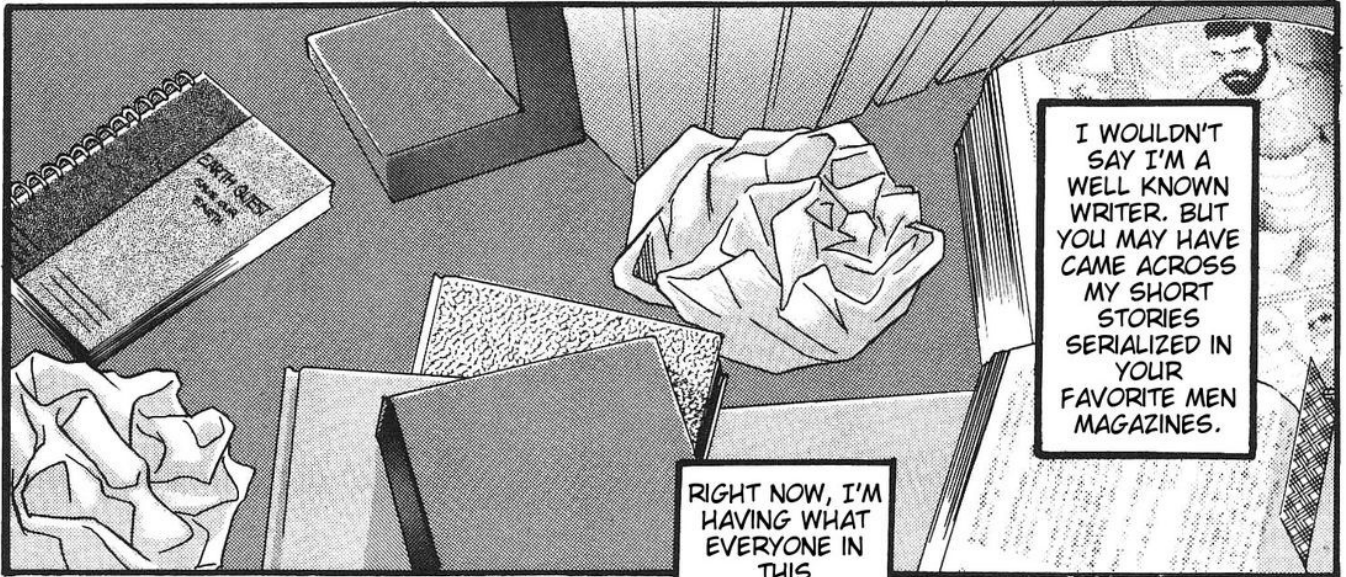


BLIND PARTNER

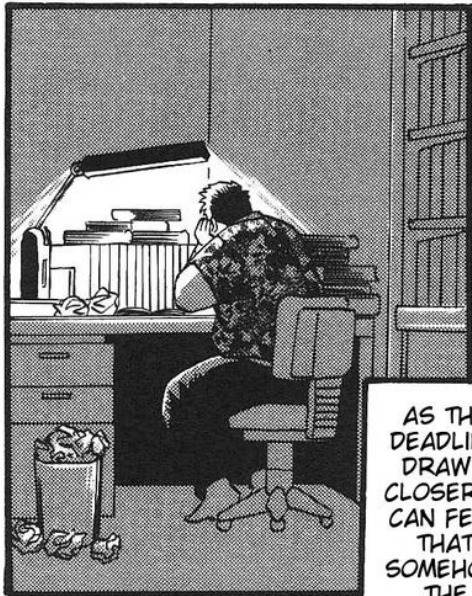
盲目の パートナー



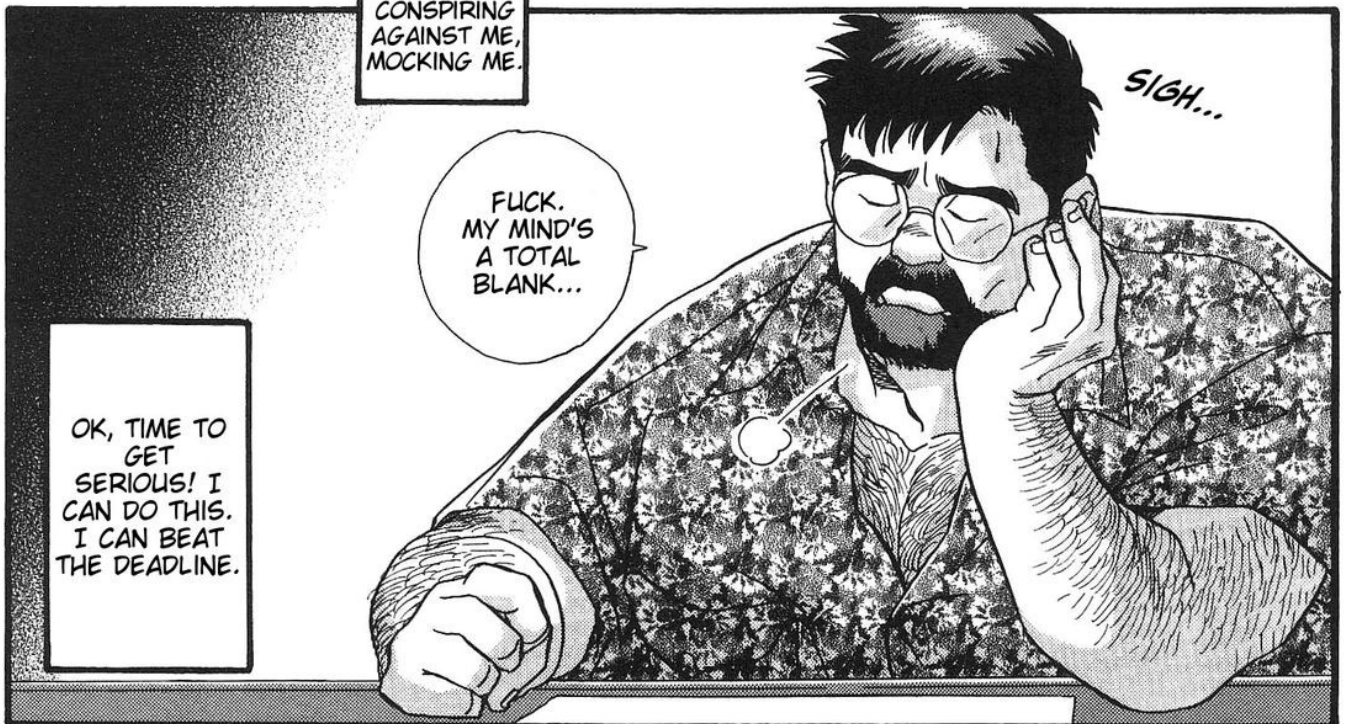
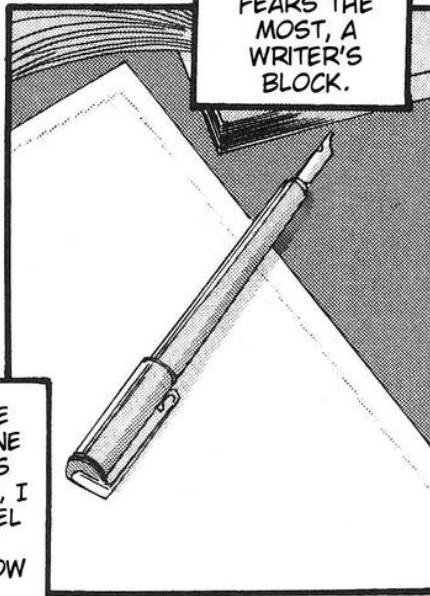


I WOULDN'T SAY I'M A WELL KNOWN WRITER. BUT YOU MAY HAVE CAME ACROSS MY SHORT STORIES SERIALIZED IN YOUR FAVORITE MEN MAGAZINES.

RIGHT NOW, I'M HAVING WHAT EVERYONE IN THIS PROFESSION FEARS THE MOST, A WRITER'S BLOCK.



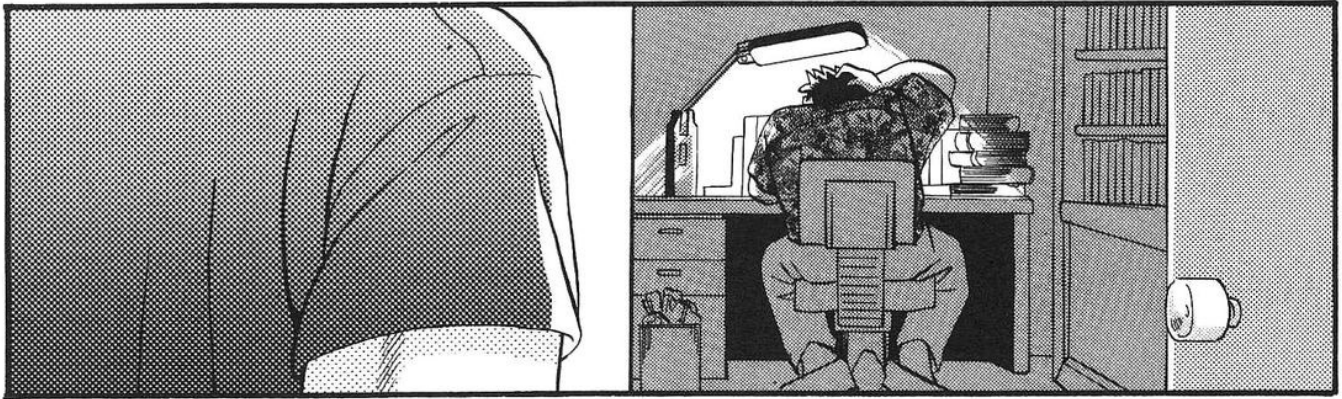
AS THE DEADLINE DRAWS CLOSER, I CAN FEEL THAT SOMEHOW THE UNIVERSE IS CONSPIRING AGAINST ME, MOCKING ME.



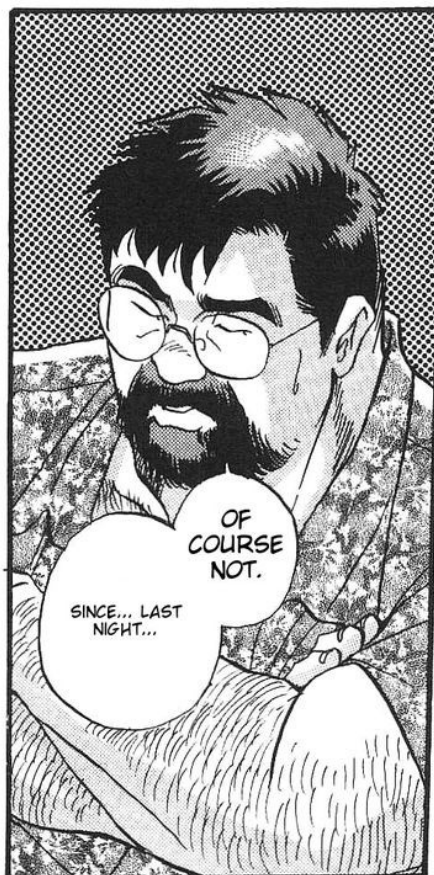
SIGH...

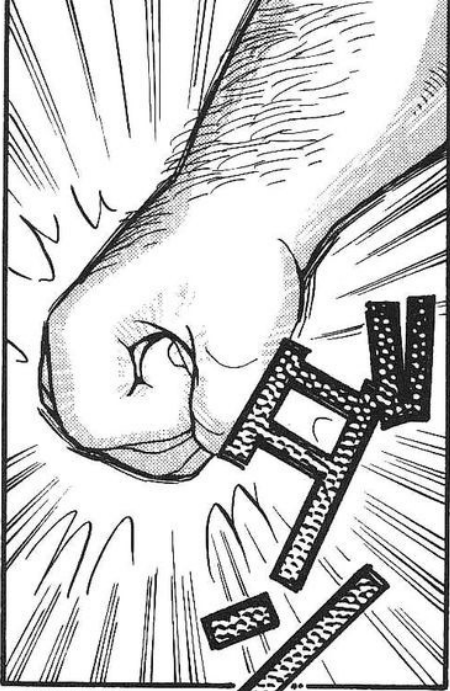
FUCK. MY MIND'S A TOTAL BLANK...

OK, TIME TO GET SERIOUS! I CAN DO THIS. I CAN BEAT THE DEADLINE.

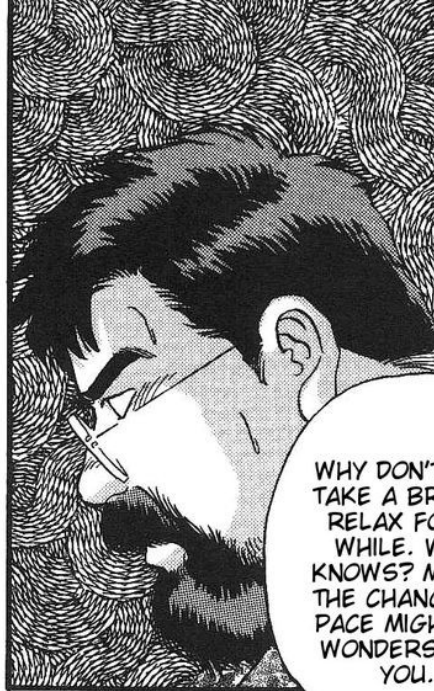


SFX: LIGHTS TURNING ON





SFX: BANG



WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A BREAK? RELAX FOR A WHILE. WHO KNOWS? MAYBE THE CHANGE OF PACE MIGHT DO WONDERS FOR YOU.



KAZUYUKI-SAN, YOU WON'T GET ANY INSPIRATIONS FOR YOUR STORIES IF YOU OVEREXERT YOURSELF.



DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH TIME I'VE LEFT? THE DEADLINE'S STARING RIGHT AT MY FACE! AND YOU'RE ASKING ME TO RELAX?

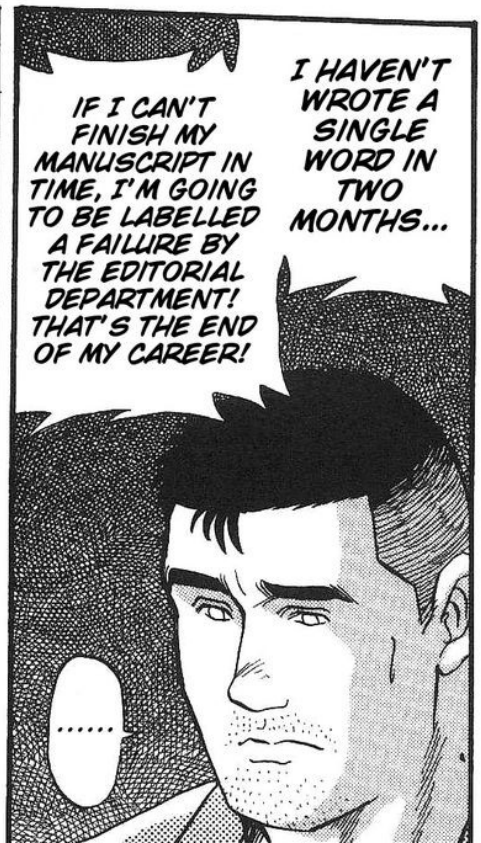
WHO DIED AND MADE YOU THE EXPERT IN OVERCOMING WRITER'S BLOCK?

WHAT THE FUCK DO YOU KNOW?



UNLIKE YOU WHERE YOU ALWAYS GET PAID JUST BY SHOWING YOUR STUPID FACE AT YOUR WORKPLACE! I'M ABOUT TO LOSE MY JOB! MY FUCKING JOB!

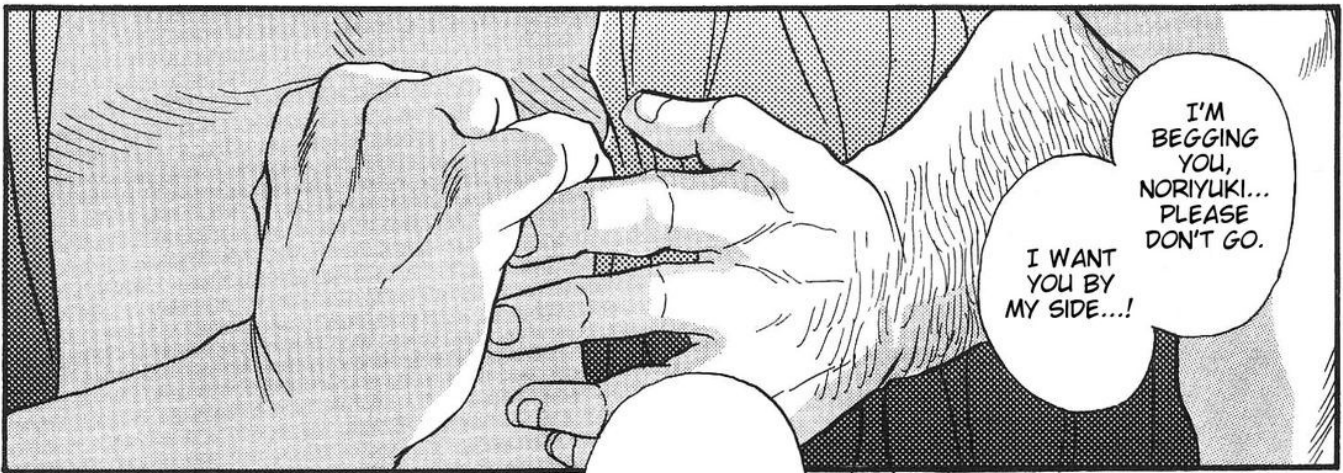
WHAT'S NEXT? ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ME YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL? HUH? THAT YOU CAN UNDERSTAND MY FRUSTRATION?

