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The Ice Queen
Rikachi Presents

氷の女王

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Kodansha Comics
BETSUFURE

Crimson Flower Translations

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This series ran in
monthly Betsufure
Japanese Language
magazine.

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氷の女王



The Ice Queen
Rikachi Presents







AT FIRST,
IT SEEMED
THAT
KITAROLI'S
SKATING
WAS
SMOOTH.

HOWEVER,
UNLIKE
NANAO'S
ORTHODOX
AND
ELEGANT
SKATING,
KITAROLI'S
IS PAS-
SIONATE.

STEP 7
My Prince



MY
HEART
WAS
CAPTURED
IN AN
INSTANT

I'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR
YOU TO
MAKE THAT
FACE,

ICE
QUEEN.

I'VE WANTED TO
MEET YOU SINCE
LAST YEAR'S
COMPETITION IN
CANADA.

IT WAS
PROBABLY
LOVE AT
FIRST SIGHT.

BECAUSE
HE WAS
SO
COOL.

STEP 7
.....
My Prince

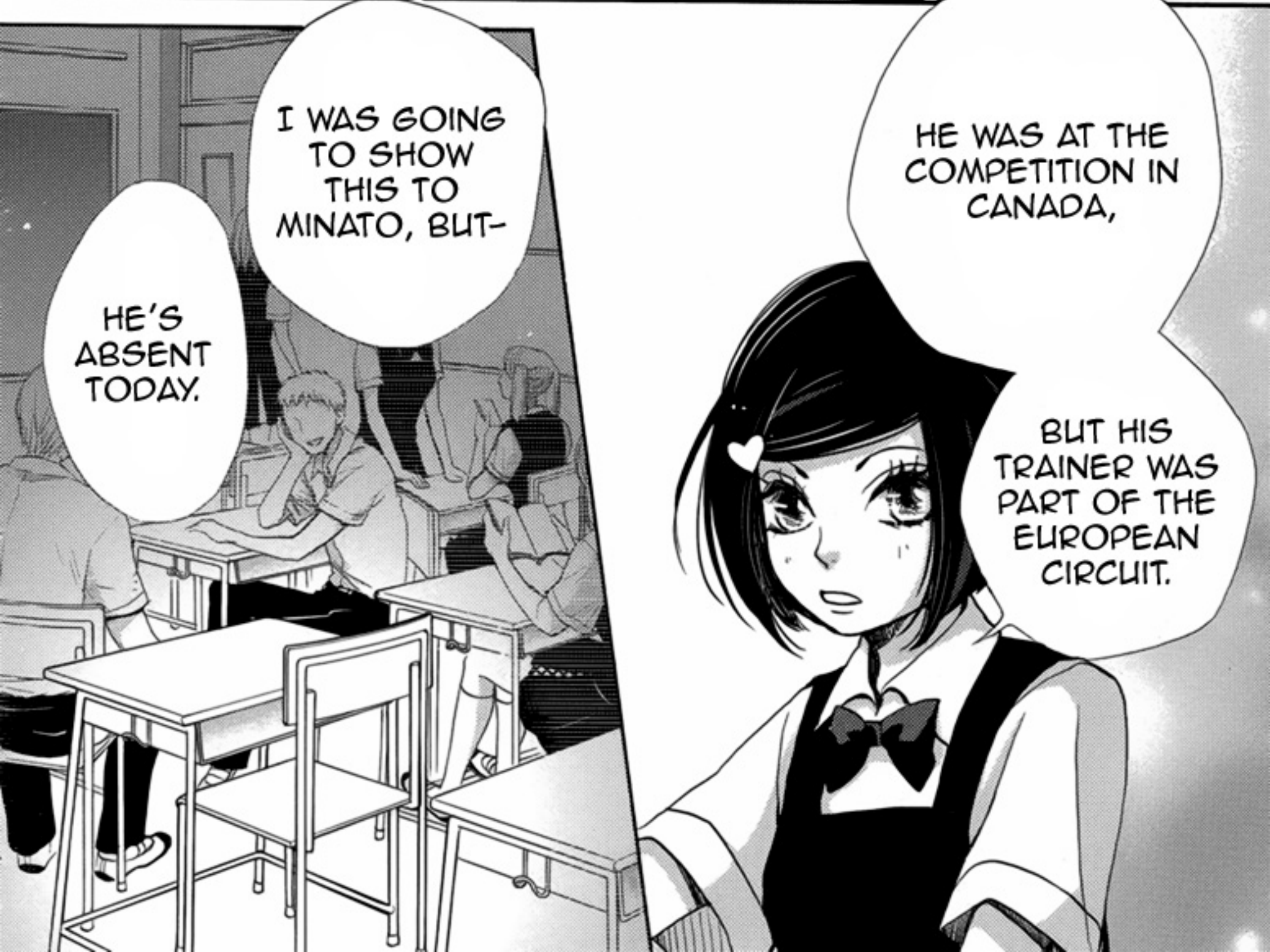




HE'S
DIFFERENT
ON THE ICE!

IT'S
LIKE... HE'S
ANOTHER
PERSON.

HUH?
IS THAT
YUKI?



I WAS GOING
TO SHOW
THIS TO
MINATO, BUT-

HE'S
ABSENT
TODAY.

HE WAS AT THE
COMPETITION IN
CANADA,

BUT HIS
TRAINER WAS
PART OF THE
EUROPEAN
CIRCUIT.

...I FEEL
A BIT
RELIEVED...

DO YOU
THINK
HE HAS
A
COLD?

NO,
MINATO
HASN'T
SAID A
WORD.

HAVE YOU
HEARD
FROM HIM?

BUT WHEN
I SEE
HIM, HOW
