

リカチ

The Ice Queen
Rikachi Presents

氷の女王

1

Kodansha Comics
BETSUFURE

Crimson Flower Translations

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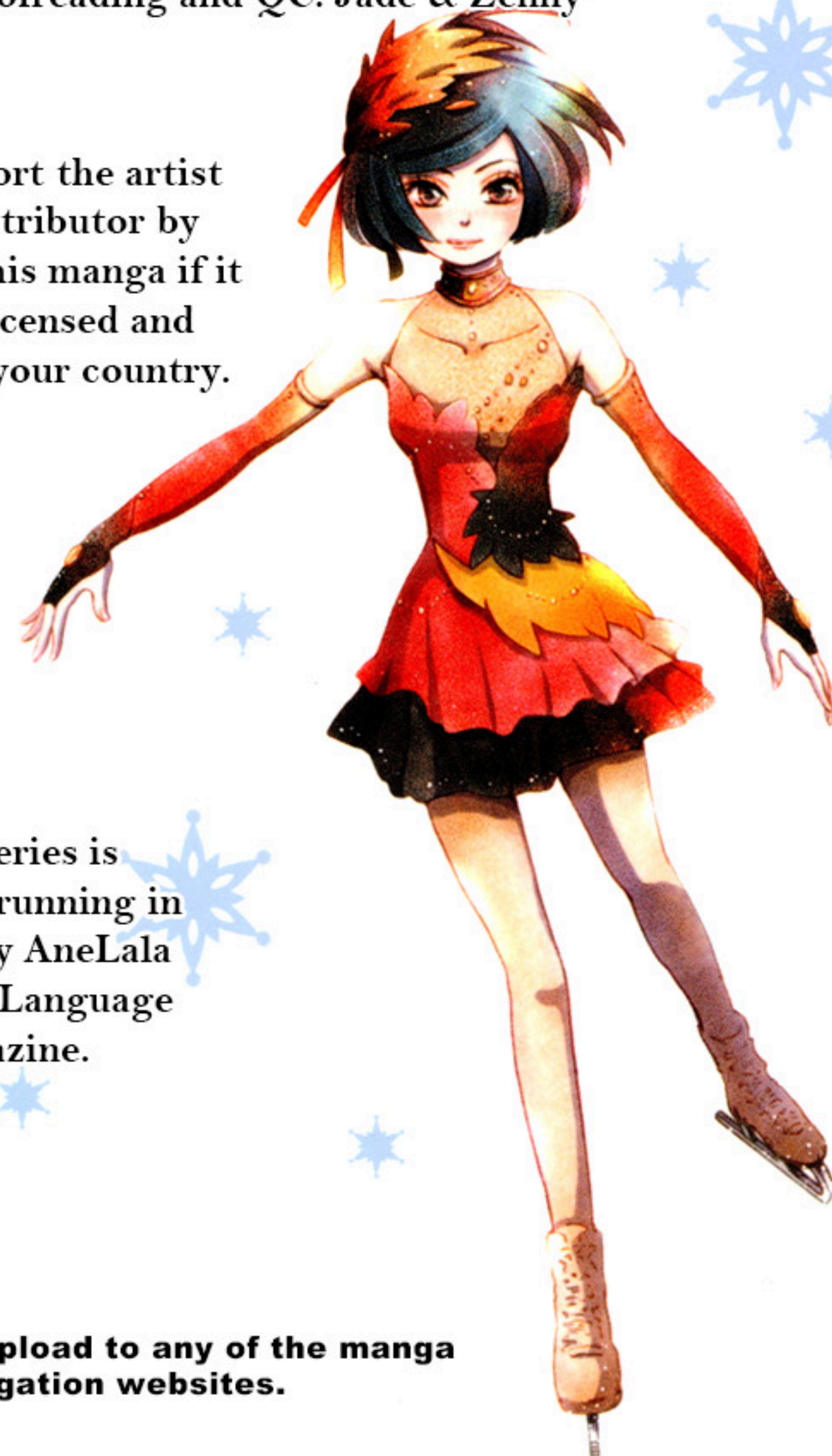
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This series is
currently running in
bimonthly AneLala
Japanese Language
magazine.

Please do not upload to any of the manga
aggregation websites.



STEP 3
Kiwako's
Ordeal

THE NEXT
REGIONAL
COMPETITION
IS COMING UP.
HOW CONFI-
DENT ARE
YOU?

HOW DO
YOU FEEL
ABOUT YOUR
RESULTS
THIS
SEASON?



THERE IS NO
COMPETITION
I CAN'T WIN!

I'M CONFI-
DENT, OF
COURSE.



MY ONLY RIVAL
IS MYSELF!

Prodigy female
skater Kiwako
Chikura, who
dominated the
National Champi-
onships last year
and the year
before,

is favored to
medal in the
Grand Prix.



STEP 3

Kiwako's
Ordeal

*I'LL
SWEEP
THE COM-
PETITION.*

MOTTE



I did
it.

I LET MY BIG
MOUTH RUN
OFF AGAIN.



I SOUND
LIKE A
BRAGGART!

Am I out of
my mind?!

**SAYING THINGS
LIKE "I'LL
SWEEP THE
COMPETITION"!!!**

YOU'RE AS
idiotic AS
EVER



ALUGH! I'LL
HAVE TO
PRACTICE
MORE!!

MY HIGH
SCHOOL
LIFE IS
DEAD!!

"Koori no Joou" ("The Ice Queen") Volumes 1 & 2 are available for purchase in Japanese. Here are the ISBNs to search online bookstores:

Volume 1: 978-4063418965

Volume 2: 978-4063419450

If you enjoy this series, please ask your country's manga publisher to licence "Koori no Joou". If you are in the US, please make the request to Kodansha USA.