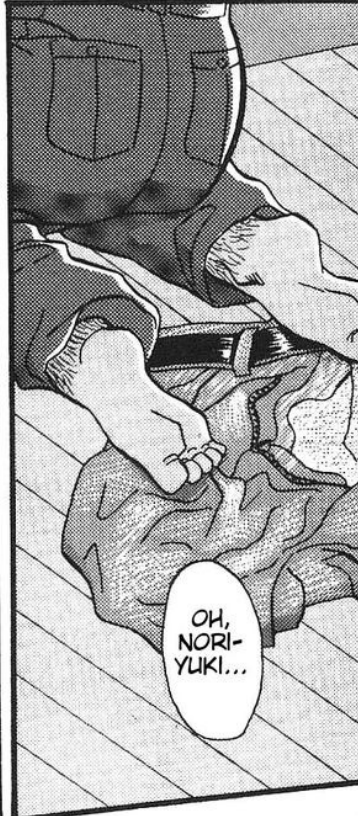


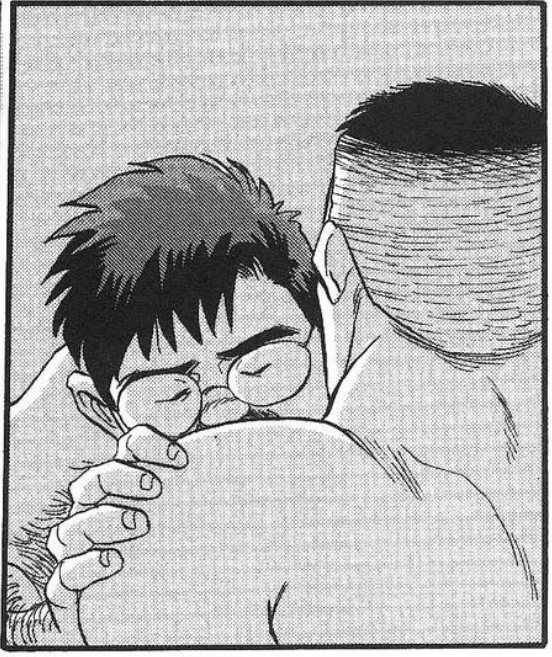
IF I CAN'T FINISH MY MANUSCRIPT IN TIME, I'M GOING TO BE LABELLED A FAILURE BY THE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT! THAT'S THE END OF MY CAREER!

I HAVEN'T WROTE A SINGLE WORD IN TWO MONTHS...









.....



ARE YOU READY?
CAN I FUCK YOU NOW?

AH, YES...



I LOVE YOU.



AGGHHH!

AH!

SFX: INITAL PENETRATION



SPITS



JUST HOLD ON... I'M GOING ALL THE WAY IN... THERE!

NORIYUKI, HOW DOES THAT FEEL?

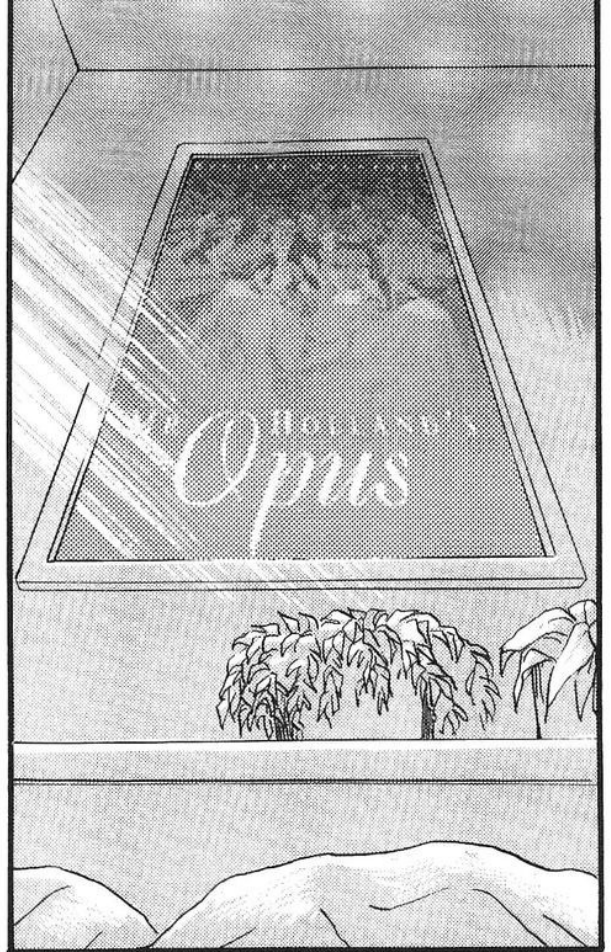
AAH... IT FEELS GREAT...

HARDER... HARDER... I WANT YOU TO FUCK ME HARDER!

VIGOROUS MOTION

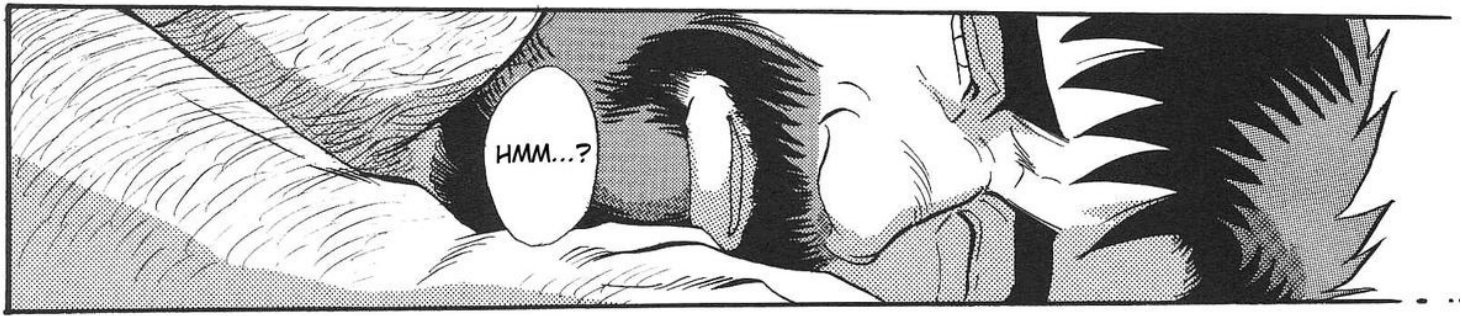
SFX: HARD TWITCH







BECAUSE IF YOU DO...
THEN WHY CAN'T I SEE IT?



HMM...?



OH SHIT!

THE DEAD-LINE!



HUH?

IT'S MORN-ING...

SFX: GETS UP



SIGH



YOU SHOULD HAVE WOKEN ME UP BEFORE YOU LEFT...





SHOVE

STEP STEP

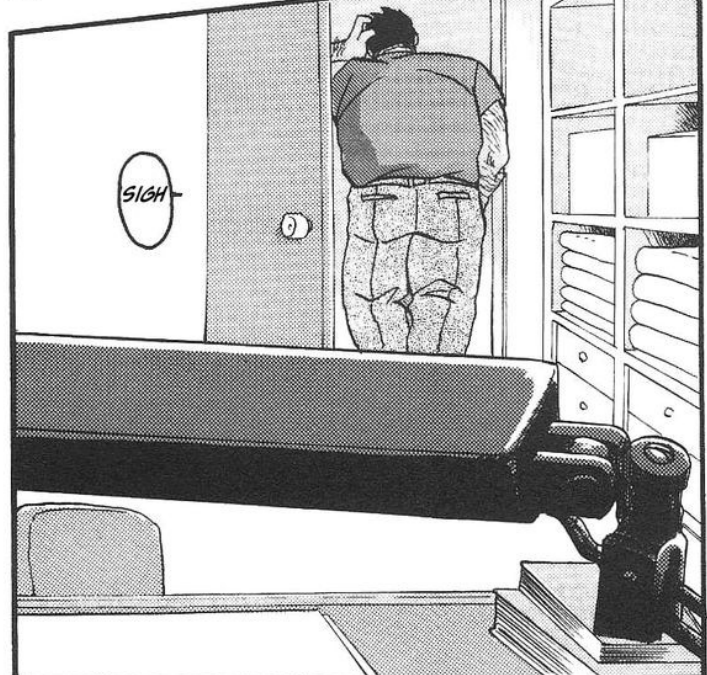
STEP STEP

TICK TICK
TICK
TICK



SIGH

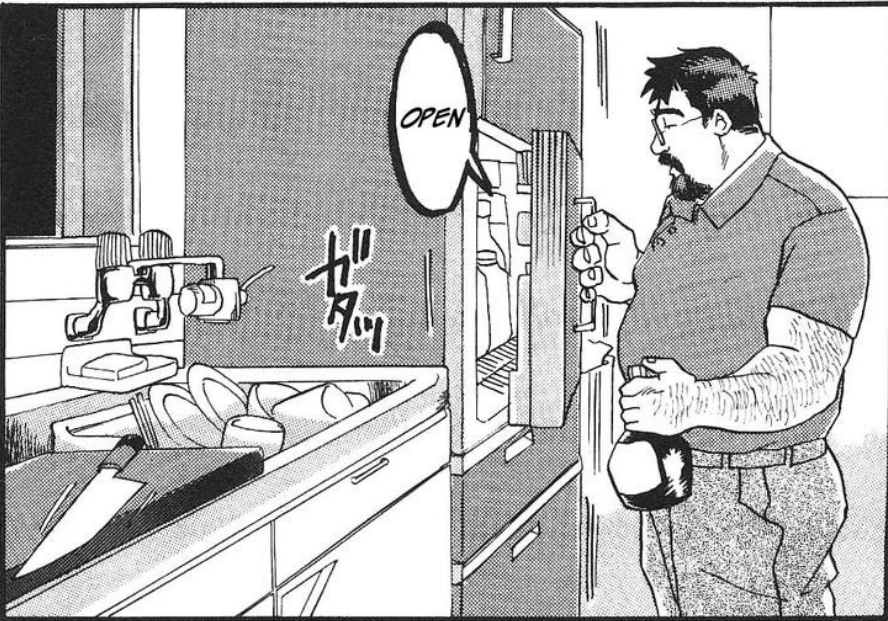
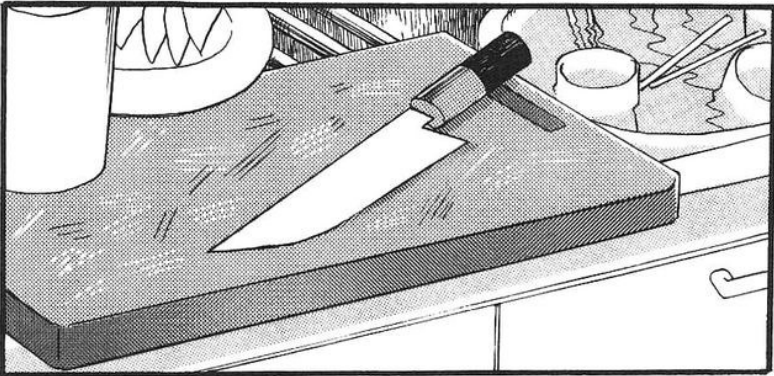
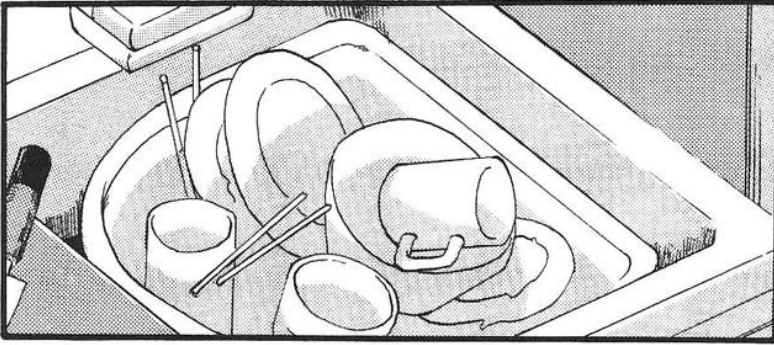
I'M DOOMED...



SIGH



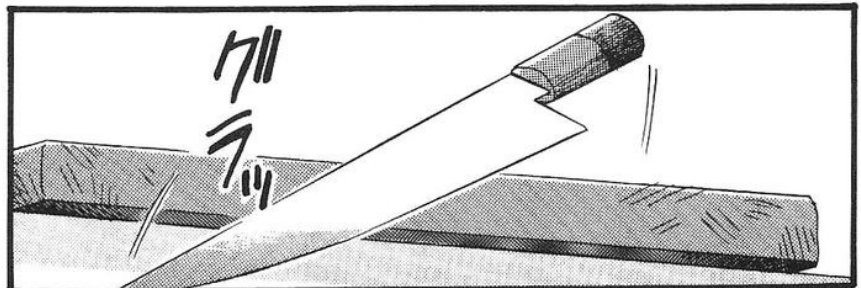
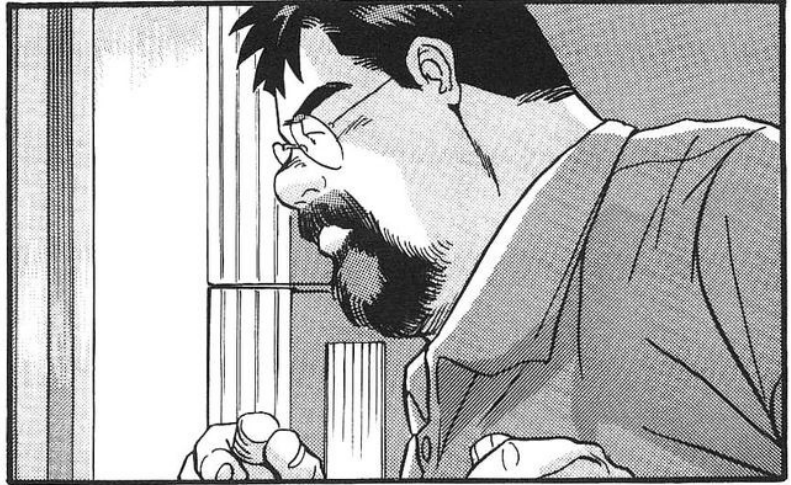
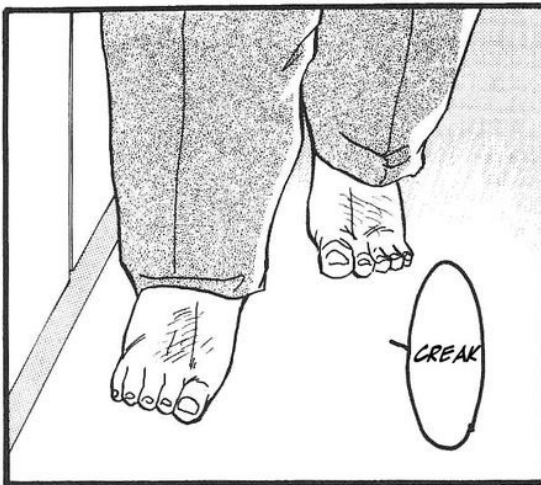
I NEED A DRINK...



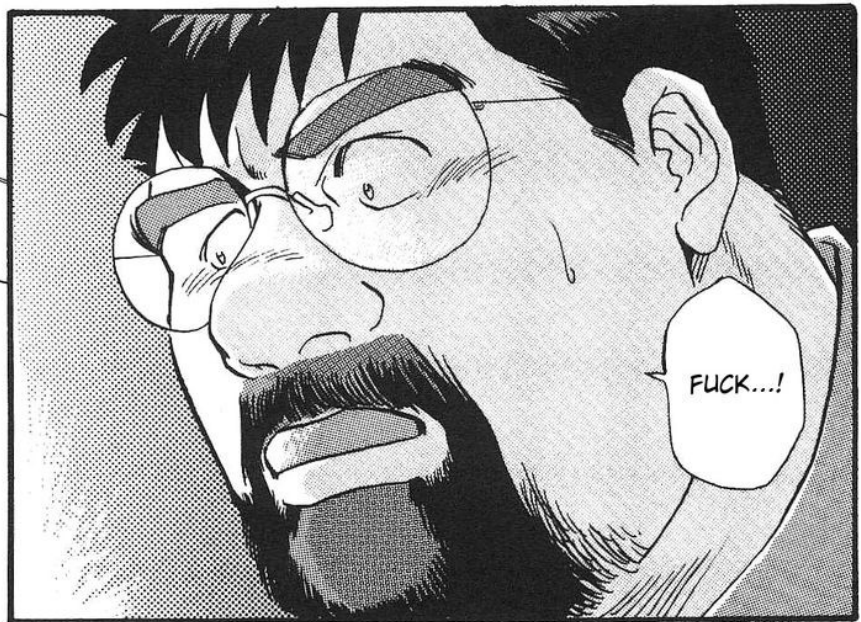
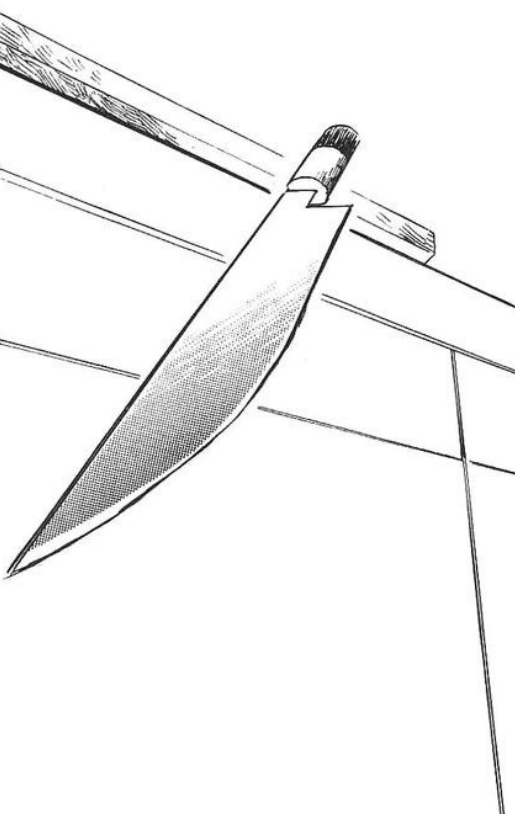
SFX: VIBRATION FROM PASSING TRAIN



