

AFTER THAT...


GOSH, I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT I'M GOING TO FAIL LIKE THIS...

EVEN MOM SEEMED UPSET ABOUT MY PERFORMANCE TODAY...

I JUST HAVE TO BE A CONFIDENT GIRL, T- THAT'S ALL...?

LIGHHH, H- HOW IS THAT GOING TO CHANGE THE OUTCOME OF THIS??





MAYBE IF I START TO
THINK THAT I'M A GIRL,
IT WILL MAKE THE POSE
BETTER?

UGH, THAT'S NONSENSE...
THERE'S NO WAY THAT
THAT'S JUST GOING TO
HAPPEN, RIGHT??

SIGH I'M SO
HOPELESS...

EVEN THOUGH I DON'T LIKE
THE IDEA OF THAT, AND I
KNOW THAT HER TRICK IS
NOT GOING TO WORK...

BUT I FEEL LIKE AT
LEAST I SHOULD GIVE
IT A TRY...



I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING
TO LOSE ANYWAY, RIGHT?

EVEN IF IT HELPS JUST A
LITTLE, MAYBE IT'S WORTH
TRYING...

UGH, I MEAN IF I FAIL, HOW
COULD I FIND THAT MUCH
MONEY WITHIN 3 MONTHS
WITHOUT THIS JOB?

I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING
EXCEPT ASKING DAD TO
GIVE ME MONEY, BUT FOR
WHAT REASON??

HE ALREADY PAID FOR
MY TUITION, AND HE
KNEW THAT I HAD A
JOB NOW...

OR MAYBE I SHOULD
JUST TELL HIM ABOUT
MY SITUATION?

A woman with long, straight purple hair and bangs is standing in a studio. She is wearing a purple lace-trimmed bikini. Her eyes are closed, and she has a pained expression. She is surrounded by studio equipment, including a large white umbrella light on the right and a wooden cabinet with boxes on the left. There are several speech bubbles around her, indicating her internal thoughts and dialogue. The background is a dark studio with various pieces of equipment.

AHHHHH, HE'S GONNA
KILL ME IF I DO THAT!!

GOSH, JUST THINKING
ABOUT IT MAKES MY
HEAD HURT.

LIGHHH, MOM IS RIGHT, I
NEED TO STOP WHINING
LIKE A LITTLE GIRL.

C- COME ON, THIS
SESSION IS NOT
OVER YET, RIGHT?

AT LEAST THAT MEANS
THERE'S STILL A CHANCE
FOR ME TO PASS THE
EVALUTION...



YES, I CAN STILL DO THIS. I'LL JUST...

I'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE SOME MAGIC HAPPEN, THAT'S ALL.

AND IN ORDER TO DO THAT, I'LL HAVE TO USE EVERYTHING I LEARNED UP UNTIL NOW.

T- THIS IS WHAT THEY CALLED DO OR DIE, I GUESS.

O- OKAY... LET'S TRY THIS AGAIN.

RIKA-CHAN, ARE YOU CONFIDENT?



Y- YES...

YES...

OF COURSE, IT IS!
I'VE BEEN TRAINING
FOR THIS MY
WHOLE LIFE.

LIGHT, NO, THAT WON'T
DO, I NEED TO BE MORE
CONFIDENT THAN THAT.

YES, I'M CONFIDENT!
THIS IS MY DREAM
AFTER ALL, RIGHT?

INHALE IT'S YOUR TIME
TO SHINE, GIRL.

AND THE SECOND HALF BEGAN

HMM, ALRIGHT~

I WONDER HOW
DID THAT POSE
LOOK?



GOOD?

WHAT KIND OF QUESTION WAS THAT? OF COURSE, IT LOOKED GREAT!