THAT'S
WHY YOU
SHOULDN'T
ACT.

SO I FEEL
COMPELLED TO
SAY SOMETHING
INTERESTING!

THE MEDIA
GAVE RISE TO
THAT IMAGE,

The Queen!

Ughhh!

"I'm always #1"

Vainier than Snow
White's Evil Queen

Shinkei Sports
Ambitious

There's no one in the
world who rivals me.

YOU UNDERSTAND
BECAUSE WE'VE
BEEN TOGETHER
SINCE
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL, RIGHT?!

I WAS BORN
WITH A
VILLAIN'S
FACE!!

THE TRUTH IS MY
HEART IS POUNDING
AND I'M ANXIOUS!

IT'LL BE A
PIECE OF
CAKE!

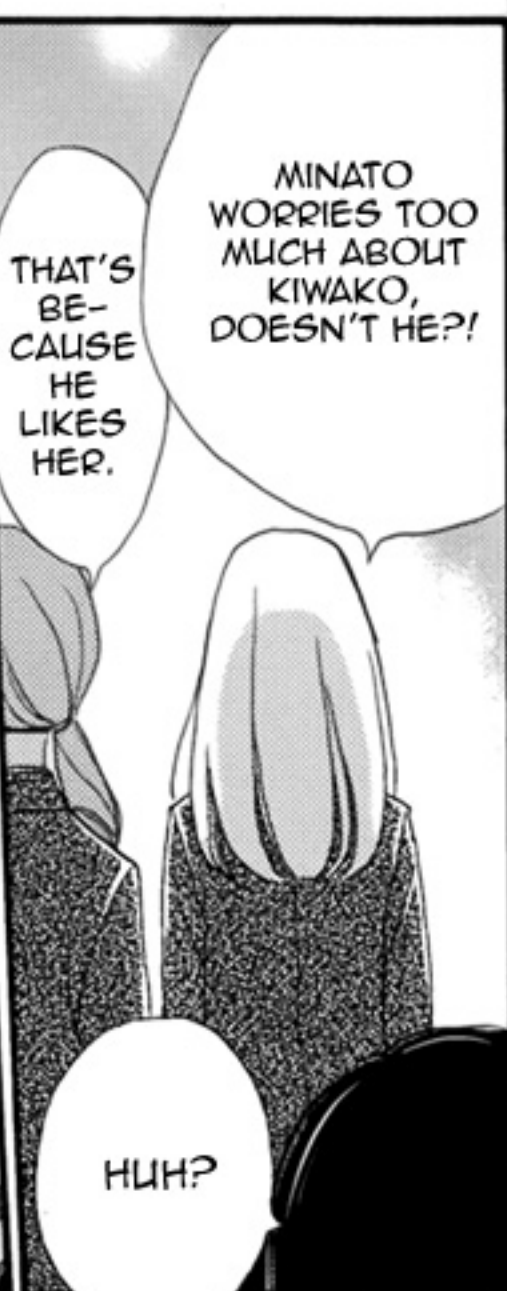
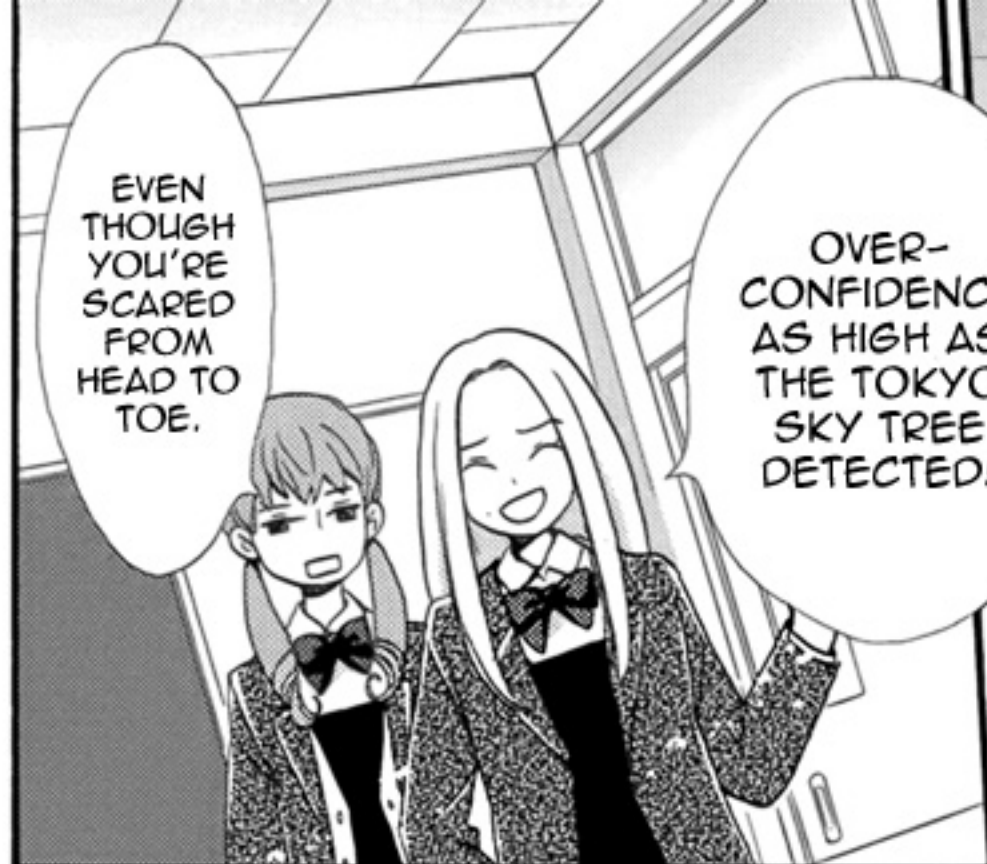
GOOD
LUCK!

