

"Hey. What do you mean by that?

The voice on the phone was quite piercing, the kind of thing you would never hear from a classmate who only knew her as an honor student.

I could only say this because I was in my room in the dormitory, the only place on the Hakuryo campus where I didn't have to worry about other people, but that wasn't the only reason.

Tomomi was unable to raise her voice without making a sound of alarm because the person on the other end of the line was a relative of hers, and she had just said the most outrageous thing.

Oh, my God, is Tomo-chan's hearing getting worse? Or have you been living in Hakuryo for so long that you've become a bit dim?

The voice on the other end of the line is that of a calm adult who enjoys playing with your words.

Tomomi asked Mikiko Saikei again in as gentle a tone as possible, while smiling angrily at Mikiko Saikei for making such a questionable comment about her daughter.

"..... So, Mom. I need you to explain to me what that means.

I have no choice but to tell you how it happened.

I managed to swallow the word "just in case".

I pull myself together calmly, buttoning and unbuttoning my pajamas, and listen to what my mother has to say.

Because of my parent's nature, I am sure they will not explain it to me twice.

If this is the case, you can never make the mistake of mishearing or omitting to listen.

Because... "It's an important, important, important matchmaking."

..... That seems to be the case.

I've heard that their son likes you. So, we decided to have a blind date.

It's too concise. And did you talk to your father-in-law?"

Tomomi said this with her temples pressed together because she did not think her father-in-law would accept an arranged marriage proposal so easily.

I am not saying that I am my mother's remarried father-in-law, but he is a man who loves my daughter more than her own mother, and if I am not good at it, he should not be thinking about giving her a political marriage.

In fact, I have heard that all of the matchmaking offers that should have come her way have stopped at her father-in-law's place.

He doesn't seem to think he's going to let Tomo go as a bride so easily.

My mother laughed as she said, "I'm sure that's the case.

(alt: That's what my mother said with a smile, so it's reliable information.) But the fact that the matchmaking was reported to us as a decision is most likely something that Takumi Saikei, my father-in-law, did not know about.

And if so, if only Tomomi could tell her father-in-law, this story would surely go away.

Yes, in a voice filled with sweetness and sorrow, "I still don't want to leave my stepfather.

(alt: Yes, in a voice full of pampering and sorrow, "I still don't want to part with my father-in-law...") And then he simply says, "Of course, Takumi-san knows that.

"..... huh?"

Not at all. It's what they told Mr. Takumi. How could they not know about it?

My mother, who had dashed my hopes, later told me, "You're a funny girl.
He continued, "I'm so happy to be able to do this.
But I understand because she is my daughter.
That parent, who knows exactly what we were thinking, is now blatantly telling! It's a shame, but I guess I can't compete with a mother who is older than me and has known everything since I was born.
Therefore, Tomomi does not get emotionally angry, but rather speaks constructively.
..... I understand. It's a story I can't refuse anyway, right?"
"Hmm, I like a girl who listens well."
But it's perfectly acceptable to say no after a blind date, isn't it?
I will take care of it. Marriage is a big event in your life, and you should be able to make your own decision. Takumi has given his consent to this.
Tomomi nodded and ran her eyes over the calendar.
The matchmaking is set for the following Sunday.
I know it's a short notice, but I'm sure that no matter how hard I try, I won't be able to change my mind.
(alt: The day after tomorrow is a short story, but I'm sure I won't be able to change this even if I try.) So today is Friday, and it's too late to do much, but tomorrow I'll have to take concrete measures.
Although it is only one day, it is a Saturday, so the entire afternoon is available.
With that much experience, you should be able to do almost anything.
Now we just need to find someone to help us, and then we can go to I was talking about matchmaking, and then I remembered...
What? Is there more?"
Tomomi interrupts her thoughts and frowns, wondering if there will be more trouble to come.
Right, you have one, don't you? You're at an age now, Tomomi.
It's going to run out of juice, so...
The caller then hangs up.
He turned off the power and tossed the phone onto the bed.
Tomomi then let out a deep breath and fell into bed herself.
I'm sure my parents are no different from the rest of us,"
(alt: "... Really, my parents are no different from others...") Muttering, he turns over to avoid the glare of the room lights.
Tēm, I was so sorry to hear that.
I was asked out of the blue to make an arrangement, teased, played for tricks, and finally teased again.
If you have someone you want to go out with, what on earth were you thinking when you said, "Bring him here."
(alt: If you have someone you want to go out with, bring him along.)
.....
(alt:。) Tomomi, who had been rolling her thoughts around in her head, swung her body up in a push-up and said, "Well, let's go with that hand.
Smiling with satisfaction at the completion of the plan, which already had a rough outline, he muttered to himself, "I'm so happy with this plan.

Since the beginning of the second semester, Akiharu Hino has made it a habit to make plans for every Saturday after school.

The reason for this is that Friday classes are likely to be physically demanding, and we want to make sure we get a good night's rest the next day.

It's especially tough when there are service activities in the afternoons, even now that I've gotten over the hell that is a semester.

So in the morning, I asked my classmate Tomomi, my black-hearted childhood friend, "I need to talk to you this afternoon, so please take some time.

When I was told in my ear that I was going to be a member of a group, I thought it was fine and gave my permission.

"What's, and what's"

Now I feel like punching myself in the face for making such an easy decision.

..... Please say it again so that I can understand. That sounded like a bad joke to me.

(alt: ".....Please tell me again so that I can understand.) I feel a sudden headache and press my finger between my eyebrows, and Tomomi, who is sitting diagonally across from me, says with a clear face, "That's why I want you to help me break up the matchmaking.

What a horrible thing to say.

Although the cafeteria is deserted after lunch, and classical music fills the air, so there is no need to worry that the conversation will be overheard easily,..... what kind of romantic terrorist is this woman?

It's also frightening that when Tomomi says it, it just feels right.

Akiharu straightened the collar of his butler's uniform and prayed that the conversation would be as calm as possible before slowly asking Tomomi, "What is it that you want me to do for you?

..... First, let's ask. Whose matchmaking is that?

I'm sure it's mine, right? There's no way I'd be insane enough to ask you to do something about someone else's matchmaking.

Even if it were my own arranged marriage, it would still be insane.

Even if it's yours, I don't want to do anything to make people hate me or kick me out of this school."

Tomomi frowns a little at my very common sense words and says, "Well,, I guess it would be faster to explain this from scratch.

He looks as if he is about to say, "Oh dear," and his shoulders slump.

As for Akiharu, I would like to tell him to do that from the beginning.

But they don't say anything, because they know they will be repaid a hundredfold.

You see, "If you don't go in the tiger's hole, you will not get the tiger's child."

But there are times when you get as little return as cheering for the Giants in the midst of Hanshin fans.

And I was a bit intrigued by Tomomi's arranged marriage.

I'm just a little bit, just a pebble, and I don't have any other intention at all.

(alt: It's just a little bit, it's like a pebble, and it doesn't have any ulterior motives...it should be.)

When Akiharu sipped the cinnamon tea to calm down a little, Tomomi's explanation was almost the same time.

I got a phone call from my mother last night. She suddenly said, 'We've set up a meeting, so you'll have to go on Sunday and be all dolled up.'

"....., that's a very, very steep angle you're talking about."

(alt: ".....Well, that's a steep angle, isn't it?") I was surprised, too. Apparently she liked me when she saw me at some party, and she made an offer to me. I'm not ready to get married yet, and I'm not into matchmaking in the first place, so I wanted to turn it down, but that's not going to happen either."

I see. But you have a funny way of saying it's not a hobby, don't you?"

It would be hard to find someone whose hobby is matchmaking.

I'd rather not make a hobby out of a life where I get rejected all the time.

No, I mean, this is the 30th time we've met.

(alt: "No, this is the 30th time I've had an arranged date...") When Akiharu was depressed imagining his aging self, Tomomi giggled and said, "It's not what you're imagining. Maybe, but..."

..... Then what did you mean by that?"

It means, "I'm going to find the person I'm going to marry, and I'm going to do it on my own. It's not a hobby to entrust an important element of your life to someone else.

..... Uh." You're that kind of guy."

He really knew what he was doing.

It's a very convincing line coming from Tomomi, who was so upset by rumors that she had come into the world through her parents' remarriage that she decided to play the perfect young lady and entered Hakuryo with everything ready.

I'm not the kind of girl who would marry a man who is attracted to her only because he has good conditions.

If anything, I'm more the type of person who, if there's someone I'm after, sets them up in a trap so they don't even know they're there, and then leads them to want to marry me."

