Today I'm cheerful; it's a good day because this debate seems to be slowly coming to an end.

After reading Xorpaw's latest reply, I felt we were reaching a middle ground, because he made a complete retreat from his original thesis after admitting that:

- Ichinose acted under uncertainty.
- The narrator never confirms the purpose of her sexual admission as a weapon.

In other words, there was no definite plan in her mind, just an improvisation based on inside information, contrary to what he tries to claim. Now his argument depends on rewriting the novel's syntax and projecting future intentions backward. For example, in his new reply:

<u>BEFORE:</u>

Considering how Honami had no reason to suspect Ichika is not a normal kouhai (or accurately, anymore suspicious than the other kouhais) before this scene and she began to lead the conversation to the topic of the White Room after Ichika began to prod, Honami had to formulate her gambit regarding the White Room extremely quickly - roughly when she sensed Ichika's malicious intent early on as she expected Ichika dropping her mask to call her out on getting "carried away".

This includes Honami figuring out Ichika looked down on her and how she could take advantage of her habit to gloat about knowing secrets "outsiders" did not to tease them. Ichika liked her position of power with regards to knowing what the others didn't, so it was improbable she would record the exchange and spread it to everyone else. Honami also figured Ichika did not know about what happened during the UIE with Tokinari as otherwise the bluff would not be effective, hence she must have figured Kiyo kept a lot of things from her as well, further evincing Honami knew Ichika lacked actual evidence of the two sleeping together.

Furthermore, considering these attributes and the fact Honami knows as well as anyone how dangerous knowing about the White Room is, given she almost died for overhearing Shiba and Tokinari talk about it, Honami had to believe whatever relations Ichika has with the White Room... she's not allied with people like *them*.

<Will be Revised> Honami may have used this line of inferences (without the "I"):

- Ichika approached Honami out of the blue, they were barely on speaking terms throughout Ichika's first year in ANHS.
- A malice could be sensed from Ichika's behavior, despite acting all cutesy.
- The kouhais and all the personnels introduced to ANHS after Kiyo joined the school are suspicious because of what happened with Tokinari & Shiba during the Uninhabited Island Exam. Certainly, a few people related to this "White Room" were enrolled or hired because of Kiyo, so they would know things that other people wouldn't about his past. It's very unlikely Kiyotaka would drop his guard around them, however, so they know much less of his circumstances and the relations he built during his time in ANHS.
- Despite the likelihood Ichika is involved with the White Room, there is no evidence she actually wants to expel Kiyotaka. Nothing indicates that she ever tried to at least, one year into her time in ANHS. Meanwhile, Takuya was expelled under mysterious circumstances during the cultural festival.

She is a teenager after all and a very intelligent one based on her OAAs, so it's possible that while Tokinari, Shiba and possibly Takuya were dedicated to their mission to eliminate Kiyotaka (the former was not but Honami has no way of knowing this with certainty) Ichika may have her own agendas & dreams - as in, she isn't interested in expelling Kiyotaka like the others.

- On this note, she keeps bringing up romantic topics about Kiyotaka, when there were rumors about Honami and Kiyotaka dating. Ichika brought that up as well, so she seems to be prodding around their circumstances, doing some information gathering. This indicates Ichika does have some insight on Kiyotaka but doesn't actually have the full picture at all.
- Regardless, Hona's concealment throughout the second half of the second year to conceal her change from nearly the entirety of the school must be working on her as well. After all, Ichika thinks her cutesy act is working. It is likely Ichika looks down on Honami and thinks she's superior; the latter is seen as naive, is the leader of a class that fell from B to D, etc. Perhaps more importantly, Honami doesn't know Kiyotaka's past like Ichika might.

This was a supposition of Hona's thought process before Ichika asked her about "getting carried away", from a third person's point of view.

Conclusion: Ichika isn't a concern; the potential links to this "White Room" might even be useful. As she is trying to perturb Honami with the topic of romance to gather information and potentially even mess with her, she's bound to drop the cutesy act at any time since she doesn't think Honami is unto her.

NOW:

by that "advanced point in the conversation", honami had already anticipated ichika dropping her mask the way she did and detected her malice. this is simply a fact, meaning hona already had some accurate ideas of ichika's personality - someone honami had very few off-screen contacts with prior to this exchange.

of course, honami didn't have to know everything about ichika along with each and every single thoughts she had her whole life. honami needed to know *enough* about ichika to decide on how to handle this situation and try to set up her trap. this is what psychological profiling is about at least in SCD terms - the ability of constructing a description and analysis of an individual to determine their thoughts and behavior from indirect and/or limited pool of information, as comprehensively and accurate as possible

In his original document, Xorpaw claimed that Ichinose profiled Ichika by deducing her link to the White Room, her disassociation from Tsukishiro and Shiba after Yagami's expulsion, her own ambitions, and that she wouldn't record the chat out of ego. Now that the literal text shows that at an advanced point in the chat Ichika's true intention was still not clear to Ichinose (*"even if the true intention of the claim wasn't clear*"), he arbitrarily lowers his standard to *"honami needed to know *enough* about ichika to decide on how to handle this situation"*.

"I see. Hmm, that's certainly true."

Keeping up a smile until the very end and being kind was easy, but even if the true intention of the claim wasn't clear, she decided it was better to face it head-on without running away.

This is a great step forward. Before continuing, let's refute what he said in the first underlined passage. Xorpaw presents as a "fact" (*"this is simply a fact"*) that Ichinose anticipated Ichika's mask drop, but the only quote in the entire volume that talks about anticipation belongs to Ichika's subjective analysis, not to the narrator: *"It was unlikely that Ichinose could've anticipated such a question beforehand, but if Ichinose really hadn't, she appeared too calm—that was how Amasawa analyzed the situation"*.

