



## Rumours

Characters: Daisy, Anita, Yoko, Winnie, Miss Yu, Ted

### Scene 1 Classroom

Winnie: What's wrong Yoko?... you don't look well.  
Yoko: I feel a bit faint.  
Winnie: What is it?  
Yoko: I don't know... I didn't sleep very well last night... you know...  
thinking  
about Ted and what I'm going to say to him.  
Winnie: What are you going to say?  
Yoko: I don't know.... I don't want to hurt him.... But... well... I think it's  
over and I don't know what else to say.  
Winnie: But is it just that?... I mean you look PHYSICALLY sick.  
Yoko: I don't know.... When I looked at my breakfast this morning I  
thought I was going to throw up.  
Winnie: Did you tell your Mother?  
Yoko: No.  
Winnie: Why?  
Yoko: I didn't want to worry her.  
Winnie: You should have done. Have you done your History homework?  
Yoko: Yes.  
Winnie: I really enjoyed it... the Rise of Modern Japan.... I found it  
fascinating...how could you drop two atom bombs on a country  
and then that country becomes one of the strongest countries in  
the world. Yoko... what is it?  
Yoko: I feel a bit dizzy, that's all.  
Winnie: Look, here comes Miss Yu... let me tell her.  
Yoko: No Winnie, don't... leave it.... I'll be alright.  
.Miss Yu: Good morning everybody.  
All: Good morning Miss Yu.  
Miss Yu: Now, open your history text books at page thirty six

Daisy: (Whispering) Hey Anita, what did you do last night?  
Anita: (Whispering) (giggling) I went out with my boyfriend.  
Daisy: (Whispering) Which one? Ah Fai? Danny? Ah Lap?  
Anita: (Hushed giggling) None of them. A new one.  
Daisy: (Whispering) A new one?! Who?  
Miss Yu: Daisy! Anita! What are you whispering about?  
Anita: Nothing Miss.  
Daisy: History Miss.  
Miss Yu: History? Good. And Daisy, I hope you've done your history homework.  
Daisy: Yes Miss Yu.  
Miss Yu: No then class, let's go through the questions about the Rise of Modern Japan.  
Anita: (Whispering) Why did you tell her we were talking about history?  
Daisy: Well we were!.... the history of your boyfriends Anita.  
Anita: (Giggling) Oh I see.... That was clever.  
Miss Yu: (Angry) Anita! Daisy! Stop talking in class.  
A & D: Yes Miss Yu.  
Miss Yu: Now Daisy, perhaps you'll answer the first question.  
Daisy: (Under her breath) Oh no.  
Miss Yu: Sorry?  
Daisy: (Slightly sarcastic tone) I said, yes Miss Yu, certainly Miss Yu, of course Miss Yu.  
Anita: (giggles)  
Miss Yu: Are you trying to be funny Daisy Ciu?  
Anita: (Slightly sarcastic tone) No Miss Yu, of course not Miss Yu.  
Miss Yu: I hope not because with your record Daisy the last thing you should be doing is cracking jokes.  
Daisy: Yes Miss Yu.  
Miss Yu: Very well.... now Daisy.... Focus your mind on the Rise of Modern Japan.... Question number one.... According to the Meiji Constitution... the Meiji Constitution.... You understand?  
Daisy: Yes Miss.  
Miss Yu: Who could vote... who was able to cast a vote in the elections.... was it...a)... the peasants.... B) the property owners.... C) the soldiers.... Or d).... The feudal lords? So, A, B, C or D Daisy?  
Daisy: Um... (whispering) Anita.... help me.  
Anita: (whispering) I can't... I haven't done it.

