

RUNAWAY

CHAPTER-9

BY IZUMISAN



AFTER FEW MINUTES...

WHAT WERE ALL THOSE
COMMENTS... WERE THEY
SERIOUS...

MAYBE THEY WERE JUST
TEASING ME FOR FUN. IT'S PROBABLY
BEST IF I IGNORE THESE KIDS.





OKAY STUDENTS,
ENOUGH CHIT-CHAT. NOW
OPEN YOUR BOOKS.

HMM.. ALRIGHT..
I JUST NEED TO ACT LIKE
I'M STUDYING.





SOME TIME LATER...



FINALLY... BREAKTIME!

STRETCH!

STRETCH!

SCHOOL ISN'T OVER YET.
THERE ARE STILL SOME CLASSES
AFTER THE BREAK.


UGHH.. I NEVER THOUGHT I'D
HAVE TO JOIN HIGH SCHOOL AGAIN.
AND THE WORST PART,
"AS A GIRL"

WELL, IT'S A GOOD THING
THAT I FOUND THIS BACK BENCH
EMPTY TO SIT IN.



OHH NOO....
THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY.

HUH... DID THOSE TWO
GIRLS JUST WAVE AT ME...



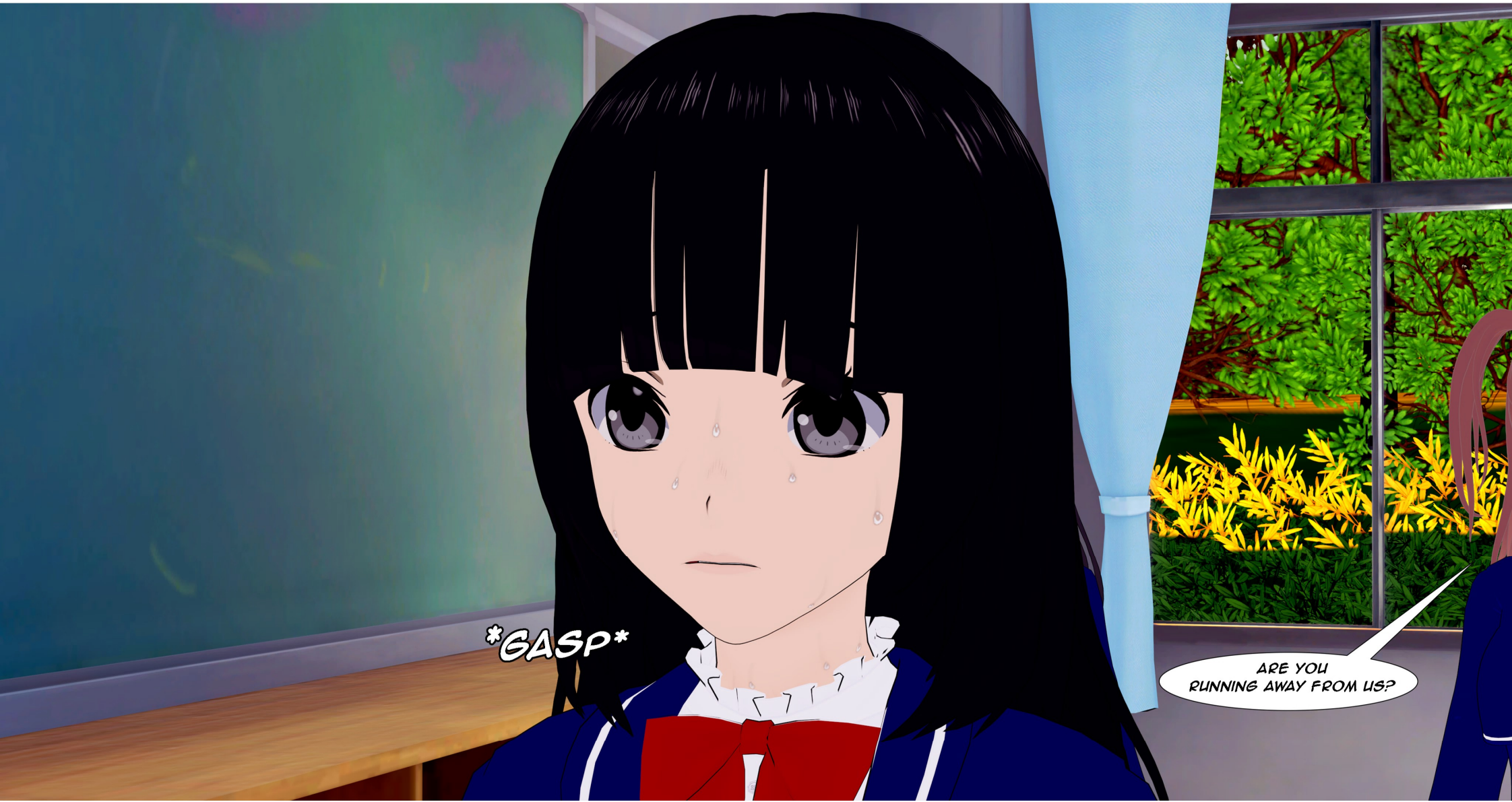
ALRIGHT... I JUST NEED TO
ACT NORMAL. THEY THINK I'M JUST
LIKE ANY OTHER GIRL.

NO... NO... IT'S BETTER IF
I AVOID ANY INTERACTION
WITH THESE KIDS.

A MINUTE LATER...



HEY!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?



GASP

ARE YOU
RUNNING AWAY FROM US?