Thank you very much for your very accurate remarks at So, what kind of past do you want to reveal to everyone? Was it the time you cried because you were afraid of the snake's shell?

Or was it the time you wore a crown made of white clover to and from school?

I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm totally sorry, please have mercy on me.!

(alt: "-- I'm sorry I was at fault. I was completely at fault, so please show me mercy...!") While making a grand gesture with the white flag, Akiharu apologizes by placing his forehead on the table.

I accidentally slipped up and said what I really meant.

Why is it that the negative legacy of the past, which should have been stored in a treasure chest of memories and buried deep in Daichi, is now in his hands after all these years?

And they have a few more threats in their pocket.

"....., well, that's okay, we need to talk about this first."

(alt: "... well, that's fine, we're talking about this first now.") While Akiharu was in a state of self-loathing, Tomomi seemed to be able to sort out her feelings, and when she looked up, she seemed somewhat dissatisfied but not so angry.

Oh, that's good.

Whenever I have free time, I will always be involved with you, as if you are a fungus that has already grown and matured to the point of being a nuisance.

Since the matchmaking itself has already been decided, we can't just cancel it at a moment's notice. I'm sure she'll cancel it anyway. "Well, if I call in sick, I might be able to make it work that day, but I'm sure she'll go through with it anyway. And since it's her mother, I'm sure she'll take you out in a trick without even telling you that it's an arranged marriage.

(alt: "The matchmaking itself has already been decided, so I can't just call it off in a hurry... Um, maybe if I pretended to be sick, I might be able to manage it on that day, but it's going to go ahead anyway. Since it's about that mother, at that time there's no doubt she'll be taken out in the form of a swindle attack without telling her that it's a matchmaking...") "..... much and as ever, a mother and son with very similar personalities."

(alt: ".....a lot...a mother and child with similar personalities as usual.....") She's much worse than me because of her age.

..... He implicitly admitted his bad character.

Is it that she is aware of it, but has no intention of fixing it?

That's what's really bad about them.

As Akiharu was feeling a little depressed because he might have been happier not to have noticed this fact, Tomomi said, "Anyway..."

I said, "If you're going to postpone it, we might as well do it on another Sunday. Besides, there's nothing in particular that you've insisted on in regards to the matchmaking reply.

..... Yeah? That means it's okay to say no, right?"

Yeah. Yeah.

(alt: "Yes, yes.") Then what's the problem? I mean, it's going to raise some eyebrows, but if you're willing to say no, then so be it."

I'm not sure if it's a good idea to have a chat with her, but the fact that Tomomi is going out of her way to talk to her as if she's asking for advice is just plain weird.

(alt: — — That's right, even though it seemed like it would have been fine to just have a small talk mixed with complaints, Tomomi went out of her way to talk to herself like this.) I'm sure it's just a whim, but it makes me nervous because I'm dealing with a partner.

(alt: I guess there's a line that says it's just a whim, but since the other person is the other person, it makes me uneasy.) Perhaps sensing that Akiharu had entered an alert mode, Tomomi said with a refined, cat-like smile, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry.

(alt: Perhaps sensitively sensing that Akiharu had gone into alert mode, Tomomi spoke with an elegant smile in a cat-covered outfit.) It's a matter of how you say no. Since the other party is not at fault, it is only polite to try to convince them to give up, right?

"Maybe so."

That's why I want you to help me.

The moment she heard this, a chill ran down Akiharu's spine, as if a wave of anxiety had come crashing down on her in a tsunami.

I don't know why, although the word "cooperation" itself is not at all strange, I have a bad feeling that I shouldn't hear anything else from this point on.!

(alt: I don't know why... Even though the two characters "cooperation" itself isn't strange at all, I have a bad feeling that I shouldn't ask anything from here on out...!?) Although there was no evidence, Akiharu reflexively decided to wait, thinking that this was a place where he should trust his intuition.

But before that, Tomomi's lips parted in a blush and she said, "I want you to go on a blind date with me and play the role of my lover.

..... Unfortunately, we were right on target.

I don't know why.

(alt: — — Why?) I've never had a good prediction come true, but my bad predictions are always right on the money.

And what's more, it's the specifications that can't be avoided. I unintentionally wanted to run away from reality, but Akiharu held back.

(alt: What's more, it's a design that can't be avoided, isn't it?) I can't be so enamored.

If you keep this up, you're gonna get yourself into a lot of trouble.! "Oh, calm down, calm down, okay? I'm in a matchmaking matchmaking?

What are you going to do if you're going on a blind date?

No, I mean, what do you mean by?

I wish I could ask you that.

Tomomi's voice makes me feel embarrassed and my face heats up.

And my thoughts are getting more and more tangled. Oh my God, if only there were curtains within reach, I'd wrap myself up in a ball and hide.

(alt: So my thoughts get more and more confused... Ah, what the hell is this?) Well, it's pretty simple, isn't it?

Tomomi, perhaps thinking that it would take some time for us to be able to converse properly, begins to speak, waving her index finger like a metronome from side to side.

The meetings are held one-on-one in a private room at a famous, high-end restaurant," she says. So I want Akiharu to go there with me as a lover and become a reason for me to reject her.

"..... What, and you went all the way to?"

"You mean, 'Why do I have to go to all this trouble just because I have a girlfriend, and I actually have to go?'

As if he had read her mind, he hit the spot perfectly, and Akiharu nodded her head repeatedly like a broken woodpecker's toy.

If you don't follow the pattern of running on political rails, you need to meet each other several times to get to know each other, not just once. Of course, that's not a must. But if you say "I don't want to see you anymore" after just one meeting without any particular reason, it's like saying there's a problem with the other person, isn't it? I felt a little bad about that.

If you're going to, meet with him a few times and then say no."

I don't want to do that. It's too much trouble. It's so bothersome and troublesome that it should only be done in one shot.

If it were...

That's why I'm taking you for a reason.

It's not as if I'm going to announce a simple recipe that can be done in five minutes after opening the front door.

When Akiharu tilted his head, his dear childhood friend said, "Oh dear, that's why.

He cowered his shoulders as if to say, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry.

(alt: As if to say that, he shrugged his shoulders.) It's not that I'm saying "evidence is better than argument," but it's true. It's not enough to say, "I have a girlfriend," but it's not enough.

They will probably say things like, 'I should be a better match for you,' or 'Student relationships don't last forever,' and you'll end up seeing her over and over again.

"..... can't you just pretend to be pissed and break it off?"

I can do it, but I don't want to do it. If we do that, I'm sure bad rumors will fly. So, let's do it in a more amicable way, without unnecessary talk.

(alt: "I can do it, but I don't want to.) Tomomi smiled and said, "No matter what kind of person you are, you can't just push your girlfriend around and show off your inferiority complex in front of your potential match, can you? Especially when it's someone like Akiharu, who might resort to violence if provoked.

She is both elegant and generous, and if a stranger saw her, they would say, "Oh my God, she's lovely, where does she come from?

With a smile that could have been a "I'm not a black person, I'm a black person," he said with dignity.

..... What a horrible thing to say to someone you're taking along as a lover.

And since there is little to deny, the only thing they can do is cry themselves to sleep.

As a least resistance, Akiharu glares at Tomomi and says, "..... Isn't it more of a negative factor for you to be rumored to be dating such a guy?"

I guess you're right. So we need to have a careful discussion to convince them and make it sound like a good story. It would be perfect if we could keep up appearances and tickle their self-esteem.

..... It's hard to believe that this is coming from a high school girl, but when it comes out of Tomomi's mouth, it sounds so familiar.

I think this guy could do it, or rather, I think he could do it in the end.

But Akiharu still had a difficult expression on his face, "Isn't it going to be complicated if you do that? "It's an arranged marriage, so it's not like you have to ask the other person's parents or the person who introduced you to me.

As I said before, he is the only one on site. I heard that her parents have to attend a reception nearby and that they will be able to join us when they finish eating. Since her parents won't be there, she might think she can easily seduce one of the girls.

(alt: "Like I said earlier, it seems like there's only him on site. It seems that his parents have to go to the nearby reception anyway, so I've heard they can join us around the time the meal is over. Since my parents aren't coming, they might think that I can easily persuade a little girl. J) Another funny story.

Since she even asked for a blind date, she must have every intention of succeeding, but her parents put other priorities on her.

Well, I guess it can't be helped if the job requires it, but still....

When Akiharu tilted his head and scratched an old wound above his left eye with his fingertip, Tomomi smiled thinly and said, "I heard that your match is a son of the Takasugi family, which owns several companies in the food service industry. According to the information I ordered this morning, they have an eldest son who just graduated from university this year, and he is quite good looking and his work ethic is not bad, so I guess his parents are not in such a hurry to get married.