However, Ichinose didn't show any change in her demeanor.

"If it seemed that way, I'm sorry. I didn't intend that at all…"

It was unlikely that Ichinose could've anticipated such a question beforehand, but if Ichinose really hadn't, she appeared too calm—that was how Amasawa analyzed the situation.

That Ichinose kept a poker face led Ichika to speculate that perhaps he expected it, which does not turn a character's assumption into an objective feat of precognition and if you even want to consider it as a sign of his feat, something that I can agree with, it would not be one of predicting the fall of Ichika's mask because the topic of the conversation that Ichinose was guided by was going to that, something I will explain later with Ichika's control of the majority of the conversation

I also want to take the opportunity to talk about his reply to my Ch. 6:

> unfortunately, OP's case mix up different lines from different times. ichika's thought regarding anticipation was to ichika dropping the mask with the "are you getting carried away" line. the line from the narrator about honami being "puzzled" was to ichika confessing her love for kiyo than downplaying this confession to "as a senpai".
> how egregious of a screwup was this by OP?
> there are not one, not two, but eight lines of dialogues spoken by either hona or ichika between the narrator saying honami was puzzled and ichika throwing her "carried away" remark. i'm not even including the narration in-between their dialogue

At no point was it claimed that both lines occurred in the same paragraph; it was explicitly specified *“moments earlier”*. The reason for quoting those 8 preceding lines is to demonstrate the real progression confirmed by canon:

1. first Ichinose is puzzled
2. Then she notices that Ichika is probing the situation (*“she was clearly feeling around the circumstances and probing into them”*),
3. Finally she decides not to run from the direct accusation despite not being clear on Ichika’s intention.

Let’s pause here for a moment. The original argument was that Ichinose had anticipated what Amasawa was going to say from the very beginning—leading to the conclusion that she was controlling the conversation, even to the point of gathering information about Kiyotaka, or that she was doing more than just reacting to Amasawa’s attempts to provoke her.

However, it becomes clear here that Ichinose only grasps Amasawa’s intentions once the latter persists with the subject, not from the start.

Xorpaw invents a temporal confusion to evade the fact that his only “proof” of anticipation is an internal conjecture by Ichika. An Ichika who, up to that point, had been in control of the conversation. Here I send it again:

"Oh, I mean I like him as a senpai, not that there are any romantic feelings~"

"I see."

However, Ichinose continued to face Amasawa with a smile, without changing her expression.

But why did Amasawa suddenly bring up Ayanokouji's name and make such suggestive remarks?

This was a topic that rarely came up in their relationship up until that point, so Ichinose was puzzled.

Amasawa sharpened her gaze in response to the slight change in emotion Ichinose showed.

"I was just kidding~ Actually, I really do love him in that way."

She stopped using roundabout expressions and said it outright.

"Could you perhaps want me to help you with something…?"

A confession of love for a senpai.

If that was what Amasawa wanted help with from Ichinose, it'd make sense.

Ichinose thought as much, but Amasawa immediately shook her head to deny it.

"I definitely don't have the courage to confess, but I do feel a bit jealous

"I definitely don't have the courage to confess, but I do feel a bit jealous
when I see Ichinose-senpai getting along so well with Ayanokouji-senpai. Maybe there's something going on between you two…?"

"Me? I'm not in that kind of relationship with Ayanokouji-kun."

Ichinose calmly denied it, but Amasawa grew more suspicious.

"Really? Senpai, you're so cute, I really thought that I wouldn't stand a chance if you were my rival."

"It's true, so don't worry."

Despite Amasawa's exaggerated crying face, Ichinose responded seriously.

"You're not… lying, are you? Ichinose-senpai, you wouldn't lie to me, right?"

"Of course, I wouldn't lie. Though, if that's the case, going to the gym might be a good idea. It could be your chance to get closer to Ayanokouji-kun."

Ichinose had been maintaining her mature front throughout. However, on the inside, as Amasawa kept bringing up romantic topics involving Ayanokouji, she sensed a different image from her than before.

She was clearly feeling around the circumstances and probing into them.

Keeping up the act, Amasawa nodded happily and moved closer to Ichinose.

At the point where he tries to refute my page 2 in Bulletpoint #1, he shoots himself in the foot again.

> bulletpoint #1 is a mix of nonsense and nothing
> as i said in the rebunk you tried to debunk (page 6 of https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XIam2e6Uaw0MkRpLlVcNGQNmlVjZz3X8KJN0FziQGT0/edit?tab=t.0) i never said "from the beginning", i said "from early on" because the narrator said it like that (in all the english translations i've seen at least). honami read ichika's "ill intent" from early on in their conversation because the story said so
> the part about being unrelated to tokinari and shiba should go without saying; hona wouldn't say white room as an outsider if she thought ichika was working with 2 people who threatened to kill her for hearing too much about that topic
> honami didn't sacrifice her reputation, because the rest of Y3V1 along with every subsequent volumes as of y3v5 show she suffered 0 damage to her reputation and is still the same school idol she has always been. that being the case, we can assume honami figured ichika wouldn't talk about that sort of thing to random people
>
> "uncertainty" here really just mean honami thought there was a possibility of an error in her assessment of someone she chatted with only an handful of times beforehand who suddenly approached her. you're making a mountain out of a molehill

By admitting that Ichinose would never have pronounced “White Room” had she associated it with the death threats from Shiba and Tsukishiro, Xorpaw confirms exactly why the novel reveals Ichinose’s true thought at the end of the scene: *“Directly translated as ‘white room,’ it could be the name of a high-level cram school or something akin to a nickname, she had imagined...*”. Ichinose threw out the term without fear because she believed it was a high-level prep academy or a simple nickname, not a deadly clandestine facility, shattering the supposed risk assessment attributed to her in his document.

