

The Bet

Or such a thing called Love

Von mie-van-cha

Kapitel 11: Chapter 11

Tegoshi luckily didn't need to answer. Right in that moment the van stopped at the airport and everyone had to get out. Tegoshi was glad to get away from Yamapi for a moment and went with Massu to chat a bit. He felt as if he'd just slept a few hours, due to all the nerve-racking happenings. He knew both Yamapi and Ryo were paying close attention to him, and under different circumstances he would've been happy about taking the center stage. But all he felt was this nervous sting of being watched non-stop. He sensed their gazes in his neck. They stayed at the airport for an hour before they were called for their flight and although they all sat at a set of chairs in a group Tegoshi didn't remember the slightest bit of the conversation afterwards. Everything which came into his mind had something to do with either Ryo or Yamapi. They were rotating in his mind up and down and around and around and he felt dizzy. He never thought so much about things like that.

That's not normal anymore, he thought as they passed the gate to their plane. What the heck is wrong with me?

He suddenly felt a slight grip at his waist, turning him into another direction. "Pay attention." Ryo whispered into his ear and Tegoshi sensed the hair in his neck lifting up when the warm breath stroked the sensitive skin there. "You nearly bumped into that lady there. Where are you with your head?" He heard Ryo's husky voice chuckling in a soft tone. Tegoshi just nodded without a word, still paralyzed by the sudden reactions his body made. He felt unable to find the way to his seat and he didn't know why. Ryo guided him, his hand gently laying at Tegoshi's slim waist. He knew it was hilarious that his heart beat so fast so out of the blue. It was just Ryo after all. And he promised to behave normal though Ryo confessed, didn't he? He tried to calm himself down as he organized his bag and proofed the settings of his seat. Ryo sat next to him and their arms touched each other slightly. Tegoshi twitched as he would have gotten an electrical shock and blushed as Ryo gave him an "everything alright?"-gaze. Nothing was alright. He never felt such a severe, nerve-racking emotion in his tummy. He never felt this ticklish prickle behind his belly-button.

Though Ryo didn't seem to sense it, Tegoshi was totally aware of the heat rising up between them and the tense that filled the air between their hot breathes. Every time Ryo made the tiniest movement Tegoshi smelled his comfortable manly fragrance which stroked his nose. He moved the head to the side and up, just to look into Ryo's gentle smiling face. "Are you okay? You're looking a bit pale."

"I'm fine." Tegoshi answered with clenched teeth and faked a grin. Ryo narrowed his

eyes in disbelief and he stared at Tegoshi with a "Didn't your mom teach you to not lie?"-sight, but didn't say anything further.

The plane arrived an hour later and everybody jumped out in excitement, even Tegoshi who was influenced by happy Koyama. "Come on, bring it on! We are NEWS!" Koyama shouted as they walked through the airport and Staff-San had a hard time calming him and the crowd that recognized them down.

"Koyama!" Manager-San said with his deep impressing voice and Koyama shut up immediately. "One word further and you'll go on stage in a pink Tutu today!"

Everybody laughed at Koyama's shocked expression and Shige put on an evil smirk.

"Are you imagining him in tights and short mini-tutu?" Ryo asked in a whispering voice, which made Shige first twitch and then blush into a deep red-tone. Ryo chuckled as he went ahead with Yamapi, Tegoshi and Massu, letting KoyaShige behind with their dirty thoughts. They got into the van waiting for them and were driven to the new hotel. Tegoshi again sat silently between Yamapi and Koyama. "Oy, Tesshi, what's wrong?" Koyama asked full of member ai and laid his hand worrying onto Tegoshi's skinny arm. "You seem pretty down..."

"Nothin in particular. My stomach feels a bit unwell due to the flight."

"But you love flying."

"I guess I'm getting old then." Tegoshi smiled and both Yamapi and Koyama lifted and eyebrow. "If you are getting old, what the heck are we then? Dead Dinosaurs?"

Tegoshi couldn't help but laughing. It was a load off Yamapi's mind when he heard the cheering bursting sound and saw Tegoshi's baby-cheeks blushing. "Ah~" he sighed in happy relief. "This is the Tesshi I so love." He said and poked Tegoshi's snub nose. Tegoshi blushed even more as he realized Yamapi's words. He said he loves me in some kind of meaning!! He thought in excitement.

Right after they arrived at the hotel they rushed to the rehearsal of their second concert. It wasn't as long as their first one, but tiring though. Despite how it looked on DVD a concert was hard work after all. Of course it was fun and the moment the guys went out on stage was the greatest one in their life every time again, so they ended their rehearsal with mixed feelings. On the one hand they were purely exhausted, on the other hand they were looking forward to the concert and it felt utterly good to work with the staff and to harmonize with everyone perfectly.

They still had some hours left before the actually concert would start and they gathered up in the hotel lobby.

"Wanna go eat something?" Koyama asked and looked curiously into the round.

"Yeah! Food!" Massu shouted and put his hands up in the air with his cutest happiest smile. But Shige and Ryo made a face. "Can't we go tonight after the show has ended?" Ryo asked. "I mean, can't we eat just some snacks now and short before the performance some staff-food and then have afterwards a great meal?"

