

The Bet

Or such a thing called Love

Von mie-van-cha

Kapitel 3: Chapter 3

"Oy, Tesshi!"

"Mh, nani?" Tegoshi turned around, facing Ryo who was heading towards him. "He had his hands dug deep inside his pockets and looked kind of shy as he finally stood in front of Tegoshi.

"I just wanted to ask..." He began and rolled his eyes to a point next to Tegoshi's right ear. He had the feeling that his heart had to beat so loud, that Tegoshi must heard it clearly. "Do...D-Do you want-t t-t-to...eh...Why am I stuttering?" Ryo grumbled and tore his hair out. "Gomen ne." he said glancing wailfully at confused Tegoshi. "I'm kinda nervous right now..."

"No problem. Try to breathe calmly. Cool down...Better?"

Ryo nodded and Tegoshi smiled. "So now, what's the matter?"

"Etoooo..."

"What do I want to?"

"Next week, ne?"

"Oh, where our concert tour starts?"

"Hm. For the hotel rooms...How do I put it? ... Koyama and Shige said we should try combinations, or something like that...And Shige paired up with Massu...And...Argh! So embarrassing~" Ryo turned his head away. He felt much more comfortable not looking into Tegoshi's innocent, sweet face. "And I always share a room with Pi...so this time..."

"What?"

Ryo took a deep breath and dug again his hands into his pockets. "Do you want to pair up with me?"

An awkward silence filled the dressing room, where the two of them were the last ones in. Ryo didn't dare to say a thing or even to look at Tegoshi. Then, after a while that Ryo thought would last forever, Tegoshi chuckled. "Sure. I don't know what's so complicated about that question, but that's no problem at all. Of course I will share a room with you."

"Hontou?" Ryo-chan whirled around, his brightest smile on the lips.

"Mh. You know I hate lies. And why should I lie to you right now?" Tegoshi laid his head to the side. "You're happy now?"

"Super happy!" Ryo answered and bore with the desire to jump up. "So it's settled?" He still couldn't believe it.

"I already said so, didn't I?"

"Yupp." Ryo grinned so much his cheeks hurt. Following a sudden impulse he hugged little Tegoshi. "Oy~" Tegoshi squealed as Ryo touched his ticklish sides. "Gomen, but I'm so happy!" Both laughed as Ryo finally let Tegoshi go. "You're weird. Totally weird today, Ryo-chan!" he said as he patted Ryo's back. "But I think that's what I like about you. Jya...I have to go now, ne~ See you!" And with this words and a last smile over his shoulders Tegoshi went out of the dressing-room. Ryo-chan was left alone with his fast-beating heart... "Yatta~~~!" he screamed and jumped into the air various times. "I did it! I really did it!"

Tegoshi just headed outside of the Jimusho, when suddenly Yamapi stepped out of a hallway.

"Oh, Pi! You surprised me!" Tegoshi said, patting his heart and jumping two steps back.

"Gomen." Yamapi answered with a serious look on his face. He really seemed to have waited for him all the time.

"No, it was just that I didn't expect you." Tegoshi smiled up to Yamapi.

"Isn't that pretty much the same?"

"Maa...I think you're right, ne?" Tegoshi admitted and scratched bashful his head. Yamapi chuckled and laid his back against a wall. "Ne, Tegoshi...I have a question."

"Nani? I am really popular today, ne?" Tegoshi laughed and didn't notice the change in Yamapi's facial expression. "You are?" he asked.

"Yes, Ryo-chan just talked to me." Tegoshi pointed backwards. "I've just left him a moment ago."

"Really? What did he want?"

"Nothing in particular." Tegoshi shrugged. "But what do you want?"

"I? I wanted to ask whether you would like to share a hotel room with me during the concert tour."

"Oh." Tegoshi made and looked sad up to Yamapi. He had the suspicion, that something was wrong between Yamapi and Ryo. Usually they would talk about what they want to do, so it was unexpected for Tegoshi, that they didn't talk about this hotel-room-thing. "I am really sorry." he said and his voice had no doubt in not believing his words. "You know, ne, that was is what Ryo already asked me. And I said yes to him."

