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A Millionaire's First Love

By Tae-gyun Kim

What's the time limit
on a wounded heart?
I suppose nothing lasts forever.
In the 60's, while the world
restlessly searched for meaning...
I lived in an isolated shell.
Until one fateful day.
On December 10th, 1968...
broad daylight on a street in Tokyo.
It happened in seconds.
No one was hurt.
HATSU-KOI (FIRST LOVE)
Don't you want to call anyone?
Not necessarily a parent.
Call a friend or a sibling,
if you want.
We're concerned about you.
Well...
there's no one to call.
She's my daughter's age.
A guy tried to assault her...
yet she won't tell anyone.
Let it go.
The girl wasn't hurt.
Yeah, but she shows
no emotion at all.
Shinjuku, Tokyo
Auntie?
What?
Extend my curfew.
Why?
I turned 16 today.
Oh.
She's a bit young to be
staying out at night.
Well, she gets that
from her mother.
No doubt.
While the passage means
"maidens who exult in life"...
it also alludes to life being as
ephemeral as a flower.
A venerable temple
may appear ageless.

But eventually, it too
will erode.
You again?
Stop dawdling and come in.
Found you a cute
high school girl.
Where?
Come.
What? No interview?
When I came, you grilled me
for hours.
That's because you're obnoxious.
Well, Ryo?
Do as you like.
I'll do it.
Sit.
What do you want, child?
Well?
Say something.
I don't want to be an adult.
You pass.
Right, Ryo?
Play this record.
Art Blakey.
You came.
Relax. Take a seat.
Hear about Ryo?
No, what?
A photographer wants
him as a model.
How much?
What!?
What have you got to lose?
I say go for it.
Who asked you?
Don't you have a show to do?
Get back to work.
Fine...
I'm going.
But it's a good offer.
You should think about it.
We'll be at your show tomorrow.
Wanna come along?
You here alone?

This theater group is only
six months old.
Yuka's their star.
She's a pretty women
but a little strong-headed.
Yuka
As forthe others...
Tetsu
Tetsu's a fighter.
He'll take on anyone,
even gangsters and police.
Yasu
Yasu's in high school like you.
He's in charge of comic relief.
He'll even laugh through
Yuka's tirades.
Ryo! Where've you been lately?
That's our leader, Ryo.
Ryo
Real ladies' man...
from strippers to housewives.
He looks dangerous but...
he's a softie at heart.
People gravitate to him.
And I'm Takeshi.
Down with the US-Japan
Security Treaty!
I demonstrate with college students
Takeshi
but I'm still cramming to get in.
Still gets me chicks, though.
I'm secretly an aspiring writer.
I plan to make it big someday.
Let's march!
That's my story.
What's yours?
You seem to have one but...
It's starting.
Beyond recollection...
dreams of Xanadu!
Crossroads of fate...
a plaintive lullaby!
And then there's Kishi,
the oddball.

He hangs out because
he's pals with Ryo.
But he doesn't do much.
No stealing, no protesting.
Cast your warm light
upon the blind!
Let's split.
What a dog!
Look who's talking.
You picked them up, Ryo.
Remember?
No, I don't.
All I remember is she was
gorgeous last night.
What'd you do last night?
Drank alcohol, cold medicine...
smoked some pot.
Then I felt tired,
so I dropped acid.
That explains the girl.
Hey.
Sorry. Did I wake you?
I'll call you.
Sure you will.
Here.
Eat something.
Thank you.
She is gorgeous.
Yeah.
Ryo?
Is that you?
Hey!
Shut up.
That's no way to talk
to your mother.
Drunk again?
What if I am?
Why don't men ever come home?
Maybe they're busy.
Ryo's at it again.
Tetsu broke it up but...
Why don't any of you ever try
to stop him? You, too, Kishi.
What's the point?

Ryo's always upset after
seeing his mom.
Misuzu...
Don't you remember me?
You're my brother.
Listen... if you're ever in trouble,
give me a call.
But don't come to the "B."
Hey.
Catching a flick?
How was it?
I don't remember.
You're a strange one.
Ryo says it's a good film.
Do you go often?
Movies.
Occasionally.
Where do you get the money to watch
movies and hang out at the "B"?
Is yourfamily rich?
No.
Then do you steal it?
Hey, I'm only kidding, all right?
It doesn't matter.
I live at my uncle's.
Dad died when I was a kid.
Mom took my brother and vanished.
Abandoned, huh?
Everyone at the "B" pretty
much has the same story.
Ryo's late.
Yeah.
If you're falling for him,
you're wasting yourtime.
Ooh, very nasty, Yuka.
Is this a catfight?
Hearthat, Kishi?
Yeah.
What a stick-in-the-mud.
That's why no one likes
Tokyo U. students. No fun.
What's wrong?
Where's Ryo?
Arrested.

