

## Every time I See an Alarm Clock I Remember Something Vol 1:

### Chapter 2: The New Enrollee

Sigh\*

“The dinner that Grandma prepares is always the best.”

It’s what Ichinose-san said while we are upstairs heading to our room. I really agree with her to that, it’s because Grandma’s cooking is really one of the best. Somehow her cooking adds additional flavoring and spices to my life. If she weren’t there, then I think I would never feel this kind of pleasure every day.

I’m really lucky...

The two of us entered my room as I turned on the lights. I think Ichinose-san have no room for her yet. That’s why she will come again and sleep over.

“Ichinose-san; I’ve already talked to Grandma regarding your enrollment.”

“Really; thank you so much Hana-san.”

I smiled contentedly after hearing that simple thank you coming from her. It seemed like we really are getting along.

“You know, Ichinose-san; you’re such a bother to Grandma, actually she was really shocked after hearing that you’re not enrolled yet. Do you know that she worried so much for you after knowing that you cannot attend class this day?”

I bluntly said to her. I know that she's not kind of an emotional person, that's why even saying those blunt and straightforward words will not really affect her at all.

"Really..,"

What's this, I really can't understand her. I perhaps thought that she'll not take those words seriously, but somehow this time she's in the verge of tears. This situation really makes me the antagonist.., she really is the worst. Her personality isn't consistent at all.

But that teary eyes of her looks absolutely cute.

Thus; suddenly some thoughts entered my mind.

Probably she became upset getting to the point that she's about to cry is because other people just got involved. Yeah; that might be the reason, when I suddenly left her at school to attend the classes, I really played that part of a villain to her; I thought that I might've hurt her feelings. But then it turned out to be the opposite resolution, she ignored those hurting words coming directly from my foul mouth and turned out like there's nothing happened. There's still a possibility that she assumed that I'm not serious that time, but the situation between her and Grandma is different. I think she doesn't want to be a heavy burden to anyone.

Well; I think the last sentence that I've said contradicts to what is really happening, it's because she's already classified as a burden in this household by literally letting her stay. That's only for my opinion I guess, because I think Grandma's point of view is different. Maybe she isn't treating Ichinose-san's stay as a burden. After all; she's also taking good care of me as her Granddaughter despite my parent's distance from them. I guess I can say that Ichinose-san and I is a burden in this house.

As I was thinking about those, Ichinose-san is still having that cute and pitiful teary eyes. So; what really else could I do..., I need to make her calm of course; or else my precious time will be wasted.

"It's only a joke Ichinose-san;"

Upon hearing what I've said while I am still preparing the stand of my telescope, she surprisingly stayed calm faster than I could expect. Well; at least it's settled.

Finally I'm done for my preparation. I finally placed my long telescope to its stand as its lens were sharply pointed. I opened the window of my room so that my telescope will have a vivid sight or vision. It's not even cloudy night; so I guess this is just the right time of the season.

"..."

It seems like Ichinose-san is quite intrigued of what I'm doing. Maybe she can also find me as a weird person, I don't actually really care. If she happens to say that I'm weird, then who is her to say that to me? If I'm weird, then she is also weird; so I think we're even.

And so; Ichinose-san asks:

"What's that thing that's keeping you busy?"

"Ah; these.., I'm just doing my daily observation."

"Daily observations?"

"Oh; you still haven't know. I'm making my daily observation about aliens."

"Aliens.., huh;"

Upon hearing this; she averted her eyes from me and suddenly made a glance.

"-You're weird."

"You're the one to talk!"

I quickly responded, I would really take that one as an insult. A grave insult for the reason that she's not even seeing herself as weird. Well; I guess this time I can really say that she's stupid.

"Oh; so that's why you questioned me if there have been great proofs and discoveries about aliens. Thinking back then; I felt like I might've hurt your feelings."

She says as I was looking up the starry night sky.

"That might be true but, you can always have the right to change our own future right? First of all, I don't believe the saying that in this world, everything are fated to happen from the moment you've had your existence. I can say that this'll be surely a tough work to handle, but regardless of that, I'll still do everything that I can. And if it happens to be that I'm mistaken, I guess you'll let me use your time machine. We're friends after all."

Yeah; that's right, It may be so unrealistic but, I think she came here for that purpose.

But suddenly;

"You can't!"

She suddenly replied as fast and as loud as she could.

Just by looking at that expression I know that she's serious from what she's saying. But I don't think that she's right from saying that, I thought that I'm the cynical and arrogant person here. But this time it seemed like she's also becoming one, that's why this time, let's say that I'll be blunt.

"But that means you're being selfish right?"

As I said this, she quickly replied.

**“That’s true but, it isn’t exactly like that. Time machine is supposedly the worst invention that has been created in the future. That’s why; the persons who are using those can also be called as the worst.”**

**What does she mean by that? She’s absolutely insulting herself from that point of view. For sure she has her own reasons, but; perhaps she’s way too overboard. How can she call herself a “worst”? Now; that I think about it; this time I’m sure that she’s been keeping secrets. But unfortunately, I’m not the kind of person who wants to dig personal lives of the others despite my ever growing curiosity. I guess my curious side and cynical side really conflicts with each other.**

**So this time, I decided to leave that topic behind. I didn’t reply after that. Thus, I carefully looked at the lens of my telescope to have my daily observation. Huhh.., seemed like this time is just like some other times. There’s no any abnormal occurrence, maybe what Ichinose-san said is true. No!! That’s not the thing that I should be thinking about, if I kept of thinking about it, I’ll just feel bad of myself and then give up.**

**And I know that that shouldn’t be the option that I’ll choose, or else I’ll just turn out to be the loser.**



**“Hana-san; wake up!”**

**Oh; someone’s keep on saying my name. But what should I respond? Should I welcome her first? Or should I just ignore her....**

**Of course I’ll ignore her.**

**“Hana-san get up or else we’ll be late!!”**

That voice is quite bothersome. It's irritating down my nerves. This time it feels like she's moving my body all over.., what the heck!! Such a drag. She said that we'll be late.

Ahh..,

So it's morning already. That voice could be coming from Ichinose-san. She's such a bother to my good night rest.

I slowly opened my eyes as my vision is still quite blurry. Oh; I thought it's morning already but why is it still dark?

"Hana-san; wake up.."

I suddenly wake up; while slowly scratching my eyes. I'm still feeling drowsy. Ahh.., where does Ichinose-san get that energy? Seemed like she's already fully awakened. But what's this; it's still all dark. Maybe it rained last night, I don't really remember.

I slowly get up and stretched my arms wide as she quickly grasped my hand and take me to the bath room.

"I've already prepared the bath for you Hana-san."

"Thanks'."

Huh, I just unknowingly thanked her. I'm still spaced out; maybe?

