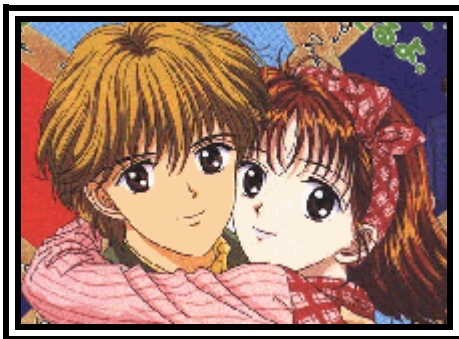


MARMALADE BOY GUIDE

July 1998 Microsoft Word Version Upgrade



**Last work done on this Guide was the....
MARMALADE BOY GUIDE [April 1996 version](#)**

**Characters created by Yoshizumi Wataru.
As seen in Ribbon (AKA Ribon) magazine.**

TV character designs by Seki Hiromi.

By Bruce Duffy and Karen Duffy
(bruce.duffy@bbs.Chemek.cc.or.us or Compuserve at: 72135,1745)
(karen.duffy@bbs.chemek.cc.or.us)

The Marmalade Boy Guide - looking back (KD) New

The Marmalade Boy Guide was being written at the same time the show was being fansubbed into it's very first version...the TV Version. It was likely written over a period of a year or two. I made reports through the Guide just as soon as it was known what was going on in MB myself. For some time, it was updated with new information monthly. As a result, many versions of the Guide were done. When the April 1996 version of the Guide was completed, it was decided it would be the final one.

In the early days of the Guide, we had two different word processing programs, Microsoft Works and Claris Works. Bruce opted to see to it that the Guide was in the Claris Works format in order to have pictures of better resolution on the pictures that were included. Word didn't exist when we started work on the Guide.

The fairly recent Acrobat format of our work on the MB Guide (formatted by Justin Sevakis) has those original pictures. Since the original Guide version (with the original pictures) was lost on the server for exCEL Animation Art, this one has new and mostly different pictures.

Since Claris Works has fallen by the wayside and MS Works has for the most part too, this new Word version is being done for everyone's benefit. Corrections have been made and we're re-adding pictures as best we can.

What was going on when the Guide was being written:

For me, I was working on subbing from early morning until late in the night. And often because I couldn't sleep I would continue on into the wee hours of the morning when all was black outdoors. I tended to even eat at my workstation.

So when was most of the Guide written? Well, when Bruce needed the subbing equipment to work with Mika, I went to his office, got on his computer, and madly typed out my thoughts about the most recent MB findings.

Generally at the time, I was fuzzy minded but could remember a great many details. Most of synopsis you'll see were strictly written from a pretty sharp memory in spite of being blurry-minded. Hee...I just couldn't SEE what I wrote, that's all. (^_-) And always, always...it was a rush to complete the newest addition to the Guide before Bruce got through translating with Mika for HIS efforts. I needed to get back to the workstation as soon as possible!

I always felt self-pressured to have something new, both on the tapes each month and the MB Guide too. This led to many neuro errors in the previous versions of the MB Guide that there was never the energy or the time to correct. And even now, there really isn't time to read through hundreds of pages. I've gone over the document with a spell checker and that has taken care of a great many of the problems. But it's certainly doubted that it will have covered them all. I always knew that people probably knew how much work I was doing every month and would understand that I was pushing myself about as far as I could be pushed.

I'm still pushing myself because at heart I'm a workaholic. Nasty trait but sure gets things done! (^_^)

You may note that the guide at various times was much larger than it's current 217 pages. Nothing has been taken out, only reconfigured to make it somewhat smaller.

New sections of the MB over the previous one are marked with a **New**.

Contents in order of appearance:

The Marmalade Boy Guide (looking back).....	Page 2
Table Of Contents.....	Page 2
Introduction to the series.....	Page 3
Seiyuu information.....	Page 5
Character information (contains spoilers).....	Page 7
Episode Titles.....	Page 18
Open and closing songs and art.....	Page 22
Blood type information.....	Page 23
Updates.....	Page 23
Trivia.....	Page 30
Marmalade Boy Airing Dates.....	Page 35
Synopsis of the MB movie.....	Page 38
Episode synopses. (obviously spoilers).....	Page 38
English translation of songs that occur during the show.....	Page 141
CD Songs listings.....	Page
Songs in Romaji.....	Page 169
MARMALADE BOY STORE.....	Page 177
CDs available	
Art books	
Manga Information.....	Page 174
Inside Information on the translation of the Marmalade Boy Series.....	Page 182
Clubs, MLs, RPGs, and other group activities.....	Page 186
Fan Section.....	Page 186
Marmaladetron (the mech-heads relief).....	Page 214
The Marmalade Boy Project in Retrospect.....	Page 215

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES: (From his and her perspectives)

Bruce:

Marmalade Boy is a teen soap opera FULL of humor and drama. As of the end of 3/95, 53 episodes had aired. The show was renewed and is expected to run at least 75 episodes - unusual for a shoujo show.

It has consistently been in the top 7 shows in the ratings, and has been as high as #4. This is rather amazing considering that it is a DAYTIME show and runs on Sunday mornings, the one day when everyone is trying to sleep in.

In the beginning it was aimed at preteen girls, but over time it was gradually changed to accommodate a steadily enlarging adult market (much like Sailor Moon). As of episode 32 a new ending animation was begun. This was of OAV quality and, in our opinion, was another sign of the shift toward an older audience.

Men who like this show frequently say that they feel like there must be something wrong with them because they are watching a "shoujo" series and enjoying it immensely. I suspect that there is a very valid reason why they enjoy it, and that is this:

This is the ONLY TV show I have ever seen that ACCURATELY depicts the feelings that people have about their families, friends, and romantic interests. Questions are asked that everyone asks themselves now and then, and the possibilities are honestly explored. It is often done in a very humorous way, but no show that I have ever seen before has done this without distorting things with an overly male or female perspective. This show is unique in that it honestly depicts the feelings of both men and women.

The families shown in this show are not typical of the Japanese. Unlike Maison Ikkoku which shows lower middle class characters, Marmalade Boy depicts the rich. There are two families (Miwa and Akizuki) which are ultra-rich.

Over time, commercials shifted too. Those featuring Marmalade Boy merchandise at the beginning were mostly concerned with dolls and items aimed at middle-school age girls. Later on, commercials featuring high school age girls and cosmetics began to be run as well.

As distributors for several fan studios, we have had feedback about many series, movies, and OAVs. The most enthusiastic responses, from all over the country, have been to Marmalade Boy.

LDs have been announced. 3 box sets, each of 25 episodes. Release dates are: 7/95 9/95 12/95 Pre-orders only.

Karen: Marmalade Boy fits into a category that would also include Maison Ikkoku and Orange Road. All are romantic comedy series. Each has it's own flavor and speed of action. Each is good in its own way.

The tempo of Marmalade Boy tends to run somewhere at the speed of Star Wars, whereas the other two previously mentioned series have a bit more mellowness. Observers of MB cannot afford to leave the room at any time, too much can be missed. And the ending of each episode tends to leave one dying for the next episode. Maybe "dying" isn't a strong enough word!

Bruce is right, the response to Marmalade Boy has been enormous. We understand that men, women, and hentais alike have been riveted! The letters we've received have been appreciated.

Marmalade Boy is my personal all time favorite show. The project to translate the show originally occurred when Bruce took compassion on me. He saw me sitting and watching MB in straight Japanese over and over and over. I don't speak Japanese. (Well, a little.)

Late last year, I gave up my own hobby of 21 years, to devote myself to this project. Our translator works for Bruce one day and myself on another.

Each translation takes a great deal of work on the part of the native born Japanese translator and ourselves. For one reason, many Japanese sayings do not translate straight across into our language. In addition, native born Americans do not speak English exactly the way the Japanese are taught to speak it. We're FAR less formal for instance...using many conjunctions and leaving out a lot of words!

It HAS been an interesting project.

Please note: All names are listed in Japanese order, surname first.

(compiled by Bruce)

SEIYUU INFORMATION:

Koishikawa Miki:	Kouda Mariko (Lufa in Dragon Half) (Okinu in GS Mikimi)
Matsuura Yuu:	Okiayu Ryoutarou (Nishikiori Issei - PSME)
Suou Ginta:	Kanemaru Junichi (Kawano - Yawara!)
Akizuki Meiko:	Yamazaki Wakana (Natsuko - 3x3 Eyes) (Maria - Ghost Sweeper Mikimi)
Miwa Satoshi:	Ota Shinichirou
Suzuki Arimi:	Hisakawa Aya (Iria, Sailor Mercury, Skuld)
Rokutanda Tsutomu:	Tanaka Kazunari (first known role)
Matsuura Youji:	Shimada Toshi
Matsuura Chiyako:	Kawanami Yoko (Cynthia - Dragonball Z)
Koishikawa Jin:	Tanaka Hideyuki (Bean Bandit - Riding Bean) (Dr. Balanche - Five Star Stories) (Slayn - Record of Lodoss War) (and MANY others)
-	
Koishikawa Rumi:	Emori Hiroko (Chaos in Dragonball and Z)
Namura Shinichi:	Furuya Toru (Kyosuke - KOR) (Mamoru - Sailor Moon) (Seiya - Saint Seiya) (MANY others)
Momoi Ryouko:	Urana Megumi (Elazer in Dragonball Z)
Kijima Takuji:	Yamaguchi Ken (Kageura - Miracle Girls) (Ain - Hokuto no Ken, etc.)
Tsuchiya Kei:	Ishida Akira (Takumi - Combustible Campus Guardress)
Sakuma Suzu:	Tange Sakura (first known role)
Kitahara Anju:	Inoue Kikuko (Beldandy, Kasumi, Electra, Brooke - Moldiver, etc.)
Michael Grant:	Midorikawa Hikaru (Tamahome - Fushigi Yuugi)

Brian Grant:	Morikawa Tomoyuki
Jinny Golding:	Koyama Tomayuki
Bill Matheson:	Hiyama ??? (There are several possible readings of the kanji.)
Doris O'Connor:	Makiyama Shiho
Takase Yayoi:	Sumitomo Yuuko
Furutachi-kun:	Tanaka Katsunari
Principal of Toryo:	Nakae Shinji
Kijima Rei	Takagi Sanae
Akira: (Rei's brother)	Unknown - temporarily
Chigusa:	Nagashima Yuuko
Mari:	Onodera Mariko
Keiko:	Nakamura Naoko (or Shooko)
Kyoto-sensei:	Yamaguchi Nana
Meiko's Mom:	Abe Michiko
Meiko's Dad:	Yanada Kujoyuki
Akizuki Maid:	Ono Yuka
Uchiyama:	Satou Chie (manager of Bobson's)
Kitahara Masako	Takagi Sanae (Anju's mother)
Teacher (episode 19) (male)	Kouno Yoshiyuki
TV Announcer: (episode 19)	Nakao Michio
Gota (episode 20) (Jin's business associate)	Kazama Nobuhiko
Miwa Yoshimitsu	Totani Kouji (Miwa Satoshi's father)
Sakuma Rehito	Sawahi Ikuya
Kitahara Masako	Takagi Sanae (Anju's mother)
Mr. Reinie	Kawazu Yasuhiko

Kei's mother	Han Keiko
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 PLEASE NOTE: SPOILERS are included in the character information. Please watch up through episode 42 before reading this if it will bother you. Spoilers begin with the first character (Miki).

Character Information:



KOISHIKAWA MIKI

BD: Junior in high-school as the show opens. She does not know what she wants to do after graduating high school. Has a MAJOR temper, but has the patience of Job with people that the rest of us wouldn't waste our time with. In love with Ginta since middle school, but he rejected her (pretty much by accident) because of his fear of telling her how he felt. In the beginning of the show, she is torn by her old feelings for Ginta, and her new ones for Yuu. Eventually she sorts things out and is FIRMLY in love with Yuu.

KD: I prefer to describe Miki as sensitive and easily hurt. But I agree that in episodes #43, she was in direct line for sainthood. Very impressive.

She is portrayed as not being beautiful; but as a personality girl...and this is what attracts people to her. This includes not only the men in her life but her best friend Meiko. Meiko says that Miki is so full of energy and is so caring of her friends that she makes her feel good.

And Lord knows, Meiko needs that!

What the guys see in Miki:

Ginta: "You had a cheerful smile, were full of energy, and were cute..." (MB episode #5)

Yuu: Yuu notices that...her smile is SO cute. He watches and finds he can't help laughing at her antics. "You were so bright." (MB Style Book)

Yuu: Unlike me, you're honest and pure. You give everything your all.

Miki: You mean I'm uncomplicated Yuu: It's why...I love you. (MB #25)

Kei: "Her big voice...mistakes...and smile, I watched. She made me smile naturally." (CD Love Affair, #16)

Michael: A very adoring Michael looks on Miki talking on the phone to Yuu, who is in the United States - "She smiles like that for Yuu." MB episode #56.



MATSUURA YUU (In the show, spelled "You", which does not match the kana.)

BD: In tennis club since middle school but now is not in any clubs. His major academic interest is architecture. Covers his pains with a smile, and rarely tells what he feels. Many women are infatuated with him, and a few actually in love with him, but he has eyes only for Miki.

KD: Yuu tends to be nearly unemotional in the early episodes compared to the fiery Ginta. In episode #25, he explains to Miki how a major trauma in his life caused him to protect himself that way. Even though he shows a cool, unfeeling exterior, Yuu finds many ways (especially in the earlier episodes) to show that he cares about Miki. When she's upset, he tries to be there for her in some way (like take her shopping before a tennis match, or jumping balconies to stop her from crying).

In episode #25, Yuu admits that he's attracted to her because she's so open and honest. He describes her as "very pure". Yuu develops as time goes by to show his feelings more. In episode #53, he shows some very intense feelings for Miki which results in the most romantic kiss I have ever seen in any kind of animation.

Towards the end of the series, the episodes in the 60's and 70's, Yuu shows his emotions fairly well.



SUOU GINTA

BD: In the tennis club. In love with Miki since middle school. He also has quite a temper. Intends to be a teacher after college.

Conspires with Arimi to break up Miki and Yuu. Eventually becomes reconciled to their relationship, and falls in love with Arimi.

KD: Ginta is big hearted, sensitive, and yes, has a temper. But as Miki says, it's easy to calm him down. Miki and Ginta have a lot in common and probably would have made a good couple...but it was never meant to be. Maybe in the long run, the calm, collected Yuu is a better balance for highly emotional Miki.

Ginta's relationship with Miki, as her closest male friend, is a delight to watch since they are fond of teasing each other. And they still support each other in that relationship even after Miki chooses Yuu.



AKIZUKI MEIKO

BD: Miki's best friend. Way past super-rich. Parents hate each other but are not divorcing due to social and financial considerations.

Meiko has an exceptional literary talent. She has won a nationwide literary contest in the adult category. In love with Namura Shinichi since age 15, but for awhile torn by her attraction to Miwa Satoshi. She has a very endearing, dry sense of humor.

KD: Meiko is touted as the beauty and brains of the two girls. Meiko seems to always have the advice that Miki needs at any given time. But when the chips are WAY DOWN for Meiko in

Vol. 12 (MB #45-48), Miki shows that she is every bit as important to Meiko's stability as the other way around. These two need each other as much as they need the guys they love.

A particularly fun part of this series is watching the hit and miss relationship of Meiko and Miwa!



SUZUKI ARIMI (episode #3)

BD: In love with Yuu since middle school, but the love is one-sided. Yuu thinks of her as a friend. Begins dating Ginta in order to make Miki jealous, but eventually becomes reconciled to their relationship and falls in love with Ginta.

KD: Suzuki-san was and still is a little more difficult for me to watch than some of the other characters. Our translator, Mika, describes Arimi as "pushy". My description is "aggressive". I know that this is a personal discomfort thing of mine so I will say this...Arimi isn't really a bad person. She loves Yuu and is in pain over the desire to have him return her feelings. I see her as liking to have control over situations because she wants to succeed in her goal. She's desperate and in that particular state has become a bit insensitive to other's feelings and problems.

Later: (6/1/95) Arimi appears to be becoming sensitive and caring of others' feelings now that she's a permanent fixture in Ginta's heart. Nice to see her blossom as her life matures. Another example of the Japanese tendency to develop characters in full color rather than in black and white. Arimi is now quite likable!

6/30/98 The single most favorite character of male fans of the show.

ROKUTANDA TSUTOMU (episode #6)

BD: Loudmouthed blow hard who constantly dwells on the past. In love with Arimi since elementary school, but she thinks of him only as a friend. Eventually gives up on Arimi and has become interested in Yayoi-chan. He's Ginta's cousin.

KD: Rokutanda is pretty much as Bruce colors him. Personality-wise he's possessive, loud, and tactless. This character is often used for comedy relief.

However, in the New Year's episode, MB #42, Tsutomu meets the girl of his dreams, Yayoi-chan. Then promptly forgets to get her name, address, or the name of her school. He re-meets her in the Valentines Day episode, MB #48. By the time he re-found this girl, audiences here really WANTED him to get together with her.

Oh, one other thing, Rokutanda has a habit of making challenges...usually to Ginta, or Yuu and Ginta together!

(6/1/95) We finally see Rokutanda with Yayoi again in MB #58. And, by golly, he doesn't even raise his voice once! Looks like he's going normal on us! (grin)

(7/3/95) Nope! In #76, we can see that although he's going out with Yayoi, he is still the same, loud Tsutomu. Still, Tsutomu wouldn't be Tsutomu without the voice, would he?



MIWA SATOSHI

BD: His first speaking role is in episode #3. A senior, and the student body president. For a while thought to be gay and interested in Yuu. As it turns out, he has fallen for Meiko and attempts to divert her attention away from Namura. In later episodes he is shown to be a very sensitive guy who cares a lot for his friends.

KD: Miwa is a favorite to watch among a great many MB enthusiasts that I've talked to. And I must admit that he has so far been one of the most entertaining to me, too. He is a genius at persuading people to do most anything he wants them to do. He's brilliant, handsome, filthy rich, and suave. But more than anything, he's funny. Well, he's funny until he's absolutely pushed to his limit, but his limit is only reached when someone he cares about is hurt beyond belief. Example: He was livid with his father in episode 25 because his father's insensitivity hurt Yuu. And, in episode #47, he went ballistic over Na-chan's attitude towards Meiko and Momoi-sensei.

KOISHIKAWA JIN

BD: Father of Miki. Divorces Rumi and marries Chiyako.

KD: I've noted that of the four parents, Jin seems to take a leadership role even over Youji. I wonder if anyone else has noticed the same?

KOISHIKAWA (Matsuura) RUMI

BD: Miki's mother. Divorces Jin and marries Youji.

KD: It's a running joke in the series how bad a cook Rumi is.

MATSUURA YOUJI

BD: Yuu's adopted father. Divorces Chiyako and marries Rumi.

KD: I'm not entirely sure that Yuu IS adopted yet. I know that Yuu had experiences that lead us to believe that but I can't help but wonder if the writers are going to turn the thing into another misconception. Youji seems to be far more mellow than the other parents.

MATSUURA (Koishikawa) CHIYAKO

BD: Yuu's mother. Divorces Youji and marries Jin. Works in new product development at a cosmetic company.

KD: She seems more soft spoken than Rumi and is very gentle with Miki.



NAMURA SHINICHI age 25 at the beginning of the series.

BD: The most popular teacher at Miki's school. In love with and loved by Meiko. After this is discovered, he resigned and moved to Hiroshima to work in real estate. Met Meiko 2 years ago when she was 15 and still in middle school. Capable of great self-sacrifice for others, he tends to overdo things when he feels he's doing something for someone else.

KD: Some viewers that I've talked to have had a personal bone to pick with this character. Not because he's mean or bad, but because what he considers an act of personal sacrifice in MB #17 could be construed as cowardly by some MB fans, and inconsiderate by others.

6/30/98 Ah! This was a very controversial character! The above statement was in reference to Na-chan leaving. But there were a goodly amount of fans who felt he was just perfect for Meiko, another cross-section that thought he had no business getting involved with her..considering Meiko's age and their age difference in general. My own issue was that of abandonment. This character seems to pull out people's personal issues and make them look at what they believe in!

MOMOI RYOUKO

BD: Coach of the women's tennis team. In love with Namura, though she has never told him (as far as we know). She was a classmate of his through college. Very patient with the students. Becomes Miki's home room teacher after Namura resigns. She is a good and popular teacher.

KD: It looks pretty clear that she does tell him her feelings in MB #41, the second part of the Christmas episode. She was part of a inseparable three-some that included herself, Namura, and Kijima (during their high school years). She was dating Kijima when she fell in love with Namura. Kijima noticed her change of heart, so when he moved to America, he wrote her and encouraged her to do something about how she felt towards Namura. She never had the nerve...well, until the second half of the Christmas episode (MB #41) Ryouko, seems to be a very gentle character.



KIJIMA (episode #5)

BD: Owner of the Junk Jungle, where Yuu works part time. Senpai to both Namura and Momoi. (No, "senpai" is not misspelled.) Has a VERY interesting sense of humor. Always seen wearing dark glasses and a brown leather jacket. Overall a very nice person.

KD: Kijima has been described by other enthusiasts as "cool". Well, he does seem to act that way. One presumes his stay in NY had something to do with his behavior and the way he drawls his words.

He's married to a girl (Rei) who put her Toryo medallion in his bag just before he left for the states. They met years later when she was working as a tour guide in NY. They fell in love and married. Ah! The "power" of the Toryo medallion!



TSUCHIYA KEI (episode #28)

BD: Tortured boy who falls in love with Miki. Schemes to break up Miki and Yuu, and almost succeeds. Hates Suzu - why we don't know, but it could be because she has accepted the demands generated by her talent and he has been unable to cope with those made upon him. Gifted pianist who hates playing because of trauma inflicted by his piano teacher. Miki re-kindles his love of music.

As times goes by, he matures, VERY rapidly, growing from a self-centered wretch who feels sorry for himself and seems to want everyone else to be miserable also, to someone you'd like very much to have as a friend.

KD: I would describe him as a brooding teenager. While watching him, it's easy to see how lonely and miserable he is and how he "might" need someone like Miki in his life. I liked him, but that doesn't condone a certain stunt he pulled in MB #35. Kei-kun is actually a year younger than Miki.

The addition of Kei to the cast is one that somehow changed the flavor of the show from humorous and cute, to situations that were more sophisticated, in addition to humorous and cute.

By the way, there's an absolutely exquisite piano piece played by him in the second part of the Christmas episode (MB #41). It's one he especially wrote and performed for Miki.

Later: Kei disappears from the series after #44 to pull his life back together and "become the kind of man that Miki would want". He plans to come back for her (even though Miki is completely devoted to Yuu). In #56, he does just that...shows up at her door as a new man and confesses his feelings for Miki, tells her that he wants her to be his girlfriend, and tells her he's going to tell Yuu. Where is he? To his utter pleasure, he finds that Yuu is away in America.

By the way, Kei is a master of well aimed comments. 7/3/95 Kei ends up by the middle 60's (episodes) to be one of the kindest, romantic male characters in the show.

6/30/98 Over the last couple of years, it's been found that most men, in particular, can't stand this character. While he tends to be one of my favorites...once more mature and this sentiment

is shared by a certain portion of other women as well. This ended up causing me to notice that the things that men disliked about the younger, less mature Kei was exactly the same things that women disliked about the less mature Arimi. Most men ADORE Arimi for the same reasons that women liked Kei. Very interesting!



KITAHARA ANJU (episode #36)

BD: In love with Yuu since childhood. She has a serious heart condition. As of about episode 42, she has gone to America. An accomplished violinist.
A very sweet girl who is self-effacing.

KD: Anju, is an extremely soft-spoken character (done by the voice actress that does Kasumi in Ranma, Beldandy from Oh, My Goddess). She is gentle and compassionate. So, even though she is in love with Yuu, she really doesn't want to do anything to hurt the relationship between Yuu and Miki. All she asks is to be a second to Miki in Yuu's life. (CHOKES!) Her compassion changes her mind after she actually sees the playful Yuu and Miki out buying Christmas presents (MB #40).

6/30/98 While working on remastering and re-timing the series, there was an occasion to listen to her conversation (episode 59) with Bill about thinking she could be second to Miki-san but when she thought she was going to die, she couldn't bear it, so she decided to tell Yuu that she loved him. Later she noticed that Yuu was completely focused on Miki-san. (This would imply that she felt that since she was dying, she wanted to be with Yuu at any cost and not second fiddle anymore).

Right afterwards as the subber, I needed to go back to episode 39 where this had actually happened to continue working there. And since timing is a constant affair of listening to the voices over and over and over, etc. I heard her lie to Miki about just letting her spend just one day (tomorrow) with Yuu....after that, she wouldn't call him or see him again (that was the day she planned on telling Yuu how she felt about him). She used SUCH fervent honesty, looking Miki straight in the eyes...that it gave me the chills! I have never seen anyone lie with such LOVING PASSION! Scary even for me!

Since then I have seen many commentaries on how sweet and perfect the character is. And she is indeed sweet and self-sacrificing; but very few people realized that her honesty on that one occasion wasn't as honest as her voice implied. Even I took a LONG time to catch it. She is just as human as the rest. (^_^)



SAKUMA SUZU (episode #26)

BD: 13 year old, nationally famous model. Falls for Yuu when they meet while filming a commercial. Schemes, almost successfully, to break up Miki and Yuu.
Later on becomes reconciled to their relationship.

KD: Suzu readily admits that she likes things that are "pretty". And to her, Yuu is "pretty", Miki isn't. She can't understand the combination of Yuu and Miki. Later, Suzu finds out what the charm

of Miki is. See episode #43.

TAKASE YAYOI (episode #42)

BD: In this episode ALL the kids are at a temple. Rokutanda prays for a girlfriend 100 times as good as Arimi and shortly runs into this girl. She is sweet and soft-spoken. The exact opposite of Rokutanda. She immediately has a calming effect on him. She reappears in episode #48 where she is jilted by the man she is interested in and meets Rokutanda again. I expect a romance to blossom in time. (With this show, how could it not?)

KD: Yayoi-chan seems to be totally blind, so far, to any faults that Rokutanda might have. She comes across as a very sweet character at this point (4/95)

She first shows up in the New Years episode (MB #42), then not again until the Valentine's episode (MB #48) after being turned down by a potential love interest. (Have to admit, even Rokutanda seemed charming, for a change, in the Valentine's episode.) Yayoi's next appearance is in MB #58 during Kei-kun's concert...as Rokutanda's date.

Other episodes she shows up in:

In episode #67, she and Rokutanda double date with Ginta and Arimi.

In #68, she and Rokutanda follow a plan set by Miki to get Ginta and Arimi back together.

In #71, she and Rokutanda go on the camping trip with the rest of the gang.

In #76, she attends and helps with Meiko's wedding reception.



MICHAEL GRANT (episode #50)

BD: At first Michael comes across as just another stereotypical, loud mouthed (in a nice way), over-exuberant American. As his character develops, he can be seen to be a scheming low-life who is almost without a shred of decency. Not only that, he has quite a temper - though he rarely lets anyone else see it. One of the characters that you will LOVE to hate.

KD: An American living in Japan sent me a preview of Michael by sending me a tape of just MB #50 and 51. The volume (Vol. 13 - MB #49-52) that included these two episodes hadn't even finished running in Japan yet!! He described him as being an instant idol at Tōkyō; a gorgeous blond haired, blue eyed boy. I was afraid from that description, that he would be depicted as a arrogant, womanizing American type. But no.

He is, so far, very well done...in my opinion. He can speak Japanese fluently because of ninja/samurai movies. He doesn't hesitate to role play these type of characters (from the Japanese movies he's seen). He's wide-eyed at all the things he considers wonderful in Japan. He loves to be in the kitchen, he's friendly and demonstrative in his affections, even his mannerisms are very American. A FUN character so far! Hope he stays that way.

Later: He didn't. By MB episode #52, his mannerisms can only be construed as pesky...BEYOND BELIEF!

Even later: In MB episode #58, Michael is less hyper and is actually thinking a lot! He's crazy about Miki, and jealous of Kei to the point that he hates him and is willing to punch it out with the famous young pianist if necessary. He's torn by his own love, his feeling that Kei has an inside track to Miki (his music), and by the fact that he knows that Miki is madly devoted to her boyfriend, Yuu. But when a call comes in from Michael's brother, who tells him that Yuu has a girlfriend in New York (he doesn't...it just looks that way to Brian), Michael loses it. As far as I can tell (since this episode hasn't been translated yet - 6/1/95), Michael can't bear knowing that Miki's strong love for Yuu is being betrayed. That, combined with his own feelings for her and his hatred of Kei, causes him to barge into her bedroom and grab her up and kiss her very hard and with a lot of passion.

7/28/95 More and more the show is depicting Michael as still too much of a kid to interest Miki. To her, he's a little brother-type...no amount of tuxedos he puts on or how many dozen red roses he buys her will change the fact that he's quite a child.

10/17/95 In the last episode, Miki comments that Michael is acting more like an adult now. The time frame would be after Miki and Yuu's High School graduation.

FURUTACHI-KUN (episode 2)

BD: Host of Lunch Time News, the school news program. Pries into everything, and every time we see him, he embarrasses Miki. In episode #19, we finally see that he has a good side.

KD: Furutachi-kun will broadcast ANYTHING for a good story. It's gotten him into trouble with Miki...enough so, that she clobbered him on the head with a book. After that, in a later episode, I noticed he used the VERY respectful Koishikawa-SAMA when referring to her. (Lunchtime News broadcast, episode #19)

KYOTO-SENSEI (episode 17)

BD: Vice-principal of the high school. Stereotypical nasty teacher. Makes the wicked witch of the west look like one of the good guys.

KD: Nothing to add. Agreed 100%!



CHIGUSA

BD: Pig-tailed classmate of Miki's. Seen in cameos in a number of episodes.

KD: Chigusa, is also a member of the tennis club where Miki is a key figure.

MARI

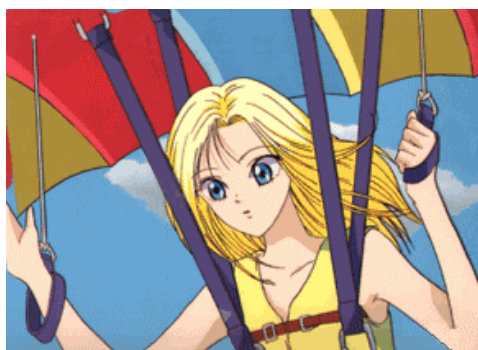
BD: Like Chigusa and Keiko, a friend of Miki's and Meiko's who is seen briefly in a number of episodes.

KD: Mari, Chigusa, and Keiko, (though it's never - so far - been said directly in the show), seem to be obvious gossips. If viewers watch carefully you will either hear or see them gossiping periodically. Other times you can see the main character trying not to say "anything" in front of them. Also I might mention that there's a darling script in episode 63 where the 3 side kicks are together in a cute little scene with Miki.

KEIKO

BD: Another friend of Miki's and Meiko's. Also seen in several episodes. (So far, I'm not sure which one is Mari and which one is Keiko. I don't think that their names are ever mentioned in the show itself, just the credits.)

KD: Their names are mentioned in the show. Keiko is the one that ran up to Meiko on her first official date with Miwa...let's see...was that episode #37? Not sure. Anyway, it was Keiko that told her she had seen Na-chan. In episode #51, Michael comes into Miki's classroom to ask her for an English dictionary. Mari was the one accused of hogging Michael's attention.



JINNY GOLDING

BD: A blonde knockout who lives in the dorm where Yuu is staying in New York. Brian has a thing for her and is quite jealous of her interest in Yuu. She acts just like Arimi did toward Ginta when she was trying to make Miki jealous, but is tougher and tells bigger lies to Miki, thus causing bigger reactions from her. She appears not to be a very nice person, but after a few episodes it seems more that she is a very lonely girl who is fairly desperate for attention. She's not lonely enough to go after just anyone though.

KD: Jinny is after Yuu fully knowing that he's very much in love with a girl in Japan named Miki. This doesn't seem to be a problem for her at all. Different attitude from Arimi in my opinion...but a similar desire.

Jinny has a whole different set of morals than the kids in Japan - particularly referring to her opinion that "just kissing" doesn't mean that Miki's his girlfriend...if you get the drift.

Just so you know, It's difficult to tell from the pronunciation used for Jinny's name in the show that her name is not actually Jeannie. But the pamphlet that goes with the MB CD - The Etude Of Dawn - tells us for sure what the writers intended her name to be. It definitely shows her name to be Jinny. One could presume the seiyuu's problem with the delivery of the name is that in Japan "i" is pronounced as a LONG "e".

6/30/98 Another controversial character with the fans. She's felt not to deserve a life by some and felt to be misunderstood and needing some help by others.

BRIAN GRANT (episode 52)

BD: Michael's big brother. A superb basketball player. Has a fairly short temper. Has a number of girls interested in him, but he has eyes only for Jinny. (Which doesn't help matters when he sees her kissing Yuu!)

KD: Brian is a tall fellow guy with somewhat of an arrogant jock-type attitude...so far. (I've seen up to MB #54 as of this writing.) In Japanese anime, personalities can develop and grow just like in real life. Sometimes, what you think you a character is like in the beginning, is NOT what they're like once you get to know them better.

10/17/95 It's made very clear early on by Doris that Brian is actually a nice person. It's just that he goes haywire about anything concerning Jinny. Once Yuu has proven himself to be COMPLETELY uninterested in Jinny, Brian's softer side comes forward.



BILL MATHESON (episode #54)

KD: Yuu's roommates. So far, he appears calm and soft spoken. He seems sensible and intelligent.

At first meeting, Yuu gets the impression that Bill is gay. He seems to like him anyway although the thought of Bill being "dangerous" (his way of saying homosexual) makes poor Yuu uncomfortable. I predict these two will become very close friends.

By episode #59, Yuu and Bill have become great friends. Even when they walk they look like a matched set. No, they don't look just alike...but there's a certain "something". They're both soft-spoken,

intelligent, and have the same build and height.



DORIS O'CONNOR (episode # 54)

BD: Appears to be Jinny's best friend. Quiet girl who seems to be watching everything that is going on around her. No known romantic attachment - yet.

KD: We'll know more about Doris when our translations are complete. Doris isn't flashy like the blond, blue-eyed Jinny. (By the way, our cel buyer is foaming at the mouth waiting for cels of

Jinny to be available.) For now, I get the distinct impression that Doris doesn't lack for brains nor for being practical. I think, but won't know for sure until our translations are completed,

that she's attracted to Brian but doesn't feel that a relationship is even a possibility. So she doesn't think about pursuing the idea.

So far, Doris has helped Yuu out of some scrapes a couple of times...by protecting him from Brian. She doesn't have any fear of standing up to the big guy (Brian) that's for sure. Right now, I'm of the opinion that she secretly cares for the tall boy.

KIJIMA REI: (episode 56)

BD: Kijima's wife. Runs her own import store, selling high end, and one of a kind merchandise. Also a very nice person.

KD: Rei seems to be a very compassionate person. And so far, seems to tune herself into Miki's needs (6/1/95)



AKIRA: (episode 56)

BD: Rei's brother. Works in the shop with her (possibly a partner). Apparently a very nice person. Takes an instant liking to Ryoko (and the feeling is obviously reciprocated). However she turns him down when he first asks her for a date - apparently because she isn't over Namura yet.

KD: Bruce and I sometimes jokingly refer to Akira as Elvis Presley because of his hair style. He's definitely more eye catching than Namura. He seems, so far, to be a nice, gentle spoken guy - we haven't seen much of him yet.



EPISODE TITLES:
(Compiled by Karen)

MB 1 THEY'RE IN LOVE, HE'S HANDSOME
"But I can't Forgive Them!"

MB 2 SIDE EFFECTS OF A KISS
"He Doesn't Understand My Feelings."

MB 3 TWO KISSES
"Yuu Had A Girlfriend"

MB 4 GINTA'S CONFESSION

"I Won't Let You Have Her"

MB 5 LEGENDARY GIRLFRIEND

"Making A Wish On A Medallion."

MB 6 LOVE GAME

"I Really Hate Ginta!"

MB 7 WHAT'S GOING ON?

"That Couple!"

MB 8 FRAGRANCE OF AN ADULT

"I'm Not Jealous."

MB 9 PART-TIME JOB

"The War Of Love Depends On Sales."

MB 10 OUR FIRST NIGHT

"Surprise In The Bathroom."

MB 11 BIRTHDAY

"Yuu Is Watching Me."

MB 12 SMASH!

"I Love Both Yuu And Ginta!"

MB 13 LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP

"Ginta, Please Take Arimi-san"

MB 14 QUALIFICATION OF LOVE

"You Don't Deserve Yuu."

MB 15 MEIKO'S SECRET

"I Want To Know About Your Feelings."

MB 16 A MAN'S DECISION

"Na-chan, Please Don't Quit."

MB 17 MEIKO'S SEPARATION

"I Can't Say Goodbye!"

MB 18 THE DIRECTION OF YUU-KUN'S LOVE

"Things Aren't Going As Planned."

MB 19 DISTURBED BY THE FAMILY REGISTER

"Don't Say It's Ridiculous."

MB 20 DOUBTFUL TWOSOME

"Yuu and Miwa-san Are A Couple?!"

MB 21 TRIP TO KARUIZAWA

"Just As I Thought - Strange!"

MB 22 DOUBLE DATE

"We Like Each Other, But Don't Understand Each Other."

MB 23 IMPACT OF A CONFESSION

"Yuu, What Are You Talking About?"

MB 24 THE SECRET OF HIS BIRTH

"I Can't Leave Yuu Alone."

MB 25 REAL KISS

"I Love You, Yuu."

MB 26 NEW ANXIETY

"I'm Too Afraid To Be Happy."

MB 27 LOVE WORRIES

"How Long Will This Happiness Last?"

MB 28 UNSTABLE FEELINGS

"I'm Going To Get a Part-time Job."

MB 29 OBSTACLE TO LOVE

"I Can't Find The Medallion!"

MB 30 RIVAL

"I Love You, Yuu."

MB 31 SUZU AND KEI

"These Two Make Me Nervous..."

MB 32 LOVE AT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL

"Yuu And Kei's Concert."

MB 33 LOST LOVE

"I Love You!"

MB 34 BREAKUP PREMONITION

"The Halloween Conspiracy."

MB 35 CROSSING EACH OTHER'S PATH

"You Mean We're Going To Break Up?"

MB 36 I'M ALONE

"I'll Make You Forget Him!"

MB 37 TEARFUL REUNION

"I Thought It Was Over Between Us..."

MB 38 ANJU'S FEELINGS

"I Want To Be Next In Line To Miki!"

MB 39 A BITTER LOVE

"I've Loved Yuu For A Long Time."

- MB 40 A HOLY NIGHT**
"I'm Alone On Christmas Eve."
- MB 41 THE MORNING OF LOVERS**
"Merry Christmas."
- MB 42 NEW YEARS PATTERN OF LOVE**
"It's Going To Be A Wonderful Year!"
- MB 43 SKI TRIP**
"I won't Let You Two Be Alone!"
- MB 44 OUR FUTURE**
"Yuu's Dream, My Dream?"
- MB 45 MEIKO'S TURNABOUT**
"I'm going To Hiroshima."
- MB 46 TO HIROSHIMA**
"Let Me Be By Your Side Again."
- MB 47 COUPLE ON THE BEACH**
"Because I Care About You".
- MB 48 THE FLAVOR OF CHOCOLATE**
"Sweet And Bitter Valentine."
- MB 49 THE SHAPE OF LOVE**
"It's Difficult To Be Happy."
- MB 50 THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT APPEARS**
"Michael's....Strange!"
- MB 52 MAKING A DECISION UNDER THE MOONLIGHT**
" Yuu, Don't Leave Me Alone!"
- MB 51 LOVE TRIANGLE**
"Someone's Messing Things up..."
- MB 53 MAKING A MEMORY**
"I Won't Regret It If Anything Happens."
- MB 54 NEW LIFE**
"Yuu, I Wonder How You're Doing."
- MB 55 RIPPLES AGAIN**
"New York Is Too Far Away!"
- MB 56 LOST PATHWAY TO LOVE**
"My Boyfriend Is Yuu But..."
- MB 57 PASSING EACH OTHER**
"I'm So Lonely, I Can't Be Patient Anymore!"

MB 58 TONE OF A LOVE CONFESSION
"I Want You To See Me As A Man."

MB 59 AN UNEASY WEEKEND
"I Want To Hear Yuu's Voice."

MB 60 MY LOVE IS FAR AWAY
"Yuu Is In Front Of Me."

MB 61 NEW YORK TRAP
"Yuu Was I Stupid?"

MB 62 GOODBYE
"I Can't Be Your Girlfriend Anymore."

MB 63 HOLDING BACK THE TEARS
"I Want To Be Alone."

MB 64 A PAIR'S PROBLEMS
"I Want To Hear Your Voice."

MB 65 SOLID DECISION
"Miki....I'll Take Her."

MB 66 NEW CHOICE
"You Don't Have To Forget About Him."

MB 67 FRIENDS
"I Need Kei-kun!"

MB 68 INDECISIVE LOVERS
"Goodbye Ginta."

MB 69 THE COURAGE TO LOVE
"I've Decided."

MB 70 I'M HOME
"What Kind Of Face Should I Put On To Meet Him?"

MB 71 A NIGHT OF STARS AND THE MOON
"Although We're Near Each Other...I'm Lonely."

MB 72 HALF BROTHER AND SISTER
"Our Happiness Is Breaking Down."

MB 73 FAREWELL
"I Had To Do It..."

MB 74 A BOX OF MEMORIES
"Bye Bye Yuu."

MB 75 BROTHER AND SISTER
"We Have To Be Separate."

MB 76 DEPARTURE
"Our Love Progresses."



Opening and Closing Songs and Art: Bruce:

New closing credit and song begin with episode #32. Much more mature art than the original opening, with a VERY serious and romantic song that explains Yuu's feelings for Miki.

New opening and closing credit's beginning with episode #54. The OP shows Yuu and Miki in New York, in the head of the Statue of Liberty. The opening song remains the same.

The new closing shows only Miki. She appears to be on the beach of Waikiki (with all the hotels gone). Could be any tropical beach though. Once again, there is a new closing song. (We haven't translated this one yet, so a description will have to wait.)

The art work in both of these is superior to the usual TV show, but is not on a par with that of #32 which was definitely of OAV quality. BD

Karen : The compiled manga vol. #3 of Marmalade Boy gave additional information on the characters in regards to their astrological signs and blood types. Blood types in the Japanese culture also represent the personality of an individual. They are as follows:

	Astrological Sign	Blood Type
Koishikawa Miki:	Aries	A
Matsuura Yuu:	Gemini	B
Suou Ginta:	Aries	O
Akizuki Meiko	Scorpio	A
Suzuki Arimi	Leo	O
Namura Shinichi	Pisces	A
Rokutanda Tsutomu	Cancer	B
Miwa Satoshi	Sagittarius	AB

4-1-95 UPDATE: Karen: Several occurrences regarding Marmalade Boy happened in the month of March. At the beginning of the month, a MB movie was released. All that I've been

able to find out so far, is that there is "something" in it about Yuu somehow "knowing" Miki BEFORE he officially met her. I have suspected for some weeks that the movie is entirely from Yuu's perspective...but time will tell.

Introduced into the show, a new character named Michael Grant, seems quite intriguing. He's an American with blond hair and blue eyes and guess what?! He'll be living at Miki and Yuu's house! Oh Boy!

I've seen and watched Michael and thought the first two episodes with the new character were quite amusing. Wait until you see Miki try to communicate with Michael in English.

Vol.13 (MB#49-52) ran in March. Michael shows up in episode #50.

In the first part of April, new opening credit's were added, as well as new eye catchers for the commercial breaks. We will be seeing these any day now.

4/23/95 UPDATE: Karen: The new season has Yuu in New York, while Miki is still in Japan. But...

The new season has put a new look on Marmalade Boy with new artwork for the opening (same opening song). Just like the last time, the opening artwork looks like it foreshadows some future occurrences. Like...maybe Miki will also end up in New York. I saw at least 3 scenes where Miki seems to be in NY with Yuu.

Also in the opening credit art, a triangle shows for Yuu with Anju (yes, she's returned) and Jinny (a stacked blond). For Miki there's the troubled Kei and the lively Michael. It's obvious, as before, it shows that Miki and Yuu will remain devoted to each other.

The eye-catchers framing the commercial breaks show this seasons main characters. Yuu, Miki, Kei, Michael, Brian (Michael's brother), Jinny, Anju, Yuu's American room-mate, Bill, and probably Doris.

The NEW closing song, has a very different artwork style for Miki. You can tell it's her...but definitely there are some changes in her looks. It's good art but different. I'm sure they're be those that love it and those that won't like it at all.

One scene of the closing song artwork shows Yuu on the telephone at an airport (with palm trees in the background). I wonder if this could be an implication that Yuu and Miki may meet in Hawaii. But then the closing songs IN THE PAST have not really foreshadowed much at all. Is this an exception? Who knows.

The interior of the show: In New York, Yuu is studying the architecture there while finishing up school. He actually living in a coed dormitory with...Jinny, Brian, Doris, and a very gentle room-mate named Bill.

The series has taken a pattern of jumping back and forth between stories in Japan and New York and interweaving them as only MB writers can do!

As of this date, vol. 15 (MB #57-60) is running in Japan.

5/27/95 UPDATE: Karen: Two more new characters have been added to MB as of episode #57. They are Kijima's wife, Rei and her brother, Akira. The brother appears to be a potential love interest for the long-suffering, heart-broken Ryouko-sensei.

In another episode, one I haven't seen yet, (the volume it's on, hasn't finished yet in Japan) apparently Miki is in New York now. She doesn't stay though.

6/23/95 UPDATE: Karen: Yamazaki Masatomo and I just translated the captions from the MARMALADE BOY STYLE book for the MARMALADE BOY movie yesterday. A partial synopsis of that follows:

YUU: " When I met you the first time, it was like magic.
I couldn't take my eyes off you.
Since that day, from the moment I noticed you, you've always
been in my eyes."

MIKI: "If I hadn't met him, I couldn't guess what I'd be now.
It was like meeting an old friend from his smile.
It was curious thing."

Yuu is told by his parents that they are getting a divorce and exchanging partners with another couple, the Koishikawas. They tell him, in addition, that the other couple has a daughter the same age named Miki.

Yuu is shocked but he decides he doesn't care. He doesn't believe in anyone anyway. But to help himself through the depression caused by this shock, he leaves home and starts to roam around the city. A broken hearted Yuu can't find a place to be. Where ever he goes, his mind remains unsettled.

He just comes to a park and hears tennis ball sounds. He follows the sound and sees a girl hitting the ball against a wall. She sparkles from the sweat and the sunshine. Yuu: "At first, I just watched her playing tennis. As the time passed, I wondered how she could be so serious. I was curious about her."

Yuu's eyes followed Miki. Miki moved...to the right to the left with quick footwork, never making a mistake.

Miki: "No one was around so I played very well. I didn't know I was being watched."

YUU: "You were so bright."

Quote: MIKI ISN'T AWARE OF WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS. LOVE IS COMING...

Suddenly, children show up in costumes to where Miki is. They start calling her a towel monster because she had put a towel over her head. So she plays towel monster and tries to scare them.

Yuu notices that the girl now looks different from the serious girl who was playing tennis.. Her smile is SO cute. He watches and finds he can't help laughing at her antics.

After the girl and the kids leave, Yuu finds the wrist band she was wearing while practicing tennis was accidentally left behind. It has the initials M.K. on it. Oh well, he didn't expect to see her again, but...

Sitting at a table at the Junk Jungle, Yuu is drinking coffee when he sees the girl run past. Yuu decides to follow her. (I presume to return the wrist band).

Miki's late to meet Meiko. Yuu is following Miki at a safe distance when he overhears Meiko say, "Miki, you're right, you ARE a towel monster!" Yuu is startled... because he realizes then that M.K. is Miki Koishikawa. the exchange parents' daughter. He is riveted with curiosity.

The children turn up again. Yuu watches her play with them. Her expression, he notes, is always changing and innocent.

YUU: "I just wanted to stare at you".

After Miki gets away from the children, she and Meiko enjoy themselves shopping and eating ice cream - Yuu eats the same thing (from a distance of course where he can watch Miki). Miki plays with a puppy - Yuu strokes a dog ornament. By copying Miki's movements, Yuu find himself enjoying shopping with Miki.

Miki tries to get a snack box down from a top shelf for Meiko. She almost fouls everything up. Yuu watches and smiles.

At a coffee shop, Miki talks to a foreign man who was sitting at the next table. (Yuu watches her from across the street) The foreigner asks her if that handsome boy is her friend. Miki turns around but Yuu is gone. He couldn't give the wrist band back...but he knew he was going to be seeing her again.

As a new family, as brother and sister, the two of them are supposed to meet for the first time at a dinner with their parents. Beforehand, Yuu's nervous about meeting Miki. But when he does see her, it makes him very happy. Miki has trouble taking her eyes off his smiling face...even to stop the crazy partner switch.

Quote: THEIR LOVE WAS BLOOMING SLOWLY.

(And well, you know the rest.... I believe the movie ends with the first kiss.)

**YUU: "My lips still remember the incident in the infirmary,
...when the cherry blossoms were falling."
"It was natural for me."**

I apologize for the simplicity of the wording for the movie. But the sentences in the book we were simplistic for the sake of captioning. In addition, the sentences were very out of context. It was difficult to create any kind of order to the translation. Regardless...we're delighted to have this preview for avid American MB fans like ourselves.

7/25/95 UPDATE: (KD)

It appears as though in spite of good ratings and good toy sales campaign, Marmalade Boy will conclude around episode #75. It was suggested to me that after x amount of episodes that the Japan companies figure the toy sells will be saturated for that show and so move on to the next. Regardless, we WILL miss Marmalade Boy. I personally doubt there will be another show close to it. It will be a farewell to old friend.

A new MB CD (#7) has just been released. See the Guide's new MB store section for the order number.

Speaking of the store section, this has just been opened and is still in the process of being filled. As I have new information, it will added.

The first boxed set of LDs recently made it's way to the U.S. Expect to see better copies as the previous work is reconfigured and adapted to this format.

Another new section has been added. It's the Fan Section. Some very thought-rendering messages have been added from fans.

Translations, as of this date, are up to episode #64.

If I'm not mistaken MB #71 will played on July 28, American time, July 29 Japan time.

8/26/95 UPDATE (KD)

We have been delighted to hear that instead of 75 episodes there will be one more, making 76 episodes total.

Translations are completed to episode #72 and as of this date, we are simply waiting for the last volume (MB #73-76) to finish in Japan and be sent to us so we can complete the series.

About the movie, we understand that often times Toei movies are shown on New Years day in Japan. Whether the LDs will be sold before or after that time, our sources can't say.

The latest issue of Ribon has an ad saying that the latest compiled version of the manga has been released. That will be #7.

About the MB Guide:

The August version of the MB guide was uploaded twice within 12 hours. Right after it was uploaded the first time, I changed the date on it to read September and started the new upgrades. However, I noticed while in the guide something that **HAD TO BE CHANGED** right

away. I asked Bruce to upload the corrections...but it was still dated SEPTEMBER 1995. It was not the real September version.

The July 1995 version ran 123 pages.

The August 1995 version ran about 167 pages.

The real September 1995 version ran 213 pages.

9/28/95 UPDATE (KD)

Notice of a new CD release scheduled for November 5 has been issued. Information will be here and also in the Marmalade Boy Store Section of the guide.

It is a 2 CD compiled final edition containing a karaoke section, background music that hasn't been on a CD before, and new versions of many of the vocals.
The price is 4,000 yen.

10/1/95 UPDATE: (KD)

October version of the Guide runs 228 pages.

The last three episodes came in the afternoon of the day previous so there hasn't been enough time to do full translations on them, but there are some fairly complete outlines on them in the synopsis section. I plan on expanding these for next month's Guide.

10/18/95 UPDATE: (KD)

The translations of the Marmalade Boy series have been completed all the way to it's conclusion at episode #76.

Announcement of a November release of the Marmalade Boy movie LD has been made. Currently, I have plans to start work on it as soon as it arrives.

11/29/95 UPDATE: (KD)

The December version of the MB Guide runs 253 pages.

Because of the generosity of a "cute" anime friend, who cheated by getting his anime out of Hong Kong, I'm going to an early start on the Marmalade Boy Movie. By the usual route, the MB movie LDs have not made it into the US yet. What this means is that the translation of the movie will be done but will await the LDs for timing.

As I write the new MB - LD vol. 8 is playing. Vol. 8 is a two parter. So far I've heard only background music that's been heard before. In this case I believe they've redone all or some from scratch...to give many of them a new feel. I think I've come across "some" new selections as well.

As the Guide gets closer and closer to a possible close, I want to say that I've enjoyed putting this together as much for myself as well as for anyone else who feels as strongly about the series as I do.

I want to thank all the talented people in Japan who were involved in the creation of Marmalade Boy. I don't know if you know how much closer we've grown to admire and understand you.

The final time-line for the completion of MB has not yet been made...but I feel it will "probably" be sometime after the movie synopsis has been entered... This synopsis will be one done directly from seeing and translating the movie not the one in the update from some months back. However "I'm a woman, I reserve the right to change my mind on a moments notice".

Love to all,

Karen Duffy

PS You're out of your mind, James, if you think I'm going to do a Fushigi Yuugi Guide! (^_^)

1/23/96 UPDATE (KD)

Well, it's was a very busy year in 1995 doing Marmalade Boy. It's no less busy right now. Although the entire series has been translated for some months the other portions of the work are not complete.

Oh, yes...the MB movie. Now that the LD's are out, everyone, and especially me, is enjoying it. I believe firmly that it has medicinal properties for the down and out!

More news! ANOTHER CD! One would usually think that something called the FINAL EDITION would mean just that. But thankfully not so in Marmalade Boy world. There's a new one past Final Edition. More information on that if I can get it.

4/09/96 UPDATE: (KD)

I don't think that Bruce posted my last version of the Guide but if not that's okay because there will be even more to see this time around. There will be no more regular postings to the guide. It might be quite big enough now...don't ya think? But then, you never know...I could be tempted to add things now and then. If so, I'll post an announcement about upgrading it on the Marmalade Boy mailing list if and when new upgrades occur. For those interesting in the ML (run by fans and enjoyed by fans) I have a note about it in the trivia section.

In the meantime, more translations have been added to the music section. One of them is a cute dialog by Miki about being at the beach with Yuu on a date.

The Marmalade Boy Fan Section has been increased and a new Marmalade Boy spoof has been written behind those near the end of the Guide.

Romaji versions of the Marmalade Boy episode titles have been added.

This version of the MB Guide should run somewhere around 287 pages.



TRIVIA SECTION

Bruce:

Kijima's wife's name is first mentioned in episode 56. (It's Rei.)

It is also the first time we see her (except for in an old photograph).

Michael Grant is a ROYAL pain in the ass for Miki and Yuu (uh, I guess that you already knew that, didn't you?)

Neither of Meiko's parent's faces are seen until episode 57.

The only time the view from Miki's window is shown is in episode 27.

(We never see the view from Yuu's bedroom.)

Kijima is at least 29 years old at the beginning of the series according to his story of how he met his wife, but can only be 26 as the series begins based on Namura's age at the start and the fact that Kijima is only 1 year older than Namura and Momoi. (Tsk, tsk, continuity problems....)

Kei attended a private music school (Rakuyo Music High School).

Miki is almost as bad a cook as her mother (you knew that one too?!?)

Rumi is NEVER shown cooking anything, but Miki is several times.

Possibly the funniest single moment in the series occurs in episode 52. ("DOMO") (Yes, the word is a clue.)

When Yuu and Anju were kids, he called her An.

From his appearance in episode 28 till he disappears (temporarily),

Kei only calls Miki "you", never by name. After he reappears in episode 55, he suddenly calls her "Miki" from then on.

Ginta's tennis clothes and racquet are blue, Miki's are pink.

From the first episode the eye catches (little animations before and after commercials) have shown us who wins out in the love triangles, often before we see any sign of it in the stories. In episode #60, for that 1 episode only, we see a pairing of Bill and Jinny, with Anju the one left

out. So far, Bill hasn't shown any interest in anyone but Anju, and he hasn't even dated HER yet. He barely even talks to Jinny. Anju seems to be interested only in Yuu. Just remember that you heard it here first.

Tsutomu and Yayoi initially bond by chowing down together on Valentine's candy she had tried to give to another man first. (He turned her down.)

Akira and Meiko spend several hours together in a park, on the ground no less, in episode 58(?) (57-60 somewhere) after they meet there by chance.

In order to include more commercials, parts of the previews of coming episodes were often cut and/or rearranged. The LDs are the only place you can see the full previews.

Karen:

The schools - Toryo High School, Sagaki Academy, Rakuyo Music High School, and St. Andrews High School.

The restaurants - Green's Cafe, The Grill Restaurant France, Two Coffee Shop, Burger Shop, Cafe Craps

The stores: Sport - Sky, Junk Jungle, K's Coop

The bars: Cold Moon

Chiyoako's maiden name is Namiki. Rumi's maiden name is Kojima. It's on the paperwork when the parents are remarrying.

In episode 31, the radio DJ says "OK...the next song has been requested by Yoshiko Ito who lives in the Gunma prefecture.". This occurs right after Namura and Ryouko's phone conversation.

In episode 28, the sign on the freezer door "Remember to be careful inside."

In episode #28 Miki is reading a part-time job catalog that says "to Z". "From A" is a famous magazine sold in the Tokyo area which tells what part-time jobs are available.

The Koishikawa/Matsuura household address is:

103 -12- 00
Toshmiku 1 - Chome
Migai Murayama
170 - Japan

Miki's birth date is March 28
Yuu's birth date is June 3

From the movie to the TV. series:

Miki usually wears a pink shirt and a short white tennis skirt when playing the game. In episode #53, we see, for this one time only, Miki wearing the tennis outfit that she only wore in the MARMALADE BOY movie. In the another episode (#56), Miki is dressed in the exact same shorts, shirt, and hairdo as in the movie. (This is having only seen the episodes to #72 though.)

Miki was born in England according to the manga.

MARMALADE BOY KISSES MUSTARD GIRL (Yuu and Miki)

Episode #1 - In the infirmary.

Episode #25 - On the beach.

Episode #27 - On the couch.

Episode #53 - In Hakone.

Episode #71 - On the camping trip.

Episode #72 - In the closet - twice seen (multiple unseen)

Episode #76 - At their wedding.

NEAR KISSES FOR MIKI AND YUU:

Episode #11 - In the kitchen.

Interference: Arimi and Ginta.

Episode #28 - On the couch.

Interference: The parents.

Episode #42 - In front of the house on New Years day.

Interference: The parents.

Episode #53 - In Hakone. (Yes, besides one successful one)

Interference: Michael.

KISSES ON THE CHEEK: (Yuu kisses Miki)

Episode #27 - On the staircase.

Episode #48 - Miki's bedroom

MARMALADE BOY GOES INTERNET:

The Internet MARMALADE BOY MAILING LIST address for subscribing is:

mboy-request@soyokaze.biosci.ohio-state.edu

NO RETURN GREETINGS:

Kei never returns greetings from other men if he's feels they're a threat to his relationship with Miki.

Episode #32 - Kei is introduced to Yuu for the first time. Yuu cheerfully greets Kei. Kei gives a silent no return.

Episode #35 - Yuu puts out his hand for a shake. Kei refuses it.

Episode #56 - Michael cheerfully tells Kei that it's nice to meet him. Kei doesn't acknowledge the greeting.

HOWEVER: When Kei finally has Miki, he greets Yuu nicely when he sees him, Yuu says nothing - politely. (Episode #69)

GINTA AND ARIMI KISSES:

EPISODE #41 - Christmas, the first kiss.

EPISODE #45 - In the coffee shop, twice.

EPISODE #68 - At the amusement park.

HOLIDAYS AND EVENTS BY EPISODE:

Yuu's birthday - EPISODE #11

Parents' wedding - EPISODE #19

Halloween - EPISODE #34

Christmas - EPISODES #40 & 41

New Years - EPISODE #42

Valentines Day - EPISODE #45 (Actually it was a little late)

Graduation Day - EPISODE #52

Meiko's Wedding - EPISODE #76

KISSES BETWEEN MEIKO AND NA-CHAN:

EPISODE #5 - In the library.

EPISODE #47 - On a beach in Hiroshima.

EPISODE #76 - At their wedding reception.

THE MIRACLE SHRINKING ACT:

Almost every male in the series has found at some point that he can shrink. Yes, that's right PHYSICALLY reduce. In Sapporo, Na-chan suddenly shrinks to a height closer to Meiko's.

Outside of the TORYO gates, a jealous Tsutomu isn't anywhere near as tall as his cousin, Ginta. In most other episodes, they're drawn at about the same height.

In episode #51, poor Ginta shrinks nearly enough to look Miki straight in the eyes.

Not to be outdone, Yuu shrinks down to be much closer to Miki's height himself in episode #72.

Although Yuu isn't shrunken in the entire episode, he does during the his wedding kiss with Miki at the end of #76.

KISSES FROM THE WRONG PARTNERS:

EPISODE #3 - Ginta kisses Miki in the classroom during clean-up duty.

EPISODE #14 - Arimi kisses Yuu in the school yard.

EPISODE #22 - Miwa kisses Meiko after a double date.

EPISODE #32 - Suzu kisses Yuu on stage at the school festival.

EPISODE #33 - Meiko kisses Miwa in front of her house.

EPISODE #55 - Jinny kisses Yuu in the park.

EPISODE #58 - Michael kisses Miki in her room.

WRONG PARTNERS - KISSES ON THE CHEEK:

EPISODE #50 - Michael gives Miki a kiss on the cheek in Yuu's bedroom.

EPISODE #51 - Michael gives Miki a good morning peck in the kitchen.

UNWANTED EMBRACES:

EPISODE #33 - Kei grabs Miki BEHIND the ice cream store.

EPISODE #35 - Kei grabs Miki IN the ice cream store.

EPISODE #41 - Kei makes another attempt with Miki at the Lizard Live House.

EPISODE #52 - Michael embraces Miki in the family room.