"..... So you were just being selfish with my son?"

Maybe, right? Maybe it's because I'm only 16 years old.

Hearing this, Akiharu was convinced inwardly.

The man I have targeted this time is from a very respectable family, but he is a high school girl, after all.

If you are not careful, you might be accused of being a pedophile, and the conditions are right to be cautious.

If you're going to do that, the only problem you're going to have is that I'm going to play the role of the lover or the person who's going to hate you

You don't seem very happy about it, do you?

No, because, you see, that's it. I don't have any clothes for a blind date.

(alt: "No... look, that's it. I don't have clothes to wear to an arranged marriage...") You don't have to wear a uniform.

When the solution was so easily offered, Akiharu was at a loss for what to say next.

I wonder if there is any other good reason for the wonders of

If this continues, you will seriously be drawn into an arranged marriage.

While Akiharu was groaning with wrinkles between his eyebrows, Tomomi could be heard exhaling a small breath.

"Are you so sick of it already?"

Oh, no.

When I tried to tell him that it was obvious, he froze with his mouth half-open.

Tomomi usually brings up some old story to persuade the audience, almost blackmailing them.

It is a very troublesome creature that exerts its black-hearted nature to the fullest, and with a joyful smile on its face, launches a psychological attack on you.

..... But now Tomomi looks somewhat lonely, like a child who has been denied the existence of Santa Claus, and says, "If you really don't want to play the role of my lover, I won't force you. It's just a shame you won't be able to help me.

They say such an auspicious thing.

What is this?

Is it the devil's reaction? Or is it a new kind of attack, a devil's trap to create a situation where we voluntarily cooperate with them

Because of his normal routine, Akiharu is plunged into a state of doubt and darkness, and yet, when he sees the face of his childhood friend, he can't believe it's an act, or he feels embarrassed.! Sweat is slowly soaking my palms, and the air feels so thin that I wonder where I am in the high mountains, but Tomomi's eyes are still looking straight at me, and I can't help but think, "....., I know, I'll help you.

(alt: Akiharu fell into suspicion just because things were normal, and even so, when he saw the face of his childhood friend, he couldn't believe it was acting, or rather, he couldn't stand it anymore...! Sweat started to trickle down my palms, and the air felt so thin that I wondered what high mountain this was, but Tomomi's gaze was still looking straight at me—「....., uh..... okay, I'll help you.") I ended up answering in the same way, as if I had run out of breath and had to give up.

When Akiharu was depressed by the self-deprecating thought that "weak-willed" is a word that is meant for him,, he said, "Well, thank you. I'm relying on you, Akiharu."

Tomomi's slightly beaming smile makes it difficult to look directly at her.

Ah, what is it with this guy today?

I am also very concerned about whether or not my face is blushing.

The first time I saw her, she was a little nervous, but she was not at all.

The first time I saw him, I thought, "I'm going to go to the restaurant," and at about the same time, I saw a figure running from the entrance of the dining room.

We see each other every day, and when she sees me, she turns to me with a smile like a lively tulip and says, "Oh, Tomomi! Thank you for waiting for me.

On the way to, I caught my foot on a chair and fell down with a crash.

The skirt of the short school uniform is rolled up until the underwear is exposed, and Akiharu looks away in a panic.

I don't know why, but even though I shouldn't feel bad about what I witnessed, I felt a rush of guilt and fear, and I moved reflexively.

(alt: I don't know why, even if I just witnessed it, I shouldn't feel bad at all, but a feeling of guilt and fear attacks me and I reflexively move.) The latter should be mainly due to the black-hearted person sitting diagonally across from me.

And as for Sanae Shikikagami, the clumsy maid who had so easily destroyed a sturdy and beautiful antique chair that should have been made in the 19th century, she stood up as if nothing had happened, blushing and looking back and forth between the wreckage of the chair and herself, "Oh, my God, what am I going to do? I'm going to go back to"

"....., no matter what you do, it's impossible to fix, it's impossible to fix."

(alt: "... No matter what you do, it's impossible to repair it.") I know. Ugh, I'm going to get angry with Dr. Fukagan again.

(alt: "Isn't it... Ugh, I'm going to be scolded by Fukagawa-sensei again...") While Shiki and Kagami shrug their shoulders, the maid, who seems to have been watching the accident, comes with a broom and dustpan and quickly begins to clean up the mess.

We are all used to this area by now.

It is usual for Shikikagami to be a trooper and break things.

However, what is a bit curious to Akiharu is why Shikagami appeared here.

When nothing is going on, she is supposed to be spending time with her sister Saori or practicing her assignments diligently, but the way she was feeling now, it was as if she had something to do with Tomomi.

..... I mean, if you want Tomomi at this time "Hey, it's Tomomi."

What's with the strange way you call me, Akiharu?"

"Did you, by any chance, call Shikikagami?"

Yes, it is. I was actually planning to give a full explanation after she arrived. but I guess it all worked out OK.

(alt: "Yes, that's right. Actually, I was going to give a detailed explanation after she came, but... well, I guess it's all right.") Tomomi's words, as always, were too difficult to understand, so Akiharu could only nod his head vaguely.

However, I don't know what you intend to do.

(alt: However--I don't know what you're going to do.) I thought it was quite a courageous decision to involve Shikikagami.

"This is supposed to be a place for me and Tomomi to get to know each other better. What on earth does he think he's doing there?

"Actually, I'm sorry to tell you this, Mr. Takasugi, but I'm in a relationship with Akiharu Hino-kun, who is here.

(alt: "Um... ji, 'Actually, I'm sorry to Takasugi-san, but I'm dating Akiharu Hino, who's here.'")

"That's rude, but do your parents know about this? I've never heard of any such thing.

Let's see... Just a minute... Oh, "No, I don't know, I don't know. It's a secret relationship but I wanted to properly talk to Mr. Takasugi who proposed marriage to me and others."

(alt: "Um... wait a minute... ah, 'No, I don't know. It's a secret relationship... but I'd like to talk to Mr. Takasugi, who proposed me a marriage proposal. I wanted to.'") I appreciate the thoughtfulness, but he's wearing a Hakuryo uniform, right? You, the only daughter of the Saikyo family, is dating a butler candidate.

"Well, but it's not Hino, but Akiharu-kun is a very nice person.

"..... Sorry, you got a minute?"

"..... was in a good mood. What's up?"

"What? What's wrong?"

By breaking off the conversation with all his might, Akiharu succeeded in capturing the gazes of both men as he had intended.

But Tomomi's eyes are a little scary.

The sultry look in her eyes while she is still in honor student mode is more thrilling than if she were just plain angry.

However, without expressing such feelings, Akiharu tried to appeal his legitimacy by clearing his throat with a small cough.

I'm not sure what to say, but I'm not getting a chance to say a single word to you. What the hell is going on here?"

The matchmaking simulation has already entered its seventh take, and Shikikagami has been writing lines into the printout every time she makes a break in the simulation, so it's starting to take shape.

But I want to tell them to wait a minute.

I would like to firmly voice my objection.

I'm sure it's strange that Shikikagami's acting only improves when it's actually me and Tomomi who go to the matchmaking site! Why do you keep subtly changing the character of your partner every time! You're just creating a fun illusion.

(alt: "It's me and Tomomi who actually go to the matchmaking site, but Shikikagami's performance is just getting better, isn't it strange? Absolutely! Why are you subtly changing the opponent's character every time! Enjoying it? It's just that.") I reminded Tomomi with a vigor that she was alone and silent, as if I was trying to avenge a grudge against her, "You get used to the same situation every time, and you don't develop a sense of urgency and application skills to prepare for unexpected developments. It can't be helped.

I get such a sincere opinion back, but I don't want to be fooled.

I saw your eyes swimming slightly.

After meeting Shikikagami, whom Tomomi had asked in advance, in the cafeteria, Akiharu and the others moved to the conference room to simulate a matchmaking session.

Tomomi was assigned to play the role of the blind date, Shikikagami to play Tomomi's role, and Akiharu to play her boyfriend's role.

Well, that's all right.

I was a bit surprised that Tomomi and Shikikagami were friends, but Shikikagami is a good-natured girl with zero malice, and I guess she's just as friendly with her former classmates from the upper secondary school as she is with all the other students in the obedience department.

There are two problems.

One is that I don't have a role to play, which I just blurted out.

I thought I was going to cry because of the way I was treated like a tree in the class play.

And the other problem is that the "....." is a mirror of the four seasons.