SHOULD I
FACE HIM?
THIS IS SO
CONFUSING...

...UH.

THIS IS ALSO
AWKWARD!

SINCE YOU'RE
GOING TO THE
ICE RINK, I'LL
COME WITH
YOU...



THE TRUTH
IS, I'M
REALLY
NERVOUS.

HE'S
LIKE
THAT
GIRL
WHO
SAYS

SHE BE-
COMES A
DIFFERENT
PERSON
ON THE
ICE.

**HAHAHA,
WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?**

Come on...

THAT'S
KNOWN AS
"LETTING
LOOSE".

SHE
COULD
EVEN
BECOME
AN
ACTRESS.

IT JUST
MORE OR
LESS
HAPPENS.

WHEN I
SKATE,
THAT'S THE
MOOD I
CONVEY.

AREN'T YOU
THE SAME
WAY?

LAST YEAR,
I SAW YOUR
FIREBIRD
PERFOR-
MANCE.

No, I'm the
same on and
off the ice!!

Huh?

Me?

AS I WATCHED,
AT FIRST, I
THOUGHT, HOW
COULD SUCH A
SMALL GIRL
BECOME THE
FIREBIRD?

Don't lump
me in with
yourself.



IT WASN'T
MAGNIFICENT,
BUT

SHE WAS
AFLAME LIKE A
PHOENIX
RISING...

HER THIN
PETITE
FRAME
BELIES HER
SPEED AND
JUMP HEIGHT.



YOU BECAME
THE FIREBIRD,
DIDN'T YOU?

WHEN I MET YOU IN PERSON, I WAS A LITTLE LET DOWN.

You were different than on the ice.

WELL, BUT MY PERSONALITY DOESN'T GET DRAGGED INTO THE PERFORMANCE TOO.

I SEE WHAT HE MEANS...

IT'S TRUE, WHEN I PERFORM...

I BECOME SOMEONE ELSE.

YOU ARE CUTER

THAN I IMAGINED.

THAT'S WHY

But I'm normal of course! Isn't that obvious?

Ha!

Ha!

Ha!

Ha!

CUTE


CUTE

CUTE

CUTE

A guy said I'm cute!