EPISODE #63 - Michael embraces Miki in front of K's Coop.

NEAR-KISSES FROM THE WRONG PARTNERS:

EPISODE #13 - Ginta tries to kiss Miki in front of her house.

Interference: Yuu.

EPISODE #60 - Jinny tries to kiss Yuu in a bedroom in Brian's beach house.

Interference: Yuu himself.

EPISODE #68 - Kei looks as though he's interested right after a first date with Miki.

Interference: Miki own nervousness.

EPISODE #72 - Kei tries to kiss Miki for the first time.

Interference: Miki's memories of Yuu.

TIMES "FOR YOU" WAS PLAYED:

EPISODE #41 - At the LIZARD LIVE HOUSE.

EPISODE #56 - At his piano lessons.

EPISODE #58 - In a performance competition.

EPISODE #64 - At his home.

EPISODE #65 - On a tape.

EPISODE #69 - At his home.

MIKI'S AND YUU'S WEDDING:

It obviously takes place a few years down the line. Miki's hair is in long curled pigtails with huge white flowers at the top on both sides as well as curls wisps in front of her ears. She's wearing a full length white gown with a wide full skirt.

Yuu is wearing, if I remember correctly a light blue tux.

MEIKO AND NA-CHAN'S WEDDING:

We don't actually see her wedding. We do see the reception which is being held on the grounds of TORYO High near the gazebo. Meiko is wearing the red suit she was wearing during her awards party in episode #45. Although she obviously wore a full length gown during the actual wedding ceremony. A brief shot is shown of how the couple looked.

The TORYO Gazebo is decorated with flowers all over it. And Kei mans the grand piano.

Miki is 5' Tall.



MARMALADE BOY AIRING DATES

- 1 Mar.13,1994 Koiga Shitai. Kakkoi Kedo Yurusenai!
- 2 Mar.20,1994 Kiss Kouishou. Aitsuno Kimochiga Wakaranai.
- 3 Mar.27,1994 Futatsu No Kiss. Yuu Ni Koibitoga Ita!?
- 4 Apr.3, 1994 Ginta no Kokuhaku. Omae Wo aitsuni watasanai!
- 5 Apr.10, 1994 Koibito No Densetsu. Medaiyu Ni Omoi wo Komete.

- 6 Apr.17, 1994 Love Game. Ginta Nanka Daikirai!
- 7 Apr.24, 1994 Koi no Kokkaidou. Dou Natteru no Ano Futari?
- 8 May1, 1994 Otona No Kaori. Yakimochi Nante Yaite Nai.
- 9 May8, 1994 Arbeit Koi No Shoubu Ha Uriage Shidai!
- 10 May15,1994 Hajimete No Yoru. Ofuro de doki.
- 11 May22,1994 Birthday. Yuu Ga Watashi Wo Mitsumeteru...
- 12 May29,1994 Smash! Yuu To Ginta docchi Mo Suki..
- 13 Jun.5, 1994 Koi To YuuJou. Ginta, Arimi-san to Tsukiatte!
- 14 Jun.12, 1994 Koi Suru Shikaku. Anata Ha Yuu Ni Fasawahikunai
- 15 Jun.19, 1994 Meiko No Himitsu. Hanashite Hoshikatta...
- 16 Jun.26, 1994 Otoko No Ketsudan. Nacchan, yamenai de!
- 17 Jul.3, 1994 Meiko No Wakae. Sayonara nate Dekinai!
- 18 Jul.10, 1994 Koi No Yukue. Omoi-douri Ni Nranai Ne.
- 19 Jul.17, 1994 Nyuuseki Soudou. Hijourshiki Da Nante Iwanai De!
- 20 Jul.24, 1994 Ayashii Futari. Yuu To Miwa-san Ga Couple?!
- 21 Jul.31, 1994 Karuizawa Ryokou. Yappari...Hen!
- 22 Aug.7, 1994 Double Date! Suki Nanoni Wakari Aenai.
- 23 Aug.14,1994 Shougeki No Kokuhaku. Yuu, nani Wo Itteru No?
- 24 Aug.21,1994 Shuusei No Himitsu. Yuu Wo Hottokenai No!
- 25 Aug.28,1994 Real Kiss. Atashi, yuu Go Suki!
- 26 Sep.4, 1994 Arata No Fuan. Shiawase Sugite...Kowai.
- 27 Sep.11,1994 Koi No Fuan. Kono Shiawase ha Itsu Made Tsuzuku.
- 28 Sep.18,1994 Yureru Kokoro. Atashi Mo Baito Suru!!
- 29 Sep.25,1994 Koi No Jamamono Medaiyu Ga Mitsukaranai!
- 30 Oct.2, 1994 Rival. Yuu, Daisuki Yo.
- 31 Oct.9, 1994 Suzu To Kei. Fuan Ni Saseru Kono Futari...
- 32 Oct.16,1994 Koi No Gakuensai. Yuu To Kei No Concert.

- 33 Oct.23,1994 Koi No Mayoi Michi. Suki Da!
- 34 Oct.30,1994 Wakare No Ykan. Halloween Party No Takurami.
- 35 Nov.13,1994 Surechigai. Wakareyou Tte Koto Nano?
- 36 Nov.20,1994 Hitori Bocchi. Ore Ga Wasuresasete Yaru!
- 37 Nov.27,1994 Kanashii Saikai. Fukkireta To Omotteta No Ni.
- 38 Dec.4, 1994 Anju No Omoi. Miki-san No Tsugi De Ii No!
- 39 Dec.11,1994 Setsunai Koi. Zutto Yuu Ga Suki Datta...
- 40 Dec.18,1994 Seinaru Yoru. Eve Na No Ni Hitori Bocchi.
- 41 Dec.25,1994 Koibito-tachi No Asa. Merry Christmas.
- 42 Jan.8, 1995 Shinshun Koi Moyou. Saikou No Toshi Ni Narisou.
- 43 Jan.15, 1995 Ski Ryoukou. Futari-kiri Ni Nanka Sasenai!
- 44 Jan.22, 1995 Futari No Shourei. Yuu No Yume, Watashi No Yume.
- 45 Jan.29, 1995 Yureru Meiko, Watashi. Hiroshima Ni Iku!
- 46 Feb.5, 1995 Hiroshima He... Mou Ichido Soba Ni Isasete!
- 47 Feb.12,1995 Umibe No Futari. Kimi No Shiawase Wo Omou Kara...
- 48 Feb.19,1995 Choco No Aji. Amakute Nigai Valentine!
- 49 Feb.26,1995 Ai No Katachi. Shiawase Ni Naru Tte Muzukashii.
- 50 Mar.5, 1995 Ryuugakusei Toujou. Michael Tte....Hen!
- 51 Mar.12,1995 Sankaku Kankei. Furmawasarete...
- 52 Mar.19,1995 Tsukiyo No Kesshin. Yuu, Hanareru Nante...Iya!
- 53 Mar.26,1995 Omoide-tsukuri. Nani Ga Okotte Mo Koukai Shinai.
- 54 Apr.4, 1995 Shinseikatsu. Yuu, Ima Goro Dou Shiteru Ka Na?
- 55 Apr.9, 1995 Hamon Futatabi. New York Ha Toosugiru!
- 56 Apr.16,1995 Surechigai. Atashi No Koibito Ha Yuu Na No Ni...
- 57 Apr.23,1995 Koi No Mayoi Michi. Mou Taerarenai Samishii...
- 58 Apr.30,1995 Kokuhaku No Neiro. Boku Wo Otokotoshite.
- 59 May5, 1995 Fuan Na Shuumatsu. Yuu No KoeGa Kikitai!

- 60 May14,1995 Koibito Ha Tooi. Yuu Ha Atashino Meno Maeni Iru.
- 61 May21, 1995 NY No Wana. Yuu, Atahiga Baka Dattano?
- 62 May28, 1995 Sayonara. Mou...Kanojode Irarenai.
- 63 Jun.4, 1995 Namida Wo Daite. Imaha Hitoride Itai.
- 64 Jun.11,1995 Futari No Mondai. Omae No Koe Ga Kiktai.
- 65 Jun.18,1995 Katai Ketsui Miki Ha... Orega Morau
- 66 Jun.25,1995 Aratana Sentaku. Aitsu Wo Wasurenaku Temo Ii.
- 67 Jul.2, 1995 Tomodachi. Atashini Ha Kei-kun Ga Hitsuyou Nano!
- 68 Jul.9, 1995 Yureru Koibito. Sayonara...Ginta.
- 69 Jul.16, 1995 Koi No Yuuki. Kesshin Ga Tsutita!
- 70 Jul.23, 1995 Tadaima. Donna Koi Shite Aeba Iino.
- 71 Jul.30, 1995 Hoshi To Tsuki No Yoru. Chikakun Itemo...Sabishii.
- 72 Aug.6, 1995 Ibo Kyoudai. Shiawase Ga...Kowareteku.
- 73 Aug.13,1995 Wakare. Kousuru Shika Nakatta...
- 74 Aug.20,1995 Omaoide No Hako. Bye, bye Yuu.
- 75 Aug.27,1995 Ani To Imouto? Wakareru Shika Nainda!
- 76 Sep.3, 1995 Tabidachi. Soshite, Ai Ha Arukidasu.

The airing date information and titles are based on information sent by a fan.



MARMALADE BOY MOVIE - SYNOPSIS (KD)

The previous synopsis of the movie within one of my updates was a very Japanese-like synopsis of what was in the Marmalade Style Book. This synopsis is from having seen and translated the movie directly.

The movie opens with a brief commentary by Miki followed by the Toei logo and the sounds of school chimes. The scene opens with the normal and natural sounds of high school

life. Miki is lying in bed in the nurses office, her eyes are closed as Yuu enters the room. There are cherry blossoms floating through the window. He asks her if she's sleeping. No answer. Yuu watches her intently. He puts his hand on the headboard to brace himself as he leans over for a very long kiss. (At this point the background music suddenly stops and the minute he quits, it continues. This was VERY EFFECTIVE.)

Just as at the end of episode 1 of the TV series, Yuu pulls his hand up to his mouth as though thinking about her reaction then turns and leaves the nurse's office. Miki bolts upright, throws her hands to her lips "What is he up to NOW! Why?! We just met!"

The usual opening song with what looks like the same art is played at this point. Ah! But there's a different in one spot! At the point where Yuu is up on the hill waiting for Miki, he turns around. At this one point the art HAS BEEN redrawn with Yuu having a slightly different look.

The movie returns with uniform clad Yuu walking calmly and stately in the school hallway. All the sudden he smiles "Miki must be panicking about now. But, for me, it felt right."

Yuu remember the events that occurred two weeks previously as his parents told him that they were getting a divorce. He seems slightly surprised briefly, but keeps it under control. His parents explain that they met the Koishikawas in Hawaii and how Dad fell in love with Koishikawa Rumi-san and Mom fell in love with Koishikawa Jin-san. They all talked it over and decided to exchange partners and remarry...would Yuu let them, please?

Yuu tells them he doesn't care, it's fine with him. Later, in his room he finds he just can't keep his mind on the architectural book he's been looking at. He shuts the book and somehow causes the photo of he and his parents to fall flat on the desk. It picks it and muses affectionately. His face grows serious as he remembers the rest of the conversation with his parents - this is where they tell him that the other couple have a daughter the same age as him, named Miki-chan, and that they and the other couple are going to rent a house together and everyone will live together. That soon they have a dinner planned with the Koishikawas and Miki.

Yuu is out in the entrance putting on his shoes to go out. His parents encounter him there and Youji tells him that he thought they'd go for a Sunday drive. Yuu, in a kindly voice, tells them that he's sorry, but that he has to work. His parents seem disappointed and Yuu again tells them that he's really sorry. Youji warns him to be careful of cars. Yuu smiles "Damn, I'm not a child." Youji keeps up the little boy Yuu routine as Yuu leaves "If you fall down get up!"

Yuu commutes on a train, then walks through the city. The normal sounds of every day city life are pronounced as the serious faced young man saunters through this busy world without taking any notice to any of it. Suddenly, as though not being able to stand what's bothering him, he lopes off down an alley or side street. He starts roaming around and comes to a park where a mother and child are. He smiles as he briefly takes notice of them. In a wooded area, Yuu walk down some steps and as he get to the bottom, he sees a red headed, pony-tailed girl practicing tennis against a wall.

He becomes fascinated by the determined girl who is completely absorbed in what she's doing. As he watches her, she is perfectly fluid in motion and there's "something" about her. Finally, she does miss the ball but grabs it up on her racket and prepares to stop. She takes off her arm band and sets it down, grabs her towel and throws it over her head. A voice rings out...

"There's a monster!" Five little boys run up and ask "Are you ready, Towel Monster?!" The little boys in their Gastaman outfits aim some nasty sized water pistols and blast her! Miki yanks the towel off her head and says irritably "What?!"...

"BE CAREFUL, GASTAMAN!" one little boy's voice rings out THE MONSTER TURNED INTO A WOMAN!" Little GASTAMAN warns "Be on your guard Gast Beta, Omega, and Zeta!"

Miki is still trying to get over them calling her a monster "Monster? Give me a break." But the young hero won't be put off. GASTAMAN orders his men to combine power. He gives the orders "SPRING WIND TYPHOON! Miki is blasted! She screams and tries to cover herself with towel. Yuu in the background looking on seems concerned.

The boys congratulate themselves on having been successful but...
A frightening voice threatens from below the towel...

"I'm surprised you spotted me, Gastaman! Miki pretends to be the towel monster. (This spot is VERY FUNNY as she begins to play the part to the fullest. Gastaman, the leader, tells her that they're not scared.

Miki teases them and asks if they're prepared because she's going to roll them up like so much Norimaki. In no time, the kids are running with Miki in pursuit. Yuu howls with laughter.

The group runs off before Yuu knows it. He runs up to where Miki and the kids had been with some disappointment. He picks up the arm band that Miki accidentally lost while playing the towel monster. He looks at it and sees the Initial MK.

Later, he walks into the Junk Jungle and greets his boss with a good morning and jokingly tells him that he came to see if he was goofing off. The minute that Yuu asks Kijima for coffee, his boss knows something's wrong. Yuu, being Yuu, denies it. As he sits at an outdoor table drinking his coffee with Kijima sitting opposite he see a pig-tailed girl run past and realizes it's the same girl, he saw earlier, in a pony tail and tennis outfit. He excuses him-self from Kijima and takes off after her. He's got her arm band after all.

She'd gotten kinda far away from him. When he gets to an intersection, he's not quite sure where she is until he hears her voice ring out "Meiko!" He turns and sees her as she comes up to another girl, who accuses her of being late. The red head begs forgiveness and promises to buy her friend a double scoop of ice cream. Meiko forgives her right away. Yuu sidles up to a glass phone booth where he can get a better look.

"We finally found you, Towel Monster!" rings out as the little boys run up to her and Meiko in excitement. Miki tells them that she didn't run off that she told them that she had to go so she's not the towel monster anymore. The boys say then that she's Towel Monster Koishikawa! Miki sarcastically says "NOW the Towel Monster's part of my name>" Meiko asks her who these kids are. The kids are more than happy to show her as they strike poses.

GASTAMAN ALPHA!
GASTAMAN BETA!
GASTAMAN OMEGA!
GASTAMAN ZETA!
GASTA-MAN!

These are the Gastaman Brothers!

Yuu starts to go over in his mind what he just heard - Meiko calling her "Miki" and the boys calling her "Towel Monster Koishikawa". He looks at the initials on the arm band and is sure. As Miki, Meiko, and the boys walk off, Yuu gets a set look on his face, begins to follow. The arm band he determinedly puts back in his pocket.

He watches from a distance as the boys try to teach Miki the poses for being a Gastaman Brother. Miki nearly topples down the steps she's standing up just trying it. Meiko looks on in embarrassment, the crowds look on in amusement, and Yuu laughs.

When she and Meiko get ice cream. Yuu does too...and he gets the same flavors as Miki.

Wherever Miki goes, there's Yuu too. She pets a dog, he pets one too. When she's shopping, he's watching. At one point, she tries to get a box out of a stack of them. The whole thing nearly tumbles. Miki saves it just in time. Yuu was a bit worried at first but giggled at her expression afterwards.

Later Miki and Meiko are having coffee (one presumes it was anyway) while sitting at an outdoor table. Across the street at another table is Yuu keeping an eye on Miki. A foreign couple at the table next to Miki and Meiko directions. Miki can be see gesticulating as she tries to make herself understood by them. She is very cute as she does this and Yuu smiles with something akin to deep feeling. The foreign man sees Yuu watching Miki and asks her if he's her friend. Miki is confused and looks across the street. No one is there. The man explains that there was a very handsome boy watching her. Meiko translates the English for Miki. Miki is left confused.

On the way home, Yuu pulls out the arm band and tightly and emotionally closes it in his hand and runs home.

Uniform clad, Yuu comes out of the house. His parents remind him that that night is the dinner with the Koishikawas. He tells them that they needn't worry, he won't forget. Early evening rolls around and Yuu is running to get to the restaurant because he's late. Once there, he's led to the room where everyone is already seated. He's obviously nervous as he adjusts his collar. He walks into the room. The scene changes as though it's become frozen - with Yuu looking at Miki; and Miki, in return, stunned at the sight of the handsome boy. His thoughts follow: "The wristband hasn't been returned yet. But someday I'll be able to. Someday.....for sure."



MARMALADE BOY EPISODES - SYNOPSES

MARMALADE BOY #1 (KD)

Koishikawa Miki (or in our language Miki Koishikawa) is called downstairs by her parents for a snack. She really should have been suspicious when they pulled out the good china. Mama (Rumi) and Papa (Jin) gleefully inform her of their happy news...they're getting a divorce!

Miki, if you think you're in shock, wait till you hear the rest...

Yes, when I say they're gleeful, they really are... Because...

Mama and Papa met another couple when they were on vacation in Hawaii. Mama fell in love with the husband (Youji) and Papa fell in love with his wife (Chiyako). And isn't this cool...having an affair is so distasteful so... they're going to switch partners and remarry. (Cough!)

Miki, I know you want it back the way it was but Mama and Papa are sure this is what they want. They still love each other but...well.. more like good friends than lovers.

Oh, but Miki, in your heart you know this is the end of the world...so, don't let anyone know except your best friend, Meiko. Even your buddy, Ginta, don't tell him...

Geeez, such an embarrassing situation!

Miki, skips tennis club after school to meet with both couples for dinner. Well, the "other" couple doesn't "look" strange. Whoops, they are, after all. They REALLY intend to go through with this...this...arrangement.

Mama asks Chiyako, "Where's Yuu-kun?"

Yuu-kun? Miki hasn't a clue who this is. She's informed that he's the other couple's son, the same age she is and that he'll be coming directly from school. Oh, here is he now...

Hold onto your seat Miki...Drop Dead Gorgeous...just walked in!

Miki's hair turns blue on the spot. It actually takes a minute or two for her to collect herself. But Miki realizes she has WORK to do. She's got to make the insanity stop!

Miki promptly tells them that she is absolutely opposed to their plan to switch partners and remarry. It's true that her mother can't cook, her parents don't care about her grades, shop too much, and go on too many vacations...BUT they're the only parents she has and she can't bear to live without either one of them!

Miki.....you should have known....

Because,

They're going to buy a house and all move in together!

If You and Yuu-kun register under your father's names, you can keep your names the same. Isn't it a good idea...one happy family. Aren't you happy for us? Don't you care about our feelings?

Wrong! Miki continues her futile attempts at changing their minds. Your feelings? What about Yuu-kun's and my feelings?!

What? Yuu-kun just said he didn't care and long as the people involved were happy. This guy's strange! And he says my soup's getting cold?

Two moving vans pull up to a two story house, Miki's now living with a guy her own age. (No such thing as step-sisters/brothers in Japan) The two of them don't particularly get off to a good start either. See the first episode to see what I mean. And to make matter worse, he has secretly transferred to her school and is in her class. Just what you needed, was for the family (Yuu) you've been trying to escape from, to be right under foot at school.

Their first day at school relationship borders on coldly polite to terribly rude. Yuu, skips class but returns for PE. Miki watches Yuu during PE with fascination over his athletic ability; she gets slammed in the head by a basketball. In the nurses office, Miki lies in bed with hair undone and the wind blowing through it. When she hears Yuu walk in, Miki decides she doesn't want to deal with his insults so she pretends to be asleep. He kisses her very soundly on the lips.

As soon as he's left the room, Miki, who somehow managed not to move during this surprise event, bolts upright, blushing and wonders "what he's up to now"!

MARMALADE BOY #2 (KD)

It was her FIRST KISS! (The "first" kiss is VERY important in Japan.)

Well, she avoided him by skipping dinner the night before...but it's time for school now. She walks into the kitchen and finds Yuu is reading a newspaper as though nothing happened.

Well, she uncomfortably asks him to pass the jam that she sees over by him. Yuu informs her that it's actually marmalade and that there isn't any jam. A disappointed Miki says she doesn't LIKE marmalade because the rinds are bitter. Oh yes, here comes the reason for the title of the series...

Miki comes to an important decision... that... "This marmalade is like you. It looks good on the outside, but on inside it's full of tricks!"

Miki, Miki, Miki...if you think you're going to get the better of Mr. Pretty Face, you're out of luck!

Yuu grabs the mustard and informs her that she's like it...hot and spicy! This pisses her off no end!

And they're off for another day at school!

Well, the school day is not uneventful. Let's see, Miki has to ward off Furutachi-kun during the Lunchtime News interview with Yuu. After all, the guy was implying things she didn't care to have the ANYONE know. A good clobbering with a book should make him behave.

By the way, Miki if you thought Yuu-kun might say something about the "important" first kiss he laid on you, you were wrong. Doesn't it just kill you that he doesn't seem to be affected by it...at all? It isn't fair is it?!

Oh, then there some of Miki's classmates, who thinks that Ginta's irritation with Yuu-kun is caused by jealousy over Miki. But Miki knows this can't be true, after all, when they were in 9th grade, he dumped her. Sure they're close friends but, Ginta? Jealous? Oh, no way.

During chemistry class Miki remembers that event. This is interesting to watch this scene as Miki gazes at Ginta while he and another classmate are working on a project. Yuu is in the background watching Miki as she does this, looking back a forth between the two (Miki and Ginta).

The audience, in turn, gets to see into her memories of what occurred between the Miki and Ginta in 9th grade. Be sure to see this. It's important to future stories.

After tennis practice, Miki is walking from school with some friends. Yuu grabs her and hauls her off to help choose a present for her mother's birthday. At this point, she felt their relationship soften and changed somewhat.

MARMALADE BOY #3 (KD)

These summaries do NOT do them justice but just some interesting moments to look for are written here.

Chiyako has free tickets to Wonder Dog, an amusement park, and offers them to Miki and Yuu. Yuu asks Miki if she's free on Sunday and would she like to go with him. Miki replies in the affirmative and realizes that this is a "date".

While on their date, Miki meets Arimi, Yuu ex-girlfriend, for the first time.

Yuu finally breaks down and tells Miki why he kissed her (his first kiss too)...

The devil made him do it.

Miki slaps him!

Later, a classmate is overheard by Ginta talking about how she'd seen Miki and Yuu on a date together. Ginta gets steamed. After school, Ginta and Miki are a team to do the classroom cleanup duty.

Ginta asks Miki what she's eating. She replies that it's a new candy called "Muscat Kiss" and would he like some. Ginta, who's been acting rather solemn, remembers the candy's commercial and it's claim to be what a kiss (a real one) tastes like. He asks her if they should try it (kiss) and find out. Miki thinks her friend, Ginta, is teasing her by embarrassing her so she tries to outsmart him by saying "Yes". But then, of course, she tells him she's kidding and that this really ISN'T his usual style of humor.

Ginta isn't listening by now. He lifts her out of the desk chair and passionately kisses her. Miki jumps back from him, then steps up and slaps him one!

Miki runs home, anxious to put distance between herself and Ginta. After all kisses should be between people who are in love...and Ginta doesn't love her.

MARMALADE BOY #4 (KD)

The next morning, Miki decides she's not going to school. There's no WAY she can face Ginta. Yuu, however, fouls up that plan by being pesty about going.

At school, Meiko and Yuu are somewhat surprised at the strange behavior of Miki and Ginta...Miki is desperate to avoid Ginta.

At home after school, Miki is in her room suffering over the latest dilemma, when Yuu barges in and informs her that they're going out for a while. She doesn't want to but he insists.

Yuu takes her on his bike to a lovely, quiet place with the sun setting in the background. Miki soon loses her sour mood through the excitement of learning to skip a stone on water.

On the way, back she asked him how he found such a wonderful place. At which, he replied that he discovered it after they moved into the area and that he often went there when he needed to cheer himself up. Miki then realized that Yuu was trying to cheer her up.

At home later, Yuu finds Miki's robot voice memo in his room with a message from Miki that thanks him. He returns it to her with the message "That place is our secret".

And the race is on....The next day, Ginta has the determined look of someone who's bound and determined that he's going to straighten things out. Miki is just as determined that she's DOESN'T want to see his FACE! She's so desperate to keep him away that after school she grabs onto Arimi and pretends Arimi was waited for her...she neatly drags Arimi away with her!

In the process of setting up this little ruse, Miki's voice memo drops out of her school bag. Ginta, grabs it up and accidentally hears the messages between Yuu and Miki.

Back to Miki and Arimi... Actually, Arimi, left Sagaki Academy (after school) and was waiting outside the Toryo gate for Yuu. She didn't appreciate Miki hauling her away, so she's insists on Miki buying her a treat...at Miki's expense.

Arimi decides Miki should hear about the relationship that she and Yuu had in the past. This story is also woven into some future episodes.

Later, as Miki nears home, she finds Ginta waiting for her. She insists that he get out of her way but he tells her he won't. Ginta and Miki have a very interesting conversation here....which includes what really happened back in 9th grade between them. Ginta finalizes this conversation by telling her that he won't let Matsuura have her!

MARMALADE BOY #5 (KD)

Episode 5 continues the scene between Ginta and Miki in front of her house. Yuu interrupts them. Miki runs into the house and Yuu and Ginta continue the conversation calmly but with some well directed words.

Miki avoids Ginta in the morning (at school) but makes up with him later in the day (due to some of Meiko's sage advice).

Meiko and Miki discover Yuu working at the Junk Jungle as they're walking home from school.

Miki, Meiko, Yuu, and Kijima discuss the school medallion. Kijima's past is revealed.

At school, Ginta needs a tennis partner for an upcoming invitational at Sagaki Academy. His doubles partner rolled his bike and broke his arm. The rest of the Junior varsity know they aren't good enough to keep up with Ginta...everything looks bad for the upcoming tournament until Miki remembers that Yuu was part of a tennis club in Junior High.

She ropes Yuu into playing a tennis against Namura-sensei (the club advisor)...Yuu hasn't a clue as to why he's having to play against the teacher. He neatly beats Namura. Namura talks Yuu into being teamed up with Ginta just for the upcoming match. Yuu isn't thrilled about being paired with Ginta. Ginta, he knows, can't stand him. But Ginta is more interested in winning regardless of who he's teamed up with.

Before a loud Ginta can tell him off, Yuu sneaks away and crawls through a window in the library. After all, there's no reason why he should have to spend his free time with Ginta.

Unfortunately, Yuu has accidentally interrupted some lovers who apparently felt the privacy of the empty library was a place they could meet safely. Now Yuu can't leave without causing embarrassment. When he looks around the end of the bookshelves, he discovers much to his amazement that the two are Meiko and Namura-sensei...and they're kissing.

MARMALADE BOY #6 (KD)

Meiko finds out the Yuu was in the library and discovered she and Namura-sensei. She asks him not to tell anyone. Yuu wants to know if Miki knows and she tells him that Miki doesn't know.

Lunchtime news features Yuu again.

At the tennis court before the game, Tsutomu show up and makes everyone miserable especially Miki, who run off telling Ginta that she hates him.

A challenge arises between Tsutomu and the Toryo boys, Ginta and Yuu, and whichever side loses has to cut his hair like a monk.

Ginta's game is bad, really bad because of what happened with earlier with Miki.

The game is saved when Miki returns and encourages Ginta.

After the game, Arimi grabs hold of Ginta and drags him off with her.

MARMALADE BOY #7 (KD)

Miki and Yuu's class take a trip to Sapporo.

Arimi discovers Ginta, grabs him and hauls him off with her just like before (after the tournament.)

Tsutomu shows up and is after Arimi as usual.

In a fast food restaurant, Arimi explains to Ginta her plan to make Miki jealous - so that she can get Yuu and he can get Miki. They'll play the part of boyfriend/girlfriend. Ginta and Arimi start playing the part of a couple in the top of a tower...with Miki watching on angrily.

MARMALADE BOY #8 (KD)

The family has a barbecue, Miki gets upset with the family and leaves home in a huff.

Miki runs into Arimi at a store. They talk awhile and then Arimi says that she has to go meet Ginta. Miki is shocked by this as Arimi has called him "Ginta" and not "Suou-kun". (In Japan using the first name of someone who is not a classmate or co-worker implies a fairly intimate relationship - thus Arimi using Ginta's name REALLY confused Miki). BD

Later, the parents pretend to all be angry with each other and make out that they've decided to return things to the way they were. And, in addition, the Matsuuras and the Koishikawas should never see each other again. Yuu will have to go to a new school.

Miki is confused and tries to sort things out with them, but they continue the charade until they can get her to admit that she doesn't really mind their situation anymore. Then they finally tell her it was only a joke.

Miki cries her eyes out in her room; Yuu jumps balconies to help calm her down, and help her make up with the family.

MARMALADE BOY #9 (KD)

Miwa starts making a move on Meiko (while she's in the library).

Miki works that day at the Junk Jungle during a sale.

Ginta and Arimi show up (because they discovered that Yuu and Miki would be there together).

Tsutomu barges into the store when he see Ginta and Arimi there together. Another challenge is issue from him to the TORYO boys. This time it's a store sells competition. And the hair must go again on the loser! Tsutomu's is already short from the last bout.

After work, Miki and Yuu come home to find suitcases in the hallway. Their parents are going to Hawaii and leaving them home alone!

MARMALADE BOY #10 (KD)

Home alone, Yuu tells Miki he's hungry and begs her to cook something for him. Miki's cooking is bad. For the next time, she studies cook books. Yuu takes her grocery shopping. She buys lots of junk.

Miki tries cooking again but spills everything. Yuu cooks and it's good. Miki tries to talk Yuu into cooking from now on...but he says her cooking is eatable and that she's cute when she cooks. Miki is left with no way to argue after that.

Miki is nervous about being alone with a guy in the house.

Miki and Yuu watch a horror video. A frightened Miki hold onto Yuu's shirt then realizes what she's doing and jerks her hand away. She impressed though about spending time with him...because he's so handsome.

Later she takes a hot bath. But she stays in too long and passes out onto the floor with nothing but a towel on. Yuu hears her fall, breaks the lock on the door and carries her to bed.

When she comes to, she's so confused that when she discovers that she's only in a towel, she slaps Yuu.

MARMALADE BOY #11 (KD)

Miki is sorry she slapped Yuu because she realized he was only trying to help her. But she's too embarrassed to talk to him about it.

The next morning the parents call to wish Yuu a happy birthday. Miki doesn't think that's enough.

Miki puts together a meal and bakes Yuu a birthday cake. Yuu comes down to a lovely candle lit dinner, with Miki dressed up and waiting.

A nervous Miki and a calm Yuu almost kiss...when the doorbell rings...It's Ginta and Arimi.

Tsutomu shows up.

Ginta confronts Miki at her bedroom. He tells her that if she'll choose him, he won't see Arimi anymore. But if she doesn't, he'll give up on her. The choice is hers!

MARMALADE BOY #12 (KD)

Miki, at school, is trying to avoid Ginta again.

Miki is chosen to represent the girls in a rematch tennis game against Sagaki Academy.

Ginta confronts Miki in front of the tennis courts. Miki asks him to wait for her decision until after the match.

The parents return from Hawaii.

Ginta spends time getting Miki ready for the upcoming tennis competition, while Yuu takes time to take her shopping to keep her from being nervous about it.

Miki wins handily against her competitor in the tennis match. Now Miki is left with deciding between Yuu and Ginta.

MARMALADE BOY #13 (KD)

The story opens with Miki with her hair in a towel remembering the time she spent with Yuu and Ginta before the match. She realizes that both are important to her but has made up her mind to talk to Ginta the next day regardless.

Ginta, at school, worries what he's going to do. He regrets that he's forced her to make a decision because as long as she's confused about who to pick, he has a chance to get closer to her. As it is, he's afraid he'll be turned down.

Miki and Ginta talk on the school building roof. She tells him that she really cares about him. This excites him. But then she adds...she also has feelings for Yuu. (disappointment)

Miki goes on to tell Ginta that she can't date him because she's a girl that has feelings for another guy too. She feels that he wouldn't want her like that.

Ginta jumps on that and says that he doesn't care that she would forget Yuu after they were together. Miki doubts it because Yuu lives in the same house and she'd have to see him everyday. So, since she doesn't want to keep him from having a chance for a great friend, she tells him to please take Arimi-san.

At this point, Ginta wants to tell her the truth...that's there's nothing between him and Arimi-san, it was all a ruse...but then, he imagines Miki yelling that she hates him. He figures he can't do it.

Later, Miki plays tennis while Ginta watches on. He's holding the TORYO medallion with Miki's photo in it. He decides he has no other choice but to tell Miki the truth.

Miwa and Meiko are in the library talking when Namura shows up. Namura and Meiko can't spend time together because Miwa is there.

At a cafe, Miki and Meiko discuss the latest developments in Miki's world. Meiko tells Miki that she really needs both guys because Yuu is like a breath of fresh air for her...but that she still needs Ginta who stands by her side. This depresses Miki no end...it's too late to hear that now that she told Ginta to take Arimi-san.

Later Miki goes shopping by herself. She's too depressed to get her heart into it though.

On the way home, she bumps into Arimi-san. Arimi is carrying a large handbag and tells Miki that she going to spend the night at a friends house...can she guess who. That's right...at Ginta's. Arimi tells Miki that she's really nervous because this is her first time to spend the night at a boys house. When Arimi is through razzing Miki, she exclaims that she's just kidding but Miki's already left in a daze.

Ginta confronts Miki in front of her house and tells her everything, apologizes and asks her to forgive him. Miki's knees buckle. Ginta is stunned to hear from Miki that she was afraid she'd lost him as a close friend and that she was glad to hear that it wasn't true. Ginta, feeling very passionate, says her name in that tone. Miki, jumps back from him realizing that he's feeling that way. She tells him that that's not the mood she's in and tells him to wait! He tells he won't wait anymore and grabs her and pulls her in for a kiss. Just as he's almost there... we hear "Stop!" and a hand holding a small paper bag is pushed into his face and another hand covers Miki's mouth. Yuu's back.

Yuu asks Ginta what the hell he's doing with his "family" out in public, etc. He marches Miki into the house with his hand still over her mouth.

Inside Miki tries to ask him why he stopped her. She wants to know if he's jealous. Yuu acts innocent and walks away looking completely unperturbed.

An irritated Miki wondered to herself "How can you walk away from me with a smiling face...Stupid!"

MARMALADE BOY #14 (KD)

Namura is featured playing with his class as a teacher. There's an upcoming exam and he's giving the kids a hint as to what will be on it.

Meiko watches on and remembers dating Namura at an aquarium. It was the day he told her that he found out he would be teaching her class the next term. This meant that they could no longer date until she graduated from High School...teacher/student dating is taboo.

Later Miwa looks for Meiko in the library but she's not there. He does find Yuu, who tries to avoid him like the plague.

Arimi confronts Miki on Miki's school grounds and lets her know that even though her plan has been ruined, she won't give up on Yuu.

A distraught Arimi runs away from Miki and by coincidence see Yuu as he comes out of the school building. She runs up to Yuu and embraces him. He tells her he thinks she made a mistake, he's not Suou (Ginta). He looks totally uninterested as she relates that he MUST know that it was all an act to make Miki-san jealous. But Yuu doesn't respond. Arimi reaches up

and kisses him in front of everyone in the school yard. This is something rather unheard of in Japanese schoolyards. (Grin)

Kijima, Namura and Ryouko sit in a bar and talk about the situation between Yuu, Miki, and Arimi. Namura tells Kijima it's their business (the kids) and that he, even as their teacher, has no right to evade their privacy and that he really shouldn't discuss it.

Miki and Yuu sit in their rooms in the dark thinking that night.

At Meiko's there's a screaming match going on between her parents. It's ugly, with accusations about each other's lovers. Meiko can't bear to listen to any more of this and runs out the door and through the streets.

Ryouko, who's never told him how she really feels about him, invites Namura up to her apartment. He politely declines.

When he gets back to his apartment, he find Meiko there banging on his door in tears.

MARMALADE BOY #15 (KD)

Miki calls Meiko's house fairly late (it's the same night as when Meiko ran out the front door) and the maid tells her that Miss Meiko is out.

Miki leaves home the next morning early and without breakfast in order to avoid Yuu (who, of course, was kissed by Arimi the previous day).

At school the next morning, Meiko shows up later than usual... just a bit behind Namura-sensei.

Miki is suddenly banged on the head by something. She angrily turns around and sees Yuu holding her lunch...she forgot it in her rush to leave in the morning.

Later, Meiko is in the library and thinks Namura has come when she hears someone heading her way. It's Miwa.

Ginta motions Miki to meet him on the roof. He tells her that he's decided to wait for her until she realizes that he's better than Matsuura (Yuu). But, he won't wait forever so make up her mind!

And, by the way, he's been thinking about her during tennis practice. He's noticed her legs are getting thicker! This sets Miki off no end and they start razing each other in a fun way that ends up with them making a bet for cake at the Loft House.

Namura is requested to come to the Principal's office.

Yuu and Miki leave for school together the next morning and find when they get there that the hallways full of students are buzzing about something. It's about Namura-sensei and Meiko. In her classroom, her Ginta and the other classmates tell her the story.

Meiko walks in, picks up her schoolbag and walk away. She stops only briefly to say she's been expelled and a brief "bye bye".

Miwa confronts Meiko briefly as she's going down the stairs.

Miki decides she wants to talk to Na-chan (Namura-sensei) but gets a dose of the Vice-principal, Kyoto-sensei, instead.

Ryouko is in the teachers room. She tries to cheer Namura up by telling him that she'll have to tell Kijima about all this, Kijima will be jealous of him dating a high school girl.

Miki ditches school to go to Meiko's home. Meiko and Miki walk through the garden at Meiko's family's estate and discuss Meiko's situation. Meiko ends up hurting Miki's feelings and Miki runs off, comes home and shuts herself in her room.

MARMALADE BOY #16 (KD)

Miki is in her room remembering how she and Meiko first met and how much she admired her. And recalls their close friendship since then. Outside her bedroom door Yuu looks concerned but obviously decides to leave her alone.

Meiko looks out at the night sky through her bedroom window. She thinks about how she had no choice the night she went to Sensei's apartment and feels if she didn't have Sensei she would'nt know what to do.

She notices a photo of her and Miki together and realizes she hurt her badly especially since Miki doesn't really know the whole story.

Miki's parents beg her to come out and talk to them if she has a problem...she can talk to them about anything. Miki comes out with tears in her eyes.

But, when push comes to shove, the parents think the whole thing with Meiko is really nifty. They're excited!

The mothers think Meiko's quite a girl and that Na-chan is a good looking young man. Jin doesn't think Na-chan is good enough for Meiko (he's a Meiko fan). Youji said he had a "thing" going with his high school teacher after school. Jin wants to know the detail. And Chiyako said she'd LOVE to be a teacher at an all boys school - doing you know what.

Miki leaves them absolutely furious that they would act that way, when she's SO DEPRESSED!

She returns to the upstairs floor to find Yuu waiting for her. He tells her that she's pretty slow not to realize the low level their parents minds are on...her temper puckers her face up. Yuu then softens and tells her that he thinks everyone has "some" things they can't tell anyone. That it hurts to tell them to anyone but it also hurts to hold them in.

He finger thumps her nose and says "Good night". Miki says "Good night" and thinks to herself that he helped her to understand Meiko better and yet it sounded like he was talking about himself.

At school the next morning Namura's students are all fired up over what's going on. Kyoto-sensei (Vice-principal) comes in to tell them that they will have a self-study period. She isn't real pleasant about their tendency to call Namura-sensei, "Na-chan", and accuses them, among other things, of being the reason for all the problem...because they'll crossed the line on the teacher/student relationship.

Namura sits with the principal and much to the protestations of the principal Namura hands in his resignation.

In the teacher's office, Ryouko remember when she, Namura, and Kijima were in High School. She and Kijima were going steady. But Namura was always by her side. The three of them felt inseparable and so they were always together. Gradually her feelings moved and deepened for Namura.

One day, Kijima left for the US. His parents had been transferred. He seemed sad the day he left because he seemed to know her feelings for Namura. Later she got a letter from him telling her to be happy with Namura.

Some years later, Kijima remet a girl that put her Toryo medallion in his bag just before he left for America. They fell in love and were married.

Ryouko's feelings have never been revealed to Namura, she simple plays the part of a good friend.

Miki tries to call Meiko from a pay phone at school but Meiko is not allowed any phone calls.

Ryouko confronts the principal while he's talking to Namura because she heard rumors among the other teachers that Namura will be fired. Instead she finds out that it was Namura's decision.

He tells her later, outside the office, that it was the best way he could show his love for Akizuki (Meiko). He's going back to Hiroshima to work with his parents' real estate office.

She's very upset that he would give up his teaching career and tries to talk him out of it. But he asks her to understand his reasons, after all, she knows him better than anyone. Ryouko walks away from him in distress over the situation.

Meanwhile, Miwa was coming down the hall when this conversation was taking place and so he overheard it. Miwa is no shrinking violet. He tells Namura that he thinks he's a coward and just want to look innocent of impropriety. But then too, he feels that Namura leaving will make it easier for him to approach Akizuki and is sure to let Namura know it.

MARMALADE BOY #17 (KD)

Namura goes to Meiko's house to talk to Meiko and her parents. He's refused.

Later, when Meiko's father leaves, the telephone rings...it's Namura. Even though she's been told not to let Meiko talk to Na-chan, the maid hands her the phone.

He tells her everything will be all right soon and assures her that it's not her fault. He's resigned and is going to Hiroshima. That he really did love her.

Meiko, of course, is very upset by this turn of events. Namura goes on to tell her that she will meet someone else that is better than he is..(more fitting with her age and background). He tells her goodbye.

Meiko decides she doesn't care if she gets expelled for good. She goes to her closet.

Miki is home on her bed thinking about the events with Meiko and Na-chan and she can't get Meiko's cruel words out of her mind. Yuu knocks on the door and tells her that they have a visitor - Meiko.

Meiko tells Miki that she doesn't need to come out of her room...to please just listen. Meiko then relates the story of how she and Sensei met (when she was in Jr. High) and how and when they feel in love.

To Miki, she tells her that she can't tell everything -that that's her personality and she doesn't even like herself that way. But she always liked the fact that Miki was so open with her. She assures her that she really likes Miki.

After, Yuu offers to take Meiko home. But Meiko declines saying that she has a taxi waiting. She tells Yuu to please take care of Miki.

Yuu realizes that Meiko is planning to elope with Na-chan and rushes into Miki's room to tell her. Miki is depressed and has no confidence, so Yuu verbally pushes her until she'll agree to go to the train station to support Akizuki. Miki and Yuu race hand and hand through the streets to get to the train station.

Meiko arrives at the station relieved to see that Sensei is there. She wasn't sure what time his train left. Meiko begs him to take her with him. But he refuses and makes it clear that things are over between them. The train pulls away. Meiko races after it.

Miki and Yuu find Meiko leaning against a pole. Miki asks Meiko where Na-chan is. Meiko tells her he left and that he said "no". She leans against Miki and cries.

MARMALADE BOY #18 (KD)

Miki and Yuu are sitting at the table the next morning before school. Miki is worried. Meiko should be at school that day. She doesn't know what to say to Meiko. Yuu tells her to be normal, that that's the best way. Besides, Miki is so silly she can make anyone smile. This irritates Miki.

On the way to school Miki and Yuu see Meiko ahead of them. Miki pauses not sure what to do. Yuu gives her a shove and she practically bumps into Meiko. It's all smiles and the buddies are back together.

Meiko's classmates greet her warmly and later Ginta, Yuu, Miki, Chigusa are a guard for her against gossips as she walks down the hall.

Miki, Meiko and some of the other girls are sitting at a table at school. Miki has a hand held electronic thing that in one position is a game and in another is a love fortune teller. She asks an absent minded looking Meiko if she'd like to try it. Meiko declines and asks if everyone will excuse her. She leaves and goes to the library.

In the library Meiko thinks about Sensei as a tears roll down her cheek. Miwa comes by a see her. He looks like his heart is breaking for her. But he leaves her alone.

Miki and Ginta are on the tennis courts while Ryouko looks on unseeingly. She's thinking about the situation with Namura.

After the tennis practice, Ginta and Miki talk. Ginta tells Miki that he's glad to see Meiko looking better. Miki tells him that Meiko's working awfully hard at it. Ginta suggests that they take Meiko somewhere to help her feel better on Sunday. Miki agrees that it's a wonderful idea and why don't they stop by Yuu's work and invite him to go too. (Ginta's a bit disappointed).

Miki and Ginta arrive at Yuu's work about a minute after Arimi. They tell Yuu about Ginta's idea. And Yuu agrees that it's a good one and plans to come.

Arimi tells them that there's no reason why they shouldn't invite her too. But the guys try to stop her after all it's for Akizuki. But Miki stops them and tells them that more people is better. Miki secretly thinks she must be crazy for inviting Arimi but she didn't want to have to explain about Meiko's situation and besides she only want to make Meiko happy, that's all she cares about.

Sunday morning Miki is finishing up a HUGE lunch that Chiyako helped her learn how to do. The big lunch basket to carry it in is what cause Yuu and Miki to be late for their rendezvous with the others at Karyon Farm.

Yuu decides that since the basket is so heavy they should eat before doing anything else.

Arimi's lunch is so good looking, Miki is afraid to bring out hers. But she does eventually and surprises Ginta no end. Yuu spends his time teasing Miki about her lunch (like...Hmm..it's not burnt!)

The rest of their time at Karyon Farm is spent playing...rowing boat, riding a train, riding bikes, etc. They finally rest while watching some horses. Miki says that the foal is so cute, she wants to touch it. Yuu says that she's so clumsy, he'll bite her. She giggles.

Arimi informs Yuu that she's thirsty and he offers to get her some juice. Ginta says he'll go with him. Miki yells after them to please get them some too.

Meanwhile Meiko's hat blows off and flies into the corral. Miki offers to go get it. She slips on some manure. Meiko smiles and tells Arimi that Miki is always like this. She's clumsy, cheerful, and cares about her friends. Meiko tells her that Miki makes her smile.

Miki reaches the hat and notices the foal is right there. She turns to touch it and infuriates a stallion who's across the pen. A yell goes out to Yuu and Ginta from Arimi. They drop the juice can and run for the corral. Yuu yells at Miki to run. She does but she trips. The boys go over and through the fence. As the mad horse is almost upon her, Yuu takes a flying leap through the air and grabs the horse's neck and proceeds to calm him down.

Ginta helps Miki up and asks her if she all right. Miki doesn't answer, she looking at Yuu. Yuu is angry, he grabs her by the wrist and pulls her over to him saying "I told you it was

dangerous!" Miki leans against him with tears and cries that she's sorry, so sorry. Yuu softly tells her it's OK. Meiko turns and says to Ginta and Arimi that it's not easy loving someone.

MARMALADE BOY #19 (KD)

Yuu, Miki and the mothers are at the table eating dinner. Miki says the food is delicious and that she was really hungry. Yuu comments that it's because she's studying for a change. Chiyako gets after Yuu for saying such a thing to Miki. But Miki tells her that it's OK, she's used to his teasing. Yuu sarcastically says "Yeah, I'm such a tease." Miki sticks her tongue out at him and he returns the favor, Miki does it again. The mothers laugh and comment that they act like little children.

The mothers ask them if the next day is their last day of exams and would they come straight home after school. The kids, of course, want to know why. They're informed that the 6 month required wait before remarriage is up and that the couples can remarry now.

The mothers tell them their plan is not to have a fancy wedding but to celebrate instead at a fine Italian restaurant where the specialty (gag) is caviar and spaghetti.

The papers are filled out at the registry. Miki and Yuu congratulate the parents. Jin comments that it's time to continue on even though it's a bit early for their reservation at the restaurant. Youji agrees. Miki uncomfortably tells them that she's really sorry but that there something she needs to do. She takes off.

As she walks alone, she comes across things that remind her of her own childhood with her parents. It's early evening and Miki is sitting on a park bench when Yuu shows up and surprises her. He's apparently been following her.

He comments that she still isn't over the partner exchange and she replies that that's not it, she's actually gotten used to it. It's just that now her mother has a different name than her and it feels like she's a stranger. Yuu sits by her silently. Miki realizes this is Yuu's way of being kind.

Later she and Yuu go to a fast food restaurant where Miki enjoys the teriyaki chicken. Yuu tells her it's good but that they could have had a meal at a fancy Italian restaurant. He wanted to try the caviar and spaghetti (barf) and even the coffee would have been espresso or cappuccino.

Even though he doesn't sound like it, Miki knows Yuu is teasing her...that he's really sweet and kind. When she gets home that evening she takes her family photo out of her medallion and puts Yuu's in instead.

Furutachi-kun, camera in tow, is waiting somewhere within distance of the Matsuura/Koishikawa residence. The parents emerge and he is stunned by their passion as they kiss their spouses goodbye.

Next the kids, Miki and Yuu, come out of the house together. The school reporter knows he's got a scoop!

At school, the reel runs showing that indeed Koishikawa-SAMA and Matsuura are living together! Of course, their parents are there so they aren't alone. Now, the school has the real story of the most popular couple in school!

The school is in a buzz. Some of the classmates try to figure out which parents is kissing whom.

Later, Miki and Yuu are in front of the principal in his office. The vice-principal is hostile but the principal, himself, is more interested in being sure that Miki and Yuu are not ashamed of their parents. It is normal he says for "some" unusual things to happen in society. The principal is pleasant about it, but the vice-principal isn't.

Yuu tells them that even though they're teachers it's not appropriate for them to invade their privacy. This irritate Kyoto-sensei (vice-principal) who says it's strange parents like theirs that make kids like they are.

Miki disagrees and explains why in the beginning she wanted to keep their situation a secret. But that now she knows that they (the parents) are really serious. And like Meiko and Na-chan, she feels it isn't right the people who love each other be separated.

The parents show up with Furutachi-kun. The principal asks them who is Miki-san's parents...all four answer. He asks who are Yuu-kun's parents and they all answer "I am". The principal is surprised.

Jin introduces the man that he was in a business meeting with when he was called (he drug him along with him), Chiyako apologizes for wearing a lab jacket (she was in the middle of testing). The parents each take a part of the sentence which comes out "This marriages all our selfishness". The principal laughs and tells the kids they have fine mothers and fathers.

Afterwards, the family is walking down the school hallway. Miki and Yuu pass Miwa. Yuu returns a polite "hi" to Miwa as they pass by. Miki gets excited and says she didn't know that he knew the student body president. Student body president? Yuu is surprised. Miki tell him that Miwa is smart and he's handsome too. Yuu is in shock and asks her to tell him if she just said his name is "Miwa".

Yuu catches up with Miwa and asks if that invitation to see books on architecture is still open. Miwa tells him "anytime".

MARMALADE BOY #20 (KD) (probably the funniest in the series)

Miki is in her room preparing another message for Meiko. She reminds Meiko that they won't have summer vacation until after the marathon.

Meiko and Miki are sitting at one of the tables outdoors at school with a group of friends. The girls, except Miki, are complaining about having to run a marathon. One wonders why they have to run it. Miki says it's because it's a famous event. Another girl reminds Miki that Miki'll be OK because she's in tennis club where she does a lot of running. One of them says she wonders who came up with this idea for a marathon. Meiko relies that she doesn't know but that she has a grudge against him.

One of the more notable gossips of the group leans over with the latest tidbit....Yuu and Miwa-san are a couple.

Yuu and Miwa-san are a couple? Miki is stunned and frankly doesn't believe it. Meiko is confused. She remembers all the things that Miwa has said to her in the past. But then, it could be that he's just hiding his homosexuality. Of course neither girl says these things out loud.

One of the girl's asks for Miki's "love checker". The girl decides to test Yuu and Miwa on love affinity! Meiko decides it must be true. Miki yells at her and Meiko giggles and says she's just joking.

In the bushes, the girls look on Yuu and Miwa-san talking. Miki and Meiko give each other a bad time about blushing.

Meiko decides the reason everyone is talking is that the guys just look too good together. (Pretty boys.) Miki turns her head and sees a camera pointed at the guys. She asks Furutachi-kun what he's doing there. And he tells them that Yuu and Miwa-san is the hottest couple on campus. Hottest Couple?! Miki can't stand it, she tells Furutachi-kun off and tells him if he wants to get a scoop to look at OTHER COUPLES! Furutachi-kun tells her that's against the freedom of the press. A super deformed Miki rises above him and says "HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT!!!" A timid Furutachi says "No".

Miki is watching TV with her parents. In the a show with very melodramatic music, a man is trying to convince a woman not to go home in the evening but to stay with him. The woman tells him things like "No, I can't" , "This is enough for me for now", "I'm not ready yet". Miki gets up and walks away thoroughly disgusted. This is not the kind of thing she wants to watch with her family...why don't they have any common sense.

The telephone ring and the parents, who are thoroughly absorbed in the drama ask, her to answer it.

It's Miwa calling for Yuu. Miki takes the portable up to his room. When Yuu finds out who it is, he acts rather strangely and closes the door.

Ginta meets Miki on the way to the tennis courts and helps her carry a rack of tennis balls. He tells her that he couldn't help her when she was worried about Meiko and about her own family but that he is so happy to see her smiling again. He notices she doesn't have her tennis racket and tells her to go get it; that he'll take care of the tennis balls.

Miki mentally thanks Ginta, while looking at the photo of Yuu in her medallion, for being a close friend and being so supportive. She thinks she must tell him soon about her choice. She wonder who Yuu has in his medallion..... surely not Miwa-san. Naw, impossible.

Back in the locket room Miki accidentally overhears a conversation between Miwa and Yuu. Miwa asks Yuu if he's ready yet. Yuu tells him "no" and that this is enough for him for right now. Aaaack, Miki realizes that this sounds just like the show from last night. Is it really true about Miwa and Yuu!

Miki is ready for the marathon. There's a determined look on her face as she encounters Miwa-san and challenges him to a race during the marathon. He's just a little surprised especially since there are different courses - the women's and the men's. Miki tells him she'll run the men's course and if she wins he's to keep his hands OFF Yuu! He thinks

for a second then says "You mean if I win, I can touch Yuu? It's a deal!" and he runs off. Miki realizes she just made a big mistake. But, she's going to win this even if she dies in the process.

The race is on and Miki and Miwa are out in the lead. They challenge each other running right away. Miwa is surprised by Miki's speed. Miki reminds him not to take her lightly and tells him that he surprises her too. Miwa tells her that before becoming student body president he was in basketball club. She reminds him that, even so, he'll be in trouble if he overworks himself. This irritates him enough to tell her that he's going to be serious now. He takes off with Miki trying fairly successfully to keep up...but soon she realizes she's just dying. Miwa tells her she looks pale and should give up. She snaps back that she's just fine and that he should quit. With that, Miki takes off with a "I'm outta here"! Miwa pursues.

Later, Miwa and Miki, are far in front of the pack. They're not running anymore but walking side by side with saggy faces. Miwa thinks to himself that he had this marathon all planned out on how he was going to run it, and that it's Koishikawa's (Miki's) fault that things aren't going according to plan. He decides he's really going to razz her now. He turns and tells her that he and Yuu have a relationship that she can't even touch. This infuriates her. She yells "Why does Yuu have to chase a man....!" She runs into a pole and knocks herself out.

In the nurse's office, Meiko is relieved when Miki comes to. She leaves to tell the teacher that Miki is recovering. Yuu enters. He tells her that he heard she was running the men's course with Satoshi (Miwa) and asks her why. She doesn't really answer that one.

He tells her that Satoshi carried her over to the supervisor and that she should thank him. Miki's makes a noise but doesn't answer him.

Suddenly, she remembers. She and Yuu experienced this before being in alone in the nurses office and what happened (see MB#1). She turns so he can't see her blushing. She's sure if he see her face, he'll know what she's thinking. Suddenly Yuu says "Oh, now I remember." Miki with her head facing away from him asks him "what?". He tells her he knows she remembers and wonders out loud if he should do that again. Yuu stuns Miki by putting his leg on the bed and starts to maneuver himself into position... when Miwa walks in.

Miwa asks him what he'd have done if it would've been a teacher that came in instead of him. Yuu answers that they were just kidding around. Miki thinks "Kidding.... Around... What kind of guy is he?!"

Miwa tells Miki that he's glad she doing better. Miki decides maybe he's not such a bad guy after all and apologizes to him. Miwa changes gears and tells her that "Yeah, she was so heavy, that she nearly broke his arms". Miki mentally takes back her apology. Miwa goes on to remind her of their deal. She didn't finish the race, he did. He puts his hand on Yuu's shoulder and maneuvers him towards the door saying "Well Yuu, we now have your relative's permission. Let's go." Yuu isn't too anxious to leave yet. Miwa tells him "It's all right, she's strong".

Outside Yuu is walking beside Miwa rather sullenly. Miwa tells Yuu that Yuu was right about her. She's uncomplicated and a lot of fun to tease. Yuu still looks sullen. Miwa asks Yuu if he has a problem with it. Does he think he's the only one who can tease her?" Yuu wanly says "Not really". Miwa turns and grins widely. Yuu whips around and yells "I SAID "NOT REALLY". STOP GRINNING AT ME!!!!"

MARMALADE BOY #21 (KD)

Miki is in her bedroom with her colorful imagination running wild regarding Miwa and Yuu's relationship.

Later Meiko and Miki are out shopping. Meiko asks Miki if she's bored with Yuu-kun gone so much (with his part-time job). Miki says that she is and Meiko giggles to herself. Miki has never admitted this before. Miki goes on to say that with Yuu gone more she worries more (presumably because of Miwa). Meiko suggests that they go to the Junk Jungle. Miki's not sure, though, that it's appropriate to just show up at Yuu's work. Meiko reminds Miki that she wanted a new dress. Oh well, under those circumstances it's OK, isn't it?

Kijima greets Miki and Meiko warmly. Miki looks over at Yuu...to find Miwa there too. Miki marches over to Yuu and lowers her voice and asks what Miwa is doing there? Yuu tells her he just came to visit.

Meiko tells Yuu that Miki is looking for a dress and asks him to help her. Yuu is more than happy to.

Miwa and Meiko are a distance away and out of ear shot. Miwa tells Meiko that Yuu and Miki are getting along...so should they. Meiko reminds him that she was the one dating Namura-sensei. Miwa smiles and tells her that he doesn't feel that way. He assures her that that kind of experience can only season a woman.

Meiko's not certain of him...and asks you don't really like women do you? Miwa tells her that's for sure...except the woman he goes after. Meiko gets more specific with a "I didn't mean that". Miwa is a bit surprised. "You don't mean you believe that rumor going around about Yuu and me. It isn't true. Anyway..." Miwa changes gears, "When do you want to go out with me? I'm free next week!"

Miki is in a dressing room trying on a dress but can't quite get a button fastened. Yuu, who's standing outside, offers to help but gets refused with a swift "IDIOT!" from Miki.

Miki figures now is the best time to ask Yuu about his relationship with Miwa. But she doesn't get very far. The minute she comes out of the dressing room, Yuu tells her that she's cute in the dress and pull Meiko and Miwa in on the praise. Miki is delighted. Later Miki realizes Yuu managed to change the subject on her.

At home, Miki and Yuu are on the couches when they hear a lot of buzz from the parents. They wonder what's going on. Rumi comes in and asks the kids if they're packed yet. Packed? The Miki and Yuu haven't a clue about what she's talking about. The parents start passing the buck as to who was supposed to tell Miki and Yuu.

Apparently the parents decided that since it's summer vacation they would go on a family trip. For one night from Saturday to Sunday. Yuu tells them that he has to work but that he'll stay home and house-sit so the rest can go. Rumi tells him it's no fun without him. Jin adds that they should go to Karuizawa. It's cool this time of year. Karuizawa, rings some kind of bell in Yuu's head, and Miki is quick to notice it. Yuu decides to go.

The family arrives in 2 taxis. Miki thinks it's a cute hotel. Yuu offers to carry his mother's bag, he swings it over his shoulder and hits Miki in the head. Miki is irritated and doesn't let it pass that Yuu did it on purpose. Chiyako tells her to forgive him, it's just his way of showing affection.

Miki comments that Yuu probably never had any difficult periods. Chiyako tells her that he did. When he was in sixth grade, Yuu locked himself up in his room for a month and didn't want to talk or look at his parents. Chiyako said she didn't know what to do...but, he got over it on his own. Miki, thinks to herself that that is hard to imagine with Yuu. But then, there's a lot about Yuu she doesn't know.

Out on the hotel tennis courts, the parents decide they should play a game of mixed doubles against Miki and Yuu. The worst pair has to clean up afterwards.

Miki takes the first ball served by her mother, she thinks she should smash it but she feels sorry for the parents. So she just decides to hit it. She misses. A stunned Miki exclaims "WHAT WAS THAT!" It had a strange spin on it! Yuu lowers his head to talk to Miki so the others can't hear. He tells her not to misjudge them because they're old. They don't have energy but they do have technique and might try to trick them. He suggests that they cover the courts to beat the parents' weak legs. Miki and Yuu win. The parents say they're too tired to clean up, would the kid do it.

The parents leave to go take hot baths and drink beer. Miki and Yuu feel put upon.

The two sit on a tennis court bench to talk. Miki honestly tells Yuu that she's never enjoyed tennis so much. Being part of a tennis club is hard work. She goes on to tell him that the trip to Karuizawa might have been a good idea. She never liked doing family things with her parents before. Yuu asks her why. She tells him it's because of their resort shirts - it made them look like the Mafia. Yuu tells her he can see her point. But Miki, in her head, is thinking that because Yuu is there she could spend a lot longer time on the family vacation.