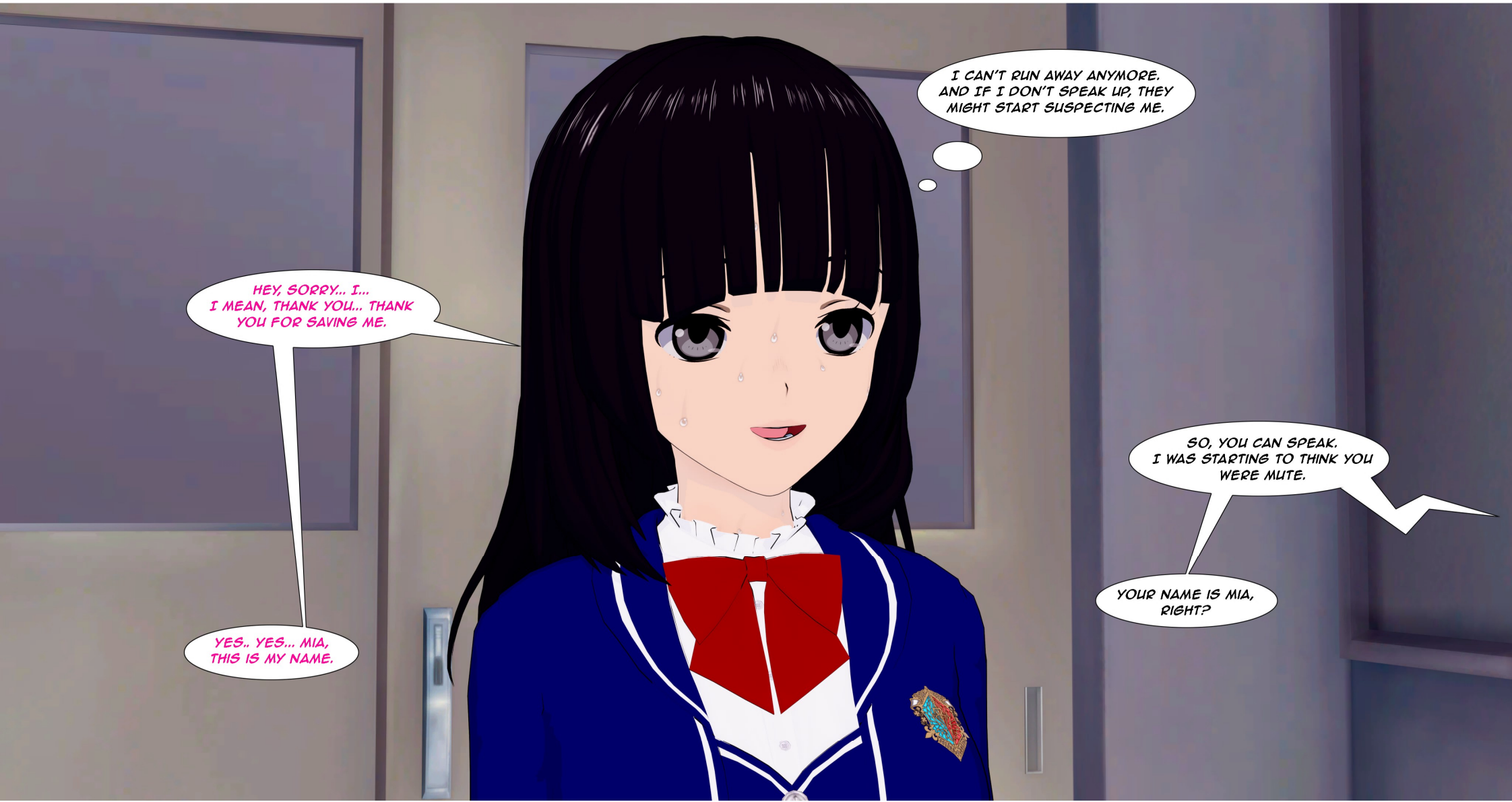
YOU WERE DOZING OFF IN BETWEEN CLASS. IF THE TEACHER CAUGHT YOU SLEEPING, YOU'D SURELY BE PUNISHED. HE'S VERY STRICT.

HAHAHA... YOU SHOULD BE THANKING US FOR SAVING YOU.

SORRY FOR THROWING THAT PAPER BALL AT YOU. YOU MIGHT BE THINKING WE'RE SOME BULLIES.

GETTING PUNISHED ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL ISN'T A GOOD THING, RIGHT? THAT'S WHY WE THREW THE PAPER BALL AT YOU TO WAKE YOU UP.

HEY, WHY AREN'T YOU SAYING ANYTHING? YOU DON'T WANT TO TALK TO US? SEEMS LIKE WE'RE TALKING TO A WALL.



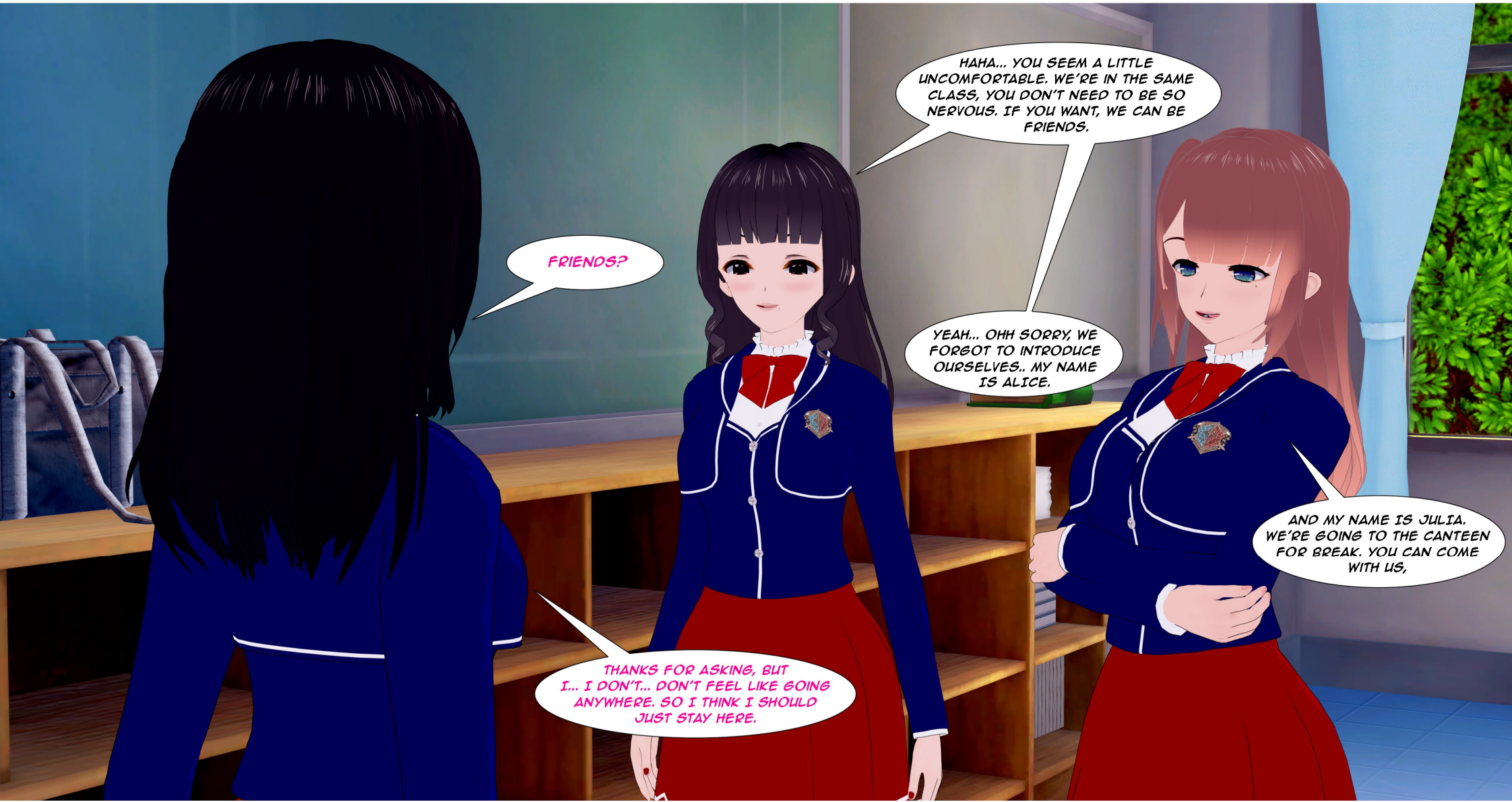
HEY, SORRY... I...
I MEAN, THANK YOU... THANK
YOU FOR SAVING ME.