OKAY~

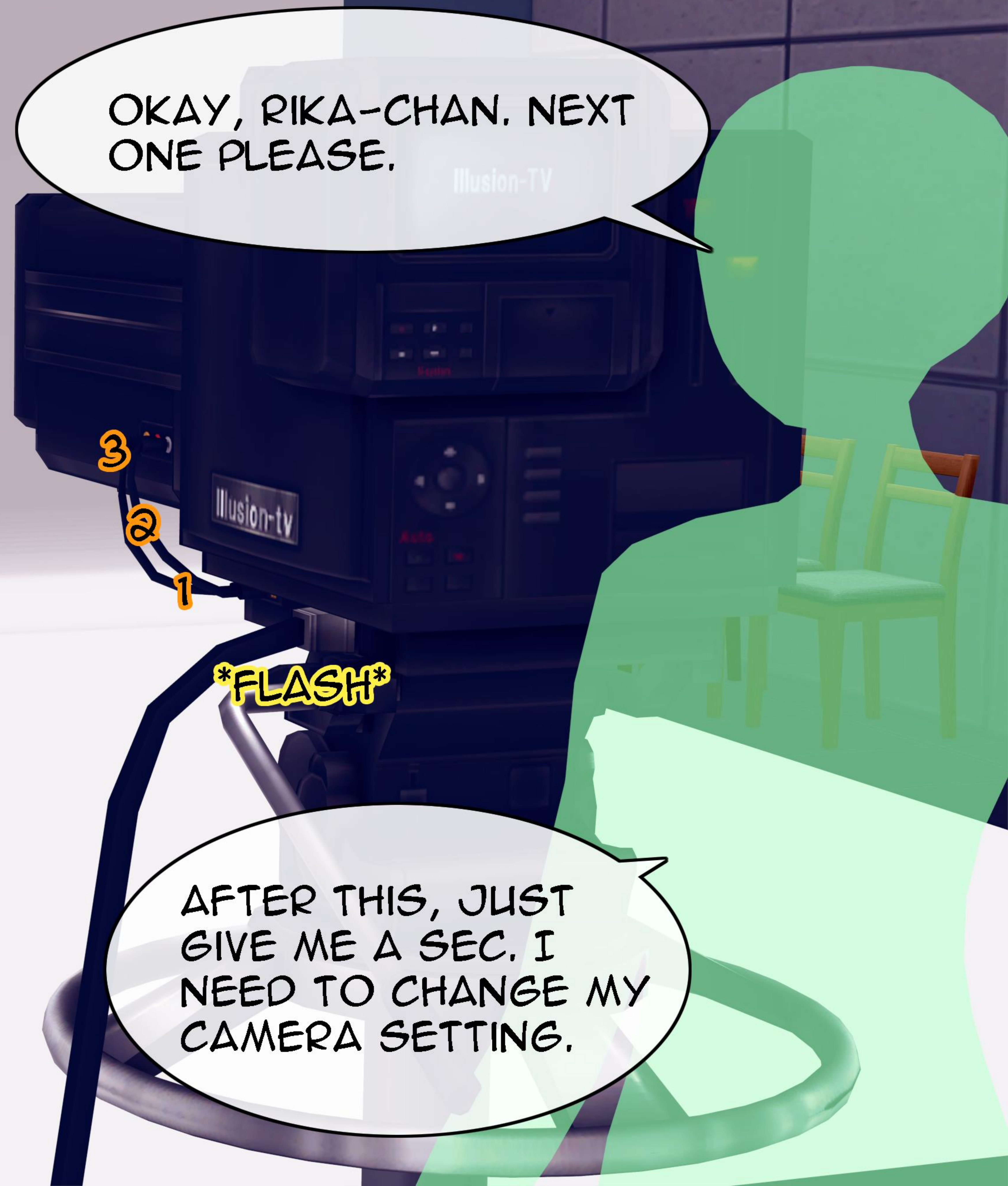
REMEMBER, BE CONFIDENT.



OKAY, RIKA-CHAN. NEXT ONE PLEASE.

FLASH

AFTER THIS, JUST GIVE ME A SEC. I NEED TO CHANGE MY CAMERA SETTING.



A woman with long, straight purple hair and bangs is shown from the waist up. She is wearing a purple lace-trimmed bikini. Her eyes are closed, and she has a slight smile. A thought bubble is connected to her head.