Finally, Honami tells Ichika that Kiyotaka told her about the White Room. Ichika was shocked; after all, the existence of the White Room is top secret confidential information and in Y2V12.5 it is implied in Kiyotaka's monologue that he and the other White Room students were brainwashed into not revealing anything about it to outsiders and he & Ichika were no exception. So naturally, Ichika had a hard time accepting Honami's claim, but there was no explanation as to how Honami would know about the White Room and Honami admitting that she and Kiyotaka slept together and a part of her strategy to make Kiyotaka fall for her gave a lot of credibility to the earlier claim that she would not lie.

When questioned by Ichika what and how much she knew of the WR, Hona kept her answers vague. Hona made sure, however, to say "I can't tell you that", which suggests Kiyo might have told her to not say too much. Earlier during the scene but not long before dropping the "White Room" bomb, Honami looked around to "scan her surroundings". The narrator stated that it was the first time during the conversation Honami took her eyes off Ichika. This is in spite of the fact Honami admitted earlier to having slept with Kiyo, which is, again, definitely something Honami did not want others to know about. Hona also described to Ichika a part of the strategy to make Kiyotaka fall for her, which is also something she doesn't want the average person to know.

The discussion between Honami and Ichika took place around lunch hours in the Keyaki Mall, meaning it was quite crowded. Meaning, it's highly improbable Hona wasn't already conscious of the surroundings, but Ichika clearly looked down on her so it's doubtful she realized that. In essence, looking around before bringing up the White Room communicates to Ichika, who looked down on Honami, that she understood the seriousness of the White Room as a confidential matter.

Regardless, Hona had to leave as soon as possible before Ichika could figure out she was lying. Conveniently, it was lunch hours so Honami's excuse that she had to meet some friends for lunch was believable: Ichika approached her at around ~12:00(+) and Honami had to meet her friends at 12:30.

(Bluffing, Risk Competence, Communication)

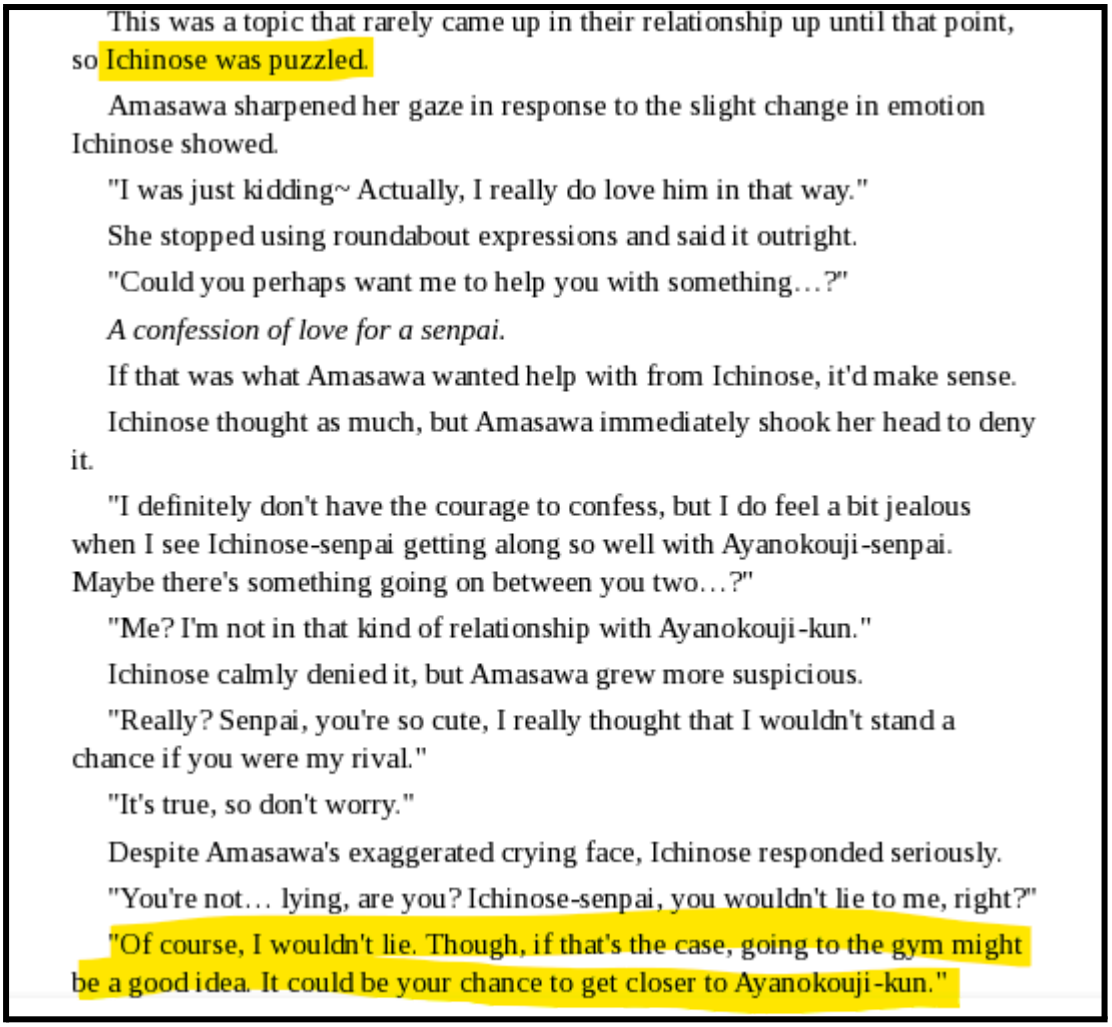
Arguing that Ichinose didn't sacrifice her reputation because in later volumes (Y3V2–Y3V5) there were no consequences confuses ex-ante risk with ex-post outcome. We are talking about the present moment. At the time of the chat, Ichinose had no guarantee whatsoever that Ichika wasn't recording, or that she wouldn't spread the word that the class leader had had sexual relations with Kiyotaka (violating school rules). Sure, you can say this is an interpretation, that there was no real risk because of Amasawa's "ego," but the main point I want to reach is that if she took on no real risk or sacrifice, then Xorpaw's own central thesis collapses—that it was a calculated sacrifice, which in earlier docs he defended as a way to gain credibility.