CUTE



IT SEEMED
LIKE IT WOULD
BE FUN TO
SKATE AS A
PAIR WITH YOU.



AM I BEING
ATTACKED?

WHAT DID
HE MEAN?

BEING
POPULAR
IS SCARY!!!



WHAT'S
THIS?
KIWAKO,
YOU'RE
BLUSHING.

DID
SOME-
THING
HAP-
PEN?

YIKES!



SOMETHING
DID HAPPEN.

She's
easy
to
read.

Geez!
What
am I
doing?

**WHAT
SHOULD
I DO?!**



BONK



TEACHER
...

IF YOU DON'T ACT
MORE LADYLIKE,
YOU WON'T BE
POPULAR WITH
THE BOYS.

chuckle
chuckle

THERE
AREN'T ANY
OTHER GIRLS
BLATANTLY
SLEEPING IN
CLASS.

MS.
CHIKURA!

LISTEN
HERE,

HHH?!

HEH!



IS HE
KEEPING
HIS WHERE-
ABOUTS A
SECRET?!

HE HASN'T
COME HOME
YET. ISN'T HE
AT SCHOOL OR
HIS PART-TIME
JOB?

OH!! IS
THAT YOU,
KIWAKO?

YES! IT'S
BEEN A
WHILE.
UM, IS
MINATO...



I'M
LEAVING.

I WONDER
WHERE HE'S
BEEN
GOING...

THINKING
ABOUT
BACK
THEN,
I WAS
LEFT
STANDING
THERE
PUZZLED...



BUT HE'LL
PROBABLY
THINK IT'S
TOO MUCH
OF A
BOTTER TO
REPLY.

I'LL SEND A
MESSAGE
TO NANA
TOO,

IT WAS THE
FIRST TIME
I FELT SO
DISTANT
FROM
MINATO...



WHISH



WHOA!

WHOA!

WHOA!

KIWAKO ISN'T
PUTTING ANY
FEELING INTO
HER PERFOR-
MANCE.

What
happened
to all of her
practice?

THERE'S
NOTHING I
CAN DO IF
SHE'S LIKE
THIS.

IT
PROBABLY
HAS TO DO
WITH THAT
BOY...

HER HEART
ISN'T INTO IT.

DID
SOME-
THING
HAPPEN?



IS
SOME-
THING UP?

I DON'T FEEL
LIKE TALKING
TO ANYONE
RIGHT NOW,

SO MAYBE
LATER...

KIWAKO!











OF COURSE,
BEING
POPULAR IS
SOMETHING
TO BE
OVERJOYED
ABOUT, BUT

FOR SOME
REASON, I
ALWAYS
BELIEVED
THAT I NEVER
WOULD BE.

EVEN I
DON'T
REALLY
HAVE A
GRASP OF
IT MYSELF...



AND THEN,
ON THE
OTHER HAND,
THERE'S THE
VILLAGE BOY
WHO FELL IN
LOVE WITH
GISELLE.



A BOY WHO
HID HIS NOBLE
LINEAGE AND
GISELLE
WHO'S IN
LOVE WITH
HIM,



IN THE
SECOND
ACT,
FAIRIES
KILLED THE
VILLAGE
BOY.

I CAN ONLY
SKATE THE
DANCE IF I'M
IN LOVE.



IT'S A
PRETTY
CRAZY
STORY
WHEN YOU
THINK
ABOUT IT...



THE
VILLAGE
BOY
FOUND
OUT,
AND
GISELLE
DIED
FROM
SHOCK.

