

# Between Heaven and Earth

## [Kaoru x Die] AU

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### Kapitel 5: Chapter Five

*Thank you for reading & commenting!!! \*huggies\**

Their ride inside the car had been in silence as Kaoru simply stared out of the window. He couldn't deny that he liked the fact that people were thinking now he and Die had something going on. Everybody had tried to gain the redhead's attention but in the end it had been Kaoru who officially had scored. And somehow Die was plainly his, counting out any sexual activities, when even those Kaoru could have if only he wanted. So yes, technically he owned the red-haired man everyone seemed to be eager to socialize with.

Digging out his cell phone Kaoru had written a short message to Toshiya about that he and Die had left. He hadn't told him the reason though, too lazy to explain the matter. Once they had finally arrived back at home, Kaoru slid off his jacket and shoes, before he silently made his way into the kitchen. The taller man almost mirrored all the actions, got rid off his shoes and jacket, but decided to sprawl out in one corner of the big sofa. His hand mechanically reached out to take a hold of the remote and he switched on the TV. He wasn't tired yet and if there hadn't been so unutterably many people who had made him dizzy, he would've surely stayed for longer.

Flashing a bright smile, Die was happily surprised when the smaller man joined him on the sofa and handed him one bottle of beer. He held a second one for himself and lifted it with a small chuckle. "Thought we could as well drink another beer here, in peace." He winked a little and gave a tiny smirk, before he raised the bottle and took a rather big sip. Kaoru didn't mind spending a bit more time with his crazy guest, wasn't that tired either, and just because he was in a rather good mood today, he simply desired the Die's company. It was a strange feel though. Usually he either desired the company of a male only to jump one another, or simply to hang out with Toshi. Yet Die wasn't that bad if one looked closer and Kaoru would still prefer an insane guy near him than an annoying one. "You haven't drunk much yet, have you?"

"No," Die replied merrily and lifted the bottle as well, doing it like Kaoru had done and drinking a fair amount before he removed the bottle from his lips and happily sighed.

"There was only Toshiya who'd bought me another drink. Refused all the other offers." He smiled and started to discover the buttons of the remote, happily surprised when he had found out how to zap through the many different channels. He had been honest, but only because Toshiya had advised him not to accept all the offers. Otherwise he would've been tried everything. But loyal to his core he had done as the tall black-haired man had wished.

Pleased Kaoru leant his head back against the backrest and closed his eyes for a moment. Only when some kind of familiar, yet very disturbing noises reached his ears, he opened one eye in suspicion. That Die had found the late night porn wasn't that surprising, but that Kaoru was now forced to listen to a woman's wails of pleasure wasn't something exactly enjoyable for a gay man. He opened both his eyes and checked for Die's reaction. The question whether he was attracted to the one or the other gender was still unanswered and in his case it'd even be believable if Kaoru found out that Die didn't react to any gender at all. But still the lawyer would love to know, if he was honest and that's why he observed the redhead closely and in silence.

At the other end of the sofa Die observed something completely different but just as closely. He had never really watched how humans did that. When he had been an angel, he had seen them kissing and basically knew what they had to do in order to reproduce. Tilting his head, he still wondered why the humankind was showing something like this on their TV program. It didn't look that healthy to him, especially since that European-looking guy had an equipment that was undeniably huge. Die's gaze dropped down to his pants and his brows furrowed, thoughtfully contemplating why he didn't have a penis of that size. But then he didn't care that much, raised his eyes and kept watching the couple on the screen.

It was hard for Kaoru not to allow his jaw to drop at the utter sight of his red-haired companion who was looking completely silly sitting there and measuring himself. It was just too obvious that he was doing exactly that and if Kaoru weren't just so simply baffled about the whole fact, he would've laughed as hard as never before in his entire life. It was just too amusing! When Die was looking down at himself, the other man wondered though, if possibly it had been because it had stirred something in his pants. Which meant that obviously the red-haired guy was reacting to the straight style porn. How disappointing and yet something that should not matter to Kaoru.

