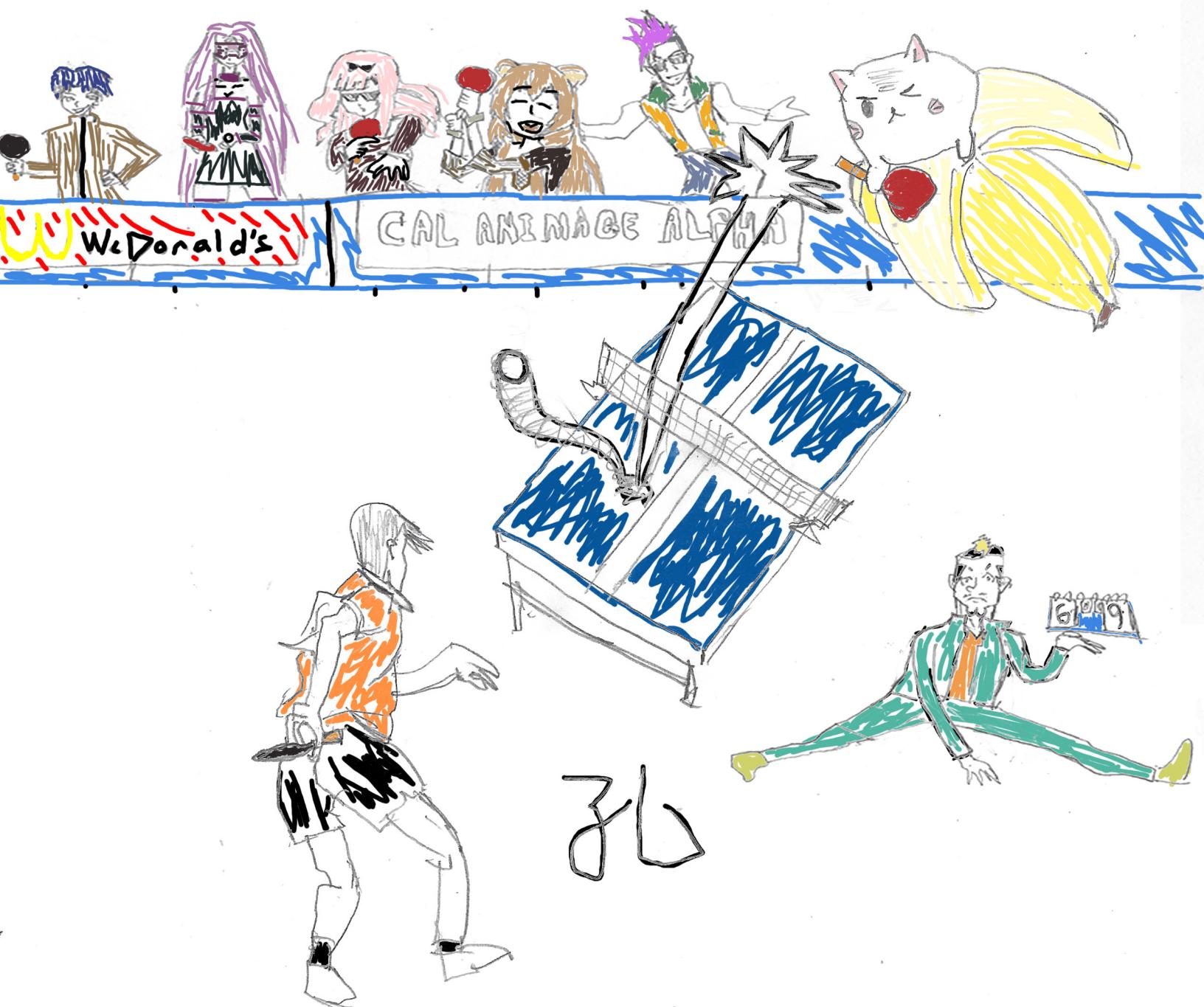


THE APRIL FOOLS ISSUE

CAL ANIMAGE ALPHA presents

konshuwu

Volume XLIX, Issue 8



Art by Andrew Wing

Anime Ecology

Lim, Borah (aka Choi, Bogeun)

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I'm on my Way



Abstract: This iconic quote originates from the famous slice of life anime, *Naruto*. If this is your first time seeing this quote, it's probably because you're an embryo¹. How did this seemingly niche quote break into mainstream culture?