What!?

The cops busted up a fight

he got in with some punks.

He got tagged.

-Why didn't you help?

- I tried.

They didn't give a shit about me.

They targeted him.

What'll happen?

I have no idea.

Jail, I guess.

Kishi!

Where you going?

Out.

Ryo's going to jail and

he doesn't care?

Then promise me this.

Stop causing trouble

foryourfather.

We'll see.

This is the last time.

Why are you here?

Worried about Ryo?

It's okay.

But he's going to jail.

I heard some people saying the

police won't press charges.

He'll be out tomorrow.

Really?

Yeah. Don't worry.

Go home.

Yodobashi precinct, I think.

Ryo! You know who Ryo is!

Forget it!

No luck?

Ryo!

What's up?

Seen a ghost?

How'd you get out?

-Yeah, how?

- Prison break?

You had us worried.

Bring beer!

No, whiskey!

Whiskey!
Go pour us some.
Yuka's crying.
Fuck you.
How many glasses?
Just bring a bunch.
The metropolitan expressway
is open to traffic.
This should relieve some congestion
on surface roads.
Thank you, Twiggy.
If women went on strike,
the revolution would die.
Why?
If women stopped putting out,
men would lose the will to fight.
Men are pitiful.
You sure are.
You sound like Yuka.
Hey, you!
Hold it!
You're in high school, right?
This is no place for you.
Where do you live?
Get back here!
Stop!
Hold it right there!
Misuzu!
This way!
In here!
Come on.
Don't move.
I could've sworn she was here.
I'll swing around from
the other side.
Careful, mister!
Sorry!
What happened?
Are you all right?
She's gone.
Let's check this way.
Hurry!
Hey! The coast is clear!
Misuzu?

You're pretty stacked.
What? Misuzu didn't fall for
lover-boy's charm?
She's still 17. Hasn't yet developed
an eye for handsome men.
Ryo?
You want kids?
I'm not asking you to marry me.
My folks want to fix me up with
someone wealthy.
The family business went bust.
But if we were to...
Wait!
Say something.
You want me to say,
"Don't go through with it."
Forget it.
Make your own decisions.
Wait!
Let go of me!
What's your problem?
Don't run away!
Say something!
How about... if you get married,
let's have an affair?
Fuck you!
It's cold.
Like bikes?
Wanna learn how to ride?
"Kashiwada Motors"
Hello.
You brought a girl with you?
What a pleasant surprise...
Cute, huh?
Yes... but not really my type.
Can you teach her how
to ride a motorcycle?
You're not teaching me, Kishi?
Did I say that?
Thanks!
Wait!
What?
Don't like that outfit?
It's not that.

Well, it looks good on you.
Go ahead and try that bike out.
Release the clutch and go. Afterthat,
it's no different than a bicycle.
Got it?
Yes but...
But?
I've never ridden a bicycle.
Well, just give it a shot.
Don't rev it that much!
Oh my.
Change gears.
Wild!
Yeah! Check it out!
Powerto the people!
Yasu!
Back off!
Yasu, look out!
Let him go!
You must disperse!
This is an unlawful assembly!
Yuka!
Please disperse!
You are in violation of
traffic regulations!
If you do not disperse,
you will be removed.
Damn that Yasu.
He may neverwalk again.
Those pigs!
It was a lynching!
Can we sue?
You serious?
We can't win.
So we do nothing?
Stop griping and take them
to court then!
I'm not flush with cash!
I ain't rich like you.
Where's Takeshi?
He went berserk and
joined the radicals.
Yuka's home rehabilitating.
Misuzu?

Free tomorrow?
The radicals must be kept from
joining forces.
Our government merely wags
it's tail forthe U.S.
It's not what you think.
I have to talk to you in private.
Come in.
What's wrong?
Sit down.
Misuzu...
you can't repeat this
to anyone.
Even the "B" gang.
Got it?
Don't worry.
I don't talk much anyway.
True.
Can you drive a car?
Yes.
No license, though.
How about one you've
never driven before.
Sure.
The old man has me drive
many different cars.
I see.
I hate authority, too, you know...
just as much as the others.
I could throw stones and bricks.
But that won't hurt
those in power.
We've got to use our heads.
You have a plan?
Yes... I do.
Misuzu...
I need your help.
Will you?
I need you.
What?
But why?
Why me?
You're a women.
And you can drive

