A Summer Sweet Story
Vol. 4
Stage 1
17:45
改札口
Ticket Gate
出口
Exit
電車が参ります
It is a promise
Dan's English Student Original Story

Chapter 11: A Busy Summer and Fewer Meetings

Summer is back, but this time, it is not for working at the bakery. It is a long, hot summer of study.

Luca is a third-year student. He has to study for his university entrance exams every day. He goes to school in the morning, and he goes to a "cram school" in the evening. He is very, very busy.

He misses Hana very much. Before, they could meet once a month. But now, they cannot even do that.

One evening in July, Luca sends a message: "I am sorry, Hana. I cannot meet you this weekend. I have a big exam."

Ten minutes later, his phone rings. It is Hana. Her voice sounds a little sad, but very kind.

"It is okay, Luca," she says. "I know you are working hard. Your future is very important. I will wait for you."

"I miss you," Luca says softly. He wants to say more, but he is too tired.

"I miss you too," Hana answers. "Study hard, and call me when you have a break."

Chapter 12: The Distance Between Them

August passes, and September comes. The days are shorter, and the evenings are cool.

Luca studies until late at night. Sometimes, he feels very lonely. He looks at his desk and sees the blue notebook Hana gave him. He remembers her smile and her gentle words at the park.

"Is she okay?" Luca thinks. "Does she have a new boyfriend at her university? Maybe she is tired of waiting for me."

The distance between them feels very big. He is a high school student, and she is a busy university student. He feels like a child, and she feels like an adult.

One Saturday night, Luca finishes his studies very late. He is exhausted, but he cannot sleep. He calls Hana.

"Hello?" Hana’s voice is sleepy.

"Hana, I am sorry. Did I wake you up?"

"No, it is fine," she says. "Are you still studying?"

"Yes," Luca sighs. "I am sorry I cannot see you. I feel like I am losing you because of these exams."

There is a moment of silence. Then, Hana speaks in a soft, clear voice.

"Luca, listen to me. You are not losing me. We are walking toward the same future. These months are hard, but they make us stronger. I am always thinking about you."

"Really?" Luca asks.

"Really," she replies. "You are the only person for me."

Chapter 13: The Promise at the Station

A few weeks later, Luca has a small break from his cram school. He has only one hour, but he decides to go to the station to see Hana.

He waits near the ticket gate. When he sees her walking toward him, his heart beats fast. She looks more beautiful than he remembers.

Hana sees him, and her face lights up with a big smile. She runs to him.

"Luca!"

"Hana!"

They stand under the big clock at the station. They have only a few minutes. Luca looks at her and says, "I am sorry I was so busy. I was scared that you would forget me."

Hana shakes her head. She takes his hand. Her hand is warm.

"I could never forget you, Luca. I am proud of you. You are working for your dream, and that makes me love you more."

Luca feels a warm fire in his heart. He realizes that their love is stronger than the exams or the busy days.

"When I pass the exam," Luca says, his voice strong and clear, "I want to take you to a nice dinner. Just you and me. No study, no work."

Hana smiles and leans a little closer to him. "That sounds wonderful. I will wait for that day. It is a promise, okay?"

"It is a promise," Luca says.

As the train arrives, Hana has to leave. She waves to him from the window, and Luca waves back. He feels a new power inside him. He is not lonely anymore. He is going to pass that exam, for his dream, and for the girl he loves.