

2 - The Hibiscus Hair Ornament

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(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

[00:01] Yu

*When did I last talk
with a girl that wasn't Himari?*

[00:07] Yu

Mornin'. You work the night shift?

[00:09] Sakura

Yup. Jeez...

[00:12] Sakura

I thought I was tired,
but you don't look too hot yourself.

[00:16] Yu

I guess I'm just not great
at handling change.

[00:19] Sakura

You sit alone and fidget
around with accessories.

[00:22] Sakura

What kind of change could
you possibly encounter?

[00:25] Yu

Ouch, Saku-nee-san...

[00:30] Sakura

So a girl asked you
to fix your bracelet, huh?

[00:35] Sakura

Maybe it'll be good inspiration.

[00:38] Yu

Inspiration? How?

[00:40] Sakura

Well you're always making stuff
based on Himari-chan's image.

[00:45] Sakura

To be honest, your accessories
all look the same recently.

[00:50] Sakura

They just give off the same vibe.

[00:54] Sakura

Like a garden frozen in time.

[00:57] Yu

Garden?

[00:58] Sakura

Don't tell me you didn't notice.

[01:03] Sakura

There's no romantic passion...

[01:05] Sakura

Or despair from heartbreak.

[01:08] Sakura

Your work could use some
of that emotional range.

[01:11] Yu

B-But sales are doing great.

[01:14] Sakura

You sure?

[01:15] Sakura

Do you even have loyal repeat customers?

[01:19] Sakura

Look. We have a deal, remember?

[01:23] Sakura

If you can't open your own store
by the time you're thirty,

[01:25] Sakura

give it up and take over
our convenience store.

[01:28] Yu

I-I know.

[01:30] Sakura

Of course, you can marry
Himari-chan in that case.

[01:33] Sakura

You'll need to pay
for things after retirement,

[01:35] Sakura

and we'll get taken care of by a
pretty girl who's quick on her feet!

[01:39] Yu

My sister's the worst!

SIGN Can a Boy-Girl Friendship Survive?

SIGN (No, It Can't!!)

SIGN The Hibiscus Hair Ornament

[03:14] Yu

She's right, though.

[03:15] Yu

I don't have many repeat customers.

[03:21] Yu

*I've always thought every
accessory is one of a kind.*

[03:25] Yu

*That their purpose is to help the owner
shine for a brief moment in their life.*

[03:29] Yu

But that's just an excuse.

[03:31] Makishima

You never told me what happened
with Natsu yesterday.

[03:35] Makishima

How did it go?

[03:36] Rion

Nothing happened, obviously.

[03:39] Makishima

But you're gonna ask him, right?

[03:43] Makishima

Don't you want help from me,
your wingman?

[03:47] Makishima

So you can figure out your next move?

[03:51] Rion

I didn't ask for your help.

[03:53] Himari

There she is! Enocchi!

[03:56] Himari

Oh, look who's here.

[03:58] Makishima

Is that any way to greet someone?

[04:00] Makishima

Besides, I was talking with Rin-chan first.

[04:03] Himari

You're done, right?

[04:05] Makishima

Actually, we were just getting
to the juicy part.

[04:08] Girl A

Makishima-senpai!

[04:11] Makishima

What's the matter?

[04:11] Girl A

Could you take a look at my form?

[04:15] Himari

Aren't those the girls from the Tennis
Club you've been trying to get with?

[04:19] Himari

You shouldn't keep them waiting!

[04:22] Makishima

No need to warn me, Himari-chan.

[04:25] Himari

Now that we've got him out of the way...

[04:28] Himari

Enocchi, guess what? I've got a great idea!

[04:32] Himari

Wanna hear?

[04:33] Rion

I have a bad feeling about this.

[04:37] Yu

*You guys are the only ones who can
make me feel better in times of need.*

[04:40] Himari

Hey, Yu!

[04:42] Himari

No work today?

[04:44] Yu

After I'm done here,
I'm heading home for the day.

