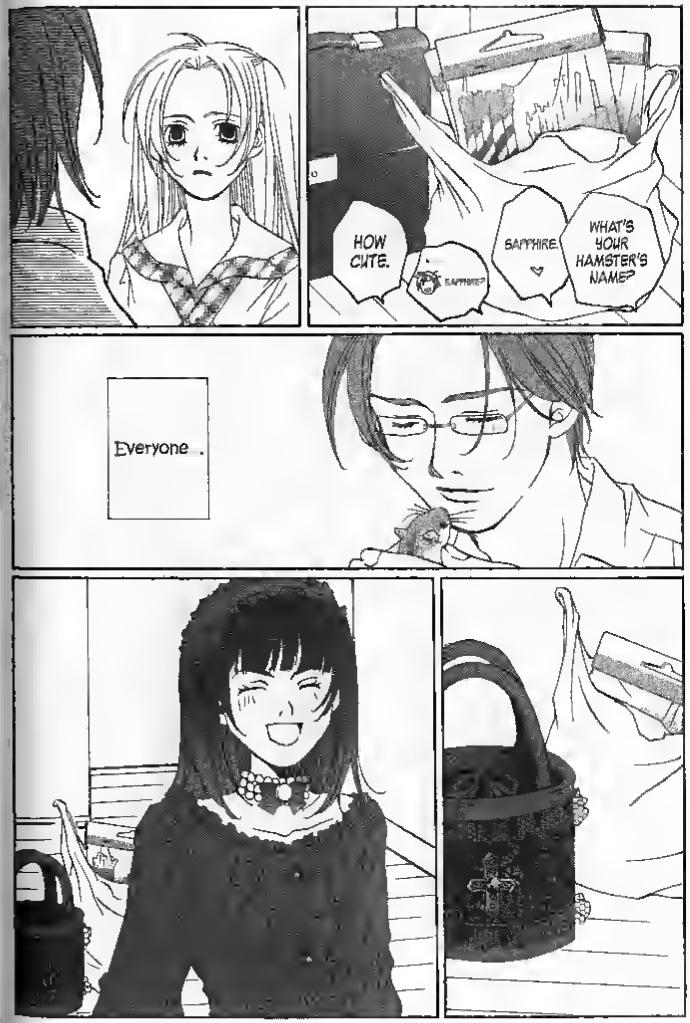

AS IM SURE YOU CAN TELL BY HER ATTITUDE, SHE'S USUALLY..
I DON'T WANT TO SAY ANYTHING TO HURT HER


MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST SAY, "DON'T FOOL YOURSELF"?
AND SHE GOT ALL EXCITED AND SAID, "WE REALLY GET ALONG!"
I WAS JUST AGREEING WITH WHAT SHE WAS SAYING.


SHE'S CREEPY!! SCARY!! I HATE HER!!
NO, I CAN'T!
MAYBE YOU CAN SAY SHE'S SINGLE-MINDED?
WELL, SHE IS A LITTLE SHELTERED.


RIGHT!
I LOVE CUTE THINGS!
I KNOW! ME TOO!
I hate things that aren't cute!!!


MOST PEOPLE AREN'T VERY CUTE, SO I DON'T LIKE THEM. ANIMALS ARE MUCH CUTER!
MY STUDENTS AREN'T CUTE EITHER, SO I DON'T LIKE THEM!
I ONLY LIKE CUTE THINGS!


HOW CUTE.
SAPPHIRE?
SAPPHIRE
WHAT'S YOUR HAMSTER'S NAME?
Everyone...


...bought fireworks.
...has something dark and...
...hidden inside themselves.
Everyone...


HELP ME!!!
DAD, HELP ME! DAD!
HELP ME!


MOM!
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY. I'M SORRY.


SURE
PLEASE LET ME SLEEP HERE IN THE FUTURE "I'M SLEEPY" DOESN'T QUITE FLY IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE.
THANKS FOR LETTING ME SLEEP HERE.
SO LUNCH IS OVER ALREADY?
YEAH I'M FINE.
YEAH
I TOLD !! THAT I LIKE HER.



