A Kiss For The Petals
Our Vacation Together

Presented by Luminocity and Fuguriya
Foreword

Good day to you, and welcome to St. Michael’s.
I’m Peko, responsible for the art in The Petals.
This book serves as a supplemental story to A Kiss For The Petals – My Dear Prince, released by the circle Fuguriya.
I surmise from the fact that you’re holding this book in your hands that you played that game as well. What did you think of it?

Following on the heels of Our Christmas Together, We have Shin’ichirou-san on the script, with Peko in charge of the illustrations, once again making this a semi-official book. Naturally, it’s chock full of yuri goodness, so I hope this book will satisfy your yuri cravings.

Now, without further ado, please enjoy the story!

July, 2007 – Peko
Prologue: Finding Myself on a Tropical Island

The blue sky, the white clouds, the blazing midsummer sun. And all of them reflected back in the sapphire-blue sea, glittering as though it were full of diamonds. That was the scene before me. In fact, that’s all I could see before me. For on the snow-white beach sands where I stood, there was not a single other person in sight. What was there was my travel bag, which I had set out earlier. I felt like I was the only person left in the whole world.

This is the sort of place you would call an island paradise. Before I had ever had the chance to see this sort of thing with my own eyes, I used to watch travel programs on TV and wistfully think to myself, “I’d like to go to a place like that someday...” Of course, all the while I knew in the back of my head that it would never come true.

I murmured to myself, “Could this mean my wish was granted...?” but then hurriedly shook my head. Faced with such a lovely, dreamlike scene, my mind had wandered off somewhere from the shock of it all. Ever since my reunion with that girl, I’d been surprised by all sorts of things, but this time definitely took the cake. I had gone beyond surprised to the point where my thought process had come to a screeching halt. If I closed my eyes, I just knew I would open them to find myself lying in my own bed.

...I reached a conclusion. The strong smell of the ocean and the steady sound of the slowly breaking waves had taken away my sense of what was real. In other words, I had no choice but to accept the reality of what I was seeing before me. And yet there was too little information to accept it. Because...

“Where on Earth am I...?”
I, Kitajima Kaede, had no idea where I was right now.

Chapter 1: I Can’t Wait for Summer Vacation

With summer vacation just ahead, all my classmates seemed as though they were on pins and needles. I suppose that’s only natural. Beyond the agonizing week of exams lay the horizon of our long-awaited freedom. Freedom from cramped, crowded trains, and boring, sleep-inducing lectures. In fact, there was more free time waiting for me than I knew what to do with.

One eager girl had been excitedly telling us again and again for over a month now about her new swimsuit, and of a certain villa on the Mediterranean Sea where it seemed she would be spending her summer.

“Kaede-san, have you made plans for the summer yet?” asked one of my classmates, with gushing enthusiasm.

“I just go to my grandparents’ every year...”
I knew what she was really asking, but I intentionally evaded the question. I’ve gotten used to it by now, but I still feel far from comfortable being asked about the details of my relationship with that girl.
“Awww, Kaede-san! Don’t keep it a secret, let me in on it! You’re going to be whisked away somewhere, just the two of you, am I right?”

There it was. At the end of the day, all anyone really wanted to know about was Sara and me. Or more specifically, that modeling, charismatic girl they shared their class with. The one who immediately after transferring, and in full view of everyone, passionately kissed an upperclassman, sending ripples throughout the student body – my cousin is the one whose glamorous vacation they really wanted to know about.

Oh, and as it happens, the upperclassman on the receiving end of that kiss was none other than me...

“No, I really haven’t made any particular plans yet.”
She managed to spare me a simple “That’s too bad,” before departing from my desk.

“Sigh...”
Without realizing it, I had let a sigh slip out. I couldn’t help it, though. I haven’t even begun to think about my plans. The reason being that I hadn’t seen Sara in three whole days.

* * *

It was lunch hour.
Sitting on the courtyard lawn, I absently picked at my boxed lunch. However, I was more focused on the cell phone at my side than on the contents of my lunch.

“Sigh...”
That was my second sigh of the day.
The flip-phone that Sara had bought me to match hers hadn’t so much as twitched. Normally I would have received a text message from her by now...

“I wonder if she’s in the middle of a photo session...”
Lately, Sara’s job had become even busier than usual. Although it had only been a bit part, just a few days ago she had made an appearance on TV. That was the catalyst. After that, the calls had come flooding in to her firm. It seemed she had become highly sought after by a number of magazines. Undoubtedly, Sara had a cuteness and brilliance about her that was unrivalled by the other idols in the industry. She possessed a radiance that outshined the other performers in that television program several times over.

Deep down, I was quietly proud of her. And yet... this had been the cause of the multifold increase in her workload. As soon as she got home late at night, she would go immediately to bed, only to leave again first thing in the morning. This routine had been going on for a month now. I had hardly even seen her face, let alone had a conversation with her. And these past three days, she hadn’t even been coming home. My only lifeline to her had been the text messages she would send whenever she had a spare moment in her busy schedule. Sara’s devoutly written texts to me about work or what she had seen on TV the day before were my spiritual nourishment. Which is why I seemed to lose my appetite when her messages didn’t come...