THE
NOBLE
BOY HAD
A
FIANCEE,

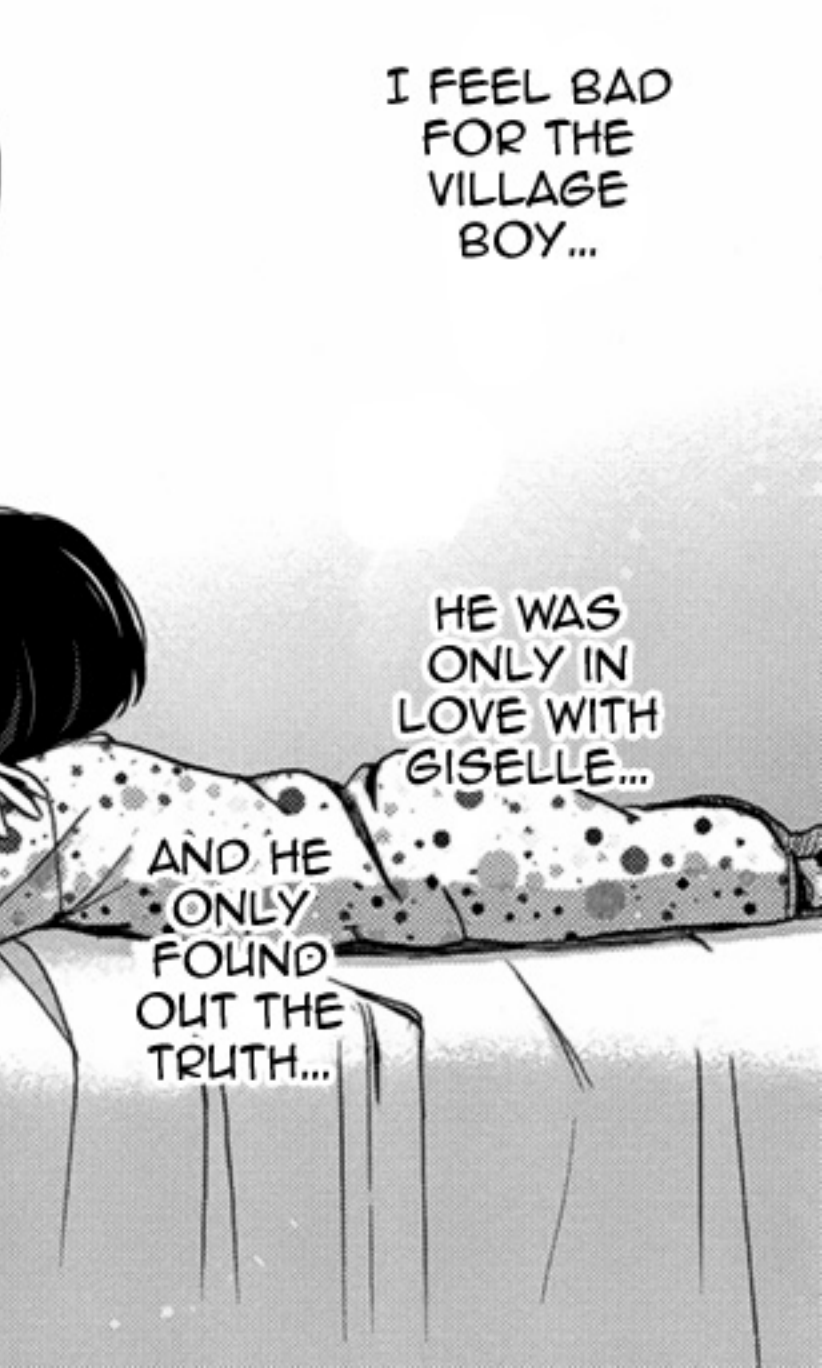


THE NOBLE
BOY WAS
PROBABLY
JUST AS
COOL AS
HIM.

GISELLE
ONLY LIKED
THE NOBLE
BOY FOR HIS
LOOKS!!




GISELLE
FOUND
OUT
TOO.



I FEEL BAD
FOR THE
VILLAGE
BOY...

HE WAS
ONLY IN
LOVE WITH
GISELLE...

AND HE
ONLY
FOUND
OUT THE
TRUTH...



WHAT
WOULD I
DO IN THAT
SITUATION?

EVEN THE
VILLAGE)
BOY WAS A
GOOD
PERSON.

