

E2 - A Girlfriend Without a Raised Flag

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

(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] ---

*One spring day, I had
an encounter with destiny*

[00:04] ---

*and remembered
a dream I'd always had.*

[00:06] ---

*To create a dating sim that makes
people laugh, and touch their hearts.*

[00:10] ---

*And to create a main heroine
that would make everyone's heart sing!*

[00:14] ---

Yes, just like that girl did!

[00:17] ---

*The response from those around me
to me and this dream was chilly at first.*

[00:21] ---

*However, by not giving up and
telling them of my dream,*

[00:24] ---

*these newfound comrades
returned one by one!*

[00:28] ---

*And, having had a dramatic
reunion with that girl,*

[00:31] ---

*I have taken the first steps
to realizing that grand dream!*

[00:34] ---

*Don't drop huge lies in
the middle of an episode recap!*

[00:37] ---

And don't you blow off anime tropes

[00:40] ---

by having a character
interrupt the voiceover!

SIGN #2 "A Girlfriend Without a Raised Flag"

[02:17] ---

Say, Kato...

[02:19] ---

Yes?

[02:20] ---

I never really noticed it before,
but you're actually pretty cute.

[02:24] ---

Thanks, but what you never
noticed isn't that I was cute,

[02:29] ---

but that I even existed.

[02:31] ---

I guess.

[02:33] ---

*Toyogasaki Academy,
Class 2B, Megumi Kato.*

[02:36] ---

*In the same class
as me since first year.*

[02:38] ---

A girl who's always been nearby.

[02:39] ---

Thank you for waiting!

[02:41] ---

The layered cheesecake, please.

[02:41] ---

Now that I look at her, she's definitely cute.

[02:43] ---

Coming right up!

[02:44] ---

She has classic features.

[02:46] ---

She's not too tall or too short.

[02:48] ---

Her skin is reasonably smooth.

[02:50] ---

*She curves out where
she's supposed to curve out.*

[02:52] ---

*And where she's supposed to
curve in, she curves in, too.*

[02:54] ---

I mean, it's only natural

to think she's cute.

[02:57] ---

*After all, I felt the hand of
fate at work with this girl.*

[03:02] ---

And yet...

[03:03] ---

I didn't order this!

[03:04] ---

*what's up with this
total lack of presence?*

[03:06] ---

I'm so sorry!

[03:08] ---

I'll go ahead and dig in, then.

[03:10] ---

Sorry for making you treat me.

[03:12] ---

No, I should apologize for
asking you out so suddenly.

[03:15] ---

It's okay, I didn't have anything
in particular planned today.

[03:18] ---

That reminds me,
what happened to that hat?

[03:21] ---

Oh, I gave it to a relative.

[03:25] ---

My cousin was visiting, and she liked it,

[03:27] ---

so I gave it to her as
a souvenir before she left.

[03:31] ---

So our fateful encounter is worth
less than familial obligations?

[03:34] ---

Excuse me?

[03:35] ---

No, I was just thinking, "Boy,
that sure was a coincidence that day!"

[03:39] ---

If you had known I existed
like I knew you did,

[03:42] ---

I suppose that might
count as a coincidence.

[03:44] ---

Gosh no, you just have
one heck of a memory!

[03:47] ---

You must, to have remembered
a unremarkable otaku like me!

[03:50] ---

You're an otaku, I'll give you that,

[03:53] ---

but don't call yourself unremarkable.

[03:55] ---

Why not? There's not a single
thing about me that stands out.

[03:59] ---

You're one of the top three
celebrities at our school.

[04:05] ---

Come again?

[04:07] ---

You got light novels
added to the library

[04:09] ---

and you hold anime film
screenings at the school festival.

[04:11] ---

There isn't a student at our school
who doesn't know the name Tomoya Aki.

[04:15] ---

How can that be?

[04:17] ---

Even now, with the otaku population
having climbed as high as it has,

[04:20] ---

the eyes of society are still
on us, and not in a good way!

[04:24] ---

I wasn't talking about
otaku in general.

[04:28] ---

I had no idea! Am I
really that well known?

[04:31] ---

But I'm the opposite of you.

[04:34] ---

I'm totally boring.

[04:36] ---

Boring... you say?