“I wish I could see you, Sara...”
And there went my third sigh of the day.
“Kaede-chan!”
Ahh... I wanted to see Sara so badly, I had started imagining her voice.
“Kaede-chan!”
It sounded awfully clear for an auditory hallucination, though...
“Geeze, Kaede-chan!”
“Oh... Sara?”
“Don’t ‘Oh, Sara’ me. I’ve been calling you!”
Before me stood a girl with her lips pursed into an angry pout. This was undoubtedly Sara. She’s cute even when she’s angry.
“Wait, hold on.”
“Hm?”
Sara looked at me in puzzlement as she picked a mini-omelette from my lunchbox with her fingers.
“Weren’t you working all day today?”
I was certain the text I had received last night said she would be shooting nonstop from this morning on.
“Well you see, one of the afternoon shoots ended up getting cancelled, so... I came to visit you♪
“You came to visit me...?”
I couldn’t believe that canceling a single shoot could have given her this much free time. And yet, she came just to see me...
“Oh, boy am I hungry,” Sara said as she drew two onigiri and a bottled tea from a plastic convenience store bag.
“Is that your lunch, Sara?”
“Yep. I thought I’d have lunch with you, so I picked this up on the way over,” Sara said, happily peeling the plastic off a tuna and mayo onigiri.
“Sara.”
“Yes’m?”
“Here, you can have this.”
I kindly offered her my lunch.
“But that’s yours, Kaede-chan...”
“Eating that kind of stuff all the time isn’t good for you.”
“...Are you sure you don’t mind?”
“Of course not. I want you to have it.”
“Kaede-chan!”
Teary-eyed, Sara embraced me.
“I love you, Kaede-chan!”
“Sheesh, you’re so dramatic.”
Right in the middle of the courtyard at lunch time. The other students enjoying their lunches around us were watching intently from a distance. I was a tiny bit embarrassed, but watching Sara nuzzle against me like a small child made me soon forget all about that.
“Thanks for the food!” Sara said happily after quickly polishing off my boxed lunch. “You really know how to cook up a meal, Kaede-chan!”
“Hehehe... Thank you.”

The convenience store onigiri she had given me in exchange tasted better than I expected. I’ll bet it had more to do with having Sara by my side though.
“Kaede-chan.”
“Huh...?”

Sara’s voice suddenly became serious. Or so I thought.
“Kaede-chaaaaan!”
“Wha- Wai- Wait a minute, Sara?!”

Without warning, she pushed me down. Her slender arms wrapped around me tightly.
“But, but, I haven’t seen you in a whole week!”
“I- It’s only been three days.”
“Well that’s how long it felt to me!”
“Sheeesh, you really are dramatic...”
As I let out a sigh, I felt my face go slack.
“Hnnnggg... Hello again, Kaede-chan’s breasts... it’s been too long.”
“H- Hey, stop that.”

Sara was having an absolute blast with her face buried in my chest. Naturally, all eyes were on us...
“Oh, that’s right.”
She suddenly raised her face.
“I had something important I wanted to discuss with you, Kaede-chan.”
“Something important...?”
What could it be? ‘Important’ and ‘Discuss’. Either one of those would have been enough to make me uneasy.
“Wh- What is it?”
“So, um, I think we should make plans before it’s too late.”
“Plans?”

It seemed all I’d been doing for the past few minutes was parroting Sara’s words. “For summer vacation, duh.”
“Ohh.”

I finally understood. With finals over, there was now only one week left until summer vacation. Normally, it wouldn’t have been strange to have had plans for weeks now.

“Nothing says summer like the beach. That’s just standard. Oh, but the mountains might be nice too. Hiking sounds like it could be fun. What do you think, Kaede-chan?”

Sara continued talking excitedly. As usual, I calmly listened to her speak. I love watching her when she gets like this: her face changing expressions, and a cheerful bounciness in her voice.
“Ohhh, but it’s gotta be the beach. Having a date on a sunset beach would be a dream come true!”
“A sunset beach…”
“Two lovers, walking along the orange-tinted sands. After a while, they sit in the shade of a tree and snuggle close. And then, with neither one in particular making the first move, they move in close, and lock lips… Eeeeee!”
“Sa- Sara, everyone’s looking at us…”
Sara was squirming, having slipped into a fantasy world. She wasn’t the slightest bit concerned with the stares of those around us. Personally, I wish she’d care just a little bit more. In any case, I could sympathize with her having her little fantasy. This was going to be our first summer together as lovers.
Before now, I had never really considered summer vacation to be any kind of special event, but when I imagined spending it with Sara, my opinion on the matter changed completely. What she had said about being on a beach tinted by the evening sun made for an incredibly romantic scene, just like something out of a movie.
A deserted coastline. The setting sun reflected in the ocean, shimmering with wondrous colors. The slight chill of the ocean breeze making us huddle close. Sara’s hands tracing along my burning, sun-baked skin, before finally reaching my sensitive areas. Even though this was the same Sara who always seemed so childish, in times like these, she was extremely aggressive. With me at her mercy, there would be nothing I could do but give in, trembling with pleasure...

[Image on page 11.]

“Wait, what am I thinking?!”
“Huwh? Kaede-chan, what’s the matter?”
“N- Nothing at all.”
I hurriedly shook off the fantasy that had tried to fill my head with dirty thoughts. Lately, whenever I thought about Sara, I couldn’t stop myself from having erotic fantasies. I want to clarify that this is all Sara’s doing.
“Once summer vacation starts, let’s go straight to the beach, okay?”
“Okay. Sure.”
“I can’t wait to see you in your swimsuit, Kaede♪”
“The only one I have is my school-issue swimsuit though.”
“Whaaat?!”
Sara leapt up in surprise. She’s always been prone to dramatic overreactions, but this one was particularly over the top.
“H- How come?!”
“Well, I’ve never had to wear one outside of swim class.”
She brooded with a frustrated groan. Perhaps it was culture shock.
“All right, here’s what we’re gonna do. This Sunday, we’re going shopping for one.”
“S- So suddenly? But what about your job?”
“Heh-heh-heh… Actually, I’ve been given Sunday off.”
“I see.”
“And that’s not the best part. I’ve been given the entire week off for summer vacation!”
“That’s quite an extended leave of absence.”
“That’s the reason I’ve been finishing everything up at work this week.”
So that’s why she had been so insanely busy.
“But are you sure it’s all right? Wouldn’t you rather spend your time off relaxing...?”
“Nothing could be more refreshing than a date with you, Kaede-chan! Besides, it’s like, um, what do they say? Co-pay Diem!”
“That’s Carpe Diem.”
“Yeah, that.”
How could she make a mistake like that...
“Anyhoo, I’m gonna pick out the perfect swimsuit for you.”
Sara was always looking for excuses to pick out clothes for me.
“A swimsuit, huh...?”
Truthfully, I’m not very fond of wearing a swimsuit in public. But the thought of being with Sara made me more excited.
“Okay. Let’s go shopping.”
“Yippee! It’s a date.”
Going shopping for a swimsuit sounded a little embarrassing, but the thought of going on a date with Sara made me eager for the weekend.

Chapter 2: Sara’s Scheme

It was too good to last.
It all started with a call to Sara’s cell phone. You could definitely say it was bad news.