Note that the diction is simple², in terms of both vocabulary and structure. It can be assumed that the author, Chester Bennington³, was not demonstrating his full literary prowess when he wrote this (according to *fanwiki.com*:2019 Bennington's IQ was nearly 200). So why did a man of such intelligence choose such simple language? It's simple, those who truly want to communicate make sure that their message is clear.

There is not much ambiguity about the subject of his words. He is clearly lamenting about how Sasuke left the leaf village in such a cold-hearted manner. Despite making so many nakama⁴, Sasuke decides to betray everyone in order to seek more power. Little b***h. This is a pain that many of us carried as children, or even adults. When we saw Sasuke turn his back and leave, we both hated him but still wished that he would return to in order to make the show feel less empty. Knowing this, Bennington chose words that could be understood by middle schoolers and scholars alike.

The aesthetic⁵ of his words does not affect their meaning too much, and may even allow for it be more powerful. Not only does it allow for a greater reach in audience, it also reflects the simplicity of childhood. Many of us experience abstract, complex emotions that we are not always able to verbalize, which is why we adhere to people who are able to capture such feelings accurately. Since it shows that our hidden, intimate thoughts are not always something we experience alone.

*"I've
Become so
Numb
I can't hear you there*

*I've
Become so tired
So much more
Aware"*

- Sasuke (*Naruto*, Episode 420)



Figure 1: Bennington

By creating an accurate portrait for our pain, we then channel our own emotions in it as well. Since many of us *Naruto* fans realized we were not alone, we decided to first share with others, in hope that it would resonate with them as well, even if they did not watch *Naruto*. If we saw that others reacted similarly to these wise words as us, we knew that they too felt this deep pain. By sharing this emotion, could discuss and elaborate on why these words weighed on you and tighten the bonds with your IRL nakamas. Addicted to this feeling, we also start to throw this quote at strangers or acquaintances as a means of establishing meaningful relationships. Like a disease, the number of people who carry this quote increases exponentially.

Bennington was able to capture such an essential emotion in a way that transcended *Naruto*, which is why people outside of the anime community are able to recognize and rejoice this message today⁶.

1 An embryo is any person who was born past the date of December 31, 1999.

2 Just because something is simple does not make it bad.

3 Rest in peace.

4 Powerful Japanese word that means friend/comrade. Typically used in the context of Squad 7 in *Naruto*.

5 A E S T H E T I C

6 It has come to my attention that some band named Linkin Park blatantly ripped off this quote. SMH

PROPAGANDA

I've often wondered what was stopping us from making the world of anime a reality. Perhaps not the grimmer aspects of anime, like turning people into demons, or villains terrorizing cities, or torture—but the kindness and utter heart-lifting moments within these illustrated stories.

For example, ALLEN WALKER FROM D.GRAY-MAN ALLOWED LALA, A DOLL, TO KEEP HER VOW WITH GUZOL THE DEFORMED CHILD. EVEN WHEN HER MEMORIES WERE TAKEN OUT, THE DOLL STILL SANG FOR HER DEAD FRIEND AS SHE HAD PROMISED BEFORE SHE STOPPED WORKING. THOUGH IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASIER TO DISREGARD THE DOLL's FEELINGS AND TAKE HER MIRACLE BATTERY, ALLEN WALKER RECOGNIZED HOW IMPORTANT THIS WAS TO LALA AND GUZOL, AND REMAINED FOR THREE DAYS UNTIL LALA BROKE JUST SO SHE COULD KEEP HER OATH TO HER FRIEND. HE HAD NOTHING TO GAIN, BUT HIS COMPASSION FOR THE TWO FRIENDS GAVE HIM THE PATIENCE NEEDED TO STAY.

