The Peach COBBLER

Vol.3 Issue 6, October 2026



Thank you for joining us at the Welcome Party!

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Happy October! Fall is finally in sight, and with the nicer weather we have some great recommendations to get outside this month.

Starting off, Alexa is continuing her series of visiting our JET towns in Okayama. This time we're looking at Satosho, home to Fujii Kaze and also an amazing bakery. Find the travel guide on page 6.

Our next AJET social will be on the 18th of this month! Join us for a beginner hike and bento lunch on Mt. Ojigatake. Read more on page 15_.

We would also like to highlight an English event hosted by our neighbors in Kagawa. Find more on page 14 and also on the OKAJet Instagram.

Lastly, check out the final installment of Wilson's Bouquet of Unrequited Love Series on page 9.

Stay Peachy!



OKAJet 2026-27

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Teacher's Corner

This month's Teacher's Corner comes to us from me (Elena), a JHS ALT in Yakage!

Happy Spooky Month!

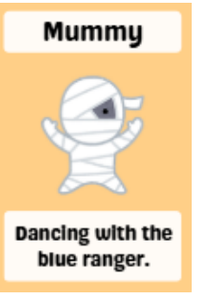
Last year, my JTE decided to go all out and requested a two-part Halloween lesson from me. I was all for it, and my students loved it, so I want to share it here! Depending on how often you see your classes and their English level, this lesson plan will take 1-2 weeks.

For my first lesson, I started with the history of Halloween: the origins of the name, some Halloween vocab, and what festivities look like in America. I used as much English as possible and challenged my students to use context clues to understand the words they didn't know.

With about 25 minutes to spare in a 50 minute lesson, I introduced them to my all time favorite Halloween movie, It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown. Although none of them had seen it before, they all love Snoopy, and with Japanese subtitles it was simple enough for them to follow along and complete a comprehension quiz at the end. I highly recommend, but it does require a subscription to Apple TV, so feel free to replace this with your movie of choice.

For the next lesson, we did a Halloween variation of the alibi game. I set the scene: there's a Halloween party at the junior high school, but when it's time to share treats at the end of the night, the stash of candy has gone missing! I give each of the students a card with a costume and what they were doing at the time of the crime. Each alibi should align with another student's, except for one! The students talk to their classmates and take notes to find the candy thief.





If you have a Halloween lesson coming up, I hope you can find some inspiration here!

Did you have a lesson or game that went well? Submit your stories to okajet.contact@gmail.com.

Pocketbook Travel Guide

Travel Snippets for your Weekends

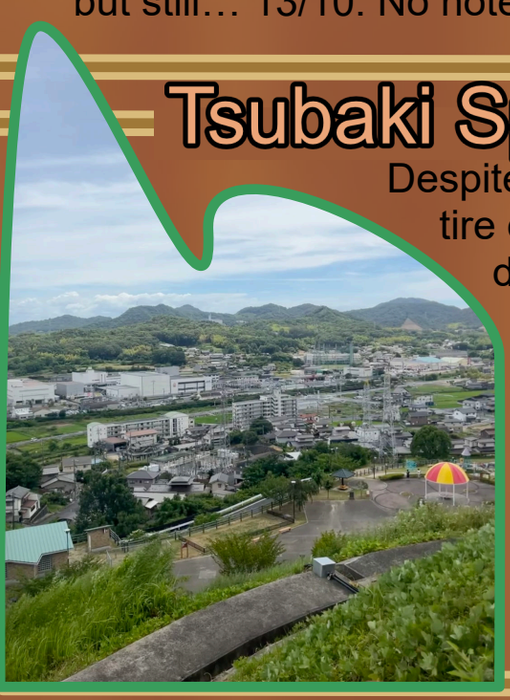
Satosho

SOL Bakery



If any of you follow the Satosho JETS on Instagram (and I recommend you should) you will be highly familiar with this bakery and the instant drooling from the posted photos. Elena and I finally got to satiate that craving, and it's more than safe to say this is a bottomless money pit meant to lure you in with the sheer variety of not only pastries (savory and sweet) but drinks and smells. It was worth every yen spent. One of the best things in our opinions? How fresh and sweet the fruit was. We could taste the difference. There is not a lot of space so you'll be taking your things to go most likely, but still… 13/10. No notes. Everyone should visit.