SFX: VIBRATION VIBRATION



SFX: TIPS OVER



LABEL: WATER

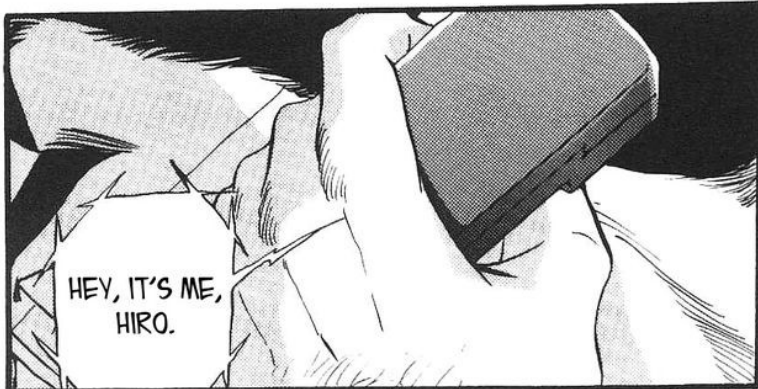


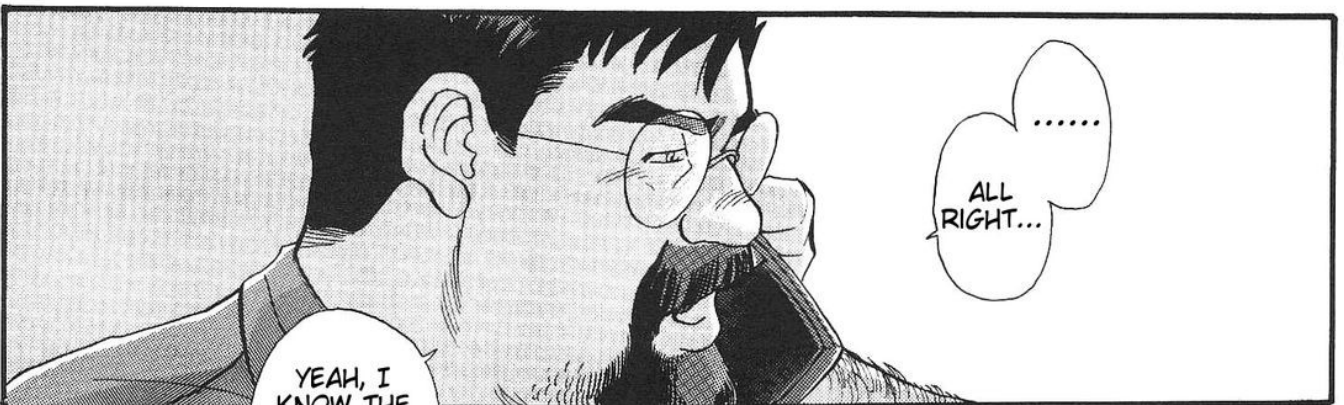
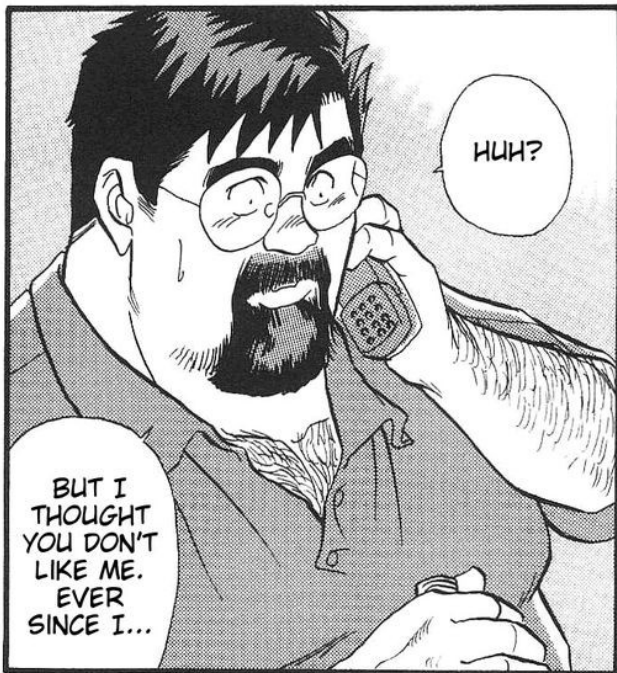
SFX: THINK





SFX: REALIZE







HIRO, I...

BUT NOW, I
FEEL THAT
THERE'S AN
IMMENSE
BARRIER
BETWEEN US.

WHEN I FIRST
STARTED GOING
OUT WITH HIM,
JUST BEING NEXT
TO HIM FILLED MY
HEART WITH JOY.

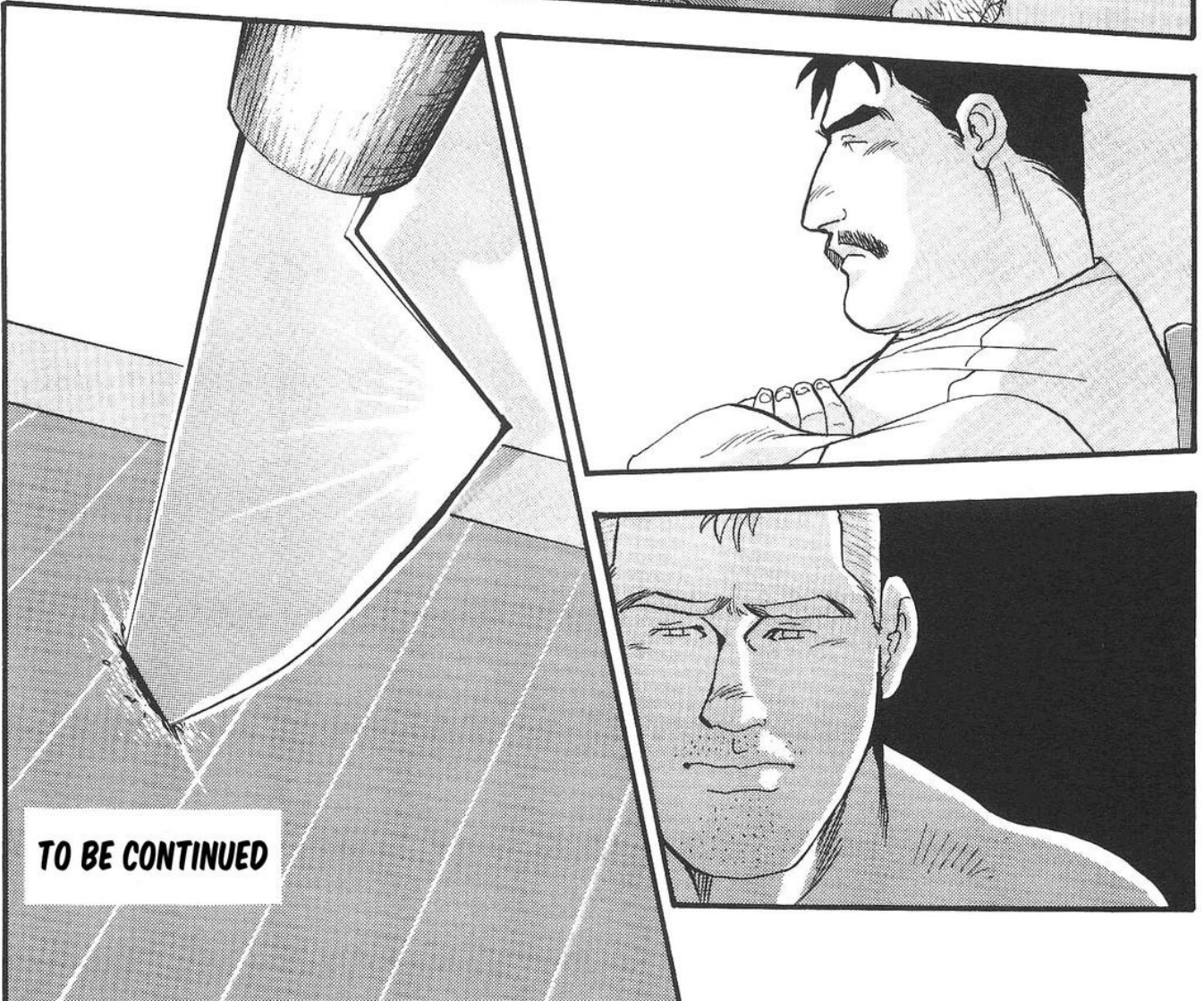
I DON'T THINK
KAZUYUKI
LOVES ME
ANYMORE.

I...
DON'T KNOW
WHO ELSE
TO TURN
TO...

I REALLY
DON'T KNOW
WHAT I
SHOULD DO
NEXT!

HIRO...
PLEASE
TELL ME
THAT I'M
WRONG.





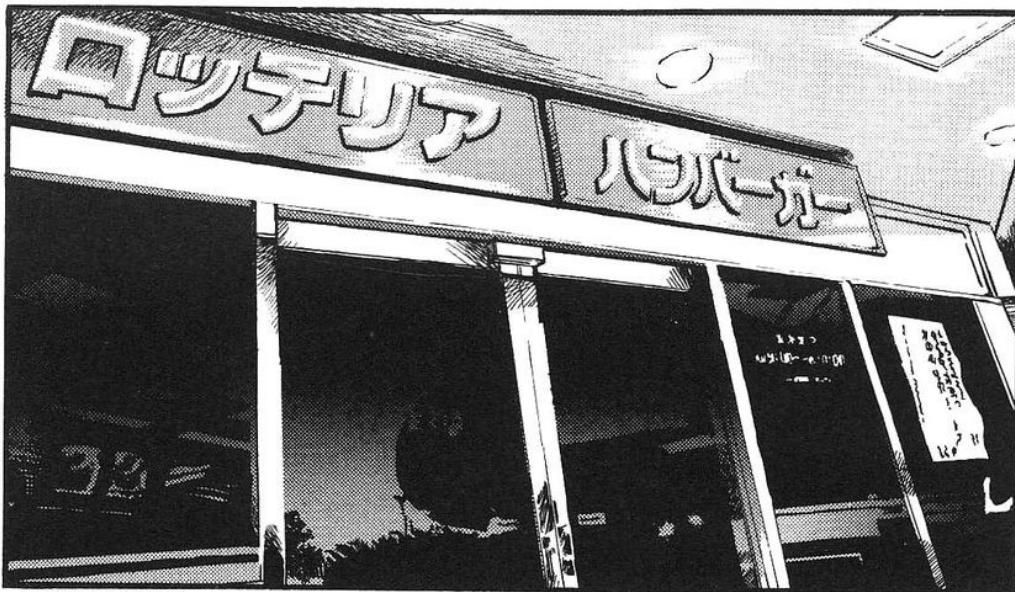
TO BE CONTINUED

BLIND PARTNER

盲目のパートナー



GO FUJIMOTO
藤本郷



SIGN: LOTTERIA

SIGN: HAMBURGER

PREVIOUSLY ON BLIND PARTNER...

SHORT STORY WRITER, KAZUYUKI IS HAVING A BRUTAL CASE OF WRITER'S BLOCK. NOT ONLY THAT, HE HAS BEEN TREATING HIS PARTNER, NORIYUKI BADLY.

UNABLE TO ACCEPT THIS KIND OF TREATMENT, NORIYUKI APPROACHED HIS CLOSE FRIEND, HIRO AND POURED OUT HIS WOES.

HOPING TO FIND OUT MORE AND PUT THINGS RIGHT, HIRO DECIDES TO HAVE A TALK WITH KAZUYUKI.



LONG TIME NO SEE.
HOW HAVE YOU BEEN DOING?

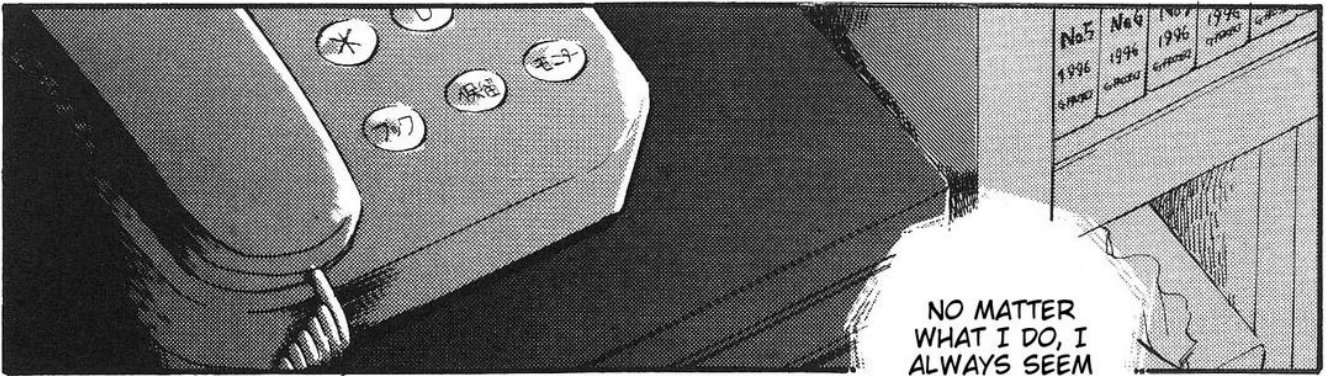


I HATE TO SAY THIS BUT...
IT'S BEEN TERRIBLE FOR ME!



BUT THIS NORIYUKI DID SOMETHING THAT REALLY INFURIATED ME YESTERDAY.

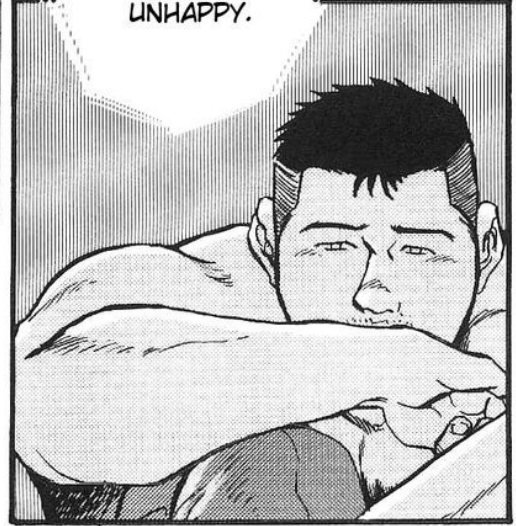
IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT I HAVE MY WRITER'S BLOCK TO DEAL WITH.



NO MATTER
WHAT I DO, I
ALWAYS SEEM
TO MAKE HIM
UNHAPPY.

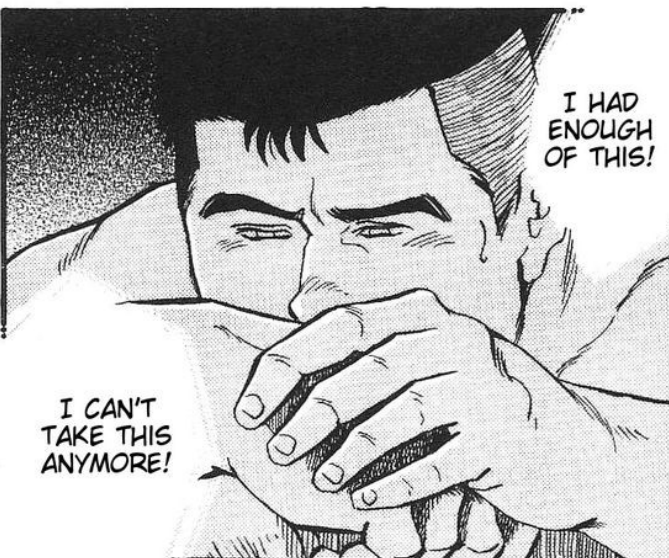


WHY IS IT
THAT
EVERYTIME I
TRY TO TALK
TO HIM, HE
ALWAYS GET
AGITATED?



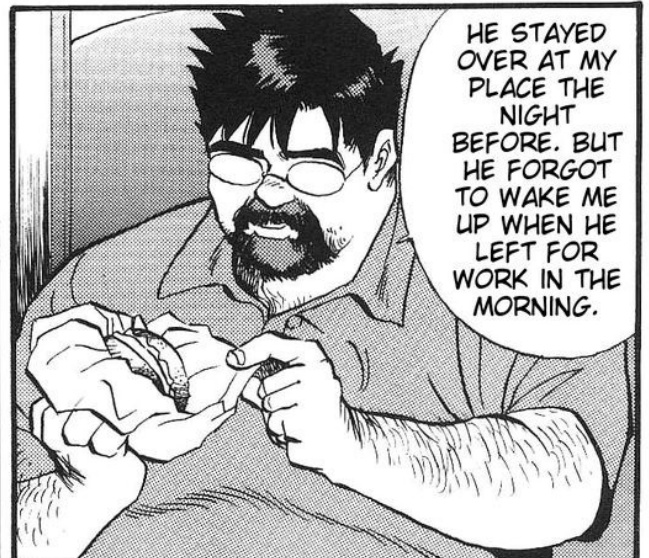
WHAT
DID HE
DO?

WHY DO I FEEL
THAT ALL HE
WANTS OUT OF
OUR RELATIONSHIP
IS SEX?



I HAD
ENOUGH
OF THIS!

I CAN'T
TAKE THIS
ANYMORE!



HE STAYED
OVER AT MY
PLACE THE
NIGHT
BEFORE, BUT
HE FORGOT
TO WAKE ME
UP WHEN HE
LEFT FOR
WORK IN THE
MORNING.



I UNDERSTAND THAT HE HAS THE RIGHT TO BE ANGRY WHEN HE'S HAVING TROUBLE WRITING.

BUT IS IT RIGHT FOR HIM TO RELEASE HIS STRESS AND TENSION ON ME?

IS THAT HOW HE'S EXPRESSING HIS LOVE TO ME?

YELLING AT ME FOR NO GOOD REASON AND THEN HAVING MAKE-UP SEX AS HIS WAY OF APOLOGIZING TO ME.

DOESN'T HE KNOW THERE'RE FEELINGS THAT CANNOT BE CONVEYED THROUGH SEX?



WHO KNOWS?

HE HASN'T CALL ME YET.

はあ？



BUT NOW, EVERYTHING IS COOL BETWEEN YOU TWO, RIGHT?

ち

SFX: MUNCH SFX: SUCK



I WANT HIM TO SHOW ME THAT HE REALLY LOVES ME IN ANOTHER WAY...

LET ME KNOW EMOTIONALLY AND NOT PHYSICALLY. HIRO, DO YOU THINK THERE'S A CHANCE HE'LL BE ABLE TO DO THAT FOR ME?



SFX: FACE TWITCH



WHAT?

IF HE HASN'T CALLED, YOU CAN TRY CALLING HIM INSTEAD.

KAZU-YUKI-SAN, PLEASE DON'T GIVE ME THAT CRAP!



HIRO,
I THINK I'LL TEST HIM.

DO I NEED TO REMIND YOU THAT A RELATIONSHIP GOES BOTH WAYS? YOU CAN'T EXPECT HIM TO DO ALL THE WORK IN A RELATIONSHIP JUST BECAUSE HE'S MUCH YOUNGER THAN YOU.

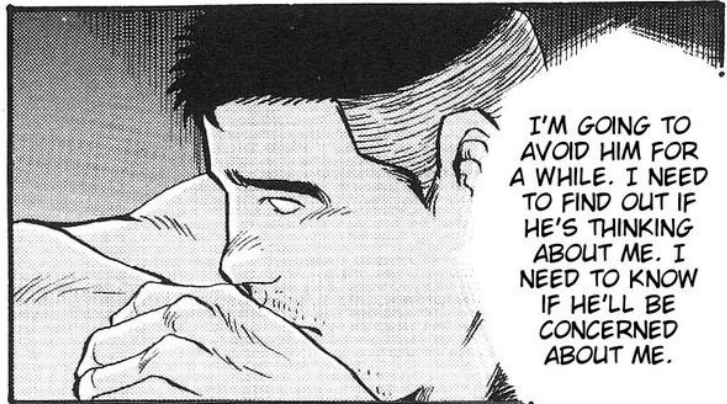


HE'S WAITING, YOU KNOW.