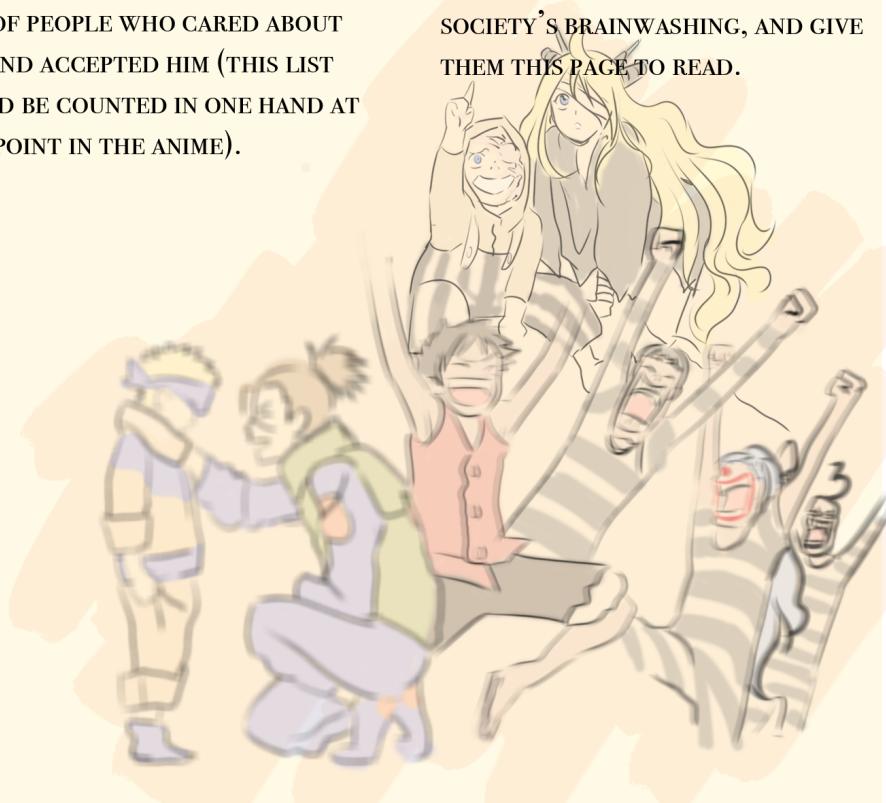
One might say THAT THIS KIND OF TENDERNESS IS ONLY PROMINENT IN ANIME, BUT I THINK NOT. I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE JUST AS CAPABLE OF THIS LEVEL OF EMPATHY, ONLY SOCIETY AND EXPERIENCE HAS LED US TO BELIEVE THAT BEING THIS SOFT IS "WRONG". THIS IS WHY I COME TO YOU TODAY WITH A PROPOSAL FOR A WORLD WIDE REVOLUTION. JOIN AniPEACE, A MOVEMENT THAT IS TAKING ROOT HERE IN BERKELEY TO OPEN THE REAL WORLD TO THE PATH OF ANIME ENLIGHTENMENT. IN AniPEACE, WE KNOW THAT WHEN LUFFY D. MONKEY HAD BROKEN INTO THE UNESCAPABLE PRISON IMPEL DOWN TO SAVE HIS OLDER BROTHER ACE—AND A LOT OF PEOPLE HELPED THE STRAW HAT CAPTAIN OUT EVEN THOUGH THEY BARELY KNEW HIM—EACH OF US IS JUST AS CAPABLE OF SUCH SELFLESSNESS IN HELPING OTHERS.