Tsubaki Sports Park



Despite the sheer number of lookout spots in Japan, we can never tire of them. Tsubaki Hill Sports Park doesn't disappoint. The park doubles as a sports area with a baseball field, some ojichan outdoor workout equipment (although we recommend bringing rubber bands to secure your feet first) and plenty of wide open spaces to bring a blanket and sit, or play some lawn badminton with friends. The park has several super short hikes to a few different lookout points, and you can even see all the way over to Yakage on a clear day! A lovely wide open space for all. Plus, the main building also doubles as a small museum.



Dr. Yoshio Nishina Memorial Museum

If you were a science junkie this place invites you right on in. The museum celebrates the life and contributions of Yoshio Nishina - the father of modern physics in Japan. The hall has journals, photographs and mementos of his life, as well as a few fun interactive science exhibits.



The Fujii Kaze Walk-through



Any true Fujii Kaze fan already knows that he is from Satosho, sooooo what a cool and niche Japanese experience it would be to recreate / follow his footsteps in his music video 旅路 (Journey)! Key stops from the video include:

- Satosho Station and it's pedestrian bridge
- Tsubaki-no-Oka Sports Park (Hey! We mentioned that above…)
- Fine Satosho Supermarket (now closed but still standing)
- The footbridge at Imadatigawa River
- Mitcham - while no longer open you might be able to find the old building. Try not to fanperson too hard outside of it!



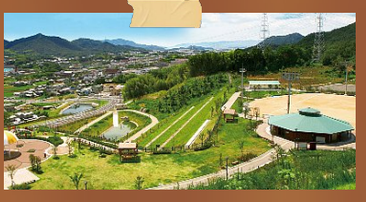












But I Can't Drive!

Satosho is best reached by getting to Okayama Station first. Then, take the Sanyo Line 9 stops to the west. It's that easy!

Satosho is a very bike-able and walk-able town. I'd recommend a slow Saturday or Sunday for a visit so you have time to stroll. Oh, and don't forget to ogle over this vending machine at the station. It's just so cute!



Happy travels everyone

-Alexa

Special thanks to Evan for hosting us in Satosho!

Fall Leaves Viewing Guide

October

Fall colors are on the way! Here are the best viewing spots for the month of October:

Miyama Park, Tamano City



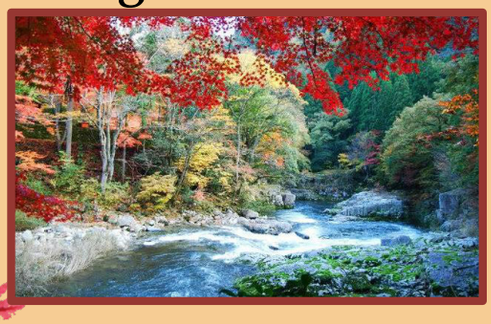
Tanaka Garden, Ibara City



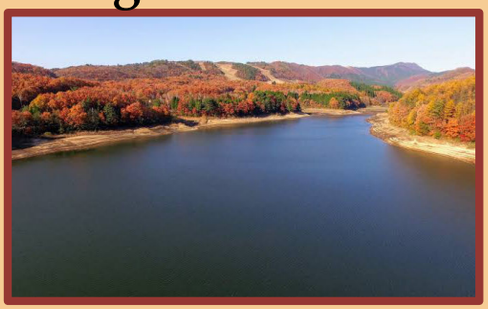
Hiruzen Highlands, Maniwa City



Okutsu Gorge, Kagamino Town



Onbara Plateau, Kagamino Town



Akawase Valley, Kagamino Town



Prefectural Forest Park, Kagamino Town



Kibi Central Park, Kibichuo Town



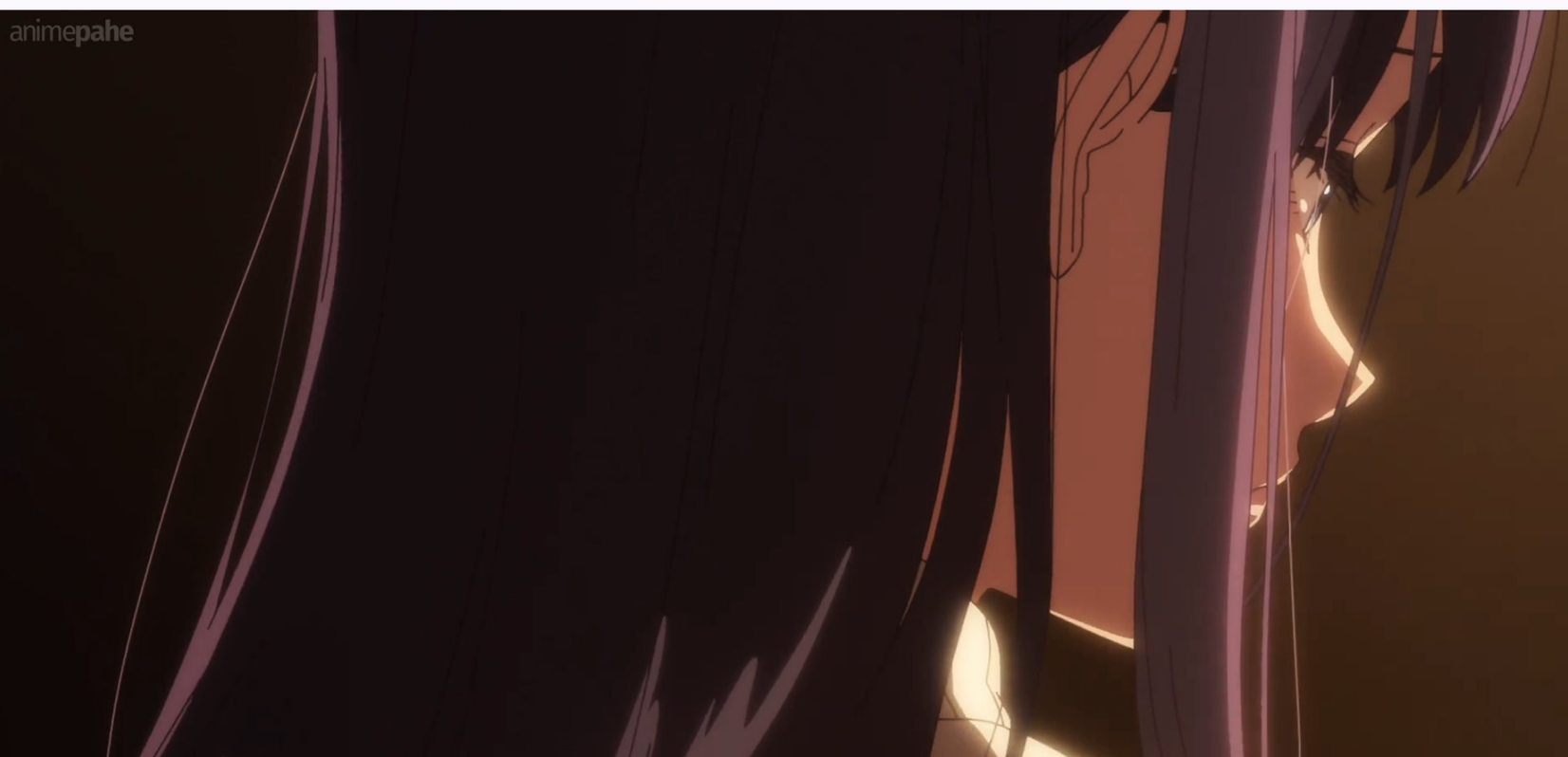
Kijodai Rest Area, Maniwa City



Gujo Kanade and Her Bouquet: *Closure*

Conclusion to A Bouquet of Unrequited Love

Over the last three months, I talked about six different flowers and how each of those flowers were tied to the emotions and characterizations of mainly three characters from the spring 2026 anime “Kamiina Botan Fully Blossoms When Drunk”: Kamiina Botan, Tonami Ibuki, and Gujo Kanade. Now, we have finally arranged this bouquet of six flowers. The White Lily, representing the themes and type of romantic love of the series; the Peony, representing the elegance, composure, and boldness Botan shows when drunk; the Hydrangea, representing the apologies and regrets Kanade feels as Botan and Ibuki get closer; the Marigold, representing the sincerity Botan shows in helping Kanade; the Cupflower, representing the soothing of the heart and forbidden love that Ibuki and Kanade feel, respectively; and finally, the Orange Day Lily, representing the act of forgetting Kanade must do in



order to move on once finally realizing that she cannot be the one to share a drink with Ibuki.

During the past three months, Kanade has gotten the short end of the stick in terms of where she stands with Ibuki. Often being cast aside and associated with sad themes like regret, apologies, and forgetting. One might think that there is no hope for her. Luckily, that's not the case, as there will be someone who will come into her life. Kanade will get her own happy ending, despite all the hurt she has gone through. Enter Chang Chin-lan



From Flowers, Out to Sea