[04:46] Yu

What about you?

[04:47] Himari

I guess I'll help then!

[04:50] Himari

You seemed deep in
thought during class today.

[04:53] Yu

Way to notice, best friend.

[04:55] Himari

So what's up?

[04:57] Yu

I'm thinking about switching
things up for my next piece.

[05:01] Yu

The concepts: "romantic passion"
and "despair from heartbreak!"

[05:05] Himari

Bwa-ha! What the heck?!

[05:08] Himari

You're into romance all the sudden?

[05:11] Himari

So that's why!

[05:13] Himari

Sakura-san definitely has a point.

[05:16] Yu

You think so?

[05:17] Himari

You've always made stuff you liked yourself.

[05:21] Himari

But you need to value
the customer's perspective, too!

[05:26] Yu

The customer's perspective?

[05:28] Yu

So let's say I'll work on that.

[05:30] Yu

What do you think about
making romance the concept?

[05:33] Himari

It makes sense.

[05:34] Himari

Your main target is female customers.

[05:36] Himari

And girls love romance!

[05:39] Yu

I thought you said you
don't get that kinda stuff.

[05:44] Himari

I don't, but you know how guys come after me.

[05:48] Himari

It's game over by the time they confess.

[05:51] Himari

So I'm at the top of the food chain!

[05:53] Yu

Well then, Miss "Queen of Romance"...

[05:57] Yu

What exactly is love?

[05:58] Himari

Wanting to kiss or have sex with someone?

[06:01] Yu

Isn't that lust?

[06:03] Himari

But you don't feel that stuff
without romance, right?

[06:07] Himari

So wanting to kiss someone and liking
someone happens at the same time!

[06:12] Yu

So how's that different from lust?

[06:15] Himari

Maybe lust is just a receptor

for romantic attraction.

[06:19] Himari

By the way, what kinda stuff turns you on?

[06:21] Yu

You're asking me that?

[06:23] Himari

You like bigger boobs better?

[06:25] Himari

Do you like black hair?

Or some red undertones?

[06:28] Himari

Oh, and long hair only!

[06:30] Himari

How would kissing Enocchi make you feel?

[06:32] Yu

How did Enomoto-san enter
the picture all the sudden?

[06:35] Himari

I just figured it's easier to imagine
with a model in mind.

[06:40] Himari

I'm not trying to probe
your compatibility or anything.

[06:44] Yu

Wait.

[06:45] Yu

*Is she giving me the "Ugh,
virgins are so helpless" look?*

[06:50] Yu

*We're basically equally
inexperienced, you know.*

[06:55] Yu

I dunno.

[06:57] Yu

I've never looked at a girl
and wanted to kiss her.

[07:00] Himari

Wanna try it out?

[07:02] Himari

Try out kissing...

[07:04] Himari

with me.

[07:05] Yu

What?!

[07:07] Yu

We can't.

[07:09] Himari

Why not?

[07:09] Yu

'Cause wanting to kiss someone means romantic attraction.

[07:14] Yu

Is that how you see me?

[07:17] Himari

Nope! You're just a best friend!

[07:21] Himari

Neither of us know what it's like to wanna kiss someone, right?

[07:25] Himari

If we try it out, we might realize we've known the feeling all along!

[07:29] Yu

I gotta hand it to her.

[07:31] Yu

She definitely comes up original ideas.

[07:34] Yu

But this one's gotta be the stupidest one yet.

[07:36] Yu

That's no reason to kiss your friend.

[07:39] Yu

Hey—!

[07:41] Himari

If you don't feel anything, how's it any different from holding hands like this?

[07:45] Himari

It's the same skin-to-skin contact.

[07:48] Yu

Don't say that like I'm some loser secretly wanting to hold hands with girls.

[07:52] Himari

I'm holding hands on my own accord.

[07:55] Yu

Then that makes you the loser.

[07:57] Himari

Don't worry. I won't do this with anyone else.

[08:03] Himari

Ready?

[08:04] Yu

Hold up. Wait, calm down!

