

KIMAGURE ORANGE ROAD DISC 12, EPISODES 45 – 48

Episode 45 – Hikaru Passes Away; And Then There Were None. (02/15/88)

“Here you go. It's your turn today, Sempai!” - Hikaru

“Koukan Nikki” refers to diaries that friends exchange; they take turns writing it.

“I can't believe you, Bro! You're so conceited!” - Kurumi

This is a colloquial phrase using a figure from Japanese folklore. “Tengu” is a winged creature (see another section) that is said to have a long, tall nose. Figuratively, the phrase refers to how someone looks down on others, or is simply “stuck up.”

“I'm not feeling good today...” - Kyosuke

Notice all the black crows. Crows generally symbolize bad luck, ill omens, etc.

“And now, representing the friends of the deceased let us welcome an exceptionally close friend of hers...” - Matsuoka

The funeral scene that we see in this sequence (including the procession) is typical of those held for someone of high importance (celebrities, corporate VIP's, etc.)

“If we don't at least do that much, she'll ridicule us from above, as a star up in the heavens!” - Komatsu

A common legend (often told in children's stories) holds that a deceased soul becomes a star in the sky.

“We've gotta go look for a juku!” - Hatta

Many students attend juku (supplementary school) on weekends and after regular school hours. This is where students are taught advanced lessons, mainly to prepare for college entrance exams - or, in this case, senior high school entrance exams, since Hatta and the gang are still in junior high. There are even juku for pre-school children as well!

“There's a bright future, that's like “Yippee,” in store for all of you! Chin up! Chin up!” - Hikaru

The following line by Hikaru was edited out from this scene in the final version.

Hikaru: “Master! Make us lots of food!”

“Before the end of the Seventh Day after her death you must dig a tunnel through that mountain!” - Grandpa (in disguise)

In Buddhism, upon death, a soul is said to cross the Sanzu River in the netherworlds. “Shonanoka” refers to the seventh day after death, when the guardians of Sanzu decide upon the fate of each soul.

Episode 46 – One Snow-White Night! Two, Alone Inside a Gondola! (02/22/88)

“Chug! Chug! Chug!” - Guys

In recent years, many phrases that we hear in older anime, as innocent sounding as they are, have been banned from most TV networks.

The phrase “ikki” (“chug”) is one example. A certain network decided that the phrase might promote alcoholism. This is one reason KOR may not ever be seen again in its entirety on Japanese TV!

“A straight descent!” - Hikaru

“A diagonal descent!” - Madoka

“Ha! Talk about looking indecent!” - Yuusaku

Puns are a nightmare for translators, since there are no good solutions most of the time! Here is one example that works out.

The three words used in this pun are: “chokkakkou,” “shakakkou” and “bukakkou.”

While the “-kakkou” in the first two words relate to “descent” as in downhill skiing, the one used in “bukakkou” is a homonym that means “appearance” (or how presentable or sightly something is).

Thus, “Chokkakkou” and “Shakakkou” are “straight descent” and “diagonal descent,” respectively. We've chosen to rely on the homonym, “decent,” to make the pun work!

“You know, I... I...” - Yuusaku

“I...?” - Hikaru

“...love your skiing.” - Yuusaku

This hilarious sequence relies on the fact that the words for “to like/love” and “ski” sound alike (“suki” and “sukii,” respectively). Yuusaku wants to tell her that he loves her, but in the end he wimps out!

Episode 47 – A Presentiment of Farewells. Locate Madoka's First Love. (02/29/88)

“You're napping away, and it's only noon!” - Madoka

“That's why it's called a noontime nap!” - Kyosuke

The Japanese word for “nap” is “hirune,” which is written using two kanji characters - “hiru” (daylight/noon) and “ne” (sleep), so it can literally mean “to take a nap at noon,” hence the pun!

“Oh! I know! Lemme guess... Your first love!” - Kyosuke

“Bingo!” - Madoka

“Yeah! Bingo...! What?!” - Kyosuke

The phrase “pinpon!” (which we rendered as “Bingo!”) that is heard here is yet another Japanese onomatopoeia for the ringing of a bell (as in a quiz show, indicating that the correct answer was given).

“Six years ago... Six years ago... Six years ago...” - Kyosuke

“Six years ago” in the KOR TV universe refers to 1982 - the year the “Macross” TV series appeared, Phoebe Cates became an overnight sensation... and Spinal Tap toured the US and Japan...

“Huh?! What's with this ¥100 coin?! Look! It says “¥500” here! What a neat toy!” - Cashier

Kyosuke “time-slipped” to the spring of 1982. The first 500 Yen coin was not issued until later that year.

Episode 48 – I Found Love – And, Repeat From Beginning. (03/07/88)

“I Found Love - And, Repeat From Beginning.”

The title contains the phrase “Da Capo,” which is a music term that means “to repeat (playing) from the start of a score.” While the phrase itself is a vernacular in Japan (since knowing such terms is a part of compulsory education!), the situation is slightly different here in the US - hence, the rendering of the phrase we've chosen.

“K...Komatsu and Hatta...” - Kyosuke

“No ‘Mr.’ or anything? You don't know me!” - Komatsu

“Yobisute” is an act of calling someone by his/her name only, i.e. without using any honorifics. It is commonly done among close friends and colleagues. Kyosuke, for example, calls Ayukawa this way. Notice how Hatta, Komatsu and Kyosuke always refer to themselves without an honorific, except in rare occasions (when they want special attention, for instance!).

Also, school teachers usually yobisute their students, as do corporate higher-ups addressing their subordinates.

At times, yobisute can be rather insulting - it's never done among strangers or those who do not have close relationship. This scene illustrates that point.