HE HAS BEEN WAITING FOR YOU TO CALL HIM ALL THIS WHILE.

THERE'RE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS THAN MAKING A STUPID PHONE CALL! MY CAREER AS A WRITER IS ON THE LINE! I'M NOT GOING TO TALK ABOUT THIS MATTER ANYMORE!

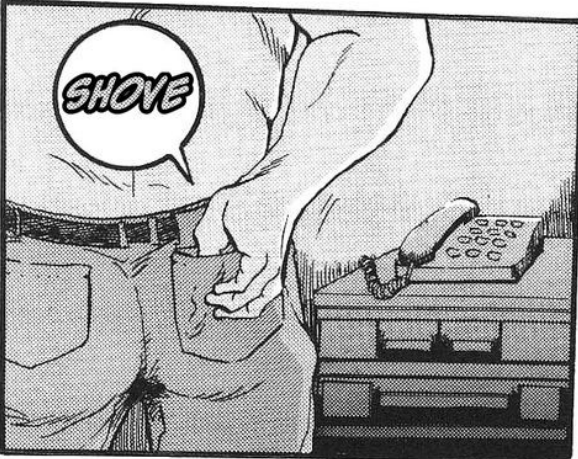
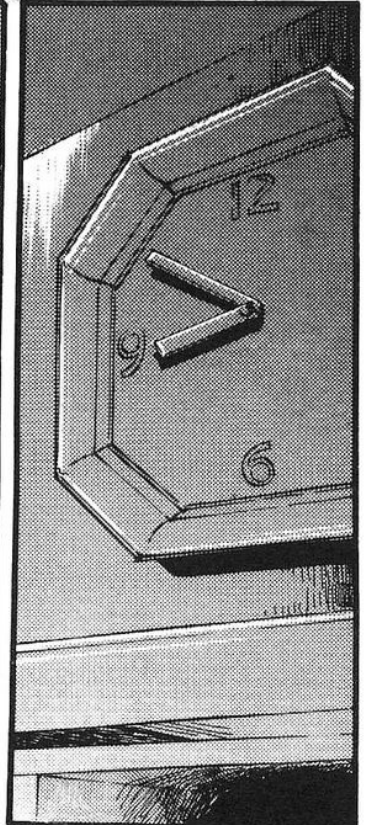
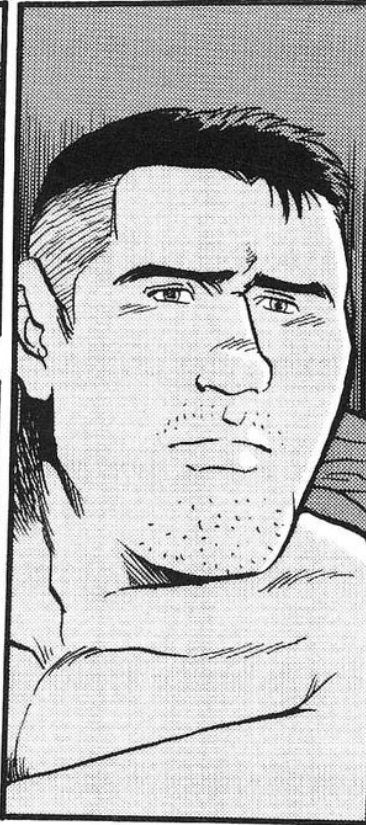
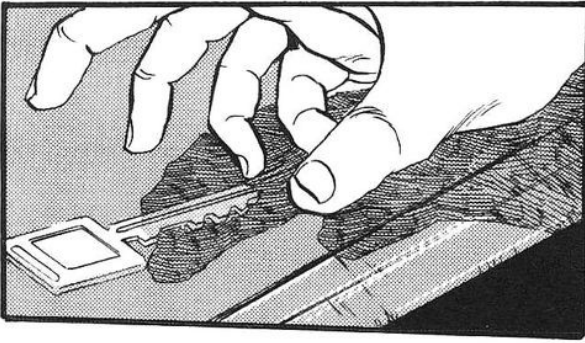
I DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO PLAY HIS GAME RIGHT NOW!



I'M GOING TO AVOID HIM FOR A WHILE. I NEED TO FIND OUT IF HE'S THINKING ABOUT ME. I NEED TO KNOW IF HE'LL BE CONCERNED ABOUT ME.



DO YOU THINK I'M A HORRIBLE PERSON TO TEST HIM LIKE THAT?



YOU... YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO SAY THAT.

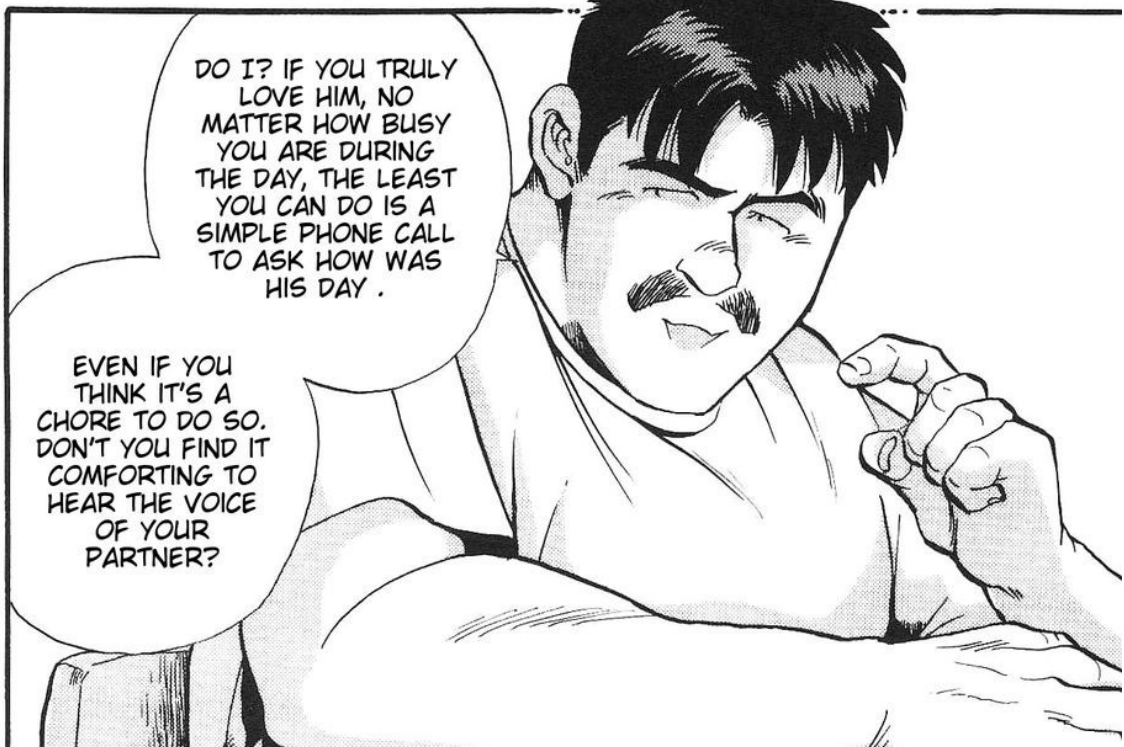
FROM THE WAY I SEE IT, YOU DON'T LOVE NORIYUKI AT ALL.

IS THAT IT? YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING?

!!



SO I'M ASKING YOU AGAIN. ARE YOU GOING TO CALL HIM OR NOT?



DO I? IF YOU TRULY LOVE HIM, NO MATTER HOW BUSY YOU ARE DURING THE DAY, THE LEAST YOU CAN DO IS A SIMPLE PHONE CALL TO ASK HOW WAS HIS DAY .

EVEN IF YOU THINK IT'S A CHORE TO DO SO. DON'T YOU FIND IT COMFORTING TO HEAR THE VOICE OF YOUR PARTNER?

SFX: RATTLE

SFX: GA-THUNK



I CAN'T AFFORD TO THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE EXCEPT ABOUT MY WRITINGS.

LOOK, I'M GOING THROUGH A ROUGH PATCH AT THE MOMENT.

HMM... HAVE I LEFT OUT ANYTHING ELSE?

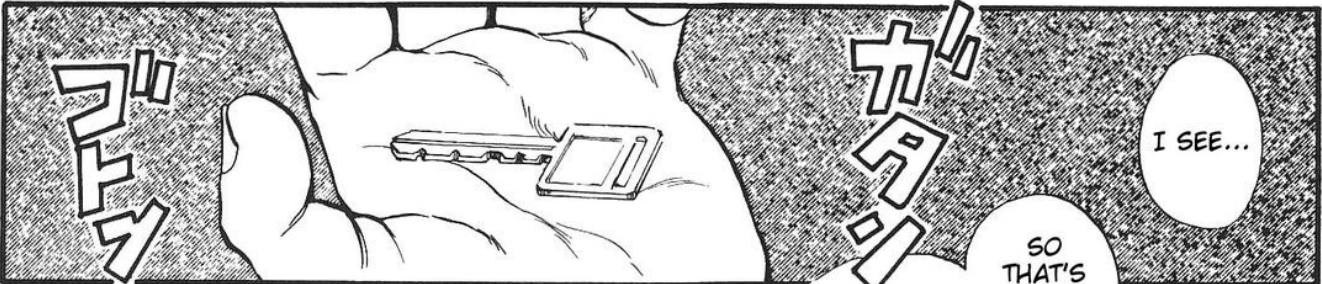
HE'S USUALLY THE ONE WHO CALLS AND ASKS HOW YOU ARE FEELING, WHERE YOU WANT TO MEET, WHAT YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT...

I DON'T BELIEVE IT. YOU NEVER ACTUALLY THOUGHT ABOUT CALLING HIM, HAVE YOU?

SFX: CLONK

SFX: CLONK

SFX: WHOOSH



I SEE...

SFX: CLONK

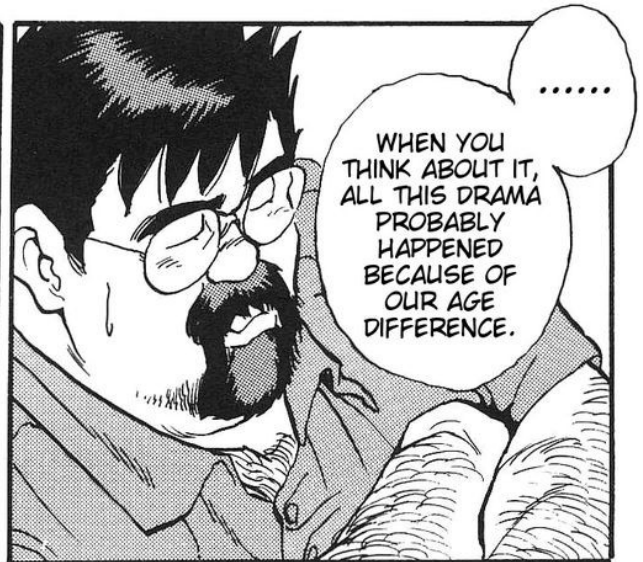
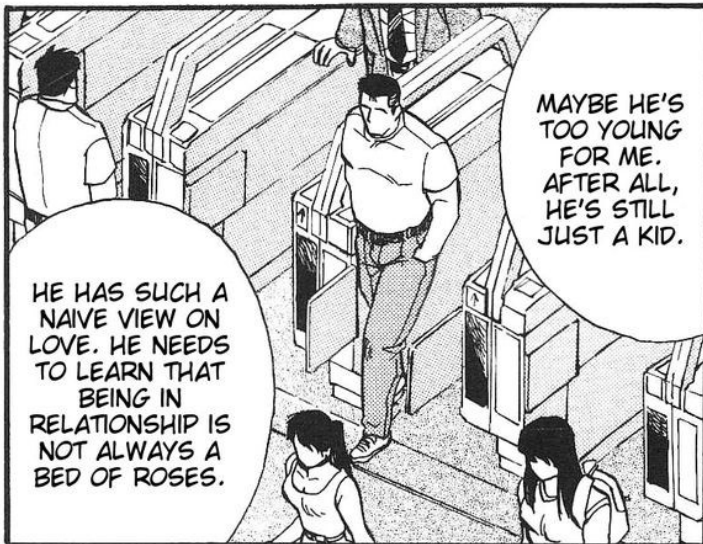
SFX: RATTLE

SO THAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?

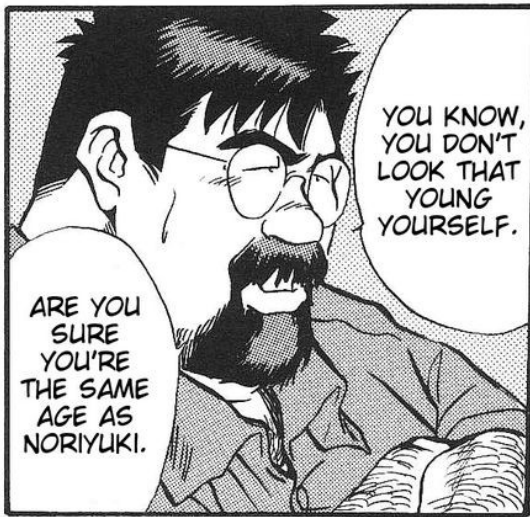
DO YOU REALIZE THE SEVERITY OF THE SITUATION? HE'S THIS CLOSE TO GIVING UP THE RELATIONSHIP.



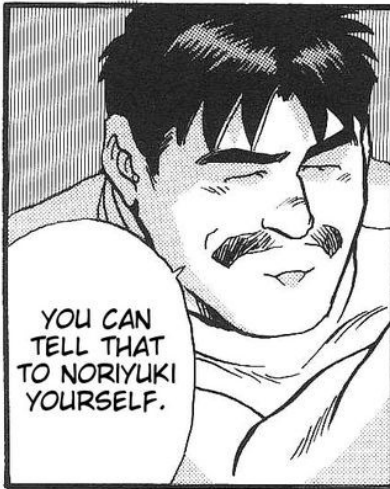
FOR GOD'S SAKE! IF YOU REALLY LOVE NORIYUKI, DO SOMETHING! OTHERWISE HE WILL NEVER KNOW JUST HOW MUCH YOU LOVE HIM.

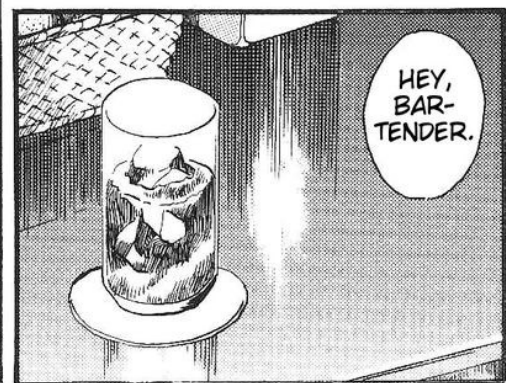
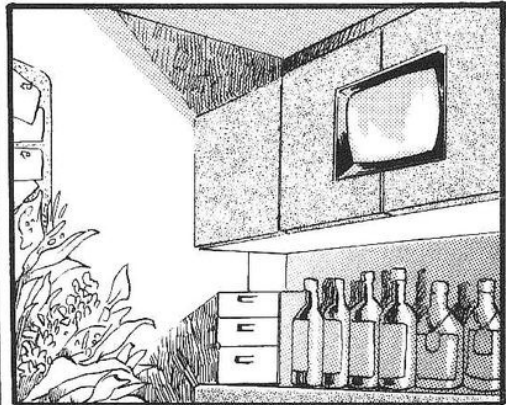
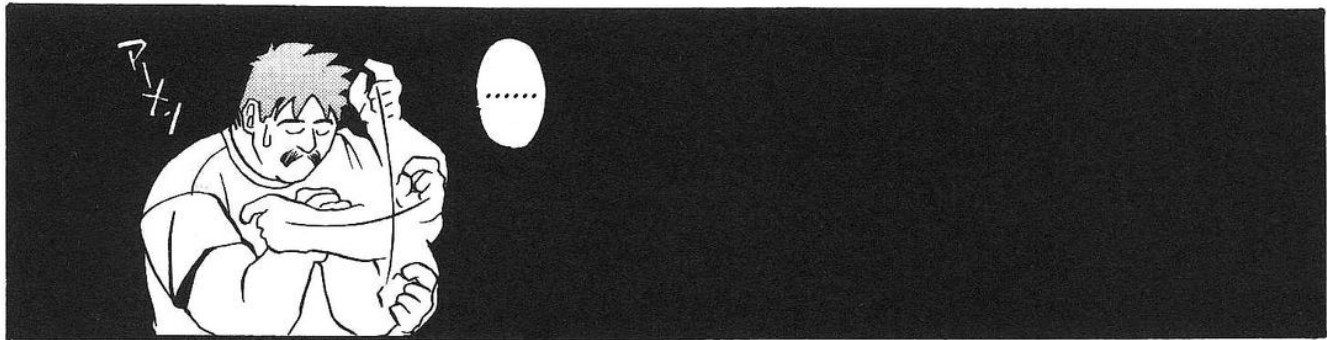


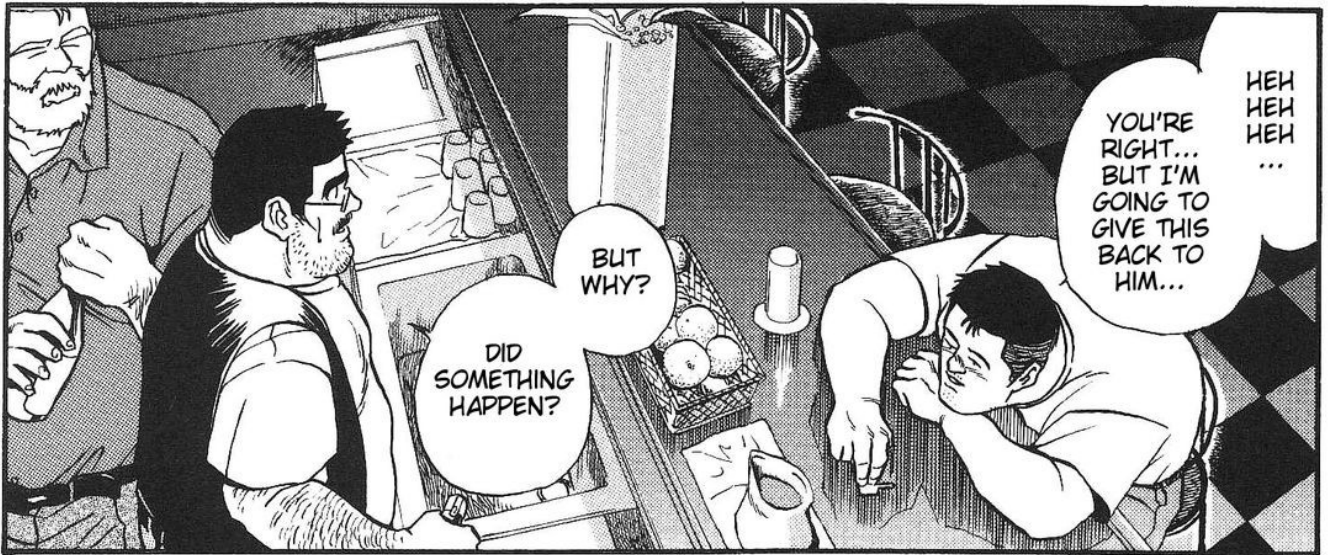




SFX: TWITCH TWITCH





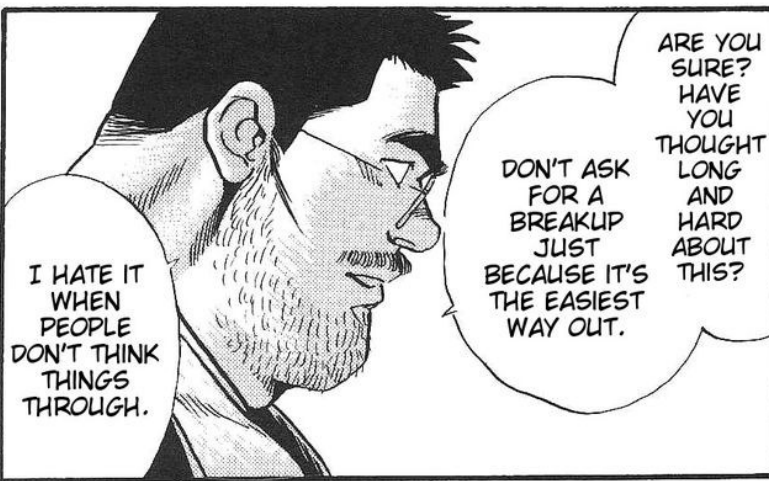


DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

BUT WHY?

