

Cote 651

Chapter 651: Speechless

"Senpai, secretly taking photos violates personal privacy rights, you know?"

Amasawa Ichika was clearly annoyed, her smile vanishing as she glared displeasedly at Kaoru.

Though at first glance, her angry expression was rather cute.

In response, Kaoru simply chuckled. "I took out my phone right in front of you, and you didn't refuse earlier. How can you call that secretly taking photos?"

Amasawa Ichika was momentarily speechless.

If he hadn't said such strange things, how could she have fallen for it?

Naturally, she couldn't voice such thoughts aloud.

Instead, the girl gave him a reproachful look, puffing out her cheeks. "So this is how Senpai teases girls? How awful!"

"I was just mentioning the recent rumors about me. Did Amasawa-san really think I'd have a Hypnosis App?"

Kaoru looked at her with a faint, teasing smile.

Amasawa Ichika felt her face grow warm, her lips trembling slightly as if she were drunk.

"If Senpai really had a Hypnosis App... would you use it on me?"

"If I did use it, would you be scared?"

Kaoru still wore that elusive smile.

"Oh? That just means I'm cute, right?"

Amasawa Ichika suddenly blinked, breaking into a radiant smile. Her earlier shyness seemed entirely feigned, like a ever-changing enchantress.

"Actually, I know—Senpai's gaze just now was quite lewd. Even though you already have so many girlfriends, you're still interested in your junior? How despicable~"

She drew out her words, her alluring smile both teasing the man's heart and dangerous like quicksand.

"I saw it, you know. Senpai came out of our dormitory building."

Amasawa Ichika leaned in again, this time even closer. Her warm breath seemed to brush against Kaoru.

"Hey, I'm a bit curious—who exactly is Senpai's target?"

The cute junior suddenly closed the distance, almost pressing herself against him in an embrace that would make most people lose their composure.

At this proximity, she slightly rose on her tiptoes as if about to kiss him. Her beautiful eyes sparkled, and her slightly slender shoulders gave a delicate, fragile impression.

Her prominently raised, soft chest swayed gently—full and rounded, subtly outlining the girl's curves even beneath her clothes.

Kaoru's gaze began to drift, and his reaction made Amasawa Ichika curl her lips into a smile.

"Hey, can you tell me, Senpai?"

The girl's voice was like a whisper in his ear. "Am I cuter than her?"

This lover-like teasing was far beyond what someone their age should exhibit.

Their actions had already drawn sidelong glances from many around them, who cast surprised looks their way.

In such a public setting, the girl's temptation was enough to make Kaoru's heart race.

Amasawa Ichika could already feel his breathing growing heavier.

Unconsciously, her lips curved upward—this kind of man was so easy to handle.

She extended a small hand as if to touch Kaoru's face but quickly withdrew it, simultaneously taking a small step back.

"Oh my, how dangerous. It seems I asked an unnecessary question."

Amasawa Ichika wore a playful smile, as if retaliating for his earlier remark. "But facing such a cute junior, did your heart race just now, senior?"

Suddenly closing the distance while he wasn't expecting it, then stepping back again - not to mention her attempt to touch Kaoru - would probably leave Kaoru thinking about it for a long time.

Seeing Kaoru's dazed expression, Amasawa Ichika felt she had gained the upper hand.

After all, he was just a lecherous guy.

However, she had tested him enough. This person wasn't her target anyway.

Just as Amasawa Ichika was about to leave, Kaoru suddenly touched his coat pocket and her smile instantly froze.

"With a cute classmate like Amasawa-san, of course my heart would be pounding."

Kaoru took the listening device out of his pocket. "But I don't think we need something like this. If Amasawa-san wants to know, I might actually consider telling you some secrets."

Amasawa Ichika slowly withdrew her smile.

This was the listening device she had just slipped in.

Afraid that Kaoru might notice, she had deliberately waved her hand in front of his face to distract him.

She had clearly succeeded in planting it - Kaoru hadn't even seen her movements.

Yet now the listening device was in Kaoru's hand.

"Senpai really is impressive, no wonder so many girls like you."

Amasawa Ichika licked her lips. "Even with such a cute girl standing right in front of you, senior could still pay attention to other things."

"Because I was worried Amasawa-san might try to steal my phone, so I've been watching your hands the whole time."

Kaoru suddenly smiled. "As expected, junior's little hands aren't very clean."

"Oh my, that's too harsh. Who would compliment a girl like that?"

Amasawa Ichika looked somewhat embarrassed. "Although I'm quite angry, since senior is so capable, I don't mind letting you keep my photos."

"In that case, you shouldn't mind if I do something strange with those photos, right?"

Kaoru looked toward her chest - her full breasts brimming with youthful vitality.

He spoke too directly, making Amasawa Ichika's expression stiffen slightly, as if a big question mark appeared above her head.

Wait, is this guy serious?

Right in front of her, saying he'll do something with her photos?

Looking at Kaoru's calm expression, Amasawa Ichika felt a strong sense of incongruity.

She couldn't even tell if he was joking.

"Senpai really has no intention of hiding your desires at all?"

Amasawa Ichika covered her chest, feeling genuinely scared this time.

"Even if you're the Student Council President, doing something like this to a girl would count as sexual harassment, you know?"

"So Amasawa-san does know I'm the President."

Kaoru played with the listening device in his hand - this wasn't something Amasawa Ichika could have made herself.

"In that case, I'd like to ask - what exactly is this supposed to be?"

Amasawa Ichika's expression changed slightly.

Actually, she had been trying to find a way to escape this whole time.

She never expected to be caught red-handed by Kaoru, thinking the worst-case scenario would be him discovering her listening device quickly without it serving any purpose.

But Kaoru was too fast!

The moment she planted it, Kaoru retrieved it!

Chapter 652: You're disgusting senpai!

Amasawa Ichika, who had always been brimming with confidence, fell into an uncharacteristic silence.

"Installing a listening device on me—are you trying to uncover the school's secrets through me?"

Kaoru chuckled lightly. "If you planted bugs in the Student Council or the teachers' office, you might uncover even more secrets."

Amasawa Ichika froze for a moment.

When had she ever planned to bug the teachers' office?

"What a shame. Though your idea is clever, the school would never permit such behavior."

Kaoru continued, "Secretly installing listening devices and cameras with the intent to monitor faculty would be seen as a deliberate challenge to the school's dignity and a violation of its rules. In severe cases, expulsion isn't out of the question."

Hearing this, Amasawa Ichika fully grasped his implication and grew furious.

This guy was blatantly framing her!

"Senpai, jokes should have their limits, don't you think?"

Amasawa Ichika gritted her teeth. "Suddenly accusing me of wanting to monitor faculty—you'll need evidence for that, won't you?"

By now, Kaoru merely offered a faint smile.

"I am the Student Council President."

He toyed with the listening device. "This is the evidence."

Amasawa Ichika felt an inexplicable sense of humiliation.

Aside from one particular person's name, no one had ever made her feel this way. It was the first time she had been bested in such a manner.

"Fine, I'll admit defeat this time."

The girl took a deep breath, her gaze fixed intently on Kaoru.

"Kaoru-senpai, I'll remember you."

With that, Amasawa Ichika turned away without hesitation.

She had only taken a few steps when Kaoru's voice came from behind.

"Did I say you could leave?"

Amasawa Ichika froze in place, regret beginning to seep in.

She shouldn't have recklessly approached him earlier, and she definitely shouldn't have planted the listening device on Kaoru.

She had underestimated the world outside her own.

"After waiting so long, won't you stay and chat a bit longer?"

Kaoru spoke with a hint of nostalgia. "To be honest, this listening device brings back memories. It's how Nagumo and I first crossed paths."

Amasawa Ichika realized she had severely underestimated him.

He had seen right through her deliberate attempt to strike up a conversation—no, he had seen through this entire carefully orchestrated "chance encounter."

No one carries a listening device around unless they know a worthwhile target is about to appear.

"Kaoru-senpai, your observational skills are truly frightening. Were you just acting with me earlier?"

Amasawa Ichika turned back to face him, meeting his gaze, and couldn't help but smile wryly.

"I thought I could at least make your heart flutter a little. Seems I miscalculated."

"You didn't miscalculate. I was indeed planning to keep your photos."

Kaoru thought for a moment, then added, "Don't worry, I won't leak them."

