

# Card review : Artem - Resonant heartstring



Notation (very subjective) out of 20 :

- **Art : 4/5**
  - **Reason :** I like everything with the theme of music so I obviously like it a lot, but not full mark because it's missing a spark in my opinion

- **Story plot (the idea of the story, how interesting/emotional and good it was) :**  
7/8
- **Story writing (flow of sentences, of the story, translation, how it's written, how the characters behaved) :** 3/7
- **Special bonus point (for the card I especially liked) :** 0/1
  - **Reason for the bonus point :** /

**Total : 14/20**

**Lore card, Fluff card or both ? :** Fluff card

PSA : *Top-Up cards are easy to skip in my opinion because it involves money. Do not spend what you don't have !*

### **Story Keywords :**

- Music
- Violin x Cello
- Comfort and reassurance

### **Act per act summary :**

(Note : the story takes place before the move in together)

#### **Act 1**

Artem and Rosa go to an orphanage for a legal consultation return visit. On the way, Artem shared with her that the orphanage received funding for a charity concert from a violinist. There, they meet Director Chen, very distressed, who informs them that the charity scammed them despite signing a donation agreement and they had to pay for the venue and all the other things, the charity tells them that they already got help and to stop contacting them. The children are very disappointed since they helped to prepare a lot and the media are praising the charity for what was actually paid by the orphanage. Artem and Rosa agree

to help legally but then the director asks them if they know a violinist they can ask for help in this matter, and Artem says he will see. Outside, Rosa asks him if he has an idea for the violinist and he tells her he thought about her. After reassuring her and saying he can play the cello with her, they go back inside to inform the director.

## **Act 2**

The next day, they talk with Celestine about the problem and she decides to make the law firm organize and fund the whole event with their yearly charity funding. They give her a document about the overall process they drafted and Celestine is surprised to see them perform for the event but cheer on them. Back at Artem's place, they go to the home theater to practice their instruments. Rosa asks him why he learned cello and Artem answers that it was to lift his spirits. When he entered college, he often looked at the cases with absolute rationality, so an upperclassman suggested learning an instrument to be able to draw out some emotions from the art. He also liked the cello before so he took the opportunity to try it out. As Artem is tuning his instrument, Rosa remembers what her teacher told her about "feeling" the right pitch, so she comes up with a little game for him. She dims the lights and blindfold Artem with his own tie. She then plays some piano chords and makes him guess. After getting all of them perfectly, Artem suggests doing the reverse and as Rosa is waiting to get blindfolded, she is instead kissed softly.

## **Act 3**

The next few days, they continue dealing with the legal matter of the orphanage and practicing too. They choose 6 songs, 5 easy and one harder called Carnival fantasia, so are trying their best to practice but Director Chen calls Artem as they do. When he hangs up after confirming everything is going smoothly, he decides that they should go to bed and continue practicing tomorrow. When they finally settle to go to bed, Director Chen calls them back, sending them an important document for the lawsuit. They decide to work on it all night and go to bed early in the morning. They wake up a few hours later to practice, but as Rosa is sleepy, Artem tells her to take a break. She does so, but is still stressed about the deadline approaching. Artem presents to her a balanced schedule so that they can get enough rest and practice and then she falls asleep in his arms.

#### **Act 4**

The day of the performance, Rosa wakes up before the alarm goes off. Artem is getting ready and, seeing Rosa, he notices her worries about playing. He takes some time to comfort her, soothing her worries and complimenting her. He starts to massage her thanks to skills he learned to help her relax. After this, Rosa remembers something that helped her when she was young, so she says to Artem's ears "You're the best three times", which makes him laugh. She suddenly remembers her parents who did that to her, so Artem returns her encouragement to her. They hug and get ready to leave.

#### **Act 5**

Once at the concert, they are surprised by the scale of the event and the fact there are TV reporters too. Rosa, feeling nervous, gets taken by the crew to do her makeup and hair. After she's finished, Artem goes to fetch her and takes her to the venue, which the kids decorated with origami, flowers, handmade plushies, garlands... Artem uses that to reassure Rosa once again, who feels a bit more ready. They go on stage and start playing. They perform well, until she lets out a note early in the last song. Artem improvises and she does too, making a little solo, before going back to the melody and finishing. After they are over with the performance, children crowd them to compliment them and ask questions. Rosa is thankful to Artem for his everlasting support.