[08:06] Yu

She's just kidding like usual.

[08:08] Yu

She'll "Bwa-ha!" at me soon enough.

[08:11] Yu

But why are her cheeks red?

[08:13] Yu

And her eyes watering?

[08:14] Yu

No, don't tug at my tie!

[08:16] Yu

She's getting way too close.

[08:20] Yu

I-I can feel her breath!

[08:21] Yu

Why is my heart beating so hard?

[08:23] Yu

This isn't funny.

[08:26] Yu

But man, she's so pretty!

[08:34] Himari

Bwa-ha!

[08:38] Yu

I figured.

[08:41] Himari

My bad! I couldn't help myself.

[08:43] Yu

I knew it was a joke.

[08:45] Himari

*Besides, it'd be bad
if I did that with you right now.*

[08:50] Yu

There she goes.

[08:51] Yu

*"But wasn't I so cute when
I was tricking you into kissing me?"*

[08:55] Yu

Or something like that.

[08:57] Yu

Yeah, just adorable. Congrats.

[09:00] Himari

Alright!

[09:01] Himari

I'll repay you for being mean.

[09:04] Himari

Keep this Saturday afternoon open for me?

[09:06] Yu

Saturday afternoon? For what?

[09:09] Himari

It's a surprise!

[09:12] Yu

Later, that Saturday...

[09:15] Hibari

I haven't seen you in forever!
How've you been?

[09:17] Yu

Um, fine.

[09:18] Hibari

You haven't dropped by much
lately. I've missed you!

[09:23] Hibari

When Hibari asked me
to pick you up, I couldn't resist.

[09:26] Yu

I'm sorry for the trouble.
Oh, and the sushi the other day.

[09:31] Hibari

It's my pleasure!

[09:33] Hibari

I need to look after my
little brother-in-law.

[09:36] Yu

*He threw that in so casually,
I can't even push back.*

[09:39] Yu

Um, I'm not used to luxury sushi.

[09:42] Yu

It's a waste to spend it on me.

[09:46] Hibari

See, that's what I love about you,
little brother of mine!

[09:50] Yu

I wish I could combine you
with Saku-nee-san and divide it in half.

[09:54] Hibari

Sakura-kun?

[09:55] Hibari

I suppose she's never been one
to mince her words with anyone.

[09:59] Hibari

But her straightforwardness is her charm.

[10:02] Yu

She really let me have it the other day.

[10:05] Yu

You two were classmates, right?

[10:07] Hibari

That's right.

[10:07] Hibari

In high school, everyone knew
Sakura-kun as a brilliant talent.

[10:13] Yu

I wonder how we're so different
when we're siblings.

[10:17] Hibari

Yu-kun, you have talent
as an accessories maker.

[10:20] Hibari

What's not to love?

[10:22] Yu

Thank you.

[10:24] Hibari

You're welcome to work at our place
anytime you want, my dear little brother!

[10:30] Yu

*As a teenage guy, his overtly welcome
mood oddly has the opposite effect.*

[10:37] Yu

What plans do you have
after this, Hibari-san?

[10:40] Hibari

I'm off to work so I can beat those useless
geezers in upper management to a pulp.

[10:45] Hibari

As much as I'd love to hang out
with you and shop for anime merch...

[10:50] Hibari

That's the corporate hustle life!

[10:53] Yu

*I'm pretty sure he said something
terrifying before he sped off.*

[10:56] Yu

*Like Himari, you can never tell
if he's kidding or serious.*

[11:00] Himari

Hey, Yu!

[11:02] Himari

You're late! Was there traffic?

[11:05] Yu

Um, not really.

[11:07] Himari

Yu, don't I always say that
good style starts with yourself?

[11:13] Yu

"You have such a cute and stylish

girl waiting on you hand and foot."

[11:16] Yu

"The least you could do is dress better than like you just got off work."

[11:20] Yu

Is that it?

[11:21] Yu

I mean, she definitely is cute and stylish.