His words shattered the composure Amasawa Ichika had struggled to maintain.

They were just a few photos—she wouldn't mind giving them to him—but why did he have to phrase it so indecently?!

This guy was doing it on purpose!

"Heh. Kaoru-senpai, I think it's best we cut the nonsense now and not waste any more time."

Amasawa Ichika said coldly, "You want to know what Nagumo-senpai and I talked about, don't you?"

Kaoru shook his head: "No, I'm not curious at all. I expect he'd only spout nonsense, like offering you benefits if you could get me expelled."

Amasawa Ichika narrowed her eyes slightly, noticing that Kaoru had said "you" (plural), indicating he had already received prior information.

No wonder he seemed so confident—he probably had eyes and ears everywhere in the school.

At that moment, Amasawa Ichika once again raised her assessment of Kaoru's threat level significantly.

"If you're not curious at all, Mitoma-senpai, why did you stop me?"

Amasawa Ichika blinked, "Are you planning to persuade me to abandon my cooperation with Nagumo-senpai?"

"Whether you cooperate or not makes no difference to me."

Kaoru rejected her words, but the feeling he gave was that he was dismissing her along with it.

Amasawa Ichika grew even more irritated; it felt like she was being looked down upon.

"It seems I need to correct your misunderstanding, senpai, or you might easily end up at a disadvantage."

The girl spoke with a hint of sarcasm, "First of all, Nagumo-senpai did contact us first-years. He promised 20 million Personal Points to anyone who could get you expelled, but..."

Amasawa Ichika paused, wanting to observe Kaoru's reaction.

Unfortunately, not only did Kaoru show no change in expression, but he also continued her sentence for her.

"But Nagumo knows it's difficult to expel me anytime soon, so he wants to teach me a lesson instead."

Amasawa Ichika opened her mouth, then closed it without speaking.

Wasn't this supposed to be her turn?

"If I'm not mistaken, he probably wants you to cooperate with him to get someone I care about expelled."

Kaoru finished the words she was about to say.

Amasawa Ichika's expression was a sight to behold.

After holding back for a long time, she finally managed to say, "Did someone tell you in advance?"

"No, I guessed."

Kaoru said, "Because my weaknesses are obvious, sometimes I use them as bait like this."

Amasawa Ichika felt the powerlessness of punching cotton.

In front of this person, she couldn't find any opportunity to counterattack.

However, asking herself honestly, she felt that if she were Nagumo Miyabi, she would be very frustrated right now.

The man before her had too many advantages.

Just as Amasawa Ichika was feeling somewhat depressed, Kaoru suddenly said, "Your academic ability is high. Would you partner with someone from my side?"

"Partner with you?"

Amasawa Ichika looked at him strangely, "Aren't you afraid I might get your person expelled?"

"You can try, but I don't recommend it."

Kaoru threw the listening device toward Amasawa Ichika, who caught it reflexively.

"I don't have a Hypnosis App, but there are people who can make you accept my hypnosis whether you want to or not."

Amasawa Ichika silently pocketed her listening device, feeling completely exposed.

"See you next time, kouhai."

Kaoru smiled at her before turning and leaving.

Amasawa Ichika suddenly felt intensely curious about him, not just because of what he had said to her, but also because of his utterly confident attitude.

He hadn't told her who she would be partnering with, nor had he explained the consequences of refusal.

It was as if he didn't care about her at all, or was completely certain she would come to him voluntarily next time.

"This guy is quite troublesome."

A male student approached Amasawa Ichika, "He probably noticed me earlier. His observational skills are really sharp."

"Well, he is the man who calls himself the Apex." Amasawa Ichika cast a sidelong glance at him.

"But you're the one who said you weren't interested in Kaoru-senpai."

The boy fell silent for a moment. "I just happened to run into you two here."

Amasawa Ichika couldn't be bothered to expose his thoughts and changed the subject.

"I need to discuss the specifics with them now. Are you coming?"

"Since we're rarely out, I'd like to properly experience high school life for a while."

The boy's implication was simple—he didn't have faith in Amasawa Ichika's plan and wanted no part in it.

Then, he realized something was off.

"You're really going to agree to it?"

"Why not?"

Amasawa Ichika licked her lips, her eyes sparkling. "Since he dared to invite me, I have no reason to back down."

The boy was momentarily speechless and said helplessly, "He's not our target. You'd better be careful."

Amasawa Ichika naturally knew who the real target was, but she had never been particularly interested in them to begin with.

Instead, she had come here with admiration and respect.

Compared to the target, she was now more intrigued by Kaoru Mitoma.

Since Kaoru said they could give it a try, she was genuinely willing to test the waters.

The boy didn't attempt to persuade her further.

After leaving his warning, he quickly turned and left, as if the two had never met.

Amasawa Ichika took out her phone, a gleam of eager anticipation flashing in her eyes, and sent a friend request to Kaoru.

Chapter 653: Jealousy

"Onii-chan, I brought lunch!"

Seeing Komiya Kaho appear before him, Kaoru had grown accustomed to her sweet smile and the slightly unusual term of address.

However, Kamuro Masumi beside him looked as if she'd seen a ghost.

"Good afternoon, Kaho."

Kaoru greeted the girl, though he was somewhat surprised she had appeared outside his classroom.

Perhaps because it was the first time a student from outside their grade had shown up here, Komiya Kaho instantly drew the attention of the entire class.

Especially upon realizing Komiya Kaho was an adorable underclassman, the gazes directed at Kaoru sharpened—since when had this guy managed to charm a kouhai?

'Wait, Onii-chan?'

A few boys' faces lit up with delight, clearly misunderstanding the situation.

Faced with such unusual attention, most girls would likely feel shy, but Komiya Kaho had long grown used to being in the spotlight and showed almost no signs of embarrassment.

"I made lunch for two today. Will you eat with me, Onii-chan?"

However, when Komiya Kaho met Kaoru's gaze, she couldn't help feeling a bit bashful.

Clutching two lunch boxes, she stood timidly at the classroom entrance.

Kaoru's first thought was that she could actually cook, followed by whether she had made any friends.

"Of course. Just the thought of your cooking has me looking forward to it."

"You're being so serious, Onii-chan. It's making me shy."

Komiya Kaho's cheeks flushed slightly.

Even though Kaoru hadn't yet tasted the lunch she prepared, his attitude alone made her happy.

Kaoru seemed to hear a wave of murmurs around him.

Komiya Kaho's presence had intensified the piercing stares, and he was about to lead her away when someone placed a hand on his shoulder.

"Aren't you going to introduce your little sister?"

Kamuro Masumi's voice was slightly cold.

It was only then that Kaoru remembered she had been standing beside him all along, while Sakayanagi Arisu watched the scene with an amused smile.

The latter clearly knew what was going on but feigned innocence.

Suddenly having a cute underclassman appear, sweetly calling Kaoru "Onii-chan" while specifically bringing him a lunchbox, would probably leave anyone feeling bewildered.

Kamuro Masumi examined the two of them, unable to find even the slightest resemblance.

If she had to say anything, one was cute while the other was handsome.

"Sorry for suddenly interrupting."

Komiya Kaho spoke before Kaoru could, offering Masumi an apologetic expression.

"I'm Komiya Kaho from Class 1-B. Thank you for taking care of my brother all this time, senpai."

Masumi was slightly taken aback.

She had to admit Komiya Kaho's surface-level politeness was quite well done, making her hostility diminish somewhat.

However, she couldn't shake the feeling that there were hidden thorns in those words.

After a moment's thought, the other girl did seem to genuinely be Kaoru's little sister... Wait, her family name was Komiya!?

Noticing Masumi's strange reaction, Kaoru explained: "We're not biological siblings. I just met Kaho earlier than others, and she's always called me brother since then."

"You have a childhood friend!?"

Masumi blurted out almost reflexively.

She couldn't be blamed for this - anyone would have the same reaction.

"You could say that. Onii-chan and I aren't related by blood."

Komiya Kaho looked somewhat shyly at Kaoru. "Right, Onii-chan?"

"That's correct."

Kaoru felt somewhat strange - why was she emphasizing the lack of blood relation?

Masumi's expression darkened.

She understood what this meant.

This girl was here to steal her man and declare her sovereignty!

"My, Kaoru-kun is quite popular with women, isn't he?"