* * *

“Whaaaat?!”
Sara’s shrieking scream pierced the evening in our living room.
“How? But I just...”
Sara was obviously upset. Watching her, I started to become unsettled as well.
“Rrrr... Yes, that’s true, but...”
She continued to protest for a while, but she must have lost the argument, because she eventually acquiesced. She ended the conversation by saying, “Yes... I understand,” and withdrew the phone from her ear, pressing the red button.
“Did something happen?”
“Hnnnnngg...”
As I timidly inquired, she formed her mouth into an upside down V and turned to face me.
“Kaede-chan, it’s terrible... We aren’t going to be able to spend summer vacation together.”
“What...?”
We might not be able to spend summer vacation together.

It took a fraction of a second for those words to sink in. At that moment, my train of thought came to a screeching halt. I was at a complete loss for words… I mean, this was certainly the appropriate situation, wasn’t it?

“Did... something happen?”

It took everything I had just to ask that.

“So, um, the magazine I model for suddenly decided to release a special issue,” Sara explained while looking at the floor.

“It looks like the special issue is going to have a feature on me... They want some nice photos to use for the front cover, so we’re going overseas to shoot.”

“When are you leaving?”

“...Next week.”

Next week... Then that meant...

“Our vacation is cancelled.”

“But that’s...”

“I’m sorry. The firm’s president said she can’t let an opportunity like this pass us by.”

“Well... I guess there’s nothing you can do about it.”

“I’m sorry. I’m really, really sorry,” Sara apologized profusely.

The shock must have been too much for me, because I was feeling as though my heart had left my body.

“Aww... And after buying a new swimsuit and everything...”

“There’s no sense in getting worked up over it. This is an important time at your job, isn’t it?”

I was surprised myself at how smoothly my words came out.

“Our plans may have been derailed somewhat, but summer vacation is over a month long, so we’ll have other opportunities.”

“Hnnnggg...”

Still not sounding convinced, Sara again formed her mouth into an upside down V and let out a growl.

[Image on page 14.]

* * *

A few days have passed since then, and the two of us have been so busy, we’ve hardly had any opportunity to see one another. As usual, Sara has been tied up doing photo shoots and interviews and the like. Accordingly, she’s been getting inundated with offers to appear on TV.

As for myself, I had just been put in charge of the committee responsible for the school festival that was fast approaching after summer break, so with holding meetings and making printouts, my after-school hours were booked.

My days went without seeing Sara. My nights passed without her by my side. I would turn my head, and she wouldn’t be there. This was my sad reality.
And now, the day Sara left to go overseas had finally arrived. It seemed this would be her first time leaving the country, so the past several days had been spent hurriedly making preparations.

Personally, I was... frankly, quite depressed. I would at least see Sara off with a smile so that she would be able to focus on her work without worrying. With that in mind, I tried my best to put on a cheerful face...

"Kaede-chan, Kaede-chan!"

At the last second, Sara remembered a number of various things she had forgotten, and spent the whole morning rushing all over the house.

"What do I do?! Should I take my hair dryer with me?!"
"I think the hotel should have one."
"But, but, if it’s not the one I always use, I won’t know how to set it right!"
"I know what you mean... But you’re not going to be able to use Japanese electrical devices in a foreign country anyway."

"What?! Is that true?!"
"The voltage and outlets are all different."
"Aw man, I had no idea..."

And as such, Sara’s mood was completely focused on her first trip overseas. I suppose it was only natural. It goes without saying that I was happy for her landing such a big job, and yet, I was in shock at how high her spirits were.

"I really am a terrible person..."
I would at least see her off with a smile at the airport.

"Kaede-chan! We’re cutting it really close!"

"Right, right. Let’s be going then."

Dragging along two enormous travel bags, Sara proceeded towards the taxi waiting outside.

...Two travel bags?
"Sara, isn’t that an awful lot of luggage?"

"Huh? O- Oh, do you think so? This is how much I normally bring."

"Really...?"

I was certain she was only supposed to be gone for four days and three nights. It seemed a little excessive for such a short trip. Well, this is Sara after all, so she was probably trying to bring a bunch of stuff she didn’t really need. Like her regular pillow or something.

"Come on, come on, hurry it up, Kaede-chan!" Sara called out from the taxi.

At her urging, I hurried into the car.

* * *

By taxi the trip to the airport takes roughly an hour and a half. Normally, riding the connecting trains would have been faster, but because of all her luggage, we had
decided the day before to travel by car. I was tagging along in the taxi to see Sara off at
the airport, and planned to take the train back home at my leisure.
“Hurry, hurry!”
No sooner had we arrived at the airport than Sara dragged her luggage from the taxi
and took off running. With me also in tow, she headed for the information desk.
“Right, here.”
“...What?”
Out of nowhere, I was handed a red, rectangular object, not unlike a pocketbook.
“What is this...?”
“Good grief, Kaede-chan, obviously it’s a passport.”
“A passport? ...Whose?”
“Yours.”
For the first time in several days, my train of thought crashed again. I must have
stood there petrified with my mouth hanging wide open for about three full minutes.
“Wa- Wait a second, what on Earth are you talking about?”
“You’re going with me, of course.”
“Going... You can’t mean...”
“Mwehehe♪”
Sara was wearing a slightly mischievous smile.
It was all starting to come together. Sara’s pleasant mood all morning. The luggage
that was far too excessive for just one person. I finally understood.
“Tropical islands, here we come!”
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My memory is hazy after that. I remember being herded onto an airplane while in a
daze, and leaving the country. The next thing I knew, here I was, wearing my swimsuit,
and standing on the sandy shore. And that brings us back to where we started...
“Mmmm! This feels great, doesn’t it, Kaede-chan?”
“Y- Yes...”
Even now, I couldn’t believe what I was seeing with my own eyes.
“I’m gonna have to start shooting right away. What do you wanna do, Kaede-chan?
Feel like a tour?”
“S- Sure... No, wait a second!”
“Huwhah?”
“Th- This... I... Wh- What’s going on?!?”
Ahh, this isn’t good. I’m losing it again.
“Well um, I thought I’d surprise you, Kaede-chan... Eh-heh☆”
“Surprise me, she says...”
“I wanted you to come, no matter what... Are you mad at me?”
“Sara... I couldn’t possibly be mad at you. I’m just a little... no, very surprised.”
“Hehe, good!”
Sara flashed me an extraordinary smile.
“Well, time to go to the photo shoot!”
“Okay. Good luck.”
Sara dashed off towards her staff, who were already standing by.
“Sigh...”
After Sara left, a sigh escaped my mouth. This seems to be becoming a habit. Ever since our reunion, Sara had been full of surprises, but this time was on a scale beyond measure.