Up in one of the motel rooms, Miki has on her new dress and is putting on the makeup that Chiyako gave her (in a previous episode). The parents wonder where Yuu is. Miki tells them that she'll go look for him.

When she gets down to the lobby, she sees Yuu leaning against a pole. She's about to call out to him, when she sees Miwa come in. Yuu leaves with him...with Miki follows them a safe distance back. On the forest pathway, Miki hears a noise that startles her. The bushes move and a cat comes out. She looks up and finds out she's lost the guys. She must return the way she came to get back to the hotel. But when she gets to a fork, she can't remember which way she came. She's trying to muddle through her confusion when two drunks grab her.

The drunks try to convince her to come with them and drink. But she nervously tells them "no thanks". They're insistent and won't let go of her. A hand reaches out into the night...and taps one of the boys on the shoulder. A deep serious voice says "Do you have business with my daughter". The guys come to a salute as four angry looking parents glare at them. They excuse themselves and take off.

Miki runs over to her father and whimpers. The parents tell her that they got worried when she didn't come back and that's why they came looking for her. Youji comments out loud that he wonders where Yuu went off to. Miki is very upset with Yuu and adds in her thoughts that Yuu didn't have to see Miwa during their family vacation.

Yuu and Miwa look at a house. Yuu notices that the design is extremely unusual for a second house, but that it's an excellent Miwa Yoshimitsu design. Miwa agree that the house is very different from anything else in the area.

Miwa invites Yuu inside to see the interior but Yuu declines saying that he didn't tell his family that he was going out. He needs to get back.

Yuu thanks Miwa for showing it to him. It was convenient for him to see it while he was on the trip. Miwa assures Yuu that he and his family come there often and that it's no problem at all.

When Yuu returns to the motel room, the fathers ask him where he was. The mothers run up to tell him what happened to Miki before he has to answer.

Yuu finds Miki in a hallway and asks her if she's all right. She tells him the parents got rid of them. Yuu apologizes and tells her he had something to do. Miki asks him if "something" meant being with Miwa. Yuu is shocked. Miki adds "You met him in the lobby and went out with him". Yuu surprised that she saw that. Miki tells him he didn't have to see Miwa here. Yuu grabs her arm and yells at her not to tell anyone. Miki assures him that she won't but wants to know why. Yuu realizes that he was too sharp and apologizes but tells her nothing and leaves.

Miki stands looking at him retreat. She can still feel where he grabbed her. She wonders what's going on with him.

MARMALADE BOY #22 (KD)

Meiko is in the library, remembering her experiences there with Sensei. Yuu notices her there and comments that she really loves this place, doesn't she. She tells him she has fond memories of it. Yuu finds out that, even though it's summer vacation, Meiko is there to collect information for her literary club.

Yuu and Miwa sit at one of the outdoor school tables talking. Miwa repeats to Yuu that "Koishikawa (Miki) saw them"? Yuu confirms and adds that she thought something "strange" was going on. Miwa figures that if Yuu just leaves Miki alone she'll forget about it. Yuu tells him pointedly that Miki is uncomplicated but not THAT uncomplicated. Miwa tells Yuu not to worry and look...Miwa holds up four tickets for him to see.

Miki and Meiko are having a drink at the Junk Jungle. Miki asks Yuu what these tickets are about. Yuu tells her that, as she can see, they're movie tickets and that (Miwa) Satoshi-san said they should all go. Miki asks Meiko what she thinks. Meiko replies that she really wanted to see this one and she'll go if Miki does.

At the theater on Sunday, Miki scans it from the entry for a place for them all to sit. Miwa neatly grabs Meiko by the shoulders and points her in the opposite direction. Yuu shoves Miki off the other way. The boys turn and grin at each other and agree to meet after the movie.

Partway down the next aisle, Meiko get hostile and wants to know what this is about. Undaunted, Miwa reminds her that Koishikawa is in love with Yuu isn't she. He and Meiko need to give them time to be alone (Author's note: Yeah, right.)

Meanwhile Miki is nervously looking around the theater for Meiko. Yuu tells her she's all right, that she's with Miwa, and to calm down. Miki wonders to herself how she can be calm

with his (Yuu's) arm lying on the back of her chair. She bets he doesn't even notice it and that's she's the only one who's heart is racing. It's not fair.

After the movie, Yuu grabs Miki by the wrist and pulls her out of her chair before the ending titles come up and maneuvers a protesting Miki out of the theater.

Meanwhile Miwa insists on seeing all the ending titles.

Yuu tells Miki shortly thereafter, as they're walking down the street, that it was Miwa's idea that they should separate. Miwa likes Akizuki (Meiko) and is very serious about her. Having Miki there would assure that Meiko would come too. Miki cutely tells him "That's the way, use me". Then Miki realizes that this means also that Yuu and Miwa DON'T have a dangerous relationship.

Miki looks down at her hand and is surprised to find that he's still holding it.

Yuu goes on with his thoughts. He feels that even though Akizuki (Meiko) may not be ready for a boyfriend yet, she might really like Satoshi once she gets to know him better.

An embarrassed Miki tries to say something but doesn't quite make it. Yuu asks her what's wrong does she have to go to the bathroom. Miki yells "NO!" "Hand...!" Yuu innocently replies "Hand?" Miki: "We've been holding hands!" Yuu pulls her hand over to him "Oh, does this bother you? Want me to let go?" Miki is stunned and replies "Not particularly". Yuu tells her it's all right then. He suggests they go get something to eat.

Meiko and Miwa are in the outer lobby of the theater. Miwa tell Meiko that it looks like they're lost. Meiko decides since that's the case she'll go home. She thanks Miwa and turns to leaves. Miwa is desperate to keep her from going and bursts out just enough for Meiko to figure out that she was been tricked into this movie thing. She angrily turned to leave Miwa standing there. But Miwa is quick and asks her if she wants to know that truth about him and Yuu. She tells him "not really". Miwa isn't missing a step now. He shrugs his shoulders and says "You're not interested, but don't you want to know for Koishikawa. If you stay with me, I'll tell you everything." Meiko tells him that exchange conditions aren't fair. Miwa doesn't waste time to tell her he would do anything to get his own way.

Meiko and Miwa are sitting in a restaurant. Miwa is disturbed by the fact that even though he forced her to come, she isn't smiling. He asks her if his story is boring. She tells him not really that she was just admiring him as a playboy student body president and his talent for wheedling things his way. Miwa tells her she doesn't need to admire him, just smile for him. Meiko gets very uncomfortable at his seductive tone and asks him how he can say things like that.

Miki and Yuu are walking down the street. Yuu's just won some more stuffed kappas for Miki from a game machine. Miki tells him the Kappa-chan now has a family (see episode #3 for the story on Kappa-chan). Yuu replies that she can depend on him!

Miki and Yuu pass by a shop that Miki really wants to go into. Inside she finds a music box with "Moment" written on the top. The music box plays "Moment" and Miki listens to it almost as though lost to the rest of the world (By the way, this is the music that played in the background when Yuu kissed her in MB#1). Yuu watches her intently. He decides to buy it for her.

Miki is so thrilled with the gift that she decides to cherish it a her "first present" from Yuu. Yuu tries to cover his embarrassment by telling her that he just felt sorry for her because she

was tricked by Miwa's date plan. But she leans over to look at his turned away head and sees him blushing. She giggles. As he walks off ahead of her, Miki catches up and gently slips her hand back into his. Yuu looks at her in some surprise. When she smiles at him about it, he smiles in return.

Miwa has returned Meiko to the Akizuki mansion. Meiko tries to get him to finally tell her about his relationship with Matsuura. But Miwa says that it's not really a story he should tell...but he will if she kisses him.

Meiko decides she's had ENOUGH! He's a liar and she has no more patience, she stomps off. Miwa hurries to tell her he was just kidding and that he will tell that it has to do with his father.

Meiko whips around angrily and asks him how she supposed to know anything from that little hints...Miwa kisses her soundly before she can say any more.

Meiko stands in front of her family's estate totally shocked.

Meiko meets Miki over at Miki's house. Miki asks Meiko how things went after she and Miwa lost Yuu and Miki. Meiko grumbles "terrible!"

Miki then notices Yuu behind her getting his shoes on to go out. Miwa comes up from outdoor and tells Miki that Yuu is with him.

Miwa starts to talk to Meiko, but she jumps behind Miki and tells Miwa not to come closer than 2 meters of her.

Curious Meiko and Miki quietly (and carefully so as not to be seen) follow Yuu and Miwa. The girls don't know what's going on...but something's up, and they know it.

They end up at a hotel and see that the guys are waiting for someone. That someone show up and it's someone Meiko recognizes from books she's read. Ah, Meiko remembers that this is Miwa Yoshimitsu, the famous architect. She didn't realize that he was actually Miwa-san's father.

Now it all makes sense. Yuu was just nervous about meeting his idol. Idol? Miki has no idea what Meiko is talking about. Meiko explains to Miki that Yuu is probably interested in majoring in architecture because he reads books on the subject all the time.

Miki is near to tears when she hear this because she didn't know about it. She didn't know what kind of books he reads or that he was planning to major in architecture.

At home in his room, Miki sees rows of books on architecture. She realizes that this may be the reason that Yuu didn't join any of the school clubs and why he sometimes goes on trips away from town.

Yuu comes home and finds her in his room. When she asks him why he never told her about his plans to become an architect, he tells her she wouldn't be interested. She tells him he's wrong. She wants to know about his interests. He hurts her by telling her that he doesn't care, it has nothing to do with her.

When he realizes what he's done he tells her he's sorry and walks over to her. But she slaps his hands away from her and runs out of the room.

In her own room, she remembers Arimi saying that Yuu was different with Miki. In Miki's mind she tells Arimi she's wrong...that Yuu has a wall between them too. Miki thinks on...I want him to tell me...because I love him so much!

MARMALADE BOY #23 (KD)

Meiko is in her bedroom reading the latest from Miki. Miki is upset that Yuu is closed off from her.

The maid knocks on Meiko's door and tells Meiko that Nishida-san called from Izu and is pressing Meiko to come to the family's second house there. Meiko realizes that it's been a long time since she's been and decides that taking Miki with her would be a great way to cheer her best friend up.

When the girls are ready to leave on their trip, the guys show up! It's Ginta, Yuu, and Miwa-san, who managed to invite themselves. Yuu tells the girls that (Miwa) Satoshi invited him. Ginta tells them that it's dangerous at the beach this time of year. Miwa sidles in on Meiko tells her that's right, she'll need someone strong to protect her. An unimpressed Meiko returns that that is none of his business.

In Izu, the gang has a good time swimming, playing volleyball etc. Later Miki is on a raft sunbathing, when Yuu shows up. He offers to push her to shore. Miki politely tells him no that she's thirsty and is going back, she dives off and swims away from him. He can tell she's avoiding him and he yells for her to wait. He swims after her.

Miwa is at a juice stand when a girl walks up. He remarks to her that she's cute and would she like to come play with his group...there's a guy without a girl.

Yuu is chasing Miki along the beach, grabs hold of her wrist and accuses her of holding a grudge for what he said. She tells him she's not and to let go of her. She pulls her arm away from him. The two stare at each other with eyes full of pain.

A voice rings "Yuuuu" through the air...it's Arimi. She grabs hold of Yuu as though they're attached at the hip. Miwa seems confused when he comes up. He remarks "So you know each other?" Arimi replies it's more than "Just Know" isn't that right Miki.

Not too long after Tsutomu shows up and yells at Yuu to let go of Arimi, Arimi's friends show up. This includes 3 guys, seniors, that are part of Arimi's fan club. Tsutomu tells that group that he's afraid one of them could become Arimi's boyfriend. And while he's thinking about it, why are Yuu and Ginta in Izu! He challenges them once again. This time, however, Miwa-san is around. He tells Tsutomu that there's a better way....Kimodameshi.

Kimodameshi (Taking a specified trail in the dark without freaking yourself out)...Tsutomu can't figure out why he'd say that since there is no conclusive winner with Kimodameshi.

Miwa tells him that's true but it might give him a chance to be alone with Arimi. With that in mind Tsutomu likes the idea but is not sure Murai and the others will go for it (Murai is the tallest of the 3 guys). Miwa tells Tsutomu not to worry he'll handle everything. Meiko concurs that Miwa is a master at handling such situations.

Later both groups of teens Arimi/Tsutomu etc. and Miki, Yuu, Ginta, Miwa, and Meiko are in the dark listening to Miwa's directions for the trail. Miki thinks to herself that she's not good at Kimodameshi and she has a worried look on her face.

The guys are matched up with partners for the upcoming event by drawing cards. Interestingly enough Miwa gets Meiko, Yuu gets Miki, and Ginta ends up with Arimi. Miwa thinks to himself that he's glad he knows how to manipulate cards. Tsutomu? He got paired with one of the guys from Arimi's fan club.

Arimi and Ginta are walking alone in the dark. Arimi remembers that it's been a long time since they walked together like this. Ginta sympathetically tells her that he's sorry that she didn't get a chance to pair up with Yuu. Arimi tells him that it's OK, she's given up on him.

Ginta is shocked because of how she acted earlier in the day. But Arimi explains that she only did that because she saw Yuu and Miki looking so serious.

Arimi relates that she tried everything to get Yuu to love her, but failed...there's nothing more she can do. But, she tells Ginta, that she thinks he still has a chance.

Ginta doesn't agree. He tells Arimi that he came on this trip because he knew Yuu and Miki would be together on it...but he doesn't think his plan is working.

Miwa and Meiko are nearing the end of the trail. Miwa wishes it wasn't over so soon. Meiko is impressed with Miwa or so she tells him... because... not only can he talk his way through anything, he can manipulate cards. Miwa looks shocked that she caught on to what he was up to.

Yuu and Miki are on the beach. Miki's scared. She knows she shouldn't have tried Kimodameshi. She pinches the side of Yuu's shirt for comfort as she looks fearfully around in the dark. Yuu thinks she's a cute wimp and he grabs her wrist to pull her up closer to where he is.

Miki grabs her arm away from him. Yuu is surprised by her behavior. He accuses her again of holding a grudge. She repeats that she isn't and that he thinks "everything's about him". Miki realizes fearfully that she's said too much!

Yuu tells her "fine" and walks away from her. Miki watches him leaving her and can't stand it. She calls out to him as she runs to catch up. She puts her hands up on his shoulders from behind and sadly tells him that she was afraid of being hurt again. That he would say "It has nothing to do with you" again. So she thought she should stay away from him. She reminds him that he didn't tell her about Miwa, about wanting to be an architect, or anything.

Yuu turns around holding Miki in a circle of his arms and admits that he knew she was worried and that he was hiding. He felt that if she knew the truth, she's worry more. But holding back the truth is keeping her apart from him and he doesn't want that. Definitely! So, he'll tell her everything.

Yuu struggles as he tries to tell her the truth. "Matsuura Youji is not my father." A stunned Miki looks on as Yuu explains that before his mother was married she had a lover. Yuu's real father is Miwa...Miwa Yoshimitsu!

MARMALADE BOY #24 (KD)

Miki remembers Yuu's words

Later while watching TV with the parents, Miki can't help but stare at Chiyako and think about Yuu's relationship with Miwa-san, and his real parentage. Yuu calls her aside and gives her a bad time about being so transparent.

At school Miwa confides the story about Yuu's background to Miki. It went something like this...Chiyako used to work for Miwa-san's father's firm. They had an affair. At the time Miwa's father was married to Miwa's mother. When Miwa-san was born it was a new start for his parents. Chiyako and Miwa-san's father broke up. Chiyako married Matsuura who she knew since college and then had Yuu. Matsuura knew she was pregnant when he married her.

Miwa-san found out about the situation when he accidentally found his mother's diary. He was in 9th grade at the time. Yuu found out when he was in 6th grade.

Miwa tells Miki that he was really excited about having a brother so he decided to trace him down. It wasn't hard since there was a resume for Chiyako in his father's office. Miwa went to Yuu's junior high just to see what Yuu was like but he didn't contact him because he wasn't sure if Yuu knew who he was.

Miwa and Miki agree that Yuu is sensitive and that they're both worried about him. Miwa suggests that Miki support him. Miwa decides that he'll support Meiko and that Miki should back him up. Miki tells him that's another story. (Grin)

Meiko and Miki are walking up to the school. Miki mentions that because of summer vacation, it's been a while since they've seen their friends. But Miki is glad that Meiko helped her to have a fun summer vacation (because of the trip).

Inside the school building Miki and Meiko hear quite a commotion. It's because of Ginta. If he wins one more tennis match, he goes to the Inter-regionals. Miki comes up to Ginta innocently and says "I didn't know you won all your summer matches, I thought you'd lost already". This just kills Ginta, who wants to know what tennis club she's in anyway. Miki laughs and tells him that she knew all along that she was just teasing him; that she and Meiko will be there to watch him compete for that last win (after school that day).

Meiko is in the classroom doorway when she hears a voice ask if that guy (Ginta) is really that good. Meiko answers that he's the junior class ace. She turns around and finds Miwa. He follows her right into the classroom and parks himself nearby her. She makes a threatening move at him. He jumps up and says "I know, I know...stay at least 2 meters away!"

Miwa sitting two desks away starts his flirting procedure by asking her about her hair. Meiko only puts up with his questions for a short time before irritably commenting that she hates men with long hair, and leaves him sitting there...with the rest of the class stunned that she said it. Miwa has longish hair.

Meiko goes to her beloved library and remembers Sensei. She remembers when she first got her hair permed and how he had commented that she was even prettier.

Suddenly her name rings out "AKIZUKI"! It's Miwa from outside the library window. Meiko is startled to find out that his hair is missing. Miwa tells her that he ditched class and had his hair done. A terribly upset Meiko tells him that she's sorry she said it & that she didn't think

he'd do something like that! Miwa grins and turns his head he actually has it in a rubber band. "Just Kidding!" Meiko's head hit's the window sill. Miwa teases her about getting so upset about it.

A fed up Meiko asks him WHY he always teases her. She reminds him that there are a lot of other girls around and to leave her alone. He's not serious.

Suddenly Miwa is very straight and to the point. He tells her that he is serious...it's just that he can't help it. The more important things are the more he gets this way. He can't say what he feels straight out because he gets embarrassed.

Meiko honestly tells him that she just can't take it because she's still in love with Sensei. She goes on by saying that she was clearly rejected and perhaps Miwa thinks she's persistent but...

Miwa joins in "You sure are...but so am I". He walks away from her with the words..."Please take care of me".

Miki finds Yuu staring out a window (at school) and asks him if he wants to come cheer Ginta on at the tennis match after school. A solemn Yuu tells her that he has other plans. Miki asks him if he means Miwa Yoshimitsu. Yuu makes a noise in the affirmative and wonders what he would say if he tells him that he's his son. Yuu admits to being tense.

Later Ginta is looking forward to Miki being at the match but tears roll down her eyes as she tells him she can't come. Ginta guesses that it has to do with Matsuura. Miki tells Ginta that's she's worried about Yuu and can't leave him alone.

MARMALADE BOY #25 (KD)

Miki hands her voice memo (the robot) to friends at school and asks them to give it to Meiko...the message is that she's going with Yuu and she'll explain later. She then catches up with Miwa and Yuu and asks them to let her go too.

Miwa Yoshimitsu tells them that he was told that Yuu wanted a tour of the office but that he wasn't expecting to hear this. There's been a misunderstanding he's not Matsuura-kun's father. Miwa irritably tells him that it's not pretty and not to pretend that he doesn't know.

Yoshimitsu tells him that it's impossible...that Chiyako (Yuu's mom) and he did not have that kind of relationship. Miwa's father admits to being confused and ask the guys what made them think that he was.

Miwa relates how when he was in 9th grade he accidentally came across his mother's old diary. In it, he learned that his father was having an affair with Chiyako, that she married someone else, then had HIS baby.

Yoshimitsu was surprised that she (Miwa's mother) thought that, he knew that she suspected him and Chiyako but he didn't know it went that far.

Miwa asks his father if his mother didn't believe him about not having an affair with Chiyako. Yoshimitsu admits that he didn't try to convince her....because it camouflaged his other affairs.

The older man then asks Yuu what made him think that he was his father. Yuu tells him about a letter he found from his grandmother to his father. The contents went something like this: "Can you continue to be happy with a woman who has a baby by another man. Can you continue to love that wife and baby. I won't say anymore. I'm just worried about you".

Yoshimitsu ask Yuu if the letter said that the father of the baby was him. Yuu confirms but admits that he's not sure that she knew for sure.

Yoshimitsu suggests that Yuu ask his family about it. An emotional Yuu fears that it will change his relationship with them (probably making him feel like an outsider.). He tells Miwa Yoshimitsu that he won't do it. The grandmother is dead so he can't ask her.

Riddled with pain Yuu tells the man he'd believed was his father for so long that it's strange that he didn't have an affair with his mother yet everyone thought so. "IT HAS TO BE YOU!" he yells. "It really wasn't me", the man tells him. He goes on to explain that he really liked her but that Chiyako turned him down. Besides she had had a boyfriend since college and that that man is probably Yuu's father.

Miwa, Miki, and Yuu are walking together after leaving from the meeting with Miwa's father. Miwa wonders why his mother doesn't leave that jerk. Even now, he must have 2 or 3 women on the side.

Yuu mentions that he smells salt water. Miwa tells him that the ocean is not too far away. Yuu asks Miwa to please take Miki home for him, he'd like to take a walk. Yuu walks away. Miwa calls out to him, "Yuu! I thought it would be interesting to have a brother like you!" Yuu turns and smiles "I didn't want a brother like you....bye."

Miwa tells Miki that he feels sorry for Yuu....but, he thinks Yuu's OK because he's still able to tease him.

Miki excuses herself from Miwa. She tells him that she can't leave Yuu alone. Miwa understands.

At the beach, Miki watches Yuu from above as he sits on the beach. When an hour is up, Miki tries to convince Yuu to come home with her....especially since the ocean breeze is getting very cold and she's worried that he'll get sick. Yuu quietly comments that he "just noticed" the cold. He turns and asks her "if she'll warm him up". He grabs her wrist and pulls her down to him and leans his head against her chest.

Miki's not sure if he's being fresh or what, "Wait Yuu!" Then from the rise and fall of his body, she can see that Yuu is crying. "Shit, I thought he was my father all this time." Moved by compassion and love Miki holds him in her arms for a long time.

Walking along the beach, Yuu talks about how he felt as though he should have never been born when he found out about his birth. He told her about not wanting to talk or see his parents. But then, after a long time thinking about it he began to appreciate his mother for giving him birth and the father that raised him.

Yuu expresses sorrow that he thought Miwa Yoshimitsu was his father and that Satoshi was his brother...for so long. "What a fool I am. I wonder where my real father is."

Miki tells him that that's not important, it's doesn't matter where his father is. Even though they're not really related, and even if they're strange Papa, Youji, Mama, she and Chiyako, all really love him...and that they're an important family. Yuu agrees that that's true.

Yuu continues his story by saying that when he found out that his father and mother were going to exchange partners, he was shocked...but he was used to being shocked. He couldn't understand how they could go through so much together and then change partners so easily. But he apparently was used to being shocked...so he pretended not to care. No, he decides, "I really felt that way".

Yuu turns and smiles at her..."But you were so different". When we first met... Yuu reminds of what she said to the parents then goes on to say "Crying like a baby, you opposed them. Unlike me, your very pure and honest. You give everything your all." A pouty Miki returns "You mean I'm uncomplicated".

Yuu smiles gently knocks her for a loop with "It's why...I love you". A stunned Miki can only ask "Really?"

Yuu reminds her that he told her that before (See MB #3). He had to kiss her when he saw her sleeping face. But Miki didn't believe him when he originally told her. (At that time she slapped him because she thought he was teasing her as usual, and a first kiss isn't something to tease about!)

Miki asks "You mean you were telling the truth?" Yuu starts to walk away when Miki tells him that she loves him too. Yuu turns, lowers his head and calls her an idiot. Miki is taken aback by that comment.

Yuu tells her that she's only saying that because of the situation that in the same situation she'd say the same thing to Suou (Ginta). Like in front of the gate...it looked like she liked him (Ginta) quite a bit.

Miki tells Yuu that he's wrong, that she really is (in love with him). When she found out about Na-chan and Meiko, it felt like Na-chan was stealing her friend away - that the most important person to Meiko was Na-chan, not her. And then she realized that Ginta was a friend like Meiko and that she didn't want to lose her friend. "But...you're different..." "You're the one that makes my heart pound.Only you.

Miki and Yuu look into each others eyes for a long time. Yuu steps up to Miki and puts his finger up to her lips and notices out loud that her lips are turning blue, that she's cold because of him. He tells her he's sorry.

Miki and Yuu continue to look at each other. They mutually kiss each other...a long gentle kiss (Long kisses are kind of unusual for Japanese animes as far as I can tell.) with the sun setting in the background and the waves rolling in.

Bruce:

The dialog between Miki and Yuu on the beach gives a perfect example of the three words used for "love" in Japanese. Usually a couple will use "suki" (pronounced "ski"). This word can mean either "like" or "love". This is what Miki and Yuu usually use later in the series (though they often say "daisuki" which means "BIG like/love").

When Yuu is feeling alone, Miki tells him that everyone in the family loves him. She uses the word "ai" which means that you love someone and you know that they also love you back.

(In Video Girl Ai, Yota uses this word to Ai and she gets REALLY made as it implies that she loves him too and of course, Video Girls aren't supposed to be able to fall in love.)

After he tells her that she'd be saying the same thing to Ginta, and he implies that he was joking when he said he loved her, she uses the word "koi" for love when she is insisting that she does love him. This word means that you love someone, but you are NOT sure whether or not they love you in return - and exactly presents her feelings at the moment.

MARMALADE BOY #26

Guess which two characters have a fever the next morning? The mothers can't figure out what the two were doing on the beach without enough clothing on.

On the way back to their rooms (to sleep it off), Miki wonders if it was real, it seems like some kind of dream...but, the sound of the waves and Yuu's cold, dry lips, she remembers well. Before leaving her at her room, Yuu leans over and leans his face against her head. (Miki's expression is priceless).

In bed Miki realizes that it wasn't a dream. Yuu told her he loves her and she told him she loves him. They're a couple...Miki felt such a rush that she decided her temperature was rising!

The next day, the two are in the kitchen and ready for school. Miki asks Yuu if he wants scrambled eggs (she was going to make fried eggs but they broke). Yuu tells her that she doesn't look like someone who's had a fever. Miki gets very cute and says that because she's trains in sports, a good nights sleep is all she needs. Yuu returns the tone with the comment that oh, she's so strong, he's delicate so he still has a bit of a fever. Miki gets a sour look and asks him if there's something wrong with being strong!

Yuu teases her about her cooking being something even kindergarten kids could make but relents and tells her it's good anyway. Miki can only think that the morning view is the same, but she's really glad about it.

At school, Meiko congratulates Miki on her and Yuu getting together and asks her if she's told Ginta yet. Miki tells her best friend that she's going to and that Yuu will be talking to Arimi.

On a bench on the tennis courts, Miki and Ginta sit talking. Ginta bemoans the fact that if he had just been honest with her when they were in 8th grade, the two of them would be together now. But then, Ginta realizes out loud, Matsuura would have stolen her anyway (or as it was actually said in Japanese...he would have stolen her "from the side"). Suddenly Ginta gets angry and tells Miki that if Matsuura ever makes her cry, to let him know, HE'LL KICK HIS ASS! (excuse me, but that's what he said).

Yuu and Arimi are at a coffee house. Arimi congratulates him on making a confession. (Confessions in Japan don't mean anyone's going to prison...the word is used to signify telling someone that you love them. I didn't use this for the anime translation because of the difference in American and Japanese connotations.) Arimi tells him that he's finally a human with REAL feelings. She tells him that she's glad but that she's sorry that she's not the one in his life.

Miki and Yuu are in uniform walking to school in the next morning. Miki smiles sweetly and slips her hand into Yuu's. Yuu smiles and tells her he's been thinking about what they should do. Should they tell their parents?

Miki suggests that they keep it a secret...she feels sorta shy about it. Yuu agrees that it would probably be a good idea because the parents would probably tease them....and besides it could be really fun trying to keep it from them. He reminds her that her face shows everything, can she keep it a secret? Miki tells him she doesn't know. Yuu jokes and says "It's your idea".

Meiko is in the library with Miwa in hot pursuit. He wants to know if she'll have some free time on Sunday. She tells him "No" that she has a paper due for the literary club and doesn't have enough information to write it. An excited Miwa, offer to help by helping do research all over Tokyo. She refuses and says she doesn't need any help. But she turns around and sees Miwa looking so downcast (or pretending to be downcast, I'm not sure which with Miwa-san) that she tells him that maybe she'll have enough time to have a cup of tea with him.

Miwa then makes the mistake of putting his hands on her shoulders and suavely saying "I'm glad you've finally seen my charm"....this awards him with her books slammed into his head. Meiko storms out of the library with Miwa calling out that he was just kidding!

At Chiyako's work, the new model, Sakuma Suzu, is being shown around. On Chiyako's desk, the young teen notices Yuu's photo.

At home, Yuu knocks on Miki's door. He tells her that his mom just called and she wants them to join her at a French restaurant to celebrate her new line (of cosmetics).

At the restaurant, Miki is reminded that this is the same restaurant where they all met for the first time. Jin remembers that that was when Miki was really "pissed off". Miki doesn't want to be reminded of that.

As the parents joke around, Miki can't help but think that they all seem to love each other so much...but that they all loved someone else before. And Chiyako had a boyfriend that she must have loved as well. She wonders if this is normal. She wonders to herself if she'll love someone else after Yuu. (Yuu, turns and smiles beautifully at her) She continues her thoughts: I don't know what the future holds, but I want to love Yuu forever. I want him to feel the same. To do that, I'll try to be a good girlfriend.

The group stands outside the restaurant. The parents tell the two that it's adults only time...they're going to go get drunk. The teens make some sour noises at the parents, who, of course, are completely oblivious.

Yuu tells Miki that they're alone and that's OK and why don't they take a walk.

Yuu and Miki are sitting on a park bench. Miki points out Orion Yuu reminds her that Orion is "a winter constellation". Miki realizes she goofed. Miki then remembers...She pulls out her Toryo medallion and suggests that they exchange them when they get home. Yuu replies "For the sake of our future happiness together...is this what you mean?" Yuu has his medallion with him as well. Miki is stunned that he brought his too and suggests that the reason they both did is because their hearts are both one now.

Miki and Yuu are looking through a photo album of their recent photos trying to figure out which ones are best. (Miki suggests that she thinks they're trying to pick new photos for their medallions). The mothers, who have just arrived home from their jobs, interrupt the two. Rumi suggests that Chiyako tell them her big news.

Chiyako asks Yuu how he'd like to be a model for their upcoming commercial. Yuu is taken aback and says but you already have a model. Chiyako explains that they have a model but not a co-model. Yuu tells her he doesn't want to go into showbiz. Chiyako tells him it not a big deal, it's a one time only. Rumi encourages him to take it and asks Miki what she thinks. Miki gets excited about Yuu doing a commercial and tells him to do it. An exasperated Yuu says "Whatever you say". When the 3 women start squealing with glee he yells "I haven't REALLY agreed!". The mothers gloat. Rumi says she always thought Yuu shouldn't waste his good looks. Chiyako adds that it's a dream come true to have her son advertise her products.

Miki asks Chiyako who the co-model is. Chiyako pulls out a magazine with Sakuma Suzu on the cover and gushes over how popular and pretty she is.

MARMALADE BOY #27

Miki and Yuu are walking to school. Miki asks Yuu if he's going to the studio after school. Yuu tells her that he has a camera test...he's hoping that they'll decide they can't use him because he's an amateur. He accuses her of it being her fault he's stuck in this position because she wanted him to do it. But Miki can only think that that's BEFORE she knew that who was going to be his co-model. She grabs onto his arm to stop him a minute and asks him if he'll get involved with Sakuma Suzu. Yuu grins and teasingly tells her "that he won't do it". Miki grins.

The two are close to the school (walking to school still) when Ginta sees them. For a second he's disturbed by the sight, then pulls himself together, runs up and slaps both of them on the back with a loud "Good Morning!" Once they get over the shock they return the greeting.

Miki notices that Ginta took his tennis racket home with him. Ginta tells her that the strings were loose and that he wanted to fix it before the practice (that day at Sagaki Academy). He tells her that today's practices is only a warm-up for him. Miki teases him that he's been cocky ever since the inter-regionals and that that can be detrimental to his game. Yuu agrees and reminds him that Tsutomu may be fired up and ready for him. Their senses of humors aroused the three turn and point "GINTA, I CHALLENGE YOU!!!"

"GINTA, I CHALLENGE YOU!!!" rings out at Sagaki. Tsutomu tells Ginta that his guard was down before but that now he's a brand new Tsutomu. His new slogan is "I'm going to beat Ginta!".

Ginta manages to sneak away from the ever-loud Tsutomu to get some peace and quiet. Arimi finds him and the two decide to talk about their previous romances.

Ginta tells Arimi that he's feeling much better since Miki and Yuu became a couple. Before that, he wanted Miki so badly and was so jealous of Yuu that he could hardly breathe. He found that now he's found that he was able to give up and he feels that Miki and he can still be good friends.

Arimi agree that he probably can and adds that she's not jealous of Miki either. But, she can't get over the fact that, even though she told Yuu that she loved him, that he didn't love her into return.

Ginta upon seeing Arimi's forlorn face, finds to his utter shock that his arm is edging it's way around Arimi. Just as his hand begins to settle on Arimi's shoulder, a loud voice rings out. It's Tsutomu yelling "GINTA!!! Miki follows yelling the Ginta's time is up (at the courts).

A fight ensues between the cousins (Ginta and Tsutomu) over Ginta being near Arimi. Arimi leaves because her coach is waiting for her.

Ginta can't help but mention to Tsutomu that it looks like she really hates him because she's so COLD towards him. Tsutomu disagrees vehemently. He says she's just trying to "protect his feelings". Ginta and Miki look doubtful.

Tsutomu tells the two that Arimi's been pushing him away since grade school. He's tried to give her up but every time he tried, she'd smile at him as a friend, he'd have the same old problem. He'd like to quit but she's SOOOO CUTE! Miki and Ginta walk away from Tsutomu thoroughly disgusted.

As Miki and Ginta are passing by the track, they notice Arimi is being timed while she's racing. Miki mentions that she's fast. Ginta can't take his eyes off of the running girl. Miki gets cute and asks Ginta if he's drooling over her. Ginta gets defensive No, it's just that... He thinks to himself that Arimi's smile is so fragile and realizes he can't get her out of his mind. Of course Miki didn't hear him think that so she pursues her thought...It's just that...what? Ginta clobbers her on the head. Miki and Ginta playfully give each other a bad time.

At home Miki and Yuu talk about the developments between Ginta and Arimi. Yuu asks Miki if she's sad about Ginta falling for Arimi. Miki honestly tells him it's surprising but that she's not. She goes on to tell him that she thinks it's because he (Yuu) told her he loves her. Now if Meiko finds someone to love again, she (Miki) won't be alone.

Yuu pulls her close to him. Miki thinks about the fact that since he confessed his love for her, he's had a gentle honesty about him, he likes to touch her. Of course, she thinks, she doesn't really mind. It's so comfortable next to his warm body.

Yuu suddenly grabs her cheek and pulls. Miki, continues her thoughts "But he still teases me". Miki pulls away and raises her hand to clobber him, but Yuu grabs it mid swing and gives her a look that melts all previous thoughts. The two kiss.

At school Meiko is surprised to hear Miki say that she scared about Yuu working with Suzu, who's so cute. Meiko assures her that Yuu isn't that kind of guy and though Arimi-san is really cute, Yuu chose Miki instead. Miki agrees that Yuu isn't like that and that the problem is that she has too much time to think about such things.

On the way home from school the girls talk about feelings and relationships. Meiko tells Miki the reason she doesn't want to get married is because she's afraid if she falls in love and then changes her mind, then her child will feel like she does. (This is in reference to the horrible relationship her parents have with each other and with her.)

At the studio where Yuu is working, Suzu-chan run up and hugs him.

Miki is very depressed. Even though she and Yuu are a couple, they rarely get to be with each other. Between school and his two part-time jobs..there's no time left over. She's afraid they'll grow apart.

To make things worse, when she gets downstairs before school, Yuu has already left for school without her (because of the weekly classroom cleanup duty). Then, when she gets to school Yuu is laughing with some guys and doesn't even notice her. And, it gets worse. Her friends call her over to see the latest issue of Seventeen magazine that features Sakuma Suzu! Miki can't help but think that ANY guy with a girl that cute near him couldn't help but be attracted to her.

Miki and Meiko are discussing Miki's fears (at one of the school tables) when Ginta yells for Miki. He runs up and asks her to run over to the sports clothing store to pick up the club sweatshirts (that have just come in). Ginta wants to distribute them to club members before the end of practice.

While out, the two see Arimi come out of a coffee shop...followed by Murai. Miki recalls that he's one of the 3 handsome seniors that are part of Arimi-san's fan club.

Ginta puts up a big front that he's really happy for Arimi and that now she'll recover from being in love with Matsuura. Miki notes to herself that Ginta doesn't have a very good poker face.

Ginta thinks about Arimi on the way home. He knows he hasn't been able to get her off his mind. But Arimi knows too how much he was in love with Miki, for him to change his feelings so fast would probably make her look at him with scorn ("scorn" is not my favorite choice of words but you get the picture). Ginta decides it would be best if he didn't see her and just forget about it.

At home, Miki is checking the love checker using Suzu's and Yuu's birthday. The affinity is too high! Miki then remembers that the love checker gave a 100% affinity for Yuu and Miwa-san!

Miki suddenly hears Yuu return. He's back early. Miki runs up and throws her arms around his neck. He tells her that his boss wanted to close early, and he (Yuu) wanted to come home and spend some time with her.

Miki and Yuu are sitting on the couch. Yuu tells her that he has Sunday off and asks if she's like to spend some time with him. Miki suggests they go someplace refreshing. She thinks to herself that she's been a fool to think the things she's been thinking lately. The thought makes her giggle out loud. Yuu asks what's she giggling about. Miki, of course, doesn't want to tell him so she answers "Nothing at all". Yuu teasingly tells her she's lying and reaches over and starts tickling her. It doesn't take long, hearing her joyful giggling, Yuu gets that look in his eyes. Miki stops cold turkey. They're about to kiss...when the parents come home and walk in on them. Miki is sprawled on the floor and Yuu is pretending innocence.

On Sunday, the kids are at a park enjoying themselves. Finally, they relax on the grass to talk. Yuu tells although he went after architecture so that he could become closer to Miwa Yoshimitsu, who he thought was his father, he found that he really does like architecture. So he has no regrets. He knows what he wants to do with his life and, in addition, he met Satoshi.

Miki asks him if his trips are related to this. Yuu confirms it.

Suddenly Miki has an idea...why not take her with him the next time he goes out of town. She adds that he can see whatever he needs to and then they can see the sights, have dinner, and if there's a hot springs that would be even better.

Yuu seems somewhat shocked at her proposal and asks her if she realizes what a guy and a girl going on a trip together means. Miki realizes what he's trying to say and gets majorly embarrassed. He does too. She tells him that she meant it like a family trip. Yuu asks her again if she really wants to come. When Miki tells him she does, he tells her that he'll work extra to make enough money to bring her along. Miki vetoes that. She tells him she doesn't think that that's fair. Yuu reminds her that she doesn't have any savings and doesn't she want to depend on him? A look of determination spreads across Miki's face and flames surround her....Miki decides she's going to get a part-time job!

Miki and Meiko are discussing things as usual on their way home from school. Meiko thought there was a snack shop somewhere near where they are walking, but instead the two come to a ice cream shop. Miki see a sign there saying "Help Wanted".

Yuu hears a knock on the door. It's Miki. She has on a new outfit. Yuu asks her what the occasion is. Miki tells him it's her new ice cream server outfit and tells him it's cute isn't it. (Miki does a cute spin for him to see it all). Yuu mentions that the skirt is a bit short. A surprised Miki mentions that it's longer than her tennis skirt...but she wants to know if Yuu thinks it looks strange. Yuu tells her that it's cute and gives her the high sign to come over where he is and sit (between his legs). Miki comes over rather gingerly, not knowing what to expect. She sits, Yuu grabs her and says "Now, I've gotcha". Miki smiles and tells him he's silly.

At her new job, Miki's cheerful attitude impresses the manager of the store. When some of the ice cream runs out, Miki offers to go to the freezer to get more.

Miki finds the ice cream she needs up on the top rack and to get there she must use a step ladder. She remembers Yuu telling her that her skirt is awfully short and thinks that it's OK to go up the ladder because no one is around. At the top of the ladder, Miki reaches for the flavor they need out front, when someone walks in. It's a guy. Miki screams and falls, the guy breaks her fall. Miki gets off his lap, asks if he's all right and apologizes. The manager calls her. Miki runs off to go back to work. The guy sees Miki's medallion on the ground. He keeps it.

MARMALADE BOY #29 (KD)

Miki panics when she can't find her locket and she's afraid of what Yuu will say if she tells him.

Outside her room, Miki sees Yuu dressed for the studio. She teasingly tells her that she needs to get his autograph before he becomes too famous. He teases her in return and irritates her.

Rumi, Youji, and Jin give Chiyako and Yuu quite a send-off as mother and son leave for work...HURRAY! HURRAY! HURRAY! This embarrasses Yuu no end.

At work, Miki looks through the floor boards of the freezer, determined that she'll find her locket. Kei and the manager find her in this embarrassing position.

Working out front at the store, the manager introduces Miki to Tsuchiya Kei-kun and asks them to please work well together. Miki feels a little uncomfortable being around Kei after what happened when he saw up her skirt. But, considering that the guy is also a part-timer, she decides she'd better pull herself together.

Miki tries to make a lot of small talk to which Kei barely answers. Finally Miki has had enough! She grabs Kei by the arm and yells at him that when talking to someone he should directly look at them. Kei stares at her in surprise for a minute then breaks out laughing at her. Through his laughter he tries to tell her that since what happened she's been feeling awkward...he'd been trying to keep a straight face about it! Miki watches him in amazement until in his mirth he accidentally causes him to lay his hand right on top of some ice cream. Now Miki's laughing too.

Yuu is at the studio. The director gives Yuu a copy of the script and asks him to read it carefully. Chiyako get nervous. Yuu reads. His eyes get big. Yuu tells his mother he's going home! Chiyako whines that she's never ask him to do anything again.

The parents joyfully eat some ice cream that Miki brought home from work. Rumi begs her to bring home more. Miki tells her that it's not like left over bakery goods, she had to buy it. The parents start banging their ice cream cups and saying "Stingy, stingy, stingy, stingy, stingy." Miki gives in.

Rumi wonders what's taking Yuu and Chiyako so long to get back from the studio. Jin adds that he thinks the commercials only last 20 seconds. But Youji thinks it probably takes a lot longer to do the filming.

When the group hears them return, they all go to greet them. Yuu seems somewhat irritable.

Miki misinterprets Yuu's behavior. She thinks perhaps she's losing Yuu to the new world of show business...and Suzu-chan.

Miki is so worried she can't do anything right at work. The manager gives her the rest of the day off.

When Miki gets home, she finds a message from Yuu on her robot memo - asking her if she's planned out the itinerary for their trip. Miki is relieved that he was thinking about her.

Yuu and Miki stand out on the balcony to watch the stars together.

Miki excitedly talks to Meiko about the trip with Yuu as they sit at one of the school tables. "Miki" rings out as Yuu calls to her as he's walking up. Meiko takes this as a cue to leave the two alone.

Meiko is coming up to the library when Miwa comes out. He tells Meiko that the reason that they keep meeting each other is because they're in love. Meiko counters with "Who's in love with who?". Miwa teasingly tells her to tell him how she really feels.

Miwa tells her that he saw her article in "Up Daikaron". Meiko wants to know what he thought of it. Miwa admits that he's never seen anything like it. When Meiko starts to leave, he adds that it was good, it's just that he didn't know how to critique it. He continues by encouraging her to write the story of her experiences. It would help clear her heart. Miwa

assures her that she can do it and that he'll want to read it. Miwa leaves a very serious-looking Meiko.

Over-looking this scene is Yuu and Miki, who are hiding in the bushes just watching the other two. Yuu tells Miki that Meiko had a very serious look on her face as she says goodbye to Miwa...maybe there's something in their future. Miki disagrees. She tells him the Meiko is only thinking of Na-chan. Yuu asks her if she wants to make a bet on that. Miki feels she can't bet on her best friend's feelings. Yuu tells her that's what he loves about her...how she's cares about her friends.

At the video studio, the participants celebrate the end of filming. The director tells everyone that he had a good time working on the project adding that Suzu-chan worked much harder than expected. He asks Yuu if he'd like to continue in this line of business. Yuu almost chokes. He tells the director that this was his first and LAST time. The director tells him that he regrets to lose his talent.

As Chiyako and Yuu are walking away from the studio, Suzu-chan comes up to thank Yuu and kisses him on the cheek and adds the word "Later?". Yuu gives her a cute "Bye" and adds to himself "Later...I don't think so".

At Bobson's, Miki tells Kei about losing her locket and asks if he's seen it. Kei tells her he hasn't. Miki is very upset.

MARMALADE BOY #30 (KD) **New!**

This one and some others that follow never had synopsis done. This one wasn't done because the show has such a big surprise concerning the Yuu's commercial that I didn't want to spoil that for anyone. So here it is...

Miki is very upset about the loss of her medallion and is afraid to tell Yuu.

And there's the commercial shoot. It's already been filmed and Yuu refuses to tell her anything about it. And here he's spending time with a pretty little model. Miki imagines the commercial is about Yuu and Suzu being lovers. He's definitely hiding something.

At work, Kei notices that something's bothering Miki and wants to know if she and her boyfriend have had an argument. She tells him that they didn't have an argument. Kei asks her about her relationship with him. She responds that they've known each other for 8 months but have only started going together recently. Kei brings up the missing thing of Miki's. Miki tells him that it's a medallion. Kei is fishing..."Was that the cause of the argument?" She repeats that they didn't argue.

Yuu and Ginta are walking together. Ginta finds out that Miki is working and informs Yuu that she's also preparing for the Fall Tournament. He's concerned that she'll overwork herself. Yuu is too and tells him that he'll tell her to ease up on the work schedule.

Ahead of them Murai (from Arimi's fan club) with some girl. Ginta is furious. He's Arimi's guy! Yuu cautions him to "calm down". That the girl could be his younger sister. Ginta knows better. The girl is a gaijin (foreigner)! Ginta comes over and clobbers the guy yelling that Arimi was already hurt by Matsuura and not to hurt her anymore!

Ginta runs off to Arimi's school to find her. Arimi is a field practice being tested on her running speed. She sees Ginta and notices that his face has been injured. He's not interested in the injury, he tells her not to go with that guy anymore. He was holding another girl's arm. Arimi needs to find someone better.

Arimi's confused. She wants to know what guy he's talking about. He tells her "Murai", the one from her fan club. She wants to know HOW he got the idea that he was her guy. Ginta relates that he saw them coming out of a coffee shop together. She pointedly asks him if two people can't go into a coffee shop without being a couple.

The girl Murai was with was his girlfriend, Emily, who goes to the American School.

Ginta's embarrassed and tells Arimi that he punched Murai. He's never done anything like that before and can't figure out why he did now.

Arimi grabs hold of Ginta and says "Shall we go?" Ginta doesn't know what she wants. She wants to take him to the nurse's office to take care of his injury.

Chiyako's home! Guess what, she has a tape of the commercial straight off the presses!

Yuu is horrified! He DOESN'T want it shown! Chiyako reminds him that MANY people will see it. He'd better get used to it.

The commercial:

Chiyako narrates...

"Alice in a Wonderland of Stars".
In the beginning, Suzu-chan is floating around space.
Then she went to a small planet.
When she turned around she saw a castle illuminated by blue-white light.
She walked into the castle afraid...
...until she saw a beautiful queen.

Miki: Is this...?

When she opened the perfume that the queen gave her...
Suzu-chan awoke...
...to find herself returned to the real world.
But in her pocket she found the perfume.

You've got it! Yuu IS the beautiful queen! He's all dolled up in a blond wig and lipstick! The parents are in shock and aren't saying anything. Yuu's upset! He figured they'd LAUGH at him. But the fathers are so in shock they can only say "He's too pretty" and that "He fits the part perfectly". Course they have to say something like "He's a drag Queen" later, and Miki can't stop rewinding the tape to look at it over and over and over. She's feeling MUCH better!

Later Miwa calls for Yuu. He wants him to do some English and Math tutoring for his 8th grader cousin and promises to introduce her to him.

At school the next day, the guys are talking about the commercial and how CUTE Suzu-chan is. Ginta tells them that the tall girl playing the queen is his type. Yuu has overheard and is at the very least irritable. Ginta doesn't know it was Yuu. But that doesn't matter. Yuu walks by and accidentally on purpose clobbers Ginta saying "Whoops, sorry. I slipped". Ginta is furious!

Miki and Meiko are giggling over the whole affair. Yuu gets upset with Miki for letting the cat out of the bag about his commercial. But Miki had told her about the commercial BEFORE she knew any of the sordid details about it. Meiko promises to not tell anyone. But guess who comes up! It's Miwa!

Miwa, who is raring to go! He called Yuu...Yuuko-chan (a girl's name) and lets him know right off the bat that he saw the commercial. Yuu whips around to give Miki hell for telling someone ELSE! Miki and Meiko are making motions that neither said a thing!

Miwa continues his razzing telling Yuu that he should become famous playing similar parts and that he, Miwa should be his manager. Yuu goes silent. Miwa begins to get nervous that perhaps he went too far. (^_^)

Then Suzu shows up. Yuu wonders what she's doing there. Miwa introduces her as his cousin. Miki notices how cute she is. Suzu is pleased to meet Yuu's girlfriend. She gushes over how pretty she is! It's Meiko, not Miki that she thinks is Yuu's girlfriend. When she finds out it's Miki, she is rather obviously disappointed by what she sees. Suzu is a girl that likes pretty things. Miki doesn't fit in that category.

MARMALADE BOY #31 (KD)

Miki is writing to Meiko about the upcoming school festival. She shares that her club (tennis) will be running the oden stand like they do every year. And since Meiko needs to finish writing for her club (literature) they should both just do their best.

Miki is really worried about Yuu and Suzu-chan especially now that Yuu is privately tutoring her. At her job, Miki works hard to try to block thinking of Yuu and Suzu out of her mind.

Ginta arrives early at Arimi's school early to invite her to come to the upcoming Toryo school festival. She accepts.

Miwa and Suzu are together while Miwa practices on his electric guitar. The band he's in will be having a concert at the Toryo festival. Suzu talks Miwa into having Yuu sing. He's so pretty, he'll draw a larger audience.

Yuu gets niftily pulled into singing by Miwa, whose talent for talking anyone into anything is no less over the phone. Yuu leaves his room after this arrangement has been made to find Miki also in the hall. He tells her what has occurred...that he'll be singing for the band during the Toryo festival. Miki hardly responds...which surprises him. This is HARDLY like Miki. But, you see, Miki's mind is on Suzu. She asks Yuu if he thinks Suzu is cute. Yuu smiles and tells her "yes" and smiles. Miki walks towards the stairs. Yuu runs ahead of her, turns and says that Suzu is really cute. Miki tells him not to say anymore. Yuu still grinning says..."like a little sister".

In the morning Miki finds the voice memo on her door. Yuu message to her is that he knows she's busy with her part-time job and getting ready for the Fall tennis tournament as well as getting ready for the upcoming school festival...but to take it easy. Miki figures she'll be just fine. After all, she needs to work hard to make money for their trip together.

Miki is exhausted as she walks home from work that night. In the distance in front of her she sees Kei standing in front of a building. She calls out his name in recognition but he doesn't hear her. She comes up to the place he just entered and finds that it's a live house called "Lizard". Miki follows.

Inside Kei is surprised when Miki talks to him. In fact, he jumps when he hears her voice. Other customers frown on her for speaking a bit too loud when they're listening to the music. So Miki sits at Kei's table so that she doesn't draw anymore attention.

Kei can obviously see that Miki is enraptured by the music so he tells her to wait where she is. Miki is surprised by Kei walking over to the pianist. And even more surprised when Kei replaces him. What happens next is stunning. Kei plays the piano with the skill of a professional. Miki is very moved.

Later, while walking away from the live house, Kei tells Miki that he wanted to show her his skill...the only thing he's really good at. But tells her sternly that he shouldn't have. He runs off. Miki calls after him...but doesn't get very far before she passes out on the sidewalk. Kei turns from the distance he's gotten to, sees her lying on the ground and runs back to her. Kei helps her up but Miki's head is dim so she doesn't really realize it but Kei also has her in a romantic embrace.

Miki doesn't know...but Suzu does. Suzu saw it all from the car she's in nearby.

MARMALADE BOY #32 (KD)

Miki comes home after passing out...and collapses on her bed. Yuu asks the parents where Miki is and finds out from Chiyako that Miki isn't down watching her favorite TV show.

A concerned Yuu knocks on the door and calls for Miki several times before the blurry-eyed girl shows up. Yuu asks her if she's all right. She admits that she passed out on the way home. Yuu reminds her that he told her that he would pay her way on their trip. But Miki won't hear of it beside she's enjoying her job.

Miki then remembers to give Yuu a ticket to for oden at the stand where she'll be working during the festival. Yuu is taken aback...after all, he already has tickets for hot dogs, crepes, etc. Miki asks him if they're all from other girls. Of course they are. After all, he tells her, it would be weird if they came from other guys. A slightly miffed Miki turns and tells him he won't need hers then. Yuu grabs her arm as she's walking away and tells her that he'll go to her stand first. Miki glows. She walks up to him and hugs him. Yuu tells her that it's bad timing - the parents might come by. She tells him.. "just for a minute". Yuu smiles and embraces her in return.

Suzu drinks coffee and steams over Miki's behavior. How dare she do that when she has a boyfriend like Yuu. Suzu decides she'll never forgive her!

At Bobson's, Kei tell Miki that he's wasting time worrying about her (probably because she's back working as hard as ever). Miki thanks him for helping her and tells him it wasn't a big deal. She explains that she doesn't have time to be anemic (as she called it) because of the tennis tournament and school festival. Kei says "school festival?" Miki invites him to come.

In the oden stand area, Ginta and Chigusa are calling out for customers when Arimi shows up.

Inside the parents are chit chatting with Kijima and eating oden. All are excited about Yuu's upcoming performance.

At the Literary club stand, Meiko is handling out the Literary offering of her club. Ryouko-sensei comes by to tell her that she read Meiko's fantasy and that it was VERY good. She adds that she is looking forward to reading Meiko's future efforts.

Yuu shows up at Miki's oden stand. He teases her by telling her that he thought she'd be wearing her tennis skirt. (He didn't say it, but I presume it's because it's a short little skirt).

Suzu shows up at the stand too. She glares at Miki. The other workers at the stand notice Suzu and go fan-happy. Miki begins to feel more insecure about the pretty, young model.

Kei shows up where they others are. The crowds inside are still excited about the famous Suzu being there. Kei, who is a master of well-directed comments, says sternly and loud enough for the crowd to hear, that there is so much racket in there, that it can heard clear outside. The crowd instantly shuts up and disperses.

Miki pulls Kei forward to introduce him to Yuu and Suzu. Yuu can't help putting in the digs on Miki...to tease her as usual. He tells Kei that she's such a brat, she probably makes his life miserable at work. Miki and Yuu play fight. Miki pounds him on the chest and Yuu laughs. Kei takes the opportunity to take a look at Yuu.

Suzu reminds Miki that she should go show her friend, Kei, around the campus. She adds that Yuu'll be OK, she'll be with him.

While going around campus with Kei, Kei asks her if she shouldn't be worried about Suzu-chan and adds that she's going to steal her boyfriend away. Miki jumps on it and nervously tells him that Suzu isn't that kind of a girl. Kei shrugs and tells her it up to her.

Concert time comes up. Kei and Miki are in the wings waiting. Miki discovers that the keyboard player has an injured finger...he burned it at his stand while cooking. The band doesn't know what to do about the performance because there's a long keyboard solo. When Yuu, looks upset because he's practiced so hard. Miki remembers that Kei plays the piano. She tells them that Kei can do it. Kei is startled and gets a serious, brooding look on his face. The band and especially Miwa gets very excited. Kei tells them that he HASN'T agreed to do it. But when Miki says "please" and looks at him with emotion, he breaks down and agrees.

Yuu sings before a packed audience. When the solo comes up the original keyboard players is amazed. He tells Miki, Meiko, Suzu, who are standing in the wings with him that what Kei is playing isn't even on the music. He tells them that Kei is improvising and that that takes real skill.

At the end of the performance, Suzu takes flowers out to Yuu on stage. She stuns the audience by kissing him on the lips in front of everyone.

Suzu fumes over what she thinks is Miki and Kei hugging and decides that she's got to do something about it. She tells Yuu but he doesn't believe her.

Since Miki hasn't planned out an itinerary for their trip together, Yuu decides to meet Miki at her job and proceed with making their plans from there.

Suzu comes to Bobson's to talk to Miki but it's Miki's day off. Suzu decides to talk to Kei instead. She asks him what his relationship is with Miki. Kei tosses her out of the store. But...he drops Miki/Yuu's medallion that he's been secretly holding on to. Suzu gets very suspicious.

Miki is taking out the trash behind Bobson's when Kei shows up for work late. He tells her that Suzu had come the day before and asked what their relationship was. Miki laughs and says that Suzu is silly because there's nothing between them. Suddenly Kei grabs her up and embraces her. He tells her that he loves her. Miki is too stunned to move, Yuu arrives just in time to see her in another man's arm. He stumbles off.

MARMALADE BOY #34 (KD)

Suzu is fast at work to break up Miki and Yuu. She manages to maneuver all the players during a Halloween party at her house. She makes it look like Yuu was secretly going to her house for the party... without telling Miki. She gets Kei to play the piano by telling him that Miki-san will be disappointed if he's not there. Miki is invited at the last minute by Suzu.

The way it all turns out is that an insecure Miki is looking for anyone she might know in a room full of ultra famous people. She sees Suzu and is relieved...until she sees who she's dancing with - a smiling Yuu. Miki who is already afraid that she's losing him, is stunned.

She notices Kei is playing the piano. This is the same brooding musician who said he'd never play again. She goes over to talk to him. He asks her why she's so nervous. Doesn't she think they all look like a lot of pumpkins? This makes Miki giggle as only Miki can. Suzu points out Miki to Yuu. All he can see is his girlfriend laughing with the guy he saw embracing her.

MARMALADE BOY #35 (KD)

There's a real set-up from two different sides in this episode. Kei wants Miki because he's lonely and unhappy. Suzu can't understand why gorgeous Yuu would want to have Miki as a girlfriend and works very hard to separate them. Between the two, who aren't even working with each other on this plan, they do end up succeeding in their goal.

However to lighten the show, there's a fun section where Miwa takes a head-weary Meiko to an amusement place to take her mind off of writing. It's Meiko's first time at a place like this.

MARMALADE BOY #36 KD)

Yuu leaves to go on "their" vacation without Miki.

Miki orders Kei to give back the medallion. She tearfully tells him that she and Yuu had an argument and that they broke up. Kei tells her that he won't apologize. If what Kei said was all it took to shake up her boyfriend's feelings for her then their relationship wouldn't have lasted anyway. He tells her to choose him instead, that he would never make her cry. Miki shoves Kei away from her and takes off from the store, running through the streets.

Arimi and Ginta are having a ball on a date. They're discussing Tsutomu and the fact that he "could" be hiding anywhere! Ginta's eye catches Miki as she runs past the restaurant where he and Arimi are.

Shortly thereafter, Ginta has caught up and grabbed Miki by the arm. He wants to know what's wrong. She turns and Ginta can see the tears running down her face. She tells him she's sorry, but to leave her alone. Miki runs off.

Arimi comes up to Ginta and asks him what the problem is. Ginta tells her that Miki told him to leave her alone. He wonders out loud if Matsuura is responsible. He'd noticed "something" wasn't right with them lately. Could it have anything to do with Suzu-chan? After all she kissed Matsuura at the school festival.

At home, Miki is talking with Ginta on the phone. She thanks him for worrying about her.

Ginta tells her that Arimi told him to tell her that Yuu doesn't always know how to talk to women but to trust him because Miki is the only one in his heart.

Miki begins to realize that the problem was not Yuu but herself. She gets excited, forgets to hang up the phone, and runs to ask the mothers when Yuu is due home.

At the train station, Miki and Yuu meet on the stairs. She tells him that she's had time to think and that she's realized that it was her jealousy that caused the problems. She lowers her head and puts out her hands cradling the medallion and begs him to take it back. Yuu smiles at her lovingly and takes the medallion. He tells her that he's sorry too because he left without her and because he realizes he was acting like a kid. A delighted Miki says Yuu's name. But another voice says his name right after she does. It's Kitahara Anju, Yuu childhood friend.

Just before he came down the station stairs and met Miki, he bumped into Anju and they talked for a bit. Yuu introduces Miki to "An" as the girl he told her about.

MARMALADE BOY #37 (KD) New

Miki is saddened by the fact that Yuu spends so much time with An. Yuu invites her to come with him to spend time with An, but Miki tells him she feels like they have a lot of things from the past they'd likely like to talk about.

Arimi is supposed to go on a date with Ginta but when he shows up he sees a man with her and mistaking thinks the guy is some kind of masher. He runs up and punches the guy. Arimi is humiliated because the gentleman was only asking for help to find out where he was going. Onlookers begin gossiping in the background. The date is instantly canceled as Arimi yells "Forget it!" and runs away. Ginta is left behind to try to face his apologies to the man.

Suzu finds Kei at the ice cream shop and requests him to play piano for a Halloween party. He refuses but changes his mind when he hears Miki will be there.

Yuu and An meet at a coffee shop and discuss how they first met as children

Miwa and Meiko are on a date. Keiko runs up and tells her that she's just seen Na-chan. Meiko begins to run off to find him. Miwa tells her not to go. Meiko tells him that she thought it was over, but she was wrong. She leaves to find Na-chan.