Sakayanagi Arisu wore a fox-like smile. "You haven't happened to know many little sisters before, have you?"

Was this girl trying to stir up trouble now?

"Don't forget, my current popularity includes you."

Kaoru didn't hold back, simply reaching out to pinch her cheek.

They had done almost everything except the final step, so this kind of intimate gesture was completely trivial.

Sure enough, Sakayanagi Arisu just glared at him.

Watching their interaction, Komiya Kaho's mood grew heavier.

Just how many girls had the producer been seducing here?

"Ahaha, could I borrow onii-chan for a moment?"

Without waiting for Masumi and Arisu to respond, she had already reached out to tug on Kaoru's clothes.

"Onii-chan, let's find somewhere to eat."

"Please, by all means."

Sakayanagi Arisu smiled gracefully, as if she were the true lady of the house.

Komiya Kaho smiled back at her and quickly left the Class 2-A classroom with Kaoru.

"So this is the underclassman who's been getting close to him recently?"

Masumi suddenly said, having been silently watching Kaoru leave with Komiya Kaho.

"Is Masumi-san jealous?"

Sakayanagi Arisu asked in a leisurely tone, completely unaffected. She even looked back at Masumi with an amused expression.

"Shall we follow them?"

"Why would I be jealous of him?"

Masumi withdrew her gaze. "I don't care about him. He's just a perverted foot fetishist. I don't care who he gets along with."

"If you really don't care, then why do you have such an unwilling expression, Masumi-san?"

Sakayanagi Arisu cast a meaningful glance her way.

Kamuro Masumi subconsciously touched her own cheek, then seeing the other girl's mischievous grin, suddenly blushed and glared at her angrily.

"The one who's clearly unwilling is you! Before you said you were just playing with him, but you ended up falling for him yourself!"

"Hehe, I haven't let him succeed. It was just a momentary mistake."

Sakayanagi Arisu appeared as if everything was under her control.

"The chance for counterattack will come soon."

Kamuro Masumi thought this annoying brat was just being stubborn again.

If not for her poor health, she would probably have been devoured by Kaoru long ago.

"Just make sure your counterattack doesn't end up in bed."

The moment she said it, Kamuro Masumi immediately regretted her words.

"Hehe, so this is how you view Kaoru-kun and me, Masumi-san."

Sakayanagi Arisu tried her best to appear indifferent, though the tips of her ears were already slightly reddened.

"If it bothers you, I can stop talking to him from now on. Would that satisfy you?"

Similarly, Sakayanagi Arisu also believed Kamuro Masumi was just being stubborn.

Clearly so jealous, yet insisting on maintaining a cold expression - more anxious than anyone inside, yet stubbornly refusing to admit it.

Whenever she thought about this, her gaze toward Kamuro Masumi would carry a hint of helplessness.

But she forgot about her own expression at this moment.

"Blushing like that - have you two actually done it?"

Kamuro Masumi didn't miss her reaction, her voice turning cold.

"What kind of answer would Masumi-san prefer?"

Sakayanagi Arisu remained nonchalant, though her ears were growing increasingly red.

Now whenever this topic came up, she couldn't help but recall the bad things Kaoru had done to her.

Her body would heat up on its own, as if just like Kaoru had said - he had already left his mark deep within her.

Chapter 654: Little Rival

Kamuro Masumi fell silent for a moment.

"That perverted foot fetishist was right. A stubborn brat like you really needs to be taught a lesson."

Sakayanagi Arisu grew somewhat irritated. So what if she lost one exam?

It's not like she had lost her entire life to Kaoru.

Even Ichinose Honami, that idiot with nothing but big breasts, thought she had fallen for Kaoru.

These people really were...!

However, she completely failed to realize that the bad things Kaoru had done to her only made her feel unwilling and humiliated, rather than resistant or disgusted.

Even when Kaoru had made her swallow it, beyond instinctive disgust, she hadn't felt particularly strongly about it.

Even if Kaoru did such things to her again, she would probably just endure it and swallow.

Perhaps she might even think about returning the favor someday.

"I think the truant idiot is more exaggerated than me, Masumi-san."

Naturally, Sakayanagi Arisu wouldn't take this lying down, kindly reminding Kamuro Masumi.

"You two didn't take the opportunity to do anything, did you?"

"Don't overthink it. If he dared to lay a hand on me, I'd dare to break his limbs."

Kamuro Masumi averted her gaze, her cheeks slightly warm.

Kaoru indeed hadn't touched her improperly - rather, she had been the one touching and grabbing at him, even ending up with her hands full at the last moment.

"Does Masumi-san hate him that much?"

Sakayanagi Arisu looked at her as if regarding a child - saying you hate someone while possibly having already taken the final step with them.

"Why are you asking? Do you like him yourself?" Kamuro Masumi seemed somewhat impatient, though it was unclear whether her impatience was masking her true emotions.

Sakayanagi Arisu looked at Kamuro Masumi, who was glaring back at her.

This person is really stubborn and troublesome, both thought simultaneously.

"Never mind, let's stop talking about this and go eat together, Masumi-san."

Just as Sakayanagi Arisu tried to stand up, her crutch slipped, and she suddenly fell toward the ground.

At that moment, Kamuro Masumi caught her.

"Hey, be careful!"

Sakayanagi Arisu's face flushed slightly, not out of embarrassment but because her legs had gone weak—likely from recalling the images of Kaoru playing with her, her body reacting on its own.

Was she really this sensitive?

Sakayanagi Arisu instinctively dismissed the possibility that she was anticipating it, suspecting instead that Kaoru had done something to make her body addicted.

...

"Oh ho, someone beat us to it."

In the hallway, Kaoru encountered Hasebe Haruka and Sakura Airi.

The one who spoke was Hasebe Haruka, while Sakura Airi seemed startled.

Kaoru immediately noticed that Sakura Airi was holding something, but when she realized his gaze was fixed on her, she instinctively hid behind Hasebe Haruka.

"Airi, don't hide behind me!"

"Th-there's someone... watching..."

"So what if someone's watching!"

As Kaoru wondered what they were up to, Komiya Kaho beside him whispered.

"Onii-chan, do you know them? Are they your girlfriends too?"

How should he answer?

One was his girlfriend who had just crossed the final line, and the other was a stalker with ulterior motives?

"Both of them."

Kaoru lowered his voice.

Komiya Kaho gave the shameless producer a meaningful look.

It seemed he had been holding back at the agency—managing to build a harem even in high school. Her producer was truly impressive.

"Sorry, sorry, Airi seems a bit shy."

Hasebe Haruka finally turned her attention to Kaoru, or more precisely, to Komiya Kaho beside him.

"I don't think I've seen you before. Are you a friend of Tetsu-kun?"

"Nice to meet you. I'm Komiya Kaho from Class B, first year."

Komiya Kaho smiled slightly, hugging Kaoru's arm. "But I'm not onii-chan's friend—I'm his little sister."

"L-little sister!?"

Sakura Airi, hiding behind them, couldn't hold back her gasp.

Hasebe Haruka showed a peculiar expression.

'So that's the setup,' she thought. 'He actually came up with that.'

But her heartbeat grew increasingly loud.

Hasebe Haruka slightly lowered her gaze.

In truth, she was far more flustered than Sakura Airi, though she masked her emotions well.

"We're not blood-related. Kaho and I just met earlier than others."

Kaoru felt like he had said something similar before and inexplicably felt weary.

Sakura Airi, who had just relaxed, suddenly widened her eyes as she saw Komiya Kaho tighten her grip on Kaoru's arm.

"That's right. But if we were blood-related, that would be even better."

Komiya Kaho chuckled. "Too bad onii-chan and I aren't related by blood."

Though she wasn't being provocative, Sakura Airi interpreted it as a challenge.

No blood relation, yet this girl is calling him "brother" and hugging him so tightly—way too close for comfort!

What's with that look in her eyes? It's as if Kaoru is her property!

Sakura Airi puffed out her cheeks and glared fiercely at Komiya Kaho, but the moment Kaho glanced her way, Airi immediately lowered her head and hid behind Hasebe Haruka, clutching the hem of Haruka's clothes.

"So that's how it is. Nice to meet you, little sister-chan."

Hasebe Haruka finally snapped out of her daze and smiled. "I'm Hasebe Haruka, in the same grade as Kaoru-kun. You can call me Kaka-chan like he does. This one behind me is Sakura Airi—just call her Airi."