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It had been one hour since Sara began her photo session, and there was nothing for me to do on my own. That is to say, I didn’t have the courage to go walking the streets of some foreign country.

Instead, I had become the spectator gallery for the shoot. A photo shoot for a fashion magazine isn’t something I got to see every day, so I was somewhat interested. There was a camera man and his support person, as well as a person using a silver board (I think it’s called a reflector board) to reflect the light. There was also a makeup artist and a stylist, for a total of five staff members bustling about.

There was also one other person, wearing sunglasses and watching from a distance, but I’m sure she was the president slash manager of the firm Sara worked for. According to Sara, she was a gorgeous-looking woman... She also sounded like she could be really intimidating when she was angry.

Watching Sara like this, I was really surprised at her vitality. To go straight into shooting after all those hours being jostled about on the plane, without even a chance to recover from the jet lag... I was so exhausted I didn’t have the energy to do anything. In fact, if I wasn’t careful, I was going to nod off right here. I couldn’t fall asleep under this blazing sun though.

Before long, the staff called for a break. As soon as they did, Sara came bounding over to me.
“Kaede-chan♪
“You’re doing a great job, Sara.”
Rising to my feet, I handed her a bottled drink.
“Thank you.”
Sara purred and downed the drink.
“Pwah! Delicious!”
“This heat is really something.”
“Nah, this is nothing.”
“You’re amazing, Sara.”
Her energy made her look radiant.
“Never mind that, Kaede-chan.”
“What is it?”
“Do you like that swimsuit?”
“Uh... Well, I...”

[Image from page 18.]
I was wearing the swimsuit I had bought with Sara before summer break. If I had to describe the design... I would say that as someone who’s accustomed to school swimsuits, I was feeling pretty uneasy. Basically, it had almost no fabric. The minimal fabric that was there was connected by slender strings, forming a thin wisp of a swimsuit. That’s how I would describe it. Wasn’t there a little... no, a very big problem with calling this thing a swimsuit? This was the first time in my life I had even worn a bikini... To be completely honest, I was so embarrassed I wanted to dig a hole and bury myself in it.

“It totally suits you!”
“Th- Thank you.”
“Heheheh. Have you noticed? Everyone’s been looking at you for a while now.”
“What?!”
“I’m not surprised. I picked out a swimsuit that perfectly complements your great figure♪”

Sara seemed awfully satisfied. Personally, I’d rather it had a bit more fabric. Nnn, now that she had said that, I had become aware of the stares of those around us. Naturally there was the staff, but even the locals were stealing glances this way.

“Are they really... looking at me?”
“They sure are.”
Oh no... I suddenly became embarrassed.
“Is- Is it all right if I go change?”
“What? Why?”
“Because, I’m embarrassed...”
“No way. I’m not even close to being done showing you off.”
“But I...”

At that point, one of the staff called out in a loud voice, “We’re resuming shooting!”
“Coming!” Sara said, energetically waving her hand.
“Kaede-chan, once we’re done here, let’s go play on the beach.”
“Huh?”
“So absolutely no changing until then, got it?”

With those outrageous parting words, Sara returned to the photo session. Staring at her from behind in a daze, her words were like a spell on me. And that’s when I finally realized something. There was a possibility this trip was going to be a terrible ordeal for me...

Chapter 3: Transformed by the Sun

The next day’s shooting involved fashionable clothes rather than swimsuits. I found myself unwittingly captivated by Sara sporting an adorable summer dress. She gave a completely different expression with each outfit she put on. Wearing hot pants and a camisole, she looked as though she was ready to tear up the beach, but now wearing a sleeveless dress, she stood with an air of sophistication. Sara was truly full of life,
adopting different poses and facial expressions according to the cameraman’s instructions. I watched Sara with just a touch of jealousy.

* * *

“Thanks for waiting, Kaede-chan.”
“Great job today. Are you finished now?”
“Yep!”

The time was just slightly after noon. If we were going to do anything fun today, this was the time to do it.

“So, would you like to go shopping?”

Sara gave a ‘humph’ and moped. I was hoping to be able to get out of swimming, if I could. After the photo shoot yesterday, Sara and I went down to the ocean to play, but the whole time I was nervous that one of my bikini strings might come untied. I wanted to take things easy today, if at all possible.

“Oh yeah!” Sara suddenly yelled out.

“Wh- What is it?”

“I haven’t been able to help but notice for a while now. Why are you still wearing your glasses?”

“Oh... Well, I can’t see without them...”

“Geeze! Isn’t that why you got contacts?!”

“Nnn...”

That’s right. After all the commotion caused by my ‘transformation’, I had gotten a pair of contact lenses made at Sara’s behest. At first, I was amazed at how much they expanded my field of vision... but being without something I had worn on my face for so many years made me more uncomfortable than I had anticipated, and before long I had switched back to glasses.

“You’re finally traveling overseas! You’ve gotta wear your contacts.”
“But I didn’t bring them...”

“Heh-heh-heh. Don’t you worry about that. I packed them myself!”

“Nnn...”

Come to think of it, Sara had done all my packing for me.

“And while you’re at it, you should let your hair down too.”

“Huh...?”

“But just letting your hair down and losing the glasses is too dull... I’ve got it!”

Having been struck by some outrageous idea yet again, Sara suddenly grabbed hold of my arm and took off running.

“Hold on Sara, where are you taking me?!”

“Heh-heh-heh♪ Somewhere special.”

* * *

Some time later...

Sara and I were walking side by side through a shopping mall.
“Heh-heh-heh♪”

She was obviously in a good mood. Her arm was wrapped tightly around mine.