Miss Yu: Well daisy... I'm waiting.  
Daisy: Um..... A Miss.  
Miss Yu: No, try again.  
Daisy: (Whispering) Anita... help me!  
Anita: (Whispering) C... say C.  
Daisy: C.  
Miss Yu: No! Try again!  
Daisy: D?  
Miss Yu: No  
Daisy: A?  
Miss Yu: You've already said A?!!!!  
Daisy: D?  
Miss Yu: And you've already said D!!!! Oh for goodness sakes.... Winnie,  
tell her.  
Winnie: The answer is B Miss, only the proeperty owners were allowed to  
vote according to the Meiji Constitution.  
Miss Yu: Thank you Winnie.  
Daisy: (Under her breath) I hate that Winnie.... Little Miss know-it-all.  
Miss Yu: Now then. Anita.  
Anita: (Under her breath) Oh no.  
Miss Yu: Question 2. In August 1945 atomic bombs were dropped  
on....A).... Shimoda and Hakodate.... B)... Tokyo and  
Yokohama.... C) Hiroshima and Nagasaki..... or D)..... Hiroshima  
and Osaka? So Anita... A,B,C or D?  
Anita: A, Miss.  
Miss Yu: No Anita, not A. Try again. Anita: B Miss?  
Miss Yu: (Irritated) No Anita. Are you just going to go through the  
alphabet?  
Anita: (Under her breath) Help me Daisy.  
Daisy: (whispering) D... it's D.  
Anita: D Miss.  
Miss Yu: No Anita! It is NOT D! Yoko, will you please tell Anita the correct  
answer.  
Yoko: Well... it has to be C I guess.... Hiroshima and Nagasaki.... so....  
in August 1945 atomic bombs were dropped on the Japanese  
cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.  
Miss Yu: (Sighing) Thank you Yoko.  
Anita: (Under her breath) I hate that Yoko.... she thinks she's soooo

clever.... stuck up bitch!

Miss Yu: And who dropped the atomic bombs on Japan? Which country?  
Daisy?

Daisy: That isn't in the book Miss.

Miss Yu: The question isn't, but I'm asking it myself... come on.... you should know that... which country dropped the atomic bombs on Japan?

Daisy: Um... (under her breath) Anita... help me....

Anita: (Whispering) Um..... Macau.

Daisy: Macau Miss.

Miss Yu: (Amazed) I'm sorry?

Daisy: Macau Miss. Macau dropped the atomic (keep this spelling) bombs on Japan.

Miss Yu: Daisy Chiu, are you trying to be funny again?

Daisy: No Miss.

Miss Yu: Are you trying to tell me that you REALLY believe that MACAU dropped two atomic bombs on Japan?

Daisy: No Miss.... just one.

Miss Yu: I'm... I'm... speechless.... In all my years of teaching I've never heard such an idiotic answer to such a simple but profoundly important question.

Daisy: Miss Yu... are you calling me an idiot?... because if you are I'm telling my parents.

Miss Yu: Oh tell them Daisy... please... I've already met your parents and I shall be quite happy to meet them again.

Daisy: (Under her breath) Cow.

Miss Yu: What did you say Daisy?!

Daisy: Nothing.... Miss.

Miss Yu: Now then... who can tell me who dropped the atomic bombs on Japan?

Winnie: (Holding up her hand) Miss! Miss!

Miss Yu: Yes Winnie.

Winnie: The Americans did.

Miss Yu: Thank you Winnie. Thank you. (sighs) Now then... question three.... After Japan surrendered.... The occupying forces in the country were mainly.... (starts to fade out on this).... A... Korean.... B..... Chinese.... C.... Russian..... (fade out) D..... (Bring up.....)

(SFX: Bell ringing for end of class)

Miss Yu: Now for your homework I want you do do the exercise on page thirty nine.... Is that clear? Yes? Very well then... class dismissed.

## Scene 2

Daisy: I hate that Winnie... Little Miss know-it-all.  
Anita: And that Yoko... she's so stuck up!!  
Daisy: Huh!  
Anita: Huh!  
Daisy: Who does she think she is!  
Anita: I hate them.  
Daisy: Everybody does.  
Anita: Look at them.  
Daisy: Where?  
Anita: Over there.  
Daisy: What are they doing?  
Winnie: You've got a fever Yoko.  
Yoko: Do you think so?  
Winnie: Yes, you look really hot. You might have a temperature. Here, let me feel your forehead.  
Yoko: Well... have I got a temperature.  
Winnie: Let me leave my hand on your forehead a bit longer.... that will help me tell if you've got a temperature or not.  
Anita: Look, she's touching her face.  
Daisy: Mmmm.... quite tenderly.  
Anita: That's the way my boyfriend touches my face.  
Daisy: Look.... She's stroking her hair.  
Winnie: You're sweating Yoko... your hair feels damp.  
Yoko: Does it?  
Winnie: Yes... look... if I rub my hand on it it feels all wet. I think you'd better go home.  
Yoko: I can't miss any lessons.  
Winnie: Let me take your pulse.  
Yoko: My pulse Winnie?... do you know how to do that?  
Winnie: Of course Yoko, I did a first aid course last summer... remember?... and one of the things they taught us to do was take

a pulse... all you need is a watch with a second hand and....  
Well.... hold out your hand... that's it... and I just put my hand  
here to feel your pulse.