Komiya Kaho's expression shifted slightly.

She noticed the terms of endearment the other used—Kaoru-kun and Kaka-chan.

What kind of strange nicknames were these?

Aren't they a bit too intimate?

"Is that a lunchbox in your hand, little sister-chan?"

Hasebe Haruka seemed to have noticed the two-person portion lunchbox in her hands, her eyes widening in surprise.

"Yes, I made it myself."

Komiya Kaho felt inexplicably reserved.

She wasn't very good at dealing with this type of mature, composed big-sister opponent.

"You actually made lunch yourself, little sister-chan? Is it for Kaoru-kun?"

Hasebe Haruka looked somewhat troubled. "This is a bit of a problem. Airi also prepared lunch for Kaoru-kun."

Before Komiya Kaho and Sakura Airi could react, Hasebe Haruka pushed Airi forward.

"Wah!"

Sakura Airi's face flushed bright red, and she fidgeted nervously.

Both pairs of eyes instinctively fell on the bag in Sakura Airi's hands—likely containing another two-person portion lunchbox.

"Kaoru-kun, are you going to try little sister-chan's cooking, or would you like to taste the lunch Airi prepared for you?" Hasebe Haruka wore a mischievous grin as she tossed this deadly question to Kaoru."

Kaoru could almost feel Komiya Kaho and Sakura Airi's gazes fixed on him, with the former clinging even tighter to him.

"I'll have both." Kaoru replied without hesitation.

Komiya Kaho froze.

This was probably the first time she'd heard those words from the producer.

"That's so like Kaoru-kun."

Hasebe Haruka laughed cheerfully. "Let's find a place to eat together, little sister-chan."

Tch, they actually sent an idol here.

Did they think this would make him go back?

Sorry, but this isn't their territory.

Chapter 655: Get Together

Komiya Kaho had originally planned to have some alone time with Kaoru, but two unexpected guests showed up out of nowhere, forcing the four of them to head to the school rooftop.

At this time, the rooftop was unlocked and accessible to anyone.

So, Kaoru noticed a few bystanders there, but the moment they saw him, their expressions changed and they hurriedly left the rooftop.

Was this the effect of his fearsome reputation?

Kaoru didn't dwell on it.

He found a spot to sit down, not particularly concerned about whether the ground was dirty, and took out a handkerchief to place underneath.

"You carry something like this with you too?"

Hasebe Haruka's expression turned somewhat strange.

"Can guys not carry handkerchiefs?"

Kaoru remained unfazed.

In truth, he just happened to have a [Bewitching Handkerchief]—no need to explain its effects.

Just using it as a cushion shouldn't be a problem.

"Hehe, Onii-chan has always been this gentle. Please sit, senpai."

Komiya Kaho held a blind admiration for Kaoru.

No matter what her producer did, he was a hero in her eyes—and of course, a gentle hero at that.

Hasebe Haruka glanced at her, feeling a bit uncertain.

"I'll sit here."

Kaoru looked over and saw Hasebe Haruka heading toward the nearby ladder, which led to the small rooftop of the building.

She smoothed her skirt with both hands, her plump, rounded bottom pressing down on the hem as she sat with her legs together.

From his perspective, he could clearly see the girl's full, snow-white thighs and the captivating absolute territory revealed between the edges of her skirt.

Lowering his gaze, he noticed her calves, encased in black thigh-high socks, appearing exceptionally slender and straight.

For a moment, he wasn't sure where to look.

She had also brought her own lunch, neatly placed on her lap, though she didn't rush to open it. Instead, she met Kaoru Mitoma's gaze.

"Your eyes are a bit lewd, Kaoru-kun?"

Hasebe Haruka looked at him with slight teasing.

She didn't mind him staring at her; she just found it amusing. Logically, with so many girls around him, he should have grown somewhat tired of looking.

Yet, she noticed his gaze occasionally lingering briefly on her chest, and sometimes on her thighs and bottom.

It just went to show that this guy was, without a doubt, a pervert.

"I was just thinking you might be sitting too far away."

Kaoru averted his gaze.

He was merely observing the desires attached to Hasebe Haruka.

Hasebe Haruka curled her lips slightly.

She knew Kaoru was being stubborn, but what did it matter? Just knowing that he felt something for her was enough to bring her joy.

Having lewd stares from someone she liked naturally made her feel good.

Even so, Hasebe Haruka was still conflicted.

She didn't mind seducing Kaoru Mitoma, but she preferred him to take the initiative.

Perhaps it was her lingering defiance that made her want to see Kaoru yield to her.

Initially, she had pretended not to recognize him, hoping to catch his attention by playing the role of the prey—only to mess it up.

Unaware of her inner turmoil, Kaoru noticed Sakura Airi hesitating nearby and simply pulled the airhead over, making her sit beside him—on the ground, cushioned by his handkerchief.

Komiya Kaho showed no reaction.

She spread her own handkerchief on the ground and sat opposite Kaoru, eagerly taking out her lunch.

"This bento represents the culmination of Kaho's lifelong learning! If you see it shining, Onii-chan, don't be surprised!"

"I'm already surprised."

"Ta-da! A Shining Dish!"

With Komiya Kaho's sound effects, Kaoru soon saw the true face of the bento—chicken curry rice.

"Kaho is amazing."

Kaoru humored her like a child. "You couldn't even cook before, but you've really grown up now."

Komiya Kaho smiled bashfully.

She was no longer the little kid who only knew how to play—she had feminine charm now!

"Onii-chan, try it quickly."

Under the girl's expectant gaze, Kaoru didn't immediately take action, instead turning to look at Sakura Airi who was watching with eager eyes.

"Take out your lunch box."

Kaoru reached out toward Sakura Airi, inadvertently noticing her slightly retracting her feet, though his expression remained unchanged.

Sakura Airi quickly handed over her lunch box, but her demeanor made Kaoru want to laugh.

Even though they had already crossed the final boundary, she still appeared as someone anyone could bully.

"What's inside?" Kaoru asked casually.

"I... I didn't know what you liked... so I made some fried pork cutlets..."

Truthfully, Airi was extremely shy, feeling her cheeks burning.

Though their relationship was no longer ordinary, she was greedy for more—like making lunch for Kaoru as his girlfriend would.

But because she was too timid and they weren't in the same class, she kept putting it off until today, when Hasebe Haruka noticed something was off.

After persistent questioning, she learned about Airi's plan to give him the lunch.

Thus, Hasebe forced her to deliver it today, deliberately bringing her along.

That's why Kaoru ran into both of them in the hallway.

When Kaoru opened the lunch box, he found not just fried pork cutlets but also some rolled omelets, rice balls, and seaweed—clearly portioned with a boy's appetite in mind.

Seeing this, Komiya Kaho slightly lifted her chin.

If this was all it took to be a girlfriend, she could do it too!

"Here... there's also miso soup."

Airi had hidden a thermos, which she now pulled from her bag along with several small cups.

Kaho's expression fell.

She even brought miso soup? This opponent was stronger than expected!

Airi's timid demeanor had reminded Kaho of Osaki Tenka, making her assume Airi was another weak character needing care.

How careless she had been!

"Airi, I want miso soup too!"

Hasebe called out shamelessly after seeing Airi pour a cup for Kaoru.

Of course, Airi wouldn't refuse her good friend's request and hurriedly poured her a cup as well.

"Delicious!"

Hasebe took a sip. "How is it, Tōru?"

"With Airi's miso soup, my appetite has greatly improved."

Kaoru had already taken a sip earlier and thought Airi's cooking was quite good—she must have put in a lot of effort.

Airi's face flushed, but she didn't speak. Instead, she relaxed slightly and unconsciously leaned against Kaoru's shoulder.

"C-Can I have some too?" Kaho asked eagerly, her eyes fixed on the soup.

Kaoru handed her his cup, and without hesitation, she took a sip—a move that left both Airi and Hasebe stunned.

"Wow, what is this!"

Kaho seemed astonished. She took another sip, felt something was off, then drank again.

In just a few moments, she had finished Kaoru's miso soup.

"Sakura-senpai, this is amazing! Please give me a cup!"

Kaho stared at Airi with shining eyes, startling her into instinctively hiding behind Kaoru.

Fortunately, Airi was no longer her former self.