YOU'RE RIGHT... BUT I'M GOING TO GIVE THIS BACK TO HIM...

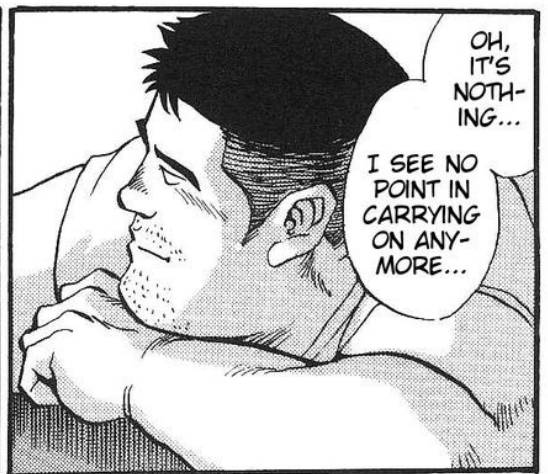
HEH HEH HEH ...



I HATE IT WHEN PEOPLE DON'T THINK THINGS THROUGH.

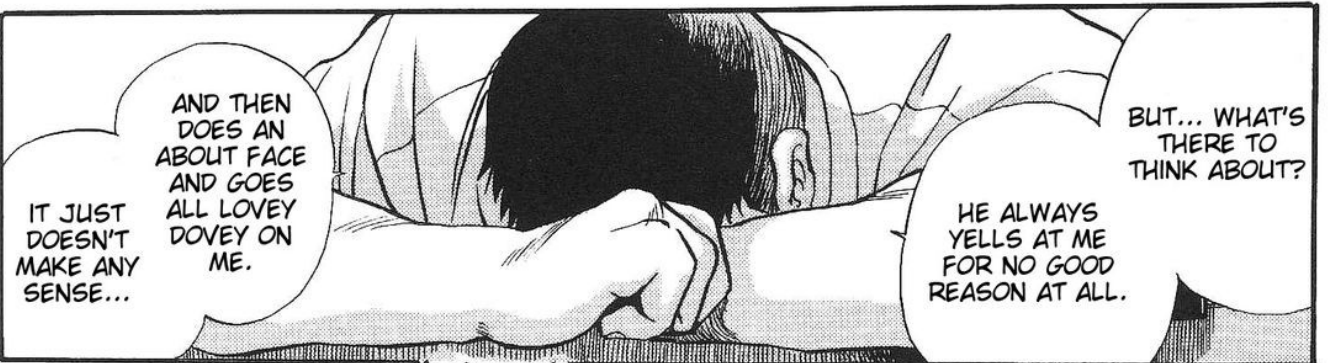
DON'T ASK FOR A BREAKUP JUST BECAUSE IT'S THE EASIEST WAY OUT.

ARE YOU SURE? HAVE YOU THOUGHT LONG AND HARD ABOUT THIS?



OH, IT'S NOTHING...

I SEE NO POINT IN CARRYING ON ANY-MORE...



IT JUST DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE...

AND THEN DOES AN ABOUT FACE AND GOES ALL LOVEY DOVEY ON ME.

HE ALWAYS YELLS AT ME FOR NO GOOD REASON AT ALL.

BUT... WHAT'S THERE TO THINK ABOUT?



OH, HUSH. IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THEM, DON'T JUMP INTO CONCLUSION. YOU OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN THAT. DON'T YOU REMEMBER WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THE SAME THING?

PSSST... ISN'T NORI'S PARTNER MUCH OLDER THAN HIM? COULD IT BE THAT THEIR AGE DIFFERENCE IS AFFECTING THEIR RELATIONSHIP? THEY MIGHT HAVE VERY DIFFERENT EXPECTATIONS OF EACH OTHER.





NORI WOULD PROBABLY WISH THAT YOU WERE HERE INSTEAD. BUT IF YOU ASK ME,



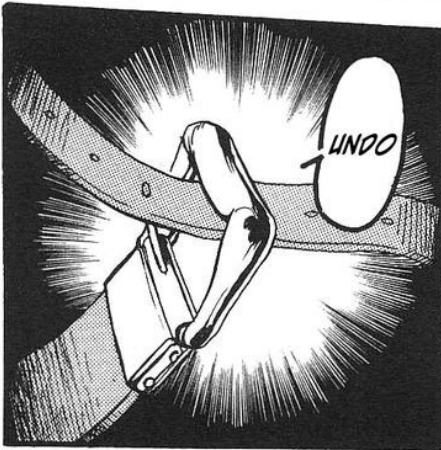
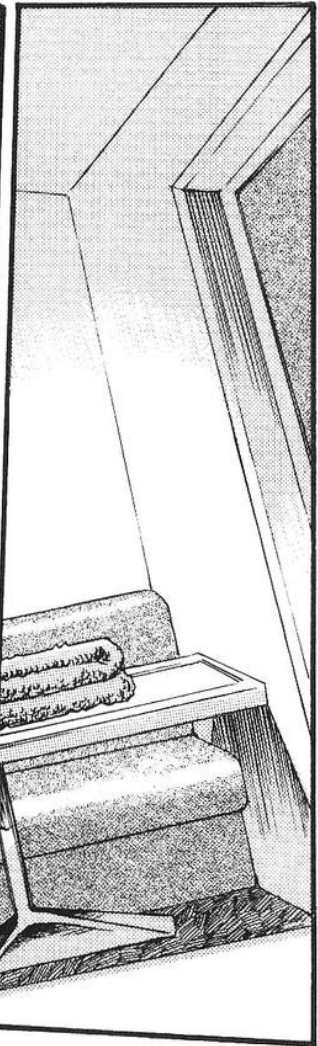
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AH, FORGET ABOUT IT... ANYWAY, IT'S STILL EARLY. HE MAY HAVE JUST GONE OUT FOR A DRINK. I'LL GO CHECK WITH THE BAR THAT HE ALWAYS HANGS OUT AT.

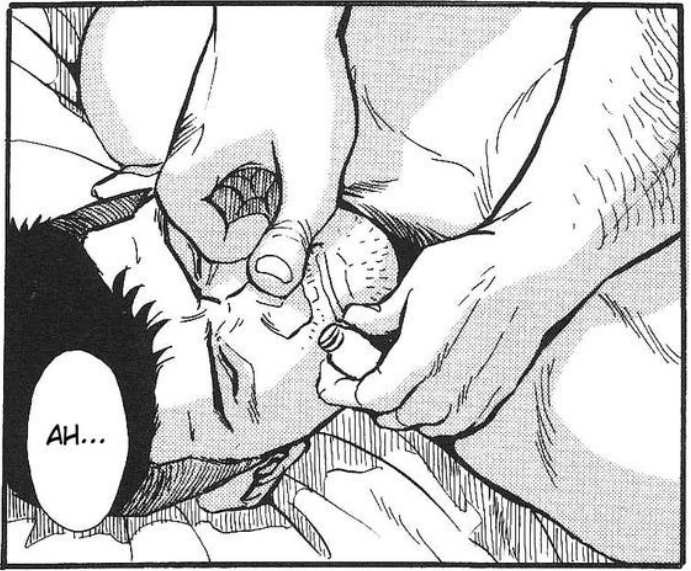
IT'S AT DISTRICT 2, A FEW STATIONS AWAY. I'LL CALL YOU WHEN I GET THERE.

SIGNS: JADE DRAGON BUSINESS HOTEL
OUTDOOR YAKINIKU
BUSINESS HOTEL E

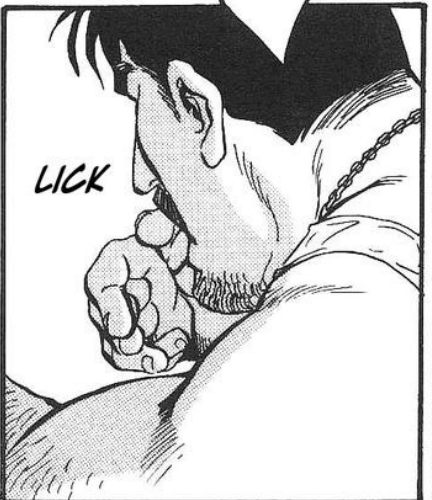


SFX: BED CREAKS

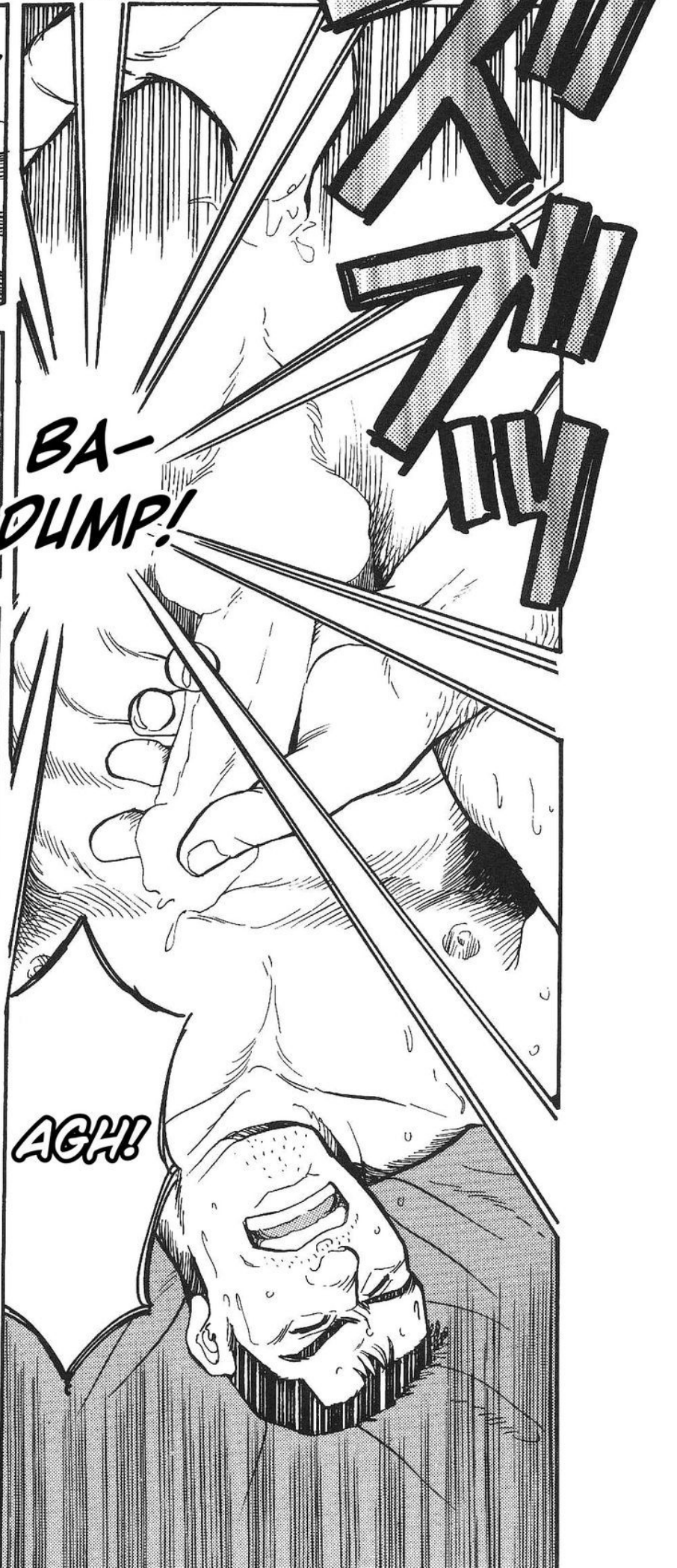
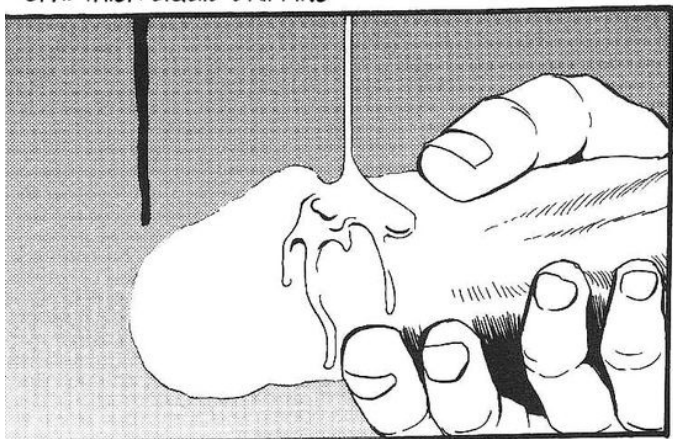
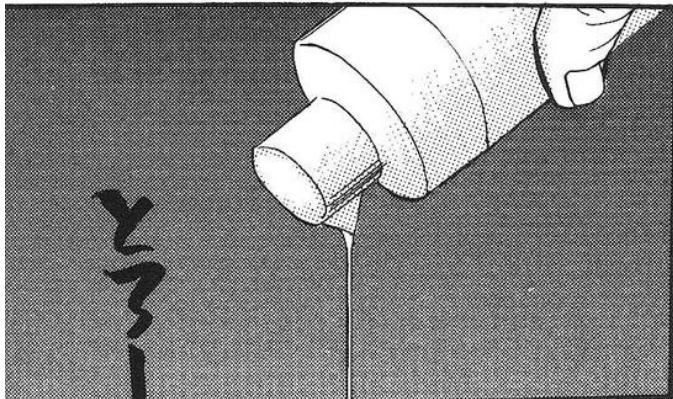
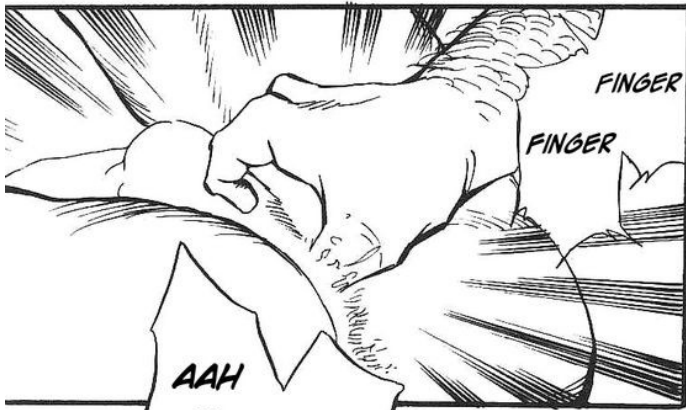




SFX: SLURP SLURP



SFX: INSERTATION







HEY!

SFX: MAKES A RUN FOR IT



OH NO,
YOU
DON'T!

SFX: CATCHES HOLD

SFX: TWIST ARM

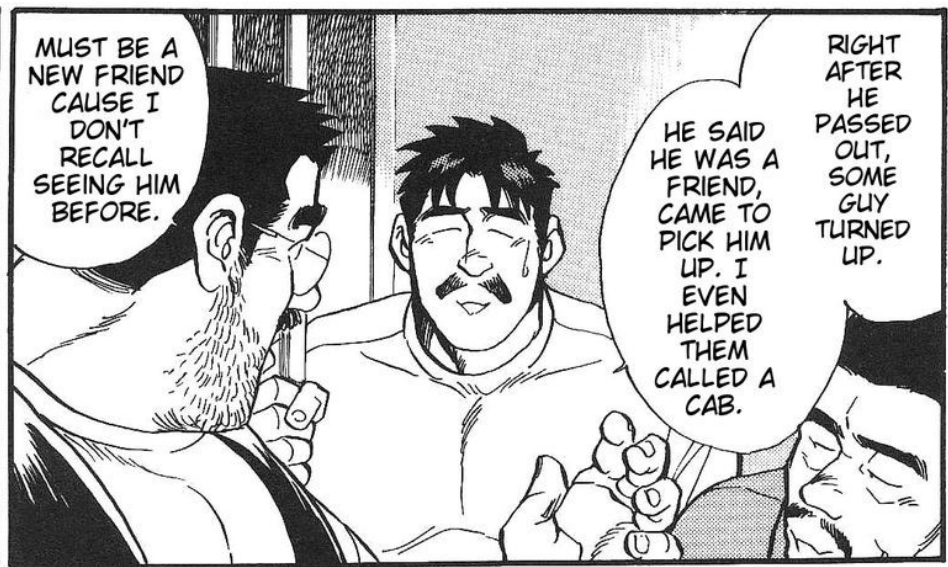


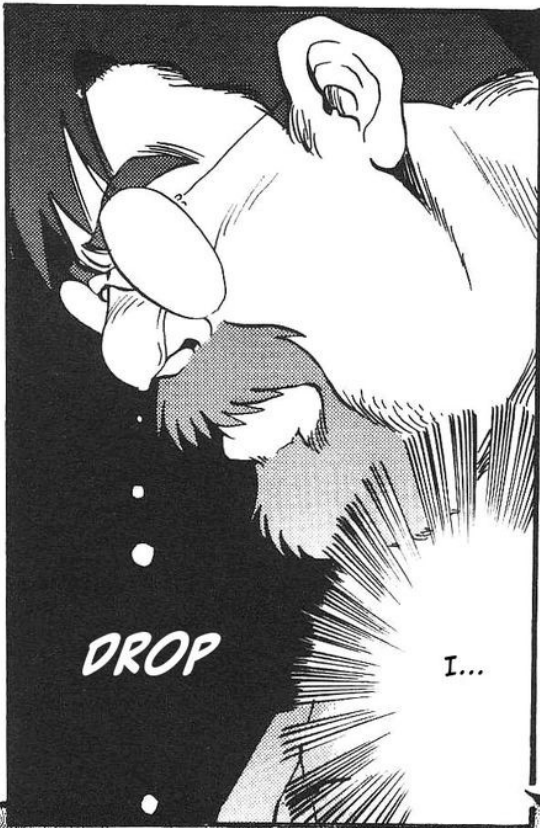
KAZUYUKI-
SAN...



