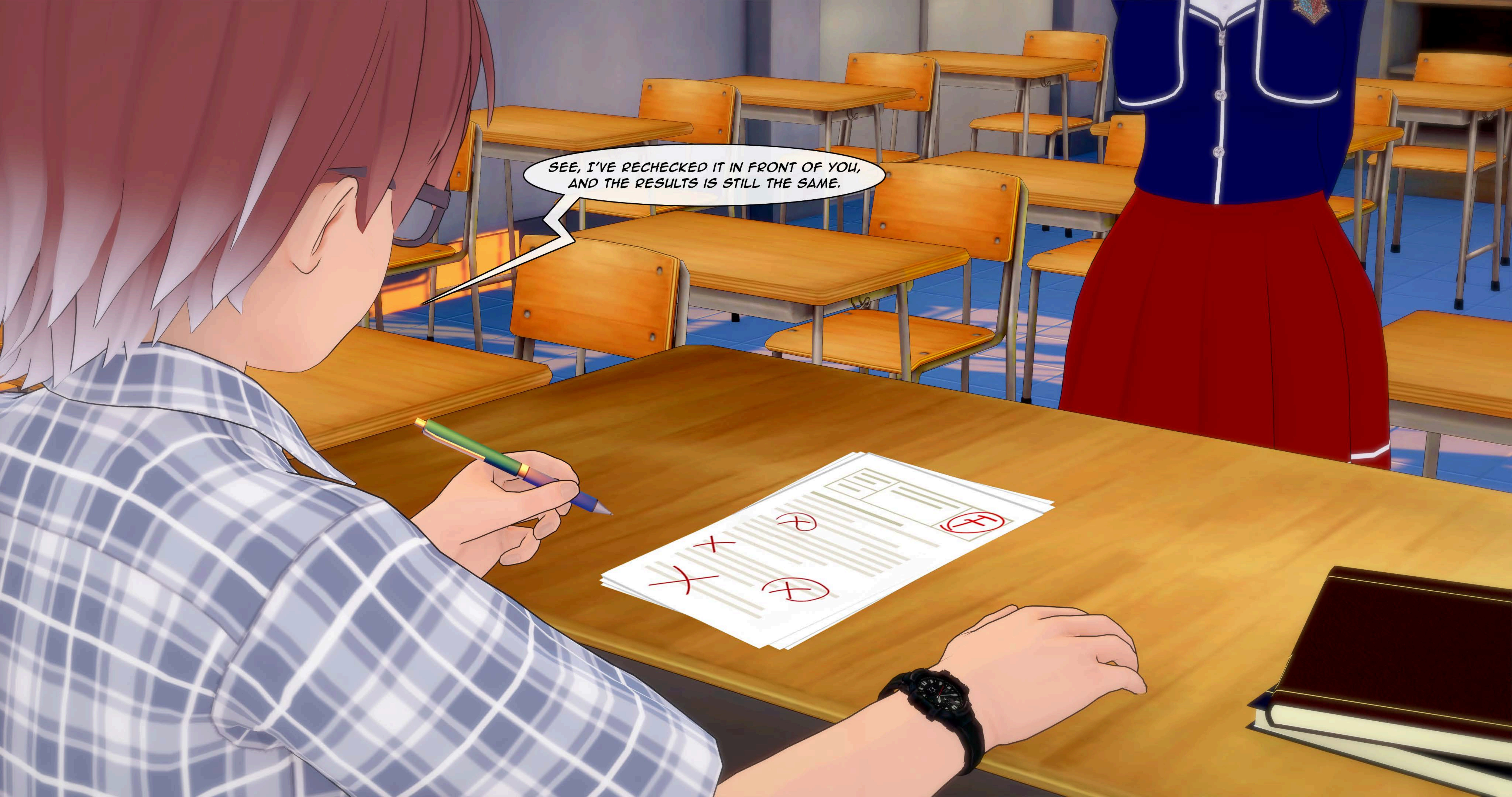




RUNAWAY

CHAPTER-18

SEE, I'VE RECHECKED IT IN FRONT OF YOU,
AND THE RESULTS IS STILL THE SAME.