Though intimidated by Kaho's enthusiasm, she bravely handled the situation.

Chapter 656: Small Battlefield

"N-No problem."

As Airi poured miso soup for Kaho, Hasebe watched with a peculiar expression.

"Is it good?" Kaoru asked.

"It's delicious, as expected of Produ... I mean, Brother's taste!"

Komiya Kaho never concealed her fondness for things she liked. "Now I feel like I could eat an extra bowl of rice!"

"Good, now help me finish all this."

Kaoru picked up a piece of egg roll and stuffed it into her mouth.

"Bwother... do I have to eat both... both of them?"

Komiya Kaho mumbled with her mouth full, her words unclear.

"Of course, I want it all."

Kaoru took her chicken curry rice as well. "I can't let one of you just watch me eat, can I?"

Not just Komiya Kaho, but even Sakura Airi was feeling somewhat embarrassed now.

The two girls secretly glanced at each other, their cheeks flushing simultaneously.

"You want mine too?"

Hasebe Haruka protectively covered her lunch box in surprise.

"If you give it to me, I'll take it."

Kaoru looked at her expressionlessly.

Those pale thighs - if he licked them next time, she'd probably behave.

"If I give it to you, I'll starve. Unless you exchange with me."

As she spoke, Hasebe Haruka slightly tugged at her skirt, barely blocking Kaoru Mitoma's line of sight.

She wasn't wearing safety shorts today, and there was a good chance Kaoru Mitoma might see something.

That would be too embarrassing.

"Actually, we could all exchange and share."

Komiya Kaho giggled as she picked up a piece of chicken with her chopsticks and extended it toward Kaoru's mouth.

"Brother, open up!"

This wasn't the first time Kaoru had been fed by her - he'd eaten her snacks before too - but a scene like this was definitely a first.

The moment the chopsticks touched his lips, Kaoru Mitoma suddenly realized they carried her scent.

"You... your relationship..."

Sakura Airi stammered, seriously suspecting that Komiya Kaho had ulterior motives toward Kaoru.

"It's too, too strange. Are you really siblings?"

"I think so."

Komiya Kaho showed no trace of guilt as she stared intently at Kaoru. "Does Brother think it's delicious?"

"Anything Kaho makes is definitely delicious."

Naturally, Kaoru wouldn't say something tactless like "there's room for improvement" that would make the girl lose face.

Sure enough, Komiya Kaho smiled happily, though sitting opposite Kaoru Mitoma in her careless posture - still sitting cross-legged like a boy - she exposed a large area of pale thigh skin.

Kaoru Mitoma tried his best not to peek under the girl's skirt. That would really be too low.

Meanwhile, Sakura Airi was feeling somewhat jealous.

Though she was already jealous to begin with - suddenly a little sister appears, and a non-blood-related one at that - seeing their intimate actions made Sakura Airi genuinely envious.

Perhaps emboldened by the actual progress she'd made with Kaoru Mitoma, Sakura Airi, unwilling to show weakness, picked up a piece of meat and stuffed it into Kaoru Mitoma's mouth in one go.

"H-how is it!"

Sakura Airi didn't seem to realize what she had done.

"Delicious, so delicious." Kaoru was forced to accept her feeding, answering vaguely.

Sakura Airi's emotions soared even higher as she happily continued feeding him.

"W-wait, you need to eat some of this too, Brother!"

Komiya Kaho wouldn't just sit back and do nothing, quickly stuffing a few bites into Kaoru's mouth while glancing sideways at Sakura Airi.

Sakura Airi had initially been somewhat hesitant, but thinking of her relationship with Kaoru, she mustered her courage.

The two girls stared at each other, taking turns stuffing food into Kaoru's mouth, leaving him no opportunity to speak.

"Sakura-senpai, aren't you going to eat?"

"I-I'll eat later."

"If it gets cold, the texture will be ruined. I can take care of Onii-chan here, Sakura-senpai. You can rest for a while."

"The... the one who should rest is Komiya-san... your stomach has been growling this whole time."

"I-I'm someone who enjoys cold rice!"

"Sh... should we both stop?"

"Really?"

"On the count of..."

Before Sakura Airi could finish, Hasebe Haruka had seen enough and rapped both of them on the head, startling them.

"You're going to kill him, you two!"

Hasebe Haruka was both angry and amused.

Sakura Airi quickly turned her head and saw Kaoru looking like he was about to choke to death.

"Wahh, Onii-chan, how did you end up like this!"

Komiya Kaho was horrified.

Coming to her senses, Sakura Airi hurriedly handed Kaoruse miso soup while patting his back and shaking him.

Thanks to her miso soup, he finally came back to life.

"I almost got stuffed to death by you two."

Kaoru was still shaken, as if he had seen visions of the past—fortunately, they weren't his life flashing before his eyes.

"I... I just wanted Onii-chan to eat more." Komiya Kaho blushed.

"I'm... I'm sorry..."

Tears welled up in Sakura Airi's eyes.

The courage she had mustered earlier instantly vanished, and she nearly curled into a ball.

"I'm not scolding either of you. I just meant that I can feed myself."

Kaoru took a deep breath.

In truth, he knew this hadn't really been a battlefield—Sakura Airi and Komiya Kaho were the least likely people to create one.

Since neither of them had competitive personalities, their earlier behavior was probably due to this being their first meeting, with both sides feeling somewhat hostile.

Still, if even they could act like this, what would happen if it were certain other people...

Kaoru didn't dare imagine further.

Thankfully, the one who had come this time was Komiya Kaho.

Just as Sakura Airi was about to say something, her stomach growled loudly, making her blush intensely.

"Onii-chan is right. Let's all eat together properly now."

Komiya Kaho smiled and picked up a piece of chicken for Sakura Airi. "I look forward to getting along with you from now on, Sakura-senpai."

Seeing her smile, Sakura Airi felt an inexplicable fondness for this girl.

Gurgle, gurgle—

This time, it was Komiya Kaho's turn to blush—her stomach had growled even louder than Sakura Airi's.

"P-please take care of me too."

Sakura Airi picked up a piece of fried pork cutlet for her.

"But I won't back down."

Hasebe Haruka was slightly taken aback.

It seemed like the first time she had seen Sakura Airi make such an expression. Could it be that girls in love are truly at their bravest?

Komiya Kaho, however, showed no particular reaction.

At the agency, she had already encountered countless sneaky girls making declarations of being the main love interest, only to end up as losers in the end.

She was just thinking, the producer really hooks up with too many girls!

Damn it, someone come help her, all you seniors at the agency!

Chapter 657: Even You Too.

Although he had suffered a bit earlier, Kaoru didn't take it to heart.

"Have you found partners yet?"

Kaoru was quite concerned about this.

Hasebe Haruka and Sakura Airi weren't particularly outstanding students—their academic performance could only be described as average.

Unless one paid special attention, it would be difficult to notice these two.

This was Kaoru's assessment of their academic abilities, but when it came to the overall evaluation, things far exceeded his expectations.

He had already checked both of their OAA scores.

While Hasebe Haruka was somewhat understandable, Sakura Airi actually ranked last in the class alongside Ike Kanji.

It sounded unbelievable, but in the school's eyes, Sakura Airi was a student of little value—her physical abilities were among the lowest in the grade, her adaptability and social contribution were minimal.

She was just a physically weak, introverted student who struggled with communication.

Although Sakura Airi had tried to take the first step by making friends like Hasebe Haruka, Yamamura Miki, and others, this change ultimately came too slowly.

The OAA not only reflected students' inherent abilities but also represented the school's perspective on each individual.

Sakura Airi ranking last indicated the school didn't have high expectations for her.

Therefore, Kaoru couldn't help but worry.

"Not yet. It's only been a few days, so probably not many have formed teams yet."

Though she said this, Hasebe Haruka didn't sound very confident.

"Both Airi and I are C+, so we shouldn't lack for partners."

Thanks to Kaoru's occasional tutoring, their academic abilities had improved somewhat. With effort, they could likely reach around B-.

Kaoru fell into thought, while beside him, Sakura Airi grew somewhat nervous.

She wanted to tell him he didn't need to worry so much about her.

For some reason, she found it hard to say.

"If you senpai's are looking for partners, I can recommend some of my friends."

Komiya Kaho found their concerns somewhat puzzling.

Hasebe Haruka and Sakura Airi were taken aback.