Yes? Am I doing something wrong?"

"Why are you dressed like that?"

Well, I thought this would be a good choice for the role of Tomomi, an upper secondary school student, and might be funny?

No, it's not funny, it's just that's a middle school uniform.

As I said, Shikikagami was wearing a middle school uniform, even though it was a uniform.



If that were all, the size would still be small.
Obviously, it is small.

Perhaps because the default skirt length is shorter than the high school uniforms, the thighs are visible to the point of being almost visible, and when white knee socks are added to the mix, they shine like legendary equipment.

The chest area, which is packed so tightly that it is pushing up the fabric to the point of tearing, needs to be rescued as soon as possible.

A year ago, they would have worn these uniforms, but now there is this size difference.

I guess the growth period is not to be underestimated. The middle school uniform looked so adorable when I saw Pina wearing it, but this one worn by Shikikagami looks like some kind of dubious cosplay.

(alt: Growing up was something to be reckoned with... When I saw Pina wearing it, I had a strong impression that it was cute. Even though it's a middle school uniform, Shikikagami is wearing it. It looks like) I couldn't help but be curious about it, but for some reason Tomomi didn't want to butt in, and I just let it slide until now, feeling like the king's ears are like a donkey's. I was so curious that I couldn't help but be curious about it.

Normally, they would have sensed our concern, but they are dealing with Shikikagami.

I don't know what kind of conversion went on in his brain, but his expression turned into an embarrassed smile and he said, "We didn't order uniforms for the high school, so we don't have any. I kept this middle school uniform as a memento and for weddings and funerals!

(alt: Even now, I don't know how I changed it in my brain, I changed my dumbfounded expression into an embarrassed smile and said, "I didn't order a high school uniform, so I don't have one. I kept this middle school uniform as a keepsake, and also for ceremonial occasions!") "I don't care if it's a wedding, a funeral in that outfit is not a good idea! I mean, don't think anything is possible in a uniform! In fact, our obedience school uniforms are the costumes used for weddings and funerals!

(alt: "Putting aside weddings, it's best to dress like that for a funeral! Don't you think there's anything wrong with uniforms! Generally speaking, no matter how you think about it, uniforms like those of the kindergarten class are used for ceremonial occasions. It's because it's the costume of !?") Oh, I see what you mean. If I wore a maid's outfit to a funeral, people would think I was gagging, and that would be a big problem.

..... I never had that idea.

The first time I saw the two of them together, I thought it would be a good time to talk about the two of them together. Actually, I was planning to let you see the situation a little more.

(alt: When Akiharu was cut off by Shikikagami's thoughts, which were too free, Tomomi let out a sigh and said, "Let's stop the chat at that point. There's a point in that.) We're going on strike.

That's why I'm saying I'm going to change it. I'm going to focus on Akiharu-kun in the next round of conversations. I'd like to ask you to keep the same tone as before.

Yes, I'll do my best!"

This one's good, too. Come anytime.

It's not that he was defeated by Shikikagami, but Akiharu responded in a challenging tone.

He straightens his back, which had been curled up in a timid manner, puts on a serious expression as much as possible, and clasps his hands tightly in his lap.

Since I had watched their interactions up to this point, I should have a vague idea of what they were talking about.

After that, it is just a matter of paying attention to improvisation and making sure to answer in a routine manner without being over the top.

Tomomi, who was looking at me, smiled challengingly, as if her confidence, although it was not based on any particular reason, was slightly reflected in her facial expression.

And then he continued, "So, is it true that you are dating Tomomi?"

The mood was suddenly and abruptly initiated, and Akiharu couldn't come up with words at once.

But he quickly regained his composure, nodded his head, and said, "Oh, yes, that's true. Tomomi and I are in a Tomomi and I are in a relationship.

The team was feeling good until halfway through, but suddenly stumbled.

..... Because, when push comes to shove, "We're in a relationship."

I was about to say, "I'm not a good person," but then I started to feel embarrassed. And the fact that I had to say it to the person in question made it all the more embarrassing.

(alt: When I tried to say that, I became embarrassed and embarrassed... and it's even worse to say it to the person himself.) Even though I knew in my head that it was a play and that I was practicing for it, I felt an itching sensation in my chest and back that I wanted to scratch.

The first time I saw her, I thought I was going to have to go to the hospital and see a doctor," she said.

I thought he must be appalled. Why is that black-hearted man smiling so deeply? Before Akiharu could find the answer on his own, Tomomi brushes her hair back with a slow motion and says, "Relationships, you know. Tomomi, a senior high school student, and you, a junior high school student.

Yes, yes.

"Hmmm, you are. "You, a lowly but diligent student of the Inquisitorial Department, who has been studying and training as a steward candidate, is now the young lady of the Inquisitorial Department?"

"..... is what matters, and that's what they want."

(alt: "...The important thing is the will of the people themselves.") However, it is hard to believe that you, of all people, with hair the color of a burnt-out old book, a face more suitable for a third-class person than a butler, with a mouth and eyes as bad as those of an old book, a shady and illegal side job, and an obviously unattractive appearance to women, are dating Tomomi. I find it hard to believe that you are dating Tomomi.

If he is told this much, even Akiharu can't remain silent.

"..... sorry, my heart hurts so I'm leaving.

(alt: "...I'm sorry, I'm going home because my heart hurts...") I declare that I'm giving up and leave my seat with a pensive look on my face.

What is it? As you ordered, I have already initiated conversation with you.

I didn't order anything that hot! What kind of a dangerous state of mind am I in to ask for something like that?

You're being too selfish, letting her set her own preferences.

"Where is it? I mean, who would dare to speak out so precisely against a new partner! What kind of character does your potential match have in your mind!

It is precisely because we don't fully understand their personalities that they are worth simulating. And if you were going to use such harsh language, wouldn't it be normal to be told that?"

Tomomi says it so casually, but I hate that kind of normality too much.

We would like the standard to be lower and more friendly to the world.

Besides, I think the attack was made because Tomomi was the opponent.

I'm used to people just talking about my appearance, but when they add in something that gutted me on the inside, it really hit home.

I felt like crying in real life.

However, Akiharu has also gained a lot of experience since he met Tomomi again.

..... In other words, I'm a little more resilient now that I've been getting beaten up a lot.

Keep your tears to your heart and say, "..... If I'm being verbally abusive, I should just shut up and take it, right? Until the time is right and you come to the rescue or fight back."

Yes, that's right. As expected of Akiharu-kun, he knows exactly what he's doing.

No, I didn't understand because I wanted to understand.

I was only able to grasp it because my body and mind had experienced a lot of scarring.

I'm used to enduring a lot, so please keep your rants to a minimum. You'll end up so depressed that you'll have to take the day off."

That's a bit of a problem. We have no choice but to move on to the next step.

(alt: "That's a bit of a problem...it can't be helped, let's move on to the next step.") It's like, "Oh, dear, I'll let you go.

Tomomi's face, as if she were saying, "I'm so angry at you," and I was irresistibly annoyed by her declaration.

But we have to be patient here if we think this is another test of our patience.! I'm going to try to make this conversation a little more in-depth. I'd like to try a little more in-depth conversation, and I'd appreciate it if you could either take it or leave it.

(alt: But I can't stand it here... If you think that this is also testing your patience...! "Then let's have a more in-depth conversation. Do you accept it or dodge it? Please respond well, okay?") Yeah, I'll try.

Tomomi nodded her head in satisfaction, although she could only respond in such a way because she did not know what exactly was going on.

Then, as if in acting mode, he slightly narrowed his eyes, a cold smile appeared around his mouth, and asked, "By the way, how long have you and Tomomi been in a relationship?"

He suddenly asked me about a setting we hadn't discussed beforehand.

Although it's a common question, Akiharu was expecting Tomomi to think about it and tell him later, but he couldn't come up with the right words and panicked.

When is a good time to start? It's too much of a lie to say that she started before she transferred to the high school, and it's going to come out as a lie as much as people ask her about it. I don't think I can play such a character no matter how hard I try.

So, after transferring, they met again within a semester and started dating in just over a month Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait. There is the phenomenon of love at first sight, but is there the opposite, the nightmare of a Narita divorce

Not having much experience with this kind of thing, Akiharu didn't know what the standard value was. He was so nervous that he was almost sweating, and his gaze wandered from place to place, until he found himself saying, "I've been for about two months now.

(alt: Akiharu, who lacked such experience, didn't know what the reference value was, so he was sweating so hard that his eyes wandered here and there — — — — — since about two months ago ... ") Finally, we narrowed it down to a period of time that was too reasonable and without any particular rationale.