But Die was far from being aroused. Instead he had grown more or less shocked with each minute passing. "Kao? Why is that, that the woman screams so loud? Is she in pain?" He cast his eyes sideways, an inquiring gaze addressed at the other man.

Biting the insides of his cheeks, Kaoru tried hard not to laugh at this, but had enough self-control not to do so. He took a deep breath and shook his head. "Well, no." Was that enough of an answer? He had never been in the situation to enlighten someone about the bees and the birds. Did Die really know nothing about sex at all? Could that truly be? So far Kaoru had to admit that it was possible from what he had come to know about him. "She isn't. Not really. I mean, well, yes. There might also be a little bit of pain but mostly she's screaming because she's in pleasure." For the first time his own speech was confusing him. "Don't you know anything about sex?"

Slowly Die shook his head. "Why would I? I just rhetorically know some things but not why that woman moans that loudly. To me she seems to be in pain. Why would anyone scream in pleasure?"

Hastily Kaoru ran a hand through his hair and took another sip from his beer, before he felt ready to reply. "Because if you like something, you contently sigh for example. And if you like something really much, the pleasure can be that huge, that it makes you scream. Like screaming in joy. You've heard that before, right?" Inwardly he was praying that Die at least understood THAT. In a way Kaoru felt like being in a bad movie, having to explain such matters to a grown-up guy. But then it was still amusing him that Die knew little to nothing about sex and its bliss.

Turning his gaze back on the screen, the redhead watched in silence for some time, re-thinking in his mind what Kaoru had told him. It was logical. But Die had never even screamed in joy, let alone in pleasure. Many things made him smile in joy and that he knew pretty well. He was easily happy about things, joyful when it came to events and simply someone who was driven by what he felt. So what would happen if he felt something like this? Something that made one scream out their pleasure. He cast a short glance at Kaoru sitting next to him with an unreadable expression. "Have you ever screamed in pleasure? I mean, really loud. Like she does."

The question made Kaoru chuckle. Sure, he always screamed like a fucking virgin, he sarcastically thought and smirked. He didn't need long to come up with a fitting answer on that issue. "No, but I made some guys scream like that."

"Really?" Die's eyes widened at the mere fact that Kaoru was capable of such thing. Impressed, he stared back at the TV screen, watching how the couple was just changing into another position, before he turned his gaze back to his host. "And how do guys do that? They don't have the same anatomy, that I know for certain."

He should've guessed that the question would come and that's why Kaoru simply scratched the back of his head lazily and pondered for a moment, giving the impression not to be fazed at all. Not that he were. It was easier for him to explain such matters in a casual way than to describe what straight couples did. "Not much different, I suppose. Guys do have holes too, right? Plus a dick to fill it," he grinned a tiny, but arrogant smirk. "There are some things you have to take care of, but when you do them right, it's better than anything else."

That didn't sound too bad, Die thought and it made him even more curious about how it would really feel like. Staring at nothing in particular, he zoned out for a few moment, only checking his options. He did have what was needed. He was a fully functioning human male and so was Kaoru. And the latter knew a lot about things like that, Die assumed. "I'd like to know what it feels like." The redhead cast his eyes to look straight at his friend. "Can we do that?"

"No!" Now this was probably the first thing in a very long time that made Kaoru nearly blush as he could feel that it evoked a weird but warm feeling to spread inside of him. Maybe it was just because of Die's bluntness since usually Kaoru was the one who bluntly stated what his intentions were if necessary. But by the look of this stupid

man in front of him, not even Kaoru could come up with a smarter answer than his shot out No. When Die tilted his head inquiringly, the other man knew the question before there was time to voice it out. "Just because I say so."