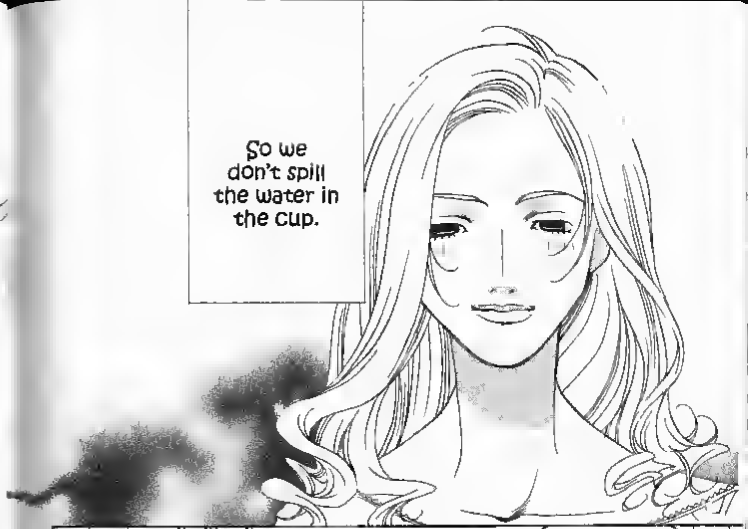

OH.
.....
YOU MUST'VE BEEN HAVING A NIGHTMARE.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

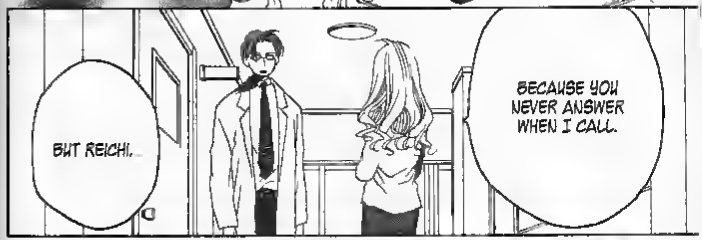

OH,
REALLY.
REALLY?
BUT YOU KNOW..
I...
.....
I'LL TELL YOU NEXT TIME.
MAYBE.
NEVER MIND.
WELL, SEE YOU AFTER SCHOOL!


We're all...
...living quietly.
YOU WERE HERE THIS WHOLE TIME?
!!!


But we still end up getting hurt.