Miki and Ginta practice tennis, but Ginta's game is off. He can't get Arimi off his mind.

Meiko runs past to go to the library. She's been searching but can't find Na-chan. Miki catches only a glimpse of her and thinks for a second it's Meiko. But it can't be. Meiko's on a date with Miwa.

Later as nightfall is coming, Meiko does indeed come across Na-chan and Ryouko-sensei. Na-chan makes it very clear that there's nothing between him and Meiko. He tells her that he and Ryouko-sensei are dating now (much to Ryouko's surprise).

MARMALADE BOY #38 (KD) New

Rokutanda waits to catch Arimi on her usual route home from school. He's heard from one of her friend that she's had a fight with Ginta. He jumps out and demands to know what her feelings for him are...once and for all. It's him or Ginta. She lets him know that she's sorry, she can't return his feelings.

Miki and Yuu are walking together. She tells him that she has some free time and wonders if they can spend some time together. Yuu can't. He's made plans with An.

Miki asks more about the relationship...like how they met. Yuu tells her that it was in 6th grade when he was depressed about his dad not being his real father. She was the only person he could trust or talk to.

Meanwhile Arimi is outside Toryo waiting for Ginta. She feels silly having come that far just to give him her jet memo. Ginta sees her and wonders what she's doing there. Arimi is a bit too ruffled to say. She starts to leave, then tosses the jet memo to him. He listens "Sorry about the other day". Ginta is visibly moved by the message.

Yuu and Anju take a rowboat. Though Yuu thinks it's the wrong time of year for that sort of thing. Yuu talks about Miki and Anju tell him they seem like the perfect couple.

Meiko goes to the teachers room to pick up the class cleanup record. She has to get it from Ryouko-sensei who she believes has betrayed her. Ryouko is quick to notice the icy behavior of her student.

Outside Arimi's school a fellow in a different uniform waits. It's Ginta there to talk to Arimi. He tells Arimi that he knows he's insensitive and doesn't understand girls' feelings. But he

doesn't want his true feelings confused, like what happened with Miki. What he did, was terrible and he apologizes.

She said part of her was happy because no one really cared about her feelings before. A lot of guys have chased her. None tried to understand her. She's all alone.

Ginta is quick to reply that she's not alone anymore. The jet memo has a message on it from him "I love you". Arimi and Ginta drop the formality of their names Suou-kun and Suzuki-san and call each other Ginta and Arimi. Ginta finds Arimi in his arms and much of the student body whistling and hooting.

Anju visits Miki at the ice cream shop to ask her if she minds her being second to Miki with Yuu. She promises she won't interfere with their relationship.

Later inside the shop, Kei has obviously been watching the goings on between Anju and Miki. He's upset because she looks depressed and figures it's because of her boyfriend. "Handsome Guy. Bet the girls chase him." Miki defends him and says he's not that type of guy. Kei tells her that she may understand the guy, but he doesn't.

MARMALADE BOY #39 (KD) New

Miki is concerned about what Anju told her. She told Miki that she'd known Yuu since he was in 6th grade and that she'd been in love with him since then. Could she be second to Miki? And Yuu admitted to her that Anju may have been his first love. Miki fears that if he finds out about Anju's feelings, his old feelings could return.

At breakfast before school, Yuu asks Miki if she'd like to go to Yokohama. He tells her that he's making up for spending time with An instead of her. Miki is pleased that he thought of it.

After school, Yuu says goodbye because he needed to get to work. Miki and Meiko decide to go to the cafeteria. Miki turns to invite Ginta. But Ginta is acting shy and awkward about...something. He tells them he has someplace to go.

At a table, Miki discusses what Anju said to her. She recalls how confused she was when Ginta declared his love for her. She can't help but feel that Yuu will go through that if he finds out Anju's feelings.

Ryouko-sensei comes over to the table to tell Miki that she needs to talk to her about the Women's Team Training Program. Meiko is still like ice. Meiko coldly says that she needs to go to the library, gets up and leaves. As she leaves, Ryouko realizes that Meiko doesn't realize that Namura lied and wonders if she should tell her the truth. She can't get past the fact though that having Meiko believe that he's dating someone else could help Meiko put the past behind her.

At the library, Meiko comes across Miwa. Miwa asks her if she saw Namura. She tells him "no" but now though, she realizes she can't forget him.

Arimi is late coming out of her school. Ginta waits but is accosted instead by his cousin, Tsutomu. Tsutomu is peeved no end.

Tsutomu: Ginta! What're you doing here?!!

Ginta: I'm waiting for Arimi!

Tsutomu: What the hell are you saying?!

I know it's over between us but that doesn't mean I'll let you date her!

I'll never figure out why she picked you over me!

I'm better looking and have a better personality than you!

I've been interested in Arimi since grade school!

But you're different!

You broke up with one girl and immediately switched to another one!

Ginta: Dammit.

Tsutomu: Arimi's a disappointment too.

She broke up with Matsuura and went straight to another guy.

After all, she was that kind of person.

I was foolish to fall for that kind of girl.

Ginta: DON'T TALK ABOUT ARIMI THAT WAY!!!
COME HERE!!!

Tsutomu: Wh-what?!

Ginta hauls Tsutomu off.

Arimi runs out through the gate apologizing that she's so late. But no Ginta. A friend tells her that her boyfriend took Rokutanda to the hills behind the school.

In the hills, Ginta and Tsutomu are fighting it out to settle things. When they see how each other looks from the battle, they start laughing. Arimi sees them get together as pals again.

At work, Miki notices that Kei is leaving early even though he was marked for the late shift. Her boss tells her that he has something to do. Miki says that it's all right she'll take over his shift.

Anju is at the doctor's office. He tells her that he talked to her mother. The next operation will be very risky.

Later Anju comes to where Yuu works. Kijima teases Yuu about how cute Anju is and that if Miki finds out she'll kill him. Yuu proudly tells him that she's just an old friend and that Miki knows about it.

Anju later finds Miki and begs her fervently to let her borrow Yuu for the whole day. This was the day that Miki and Yuu were finally going to find time to be together. Anju pleads that if Miki will agree, she won't call or see Yuu again.

At home, Yuu asks her when she get off work (so they can leave for Yokohama). She tells him she's sorry, she has to work late tomorrow. Yuu goes and calls Anju instead.

Yuu and Anju are on the trip together. They're visiting his old school and Anju is quick to point out all the old memories.

Miki is at work thinking to herself that she was an idiot to have accepted Anju's request. Kei

interrupts her thoughts and asks her to come to the “Lizard” after work. Miki says his name in such a way that it’s obvious that she thinks it’s a bad idea.

Anju and Yuu sit on the swings of his old grade school. Anju tells him that she wished she went to the same school as him. She gets serious and tells him that she’s loved him for a long time. Yuu is in shock.

Miki shows up at the “Lizard” thinking that she didn’t want to come and didn’t know why she did. Kei is delighted too that she showed up. He tells her if she’ll stand beside him, he thinks he can go back to playing the piano again. She tells him that she knows how he feels about her but that she can’t return his feelings.

Yuu is last seen visibly torn about what to do about Anju.

MARMALADE BOY #40 (KD) **New**

It’s just about Christmas-time, Miki is hand-sewing two look alike dolls of herself and Yuu.

MARMALADE BOY #41 (KD)

The second half of the Christmas episode, begins with a tux clad Kei-kun addressing the audience by saying that the piece that he’s about to perform was written for the girl he loves. It’s a Christmas present for that girl.

Miki, sitting at a front table, wonders where Yuu is. She wanted Yuu there to protect her from Kei’s advances.

Yuu meanwhile, got a call saying that Anju is in the hospital and he rushes off to be there for her.

Kei’s beautiful number captures the feelings between Ginta and Arimi who are out in the night together. In front of a fountain, they share a first kiss. It’s what she asked for for Christmas.

Ryouko-sensei arrives in Hiroshima with a present for Namura. She finally tells him her true feelings. He tells her that he’s not fit for her because he hasn’t been able to get over his feelings for Meiko yet.

Meiko is in her room when she “feels” eyes on her...then a noise on the balcony. Meiko grabs a heavy book to clobber whoever it is. But it’s Santa Claus...er...um....Miwa, in a Santa outfit.

Needless to say, Meiko is rather stunned and asks him how he got there. On a sleigh, OF COURSE!

Miwa explains to her that he got the use of the Santa suit for selling tickets to some place that dancing occurs. Meiko can’t BELIEVE that the super wealthy Miwa-kun has a part-time job! Well then, Miwa can’t believe it either. And by the way, Miwa brought a gift for her. A red dress. Meiko tells him she can’t accept such an expensive gift. But then, Miwa has that covered. He kept two tickets for the two of them to go dancing.

At the hospital, Yuu finds out that Anju’s chances of survival are not good.

Back at the LIZARD live house, Kei-kun discovers Miki calling from a pay phone. She thanks him for the beautiful musical composition that he wrote and performed for her and tells him it was far too beautiful for just her. He strongly points out that her boyfriend didn't show up and he figured that he was that kind of guy. Miki says a sharp goodbye but Kei grabs her wrist and asks her not to go.

He embraces her, and tells her that he can face the future if she's with him. He begs her saying that he can't do it without her.

Miki can't get loose from him without a bit of a struggle and she slaps him in the process and tells him not to be a baby. Then, she sweetens her tone and encourages him, telling him he had a rest and that he could do it now. She asks him to play again for her sometime and tells him to go back to school.

Miki comes home to find the robot memo hanging from her door with a message from Yuu. Yuu tells her what has occurred with Anju.

Miki arrives at the hospital in time to hear a distraught Yuu say that Anju helped him when he was younger and that it was his turn to help her. This, of course, implied a serious problem in his relationship with Miki. A heart-torn Miki thinks about this on her way home and arrives home to flop lifelessly on her bed.

Suzu shows up at the live house late, expecting to see Yuu and Miki there. But the place is closed, and the master there tells her she's too young anyway. Kei tells the master that she's a friend of his. Suzu is surprised when Kei plays the piano for her. But he explains it because they're both alone on Christmas eve.

Anju comes around with Yuu by her side. She smiles and tells him she's much better. She tells him she's graduated from him and that's she going to get strong so she can find a boyfriend as nice as Miki-san's. Reminding him that Christmas is a night for lovers, she orders him to go home! He's delighted with this.

Miki, zonked out fully clothed, on her bed, is startled out of a deep sleep as Yuu rushes into her room and grabs her hand. He wants her to come with him RIGHT NOW! Miki and Yuu run through the dark until they come to a grassy hill.

Yuu gives her a present, one that he wanted to make sure was a special one. Miki gives Yuu the hand sewn look alikes of Yuu and herself. Yuu, of course, thinks he's much better than the doll. This makes Miki pout cutely.

Miki and Yuu, arms around each other watch the sky change from dark to light.

MARMALADE BOY #42 (KD)

It's New Years Day. Our favorite characters go to the shrine to have fun and make wishes. Very cute episode.

Miwa is up to his usual trying to convince Meiko that he's the one for her.

Yuu is teasing Miki like always. He buys her an inexpensive ring and tells her she's easy to please.

Ginta imagines Arimi as a wife cooking a meal for him.

Suzu is plumb pissed. Everyone is ignoring her.

Tsutomu gets a fortune that says VERY Bad Luck after praying for a girlfriend 100 times prettier than Arimi...and that Ginta cry in jealousy over it. After that, no matter what he did, it was due to this fortune. He thinks maybe it's not so bad after all, when he accidentally meets a pretty and sweet girl named Yayoi-chan. But then...they parted without him getting her phone number, address, or name of her school!

Suzu informs Yuu that her father wants to see him so he leaves the shrine to go talk to him. Suzu's father tells Yuu that if he is serious about architecture, he should go to school in New York and study the buildings there. Yuu is shocked.

MARMALADE BOY #43 (KD)

The gang (Miki, Yuu, Meiko, Miwa, Ginta, Arimi, Tsutomu, and Suzu) go on a ski trip.

Tsutomu, like usual, is making challenges.

Suzu is up to her tricks trying to keep Miki and Yuu separated. At the end of this episode Suzu discovers what the charm of Miki is which changes her whole attitude altogether.

There's a lovely scene at the end, with the couples sleeping together in their bus seats.

MARMALADE BOY #44 (KD)

Yuu comes out of the bathroom and ask Miki what "he's" doing. He? Miki can't figure out what Yuu means. He tells her the guy that likes a "curiosity" like her. Miki is upset at being called a "curiosity" and asks him what about himself! He tells her sure that he's one too.

Miki tells Yuu she hasn't seen Kei-kun since Christmas, that he quit his job. She remembers telling Kei not to be a baby and that he needed to pull his life around on his own. Miki wonders out loud if she was too hard on him.

Yuu is in his worst teasing mood, "Uh-uh, you broke the heart of a younger man." "A younger man?" she repeats. (Whoops the parents over- heard that.) Yuu decides to quietly tell them everything with Miki overlooking him doing it...in shock!

Miki?

A younger man?

Played with the heart and body of a younger man?

Then threw him away?

The parents just love it.

The Junior class is all abuzz when a Future Occupation Form is passed out. Each is thinking of their futures. But Miki realizes she's really never thought about it.

Ginta wants to continue improving his tennis skills. So he wants to find a college with a good tennis club...or possibly join a private tennis club. After he graduates from college, he wants to be a high school teacher.

Yuu wants be an architect.

Furutachi-kun wants to go straight from the college broadcasting club into the business.

Miki and Meiko are outside at one of the school tables. Miki asks her friend if she's going into writing. Meiko thinks she'd like to write in some form but not books...being an author takes a lot of skill and luck. Meiko doesn't feel she has the talent.

Miwa shows up and teases her but also encourages her to write.

At Bobson's, Miki is thinking about the fact that everyone else seems to have plans for themselves. In a years time, everyone will be going there own way. Even if they're in the Toryo college, everyone will have their own majors..so the same group won't be together.

Someone comes in, it's Kei in uniform.

He has gone back to school and is on his way to piano practice. Miki is surprised that he would have to go so late at night and is sad that it must be hard on him.

Kei tells her that he went back into music because of her. He reminds her that on Christmas night she treated him like a child. But that it was very effective. He remembers thinking to be treated equally with her, he would have to work really hard. He tells her that when he becomes the man she would choose, he tell her what he thinks of her (make a confession). A shy Miki says "But..." . Kei finishes her sentence "But...'I already have Yuu' right? Is that what you wanted to say?"

He calms her by telling her that he won't ask anything of her, just to let him love her.

Kei leaves. Miki is delighted that he chose his direction on his own. Miki yells that she's going to find her own direction too. Two customers walk in and embarrass Miki who wasn't quite through screaming.

Yuu is tutoring Suzu-chan. He remembers that Miki sent something for Suzu. It's photos of New Years and the ski trip. Suzu comes across a photo that reminds her of Miki's generosity over what happened during the ski trip. Suzu takes Miki's photo and puts it on her bulletin board.

Suzu's father comes in and asks Yuu if he has a minute.

Downstairs, Sakuma Riki asks Yuu if he's thought about going to New York. Yuu replies that he has. Riki tells him that to be an architect he doesn't have to limit himself by only studying in Japan. He goes on to tell him that his friends have told him that there's a good line drawing course at St. Andrews Academy.

At home, Miki can't figure out what direction she wants to go. Then decides that she's limiting herself by trying to think of an occupation now that she'll just go to the same university as Yuu. But, she wonders, if she'll be able to pass the entrance exams. And, if she has a different major as him...what would going to the same college mean. OK then, she decides,

she'll become an architect. But...what all does an architect do. Well, he designs and builds houses and buildings. She realizes that one day Yuu will want to design his own house. Well one thing leads to another in her mind and Miki starts day-dreaming about she and Yuu being married and that they would live in the house that Yuu built. She's embarrassed over the thought when she hears Yuu come home.

Yuu is in his room worrying about the reaction of Miki, Rumi and his mother about him going to America to study. There's a knock at the door. It's Miki. She asks him whether he's filled out Future Occupation Form. She has a very funny look on her face and she isn't acting quite normal either. Yuu wonders why.

Meiko is in her room, she thinks about the words of Miwa earlier in the day as he encouraged her to write. She then remembers what happened when she last saw Na-chan, it realizes that, since then, she hasn't had the courage to write.

The telephone rings. Meiko has won the Asahi Writing Competition.

MARMALADE BOY #45 (KD)

This episode deals with Meiko's new found fame, her Awards party, and dealing with a congratulatory note sent to the party by Namura Shinichi.

MARMALADE BOY #46 (KD)

Miki and Meiko, train ride their way to Hiroshima. Meiko confronts Namura on the beach and gets her heart broken. The maid tells Ryouko- sensei that Meiko has left home and asks for her help. Miwa tries to prevent her from going but finds that he must go with her.

MARMALADE BOY #47 (KD)

Meiko is in a total emotional breakdown with only Miki to support her. Miwa and Ryouko-sensei are in for the shock of their lives when they see Meiko in that condition. Miwa ends up beating the crud out of Na-chan. Meiko accidentally takes a punch. Na-chan won't relent. Meiko's final words breaks him down.

MARMALADE BOY #48 (KD)

Miki returns home from Hiroshima with souvenirs (food) but the family doesn't even know she's returned. They're too busy looking over all the chocolates that girls have given to Yuu for Valentines Day. Miki realizes that she's FORGOTTEN Valentines Day with all the confusion in Hiroshima. She doesn't have anything to give Yuu. She plans to hand make something for him but she goofs it up. The doorbell rings, it's Meiko. Meiko helps her make something for Yuu and then they sit down to talk. Miki learns the Meiko is engaged to be married to Na-chan.

MARMALADE BOY #49 (KD)

This episode wraps up the feelings of Meiko and Miwa. Miwa is especially kind in this episode.

Miki comes home to discover that the family is getting ready to board a foreign exchange student from New York. Miki is in shock...as usual, the family didn't tell her anything about it!

MARMALADE BOY #50 (KD)

Michael Grant arrives. Miki thinks it's Yuu and runs out and hugs him. Miki tries very hard to speak English with him which Michael goes along with. But actually, Michael is fluent in Japanese because of samurai/ninja movies.

Michael talks Miki into showing him around the city. He's wide-eyed and excited about everything.

The "odd quad" takes an instant liking to Michael who's friendly and thinks that the group's remarriage and living together is innovative.

Yuu remarks that Michael is like a little kid. Michael is surprised by his comment because his brother says that all the time to him.

In the evening; Yuu, Michael, and Miki are in the room that Yuu and Michael share. Michael tells them about his school, St Andrews, and the night view of Manhattan. Miki thinks the whole thing is romantic. Michael tells her that she and Yuu should come see it, that he'll show them around. Miki tells him that she'll come, she'll definitely come. Michael makes them promise that they will with crossed finger. Yuu is feeling a little uncomfortable because, of course, he's already planning to go and hasn't told Miki. But he promises anyway.

Miki tells the two that she's going to bed, she has to get up for tennis practice in the morning. Michael bids her good night and kisses her on the cheek. Miki stands in stunned disbelief. Yuu is flabbergasted.

MARMALADE BOY #51 (KD)

Another short comment... This episode is framed around Michael a great deal. He's always around and Miki can't find time alone with Yuu. She's desperate to talk to him. Miki accidentally discovers from Michael that Yuu is going to New York.

MARMALADE BOY #52 (KD)

Another of my favorite episodes. Miki is furious with Yuu. Miwa talks her into going to the senior prom with him. The mothers dolling Miki up and presenting her to the men is priceless.

Miwa has "something" in mind. He maneuvers Miki back into Yuu's arms. The night ends up with Yuu and Miki dancing in the moonlight outside of the senior prom .

MARMALADE BOY #53 (KD)

Miki and Yuu go away together to be alone before he leaves for America. Miki fully realizes to herself that considering their feelings for each other and that they won't see each other for a long time (a year and a half supposedly) that they may make "memories"...in other words, go beyond a kiss. But guess who decides to follow them....Michael!

Michael ends up under foot constantly. But still, Miki and Yuu find a moment to share one of the most romantic kisses in anime history.

Yuu leaves a tear-ridden Miki screaming out his name at the airport. He's off to New York. He'll be gone a year and a half.

MARMALADE BOY #54 (KD)

The story centers around Yuu in America. We meet Brian, Jinny Doris, and Bill. It's obvious from the beginning that Brian has a thing for Jinny. Jinny couldn't care less. Bill is Yuu's gentle roommate. Poor Yuu is led to believe, by Jinny, that Bill is gay...this worries Yuu no end. Jinny decides she likes Yuu right off the bat.

In Japan, Miki is feeling lost and lonely without Yuu. She sits in his room trying to deal with her feelings of loss. Michael finds her in his/Yuu's room and decides to himself that it's up to him to take her mind off of Yuu. He talks her into going to a book store to pick out a reference book for him.

In the bookstore, Miki is trying to pick out a reference book that will be simple enough for Michael to read. Michael, meanwhile, is giggling over something he's reading that's funny. Miki gives him a bad time about playing around. At this point Suzu shows up and shoots a picture of them. After all, Michael is "pretty". Michael wonders if he should thank her...since he's a man. Miki tells him that that would be better than nothing. Miki notes to herself that Suzu has NEVER said THAT about her (Miki).

Suzu asks Michael to be her sensei...she explains that as part of her job as a model, she goes to foreign countries a lot. She figures that it would be a lot more fun, if she spoke English. Michael is excited because he planned on getting a part-time job anyway.

In the evening, Miki tries the dialer for the first time and gets hold of Yuu in New York. She's so shook, she can't help crying. Yuu asks her if she's crying. She denies it. He asks her if she's sure. She tells him she's not crying...even though anyone could hear it in her voice.

He tells her that he's lonely being separated but that they would make it. Miki realizes that Yuu is lonely too that it's not only her and that he's having to start a new life alone besides. She tells him that she'll try hard, she'll try really hard!

After the call, a cheerier Miki goes downstairs to have cake with Michael and the mothers.

MARMALADE BOY #55 (KD)

Another episode set mostly in New York. Jinny starts making her play for Yuu. Bill and Yuu are sitting at a park with a view of Manhattan. Jinny comes up and ask if she can sit with them. She asks Yuu what he thinks of her. Yuu is avoiding being stimulated by her legs and mini skirt. He tactfully tells her that he thinks she `s very charming. She returns by telling him that she thinks he's great too. She wants him to be her boyfriend. Yuu tells her "no" that he has a steady in Japan. Jinny asks him if it's a guy or a girl. Yuu is surprised and tells her "a girl of course" and that it wouldn't be any other way. Jinny, undaunted, asks him what her name is and how far he'd gone with her. Shock, shock, shock. Bill tells Jinny to stop teasing Yuu. She turns to Bill very seriously and tells him that she's not teasing, she just wants to know the truth. Pumping a stunned Yuu as much as possible, she finds out that they've kissed and that's it. She bluntly tells him that that's not a girlfriend...even children can kiss and she leans over to kiss him.....just as Brian and his friends walk by.

Brian is furious! In the school building he and his friends corner Yuu. They tell him that he looks like a girl and other choice comments until Doris comes by and puts them in their place.

Later, Jinny grabs hold of Yuu outside of the school and tries to get him to go see an Arthur Crichton movie with her. The same one that she refused to go to with Brian. Brian overhears this conversation and gets furious with Jinny. He grabs her arm and hurts her. Yuu tries to protect her but this makes Brian all the more angry. He tells Yuu if he wants to talk to him, challenge him.

Yuu and Brian end up in a basketball challenge, an unknown boy and Bill end up on Yuu's team. The problem is that Brian is tall and a basketball ace. Yuu's teams wins on teamwork as well as Yuu's skill.

Remember even from MB #1, Yuu is touted as "good at sports". Yuu is a perfect gentleman when he wins and Brian softens.

Suzu is on a shoot but is giving a break for an interview. During the interview, she sees a portfolio on Kei. She finds out from the interviewer that Kei has won another prestigious music award.

Miki is heartbroken because she hasn't been able to get hold of Yuu. She doesn't know where he is and wasn't able to get a message to him. She thinks that maybe Michael could help her get through but then realizes Yuu would be in bed now. As she's thinking about this, the doorbell rings.

It's Kei. A very stable Kei. He tells her that now he has the confidence to tell her how he feels about her (make a confession). He wants her to be HIS girlfriend.

MARMALADE BOY #56 (KD)

This is one that I've enjoyed a lot...um, which is true of almost all Marmalade Boy episodes. But, I'm particularly fond of humorous ones like this one. Kei meets Michael for the first time. It's instant stud conflict! Both are interested in Miki. Miki has only eyes for Yuu but both the guys know that a year and a half separation for two those will cause a jinx to that relationship. Both want to be right there to grab up Miki.

Miki gets a new part-time job with Kijima's wife, Rei, and her brother, Akira. They have a import store at a fancy shopping center. Ryouko-sensei, and Kijima set her up for this job hoping that it will help her through her depression.

MARMALADE BOY #57 (KD)

This is a heavy duty Meiko episode. Her parents won't let her see Na-chan when he comes to see her from Hiroshima. Meiko sneaks out and meets with him.

Kei invites Miki to go to his next concert competition. She tries to back out saying that she has to work that day. Rei doesn't want Miki to lose the opportunity of going to a concert and tells her loud enough for Kei to hear that she should go. She's stuck. Michael grabs the ticket out of her hand tells her that he'll go with her to Kei's concert(guess why). Suzu invites herself as well.

Meiko starts writing again in this episode.

MARMALADE BOY #58 (KD)

Miki, Meiko, Michael, Suzu-chan, Ginta, Arimi, Tsutomu, and Yayoi-chan go to Kei-kun's concert competition. When Kei's turn comes to perform it's announced that he will be performing an original piece called "For You".

Before Kei starts his performance, some men in the audience are overheard saying that he should be doing a classical number because he'd be more likely to win. One adds that it's too bad because with Tsuchiya Kei's talent he should be the winner.

Miki realizes that Kei's choice of pieces is for her. During the performance, Miki is moved and Michael can feel himself hating Kei more and more. Kei receives a standing ovation and wins another competition. As he receives his trophy, he looks into the balcony of the massive audience to stare at Miki with an open heart. Miki realizes he's singled her out of the crowd.

Meanwhile Akira and Ryouko have been manning a busy K's coop by themselves. When the rush of customers have been taken care of and left Akira tries to ask Ryouko out for a drive on Sunday...anywhere she'd like to go. Ryouko declines. He asks her if she has someone. She tells him no but that she just parted from someone.

After the competition, Miki and her group are walking. Meiko mentions that Kei's confession of love (meaning his performance) was spectacular. She goes on to remark how changed he is. He's an adult and a man now. Miki gets irritated with Meiko for saying that it's not unusual for

Miki to be "captivated" under the circumstances. Miki walks away from the group by herself. Miki thinks to herself that she misses Yuu and she's lonely for him.

The kids in the group notice that Miki is suffering a lot. Arimi runs after Miki and asks her how Yuu is. Miki tells her that they can't talk every day but that the last time she talked to him, he was fine. Arimi asked how long it's been since she talked to him. Miki tells her about 5 days. Arimi is stunned that Yuu would make her wait so long. The girls in the group (Arimi, Meiko, Yayoi, Suzu) try to cheer her up by pulling up an incantation on Arimi's jet memo. Miki makes a wish, "I wish... Yuu would call me. I wish Yuu would call me. I wish Yuu would call me." She pushes a button on the jet memo and here's her incantation "Umau Petsu Yuda Popa". Miki repeats it over and over.

Meanwhile Ginta and Tsutomu are lying on the lawn nearby wondering what the girls see in all this stuff. Men just don't understand these things. Tsutomu turns to confirm these thoughts with Michael but Michael has left to walk by himself.

Michael just can't get Kei's performance and Miki's reaction off his mind. Even after he gets home, he can't help but feel depressed.

Miki is in her bedroom staring at the phone...waiting, hoping. Finally, she tries her "personal" incantation "Umau Petsu Yuda Popa" over and over. The phone rings "It's Yuu". Miki is so excited the first thing she tells Yuu is that it WORKED! Shortly, Miki opens the door to her room and startles Michael who is outside in the hall. She tells him that his brother, Brian, is on the phone and wants to talk to him. Miki closes her door and goes back into her room.

The phone conversation starts with Michael saying "I'm fine, and you?" "Not too good" Brian tells him. "Jinny..."

Miki is at her desk thinking that she's just got to tell Arimi and the others that the incantation worked. Michael throws open her door. He walks over and lifts her out of her chair and kisses her very hard and long. He apologizes and tells that he wants her to think of him as a man and not as a younger brother. He tells her to stop caring for Yuu, he's not worth it. He made a girlfriend right after he got "over there".

Miki stands in her room in complete shock.

MARMALADE BOY #59 (KD)

Miki vividly remembers Michael's voice of doom after he kissed her in the previous episode. She can't figure out what made him say that so suddenly. She decides it can't be true.

Miki tries to call Yuu but gets the answering machine.

Yuu and Bill stand looking at the view of the city and Brooklyn bridge. Bill advises him that there's a good view of downtown from the bridge. Does Yuu want to see it? "Of course!" On the way there, Yuu spots someone he recognizes. It's An. He yells her name and runs to catch up to where she is. After some small talk between the two, Bill catches up and introduces himself. "I'm William Matheson, call me 'Bill'."

Yuu wants to know why she's there. An tells him that after a successful surgery, they're renting a home while she's healing. Every Friday, she and her mother travel from Boston to New York for violin lessons. The round trip is difficult so they spend the night in New York.

Bill suggests that out in the crowds isn't really a good place to talk why don't they (all) go to a coffee shop. Yuu agrees but Anju declines telling them that her mother's waiting for her at the hotel and if she doesn't return soon, she'll worry. Yuu feels it's too bad because he wanted to have a chance to talk to her. Bill comes up with an idea. "Yuu...why don't you invite her to tomorrow's trip to Long Island." Yuu tells An that tomorrow, they're going to a friends beach house. Would she like to come? An squirms. She embarrassed about joining them at the last minute. Bill calms her with "It's only one girl more. If you come, I'll have a partner."

Ryouko reads from a book to the class "Once upon a time... a daughter of Chunagon... Miki can only think about the appalling things Michael said about Yuu. Miki trusts Yuu but feels if she could hear his voice her uneasiness would go away. Ginta is watching her from the back of the classroom. He sends the jet memo down the line. There's a note around it that says "This incantation should cheer you up." Miki punches the button on the jet memo. "Shikkawa Kami". Miki repeats as though entranced "Shikkawa Kami, Shikkawa Kami, Shikkawa Kami." So the translation of the sentence is...(Ryouko) Koishikawa-san? Miki stands up "Yes ma'am! It's Shikkawa Kami!" Miki turns white with embarrassment, the class roars, and Ginta can only put his hand to his face and moan "Such a dummy".

Ginta sits on a bench watching Miki as she plays tennis. Miki's eyes are shining and her smile is beautiful. Ginta thinks to herself that Miki is already more cheerful. Meiko comes up to Ginta from behind the fence and asks Ginta what kind of incantation he gave her this time. Ginta tells her that it's a secret. "By the way", he adds, "what's bugging her? Is it about Matsuura?" Meiko tell him that their long distance love is very difficult. ..lots of problems.

Miki tries again. Only the machine answers.

At K's coop, Miki repeats "Shikkawa Kami, Shikkawa Kami." But she realizes it isn't working, that she wants to hear Yuu's voice. That's the only thing that'll cheer her up.

Rei notices Miki's behavior and tries to get Miki to talk to her about it. Miki, being Miki, tries to hide that anything's wrong. Rei insists until Miki finally breaks down and tells her what Michael said. Rei talks her through it and encourages her. Miki feels much better.

The gang wait's near a four-wheel drive getting ready to go on their trip to the Long Island beach house. Bill tells Anju that the air's much cleaner where they're going than in New York. You can relax there." Anju thinks to herself that going to spend a weekend with Yuu makes her feel sorry for Miki-san.

On the other side of the van Jinny and Doris stand talking privately. Jinny wonders who that girl is. Is she Yuu's friend or what? Doris thinks she looks nice but she's too quiet. Jinny tells Doris she's just a kid and no competition for her. She clues Doris that during the trip, she'll arrange to become Yuu's steady.

Brian warns the group that if they don't get in the car, he's going to leave without them (he's driving).

Yuu gets in and puts out his hand to help An in. Jinny makes her move and shoves An out of the way so that she can sit with Yuu in the very back alone. This scene disgusts Bill but he says nothing. He turns to An and gallantly asks "An, would you sit with me?". He makes like the perfect gentleman "After you, Miss Kitahara".

After they arrive and several talk about how wonderful it is. (K: it's surprising how similar this beach house looks to the one in the first closing song of the first season)

Stuff needs to be taken in from the car. Brian offers to take Jinny's load, which she accepts. PLUS she grabs all of Yuu's load and sticks it with Brian too. She then pulls Yuu off towards the beach.

Yuu watches and smiles at Jinny as she plays in the water. Jinny calls to Yuu. Suddenly Yuu sees Miki calling to him and running to jump to embrace him. It's Jinny instead and just as she reaches Yuu, Doris calls her to help fix lunch. Jinny picks up her shoes and leaves. Yuu stays and stares out to sea.

At the table, Brian suggest they play beach volleyball to help their digestions. Jinny agrees. "Let's do it, let's do it. I'll be Yuu's partner!" This doesn't set well with Brian. Yuu declines. But when An tells him not to worry about her, she just wants to look at the view anyway, Jinny takes this as a sign that he will play "It's decided!".

Now Brian needs a partner. Bill tells him he's stuffed and doesn't feel like moving. Brian decides there's no other choice and asks Doris. "No other choice?" Doris repeats.

"Sorry Doris, cancel that PLEASE, be my partner?" Brian grovels.

Doris relents "Since you begged no nicely, guess I've gotta be your partner."

As the others play volleyball below, Bill and Anju talk on the deck of the beach house. Anju mentions that Jinny is somewhat aggressive, isn't she. Bill tells her that that's an understatement. "But Yuu's feelings for Miki-san won't be changed that easily. I know that more than anyone." Bill asks her if she's in love with Yuu. She reminds him that Yuu already has a girlfriend, Miki-san. "So you gave up?" he queries. Anju explains that though Yuu looks open to everything, he's really single-minded. So when he loves someone, his mind can't be swayed easily. She retells the story of how she thought she could be second to Miki in Yuu's life but then she thought she thought she was going to die. She couldn't bear it so, she told Yuu she loved him. But then, she saw that Yuu's mind was focused on Miki-san. Anyway....Yuu and Miki-san gave her courage...the courage to stay alive. Bill can only smile and comment that she is very kind.

MARMALADE BOY #60 (KD)

Miki lies in bed on Sunday. The alarm goes off. Miki reaches for it realizing that it doesn't need to ring on Sunday. Then she remembers "PHONE!" "Hello. Yuu and Bill are out at present. Please leave a message." is the only response from the other end. Miki leaves a message "This's Miki, please call me when you get home. I want to hear your voice so badly!" Miki can't help thinking that she's unlucky but that she won't give up.

The parents leave for a movie. Miki's in the kitchen eating. Michael comes in and invites her to come to Suzu's with him. Miki declines. She quietly tells him that she's got to hurry because she's on the early shift.

Michael wonders if she's mad at him for kissing her. He decides he won't give up though. The telephone ring... Miki rushes to grab it hoping that it's Yuu. She literally yells in the phone when she finds out someone accidentally called the house looking for Seafood Pizza "L". Michael watches her.

She tries again. "Hello. Yuu and Bill are out at present. Please leave a message." Miki decides it's not too late, only 8 PM, so she try the main part of the dorm. A young man answers. "Oh...Yuu? He went to Brian's beach house."

"Brian's beach house?" she repeats.

"It's on Long Island. They should have `fun' with Jinny there."

Miki remembers what Michael said. And wonders who she is.

At the beach house Brian kicks butt at a board game. Doris offers everyone cookies that she made at home. An offers to get coffee, Jinny says she'll help. Yuu tells the others he's going upstairs for a while. Yuu grabs the phone and takes it upstairs and dials. "Damn, she should've left a message on the answering machine."

When she gets to the kitchen Jinny winks at Doris and leaves to catch Yuu upstairs alone. "Trying to call your girlfriend in Tokyo? I thought so. You care a lot about her, don't you. But, we came here to play, so why don't you forget about her." Yuu tells her that it's none of her business. She tells him it is her business because his girlfriend is far away but that she is right in front of him. She claims to Yuu that he doesn't know what real love is, to forget about his girlfriend, and that she loves him. She makes a pass at him but Yuu turns his head away from her.

"Why? Why don't you return my feelings!" she yells. "Your girlfriend will find another guy. You have no obligation to her. You're a fool!"

Yuu has heard about enough. "Miki's not that kind of girl! If you insult her more, I'll really hate you."

Yuu's words shock Jinny. She runs out of the room and down the stairs past Brian. Brian notices how Jinny looks. He marches up the stairs to have it out with Yuu.

Yuu is lying on the bed in the dark. Brian literally lifts Yuu by the shirt and demands to know what he did to Jinny. Yuu answers "Nothing." Brian tells him he's lying, she looks terrible. Yuu explains "Because I didn't do anything, she isn't satisfied." This brings Brian back to his senses.

Though Brian is back to his senses, Jinny is not. Outside on the deck, rock music blasts. Jinny dances as though crazed. The others watch in disbelief. Brian tries to get her to stop but she only gets irritated. Bill unplugs the cord. Jinny runs off to be by herself on the beach.

On the beach, Jinny talks softly to a pair of golden retrievers who come to see her. She tells them that they're lucky to be such good friends. They're called away by their owner. Doris arrives and asks her how long she's going to sulk and reminds her that she'll catch a cold. "If you don't come back, your coffee will get cold again. The guys are threatening to eat your cookies." Jinny smiles and tells her she understands. Doris gives her a hand to help her up. From the beach house everyone sits waiting for her.

Miki, at work, remembers Michael's words "He made a girlfriend right after he got over there." and the words from the dorm "They should have `fun' with Jinny there". Jinny?! No, Miki decides, she'd better act cheerful or Rei-san will worry about her. But Miki finds that it's tiring.

Customers arrive. Miki turns to greet them and it's Arimi and Ginta. Rei asks them if they're out on a date. Ginta embarrassedly tells her that no, it's just that she wants a birthday present of her friend. Miki puts her hands on her hips and tells him "Don't look now but that's called `dating'. While Arimi and Ginta look at antique broaches, Miki can't help be envious that they get to always be together.

Michael is getting ready to leave Suzu's after his job. Suzu suggests he stay for dinner. Michael thanks her but says he wants to pick Miki up. Suzu talks him into letting him go with her.

On the way to the store where Miki works, Suzu asks what's up with Miki. Michael wonders what she means. Suzu explains that if he takes Miki, Yuu'll still have Suzu. Michael grimaces. But, Suzu adds that someone might beat him to Miki. Kei-kun is a strong candidate. "Kei! Kei's no match for me!" Michael sternly states. A voice rings out with determination "WHO'S no match for you?" It's Kei.

Miki is putting things on a shelf at K's coop. Rei tells her it's about time for her to quit. Miki wants to finish up what's she's doing.

Suzu races in. "MIKI-SAN! Miki-san, it's terrible! Michael and Kei-kun are fighting!:

Miki runs up to where the young men are and tries to stop them before any blows are thrown. Suzu is SO impressed "Two beautiful guys are fighting over a girl. This's wonderful!"

Miki stands nearly between them and begging them over and over to stop. Finally, she screams "STOOOOOOP!!!. By now, she's completely emotionally broken down. She slumps with her body shaken uncontrollably. "I love.... I love...." then screamsONLY YUU!!!! She runs away from the two who stare after her. The memories flow in on her as she runs - of she and Yuu together and in love. She calls his name in pain as each memory passes by her.

Miki ends up at Meiko's gate. Meiko holds a miserable, shaking Miki. Miki can only say "I want to see Yuu." Meiko recalls that because of Miki she and Namura-sensei recognized their feelings in Hiroshima. Meiko suggests that they go to New York together...to see Yuu.

MARMALADE BOY #61 (KD)

The art in this one is very good. Otherwise, this episode and it's second part (#62) was very difficult to work on. It is a subject looked at directly with no holds barred. It is so difficult to face all my family members separately and without knowing that the others had done the same thing, decided to not watch these episodes until I was finished translating with Masatomo AND until things turned around.

This I must say, I AM glad I survived going through these two episodes in slow motion over and over and over again. When I got through, I realized I looked at something I'd never seen before, felt emotions I never knew existed...maybe ones that have no name, I felt compassion for things I would never had understood before. My hats off to the writer(s) of the show.

In retrospect, looking from the future episodes that I've seen, I see NOW WHY they wrote it so strongly. Without having done so, viewers might have lacked understanding of Miki's no choice situation, and it gives reasonableness to her future actions. Difficult to see gentle, loving people go through so much trauma and see the end results. But...in the long run having watched these episodes, I personally found a great deal of growth. Just so that viewers don't panic, the humor isn't gone forever:

Meiko is waiting at the airport. Miki's late. When Miki shows up with her load of parents she's loaded with suitcases. The parents explain that if Miki had too many suitcases that would be too hard, so they cut them down. Meiko is stunned that this is what "they" call reduced. Anyway, the luggage is for Yuu. The parents want to send umebochi, ochazuke, shoyu sauce, a hand-made cushion and a family photo...etc.

The parents say that of course Yuu will be picking them up at the airport, right? Miki tells them sure...rather badly. Meiko points this out to her later on the plane. Miki can't lie worth a darn. Yuu doesn't know she's coming.

As Miki and Meiko leave the parents remind them to bring back gifts!

On the plane and in the air, Miki remembers Michael countering her about going to New York. When she confirms that she is going to New York. Michael asks "Even though he has another girlfriend? Why do you have to see him?" Miki non-committedly says "I want to make sure by seeing Yuu directly. I'm so far away from him and just thinking of him isn't working." Michael worries "But, you've been having a hard time. It'll only hurt more to see him, won't it?" Miki is adamant "That's not true! Yuu'd be the last person to hurt me!" Michael is doubtful but decides she'll need to see for herself.

Finished with her musing, Miki pulls out her memo recorder and records "Yuu I love you. I want to see you right away" with a lot of passion.

Brian, Bill and Yuu arrive at Brian's beach house. Brian complains that the weather's good and yet he has to study. But Bill reminds him that he was the one that said they'd study better if there was no distraction like the night lights of Manhattan. Brian thinks though it was a lot of fun with the girls there last time. Bill is quick to point out the they wouldn't get any studying done if they were there.

Later Bill and Yuu are putting groceries away in the refrigerator when Bill remembers to his horror that he forgot to leave his notebook on Oriental History to Jinny. He promised it to her so that she could use them for her report. Brian walks in and tells him not to worry, Jinny will figure out something.

Miki and Meiko are at the New York airport. Miki stops dead in her tracks. Meiko asks her what's wrong. Miki tells her that now that she's in the New York air, she feels that Yuu must be nearby. Knowing that, she felt she needed to go see him right away. Miki suggests Meiko take the luggage and get some rest at the hotel. Meiko wonders if Miki will be OK by herself and what Miki will do if Matsuura isn't there. Miki assures her that she's already looked up the directions to St. Andrews and that if Yuu isn't there, it's OK because she wanted to see the kind of place that Yuu's lives.

Jinny in her room studying with Doris, remembers that she forgot the notebook from Bill. She realizes that Bill is gone and that she's going to have to do something about it. Without telling Doris, Jinny slips into Mr. Reinie's room and filches the key to Bill and Yuu's room.

Meiko is checking in at the hotel when she hears someone call her name. At first she doesn't know who the girl is, then she realizes this must be Anju-san. Meiko tells Anju that she and Miki came so that Miki and Yuu can see each other.

Miki is on the ferry to her destination. The skyscrapers glow against the night sky. Miki can only think that Yuu has seen this too.

The key works in the lock. Jinny carefully enters Bill and Yuu's room. Inside she discovered a photo on Yuu's desk of himself and Miki. Jinny is stunned...the girl is a kid. She doesn't understand what he sees in this child. She remembers him shunning her own advances towards him. She wonders why she has to be beaten by a kid. After all, is she inferior to her as a woman?

Miki arrives at St. Andrews. She remembers being told that his room is on the second floor.

Jinny is getting Bill's notebook when she hears a knock at the door. She doesn't want to get caught in the room but relents and opens the door. It takes a minute but then Jinny recognizes Miki face from the photo on Yuu's desk. Miki gets uncomfortable upon seeing the striking Jinny and shyly asks if this is Matsuura Yuu's room.

Jinny asks "Are you Yuu's..."

Miki starts to say "Yes, I'm Yuu's..." then decides saying that she's his girlfriend would be too bold.

Jinny slyly says "I'm Jinny. Nice to meet you."

Miki realizes that this is the same "Jinny" as the guy from the dorm talked about being at the beach house with Brian and Yuu. She finds herself at a loss for words.

Jinny heartless tells her that she must be Yuu's ex-girlfriend, Miki.

"Ex-girlfriend?" Miki repeats.

Jinny gives her history. "When Yuu was in Japan you went with him, right? Yuu told me. Your relationship was that you kissed, right?"

Miki wonders to herself how she could know that. Could she be Yuu's new girlfriend that Michael told her about. Miki hurt look shows in her eyes and coloring.

Jinny asks her "What's the matter? You didn't think you could keep a guy forever by just kissing him, did you? And drives the message home with a "You're not a kindergarten kid."

Miki asks herself why she came there but decided that no matter what, she meet with Yuu. She begs Jinny to tell her where Yuu is.

Jinny slips out of the room and shuts the door behind her. This alone shocks Miki. Jinny then tells Miki "He was awake a minute ago. We were in bed together."

"In bed?" In bed?" Miki repeats in her head.

"He just fell asleep." Jinny presses onward. "But, since you've come all the way from Japan to see him, I'll wake him up." She turns to go into Yuu's room, then turns to Miki and adds "I think he's still naked."

Jinny slips back into the room and starts counting down 10....9....8... Miki takes the memo recorder and hangs it from the door knob and leaves.

Jinny finishes her countdown, opens the door and finds Yuu's girlfriend has left.

Outside the dorm, Miki looks back at the building " Yuu, I believed in you. Was I stupid? Yuu's heart has separated from me. Couldn't I tell that? Yuu if you were there, would you've let me leave? If I leave here now, my feelings will go away from you too. PLEASE give me a last chance. "YUUUUUUUUUUU.....!!!!!"

At the beach house, Yuu's head bolts up from his studying. He asks the other guys if they heard something. "No" they reply.

Miki walks away from the dorm...and away from the past.

MARMALADE BOY #62 (KD AND CHRIS SWETT) Aired May 28, 1995

Because Chris S. has been keeping me up to date from Japan, I've been able lately to keep abreast of what has been happening in MB on a week to week basis. About Episode 62 he writes:

Chris Swett: The episode opens with a flashback to episode 61. Jeannie stands outside Yuu's dormitory room door, acting like it's her room. Miki is in the dorm looking for Yuu but he's out at a beach house studying with Brian and the purple haired guy. (Karen: the purple haired guy would be Yuu's roommate, Bill). Jeannie (Jinny) tells Miki that men will be men and that she lives in Yuu's room with him (she doesn't tell Miki where Yuu is). In episode 61 she expects Miki to scream at her that he's lying or something to refute the claim, so she goes in Yuu's room and closes the door. She counts backward from ten, expecting Miki to beat the door down when she gets to zero. Miki instead hangs the message recorder on the doorknob and walks away with tear filled eyes, not knowing where Yuu is and half not caring. Episode 62 omits this part from the flashback.

In this episode Miki takes the ferry back to Manhattan, her eyes still filled with tears. She wanders around Manhattan for a while before going back to the hotel where she and Meiko are staying. She tells Meiko what happened and that she couldn't find Yuu. She says she wants to go home to Japan.

Jeannie sits in front of her school notes, twirling her pencil. She feels guilty as hell, but is balancing that precariously against hope that Yuu's girlfriend from Japan will never come back. Her roommate comes in but she doesn't confide what she's done.

Out at the beach house the boys are studying hard, but Yuu can't keep his mind on his studying. He wanders out to the beach to stare at the stars. The purple haired guy comes out as well and asks Yuu what he's thinking about. Yuu doesn't answer.

Back at the hotel, Meiko is unable to get Yuu on the phone, so she repeatedly leaves messages on his answering machine. Miki, fed up and desolate, insists that they go home. Meiko calls the airline and makes reservations.

The next day the purple haired guy calls Ann (Karen: This is the same Kitahara Anju from volume 9 - MB #37-40 that Yuu calls "An" for short.) After some wrangling he gets a date, then Ann asks if Yuu and Miki have gotten together yet. Thusly, Yuu gets the word that Miki is in town. They all jump in the jeep and head for the dorm. When they get there, Yuu finds the memo machine on the door and the messages in the recorder. In a panic, he heads for the airport.

At the airport Miki wait's by the luggage while Meiko goes to the counter to pick up the tickets. She hesitates, wanting desperately for Miki to change her mind, then tells the attendant she doesn't need anything after all. She goes back and tells Miki that the plane was overbooked and that their reservations were canceled. They'll have to wait for a standby. They sit.

Yuu busts into the airport, yelling Miki's name. He finally finds her and grabs her in his arms. He tells her that Jeannie lied to her. She doesn't hug him back. She simply says she can't live at the end of a phone line anymore, it won't work. He needs to come back to Japan with her. He thinks for a long moment, then says that he's sorry but he can't Miki says that then it's "sayonara".

Next week Yuu and Miki try not to think about one another, and fail. Michael and Kei both begin to draw Miki out of her depression. Michael performs funny antics and Kei exudes a peace of mind.

Karen's note to readers...

Fortunately, I have seen all the episodes up to #60 and I feel the humor and style is still there on these. But the #61, 62 episodes had me worried so I wrote Chris the following questions:

Karen:Is there any humor? (to soften it)

Chris: I don't recall any humor in this episode at all. The next episode promises humor as Michael tries to cheer up and win Miki.

Karen: I'm really serious about this...just between you and me, do you think the show is still holding it's quality through all this HEAVY stuff between Yuu and Miki?

Chris: The whole character of the show suddenly changed when Miki, completely unexpectedly, told Yuu that their relationship would not survive at the end of a phone line. You could guess that this would be the case, but the last thing you expect is that Miki will realize it and tell Yuu. It's like Miki matured about 10 years in a couple of days. It's still a high quality show, and much less predictable now.

(Karen: The show has never been predictable but certainly Miki's reactions HAVE BEEN! This is totally different for her and it should be interesting to see how's it's handled by the writers. Chris is right, Miki's new attitude could cause us not to know what she'll will do in the future.

Frankly, with Yuu planning to be away for a year and a half and with two young studs after her (driving a lonely, depressed Miki out of her mind), Jinny after Yuu in New York, and them not being able to contact each other, it's no wonder Miki said it couldn't work. But we do know from the eye catches that they will remain in love with each other. I wonder how they're going to pull the story back around. I've mentally written from very good conclusions to this...but, unfortunately, I've found from past attempts at this, that I'm more of a romantic than even the MB writers!

6/24/95

Masatomo and I have completed the translation on #62. We're lucky as Americans that we can understand enough Japanese to sort of understand what's going on in the anime, but when you get a native Japanese to explain, a whole new light can be shed on things:

Jinny remembers the conversation with "Yuu's girlfriend" and, as Chris put it, feels guilty as hell. When Doris asks her what's bothering her, she can't quite bring herself to tell her.

Meiko repeatedly tries to get hold of Yuu but can't. She leaves a message "Matsuura-kun, this is Meiko. Miki says no matter what, she's leaving for Japan tomorrow."

Meiko returns to Miki, who is watching an old movie that has a couple dancing slow and close. She remembers dancing with Yuu just like that. Meiko turns off the TV. and asks Miki if she's sure she wants to go back the next day. Miki can only weakly say "Mm-hm. Meiko is stunned "You do? Without meeting him at all? Why didn't you make sure? If I were..." Miki stops Meiko mid-sentence, "We've separated (I believe this means that their feelings are not the same for each other). When I heard about Yuu from Jinny...I heard something break. It was the sound of breaking glass."

Meiko understands what Miki's words mean. All she can say is "Miki".

An emotionally weary Miki explains "If I entered the room....and Yuu was sleeping in the bed like she said....my feelings would be shattered. I wouldn't be able to pick the pieces. So, I couldn't do it. I couldn't do it."

Meiko suggests that it's getting late and that they should go to bed.

Out at the beach house, Bill is looking for Yuu. He finds him outdoors and asks him what he's thinking about. Yuu smiles and tells him he's not telling. Bill figures this is a good time to ask him something. "Yuu do you have feelings for An? Yuu tells him that he doesn't. Bill asks if he's sure. Yuu doesn't hesitate to say "Yes". Bill tells him he's decided to ask An if she'll date him and adds "Don't be so surprised. Yuu remarks uncomfortably that he's never seen him ask a girl out. Bill puts his arm around Yuu's shoulder and cutely says "Surely, you didn't believe that rumor." Yuu embarrassed returns "Uh, noooo. Not at all!"

Miki lies hidden by the blanket(s) on her bed. Her eyes stare blankly into nothingness. Meiko tries to call Yuu again. The answering machine repeats the usual message "Bill and Yuu are out at present. Please leave a message" Meiko does. "Matsuura-kun, you IDIOT! PLEASE get in touch with us!"

An practices her violin as she remembers Meiko telling her that Miki was in New York to visit Yuu. The telephone rings. It's Bill. He suggests to her that they could go to a movie after her violin lessons on the coming weekend. An again remembers that Miki and Yuu are together, so she decides to go with Bill. Upon a thumbs up to Yuu from Bill, Yuu comes up and gives Bill and congratulatory slap on the back. Bill makes a noise and Anju asks what the matter is. Bill tells her that Yuu knocked him over. An comments that Yuu must be happy because he's with Miki.

A mad dash occurs as Bill at the wheel peels rubber trying to get Yuu back to the city and Miki.

Meiko goes up the ticket counter. Then changes her mind. She comes back to Miki and tells her that they're booked up. Without reservations, they have to wait for a cancellation.

Yuu races into the dorm and nearly runs Doris down. He hurriedly asks if Miki had come there to see him. Doris is confused and asks Jinny if she has. Jinny only says that she "may" have come there the previous night but that she soon left. This comment confuses Doris who starts to say something. Yuu is in too much of a hurry. He races up to his room.

He finds the memo recorder on the door knob. He plays it "Yuu I love you. I want to see you right away." He says her name with love.

Bill catches up to Yuu and suggests that they get into the room first. Inside Bill sees that there are messages waiting on the answering machine.

"Matsuura-kun, this is Meiko. Miki says no matter what, she's going back to Japan tomorrow."

"Matsuura-kun, you IDIOT! PLEASE get in touch with us!"

"Miki's leaving now..."

....she'll remain believing that you and Jinny have been making love!"

Yuu stands staring in shock.

Miki seems in a stupor as she asks Meiko "There hasn't been a cancellation yet? Meiko gently replies "That's right". Right in front of Miki can't help see a couple kiss goodbye. The man walks away from his girl or wife and waves his arm in just the way Yuu did when he left. Suddenly the man is Yuu as he turned and smiled at her. But, then Jinny runs up to the imaginary Yuu and they kiss.

Miki loses it. And begs Meiko. "I just want to go home...! I want to forget everything that's happened here. Meiko can't stand to see Miki suffer anymore. She sets her back down on the seat and go to the ticket counter with new determination. Just as she's ordering tickets to the Narita airport, Miki's name rings through the building. Meiko stops. Yuu yells for Miki over and over and he races to find her. Finally Miki stands blankly and numb. Meiko waves her arm to get Yuu's attention.

Yuu rushes to embrace her. He quickly tells her he's sorry. That he's been at Brian's beach house and that he didn't know she was there until An told him. Of course nothing happened with Jinny. Not at all. He again repeats that he's sorry and that he wants to apologize.

A weak voice says "No".

"No?" Yuu is bewildered.

"I can't be your girlfriend anymore."

Miki.

"I'm Tired. Having a romance at the end of a phone line and not catching each other... I was worried that you had a new girlfriend... I'm worn out. I thought I could wait for you, that distance doesn't matter...but I'm not OK. I won't be OK unless you're close to me. If you go back to Japan with me now.. " She sadly adds "But you can't do that, can you?"

"I'm sorry. You're in pain. I didn't know...obviously. As for me, all I can say is 'wait for me'. Is that so bad? If you still feel pain.....(Yuu is obviously having difficulty saying the rest)....then there's nothing I can do to stop you from breaking up with me."

Miki seems startled briefly by his last words. Through gently falling tears, Miki smiles softly at Yuu and thanks him for understanding her. She goes to her purse and pulls out the auto dialer and tells him she won't need it anymore. He lifts his hand and she drops it into his palm. She says "Sayonara" and walks past him. Yuu's eyes show that he is as stricken as she is.

Commentary: I noticed something VERY unusual in this story. It's a concept that I doubt has even been commented on or expressed in the American film industry. Of course, this story shows a no win situation between two nice people who are madly in love. No bad guys. That in itself is not a usual concept expressed in our industry either but it's not the one I'm referring to. It's this...

I personally tried to figure out when Miki decided to break off with Yuu. But I noticed something interesting. Even to the point where she's outside of the dorm begging Yuu to come to her to give her a last chance to save they're feelings for each other, se hasn't decided to break off with him. Instead she says that if she leaves that area, her feelings were going to come away from him too. It didn't sound like a conscious decision but that something would happen to her feelings whether she wanted it to happen or not. (Of course, she has to leave because he's not there.)

Miki later describes it as the sound of break glass. I don't know if readers will agree, but I get the distinct feeling that the author(s) were not talking about a decision at all, but that there was a physical break between them...very reminiscent of the description given of the aura that supposedly connects two people in love and how it can break when there's a separation between lovers.

Emotionally exhausted and as she put it to Meiko "separated from each other", (again it sounds like a tangible thing) it was how she was able to break off from Yuu. This is something she wouldn't never done in the past.

MARMALADE BOY #63 & 64 (Comments out of Japan by Chris Swett...prior to our obtaining them here in the states)

Chris: In the process of watching the newer episodes, I get to see flashbacks and finally heard what Jinny told Miki in front of Yuu's door at the dormitory. She told Miki that Yuu was GREAT IN BED! I can see why she was a little miffed. When Yuu's roommate (Karen: Bill) finds out what Jeannie said, he slaps her hard enough to leave a big red mark and send her crying to her room.

Miki gets chased by both Kei and Michael. Kei is pretty laid back but Michael puts on a tux and presents Miki with a dozen red roses, then hugs her. She pushes him away, scattering roses everywhere. She runs away, right into Kei. She tells him to unhand her and continues running. She really wants Yuu back.

And the story goes on...If Jeannie wasn't such a little bitch, I'd probably fall in love. There should be a law against character designs where the eyes take up half the face.

The saga goes on... (Karen: I presume the preview is about #63 and the following #64) Jeannie officially gives up on Yuu and apologizes to him. Yuu decides to try to make up with Miki, so he apologizes into one of the chip recorders and mails it to her. He gets impatient, though, so finally gets up the courage to call. In the meantime, Miki has gone to Kei's to listen to him play the piano. Michael answers the phone and tells Yuu that Miki has gone on a date... Chris

July 25th, 1995

Masatomo and I have finished the complete translation of #63 now. But before I go into a synopsis of that, I want to give another special thanks:

I am ALWAYS grateful to Chris Swett (an American living in Japan) for his effort to keep me informed and up to date from Japan.

Although, Jinny actually said worse things than what Chris said she said, she didn't actually say what his performance was like. (blush) It was close though. To refresh your memory on what she actually DID say, see the translation on #51.

Uh-hmmm, while I'm at it, let me say that translating that particular section was not an exactly comfortable situation - an American woman translating with a Japanese man! He was a good egg about it though. Me? Well, what can I say? Argh!

Synopsis of #63: (KD)

Miki sits at her desk writing Meiko. She thanks her for worrying about her but tells her that she'll be all right. She remembers returning the auto dialer to Yuu just before telling him sayonara. She apologizes..."We cheered each other on during our long distant loves...but now I retire.

The telephone rings. Michael answers. It's Yuu. He wants to talk to Miki but Michael won't connect him to her phone. He reminds Yuu that he's Japanese, he's supposed to give her up without a fuss...after being dumped. Michael hangs up on Yuu.

Michael then picks up the phone and dials Kei. Kei is shocked to hear the news. Michael tells Kei that he'll compete with him for Miki, but there's to be no cheating. A far more mature Kei is simply stunned about the news about Miki and Yuu.

At school, Miki is very over-cheerful and loud. Mari, Chigusa, and Keiko talk about tickets to a Traffic Jam concert and forgetting an assignment. Mari and the gang are shocked that Miki, of all people got the assignment done when they didn't. Miki tells them that they are over-reacting...it's just that she couldn't sleep. Meiko over-hears this. She knows that Miki isn't sleeping because of Matsuura-kun. But Meiko isn't the only one to notice Miki's behavior change. Ginta's watching.

At tennis club, Miki covers the court almost like in a vengeance. Ryouko even comments on how spirited she is. Ginta from a distance keeps an eagle eye on her.

After practice, Miki holds her face under the faucet water. One might think she was trying to cool off, but to this observer, it almost looked like she was numbly trying to drown out her memories as well. Ginta walks up. He tells her to come with him.

Under the gazebo, Miki is heard telling Ginta "Nothing at all". He keeps after her over and over to tell him what's wrong. Finally he reminds her that they're friends. Miki remembers the things Ginta told her right after she and Yuu became a couple. "Miki, if he ever makes you cry, let me know. I'LL KICK HIS ASS!" "I'll keep this anger until then. Having decided this...I feel much better." Miki remembers asking him if he would always be her friend and his reply of "You idiot. Of course!"

Miki turns to Ginta and thanks him. "Yuu and I just broke up". Ginta is so stunned that he yells that Matsuura is a bastard. Ginta, in a rage, asks "Where is he? America? I'll fly over!" Ginta starts to stomp off but Miki grabs him by the back of the shirt and tells him he doesn't

have to. She tells him Yuu didn't do anything. He wonders if "she's sure". Miki says that if anything it's her selfishness that's the reason she broke up with him.