HEY! SHUT
THE FUCK UP!

I'M NOT YOUR
KAZUYUKI.





DROP

I...

**BUT DOES
NORIYUKI
LOVE ME?**



YES,
I DO.

**DO I LOVE
NORIYUKI?**

I LOVE
HIM!



NORIYUKI
...

PLEASE
FORGIVE ME...

**I FUCKED
UP! IT'S ALL
MY FAULT!**

TO BE CONTINUED

盲目のパートナー

BLIND PARTNER

ナイ

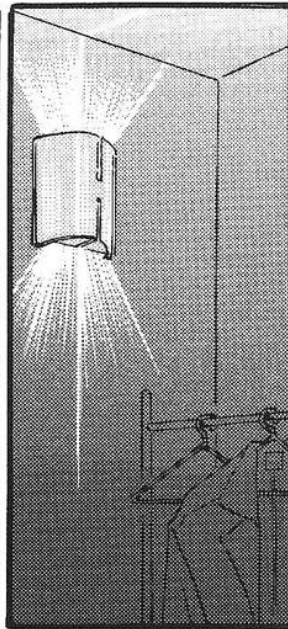
GO FUJIMOTO

藤本 郷





HEY, KAZU-SAN?
YEAH, NORI WAS
HERE. BUT
APPARENTLY HE
WENT BACK
ALREADY.



PREVIOUSLY ON BLIND PARTNER...
KAZUYUKI AND HIS LOVER, NORIYUKI, ARE HAVING
PROBLEMS IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP.

HIRO ASKED KAZUYUKI OUT, HOPING TO HELP
THEM RESOLVE IT. HIRO MANAGED TO CONVINCE
KAZUYUKI TO MAKE A CALL TO NORIYUKI IN
ORDER TO SAVE THEIR RELATIONSHIP. HOWEVER,
HE GOT AN ANSWERING MACHINE MESSAGE.

KAZUYUKI BESEECED HIRO TO LOOK FOR
NORIYUKI WHILE HE WENT BACK HOME TO WORK
ON HIS MANUSCRIPT. HOWEVER, HE CAN'T
CONCENTRATED AS HE KEEPS THINKING ABOUT
NORIYUKI.

MEANWHILE, HIRO FOUND OUT THAT NORIYUKI
HAD GONE AND GOT HIMSELF DRUNK. A
"FRIEND*" SUPPOSEDLY CAME AND TOOK HIM
HOME.

*HE'S NOT.



HEY HIRO, DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN TO
NORI? HAS HE
NOT REACHED
HOME YET?

I THINK
THERE'S
SOMETHING
YOU'RE NOT
TELLING ME.



YEAH, CAN
YOU TRY
CALLING HIS
HOME ONCE
AGAIN?

OK, BYE.



HIRO, CAN
YOU HEAR
ME?

COME
QUICK!
I NEED
YOUR
HELP!



HAHA, IT'S
NOTHING.
DON'T WORRY
ABOUT IT.

SFX: BEEEEP BEEEEP

OH, SPEAK
OF THE
DEVIL. THAT
MUST BE
HIM.



N..NORI?

SFX: STUNNED



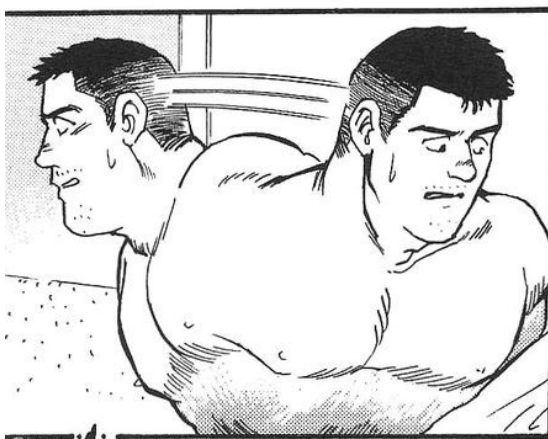
AMITABHA.

PLEASE BE ALL RIGHT.

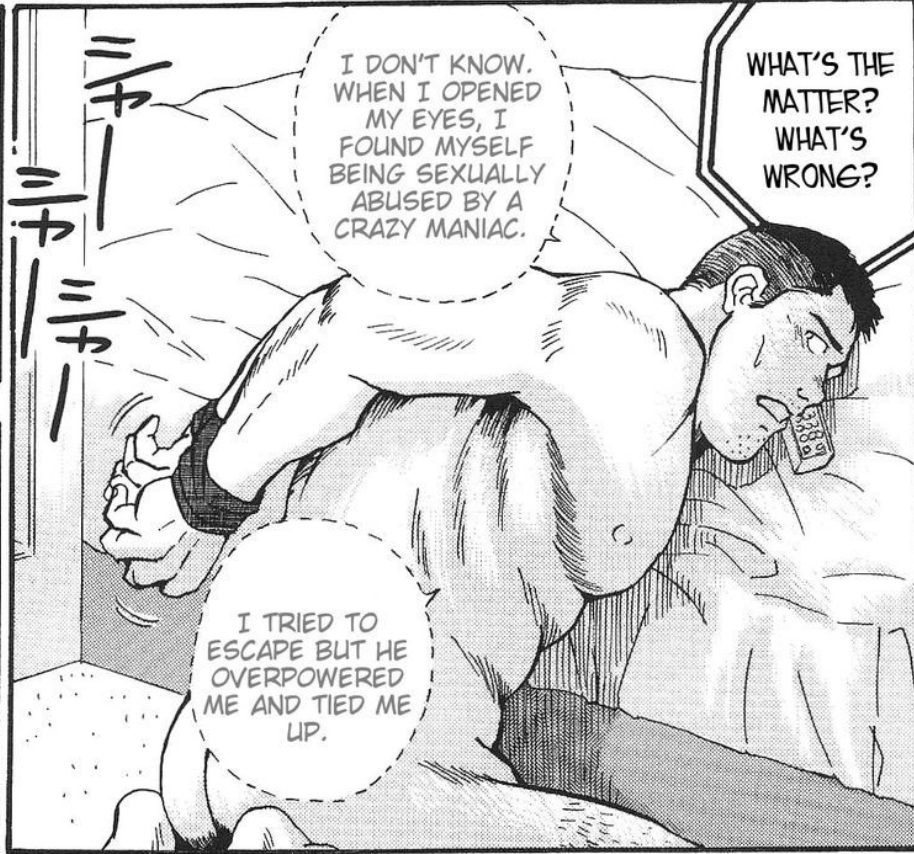
WHAT? WHERE ARE YOU NOW? WHERE?

はは SS

SFX: ANXIOUS



SFX: DOOR OPENS



I DON'T KNOW. WHEN I OPENED MY EYES, I FOUND MYSELF BEING SEXUALLY ABUSED BY A CRAZY MANIAC.

WHAT'S THE MATTER? WHAT'S WRONG?

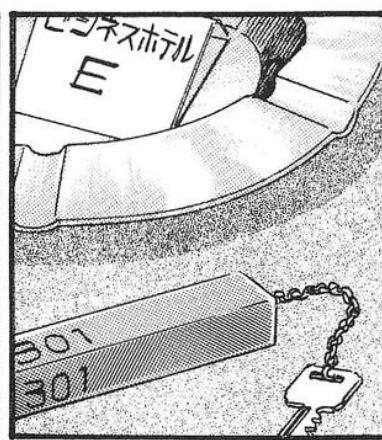
I TRIED TO ESCAPE BUT HE OVERPOWERED ME AND TIED ME UP.

SFX: SHOWER, RUNNING WATER



H...HOTEL E! IT'S ONE OF THE LOVE HOTELS IN DISTRICT 2!

ROOM 301! HURRY!



TEXT: BUSINESS HOTEL E





W...WHAT'S WRONG?

IS NORI IN TROUBLE?

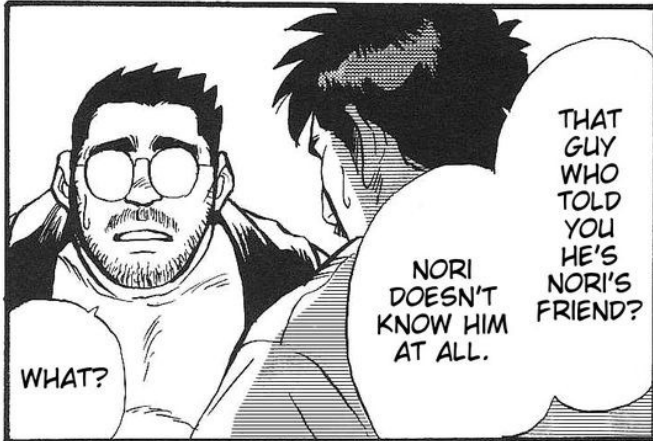
BEEP BEEP



CLICK

NORI!

NORI!



WHAT?

NORI DOESN'T KNOW HIM AT ALL.

THAT GUY WHO TOLD YOU HE'S NORI'S FRIEND?



.....



WHAT'S THE MATTER? HAVING A HANGOVER?

COME ON, DON'T LOOK SO SAD.

.....



DEAR READER, YOU BE THE JUDGE.

HEE.



YOU CAN TELL JUST BY LOOKING AT HIS FACE?

SEE? I TOLD HIM THAT GUY'S A BAD PERSON. BUT WOULD HE LISTEN TO ME?



JUMPING ROUNDHOUSE KICK

HA!

GRAB



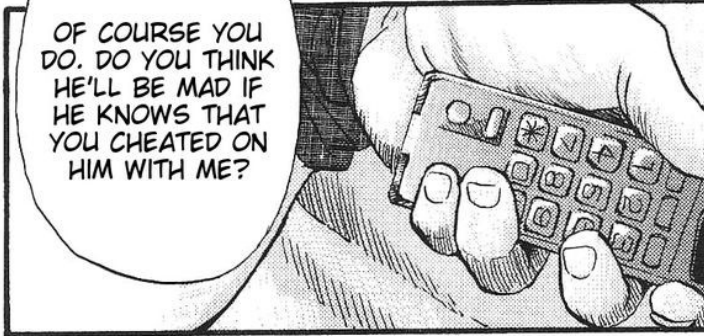
YOU'RE CUTE. DO YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND?

SFX: SLAP SLAP



THINK OF THIS AS A LEARNING EXPERIENCE.

NEXT TIME, DON'T EVER GET DRUNK AND PASS OUT AT A BAR, OK?



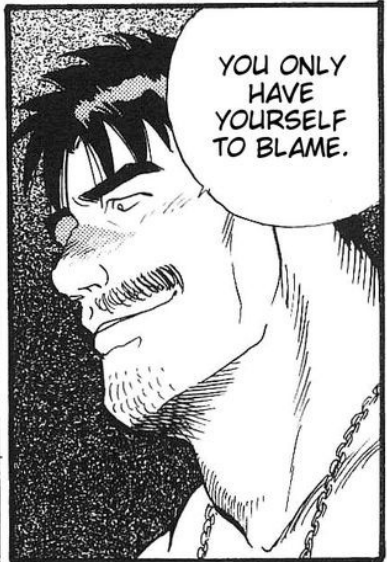
OF COURSE YOU DO. DO YOU THINK HE'LL BE MAD IF HE KNOWS THAT YOU CHEATED ON HIM WITH ME?



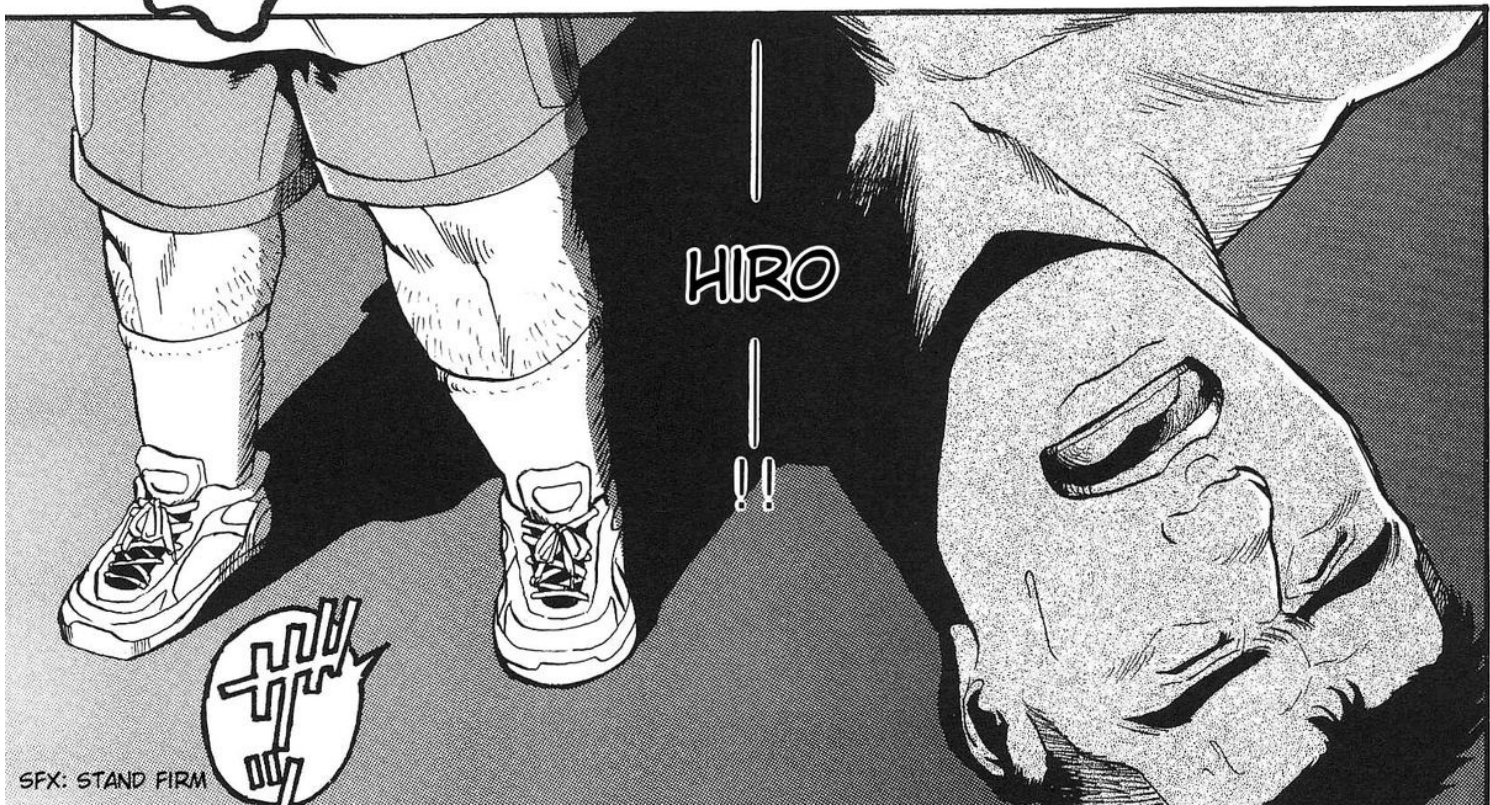
WELL THEN, SHOULD WE GET READY FOR ROUND 2?

NO!

SFX: FONDLE

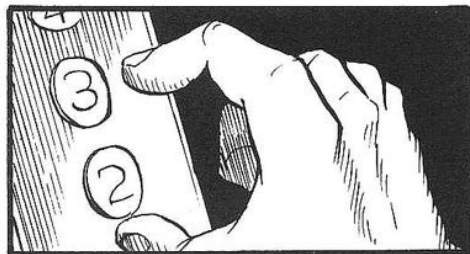
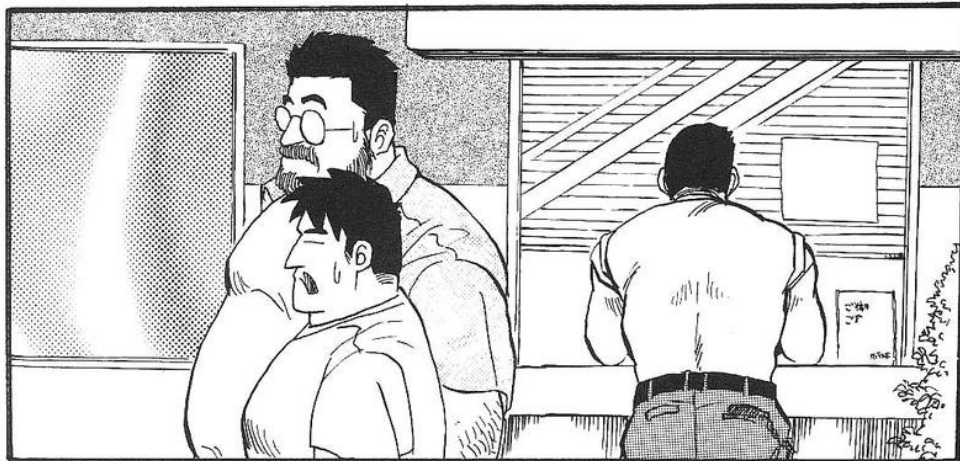


YOU ONLY HAVE YOURSELF TO BLAME.



HIRO

SFX: STAND FIRM



SIGN: OUTDOOR YAKINIKU BUSINESS HOTEL E



WHO IS IT?