YES.. YES... MIA,
THIS IS MY NAME.

I CAN'T RUN AWAY ANYMORE.
AND IF I DON'T SPEAK UP, THEY
MIGHT START SUSPECTING ME.

SO, YOU CAN SPEAK.
I WAS STARTING TO THINK YOU
WERE MUTE.

YOUR NAME IS MIA,
RIGHT?



FRIENDS?

HAHA... YOU SEEM A LITTLE UNCOMFORTABLE. WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS, YOU DON'T NEED TO BE SO NERVOUS. IF YOU WANT, WE CAN BE FRIENDS.

YEAH... OHH SORRY, WE FORGOT TO INTRODUCE OURSELVES.. MY NAME IS ALICE.

AND MY NAME IS JULIA. WE'RE GOING TO THE CANTEEN FOR BREAK. YOU CAN COME WITH US,

THANKS FOR ASKING, BUT I... I DON'T... DON'T FEEL LIKE GOING ANYWHERE. SO I THINK I SHOULD JUST STAY HERE.



*SOMETHING FEELS
OFF ABOUT HER.*

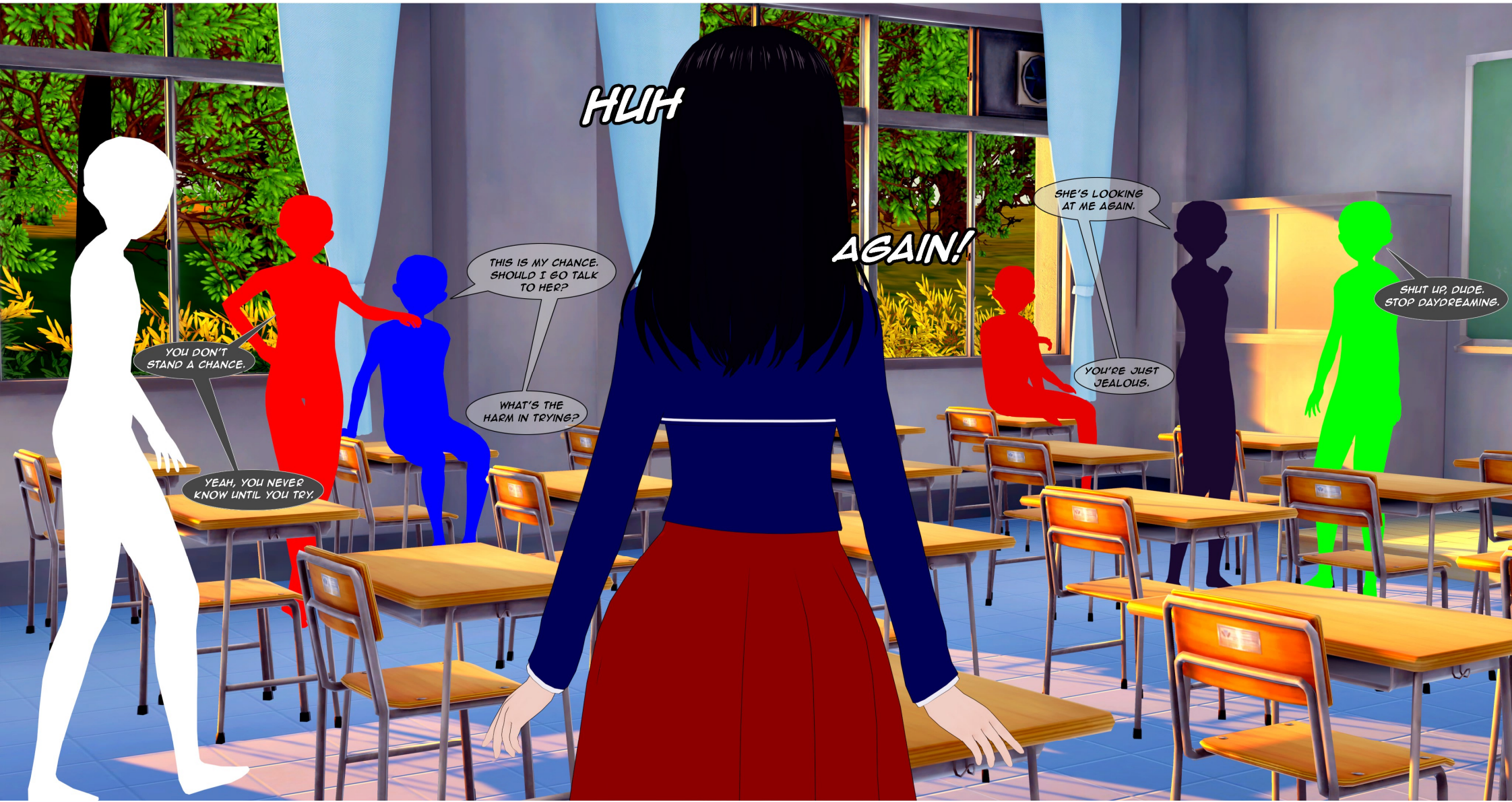
*ALRIGHT..
WE'LL BE GOING THEN..
SEE YOU LATER.*



PHEW!

HEY LOOK!
THAT NEW GIRL IS STILL HERE.

FRIENDS? HELL NO...



HUH

AGAIN!

YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE.

YEAH, YOU NEVER KNOW UNTIL YOU TRY.