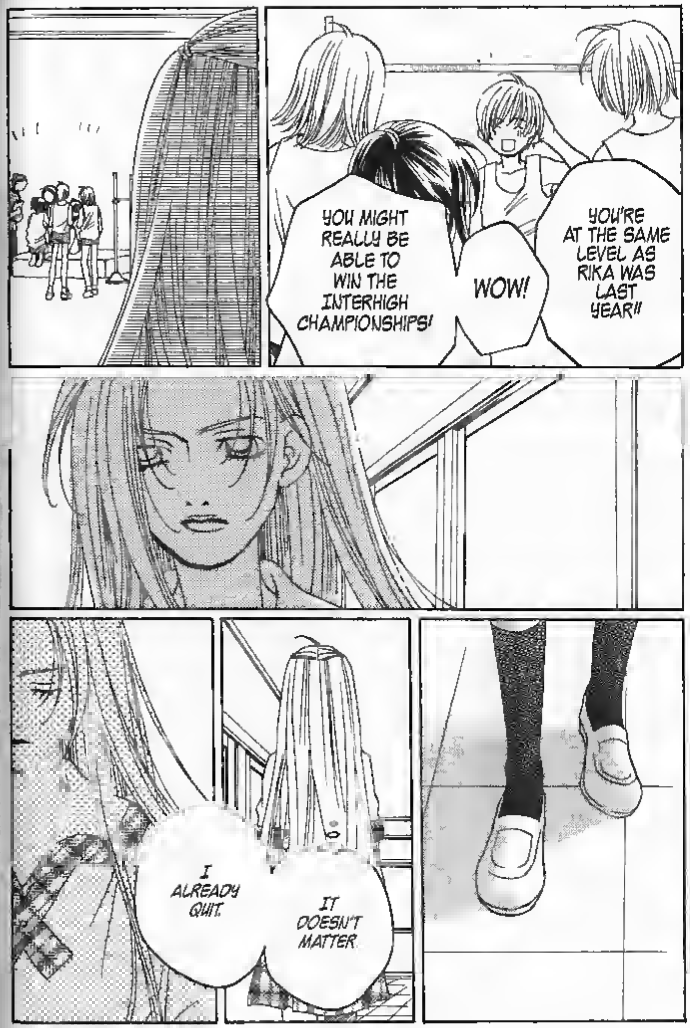

WOW, KAKO!!
YOU BROKE YOUR RECORD AGAIN!!!
ドン
ズシ

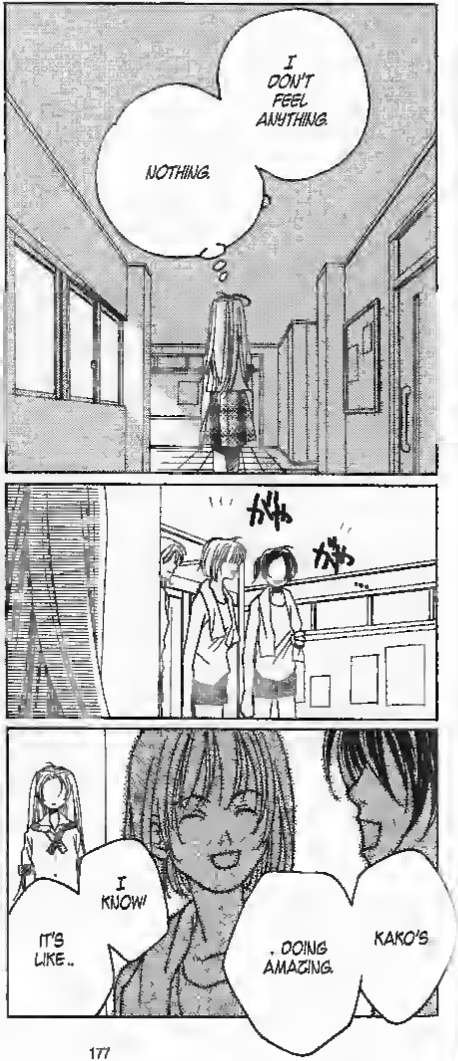

So we don't spill the water in the cup.


BUT REICHI...
BECAUSE YOU NEVER ANSWER WHEN I CALL.


PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT.


...I'M ALWAYS WATCHING YOU


I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING.
NOTHING.
YOU MIGHT REALLY BE ABLE TO WIN THE INTERHIGH CHAMPIONSHIPS!
WOW!
YOU'RE AT THE SAME LEVEL AS RIKA WAS LAST YEAR!!
I ALREADY QUIT.
IT DOESN'T MATTER.

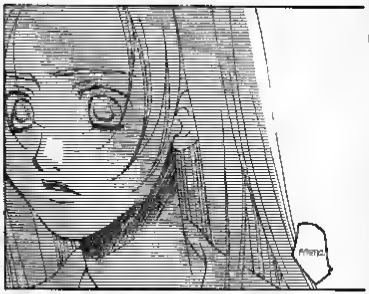

I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING.
NOTHING.
I KNOW!
IT'S LIKE..
KAKO'S
DOING AMAZING.