#### **Act 6**

Director Chen comes to them and compliments them for the performance. Artem informs him they are currently negotiating with the scammers to sort everything out. The director thanks them once again before he is urged to leave. Celestine comes then and shows them the raw footage that will be broadcast online. She also leaves fast before Rosa can protest. As they go to a private place to sit, she complains about if she knew it was going to be broadcast, she would have tried to do better. Artem tells her she looked perfect for the entire performance. They share to one another how they feel so in love together. Back at the home theater after the concert, Artem gifts Rosa a brand new scarlet bow with a carved rose at the end of it. She asks him when he prepared it and he tells her the very day they came back from the orphanage. Rosa starts to tease him with the bow, before leaving the bow aside and snuggling against him. They hug each other, listening to each other's "words from their heart", feeling close like never before.

## **Personal opinion**

### General (made along my reading) :

I was soooo happy to start this story only to be mad at the very first act 😭😭 Cursing the writers very hard rn.

Rosa ?? Are you stupid ?? Why do you rely on Artem to think of a solution before thinking a bit and realize YOU are the solution ?? 😭 She played the violin for half of her life but forgot about it ?? Nah please 😭

I would understand if she hesitated only because it's been long since she didn't play, but girl you used to compete and even won a medal please, how can she \*say\* she never performed in public ?? 😭😭 A competition is in public, even in front of a committee, there are at least several judges, which makes, oh surprise, a public, and worse : a musically trained public which will judge you harder than lambda public. If she said she isn't used to a large audience, maybe why not. But here ????? Nah, that's a mistake, you can't un-canon stuff like this, writers ?? The \*\*\*only\*\*\* thing which stays canon despite switching routes are the characters' past. We learned about Rosa's music background in the Main Story, Luke's personal story, and 2 permanent SRs (Vyn's and Marius'). It's the very basis of her character. Rosa knows how to play violin and guitar. She might be better in violin bc she competed tho but stopped since college to pick up guitar.

Also, also, also, she should have reacted more strongly to the fact Artem plays the cello rather than fawn over what he would look like while performing. Why the cello, when did he learn, why never telling her before ?? I'm sure he will explain later but her reaction was so bad...

I also dislike this trend of Artem pulling up random skills from his magical hat. In my opinion, no matter how reserved he is, that specific info should have been known waaaaay before by Rosa, mostly because she has strong musical ties. Even if the player didn't know. But Rosa too didn't know about it (and her immediate reaction was to wonder about what he looks like while performing).

I know a card shouldn't get too technical since it's a romance game and the focus is not there, but I wish we would have seen more about the practice and music especially you know... It was the main topic...

Most of the time in this card, it was Rosa feeling anxious and Artem comforting. Sure there were some cute moments. But for most of the time, it feels like bringing down Rosa to elevate Artem and I dislike it so much. I would have liked it better to see the reverse, Artem not being sure about performing in front of the audience and Rosa, having experience in the matter since she competed and even won gold, reassuring him while still being stressed too. Could have given good chemistry, different from their usual cards, but oh well we got what we got huh...

I am sorry, I need to say it : I understand why a lot of CN Artem fans quit the game last year after the 3rd anniversary. The streak of "average" cards or straight up "bad" cards for Artem we got this year seriously needs to be discussed.

This story was honestly very good idea wise. The art is great too. The ending was very good too. Artem was super caring and thoughtful, his gift was very very very good, touching and special, my favorite moment. But the way the writers wrote Rosa was absolutely abominable in this card. They brought her down, making her stressed and not as proficient in violin as she is, just to bring Artem up and make him "better" and I really can't stand it. Like, ok for making her stressed, but make him stressed too for ONCE. It's also time to see Artem build up some skills \*during\* the card rather than just saying he has this, display it for a while and that's it. Or learning stuff specifically for Rosa for once... He just feels like a Gary-Stu at this point and it's NOT good...

What I liked (bullet points) :

- The bow as a gift was such a beautiful, amazing, extremely thoughtful gift and it touched me way more than most of the cards.
- Artem being supportive throughout the card.

What I disliked (bullet points) :

- The way Rosa was dumbed down and also brought down (her skills downplayed for Artem to shine)
- Most of the card focuses on Artem soothing Rosa and not on music.

- The fact Artem pulled his skill out of his magician hat, this trope happening a bit too often. I'd rather see him learn something for a specific purpose, struggle, fail to ultimately master it. Doesn't matter what it is or how, but what they are doing it rn is just making him a Gary-Stu...

Would I recommend getting this story ?

No. It's a top-up but the story isn't top-up worthy. Unless you like the art very much, okay, but don't top-up for this card.