Not a clever reply at all but Kaoru couldn't help it. Yes, he would love to fuck a virgin like Die. No, he didn't want the Die that sat next to him with those huge eyes staring back at him. That Die was for other uses. Besides, even that naive bastard deserved some truth and honesty once in a while. Just that he didn't get that way of thinking at all. He sighed and dragged his eyes away from the lawyer. Rejected, Die couldn't help but feel a little bit disappointed, and that his friend didn't want to have sex with him made him also a tiny bit sad, but Die wouldn't be Die if he lost hope. Another idea popped up in his head. "Then I'm gonna ask Toshiya. Do you think he would like to?"

Eyes wide, Kaoru nearly choked. Of all things he hadn't expected that. Even although he should have, seeing how Die was obviously thinking about certain matters. And hell yes, Toshiya would love to. Only that Toshiya wasn't allowed to. Not when he asked Kaoru. Would he? When things came to the worst, Die asking to fuck him to be precise, then Toshiya wouldn't think twice, would he? This was crazy. If Die truly just walked up to the other man with that request, everything would be fucked up in a matter of mere seconds. "Die, no." Kaoru shook his head. He needed to make his point clear, but possibly leave out some true details. "You can't just ask random men to fuck you. Not even Toshiya. This isn't something one just asks for. It's... more complicated."

"Why?" First Kaoru rejected him and then he wasn't allowed to at least ASK Toshiya. Why wasn't he allowed to enjoy some pleasure too? Die didn't get that at all and he was on the verge of crying, really. A pout formed on his lips as he stared at the other man with huge puppy-dog eyes.

Oh great. The situation got worse with every minute passing. Now Die was waiting for an explanation and Kaoru just wanted to escape as his heart went out to the tall, redheaded dimwit who needed some protection of himself. Sighing, he tried to form accurate sentences while his index finger subconsciously started to rub the bridge of his nose. "Because you never had sex before and having sex for the first time is something special, or at least it should be. That's why you shouldn't just ask whoever passes you by." Kaoru was pleased with his start. It wasn't much different from forming a final speech after a trial. "You need to wait for the right... person. Someone you fall in love with."

Inwardly the lawyer cringed at the cheesiness of what he had said. It was true but he had never lived according to that, not in the last ten years or so. With a small nod of his head, Die wearily smiled. If that was the rule, he would do as Kaoru had explained to him. But there was just one more problem. "How do I know when I've fallen in love?"

Eyelids were innocently batting up and down while Kaoru closed his for a moment and pondered what he had done to deserve this. It wasn't that much of a problem really but it was actually cute, too cute to stand. Deep down in Kaoru, his conscience made him pity the man opposite him. "Well," he decided that it was worth a try to explain. "It's when you look at someone and you'll become all tingly. Or when you talk to them

and suddenly you blush. It's as if there were butterflies in your stomach and just thinking of that person makes you smile and be happy." He was almost amazed that he could still remember all these things and when he looked at Die, whose smile grew wider and eyes took on a dreamy expression, Kaoru knew that he had found the right words. "You'll just know when you've fallen for someone, trust me."

"Okay," Die instantly agreed and sighed, looking forward to falling in love one day and hoping that he would. Only when his gaze shifted back on the TV screen, his mind drifted to another issue that he knew about but had never experienced. "What about kissing? Do I have to wait until I've fallen in love as well before I can try?"

"Oh my god." In a deadpan voice the words just slipped from Kaoru's lips. "Don't tell me you haven't kissed before either." What was wrong with that guy? So he thought he had been an angel and obviously he was still a virgin but that he had never kissed before, Kaoru just couldn't believe. Die was lying, wasn't he? All the crap he told Kaoru were just lies. Or then, he was just the biggest loser or had really been something inhuman before. With unhidden doubts he stared at Die who was looking just as clueless as ever. "You've kissed before. Right?"

Vehemently the other man shook his head and assured: "No, I have not. I wouldn't ask if I had," he said with a small shrug of his shoulders before he went on with enthusiasm as his typical curiosity took over. "What's it like? Does it feel good? Do only lovers kiss?"