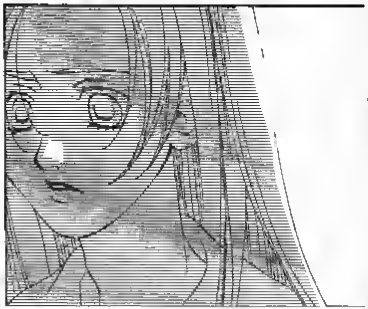


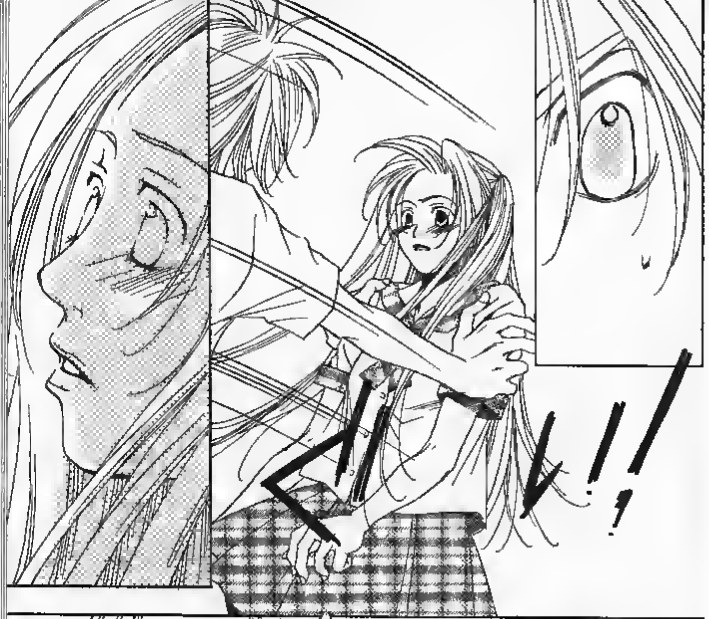


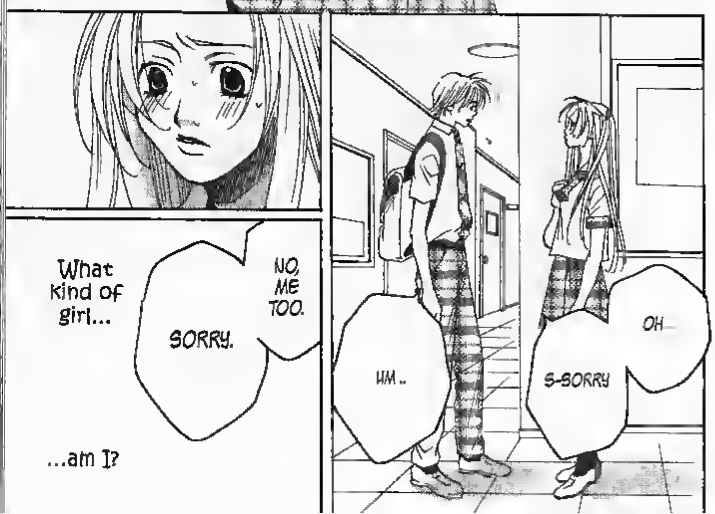


You're amazing, Rika.






!!


What kind of girl...
SORRY.
NO, ME TOO.
...am I?
UM..
S-SORRY
OH...


11.
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
DID SOMETHING HA...



