

# CRIMSON FLOWER



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*I want  
you to  
listen  
as I  
read  
loud  
and  
clearly*

...

The time spent in the ruins is only for these two.

# 黄昏イテ

T w i l i g h t H o u r

# アリス

南マキ

Maki Minami Presents



MY  
CHILDHOOD  
FRIEND,  
KOUTA  
KAKISHIMA,

YOU'VE  
ALWAYS  
BEEN  
BOUND TO

SUDDENLY  
BECAME  
POPULAR  
THIS YEAR.

THIS  
DILAPIDATED  
TRAM CAR.

HEY, KAKISHIMA,  
DO YOU WANT TO  
GO WITH EVERY-  
ONE TO THE WEST  
SIDE OF TOWN  
AFTER SCHOOL  
TODAY?

KOUTA  
CAN'T  
COME  
TODAY,  
RIGHT?

OH,

SHA

BECAUSE  
IT'S RAINING.

YEAH.

AA...







SORRY.

IT'S  
RAINING, SO  
I'LL HAVE TO  
PASS.



SORRY TO  
KEEP YOU  
WAITING,  
LET'S GO  
HOME.

EH?

AND  
THEN...

WHY?

THERE'S ME,  
SUBARU  
KURAMOTO.

KOLTA,

STAM!





THIS YEAR, MY  
PERSONALITY  
GOT WORSE.

DON'T TELL  
ME YOU WERE  
PLANNING ON  
GOING HOME  
WITH SOMEONE  
ELSE.



WHOA!

WHA...?



CLAT...

IDIOT.

BE MORE  
AWARE OF  
HOW YOU  
SAY THINGS,  
SUBARU.



I'M SORRY,  
EVERYONE.

BUT  
THAT'S  
FINE WITH  
ME.





ESPECIALLY  
ON RAINY  
DAYS.

I'M SURE  
YOU KNOW I  
BELONG TO  
SUBARU AFTER  
SCHOOL,



Oh,  
IT  
STOPPED.

YOU  
WERE MUCH  
CUTER WHEN  
WE WERE  
KIDS.

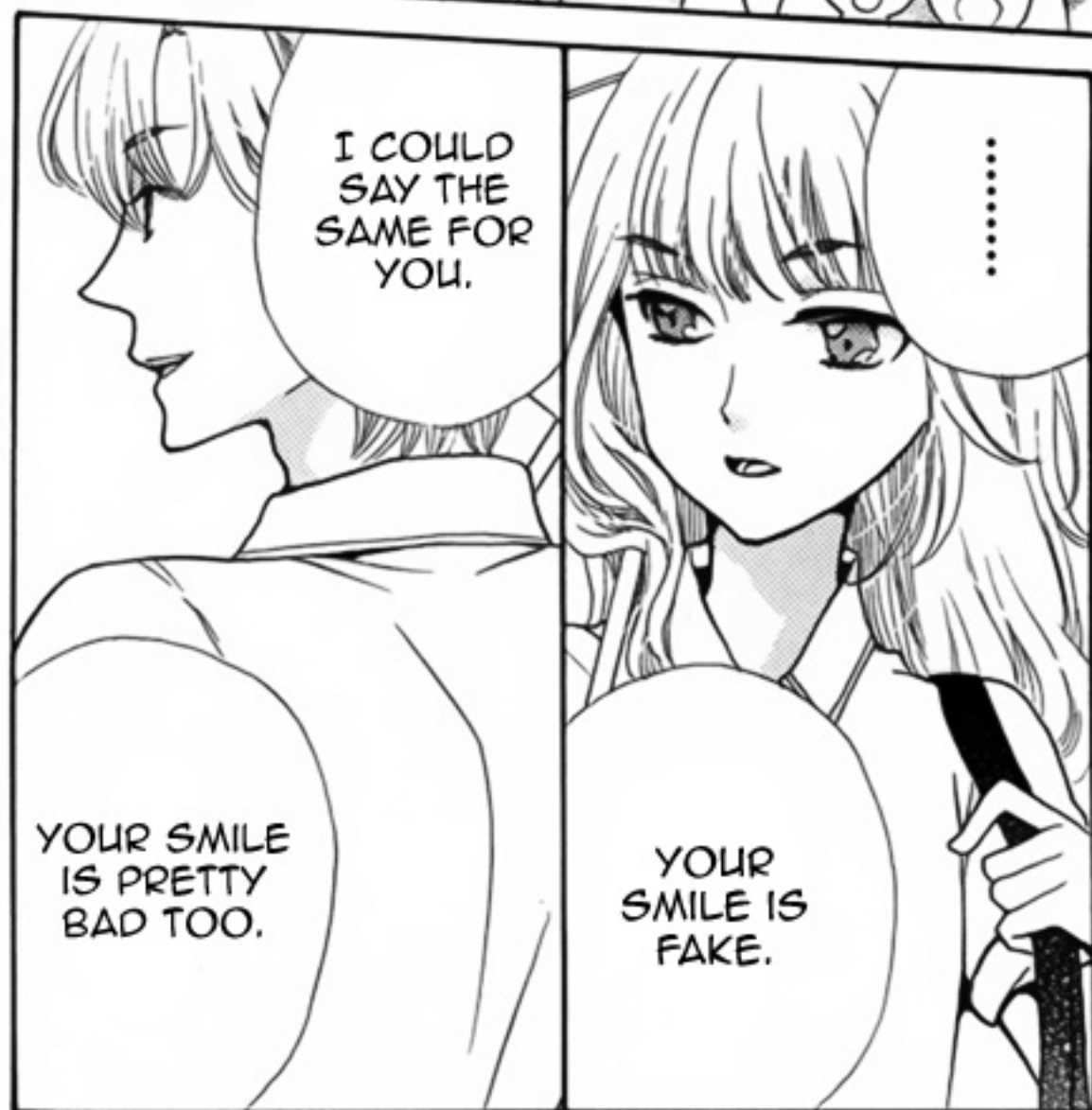
WHENEVER  
POSSIBLE, I  
SPEND TIME WITH  
KOUTA AFTER  
SCHOOL



BYE-BYE!

IT'S  
FINE.

W  
H  
A  
A  
T  
?!



I COULD  
SAY THE  
SAME FOR  
YOU.

YOUR SMILE  
IS PRETTY  
BAD TOO.

YOUR  
SMILE IS  
FAKE.



FOR  
ABOUT  
AN HOUR  
AND A  
HALF AS  
TWILIGHT  
DESCENDS

...

WE GO  
TO OUR  
SECRET  
HIDEOUT  
LOCATED  
IN A  
VACANT  
LOT  
BEHIND A  
HOUSE



\*"TWILIGHT" BY TOSON SHIMAZAKI

"DAY-FLOWERS  
BLOOM IN THEIR  
MELANCHOLY"

"IF YOU  
SUDDENLY  
PAUSE ALONG  
THE FENCE,"



"AS EVENING  
CLOUDS  
LINGER IN  
THE TWILIGHT."