Intently but in silence Kaoru watched the redhead for some seconds, not responding with anything at all. So Die hadn't kissed anyone ever before. That was either the truth or he truly believed it. There was just one thing the tough lawyer didn't like and it was when somebody tried to fool him. So either it was out of utter generosity or to find any kind of hint in Die's skills, it didn't matter to Kaoru when he had made his decision. "I can't explain that to you." Or was it his own curiosity? "But I can show you if you want."

"Really?" Not just Die's eyes but also his smile grew wider. The offer simply made him happy. That was at least something he was allowed to try out and just thinking of it made him all excited. He had tried to make people kiss each other when he had been sent by Cupid and had always wondered what humans liked about it. After all in Heaven angels never kissed each other on their mouths. "That would be awesome."

"Okay, then shut up." That Die always grinned like a moron, didn't make the moment any bit more exciting for Kaoru, but he couldn't deny that he was amused. This was just for fun after all. He wasn't seriously trying to gain anything out of their kiss. It was more like a lesson he would teach the other man. "Come a little closer and keep quiet."

Die did as he was told, leant closer to the other man and patiently waited for Kaoru to do something. A little clueless about whether he was supposed to purse his lips or close his eyes, the general nervousness inside of him grew but he tried to remain silent. Kaoru shifted closer as well and locked his gaze with Die's, as he brought his face near, one hand touching the other man's jaw. There was no turning back now and

seeing how unfazed Die appeared, Kaoru wanted to leave him like he usually left his lovers – in awe. He closed the last gap between them and cast his lips across Die's, softly tugging at the bottom lip, nipping it delicately.

It evoked a tingling sensation within the former angel, it tickled a little and made him open his lips on their own accord. At the touch of Kaoru's tongue running across his lips, another new but exciting sensation ran through Die's veins, his every pore, his whole being, and made his fingers feel like trembling. But that was just the start because suddenly this wasn't even important anymore, the feel of the very same tongue inside his mouth overpowering everything else. Like his mind had gone blank, shut off from the intense experience, so fell his eyelids shut as he poked out his tongue to meet Kaoru's. That indeed felt good. Weird but good.

Gathering all of his possible skills in kissing and summing up even all the gentleness he probably possessed, Kaoru gave this kiss his best shot. Oh damn yes, he wanted to leave Die breathless, wanted this inexperienced jackanapes go through the sensation of the best kiss he would ever get, before Kaoru finally pulled away with a little, a satisfied smirk lingering upon his lips. Hardly apart, he opened his eyes and observed the flushed face in front of him, the still opened, lush lips, wet and slightly swollen. That was it. That should show the red-haired guy what it COULD feel like when kissing.

A small sound of disappointment left Die's mouth. He hadn't expected it to end so soon, wasn't ready to stop kissing. This had been too good to stop now! He was just about to figure out how to respond properly when Kaoru had pulled away. No, Die was not finished yet. Without thinking, he leant close again, not even opening his eyes, driven by the want to feel these lips once again. And luckily Kaoru wasn't prepared for his move at all. Frozen, he took some time until he actually realized that the glimpse of experience he had offered Die had left him in want for more. But that he shouldn't have.

Kaoru pulled away and put his hand on Die's shoulder, pushing him off and patting it at the same time. "Like kissing, hm?"

His head bopped up and down with eagerness. "A lot," he merely breathed out, his voice sounding odd in his ears, a little raw and unusually low. "Can't you show me more?"

"No, I can't. I won't." Kaoru shook his head and turned away to reach for his beer, taking a few hasty gulps. He sure wasn't as cool as he appeared, Die's taste having taken its toll on him as well. How could one person just taste this sweet? With lips so soft and a touch that gentle. There wasn't even any need for Die to respond in a skilled way since his utter feel was making Kaoru tingly and hot. But that he wouldn't show the redhead. "That's enough for a first try."

"Was I good?" He couldn't help asking, too curious about whether Kaoru had enjoyed it as well, maybe even as much as Die had done.