ALMOST CORRECT' ISN'T ENOUGH. THE ANSWERS ARE INCOMPLETE, AND I CAN'T AWARD MARKS FOR INCOMPLETE WORK.

YOU KNOW, I HAD A DIFFERENT IMPRESSION OF YOU. YOU ALWAYS STAYED QUIET IN CLASS, NEVER CAUSED ANY TROUBLE LIKE THE OTHER STUDENTS. I THOUGHT YOU WERE FOCUSED ON YOUR STUDIES. BUT AFTER SEEING THIS RESULT, I'M REALLY DISAPPOINTED.

APOLOGIES WON'T HELP HERE. YOU NEED TO START TAKING YOUR STUDIES SERIOUSLY. I'M NOT GOING TO LET THIS RESULT SLIDE EASILY.

BUT... T-TEACHER, THE THIRD, FIFTH, AND EIGHTH ANSWERS IN THE SCIENCE SHEET-- THEY'RE ALMOST CORRECT. A-AND..., EVEN SOME IN OTHER SUBJECTS TOO. I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY I DIDN'T GET ANY MARKS FOR THEM...

I-I'M SORRY...

FOR ALL THOSE WHO FAILED OR SCORED POORLY, TOMORROW I'LL GIVE YOU ASSIGNMENTS ON THE TOPICS THAT WERE IN THE EXAM. AND I THINK I PAIRED YOU WITH JACK...

NO, HE DIDN'T FAIL, BUT HIS MARKS AREN'T GREAT EITHER. AND ONE MORE THING... YOU'RE NOT IN ANY ACTIVITY GROUP, RIGHT? IT'S BETTER IF YOU JOIN ONE.

IT ISN'T, BUT YOU HAVE SEEN YOUR MARKS... EVEN IF YOU DO WELL IN THE FINALS, YOUR MID-TERM MARKS CAN STILL IMPACT YOUR FINAL GRADE. SO, IT WOULD BE WISE TO JOIN A GROUP FOR THOSE EXTRA EXTRACURRICULAR POINTS. DON'T YOU WANT TO PASS WITH GOOD GRADES IN THE FINAL?

UMM... WITH JACK? DID HE FAIL TOO?

BUT IT WASN'T MANDATORY...

UM, Y-YES... I WANT TO. BUT... I DON'T THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO... IT'S MID-TERM ALREADY, AND I'M NOT SURE ANY GROUP WOULD TAKE ME IN.

*YOU COULD TRY THE SOCIAL GROUP.
MOST OF THE MEMBERS ARE SENIORS, I DON'T
USUALLY RECOMMEND THAT GROUP SINCE IT'S NOT
VERY ACTIVE. MOST STUDENTS JOIN IT JUST FOR
THE FREE MARKS. TALK TO YOUR SENIORS,
THEY'LL LIKELY HELP YOU OUT.*



SOMETIME LATER...

NOT AT ALL! SHE WAS ALREADY SCORING LOW IN ALMOST EVERY SUBJECT. ALL I HAD TO DO WAS DEDUCT A FEW UNNECESSARY MARKS TO MAKE SURE SHE FAILED. BUT...

THANKS, MR. CLARK. AS PROMISED, HERE'S YOUR PAYMENT. HOPE IT WASN'T TOO MUCH TROUBLE FOR YOU.





IF YOU HAD TOLD ME TO PASS HER,
THAT WOULD'VE MADE SENSE, BUT WHY
DID YOU WANT HER TO FAIL?

HAHA, I UNDERSTAND... I DON'T
REALLY NEED TO KNOW THAT. I'LL
GET GOING NOW... SAY MY REGARDS
TO MRS. MILLER.

WELL, THERE ARE SOME
REASONS... ALL I CAN SAY IS
IT'S FOR HER OWN GOOD.

MR. CLARK CALLED EVERYONE ONE BY ONE AND GAVE THAT SAME OLD SPEECH ABOUT HOW DISAPPOINTED HE IS WITH RESULTS.