We understand THAT YOU MIGHT NOT BE SO EAGER TO SHOW THE WORLD YOUR BEAUTIFUL, KIND SELF. AFTER ALL, IT IS MUCH EASIER TO FOLLOW OUR CURRENT UNENLIGHTENED SOCIETY'S TENDENCY TO IGNORE THOSE IN NEED, AND LEAVE THEM IN THE CARE OF "OTHERS". HOWEVER, REMEMBER IRUKA FROM NARUTO. INSTEAD OF TRYING TO DEHUMANIZING THE YOUNG, ORPHANED JINCHURIKI NARUTO LIKE MOST PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE, THE ACADEMY TEACHER BECAME A SEMI-OLDER BROTHER FIGURE TO NARUTO, TREATING THE CHILD TO HIS FAVORITE RAMEN STAND, AND BECOMING THE FIRST TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOY AS A NINJA OF THE VILLAGE. YOU HAVE NO IDEA JUST HOW MUCH THIS MEANT TO YOUNG NARUTO, TO KNOW THAT HE COULD ADD JUST ONE MORE PERSON TO THE LIST OF PEOPLE WHO CARED ABOUT HIM AND ACCEPTED HIM (THIS LIST COULD BE COUNTED IN ONE HAND AT THIS POINT IN THE ANIME).

SHARREL NARSICO

You, AS ONE PERSON, COULD BE THAT IRUKA WHO CHANGED SOMEONE'S LIFE AND HELP MAKE OUR WORLD A KINDER PLACE. ON YOUR OWN, YOU CAN HELP ENLIGHTEN PEOPLE ONE STEP AT A TIME. HOWEVER, WITH ALL OF US TOGETHER IN AniPEACE, WE WILL REVOLUTIONIZE THE WAY OUR SOCIETY FUNCTIONS, AND GRANT PEOPLE THE GIFT OF ANIME-LEVEL TENDERNESS AND WAY OF LIVING ALL OVER THE PLANET. YOU MIGHT FEEL THAT IT IS AN IMPOSSIBLE GOAL, BUT IT IS ONLY IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE YOU THINK IT IS.

Don't THINK SO LOWLY OF YOURSELF. YOU ARE CAPABLE OF GREAT THINGS—YOU CAN MAKE THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE AND TOGETHER AS NAKAMA, WE WILL CHANGE THIS WORLD. TO BEGIN THE ENLIGHTENMENT OF OTHERS, SIMPLY YELL "PROPAGANDA!" AND WHACK THEM ON THE FACE WITH THIS MAGAZINE TO SNAP THEM OUT OF SOCIETY'S BRAINWASHING, AND GIVE THEM THIS PAGE TO READ.



MY IMMORTAL (ANIME EDITION)



KONSHUU | Volume 49, Issue 8

ELLIOT LU

STAFF ARTIST

2ND YEAR, INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING AND BUSINESS

My Immortal parody

Chapter 1.

AN: Special fangz (get it, coz I'm goffik) 2 my gf (ew not in that way) raven, tokyoghoulgal666 4 helpin me wif da story and spelling. U rok! Komaeda ur da luv of my deprizing life u rok 2! **AHA ROX!**

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Hi my name is Rin Ka'waii Naruto Kuro Rei and I have long ebony black hair (that's how I got my name) with purple streaks and red tips that reaches my mid-back and flaming red eyes like limpid tears and a lot of people tell me I look like Yumeiko Jabami (AN: if u don't know who she is get da hell out of here!). I'm not related to Rock Lee but I wish I was because he's a major fucking hottie. I'm a vampire but my teeth are straight and white. I have pale white skin. I'm also a witch, and I go to a superhero school called Ouran in Japan where I'm in the seventh year (I'm seventeen). I'm a goth (in case you couldn't tell) and I wear mostly black. I love Amami and I buy all

my clothes from there. For example today I was wearing a black corset with matching lace around it and a black leather pleated skirt, pink thigh highs and black schoolgirl platforms. I was wearing black lipstick, white foundation, black eyeliner and red eyeshadow. I was walking outside Ouran. It was snowing and raining so there was no sun, which I was very happy about. A lot of rich kid preps stared at me. I put up my middle finger at them.

"Hey Rin!" shouted a voice. I looked up. It was.... Ren Amamiya!

"What's up Ren?" I asked.

"Nothing." he said shyly.