Yoko: What is a pulse Winnie?

Winnie: It's the regular beating of blood through your body which you can  
feel when you touch somebody's wrist... well the underside of the  
wrist... on the artery.... here... sec...where those blue lines are.

Yoko: How come they're blue... if blood is going through them they  
should be red?

Winnie: Um... I'm not quite sure.... We should ask one of the biology  
students... but I do know that high born people... aristocrats and  
kings and queens are said to have blue blood... if you are royal,  
you know.

Yoko: I must be royal then because my arteries are very blue.

Winnie: Now hold still while I take your pulse... it will only take about  
twenty seconds.

Daisy: Look.... she's holding her hand.

Anita: Yes.... they're just standing there holding hands and not saying  
anything.... That's what I do with my boyfriend.

Daisy: Me too.

Anita: Winnie hasn't got a boyfriend has she?

Daisy: Winnie? A boyfriend?! No! .... she's too serious to have a  
boyfriend.

Anita: What about Yoko?

Daisy: She's weird.... she pretended to have a crush on Mr Rogers, the  
old English teacher.

Anita: Oh yes, she kept running out of the room crying.

Daisy: Yes, and Winnie always went running after her.

Anita: To the toilets.

Daisy: Yes.

Anita: Look at them... just holding hands in the corner there... they're  
not even trying to hide... No shame.

Daisy: What do you mean Anita?

Anita: Well it's obvious isn't it.

Daisy: Do you think they're....?

Anita: Well just look at them.... two girls holding hands for such a long  
time... what else could it be.

Winnie: Well Yoko... there is some irregularity in your pulse rate.

Yoko: Is there? Oh no... and I've got so much work to do... so much to catch up with... I can't miss any classes.

Winnie: Let me feel your forehead again.

Daisy: Look Anita... Winnie's touching Yoko's face again.

Anita: Wa!... I wonder if they're going to kiss.

Daisy: Do you think they will?

Anita: Maybe.

Daisy: So... now we know.... Miss Goody-two-shoes Winnie... and Miss stuck-up Yoko are not so perfect.... We know their secret.

Anita: Yes.... I wonder if Miss Yu knows?

Daisy: Oh Winnie is always running to Miss Yu... at every excuse she runs to Miss Yu and tells her everything... she got my brother into trouble that way.

Anita: Ricky?

Daisy: Yes... she reported him.

Anita: What a sneak.

Daisy: I know... Winnie is a sneak.

Anita: Winnie reported your brother?

Daisy: Yes.

Anita: Hmmm! Maybe we should report Winnie.

Daisy: Report what?

Anita: This.

Daisy: You mean.... tell everybody about her and Yoko?

Anita: Why not?... she reported Ricky.... now it's your turn to report her... and I'll help you.

Daisy: (Giggles) What a good idea.

Anita: Come on... let's get started....

Daisy: Okay.

Winnie: Poor Yoko... poor poor Yoko.... how can you carry on with such a fever.

Yoko: I have to... I must... If I miss any lessons I'll fail my exams. Look at the time... we'd better be going... it's time for our English lesson.

Winnie: But Yoko....

Yoko: No buts Winnie... I have to go.

Winnie: I'll help you... here, let me put my arm around your waist and support you.

Yoko: It's okay.

Winnie: I must... look at you... you're so weak that if I let go you'll fall over.  
Now put your arm over my shoulder.  
Yoko: Okay... thanks Winnie.  
Winnie: Come on, let's get going.

### Scene 3

Daisy: Hi Ted.  
Anita: Hi Ted.  
Ted: Oh hi Daisy.... Hi Anita.  
Anita: Have you heard?  
Ted: Heard what?  
Daisy: About Yoko and Winnie?  
Ted: Heard what?  
Anita: Oh look!... here they come....  
Daisy: And Winnie has got her arm around Yoko's waist.  
Anita: And Yoko has got her arm around Winnie's shoulder.  
Daisy: Does that mean Winnie's the man?  
A & D: (Giggle maliciously)  
Ted: Uh? What are you two talking about?  
Anita: See for yourself.  
Ted: See WHAT for myself?  
Daisy: Winnie and Yoko.  
A & D: (Giggle together maliciously)  
Ted: What are you giggling about?  
Daisy: What do you think?  
Anita: Look, she's squeezing her tight!  
A & D: (giggle maliciously)  
Ted: Hey daisy... Anita... you feeling alright?  
Anita: WE'RE feeling alright... quite NORMAL in fact.... but I can't say  
the same for those two.  
Daisy: No, I think they're feeling a bit....  
Anita: Queer.  
A & D: (Giggle maliciously)  
Ted: You two need your heads testing.  
Anita: It's not US who need their heads testing.  
Daisy: It's them!... they're the ones who need to see a psychiatrist.  
Anita: Winnie and Yoko.

