Romance Anime:  
Your Lie in April

Your Lie in April follows the story of four friends in their freshman year of high school, Kousei Arima, Kaori Miyazono, Tsubaki Sawabe and Ryouta Watari. The anime begins with the introduction of Kousei Arima, who is presented as a child prodigy, playing piano internationally from a very young age and dominating competitions he attended. However, after his mother’s sudden death three years prior to his freshman year of high school, Kousei finds himself unable to hear the sound of his piano after a mental breakdown while performing at a piano recital. Now in his freshman year of high school, he sees the world with a nihilistic point of view and only wishes to live a good life with his friends Tsubaki and Ryouta as he does not play the piano anymore. However, one day in a park, he comes into contact with Kaori, a free-spirited violinist who befriends Kousei and his friends. The anime continues as Kaori helps Kousei realize his love for playing the piano again, as well as the love triangle that arises from the four friend’s interactions.



What makes Your Lie in April different from other romance anime is the use of a love triangle to add drama to the anime and use of grim subject matter in order to make characters feel more sympathetic. Since each person is close friends with each other, they are afraid to tell each other how they feel since anybody could like anybody. This in turn makes a character’s action much more realistic since they do not want to hurt each other.

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