[04:37] ---

Look, I didn't order this.

[04:38] ---

My grades aren't particularly good,

[04:40] ---

and I'm not in any clubs,

[04:41] ---

I'm so sorry!

[04:42] ---

and I've never served on
any class committees.

[04:45] ---

I don't have all that many friends,

[04:47] ---

but I'm not particularly interested
in trying to make more.

[04:51] ---

So with all that, it's not all that surprising
that you didn't remember me.

[04:55] ---

You're wrong!

[04:56] ---

Kato... You aren't boring!

[04:58] ---

Hey, what's gotten into you?

[05:00] ---

Don't call yourself boring!

[05:02] ---

Stop pigeonholing yourself
based on mistaken typecasting!

[05:06] ---

Kato, I guarantee you this.

[05:08] ---

You're anything but boring!

[05:10] ---

Aki-kun...

[05:11] ---

Your character is dialed way down!

[05:14] ---

It's just because your character isn't
fleshed out! You're unfinished!

[05:17] ---

That's why you don't stand out!

[05:22] ---

Excuse me.

[05:23] ---

If I might interrupt?

[05:25] ---

What is it?

[05:26] ---

Isn't that worse than being boring?

[05:28] ---

Of course it is.

[05:29] ---

Don't underestimate
boring characters, Kato.

[05:31] ---

Not many characters are
as well developed as they are.

[05:35] ---

For instance, braids, glasses, freckles!

[05:39] ---

If you combine such
utterly boring elements,

[05:42] ---

they become something
charming that attracts people!

[05:44] ---

The character becomes defined!

[05:46] ---

Kato, do you have a trait of being
unforgettable once someone sees you?

[05:51] ---

You don't! You don't at all!

[05:54] ---

You've been sorta cute all along.

[05:57] ---

There's no disconnect there!

[05:59] ---

So what are we gonna do
about your lack of individuality?!

[06:02] ---

Sorry, mind if I interrupt again?

[06:04] ---

Now what?

[06:05] ---

Setting aside the fact that
you're not one to talk,

[06:05] ---

How about now?!

[06:06] ---

Still wrong.

[06:08] ---

is my lack of individuality

a problem for you?

[06:08] ---

Um, maybe you should
read back my order.

[06:12] ---

It does! It's a huge problem!

[06:13] ---

Kato, you have to be
special or it won't work!

[06:15] ---

Your personality traits
have to be well defined!

[06:18] ---

For what reason?

[06:19] ---

Because you're the girl who was supposed
to become my main heroine, that's why!

[06:24] ---

Uh, was that you professing
your feelings for me?

[06:28] ---

Me? To you?

[06:29] ---

Why would I do that?

[06:30] ---

I thought so.

[06:31] ---

You might be speaking to me,

[06:34] ---

but it's felt like your eyes have been
looking at something far away.

[06:39] ---

Not far away in distance.
In another set of dimensions.

[06:44] ---

Kato...

[06:44] ---

Give me back my creative urge.

[06:46] ---

I'm sorry, I don't understand
how you arrived at that.

[06:50] ---

Give me back my dream girl!
Er, my dream!

[06:55] ---

Be that as it may, Aki-kun...

[06:56] ---

Don't change the subject!

[06:58] ---

Are you going out with
the most beautiful girl in school?

[07:02] ---

Two of them, no less?

[07:03] ---

Kato, there were three errors
in your statement just now.

[07:07] ---

The first is "the most
beautiful girl in school,"

[07:09] ---

which is a dating sim trope
that doesn't exist in reality.

[07:12] ---

The second is having two of the "most beautiful girl in school" is contradictory.

[07:16] ---

And the third is the wildly mistaken
notion that a 2D-only otaku like me

[07:20] ---

could possibly have a 3D girlfriend!

[07:22] ---

What are those people
outside the window, then?

[07:33] ---

Excuse me? Aki-kun?

[07:35] ---

What is it?

[07:36] ---

What are Sawamura-san and
Kasumigaoka-senpai doing here?

[07:39] ---

Oh, if you know who they are,
that simplifies things.

[07:43] ---

Actually, I don't think there's a student
at our school who doesn't know them.

[07:47] ---

I mean, they're the top two
beauties of Toyogasaki Academy.

