

[Chapter 3: Side B]

[SUNK COST FALLACY]

{8:45 P.M.}



Scout APP

[Scout smirks, walking further into the hotel.]



Rin APP

...

[She's *very* tired. She hurries and follows Scout - She's never really been in a hotel before, but this guy must be going to where the rooms are, right?]

{11:32 P.M.}

[HE VERY CLEARLY DOES NOT]

[Rin has been slowly trailing behind Scout, her feet aching as they step along the winding halls of the Celestial Resort, with (thankfully) minimal platforming challenges.]

[I mean, the rooms have to be around here *somewhere*, right?]

[After the first hour or so, she realized that, *no*, fancy hotels don't require a walk this long to get to the rooms, even if this place is, in all fairness, *kind of* a labyrinth. She really, *really* wants to complain, ask him if he even knows where he's going (RHETORICAL QUESTION), just try and go off on her own, but...]

[Reason #1. 彼女は日本語を話す.]

[Reason #2:]

SCOUT: -And it turned out that, get dis, SOLDIER had a full cave of the stuff da whole time! Den I think Miss Pauling threw it into the ocean or some crap, I dunno, I stopped paying attention 'round then. Actually-

[She couldn't get in a word even if she tried. The story is kind of interesting, when she can understand it, at the very least. She's glad Scout left this "Miss Pauling" alone, too-]

SCOUT: Uh, Ring, right?

[He keeps moving, but suddenly turns, meeting Rin's eyes as he walks backwards.]

RIN: ...Rin.

SCOUT: Rin, yeah!

SCOUT: We've just been walking fer a bit now, and I'm noticin' you ain't even, like, responding to anything I say? Kinda feels like I'm talking to a brick wall?

RIN:

SCOUT: Heavy, *he's one of my pals*, he once told me "A conversation is a freakin' die a logs, not a mon 'o logs, baby man", and like I don't *really* know what dat means, but I think he was tryna tell me dat, y'know, *both* people are 'spose to talk when you're having a conversation.

RIN:

SCOUT: And, like, you've barely said crap since I started talking! At first I was like "Oh, dis is better than telling me to shut up like all my other pals do", but it's *worse*, that's so weird, right? I mean, it feels like y'can't even understand me.

[Rin stops walking. She understood, like, every *fifth* word of that entire thought.]

RIN?:[You should kill this guy Rin]

RIN: I.

RIN: Do not.

RIN: Speak.

RIN: Engllllllish.

[Blinking in surprise as he keeps walking backward.]

SCOUT?: [God, how stupid /s this chick? Hahl]

SCOUT: I barely can either!

[He shrugs, smirking.]

RIN: ...

SCOUT: No, like, seriously. The city of Teufort don't consider me to h-
AUGUHHAUHFHIHJJHQJD

[He was too busy walking backwards to notice him walking straight into a vending machine, bonking against it and falling to the floor like a ragdoll.]

RIN: !!!

[She quickly runs over, holding out a hand for him to grab.]

[He rubs his noggin as he looks up, seeing this kid trying to help him up.]

SCOUT: 'Ey, thanks pally!

[He grabs Rin's hand, allowing her to pull-]

[...]

[She's certainly *trying* to pull him up, at least. She's straining pretty hard, but she's barely gotten him off the ground.]

RIN?:[How's the muscle atrophy treating you?]

[...Well, it's the thought that counts, right?]

SCOUT?: [WEAK!]

[He helps with pulling himself up, pushing against the vending machine as leverage.]

SCOUT: But I getcha. If y'can't talk, dat's fine. I'll just have to fire off all m'brain cells to find those hotel rooms on my own!

[She kind of reminds him of his kids. That he has.]

[She rubs the back of her head, looking away, embarrassed. She should have said something to warn him about the vending machine. It's like...]

SCOUT: Now let's- OH MY GOD OH MY GOD

[She jumps, following Scout's gaze, seeing that the vending machine was-]



SCOUT: OH HELL YEAH!

[He immediately begins fishing in his bag for coins. He *needs* this. That ice girl froze his last can of Bonk, he needs to stock up now.]

[...She runs a hand along the surface of the machine, her whole hand now caked in dust. Just how old *is* this?]

SCOUT: Y'never have Bonk before?

[...She shakes her head. She's never even *heard* of it.]

SCOUT: Oh, it's great, trust me. I'll buy ya one!

[He takes out a handful of quarters and begins putting them into the machine.]

[Soon enough, after putting in several coins, Scout has drained the entire machine of its supply of BONK.]

SCOUT: Sweet!

[He scoops up the cans, putting all of them in his bag aside from two, as he tosses one to Rin.]

[Which she barely catches- Why is the can *buzzing*]

SCOUT: Y'know, each of dese are sponse to be worth, like, half a scrap. I way overpaid, but I guess dat's cuz it's a fancy hotel, right?

[He cracks open his radioactive beverage, taking a long sip. His form visibly *blurs* for a few moments, before settling as he sighs, satisfied.]

SCOUT: It's worth it, though!

[Does She Want To Drink This Oh God]

SCOUT: What, y'don't want it?

[Please God No She Will *Die* Get It Away From Her-]

RIN: Y-Yes...

[She holds the can out, allowing Scout to take it back.]

SCOUT: Oh well. More for me, eh?

SCOUT: I just figured you'd be all tired and crap by now, y'know? Don't want you passing out right as we're bout to find those rooms.

SCOUT: Actually, lemme just...

[He takes out another coin as he stuffs the can of Bonk in his bag. He puts it into the machine and orders one of those weird, off brand CANADIAN sodas dat Oshiro guy must've put in the machine.]

[He grabs it, and hands the can to Rin.]

[This is a can of Pepsi]

SCOUT: Probably tastes like crap, but just in case, y'know?

RIN: ...T-Thank you...

SCOUT: Now let's get movin', pal!

[He starts walking, forwards this time, his cans of bonk clinking inside his bag.]

[...Huh. She follows, quietly opening her can of soda. It's been so long since she's had it...]

[...Reason #3. Because she doesn't want to be alone- Oh this is very expired]