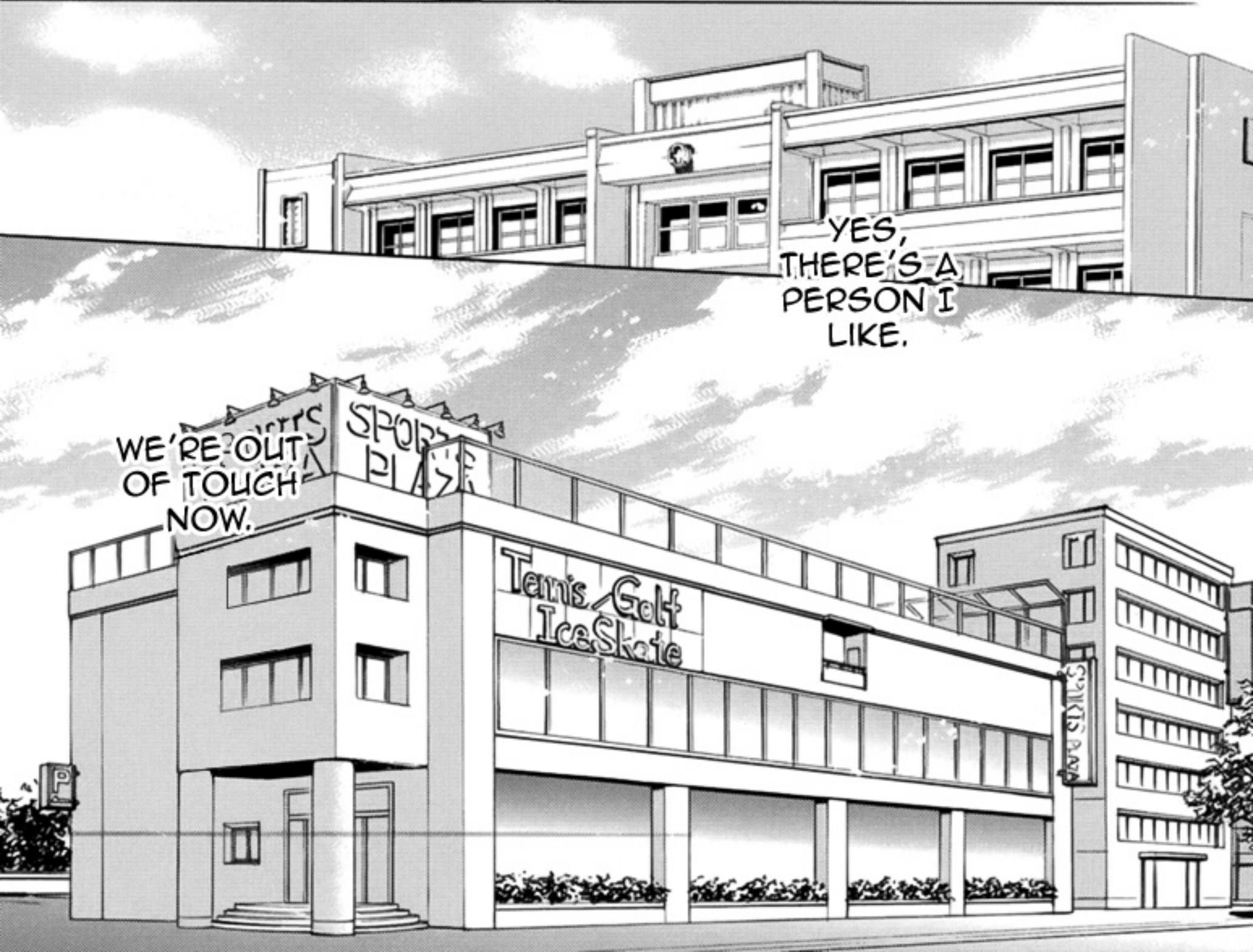
OH! KI! WE
SAW YOU
ON TV! YOU
SOUNDED
EXTREMELY
CONFIDENT.

HOW LONG
HAVE YOU
BEEN LIKE
THIS...?

THAT'S WHY
YOU SHOULD
DROP THE
BRAVADO AND
SAY YOU'RE
ANXIOUS!

Haah





AFTER
SUCH A
LONG
TIME, IT'S
HIM IN THE
FLESH!

NANAO!

THE USUAL RINK
I PRACTICE AT
IS UNDER
CONSTRUCTION.

HEY! HEY!
DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN?

THIS IS THE
CLOSEST
ALTERNATIVE
RINK.

SLUMP

IT'S A
LONG
COMMUTE. I
ONLY MADE
ARRANGE-
MENTS TO
COME
TODAY.

DOES THAT
MEAN YOU'RE
GOING TO BE
PRACTICING
HERE FOR A
LITTLE WHILE?!



HE WAS THE
SMALLEST
KID IN THE
SKATE
CLUB,

SO
SMALL!

AND
GLOOMY!

Silence.



AKIRA
NANAO IS
CURRENTLY
KNOWN AS
MALE FIGURE
SKATING'S
PRINCE, BUT

WHEN HE
WAS A
LITTLE KID,
HE WASN'T
PRINCELY
AT-ALL.



HE
DIDN'T
STAND
OUT, BUT
HIS
SKATING
SENSE
WAS
GOOD.