[07:49] ---

Please stop using dating sim
terms with real people.

[07:52] ---

Add you into the mix, and the three
celebrities of Toyogasaki Academy are here.

[07:56] ---

It's a small world!

[07:57] ---

I'm just saying that
I stick out like a sore thumb.

[08:01] ---

Don't worry.

[08:03] ---

They might look stuck up,
but they're not so bad.

[08:06] ---

Really?

[08:08] ---

Yeah. In addition to having foul
mouths and nasty personalities,

[08:11] ---

they're both even bigger
otaku than I am.

[08:14] ---

Let me introduce you, Kato.

[08:16] ---

These two ladies are the members
of my game creation circle.

[08:19] ---

Eiri Spencer Sawamura, my illustrator,

[08:22] ---

and Utaha Kasumigaoka, my scenario writer.

[08:25] ---

I'm sorry, I don't know
what that means.

[08:27] ---

I certainly don't understand
this either, Mr. Ethical.

[08:31] ---

Is this what a man says
when he stands up one girl

[08:34] ---

and has been on a date
with another one?

[08:37] ---

And this is Megumi Kato.

[08:39] ---

The newest member of the circle,

[08:41] ---

as well as the main heroine of
the game we will make.

[08:44] ---

Heroine?

[08:44] ---

Not only is that news to me,

[08:47] ---

am I imagining things, or are you
giving me an inappropriate job title?

[08:51] ---

Her?

[08:53] ---

Um, Aki-kun...

[08:54] ---

Sawamura-san is staring daggers at me.

[08:58] ---

Don't sweat it, she's incredibly nearsighted.

[09:00] ---

It just looks like she's giving the stink-eye.

[09:02] ---

Actually, I have my contacts in at the moment.

[09:04] ---

I went to bat for you, so don't blow it!

[09:09] ---

So, you're Tomoya's...

[09:11] ---

Um, his classmate.

[09:13] ---

I really couldn't care less
if you're his classmate,

[09:16] ---

girlfriend, fellow otaku,
or friend-with-benefits.

[09:19] ---

Um, I think that last one
is rather mean. To me.

[09:23] ---

That's the real her. She just
acts all innocent at school.

[09:27] ---

Stop it!

[09:28] ---

Don't talk about me like you know me!

[09:31] ---

We've been acquaintances
for years, that's all!

[09:33] ---

Stop picking a fight with someone
who's only been an acquaintance for years.

[09:37] ---

What's with you?

[09:38] ---

What's with you?

[09:39] ---

Please stop embarrassing yourself, Sawamura-san.

[09:42] ---

It's nobody's business but mine
what I do to this jerk!

[09:42] ---

Says the girl who's been
embarrassing herself just as much...

[09:45] ---

Won't it cause problems later
if Toyogasaki students are here,

[09:48] ---

Miss-not-so-innocent Sawamura-san?

[09:50] ---

That's none of your business,
Utaha Kasumigaoka!

[09:59] ---

Enough, enough!

[10:03] ---

Zero points yet again.

[10:04] ---

This one's useless, too.

[10:07] ---

It's still no good?

[10:08] ---

This tells me nothing about what
you want to show the players

[10:11] ---

or what emotions you want to
make them experience.

[10:14] ---

Is it because you yourself still can't
envision what you really want to make?

[10:19] ---

Wow, you two are talking like creators.

[10:22] ---

- Because we are!
- Because we are!

[10:23] ---

You two are actually friends.
You are, aren't you?

[10:26] ---

In any case,

[10:27] ---

the way things stand now, you trying to
make a game is a dream within a dream.

[10:31] ---

What will it be?

[10:32] ---

Rewrite it yet again?

[10:34] ---

Or will you give up?

[10:36] ---

I...

[10:37] ---

I'd say it's about time to
throw in the towel, don't you?

[10:40] ---

True, it looks like Mr. Ethical is
about to have his heart broken

[10:44] ---

by the gap between ideals and reality.

[10:46] ---

For one thing, pictures showing
stuff like fateful encounters

[10:50] ---

aren't the same as cute,
shallow light novels.

[10:52] ---

I have no intention of
disagreeing with you on that score.

