

# Wayward





JAPAN.

128 MILLION  
PEOPLE...  
PLUS ME.



IT FEELS LIKE I'M GOING  
HOME EVEN THOUGH I'VE  
NEVER BEEN THERE BEFORE.



AS WE START OUR DESCENT  
TOWARDS NARITA AIRPORT,  
I CAN FEEL MY HEARTBEAT  
GETTING FASTER.

ANTICIPATION,  
EXCITEMENT...



...AND A BIT  
OF FEAR.



MOM WAS A NAIVE JAPANESE TRANSFER STUDENT.

DAD WAS A SWEET-TALKING IRISH ENGINEER.

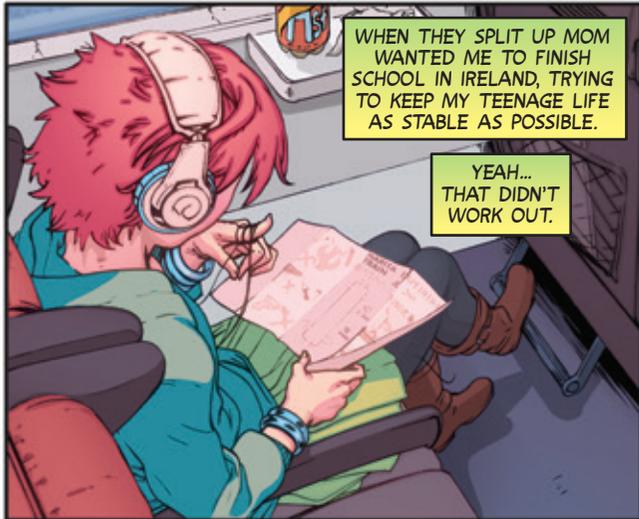


I'M THE HALF 'N' HALF RESULT OF THEIR FLAWED TIME TOGETHER.



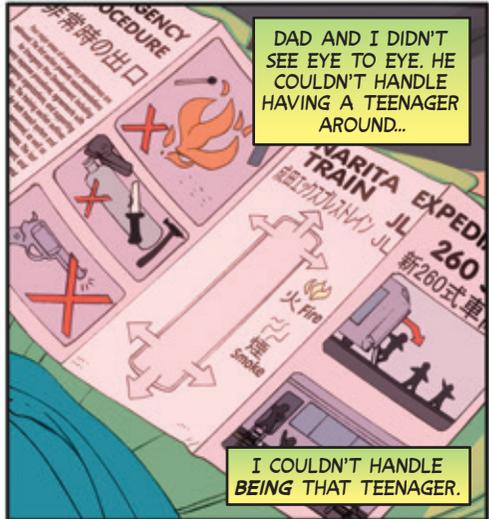
I GREW UP HEAVILY IMMERSERD IN BOTH CULTURES...

...“A LIFE OF RICE AN’ POTATOES” AS DAD WOULD SAY.



WHEN THEY SPLIT UP MOM WANTED ME TO FINISH SCHOOL IN IRELAND, TRYING TO KEEP MY TEENAGE LIFE AS STABLE AS POSSIBLE.

YEAH... THAT DIDN'T WORK OUT.



DAD AND I DIDN'T SEE EYE TO EYE. HE COULDN'T HANDLE HAVING A TEENAGER AROUND...

I COULDN'T HANDLE BEING THAT TEENAGER.



LEAVING HOME WASN'T AS DIFFICULT AS I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE.

IT'S A BIT DEPRESSING WHEN YOU REALIZE EVERYTHING YOU OWN CAN FIT IN TWO BAGS.



MOM WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AT THE AIRPORT, BUT MY FLIGHT WAS DELAYED SO SHE HAD TO GO TO WORK.

IT SOUNDS LIKE SHE'S GOT CRAZY HOURS JUST TO MAKE ENDS MEET.



BUS TO THE PLANE.

PLANE TO THE TRAIN.

TRAIN TO THE SUBWAY.



NEXT STOP: IKEBUKURO.

EACH ROUTE HAS ITS OWN PATTERN.



I JUST HAVE TO CONNECT THE DOTS.

NO PROBLEM.



I'M GOOD AT THAT.

Oh, wow...

# Wayward

## Chapter 1

Story: Jim Zub  
Art: Steve Cummings  
Colors: John Rauch  
Letters: Marshall Dillon

MY NAME'S  
RORI LANE...

...AND THIS RIGHT  
HERE IS MY BRAND  
NEW LIFE.

ISB

B4

Ikebukuro Shopping Broadway  
池袋ショッピングブロードウェイ  
池袋駅東口  
Ikebukuro Station East Entrance

MEIBU

HUEY V



\*TRANSLATED FROM JAPANESE.

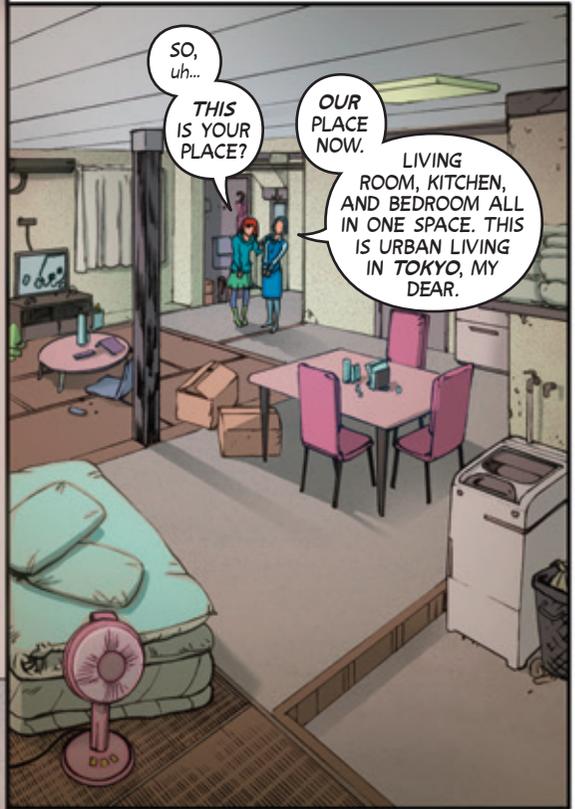




HEY, MOM!