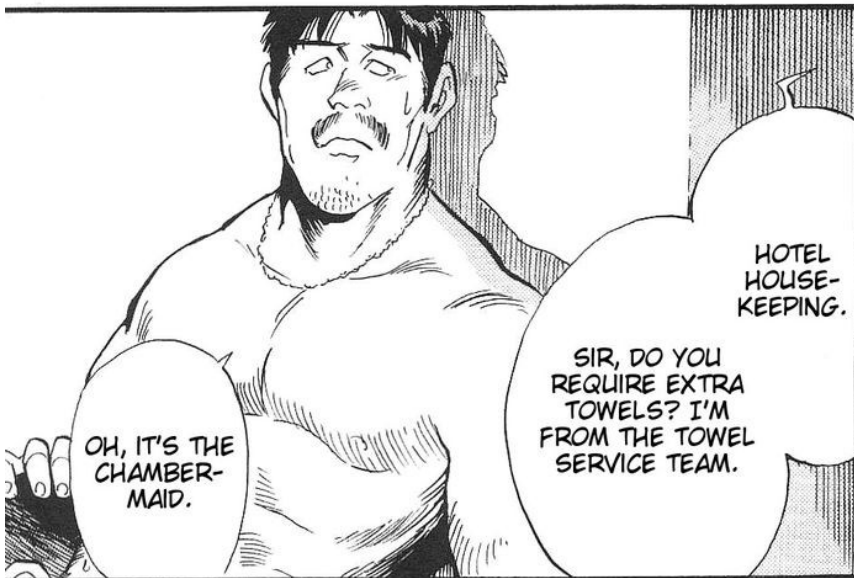


GAG

SLURP

KNOCK

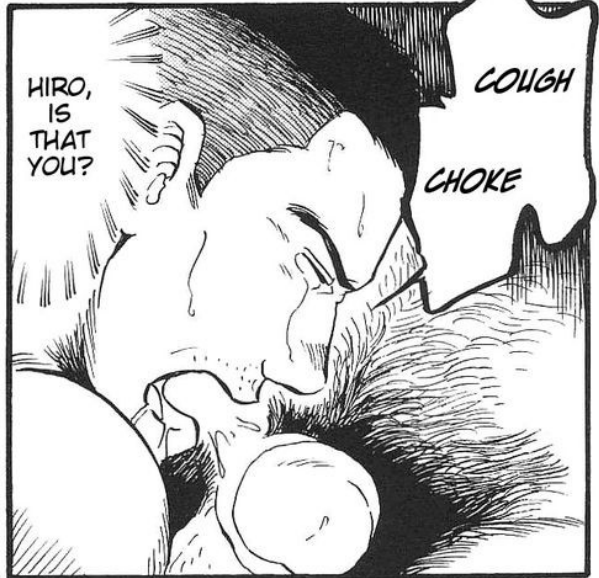
KNOCK



OH, IT'S THE CHAMBER-MAID.

HOTEL HOUSE-KEEPING.

SIR, DO YOU REQUIRE EXTRA TOWELS? I'M FROM THE TOWEL SERVICE TEAM.



HIRO, IS THAT YOU?

COUGH

CHOK

SFX: GLARES

SFX: OPENS DOOR



YOU'RE AN IDIOT! DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE? DID YOU REALLY THINK THAT HOUSEKEEPING WILL RISK DISTURBING GUESTS JUST TO PROVIDE TOWELS?



HEE HEE HEE

WELL THEN, AIN'T THIS JUST YOUR LUCKY DAY, OR...

NOT!



YOU COME AT THE RIGHT TIME! ALL THE TOWELS ARE WET. I WAS THINKING OF CALLING THE FRONT DESK TO ASK FOR FRESH ONES.

.....



SFX: SHOVE



SFX: PLOP



SFX: GRAB



SFX: GRIP



SFX: SLAM



SFX: BANG BANG BANG



SFX: BAM



OH SHIT!





THAT
FUCKER,
HE'LL PAY
FOR THIS.
I'M GOING
TO CALL THE
POLICE.

YEAH...

THANKS,
HIRO...



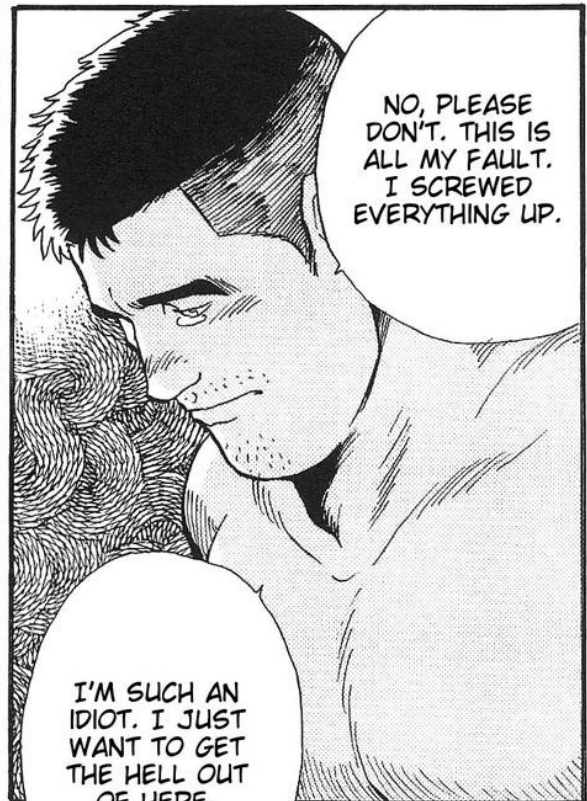
SMILE

.....
ARE YOU
ALL
RIGHT?



OK, FINE.
WE'LL FILE
A POLICE
REPORT
LATER.

HEY NORI, CAN I ASK
YOU SOMETHING? WHY
DID YOU CALL ME? WHY
DIDN'T YOU CALL KAZU-
SAN FOR HELP?



NO, PLEASE
DON'T. THIS IS
ALL MY FAULT.
I SCREWED
EVERYTHING UP.

I'M SUCH AN
IDIOT. I JUST
WANT TO GET
THE HELL OUT
OF HERE.



I DON'T
WANT TO
TROUBLE
HIM.

BUT... HE'S
UNDER A LOT
OF STRESS AND
GOT A LOT OF
THINGS GOING
THROUGH HIS
MIND RIGHT
NOW.

I
WANTED
TO...





KAZU-SAN ALWAYS HOLD YOU CLOSE TO HIS MIND AND HEART.

HE WOULD HAVE SAVE YOU IN A HEARTBEAT IF HE KNEW YOU WERE IN DANGER.



BUT MOST OF ALL, I'M SCARED THAT HE'LL HATE ME IF HE SEES ME LIKE THIS.



THE LAST THING I WANT IS FOR HIM TO DISLIKE ME EVEN MORE.



CAN YOU BLAME ME FOR FEELING THIS WAY?

ALL I EVER WANTED IS FOR HIM TO SHOW ME THAT HE LOVES ME!

THEN WHY CAN'T I SEE IT?

はっ
す

SFX: THUMP



HEH

I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING BACK AT YOUR PLACE.

COME ON, GET DRESSED.



SFX: HUH?





NORIVUKI...
PLEASE CALL
ME WHEN YOU
GET BACK.

BEEEEEP

LET'S HAVE A TALK
WHEN YOU'RE BACK.
WE REALLY NEED TO
CLEAR UP THE
MISUNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN US.

BEEEEEP

WHY ARE
YOU NOT
BACK YET?

DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN? I'M
STARTING TO
GET REALLY
WORRIED...

BEEEEEP

I CAN'T WAIT
ANYMORE. I'M
COMING TO YOUR
PLACE RIGHT NOW.

BEEEEEP

KAZUYUKI-
SAN...



KA...
KAZUYUKI-SAN...

I JUST WENT TO YOUR PLACE... BUT YOU'RE NOT BACK YET. I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR YOU AROUND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.
BEEEEP

FORGOT TO TELL YOU I'M CALLING FROM A PAY PHONE. I'M NOT GOING BACK TILL I FIND YOU.
BEEEEP



NORIYUKI... I LOVE YOU...
BEEEEP

TEXT: KAZUYUKI-SAN!



WHERE HAVE YOU GONE?
I MISS YOU SO MUCH.
BEEEEP



SFX: RUNS

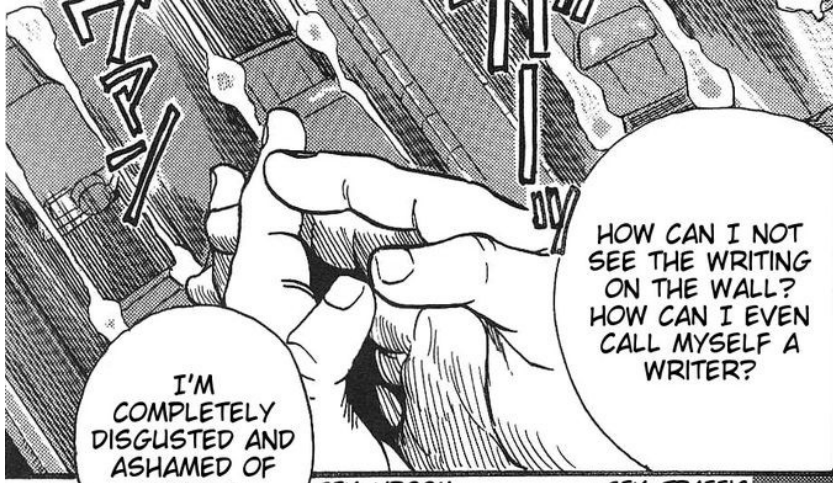


SFX: COLLAPSE

NORI!

SFX: VROOM VROOM

SFX: TRAFFIC
SIGN: TACHIKAWA CITY / NISHIKICHOU



I'M COMPLETELY DISGUSTED AND ASHAMED OF MYSELF.

HOW CAN I NOT SEE THE WRITING ON THE WALL? HOW CAN I EVEN CALL MYSELF A WRITER?

SFX: VROOM

SFX: TRAFFIC



SIGH...

WHAT HAVE I BEEN DOING...



WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

I WONDER IF YOU'RE THINKING OF ME...

I WANT TO TELL YOU HOW I REALLY FEEL ABOUT YOU.

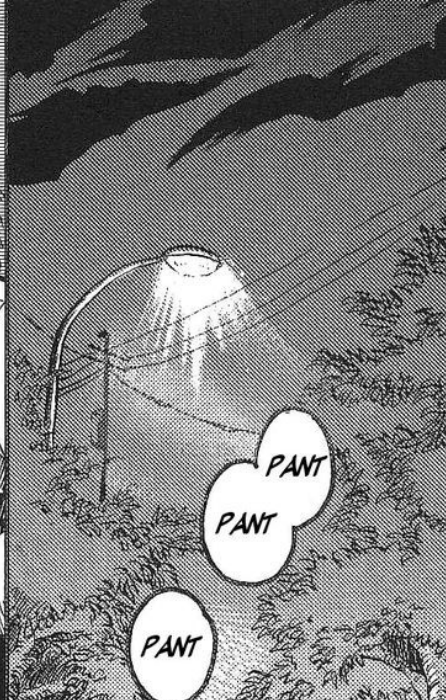


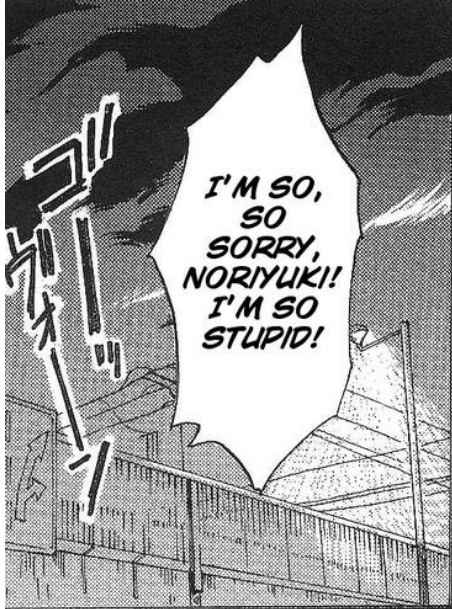
I'VE BEEN WRITING HUMAN-CENTERED STORIES FOR YEARS.

立川市 緑町



THE TRUE FEELINGS THAT I'VE BEEN AFRAID TO SHOW YOU!





**I'M SO,
SO
SORRY,
NORIYUKI!
I'M SO
STUPID!**

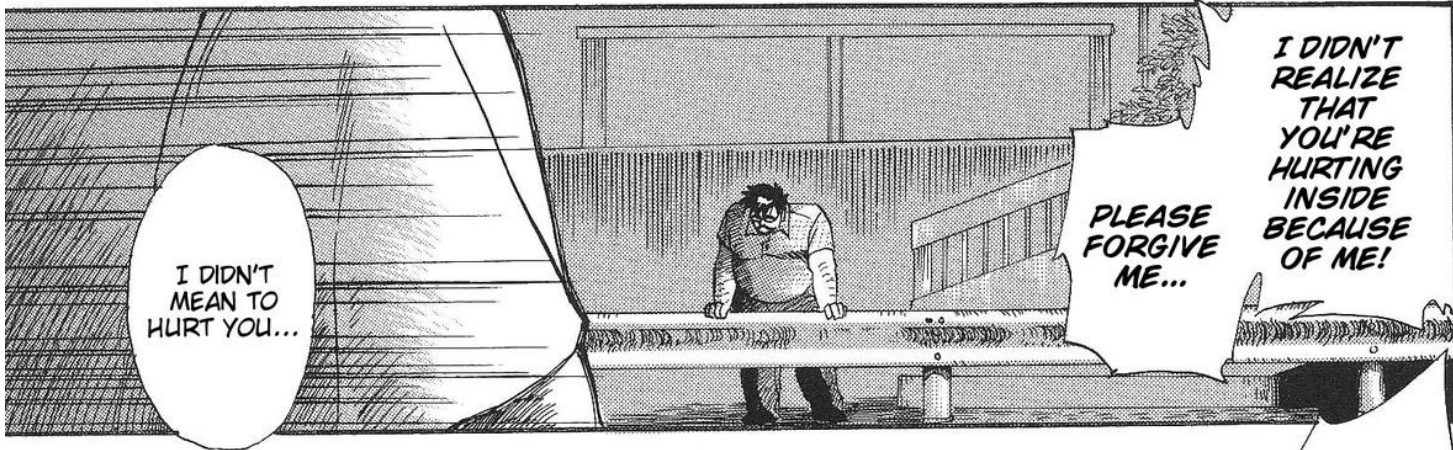


**KAZUYUKI-
SAN...
I...**



**NO...
NORIYUKI?**

SFX: ROAR OF THE TRAFFIC



**I DIDN'T
MEAN TO
HURT YOU...**

**PLEASE
FORGIVE
ME...**

**I DIDN'T
REALIZE
THAT
YOU'RE
HURTING
INSIDE
BECAUSE
OF ME!**



**NO MORE EXCUSES...
NO MORE HIDING...
I'M READY TO TELL HIM
MY HONEST FEELINGS!**

**IT'S JUST
THAT I'VE
LET MY JOB
AFFECT MY
PERSONAL
LIFE AND...
WHAT AM I
DOING...?**

**THAT'S
NOT WHO
I AM!
THAT'S
NOT HOW
I FEEL
ABOUT
YOU!
I'VE
ALWAYS
LOVED
YOU!**

**I KNOW
THAT I'VE
BEEN COLD-
HEARTED,
INSEN-
SITIVE AND
UN-
CARING...**

**NORIYUKI!
I'VE
NEVER
STOPPED
LOVING
YOU! THE
THOUGHT
OF LOSING
YOU IS
JUST TOO
MUCH TO
BEAR.
I LOVE
YOU,
MORE
THAN
YOU'LL
EVER
KNOW!**



GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE. A CHANCE TO START ALL OVER AGAIN.

THERE IT IS... IT'S SO CLEAR.
I SEE IT. KAZUYUKI-SAN'S FEELINGS... I SEE IT.



RUNS

SFX: VROOM



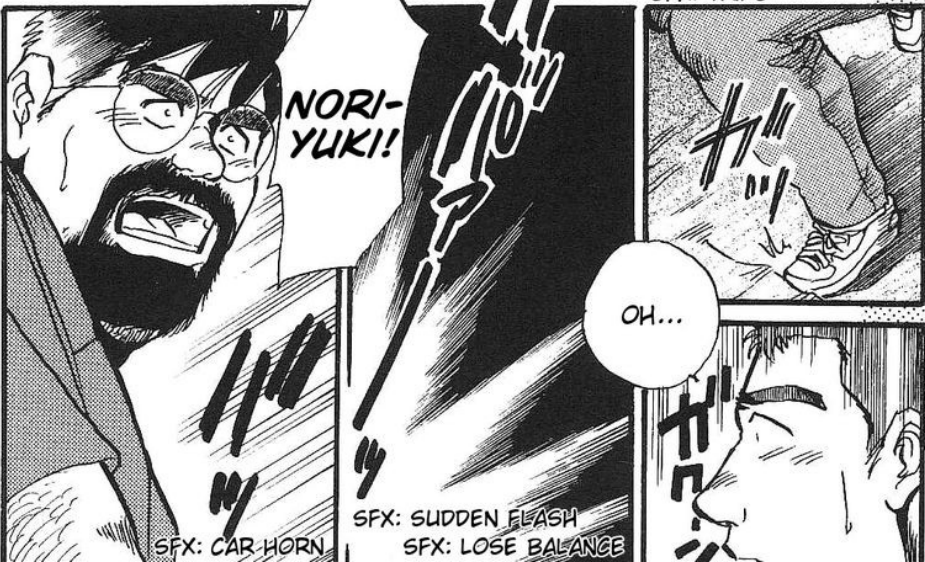
LEAPS

SFX: TRAFFIC



KAZUYUKI-SAN...

SFX: TRIPS



NORI-YUKI!

OH...