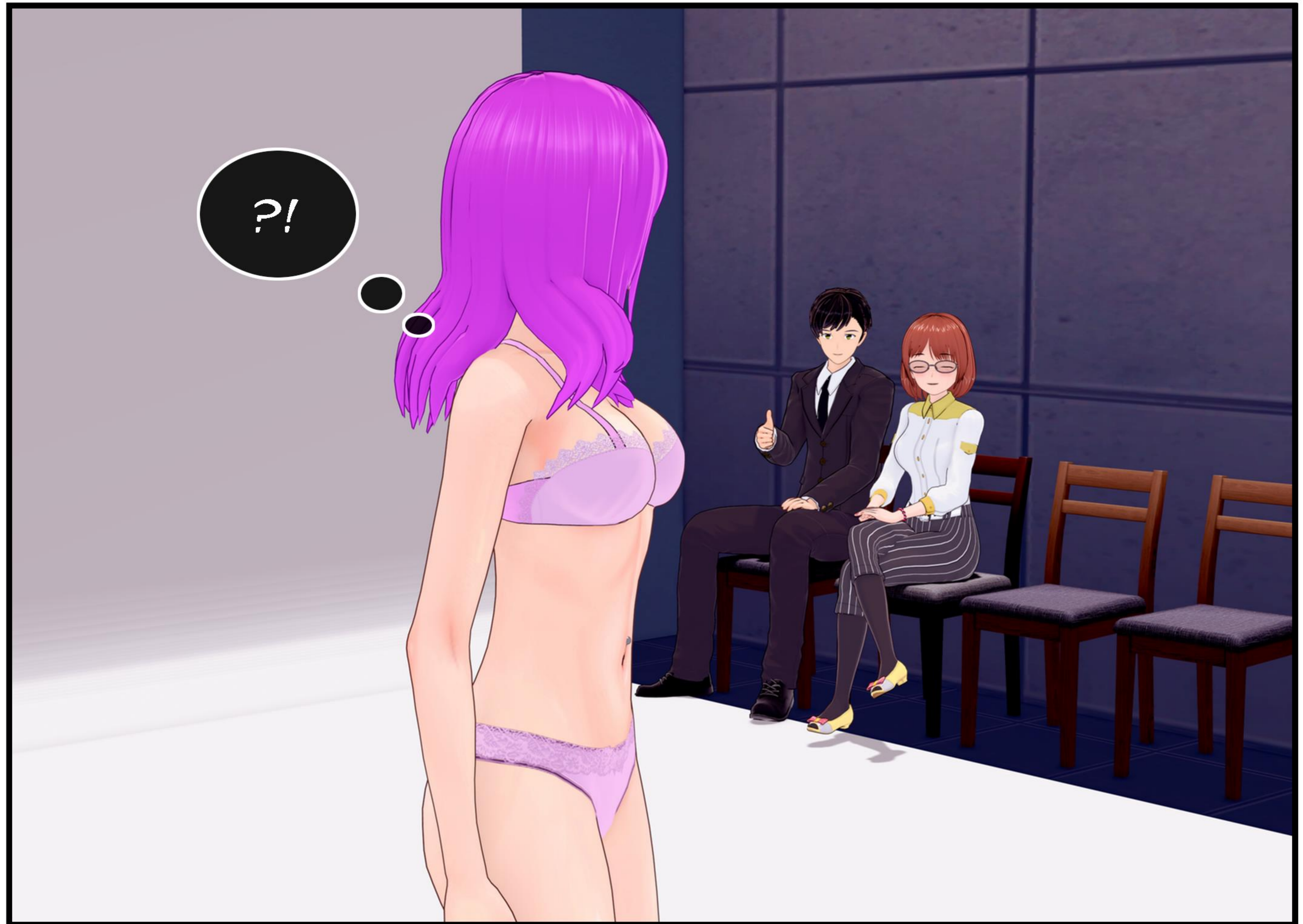
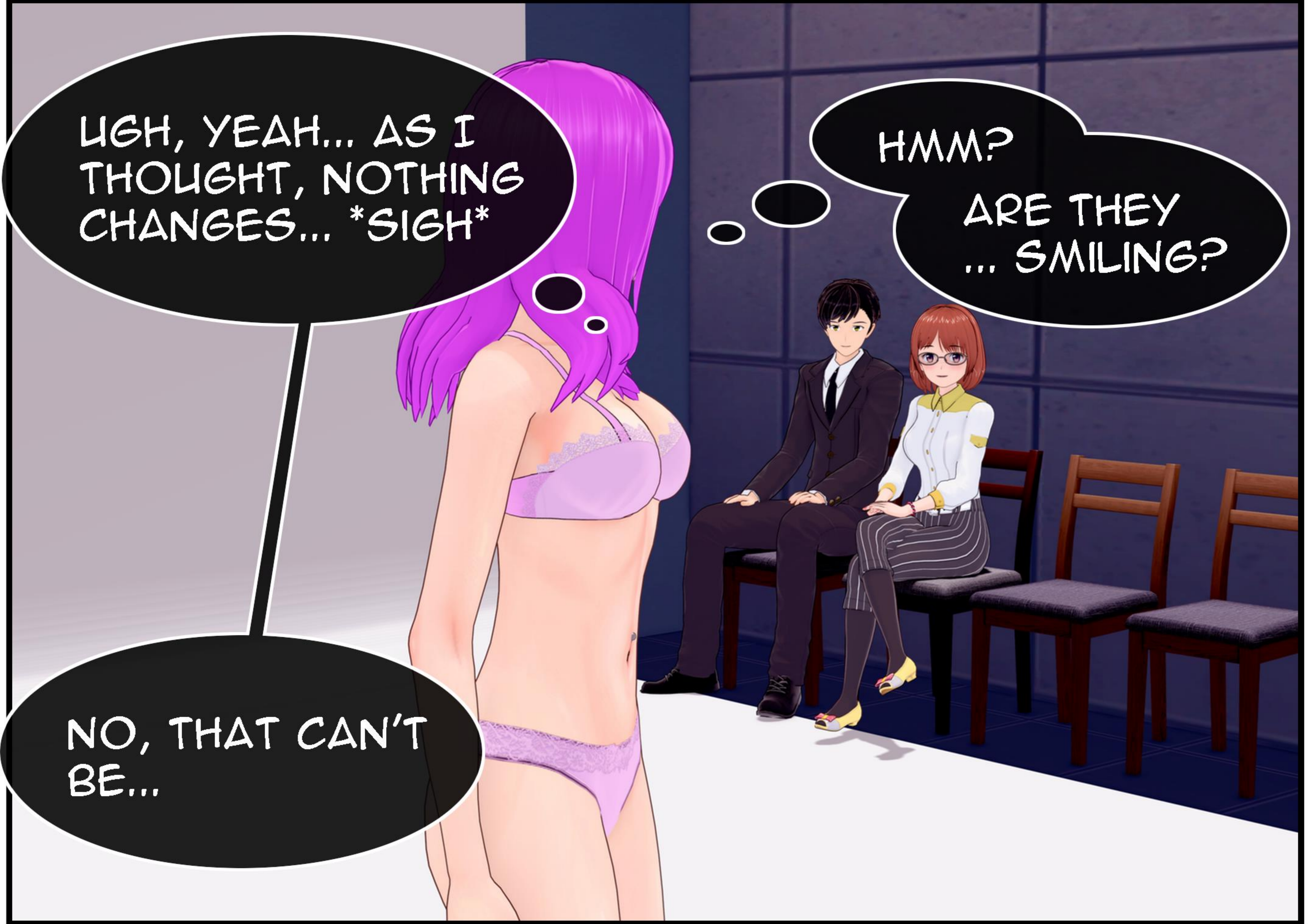
OKAY~