HEY, LITTLE RED!

SO GOOD TO SEE YOU.



SO, uh...

THIS IS YOUR PLACE?

OUR PLACE NOW.

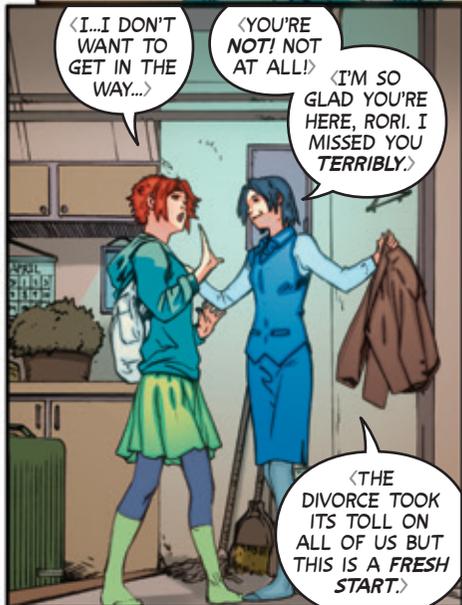
LIVING ROOM, KITCHEN, AND BEDROOM ALL IN ONE SPACE. THIS IS URBAN LIVING IN TOKYO, MY DEAR.

I KNOW YOU'RE WORKING A LOT. HOW'S THAT GOING?

<SPEAK JAPANESE HERE AT HOME, OKAY? YOU NEED TO PRACTICE BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS.>

<THE HOURS ARE PRETTY BRUTAL, BUT I'M JUST HAPPY I HAVE A JOB AT ALL IN THIS ECONOMY.>

<I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW TOUGH IT WOULD BE TO COME BACK AND GET SETTLED IN AGAIN.>



<...I DON'T WANT TO GET IN THE WAY...>

<YOU'RE NOT! NOT AT ALL!>

<I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE, RORI. I MISSED YOU TERRIBLY.>

<THE DIVORCE TOOK ITS TOLL ON ALL OF US BUT THIS IS A FRESH START.>



<I'LL TOUR AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND WE'LL GET BREAKFAST BEFORE MY NEXT SHIFT, OKAY?>

<MY BODY CAN'T TELL IF IT'S DAY OR NIGHT RIGHT NOW, BUT FOOD SOUNDS GREAT!>



«I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M FINALLY IN JAPAN. IT'S SO SURREAL.»

«THE PHOTOS I SHOWED YOU OVER THE YEARS DON'T DO IT JUSTICE, DO THEY?»



«THIS CITY IS ALL ABOUT "EXCESS.»

«IT'S CRAZY, BUT YOU LEARN TO LOVE IT.»

«IT'S NOT FOR EVERYONE, BUT TO ME IT'S HOME. I HOPE IT WILL BE FOR YOU TOO, DEAR.»



«SPEAKING OF CRAZY... HOW'S YOUR FATHER?»

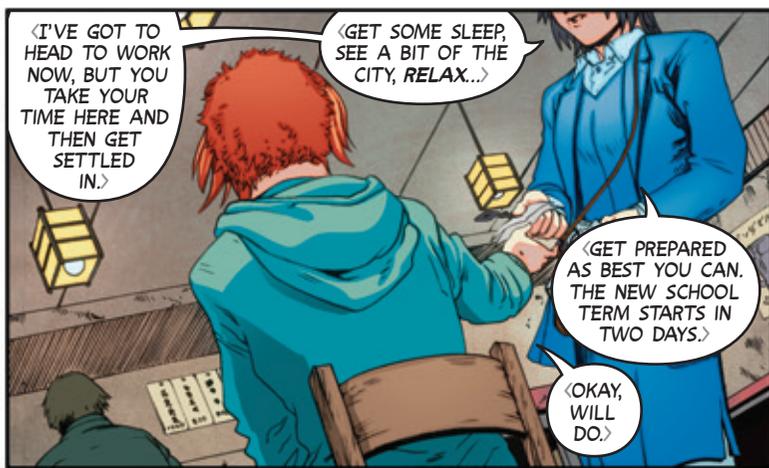


I... I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT, OKAY?!

HE'S GONE. I'M HERE. LET'S LEAVE IT AT THAT.

I..I'M SORRY, MY LOVE.

«I KNOW THIS HASN'T BEEN EASY FOR YOU.»



«I'VE GOT TO HEAD TO WORK NOW, BUT YOU TAKE YOUR TIME HERE AND THEN GET SETTLED IN.»

«GET SOME SLEEP, SEE A BIT OF THE CITY, RELAX...»

«GET PREPARED AS BEST YOU CAN. THE NEW SCHOOL TERM STARTS IN TWO DAYS.»

«OKAY, WILL DO.»



NONE OF THIS IS WHAT I EXPECTED.

I DON'T KNOW IF THAT'S GOOD OR BAD, IT'S JUST...DIFFERENT.



I WONDER IF MY BRAIN WILL STOP WHIRLING LONG ENOUGH TO TAKE A NAP?



NOPE!

I GUESS IT'S TIME TO GO EXPLORING!



HOO-LEE SHIT...

...I'M IN JAPAN.