Just by looking at her appearance; I'm certainly sure that she's already prepared to go to school, perhaps she's way too excited. But I really don't know if she's excited on entering school or because of the start of her mission to find her father. Why am I thinking about those really, first of all she didn't have to choose all along. I'm sure she's excited to do both of it. By looking at that school uniform of her which is the same as mine really makes me uneasy.

Starting this day; she'll enter the school where I'm enrolled in. This is such a trouble in the making.

To check things out, I returned to my room and removed the curtain of my window to have a vivid view.

"Huh;"

It's like this drowsiness was all released from my body.

Of course it will!!! It's because it isn't raining at all!! It's just way too early in the morning!!! This is way tooooooo overboard than way too overboard. If you know what I mean.

I suddenly turned my head to her while she's still waiting at my room's entrance.

"Ichinose-san; you're bothersome."

I just can't think of any words that can describe her. But I'm sure that it's in the middle of being stupid and bothersome.

"I'm sorry but; this is just the time when I usually get up on bed."

"-then don't compare myself to you."

Oh I remembered this might be also the same time when she made such noise just by preparing the bath yesterday. No; I guess I'm wrong, this time might be earlier. As I sat down my bed, held my blanket, and about to get back to sleep, she quickly holds again my hand with her face casted downwards.

What is she really up to again?

Then with full of hesitation she said.

“I have a favor to ask so please.”

“...”

I couldn't really comprehend what she meant by that. But I'm sure this'll be trouble that's why I will refuse.



Here we are again, why didn't I refuse to her. Am I really that strange when it comes to Ichinose-san? Am I too considerate to her stubbornness? Well; I can't even tell to myself either.

So; here we are walking; more appropriately already headed towards our school this early in the morning. I don't know what's up to Ichinose-san, but why did I really accepted her favor despite that I don't have any knowledge of what she's up to?

“So; at last we're here.”

She suddenly said; thus; I observed myself on the same spot where I met her. It's the sunflower fields. Now; what'll she do? Ah... I got it, maybe she's gonna have again her maintenance to her time machine perhaps?

No; it's different, because if she does, then she would have quickly gone to the crash-landing site by now. For what I see, it seemed like she's waiting for something or someone?

Huh!! Is she waiting from a friend that also comes from the future 26 years from now?

That's an absolute possibility. Perhaps she wants to find some alliance to make her mission easier and faster.

"Here it comes..."

As I heard this from Ichinose-san, I see her smiling. Could my theory turn out to be the exact result? Then I should be prepared to welcome them if necessary; what a waste of time.

But before I knew it, I found out that my theory is wrong all along. She isn't waiting for a comrade or an ally who can assess her. She's just waiting for this, yes; this overly respected time of each and every Japanese people. This country isn't really called as the "Land of the Rising Sun" without it.

Yup., I knew that everyone knows what I mean. She indeed came here to see her father, but that doesn't mean that she should miss this beautiful scenery right? Even I myself can admit that I'm really impressed.

It's because the beautiful sunrise is what I'm talking about.

Now; I came to realize to myself that I haven't seen that for a while; I happens to always wake up late most of the time since I transferred to Kyoto and stayed at Grandma's. So; I guess this is really worth to wake up early in the morning.

The sunrise gives me a smile on my face that could be carried for all day long. But when I watched Ichinose-san, of course that smile on her face is the best. I'm sure that she's treasuring this very moment. So even a beautiful sunrise is a rare occurrence in the future? Thinking about that just gives me the chills down my spine.

But; regardless of that I also just want to think of this very moment where there's no any big and tough problem to be handled.

Yeah, right;

I don't need to think of the past, I don't need to think of the future, I just need to live the present with a smile. After all; everything revolves in the present right?

The sunrise was ever beautiful than I'd imagined. It's like there's a perfect world beyond that vast horizon. It's like the world is really so huge; it's really strange. The clouds as well as the skies were gold and shiny. Everything was filled with radiance, and that feeling just gives me a bright welcome to start this day.

"Okay!!"

I said with my hands tightly closed. I guess I'm really fired up. Then, Ichinose-san faced my direction as I continued.

"-let's make this day successful Ichinose-san,"

"Hmhm!!"

She nods as the same time she smiled.

I've come to think about it, this is really the start of our mission to find Ichinose-san's father around school. Ah.., I don't know whether this'll be fun or kind of a trouble.



We finally arrived at school as we directly came over to the faculty room to know Ichinose-san class. Grandma really is so reliable when it comes to these times. She really is the best.

And so, Ichinose-san was informed as she left the faculty room. Actually I just waited for her at the entrance. She seem kind of amused and excited.

"So; what class are you in?"

“huh.., oh; the teacher said that I’m designated on class 1-C.”

Is she serious..? That’s also my class, so it means that I’ll get along with her for most of the time? What if she’ll ruin my image there? No, she can’t be in my class. I absolutely don’t want that. But this time; how will I respond?

Yeah right; there’s no need to think about it; I just need to express what’s on my mind.

“Ehh.., that’s really hard for me. So now we’re in the same class. Hopefully you’ll not be troublesome Ichinose-san.”

After hearing those words, Ichinose-san seemed like a bit disappointed to herself, probably she’s treating herself again as a burden to me. But really; that’s the reaction I wanted to see; I’m really wicked I guess.

After several minutes of strolling, we finally reached our classroom which is located at the second floor of the first year’s school building. My classmates saw her; I’m definitely sure that she’s the topic of our class recently; probably I think right until now.

“-So she’s Ichinose-san;”

“-She’s really beautiful than I’ve imagined.”

“-Ah.., another enrollee..”

Those are simply comments coming from my boring and plain classmates. The group suddenly came after to Ichinose-san, ignoring me of course. Then, I suddenly came to look at my classmate who happens to talk to me behind the school building yesterday. Oh; poor little thing, he can’t even take a proper look to Ichinose-san because of the crowd. He was just there; having his seat while watching the suddenly anxious Ichinose-san from a distance. Then I suddenly waved my hand to grab his attention.

Upon watching me, I suddenly smiled evilly as I'm conveying to him that he somehow lost the first approach. My actions insulted him; Fu fu fu., this is really fun.

After remembering about Kyouhei-san, I happens to look around to find him. I looked at the unoccupied seat in front of mine. He wasn't there, maybe he's gonna be late. After I looked around for him, it seemed like the student before took a glance to me, having a very suspicious gaze.

And so, the homeroom finally started as Kyouhei-san rushed inside our classroom. It's good that he isn't absent. I'm relieved for a little. But what's this, it's kind of weird, I think someone's looking at me...

Ignoring that feeling around, Ichinose-san started to write her full name in kanji form on the blackboard.

Wow; a perfect dé jà vu. This might be exactly what happened yesterday during Kyouhei-san's introduction.

"Nice to meet you all; I'm Ichinose Airi, and I wanted to tell all of you something very important."

What does she mean by that.., could it be...

"I'm a time traveler; actually I came here to find my father. Right now.. I'm living together with Hana-san in order to achieve that goal."