Still, Akiharu breathed a sigh of relief and patted his chest down.

I was able to get through it somehow.

Maybe I'm the one who should be stumped by such an elementary question, but this gives me a little bit of leeway "So you started dating two months ago during summer vacation?"

"....., yes, but what's wrong with that?"

No, not really. By the way, which one of you is going to confess?"

"What does care about that?"

I still can't believe that you and Tomomi are dating. It's no big deal, right?

At his probing words, Akiharu lost the composure he had hoped to regain, and said, "No, you see, that's the thing.

(alt: At those words, which seemed to be searching, Akiharu lost the composure that was supposed to be regained, and said, "No, that's not it...") He tries to make things right, but can't come up with the next word.

The question itself seems so easy to answer, but every time I am asked, I get nervous and lose my composure.

Perhaps it is because of the way Tomomi speaks.

I was surprised to find that the "what?" response was a kind of "what's the point? Did I just make a mistake?"

I worry unnecessarily.

Moreover, Tomomi's smile is hard to tell whether she is acting or really enjoying herself, so Akiharu can clearly see that she does not intend to rest her hands.

We have to be ready to take revenge, not just practice.! Which means you have to start with, let's see... ..

(alt: When this happens, it's not just a matter of practicing properly, but you have to take it with the intention of rewarding him...! "Which way is that... umm...") In reality, however, they were unable to make even a choice between the two, which was not ideal.

Tëm, calm down.

It's just a question of whether you or Tomomi confessed to her first.

You just asked, "Since when?"

It should be simpler than the question, "What is the best way to get the best results?"

Naturally, I, as a man, have to confess my feelings Is that right? No, it's not that he wants to reject the option of confessing to Tomomi, but he should let Tomomi take the lead in the situation, so it should be that he confessed to her However, it seems a little strange that the guy who confessed to her and decided to go out with her would come to the site of a blind date While thinking about it all over again, her head was on the verge of a flat tire, and Akiharu was almost panting, wondering what she should do. Akiharu looked at Shikikagami, who was standing next to him.

Then he looked at me and our eyes met.

For a moment, Akiharu thought that she was feeling a bit embarrassed because of her classmate's inability to proceed with the conversation at all, but it turned out to be a case of paranoia.

..... Or rather, why did Shikikagami's sister look so happy and nod her head so broadly even though their eyes met only by chance? Shikikagami, whose expression was full of motivation with a halo of energy, leaned forward with a vigor that almost made me get up, and with an unusually dignified expression, she said, "I confessed to you first.

The words were so vivid and sharp that they seemed to blow away any doubts we had about the matter.

Tomomi's eyes roll in surprise at this, but something more serious is happening to Akiharu.

As you know, I've been a student of Akiharu-kun since he came to Japan. I'm sorry to say, but I can't think about dating or marrying someone else!"

(alt: "Hino and I - not Akiharu-kun, have a kind of student-like relationship. or getting married!")

This is exactly what we wanted to see from the actresses on stage, who are full of energy but also have a lot of problems with what they say.

Despite this, Akiharu only opened and closed his mouth, and his gaze was somewhat lower than Shikikagami's face.

Because my arm is stuck in it.

I was pulled to my chest with irresistible force the very next moment.

It's as if you're being sucked into their bosom, and not just on both sides, but all around. Don't even think about it.! But the reality is that from the elbow down, you are trapped and buried, and surprisingly, you can't move.

(alt: It feels like you're being sucked into my chest, and it's not just about the left and right sides, it's like it's enveloping me as a whole. But in reality, it was a terrible thing to be buried under the elbow, and to my surprise, I couldn't move it.) When Shikikagami's sister Saori did something similar to me, I didn't feel great, but I couldn't do anything at all, and I wonder what kind of power the sisters have together.

Shikikagami, in the midst of his daring activities, does not seem to sense Akiharu's agitation.

And if Tomomi hadn't noticed, she might still be thinking, "What can I do?"

I can accept it with open arms. Unfortunately, I feel as if a cold, negative emotion is rising up like an aura and shimmering around me, so I'm pretty sure she knows...! I'm sure he's aware of it...! "..... You two seem to be getting along quite well."

(alt: I can readily accept that, but... unfortunately, I feel like my cold, negative emotions are wobbling like an aura, so I'm absolutely aware of that.! "... It seems you two are on good terms.") Tomomi said with a slight smile on her face and a smile on her lips, "I'm not going to stop simulating.

However, the mouth end is a little hung up, so I don't feel at ease at all.

First of all, the one who is holding Akiharu's arm right now is the one who said, "Yes, because we're in a relationship! We are good friends."

..... Shikikagami, a natural girl who can't read the situation, gives us a response that can only be described as quintessential.

How is it possible to smile with such purity in the midst of all this tension?

And, "Mr. Friendly."

I'm not sure if it's a good idea, but I'm not sure if it's a good idea. I know I'm not saying to cuddle, but their faces are so close that they're almost touching each other on the cheek, which is not so common even among urban couples.! And although reason is in a great panic, bouncing off the danger signals with crackles and flashes.

(alt: As if to appeal, he hugged Akiharu's arm even tighter, and at the same time, he pulled his body closer-- No, no, it's close, that's a bit too close, isn't it? I often say to snuggle up to them, but their faces are so close that their cheeks are about to touch each other. — — Though his reason was frightened and flashing danger signals.) I can almost feel Shikisyo's body with my entire left arm, and I can feel my mouth slacken as my body, a collection of uncontrollable and uncontrollable troubles that have been recently rebelled against me, is on parade.

Shikikagami's style is probably one of the best in Hakuryo, or perhaps even in the whole country, so it would be strange not to be happy to be in close contact with her.

On behalf of the adolescent male, I would like to assert this categorically.

If you are forced to have such a voluptuous body without hesitation, will work on you even through the guard of reason.

In addition, the usual maid's uniform is made of a more or less sturdy material that is both a uniform and a work uniform.

The middle school uniforms they're wearing now seem to place more emphasis on comfort, and even though it's not as direct as it could be, it still feels like it's in the middle of a sea of water, and that can cause more damage.

I want to say this out loud.

This is a simulation of an arranged marriage, and Shikikagami is simply doing her best to make it look natural and not interfere with the performance. In other words, she is simply carrying out her saintly nonresistance policy.

(alt: This is a simulation of matchmaking, and Shikikagami is just doing his best to be Shikikagami, and he's acting so that he doesn't look unnatural and doesn't get in the way of his performance... In other words, he's just sticking to nonresistance, like a saint. That's right.) But I don't think such nonsense will work at all with Tomomi, who is slightly heckling between the eyes.

..... Wow, he's angry, very aggravated.

I should probably commend her for not breaking into a smile, but I have zero time to do so when I think about what will happen next.

"..... How can you be so goofy in front of your prospective partner at a blind date?"

Selnia would have lost her temper and called it quits by now, but that's where the senior catcaller comes in.

He still seems determined to continue, and his tone of voice is always obstructive, appealing to a persistent anger.

But the source of the problem, a well-developed natural girl, rather happily laughed and said, "Oh no, it's the same as usual! It's normal!

..... It's usually, isn't it? You always use like that.

Because we are lovers. Not Hino, but Akiharu-kun.

I'm sorry, please don't shake me there.! For example,, how are you guys usually sticky?

Anyway, there are a lot of things. You were so kind to me the other day when I accidentally went to the wrong shower room. I'm sure we'll be toasting each other with a cup of morning coffee at dawn.

(alt: "Anyway, it's all sorts of things. The other day, you helped me out in the middle of class, and you were kind to me when I carelessly took the wrong shower room... Let's have a toast with morning coffee at dawn.") "..... Oh, I see."

(alt: "..... Huh, I see.") Shikikagami's tension rose even higher as the clear autumn sky failed to meet his expectations.

Tomomi's voice is getting lower and lower, which scares me.

In addition, Shikikagami's hugging style has also improved, and this time she wrapped her arms tightly around my neck.

I'm feeling something soft pressed aggressively against my shoulders and back, and at the same time, I'm feeling a "puchi-puchi."

The sound of something cutting was heard.

Akiharu couldn't help but think, "Tomomi's patience has run out?"

Tomomi's expression was distorted as if she was in a panic, forgetting her performance.

"Shikikagami-san! The button on your chest is coming undone from your uniform!"

"It's the way it's always been, the way it's supposed to be! And it's not Shikikagami, it's Aya Kyo!"

You know, it's not enough... Oh, my God, I can't even look at him like that.

(alt: "It's more than that... Ah, it looks like that---") She couldn't help but want to know how many wonderful sights were reflected in Tomomi's eyes.