THIS IS MY CHANCE. SHOULD I GO TALK TO HER?

WHAT'S THE HARM IN TRYING?

SHE'S LOOKING AT ME AGAIN.

YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS.

SHUT UP, DUDE. STOP DAYDREAMING.



I DON'T THINK SO. IT'S HER FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL, AND HER PERSONALITY APPEARS TO BE ON THE SHY SIDE. YOU KNOW, SOME PEOPLE TAKE A LITTLE TIME TO ADJUST TO NEW PLACES.

DON'T YOU THINK SHE'S A BIT WEIRD?

YEAH... YOU'RE RIGHT. BY THE WAY, DID YOU SEE JACK? HE DIDN'T ATTEND CLASSES TODAY EITHER.

HEY!



MIA?

SLOW DOWN...
WHY ARE YOU RUNNING IN
THE HALLWAY?

WAIT FOR ME...



I WAS THINKING THAT I'LL END UP GETTING BORED IF I STAY IN CLASS DURING BREAK.

WHAT HAPPENED?

SO.. CAN... CAN I COME WITH YOU?

FEW MINUTES LATER...

REALLY? ARE YOU ALSO THINKING OF JOINING THE CHEERLEADERS GROUP?

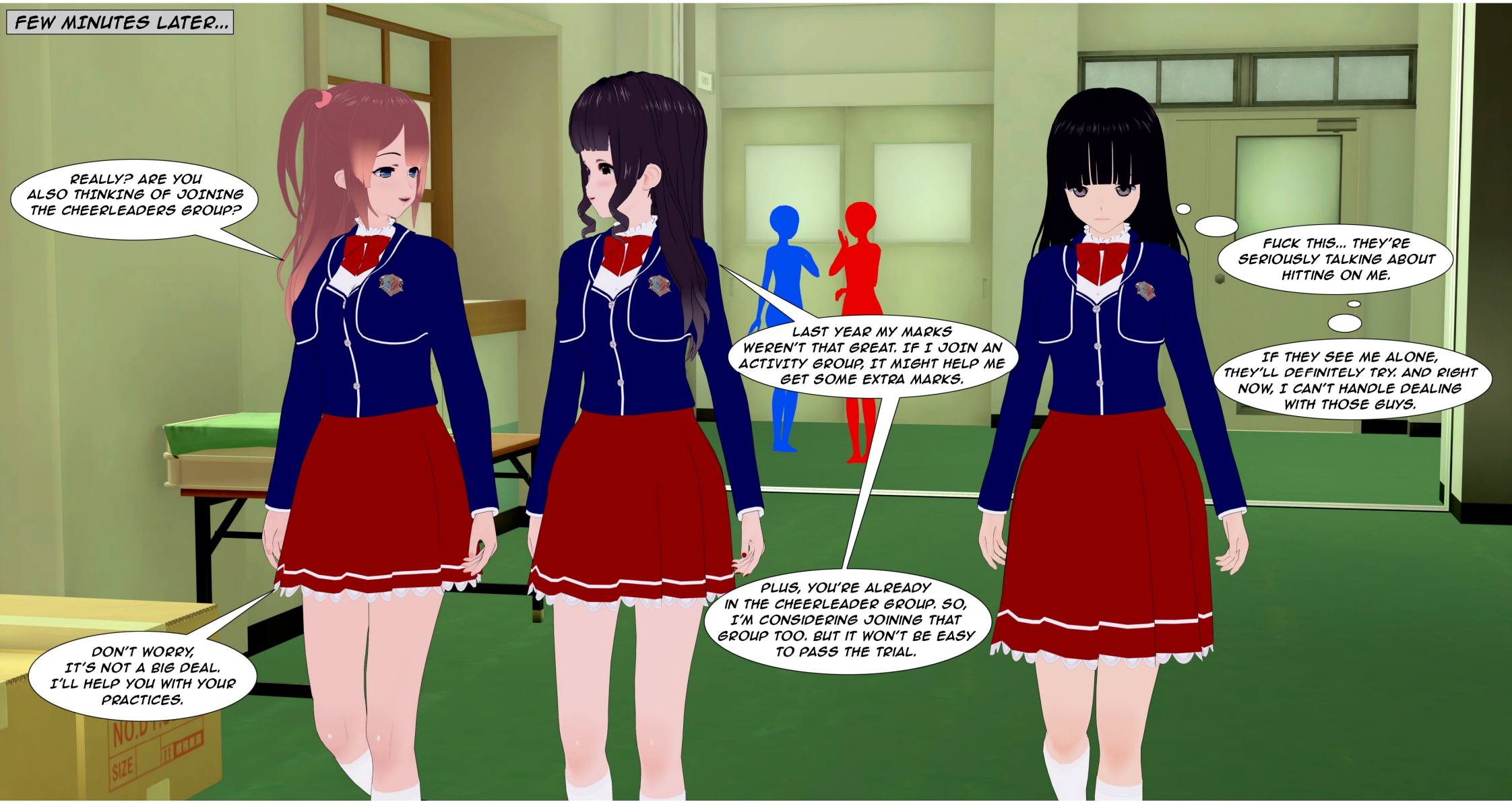
DON'T WORRY, IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL. I'LL HELP YOU WITH YOUR PRACTICES.

LAST YEAR MY MARKS WEREN'T THAT GREAT. IF I JOIN AN ACTIVITY GROUP, IT MIGHT HELP ME GET SOME EXTRA MARKS.

PLUS, YOU'RE ALREADY IN THE CHEERLEADER GROUP. SO, I'M CONSIDERING JOINING THAT GROUP TOO. BUT IT WON'T BE EASY TO PASS THE TRIAL.

FUCK THIS... THEY'RE SERIOUSLY TALKING ABOUT HITTING ON ME.

IF THEY SEE ME ALONE, THEY'LL DEFINITELY TRY. AND RIGHT NOW, I CAN'T HANDLE DEALING WITH THOSE GUYS.



AND WHAT ABOUT YOU, MIA?
ARE YOU ALSO THINKING OF JOINING
ANY ACTIVITY GROUP?

HEY, WHERE ARE YOU LOST?

IT'S BETTER IF I STICK WITH
THESE TWO. AT LEAST THOSE GUYS
WON'T TRY TO BOTHER ME IF THEY
SEE ME WITH THESE GIRLS.



YES... WE'RE DISCUSSING ABOUT JOINING AN ACTIVITY GROUP.

HUH.. WHAT.. ARE YOU TALKING TO ME?

ACTIVITY GROUP?

HEY GUYS!



