

KIMAGURE ORANGE ROAD DISC 9, EPISODES 33 - 36

Episode 33 – Mystical Madoka! The Mushrooms of 120% Truthfulness. (11/16/87)

“...the ‘Asaohyou Hyou’ Mushroom, a.k.a. the ‘Mushroom of Truth!’”

In the script, the writer felt it necessary to warn the cast that this mushroom doesn't exist!

“Who could've guessed that we were bound together by a yellow thread?!” - Komatsu

This is another reference to the infamous red thread.

“Er... ‘Because this is the way you really feel, you say... ‘We celebrate the Mushroom on this late Autumn day.’ --- by Seiji.” - Komatsu

Komatsu's attempt at poetry is no prize winner. Our translation takes this into consideration!

“S...So that poor powerless Hatta can live for another day, gimme a hand, show your love, please!” - Hatta

“Ai no te” (literally “Hands of Love”) is a standard phrase that's always used during charity campaigns to request donations.

Episode 34 – Roots Panic! Madoka in the Mysterious Homeland. (11/23/87)

“Far into Autumn... Is the mountain changing its... attire?’ --- by Kyosuke.”

Here, Kyosuke tries a little haiku.

“Oh, Baasan, he's such a pain!” - Grandpa

Here, Grandpa is addressing his wife as “Baasan” or “Grandma.” “Baasan” is a less formal way of saying “Obaasan,” “Obaachan” (which is used by Kyosuke and the gang) or “Obaasama” (used by unrelated acquaintances, e.g. Hikaru).

““Tsubasa! Where have you been?”

“Tsubasa! What happened to your leg!” - Akemi

“Tsubasa” literally means “wings.”

“And... on the night of the festival... That young man... that fool... returned.” - Grandpa

“Oh! A Happy Ending! A Happy Ending!” - Hikaru

Such portrayals of fathers giving away their daughters are very common in Japanese dramas - hence Hikaru's comment.

“Oh! That kappa doll is so cute!” - Madoka

A Kappa is an amphibious creature that often shows up in Japanese tales. It is generally portrayed as a frog-like humanoid with a bird-like beak.

Episode 35 – Perverted with a Camera! Robot Kyo-chan. (11/30/87)

“Companions.’ The professional ladies who define beauty! And, supporting and cradling their charms are their professional undies! Yeah!” - Komatsu

A “Companion” (or more formally “Event Companion”) refers to a model that demonstrates or simply poses with a product at a trade exhibit (e.g. auto, consumer electronics show, etc).

Before the script was finalized, the following line was originally proposed:

Komatsu: “So innocently they do their thing, when everybody's watching, and all the cameras are pointing at them. Oh, the Companions, always smiling... And, how I desire to... er... underneath those veils of mystery... I... I...”

“Ain't it grand?! Ain't it grand?! Oh, it's too much for me to take!” - Komatsu

The phrase “Eejanaika! Eejanaika!” (Ain't it grand?!) is not only a humorous phrase - based on the fact that it's partly a Kansai-ben (southwestern) dialect which sounds inherently funny to those living in Kantoo (northeastern Japan), e.g. Tokyo - it's also a reference to the actual, important moment in Japanese history.

In the late 1860's, peasants staged the so-called “Yonaoshi Ikki” uprisings to reform society, calling for “world renewal,” criticizing the Shogunate government and, in many areas, the rich as well. The “Eejanaika” Movement of 1867 persisted in many parts of the nation for over a year. Excited townspeople would be seen dancing in the streets en masse, shouting “Eejanaika!” Exactly how it began is the subject of many tales.

“Stew and Pickles!” - Komatsu

The phrase “Konnyaku rakkyou” is used as a simple comic relief, and means absolutely nothing here.

To get really technical, “konnayaku” is a jello-like food made of a special kind of a potato grown in Japan, and “rakkyou” refers to a kind of pickled shallots or small onions.

“Don't you get it?! What if some weirdoes take advantage of him?!” - Manami

“Y'know... It feels as if it was my conscience that just sneezed.” - Komatsu

Many times in anime, a character is seen sneezing just as another character is talking behind his/her back. This comes from a common belief, which is actually based on a bizarre bit of history - Archaic literary works sometimes described just what kind of things were rumored, or talked about, through the number of times a particular character had sneezed!

“What part of Japan are you from, if I may so ask?” - Hatta

“Fukushima. Oh! Whaz'dat ya got dere?!” - Policeman

The script describes this character as “a policeman with a bit of country accent.”

Part of the humor in this scene is the policeman's accent, which is very rare and noticeable in Tokyo - needless to say, it is made fun of quite often. Fukushima is out in the countryside, and so

we've tried to give you that impression by spellin' thangz a li'l bit differently than we're usedta doin'!

"Hiding somethin', aren't ya?" - Policeman

"Busted!" - Komatsu

Colloquially, "Shitakiri-suzume" refers to someone who can't say what's on his/her mind, whether hiding things or not.