"Tired?" Arimi repeats to Ginta as they walk together. Ginta confirms that this is what Miki said. Ginta tells her that now he's screwed up. Whenever he saw them, he was envious of how natural they were, and they were so happy. "You were envious?" Arimi repeats. Ginta goes on to tell her that Miki is tired FROM being apart. (Not tired OF being apart, but that being apart CAUSED her to be exhausted - the worries, the fears, the sadness, the loneliness. This is a concept not looked at this way in the U.S. but definitely an accurate concept) Ginta worries about Miki being OK.

Yuu sit in the loft above his room looking out at the stars. He lifts the memo recorder and pushes the record button "Miki, I'm sorry. I can't be close to you.....
.....I LOVE you."

He listens to it. "Miki, I'm sorry, I can't be close to you.....I LOVE you."

At K's coop, Rei, Kijima, Akira, and Ryouko are stunned to hear the news from Miki. She tells them in a cheerful sounding voice not to be so serious. She tells them that she's surprised herself but that she's composed. Before they broke up, she was almost crushed by thinking of Yuu all the time. "If he's my boyfriend, why couldn't he have stayed with me?" "What's Yuu doing now?" "Yuu are you OK without me?" When she finished telling them the story, she brightly says "Let's work!"

The adults though are obviously concerned but say nothing. Miki takes a new teddy and asks if it goes to Bear-chan's place. She carries it over to another teddy bear and innocently pretends they're talking to each other. "Are you all right?" "I'm fine, I'm fine." "Were you lonely?" "Let's play together."

At home, the "Odd Quad" and Michael are watching Traffic Jam on TV. The parents are amazed that Michael knows the group. Michael tells them he saw them on American TV. as the opening act for the Reds. Miki mentions that Mari and her other friends are going to the concert. Michael then says he thinks they should all go too. The parents get excited but Miki informs them that they are being over-optimistic. The band's popular and the tickets are sold out. The parents are disappointed...especially Jin and Youji. After all, Shinobu-chan is so cool...and sexy too. Rumi isn't thrill to hear that. Loads of teasing goes on among the parents. Miki realizes that though she and Yuu broke up nothing is changed at home. She realizes it's a good thing that they kept their relationship a secret...or it could've cause problems now.

Michael says next time we'll reserve tickets. The parents agree. Michael adds "for Miki too". He turns to see her walking out of the room "saying she just remembered she has homework". He looks like he knows something's wrong.

Miki goes to her room and leans against her door "Don't cry Miki" she tells herself as though she's trying to boost her own moral. "It was my decision. Don't cry." There's a knock at the door. Michael asks if he can come in. Miki tells him she's sorry but not now.

Miki continues to try to keep herself from crying. Suddenly her name is called over and over. She finally looks up from the floor where she had slumped to. Michael is on her balcony leaning over to look under her window shade. "Open the window" he pleads.

Miki lets him in but treats him like a mother or an older sister would. "Oh Michael!!" What would you've done if you'd fallen?!

Michael tells her "It's because..." Miki won't have any part of his excuses "Don't 'It's because' me". Michael tells her that he felt she was crying and I couldn't have her cry. He couldn't stand it because he wants her to always smile. Miki smiles and tells him gently that he's kind and thanks him.

Michael angles himself to embrace her (without her noticing) just about the time that Miki innocently says "Yuu did that. Yuu did the same thing". This stops Michael in his tracks. Miki relays the story about when their parents decided to test her by "bad acting". How that when she found out she shut herself in her room and Yuu jumped balconies. Michael thinks "Damn Yuu, damn Yuu."

Michael stands behind a pillar dressed in a tux. His arms are filled with red roses. Women passing by can't help but be impressed by the sight the young blond hair, blue eyed American makes dressed up this way. Michael finally sees Miki leaving K's coop. He's on!

He says her name. Miki looks up with surprise. "What's up? You're all dressed up?" Miki is delighted at the sight of the beautiful flowers. "Red Roses" he explains, In America, they're the symbol of "love". "I love you. I want you to receive these flowers and be my girlfriend."

Miki is so taken by surprise, she can only say his name. Michael continues "It might not be acceptable that I ask right after you became free...but you haven't smiled recently and...I can make you laugh, and forget all that's hurt you...I'll make you laugh so hard. So, believe me and be my girl."

Michael gathers Miki into his arms and holds her. Miki is very gentle about this. When Michael lets go, she tells him she's sorry. Miki runs away and the flowers fall to the ground. Michael with a hurt expression yells for her to wait.

Miki runs away with her thoughts running with her "Michael, leave me alone for now. Until I forget Yuu, I want to be left alone." Not watching where she's going she runs into someone. She looks up. It's Kei. He has her by the shoulders and he gently asks her if she's OK. When she realizes he has her by the shoulders, she struggles and orders him to let go of her. Kei, who was only trying to help, has a worried and hurt expression on his face. When she realizes she was mistaken. She tells him "Thank God, I thought you were going to say the same thing as Michael. She apologizes, cutely and says that she's just a bit too self-conscious. She giggles and grins shyly.

Kei smiles lovingly at her and softly tells her "Cry". Miki jerks her head up startled. Kei stares at her open-hearted and gently coaxes by saying that he can tell that she's forcing herself to be cheerful. Miki stares back at him for a long time, then falls against his chest and cry from the depth of her soul.

MARMALADE BOY #64 (KD)

Miki is in her room remembering how she cried on Kei-kun's chest. She wonders how she could cry so HARD. But, then, she realized since Yuu left she hadn't really cried from down deep and that something inside of her was "all tied up". She can't figure though why she was able to show Kei-kun all of her emotions.

Yuu sits at his desk in his dorm room stroking Miki's picture with his thumb. Bill notices and starts to say something but stops himself. Bill isn't exactly aware of the current situation between Yuu and his girlfriend. I wonders if they're breaking up; and the fact that Yuu hasn't

said anything about it makes him think "I thought we trusted each other." Then Bill suddenly remembers Jinny attitude when Miki was in New York. Jinny: "Well, she may have been here last night..."

Bill waits. Jinny comes out of the dorm building. Jinny acknowledges him and thanks him for lending her his notebook, that it really helped. Bill tell her "How could you steal a key and sneak into our room. Brian told us you'd do something...but I couldn't believe you'd do that." Jinny nonchalantly replies "Well, if I didn't hand in the report, I'd fail."

Bill continues by telling Jinny he wants ask her something and that he waited so he could. "For sure, did Yuu's girlfriend visit that day?"

"Yes, yes, yes...so what." Jinny appears to care less.

"Jinny, you know something, don't you."

"I sort of know".

"Did you see her?"

"Yes, I did."

"Did you meet and talk?"

"On that day..."

Jinny repeats the worst of everything she said to Miki (see the end of #51)

"That's about it. I didn't think she was going to believe it." Jinny still could care less. "I was so bad."

"Do you understand what you've done!" Bill now showing an unusual temper for his character.

"What's that? I was just joking. I just wanted to tease her. It's the truth."

"I'm amazed. You really don't understand what you've done!" Bill steams.

"Don't get so pissed. You needn't be so serious." Jinny is getting fed up with the criticism.

Bill slaps Jinny across the face hard. Jinny yells at him. Bills angrily tells her that Yuu's girlfriend came a long way and took a lot of trouble to come see Yuu. Did Jinny think that kind of joke was acceptable?! Miki and Yuu could break up because of it! Did she have to do THAT to get Yuu?!

Jinny runs away and up to her dorm room. Doris pumps her to find out what's wrong. When she finds out, she tells Jinny that she's mad too and that of course Bill got angry. Doris tells her she has to apologize to Yuu. But, she warns her, not expect to be forgiven because she's done too much damage.

Miki is in her room when the phone rings. She's startled at first but then realizes she doesn't take phone calls from Yuu anymore. Her heart used to pound whenever she heard the phone ring, but now she doesn't have to care about it anymore.

Rumi pages her over her phone and tells her Kei-kun's on the phone and connects the caller. Kei advises that there no use being gloomy and depressed, why not come listen to him play the piano next Sunday. He tells her that his parents want to see her too. Miki cheerfully tells him that she'd be happy to and that she'll definitely come! She thanks him for inviting her.

In the classroom, Ginta watches her worriedly. He passes down the jet memo with a message for her "Miki, think over Matsuura again."

Ginta opens his locker. The jet memo is there. "I've already decided. It's over between us." Ginta is still upset. "Are you sure, Miki?", he thinks to himself.

Jinny paces outside of Yuu and Bill's room. She decides. She looks for Yuu and finally finds him lying on the roof of the dormitory staring at the star filled sky. Jinny asks if she can come over (to where he is). He tells her "Yeah, come on out."

After some small talk, Jinny tells him that she's got to apologize to him. Yuu stops her and tells her it's OK. Jinny asks him if he knows what she did. Yuu replies that part of it he knows from what Miki's friend (Meiko) said. Jinny finds herself shocked that Yuu isn't angry. He tells her it's the past.

Jinny says it's not over yet and she wants to apologize SERIOUSLY to Yuu, that she thinks she needs to undo what she done. She explains that Bill scolded her saying that she didn't understand what she had done and she tells Yuu that it's true she didn't understand his and Miki's feelings. She messed up the feeling between them and that she's SO sorry. Things won't be solved by apologized but...that she feels guilty. Please forgive her.

Yuu feels differently. He tells her that breaking up with Miki is between him and Miki.

Jinny is surprised. "Don't you blame me?"

Yuu solemnly tells her "It's not your fault. I would say it's because I couldn't understand Miki's feelings. I'm much more to blame."

Jinny asks him if he'll listen to her. She tells him that she knows it's strange for her to say it when his mind is still on her (Miki) but that she loves him. It's the first time she's felt like this. Every day he filled her heart and it hurts.

Yuu tells her that he's happy to know she cares about him but to leave him alone for now.

Jinny realizes if he COULD change to another girlfriend, she wouldn't love him the way she does. She thanks him and remarks that because of him, she'd be a nicer person.

Jinny leaves. Yuu looks up at the stars "Miki, I want to hear your voice."

Miki chants out the usual "I'm leaving!" Michael tears out to the front hall wanting to know WHERE she's going!

"Well actually," she tells him "I've been invited to Kei-kun's." No sooner has she said it then she realizes it wasn't a good idea to tell Michael.

"Miki, did you choose him?!"

"Uh no, it's not like that."

"Then why are you going to his home?"

"I was asked to come listen to the piano."

"If he says come, would you go anywhere with him? If I ask you, will you come?"

"I give up. I get it. I get it. Next time I'll play with you. For now, (she's cute begging like a mother to a child to behave) let me go. I'll be late." Miki escapes and says to herself "God, Michael's so jealous!"

Michael lies across a couch kicking his foot irritably into the air. "What! She handles me like a kid."

Yuu takes the voice memo with it's message "Miki, I sorry. I can't be with you. I LOVE you." and the auto dialer and packages them. He takes them to the post office and sends them by air. As he's leaving the post office he thinks "We can start over, Miki."

Kei thanks Miki for coming as Miki stands stunned at the magnificence of Kei's home. His mother comes out and greets her warmly. She attends to Miki's every need "Do you want coffee or tea?" Kei offers her some of the cookies before her. Miki comments that they're so beautiful - a big difference from how she cooks. Kei tells her that his mother made them for Miki. Miki is delighted. Kei tells her he doesn't know whether they're any good or not, but to try them.

Kei father says that he can't eat sweets. Kei's mother returns and says that that's right, he can't eat them at all. But if we had had a daughter, like Miki-san we could've made confectioneries and kilts (this may be quilts). It would've been enjoyable.

Miki asks her "if she makes kilts". Kei's mother confirms that but says she's not good at it. But she enjoys doing it. She asks Miki if she would like to try it. Kei's father pipes up and tell her that that would be dangerous for Miki. (implying that Kei's mother would want to keep her permanently). Miki tells her that she wanted to try it. Would she teach her?

At the Koishikawa/Matsuura household. Michael's still burn up. "That son-of-a- bitch (Masatomo's wording, not mine) got ahead of me! Why'd Miki visit his home! The telephone rings...

"Hello.....Yuu?"

"Michael, I want to talk to Miki badly! Can I talk to her?"

"That's impossible. Miki's on a date with Tsuchiya Kei."

Yuu stares into nothingness in total shock. "Tsuchiya...."

"Kei?" a voice finishes Yuu's words, but it's Kei's mother. "Would you play the piano for Miki-san?"

Kei chooses Miki's song, the one he wrote for her. Kei's mother points out that Kei looks very happy at the piano and that it must be because Miki is there to listen. She thanks her for coming.

Miki is impressed about the power of Kei's piano to make her feel relaxed. She mentally thanks him from the bottom of her heart.

In the preview for the next episode Kei says. "She pretends to be cheerful in front of other people, but her mind is completely tired. Don't you understand that? Why don't you support her!"

The reason I put in the preview this time when I usually don't is that these words are not spoken or expressed in the next episode. They're apparently his UNSPOKEN thoughts, his REASONS for what he says instead. These thoughts are important for understanding him.

MARMALADE BOY #65

Miki is in her room writing Meiko. She tells her that she visited Kei-kun's house, how beautiful the music was and how nice his parents were. But...

At school, Meiko comes up from behind Miki and calls her name. Miki doesn't answer. She has headphones on listening to Kei's music. Once she finally realizes that Meiko's there she explains that Kei-kun recorded his music and that it's not only classical but jazz and pop too.

Meiko can't help but notice that Miki is MUCH HAPPIER. Could it be because of Kei-kun?

Miki is startled out of her wits. "Oh NOOOOO!"

Meiko suggests that Miki start dating Kei-kun.

Miki starts acting very strange which doesn't get by Meiko unnoticed. In fact, Meiko looks quite worried.

The telephone rings. Yuu races to the phone, hoping. It's Bill's mother. As Bill talks on the phone. Yuu stares off into nothingness.

Bill, Brian, Yuu, Doris and Jinny sit together out in the park. Brian wants to know if they'll all go to a Robert Zemeckis (sp?) movie. Bill thinks it sounds good. Jinny surprised about them wanting to see another science fiction. Jinny asks Yuu if he's going. He tells them that he doesn't really want to. He has a report to complete. He walks away from the group. Brian complains "What's with him? He hasn't been hanging around with us lately." Jinny leans over to Bill to find out what the situation is between Yuu and his girlfriend. Bill tells her it isn't going well. When Jinny sadly hangs her head, Bill tells her that nothing can be done about the past. Jinny agrees and perks up and asks the group if they want to go for pizza after the movie.

Yuu stands on a small bridge staring at an airliner passing over head and thinks about things solemnly.

Miki is just returning from school, when the postman pulls up on his motorcycle. "Are you Miss Koishikawa? Here's a package. Would you stamp it?"

Miki takes care of the formalities. When she looks at it, she's paralyzed when she realizes who it's from.

She races into the house with the package. She takes the tape off and finds the memo recorder and the auto dialer. She's numb. The doorbell rings and scares her for a second. She nervously answers the door. It's Kei.

Kei looks inquiringly at the box in her hand. She nervously laughs and puts the box behind her back. Kei tells her that he's going to New York for a piano competition being held there. Miki is impressed that he's competing in a foreign country and wishes him luck. Kei asks if she has any messages for her boyfriend. Miki gravely answers "No, not really." She then acts perky and encourages Kei. The box slips out of her hand and onto the floor....

Miki rushes to pick up the contents. Kei observes, "From your boyfriend?"

Miki tries to hide the information "It's nothing important". She tosses it onto a nearby counter. Kei tells her "bye" and turns to leave. Miki tells him to do his best.

Miki sits at her desk looking at the two robots with trepidation. She forces herself to pick up the memo recorder. She cringes and pushes the button. "Miki, I'm sorry. I can't be with you.....I LOVE you. Miki remembers some of the romantic times between her and Yuu as Yuu's "I LOVE you" resounds in her mind and each time Yuu "I LOVE you" sounds more desperate.

Miki's hand shakes as she holds the auto dialer and reaches for the phone.

The phone rings in Yuu's and Bill's room. Yuu races for the phone believing it's Miki, but it's Anju calling for Bill. Bill takes the phone and Yuu walks to the window. He stares out the window "Miki, have we really broken up?".

Miki shaking, puts the memo recorder and auto dialer into her desk drawer, turn her back on them and shoves the drawer shut with her backside. "I decided it's over. I decided!

The family and Michael are sitting down at home to an expensive meal of sukiyaki. The "odd quad" is being cute as usual. Chiyako mentions that it's been a long time since they were all together...if only Yuu-kun was there. She wonders what he's doing now. Miki stops eating and lowers her chop sticks. When her mother asks if she's eating OK, Miki makes a big show of pretending to be eating well.

In her room, she shakingly starts to go for the drawer with the auto dialer. She grabs her own hand and pulls it away. "No! No! I'll go into a depression again!"

Yuu sits against a tree in the park when An shows up. She's there to see Bill and is supposed to meet him in front of the dorm. Yuu offers to take her there. While walking, An asks if he's heard from Miki. Yuu's expression changes drastically "No, she may be busy". An is stunned and tries to find out more but Bill shows up. Yuu excuses himself and leaves. Bill and An discuss the situation between Yuu and Miki.

Miki and Michael are alone at the kitchen table eating before going to school when the phone rings. Miki gets nervous and lowers her head. Michael understanding why, answers the phone. It's Anju. Miki tells Michael she'll take it upstairs.

Anju tells Miki that Yuu's roommate told her about Miki and Yuu. Why did Miki break up with Yuu when they got along so well and were so happy together? Miki tells her that she realized that if they stayed together we'd hurt each other. There'd be more bad times than happy ones. Anju tells her that she herself gave up on Yuu because she realized that no one could come between the two of them. Miki responds in great pain "I'm very sorry. But I don't want to be alone...and I don't want to hurt Yuu again.

Anju and Bill talk. Bill feels it's too bad but that it looks like they are really through. He turns to An and reminds her that this is her chance but then realizes that An is not the kind of girl who could take advantage of a situation like that. He remarks that he and she are a lot alike. "If there was a chance...but I don't have any courage to begin." Anju asks he loves somebody. He answers "I'm in the same boat as you...she loves someone else. I'm not good at showing my emotions, so I don't have chance with her." He apologizes to Anju because he feels that he should have told her but he admits he feels comfortable when he's with her (Anju). It's the truth. Anju agrees that they are just alike. Bill and Anju cement a very close friendship.

Yuu is at his locker at school. One of the dorm guys tells him that there's someone waiting outside for him. Yuu exits the building and scans the grounds until he sees a young man leaning against a pole...it's Kei. Kei greets him with a solemn "It's been a while". Yuu and Kei sit on a hill talking.

"I'm surprised to see you in New York. I doubt you came to New York to see me." Yuu remarks pleasantly.

"I'm here for a piano competition. But I wanted to talk to you anyway." Kei returns politely.

"To me?"

Kei voice changes and he becomes his usual direct self. He tells Yuu he wants to put it to him clearly. "Miki...I'll take her." He remarks to Yuu that Yuu sent her a package didn't he. He informs Yuu that she wasn't happy to get it. Yuu looks startled and pained. Kei sharply tells him "Tell me clearly...that's it's over between you and Miki. Yuu tells him that depends on Miki's feelings. "She's tired and needs support. But I can't be there for her." Kei is quick "I can support her." Yuu turns to him and asks if he's confident that he can. Kei answers "sort of". Yuu tells him that he'll leave her in his care. Kei asks him if he's sure. Yuu decides "Yes, if that's what she wants". Kei is miffed "You!" Yuu asks him to "Please take care of Miki".

In her bed, Miki lays with her eyes wide open looking angry as though betrayed, as though she knew what had transpired between the two men. Which couldn't happen, but..

MARMALADE BOY #66 (KD)

At her desk, Miki writes Meiko that she's going to leave what happened with Yuu in the past and from now on, she only look forward and be alive. She reaches into her drawer for an eraser and see the two items Yuu sent to her and his words "I'm sorry Miki. I can't be with you. I LOVE you. She's uncomfortable but realizes it's really over.

Yuu is haunted by the conversation with Kei as he sits on top of the dorm building.

Miki dusts in K's coop. She see something that attracts her attention. It's a music box. She opens it. It's plays "Moment", the same tune as in the music box that Yuu gave her. Suddenly, she's transported in time. Yuu is telling her he'll buy it for her. A grateful Miki says "Yuu". Miki is confused because Yuu is disappearing and the tune from the music box is sounding funny. She asks Yuu "What's happening?". Miki starts screaming "NOOOOOOOO!" The music box drops to the floor and breaks.

Rei runs up to find out if Miki's OK. Miki is very depressed and sorry about breaking the merchandise. The ever-understanding Rei suggests that they leave the store in Akira's hands and go to the wholesalers to get stock.

Miki is very awe struck at the wholesalers. Rei is impressed with Miki's ability to understand what the customers want. Miki realizes, while she's there, that she used to dream of being Yuu's wife but that it was only her dream. Now, she needed a dream for just herself. She finally realizes that she'd like a dream...like Rei-san's store (is to Rei-san).

At home, the odd quad are watching a soap opera, Michael asks where Miki is. The quad tell him that she's probably got held up at work for a while. Michael hopes to himself that she isn't over at Kei-kun's house.

The parents get really worked up about what's going on in their show. It's a triangle. "Triangle?"that catches Michael's attention. Jin remarks that they (meaning the odd quad) were smart because they solved their problems from the beginning. Michael wants to know if they think that "a clear decision is best". They tells him that it is.

Michael and Kei talk in an abandoned playground at night. Kei tells Michael "No". He feels that Miki needs time right now. A suffering Michael complains that leaving things unclear is like hell for him. Kei sharply retorts "Miki just broke up with the guy!" Michael is unconvinced "No matter how recent it is, they've broken up for good. They won't recover."

Kei finds himself remembering the conversation between himself and Matsuura. Kei comes to and says he understands but to let HER CHOOSE if she wants to.

In New York, Bill, Brian, and Yuu sit at a picnic bench. Brian asks Yuu what's going on with his girlfriend. Yuu sadly tells them that there's someone close to Miki that can support her. Brian asks if it's the guy that visited Yuu... wasn't his name "Kei"? Yuu continues "I asked him to take care of Miki. I thought it was the right thing for her." The Americans are surprised by what Yuu said. Brian though is full of advice about women. Bill wants to know if he's drinking coke or beer.

Miki ends up going on a date with both Kei and Michael. (Meiko advised Miki to just go with the flow on this until she discovers what her feelings really are). Miki asks the guys where they're going. Kei tells her that only Michael knows. Michael doesn't tell but he's very excited because he's wanted to go there for a long time....it turns out to be Wonder Dog.

Kei sighs about what a kid Michael is. Michael gets pissed and says that there's more adults there than kids. Just then, a bunch of yelling children run by. Michael gives a sound of surprise and Kei humphs. Miki realizes that the boys don't realize that this is where she and Yuu had their first date.

In the park, vivid memories flood in on Miki as she walks around. (Some of these scenes we never saw in the original date in episode #3. It's meant to show us that more happened than we knew).

The guys take her on the roller coaster, once with Kei riding beside her and once with Michael. Roller coasters don't agree with Miki real well. The guys decide to try to win Miki a stuffed toy and that they'll compete to see who gets it first. What would she like? Miki notices to herself that the Kappa-chan family is gone. She asks for a penguin. While the guys are angling themselves for a win, Miki has time to think about her memories of Yuu. "My memories of Yuu feel very old." The pain in her chest is getting smaller now. Like this, if she forgets little by little, then she'll mature. Then she concludes that she doesn't want to forget everything, it would be sad to forget the good things. But then, if she doesn't forget, I'd be hard on her.

Michael sees her deep in thought and barely paying attention to what the guys are doing and he demands to know which she chooses, Kei or himself. He wants a clear decision.

Miki is taken by surprise. "Now? Just like that?" Miki thinks to herself that she isn't ready to call anybody "my boyfriend" yet.

Kei feels a bit hurt "You don't like me?"

Michael follows "How `bout me?"

Miki tells them that she doesn't dislike either one of them but... Her thoughts are spinning "I can't completely forget Yuu."

Though he can't hear her thoughts, Michael says "I'll make you forget Yuu" in a demanding tone.

Kei is soft. "Miki, you can't forget the guy...I love you, knowing that you can't. He walks up to her with great dignity "I'll be with you always...to protect you". Miki's defenses are completely shook. Slowly she moves towards him until she's in his arms.

MARMALADE BOY #67 (KD)

Miki sits at her desk writing Meiko that she's fallen for Kei-kun. She remembers his words "I'll be with you always...to protect you" but she can't help being concerned that perhaps she's substituting Kei for Yuu.

At the breakfast table, Miki wonders if the food's bad. Michael's not eating too well. Michael's pouting, "After you refused me, I have no appetite". Miki assure him that he's be OK, he'll find a great girlfriend.

Michael doesn't think so and tells her that he can't think of anybody except her...now or ever. He just wants to go back to America. Miki puts him back in his place by telling him that IF he doesn't behave, she's going to hate him! Michael is taken aback "Don't do that". Miki orders him to never say that again and that she wants to get along with him like brother and sister.

Miki and Meiko sit at one of the outdoor tables at school discussing the fact that Miki's going to a piano concert with Kei on Sunday. Miki tells Meiko that she's not sure it's OK because she may be unconsciously substituting Yuu with Kei. Meiko reassures her by telling her that when she starting dating Miwa-san that she felt the same way as Miki....that Miwa-san was a substitute for Namura-sensei. It made her uneasy. She adds "But my feelings for Miwa-san weren't a lie. I realize that now. True, when I returned to Sensei, it hurt Miwa-san, but, if I'd never seen Sensei again, I would've remained with Miwa-san and found a different happiness."

Meiko advises her that if she feels she needs Kei-kun to be obedient to her gut feelings.

Kei and Miki sit listening to the piano concert. Miki turns to look at Kei. She remembers "If you think you need Kei-kun..." and realizes she really does. Kei turns to look back at her with soft, loving eyes. Miki returns the feeling.

Ginta and Arimi are on a double date with Tsutomu and Yayoi. Tsutomu says in his unusually loud voice that the movie was good and that he was impressed. Yayoi agrees that although she didn't expect it to be, it was rather interesting. Arimi suggests that since they have time, they should go to a coffee shop. Tsutomu looks around across the street for a suitable one, when he sees Miki and Kei walking together. In shock, he lets the others know about it and how shocked he is that Koishikawa would be dating again after just breaking up with Matsuura.

Arimi notices the news makes Ginta quietly livid.

At the school gazebo, Meiko tells Ginta that it's true about Miki and Kei. Ginta can't figure it. Meiko tells him that Miki was being pestered, so to just leave her alone.

Ginta remembers Yuu leaving from the airport. "Matsuura...it's your fault...that it's come to this!

Yuu and his friends; Bill, Brian, Doris, and Jinny, are walking downtown after watching a concert and discussing the band. Jinny's thirsty so Brian recommends that they go to "Nick's". Doris agrees that that sounds good. Yuu adds that, of course, Brian's going to treat them. Brian's a good egg about it and they all head for "Nick's". But as they're walking Yuu's mind is on Miki.

Ginta watches Miki playing tennis. After, he finds her on a bench toweling off. He asks if he can talk to her a minute. He takes her by the arm and lifts her off the bench because he feels this isn't a good place to talk. Whatever, is on his mind is not discovered because Ryouko-sensei calls Miki over to her. Ginta is visibly upset at not being able to talk to her.

Arimi and Ginta sit at a coffee shop table. Arimi suggests that Yayoi is good but that Rokutanda is loud, so why don't just the two of them (Arimi and Ginta) go on the next date. Suddenly Arimi yells "Are you listening to me!" Ginta asks her what she said. An irritable Arimi tells him that they're there to discuss their next date...but that he's preoccupied. "You're thinking about Miki-san, aren't you" she adds. Ginta honestly tells her that he is a little bit but that their date is more important. Ginta picks up a brochure and works very hard to convince Arimi that he's interested. Arimi's solemn and slightly hurt look shows she knows what's going on.

The Koishikawa/Matsuura family, watch TV. Michael's at the table nearby scarfing down (what looks like to me) ice cream right from the container. (Yes! The way I eat it! OK, OK...back to serious) Miki wonders what was on Ginta's mind. The telephone rings. Miki answers. It's Kei. Miki lets him know that on the next day she has tennis club so after that she'll be free.

After practice, Ginta gets Miki alone to talk. "Why didn't you tell me...about Matsuura...and about this. Do you really think of me as your friend!"

Miki seriously tells him "Because if I told you that I'm Kei-kun's girlfriend, you'd think I was irresponsible. I didn't want an important friend to think of me that way. But, I want you to understand. I need Kei-kun now...a peaceful time with Kei-kun.

Miki and Meiko are walking towards the school's entrance gate as Miki tells a funny story to Meiko. Ginta walks from a distance behind. Meiko excuses herself as Kei meets Miki at the entrance.

Ginta is totally incensed. He wonders WHY it has to be Tsuchiya. He spouts off that he can't let that bastard have her, that he'll take her himself. No sooner has he thought it than he wonders what he's saying!

Miki puts on her shoes in the entry and yells "I'm leaving" to the family. The odd quad talk about how much Miki and Kei-kun talk on the phone. They surmise that the two must be dating.

Arimi waits for Ginta. He's obviously very late. Arimi remembers his behavior at the coffee shop. Her name's called. It's Ginta racing down the stairs. She's relieved to see him. When he reaches her he bows to her and tells her "He's sorry". Arimi is stunned, this is very extreme. Ginta tells her that he can't leave Miki alone. Until he knows if Tsuchiya Kei is qualified to date Miki, he can't let him have her. Arimi strongly points out that that's between Miki-san and Kei-kun. What does it have to do with Ginta?! Ginta tells her as Miki's friend, he can't leave it alone. Arimi has had it "My friend, my friend! Which is more important, Miki-san or me!" Ginta doesn't answer. He's terribly uncomfortable. Finally he turns his head away from her and tells her he's sorry and runs off leaving her behind.

Kei and Miki walk around downtown. Suddenly, Miki starts as she realizes that Kei is holding her hand. She remembers the first time Yuu held her hand. (for romantic purposes, that is). But, Kei smiles gently at her and she smiles back full of love and joy.

They walk past a shop with memories. Miki recalls the day Yuu took her there to help get her mind off the upcoming tennis match. Miki wonders to herself why she keeps thinking about Yuu and feels sorry for Kei. Kei notices her expression as she remembers. But he only asks "Do you want a crepe?" She tells him she'd love one. Kei takes her hand and they run.

Finally, Kei and Miki start to pass by a bench. It's the one that Miki and Yuu exchanged their medallions. This really brings up the past for Miki. Kei softly puts his arm around her shoulder and asks if she'd like to sit down. They sit on the bench, Kei reminds her that he told her "'I know you can't forget the guy...I love you knowing that.' So, don't push yourself. If you feel sad, cry." She cries quietly. He turns away and tells her "Let's make better memories of our own."

MARMALADE BOY #68 (KD)

This episode opens repeating the scene of Miki and Kei at the park. Miki is sitting on the bench where she and Yuu exchanged medallions. Kei tells her that he knows she can't forget the guy, he loves her knowing that. He softly tells her not to push herself, if she's sad, cry. The tears fall quietly, Kei turns his back to give her some privacy and says "Let's make better memories of our own".

Later, Miki and Kei are sitting quietly on the bench together. Miki's tears are gone, and the sky is turning colors beautifully. They seem to be just taking things in. Kei stands, leans over and takes Miki's hand, and asks "Shall we go?"

Flowers, flowers everywhere. Miki is captivated by the beauty of so many flowers in bloom. Kei tells her that the greenhouse that he's taken her to has a good air conditioning system so there's a variety of flowers in bloom year around. Miki becomes excited by the beauty and fragrances of the flowers. Kei agrees that the flowers are wonderful. Just being around them can cheer anyone up. Miki smiles because she realizes that that was Kei's intention - to cheer her up. Kei tells her that anytime she wants to come, he'll bring her. (KD: It's his uncle's greenhouse) Miki seems pleased that she's making new memories with Kei-kun.

Outside the fence of Koishikawa/Matsuura house, Miki and Kei stand face to face. Kei cups Miki's hands inside his. Miki thanks him for a wonderful day. He says "no need to". His eyes intensify and his grip becomes more emotional as he brings his hands and hers more upward. It looks very much like he wants to kiss her. Suddenly Miki feels very nervous. She smiles nervously and quickly pulls her hands away "See ya later, right?". Kei doesn't even make a face showing disappointment. He just says "Right. Bye. " He turns and walks away.

Miki doesn't even get through the gate before Ginta's in her path. "Ginta!" Ginta sharply tells her that he doesn't get it! Sitting on the front steps of the house, Ginta tells her that he KNOWS she's tired (emotionally exhausted) but that he didn't think he could do anything for her...but WHY Tsuchiya Kei, WHY?! Ginta tells her that no matter how many times he goes over it in his mind, he can't understand it.

He tells her to think it over again because Matsuura is best for her. BUT if Matsuura and she don't get back together, that he... He doesn't finish the sentence. He can't say it. Ginta runs

away saying that until he knows whether Tsuchiya is good for her, he doesn't want her to date him.

Ginta is walking in the city. He thinks about what happened and wonders why he went to her house. He remembers the things that happened with Arimi. He finds a pay phone and calls her. Ginta tells her that he's sorry about today, that something went wrong with him. Is it all right if he see her right away? She agrees. He tells her to meet him at the fountain and that he'll leave right away.

At the fountain, Arimi arrives first. She has the jet memo. When Ginta arrives, Arimi isn't there but the jet memo is. Ginta picks it up and reads "Sayonara". Ginta becomes frantic. He yells her name. No Arimi.

Behind a tree, Arimi sadly says "Goodbye....Ginta." and leaves. Ginta runs to look for Arimi.

In front of Sagaki Academy, Ginta hopes to catch Arimi but Arimi left before he got there. A voice rings out "Yo...Ginta!" It's Tsutomu. Tsutomu is in a great mood and excitedly suggests that he and Ginta should double date Yayoi and Arimi again. Ginta looks at Tsutomu with eyes barely holding back the tears. Tsutomu gets serious and compassionate and wants to know what's happened.

Miki, in her school uniform, barely gets back to the gate in front of the house before her name rings out "KOISHIKAWA!" Miki is stunned to see Rokutanda-kun (Tsutomu) at her house. He yells "WHAT DID YOU DO?!"

Miki asks him what's wrong. He tells her that because Ginta was worried about Miki dating Kei, he canceled a date with Arimi and then Arimi broke up with Ginta. He tells Miki that it's all her fault. Tsutomu tells her that he personally doesn't give a damn who she breaks up with and who she dates, just don't involved Ginta and Arimi. He leaves her after pointing his finger at her and telling her that he'll never forgive her.

In a coffee shop, Miki tells Arimi that she was amazed and asks if it's true. Arimi tells her that when Miki and Yuu broke up, she wasn't interested in Yuu because her mind was filled with Ginta. But Ginta was different. As soon as he realized that Miki and Kei were dating, he began to change and care only about Miki. He's say "Miki is my friend" but the truth is that he doesn't want to give Miki to another guy.

Miki remembers Ginta's words on the steps at home "If you guys don't get back together, I...

"Miki-san may still be in his heart", I've worried about that possibility for some time. But now I know for sure.' Arimi tells Miki. Arimi feels that she doesn't have the confidence to date Ginta anymore.

Arimi explains that when Miki and Yuu broke up it had upset her because she could understand why. But now, she feels she does. Every girl wants a guy that looks only to her and if it's not right for her to feel that way, then she can't believe in anything. Miki agrees but tells Arimi that the situation between she and Yuu and the one between Ginta and Arimi, is different. Miki explains that she and Yuu were too far away to make sure of their feelings. Every time she called Yuu she missed him. She couldn't stand it anymore. But with Arimi and Ginta, they've always been near each other. They can show each other how they feel and be certain of their feelings.

Miki and Meiko sit at one of the outdoor tables at school discussing the Arimi\Ginta problem. Miki tells Meiko that she feels badly because her problem is affecting others. Meiko assures

Miki that she's not to blame, that's it normal for couples to have problems, off and on, that Miki's problems merely triggered theirs causing them to sprout up. Ginta was upset by Miki's situation and Arimi-san sensed it but does Miki really think that that's the end of it? By now, she reminds Miki, Arimi should've caught on to what Miki told her about showing each other how they feel. Those two ought to be regretting things by now but just can't figure out a way to get back together.

Miki thinks "A way"?

Miki slips behind a tree as Arimi-san passes by outside Sagaki Academy. A loud voice is heard fending off some other guys that want to meet Yayoi. Miki runs up to Rokutanda-kun yelling his name. She grabs an uncooperative Tsutomu and hauls him away. He yells that he doesn't want to talk to her. But she mischievously grins and tells him "That's OK". She whispers in his ear about Yayoi.

Yayoi and Arimi are at an amusement park. Yayoi thanks Arimi for coming with her. Rokutanda-kun suddenly came down with a fever, she tells Arimi, and the discount tickets are only good for this day.

Arimi tells her that she's glad because she really WANTED to play hard. Yayoi gets excited and tells her that that's wonderful. In the background, Miki slips from tree to tree, watching. (This is drawn very humorously).

Arimi asks which ride they should go on first. Yayoi becomes startled and nervously looks quickly at her watch. Yayoi points to a Ferris wheel with compartments that are fully enclosed and are heart shaped. Arimi seems surprised but Yayoi assures her that she loves this ride.

On the platform for the ride, Yayoi coaxes Arimi along. From the other direction we heard a irritated voice complaining "Why do I have to come to an amusement park with a guy?!" Tsutomu is literally pushing Ginta saying "It's all right, it's all right!". Shoved close enough to see each other Ginta and Arimi can only say each other's names.

When the ride is in position, Tsutomu motions to Yayoi and the two of them shove Ginta and Arimi in before the door shuts and takes them away. Ginta can be seen yelling something at Tsutomu...but he can't be heard. Tsutomu yells "Gooooooooooooo luuuuuuuuuuck! "Pleeeeeeease be haaaaaaaapy!" Below Miki smiles.

Inside Arimi and Ginta are embarrassed and don't know how to start. Finally Ginta blurts out strongly "Everything was my fault!" He reminds her that she asked him who is more important, she or Miki. He tells her that it was decided from the beginning (KD: I believe this is close to our "there's no question about it.") Arimi seems moved by this comment. He tells her that he gets excitable over things and that this time he went totally haywire. That rather than have Miki be with Tsuchiya Kei, that it would be better if he got her himself.

But when he realized he's lost Arimi, all those feelings were completely gone. Ginta tells her with a lot of emotion, that to him, she's more important than ANYONE ELSE! "ONLY you!" Arimi becomes very happy and emotional.

Arimi tells him sadly that she's sorry she was so jealous that she said goodbye one-side and asks if he loves her even so. Ginta smiles and lovingly calls her an idiot. He looks at her with melting eyes. They kiss. Tsutomu hoorays, Miki gives a victory sign.

Arimi and Ginta thank Miki. The group ask Miki to come with them at the amusement park but Miki doesn't want to be a tag along. Ginta asks her once again to think over Matsuura.

Miki thinks about Yuu. She and Yuu are running hand and hand. Their smiles are for each other. The scene changes. They're kissing. The scene changes again to seeing Yuu running and smiling.

MARMALADE BOY #69

Miki sits in her room reading a message from Meiko. Meiko tells her that since summer vacation is near at hand, she's determined that Namura-sensei and her parents will meet. She asks Miki to support her. Miki writes in return that, of course, she'll stand by her. She hopes that Meiko's parents will accept the engagement.

Kei stares with eyes full of love at Miki from across an outdoor coffee shop table. Miki is chattering about the people that are important in her life....about Ginta and Arimi getting back together and about Meiko's attempt to get her parents to accept her engagement. Miki suddenly realizes that she's been doing all the talking. She apologizes to Kei and asks him if he's bored. He smiles and tells her "just of the opposite". He tells her that he was enjoying listening to her and that he'd been thinking about the fact that she has a lot of close, long-time friends. With a slight bit of regret Kei squeezes his glass and continues "If we compare how long I've associated with you, I'd lose." He smiles and tells her that they have lots of time ahead of them, so he doesn't have to rush it.

Miki looks at his smile and notices how sincere and warm it is. His smile she decides makes her feel that her decision to date him was the right one.

Yuu sits in a library with his American cronies - Bill, Jinny, Brian, and Doris and reads a letter he's received from Miwa:

"Yo! How are you? I'm the same as usual. Are you coming home during the break? I heard about Koishikawa from Suzu. Koishikawa is getting along well with Tsuchiya Kei. Well, things happen in life. I thought you'd worry about it and not come back. That's why I'm writing. So come back absolutely...OK?"

With summer vacation coming up Jinny can't wait to go home to see her parents. Doris mentions that Jinny's already packing. Bill asks Yuu if he's going back to Japan. Yuu tells him that he hasn't decided. The others look at him in amazement...but they all know why.

The New York group with Anju included arrive at the beach near Brian's beach house. Brian calls to Jinny and asks her to go swimming with him...but she's not interested. Yuu tells Bill that he appreciates the fact that everyone changes their plans for him (meaning going to the beach together) because he was hesitating going back to Japan. Brian calls out to Bill and Yuu to go surfing with him. Bill asks Yuu if he wants to. Yuu's not sure but Bill tells him that he'll teach him how.

The next scenes are very artsy with everyone enjoying the ocean. Yuu takes a plunge off his surfboard with the others getting a big laugh out of it.

Later the group is sitting on the beach, when Doris notices some parasailers above them. Brian and the others get excited and decide to try it. Yuu decides that he's worried about Anju with her having recently had major surgery and decides to stay behind with her. She insists that he go. She wants the others to wave to her from up there. Yuu leaves with the others but Bill notices how sad she looks and decides to return and stay with her.

From above Jinny looks for An to wave to her but what she sees stuns her. Bill is with An having a wonderful time.

Later during the day, Jinny can't get her mind off what she saw. Doris finds Jinny combing her hair after a shower and tells her that Brian's been looking for her. Jinny asks Doris that if Brian asks where she is to not tell him. Doris asks Jinny if something happened with Brian, but Jinny tells her no. Shortly thereafter, Jinny leaves the beach house while carefully avoiding Brian. While outside she sees Bill and An strolling in the dark.

Bill suggests to An that she tell Yuu how she feels. He adds that it's kind of her to consider Yuu and Miki but that she must be hurting. Anju tells him she's not being kind she's just a coward. It's the same reason as why she's didn't go up parasailing. She explains that she has a habit of protecting her heart more than she needs to. Bill gets direct and tells her to be brave and tell him how she feels. Anju turns to him and bluntly says "What about you, Bill? Can you get the courage to tell Jinny?"

In the kitchen, Doris tries to get straight what Yuu's just told her "You don't want to ruin the relationship between Miki and her new boyfriend? That's why you're uncertain about going back to Japan?" Yuu confirms. Doris tells him he should go back because if their relationship is true, it won't be destroyed by Yuu's return. On the other hand, if his return does break them up, their relationship would've broken up sooner or later anyway. That's the way it is. She adds that Yuu will get hurt but if he's afraid of that, he'll never know the truth. Not going home is just avoiding the problem. Yuu decides to go home.

A grateful Yuu tells Doris that she's a great counselor and friend. Doris repeats the word "friend" sadly. Brian irritably walks through the room "Where the hell did Jinny go? Damn, I really love her but..." When he's gone, Doris says "Making men think I'm their friend, is my weak point. She starts to leave herself but Yuu wants to assure her. He tells her that she's attractive and that one day the one she cares about will notice. Doris is frankly doubtful. "He's a blunderer, stupid, and a blockhead, so if I wait 10,000 years, he'll notice."

Bill is in a bedroom looking in a mirror and remembering An's challenge to get him to tell Jinny his feelings. He decides. OK An, I'll do my best. The door knocks. It's Jinny, who says she wants to talk to him.

Jinny demands to know if he's confessed his feelings to An? She wants to know if he's planning to? Does he like her? She lets him know that she's very surprised at him. It's not right! After all, he's not interested in girls.

Bill can't get over her behavior and asks her why she's like this all of the sudden. Jinny realizes that maybe none of it is her business but explains that ever since seeing him with An the day before, she's been acting weird. She's all right when she sees An with Yuu...but over seeing Bill with Anju kept her from sleeping the night before. She asks Bill again if he'd confessed his feelings to An. Bill tells her no. Jinny asks him why. Bill explains that he's fond of another girl. "Jinny...I'm in love with you. I've loved you for a long time."

Jinny is stunned. Bill asks her if she knows why he talked to Brian the first time. He goes on to tell her that the reason was because Brian was close to Jinny but that's how Jinny came to misunderstand that Bill was gay. Jinny can't believe that it was a misunderstanding because Bill led her to believe it was true. Bill apologizes for letting her believe that but that the reason was that there were so many guys swarming around her that he didn't figure he had a chance to be her boyfriend. But, if he let her believe that he was gay, he could be near her as her friend.

In the kitchen Doris asks Yuu if he's seen Anju on the beach. Doris explains that her swimming suit's gone.

A man demands to know from Anju if she's going up (parasailing) or not. He reminds her that others are waiting. Anju tries to pluck up her courage. She thinks to herself "If I go by myself, I've decided I'll tell Yuu how I feel." She starts to go but a voice rings out her name. It's Yuu. He tells her in a demanding voice that she can't go. She pleads with him to let her go. He refuses. Finally the man tells them that he has the answer. Yuu and An parasail together in a double. Anju decides she can't tell him because she didn't go up alone.

At a booze stand on the beach, Brian is trying to get stone drunk. Doris finds him there making trouble. Brian complains to Doris "Why Bill, why?!" He explains that he can understand her being interested in Yuu but why Bill? Doris tells him that Jinny isn't the only woman around that there's a lot of nice women out there. Brian is irritable and tells her that he doesn't need her sympathy. Doris assures him that's not what she's doing. Brian sarcastically says "Oh yeah, where's...that...nice lady" as he dramatically looks around himself. Doris calmly says "right here". Brian looks at her and is completely shocked.

The mothers meet Miki at the front door. They note that she's late getting home. Miki explains that she had to work late. The mothers tell Miki that Yuu's coming home next week. Miki feels uncomfortable as she remembers their past.

MARMALADE BOY #70 (KD)

Miki writes "Meiko, Yuu's coming back. Of course, it's because it's summer break." She remembers telling him that she couldn't be his girlfriend at the NY airport and realizes that she hasn't seen him since then. And she knows she's going to need to tell him about Kei-kun. She thinks to herself that she doesn't know what kind of face to put on to greet him.

Outside of K's coop, Kei tells Miki that he's heard that Matsuura is coming home for summer break. Then, he wonders why Miki is looking at him so oddly. Miki can't get over how mature and composed he is about it. Kei asks her "Miki, aren't you?" Miki tells him that she's not because she hasn't told Yuu that she's dating him (Kei). Of course, she adds uncomfortably that she doesn't have to report everything to Yuu. But Yuu is part of her family. It's a bit troublesome because although they're family members they were dating.

Kei-kun turns away from her thinking to himself. Kei tells her that if it's hard on her, he'll talk to Matsuura himself. "It's true, you don't have to report to him, if I do it, it'll make that distinction, and you won't have to feel so bad." Miki thanks him but tells him she feels she should be the one to tell him.

It's evening. The family is outside eating, Michael included. Miki suggests to him that they do the fireworks. Michael gets as excited as a child at the idea.

Chiyako and Rumi talk to Jin and Youji about the idea of everyone going to the airport to get Yuu and taking him out to dinner. Michael, excited by the sparkler he just lit, calls to the parents to look at it. Jin asks Michael if it's okay with him. Michael asks "What's that?" Jin explains that they want to go out to dinner after picking up Yuu. Michael tells him that of course, it's okay. Youji asks Miki the same question. Miki carefully says "S-sure, I think so."

Jin gets very excited and starts looking through a telephone book to find a restaurant. Rumi wants Italian. Jin reminds her that they should think of what Yuu-kun likes. Rumi says it's

OK because Yuu-kun **LIKES** Italian. Miki isn't listening. "All the family together...I'm able to escape, less and less." Michael notices that Miki is preoccupied and looking disturbed.

Kei sadly sits at his grand piano playing the piece he wrote for her. He remembers her saying that he was more mature and composed than she is about Yuu coming back. Her words "Though we're family member, we were a couple causes him to wonder "Miki and Matsuura...what then? His image is still in her mind." The doorbell rings...

It's Michael. He tells Kei they need to talk. At a park, Michael tells him to hold onto Miki and not to let go. Kei smiles and says "Idiot, you didn't need to tell me that". But Michael demands to know that if that's the case why is Miki so upset. "I don't want to interfere but... what does she call you? Have you kissed Miki? Kei is a bit irritated at the question and tells Michael he doesn't have to answer that question...it's private.

"Sorry", Michael continues, "But lovers (Japanese connotation of the word, not the intimate American connotation of the word) **DO** kiss each other". So, if you are, wouldn't she call you Kei instead of Kei-kun?" He adds that it's the same in America. (KD How? You got me.) Michael tells Kei to do his best. If he loses Miki to Yuu, he'll (Kei) will know how he (Michael) feels.

The family and Michael wait at the airport. When Yuu finally arrives, the first thing Miki notices is that Anju is with him. The mothers are so excited they run up and pull him from both sides like a wishbone. Yuu struggles with their over-exuberance. Miki turns to Anju and affectionately welcomes her back and says it's good to see her so healthy. Yuu walks up to where the two girls are with his head turned away from Miki and remarks to Anju that it's been a long time since she's seen her father, hasn't it. He smiles and turns to Miki with his eyes closed and says "I'm home". Miki soft trembling little voice returns "Welcome back".

The parents inform Yuu that they have reservations at a restaurant and insists that Anju come too.

Youji pushes the heavy load of luggage on a cart with Michael sitting on top of it for the ride. Youji yells for Michael to get off. Michael's thinking over the name "Anju". When he remembers where he heard it before, he jumps down and Youji goes flying cart in all. Michael asks if she's the one that Bill talks about. Anju tells him that Bill is dating Jinny. Michael is stunned! Miki watches the goings-on from a distance. She tells herself that she needs to tell Yuu about Kei as soon as possible.

At dinner, Rumi remarks that the restaurant has a excellent view and has a nice atmosphere. Jin agrees and feels she should appreciate him.

Michael comments that his brother, Brian, should've been depressed (about losing Jinny). Anju tells him "At first". Yuu adds that he may have noticed another girl's charm. Michael puts two and two together "Would that be Doris?". Anju is surprised "You knew that, Michael?"

Miki listen while the others talk to each other and thinks about Anju being close to Yuu while she has Kei-kun. She talks to Yuu in her mind "Yuu...are you dating Anju-san?" The parents notice her serious face and the fact that she's not eating. Jin calls her name twice before she notices. Jin is concerned that she's very quiet. Chiyako seems worried too. Miki immediately puts on a big show of enjoying the food while telling them "it's not true". Yuu watches her with a serious face.

Later in the lobby, a small wedding party walk past Miki who is ahead of the rest of her group. She bends over as though somewhat affected by the sight and turns toward the door

she just came out of just as Yuu comes through the door. She pulls herself up and nervously asks where the others are. He tells her they're still inside. Miki decides it's time. "Um Yuu...", she begins in a small voice, "I need to tell you something".

She hardly gets started when Anju comes through door. Anju stops cold when she sees the look on Miki and Yuu's faces. She apologizes and tries to leave but Miki stops her and tells her that she wants her to please listen.

"Um... I... I'm dating Kei-kun". Anju can't help but see Yuu's shoulders drop when he gets the news. Miki is looking downward. "I wanted to tell you myself."

Yuu calmly returns "I see". He remembers the conversation he had with Kei in New York where Kei told Yuu that he would take Miki because he (Kei) could support Miki and Yuu couldn't. Back to the here and now Yuu tells Miki that "He's a nice guy" and asks her if she's happy. Miki smiles and says "yes". "I see. Good.", he says kindly. Miki is delighted and thinks to herself that she wasn't expecting them to be able to smile at each other this way or to be so calm.

Out on the streets somewhere, Yuu tells the family that he's going to take Anju home. Anju thanks the family and Miki tells her to "take care". Anju thanks Miki; and Yuu and Anju leave. Michael is taking Yuu's luggage but stops. He rolls the suitcase hard to Miki and asks her to take it. Miki has no time to gather herself before the thing hits her and carries her off.

Michael runs up to Yuu. Yuu asks "What is it, Michael?" Michael in an honest voice tells Yuu that he misjudged him. He thought that Yuu was dating Jinny. So he told Miki about Jinny and wouldn't put her on the phone when Yuu called. But after talking to Yuu he realized it was a mix-up. "It's my fault you two.." Yuu stops him and assures him that it wasn't HIS fault. He DIDN'T cause it. Miki and his separation was their own fault, especially his own. Michael tells him "thank you" but that he NEEDS to tell him say "I'm sorry". Michael runs off to catch up with the others.

Anju remarks that Michael is like his brother, gentle and honest. Yuu doesn't answer. "You were forcing yourself, weren't you?" Anju asks him. "You're pretended to be an understanding ex-boyfriend. You said that her boyfriend is a nice guy, but you don't really think so do you?"

Yuu sadly says "There was nothing else I could do." Anju ask him if it's really OK. Won't he regret it later. Yuu: "She's happy. When she said that, what could I say? I forced Miki to be unhappy. What can I say?" Anju is so moved by Yuu's pain that she runs up to him and leans against him and tells him not to say anything, to just let her be like this.

The phone rings in Miki's room. Kei-kun tells her that he wants to see her the next day. She tells him she works but that after 3 o'clock is OK. She adds she'd be delighted if he'd come to K's coop. He tells her he'll be there and adds "Uh Miki...it's about time to take the "kun" off". "You want me to call you Kei'? I'm a little embarrassed to." Kei assures her that it's okay to change little by little.

Rei, Akira, Kijima, Miki and Yuu are at Kei's coop. Kijima makes a big deal out of putting a bandanna on his head. Yuu tells him that he's sorry about the inexpensive gift. It's a St. Andrews original. Miki teasingly tell them that Yuu gave every member of his family the same thing. Yuu teases back that what else could he do, he totally forgot to get presents. Rei assures him that he didn't have to worry about getting presents since he went abroad to study. Yuu pointedly says that Rei is understanding...not like Miki. Miki sticks her tongue out at him and makes silly noises. Yuu does the same back at her. Everyone laughs at the two.

Kijima tells them that wearing the bandanna reminds him of when he was traveling around the world with a backpack. Akira interjects that his brother-in-law is bragging again. Kijima gets after him for it...then out of the blue gets excited and asks Yuu if he'd like to go camping. Since it's summer break, why not invite a lot of friends. Miki is thrilled and wants to go. Kijima is delighted.

Then Kei-kun arrives and greets everyone, turns to Yuu and says "Hello". Yuu doesn't answer. Miki comes up to him "Hey Kei-kun...I mean Kei (Yuu is taken down a notch by hearing her call him Kei without the "kun".), Kijima-san is taking us camping, wanna come?"

Kei answers that it's all right. Miki starts adding to the list. "Let's invite Ginta and Arimi-san. Then Rokutanda-kun and Yayoi-san will come. Kijima realizes there'll be a bunch of couples coming. Akira adds that he'd like Ryouko to come. Miki figures that should be it then but Yuu asks if he can invite An. Kijima tells him everyone is welcome. With Yuu having decided An should come, Miki wonders if he's going to start dating An. She wonders why her chest hurts. "It's none of my business anymore but... She doesn't finish the thought. Kei watches her thinking.

MARMALADE BOY #71 (KD)

Meiko sits at her desk "Kei-kun asked you to call him Kei? I think it's fine but...usually that sort of thing isn't changed deliberately. It changes naturally." She thinks to herself "In Namura-sensei's case...Shinichi." Back to the letter, she writes that it's too bad she can't go camping and asks Miki to enjoy it for her too.

Two vans travel along some back woods roads. Kijima is driving the first load of friends and Akira follows behind. They pull up in an area with a lake. Miki gets out and stretches and takes in the forest air. Suzu run up to the water and puts her hand in. The rest of the girls follow - Miki, Arimi, Yayoi, and Anju. Suzu, feeling her oats, splashes the cold mountain water on Arimi and Miki. The girls start razzing each other.

Kijima who is unloading the vans starts bitching, "Wouldn't you know the women would..." He doesn't finish the sentence before Rei and Ryouko peak out from the end of the van and say "What's that about women?!" Kijima feigns innocence "They're cute aren't they?" The ladies simultaneously say "That's better."

Meanwhile Miki's backing up to where the vans are because she's already been drenched by the others but she's not looking where she's going and backs right into Yuu. She lowers her head and apologizes. Yuu returns a proper reply. They're feeling a little uncomfortable about it. Miki's name is called out by Kei. A towel flies through the air and lands on Miki's head. Kei teasingly yells "STRIKE!" Miki makes a silly face "Ah, you're a brat! She stomps towards him cutely.

He tries to cheerfully weasel out of it "But Miki, your face made a nice catch!" She answers "No way... Hey Kei!" At hearing the familiarity of Miki calling him, Kei (without the "kun"), Yuu's shoulders sink and he looks back at the other two over his shoulder as continue their playful banter.

Ginta watches the three from a distance away. At seeing Ginta's serious face, Arimi asks him what's wrong. When he sees the direction of his gaze, she understands. "There's still reason to be concerned about them." Ginta agrees.

Ginta isn't the only one to notice. Anju's watching.

Kijima, Rei, Akira, and Ryouko are in a group by themselves working on things. Ryouko comments that the area is private and secluded and wonders how they found this spot. Akira explains that he travels around trying to find things to draw and that's how he ran into this place...it's his favorite spot.

Michael suddenly yells "HEY EVERYONE! LET'S HURRY AND GET THESE PITCHED!" Kijima gets juiced up and ready and the guys get to work setting up the tents. Michael informs the rest that if they have any questions, they can ask him because he's been trained at summer camp since he was a little boy. Tsutomu wonders what the big deal is about going to summer camp...no sooner said, than he clobbers himself with the mallet he was using to put in stakes.

Later Ryouko admires the rock stove that Kijima is putting together. Rei teases "He always works hard at THESE kinds of chores." Kijima in a cute tone say "Hey, hey...I work hard at my job too!" Rei feigns politeness "I'm sorry, excuse me." and bows to him even though she's a distance away. He returns the tone "Not at all". They laugh.

The younger set of ladies decide they've gathered enough wood and start heading back from the woods. Miki is delighted when she gets close enough to see that the camp is all set up. Suddenly, she hears Yuu tell Anju he'll help her with her load of wood. She can't help staring. Suzu sidles up and accuses her. "Do you still care about Yuu and Anju-san?" Miki a little too quickly denies it. Suzu adds in a smart alecky voice "Do you feel like a step sister now?" (Actually she said sister-in-law.)

The guys are all out fishing. The first to make a catch is Yuu. Akira comments that he has a lot of talent for a first time fisherman. Ginta follow suit. When Tsutomu sees that Ginta has made a catch, he gets determined that he'll get something too. He tosses his line in and it gets wrapped around Michael's line (Michael's on the other side of the stream). The two start to wrangle. Akira yells to them that there's a fish on the end of the line. They argue about who's fish it is and try from both sides of the stream to pull it out. It's lost.

Yuu is packing the fish into an ice chest when a shadow falls across his back. It's Ginta. Yuu is in a sullen mood. He asks Ginta "What's with the scary face." Ginta in almost an accusing sound voice asks Yuu if he's all right. Then he goes on to get something off his mind. "I thought you and Miki had something special...but you've given it up to study abroad." Yuu answers him "I'm not all right." Before Ginta can argue, Yuu sets him in his place with a very stern "But..." "But...it's for Miki's sake. Miki's able to smile if she's with him." Yuu tells him that Tsuchiya is not as bad as Ginta thinks and that he has no place in Miki's life anymore. Ginta is stunned "Matsuura, you really think that's okay?!"

Rei explains some of the finer points of cooking rice (for camping trips) to Suzu while the other girls prepare things for dinner. Miki tries to gingerly cut tofu for the tonjiru. She's trying so hard she accidentally dumps it into the pot. She feels just awful about it, but Ryouko assures her that sometimes for tonjiru the tofu is broken on purpose. Miki is sad. All the other girls can cook well and she herself is a disaster.

The men arrive back at camp proud of their big catch. Ginta can be seen telling Arimi about what happened when he talked to Matsuura; while Tsutomu loudly makes a big deal out of the fact that this will be the first time he'll have had Yayoi's cooking.

"The first time I cooked for someone..." Miki remembers the first time she cooked for Yuu after they became a couple. It was scrambled eggs and tuna.

Kei interrupts "Oh, tonjiru". Miki behaves cute and embarrassed and tells him she broke the tofu. Kei teasingly tells her she's a klutz. Anju asks Yuu to taste what she's cooking for her but he doesn't hear her right away. He's staring at Kei and Miki. He finally recognizes that he was being talked to and tastes it. He warmly tells her it's good. Miki is drawn to the situation. She wonders why she cares about Yuu so much. He's got to remain in her past. Kei watches Miki like he knows what she's thinking about.

The group eat dinner under canopies. Suzu exclaims that she's never had such tasty fish. Akira adds that the tonjiru is good too. Rokutanda wants Yayoi to eat the fish he caught for her. Michael gets upset "I got THAT ONE!" And the argument is on again.

A slightly pissed off Ginta stands up and tries to stop it "It doesn't matter!" Arimi adds irritably "Who can tell who caught the fish?!" Yuu cheerfully agrees, grabs the fish and wolfs it down. Everyone laughs. Miki grins bright eyed and thinks "Yuu, you nut. You're clowning around."

Again Kei watches Miki with a serious look. Anju notices too but her thoughts are interrupted by Rei's question, "Are you going back to Boston, Anju-san". Anju tells her that she'll be staying there awhile because of violin lessons.

Michael suddenly remembers that his brother told him that he took Anju to the beach house. Yuu adds that it's a nice place... Miki listens to the others talk about New York and can't help thinking that even though she and Yuu are near each other they have different worlds. She can't understand why she feels a sense of loneliness even though she has Kei-kun. Again Kei's watching her.

Kei and Miki come out of a tent. Miki expresses sheer joy at seeing the all the stars. Kei asks her if she'll go for a walk with him.