Surely I'm wearing a terribly worried facial expression that time. What is she doing? I don't even know that she'll try to introduce her true self in public. I really can't tell what's on her mind, she always comes up with different unexpected things.

The entire class all around me really can't comprehend on what she said. Thus; after finding out that I'm living together with her, they all agreed for one reason behind Ichinose-san's words. They concluded that Ichinose-san has an eight-grader syndrome just like me. Well; I really can't agree to them, first of all; this behavior of mine isn't because of a syndrome or something, they just can't understand for who I am that's why they came up to that freaking idea. But I think this time, I'll let that reasoning on..., it's for the better; I'm sure of it.

After that introduction, Ichinose-san tried to find an available seat. Luckily; Kyouhei-san already occupied the seat near mine. This time I'm pretty sure that she'll not be close to me. At least she can only bother me during lunch break and after school., yeah; that's more like it. I knew that she's just an airhead, and perhaps she'll just distract me while in the middle of the lecture, that's why this time, I suddenly felt relieved.

But this isn't just right. Though her seat is far from mine, it just turned out that her seat is nearby that student having some attention or feelings (maybe?) towards her. It means that she isn't safe from that guy. I'm sure that he'll take that situation as a chance to make a move. There's no doubt about it; because the first time I saw him talked about Ichinose-san, I know that he's serious.

I'm watching that guy with his face light-reded., He's really taking advantage of this...

But I've got no options this time; I guess there's nothing that I can do.



After the first period, I wanted to talk to Kyouhei-san. I wanted to continue our broken conversation yesterday, I really wanted to share more regarding both of our experiences in our daily life. Perhaps I would have really missed him., this time; I wanted to talk to him even more.

I was about to approach him when Ichinose-san suddenly came over.

“Hana-san; I was looking for the girls restroom but I just can’t find it.”

What a wrong timing, but looks like I also need to go to the restroom either. Even though I didn’t ask for help to others on finding the girl’s restroom on my first day, I think I’ll be considerate to Ichinose-san. Maybe I started treating her as a kid before I knew it. That could be the reason why I still have this little bit of temper inside of me.

Both of us headed to the restroom as I happens to cross again that student who dragged me all along behind the school building. He kept on gazing at me, he’s quite insulting this time. Oh; despite we introduced each other at class, I really couldn’t remember his name. Actually I don’t remember any of them from the class. Kyouhei-san and Ichinose-san is an exception of course. Perhaps I would address that guy a name... He’s always keeping a gaze towards me; that’s why..., perhaps I’ll call him...

“The Wicked Eye”; I guess; oh; it’s like a character from an anime.

The two of us entered the restroom as I watches my face on a mirror. I just came to realize; did I really changed compared back then? From watching myself on the mirror, I really can’t help myself but to be embarrassed. When will these breasts get bigger? I suddenly believed that your breasts will be bigger once you entered high school. Looking back then; when exactly did I believe on that information?

Uhhgh.., this just makes me insecure of myself. But I really can’t believe that I’m flat-chested despite my seemingly tall height.

Then, Ichinose-san happens to get out of the cubicle as she also faces the mirror. This is quite depressing, that one really brings my flat-chested body on shame! Ichinose-san’s quite normal for her age, well; that’s really opposite from mine. I guess I’ll admit my defeat for this round.

“Let’s go; Ichinose-san.”

She followed me quickly as we headed to our next class. So; after all I still haven't spoken with Kyouhei-san.



And so; before I knew it to myself; voila!!!

The second period was finally over; at last I can have a talk to Kyouhei-san....

Well;

I guess not really for now right after that guy I named as "The Wicked Eye" came to approach me. First Ichinose-san and now him.., this is really a drag.

Before the two of us heads out; Ichinose-san happens to look a thorough gaze upon me. This is really an absolute dé já vu. Or rather, it's kind of a reversed one. It's because "The Wicked Eye" was the one who was gazing at me on the first period while this time it's Ichinose-san.

As expected; the two of us headed behind the school building. He's not really good for searching other places to have a little chat huh; Really; what is he up to this time. If it's for asking some help regarding Ichinose-san then surely I would refuse. First of all; I don't want that "Wicked Eye" to take Ichinose-san, Ichinose-san has a goal that she wants to achieve. So I won't let her be distracted on achieving that goal.

After thinking so; a single thought suddenly came up through my mind...

After achieving Ichinose-san's goal; what'll she do?

Just thinking about those had given me an unexpected feeling of being worried. For thinking that she'll leave someday huh;

Sigh\*

Did my heart turned soft after all?

“So she really is a time traveler...”

Talk about wrong timing; he suddenly crossed while I am still thinking of something interesting. Most of all; the words that he have spoken don't really have a sense. But I guess I'll play.

“So you believe me now;”

“The Wicked Eye” made a single laugh as he said.

“Hah.., so you really admit it that you're the person behind Ichinose-san's eight-grader syndrome...”

What is he talking about? His reasoning is incorrect at all. More specifically; it really doesn't make sense.

“I've got it; this conversation has no point to go... I'm leaving.”

I turned around as I treads back to our class.

“-you have feelings for Koudai-san right?”

I suddenly stopped. Then I turned my head around as I sharply stared at him.

“huh..”

I really wondered; how come did he came up to that resolution? He's really a jerk. An absolute waste of time. Now; I'm a hundred percent sure to myself that he doesn't deserve to be called as Ichinose-san's lover in the future.

Somehow; those two have similarities at all. In other words; they are both an airhead. A type of person who comes up to a certain idea without any basis.

That expression really came out of nowhere. But still; he's still having a very confident smile painted all over his face. And that.... Is really really irritating.

Honestly; I don't have any idea on how to respond to his stupidity, perhaps I knew that he'll never understand me?

"So now you're at loss for words... By analyzing that action just gives me a direct hint. You really have direct feelings for him don't you?"

Huhhh!!!!!! So now the way I adjusted to his stupidity just made things all worse!!! He's really getting down to my nerves!!!

"I really don't get you at all. How come you've jumped to that conclusion? Where's your basis? What's your proof? Come on, tell me; I'm sure just knowing about those from you makes me feel sick."

Thus, "The Wicked Eye" drastically looked at me..., seemingly confident of his following answer.

"You're always looking at him right? I was always watching you straight..., you always want to have a talk with him yet you always fail to do so. Isn't that right? Hana-chan?"

So he's the person behind all of it. He's really worth to be called as "The Wicked Eye" because of his wickedness on stalking other people's life. So he's the person responsible for my consistent uneasiness from first period up to now. I felt like that there's always someone who's looking at me from behind..., knowing that he's the one doing it makes me feel numb.

Most of all, his final statement makes my good day turn into a worst nightmare. He just called me Hana-chan. That one really insulted me all the way. But I'm a smart and well-educated person, so I won't let this stupid student affect me.

I just turned around and casted my head downwards, then I gave him a very intimidating gaze.

"Stupid;"

Then I followed with a low voice while looking down the ground.