[11:25] Yu

Well, if your brother weren't rushing me, I could've changed.

[11:29] Himari

We have a special guest today.
It's not just us, you know!

[11:41] Rion

Hello.

[11:44] Yu

Huh?

[11:46] Yu

U-Um...

[11:48] Yu

Is Makishima coming, too?

[11:50] Rion

Shii-kun has practice today.

[11:52] Yu

O-Oh.

[11:54] Yu

Wait, didn't we break the ice the other day?

[11:58] Yu

Is she one of those video game characters whose interactions reset every day?

[12:02] Himari

Ahem. By the way, Yu.

[12:04] Himari

What's the imagery for your next product?

[12:07] Yu

Next product? I dunno.

[12:10] Himari

Well that's not good.

[12:11] Himari

You gotta try new things
if you wanna revamp your style!

[12:17] Yu

Sure, but new things like what?

[12:20] Himari

Lucky for you!

[12:21] Himari

Enocchi agreed to stand
in as a temporary model for you!

[12:25] Yu

What?

[12:26] Yu

Wait, you told her those
accessories were made by me?

[12:29] Himari

I didn't have to.

[12:30] Himari

Enocchi figured it out on her own.

[12:32] Rion

You had a huge stock of parts,
so I knew something was up.

[12:37] Yu

R-Right.

[12:39] Himari

Anyways, Enocchi asked me how she
could thank you for fixing her bracelet.

[12:44] Himari

So I thought it'd be nice to have
a different model for a change.

[12:49] Yu

Makes sense.

[12:51] Himari

Man, you're lucky you get to be with
such pretty girls under the guise of work.

[12:57] Himari

But Enocchi says she's game!

[12:59] Yu

But it's so sudden—

[13:03] Himari

Switching up the model is just
the inspiration you need!

[13:06] Himari

We can shoot at Enocchi's
confectionery shop!

[13:10] Yu

For real? Isn't that a bit much?

[13:12] Himari

The next holiday should be
pretty slow, it'll be fine!

[13:16] Himari

Right?

[13:17] Rion

U-Um, I should ask my mom—Ahh!

[13:25] Yu

Hey, Himari. This
is too brash, even for you.

[13:30] Himari

Enocchi's just as shy as you are.

[13:31] Himari

If I didn't push for it,
nothing would happen!

[13:34] Yu

Huh? What do you mean?

[13:37] Himari

It's a secret.

[13:41] Yu

Yes!

[13:43] Rion

He seems different than usual...

[13:46] Himari

Yup, like a kid in a candy store.

[13:48] Himari

Hey, Yu! Don't leave Enocchi alone!

[13:53] Himari

What about this garnet stone?

[13:55] Yu

Yeah! Enomoto-san, you look great in red.

[13:58] Himari

If we're sticking with warm tones,
this carnelian looks nice, too.

[14:02] Yu

Orange? Yeah, I like that, too!

[14:04] Rion

Natsume-kun, Hii-chan, what are you doing?

[14:07] Yu

Oops, sorry.

[14:08] Yu

We're seeing what colors
and accessories pair well with you.

[14:12] Yu

Oh no, was I being creepy?

[14:14] Rion

Not creepy. I'm just surprised.

[14:16] Himari

You can say it. Yu's a *total* creep!

[14:19] Yu

Hey. How about "Yu's not
creepy at all!" instead?

[14:22] Himari

Um, but you are creepy.

[14:24] Himari

Sorry to break it to you.

[14:26] Himari

I mean, you were talking
to yourself in an accessories shop!

[14:30] Yu

You didn't need to take it that far!

[14:32] Yu

Hey, don't run off! Himari-san!

[14:36] Himari

Enocchi really laughs at anything!

[14:38] Yu

Stop making fun of people.

[14:40] Himari

Hey, Yu.

[14:42] Himari

Enocchi has great skin,
so we should shoot some close-ups!

[14:46] Yu

Her nape is definitely a selling point.

[14:49] Yu

Do you mind if we try some on?