Ginta, Arimi, Tsutomu, and Yayoi sit around a light in another tent. Tsutomu has the cards and asks what they should play next. Yayoi suggests shichinarabe.

Kijima, Rei, Akira, and Ryouko are in another tent. Ryouko remarks that she can't remember the last time she was in a tent. Kijima thinks she ought to appreciate him for this great idea.

In another tent, Suzu squeals with delight over having won the game. Michael whines over having lost while Anju comments on the fact that Yuu's so late. Suzu reminds her that he said he wanted to cool off. Michael doesn't care though. He suggests they continue the game. This time he's not going to lose.

Miki cheerfully chatters about the stars and the wind as she walks somewhat behind Kei. When she comments that they should've brought Meiko and adds a "Right Kei-kun?" (with the "kun") Miki immediately corrects herself and calls him "Kei". Kei stops walking. His back is towards her. "Miki....do you love me." Miki is startled by the question "Why are you asking me suddenly?" Kei gets serious "I'm asking "Do you love me?". Miki stumbles over "Of course I do". A worried Kei demands "Then tell me". Miki lowers her head "I-I love you."

Yuu walks sadly along a woodland path in the dark remembering things: when he asked her if she was happy and her answer of "Yes", Miki calling Tsuchiya by "Kei" after they arrived on the camping trip, Ginta saying "Matsuura, you really think it's okay?!", and Miki at the New York airport "If you go back to Japan with me now... Her final words ring in his head "Sayonara.... Sayonara.... Sayonara.... Yuu reels from the emotions he's feeling and lands up against a tree.

Meanwhile, Miki can clearly see that Kei is planning to kiss her. She closes her eyes and waits. Without planning it, memories of Yuu return to her. His words to her in Hakone "Can you wait for me? I have only you, Miki" and the kiss that followed. She remembers his words at the New York airport "You're in pain...I didn't know...obviously. As for me, all I can say is wait for me. Is that so bad? If you still feel pain.....I can't do anything about you breaking up with me."

Kei is leaning in to kiss her when he stops cold. When Miki opens her eyes and asks "What's wrong", she notices there are tears streaming down her face. She seems somewhat surprised by them. She doesn't know what to say but Kei appears to know he's lost her. She struggles with her emotions for a minute then cries out that she's sorry and runs off through the woods.

As she runs she mentally apologizes to Kei and says that she needs Yuu. She mentally calls out Yuu's name over and over. Suddenly, she hears the roar of a waterfall. She stops and sees Yuu in the distance. She barely whispers his name but his head comes up as though he could hear her voice mentally. His head turns towards her as he murmurs her name. Miki yells out his name as she runs into his arms.

Yuu seems a bit confused and after a few minutes, he holds her at arms length so he can listen to her. "It won't work", she tells him. "I can't accept anyone but you. Yuu, I need only you." Yuu grabs her up and embraces her very soundly.

Kei in the distance sees what's happened, turns and walks away. He comes across Anju and sadly notes that he could've guessed it was going to be like this. Anju seemed to think so too. Kei seems to be at a loss to know how to give up someone he loves.

At the waterfall, Yuu again stands at arms length from Miki looking at the tears rolling down her face lovingly. He cups his hand around her face and wipes the tears away with his thumbs. He tells her with a great deal of passion that he won't let go. They kiss deeply.

MARMALADE BOY #72 (KD)

7/30/95 Also in the newest Animate, it has information about this episode. It looks like they're going to adapt the current running MB story running in Ribon magazine. It's the story that has had my WHOLE family in a tail spin for several months! How they are going to wrap it up in 4 episodes, I haven't a clue! More later when I have more information.

8/29/95:

Miki is in her room feeling wonderful. She walks over to her desk, opens the drawer and pulls out the two robots. She listens to the Voice Memo "Miki, I'm sorry. I can't be with you. I LOVE you." She then remembers being at the waterfall with Yuu and his words "I won't let go". She tells the robots that she's sorry she left them by themselves and lets them know that she and Yuu have made up. She giggles lovingly.

Meiko and Miki are at a table downtown. Meiko figured something like this might happen. Miki looks sad and Meiko wonders why. Miki relates what happened with Kei in the forest and that she realized only then that she needed Yuu. But Kei-kun and Anju-san got involved. "I think I hurt them." Meiko agrees that that may be so and adds that she herself hurt others for sure. She remembers Miwa and Ryouko then continues "But, if I'd lied to my true feelings, they'd have gotten hurt far more in the end. After all this, you're required to be happy. That's the best way to atone for it. That's the way I try to look at it." Miki agrees that that

seems sensible. Meiko suggests that Miki not get herself down over it, cheer up and not to let Matsuura get away.

At the airport, Anju apologizes to her father for suddenly deciding to go back to New York. He asks if anything happened. She tells him "not really" but that she suddenly felt like seeing the Hudson river. As she's walk on the ramp to the plane she decides that this is the final farewell (to Yuu) until she can smile again.

Kei paces in front of K's Coop trying to look through the window. He realizes she's not there and wonders what he's doing there. He knows there's nothing he can do about his relationship with Miki. He remembers the scene of Yuu and Miki at the waterfall. (He must've seen all of it... from the moment she first ran to Yuu. He decides he lost but that he can't regret it since he did everything he could.

Suzu suddenly interrupts his thoughts as she comes out of K's coop and accused him of still being after Miki-san. She tells reminds him that Miki is back with Yuu and that he should give up. Her insensitively causes Kei to lose his temper "What right do you have to say that! What business is it of yours! Mind you own business!" He runs off steamed. Suzu wonders what his problem is, she was just being kind. She decides he's no gentleman. Kei stops himself as he gets part-way up the steps and laughs sadly "She's such an odd girl".

Miki and Yuu are on the bottom bunk of the bunk bed he shares with Michael. "Now I'm required to be happy. I was relieved when Meiko said that", Miki tells Yuu solemnly. Yuu feels it's true that they've caused problems for others, "But you know what...I don't regret it because we can be together again. I'm really happy about it."

Miki smiles "Is that so? That's true, isn't it." Miki glows and gets very cute "Yuu, I have something I'd like to ask you. Why don't we finally go on our trip?" Yuu reciprocates lovingly "That's right we've never gotten to be alone". Miki is still being very cute "I want to go to the sea".

Yuu puts his hand over hers and tells her anywhere is OK as long as he can be with her. He picks up her hand in his, and with his eyes showing a great deal of intense love, he tells her he wants to go as soon as possible.

Yuu throws his leg over Miki's head, she ducks with perfect timing. (Yuu did this so he could change positions on the bed so he can sit beside her.) "Come to think of it, we missed each other's birthdays", Yuu recalls.

Miki adds that that's because they've been separated since Spring but that's it's not too late to exchange presents. Yuu agrees and asks her want she wants. Miki is very cute and drawls out her words, "Me? Let's see."

Yuu interrupts her seriously "I'll get you a ring".

"A ring?", she repeats, "You don't have to. You gave me one at New Years". Yuu reminds her that that was only a toy. Miki grins charmingly "You have a point".

Yuu assures her that he wants to gets her a real one. Miki gets very excited "A ring from Yuu..." She pulls up her left hand and points to her ring finger and tells him "I'll put it on here and never take it off."

Miki asks Yuu what he wants but he tells her that it doesn't matter, anything she gives him will be fine. Miki teasingly tells him his answer is troublesome. Yuu then realizes that he didn't

give her anything for her birthday in March the year before even though she helped celebrate his in June. He asks her to pick out something else she'd like.

Miki tells him that it's okay because at the time, they were busy moving and other things. (KD: This is when the families first moving in together). She assures him that the ring is enough.

"Is that so? Okay then, pick out anything you want from my room." Miki is hesitant "But.."

Yuu insists. "Choose something. Anything is fine."

"Okay. I'll find something." Miki says in a childlike tone. Yuu watches her childlike enthusiasm with pure pleasure as Miki looks around his room. She looks at his books, his alarm clock, a ball point pen, and his watch. Yuu warns her that the watch is broken. A cheerful Miki opens the closet doors and see Yuu's favorite shirt. He wears it a lot. She asks Yuu if she can take it. Yuu smiling agrees. While Miki holds it up to herself deciding that the best way to wear it is as pajamas, Yuu comes up behind her and shoves her into the closet and closes the door behind both of them. "H-hold it, Yuu." Yuu is pleased with himself "There's just enough room for us in the closet." Miki tells him to quit teasing her. He assures her that their parents won't find them there no matter what. Miki nervously reminds him "Idiot, if Michael comes in, he'll see us come out of the closet". Yuu stops her complaints by kissing her. The shirt drops out of her hand. In the dark, we can see him kiss her twice but her overlay comment is "In a narrow closet...we kissed each other MANY times and held each other tight. I was happy. In a few days, the happiness would be destroyed. I never would've guess that."

Yuu gets up on Sunday morning to find the house empty. He remembers that his dad is on a business trip, Jin-san is golfing, and his finds a note from the mothers saying that they've gone to the beauty parlor and shopping. A note next to theirs is from Miki. It's says, "Sleepyhead Yuu, I'm going to work. Let's exchange presents after that. I'll be back by 4 o'clock. Be sure to stay at home. Be sure to."

Yuu smiles to himself and thinks about Miki saying she wanted to go to the sea and decides he'd better go find his snorkel.

Miki leaves work early to go buy a present for Yuu. She wonders what she should get for him and definitely decides a teddy bear wouldn't be right. She goes into a jewelry store and looks at a watch....\$270! Her eyes bug out! Expensive! She decides it's WAY OVER her budget. She leaves but somehow she can't get it out of her head that his watch is broken and that it's a gift that will stay on him all the time. She runs back in the store and yells that she'll take it. She has a very cute expression of pride on her face.

Yuu can't find his snorkel in the attic and wonders if he threw it away. In a box up there, he discovers his dad's senior yearbook. (I'm told that only seniors have these books.) He decides to take a look at it. An envelop falls out. A picture of Youji in his tennis outfit can be see with other photos behind it. Yuu picks it up and giggles because Youji looks SO young. He decides Miki ought to see it. He's reminded that his mom and dad got to know each other in tennis circle so he wonders if there's a picture of her too. He starts to look at the pictures behind the top one...and sees Jin-san in a tennis outfit. Yuu is stunned. "It can't be! He looks further to find something that's enough to jar him to the core - a photo of the parents paired up the way they are now. Youji is with Rumi and Jin-san has his arms around Chiyako's waist. "Our parents said they met in Hawaii!

I've never heard that they were friends in college!" Yuu remembers his experiences from the past. First the letter he read from his grandmother to his dad "Are you OK with a woman who

has a baby by her ex-boyfriend. Can you continue to love that wife and child." Then he remembers the words of Miwa Yoshimitsu "I'm sorry. I'm not your father. It's someone else." Yuu remembers Yoshimitsu telling him that his mother had had a boyfriend since college and that man was probably Yuu's father. Yuu then realizes with pain that if Jin-san is his father, Miki is his sister. A vision of her smiling face comes into his mind.

Miki excitedly comes home. In her enthusiasm, she yells for Yuu but finds the house empty. She sees the note she left him telling him not to leave. The telephone rings. It's Miwa. He asks her if she's doing well.

Miki cheerfully tells him "yes" and lets him know that Yuu isn't in right now. Miwa tells her yeah, that Yuu's been at his house because he's wanted to talk to him for some time. He informs her that Yuu will be spending the night and that right now Yuu was at a convenience store so Miwa was calling her to let her know that Yuu would be back the next day. When he's off the phone, he turns to Yuu and asks if that was all right. Yuu, who sitting on the floor with his head between his arms, doesn't answer.

Miki is sad but feels it's okay if they exchange presents the next day. She looks at the wrapped present and mentally asks Yuu if he'll like it. She mentally gets a picture of a thrilled Yuu thanking her. Miki becomes excited.

Miwa comes over and sits on the floor near Yuu. "You arrived looking pale. So what's the matter? Has something happened?" Yuu doesn't say a word. Miwa commandingly tells him "Yuu, if you don't say something, I can't know...." Yuu pulls his head up. Tears are overflowing and running down his face. A stunned Miwa can only say "Yuu".

The next day, Miki is dressed and ready but Yuu is late. Miwa had told her that Yuu had already left. The telephone rings. It's Yuu. Miki told him she'd been waiting for him and could he come home as soon as possible. Yuu can barely say her name. Miki excitedly tells him that she wants him to see his present. Yuu tells her they need to talk but that he can't do it over the phone and asks her to meet him at a park. Miki agrees. She talks to Yuu in her mind "Yuu, what's the matter? You sound upset."

Yuu sits on a park bench, looking downward. Even the sound of Miki's voice calling to him can hardly get his attention. As she gets closer, he stands. She joyfully runs up to him and leans against him to be embraced. He doesn't. She's panting from running. It's a cheerful sound because she's so happy to be with him again. Yuu's face shows his struggling emotions. Miki begins to realize something's amiss. She asks him "What's wrong? You don't seem right. I noticed it when you called too." She lovingly puts her hand up to his cheek and asks him if he has a fever. She takes his arm and suggests that they get him something cold to drink and that he can tell her about whatever he wanted to talk to her about. Yuu sharply pulls his arm away from her. Yuu says her name very seriously. Miki asks very seriously in return "What is it?"

Yuu's final words are "I want to break up."

MARMALADE BOY #73 (KD)

This episode opens with a repeat of the last scene from the previous episode, "I want to break up.", and continues it. A stunned Miki stammers "W-why? Is it me? Do you hate me?" Yuu tells her it's not that. And to her next query if it's someone else, he tells her "no". He tells her that he thought they could start over again but that they can't. He can't think of

her as a girlfriend anymore. He's lost that special feeling for her.

In shock, Miki softly says "You don't hate me, but you don't love me...is that right?" Yuu confirms. Miki still can't over the sudden change, "Just like that...all of the sudden. I don't get it. Oh God....NOOOOO! Why? How come? If I have problems. I'll FIX them. ANYTHING you say, I'll do." KD: Anyone not really moved by this, has a heart of stone.)

Yuu yells at her "You don't have ANY problems! There's NOTHING wrong with you." He tells her it's HIS selfishness, his feelings have cooled down. Miki tells him that if he doesn't hate her, not to break up with her because she loves him very deeply. He tells her "no", he can't go with her anymore.

Yuu turns away from her. Miki cries from the depth of her heart. Yuu's thoughts can be heard.

"Don't cry. I can't do ANYTHING about it. I just CAN'T. We're...we're....SIBLINGS!" But, of course, she can't hear those thoughts.

Yuu remembers that he bought her the birthday gift he'd promised her he holds out the box to her and tells her he kept the promise to buy her a ring, that that he can't take the trip with her.

Miki tells him she doesn't want it. He doesn't love her.

He tells her it's not from your boyfriend...consider it from you family member. He can't do anything with it if he keeps it, If she still doesn't want it, throw it away. (KD: Ouch!) Yuu turns and leaves with Miki yelling his name.

Meiko is writing at her bedroom desk. The maid knocks at the door and tells Meiko that Koishikawa-san is there to see her. Meiko finds Miki in the entrance. One look tells Meiko something's up even at this late hour. Meiko asks Miki but Miki doesn't answer. Finally Miki runs to Meiko and leans against her and cries.

Yuu is at Miwa's. In shock, Miwa yells "You said THAT to Koishikawa? You don't know that you're siblings for sure without asking your parents! Why?!"

Yuu tells him it wouldn't solve anything, it wouldn't change the facts. Everything makes sense now. The parents said they met for the first time, fell in love with the other's partner, exchanged and remarried. That it's not a pretty story but if they were old lovers, it would finally make sense. Yuu adds that a long time before he had overheard Rumi-san telling Miki not to fall in love with Yuu. He told Miwa that at the time, he couldn't understand why. And then, there's the pictures of the two happy couples paired just the way they are now.

Miwa can hardly stand to see what Yuu is going through and becomes furious with Yuu's parents for having a baby then exchanging partners then exchanging again more than 10 years later. They lied about when they first met and because of that their kids are in a mess. Miwa yells that Yuu needs to make them understand that. And he adds that Koishikawa has a right to know.

Yuu yells "No!" Yuu sadly explains if he does that it won't change anything. The family would separate. No matter what, he and Miki have to separate. Rather than dump everything out in the open, it would be better to keep it to himself.

That way Miki, at least, can keep the same relationship with their parents. He adds that because they're siblings in love, he selfishly broke up with her one-sided so that she would give up on him. He thought about it and it was the best thing he could come up with.

Miwa is affected by the unfairness of the situation. "WHY ARE ONLY YOU HAVING A HARD TIME? WHY DO YOU HAVE TO SUFFER BY YOURSELF!"

Yuu sadly replies "There's nothing else I can do".

Miki and Meiko exit the Akizuki grounds to outside the entrance gates. Meiko asks Miki if she wants her to see her off at the station. Miki tells her that she'll be all right and that she's sorry she dropped in suddenly and stayed. But she cried all night and she feels better now. Meiko becomes furious, "I can't FORGIVE Matsuura-kun for this because he broke up one-sided. I NEVER thought he'd be that kind of guy!"

Miki yells at her "You're WRONG Meiko! It's not Yuu's fault! When he said goodbye he looked like he was in pain. Yuu has some reason for it. Changing one's mind, isn't something that you can control." She asks Meiko not to blame Yuu.

Miki sits huddled on the couch as Yuu's voice rings out "I'm hooooome". The parents, who are sitting at the table somewhat across the room from Miki, greet him. Miki doesn't turn around. She doesn't have the courage to look at him.

The parents offer him a snack that Youji brought back from his business trip. And Youji calls Michael down from upstairs as well. When everyone is together Yuu takes the opportunity to let everyone know that he's thinking of going back to New York next week. Miki cringes even though she hasn't turned to look at Yuu.

The family wants to know why. Yuu tells them that he can't use his English so he's forgetting it. His English had been his handicap with his studies over there so he feels he should go back sooner.

Michael tells him that he can talk to him. But Yuu compliments him by telling him that HE speaks Japanese very well so Yuu doesn't want him to talk in English. The kind words make Michael blush with delight.

The parents are disappointed but they feel that Yuu should take full advantage of this rare opportunity to study abroad.

Miki stops Yuu in the hall outside of his bedroom and asks if he's really serious about going back to New York. Yuu tells her that he thinks it would be better. Because he and she are family members, things are very awkward right now. So if they separate for a while they can refresh themselves and return to a normal relationship. Yuu adds though that it's true that he's forgetting his English and plans to study hard when he gets back to America.

In her room, Miki sits quietly at her desk. One of the Kappa-chan family starts to fall off the desk. Miki grabs for it with one hand but her other hand accidentally hits the button on the voice memo. "Miki, I'm sorry. I can't be with you. I LOVE you." It's the message from before they got back together. Miki can't believe it....that it's really over between them.

A week passes. Chiyako fidgets downstairs wondering if Yuu is going to eat before he leaves for the airport. Rumi mentions that if he does, he won't make it to the airport in time.

Miki sits at her desk thinking about the birthday present she bought for Yuu realizing full well if she doesn't give it to him now, she never will. It's her last chance to do so. Miki meets him out in the hall and tells him that it was his birthday present but that she wasn't able to give it to him before. Though it's wrapped she tells him it's a watch and to please use it. He tells her he will. Jin calls to Yuu to tell him Miwa has arrived. Miki tells Yuu to study hard.

Youji tells them that if they leave now, he'll have plenty of time to get to the airport. Miwa assures them that he get him there. Chiyako still fusses about Yuu not having eaten. Yuu tells her he'll get something at the airport. Michael, standing among the parents seeing Yuu off, asks where Miki is. Rumi tells him she's probably in the bathroom.

Miki sits on the floor leaning against her bed. The sound of Miwa's car leaving can be heard. "He just left", she thinks to herself. "He doesn't love me and I can't look him in the face...but I still want him to be near. I want to be with Yuu. I LOVE him so much! Yuuuu!

At the airport, Miwa tells Yuu they've got time so would he like to eat? Yuu agrees. Miwa begins to find out whether Yuu wants Japanese or some other cuisine, when his eye catches and unexpected sight....Akizuki. It's a VERY ANGRY Akizuki. Her first stern sounding words are "Matsuura-kun..."

Miwa literally jumps between Meiko and Yuu. "Are you here for a publisher's interview? That's good. Let's go drink tea at the cafeteria." Though Miwa is acting very cute through this, Meiko isn't happy. She tries to outmaneuver Miwa but he's quick and jumps between her and her victim again. "I'm thirsty. Can you come with me." Miwa literally puts his arm around her and hauls her out. But before getting far, he doubles back and cheerfully tells Yuu "Eat Alone".

In the airport cafeteria, Miwa apologizes to Meiko. He assures her that he hasn't forgotten that she refused him but he did it because she looked like she wanted to slap Yuu. Meiko irritable tells him that she wouldn't have because Miki asked her not to blame Matsuura-kun. But...she tells him that she absolutely CAN'T forgive him for hurting Miki and making her cry.

Miwa, who is already upset by Yuu's situation yells that Yuu's hurt too. Meiko reminds him that it was Matsuura that wanted to separate and now he's getting his wish. Miwa agrees, but defends Yuu saying that Yuu's not happy about it. Meiko isn't convinced. Miwa tells her that Koishikawa was VERY IMPORTANT to Yuu. He lost that and he's suffering. All in all, he may be suffering MORE than Koishikawa. He tells her it's the truth and begs her to leave Yuu alone.

Yuu stands in the lobby of the airport remembering Akizuki's face. "Akizuki was going to kick my ass. Of course, I said awful things. Miki cried." He remembers Miki begging him not to break them up because she loves him. Yuu tells himself that he had to do it. I may have hurt her but that that's better than hurting her with the truth.

MARMALADE BOY #74 (KD)

I JUST got the last three episodes and don't have time to put up complete synopsis before uploading time. Just some quick comments are included here:

Miki tries to put her life back together. She puts the gifts from Yuu into a box and puts them away. She goes out for the day and gets her hair cut off very short (but not as short as when she was in Jr. High. The family is very excited when they see her. They and Michael think she looks very cute.

Miki can be seen training underclassmen in tennis. She sees Meiko heading for the library and goes to meet her there.

At one point in this episode Miki carries out two bags of groceries from a store that are very heavy. A pair of hands reach out to grab one of the bags. It's Kei. He helps her home with the groceries. On the way home, Kei lets Miki know that he'll still be her friend.

Meiko spends the day and night at Miki's house. The fathers are really silly as they play twister. In the evening, Miki and Meiko are in her bedroom talking. Miki goes to her drawers to get something and sees the box of gifts from Yuu. It stops her. When Meiko inquires, Miki says it's nothing but then breaks down and tells her how much it hurts. Meiko talks Miki into going to New York.

10/19/95: MB #74 Synopsis after translation session with Masatomo:

Meiko sits at her desk trying to think of what she can possibly say to Miki. She tells her to "cheer up" but that she knows there's really nothing she can say to lift her spirits.

Meiko thinks back on her conversation with Miwa and wonders what's going on with Matsuura.

Miki has all the gifts that Yuu gave her lying together...the medallion, the music box, the kappa-chans, the Christmas tree, his shirt, the toy ring, the dialer, and the real ring (still unopened and wrapped). She feels that Yuu gave her all these wonderful memories and that that's enough for her. She's decided she has to say goodbye to herself as she is and go beyond where she is now.

Miki places all the gifts into a box and closes the lid on them. As she says "Bye bye, Yuu" tears come to her eyes but she gives herself a bad time about it "Hey, what's the matter Miki? Didn't I say I need to progress? Smile, smile! She congratulates herself on smiling and decides she's going out on the town.

As Miki is walking around downtown, Ginta is nearby trying to keep Arimi on track. Arimi wants to look in a store window but they have someplace they need to go. Miki pulls up her nerve and calls to them as though nothing is wrong. Miki grins and asks them if they're on a date and mentions what a hot couple they are.

Ginta tells her it's not like that, that actually they're going to a seminar. Arimi tells Miki that Ginta's been pestering her to get going but that she'd rather be dating. Miki's has it figured! "Arimi-san, you're going to take the entrance exam to OUR school." Arimi confirms that that is what's it's all about and asked Miki to say "hello" to her at Toryo if she passes the exam. Never able to pass a good chance to razz Ginta, Miki tells him that now she gets the picture "Arimi's the reason the Ginta would go to a seminar".

Ginta gets embarrassed and changes the subject by telling her that Michael told him that Matsuura had already gone back to America. Miki stammers a "that's right". Ginta tells her the Matsuura should've stayed longer. "In spite of his good looks, he's clumsy". Arimi agrees and tells Miki that if he doesn't start understanding women's feelings more, she ought to give him what for.

Ginta suddenly realizes that they only have 5 minutes to get to their lecture so the two race each other determined that one isn't going to beat the other as they race. (Keep in mind that although Ginta is in tennis club, Arimi is into track and field). (^_^)

Miki standing on the sidewalk, sadly thinks to herself that she couldn't tell them about Yuu. Miki concentrates then on moving her feet one at a time until she can move more normally. She walks down the sidewalk as the shadows from the trees fall across her. She looks up at the cicadas as one flies away and asks it if it were dismissed and tells it "Me too." Nearby she sees a beauty shop.

Miki calls out the usual Japanese "I'm Home!" The family come to greet her and are delighted by her new short haircut (not as short as Jr. High) and her pierced ears. Miki feels she's going to be a new person - "Goodbye to the old Miki."

On the school courts, Miki trains the ins and outs of tennis while appreciative underclassmen call her Miki-senpai. Miki sees Meiko walk past.

Later Miki meets Meiko in the library. Meiko asked her if she was playing hooky from practice. Miki grins and says a little bit and admits that she told her students that they were going to have a 10 minute break. Meiko teases her and calls her a "bad coach". Miki tells her that she's only coaching while Ryouko-sensei is away.

Miki tells Meiko that Ryouko-sensei sent her a postcard from Lichenstein. Though sensei is alone she's keeping very busy and says the wine is very good.

Meiko asks when Ryouko-sensei is returning. Miki tells her the day after tomorrow because school's starting.

Meiko brings up that the last summer break of High School life is almost over. Miki mentions that it's sort of sad.

Meiko asks Miki if she has to work. Miki confirms and says she can't wait to show Akira-san Ryouko-sensei's letter to make him jealous. Ever since Ryouko-sensei has been traveling, Akira-san has been down in the dumps.

Meiko says she hopes that things work out for them and then catches herself and realizes that she has no right to say that. Miki tells her that it's no problem. Rei-san, she and everyone else feels the same. If it happens, everyone will be happy about it.

Meiko notices that Miki seems really up and asks her seriously if she's okay. Miki matching Meiko's tone says "Almost.....I gotten over my foolish attachments." Meiko tells her that somehow she's become an adult in only a month. Miki becomes delighted at the thought but then says "If that were true, I'd be happy but...isn't it just that I LOOK older? Somehow, I feel summer break has been too long. It feels like it's last a year." Miki catches herself and claims it was just a joke and reminds Meiko that she's got to get back.

But before leaving she asks Meiko if she'll spend the night at her house home Sunday night. She explains that her parents are bored because Michael went back to his country. The parents won't quit saying "Meiko-chan hasn't visited lately. Miki tells her they won't shut-up about it. Meiko says "okay".

In a grocery store, Miki looks for things to cook for Meiko and decides on lasagna but buys a huge amount of food that takes up two big shopping bags. She can hardly hold them both up let alone get home with them. Suddenly two arms reach out and take one. It's Kei-kun. "Damn", he tells her, "How come you bought this much?". She explains that she dished out the money because Meiko's coming to spend the night. He understands.

When Miki sees his bag that he carries his lesson in, she asks if he was on his way to piano lessons. He tells her "yeah".

"Yeah?" she answers "You have no time to help me. You need to hurry to your lessons." Kei assures her that it's not a problem, that he has time to go all the way to her house and adds teasingly "And...if YOU take both bags, you'll stagger around making yourself an obstacle for other pedestrians". Miki groans and makes a silly puckered face at him. They both laugh.

Kei solemnly tells her that he's doing better with this than he thought he would. He had planned on talking to her the next time he saw her, but wasn't certain he'd be able to. Miki admits that she'd been thinking the same thing. Kei continues "But when I saw you come out of the store, my body and mouth moved without a second thought". He adds that it's a good thing - just being friends.

The fathers are at it. They're playing "twister" while Meiko mans the dial that give the next directions. As Miki watches in thorough exasperation with how stubborn her fathers are, Chiyako interrupts to say that Michael's on the phone for her.

Over the phone, Michael tells her that he wanted to tell her about Yuu. He had invited him to his home but that Yuu refused. Michael tells her that he could tell that Yuu was depressed and so Michael was worried. Miki goes dead silent. Michael asks if she's listening. Miki musters a cheerful sounding "Sure, sure".

Up in her bedroom, Miki and Meiko are getting ready for bed. Miki cutely complains that her parents are silly. When she asked them what game they wanted to play, they ALL said "Twister!". "I feel the generation gap."

Meiko returns that she thought it was fun. Miki tells Meiko not to spoil her parents. They get carried away so easily. Miki notices that Meiko needs a towel and tells her that she'll get her a cute one.

She looks in her top drawer for one....and sees "the box". She stops cold. Meiko notices. Miki tells her she's sorry, that it's nothing. She just saw the box of Yuu's presents and feels like crying. She explains that it's a conditioned response and that she'll have to conceal it where she can't see it.

Then Miki falls apart completely. As she holds onto Meiko, Meiko remembers her conversation with Miwa and his words about how Yuu is suffering too. She tells Miki to go to New York and tell Yuu how she feels.

MARMALADE BOY #75 (KD)

Miki can be seen on a plane to New York reading the latest message from Meiko. Miki remembers falling apart and crying after accidentally seeing the box of Yuu's gifts and how Meiko encouraged her to see Yuu. Meiko's message tells her to do her very best because if she doesn't she'll regret it later. Miki mentally thanks Meiko because if it hadn't been for her she wouldn't have had the courage to do this.

Meanwhile Yuu is at his desk writing things in English longhand. Outside his window some other residents of the dorm are in a convertible that's having some trouble with backfiring. Yuu looks out the window briefly but finds the memories of Miki's broken hearted face. He

remembers the scenes from when he broke up with her one-sided. He can't do his work so he gets up and decides to go outside.

As he opens the door of the dorm building to retreat outdoors, a familiar face greets him. It's Miki. She tells him she came to talk to him. Yuu panics and runs for the phone. Miki tails him and pushes down the receiver and asks what he's doing. Yuu was trying to call a taxi to send her back. Miki will have none of it. She tells him that until she talks to him, she **WON'T GO HOME!**

He tells her that he has **NOTHING** to say! She quickly tells him that even if he doesn't, she has something to say to him and that she's not going back until she finishes talking. Yuu has had his face turned from her because he can barely stand the situation. He finally looks at her and can see the determined look on her face. He knows he's lost.

Miki and Yuu are in a park alone. Yuu's back is turned away as Miki tells Yuu her feelings. Yuu in his head is screaming for her to stop. Finally, his heart is so broken, he turns around and screams into the sky "NO!" There's tears in his eyes and he tells her that they're brother and sister.

The shock of this news makes Miki's knees buckle. Yuu's in so much pain he finishes the story to Miki who's kneeling on the ground in a daze. When Yuu gets past his own feelings, he comes over and squats down to where she is and smiles kindly in understanding. He gently tells her that he'll take her back to the airport.

Miki and Yuu are on the sidewalk in front of the airport terminal. Miki is still repeating "siblings" in her head. Yuu touches her. Miki pulls away in panic. Yuu apologizes. Miki walks fast to get ahead of him, then faster, then runs. Yuu runs after her.

But Miki can't deal with the problem or Yuu yet. In her need to escape she jumps into a taxi. The taxi driver wants to know where to take her, but she doesn't know. Yuu can be seen trying to catch up to the taxi before it takes off. Miki not able to think of anything else but not wanting to deal with Yuu, tells the driver "Manhattan". The taxi takes off leaving Yuu behind worried about Miki.

Miki walks around the city. A police car is roaming the streets looking for her. Yuu and his St. Andrews buddies case the streets in Brian's car. They look all day and check periodically with the police department.

Bill is confused and asks Yuu what's going on because the last time that Yuu called him, Miki and he were going together again. Doris and Jinny are appalled that he would ask such a personal question and tell Bill that Yuu may want to keep that private.

But Yuu answers slowly. We're siblings...

Miki and I. (By the way, the writers and artists did a very good job of portraying a full day AND night of searching for her).

Meanwhile Miki has been walking around the city not really seeing anything. Just over and over and over repeating brother and sister. She wasn't even able to notice that she had roamed into a bad area. At one point she passed 3 street thugs who looked at each other and gave each other the go ahead. One opened his knife. They began to stroll up behind her. Just about that time a young African American boy, grabbed her by the hand and made her run with him.

Miki had no idea why since she never saw the thugs. She finally looked around and became very scared. The boy took her through the back alleys. A heavy set woman in an upper apartment saw the danger and tossed a sheet into the alley and covered the thugs long enough for the boy to escape with Miki.

Finally, a report comes in that a girl fitting the description of Miki has been found by the police. Well, the girl fit the description but turns out to be Chinese. The police can't seem to tell the difference. One of the police suggests that they check the city morgue. Yuu goes out of his head "A-are you saying that Miki is... Miki is..." The second officer holds him back and tells apologizes and tells him they didn't say that on purpose but the Manhattan is the most dangerous city in the world. He adds solemnly that he hopes she didn't stray into the Harlem area. Yuu hardly finished hearing that before he takes off in a dead run. Jinny yells to Brian to follow him.

The boy took Miki to a decrepit abandoned building where he plays with a little girl. As he calls it, it's their secret play place. She thanks them for saving her life. The boy mentions that she's a tourist and that she needs to be careful because tourists are always targeted. The little girl asks Miki what her name is and the young boy in return tells her that his name is Eddie and the little girl's name is Chris.

Miki notices that the two are very caring of each other and smilingly mentions that they seem very close. Eddie happily remarks "That's right. That's because we're brother and sister. This area's dangerous. So I've got to protect Chris." Chris proudly says "My brother is very strong".

Miki is moved by the reminder of her own situation with Yuu... Miki repeats "brother and sister" and lowers her head and shakes as she silently cries. The kids are concerned.

Back in the 4x4 with the rest of the gang, Yuu remembers Miki and what she means to him. Pictures floats through his mind that remind him of her personality. "Please...be safe", he pleads.

Back at the shambled building, Miki apologizes for crying. Eddie seems surprised because she didn't cry when things were dangerous.

Miki notices that the two are holding hands tightly. She smiles and sweetly tells them that they get along really well. The little girls get excited and say that she LOVES her brother SO MUCH! Miki says "Really".

Chris gets up and embraces her brother from behind and joyfully tells Miki that when she grows up, she's going to be his wife. Miki becomes solemn and sadly thinks to herself "That there's no way you can be his wife, Chris".

Miki recovers from the wife comment and turns to Eddie and ask if he'll marry Chris. With full self-assurance, Eddie replies "Of course!". Miki is started by his answer. Of course? Eddie determinedly tells her that because he loves Chris, they'll always, always be together. Chris and Eddie both say "Right" in unison.

Miki begins to remember her own fond memories of Yuu and repeats "Because you love each other you'll always be together. The heaviness leaves her. Suddenly the door slams open. The thugs have found them. The kids and Miki race for the window and jump out. Miki is just as agile as the kids.

They run but are caught. One of the thugs is about to lay a punch on the Eddie. Chris screams for the man to let loose of her brother repeatedly. Miki screams for the thug to stop.

A fist comes out from the side of the screen and lays one on the thug to save the boy. It's Yuu. The Yuu takes a hard hit to the gut that doubles him over. Just as Yuu is about to take a punch one to the back.

The St. Andrews gang (Bill, Jinny, Brian, and Doris) show up and yell "POLICE!". The thugs take off.

Miki smiles at Yuu and he smiles at her. They go to each other and embrace. Yuu emotionally tells Miki he can't let her go again. NEVER again. "If something had happened to you...when I thought about it...I just went out of my mind! I've realized...I can't be apart from you. Let's live together." Miki smiles lovingly and says his name. Yuu continues "I can't fool myself". Miki tells him that she feels the same way and has been thinking the same thing. The two simultaneously say "Even though we're siblings...we'll...live together."

MARMALADE BOY #76 (KD)

The episode opens with a repeat of the last scene of the previous episode where Miki and Yuu decide that in spite of being siblings they will live together.

Miki and Yuu walk around the park that's near St. Andrews. They hold hands and talk. Miki sits on a park bench with Yuu behind her. He asks her gently if she's feels uneasy about their future. She smiles and tells him that it would be a lie if she said no. But she adds that the two of them found out they need each other so no matter what happens, she'll be with him. She puts her hand on his, he takes it and walks around the bench to be nearer.

He asks "Even though we can't get married? And even though we can't have children? Miki smiles softly and walks over to a nearby tree "Mm-hm.....there are many happy couples without children." She adds "Always Together. If we can live together, it'll be enough." Yuu makes a cute face and changes his voice "Till we're an old man and old lady?" Miki responds "Yes". Yuu takes Miki and brings her close to him for an embrace.

The St. Andrews kids (including Michael) yell to the two to get their notice.

Everyone sits on the grass with Miki and Yuu and take in the news that in spite of being brother and sister, Miki and Yuu intend to stay together forever.

The gang is shocked, but all eventually come over and hug and congratulate them warmly. Jinny puts her arms around Miki as though they've been buddies for ages.

Yuu is with Miki to see her off at the airport. Yuu tells Miki that because he has a lot of take care of, he can't go back with her. Miki tells him that she'll be fine.

Suddenly a voice rings out for Miki. It's Meiko. She, Miwa and the parents are in New York! They were all worried because they'd heard she was lost and thought she was in trouble. Miki tells them she's sorry but wants to know how they found out.

Yuu is stunned to see his parents there and mentions that he called Miwa but he wasn't expecting this. Everyone came.

Miwa tells him "Of course. Damn I was worried."

Everyone is so relieved that Miki is OK, especially Meiko. While everyone is expressing their relief, Yuu taps Satoshi-san on the shoulder to get him aside to talk.

He asks if Miwa told the parents anything. Miwa tells him that if he means did he tell them that he didn't say "you're siblings and that's why this happened". Yuu responds "I see".

Since they just got to New York and don't want to turn around and just go back. Chiyako mentions she got off work because of her missing daughter. Miki complains "Damn, she's using my misfortune as an excuse."

Meiko quietly asks Miki what's going on with Matsuura. Miki doesn't quite know how to tell her. Yuu comes up puts his hand on Miki's shoulder and tells her and Miwa that he and Miki want to talk to all of them. Rumi says she wants to see Yuu-kun's school first.

Yuu starts acting cute. "Don't get lost. Form a line. Form a line."

At the dorm, one of the mothers mentions that the school and dorm atmosphere is better than they thought. Michael runs out to embrace the mothers, who he's obviously missed very much. The parents are happy to see them. Yuu introduces Brian, Doris, Jinny, and Bill as his friends to his parents. Youji thanks them for taking care of Yuu. Michael merrily tell the gang that these are Yuu and Miki's parents.

In the rec. room (the one that has the pool table), Yuu and Miki sit on a couch facing the one that the parents are sitting on. Meiko and Miwa sit in arm chairs to the side.

The St. Andrews kids (including Michael) wait outside the door. Doris tries to keep Brian from listening at the door. But all of them are DYING to know what's going to happened with THIS story.

The parents sit there wondering what's coming up and why Yuu isn't saying anything. Yuu finally starts by telling them that because this is so important he wanted Satoshi-san and Akizuki to hear it.

A stern Yuu tells them that they know about Jin-san and his mother and his dad and Rumi-san dating in college. At first the parents look shocked. Youji kinda laughs and says "You KNEW that". Rumi adds that she didn't mean to hide it. Jin tells them that it's in the past so it was no big deal, not letting them know.

Yuu blows a gasket `NO BIG DEAL!'. He informs them seriously that because of that the whole thing has hurt Miki and himself. If it was just a case of exchanging partners and returning to the ex-couples, they could've kept it secret. Yuu isn't pulling any punches he demands to know why they didn't tell him that they were siblings! Why didn't they tell them from the beginning.

The parents are stunned. Yuu continues by telling them if they'd known, Miki and he wouldn't have fallen in love but that it's too late now, they need each other. No matter what, he tells them, they won't separate.

The parents try to gather themselves. "Who and who are siblings?"

Yuu sternly replies "Miki and me".

Youji asks "Hey, hey...who told you that?" Chiyako asks where they got that idea.

Yuu brings up that his mother had had Jin-san's baby.

Miki adds that that was Yuu, wasn't it? The parents completely lose it, they can't stop laughing. Miki and Yuu are completely stunned.

Rumi comes over to Yuu and says "You two thought that?" . She playfully taps him on the nose "Foolish boy".

Jin is behind their couch "If Yuu-kun were my son, I'd be delighted." Youji is sprawled across the opposite couch say "No, no, Yuu is definitely Chiyako's and mine".

Yuu can barely squeak out a "Really?"

"Really" Chiyako assure him.

Miki asks about the baby that she and her father had. Chiyako tells them that that baby was lost (died).

Jin leans over and gleefully add "So feel free to date, or whatever".

In addition, they're informed that the parents knew about Yuu and Miki's relationship all along. At first the parents were worried that if a relationship developed between Miki and Yuu would complicate their already unconventional family. But day by day, it was nice to see the two of them becoming a couple.

Youji playfully pounds Yuu for thinking he's not his real father.

Miki slides off the couch and passes out for a few minutes. Yuu pulls her up worried and shakes her. Miki comes to and puts her head against his chest and rubs it against his telling him how much she loves him.

The parents cheer and make silly sounds.

The St. Andrews kids rush in. (Obviously they couldn't stand being good anymore.) Brian and Bill do a high 5 with Yuu while Michael goes by making old movie still American Indian sounds. In the confusion behind them Miki comes up and puts her hand on Yuu's cheek and looks into his eyes lovingly. Mentally she tells him "Let be happy from now on".

Time passes. The kids are decorating and getting the food placed for Meiko's reception on the Toryo school grounds. The gazebo that Miki and Meiko had so many conversations is decorated with flowers. Tsutomu is on a ladder putting decorations on the gazebo, Ginta bends over next to it, and the ladder falls out from under Tsutomu leaving him hanging from the top. He falls. Kei, who is at a piano, plays a silly little tune we all recognize in humor over that.

Yayoi, Anju, and Arimi work on the food. (And yes, Hitoshi, your girl, Anju, did say one word (^_^).

At the reception, everyone congratulates Na-chan and Meiko. Meiko's parents haven't accepted Meiko's marriage but Na-chan's parents are delighted.

Miki thinks about her friends and the directions they're going with their lives. She feels with time, Meiko's parents will accept Na-chan's sincerity. In the back ground, Miwa teases Ginta and Arimi and tells them not to carry on on campus.

Miki's thoughts move to them. "Ginta and Arimi are happy that they're going to Toroyo U. together."

She sees Michael talking to Anju "Michael will live at our house one more year. He's more of an adult than he used to be."

Her thoughts turn to Anju. "Anju will be behind 1 year...but will try to get into Music School." (I assume she'll be behind because of the surgeries).

Suzu starts flirting with Kei, who seems uninterested in the extreme. Miki wonders if anything will develop between them.

Miki's thoughts turn toward Yuu and herself. "Yuu'll go to a University in America this September. But...we're different than we used to be. I don't have any uneasiness." Yuu brings Miki some punch and teases her. Miki continues her thoughts. "And I'm going to study Interior Design. I'm thinking of studying abroad temporarily."

Akira and Ryouko-sensei are talking with Kijima and Rei. All seem to think Akira can't do something (not specified) but Ryouko disagrees. Miki thinks that Akira and Ryouko make a good couple and if they continue... she doesn't finish the thought before their mothers run Yuu and Miki down figuratively speaking.

The mothers announce that they're pregnant. Miki is very excited about possibly having little brother or sisters and grabs Yuu around the neck in glee.

Yuu wonders if they're all right...after all, it's a little late to be childbearing. The mothers gleefully tell them to leave it to them!

Kijima announces that today they've had "triple happiness".

Meiko tosses her bouquet into the air. The scene changes and we see most of the kisses from the show. (I can think of a couple more) Not just Miki and Yuu...all of them. Then, we see the bouquet again. Miki and Yuu face each other in their wedding clothes and kiss. It's obviously been a few years because Miki's hair is longer than we've seen it previously.

The End



MARMALADE BOY - MUSIC SECTION
Compiled by Karen Duffy

I WANT TO SEE YOUR SMILE

I've worried since yesterday, but it seems like forever.

My dream of us was cut off in the middle

And I want to know the end.

Ah God, I want time to stop.

My books, my uniform! My hair isn't dry yet.

Ah, help! My hair ribbon isn't right!

Because of the boy in my dream.

Why was my heart suddenly pounding?

Is love like the sweet bitter taste of marmalade on burnt toast.

That is why I worry.

Why am I feeling like this?

Now I want to see his smiling face more than anything.

English translation c. 1994
By Bruce Duffy and Mika Hippen

The original opening song ran from the first episode until MB #53 with the same art. They opted to use the same music but do totally different artwork for the new season (#54).

Singer: Kubota Rie

MEMORY - 1st version

The wind caressed my hair with a gentle hand.

I'm afraid of what I might see in your eyes.

Please hold me until my knees stop shaking.

Let me share my warmth with you.

This isn't a dream. This isn't a dream, not now.

Our future will begin with a single line.

Don't let go, don't let go. Not anymore.

When you hold me, hold my heart as well.

English translation c. 1994 By Bruce Duffy and Mika Hippen

This first version of "Moment" showed up at the end of the first episode, when Miki was in the infirmary.

Moment was sung by Kouda Mariko (AKA Koishikawa Miki). There's also a music box version that first shows up during "Double date" (MB #22). A VERY intricate piano version is played by Kei-kun in the Halloween episode (MB #34)

Memory - 2nd verse

Every time I touch my lip, my cheeks still burn.

How can I see him tomorrow?

It happened so fast, now I'm so sad that I can't even cry.

Next time what kind of secret will we have?

I don't understand, I don't understand...anymore.

I want to end my confusion.

I want to start running.

Take me, take me.....ah...again,

To the place where my heart can't go back.

English translation c. 1994
Bruce Duffy and Mika Hippen

Memory - 2nd version also showed up in the first volume (MB #1-4).

The Original Closing Song

The shining stars herald a new day.

I can see my changing face in the glass.

I want to go back to the way I used to be.

I don't think I can sleep.

All these changes have come too quickly.
This strange, happy feeling makes me want to cry.
The changes will bring about a brand new me.
I won't let go of these feelings till I fall asleep.

English translation c. 1994
 Bruce Duffy and Mika Hippen

This closing song ran from the first episode until MB #32, when it was
 replaced by "Rain".

LAST PROMISE - FIRST VERSION

I can't form the words,
Because my heart is screaming.
You'll get wet if I stop you in the rain.
I've been silent to protect you.
Everything will be going away.
I was waiting for your promise...
Of when we could see each other again.
But you didn't look back.
I can't have the same dream.
I was waiting for your promise...
Of when we would see each other again.
But you didn't look back.
I can't have the same dream,
I know that, but I want time to stop.
Don't cry. I can't see you till the end.
Your back is fading in the distance.

I don't want to believe this yet.

I can't make this into a memory,

I love you too much.

English Translation c. 1994
By Mika Hippen and Karen Duffy

This extremely beautiful ballad showed up at the end of MB #17, when Na-chan was leaving Meiko for Hiroshima. Thereafter, this music showed up anytime there has been an emotional goodbye.
Singer : Kouda Mariko (Koishikawa Miki)

LAST PROMISE Version 2

The rain is hurrying your goodbye.

If I close my eyes tightly.

I may be able to stop the memory that keeps me crying.

Don't cry now that it's ending.

I want to remember you without tears.

I don't want this to be just a memory engraved in my heart.

I love you far too much.

English translation c. 1994
By Bruce Duffy and Mika Hippen

This second version showed up while Meiko is in the library remembering her relationship with Na-chan. (MB episode #18)
Singer: Kouda Mariko (Koishikawa Miki)

AT THE END OF TODAY

*** Bring blue moonlight**

*** Flying down to the night.**

* If I were held by your warm arms,
 * I'd feel like I'm loved.
 * Because of this overflowing feeling...
 * I feel like I want to cry.
 * You're the one who brings,
 * New feelings to me.
 * If I gently close my eyes,
 * I can see your face.
 * So, I want to engrave it on my heart,
 * At the end of the day.

When I close my eyes softly,
 I can see your image.
 I want to keep you in my mind,
 At the end of today.

It's similar to a twinkling star,
 Your smile as it flashes in my mind.
 I'm learning both love and sadness.

When I can't see you, I can't believe you.
 I always want to be with you if it doesn't change.
 If I become stronger.
 I can be kind.
 I want to be like that until morning comes.

English translation c. 1994
 Mika Hippen and Karen Duffy

This darling song shows up when Miki is at her part-time job, worried about her lost medallion. (MB #29). (* represents the portion used in #29)

RAIN (Yuu's concert version)

It was raining, and when I saw the little flowers,

Blooming there on the street,

Somehow it overwhelmed me.

And I left my umbrella lying right there.

It's raining and it's so sad,

That we're always hurting each other.

But the rain has washed away my inhibitions,

And now I can tell you how I feel.

Everyone is running,

And somehow it makes me sad.

If only someone would look back,

I could share a smile with them.

Although the rain is pouring down,

I'll be OK.

The pain hasn't settled in my heart.

Even though I'm soaked,

There's no more pain.

But that isn't enough, I want to feel your love.

It's raining, and it's so sad,

That we're always hurting each other,

But the rain washed away my inhibitions,

And now I can tell you how I feel.

English translation 1995
Bruce Duffy and Mika Hippen

This version shows up at the end of episode #32 and is sung by the Yuu character during a Toryo school festival. Most of the band members we don't know except for Miwa-san and Kei-kun, who is filling in for the keyboard player.

CRESCENDO OF DEAD LEAF COLORS (TV. version)

In the Fall when the leaves die,

My love for you is still alive.

The coffee I bought for you is getting cold,

So I'll try to keep it hot with the warmth of my hands.

I'm waiting for you girl,

Ever since I was born.

I can't tell you how I've felt, waiting for this day.

Just waiting for you girl.

Little by little.

My love has grown until it overwhelms me.

English translation c. 1995
Bruce Duffy and Mika Hippen

Marmalade Boy episode #32 was packed with new songs that included this beautiful new closing song. It's called "Crescendo Of Dead Leaf Colors", singer: Mizushima Yasuhiro. Yasuhiro has a voice uncannily like Okiayu Ryoutarou (Matsuura Yuu) but with somewhat more richness to the voice.

As far as I can tell, the tune is much the same as the concert version of "Rain", sung by Okiayu Ryoutarou (Yuu) at the end of MB #32...but the aura of the two songs is totally different.

The third new song entry for MB #32 was "Searching For The Sun" sung by Hisakawa Aya (Suzuki Arimi). It shows up when Arimi and Ginta are enjoying the school festival.

FRIENDSHIP

I'll tear a piece off the note pad,
 And give the scrap to you secretly,
 "Try hard because you are not alone".
 It's not easy to encourage you,
 But I have to tell you because I'm your friend.
 I intentionally chose the class hour, to show my feelings,
 A dream in love,
 We're always groping in the dark for love.
 But even though we get hurt and fall,
 Our future is always there.
 So hey, cheer up.

English Translation c. 1995
 Mika Hippen and Karen Duffy

This song first appears in episode #35.
 Singer: Kubota Rie (also sings the opening song)

WHEN I FEEL SAD

When I fell sad,
 I'm always like this,
 I yell out that I'm sad,
 To the blue sky.

 Then it's interesting,
 The clouds I saw in the distance,
 So what!
 Look back at me with a cold face.

That's why when I feel sad,
 I always go up on the hill with my memory.
 Where I can see the blue sky.

English translation c. 1995
 Mika Hippen/Karen Duffy

"When I Feel Sad" shows up in MB #40 and is sung by Kanemaru Junichi who does the voice of Ginta.

LOOKING FOR THE SUN

The first heartbreak,
 That must be for,
 An important lesson,
 For becoming an adult.
 The next,
 Lesson is,
 The second first love,
 We'll feel each other,
 From the skin,
 Just like chocolate truffles,
 Melting in the sun,
 Sticking to each other,
 And melting together,
 Isn't that love?
 Searching for the sun,
 Searching for my only love,

You're like the sun,

Let's begin with "A".

English translation c. 1995
Mika Hippen and Karen Duffy

The above translation is from MB episode #32 and does NOT match the CD vol.3 version quite exactly.

The song itself is sung by Hisakawa Aya, who plays Arimi-san.

The reference to "A" at the end of the song is part of the A,B,C's of dating. "A" is kissing.

SECOND SEASON CLOSING SONG

I found the light that opened my heart.

The sky awoke and I saw you shining above me.

No matter how far apart we are,

The dawn is the same...

For both of us.

The string that ties our memories is shining brightly.

In the future of the future, God will be there.

There will be God.

English translation c. 1995
Translation by Bruce Duffy and Mika Hippen

This song is not on any of the CD's that are out so far (five in all as of 5/95). We're waiting to find out more about it when it does. Singer unknown at this point.

STORY OF A DREAM (Just the portion used in MB #52)

"Before, I was asked, wasn't I...

Refrain: Yes, I was asked.

`What was my dream?', you asked.

Refrain: What was my dream?

Now I can tell you when you're like this.

Refrain: Yes, when you're like this.

Just embracing you.

Refrain: Sha na na, my dream is in my arms now."

English translation c.1995

translation by Yamazaki Masatomo and Karen Duffy

The above translation is only what was translated for the anime so it's not complete. It's all that has been completed so far. This song shows up in MB #52 and is just beautiful. It was sung by the same singer as did Crescendo Of Dead Leaf Colors (the closing song in black and white with Yuu walking, then waiting for Mika to show up), sung by Mizushima Yasuhiro.

HAPPY ENDINGS NEVER END (MB #67 version)

Hey, let's call this kind of love, a miracle.

Mutual love and an unanimously happy end.

Hey, because someone was always crying,

...the role of love was rejected.

But cherubs are always fair and stand by you.

Someday, everyone has a leading rule in love, you can be sure.

Then their happy ending will begin.

The epilogue is the first step...

...a story made by the two of us.

Yes, to come across somebody,

....who was born alone too.

But happy endings, never end...

....a love story with no end mark.

My long story...

English translation c. 1995

Translated by Yamazaki Masatomo and K.D.

This is a lovely song that plays near the end of episode #76. It may not be included in the subbed version of the show or if it is...only in part. Currently it is in, but is too distracting to the story. But, in some similar cases, a portion of a song has been left in without trouble. Only experimentation will tell whether this will be the case on this one. Singer: Yukari

Masatomo tells me that the above version, if I remember what he said correctly, is the first and third verses in the CD booklet. (That would be vol. 5.)

Some of the following are somewhat still in a rough form from Japanese to English. I may upgrade these when I have a chance.

LET'S BE SELFISH (THE ENTIRE CD VERSION)

Oh, my friend, is holding his/her knees (means the person is depressed)

How depressed and annoyed are you?

I understand, my friend but...

It's about time for angels to run away.

Life is short. If you want a love that's cheerful and enjoyable

....don't regret it

Do what you must do!

Believe. Give it a chance. You can be beautiful now.

You can change if you have confidence.

Until you catch tomorrow....

...what you wish to have.

Follow, get love!

Let's be selfish!

Oh my friend,

You're shocked by worthless gossip and laughter.

But my friend, SO WHAT!

The feeling of love is wonderful.

If you don't like yourself, no boy will look at you.

Let's refresh your body and soul. Fight on.

Don't be at a loss, gamble!

The tears that'll come later are OK.

Don't give it up, get love!

Don't get tired of dreaming.

Such eyes are good. (dream-filled eyes)

Believe, get chance!

You can be beautiful now.

If you have confidence,

...you can change yourself.

Follow! Get Love!

Yes...until you smile in the end.

Be proud of yourself...

....selfishly.

Go my friend.

English translation c. 1995
Translation by Yamazaki Masatomo and KD

A portion of this song shows up in episode #58, if I remember correctly. This song has a wonderful catchy beat to it.

ONCE AGAIN BEFORE THE SPRING COMES (CD Version)

A piece of winter is sinking into the bottom of a milk bottle.

After I drink it...

...unstoppable tears...

...will give a little light in a night town.

I watched a curious dream when I was little,

...that is similar to a blink. (blink = this moment)

I want to see you now. I want to go immediately.

I'll only take my fluttering feeling.

I track the night sky with my finger.

I look for your name in the traveling stars.

Once again, before spring comes,

I fill my mind with love,

...to see you tomorrow, surely.

I will tie a sky colored ribbon (connotations are to make a wish to see him)

White breath plays love.

Deep in your chest, comes by the window quietly.

The moon is becoming full,

...shaking sadly and painfully.

Although we're kept apart,

You are warm, always.

I want to tell you my feelings immediately.

I can be very gentle.

I've been hurt and lost many times.

Two people's season will begin. (Japanese connotation - they'll be together._

Once again before the spring comes,

I fill my mind with love,

...to see you tomorrow, surely.

I'll tie a sky colored ribbon.

English translation c. 1995
Translation by Yamazaki Masatomo and KD

SOUTHWIND
(CD VOL.1 version)

The bouncing sunshine calls me.

After school, a gap in the clouds melts into blue.

It's an excuse to skip club practice.

No, my heart beat is fast. (connotation - embarrassment)

Every lie will be discovered.

The wind pushes at my back.

I can't stop,
...my feelings for you clamors.

I want to see you. I'm happy.

Ah, I can't hide it.

The secret is just beginning.

It's dazzling so I'm embarrassed.

My heart beat is stronger,
...and I run into your chest.

It makes no difference to me where I go.

So today, tell me more about you.

He's not used to holding hands.

His profile looks angry.

It's coloring to a kind color,
...because of the south wind. (connotation: south winds are warm)

I can't stop. My love is increasing like this.

If the season changes,
...we'll share the same sunshine,

...and remain together.

Stay with me forever.

English translation c. 1995
Yamazaki Masatomo and KD

ANGEL
(CD Version - vol.5)

**If only one wish comes true,
....I would want to be your angel.**

**Chasing mint colored wind,
...a laughing kitten begins to run.
Laying down on a rainbow colored carpet.
Candy instead of a watch.
Who's knocking at the door of my dream?**

**I feel embarrassed.
I don't want to only see you,
I want to bite a magical apple.
Why does it feel hot to the fingers?
Is it love?**

**Waking in red shoes.
Many loves are overflowing.
It's curious, who is yesterday and today different?**

**If I collect beautiful treasures,
...you'd be the best.**

I don't want to just see you. I'm bored.

Watch me.

I wish I had wings like an angel,

...because I want to be with you.

I feel like peeking into an unknown dream door.

No, I'm not a kid.

I don't want to just see you.

I want to know more.

My fluttered mind.

Why do I almost forget things.

Is it love?

English translation c. 1995
Yamazaki Masatomo and KD

"ANGEL" is sung by the actress who does the voice of Suzu. portions of this song showed up in both episode #42 and #43. Although neither version was included due to conflict with the dialog.

**FOREVER PAVEMENT
(CD version from vol.5)**

My heart is way too tiny.

It's filled up by you,

...to almost overflowing.

When we separated, I realized the truth.

A part of my heart is with one man in this world.

No matter how far apart we are,

...the feelings are curious magnets.

Although we are torn apart or pass by each other,

...we'll be close.

No matter how cold it is.

....we'll walk on the pavement together.

Every single time, I see the sunset,

I feel sad.

When I see you, the sadness becomes wonderful.

It's just like the sun is surrounded by the sky.

I'll hold every hint of you, now and forever....

Lots of things have happened,

...lips are a sweet magnet.

Closed eyes, open mind.

...touch each other.

Dreams have become clear.

The sunset is setting on two people.

The sky colors our cheeks. My sweet road.

No matter how far apart we are,

...we are drawn to each other.

Although we're town apart or pass by each other,

...we'll hold each other.

No matter how cold it is,

....let's walk on the pavement together.

It's eternal my sweet road.

English translation c. 1995
Yamazaki Masatomo and KD

This was a duet sung by the actress (Yamazaki Wakana) and the actor (Furuyu) that play Meiko and Na-chan. As of the date of typing this out 7/8/95 I have never heard this song played in the series. I've seen up to episode #67.

I WANT TO STAY WITH YOU
(from vol.5)

Stay you smile, stay your dream...always on my mind.

Stay heart, stay your eyes...always on my mind.

A slope to my home is shrinking in the twilight color.

Sorry. I actually made a detour to not be known by you.

Every time, after I see you here,

I want to see you again immediately.

Each time I wave to you, I feel sad.

Why is smiling harder than crying?

I have unreachable feelings for you,

...in my mind again today.

I opened the sepia album on my knees.

I mentally muttered "I love you." many times.

Today's smile, word, movement, the eyes,

...I repeat forever,

I want to remember it all.

If I keep the rule of friendship, can I be with you?

Unchangeable kindness is not love.

I already know that.

Every time, I try to forget it,

I love you more.

Never coming dream, I don't notice it.

What do you dream of?

I wouldn't need anything,

....if I could stay with you.

Unreachable feelings only,

....I'll keep it on my mind again today.

English translation c. 1995
Yamazaki Masatomo and KD

This song has mainly used as a backdrop for the romantic situations of kids in New York.

GOOD NIGHT TO YOU

To a big night, melting quietly,

A small breath and thousand of lives.

They're important like jewels.

I strain my ears to the night melody.

You and I. Me and You.

Encounter myths, tears, and sunbeams.

I don't need anything because I'm with you.

I don't need anything because I'm with you.

Promises, goodbye, whistle, Yubikiri (a pledge by linking pinky fingers)

Whimpering, pocket, north wind, and warmth,

You and I. Me and you.

Encounter, miracle, vow, and sunbeams.

Hold me one more time, without saying anything.

Hold me one more time, without asking anything.

Thinking stars in the night, more blue than blue.

The wind is blowing the night, only the moon is seen.

Birds whispers are far away, far away.

Silent night.