BUT HE'S
GOOD AT
SKATING
DESPITE
BEING A
SHORTY.

He can
already do
spins?



EVERYBODY IS
REALLY GOOD.
NO MATTER WHAT,
I'M GONNA BE IN
LAST PLACE. IT'S
EMBARRASSING.



I'M CALLING
THE COACH
OVER. WAIT
HERE.

It's
almost
your
turn.

I DON'T WANT
TO GO OUT
THERE EVER.
I'LL FALL DOWN.

AND MY
STOMACH
HURTS. I'VE
ALREADY QUIT.



ON THE DAY
OF MY FIRST
COMPETITION...

I CURLED UP
INTO A BALL
COMPLETELY.



IT WAS AT
THAT TIME...

THAT'S
WHY

THE WORDS
YOU SPEAK
HAVE LIFE.

YOU SHOULD
SAY, "I CAN
DO IT."

DO YOU
KNOW
ABOUT THE
POWER OF
WORDS?

THE
POWER
IS INSIDE
OF YOU.



AND TURN
INTO
REALITY.

WORDS
ARE ALIVE



UM!

HUH?



TUP



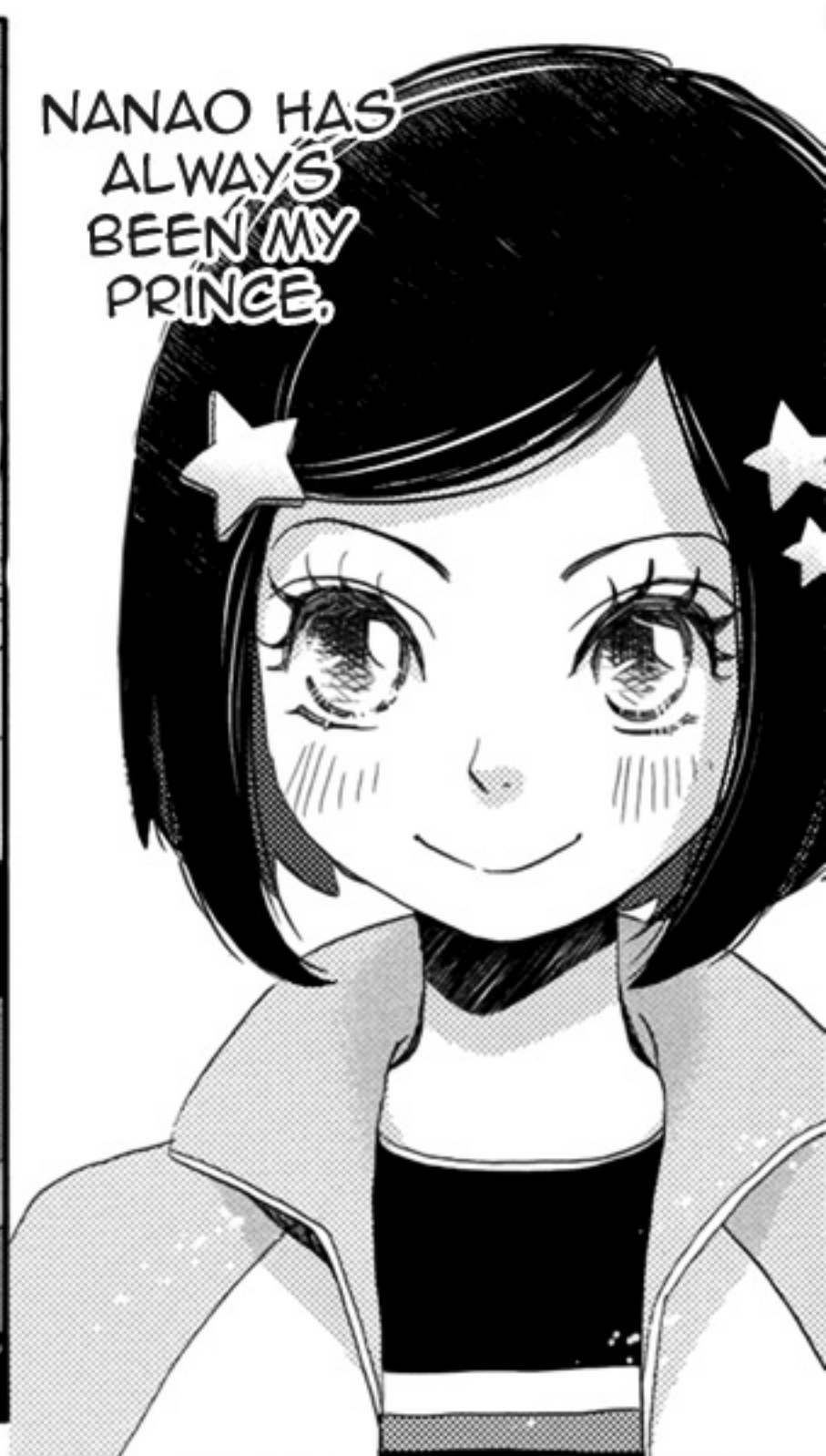
NANAO...

THAT'S
WHY SINCE
THAT DAY,

THAT
COMPETITION,
I WAS IN TOP
FORM

AND MY
WINNING
STREAK
BEGAN.





What

NANAO!

I G-GOT
LOST ON
THE WAY.

!?

"TOGETH-
ER"?

Oh!

B-but...
but I made
it... right?
My
b-bad...

THAT'S WHY I
SAID WE
SHOULD COME
TOGETHER.

OH!

NANAO
IS THE
TYPE
WHO
TALKS
WARMLY
WITH
THIS
KIND OF
GIRL?!

O-
OKAY.