BUT HE DIDN'T MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT THE ASSIGNMENTS?

HMM, I GUESS SO...

NO, HE PROBABLY DECIDED LATER AND TOLD YOU ONLY CAUSE YOU WERE THE LAST ONE HE CALLED.

LET'S SEE WHAT TOPIC HE GIVES US TOMORROW...



HUH, FOR WHAT?

WE CAN JUST DO IT
AT SCHOOL AFTER CLASSES.

SERIOUSLY? IS FOOTBALL
REALLY MORE IMPORTANT
THAN YOUR STUDIES?

AND WHERE WE SHOULD MEET
AFTER SCHOOL TOMORROW?

DIDN'T YOU SAY MR. CLARK
PAIRED US TOGETHER FOR THE
ASSIGNMENTS?

UM, YOU KNOW I'VE GOT
FOOTBALL TRAINING AFTER
CLASS.



SHUT-UP! THAT WAS DIFFERENT!
M-MY SISTER CAME TO VISIT AFTER
A LONG TIME...

UH, NO, I THINK YOU SHOULD
COME TO MY PLACE INSTEAD.

HAHA, NOT TO BE RUDE, BUT
LOOK WHO'S TALKING! DIDN'T YOU
ALSO TAKE UNNECESSARY DAYS OFF
JUST BEFORE THE EXAMS?

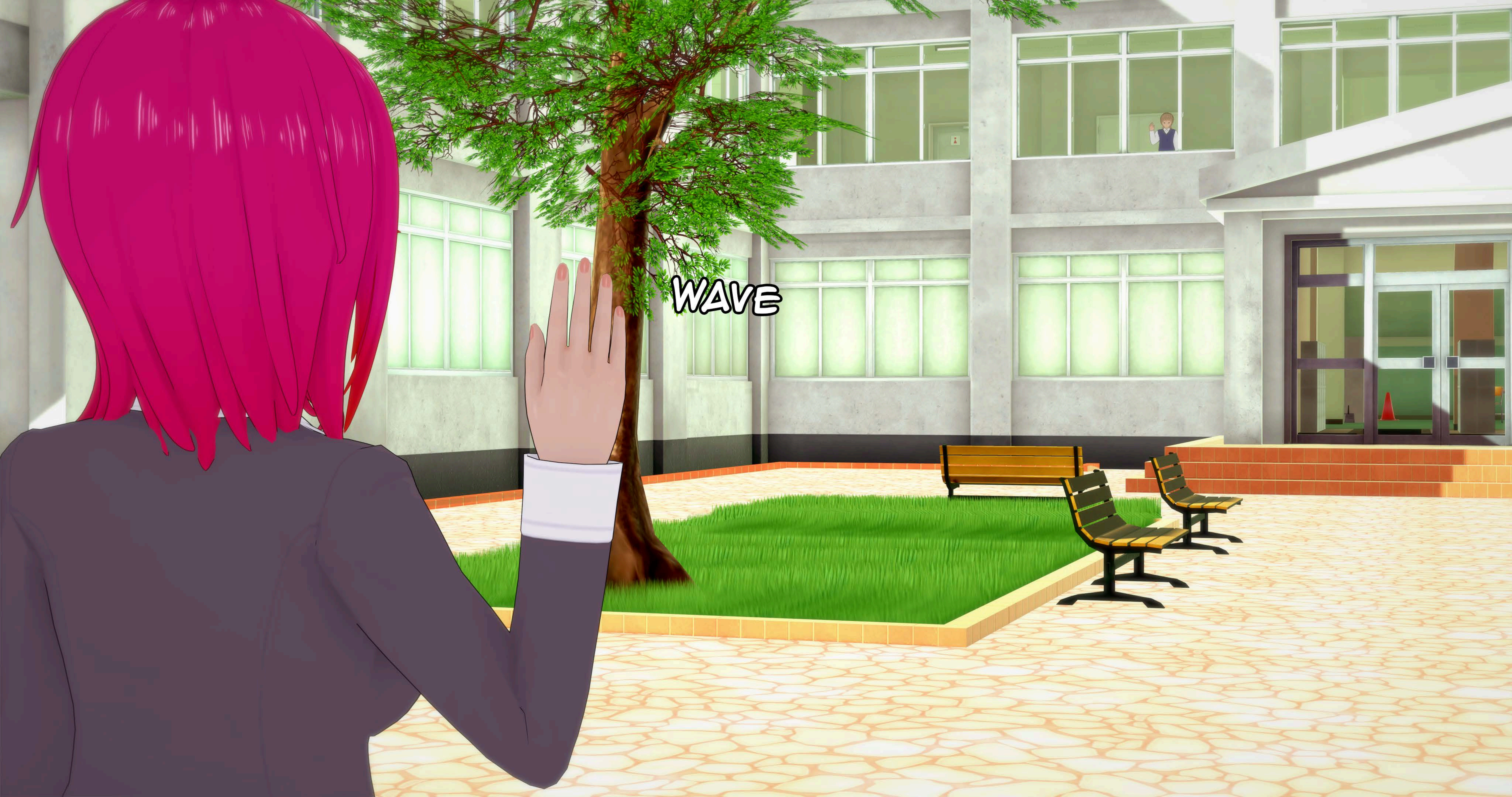
OKAY, OKAY... SO, UM, IF YOU'RE
FINE WITH IT, WE COULD JUST DO
THE ASSIGNMENT AT MY PLACE.