"-The Wicked Eye."

After finishing that statement was my quick exit. But really, "The Wicked Eye" doesn't know how to give up as he shouted.

"Hey! We aren't finished talking yet. Running away just makes my suspicion even higher! So until now you really can't comprehend to yourself what you're feeling to someone important for you!"

I heard these while still walking away. I just ignored him... that's my actual attitude after all. Huh., he really can't understand what he's saying., I know even to myself that I don't have any feelings for Kyouhei-san, he really is just jumping to conclusions.

Phew., what an absolute waste of time. Initially; I really hate those people who jumps to conclusions on other person's life..., they will just be a bother to anyone. But I think what I just said definitely reflected back to me., it's because I also jumped to conclusions regarding Ichinose-san. Supposedly I guess our situation was different back then, perhaps my sudden judgment of her personality was due to my sudden disappointment of her being a time traveler instead of an alien.



Before I know it, I finally returned to my classroom and be seated while my face is resting down my palm. Ichinose-san seemed worried about what just happened as she kept on staring at me from a distance. I know that she wanted to approach me, but unfortunately the homeroom was about to start. I really don't know why; but I think what that "The Wicked Eye" said really affected me, he really is kind of annoying, and for sure we'll never get along even if time passes.

Then I suddenly noticed, Kyouhei-san isn't here, where did he go; really... Oh I get it, he also needs to take a rest. Probably he's alone this time, I remembered the first time I met him, he was alone while reading a book about aliens under the shades of the tree. I guess that became his daily routine until now; whenever he has a spare time to be alone, he always takes that as an opportunity to feel the freedom of doing all that he wants. He's just like me, so maybe that's the reason why we can get along.

While still having those thoughts, Kyouhei-san finally returned as I watches him. I'm glad; he hasn't changed at all. That feeling gave me a little smile.

"..."

That smile quickly changed into frustration right after I saw his face again.

"The Wicked Eye" was right behind Kyouhei-san as he's trying to convey an irritating message behind his facial expression. I knew it! His suspicion furtherly increased upon assuming that he caught me in the act while carefully staring at Kyouhei-san.

This is getting worse...,

No;

It's not; I would rather say that.... "He's getting worse."

Where did he get that confidence? He's definitely a fool..., I wonder what'll he do from now on. That feeling is making me unease. What if he spread a rumor about me and Kyouhei-san? Grrr.., If he does that I'll surely serve him a worst countermeasure.

Kyouhei-san finally seated; it seemed like he's ignoring me again, or perhaps; I think it's only my imagination; hopefully. But what's this? I felt like he's been hesitating for something. It's not that I'm assuming it but; I think Kyouhei-san wants to say something important to me yet he just can't express it.

Don't tell me... no; it can't. Of course he can't do that. This time; I'm a hundred percent sure to myself that it's only my imagination. But really; why am I imagining things...

I can't help myself but; this is gross, it's like my face turned slightly red. Then I suddenly remembered:

<< you really can't comprehend to yourself what you're feeling to someone important for you!>>

That's what "The Wicked Eye" said; Geeeeeeeeeeeeez.....!!!

This is crazy; Kyouhei-san will never have feelings towards me; right?

Hopefully it's right.

I glared at "The Wicked Eye" because he's supposed to be the only person behind these delusions of mine. What's that? "The Wicked Eye" carefully watches Ichinose-san from behind. He really is taking advantage of his seat in order to watch Ichinose-san, I get it now. He's trying to create a rumor about me so that I can give him some assistance regarding his feelings to Ichinose-san. I'm sure once he formulated that rumor, he will proceed to the part that he'll black mail me.

It's not like I'm gonna let him do that. If it's really his goal; then I'll also formulate a countermeasure which he most likely cannot easily take. I hope you'll be prepared "The Wicked Eye".



**“Something’s bothering you? Hana-san?”**

**That was Ichinose-san who quickly came to approach me after the third period. Hmm, I guess I really deserve her hospitality.**

**“Nope; there’s nothing.”**

**But then again for some reason I decided to deny the truth to her.**

**I know from the start that she’ll not understand even if I tell her. That’s why I decided to leave her be right that.**

**“...Uhhh; hey... Hana-san.”**

**I never really expected it but somehow I felt relieved after hearing that voice. A hesitating voice; yeah, that could also mean like that.**

**Kyouhei-san’s voice weren’t clear and direct; actually he had lost his composure upon saying my name. He really has something urgent to tell... I’m not sure what it is but my heart just unknowingly skips a beat. I just hope that everything will not turn out the way that I expected. After all fantasy is completely opposite to reality. I’m positive to myself that my expectations will not happen.**

**So; Sora, don’t overthink about things okay.**

**“What is it, Kyouhei-san?”**

**“-at lunch break; can we have a talk just the two of us.”**

After hearing those words from Kyouhei-san, my mind suddenly became blank. I really don't know what he's up to, I just don't have any idea. Perhaps it's about our broken conversation yesterday, hopefully it really is about that and not anything else. Just by watching that behavior, I felt like something changed in him. Our middle school days in Shioiri isn't really like this, it's like we weren't even close this time. I guess starting over again is the best solution regarding that problem. Thinking about those things just makes me nostalgic, I hope I can turn back time; though it really is possible since Ichinose-san is with me.



Lunch break just started, I already tell about Ichinose-san that I'll have a private conversation. Although she already heard Kyouhei-san a while ago, I'm just making sure to myself that she'll not go at any weird places. At least I'm relieved that she's just eating her lunch on the shades of the cherry blossoms.

So now the location happens to be the roof top. Boys these days are really weird of choosing a place to talk, this scene is getting cliché because of that reason. But that really doesn't matter, as long as I'll have an efficient conversation with Kyouhei-san, everything will be alright. I took the stairs headed to our school building's roof top. The door was closed, that's why I hesitated a bit upon opening.

Thus; I opened the door as the light pierces my entire body as I watches Kyouhei-san's back view perspective angle.

"It really feels good around these place right?"

I said to him so that I can feel calm to myself.

I watched him feeling the seemingly cold breeze left from winter. He lifted his head as it was straightly casted upwards, staring directly at the clouds of the day. I really don't know what'll happen, what I only know; is that this conversation will be a serious one as it took us to talk in private.