[14:52] Rion

Th-That's fine.

[14:53] Himari

Yu, could you put that necklace on Enocchi?

[14:57] Yu

I mean sure, but...

[14:59] Yu

Wouldn't that make her uncomfortable?

[15:02] Himari

You're fine, right Enocchi?

[15:04] Rion

I-I guess...

[15:07] Yu

Right. She doesn't see me that way.

[15:11] Yu

*"Ew, Natsume-kun. You're
such a self-conscious creep!"*

[15:14] Yu

*Better get this over with
before she says that.*

[15:17] Yu

Okay, sit still.

[15:23] Yu

There! How's—

[15:24] Himari

You know what I've been

thinking about all day?

[15:27] Himari

How sexy Enocchi's fashion sense is!

[15:31] Yu

Huh?!

[15:32] Yu

Himari! Shut up!

[15:33] Himari

Bwa-ha!

[15:34] Himari

Just kidding!

[15:35] Himari

Yu, your reaction screams "virgin!"

[15:39] Rion

Hii-chan!

[15:39] Himari

Ow, ow! Don't grab me like I'm a cat!

[15:42] Yu

*You're wrong for thinking it was
that harmless in the first place.*

[15:47] Yu

We've picked up enough parts.

[15:49] Yu

So I'll test out some flowers,
then design a new product to shoot.

[15:54] Rion

Okay.

[15:56] Rion

Wait, is that—

[15:59] Rion

Wow. They're so pretty.

[16:00] Yu

This place uses a lot
of flowers in their displays.

[16:04] Rion

It's like that one time!

[16:06] Yu

That one time?

[16:08] Rion

N-Never mind.

[16:11] Himari

Made up your mind?

[16:13] Yu

R-Right.

[16:15] Yu

I'm thinking warm tones.

[16:16] Yu

Something we're not already
growing in our garden.

[16:20] Himari

How about roses?

[16:22] Yu

Nah, that would feel like
a beauty with thorns.

[16:26] Yu

Enomoto-san's more like...

[16:29] Himari

You're right, she's the opposite.

[16:31] Yu

She seems thorny,
but she's actually really sincere.

[16:34] Himari

I told you. She's cute, right?

[16:37] Yu

Sure, she's cute but...

[16:40] Yu

What are you doing?

[16:41] Himari

I'm getting something to drink.

[16:42] Himari

You should apologize to Enocchi.

[16:45] Yu

You mean for what *you* did?

[16:48] Yu

Hey, don't leave us alone.

[16:51] Himari

Think of it as practice!

[16:52] Himari

I'll pay you back later.

[16:56] Himari

I've made my choice.

[16:57] Himari

I'll support their love.

[17:00] Himari

*I always imagined keeping Yu for myself until
someone who fully understood him came along.*

[17:09] Yu

Um, Enomoto-san...

[17:10] Yu

Sorry for what happened back there.

[17:12] Rion

Th-That was Hii-chan's fault.

[17:15] Yu

You two were friends

in elementary school, right?

[17:18] Yu

Was she always that brash?

[17:20] Rion

Nope.

[17:22] Rion

My mom and I used to
deliver cakes to her house.

[17:25] Rion

She was really quiet back then.

[17:28] Rion

She was always reading books in her room.

[17:30] Rion

Her mom asked me to be her friend,
so I gave her cookies.

[17:36] Yu

I can't really imagine that.

[17:40] Yu

Wh-What kind of flowers would you like?

[17:43] Yu

I was thinking the model should
decide the flower this time.

[17:47] Rion

Big ones.

[17:49] Rion

I like the big kind of flowers.

[17:52] Yu

Big flowers... That'd suit you perfectly.

[17:55] Yu

You're so pretty, big flowers
wouldn't overwhelm you.

[17:58] Yu

N-Not in a creepy way!

[18:00] Rion

I know. You don't need to keep saying that.

[18:03] Rion

So what's the plan?

[18:05] Yu

Big flowers and the concept of romance.