WHEW, NOT BAD...
I THINK?

LET'S SEE HOW MOM AND
AKIO-KUN ARE DOING.

UGH, MAYBE I'M BEING
TOO POSITIVE ABOUT
THIS.

B- BUT MAYBE THEY WILL
FEEL THAT SOMETHING IS
DIFFERENT...?





OH MY GOSH, D- DID
AKIO-SAN JUST GIVE
ME A THUMBS UP??

D- DOES THAT MEAN...
MY PERFORMANCE
REALLY GOT BETTER
THAN THE FIRST HALF??

BUT ALL I DID WAS THE
EXACT THE SAME THING I
DID IN THE FIRST HALF...

LIGH... NO, ALMOST THE
SAME THING... EXCEPT
MOM'S TRICK...

GASP D- DON'T
TELL ME THAT IT
REALLY WORKS...?



T- THERE'S NO WAY...

T- THERE'S NO WAY THAT TRICK WORKS, RIGHT?!

HOW CAN TELLING MYSELF THAT I'M A CONFIDENT GIRL HAS THAT MUCH IMPACT ON MY PERFORMANCE??

AND I DON'T FEEL ANY DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE. MAYBE IT'S JUST MY IMAGINATION?

BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE WHY AKIO-SAN GAVE ME THE THUMBS UP?



OR MAYBE... AM I
STARTING TO APPEAR
LIKE I'M A CONFIDENT GIRL
BECAUSE OF THOSE WORDS?

AH... THAT MIGHT EXPLAIN
WHY BOTH MOM, AND
AKIO-SAN WERE SMILING...

UGHH, I- IS THIS WHY MOM
SAID I HAVE TO ACCEPT THE
FACT I'M A REAL G- GIRL??

I- IF MY THEORY IS
CORRECT, THEN THAT
MEANS...

T- THIS COULD BE MY
WAY TO GET PASS THIS
EVALUATION!



AH, I SEE HOW IT IS NOW...

I REALLY NEED TO BE THAT GIRL TO MAKE IT WORKS!