Xorpaw again commits the same continuity errors and a denial of canon syntax when he refutes my Page 2 & Page 7–8.

as for bulletpoint #2, "step 2" is a re-write of OP's own screenshot. "[hona] decided it was better to face [the sex allegation] head-on" is what's said by the narrator in OP's screenshot. it explains exactly as much as it did regarding honami's admission and no more than that, such as *why* she made that decision. it's in no way shape or form a line intended to separate the next actions by honami to the ones that preceded them. basically, this "inconsistency" is a fabrication by OP

The direct denial is found here: the exact sequence in Y3V1 Ch. 4 Part 2 establishes two opposing stances by means of the conjunction “but”:

1. First, despite noticing ill intent early on, *“as a senpai and—albeit presumptuously—as a friend, she tried to maneuver without hurting her”* (kindly suggesting that she join the gym in order to get close to Kiyotaka).



This was a topic that rarely came up in their relationship up until that point, so Ichinose was puzzled.

Amasawa sharpened her gaze in response to the slight change in emotion Ichinose showed.

"I was just kidding~ Actually, I really do love him in that way."

She stopped using roundabout expressions and said it outright.

"Could you perhaps want me to help you with something…?"

A confession of love for a senpai.

If that was what Amasawa wanted help with from Ichinose, it'd make sense.

Ichinose thought as much, but Amasawa immediately shook her head to deny it.

"I definitely don't have the courage to confess, but I do feel a bit jealous when I see Ichinose-senpai getting along so well with Ayanokouji-senpai. Maybe there's something going on between you two…?"

"Me? I'm not in that kind of relationship with Ayanokouji-kun."

Ichinose calmly denied it, but Amasawa grew more suspicious.

"Really? Senpai, you're so cute, I really thought that I wouldn't stand a chance if you were my rival."

"It's true, so don't worry."

Despite Amasawa's exaggerated crying face, Ichinose responded seriously.

"You're not… lying, are you? Ichinose-senpai, you wouldn't lie to me, right?"

"Of course, I wouldn't lie. Though, if that's the case, going to the gym might be a good idea. It could be your chance to get closer to Ayanokouji-kun."

"Does that have anything to do with me getting carried away?"

"Huh…? You're not denying it? I'm genuinely surprised."

"It was you who asked me not to lie, Amasawa-san."

From early on, Ichinose had already realized that Amasawa was speaking with ill intent, but as a senpai and—albeit presumptuously—as a friend, she tried to maneuver without hurting her.

2. Second, after being cornered with the direct accusation of sex, *"Keeping up a smile until the very end and being kind was easy, but even if the true intention of the claim wasn't clear, she decided it was better to face it head-on without running away"*.

From early on, Ichinose had already realized that Amasawa was speaking with ill intent, but as a senpai and—albeit presumptuously—as a friend, she tried to maneuver without hurting her.

"I see. Hmm, that's certainly true."

Keeping up a smile until the very end and being kind was easy, but even if the true intention of the claim wasn't clear, she decided it was better to face it head-on without running away.

I don't think I need to say that contrasting a kind/evasive stance with the explicit decision to abandon that easy path in order to confront the accusation head-on is the literal definition of a change of stance. This complements what was previously stated regarding the fact that Ichinose only grasps Amasawa's intentions when the latter insists on the matter.

And in his refutation of page 7 & 8:

before OP tries to argue that lying about kiyo telling her about the WR is different; this lie distorts the nature of honami's relationship with kiyotaka from ichika's point of view and was spoken as a response to ichika doubting honami's "bond" with kiyo, just like hona lying about sleeping with or dating him would, perhaps even moreso given that it is *kiyotaka* we're speaking of here. i'll also mention to support this further that the narrator didn't directly explain why honami chose of her own will to "face [ichika's sex allegations] head-on without running away" instead of taking the "easy" route. in fact, the narrator *never* directly explains why honami admitted this easily. this is important because it proves the readers have to think about the reason themselves. the aforementioned clue/contradiction about "not lying" and the scene clearly presenting honami as winning the mind game against ichika means that it makes much more sense to think honami chose to not deny the sex allegations to set up the WR bluff

Xorpaw admits that the narrator never says Ichinose admitted to the sex in order to set up a bluff about the White Room, but demands that we assume it by inference. That inference is canonically impossible.

Why?

In the very sentence in which she decides not to deny having slept with Kiyotaka, the narrator clarifies that Ichika's true intention was still not clear to her (*"even if the true intention of the claim wasn't clear"*), and it is not until pages later—upon hearing her boast of knowing Kiyotaka better than anyone—that Ichinose deduces a possible connection to the White Room.

> "I see. Hmm, that's certainly true."
>
> Keeping up a smile until the very end and being kind was easy, but even if the true intention of the claim wasn't clear, she decided it was better to face it head-on without running away.

This is not something I invent; it is something the novel states explicitly. There is no valid interpretation here, because it is being said directly by a neutral narrator:

> "That can't be. But… Ayanokouji-senpai… would he really...?"
>
> Inside, Ichinose was smiling.
>
> She only knew the term 'White Room' from overhearing it during the deserted island exam during her second year. Ayanokouji had denied knowing about it, and even now, he hadn't told Ichinose anything regarding the truth. However, from Amasawa's attitude suggesting that she knew something about Ayanokouji that others didn't, she deduced that there was a possible connection to the White Room. If Amasawa was unrelated to the term White Room, then that in itself was an advantage for Ichinose, proving she knew Ayanokouji better; thus, the truth didn't matter either way.