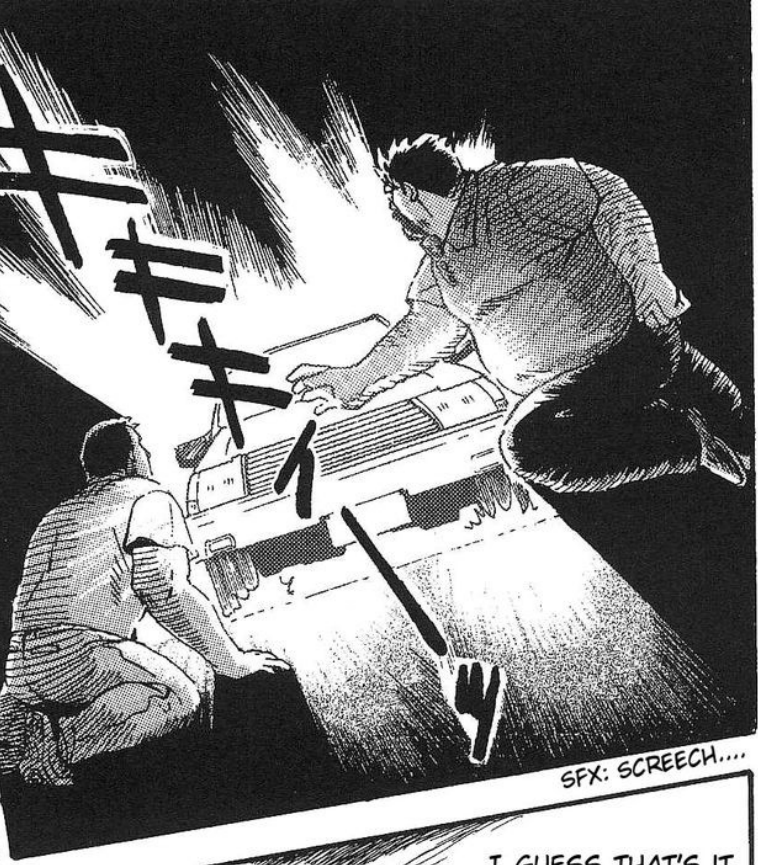
SFX: CAR HORN

SFX: SUDDEN FLASH
SFX: LOSE BALANCE





SFX: IMPACT



SFX: SCREECH....



WHOA...



I GUESS THAT'S IT FOR ME...
THE END OF MY STORY...



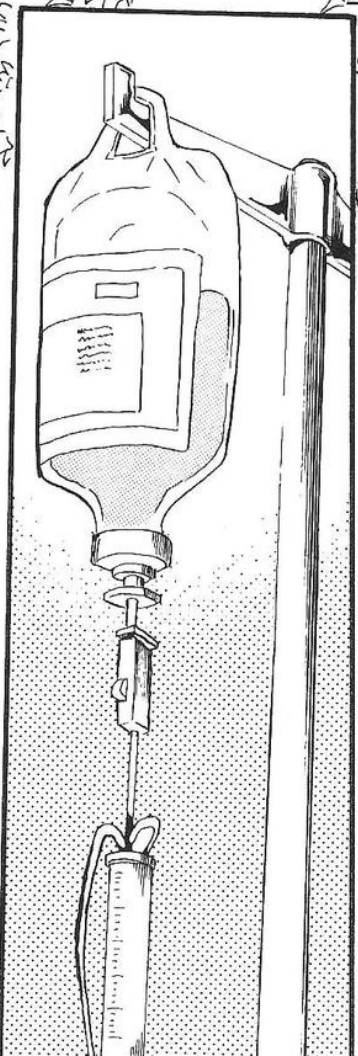
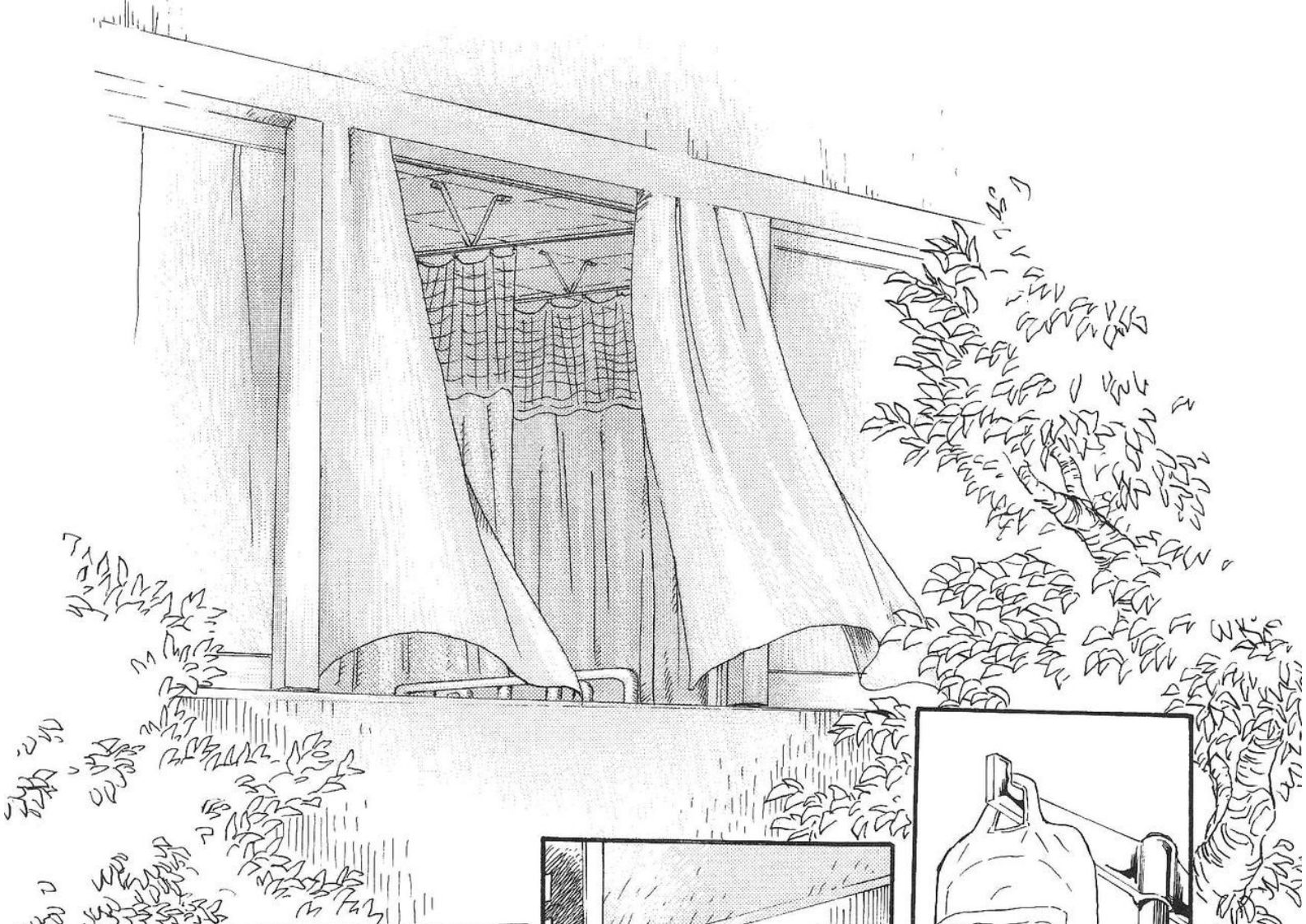
...I DON'T WANT TO DIE...
NOT NOW...



NORIYUKI,
I...



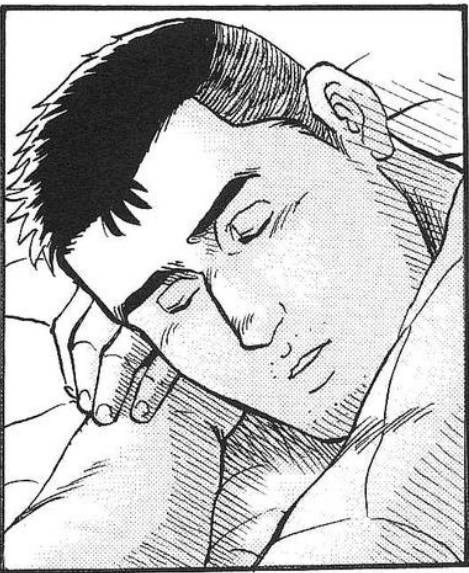
THERE ARE STILL SO MANY THINGS I WANT TO DO TOGETHER WITH YOU...



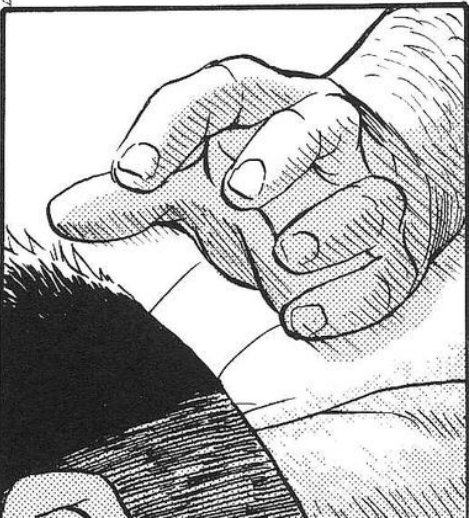
SIGN:
PATIENT: KAZUYUKI FUTODA
PERSON IN CHARGE: MORIWAKA



NORIYUKI...
DON'T EVER
DO SUCH A
STUPID THING
AGAIN.



I LOVE YOU.





LIFE IN HOSPITAL ISN'T THAT BAD.

OF COURSE, I DIDN'T MANAGE TO SUBMIT MY MANUSCRIPT IN TIME. HOW COULD I? BUT AT LEAST MY EDITOR SAID THAT HE EXPECTS SOMETHING FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OR HE WILL PERSONALLY USE HIS CAR TO RUN ME DOWN. I THINK HE WAS JOKING ABOUT THE LAST PART. I HOPE...



?



I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO STOP WRITING.



AND YOU KNOW WHAT'S THE FUNNY THING IS?



BUAAAHUAHAHAH!

I'M SORRY!

PLEASE KEEP THE NOISE DOWN.

MY WRITER'S BLOCK IS CURED!

I'VE GOT SO MUCH IDEAS AND INSPIRATIONS THAT I'M SERIOUSLY THINKING OF WRITING MY FIRST FULL LENGTH NOVEL.

SFX: HIDE QUICKLY



SFX: SOUND OF MANY FOOTSTEPS

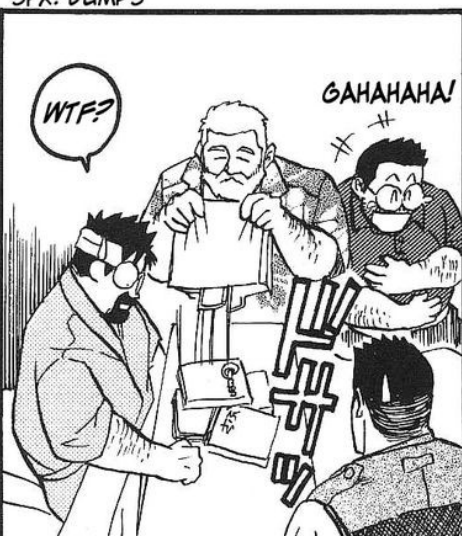
SFX: DUMPS



NOTHING. I THOUGHT THEY MAKE NICE GIFTS.

YOU SON OF A BITCH! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?

TAKE THEM BACK!



WTF??

GAHAHAHA!



THANK ME LATER.



HELP ME! I OBJECT TO THIS MANHANDLING!



PHOTO TIME!

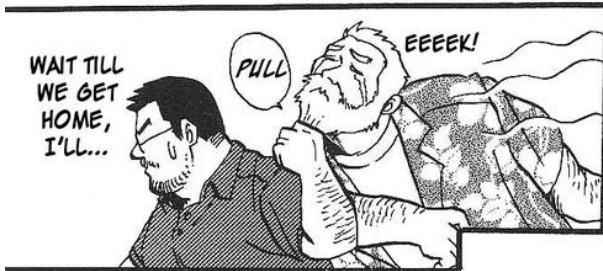


SNAP

I GUESS ALL THE THINGS THAT HAPPENED WAS A TEST TO REVALIDATE OUR LOVE. TO LET US KNOW WHAT'S IMPORTANT AND NOT TO LOSE SIGHT OF EACH OTHER IN OUR RELATIONSHIP.



BB



WAIT TILL WE GET HOME, I'LL...

PULL

EEEEK!

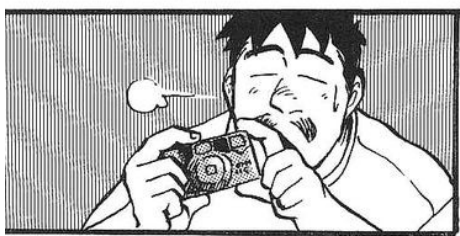


IN A WAY, WE BOTH WERE BLINDED BY OUR OWN LOVE FOR EACH OTHER.

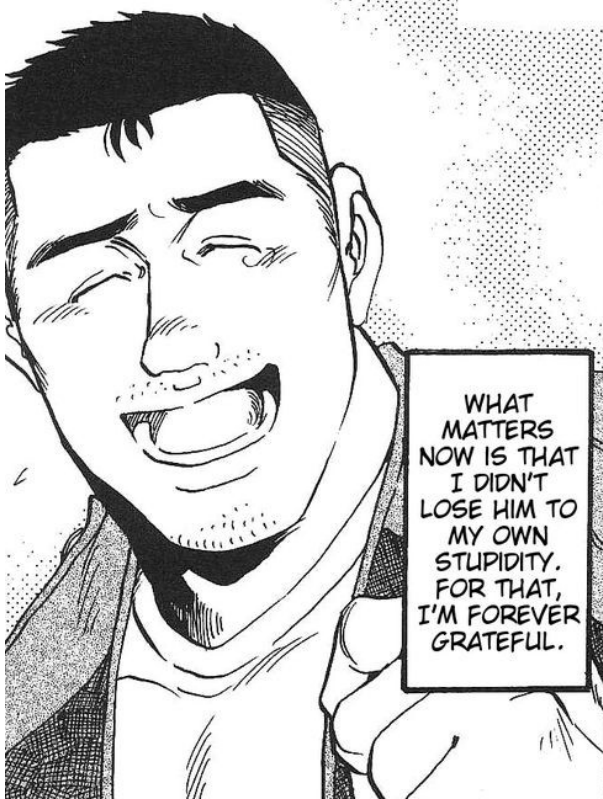
UH-OH!

GOOD GRIEF.

SHAKE SHAKE



STILL, HE REFUSED TO TALK ABOUT THE NIGHT OF MY ACCIDENT.



WHAT MATTERS NOW IS THAT I DIDN'T LOSE HIM TO MY OWN STUPIDITY. FOR THAT, I'M FOREVER GRATEFUL.



BUT I KNOW HE WILL TELL ME WHEN THE TIME'S RIGHT.



PPFT

THEY SURE ARE ANNOYING...



WHOO HOO!

KISS! KISS!



SEEING NORIYUKI BY MY SIDE,

COME ON, GET CLOSER... CLOSER...



...I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN DO IT.

BUT I'M SURE AS HELL WILL GIVE IT MY ALL,



...TO LIVE UP TO NORIYUKI'S LOVE FOR ME AS LONG AS I LIVE.

SFX: SNAP

THE END

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TRANSLATOR NOTES:

I REALLY HOPE THAT YOU'VE READ THE WARNING IN README1ST.TXT FILE.

THIS IS WHAT I WILL NOW TERM AS AN "ANTI-TRANSLATION". IT'S STILL A TRANSLATION IN THE SENSE THAT A SUMMARY OF MY TRANSLATION WILL MATCH UP PRETTY CLOSE TO THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION. BUT OTHER THAN THAT, IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

I CHANGED A LOT OF THE DIALOGUES, AVOIDING THE LITERAL/DIRECT TRANSLATIONS. INSTEAD I TRIED TO USE NATURAL SOUNDING ENGLISH SENTENCES. OF COURSE, DIALOGUES WHICH I COULDN'T TRANSLATE, I "FREE-STYLED" THEM. HOWEVER, YOU WILL NOTICE THAT I STILL KEEP THE HONORIFICS INTACT.

OTHER CHANGES I'VE DONE:

- I TRIED TO MAKE IT SEEMED THAT HIRO USED TO CARRY A TORCH FOR NORIYUKI WHICH EXPLAINS THE BAD BLOOD BETWEEN HIRO AND KAZUYUKI. BUT HIRO IS TOO MUCH OF A GENTLEMAN THAT HE ONLY WANTS WHAT'S BEST FOR NORIYUKI. EVEN AT THE EXPENSE OF HIS OWN HAPPINESS.
- IT'S HEAVILY IMPLIED THAT THE 2 BAR OWNERS ARE LOVERS. I MADE THAT VERY CLEAR IN MY TRANSLATION.
- IN MY TRANSLATION, I TRIED TO EXPLAIN WHY HIRO AND NORIYUKI NEVER MAKE A POLICE REPORT.
- I ALSO MAKE THE ENDING A BIT DARKER (LEAVING THINGS OPEN FOR A SEQUEL) BY MAKING IT SUCH THAT NORIYUKI DIDN'T TELL KAZUYUKI ABOUT HIM BEING RAPED.

OTHER THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE NOTICED:

- IN CASE IT'S NOT OBVIOUS ENOUGH, NO ONE IS BLIND IN THIS STORY.
- NORIYUKI DOES NOT HAVE A MOBILE PHONE. THE PHONE THAT NORIYUKI USED TO CALL HIRO BELONGS TO THE RAPIST.
- ONLY HIRO HAS A MOBILE PHONE.
- THE MAGAZINES KAZUYUKI IS HIDING FROM THE NURSE ARE G-MEN, BADI (BOTH OF THESE ARE STILL BEING PUBLISHED) AND さぶ/SABU (WHICH CEASED PUBLICATION IN 2002).

I WILL TRY TO KEEP THESE TYPE OF TRANSLATIONS TO A MINIMUM. BUT IN FUTURE, IF YOU SEE A README1ST.TXT FILE, YOU WILL KNOW THAT IT'S AN "ANTI-TRANSLATION".

FEEL FREE TO PASS THIS AROUND BUT DON'T MAKE ANY MONEY OUT OF IT.

THANKS AGAIN FOR READING. YOU CAN SEND COMMENTS, CRITIQUES AND SUGGESTIONS TO THE EMAIL BELOW.

IF YOU HAVEN'T READ THEM YET, ALL MY PAST MANGA TRANSLATIONS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM MY SKYDRIVE PUBLIC FOLDER.

[HTTP://SDRV.MS/KPJSIQ](http://SDRV.MS/KPJSIQ)

IF THE LINK IS DOWN THEN MOST PROBABLY MY ACCOLINT GOT SUSPENDED. :)

ADDITIONAL INFO:

TRANSLATOR: PGP1234

EMAIL: PGP1234@LIVE.COM

RAW MANGA SCANS FROM: BARA.XIBIA.NET (THANKS TUXX!)

ORIGINAL MANGA SERIALIZED IN: G-MEN NO.8 TO NO.10

EDITING PROGRAM: GIMP ON UBUNTU

FONTS: WILD WORDS / KOMIKA TITLE / ZAP RAYGUN V2.0

SFX TRANSLATIONS: [HTTP://THEJADEDNETWORK.COM/SFX/](http://THEJADEDNETWORK.COM/SFX/)