

Chapter 17 - The Stars and the Sun¹

Two days had passed since Yozora moved in with the Kashiwazaki family.

Since Yozora was in the club room tutoring Hinata-senpai and Kobato, I asked in passing how her living in the Kashiwazaki household was going.

'Well, it's going alright. The headmaster treats me well, and recently Stella-neesan has even let me help out with her work.'

'....how are things between you and Sena?'

'...'

She made a face of annoyance that came from the very bottom of the heart.

On that day, Yozora had the living daylight scared out of her when she discovered the creepshots of her, and then flew into a terrible rage, ripping down every photo from the walls and ceiling. She also deleted the photos from the camera memory card as well as from the computer, but she still suspected Sena kept a backup.

Even though Sena asserted that 'we are friends, letting friends take a few pictures in secret won't kill you!', the distance between the two remained.

'...I can now from the bottom of my heart understand Sumeragi's feelings towards that pervert.

That jerk is truly super-disgusting... or rather than disgusting, she's frightening...'

Yozora patted Kobato's head as she spoke, and Kobato nodded happily.

'For some reason, she wants to take baths together with me, and when I'm in my room studying, she comes by bothering me, she even wants to sleep in the same room... if it wasn't for the fact that I'm living there only thanks to their charity, I would have tied her up and put her in the storeroom...'

She sighed feebly.

'...enough already, let's not speak of that super-perversed, creepshotting, stalking, crazy Meat. Stella-neesan is really amazing! I've never met such an awesome person before. Even though I'm helping her out, there's no way I can match her skills. But even when I make mistakes, Stella-neesan doesn't get angry, but instead kindly encourages me. When she's not busy with the housework, she even keeps me company playing games, drinking tea and a few days ago she even tutored me. She really is a good tutor. I think she must have been taught by some truly brilliant people.'

Yozora was praising Stella-san like crazy.

It seemed like she could really display her innermost feelings when it came to people she revered, much like Akane-senpai.

Since Yozora was a good student and a quick learner, her counterpart must have also appreciated her, in turn leading Yozora to get closer to other people, forming a virtuous cycle.

'Right, Stella-san seemingly graduated from university when she was 14! That's so cool! If I had an older sister, she would definitely be like her...'

Yozora beamed with bliss as she excitedly talked about Stella-san.

In normal cases, it was the kind of scene that would make you smile happily, but...

¹ This title is in reference to the fact that Sena's and Hinata's names contain the characters for stars and the sun respectively.

'Wait a minute! What do you mean 'if I had an older sister', your actual older sister is sitting right here!'

'Ahahaha, you still haven't learned how to tell jokes, Kodaka! I'm a third-year student here, how could I possibly have an older sister in the same year?'

...in Yozora's mind, Hinata-senpai had turned into a lower form of existence.

I peeked at Hinata-senpai. The hand in which she held her pen was shaking, tears forming in the corners of her eyes.

Yozora completely ignored her actual sister's pain and stood up.

'Right, it's about time for me to leave. Stella-neesan asked me to help her out. Sumeragi, Idiot: make sure your homework is done before tomorrow.'

She left the club room in a brisk pace.

'Kodaka...'

Hinata-senpai's voice was extremely pained.

'My sister's been stolen!'

'...if you do your best on the end-of-term exams, Yozora will surely look up to you again!

...probably.'

The only thing left I could do now was to encourage her.



A short while after Yozora had left, Sena came to the club room.

'Hey, Kodaka, have you seen Yozora?'

'She already left. Stella-san seemed to have some work for her.'

Hearing my response, Sena was clearly displeased.

She voiced a sullen 'Muuu...' and said:

'Kodaka, listen up! That jerk has really been glued to Stella lately!'

'Uh, yeah, it does seem like that.'

'I told her to have a bath together with me, but she wouldn't listen, but then she even scrubbed Stella-san's back! She even played 'Kuroneko' together with her, bought expensive pudding with her, and even let her tutor her! Stella seems to really like her too, just a few days ago she told her that "you can call me neesan", you know! Stella-san is clearly my sister-'

'Eh?'

'I-it's nothing... anyway, I think Yozora is too attached to Stella! No matter how you look at it, this is just wrong!'

...it seems that Sena wasn't just upset that Yozora was overly attached to Stella-san, she was also upset that Stella was being stolen by Yozora.

'Kashiwazaki, I know just how you feel!'

Hinata-senpai strongly approved.

'Abandoning her real sister and sticking like glue to other people's sisters, that's just wrong!'

'Yeah!'

Having gained someone else's approval, Sena contentedly nodded, but then-

'...Um, what's your name?'

'Wha-!?'

Hinata-senpai was dumbstruck. I was also completely taken aback.

'You're not serious, are you? She's *Hinata-senpai*! Hidaka Hinata-senpai! Yozora's sister, the president of the student council last year, held back for one year, the one we went to the hot springs inn together with!? We even played Werewolf together with her!'

After I finished my explanation, Sena spoke up:

'I remember who she is! It's just that, since I've never talked with her, I couldn't remember her name!'

...indeed, I haven't actually seen the two of them talk... if she doesn't have an interest in the other person, she doesn't even remember their name, including people with as much presence as Hinata-senpai...

Even though Sena was incredibly rude, Hinata-senpai wasn't angered, but instead dismissed it with a laugh.

'Hahaha, we certainly haven't talked before, so I can't blame you for not remembering me!

Besides, I'm not good at remembering people's names or faces either.'

...it's not just people's names or faces, you're not good at remembering anything, are you?

'Then let me reintroduce myself. I am Yozora's real sister, Hidaka Hinata.'

Hinata-senpai extended her hand. Sena also extended her hand and returned the greeting.

'I am Kashiwazaki Sena. Nice to meet you.'

After that, Sena and Hinata-senpai got into complaining about Yozora together.

They were both of the unrestrained sort, so they got extremely into it.

'Gah, Yozora is just too much, if she doesn't want others to take pictures of her in secret, then she should just let them take them openly! What's there to be ashamed of!?''

'Oh, that jerk is really fussy, talking about others in that way just because of test results! If you don't get a perfect score, she'll treat you as a piece of trash!'

'Seeing each other naked is good! You're using your whole body to promote friendship!'

'Like I said, that jerk is really fussy! All those 'chie-!' and 'hmph-!' sounds she makes should be proof of that!'

What!? So Stella is that blonde woman who sometimes substitutes for the headmaster? Our family really does rely on her for a lot of tasks. Because she wanted to stand out from other girls, she even left the student council to become an exchange student! It really is infuriating!

'When Stella brought home her boyfriend since five years, I was really scared. I heard that her boyfriend was really aggressive, completely unlike other people.'

...as a mysterious feeling of trust grew between the two of them, Sena even went so far as to invite Hinata-senpai over to her house, in order to let her see Yozora.

Seeing two people who had been isolated in school become friends like this must be a good thing... right?

Translated by Black Hand Scans