HE  
LISTENS  
TO MY  
RECITATIONS.



IF I ACT  
CHEERY WITH  
EVERYONE,  
THERE WILL BE  
NO END TO IT.

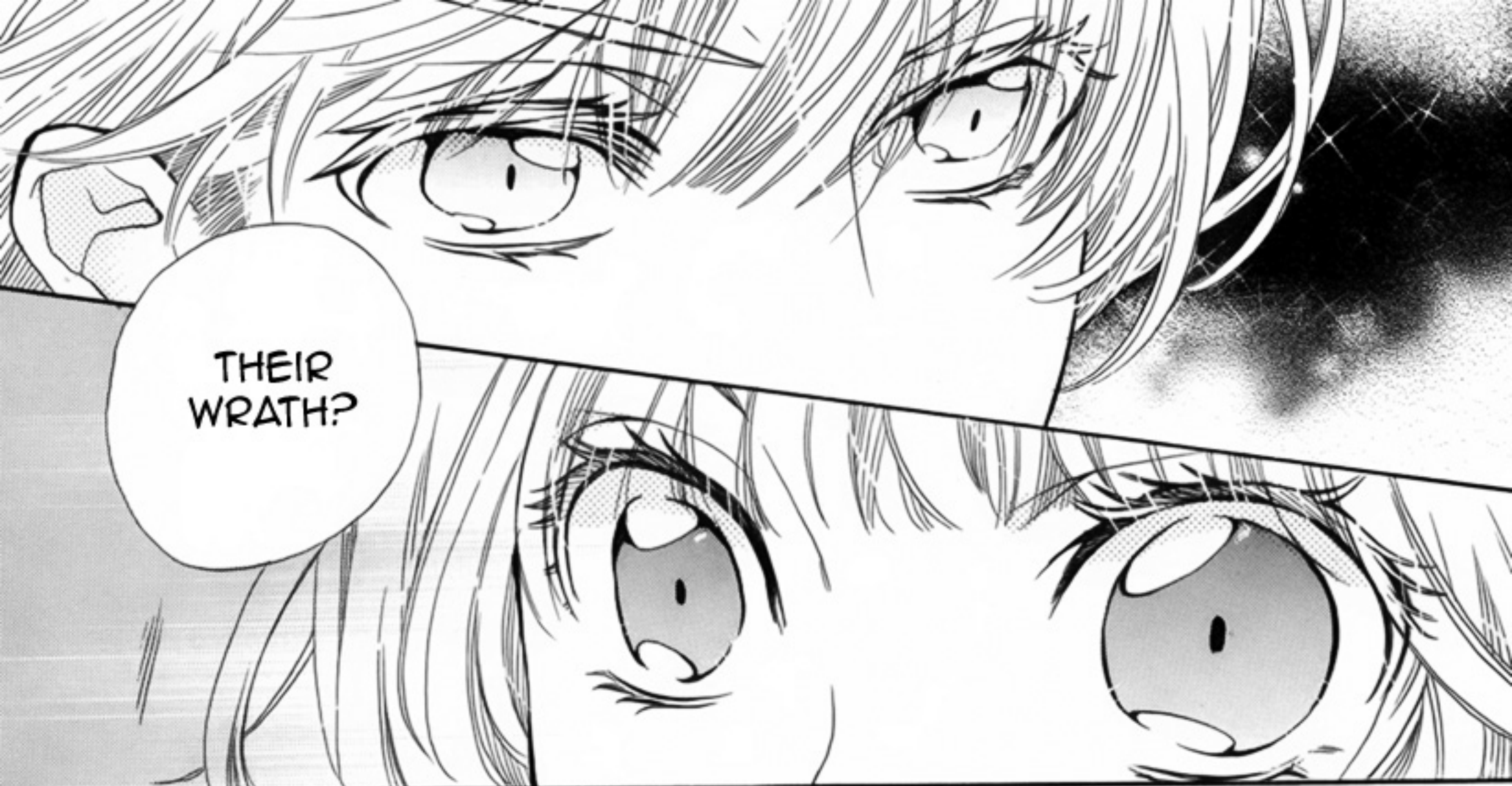
IF I ACT  
CHARMING, I'LL  
HAVE TO FACE  
THE WRATH OF  
YOUR  
FANGIRLS.

I CAN'T.

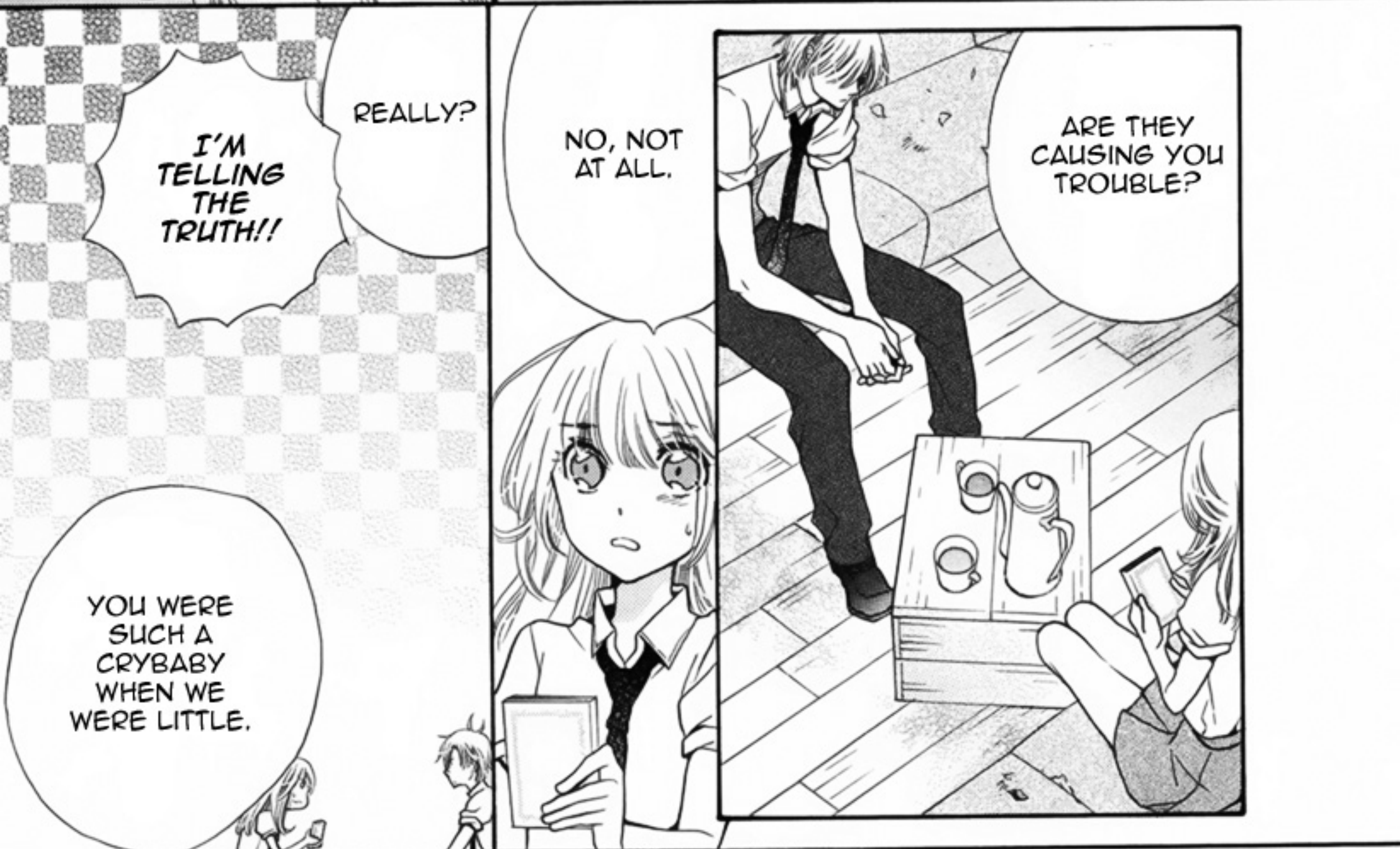
HEY, SUBARU,  
SHOULDN'T YOU  
STOP ANTAGONIZ-  
ING THE PEOPLE  
AROUND YOU SO  
MUCH?







