Inside 3
MARI
Shuzo Oshimi

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Shuzo Oshimi

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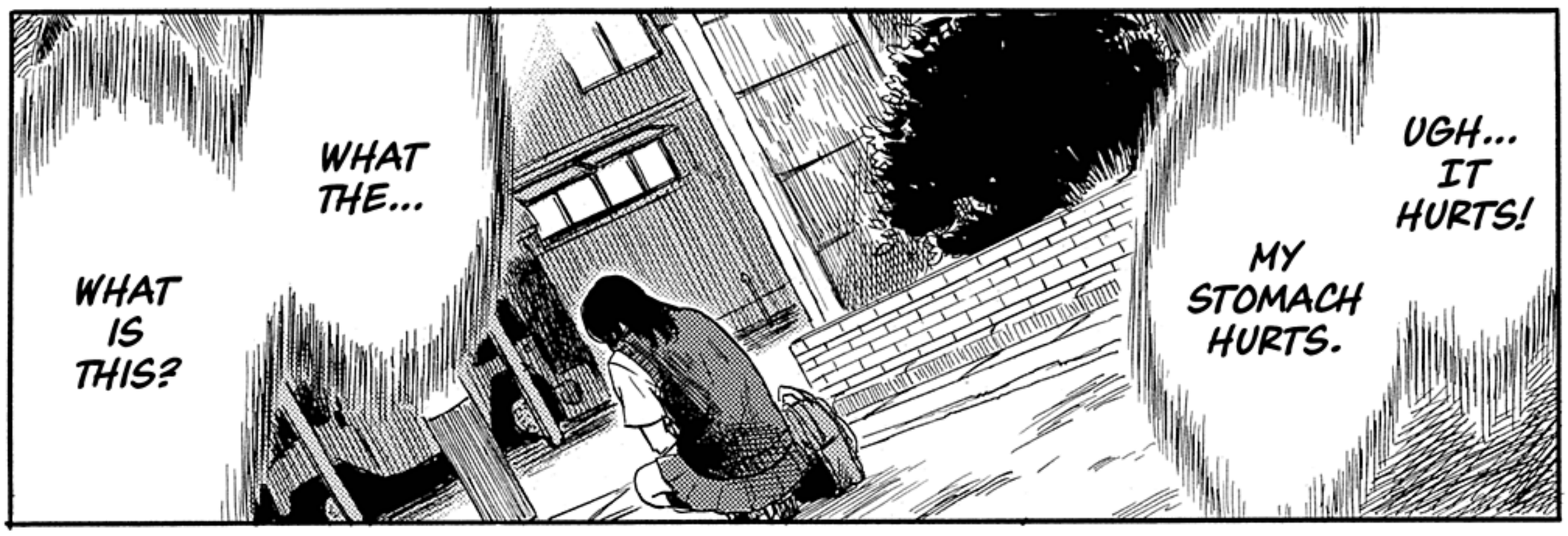
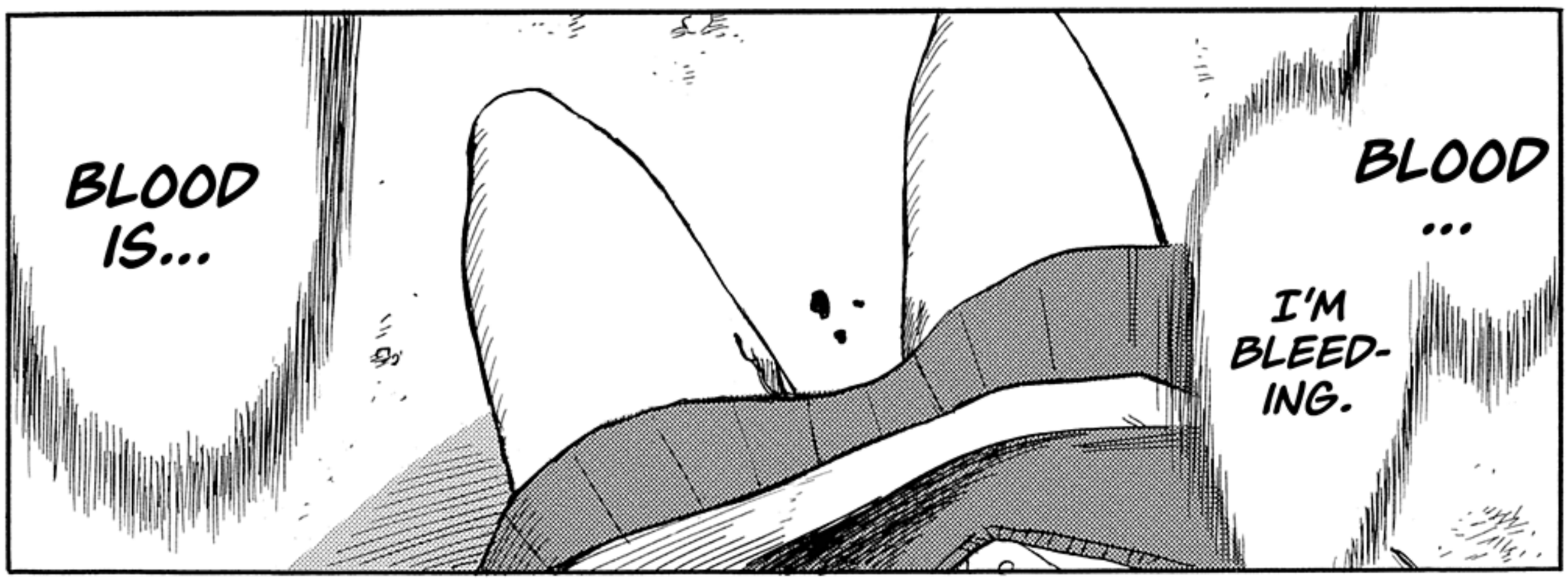
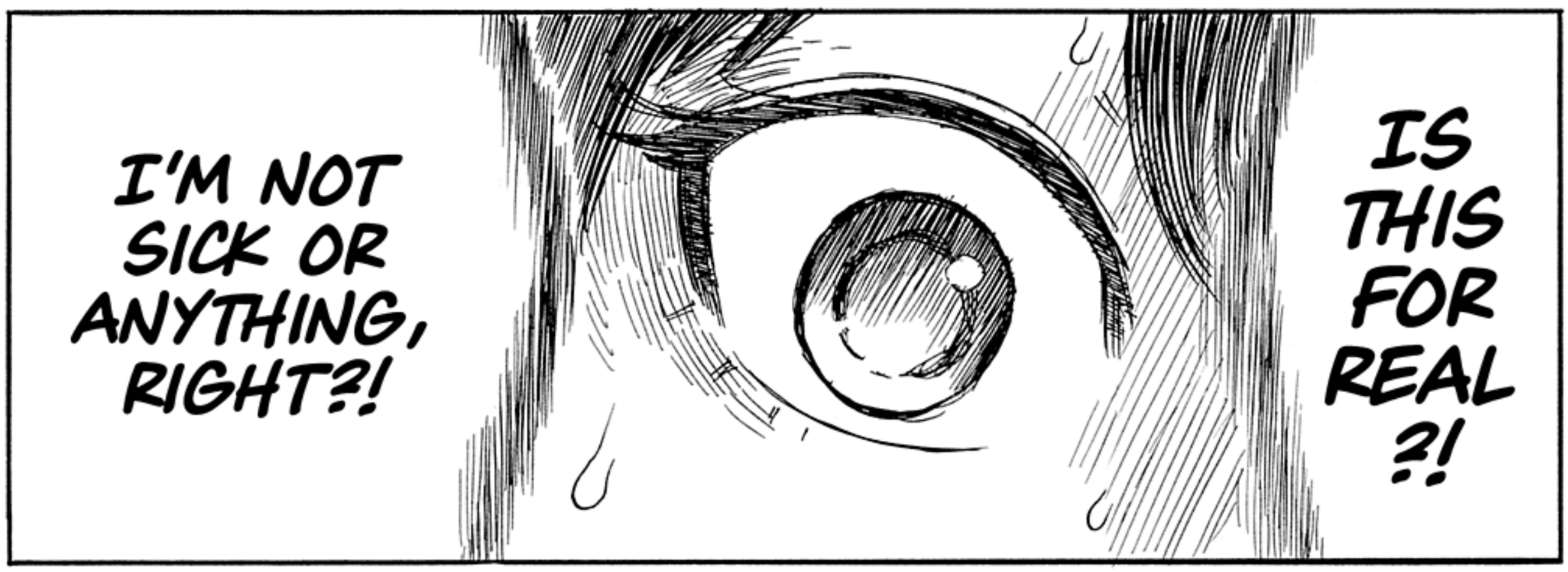
Chapter 18:
The Time for Confrontation

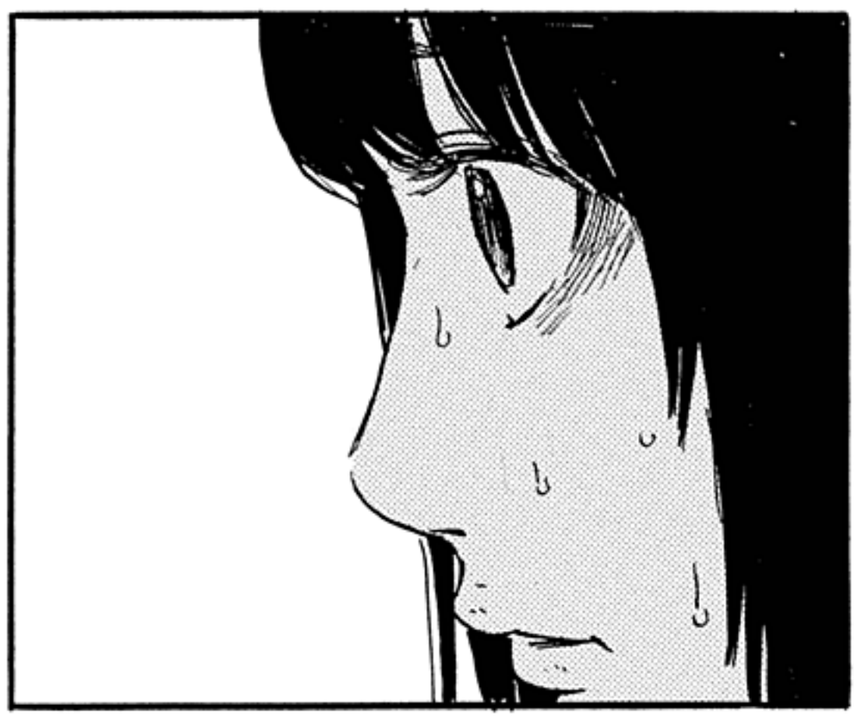
GWAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
AHH...
UGH...
ARGH ...
OWW ...

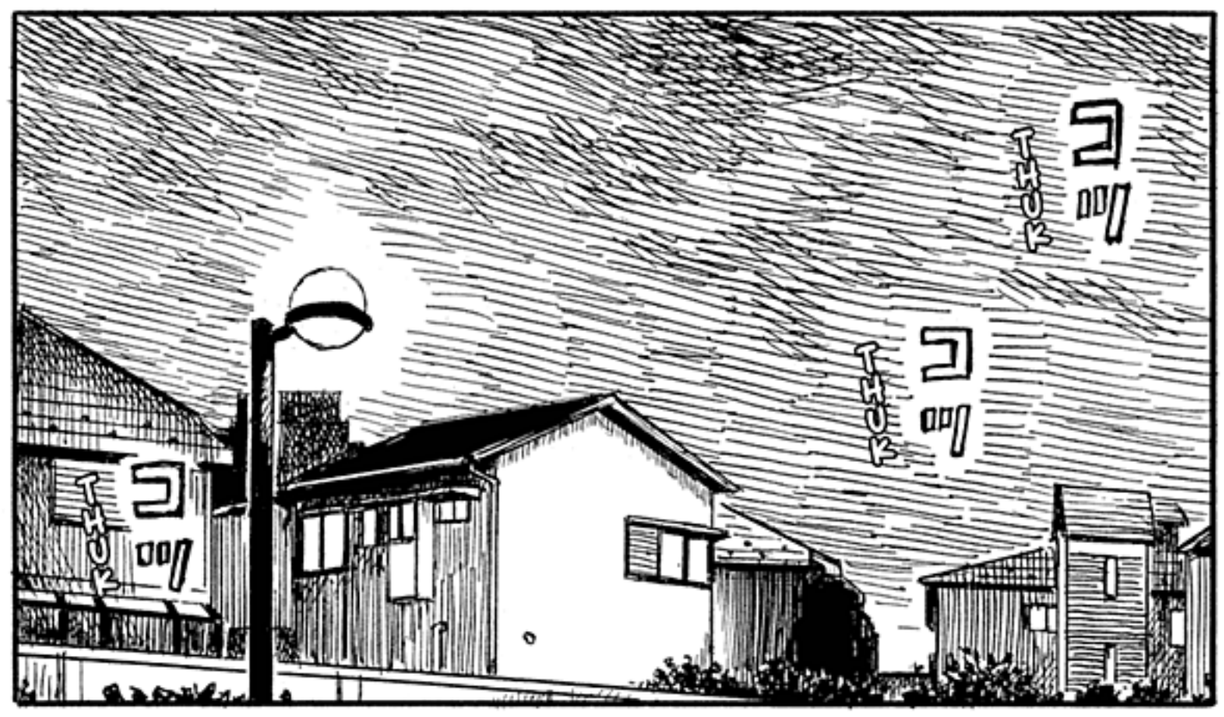

WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT THE...
MY STOMACH HURTS.
UGH... IT HURTS!


BLOOD IS...
I'M BLEED-ING.
BLOOD ...

THIS IS WHAT A PERIOD IS?
IS THIS A PERIOD?
A PERIOD ?!


I'M NOT SICK OR ANYTHING, RIGHT?!
IS THIS FOR REAL ?!

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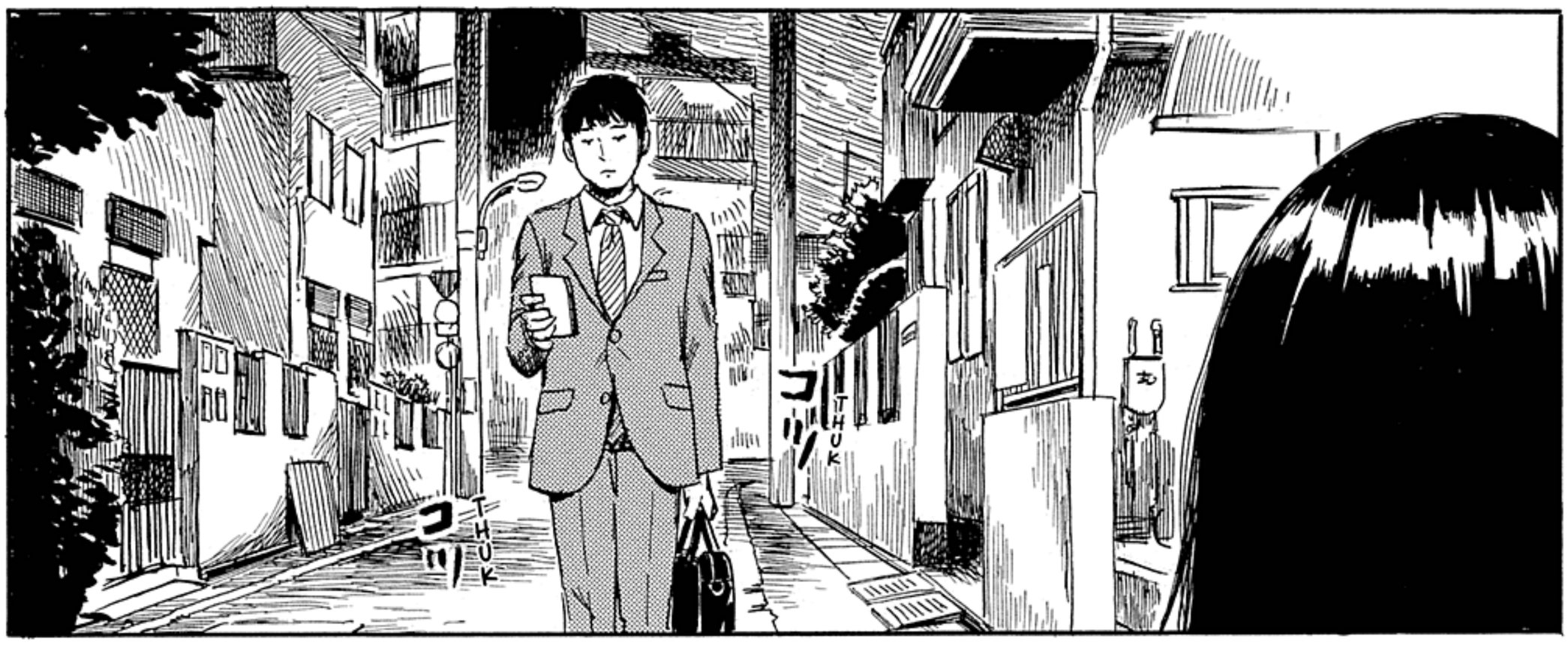
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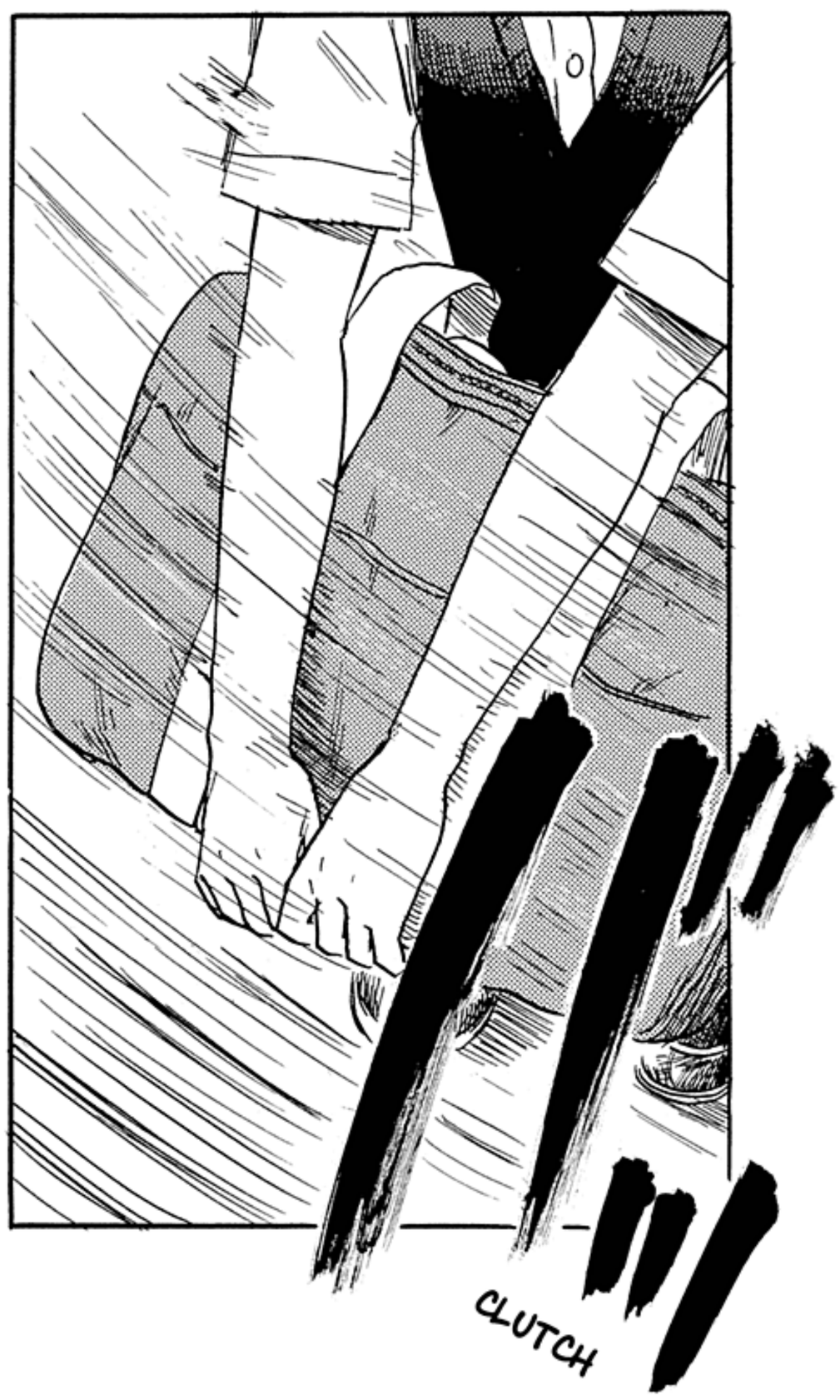
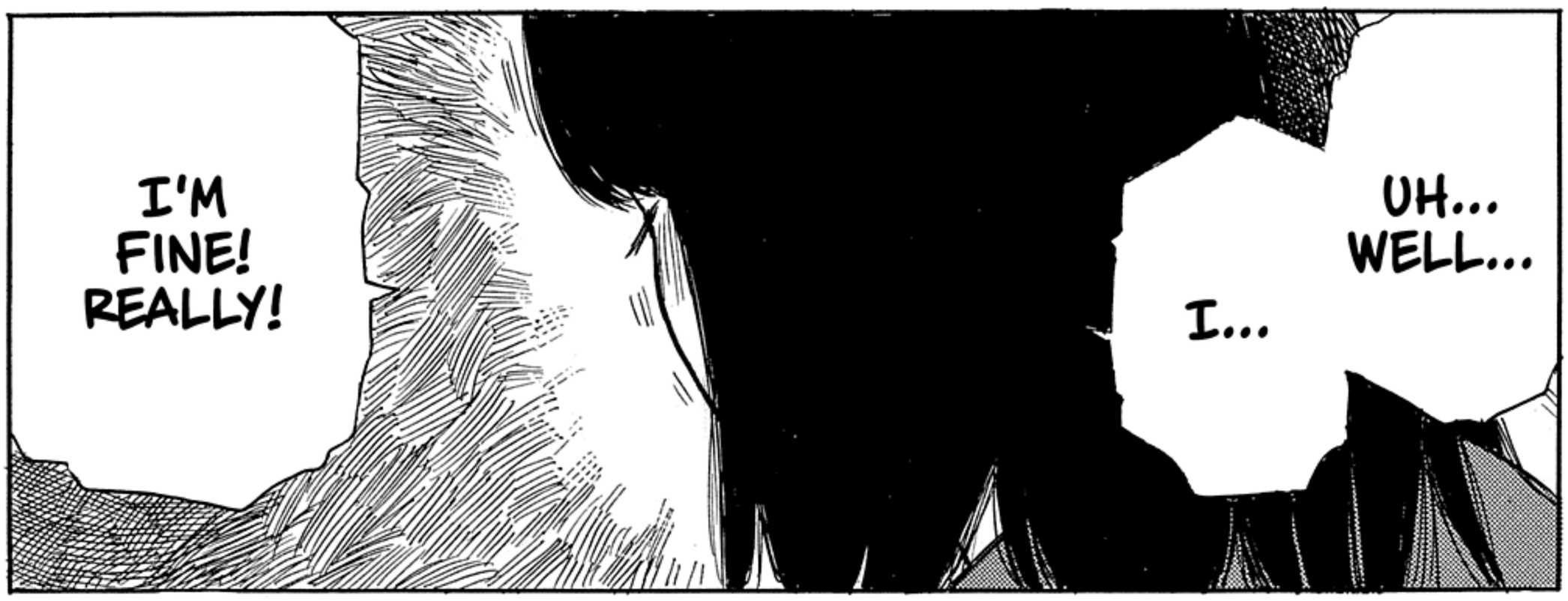
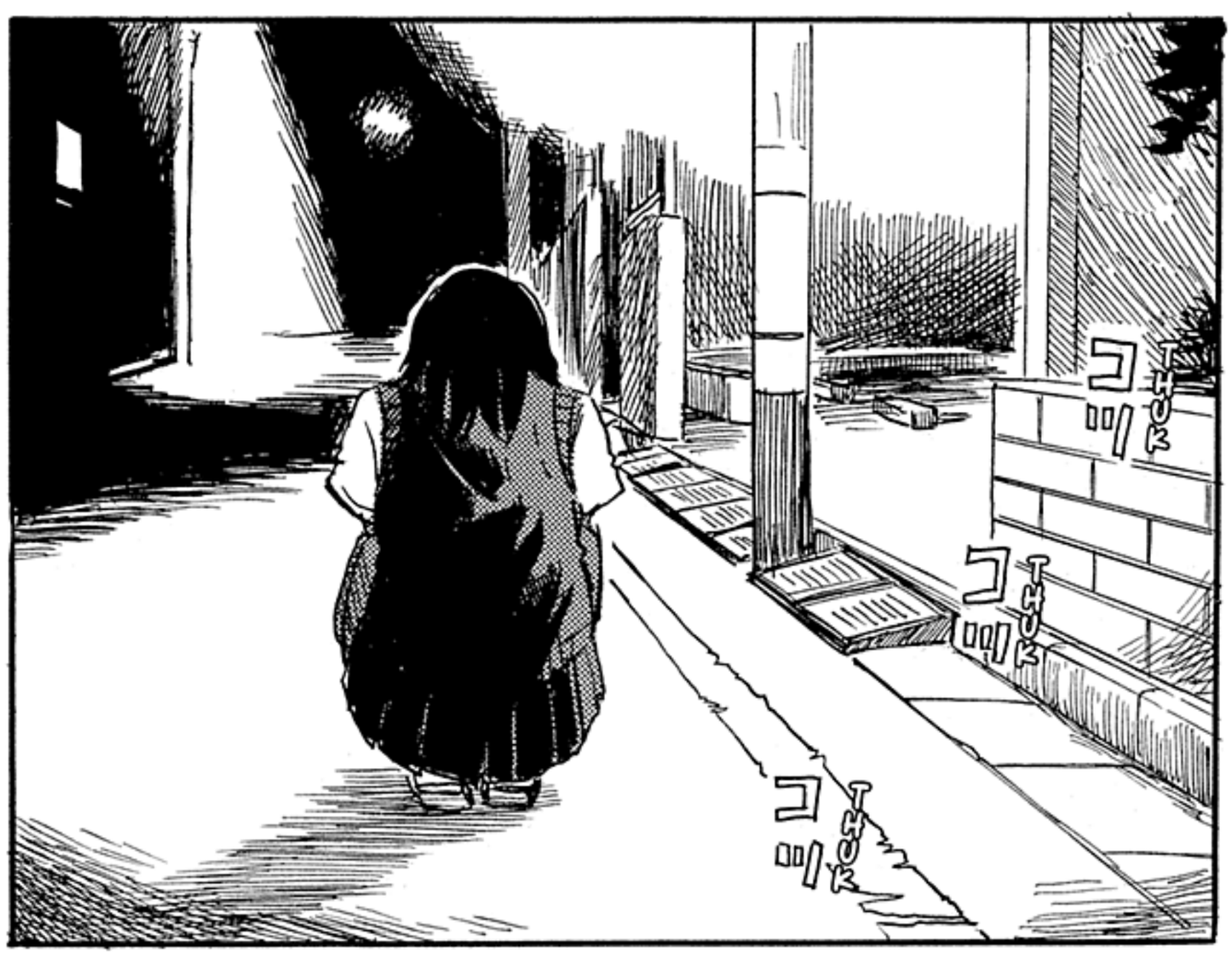

CLUTCH

ARE YOU FEELING ILL?

EXCUSE ME–
ARE YOU OKAY?


I'M FINE! REALLY!
UH... WELL...
I...


コツ THUK
コツ THUK
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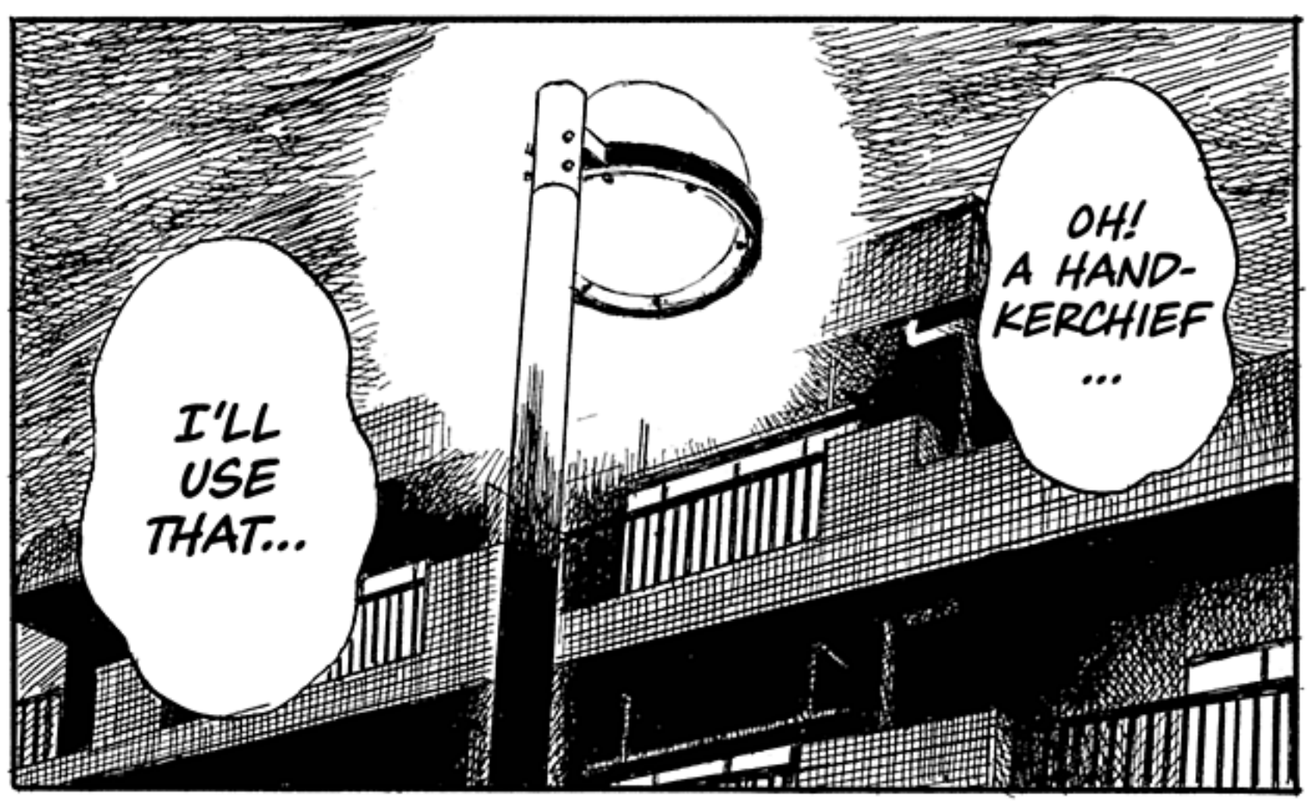
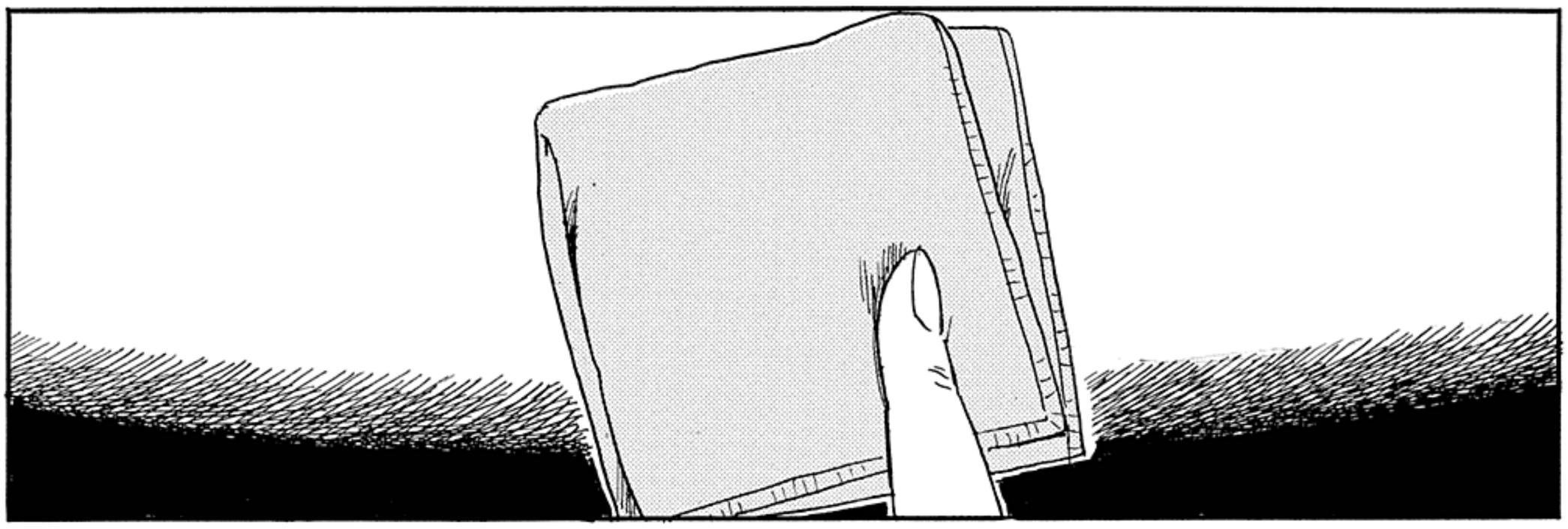
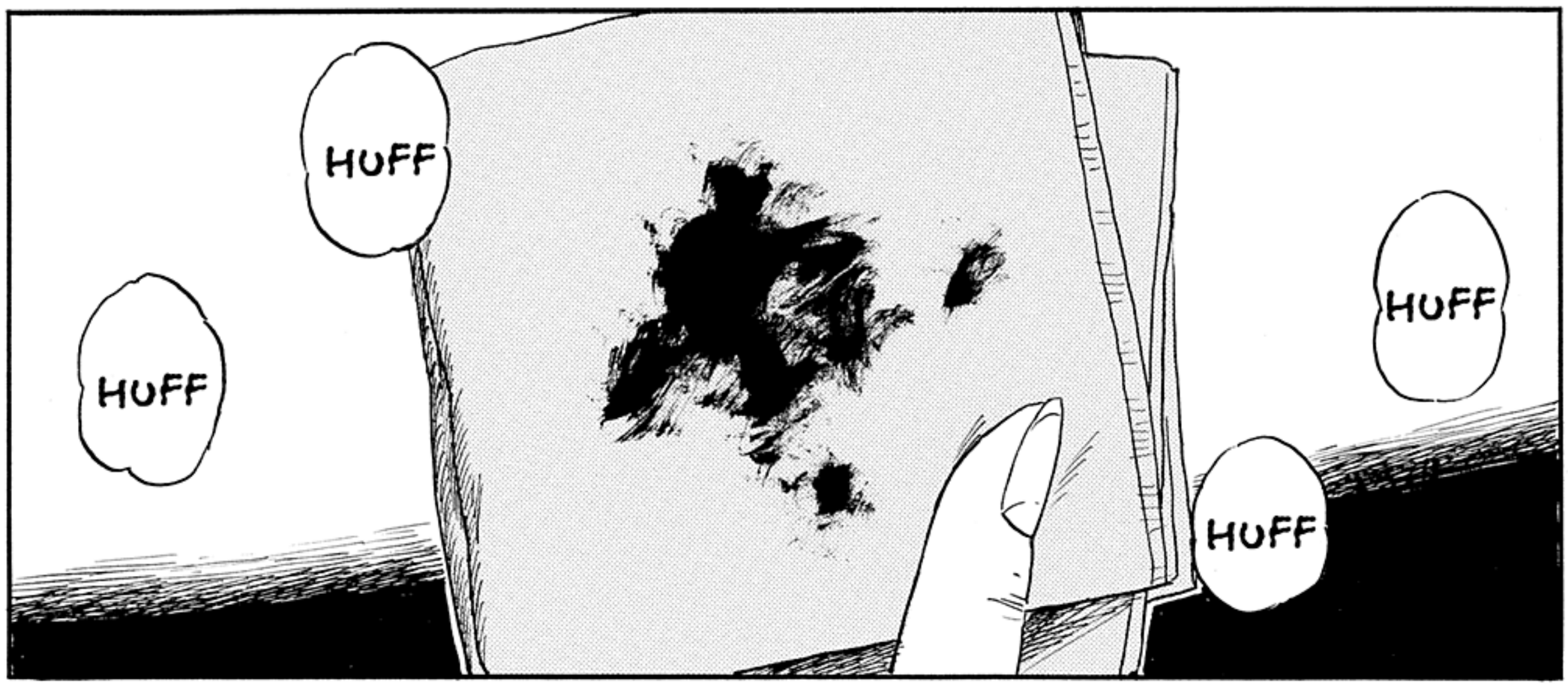
IS THAT... SO?
...

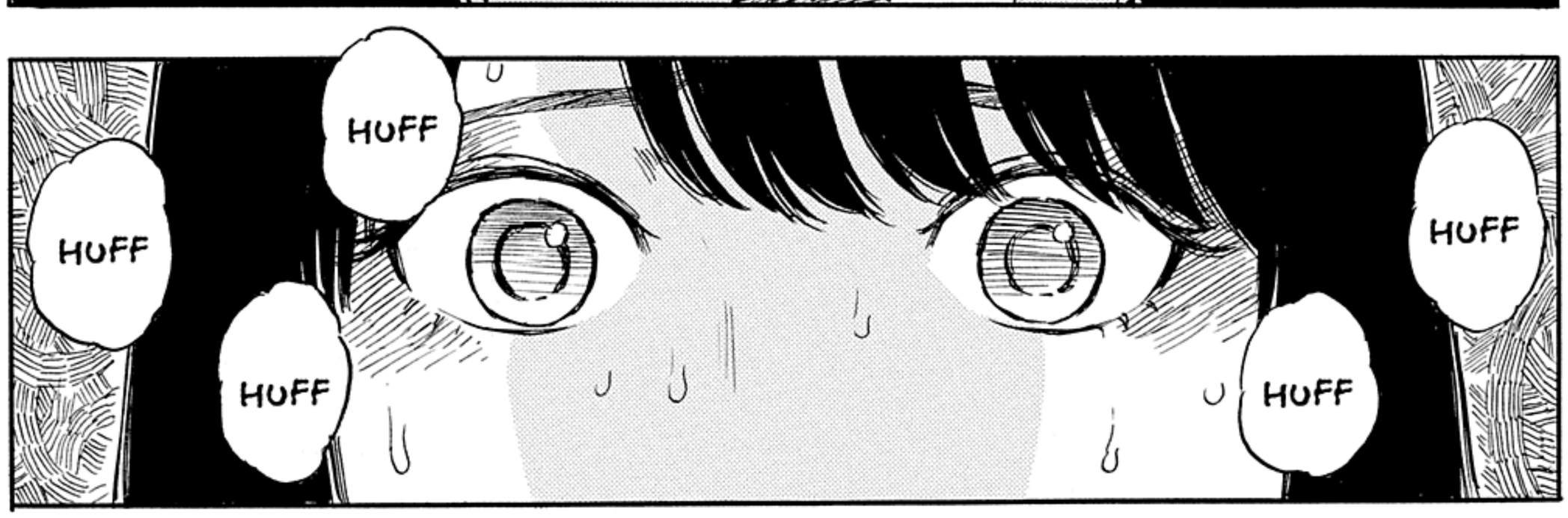
RSTL
RSTL

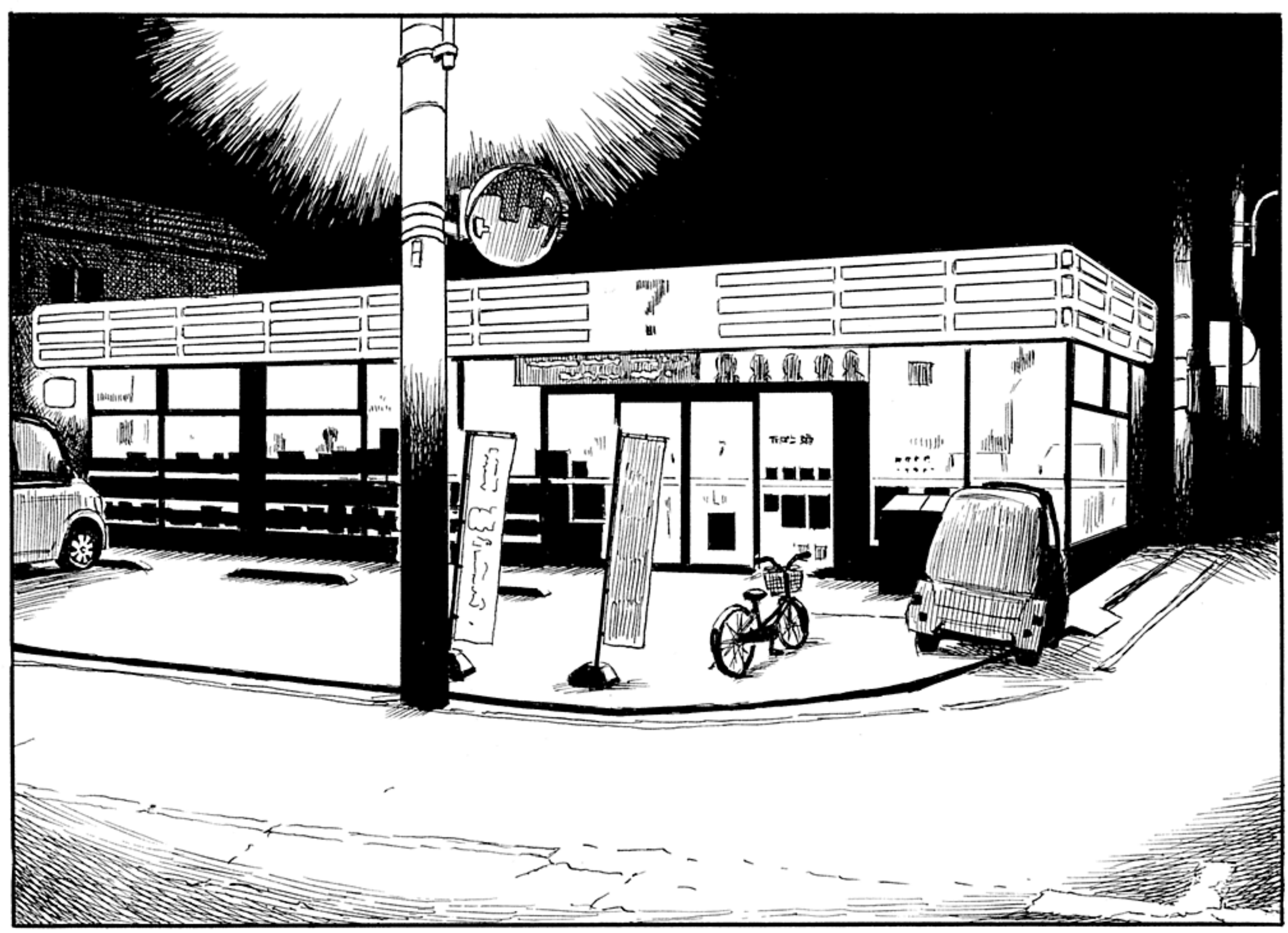

I'LL USE THAT...
OH! A HAND-KERCHIEF ...

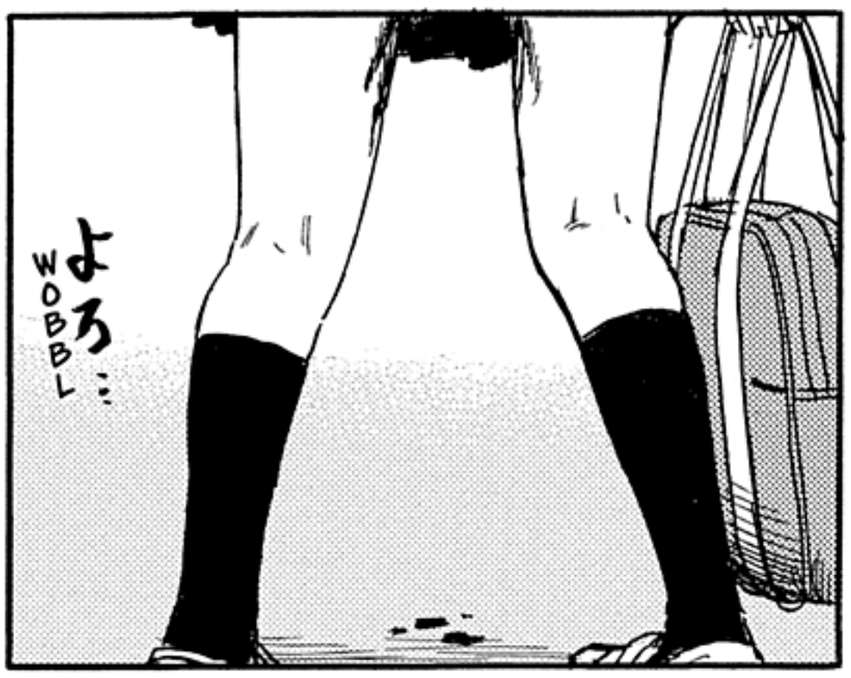


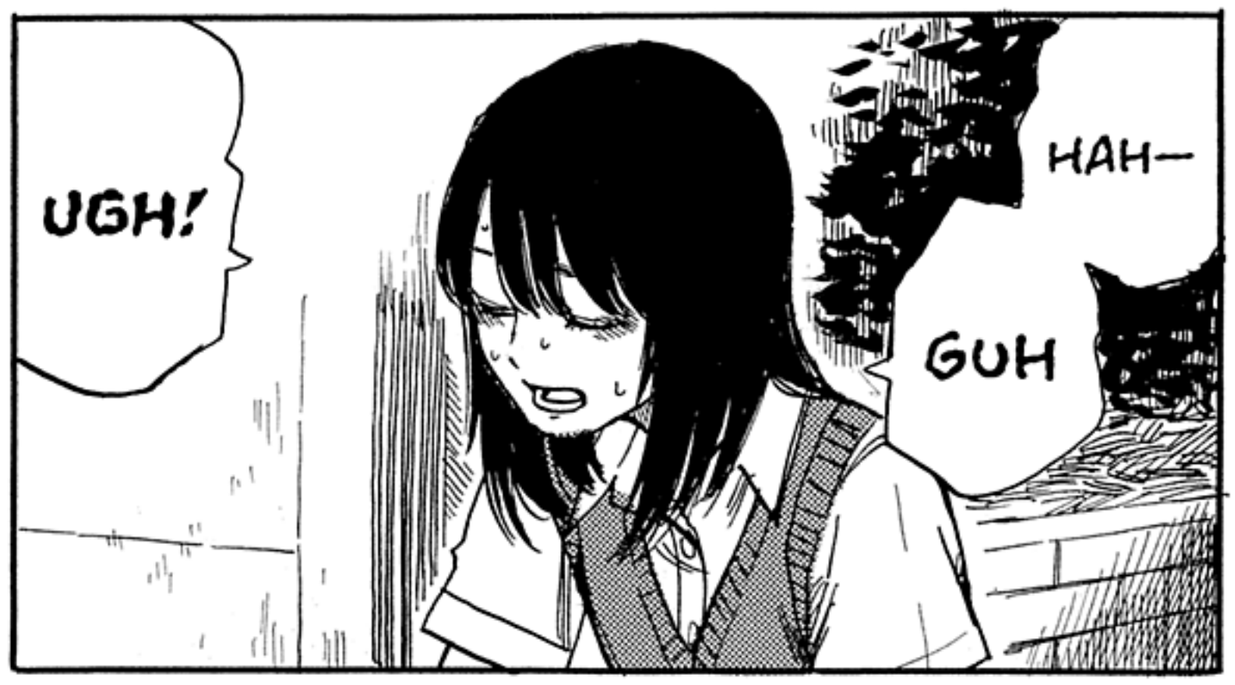
I'M SORRY ...

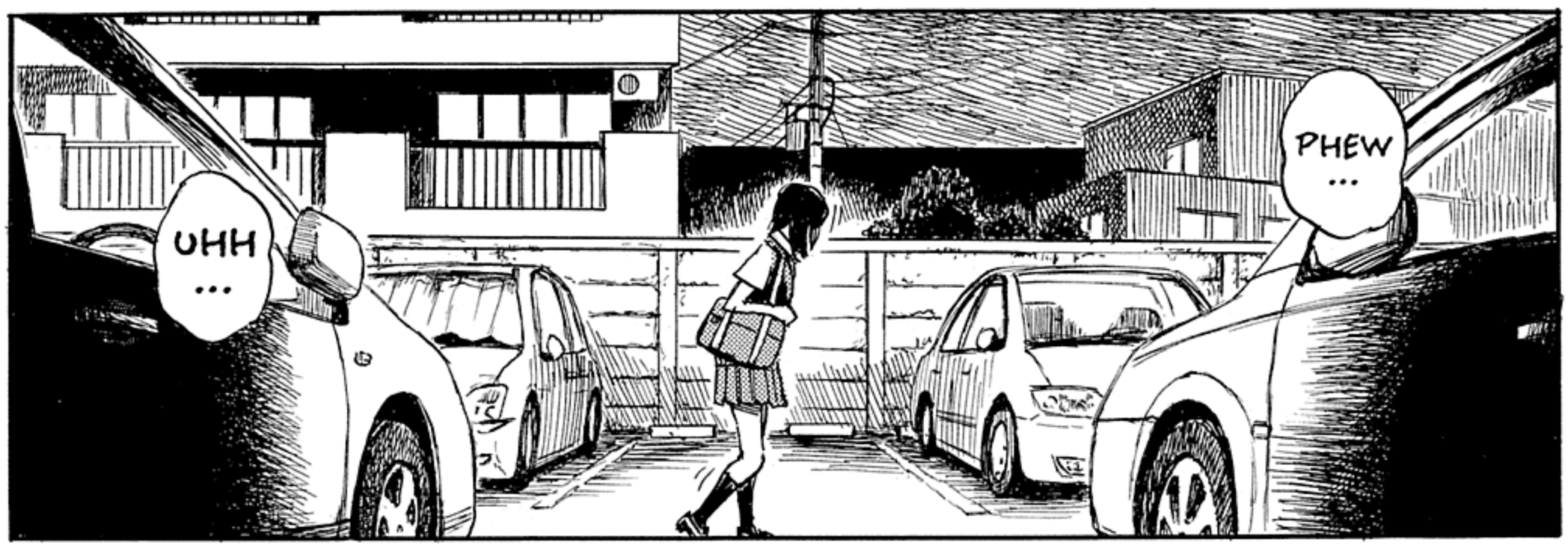

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

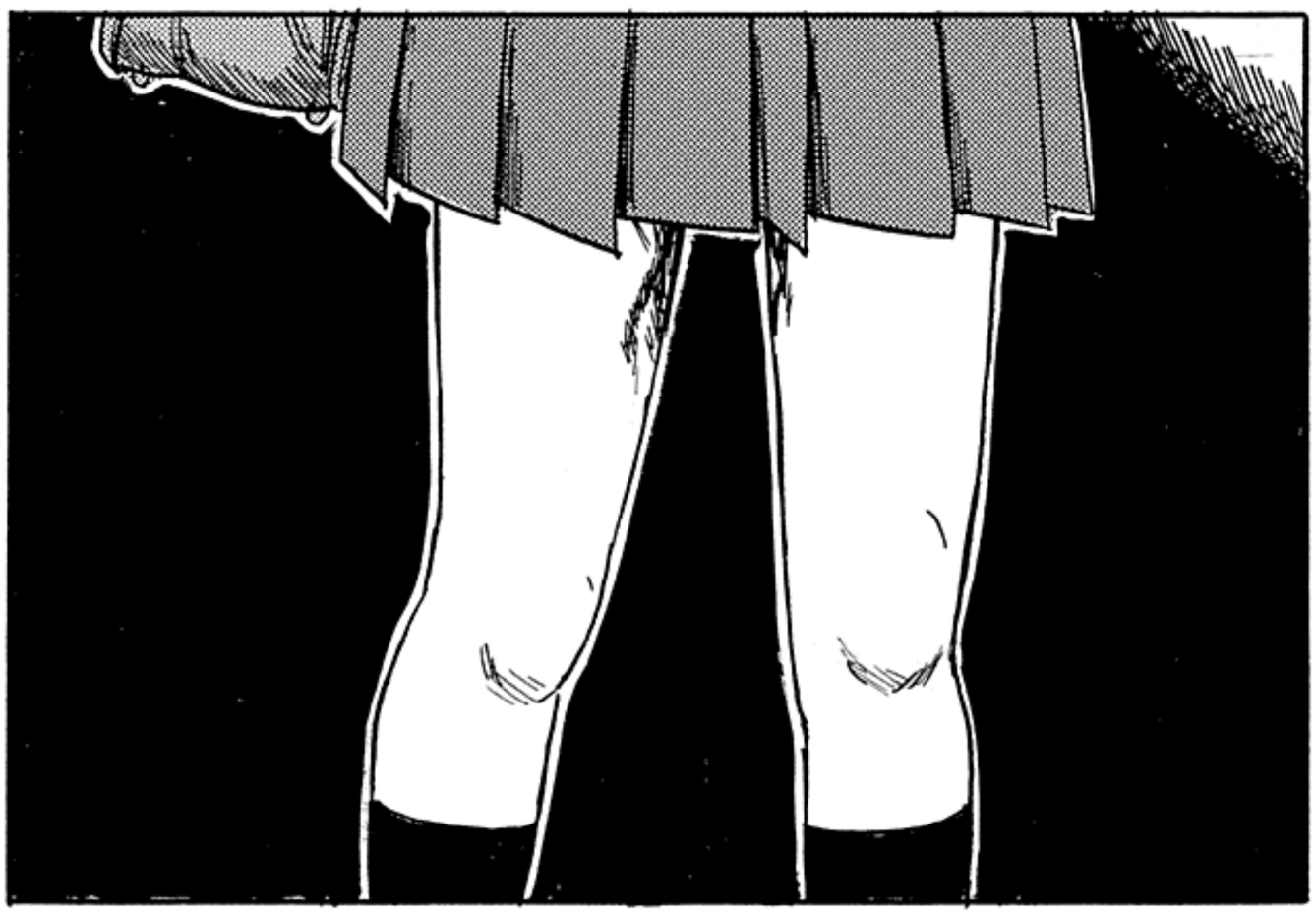

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

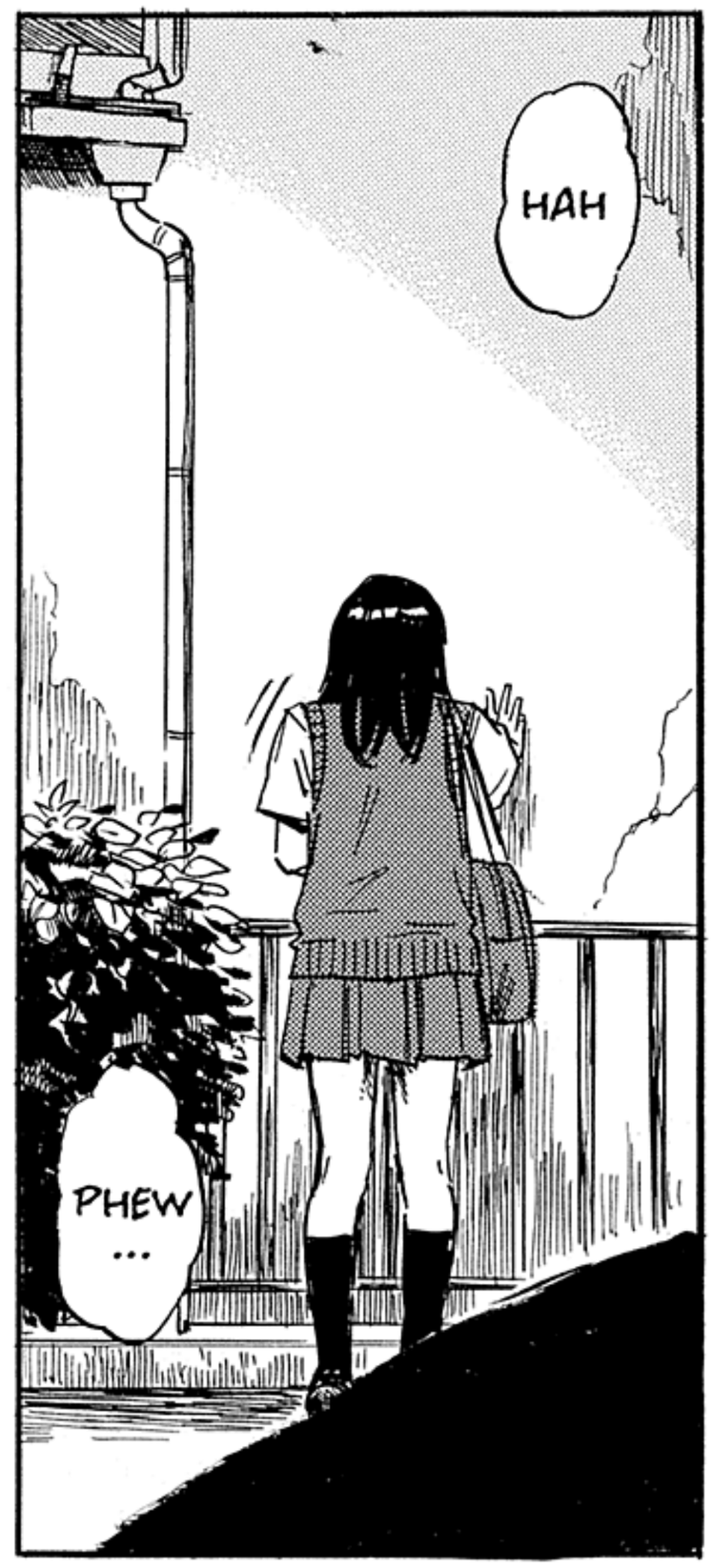


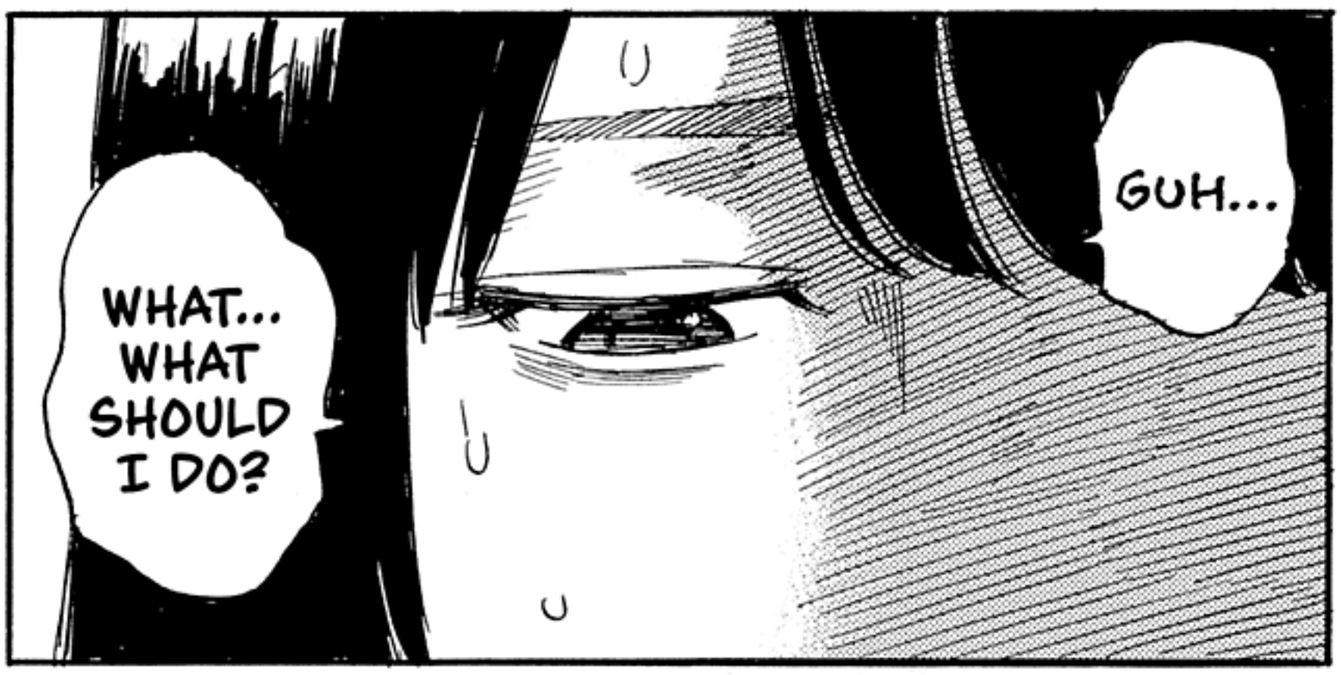

よろ…
WOBBL

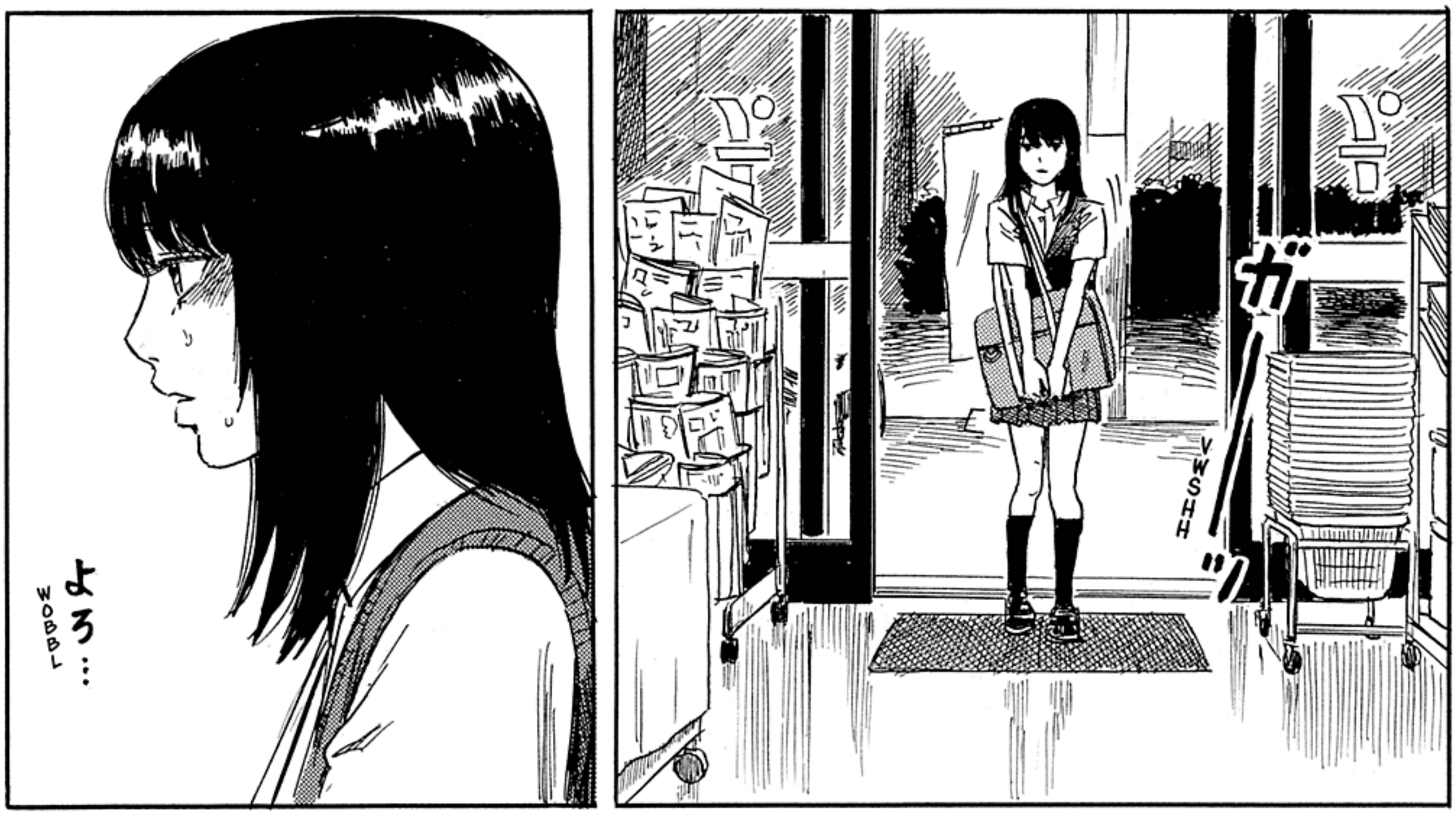

UGH!
HAH—
GUH


UHH …
PHEW …

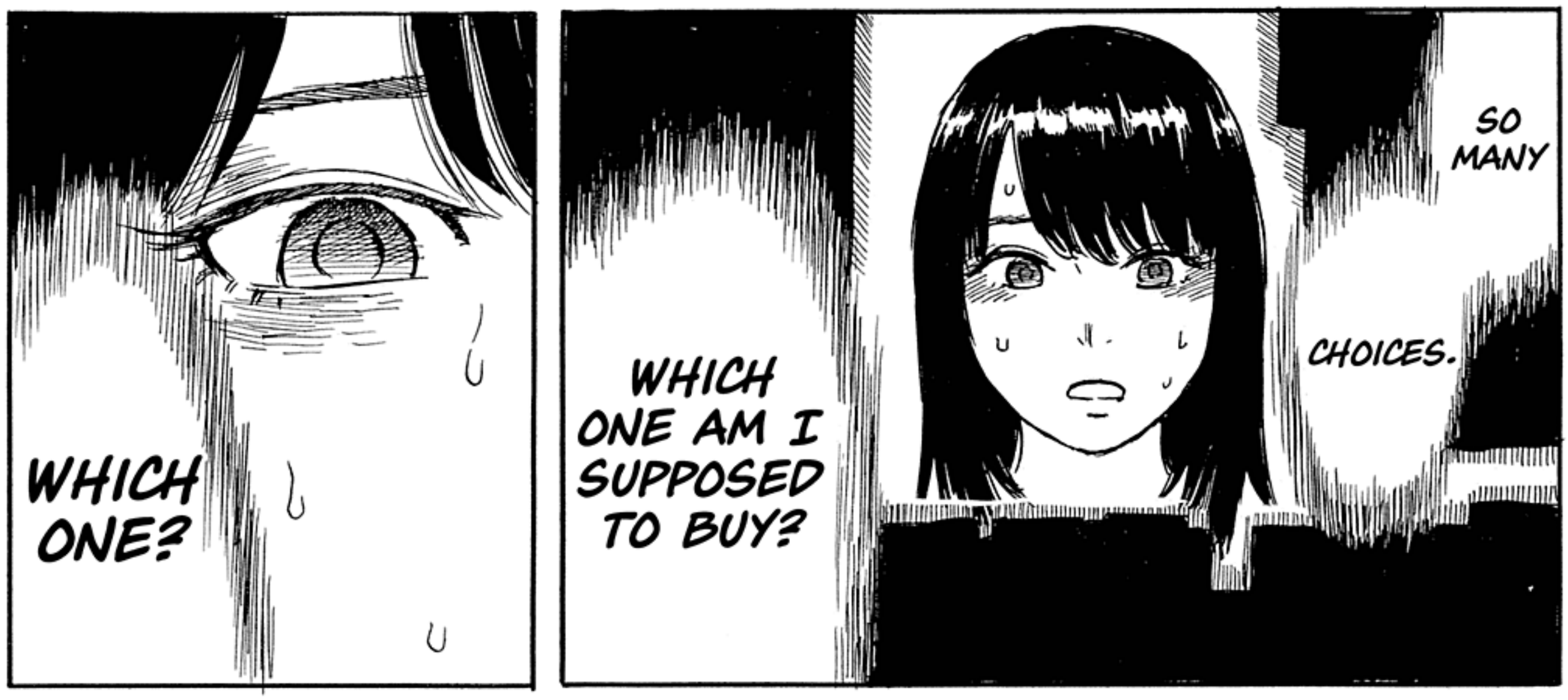


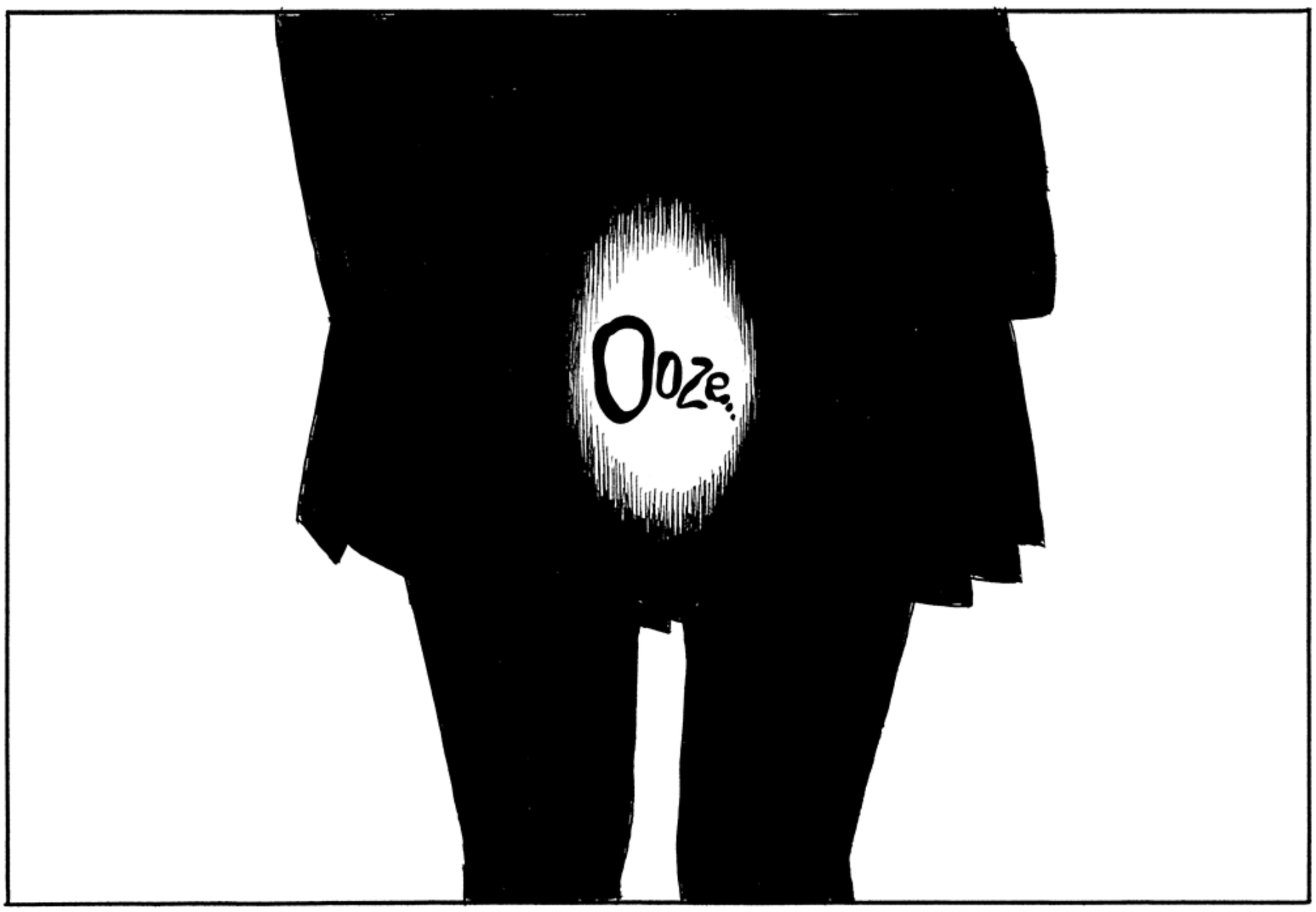

HAH
PHEW …

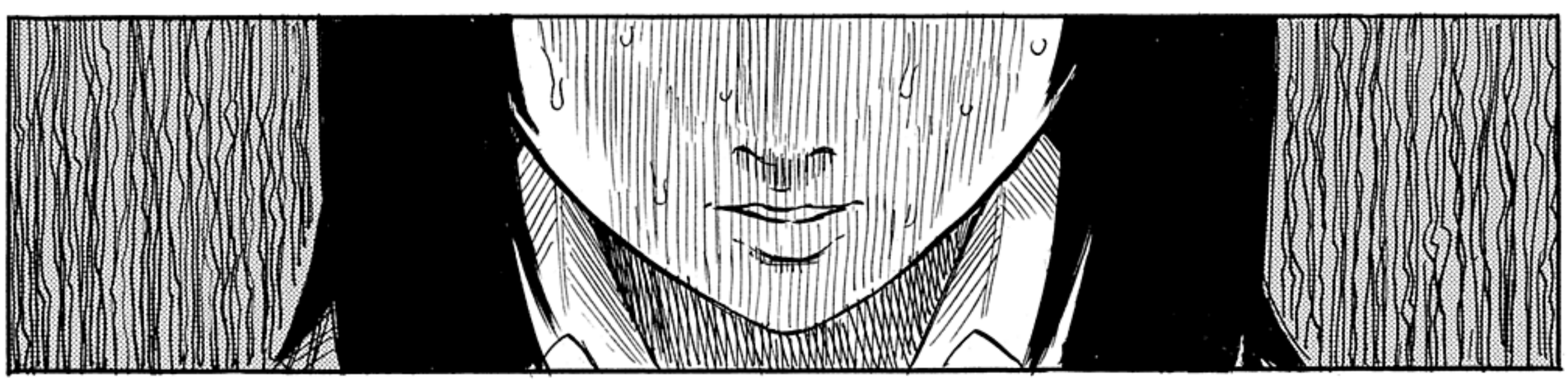

WHAT… WHAT SHOULD I DO?
GUH…


よろ…
WOBBL
ガ
WSHH

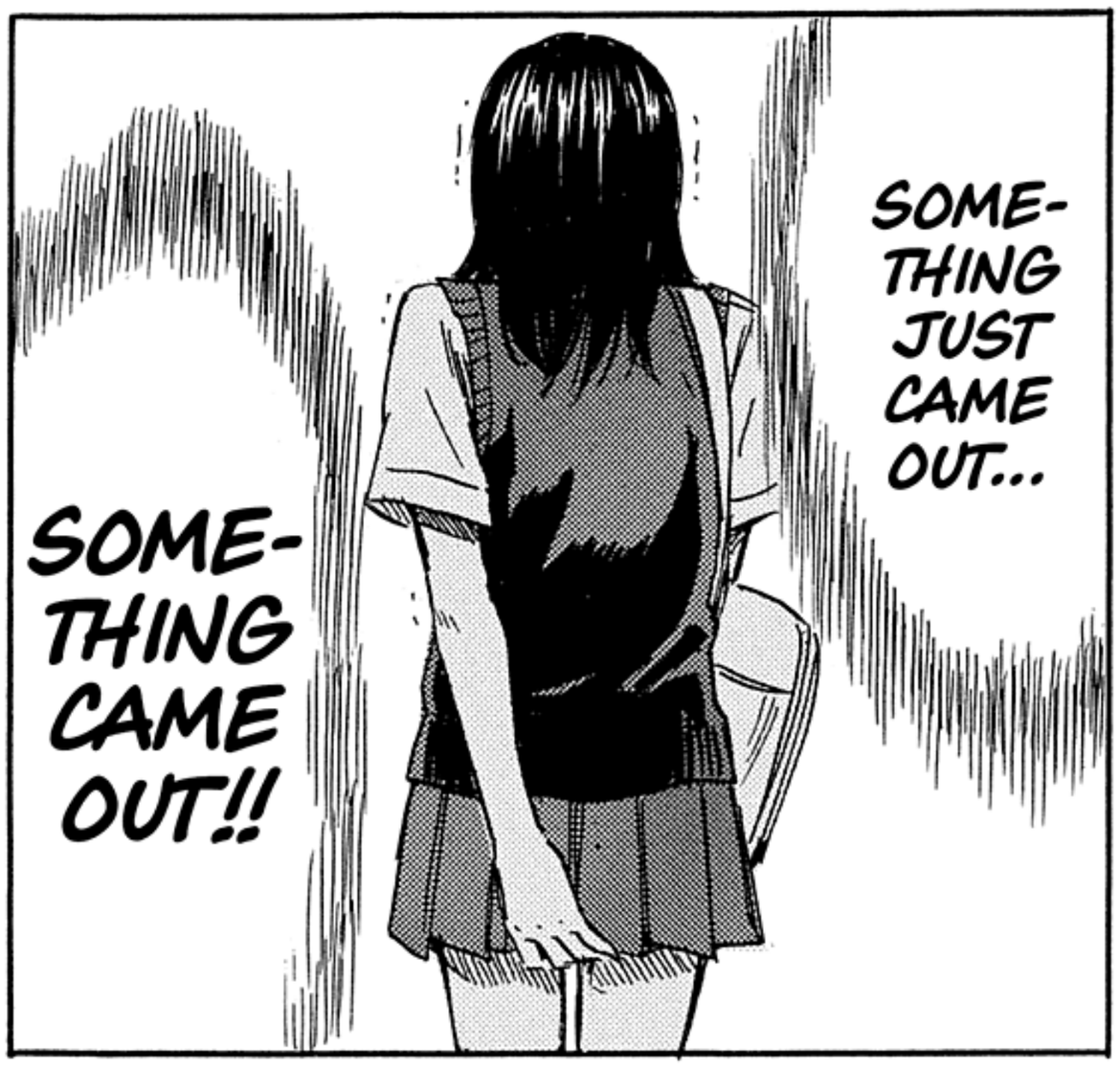
¥298
¥120
¥158
¥198
¥128
¥398
はだおもい

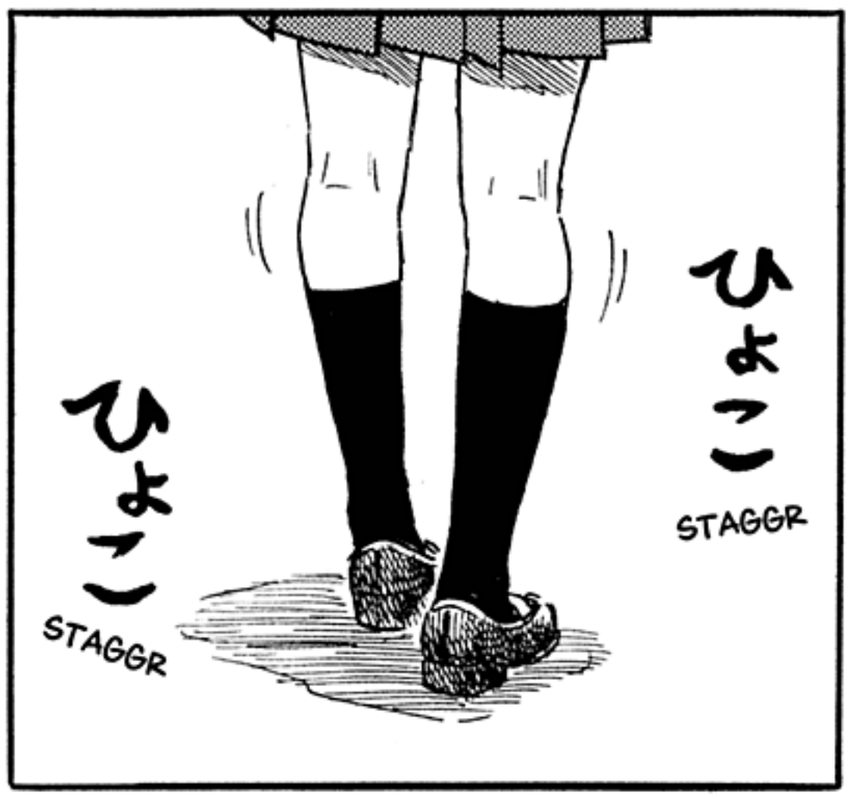

WHICH ONE?
WHICH ONE AM I SUPPOSED TO BUY?
SO MANY CHOICES.

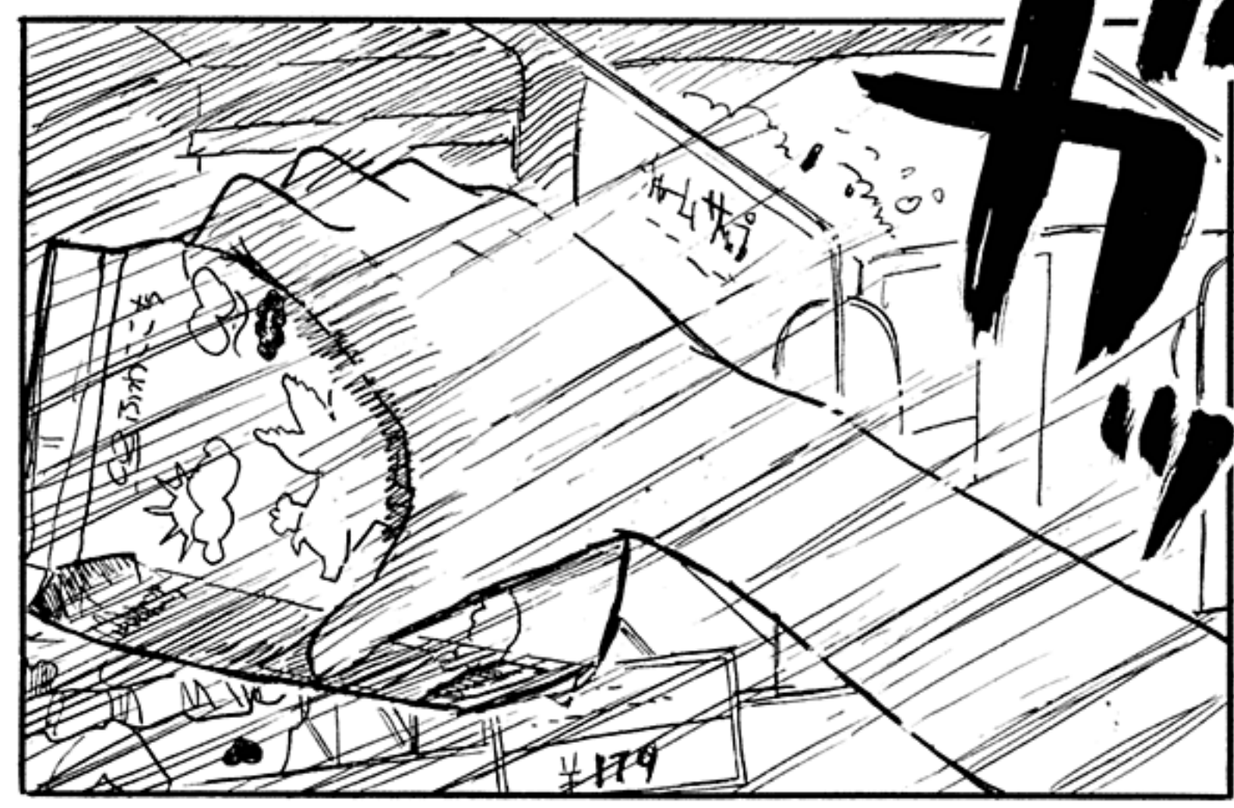

Ooze..

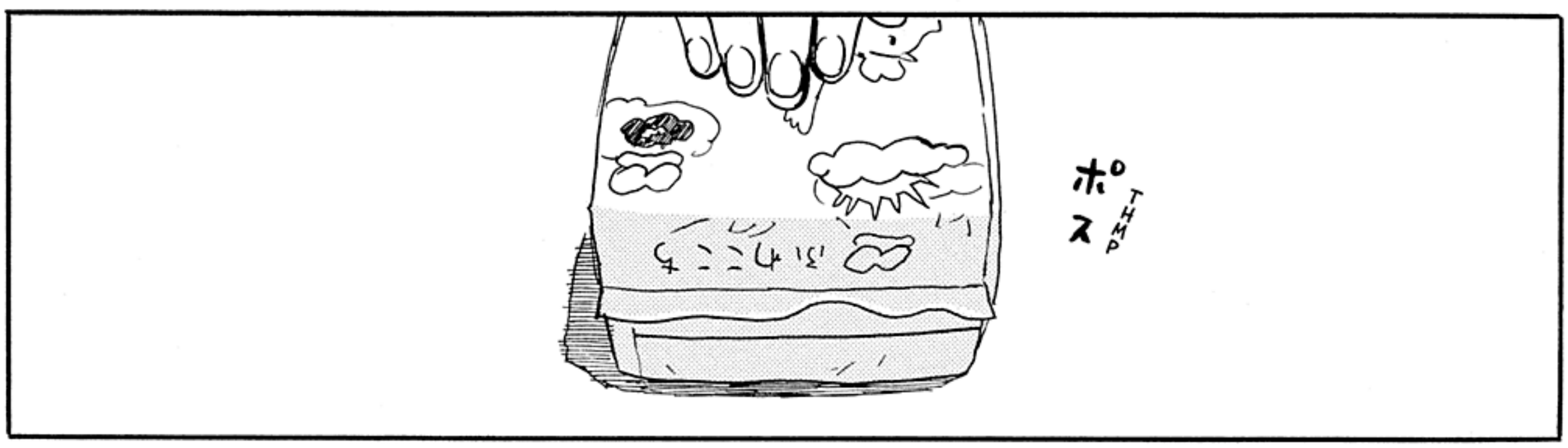


HNG
HUFF
FHUU


SOME-THING JUST CAME OUT...
SOME-THING CAME OUT!!

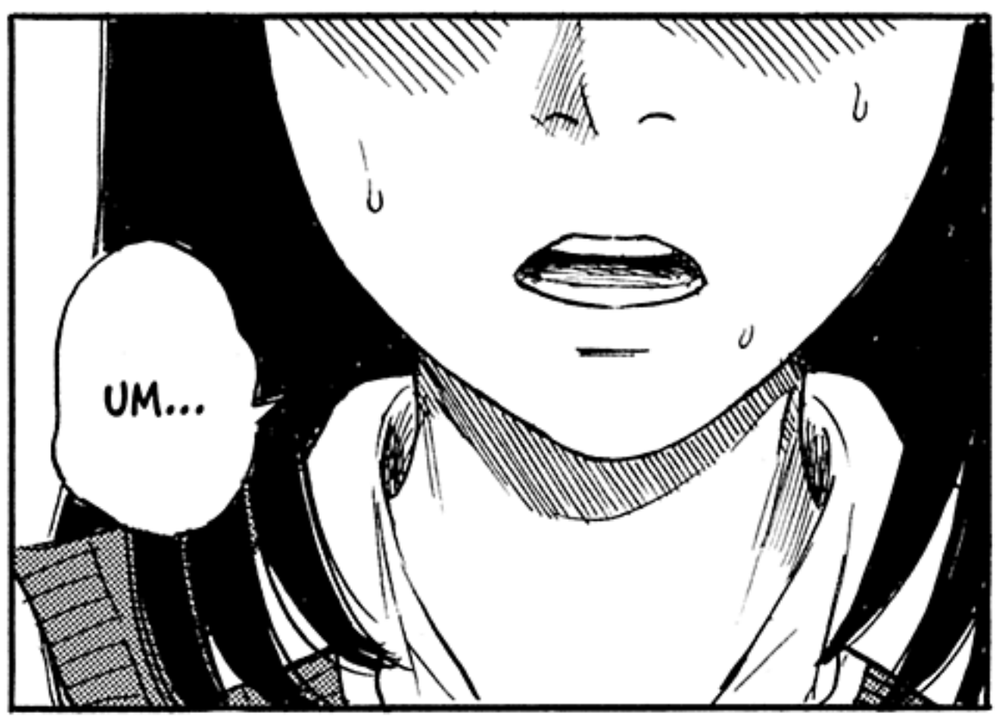

ひょこ
STAGGR
ひょこ
STAGGR

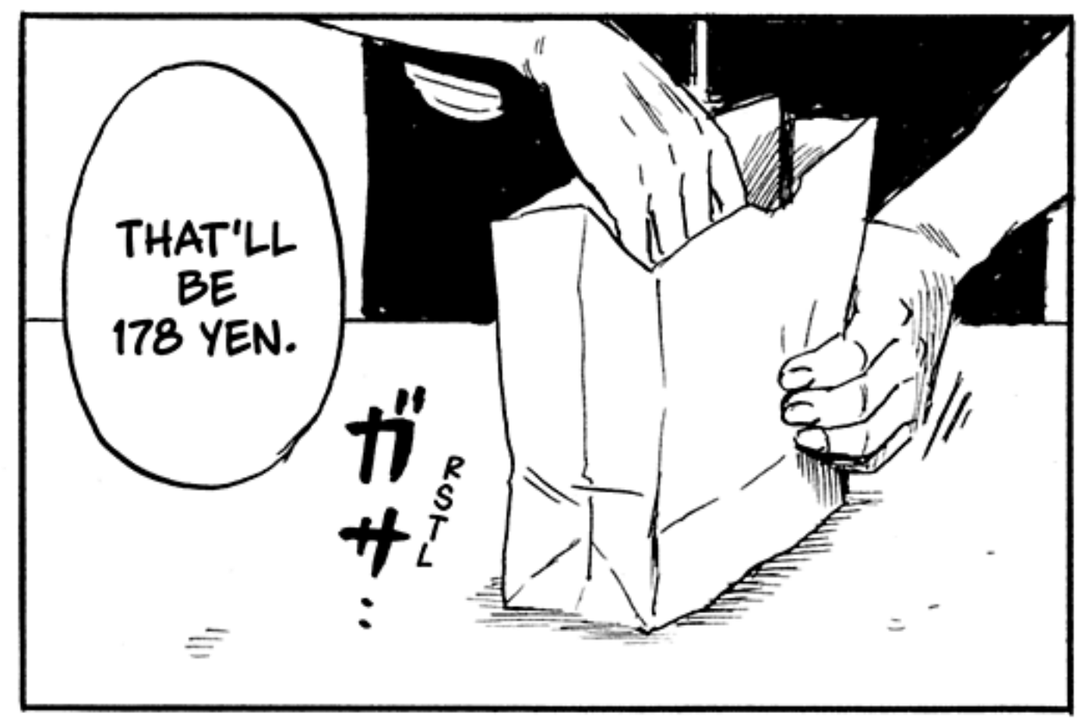

YANK
ガッ

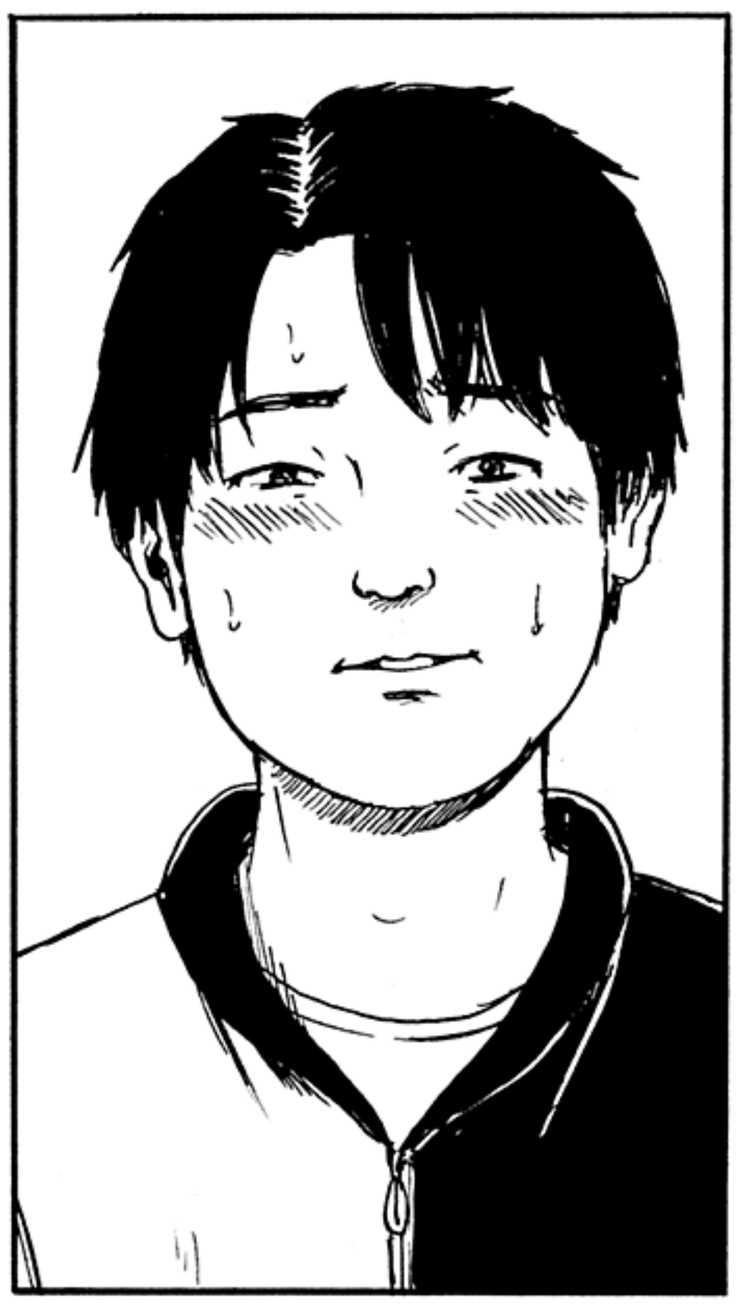

ポス
THP

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

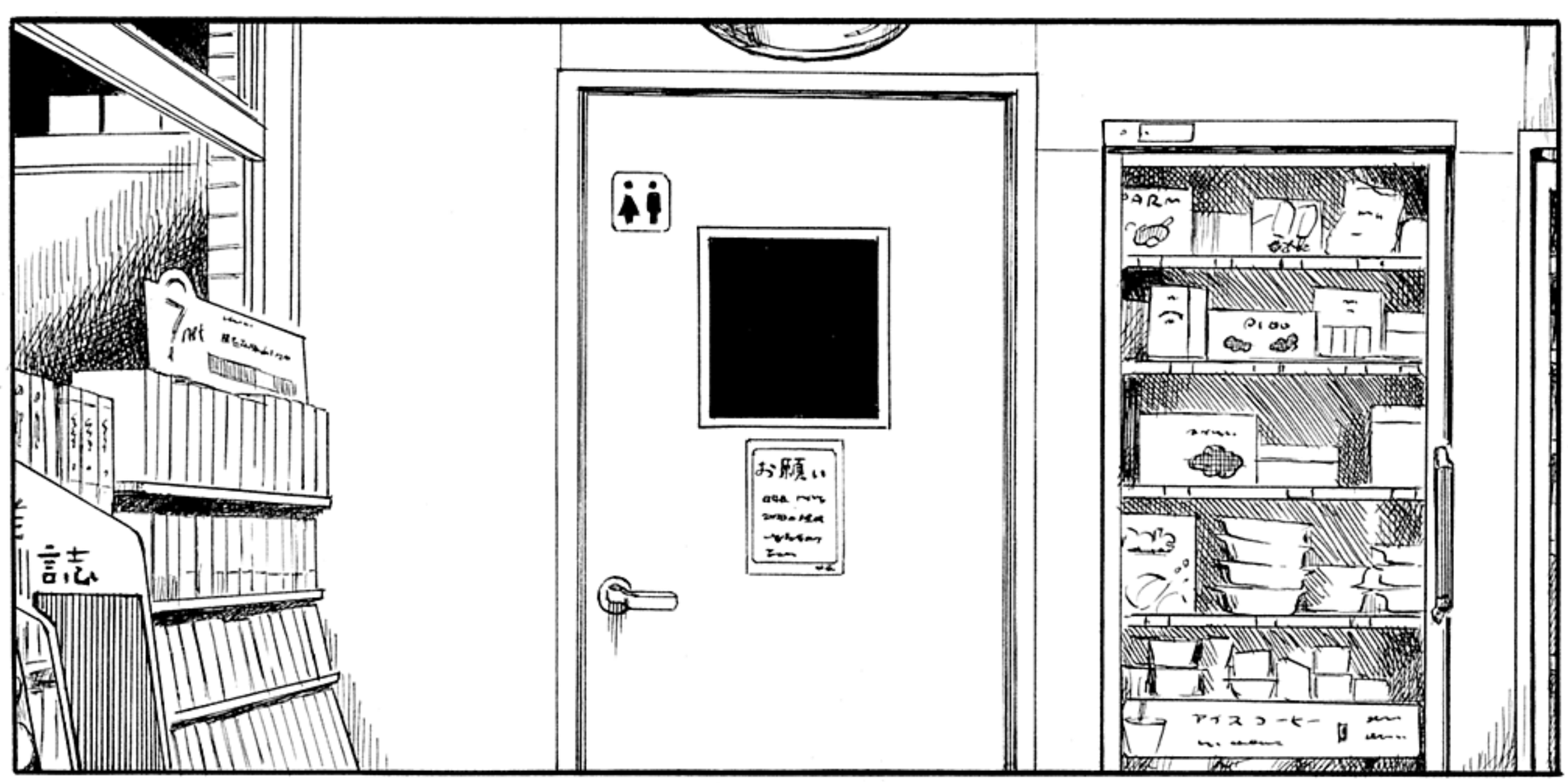
WEL...
COME...


UM...


THAT'LL BE 178 YEN.
ガサ
RSTL



PLEASE ...
LET ME USE YOUR RESTROOM.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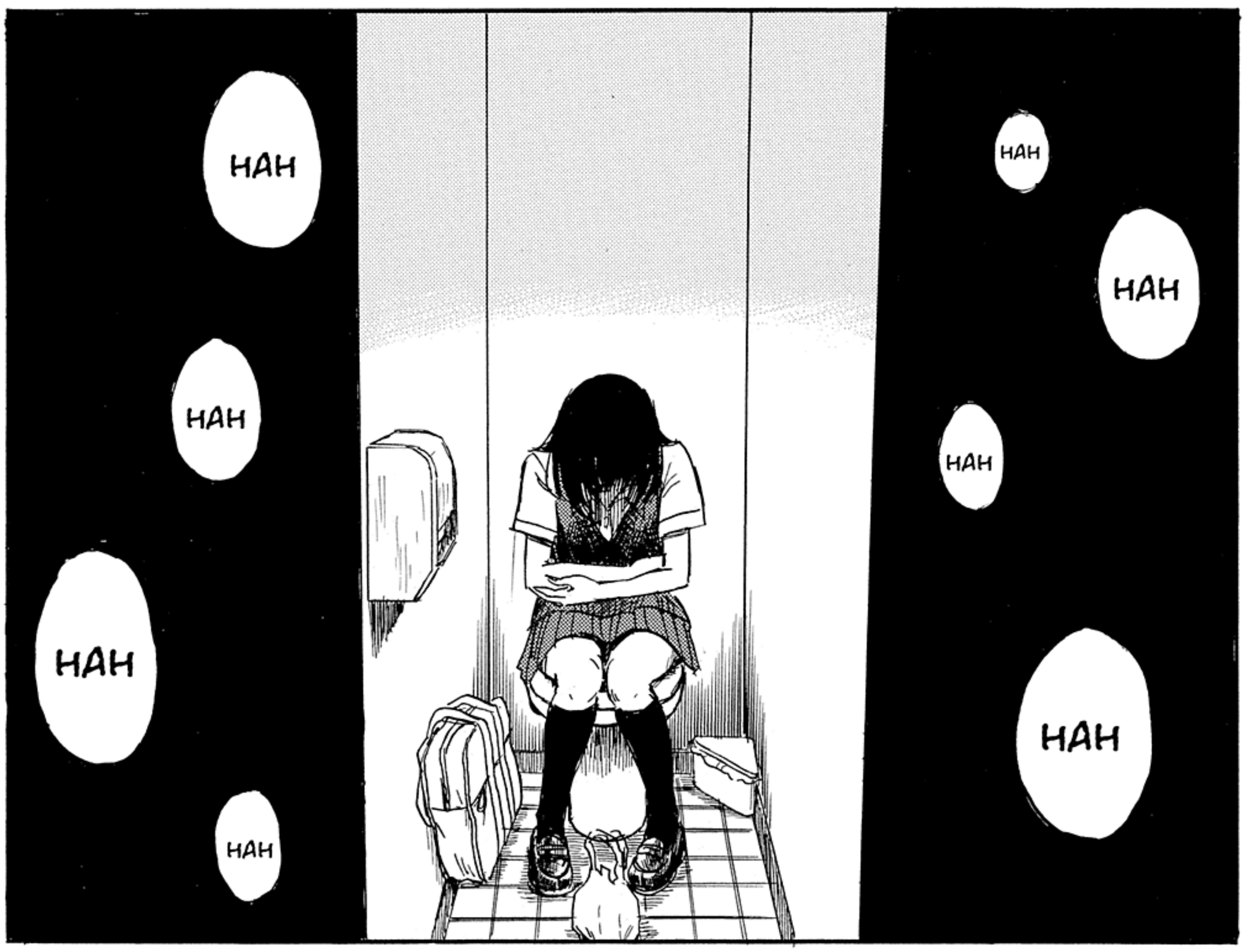
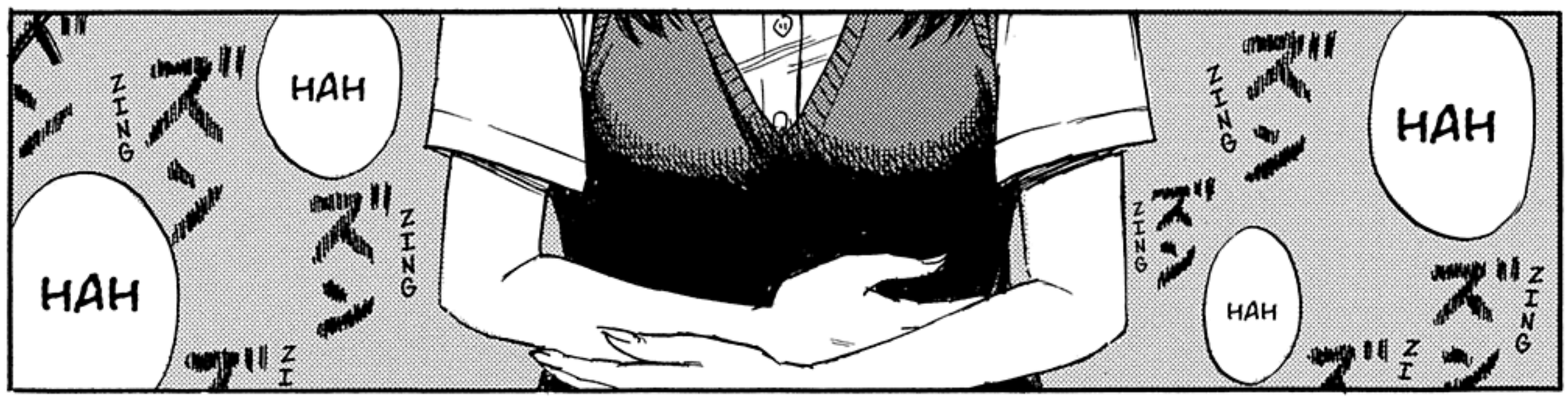
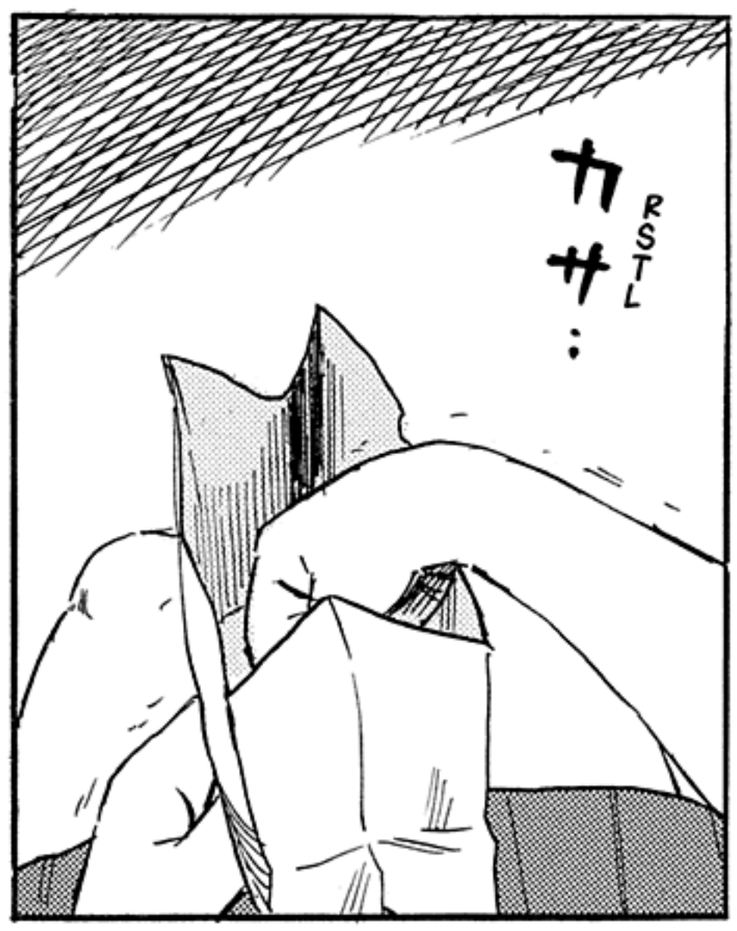
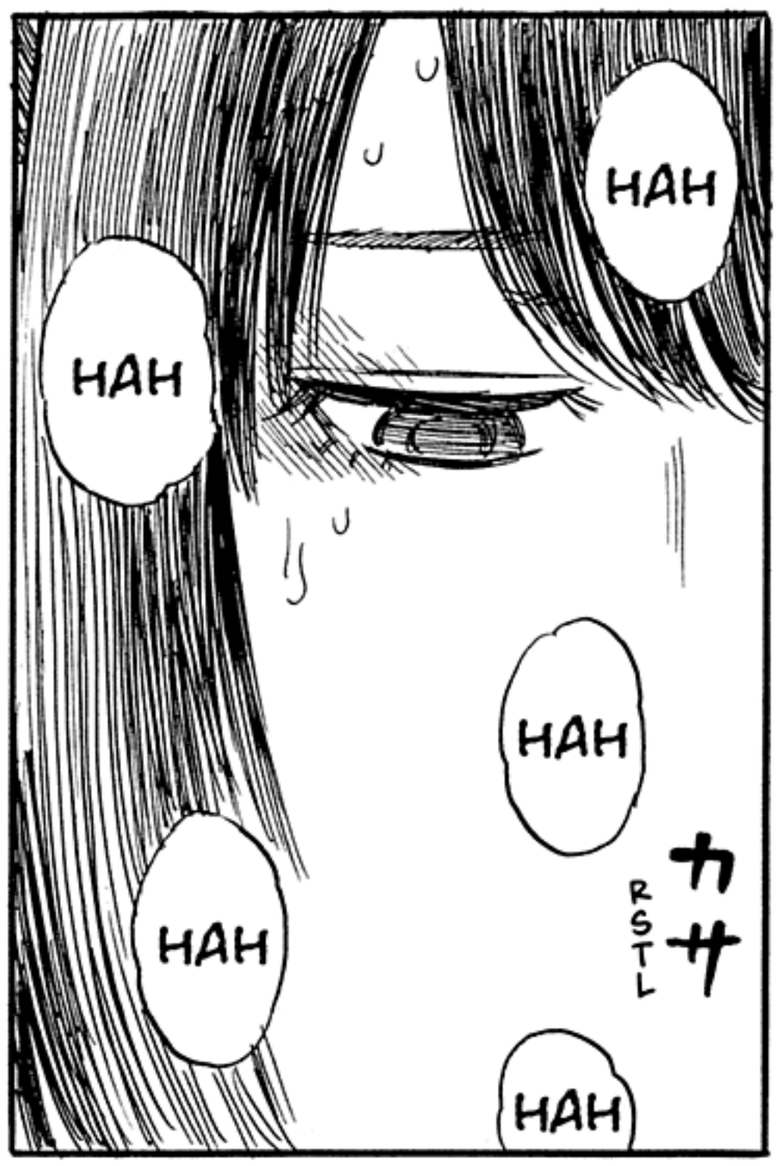
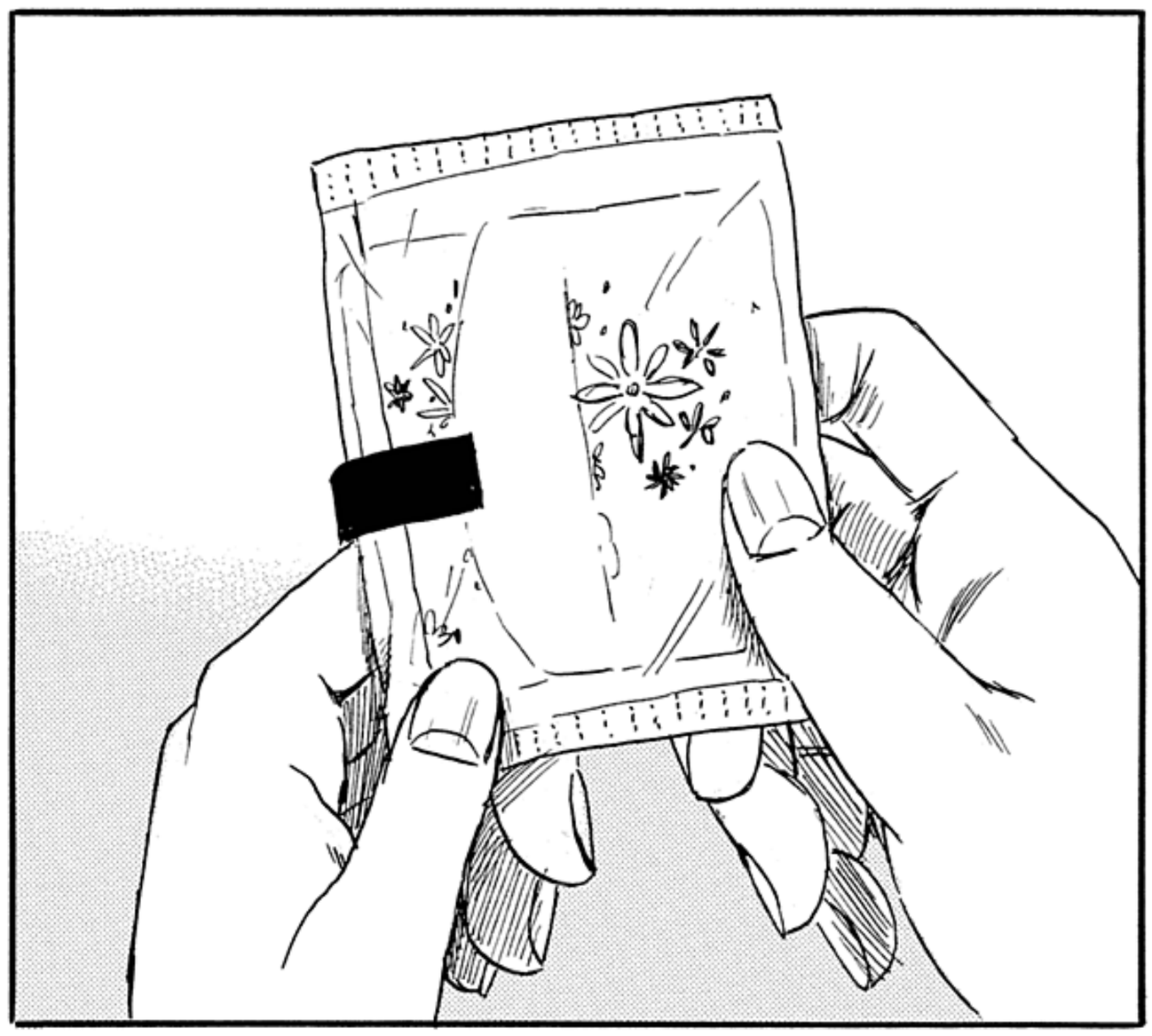

HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH

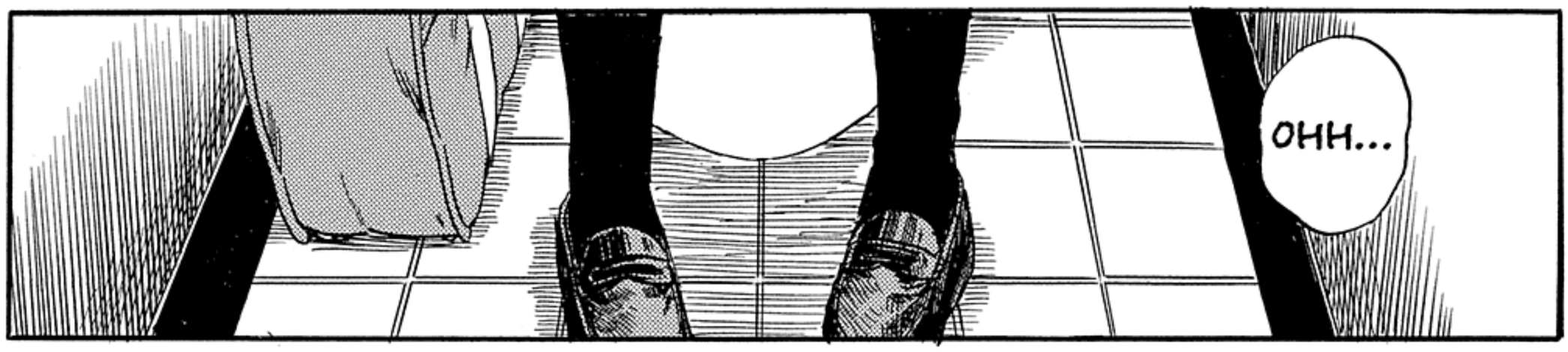

HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
ZING
ZING
ZING
ZING


カサ…
RSTL

IT HURTS...
ZING
ZING
ZING
ZING
ZING
ZING
ZING
ZING


HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
カサ
RSTL




OHH...

GWAHH!

URGH!

I'M SO, SO SORRY!

SORRY.

I'M SORRY!

HIC... BWAH...

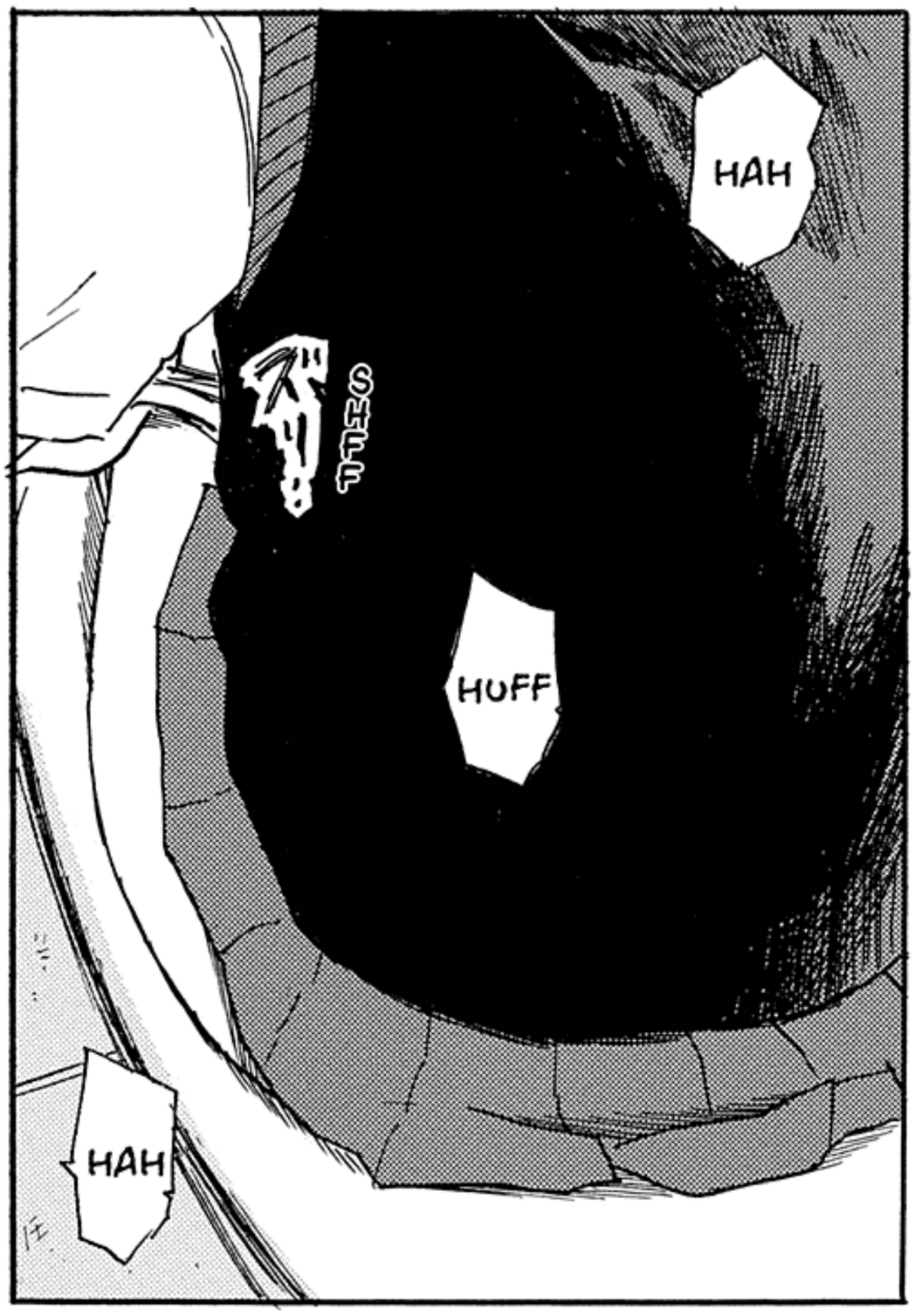
I'M–

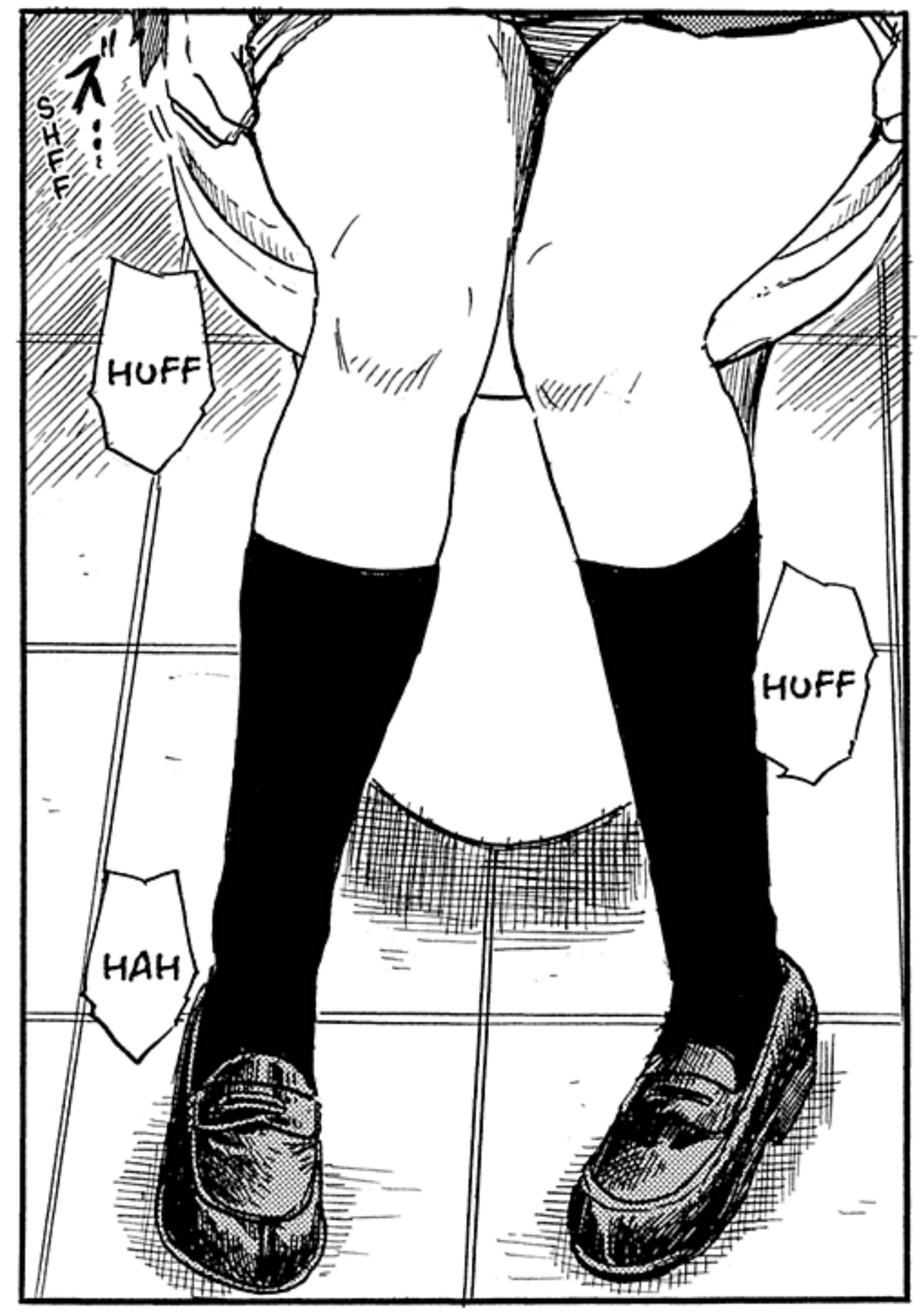
I'M SORRY...

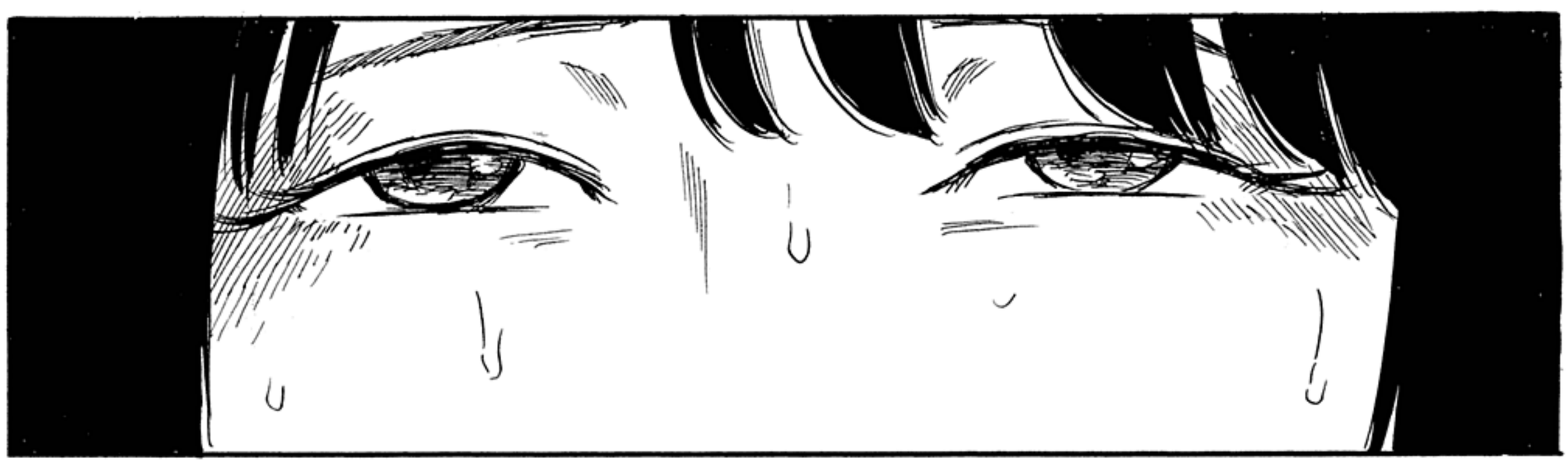
SO SORRYYY!

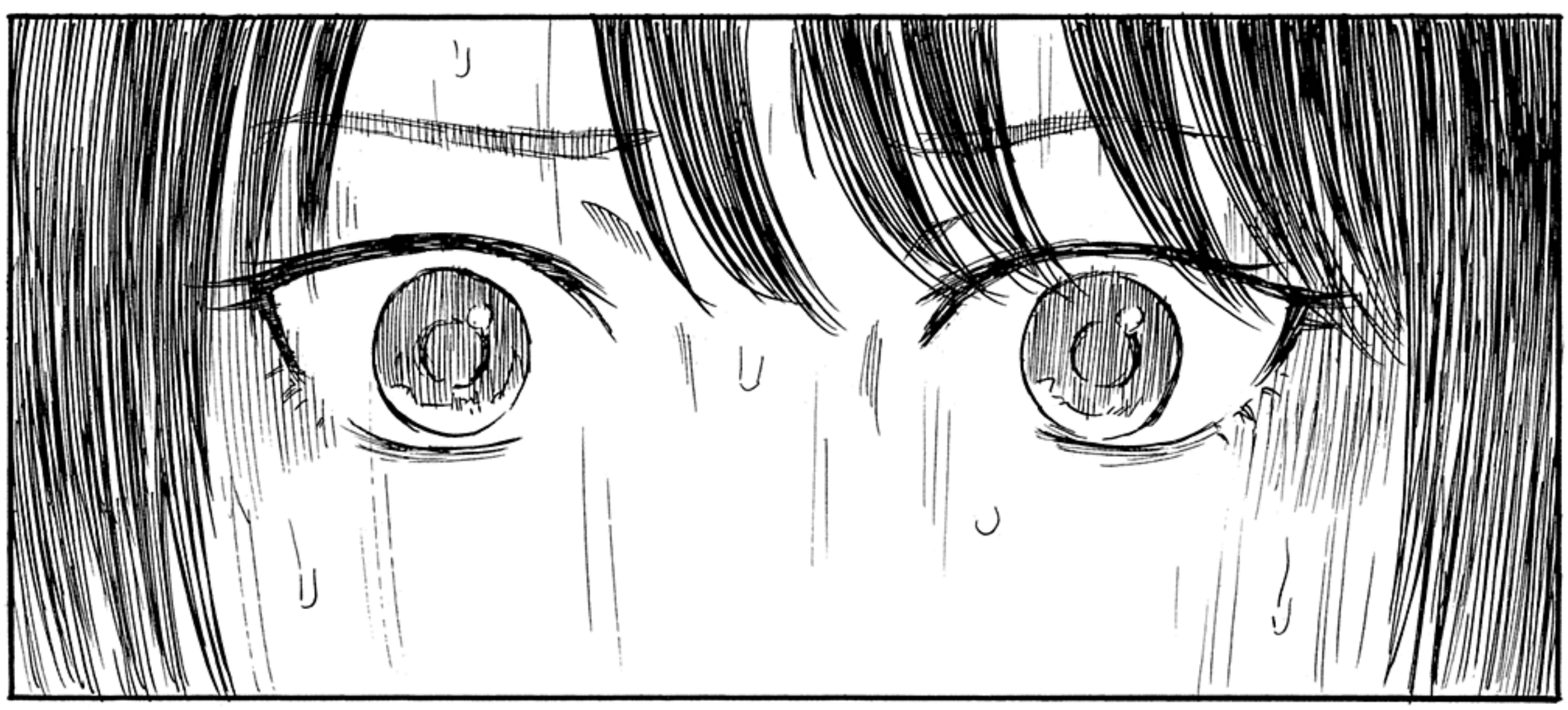
I'M SO SORRY...

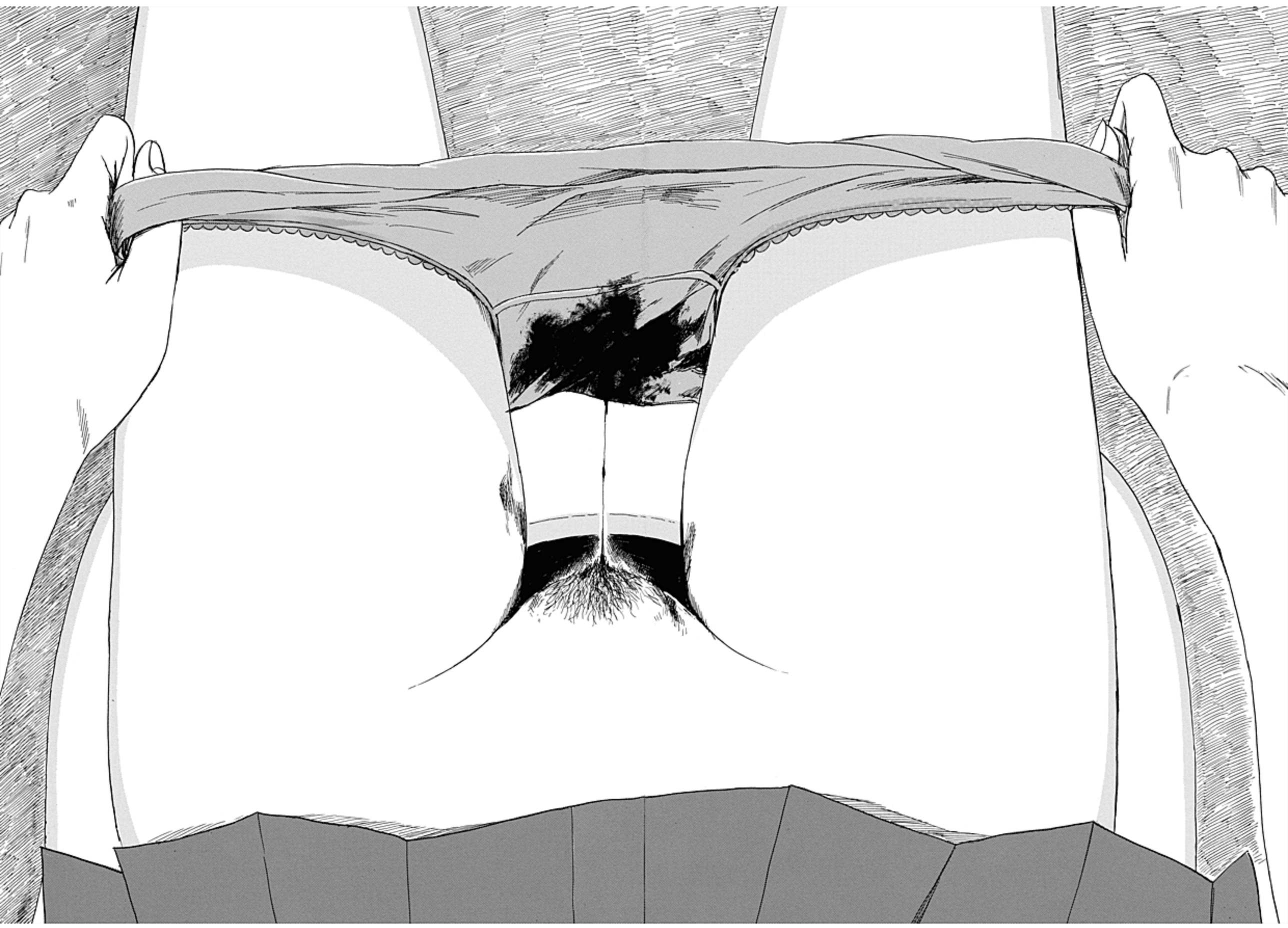
NO–
HAH
HUFF
DON'T CRY!
DON'T...
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP MARI NOW!
YOU CAN'T!