**“It’s been so long; Hana-san. Two years? Three years? I really don’t know, but you see; I was happy that very moment. I’m really happy being a child that time. Those are certainly good memories to be remembered right?”**

**He straightforwardly said after turning his direction towards me.**

**So he’s reminiscing the past. I absolutely understand that feeling of his. Those really are good memories worth to be done again.**

**“-but...”**

**Kyouhei-san suddenly continued with his head casted downwards.**

**What is this feeling; I felt like he’ll gonna tell something that’ll change my point of view regarding him.**

**“-I still can’t believe that you haven’t changed at all. Because; the “me” that your facing this time is different. I decided to change myself from the moment you left. To be honest; I really thought all those times that we’re together as a long minute game for just the two of us. I never thought that serious about your hobby all along.”**

**What is he saying; I really can’t get it but; even though he’s not doing a love confession, I felt like I was being dumped from what he just said. He really mean it, from what I’ve comprehend, I think that Kyouhei-san never treats my proposition in a serious way just like any other people does.**

**“I thought that everything’s a child’s play. Everything about aliens and such; I never really thought that you’re serious about it. I decided to erase that out since I started becoming a high-schooler. That’s why; I was surprised after you talk about that topic yesterday.”**

**He stopped; then he continued with a confident tone of voice:**

**“But don’t worry; we’re still friends right? Actually I don’t believe on any extraterrestrials at all; I decided to change myself. More likely; I wanted to be a realist this time. Actually; I just started to study with my new hobby; and that hobby is botany, in other words; studying about plants.”**

**I just became frozen right there;**

**SPEECHLESS....,**

**-and a little spaced out.**

**My expectations didn’t meet again to its reach. People change all along together with time. I wonder when that’ll happen to me. I can’t admit it but; I was kind of shocked by that. I never thought that he’s not really interested in aliens, well; that could really be obvious right? Only a dumb and airhead person like me could take aliens in a very serious way. Will this situation lead me to the point of quitting?**

**I don’t want that...**

**I take a deep breath as I replied...**

**“Kyouhei-san; I’m happy for you.., you can introduce that new hobby of yours to me for some time.”**

**That’s right. There’s no use if I’ll start to sulk. People just won’t stop on changing; I should accept that fact to myself. Who am I to change his decision; but no matter how I try to hide it; I still can’t hold on to this heavy feeling; I felt a little upset because of that new hobby of his.**

**Is it because I’m really anticipating for something worth remembering from him? Or is it because of these stupid expectations between the two of us.**

Any of those two has a point. But no matter what; I'll still never give up.

Right! I must say that out loud to him...

"Kyouhei-san! I know that you're working hard. Honestly I thought that we'll be together again and have fun on our further explorations, but I think that wouldn't happen. But don't worry; still I'll never give up. Someday; I'll prove you that aliens exists! I promise that."

What am I saying; thus; he smiled in front of me as he said:

"Sora; I'll keep that in mind. But I can't really get what you're saying. Always remember that even though we're not in same orbit anymore; we can still hang out to the fullest. Of course only the two of us can help each other out right?"

Though my words would be some kind of an apathetic nonsense to other people's point of view, I know to myself that I've given my best shot to let all of my feelings out. I don't care if millions of people doesn't get what I'd meant, because if that single person understands me, how stupid could I be?

I smiled at him... then I continued.

"Let's eat lunch together."

"Hmm.."

Kyouhei-san nodded as we sit next to each other while watching the vast sky. Come to think of it, he just called me by my first name just a while ago. It can't be helped; I guess it's for the better.



The class started again. As I came to my senses; I really can't imagine how I've said those words to Kyouhei-san. I felt the sudden embarrassment to myself. I'm really out of character that time.

Thus; a flash of memories came again crossing all over my mind.

<<"Kyouhei-san! I know that you're working hard. Honestly I thought that we'll be together again and have fun on our further explorations, but I think that wouldn't happen. But don't worry; still I'll never give up. Someday; I'll prove you that aliens exists! I promise that.">>

It's really embarrassing!! It's really embarrassing!!

I quickly said those continuous phrases in my mind as I can't stay calm while on my seat. I hope Kyouhei-san will not notice this behavior of mine. I was kind of blushing while my hands are covering my face with my head literally casted downwards.

Wait!! I've forgot something. What makes it worse is that what I've forgotten is the most important to look over of all.

He is not self-titled by me as "The Wicked Eye" for that one and only reason.

I turned my head towards him as fast as I could since I've realized about that fact. Certainly I'm not mistaken. This is the worst embarrassing day that'll happen to me. Did he caught me in the act? Hopefully not.

But I think my interpretation is wrong. He's gazing at me all along. Darn it! He's watching me still while showing a dissatisfied facial expression.

So Anoyyyyyyyiiiiiiiiinnnnnnnnngggggggggggg!!!!!!!!!!

I'm done. This time for sure he'll start his evil schemes. I've better prepare for it or else I'll be filled up with the entire class's rumors. That "Wicked eye" ... he's too "wicked" to begin with. If he really caught my reaction recently, I'll be sure to myself that his theories between Kyouhei-san and me will be concluded.

Though that conclusion is an absolute mistake. I'm disgusted just by imagining what scheme he'll do. His intimidating gaze is already a bad omen for me.

Oh; I remembered, how could I also forgot that one important thing. Actually today is the start of that one. Yeah; that's right..., I guess I'll talk about that to her after school. After all the entire school campus is our only hint of finding that guy.



After school...

"Ichinose-san; I think it's time for your first step of finding your father."

Ichinose-san's eyes wide-opened after hearing my convincing statement. Without a doubt, that one really made her smile wide.

"So; where do we begin. Did you bring any picture of your father? I knew that you haven't seen him yet, but I assume that you've ever seen a picture of him right?"

As I question this, she quickly moves around her head. So she haven't even seen a picture of her Dad.

"Man..., this is going to be a tough job., if we can't find any clues about his literal looks, then at least you should've questioned your mother or your aunt about a description of his appearance right? Well then Ichinose-san, please describe him to me."

“I not really sure but, I guess my father’s hair has the same color as mine., though that one is only for my opinion for the reason that my mother doesn’t have a blonde hair. That’s why I guess this hair color is what I have inherited from my father.”

What she said has a point, yet it really is not a concrete evidence. First of all, if the hair color is supposedly our hint or reference, then it will simply turn out that finding that person is quite hard. Her hair color is kind of special, I haven’t seen other students roaming around this campus with a natural hair color like that.

“-anything else Ichinose-san?”

I just can’t help but to ask for further information.

“Uhhmn., I guess my father has an eyes, a nose, lips, and ears. Don’t you think so, in other words he has a face.”

That’s obvious though., wait; she suddenly giggled for about half a second. Is her statement meant for a joke? So she’s making jokes that can just turn out to be funny because it’s so off the hook. That really, I will not be carried away by that pun.

I looked at her with a disappointed facial expression on my face. At least she knew what that facial expression meant as she stopped from looking at me with a happy face.

Actually; my face was telling this: Ichinose-san; stop playing as a comedian or else the real comedians will be absolutely discouraged. In the end, she looked down the ground and decided to take the conversation seriously.

“Actually I don’t really have any clue.”

“What about his occupation or something?”

“Why?”