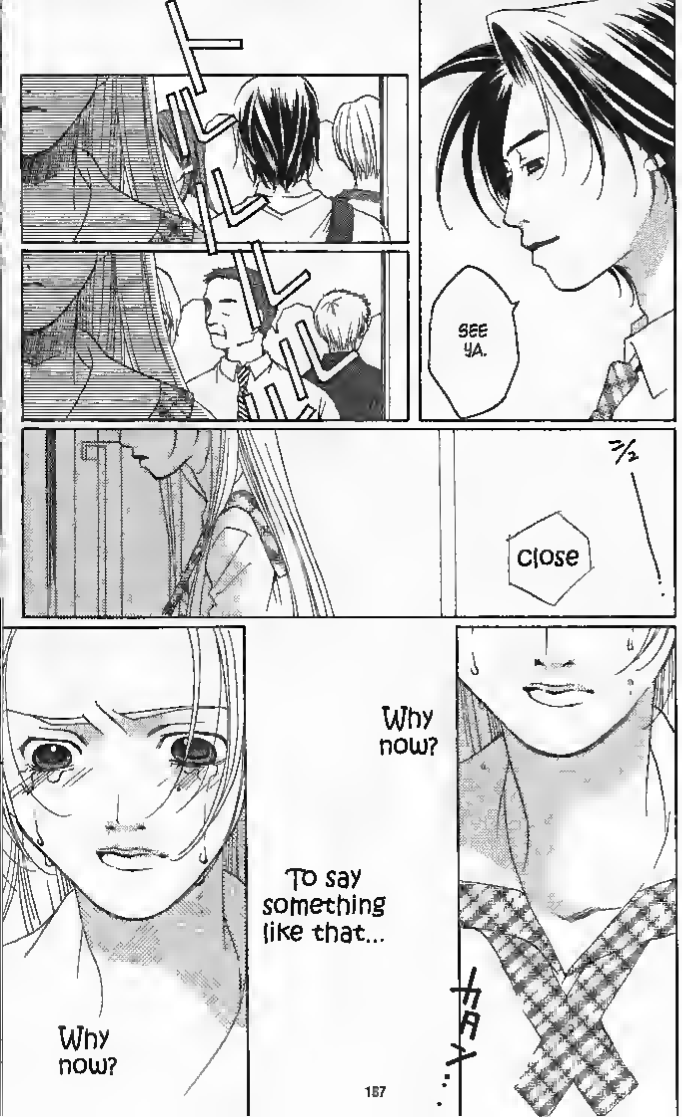

RIKA!
HA?...
HA?
HA?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU SEEM DOWN.

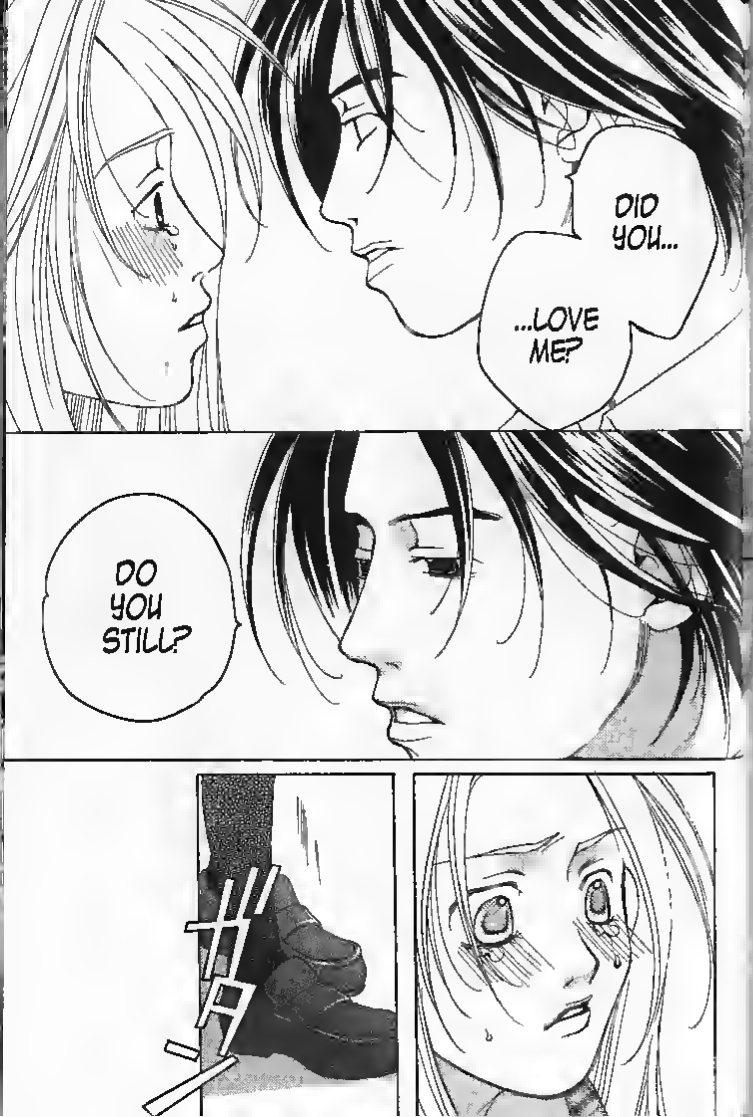

To depend on someone when it's convenient for me?
11!!