TIME IS
RUNNING
OUT.

WHAT? I
WAS
WORRIED.

WHO'S
SHE?!

WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!

SHE'LL
PROBABLY
BECOME YOUR
RIVAL.

I'm Nika
Ku-kurusu!

SHE'S IN THE
SAME CLASS
WITH ME AT
SCHOOL AND IN
MY FIGURE
SKATING CLUB.

Wh-what
are you
talking
about?!
What are
you talking
about?!!!

Th-there's
no way!!!

Geez

SHE QUALIFIED
FOR THE
EASTERN JAPAN
DIVISIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP.

RIVAL

—
?

HUH?





**I AM AN
IDIOT!!!**

**WHY AM I SUCH AN
IDIOT?!!**

**I SHOULD
GO TO THE
SAME HIGH
SCHOOL!**

But the
commute is an
hour and a half!!

WHAM

THERE'S
NOTHING
YOU CAN DO
ABOUT IT...
SO CALM
DOWN.

IS NOT IN
THIS NEIGHBOR-
HOOD.

AUGH...
HIS HIGH
SCHOOL...

IT'S
BETTER
NOT TO
ASK...

WHAT?
WHAT
HAPPENED
TODAY?



No, I can't study.

WELL, YOU WERE BUSY WITH FIGURE SKATING...

SINCE I DON'T KNOW, I'LL USE AN ERASER DIE!

I FINISHED THIS TEST,

BUT I HAD NO IDEA WHAT ANY OF THE ANSWERS WERE!!

IS THAT HOW YOU GOT INTO THIS SCHOOL TOO?

HOW DO YOU PASS DOING THAT, DUMBASS?!

I'm hopeless!



NO WORRIES, NO WORRIES, WHEN IT COMES TO FIGURE SKATING, YOU'RE GOOD.

THE GUY SHE LIKES BROUGHT HIS GIRLFRIEND WITH HIM TO THE ICE SKATING RINK.

AND THE MATTER WAS?

BUT SHE WAS CUTE ...

HE DIDN'T CALL HER HIS GIRL-FRIEND!!

SHE'S NOT NECESSARILY HIS GIRL-FRIEND!!

THAT'S TRUE.



I'm tired
of
hearing
about
it.

SHOULDN'T YOU
JUST CONFESS
IMMEDIATELY
AFTER THE
NATIONAL CHAM-
PIONSHIPS?

GO TO-
GETHER
!!

A FIGURE
SKATING
PRINCE AND
PRINCESS

THAT'S
RIGHT!!!

YEAH, SHE
DOES
HAVE A
VILLAIN'S
FACE.

BUT
KIWAKO IS
NOTHING
LIKE A
PRINCESS!

Like
Kurumi
from
My
Melody.

ME,
CONFESS?
YOU DON'T
HAVE THE
HEART OF
A MAIDEN!!

Blush!

THE GUY YOU
LIKE... IS IT
NANAO?



WELL
...



UH...

You
heard?





NO, NOT IN PARTICULAR. I WAS PASSING BY AND WONDERED IF YOU WERE PRACTICING.

WHAT? IS SOMETHING UP?!

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE IN TOP FORM.

YOU COME HERE OFTEN, DON'T YOU? OH—

MINATO!

WHY DID YOU QUIT?

YOU WERE GOOD.

YOU USED TO COME HERE UP UNTIL THE END OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

Acquaintance

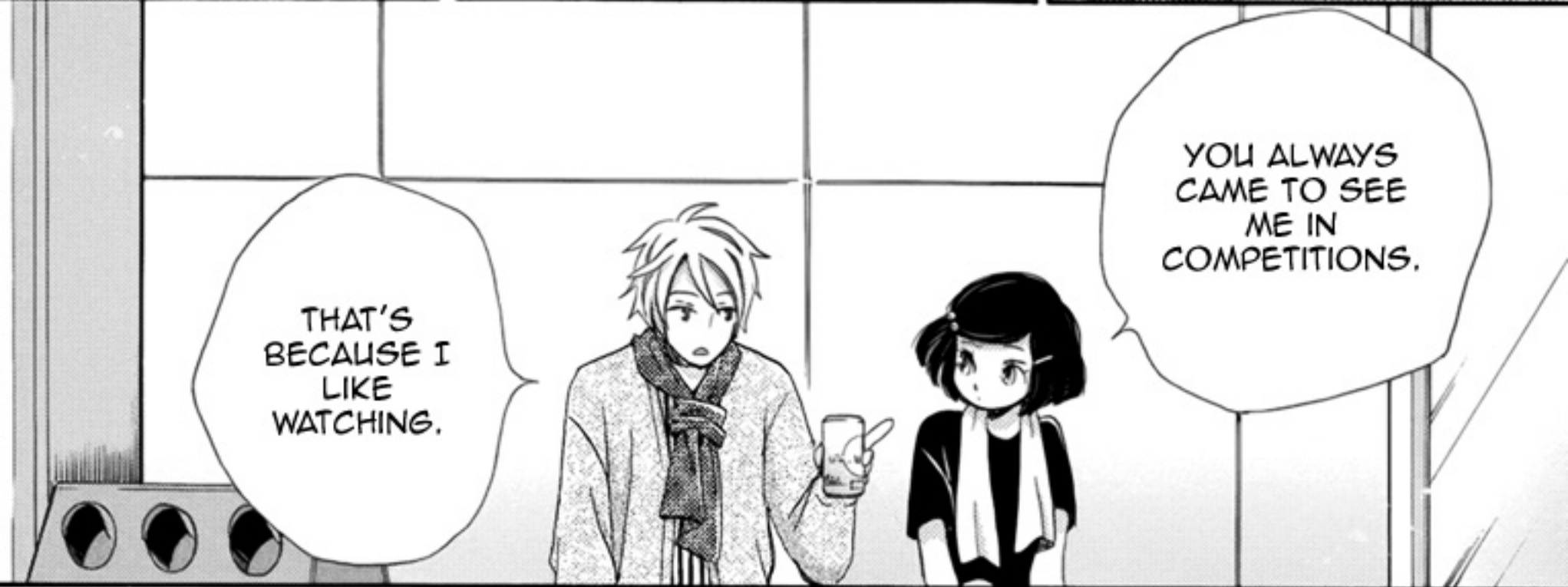
MRS. TAMA AT THE RECEPTION DESK?!



