

Cote 44

Chapter 44 Third year Class C

Early the next morning, Kaoru Mitoma arrived at the door of Third-Year Class C.

"Good morning, Sato-senpai."

Hearing his voice, Sato Keisaku instinctively turned around, only to see a boy he had never met standing behind him.

"You know me?" Sato Keisaku sized up the boy.

Not bad looking—this kind of guy would probably be pretty popular with the girls. But he was sure he'd never seen him before.

"This is our first time meeting. I'm Kaoru Mitoma from Year 1, Class A. The president told me you're the leader of Year 3, Class C, so I wanted to take up a bit of your time."

A first-year freshman?

Sato Keisaku was a little surprised, not sure what a freshman was doing in the third-year area, and the name sounded a bit familiar.

After a moment, Sato Keisaku suddenly remembered the news he'd heard yesterday, his pupils shrinking in shock.

"You're the freshman Horikita promoted to vice president so quickly?"

"Senpai, you really do keep up with the news."

Kaoru Mitoma looked a little surprised. Sato Keisaku put away his dismissive attitude. No matter what, this freshman was from Class A, and he'd been made vice president right away. That meant his abilities were so good even Horikita had to acknowledge them.

"Do you need something?"

The different grade areas aren't connected, except for the cafeteria and the dorms. You'd probably only run into someone from another grade on the shopping street. Unless there's a special reason, people basically don't go to other grades' areas—it's just too conspicuous.

In fact, when Kaoru Mitoma called out to him, quite a few people glanced over, curious.

"The president told me the school will buy back personal points for cash before graduation, at a rate of 5:1." Kaoru Mitoma looked serious.

"I can buy back your personal points at 2:1. What do you think, Sato-senpai?"

Normally, Horikita Manabu wouldn't have told him about this. The school only informed the third-years about the cash buyback, and even Horikita Manabu himself had just found out.

But Kaoru Mitoma had been thinking about this for a while—he still had 5.46 million yen he hadn't exchanged yet. When Horikita Manabu heard what he said, he was silent for a long time before finally telling him about it. So, Kaoru Mitoma immediately adjusted his plan.

"You want to buy our personal points too?"

Sato Keisaku looked shocked, almost in disbelief, but then his expression calmed down.

"Sorry, I can't agree to that." Kaoru Mitoma frowned.

"Who else wants to buy them?"

"I can't tell you that, but he's a first-year student like you." Sato Keisaku smiled.

"And besides, your offer is too low. The other guy is willing to trade one-to-one."

Tch, ran into a rich kid.

"I see. It's fine if you want to exchange with him for cash, but I'm just curious—how do you make sure he'll actually pay you?"

Sato Keisaku mouth opened slightly when he heard that, and he fell silent. Looks like the deal hasn't gone through yet. After all, talk is cheap—any normal person would hesitate.

"If I remember right, Sato-senpai, you guys are still pretty far from Class A, aren't you?"

"What are you trying to say?"

Sato Keisaku face darkened instantly. He knew what he said was true, but did you really have to say it to my face?

"In this situation, I can actually understand what the upperclassmen are thinking. Instead of aiming for the distant Class A, it's better to take the chance to exchange personal points for cash. That way, even after graduation, you can take some money home."

"Even if you put it that way, I'm not going to sell you my personal points. How many personal points do you think you can even buy?" Sato Keisaku stared at him coldly.

"Don't be so hasty, senpai." Kaoru Mitoma smiled.

"I'm the freshman the president has his eye on, that's why he made me the student council vice president. If we work together, we can actually sign a contract with the president as our witness."

To be honest, Sato Keisaku heart skipped a beat for a moment. What Kaoru Mitoma meant was simple: he could have Horikita Manabu act as the guarantor. Compared to these freshmen, Sato Keisaku and his class would definitely trust Horikita Manabu more.

Putting aside the fact that he was a rival, Horikita Manabu reputation—both as the student council president and in his personal conduct—had earned their respect. His credibility was beyond question. But that wasn't the issue.

"I trust Horikita, but how are you going to pay?" Sato Keisaku asked the crucial question.

The main reason they were hesitating was because of this.

However, Kaoru Mitoma looked a little exasperated. "If I couldn't pay, the president wouldn't let me use him as a guarantor. And if I tried to scam you, I'd definitely get expelled. I'm not about to risk everything for a few personal points."

Yeah, at first Horikita Manabu just flat-out refused to help him, and it took a bit of time to finally convince him.

To be honest, Kaoru Mitoma could have just asked the Wishing Machine to exchange yen into their bank accounts at any time, but since they couldn't leave, they had no way to check their balance.

Sato Keisaku was a bit stunned by this. Thinking it over, it did make sense. The other person wasn't from Class D, but a student from Class A.

Maybe he'd even become the student council president someday. There was really no need to risk everything for a few personal points by pulling some scam.

Speaking of which, there was that one student who tried to scam his way up to Class A, swindling over ten million personal points, and ended up getting expelled.

The fact that Kaoru Mitoma could say something like that meant he knew about what happened. With that kind of lesson right in front of them, you'd think no one would make the same mistake again, right?

"How much do you want?"

"No rush." Kaoru Mitoma smiled again.

"I have a better idea right now. Satou-senpai, this is a rare opportunity—how about we work together for once?"

"Work together on what?"

Satou Keisaku was taken aback. Weren't they just talking about selling personal points?

"Who's the other freshman who tried to buy personal points from you guys?"

"Kouenji from Class 1-D. Not long after school started, he suddenly approached us, claiming to be the heir of the Kouenji conglomerate, and promised to buy our personal points at a one-to-one exchange rate."

"So he's a rich kid. Why didn't you agree to his offer back then?" Kaoru Mitoma asked.

Satou Keisaku gave a wry smile.

"Even if he's a rich kid, he can't contact the outside directly. He could only have us take his letter to someone after graduation. As he spoke, he hesitated for a while.

"Actually, before graduation, the school strictly forbids buying and selling personal points. This kind of behavior is almost never allowed by the school."

In other words, their deal was taking a huge risk. Facing Sato Keisaku concern, Kaoru Mitoma just smiled faintly. Of course he knew this, and he also knew exactly how to handle it.