Good night to you.

BUTTERFLIES OF SUMMER

A piece of summer is in my palm.

It's shrinking, and is dropped (I don't know what this means.)

My finger's tracing my cheek. (connotation: thinking of bad things)

It hurt you a bit

Love is filling the wind like warm tears.

I can't go back because I'm say.

I'd rather break apart inside than love you.

The fragrance of flowers is whirling to the stars

? is decorated `till dawn.

If we change into an unknown butterfly.

We get over through the sea.

We are held by the summer,

...like flowing water.

Sea breezes take you and leave.
 Morning comes to entwined fingers.
 I'm not going to cry.

English Translation c. 1995

DRAMA CD "LOVE AFFAIRS", Miki TALKING ABOUT DATING YUU.
CD #4, #8 of the selections

(Miki talking)

Feels goooooood.
 The sound of the waves is kind to my ears...
 ...although the wind is a bit cold.
 When I look up, I see the sun smiling.
 And Yuu is sitting next to me with his warmth...
 ...going through his coat and wrapping me warmly.
 Today we're dating after a long time.
 I'm happy.
 I want to shout loudly.
 I love Yuu...I LOVE, LOVE, LOVE YOU!!
 So, I'm happy.
 SUPER, SUPER, SUPER, SUPER!
 No matter how many times I say it, it's not enough. I'm happy.
 If I shout it to the sea line....
 ...I wonder how far my voice would reach.
 To far, far away.
 I hope that everyone who hears my voice will be as happy as I am.
 A girl, who loves someone, is open-minded.
 Right now, I'm not afraid of ANYTHING!
 That was a little lie.
 Actually, I'm just worried a little.
 The happy ocean in my mind...
 ...is getting bigger and bigger...
 The probability of drowning will be increased.
 The beach is far away, I'm afraid of not getting there again.
 I feel that way.
 Ah! But I'll keep that secret from Yuu.
 Anyhow...
 "Miki you're jealous"...
 He'll say that. He teases me.
 I know this worry is a luxury.
 I know that.
 But you know...
 ...like today, we can spend time alone together.
 Those kinds of worries go away.

I want to shout loudly.
 I love Yuu.
 I LOVE, LOVE, LOVE YOU!
 But I'll remain quiet for now.
 It's not because of worrying.
 Yuu'll surely say...
 "You're a weird girl."

English translation c. 1995
 by Yamazaki Masatomo
 Edited by Karen Duffy

Kei-kun speaking on the drama CD, "LOVE AFFAIRS" #16

"Right after I met Miki,
 I noticed that I sat down in front of the piano.
 The fingers began to move naturally and...
 The sounds surprised me.
 I had decided I wouldn't play the piano again.
 Miki has a curious power..
 To change people's minds, doesn't she.
 Her big voice...mistakes...and smile, I watched.
 She made me smile naturally.
 I hadn't laughed so loudly for a long time.
 When I met her for the first time,
 I was attracted to her.
 When I picked up her medallion,
 I think I should've given it back to her,
 ...and asked her to be my girlfriend...gently.
 But I didn't do that.

When I couldn't believe in anybody and left music,
 I'd become more messed up than I thought.
 But, her smile got into my mind and she changed me gradually.
 Then I noticed that I couldn't forget her.
 So I'll sit down in front of the piano. It's my decision.
 That's all I can do.
 I'll play a melody for her.
 The melody is melting into her body gradually.
 And surely my music will color her mind.
 So I'll play a melody now and forever...for her."

English translation c. 1995
 By Yamazaki Masatomo
 Edited by Karen Duffy



CD SONG LISTINGS

MARMALADE BOY VOL.1

1. PROLOGUE "I want to be in love..."
2. I WANT TO SEE YOUR SMILE
3. Miki, a girl full of dreams, "Why isn't anything exciting happening in my life?"
4. Sudden divorce declaration. "Eh?!! What does this mean?"
5. Is he Yuu-kun? "He's so handsome."
6. The Koishikawa's. The Matsuuras. "I'll put it to you clearly. Strange!"
7. By best friend, Akizuki Meiko. "She always smiles, but her eyes look lonely."
8. MOMENT
9. After affects of a kiss. "What should I do? Yuu kiss me!"
10. Campus life. "Forget about the bad things, and tennis, tennis."
11. A love letter. A past memory "STUPID GINTA!"
12. His smile. "I wish he was always this kind."
13. Yuu and Ginta. "If I'm asked which one I like..."
14. A rival - Arimi. "Who is this girl!"
15. I can't decide which one. "I don't know my own feelings."
16. Lost sense of admiration "Stairs to adulthood."
17. WONDERFUL SERENADE.
18. Epilogue "I can't control the palpitations!"

MARMALADE BOY VOL. 3

Vocal Album

1. I Want To See You Smile.....Kubota Rie
2. South Wind.....Kouda Mariko (Miki)
3. Rain.....Okiayu Ryoutarou (Yuu)
4. Moment.....Kouda Mariko (Miki)
5. Wonderful Serenada.....Kouda Mariko (Miki)
6. Friendship.....Kubota Rie
7. Last Promise.....Kouda Mariko (Miki)
8. I Want To See You Smile.....Kubota Rie
9. When I Feel Sad.....Karemaru Junichi (Ginta)
10. Looking For The Sun.....Hisakawa Aya (Arimi)
11. Wonderful Senenada.....Fujiwara Miho
12. I Want To See Your Smile.....Kouda Mariko (Miki)

LOVE AFFAIRS (VOL.4)

PART 1 Past - Palpitations of the Jr. High age.

1. First love letter in my life (to Ginta from Miki)
2. I WANT TO SEE YOUR SMILE
3. The shine of three months (Arimi's memory)
4. SEARCHING FOR THE SUN (instrumental)
5. At the library (the day of Meiko's encounter)
6. THE LAST PROMISE (instrumental)

PART II NOW - LOVE IS PROGRESSING

7. I WANT TO SEE YOUR SMILE (Chu-Chu-La Scat version)
8. On the day of dating Yuu. "I'm way too happy."
9. AT THE END OF TODAY (instrumental)
10. Ginta: My feelings for Suzuki-san have become overpowering.

11. When you feel sad...always...
12. Miwa-kun does his best. A dauntless try of Akizuki Meiko.
13. Ryouko's feelings "Be myself!"
14. WONDERFUL SERENADE

PARTIII

15. MOMENT (piano version)
16. Kei monologue. "Because I can't be gentle."
17. "FOR YOU." A piano solo, to Miki from Kei.
18. Anju: Unchangeable feelings.
19. RAIN (instrumental)
20. Having many encounters. Mike's ending narration.
21. Withered, colored crescendo. (KD: I haven't a clue what this means)

MARMALADE BOY - FACE (VOL. 5)

1. I Want To See Your Smile.....Kubota Rie
2. Let's Be Selfish.....Yukari
3. Story Of A Dream.....Mizushima Yasuhiro
4. Angel.....Tange Sakura (Suzu)
5. Once Again Before The Spring Comes..Kouda Mariko (Miki)
6. Happy endings Never End.....Yukari
7. Forever Pavement.....Yamazaki Wakana (Meiko)
Furu Toru (Na-chan)
8. I Want To be Close to You.....Inoue Kikuko (Anju)
9. I'll Say Good Night To You.....Kubota Rie
10. Crescendo Of Dead Leaf Colors.....Mizushima Yasuhiro

MARMALADE - THE ETUDE OF DAWN (VOL.6)

CHAPTER 1 - MEMORIAL: The Encounter

1. Prologue: At The Infirmary

"We Just Met ---- !

2. I Want To See You Smile.

3. Gastaman Appears! Get The Towel Monster!

4. The Day Of The Encounter. We Stared At Each Other.

5. Melody - Hold Tight.

CHAPTER 2: ROMANTIC

6. Sweet Mood.

7. Turning On Love's Light.

8. Lots Of Happiness.

CHAPTER 3: A FOREIGN STUDENT APPEARS

9. A Blue Eyed Foreign Student.

10. Michael Is Strange.

11. Michael's Love.

CHAPTER 4: YUU'S STUDYING ABROAD IN AMERICA

12. Yuu's Decision And Trouble.

13. Is It True That You're Studying Abroad?

14. America's View.

15. A Beautiful Girl, Jinny.

16. Friendship Has No Borderline.

CHAPTER 5: A LONG DISTANCE LOVE.

17. Separate.

18. A Hunch About Being Separate.

19. What Can I Do?

20. Decision - To Forget Sadness.

CHAPTER 6: FEELINGS THAT HAVEN'T CHANGED

21. Beautiful Memories.

22. Like Surrounding Kindness.

23. The Future Of Lovers.

24. Etude Of Daybreak

MARMALADE SUMMER (VOL.7)

1. I WANT TO SEE YOUR SMILE Kubota Rie

2. CLOUDY, CLEARING LATER Kouda Mariko (Miki)

3. PUN, PUN, PUN (Masatomo says "“pun” is a sound) Midorikawa Hikaru (Michael)

4. I WANT TO BE FELT Ichikawa Yoko

5. BUTTERFLIES OF SUMMER Kubota Rie

6. THE END OF SHARING Kouda Mariko (Miki)

7. DEBUT OF THE SEASON Toriyama Akane

8. ONLY LONELY GIRL Koyama Yuka

9. RONDE OF LIGHT AND WIND Yamazaki Wakana (Meiko)

10. NEVER ENDING SUMMER Matsudaira Nooko

11. DAYBREAK ETUDE Ishikawa Yoko

MUSIC - ROMAJI STYLE

I WANT TO SEE YOUR SMILE

Dakedo kininaru kinou yori mo zutto.

Togireta yume futari no tsuzuki ga shiritai.

Ah! Kamisama jikan a tomete yo.

Kyousashyo seifuku mada kami kawakanai.

Ah! Tasukete ribon ga kimaranai.

Aitsu no yume mita sei yo.

Kogekake no toast kajittara.

Naze ka fuini mune ga tokimeita ama kute nigai marmalade.

Dakara kininaru.

Konna kimochi ha naze.

Ima ichiban aitsu no egao ni aitai.

CLOSING SONG - FIRST SEASON

Kaze ni midareta kami o yasashiku naderu

Anata no hitomi miru no ga kawai

Hiza no furue ga douka osamare made ha.

Mekumore mo mata amaesasete ite.

Yume jyanai, yume jyanai no aa ima.

Kuchibiru de hajimaru korekara no kudari ga.

Hanasanai, hanasanai de aa mou.

Kokoro goto sono te de taite.

LET'S BE SELFISH (ROMAJI)

Wagamamama ikou!

Oh my friend, hisa a adaki,
 Nayande dokomade ochikomu no.
 And my friend wakarukedo
 Soro soro tenshi mo nigedasu yo

Dose mijikai hinsei janai akarukute tanoshikute
 Kuyamanai koi o shitainaraba
 Yarukoto yaro yo.

Shinjiiruno get chance! Imaga Kirei ni narenu toki.
 Jishin moteba kawaru hazu.
 Oikakete get love! Hoshii asita a tsukamumade.
 Wagamama de ikou.

Oh, my friend, tsumaranai.
 Uwasani yuretari warattari.
 But my frien dakara koso.
 Koi suru komochi was suteki nano.
 Jibun demo kirai na jibun ara dare mo forimukani wa.
 Kradato kokoro migaki kakete.
 Shobu ni deyo yo.

Mayowazu ni get chance! Ichika bachi ka ni kakete miru.
 Namida Nanka ato de ii.

Akiramezu get love! Nando mo karizu yamemiteru.
 Son-na mega iine.
 Shinjiiruno get chance. Imaga kireini narerutoki.
 Jishin mateba kawaru hazu.
 Oikakete get love! Sayo saigo ni warau made.

Mune hattee ikou.

Maga mamani go my friend!

YUME no OHANASHI (Story Of A Dream)

Mo sukoshi miteitai hitomi no mizumi ni.

Nugarbashi gu hora frisode kano te o hanuseno!

Doshite hito wa kon-na ni.

Hitori no hito o sukini warerundaro.

Kokoro o sotto yaggita kaze ga.

Itsushika kisetsu kaete iku yo.

*Mae ni kikareta yo ne.

Chorus: So sa kikareyayone.

Nani ga yame tte kimi ni.

Chorus: Nani gu yume kao

Dakishimeru kotshu Kotoshu.

Chorus: Sha la la la...!My dream is in my arm now.

Kimi no tame koku ni dekirukoto itsumo sagashiteiru.

Kono mama de ii to iwanaide boku no yakume dakara.

Soremade mattete hoshii.

Made hitomi no mae ni nirogerare ani kedo.

Kanarazu mitsuketemiseru kimi o.

Shiawase ne suru aishikata o.

Jacket Kazoku.

Chorus: Susu koku nara ii yo.

Samura kanjinainda.

Chorus: Kanji ani nosa.

Yume o tsunagiaeta.

Chorus: sha la la la...my dream is in your eyes now.

*Repeat.

THE MARMALADE BOY STORE

MARMALADE BOY CDs

- | | | |
|----|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| #1 | APCM 5037 | MARMALADE - MONOLOGUE |
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| #4 | APCM 5056 | LOVE AFFAIRS |
| #5 | APCM 5057 (Vocal) | MARMALADE - FACE |
| #6 | APCM 5063 | ETUDE OF DAWN |
| #7 | APCM 5066 (Vocal) | MARMALADE - SUMMER |
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APCM 5008 (single)

APCM 5010 (single - "Moment")

APCM 5012 (single)

APCM 5016 (single)

APCM 5052 (double) I'm guessing that it's a double but I'm not sure.

APCM 5080 (single) I believe.

FLASH! DUE NOV. 5:

A 2 CD compiled Final edition is coming out. Included will be background music that has never before been on any other the other CD's. Plus, there are some new versions of many of the vocals. I believe the information I saw said that there'd be a Karaoke section. The price is 4,000 yen.

ART BOOKS

As of 6/1/95 only 2 have come out.

#1 Marmalade Boy Art by Yoshizumi Wataru.

This is a compilation of pictures done by the creator of the manga.

#2 Style Book of Love (Koi no Style Book)

Includes the story of the time when Yuu first saw and fell in love with Miki (before they met in TV episode #1).

Overall it's a story of the series through about episode 47.

Character design by Seki Hiromi.

PLACES TO ORDER FROM:

BOOKS NIPPAN (Books, LD's)
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10/18/95: The Marmalade Boy Movie LD is due for release on 11/21/95. Ordering information is as follows: Gekijo Shizaku LD, Toei Video Catalog # LSTDO1243 (<- not sure on that number because my handwriting wasn't too good at that moment). CAV, 26 minutes, Vista size (letterbox), Multi-audio. 3,900 yen.

Note: I'll fill up the store as I have time to collect information. (KD)



MARMALADE BOY MANGA INFORMATION

by KD

As a 6/1/95, there are 6 COMPILED manga volumes in Japanese. These episodes that are ones that have already run in the anime. In other words, it's behind the TV show.

Volume #6, ends at the equivalent of TV. episode #45.

The manga stories are similar to the TV version but there are differences. Example: There is no Toryo medallion in the manga, no NY stories or characters, no Anju.

As of 4/96, there are 8 COMPILED manga volumes of the story, which completes it.

For a jump-start on the future, Ribon magazine is currently carrying the MB stories approximately 1 year in advance of their airing on TV. At least right now it is. In the same month that the Ribon came showing Miki entering college, Miki and the gang are entering their senior year in high school in the anime.

Ribon is a magazine for young girls and is about the size of a telephone book. It's full of comedy/romances and things to buy...especially the things that girls would like.

Now it may sound great to find out what's coming up a year in advance but....

Seeing the manga without the voice tones and the humor can make one wonder if one wants to see the episodes when they come out! The voice actors, sounds, and music seem to make a world of difference to this show. Otherwise, what's shown in the manga can be taken out of context. We know this for a fact!

Our first taste of Ribon MB manga showing a year in advance, almost gave Bruce a heart attack, it put me into a depression (I had to go to my room and write an ending for it), made number 2 daughter(22) call home from the office, cause number 1 son's knees to buckle(20), knocked Mika (our translator) off the couch, made number 1 daughter(24) get upset, and we didn't tell number 2 son (he's a Sailor Moon fanatic)(19).

At any rate, without going into the story at all...I will say that as of 6/1/95, Miki is going to Toryo college and looks very cute in her suit. Mike's entrance into to college should take place about next April...if the show is renewed another season.

Meiko is married but keeps in contact with Miki. I won't say who's she married to...

8/26/95:

The above hint about a serious MB story is being done for the anime. The powers that be have moved the time frame up on the story so that it occurs earlier. The story starts with episode #72 and will end with the end of the series at #76.

Having read the manga version of this story first and having suffering quite well for some months over it, I was afraid to see the story. (Yeah, I know, a moment of truth). But, in actuality, the beginning of #72 is very romantic. And since I'm far enough along in the manga that I know that the whole situation ends up only causing MORE passion between the characters, I can now stand to watch them go through what looked a really horrible situation. It can even be appreciated. It looks like the show might end on a very romantic note.

8/30/95:

Never mind what I said above about it'll be easy to watch the story knowing that'll all end up neat. Ha! What a fool I be! Just saw episode #73! I'm dying! Try watching something horrible and sad in slo mo over and over like I do to sub it, and see how "up" you can stay when you get through. Argh!

By the way, I should mention here that the Marmalade Boy story in Ribon ends with the issue that arrives in the US in September. No more MB manga stories, no more MB anime. OAVs? Who knows. I'm betting that there will be. And there's still the movie to see.

10/22/95

Well, it's time to say a whole lot more here. Now that the whole series is completed in translations, some comparisons between the anime and manga conclusions can be made.

The last crisis of the series in both was where Yuu finds pictures of his mother with Jin and his father with Rumi in college. This means that his mother's previous lover and the father of the child in his grandmother's letter (see episode 25 about the letter) was Jin, Miki's father. That makes Miki and Yuu half brother and sister. This does put a wedge in their relationship as girlfriend and boyfriend.

DIFFERENCES

Time Frame:

In the anime, the photo story starts during the summer vacation of Miki and his senior year.

In the manga, this story begins at Christmas time of their Senior year.

The Ring:

Anime Version: Shortly before Yuu finds the photos, Yuu asks Miki what she'd like for her birthday that he missed being there for. He decides he wants to give her a ring. She tells him that he doesn't have to because he gave her one during Hatsumode (New Years). He reminds her that that one was just a toy. She smiles and says "You have a point."

Manga Version: The present instead of being a birthday present is probably for Christmas. And it was Miki who pesters him for a ring, if I remember correctly.

The Closet:

Anime: Yuu wants to give Miki another present because he missed her birthday the year before. She picks his favorite white shirt from his closet and decides she'll wear it as pajamas. Yuu pushes her into the closet and kisses her many times.

Manga: Miki picks Yuu's shirt but it was plaid. Closet scene very similar to the anime version.

The photos scenes and breakup between the manga and anime are pretty similar.

Yuu Leaves:

Anime: Yuu can't bear to be near Miki because of his feelings for her. He tells the parents that he needs to go back to New York sooner than expected because he's losing his English Language skills which were his weak spot in the first place.

Manga: Yuu tells the parents that because he has a architectural major he needs to go to a college with a strong program in that area. One that's in Kyoto.

Meiko's Fury:

Anime: Meiko is furious with Yuu about his one-sided break-up with Miki. She meets him at the airport to give him a piece of her mind. Miwa jumps between her and Yuu before she can get started and prevents her from carrying out her plan.

Manga: Meiko is hauled away from doing the same thing but in the manga it occurs in the library (as Yuu is studying for his entrance exams for Kyoto).

The scenes from when Yuu leaves home are pretty much the same with Miki giving Yuu the package that has the expensive watch she intended to give him. She cries quietly in her room as the car pulls away.

Later, she puts all the things Yuu gave her into a box Yuu and puts a lid on it, then goes out cuts her hair off in both the anime and manga.

(This was in the last scene of the first Ribon MB manga story we'd ever gotten and this is why the family got SO depressed. It is a VERY difficult story. I've seen some other MB fans call it "An evil story". Once past it to the good old romantic parts again, it doesn't feel so bad anymore. (^_^) But with manga it takes another full month before any relief comes, but it took several months of manga before things got better. Rough.)

In Between Yuu Leaving and Finally Telling Miki About Being Siblings:

Anime: It's been a full month since Yuu left. The new short haired Miki, replaces Ryouko-sensei for training underclassmen in tennis during the rest of Summer vacation. She invites Meiko over to spend the night because her parents are lonely because Michael has gone back to his own country. Miki and Meiko have a wonderful time until they're getting ready for bed. Miki opens her top drawer and comes across "the box". She can't control the tears. Meiko tells Miki to go see Yuu in New York. Miki goes to New York.

Manga: Meiko tell Miki to see Yuu in Kyoto. Miki goes to Kyoto to talk to Yuu. He's walking with another girl. Yuu wants her to give up on him so he let's her think she's his girlfriend. Miki goes back to the train station. Yuu secretly follows her. And watches her departure sadly.

Yuu Breaks Down And Tells Miki That They're Siblings:

Anime: In New York, Miki tells him that she can't forget him. That she tried to but wasn't able to. As she tells him what's in her heart, Yuu is suffering terribly until he can't hold it back anymore and tells her the truth.

Manga: Yuu's been ordered to come home by the mothers who miss him. Yuu doesn't want to come but knows he must. When he returns he find that Miki seems back to normal. (I think this is what the Japanese call "refreshed".) He and Miki later take a walk together. (I'm doing this from long term memory so if I make a mistake please forgive me) He asks

her if she has a new boyfriend. Miki tells him "no" that she's still in love with him. This upsets Yuu who yells "No!" She tells him that angrily tells him it's her business who she loves and who she doesn't love. She then cheerfully runs over to some sun flowers and with great interest in them. She isn't really interested, she's trying to hide her feelings. Yuu figures it out and can't stand it and grabs her up in his arms and holds her and apologizes repeatedly. He tells her the truth and then let's her see the photos in his room.

The Portion Of The Story Just Prior To Confronting The Parents:

Anime: Miki hasn't had time to sort out her feelings about Yuu and herself. She can't bear to go home and she can't bear to be near Yuu. She takes off running, grabs a cab, and gets lost in Manhattan. She nearly is injured or killed by street thugs, but some small children save her. She learns about affection between siblings from their behavior. Yuu finds her just in time. The two of them decide to live together... even though they can't marry and they can't have children.

Manga: Miki comes to Yuu after the news had sunk in a bit and tells him that she still wants to go on their trip alone as girlfriend and boyfriend one last time before breaking up. Yuu agrees. As Yuu and Miki fly to their destination, they're holding hands.

On the trip, Miki wears the ring that had remained unopened for so long and she has on the bracelet that he gave her as well. They go many places; smiling, laughing, teasing, and having a wonderful time. Miki and Yuu hold hand most everywhere they go. As Miki eats an ice cream cone Yuu laughs and holds his arm around Miki shoulder possessively.

On the evening of their last day, Yuu and Miki know that their time together is almost over and that they must break-up and change their relationship forever. Neither is anxious to go back to the motel. They sit and watch an outdoor laser show. Miki leans closely to Yuu and he holds her as they both sadly watch the show. After it's over, the crowds leave the stands, leaving Miki and Yuu sitting there not wanting to move. They decided to go to a coffee shop.

Miki and Yuu have to be asked to leave when the coffee shop needs to close.

At the hotel, Miki and Yuu stand in front of their various doors (to their rooms). Yuu puts the key into his and unlocks it. Miki stares at hers. Yuu wants to know if something's wrong. Miki says nothings wrong. Both encourage the other to go into their rooms. Miki and Yuu can only look at each other and feel their pain. Miki finally break down and pushes her head against Yuu's chest in tears. Yuu can't bear it, he grabs Miki by the arm and pulls her into his room, dropping the keys and kisses her with a lot of pent up passion.

Yuu then asks Miki to marry him, not right away but when he can support her. Miki is confused about how that would be possible. Yuu tells her that since he's registered as Youji's son, it won't be illegal for them to get married. The only thing is that under no circumstances could they have children. Miki and Yuu decide to endure their pain together.

The Confrontation With The Parents:

When They First Encounter The Parents For THAT Talk:

Anime: Yuu and Miki, in the rec. room of the dorm at St. Andrews. Miki and Yuu sit side by side but not too close and opposite all four parents. Miwa and Meiko are in chairs to the side.

Manga: Yuu and Miki, in the breakfast table area of the rec. room. The parents are sitting at the table. Miki and Yuu walk up nearby, with serious expressions and are holding hands.

How the conversation opens:

Anime: The parents have already been told by Yuu that he and Miki want to talk to them and they push Yuu to get on with it. Yuu starts by telling him that they know about them dating in college.

Manga: The parents are shocked to see the two holding hands and want to know why. Yuu starts off by telling the parents that they plan on getting married.

In both anime and manga, the parents are shocked when Yuu brings the subject up but in the anime the parents fall all over themselves laughing that Yuu would think that he and Miki are siblings. In the manga, the parents take the situation seriously and explain.

What happened in the past:

Anime: The story is never told of why the parents switched partners way back when except that Chiyako did get pregnant by Jin but lost the baby.

Manga: The details come out in the manga story only. Jin and Youji were going to a men's college. Chiyako and Rumi at a women's college. But all joined a tennis circle. In no time, the paired up as they are now, Jin and Chiyako, Rumi with Youji.

After college, they all felt the relationships would be the same as now. But it was more difficult to see each other. Chiyako, in particular, was very much involved with her work. She found it very interesting. Her boss, Miwa Yoshimitsu, had been refused by her but she didn't want to harm her job so she did go out to dinner with him after work. She allowed him to put his arm around her shoulder (I gather mainly to prevent too much friction with her boss). Jin saw it. A big argument came up by phone later because to top it off she'd broken a date with him in the process.

Chiyako, wanted to resolve things with Jin, so she asked Youji to help her. Rumi saw them together in the evening and blew a gasket. She accused Chiyako of not only having an affair with her boss but with Rumi's boyfriend. Youji told her that it wasn't like that but Rumi sternly reminded him that he was spending more time with Chiyako than with her. She ran off.

Chiyako and Youji didn't hear from their lovers for some months. Chiyako found out that she was going to have Jin's baby. She didn't want to call him. Finally, she did. But he wasn't in the country any more. He and Rumi had gone to England where Jin had work.

Youji found out from Chiyako that she was pregnant by Jin and that she intended to have the baby. He told her he wanted to take care of her, but she refused him. He told her he really wanted to and finally convinced her.

Before getting married they wrote to all their relatives to get permission. (KD: Thus the letter from the grandmother ...Can you be happy with a woman who has a baby by another man? Can you continue to love that woman and child.)

But before the wedding, Chiyako lost the baby. Chiyako from her hospital bed, told Youji that he didn't have to marry her now, they could call off the wedding. He very sincerely took her hand and told her that he didn't want to call off the wedding. They embraced with a great deal of passion. Yuu was born about a year later.

With time, the couples love returned to friendship...until they met their original loves on the Hawaii trip.

The Parents Reaction To Hearing That Yuu and Miki Are A Couple:

Anime: The parents tell the kids that they knew about them all along, that they left them to carry on in private. At first, they thought it would be a problem if the two of them became a couple because the family was already so unconventional. But they found that it was a pleasure to see them fall in love day by day. Jin personally tells Yuu that they have permission to date or whatever. When Yuu and Miki later embrace the parents make silly sounds and Youji blows on a party favor.

Manga: The parents are taken totally by surprise and hadn't guessed. The mothers and Youji take to it pretty well but Jin suddenly become the average father of a daughter. Jin behavior is portrayed cutely though. When Yuu and Miki embrace they talk about her father "going normal on them".

Youji's Reaction To Yuu Not Thinking He Wasn't His Father:

Anime: Youji starts playfully punching him, telling him he got his brains from his dad. That he should've come to him, etc.

Manga: Yuu takes a serious slap across the face from Youji, who softens the blow with softer words afterwards.

Meiko's Marriage:

Anime: We get to observe her reception with all the Japanese teens there, Miki and Yuu's parents, Kijima and Rei, and Akira and Ryouko, and, of course, the wedding couple. Meiko's parents did not relent.

Manga: Miki did not get to go to Meiko's wedding but got photos of the small family affair.

The Mother's Announcement:

Anime: The mothers announce that they're both pregnant. Miki is very excited that she and Yuu are going to have little brothers or sisters.

Manga: The mothers decide since they have never had white formal gown weddings that they want to go to Hawaii and get married more traditionally.

How The Story Ends:

Anime: Miki and Yuu are kissing at their formal wedding.

Manga: Yuu hopefully wants to know if when the parents leave for Hawaii, if they're going to leave them behind again. Jin grabs Yuu around the neck and lets him know that **THIS TIME** they're coming with them! (He doesn't want to leave his daughter with Yuu alone).

A Personal Overview Of Comparing Endings

Please keep in mind that this overview may reflect the personality of the writer. It won't make it invalid just personal. What other people gain from the show is just as valid in my opinion.

I'm sure that the author(s) wrote the anime to differ from the manga for good reasons. Without standing in their shoes I can't criticize in anyway. So the things I'm going to say are strictly from the standpoint of how I was personally affected by the differences in endings.

The ring that Yuu bought Miki with so much love was never seen in the anime version. I would very much still like to see it. Dumb of me, I guess, but hey, I'm human. So manga gets a plus for seeing the ring.

The trip for just Miki and Yuu (without Michael) was only in the manga. Manga gets a plus for a very romantic break in an otherwise tragic story.

There was no explanation for **WHY** the parents switched partners the 1st time in the anime. I'm sure that given as much information as anime episode #76 had in it, there just wasn't time to do tell that story. But still, the manga gets an A+ for explaining the history of that situation. It made the situation much more believable.

However, the anime over the manga gave more completion to the story with the wedding kiss. The manga left me feeling that the ending was merely the ending of another episode of MB. Anime gets a plus here.

The anime, in addition to the wedding kiss, gave information on all the main Japanese characters' futures; and Michael was included in that information. Again the anime gets another big A+!

The New York story was very heavy portion of the anime story, right after A LOT of other depressing portions of the same story but it was extremely well written. I got a particularly goodly amount of mirth out of the police hauling in a Chinese girl because they couldn't tell the difference between Chinese and Japanese.

In the manga, the parents were sensitive to Miki and Yuu's feeling and came across as compassion. For me, the parents falling all over themselves laughing immediately (in the anime) came across for me personally very badly. Miki came close to being badly injured or killed, Yuu and Miki broke up and nearly lost each other for life, and Yuu went into a shell for years over his mistake about his birth and they laughed? Does one usually laugh about being mistaken for a baby that was lost?

Again understand, it's the situation that I didn't feel comfortable with on an emotional level. However, from an intellectual point of view, the story may have had to be written that way for the anime to lighten the heavy mood and move the story along. Given the short amount of time

that the writer(s) of the anime have to tell the story, in the same situation I may have had to write it the same way. I recommend, for those who first react the way I did that it just be chocked up to the parents' zany personalities...you know "the odd quad".

Both endings were romantic. (^_^)

10/25/95:

Currently, it is not my intention to translate the manga in full for the Guide. There is already a group working hard to do that for themselves and the hobby. To take part in that or to be an observer of the work, interested parties can join the translations mailing list at mboy-trans-request@soyokaze.biosci.ohio-state.edu.

In spite of the fact that I won't personally be involved in the manga translations, I will try to bring up more interesting comparisons between the manga and the anime in this format.

INSIDE INFORMATION ON THE TRANSLATION OF MB

KD:

As a 6/5/95, there are 3 teams of translators working on Marmalade Boy. They are as follows:

Bruce Duffy and Mika Hippen
Mika Hippen and Karen Duffy
Chris Raymer and Sasagu Yamaguchi
(as a favor to us)

Later in June 1995, we added...

Yamazaki Masatomo and Karen Duffy have take over the project completely
(While Mika attended summer classes out of town, Bruce needed a rest, and Chris Raymer's life went into a new direction, and Sasagu? I don't know.....grin)

THE DIFFICULTY OF TRANSLATING:

Translating from Japanese to English is sometimes like trying to put two legs into one leg of your pants! Things just don't always fit right. As a result, the mental gymnastics can be excruciating. Regardless, we believe that having a native born Japanese translator WITH an American is probably the best way to cross the barrier between countries. Both Mika Hippen (married to an American doctor, that's why the last name "Hippen") Sasagu were so invaluable to the project.

THE AMERICANS INVOLVED IN TRANSLATIONS ARE AS IMPORTANT AS THE JAPANESE COUNTERPARTS:

Yet, translating also takes some savvy on the part of the American portion of the teams. The Japanese counterparts tend to speak more formal English than what would be spoken by teenagers, as the show depicts. In addition, foreigners can't possibly pick up all the American idioms that drench our culture, let alone know which of those belong to the deep south, the ghettos, or those used mainly by teens.

The real exercise comes when a Japanese idiom means absolute nothing when translated into English. The next best option seems to be either to use the **MEANING** of the words as the translation rather than the statement directly OR try to find a similar American idiom that conveys the same feelings and emotions. Both techniques are used in these translation according to what "feels" right in the setting.

WHEN JAPANESE AND AMERICAN USE THE SAME WORD TO MEAN DIFFERENT THINGS:

Some common words convey different meanings in English and Japanese. For instance, the famous Tōryō medallion. In English, this trinket would be called a locket. The Japanese have borrowed the English word "medallion" but are using it where we use the word "locket". At first, we used the word locket for the Tōryō medallion but got so used to hearing the voice actors say "medallion" in English that, we went back and changed the translation "locket" back to "medallion" to match the Japanese attempt at English.

Masatomo tells me that this is one that got him after coming to the US. To say "I'll think it over" in Japan means "No". In the US, it means "I'll consider it and get back to you". So he'd get asked "Do you want to be a Christian?" Answer: "I'll think it over." It took him a while to figure out that the statement doesn't mean the same thing in both countries.

CONNOTATIONS (examples...just a few of many)

It's Like A Dream...

Both our culture and theirs are drenched with connotations. In episode #45, Meiko says "It's like a dream." In our culture we have a saying "It's like a dream come true." meaning "a wish fulfilled". But actually she was saying that the situation didn't feel real...just as a dream ISN'T real. The situation was that she hadn't had time to adjust to a new situation that had come on her all at once! Her sentence had to completely be rewritten to convey the **CORRECT MEANING**.

Making A Confession...

In the Japanese vernacular, to tell someone you love them is to make a "confession". To many of us here, making a confession is done if you're heading off to jail OR you're Catholic. This confession-thing is used quite a lot in Marmalade Boy since it's a romantic/comedy. Our connotations of the word make it difficult to use too often. It's there in our translations when we can get away with it (determined by what else is in the context of the sentence) and at other times saying it differently altogether was found to come across better.

In episode 46, Miki says that Meiko is even prettier than usual. She's "frighteningly" beautiful. All that we could come up with on that is that Japanese ghosts are often depicted as beautiful until they're upset, then they become ghastly. Symbolically speaking, it seemed the connotations were built upon that and that Miki was saying that Meiko is composed on the outside, but full of turmoil on the inside.

We can't possibly put notes on the screen to explain all the connotations so the only option is to change the wording to convey the correct feeling.

FILLING TIME SLOTS:

The scripts are required to fit certain time slots. This means that sometimes sentences may be edited to fill the space. In Japanese, a line may say something and IMPLY a whole lot more. There's no way, absolutely NO WAY to convey these extra feelings. By trying it both ways; wordy sentences with more meanings as opposed to shorter sentences that stick directly to the main thought, we found that the show gained FAR MORE DEPTH from the latter. We do make exceptions. We translate to fit the situation. So the our rules of translating are NOT set in blood. We take each line as it comes.

LIST OF VARIABLES:

About the final translations: The original translations are ALWAYS very rough. It takes seeing the scripts over and over, making a slew of adjustments before a script is ready to use.

Some of the considerations are: Voice tone

Length of sentence

A comparison of previous and following statements.

The question of whether the specific character would say it that way.

Matching the English to the Japanese in direct order.

Time allotment.

Redundancy.

Does the translation convey the true intent of what was said.

Does the correct translation have the same connotations as intended by the writers.

ARTISTIC INTERPRETATION:

It is a fact true, that not all translators for American anime will choose the same wording. Considering all the possible options for saying the same thing in English, this would be impossible. A great many personal preferences will be a part of every translator's efforts. Therefore, translating for anime is somewhat like artists painting in their own style.

WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT:

On a final note, the translators are only responsible for the interpretation of the words that the final product is based upon. The EDITORS make the final decisions. This means that would-be experts should not lay blame for anything they might not agree with on the interpreters.

COULD THERE BE MISTAKES:

You bet! And sometimes we'll catch them and sometimes we won't. Sometimes there's a lack of understanding of concepts between the Japanese interpreter and the American trying to rewrite for clarity in English.

With American interpreters a tense or verb can be off. And also with Americans interpreting alone without a Japanese counterpart looking over the shoulder, connotations can be lost. Remember the connotations can often tell the story better than the straight words can. Like "Get off it" meaning in our slang, "quit it" not literally "to remove oneself from". What a difference in meaning, huh?!

Long distance interpreters, ones not working directly with Bruce and I here, cannot answer our questions about what they really mean by what they say in their scripts. We are left to guess-work or asking the Japanese translators IF they have time.

Also when translations are shipped in rather than translated line by line with us at the computer, we have to hope we've lined up the correct translation with the correct line.

Overall though, translating with a native Japanese looking over ones shoulder right at the computer, seems to be the most accurate way to perform the feat of translating.

FINAL NOTE:

All in all, those involved with the Marmalade Boy project have a passion for the show. Mika and Masatomo are primarily paid translators, rather than fans, but each says that they love doing it this job because it's fun!

I, myself, have devoted every single day to it frequently spending hours through the night working on it as well. Why? Um...well... I'll leave that to your imagination.

At any rate, nothing is perfect. BUT...I want to say that no matter what, we have done the best we could.

THE TRANSLATOR STATS: (From 1995)

Bruce Duffy: Bruce has been studying Japanese for a year and a half with private tutors. It used to be rather dull studying the old fashioned way...until he discovered he could use Marmalade Boy for his lessons.

Chris Raymer: Chris has been studying college Japanese for a couple of years. He is planning to live in Japan and to be a teacher. He's ESPECIALLY good at formal dialog because of so much experience writing college papers. Examples of his ability to do this are in volume 4 (MB #13-16) where the teachers are all up in arms about Namura-sensei and Akizuki Meiko.

Sasagu Yamaguchi: The other half of the men's team. I've never actually talked to Sasagu. But, from what I've been told, Chris does as much translating as he can on his own. Sasagu then looks over any dialog that Chris has questions about...in order to clarify them. This appears to be the best arrangement for them. Sasagu and Chris apparently have a good relationship in which they play with their language skills.

Mika Hippen: A very unusual Japanese woman. I say "unusual" for this reason - There are a lot of Americans, who are really intelligent but can NOT read subtitles. I have personally seen native born Japanese, Mika, read the English subtitles, listen to the Japanese, and make a

comparison all at the same time without me stopping the tape! She's good, absolute irreplaceable!

Karen Duffy: Used to living with teens around, and usually talks that way herself. This is used to the advantage when editing scripts to common usage. Has some Japanese language skills but they're simplistic at best probably understands about 200 words at most. Is the largest contributor time-wise and work wise to the project.

NEWS! (6/20/95) We now have a NEW Japanese translator added to the project. His name is Yamazaki Masatomo. Masatomo is currently helping with translation holes and errors to enable me to prime the episodes for mastering. Welcome Masatomo!



NEWS! (6/30/95) Masatomo and I (Karen) are handling all translations now that the show is nearing an end. All of the shows from the 60's, a goodly portion from the 50's plus some in the 40's have been done with the aid of Masatomo.

Yamazaki Masatomo: Masatomo is often called "Tom" by Americans who can't figure out how to pronounce his name. He seems to actually like his nick-name. He likes America because Americans appreciate his sense of humor. It wasn't exactly in Japan. Women here are very open and free speaking. He wants to marry a

brunette!

Masatomo is a college graduate but is continuing his education. One of his favorite subjects is English writing classes. This comes to our advantage at times because although his English isn't perfect, he has a fair grasp of it for a non-native born speaker. Now, if we could only dump the accent so that he doesn't sound like he's from South America! (His dialect is from the Kansai area which means his accent is different from Mika's or any of our Japanese Foreign Exchange students'.) (^_^)



MB - CLUBS, ML, AND OTHER GROUP ACTIVITIES

New

No matter what, life changes. Whether the activities stated in this guide remain over the years isn't near as important as recording them for history. And so this is being written down for everyone that is NOW to enjoy, and for the future to look back on and either remember or muse upon.

Role Playing Game on AnimeNET 1998

Currently there are eight people playing. They are..

Tania Chabert...Miki
 Marcia Chabert..Meiko
 Tony Butler..Ginta
 Angela Black..Arimi
 Leonard Liew..Yuu
 Dave Drew....Kei
 Shannon Taylor...Suzu
 Richard Ryley..Miwa

Said to play the roles VERY well .

The setup described by Tony Butler on the MB ML:

The title is "Marmalade Boy: Who Am I?" The basic story takes place during the time period of episodes 37-44 or thereabouts, beginning shortly after Miki and Yuu get back together after the return of Miki's locket from Kei, and on the same day that Ginta decks the guy who was asking Arimi for directions. The game to date has Ginta saving Miki's life when they are hit by a speeding car... though he is severely hurt (concussion, internal injuries, broken bones, etc.). Miki, while not really hurt, is discovered to have "traumatic amnesia" (the GM of the game had it after a car accident when he was 19, so he is coaching the player of Miki).

The game looks pretty good, although emotionally intense (I'm playing Ginta <G>). The players are doing very well at keeping in character, and in the case of Suzu, getting the rest of us to see things from her perspective. Quite frankly, some of the best role-playing I've ever seen from those playing Miki, Suzu, Arimi, Meiko, Kei, and Yuu. We've even had a surprise move submitted for Roktunda by Bruce Duffy! <G>

I'll announce here when the fanfic version is completed, though it will be a number of months yet as the game just started in February and will run until close to the end of the year.

Marmalade Boy Fan Club

Hi! If anyone's interested, me and my friends started an Unofficial Official Marmalade Boy Fan Club. We absolutely love the series, and would appreciate all the support that you could give us. There's also a chat room available for anyone who wants to talk about MB.

Thanks ^_^.

UOMBF = <http://www.geocities.com/Area51/Shadowlands/4068/>

Rachelle and Cristine Palima

The Marmalade Boy Mailing List

The Marmalade Boy list is run by a generous man who allows talk about more than just Marmalade Boy. As far as he's concerned if it's in the same genre, it's allowable.
mboy@soyokaze.ohio-state.edu

Marmalade Boy Fan-dubbing Group

Most of the cast is open for audition.
 The web page is <http://www.geocities.com/Tokyo/Bay/4306/>

MB game for the Japanese Super Nintendo?

Reports have it that the SNES MB game is a "life simulation" game, something like Tokimeki Memorial or Sotsugyou. It must be played on a computer with an emulator. A character is created by you and interacts with the MB cast. How it ends depends on which boy your character goes after.



MARMALADE BOY FAN SECTION

From the British Isles

"Marmalade Boy continues to live up to my high expectations! I especially enjoyed episodes 6 & 10-12. At this rate I'll probably even become a tennis fan ^_-^;;(OK only if Miki is playing ^_^). I really should compliment you on your excellent subtitles & obvious hard work you must put into the task of subbing Marmalade Boy. You are doing a magnificent job, keep up the good work.

I keep my Marmalade Boy twitch under control with the thought that those nice Nikaku Animart people are sending me the MB Vocal CD & That my MB Heroes trading card collection is nearly complete ^_^ . This should hopefully last me till I get some more episodes from you.

Mark Cleaver
United Kingdom

A Social Marmalade Boy Watcher

"My name is Phil. I just wanted everyone to know that I don't have a Marmalade Boy problem. I only watch it socially. OK, sometimes I watch an episode by myself. But, you know, that's only after a really stressful day. It helps me relax.

And, I don't have to keep watching Marmalade Boy. I can quit "any time I want to". I just don't want to yet. Besides, it makes me look older. (I know watching a cartoon aimed at teenage Japanese girls has to help me look more mature.) And all my friends a TAAS watch it too.

I've seen up to episode 16, and have episodes 17-24 waiting to watched. See? I still have Marmalade Boy that I haven't watched. And, I don't need to watch it. I can go without watching it for days, weeks even. No problem. And, even though I'm going to send off for more tapes as they come in (I'll be getting 25-28 soon), I don't spend a lot of money on Marmalade Boy. It's just a little bit, here and there.

I also have some of the manga, and will get some more soon. I know people say that the anime is like a stepping stone to harder forms of Marmalade Boy addiction, but I just like the more intense feel of the manga. I don't think I have a problem if I read it alone, or at work. It's not like it's hurting anyone else, right? And I don't think the Marmalade Boy trading cards are a problem either. I could live without them. And I don't have any of the art books. And, as I don't "need" the art books, I probably won't buy them. Yet. At least not until I have a bit of money to spare. But, I don't really need food. Yeah, I can do without for a few days...

I don't know why people keep talking about what a problem Marmalade Boy is, and how it destroys people. I know that I'm not like those people who can't control their Marmalade Boy consumption. I've got more self control than that. It's not a problem for me.

I like Arimi, but I think it's just the hair.

Maybe I'll go watch an episode of Marmalade Boy now. Just one episode. Just one before I go to sleep..."

Phil (Phil Lee)

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A HEATHEN?

Marmalade Boy just gets better and better, I collapsed laughing at the end of episode 19. where it showed the trailer for episode 20 (somebody has a seriously weird sense humor ^_^). I was happy to see that Miki and Yuu seem finally to be expressing their feelings for each other, but this is probably just because I'm a hopeless romantic...sigh (we all have our faults ^_^).

I'm doing my best to convert my anime club member to MB at the moment, so far only one has resisted (Heathen). One young lady has even started drawing pictures of Miki on her letters to me with her club requests (aren't I lucky).

Mark

Ginta's The Target

Regarding episode #13:

"Personally Ginta, I would suggest a cold shower." Chris Raymer

A Family Social Thing

".....I've watched to episode 22 so far. "We" is the operative word, because until MB, my wife showed no real interest in sharing my passion for anime. Sure, she could tolerate sitting through episodes of Ranma, Tenchi, or Orange Road. But MB is like a family picnic, something for which we set a little time aside in our busy, baby-focused home schedule. It's very gratifying that Meilin can enjoy this particular anime as much as I can and that we actually have long conversations on it's merits.

...Our son will be raised on the likes of Marmalade Boy. (KD: Does it work as well as Espillac and diapers? (^_^)

Lee D.

CONDIMENTS

.....It is rare to come upon a show with so many characters that one can care for, characters that are fleshed out, real, yet ever full of surprises. Though the title may belie it, _Marmalade Boy_ is not just Yuu or even Miki's show: it's Arimi's, Ginta's, Meiko's, Na-chans, etc.'s show...a veritable cupboard full of tasty breakfast condiments.

Young-Kyu

FROM EPISODE #1 TO SUZU! New

First off: WOW! That first episode is possibly the best intro any TV series has ever had. Every second a blast. Unlike to many other series where people assure you that "once you watch past episode 12 it starts to pick up" MB grabs you right from the beginning. And not a second is wasted. By the commercial break we are introduced to Miki and Yuu, both families, Meiko, Yuu, Ginta; the whole marriage situation is laid out; and amazingly none of it feels rushed in the slightest (unlike say, Nadesico). Brilliant story telling!

And it continues - a simple gag like being hit by a basketball would, in most other series, be simply that. We'd get the laugh and then move on. But instead it's used as a tool to get Miki into the Nurse's Room so that we can have what may be one of the best cliff hanger endings I've ever seen. Why is this mysterious Yuu fellow? And why the hell did he do that? And "Oh my God!"

It's MB's seamless mix of comedy and teenage angst that has always earned my admiration. Even quality series like Fushigi Yuugi often experience awkward transitions from their comedic to melodramatic moments, but MB never stumbles. Throughout the series that mix is handled expertly, the series only bringing unintentional laughs from the audience during Jinny's dance and when the animators use a particularly overly dramatic visual metaphor or device to underscore the gravity of the situation. I'll address these as they come.

Just a few more points:

Miki refers to a six month waiting period for divorced women before they can remarry. Is this law still on the books? does it also apply to men who wish to remarry?

Miki comments that she's given up on trying to change everyone's minds about the partner swap because they look "like friends who've been together for a long time." Foreshadowing? Or was the manga's conclusion not yet written when episode #1 of the anime was done?

And Moment, the song used to close the episode is still one of my favorite J-pop tunes. I often embarrass myself by humming it out loud while waiting at bus stops. It's a shame they play it much less often as the series progresses.

If MB kept that level of intensity and just plain goodness throughout its run it would be considered probably the very best anime that ever was. It doesn't, but then I could hardly expect it to stay as good as its first episode. But it does continue to be a quality series throughout its run.

Again, we'll see how it develops in the coming weeks.

See y'all tomorrow. and don't worry, these are going to get very brief as I progress. (until Suzu arrives, and then I'll rant for pages on how she is the ANTICHRIST.)

From one obsessed fan to another,

Elijah van der Giessen

To this question posted by me...

Marmalade Boy Gentlemen,

For the sake of curiosity, please tell me WHY your favorite characters are your favorite characters. I'm really interested in hearing what moves people's minds and hearts.

VOTES FOR MIKI

Howdy all! I figured I'd finally start participating in this mailing list and throw in a vote for Miki. Reason? Cause she's a little clumsy at women things. Just like my girlfriend. Clumsy in a more cute sorta way rather than in an irritating fashion. And her insistence on sharing everything is reminiscent too. Although the choice was hard because I like Meiko a lot too. And I don't know why either. Actually, I kinda like all of `em.

Which is one thing I've realized about this series; there really isn't anyone to dislike (well, except for Kyoto (or was it Kyoko?) sensei. But all the main characters are likable and even though there are love triangles everywhere everyone still manages to get along well and have good times together.

Ben

Guess I should add my vote too...I like Miki most of all...I understand her so completely...I see a lot of myself in her..Especially in the way she responds to people, and her relationships with her parents /"family". Considering I'm a guy, that might be a bit worrying? Ah well...

David

...I'll put in my two cents worth for Miki. Or at least I'll cast a vote for her.

Author Unknown

As I said before, I'm fond of Miki. I don't know why (yes I do ^_^) She's cuter than hell and has a great personality. She has flat-can't-do anything-with-it- hair, and can't take being teased. Her figure is, less `robust" than what you find on similar aged girls in Mangadom (boys comics anyway) which is a refreshing change. True, she has some unusual problems, but don't we all!

I am getting sick of those breast-larger-than-the head type things...enough is enough....

Maybe it's the 4 12 x 6" eyes. he, joudan desu! ^_^

Hehehe...

Fred (I think he wrote this)

VOTES FOR ARIMI

I'd have to say Arimi is my favorite so far. Aside from the usual list of likable attributes, Arimi is determined without being ruthless. This young lady knows what she wants and she plans meticulously to get what she wants. Yet she is insightful enough to know when something is out of her reach and graceful enough to give it up without further fuss.

Chae

I like Arimi a lot too...she's a bit deceitful at times, but she's very cute, and very determined to get what she wants.

David

....I'm a guy too and I see a lot of myself in Arimi (which is probably why I don't like her that much). Or at least I see the qualities I don't like about myself in her. Selfishness, clinging to things that are long gone (or never yours to begin with), being obnoxious...

Jean

I didn't really like Arimi at first. I've had problems with 'over-aggressive' girls in the past, so this touched a nerve. It wasn't until she admits that she's lost, and has given up on Yuu that we get to see deeper into her character.

We also get to see Ginta (the dumnnut ^_^) start to 'understand' Arimi. Ginta doesn't understand Miki, and that is why Miki chose Yuu....People-think- they know what they want, but sometimes....

Fred

Arimi is the instigator, not a hapless victim swept into the current like Miki, Meiko. I think this aura of cool (even devious) control is what makes Arimi so interesting.

Author Unknown.

VOTES FOR MEIKO

Hi, my name is Jean. Yoroshiku. I'm new to this list and I'm catching the tail end of this thread, but I would like to put a bit in. My favorite is Meiko. Mainly, because she reminds me EXACTLY of a girlfriend (whom I still cherish) from 3 years ago. They are so alike, it's chilling. Rich fighting parents, air of mystery, understanding, quiet, beautiful, smart, well I could go on...but I think you have the point. All the things I like in a girl.

(Well, I could do without the rich fighting parents). I do like Miki too, for her openness and honesty.

Jean

Meiko started to do the one thing I thought I'd never see her do when Miwa started to pursue her...she gets so ANGRY! It's hilarious. Up to that point she is this stereotypical shoujo princess, all petite and proper. Her reaction to Miwa is different than what I expected and refreshing. (gotta love it)

Author unknown

Why do I like Meiko: Well, I guess it could be wrapped up as interest, attitude, personality and looks, but that doesn't tell you much. IF I could only two points, I guess it would be her literary interests and somewhat detached involvement. She doesn't seem to be a real part of any of the groups in school (except the literary club, which is a bit odd) yet she is Miki's best friend and confidant. Not much ruffles her. She does have an air of quiet mystery about her too; what's going on behind those big eyes of hers? Actually, Meiko, Nacchan and Ryoko are the 3 characters that I feel I understand best in the series (OK, Ginta too). That is, understand what they are thinking, feeling and why they are doing what they are. It does seem like a paradox to say I understand Meiko well, then turn around and claim she has this air of mystery around her.....

George Robbert

....As for Meiko...I like her confidence and cool composure. It's tough to maintain some semblance of sanity when there's trouble at home. And her relationship with the Sensei..."GUTS!":) Besides, gotta love the hair:)

Jay

VOTES FOR GINTA

I like Ginta's honesty...

Author Unknown

I'll add my votes for Ginta and Meiko. I identify a lot with Ginta. I was in similar situations during high school so I knew exactly how he felt. Also, I played tennis for my high school team (tho I was not even close to Ginta's level)...

Jay

A VOTE FOR MIWA?

Miwa is the ultimate evil politician. He's GREAT. Although I do not like his long hair (it's personal I think, since I cut off my hair that I did not cut for 2 years just 2 weeks ago.).

Ben C.

Please put my vote in for Miwa. If you wanna know why, watch the prom episode. `Nuff said.

dd Durkin

Miwa's OK. He's not my favorite among the men, but turns out all right in the end. I don't always agree with his methods, in fact sometimes they annoy me as much as Meiko, but he does seem to basically have his heart in the right place.

George Robbert

JUST AN OPINION ON TSUTOMU

Tsutomu really has a good attitude, actually. He doesn't give up, and as far as his, er..behavior...it's just the way he is. He doesn't try to act like someone else. You just think that he'd come up with some other sort of thing for losers to do rather than cut their hair...

Fred

THE INNER FEELINGS CREATED BY MARMALADE BOY

GIRL/ GUY RELATIONSHIPS

The secret reason that I like Marmalade Boy so much is that I can really relate to Yuu and his relationship to Miki. Hell, I'm no where near as cool or as good-looking (Man, I wish ^_^). The girls who like him get really pissed at him because he "never expresses his feelings." It reminds me of the bit from Robert Bly's book "Iron John" (of which I could only stomach three chapters) where he talks about how women are always asking "Well, how do you feel" expecting a response similar to what they feel. Instead, an honest answer from a lot of guys would be "I don't feel anything..."

What girl wouldn't be pissed off with that kind of answer? (a strange one ^_^)

Let's say a girl shows interest in you (and she might even be attractive too. You don't really feel anything for her and you know that you won't, but decide to go along anyway and give it a chance. She's gonna get hurt, no matter how much you try. (trust me, I know...) Even if the girl is really good looking, if your personalities don't match, it ain't gonna work. Looks are

important to a point (like it or not, they are a reflection of how someone likes themselves) but personalities are more important. Lets face it, Ginta is too direct and pushy to deal with Miki, and Arimi would never really be able to understand Yuu's feelings the way Miki does.

Then there's the times when I'd be dating some girl and she'd say, "I see you with someone like (A), not a plain girl like me, or a sharp girl like (B). I'm not the type of girl you should be going out with". MAN! It's like they don't believe me! ARGHH! I've gotten into shouting matches sometimes. Man, pisses me off...grumble grumble...

What I like about Miki is that, deep down, she feels that she really is someone. She thinks that she doesn't have a chance against Arimi, But...when things do start to work out between her and Yuu, she's not afraid to cut into him about being honest and forward with her. I think Arimi would squelch her own desires if Yuu would just commit to her. For a while anyway...

Miki is great. She is not perfect (lets face it, her, um, `build' is quite a bit less than that of similar aged girls in Mangadom ^_^) she has thin hair and a nasty temper. In KOR, Kyosuke is first attracted to Madoka because, well, she's a knockout. In Maison Ikkoku, Yusaku is attracted to Kyoko because, well, she's a knockout. The `personalities' of these two women are discovered as the series moves along.

Yuu is attracted to Miki because she has a warm and wonderful personality (like lots of girls who should value this aspect of themselves more) and she IS pretty. Not a knockout who causes car accidents when she walks down the street, but cute. Yuu loves Miki because of his own feelings, not because he wants to show off to the world. One of my friends said to me that you could tell this was a girl's comic because Yuu seemed to show no interest in Miki sexually, it was all emotional goop. Jeez, people. There is more to life than sex, and some guys think so too (when they get past 18).

It's bull too, because we are seeing this from Miki's point of view, we don't really see all of Yuu's thoughts. Yuu is a gentleman (there are a few left in the world, I think) Besides, he does tease Miki sometimes. ^_^)

Hehheh...yea yea yea...in the end I'd hope to find someone like Miki....^_^

Fred

THE STEP BROTHER/ STEP SISTER THING

I'm having a hard time deciding on a favorite character. I think what attracts me to MB is that I identify with the whole situation.

1) After my dad got remarried I eventually got a crush on my (youngest) step-sister. Of course with the American attitude that step-siblings are siblings, I never even told her...

2) I can just see me ending up in the kind of relationship that the parents were in... I actually want to see more of the parents...

I don't know...I'd probably pick Miki or Yuu right now...

Scott

EASY TO IDENTIFY WITH THE CHARACTERS

Well, I think most people can see a bit of themselves in all these characters. I share Yuu's and Meiko's resistance to tell personal matters to other people, Yuu's penchant for teasing the one he loves, and I can sympathize with Ginta's position. That's why I think this series is so great. Besides the wildly ridiculous and amusing setting, it really strikes a chord. And it also has perhaps the best usage of vocals I've seen in any series. The song that played when Na-chan left to go home on the train was literally gut-wrenching.

Ben

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE CHARACTERS

It took me a bit of episode time (try 30 episodes) to get used to Miki's voice actress. While cute, as I now realize, it grated on my nerves in the beginning. But the pure-hearted simply have to be appreciated. They give you the finished product of their feelings immediately...how can you refuse them?

As for Meiko.....well.....she's nice and tragic (she's the only character with dysfunctional parents, it seems) but her love is definitely NOT the most tragic. At least her love was NOTICED and returned by Namura! Arimi no matter how scheming some fans might think she is, never had her love returned by Yuu.

That is why she is my "favorite" female character....

I also seem to have a thing for those female "trouble-maker" characters....i.e. Suzu....they just make things so interesting!!!!.

I like Miwa, just because he's so entertaining.....although I must admit I'd rather not see him end up with Meiko.

Jes

THE WAY ANOTHER FAN SEES THE MAIN CHARACTERS

So far, I have yet to see a character (at least among most of the seishi) that had emotions and reactions that I didn't empathize with. Let's go down the list so far -

Miki - A really nice, sweet, wonderful human being! I agree with Yuu, Ginta, and Meiko - she brings joy wherever she goes, and she doesn't have to be perfect to do so! This makes her a truly desirable person, alleged "personality girl" reputation notwithstanding!

Yuu - A really nice guy (who tries to hide it way too much). I suppose I'll learn eventually why he doesn't open up very much, but it's obvious he cares for Miki, but doesn't want to hurt anyone else in his life, either.

Meiko - A very sweet, very sad girl. If anybody deserves a little happiness, she does. Very lucky to have Miki as a friend (as is Miki to have her as one).

Ginta - A nice guy, but way too angry for his own good. He realizes that he blew it with Miki big-time, and wishes he could change that. We all do something monumentally stupid in our lives, and wish we could undo it - that's what he's going through now.

Arimi - A very nice, very needy girl. She has everything a girl like her would want - money, influence, admirers - except love.

It's amazing how Yoshitsumi Wataru can put her characters through the things that she has them endure - I just hope that she will eventually let them have some happiness. I'm sure she will but, man, what a ride getting there! ^_^

I'm still letting all of this soak in a little more.... whoa! This whole thing has just picked me up, slapped me around, tossed me in the Cuisinart, and pureed my emotions pretty effectively! :)

Like you said above, MB does bring out a lot of emotions to those who see it, including me!
^_^

I personally don't know how the MB fans in Japan could stand to wait each week to see how things turn out (as if they actually resolve during the next episode! ^_-)

Brian

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENTS (up to episode #28)

Up to episode #28, what scenes or situations stuck in your mind and for what reason(s)?

Here's One Person's List:

- * When Yuu and Miki hold hands unknowingly (#22) Why? The whole scene gave me a good feeling. This is definitely my favorite MB moment.
- * When Namura-sensei leaves Meiko (the train scene) (#17) Very dramatic and gut-wrenching. That sad song didn't help much either.
- * When Arimi gets the boot (#26) The whole scene as she watches Yuu walk from the bridge. Sad. Again, another self-realization with Arimi and the point where I decided she's my favorite girl in the show...Can I change my vote?

Jean-Andre'

The Picnic:

The picnic planned for Meiko. The playful Yuu and Miki was fun to watch. You sort of get the idea that Yuu and Miki are getting intimate.

Charley

Ginta's Confession:

Up to ep. 7, I would have to say the Ginta's confession would have to be the best scene. Now to say why. Well, to watch a girl having a good time with another guy and still having feelings for that girl is a feeling that I at least have had. Actually finding the courage to out and out tell that girl though is what is the difficult part. I know how Ginta feels when Miki refuses to talk or see him.

