

KIMAGURE ORANGE ROAD DISC 6, EPISODES 21 – 24

Episode 21 – Kyosuke Thrown into a Pinch! Sweet Nothings at the Wuthering Heights. (08/24/87)

“Kyosuke in a Pinch. Sweet Nothings at the Wuthering Heights.”

“Arashigaoka,” which literally means “Stormy Hill,” is actually the Japanese title of Bronte's classic work, “Wuthering Heights.”

“Ooohhh! I can't hold back anymore! Here I go...” - Hatta

“D...Dumb-ass! If you can't hold it... then go to the bathroom NOW!” - Komatsu

“Ow! To the bathroom... Here I go!” - Hatta

This sequence revolves around a rather risqué (we're talking about Komatsu and Hatta, after all!) pun on the phrase “icchau,” which can have several meanings:

- 1) “I'm gonna say it”
- 2) “I'm gonna go somewhere”
- 3) “I'm gonna achieve (something dirty)” (ex. “I'm gonna wet my pants”)

The first time Hatta says the phrase, he meant “I'm gonna say it!” Komatsu quickly tries to persuade Hatta to do otherwise, and make it sound as if Hatta was actually saying “I'm gonna wet my pants!” On the last “icchau,” Hatta changes the meaning to “I'm gonna go to the bathroom!” This is also a dirty pun because “icchau” is used by adults to mean “achieve an orgasm.”

“After thinking about it I thought of having a ‘summer experience’ at that moment.”

“Hitonatsu shichau,” or “gonna have one experience of the summer,” is basically a euphemism for losing one's virginity, with a slight poetic flavor to it.

“Thunder! I can't stand thunder!” - Komatsu

“Oh! I don't want my bellybutton to be taken away!” - Hatta

Japanese children are taught at a very young age that Oni are creatures that live on top of the clouds. When the Oni are upset, they create thunder and lightning, and go after children's bellybuttons. Obviously, Komatsu and Hatta still believe in this children's story. For more details on the Oni, see the Urusei Yatsura Liner notes.

“Damn! You know, he could be doing the old ‘meow-meow’ with her!” - Komatsu

“Here. ‘Meow-meow.’” - Hatta

“Geez! What exactly is inside your head?!” - Komatsu

“Nyan nyan” is a baby talk for “a cat,” and also onomatopoeic for meowing. Adults also use it to refer to “an intimate act.” In this sequence, Komatsu meant just that, that he theorized that Kyosuke and Kumiko were “doing it,” and assumed that Hatta knew what he meant. However, Hatta didn't recognize the meaning of the phrase.

“Let's pray for the spirits again next year.” - Madoka

“Go on... in my place...” - Oda Kumiko

“As she set a lantern afloat I knew... I knew that the operation would be successful.” - Kyosuke
Bon Ceremonies, which have Buddhist origins in China, are held in mid-August. It is believed that spirits of ancestors make a visit home during the beginning of the Bon Ceremonies. Prayers are offered, and by sending small ‘boats’ (basically small paper lanterns) down a river (this act is called “Shouryou Nagashi,” or “Tourou Nagashi”), the spirits are honorably ‘sent back.’ For many people, these ceremonies do not necessarily have religious meaning per se, but are significant as a time of family gathering and well-wishing.

Episode 22 – An Adult Relationship?! Madoka Secretly Returns Home in the Morning. (08/31/87)

“Like the Salvia Flower that stands against the cold breeze, I want to grow by your side.”
The red ribbon that Yukari wraps around Madoka and Kyosuke seems very trivial to westerners, but it actually represents a very important Japanese legend. It is said that two people tied by a red thread are destined to spend the rest of their lives together as lovers. This motif also appeared in one of the Urusei Yatsura movies.

In real-life, the words to the song were written by Yukawa Reiko, who is one of the greatest songwriters in Japanese pop music history. It should be noted that, unlike most anime songs, virtually all the songs in KOR were written as normal pop tunes by hitmakers such as Ms. Yukawa and Urino Masao, whose songs dominated the charts throughout the 80's and 90's. “Night of Summer Side,” for example, was a top-10 hit for Ikeda Masanori, then an idol-singer (currently one of the top daytime TV stars).

Episode 23 – Kyosuke and Madoka in a Big Fight – A Three-Legged Race of Love. (09/07/87)

“Look where he's hiding!” - Yuusaku

“You called?!” - a man

The man trying out a T-shirt (whose logo reads “Tonton the Panda”) is drawn to look like a cross between a very generic yakuza gangster and a truck driver.