Their caution and fear stemmed from psychological trauma from the previous voting exam, worrying that Nagumo Miyabi might target them again.

However, Komiya Kaho was Kaoru's "little sister." If she said she could recommend friends, they were likely trustworthy.

"Are they... reliable?"

Hasebe Haruka couldn't contain her emotions—could the solution really be this simple?

"Mmm, I think they're fine. Yumiko and the others are also worried about finding partners."

Komiya Kaho thought she was considering whether her friends would accept and pondered for a moment.

"Actually, they're quite easy to talk to, and their academic levels match yours well. I can convince them."

Sakura Airi looked at Komiya Kaho with admiration.

She truly was a sunny, energetic Extrovert—making friends within just a week of school starting, completely different from someone as withdrawn as herself.

"That's great! What are their nam... Perhaps we could find a place to talk? Thank you so much, Komiya-san."

Hasebe Haruka initially wanted to ask for their names, but considering Kaoru hadn't spoken yet, she suppressed her excitement and changed her words to thanks.

"Hey, no need to be so polite with me. After all, you're..."

Halfway through her sentence, Komiya Kaho suddenly froze.

What was she doing? Why was she helping her love rival? A wave of frustration washed over her, and she could only comfort herself by thinking.

"After all, you're my brother's good friends. It's only right for me to lend a small hand."

Hasebe Haruka smiled faintly, finding this girl quite interesting. She hadn't paid much attention to her before, only thinking of her as a clumsy fool.

But now, it seemed she had changed quite a bit.

Was it maturity that came with age?

"Is there a student in Kaho's class who acts like a leader?" Kaoru had already snapped back to attention.

"Someone who directs everyone on how to handle this exam, or someone many people trust."

"There is someone like that. He's good-looking, so many girls have a crush on him."

Komiya Kaho pouted, seemingly uninterested in this person. "But he doesn't tell us what to do. It's just that many people ask him for advice."

Is he similar to Katsuragi?

The thought crossed Kaoru's mind, because Katsuragi had also often helped his classmates solve problems early on, gradually earning everyone's trust.

It seemed like a relatively gentle student, not someone who forcefully unified the entire class.

"What's this person's name?" Kaoru asked.

"Yagami Takuya."

Komiya Kaho answered directly. "I don't like his smile. It always feels too fake!"

It was rare for Komiya Kaho to dislike someone.

"What about Nanase?" Kaoru said. "She seems to be in Class 1-D. Are you still in contact with her?"

Komiya Kaho immediately switched expressions, boasting proudly, "Of course we're still in contact! Tsubasa-chan is the first friend I made here!"

It sounded very close, but Kaoru felt it was probably one-sided closeness from Komiya Kaho.

Although Tsubasa Nanase seemed easy to approach, Kaoru knew she was also wearing a mask—likely another troublesome girl.

"Brother, are you concerned about the first-years?"

Komiya Kaho still didn't understand the dynamics here and found it strange. "If you want to cooperate with us, I can talk to my class about it. I'm sure many people would be willing to join you!"

"I was just thinking how impressive Kaho is, making friends so quickly."

Kaoru patted her head.

A good kid is always a good kid, no matter where they are. That temptation from the other day must have been an illusion.

Komiya Kaho beamed, nuzzling against his palm.

"If Kaho's friends can't find partners, I can help."

Kaoru stroked her head, feeling like he was petting a little puppy.

"Okay!"

Komiya Kaho seemed to wag her tail, making contented purring sounds as she squinted her eyes. She had already moved close to Kaoru, pressing against him.

"As expected... I still like you the most, brother."

Kaoru pretended not to hear, as someone nearby coughed.

"So, does that mean Airi and I have solved our partner problem?"

Hasebe Haruka listened to their conversation and felt it was settled.

"It would be best to meet Kaho's friends quickly and get to know each other."

Kaoru seemed to remember something. "By the way, Kaho, are your friends all girls?"

"Of course! Why would I hang out with boys?"

Komiya Kaho pouted.

Although she had hobbies similar to boys, the boys her age were all too terrible.

She wouldn't stay with this group of people—she was a girl, after all.

Kaoru was counting the number of people.

Fortunately, only a few like Hasebe Haruka, Sakura Airi, and Manabe Shiho were somewhat troublesome.

The others would be safe and sound even without his intervention.

Then, a name surfaced in his mind, and he hesitated slightly.

It probably had nothing to do with him.

Even if he didn't intervene, that person would be fine.

However, with Komiya Kaho's help, Amasawa Ichika's value had diminished considerably.

Kaoru actually wanted to place her near Ayanokoji Kiyotaka, but upon second thought, aside from startling her and Ayanokoji Kiyotaka, it didn't seem particularly meaningful.

Speaking of which, he had already added Amasawa Ichika as a friend.

This little devil junior occasionally harassed him, which was somewhat annoying.

He'd teach her a lesson later.

Chapter 658: Bragging

Kaoru waved goodbye to Komiya Kaho, then noticed Hasebe Haruka and Sakura Airi hadn't left immediately.

Both were staring at him.

"What... what is your relationship with her?"

Sakura Airi asked somewhat fiercely.

She believed that, as Kaoru's girlfriend, she had the right to know.

"My relationship with Kaho is a bit special.

"We've known each other for a long time, she's quite attached to me. But don't worry, we don't have any intimate interactions now."

As he spoke, even Kaoru himself felt like he was spouting player lines.

Hasebe Haruka wore a look of watching a drama unfold.

Like Sakayanagi Arisu, she knew the inside story, and seeing Kaoru forced to lie inexplicably pleased her.

"R-really?"

Sakura Airi looked at Kaoru with suspicion. "But... but you two were standing too close! Really too close!"

The girl before him had puffed out her cheeks.

She was particularly bothered by the distance between Komiya Kaho and Kaoru.

This kind of closeness couldn't be explained away as just childhood friends or playing house—Komiya Kaho definitely had feelings for Kaoru.

"When have I ever lied to you?"

Kaoru said with utmost seriousness.

"If there were something between us, I would definitely tell you. Even if there were circumstances forcing me to keep it secret, I would never hurt you."

Hearing this, Sakura Airi grew embarrassed, as it felt like a confession.

Especially with Hasebe Haruka standing beside her, she felt very shy, experiencing the shame of having her relationship exposed to an acquaintance, along with a faint sense of happiness.

"I... I believe you."

Sakura Airi lowered her head shyly, her voice soft. "If something does happen between you two, you must tell me."

Although Sakura Airi had gradually accepted the reality of the harem, she still felt jealous when appropriate.

For example, if Kaoru spent a day with someone else, she would want him to spend two days with her.

She couldn't accept Kaoru hiding things from her and sneaking around outside every day.

It made her feel cheated and very angry.

"I definitely will." Kaoru smiled slightly, showing no signs of guilt.

Hasebe Haruka truly admired his ability to lie without batting an eye, but she could also understand why he deliberately concealed the situation with Komiya Kaho.

Probably even he hadn't figured out how to handle it yet.

"Setting aside Komiya for now, what about the relationship between you two?" Hasebe Haruka wore a mischievous grin.

"Airi put so much effort into making your bento—don't you have anything to say?"

Sakura Airi immediately blushed but remained silent, stealing glances at Kaoru's reaction.

"My thoughts? I think Airi's bento is delicious—so delicious I could eat it for a lifetime."

Kaoru barely blinked, giving off a sincere vibe.

Sakura Airi's face turned even redder.

It sounded like he was asking her to make bento for him forever, but the thought didn't feel bad at all.

"So, you want to be with Airi for life?" Hasebe Haruka was practically throwing a straight ball. Seeing Kaoru nod, she found it somewhat amusing.

"Don't forget about Ichinose and the others. Would you eat everyone's bento if they made them for you?"

"If everyone made me bento, I'd have to take them all."

Kaoru paused. "Even if it's from you, Kaka-chan, I'd feel the same."

Hasebe Haruka froze.

She hadn't expected Kaoru to bring her up. Did that mean he'd eat her bento too?

"Keep bragging. You'll burst one day."

Hasebe Haruka bit her lip.

She had originally wanted him to pay more attention to Sakura Airi, but now her own feelings were in disarray.

"I-I'll do my best if Kaoru-kun wants to eat it..." Sakura Airi inexplicably grew excited. "Kaka-chan's cooking is actually really good too. She taught me..."