I guess I like this scene because it ties in with what has happen to me in the past (never again will I make that mistake though). The memories may not be good ones, but MB certainly made me think of those times, and that is why it is so good. It's so close to real life situations (at least in my view) that I find myself in some case sympathizing with the characters involved because I have gone through those experiences.

Stuart

THE MARATHON RACE (episode #20)

I thought that was pretty funny, watching Miki trying to keep Miwa away from Yuu! They're having way too much fun teasing her! ^_^

Brian

A REVELATION

Just a quick appreciation of a scene in episode 22: after Yuu tells Miki it's OK for them to hold hands. Suddenly, Miki has the big emotional revelation:

"I love you...I hadn't realized how much." That was so "real", like when you've been dating for a while and then suddenly stop and think "Oh my God, this is the person I want to marry." Less sophisticated anime would have made this the climax of the series, as if there's nothing important left to say or do once you get to "I love you." But in MB, it's just part of the realistic progression, not a beginning or an end, but a somewhat memorable moment on the path.

Lee D.

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENTS UP TO EPISODE #44

YUU'S COMMERCIAL

I still can't believe that Yuu's mother got Yuu into such a role in a commercial. (KD: comes to a head in #30). The rest of the family's reactions is precious though.

Paul D.

HOWLED AT THE SCREEN

Episode 30 - I HOWLED at the screen! ^_^ Totally out of the blue - if you had given me a million guesses as to what I should expect, I would have made a million WRONG guesses, because THAT was from WAY out in left field! ^_^

BTW, my initial response was to the commercial itself, but the reaction of Miki and the parents TO Yuu's appearance in the commercial was even funnier - and Ginta's infatuation with the "Queen" almost made me hurt myself laughing! ^_^)

It's time for someone to do something about Suzu-kun - I don't like her one bit! She is not a nice person at all...

When watching Kei tell Yuu that Miki didn't love him anymore, I realized that I was getting angry - absolutely furious - about it. The anger that I felt was stronger than I can remember in a very long time. I was stunned at the ferocity of my response - I was livid!

I'm glad that Ginta and Arimi are finally starting to enjoy each other. They go well together.

I love that's happening between Meiko and Miwa-san, but I know it's about to all blow up in their faces...I don't think I'm going to like the conclusion of this one very much... (BTW, IMHO, Namura is a gutless jerk - he doesn't deserve Meiko!)

I hope Momoi finds some way to be happy. It's sad when you love somebody but are afraid to tell them. I fear that it'll be worse when she DOES tell Namura.

Well, I'll watch some more ("some more"? Who am I kidding - I mean "the rest" this weekend.

Brian

A BIT ABOUT EPISODES #'s 36, 40, 42, 43

....After watching the last batch of MB....I've decided to change my opinion of Sakuma Suzu from dislike to active hatred!!!!. How cool Yuu & Miki's trip! (KD: #36) I was look forward to seeing that (^_^);; Maybe I can start an anti-Suzu society. I however I gleefully watched her being ignored in the New Years episode (KD: #42) & having to apologize to Miki at the ski resort (KD:#43). Maybe I'm being too cruel but she deserves it!!!! (The length's an enraged Miki fan will go to! (^_^).

I was very pleased to see Ginta & Arimi really hitting it off at last, I loved the bit when Ginta asked Arimi what she wanted for Christmas (My hopeless romantic streak again I'm sure). (KD: MB #40)

UNKNOWN

A LOOK AT THE OPINIONS OF A GIRL - AGED THIRTEEN

(KD: Eleanor is a rarity in anime, being female and also being as young as she is.) Since I've heard from some of the male anime fan population that it's difficult to find a female companion that enjoys anime, you might want to find her and raise her up! Whoops, sorry Ed...don't want anyone thinking about you daughter this soon? Giggle!)

This is Eleanor. Just wanted to say we have just watched the MB episode where Yuu and Miki broke up (KD: She's talking about #35). OOOOOH! It makes me so angry! That Kei guy is a such a baka-mon! Now Yuu is hurt and dumb Suzu is scheming and Kei is STILL being a baka-mon. My only consolments are the station breaks (KD: Eye catchers) because that way I KNOW they're going to make up, and the whole Miwa-Meiko setup. Miki should punch Kei in the face (I've never really liked anime characters name Kei). I was so happy where Miki and Yuu got together, but there wasn't a SINGLE EPISODE where they were simply happy together.

Eleanor

This is Eleanor again. We have just watched the very last episode we own, #40. OOOOOH! That Kei guy is so problematic. And Miki made those super-cute people just for Yuu too. Um, why were they on her backpack in the ending theme song? And plus, I can no longer pull out the small scrap of comfort that I had, that Miwa and Meiko are happy. That friend that told Meiko that she saw Na-chan is so BAAAAAAAAAAAAKA!

Suzu is STILL scheming. I have a hunch that Suzu is actually Yuu's half sister! True? False? I don't know, but a first I thought that Suzu-chan was nice, too, so my guesses are often totally wrong. Here I am ranting.
Ahhh, yaaaa.

Thank you so much for translating the Marmalade Boys. Without you (Yuu), we could never know the true joy of watching them and the happy agonizing pain of never knowing when every one will come out happily e v e r ...after...Waaaaait a second! Anyway, although the whole series has caused all of us untold amounts of agonizing pain and worry and suffering, we still love it very much.

....Sometimes I forget that I have a life of my own and that I'm not just some kind of zombie whose sole purpose is to watch MB. I mean, I have a LIFE in here somewhere! I think... ANYWAY aside from Marmalade Boy (how can anything be aside from Marmalade Boy...) I've memories the Hiragana. I feel all spiffy because now I can read all of our Japanese comic (which is more than a third of our collection) Unfortunately, I still don't know what they're saying, but that's okay.

Eleanor

I just turned 13 on the 16th of January, I wanted to go off on my own for a year but our society can't allow anything so magical as that. I settled for camping out on our roof for a night.

ABOUT EPISODES #38 AND #39

Episode 38 & 39 were a riot. Ginta confessing his love in front of a hidden audience was cool. His fight with Rokutanda had me laughing nonstop. Arimi should have realized that guy stress relief is like that.

Sam

COMMENTS ON #45 - 48

Glad Meiko Is Happy But....

Well, I was glad for Meiko when she got back together with Na-chan because that was what Meiko wanted. But I would have preferred it if Meiko could be happy with Satoshi instead of Namura. Throughout the story, we could see into Satoshi's mind and tell that he really loves Meiko. But we could not do the same with Na-chan. It was as if...there was no evidence of Na-Chan's love for Meiko besides the fact that "they were secretly in love".

Also, when I first heard Namura say to Meiko that they should split up because "it's for her own good," he sounded like he was doing it for her and not for himself. But after I heard it again and again, it sounded more like he was trying to convince himself. I think what he meant was that he had no confidence in himself to go on having a relationship with Meiko. That was a little selfish of him; he was being inconsiderate of Meiko's feelings. But Satoshi was thinking about Meiko all the time as demonstrated when he said he "couldn't do anything for her" in Hiroshima.

So you all can probably guess, I'm all for Satoshi and Meiko getting together! ^_^ It's not that Na-chan is a bad person, but I think he needs to get his priorities straight. All the same, I'm happy Meiko got what she wanted. I'd like to hear your responses too!

Tony L.

THE DEER SCENE

.....I loved the deer, poor Miki it always happens to her!

I was delighted to see that Meiko at last managed to hook Na-chan, it's about time!! Shame about Miwa though..... Being a Miki fan I loved the new ending animation, lots of lingering shots....Yaaaaayy!! The new ending song has the thumbs up too!

Mark

Miwa Is Deserving

I was hoping she wouldn't get back with Na-chan, but I knew it was futile, given the little who-gets-who clips in the intermission. They kept showing Na-chan winning and Miwa losing

(gracefully, of course!). But from the storyline, I wonder if the author even knew up until the last minute which would be chosen.

Miwa is more deserving. He can provide the emotional stability and protection that Meiko needs as well as Na-chan, and he knows he doesn't need to abandon Meiko to help her become all that she can be. All Na-chan has/had to offer is/was the love/romance that they had/have. Plus what of Momoi-sensei? The trailing clip from #48 showing stuff from #49 is really devious, promising to take care of Miwa and Momoi. Maybe a younger man/older woman relationship? Probably not, that may not be very Japanese (maybe more French:). (DON'T TELL ME, I DON'T WANT TO KNOW!! :) <grin>

Another wonderful emotional roller coaster ride! The slow spots were fast forwarding through the credits and the intro to get to the next episode. EVIL INCARNATE! THE DEER, THE DEER! WA-HA-HA-HA-HA!!!! (KD: Glad someone mentioned that deer scene - it took a half of a full days work just to sub that alone. ^_^)

That was perfectly timed, too. It was stuck in just at the right moment, giving the viewer some emotional release from all the heavy stuff that was going on, sort of like an emotional chocolate mint. When Miwa showed up at the beach to confront Na-chan, wow. I felt like Miwa was getting some payback, finally, and when Meiko took the last blow, I was surprised and a little shocked (once again how unfair to poor, loyal Miwa to make him hit her, even if accidentally, but thought it was 'right'. It allowed her to make a sacrifice for Na-chan he could not refuse and make her feelings clear. I guess I tend to empathize with Ginta, Miwa and Rokutanda. It really bothered me to see Miwa going after Meiko so open-heartedly and in the end be the one to lose. So seeing him get a chance to return a little pain, even if only physical, made it easier to take. Besides, Na-chan deserved to get punched out after treating Meiko like he did (and Momoi-sensei as well), and what he said to Na-chan was something that needed to be said. Everyone else was too polite/scared/wimpy to say it. Of course, that all probably comes from my testosterone-ridden, western-culture-polluted mind, which leaves me curious as to how people in Japan reacted to that scene (and other anime fans as well).

Charles H.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND NA-CHAN

When I watch Meiko and Na-chan together I see the BIG ME, little Yuu (...I mean you) :-) thing that you are talking about. To me it does not seem as much like Na-chan loves Meiko, as that he is trying to protect her and care for her. Again, with Na-chan it is very hard to tell what is going on, since we are rarely ever given a clue as to what he is thinking or feeling. When you consider it, so much of the Meiko/Na-chan relationship is even kept a secret from us, since we are only given a few small views of them together.

The problem is that I do not understand Na-chan. I don't know why he fell in love with a 15 year old girl. I don't know what his motivations were or even how much there was to his feeling for Meiko. I don't think that Marmalade Boy gives us enough information, so we have to add our own experiences to the story and form our own beliefs, I suppose...

When it comes down to my true feelings, I have trouble figuring out how I feel. :-) The train-station scene in Marmalade Boy was one of the saddest things I have seen....I know that Na-chan is not a perfect character, he is flawed in many ways. And although my choice of his name was almost arbitrary, I have developed sympathy for him, and somehow I hope he wins out in the end. :-)

Doug

NA-CHAN WAS THE LEAST DEVELOPED CHARACTER

He's like the least developed character in the show. I mean besides what he doesn't, his apparent love for Meiko, and a very strong conviction to his beliefs, he's just there. I just don't think I get a good enough feel of him to be able to like/dislike. Well actually I think he was kinda a moron to stick with his belief that he would only stunt Meiko's "growth" if he allowed her to stay with him, for so long. I mean get a clue man, does she look HAPPY in that situation to you? But anyway, in a way I'm glad Meiko and Na-chan got together because Meiko was long overdue for something positive to happen in her life. With the emotional battering she took during the breakup and having to live with those parents for all her life, I think Meiko had a lot more serious problems than what Miki has gone through.

She probably would have been happy with Miwa but that's a moot point now. Besides, where would a young girl's show about love be without at least one relationship based on not just first love, but a love so strong that separation could be fatal? ;-) You can't be mad at Na-chan cause he didn't really do anything. At least directly. Not like he forcefully ripped Meiko or something. And you can't seriously be mad at Meiko for chasing after the first thing that actually meant something to her in her life can you? Miwa just chased the wrong girl at the wrong time and things just didn't go his way.

Would I change the story if I had the chance? No. The story already has enough cutesy teenage couples in it (Miki/Yuu, Ginta/Arimi, Rokutanda/uh, forgot her name ^o^) for us to gawk at. New plot twist was in order. So I guess the only thing I can say about the whole deal is that, like Miki, I'm truly happy for Meiko. And Miwa....Kawaiisou....

Ben

PUZZLED BY DISLIKE OF NAMURA-SENSEI

At this point, I'm puzzled by the dislike some folks have for Namura-sensei. Over in Use net he has been referred to as a "child molester" but I don't see that at all. For one thing, he did not pursue Meiko, but the other way around. Indeed, in the late forties episodes where Meiko goes to Hiroshima, I was wondering if he was made out of stone long before he gave in to her. Meiko's desperate cry for his love nearly broke my heart. Then, there is no indication anywhere I've seen the their relationship has been more physically intimate than kissing. If anyone thinks kissing qualifies as molestation (I don't recall anyone in this group taking that stance, but it seemed to be in the Usenet posts on the subject), the problem I think, is there's not Namura's. Then, he handled the relationship so far in a very responsible manner (too responsible, IMO, in some cases). When she was going to be in his class he told her they had to stop seeing each other--appropriate since that would put him in a direct position of power over her, involve conflicts of interest, and generally make a relationship (even if they were both "of age") a bad thing. In the recent eps. he insists she finish school and go to college. Looks like he wants her to be able to stand on her own without being totally dependent on him.

This is good, and is good for a healthy relationship. It is much better to be with someone because you choose to than because you cannot survive without them. If I understand

correctly, girls can marry at sixteen in Japan, right? That would mean that, had Namura chosen (and I don't think for a minute Meiko would have objected), he could have married her there in Hiroshima and Meiko might never have gone back to Tokyo. In fact, considering her parents, I'm not convinced that would have been a bad thing. Not saying it would have been a good thing either, just that it seems to be an open question.

On other fronts, I'm not sure it follows that Meiko having survived so much makes her strong. As an analogy from weight training, you need two things to get strong: stress from resistance training and recovery time. Without the rest and recovery time, in sufficient amounts, you suffer over-training. You seem to get stronger for a while, but then you start getting weaker. And the more you exercise -- the more stress you put your muscles under, the weaker they get until finally you can actually make yourself sick.

This seems to mirror Meiko's emotional life. The only sources of joy in her life are her love for Namura and her friendship with Miki. Losing one the first time nearly seemed to break her then. That's why I think that losing it again could well destroy her.

Suzu. The skiing incident would have to be the peak. She, in her selfish little unthinking way, nearly killed Miki! It wouldn't have been intentional, but that certainly would have been cold comfort to Miki-popsicle.

Kei--We'll see Still, I'm not sure there are enough episodes left to convince me of any sincere change of heart instead of just putting on an act.

David B.

WHO WANTS TO DATE MIWA?

Frederick wrote:

How many here on the ml think Miwa is sexy and cute, and would jump at the chance to jump go out with him? I know I would! *^_^*

ABSOLUTELY! In fact, the male lead in the manga my sister and I are working on is inspired by Miwa.

And not just his character design (although he **IS** gorgeous!). Meiko just doesn't know a good thing when she has it..... I've never seen a guy so truly supportive of a girl in anime. Like someone else on here said, he's trying to teach her to stand up on her own, and there's nothing more loving than someone who can do that for another.

AND he's not supportive of just her. Look at how he supports Miki and Yuu on at least two separate occasions (in the middle of the series, where Miki's angry because Yuu's going to America, and at the end). To quote my sister. "These kids are just lucky that Miwa is a force of good in this universe."

All right, all right, I'll get off my soapbox now. It's just that Miwa's far and above my favorite MB character, but the world at large seems to appreciate him so little....

ANOTHER VOTE FOR DREAMY MIWA

In reply to "These kids are just lucky that Miwa is a force of good in this universe"...

Year, they are. Miwa could have screwed them over big time if he wasn't such a nice person. That's why I think he's dreamy. * _ *

S. Perez

(KD: By the way, Fred was probably posting the note about dating Miwa to a mainly male group to see if he could get a rise out of them. As I recall he's quite a looker and popular with ladies. (^_^) Looks like the gentlemen were having fun with it. God, they're cute.)

FROM A WOMAN WHO WANTS TO KNOW...

Why do you like Miki-san? Just out of curiosity, why do guys on the mailing list like her? A friend of mine wants to know, because she doesn't find anything in Miki-san to like ^_^, ;;;

WHY?

As to "Why do guys like her?" - Ummm, actually she is sort of a pain. But she is cute, very open, very giving and devoted. The MB movie does a lot to make Miki look a lot better - we finally get to see her as Yuu sees her - no wonder he fell in love! She is so, well, so external - all there on the surface. She is a complete opposite from Yuu's reclusiveness. And most guys that like anime are romantics at heart (at least those that like shoujo :) - just because we like the hentai bits and pieces doesn't mean we watch it mainly for that.

Anime being in Japanese, we can avoid listening to the American version the mushy romantic type stuff - the subtitling is there for the analytical side of our brains, and the emotional side can listen to the voices, tones and emotions. Usually when I watch a TV show, my brain is often too busy trying to figure out what they said, and so I often miss the nuances of how they said it. I don't understand Japanese, so all I can hear is the emotions, which are often a lot more subtle and subdued than the usual brassy caucaphony of American-brand entertainment.

....As a reclusive type of person, I would love to find a Miki - someone that would love me unconditionally and pull me out of my shell. Sheesh, the way Miki says "Yuu" with that little catch in the middle just sends shivers up and down my spine sometimes - its so sad. Which is why I rooted for Ginta so hard - he wouldn't hurt Miki the way Yuu does, by being secretive and emotionally uncommunicative. Of course, he probably wouldn't need Miki the way Yuu does. With Arimi, Ginta found someone to need, to give himself totally to - that scene in the soda shop is so sugoi.

Umm, bottom line, we get so close to Miki that we inevitably fall in love with her, no matter how irritating she can be....

Charles Hurst

BEN'S LIST

In no particular order of importance: she's cute, loyal, peppy, a true friend, a good listener, emotional (she wears her heart on her sleeve), considerate, caring, great fun to watch when flustered and teased, determined, somewhat clumsy, helpful, and kind. At her best, you can't help but smile at what she does.

Ben

ANOTHER ANSWER

Here's my opinion:

She is just so full of life - it's rare these days to meet someone whose happiness is so infectious! Look at the variety of folks who want Miki as a friend. She inspires people to enjoy life with her - and there are enough folks who, at one time or another, need a little happiness in their lives: Yuu, Meiko, Ginta, Suzu, Kei, and many more...

Here is a excerpt from stuff I've written about Miki to an unnamed Miki freak on this ML (guess who? ^_-).

"That is exactly what I love about her. She's so open to people that they just can't refuse her when she wants to be part of their lives. That's a very rare trait in people, one I wish I would see a lot more often!"

People tend to build a wall around themselves, to protect from being hurt. Miki doesn't have that wall around her, which is why she gets hurt so easily (and so often). However, it is also one of the reasons why people like her. She tries to make sure that they know that she values them and their friendships, and she takes the risk by letting them in (sometimes with people most of us wouldn't give the time of day). Thank about it - have you even heard Miki say an unkind word about anyone?

That's just one of the many reasons I like Miki - even when she's confused panicky, and bewildered by what's going on around her, she's always true to herself, and these days, that can be a real accomplishment! ^_^

Brian

MARMALADE BOY EPISODE #49 AND BEYOND

Now to the latest episodes, am I peeved or what, Miki & Yuu's trip (#53) ruined again!!! I don't know who I hate the most Michael or the writers: Grrrrrrrr. Won't they ever get the chance to be together?

Mark

VOLUME 15 (57-60)

...I loved this volume! It has proven what I suspected - that Kei has truly changed, and, because of this, becomes both truly attractive to Miki and a truly formidable foe of Yuu's for Miki's heart. I can't wait to see how that is resolved.

Meiko absolutely nails it after the concert - Kei has confessed his love of Miki to everybody, and Miki is blown away by that! "Reasonable to be captivated"?! She knows how to cut right through to the quick, doesn't she? ^_^

And as for Meiko - have you ever noticed that just about everybody (including a total stranger) inspires independent thought in Meiko except Namura himself? It's scary. She'll never be her own person as long as she's with him. And why does she still call him "sensei"? Now I realize that it's a term of endearment for her to use, but if they're engaged, you'd think she would occasionally call him Shinichi, or at least Namura. She is still so dependent on him for a complete sense of self - what a waste.

I also find that I'm beginning to like Suzu a whole lot more - of course that's because she's being a whole lot more considerate towards others, especially Miki (I still wouldn't mind finding Michael floating in the Hudson River, though).

Poor Jinny - she really needs a friend! It's a good thing Doris is there - she's the Meiko of St. Andrews, and boy, do they need one! (Is it just me, or is Jinny extra-skinny, even for MB! ^_-)

Brian

EPISODES #61-64

This volume of MB invoked real emotional response - a response which changed by the minute as I thought about it. I had to digest all of the feelings I had about it for a day before writing this.

Poor Miki - she just can't handle the separation. She's been so faithful to Yuu, and she just can't stand all of the pressures that have come to bear on her. Michael, Kei, and (both directly and indirectly) the St. Andrews gang have kept her from him, and she just can't take it anymore. I really feel sorry for her.

Which leads me to Yuu - that baka! I cannot believe that he would be so unemotional with her, telling her (essentially) that his studies mean more to him than her! This is one time I have to agree with Fred on Yuu - he doesn't know what he's giving up and he doesn't appreciate her nearly enough!

He didn't make nearly enough of a good-faith effort to keep his relationship with Miki strong, and he just may pay a steep price for that! (Of course, you and I know that WON'T happen, but it'll take Yuu realizing that it WILL happen, and IS HAPPENING, if he doesn't do something to stop it! He has truly earned the scare of his lifetime - the possibility of losing her!)

Michael - just put him under that semi that was reserved for Suzu earlier! :) He is just a pushy, spoiled, demanding American (!) brat! He just wants what he wants, regardless of the consequences. He may redeem himself later, but I don't see it now.

Kei, however - he has truly changed. He knows that he can't enter Miki's life romantically if there still is anything between her and Yuu. He cares enough allow her to grieve over her loss - a sure sign that he appreciates her as a friend first, before trying to get close to her again.

In a way, Kei give Miki the one thing that she has wanted out of Yuu for a long time - the emotional support she needs as well as the freedom to be both herself and a part of a couple at the same time. While Miki has accommodated Yuu at every turn, Yuu has concentrated on his own needs (at Miki's expense) for far too long - very selfish. In my opinion. (She's too good for him! ^_^)

(The preview for episode 65 suggest that Kei demands that Yuu decide what he's going to do about Miki. This would seem to me that he wants to make sure that he only pursues Miki if Yuu has given up on her. That's a lot more consideration than Michael is giving Miki!)

And Jinny - I don't condone hitting folks, but she had a good confrontation coming from someone over her actions. There are just some people in this world who want what they want, consequences be damned. (Just like Michael...) She needed for someone to let her know that what she did hurt other people badly. That slap jolted her to a point that she finally realized that she had done something truly wrong. Of course, she still had the temerity to ask Yuu for a romantic relation immediately after her confession, so it's obvious that she still has a lot to learn!

(author unknown)

ABOUT THE MARMALADE BOY MOVIE

SUGOI !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

HONTO!!!!!!!

(I just wish that I would get a chance to see Miki projected on a 100-feet-high screen - I bet that was a thrill for the Japanese MB fans!)

It was nice to finally see Yuu react emotionally (if just a little bit) for a change! He only shows a flash of emotion when Chiyako and Youji told him about the impending divorce/exchange, but for his pre-Miki state of mind that was the equivalent of an emotional outburst!

When he wanders off and sees Miki practicing her tennis shots, he sees someone with beauty, strength, and, more than anything, CONFIDENCE! (It was a flash of brilliance to use her tennis practice as Yuu's first chance to see her, since tennis is probably the one thing that Miki does - initially, that is - in which she has true self-confidence!) No wonder he stays to watch.

The "Gastaman" scene was a riot, those little kids were incredible!

That was a side of Miki I've always wanted to see - someone who'll just open up and be absolutely silly, enjoying themselves to the fullest. The look on those kids' faces when she comes out from under that towel was priceless! (Yuu obviously thought so, too, because he nearly busted a gut laughing at it all!)

When Yuu finally hears Miki's name and makes the connection to the initials "M.K." on the sweatband, did you see how his fingers shook when he closed them on the sweatband? It's obvious he's (1) excited, (2) nervous, (3) happy about this discovery. He's going to be with this wonderful girl very soon!

As he follows her around town, he sees her doing seemingly normal things -mimicking "Gastaman's" Karate, playing with a puppy, eating ice cream, and just generally enjoying life. When she runs the gamut of emotions while talking to the foreign couple, gyrating and generally being silly, Yuu sits transfixed. He's enthralled by her!

Do you remember when Yuu tells Miki why he loves her? He says that she emotions just shine through, no matter what she's thinking. Her purity of thought and action are what makes her so attractive to him. All of his life Yuu has had to deal with people who have done things which have hurt him -inadvertently or not. All of a sudden, there's this girl who is full of life and love, things Yuu craves desperately. She has no hidden agenda, no ulterior motive, just a "joy of life" uniqueness which makes her special.

When he is finally about to meet her for the "first" time, you can see that he's more than a little bit nervous, but he's excited that he's about to meet such a special person!

I'd love to see them when he tells her about all of this! (KD: Me too.)

Overall, I'd say that this has been the most purely enjoyable MB I've seen yet!

As for the commercials (KD: All the MB TV product commercials were added behind the American fansub of the movie by request) - they were a hoot! Watching Miki doing all sorts of crazy things (flying a plane, exploring an ancient building, anchoring the news.) was so cool! Those folks know how to merchandise! (I can't see how Japanese parents keep any money at all with all of that being sold constantly!)

Brian

Just finished watching the movie tape and well... those Gastaman Brothers were bleeping hilarious ^o^ Miki fans will probably love this thing.

And those commercials. Daaanggg..... they merchandised like crazy for the series, eh? Too bad we can't get most of that stuff here. I wouldn't mind going for the desk set, myself. :-]

Ben

Yup, I just saw it too. You know, you never know (ooo, that was good) just how much of a difference there is between a TV episode and a movie until you see the difference. Really, really nice animation. The kids were great.

What I really loved was the redemption of Yuu. While he is still a sort of odd fish externally, since the whole 30 minutes is from his perspective, we get to see a lot more of those small signals that tell us what is going on inside of him. Like when his parents tell him about getting divorced. I watched his eyes, and sure enough, they flinch just a little bit, letting a little bit of

of the pain out.

Charles

(KD: The following note is a bit out of context since parts were written in response to others' comments)

... A little more budget I figure. Actually, for the first few minutes, it's so dreamy, when Yuu goes and kisses her (anyone hold their breath for that long kiss? jeeze) and then when Miki sits up and freaks...haahaha!! Great stuff...

Criminy thou, it's TOO SHORT. I think it's really more of a mood piece than the psychological terror that the TV series is, which is a nice and pleasing break. Miki is just too damn cute for the likes of a bum like Yuu. (That's just me being jealous.)

Love those pigtails. Kawaaiiii! (my vote for favorite hair style.

I haven't seen the subbed version yet, but it is so obvious what is going thru his mind there...I think Yuu's parents are redeemed a bit too, even that insensitive nut Youji....just after Yuu leaves the house. They look really somber, don't they? Perhaps we see here the typical lack of communication between sons and their fathers? Hell, Yuu doesn't even confide in his mom, (now he's got two of them too.)

Yuu's redeeming quality is that he's pigheaded as hell. Once he put that thing in his pocket. Miki didn't have a chance.

....This (movie) more than likely was created long after the story was created. It really helps fill in a lot of things, and make some of the initial insanity where Yuu kisses her made sense. Did Yoshitsumi-sensei have such a thing in mind? I don't care how cold a fish Yuu is, his reactions to Miki between the time he meets her at the restaurant and when he kisses her in the infirmary don't add up to love at first sight. Adding the events of the movie make more sense (my god, something in Marmalade Boy making sense...stop the world I wanna get off...)

....My favorite parts of the whole show are where Miki is just being herself. I really find it very painful at times to watch her torture herself from the inside. I really do. Hell, I'm a guy. I can't TAKE all that.

I esp. loved her discussion with the American tourists at the restaurant, where she is gesticulating like crazy about "something - gad, if that ain't her, what is?

Any chance to rave about Miki and I'll go for it. Miki! Miki! Miki!

Fred

....the MB Movie now has pride of place on my tape shelf you will be pleased to hear ^_^
Being a Miki fan I was sure I'd love the movie but after seeing it I realized how wrong I was.....!!!!
It was so good, I've decided my life wouldn't be complete without it ^_^;; Miki, Miki, Miki plus
of course the Gastaman Brothers!!!

I have never laughed so much in my life when Miki turns into the Towel Monster and chases the kids!, and the look on Miki & Meiko's face when the Gastaman Brother do their routine is priceless!!!! Though my favorite bit must be Yuu watching Miki watching as she window shops with Meiko, Miki comes across as a person enjoying life to the full (No wonder Yuu falls for her!!)

So the music clip at the end of the end of the movie was very much appreciated and the adverts were definitely an eye opener!!! I like the Miki Desk ones the best....I want one ^_^ ;;

Mark

THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF MARMALADE BOY

Architecture:

One of the more interesting things that keeps popping up in Marmalade Boy (to me, anyway:) is the various references to architecture. While Miwa Yoshimitsu is a fictitious character (I think ^_^), the rest of the architects and buildings cited in the series do exist. I think that the selection of buildings is interesting, and might say something about the characters, especially Yuu, who himself aspires to be an architect....

I studied architecture for six years, I work as an intern architect, and Japanese Architecture is one of my areas of specialization (it's how I got sucked into anime in the first place ^_^;;)

I find it really curious that Yoshitsumi-sensei would select Antonio Gaudi as the main architect that Yuu concentrates on in the library (Of course, I'd assume that Yuu also thumbs thru the works of other architects, but this is the main one we get to see) The 'Sagrada Familia' of which we see a fuzzy representation, also exists (as anyone who has been to Barcelona can attest. it's HUGE!).

Antonio Gaudi is a Spanish architect who was born in Catalonia, Spain in 1852 and died in 1926. Part of what became known as the Art Nouveau movement, he is considered one of the most important architects Spain has produced. Most of his works, including the Sagrada Familia, are in Barcelona. (I pulled out my trusty "Encyclopedia of Modern Architecture" (dated 1962) to get the right dates ^_^...)

Gaudi is best known for the incredibly 'organic' nature of his works. IMHO, all his buildings look like they were left in the microwave too long ^_-. (of course, that's because I'm such a spatial-modernist/post-deconstructivist ^_^;;) Gaudi asserted that the straight line belonged to men, and the curved line to God. Henceforth, narry a straight line is to be found in his work. The organic nature of his building went beyond just ornamentation and into structure as well, with structural forms having close ties with the shapes of muscles, bones, wings and petals....

.....Gaudi's work is remarkably 'different' than that of any other noted architect.

..... Whew! Now, having said that, what significance can we glean from this, regarding Yuu's personality? ^_^ (big grin) I think that it has a lot to do with the idea of individuality....

.....here are some other notes of Marmalade Architectural significance:

In ep.28, when Yuu announces that he wants to visit the City Art Museum by Ishozaki Arata...(uhmmmm, buys, it's_Isozaki_^_^_ That building also exists (big surprise) and yes, it does look like that:)

Heh, Meiko's house at the beach (I forget where) (KD: Izu) looks like it was an early design by Horoshi Hara.

Fred Gallagher

On your previous post about architects. I find it interesting that Yoshizumi hauls this accuracy into it. I must admit that Gaudi was the only one I recognized (but that was obvious). (I forget which episode this was in) but did anyone else notice one time when Meiko and Nacchan met in the library, they were in the English literature section. Nacchan recommended [Thomas] Hardy, and sitting right there on the shelf in front of Meiko was Tess of the Durbervilles (sp?) [it may only have been labeled "Tess".

George Robbert

THE LIZ MANCZ - KAREN DUFFY MB EXCHANGE New

About Michael Grant...

I've seen Michael Grant now -- boy is he cute! Miki really must love Yuu she'd never be able to resist him otherwise! At first I couldn't believe that the same voice actor who did Tamahome did him! The voices and personalities are so different! Then, in volume 14, when he came up against Kei-kun, I could hear some of Tamahome's intonations in his voice!

Wasn't that a GAS?!!! They reminded me of some of the stud dogs out in the kennel. They would sometimes just strut around another stud to show their superiority. Yup, those two reminded me of that very much.

This is so funny -- I was thinking the same thing! And I had the same impulse I have when the boys (her dogs) are getting idiotic -- "That'll do, you two!" backed up by a whap on the nose if necessary!

Michael is really a charmer -- and of course, he fell in love with Miki...sigh. Poor Yuu. The trip was pretty funny -- and pathetic(!) with Michael interrupting all their romantic moments.

Am I over interpreting or was there the possibility that Miki and Yuu might have made love during that trip if Michael hadn't been there?

Yup, interpreted right on. They weren't "planning" it as much as just knew it was really likely.

I thought so! I have to say, for someone not really planning anything, they were really disappointed when Michael showed up! That was pretty funny... He was so oblivious! Look! The egg's BLACK!

About being without Yuu...

Poor Miki. She's being so brave, the poor baby. I'm glad Kei-kun and Michael are distracting her. Their face-off was totally hilarious! When Michael came running around the corner of the school gate, I thought, "He's a perpetual motion generator!" And then, he and Kei-kun realized that they were rivals for Miki, and barely noticed when she walked away! Too funny. I loved it.

Yup, yup...strutting. (^_^)!!

About Jinny...

Liz: My, Jinny is quite something, isn't she? (I'm too polite to say what!) Kind of like Suzu, but not as smart!

She's um...a bit more earthy. I found her embarrassing at times.

A bit? Geez -- she's so earthy she should have potatoes growing out of her ears! BTW, once I saw 15, I had to see the rest. I've watched the last 4 volumes in something like 2 days! Am I burnt out.... wow. What Jinny does to Miki is so rotten that I can't believe that someone didn't push her in front of a car! wow. That little act looked like something Nakago could have thought up! And then she tries to tell Doris and Bill that it was a joke? I don't think so! No girl in love would have considered Jinny's story a joke. I was really glad when Bill slapped her!

I mean, that was SO cruel. Seeing what Miki went through was so heartbreaking.

It almost killed her! When she told Meiko why she didn't go in the room to see if Yuu was there, I just cried. That if he WERE there, she would have shattered. That's how much she loves him. I can see why she had to "go away" for a while after that.

About Bill and Jinny...

And very surprised to find out that Bill was in love with her (Jinny)! Geez! I thought he had MUCH better sense than that! For pity's sake -- with An available, he wanted Jinny? I guess love IS blind -- and deaf and brainless! If Brian had a brain, he'd forget her, and go for Doris big time. She's worth ten of Jinny!

I think there are some people out there that would agree. Well, I got the impression he was mulling it over.

No doubt and here I thought Bill was just perfect for her! (I meant Anju, not Jinny)

Oh, I agree. Bill IS perfect for Jinny - -but is Jinny perfect for Bill? Actually, she seems to behave better after she finds that she loves him -- Bill sees all her faults, and loves her despite them. And even though he loves her, he lets her know when she's behaving badly. Bill is the

best thing that could have happened to Jinny! Kind of like Doris – who understands Brian perfectly, and still loves him. And has twice his brains.....

About first meeting Bill ...

He sure freaks Yuu out, doesn't he? I think you'll find out very quickly what he's all about.

Poor Yuu. First Miwa, then Bill. Jinny was certainly surprised to find out that he wasn't gay! She's kind of like Arimi -- she's been chased by so many guys, that she never had a male friend until Bill worked out that ruse to become her friend -- and then she fell in love with him without knowing it! That was cute.

And a surprise to have it happen so fast.

Well I got the feeling that she (Jinny) actually was in love with Bill, but didn't know it. I think most guys have a very visceral response to Jinny – all hormones. And she was used to using that. And then she ran into two guys that it didn't work on, Bill and Yuu. She decided Bill was gay, and had a shot at Yuu -- and seemed VERY surprised that he didn't succumb. But as I said above, I'd bet that Bill was the first male friend Jinny had since she hit puberty -- she felt safe with him, because she thought he was gay. So she fell in love with him. So when she found out that he wasn't gay, and that he did love her, it hit her like a bolt of lightning.

I really like the emphasis in this anime that friendship has to come before love. You see it in Hime-chan as well -- when Hime-chan says to Arisaka-kun -- "How can you love me when you don't know me?" Attraction without friendship gets nowhere in MB -- not to mention Hime-chan and Kodocha. It's interesting how many friends fall in love in these stories! And I think that's a very healthy thing. I see my students fall in love with people that I don't think they would otherwise even LIKE! And of course, it breaks up eventually.

The split of Ginta and Arimi...

Poor Ginta and Arimi. I thought that he never stopped loving Arimi – he just felt that Miki needed him more than Arimi did. And is such a goof, that he didn't explain things to Arimi very well...

Well, also he felt the past feelings welling up inside himself in such a way that he couldn't control. Until he faced it completely, he couldn't see straight. Miki getting them back together was very cute, wasn't it?

I see. At times it seemed as though he could only give her up to Yuu -- that if she chose someone else, he felt on some level it should be him! Which confused the daylights out of him, I think! Yes, her plot to get them back together was really cute! Tsutomu and Yayoi were pretty funny as conspirators -- actually, I thought Tsutomu's upset over the break up was very cute. I was wondering if he'd gloat -- but no, he went after Miki and told her off! Good for him. And then when Miki went for him to get him to help he was really funny!

Michael's apology to Yuu...

I'll say. I thought Michael's apology to Yuu after the break up was pretty brave. He was genuinely trying to protect Miki. If Brian had had a brain in his head, he wouldn't have given Michael such a biased opinion!

Loved the suitcase flying, picking up Miki, whose legs are flailing in the air. It looked so silly.

It did -- and was a much needed touch of humor there! And the parents were so oblivious of Miki flying after them on the suitcase!

I thought the camping trip was really revealing. Yuu would watch Miki and Kei and think that they were doing so well together, then turn away, and Miki would see him and An talking and think THEY were doing so well -- how pathetic! Yuu comes out of the whole incident very well - - he didn't understand how stressed Miki was getting -- and didn't support her enough. But once he understood how she felt, he did what he could to make it better -- which meant giving her up. The whole conversation with Kei just broke my heart -- Yuu was trying so hard to do the best thing for Miki.

On the camping trip, I thought it was just great how Miki ran straight to Yuu after the scene with Kei -- even though she had no idea he was in the woods. There's that red thread again! When she told him that she couldn't accept anyone else, it was just so heartbreaking. I felt badly for Kei, though. He really loved Miki, I think.

Then at their last breakup, Miki just knew that Yuu wouldn't break up unless he had to -- and she realized that he was suffering as much as she was. For the first time, I actually agreed with the boy's reason for breaking up without giving the real reason -- to tell Miki that her father had cheated on her mother and fathered Yuu would have been cruel. It would have ruined her relationship with Jin and Chiyako, at the very least. Of course, it might have been better to tell her in Japan, where she'd have been safer when she ran away! Miki really grew up during that period. I was impressed!

The Ending....

wow. what an ending. Miki seems to have had some sort of emotional breakdown. She just couldn't deal with the emotional ups and downs any more. That was so sad. It wasn't even Yuu that really did her in -- it was Michael, Kei and Jinny's antics. I really wanted to shake the three of them! It took Miki such a long time to figure out that she really did love Yuu. I kept yelling at her all through 16, 17 and 18! Every time she asked "Why do I feel this way?" I'd tell her! Ack....

Oh man, you could feel it...all her emotions. She's exhausted.

Actually, I felt that she started dating Kei not so much because she wanted another boyfriend, but because she was too tired to be able to get rid of Kei and Michael, and Kei seemed willing to let her recover at her own pace. It was pretty obvious that Kei and Michael wouldn't leave her alone -- Michael really did himself in by giving Miki that ultimatum! When Kei told her that she didn't have to forget Yuu, he was the obvious choice. Otherwise, I think she would have done what she did after the second breakup -- just go on about her life alone, spending time with Meiko, Ginta and Arimi and her other friends.

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Yuu. I kept yelling at her all through 16, 17 and 18! Every time she asked "Why do I feel this way?" I'd tell her! Ack....

Oh my...that must have been a sight. (^_^)

Probably! The dogs would occasionally give me a weird look -- what are you doing, Mom?

At the very end, Miki kind of went through all the friends and talked about their futures. How did Miwa get left out? Given everything he did for Yuu and Miki, I can't see how he was forgotten! I was kind of hoping that he and An would someday fall in love.... I see that Miki thinks that Kei and Suzu might get together some day.... That would be quite something!

I guess the author felt that putting everyone together as a couple would be too trite.

Ack. I love trite! (Me too) I felt bad about poor Miwa san -- didn't get the girl he wanted -- no speculation about his future -- the forgotten character!

The anime ending was certainly different! So the Mamatachi are having babies? wow. That will certainly be something! Kind of a scary thought, them raising more kids. I figured out that Yuu and Miki were genetically predisposed to fall in love -- her mother loved his father and his father loved her mother -- so whatever they attracted the parents to one another, would definitely have been passed down to their kids! So does that mean the new babies will eventually fall in love? (Hee, hee, hee!)

THE IDEAL WAY TO SHOW A SERIAL ANIME New

Yup, it's starting a bit late, but better never late than never.

Marmalade Boy is what transformed me into a raving anime fanboy. It performed the operation that changed me from normal person with a mild, rather healthy interest in Japanese Animation to an obsessive Otaku. Which may in the end not be for good, but I'm stuck with it so I may as well go with it. And all it took were two episodes.

The first two episodes of Marmalade Boy I saw were the ones where the evil pedophile Namura was booted from the teaching profession. Yay! I was hooked and that week I changed my schedule at work to ensure that I could make it to future club meetings instead of showing up every 3 weeks or so like I'd been doing for the past 3 months.

And so I continued watching Marmalade Boy for the next year and 3/4, our local club showing 2 episodes every second week. Even after I requested the whole series from Tomodachi after I'd seen about 30 episodes I continued to wait through the torturous periods between MB doses to watch the next episode. (I'll talk about this more in coming weeks.) Anyways, we finally completed showing the series about two months ago, and I've finally made my way through my backlog of tapes, so it's about time to watch MB over again.

Marmalade Boy is my first love and I've always thought of it as my favorite series, although there were times when I would become a bit frustrated with the series and its refusal to die. I'm not sure if it's still my favorite TV series, we'll see as I progress with this project.

My intention is to watch one episode a day (except for Mondays, when we hold club meetings and my time at A-kon) of MB from start to finish and share my comments as I progress with the members of this ML. This could either prove to be very interesting or monumentally boring for you. Give me a chance and we'll see how it develops. Why one episode a day? Well, that 's often all I have time for!

But the main reason is that I've found that it's the ideal way to watch a serial anime. A 24 hour period is long enough to enjoy those cliffhanger endings but not too long (better than the 2 or 3 week gaps at the club!) as to cause undue suffering.

One last thing: While I've watched the first 25 episodes or so at least 3 times I've only seen from episode 40 onwards once. So this'll be quite the adventure.

Elijah van der Giessen

Section from Fictional Realms section of AOL: **New**

"I must say as of now that Marmalade Boy is one of my favorite anime of all time. With 76 episodes of pure story-line with many twists and turns you might as well say good-bye to your family and get ready to get hooked to one of the finest animes out there. The music is excellent adding a great effect to the story and setting the tone. With many diverse characters placed into one story-line there are going to be some great developments as Marmalade Boy continues. I've seen the whole series and trust me, things only get more intense as the series progresses."

"I recently received eps 1 thru 24 and stupid me decided to watch the 'preview' of ep25. ARRRRRGGGGHHH!!!! I didn't want it to happen again so I sent out for the entire series! Can't wait til it comes in!"

"I Iove, love, love this series! Everyone who's said it's totally addicting...well, you're absolute right! I meant to watch one episode this past Friday night ...and ended up watching all 4 on tape! I doubt we'll ever see this released in the U.S., so I'm grateful to all those fansubbers out there who've supplied us with this wonderfully written charming series."

"I finished all 76 episode of the Marmalade Boy series and the Marmalade Boy movie a few weeks ago, and I give the whole entire anime"

{pages full of stars}

"I recently finished watching volume 13-15 of Marmalade Boy, and now I am impatiently waiting for the last four volumes of this wonderful series. I don't know if I can wait any longer to find out what's going to happen. Would it be cheating if I just peeked at one of those spoiler pages out there? I don't think I have the strength to hold out!"

"Hi. My name is Melissa, and I'm a marmalade-aholic. <breaks down crying>"

"Yes! It enslaved me and forced me to watch! Some of those cliffhangers were just plain unfair!!!! I came across the show at a busy time in my life - I already wasn't getting much sleep - and wound up watching the last 15 tapes in about 5 days. My closet collapsed while I was watching the last volume, and I didn't notice! It's evil I tell you evil! Something this good can not have been made by mortals!

But seriously...I can't remember the last time I watch a show that just demanded to be watched like that. I can't imagine any drug being much more addictive. The only drawback is some of my Japanese friends laugh at me for watching it because it is supposedly a "shoujo" show."

End of Fictional Realms Section of AOL

THE MAILSLOT

Bruce and I have gotten a lot of thanks and encouragement by snail mail. We appreciate it very much. Occasionally ones with specific strong opinions will be added so that others can read them.

Dear Karen and Bruce,

Konnichiwa! Well, that's a pretty safe way to start a letter, anyway. I'm not much for writing letters, but I really needed to respond to your Marmalade Boy Guide and and translation project.

My name is Dave (last name withheld), and I'm one of the founding members of our new shojo club, KASHA. I'll take credit for getting the others addicted to Marmalade Boy as well as my sister who, like me, is also addicted to Sailor Moon and Magic Knight RayEarth). I rented Marmalade Boy in Feb. of this year, and it instantly became my favorite series (surpassing RayEarth and Sailor Moon, which is no mean feat!) **<Karen's note: I'll assume he rented a raw copy of MB, not one from our project>**

I'd like to point out that I'm a 33 year old business professional, being General Manager of a family amusement center. My sister is 5 years older than me, and helps to run a Star Wars club in Salt Lake City, UT. I point this out simply to give a little background data on the broadness of age that find many of the "young girl" shojo shows appealing, as well as the fact that many males like them, too. It annoys me to no end to read in some magazines how these shows are "cute", but "childish". There was many important lessons for young people depicted in these shows - of course, Marmalade Boy is the best written show on the market today exactly for this reason.

I have written a review of Sailor Moon, Magic Knight RayEarth, and Marmalade Boy (plus a couple of other) for Lorraine Savage's fanzine "The Rose". I have to apologize for some of the lettering of the names - I was working from sound alone! One point that I did make is that Marmalade Boy deals with things in a much more adult fashion than most of the anime being produced (I specifically mentioned the affair between Meiko and Namura as an example). I also mentioned that it was unlikely that we would ever see this series brought over here, due to its extreme shojo nature. It seems that the only shows that get brought to Western shores are ones that have lots of sex & violence (although they can have some entertainment value, as well) I have to give you guys an extremely heartfelt "ARIGATO!" for bringing MB to the fan community in the US.

Personally, I feel that a show like Marmalade Boy should receive AT LEAST equal coverage to the latest Street Fighter clone, or the latest Macross incarnation. After all, these character are REAL (in a manner of speaking). It should be shown publicly on TV, in campuses all across the country, and at every convention. Sadly, such will probably never occur, more's the pity.

If you have no objections, I will certainly do my best to distribute your version as widely as possible. It's obvious to anyone who's dealt with fan productions that you're making a tremendous effort to make this project adhere to the high standards that the series itself already possess. Anyone who isn't moved by this series would have to have a heart of stone, if they had one at all! Ja ne!

Dave

<KD: Just a comment here. And I believe Bruce will agree. For anyone who knows us well, knows that we are trying our best out of love for the show. But, both of us feels that no matter what effort we put into MB, it will never be perfect enough...because we're not perfect enough. We DO appreciate kind comments because in some way it's says to us that you understand what we wanted to do, what we wanted to say from our hearts, and that what we're doing is not hitting a blank wall of emptiness.

(This one came by e-mail and a similar one came from the same author by snail mail)

Karen:

...And what subs they are. I think what I like best about them is the evident effort that goes into choosing the precisely appropriate language for specific situations. Other translations, even the "professional" ones of which we shell out \$30 bucks for an hour of anime, often settle for a single tone of speech that is consistently applied throughout a story. At best, they give each character his/her own unique speech style, but it remains unrealistically consistent across all situations. I applaud you for bringing out the rich diversity of spoken language: driven by different contexts and moods, Miki may speak formally or in slang, tersely or verbosely: jokes may be elaborate performances or throwaway lines...and all this comes across in the subtitles. It's unique achievement.

Lee D.

<KD: Gee Lee, wanna come live with us? I could use a boost like this now and then. (^_^) !!!!! All kidding aside, I didn't know that aspect of the translations came across until you said that.

Dear Karen & Bruce,

Greetings from the Marmalade Boy supporters Club (UK Branch)!

MB continues to grow in popularity with my club, knocking Kiki's Delivery Service off our charts as the most commonly asked for anime. I've even been sending off episodes To friends in Australia!

It was great at last to see episode 25, Miki & Yuu together at last YEAH!! I loved the way you translated the insert song, only at the appropriate moment, it definitely added to the impact of the ending. Also Miki in her work uniform should have a cute warning AWESOME ^_^.

However I've found the first thing I dislike about MB, Sakuma Suzu to be precise. Maybe it's the way I feel protective about Miki & Yuu but Suzu seems a little bit too cold & calculating for my liking. I hope the girl gets an appropriate come upppance shortly!

My MB merchandise collection is still growing, as I've now started collection the manga ^_^ I love the additional artwork & SD chara's in each volume.

Yours in Marmalade Heaven

Mark



IN "ANIMAZING!"

Volume 1, Issue 1

The March "96" issue of The Triangle Area Anime Society out of the humorous mind of Phil. Printed by permission of James Holman, club president...and my dear friend. It's called...

A TAAS VIEWER'S GUIDE TO MARMALADE BOY

The Players

James Holman, current president of the Triangle Area Anime Society.
Jeremy Pace, our club's biggest mech fan.

The Conversation

As usual, Jeremy Pace and James Holman were arguing. For some odd reason, Holman had allowed himself to be dragged to the Waffle House after the meeting, where he and Pace were bickering over the schedule.

"There aren't enough mech shows."

James glared at Pace for a moment. "Look, we try to show good mech shows? There's only so much we can put out there. We showed Gatchaman last week!

"It wasn't subtitled."

"Look, the guys with wings are the good guys. The giant robot turtle is the enemy. How much more do you need to know."

Pace glared back at Holman. "It just isn't the same. Why don't we show something like G-Gundam?"

Holman choked on his hashbrowns and spent a few minutes having coughing fits. "Don't mention G-Gundam to me ever again."

"Well, show something else! Do something besides show Marmalade Boy all the time."

"Hey, Marmalade Boy is a mech show."

Pace snorted. "That little robot doesn't count. And I just don't understand the plot. It's yet another whiney love-triangle. It's almost as bad as the KOR show you like so much. Anyway, I can't really keep up with everything."

Holman repressed the urge to throttle Pace for insulting The One True Show, then pulled out a sheet of paper and a pen. "It's really not that hard to understand." Holman began sketching out complex diagrams on the paper. Pace groaned. "Okay, it's pretty simple actually. At first, Miki can't decide if she likes Yuu or Ginta."

"I don't like Miki. She whines too much. And that's just another love triangle."

Holman continued to sketch out diagrams. "Well, that's just the start. Then there's Arimi, the blue haired one. She likes Yuu, who doesn't like her. Then, Ginta and Arimi pretend to date to make Miki jealous, which eventually turn into true love."

"Now it's starting to look like a love polygon."

"Shut up, Pace. Now, Meiko and Na-chan (her teacher) are in love, but everyone finds out and Na-chan has to leave. Miwa is in love with Meiko also, while Meiko just isn't interested. Also, Meiko and Miki are convinced that Miwa and Yuu are dating."

"This is a sick show, James. Na-chan's a pedophile."

"I said, shut up. Now Tsutomu is Ginta's annoying cousin who has been in love with Arimi for years. She hates him, and he manages to piss of everyone else in the show also. Now, Miki finally confesses her love to Yuu. Ginta spend some time trying to deal with it, then decided he's in love with Arimi, who also spends time trying to deal with things before accepting Ginta's love."

"So everything's okay, right?"

"No, we're only 1/3 through the series. Now, Miki has to worry about Suzu..."

"Bitch."

"Yes, she's a bitch. As I was saying, Miki has to worry about Suzu's being in love with Yuu, even though he doesn't really like her. Suzu is Miwa's cousin by the way. Also, a co-worker of Miki, Kei, is in love with Miki, who is starting to get confused all over again." James finishes outlining the character relations with a flourish. "That should bring you up to date with the last few episode we showed. Understand?"

"Maybe we should just call it a love tumbleweed and leave it at that. I guess I can follow things, but I'd rather watch Transformers. Oh, what about the episode Conrad keeps talking about?"

"Which one?"

"The one where Arimi gets the shotgun and goes around killing everyone."

"Shut up, Pace."

(KD: Poor Pace. James, how could you! Something's got to be done for him! Marmaladetrone!
(^_^) Here PACE V At least *I* feel sorry for you.

MARMALADETRON by Karen Duffy

Miki, in her well armored battle suit goes out to meet the foe. But unfortunately, she likes everybody and forgives them for anything they do to her and she gets creamed.

Yuu didn't help her, even though his equipment is more powerful, because he'd rather build the armor suits and went away to school to learn to do that.

Well that's not all. A green haired young man, Kei, who is in love with Miki, mans a mech with an awesome sound system. But Miki, is determined to stay by the armored suit builder, Yuu, even though he's nowhere around. That is, until the operator of a mega-foreign-built robot, Top Heavy, throttles her nearly enough to kill her. Miki begs, nearly in a coma, for Yuu to help her.....but he was taking exams and didn't hear her. Besides, what's more important than learning the latest and greatest of power systems for well crafted-robots. He was sure nothing was.

Miki knows, after her near fatality, that she can't survive the relationship. and tells her armor suit builder it was her...or the school. So.... that ends the relationship. After all, his dreams are a stake.

Life began anew...

Miki began to build a new robot. It had a new look and she was nervous about the new system. Kei tried to help her with it...and he made sure to keep the music revved on his mech because she found it particularly comforting.

Meanwhile back at the Super School Of Robot Knowledge, Yuu regrets the loss of his love, Miki...even though being a master armor suit builder is much more important. After all, he really does love her. So Yuu stewes.

One day, Yuu is pouring through manuals on the Point Location Sites for Dexterity During Quantum Battles but he's having trouble keeping his mind on it. Miki and her beautiful well-armored battle suit never leave his mind. The way she always considered everyone her friend, even the other battle suit operators who pulverized her, she was kind to. Her expressive voice and glowing eyes, the way she used to react when he teased her. A sudden warmth filled him, and then left him cold as soon as he realized it was gone and gone forever. Empty.

Yuu, suddenly looked at his stacks of mech books and manuals. They seemed just as cold as he felt. He knew now that once his schooling was through and he was licensed to be a builder, there would only be a socket here and a chip there. No silly girl to run through the house to throw her arms around him in the sheer delight of seeing him.

Now Miki, had gone into battle once again. She ended up in enemy territory. This time it was three mega super robots against one. She was in trouble. These mechs were far bigger and nastier. She couldn't stand to throw a punch and hurt anyone anyway. So she knew she was a dead duck. But she could run! She ran! But not fast enough. The mecha trio were about to give her the last rites, when the newly developed Golden Boy Bot showed up. It was fast and beautiful and not at all gay, and wiped the enemies away.

The voice of the operator had a sultry male voice that could make any girl swoon, it was Yuu. He decided that his lost love, Miki, was the most important thing in his life....for that day. After all, he loves her.

The End



THE MARMALADE BOY PROJECT IN RETROSPECT

(a variation from an e-mail written 9/95)

Some people may mistakenly think that passionately falling in love only happens between humans...uh, USUALLY men and women. Ah, but that's a misnomer. Ya see, it can happen between a human and a concept or a feeling...in this case a Marmalade Boy world. Ack! I've been caught!

Maybe such things are destiny. When MB walked into our house, there was no escape. I'd dated other anime series, many of them...but this was different. This was love. I was stuck with these feelings even though we couldn't communicate. But hour after hour I would watch and re-watch each episode even though at the time I didn't speak the same language. I have to laugh when I think back on that time because recently an anime friend said amazingly that I'd probably watched each episode at least 5 times! "Ha!", said I, "Try multiplying that by 10! I watch each new episode 3 times a day for the first few days alone! When I get exhausted from subbing MB, I go to the TV to watch MB!"

A dear person was amazed at my fervency. He decided since he already had a tutor for Japanese, he would change his lesson plans over to translating the Marmalade Boy series. (This was fairly early in 1994) This was a VERY SLOW process. Every line had to be discussed on how it was formulated and how the words were pronounced. These were lessons, not straight translations.

Suffering to know each new line and any new information I could get, I couldn't wait until the translator left so I could find out what they came up with. But sometimes a single script could take months!

Finally, going crazy, I began to ask the translator to work for me. I hired her. We would sit in front of the TV and I would write everything out in long hand then go to a computer in another room and type it out. All I really wanted was to know what was going on. But secretly I wished I could find someone to sub it. Somebody out there might be interested if we handed them the scripts.

Around about last January, I came to Bruce and told him that I wanted to get subtitling equipment. I was going to sell off my small hobby of 21 years and if he would move his stuff into the outer office, I would completely redo and redesign the other office into a subtitling room. I used the money from selling my stuff to do that while Bruce took care of getting the equipment.

Later after we'd been subbing quite a while, Bruce told me that when I came to him and wanted to do subbing, he thought it was crazy. But then, he told me I was really smart. Ha ha, I try to keep these things secret!

By the middle of January 1995, Bruce took to the subbing computer and began subbing the first volume. I hadn't been taught the system yet. But seeing Bruce first subtitle line come up on the screen for the first time gave me quite a rush!

By sometime in February, I twisted Bruce's arm until he wrote down everything I needed to know about using the subbing equipment, and I started work. From that point on, the subbing computer and I have been inseparable. I often tell people that Bruce chains me to the computer. (not quite)

It certainly is difficult, tedious work but I love the show and seeing Miki, Yuu and the others talk for the first time so that I can understand it is compelling! I begin in the morning and tend to force myself to stay up to all hours of the night. If awoken in the middle of the night, I go back to it. Am I a fanatic? YES!

As it was, I began subbing Marmalade Boy for me. I'm a fan. I chose to release the preliminary work because I thought others might enjoy them. And you know what? It's difficult to enjoy something by yourself. Imagine, no one to talk to when something exciting happens! I'm glad because I think all of you must understand how I feel.

Thank goodness we didn't wait until the LD's came out. By the time the first LD's came, we had already released the first 32 episodes! And the translated and yet unmastered subs were much further ahead than that. In October, the next set will be out. But again, releases will be ahead of the LD's (49-52 will already be mastered for release on Nov.1, probably about 1 week after the LD's arrive). Only by the next LD release after Oct. will the LD's be ahead of releases- finally.

Because Bruce is re-timing the first three volumes (eps.1-12) that were his work in the first place, that gives me time to finish translating the series without having to worry about those. I HAVE TO FINISH THE SERIES FIRST ...it's written in blood. And if you believe that....you know me! (^_^)

I CAN'T go back to the old already realized TV versions to REDO to LD versions until I've finished translating the last 3 episodes (DAMN! They're late getting here!!!!!!) And I'm anxious to keep a schedule so that you don't have to miss any monthly MB fix you may be on. I hated that myself! Yep, sometimes I didn't get my episodes on a regular basis...We had a date, and my love didn't show up!

By the way, you may have wondered why on occasion I released 3 volumes at once and at other times 1. I didn't want to release heavy volumes, like 4 (13-16, Meiko gets expelled, loses her boyfriend, hurts her best friend's feelings, etc.) and volume 6 (33-36, Miki and Yuu have jealousy problems, fight and break up), and leave fans on a downer for a month. I went through some of those without lighter ones to pick me back up and so decided that I would prefer to avoid that by releasing some picker-back-uppers. (^_^)

During the time that I've been waiting for the last of the MB's to come in... Hey! Maybe it'll be today! Uh...what was I saying? ...oh yeah, I have had a translator to pay with no new MB's. Native born translators are difficult to come by. Now, we couldn't risk losing him, could we?! So Masatomo and I have worked on Tobira O Akete. Whew! That took 5 sessions to complete the translations on (AKA \$180 out of my pocket to translate!). And I also started Fushigi Yuugi volume 1 after playing with some fonts. (^_^) Well, the durned fonts talked me into it!!!

Fushigi may be a life saver. I'm feeling as bad as anyone who's forced to break up! we're talking total withdrawal symptoms! Fushigi's getting me on the rebound.

But I like Fushigi. In common with Marmalade Boy, it has a fast pace, a developing story, it develops separate personalities to the fullest. And has a complex plot. It has always been my first choice IF I even decided to sub anymore.

I'm glad that I have Fushigi to look forward to. The fun of subbing is in seeing the characters talk for the first time. At the time they come alive, then all the hard parts are worthwhile. So when MB is finished...AND if the those last 3 episodes come in today...I could have them finished by the end of next week...I'll have SOMETHING to look forward to while I'm mastering MB episodes you haven't seen to TV versions and re-mastering vols.4 up to LD versions. There's LOTS of unfun work ahead!

I'm not sure I should have brought my love affair with MB out into the open. The whole sordid story is out of the closet! Now people will know the truth about me! (^_^) At least I don't have to apologize for being a man liking a shoujo show like Phil! HA! Gotcha Phil! (^_^)

I would like to give a special thanks to those who have been encouraging me lately, especially James, who's pushed, pulled, and teased me all along about my "possible" decision to do Fushigi. Without your help, I'm not certain I would have had the guts to see it through. To everyone: You're the best.

KD

Epilogue 10/26/95:

Translations of the entire series were completed on 10/12/95. Fushigi is a go for now! (^_^)