but have no license.
That's a plus.
That's all?
That's all.
Wait, maybe we should forget it.
Okay.
I'll do it.
I've never been told
I was needed before.
If you say you need me...
I'll do it.
What's wrong?
Get in.
Here's the plan.
We have 2 months...
little time.
We'll be robbing a car that's
transporting a lot of cash.
Toshiba factory bonuses.
We'll hit the car at 9:10
on December 10th.
You'll be dressed as a cop
on a police motorcycle.
Motorcycle?
Yes. That's your target.
A black Cederic.
License plate "5-6648".
The vehicle leaves at 9:09.
Like clockwork.
There'll be three men
in the car.
The chief's in the back seat.

At 8:

A bike will be waiting.

Get there by 8:

At 9:

disguised as a policeman.

At 9:

outside Fuchu Prison.

The car will take this route.

Go south on this highway.
Then turn right before the prison.
Once past the prison,
the factory is close by.
The road here sees no traffic
and very few pedestrians.
That's your target point.
This is where you'll wait.
There!
Here's where you'll
stop the car.
A bomb threat will be sent to
the bank in advance.
You're highway patrol.
They'll stop for you.
Then you say, "You're with the
"The home of a branch head
was bombed. You're in danger."
"Please step outside."
As you speak,
attach a flare to the car.
Get in and drive to the Kokubun Temple.
I'll be waiting there.
Listen carefully.
If even one man refuses to leave
the vehicle, you must abort.
In that case, say,
"Thank you for your cooperation."
And come to me.
Don't take any chances.
That's it.
Easier said than done, I know.
I can do it.
You sure?
You don't have to.
If it's too much.
It's not.
Okay.
Then we're set.
We go ahead.
What's wrong? You're the one
who said it had to be me.
So I did.
Then try to look happier.

Okay.
I kind of like it.
It adds character.
You think?
It makes leaving here
easier, though.
- Maybe we...
- Don't say it!
I'm going to my folks.
Say goodbye to everyone.
Yuka!
Let's have that affair, okay?
Pull over!
Park back there.
We were here yesterday.
Don't tell me you forgot.
This is a critical point.
You ready for this?
Yes!
I just didn't recognize
this building.
You've a bad sense of direction.
Or maybe it's your memory.
How'd you get by?
I'm sorry if I'm not as smart
as you are.
Forgive me.
I'll think about it.
Are you... having your period?
What an asshole!
-Asshole!
-All right!
Take it easy! That hurts!
All right, already!
What's wrong?
You look bummed.
Sleep!
Take some drugs.
Radicals have blown up
a branch manager's home.
This car may be booby-trapped.
Good. That'll work.
Well, of course!
We still have a month to

work together.
I'm not at all worried.
You realize you'll be on your own
during the real thing.
I know.
Really?
It'll be your call.
What if there's construction?
Or your bike breaks down?
A lot can happen, you know.
I know.
Fine.
If all goes well...
what'll we do then?
You return to your studies.
And you?
Going somewhere?
For a while.
Of course.
I won't see you again
afterwards, will I?
That's not true.
You will.
Liar.
Known Kishi long?
Ever since he was a child.
What was he like?
You'd best ask him.
You taught him to ride, too?
I guess so.
He learned fast.
Why doesn't he ride now?
Hold this.
He got injured.
Can't grip the clutch.
An accident?
A tussle with the riot police.
Some injuries never heal.
Hey.
Just you?
Yeah.
What's up?
You look down.
No.

I'm fine.
Misuzu?
Why come here anymore?
Everyone's gone.
I'll be gone, too.
Where are you going?
Nowhere.
I thought I'd get some work.
What is it?
You okay?
Somehow... I get the feeling
I won't see you?
Don't be silly.
Just call and I'll come running.
She hasn't been by.
I'm asking too much of her.
Nothing comes easy.
Still, you appear relieved
somehow.
Shall we call it off?
- Look, Misuzu...
-No.
I'm doing this.
Cold?
No.
Hey.
What?
Can we sit here a bit longer?
Sure.
December 10th... rain.
But rain or shine, we go ahead.
"Only partners in crime
share eternal secrets."
"I believe in you."
There's still time.
I won't make it!
Now nothing will change.
No way.
Pull over!
Stop!
Radicals have blown up
a branch manager's home.
This car may be "boogy"-trapped.
Please step out while I inspect