THEIR  
WRATH?



ARE THEY  
CAUSING YOU  
TROUBLE?

NO, NOT  
AT ALL.

REALLY?

I'M  
TELLING  
THE  
TRUTH!!

YOU WERE  
SUCH A  
CRYBABY  
WHEN WE  
WERE LITTLE.



YOU'RE  
NOT PUSHING  
YOURSELF  
TOO HARD,  
ARE YOU?

"KOLTA,"



こんにちは  
みなみ  
南です

久しぶりの  
お話しです。  
とても楽し  
ました。

コメディ要素  
ゼロです。  
デビュ-作以来  
かもしないです。  
「え？オチは？」とか  
言われないか  
心配です。ハハハ  
少しでも楽しんで  
いただけたら  
うれしいです。



運動がなくてば  
とずっと考えている  
けどなかなか  
していません。ハハハ

"LET'S  
READ A  
BOOK  
TOGETHER,  
OKAY?"



"THERE'S  
NO ONE  
AT HOME AND  
IT'S REALLY  
SCARY!"

AND WHEN  
WE WERE  
KIDS, WE  
ALWAYS  
PLAYED  
TOGETHER  
UNTIL  
DINNERTIME.

KOLTA  
IS MY  
NEXT DOOR  
NEIGHBOR,



"IT'LL BE OKAY.  
I'LL READ TO  
YOU UNTIL  
YOU'RE NOT  
SCARED  
ANYMORE."

"HEY, SUBARU!  
I JUST FOUND A  
GREAT SECRET  
HIDEOUT!"

"LET'S  
GO READ  
THERE!"





ONE BIRTHDAY,  
I PESTERED  
KOLTA FOR A  
PRESENT.

I LOVED  
THAT TIME  
WITH KOLTA.



"HEY  
KOLTA,"

"FOR MY  
BIRTHDAY  
PRESENT,"



"CAN YOU  
SPEND AN  
HOUR AND  
A HALF IN THE  
EARLY EVENING  
WITH ME ON  
RAINY DAYS?"

EVER  
SINCE THAT  
DAY, HE'S  
ALWAYS

"ON  
RAINY  
DAYS,"

"I WANT YOU TO  
LISTEN TO MY  
RECITATIONS,  
NO MATTER WHAT."



"GIVE  
ME YOUR  
TIME."





I FEEL  
LINEASY.

GRANTED  
MY WISH.

UM,  
KURAMOTO,  
I HAVE A  
FAVOR TO  
ASK.



I KNOW IT'S  
RAINING, BUT I  
THOUGHT IT'D  
BE OKAY AS  
LONG AS I  
ASK YOU  
FIRST.



I WAS  
WONDERING  
IF YOU  
COULD LET  
ME BORROW  
KAKISHIMA  
AFTER  
SCHOOL  
TODAY.

IF  
POSSIBLE,  
HE EVEN  
COMES ON  
SUNNY  
DAYS.



LATELY,



THINGS LIKE  
THIS HAVE BEEN  
GETTING MORE  
FREQUENT.

NO.

BUT  
...









SUBARU,  
HAS THIS BEEN  
HAPPENING A  
LOT LATELY?

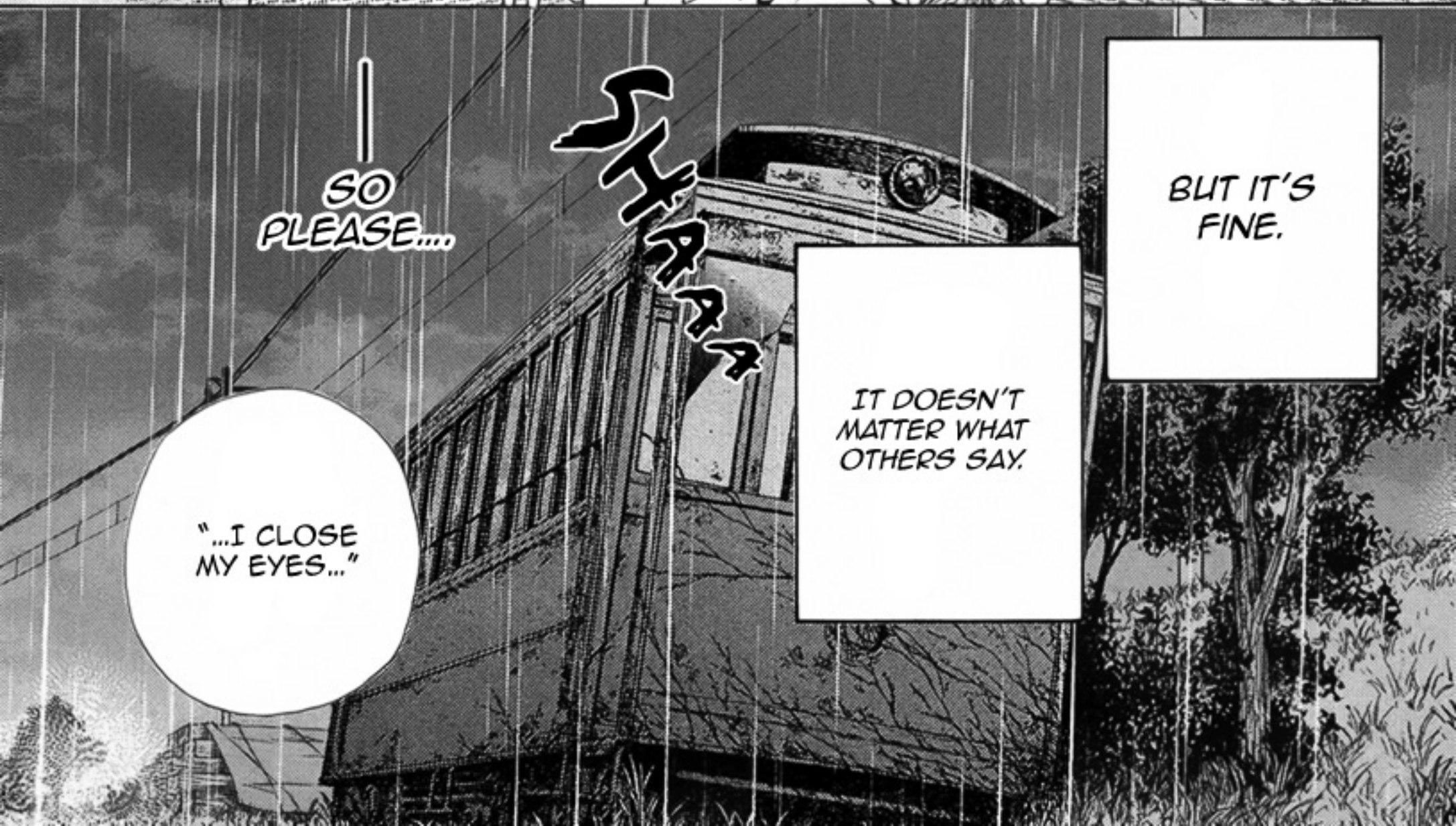
NOT  
REALLY...



