His Lingering Perfume

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Feedback on Their Love Section

This section serves as the main introduction to the female protagonist and the beginning of her romance with "him." It has a very intimate, personal, and vulnerable feel almost like reading someone's private diary. The core idea (a simple, sporty girl who doesn't wear makeup suddenly seeing her own beauty and then being surprised by her secret lover) is sweet and relatable. The "lingering perfume" motif is introduced nicely at the end of this section.

However, the section feels quite long and meandering for what actually happens. It's very heavy on description and reflection, with limited forward movement in the actual story.

Character Engagement

Her (the heroine): We get a very detailed picture of who she is, simple, conservative, sporty, tomboyish, hates makeup, comes from a rich family but chooses to live modestly. She feels authentic and likable. The mirror scene where she finally appreciates her own beauty is the strongest emotional part of this section.

Him: He only appears at the very end. When he does show up, he feels charming and caring, but we don't know much about him yet. Their interaction is sweet and passionate, but very brief in this section.

The characters feel real (especially her), but we're mostly *told* about her personality instead of seeing it through actions and dialogue.

Strengths

The theme of self-acceptance and embracing one's natural beauty is nice.

The surprise moment when he appears behind her in the mirror is romantic.

The sensual but innocent make-out scene at the end feels tender and true to young love.

The "lingering perfume" ending of the section is poetic and effective.

Areas of Improvement

Repetition This is the biggest issue. The words "mirror," "looked in the mirror," "she looked," and descriptions of her being simple, pretty, real are repeated many times. It makes the section feel stretched and slows down the pace significantly.

Too Much Telling, Not Enough Showing Long paragraphs describe what kind of person she is instead of showing her through small actions, thoughts, or scenes.

Pacing The section is quite slow. The actual romantic moment only happens near the end. Many readers might lose interest before getting to the good part.

Grammar & Writing Style

Frequent grammatical errors and awkward phrasing.

Run-on sentences.

Inconsistent tense (mix of past and present).

Overuse of exclamation marks (!).

Some sentences are very long and confusing.

Structure The section jumps around a bit (makeup → mirror → backstory → more mirror → him appears). It needs better flow and tighter transitions.

Final Thoughts

This section has a beautiful, heartfelt core and a lovely romantic vibe, but it needs significant tightening and polishing. Right now, it feels more like raw diary entries than a finished chapter. With good editing, cutting repetition, improving sentence flow, and converting some telling into showing this could become a very charming opening.

Rating for this section: 3.2 / 5

(Potential is high, but execution still needs work)