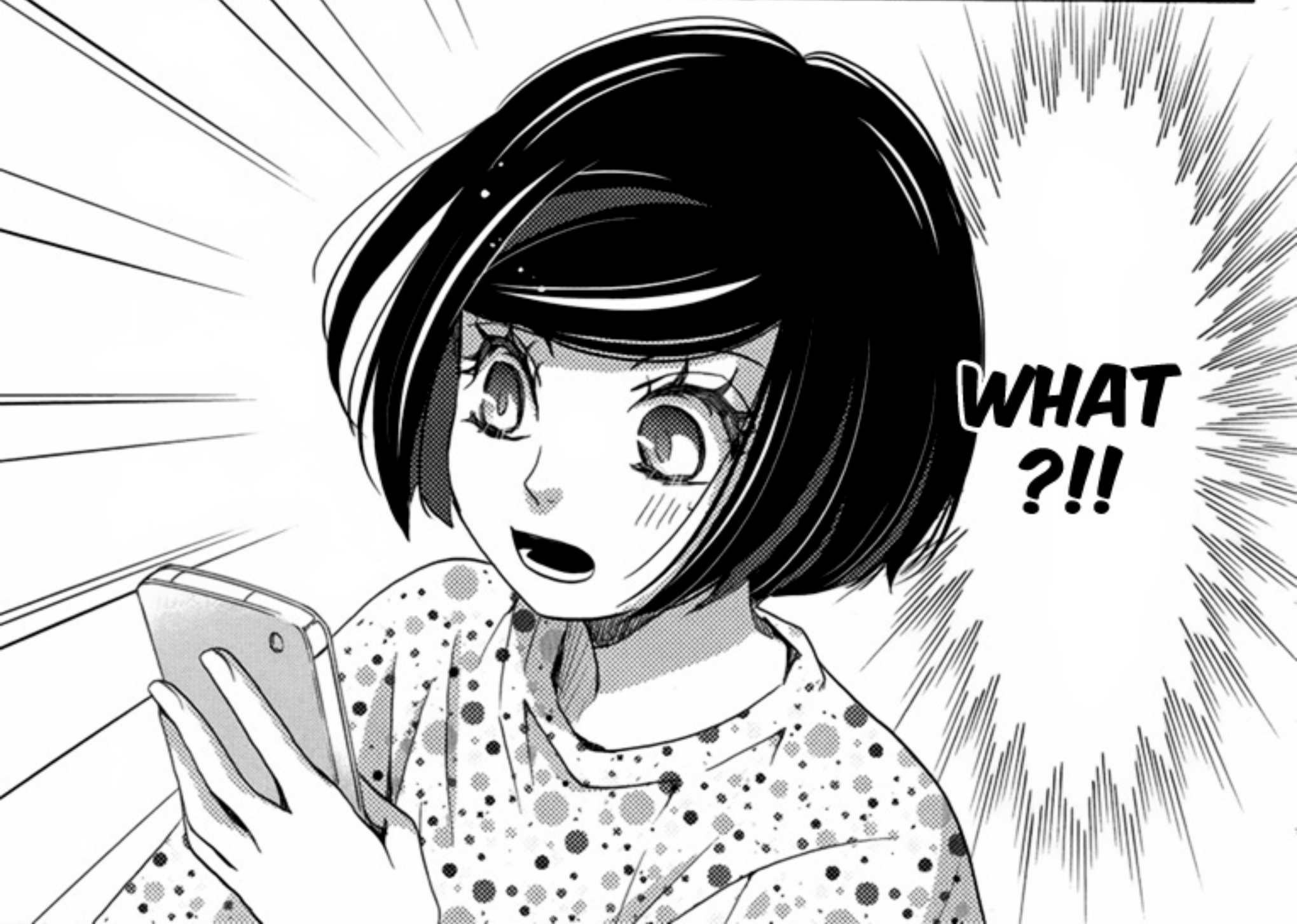
DYING FROM
SHOCK.
GISELLE IS
A FOOL.