“...This is so embarrassing,” I said as my eyes darted about behind my sunglasses.

“It’s completely different going to a professional stylist.”

Being forcibly dragged by Sara, I had been presented before the photography staff and was immediately descended upon from all directions. Removing the tie from my hair, they quickly went to work styling with sprays and brushes. While I was temporarily blinded from having my glasses removed, my face was touched up with something called “natural makeup.” Before I knew it, they had me stripped down to nothing but my underwear. The whole ordeal left me feeling like a sacrificial lamb. By the time they finally gave me clothes and contacts to wear, I had lost the will to fight.

[Image on page 22.]

Once they were finally finished, I was wearing an open blouse that showed off my cleavage, and a tight mini-skirt that just barely came down to my thighs. I also had on a bracelet and necklace made of expensive-looking gold that subtly matched the color of my mules. Even someone as fashion-illiterate as me could tell this look screamed “adult coordination.”

“Hey, Sara... Don’t you think this looks strange?”

“Not one bit. You look absolutely stunning, Kaede-chan!”

She may have thought so, but with the looks I was attracting dressed like this, I wasn’t able to calm down. How many times had I been called out to by people on the street...? Each time, I gave an incomprehensible reply. I wanted to run back to the hotel as soon as I could.

“Hehehe♪ Everyone’s really watching you.”

“I- I told you, I’m not cut out for this look...”

“It’s just the opposite. You’re so lovely and stunning, they can’t help but be fascinated.”

“What...?”

It was just like last time. That was the first time I had gone to school with my hair down. Up until then, I had never thought of myself as the type of person to attract attention from others. I don’t mean to sound conceited, but it seemed that I actually had the raw potential to become that sort of person. I was certainly taller than average for someone my age. And my chest was even a little... no, very much on the large side. I ate like a bird, so I was unsurprisingly thin. I think Sara described it as a ‘distinguished figure’. Having Sara describe me like that made me feel just a little bit more confident in myself.

“Look, it’s not just the Japanese tourists; even the locals are looking at you. Isn’t it amazing?”

“At me...?”

Could everyone really be looking at me, the ordinary, easily overlooked class representative? I felt my cheeks spontaneously flush from embarrassment. And yet, at the same time, I felt a wondrous sense of elation welling up inside of me. I was being
seen. I was being noticed. Consciously acknowledging that somehow felt incredibly good.

“Um, excuse me.”
An unfamiliar voice came abruptly from behind me. A group of three Japanese women who seemed to be on vacation had called out. From the look of things, they were all considerably older than Sara and me.

“Can I help you?”
My words came out more easily than I expected.

“Would you mind if we took a picture?”
Ohh, I saw what was going on. It was the star they had met on their trip – that is to say, Sara – who was their intended target.

“Ohh, but I’m with Kaede-chan right now...”
“Why don’t you let them take it? I’ll just get out of the way.”
I began to move away from Sara when I heard, “Um, we wanted you in it too...”

“Wha... Me?” I responded, instinctively pointing at myself.
For a moment I thought it was a joke, until I saw how serious their faces were.

“But I’m just her friend...”
“Really? We thought for sure you were an actress or something.”
“D- Don’t be ridiculous! I’m not–” I nervously denied it.
Nevertheless, they ended up including me in their picture.

“Whew... What a shock.”
I had finally been released. I sighed involuntarily.

“But those women just now thought you were an actress... Hehehe.”

“That was one heck of a misunderstanding.”

“Not at all. You’ve got loads of charm, Kaede-chan!”

“That can’t be true...”

“Yuh-huh. Look.”
At her prompting, I followed Sara’s gaze.

“See? Everyone around keeps looking at us.”

“Huh...?”
It was just as she said. The people coming out of the stores were stopping in their tracks, and the people walking past us were looking over their shoulders. We were obviously drawing their attention.

“They’re all looking at you, Kaede-chan.”

“At me...?”
That couldn’t be it. Their gazes had to be directed at Sara. After all, I wasn’t...
With my timid heart denying what my eyes were seeing, my usual dismissal crept in.

And yet... Their eyes upon me were too hot to deny; the sun too bright to dismiss it all.

“What is this feeling...”
My pulse was quickening for no obvious reason. The sensation was neither painful nor unpleasant by any means. It was exhilaration. There was no other word to describe this growing feeling.

“Kaede-chan...?”
Something inside me was changing.
"Hehehehe..."

After returning to the hotel, Sara was exceptionally exuberant. I guess she was pleased after having a chance to “Show me off,” as she had put it. As for myself, I was a little... no, very perplexed at these feelings that were budding inside me. Had I enjoyed having people watch me...? The truth was undeniable. I couldn’t help but enjoy the attention, being exposed to their heated stares.

“Kaede-chan...?”

I snapped out of it to find Sara peering at my face.

“Did you have fun, Kaede-chan? You don’t hate me for dragging you out, do you?”

Full of worry, Sara’s eyes were moist, as though she were about to burst into tears at any moment.

“No, it’s nothing like that. It actually felt kind of nice getting all that attention. But...”

[Image on page 25.]

I gently brushed Sara’s cheek with my hand. Her skin was white and silky smooth. Every time I touched it, my heart would always beat a little faster.

“What I really enjoy is when it’s just the two of us, touching like this...”

“Kaede-chan!”

Sara lost her composure, as though she had been deeply moved. What a strange sensation. It was as though I had been separated from her all this time...

“Sara... May I kiss you?”

“Wha... Wh- Where is this coming from all of the sudden?”

“I absolutely have to kiss you right now, Sara.”

With just a bit of force, I pulled her close to me.

“Eee!” Sara let out a little scream. Her cheeks instantly flushed red.

“Shut your eyes.”

“Okay...”

With her eyes closed, she stood on her tiptoes and extended her lips.

“Mmm...”

And with that, the two of us gently fell onto the bed.

* * *

[Image on page 27.]

It was still bright outside, and the sunlight streaming in through the lace curtains brightly illuminated the room. It was in this light that we embraced, our bodies exposed.

“Ah... Kaede-chan... That’s embarrassing...”

Clinging to me, Sara squirmed in embarrassment.
“What’s wrong? There’s nothing to be embarrassed about... You look absolutely adorable right now, Sara.”

