

The Bet

Or such a thing called Love

Von mie-van-cha

Kapitel 6: Chapter 6

"I'm dead." Ryo panted with exhaustion and stretched his legs and arms on the bed. He drank too much again. Of course he did. Everything in his mind was a rotating, blurred cocktail with a pretty sweet red cherry on top. And of course this cherry was Tegoshi. Without him Ryo would've probably slept on the floor at the lobby. Due to his help Ryo even found their hotel room.

It has been stupid of Ryo to compete against Yamapi in the undeclared drinking contest. It has been sure from the beginning that he would end up losing. Yet he couldn't resist when his best friend ordered every time a drink more than him again and again. When Yamapi could still stand straight and sing a super-sweet love-song-duet with cute Tegoshi Ryo already laid on the sofa babbling shit and embarrassing stuff. Kei-chan cared for him not falling down or throwing up, but Shige was pretty drunken as well and Massu nearly killed himself with three big pineapple desserts and a coconut. So Yamapi ended up carrying Massu, Koyama lugged Shige and Tegoshi more or less led Ryo the way and saved him from bumping into houses, walls, cars, young ladies, trees and everything else he mistook for big fluffy sheeps.

Now, there he was, laying on the bed like a big fat dead bear. Tegoshi stood next to him, wondering where he should sleep. "Ne, Ryo...Move on. I don't have any space at all."

"You can snuggle on me~"

Tegoshi stiffened as Ryo grinned his killer-smile. "Come on, hun. Daddy Ryo will keep you warm."

"You're scaring me..."

"Where is my little sheep? Tessheep, where are you?"

Tegoshi escaped with a little squeal Ryo's arms grabbing after him. "Ryo, stop it!" He screamed as he jumped over their luggage and got out of the way of some pillows. "Don't throw stuff after me! I'm warning you!" Ryo grinned even wider, chuckling naughty as Tegoshi stood helpless in a corner of their hotel-room.

"Oy, Ryo~ Don't dare-WUAAH!" With a quick move Ryo grabbed Tegoshi's waist and hugged him tightly. "Let go of me!" Tegoshi claimed and tried to lose Ryo's grip. And then suddenly Ryo laid completely worn out in his arms, smacking like a little baby. "You're smelling good..." he mumbled and dug his innocent smiling face into Tegoshi's sweater.

"R-Ryo-chan?"

No answer.

Tegoshi sighed. With some effort he put Ryo back to the bed, covered him up, changed his own clothes and slipped under the blanket. Ryo laid around one step away, so Tegoshi calmed down and closed his eyes. He was nearly asleep as he felt a finger gently grabbing his own one. He turned his head and found Ryo so near to him he could even count his lashes.

Yabai~ Tegoshi thought and tried to move away just to find him next to the end of the bed. But Ryo tightened the grip of his finger and Tegoshi laid still in order to not wake him up.

Oh shit...What have I gotten myself into?!

The next morning Tegoshi woke up even before his alarm-clock rang. It was the first morning since a week he woke up without a headache and felt entirely rested and vivid. The sun shone through the half closed curtains and tickled his noses. He smiled. Perfect day for a perfect concert. He wanted to stand up, but fell back into the pillows with a little -puff-

Eh...Nani? He thought and then noticed the arm around his chest. He followed this arm, that ended in Ryo. *Yabai! Why is he so close?*

Extremely careful he tried to turn himself out of Ryo's hug without waking him up, but after five minutes of wiggling and wobbling he had to give up with an exhausted sigh. *Impossible...he thought. It's like trying to move a cow...I've never once moved a cow...*

He let out a whiny hum. *I guess I'll have to lay here till he wakes up, ne~...but...I need to pee...* He made a grimace. That was the bad side of too much juice in the evening. He really has to go to the toilet the first thing in the morning. But then he suddenly got a gorgeous idea. Carefully he reached out his hand first his cell-phone. Quickly and throwing a glimpse at Ryo every now and then he rearranged the time for his alarm-clock. "Just a minute" he whispered to himself and laid his head back into his white fluffy pillow. Impatient he started the countdown.

Just before his cell-phone started to ring Ryo said: "That's a horrible method of

getting rid of me.”

With a high scream Tegoshi jumped out of the bed. “Kyaaa~” He hold his heart in shock and stared at Ryo, who tousled yawning through his hair. “S-Since when are you awake? I though you would sleep!” Tegoshi claimed reproachfully after his breath found back to normal again.

“How am I supposed to sleep when you are rattling at me non-stop?” Ryo asked back.

“You could have said anything then!”

“Why? You didn’t even try to wake me, so I didn’t see a reason to tell you I’m not asleep at all.”

