

The Bet

Or such a thing called Love

Von mie-van-cha

Kapitel 12: Chapter 12

What was this feeling he had? His worries were blown away and he was thrilled. But it was out of complete different reasons. There was something new inside him he didn't know. It made him hyper and smile and blush a lot, whenever Ryo was around. His heartbeat went faster, whenever Tegoshi sensed Ryo threw a gaze at him. He bit his lips with a smile whenever he noticed Ryo played close attention to him. His thoughts went crazy whenever Ryo was near enough to touch him by chance. It felt good to Tegoshi. Though it had a kind of wrong taste.

Yamapi was close to him nearly every moment Ryo was too. Tegoshi's feelings towards Yamapi still were there deep inside him and he still had butterflies in his tummy when gentle calm Yamapi gave him a sweet smile. In the dressing-room Yamapi sat on a chair, drinking a cup of coffee, his eyes fixed on Tegoshi who tried to perfect his look, and Ryo was standing next to him. Though Ryo seemed to be busy with closing his pants properly, Tegoshi noticed that both of them were ready to jump whenever he made a movement. Somehow it was nerve-racking to be observed that much. But it made him rather happy. Yamapi was finally paying attention to him the way he wished so long for, and Ryo watching him like a man watching his precious treasure felt...pleasing. He felt unwell to admit it, but it felt really like this. Pleasing. And this pleasingly feeling was something he'd missed so much for quite a while now. He just wondered whether it was because of Ryo or because of Yamapi.

"Five Minutes!" Staff-san shouted and left. Tegoshi looked around. Massu stuffed a last cookie into his mouth, Koyama was teased a last time by Shige, Ryo smiled happily and Yamapi seemed still very relaxed. It was the usual chaos which broke out just when Tegoshi wanted to say how much he loved this bunch of guys. Massu chocked on a crumb and as he wanted to get a glass of water he ran over Shige, who fell on Koyama, who bumped into the table of food. A lot of apples, rice and other snacks flew around the dressing-room and a piece of banana landed with a 'plop' in Yamapi's cup of coffee and spilled some drops onto his nose. When Tegoshi wanted to help Shige and Koyama he tripped over his own feet, lost his balance and with a tiny squeal he closed his eyes, prepared for the thud. But right the moment he thought he would hit the ground he felt an arm wrapping around his waist, swirling him up and pressing him against a warm chest.

"Oy~" he heard Yamapi's voice mixed with a suppressed smile. "Take care. We're in a messy mood again here, ne~" Tegoshi opened his eyes. He laid in a strong pair of arms, which held him safely. Yamapi was watching his face closely and smiled gently at Tegoshi's innocently blushed face. "Surprised?" Yamapi asked teasingly and adored Tegoshi's expression. Their eyes met and time stood still. Tegoshi heard his heartbeat and felt Yamapi's soft breath on his face. He had butterflies in his tummy when he realized that Yamapi really hold him in his arms, and that it was really Yamapi, who smiled at him with those gentle eyes of a dog and a drop of coffee at his nose.

They didn't notice that Koyama and Shige got up in their feet and Massu survived his cookie with great difficulty. And they didn't notice Ryo was staring at them the whole time.

The concert was over, everyone got dressed back into casual clothes. Shige, Massu and Koyama talked loudly and full of excitement in their dressing-room while getting their stuff packed. Ryo was just out organizing some food for Massu, who was starving. Even he had his moment of Member Ai. Tegoshi stood in front of the big mirror and was fixing his hair (again), when Yamapi walked slowly up to him until he stood behind Tegoshi.

"Ne, Tesshi..." he said in a low voice and laid his hands onto Tegoshi's thin shoulders.

"Mh? What's wrong?"

"Can I....Can I talk to you for a second?"

Tegoshi first looked at Yamapi in the mirror, then turned around, suddenly missing the tiny weight of his hands on his shoulders, and faced him. Yamapi smiled at him, but his eyes were serious behind the always gentle sparkle. "Sure you can." Tegoshi said, the head in the neck, because they stood so close. He felt so tiny next to Yamapi's strong, protecting stature.

"Now?" Tegoshi asked, but Yamapi shook his head. "Later. I wanna talk when....erm...alone, you know?"