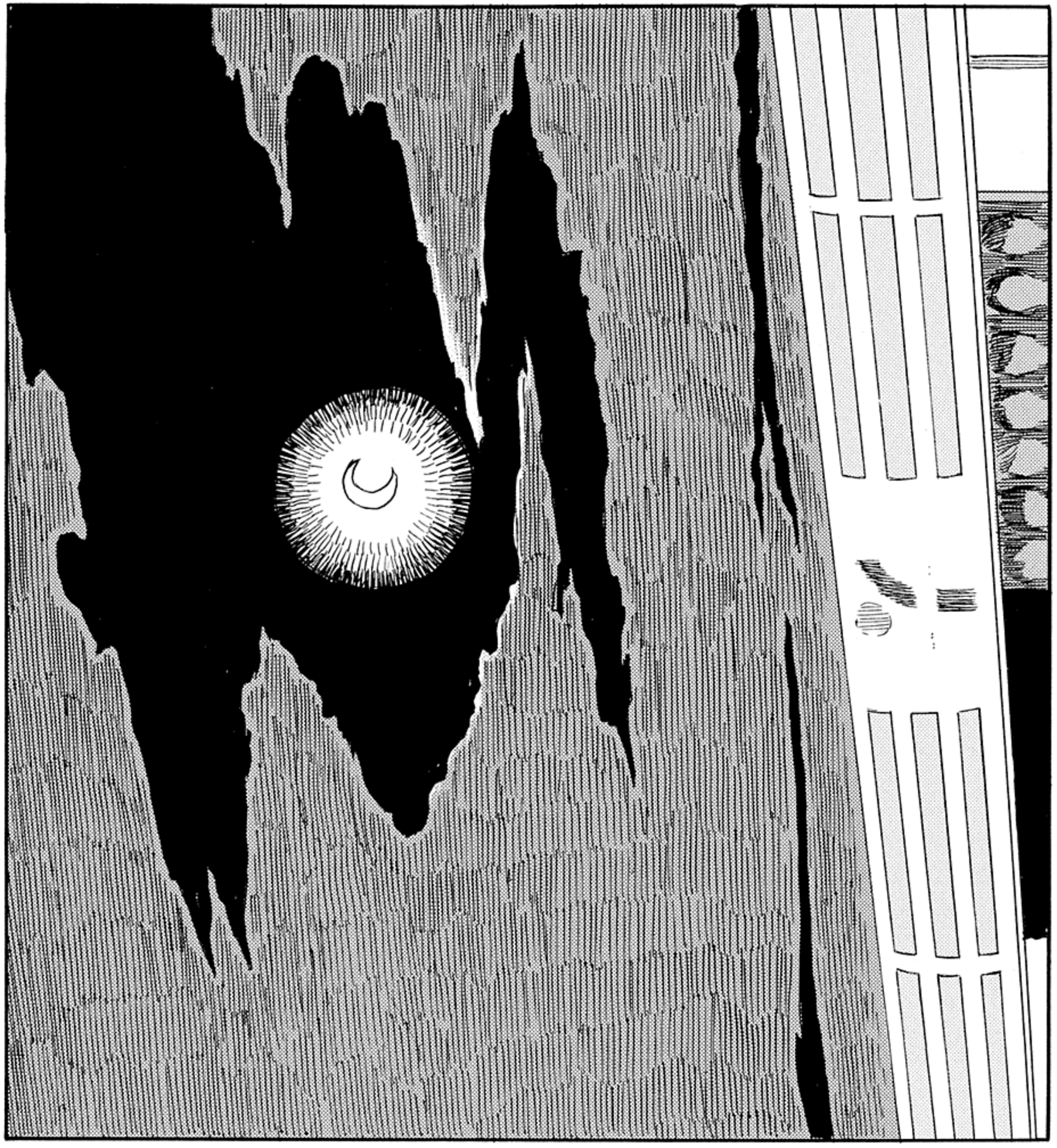

HAH
SHFF
HUFF
HAH


SHFF
HUFF
HUFF
HAH



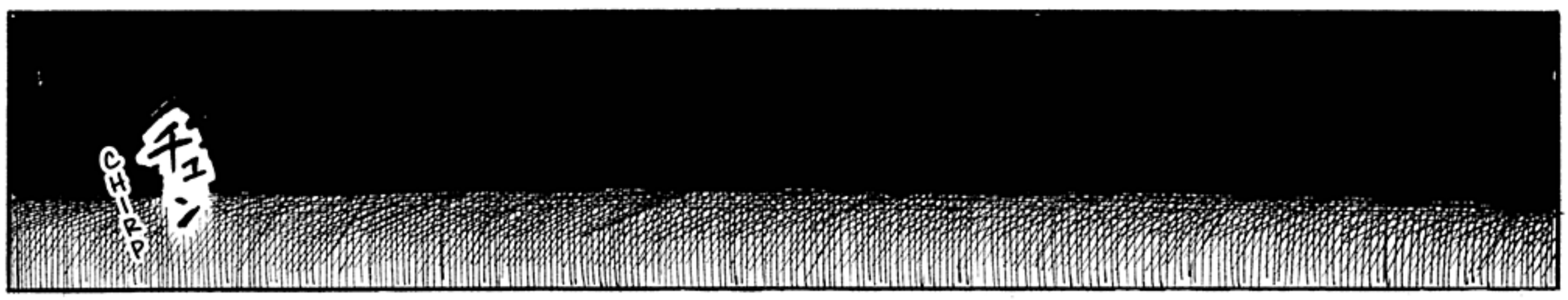


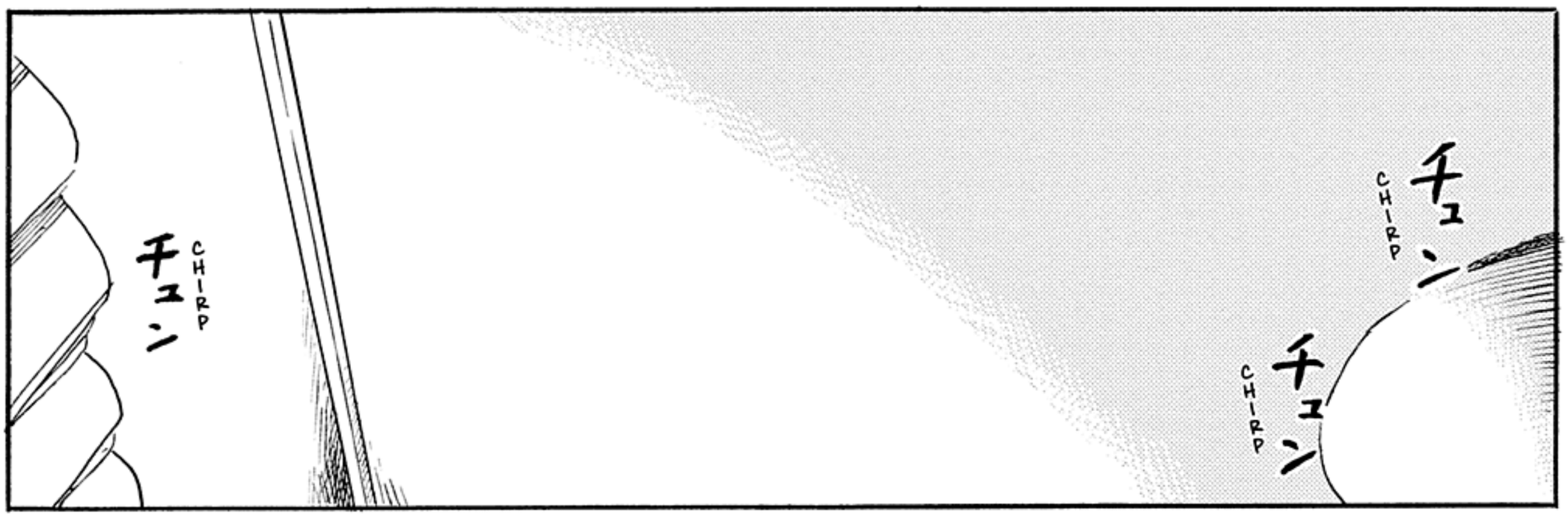




ドキ
ドキ
ドキ…

Chapter 19: Mari's Modern Life


チュン
CHIRP


チュン
CHIRP
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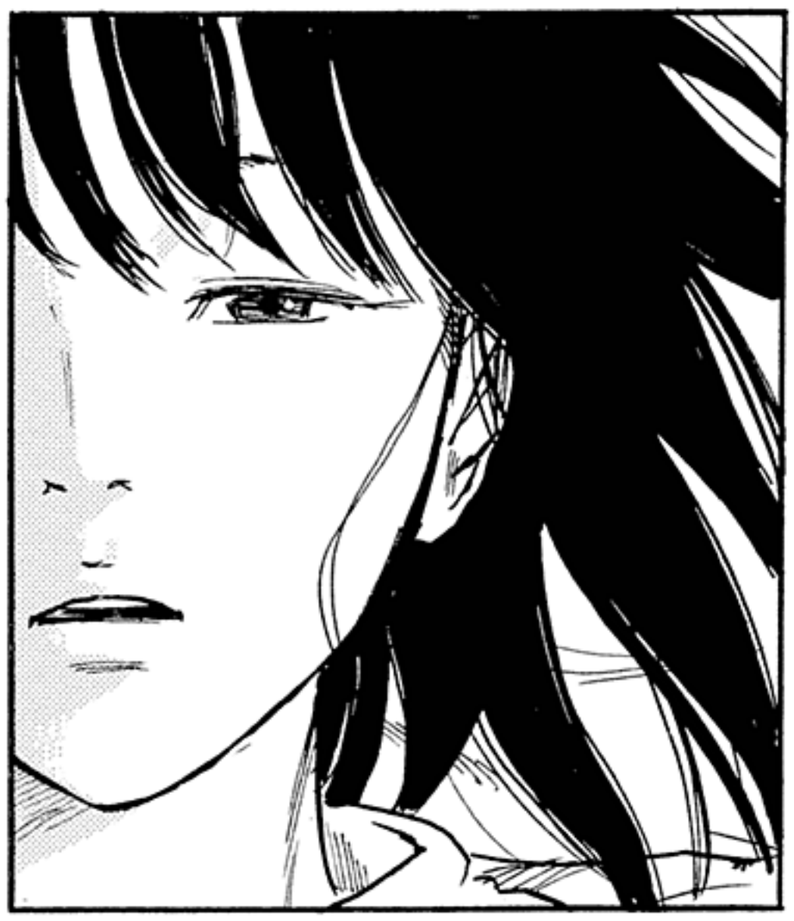
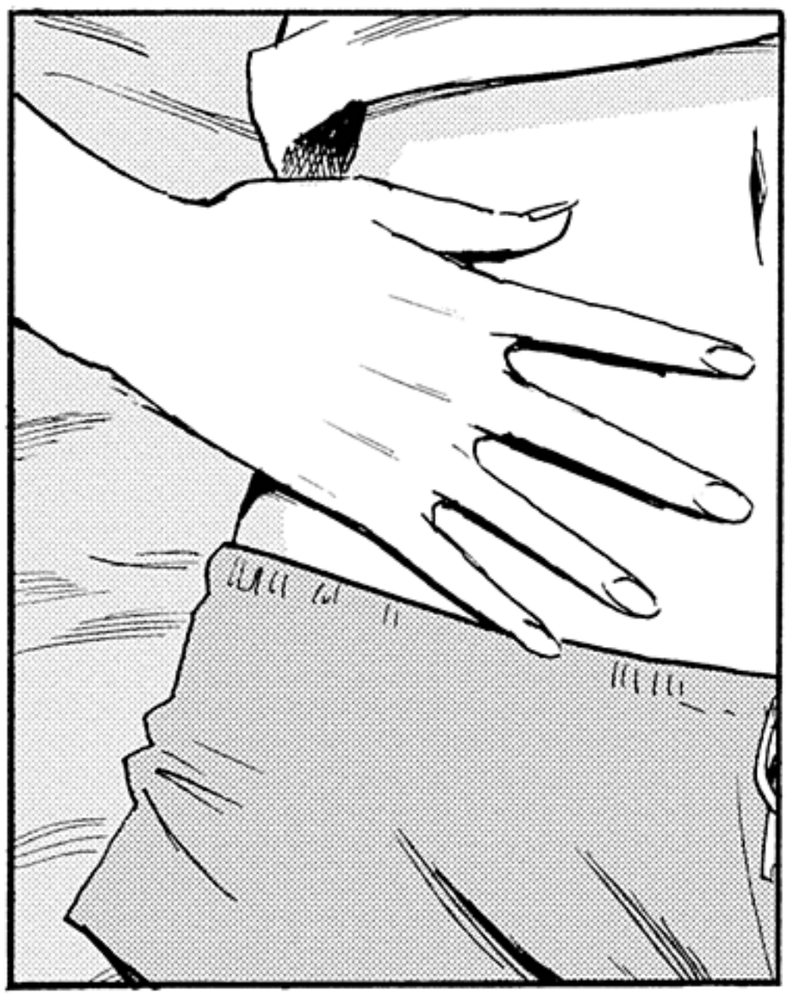
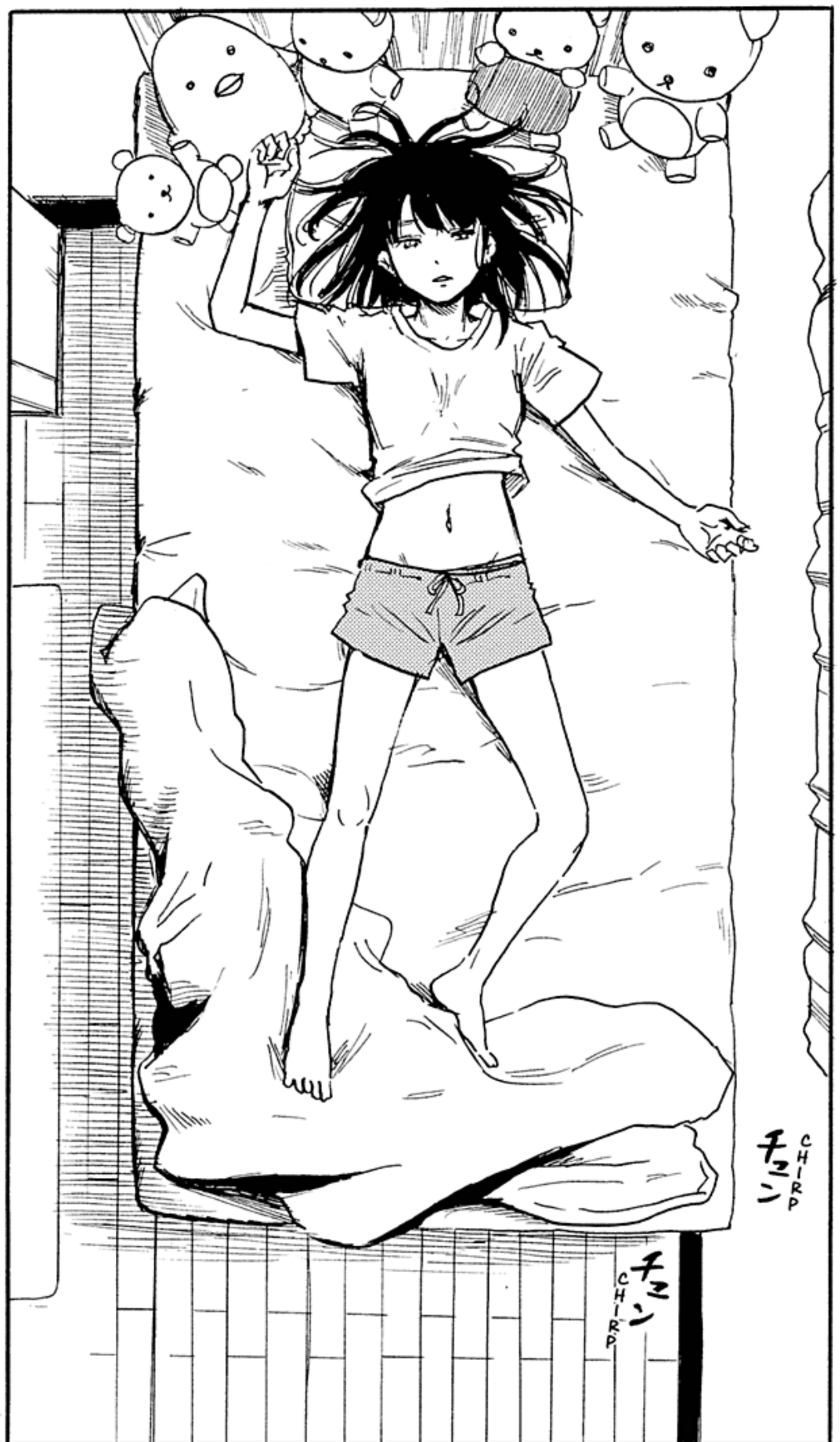
CHIRP






チュン
CHIRP
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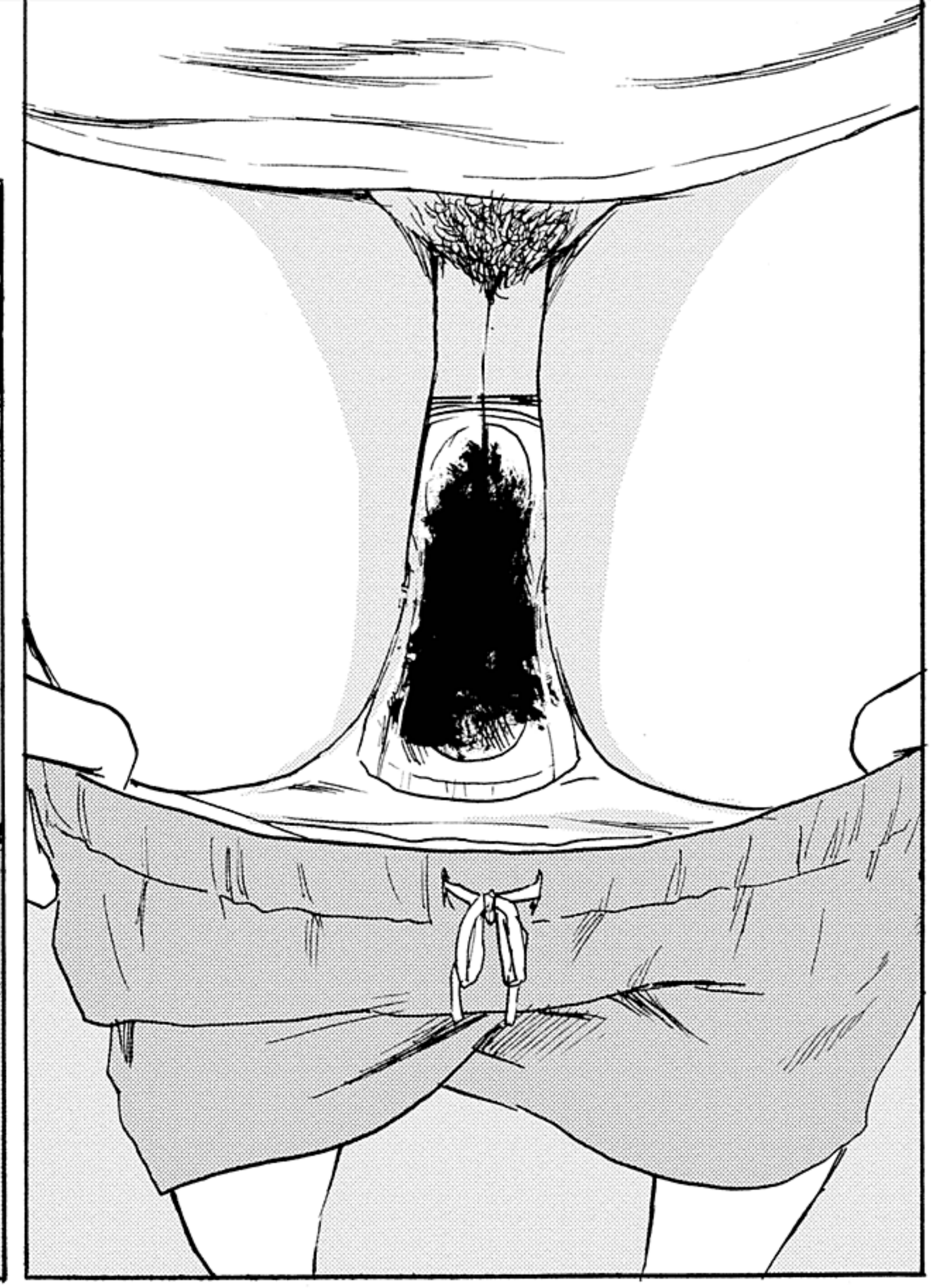
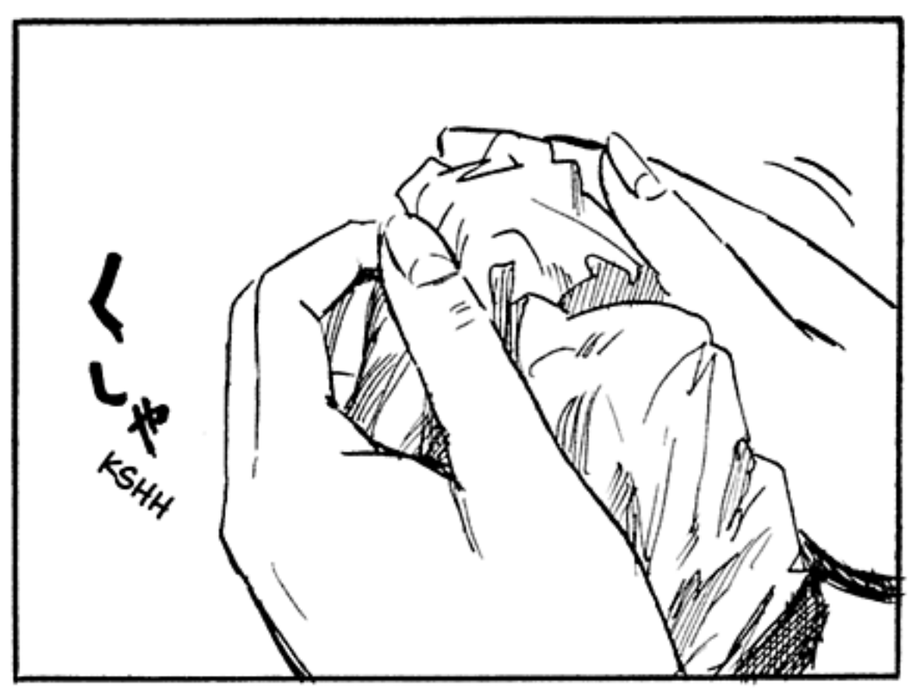
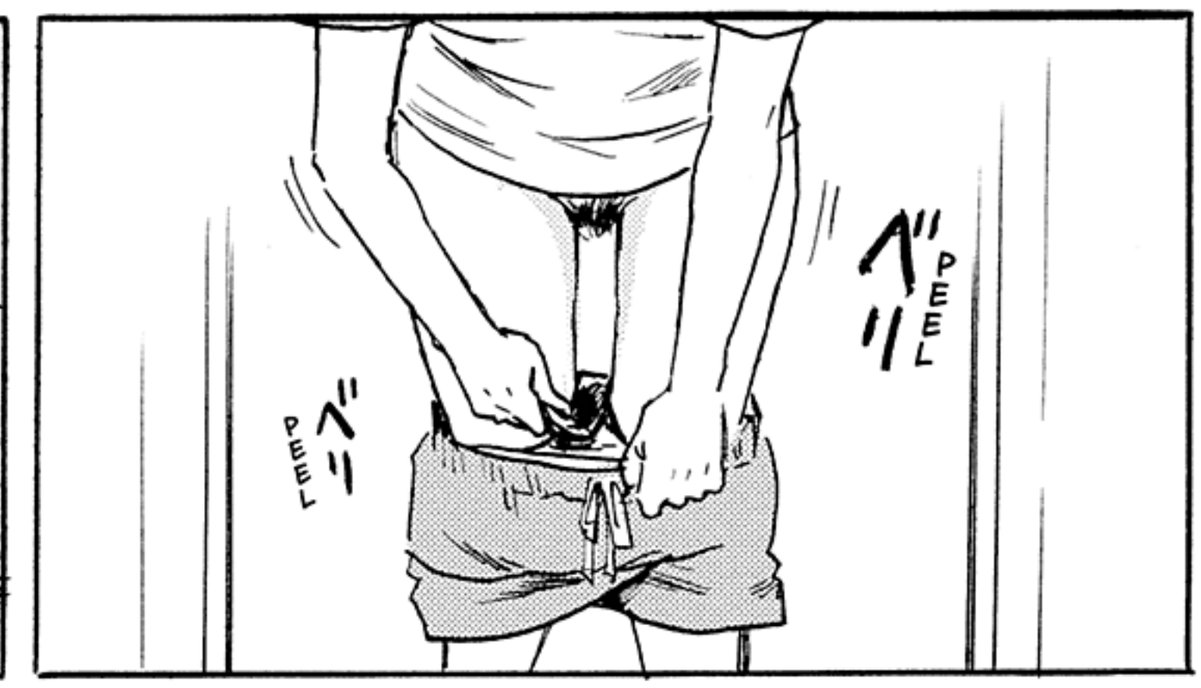
CHIRP




くしゃ
KSHH


ベリ
PEEL
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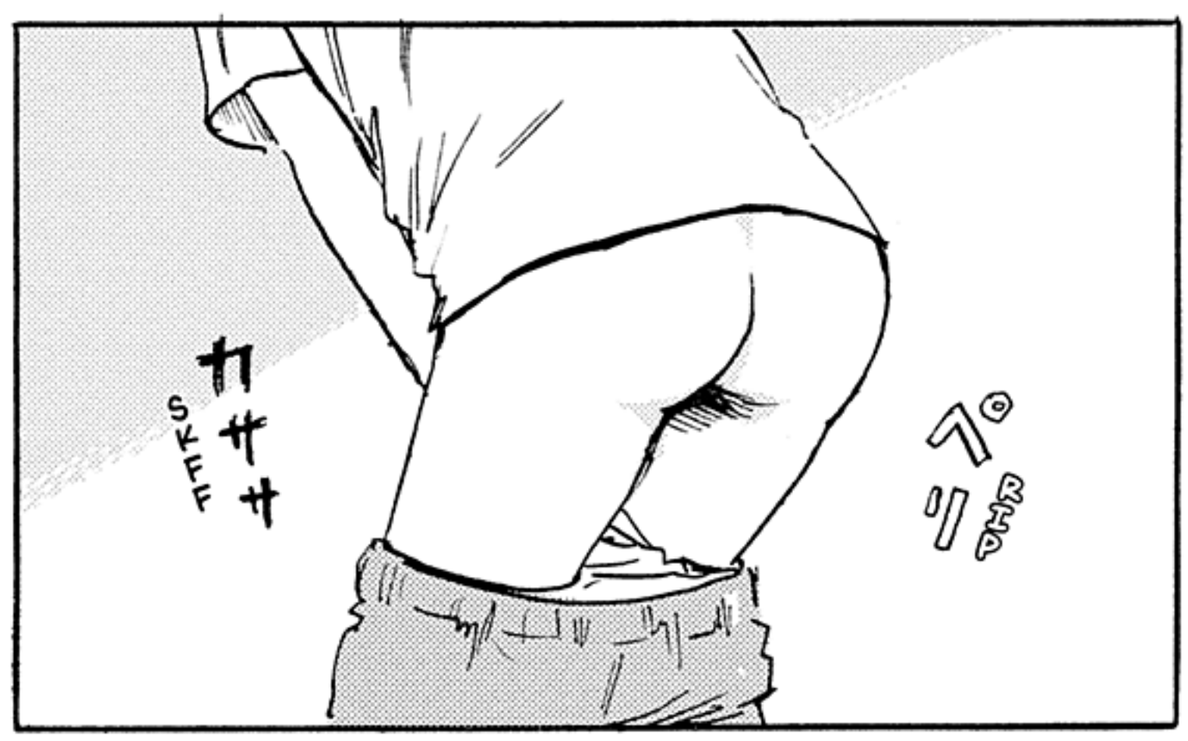
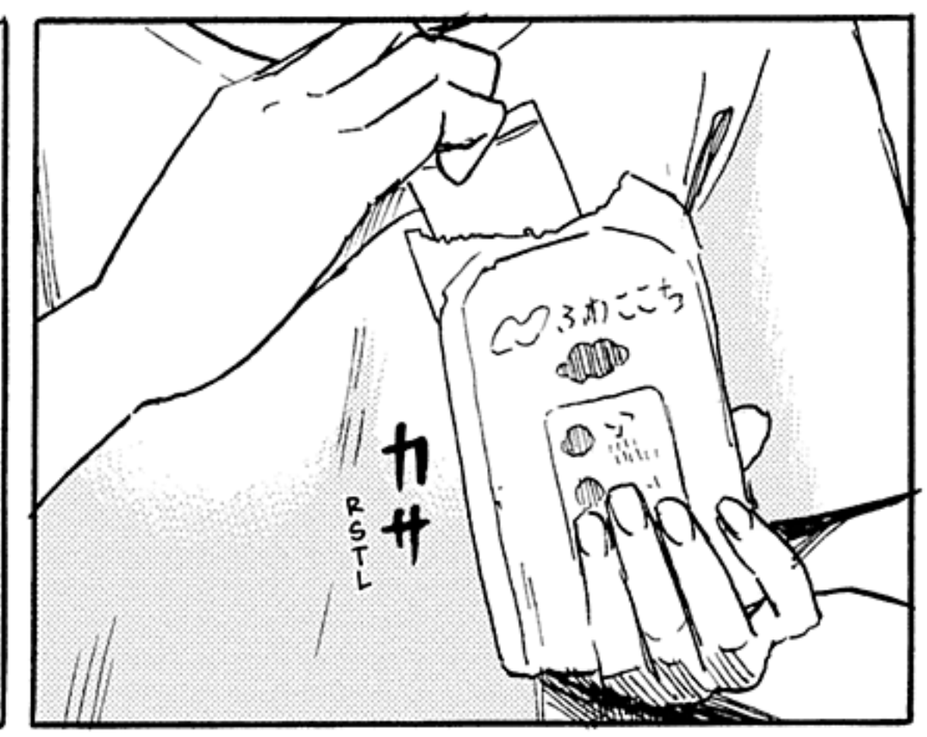
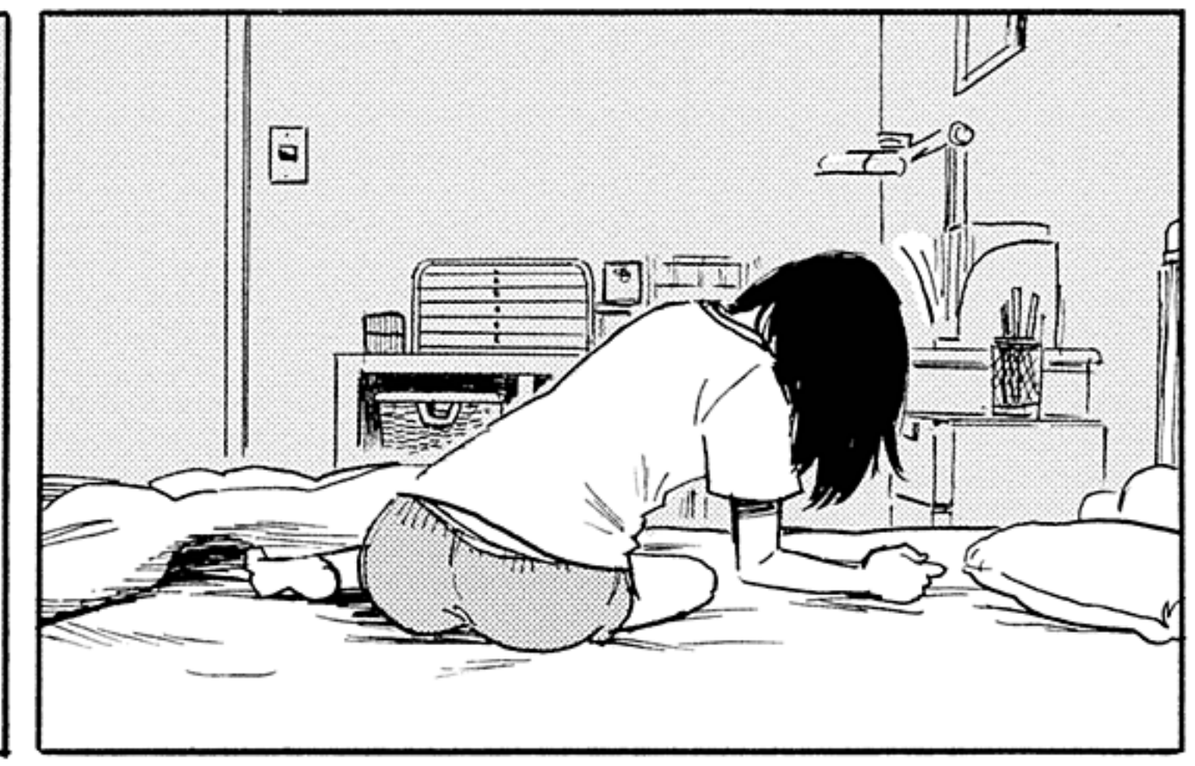
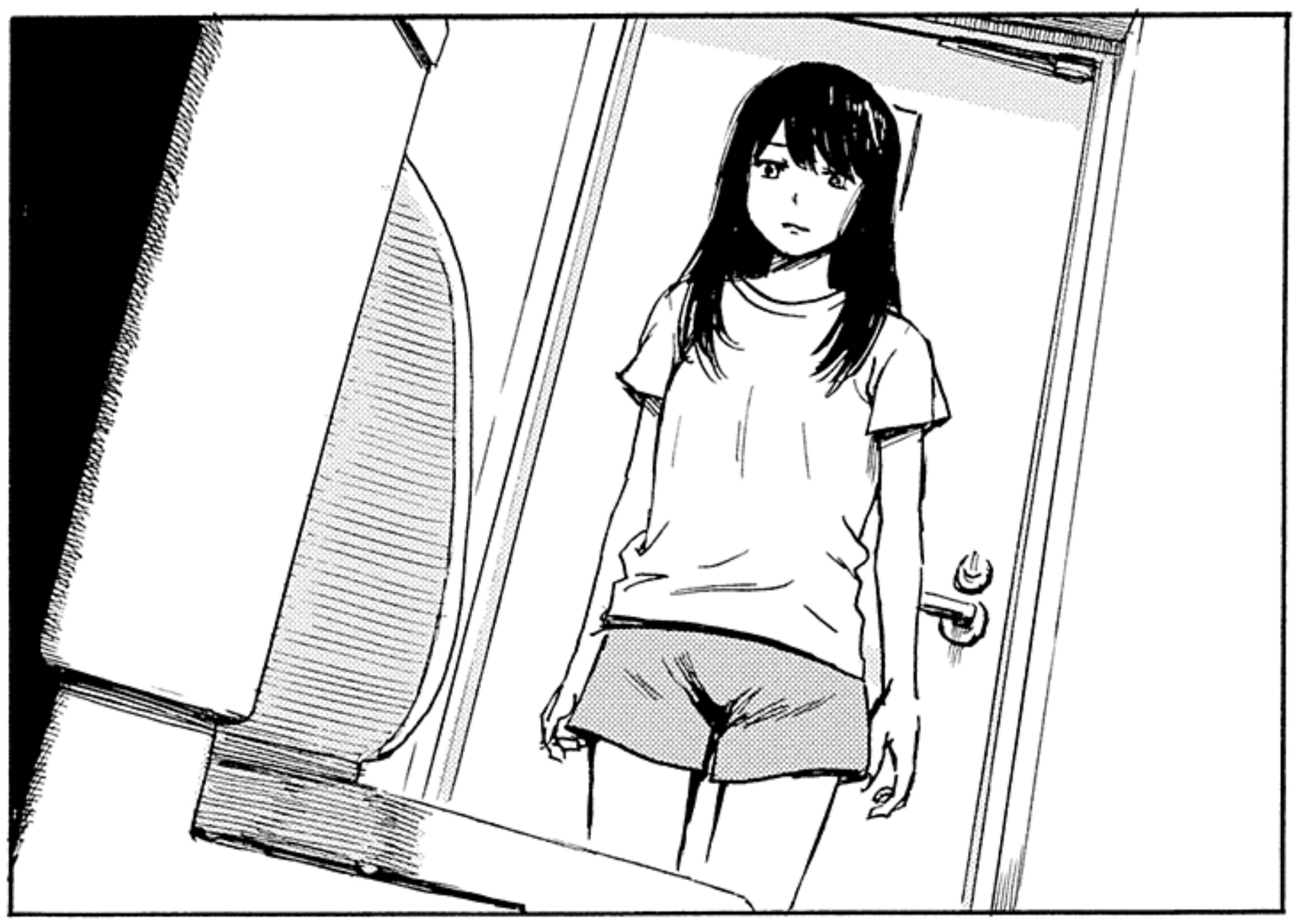
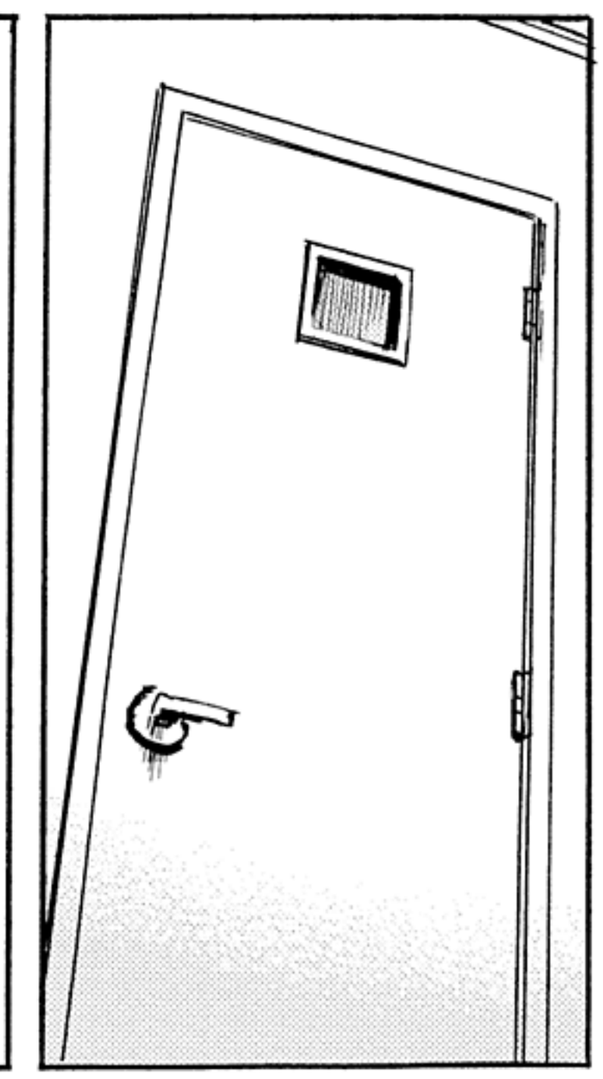

カサ
SKELL
ベリ
PEEL

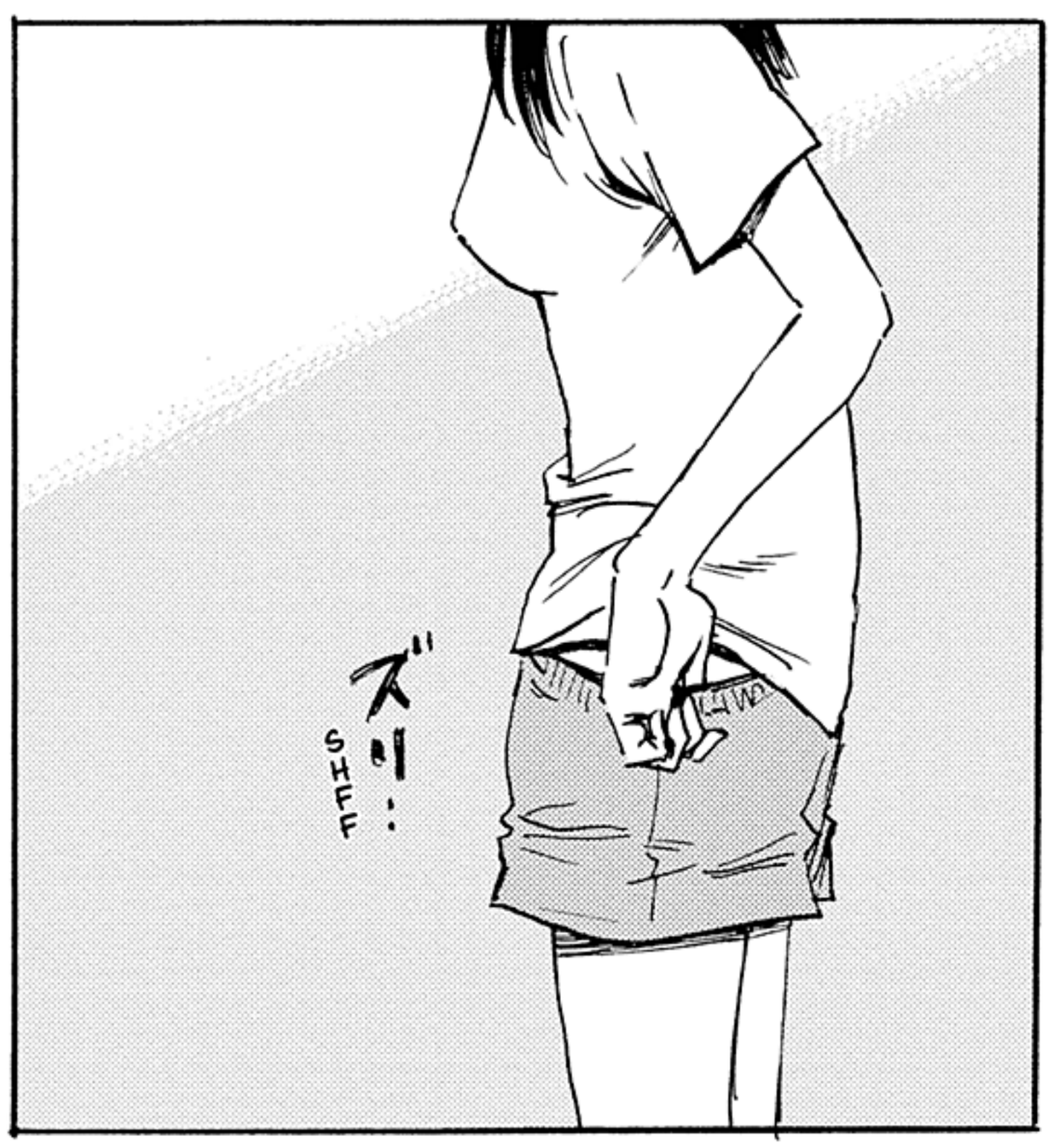

カサ
RSTL

よろ…
WOBBL

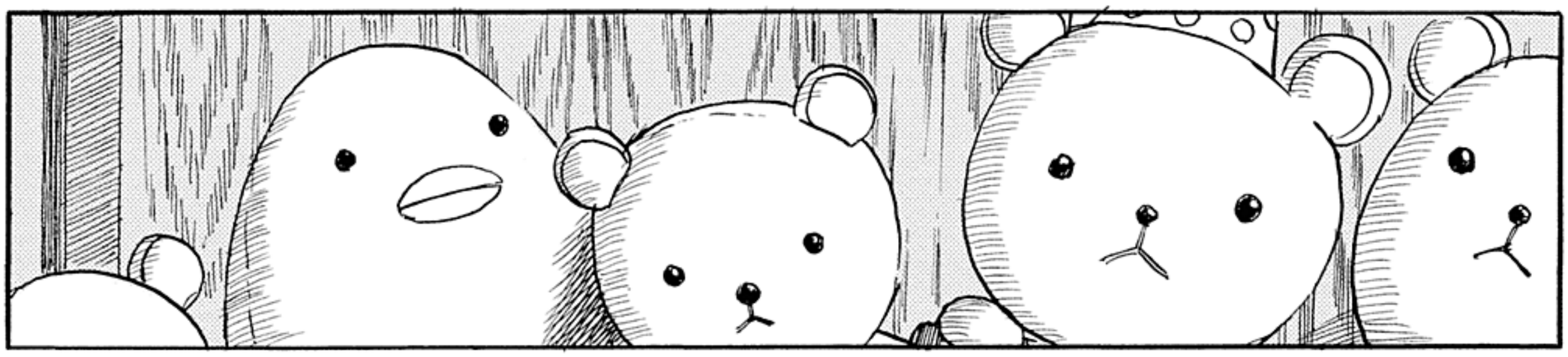


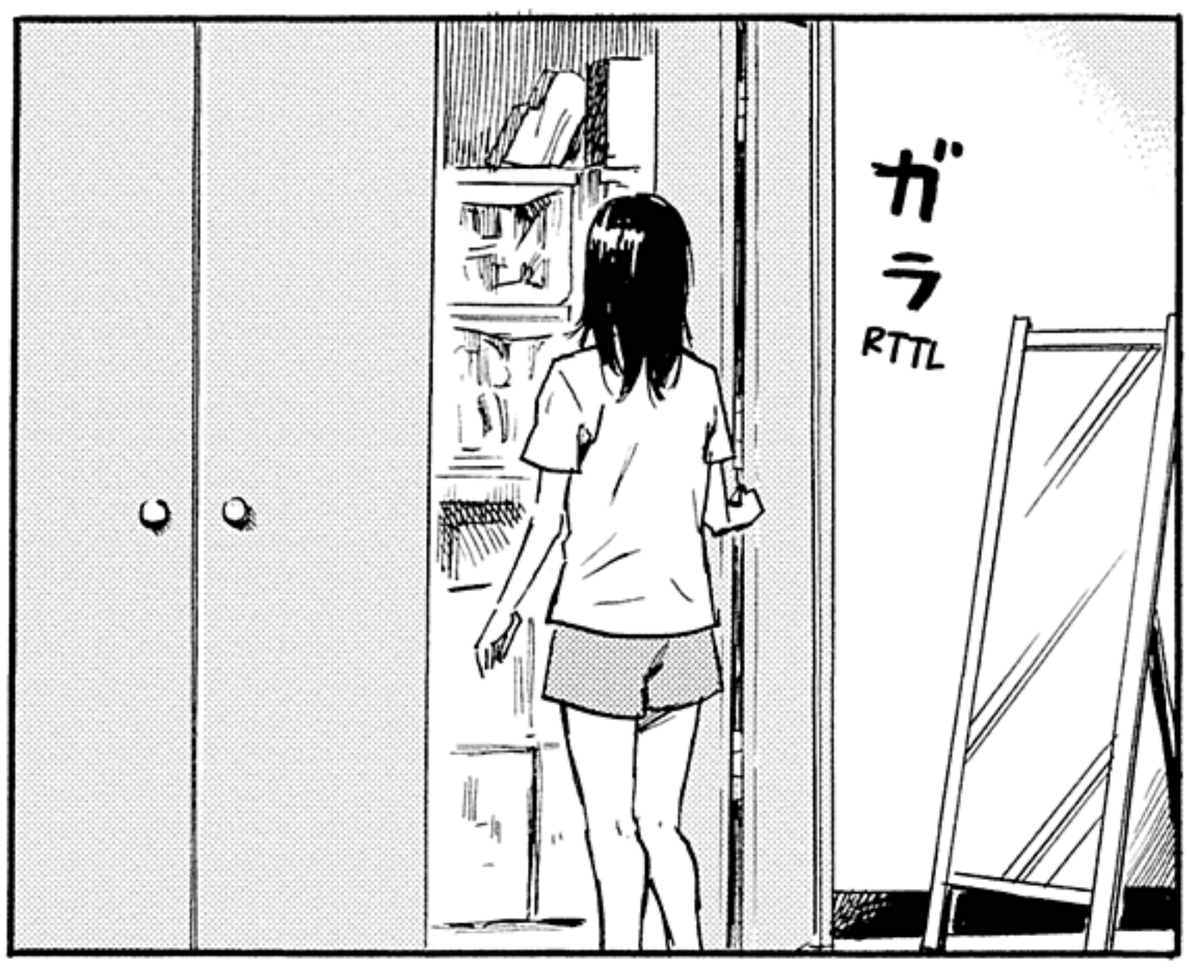


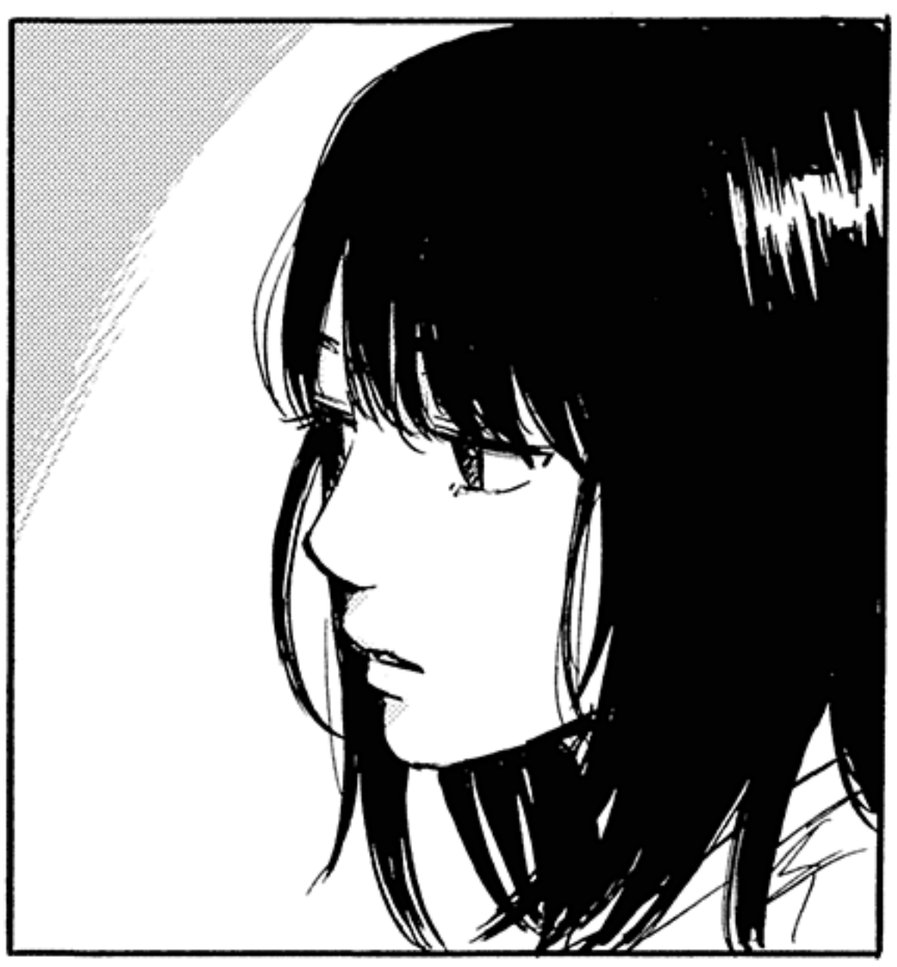


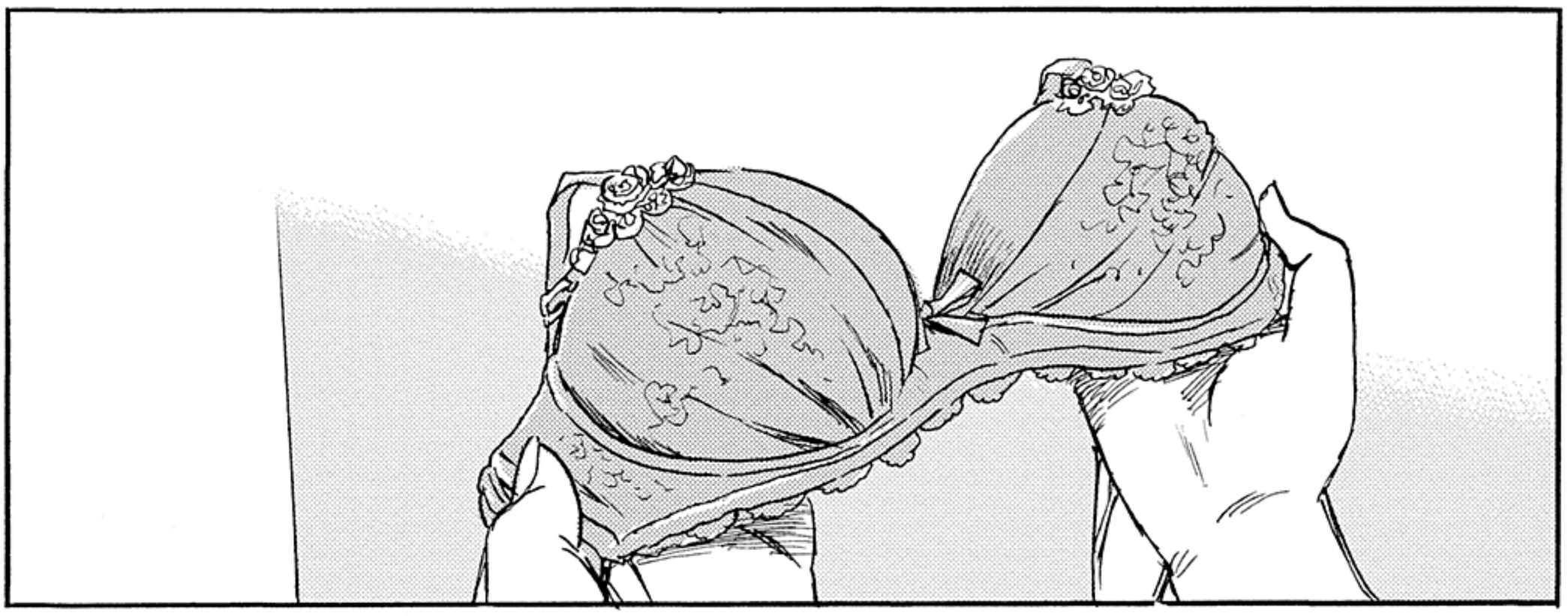

ズリ…
SHFF

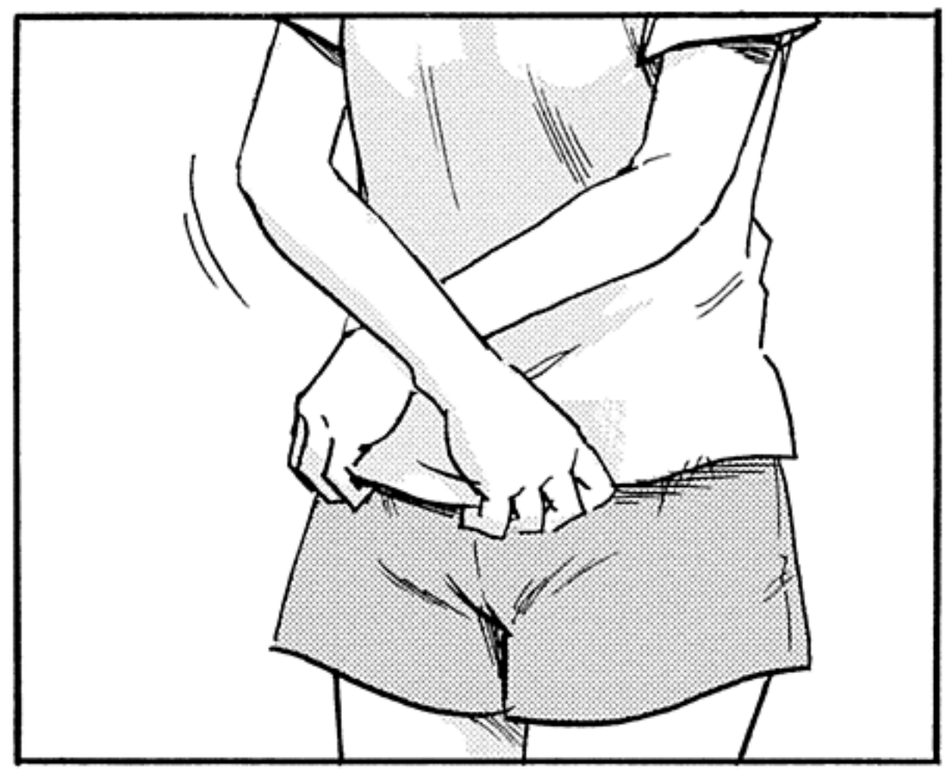
しゅる
SHOOM

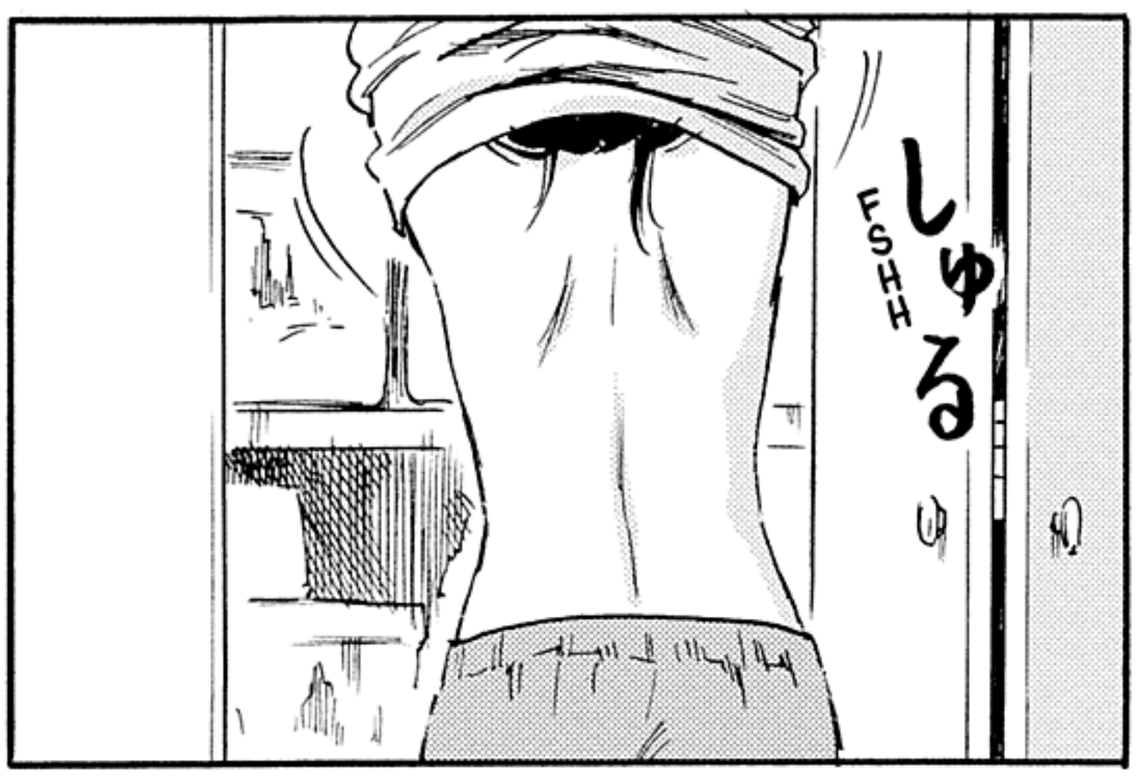




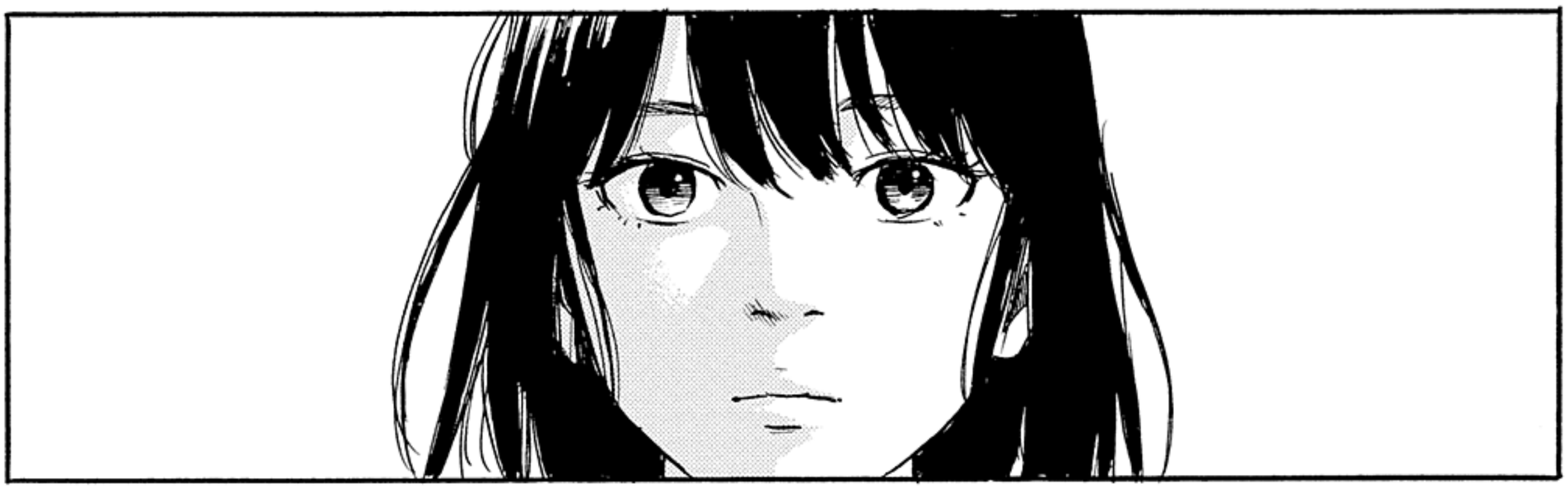


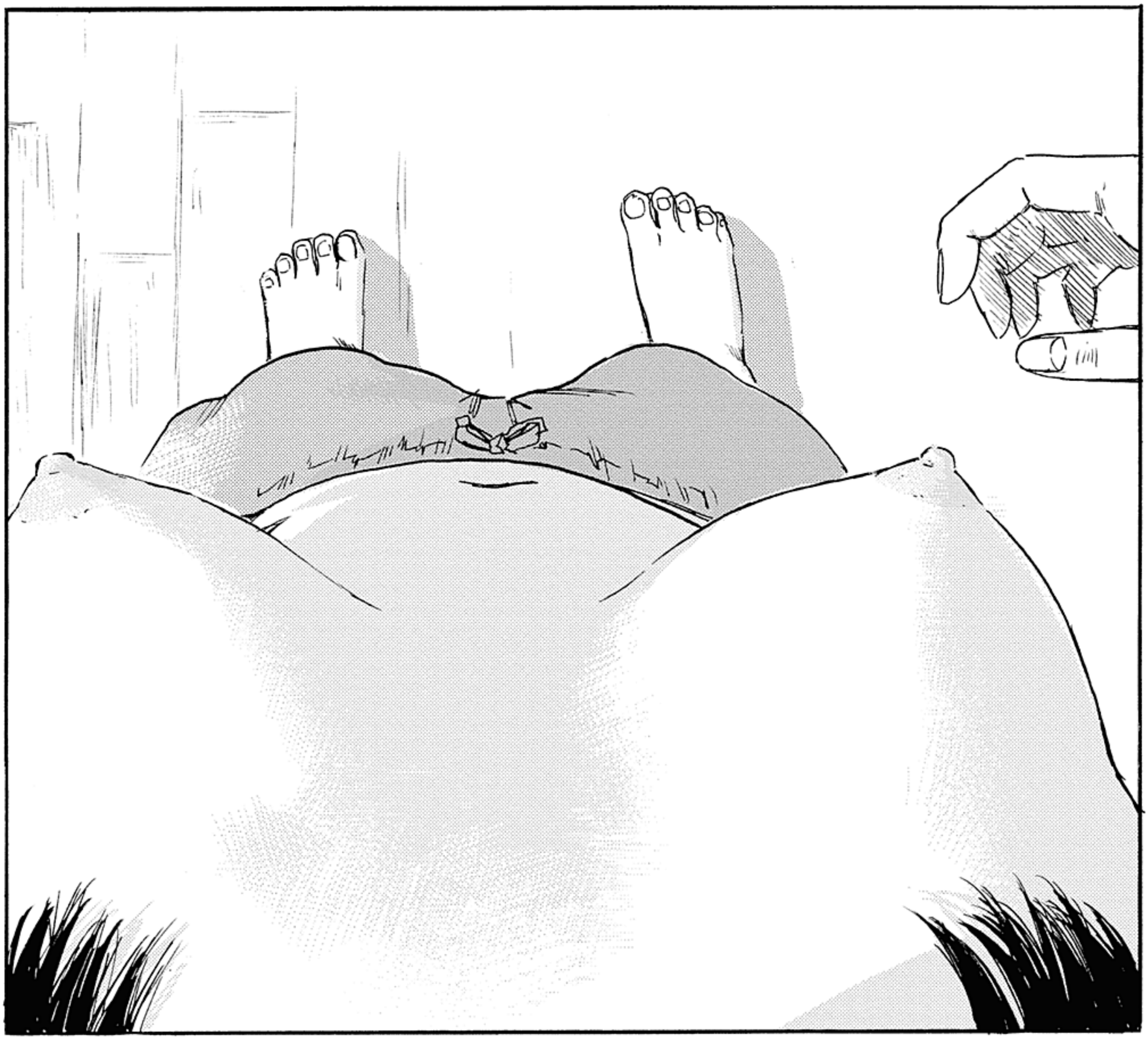


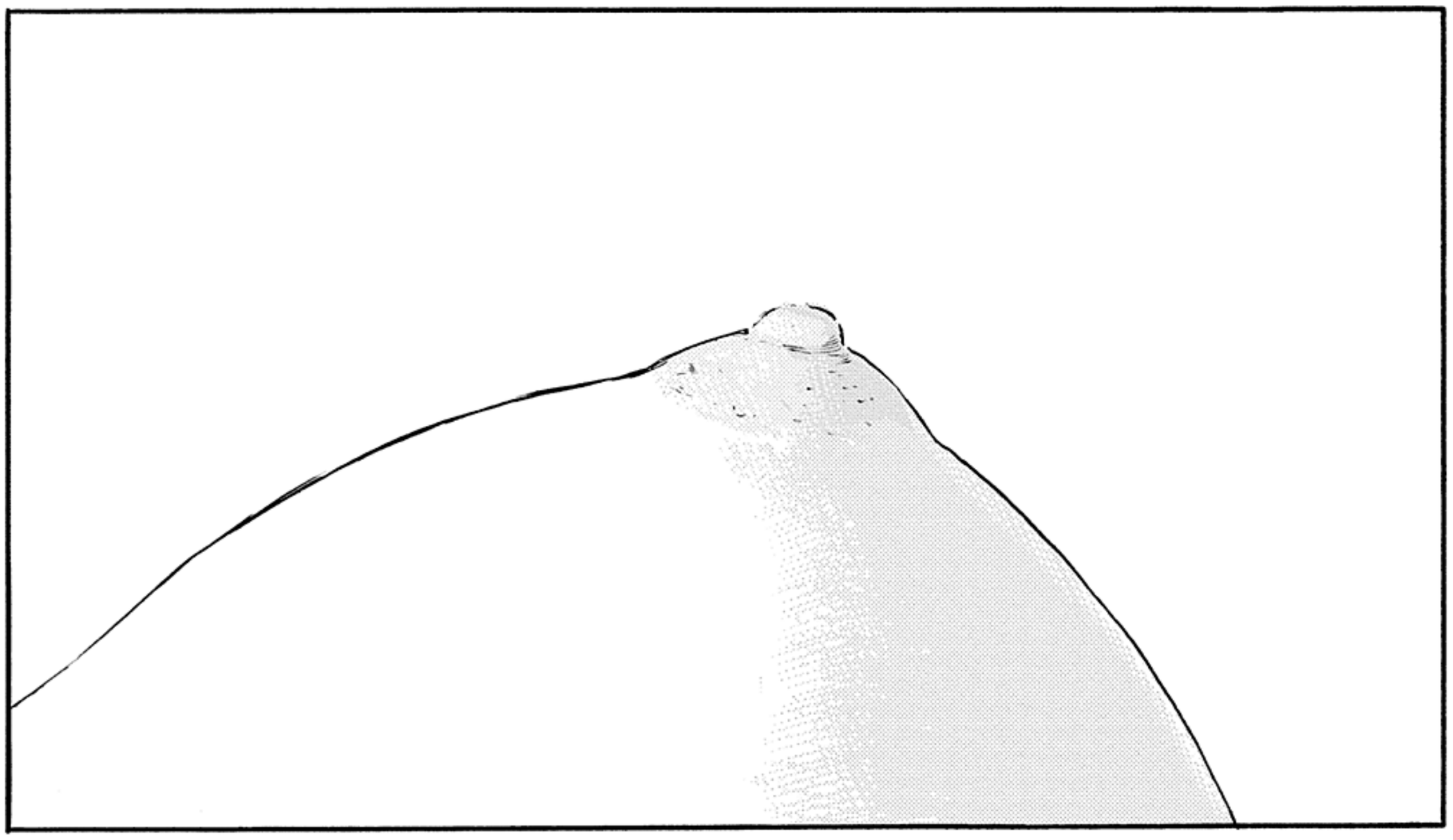


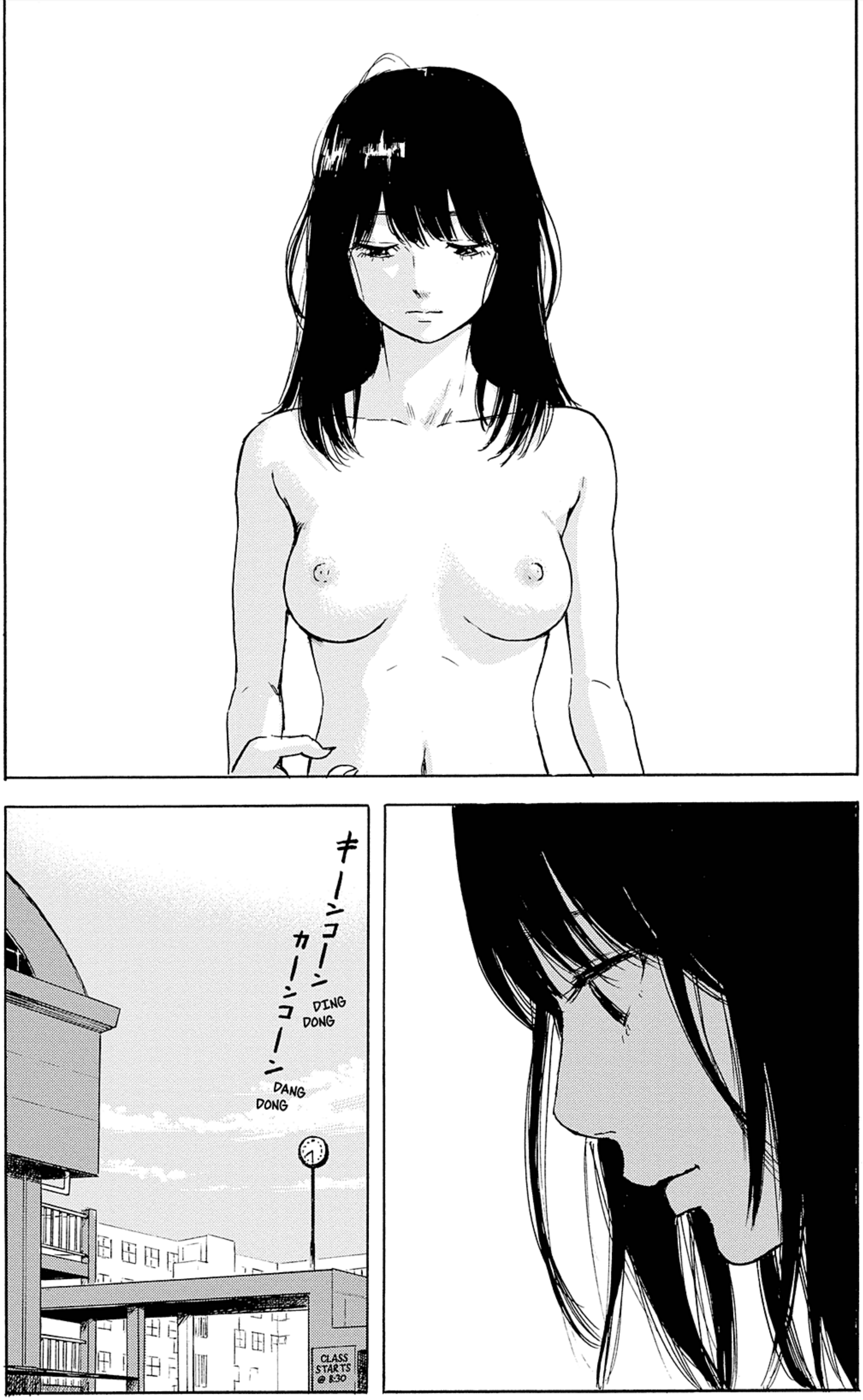

しゅる
FSHH

FWAP

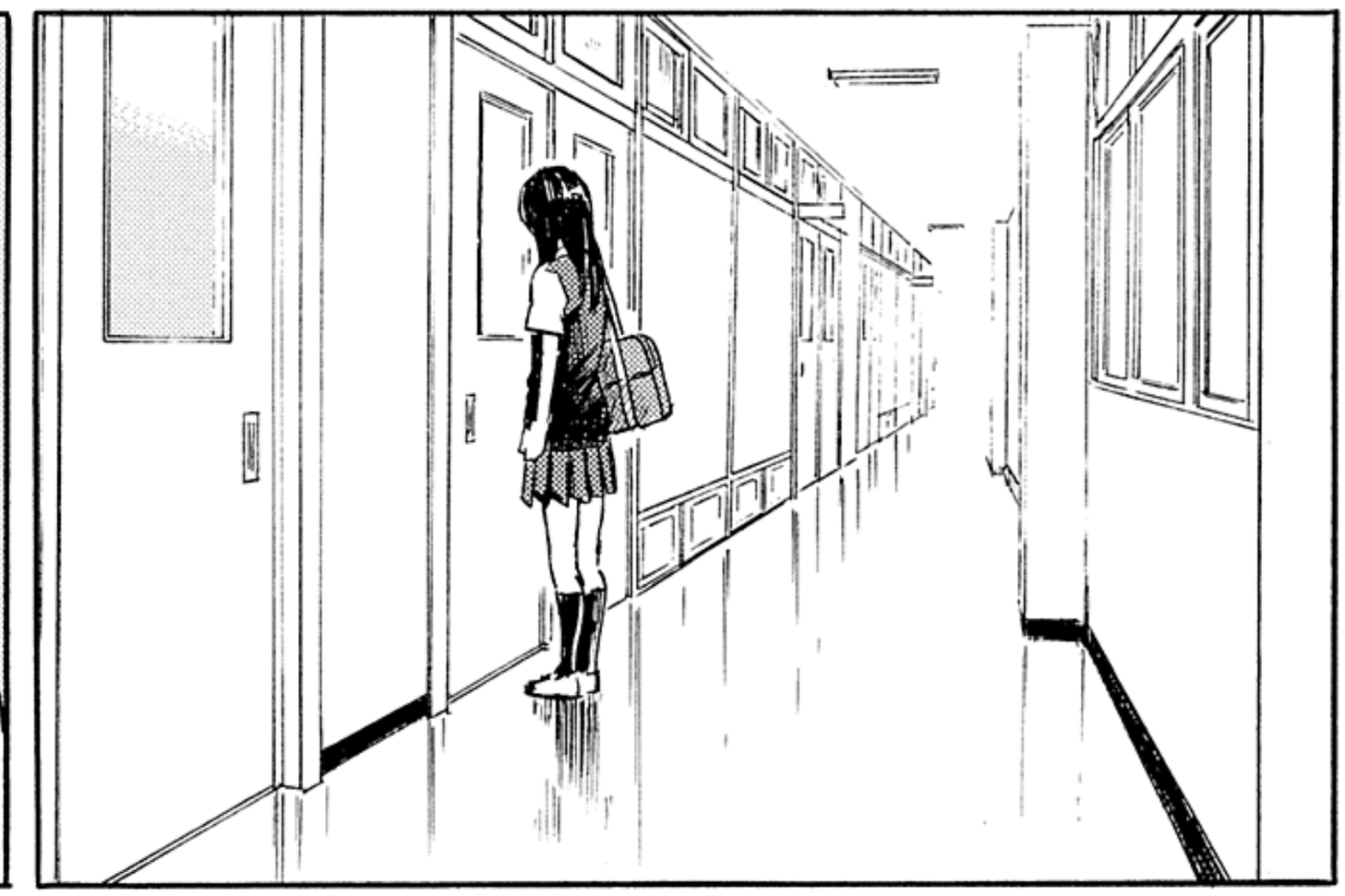


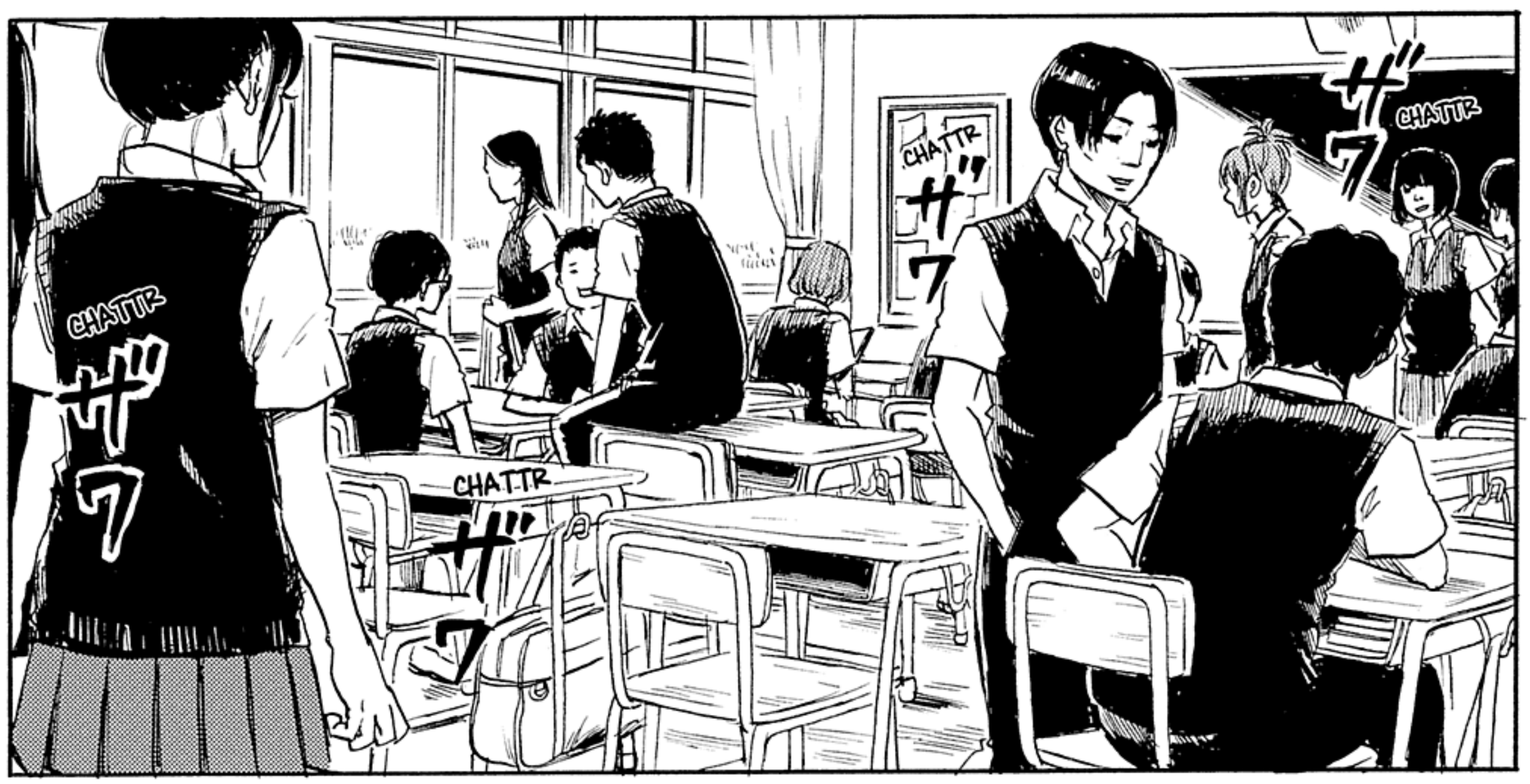





キーンコーン
カーンコーン
DING DONG
DANG DONG
CLASS STARTS @ 8:30

ガラッ。。
RTTL

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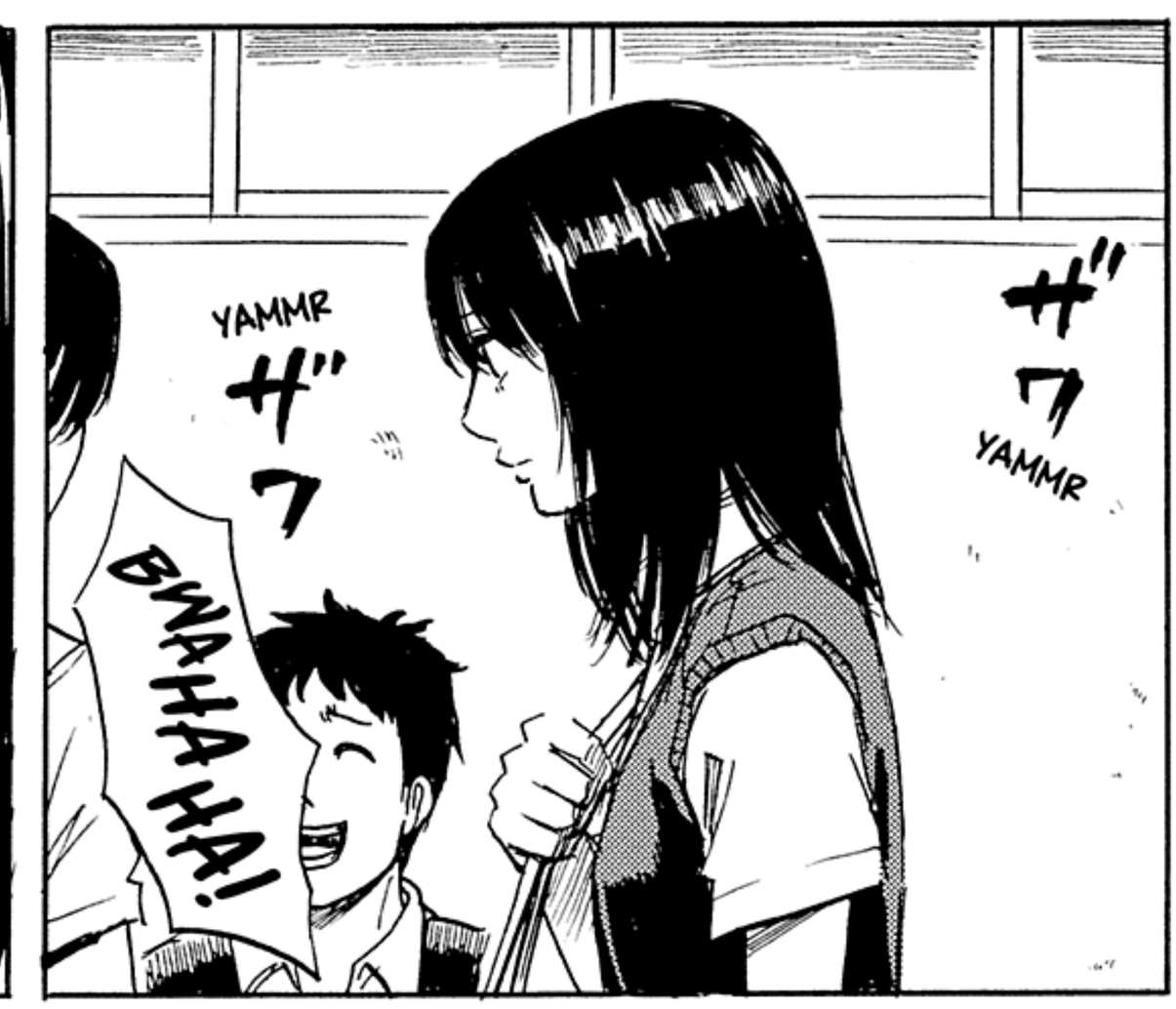
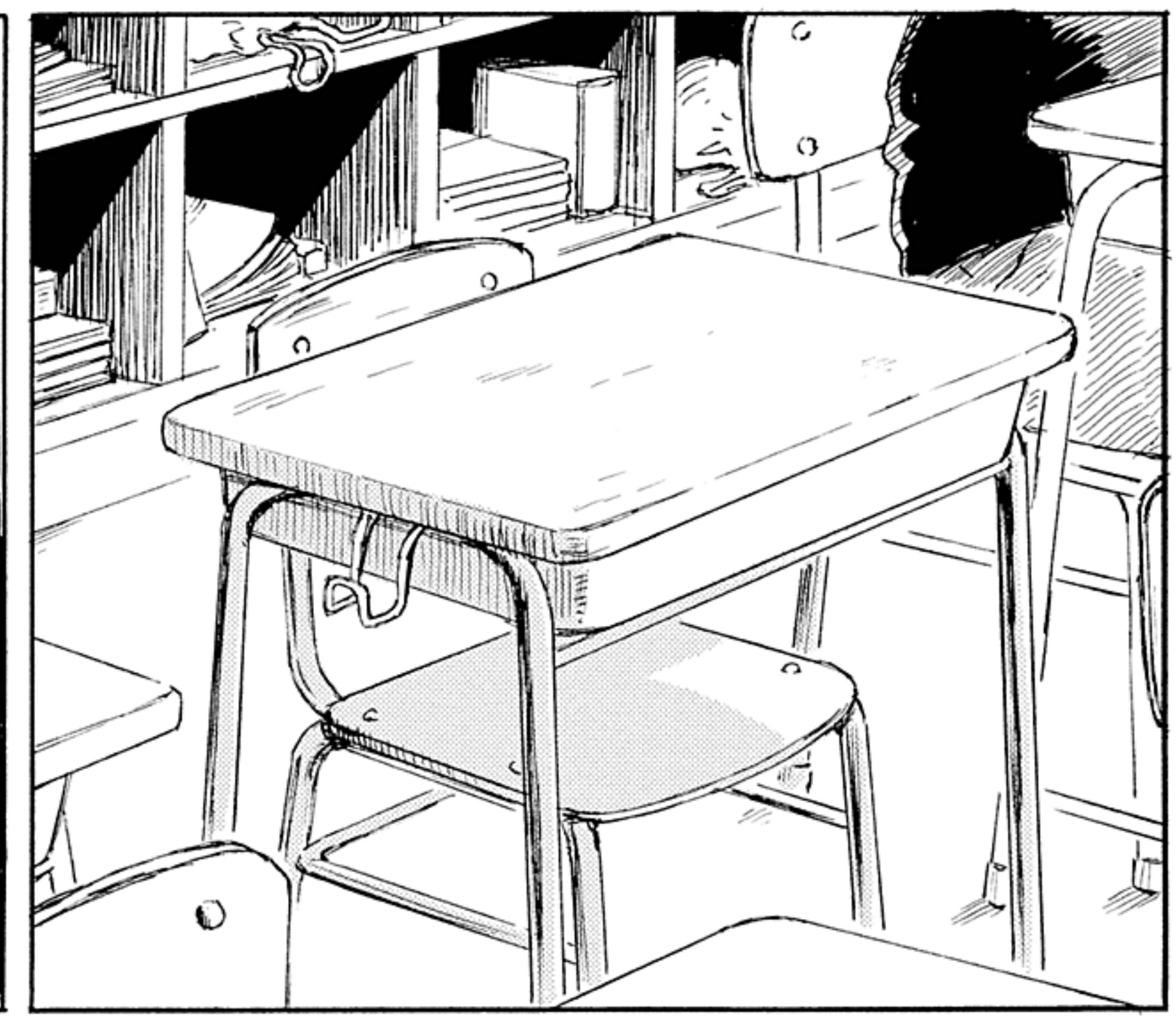
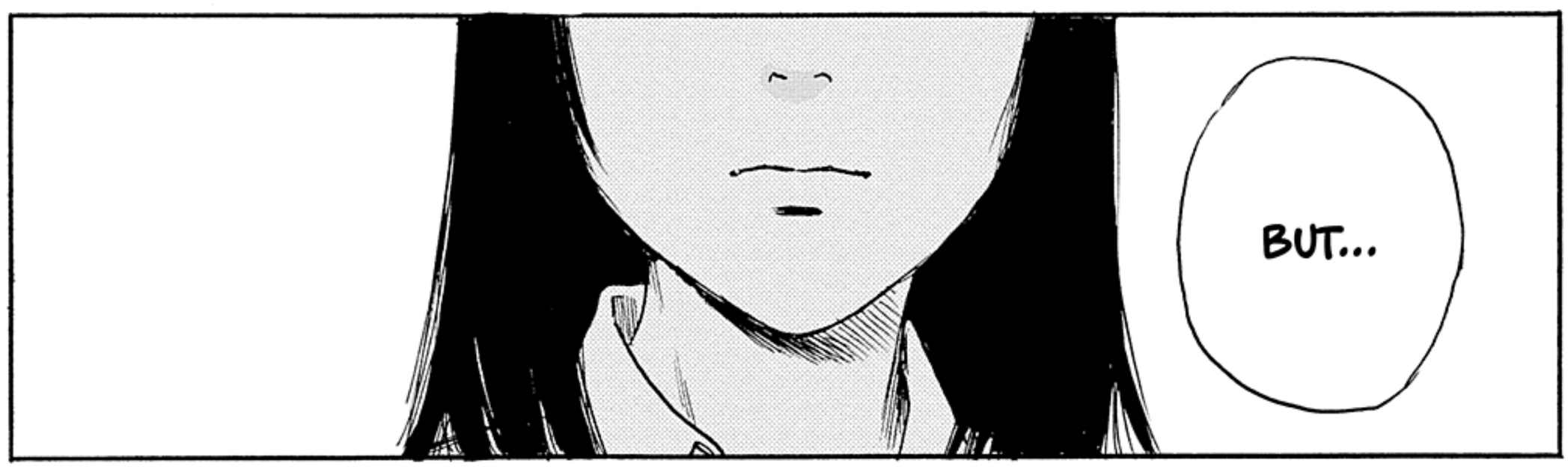
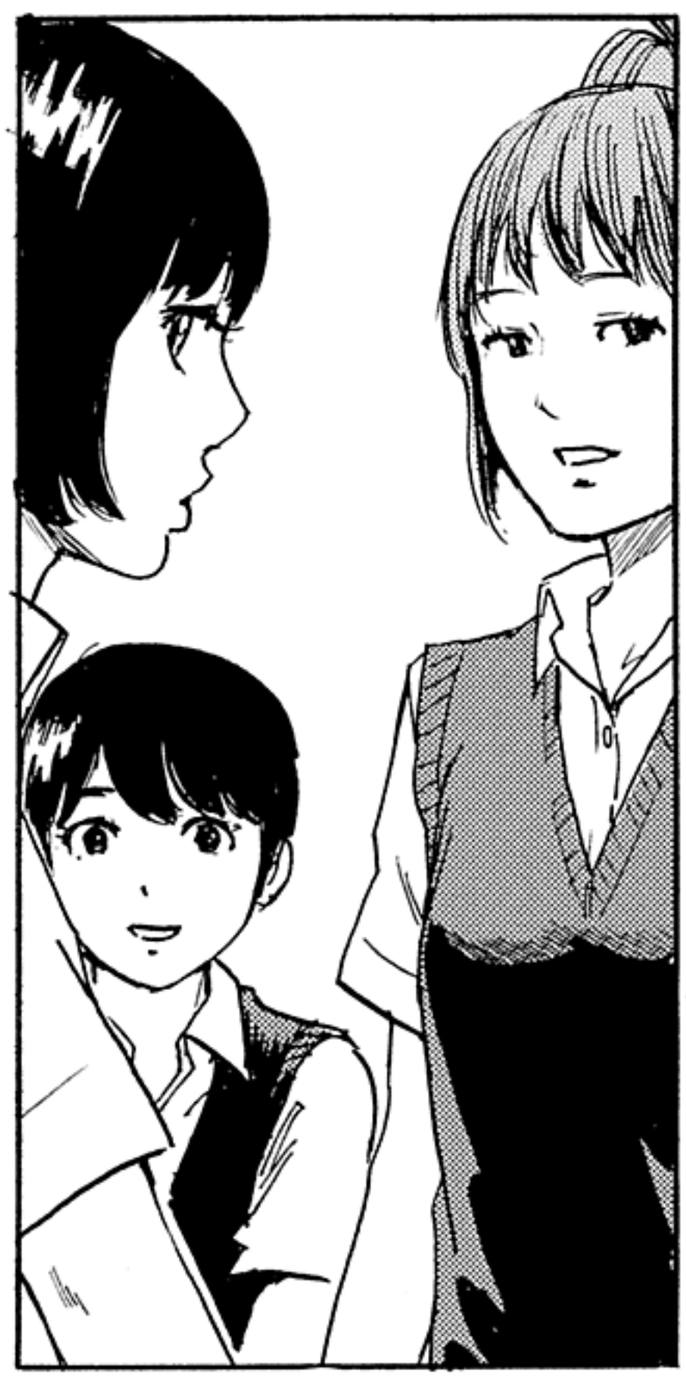

YAMMR
YAMMR
BWAHAHA!

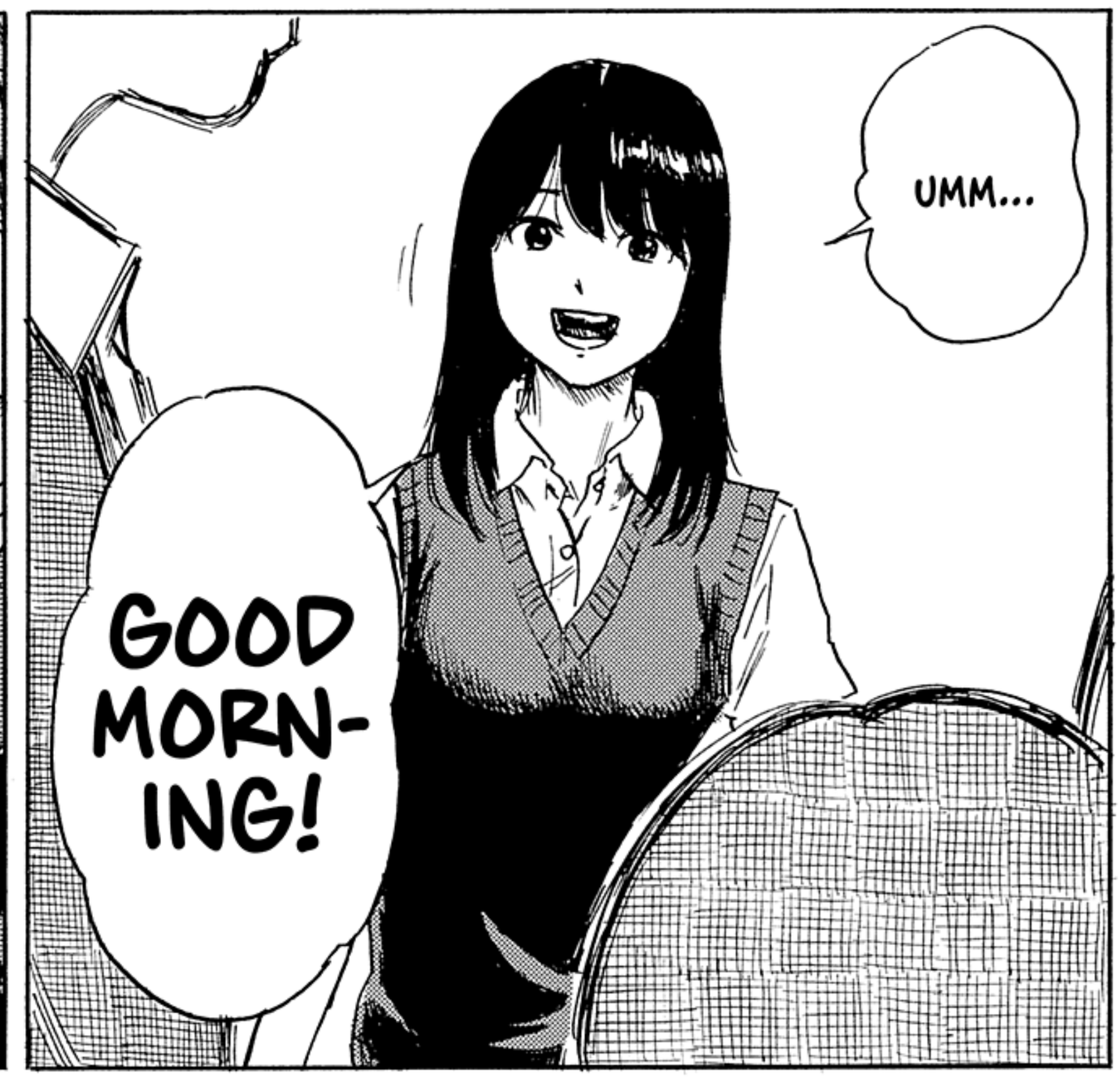
YORI ...
ISN'T HERE.

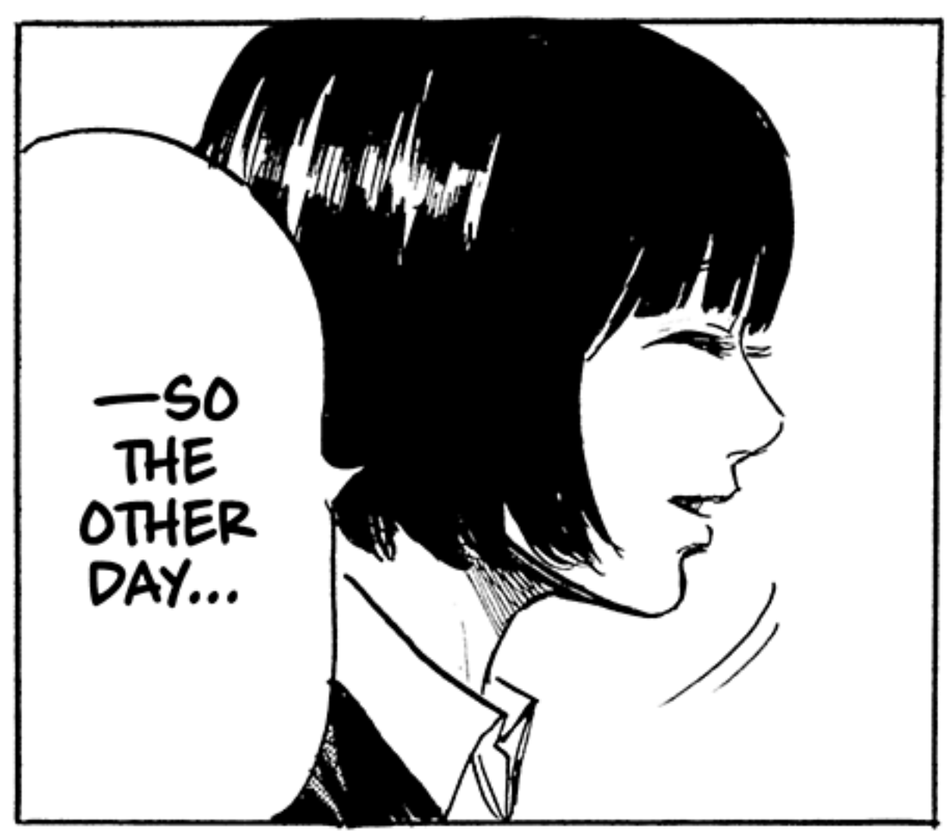


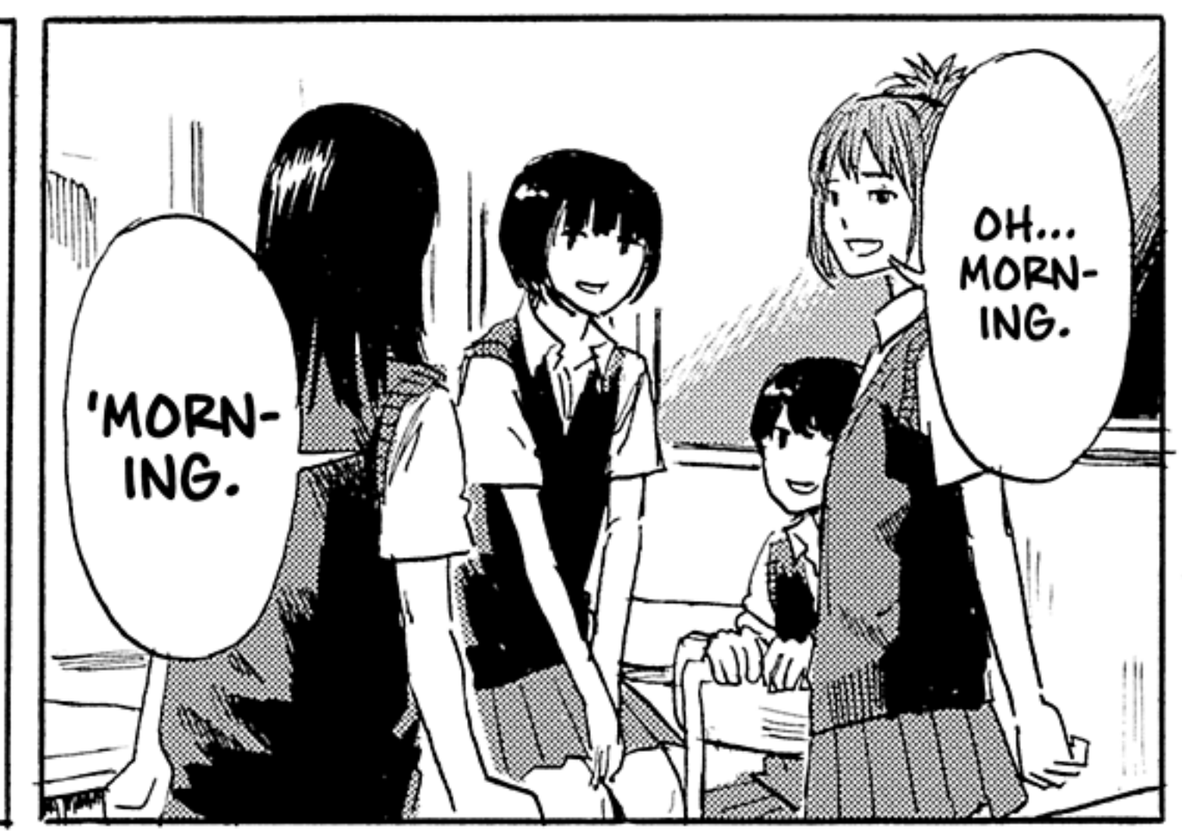
YOU THINK?
I MEAN, SURE HE'S NICE...
HUH? COME ON WHY NOT?
HIROKI'S A NICE GUY.


BUT...

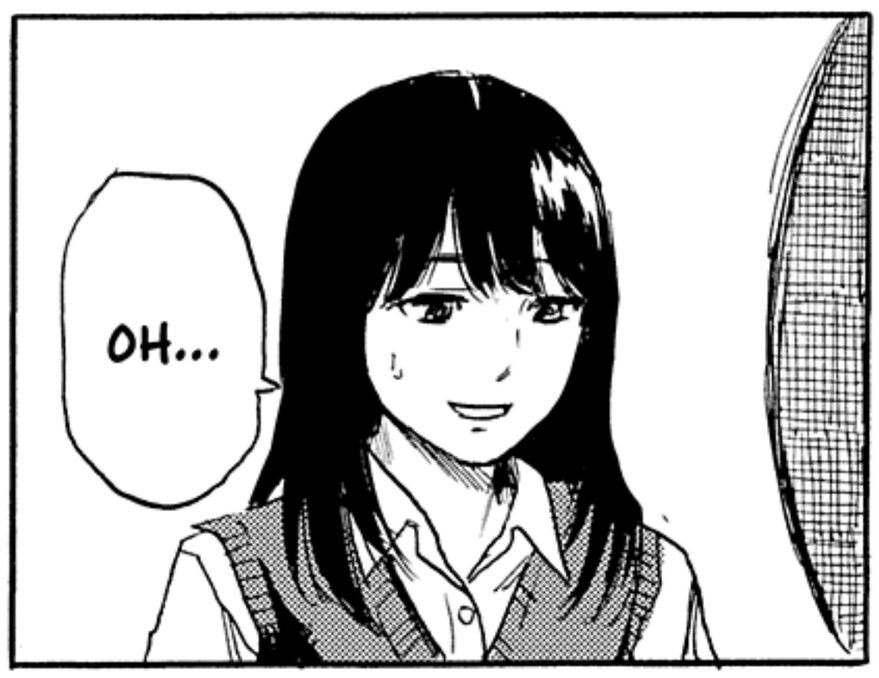


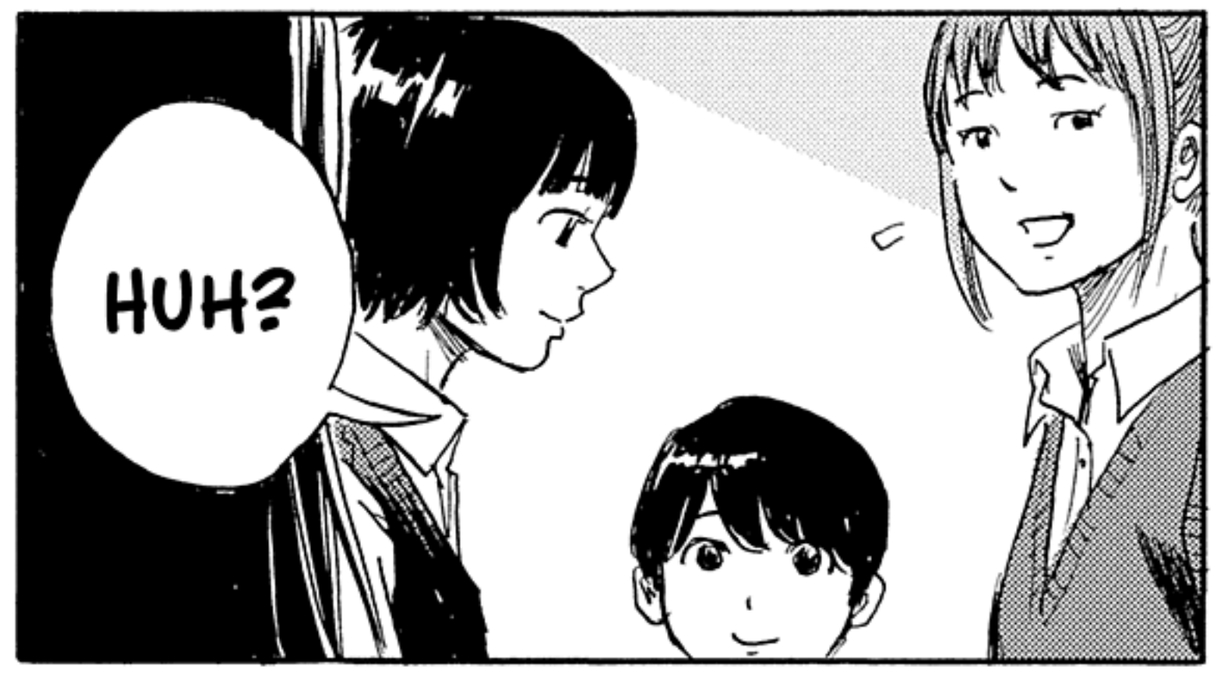

UMM...
GOOD MORN-ING!


—SO THE OTHER DAY...


'MORN-ING.
OH... MORN-ING.

UMM...
HEY!
HIROKI CAME OVER
TO MY PLACE—


OH...

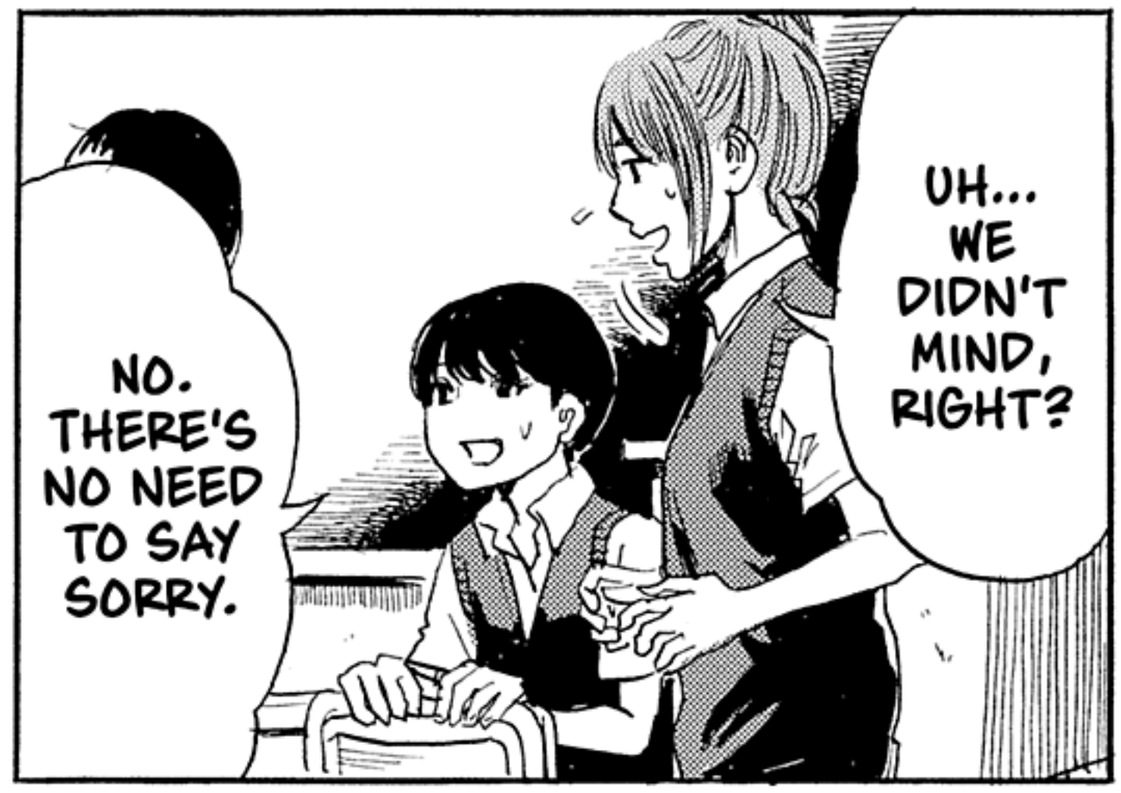

HUH?

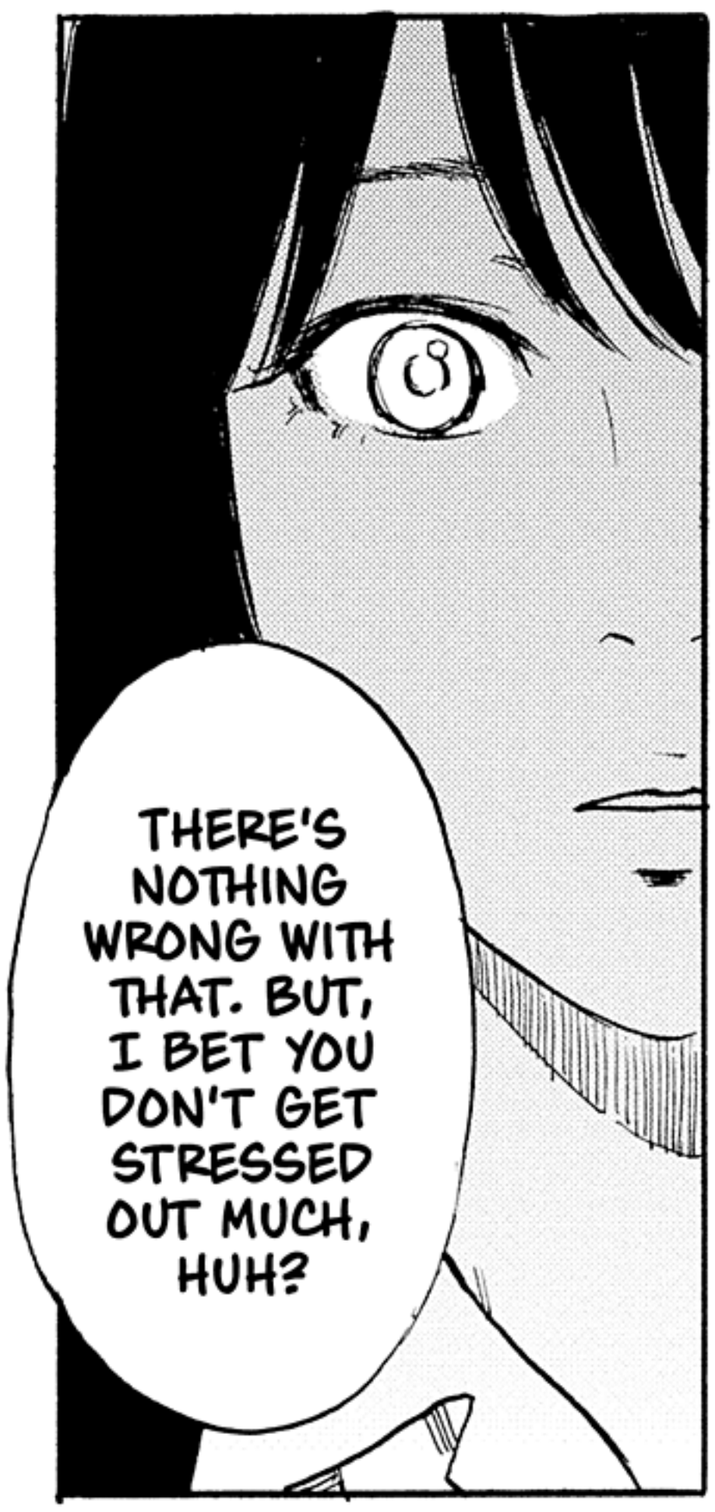
ABOUT YESTER-DAY.
I-I'M SORRY ...

SORRY?
FOR WHAT?

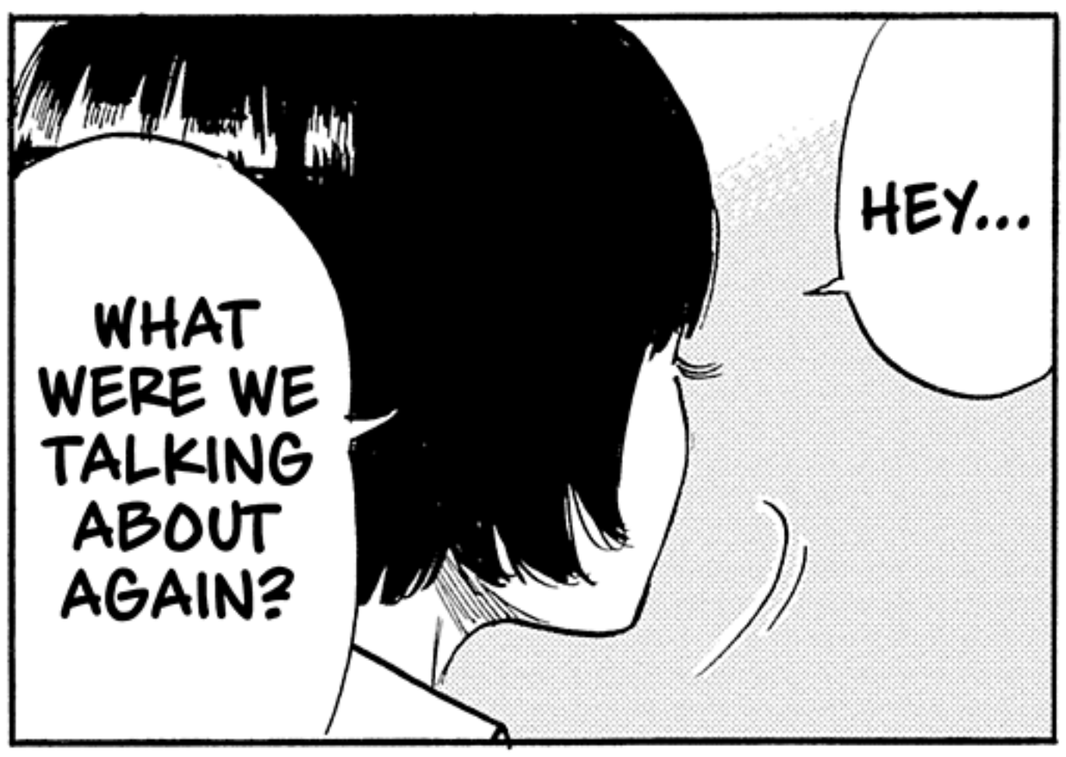
I GOT A LITTLE CARRIED AWAY... WITH THE KARAOKE...
AH! WELL... I MEAN...

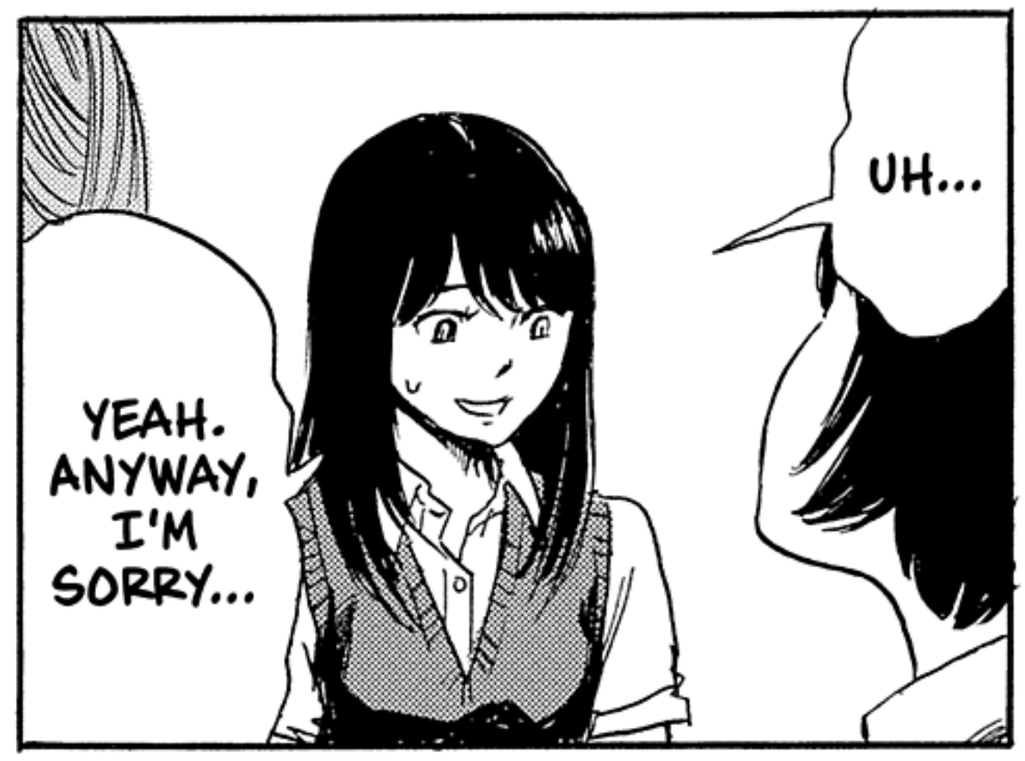
IT'S JUST... WELL, MARI...


NO. THERE'S NO NEED TO SAY SORRY.
UH... WE DIDN'T MIND, RIGHT?

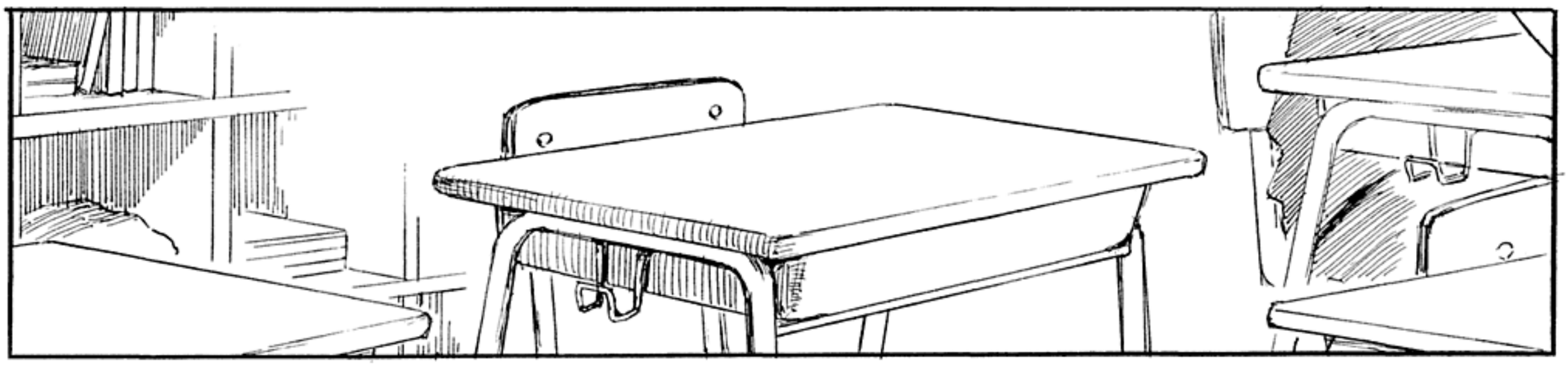

THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT. BUT, I BET YOU DON'T GET STRESSED OUT MUCH, HUH?

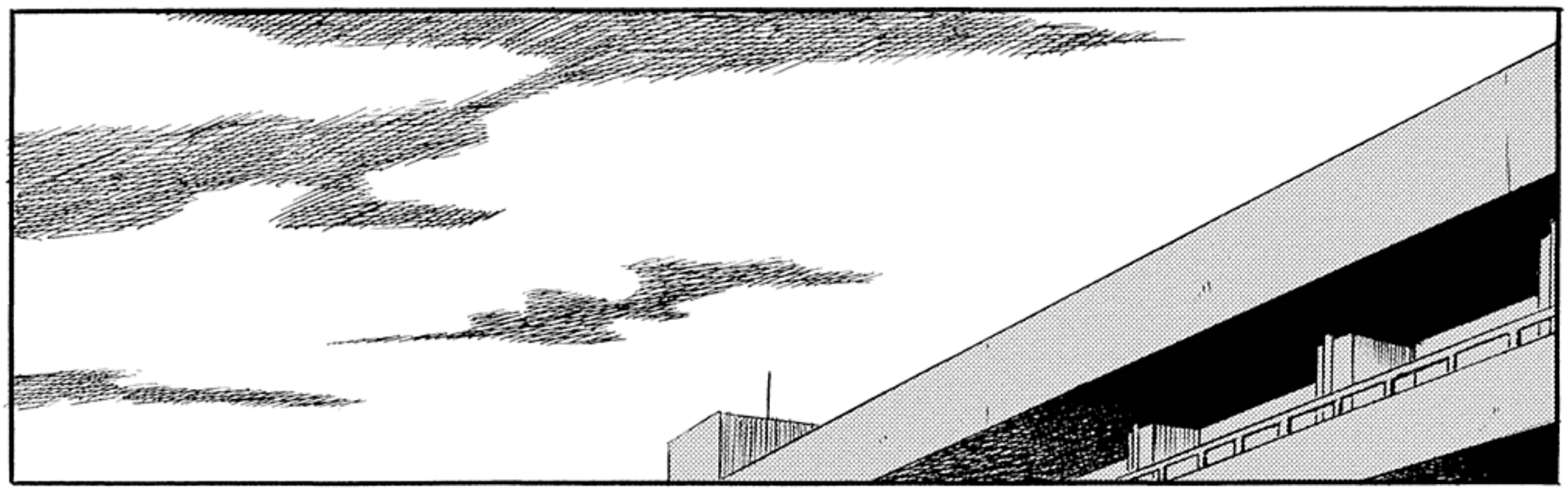
I WAS LIKE, "SO THAT'S HOW IT IS NOW," IS ALL.
WHO KNEW YOU WERE, SO FREE-SPIRIT-ED?

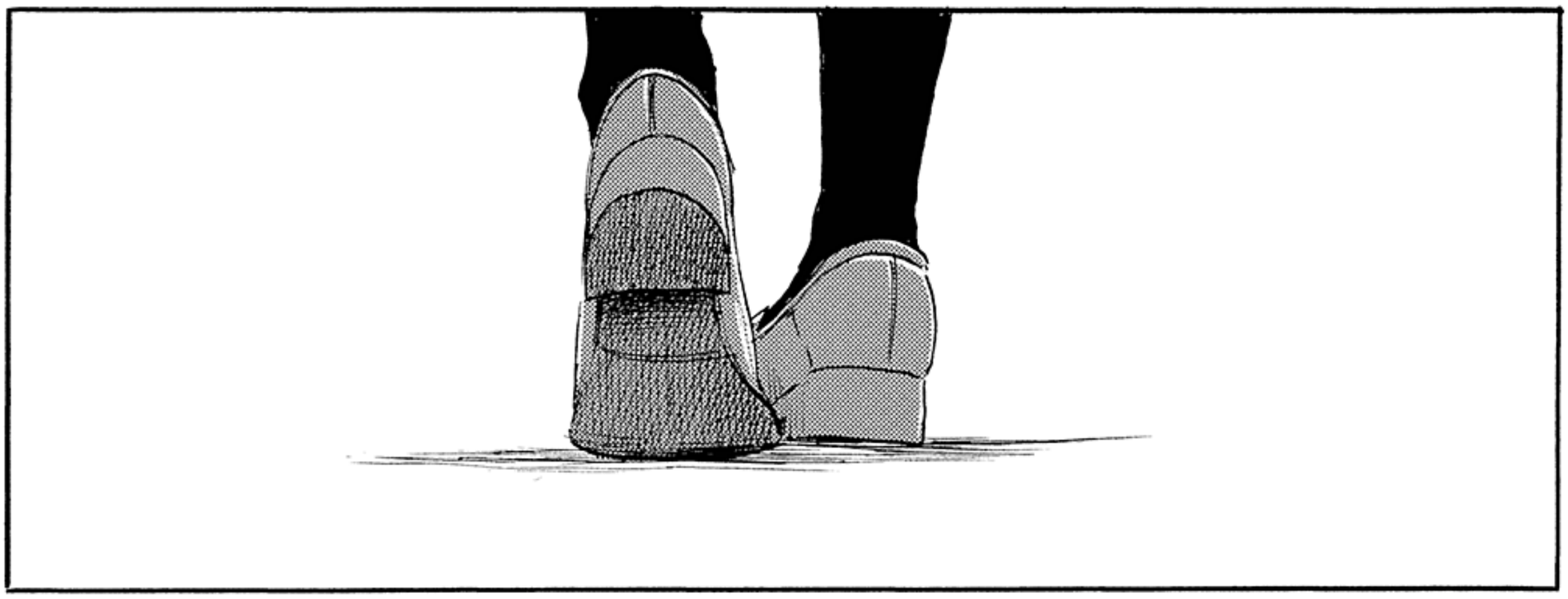

WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT AGAIN?
HEY...