But then, I heard my friends call me and I had to go away.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Chapter 2.

AN: Fangz 2 tokyoghoulgal666 4 helpin me wif da chapta! BTW preps(akechi goro ltrs) stop flaming ma story ok!

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX666XXXXXXXX
The next day I woke up in my bedroom. It was snowing and raining again. I opened the door of my coffin and

drank some blood from a bottle I had. My coffin was black ebony and inside it was hot pink velvet with black lace on the ends. I got out of my coffin and took off my giant MHA t-shirt which I used for pajamas. Instead, I put on a black leather dress, a Fate summoning circle necklace, thigh high boots and black fishnets on. I put on four pairs of earrings in my pierced ears, and put my hair in a kind of messy bun.

My friend, Len (AN: Raven dis is u!) woke up then and grinned at me. She flipped her long waist-length raven black hair with pink streaks and opened her forest-green eyes. She put on her Sword Art Online t-shirt with a black mini, fishnets and pointy high-heeled boots. We put on our makeup (black lipstick white foundation and black eyeliner.)

"OMFG, I saw you talking to Ren Amamiya yesterday!" she said excitedly.

"Yeah? So?" I said, blushing.

"Do you like Ren?" she asked as we went out of the dorms common room and into the main dining area.

"No I so fucking don't!" I shouted.

"Yeah right!" she exclaimed. Just then, Ren walked up to me.

"Hi," he said.

"Hi." I replied flirtily.

"Guess what," he said.

"What?" I asked.

"Well, Agours are having a concert in Ouran," he told me.

"Oh. My. Fucking. God!" I screamed. I love Agours.

They are my favorite band, better than Mu's.

"Well.... do you want to go with me?" he asked.

I gasped.

Chapter 3.

AN: STOP FLAMMING DA STORIY PREPZ
OK! odderwize fangs 2 da goffik ppl 4 da good reveiws!
FANGS AGEN RAVEN! oh yeah, BTW I don't own dis or da lyrics 4 Snow Halation.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
On the night of the concert I put on my black lace-up boots with high heels. Underneath them were ripped red fishnets. Then I put on a black leather pleated skirt with all this corset stuff on the back and front. I put on matching fishnet on my arms. I straightened my hair and made it look all spiky. I felt a little depressed then, so I slit one of my wrists. I read a depressing book while I waited for it to stop bleeding and I listened to some Persona 3 music. I painted my nails black and put on TONS of black eyeliner. Then I put on some black lipstick. I didn't put on foundation because I was pale anyway. I drank some human blood so I was ready to go to the concert. I went outside. Ren was waiting there in front of his

flying car. He was wearing a TRIGGER t-shirt (they would play at the show too), baggy black skater pants, black nail polish and a little eyeliner (AN: A lot fo kewl boiz wer it ok!).

"Hi Ren!" I said in a depressed voice.

"Hi Rin." he said back. We walked into his flying black Morganamobile (the license plate said 666) and flew to the place with the concert. On the way we listened excitedly to Agours and IDOLiSH7. We both smoked pocky and drugs. When we got there, we both hopped out of the car. We went to the mosh pit at the front of the stage and jumped up and down as we listened to Agours.

The night went on really well, and I had a great time. So did Ren. After the concert, we drank some beer and asked Chika and Nohane for their autographs and photos with them. We got Agours concert tees. Ren and I crawled back into the Morganamobile, but Ren didn't go back into Ouran, instead he drove the car into.....
the TV world!

Chapter 4.

AN: I sed stup flaming ok rin's name is RIN nut mary su OK! Ren IS SOO IN LUV wif her dat he is acting defrent! dey nu eechodder b4 ok!

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX666XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

"Ren!" I shouted. "What the fuck do you think you are doing?"

Ren didn't answer but he stopped the flying car and he walked out of it. I walked out of it too, curiously.

"What the fucking hell?" I asked angrily.

"Rin?" he asked.

"What?" I snapped.

Ren leaned in extra-close and I looked into his gothic red eyes (he was wearing color contacts) which revealed so much depressing sorrow and evilness and then suddenly I didn't feel mad anymore.