[10:56] ---

If fate or coincidence played
no role in encounters,

[10:58] ---

the world's couples would be composed
of nothing but childhood friends.

[11:02] ---

What's wrong with that?

[11:04] ---

That's not what I'm saying!

[11:07] ---

I've decided.

[11:08] ---

- On who?!
- On who?!

[11:09] ---

I won't give up yet.

[11:11] ---

I'll rewrite it as many times as it takes
to get your stamp of approval.

[11:15] ---

That's what you meant.

[11:17] ---

And one day,

[11:18] ---

I'll create the ultimate dating sim
that will make everyone's heart sing!

[11:22] ---

Yes, and I'll turn Megumi Kato into a main
heroine who will melt everyone's hearts!

[11:31] ---

When did she...

[11:33] ---

I didn't even see her get up...

[11:35] ---

Dial down the stealth
settings, would you?

[11:43] ---

Sorry I'm late!

[11:45] ---

Hey.

[11:46] ---

I'm glad the weather
turned out to be nice today.

[11:48] ---

The forecast was on the fence,
so I was worried.

[11:53] ---

Oh, so this is where your house is.

[11:55] ---

I pass by here sometimes.

[11:58] ---

Kato, do you remember
what kind of place this is?

[12:02] ---

Sure, the locals call it Detective Hill.
Because there's a detective agency over there.

[12:08] ---

No, that's not what I meant...

[12:11] ---

What do you think the point is
of my choosing here to meet up?

[12:15] ---

Isn't this near your house?

[12:16] ---

No, that's not why!
That's not why at all!

[12:20] ---

It's far away?

[12:21] ---

Oh, come on!

[12:23] ---

This is the spot where
you and I first met, remember?!

[12:26] ---

Well, the first time we actually met was
at the entrance ceremony a year ago.

[12:32] ---

Anyway, do you fully comprehend
what today's objective is?

[12:36] ---

You said you had something to talk
about, so I should come to your home.

[12:40] ---

Starting right there, there's a problem!

[12:42] ---

Which girl goes to the home of
a guy she hardly knows?!

[12:45] ---

Plus, don't get dressed up
like a normal person would.

[12:49] ---

Nobody's ever come to
my place looking that normal.

[12:52] ---

Right, I thought that was strange.

[12:54] ---

I figured that you would
never ask a real-life girl over.

[12:58] ---

You thought it was strange
and you still agreed to come?

[13:00] ---

If a guy's an otaku, you'll go to
his house without batting an eye?

[13:04] ---

I certainly didn't expect
to be lectured like this

[13:07] ---

by the boy who asked me to come over.

[13:09] ---

Listen, Kato.

[13:10] ---

You've been living

your life haphazardly,

[13:13] ---

and today I'm going to
give you a lesson in reality!

[13:17] ---

Could it be that your room is set up
so that nobody could hear cries for help?

[13:23] ---

Yes, prepare yourself.

[13:25] ---

I'm going to drum the conventions
of moe content into your head!

[13:30] ---

Isn't that incredibly unrealistic?

[13:34] ---

Come on in. Sorry for the clutter,
but don't let it bother you.

[13:38] ---

Thanks for having me—

[13:39] ---

Wow, talk about the very
image of an otaku's room...

[13:43] ---

Come on, that's wrong, too!

[13:44] ---

Why are you so totally relaxed?

[13:47] ---

You're supposed to casually say,
"Gosh, it's so warm!" and open a window.

[13:50] ---

Or inadvertently sit on the bed
out of habit and get all flustered.

[13:55] ---

Stick to the established
heroine behavior patterns!

[13:58] ---

How do you expect me to tense up
with you ruining the mood like that?

[14:05] ---

Whatever.

[14:06] ---

I'll be able to get the proper
reactions out of you soon enough.

[14:09] ---

After all, today is a boot camp that will
hone your 2D heroine sensibilities.

[14:14] ---

I don't have any say in this, do I?

[14:16] ---

So, which shall we play?

[14:19] ---

All that you see before you
are preeminent dating sim titles

[14:22] ---

that will make you
laugh, cry, and swoon.

[14:24] ---

Uh, whatever's shortest,
if you don't mind.

[14:26] ---

I know, let's play this one!
Total sales, 300,000 units!