"You're dead, Airi!" Hasebe Haruka, flushed bright red, covered her friend's mouth.

Even if she wanted to throw herself at him, you couldn't just say it out loud!

Wait—she shouldn't throw herself at him.

At the very least, she should make Kaoru pursue her properly.

This was important—it would determine their future dynamic: whether she'd be on top or Kaoru would.

She wouldn't throw herself at him like Sakura Airi did.

Wouldn't that make her seem too easy?

"Don't get your hopes up!" Hasebe Haruka glared at Kaoru before forcibly dragging Sakura Airi away.

"Ignore this pervert! Let's go, Airi!"

Kaoru watched them leave.

Truly, youthful, energetic girls were the cutest.

"Tch, how many girls have you hooked up with anyway?"

Ryuen Kakeru's voice came from behind.

Kaoru turned to see Ryuen and Ishizaki emerging from around the corridor corner.

"If you're so concerned, you should hide the girls in your class better, lest I charm them all."

Ryuen Kakeru snorted coldly.

Such provocation wouldn't affect him, though he was somewhat curious about whether Kaoru had the Hypnosis App.

"Weren't you in class earlier?" Kaoru found it strange.

Why was Ryuen asking this?

"Some freshmen came by earlier—they're from Class D themselves, yet they looked down on us!" Ishizaki couldn't hold back, feeling angry because the newcomers clearly held hostility toward Ryuen.

"Enough, Ishizaki." Ryuen spoke calmly. "Hosen is just a muscle-brained fool. No need to mind him."

It was clear something had happened among the second-years while Kaoru was enjoying his lunch break.

"Recently, Class A has been trying to recruit freshmen using Personal points. That's Sakayanagi's idea, isn't it?" Ryuen sneered, "That's all she's capable of. But you should be careful—you might be the one in trouble this time."

Kaoru was about to ask if it was Nagumo Miyabi, but then a thought occurred to him, and he raised an eyebrow.

"You don't actually think there's something going on between me and Ibuki, do you?"

Ryuen Kakeru smiled: "You're panicking, Mitoma. I haven't even said anything yet, and you've already exposed yourself. As expected, whenever it involves people close to you, you'll inevitably get flustered. What a pathetic weakness."

"I just wanted to say that Ibuki is quite nice."

Kaoru acted as if he didn't understand what he was talking about.

"Hmph, keep pretending to be tough."

Ryuen Kakeru sneered coldly, "I'll eventually uncover your people. Don't think I don't know who you gave your Praise Vote to."

Kaoru seemed to freeze for a moment, and Ryuen curled a faint smile.

"Is it necessary to stare at me like that?"

Kaoru sounded somewhat helpless.

"You called yourself the Apex during the entrance ceremony. Just wait for the ending you deserve."

Ryuen felt he had already grasped Kaoru's weakness, yet he also felt somewhat irritated.

Because he had sacrificed someone but didn't achieve the expected outcome.

It was strange—why hadn't the agency reacted at all?

Ryuen thought the agency would capture that person and bring them back, and he expected to see Kaoru's panicked expression. Instead, nothing happened at all.

Could it not be the actual person?

Fortunately, he wasn't particularly invested in this matter.

Since it didn't succeed, Ryuen wouldn't dwell on it further.

Instead, he felt this confirmed that Kaoru was a target he needed to focus all his efforts on eliminating.

Watching Ryuen and Ishizaki turn and head toward the Class 2-D classroom, Kaoru recalled the photo Asakura Toru had mentioned and couldn't help but feel this delinquent might be quite troublesome.

He picked up his phone.

Ayanokoji Kiyotaka had already reported the earlier incident to him, and Kei Karuizawa, Horikita Suzune, and Kamuro Masumi had also sent him numerous messages.

Kaoru replied to each of their messages one by one, then put away his phone.

Tomorrow was a day off.

He might as well go to the library.

Chapter 659: Hosen

After school, as soon as Kaoru returned to his dorm, Kushida Kikyo showed up right behind him.

"Perverted foot fetishist, help me quickly!"

Kushida Kikyo was extremely agitated, likely having rushed over immediately after dealing with her friends.

Kaoru could even see fine beads of sweat on her forehead, and a pleasant fragrance wafted from her fair neck.

"Don't rush. Have a drink first."

Kaoru handed her a cup of juice, already aware of what she was so anxious about.

"How can I be in the mood to drink right now? Didn't I message you? Some freshman claiming to be my junior showed up!"

Kushida Kikyo slammed the table. "Saying things like he admires me and that coming here is the luckiest thing that's ever happened to him. Is this guy some kind of obsessive pervert? Super disgusting! And he even went to the same middle school as me. Hurry up and deal with him!"

It was the first time Kaoru had seen her so panicked, completely unlike the little angel she usually appeared to be.

She even slapped the table so hard her hands turned red.

But considering her feelings, it was indeed quite a shock.

Kaoru recalled Ayanokoji Kiyotaka's report: earlier that day, several first-year students had come to the second-year classrooms, two of whom were from Class 1-D.

Hosen Kazuo and Tsubasa Nanase.

The former was an arrogant, burly guy.

Ayanokoji Kiyotaka believed he might be a delinquent student like Ryuen Kakeru and seemed to be the one who led the group to the second-year classrooms.

Tsubasa Nanase appeared to be playing a supporting role to Hosen Kazuo.

When Hosen Kazuo provoked Sudo Ken, she remained completely silent throughout, only speaking up to intervene when Sudo Ken was about to lose his temper and resort to violence.

Although the situation nearly escalated into a physical confrontation, Hosen Kazuo's intention was likely to seek partners—specifically, to propose that Horikita Suzune and Class 2-C collaborate with their Class 1-D.

The reasoning was simple: they had heard that Class 2-C had just defeated Ryuen Kakeru's Class 2-D and been promoted to C-Class less than half a month ago.

Thus, they concluded that Class 2-C would be more in need of first-year partners.

If they ended up in last place in this exam, there was a high chance they would be demoted back to D-Class, and someone might even face expulsion.

Horikita Suzune did not agree to their proposal because the attitude was far too aggressive, making it seem as though Class 2-C was begging on their knees.

At that moment, Ryuen Kakeru happened to appear.

He seemed to be acquainted with Hosen Kazuo, who attempted to provoke him.

The tension between the two grew intense until Tsubasa Nanase stepped in to stop Hosen Kazuo.

The commotion was significant enough that even the first-year homeroom teacher came over and gave Hosen Kazuo a stern scolding.

Originally, Kushida Kikyo shouldn't have been involved in any of this.

Unfortunately, she encountered another first-year student.

Kushida Kikyo had been watching the drama unfold when a boy who introduced himself as her junior suddenly appeared beside her, startling her.

As luck would have it, this junior happened to be in the same class as Komiya Kaho, and his name was Yagami Takuya.

"This is so weird! Why did a creepy stalker suddenly show up?!"

Even now, Kushida Kikyo felt panicked just thinking about it.

She couldn't help but wonder if he knew about her past and whether his appearance today was meant as a warning.

"Did you know him before?"

Kaoru found her description rather strange after listening to her account.

"It's hard to say. I know too many people, and even more people know me. I don't remember him, but he might remember me."

Kushida Kikyo was frantic.

Given her extensive social connections, how could she possibly remember every detail?

Sometimes, complete strangers would call out her name—such occurrences were entirely normal for her.

"Are you sure you don't remember what he looks like at all?"

Kaoru recalled Komiya Kaho's description—Yagami Takuya was supposedly quite handsome.

"If I remembered him, I wouldn't be this panicked right now!"

Kushida Kikyo racked her brains, trying to recall if she had ever met such a person and how much he might know about her.

"Damn it, where did this guy even come from?!"

"Don't panic. Next time you see him, you can try testing him. There must be things only you and your middle school classmates would know, right?"

Kaoru comforted the anxious little angel.

"What if he blackmails me?"

Kushida Kikyo was still worried.

She had worked so hard to rebuild her social network and couldn't bear to lose it now.

"I caused too much trouble back then—the whole school must have known about it!"

She had once exposed the entire class's secrets, resulting in several students refusing to attend school for weeks.

In the end, some transferred schools, while others switched classes.

Kushida Kikyo herself took a leave of absence for a period until she applied for the entrance exam at Koudo Ikusei.