And then..... suddenly just as I Ren kissed me passionately. Ren climbed on top of me and we started to make out keenly against a tree. He took of my top and I took of his clothes. I even took of my bra. Then he put his thingie into my you-know-what and we did it for the first time.

"Oh! Oh! Oh!" I screamed. I was beginning to get an orgasm. We started to kiss everywhere and my pale body became all warm. And then....

"WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING YOU MOTHERFUCKERS!"

It was.....

Narukami Yu!

I WUV ANIME UWU

SHAO-GONE

1ST YEAR, COMPUTER SCIENCE

owo

STAFF WRITER

Minor spoiler warning for Toradora

Whenevew I watch anyime, I awways wook fow chawactews with big uwu enyewgy because I wuv the kawaii-nyess of moe chawactews. Today, I wiww teww you about some of my favowite moe chawactews with so much uwu enyewgy that you'ww go OwO.

Onye chawactew that I wuv is Shiro fwom No Game No Life. Shiro is the NEET giwwfiend that I'ww nyevew have because she has a sewious bwothew compwex. It's supew cute how she gets jeawous when hew bwothew pays attention to othew giwws, and I wike hew twisted sense of humor when she teases hew bwothew about his swightwy pewwwe tendencies. Onye of hew stwong points is that she's a kuudere, someone who wooks emotionwess on the outside but is actuawwy cawing on the inside. Hew kuudere side shows thwough hew shynyess and unyaffected attitude when she intewacts with othews, but when she's with hew bwothew, she makes jokes about being in uwu and has a supew uwu bwushy face.

Anyothew good giww is Kanna Kamui fwom Kobayashi-san's Dragon Maid. Kanna is a thicc dwagon that weaws gothic loli cwething and she is supew kawaii. Aftew she was exiwed fwom the dwagon wowwd, she ends up wiving with Kobayashi, who she sees as a pawentaw figuwe. Awthough she is technyicawwy owdew than Kobayashi and hew human fiends, she acts wike a chiwd which is supew cute. She constantwy pways pwanks and twies to get Kobayashi's attention. Hew affectionate and cuwious behaviow makes hew supew uwu and ewewything she does is so wovabwe.

Doctor: You have 10 hours to live

Me:



Kanna in the Rain 10 Hours

925K views

So faw, aww of the chawactews that I've mentionyed awe lolis, so nyow I'ww tawk about a swightwy owdew chawactew with a wot of uwu enyewgy. Onye of my favowite twopes is tsunderes, and onye of the best tsunderes is Taiga Aisaka fwom Toradora. Tsunderes awe hostiwe and cowd towardws a chawactew, but uwv time, they wawm up to said chawactew, usuawwy in a womantic way. Taiga is sawcastic and emotionywawwy unstabwe because hew pawents awe divowced and cawe mowe about theiw nyew famiwiess wathew than hew. Because of this, she has twust issues and has a tendency to be aggwessive and snyap at peopwe, when on the inside, she is actuawwy cute and woyaw. She shows a bit of this cute side when she intewacts with Yusaku Kitamura, hew fiwst cwush. When she's awound him, she becomes cwumsy and bwushes a wot because of hew shynyess. She then meets Ryuji, Yusaku's best fiend, and he twies to hewp Taiga confess hew uwu to him. In the beginnying, she acts cowd towardws Ryuji and onwy sees him as a way to get cwosew to Yusaku, but as the show continyues, she swoowy fawws in uwu with Ryuji and becomes mowe and mowe uwu. Hew chawactew devewopment thwoughout the anyime gives hew majow waifu points and she is what aww tsunderes shouwd stwive fow.

Taiga: I-It's not like I like you or anything b-baka

Ryuji: *Doesn't like her*

Taiga:



The wast chawactew I wiww tawk about is diffewent than the west because he is a guy with big uwu enyewgy. Onye of the most kawaii guys in anyime is Mitsukuni Haninozuka, ow Honey, fwom Ouran Highschool Host Club. Honey is chiwdish and is the shota type of the host cwub. He wuvs cute things and sweets and awways cawwies his pink stuffed wabbit, Usa-chan, whewewve he goes. He is witewawwy the definyition of uwu.