Massu didn't look that happy anymore, but after Yamapi, Tegoshi, Koyama and Shige agreed to Ryo's idea he gave in. "Have no other choice then..." he murmured and Tegoshi patted his back with a cheerful smile. "You're very strong, Massu. I'm proud of you." He said honestly and full of innocence.

So the group went to their different hotel-rooms. Tegoshi felt a little nervous as he followed Ryo-chan through the hallways, but he tried to calm himself down. It's just Ryo. Nothing changed. He's still Ryo after all. And though he might have...feelings for me, nothing's gonna happen.

Ryo felt that something was concerning Tegoshi, but he didn't know what to say and how. He was aware that his sudden confession took Tegoshi by surprise. But it was

said now and Tegoshi had to handle with it. It was important that he would understand in order to let Ryo win, who didn't knew that Yamapi had one big advantage over him.

Right when they entered their hotel-room Ryo threw his bag onto the bed and pulled his shirt off his body. Tegoshi blushed at the view of Ryo's naked trained torso. Gosh, he looks good! He thought and blushed even further about the fact he really stared at Ryo's well-seen muscles.

"Do you want to take a shower first?"

"What?"

Ryo chuckled. He had to suppress a wide grin because he knew he caught Tegoshi red-handed by checking his body out. "You're really lost in thoughts today, ne~ I wanted to know whether you want to take a shower first or not."

"Oh..." Tegoshi made with big eyes. "If you don't mind I want to shower first."

"Okay." Ryo smiled. "Then go on."

Tegoshi smiled back. "Thanks." Ryo was as friendly as before. Nothing has changed, he said to himself again and felt better, as he placed his package onto a chair next to the nightstand. He wanted to doff his hoody, but simply couldn't pull it off his head. "Shit..." he mumbled as he tore and yanked. He heard an amused giggle, some steps and then felt someone grabbing his hoody. "Come on. Arms up." Ryo said gently, Tegoshi did as he was told and Ryo took the hoody off his head like a toddler. "See, it's easy like this." Ryo teased and gave Tegoshi his hoody, who had deep red cheeks. Ryo let out a husky laugh. "No need to be embarrassed. It's okay." And he tousled through Tegoshi's hair, turned him into the direction where the bathroom was and gave him a little shove. "Go." Ryo said with a caring smile in his voice. Tegoshi looked back at him as he walked to the bathroom with a pout. He nearly ran into the doorframe and Ryo couldn't help but laughing. Tegoshi blushed a bit, but then shrugged it off with a shyly, cute smile. As he closed the door behind him he was surprised by how much his mood has changed. He feared first the moment he ought to be alone with Ryo, but unexpectedly it felt good. It was easy to be spoilt by Ryo and it made him feel light when Ryo smiled at him.

"See Tegoshi" he told himself as he stepped under the shower. "Didn't I say everything's gonna be okay?" He felt relieved as the warm water poured down on him and he hummed the melody of 'Taiyou no Namida'. By the time he finished the song he also stopped the water, put a white towel around his waist and one around his shoulders so the water could drip down off his hair. He smiled at himself in the mirror. It felt so damn comfortable to smile after all and he laid his head to the said and said: "You're simply worrying too much. There's no need to." And then he shouted at Ryo outside: "You can get ready. I'm done~"

"Hai, hai~" was the dimmed answer and Tegoshi smiled again. Back to normal, he thought. Or even better. He collected his used clothes in his arms, opened the door and hopped outside, right into Ryo's arms, who already waited there. "Watch out~" he heard as he bumped into Ryo's chest and both nearly lost balance if Ryo wouldn't be much stronger than little Tegoshi. Out of reflex Ryo put his arms around Tegoshi so he wouldn't fall down. "Ough." Tegoshi made and his forehead leaned against Ryo's collarbone. He felt Ryo's skin at his naked shoulders. Silence. And then Ryo chuckled. "What are you laughing about?" Tegoshi asked and wondered about the warm prickle in his stomach as he noticed that he liked the sound of Ryo's chuckle. He lifted his head to look up at Ryo's gentle smiling face. He knew it would be already time to loosen the embrace there were in, but he surprisingly didn't want to. It was a different

feeling of embrace than the one Ryo and he had yesterday before the confession. This time it had a different meaning in it. A meaning Tegoshi, which kind of shocked himself, didn't fear.

"It's okay." Ryo said in a low, soft tone.

"Eh?"

"It's okay." Ryo repeated and felt like he had to dote on Tegoshi's innocent puppy-expression. "Didn't you told this yourself just a second ago in there?"

Tegoshi blushed a bit and hid his face behind his hair by letting his head down a bit.

"You heard?"

"Exposed." Ryo chuckled with his husky voice. "You're so easy to see through, Yu-chan." He said, poked Tegoshi's cheeks gently, turned around him and before Tegoshi could even blink Ryo was already behind the closed bathroom-door.

And he stood there, with big round eyes and stared after him in surprise. "...Yu-chan...?"