JACK AND I WERE AT THE GROUND. THE COACH HAD US PRACTICING SINCE EARLY MORNING.

HEY! WHERE WERE YOU GUYS?

HUH...DID HE SAY JACK?

IT'S THE FIRST DAY TODAY AND YOU'VE ALREADY STARTED SKIPPING CLASSES.

WE'RE IN THE FOOTBALL TEAM, SO WE CAN GIVE EXCUSES. BESIDES, IT'S NOT AFFECTING OUR ATTENDANCE.



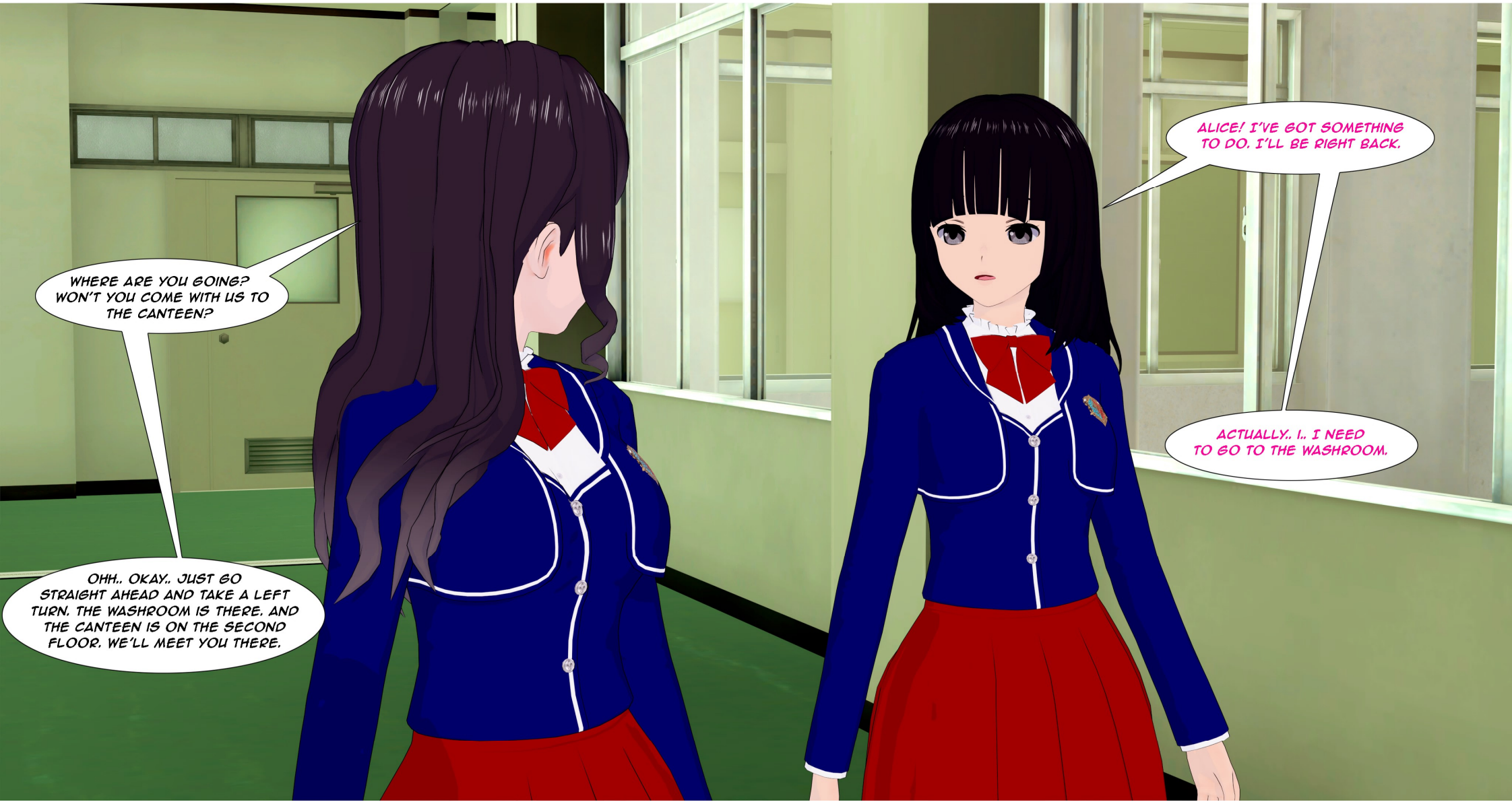
HAHA... YOU CAN SAY THAT.

YOU GUYS ARE LUCKY THAT YOUR COACH IS THERE TO SAVE YOUR ASS.

KEN'S COUSIN'S NAME IS JACK. AND CLARA MENTIONED THAT HE'LL ALSO BE IN THE SAME CLASS AS ME. THAT MUST BE HIM.

HAVE YOUR FUN NOW, BUT DON'T COME ASKING FOR NOTES LATER.

IF I STAY HERE, HE'LL ASK ME A LOT OF QUESTIONS.



WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WON'T YOU COME WITH US TO
THE CANTEEN?

ALICE! I'VE GOT SOMETHING
TO DO. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

ACTUALLY.. I.. I NEED
TO GO TO THE WASHROOM.

OH.. OKAY.. JUST GO
STRAIGHT AHEAD AND TAKE A LEFT
TURN. THE WASHROOM IS THERE. AND
THE CANTEEN IS ON THE SECOND
FLOOR. WE'LL MEET YOU THERE.



GOOD NEWS... HIS UNCLE IS GOING ABROAD THIS WEEKEND. SO, WE CAN ORGANIZE THE PARTY AT JACK'S PLACE.

SO, DID YOU FIND ANY PLACE TO ORGANIZE OUR PARTY?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT HER, I'LL CONVINCHE HER.

AND WHAT ABOUT YOUR COUSIN, BETTY?

YAY.. SO, DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD INVITE THE SENIORS TOO?

WE'LL THINK ABOUT IT... WE STILL HAVE THE WHOLE WEEK AHEAD OF US.

PHEW!



SHE? HER NAME IS MIA. SHE'S A NEW TRANSFER STUDENT IN OUR CLASS.

BY THE WAY, WHO WAS THAT GIRL WITH YOU?



OH, SO SHE'S
MIA, EMMA'S SISTER.

AFTER SOMETIME...

HUH?
GIRLS' WASHROOM?

FUCK OBVIOUSLY, SHE
MUST HAVE TOLD ME THE WAY TO
THE GIRLS' WASHROOM.





I REALLY NEED TO PEE BADLY.