But that will never happen.

The reason is that they are too attached to each other, not

No matter how many times I tap, Shikikagami does not loosen his stranglehold on my neck, and I feel as if I am about to be transported to another world.

I'm not sure if I should just accept this happy crushing as a man, but I'm rapidly approaching nirvana.

(alt: Ah, this is pretty much impossible, my consciousness is fading and it's really bad, but as a man, should I accept this suppression of happiness?) We had to walk right and left in a place as close to heaven as possible until Tomomi realized how serious the situation was and rushed in to stop us.

Simulations that are too depressing and make you want to die or almost get killed in real life won't last forever.

After a quarter of a day, or a little over four hours if you count the time on the clock, the three of us were done with our matchmaking practice.

It was not because it had become so perfect that there was no more room for improvement, nor was it because Akiharu's spirit had reached its limit and he collapsed in a fit of bubbles, but simply because it was time for the Shikikagami to leave.

Well then, good luck to both of you!"

With a bright smile and not a trace of fatigue, Shikikagami left to help prepare dinner at the dormitory.

..... You may be cheerful, but I bet you'll be bending silverware unnaturally again, or catching tablecloths and making all kinds of messes.

After being alone with Tomomi in the conference room, Akiharu let out a deep breath in secret.

Tomomi's mood no longer turns sour for some reason due to Shikikagami, but she is still exhausted and tired.

Although we took breaks from time to time, these four hours were quite long and difficult, so there was nothing we could do.

I thought I had become tougher, not only physically but also mentally, since coming to Hakuryo, but the intense time spent there was far more intense than the exhaustion of simple work, and I was close to the limit of what I could do.

..... Well, shall we continue?

But Tomomi was still very active.

"Are you still going to do it? I think we've already had some good practice.

As for Akiharu, he wants to give up soon.

The main reason for this is mental and physical exhaustion, but it's also because now that we are alone, Tomomi has taken a break from her honor student mode and it's obvious that she's a little cranky.

The cause may be unknown

Perhaps, perhaps, perhaps they did not like the contact with Shikikagami.

I was trying to make things right in front of the person who was helping me, but now there was no point in hiding it.

What is it? Just because you can no longer enjoy the feeling of Shikikagami's body, does that mean you've lost your motivation?"

No, "taste" is a pretty harsh and demeaning word, don't you think? That sounds like "roar," "roar," "roar."

"Oh, I wasn't just telling the truth. What's the matter with you, you didn't react like that when I was attached to you before."

After staring at him with a long, hard stare, and then being told such a thing with a somewhat scowl on his face, Akiharu was at a loss for words.

Maybe last time I was in Tri-Aqualand.

I guess he must be referring to the time when they entered the haunted house of the "K" LINE, but I didn't expect to see it there at this time.

That's because you were scared.

I've been nervous before, so I don't see why conditions should be any different."

No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no. What's with all the fried, roughly put-together feeling?"

When we voiced our protests, Tomomi turned her head to the day after tomorrow, refusing to acknowledge the reality of the situation.

The usual response that is hardened by theoretical armament is troubling, but it is even more troubling when it does not make sense like this.

He is black-hearted and calculating, and because he operates from a mischievous, childish sense of humor, it seems impossible to persuade him to do anything reasonable.

..... I even think it is impossible to convince Tomomi theoretically.

As Akiharu looked on pessimistically, Tomomi folded her arms, tapped her fingers on her arms, and said, "I'm going to say it out loud, but I'd do that too if I were going on a blind date, wouldn't I? I don't want you to get upset there.

I'm sure that's true. I'll try to make it okay.

(alt: "Uh... that's for sure. I'll do my best to make it all right.") But it pisses me off that you're not upset.

Wow, he's really starting to say something unreasonable, isn't he? The development is not going anywhere, and Akiharu endures the desire to sigh.

It was rare to see Tomomi in such a bad mood.

He must have been stressed out while enjoying the sudden matchmaking situation.

So we, who have the luxury of time, have to take a step back here.

It may be difficult to keep a calm demeanor, but we are practicing for the real thing. Somehow, I'll do my best."

"Hmmm... .., let's give it a try now then, shall we?"

At these words, Akiharu raised his eyebrows and asked, "What do you mean?"

Tomomi was about to ask him, "What do you want to do?"

As soon as I thought she was close to me, she came to a position in front of Akiharu's eyes or almost on top of him, and made eye contact with him at close range.

It's a bit cliché, but if you know what I mean.

"What the hell?"

"If a potential match makes a vexing request, please contact us at"

(alt: "If the person you're going to meet up with makes a nasty request...") ".....!"

(alt: 「..... ! 」) It is not only close enough to feel the body temperature, but also close enough to feel the temperature of the body.

Tomomi's clear face was within breathing distance of me, as if I were afraid I might hear her heartbeat speed up.

As Akiharu held his breath, Tomomi's glossy, vermilion-tinted lips moved, "Let's practice, just in case she asks for proof of our relationship and we have to kiss her in front of her, shall we?"

"What the hell is this"?

The shocking comment made Akiharu's eyes flutter and flicker.

Sure, it's cliché, and in dramas and comic books, it's a damn good idea, but kissing and asking for a kiss is way beyond the scope of practice.! That's right, he's going to get upset and stare at Tomomi's lips.

(alt: It's certainly commonplace, and in dramas and comics it often develops like that... Kissing, kissing, that sort of thing is beyond the scope of practice...! Of course, he would get upset and stare at Tomomi's lips.) It's not funny to put your mouth there.

In addition, since this is my first time doing such a thing, I have no idea what to do and how to do it.

"..... Oh, oh, calm down. I'm sure that won't happen, and if it does, you just have to turn it away!"

(alt: "... oh, calm down. I'm sure it won't happen, and even if it does, it's just a matter of getting rid of it!") So you're saying you can't do it?

I'm not talking about what you can or can't do. Of course, if push comes to shove, I can do it. I can do it. But that's not the point now.

While Akiharu was repeating the same words, Tomomi moved silently.

Quietly, he moves his face just a little closer, and then slowly closes his eyes.

Despite the fact that this was all there was to it, Akiharu felt like he was in an unbelievable corner.

Is that it? Does this mean I should do it? I feel like something inside me is telling me to do it all at once, and since it's practice for when the real thing comes, I should do it. I don't even know what the real thing is anymore.

In my head, I'm thinking, "No, no, no, you can't do that!"

I'm just trying to get on the boat. It's nice to get a perk for helping people, isn't it?

I was so tempted that my heart was racing and my heart rate was racing.

I don't even know if I'm breathing properly or not.! I'm so driven that I feel like I want to die.

(alt: I don't even know if I can breathe properly, what kind of state is it in...! Somehow, I've been pushed too hard and I'm starting to want to die.) Tomomi's silent pressure with her eyes closed, while she is so upset that she feels like she is running out of acid, is hurrying her along.

The eyelashes are slightly trembling, as if they are annoyed at our slow action, which makes them even more agitated.

Unable to endure such an extreme situation, Akiharu almost begged for help and reached out to Tomomi and grabbed her by the shoulders.

I'm already full, but what is required of me is what I'm going to do from here on out.

The tempo of her heart, which was rumbling noisily, pushed her to move her face closer to Tomomi's shoulder, and then she suddenly opened her eyes.

I can't believe it. I would not go that far.

"Yeah, right, man! That's not true, yeah!"

Akiharu hurriedly retracted his hand and brought it to his chest as if to suppress his bubbling heart.

..... We almost did something irreversible, Hah!

It was a bad joke, but I feel it was my fault for not seeing it for what it was, and in a case like this, the man will definitely be held accountable.

And - it's true that I was almost touched by the sight of Tomomi with her eyes closed at close range, so it's even harder to make excuses for it.

But what does it mean that I am so upset that my hands are sweating?

In pasta countries, it is said to be like a greeting.

As a high school boy, I'd like to think that's the right reaction. but I guess it's not worth it. (alt: As a high school boy, I'd like to think it's the right reaction... but as expected, it's not worth it.) Perhaps reading Akiharu's state of mind, Tomomi steps back and smiles, "Are you perhaps regretting that you didn't do it?"

"Nonsense... There's no way that's true, what are you talking about, Tomomi?"

You have a funny way of saying things, don't you? Well, if you don't respond to me in that way, I'm going to lose a little of my confidence as a woman."

"No, so I'm not sorry or upset."

Yes, yes, I'll take care of it. Well, now that we've seen something interesting, let's call it a night.