**“It’s simple, there are different clubs in this school right? Example if your father happens to be a member of a band, then he could be a member of the light music club while he’s still on high school.”**

**“But...”**

**Oh; I again remembered one very obvious thing just right now. The first clue on finding her father is obviously printed on her surname. So before she answers, I suddenly crossed her.**

**“Why not we start on the students with the surname “Ichinose” first?”**

**She quickly nodded.**

**“I think that’s a good idea.”**



**And so; the mission on finding Ichinose-san’s father commenced. This is just the second day of classes that’s why the view board is still displayed clearly. Together; we searched for the name “Ichinose” from first year to third year. Luckily; we’ve only sorted for about seven students with the surname “Ichinose” while closely examining the board. Now; we just need to look for each and every person with that name. Hopefully we can find him.**

**“First: Ichinose Haru.”**

**I says so while looking at our hand written list of the names. Ichinose Haru is a first year student the same with the two of us.**

**Though that student named Ichinose Haru is a girl, we still decided to look for her in order to find some additional hints. First of all, there comes a theory inside my head that maybe the “Ichinose” that is classified as Ichinose-san’s father might be a relative of one of the**

“Ichinose’s” inside this school campus, if it were so, then Ichinose-san’s father might not yet enrolled.

There’s also a possibility that he’s a transfer student...

And thus, we went to the survival game club. But unfortunately Ichinose Haru wasn’t there anymore. Leaving that topic behind, this club is really different. All their members are holding each of their toy guns as a weapon., I’m just curious, what’s the purpose of that club?

“So the first attempt is already a fail one.”

The two of us decided to walk on the hallway while headed at the second floor of the third year school building. We are headed to the theater club in which another Ichinose is joined to.

“Her name is Ichinose Kotomi, a theater club member huh, I guess that girl is easy to talk with. Hey; Ichinose-san, if that Ichinose Kotomi happens to be a relative of your father, then what’ll you do?”

That sudden question made Ichinose-san feel unease. She was surprised from that question to come in as she honestly answered.

“Actually I don’t really know. But I’m sure that I’ll try to get along with her no matter what. Of course I will never waste my time on having hesitations. I need to find my father as soon as possible.”

What does she mean by that..? She won’t have to worry about time right? She’s a time traveler after all, actually I envy her for that capability. She can turn back time if she commits any mistake in the past. She can always remodel her future, as well as to secure her upcoming success. Honestly if I have also given the chance to travel through time, I’ll surely correct those mistakes. Upon saying so, sudden flash of memories; probably from the past, suddenly entered my entire mind.

[Those memories at the ticket check where I tightly held hands with that guy. Those memories when I hold back my tears as I watches the bullet train run off with his upset face looking at me.]

[And somehow, also those memories about them.., about I see them address a farewell with each other were in they'll only capable on seeing each other in memories only.]

Why were those memories suddenly crossed my mind? Perhaps that one could be my last regret in life, because after thinking of time traveling to correct my mistakes, those are the only things that came up to my mind.

“Hana-san... Hana-san...”

Why did my name is suddenly continuously called?

“Hana-san.., Hana-san!”

That voice became louder and louder as I came to my senses.

“Hana-san! Is something wrong?”

“N-No; not really, come on! We need to hurry or else we'll miss that girl just like the previous “Ichinose” did.

The two of us runs together while taking up the stairs. So I was spaced out that time. Maybe the reason is that it's been so long since I decided to forget those memories, yet this time, all of it just popped up like a computer virus that is suddenly spreading.

Before I knew it to myself, we are already at the front of the theater clubroom. This is way too unexpected, that clubroom is quite messy. I wonder why.., but I guess I need to let that aside, we have to find that “Ichinose”.

One student inside; probably a theater club member; looked at us.

“Hmnm.., what are you here for?”

“Uhmnm....”

I was about to reply but before I answer, that girl student suddenly grabbed Ichinose-san’s hand with a very cheerful facial expression.

“-I bet you’re here to join the club am I right? C’mon don’t be shy you two. Actually this club is on the stage of reincarnation!! That’s why; with the help of the two of you, that goal would be easier.”

So she misinterpreted already.

“Uhmnm.., actually that’s not the reason why we came.”

“Uhh; that’s bad then..,”

The girl felt down and afterwards gets frustrated after Ichinose-san honestly replied.

Suddenly the girl came back to her real self and questioned:

“So; what did you came here for?”

That confidence though; that girl really fits the theater club because of that confidence that seemed hard to find these days. I guess she’s the Ichinose Kotomi that we’re searching for. Setting that fact; I would naturally imagine that she’s not the “Ichinose” that we’re looking for. Her personality is way too far compared Ichinose-san, that’s the reason why I came up to that conclusion. But we won’t know; after all development of ones’ personality isn’t really inherited from a certain person. A personality is developed from time to time.

“Actually we’re searching for someone named Ichinose Kotomi from this club.”

Upon saying so, that girl; probably Ichinose Kotomi replied.

“Kotomi-chan? I guess she’s not here yet. But don’t worry she’ll be here in a minute; actually her senior questionnaire just got rejected by our homeroom teacher recently that’s why she’s been called by the faculty.”

I’ve jumped to conclusions again. That girl isn’t Ichinose Kotomi.

“Are you gonna wait for her?”

“I guess it can’t be helped. Very well; thank you....”

I’m just at loss for words.

“I’m Mikuru; Mikuru Imai.”

“Well; thanks’ Imai-senpai. We’ll just wait for her outside.”

[NOTE: the word “senpai” refers to an upperclassman or superior.]

“Just call me Mikuru-chan; I’m not that old to be formally respected. And most importantly please come inside.”

“O-Okay;”

And so; we entered as we’ve insisted to do so. I think Imai-senpai; I-I mean Mikuru-chan; is it really right to address her as sweet as that!! Leaving that one aside; I think she really is a trustworthy person. With me jumping to conclusions again; but I think she’s the club president of the theater club. Actually there really is no one else who can fit with that role. Huh..., actually at some point in my life I’ve also wanted to be someone like her. A type of person where other people can rely on.

“My apologies; this room is still disorganized.”

After saying so; I observed the entire interior of that room. It is really messy indeed. I can still feel the dust that might heavily spread whenever a strong wind passes by. That’s maybe the

reason why all of its windows were tightly closed. There are also boxes placed everywhere, inside those are supposedly costumes used by the previous members that might've graduated. Come to think of it; though it's literally too far to keep in mind; but the word "graduation" suddenly entered in my thoughts. Graduation huh.., sounds fun; regardless of that; it also sounds lonely. For the reason that the word "Graduation" comes up with the concept of "success" and "achievement" as well as the concept of "farewell" and "part ways".

And so; speaking of part ways; I suddenly remembered Kyouhei-san and our last goodbye at summer in the ticket check of the train station. At least we've seen again each other right? But if in terms of Ichinose-san; when time suddenly comes that we part ways; will I ever see her again? Once she achieves her goal, will she bid a farewell just like a graduating student?

I still can't visualize those things inside me. I guess I just need to wait for "Time" to answer.

"So; why are you finding Kotomi-chan?"

Upon questioning with furrowed brows, I replied.

"Uhhm I guess it's a personal matter Imai-senpai; I-I mean Mikuru-chan."