In a later episode not discussed, Chin-Lan Chang, an exchange student from Taiwan, sits across from Kanade at a bar. Amongst excited conversations of absinthe, Van Gogh, and movie directors, Kanade stops mid-sentence. She feels relaxed, enjoying herself in the company of her opposite. Yet, it scares

her. The pain of losing Ibuki has not fully disappeared yet. Still hurting, she asks, “What should I do? Right now, my [heart] is in turmoil, like a stormy night. Everything is dark and scary.” Chin-Lan, in response, says, “Fishermen know that the sea is dangerous and the storm terrible, but they have never found these dangers sufficient reason for remaining on shore.” A quote from Van Gogh is recited to Kanade in response to her worries.

Kanade’s eyes relax. In her imagination, she feels as if the edge of the sea washes over her feet, a night sky lit by a pretty moon as she lets off a soft, gentle smile. “Hey…,” Chin-Lan continues, a tender look in her eyes, with an invitation, “Won’t you come out to sea with me?”

This time, maybe the flowers will bloom for Kanade in a bouquet of reciprocated love rather than what she’s been holding onto this entire time. Maybe she can finally leave behind that bouquet of unrequited love.



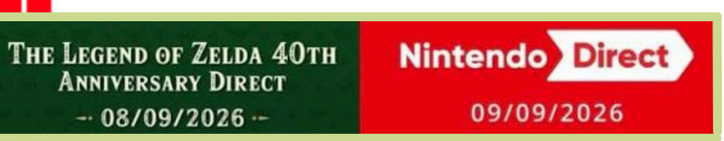
Written by Wilson Yuan

The State of Games

Too Much and Not Enough

By Lewis Spencer

It's that time of year again where a Nintendo Direct hits and lives up to absolutely no one's absurd expectations. In fact, we even got two underwhelming installments back to back from our favourite maverick company. First, a showcase dedicated solely to The Legend of Zelda's 40th anniversary. An amazing achievement and milestone for a franchise that undoubtedly helped shape gaming and even other media into what it is today.



Making a big budget live action movie seems long overdue, and at long last we get the highly dramatic reveal of its title, read by Miyamoto himself: The Legend of Zelda.