"Not bad," Kaoru replied and cleared his throat in order to keep the tone of his voice

casual. "You'll get better when you actually kiss someone who loves you." He was being this direct on purpose with a sudden urge to destroy Die's perfect mood and to reduce his naturally given kissing abilities. What was it about him anyway? Everybody wanted his attention, he was always nice and even a good kisser although he had never done that before. "I just gave you a sample."

"I understand." Slowly Die nodded and smiled, even if he had hoped for a better rating. "But you were really good anyway. It was weird but good. More than good. I think I need to fall in love quickly and try to kiss some more. And then I gotta have sex," he beamed with a smile so bright that it could've lit the whole town.

Closing his eyes for a moment, Kaoru just took a deep breath. No, he wouldn't reply to this now. He should just accept the compliment and let Die do as he wished. He was insane! That was it. Once Kaoru had reminded himself of that fact, he opened his eyes and faced his guest, forcing a small smile. "I'll call it a night now. If you want, you can still watch some TV. I don't mind if you do that quietly," he said and tried hard not to picture Die watching some more porn. Watching those movies had often resulted in Kaoru doing some things when he was still an inexperienced guy like the redhead was. And imagining Die to rub one out on his sofa was really not a good thought to go to bed with. "See you in the morning then. No need to get up early."

"Alright," the other man smiled and wished his friend a good night's sleep. Only when Kaoru had disappeared upstairs in his bedroom, Die sighed and lifted his index finger to touch his lips. It had been little to nothing, just two person's lips meeting, and then caressing each other's tongues, but it had evoked so many different sensations inside of him, that it almost felt unreal now. Kaoru's taste and the touch of his lips was somehow still lingering on Die's, even when he touched his mouth with his fingertips. And this had only been Kaoru! Who Die liked but obviously wasn't in love with according to what he had told him. Because then he would feel it. How this 'it' felt, was another question but Die supposed he would acknowledge 'it' as soon as it appeared. At least he hoped so.

In no condition to focus on any kind of television, he switched it off and got up, slowly walking into his room before he lied down on his bed. Fixing his eyes on the ceiling his mind marveled about the nice new experience he had made until finally, late at night, he fell asleep. But once the sun shone brightly in his face the next day, he instantly remembered his last thoughts and smiled. Without a clue what time it was, he dragged his bones out of his warm bed and stretched his still sleepy body. He felt odd after he had stupidly slept without to undress and, wondering if his friend was already up, he decided to get a shower this morning. He had liked that after all and somehow his human flesh desired some water.

Lazily he walked outside and checked in the living room if there was any sign of Kaoru but since he didn't spot the other man, he just headed for the bathroom. A grin appeared on his face as soon as he stepped inside. There was Kaoru. "Good morning!"

"Morning," the other man sneered as he sat in the bathtub, trying to relax his body in the hot water. "It's way after morning but anyway. You've slept well I suppose."

"Yeah, I did," Die responded and headed for the toilet first. After that he turned back to look at his host, curiously observing Kaoru taking a bath. Of course Die knew about bathing but he had never touched the foam-like substance covering the water. His natural drive to get to know more about it kicked in and he headed straightforward, kneeling down in front of the bathtub.

One of Kaoru's eyebrows skeptically rose when Die poked his index finger into the foam. But he decided to occupy the other man otherwise, since the lawyer had just been thinking about something totally different again. "Now that you're finally up, do me a favor and bring me a document, will you? It's on my desk and I haven't read it yet. It's from Hiroshi Nagatomi."

Nodding firmly twice, Die got on his feet and quickly scampered out of the bathroom to fetch the mail. His eyes scanned the desk and once he had found the one big envelope addressed to Kaoru and sent by Hiroshi Nagatomi, he snatched it with both his hands and made his way back to the lawyer.

"Open it," Kaoru ordered and lit himself a cigarette, leaning back and just enjoying his bath. He had reminded himself that he hosted Die for a reason and why would Kaoru do all the work himself then? That he was bathing all the while didn't matter either. There was no abashment between them; shouldn't be anyway after he had found the redhead stark naked on a street. "But be careful. This is important."

