

Asahina Mafuyu — Side Story

[2*] 25ji, Night Code de.

Translation by @mafuyuasahina on Twitter/chronos#0001 on Discord.

Formatting note: if you're reading this on mobile (in the Docs app), I suggest enabling Print layout; tap the three dots at the top right and press the option there.

Part One

— Location: Mafuyu's room —



Kanade	I'd like for you to try taking this psychological test.
Mafuyu	A psychological test?
Kanade	Yeah. It's something I heard about from our housekeeper. I asked them if there was anything I could do to help out a friend who doesn't understand who they really are.
Mafuyu	And their answer was... this test?
Kanade	Yeah.

	<p>I gave it a go myself, and it was pretty interesting. So, do you wanna try?</p>
Mafuyu	<p>Sure.</p>
Kanade	<p>Thanks. Alright, here we go. “Right now, you’re walking alone on a beach. The skies are clear, you can hear the sound of the waves, and you feel truly relaxed.”</p>
Mafuyu	<p>...What beach am I on?</p>
Kanade	<p>I asked the same thing, but apparently that doesn’t really matter. What’s important is that you just answer according to whatever you’re thinking of. Don’t get too caught up in whether it’s realistic or not.</p>
Mafuyu	<p>...I see.</p>
Kanade	<p>Let’s keep going. “Along the beach you’re walking on, there’s a harbour where a single ship is docked.” “Question 1: how large is that ship? Could you board it easily? Or would it be difficult?”</p>
Mafuyu	<p>A ship... ...It’s a gigantic ship, I feel. I don’t think I could enter it easily. You’d need a written invitation, I think.</p>
Kanade	<p>I see...</p>
Mafuyu	<p>You took this too, right, K? How did you answer?</p>
Kanade	<p>That it was a worn-down ship. You could board it easily, but a hole’s opened up in the bottom of the ship and it’s all falling apart. So it would be better not to get on it.</p>
Mafuyu	<p>...I see.</p>

Kanade	There's one more question, so just answer it first. "Question 2: when you board the ship, there's an animal on board as well. What kind of animal is it?"
MafuyuA dragon.
Kanade	A... a dragon? We're suddenly in a fantasy world, huh?
Mafuyu	What did you answer, K?
Kanade	A shark.



Mafuyu	What do these questions show?
Kanade	First, the size of the ship. Apparently you can learn the size of someone's ambitions through their answer to this one.
Mafuyu	Ambition...
Kanade	How easy it was to board the ship shows a person's character. The easier it is to board it, the more open a person supposedly is. People who imagined it as being hard to board are more closed off, and

	<p>the type to deal with their worries alone.</p> <p>Yuki, you said it was a huge ship that you needed an invitation to board, right?</p>
Mafuyu	...I guess I'm quite a difficult person, hm?
Kanade	Maybe so.
Mafuyu	How about the animal that was on the ship?
Kanade	<p>The animal reflects the level of worry you feel in your everyday life. Those who answered with pet-like animals, like cats or dogs, give the impression that they're generally happy people.</p> <p>Small animals like mice mean that you have a few worries in your life. People who answered with livestock animals like cows or horses seem content, but actually have worries hidden deep inside.</p> <p>And those who answered with large, scary animals such as lions have so many worries piling up that they're on the verge of exploding...</p>
Mafuyu	K, your shark and my dragon fall under that last category, hmm?
Kanade	<p>...Hey, Yuki.</p> <p><i>[music stops]</i></p> <p>If there comes a time when you're about to explode, it's alright for you to drag us into it.</p> <p>No — make sure you do.</p>
Mafuyu	...Okay.

Part Two

— Location: A family restaurant —



Ena	This is, what, the third time we're all meeting up like this?
Mizuki	It's become completely normal for us to do this now, right? I'm glad I took the plunge and asked you guys!
Ena	It really caught me off guard at first, y'know. Meeting up with you all after we'd only just released one song together...