“We'd like to decide who will get to be our sacrificial lambs. Does anyone have a suggestion as to who to choose?”

Class polls like this are often conducted by a student ‘leader.’

“Yes, the way he bites into a sandwich... it looks just like the Igangaa!” - Komatsu

“I believe that kind of thinking is... Ikangaa.” - Hatta

“Igangaa” is based on “Gangaa” from “Astro Gangaa,” a robot anime series from the 70's. The pun works like this: Igangaa -> Ikangaa, where “Ikan” means “not good” in Osaka dialect, which makes it sound like “It ain't good.”

“Try running it by me again, I'm tellin' ya! Looks like I gotta beat the crap outta you to make you understand.” - Kyosuke

In this sequence, Kyosuke is talking like a stereotypical gangster or even a samurai, in a very mean manner. (At the same time, Madoka answers like a stereotypical, submissive wife of a samurai!)

“Mountain.” - Komatsu

“River.” - Hatta

This sequence in which the words “Mountain” and “River” are exchanged refers to the most basic greeting that was used among soldiers and spies throughout Japanese history.

“You'll be running ‘fast,’ without any hard training at all! I wish I could've told Seko or the Sou Brothers about it too, man!”

The Sou Brothers and Seko were three of the best marathon runners in the late 70's and early 80's. They became celebrities that today's marathon runners, amateurs and professionals alike, look up to.

“Free Anko... Psych! Just kidding.”

“Anko” is a snack food made of red beans, sugar and some salt. It has a paste-like consistency of peanut butter, and is usually very sweet. Often served on top of ice cream, or inside of a pastry as in “an-pan” (which is a nickname for “anko-pan” or “anko bread”).

“Starting tomorrow, I'm gonna be making him special ‘High-Energy lunches’...”

“Hi-Energy Meals” refer to any foods which are known to boost energy, usually because of high carbohydrates, sugars and nutrition. Gatorade, for example, is considered a “Hi-Energy drink.” Often also called “Stamina” foods -- a popular brand of instant ramen is called “Stamina Ramen.”

“By the time he learned to crawl, he was in intensive training...”

“Omoikondara shiren no michi wo...” These words are from the theme song to “Kyojin no Hoshi” (loosely translatable as “The Star of Giants”), an anime series from the 70's. The title (which in itself is a pun on many levels) refers to the ‘star’ of the Tokyo Giants (the famed baseball team), Hoshi (Star) Hyuuma, who was forced to become a baseball star by his father. Since his early childhood, Hyuuma was involved in intensive training on a daily basis.

“Kyojin no Hoshi” became such a successful show that it became a part of contemporary Japanese society, so much so that any father who forces his son to be in some kind of training could be (with a twist of humor) referred to as a “Mr. Hoshi.” Ryuu-nosuke and her father in “Urusei Yatsura,” for instance, are a classic example.

This sequence is particularly funny if you happen to know that the voice of Kasuga Kyosuke, Furuya Tooru, also provided the voice of Hoshi Hyuuma in “Star of the Giants,” while still a teenager!

“That person's name is written with three characters... It begins with ‘Hi-’ and ends in ‘-ru.’”

Hikaru's name is not written with any kanji characters. It is written using three hiragana

characters: “hi,” “ka” and “ru.”

“There’s no way you can run fast with those bowlegs of yours!”

“Ganimata” (literally “Crab Thighs,” sometimes called “O’-Kyaku” or “O’-Legged,” Bowleg) occurs when legs grow slightly outward, causing a pronounced gap to develop between the knees. It is not considered aesthetically pleasing, and often made fun of. People with bowlegs are sometimes called “O’-Legged” because the legs form an “O” like silhouette. The opposite of this is called “X’-Kyaku.”

Some male characters in anime are bowlegged if just for added sense of humor. They might be seen running with bowlegs, for instance.

On a personal note, Robert contends that this comment of Hikaru’s is just another example of why she must die.

Episode 24 – Introducing Kazuya! Be Very Careful Around the “Panic Kid.” (09/14/87)

“It must mean that I’ve developed telepathic ability... Banzai!”

“Banzai” is a phrase that literally means “Prosper For Ever!”, and most Americans know of it only as a war-cry used by Japanese troops in WWII movies. However, these days it is used colloquially to express a feeling of great excitement. We felt it best to leave it untranslated.

Thus, upon receiving this KOR TV set, if you were a true Otaku, you would have shouted “Banzai!” too! You did, didn’t you?