[14:30] ---

A legendary dating sim that was spun off into
various media, including an anime adaptation!

[14:35] ---

I really don't have any say in this...

[14:37] ---

I had fun today.

SIGN Go straight home. Go see the night view. Give her a present.

[14:41] ---

No, that was the wrong choice!

[14:42] ---

Thank you.

[14:44] ---

Shouldn't giving her a present
here be a surefire thing?

[14:47] ---

It's to commemorate their date.

[14:49] ---

You don't get it...

[14:50] ---

You just don't get it, Kato!

[14:52] ---

But going to look at
the night view now wouldn't—

[14:55] ---

Look, what she's looking for at
this date event isn't some trinket!

[15:00] ---

I think I'd be better off getting
what I can while I can.

[15:03] ---

Take it more seriously!

[15:05] ---

What's important isn't things,
it's shared memories!

[15:08] ---

Oh, right.

[15:09] ---

When you get a present, it makes
things awkward after you break up.

[15:14] ---

Kato... Put down
the controller for a minute.

[15:17] ---

It's Break & Lecture time.

[15:19] ---

I'm all for a break, but why a lecture?

[15:22] ---

Kato, you don't have the first clue
about heroines in dating sims.

[15:25] ---

They might just be symbols,
but they aren't automata

[15:28] ---

that always give the same reply
when you press them in certain spots.

[15:31] ---

They're human beings who are
more appealing than real girls

[15:34] ---

with warm blood running through
their veins! That's what you have to be!

[15:37] ---

But if that's the case, wouldn't they sometimes
be incredibly fickle and break up with you?

[15:42] ---

Let's call it quits...

[15:42] ---

Stop it, stop it, stop it, stop it!

[15:44] ---

If even 2D girls stop
wanting to go out with me,

[15:46] ---

what can I hope to live for?!

[15:49] ---

Oh, sorry. Let's pretend
I didn't say that.

[15:55] ---

Thank you for everything.

[15:57] ---

Isn't this sad?

[15:58] ---

Doesn't this scene make you tear up?

[16:00] ---

Sure, I suppose it's emotional.

[16:04] ---

Now do you see it, Kato?!

[16:05] ---

The way it flows from this dialogue
to the insert song is so epic!

[16:10] ---

But get this! Get this!

[16:12] ---

This isn't the real climax!

[16:14] ---

Something even more
astonishing will come after this!

[16:17] ---

Oh, is that so? I sure am looking
forward to seeing that.

[16:20] ---

Prepare to be astonished, Kato!
To save the protagonist, she offers...

[16:20] ---

*It's something that I decided,
so it's time for me to go.*

[16:24] ---

You're right, it's interesting.

[16:26] ---

If I had played this alone in peace

[16:28] ---

without someone offering commentary
or spoilers, I might have cried.

[16:33] ---

I guess it's over.

[16:35] ---

Yeah...

[16:36] ---

Huh, I wasn't expecting it to end
that way. That was a little surprising.

[16:41] ---

And I'm a little surprised that you're
this fun to hang out with, Kato.

[16:45] ---

Though I guess I'm not one to talk.

[16:47] ---

That's definitely a "I dunno about that..." sort of thing.

[16:50] ---

So, now that you've played one all the way through, what do you think?

[16:54] ---

It had its ups and downs, but it was fun.

[16:57] ---

Right? Right?

[16:59] ---

The artwork was really cute, the performances were passionate,

[17:03] ---

the music was good, and the story was interesting, of course.

[17:06] ---

Kato...

[17:07] ---

I've never touched one of these "moe" games or anime before,

[17:12] ---

but it's not what I always mocked.

[17:14] ---

Kato...

[17:16] ---

You're exactly the girl I knew you would be!

[17:19] ---

It's not that big a deal.

[17:20] ---

No, but it is a big deal!

[17:22] ---

Anyway, this is the sort of main heroine I'm going to mold you into!

[17:26] ---

Meaning that I'm going to suddenly drop dead at the end like in this game?

[17:31] ---

Kato... You aren't mocking this game as one of those tearjerkers

[17:34] ---

that kill off a heroine just to elicit an emotional response, are you?

[17:40] ---

You don't get it...

[17:41] ---

You just don't get it, Kato!