OH, THAT INSTRUCTOR FROM LAST TIME ALSO TOLD ME SOMETHING SIMILAR TOO, RIGHT?

MORE CONFIDENT, AND SEXIER... YEAH...

AND IF IT WORKS THE SAME WAY AS MOM'S TRICK, THEN I SHOULD BE ABLE TO PASS THIS WITH NO PROBLEM AT ALL!

LET'S KEEP GOING THEN!

AND THE SESSION CONTINUED...

YES... JUST LIKE THAT...

CONFIDENT...



I JUST NEED TO BE CALM...

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FLASH

AND... SEXY...

YES...

HEH, I THINK I'M
STARTING TO GET THE
HANG OF THIS.

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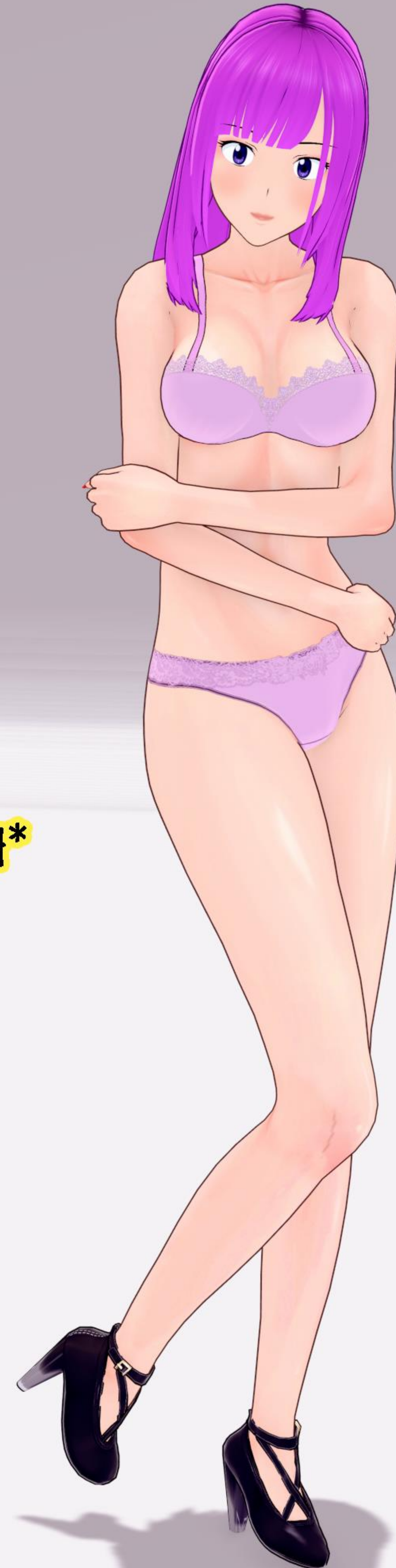
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FLASH

THAT'S ME...