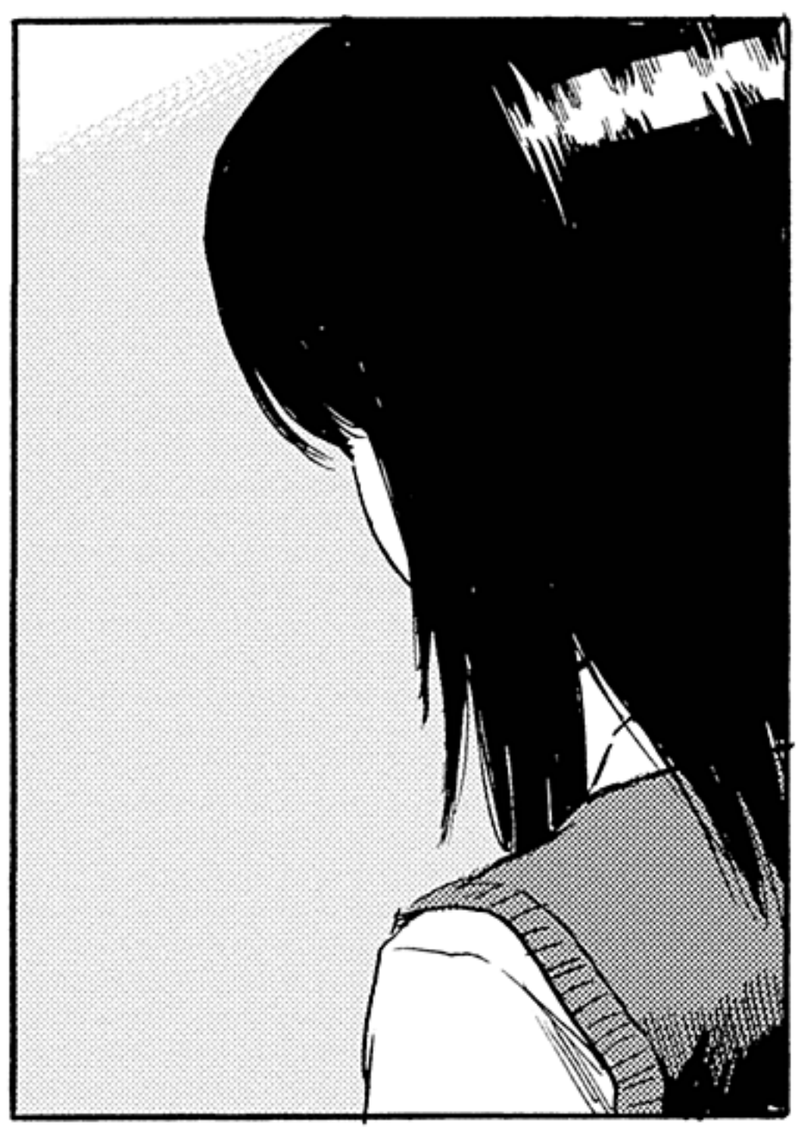

YEAH. ANYWAY, I'M SORRY...
UH...

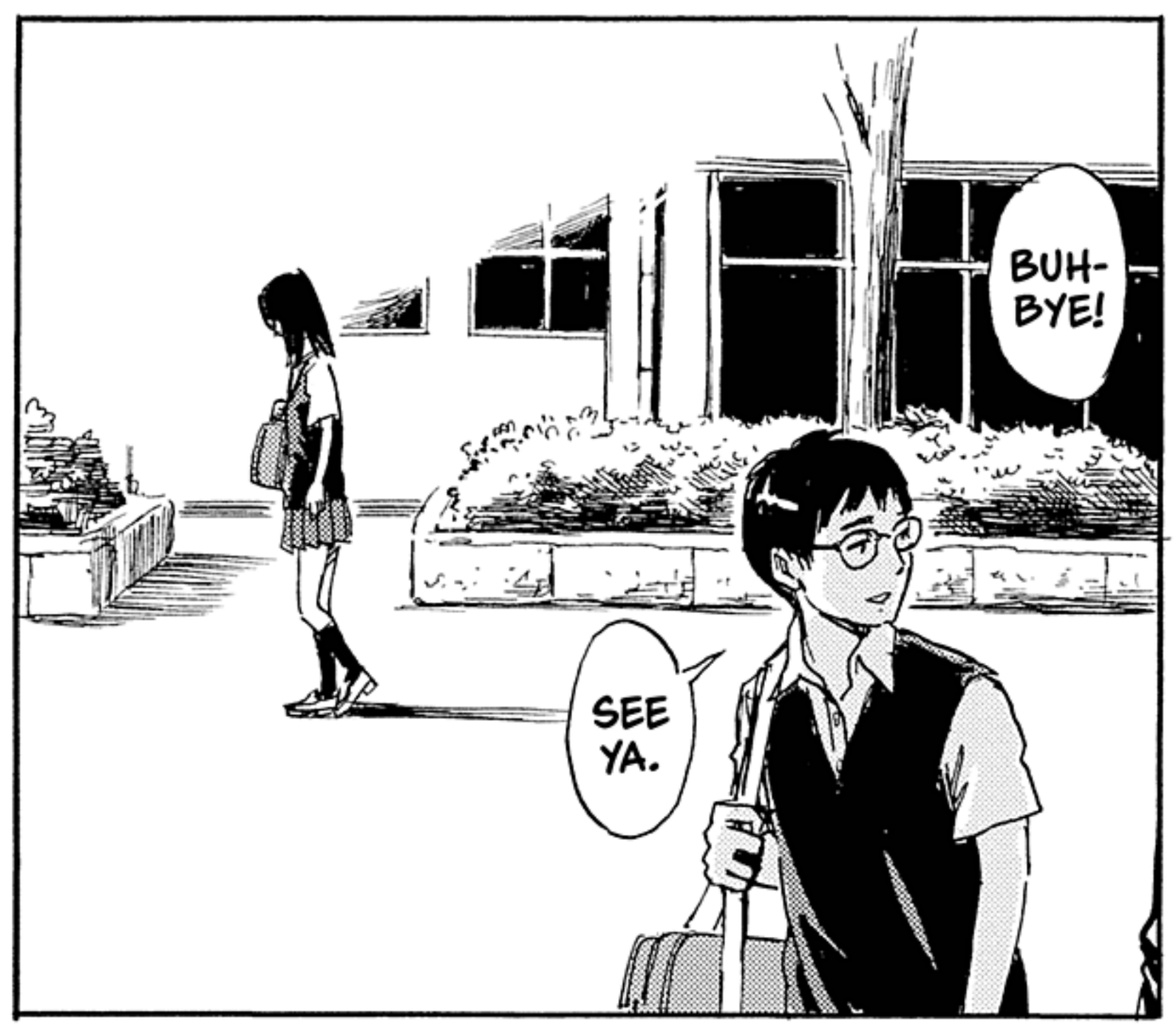
OH, YEAH— SO, HIROKI...

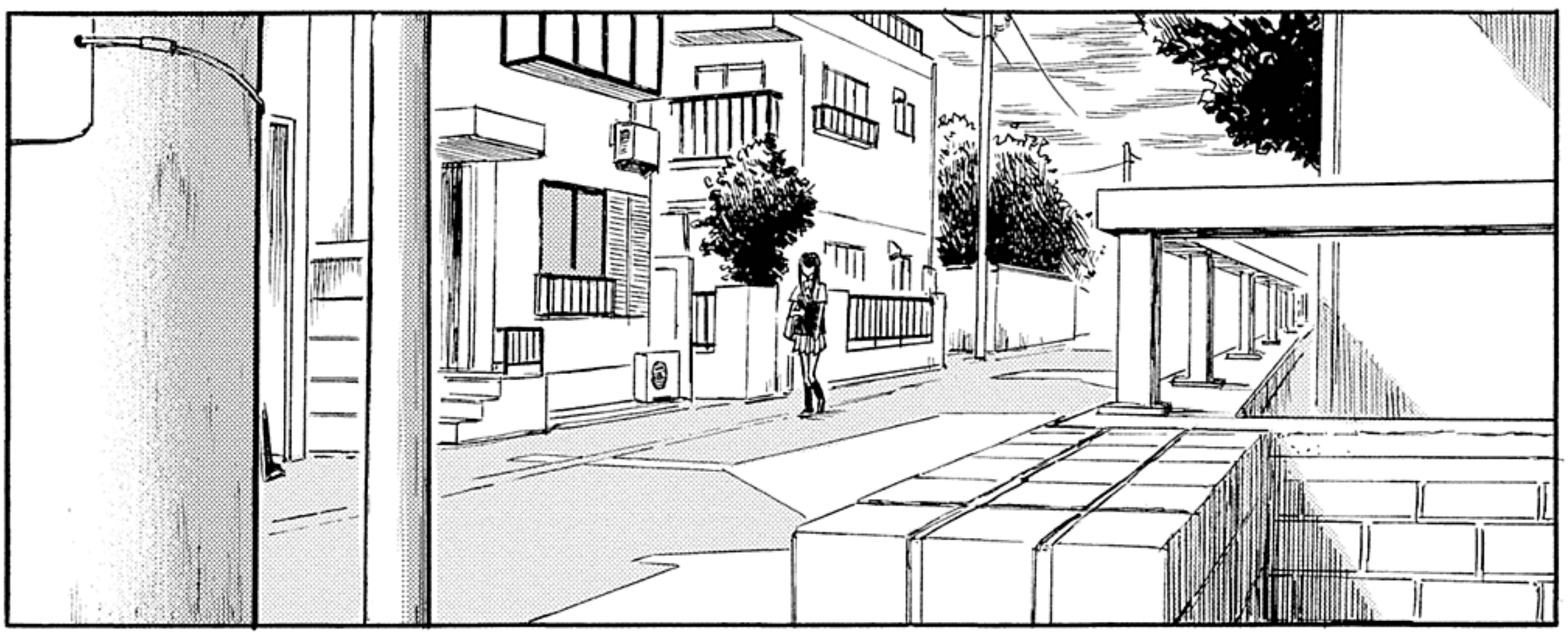









BUH-BYE!
SEE YA.



HAH

HAH

FOR HER PHONE NUMBER OR ANYTHING.
I DIDN'T ASK YORI
COME TO THINK OF IT...

GOTTA ...

MUST HANG IN THERE...

HANG IN THERE...

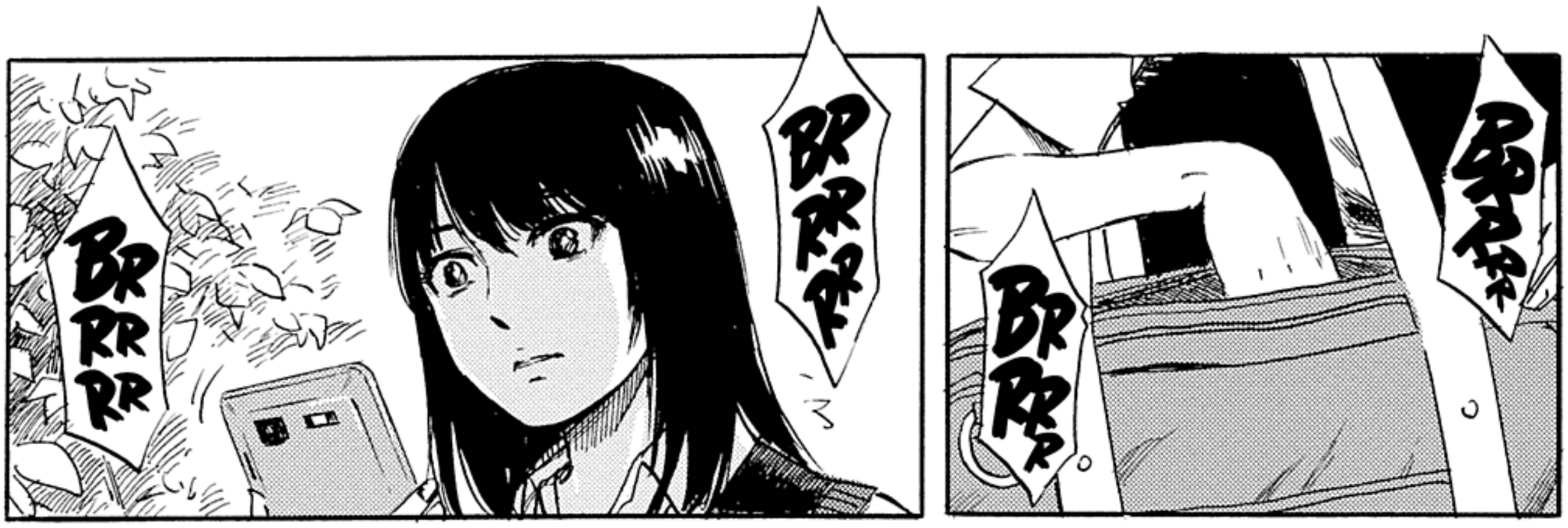
KEEP FIGHT-ING...

HAVE TO...

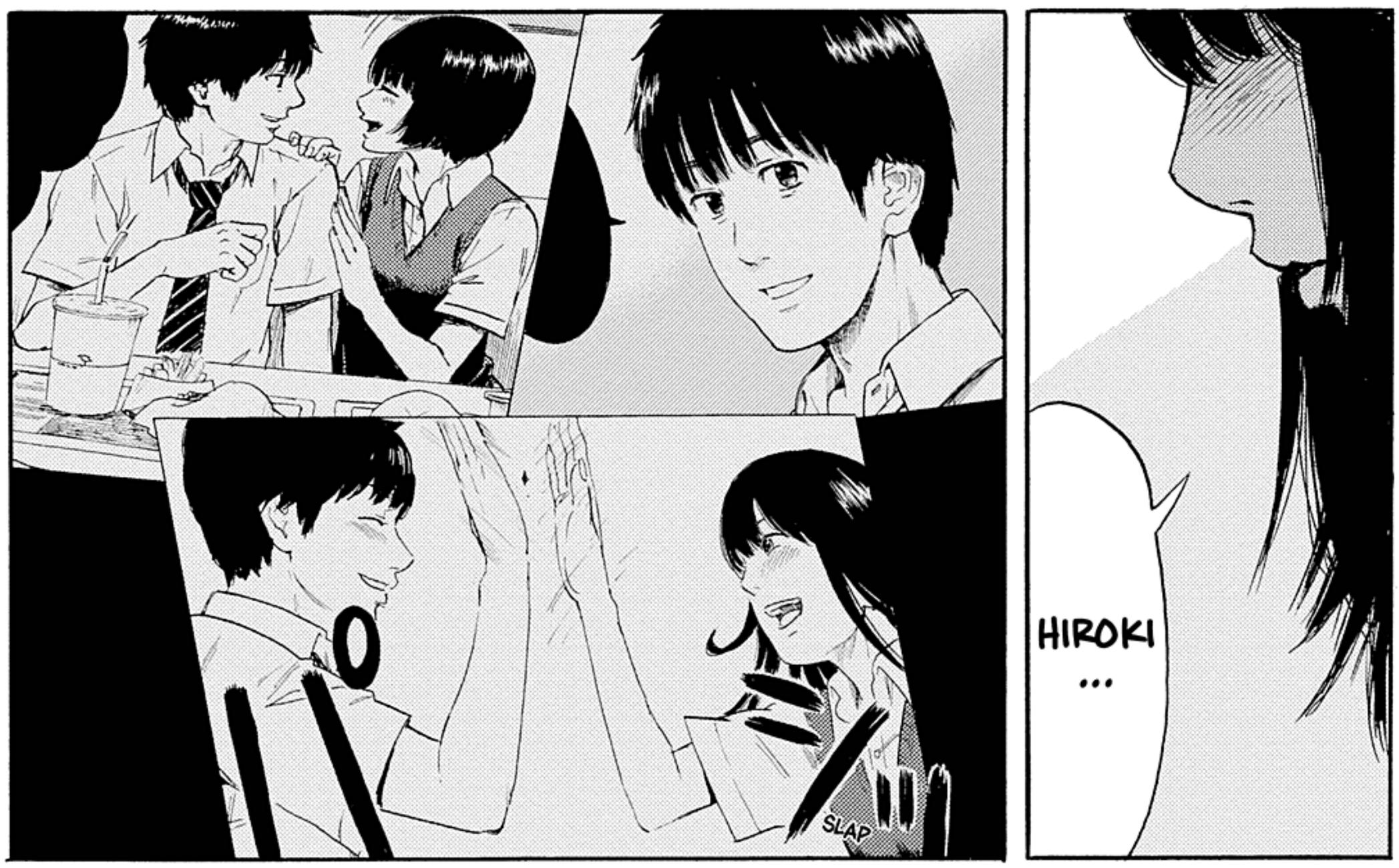
BR RRR RR

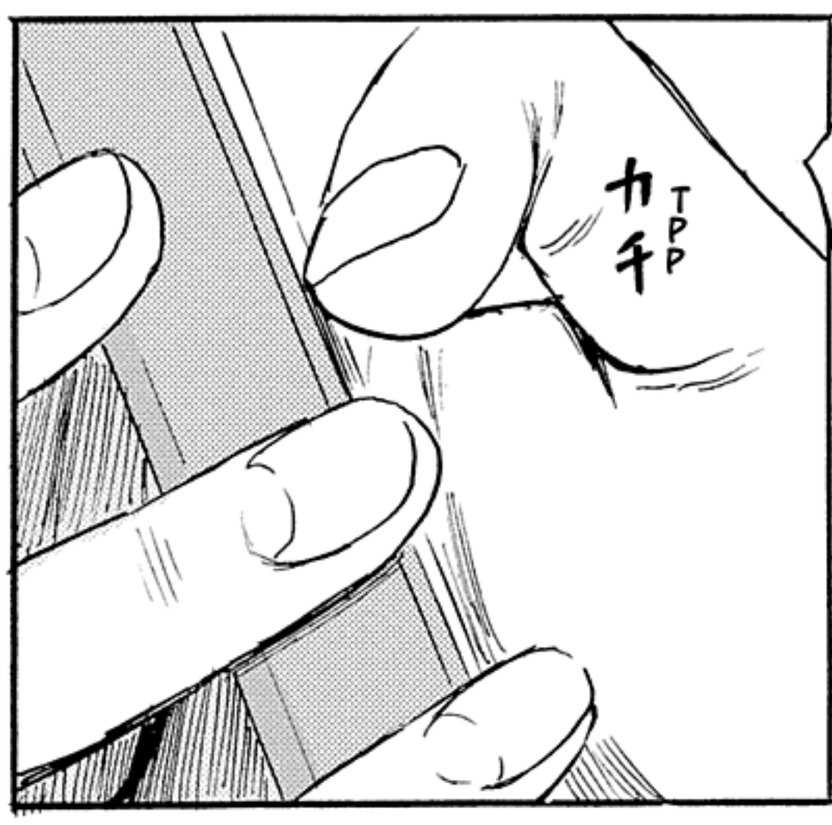
BR RR RR

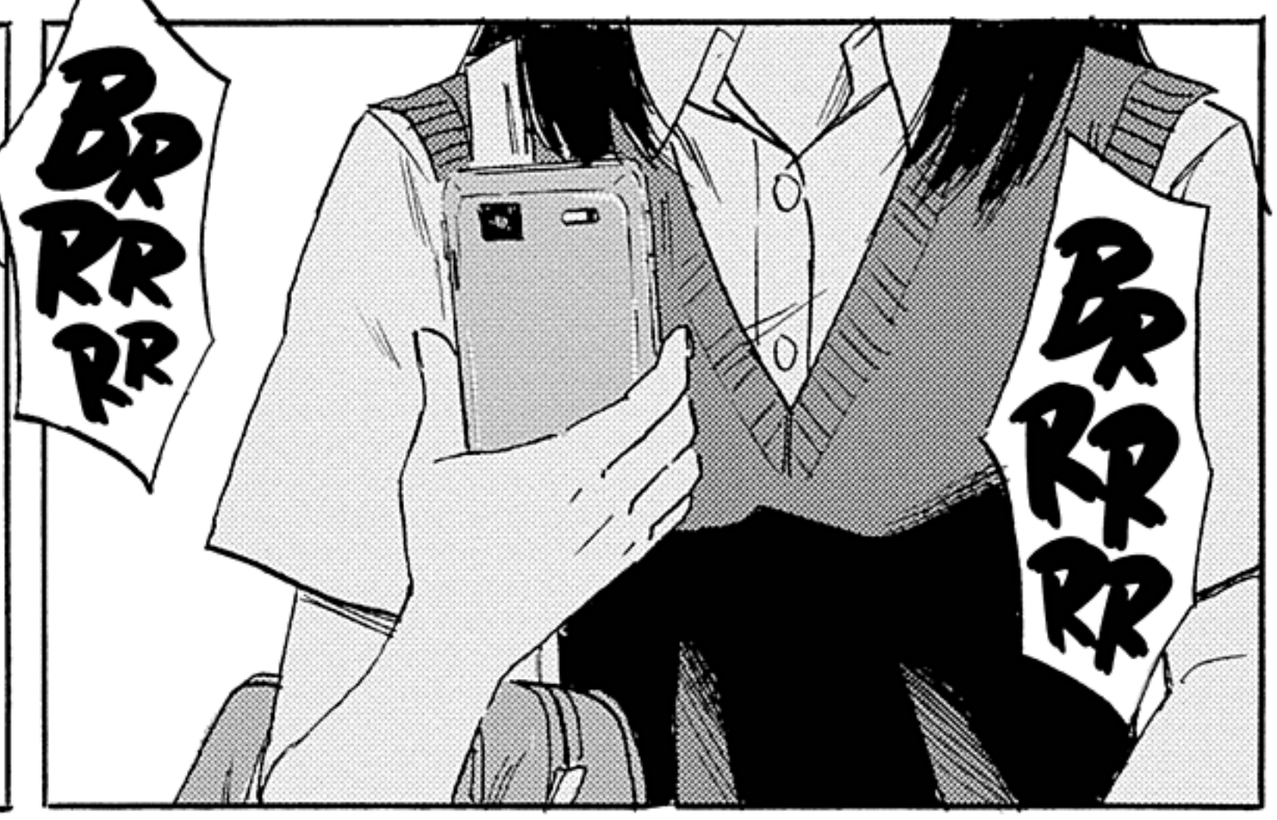
BR RR RR


BRRRRR
BRRRRR
BRRRRR
BRRRRR

16:12
Phone Call
Hiroki
Mobile: 090-XXXX-XXXX
BRRRRR
BRRRRR

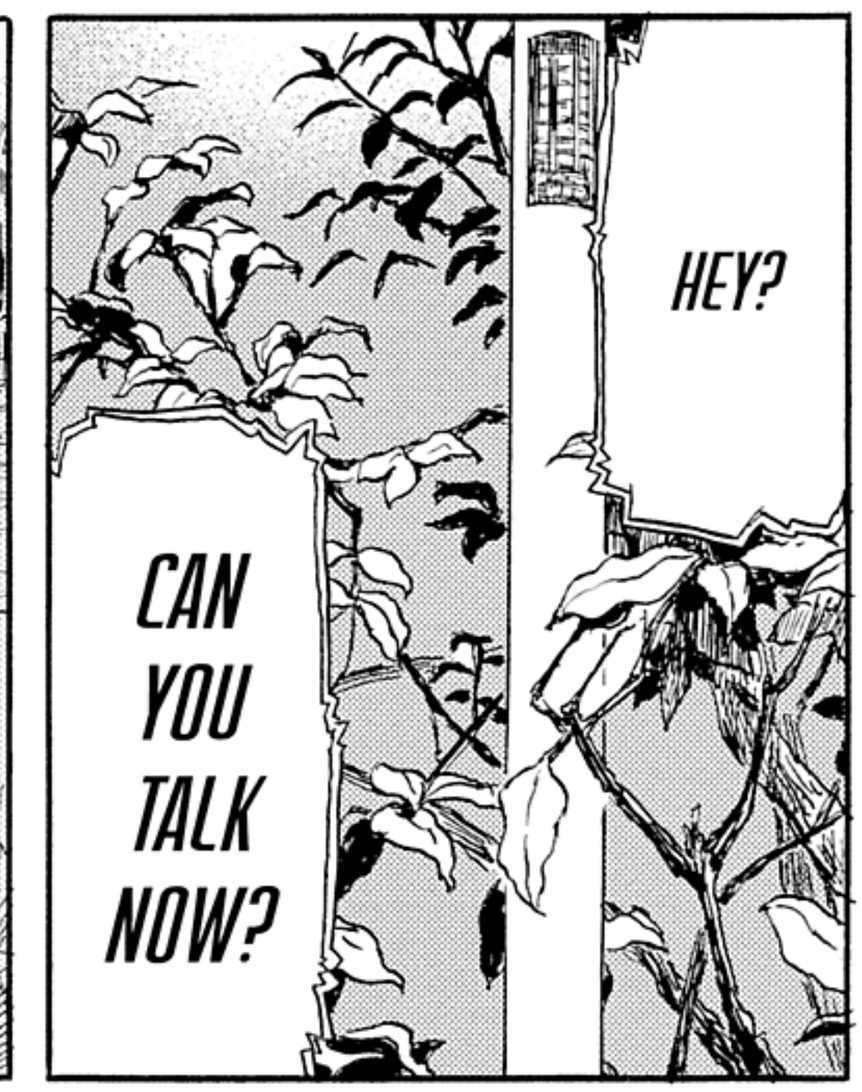

SLAP
HIROKI
...


カチ
TPP

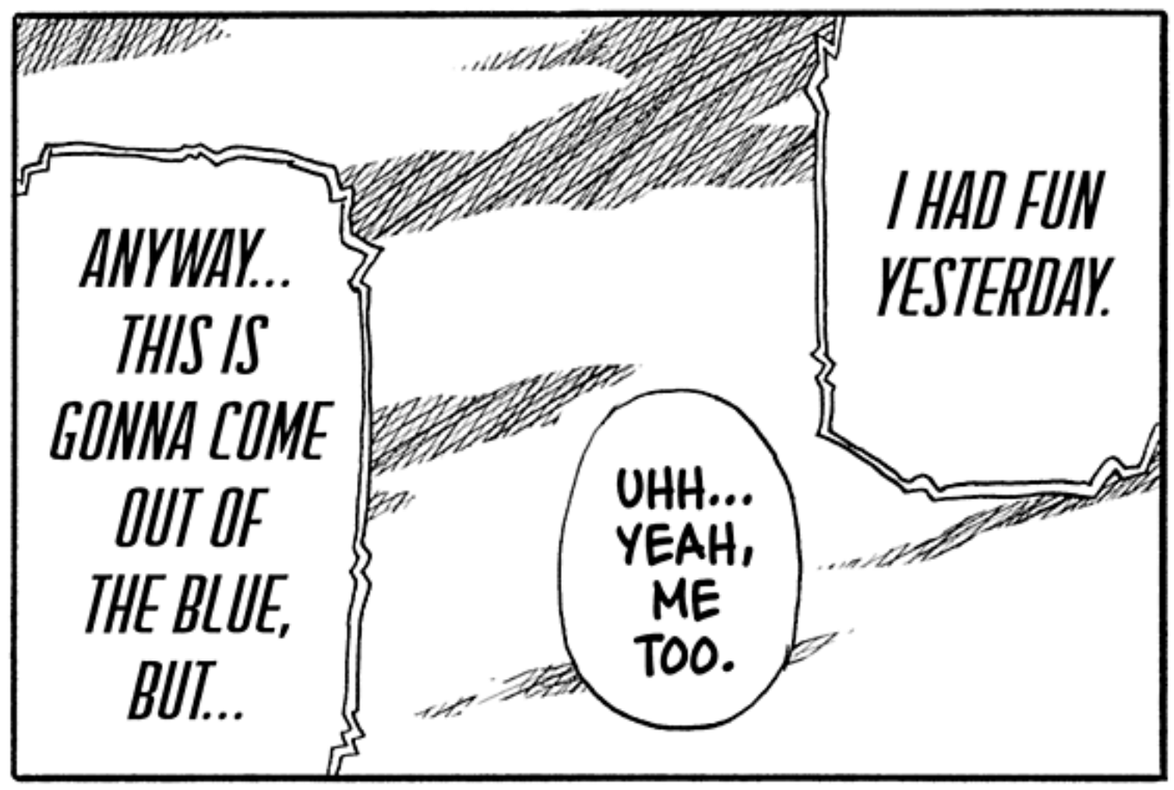

BRRRRR
BRRRRR

HELLO?
YES...

NOW'S FINE.
OH, SURE.


CAN YOU TALK NOW?
HEY?

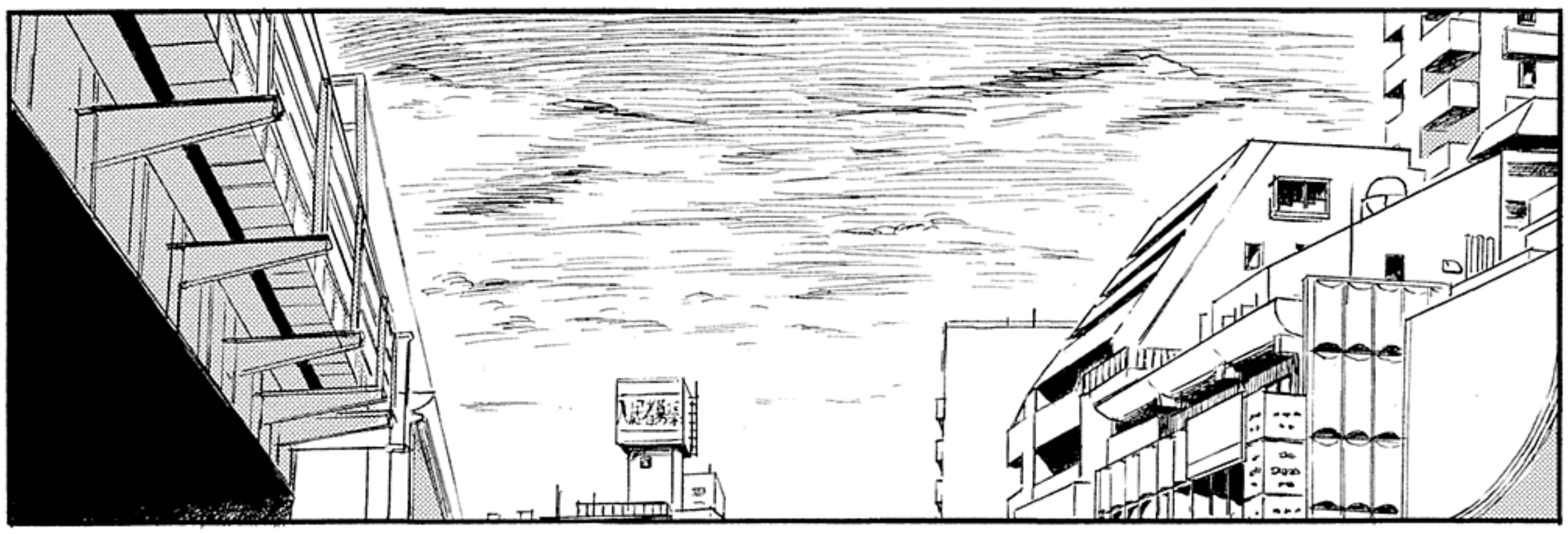
HMM?

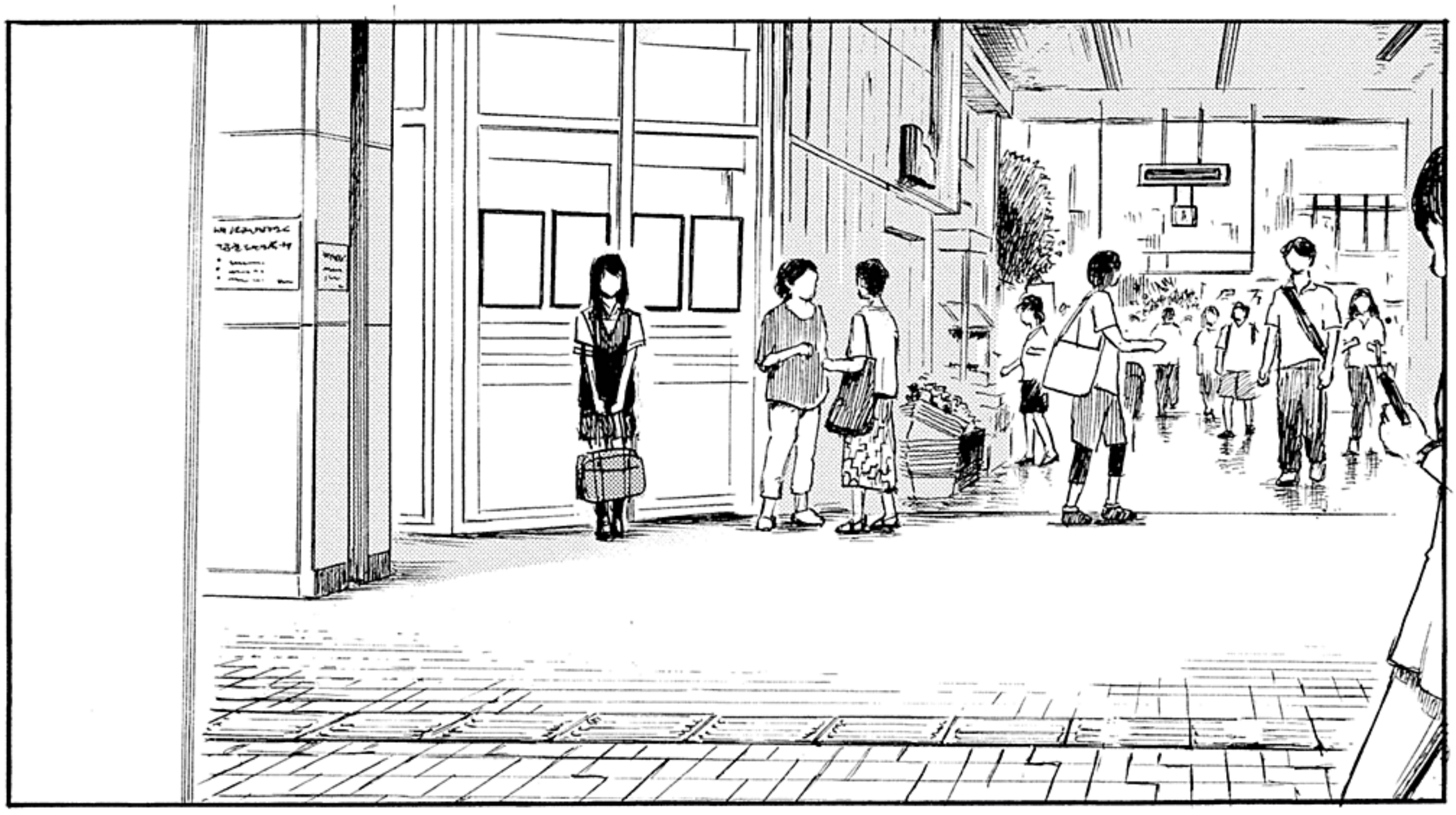

ANYWAY... THIS IS GONNA COME OUT OF THE BLUE, BUT...
UHH... YEAH, ME TOO.
I HAD FUN YESTERDAY.

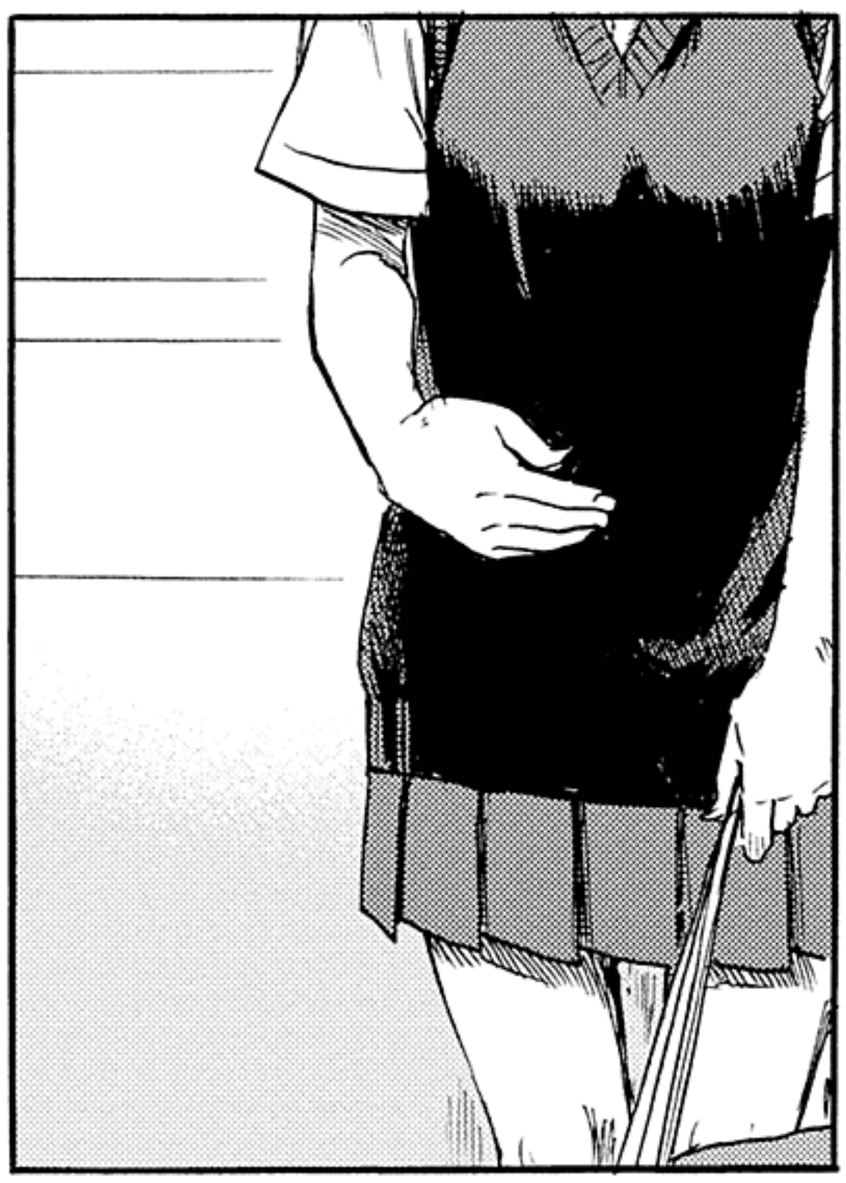
UNLESS YOU CAN'T...

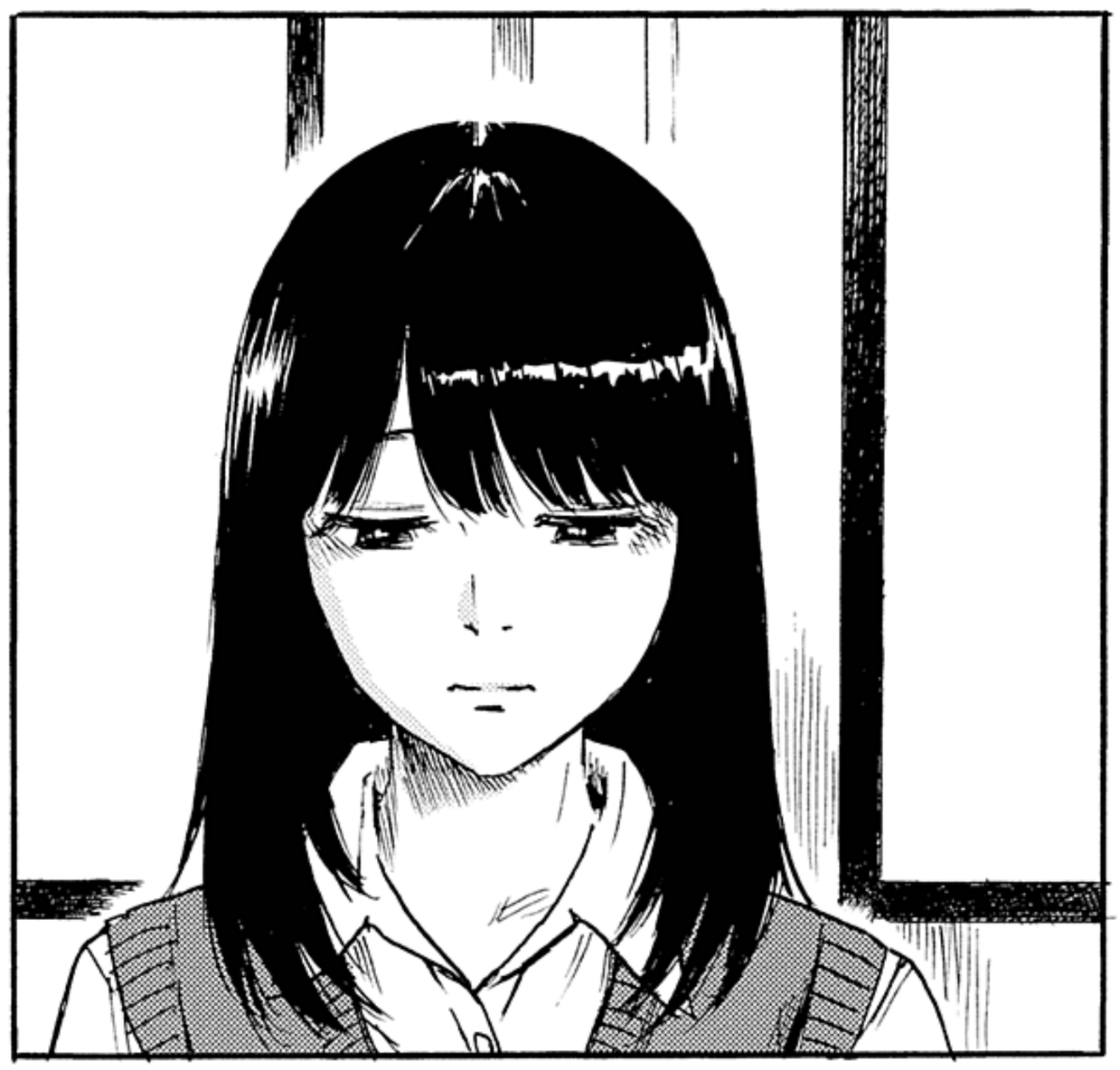
CAN WE MEET UP IN A BIT?
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANNA ASK YOU.

Chapter 20: The Eyes say Everything









THERE'S SOMETHING I WANNA ASK YOU.

CAN WE MEET UP IN A BIT?

IT'D BE JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE...

PLEASE!

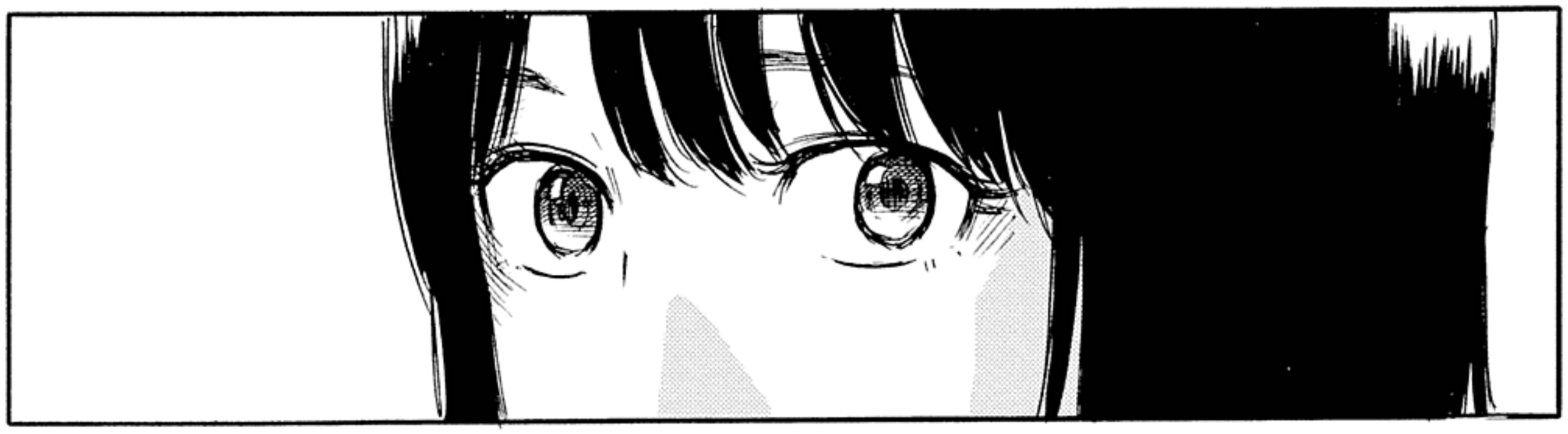
UMM... BUT...

HUH?

BUT...

...

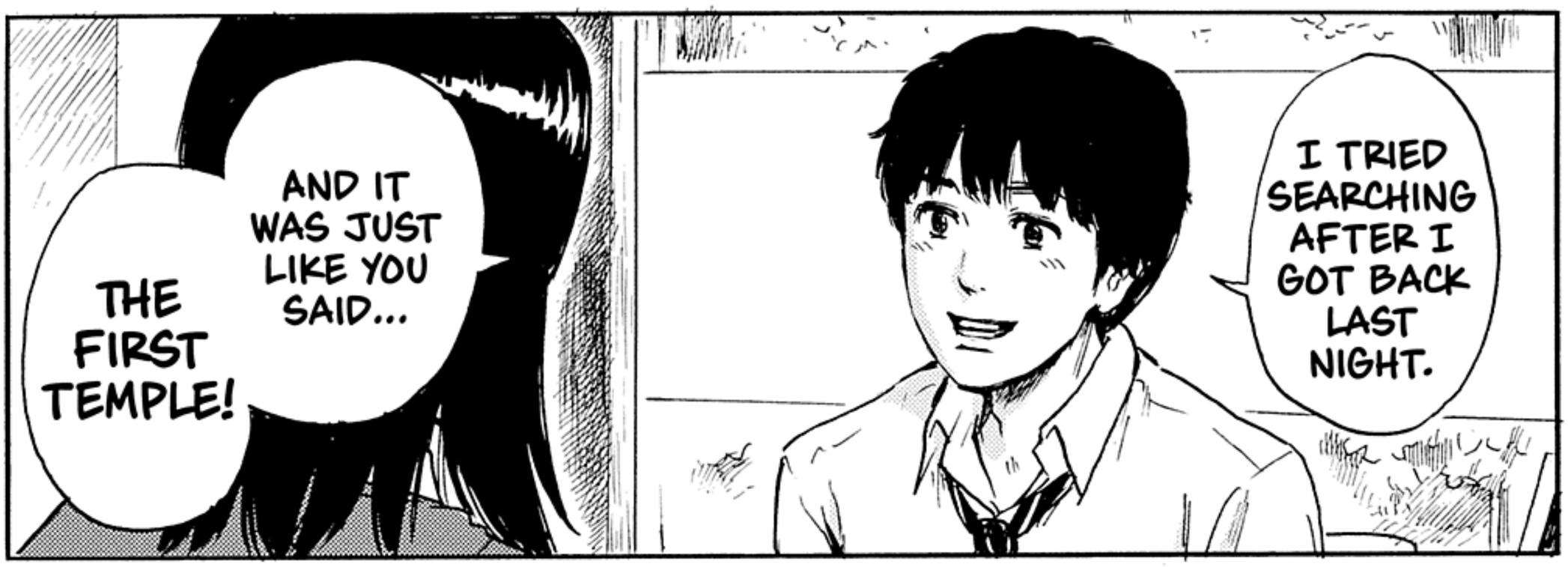
HEY, MARI!



THAT YOU WANTED TO SAY TO ME?
WHAT IS IT
UMM...
WHY DON'T WE SIT DOWN SOMEWHERE AND TALK?
WHAT CAN I GET YOU?
CLINK

SO, LISTEN ...

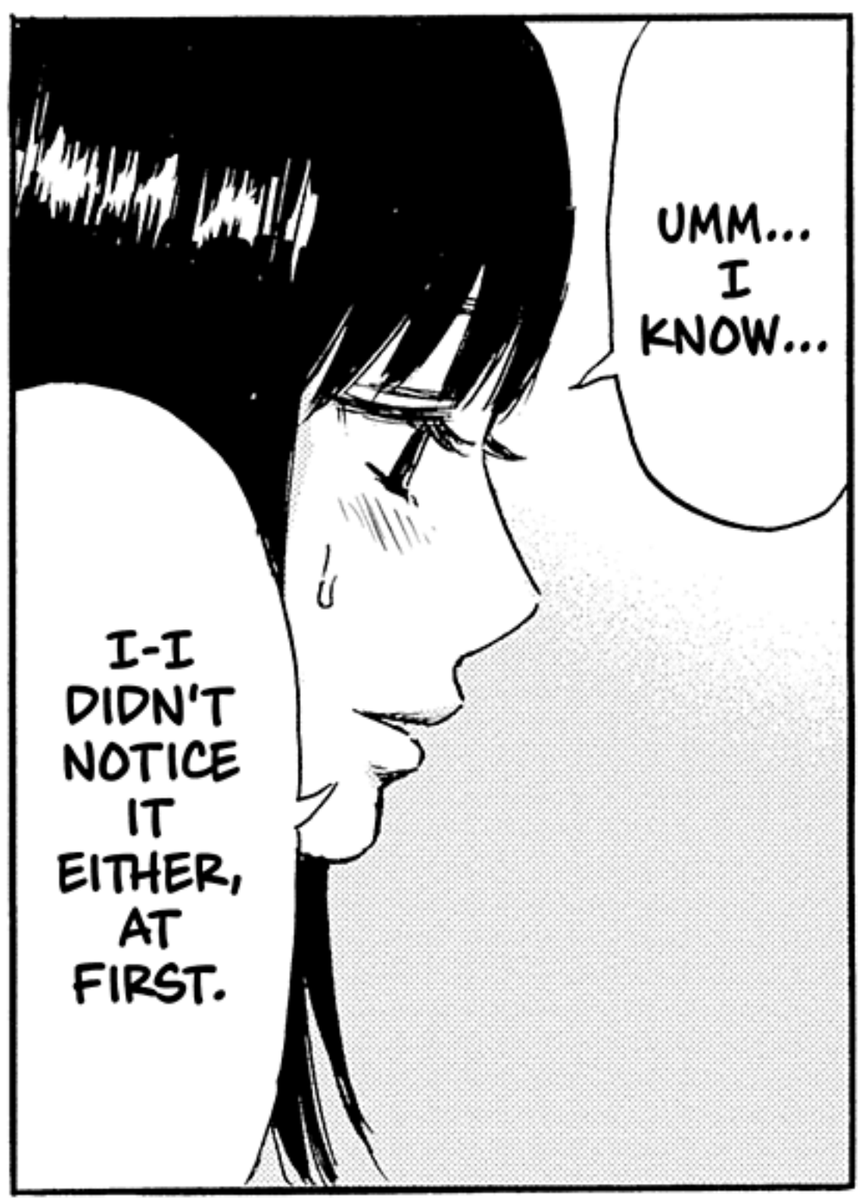
AN ICE COFFEE, PLEASE.
AH... ME TOO.

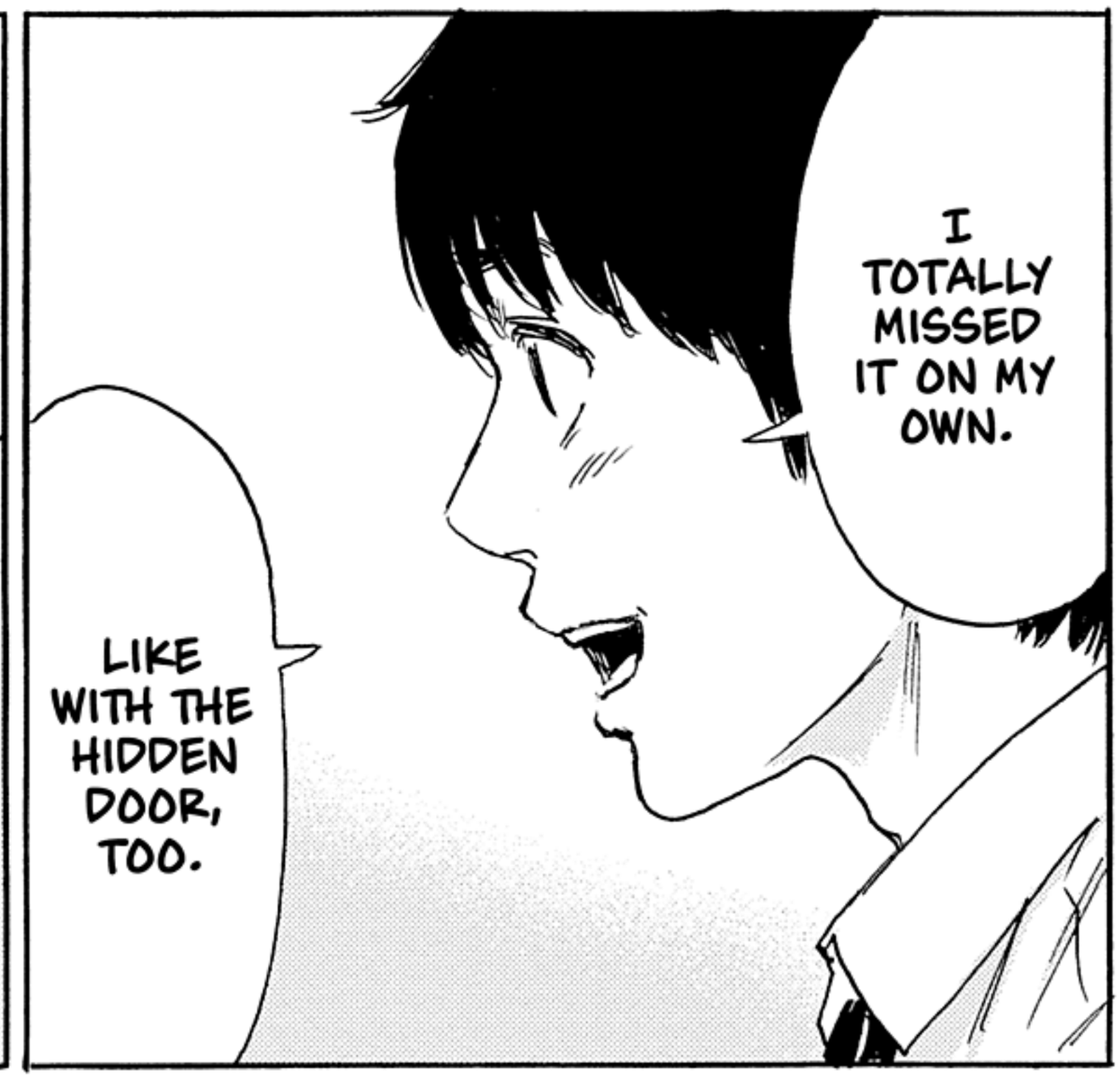

I TRIED SEARCHING AFTER I GOT BACK LAST NIGHT.
AND IT WAS JUST LIKE YOU SAID...
THE FIRST TEMPLE!

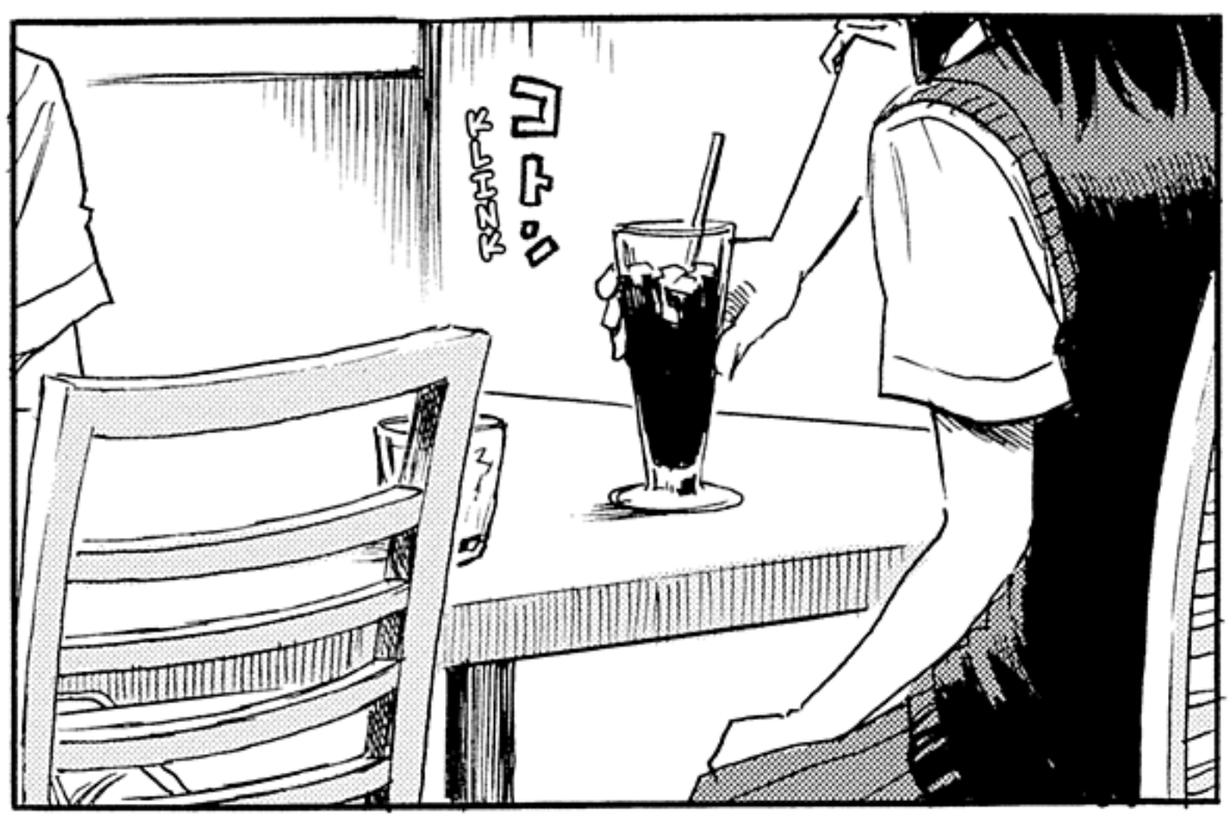
OH...
RIGHT.

WHY DON'T YOU SEARCH THE FIRST TEMPLE?
THOUGHT SO- PRETTY GOOD RIGHT!
-YEAH, THAT'S A GOOD ONE TOO!
AGREED!

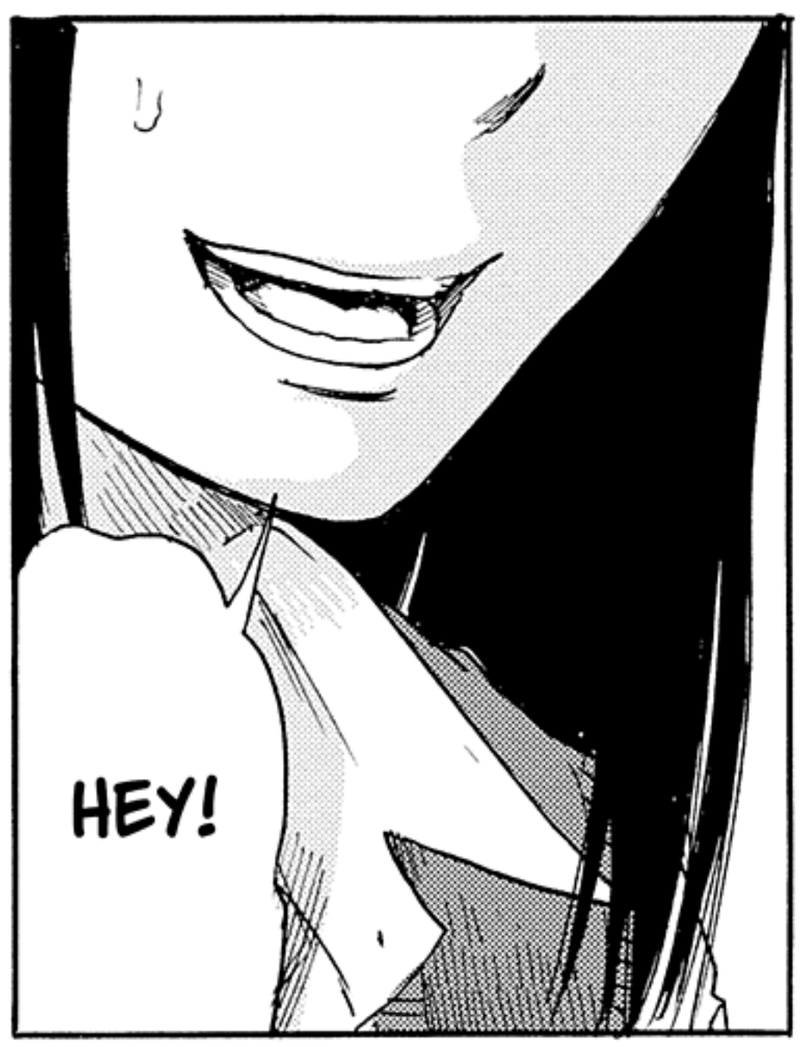
HUH?


UMM... I KNOW...
I-I DIDN'T NOTICE IT EITHER, AT FIRST.


I TOTALLY MISSED IT ON MY OWN.
LIKE WITH THE HIDDEN DOOR, TOO.


コトッ

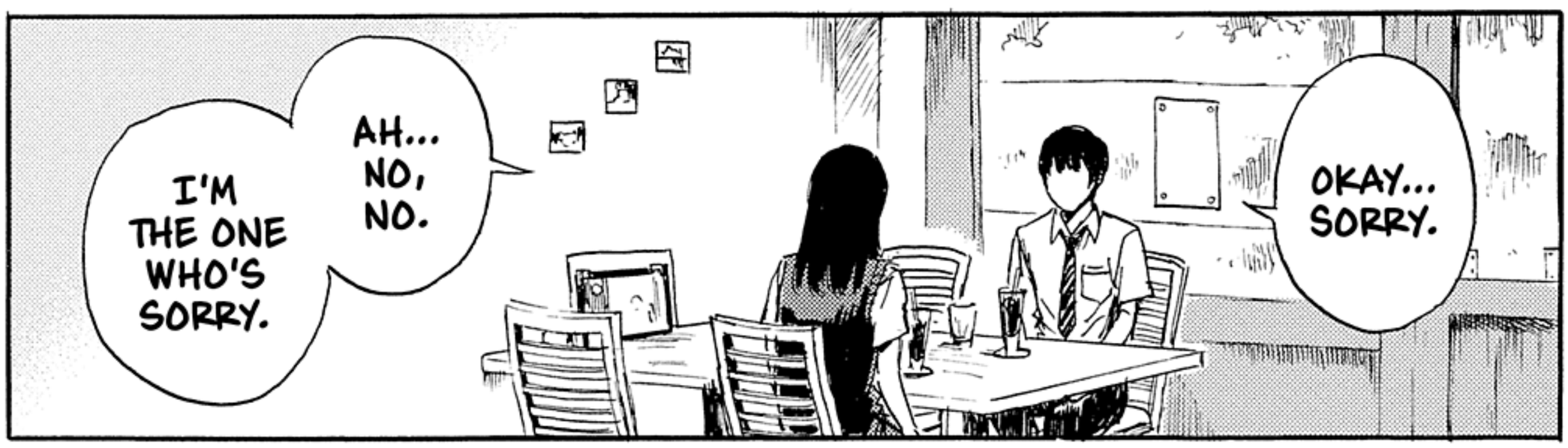
HERE YOU GO.


HEY!

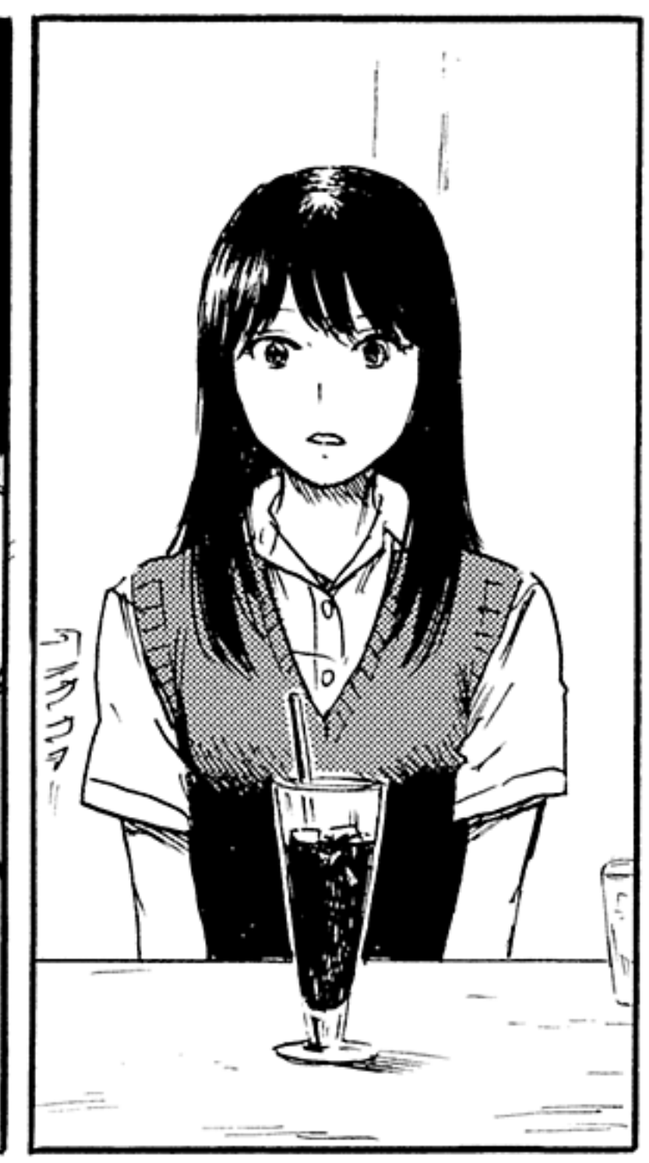
I HEARD THERE'S A WAY TO BRING HIM BACK TO LIFE...
OH, SO...
THERE'S ONE OTHER THING I WANTED TO ASK.

OH...

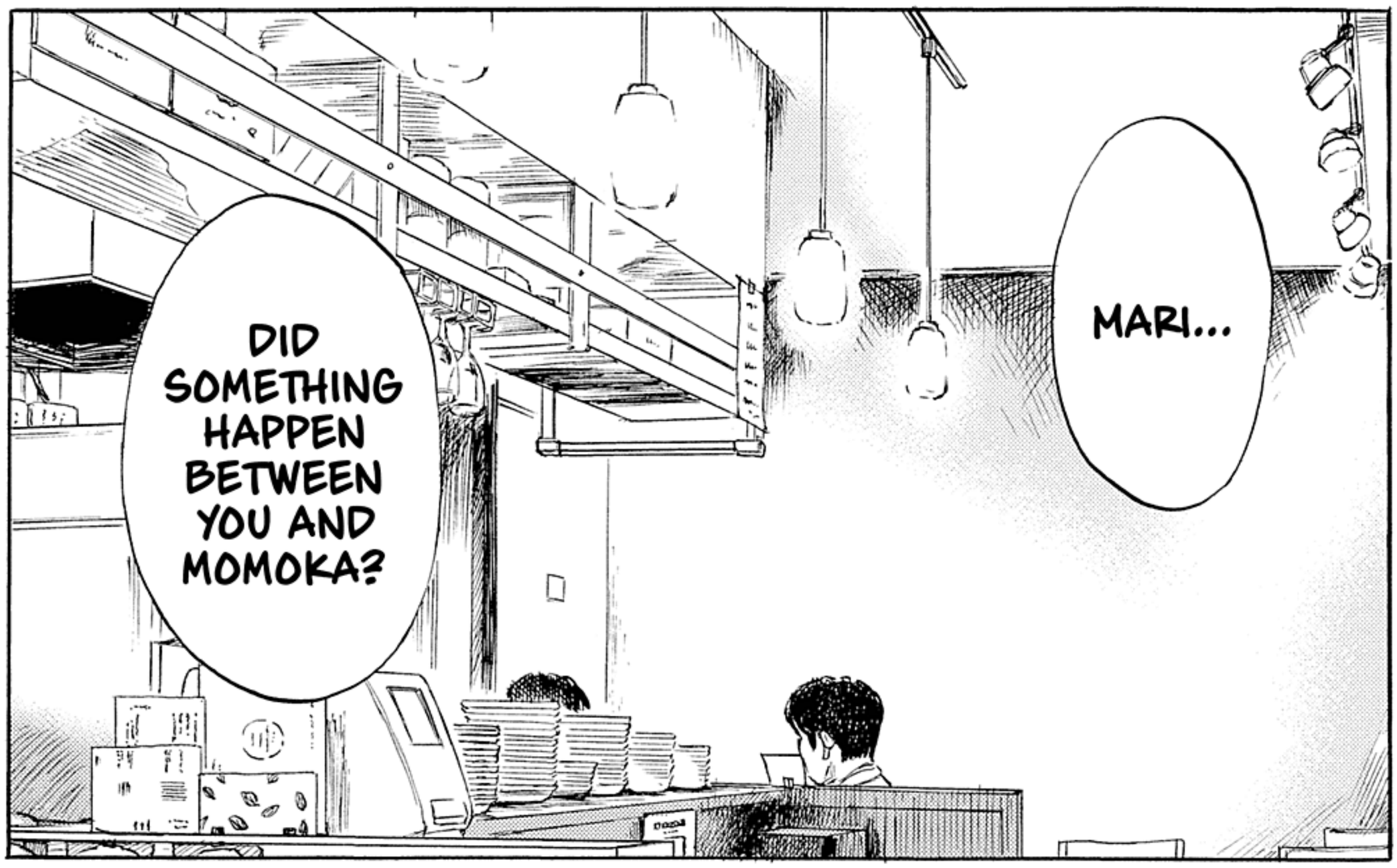
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK TO ME ABOUT?
SORRY, I REALLY DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME RIGHT NOW...


I'M THE ONE WHO'S SORRY.
AH... NO, NO.
OKAY... SORRY.

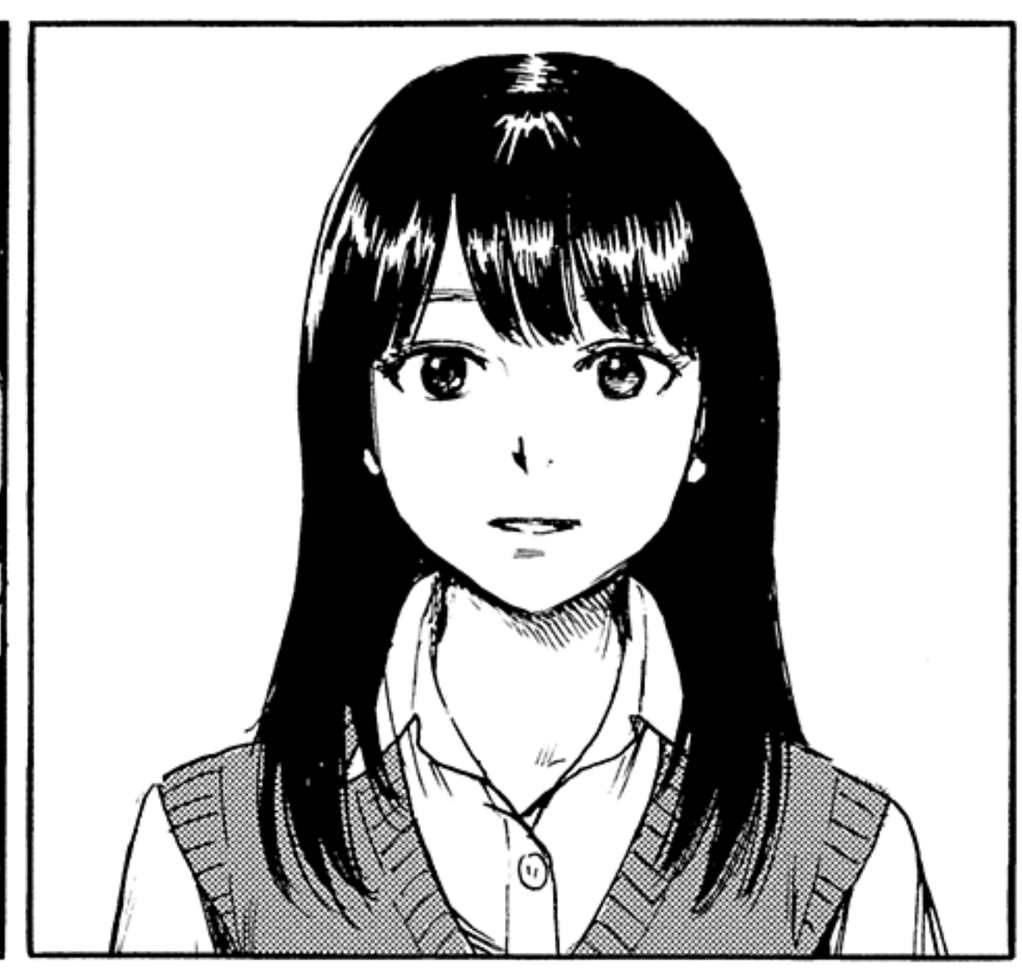
HERE GOES ...

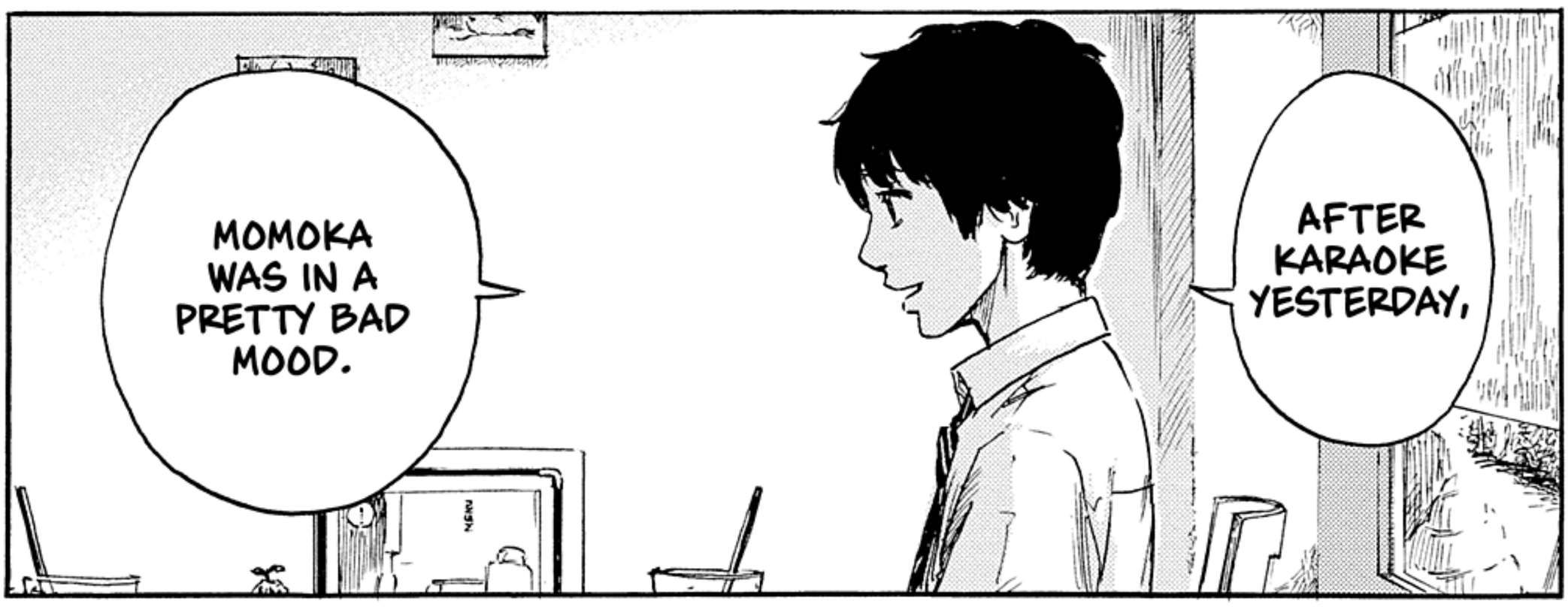


GULP

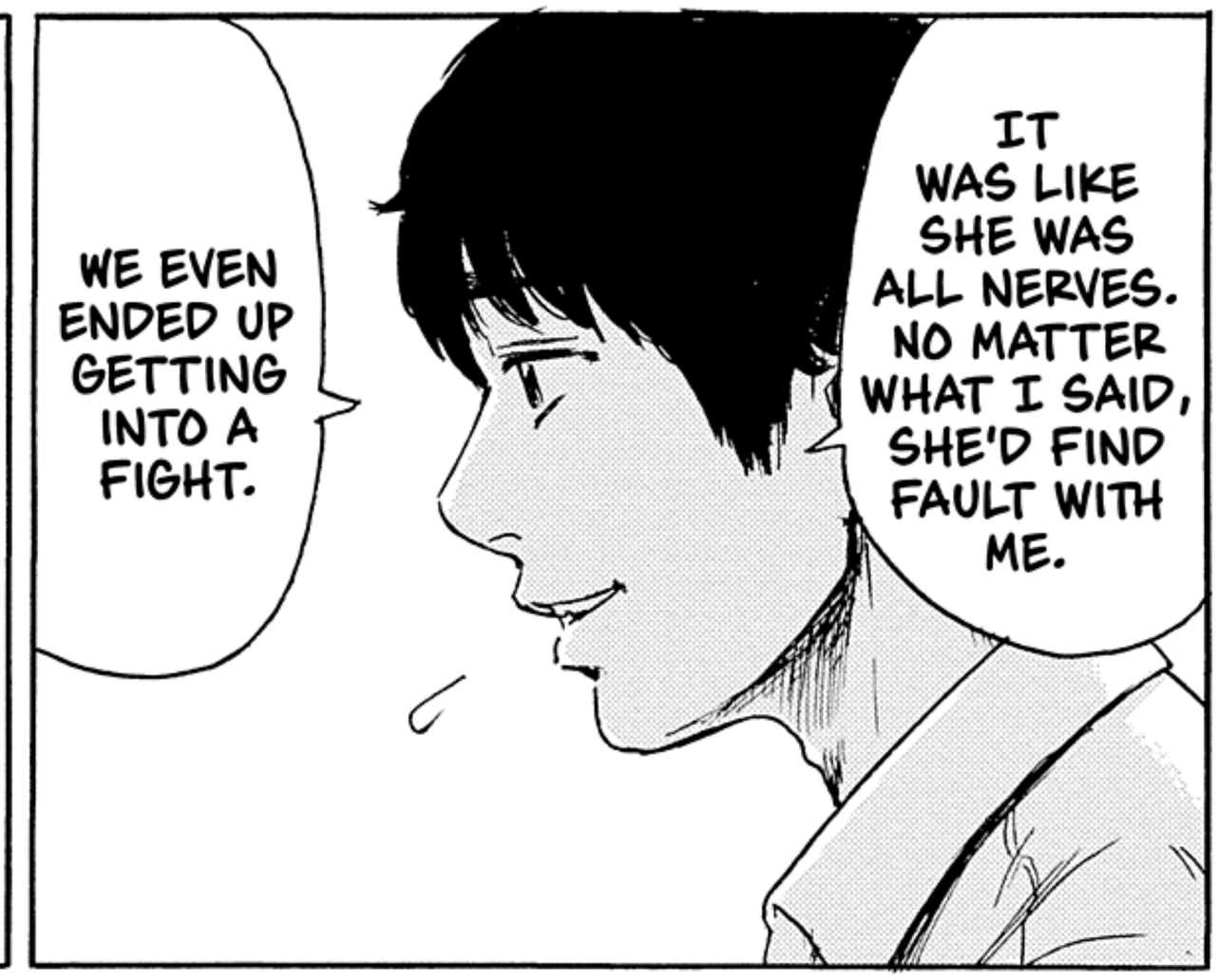

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND MOMOKA?
MARI...

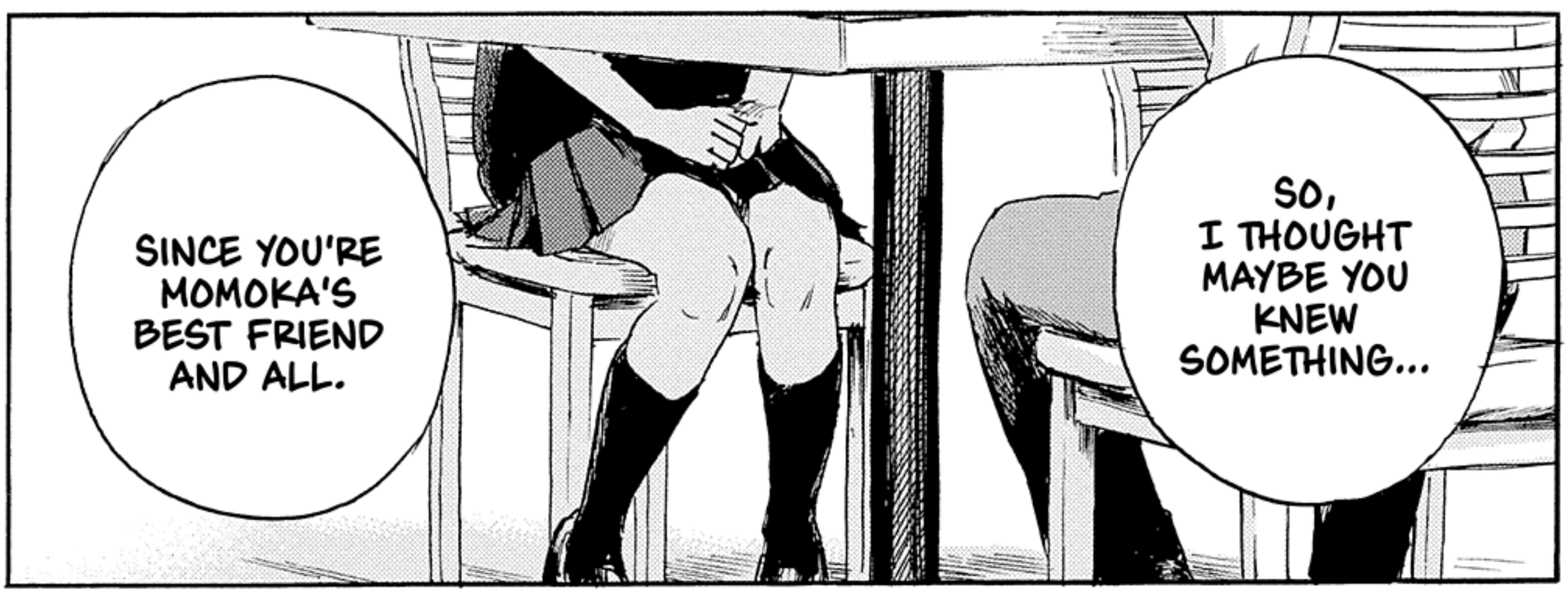
HUH?

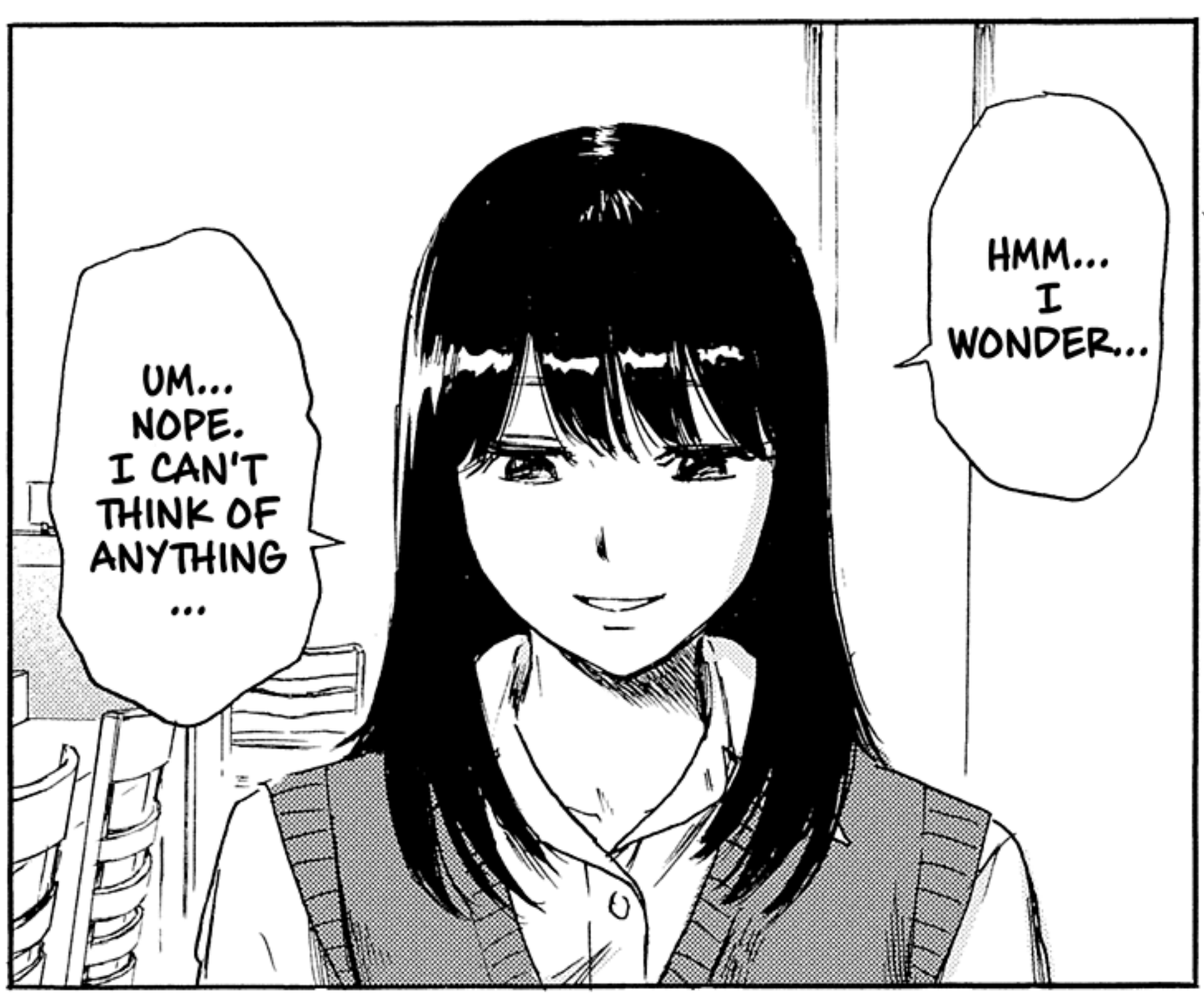


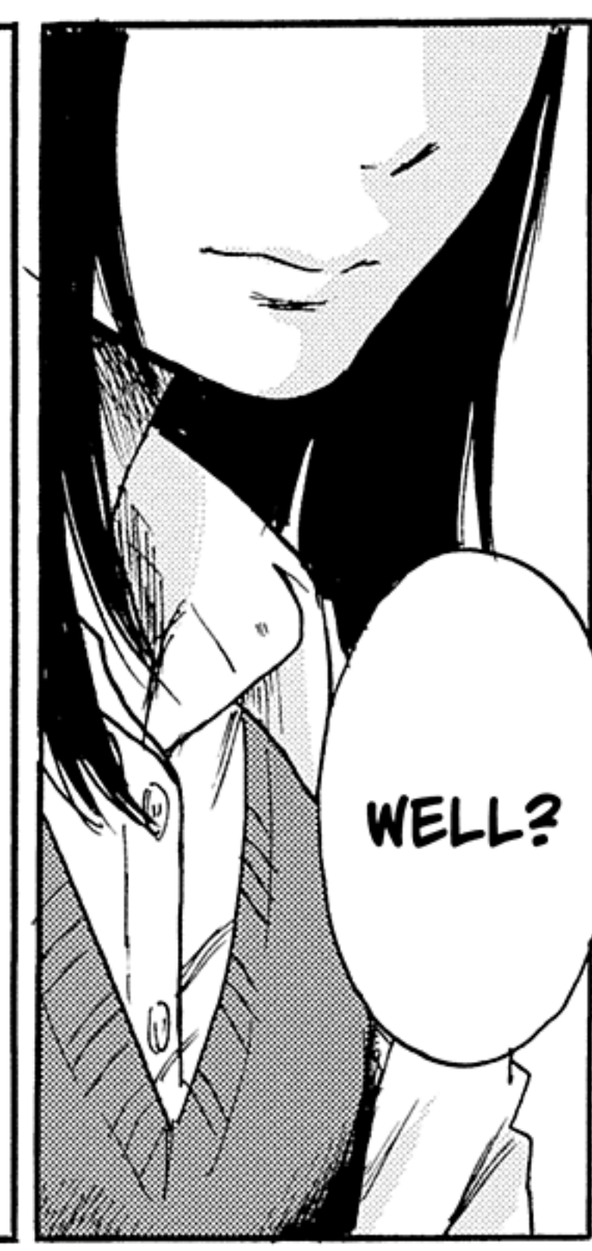

MOMOKA WAS IN A PRETTY BAD MOOD.
AFTER KARAOKE YESTERDAY,

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME WE FOUGHT LIKE THAT. HA HA...

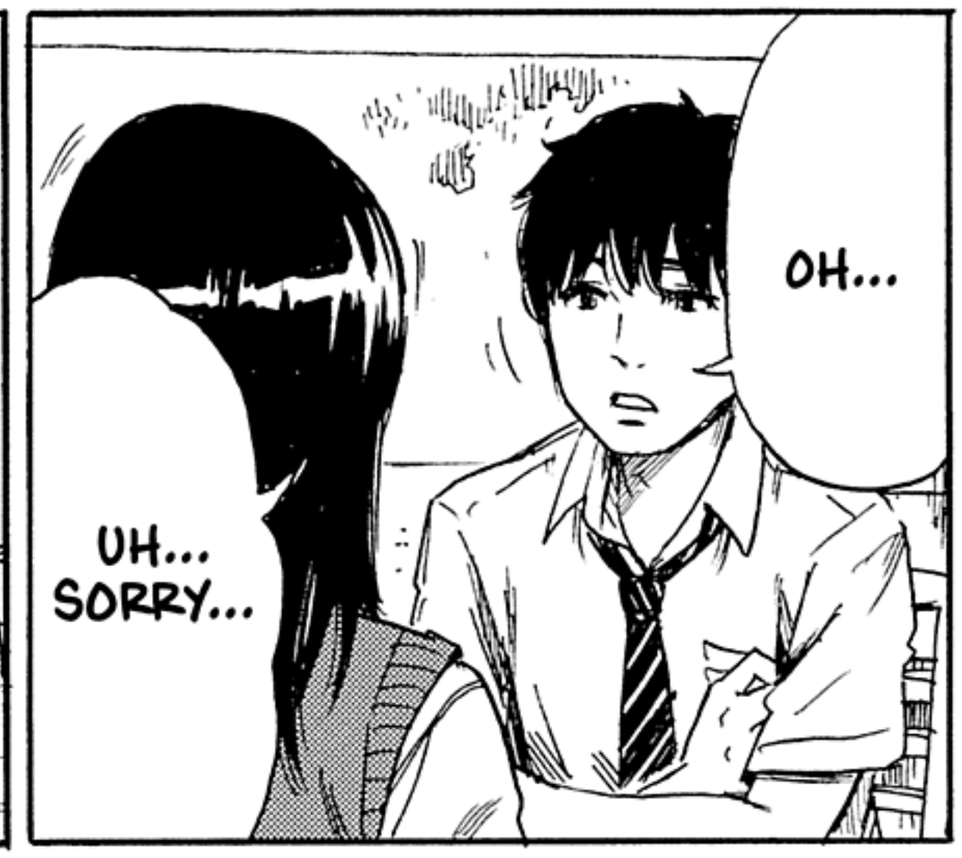

WE EVEN ENDED UP GETTING INTO A FIGHT.
IT WAS LIKE SHE WAS ALL NERVES. NO MATTER WHAT I SAID, SHE'D FIND FAULT WITH ME.

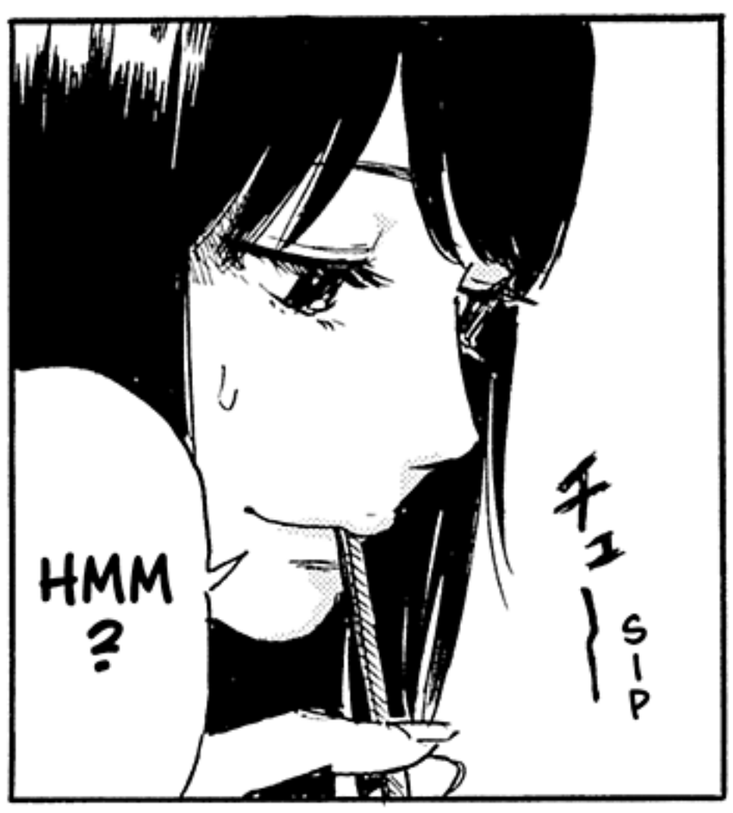

SINCE YOU'RE MOMOKA'S BEST FRIEND AND ALL.
SO, I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU KNEW SOMETHING...

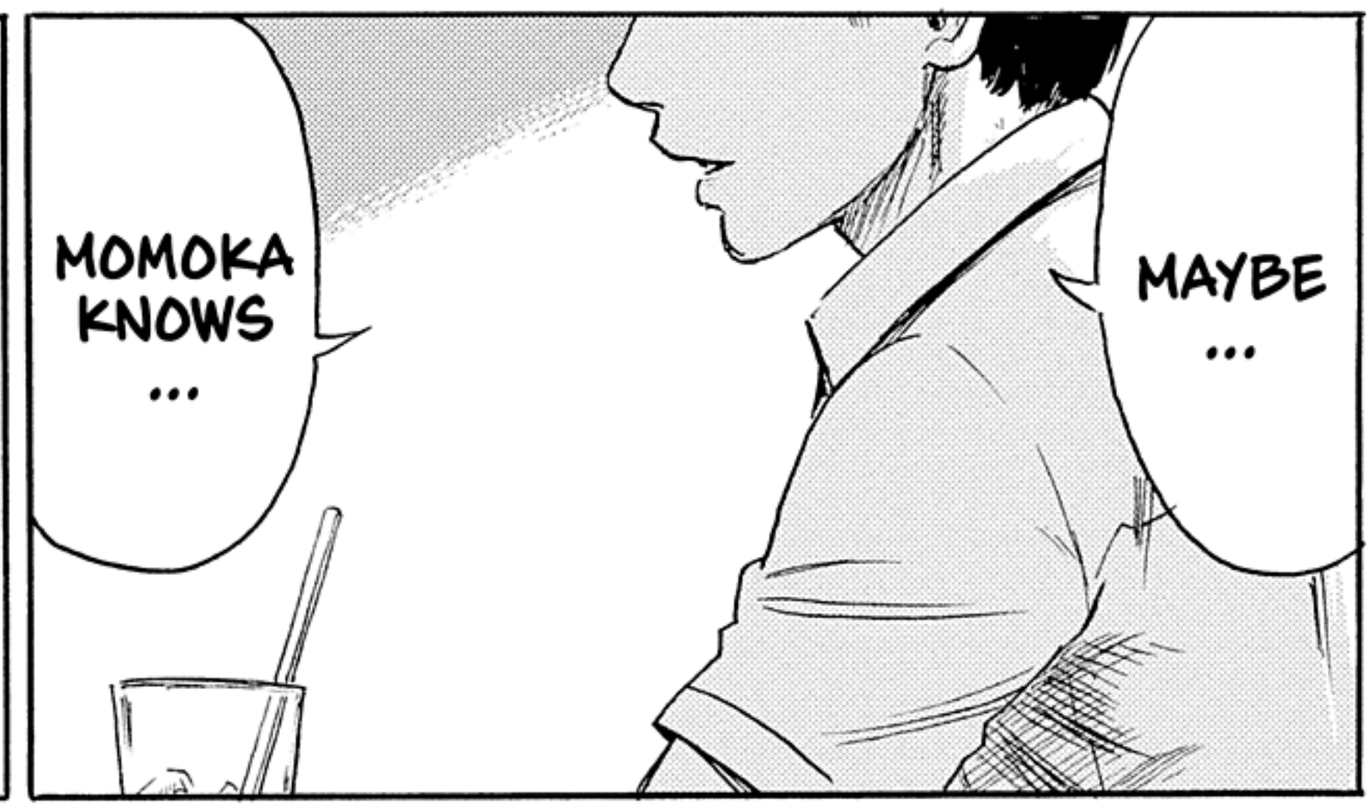

UM... NOPE. I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ...
HMM... I WONDER...

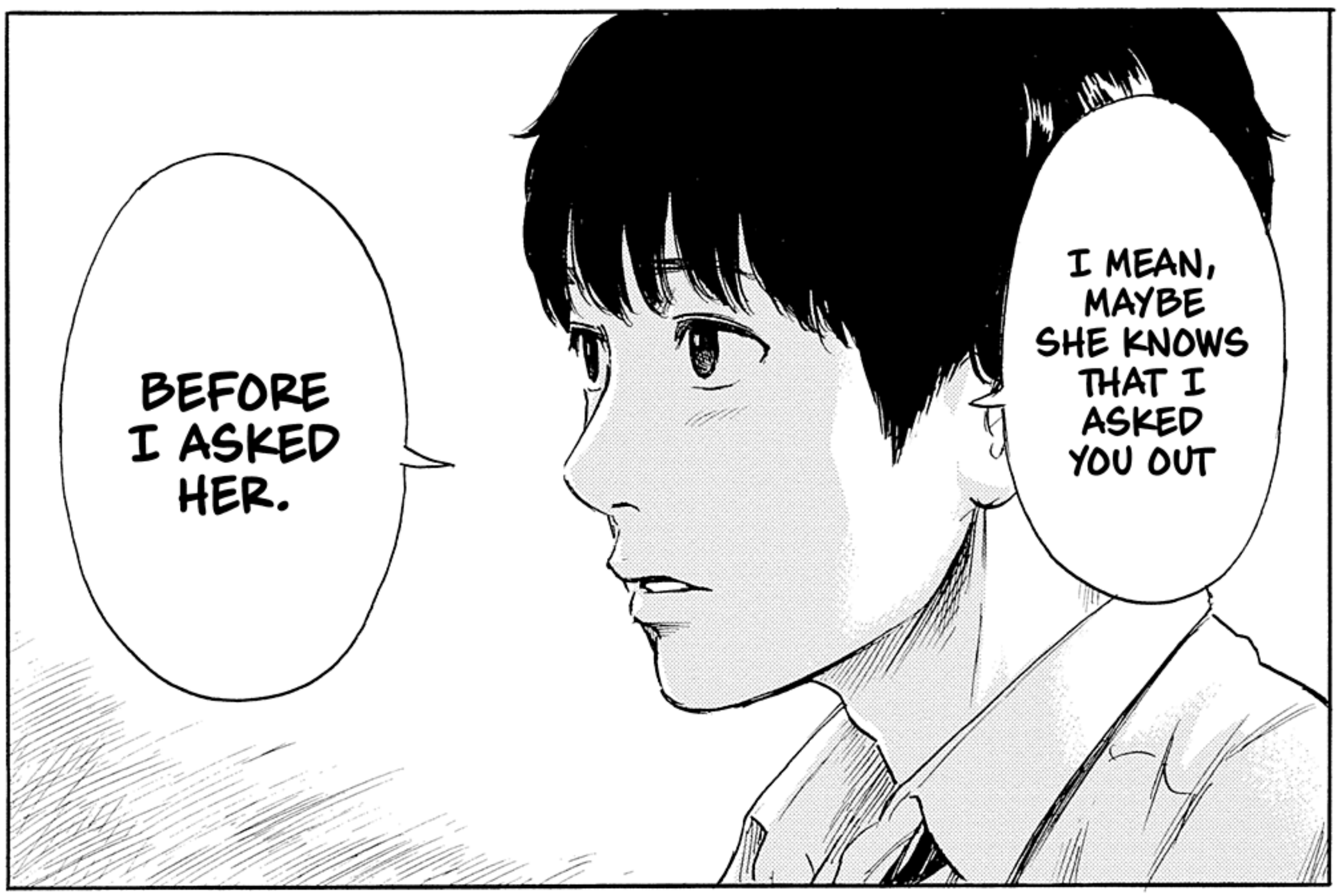

WELL?

HEY!
カー
KLINK


OH...
UH... SORRY...

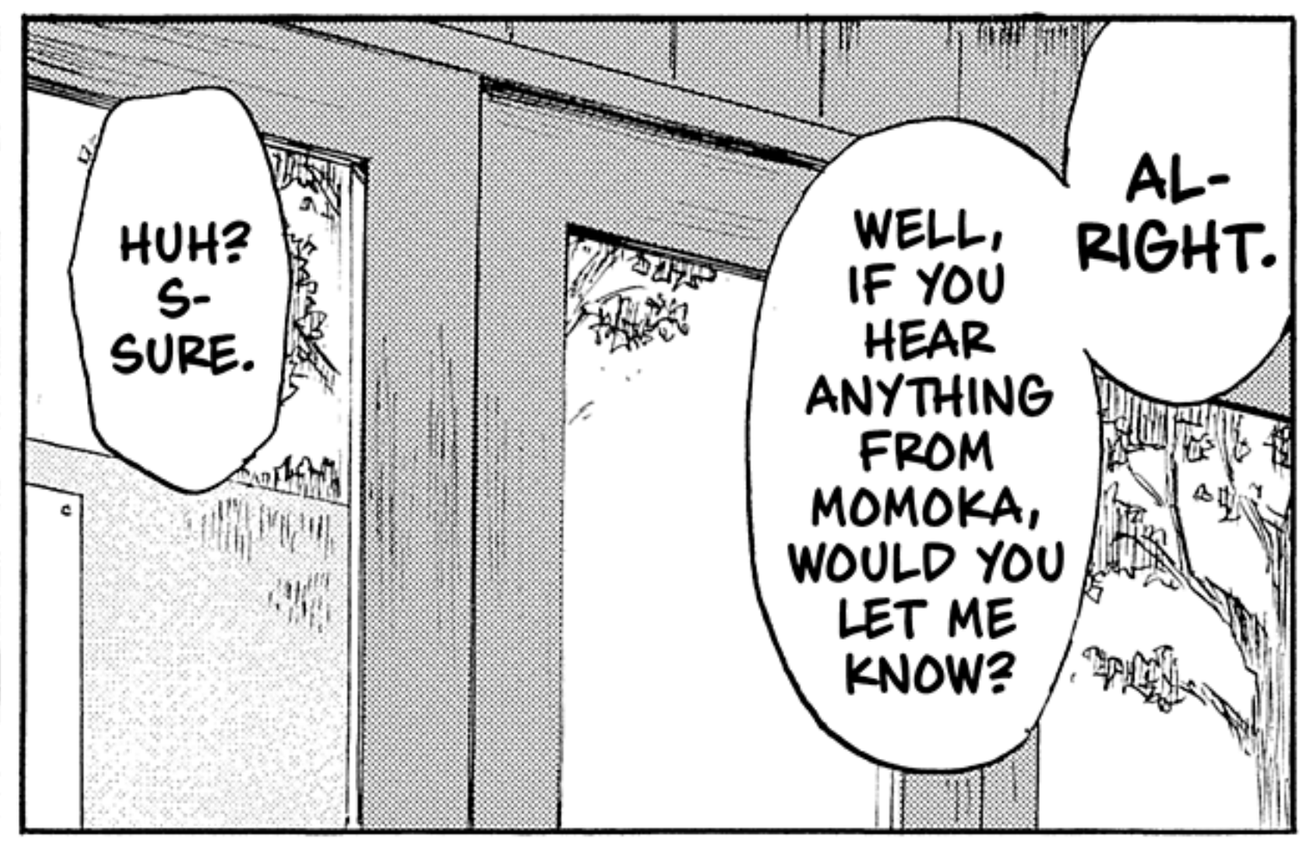

HMM ?
チュー
SIP


MOMOKA KNOWS ...
MAYBE ...


BEFORE I ASKED HER.
I MEAN, MAYBE SHE KNOWS THAT I ASKED YOU OUT

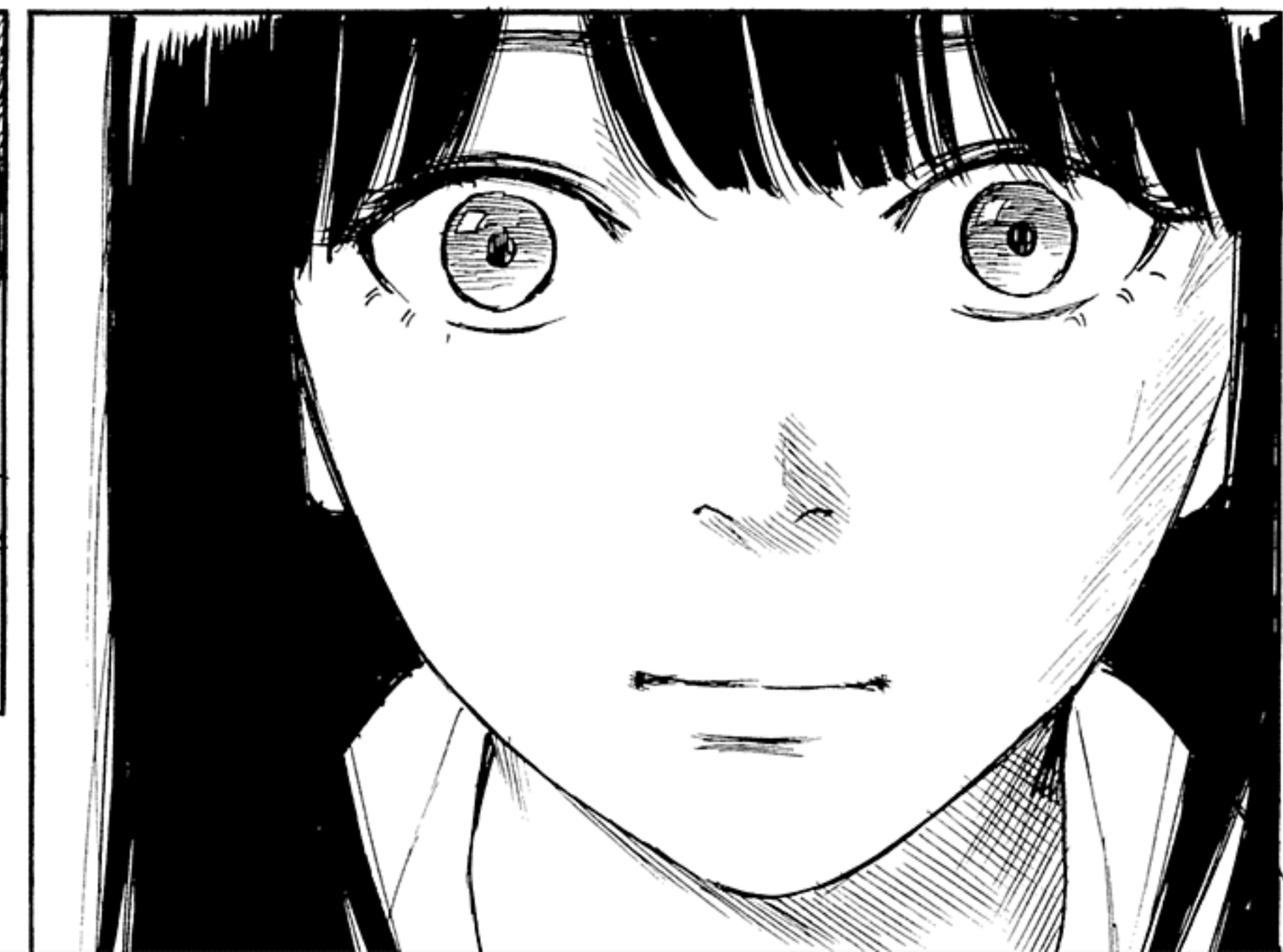
HUH?
WOW... I DON'T KNOW...
UMM... OH. I SEE...
I'M JUST HAPPY THAT WE'RE FRIENDS AGAIN AND WE CAN GO OUT LIKE THIS.
OKAY...
AH! JUST SO YOU KNOW, IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME ANYMORE.

I KNOW YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME,
BUT THANKS.


HUH? S-SURE.
WELL, IF YOU HEAR ANYTHING FROM MOMOKA, WOULD YOU LET ME KNOW?
AL-RIGHT.

OKAY?
AND NEXT TIME, LET'S PLAY VIDEO GAMES AT MY PLACE.

UMM... SURE...



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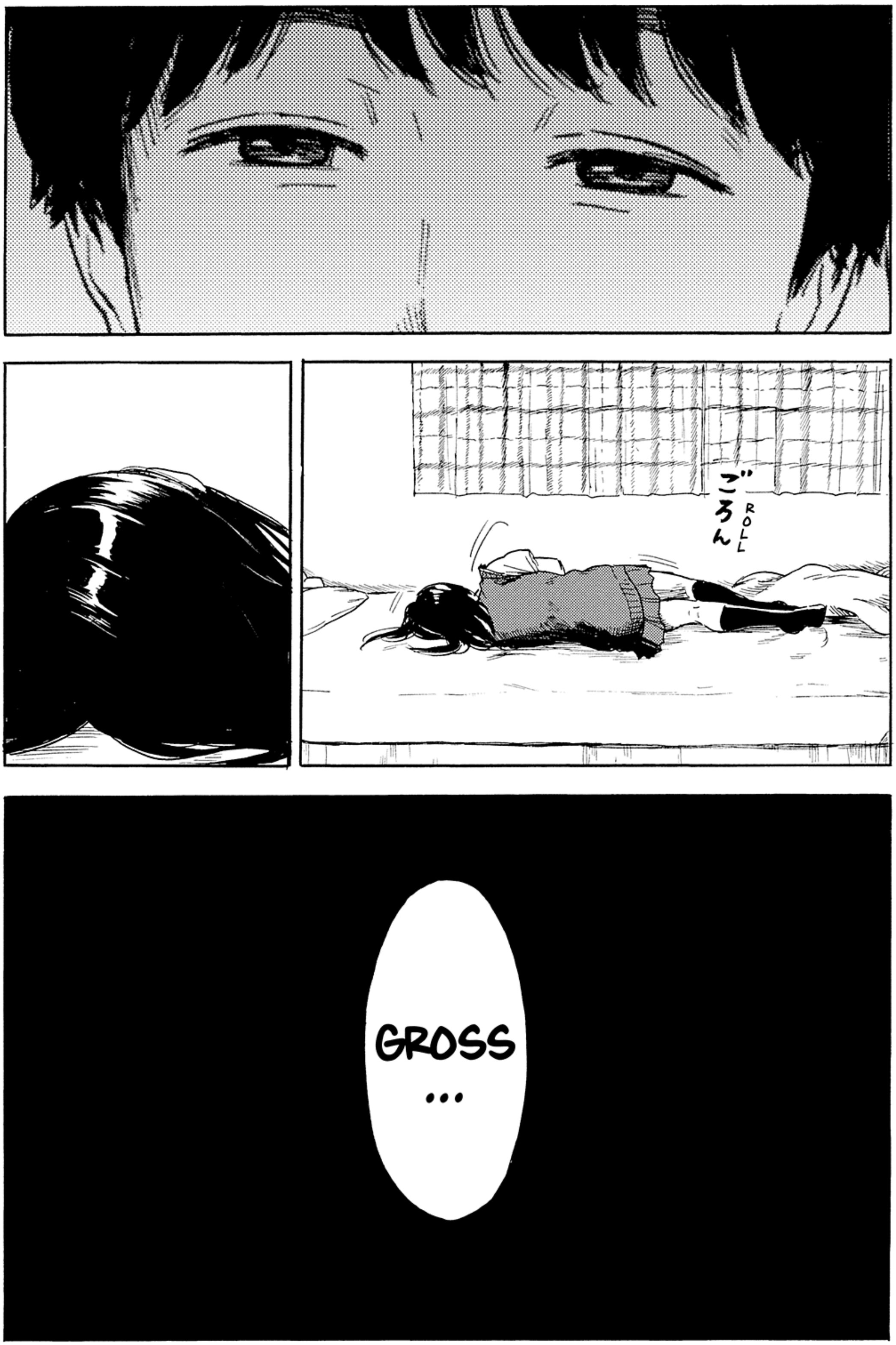
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GROSS
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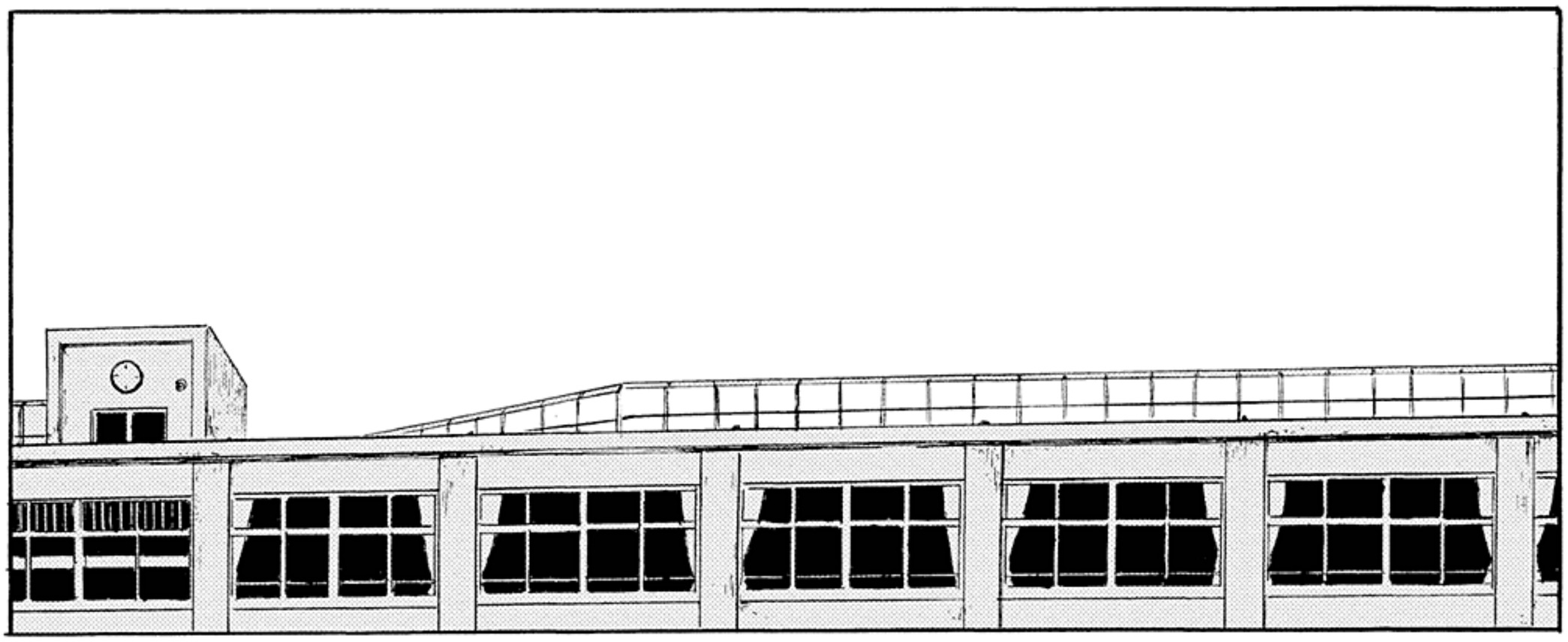
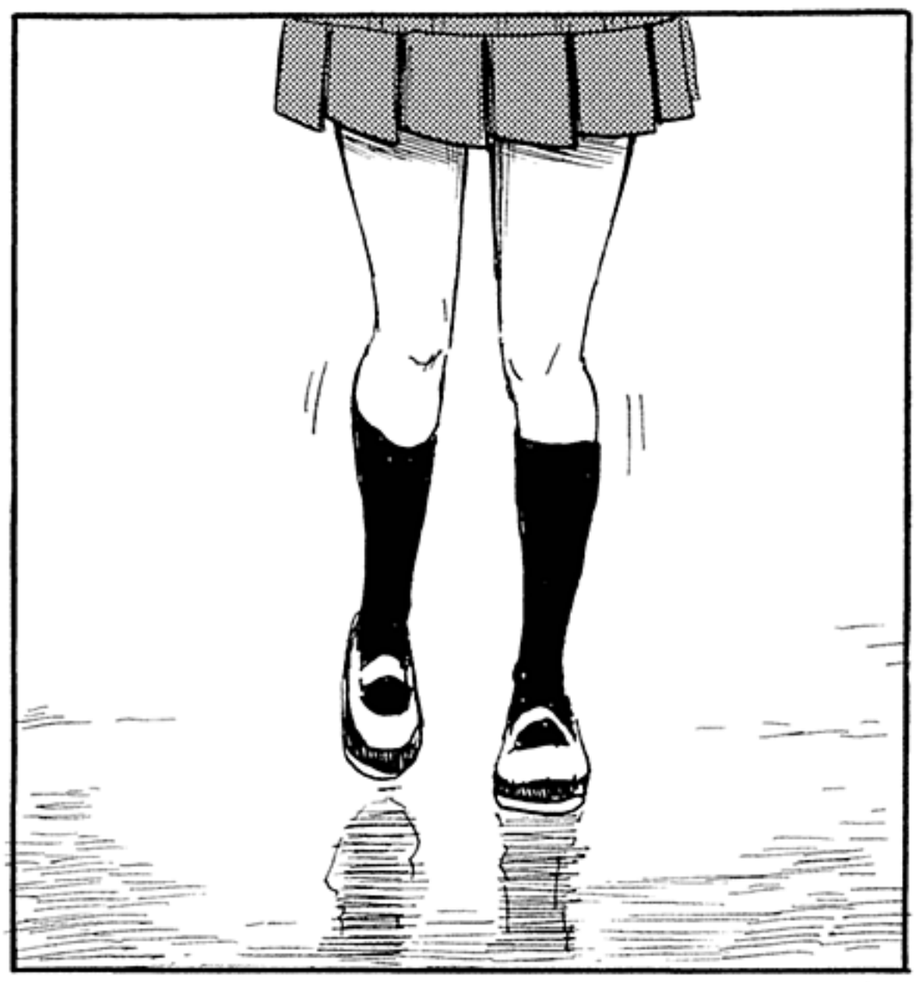
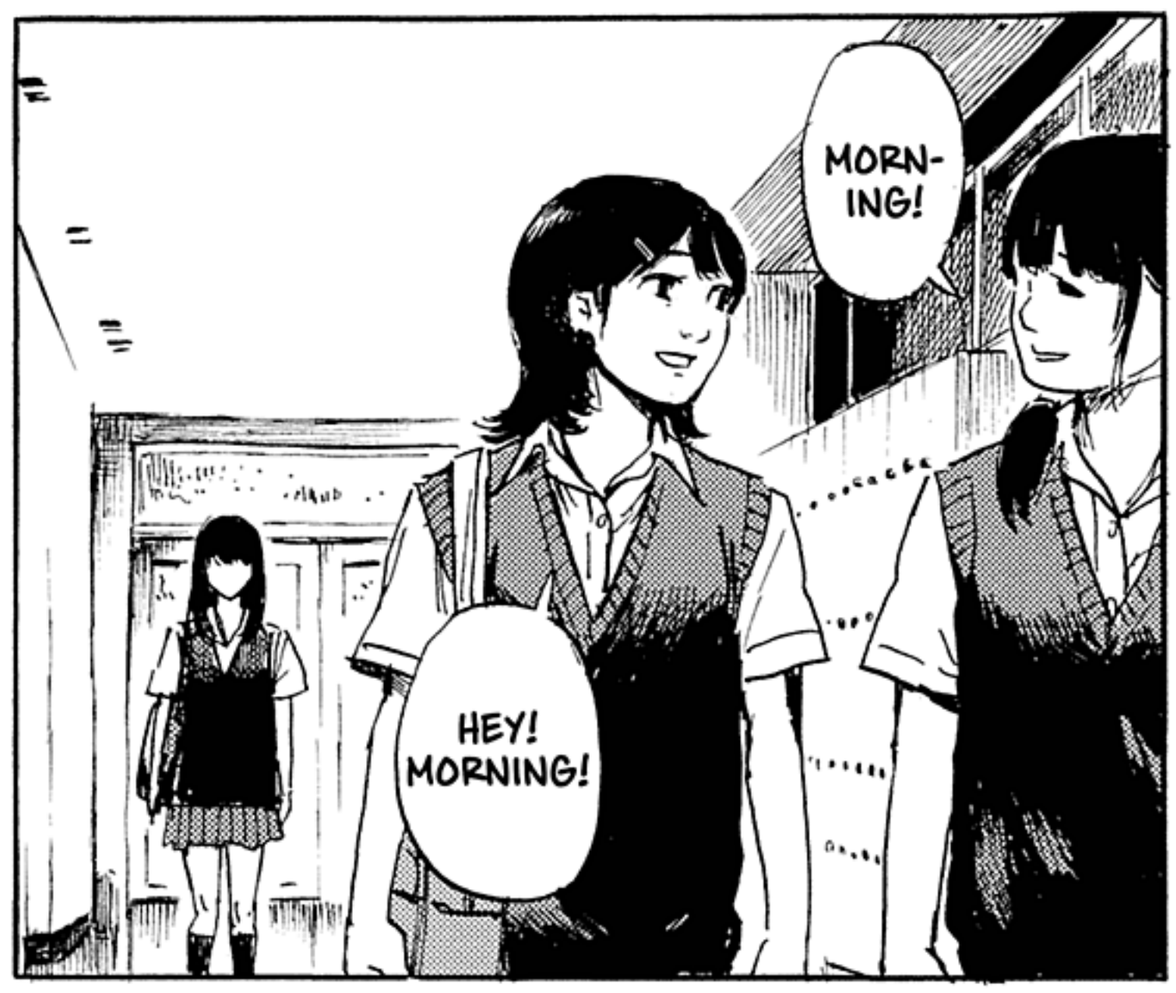
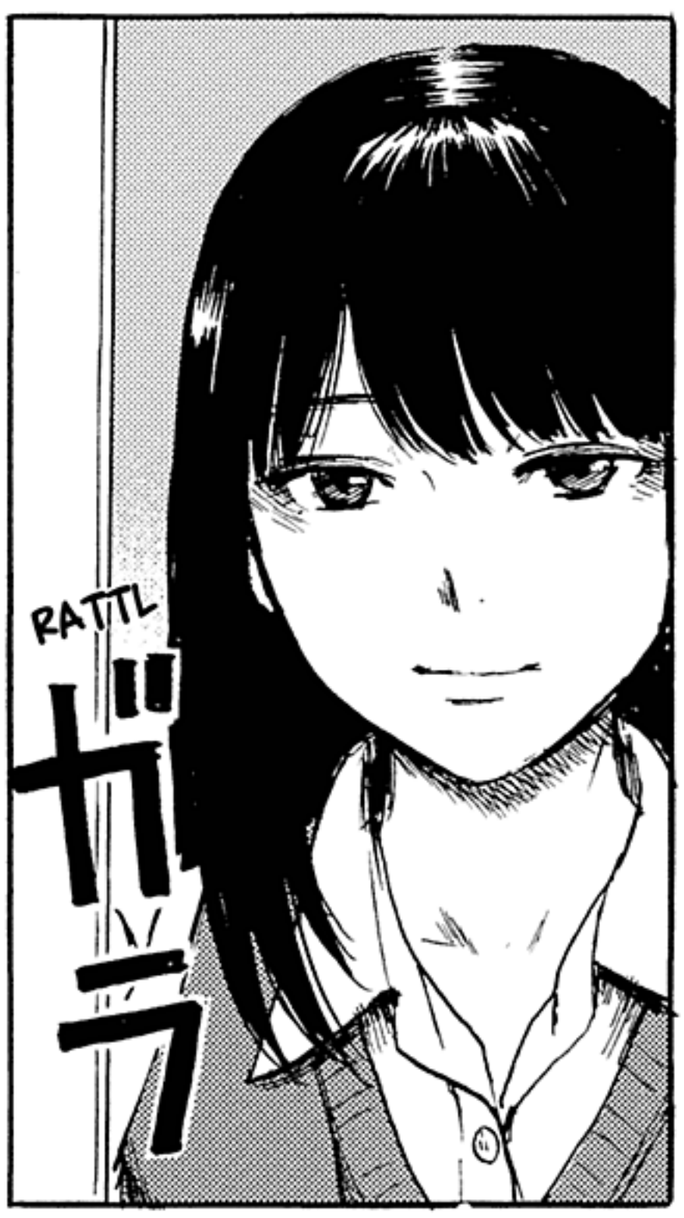





MORN-
ING!
HEY!
MORNING!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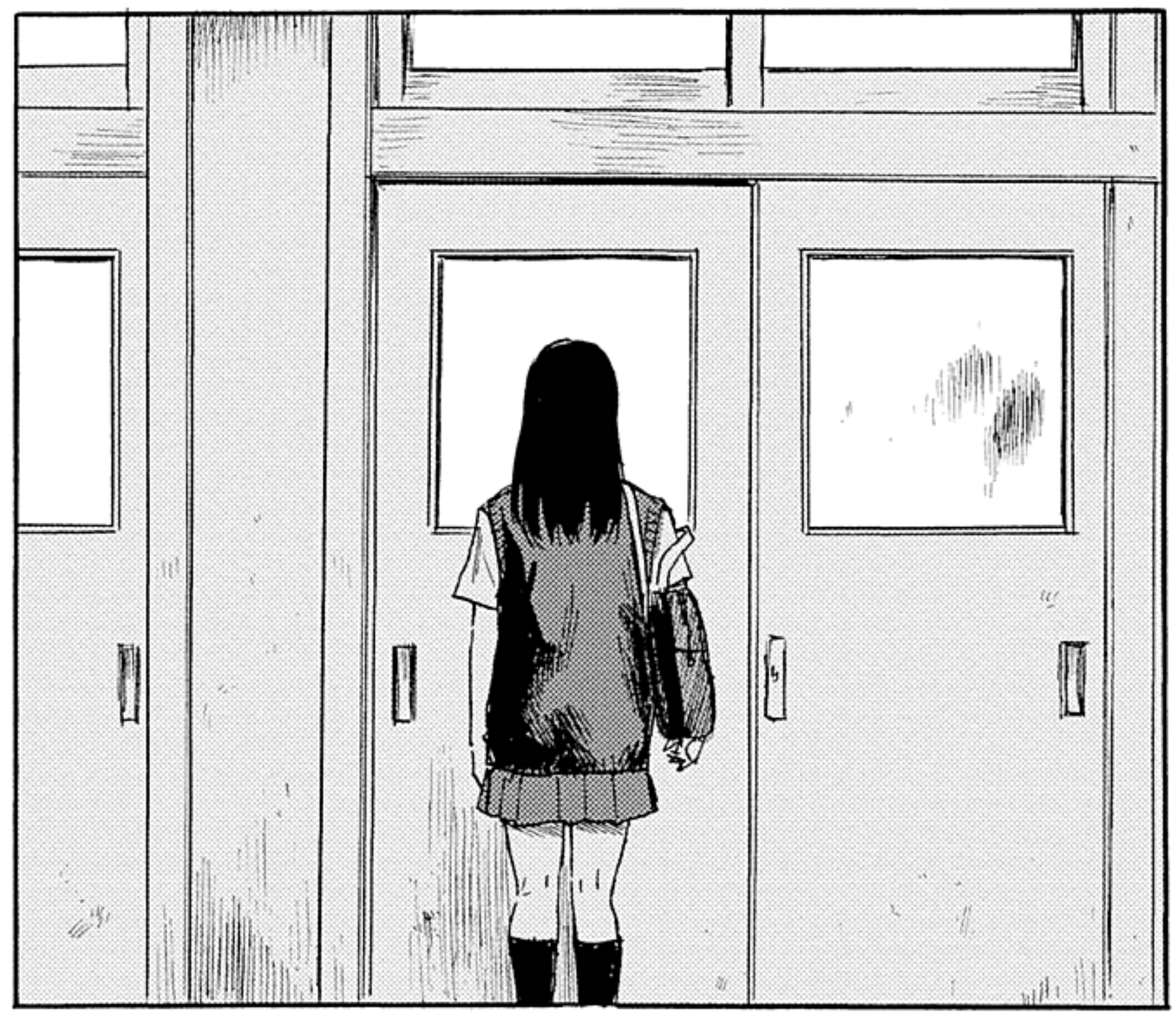

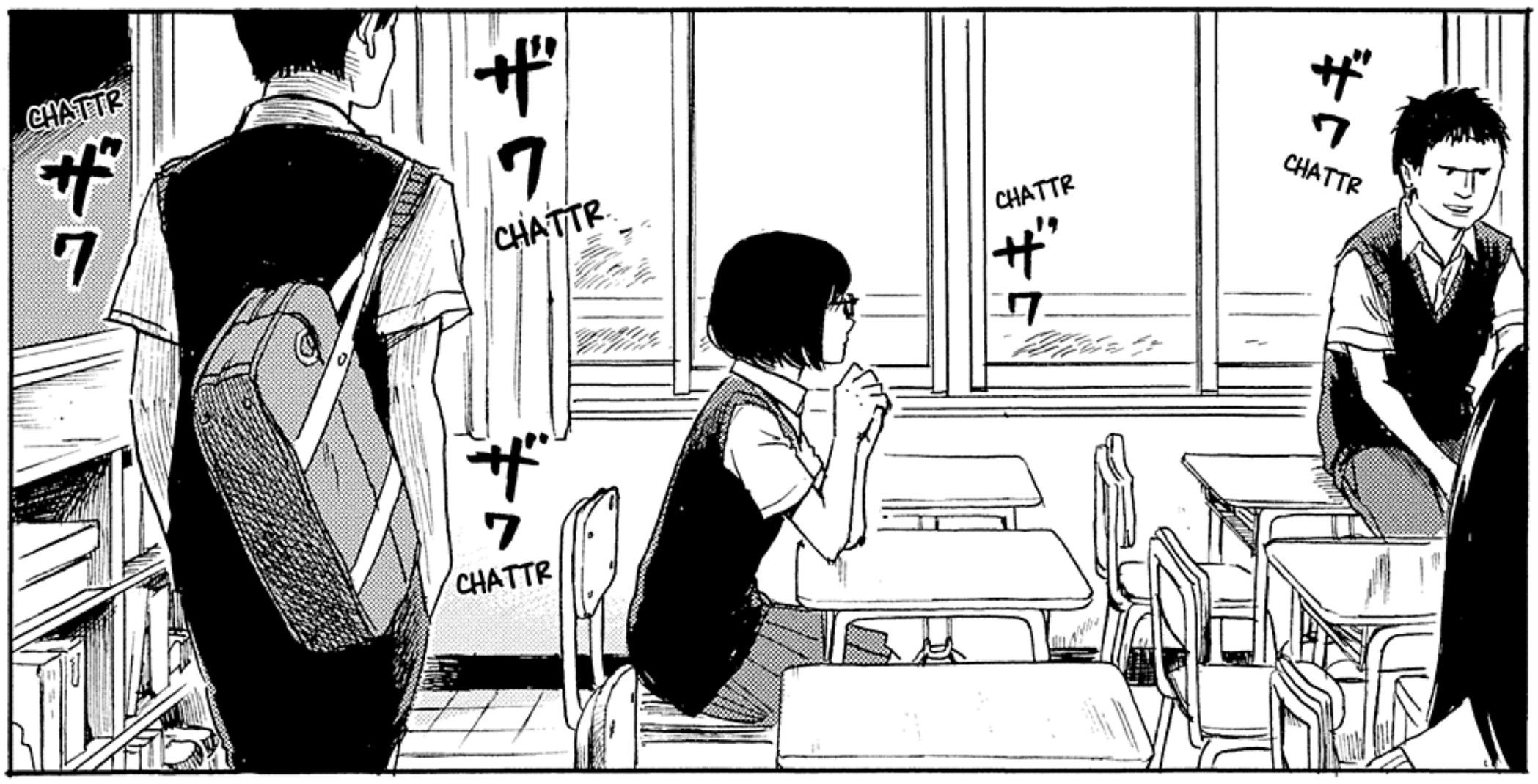
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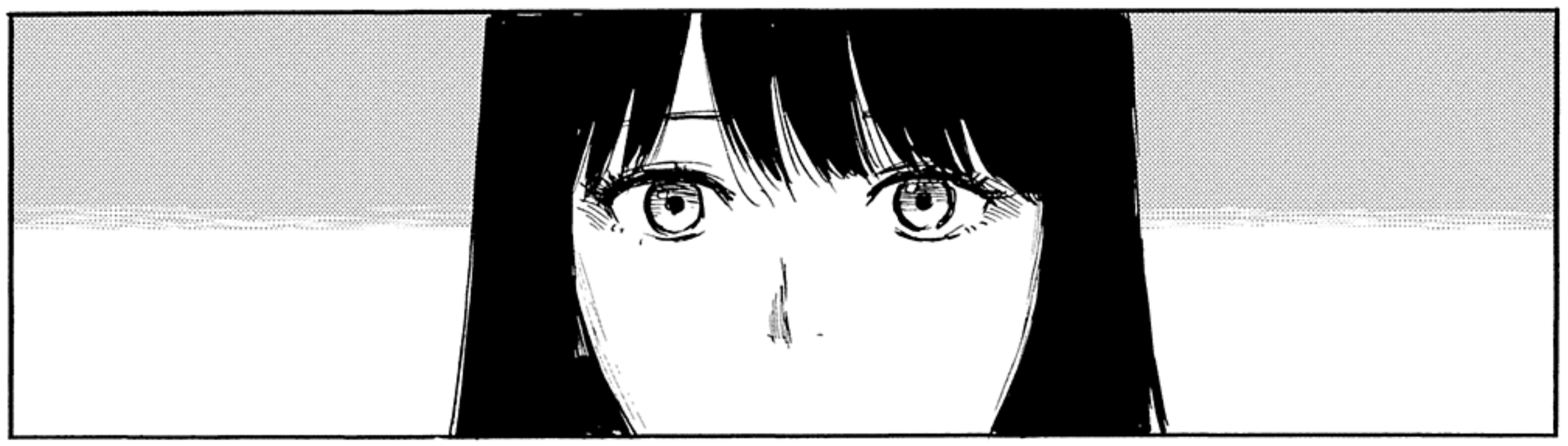
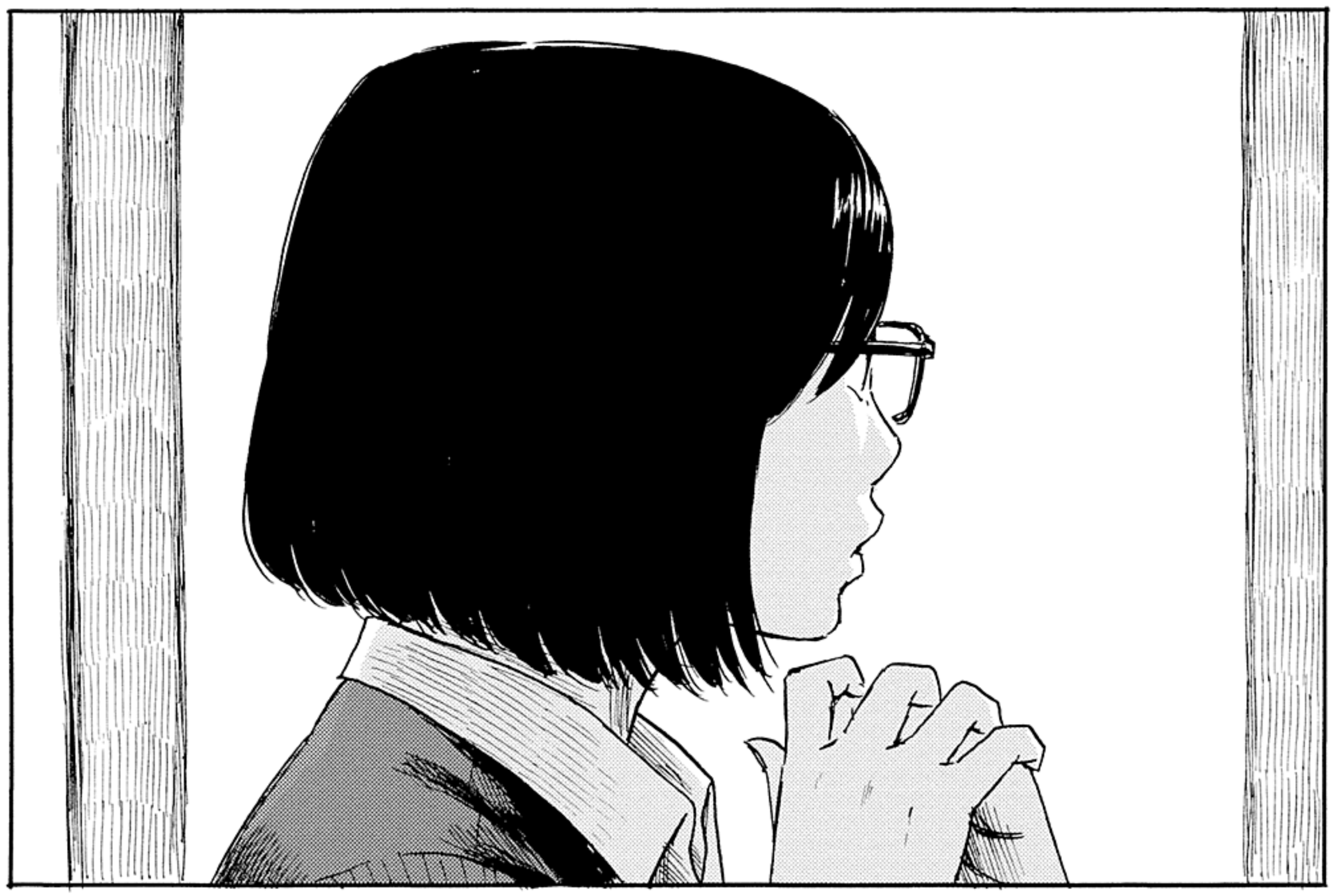
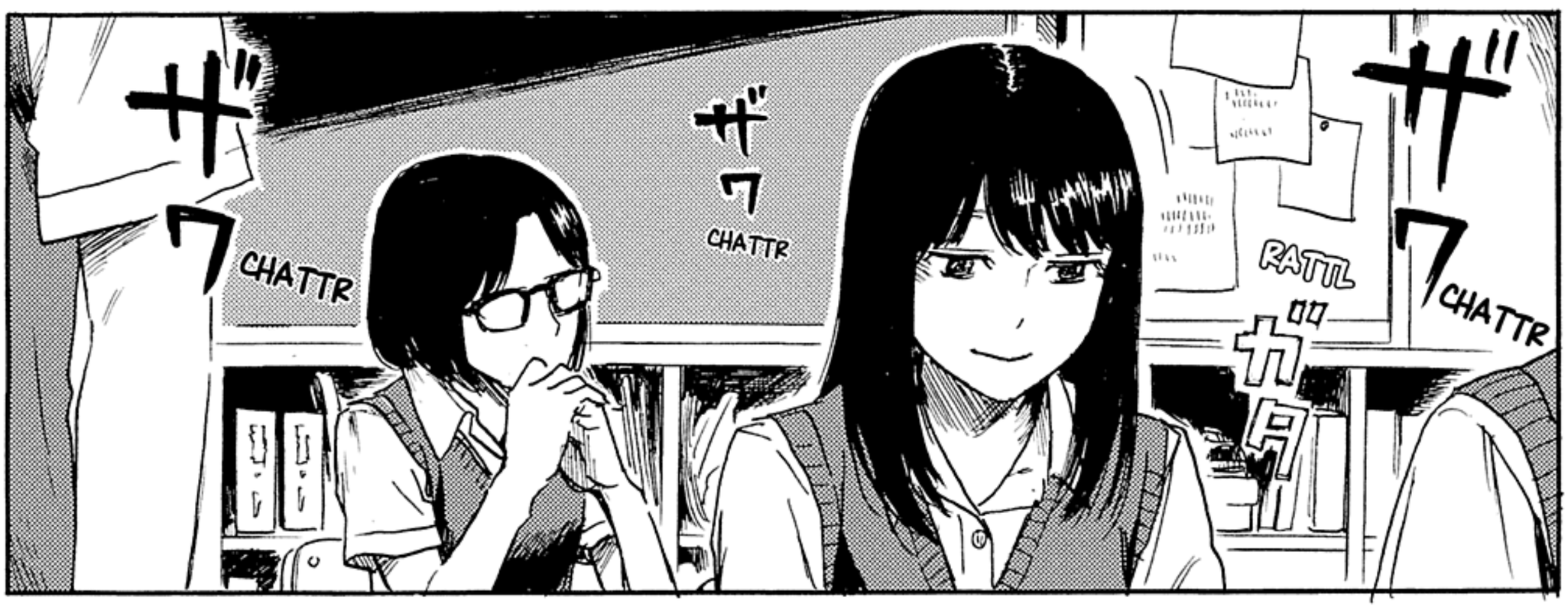




AH...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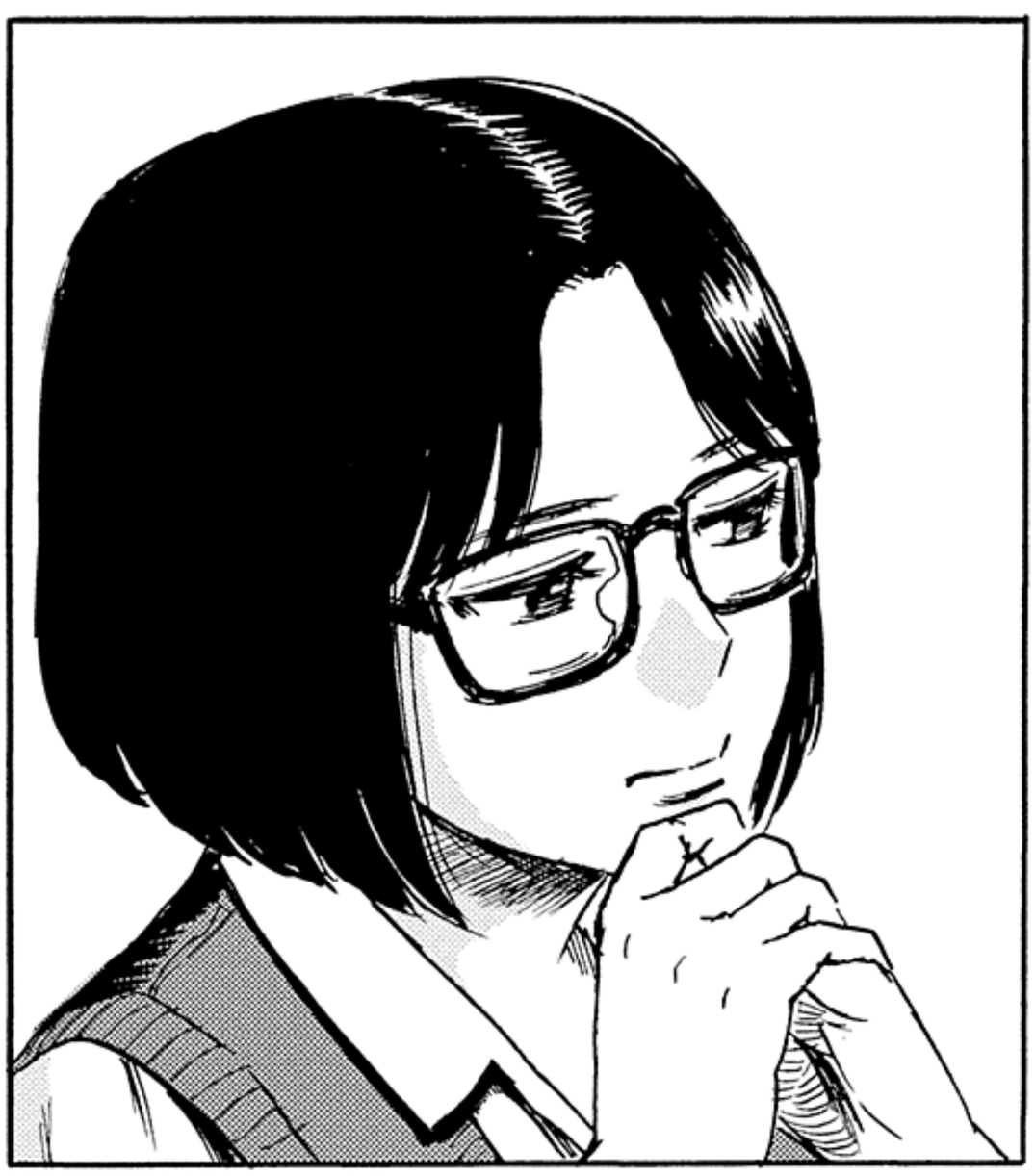


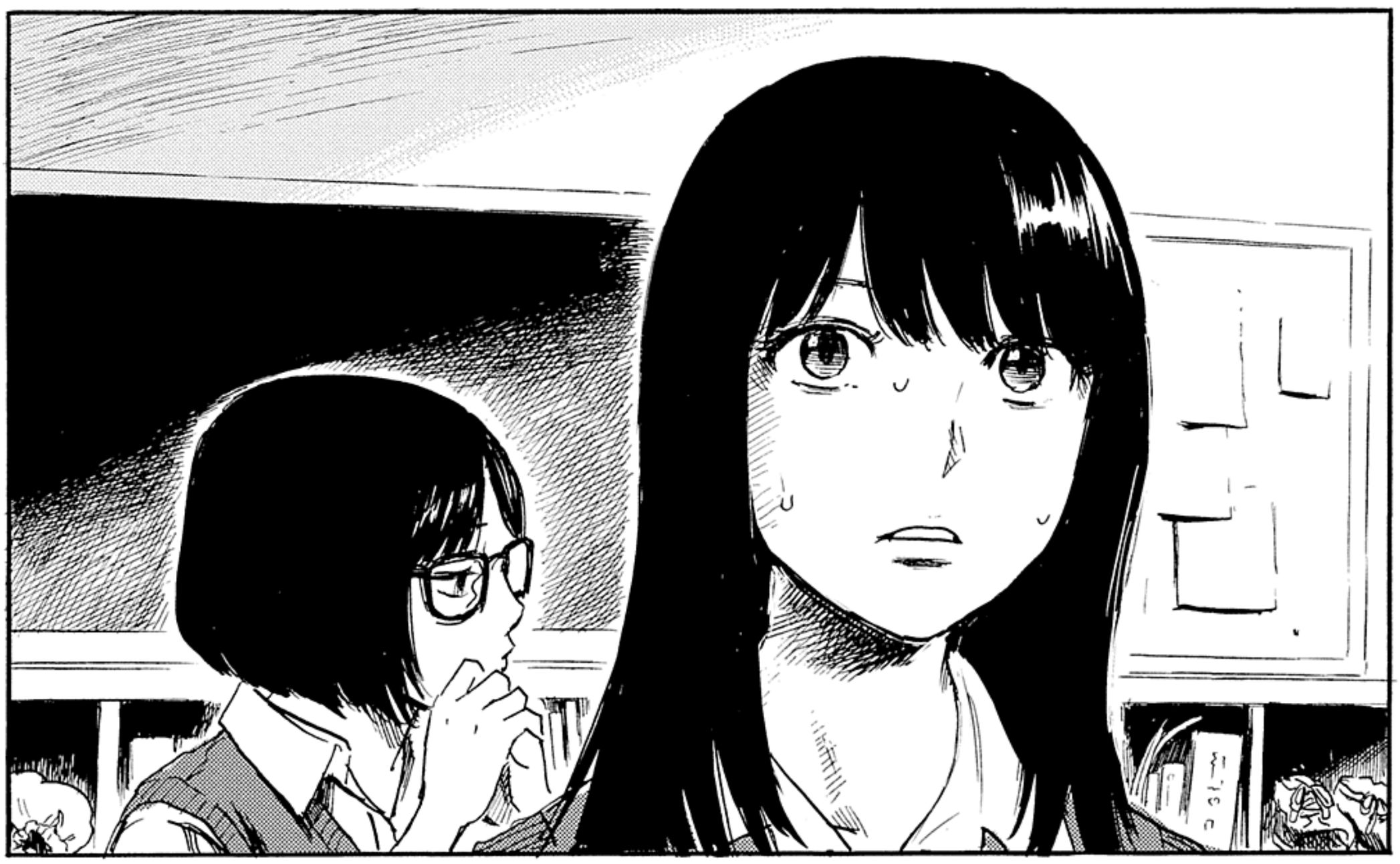
GLANCE

MARI!