Ena	Kanade, you sure this isn't too much for you? You didn't seem too enthusiastic before...
Kanade	I'm not too keen on meeting up too often, but if it's just once in a while like this, it's fine.
Ena	Okay! I'm glad.



Mizuki	You okay too, Mafuyu?
Mafuyu	...Yeah.
Mizuki	Alllll right! Once our order gets here, let's kick off this celebration! Kanade, you never eat anything but cup noodles, so you gotta eat properly, 'kay?
Kanade	My housekeeper made dinner for me yesterday, so I ate a proper meal.
Ena	Eh - your housekeeper?! Kanade, you have one of those?
Kanade	Yeah. I want to dedicate as much of my time as I can to making songs, but it wouldn't be good if my body started falling apart, so twice a week they come by and do things like cooking, and sometimes cleaning.
Mafuyu	...Could it be... that your housekeeper is a student at my school?
Kanade	Eh? Mafuyu, you think Mochizuki-san might go to your... What makes you think that?
Mafuyu	There's a classmate I talk to a lot during our club activities, and she mentioned that someone she knows is working as a housekeeper.
Ena	Wow, so you have people you talk to at school? What kinda person is she?
Mafuyu	I don't know. Her name is Hinomori Shizuku, and she's apparently a famous idol, but I don't know much. Anyway —
Ena	Hold up! Hinomori Shizuku - you mean the center of Cheerful Days?!
Mizuki	Yeah, yeah! The one who quit, right?! She goes to your school, Mafuyu? How lucky! She's a bona fide beauty, right? Nothing like Ena...
Ena	What was that? Putting aside our faces, if you consider the overall balance of our bodies, then I'm just as...

Mizuki	When you take photos, you always push your chest together, don't you?
Ena	I do <i>not</i> ! Would you stop slandering —



Mafuyu	(Terrifying music begins to play.) ... Hey, you two.
--------	--



Ena & Mizuki	Ah -
Mafuyu	Would you kindly let me continue?
Mizuki	W-Wow... S-So this is Mafuyu when she's pissed off...
Ena	The air is... stifling...
Mafuyu	I didn't mean to get angry. ...Am I angry? If so, I've made a useful discovery. Thank you, you two.
Ena & Mizuki	(She isn't cracking a smile...)



Kanade	<i>[The pleasant music resumes.]</i> From what you were saying, you think that the housekeeper who visits me is the same as the one who goes to your school, Mafuyu?
--------	---

Mafuyu	Yes. It's a rare part-time job to have, so I just thought that might be the case.
Kanade	...I see. What a coincidence.
Mizuki	Ah, you know what, I just remembered too! My friend from my class, An - apparently she's gotten together and has started singing with some guys from our school and a girl from Miya Girls'. ...Anyway, it seems like one of those guys is named 'Shinonome'... Don't you think that could be your little brother, Ena? Have you heard him mention anything recently?
Ena	Dunno. I don't really talk about that kinda stuff with Akito.
Mizuki	Huh... You're his big sister, though, aren't cha? How cold of you...
Ena	I just don't really care, so what am I meant to do?
Mafuyu	...The world... is quite small, huh. All of us, too - we've been living in the same town all this time, and now we're eating a meal together...
Kanade	...Is that a bad thing? Or a good thing?
Mafuyu	...I don't know. But it's not a bad feeling.
Kanade	...I see.
Mizuki	Well, in any case, meeting face-to-face like this and eating together is fun, right? Ahh, here it comes! My huge pile of fries!
Ena	You just gotta order this every time you come here, don't you?

Mizuki	I mean, it's my favourite food! C'mon, you guys, have some before they cool down! I'm gonna eat them once they <i>have</i> cooled down, though.
Kanade	Mizuki, you really do have a tongue like a cat, don't you?
Mafuyu	Okay, I'll take some. Sorry if there's not enough left for you, Mizuki.
Mizuki	E-Eh?! The way you just said that, Mafuyu, I can't tell if you're joking or not!
Mafuyu	Thank you for the food.