"from Amasawa's attitude suggesting that she knew something about Ayanokouji that others didn't"

When did this happen? When Amasawa talked about knowing Koji better? When nothing was clear to Ichinose yet??

> "You're saying you're that special cake, but you're dangerously full of yourself. Do you really think it'll go that smoothly? The person in question is Ayanokouji-senpai, after all. If you're thinking he's some ordinary guy, then your thinking is even sweeter than cake."
>
> "You seem to know a lot about Ayanokouji-kun."
>
> "Yeah, well, probably even more than you Ichinose-senpai, yeah? He's the type to keep a lot of secrets, you know?"
>
> For the first time since their conversation started, Ichinose looked away from Amasawa and surveyed her surroundings.

The novel itself stresses that from that point on. For the first time, Ichinose gets worried, scanning her surroundings.

You cannot fabricate credibility for a lie whose premise does not yet exist in the character's mind.

By the way, another piece of evidence that Ichinose was merely reacting to Ichika's flow.

Now let's talk about the boast of the "strong bond," the parallel with Kei and Ichika's mockery, as he tries to refute Page 3, Page 9, Page 13 & Page 14–16

> **page 3:**
>
> bulletpoint #3 begins with what OP wrote in #2, so it's already off to a rocky start. even if that's left aside, the first sentence is still flat out incorrect. what actually happened immediately after this was ichika telling honami's admission was a contradiction to her denying they were dating, that's why honami said she and kiyo have a "strong bond". the way she speaks doesn't appear to come across as a boast. ichika does laugh in her reaction to honami's "strong bond" line but nowhere is it implied to be a product of anything beyond hona seemingly thinking that she had a "strong bond" with kiyo
> scan: https://imgur.com/a/vAfmDvs
> the rest of bulletpoint #3 is either not something meant to be replied to or already refuted in my previous rebunk, so i won't repeat myself

In his refutation of page 3, Xorpaw states regarding Ichinose that *"the way she speaks doesn't appear to come across as a boast"* As if she were the one steering the conversation toward who knew more about Kiyotaka's secrets, but the text shows that it was Ichika who controlled the flow throughout the entire exchange; look:

1. Ichika brought up the gym topic:

Amasawa approached with an innocent smile, and Ichinose responded in kind.

"Did you go to the gym today?"

Amasawa looked up at the gym on the second floor and asked Ichinose without much of a greeting.

"Yeah, just for about an hour though."

"Maybe I should join too~ Lately, my body feels so sluggish."

"Really? If you're interested, why not try it out or come for a visit? We can go together if you want."

"But I tend to spend a lot of money, so the monthly expense is kind of painful."

"There are programs that can help keep the costs down, you know?"

"Really? Oh, by the way, Ayanokouji-senpai goes to the gym too, right?"

Amasawa suddenly mentioned Ayanokouji's name with sparkling eyes.

2. She pretended to confess her love:

"I was just kidding~ Actually, I really do love him in that way."

She stopped using roundabout expressions and said it outright.

"Could you perhaps want me to help you with something…?"

A confession of love for a senpai.

If that was what Amasawa wanted help with from Ichinose, it'd make sense.

Ichinose thought as much, but Amasawa immediately shook her head to deny it.

"I definitely don't have the courage to confess, but I do feel a bit jealous when I see Ichinose-senpai getting along so well with Ayanokouji-senpai. Maybe there's something going on between you two…?"

"Me? I'm not in that kind of relationship with Ayanokouji-kun."

Ichinose calmly denied it, but Amasawa grew more suspicious.

"Really? Senpai, you're so cute, I really thought that I wouldn't stand a chance if you were my rival."

3. She launched the sexual accusation. It even literally says: "*'I wouldn't lie'—right after securing such a statement from Ichinose, Amasawa threw in the bomb she'd prepared*."

"I'm pretty sharp, you know. I thought it'd be tactless to ask directly, but Ichinose-senpai, there's something between you and Ayanokouji-senpai, isn't there?"

"Something? There's really nothing… You really seem to worry about this stuff when it comes to Ayanokouji-kun, don't you?"

"I told you, I love Senpai. That's why I can understand certain things. Aren't you getting a bit too carried away, Ichinose-senpai?"

"Carried away?"

Leaving Ichinose's response aside, Amasawa continued the conversation alone.

"After all… you've slept with Ayanokouji-senpai, right?"

'I wouldn't lie'—right after securing such a statement from Ichinose, Amasawa threw in the bomb she'd prepared.

4. She also pointed out the contradiction with the relationship

"So, you admit that you slept with him?"

Without voicing her answer, Ichinose smiled back as a response.

"So, you were lying to me even though you guys are dating."

"I'm not dating Ayanokouji-kun."

"Eh? But isn't that contradictory? You mean to say you slept with him even though you're not in that kind of relationship?"

"Ayanokouji-kun and I are bound by a strong bond. That's all there is to it, I suppose."

"S-Strong bond… pfft, kihahaha."

I can only accept that at the end Ichinose was the one who introduced the topic of secrets and then the WR (the privileged information she had). But she was led throughout the whole conversation and was always the one who responded reactively to each provocation.