"Calm down. I'm here for you." Kaoru said, "I'll be going out this month and can help check whether Yagami Takuya attended your middle school."

Kushida Kikyo's eyes lit up as she pounced onto Kaoru, completely disregarding her image as she rubbed against him excitedly.

"That's amazing! As expected of my master - you're the most reliable!"

Just moments ago she'd been calling him a perverted foot fetishist, and now she was addressing him as master.

"However, I don't think things are that simple."

Kaoru patted her head, "If he really was your middle school classmate, he would definitely know about what you did."

Kushida Kikyo stiffened.

She understood what Kaoru meant - not everyone in this world was like Horikita Suzune, that fool who could remain oblivious to everything around her and never had any friends since childhood.

Since Yagami Takuya claimed to be her junior, it meant the other party was well aware of her past actions.

"The other possibility is that he wasn't your middle school classmate."

Kaoru continued, "But he claims to be your junior and deliberately approached you, which suggests he has even more malicious intentions toward you."

This was even more frightening - if he wasn't actually her middle school classmate, why would Yagami Takuya claim to be her junior?

"This lie is too obvious and easily exposed. If you just ask him a few questions and he can't answer them, he's finished."

Kaoru said quietly, "Unless he's lost his mind, I think he must be confident - he knows about your past and believes he can persuade you."

Kushida Kikyo felt chills running through her entire body.

She hadn't carefully considered these matters before - the sudden appearance of Yagami Takuya had thrown her off balance.

After Kaoru's analysis, her rationality was gradually returning.

"What should I do?"

Kushida Kikyo looked at Kaoru.

This man always remained so calm, giving people an irreplaceable sense of security.

"Let's first see what he wants to do." Kaoru said.

"He's definitely after my body. This kind of boy, once they get leverage over a girl, their desires just inflate."

Kushida Kikyo said this as if it were the most natural thing in the world - after all, Kaoru had only conditioned her because he was attracted to her.

Chapter 660: Morning Kiss

Kaoru glanced at her but said nothing.

"That look in your eyes is so infuriating!"

Kushida Kikyo angrily waved her claws at him, "And he wants to be my partner! Aren't you going to get jealous!?"

"Actually, I quite enjoy seeing Kikyo flustered occasionally."

Kaoru chuckled and pressed down the girl's wildly waving hands.

"You!"

Kushida Kikyo felt both angry and wronged - this guy wasn't even worried about her, "I'm going back!"

"Just kidding, don't be angry."

Kaoru pulled her into his embrace, "Of course I care about you, Kikyo. You're so adorable. If anyone dared to do anything to you, I'd regret it for the rest of my life."

"You're just a playboy who only knows how to sweet-talk girls."

Kushida Kikyo grumbled in his arms, "Sweet words don't work on me. Only fools like Kei would fall for them."

"What should I do to win over Kikyo then?" Kaoru asked.

Kushida Kikyo's eyes rolled a few times before she muttered, "Call Horikita over."

"Why are you so obsessed with her?"

Kaoru found it amusing and patted her butt, "Even Honami thinks you're full of lewd thoughts now."

"What's wrong with being lewd?" Kushida Kikyo expressed some dissatisfaction, "When you immerse yourself in it, you don't have to think about messy things. Clearly you're a guy, yet you're not enthusiastic about this at all. If it were me, Horikita and Kei definitely wouldn't be able to get out of bed."

'This girl is really extreme.'

'Did my conditioning back then open the door to a new world for her?'

"Wait, have you gotten tired of playing with me?"

Kushida Kikyo suddenly considered this possibility, "Because you've obtained me, you grew bored after playing around, lost that sense of novelty, so you started loving whoever you see. Is that it?"

The more she spoke, the more convinced she became, because Kaoru had indeed been quite aggressive with her in the beginning, but later rarely took initiative.

This also conveniently explained why Kaoru would hook up with so many girls.

"Is it possible that you're just too proactive?"

Kaoru bent his fingers and flicked her forehead, "You delivered yourself to my doorstep, insisted on feeding yourself to me, and now you blame me for not taking initiative."

"Am I really that shameless?"

Kushida Kikyo was furious, "Even if I really fed myself to you, why would you keep making excuses? I'm this cute—any man would be overjoyed!"

Kaoru fell silent for a moment: "Are you saying I should take the initiative to condition you?"

Kushida Kikyo was about to nod when she suddenly felt something was off—when had she ever said she wanted to be conditioned?

The next moment, the warm breath from Kaoru's breathing gently brushed against her neck.

"You haven't used the bathroom yet, have you?"

As soon as he spoke, the girl's cheeks instantly flushed crimson.

His warm breath tinged her originally snow-white skin with a layer of rosy pink.

"Ah... w-wait, I didn't say... we can't do it here... mmm..."

Even though she regretted it, the girl had no space to escape.

She could only let the man have his way while she desperately bit her lip, stubbornly resisting the urges coursing through her body.

...

Early the next morning, the curtains rustled in the gentle breeze, and the slight warmth quickly roused Kaoru from sleep.

Kaoru saw a lump under the covers, bulging high beneath him, occasionally shifting slightly like a man-eating spirit.

Feeling a damp, warm sensation, Kaoru took a deep breath and decisively lifted the covers, revealing Kushida Kikyo kneeling on the bed.

Their eyes met, and Kushida Kikyo shyly smiled, flashing a peace sign at Kaoru.

"What are you doing?"

Kaoru looked at her kneeling form.

Her white nightgown, affected by gravity, had slipped off one shoulder, revealing her pale, smooth skin.

A large expanse of snow-white flesh was clearly visible, and through the swaying collar, he could even see her delicate, tender collarbone below.

Waking up to such an impactful sight of the girl in the morning made Kaoru feel his blood boiling, ready to burst forth.

"Giving master a good morning kiss."

Kushida Kikyo's eyes were full of shyness, both hands still making peace signs, her face flushed pink.

She had been thoroughly disciplined by Kaoru last night, so of course she had to get a little revenge now—though in a way, this kind of revenge was just rewarding Kaoru.

Before long, Kushida Kikyo furrowed her brows, her throat moving several times.

"It feels a bit different in the morning—stronger than yesterday."

Kushida Kikyo recalled the taste of both, feeling that the morning version was slightly better.

"Should I reward you now?" Kaoru asked with genuine kindness.

Kushida Kikyo's expression froze, but before she could speak, Kaoru had already begun their morning exercise routine with her.

By the time the morning workout ended, she was completely drained of strength and could only let Kaoru carry her to bathe together.

However, Kaoru didn't notice her secretly making a victory sign behind his back.

Perfect, finally exhausted all his energy!

"I'm going to the library later. Do you want to stay here?" Kaoru asked.

"Why would I stay here? I need to go out with friends."

Kushida Kikyo suddenly remembered something and looked at Kaoru with suspicion, "Are you going to see that Komiya girl?"

"No, I'm just going to read at the library."

Kaoru held the soft girl in his arms.

"I'd believe that from anyone else, but when you say it, I don't believe it at all."

Kushida Kikyo snorted coldly, "Komiya is part of your harem too, right? She's so attached to you, and she's your childhood friend. Even if she wasn't before, could you resist now?"

Kaoru remained silent for a moment: "If I made a move on her, what would you think, Kikyo?"

"Perverted underclassman-con."

Kushida Kikyo answered without hesitation.

"You might as well just call me a pervert."

Kaoru said with a dark expression, tapping her head.

"At least you have some self-awareness."

Kushida Kikyo started counting for him, "Look, you want senpais, you want lolis, you want underclassmen, you even dare to take other people's childhood friends. Someone like you is either a pervert or a lecher."

"I should have conditioned you more harshly back then. Now you even dare to talk back to your master."

Kaoru rubbed this disobedient little maid, venting his frustration quite fiercely.

Kushida Kikyo adjusted her position to make it more convenient for him, but said.

"If you died someday, I wouldn't be surprised. With so many people, you'll exhaust yourself sooner or later."

Kaoru looked down at her pretty face.

Though she was complaining, she was tacitly accepting of his harem, even able to accept Komiya Kaho.

Perhaps she had already become numb to it.

It seemed even if he introduced Sakura Airi to her, she probably wouldn't be surprised or reject it.

However, what Kaoru worried about was whether Sakura Airi would be able to fit in - that hamster was too timid.