IN MY
CASE,



JUST
LIKE IT
WAS WITH
NANAO.

NO MATTER
WHICH ONE
I CHOOSE,
IT'LL BE
PAINFUL





MINATO...
WHY IS HE
GOING TO A
SKATING
RINK?

V
RR

Nanao

He said he's
coming again
tomorrow, so will
you come?

COULD
HE BE...?

SKATING
RINK?

SHE SAID THE
SKATING RINK
SHE'S GOING TO
IS TWO HOURS
AWAY.

IF YOU'RE
LOOKING FOR
KIWAKO, SHE
LEFT EARLY.









KIWAKO! WHY
ARE YOU...?

HUH?

MINATO?

You're
really here!!



THE
STRANGE
WAY YOU
LEFT ME
HANGING...
I WAS...

...UM,

THAT GUY
CAN'T
KEEP HIS
MOUTH
SHUT.

OH
GOSH,
DID
NANAO
TELL
YOU?

.....

HE TOLD ME
BECAUSE I
WAS WORRIED
ABOUT YOU.

I SAID
BEFORE THAT I
WAS GOING TO
MAKE YOU
FALL IN LOVE
WITH ME,
RIGHT?

I WAS FEELING
SORRY FOR
MYSELF... OR
RATHER, I FELT
LIKE I WASN'T
ANY GOOD.

A LITTLE
IRRITATED
WITH
MYSELF...

THAT
WAS ME
BEING...



I fall all
over the
place.

BUT WHILE
SKATING, I
HAD A REAL-
IZATION.

BUT I'M
TOO OUT OF
PRACTICE
AND CAN'T
DO ANYTHING.
I can't do
double jumps.

I KINDA
WANTED TO
SEEM LIKE I
COULD STILL
SKATE...

YOU WERE
RIGHT.







SKATING
CAREFREELY
LIKE HE HAD
WINGS, AND

AIRY AS
IF THERE
WAS NO
GRAVITY.