[17:43] ---

Well, maybe I don't.

[17:46] ---

I certainly don't understand
what you are saying.

[17:48] ---

Have a seat for a second.

[17:49] ---

I already am sitting.

[17:51] ---

Listen, no matter how facile
and worn-out a weapon it is,

[17:55] ---

if it has the support of lots of players,
it should be used without hesitation!

[17:59] ---

Um, I haven't really given it
that much thought.

[18:02] ---

There's no greater weapon in a creator's
arsenal than a short attention span!

[18:06] ---

Don't let criticism lead you astray!

[18:08] ---

Look at the big picture with big eyes!

[18:09] ---

Do a general assessment of
what will hook the players the most!

[18:17] ---

This tells me nothing about what
you want to show the players

[18:20] ---

or what emotions you want to
make them experience.

[18:22] ---

Is it because you yourself still can't
envision what you really want to make?

[18:27] ---

Now I see...

[18:28] ---

I was the one who didn't understand.

[18:32] ---

Thank you, Kato.

[18:33] ---

Thanks to you, I've learned
the most valuable lesson of all!

[18:37] ---

Okay...

[18:38] ---

Good for you?

[18:40] ---

And with that, today's study session
has ended on a happy note.

[18:46] ---

I'll see you at school, Aki-kun.

[18:49] ---

Hold on.

[18:53] ---

This game actually has a sequel.

[18:58] ---

It's been three years since the shocking
bad ending with the heroine's death!

[19:01] ---

This is the series' conclusion which is the best
and went on sale at the right time!

[19:04] ---

It's the beginning of a tale
of rebirth and resurrection!

[19:08] ---

Wait, she comes back to life?

[19:09] ---

I won't spoil it!

[19:11] ---

I won't say a word!

[19:12] ---

See how it plays out
with your own eyes, Kato!

[19:17] ---

But if I start a new game now, I won't
finish until the middle of the night.

[19:21] ---

It's okay. My parents are out of
town on an overnight trip today.

[19:25] ---

Isn't that not okay at all?

[19:26] ---

Besides, today's Saturday.

[19:28] ---

There's no school tomorrow, right?

[19:30] ---

Look, that's not the problem...

[19:33] ---

I'm begging you, Kato! Don't leave!

[19:36] ---

Aki-kun?

[19:37] ---

For the sake of my— no,
our dream — stay the night!

[19:42] ---

Make a man of me!

[19:51] ---

Well, I did tell my folks that I might be
out late today, so I guess it's okay.

[19:55] ---

You'll stay?!

[19:56] ---

Hang on, Kato!

[19:57] ---

Are you sure it's okay?

[19:59] ---

To be blunt, the way
things are now,

[20:00] ---

I can't excuse my behavior
if something happens!

[20:02] ---

But you're you, Aki-kun, and all we're doing is
staying up all night playing a game.

[20:06] ---

Yeah, but you—

[20:07] ---

I mean, you're right, but still...

[20:10] ---

I think such an irresponsible and carefree
attitude is crazy for a 3D girl, though.

[20:15] ---

Again, I'm hardly one to talk, but still...

SIGN Play from beginning Resume Options

[20:18] ---

That's definitely a "I dunno
about that..." sort of thing.

[21:56] ---

It's over...

[21:57] ---

It is.

[21:59] ---

So, how was it for you?

[22:01] ---

Reaching the true ending, I mean.

[22:04] ---

I'm so sleepy...

[22:06] ---

I won't let that be
your only impression.

[22:09] ---

Cut me some slack for now...

[22:12] ---

Listen, Kato.

[22:13] ---

If this game made you
feel something,

[22:16] ---

it means you're
a member of my circle.

[22:19] ---

Fine, I'll join. I'll join, okay?

[22:22] ---

So let me sleep for a bit...

[22:25] ---

Don't make a crucial decision that might
alter the very course of your life

[22:30] ---

based on you being sleepy or bored!

[22:33] ---

Sheesh, you're so annoying, Aki-kun...

[22:37] ---

I mean, this is just gonna
end up being a circle

[22:39] ---

where everybody plays games
every day instead of making them, right?

[22:43] ---

Don't pull me down to the level of
people who have no ambition.

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