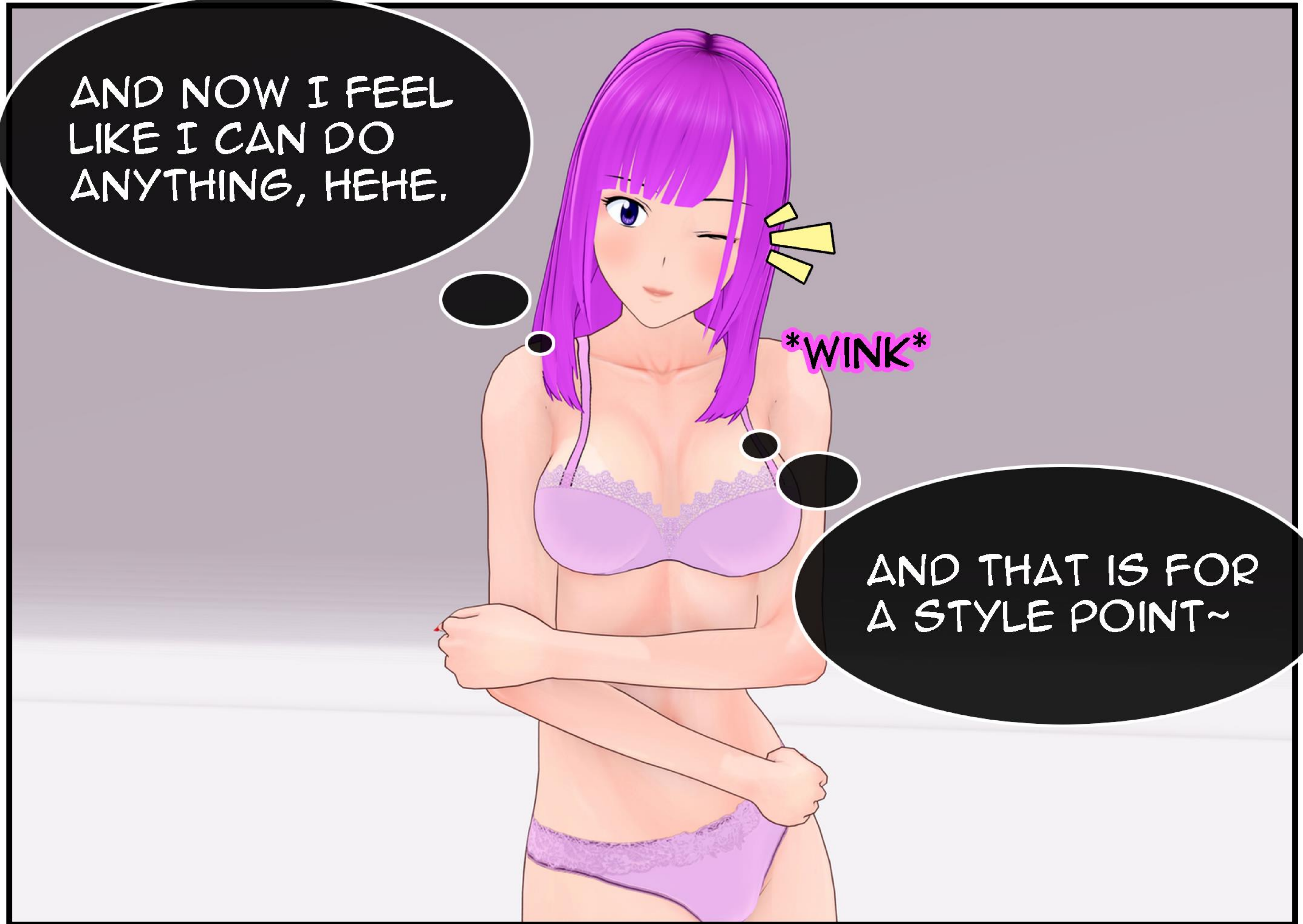
I DON'T HAVE TO DO
ANYTHING AT ALL,
JUST LET IT ALL COME
OUT NATURALLY.





I ALREADY HAD EVERYTHING I NEED FROM THE START.

I JUST HAVE TO BELIEVE IN MYSELF MORE, RIGHT?



AND NOW I FEEL LIKE I CAN DO ANYTHING, HEHE.

WINK

AND THAT IS FOR A STYLE POINT~

Exit



配線


OF COURSE,
AKIO-KUN, HAHA.

HUHLUHU~ LET'S
SAY IT'S JUST
MOTHER-DAUGHTER
THING.

WOW... IS THAT THE
SAME RIKA-CHAN FROM
BEFORE?

WHAT DID YOU DO
TO HER, AIKO-SAN?
SHE SEEMED...
DIFFERENT.

HUH...