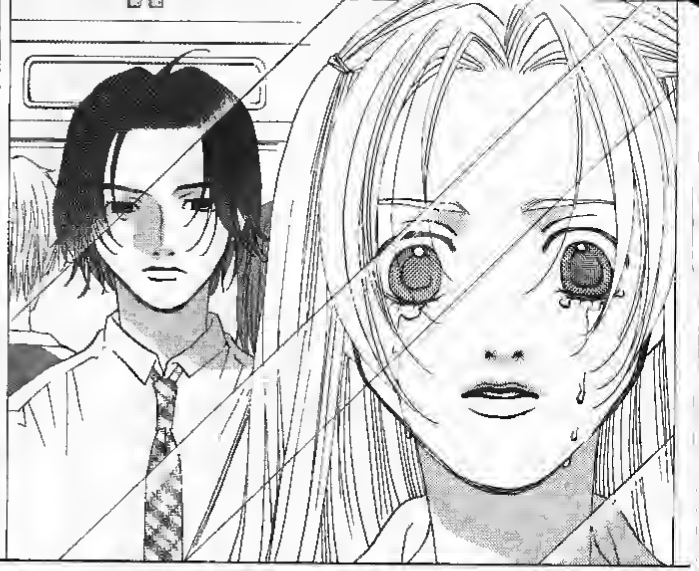

What a disgraceful girl.
What a...

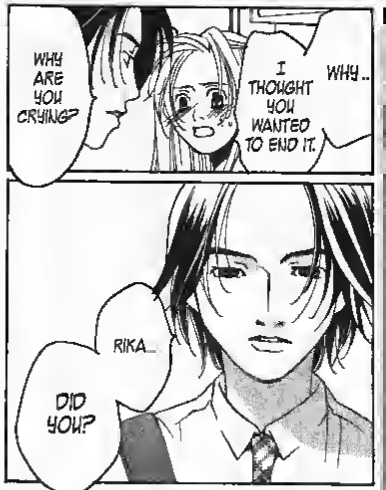

.....
NOT REALLY.
WHAT DOES IT MATTER?
I WENT OUT WITH YOU FOR OVER THREE YEARS.
AND YOU NEVER ENDED UP OPENING YOUR HEART TO ME.
WOW.
HOW COLD.
THAT'S WHAT MADE ME...
...FEEL LONELY.
YOU WERE SO ALOOF WHEN WE BROKE UP TOO.
WHAT ELSE COULD WE DO BUT BREAK UP?
WHAT?!
SO IF I CRIED AND WAS CLINGY, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BROKEN UP WITH ME?
YEAH.
THAT'S RIGHT.
I WOULDN'T HAVE.


STILL, I REMEMBER THE LONGER I WENT OUT WITH YOU, THE MORE THINGS BECAME UNCLEAR.
WELL, YEAH.
THAT'S TRUE...
HA...
YOU LIKE SOMEONE ELSE NOW?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I GUESS I WANTED...
...TO SEE HOW YOU REALLY FELT.
Kitakurasawa.
We're at Kitakurasawa.

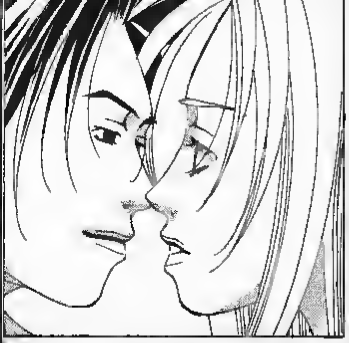

SEE YA.
2/2
close
Why now?
To say something like that...
Why now?
HA...


DID YOU...
...LOVE ME?
DO YOU STILL?