"Huh; so you're addressing me with "senpai" again.., well; if it really is a personal matter; then I can't do anything about it I guess."

Actually addressing her as "senpai" is really intended to divert her attention from that topic. Though it turned out that it isn't successful, still I'm relieved to know that she's not the type of person who digs in to personal life of the others. She really is dependable.

As far as anyone can comprehend; but after that conversation was the total silence. No one of us have spoken since then. Ichinose-san and I just sit there at the corner of that quadrilateral shaped room while waiting for Ichinose Kotomi.

And minutes after that monologue, Imai-senpai decided to speak. And so; I decided to address her as Imai-senpai inside my thoughts while I'll call her Mikuru-chan when I said it aloud.

"I guess Kotomi-chan is way too late from what I'm expecting. Again; I'm sorry for the inconvenience you two. Oh come to think of it, I haven't ask for your names yet."

"Oh sorry; our apologies as well. By the way, I'm Hana Sora."

"-and I'm Ichinose Airi."

"So I'll address you as Sora-chan while the other one is Ai-chan."

Of course I knew all along that the way she'll address me will be like that that's why I anticipated that Ichinose-san will react.

"She called you Sora-ch...."

So before she finishes her sentence I tried to stop her by covering her mouth. It would be a trouble once Imai-senpai assumes that I hate her by addressing me with "-chan".

"-it's okay for me if a senpai is the one who addresses me by my first name."

I whispered to Ichinose-san's ear.

But that unnecessary action still bothered Imai-senpai.

"Is something wrong?"

"No., not really;"

I said with a curled left eyebrow as well as a contorted grin.

I guess she really knew that there's something wrong, our unnecessary actions made that very obvious actually. But despite that, she decided to never interfere with our own problem. Then, she casted her face downwards with a calm but serious facial expression.

"Sora-chan; Ai-chan.., this is just some simple advice from a senpai like me. Both of you are just first years right? At that stage of your life, you must live to the fullest. Just always remember to take life easy. Learn from your mistakes, attain the hardships to find for success. And most importantly figure out the path that you'll take. You need to balance things up. Have time for fun and enjoyment as well as ways to achieve or somehow search for your dream. That's the most important thing that I've found out about youth. Actually Kotomi-chan is struggling from that problem by now. She just can't figure out what she'll do in the future. She has many choices but; she just can't stick to a single dream. Unlike me, I'm already way to go to college, I already have a path to take, a destination to my ticket of life."

Yeah right. What she just said has a point. Until now I just can't rest assured if my hobby would really get me far from who I am right now. Actually that uneasiness of thinking about the future increased after knowing from Ichinose-san that there haven't any big discoveries found about aliens 26 years from now. If that happens to be the real future that awaits me, will I still survive inside the jungle called "society"? I don't have any hobbies that could be somehow converted into passion except from that. So that really makes me worried, will I just become a NEET in the end?

"At least you're free to choose the path that you'll take for anytime if you don't have a dream yet right?"

Those sudden words coming from Ichinose-san just lighted this dark side of me with hope. Me and Imai-senpai's eyes wide-opened. We really didn't expect that straightforward answer from a straightforward girl. But despite that, I still can't deny to myself that Ichinose-san's words settled my problems for a bit.

"I guess you're also right about that Ai-chan. I hope Kotomi-chan will also see what you're pointing at. Fu fu.., fu."

Imai-senpai says so followed with laughter.

It's true, that Ichinose-san never really fails to give me the things that I'm not expecting. I just hope she really know what she's saying. But honestly, what she said is right. Only you can choose for the path that you'll take. Everything still depends on your decision. Though those words contradicts to what really happens on other people, it still can be attained if you believe in yourself, treating life as a once in a lifetime experience to enjoy every second of breathing is one way to have a strength and will to defend what you really wanted to do.

"Oh come to think of it, Ai-chan, you have the same surname with Kotomi-chan. Are you blood related?"

That sudden curiosity was triggered from Imai-senpai's mind.

"Not at all really; actually..., how could I explain this; actually I'm a time tra..,"

I quickly made a sharp gaze towards Ichinose-san to prevent her on saying those words. And yet, fortunately she stopped.

This is not really a place to talk about that Ichinose-san, everything that you'll say is just totally absurd for Imai-senpai's point of view. I believe that senpai is a realist. She'll never believe such incredible things.

Sigh\*

Imai-senpai sighed.

"I guess it can't be helped. I know that there's something important about your future conversation with Kotomi-chan. But still, always remember that the two of you aren't the only persons which are gonna be involved to this."

What does she really meant by those words? Thinking about it is hard.., of course other people is gonna be involved. After all the very first person that got involved with this problem is me. But really; I should've just refused, because if I do so, I would be home right now while preparing with my daily alien observation.

Because of it, I decided to look for the exact time. I don't have a watch, but Imai-senpai has one wearing on her right wrist. It was a digital watch with a blue colored body or frame. It is nearly dark actually, for my guess I think it's going to be 18:00. We should get home before I

make grandma worry. I guess I'll benefit in regards with it because I can somehow start my alien observation.

"Uhhmm, Mi-Mikuru-, chan? What time is it?"

I was hesitating; I'm really not used to address Imai-senpai like that.

"That sounds better Sora-chan."

She says in a pleasing voice. Then she looked for the time of her watch.

"It's 5:46PM already, are you sure you'll still wait for her?"

"I guess we can."

I answered. Of course we'll wait for Ichinose Kotomi. We've waited long enough for her, that's why if we leave by now, I guess those times for waiting will be wasted.

"Don't worry; I assure you that Kotomi-chan will return soon."

I still don't know if I'll trust those words. Really! How long will she be reprimanded by the teachers regarding her senior questionnaire.

"Um; I just heard my name..., what's happening Mikuru-chan?"

That voice was new within my mindset. It came from the outside, which means; that voice probably came from Ichinose Kotomi. Yeah right; I was sure from what I've anticipated after I turned around to look and search for that soft voice. So at last, Ichinose Kotomi-san returned. It must have been a tough or somehow a hard time hanging around with those teachers from the faculty. Hopefully she'll still hear us out.

"So you're finally here Kotomi-chan. actually these two freshmen was waiting for you. They said that they wanted to talk to you for something..., they really don't want to share it to me. Hey; that sounds something fishy right?"

What is Imai-senpai talking about? Is this all a part of her play? I first assumed that she's the type of person who never tries to dig in to other people's life. But I think this time I was quite mistaken, so she really is very curious about it after all. Now; for sure Kotomi-san will have doubts about our true intention.

"Don't worry Mikuru-chan, it's not like we're hiding something, we don't really care if we tell our intention right in this place."

What are you saying Ichinose-san..., this might just fall us into trouble.

Oh.., now that we're actually in this situation I was kind of speechless. What are the questions that we will ask? I tapped Ichinose-san's arm with my elbow as I whispered to her.

