



The Cat Lover's Circumstances

Chapter 7

Transcript

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Directed by Rebecca Scoble

Illustrations by Aiwa and © Chromatic Press

Cast:

Misaki: Tara Burke

Aina: Elissa Park

Nishida: Anthony Sardinha

Ayukawa: Sarite Harris

Rina: Courtney Lunn

Special Thanks

Alex O'Shea

Leena Soussi

Jesse Hodson

Ramsey Soussi

Babette Hodis

Jennie Fiddes

Aya & Elias

Note: Due to last-minute changes, transcript may not match final audio exactly.



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[Still at the Nishida household, Rina opens the door to let Nishida and Misaki out.]

MISAKI: We're gonna talk to Aina, okay? Right now.

NISHIDA (hesitant): Fine...fine. [pause] You gonna be all right, Rina?

RINA: Yeah, I'll be fine. And I've got leftover pizza here if you aren't back for dinner.

MISAKI: Ugghh... Roll me out the door.

[They slip on their shoes. Nishida starts walking first.]

RINA: Misaki!

MISAKI: Hmm?

RINA: Um. Thank you for today...for helping me with Kiki, and the recital. But...I'm not sure what to do from here.

VOICES (RINA): *Excited! Happy! Scared...scared. Afraid.*

MISAKI: Rina.

RINA: Huh?

MISAKI (awkward) It's...

[pause]

MISAKI (more confident): It's okay to be scared! But we're gonna make this happen, and fix everything. No matter what. Okay?

[pause]

RINA: Okay.

NISHIDA (from a distance): C'mon!

MISAKI: Okay! Jeez... (to Rina) Bye bye, buddy.

RINA: See you online.

[Misaki and Nishida step off the bus.]

MISAKI: Oooh, Yuki was so cute! Fluffy little snowball... I can't wait to see Sebastian again!

NISHIDA: You're cheerful.

MISAKI: Yeah?

NISHIDA: Unusually so.

MISAKI: Well, I mean... Yeah! I have my cat, and my game buddy, and one of my best friends... It's all...all perfect. [pause] I mean, pretty perfect. Mostly.

NISHIDA: "One of your best friends" meaning me?

MISAKI: You *do* have to apologize, okay? Aina got really hurt.

NISHIDA (uncomfortable): Yeah...

MISAKI: Why did you even say that? That stuff about "someone like you shouldn't be with me."

NISHIDA: I guess...I guess that came out wrong. But I was feeling terrible about Rina, and about dragging you into everything. I didn't even want to think about dating. And, also... there's something else.

MISAKI: Hmm?

NISHIDA: [gasps]

[Nishida suddenly pushes Misaki over to the side, opening a door to a storage closet.]

NISHIDA: Quick, go go go!

MISAKI: Wha--hey!

NISHIDA: Ayukawa!

[Nishida pulls them into the closet and closes the door.]

MISAKI: What the heck are you doing, Haru?! It's pitch black in here!

NISHIDA: I saw Ayukawa down the hall!

MISAKI: But you know she's okay now!

NISHIDA: Yeah, but! I-I don't know!

MISAKI: Let's just go out there, what's the big deal?

NISHIDA: All right. Sure, just go out there, you're right... [pause]

NISHIDA (nervous): Nope, I can't. I can't do it.

MISAKI: [annoyed sigh]

NISHIDA: Oh, like you're Miss Social Butterfly.

MISAKI: Ew, it's damp in here. It smells like ghost curry...

NISHIDA: Okay, fine! We'll go and...say hi to her...on three.

MISAKI: Okay, on three.

NISHIDA and MISAKI (in unison): One, two...three!

[They try the door, but it doesn't budge.]

[long pause]

MISAKI: Um...

[Nishida jiggles the doorknob.]

NISHIDA: That's... locked. Okay. Why?

MISAKI: Are we locked in here?

NISHIDA: Now hang on, we don't know that just yet... [jiggles lock again] Yep. Yep, that's definitely a locked door.

MISAKI: Are we seriously locked in here?!

NISHIDA: Faaaantastic. [bangs on the door] Hello?!

MISAKI: Wasn't Ayukawa outside?

NISHIDA: She was going upstairs... I don't think she can hear us now. [bangs on door again] Help!

MISAKI: Help! Help! Let us out!

AINA (from behind the door): Misa?

MISAKI: Aina!

AINA: What are you doing in there?

MISAKI: We got locked in.

AINA: We?

NISHIDA: Uh... Hey there.

VOICES (AINA): *Sad! Confused... Suspicious. Angry.*

MISAKI: Gah.

AINA: What are you doing in there together?

MISAKI (nervous): Oh, we just had to hide real quick--I mean, we weren't doing anything *illicit*, not like... [gives up] Haru got freaked out by something.

AINA: "Haru"?

MISAKI (backpedaling): That's, uh, Nishida-senpai. Haruka Nishida. Heeeeh... [awkward half-laugh]

AINA: Oh.

VOICES (AINA): *SAD! JEALOUS! ANGRY ANGRY!*

MISAKI: This isn't going well...

NISHIDA: Ueda... Um. Aina. Look, can you let us out?

AINA: Yeah, I will. But first...I have to know. [pause]

AINA: Misaki...do you like Nishida-senpai?

MISAKI: What? No!

AINA and NISHIDA (in unison): No?

MISAKI: I mean, yes, of course I like him as a person--he was my best friend! Or, well, second-best... (quick aside) Sorry, Haru.

NISHIDA (equally quick response): I understand.

MISAKI: But there's nothing romantic going on! I told you that already. We met up today

because I was angry at him over you!

AINA: Oh...

MISAKI: Okay? So...

AINA: What about you, Nishida-senpai?

NISHIDA: Me?

AINA: It's okay...really. I understand if you don't like me, I just...I want to know. Do you like Misaki?

[long pause]

NISHIDA: Well...yeah.

MISAKI (shocked): ...What?

NISHIDA: I mean...it's hard to know how I feel right now. It's been a confusing week... But I've always liked her. Since middle school.

MISAKI: Haru...

NISHIDA: What? I was really in love with you...once upon a time.

To be continued in Chapter 8.