AND  
THE GIRLS  
AROUND HIM  
NOTICED.

SOON ENOUGH, I  
WAS CONSTANTLY  
BEING CONFRONTED  
BY THEM AFTER  
SCHOOL.

KOLTA  
SUDDENLY  
GREW  
TALLER,



—  
SO  
PLEASE....

シタタタ

"...I CLOSE  
MY EYES..."

IT DOESN'T  
MATTER WHAT  
OTHERS SAY.

BUT IT'S  
FINE.





"THE LONG-DISUSED STOVE IS"

"IT'S A LONELY SORT OF DRUNKENNESS."

"ALREADY"



ERASE  
IT ALL.

"RUSTING  
IN A COAT  
OF WHITE."



AND THE  
SOUND  
OF THE  
RAIN...

SHAAA

LET MY  
VOICE  
WASH  
AWAY



HEY,  
SUBARU.

THE FEAR

SHAAA







THEN I HAVE NO  
REASON TO BE  
WITH KOLTA.



LET'S HAVE  
KOLTA OVER  
FOR DINNER  
ONCE IN A  
WHILE!



AREN'T  
YOU GOING  
WITH KOLTA TO  
YOUR "SECRET  
HIDEOUT"  
TODAY?

NO, NOT  
TODAY.





HE'S BEEN  
SHAKING  
EVER SINCE  
THAT DAY.

IS KOUTA  
HERE?

SHIVER

SHIVER

LIVING  
WITHOUT A  
MOTHER MUST  
BE VERY HARD  
FOR HIM,  
AFTER ALL.

ON RAINY  
DAYS

DURING  
TWILIGHT,

KURAMOTO  
...

I SEE,  
GOT IT.

I THINK HE  
LEFT AFTER  
THE TEACHER  
CALLED HIM,  
BUT...

KOUTA  
DOESN'T  
STOP  
SHAKING.







YOU  
ALREADY  
KNOW WHAT  
MY ANSWER  
IS, DON'T  
YOU?

WHAT?

WE'RE  
PLANNING  
ON INVITING  
KAKISHIMA  
TOO, SO....

WE'RE ALL  
PLANNING TO  
GO OUT TO  
KARAOKE  
TODAY.

WHAT?!



YOU'RE ONLY  
HIS CHILDHOOD  
FRIEND, AREN'T  
YOU?

HE'S HAD  
ENOUGH. WHY  
DON'T YOU SET  
HIM FREE?



WHY DO  
YOU THINK  
KAKISHIMA  
HAS BEEN  
GOING HOME  
WITH OTHER  
PEOPLE  
RECENTLY?

IT'S  
BECAUSE  
YOU'RE  
SUFFOCATING  
HIM!







IT'S NOT  
RAINING, SO  
THERE'S NO  
PROBLEM,  
RIGHT?

HEY, THE  
OTHERS AND I  
ARE GOING TO  
KARAOKE  
TODAY!  
WHY DON'T  
YOU COME  
TOO?

UM,  
SORRY.  
SUBARU  
AND I  
ARE...

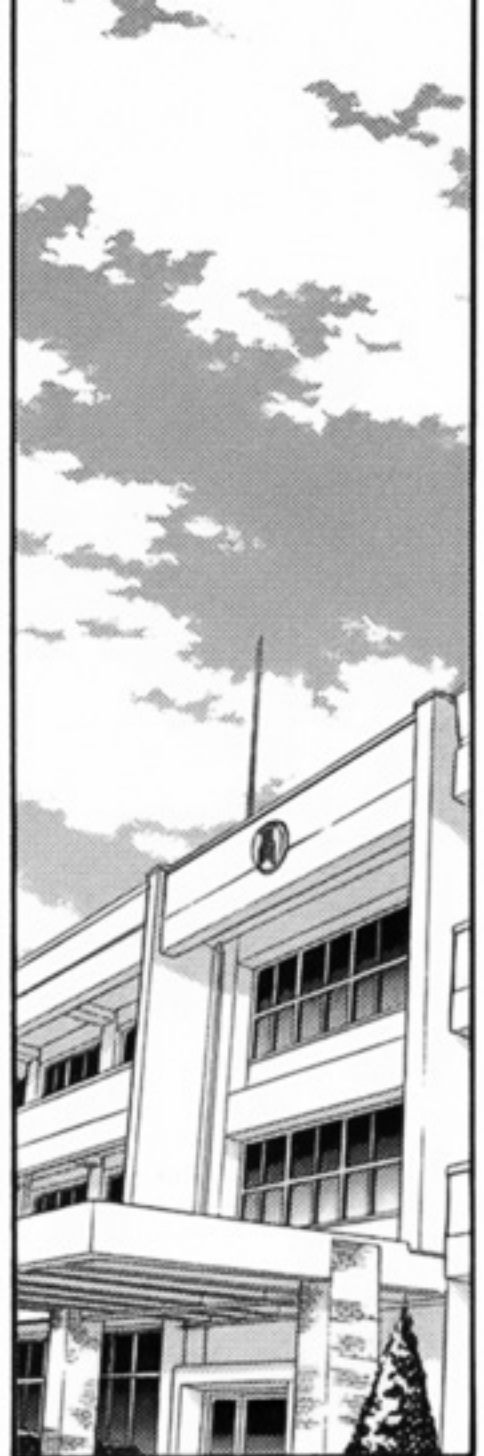
OH!