Wearing a thin smile, I focused my concentration on my right hand.

“Ah... Haahn... Hnn...”

I softly slid my fingertips over her sweaty body, stroking her sides, and finally arriving at her belly button. Just beyond that... was the heart of Sara.

“Nnn...”

As I started to move my fingers in that direction, Sara’s body trembled for a split second, as though she were afraid.

“...Are you scared?”

“O- Of course not,” Sara nervously denied.

“It’s just that you’re not acting like yourself today, Kaede-chan...”

She once again looked away in embarrassment.

“That’s because... my heart has been pounding this whole time...”

“That’s silly...”

My chest was burning, overflowing with affection. Without thinking, I brought myself close to Sara’s face.

“I’m still me. I’m just a girl who’s madly in love with you.”

Whispering into her ear, I began to move my right hand again. Before long, my fingertips felt something soft.

“Ah... Haah...”

Her cleft quivered softly, as if wrapping itself around my fingers.

“Yah... Ahhh!”

My fingertips had brushed against a tiny bump. It was like a flower bud, sheltered by leaves. Skillfully using my index and middle fingers, I caressed the area around the little bud, using a familiar technique. While two of my fingers were loosening her folds, my thumb played with her bud directly.

“Don’t ... play with it like tha- haah!”

Sara’s reaction was immediate. As her body stiffened, her arms around my neck tightened their grip.

“Kaede-chan... If you keep that up... I... I’m gonna... Hwaaah?!”

“I can feel you. You’re getting so hot down here, Sara. There’s even juice pouring out from inside you. There’s so much, my fingers are getting drenched.”

“Nooo, don’t say that...”

When I whispered in her ear, Sara’s body responded by twitching. I knew what she was feeling. Sara was getting a little taste of what it felt like to be teased. She may not have even been conscious though.

“Hey, can you hear this? There are lots of noises coming from down here.”

I spread apart her dew-soaked petals and thrust my fingers deep inside, stirring up the soft flesh wrapped hotly around me.

“Hnngg?!”

Sara’s voice went particularly high. Her back arched like a bow and her arms further tightened their hold. Confirming her reaction, I moved my fingers once more.

“Don’t finger me like tha- hyaah! It feels weird... My pussy is starting to feel weird!”
“You’re really trembling. Your juices are running all the way down to your thighs.”
“Ahh! Hyaaah!”
Perhaps I was teasing her too much. I had just gotten carried away by Sara’s adorable reactions. She was too pitiful to continue torturing like this.
“Sara.”
When I called out her name, Sara looked at me, breathing raggedly.
“I’m going to let you come now.”
“Fweh... Aaah...”
Before she could comprehend my words, I began moving my fingers again. With two fingers buried to the hilt, I began to manipulatively stimulate her weak spot.
“Hyaaah! Aaah! Haaaah!”
Ever more nectar was pouring from inside her. It flowed down her legs, dripping onto the snow-white bed sheets, forming a round stain.
“Hwaah- nnn... No- no more... I’m coming... I’m comiiing!”
“It’s all right, I’m watching. You, having your depraved orgasm.”
“Yaah- ah- haaah! No- I’m gonna... Hnn... Fwaaaaaaaah!”
Suddenly, Sara reached her climax. Her vaginal walls were contracting so tightly I thought my fingers would be torn off. At the same time, a clear spray shot forth from between her legs.
“Ahh... Ahh...”
As though someone had cut her strings, Sara’s collapsed under her own weight. Tinged with just a hint of redness, her body heaved up and down in short intervals, each time a hot, moist gasp escaping her mouth.
“Kaede-chan... You jerk...” Sara protested cutely.
“Oh? What are you angry about?”
“What she says... Geeze!”
Sara adorably puffed out her cheeks. I involuntarily snickered.
“I’m sorry. I guess my teasing went a little too far.”
“Hmph...” Sara said, turned away from me as usual.
She’s even cute from the side, with her cheeks puffed out.
“She’s even cute from the side, with her cheeks puffed out.
“Please look at me, Sara.”
When I pleaded gently, she turned to face me wearing an angry expression.
“You’re so cute when you’re angry.”
“Wh-?!?”
Surprised, Sara’s face instantly flushed.
“Hnn... Kaede-chan, you’re like a completely different person.”
“Am I?”
Even as I asked that, somehow, I already knew. My arousal still hadn’t been satisfied since being exposed to all those stares this afternoon.
“Never mind that...”
I once again pulled Sara’s slender body next to my own.
“Ka- Kaede-chan...”
“We’re finally on a tropical island. Let’s keep going like this until morning... What do you say?”
“Ah...”
I brought my lips down to the side of her porcelain-white neck.
“Nnn... Kaede-chan...”
The smooth sensation beneath my lips felt wonderful. Continuing from her neck, to her shoulder, and down to her nipples, I showered her with kisses.
“Hn... Hah... Ahh...” Sara’s voice escaped in broken gasps.
“You really are like a different person today, Kaede-chan...”
I answered her murmuring with a devilish grin.

*  *  *

[Image on page 31.]

My hands were on Sara’s petit waistline. With her straddling my thigh, I pressed against her moistened private parts.
“Ah, haah...”
Sweat clung lightly to our bodies.
“Sara... Nnn, nsch, schp.”
“Nnhh, hmm, mmm, chah...”
Our extended tongues, lewdly intertwined, were making obscene, wet noises.
“Ah, mwah, slch, schp, mmm.”
“Fwah, Kaede-chan... Hhn, haah!”
Neither Sara nor I paid any heed to our dripping saliva, running together, down into the chasm between our breasts pressed flat together. Our bodies joined ever stronger, the two of us bent on slurping up one another’s saliva, all that we could.
“Your pussy f- feels awesome, Kaede-chan... It’s so hot and wet...”
“Ah, so does yours, Sara... It’s so wet... Nnn, I can feel it against me.”
“Haah, our nipples are rubbing...!”
The tips of our nipples were firmly pressed together; the hardened knobs wriggling in entanglement.
“Ah...Hnn, I can’t believe how hard your nipples are, Sara.”
“But I...”
Sara’s voice was nasal, intermingled with gasps. Her intoxicated eyes told me of her arousal. We had forgotten our words in our lovemaking. We were being driven by instinct, just trying to achieve pleasure. It was a wondrous sense of fulfillment, as though Sara and I were the only two people in the world. Our urges were overwhelming us.
“Nn, yaah... Aaah! R- rub harder! Make my pussy feel gooood!”
“Sara... Saraaa!” I shouted.
And then, something hot began to well up inside my chest.
“I- I’m coming! I’m coming agaaaaain!”
“Ah, hah, so- so am I... Hnnnnggg!”
We embraced so tightly, I thought my bones would shatter. Simultaneously, waves of pleasure washed over our bodies. Our skin was pressed so tightly together, I wondered if we wouldn’t melt into one.