For those interested, this is also a fable reference. "Shitakiri-suzume" (Tongueless Sparrow) is a story about a sparrow that makes an uninvited visit to an old couple's house one day, licking a plateful of laundry starch. The mean-spirited wife captures the sparrow, and as a punishment, snips its tongue. The kind-hearted husband goes and finds the sparrow, to make sure that it is all right. The sparrow thanks him by letting him take home one of the trunks it kept. The man chooses the smallest one - which happened to contain gold. Seeing this, the wife then visits the sparrow, takes home the biggest trunk - only to be greeted by snakes and centipedes trapped inside.

"It...It'd be a nightmare if something like that happened! Hikaru's gonna lose it before I do!" - Kurumi

What's implied here is that Kurumi thinks she's in a lose-your-virginity race with Hikaru. This theme often shows up in many teenage dramas.

"You're right! I won't let her! 'Schwattch!'" - Kurumi

"Schwattch!" comes from "Ultraman," one of the most famous Japanese SF live-action classics. The phrase is what Ultraman "voiced" (technically, his mouth does not move) as he transformed from the human form that it assumed into a 200+ ft tall giant to fight alien monsters.

The series was first created in the 60's by Tsuburaya Eiji, who was responsible for the special effects for early Toho monster films such as "Godzilla." Mr. Tsuburaya went on to form his own company, Tsuburaya Productions, which produced countless Ultraman and monster features.

"'Fuzzzz...'" Can you hear that? That's the warm fuzziness I can hear in my heart." - Hikaru

In Japanese, there's an onomatopoeia for just about everything, and the one used here in this scene is no exception.

Episode 36 – Adios Kyosuke! Paranormal Powers Caught on Video. (12/07/87)

"Do you understand what you're saying?! This is essentially an inevitably important situation in film-making basically a performance that symmetrically portrays the identity of one sukeban, to put it one way or another! To create agitation is the true meaning of being an independent film-maker! In other words, a form of trade-conflict is what's on the table..." - Komatsu

What Komatsu is saying here is mostly nonsense, relying on "big words" that he doesn't understand completely!

"I wonder if this means..." - Komatsu "...he's a Pod Person?!" - Hatta

“Oh, no? Then... it's Super Magic!” - Hatta

The Japanese phrase used here is “kamigakushi” (from “kami” - god and “kakusu” - to conceal), which refers to spontaneous disappearance that's believed to be caused by divine powers. Most people read about kamigakushi in fairy tales - as in bodysnatching tengu (the winged, long-nosed creature).

“I was talking about “My Place Is Whimsical Road!”” - Komatsu

“No... I'm not at all what you think I am...” - Kyosuke

The joke here is that the guys are referring to a fictitious TV series, “Orenchi Kimagure Dooro” (My Place is Whimsical Road), whose title is a compound pun: “Orenji Roodo” (the romanization of “Orange Road”). “Dooro” is Japanese for “road” (the “roodo” in the above) and “orenchi” is an informal, masculine form of saying “My place.”

“The vanishing act you just did... It's called ‘teleportation,’ right? I saw it on TV last night.” - Komatsu
“Me too! The ‘ESPer Mimi’ show, right?” - Hatta

“ESPer Mimi” is a reference to a popular manga series called “ESPer Mami,” which had its beginnings in the mid 70's. The Anime (TV) version aired about the same time as KOR, and the movie was released in the spring of '88. Not surprisingly, the latter was distributed by Toho. “Teleportation” was also the title of the opening song for the series!

“Th...That's right, you know, Oniichan can be like a kite with a broken string sometimes, y'know so, he vanishes suddenly, like all the time!” - Manami

“Manami, you look like an octopus!” - Komatsu

“I've had... this condition lately, facial ticks...” - Manami

Here, the joke is partly in the usage of homonyms - “tako” can mean “a kite” on one hand, while its homonym can mean “an octopus.”

Additionally, in Japanese comics, an octopus is always depicted to be pouting - this is because its siphon does look like a pouted lips, hence Komatsu's remark.

“N...NO!” - Yuusaku (as the electric cable he's holding breaks)

At the very end of 1st part of Episode 36, the following dialogue was edited from the final version.

(The scene: all the lights have gone out. everyone is panicking.)

Komatsu: “Wh...What the?!”

Hatta: “Get the emergency lights! The lights!”

Kurumi & Manami: “(Screams) Perverts!”

Hatta: “Hey, Komatsu! That's my butt!”

“I'm Asayami Sachi of Koryo Police School, 3-B! A.k.a... The Sukeban Officer! If you don't fear this police memo pad of mine, come and challenge me!” - Hikaru

This is a parody of the live-action series called “Sukeban Officer,” which was broadcast in the mid 80's. Due to its popularity, the series produced two sequels as well as a movie. “Asamiya Sachi” is a take on “Asamiya Saki,” the main heroine of the first Sukeban series.

“That’s a MATTRESS! I was talking about a MAT from the gym!” - Manami

Both a mattress (“mattressu”) and mat (“matto”), the kind used in gym, can be referred to as a “matto,” hence the confusion.

“I’ll be right there!” - Hatta

The exact Japanese phrase used here is “Chotto mattottene,” which is a very informal way of saying “I’ll be there in a sec.” The phrase is deliberately written to work as a pun because of the word “matto” from above.

“Don’t just say it’s a sticky mess, Hatta!” - Komatsu

“But what can I do if it won’t budge?” - Hatta

“Hatta” happens to be a homonym for “stuck” or “pasted.”