CLATTER

KAKISHIMA...

and another  
person.



THANK  
GOOD-  
NESS...?



THANK  
GOODNESS!  
RIGHT,  
KAKISHIMA?



SHE  
LEFT  
ALREADY!



SO YOU'RE  
FREE TODAY!






YOU'VE  
GOT IT  
WRONG.



FOR  
WHAT?

HUH?

BUT  
KAKI-  
SHIMA...



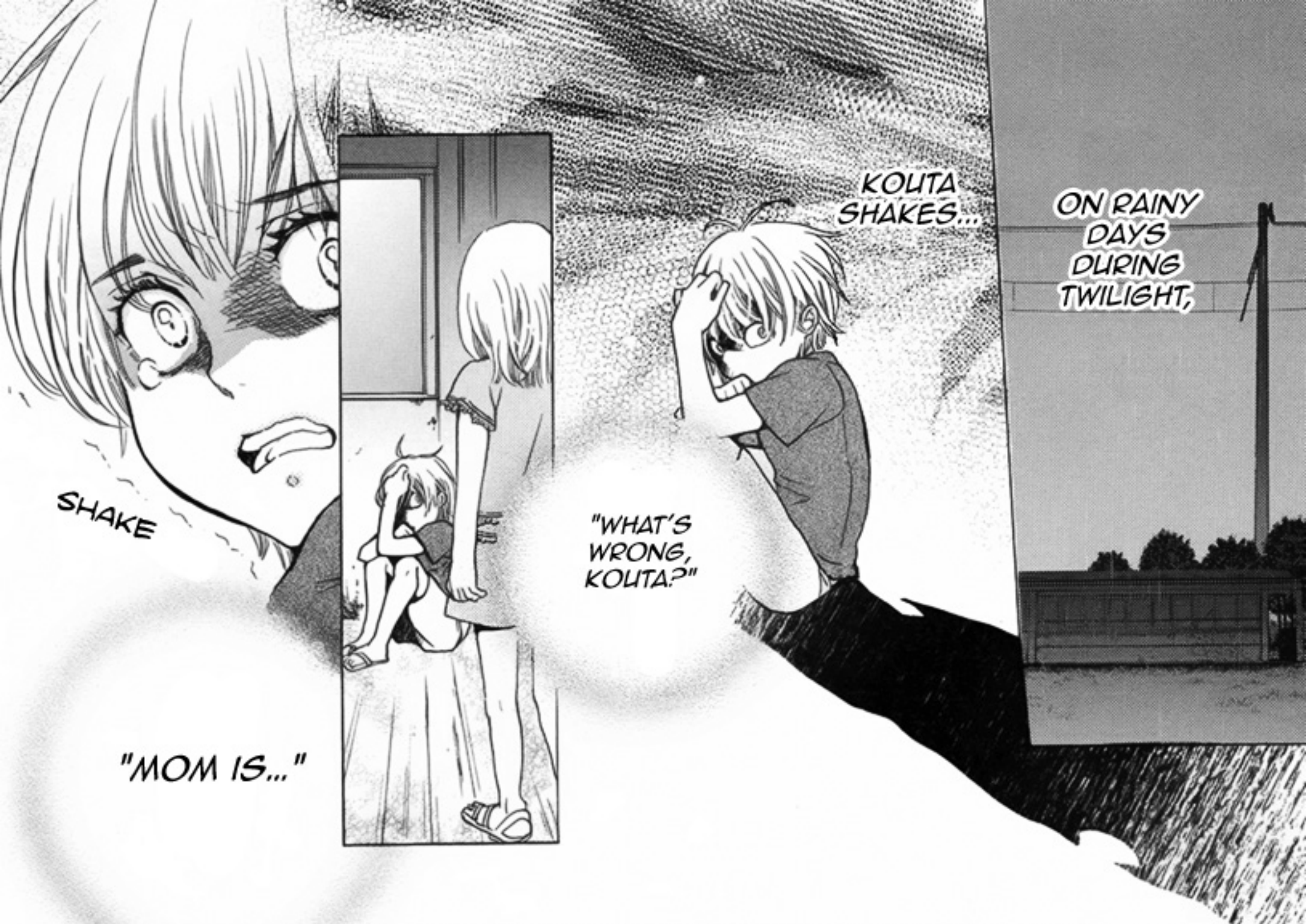
YOU DON'T HAVE  
ANY FREEDOM  
WITH KURAMOTO  
MONOPOLIZING  
YOU LIKE THAT.



HE'S  
SHAKING.

I'M THE ONE  
MONOPOLIZING  
SUBARU'S  
AFTER-SCHOOL  
TIME.





SHAKE

"MOM IS..."

KOLTA  
SHAKES...

ON RAINY  
DAYS  
DURING  
TWILIGHT,

"WHAT'S  
WRONG,  
KOLTA?"



KOLTA'S  
MOTHER WAS IN  
A CAR ACCIDENT  
AND DIED.

ONE RAINY  
DAY IN THE EARLY  
EVENING WHILE  
KOLTA WAS LEFT  
ALONE AT HOME  
FOR AN HOUR  
AND A HALF,

AND  
MAKES  
KOLTA  
SHAKE.