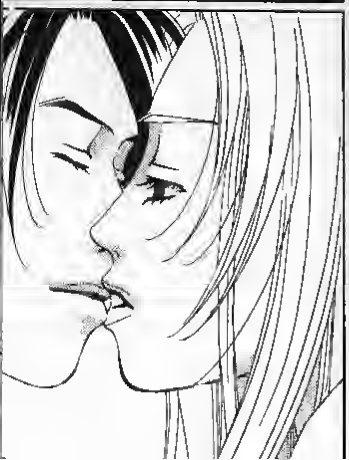

WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO END IT.
WHY..
RIKA...
DID YOU?





You can only fill a hole...

...with what came out of it.



I'll steal him back.



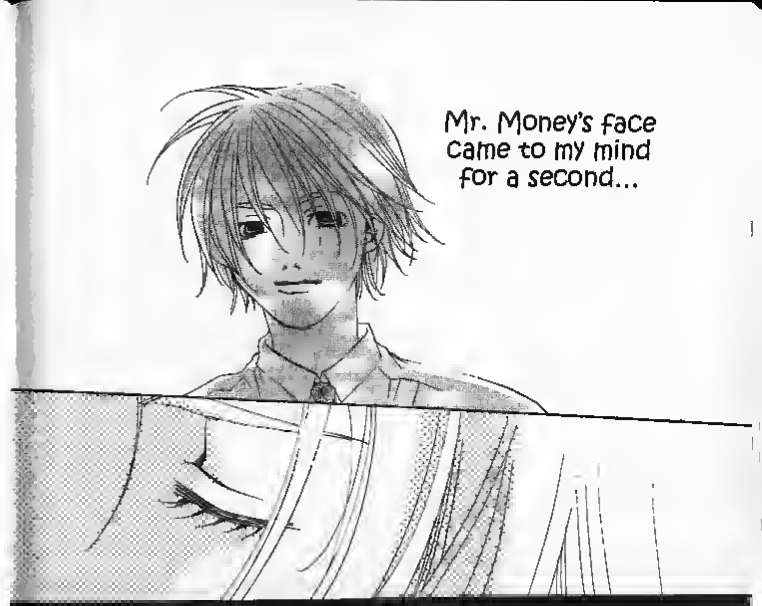


To be continued
in Volume 2.



Thank you.
Setona Mizushiro

Mizushiro



...and
went
away.



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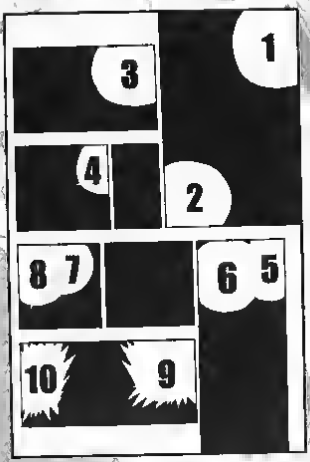
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X-DAY



1

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X-DAY

SETONA MIZUSHIRO

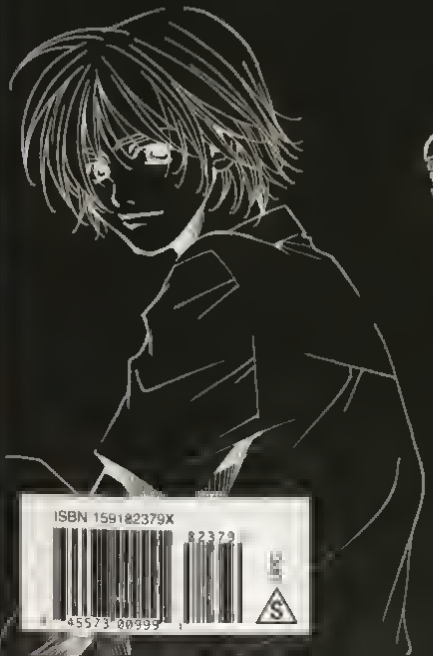
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X-DAY

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