(alt: "Yes, yes, I'll leave it at that.... By the way, I was able to see something interesting, so let's end it here.") Tomomi, who looked happy and blushed a little, told her so, but Akiharu didn't have the energy to shake her head.

In the end, the matchmaking practice ended not long after Shikikagami's exit.

I've had two things happen to me. I'm really tired today because of it.

I see. Well, what can I say? Hah!

Although she felt a little troubled as to how to respond, she felt a little rewarded when her roommate Kaoru Daichi said this to her after a moment of silence, as if to thank her for her hard work.

Dinner, bath, and review of today's class are done, and I'm ready for a smoke before going to bed.

As usual, Daichi and I were talking over a cup of tea, and we decided to talk about the after-school incident that had started with Tomomi's advice.

However, Akiharu wanted to hide the events that caused him to turn blue or red, so he naturally blurred out the fact that Shikikagami hugged him and that he almost kissed Tomomi, which may have resulted in a story that was kind of pointless.

But Daichi, who was still listening, seemed to have an idea about what was going on, and sat up in bed and said, "..... But I guess Hino is trusted by Saikyo after all.

Hmm?" Why such a conclusion at?"

I was told something unexpected, even though I was used in a good way and was likely to be perceived as having been played with.

When Akiharu tilted his head, Daichi looked a bit downcast for some reason and said, "I don't think he would ask me, Sanke, or even Todoroki for such a favor. It may be due to the fact that Hino has a good personality,....., but still, you should not be able to ask someone to go along with you on a blind date unless you are close to him or her.

"....., well, maybe so."

(alt: "... Well, maybe that's right.") Yes, it is. I have to admit, I'm a little jealous."

"Yes? Did you actually like Tomomi?"

"..... No, that's not what I meant."

(alt: "... No, it's not like that...") In front of Akiharu, who was expecting to hear an unexpected confession, Daichi flapped his hands impatiently, and with a sigh, he dropped his hands as if he had lost all strength.

..... No, no, no, it's nothing. That was a gaffe. Forget everything."

Daichi's bitter face turned bitter as he glared at her and then turned his body toward her, so Akiharu did not pursue the matter any further and fell onto the bed to bury his exhausted body.

I don't know what I envy, but it shouldn't be too much fun.

(alt: I don't know what it envy, but it shouldn't be too much fun.) At the very least, I didn't enjoy it, and I'm tempted to ask what kind of masochist could happily accept such mental torture.

..... Well, Tomomi said to me before we parted, "I'll see you tomorrow."

When I was told, "I'm not a good person.

Almost no time to say, "Okay, we'll meet before noon.

I was afraid that others might think that I was doing it for fun.

It's late at night at 1:28 a.m.

Looking at the time indicated by one of the three alarm clocks placed near her bed, Tomomi sighs.

It's already late and I can't sleep.

Normally, I would have fallen asleep long ago, and my body was tired to a certain extent. And yet, deep in my chest, I was so elated that I couldn't sleep at all.



The cause is known.

Not because I have a meeting tomorrow.

It was because I did what I did in the conference room in the evening.

Tomomi's stance is to enjoy the challenge, whether it be a trial or a difficulty, so it was only natural for her to involve the opposite sex she was interested in in the process.

In addition, the simulation with the addition of Sanae Shikikagami, who is clumsy but kind, unreliable but friendly, was, I think, a success.

..... Except for one thing, that I did what I did.

When I saw Akiharu and Sanae getting close to each other, I was somewhat annoyed and at the same time pissed off. So, I was definitely out of my mind when I suggested that they kiss.

(alt: Seeing that Akiharu and Sanae were so close, I felt somewhat relieved, but at the same time, I felt annoyed...that's why I said that I was going to kiss him.) I don't think I'm such a lightweight woman that I can kiss her for fun or practice,....., but my character of being competitive and slick-tempered is really troublesome in a situation like that.

When I first said it, I was so impatient that I wanted to take it back immediately, but in fact, I did the opposite: I shut my eyes to it.

My heart was pounding so hard I thought it was going to jump out of my chest, and I was so scared of Akiharu's breathing and every move he was making right next to me,..... I felt my hands gripping his shoulders, and when I thought it was finally going to come, I couldn't hold back anymore,..... I stopped, but it was also a little shameful to stop there,.....

I am disappointed in my own inability to do such a wanton act and to be so bold.

No matter how much she ate or how slowly she soaked in the bath, Tomomi could not get that moment out of her mind and she was unable to sleep.

Tomorrow - it's already today, but I have an important thing to do.

No, it is precisely because I have such a need that I ended up in this situation in the first place.

I can only think of it as a disaster.

"....., you're already Remember your mother.

(alt: "... Absolutely... Mother, please remember...") He cursed his mother for bringing this upon him, and then pressed his face against the pillow.

Tomomi had a sleepless night because of her embarrassing behavior that came back to her at the slightest moment.

Now, let's go. Are you ready?

"Okay, but are you sure you're okay? You seem a little dizzy."

Tomomi asked her again just before they entered the restaurant where the matchmaking was to take place, and Akiharu responded by asking her the opposite question.

He is clearly in a slump, perhaps because he hasn't yet entered honor student mode, but sometimes his eyes look very glazed over.

On the way here, I saw him biting his lip as if he was holding something in.

He's been in that kind of mood since we met at the main gate where we were supposed to meet before noon.

I couldn't ask Tomomi about it because of the tense negative aura she exudes, but I couldn't help but be curious about it.

When Akiharu looked into her face, Tomomi gently put her hand on the corner of her eyebrow and let out a sigh.

..... I'm a little sleep deprived. Don't worry, I never make mistakes at the critical moment."

That's all well and good, but, you're not getting enough sleep, are you?

What's wrong?

"No, it's not that bad. I mean, I'm sure you get nervous when your whole life depends on it."

(alt: "No, it's not bad, no matter how much your life is at stake, you're probably nervous.") I would have liked to ask her why she was so angry, but I could see Tomomi's cheeks puffing up in displeasure, so I decided to stop talking about unnecessary things.

After all, peace and safety are the most important things in life.

No. Stop wasting your time and let's go.

Oh. Oh.

(alt: "Oooh") Tomomi, still upset, silently opens the door to the restaurant and enters, and Akiharu quickly follows.

The restaurant, which was built to be a matchmaking site, was so well planned that even I, not being familiar with the formalities, could tell that it was not a place for a student to enter.

The waiter at the restaurant seemed to be well educated, and he seemed to understand that the clothes Tomomi was wearing were of a luxury brand.

When I see this, I can't help but think that professionals are great.

When I saw my face, I thought, "What, why is this punk with me?"

I think I must have been mistaken when I saw her eyes widen as if she was looking at me.

While Akiharu was having complicated feelings, the situation was progressing, and Tomomi with a clear expression said, "I'm Saikei, I have an appointment with Mr. Takasugi.

The mature waiter replied, "Yes, sir.

He bowed once again and led us toward the back of the store.

If Akiharu's memory serves him correctly, Takasugi is the son of the owner of the restaurant, so he must have the best seat in the house.

..... Oh man, I'm getting a little nervous.

I might be thought of as a married man because I was away from home, and I've never been in such an expensive place to begin with.

If you look at the furnishings alone, Hakuryo wins, but you can see people enjoying elegant meals at the lunchtime restaurant glancing at us, and it seems to be a major factor in making us feel so out of place.

No, calm down.

Although it is a tough role, Tomomi should be able to do a great job.

You should be as composed as possible, not fidgety, because it's okay to keep your head down.

While Akiharu was telling herself this, she seemed to have arrived at her destination, and the waiter knocked on the door of her private room.

He immediately opens the door and steps aside to let Akiharu and the others in.

And first, Tomomi says, "Excuse me."

And then he goes into a private room and says, "....., what?"

I could hear a silly voice, the kind you don't expect to hear when you're behaving like a lady.

Before he could ascertain the cause, Akiharu, who was about to continue, stiffened when he saw who was inside.

"Oh, I've been waiting for you, Tomomi-san!"

The person who welcomed me with a cheerful, high pitched voice said, "Well, um,, your matchmaking partner, Mr. Takasugi...? Mr. Takasugi...?"

Hi! My name is Yusaku Takasugi! The other day, I turned ten years old.

Hah! Hah!

They sounded very excited, and their voices were very loud and easy to hear.

This made it clear that I was not mistaken.

As Akiharu folded his arms, Tomomi, who was in front of him, turned around and tugged on his sleeve as if to ask for help, "..... what should I do? I thought it was the first son, but I didn't realize it was the second son. Oh, but that's why your father-in-law gave you permission too.!"