SURE! HOPE CLARA DOESN'T
HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT.

ALRIGHT, SEE YOU
TOMORROW THEN!

NO, SHE WON'T.





WAVE

SUCH A STUPID PERSON! HOW MANY CHANCES DO YOU NEED TO GET CLOSER TO MIA? ARGH, ARE YOU EVEN INTO HER OR NOT?

AND THEN THERE'S THAT KEN... STILL HASN'T MADE A MOVE WITH EMMA.

AFTER A WHILE...

OH, WHAT WAS THAT YOU SAID EARLIER?
THAT THIS IS JUST A PIECE OF CAKE FOR
YOU. THAT YOU'D TOTALLY PASS THESE
EXAMS EASILY...

I TRIED MY BEST, AND I SWEAR
HALF OF MY ANSWERS WERE ALMOST
CORRECT, BUT I STILL DIDN'T GET
ANY MARKS.



NO, I DON'T MEAN THAT... BUT

SO YOU'RE SAYING THE TEACHER TREATED YOU UNFAIRLY AND FAILED YOU ON PURPOSE? AND WHY WOULD THEY DO THAT?

STOP WHINING ALREADY! JUST ADMIT YOU MESSED UP AND START TAKING YOUR STUDIES SERIOUSLY FROM NOW ON, OKAY?



UH, FINE... AND YEAH, JACK AND I HAVE SOME ASSIGNMENTS TO WORK ON TOGETHER, SO I ASKED HIM TO COME OVER TOMORROW.

HERE? HMM, SORRY TO SAY... BUT YOU CAN'T INVITE ANYONE HERE TOMORROW.

HUH, BUT WHY?



ACTUALLY, SOMEONE ELSE IS COMING OVER TOMORROW. I WAS EVEN GOING TO TELL YOU GO TO AUNT'S PLACE AFTER SCHOOL.

WELL, I CAN'T TELL YOU OR ANYONE RIGHT NOW, THAT'S WHY I DON'T WANT ANYONE HERE TOMORROW. WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO TO JACK'S PLACE INSTEAD?

UMM, WHO IS IT?



UH-OH, I'LL SEE...
BY THE WAY, THAT'S EMMA'S
BAG, RIGHT...



I GUESS SHE FORGET
TO TAKE THIS WITH HER?

OH, NO. SHE GAVE ME THIS THE
NIGHT BEFORE SHE LEFT WHEN SHE
WAS PACKING. SHE SAID SHE LEFT
SOME STUFF FOR YOU IN IT.



WOW, LOOK AT ALL THIS!
SHE LEFT ALL OF THIS FOR YOU...
BANGLES, EARRINGS, A WATCH, AND
EVEN HER LIPSTICKS!