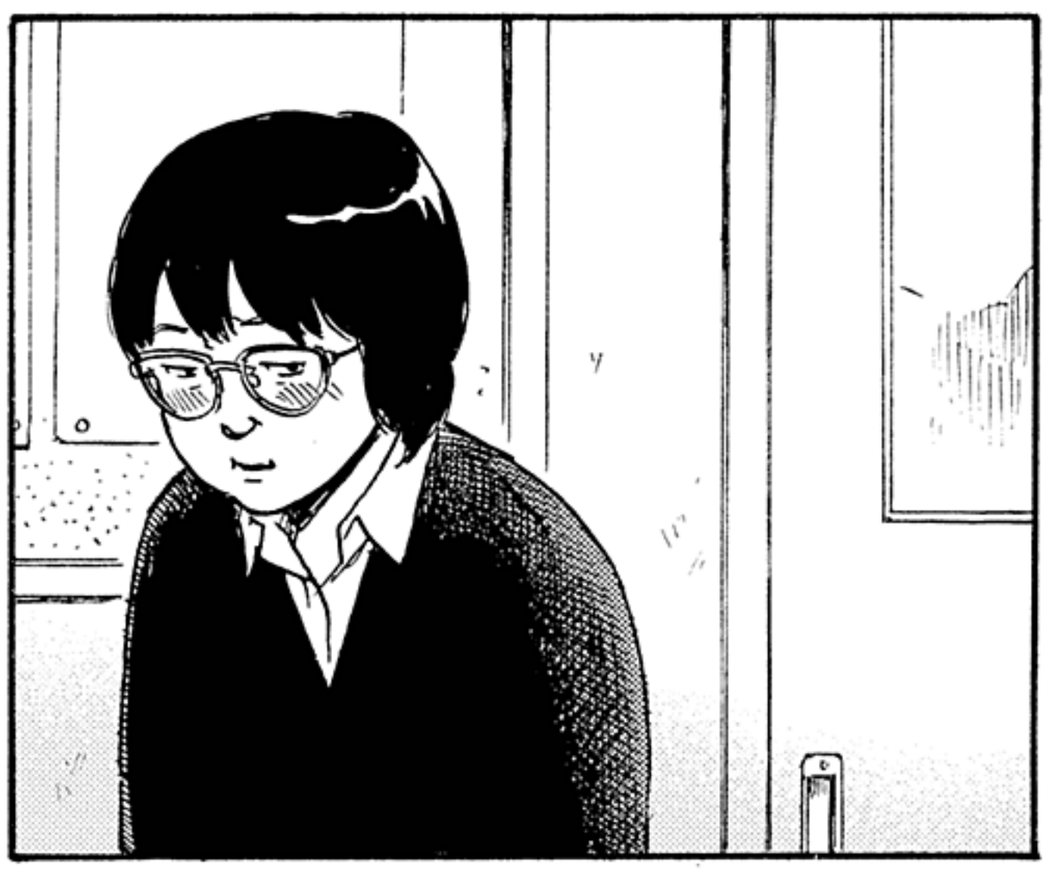
GOOD MORNING.

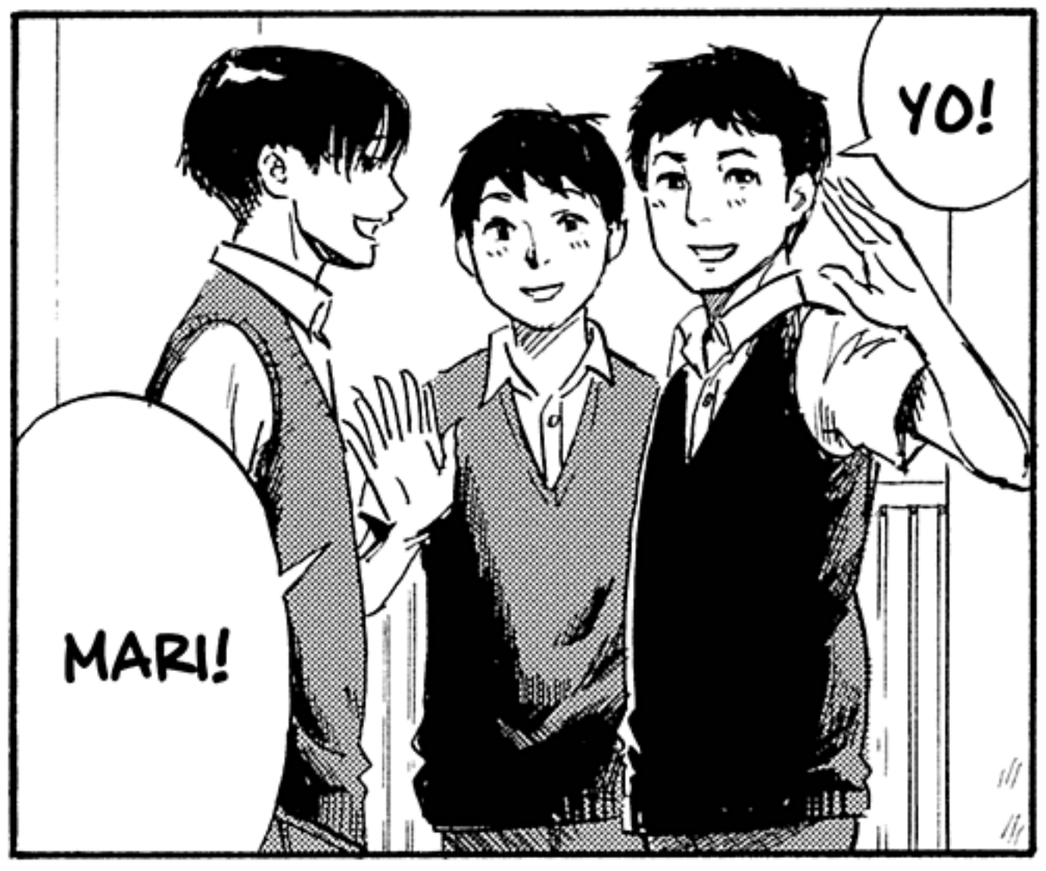
OH...

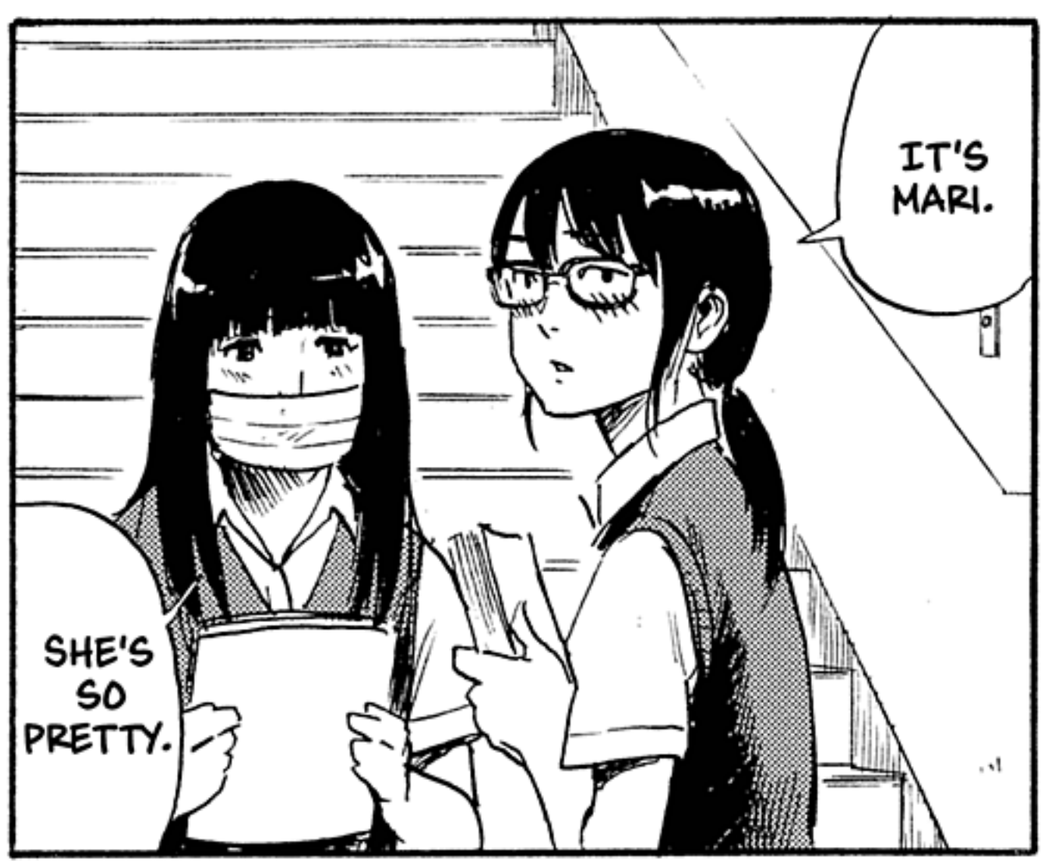
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU LATER.



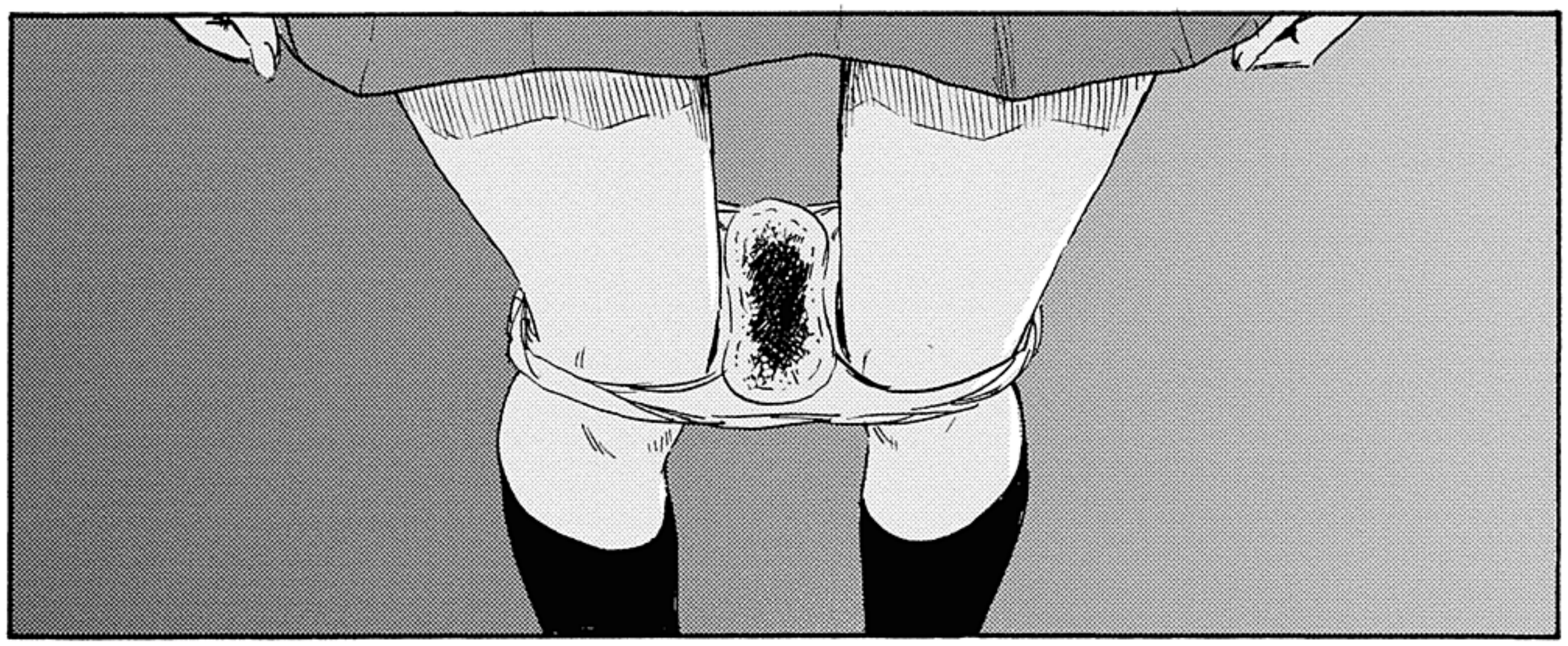
Chapter 21: Banished by the Girls' Club



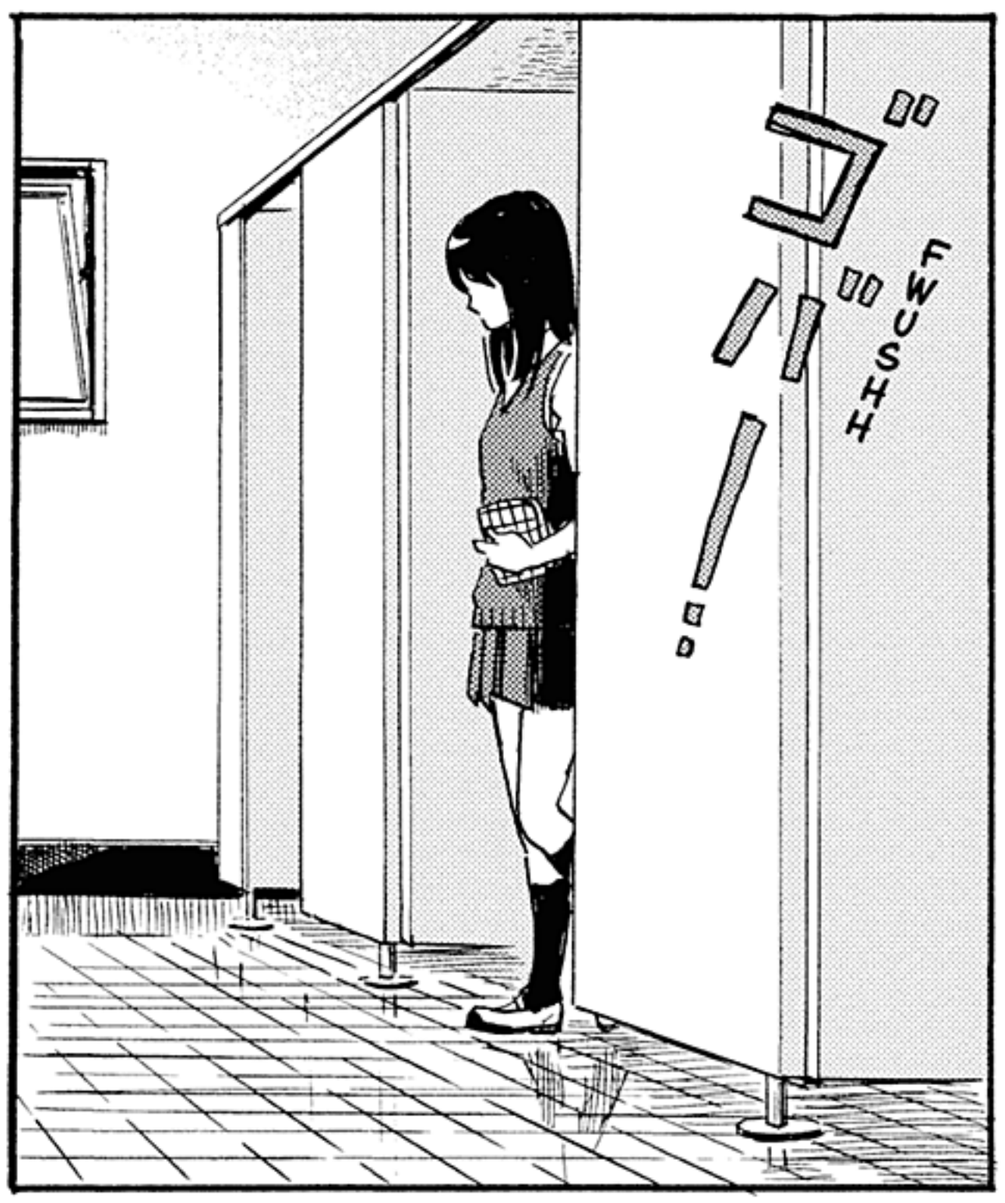

YO!
MARI!

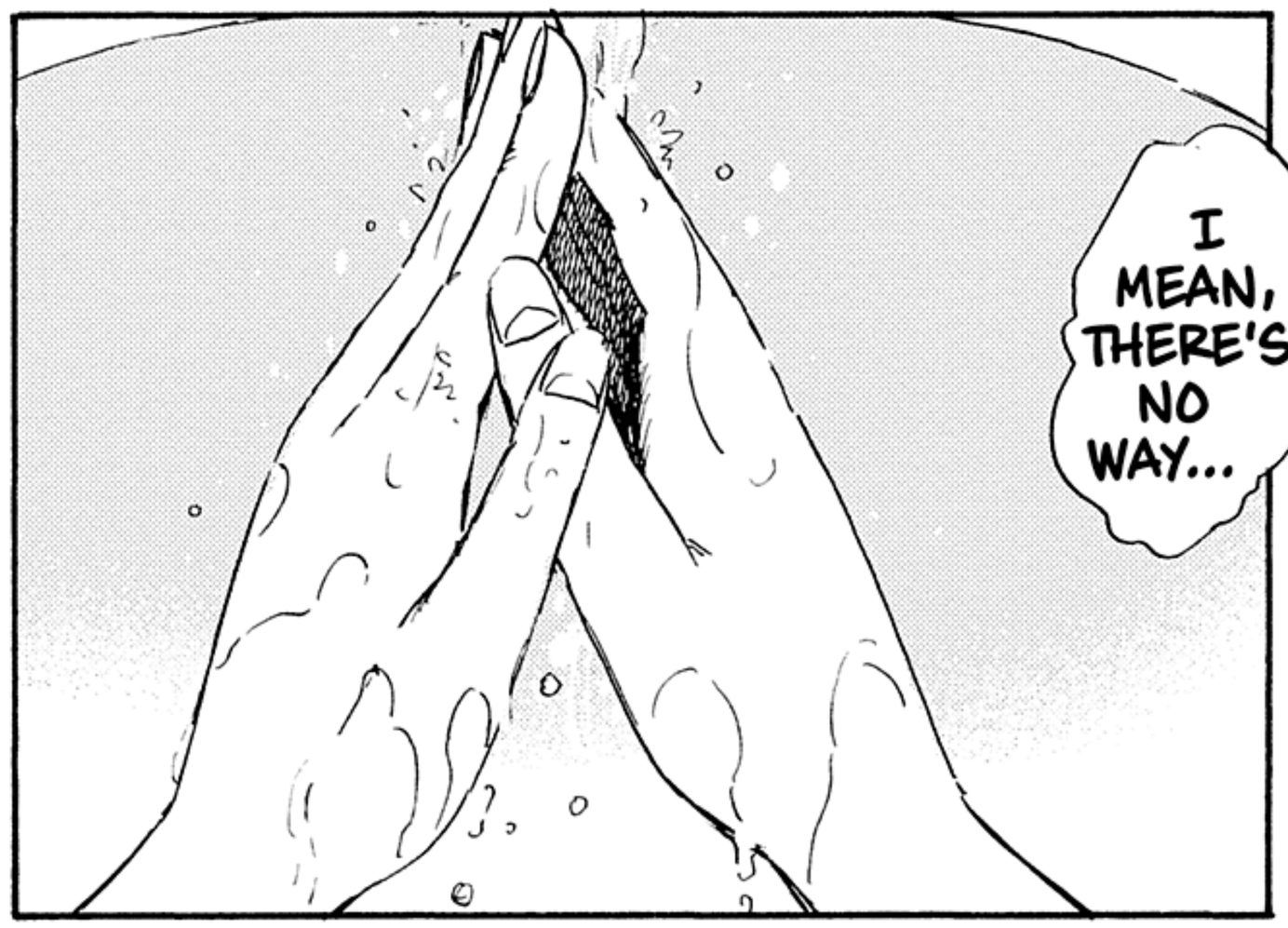

IT'S MARI.
SHE'S SO PRETTY.

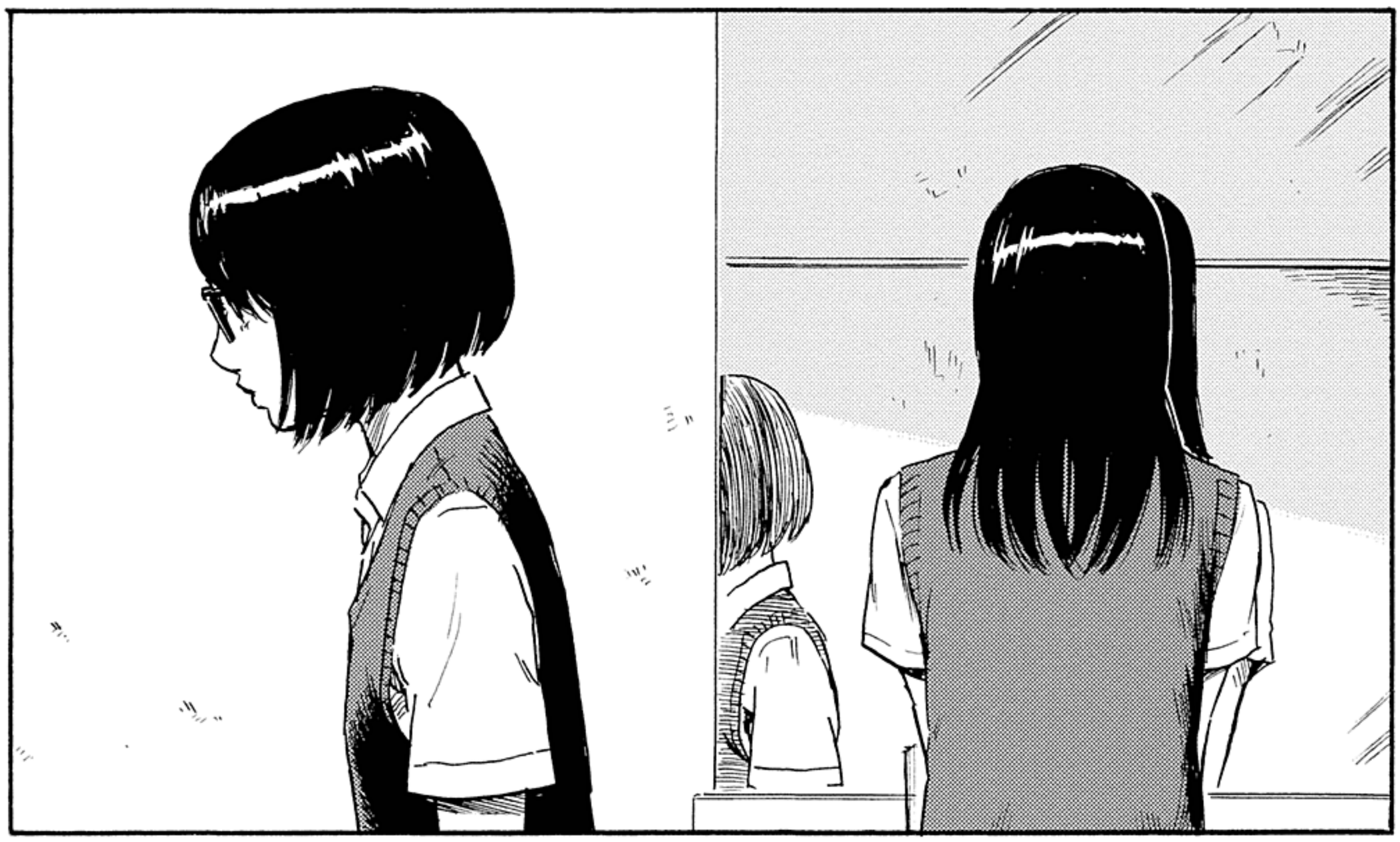
MARI!



ジャ—
ZASHH
HUH? THAT'S WEIRD!
RIGHT ?

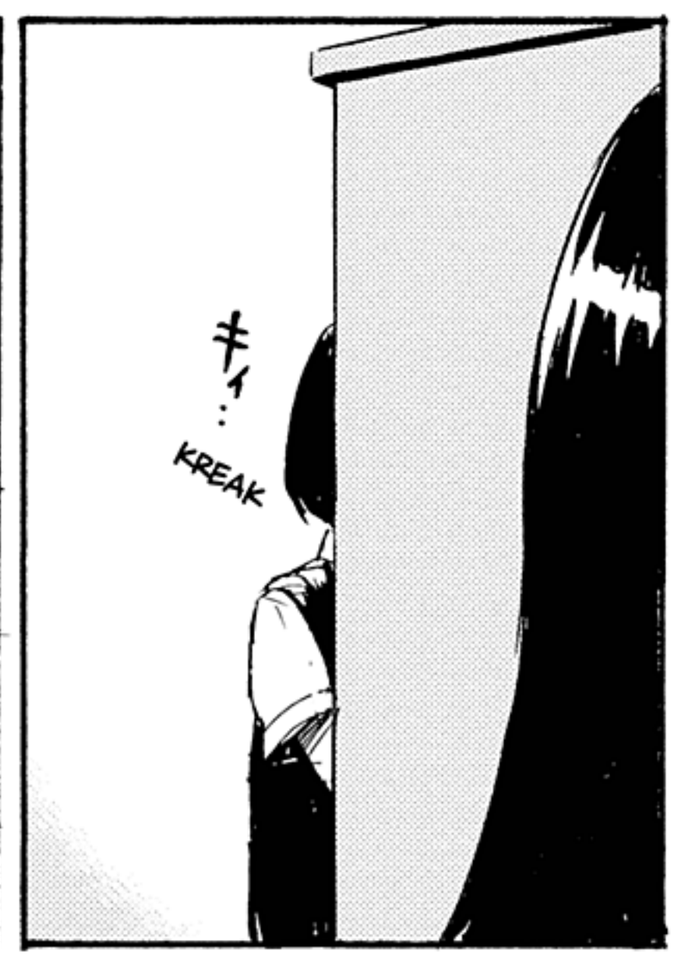

FWUSHH

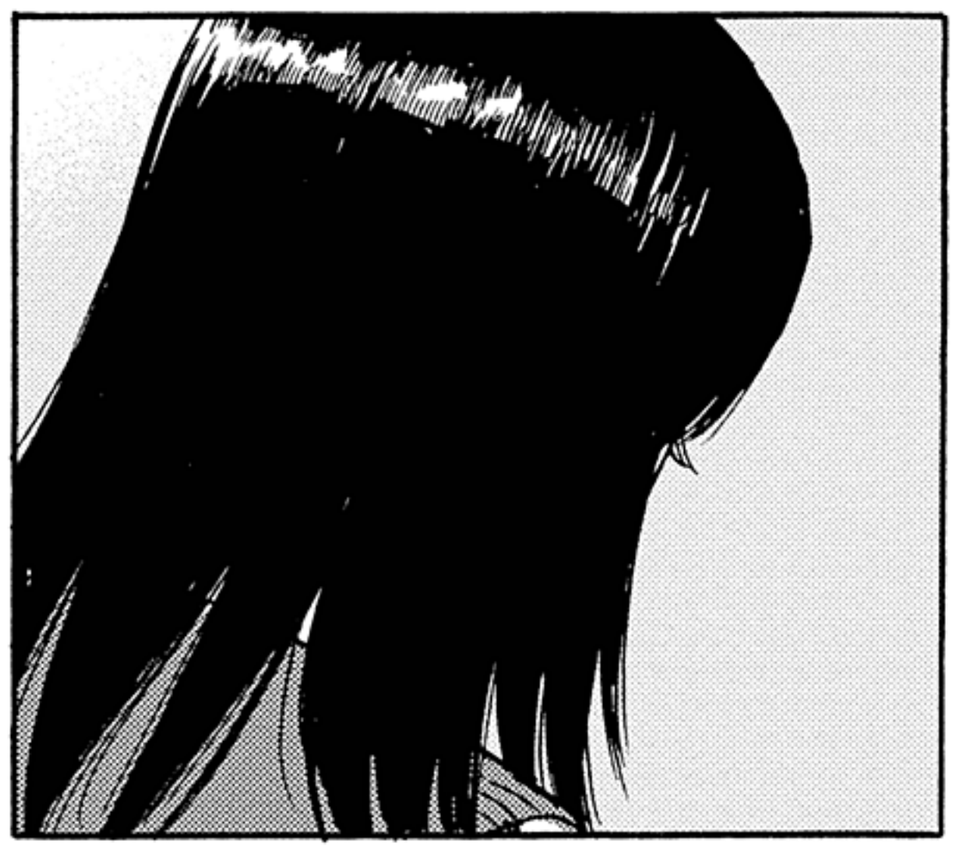

I MEAN, THERE'S NO WAY...

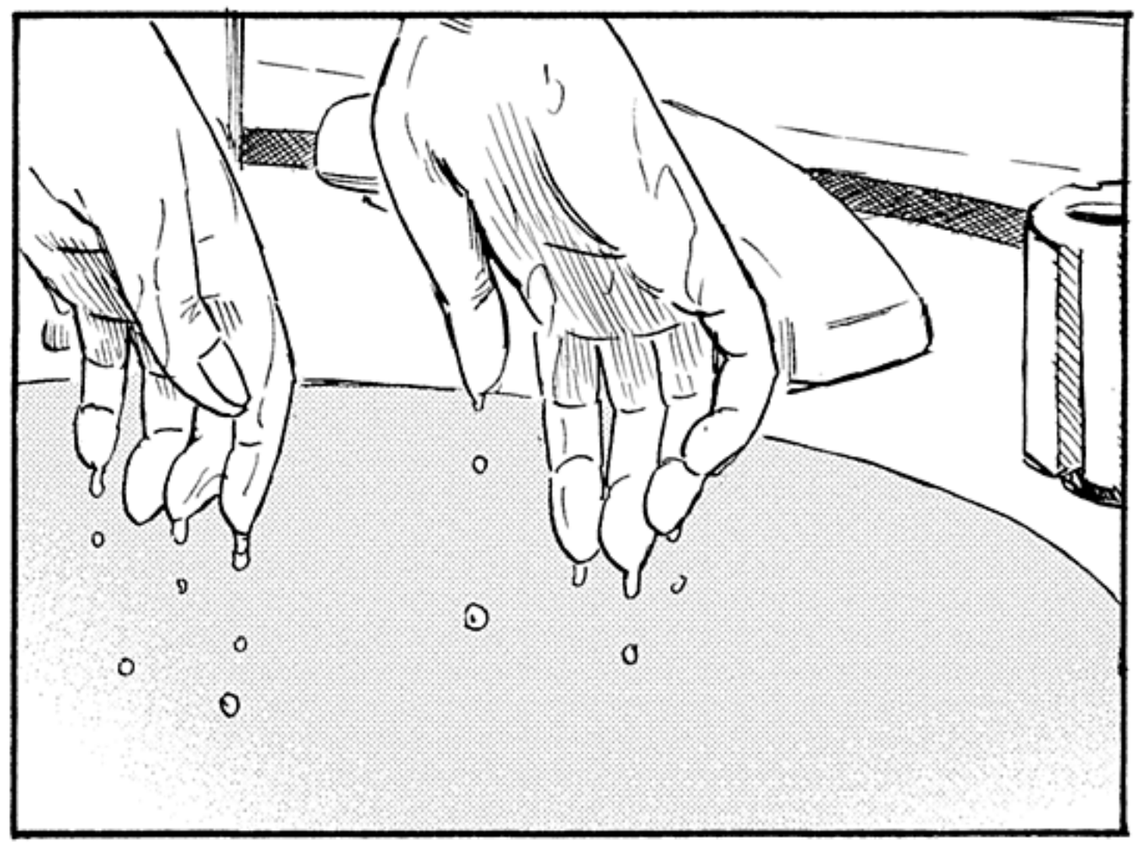


KYA HA HA HA

I KNOW ...
YOU REALLY CAN'T THO...


KREAK





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SHOOSH
ゴゴゴゴ…
SPLOSH
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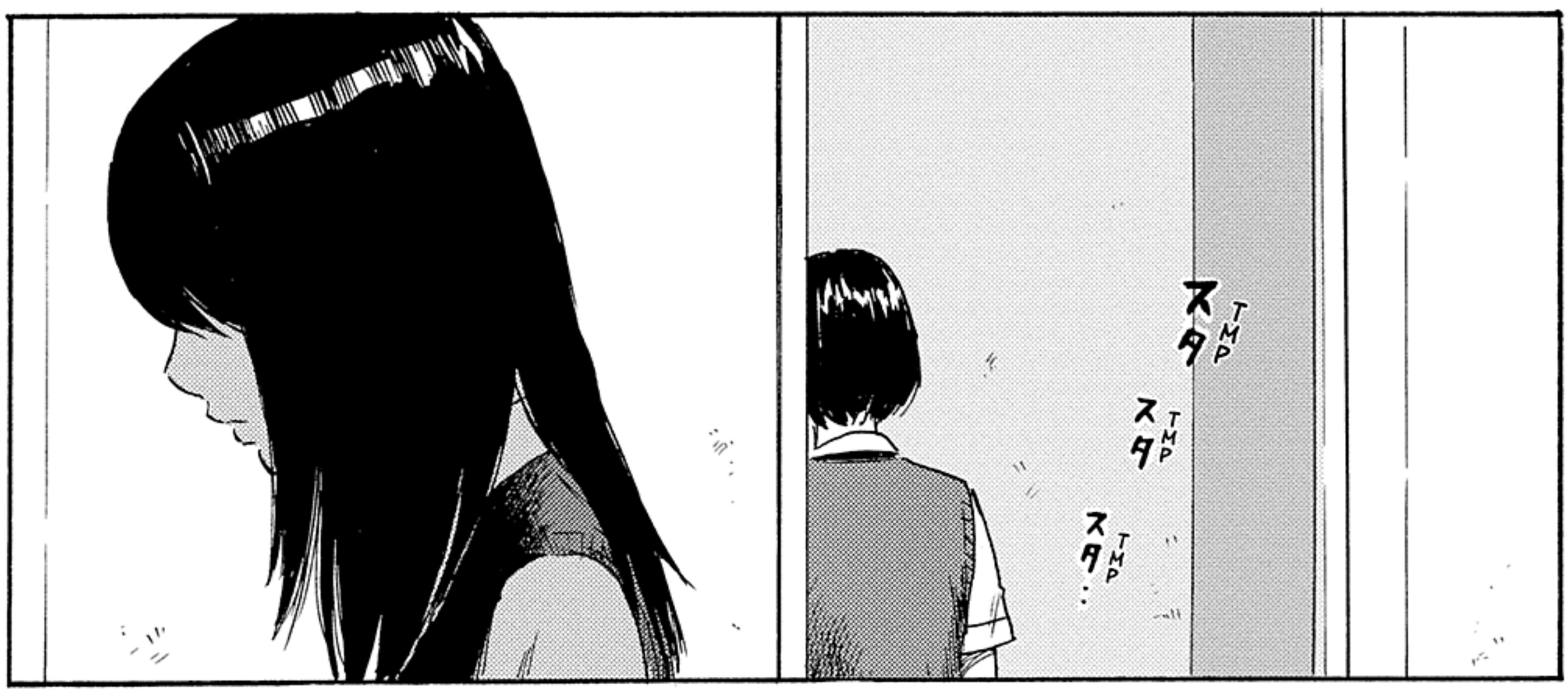
YORI-
I'M SOR-RY!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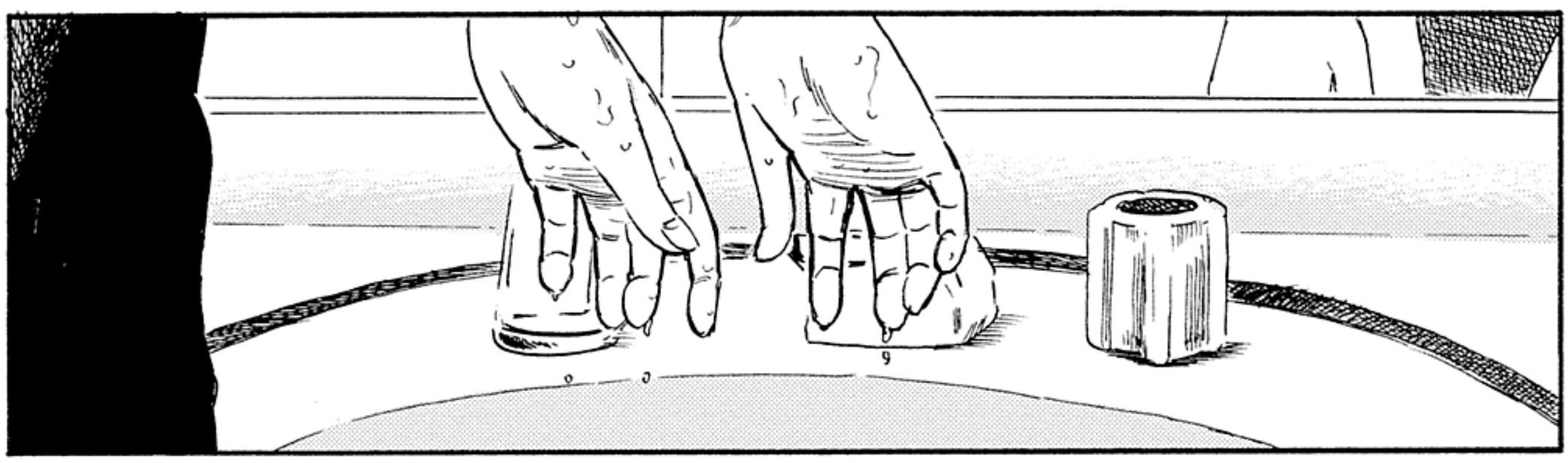

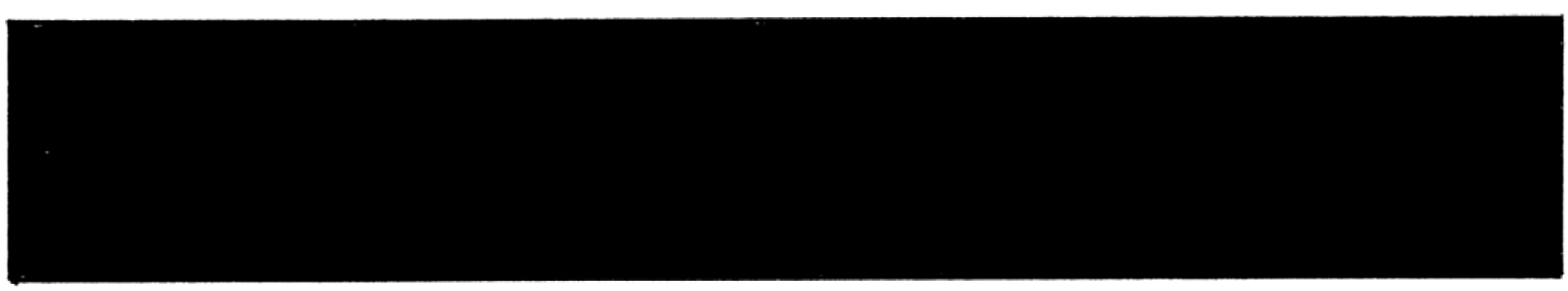

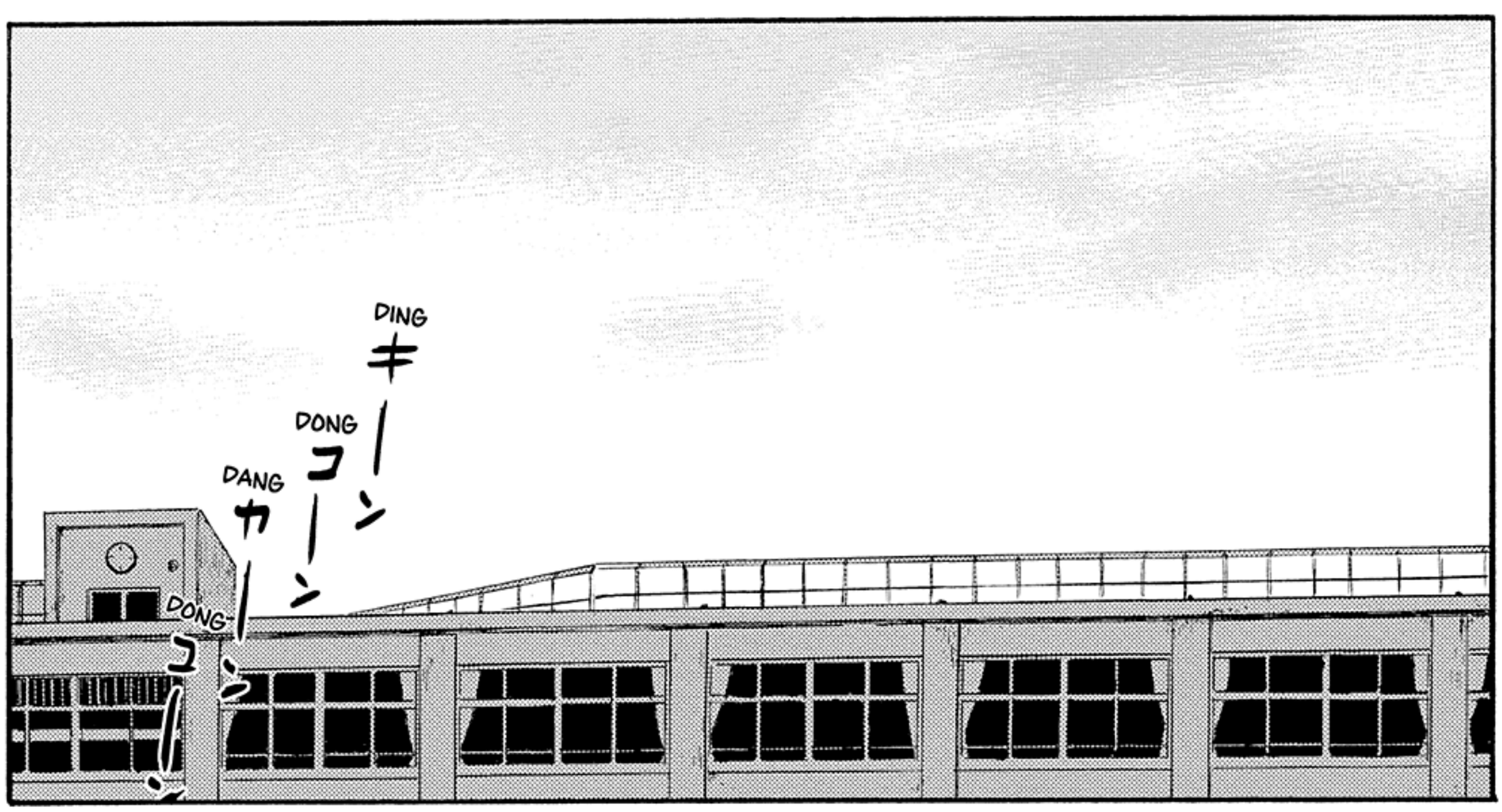
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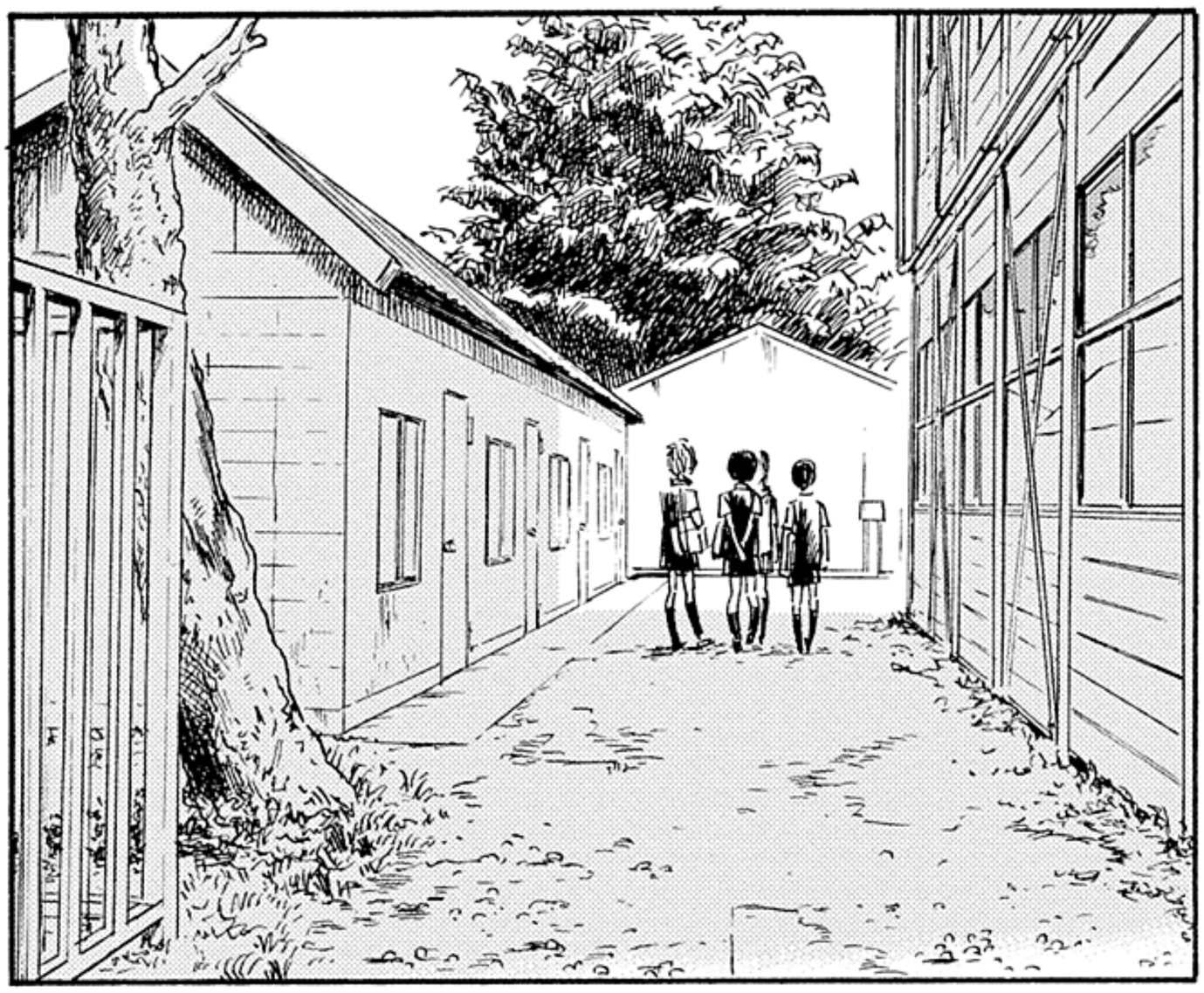
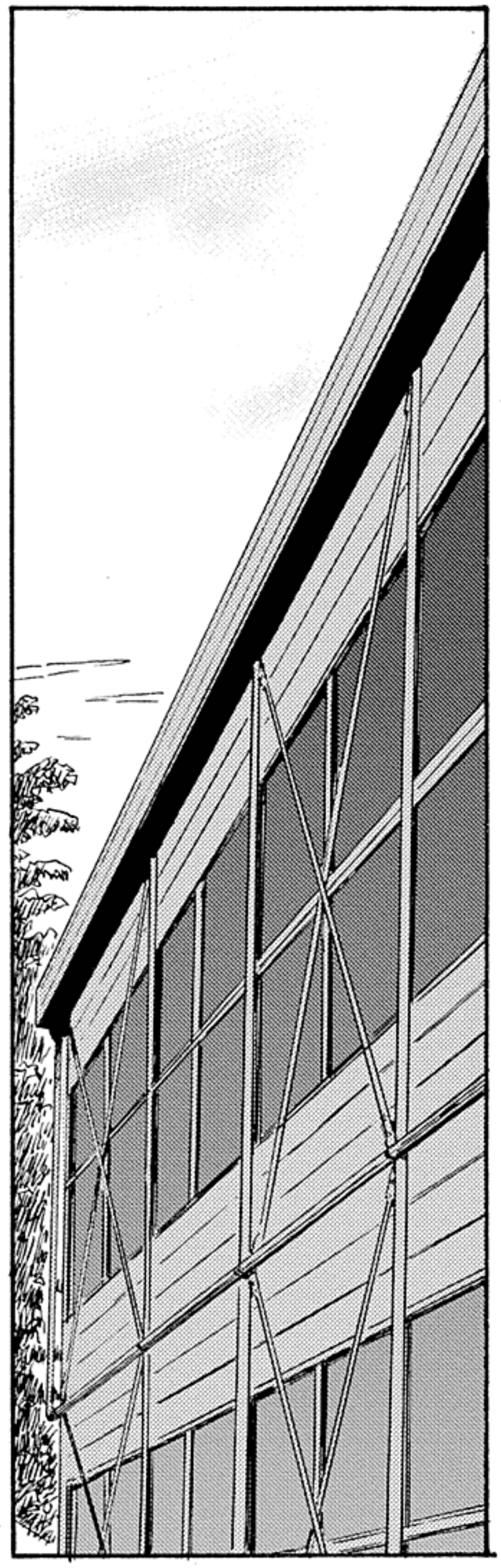
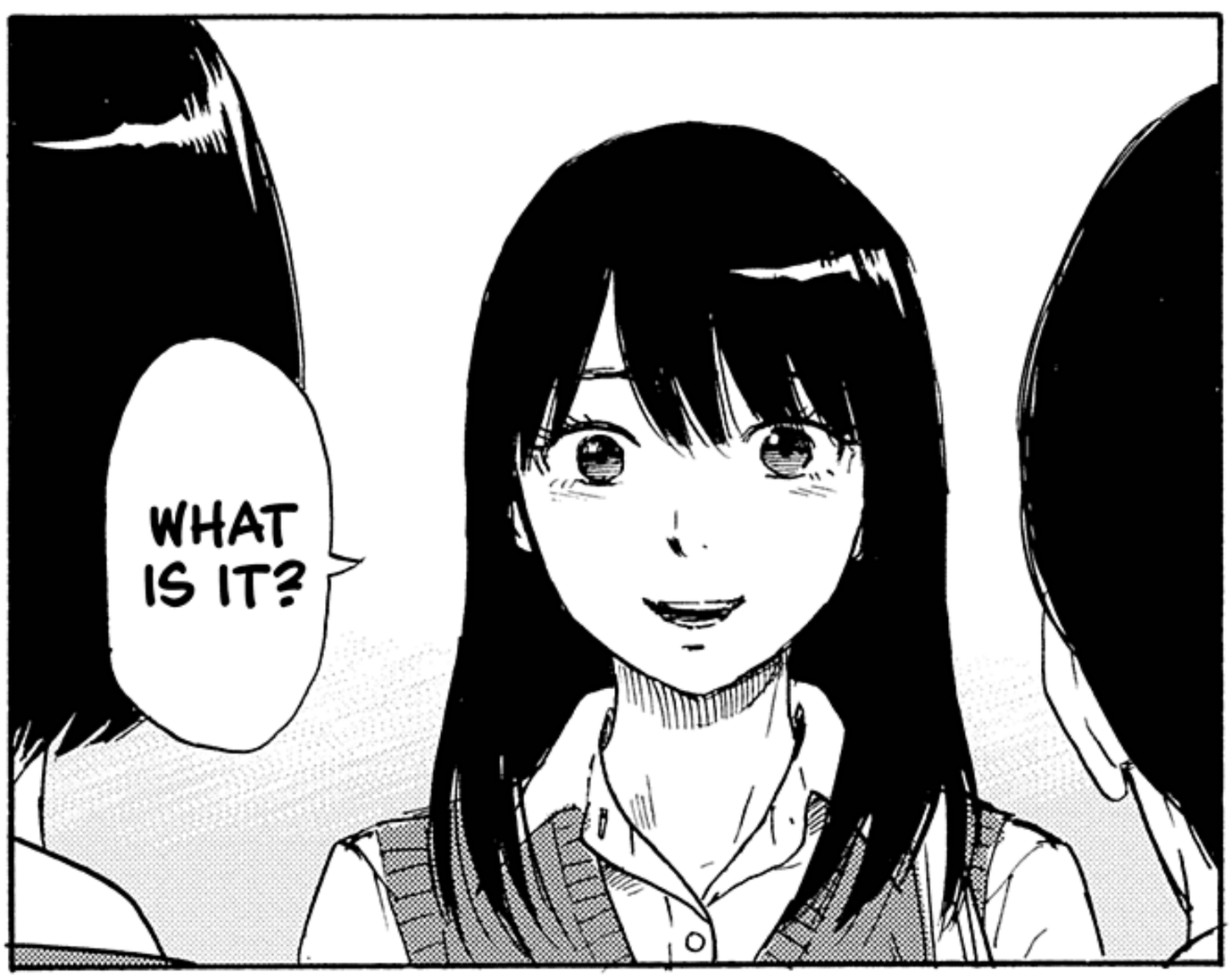
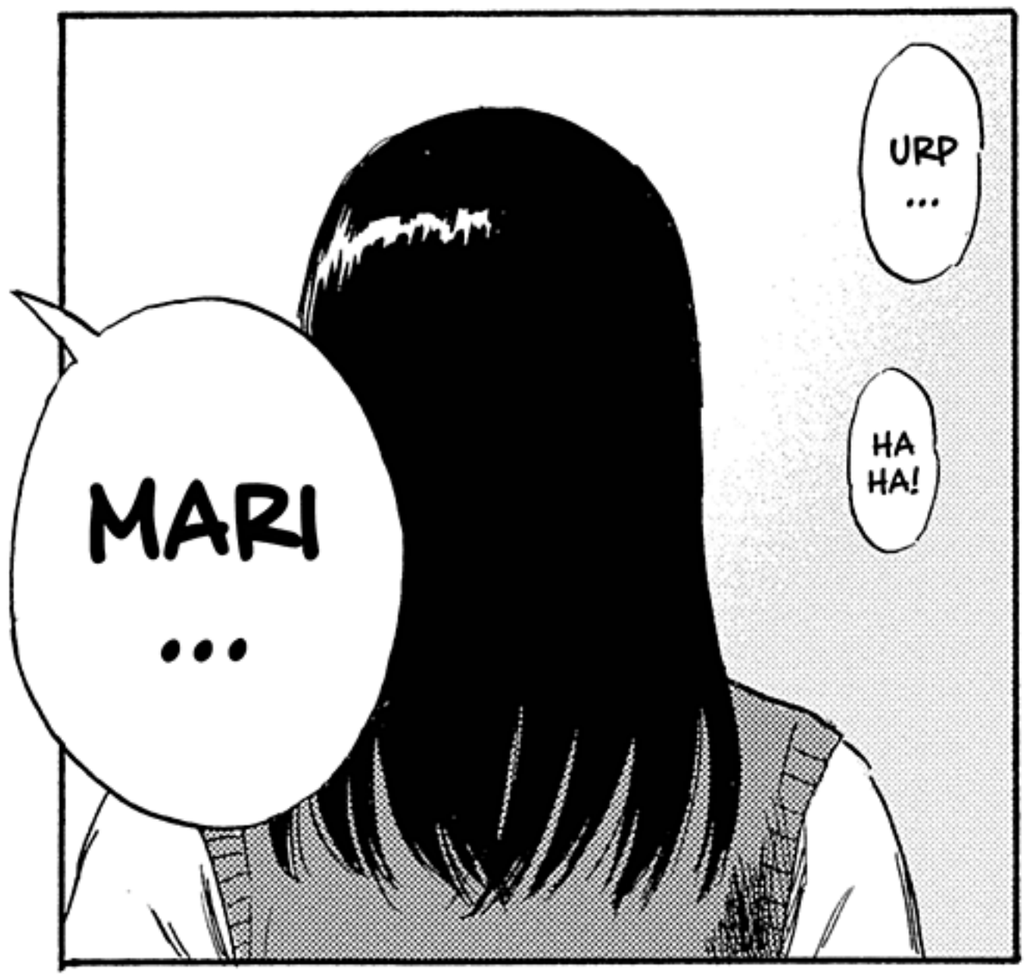
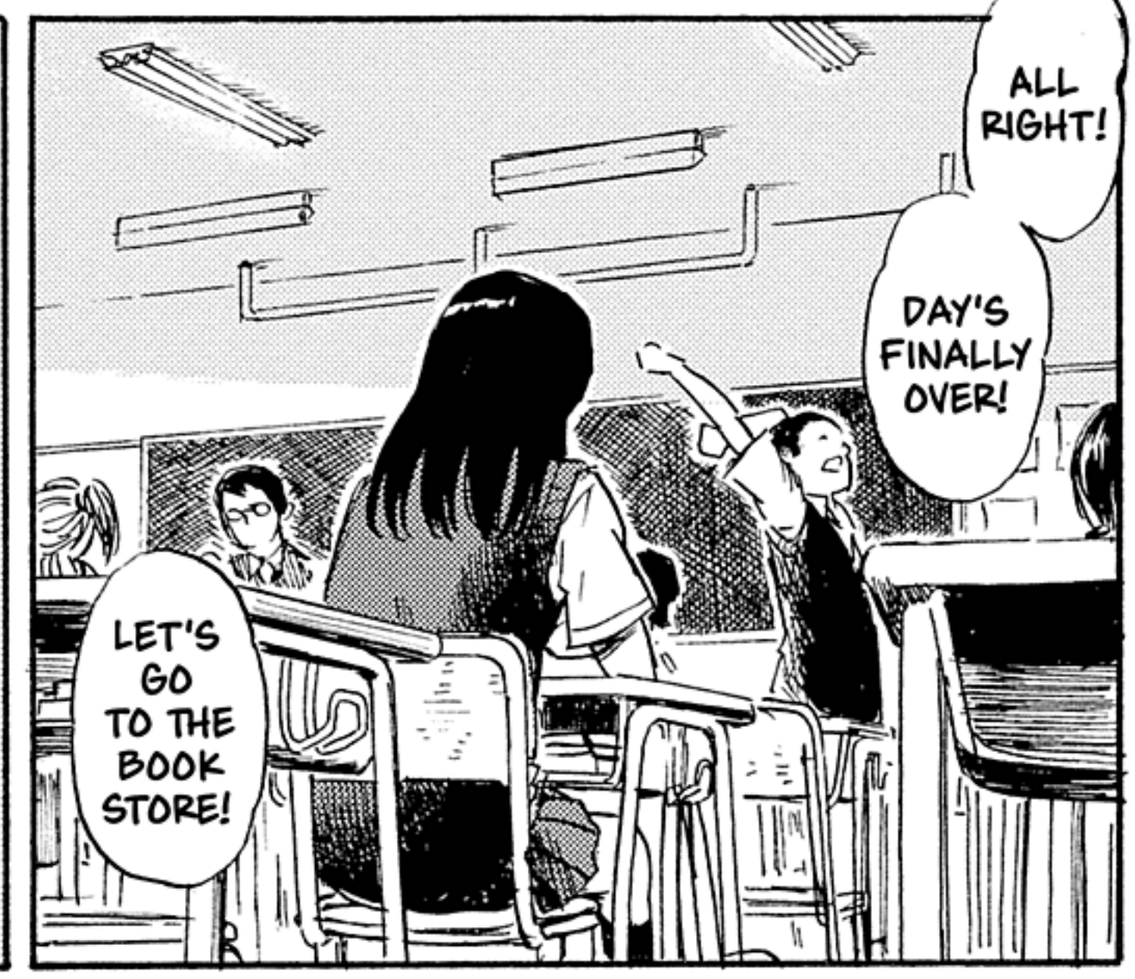
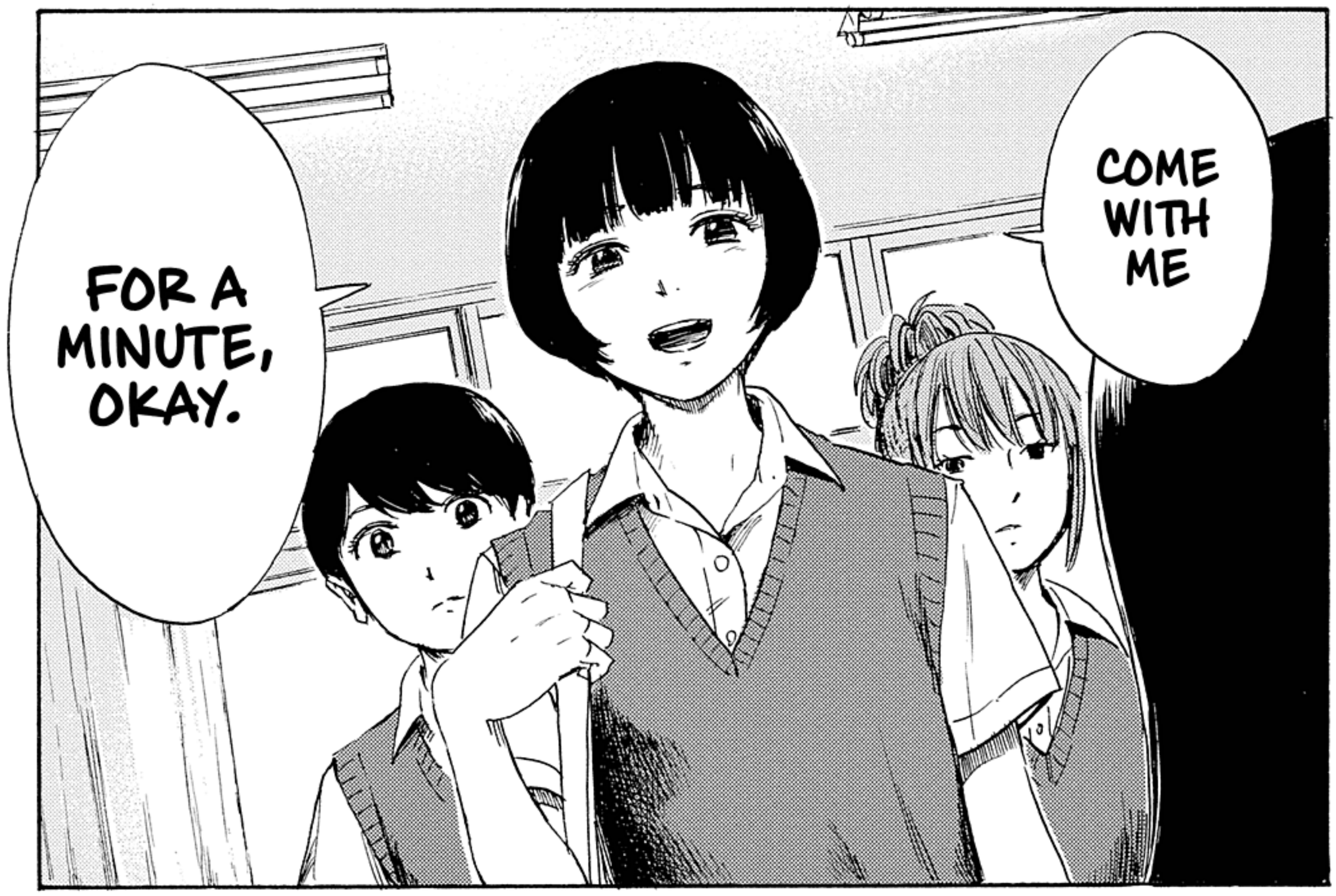


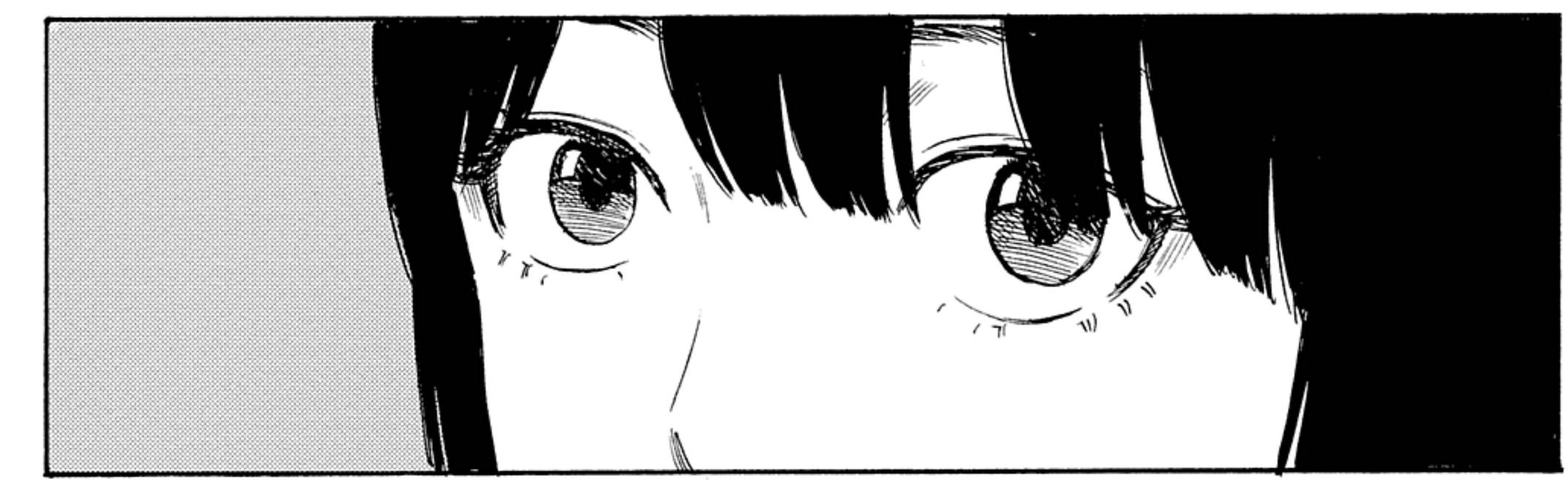


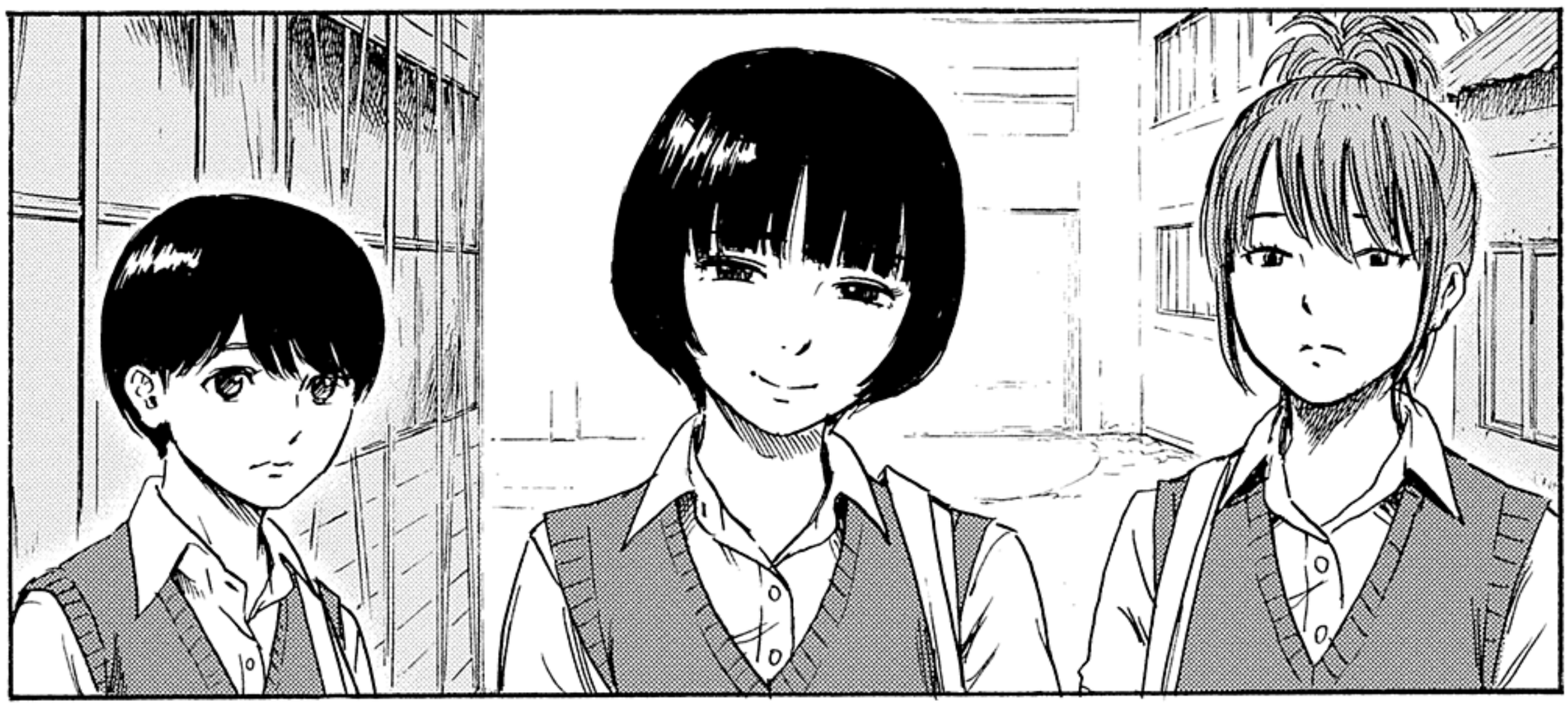

WHAT IS IT?

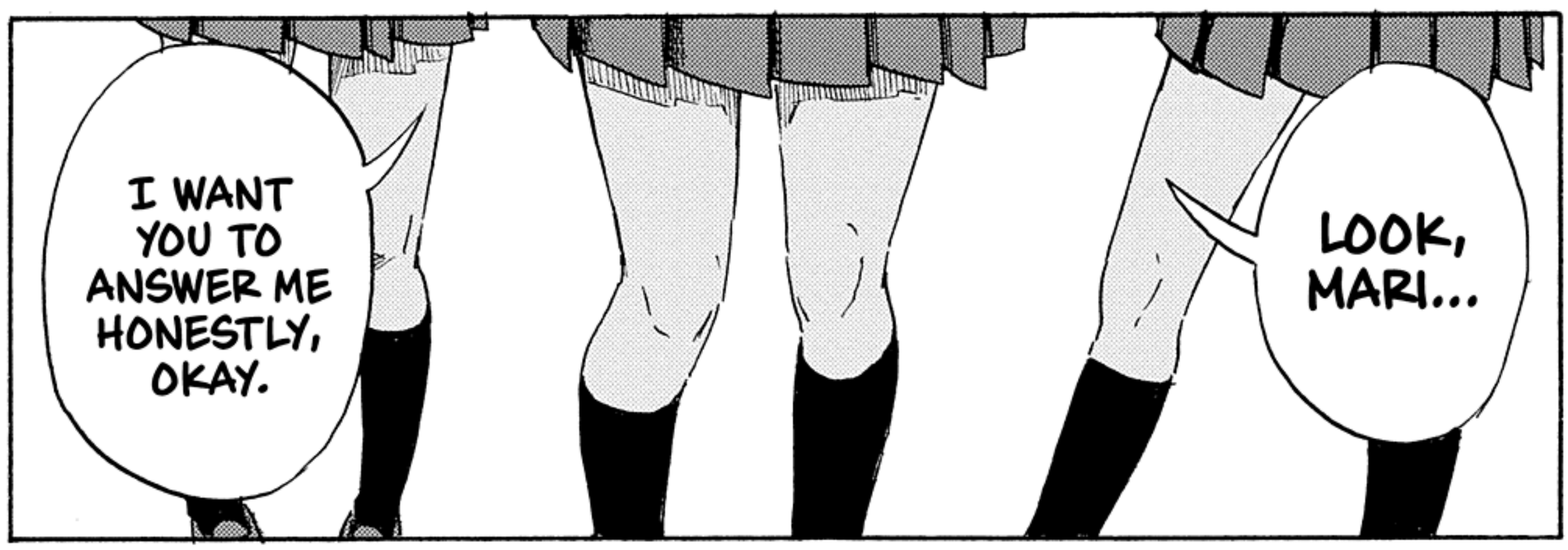

MARI ...
URP ...
HA HA!


LET'S GO TO THE BOOK STORE!
DAY'S FINALLY OVER!
ALL RIGHT!


FOR A MINUTE, OKAY.
COME WITH ME





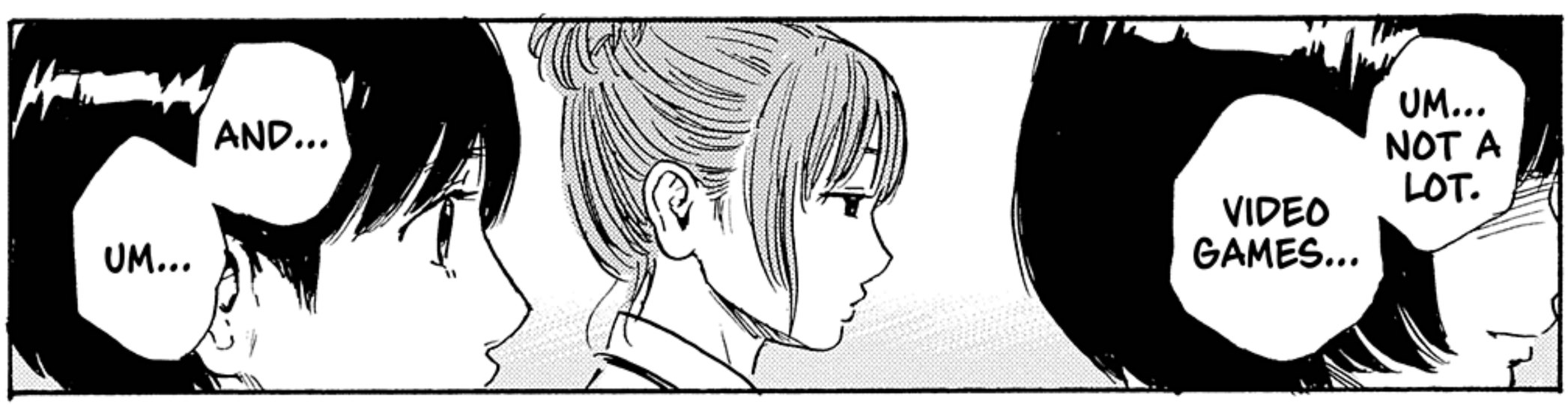

I WANT YOU TO ANSWER ME HONESTLY, OKAY.
LOOK, MARI...

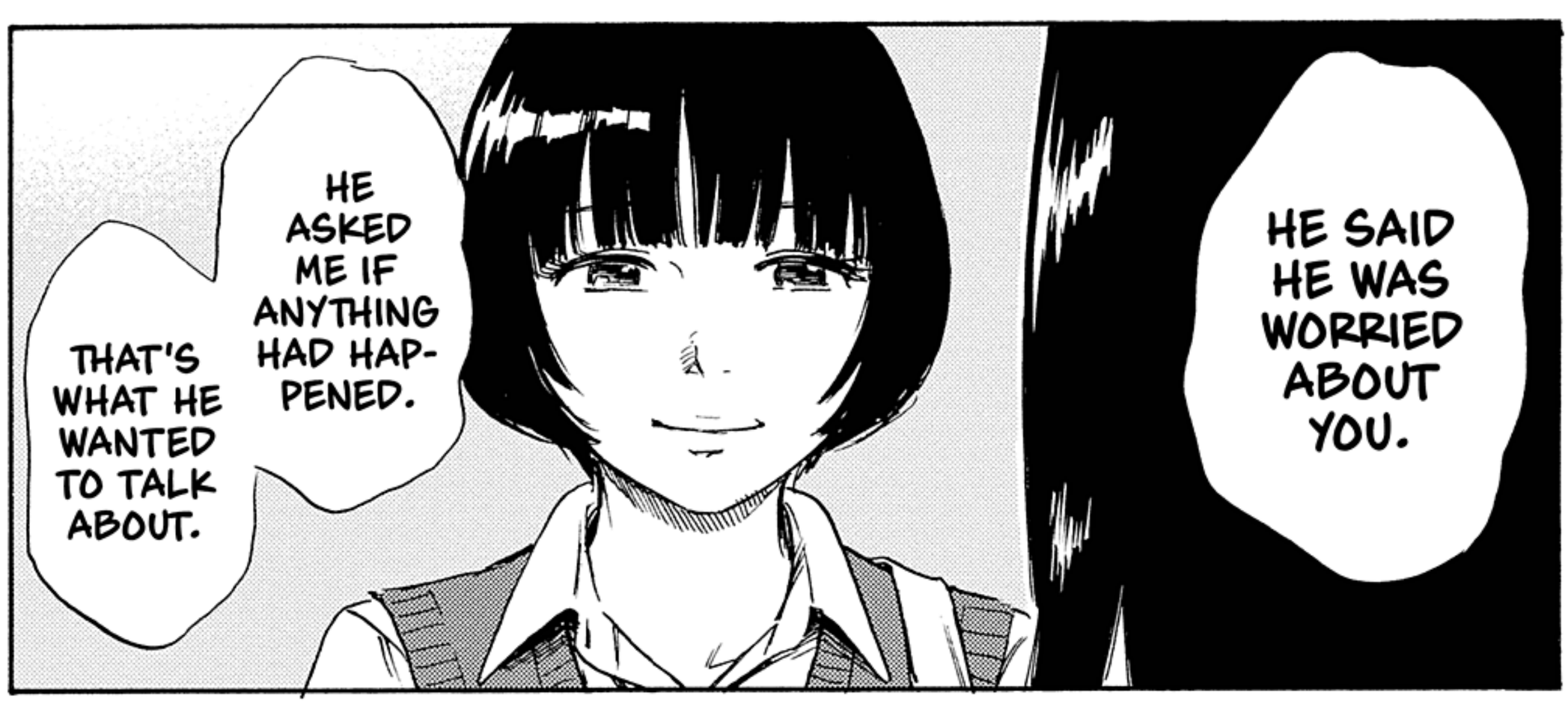
YOU MET WITH HIROKI YESTER-DAY,
DIDN'T YOU?

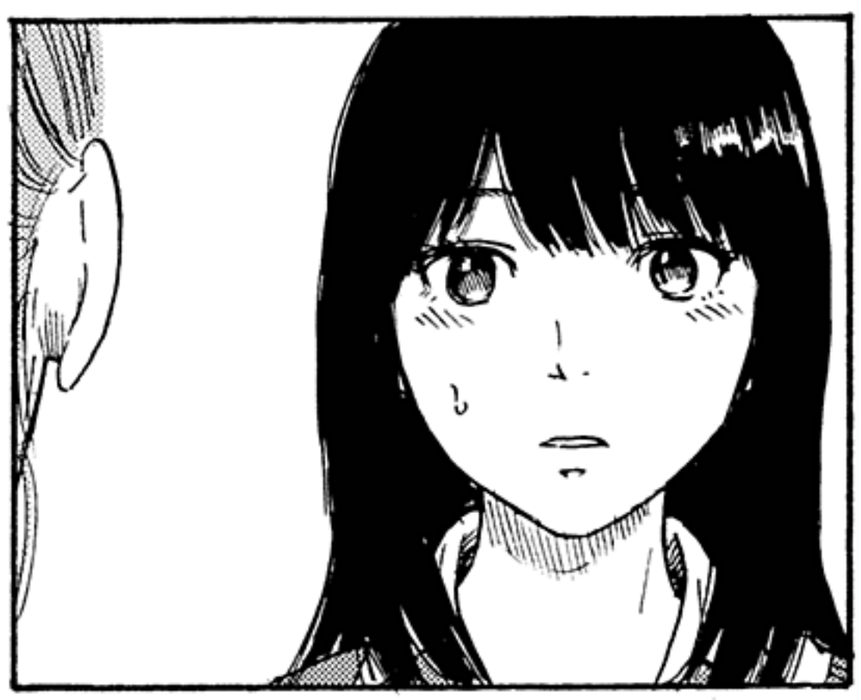
WE DID MEET, BUT-
UM...
YES.
INVITED WHOM?
WHO ...
HIROKI CALLED ME.
UM... HE DID.
HUH?
OH...
AND WHERE TO?
UH-HUH...

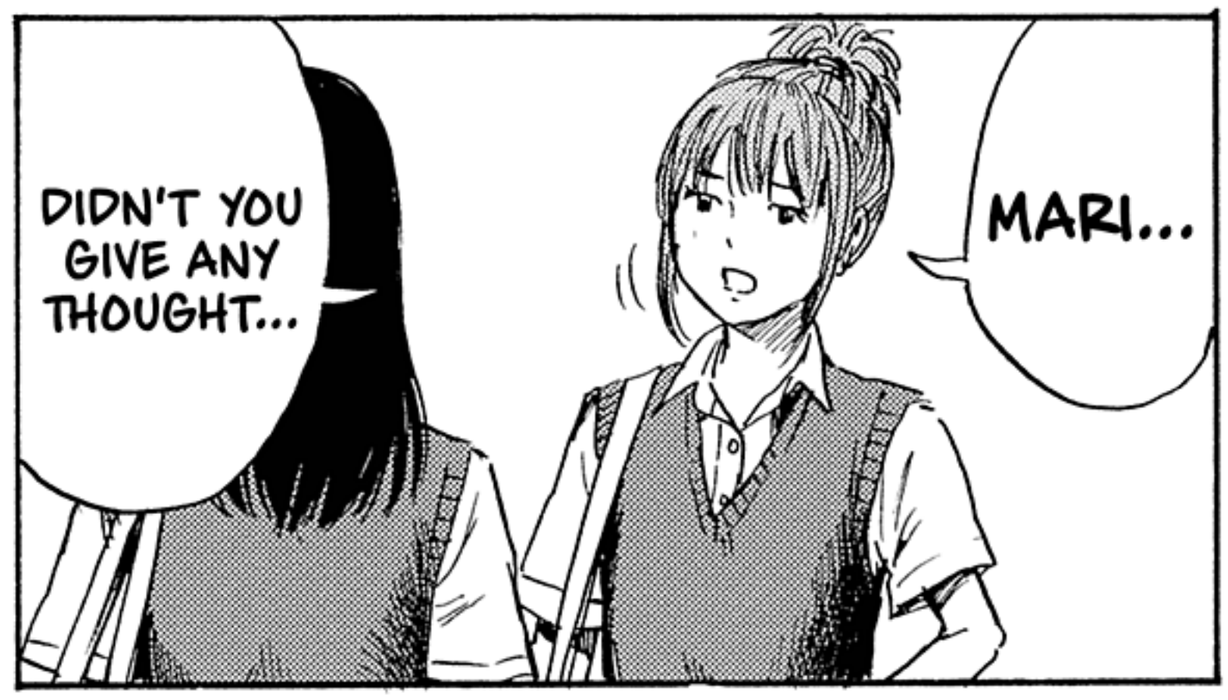
AND WHAT DID YOU TALK ABOUT ?

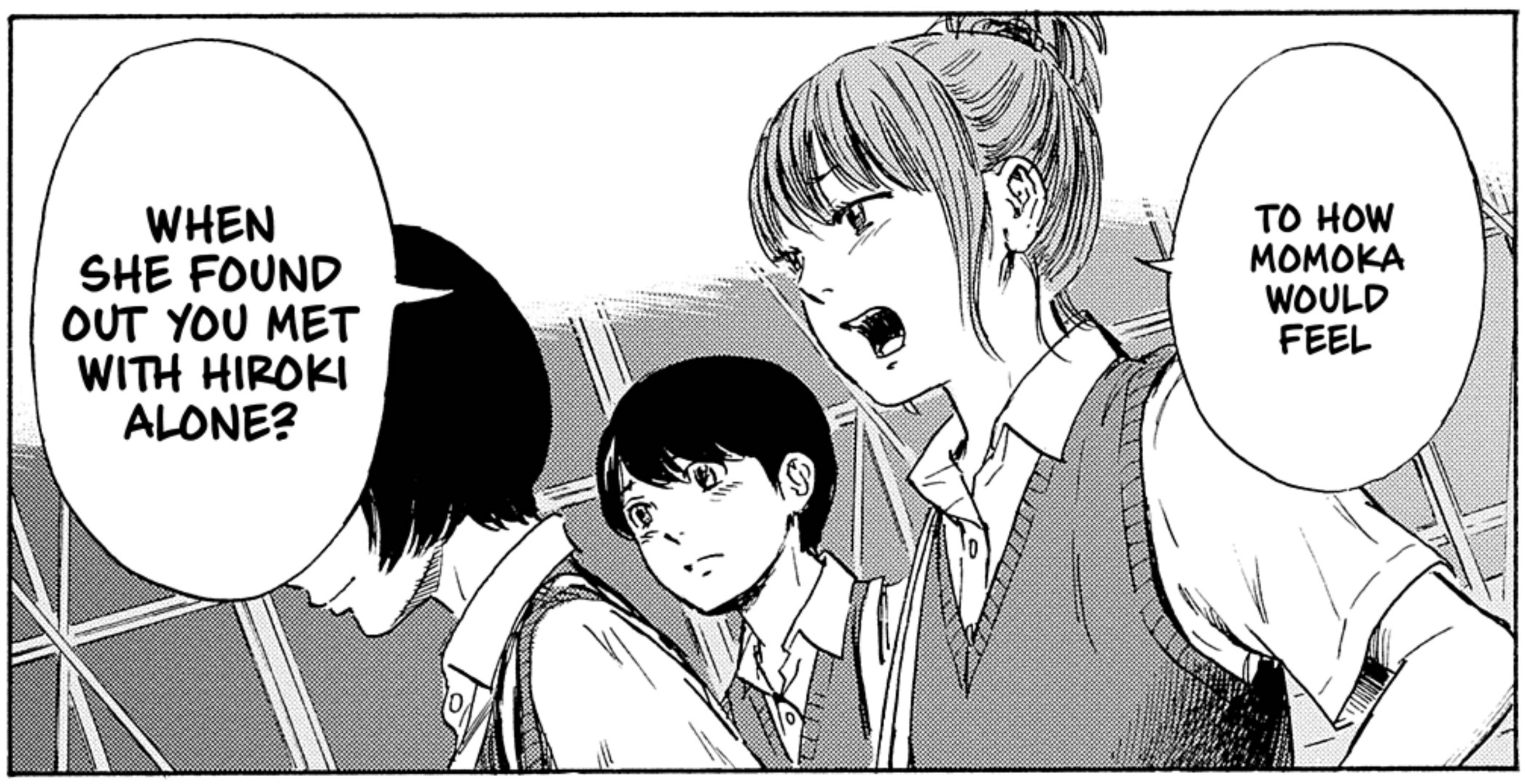
UH...
TO A COFFEE SHOP IN FRONT OF THE STATION.

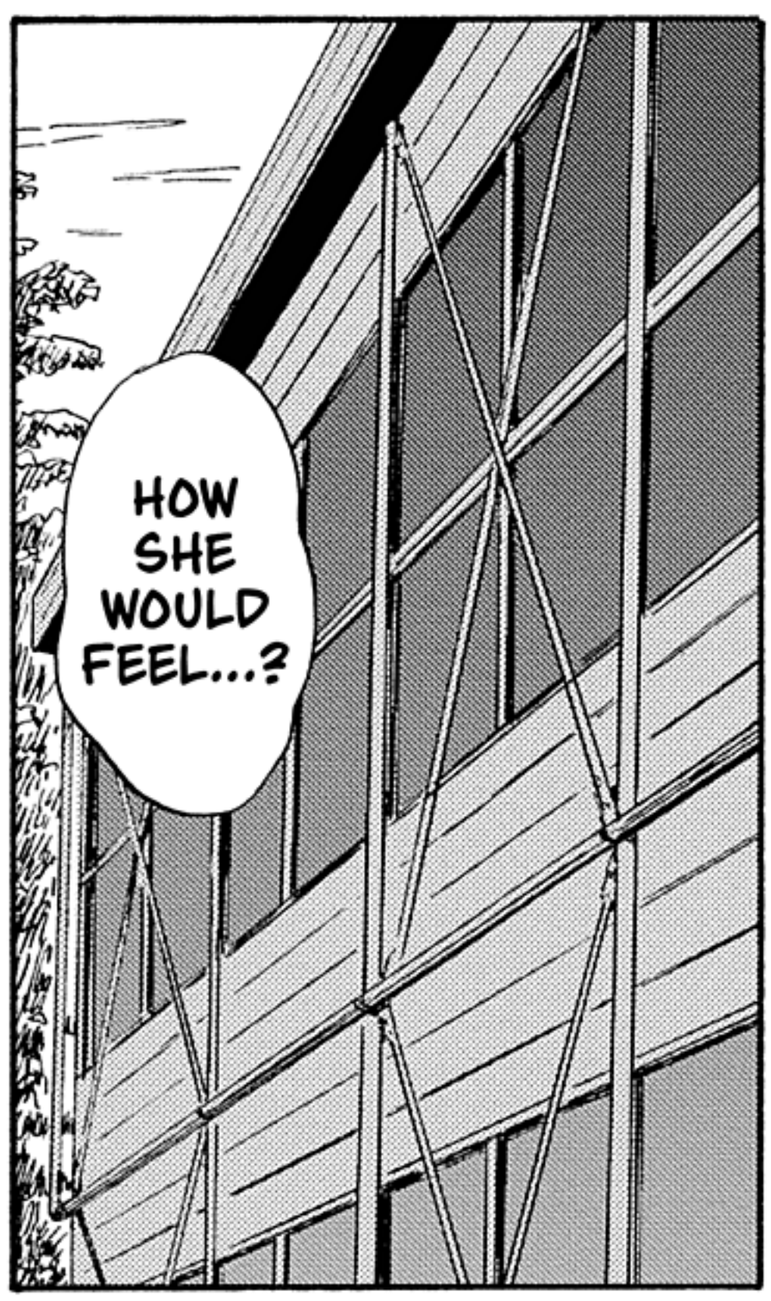

UM...
AND...
VIDEO GAMES...
UM... NOT A LOT.

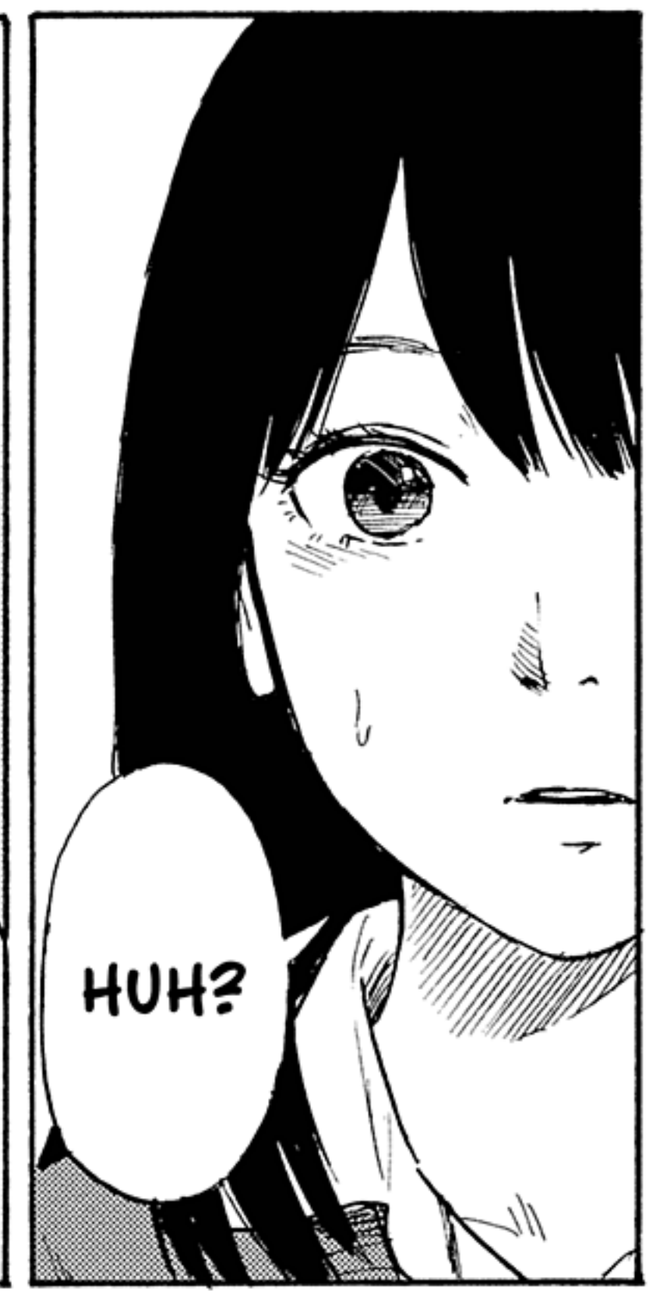

THAT'S WHAT HE WANTED TO TALK ABOUT.
HE ASKED ME IF ANYTHING HAD HAP-PENED.
HE SAID HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.




DIDN'T YOU GIVE ANY THOUGHT...
MARI...


WHEN SHE FOUND OUT YOU MET WITH HIROKI ALONE?
TO HOW MOMOKA WOULD FEEL

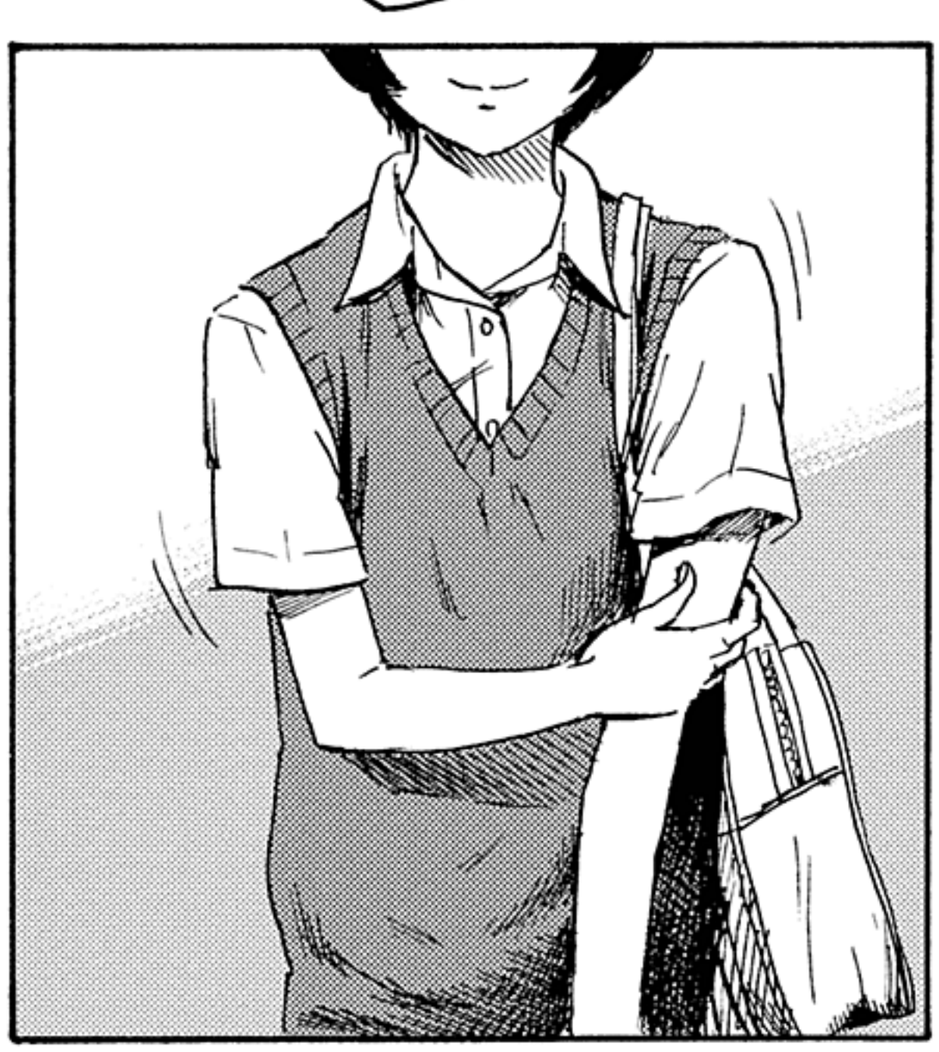

HOW SHE WOULD FEEL...?


HUH?

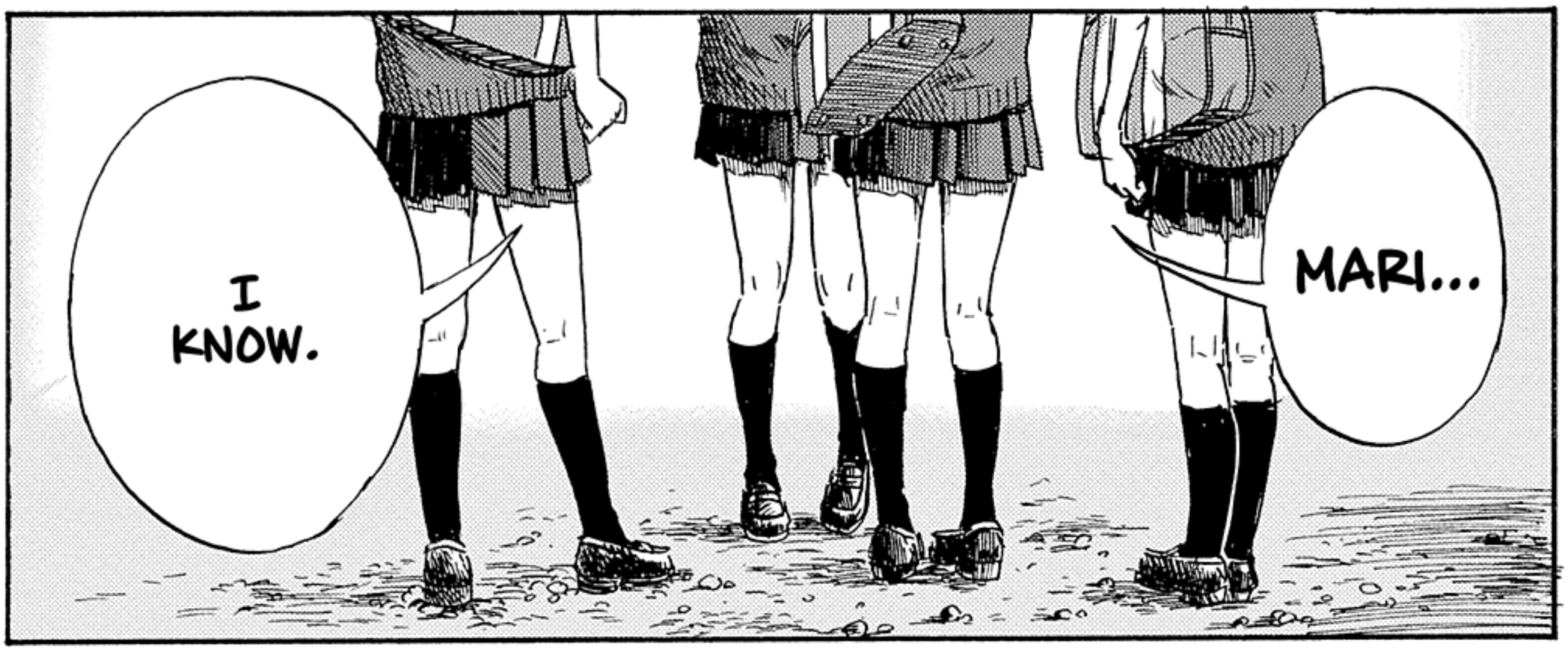
ALL I DID WAS LISTEN TO HIM TALK ABOUT IT... HONEST!

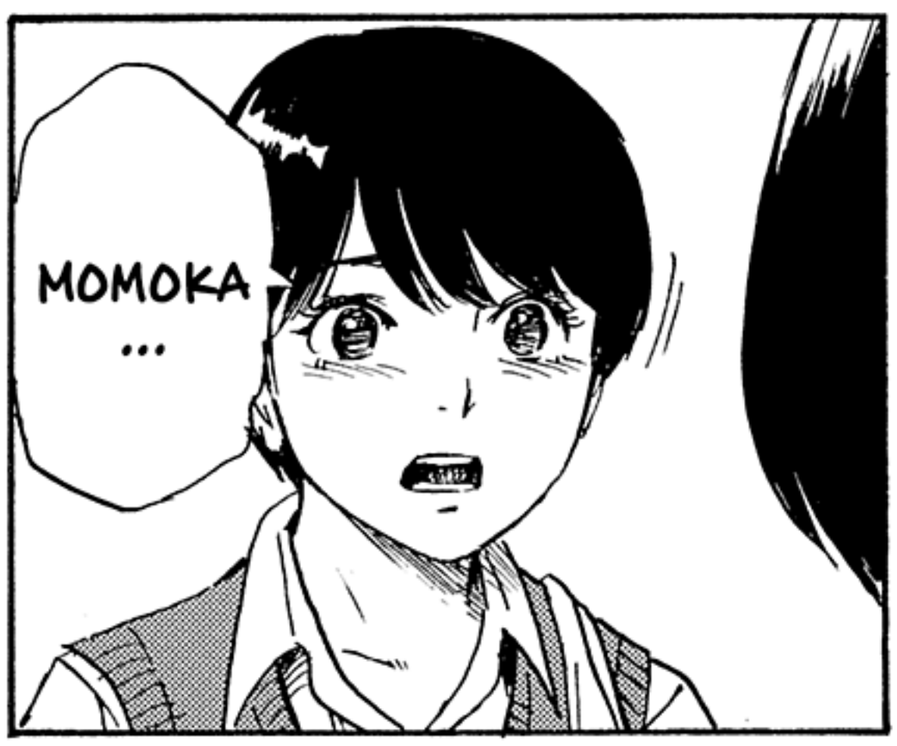
AH! WAIT A SECOND.
IT WASN'T LIKE THAT AT ALL.
I MEAN, HIROKI WAS WORRIED ABOUT MOMOKA-CHAN...

WHY ARE YOU CALLING ME THAT?
AGAIN ...

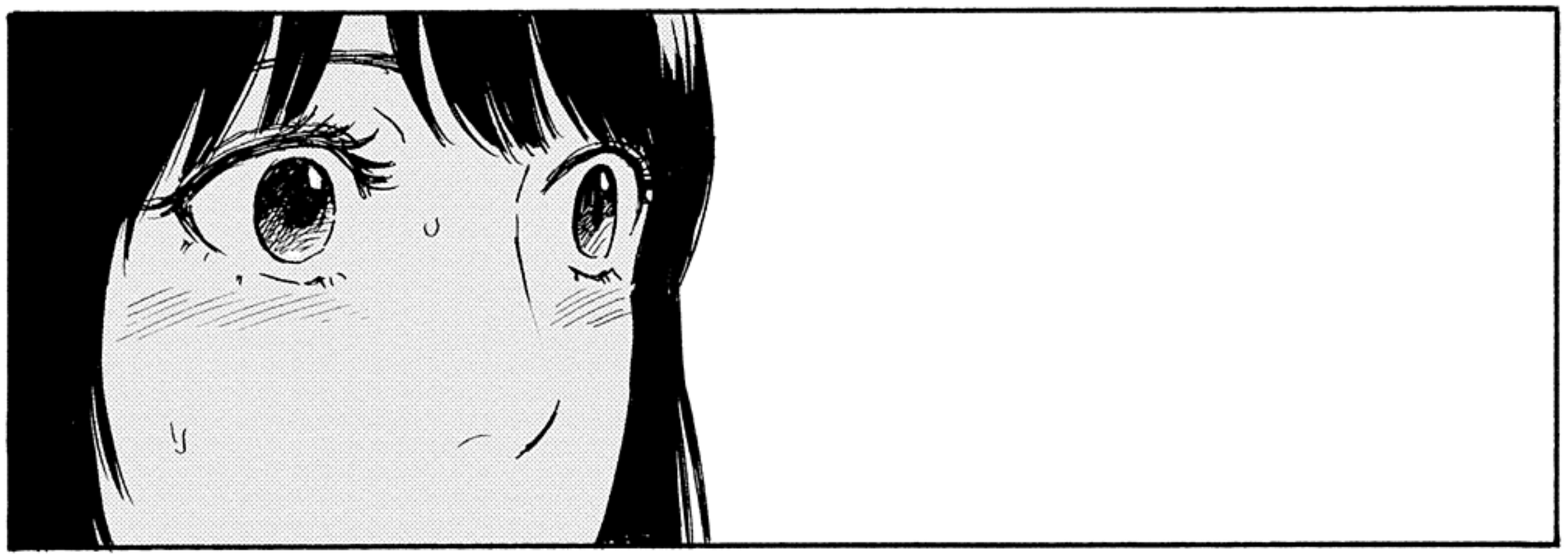


HUH?
AH...


I KNOW.
MARI...

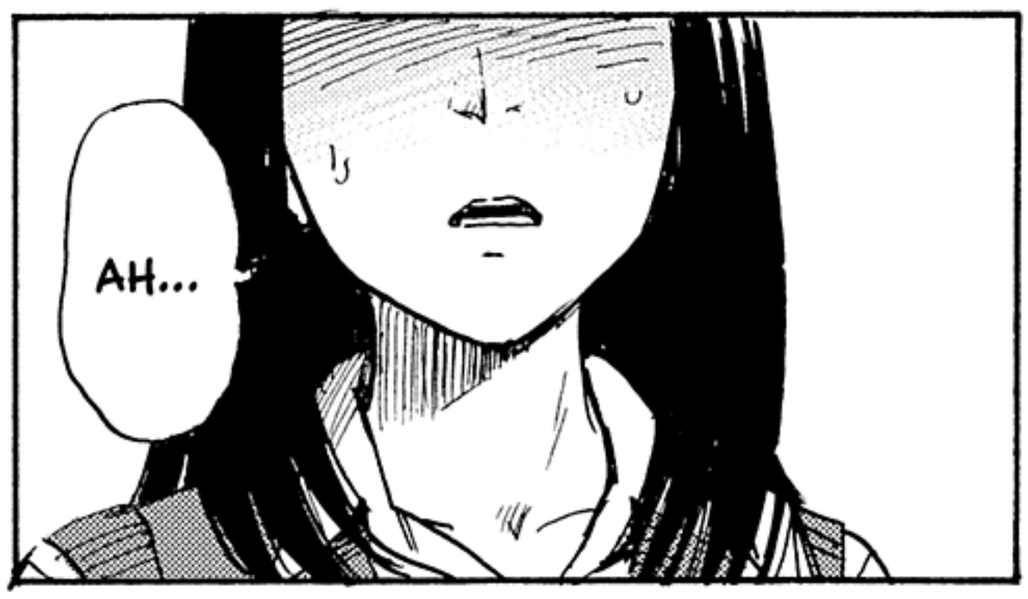

MOMOKA ...

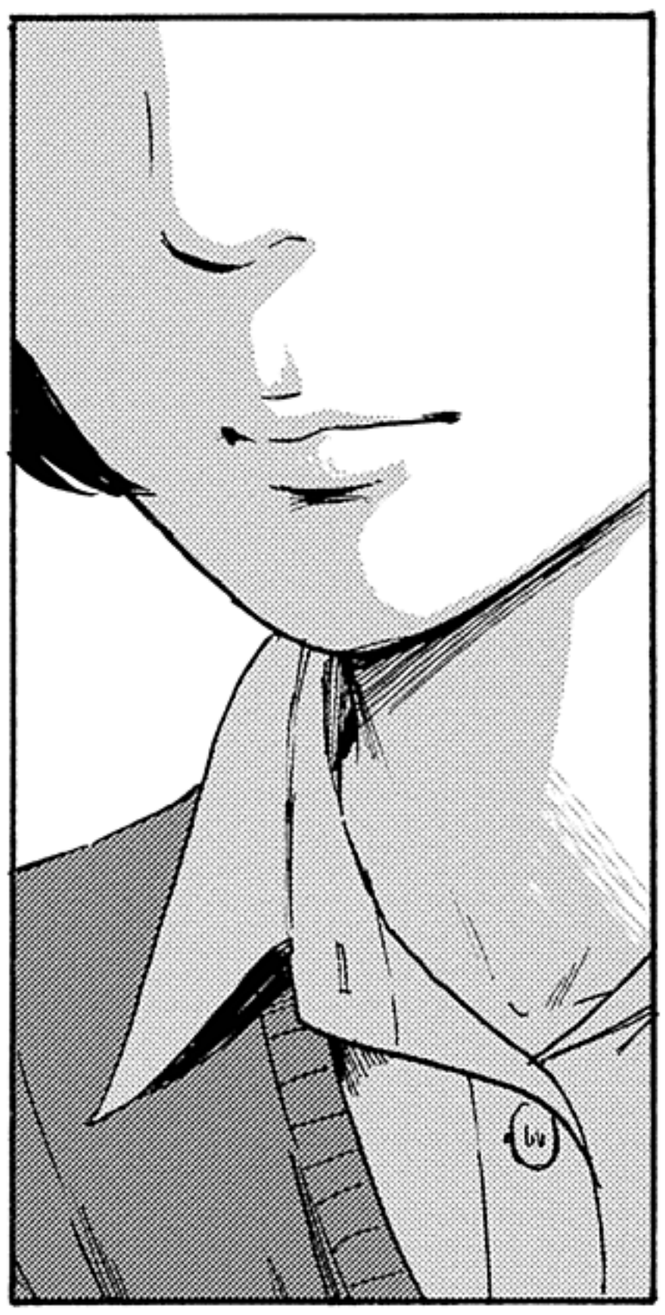
HUH?



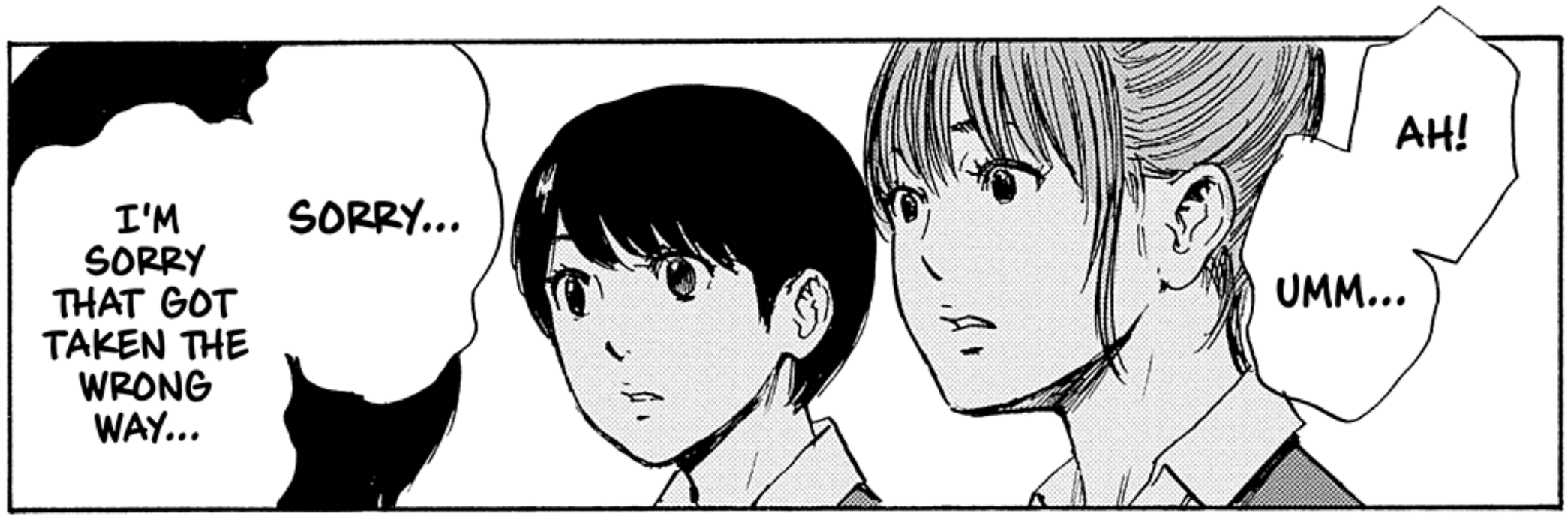
HE ASKED YOU OUT.