Fucking riveting stuff lads, how did you think that one up?

Oh but don't worry, apparently we'll 'understand the title' when we watch it. Which begs the question, who on God's green Earth doesn't understand it already?

With an April 30th 2027 release date, we don't have too much longer to wait, though that is literally all I can tell you about it as not even a second of footage was shown.

As much as I jest, I'm sure we're all looking forward to seeing it, and absolutely dying to know why such a wildcard title was chosen…

The rest of the presentation was taken up by a first, no sorry, second, ah wait no, third… Fucking hell lads, fourth first look at The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time.



Is the game going to be good? Yes. Does it look nice? Yes. Will I play it? Yes.

Do I care? Meh.

There have been a lot of remakes recently to pad out the Switch 2's library and offer access to classic titles for the new generations, and there's nothing inherently wrong with that. It's good to have modern versions of games we all love running on hardware that isn't the equivalent of a banana taped to a desk fan.



But Ocarina of Time has four distinct versions, we get it Nintendo, it's the highest rated game of all time, but really?

Twilight Princess was the notable absence from the show. Many fans expected it to at least drop for the Nintendo GameCube Classics on Switch 2, but it shall remain in Wii U limbo until Nintendo releases it on a random Thursday next year.

Special mention to my good friend Aaron though, who succinctly surmised the

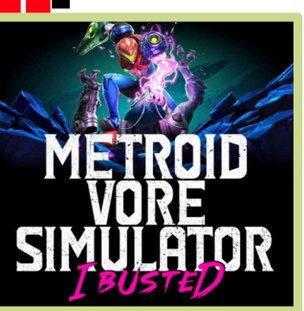
occasion with a quote Shakespeare himself would be proud of.



‘I saw Zelda, I came.’

Speaking of which, in the main Nintendo Direct, the announcement many were delighted by was that of Metroid Dread’s supposed sequel, Metroid Ravenous. Samus is back, and she’s… Hungry? Oh god, they didn’t think the repercussions of that through at all, did they?

Nintendo now have a first party game being released in which a woman infused with an alien parasite has the goal of consuming other sentient beings to increase her power and satiate her hunger. For the less pure of mind, quite a disturbed corner of the internet now look at the latest entry like this…



With the success of Metroid Dread however, it seems likely that the new installation will have more of the same thrilling exploration and challenging combat as is expected of a 2D Metroid, and wallets (among other things...) will certainly be emptied for the accompanying line of Amiibo.

A few other things shared were the inevitable announcement of Final Fantasy VII Revelation, looking far better than it has any right to on Switch 2. Monster Hunter Wilds with some substantial DLC getting a Switch 2 edition, and a new entry into the beloved Professor Layton series, ‘Professor Layton and the New World of Steam’.



I’ve also encountered new worlds of steam in various bathhouses across Japan, some with enemies lurking within, and one in particular with an Ojiisan that looked like a raisin. I couldn’t even tell you if he was alive.



Closing out the show, a lot of viewers expected the much anticipated next entry into the 3D Mario franchise, or perhaps even a sneak peak at the next Smash Bros. What we got was the Kirby Truman Show. I don’t really want to explain any further than that.



An open world 3D *Insert literally any popular franchise name here* is essentially always going to happen at some point, so the reveal wasn’t too much of a surprise, more so the timing due to Forgotten Land having quite a recent Switch 2 port. Not many complaints about the game itself, but as usual, Nintendo fans are always more angry about what isn’t show than what is.

Ah well, there’s always the next Direct… Right?

Take care everyone.

Written by

@lewischissio

Designed by Alexa Davis



Meet the World on Naoshima!

Saturday, November 28, 9:15-12:20

Support our fellow JETs in Kagawa!

This is a two-part English event with Naoshima Elementary School.

Participate in English activities with each grade, then visit an art museum where the students will be your guide.

You must arrange your own travel to Naoshima, but you will be reimbursed up to 5,000 yen. Tickets to Art House Project and Benesse House museums will be free.