Yamapi's stomach cramped in pain, but he really tried to look like he didn't care that much. Yet his heart ached and he was so mad at Ryo that he clenched his teeth.

"I am sorry, Pi. I didn't know you wanted to ask me too..."

"It's okay." Yamapi replied with a stiffened face. He really wanted to know, for whom Tegoshi would have decided, if he would've known that he wanted to ask as well. "No problem. My bad that I am too late. Daijoubu."

"Gomen ne."

"You don't need to apologize, Tegoshi."

"But I feel so sorry for you." Tesshi's cute eyes where filled with pity and Yamapi felt guilty for making little Tegoshi unhappy. "Don't worry." He said and forced a smile. "There's always a next time." He stroked through Tegoshi's hair, who didn't look satisfied at all. "Hey." Yamapi chuckled and poked Tegoshi's cheeks. "Don't look so sad. Smile!" He pulled the corners of Tegoshi's mouth up and his face ended up in a pouting grimace. "Kawaii~" Yamapi looked into Tesshi's puppy-eyes.

"Are you making fun of my misfortune?"

"No, I would never do that!"

"But you are!" Tegoshi pouted even more. "What am I supposed to do? I can't reject Ryo now, so I have to reject you. That's not fair. I hate it..."

"Geez~ I said you shouldn't worry, deshou? I am okay, see?" Yamapi did his sweetest smile, but this time from the bottom of his heart. "All I want to see is your happy face. Can you do me at least this favour?"

Tegoshi tried to smile, but it ended up in an awkward face.

"Maah, that's not happy at all! Motto!"

"I can't."

"You can!"

"No."

"Argh, Tesshi, don't be so stubborn! You don't wanna make me use harsh methods, deshou? I know your ticklish spots."

Tegoshi looked shocked into Yamapi's face, little panic in his eyes.

"So, are you smiling or are you not?"

Tegoshi made a tiny sigh, but smiled as well as he could.

"Motto-motto~~" Yamapi demanded and adored Tegoshi's concentrated face. It was something between pouting and grinning, but it still looked awkward. "You have to do it properly."

"Damn, I am trying, deshou?! But it's complicated to smile if you don't feel like doing it."

"I know." Yamapi chuckled. "But it's cute watching you."

"See! You're making fun of me again!"

"Are you mad now?"

Tegoshi thought for a moment. "Maybe. I am not sure." He said honestly.

"Well, then think about it." Yamapi replied, poked Tegoshi's little nose and turned around.

"Think about what?" Tegoshi wanted to know as Yamapi wanted to leave.

"What your feeling about me is."

And with this last sentence Yamapi left Tegoshi back in confusion.

Tegoshi was exhausted. With arms and legs spread away he lay on his bed, eyes closed and tried to dim his headache. He'd enjoyed the photo-shooting today, but there were so many emotions in his chest which whirled around in there since Yamapi and Ryo-chan stepped into the dressing-room that morning. Emotions he hold secretly and sacred deep inside his heart, closed away from everything else. But it was so damned hard to suppress them. Every time he saw them, they rose up again and again, and he had to stay quiet with all his might. That being his normal self could be so difficult. Never once he had thought it. But it was impossible for him to confess, too big was his fear that he would ruin everything with his stupid feelings. And why? Why couldn't he say a thing? Why was he doomed to stay silent? Why had to beat his heart so fast it almost hurt every time he saw him? Why was the power of love so painful? Why?

"I hate me because of this" he whispered and turned onto his tummy so he could dig his head into his pillow. He so wished to cry out everything, cry hard out and then maybe even feel better. He so wished...But he couldn't. He simply couldn't. The risk was too big. It would be more than he could endure if it would be his fault wen NEWS, his best friends, would live in awful uncertainty because of him.

I just want to be loved back, he thought. Is this demand already too much?