THAT
CAN'T
BE
TRUE.

WELL...

I DIDN'T
LIKE
SKATING
VERY
MUCH.



THAT'S
BECAUSE I
LIKE
WATCHING.

YOU ALWAYS
CAME TO SEE
ME IN
COMPETITIONS.



NOPE.

DOING IT
IS REALITY
AND
WATCHING IS
WATCHING.

BUT I
THOUGHT
IF YOU LIKE
WATCHING,
THEN YOU
SHOULD
LIKE DOING
TOO.



BUT I
DON'T
FEEL LIKE
CHEERING
FOR
NANAO...



HUH?

IT REALLY
IS TRUE. YOU
ONLY
**APPEAR
STRONG
FROM THE
OUTSIDE.**



IF I DON'T
GO, I'LL FEEL
UNDER
PRESSURE....

LISTEN, I
WANT THE
MOMENTUM
FROM A
WIN...



**IT'S A
LOCK!**

DON'T
WORRY.
SINCE IT'S
YOU, YOU'LL
WIN!





MINATO...



I'LL LISTEN
TO SOME
MUSIC TO
PUMP MYSELF
UP...



YEAH.



IS THAT
THE MUSIC
YOU'RE
GOING TO
SKATE TO?



THAT'S TRUE!
BECAUSE I'M A
PRODIGY!! IT'S
INEVITABLE!

YOU
PRESSURE
YOURSELF
TALKING
LIKE THAT.

UGH...





THAT'S **SEXUAL HARASSMENT!**
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT SEX APPEAL! I'M TALKING ABOUT EXPRESSION!!

IF YOU NEED SEX APPEAL,
THEN HOW ABOUT I TURN YOU INTO A WOMAN?

TCH!



I'D PUSH MYSELF EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T TELL ME TO!

YOU KEEP RUNNING OFF AT THE MOUTH, SO DO YOUR UTMOST.



I WONDER IF I SHOULD CONFESS TO NANA O IF I WIN THE GRAND PRIX...



BUT WHEN I PRACTICE LIKE THIS EVERY DAY,

I'M ALWAYS ANXIOUSLY WORRYING,

AND THE
FINISHING
TOUCH IS
THE MAGICAL
PHRASE,

GRADUALLY I
FILL AND
THEN
OVERFLOW
WITH
CONFIDENCE.

**I
CAN
DO
IT!**



The Eastern
Japan Regional
Competition--

UGH!





No, no, I won't let anyone see me act this pathetic. I have to win!!

Or rather, of course I'll win.



Squeel! It's Ki!

Good luck!



IS MERELY TO ADJUST THE RANKINGS...

DOES IT REALLY MATTER?

THIS KIND OF COMPETITION



FOR SOME REASON I'VE GOTTEN NERVOUS. MY STOMACH HURTS...

Oww, Oww...



THAT GIRL...