A HIDDEN GEM AMONG VISUAL NOVELS



ATHENA CHEN
1ST YEAR, PHYSICS

Seriously though, please play *999*

STAFF ARTIST

Recently, there's been a lot of buzz about Spike Chunsoft's new intellectual property, *AI: The Somnium Files*. Much of its attention can be attributed to the pedigree of its writer and director, Kotaro Uchikoshi, known for his cult hit visual novel trilogy, the *Zero Escape* series. The series, starting with the 2009 Nintendo DS game *Nine Hours, Nine Persons, Nine Doors*, or simply *999*, has a dedicated fanbase, especially in the West. *999* tells the story of nine people who are kidnapped by a mysterious figure called Zero, trapped on a replica of the Titanic, and forced to play a high-stakes game. The cast must traverse through doorways with a deadly twist and solve puzzles to escape the ship before it sinks in 9 hours. In addition to novel sections, *999* features "escape-the-room" puzzle segments, each with elaborate solutions and brilliantly subtle clues. However, the game failed to garner a wider audience, and it's not hard to see why. After all, *Zero Escape* is a niche series known for its science fiction influences and well-constructed plot, and tends to dive deep into speculative writing, rather than pandering to children and otakus with simple storylines and wish fulfillment.

To be fair, you have to have a very high IQ to understand *999*. The plot is extremely complex, and without a solid grasp of number theory and theoretical physics most of the random scientific tangents will go over a typical viewer's head. Take, for instance, the concept of morphogenetic fields, the idea that all humans are connected by fields that are invisible to the naked eye, and can transmit information between each other telepathically. This is

heavily rooted in quantum mechanics and the multiverse theory, as people can even send information to and from parallel worlds. I should know; I'm a physics major myself.

There's also Akane Kurashiki's nihilistic outlook, which is deftly woven into her characterisation - her personal philosophy draws heavily from Morgan Robertson's *Futility*, for instance.

The fans understand this stuff; they have the intellectual capacity to truly appreciate the depths of these anecdotes, to realize that they're not just interesting -- they say something deep about LIFE. As a consequence, people who dislike *999* truly ARE idiots -- of course they wouldn't appreciate, for instance, the latent trepidation in the game's existential catchphrase "SEEK A WAY OUT," which perfectly encapsulates our constant desire to escape from our monotonous lives. I'm smirking right now just imagining one of those addlepated simpletons scratching their heads in confusion as Kotaro Uchikoshi-sama's genius unfolds itself on their two Nintendo DS screens. What fools... how I pity them 😂

And yes by the way, I DO have a funyarinpa tattoo. And no, you cannot see it. It's for the gentlemen's eyes only -- and even then, they have to demonstrate that they're within 9 IQ points of my own beforehand (preferably lower).



Character design at its finest.

June

Down there... I'd get soaking wet....

A shining example of the game's thought-provoking dialogue.

In short, *999* is the deepest and most intelligent visual novel of all time, and thus cannot be appreciated by common folk. It easily eclipses all other visual novels in writing, character design, and intellectual depth. No wonder it's overshadowed by its sister series *Dingle Rompers*, which is chock-full of tropes meant to appeal to the lowest common denominator, such as forced violence, gratuitous fanservice, and trashy waifus. Uchikoshi continues to stand head and shoulders above all the rest, and no doubt will until the end of time.

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CLUB EVENTS

Follow us on social media or visit cal.moe for updates!
Bi-Weekly Cosplay/Art Workshop: Wednesday, 6-7 pm, 228 Dwinelle
Game Nights: Thursday 8-10 pm, 229 Dwinelle

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ARTIC CRUISE SEAL

A Hat in Time

Art by Andres Gonzalez



DEMENTED LITTLE TREES
by Ziana Deen