the vehicle.
The car was checked this morning.
There was nothing out of the ordinary.
Could be under the car.
Get out of the car! Hurry!
Here! I've found it!
Move away from the car!
Hurry!
You okay?
I goofed a line.
I said "boogy"-trapped
instead of "booby-trapped."
You think it worked?
Of course.
Change clothes.
The old man's here?
Hurry.
Here's an update on
the roadside robbery.
Authorities have serial numbers for
some of the stolen bills...
including 2,000 newly-minted
The police are making the numbers
public in hopes of a quick arrest.
Extra police have been mobilized to
conduct a house-to-house search.
This is big news.
Pleased?
I'm not sure, but it's just
like you said.
Yeah.
Misuzu... pick one.
What?
A villa.
My present to you.
Okay... that one.
The A-frame.
Let's get out of here.
Don't worry.
These homes are all vacant now.
Expect the fuss over this incident
to continue for a while.
But you go cram for your exams.
They won't be looking for a girl,

especially without a driver's license.
An apartment in Tokyo.
I rented it a year ago just
in case I needed it.
I won't need it.
It can't be traced to me.
And the landlord's a stranger.
Live there if you want.
Will you come?
Can I wait for you?
I'll be waiting.
Okay.
I'll return as soon as I can.
Give me your hand.
Just for a minute.
I'm tired of being alone.
Very clever.
The new bills were sent with a note
to the media and politicians...
from the son of a
government minister, no less.
We almost had a major crisis.
And a thief who people
regarded as a hero.
You had us by the balls.
Your people's goal of bringing down
the whole cabinet nearly came true.
"Our people"?
If you had said you acted alone,
it would've really shamed the country.
We couldn't have that.
Take the money.
Disappear abroad.
I have some bad news, though.
The old man at the bike shop...
is dead.
Damn you.
Just go and no one else
will get hurt.
Who actually did the heist?
Never mind.
You're leaving tomorrow.
Don't forget you're being watched.
"The 300 million yen thief"

One year to Expo '70 to be held
in Osaka under the theme...
"Progress and Harmony for Mankind."
Misuzu...
Where are you?
"Bonuses"
Let me suggest a mini-vacation.
For a delightful one-day trip sure
to leave you rested and reposed...
try Kamakura.
In June, the hydrangeas
begin to change colors.
"Thief Still at Large"
A primary suspect in the multiple
shooting case has been arrested.
The suspect was caught breaking and
entering into an office building.
Hello?
Ryo.
The damn fool.
He'd gone around to temples
buying up good-luck amulets.
He never said it was for you
to pass your entrance exams.
There are all kinds of amulets,
you know.
He told me to give them to you.
And that he was really glad
you came to the "B."
Wait, ma'am!
Ryo!
Ryo!
My Ryo!
No!
Why?
How can I survive now?
How can I survive?
Ryo!
Please, ma'am.
Come with me.
Wait here.

At 5:

Japan time...

Apollo 11 landed safely on the Moon.
Astronauts Neil Armstrong
and Buzz Aldrin...
steered their Eagle down
in the Sea of Tranquility.
Package for Ishii-san!
Captain Armstrong's words...
as he stepped out of the lunar
module onto the Moon.
"That's one small step for man...
One giant leap for mankind."
You're kidding.
Man goes to the Moon
and then has to walk?
"May 6, 1966"
"Today, I met a young girl."
"With unclouded eyes, she
looked at me and said..."
"I don't want to be an adult."
"I fell in love with her."
"The kind of love you feel only once."
"But I can never tell her
about it."
"I couldn't bear to cloud
those eyes."
Sometimes I think it's all a dream.
The idle time spent at the "B."
The unforgettable events that
rainy morning.
Painful remembrances of him.
But then something appears to ease
my irreplaceable sense of loss.
A single real moment.
And so I wait.
I know that nothing
lasts forever.
And that there is no time limit
on a wounded heart.
Ryo was beaten to death by
leftist student rioters.
He was 24.
Yuka got married, and divorced.
She helps run her family brewery.
She lives in Hiroshima.

Takeshi became an award-winning author at 30 but died of cancer.

He was 36.

Tetsu became mentally ill from drug abuse. He killed himself.

He was 29.

Yasu wandered the country in a wheelchair. Died in auto accident.

He was 23.

Kishi's whereabouts are unknown.

The statute of limitations ran out.

The stolen money has never been used.

An hourglass deposits its gentle grains of sand

At a place where even teardrops freeze

If only I had told you not to go

I might be by your side now

As much as my heart

screams out in anguish

My voice will not reach you

My love is not answered

Requiem in Blue

by Chitose Hajime