Carefully Die opened the brown envelope and pulled the document out, on top of it a letter directed to Mr. Niikura. "Shall I read this to you?" The question was answered with a nod and Die went on. "Thank you very much for your support and your willingness to sacrifice time and effort," the letter began and kept on making clear that this Nagatomi guy had really appreciated Kaoru's help. In the end it went on with a statement, that Nagatomi had attached another check for quite a huge amount of money, just to express his thankfulness. "Yours sincerely, Hiroshi Nagatomi."

"Damn," Kaoru muttered and took a last drag from his cigarette before he handed the remains of it to Die who obediently disposed it in the ashtray on the sink. Kaoru sat up slightly in the bathtub and rubbed both his flat palm across his face.

"What's wrong?" The redhead didn't understand what was wrong about someone giving even more money to the lawyer. He had deserved it after all. Kneeling down again, Die curiously stared at Kaoru while he once again was poking his finger in the foam.

"Nogatomi isn't a guy one would like to mess around with. It's certainly not a client I chose but can't deny an offer from either," the other man tried to explain. "This money he gives to me makes sure I keep quiet and will be there for him the next time. And sure as hell there will be a next time."

"Is he that bad? I mean, do many people sue him? Not a lucky guy then," Die stated almost absentmindedly. He did want to know about Kaoru's cases but the foam inside that bathtub distracted him. Maybe he should forget about a shower and instead have a bath himself.



"Yeah, many people do," Kaoru just said and spared himself the rest, that Nagatomi usually deserved to get sued, punished as well, but since he had gathered the best lawyer around never made it into jail. "Let's just hope he'll take his time until the next time." He forced a little smile and turned to look at Die, only then realizing that he was toying with the foam.

Die smiled back and nodded. "Can I take a bath too?"

"You can scrub my back, that's what you can do," he replied with a small, amused smirk but nodded nonetheless. "But you can take a bath as well."

"I can manage both!" Die beamed and started to get rid of his clothes.

Now THAT hadn't been the basic idea and Kaoru tried hard not to stare with eyes huge as plates. A naked Die didn't impress him, not even if he jumped into the same bathtub with him, but that he acted this blunt and totally oblivious to WHAT he actually did, left the other man speechless. In record time Die was naked and ready to get into the bathtub with Kaoru, who simply shook his head, chuckled lowly and handed a sponge to Die. "Fine, then sit down carefully. I don't want my bathroom flooded, thanks."

Taking the offered item, Die waited for Kaoru to make a little room before he stepped inside, foot after foot. That indeed felt even better than showering. The water was hot and somehow... soft. As if there was something else than water in the tub. Slowly he crouched down and stretched his legs out at each side of Kaoru, so the smaller man literally sat in his lap. The skin did feel nice against his as well, Die had to admit. Then he simply started with his task, placing the sponge on Kaoru's back, and conscientiously rubbed the pale skin. "That ok?"

"Perfect." Kaoru couldn't help his statement, pleasantly surprised about how well Die did his 'job'. It was nice for a change to have someone attending to this part of his body, even if it wasn't the first time he shared the bathtub with another male. But back then there wasn't much cleaning involved though.

Die began with the upper back, moved down to the lower part and didn't miss the middle, washing along the curves of the spine. Then he moved on to Kaoru's shoulders, upper arms and even the neck. Being Kaoru's employee really was a good job, easy and pleasant as well. And also Kaoru enjoyed it, that wasn't to deny, and he slowly leant back against the well-shaped frame of the redhead once the same was busy with his neck. Kaoru rested his head on Die's shoulder and he closed his eyes for a few seconds, the caresses holding almost an affective touch as his heart began to pound a little louder under the cleansing of his chest.

"There too?" Just to be sure Die asked, when he paid his attention to the front. He didn't mind, not at all, but he didn't want to make any mistakes either.