Now moving on to the refutation of my page 9:

page 9:

ichika wasn't laughing because honami was "making things up", ichika was laughing because she believed the things honami had with kiyotaka aren't as meaningful as she thought honami believed them to be, in terms of judging the strength of her relationship with kiyotaka. it's not like honami was the one to bring up the sex, ichika did. ichika can't accuse honami of "making up" something she would've invented herself. the rest of your argument falls apart because your conclusion was built upon this misread

When Ichinose answers *"Ayanokouji-kun and I are bound by a strong bond"* and develops the cake analogy about how she makes him wait to increase his desire, Ichika bursts out laughing precisely because she considers that Ichinose is fantasizing and overestimating her

influence over Kiyotaka (*“You’re saying you’re that special cake, but you’re dangerously full of yourself”*, *“To think that sleeping with Ayanokouji-senpai makes you feel like you know everything, that’s just adorable~”*, *“Don’t joke around, Ichinose-senpai”*). That confirms that if Ichika hadn’t been from the White Room, she would have treated the words “White Room” as just another delusional invention of her senpai, lowering the effectiveness of her “contingency plan.”

> But beneath that smile, Amasawa felt she’d caught a glimpse of Ichinose’s true nature.
>
> "You're saying you're that special cake, but you're dangerously full of yourself. Do you really think it'll go that smoothly? The person in question is Ayanokouji-senpai, after all. If you're thinking he's some ordinary guy, then your thinking is even sweeter than cake."

However, this doesn’t matter as much as the following, which practically denies Ichinose’s growth as a character.

> **page 14-16:**
>
> you're trying to associate two wholly different things and completely disregard context between kei and honami. for one, the emotion was born during the conversation which means it's not the reason honami approached and began the conversation in the first place. two, honami reassuring kei that anything "too deep to share" that may have happened between her and kiyo took place after kei and kiyo broke up, is nothing that could be interpretated as a manifestation of this "dark emotion" that had just been born. three, "protecting her image" wasn't about people listening, the goal was to make sure kei didn't think of sullying honami's image by suspecting (the truth) she was already trying to push her limits before the break up. that's the point of the reassurance, which is shown to be successful based on kei's words in both y3v3 to suzune (telling her that honami and kiyo got closer *after* the breakup) and y3v5 to honami (she didn't suspect the selfless love bs until the hiyori thing happened). if honami acted on that new dark emotion at any point during that conversation, it was when she pointed at kiyo from afar and told kei he was waiting for *her*; that really accomplished little or nothing beyond making kei sadder
>
> denying that isn't denying her development, if anything it's the opposite. honami on at least two occasions (not dropping kei from nominations in y2v10 despite wanting her to disappear and not showing any negative emotions to kiyo that he could see in y3v5) has demonstrated she can reign current dark emotions when it's in her best interest long term. if anything, hona's actions used to be less effective due to her emotions but this has completely flipped after learning to both suppress & weaponize them to accomplish objectives and be a more "calculating person"

Maintaining that telling Kei—right after a “flicker of malice” was born in Ichinose upon noticing Kei’s relief, after cruelly questioning her breakup, confessing to her that she likes Kiyotaka, denying her help and pointing out that Kiyotaka is waiting for Ichinose on the bench: *“Even if there were some important events or some deep connection between me and Ayanokouji-kun, something that we can’t tell others, by that day, by that time, it was already after he had said goodbye to you, Karuizawa-san”* was a gesture to “reassure Kei” defies all logic.

"He's waiting to meet with me at this time."

Unable to respond, Karuizawa could only lower her gaze even further.

"And there's one more thing I want to say. Even if there were some important events or some deep connection between me and Ayanokouji-kun, something that we can't tell others, by that day, by that time, it was already after he had said goodbye to you, Karuizawa-san. There's nothing that would cause any trouble between us. Yeah, so we can continue being friends—there's no problem with that, right?"

Having said everything, Ichinose walked away and called out to Ayanokouji.

Ayanokouji put away his phone, stood up, and started walking beside Ichinose.

He must have noticed Karuizawa standing still behind him for a moment, but that was all.

He neither turned his eyes toward her nor did he change his expression.

Ichinose's face, looking at Ayanokouji, was filled with happiness.

Karuizawa felt something rising from the pit of her stomach and stepped off the school path, hiding herself in the bushes.

Unseen by anyone.

If she had wanted to reassure her or protect her image, she would have maintained her initial denial. Introducing an intimate post-breakup secret before leaving with him confirms exactly the same territorial and possessive pattern that Ichinose displayed toward Ichika. Trying to deny that Ichinose is possessive with Kiyotaka, something that is practically part of her character, a flaw that is part of her great change, is simply very sad.

Now let's move on to the refutation of Page 5 & Page 11 and the supposed feat of the sensory radar.

page 5:

one, it's not a simple jealousy argument, she was aiming to know more about kiyo. that's not up for debate - the narrator states her feelings as she got to know more about kiyo, even if she would've been fine with ichika not knowing something she did, however little it may be

scan: https://imgur.com/a/qWYn6mH

two, it's not "suicidal recklessness" when she knew nobody in this "crowded mall" was listening to their conversation

page 11:

bulletpoint #1 did absolutely nothing for OP. i've said honami knew nothing about the WR beside how to spell it except that it's definitely something of a confidential matter and nothing here refute this. the last line if bulletpoint #1 essentially explains why OP's argument in bulletpoint #3 is no good

bulletpoint #2: well, maybe it's an invention or exaggeration (although i don't recall talking about its scale), but honami having typical COTE high end sensory skills has backing in canon. for example, there's her performance in y2v12 exam which she herself attributed to "always observing everyone" (do note that many other characters with high social skills and/or knowledge on other students participated in this exam and none of them fared anywhere near as well, most notably yosuke). honami makes multiple comments throughout the series about observing slight behavior changes she noticed from other people around her even when they're surrounded by many other people (off the top of my head there's y1v4, y1v8, y2v9.5, y2v10, etc). it's not a stretch to assume she's at least not too far from say, tsubasa or even asuka level in sensory which iirc would be enough for what i was suggesting; someone (not even knowing the specific person like koenji, tokinari or kiyo) was nearby or approaching too close for comfort

bulletpoint #3: yes, honami had no need to stop and look around on its own. she simply communicated to ichika that she understood the seriousness of the confidentiality of the subject matter that way before actually dropping the bluff

There is a vast difference between what happened in Y2V12 and what is being discussed in this feat. Observing the social habits and micro-expressions of your classmates for two years is observation, and perhaps psychological, but it will never be an omnidirectional physical radar capable of detecting whether someone is listening to your words from behind in a packed Keyaki Mall at lunchtime ("*Keyaki Mall was overflowing with students at lunchtime*"). Equating Ichinose with Nanase or trained agents—training that Ichinose does not have—is like saying Ichinose has the same strength just because. In other words, it lacks any backing in canon.