THE  
SOUND  
OF RAIN

REMINDS  
HIM

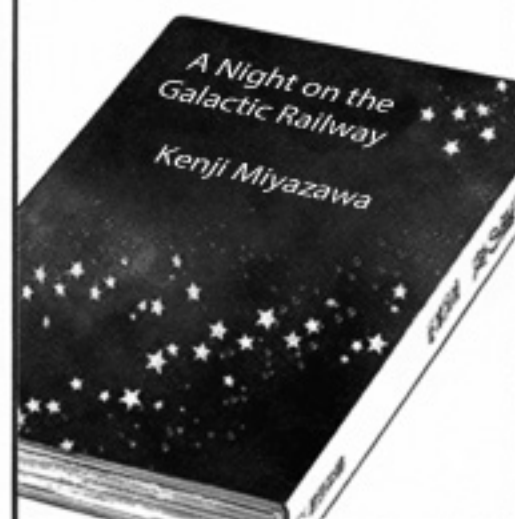




IN THAT  
HOUR AND  
A HALF OF  
TWILIGHT,



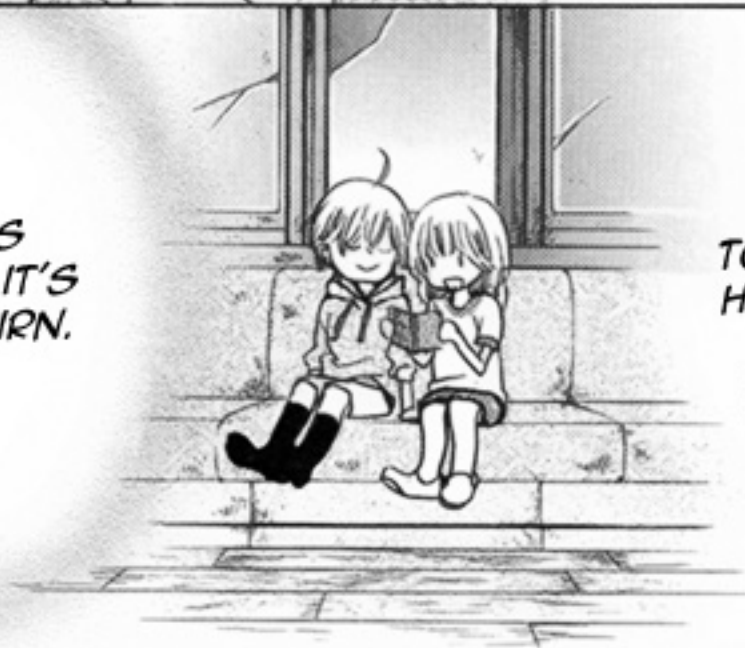
SO I'LL  
ERASE THE  
SOUND OF  
THE RAIN.



I'LL BE  
WITH KOLTA  
NO MATTER  
WHAT.



THIS  
TIME, IT'S  
MY TURN.



WE WERE  
ALWAYS  
TOGETHER, AND  
HE READ TO ME  
WHENEVER I  
WAS SCARED,  
SO...

FOR  
MY NEXT  
BIRTHDAY,

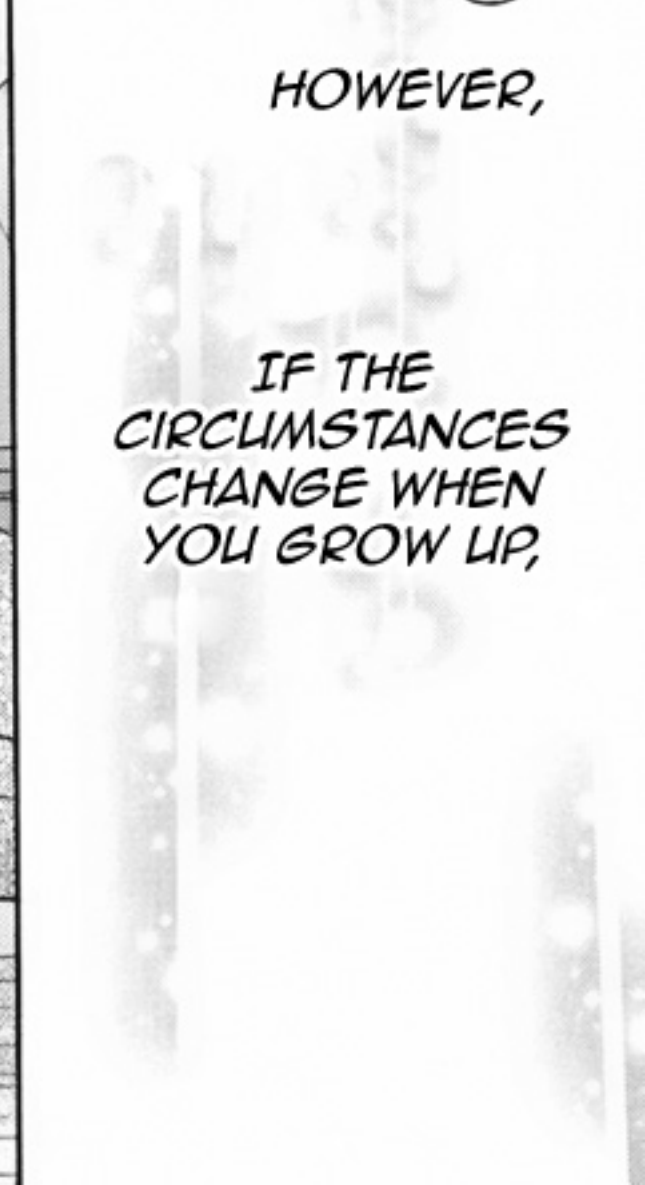
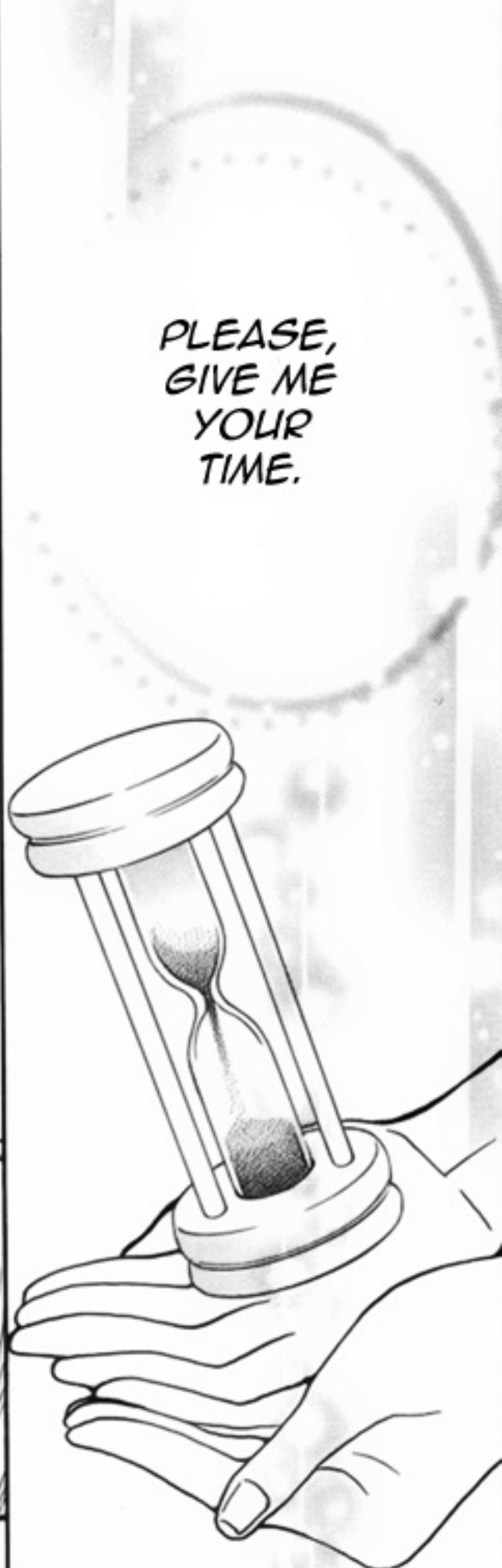
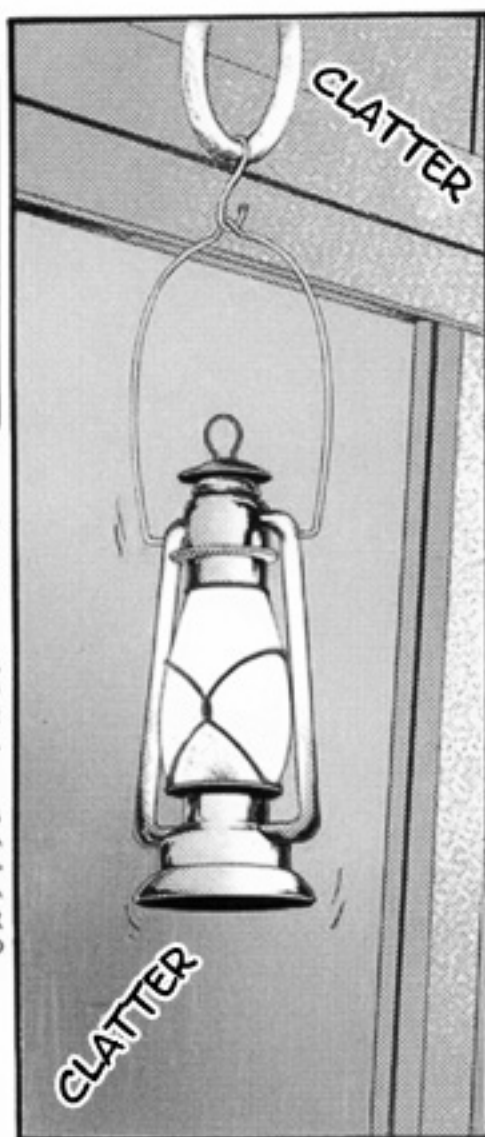