Kaoru simply gave a short nod. It was almost like another challenge between them. How far would Die go? How far would Kaoru let him go? Was Die really that oblivious

to what he did? To what they did. Any normal person would consider that as sexual, probably foreplay even. That to Die it all was nothing but a job, the smaller man somehow couldn't believe at all. But he should be proved wrong as the man behind him started to wash his belly, even when his hand had to slip underneath the water in order to. It was getting far more interesting once he reached the lower stomach and hips. But Kaoru tried to act cool. This was just Die, the stupid bummer he had found on the road in nothing but his skin. Nevertheless same one didn't even stop at Kaoru's lower regions and just washed as assiduously as ever his crotch.

Shutting his eyes tightly, Kaoru tried to remain unaffected but he miserably failed. Blood shot in his loins as Die unaware provoked a stirring between Kaoru's legs. No good. Not good at all. Defeated, almost in panic, he suddenly raised his body and sat upright, taking some deep and long breaths. "That's enough."

"Really? I can do your legs as well if you want," Die offered with a smile, not minding to wash the whole Kaoru and not just the upper parts. Besides, it had been nicely warm lying together with the other man inside the small bathtub with all the water surrounding them.

"No," he replied almost harshly and got up. "Clean yourself." He stepped out of the tub and grabbed a towel that he quickly fastened around his hips, before he made his way out, leaving Die alone in the bathroom. What was he doing for God's sake? Why had he let Die take a bath together with him? Wash him even! And why in seven hells did he respond to the touch? He was such a cool and unimpressed guy in most situations, even in bed if he really wanted to, but Die was just strolling in his life and messing everything up!

Carelessly Kaoru marched through the house until he had reached his bedroom, getting dressed in a hurry. But Die wouldn't win, Kaoru vowed to himself. He damn was a pretty cool guy, much cooler than the other, no, any other, much more desired by everybody else and he would not let himself grow weak for such a dimwit as Die! He rubbed the cotton of the towel across his messy head and sloppily discarded the wet clothe on the floor. Next he stopped in the kitchen where he quickly brewed himself a mug of coffee, the caffeine always appreciated. It was hard with Die, nobody would believe him. His intentions were to make the guy work and not to bed him. In a way honest if one asked Kaoru. And he really tried not to do anything with Die, not to touch him or to seduce him. But how would you react when a gorgeous thing like Die told you he had never kissed anybody before? What would you do if he just slipped into the same bathtub as you? How would you help him if he had locked himself up in a toilet cubicle? Yes, any sane gay would've screwed him long ago. But that was out of question for Kaoru.

He smoked another cigarette and drank his coffee, all the while pondering about what to do. He needed to clear his mind! That was what he should do. With a small nod he marched back inside the bathroom, grabbed the hairdryer and started to style his hair. Once done, he faced Die who was busy toying with the foam. "You know, the water gets cold. You better not catch a cold. Just fill some more hot water in and sit until you're wizened. I'm gonna go out. Don't wait for me."

Kaoru didn't wait for any response when he turned on his heel and made his way out. He grabbed his jacket, cigarettes and phone and fetched the keys before he slipped in his shoes and finally left. He didn't even take the car. A walk would do just fine. Fresh air was perfect to free his mind from Die. Maybe he would find a solution that was acceptable for him.

Inside the bathtub Die just scratched his neck and shrugged his shoulders. Kaoru had been right. The water was getting cold and he turned on the faucet in order to fill it with hot water again. But why would he sit until he was wizened? Taking a look at his fingers his eyes grew wide. He really turned wizened. Was that normal? If only Kaoru would be still here. Then he could ask him. But he had said that Die shouldn't wait for him, so he just prayed that his skin wouldn't look like this for the rest of his human life.

How much time had passed Kaoru didn't know as he kept on walking and staring down at his own feet. It was cold outside, a little chilly even, but he didn't mind. The air cooled him down, calmed him and enabled him to think properly. He lit another cigarette and pondered. He had simply made mistakes. He shouldn't have offered to kiss Die. If that kiss hadn't happened in the first place, then Kaoru would've been cool enough not to react on Die's touch. That was it and it was alone Kaoru's fault. In order to keep the whole thing to a business relationship, he just needed to define some borders more precisely. No kissing, no touching, no bathing together, not even going out would be allowed. Eating together was the maximum of extent in which their connection should revolve. And Kaoru should be perfectly fine with that. There were other guys who were and would be happy to please the wealthy lawyer and once he was finished with Die on the business level, then Kaoru could still have him if he really wanted. Given that he would be still interested. Kaoru that was.