Congratulations on figuring out the cause. "Congratulations on figuring out what caused it, and may I also commend you on being so well-liked by your children?"

"Hey, Autumn Sun, pull yourself together. I'm the only one who gets confused, that's enough!

No, that is quite wrong, but it is true that I am confused, so I am at a loss for words.

However, we were not the only ones who were confused.

It seems that the second son of Mr. Takasugi also became aware of Akiharu's presence after all these years, and his expression became anxious quickly, "Oh, um, Tomomi, is that person?"

..... He's that thing. He's the chaperone, the classmate.

(alt: "Uh... he's that guy. He's my classmate.") "Chaperone?"

Yusaku tilted his head curiously, but Akiharu wanted to do the same thing.

Akiharu softly whispered in a whisper that only Tomomi could hear, "..... Hey, did you change your strategy?"

I'm sure you'll be able to find the answer at Because you don't know how to talk to such a small girl with a girlfriend, you have to give it up.

(alt: "...it can't be helped. Because you have a lover with such a small child, you should give up...I don't know how to put it together...") Oh, Tomomi's face is unusually bearish.

Is he really in trouble?

It's true that the chemistry with the child seems to be quite bad, so it can't be helped.

After exhaling a sigh of relief, Akiharu asked, "For now, can I take my seat? It's not something that a person who just showed up would say.

Oh, hi. Wakui, make sure you prepare one for the attendant."

The boy Yusaku's words, which had been stagnant for some time, finally got things flowing.

The table and food were prepared for Akiharu, and the matchmaking began, but it was quite awkward.

Tomomi somehow managed to keep smiling, but the way she kept glancing at me, it was hard to say that she had returned to her normal routine.

Yusaku, too, seemed elated that the dinner he had hoped for had been realized, and his speech became less coherent, and he seemed to be aware of this.

And Akiharu, not knowing what to do, was enjoying his lunch for the time being.

The food is as good as that served at Hakuryo, an upscale restaurant.

The menu is simple, with shrimp fries and cabbage rolls, which are popular with children, but the flavors of the ingredients can be clearly appreciated, and I think this is a great dish.

I don't have that discerning a palate, so that's about all I can say, but I'm sure I could get a good evaluation by bringing Selnia or Hou or something.

(alt: I don't have that much of a tongue, so that's all I can understand, but it seems like I'll get a good evaluation even if I bring Selnia and Otori.) and I was out of the mosquito net.

When the desserts started to arrive, the atmosphere remained strange, and the number of times Tomomi looked at him for help increased, and Yusaku was on the verge of tears.

It is not good for to leave this situation unresolved.

The matchmaking would have been a failure even if nothing had been done, so in that sense, it would have served its purpose, but since I was given a delicious meal on the spot, I wanted to give it a good and happy ending.

So, Akiharu took his time and said, "Hey, Yusaku-kun, you know..."

"Hi! What is it,?"

Yusaku, who had been eating the grape sherbet in a gloomy mood, was obviously scared and gave me a frightened look.

..... I wonder how this is really going to work when I'm trying to help out.

As long as the cause is your own appearance, you will want to cry rather than get angry.

Still, Akiharu was undeterred and smiled lightly to appear as friendly as possible.

But I am still a child's favorite person, so I know a little about what to do.

"You saw Tomomi somewhere, and you liked her so much that you decided to take this seat, didn't you? What did you think of the matchmaking process?"

"Yeah, um,, I knew it, Tomomi-san is beautiful and nice,"

"So, do you want to get married?"

"Hey, Akiharu-kun!" "....."

Tomomi's panicked and reproachful voice stings, perhaps because I gave her a direct word. But I quickly ignored it.

I'll leave this to you.

While Akiharu was paying attention, Yusaku's gaze wandered in confusion, and his cheeks flushed slightly as he nodded his head.

"Hi, I really want to get married and have a happy family. In the future, I would like to build a house in the Daikanyama area, where Tomomi and I can have three children instead of two... And a dog, a Labrador.

I'm sorry to interrupt your fun, but relax. "I'm sorry to interrupt your fun, but relax. For example,, is there any food you don't like?"

"..... Jellyfish, but hey,"

(alt: ".....The ear ear ear is a little.....") Why such a marine-like mushroom with no distinctive taste?

It doesn't seem to have the destructive power to make you dislike it until your high spirits suddenly drop.

It's very curious but not at all important, so Akiharu holds back his desire to ask, "So, what if Tomomi loves kikurage and the dinner table is full of them every day? You wouldn't like that, would you? You'll be surrounded by them until the day you die, right?"

"Ugh it's I hate it."

Right?" That's why it's important to know a lot about the person you are going to marry. It's too hasty to get married at once.

Well, it's impossible to get married at 10 years old.

We have to wait for 8 years, so we can go for it from that side, but it's scary if you underestimate the innocence of children, you know.

He got mad and said, "My love for you will never change!"

It would be difficult to persuade them if they say, "I don't know what to do.

(alt: It's hard to persuade if someone says something like that.) So we tried poking at it from the most imaginative side, and it seemed to work wonders.

It is obvious from the boy's complexion.

Akiharu lightly clears his throat to attract their attention, and then says the final word to them, "Now we just have to finish.

In other words, you should start by getting to know your partner better. Didn't your parents say something like that?"

I'm at Hi. I was told for sure."

Well, then, let's be friends first.

Yusaku nodded his head mysteriously at Akiharu's words, trying to project the image of a dependable big brother.

At the edge of my vision, I saw Tomomi smiling with relief.

Good work. You've helped me a lot.

Oh." It was a lot easier than we thought it would be, so we didn't have to worry about it.

After the matchmaking session, which was not at all like a matchmaking session, Akiharu and Tomomi returned to Hakurei Ling.

Tomomi's original plan was to "finish it once and for all," since she and Yusaku had agreed to exchange phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

I couldn't make it, but that can't be helped.

Since we were dealing with a pure boy, this should be a concession.

"Even if it is, doesn't Akiharu seem to have been missed a lot?"

Well,, I've decided to exchange addresses with you.

It's good to be liked by children. "It's good to have kids like you, especially today.

Tomomi stretches and smiles at me, as if a weight has been lifted from her shoulders.

I'm glad I asked Akiharu to do it. Thank you so much.

"....., it's rare to see you thank me so openly."

(alt: "...that's rare, for you to say thank you so honestly.") Yes, that's the way I feel right now, and I don't know if words are enough to convey it, so I'm going to show you by my actions."

(alt: "Yeah, that's how I feel right now--words may not be enough, so I'll show it in action.") What? What do you mean?"

What do you mean?

Before Akiharu could finish his sentence, he said, "I'm not going to do it.

I'm not sure if it's a good idea to have a good time, but I'm not sure if it's a good idea to have a good time, and I'm not sure if it's a good idea to have a good time, but I'm not sure if it's a good idea to have a good time.

(alt: With a light movement, he came closer to me, then Tomomi grabbed my shoulder and brought her face closer to me———The touch of her lips, so soft that they almost melted against my cheek, made Akiharu completely fall in love. stiffened.)



"Okay, revenge is complete. I'm so proud of you.

In front of my stunned face, Tomomi was happily saying something that made no sense at all.

However, what had just happened was a bigger problem than that, and all Akiharu could do was raise an inarticulate voice and move his mouth.

That's what that was, right? In courtesy of the example? No, on the cheek, so, strictly speaking, it's not a thing? I mean, definitely "What do you mean,?!"

While Akiharu was so confused that his head and tongue were not in sync, Tomomi blushed slightly and smiled, "I told you, didn't I? I'm grateful.

"But that doesn't mean you can't go to!"

"Oh, you got one from Selnia, didn't you?"

Tëm!

This time, when he was told something unexpected, Akiharu's train of thought froze.

Sure, she kissed me on the cheek once in the summer as a thank you for saving Selnia from drowning in the sea, but how does she know that?

I mean, nobody was supposed to be there at the time, but!

The impact was so strong that her brain shook so violently that Akiharu felt as if she was going to fall to her knees.

Perhaps amused by this, Tomomi smiled a mischievous smile and turned her back to us.

Then, thank you for your hard work. See you in the classroom tomorrow?"

"Hey,, what's wrong?"

Good bye, bye.

"No, not good-bye! Wait, go back! Come on, tell me what's going on.

Tomomi is moving away from me with such light steps that I feel as if I might start skipping, but she doesn't stop.

Akiharu, who could not find the strength in his legs to chase after the ball, collapsed like a pitcher who has just hit a home run.

And just like that, Tomomi disappeared completely, and Akiharu was left behind with several riddles.