BEFORE HIROKI AND I STARTED DATING





I SEE...
OH...

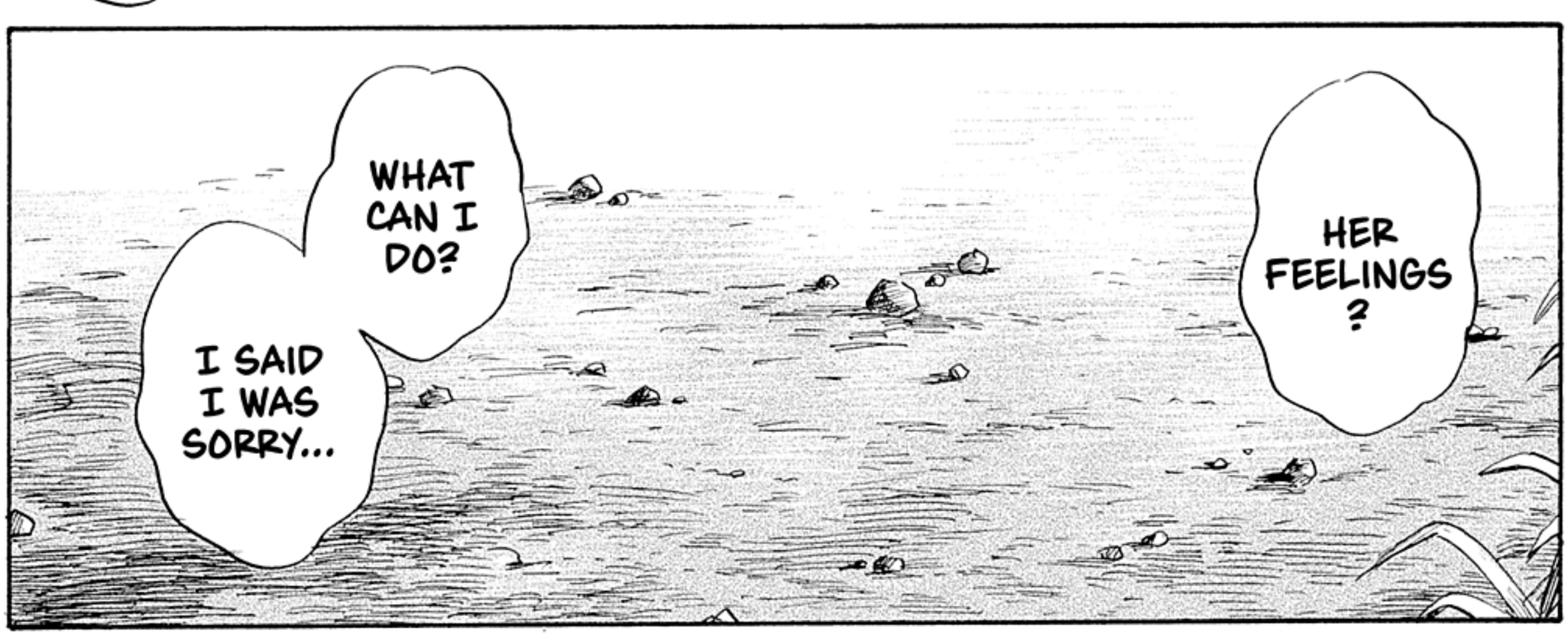

I'M SORRY THAT GOT TAKEN THE WRONG WAY...
SORRY...
AH!
UMM...

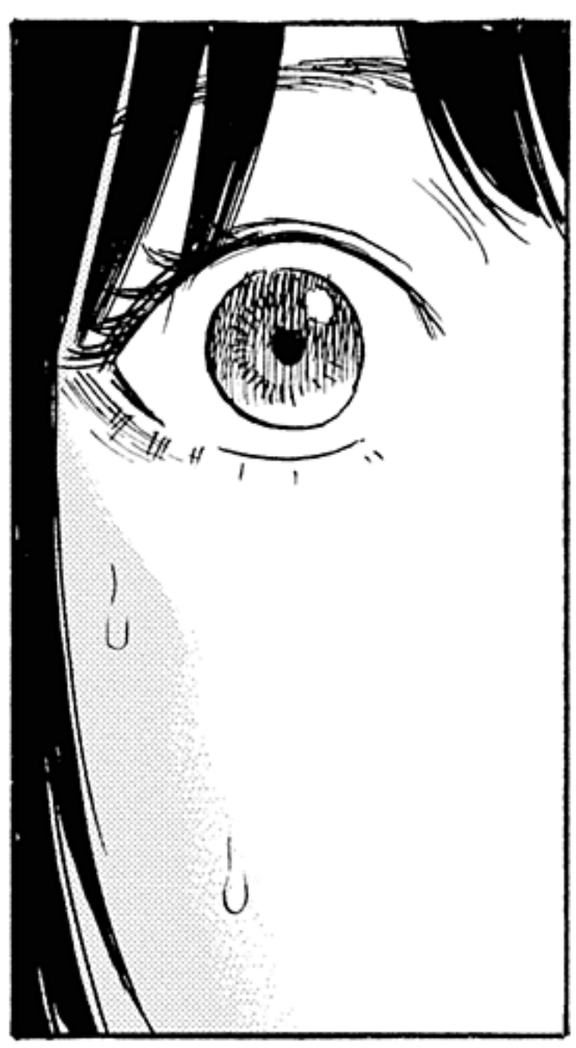
I PROMISE THE TWO OF US WON'T MEET AGAIN. OKAY!

STILL... UM...
BUT REALLY, IT WASN'T LIKE THAT! I SWEAR!

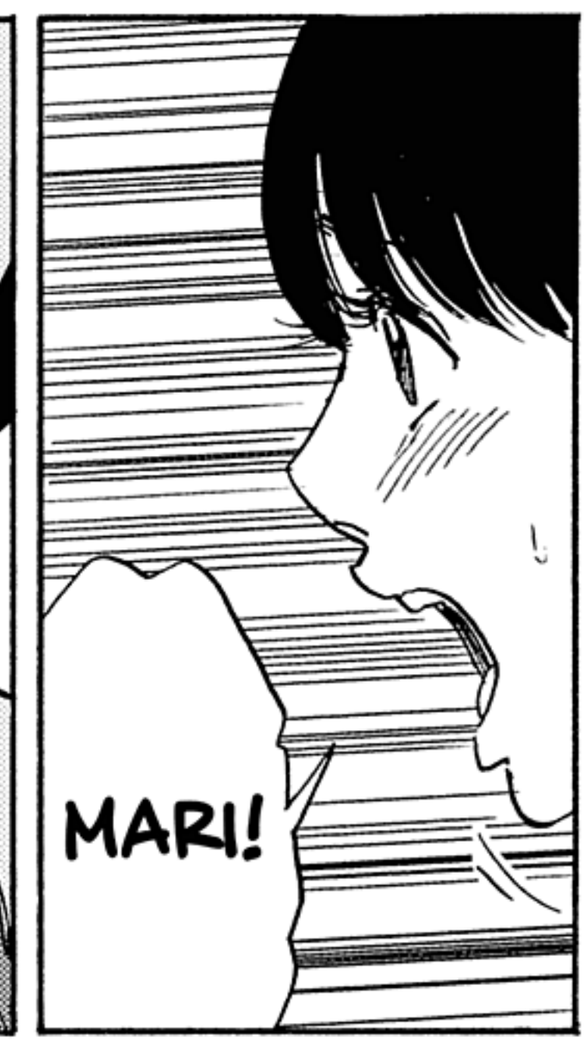
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT MOMOKA'S FEEL-INGS?

THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE HERE!!


WHAT CAN I DO?
I SAID I WAS SORRY...
HER FEELINGS ?

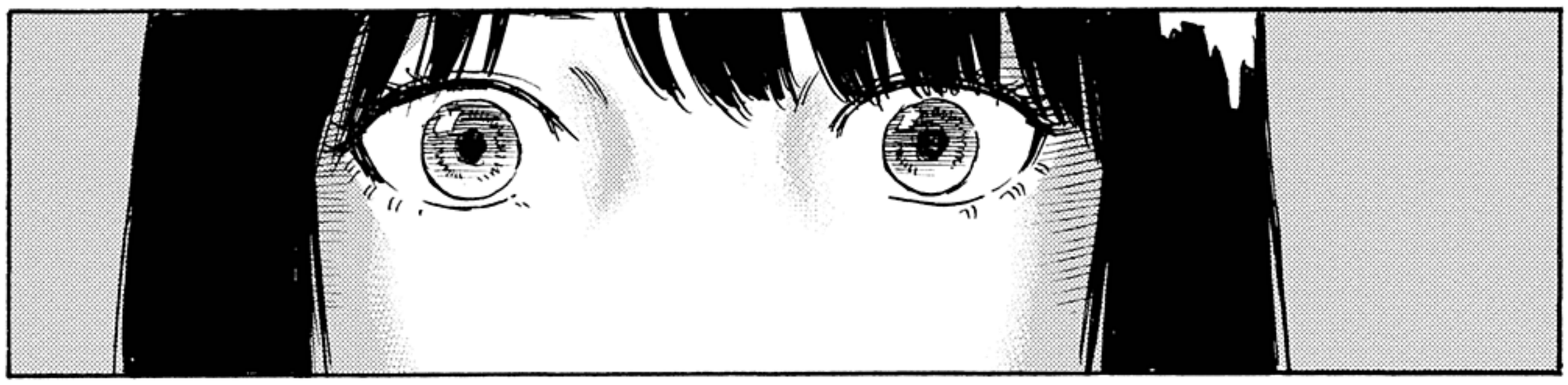


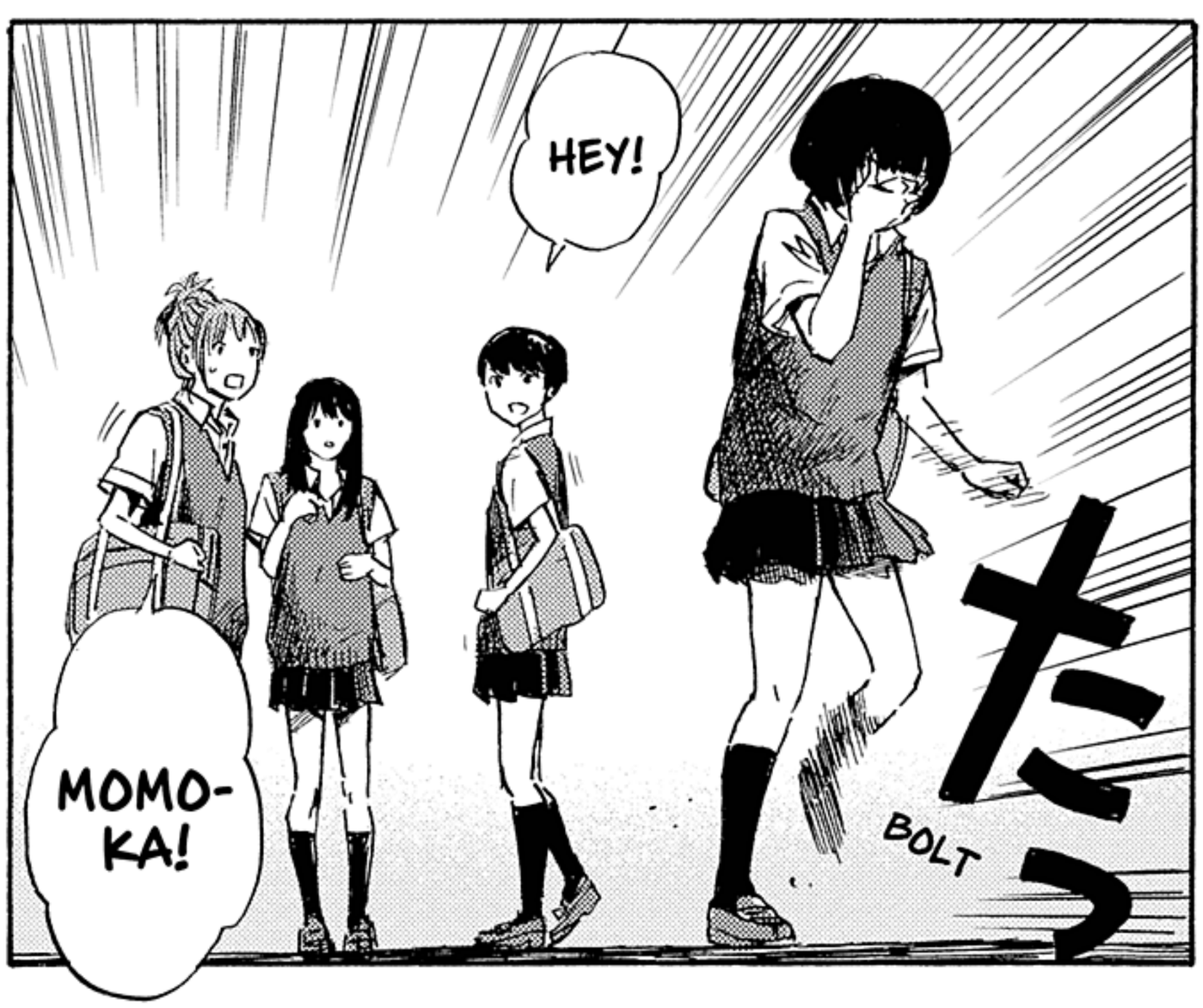
FOR-GET IT!


MARI!

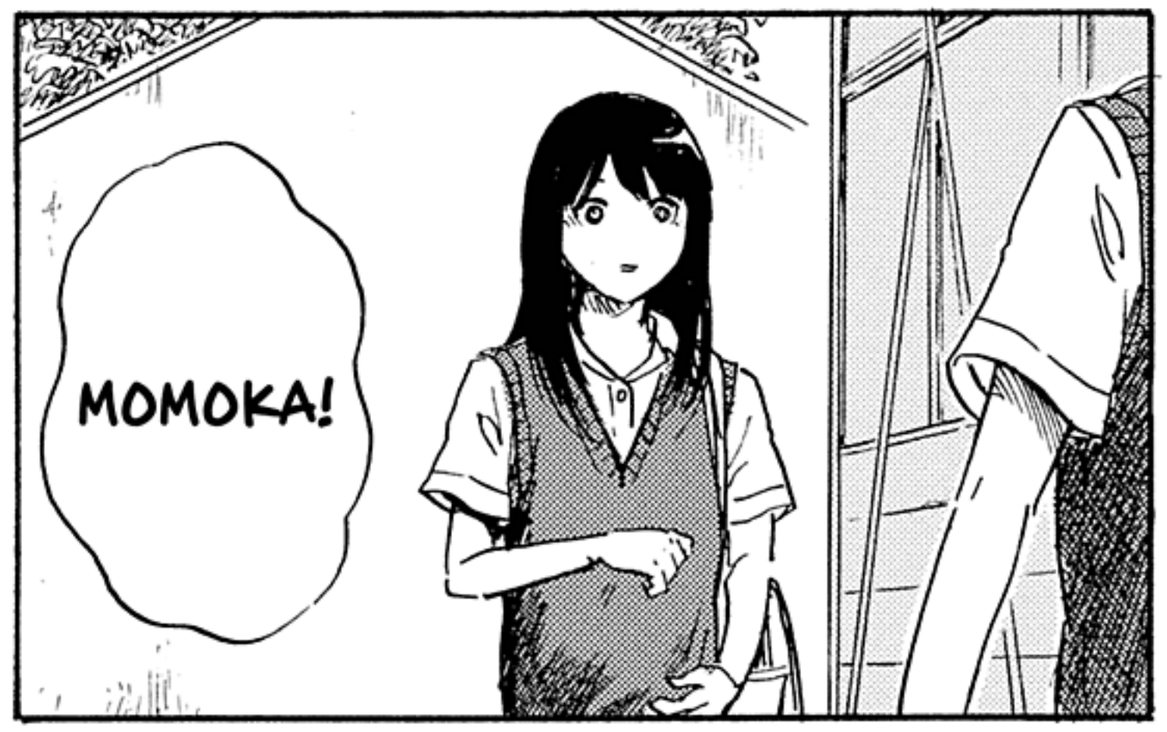
THAT'S ENOUGH.

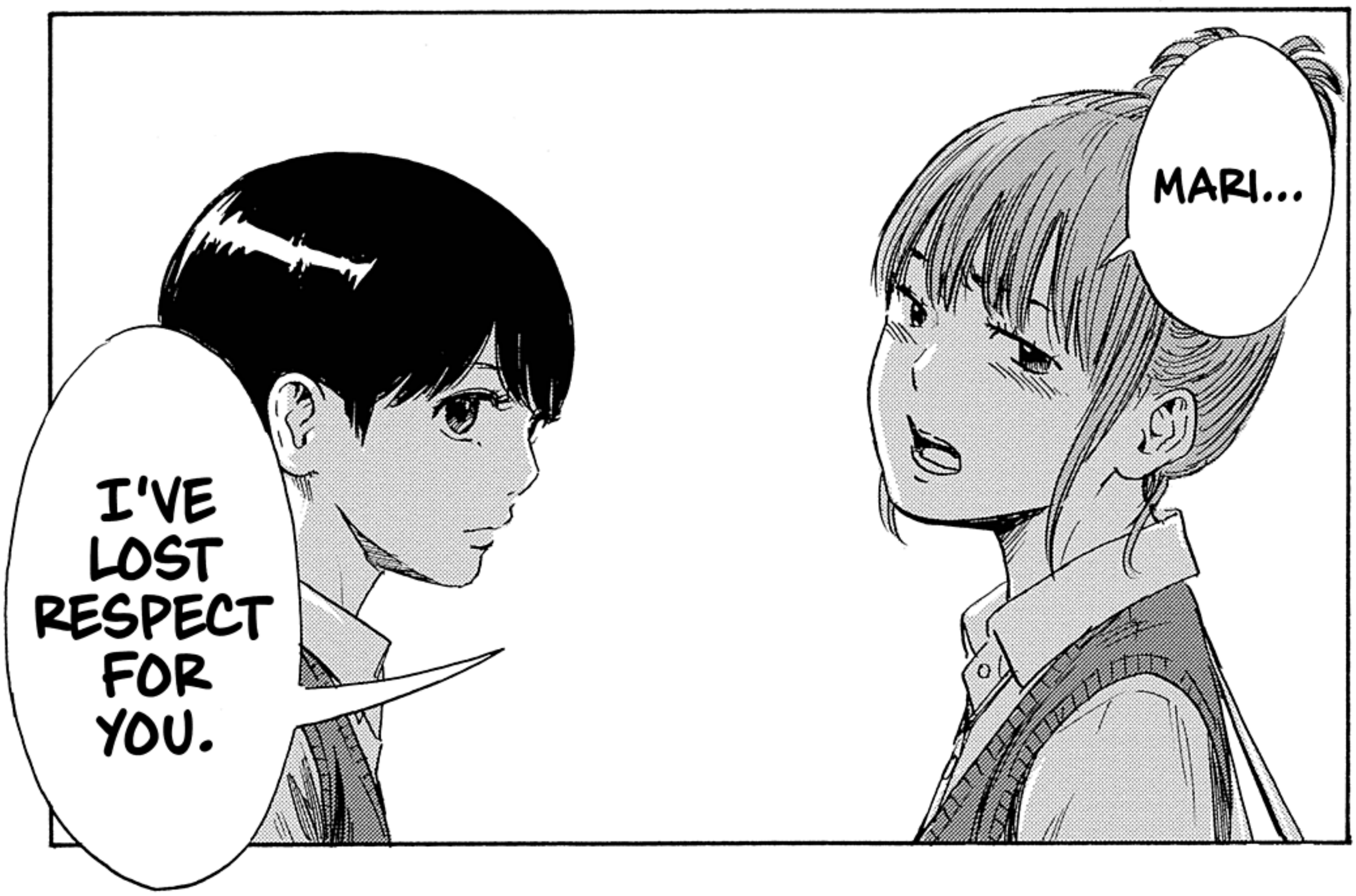
THANK YOU, YOU TWO...

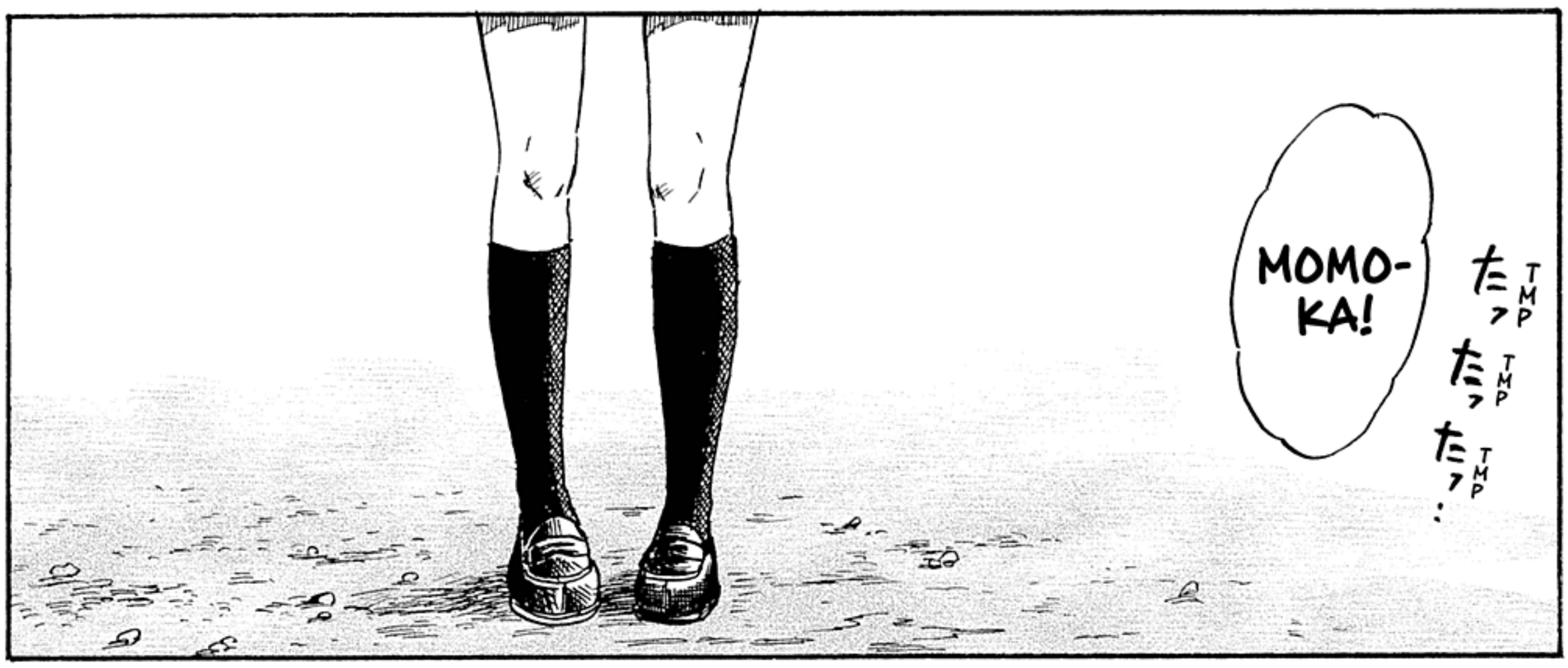




たっ たっ たっ…
DASH
MOMOKA-WAIT!






MOMO-KA!
たったったった

Chapter 22:
A Stagnating Atmosphere

OKAY, FROM THE NEXT SECTION....

ONE WEEK LA-TER.

MEDICINE?

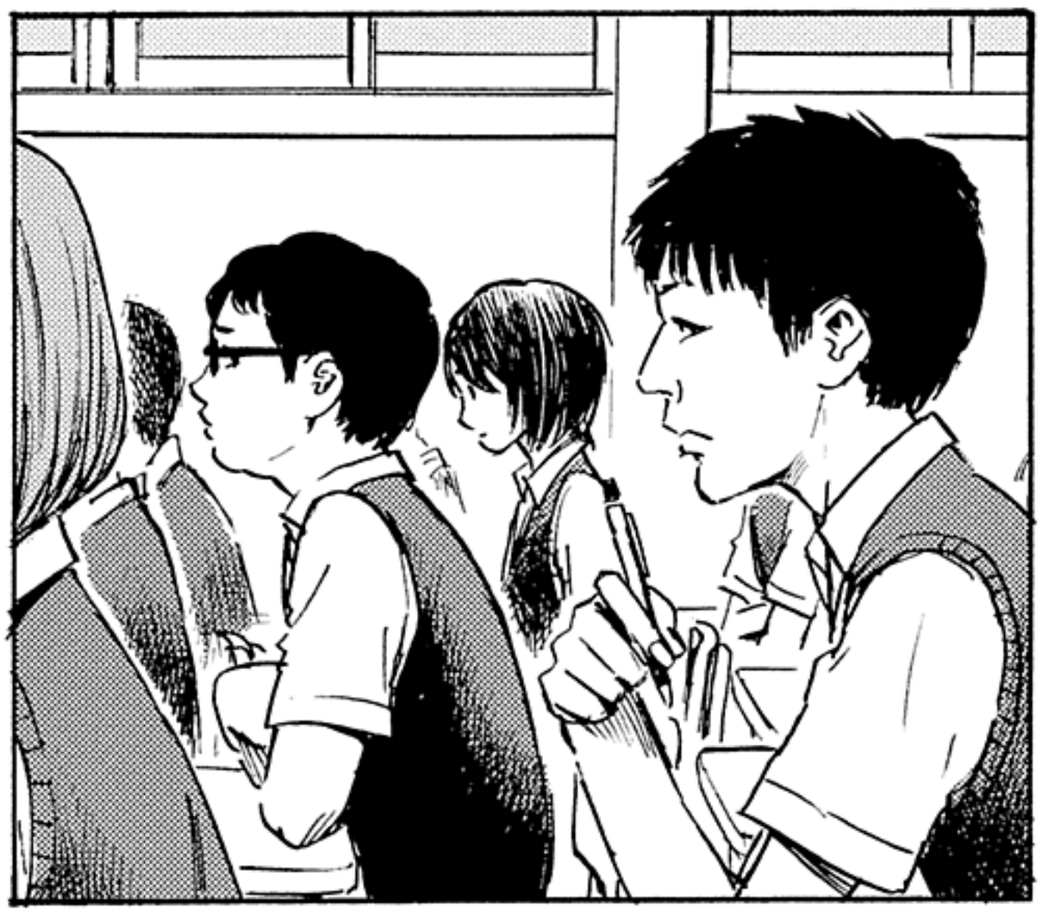
ZOMBIE

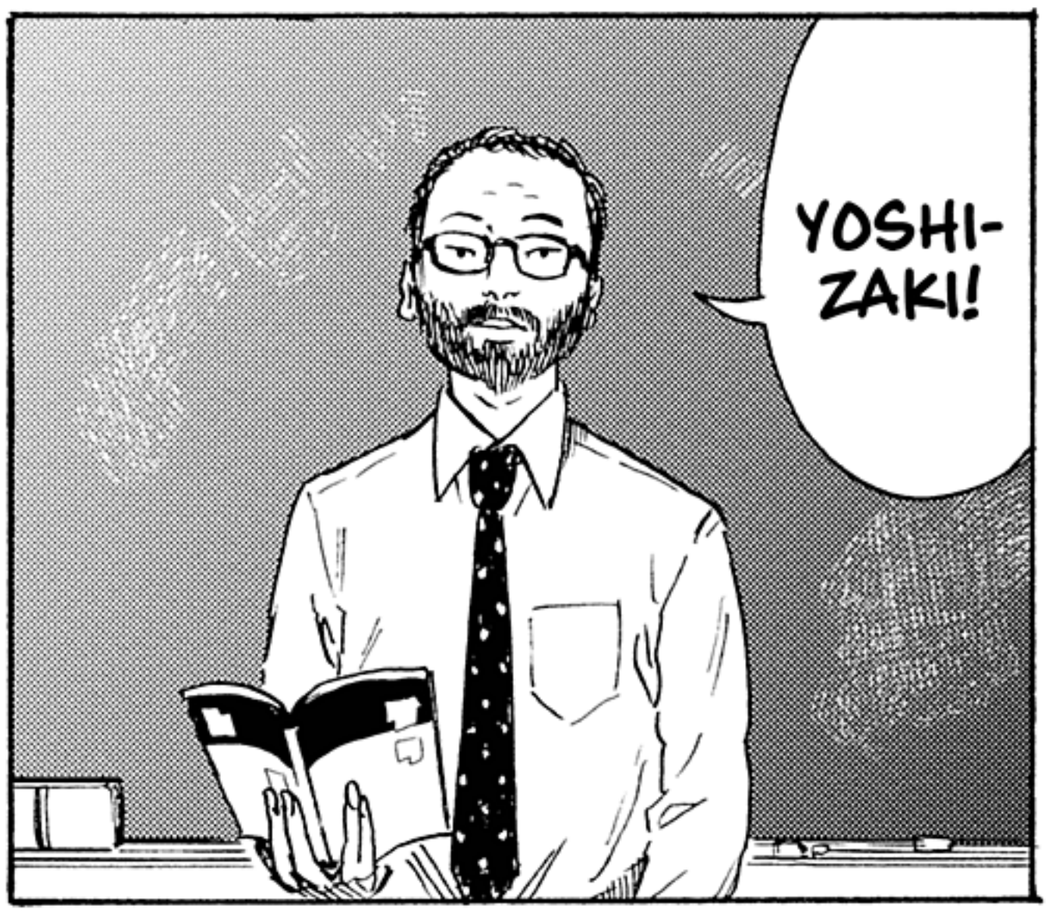
WHAT? WHAT? WHAT?

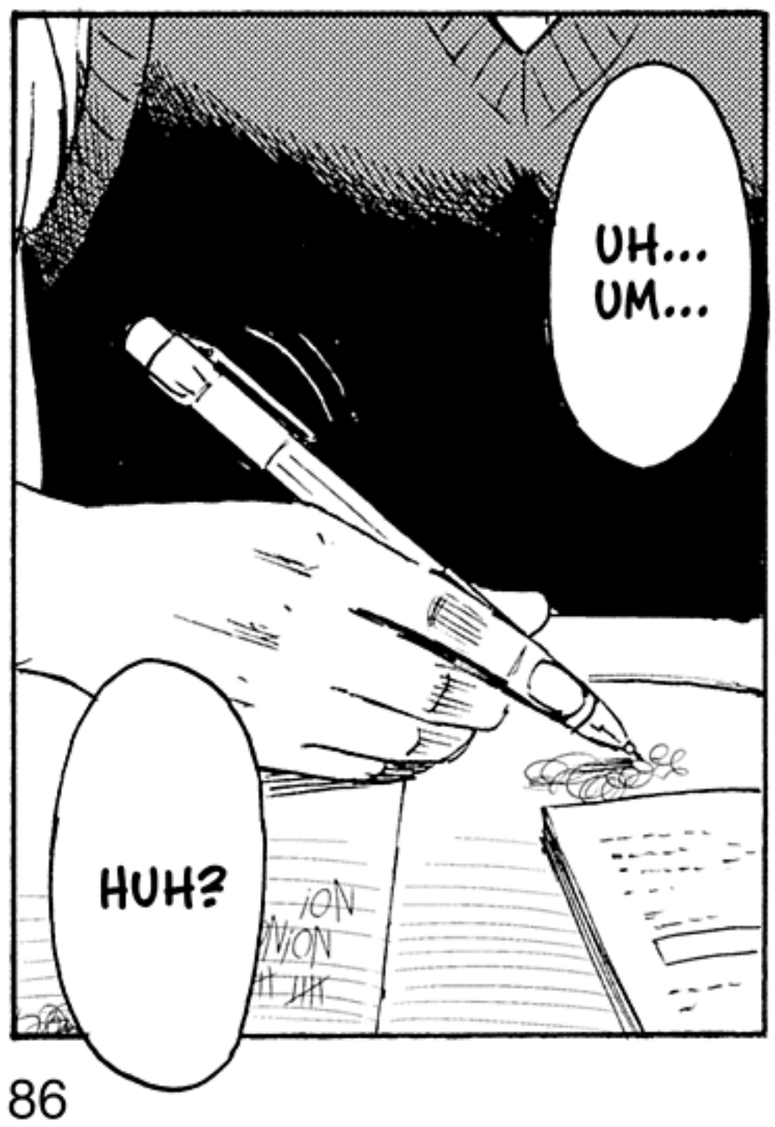
MOMO

MARI MARI MARI MARI MARI

NO! NO! NO!







I DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE.

YES. SORRY.

AGAIN?

WHAT HAS GOTTEN INTO YOU? ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

DONG

DANG

CHATTER

CHATTER

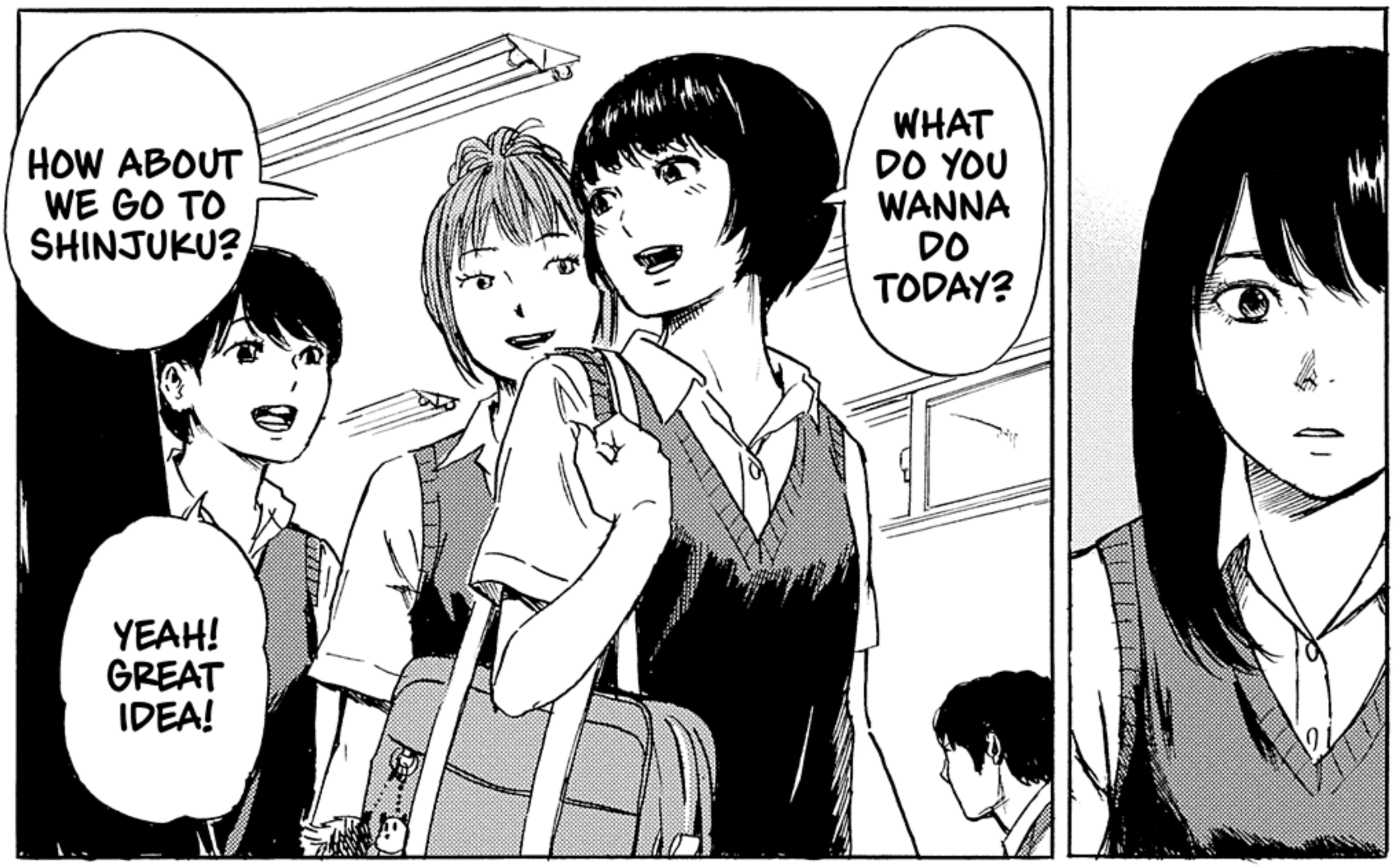
CHATTER

DING

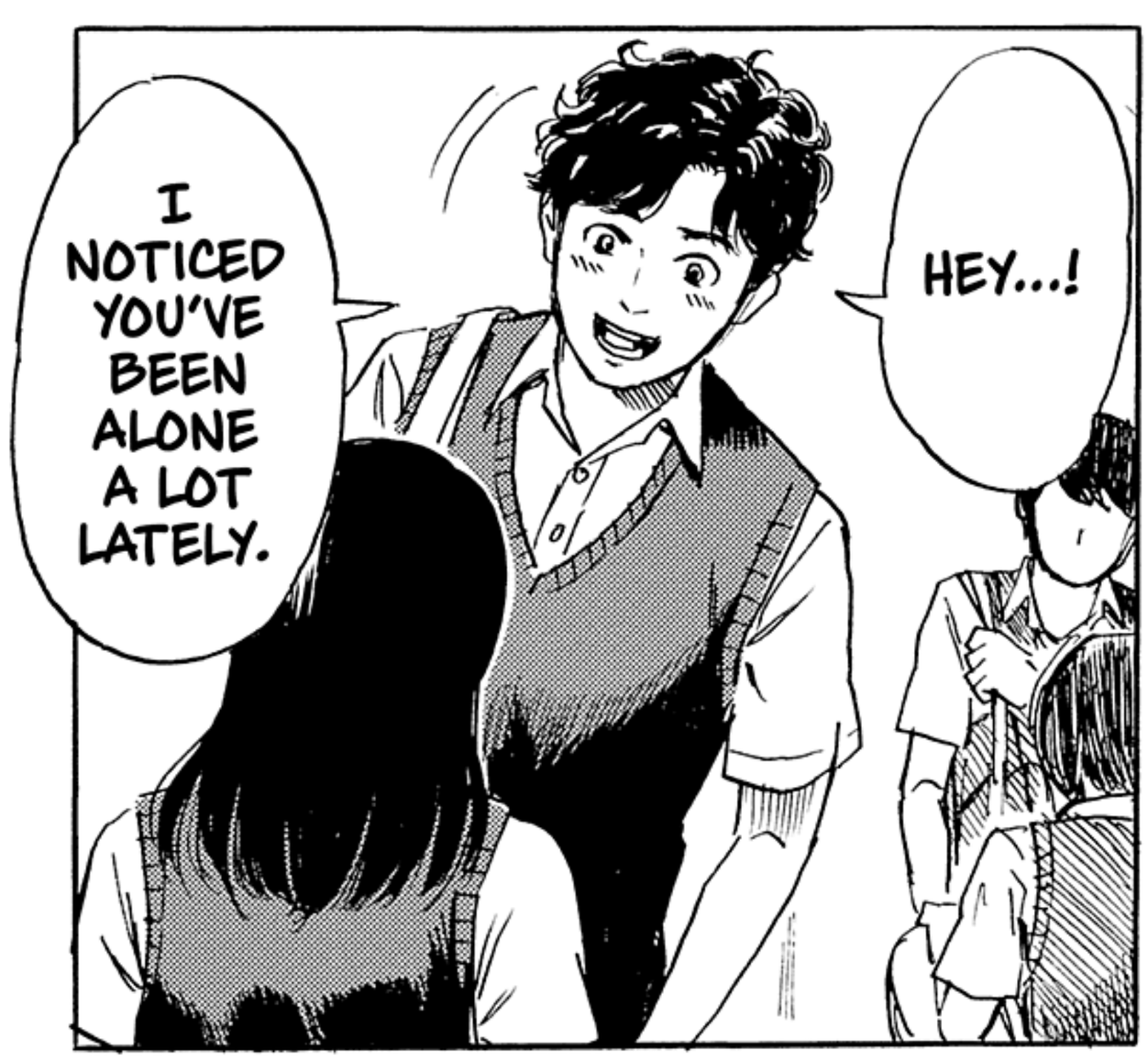
DONG

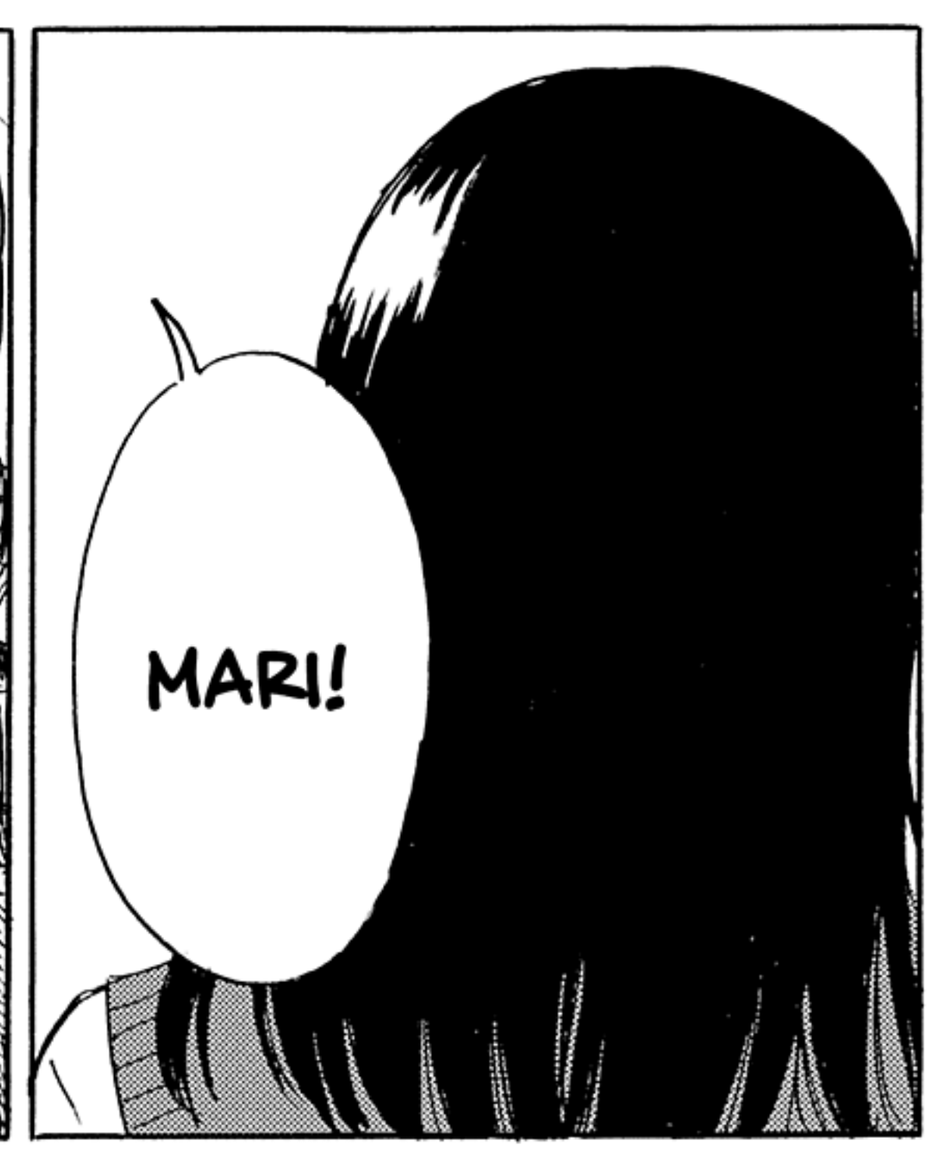
DANG

DONG


HOW ABOUT WE GO TO SHINJUKU?
YEAH! GREAT IDEA!
WHAT DO YOU WANNA DO TODAY?

MAYBE I'LL BUY THAT SKIRT I'VE WANTED...
YAY!
THERE'S A SALE GOING ON NOW.


I NOTICED YOU'VE BEEN ALONE A LOT LATELY.
HEY...!

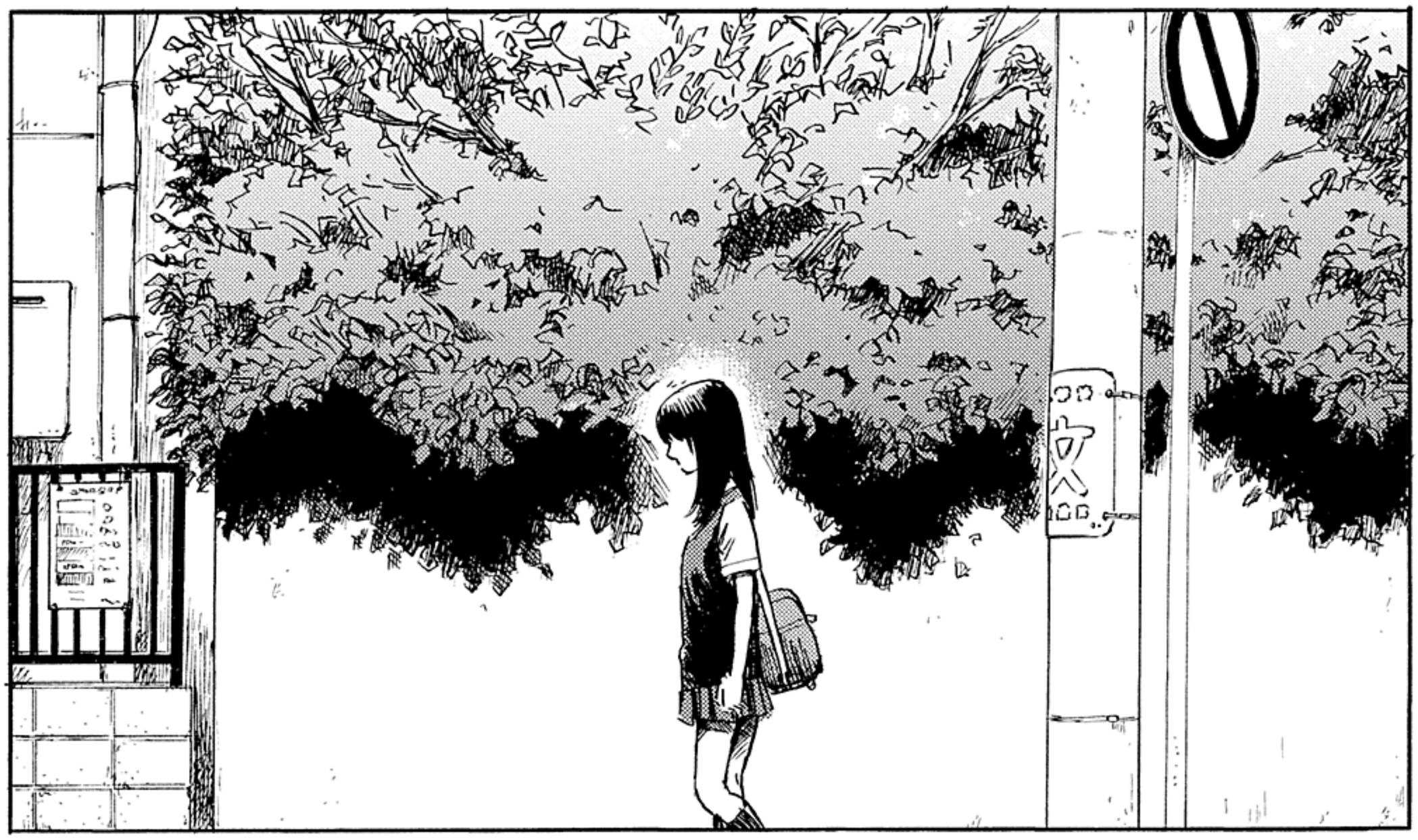

MARI!

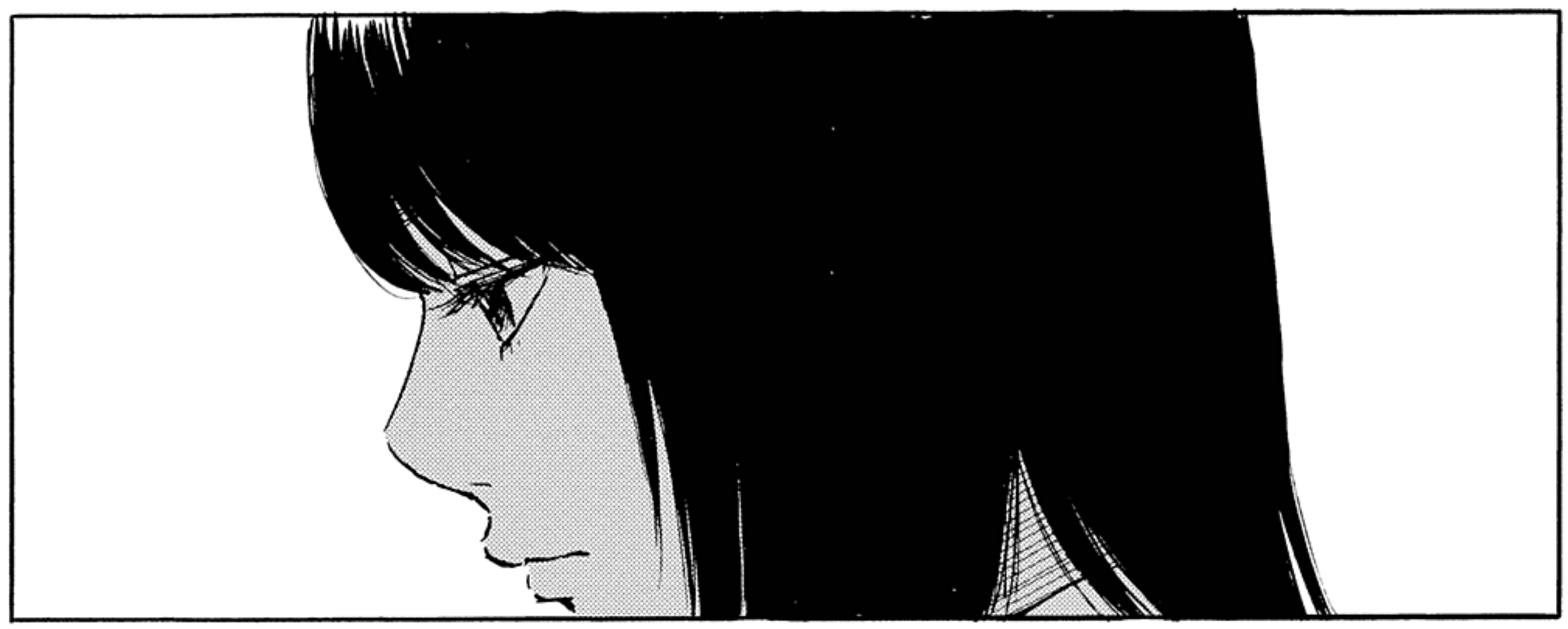
IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHY DON'T WE...
YOU AREN'T GOING OUT WITH MOMOKA AND THE REST ANYMORE, HUH?

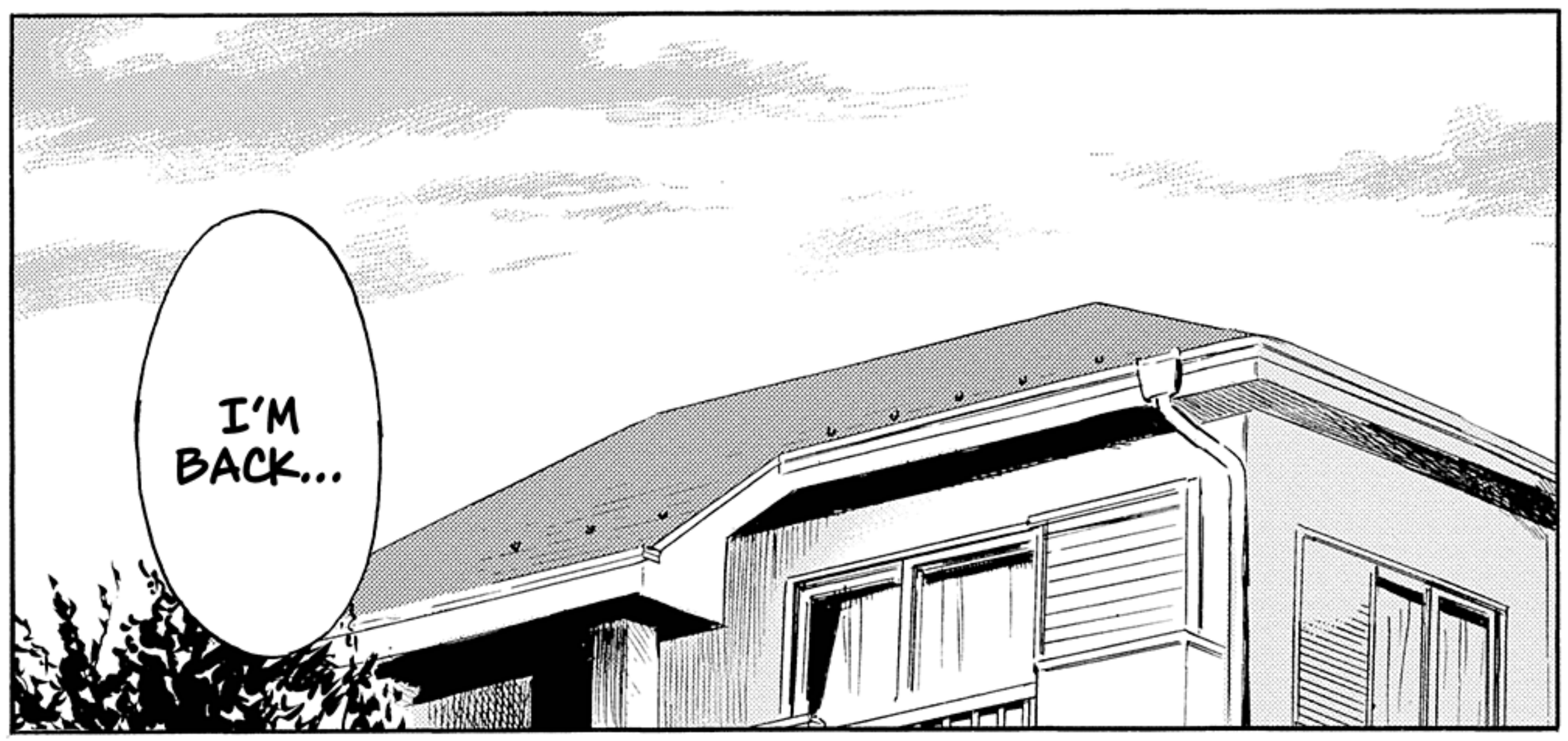
HA HA!

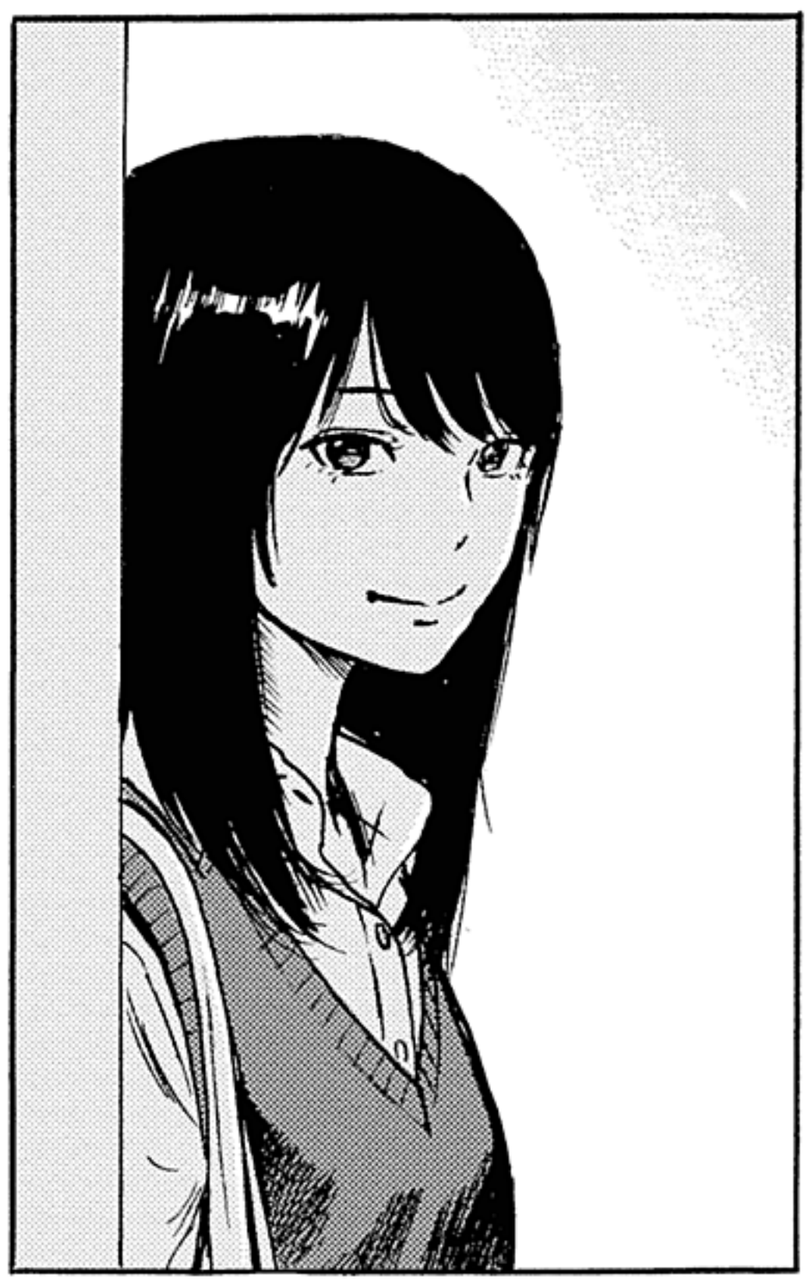
WHA?
OH!

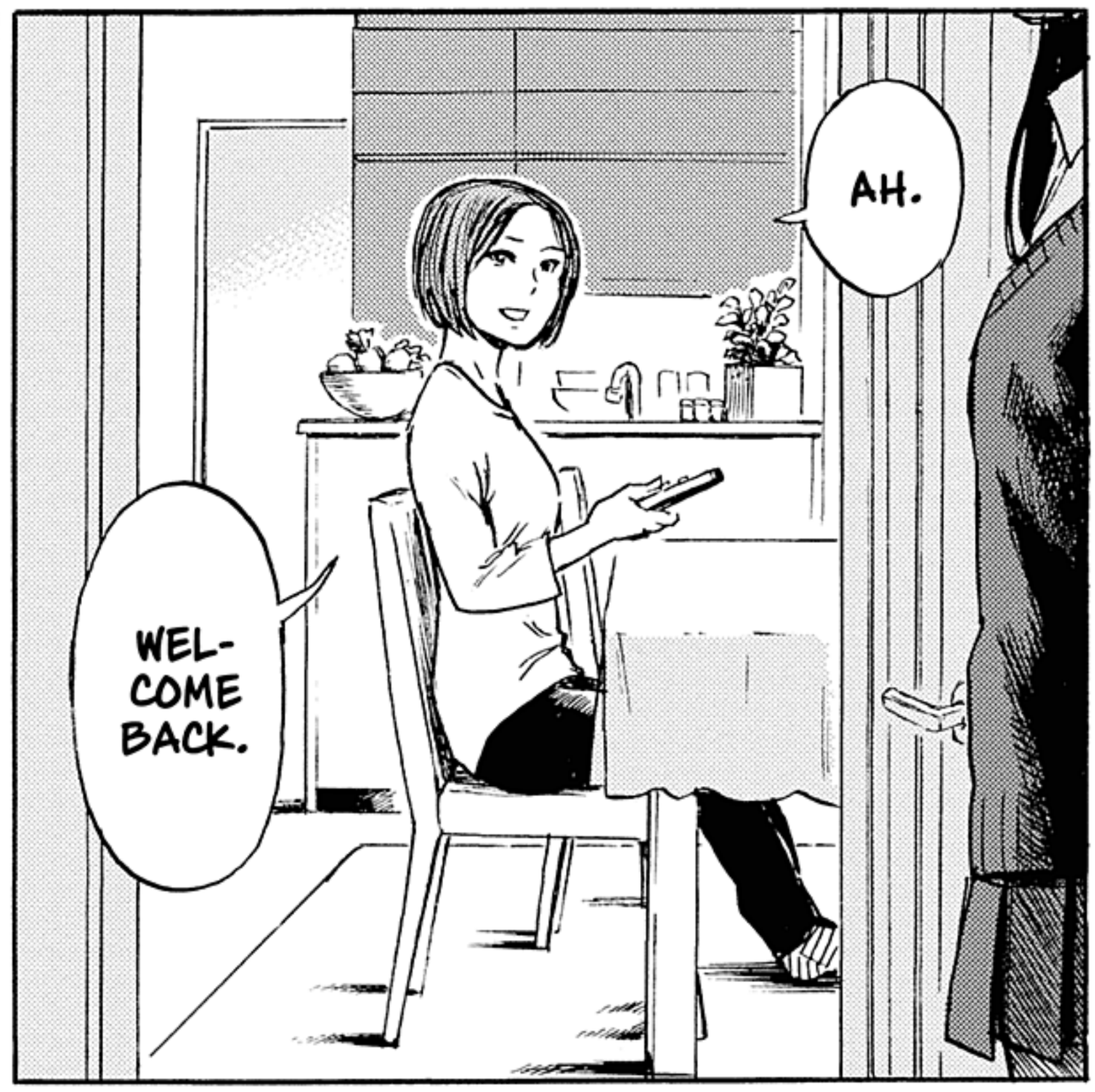
BUT I'M OKAY.
SEE YOU.
RATTL
UM... THANKS.

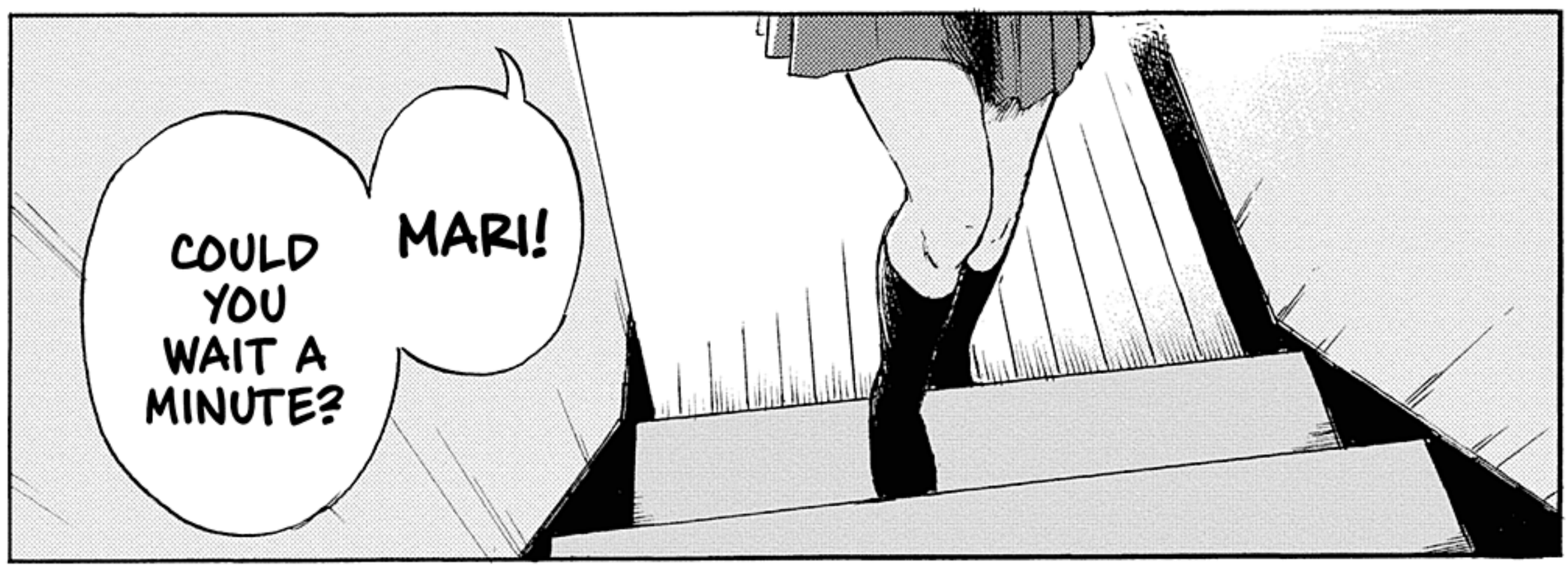


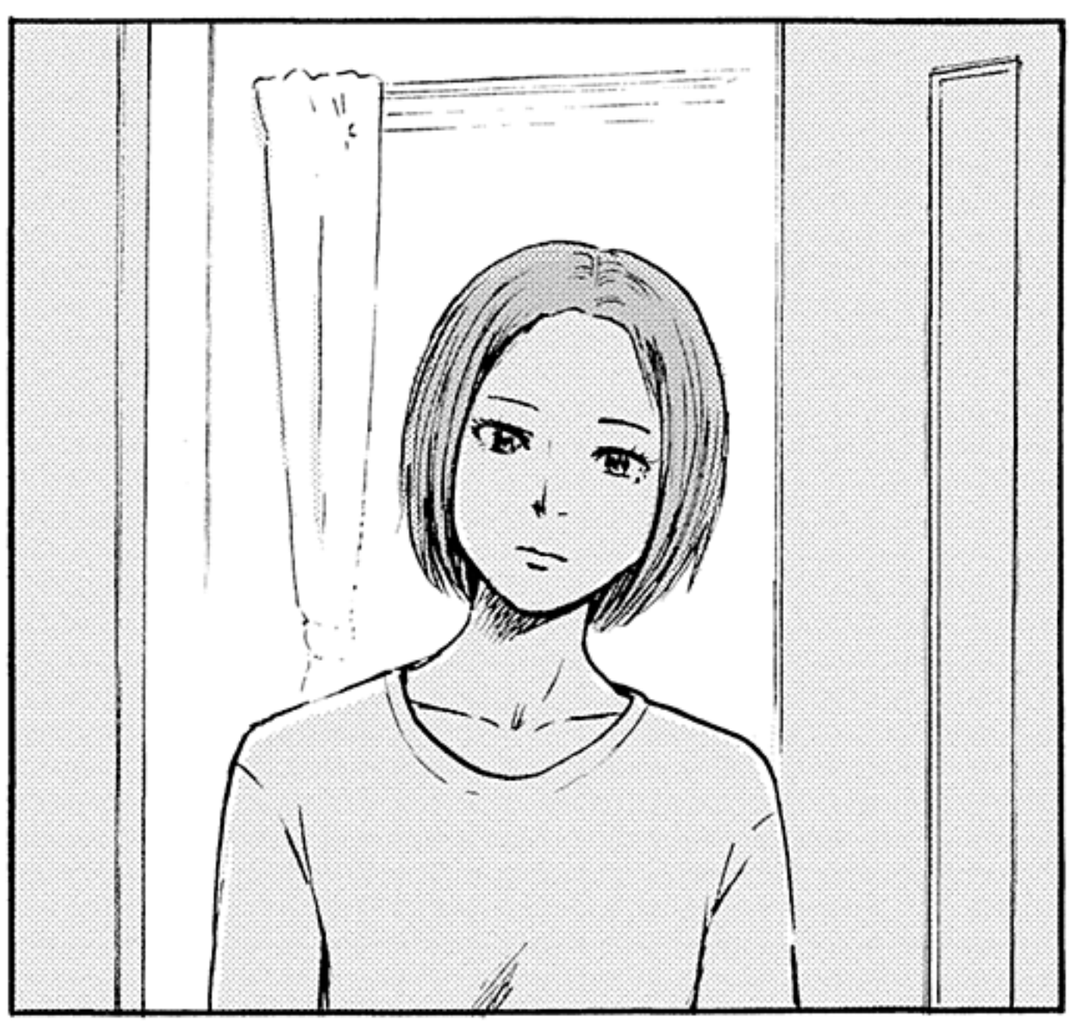



I'M BACK...

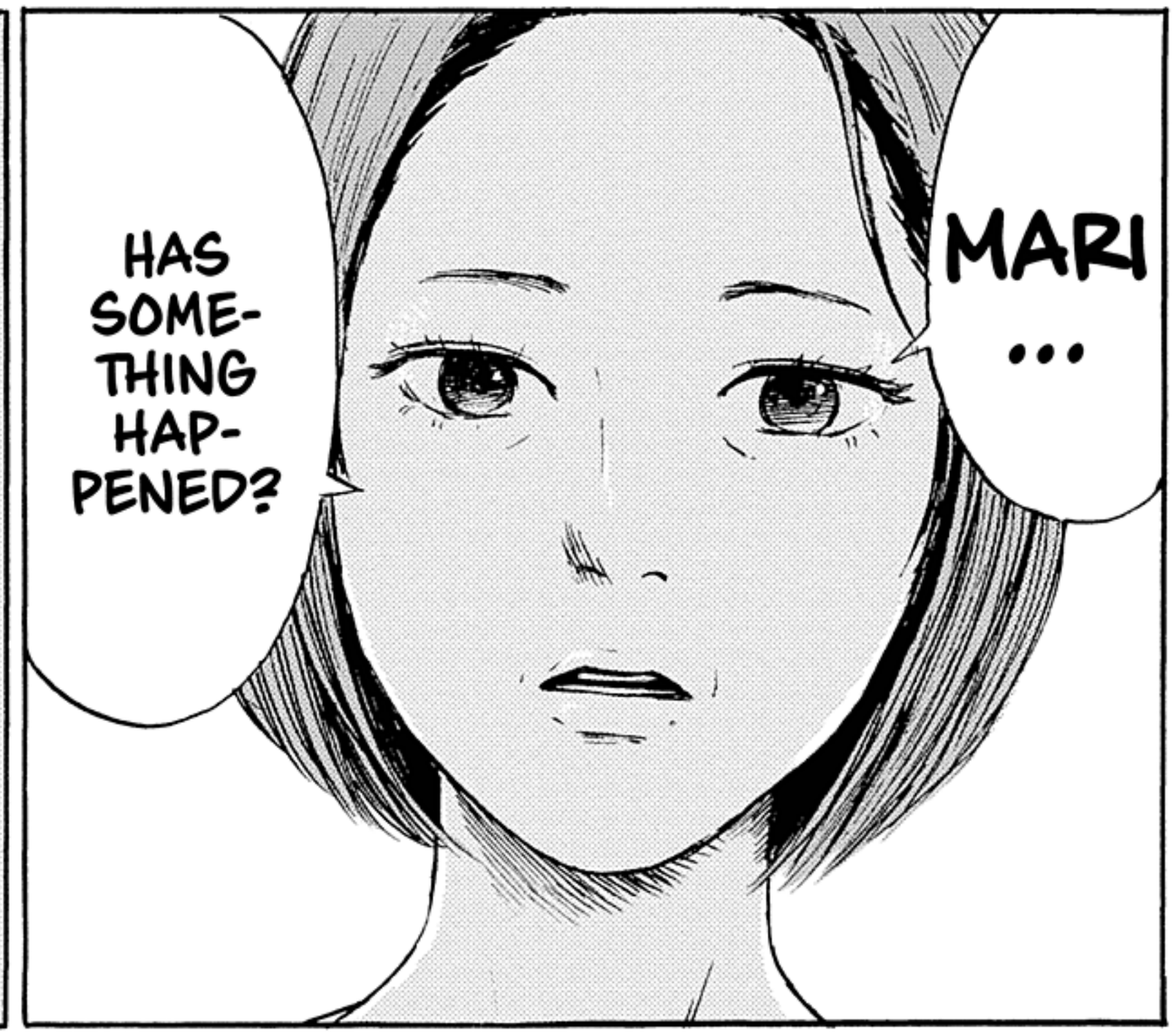


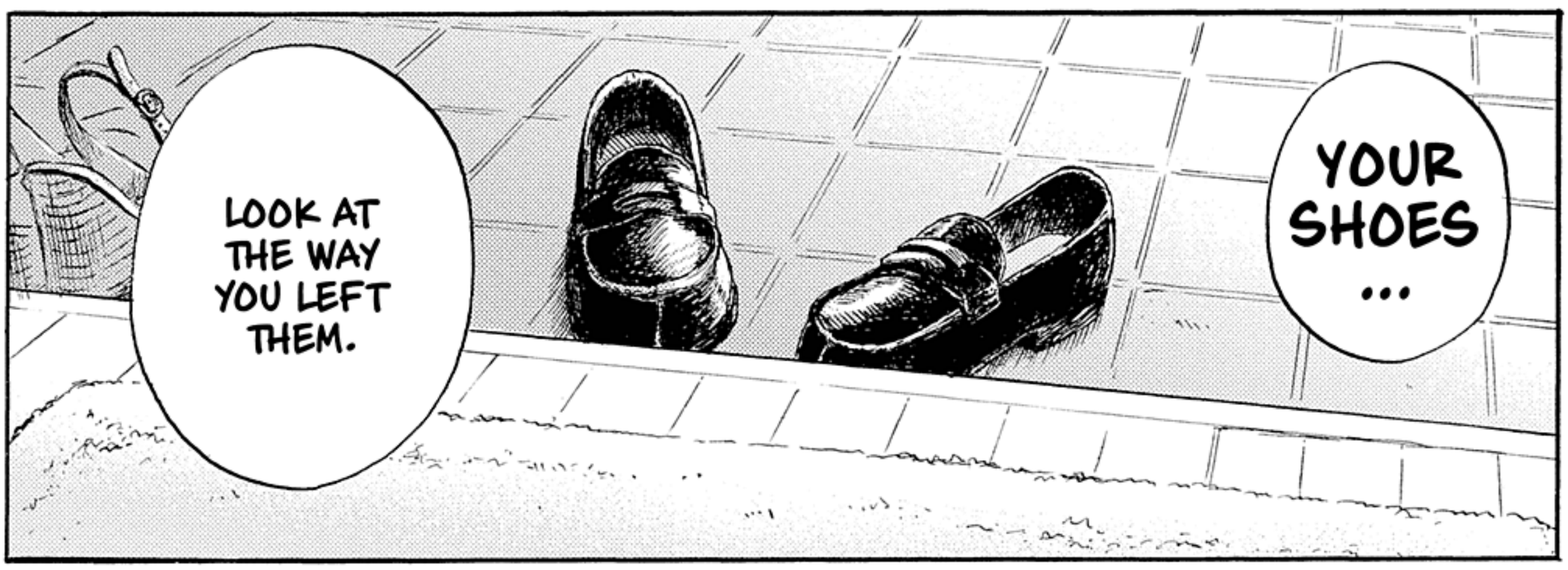

AH.
WEL-COME BACK.


COULD YOU WAIT A MINUTE?
MARI!

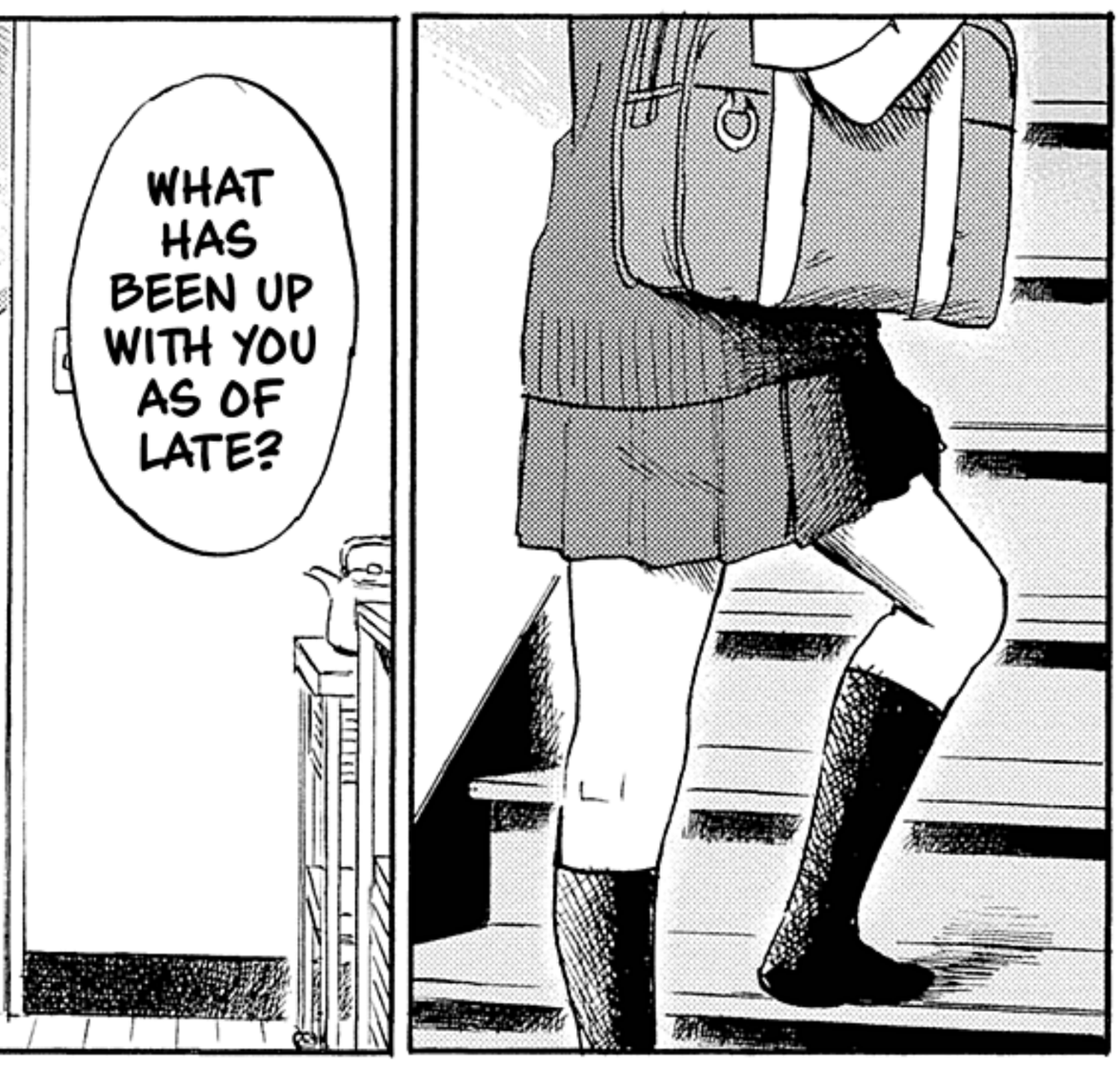


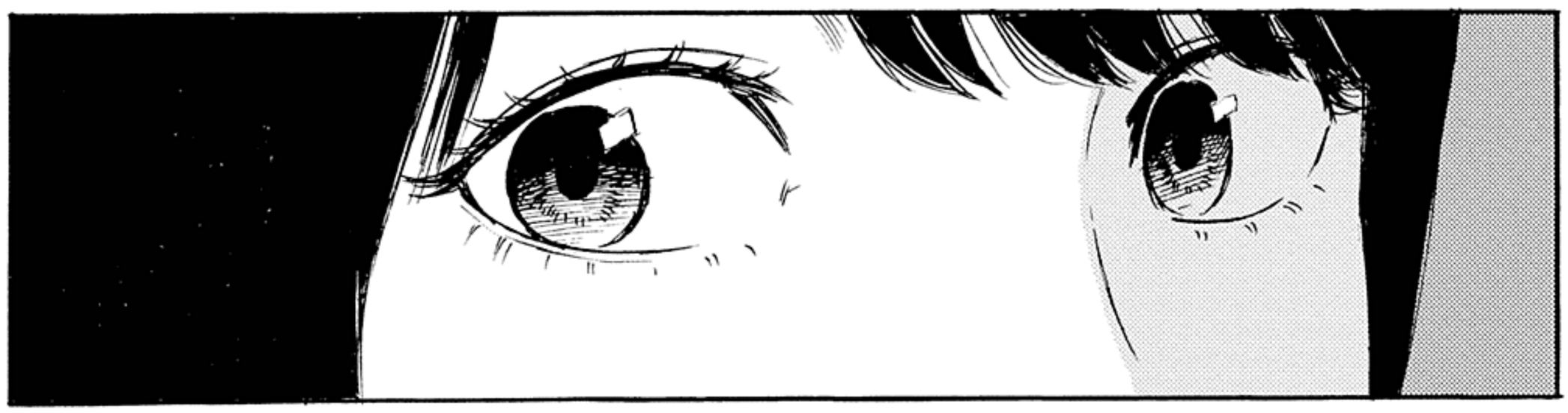
HUH?

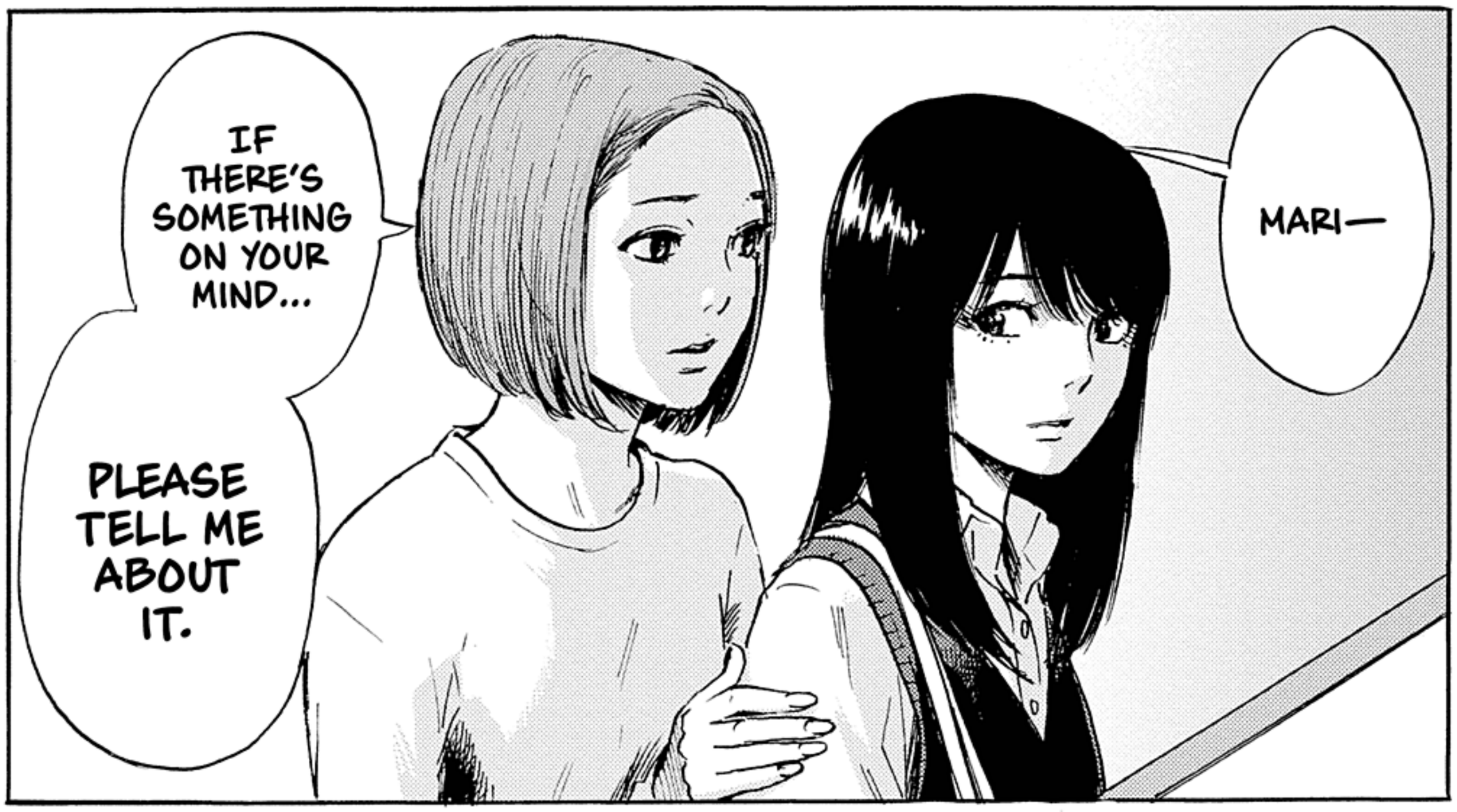

MARI ...
HAS SOME-THING HAP-PENED?

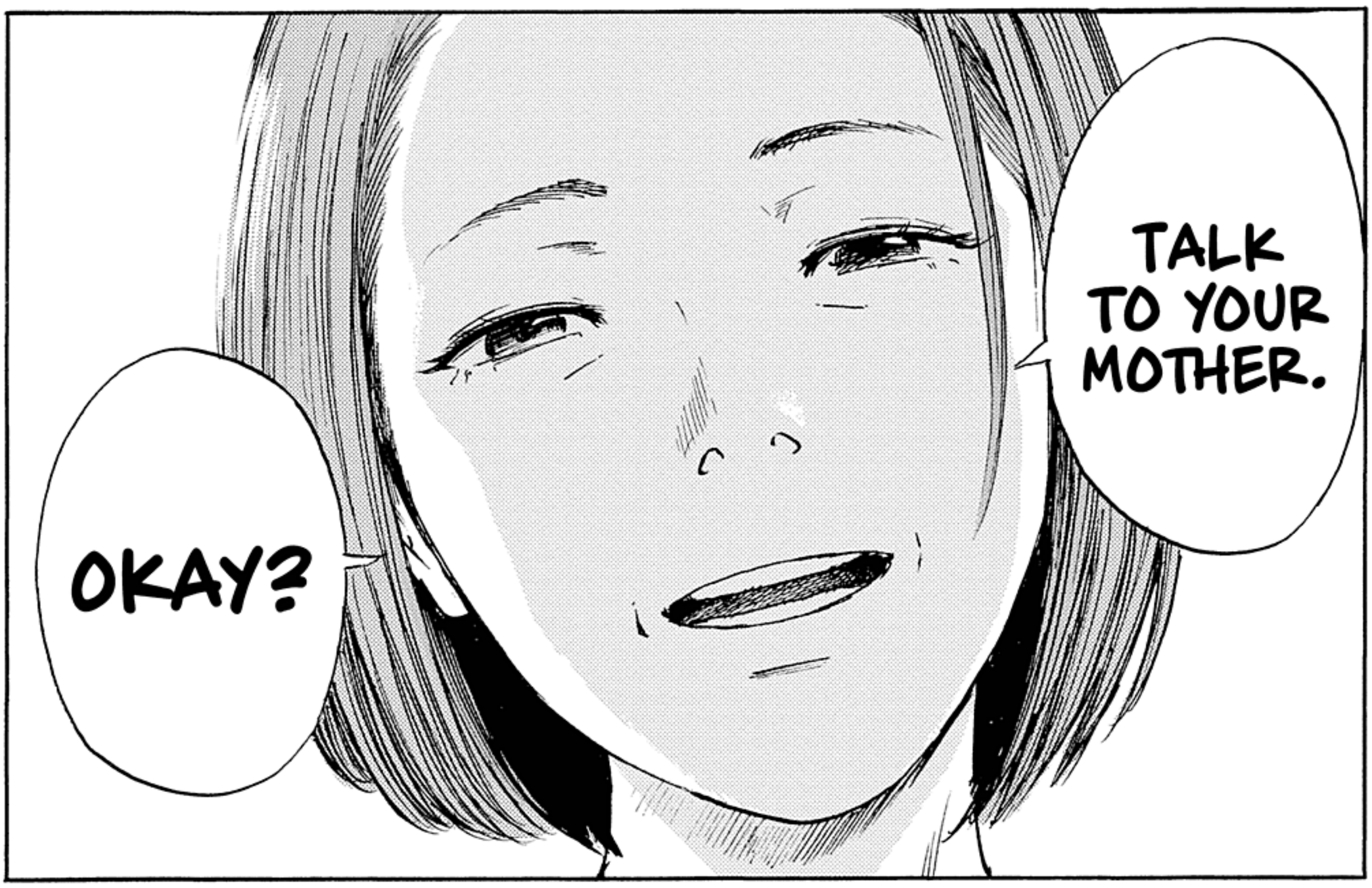

YOUR SHOES ...
LOOK AT THE WAY YOU LEFT THEM.

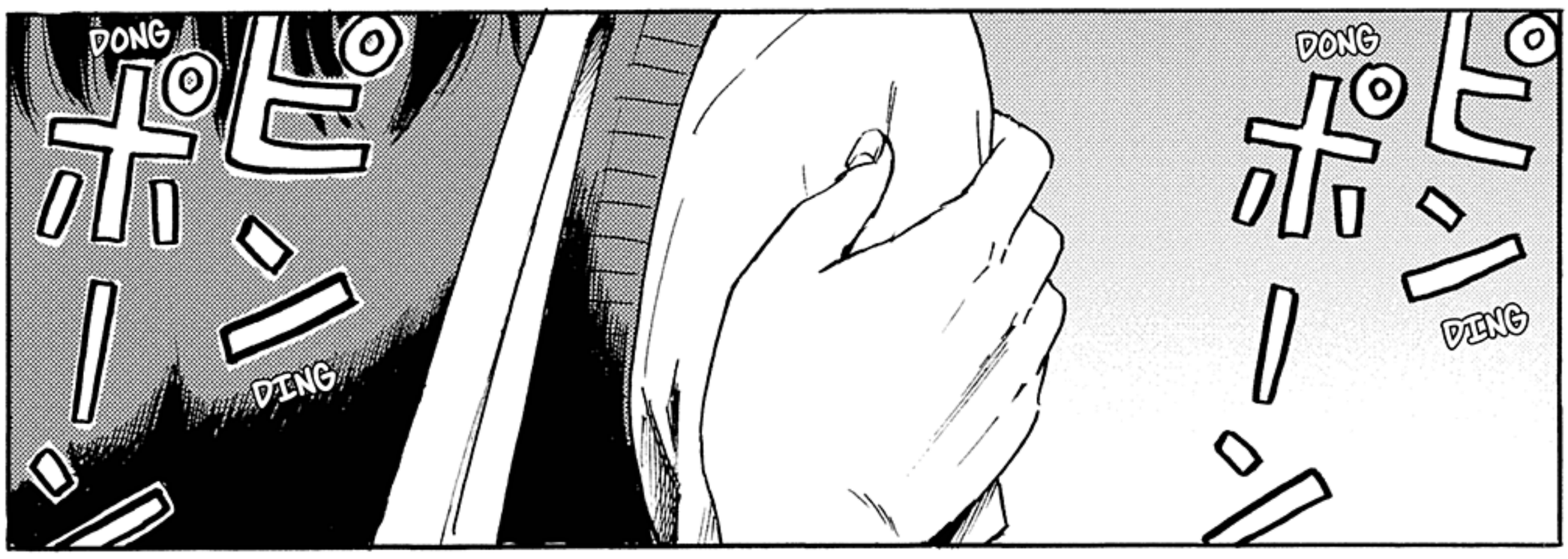
YOU'RE LEAVING YOUR CLOTHES IN A PILE...
YOU'RE ACTING LIKE YOUR FATHER.


WHAT HAS BEEN UP WITH YOU AS OF LATE?




IF THERE'S SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND...
PLEASE TELL ME ABOUT IT.
MARI—


TALK TO YOUR MOTHER.
OKAY?


DONG
ポピ
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DING
DONG
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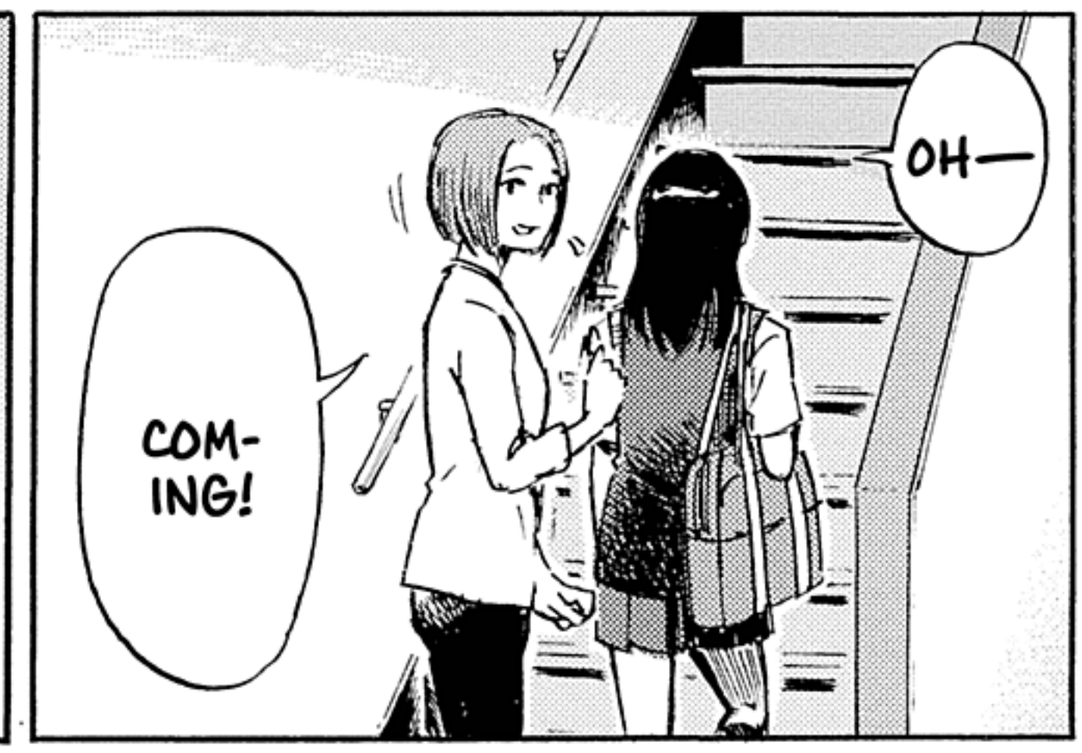
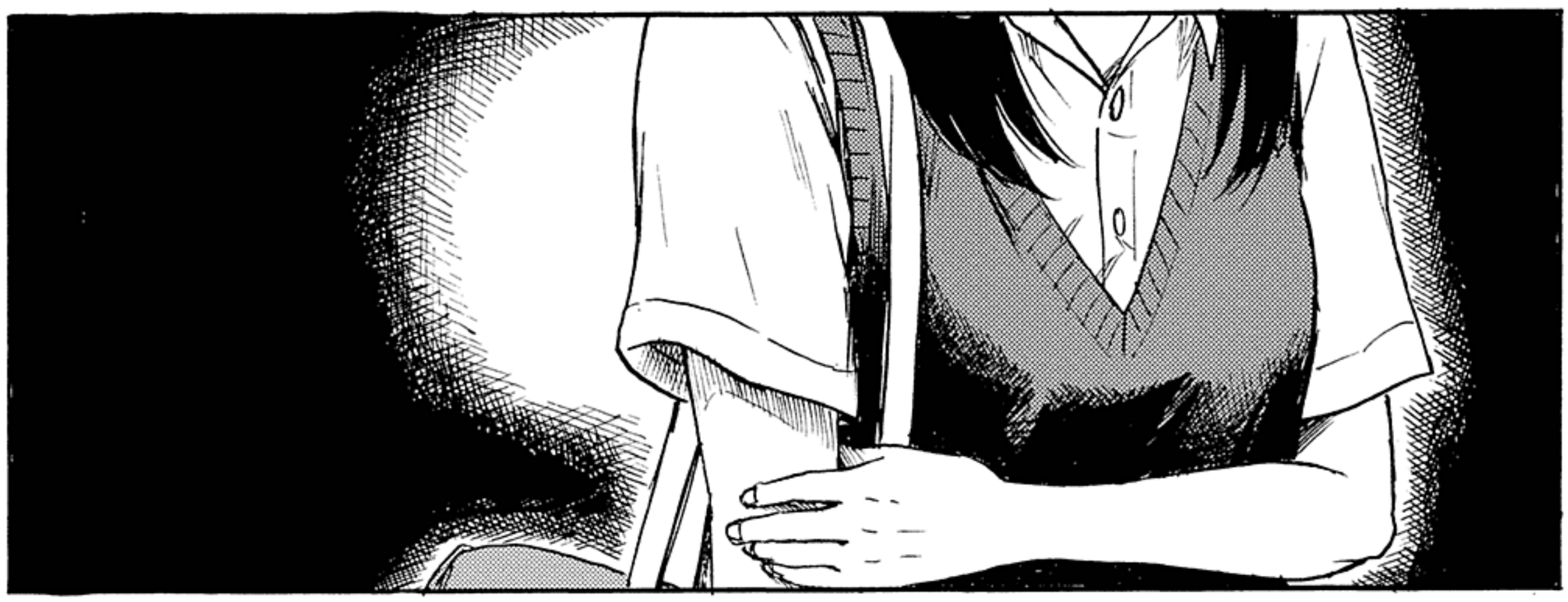
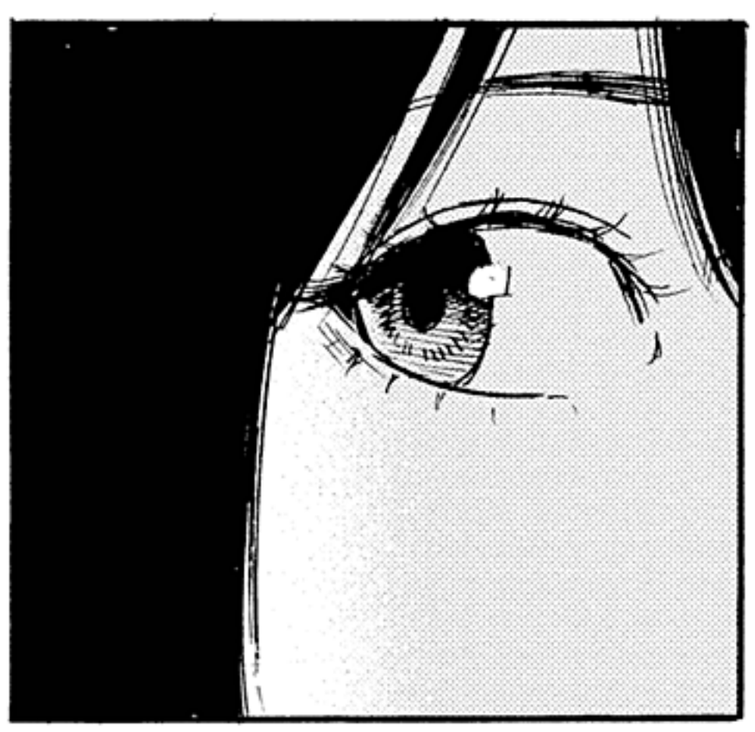
ーン
DING

TMP
TMP
TMP

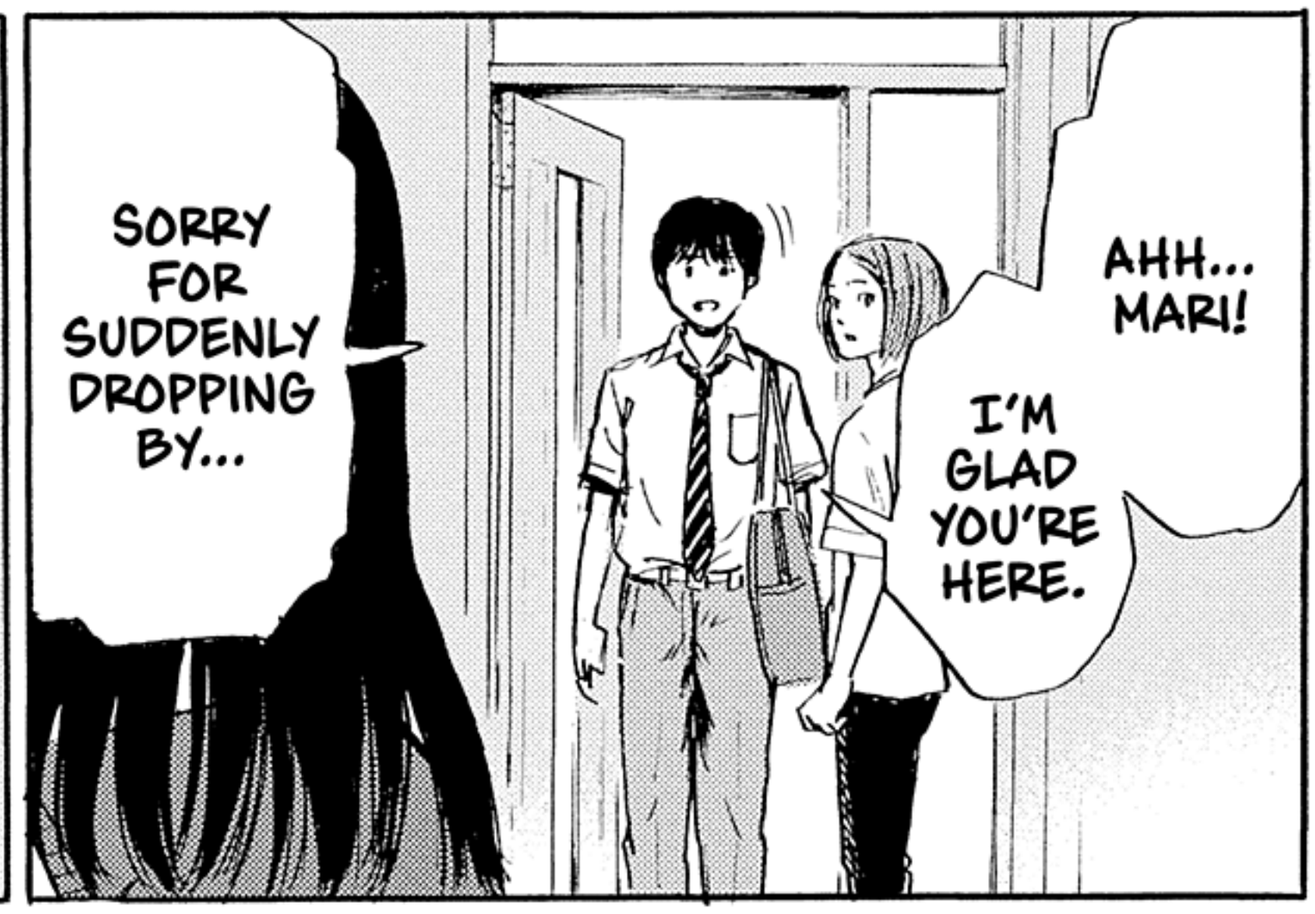

COM-
ING!
OH—





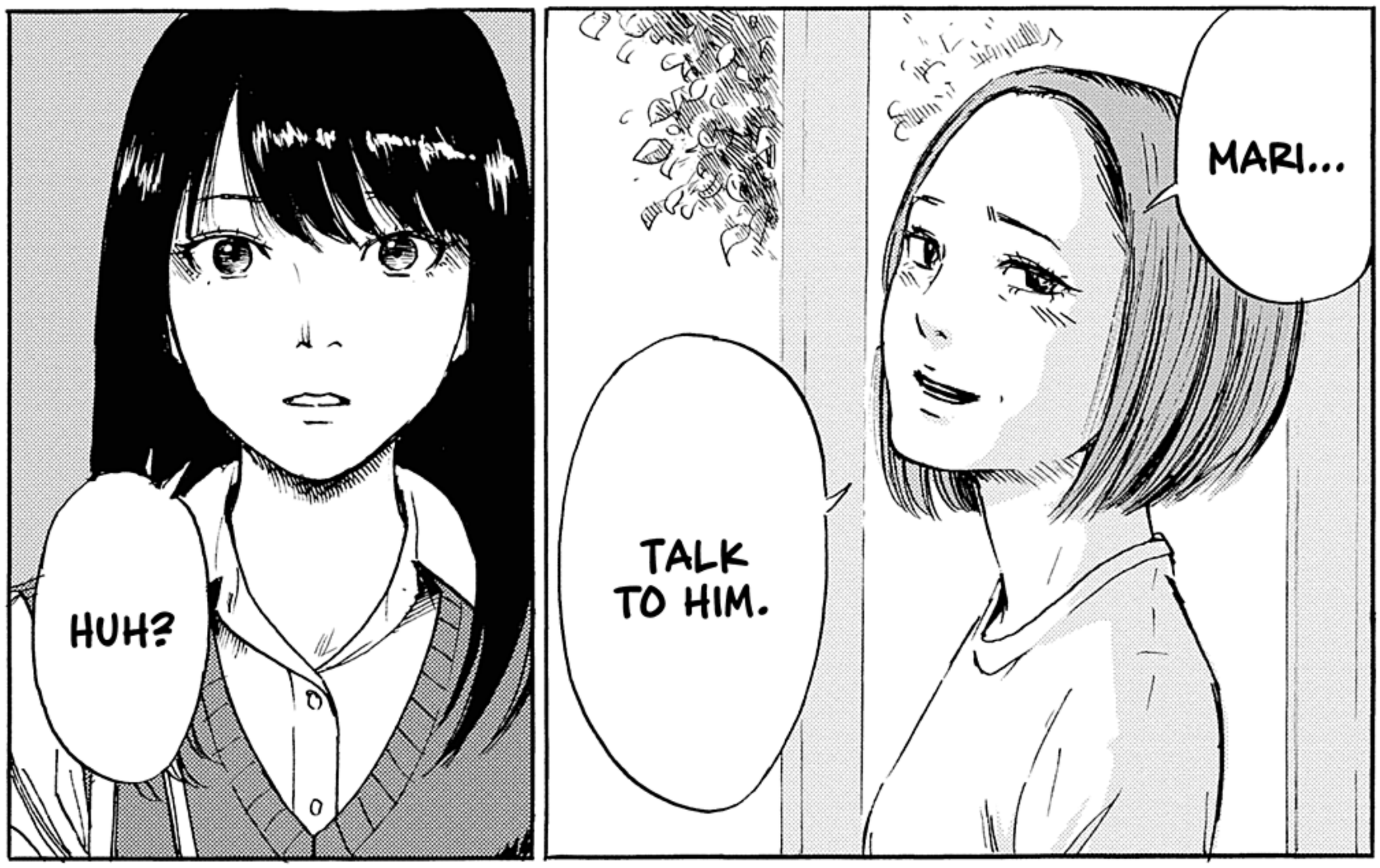
OKAY.
JUST A
SECOND.
YES?
OH.

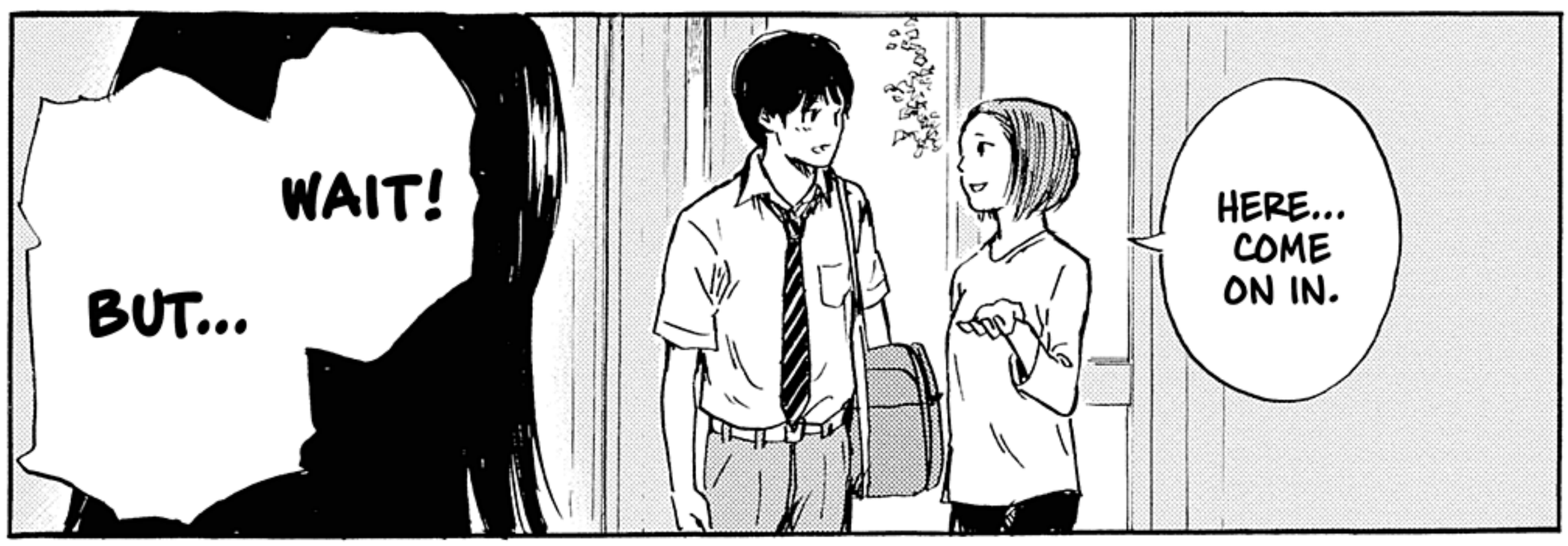
UH... HELLO. NICE TO MEET YOU.
I'M A FRIEND OF MARI'S... HIROKI SAKAMOTO.
HELLO.

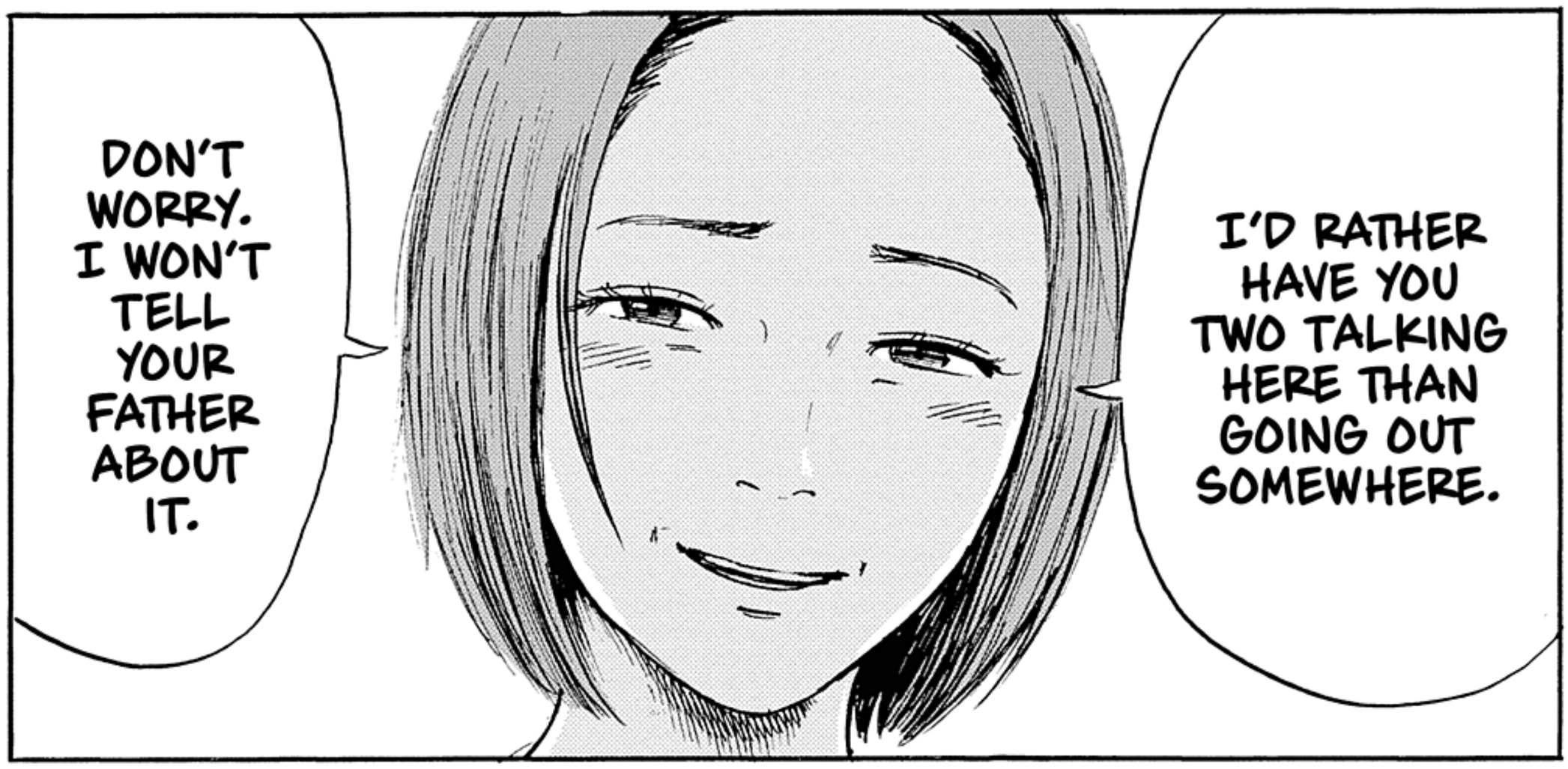

SORRY FOR SUDDENLY DROPPING BY...
AHH... MARI!
I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE.

PLEASE, CAN WE TALK FOR JUST A FEW MINUTES?
YOU HAVEN'T ANSWERED ANY OF MY CALLS OR TEXTS, SO I'VE BEEN WORRIED.

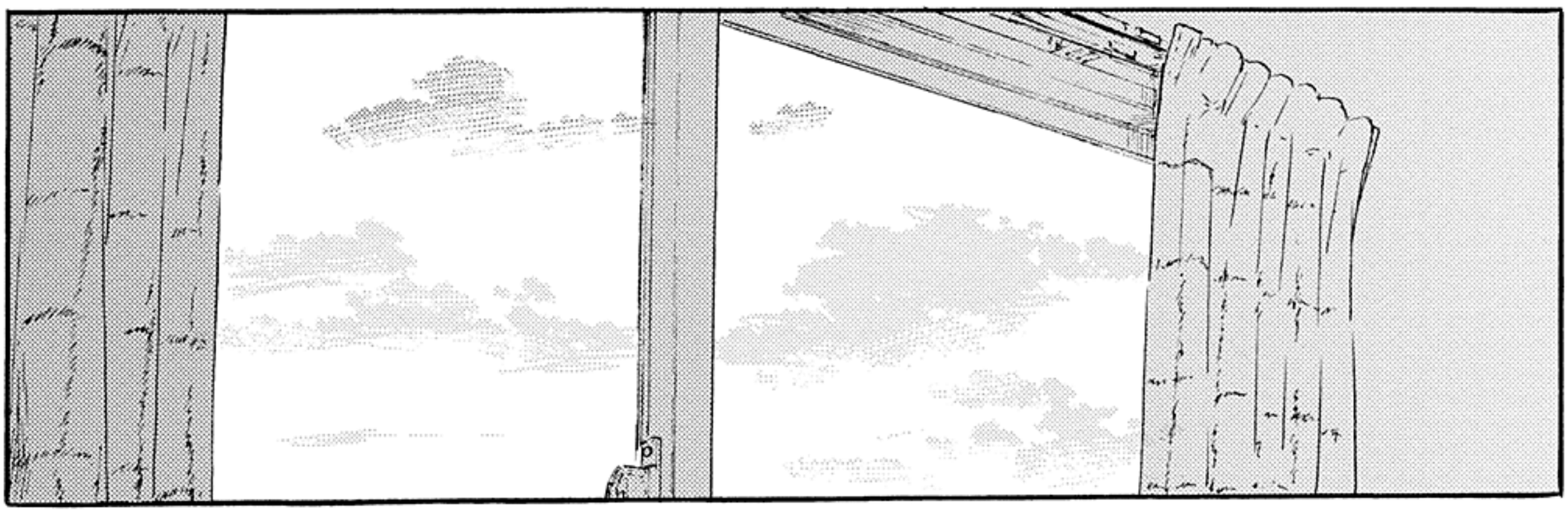
UH...
NO, IT REALLY ISN'T A-
...

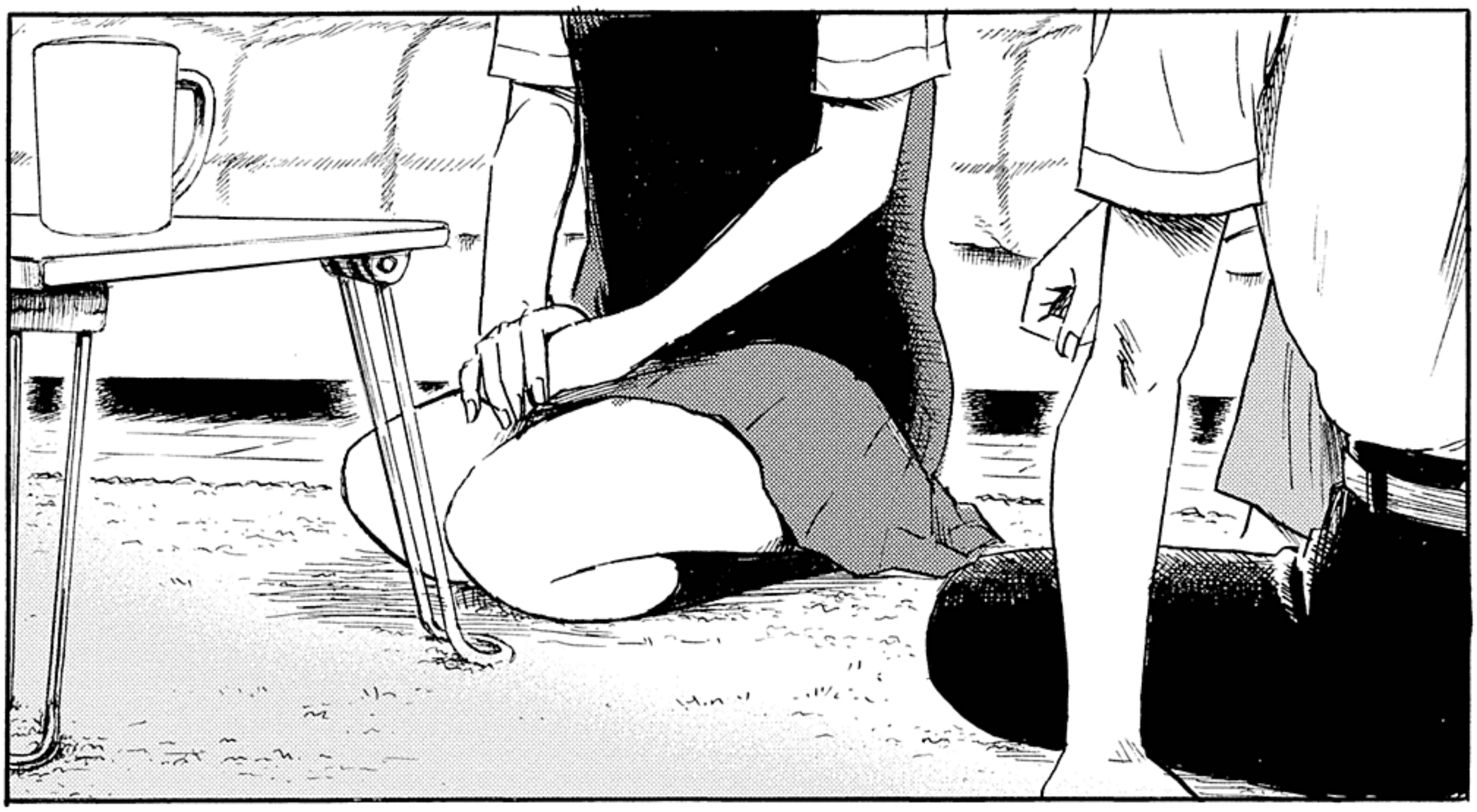

HUH?
MARI...
TALK TO HIM.

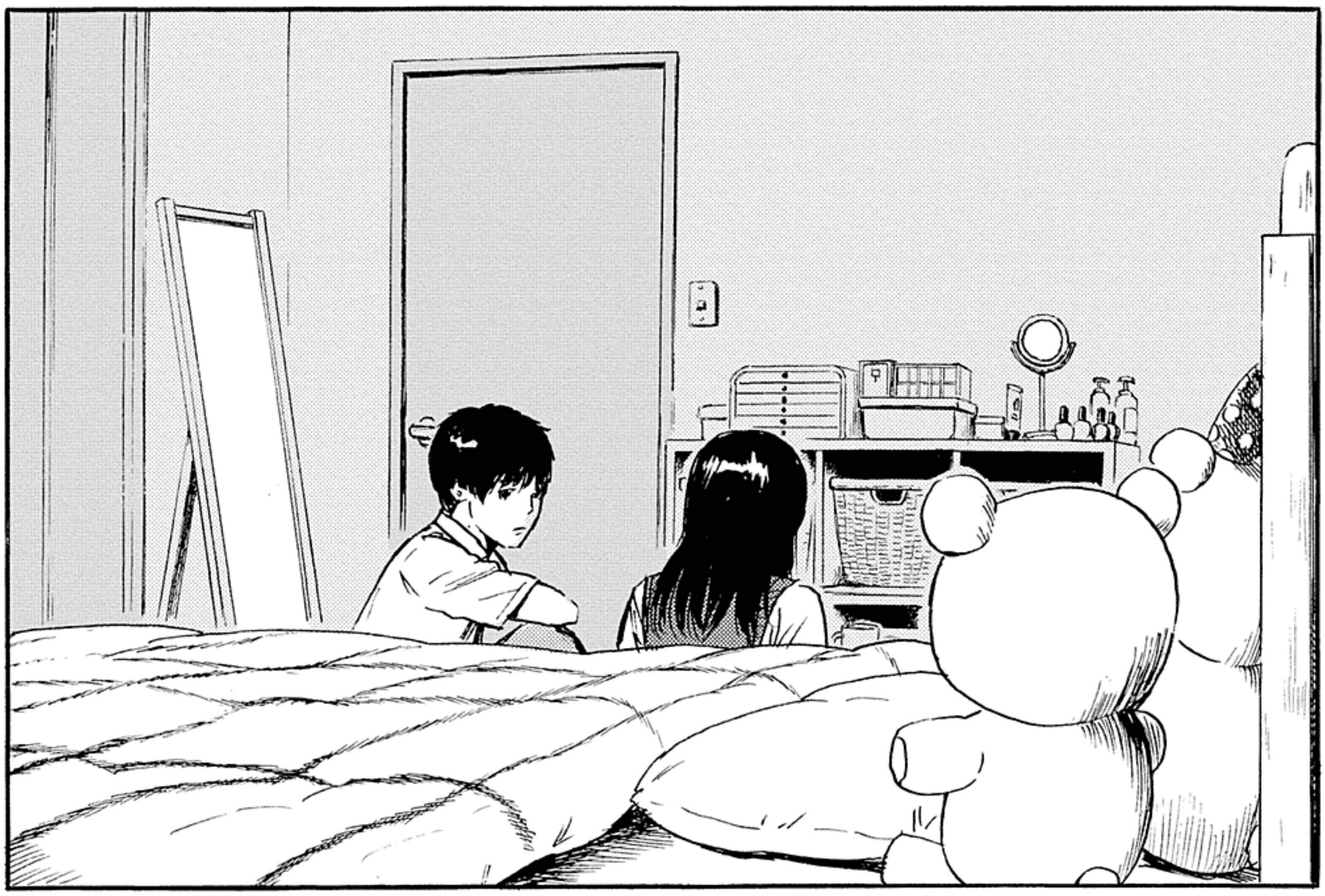

WAIT! BUT...
HERE... COME ON IN.

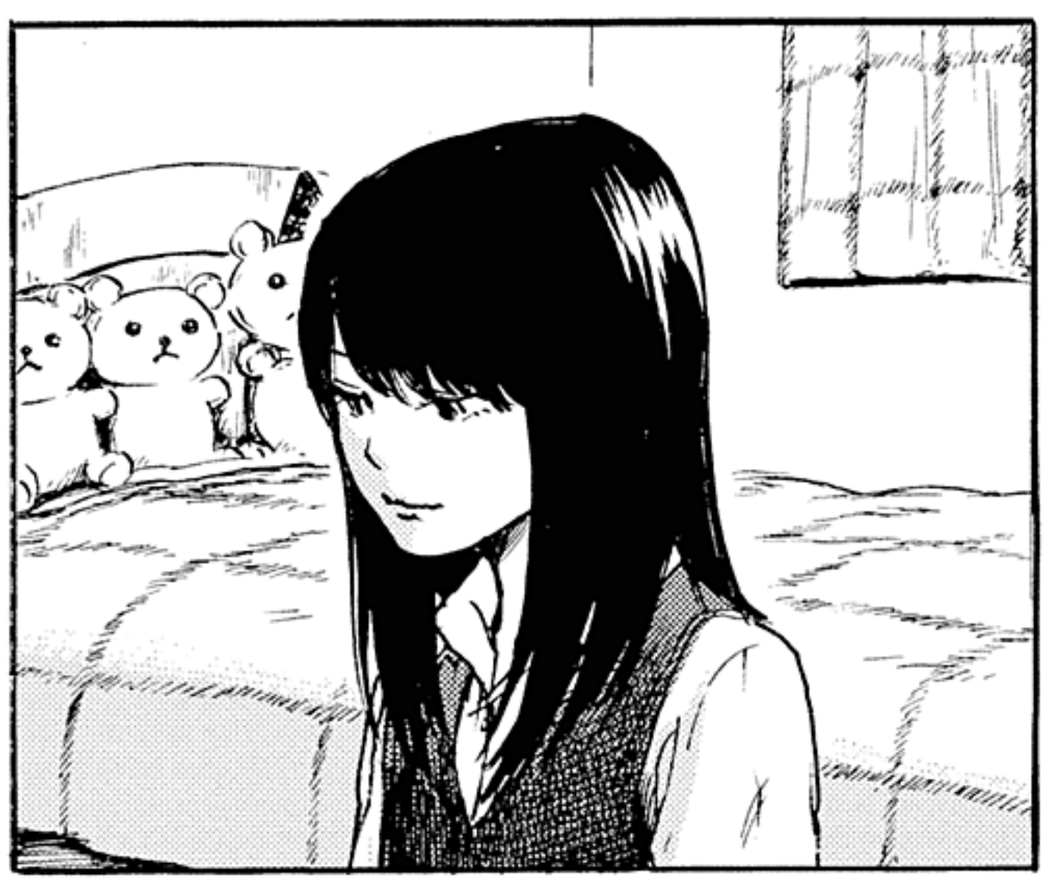

DON'T WORRY. I WON'T TELL YOUR FATHER ABOUT IT.
I'D RATHER HAVE YOU TWO TALKING HERE THAN GOING OUT SOMEWHERE.

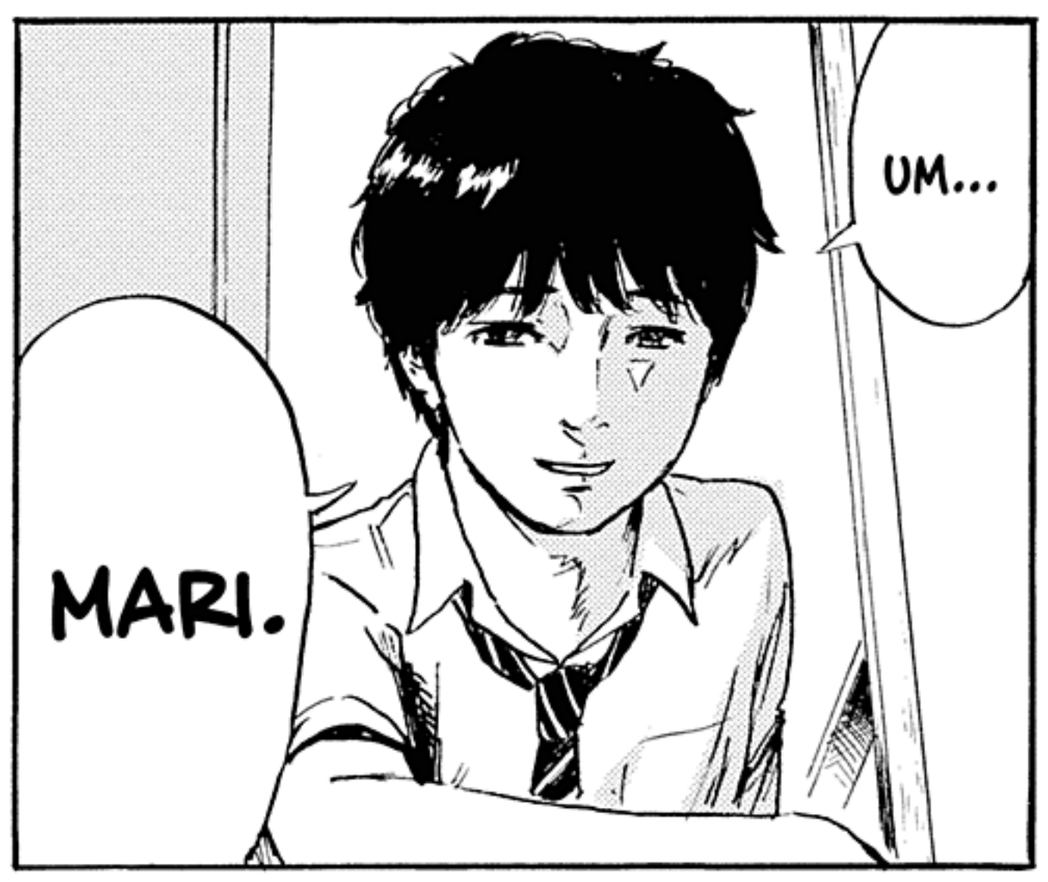
NOW, PLEASE COME IN.
UH... THANK YOU, MA'AM.