The ringing of his cell phone nearly startled him and he was hoping that it wasn't Die who had figured out how to make a call. Reading the name on the screen Kaoru sighed, partly in relief that indeed there was no Die calling him but Toshiya, which resulted in the sigh being partially in annoyance. What could it be that HE wanted to talk about with his best buddy? Probably about something with a name that included only three letters. "Oh well," Kaoru muttered under his breath and pressed the phone to his ear. "What is it?"

"Am I disturbing you?" The other man's voice was unusually small and almost whiney. He hadn't done anything wrong, had he? Lately Kaoru was really in a weird mood, he thought and just tried to be patient with him, as patient as he always was, maybe a little bit more. "Just wanted to ask if you'd like to go out?"

"If I want to go out or if you're gonna see Die again?" The bitter words passed his lips before he had even thought about them. But it didn't matter. That Toshiya wanted to enjoy Die's company was okay, but it still made Kaoru feel betrayed.

"Both?" Carefully Toshi answered, guessing that Kaoru was pissed that he asked for the redhead as well. "I want you to come along, not Die. But I would've still asked IF he comes along. He is your 'whatever he is to you' and so the question logically crosses my mind." True, Toshiya liked Die but in the end Kaoru was his friend and he

didn't complain about him having a 'slave trophy' living in his house either. The whole shit about doing a favor for a stupid judge was hardly believable, even if Kaoru did a lot of things to gain success. But keeping a guest and hosting him like this was very unlike the lawyer.

Taking a deep breath, Kaoru let his friend's words run through his mind before he finally replied, coming to see that there was no harm meant in Toshiya's question. "No, I don't wanna go out," he explained while another thought crossed his mind. "But I wouldn't exactly mind if you and Die go out." Some time alone would certainly be good for him, he concluded. "That is you'd like to?"

"That a trick question?" The other man couldn't help but ask. His friend hadn't sounded as if he would be pleased if he asked for Die's presence.

"No, it isn't." Kaoru tried to keep his annoyance low. "I'm just not in the mood to go out. But Die might be and you are anyway, right?"

"Yup, but just to make this clear: I didn't ask for Die in the first place." Toshiya was still a little suspicious.

"I know that. Just make sure not to get into trouble." He didn't want to use a phrase like 'take care of Die'. Not now when he was still pissed off. Nonetheless he knew about Toshiya's carelessness and Die's naïve and stupid nature. "And pick him up at my place. I'm not at home right now."

"Okay, no problem." He didn't ask where his friend was since Kaoru usually was everywhere and nowhere at the same time, always busy either privately or in business. "Say, I'm just asking out of curiosity but why did you leave all of a sudden last night?"

"Die wasn't feeling well," he just stated, not even lying. "But he's fine now. When you pick him up, take the spare key and keep it, will you? Even after you've brought him home again. Alright?" Kaoru still didn't trust Die to 100 percent and Toshiya had been his friend for long enough not to mess up with any of the lawyer's belongings.

"Aye Sir." Toshiya even nodded, although Kaoru couldn't see him. "I'll just pick him up then and take care. See you another time then."

"Sure." With that Kaoru hung up. A small sigh escaped his lips. There was relief in him. Yes, he needed some space from the redhead, needed it to come to terms with his thoughts. Tomorrow he'd go back to work, appreciated routine, and he would include Die as best as he could. Until then he didn't want to be faced with him or what kind of things he stirred in Kaoru. It was for the best. Stuffing away his cell phone, he took one last drag from his cigarette before he threw the remains aside and continued his walk.

-End of chapter five-