> IT WAS PAST noon, and Keyaki Mall was overflowing with students at lunchtime.
>
> After parting ways with Ayanokouji in front of the gym, Ichinose, who descended to the first floor alone via the escalator, had plans to have lunch with classmates at 12:30.

And here is the greatest proof that Ichinose does NOT have supersenses like other COTE characters:

"You seem to know a lot about Ayanokouji-kun."

"Yeah, well, probably even more than you Ichinose-senpai, yeah? He's the type to keep a lot of secrets, you know?"

For the first time since their conversation started, Ichinose looked away from Amasawa and surveyed her surroundings.

Then, she returned her unchanged gaze to Amasawa.

"There are no more secrets between me and Ayanokouji-kun."

The narrator explicitly points out: *"For the first time since their conversation started, Ichinose looked away from Amasawa and surveyed her surroundings"*. If Ichinose had possessed a passive sensory radar guaranteeing that nobody was listening, she would have had no need whatsoever to look away from Ichika for the first time right before stating *"There are no more secrets between me and Ayanokouji-kun"*. Doing so at that exact point is simple theatrical common sense to lend plausibility to the lie she was about to drop, whereas admitting minutes earlier, without looking around, that she slept with Kiyotaka shows that she was not executing any kind of complex strategy.

What happened here is simply a denial of reality when he refutes Page 13–14

page 13:

uh, what? of course honami mentioned the "strong bond" as a response to ichika thinking there was a contradiction. you're the one who tried to claim on page 2 that honami was actually boasting... can you be like, more consistent with your complaining? either way, it's not an argument. i'm saying that honami was leading the conversation to arrive at a specific topic (who knows kiyo and his secrets more?) - to that end, ichika talking about how honami was contradicting herself with the sleeping/dating stuff as well as her strong reaction to the "strong bond" reply were both predictable... this is all explained in the analysis you're "debunking"... can you not take the time to read what you're debunking!?
next argument from page 13 - early 14: the problem with what you're trying to argue is that honami said the words "white room" to kiyo in y2v8 and his reaction was fairly muted. of course he inferred this had something to do with her encounter with tokinari and shiba in y2v3, but ichika herself could've guessed about the fact honami approached kiyo alone in y2v4 due to the GPS signals right before when she knew kiyo was about to confront tokinari. unlike suzune, ichika had no reason to suspect takuya had something to do with honami's bizarre movements. basically, honami had reasons to think saying "white room" wouldn't trigger a big reaction from ichika, as it didn't for kiyo, and ichika had a reason to suspect honami somehow knew more than she let on well before the start of this conversation

Neither in Y3V1 nor in any other volume does Ichika link Ichinose's GPS in Y2V4 with the White Room. No such evidence exists. On the contrary, Ichika's internal monologue in this scene proves that she was 100% convinced that Kiyotaka would never have talked about the White Room with an outside student (*"Ayanokouji-senpai would never talk about that to an*

outsider”, *“discussing the White Room with unrelated students while seeking a normal school life was 100% unlikely, Amasawa was convinced of that”*).

> Amasawa, who had been gleefully smiling from a supposedly superior position until now, momentarily stiffened.
>
> However, she quickly relaxed and resumed her composure.
>
> "Don't joke around, Ichinose-senpai. Ayanokouji-senpai would never talk about that to an outsider."
>
> "Maybe so."
>
> Unless put in a dire situation, Amasawa's heartbeat wouldn't falter.
>
> However, it was a different story if a word that absolutely couldn't have been said on a whim were to come up.
>
> "Hold on. Did Ayanokouji-senpai really talk to you about the White Room, Ichinose-senpai?"
>
> That seemed impossible.
>
> Even if it wasn't forbidden, discussing the White Room with unrelated students while seeking a normal school life was 100% unlikely, Amasawa was convinced of that.

If Ichika had suspected *“before the start of this conversation”* that Ichinose knew about the White Room, she would never have been frozen by the impact of hearing an impossible word *(“momentarily stiffened”, “a word that absolutely couldn’t have been said on a whim”*).

Also, mentioning that Kiyotaka—the individual with the greatest emotional suppression in the entire work—maintained a restrained reaction when Ichinose mentioned the White Room to him in Y2V8 does not prove that the term is not a psychological trigger for any other subject of the facility. Not to mention that it was the second time in the work that this was done to him. Once again going back to Y1V5.

> **page 12:**
>
> how in the hell does either of those quotes prove ichika wasn't alert or analytical? her objective for approaching hona being frivolous and disrespectful doesn't disprove any of the examples i provided that ichika's brain was definitely turned on regardless of any underestimation

Again this. Ichika underestimated Ichinose.

1. Ichika pinches her cheek with an ironic, amusedly resigned smile, admitting her overconfidence: *“...Shoot. I’m the one getting carried away here.*”. Xorpaw alleges that “wry smile” does not imply sarcasm but discomfort, but pinching your cheek with a wry smile while saying *“Shoot. I’m the one getting carried away here”* and immediately declaring *“It’s going to be an interesting fight... I need to get serious”*

describes exactly someone who acknowledges having underestimated her rival and gets excited about the new scenario for her senpai.