SO THAT'S  
WHY, KOLTA,



地元の駅前が再開発でどんどん建物が増えていきました。  
美味しいお店が沢山入っている駅ビルができますように。

あて先  
〒101-0063 東京都千代田区神田淡路町2-2-2  
白泉社花とゆめ編集部 南マキ様係





SHAA...

SHAA...

KOLTA  
....!!

DRIP

RAIN  
....!!

SLIDE

SUBARU.









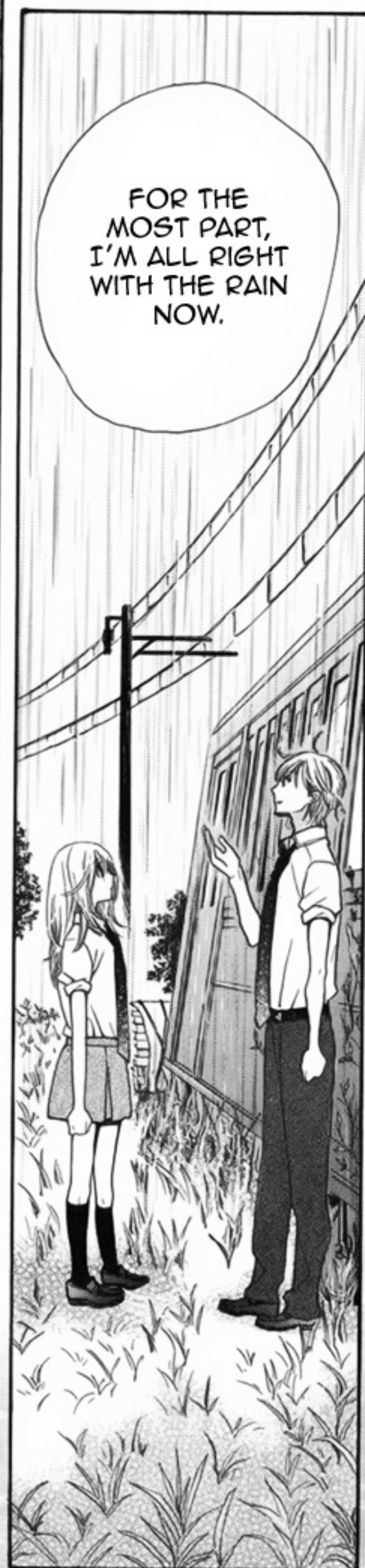
I DON'T  
MIND

RAIN  
IN THE  
TWILIGHT.

LOOK,

AT HOW  
SUDDENLY

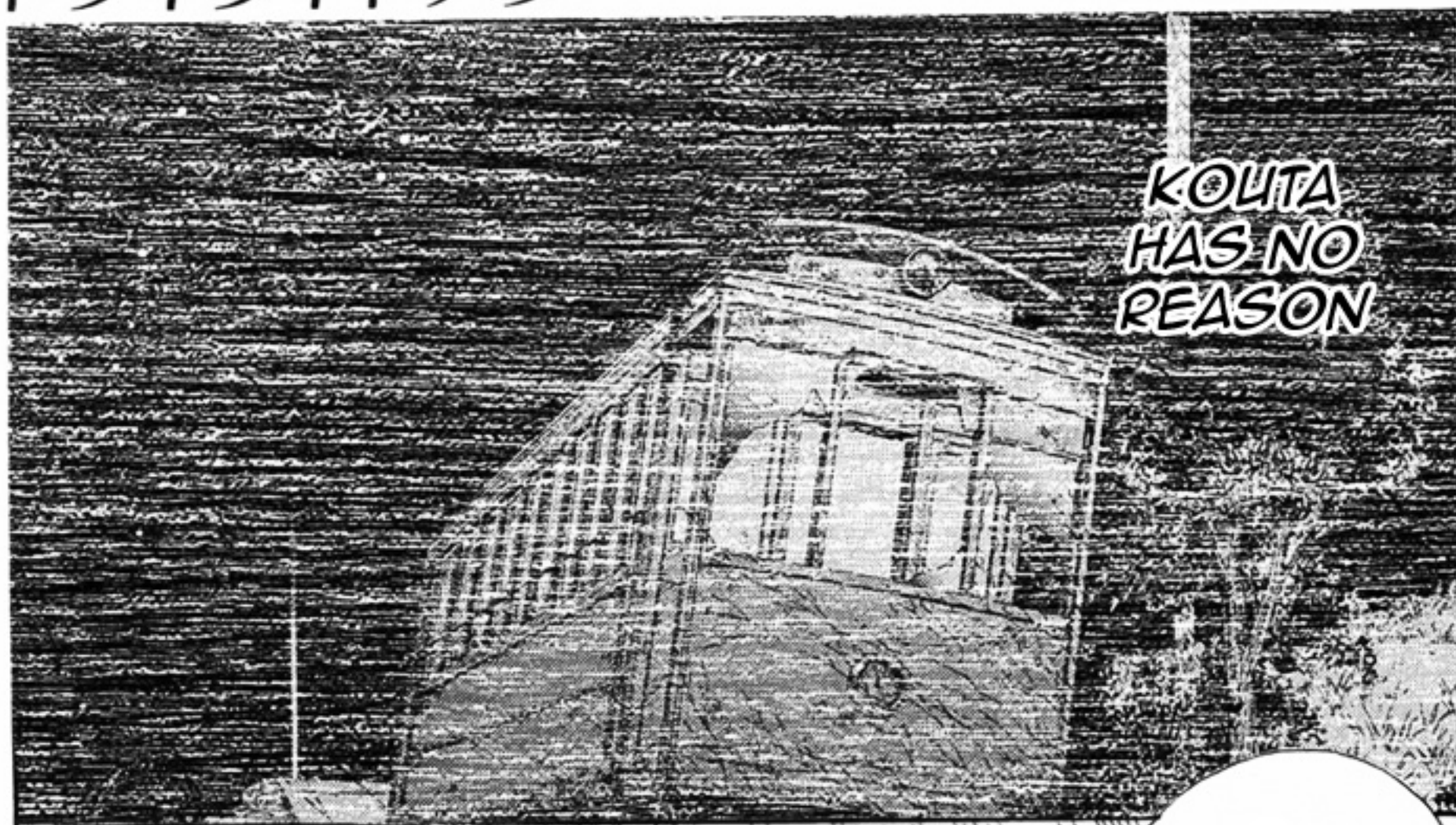
IT ALL  
DISAPPEARED...