"Hey.., what are we supposed to ask right now? By the way.., what's the name of your father?"

"His name? oh..., actually his name is Kyouhei; Ichinose Kyouhei."

That was again so sudden that it turned me speechless in front of her. So her father's name is Kyouhei; pretty much the same as the name of Kyouhei-san. Wait;

My eyes just wide-opened for at least half a second.

Now I know why her face is kind of familiar for me. It's not that I've seen her exact face in the past. I'm really not sure but.., if you come to have a closer examination, you'll find out that Ichinose-san's face resembles with Kyouhei-san's. Does that mean Kyouhei-san is Ichinose-san's father? I still don't have the support of evidences that'll prove my theory. But for me, that's absolutely not a normal occurrence that could easily disregard. I know that all of it has a possibility.

"Hana-san?"

“...”

I just heard that she's calling my name. I might've spaced out again.

“I'm sorry.”

But I guess it can't be helped. I mustn't jump again to conclusions. Right now, I must first make sure to myself that Kotomi-san isn't related to her father before I can proceed to my next stage of my personal investigation.

“Kotomi-san; do you know someone with the name Ichinose Kyouhei?”

Upon saying so, it seemed like Kotomi-san is bothered. What's the meaning of this? If I'm sort of a detective, I would easily conclude that her unnecessary reaction from my question is a huge mark that she knows something. What does she know about that someone who is addressed as “Ichinose Kyouhei”? Is she a close relative of him? That might be the reason behind her reaction.

“Uhhmm...,”

Now she was kind of scared while interlacing her fingers with her head casted downwards. If this is again a mystery novel or some kind of a detective story, then I could say that she really is hiding something. Just from a kind of reaction like that, I could just say directly to her that she's the culprit. But really; if she really is a part of Ichinose-san's father, then I am also relieved for saying that my theory is wrong.

“Sorry guys but..., I forgot to tell you that Kotomi-chan is not really good of having conversations especially to the persons whom she doesn't know yet.”

I was suddenly frustrated to myself for hardly thinking about her reaction. So she just don't know how to respond!!! What does she think about us? Is she treating us as a total stranger whom she'll never trust? Seriously..., now I have doubts why she's member of the theater club. Having an efficient conversation is simply a basic requirement for a theater club member, a proper communication is the key to a good theater performance after all. So why doesn't she have that quality? Perhaps she's the reason why the theater club got disbanded.

**“Don’t take it too harsh Kotomi-chan, the answer is just “yes” or “no” right?**

**That’s right Imai-senpai, try to properly explain it to her.**

**“Uhhmm..., “no”. I’m sorry but; I don’t know a person named “Ichinose Kyouhei”.**

**That’s the only answer that I’m expecting. Although that “no” means that our approach happens to end up again to another failure, at least I’m sure to myself that we can call it a day. Ichinose-san felt a little upset about her answer, I guess I should also be upset about it, it’s because we’ve just wasted our time waiting for nothing. But speaking of “nothing”, our approach with her isn’t useless at all, at least we can finally enter the next step of finding her father. Our next target will be “Ichinose Futaba” from the broadcasting club. But I guess it’s already late to handle that matter for now.**

**I looked at Ichinose-san’s seemingly upset face.**

**“Let’s call it a day; Ichinose-san.”**

**“Okay.”**

**Ichinose-san says so; no that’s not it. More likely she replied unknowingly as she nods. I guess she’s more upset than I think she is. But really; why is she? I know that this day might be over again without any accomplishment, but she still have plenty of time right? If she is that upset does this mean that she doesn’t have much time left? Of course that would be impossible because she has her time machine that she can rely on from the start.**

**Wait; how come I’ve only figured this one out just now. She can have plenty of time if she has a time machine right? So; what if she cannot use her time machine anymore for the reason that it’s broken, then that could simply mean that those unlimited time that she could use will disappear.**

**Before I realized it to myself, I was already walking with her on the first floor’s hallway. The sunset reflected the glass window as our uniform’s color turned light red. I was following her footsteps, and watches her back-view perspective while her face is still casted downwards.**

This is the first time that I actually worried for her. She might really be desperate to find her father as soon as possible. But I think losing the capability of her time machine isn't only the problem. I'm really not sure but; judging from that worrisome sad facial expression, there really is a much bigger problem that she just cannot express either to me or to Grandma.

"Ichinose-san; put yourself together. It's not the end of the world..., this is just the start so you shouldn't be upset like that."

I said while I'm still following her footsteps.

Then she turned around.... And smiled in return.

"You're right. After all there's plenty of time."

That reply though. Even if I only met her for about two days, I just can make sure to myself that her reply isn't true at all. That wasn't the reply from the ever cheerful Ichinose-san that I've known.

"Let's work things out tomorrow okay?"

Yeah right; I'll try to cheer her up if she isn't cheerful this time.

"Okay;"

She answered with all her heart's content.



It's already 8:45PM. I was alone on my bedroom while under my daily alien observation. More like star gazing I guess, because tonight is just like any other nights. There's no any unparticular occurrence. I suddenly looked back and gazed at my entire bedroom. It has gone quiet again. Now I can say that I can have my privacy, it's because Ichinose-san finally had her own room to sleep in. At last; I can settle myself for not being much bothered.

But what is this feeling? I felt like I'm missing something. Is she that attached to me?

No;

That's not really the case to handle by now. Actually this is going to be a perfect timing to think about my personal theory. "Ichinose Kyouhei" and "Koudai Kyouhei"; just how come the two of them are related to Ichinose-san? There's no doubt about it; that Kyouhei-san's face resembles much with Ichinose-san's, in which it only increases the possibility that Kyouhei-san is Ichinose-san's father. Honestly this is getting interesting.

The surnames "Ichinose" and "Koudai". Those are the things that I need to know about first. If Kyouhei-san really is Ichinose-san's father, then the surname "Ichinose" must be related to the "Koudai" family. Right; tomorrow I'll try my best to ask if he has relatives with the surname "Ichinose". Then, if that fails, I can proceed to my further investigation regarding his hobbies, his dream, his favorites, and as well as his ideal girl. If all or most of his answers matches with my interrogation with Ichinose-san about her father, then I can come up to my conclusion.

I'll handle about it tomorrow, and also; I'll try to help Ichinose-san on repairing her time machine so that she'll never keep that upset face of hers.

I stretched out my hand.

"But first.., I need to keep my telescope before I go to bed."

Sigh\*

Well I just can't say that this day is a waste of time. After all, this happens to be the first step towards Ichinose-san's goal. And on behalf of that, there are so many things that happened which changed my friendship between Kyouhei-san. Though I still can't admit that there are many weird annoying times with "The Wicked Eye".

At least; I'm relieved that she can finally come.

The new enrollee named "Ichinose Airi".

Don't worry Ichinose-san, I'll help you on achieving your goal.

I suddenly switched my face with a serious expression.

And so; the next mission will begin.

----- END OF CHAPTER 2 -----