“Aaah... Sara... My Sara...”

“Haah, Kaede-chan...”

In our hazy state of consciousness, the two of us kissed one last time.

Chapter 4: My Debut

The next day...

A bit sleep-deprived, Sara and I were at the hotel restaurant enjoying a buffet breakfast. The smell of freshly baked croissants was making me hungry.

“Huh...? What are you...”

Shattering the relaxed atmosphere of elegance came an idiotic voice. Naturally, that voice would be mine. And this is what the person responsible for that idiotic reply had smilingly said:

“Kaede-san, would you allow us to photograph you?”

Idly playing with her sunglasses was the president of Sara’s firm. Although it was the first time I had seen her face without her sunglasses, she was almost stunningly beautiful. That’s right, Sara had said this woman was once a model herself.

“Photograph me... You can’t mean to say... You aren’t asking me to model, are you?”

“We certainly are.”

She said it so casually.

“But I’m not all that...”

“And do it, Kaede-chan!” Sara rose to her feet and shouted loudly, before I could even refuse.

“You gotta, you just absolutely gotta!”

“B- But I’m just here as your friend...”

“All together, I believe it comes out to 245,000 yen.”

“What...?”

The president muttered quietly. This was quite the bombshell to me.

“That’s how much the round-trip plane tickets and hotel stay cost.”

“Ooh...”

Ever submissive, I didn’t have the nerve to refuse further.

* * *

I was bombarded by the sound of camera flashes. Clad in ‘adult’ clothes similar to what I had worn yesterday, I smiled stiffly in front of the camera.

The more I thought about it, the more nothing seemed right. For starters, an ordinary person like me had been allowed to tag along for some reason.
And then there were the clothes from yesterday. Even though the purpose of this trip was supposedly to photograph Sara, there just happened to be clothes ready in just my size. In other words, this was what they had in mind all along.

“Nnn... You were planning this from the very beginning, weren’t you?”
“I’m sorry, Kaede-chan. The president absolutely insisted...” were the kinds of excuses coming from Sara, standing next to me sporting an extraordinary smile.

That was a complete lie. She had obviously been in on it from the start.

“Kaede-chan, if you could try to smile more naturally.”
As I silently muttered words of resentment towards Sara, directions came flying at me from the camera man.

“R- Right.”
Rrrr... They say there’s no such thing as a free lunch, but that was doubly true for a free trip overseas.

“Your expression is still too stiff, Kaede-chan.”
“R- Right!”

At this point, whatever happened, happened. Turning towards the cameraman, I threw caution to the wind and gave an audacious smile. If they were going to publish my photos in a magazine, then let them.

“Kaede-chan...?”

Having freed myself from my inhibitions, Sara was staring up at me in shock.

*        *        *

The sun was already setting by the time the photo shoot ended.

“Phew... It’s finally over.”

Heaving a huge sigh, I sat down on the beach. Dealing with all these things I was unaccustomed to had completely sapped my strength.

“You did great today, Kaede-chan.”

I took the plastic bottle she was offering me. It felt wonderful pressing the cool bottle against my cheek.

“I’m sorry I tricked you.”
“...It’s all right.”

Although it had been a shock, I was never really angry with her. In fact, I was grateful for being taken to such a wonderful place.

“But you really surprised me earlier.”
“Huh...?”
“I mean, you were like suddenly giving all these amazing expressions.”
“Were they... really that good?”
“Yeah. Everyone was super impressed. The president even said, ‘It’s like she’s trying to defy the camera.’”
“Huh...”

That couldn’t possibly be true though...

“If you ever became a model, you might even be better at it than me.”
“Come on, that could never happen.”
“Why not? You never know what could happen.”

“Come on, Sara.”

I knew how charming she could be when she was in front of the camera. There wasn’t another model on the planet who could match that smiling face.

“Actually...”

Sara’s voice was suddenly quiet. Sounding somehow lonely, she was making a face as though she regretted something.

“When the president first said she wanted to photograph you, I wanted to tell her no way.”

“Sara...?”

“I wanted you to be my prince, and no one else’s. I was afraid you would end up going off somewhere and leaving me...”

Me, leave Sara’s side...? How could I ever do that? But that wasn’t something I could convey in words. All I could do was listen to Sara in silence.

“But I realized that would be a mistake.”

“A mistake?”

“If you aren’t with me because you want to be, of your own free will, then what’s the point?”

“Sara... You...”

“I work extra, extra hard to be an extraordinary girl so I won’t be outdone by you, Kaede-chan. So don’t you ever say that I would be better off without you.”

I finally understood. Sara had tried to give me confidence. And all I had done was...

“Stand up, Sara.”

“Huh...?”

I took Sara’s hand and helped her to her feet.

“Kaede-chan... What is it?”

“You kept saying how much you dreamed of having a date on a sunset beach.”

I wrapped my arms around her waist and gently pulled her close.

“I’m going to make your dreams come true.”

“Kaede-chan...”

[Image on page 35.]

With her eyes closed, I softly planted a kiss on her lips. With the sun half hidden beneath the sapphire-blue sea, the entire world was bathed in twilight. Both I and Sara before me...

Epilogue: Summer’s Not Over Yet

The entire photography staff was gathered in the hotel lobby, ready for the trip home. After quickly checking out, they all loaded their heavy camera equipment into the rental car. I wonder if I should help out...
As I was idly contemplating that without actually lifting a finger, the president called out to me.