FOR THE  
MOST PART,  
I'M ALL RIGHT  
WITH THE RAIN  
NOW.



# トワイライトアワー



KOLTA  
HAS NO  
REASON

I'VE ASKED  
SO MUCH OF  
YOU FOR  
SUCH A LONG  
TIME.

I'M SORRY,  
SUBARU.

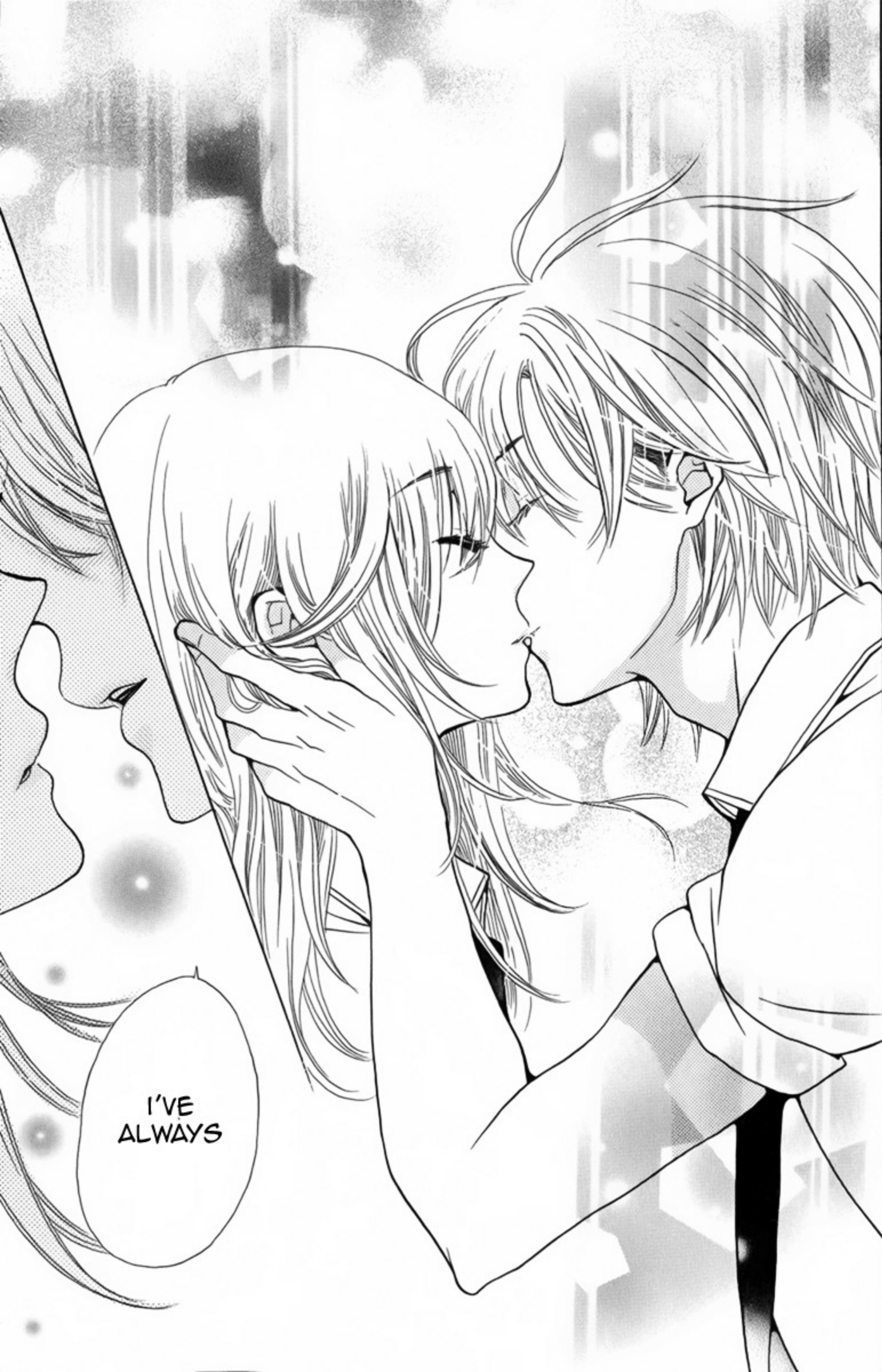
TO  
BE TIED  
TO THIS  
PLACE.

IT'S  
NOT....

THAT'S WHY  
I KEPT YOU  
HERE.

I WANTED  
TO ALWAYS  
BE WITH  
YOU.





I'VE  
ALWAYS



OKAY.

IT'S  
NOT A  
BURDEN....

I'M  
SORRY.

IT'S  
NOT A  
BURDEN  
AT ALL!





NOW,  
IN-THIS  
MOMENT,

AS OUR  
RELATIONSHIP  
SUDDENLY  
TRANSFORMS,

LOVED YOU.



IS IT  
OKAY?



*OUR LOVE WILL BEGIN.*





CLAT

AGAIN,  
YOU'RE  
SHUT  
INSIDE

OF THIS  
DILAPIDATED  
TWILIGHT  
STREETCAR.



END