AND THERE IS NO WAY I CAN GO TO THE BOYS' WASHROOM LIKE THIS.



THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE COME INTO THE GIRLS' WASHROOM. IT'S REALLY QUIET HERE, SEEMS LIKE THERE'S NO ONE IN HERE.



AHH, FINALLY... SOME TIME ALONE. THESE KIDS ARE REALLY GIVING ME A HEADACHE..

AND THIS DRESS, UGH... IT'S NOT SO EASY TO ROAM AROUND IN SCHOOL WEARING A SKIRT.

ARE YOU TALKING TO YOURSELF?



HMM...YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST.

HUH? WHAT?

HUH.. SHE'S BEEN HERE ALL THIS TIME. I MAY HAVE SPOKEN TOO LOUDLY.

HEY... HAHA... NO.. I THOUGHT THERE WAS NO ONE HERE. DID YOU HEAR ANYTHING?

NOTHING.. NEVERMIND..



WEIRD...

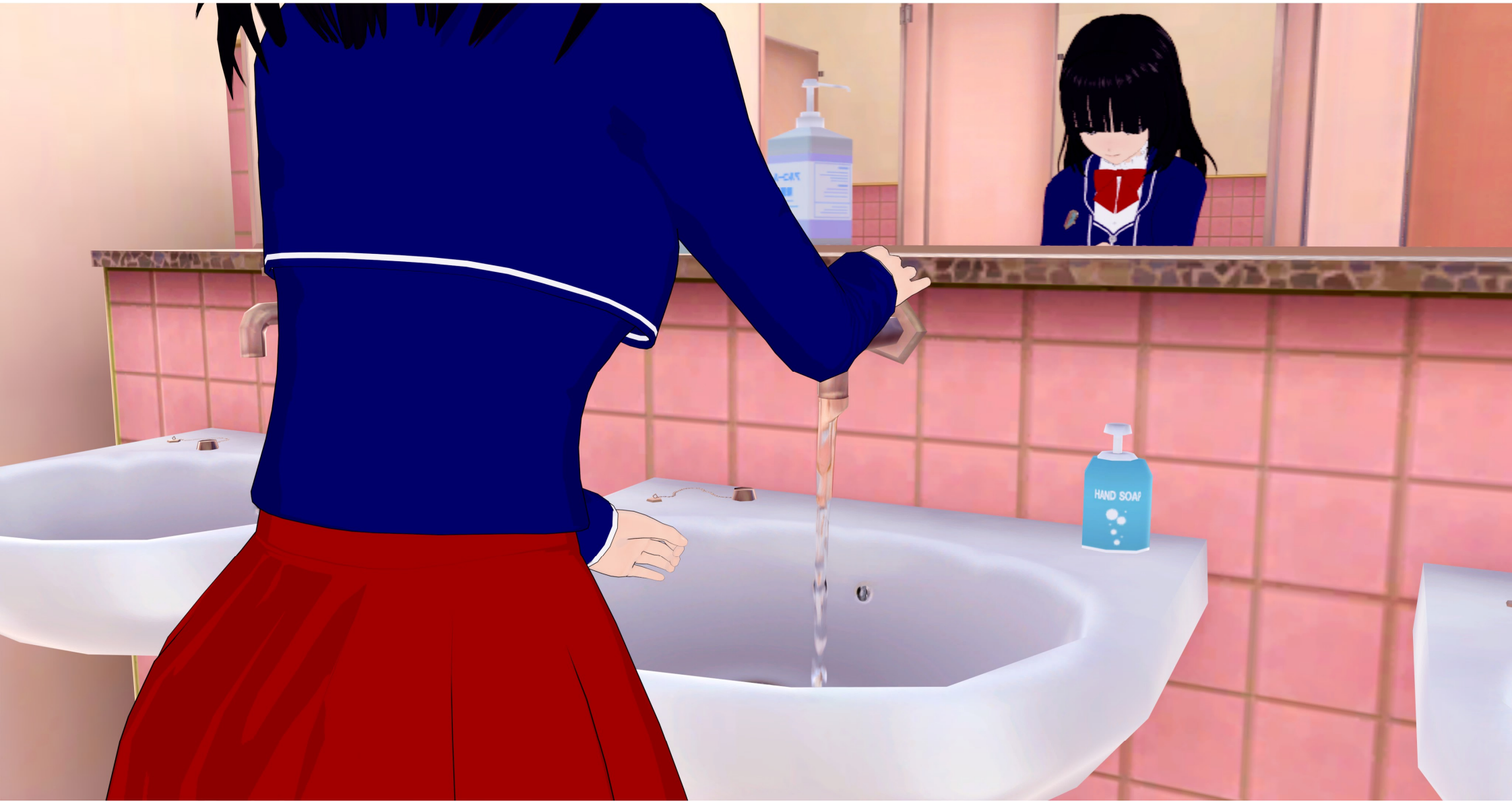
HOPEFULLY, SHE DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING.

HEHEHE..



WHEW!





THERE'S STILL PLENTY OF TIME LEFT FOR BREAK TO END. ALICE ASKED ME TO COME TO THE CANTEEN, BUT JACK MIGHT ALSO BE THERE.

THIS ISN'T JUST ABOUT TODAY; I DON'T IGNORE THESE PEOPLE ON A DAILY BASIS.

THEY ARE ALL JUST BUNCH OF KIDS. YEAH... I CAN FACE THIS.



AFTER SOMETIME...





I DON'T FEEL LIKE PERFORMING TODAY.

IF YOU'RE FEELING UP TO IT, YOU CAN GO AND TAKE SOMEONE WITH YOU.

COME ON DUDE, WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY CANCELING THE PLAN? YOU HAVE A SHOW THERE TOO, RIGHT?

ARE YOU KIDDING ME? YOU KNOW HOW MANY BIG ARTISTS ARE COMING THERE TODAY, RIGHT? THIS OPPORTUNITY DOESN'T COME BY EASILY.

THERE'S NO POINT IN ARGUING WITH YOU. THE TWO TICKETS WE HAD WILL ALSO GO TO WASTE.

WHO SHOULD I INVITE TO COME ALONG WITH ME NOW?



I GUESS I DON'T
NEED TO ASK HER NOW.

DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU
CANCELED YOUR DATE TODAY BECAUSE
OF MY PERFORMANCE? WHY DON'T YOU
JUST GO THERE WITH YOUR DATE?

HUH... WHY?