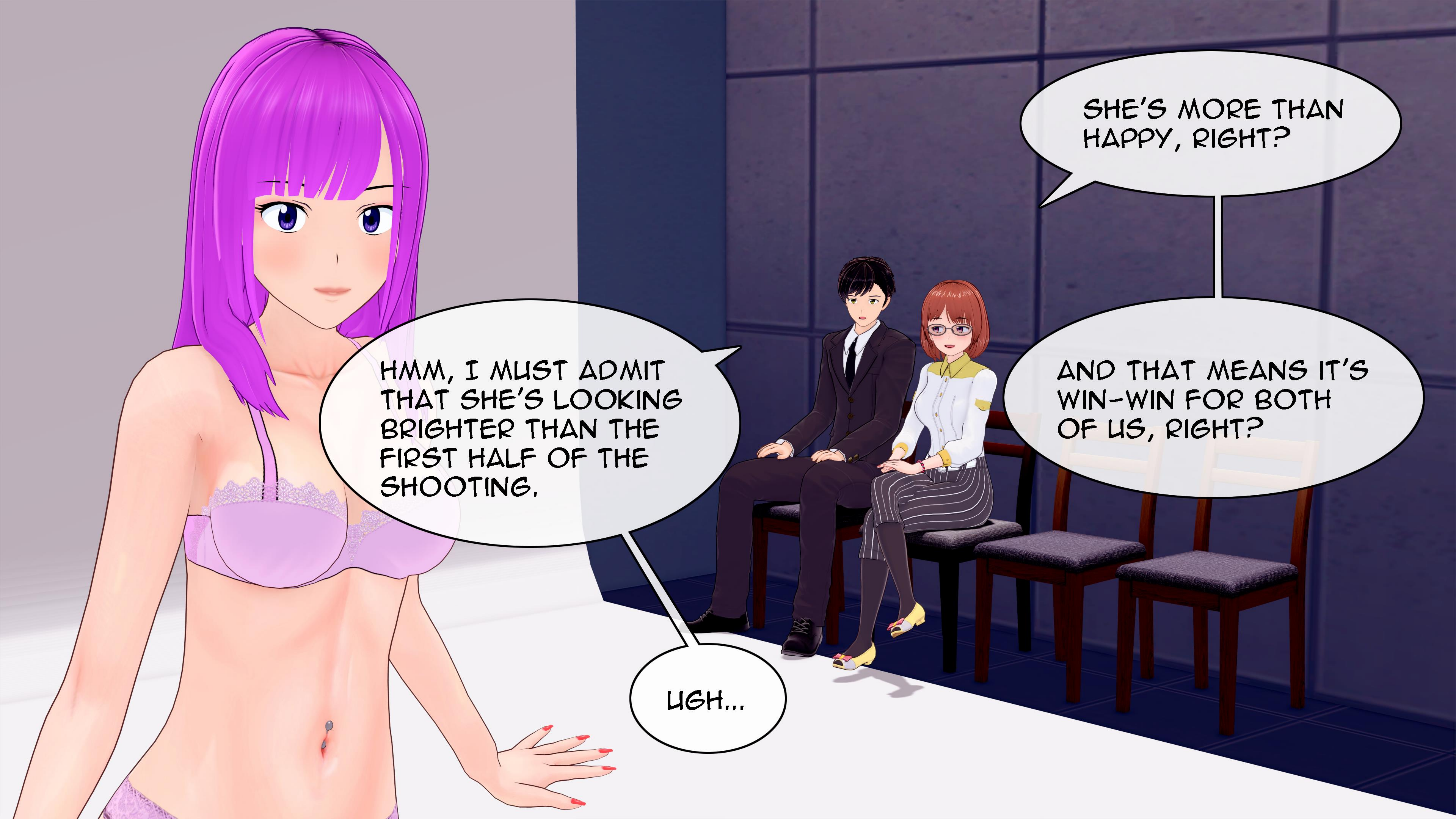
UGH... AT FIRST I DIDN'T
THINK IT WOULD TURN
OUT LIKE THIS.

THAT'S TRUE, BUT I
STILL FELT BAD SAYING
THOSE WORDS TO HER
DURING THE BREAK.

I KNOW, THE RESULT
EVEN SURPRISES ME
TOO. SHE DID A LOT
BETTER THAN I THOUGHT.

OH MY, YOU'RE SUCH A
WORRIER, AKIO-KUN. I
TOLD YOU IT WAS
GOING TO BE FINE.

CAN'T YOU SEE HER
FACE RIGHT NOW?