[18:08] Yu

How about tulips?

[18:10] Yu

They represent "love" and "thoughtfulness."

[18:13] Yu

They're actually really sensual.

[18:16] Yu

Depending on how they bloom,

they can feel different.

[18:18] Rion

How they bloom?

[18:19] Rion

They're not all the same?

[18:21] Yu

It changes with temperature.

[18:23] Yu

Flower shops monitor that stuff,
but it's obvious when they grow outside.

[18:27] Yu

I used to observe them... Sorry!

[18:30] Yu

That was probably a weird topic.

[18:32] Rion

Why's that?

[18:33] Yu

I've never been into baseball or soccer.

[18:36] Yu

I didn't have friends.

[18:37] Yu

I've been told a million
times that I'm boring.

[18:41] Yu

L-Let me go check out!

[18:42] Yu

I'll meet you outside.

[18:45] Rion

Why do you like flowers so much?

[18:49] Yu

Do I have to answer?

[18:51] Yu

I appreciate you being a model,
but that's kind of—

[18:55] Rion

Tell me.

[18:57] Yu

Queen of the night...

[18:59] Yu

It only blooms for one night.

[19:01] Yu

*But its scent is so captivating,
keepers can't help but grow them.*

[19:07] Yu

When I was in elementary school,
my family and I went to a botanical garden.

[19:11] Yu

I ended up wandering off on my own.

[19:20] Yu

This girl I never saw
before was lost like me.

[19:24] Yu

So I looked for her parents with her.

[19:29] Yu

And used what little allowance I had.

[19:33] Yu

She said she'd take it home
to remember me by.

[19:37] Yu

That she'd wear it in her hair every day.

[19:40] Yu

Obviously, I'm sure they wilted.

[19:43] Yu

That's how I started learning about flowers.

[19:45] Yu

So I could preserve them
for as long as possible.

[19:48] Yu

And maybe they'd find her one day.

[19:51] Yu

S-See? I told you it's creepy!

[19:52] Yu

Enough story time.

[19:54] Yu

I haven't told anyone besides Himari this—

[19:56] Rion

It was a hibiscus, wasn't it?

[19:58] Rion

The flower she wore in her hair.

[20:00] Rion

It was so beautiful.

[20:02] Rion

So big and bright red.

[20:05] Rion

You told her they were like
the color of her hair.

[20:10] Rion

I always hated my hair color,
but ever since then,

[20:14] Rion

it hasn't seemed all that bad.

[20:18] Rion

Natsume-kun, your flowers did find her.

[20:25] Yu

Thanks for letting me know...

[20:27] Rion

Yu-kun!

[20:36] Yu

*The hibiscus represents
"delicate beauty" and "new love."*

[20:49] Yu

Did Himari head home without us?

[20:52] Rion

Yu-kun.

[20:53] Rion

Can I have your number, too?

SIGN Rion

[20:54] Yu

O-Oh, um, okay.

[21:10] (Flashback) Rion

Two years ago, my sister
brought home this bracelet.

[21:14] (Flashback) Rion

And a boy's face popped in my head.

[21:16] (Flashback) Rion

He gave me a flower at the botanical garden.

[21:19] Himari

*It's a story I've heard over
and over from Yu.*

[21:23] Himari

It felt like fate.

[21:26] Himari

*A person way closer to Yu
than any best friend.*

[21:29] Himari

That's why I wanted to set them up.

[21:33] Himari

But I was wrong.

[21:36] Himari

Those two didn't need my help.

[21:41] Himari

Of course I'm happy.

[21:43] Himari

*I love them both,
and they'll be happy together.*

[21:46] Himari

Why wouldn't I be excited for them?

[21:49] Himari

But...

[21:50] Himari

I've never seen Yu's eyes like that.

[21:55] Himari

In that moment, Yu seemed so far away.

[21:58] Himari

I couldn't go back.

[22:01] Himari

But I'm not sure why.

SIGN Tulips and the Face of Love

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