THESE ARE ALL HER PERSONAL ACCESSORIES! WHY DIDN'T SHE ASK ME IF I ACTUALLY NEEDED THEM BEFORE LEAVING THEM HERE?

HMM, YOU'RE RIGHT I GUESS...

COME ON, YOU KNOW HOW BUSY SHE IS WITH WORK OVER THERE. SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T EVEN HAVE THE TIME TO GO OUT EXCEPT FOR THE OFFICE.

MAYBE THAT'S WHY SHE THOUGHT YOU'D MAKE BETTER USE OF THESE FOR NOW.

WOW, I DIDN'T EXPECTED EMMA WOULD ACTUALLY TAKE ALL MY TIPS SO SERIOUSLY.

LOOK AT THIS! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS LIPSTICK SHADE?

I DON'T KNOW...
IT JUST LOOKS WAY TOO BOLD.

OH, THESE EARRINGS ARE SUPER CUTE!
BUT I DON'T THINK THEY'D REALLY GO WITH
CASUAL OUTFITS. THEY'D LOOK SO MUCH BETTER
WITH SOMETHING DRESSIER, LIKE FOR
A SPECIAL OCCASION.

FOR A SPECIAL OCCASION?
THEN I DON'T THINK I'LL EVER GET
A CHANCE TO WEAR THEM...

HMM, LET'S SEE...




SHE SAID SHE FORGOT TO BRING IT.

THAT'S ODD! SHE DIDN'T FORGET TO BRING ALL THESE ACCESSORIES BUT FORGOT THE RING. HAHA, DON'T WORRY, IT HAPPENS SOMETIMES!

BY THE WAY, WHAT ABOUT THE RING YOU GAVE EMMA? I HAVEN'T SEEN HER WEARING IT.







SORRY BABE... I REALLY WANTED YOU TO PUT IT ON MY FINGER, BUT CLARA MADE ME LIE.

SHE'S NOT WRONG EITHER... I GUESS IT'S BETTER IF WE JUST WAIT UNTIL ALL OF THIS IS OVER. FOR NOW, YOU'RE JUST MY SISTER.



HEY, ARE YOU STILL WORKING?

4 April 2014

sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

HUH... NO,
I FINISHED ALREADY.

WHAT'S THAT SMALL BOX?

IT'S NOTHING, JUST MY
OLD CASUAL RING BOX.



OH WAIT, WERE YOU WORKING THIS LATE ON THE FILE MRS. BETTY GAVE YOU? BUT SHE SAID IT WASN'T THAT URGENT.

ACTUALLY, SHE CALLED ME LATER AND SAID SHE HAD TO LEAVE TODAY BECAUSE THERE'S AN IMPORTANT MEETING SHE NEEDS TO ATTEND AT THE MAIN BRANCH. IT CAME UP SUDDENLY.

FINALLY, SHE'S LEAVING... YOU KNOW, EVER SINCE SHE CAME HERE FOR THE VISIT, NOT A SINGLE DAY HAVE I BEEN ABLE TO LEAVE ON TIME. LOOK, EVERYONE ELSE IS ALREADY LEFT, AND WE'RE STILL HERE WORKING LATE.

HAHA, I CAN SEE THE FRUSTRATION ON YOUR FACE. MAYBE YOU SHOULD TAKE A VACATION TOO. IT'D REALLY HELP CLEAR YOUR MIND!

YEAH, I'M THINKING ABOUT IT TOO... ONCE THOSE NEWBIES FINISH THEIR SHOOT, THEN I'LL MAKE SOME PLANS.

UM, RUBI... DO YOU REMEMBER, WHEN YOU SUGGESTED THAT WE COULD ALSO SELECT MY SISTER AS A MODEL?

NO, IT'S ALRIGHT... I JUST MET HER A FEW DAYS AGO, SO IT WOULDN'T REALLY MAKE SENSE TO CHOOSE HER FOR THIS SHOOT AND CALL HER HERE NOW.

I WAS SAYING THAT MAYBE WE COULD DO IT LATER.