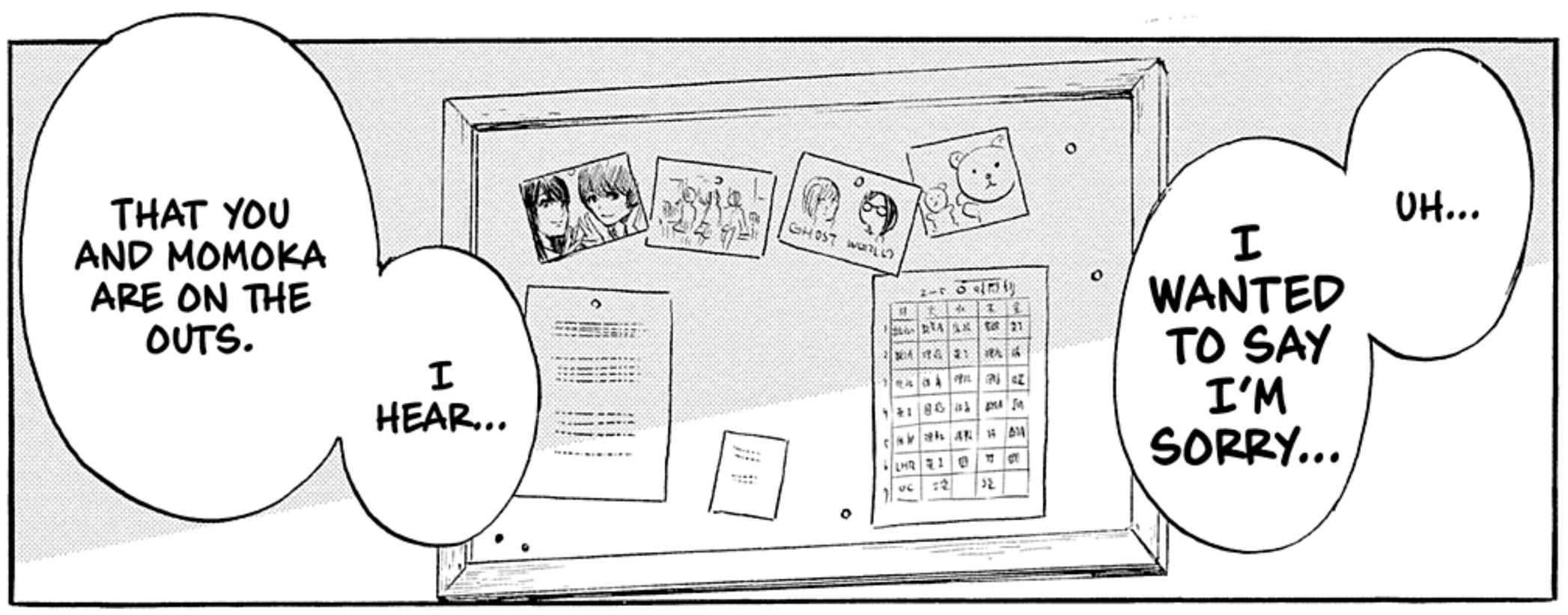


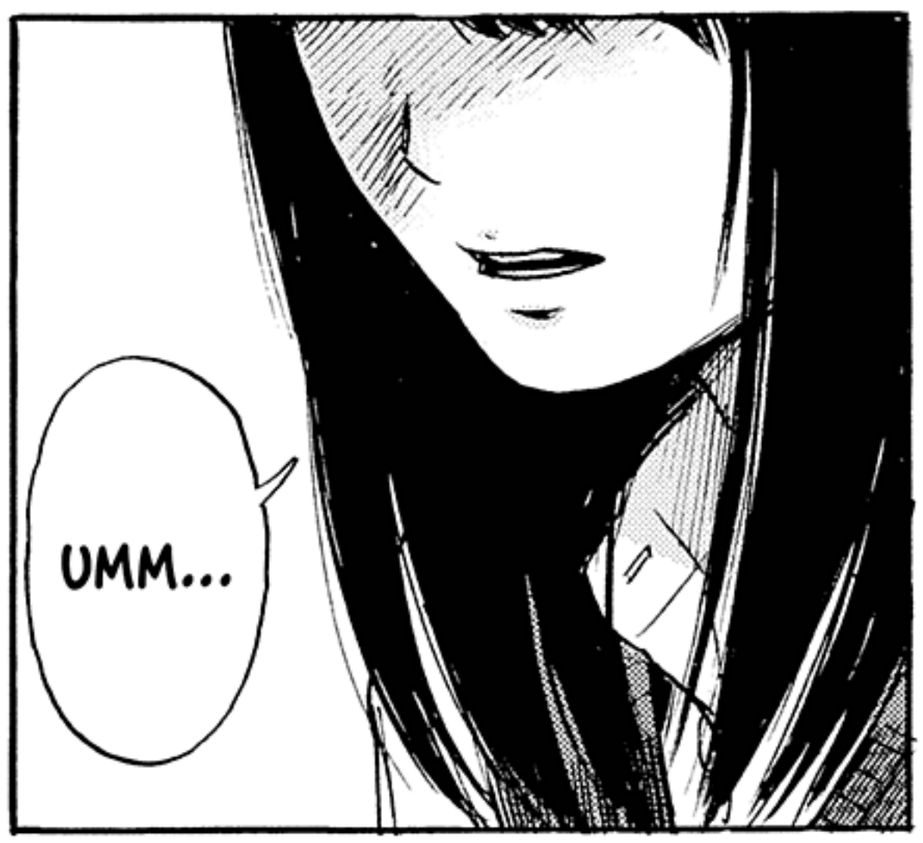


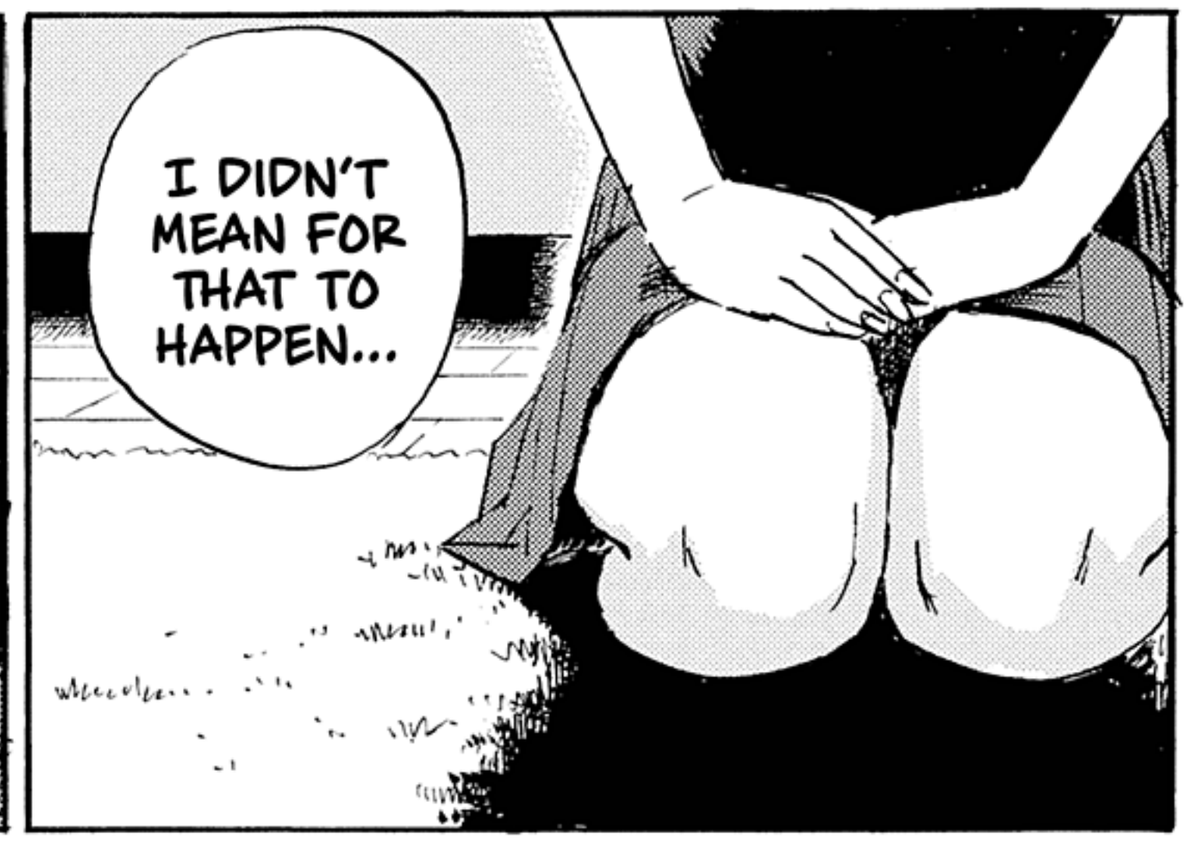


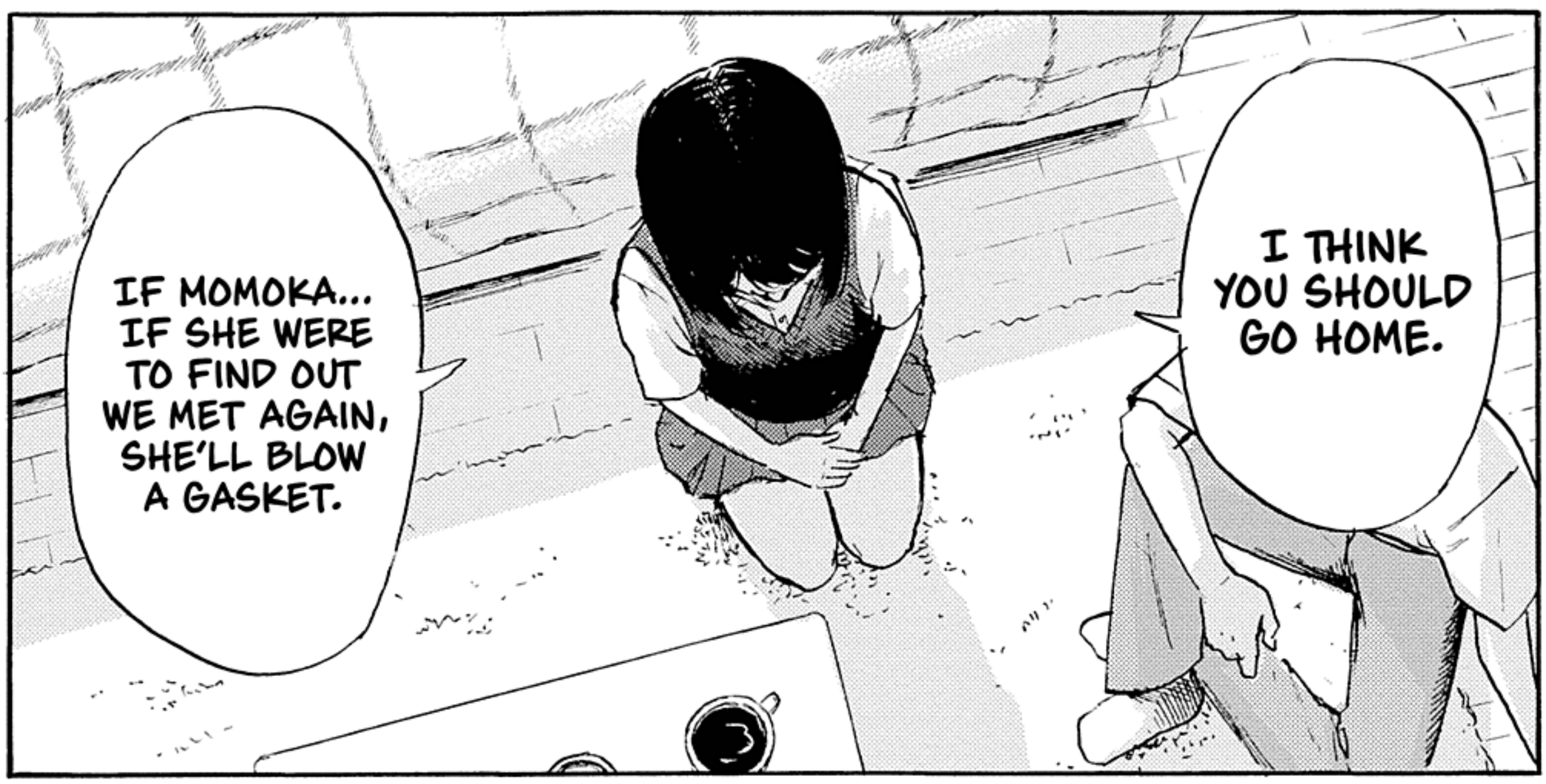


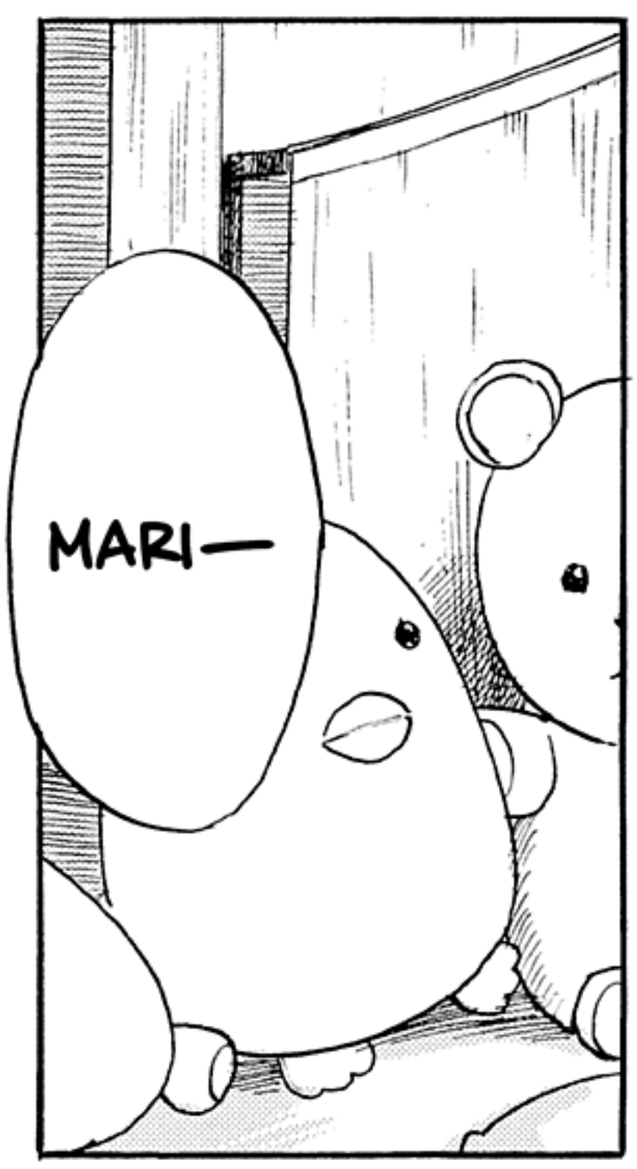

UM...
MARI.


THAT YOU AND MOMOKA ARE ON THE OUTS.
I HEAR...
I WANTED TO SAY I'M SORRY...
UH...

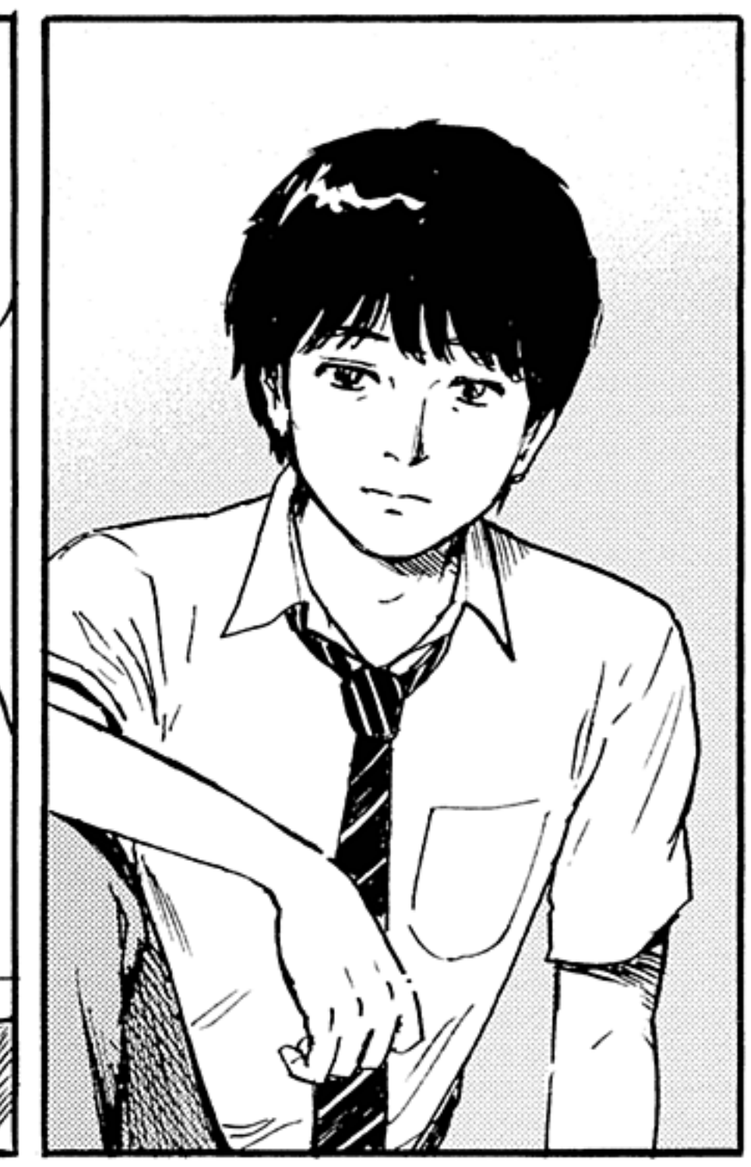

UMM...


I DIDN'T MEAN FOR THAT TO HAPPEN...


IF MOMOKA... IF SHE WERE TO FIND OUT WE MET AGAIN, SHE'LL BLOW A GASKET.
I THINK YOU SHOULD GO HOME.


MARI—

OKAY ?
YOU'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE.



I BROKE UP WITH MOMOKA.

WHAT?

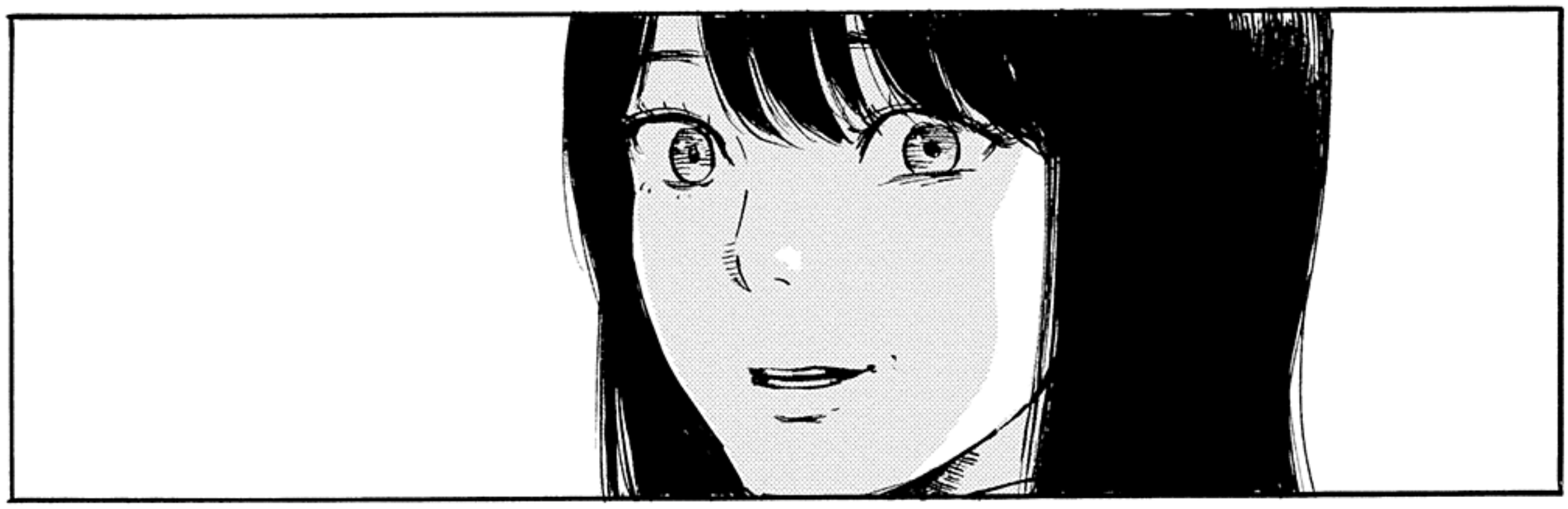
I...

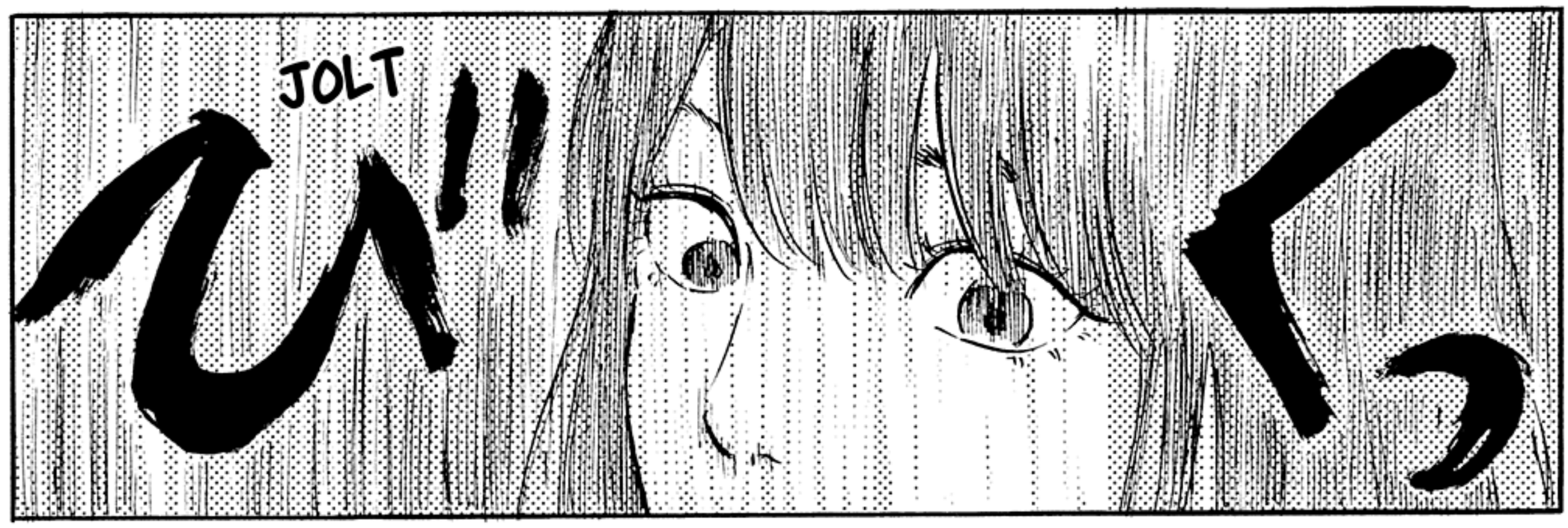
I DIDN'T WANT TO LIE ANY-MORE...

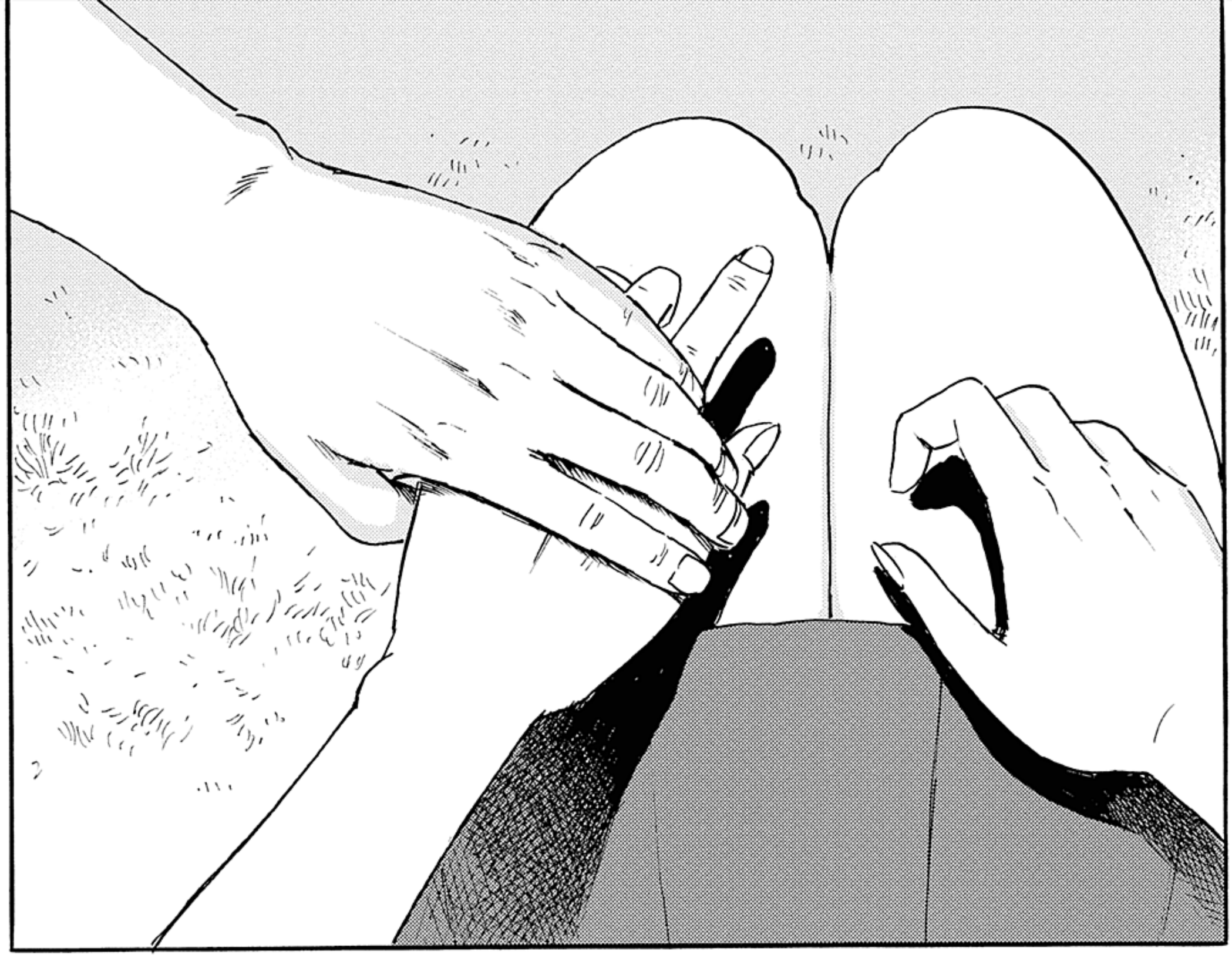
I...

I JUST DIDN'T...

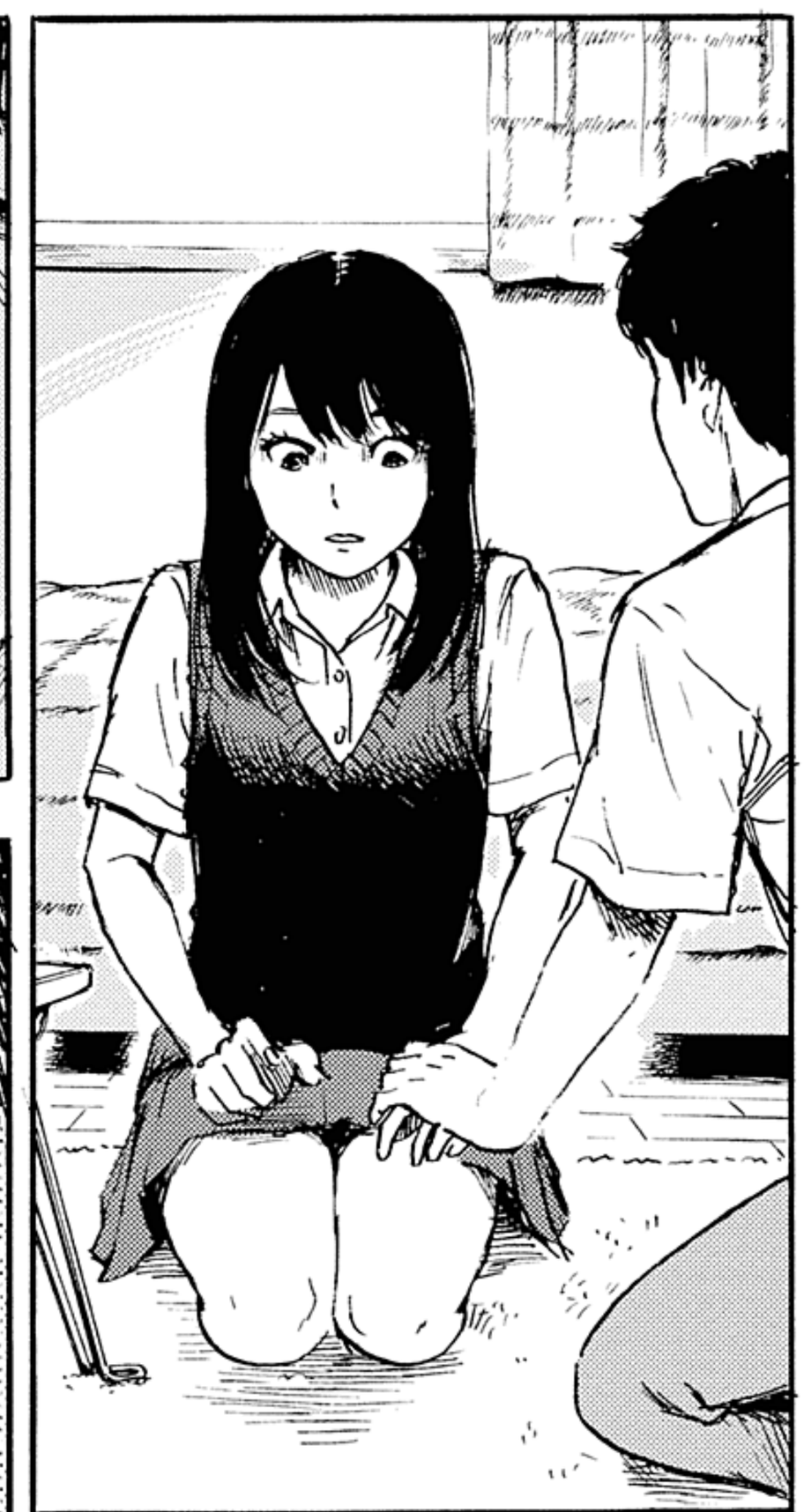
ABOUT MY FEEL-INGS.

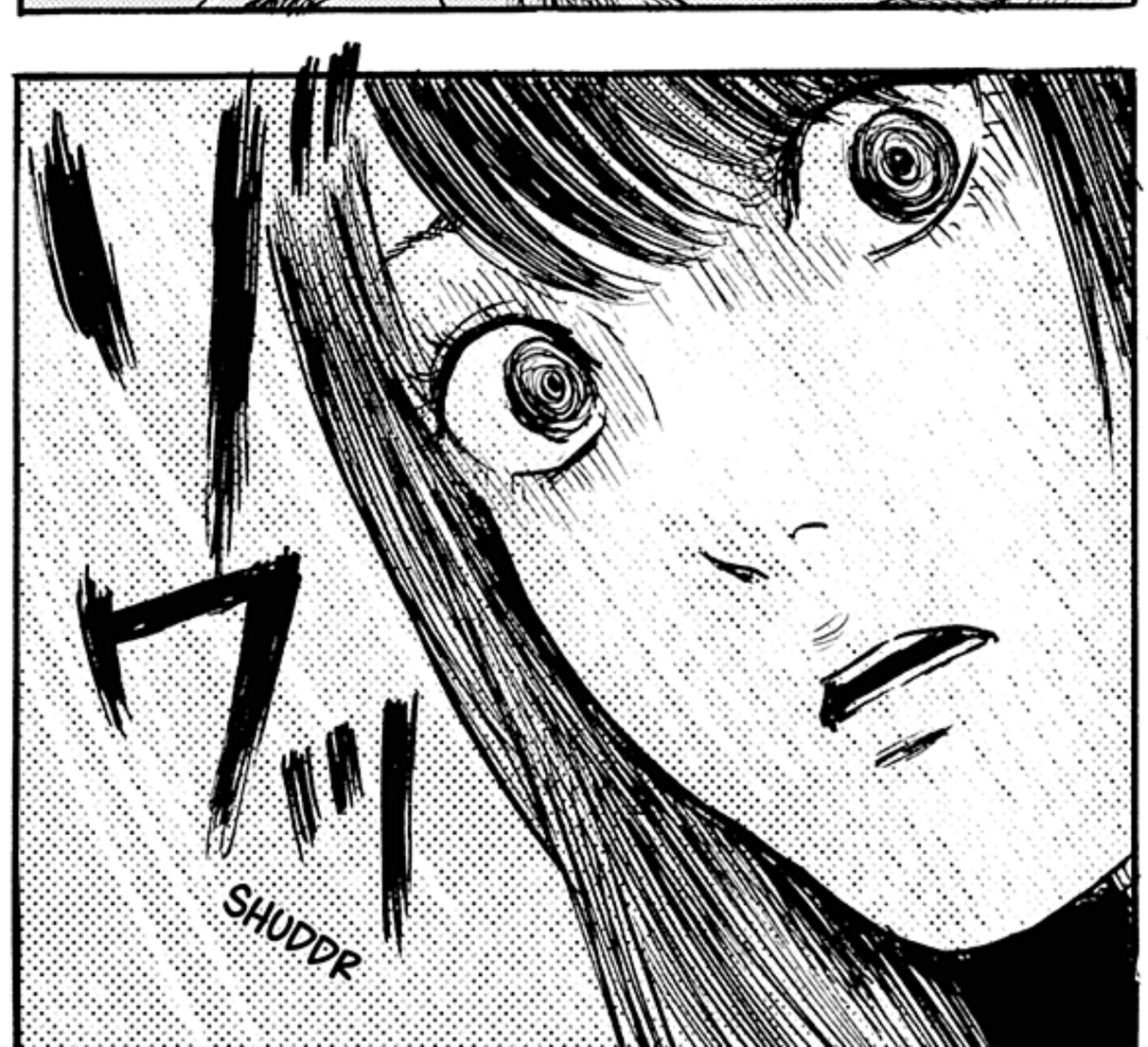




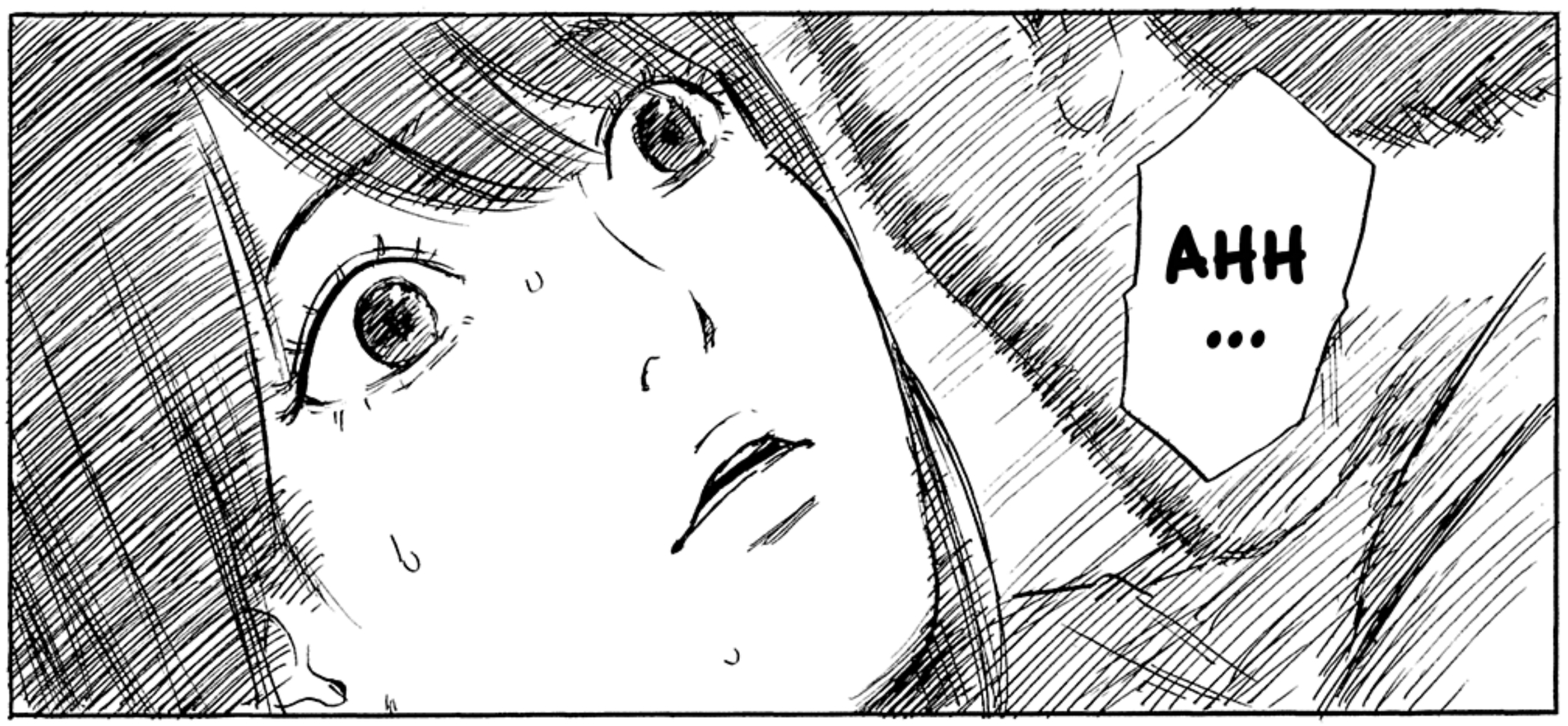


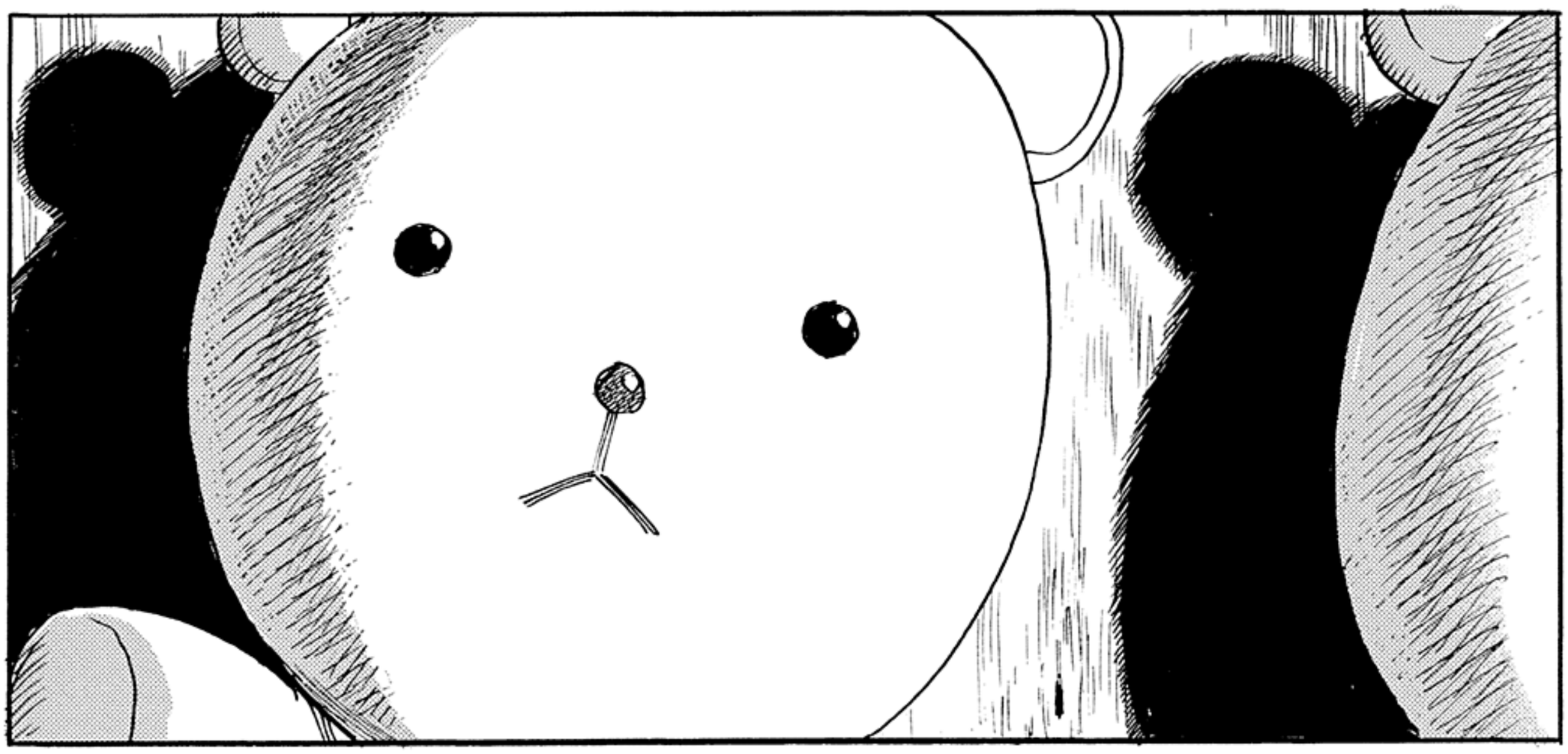
MARI...

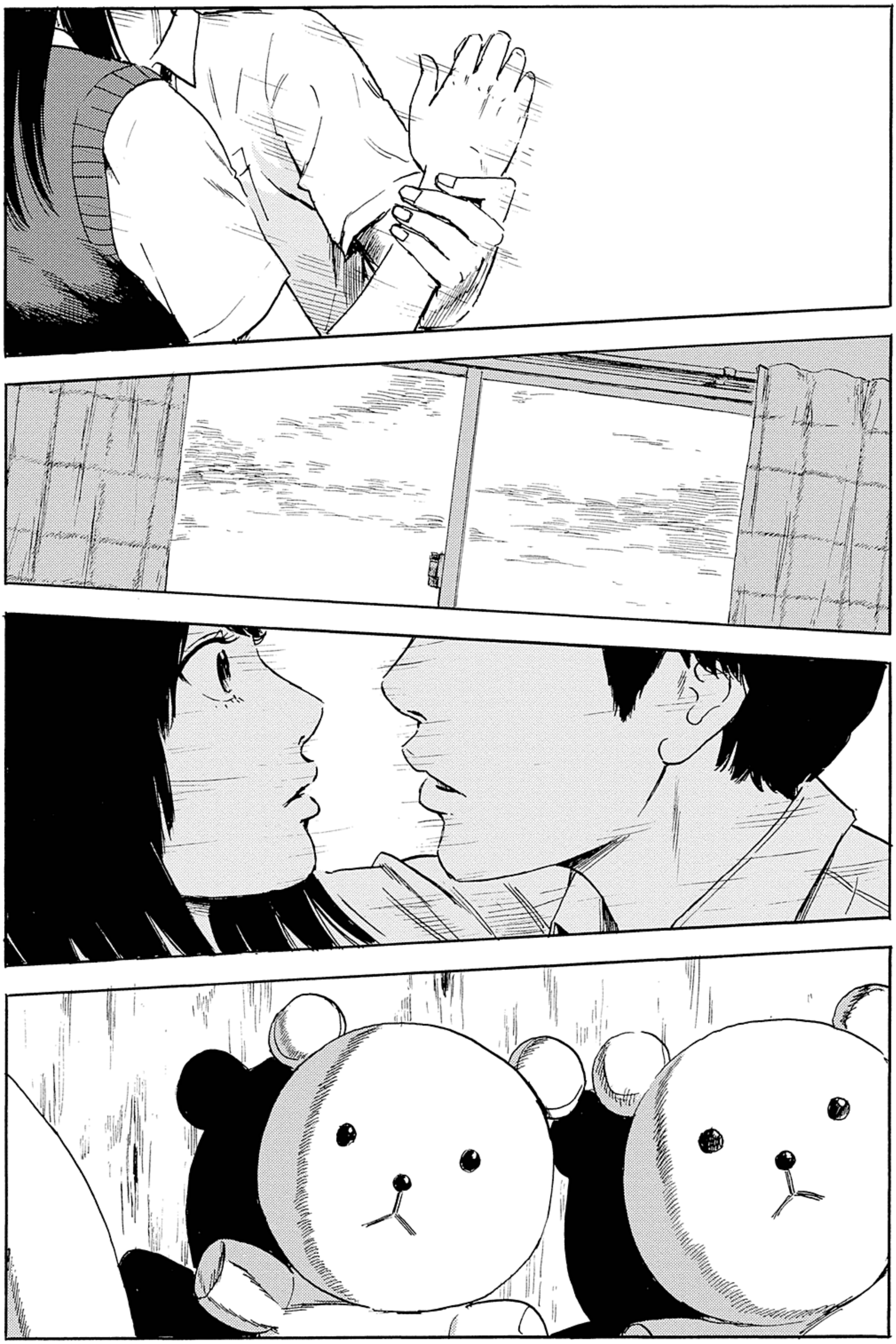



SHUDDR

NO...
SWIP

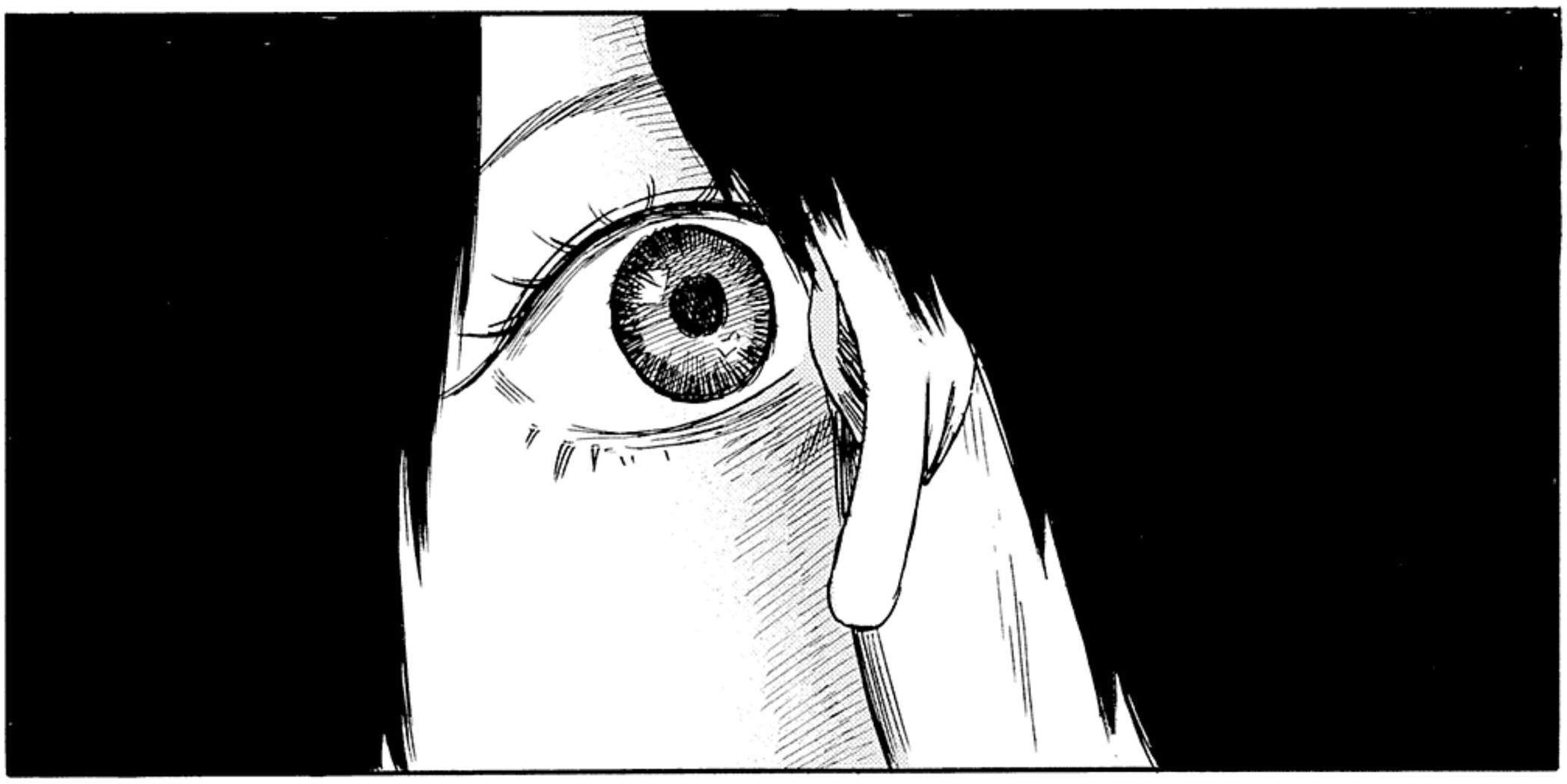

AHH
...

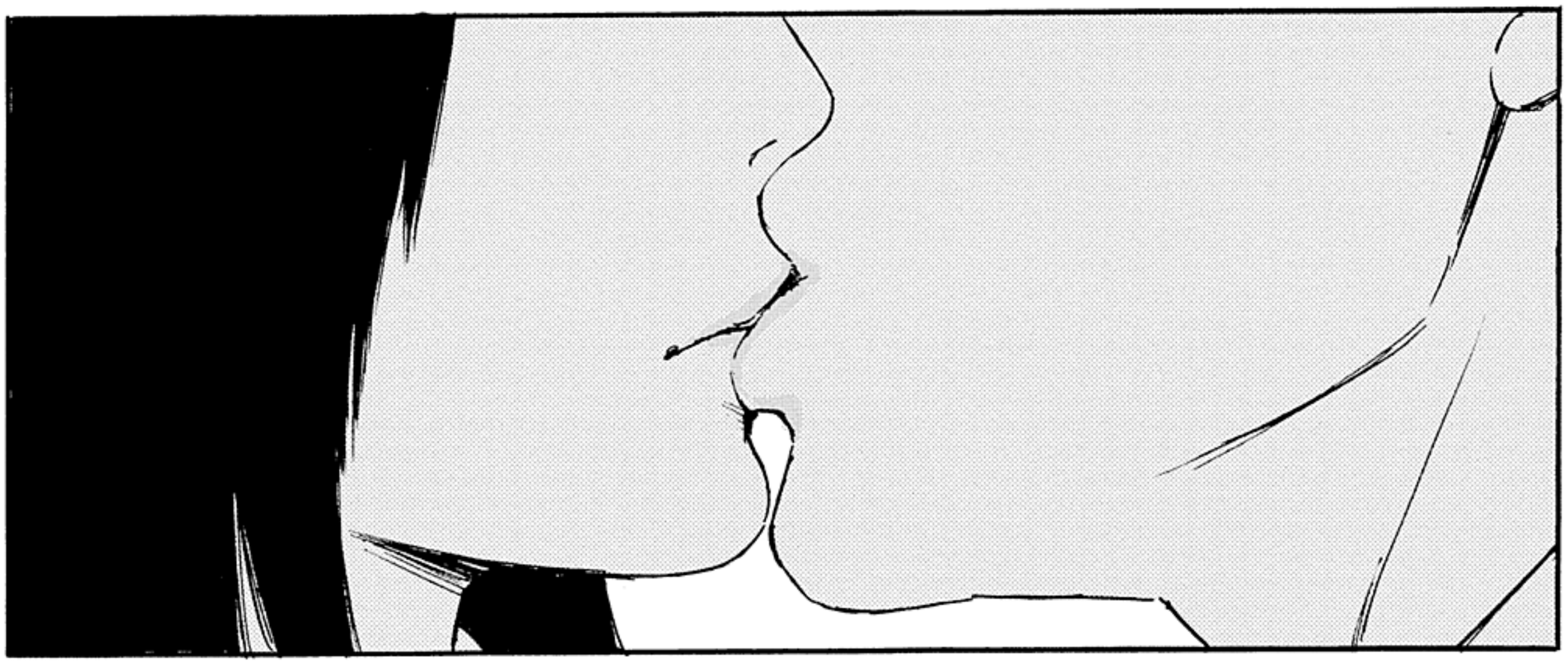


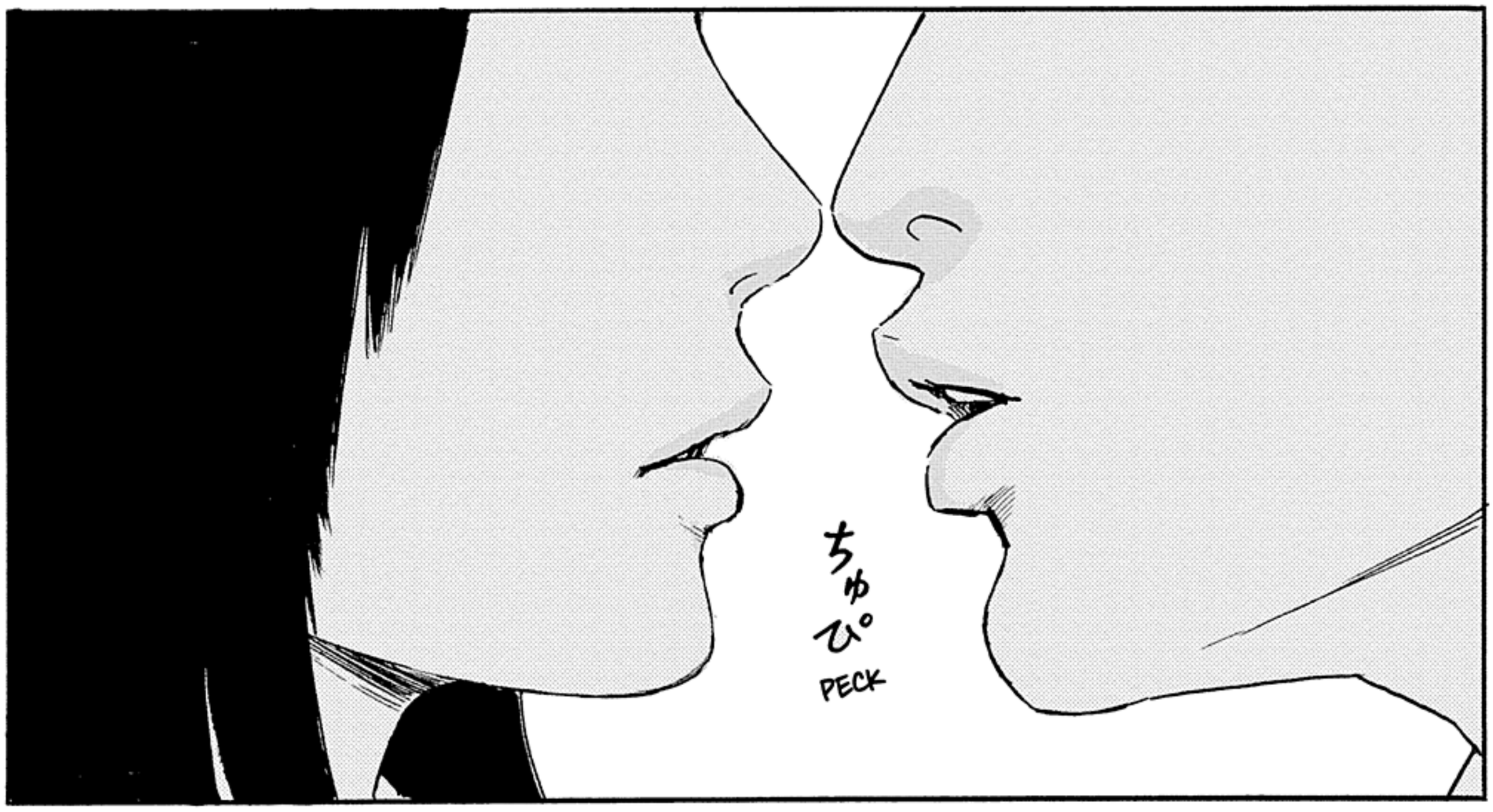


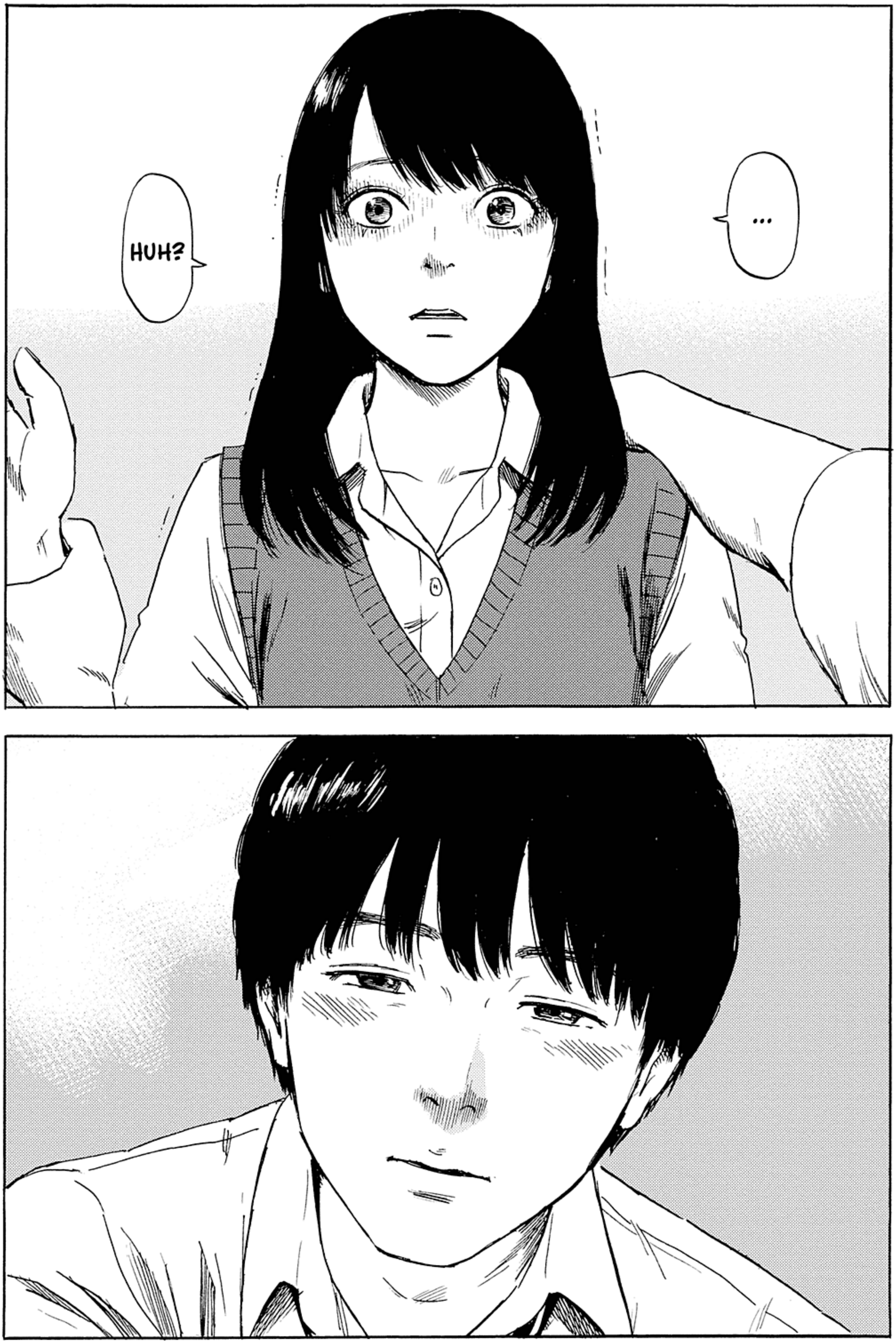
Chapter 23: Coming Out

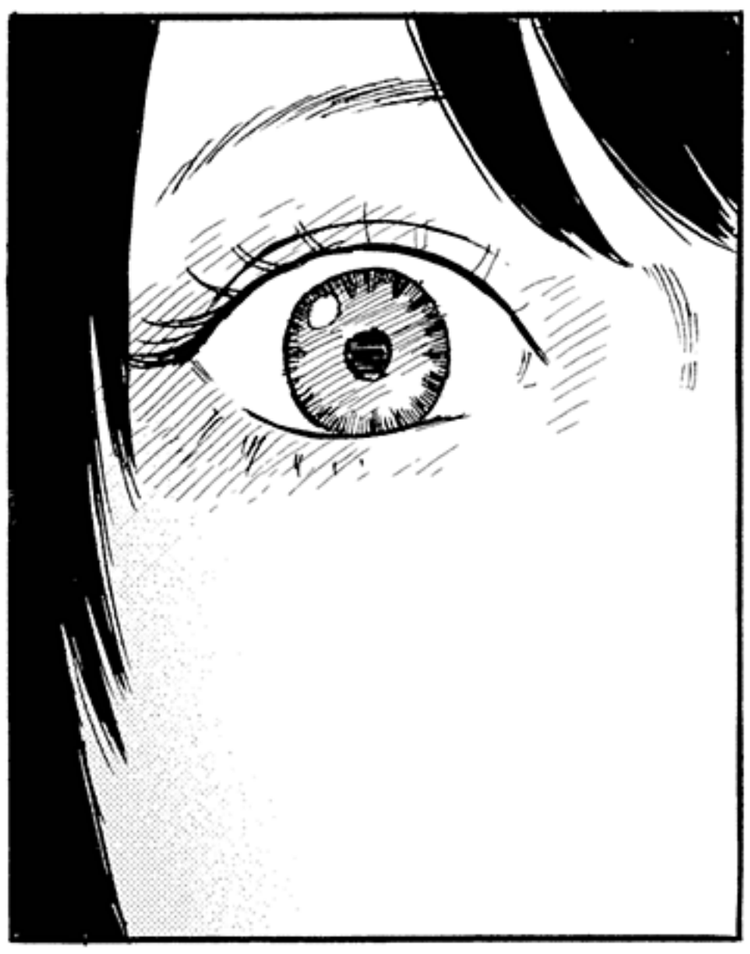
WHAT?

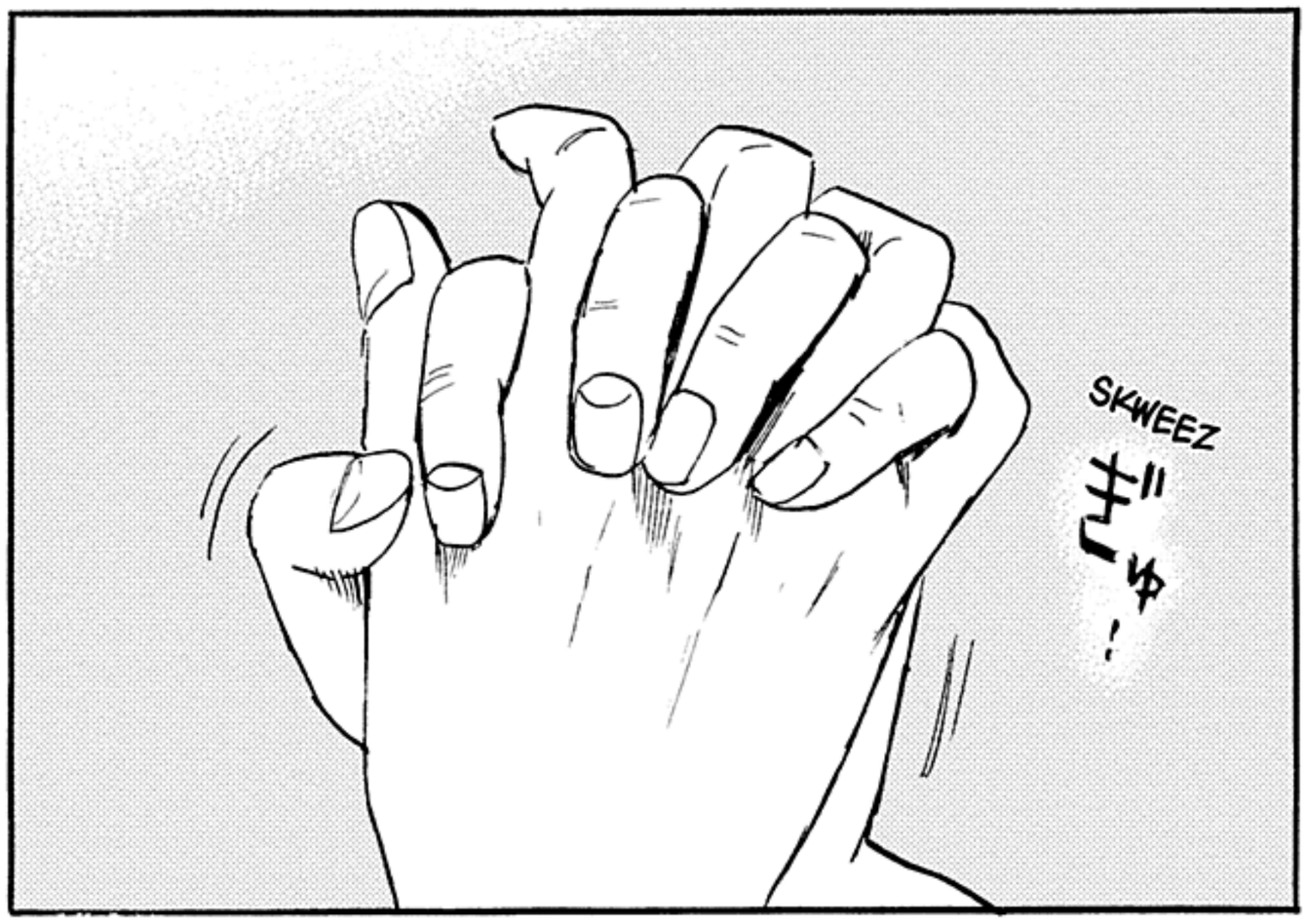


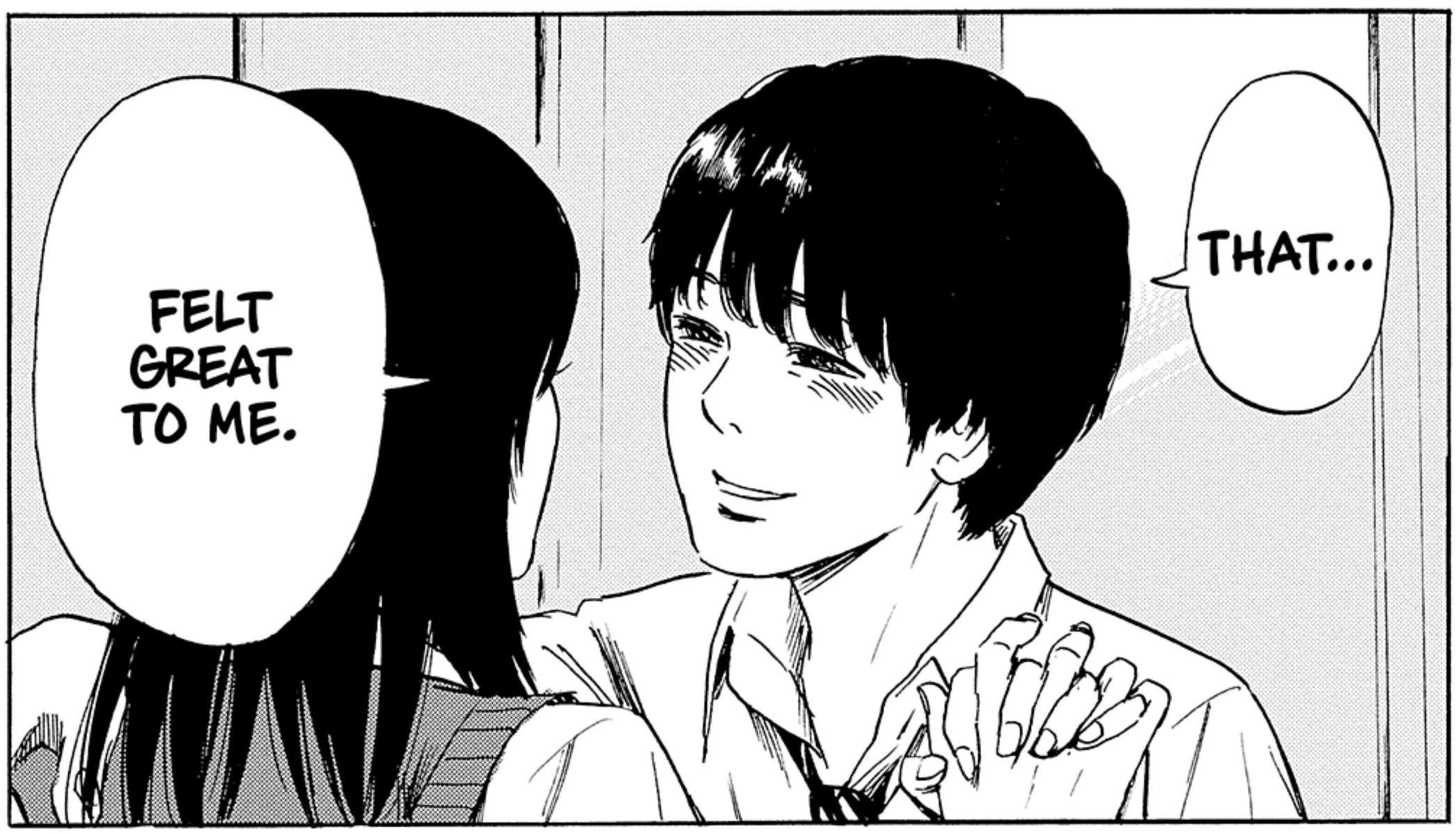


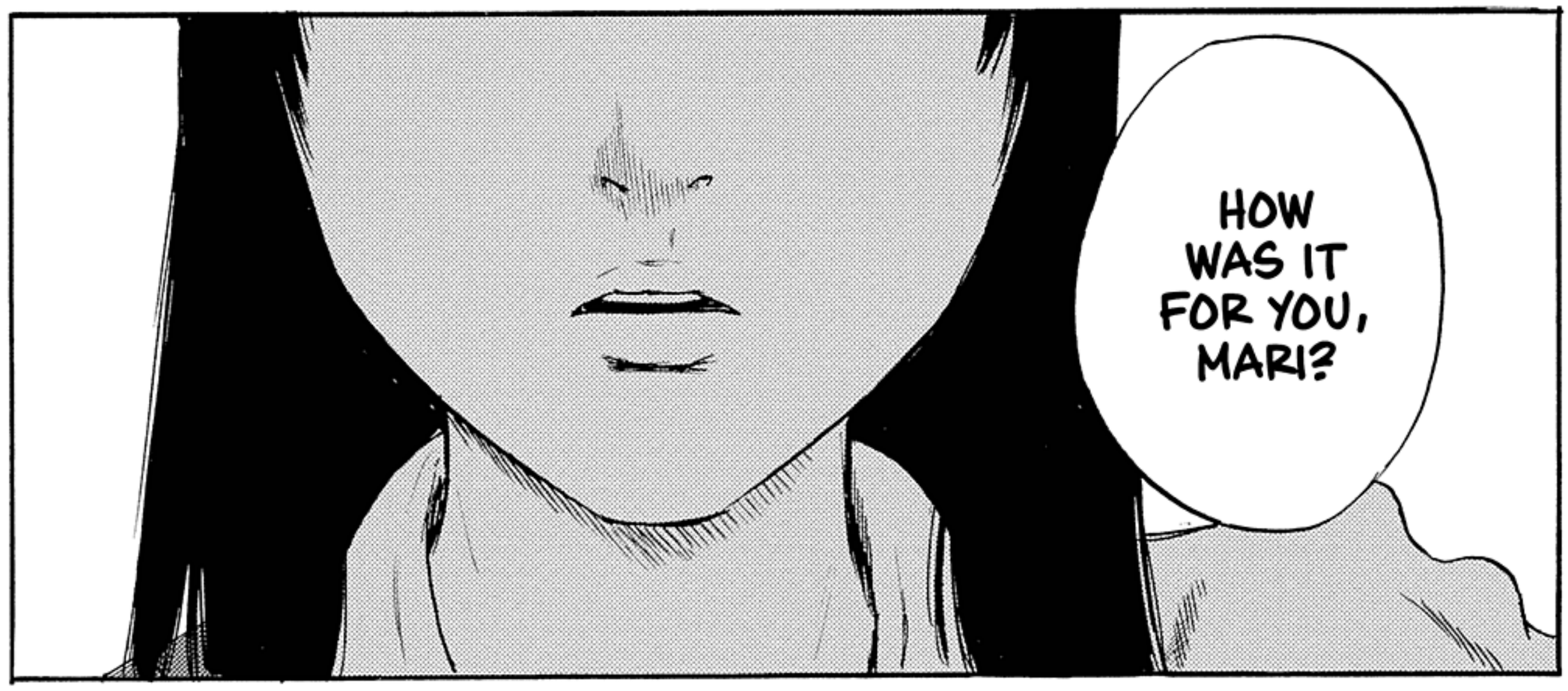

ちゅぴ
PECK


HUH?
...




SKWEEZ
ギュッ!


THAT...
FELT GREAT TO ME.


HOW WAS IT FOR YOU, MARI?

HMM?

GLOK

THAT HURT.

OWW!

THROB ズキ

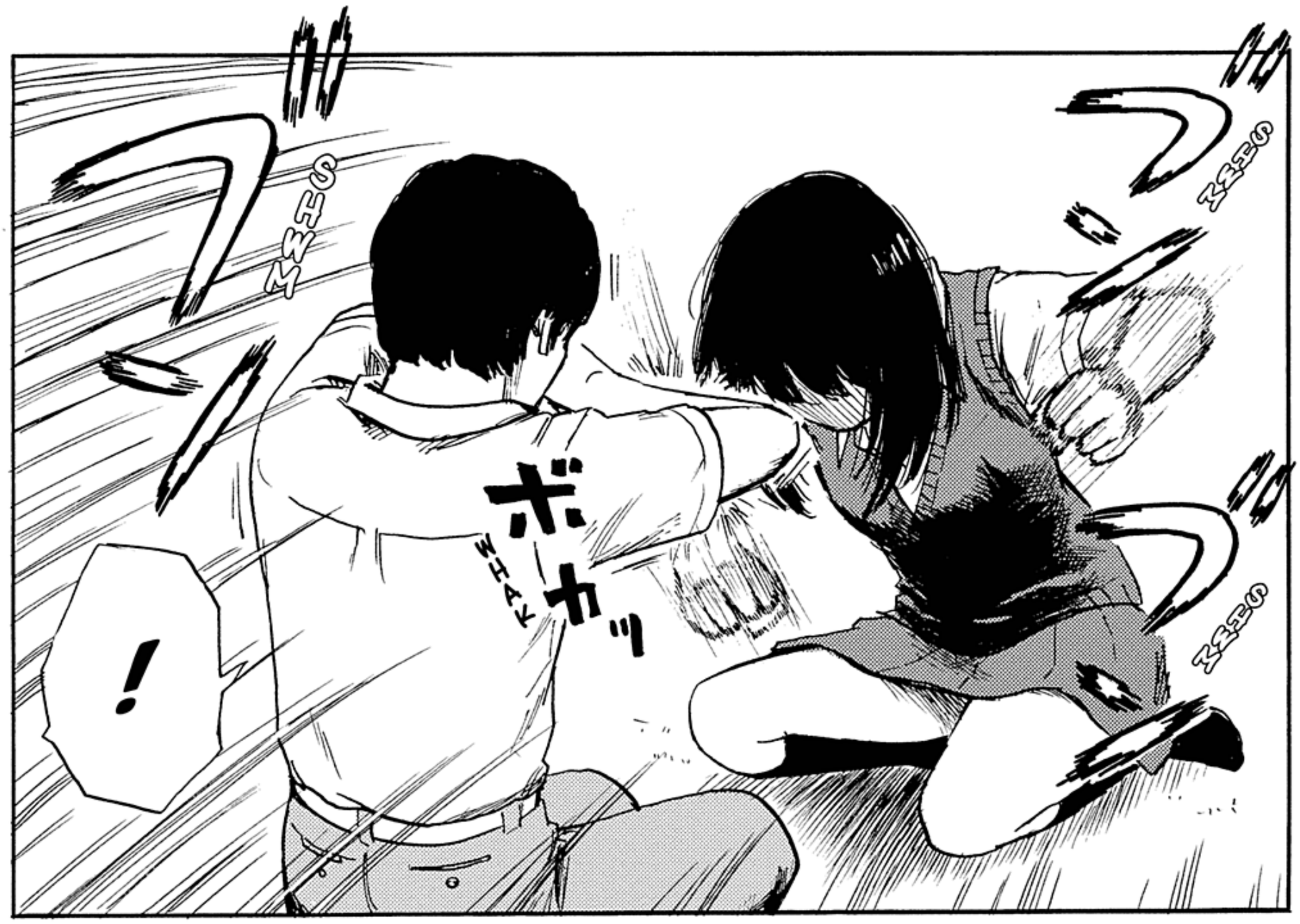
THROB ズキ

じん

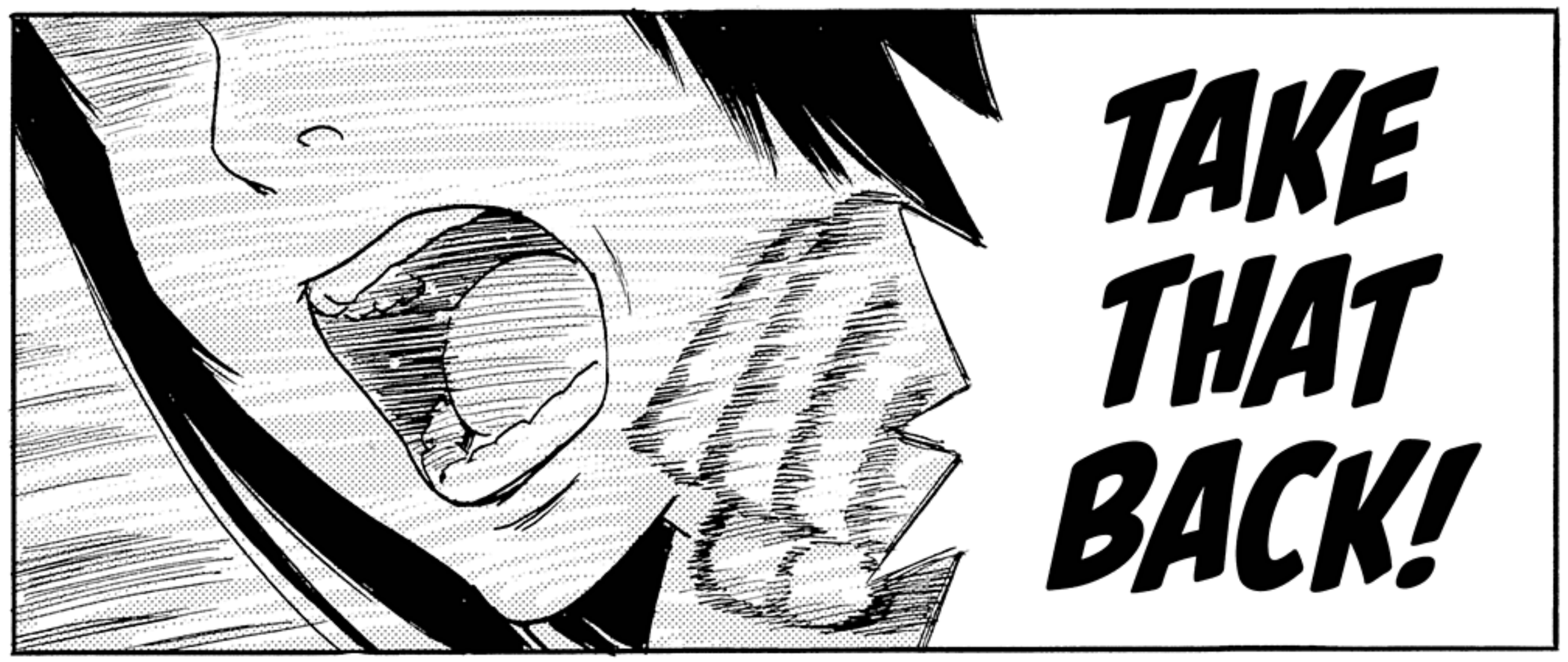
STING

AH...

AH...

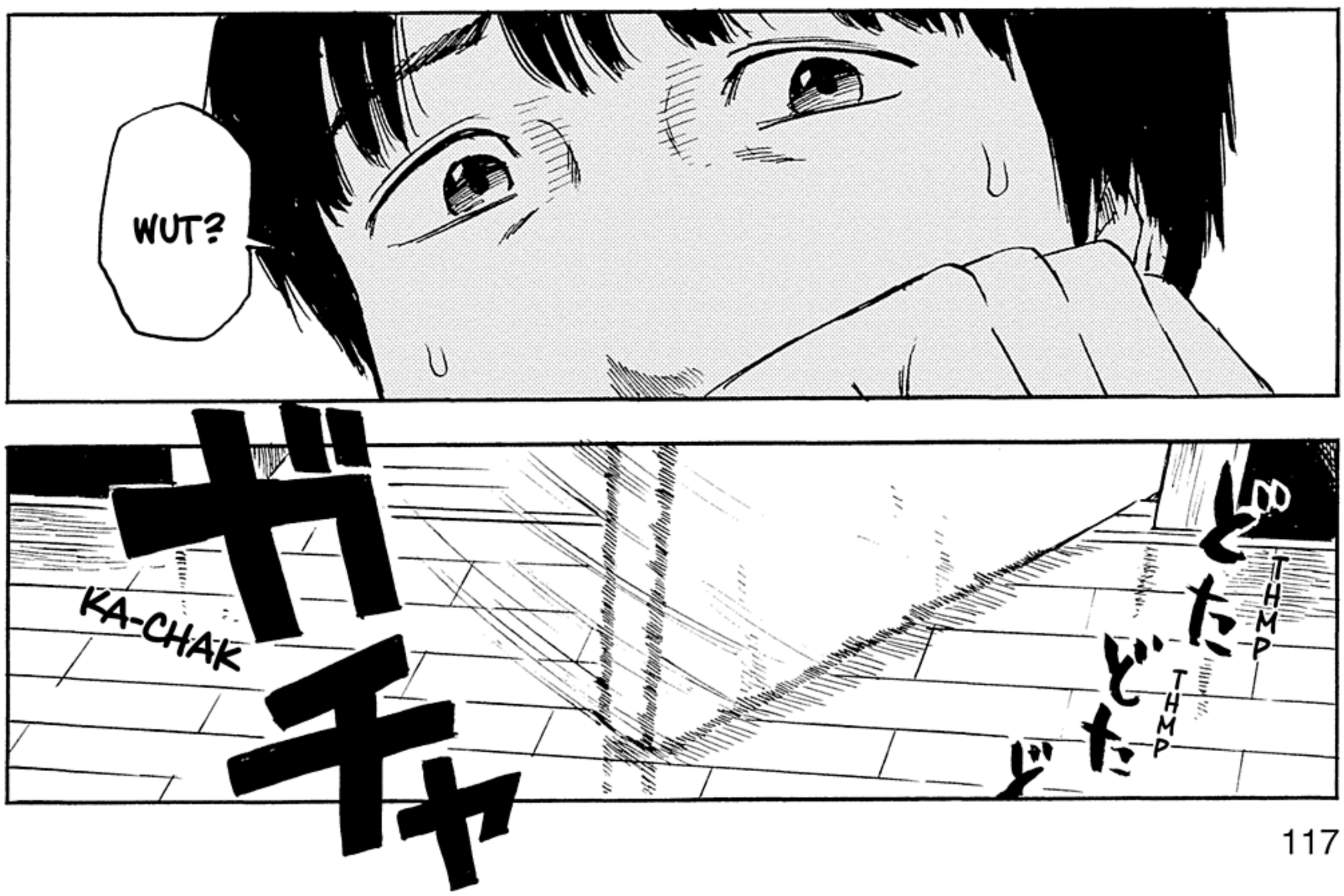

ボカッ
!

WHOA ?
OUCH!
HOLD ON...


TAKE THAT BACK!

FUCK THAT SHIT!

TAKE IT BACK!



YOU TAKE THAT BACK!

MARI...

MARI! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

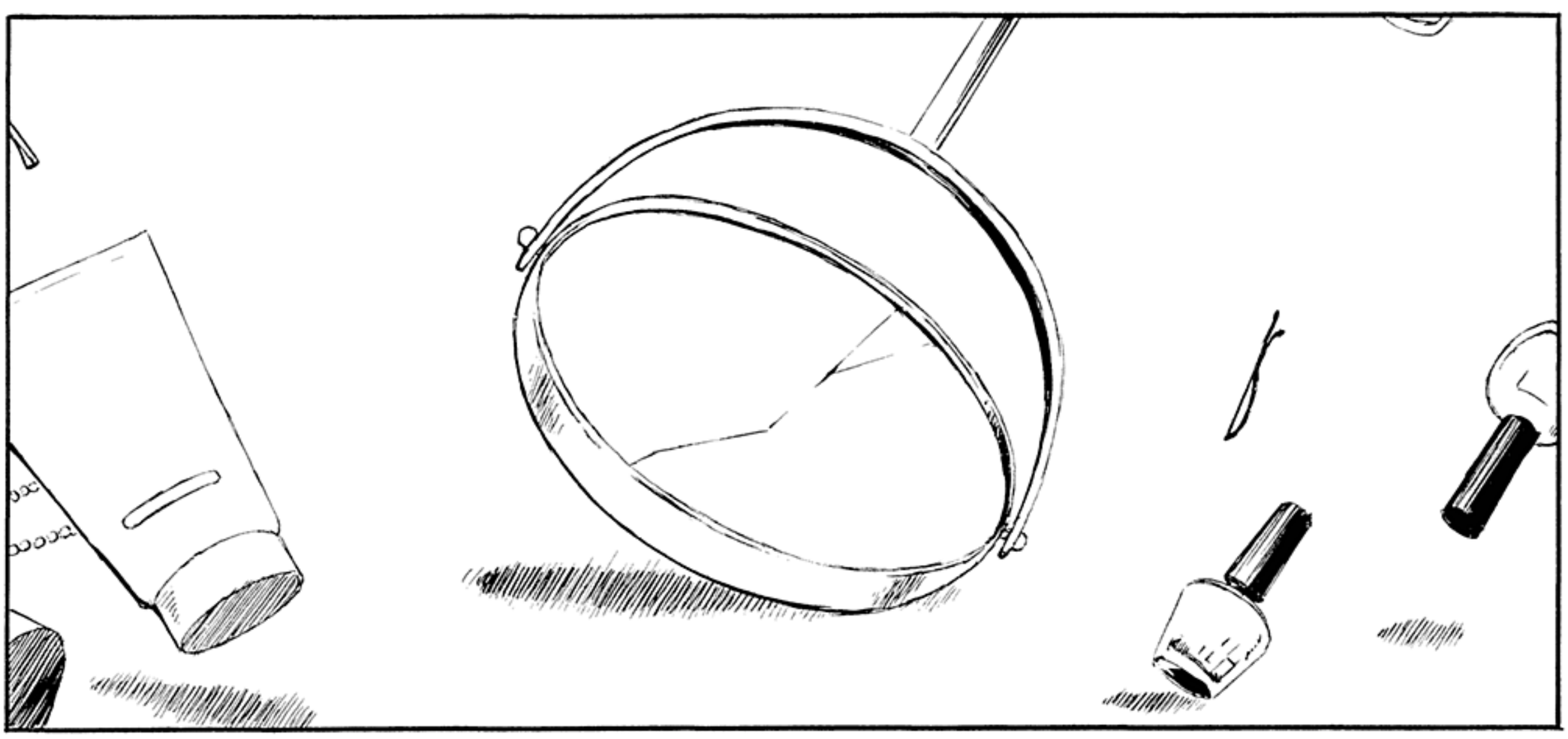
STOP IT!

TAKE IT BACK!

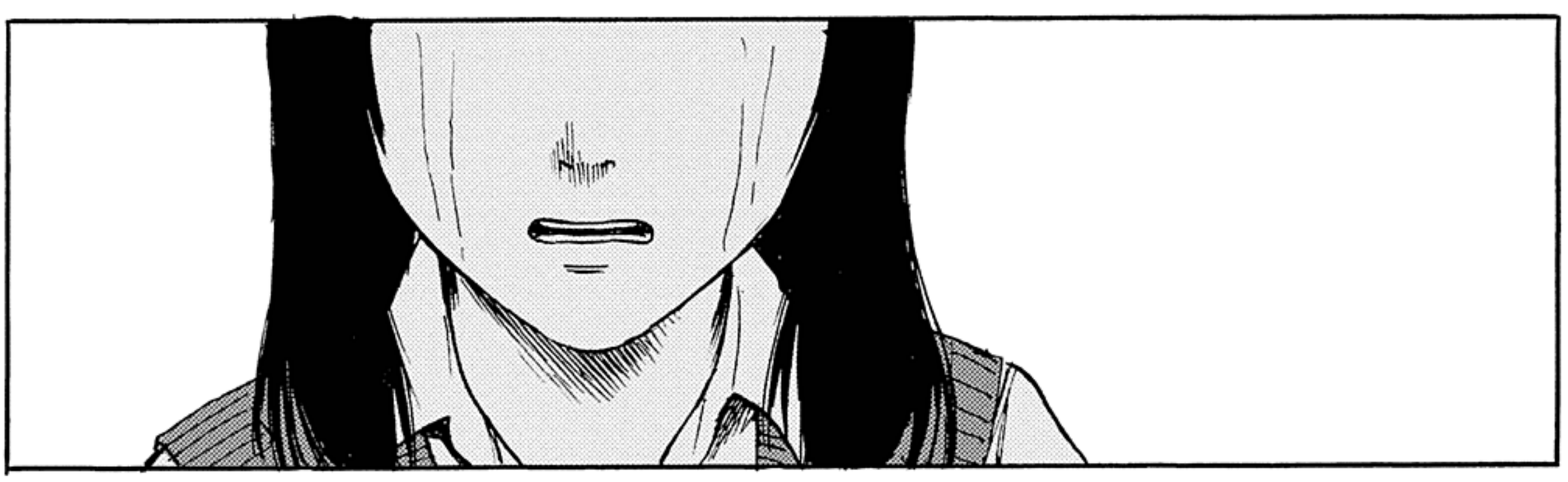
MARI!

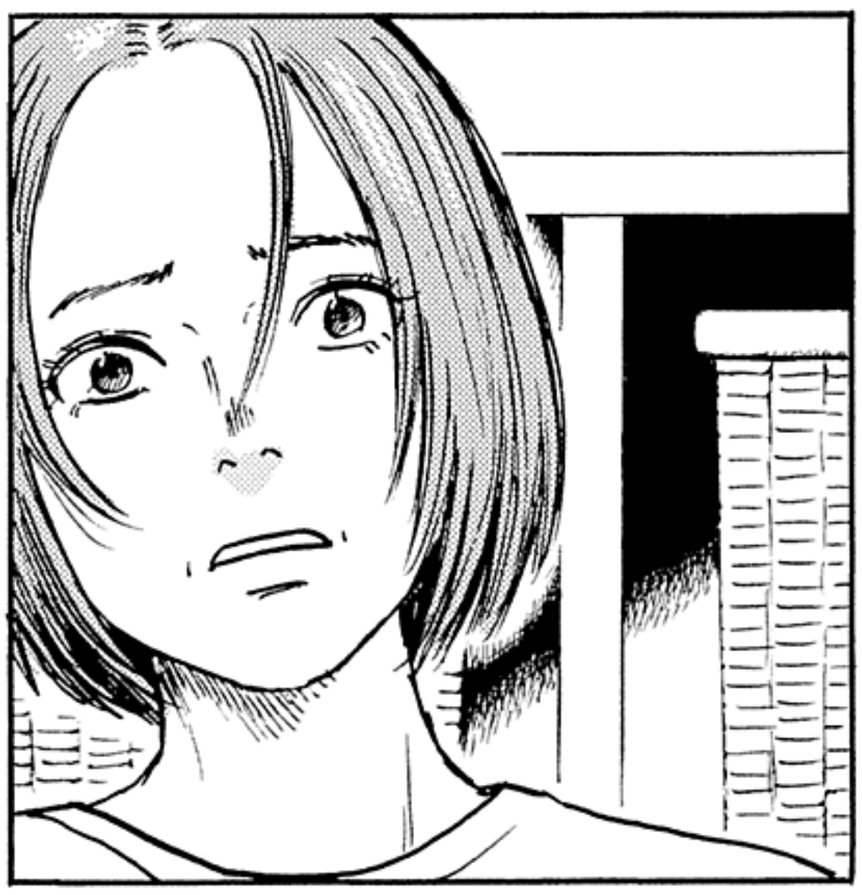
EEK!
SHOV
BACK OFF!

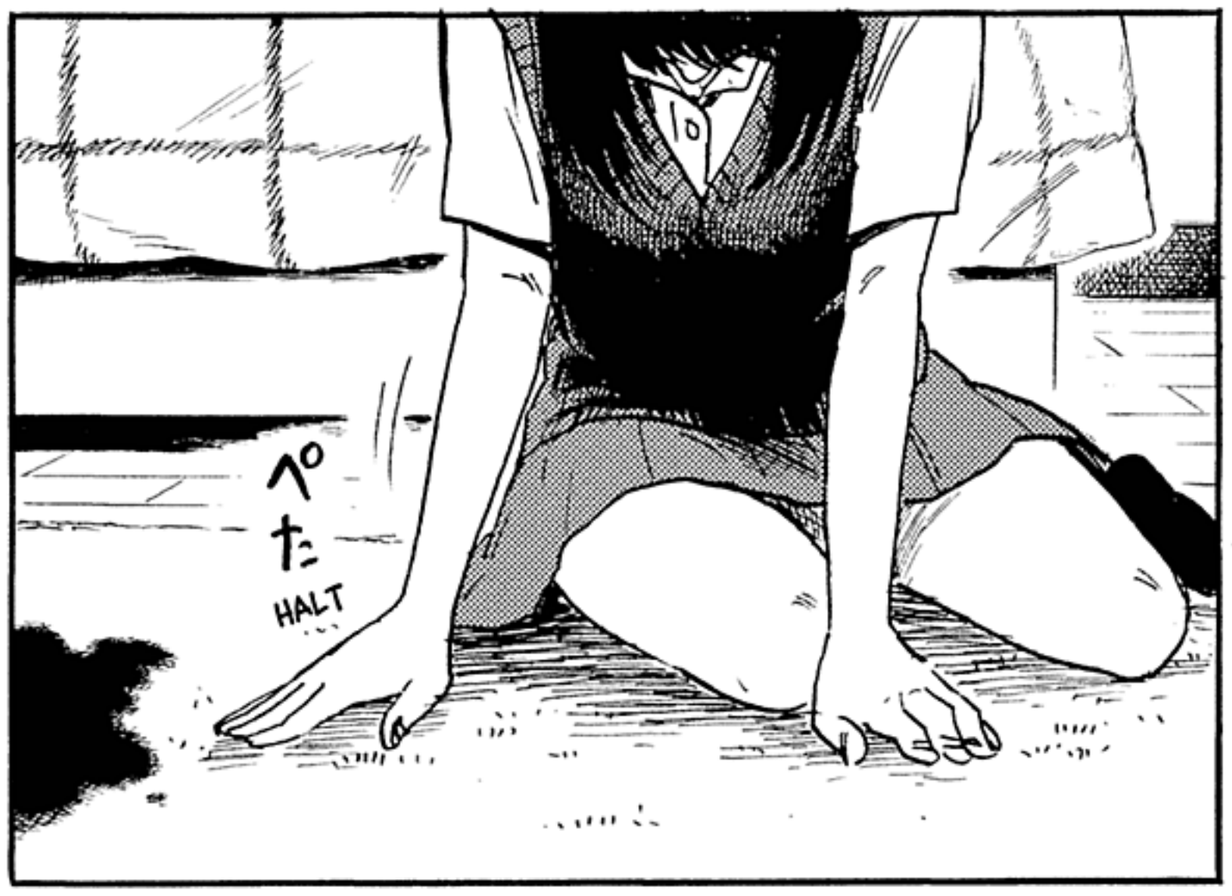
KRASH

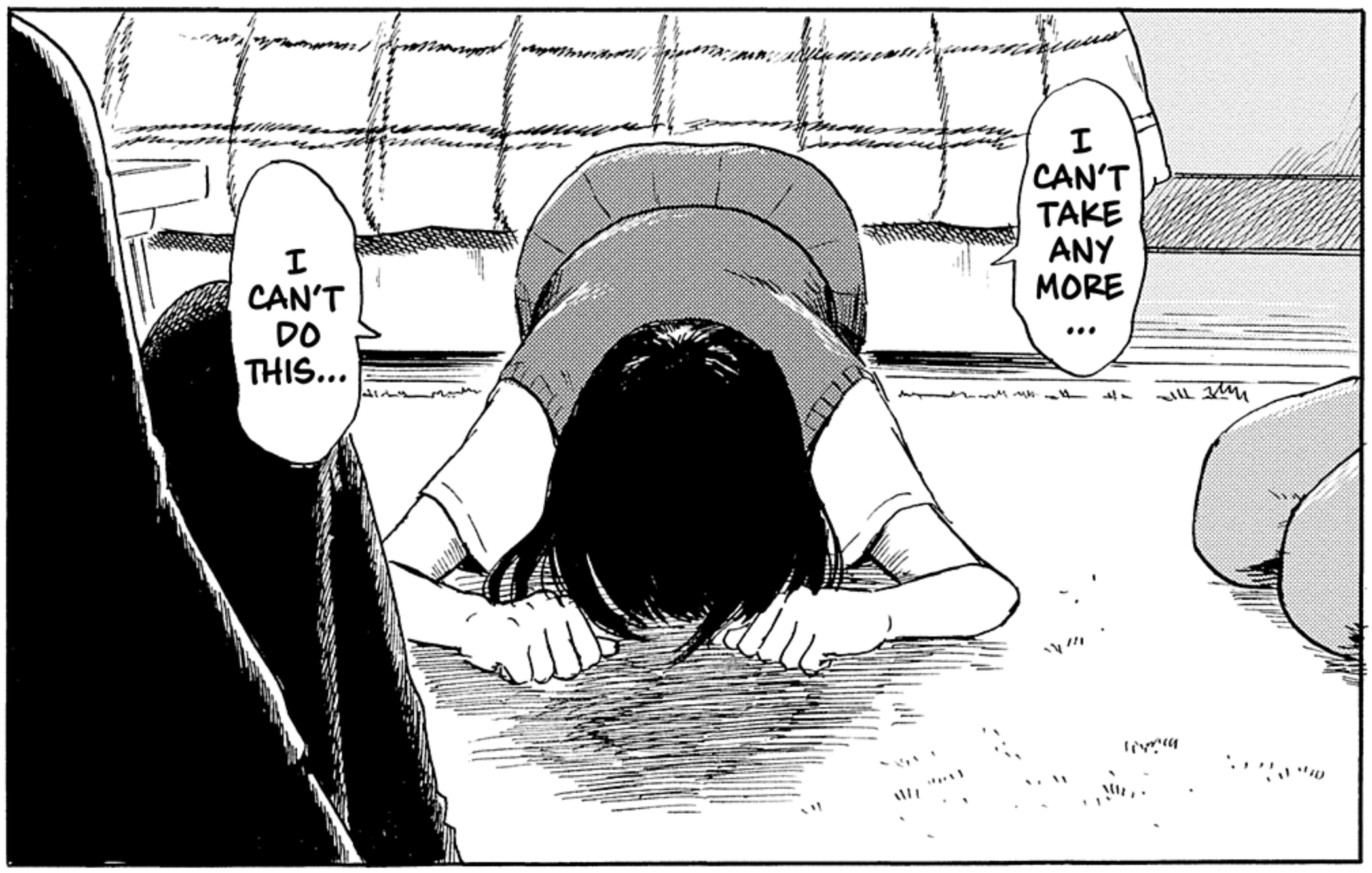


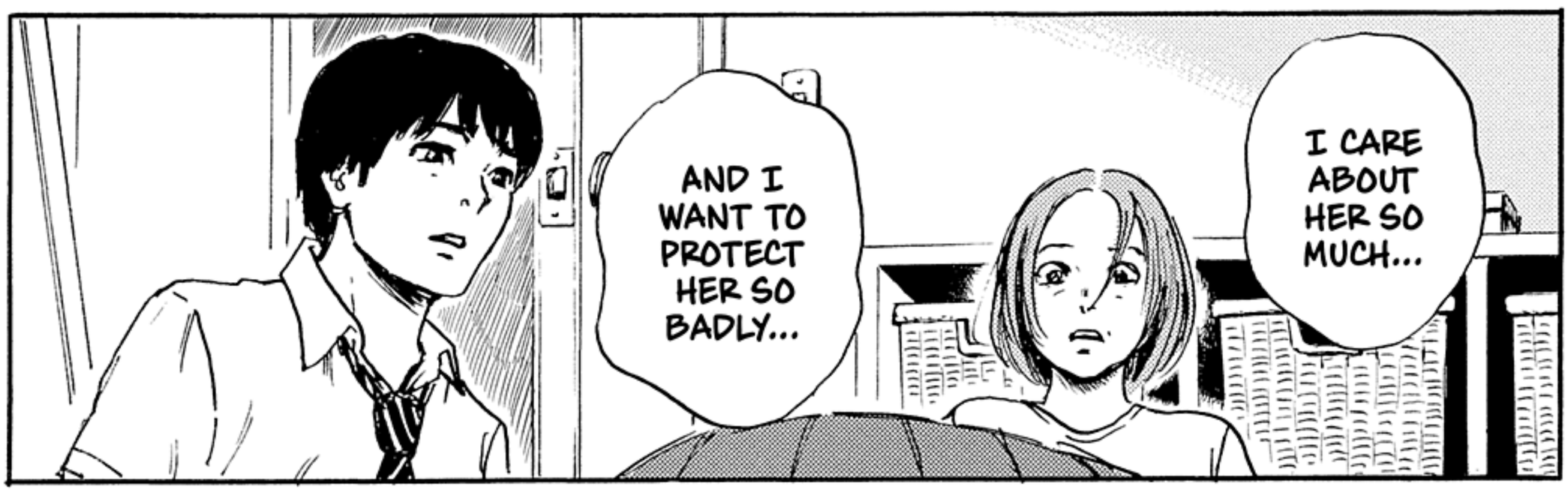
OUCH...

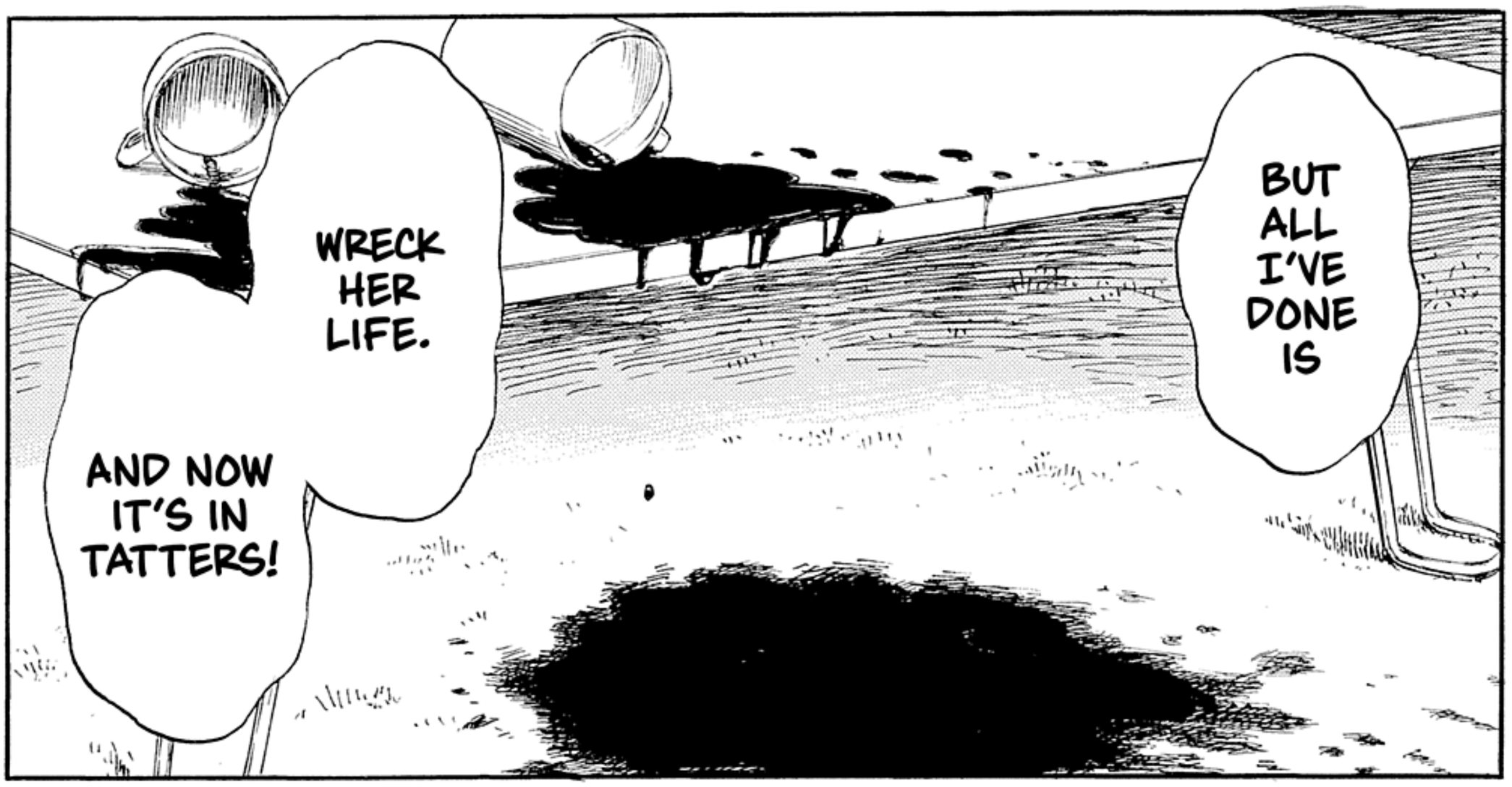







I CAN'T DO THIS...
I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE ...


AND I WANT TO PROTECT HER SO BADLY...
I CARE ABOUT HER SO MUCH...

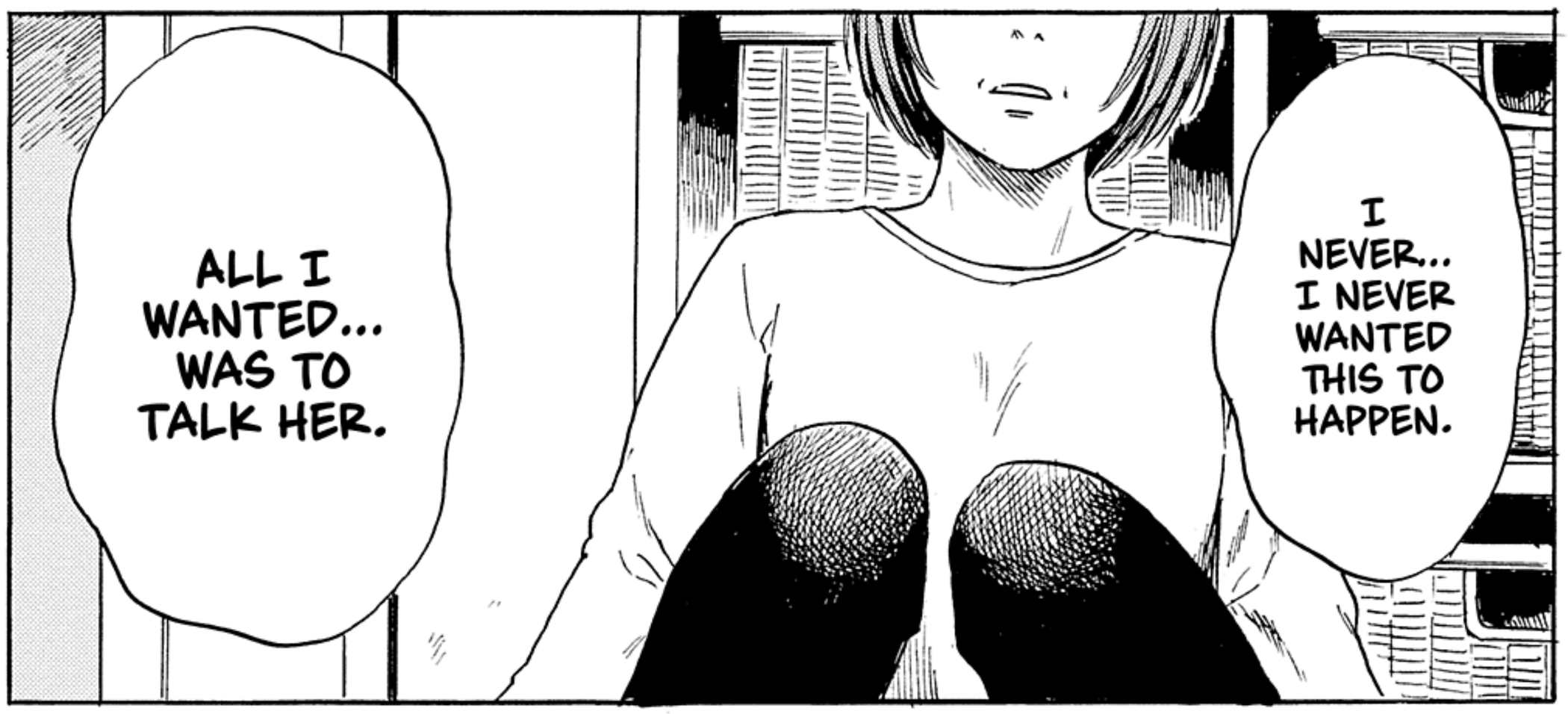

WRECK HER LIFE.
AND NOW IT'S IN TATTERS!
BUT ALL I'VE DONE IS

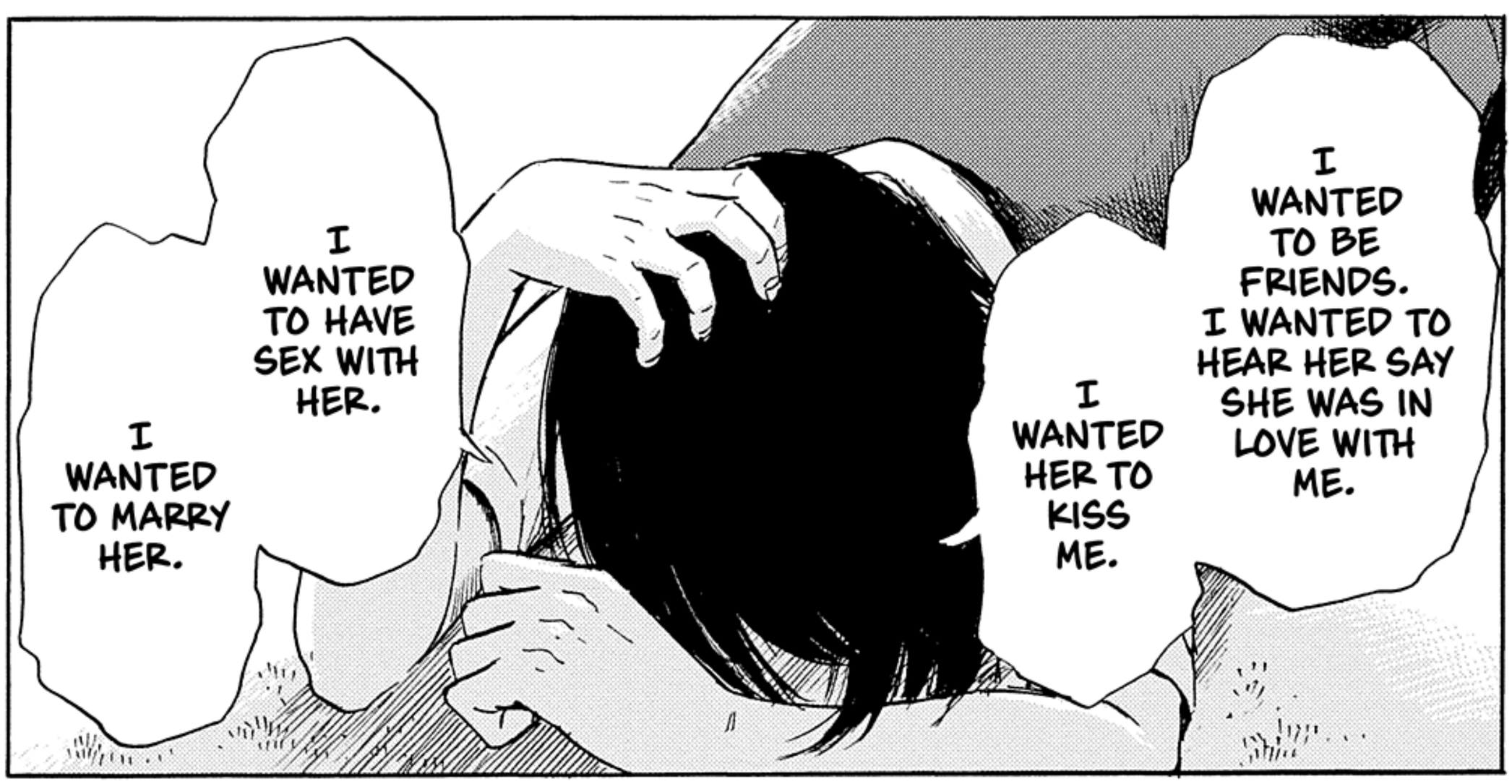
I'M SO, SO... SORRY...

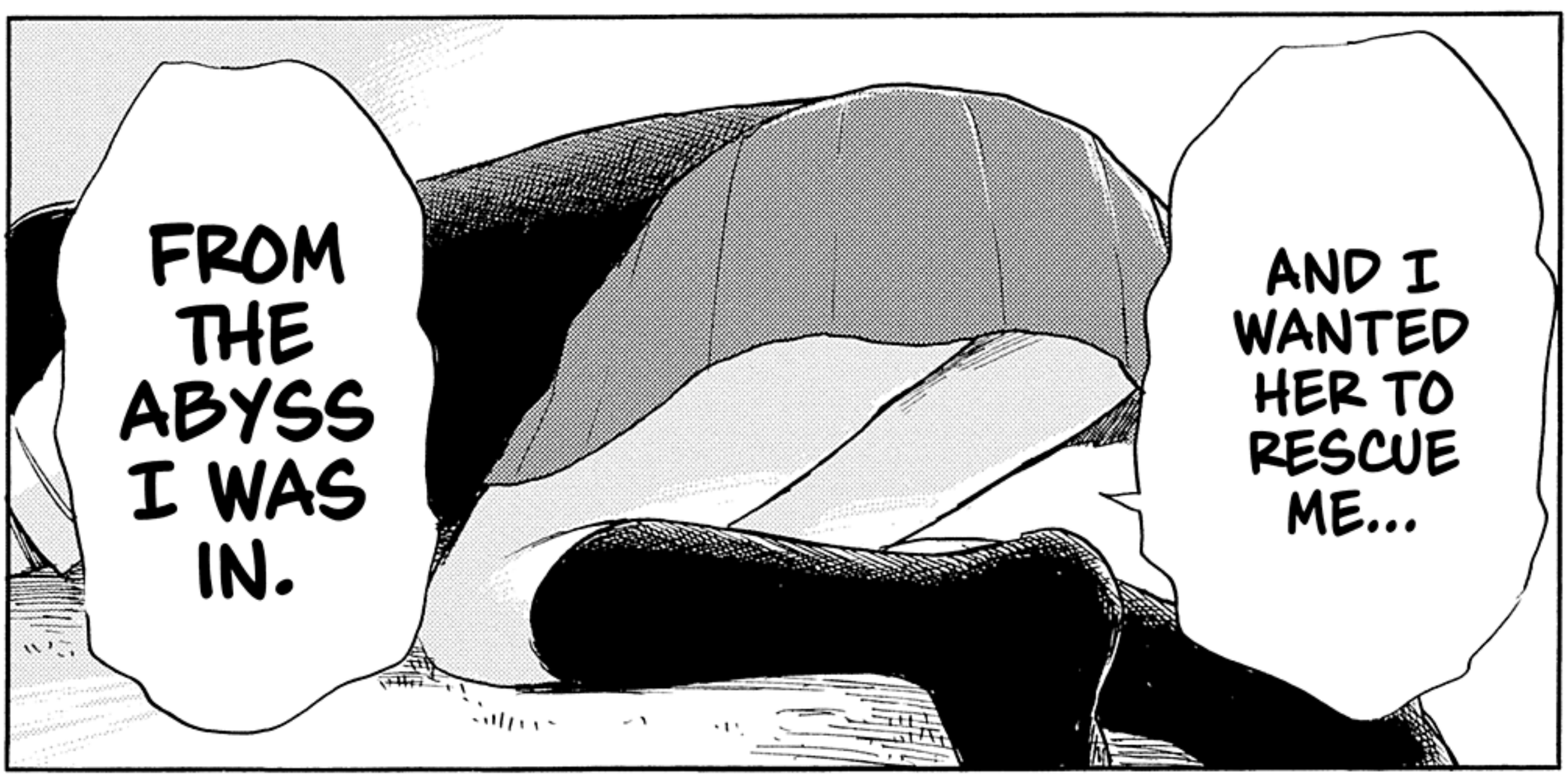
I'M SORRY...

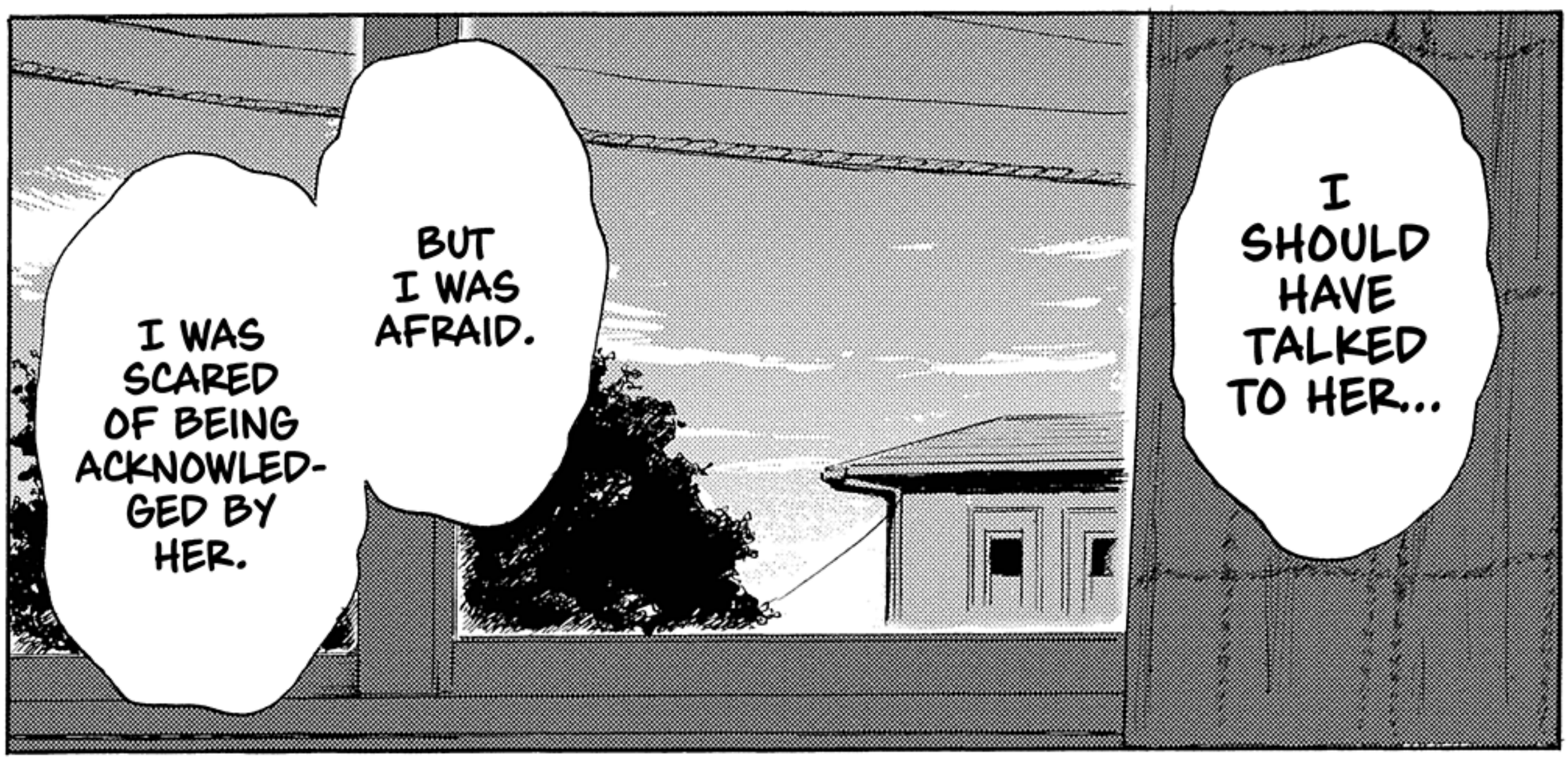
I'M NOT REALLY MARI.

MY NAME IS ISAO KOMORI...


ALL I WANTED... WAS TO TALK HER.
I NEVER... I NEVER WANTED THIS TO HAPPEN.


I WANTED TO MARRY HER.
I WANTED TO HAVE SEX WITH HER.
I WANTED TO BE FRIENDS. I WANTED TO HEAR HER SAY SHE WAS IN LOVE WITH ME.
I WANTED HER TO KISS ME.


FROM THE ABYSS I WAS IN.
AND I WANTED HER TO RESCUE ME...


I WAS SCARED OF BEING ACKNOWLED-GED BY HER.
BUT I WAS AFRAID.
I SHOULD HAVE TALKED TO HER...

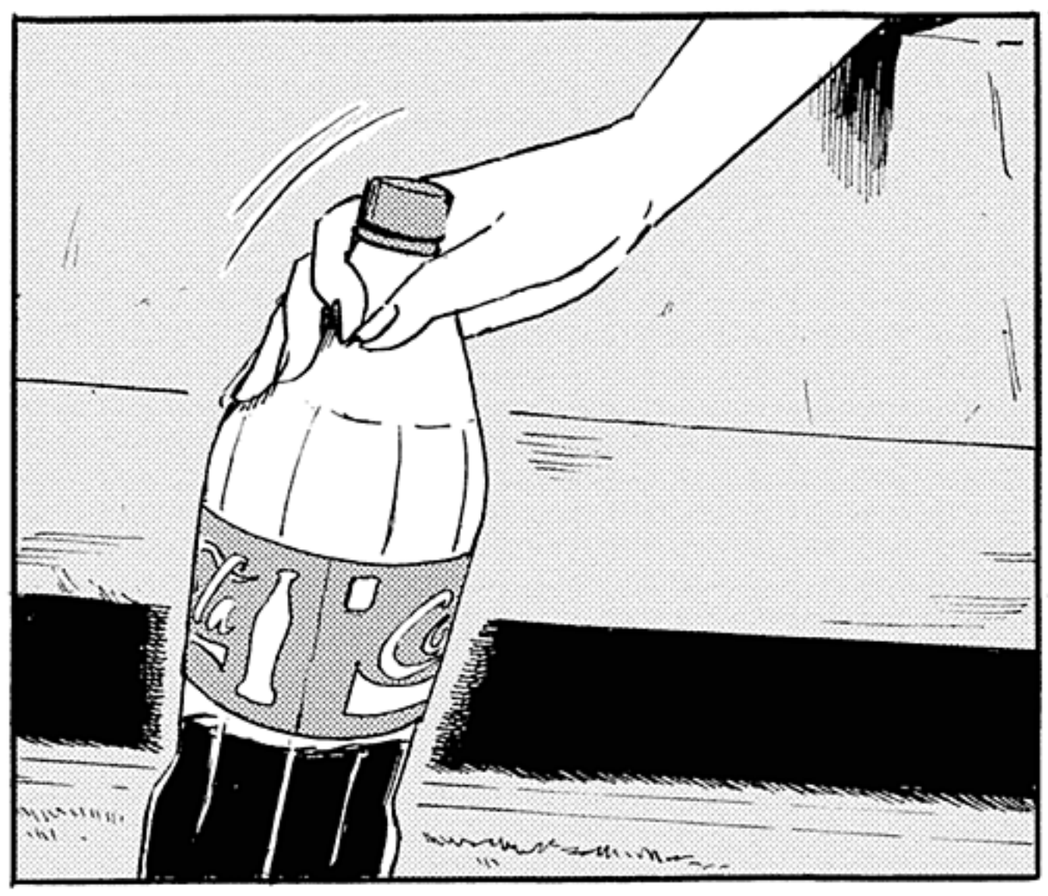
THAT'S ALL I COULD DO!
I RAN AWAY FROM EVERY-THING.
SO I RAN WAY...

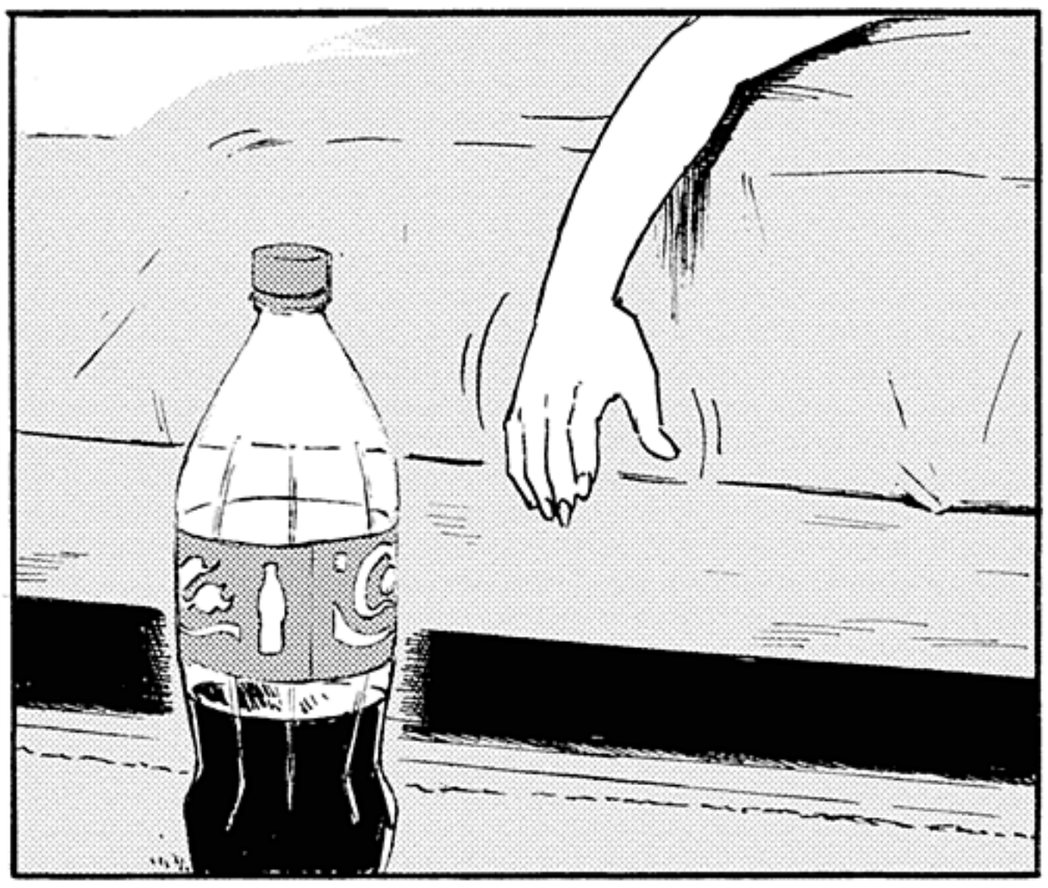
I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON!
PLEASE LET ME GO HOME!
SO I'M SORRY... I'M SORRY!