For more details please check the OKAJet Instagram page! The deadline to apply is October 30th.

Sign-up here!

HIKING IN KOJIMA!

WHERE:

JOIN US FOR A BEGINNER-FRIENDLY HIKE ON MT. OJIGATAKE!

WHEN:

SUNDAY, OCT. 18

MEET AT KOJIMA STATION STARTING FROM 10 A.M.

OUR BUS TO THE MOUNTAIN BASE WILL LEAVE AT 10:32 A.M.

WHAT TO BRING:

WE WILL EAT LUNCH TOGETHER AT THE PEAK! PACK YOUR OWN BENTO!

TRASH CANS WILL BE LIMITED, SO BRING A PLASTIC BAG



OKAYAMA EVENTS



Stationary Exhibition: mt project at NIIMI

Date: until October 12th; venue 1 closed October 5th, venue 2 closed every Wednesday

Location: Venue 1: Niimi Cultural Exchange Center, Venue 2: Yumesuki Park

Time: Venue 1: 10:00-17:00, Venue 2: 9:00-16:00

Admission: Free

More info: 日本語



Autumn Okayama Momotaro Festival at Okayama Castle

Date: October 10th (Sat) and 11th (Sun)

Location: Okayama Castle

Time: 10:00 - 17:00

Admission: Free, some events have a fee

More info: 日本語



Kouhachimangu Shrine Annual Festival

鴻八幡宮例大祭

Date: October 10th (Sat) and 11th (Sun)

Location: Kouhachiman Shrine, Kurashiki City

Admission: Free

More info: 日本語



Revival! The Ibara Line Tipsy Train

復活！井原線DEホロ酔い列車

Date: Sunday, October 11

Location: The train departs from Kiyone Station on the Ibara Line and turns around at Ibara Station

Time: Morning train, 10:09-11:42; Afternoon train, 14:32-16:30

Admission: 7000 yen

More info: 日本語; RSVP to attend



The 42nd Bizen Pottery Festival

備前焼まつり

Date: October 17th (Saturday) and October 18th (Sunday)

Location: Around JR Ako Imbe Station

Time: 9:00-17:00 (until 16:00 PM on the last day)

Admission: Free

More info: English



Okayama Yakitori Festival 2026

岡山やきとりフェス 2026

Date: October 23rd (Fri) - 25th (Sun)

Location: Kurashiki Muscat Stadium Event Plaza

Time: Oct. 23 (Fri) 17:00-20:00, Oct. 24 (Sat) 11:00-20:00, Oct. 25 (Sun) 11:00-18:00

Admission: Free; food and drinks are at your own expense

More info: 日本語



5th Keyboard Harmonica Festival in Okayama

～おかやまサニーサイドストリート～

Date: Sunday, October 25

Location: Okayama Omotecho shopping street area

Time: 11:00 - 17:00

Admission: Free

More info: 日本語



Concert: "When East and West Colors Resonate – Koto, Guitar, Shakuhachi, Flute"

Date: Sunday, October 25

Location: Kibi Museum, Kurashiki City

Time: [Daytime Performance] 13:30-15:00 (Doors open at 13:00) [Evening Performance] 16:00-17:30 (Doors open at 15:30)

Admission: 3000 yen general admission

More info: 日本語

November Theme: Home Away From Home

Holiday season is fast approaching, and for many of us, we start to miss home that much more. Share your tips and tricks for making Okayama your home away from home, whether that be through food, decor, or a personal ritual. Please keep submissions to 500 words, and feel free to include pictures!



Want to be part of the newsletter?

We are always looking for new talent and help at the newsletter, so if you have writers itch you want to scratch, or have some ideas for the newsletter look, please contact us at our email!

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Your Art Here!

Show us your creativity! Submit artwork, photography or poetry to okajet.contact@gmail.com to be featured on the final page.