Daisy: They need help.  
A&D: (Giggle maliciously)  
Ted: Know something?... you two are....  
Anita: What Ted? Truthful?  
Daisy: Observant?  
Anita: Honest.  
Daisy: Just use your eyes Ted... what do you see.  
Ted: Well, er... Winnie and Yoko are good friends, that's all.  
Anita: (Ironic) VERY good friends.  
Daisy: Sooo close.  
Anita: And intimate.  
Daisy: Holding hands.  
Anita: Touching faces.  
Daisy: Walking along in an embrace.  
Ted: You two are sick... you know that?  
Anita: It's not US who are sick Ted.  
Daisy: No... not US.  
Anita: I've got a boyfriend.  
Ted: So what?  
Daisy: You'd be better off with me Ted.  
Ted: What do you mean Daisy... better off.  
Daisy: Well... you know where you stand with me... you know what I like... you know I will be straight forward.  
Ted: I've got a girlfriend thank you Daisy.  
Daisy: (Giggles maliciously) Have you? Are you sure? A GIRL friend?  
Ted: What's that supposed to mean?  
Anita: Just use your eyes Ted... just use your eyes.  
A & D: (Giggle maliciously)  
Anita: Bye Ted.  
Daisy: Bye Teddy bear... and, er... good luck with Yoko.... maybe you should wear a dress.... she might like that.  
A & D: (Laugh maliciously as they leave) Bye.....

#### **Scene 4**

Winnie: How are you feeling now Yoko?  
Yoko: A bit better.  
Winnie: I thought you were going to faint in the English lesson.

Yoko: I did have a bad moment... but I think it's passed now.  
Winnie: Let me feel your pulse again.  
Yoko: I'm okay..  
Winnie: It won't so any harm.... now let's see, where's my watch? Right, give me your hand... Good.... now just relax.  
Ted: (Suspicious) Hello girls... what are you doing?  
Winnie: I'm taking Yoko's pulse... she doesn't feel well.  
Yoko: No, I'm fine... honestly, I'm just fine.  
Ted: So, what?... just playing doctors and nurses.  
Winnie: Yoko isn't feeling well.  
Ted: She just said she was feeling fine.  
Winnie: Don't believe her... she nearly fainted in the English lesson.  
Yoko: Don't exaggerate Winnie.  
Ted: So, um... your ill, your not ill.  
Winnie: She is.  
Yoko: I'm not.  
Ted: Confusing.... very very confusing.  
Yoko: Um Ted... have you got a free minute?  
Ted: Sure, it's lunch time.... I've got a whole hour on my hands.  
Yoko: It won't take that long.  
Ted: What won't?  
Yoko: Winnie, would you leave us for a minute.  
Winnie: No Yoko, not now.  
Yoko: Why?  
Winnie: I need to keep an eye on you... in case you faint or something.  
Yoko: But I told you... I'm okay.  
Ted: You heard her Winnie... she's okay, okay?  
Yoko: Please Winnie... don't worry, I'll be alright.  
Winnie: Okay, but I won't go far... I'll just go and sit over there.... where I can keep an eye on you... just in case.  
Yoko: Okay then.  
Winnie: (Moving away from microphone) Don't be long.  
Yoko: I won't.  
Winnie: You should drink some soup... that will keep the fever down.  
Yoko: Later.  
Ted: She doesn't want to let you out of her sight does she.  
Winnie: She's concerned about me, that's all,,, Winnie's a good friend... the best friend I've ever had.. .sometimes the only friend.