I
REMEMBER
HIM



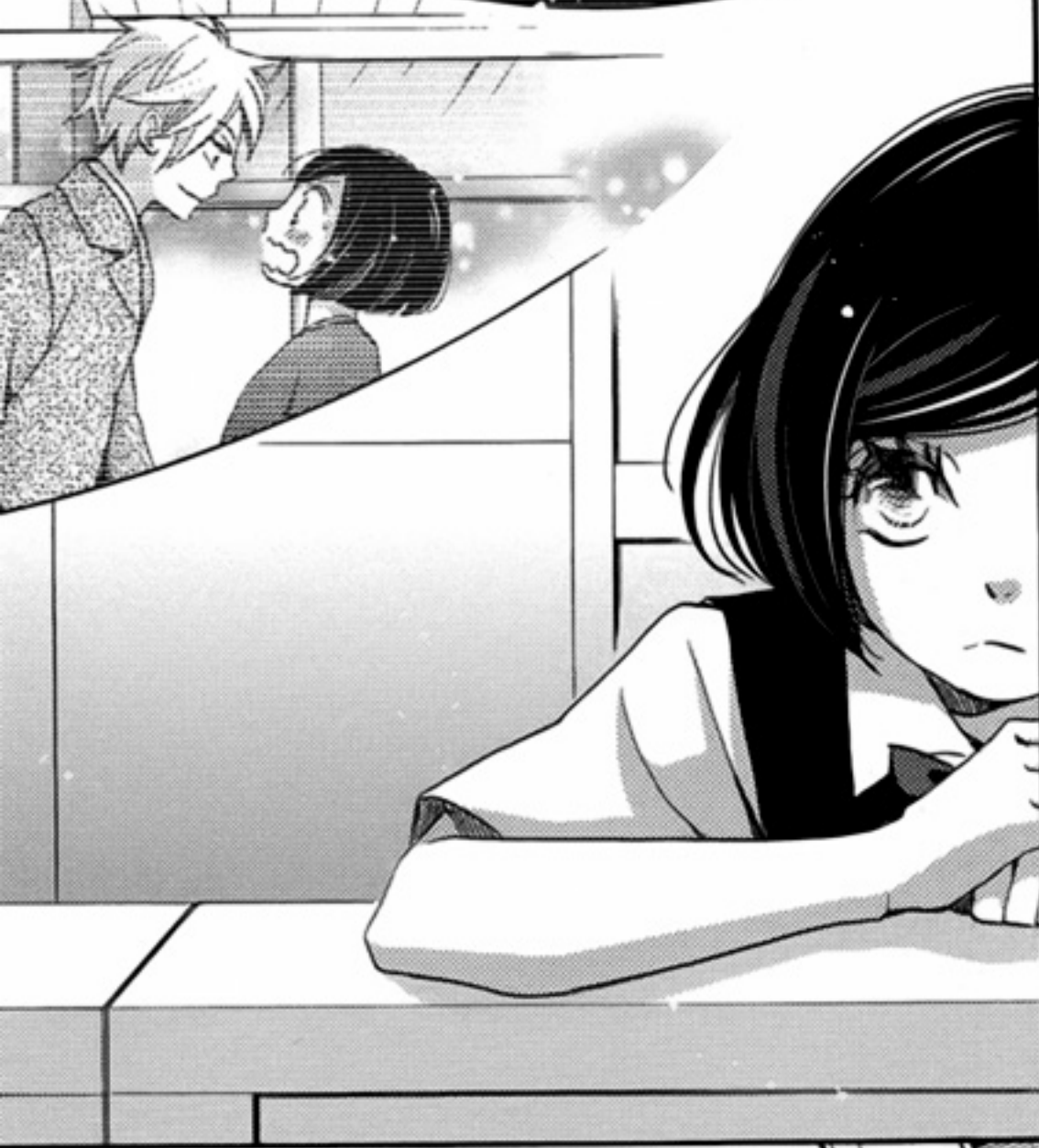
AND
RHYTHMIC,

COMICAL





KATE CENTER



THE
MINATO

I SEE
BEFORE
ME NOW...



JUST
MADE

BURN A
LITTLE...

MY
HEART

THAT WAS
COOL!







WHY IS
HE
HERE?



COME
WITH
HER?

UH...

NO...

DID HE
COME WITH
YOU?



ARE YOU TRYING TO PROVOKE ME?

UH... WHAT?

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IF I DID?



KIWAKO?

I WANT TO SET THINGS STRAIGHT.

berk!

WHY ME?

Eh-heh!

MY
POPULARITY
WITH GUYS IS
ZERO.

SERIOUSLY?
HAVE YOU
TAKEN A
GOOD
LOOK?

CHILL.

What's
with this
tension?

H...hey,
Calm
down--

HIM
TOO...?

I TOLD
YOU IT
WAS LOVE
AT FIRST
SIGHT.

OH NO,
MINATO
WAS
SERIOUS.

ARE YOU
TALKING
TO ME?

BOTH
OF THEM
WERE
BEING
SERIOUS
WITH ME.

I SEE.

THAT'S WHY I
HAVE TO GIVE
THEM HONEST
ANSWERS
TOO.

JUST
LIKE WHEN I
GIVE THOSE
INTERVIEWS
BEFORE I
GO OUT ON
TO THE ICE.

I'M OVER-
WHELMED
WITH
THOUGHTS

UH...

BUT NOW,
SOMEHOW

I-I
GUESS I
CAN'T
HELP IT...

UH... THIS IS
TRICKY.

I FEEL LIKE I'LL
SAY SOMETHING
HURTFUL OR GET
THE WORDS ALL
WRONG.



I SAID
IT.

I AIM FOR
THE TOP,
SO I CAN'T
CONSIDER
ANYONE
OTHER
THAN
NANAO!

OH, I'M
SUCH A
FOOL.

END OF CHAPTER 7