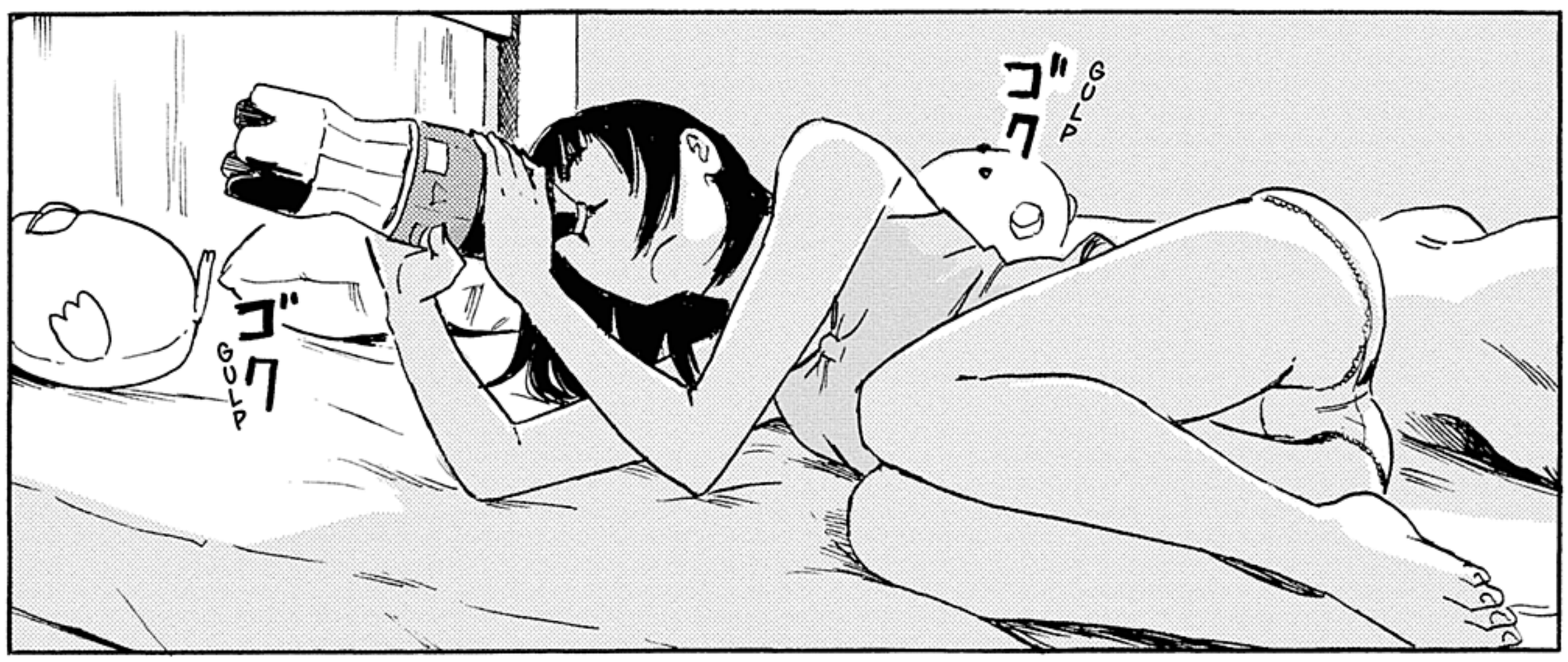
PLEASE ...
BWA-AAA-AAA-AAA-AH!
WAA-AAA-AAA-AAA-AAA-AH!

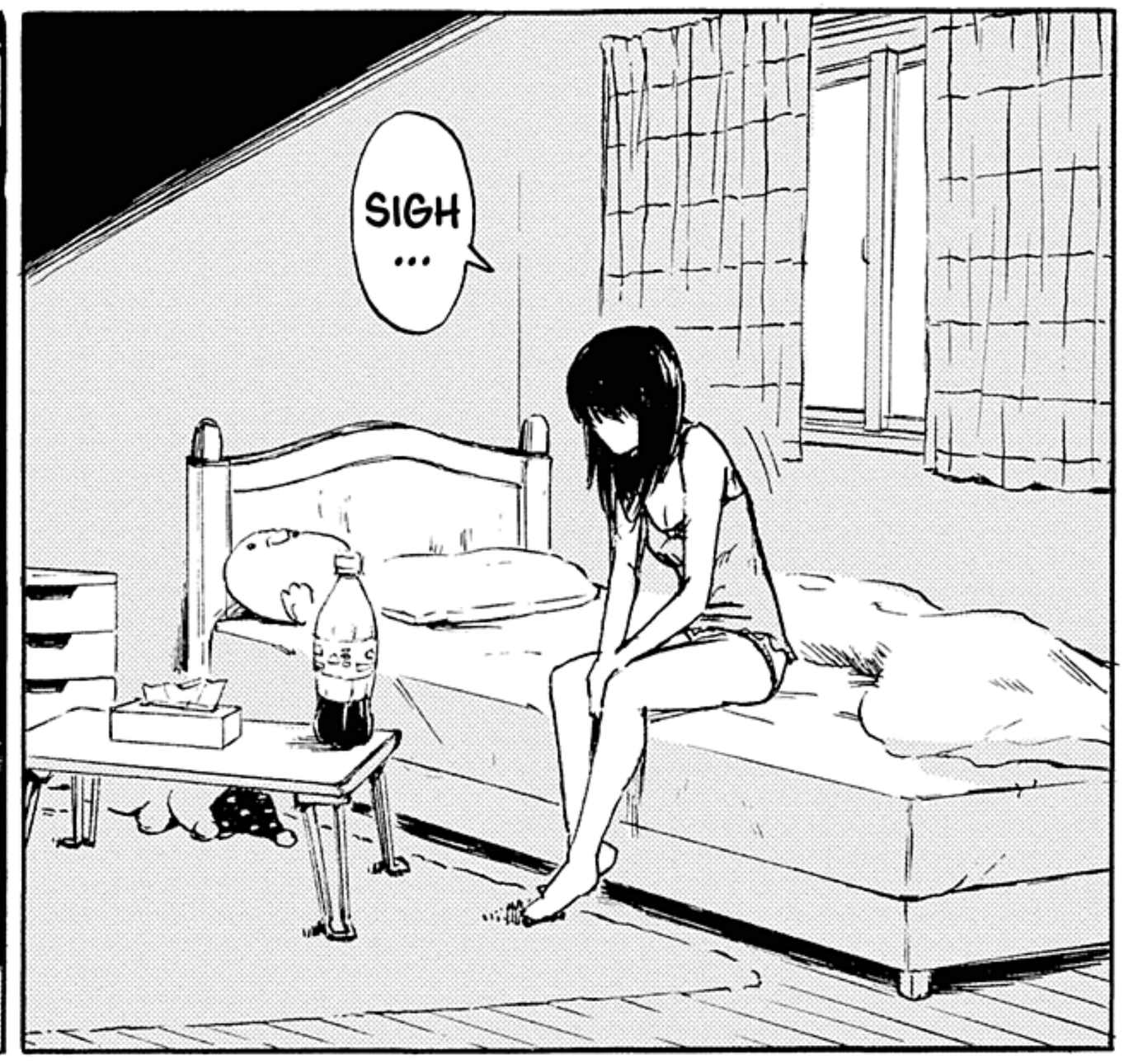
Chapter 24: I am Isao Komori

KAW
KAW






ゴク
GULP
ゴク
GULP


SIGH
...

URP...

MARI?

コン NOC

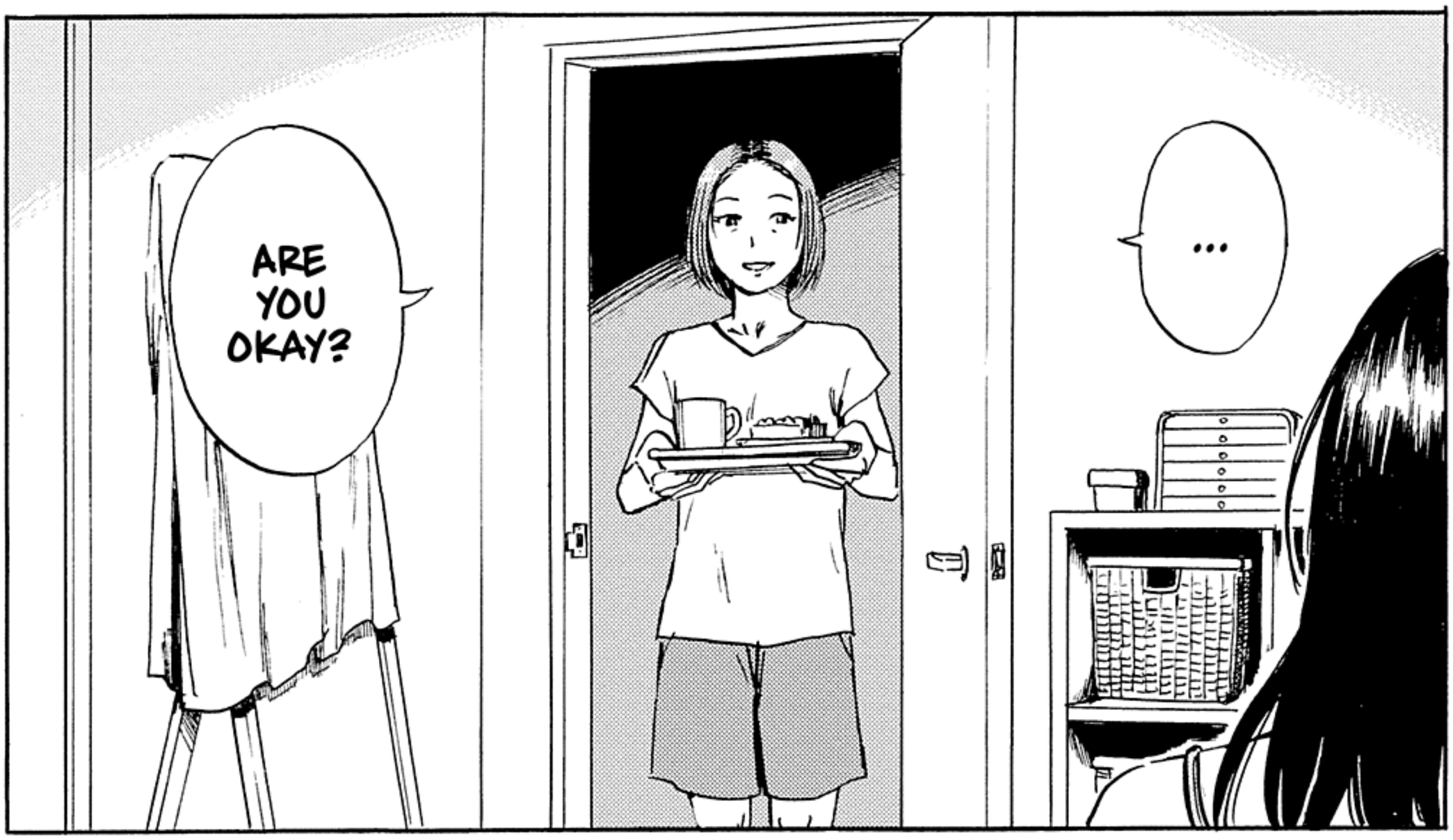
コン NOC

ガチャ KACHAK

キイ KREAK

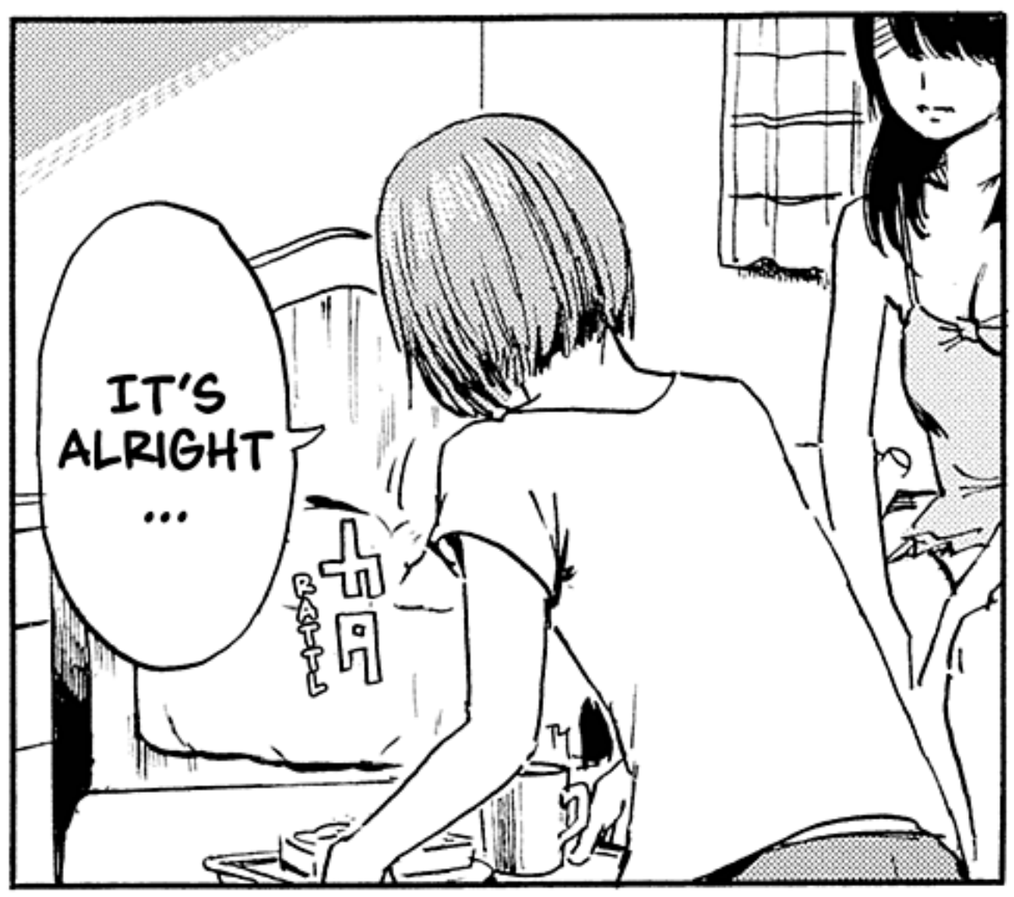
ARE YOU UP?

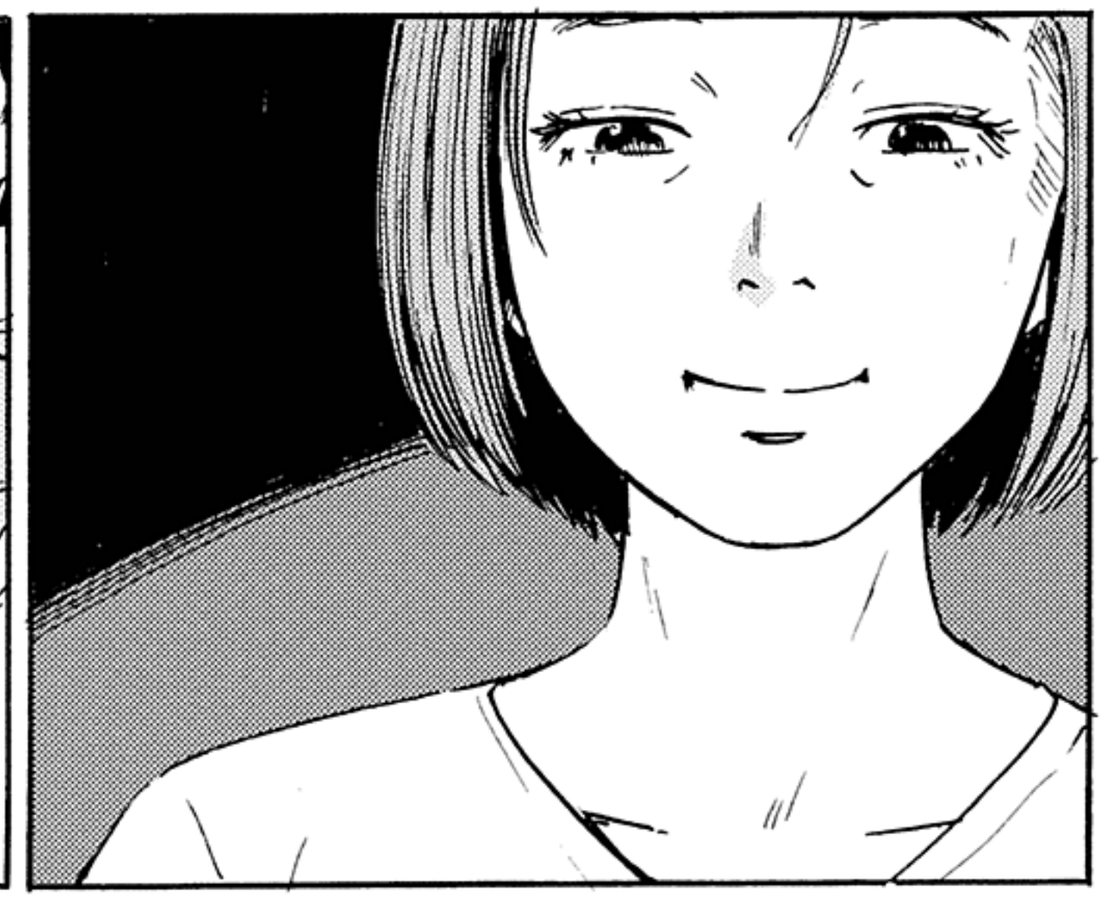
I'M COMING IN.

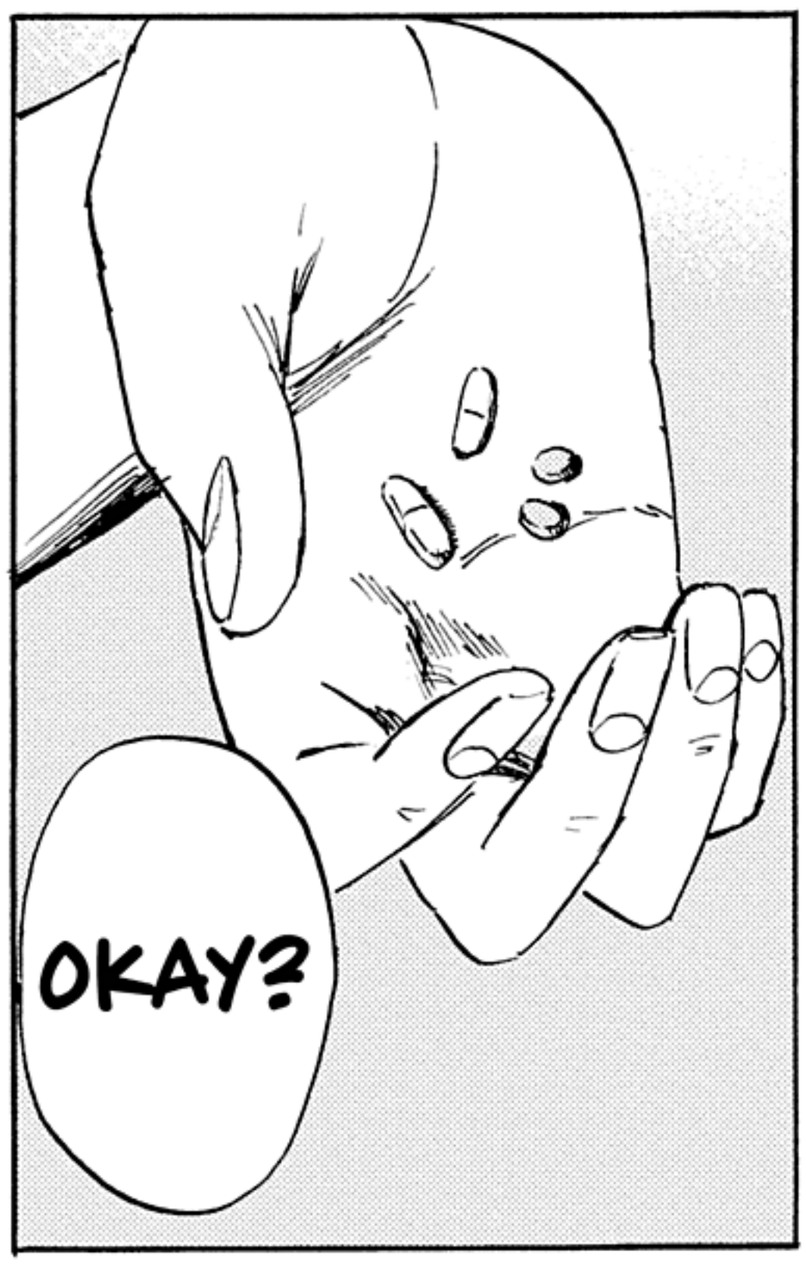

ARE YOU OKAY?
...

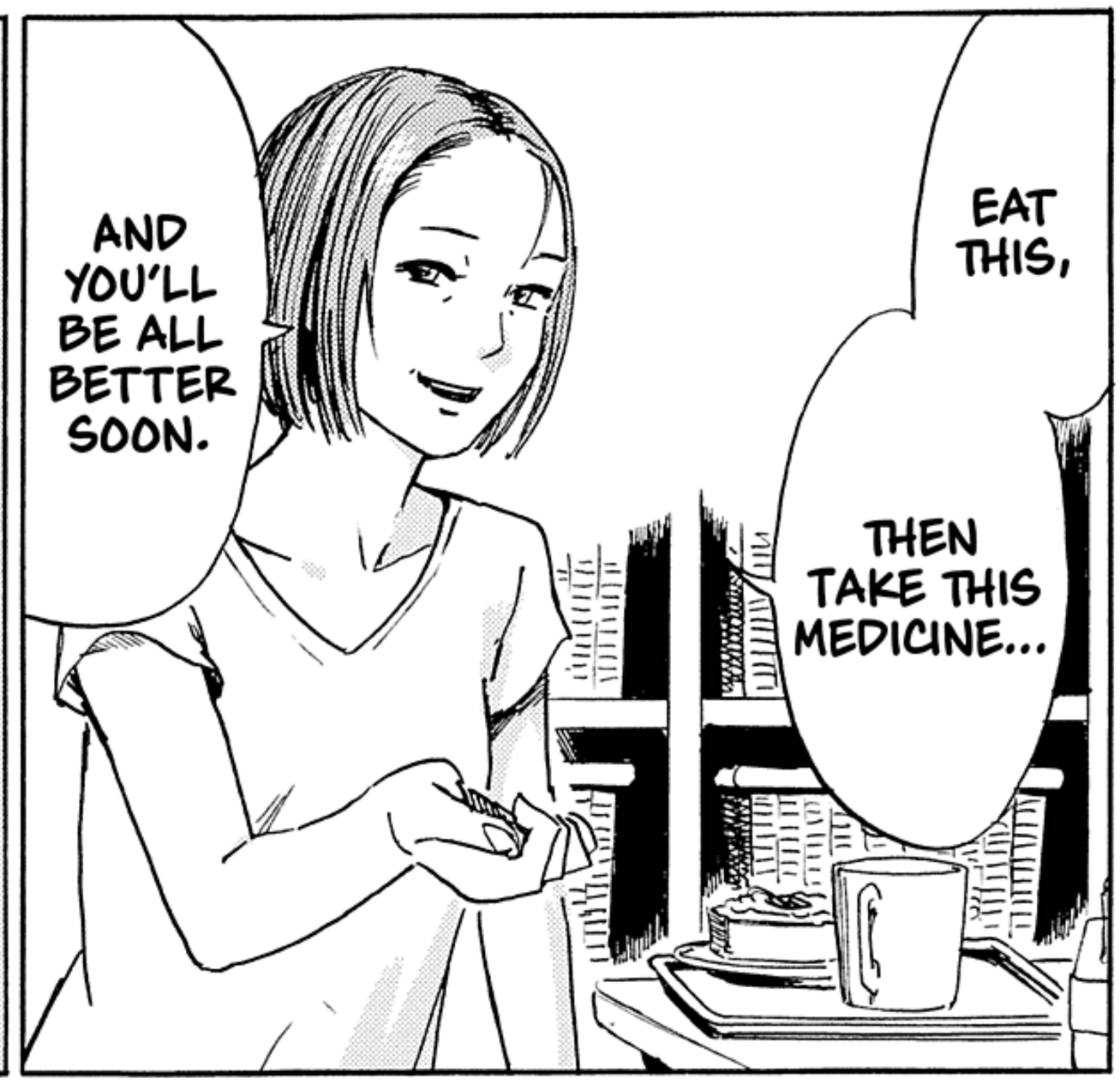
IT'S FIVE IN THE EVENING...

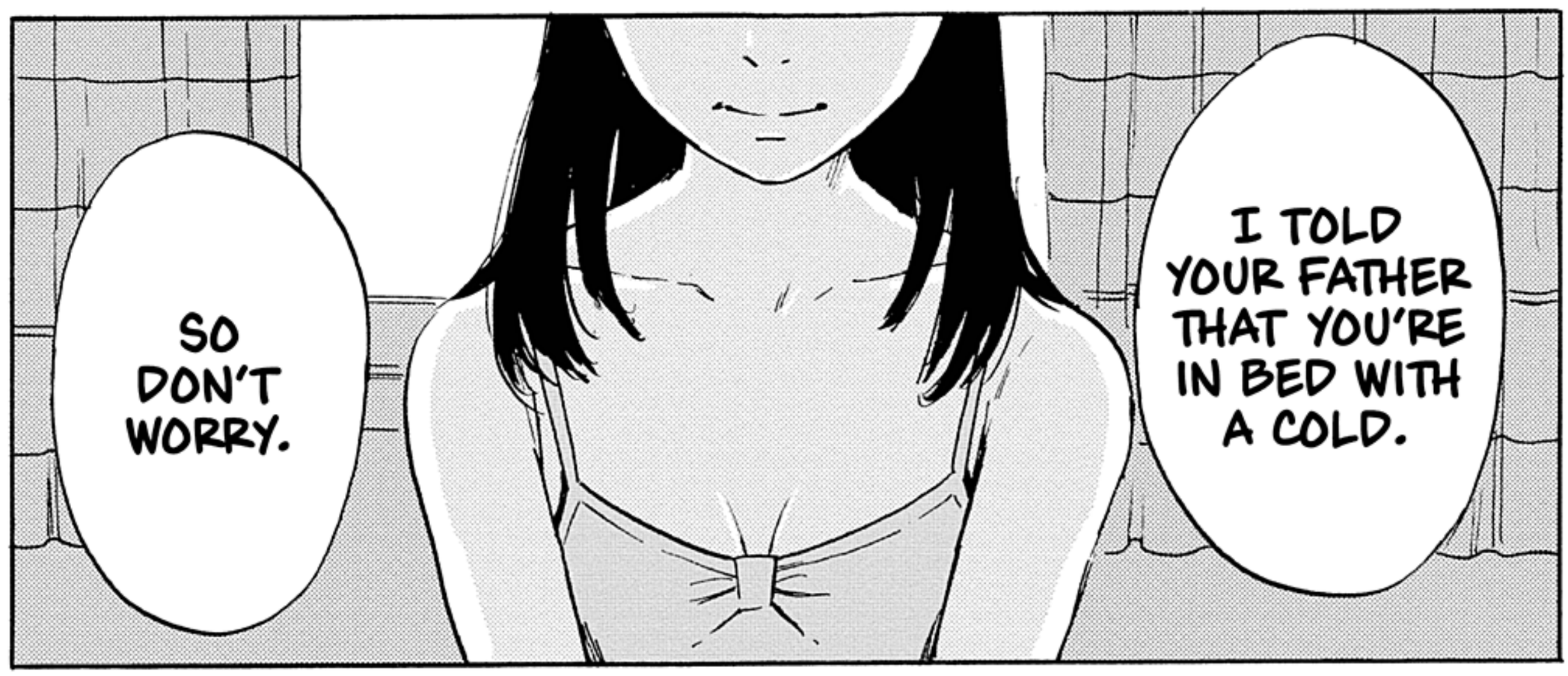
IT'S ISAO KOMORI.
I AM NOT MARI.

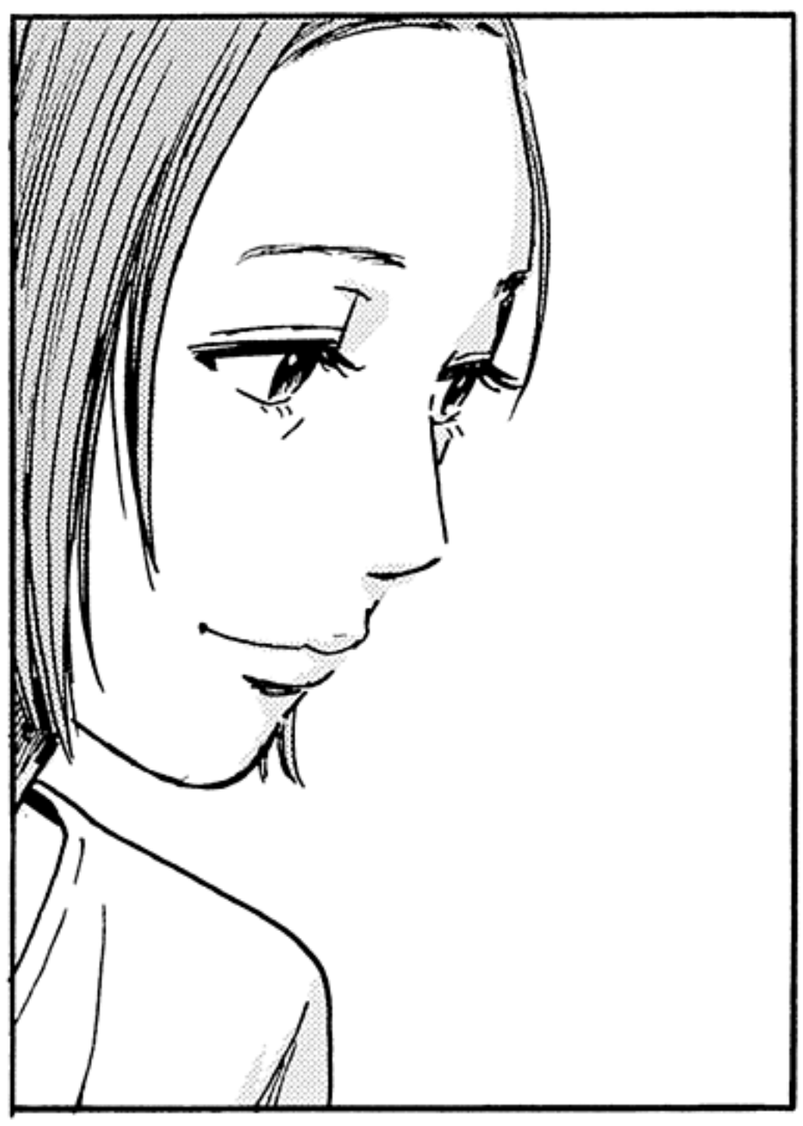

IT'S ALRIGHT ...
CASTLE



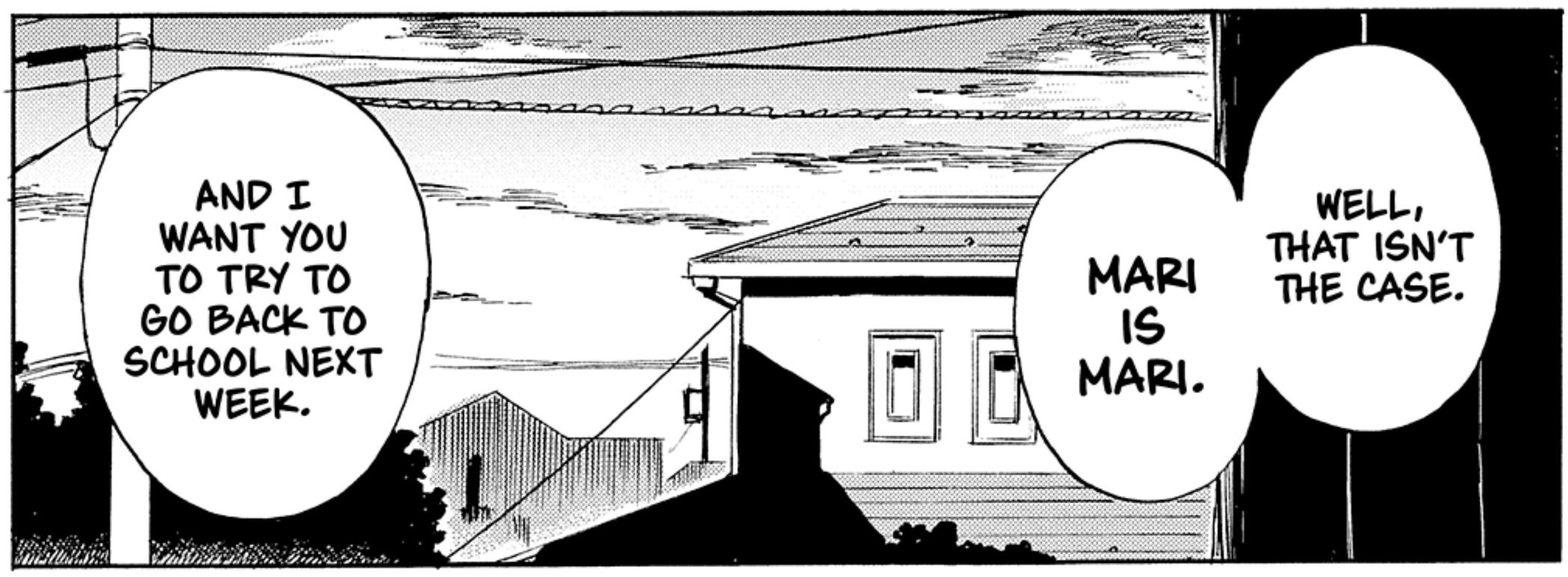

OKAY?


AND YOU'LL BE ALL BETTER SOON.
EAT THIS,
THEN TAKE THIS MEDICINE...

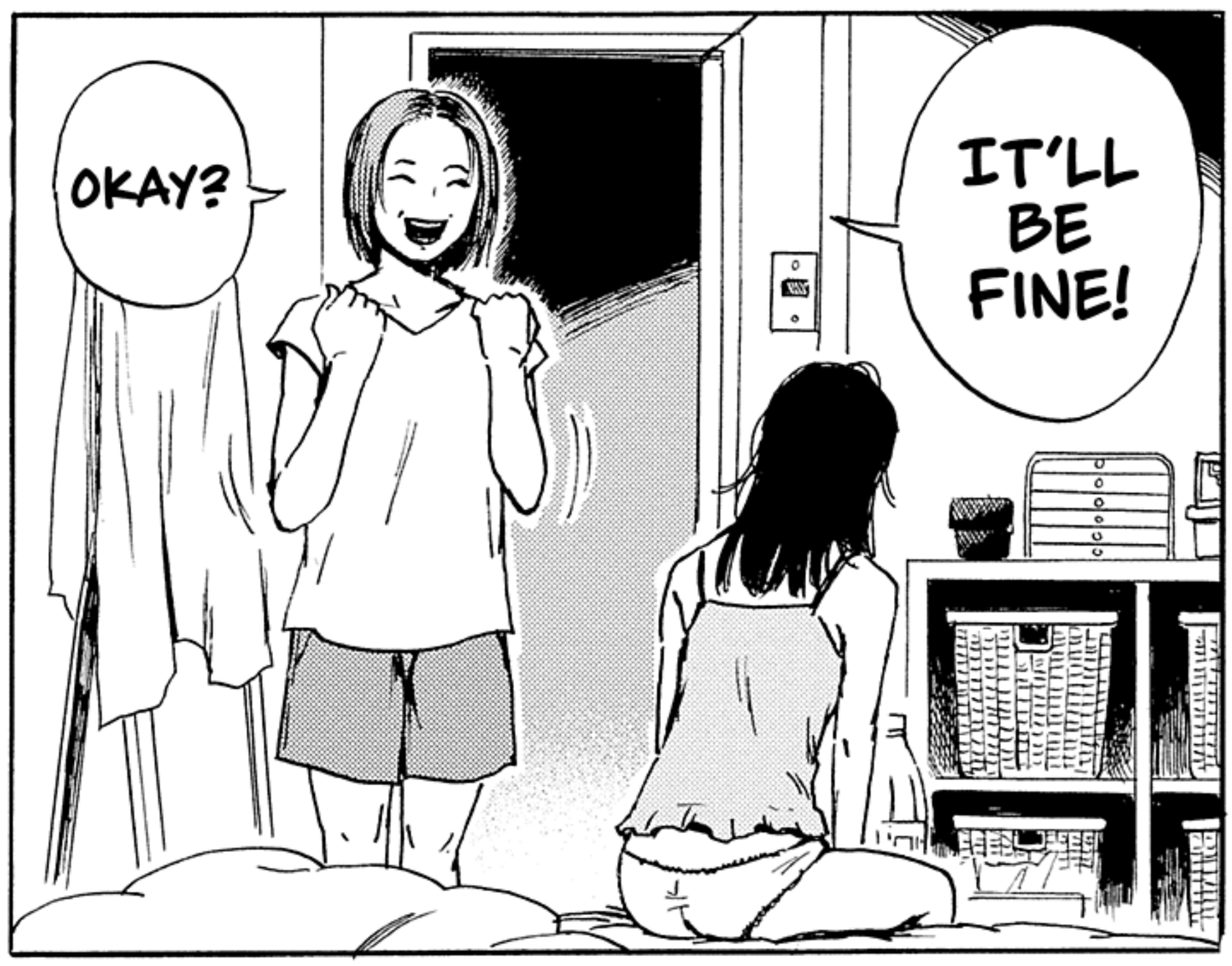

SO DON'T WORRY.
I TOLD YOUR FATHER THAT YOU'RE IN BED WITH A COLD.

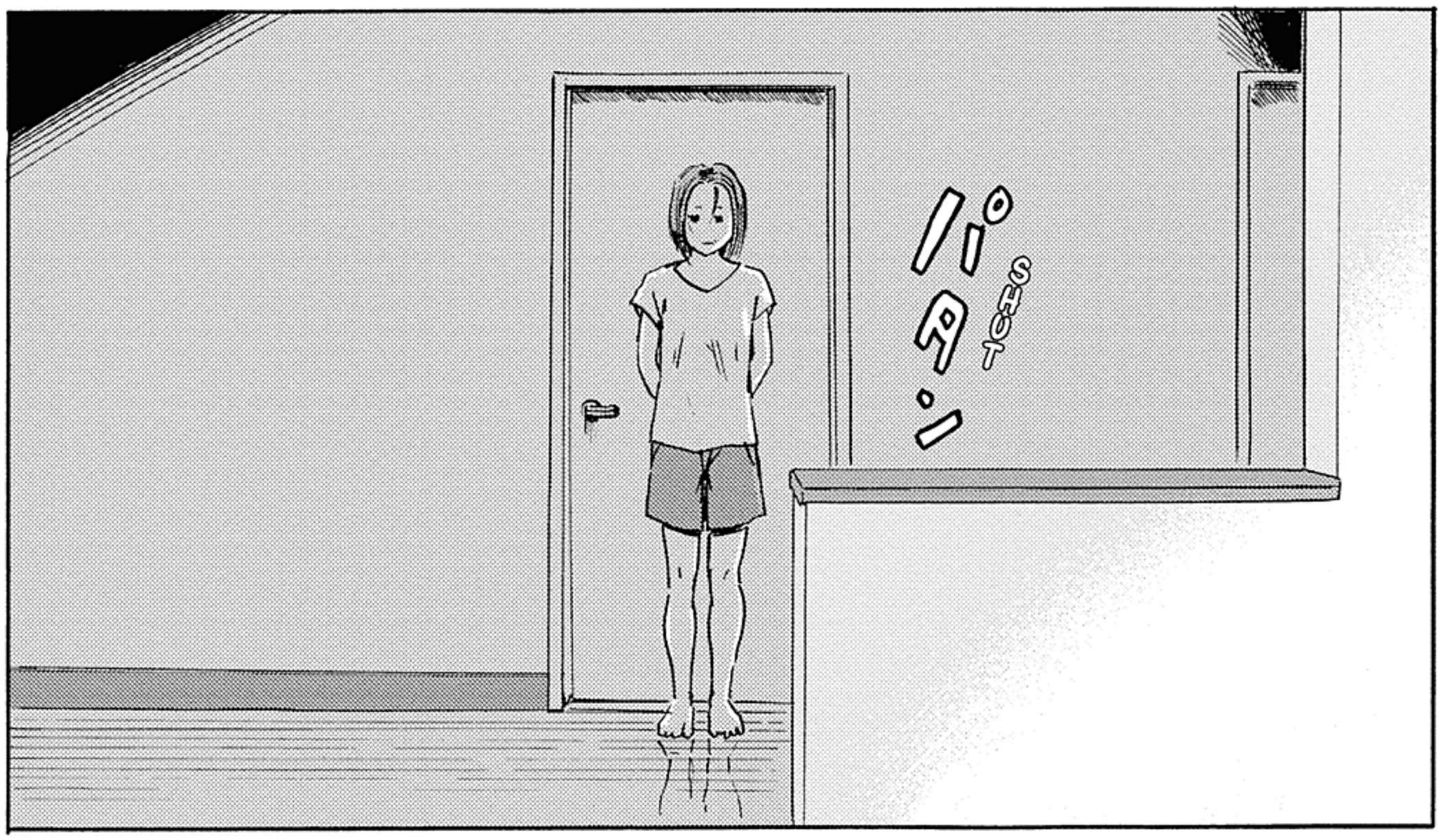


BUT I'M NOT MARI...


AND I WANT YOU TO TRY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL NEXT WEEK.
MARI IS MARI.
WELL, THAT ISN'T THE CASE.

JUST MAKE SURE YOU TAKE YOUR MEDICINE.


OKAY?
IT'LL BE FINE!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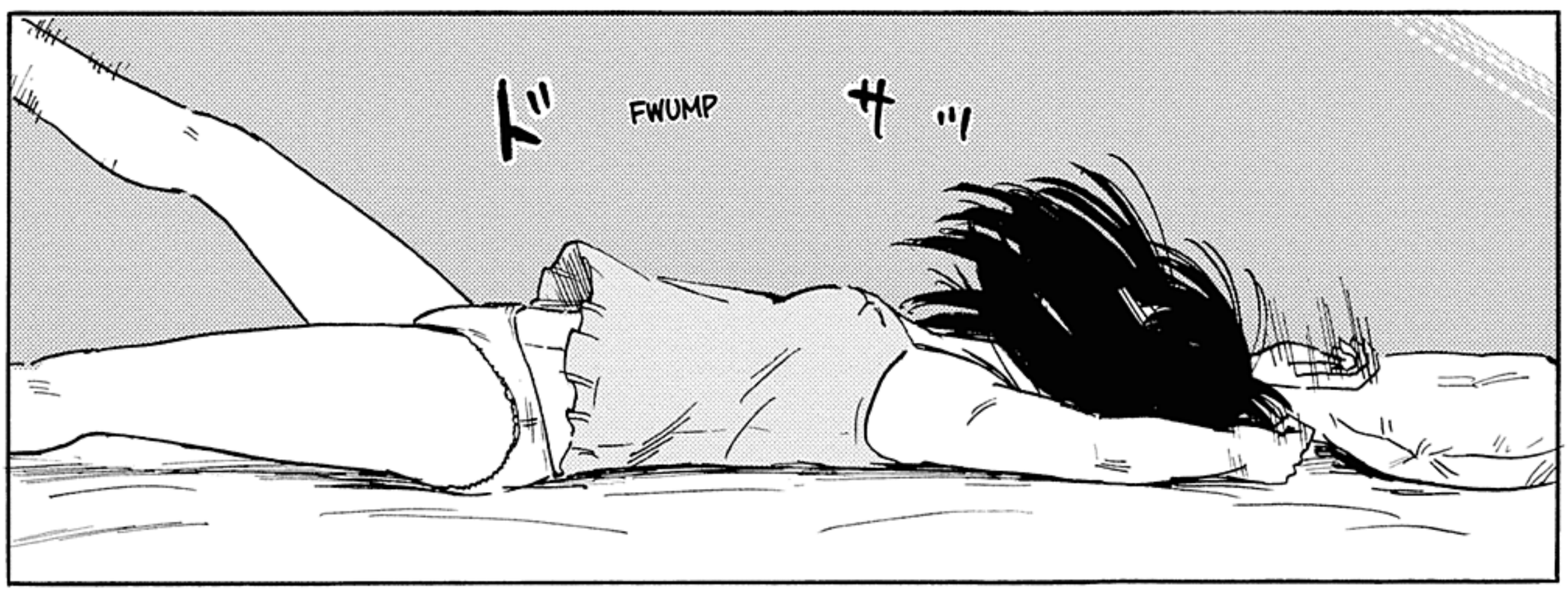
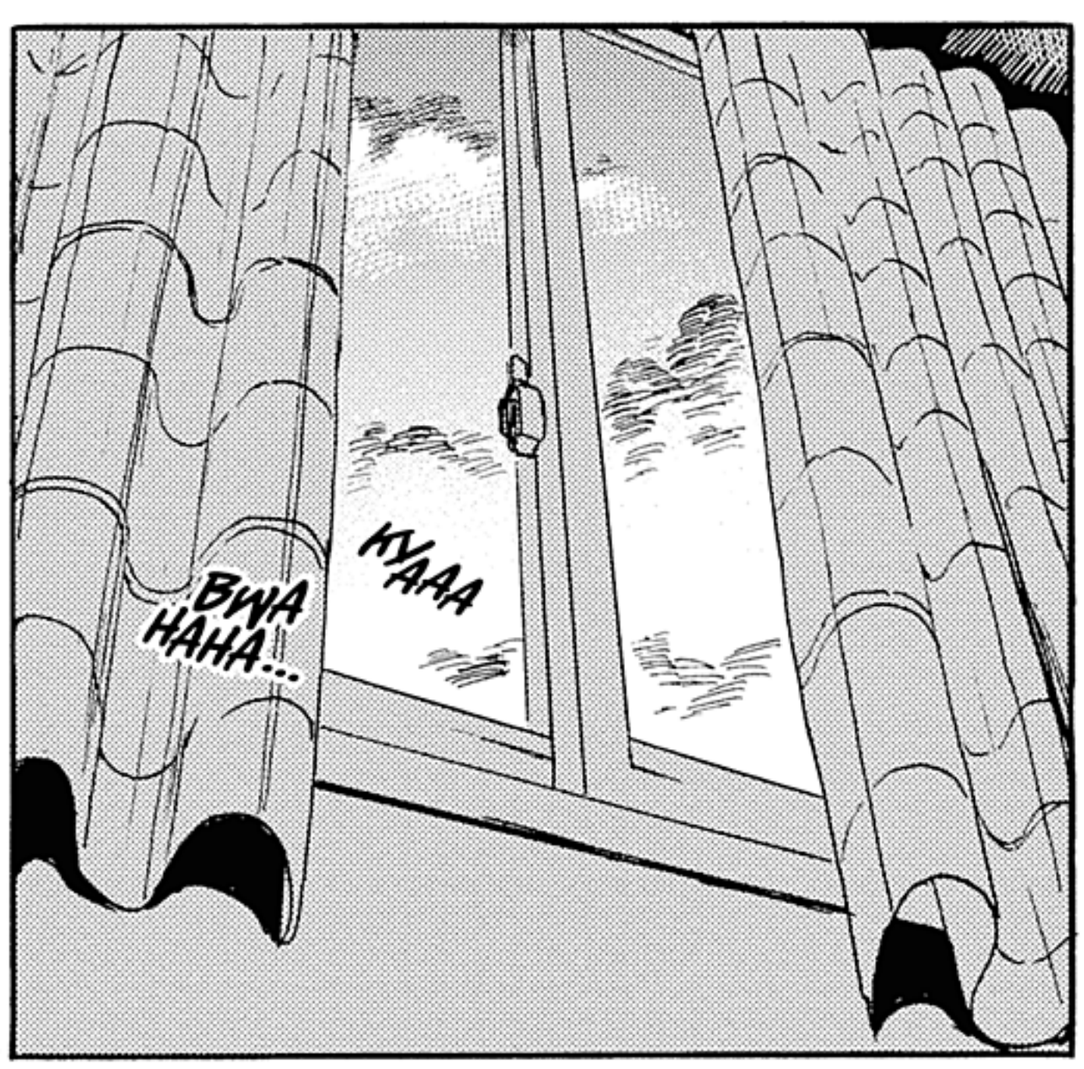
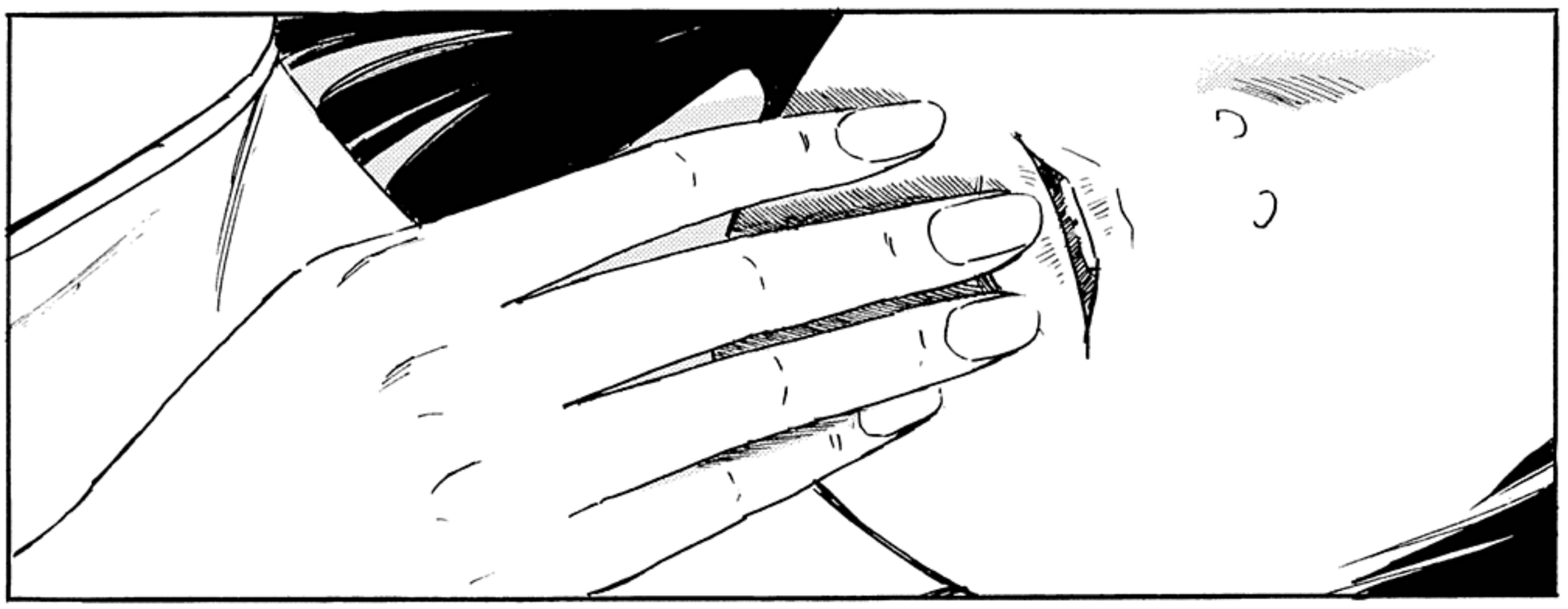
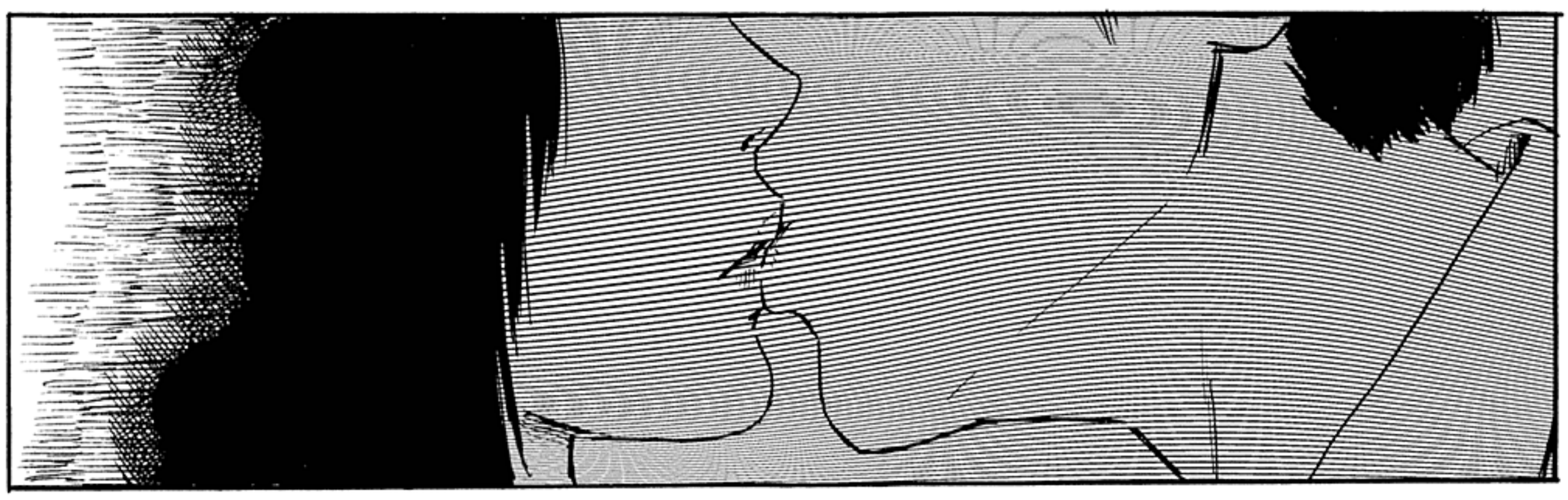
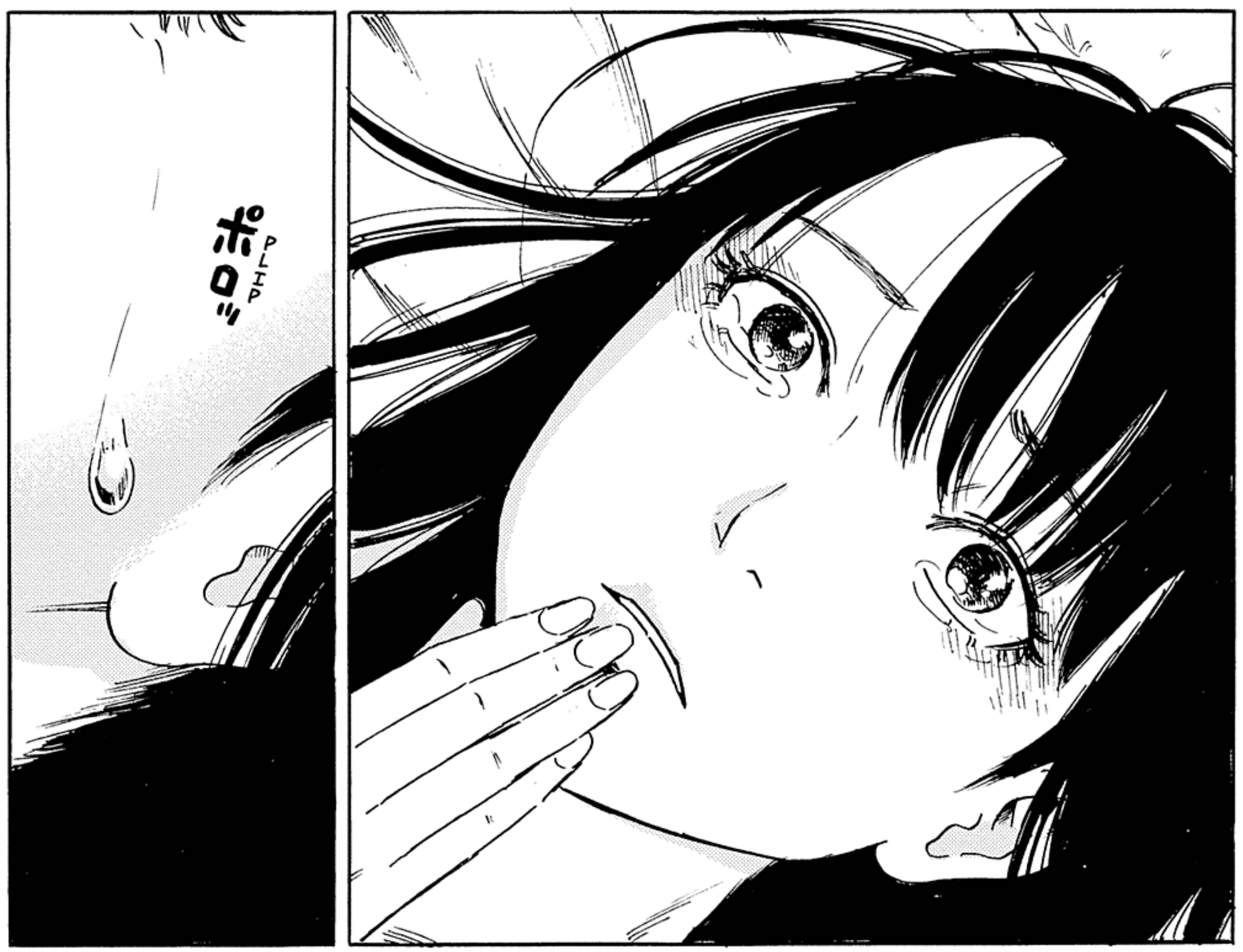
TCHS

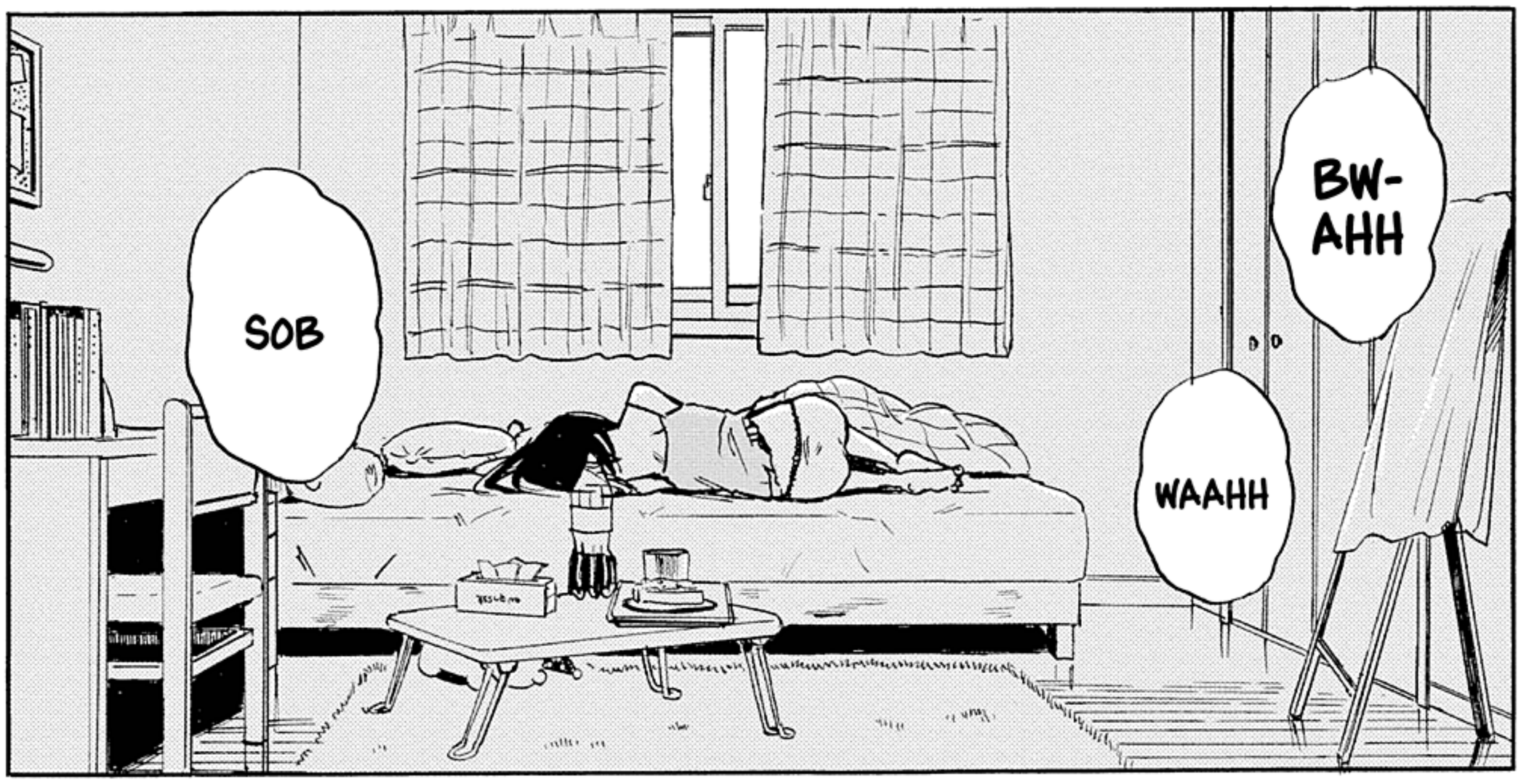

ド
FWUMP
サ

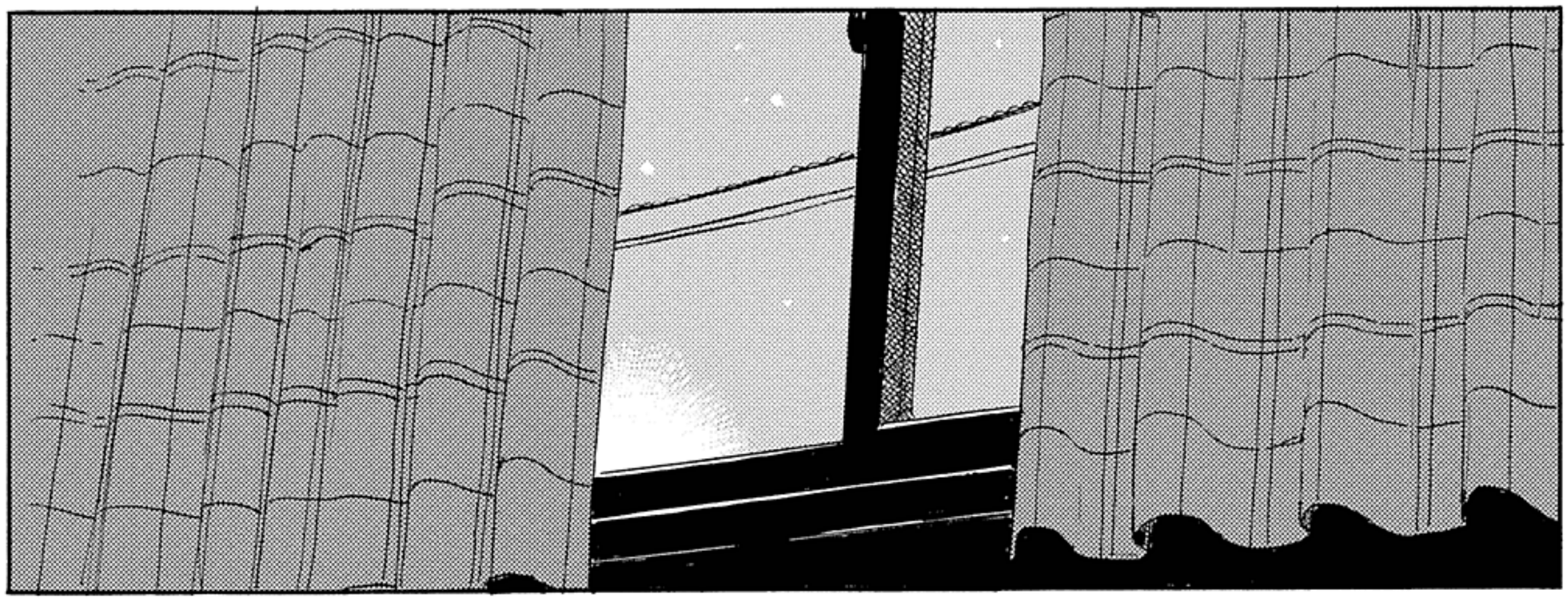

BWA HAHA...
KYAAA

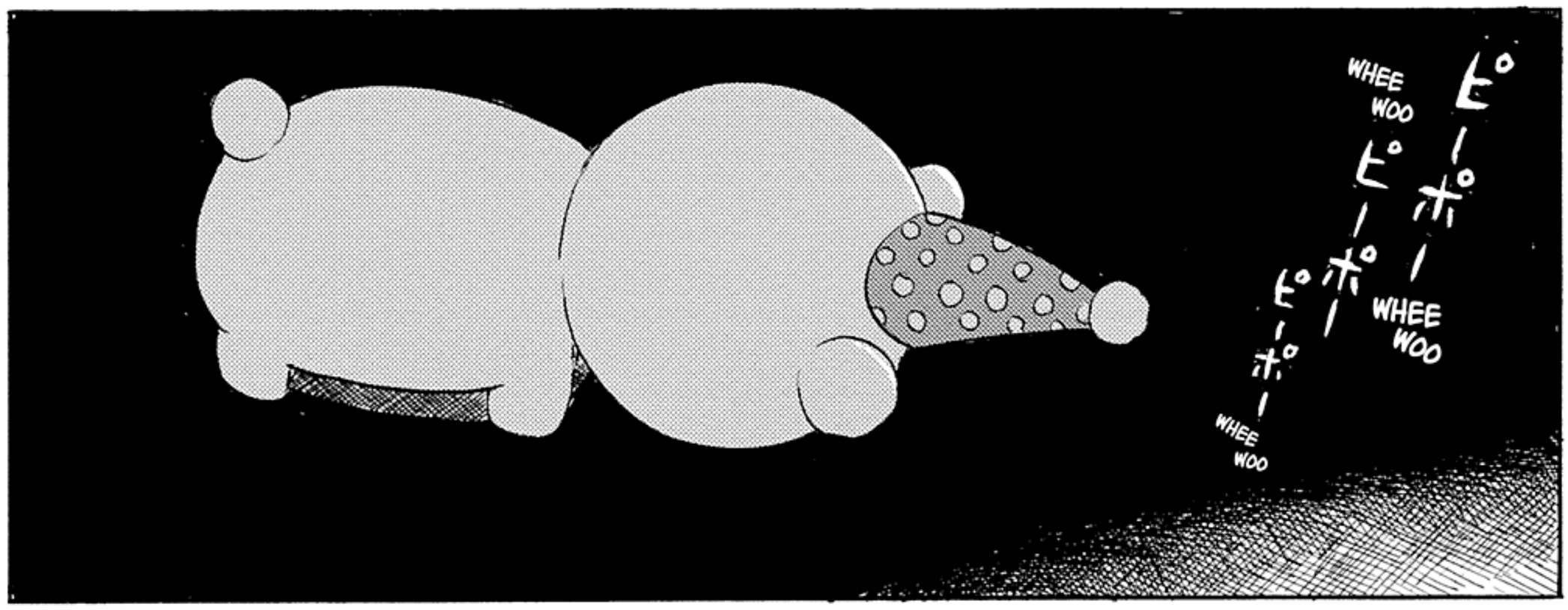





ポロッ
PLIP

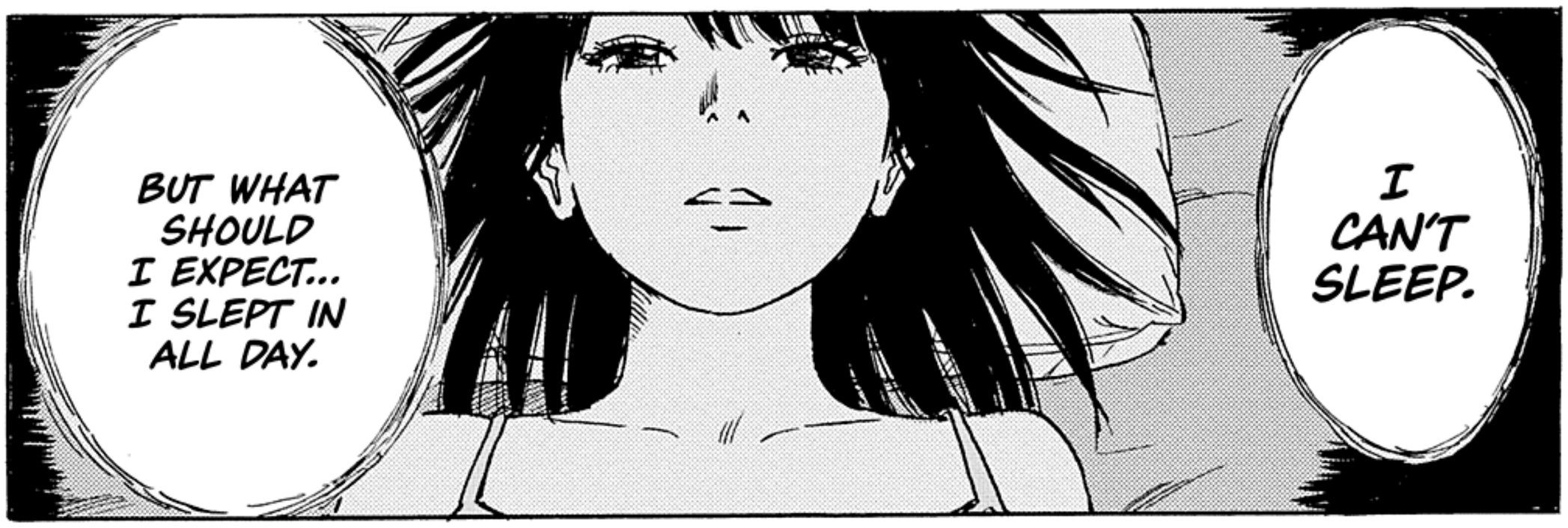

SOB
BW-AHH
WAAHH

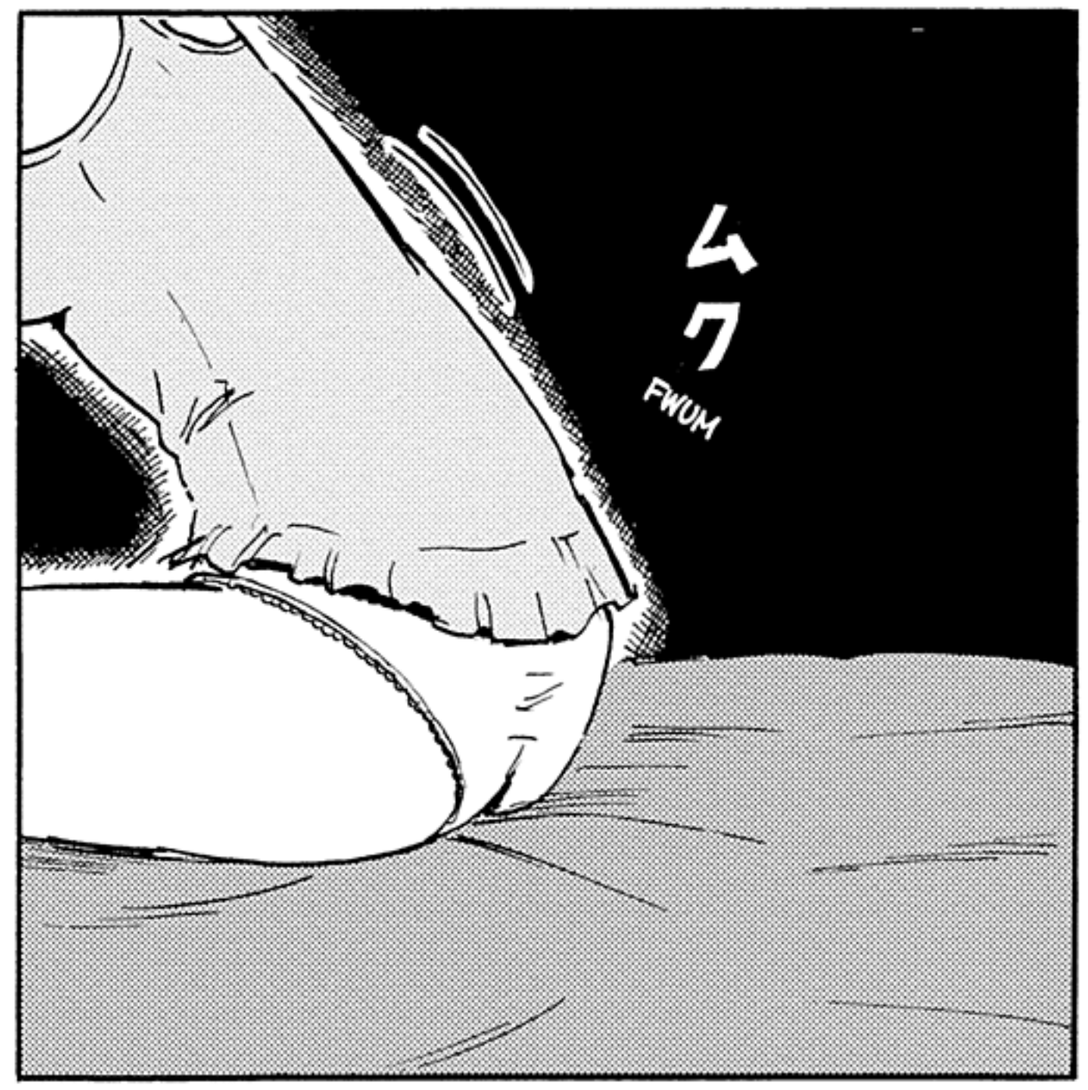


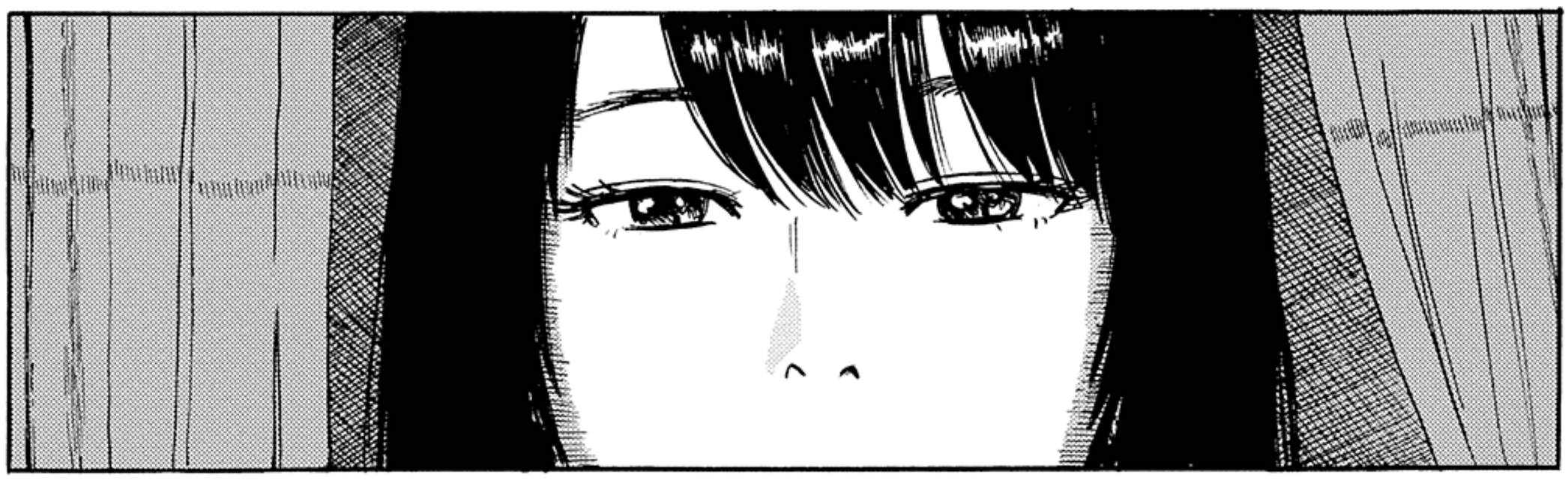

WHEE WOO
WHEE WOO
WHEE WOO
WHEE WOO

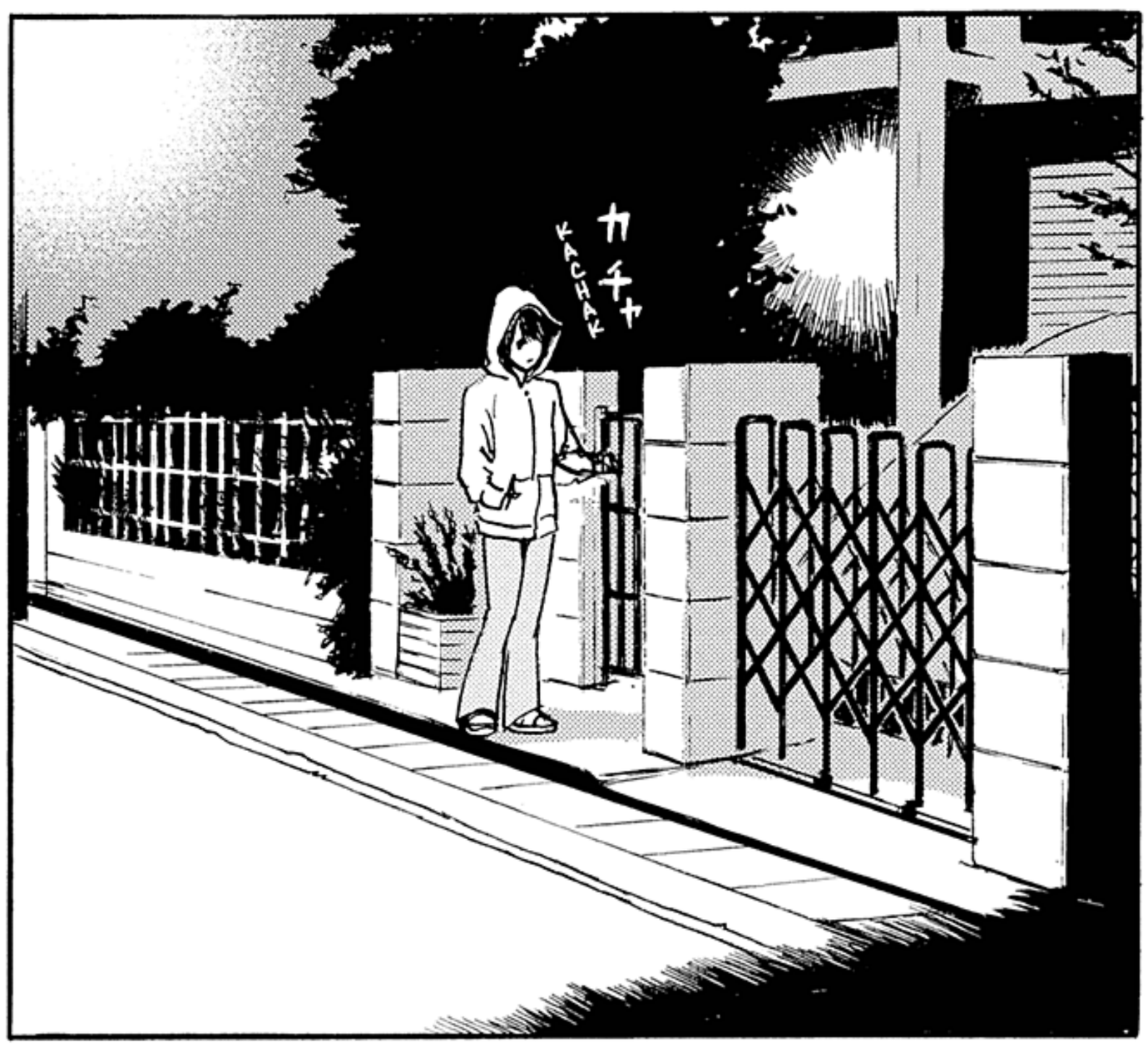
WHEE WOO

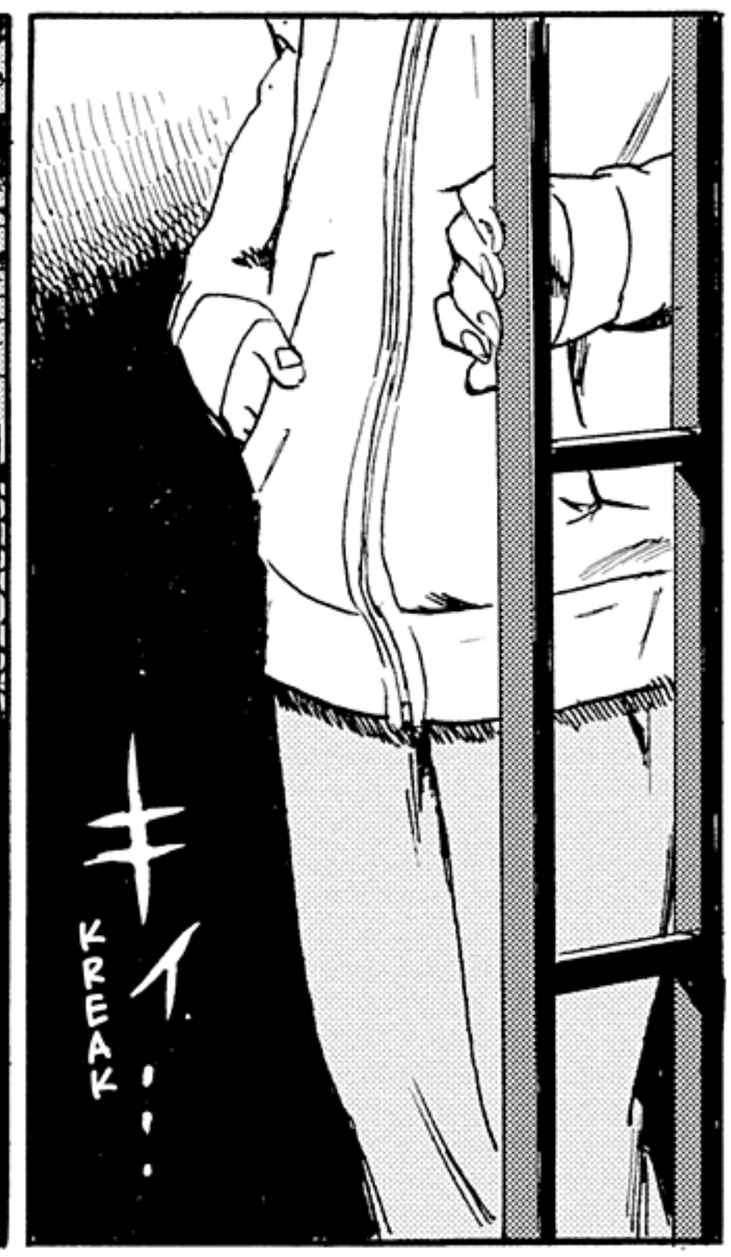
WHEE WOO



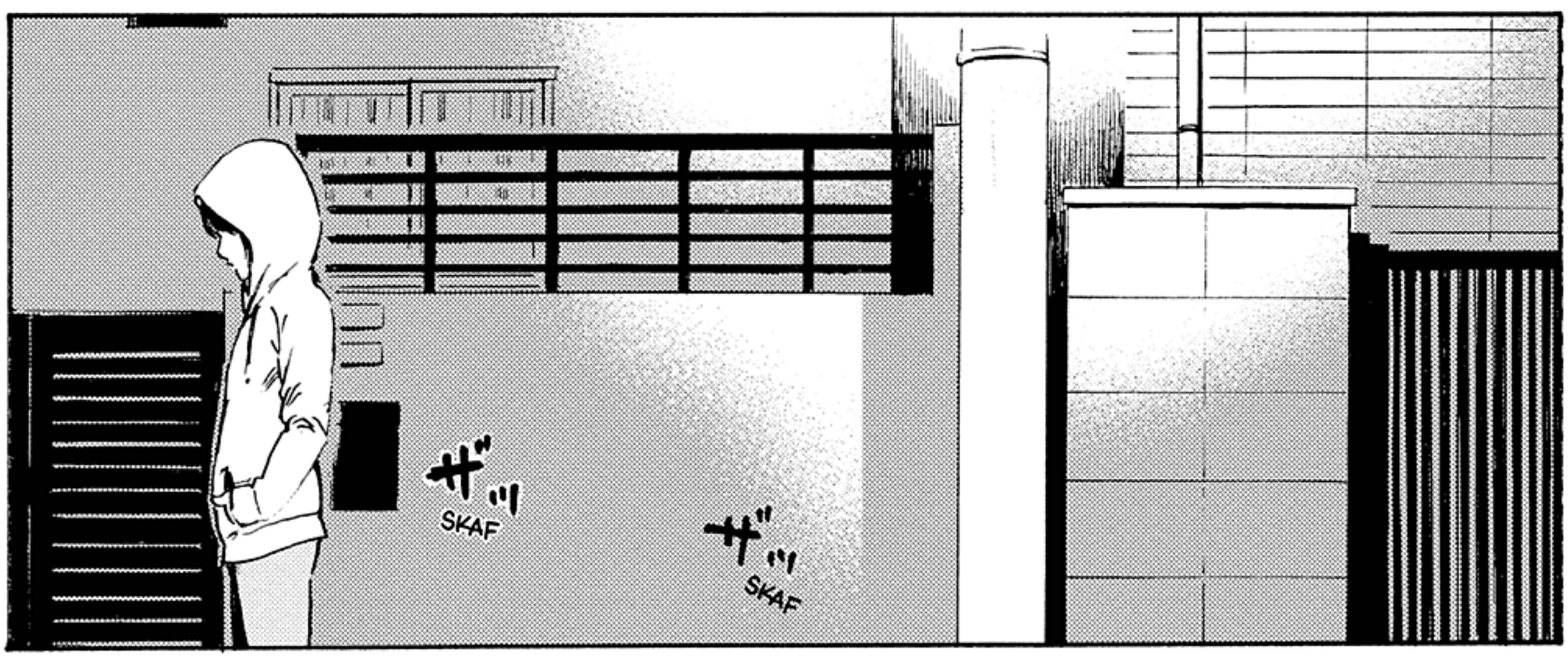


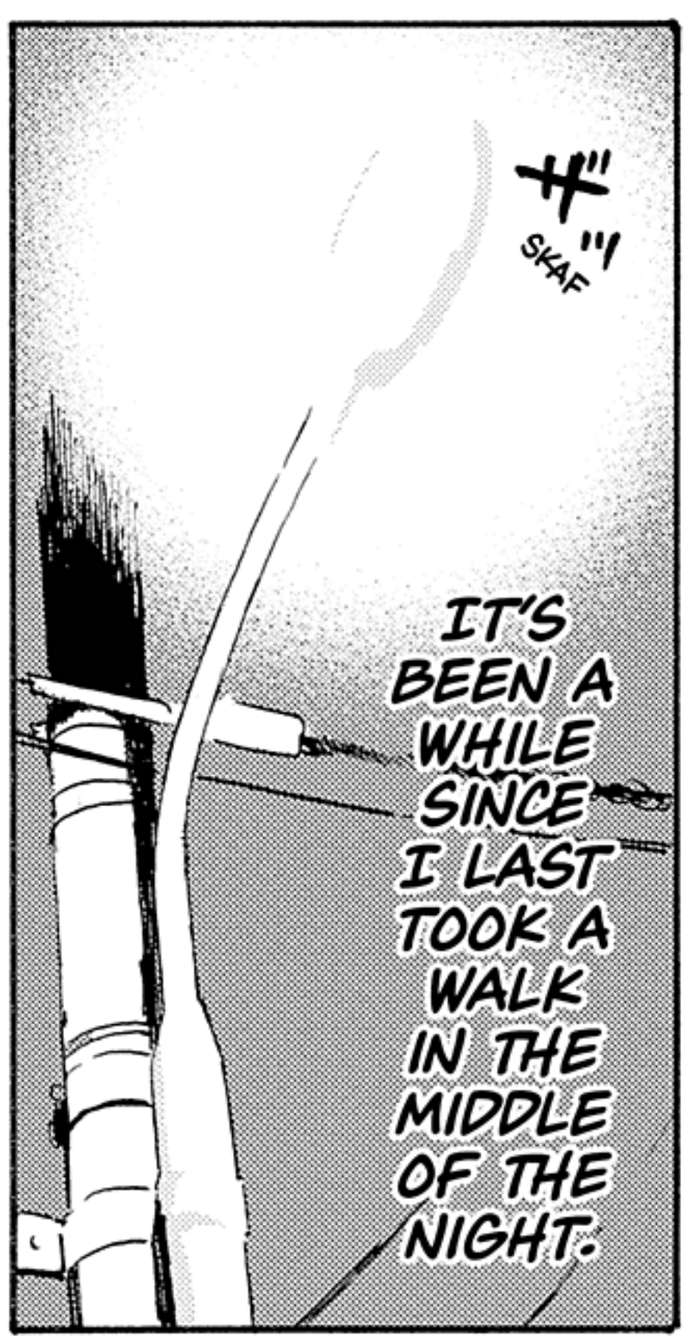



カチャ
KACHAK


キイ…
KREAK

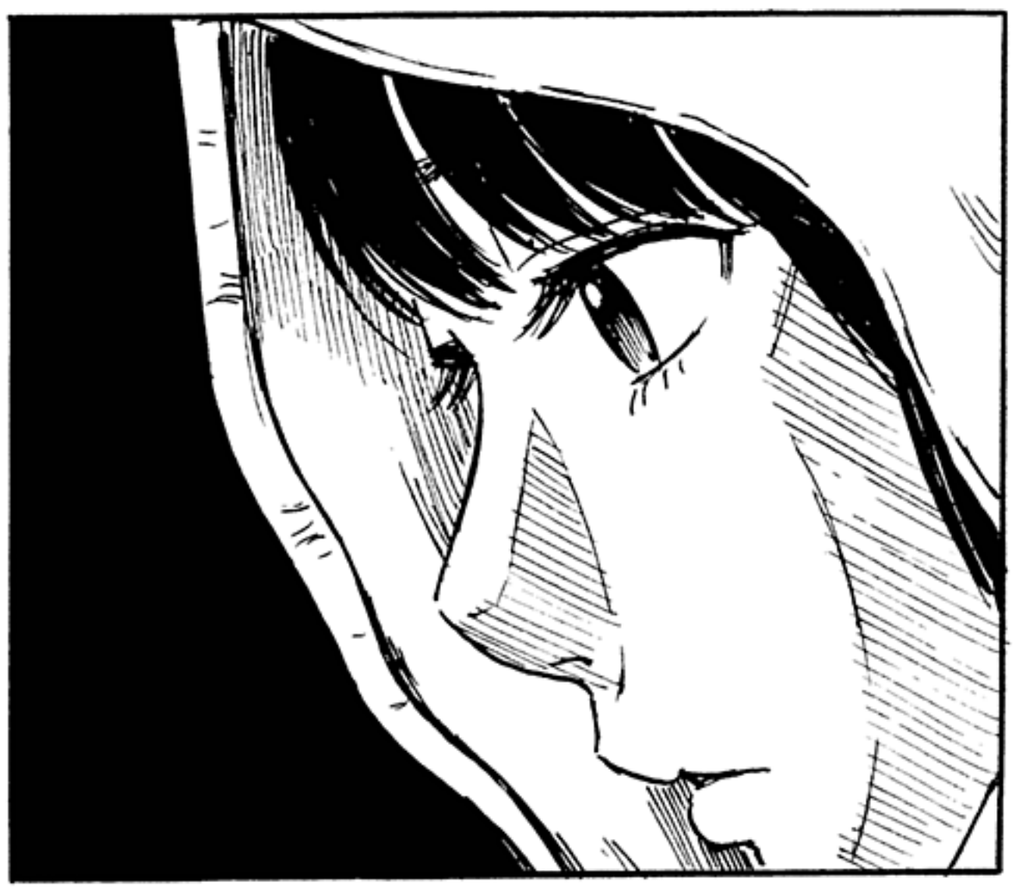
SKAF
SKAF
SKAF
SKAF

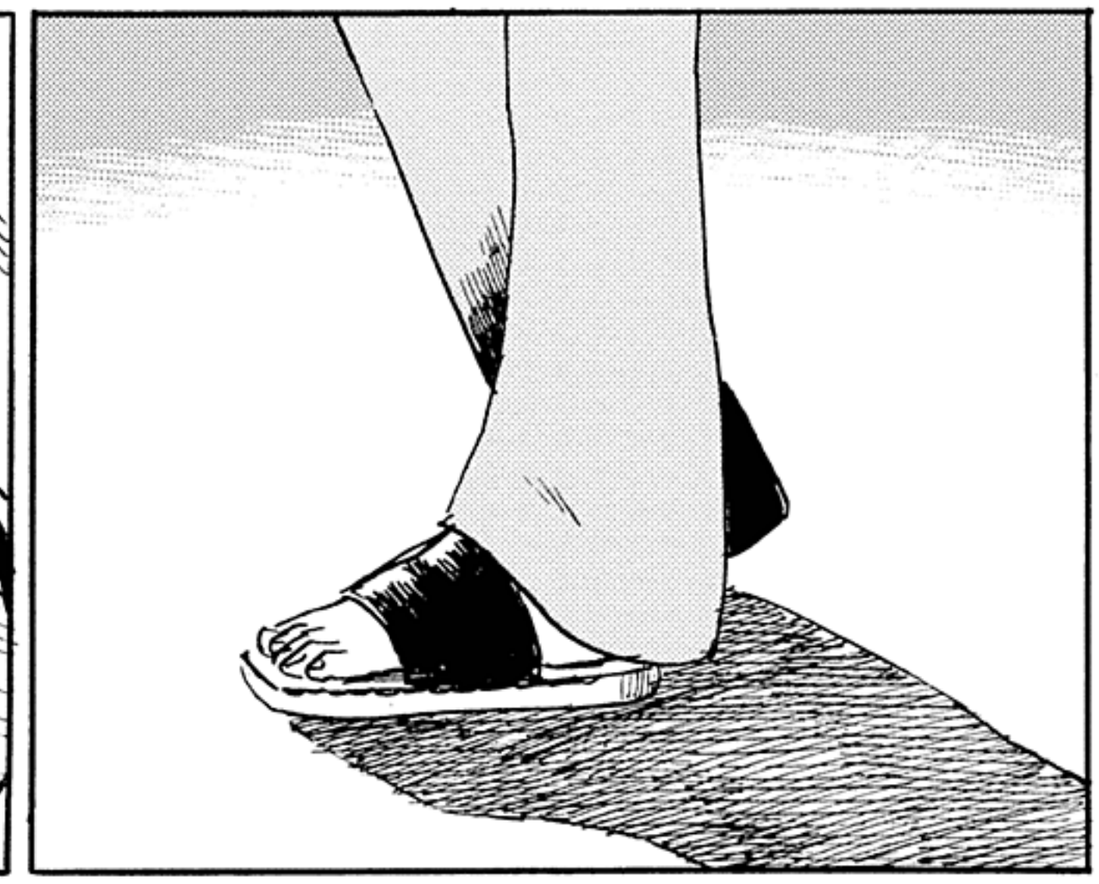

SKAF
SKAF

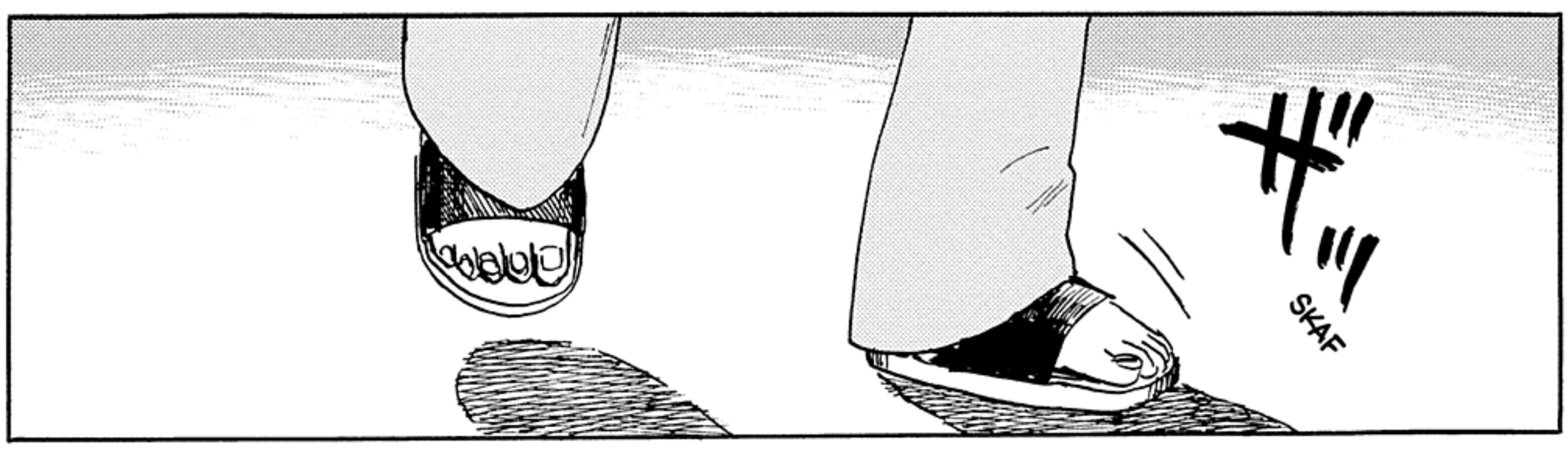

SKAF
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I LAST TOOK A WALK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

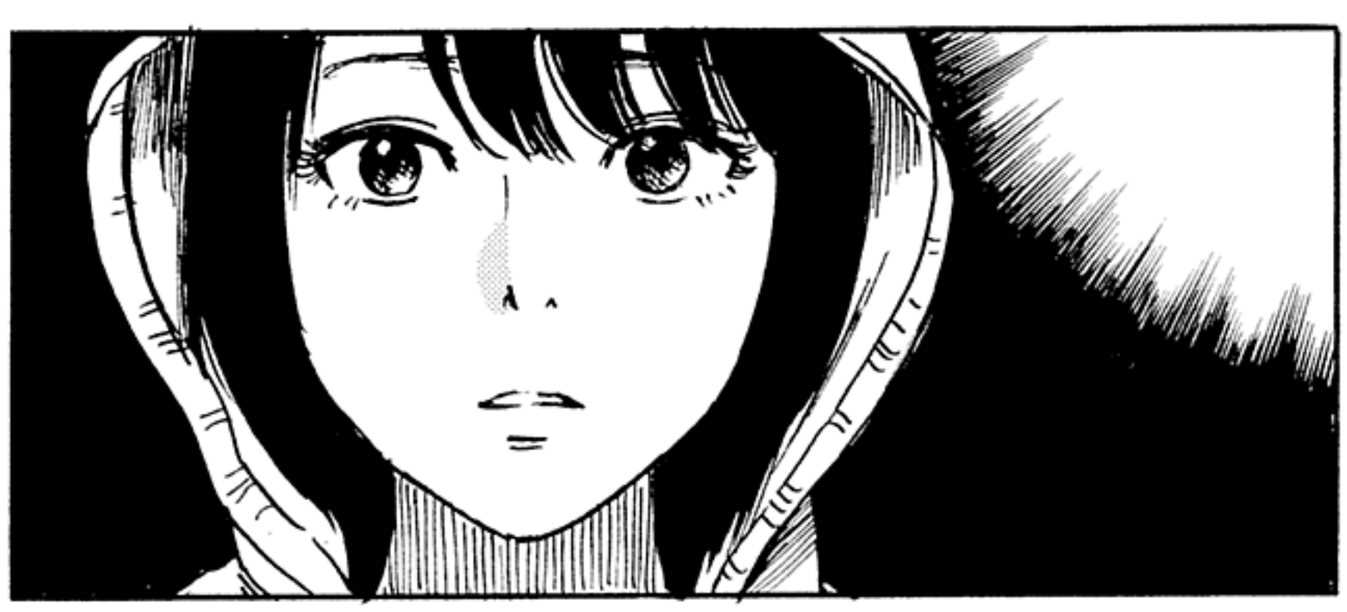
AHH ...
SKAF

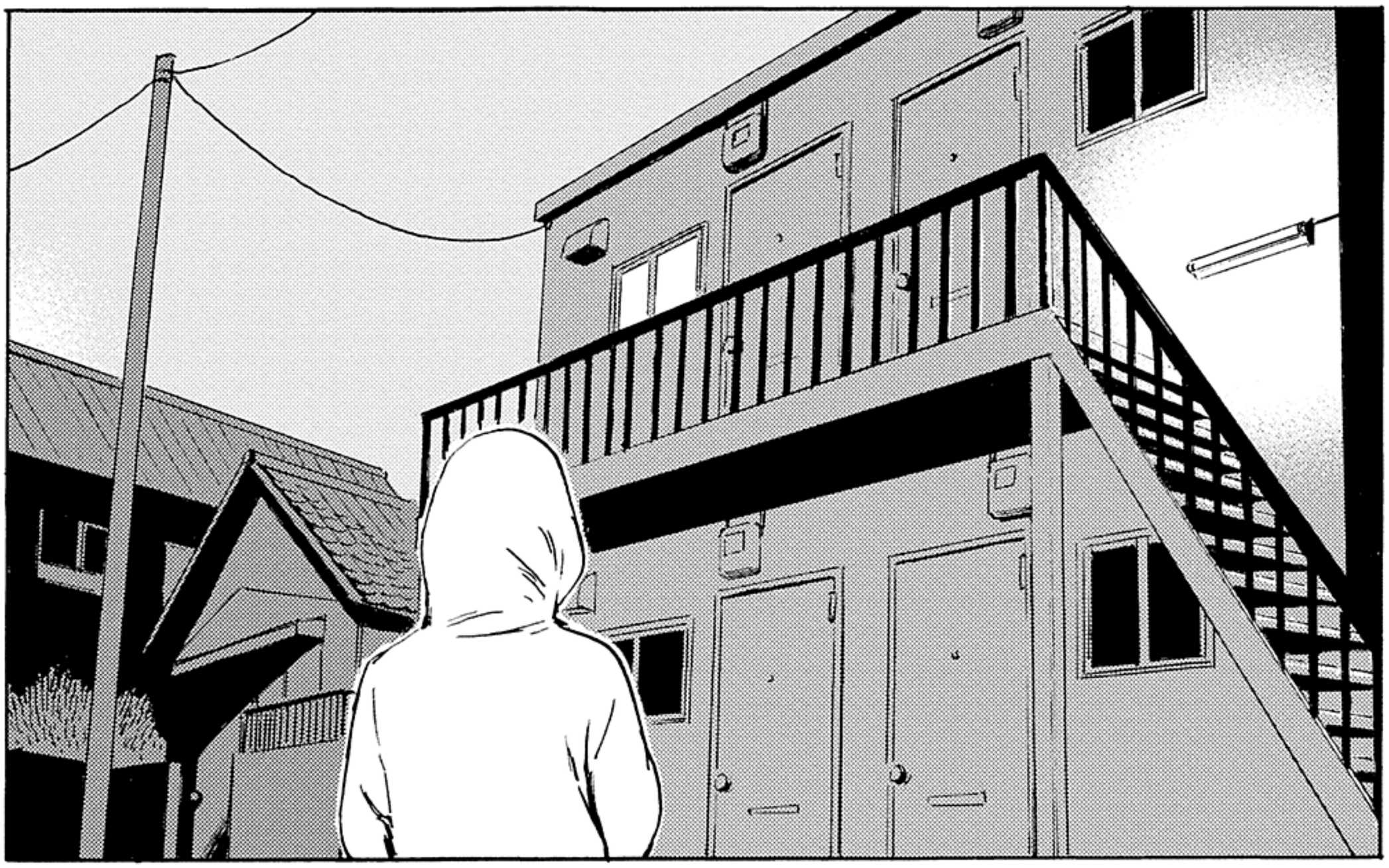
SKAF



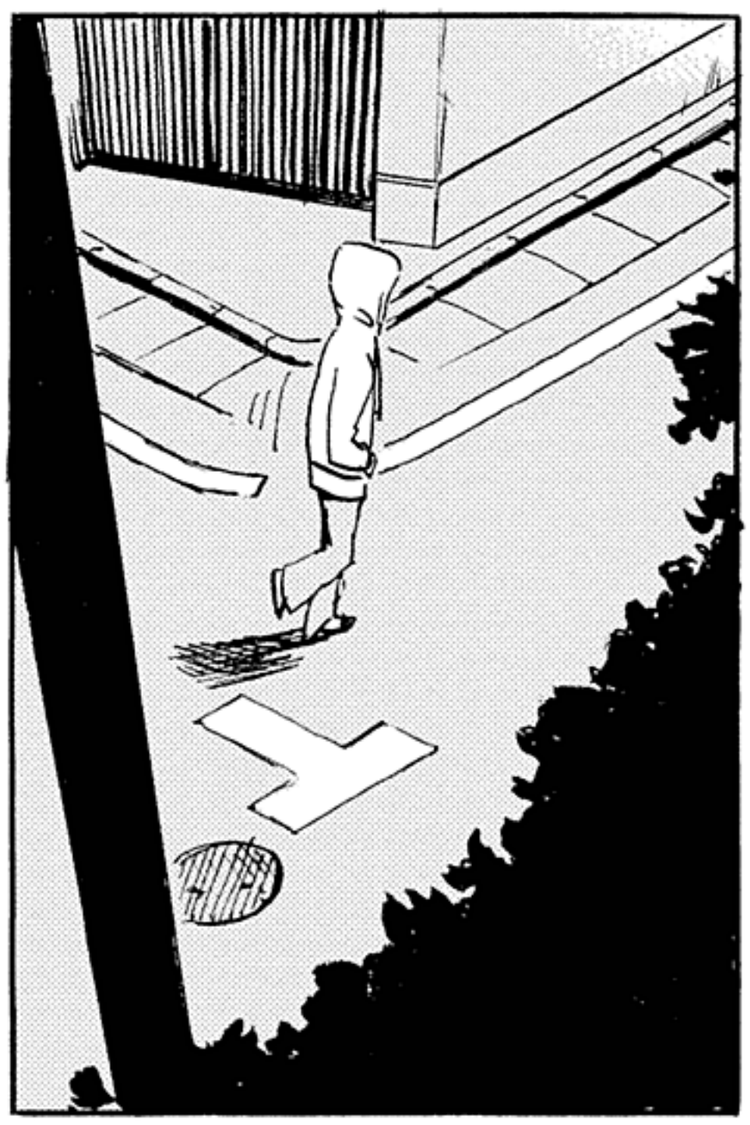


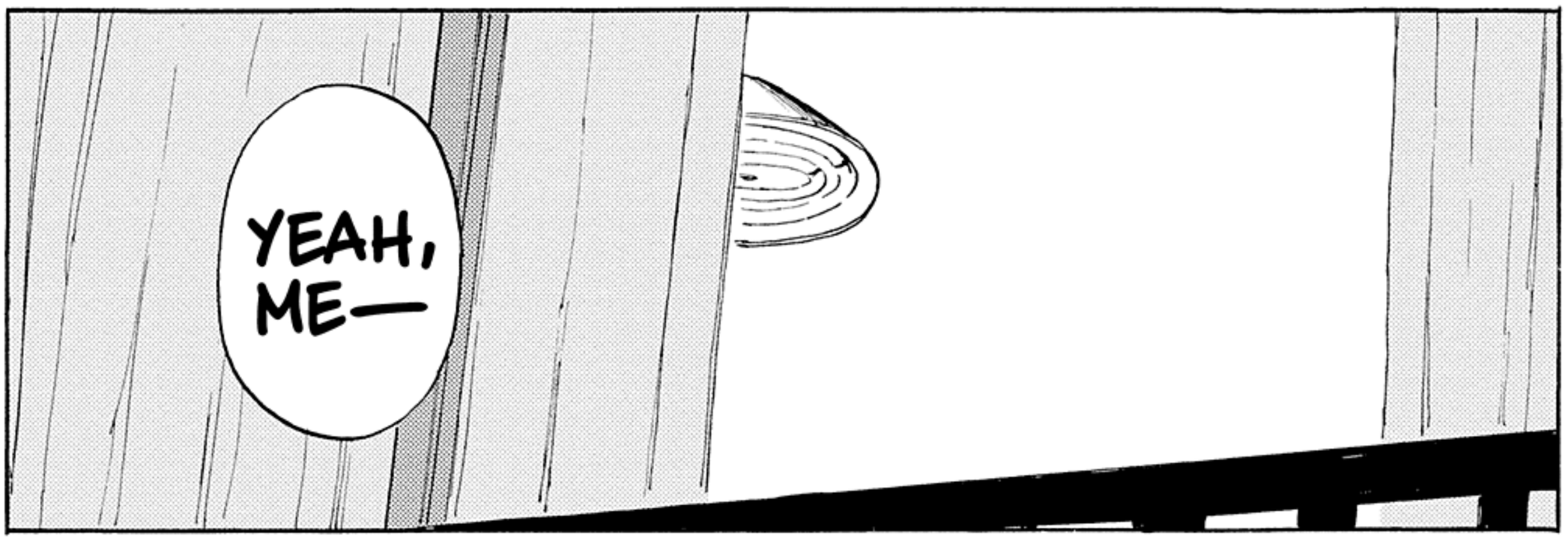

SKAF

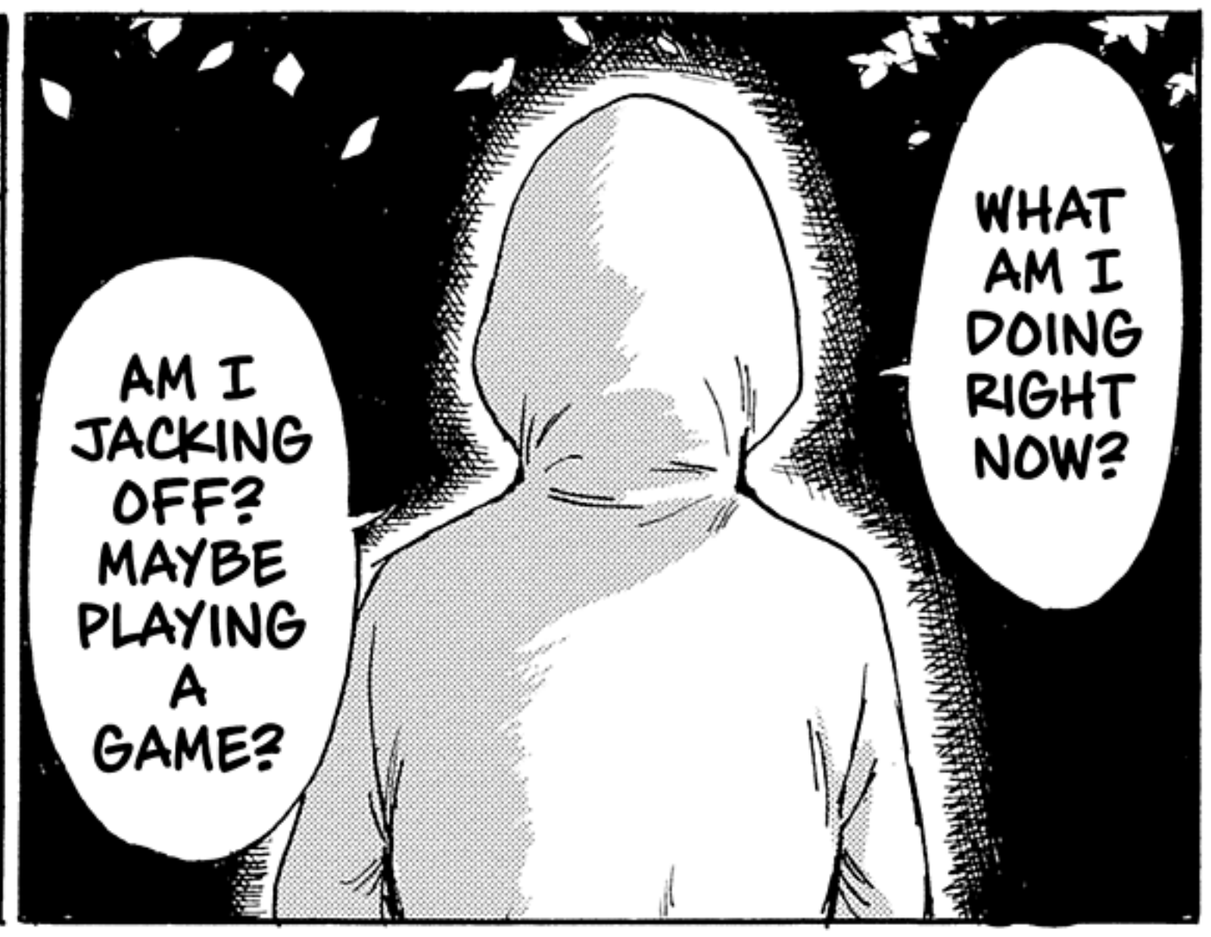


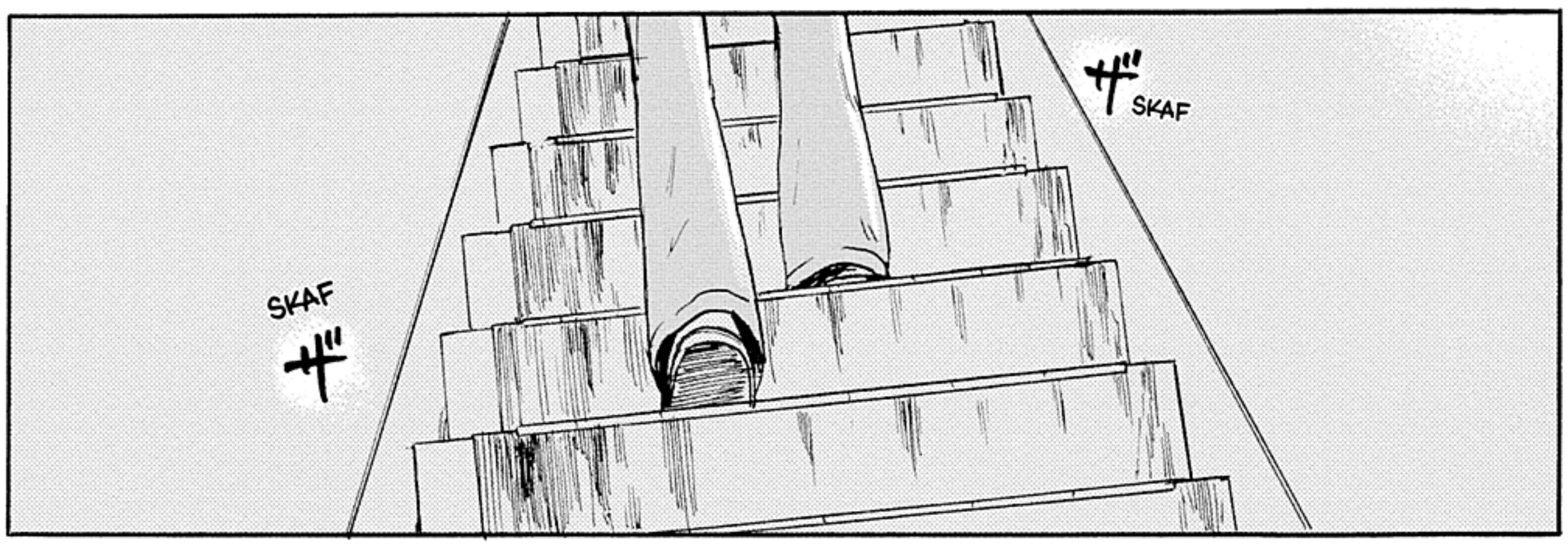


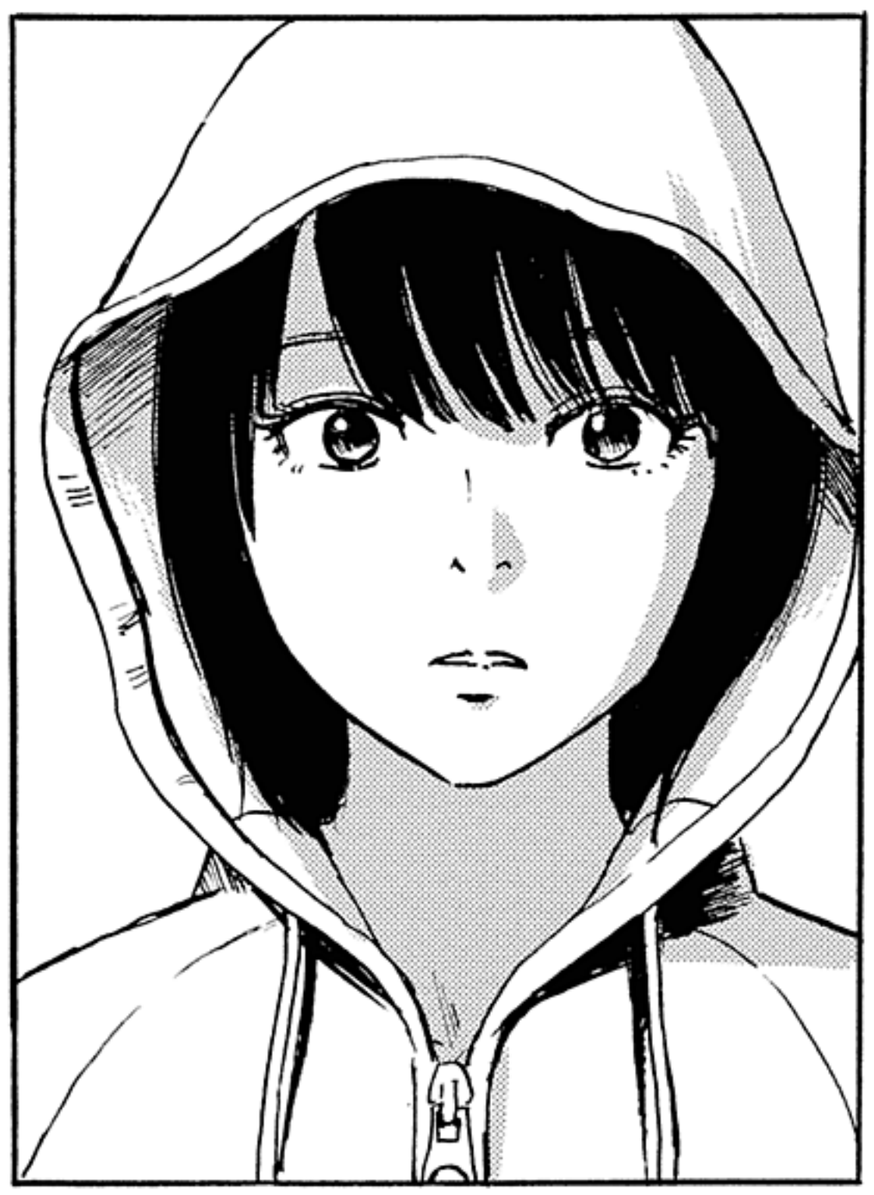
ME...
HEYYY

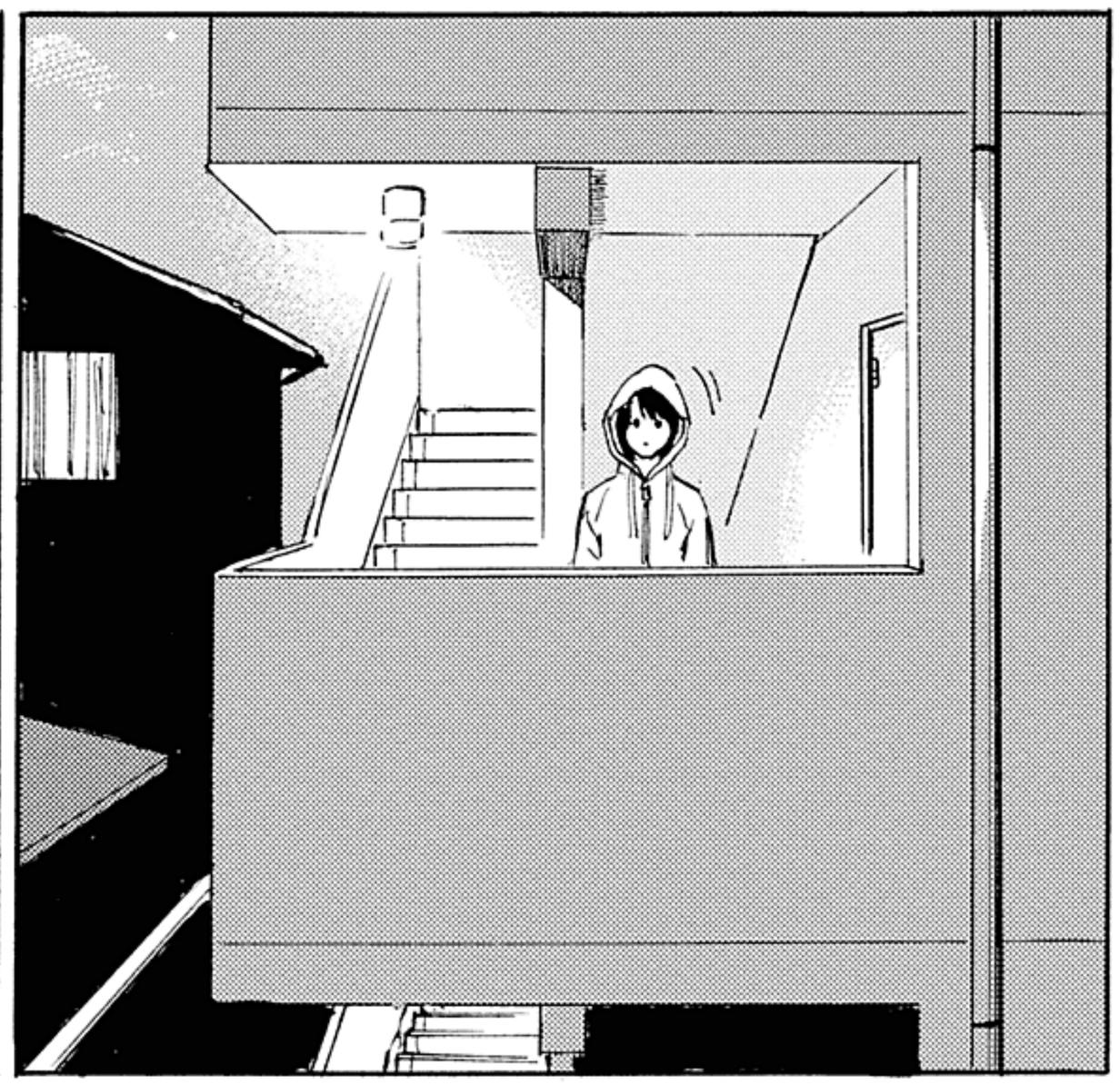


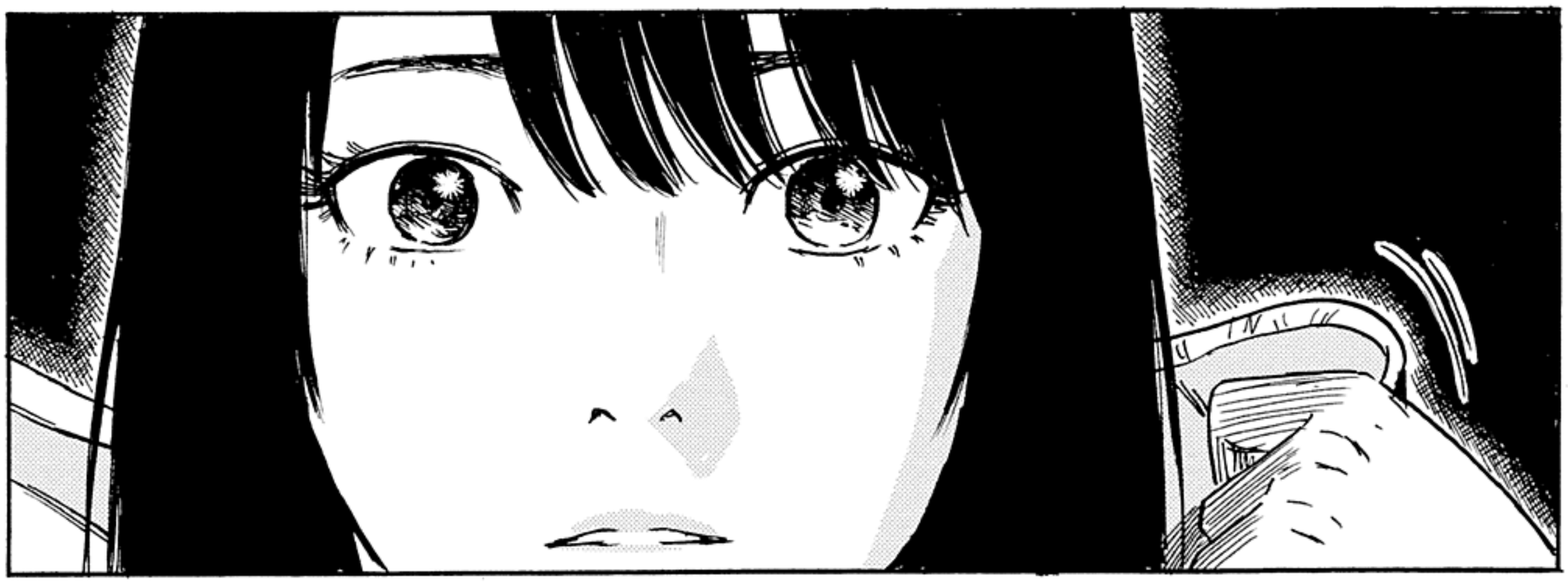

YEAH, ME—


AM I JACKING OFF? MAYBE PLAYING A GAME?
WHAT AM I DOING RIGHT NOW?