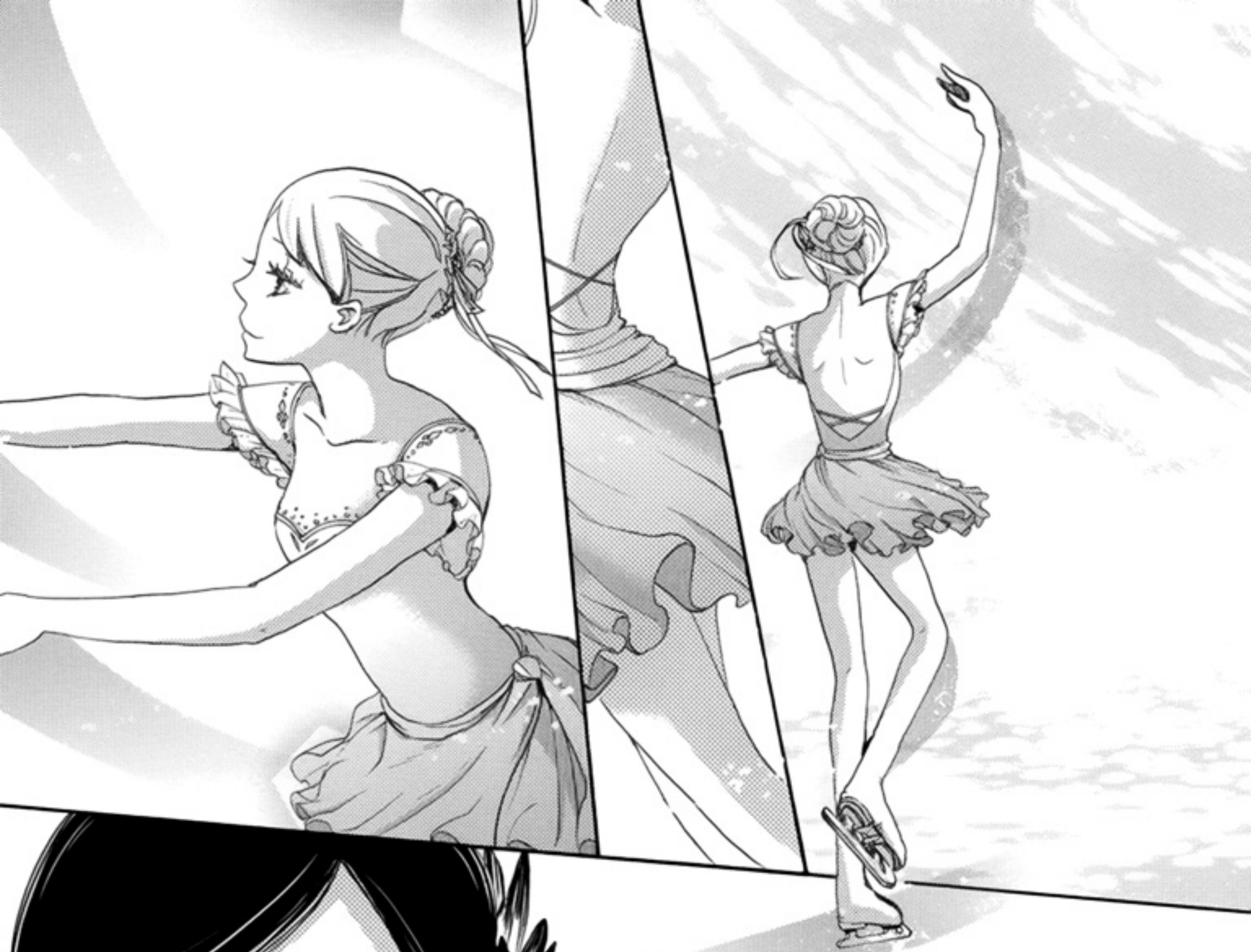


I'LL TAKE A LOOK.



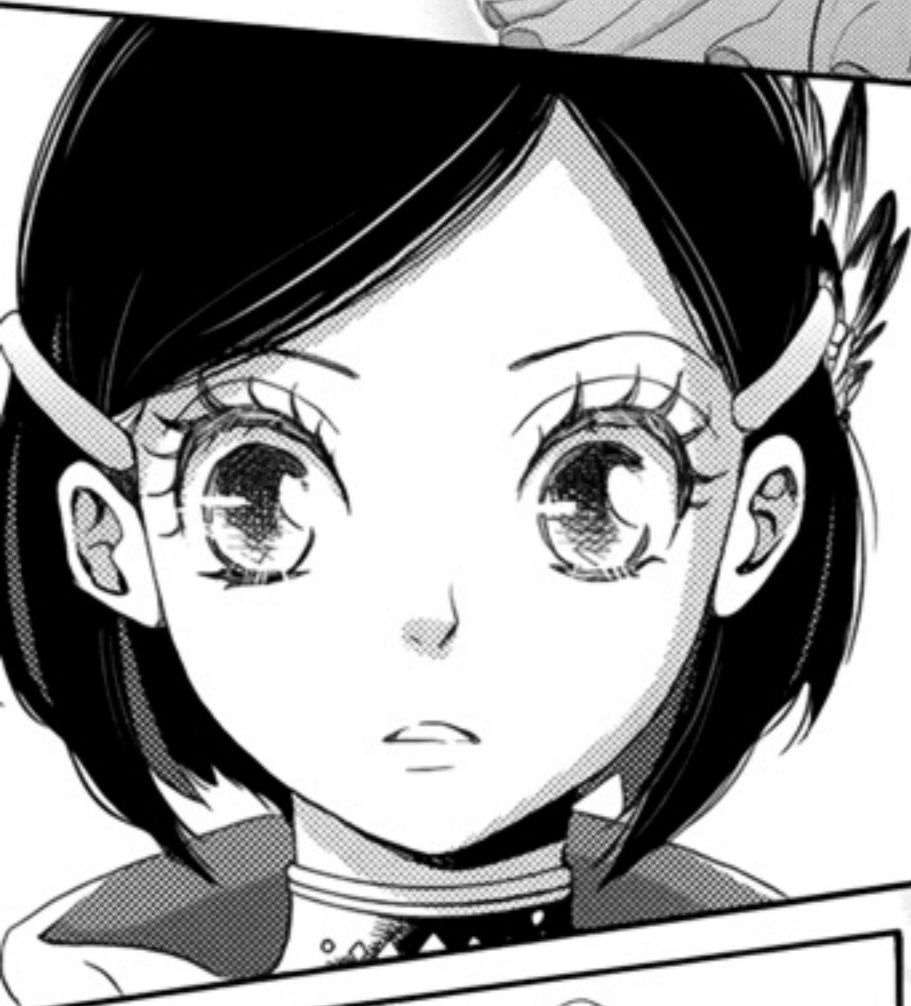
OH...

Next up is Nika Kurusu.



EVEN
THOUGH
SHE'S NOT
DOING ANY
DIFFICULT
JUMPS,

HMM...
WHAT'S
THIS?



I CAN'T
TAKE MY
EYES OFF
HER...



SHE'S
COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT
THAN ME.

SHE'S
UNDENIABLY

SHE HAS A
CHARMINGLY
AIRY FEEL
ABOUT HER,
AND

FEMININE
...

swip!



clench







THERE ARE
LOTS OF
AMAZING
SKATERS.
THEY'RE AT
EVERY
COMPETITION!

IT'S NO
BIG DEAL.





I'LL
SWEEP THE
COMPETI-
TION!

I SAID
THOSE
WORDS,

MOTTE

NOBODY IS
FASTER!!!

NOBODY
JUMPS
HIGHER!!