YEAH, SO NOW YOU'RE CONSIDERING MY SUGGESTION... BUT YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD ME EARLIER. YOU KNOW I'VE ALREADY SELECTED THE MODELS FOR THIS SHOOT.

YEAH, WE CAN!



MEETING ROOM
会議室





I HEARD THAT MR. RAMOS IS LAUNCHING HIS NEW PROJECT NEXT MONTH, AND HE ALWAYS ASKS FOR NEW FACES TO MODEL. WE COULD SELECT YOUR SISTER FOR IT!



YEAH, THAT WOULD BE PERFECT!

ALRIGHT, LET'S GO NOW!

4 April

sun	mon	tue	wed	thu
30	31	1	2	3
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20	21	22	23	24

I NEED TO GIVE THIS
FILE TO MRS. BETTY FIRST.

I REALLY DON'T WANT TO SEE HER
FACE AGAIN. I'LL JUST WAIT OUTSIDE.



YES, I'VE CREATED A SEPARATE FILE FOR EACH PROPOSAL.

DID YOU INCLUDE ALL THE CLIENT DETAILS AND PROPOSALS IN THIS FOLDER?

HMM, WHAT ABOUT THE MARLIN GROUP FILE?





THERE'S STILL SOME DATA I NEED TO UPDATE IN IT.

OKAY, AND UM, BETTY, I WANT TO ASK, ARE YOU REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID EARLIER?

ABOUT JACK, YOU WANT HIM TO START WORKING WITH THE COMPANY NOW?

TRY TO FINISH IT TODAY AND SEND IT TO ME BY EMAIL AS SOON AS IT'S DONE.

I'VE SAID A LOT OF THINGS, WHICH ONE ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

OBVIOUSLY, I'M SERIOUS ABOUT IT.



DON'T YOU THINK WE SHOULD WAIT UNTIL AT LEAST AFTER HE FINISHES HIGH SCHOOL? HE'S STILL SO YOUNG. HE SHOULD BE ENJOYING HIS LIFE, NOT TAKING ON WORK PRESSURE.

HE'S YOUNG, NOT A KID. IT'S ACTUALLY A GOOD FOR HIM TO START TAKING ON RESPONSIBILITY. AND IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GOING OVERLOAD HIM WITH WORK.

MAY I COME IN?



OH, EMMA,
IS IT ALL DONE?

YES, MAM! PLEASE CHECK
IT AND LET ME KNOW IF THERE
IS ANYTHING THAT NEEDS TO
BE ADJUSTED.



NO, THAT'S ENOUGH!
YOU'VE ALREADY WORKED
OVERTIME TO GET THE FILE
DONE.

YEAH, THANKS FOR
YOUR HARD WORK TODAY. YOU
SHOULD HEAD HOME NOW.

AFTER EMMA LEFT...



SO, I'M ASSUMING THERE'S NOTHING GOING ON BETWEEN YOU TWO.

COME ON, BRO, DO YOU PLAN TO TAKE THINGS FURTHER WITH HER, OR ARE YOU JUST GOING TO STAY HER BOSS-TURNED-DRIVER FOREVER?



I-I'M JUST WAITING
FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT.

DON'T WAIT TOO LONG,
OR YOU'RE GOING TO REGRET
IT LATER.

AN HOUR LATER...

BETTY MUST'VE CAUGHT
HER FLIGHT BY NOW...

HMM, I CAN'T STOP THINKING
ABOUT WHAT SHE SAID BEFORE
LEAVING...





SHOULD I TELL EMMA
HOW I FEEL ABOUT HER?

BUT WHAT IF SHE DOESN'T
FEEL THE SAME WAY? SHE'S NEVER
GIVEN ME ANY HINT...



I'VE KNOWN HER FOR SO LONG,
YET IT FEELS LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING
GOING ON INSIDE HER THAT SHE DOESN'T
WANT TO SHARE WITH ANYONE.



WHAT'S THAT?

THAT'S EMMA'S DESK,
SHE PROBABLY FORGOT IT.

TO BE CONTINUED...