“Kaede-san, I’ve got something for you.”
“Huh...?”
What she handed me was a single photograph. Printed on it was...
“?!”
“Take good care of it, okay?”
With those parting words, the president quickly hopped into the rental car.
“What’dya get, Kaede-chan?”
“N- Nothing!”
The president was outrageous to the last. This was unmistakably a picture of that.
“When... when on Earth did she have a chance to take this?”
I nervously shoved the picture into my bag. Meanwhile, the staff, seemingly finished loading, one by one piled into the car.
“Sara, we’d better...”
“Oh, the two of us are fine.”
“...Huh?”
“Our flight home isn’t actually until tomorrow♪”
Sara smiled and stuck out her tongue. It seemed our vacation wasn’t over yet.

*       *       *

About the photo the president gave me. It was a scene of Sara and me kissing beneath the setting sun.

Written on the back was, “This was the best photo. But we can’t use it in the magazine.”

Now, if you’re wondering what became of the pictures from my modeling debut... Well, that’s a story for another time.
And now, on to my favorite cut. Above is the scene where Sara attacks with her feelings for Kaede. After this, there’s an alternate cut with tears in both their eyes, so I excitedly drew it myself during the night. The prince, awakened at long last, sprinkled in the tears of the princess.

“A Kiss For The Discarded Sketches”

The page before this was a rough for the package design. It screams classic yuri (to me at least). However, this one was unfortunately rejected (つД`) The one below was accepted for use in the final product. It makes Sara seem like a clingy puppy.

To the left is Kaede-sama after her makeover. It may have been the most exciting thing to draw in this story (lol). I just can’t get enough of this sort of thing! ( ;’∀’)=3
A Kiss For The Petals Round-Table Discussion
~The Capitalist Pig and I~

The Players:
Peko.......................................... Erogame artist. More recently, a jack of all trades.
Sano...................................... Script writer. Currently a war criminal. Out of places to run.
Fuguriya.........................Representative of Fuguriya. A silent observer, like a mountain.

Fuguriya:
Good day to you all. Fuguriya here.
Peko:  
........
Sano:
........
Fuguriya:
H- Huh? I said “Good day to you,” this time like I was supposed to, didn’t I?
Peko:  
........
Sano:
........
Fuguriya:
Hey, what’s with the silent treatment...?
Peko:  
Just ask that damned pig over there.
Fuguriya:
P- Pig?
Sano:  
I’m so sorry! I’m sorry I’m alive! I’m sorry I’m still breathing! I’m sorry I’m still metabolizing!
Fuguriya:
Wh- What’s with you Sano-kun?
Sano:
No, I don’t deserve to be called by that name. I don’t even deserve to be called Homo sapiens anymore. Please, just be out with it and refer to me as “Capitalist Pig”.
Fuguriya:
But why are you acting so subservient?
Sano:
Is “Pig” not debasing enough?! Th- Then call me “Locust,” or “Cave Cricket,” or “Toilet Bug,” take your pick!
Fuguriya:
Hold it, hold it.
Peko: All right then, as you wish. You giant blaberus cockroach!

Sano: Eeee! You’re going to treat me like a cockroach now?! What a powerful-sounding name!

Peko: Heh-heh-heh... A cockroach is a cockroach, but this is no ordinary cockroach. It’s the largest cockroach in the world.

Sano: Huoh! Such sharp wit! Your words disembowel me like a knife!

Fuguriya: What is this skit...

Peko: It’s no skit! I’m furious!

Fuguriya: Why?

Peko: Because Sano, who is sitting over there pursing his lips like a duck, missed the deadline by three weeks!

Sano: ......Eh-heh☆

Peko: Don’t give me that!

Thwack!

Sano: Aiiieee! A merciless attack to the rear?! I am but a capitalist swine, utterly stripped of my human dignity!

Fuguriya: Why do you look somewhat pleased?

Sano: Well you see, I’m commonly known to be a huge masochist.

Peko: You still have the energy for idle chatter?!

Smack!

Sano: Huwoooah?!

Fuguriya: Could you two give it a rest over there with the gleeful smacking? There may be some people who picked up this book without knowing who the doujin circle Fuguriya is, so I’d like to plug the group a little...
Fuguriya:
The original work upon which this book is based, the series *A Kiss For The Petals*, are a set of self-proclaimed yuri romantic comedy doujin adventure games exclusive to Windows. This book follows the events of the second game, *A Kiss For The Petals – My Dear Prince*, and features the main characters from that story, Kaede and Sara.

Sano:
How was that? Do you think they got it?

Peko:
What’s not to get?! All right then, I strongly and fiercely recommend you purchase the original games immediately! So, with this book still in your hand, get down to your local game corner right away!

Sano:
You’ll know it by Peko-tan’s art! Get it soon! Wait, you know what I just realized? That’s right, the third game is actually out now too! So there’s no need to hesitate. Even if you buy all three, they’ll be as fat as a dictionary size-wise, but with a combined weight of less than a single canned coffee.

Peko:
As long as you have a large enough bag, you should be able to get them without any trouble.

Sano:
What the heck?! The previous games are all sold out! Now what do I do?!

Peko:
Not to worry. If that’s the case, they’re also available through numerous download sites!

Sano:
WOW! Is that convenient, or what?!

Peko:
HAHAHA! Everyone knows that, Steve!

Fuguriya:
Who the heck is Steve...? You guys are pushing the hard sell too much.

Sano:
OH, she’s mad at us now, John.

Peko:
But Steve, your wife is always mad at you.

Sano:
That’s because I ask her to do it as one of my kinks in the bedroom.

Sano & Peko:
HAHAHAHAHAHA!

Fuguriya:
Geeze, enough already... Wait, weren’t you two doing an S&M bit earlier?

Peko:
Oh, I forgot all about that. Squeal! Squeal like a pig!

Sano:
Coo-roo! Coo-roo!
Peko:
    That’s a pigeon!
Fuguriya:
    ...Is it okay to end it like this?

* This conversation has been a (half) work of fiction.
Afterword

Did you enjoy it?
At Fuguriya we've managed to deliver you all of three originally planned couples’ stories.  But we’re still planning to keep the Petals series going.  Expect more from us after this!
And so, I bid good day to you.

A Kiss For The Petals – Our Vacation Together

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