I HAVE TO
SHOW
EVERYONE!!



HEAR THE
SAME THING
FROM
NANAO--?

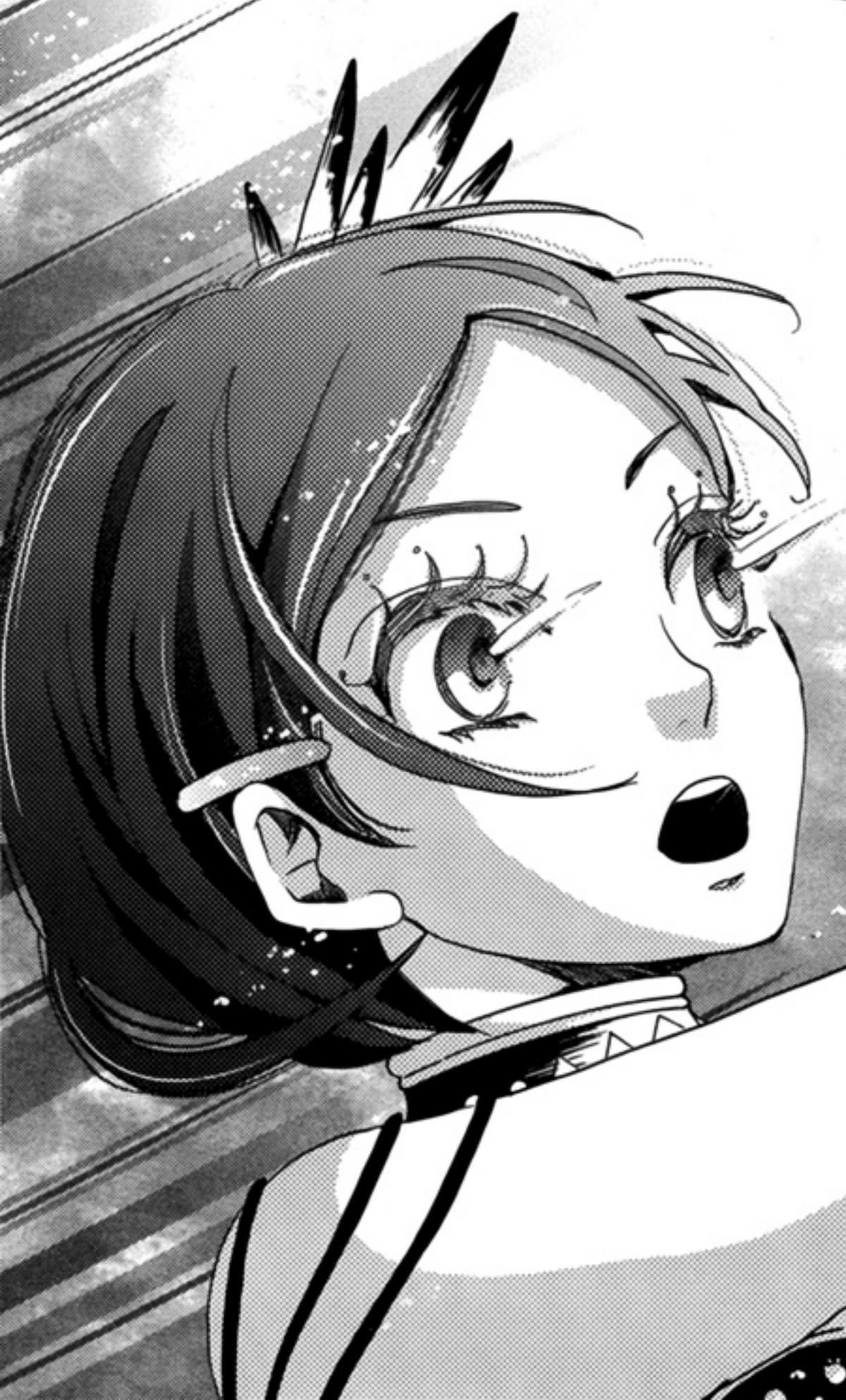


DID THAT
GIRL
ALSO



SO THOSE
WORDS ARE
REALITY TO
ME!!!

"IT'S THE
POWER OF
WORDS.
THEY HAVE
THE
POWER TO
BE
REALITY."



Oh!



KIWAKO.

IN THE
END, MY
SCORE
WASN'T
ALL THAT
BAD...

BE YOUR
USUAL
SELF!

YOU'RE
FINE. GET A
HOLD/OF
YOURSELF...

THIS
MISTAKE
WASN'T A
BIG DEAL!

NANAO!!

UH...

UM,
I...

I...



BYE! I'VE GOT AN INTERVIEW TO GO TO!

KIWA...

Skaters' entrance

stride stride



RE...

RE~~ REALLY MESSED UP!

IT WAS A THOUGHT-LESS MISTAKE!

I SHOULDN'T HAVE CUT MY HAIR!

I DIDN'T TIE MY HAIR PROPERLY, AND GOT DISTRACTED!

WELL! NEXT TIME, I WON'T MAKE THAT MISTAKE!



I'M A PRODIGY

I'M STRONG.

mutter
mutter



I'M FINE. EVERYTHING'S OKAY.

STRONG...

DO YOU HAVE
SOME BUSINESS
WITH ME? DO
YOU WANT TO
FOLLOW ME INTO
THE RESTROOM?

THAT'S
THE MEN'S
REST-
ROOM!

KIWAKO!

NO.
IT'S
A LIE.

KIWA—

I...

AH... HAHA,
I'M... SUCH
A WRECK,
AREN'T I?



I'M NOT
THAT
STRONG.

End of Chapter 3