Tegoshi's heartbeat fastened. Yamapi looked unsure in a cute way as he rubbed his nose. "Just when it's okay for you."

"It's definitely okay!" Tegoshi said quickly and put on a bright smile.

Yamapi let out a relieved sigh. "Woah, that makes me glad~ I feared you would say no."

Tegoshi giggled. "Why should I do so?"

Yamapi shrugged. "I can think of a lot of reasons." For a second his mimic darkened, but then he smiled as well. "Today was super fun, ne~ Though I messed up the lyrics."

He smirked in embarrassment.

"The girls liked it." Tegoshi laughed. "And I liked it too~"

"Hehe, maybe I should mess up more then."

"Yeah, do so and I will fangirl you as well."

"Really?"

Tegoshi watched Yamapi's face. Was there really a glance of hop in it? He couldn't help but put on a wide grin. "Really." He said honestly, surprised by the fact he really admitted it.

Yamapi smiled brightly. "I will do my best then."

Ryo came back that moment and Tegoshi twitched back from Yamapi at the sight of him.

"I got some soup for all of us" Ryo yelled with his wide cute smile and held up some bags from a little store he went to. "Come on as long as it's still hot~"

"Oh, Dinner-time" Tegoshi smiled with a nervous gaze at Yamapi, who did notice the change in Tegoshi's behaviour. But before he could say a word the little one was already with the others and argues with Shige over a package of hot soup. Yamapi thought about the scene just a moment ago. Did he felt guilty because he talked so freely to me? We haven't spoken like this in ages, I guess. He did enjoy out conversation as well...didn't he? He asked himself and then narrowed his eyebrows, as he saw Tegoshi smiling happily at Ryo who sat next to him. With loud voices and giggling they started to sing Tegomass' 'Miso Soup' as they dug in their chopsticks. There was something new between those two. Their whole relationship seemed to have changed. Shit! Yamapi thought. There's already something going on.

"Ryo-chan~!!"

Ryo stopped walking and turned around by the sound of Tegoshi's happy voice. "Wait a moment!" Ryo smiled and waited. Of course he did. He would always wait for him. With his hands deep inside his pockets he stood there in the lobby till finally little Tegoshi arrived by his side.

"Ne, what's up?" Ryo asked curiously and started walking slowly again to let Tegoshi catch up with him easily.

"Nothing." Tegoshi answered with reddened cheeks. "I just wanted to walk a bit with you." Tegoshi's innocent way of looking at him made Ryo chuckle with amusement. It was obvious that there was more behind it.

"You can't lie to me, Yu-chan."

"I'm not lying."

"Well, then you don't know you do." Ryo said self-confidently and smiled at Tegoshi's confused mimic.

"How do you mean that?"

"Like I said."

"But I don't get it." Tegoshi claimed and made pout. Ryo had to laugh. With a husky "Kawaii, ne~" he tousled through Tegoshi's hair. "Come on, You'll understand sooner or later."

"Understand what?"

"You're pretty stubborn, deshou?" Ryo chuckled.

Tegoshi didn't know what to answer, so he said nothing as they headed into the elevator. He wasn't satisfied with the silence between them. He kinda liked talking to Ryo. He sighed. "Can't you give me a tiny hint?"

Ryo looked down at him, first chuckled again, then grinned, turned around and stepped further. "What would you do if I would tell you?" Tegoshi stepped back, he already felt the wall of the elevator behind him, but Ryo didn't seem to mind. He was so close now...

"T-Tell me what?"

Ryo leaned down his head. Tegoshi forgot to breath when he felt Ryo's soft lips gently touching his ear. He heard his heartbeat and felt the blood rushing through his veins. Ryo's hot breath tickled his ear as he whispered: "You're already falling in love with me..."

The door of the elevator opened with a harsh noise against the silence that had ruled in there for a while. "I'm right, am I?" And with that Ryo whirled around and walked out, down the hallway with big, confident steps. Tegoshi looked after him, unable to move.

Ryo's words echoed in his head. And then, suddenly, he opened his eyes in shock, a quiet realization rising up within him.

Yabai...He thought. Is he...?