“That’s mean! Did you know how difficult it was?”

“What and why?”

“I really need to...” Tegoshi suddenly stopped. “Maah, anyway.” He really didn’t need to tell Ryo that he nearly peed himself.

“You really need to what?” Ryo asked his killer-smile on the lips.

“Not important.” Tegoshi answered evasively and didn’t dare to look at Ryo, who was darn curious. “I think it’s important.”

“You’re gonna laugh when I tell it, so anyway. Forget about it.” Tegoshi pouted. He didn’t know himself why he didn’t want to tell it. Somehow he felt embarrassed though he usually didn’t care about blabbing stuff like that out. Without one more word he turned around, grabbed fresh clothes out of his bag and went into the bathroom.

Ryo stared after him in wonder. Then he sighed and scratched his hear. “What’s wrong with him?” he asked himself and climbed out of the bed. “I did nothing wrong, deshou?” He heard the shower and threw an angry gaze at the bathroom door. He tried to imagine a reason why Tegoshi acted so weird, but simply couldn’t. *Yabai!* He screamed in mind and stopped in the move of doing their bed. *Did I say something odd yesterday?! Damn, I can’t remember!* He started to walk up and down the small space between window and bed, whispering: “Remember Ryo! Remember! I sang, I drank, I drank more, I bullied Shige, I drank, I quarrelled with Pi...And then? I somehow managed to get back...but...Arrgh! It’s all away!”

The sound of a door clicking made him jump. Tegoshi came back, fully dressed and a towel around his neck, rubbing his still wet hair. He said nothing as he looked at Ryo who stood there and gazed at him in uncertainty. “Ne, Tesshi...Did I do something terrible last night?” Ryo asked worrying, with eyes like a ditched dog.

“Depends on what you see as terrible.” Tegoshi answered with a little smirk, as Ryo’s face changed into alarming.

"What exactly did I do?"

"Well" Tegoshi sat down on a sofa next to the closet. "You drank a lot, made Shige cry, teased Yamapi, sang some songs I just know as songs sung at funerals, then you talked a lot about how you would win the heart of somebody you love – by the way who is she?"

Ryo shrugged his shoulders, looking as ignorant as he could. Tegoshi continued: "Then, as we were about to leave, you screamed as if you would be killed and ran into the women's toilet, so I had a hard time to bring you back safe. And then you blabbed a lot about sheeps and you nearly knocked me out with pillows and I thought you were going to rape me with you wide scaring grin...but no, you didn't do anything bad." The irony in Tegoshi's voice was unmistakable.

Ryo bit his lip. "So bad?"

Tegoshi nodded, still smirking.

"I'm sorry...I didn't mean it."

"You were crocked like hell, that's all."

Tegoshi finally smiled gently and Ryo didn't know where to look.

"Well, can't help it now, ne~"

Ryo felt bitterness in his stomach as Tegoshi said that. He accused himself. He didn't know for what, but he did so. "Tesshi, did my behaviour last night changed your opinion of me?" he asked quietly and stared at his hands in his lap.

Tegoshi looked at him and suddenly felt pity for Ryo, who seemed quite down. He never once before has seen him like that and somehow it made him feel bad, too. For him Ryo was a person who was cheeky, a bit crazy, kind, shy, direct, more or less mean, but warm-hearted. But not a person who was sad. Maybe sometimes a bit melodramatically and effusive.

"Don't make such a face." Tegoshi poked Ryo's cheek. "It doesn't suit you." He said truthfully and smiled as kind as he could with his head laid to the side.

Ryo just sighed, yet Tegoshi's concern made him feel better a bit. It felt good to have him near. They sat a moment in silent, both following their own thoughts, when Tegoshi stood up, shaking his nearly dry hair like a little dog and threw his towel onto the bed. With a last check in the mirror he perfected his hairstyle and turned around to Ryo. "You better get ready soon." He said. "Our rehearsal starts in half an hour."

"Where are you going?"

"I? I will go and visit the others. Kei-chan is probably already awake. So you can use the time to dress up in privacy."

Ryo nodded but then something came into his mind. "But Pi-!"

"What's with him?" Tegoshi asked with the most innocent look on his face.

"Well, you know...He is a late riser..." Ryo knew it was a lame reason to keep Tegoshi away from Yamapi. But he couldn't think of a better method either.

"I know. But I think Pi-chan can't resist my smile, though I might wake him up. It's the same with you, deshou?"

"I'm not sure..." Ryo said.

"You're his best friend." Tegoshi simply replied.

"Mmmh..." Ryo made and watched Tegoshi leaving the room with a wide smile. And somehow he got the feeling that he had lost him a bit.