With that, Ichinose started walking.

"…Shoot. I'm the one getting carried away here."

After a while, Amasawa pinched her own cheek with a wry smile.

It was undoubtedly Ayanokouji who changed Ichinose.

But the change was due to Ichinose's own strength.

"It's going to be an interesting fight for all the third-year senpai. Well, I need to get serious about that side of things too, to make Ayanokouji-senpai happy."

The reason she remained at this school.

To not let that go to waste, and for the sake of her goal, Amasawa began walking again.

2. The narrator clarifies that Ichika only meant to joke with her and realized the joke had been returned to her (*"She'd only intended to tease Ichinose, but it resulted in the opposite effect. Realizing she'd been the one countered and teased instead..."*).

She'd only intended to tease Ichinose, but it resulted in the opposite effect.

Realizing she'd been the one countered and teased instead, she started mumbling to herself.

3. She says *"I'm getting goosebumps. Ayanokouji-senpai has his hands full with more than just an ordinary busty senpai"*, humorously dismisses the idea that Kiyotaka is being dominated (*"Or not. There's no way that'd be the case here"*), positively reassesses Ichinose's own strength and closes with renewed enthusiasm.

"I'm getting goosebumps. Ayanokouji-senpai has his hands full with more than just an ordinary busty senpai."

Amasawa started to walk, but she stopped almost immediately.

"Ayanokouji-senpai is a boy too after all, maybe after getting a taste, he's now been made to wait before getting the next one, and ended up obeying Busty-senpai because of it…? Or not. There's no way that'd be the case here."

Still, she revised her view of Ichinose, whom she hadn't thought highly of at all until then.

It was undoubtedly Ayanokouji who changed Ichinose.

But the change was due to Ichinose's own strength.

"It's going to be an interesting fight for all the third-year senpai. Well, I need to get serious about that side of things too, to make Ayanokouji-senpai happy."

The reason she remained at this school.

To not let that go to waste, and for the sake of her goal, Amasawa began walking again.

Surprising an opponent who started the chat solely to troll out of boredom *("She didn't care about the truth of this question. She just wanted to see Ichinose's agitation"*),

She didn't care about the truth of this question. She just wanted to see Ichinose's agitation.

"Does that have anything to do with me getting carried away?"

With her guard down and cataloguing you as a mere ordinary "busty senpai," by means of a secret keyword obtained by pure chance in Y2V4, is not on par with facing Ichika when she is on active guard. Literally, at the end of the scene, Ichinose leaves, while Ichika perfectly recalibrates Ichinose's level, abandons her underestimation and comes out more focused and motivated than at the start.

Not to mention:

> i have no idea where did OP get this idea of neutralization or dissuading ichika from approaching kiyo. this is genuinely new to me and i've never heard anyone think honami neutralized ichika. she simply gathered information about kiyotaka out of her. i had to double check my own analysis to make sure i never wrote anything of the sort, and i didn't

To conclude, I would like to address those who have used this feat as an excuse or an argument to claim that Ichinose > Amasawa, or as a "win condition" for her. Xorpaw himself states: *"she simply gathered information about Kiyotaka out of her."* Therefore, I hope this is not used in discussions that do not specifically concern the gathering of information.

This reply can be summarized in a few arguments:

- **First, the contradictions with his original document**
    - In his original analysis (the doc), Xorpaw claimed that Ichinose profiled Ichika by deducing her link to the White Room and her disassociation from Tsukishiro and Shiba after Yagami's expulsion. After it was shown that at an advanced point in the conversation Ichika's true intention was still not clear to Ichinose, he arbitrarily lowered his standard to claiming that she "didn't have to know everything" and only needed to know "enough" about her personality.

    - Originally (the doc) he held that Ichinose admitted to having slept with Kiyotaka, taking on an enormous cost to her public image and violating school rules, in order to gain credibility. In his latest reply he claims that *"Honami didn't sacrifice her reputation"* because she suffered no consequences between Y3V1 and Y3V5. If she took on no real sacrifice or risk, his own thesis of the credibility exchange is invalidated.

- **Then there are the arguments based on personal beliefs and overinterpretations without canon evidence**

    - Xorpaw explicitly admits that the narrator never explains that Ichinose admitted to the sex in order to set up a later deception, demanding that it be accepted by inference. However, the chronology of the text makes that impossible.

    - He presents as a "fact" that Ichinose anticipated Ichika's mask drop, when the only mention of such anticipation in the entire novel comes from Ichika's internal speculation ("that was how Amasawa analyzed the situation") upon observing her senpai's calm.

    - He maintains, without any quote, that Ichika could have deduced Ichinose's encounter with Kiyotaka in Y2V4 through GPS signals in order to suspect her before starting the conversation. This assumption lacks backing in the work and contradicts Ichika's canon monologue in Y3V1.

    - He equips Ichinose with Nanase-level or trained-agent spatial perception based on her social observation in the Y2V12 exam, ignoring that a feat of observation is not the same as having 360° vision abilities (observation ≠ perception) and that the narrator explicitly points out that Ichinose looked around for the first time right before talking about secrets.

- **Finally, logical fallacies and reading errors:**

    - He denies that the explicit contrast through the conjunction “but”—between trying to maneuver kindly without hurting Ichika and deciding to abandon that easy path in order to confront the sexual accusation head-on—represents a change of stance in response to a direct provocation.

    - He interprets the mention of an intimate post-breakup secret to Karuizawa Kei (right after a “flicker of malice” arose in Ichinose) as a gesture to reassure her and protect her image, denying the possessive trait that defines her development in the latest arcs.

    - He overlooks the goosebumps on Ichika’s skin—visible alongside her ironic smile and effusive farewell—mistaking them for uneasiness, when in reality they stem from the excitement she feels knowing that Kiyotaka’s plans are proceeding well.