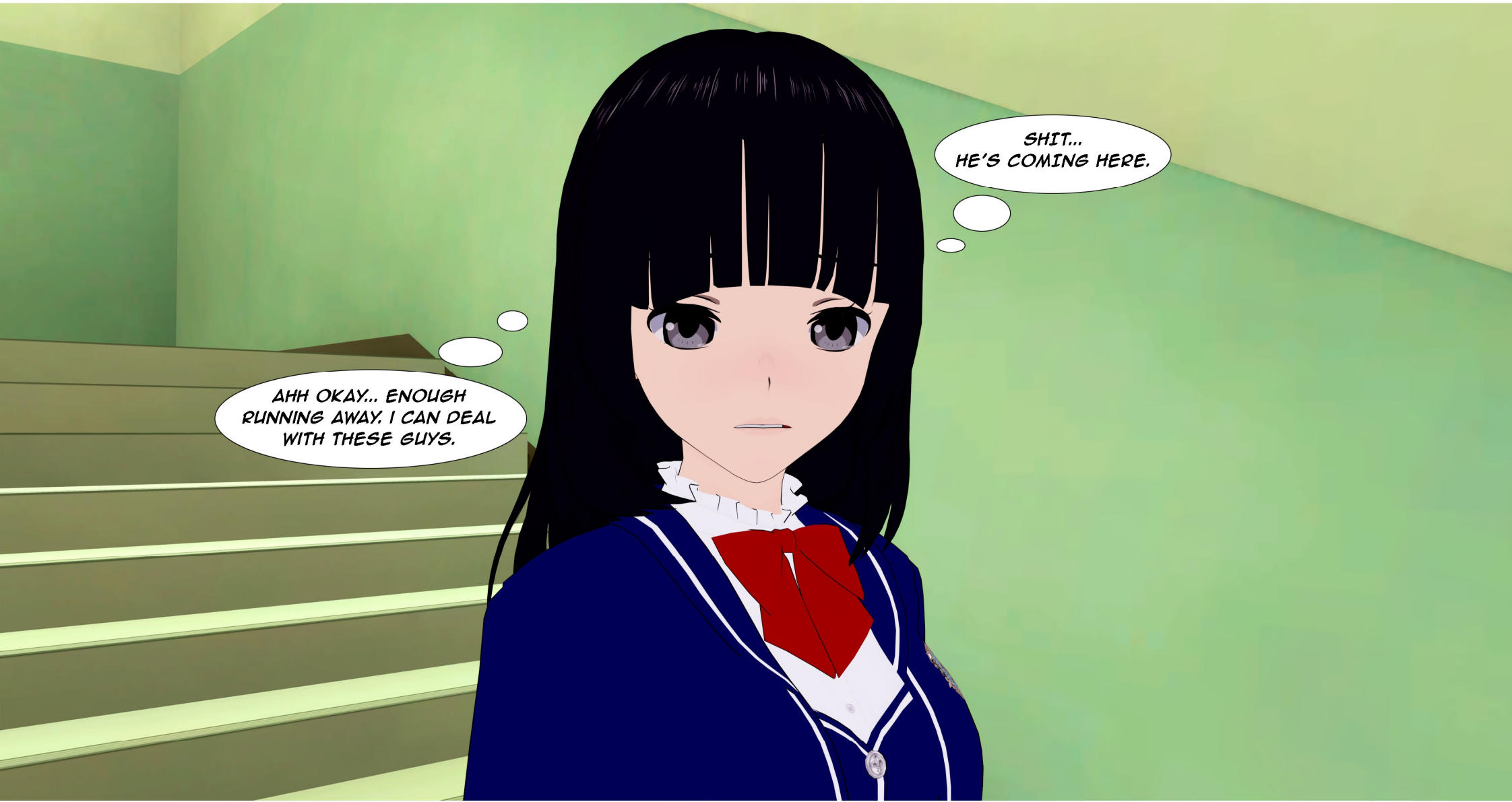
WHO IS THIS GIRL...

LOOK AT THAT CUTE GIRL...
I SHOULD ASK HER TO JOIN ME.
IF I TELL HER ABOUT THE SHOW,
I BET SHE WON'T SAY NO.



PLUH

WAIT, ALEX...



AHH OKAY.. ENOUGH
RUNNING AWAY. I CAN DEAL
WITH THESE GUYS.

SHIT...
HE'S COMING HERE.



THERE HE GOES AGAIN.

HEY! WE'VE NEVER SEEN YOU IN THIS SCHOOL BEFORE. ARE YOU A NEW STUDENT?

I'M ALEX, AND THIS IS MY FRIEND DYLAN. NICE TO MEET YOU..

WHAT'S YOUR NAME? YOU'RE COMING FROM THE 3RD FLOOR. IS YOUR CLASS THERE? SO, I CAN ASSUME YOU'RE OUR JUNIOR.

THIS IS JUST A NORMAL CONVERSATION. YEAHH~ I CAN DO THIS.

HI, I'M MIA.
NICE TO MEET YOU TOO.

DID HE JUST CALL
ME CUTE? UGHH OKAY... IT'S
JUST A COMPLIMENT.
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR NOW.

HAHA... SORRY...
BUT I HAVE TO GO NOW.

MIA! YOUR NAME
IS AS CUTE AS YOU ARE. THIS MUST
BE YOUR FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL. YOU
KNOW, OUR CAMPUS IS REALLY
AMAZING. IF YOU WANT, I CAN
SHOW YOU AROUND.