Ted: (Suspiciously) Yes.... right... and er what about me.  
Yoko: That's what I wanted to talk about Ted.  
Ted: Me?  
Yoko: You and me.  
Ted: Hey Yoko, we don't need to talk about us, we ARE us.  
Yoko: Ted, I'm sorry... but this is not good news.  
Ted: What isn't? What Yoko? What are you talking about ?  
Yoko: I told you Ted, you and me.  
Ted: So... why are you talking about bad news Yokes?.... we're good news aren't we?  
Yoko: Ted, look, whatever happens we can still be friends.... I think.  
Ted: What do you mean?... whatever happens?  
Yoko: Well, it's like this... when you helped Felix in his fight with Ricky... I was really proud of you.... but then afterwards that all went up in smoke.  
Ted: Oh no... not this again.  
Yoko: Yes Ted, I know you don't want to face it.... But you have to.... You SHOULD have reported Ricky... he tried to hurt you, really badly... with a knife... but you refused to report him... so Ricky and his gang think they can get away with anything they like....They've even picked on Winnie again, trying to extort money from her... stealing her books and demanding money in return  
Ted: I see... this is all about Winnie.  
Yoko: No Ted, it's about your refusal to do the right thing and report those dangerous bully boys to the school and the police.  
Ted: Yoko... look... that's my business, right?... and I don't want to talk about it... so please.... Can we change the subject?  
Yoko: Ted, I don't think you heard me... because of your... well, cowardice...  
Ted: It's NOT cowardice!  
Yoko: Well, whatever it is.... I've, well... sort of. ..gone off you in a ...romantic way... I hope we can be....  
Ted: Gone off me?!  
Yoko: Yes... I'm sorry... it's the way you've been behaving, I....  
Ted: (Interrupting) So, you're OFF me... so who are you ON?  
Yoko: No one.... just because you go OFF someone doesn't mean.....  
Ted: (Interrupting) Come on Yoko... I know what this is all about... why

don't you just come out and say it.

Yoko: Say what? Listen Ted... I'm telling you the truth and the truth is....

Ted: (Interrupting)... It's Winnie isn't it.

Yoko: Winnie was upset, the same as I was, that you refused to report Ricky and his gang to the police.... But that's not the reason... of course it's not... why should Winnie affect my relationship with you?

Ted: Yesterday I would have said don't know Yoko.... but to-day... well.... maybe you're not being straight with me OR yourself.

Yoko: Straight about what?

Ted: You and Winnie.

Yoko: Me and Winnie?... what are you talking about Ted?!

Ted: Don't you know?

Yoko: Know what? Look Ted... what is this?... You're talking in riddles.

Ted: And you're acting in them.

Yoko: There's no riddle Ted... I told you... this is it... we're over as girlfriend and boyfriend but I hope we can remain....

Ted: You don't want a boyfriend anymore?

Yoko: Ted... don't make this harder than it has to be... please....

Winnie: Yoko!... Yoko!.... I must insist you come and sit down.

Yoko: Winnie, please... I haven't finished speaking to Ted yet.

Winnie: But you've gone so pale... let me feel your forehead.

Yoko: You don't need to.

Ted: Hey... go ahead girls... don't mind me... I'm on my way.

Yoko: But Ted... let's talk some more... I don't want you to go away thinking....

Ted: (Interrupting) Don't worry Yoko... what I think is what I think and nothing you can say will change what I can see with my own eyes.

Yoko: Ted! I wish you'd stop talking in riddles.

Winnie: Here Yoko... put your arm around me before you fall down in a faint.

Ted: Riddles?... there's no riddle to it.... It's there... right under my nose... I maybe stupid Yoko.... but I'm not dumb.... And, er, a friendly tip before I go.

Yoko: What?

Ted: Others have noticed too... you'd better be a bit more careful.

Yoko: About what Ted?! What are you talking about?

Ted: I only wish you'd told me sooner... it would have saved a lot of embarrassment. Goodbye Yoko.

Yoko: Goodbye Ted.

Winnie: Yoko... please... let's go somewhere cool and sit down... here... lean on me...lean on Yoko.

D and A: (Giggling maliciously)

Daisy: Did you see that Anita?

Anita: Yes Daisy.

Daisy: Good work.

Anita: Very good work.

Daisy: Now let's go and tell all the others.

D & A: (Titter maliciously)

Anita: And now Ted can tell everyone it's true.

Daisy: Serves them right... Miss goody-goody and Miss stuck-up.... Soon no one will talk to them.

Anita: No one at all.

D & A: (Giggle maliciously)

Music

**The End**