

**KAZUMI MONTANA**

**Gentle Care Yearly Review  
(Secret Instructions)**

You approach this yearly review with hopefulness, irritation, trepidation. It is your first review at Gentle Care. You wish it were with Testtube who has known you longer, and is a nice old person, but at least it is happening, (finally). You have been working really hard. All the upheaval in the Lab Section dropped a considerable new work load on you, along with your new supervisor, Suzuki. Probably no one has noticed, but you devised a new office filing system, in the wake of the new record-keeping, the new computer system and all the other changes. (You even switched over to the new transliteration system for names, which you used for the first time when your office got some correspondence from Taiwan last week.)

The job is really stressful to you. Your friends are pretty liberal. You'd feel uncomfortable describing to them the drug testing going on. You yourself feel uneasy about the virus testing; who knows how safe your building actually is? You also feel depressed about having less contact now with other secretaries. You and others used to help each other from time to time with extra work loads. But since you were moved to a new office, you've been on your own and it is lonely. Sometimes you feel so alone that you drop by a friend's office on the way back from photocopying.

Suzuki's spouse is also a problem. Since Suzuki is so often away from the office, and you are responsible for making sure Kaoru knows what's going on, you are often expected to call the Suzuki home at night to touch base with your boss. Suzuki's spouse, (who is always the one who answers the phone), makes you feel as if your calls were extremely unwelcome. You wonder if Suzuki knows how awful it is for someone who has to phone in. In fact this is a really miserable part of your job. You are thinking seriously of quitting just to escape the really unpleasant phone calls you have to make to the Suzuki home. You've begun looking at other jobs and are thinking about going back to school. What about going back to school to study the organ? (The worse the job gets, the more you are thinking of other possibilities.) The stress of the job is also a particular trial to you because you quit smoking on January 1. You hate cigarettes, although you loved to smoke, you sensed Suzuki doesn't like smoking; the whole subject makes you angry. (It will make you especially angry if the job itself drives you back to smoking!)

All in all, you wish this review would go well. But you feel angry and grouchy, as well as hopeful and curious. The lab technicians are often incredibly boorish, (their "humor" in the labs carries over to the halls and lunch room), there is no longer a group of secretaries to work with unless you sneak out to other offices.... Will Suzuki recognize how hard you've been working? What kind of recommendation will Suzuki make, for your raise?

**Kazumi: You may make up any details you need that are consistent with the facts you are given. Be alert to the possibility that Kaoru Suzuki may not be very observant about you or about what you do. You may pursue any realistic plan with Kaoru.**