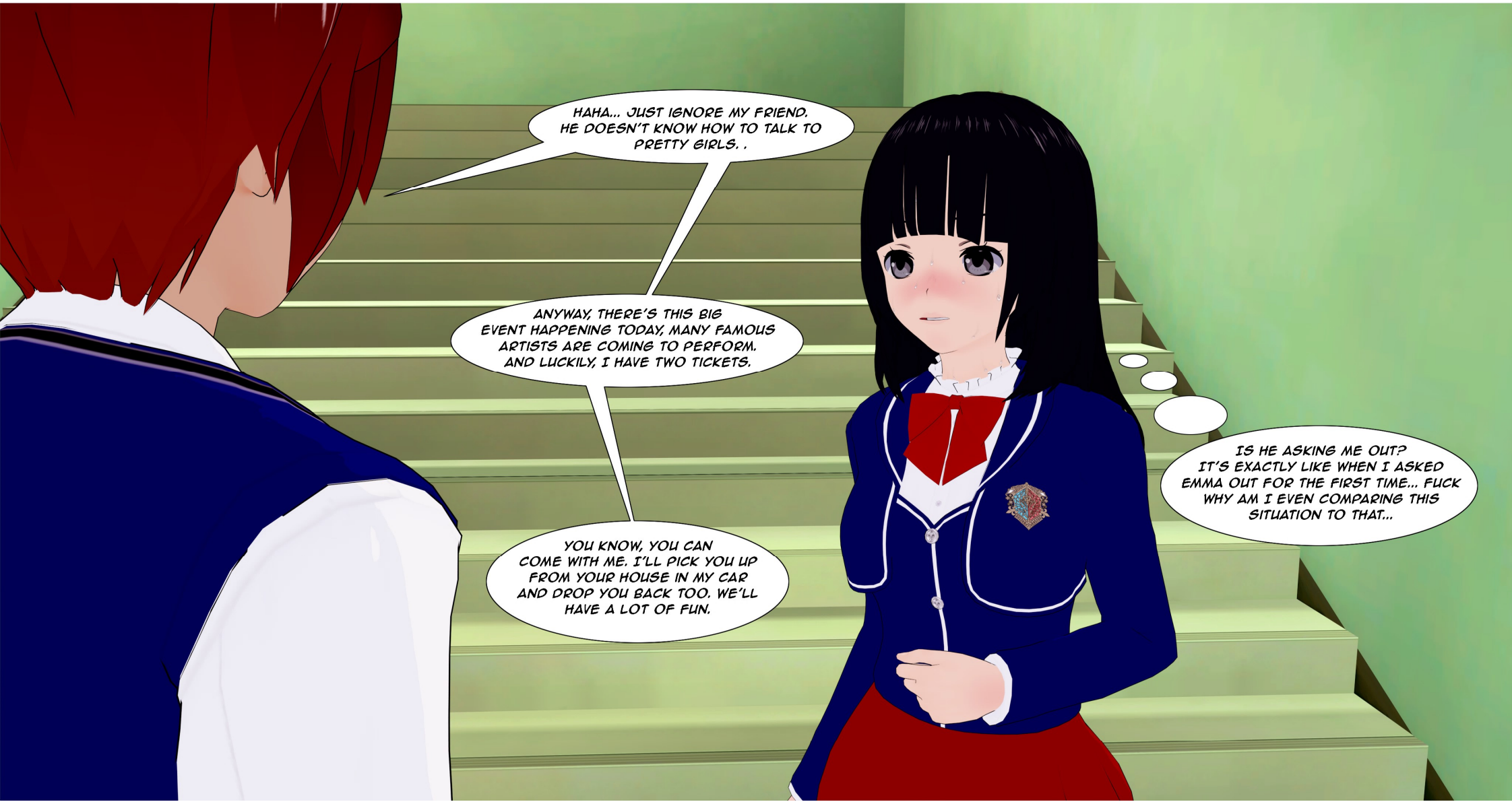
WHY IN SUCH A HURRY?
WE'VE JUST MET. IT WOULD BE
GREAT IF WE COULD GET TO
KNOW EACH OTHER MORE.



THIS GUY IS SO CLINGY.
WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW...

ALEX, LET'S GO.
BREAKTIME WILL BE OVER
SOON. LET HER GO, SHE MUST
HAVE CLASSES.

SHUT UP, DYLAN.
THERE'S STILL SOME TIME LEFT
FOR BREAK, AND SHE MIGHT
APPRECIATE THE COMPANY. IF YOU
WANT, YOU CAN LEAVE.



HAHA... JUST IGNORE MY FRIEND.
HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO TALK TO
PRETTY GIRLS. .

ANYWAY, THERE'S THIS BIG
EVENT HAPPENING TODAY, MANY FAMOUS
ARTISTS ARE COMING TO PERFORM.
AND LUCKILY, I HAVE TWO TICKETS.

YOU KNOW, YOU CAN
COME WITH ME. I'LL PICK YOU UP
FROM YOUR HOUSE IN MY CAR
AND DROP YOU BACK TOO. WE'LL
HAVE A LOT OF FUN.

IS HE ASKING ME OUT?
IT'S EXACTLY LIKE WHEN I ASKED
EMMA OUT FOR THE FIRST TIME... FUCK
WHY AM I EVEN COMPARING THIS
SITUATION TO THAT...



STOP IT NOW; SHE'S OUR JUNIOR. YOU'RE MAKING HER UNCOMFORTABLE.

HE'S NOT EVEN LISTENING TO HIS FRIEND.

CAN'T YOU SEE? I'M JUST HAVING A NORMAL CONVERSATION. AND AS SENIORS, IT'S OUR DUTY TO TAKE CARE OF OUR JUNIORS.



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

THIS ASSHOLE... SEEMS LIKE HE'S BOTHERING ANOTHER GIRL AGAIN.

WAIT, SHE'S THAT SAME WEIRD GIRL. I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT NOW.



SORRY ABOUT MY FRIEND... HE IS BEING TOO NOSY.

SO, YOU MUST BE EXCITED ABOUT GOING TO THE EVENT. YOU CAN GIVE ME YOUR NUMBER. I'LL CALL YOU BEFORE PICKING YOU UP FROM HOME.

HE'S NOT EVEN LISTENING TO HIS FRIEND.

WHAT THE HECK IS WRONG WITH THIS GUY? I DIDN'T EVEN AGREE TO GO. I NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE QUICKLY.

HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?



HUH... SHE'S THAT GIRL I MET IN THE WASHROOM. WHY IS SHE TALKING AS IF SHE KNOWS ME?

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU EVERYWHERE, AND YOU'RE HERE.



WINK



EHH- WHY DID SHE WINK AT ME?

WELL, I SHOULD JUST PLAY ALONG AND ACT LIKE HER FRIEND. AT LEAST THAT WAY, I'LL BE ABLE TO ESCAPE FROM THIS NUISANCE.

MAYBE SHE MIGHT HAVE NOTICED THAT THIS GUY IS BOTHERING ME.



TESSA? WE DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS YOUR FRIEND.

HEY! I... I WAS ALSO LOOKING FOR YOU.

YOUR FRIEND? SINCE WHEN DID YOU START BEING FRIENDS WITH JUNIORS?

WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE? ARE YOU BOTHERING MY FRIEND?

IT'S NONE OF UR BUSINESS... IT WOULD BE BETTER IF BOTH OF YOU LEAVE FROM HERE...



THIS BITCH....

OTHERWISE, I'LL REPORT TO THE TEACHER THAT YOU WERE HARASSING THE JUNIOR.

NO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT. WE'RE LEAVING NOW.

LET'S GO, ALEX.

GRRR...

TO BE CONTINUED...