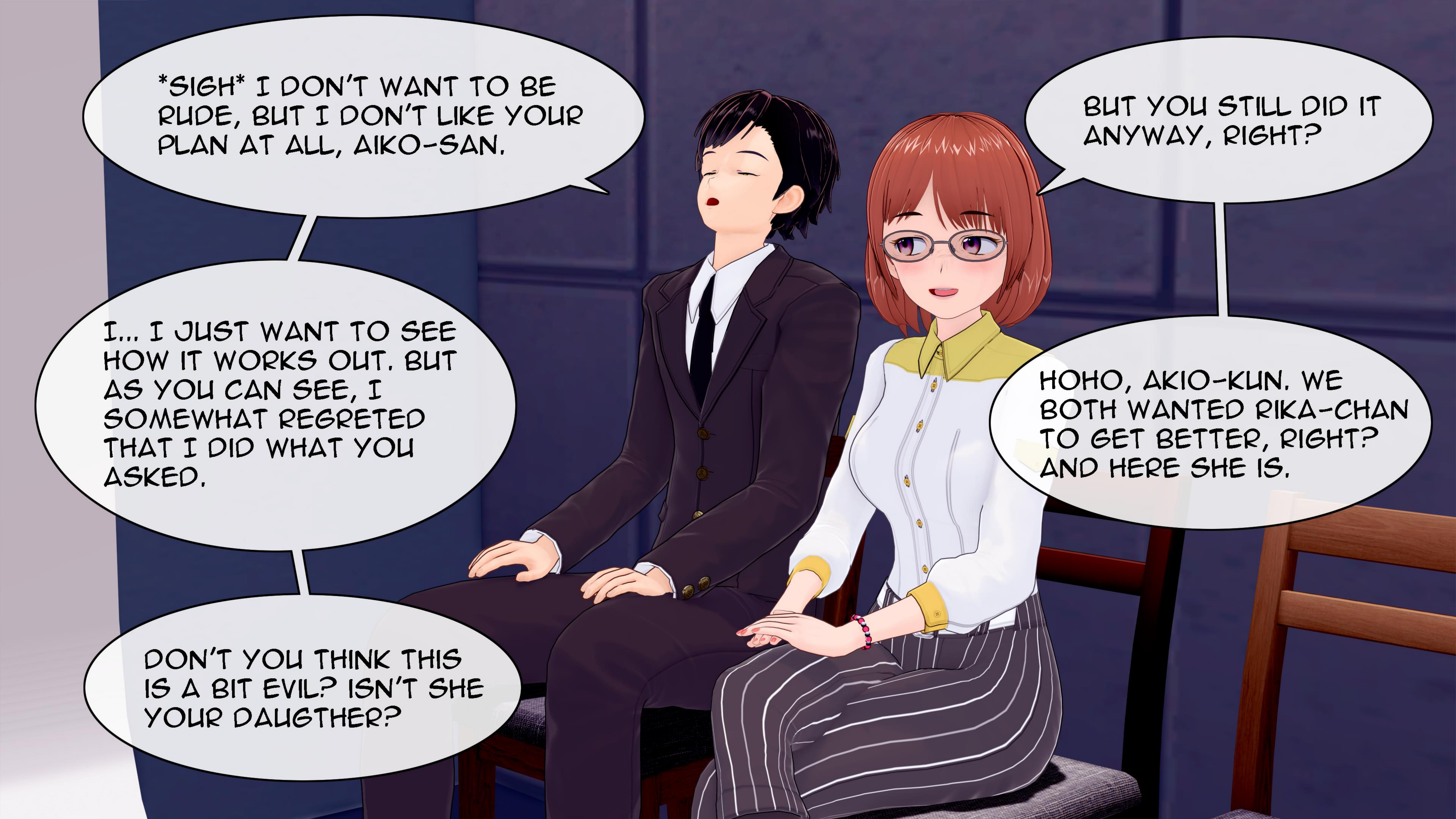


HMM, I MUST ADMIT THAT SHE'S LOOKING BRIGHTER THAN THE FIRST HALF OF THE SHOOTING.

UGH...

SHE'S MORE THAN HAPPY, RIGHT?

AND THAT MEANS IT'S WIN-WIN FOR BOTH OF US, RIGHT?



SIGH I DON'T WANT TO BE RUDE, BUT I DON'T LIKE YOUR PLAN AT ALL, AIKO-SAN.

BUT YOU STILL DID IT ANYWAY, RIGHT?

I... I JUST WANT TO SEE HOW IT WORKS OUT. BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, I SOMEWHAT REGRETED THAT I DID WHAT YOU ASKED.

HOHO, AKIO-KUN. WE BOTH WANTED RIKA-CHAN TO GET BETTER, RIGHT? AND HERE SHE IS.

DON'T YOU THINK THIS IS A BIT EVIL? ISN'T SHE YOUR DAUGHTER?



BUT SHE'S ALREADY GREAT TO BEGIN WITH, EVEN THE EXPERT SAID SO.

HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?

AND THAT'S THE POINT, I'D DO ANYTHING TO HELP MY DAUGHTER GROWS, YOU KNOW?

WELL, I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT JUST MODELING, AKIO-KUN.

WELL, IT'S A FAMILY MATTER, HOHO.

AGAIN, I DON'T WANT TO BE RUDE, BUT IT FEELS SO WEIRD TO TALK TO YOU SOMETIMES, AIKO-SAN.

HAHA, REALLY? WELL, I THINK I'D LIKE TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.

AND SO, LOOKS LIKE MY PLAN WORKED AS EXPECTED.

IT TOOK A LOT OF EFFORT, BUT I THINK I CAN SEE THAT SOMETHING HAS CHANGED IN RIKA'S EYES.

AND THAT MAKES MY HEART POUNDING EVEN MORE.

AHHHH, TODAY IS SO WORTH IT!