SKAF
SKAF



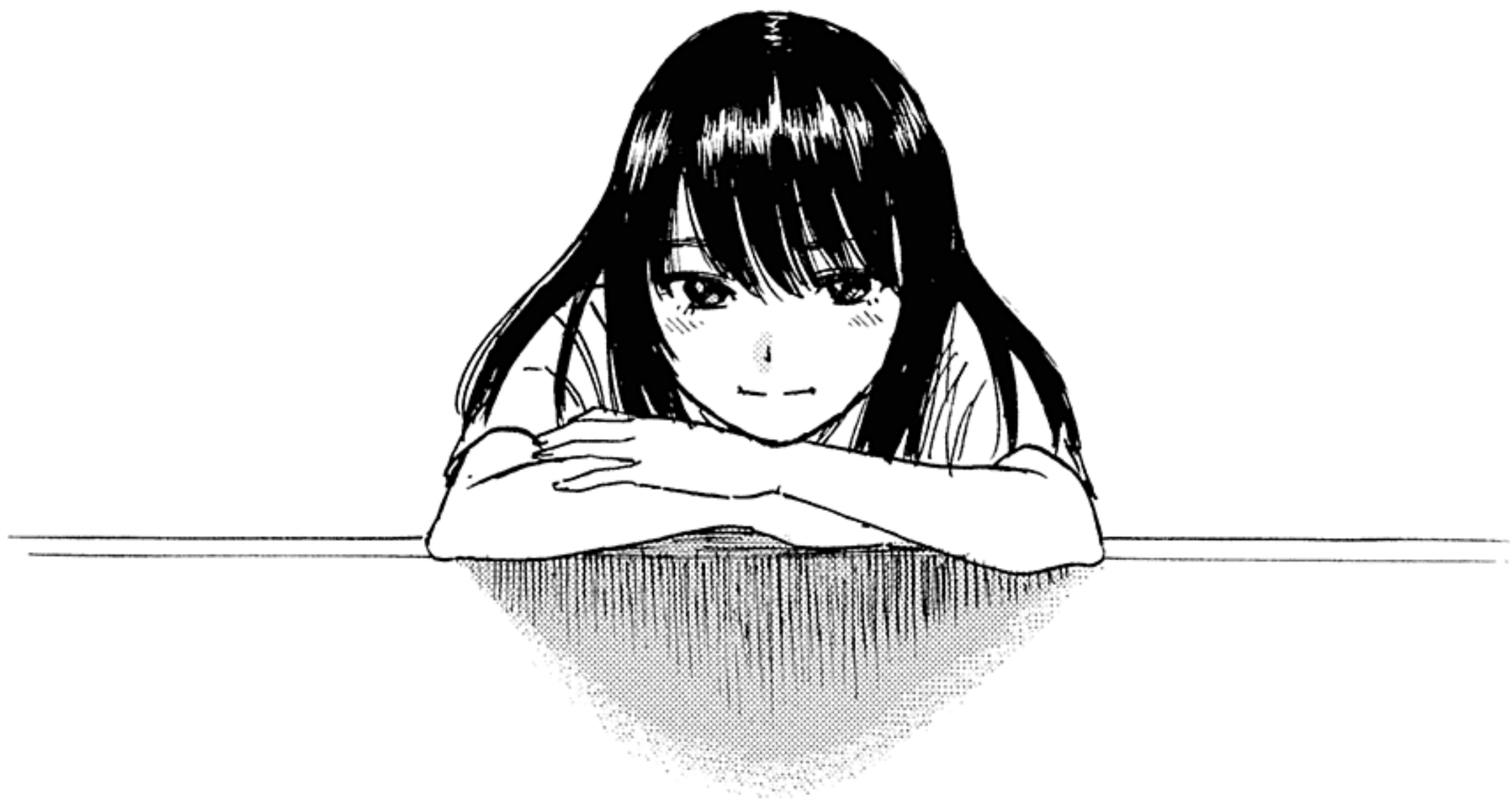




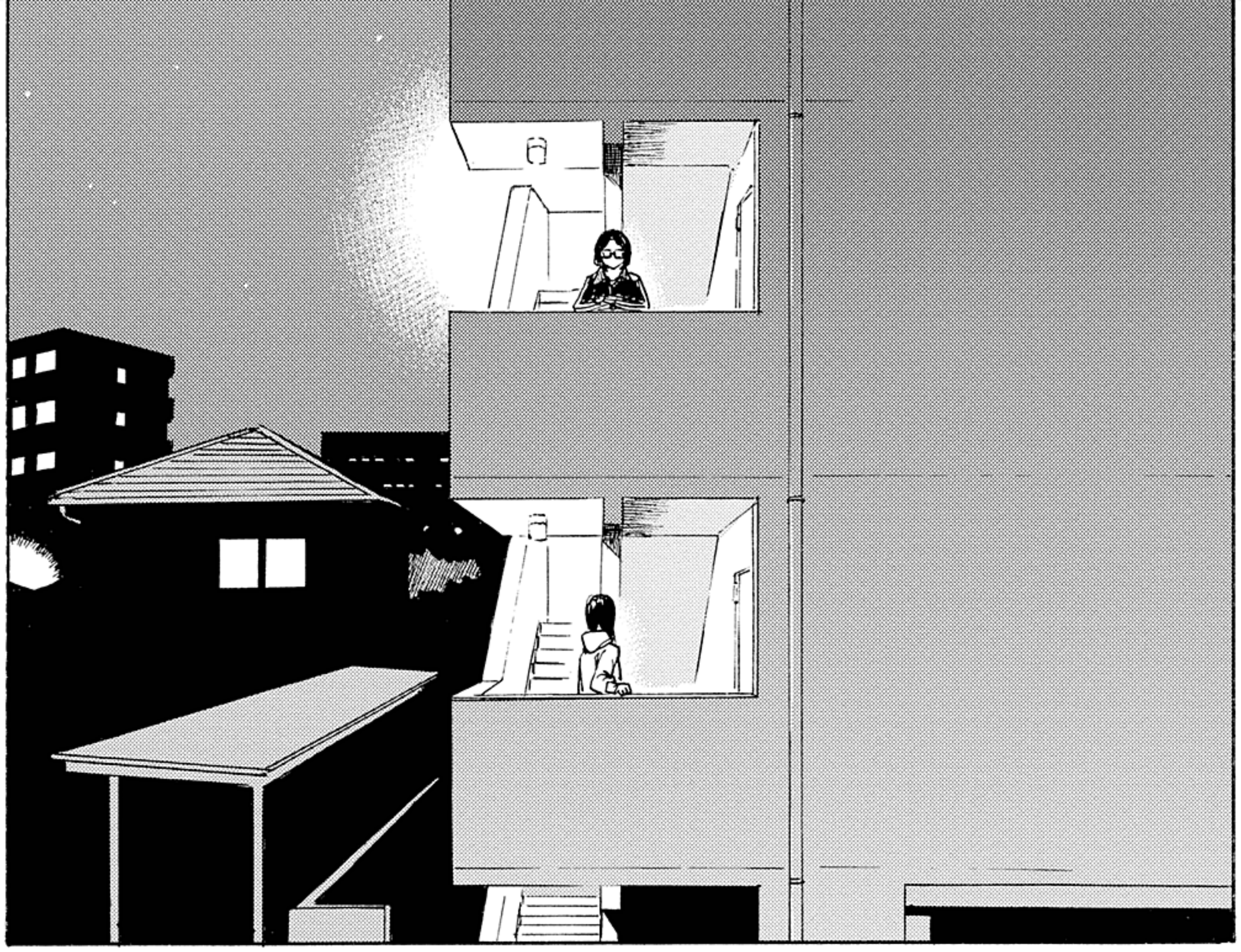
AWW ...
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW LUCKY YOU ARE...
HEY—

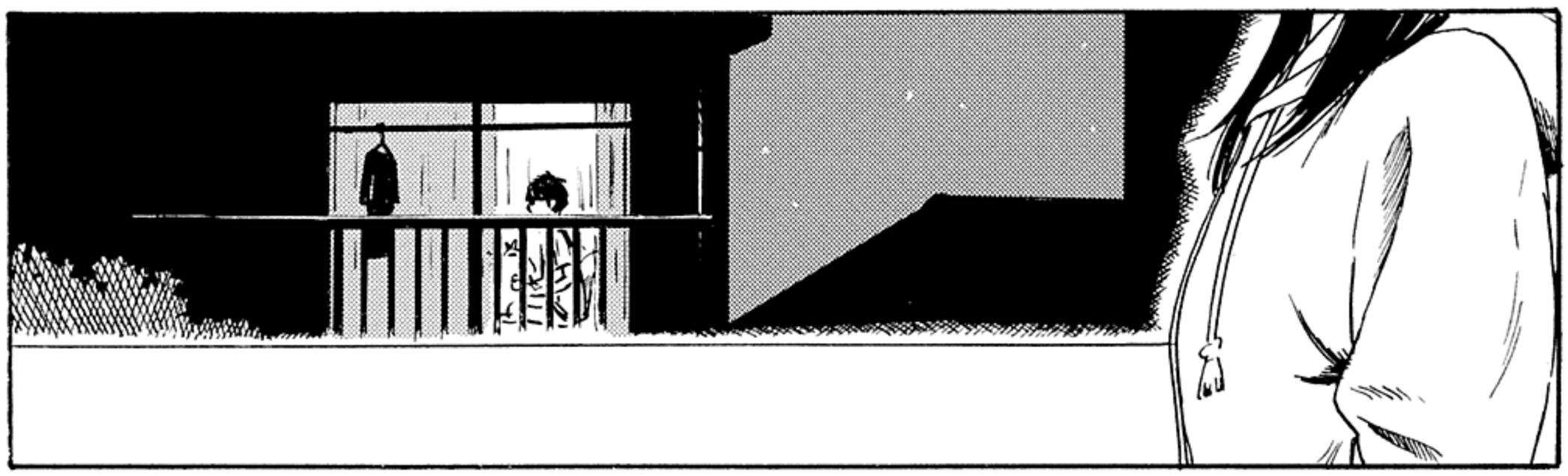
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

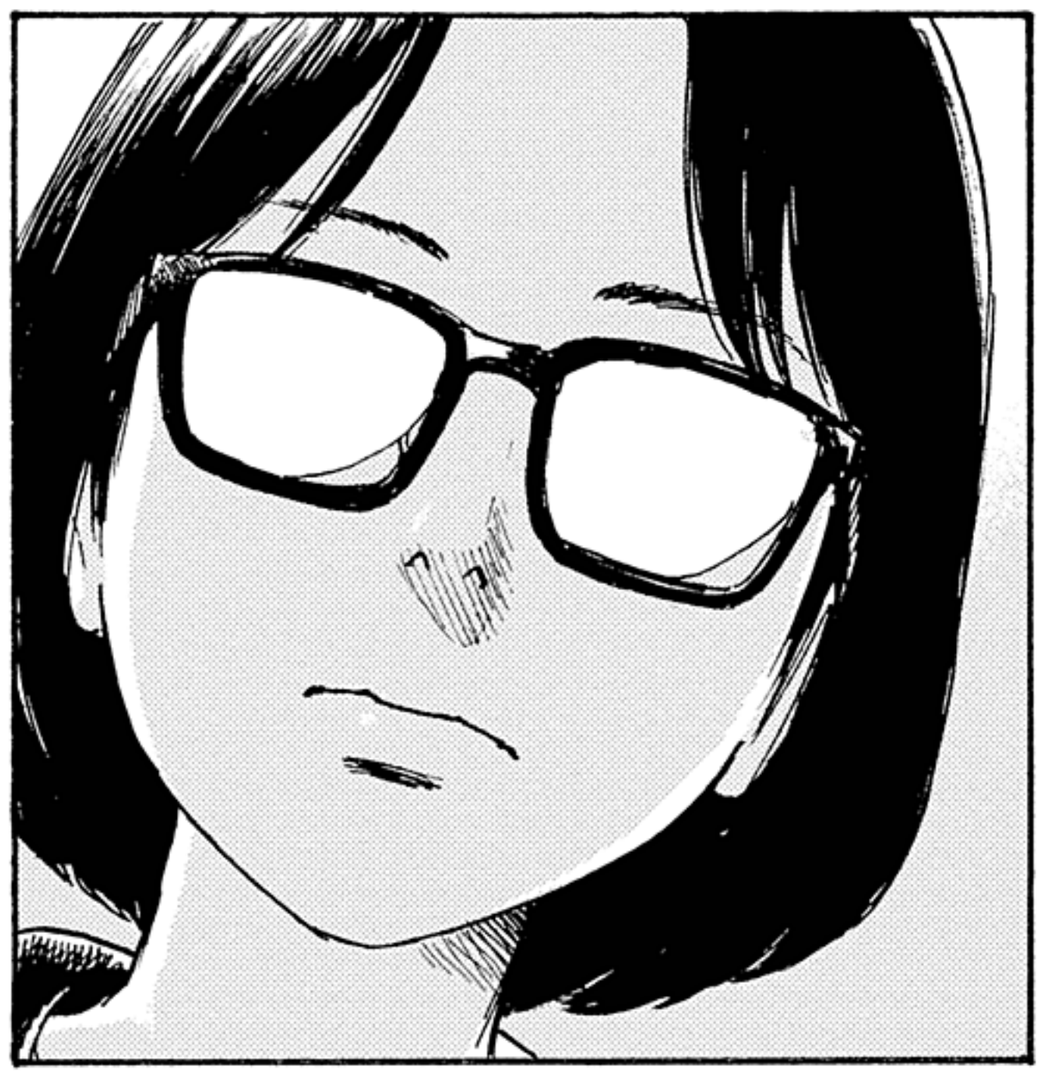
Chapter 25: Mari's Message



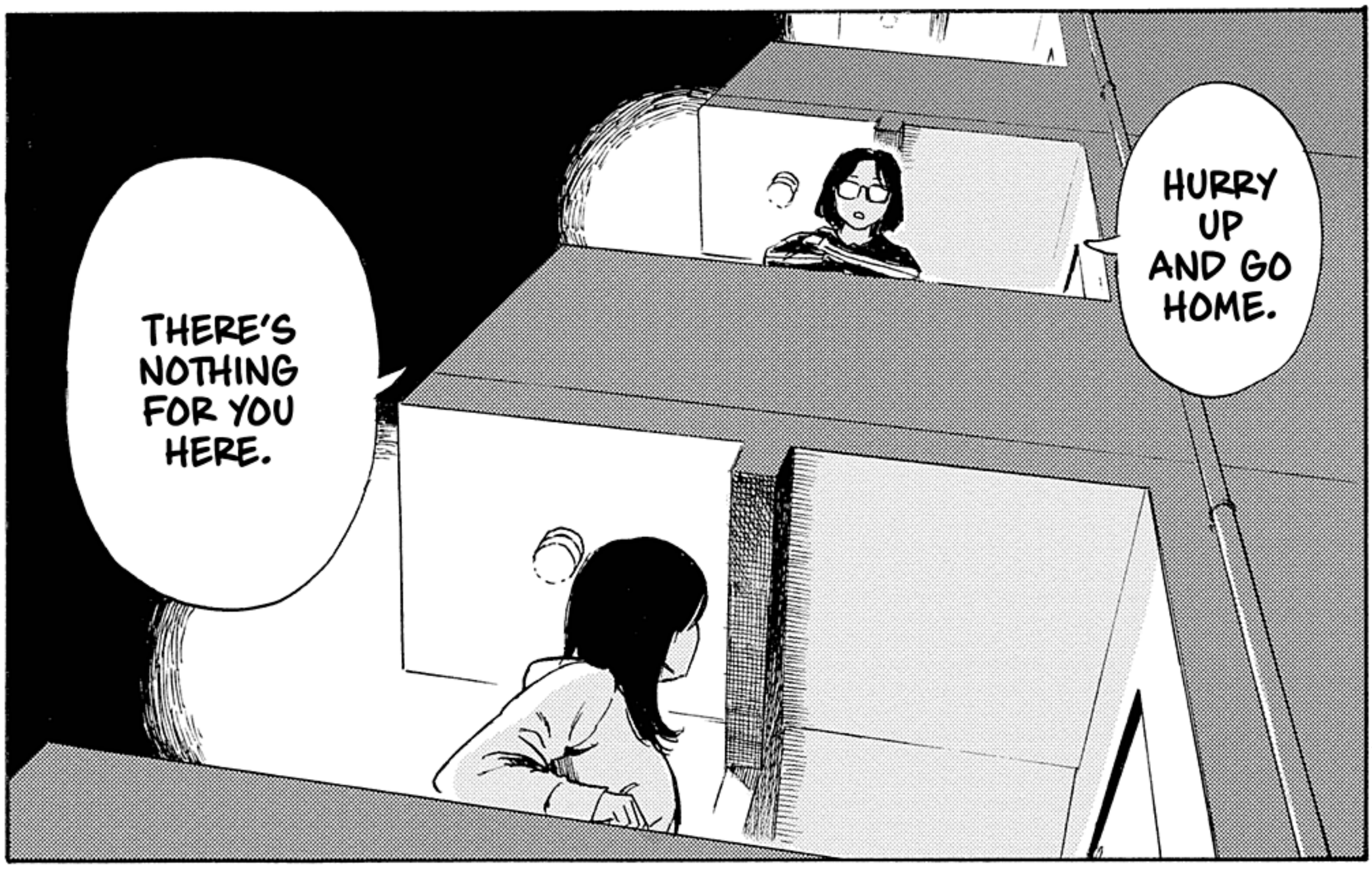
DOING HERE?
WHAT ARE YOU...

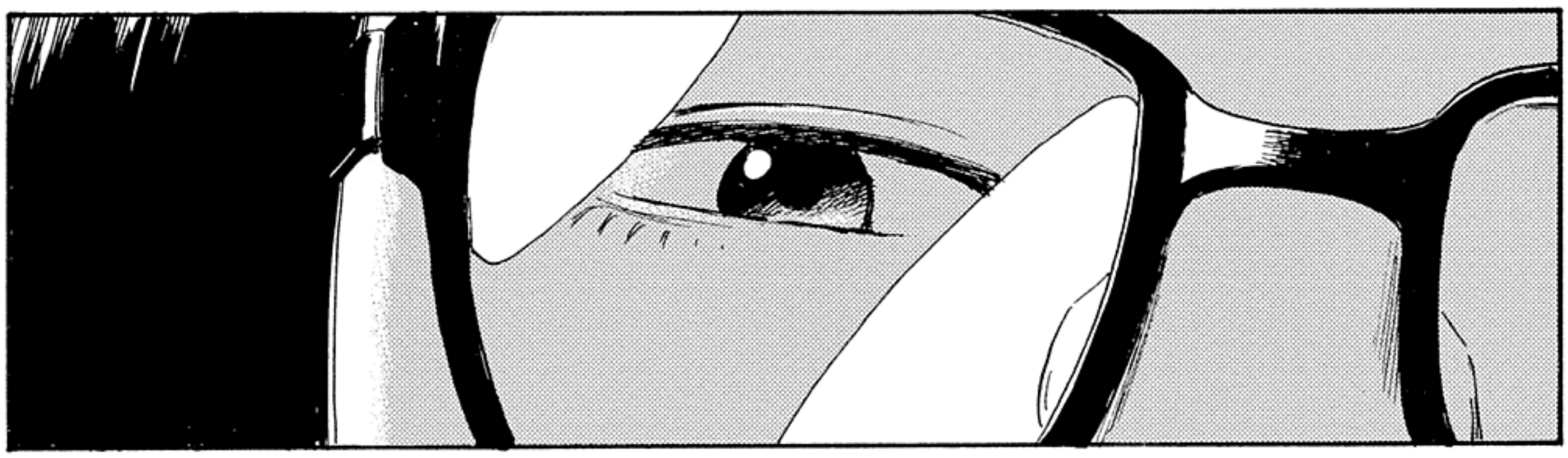


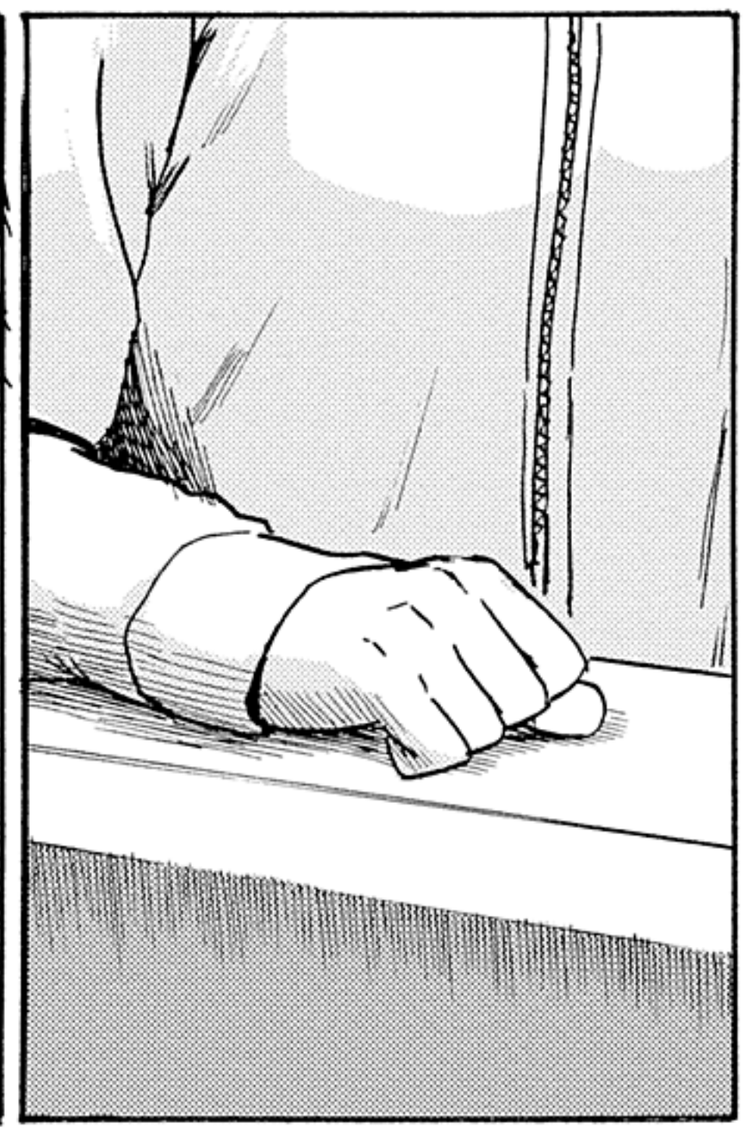


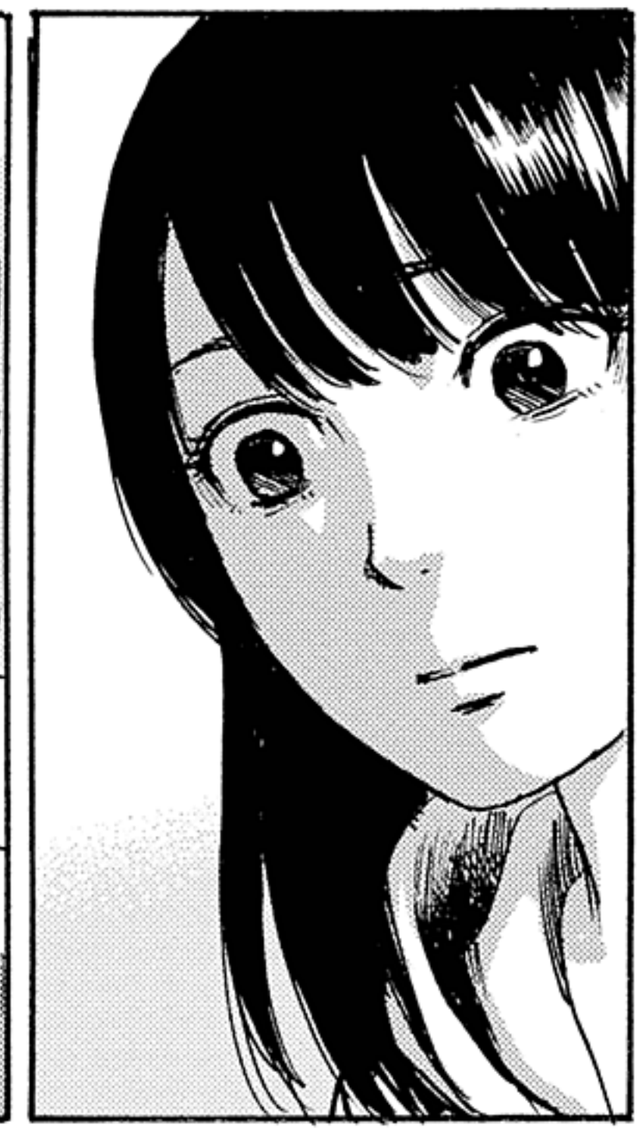


UH...


HURRY UP AND GO HOME.
THERE'S NOTHING FOR YOU HERE.







SKAFF
SKAFF
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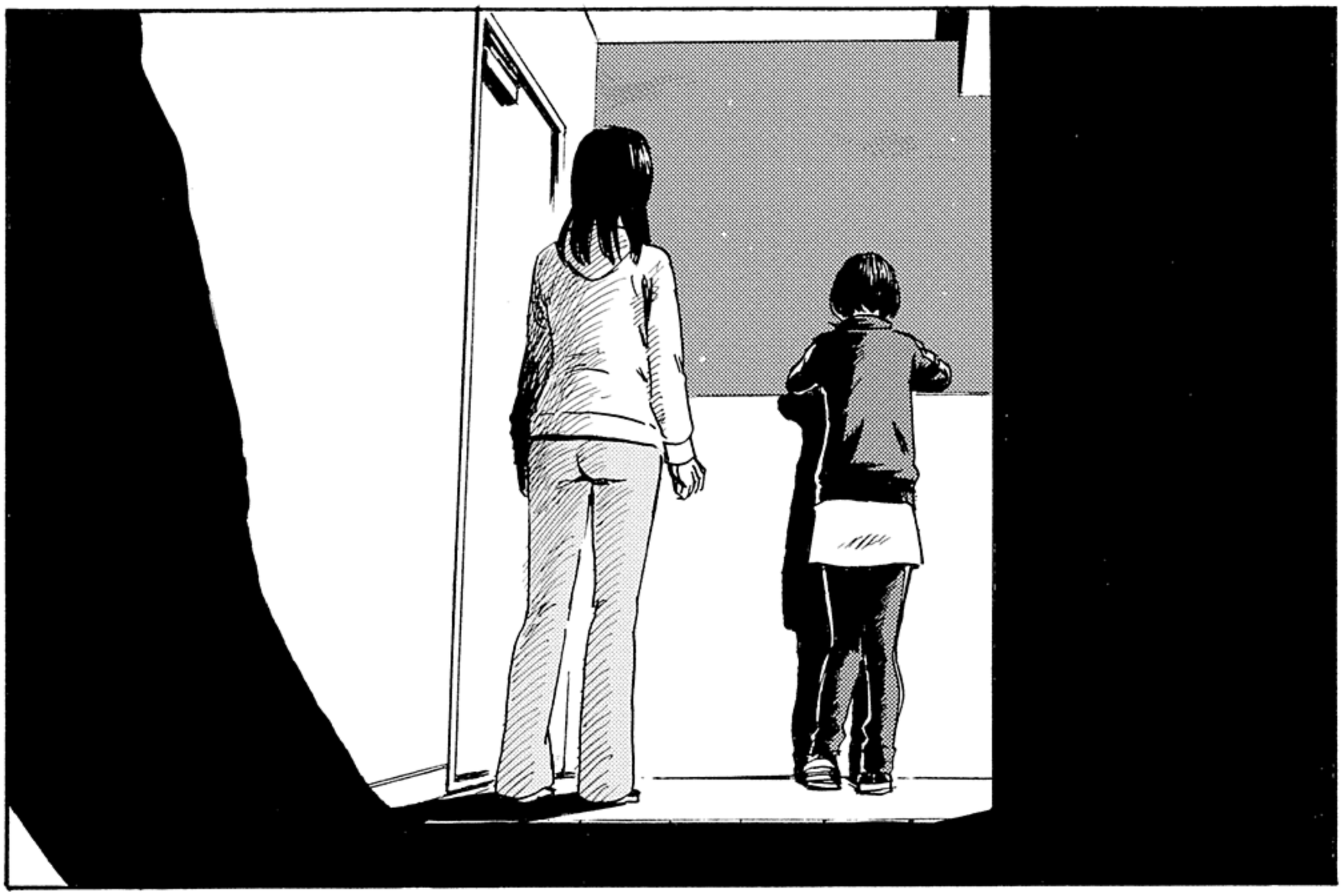
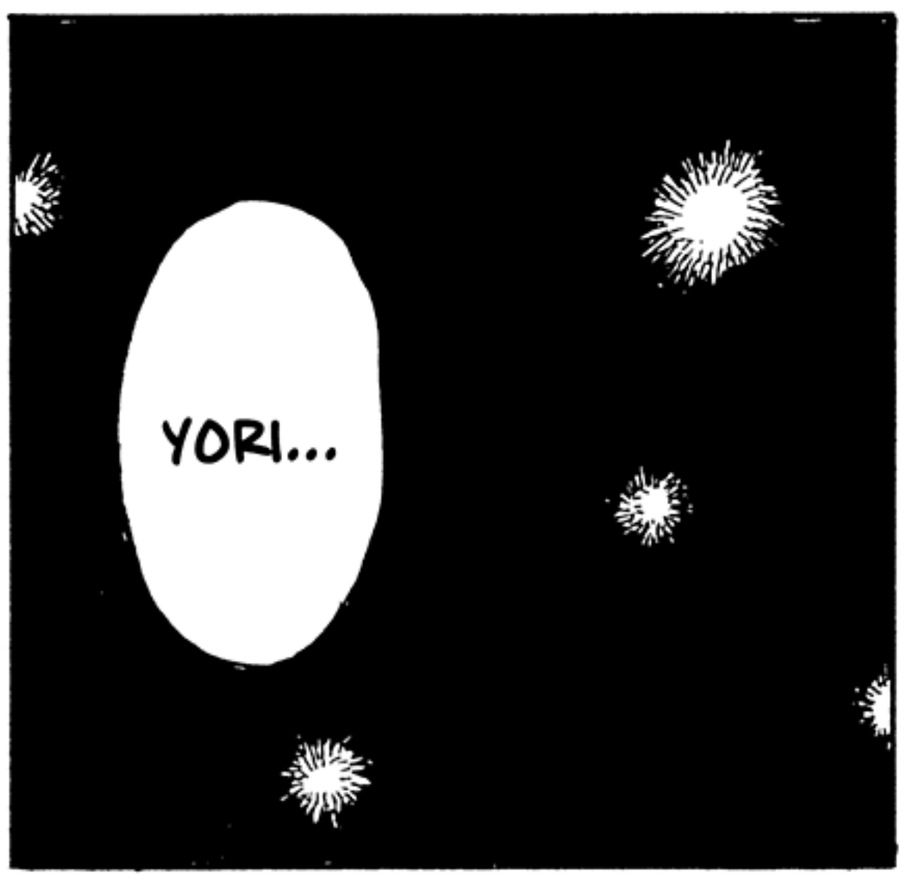
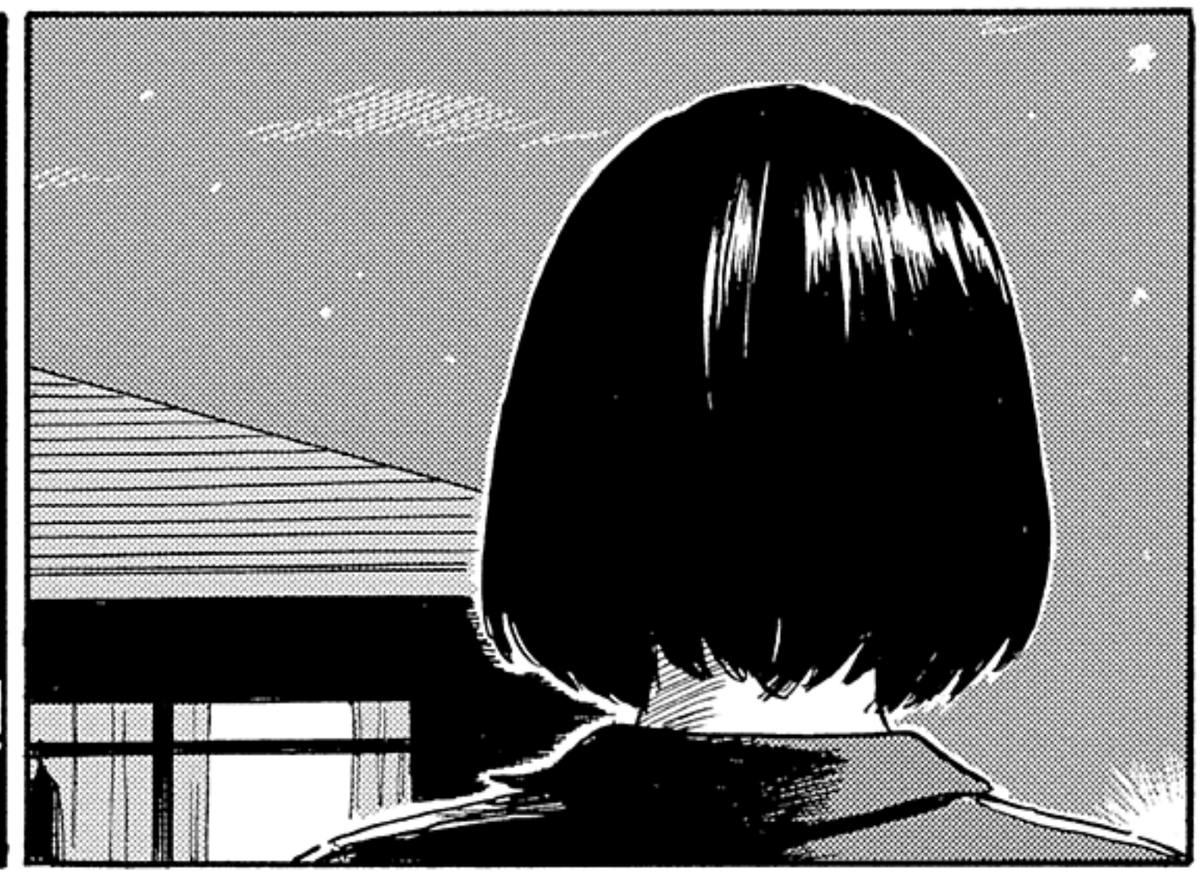


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF


YORI...



I WAS WRONG.

I...

I TRIED TO HIDE EVERYTHING.

IN AN EFFORT TO GET MARI BACK TO HER NORMAL SELF.

AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED

TRYING TO FORCE EVERYTHING TO STAY THE SAME,

I WAS CLINGING TO A FACADE,

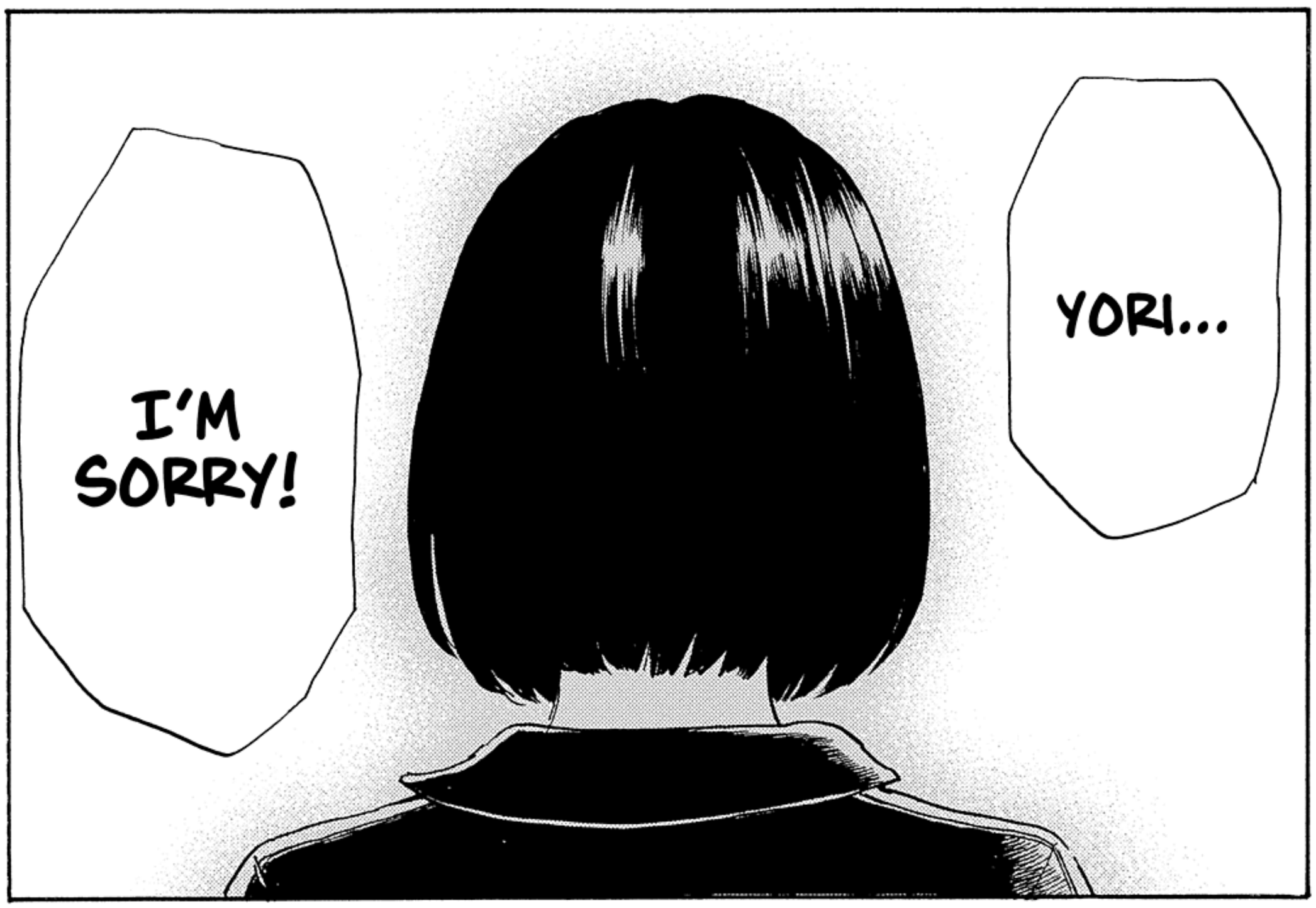
I CAN'T DO IT.
BUT...

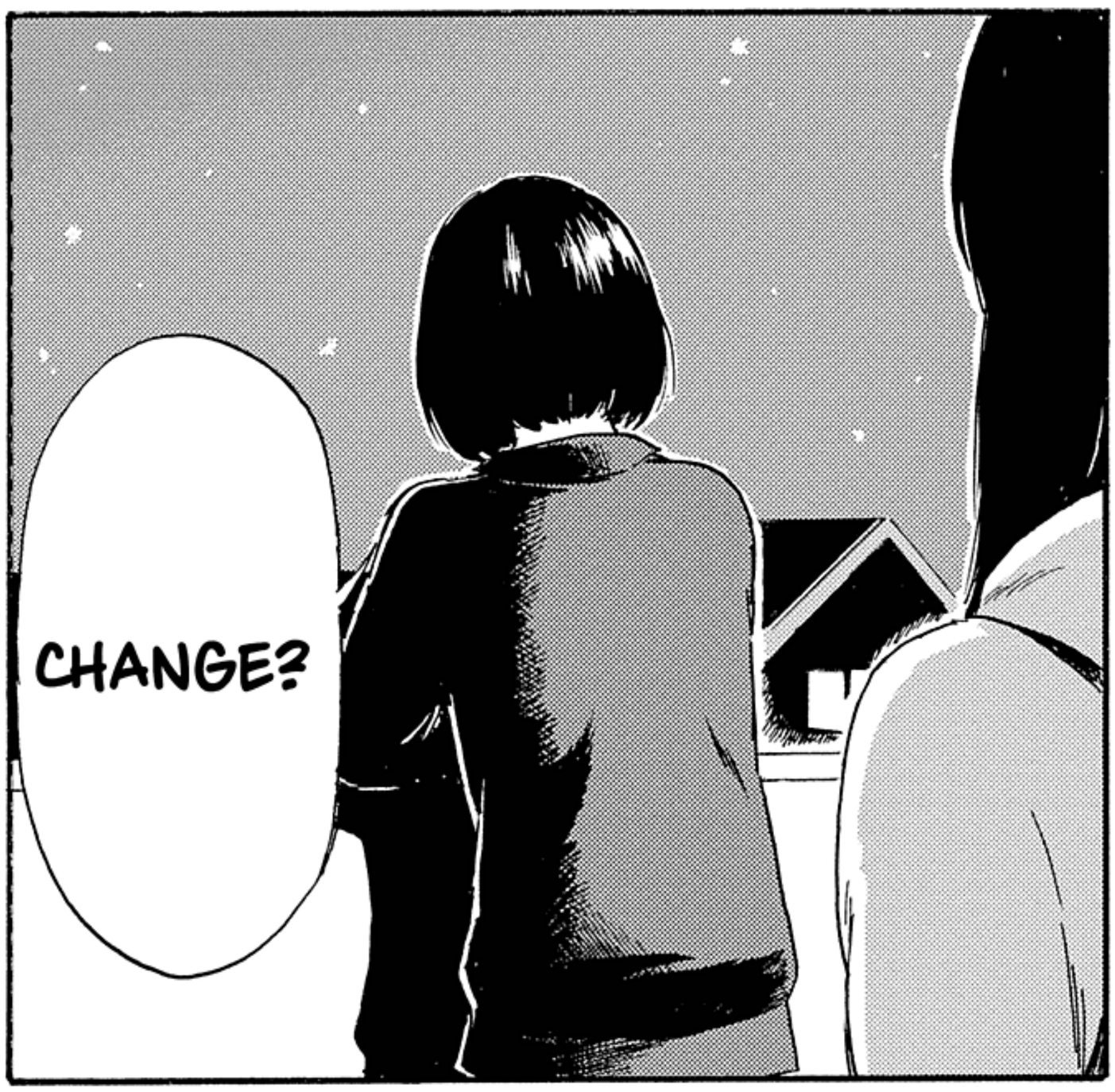
AND HER WOUNDS JUST GET BIGGER.
THE WORSE THE SITUATION GETS.
THE MORE I TRY TO HIDE THINGS,

I RUN AWAY FROM THINGS WHEN THEY SUIT ME.
I'M LIKE A SNAKE...

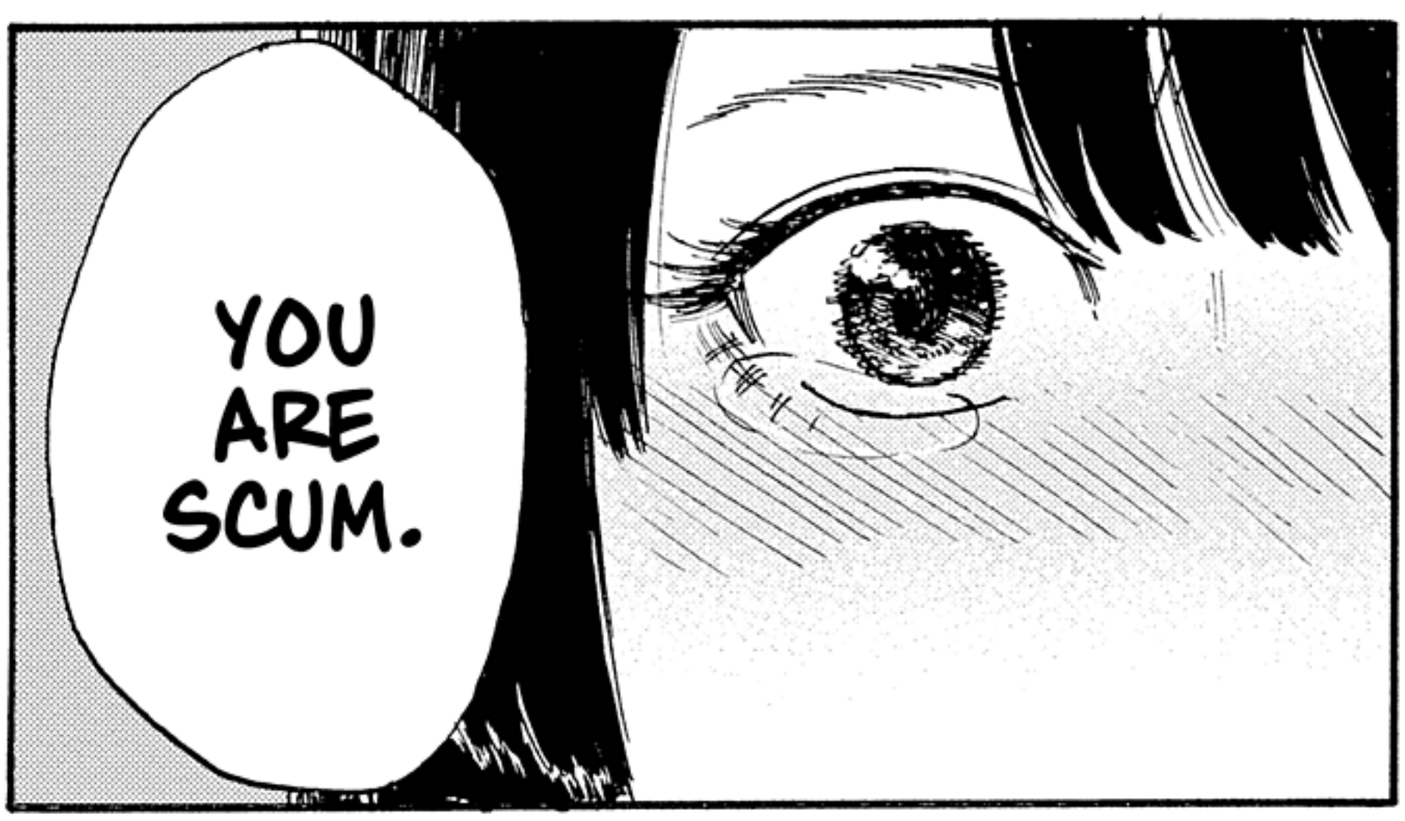
I WANT TO CHANGE!

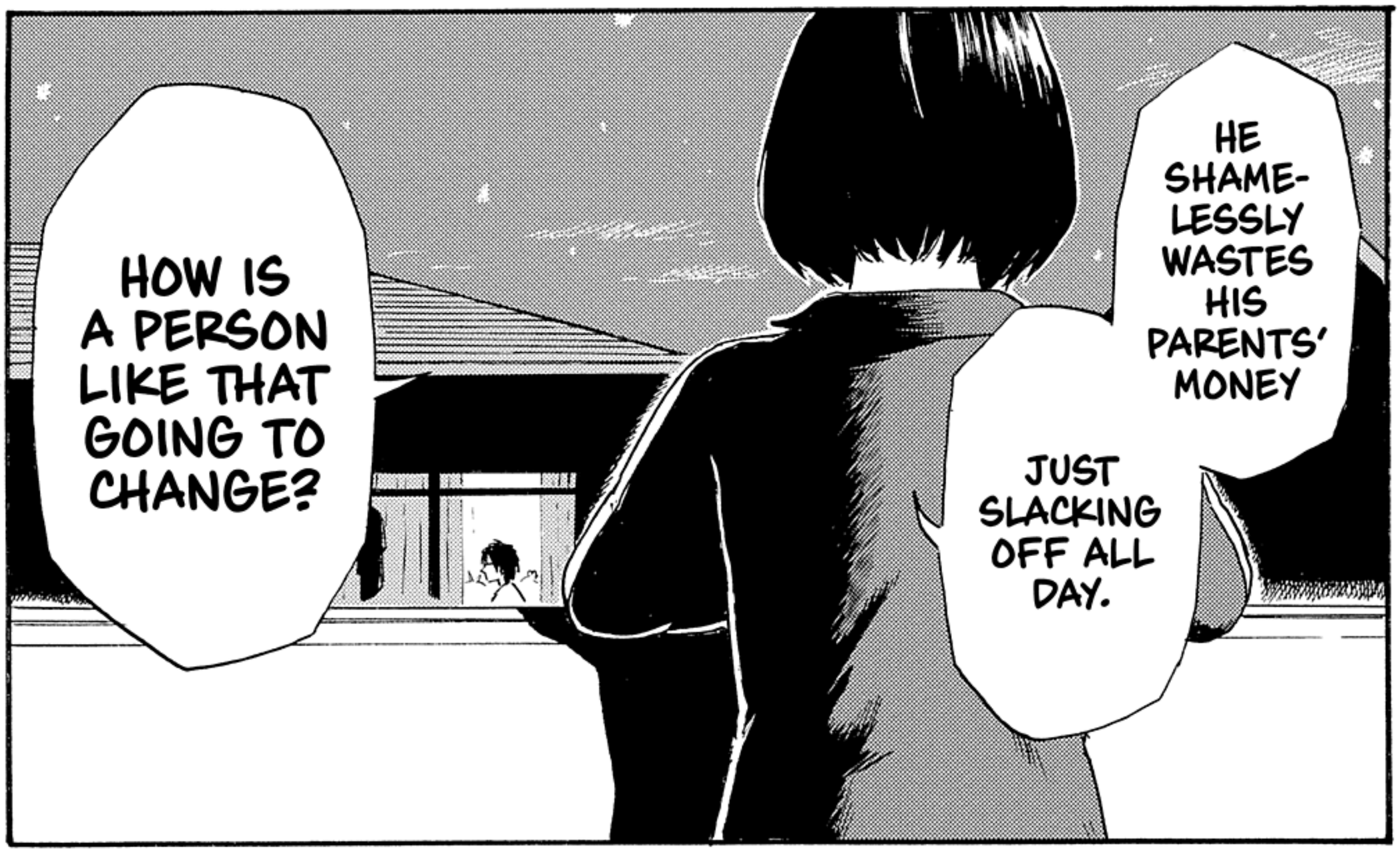
BUT I DON'T WANT TO RUN AWAY ANY LONGER!




CHANGE?

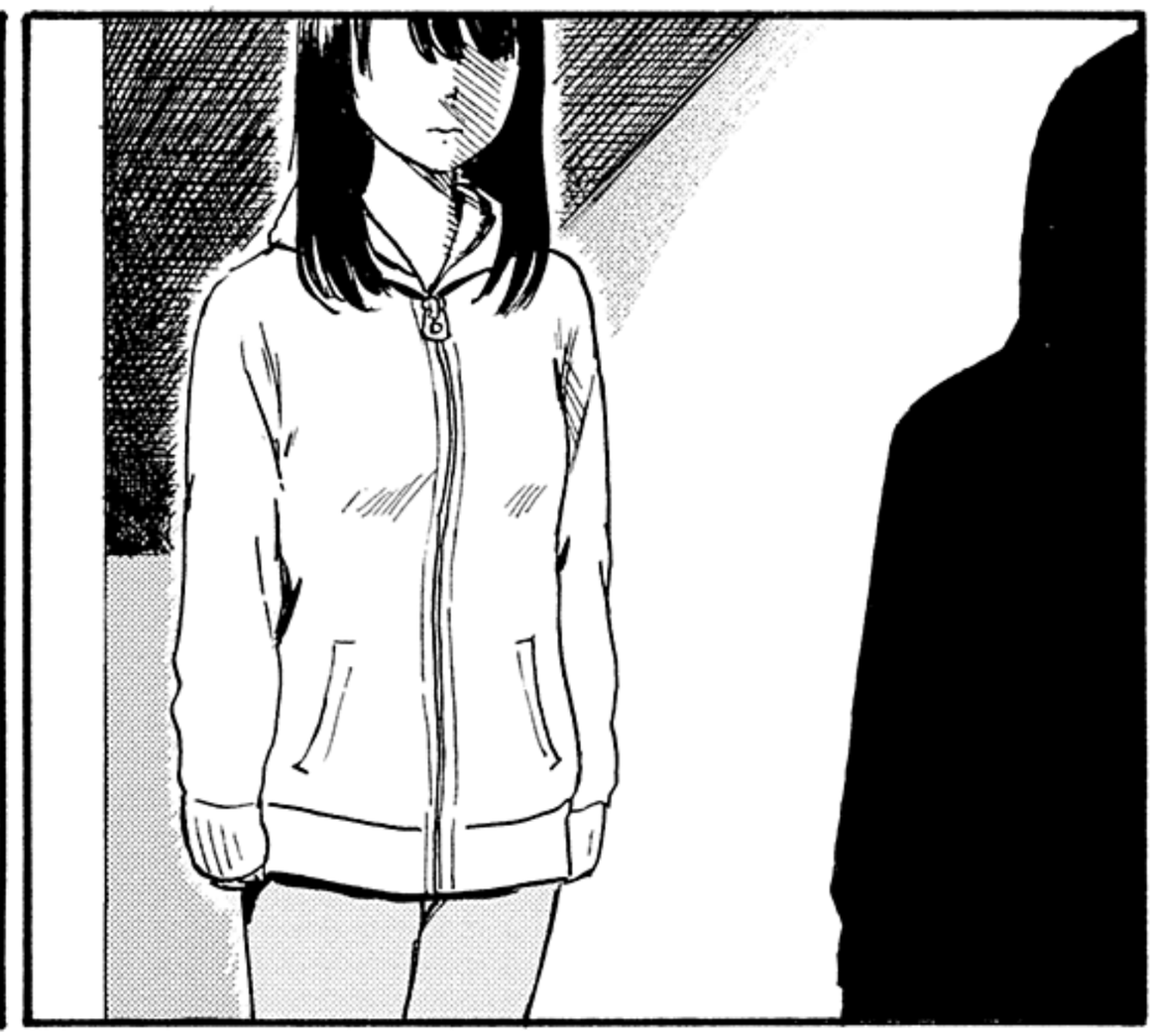
ISAO KOMORI... YOU...
TO WATCH HIM.
SINCE THAT DAY,
I'VE COME HERE EVERY NIGHT

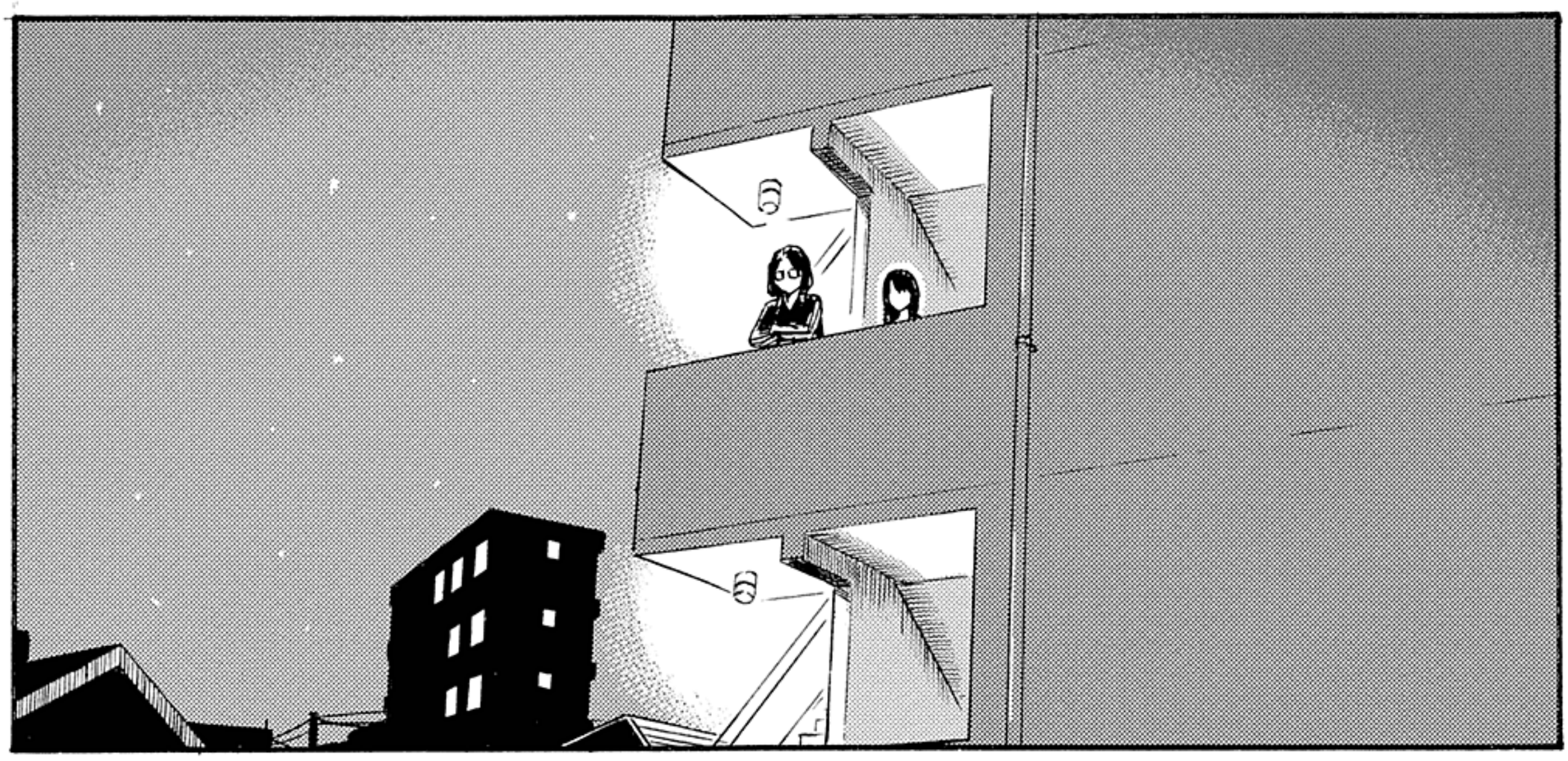

YOU ARE SCUM.

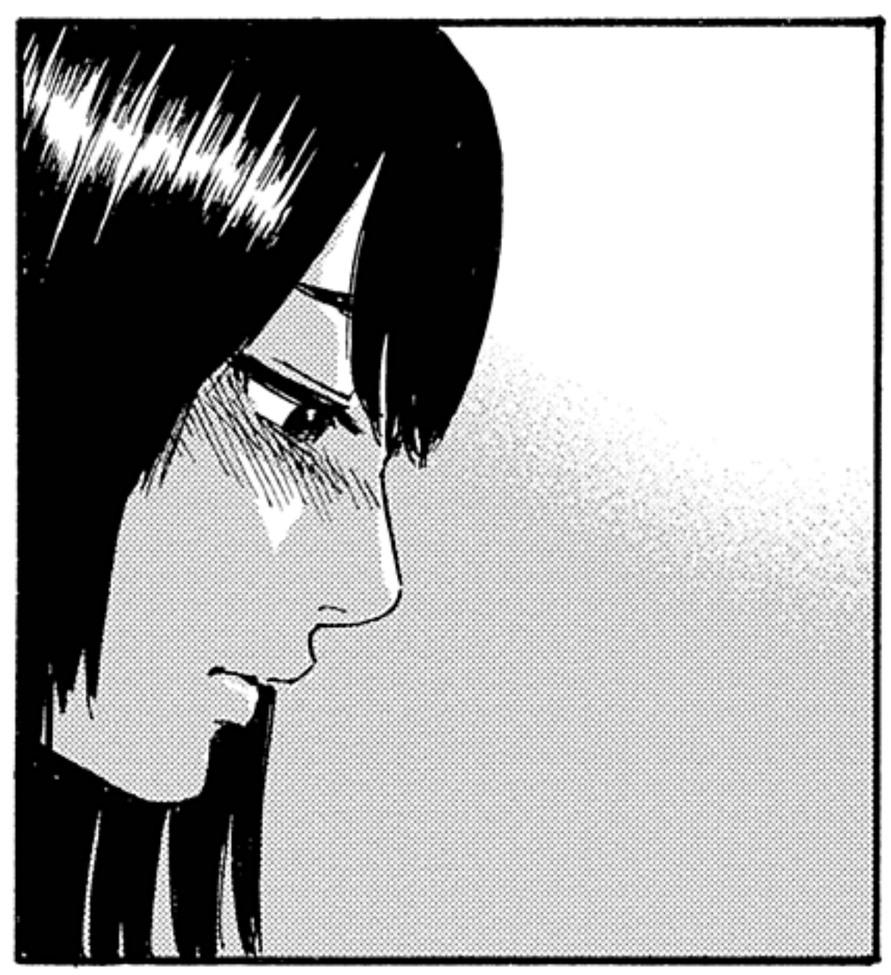

HOW IS A PERSON LIKE THAT GOING TO CHANGE?
HE SHAME-LESSLY WASTES HIS PARENTS' MONEY
JUST SLACKING OFF ALL DAY.

SO DON'T LIE TO ME.

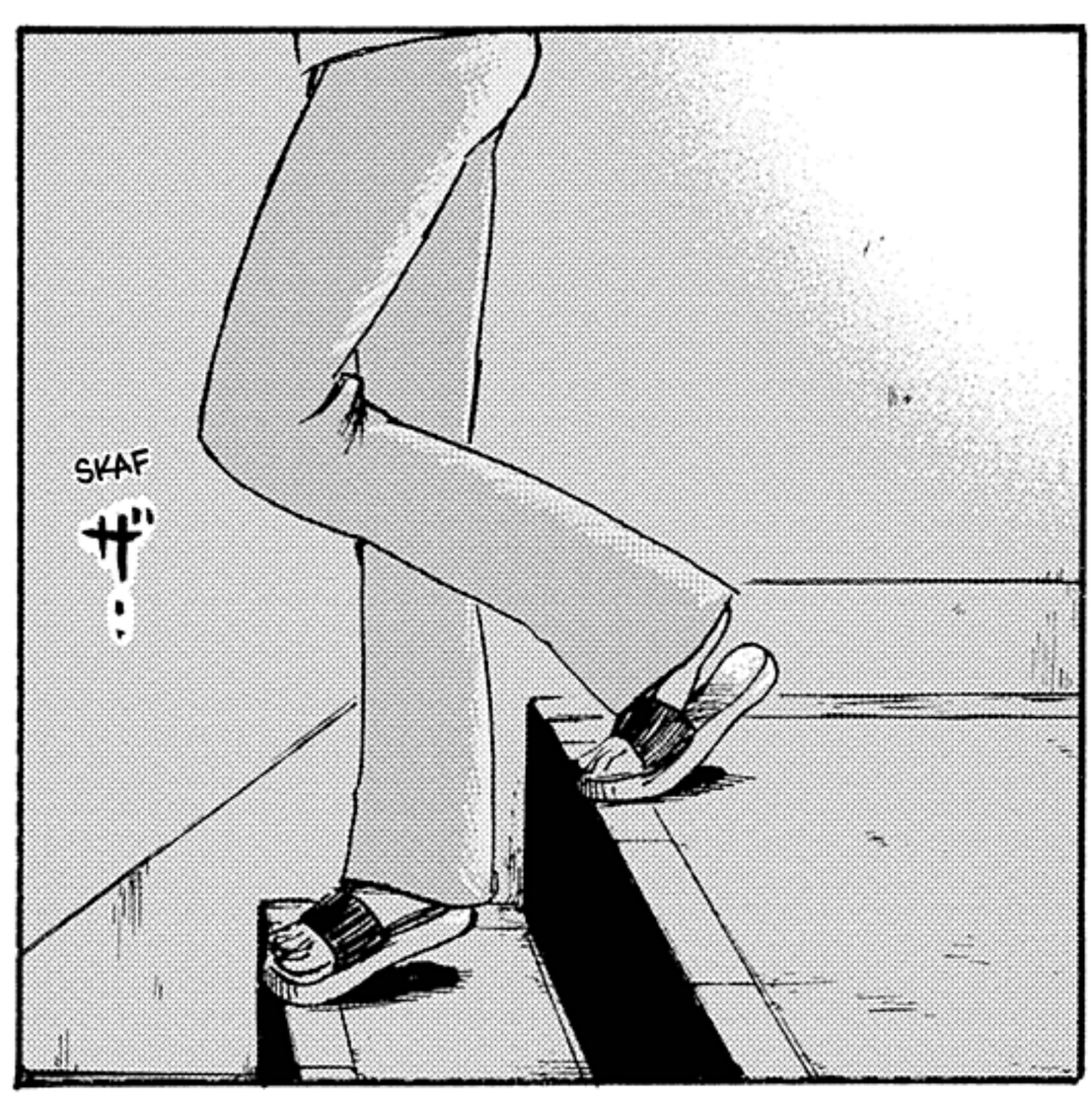
I'M NOT...





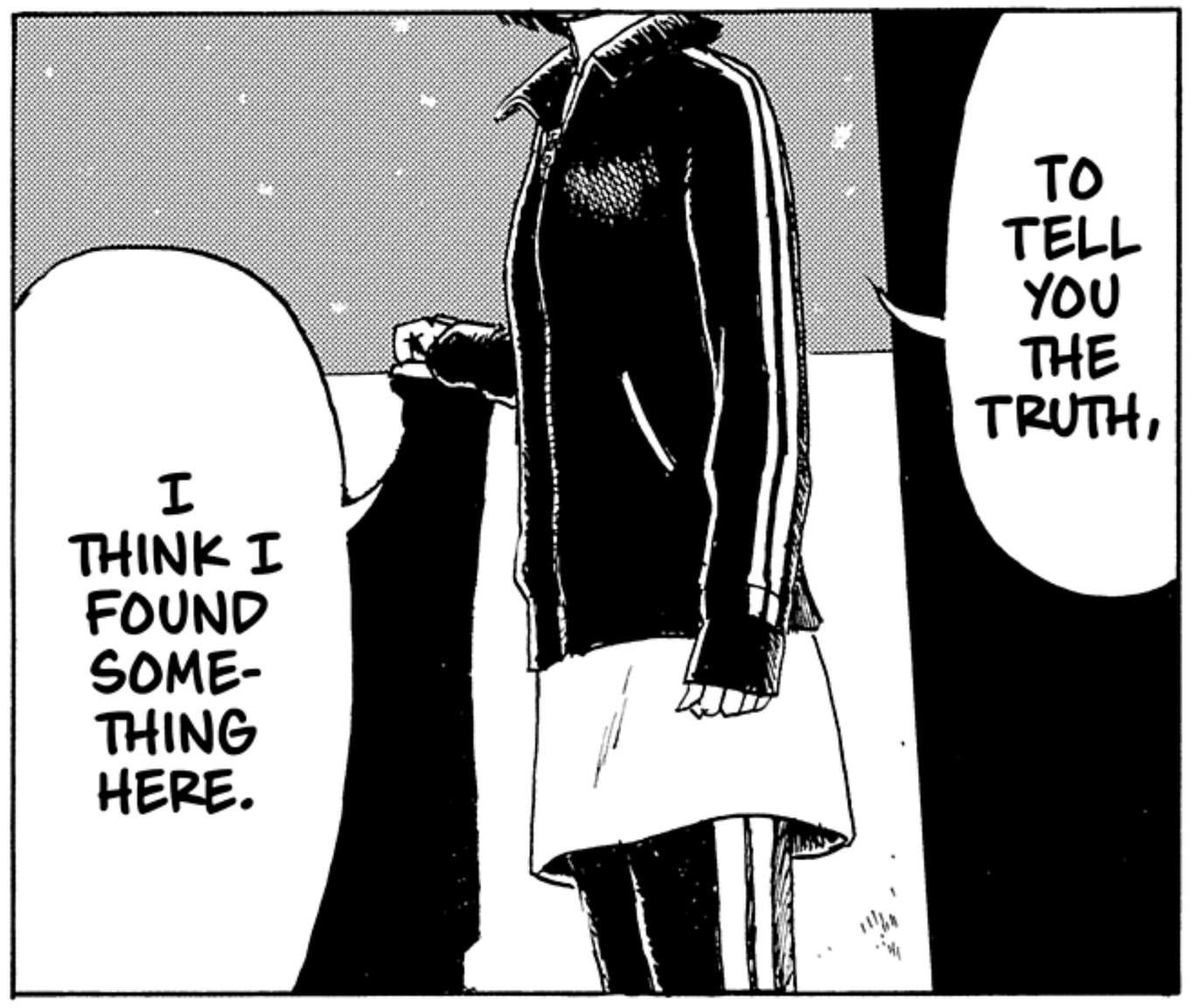


WHY ARE YOU STANDING THERE?
JUST GO HOME.


SKAF

I'M SORRY ...

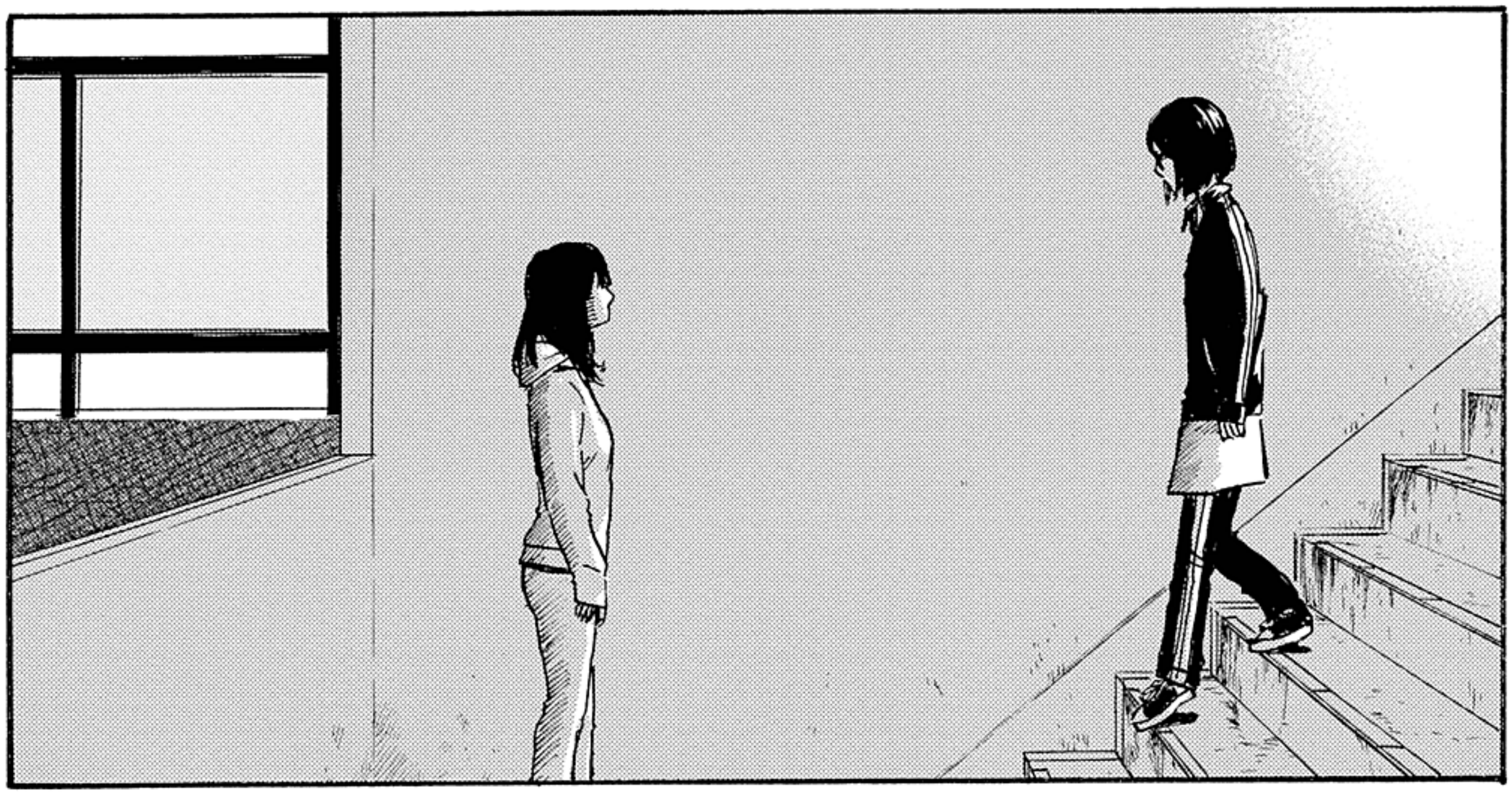
KO-
MORI—

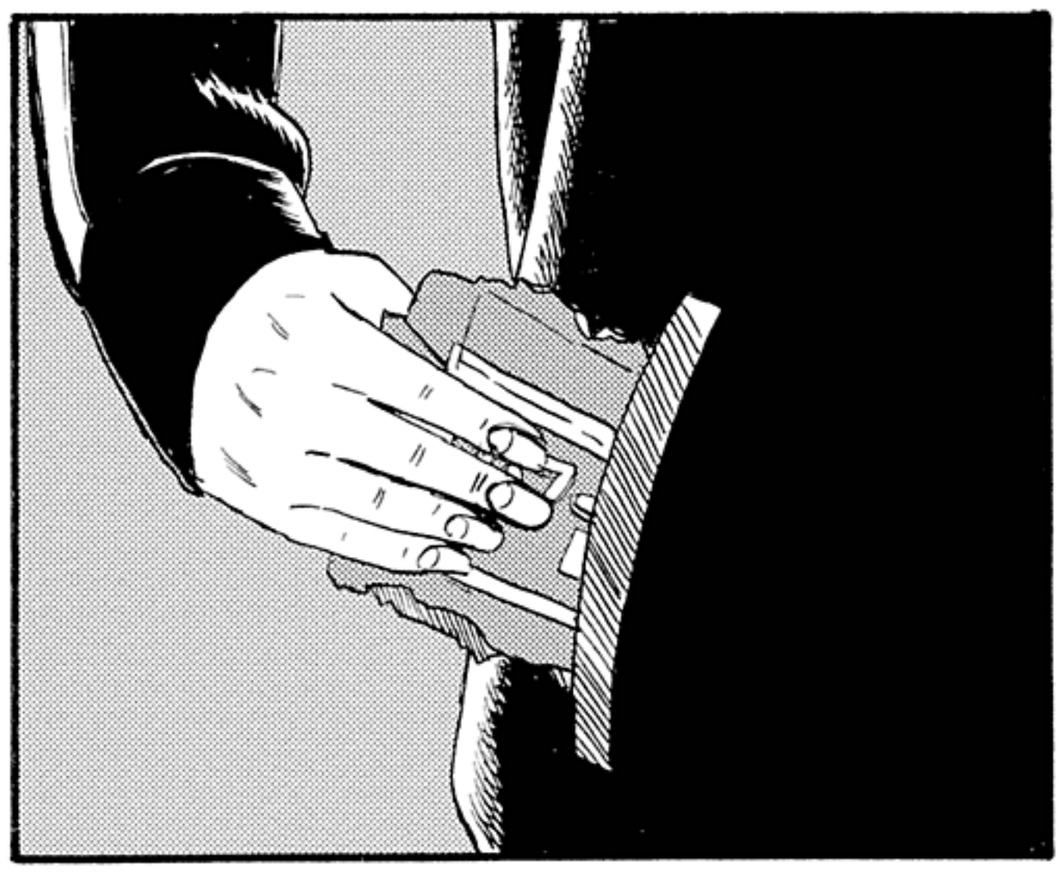

I
THINK I
FOUND
SOME-
THING
HERE.
TO
TELL
YOU
THE
TRUTH,

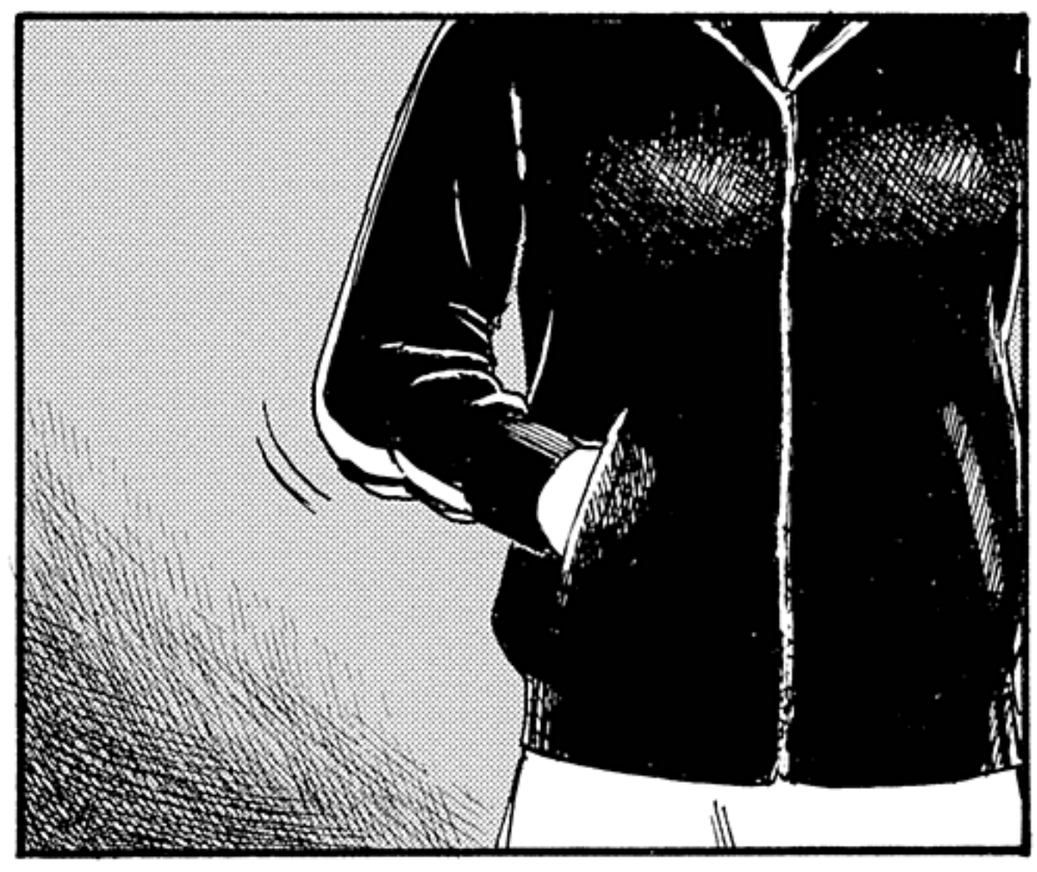
WANT TO SEE IT?

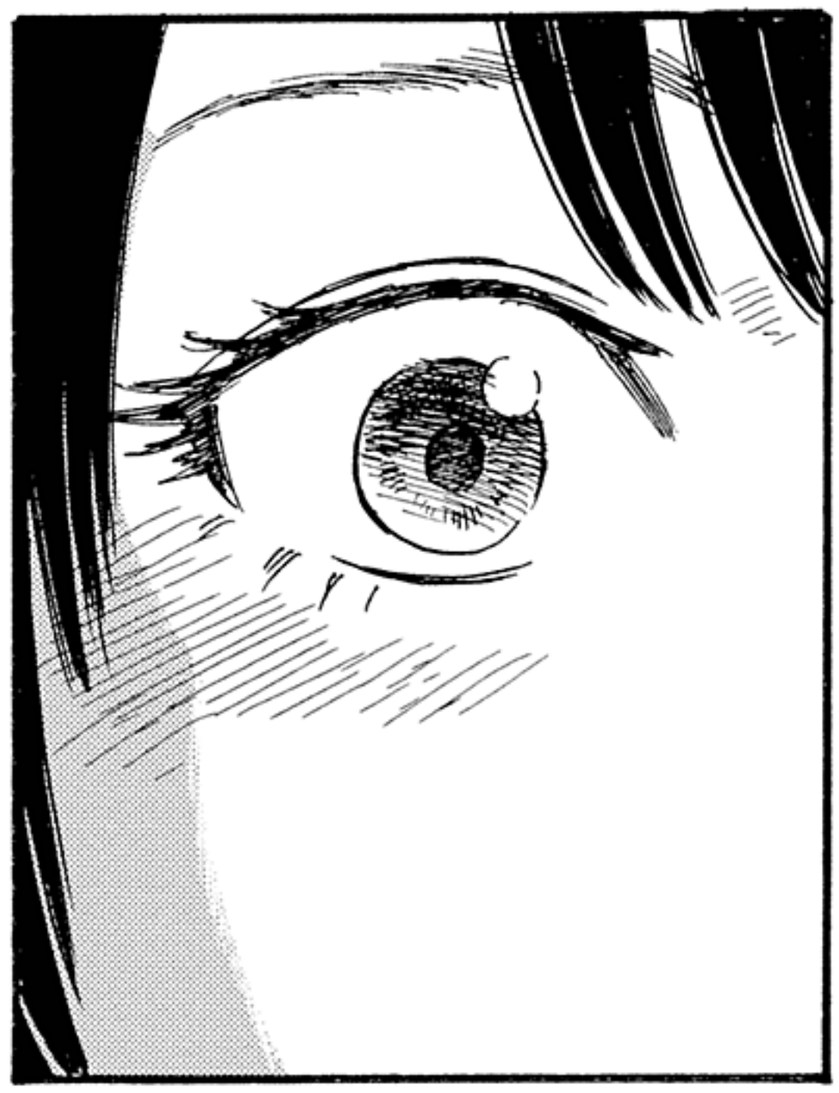
コクン

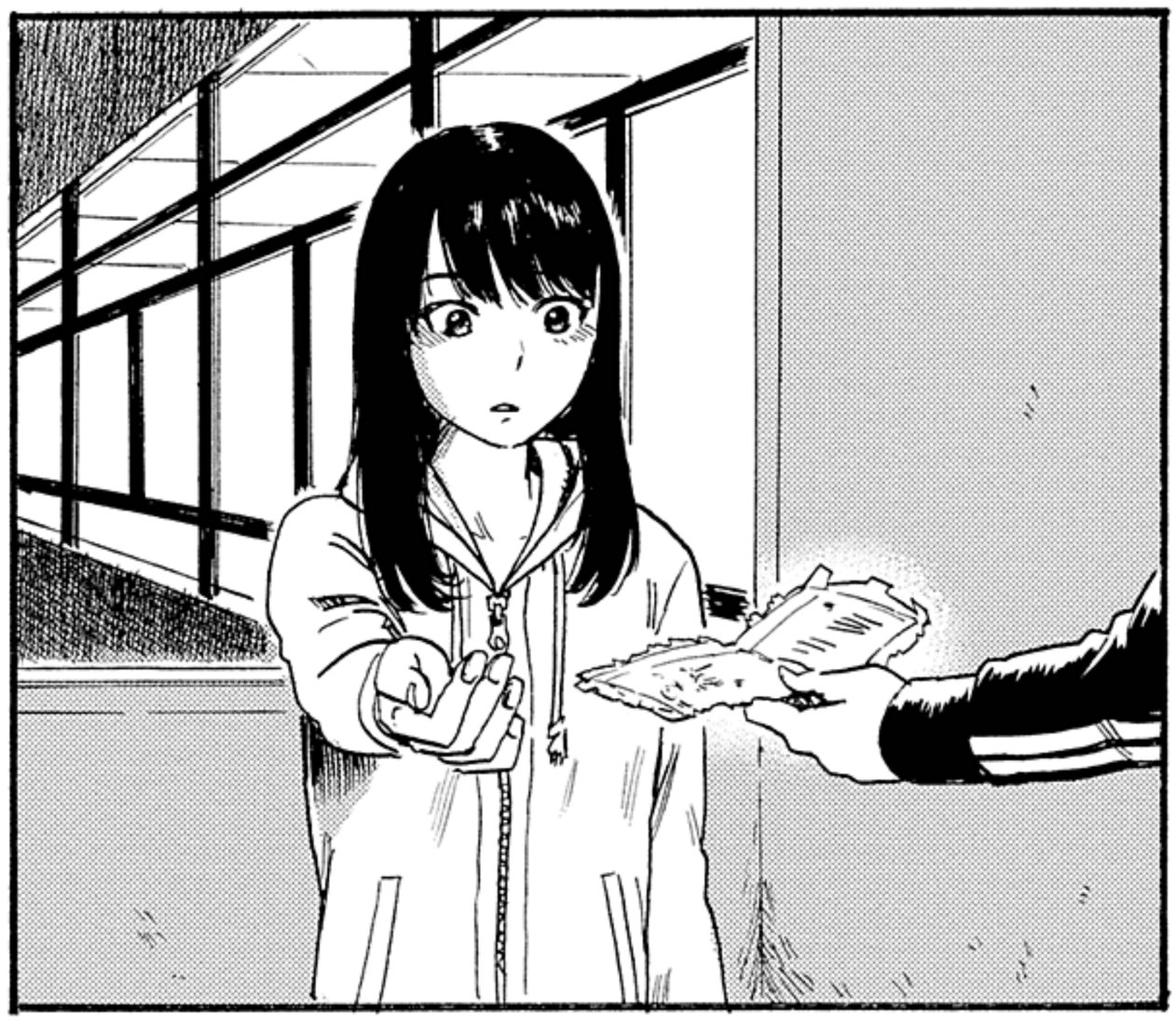
NOD



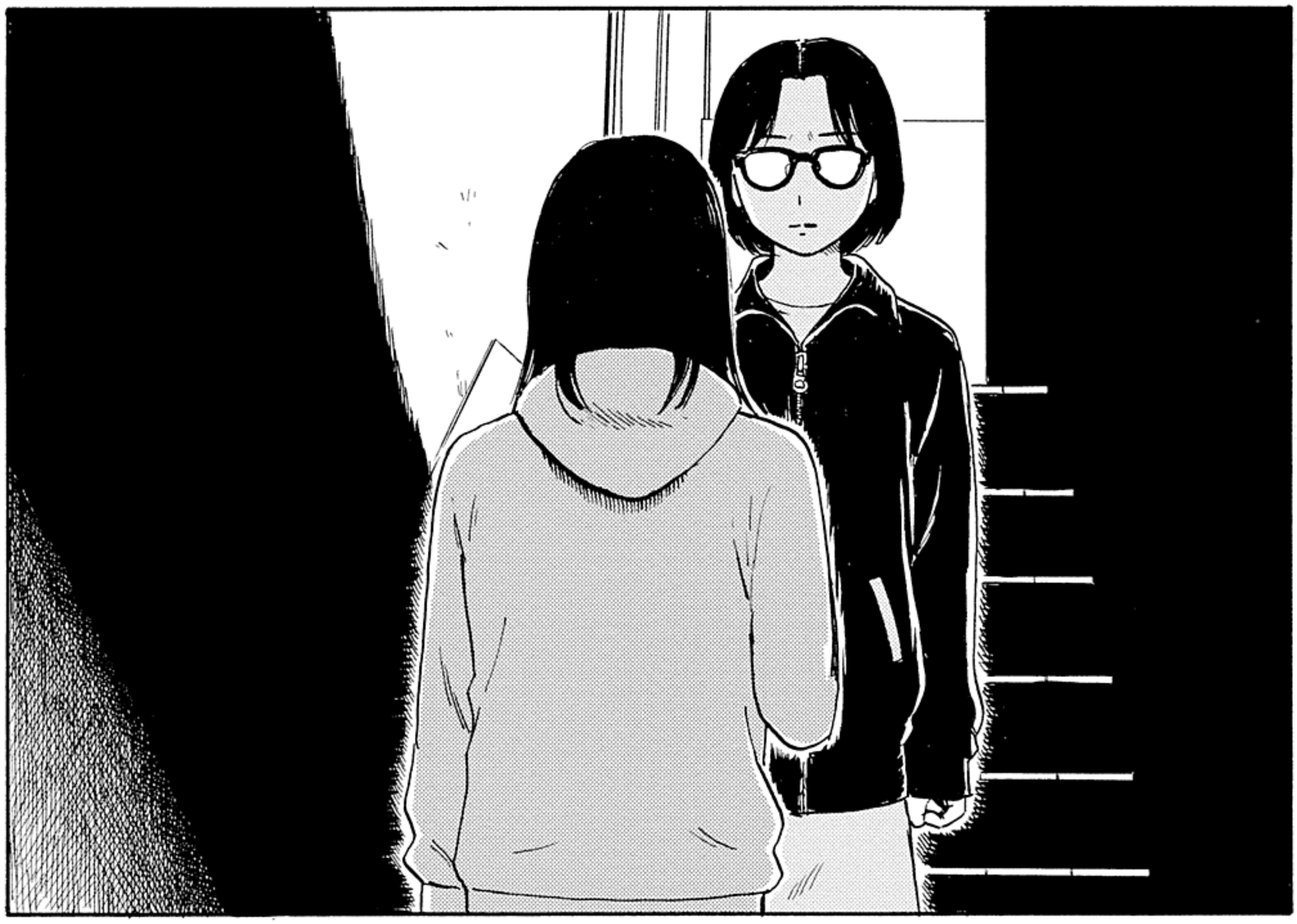




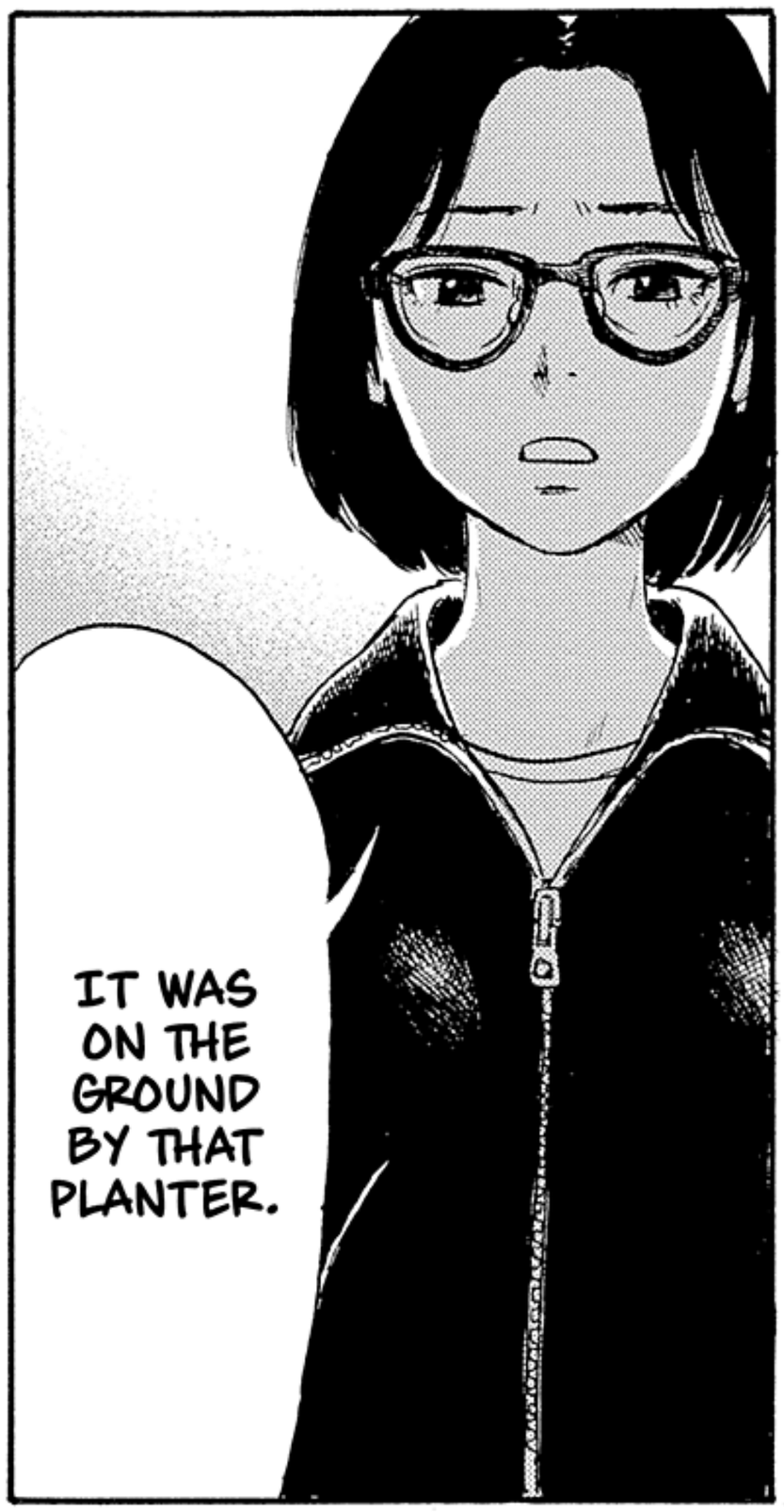


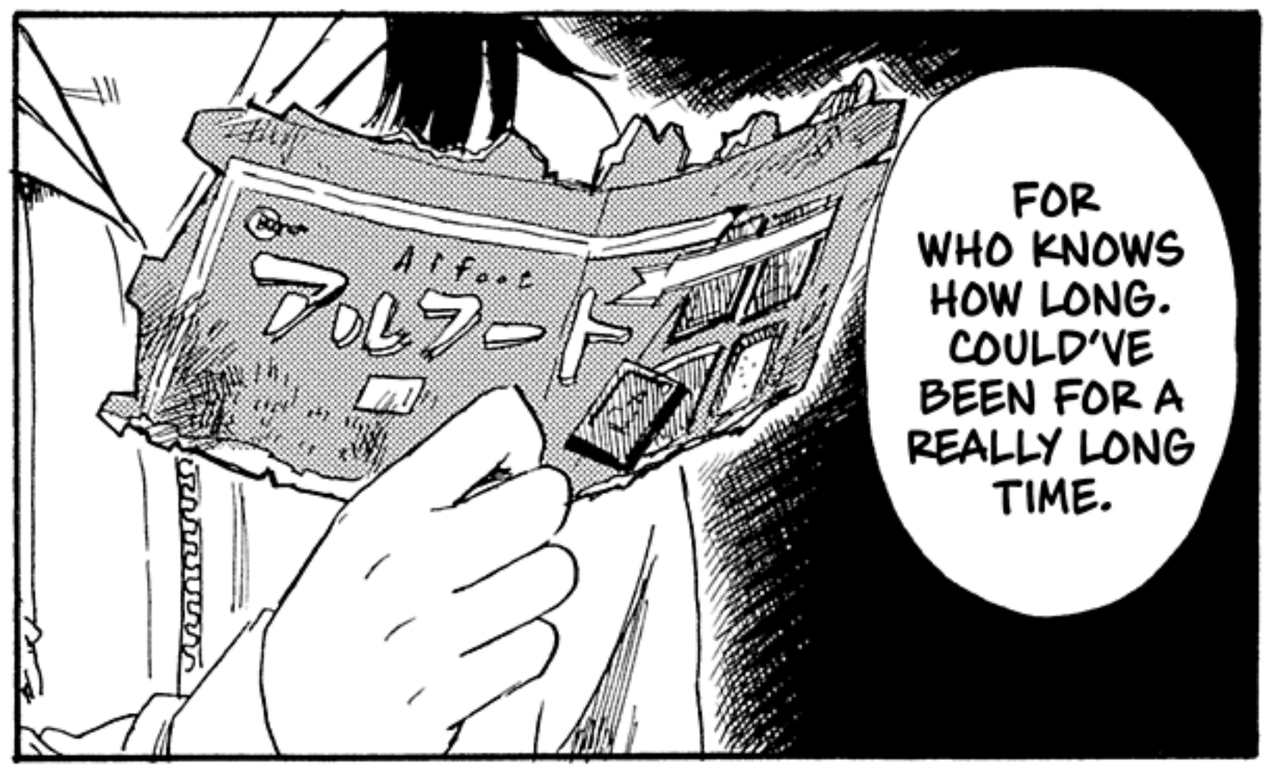


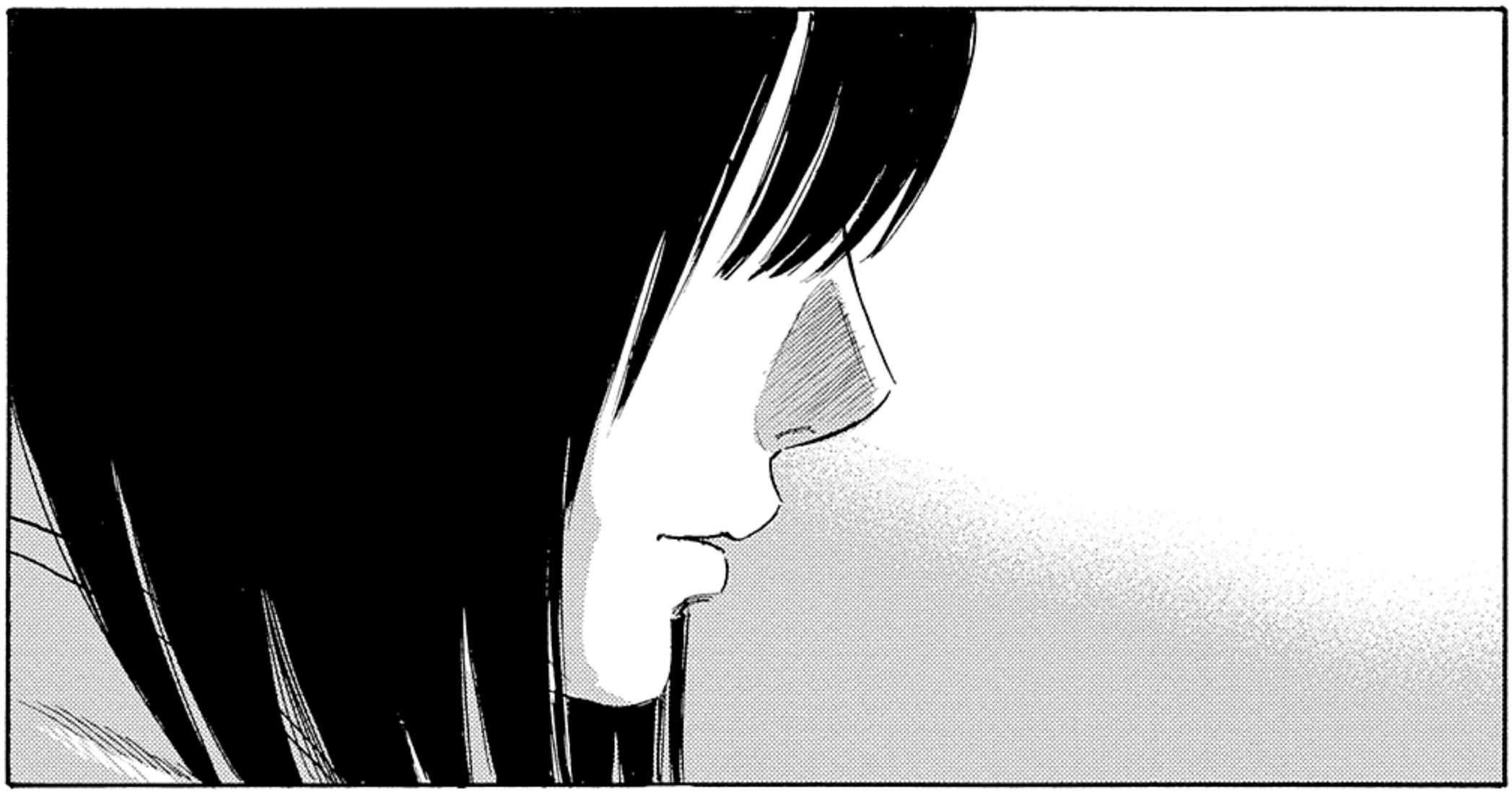
He's playing video games again.
He also masturbated while on the PC...
And for dinner, he had a convenience
store curry set with pork cutlet.
You don't know how good you have it.
So, please, don't ever change.
-MARI
TODAY'S ...
ISAO KOMORI

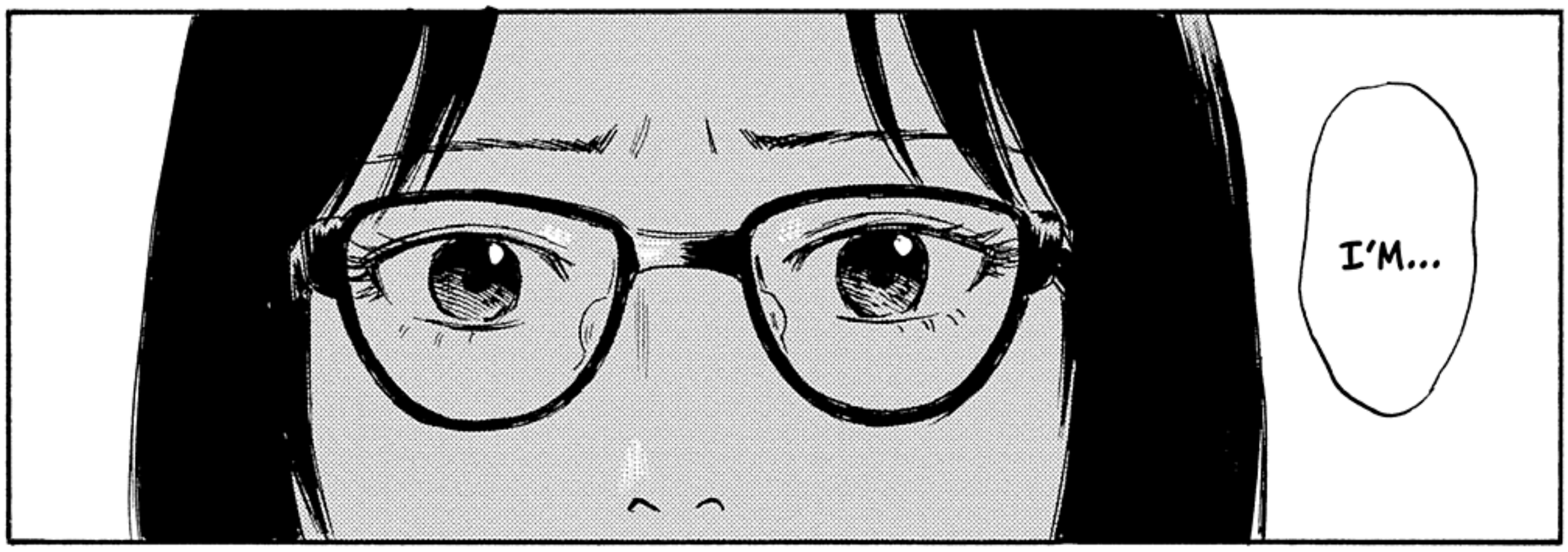


IT SEEMS AS IF MARI WAS WATCHING YOU FROM HERE...


IT WAS ON THE GROUND BY THAT PLANTER.

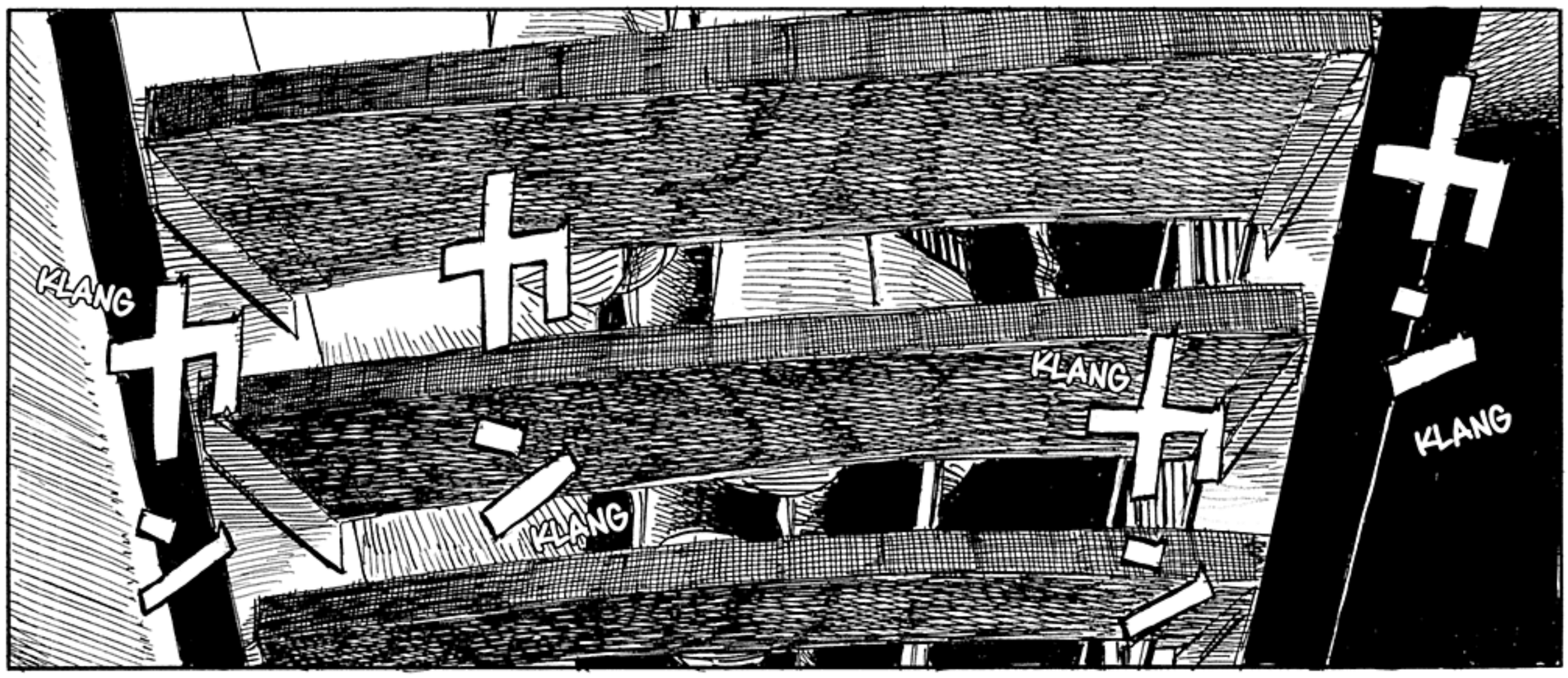

FOR WHO KNOWS HOW LONG. COULD'VE BEEN FOR A REALLY LONG TIME.

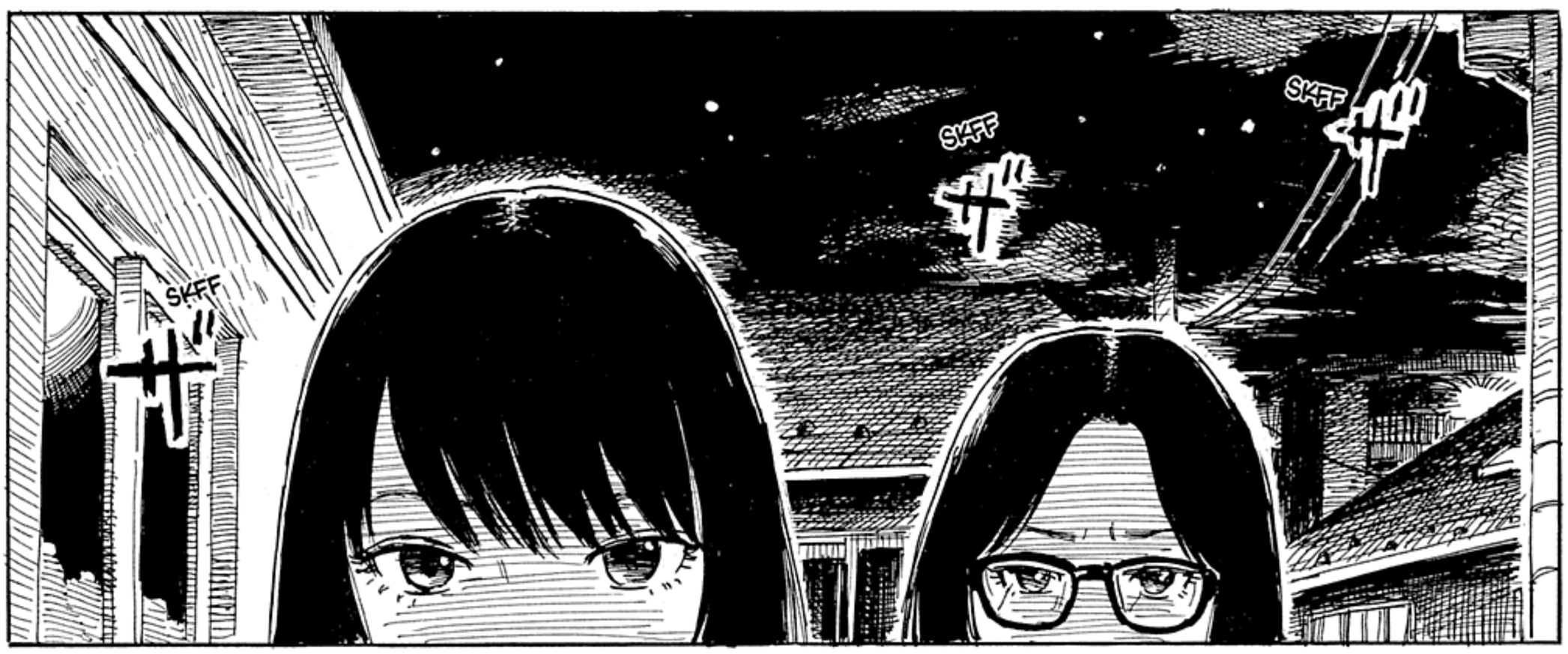


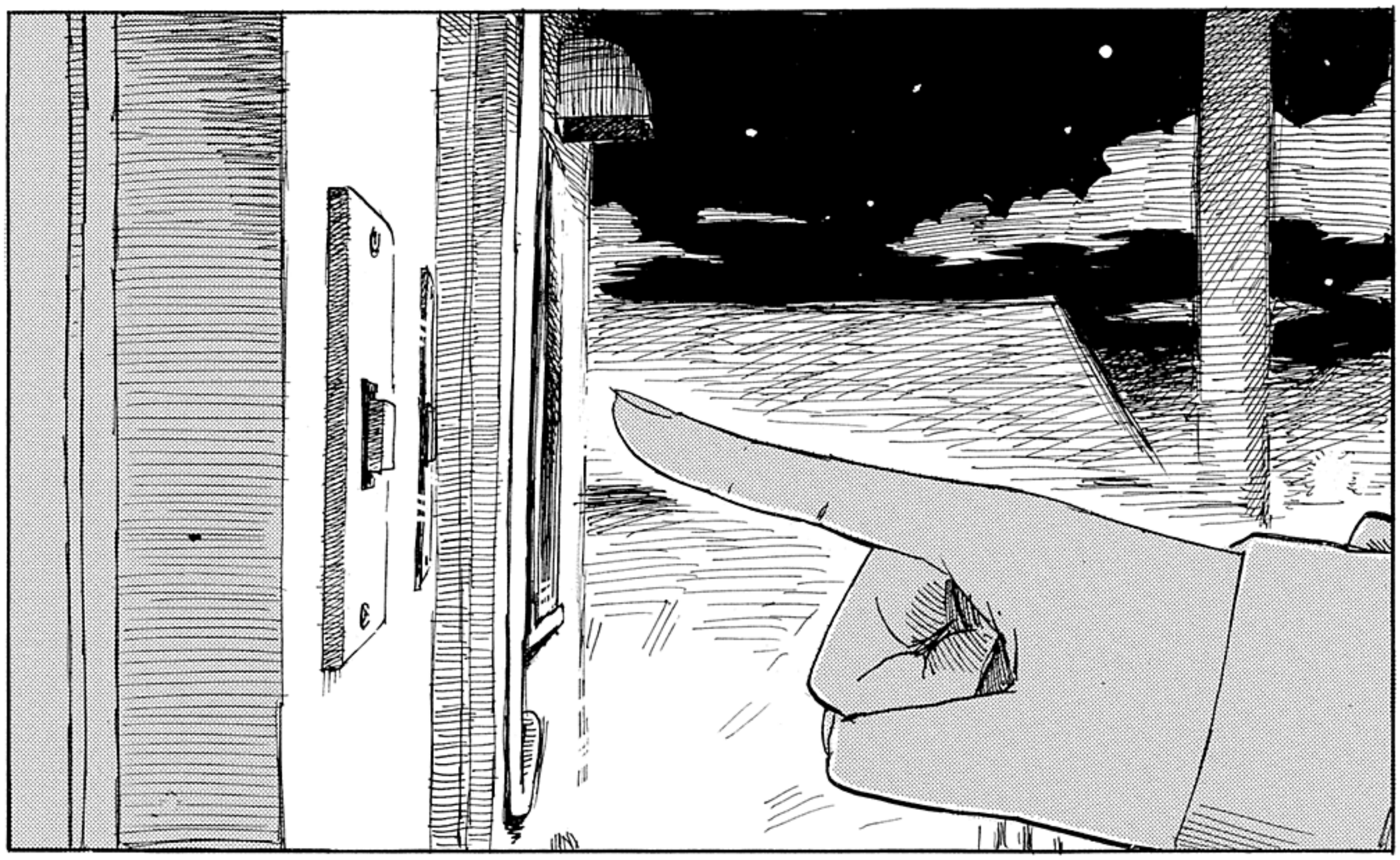

I'M...

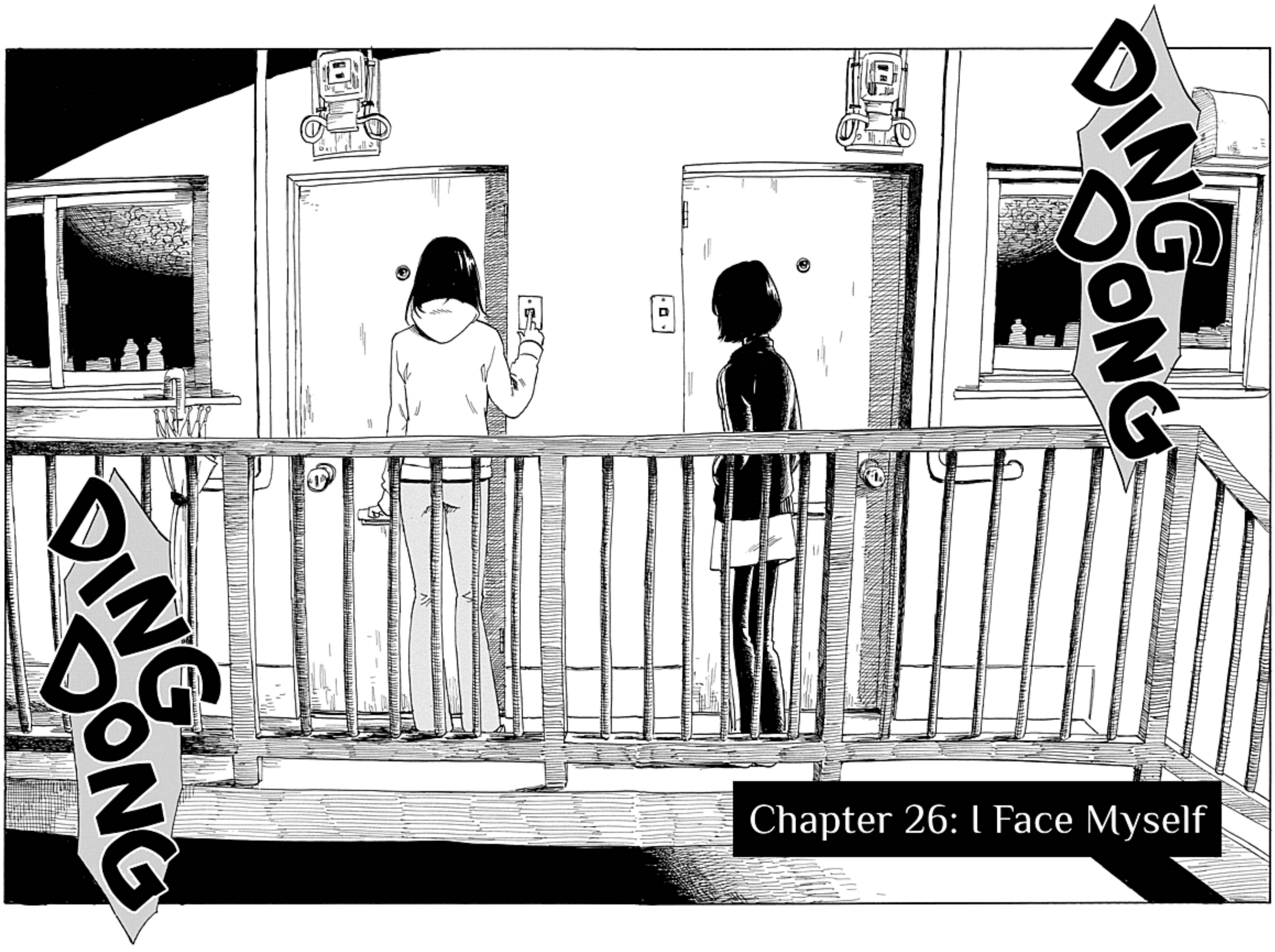
TO HAVE A TALK WITH MYSELF.
GOING OVER THERE...

I'M GOING TO
LOOK AT MYSELF!


KLANG
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG

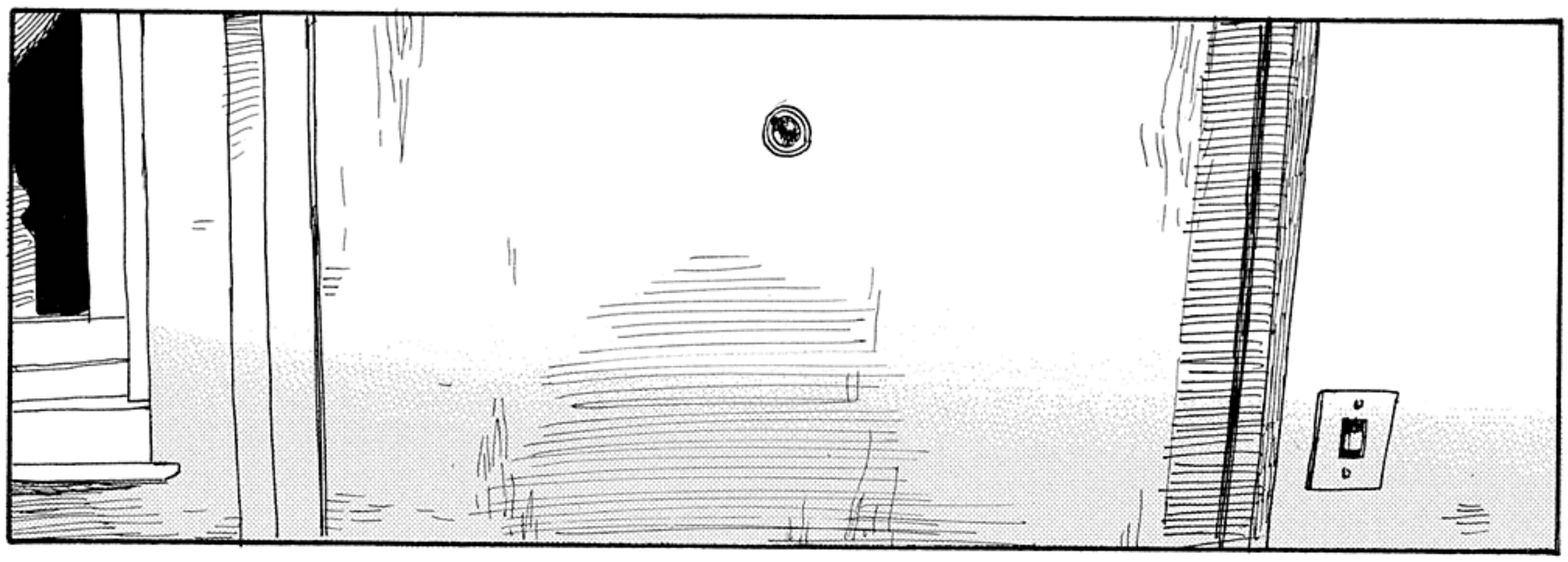

SKFF
SKFF
SKFF

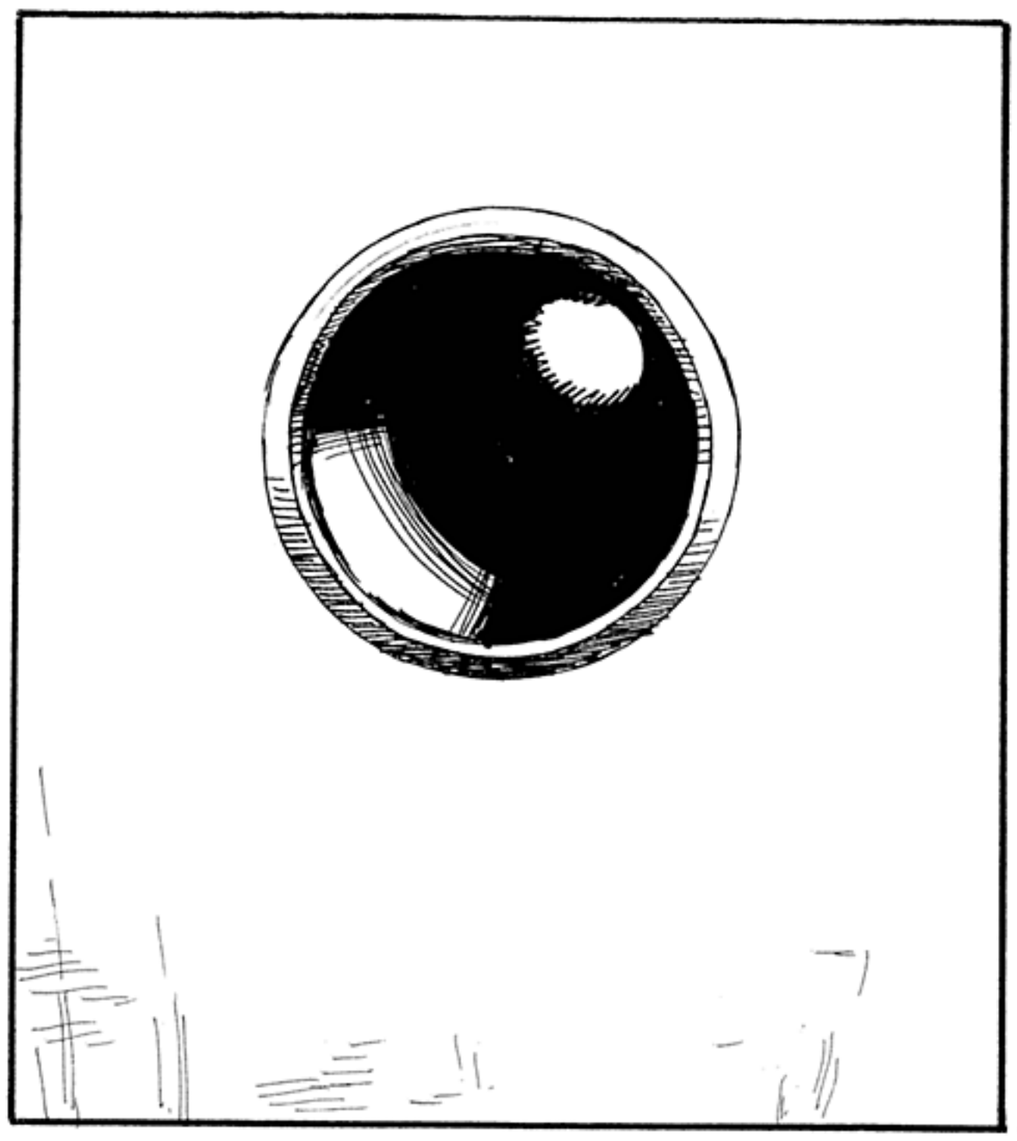


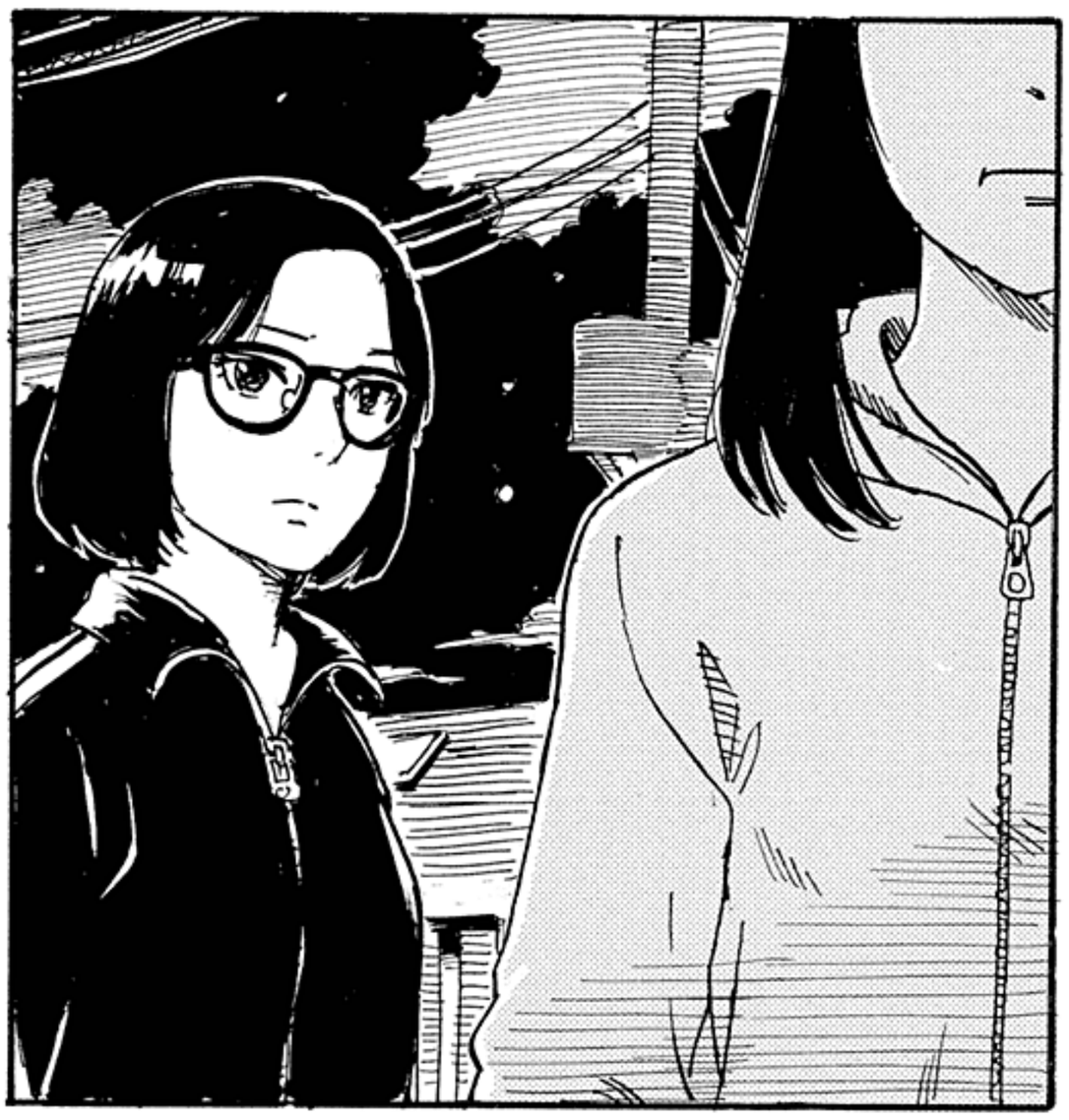


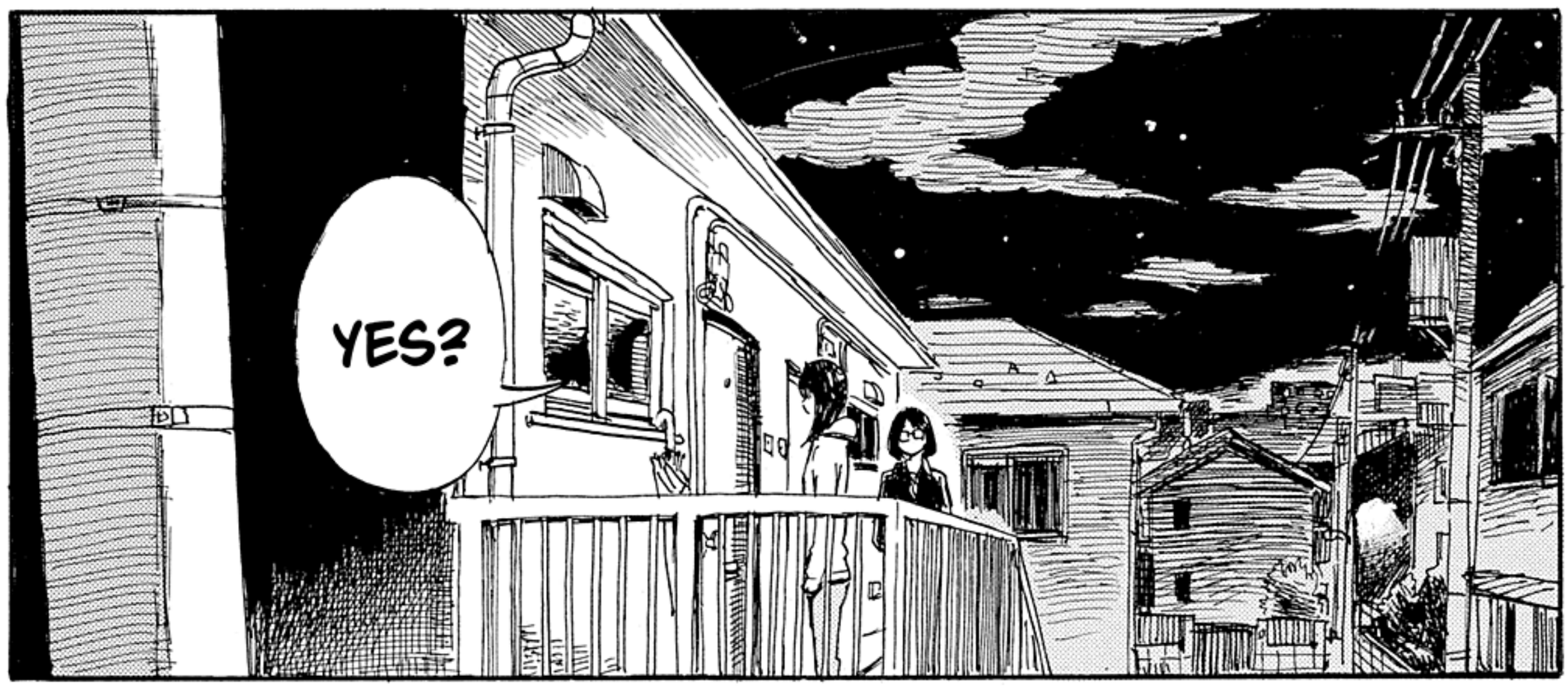
Chapter 26: I Face Myself

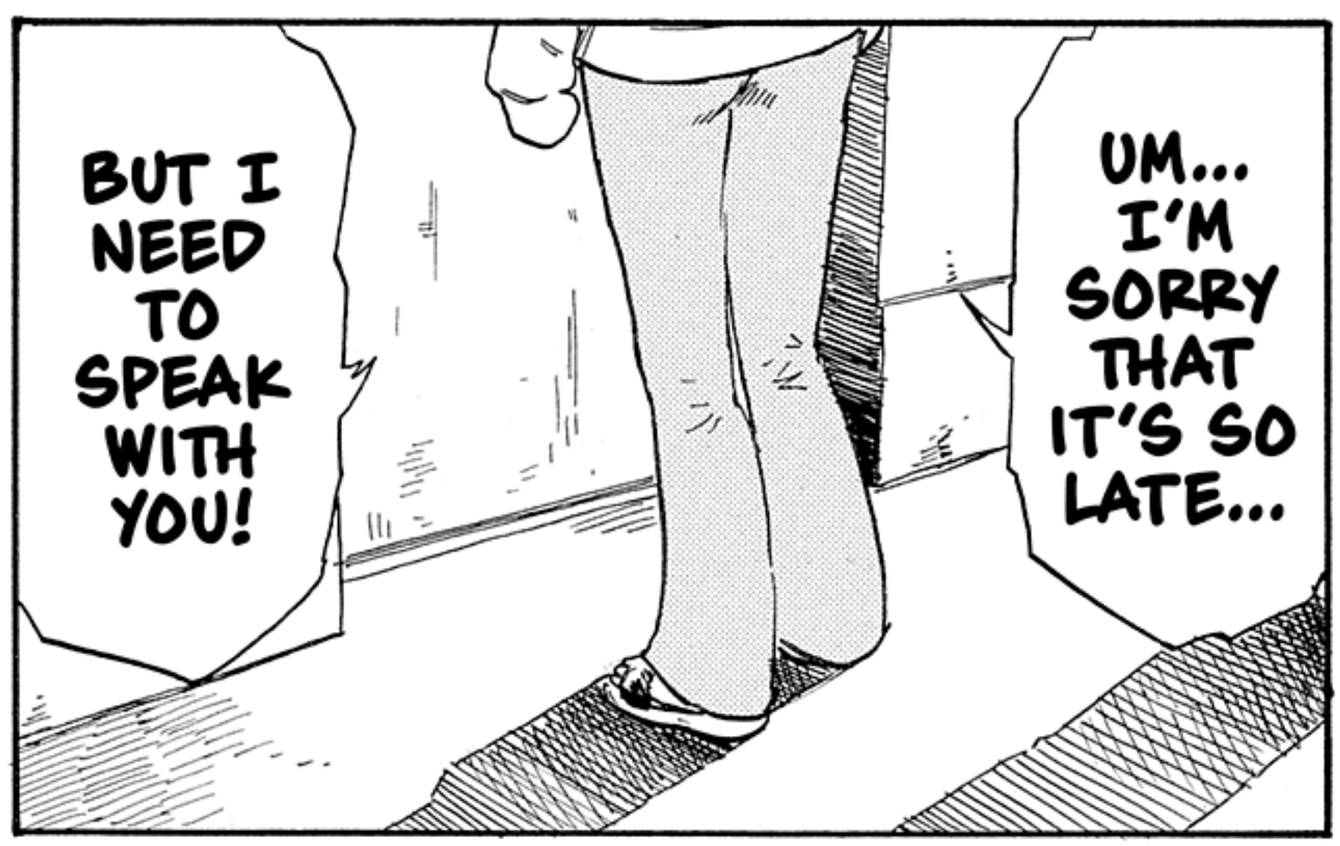
EXCUSE ME!



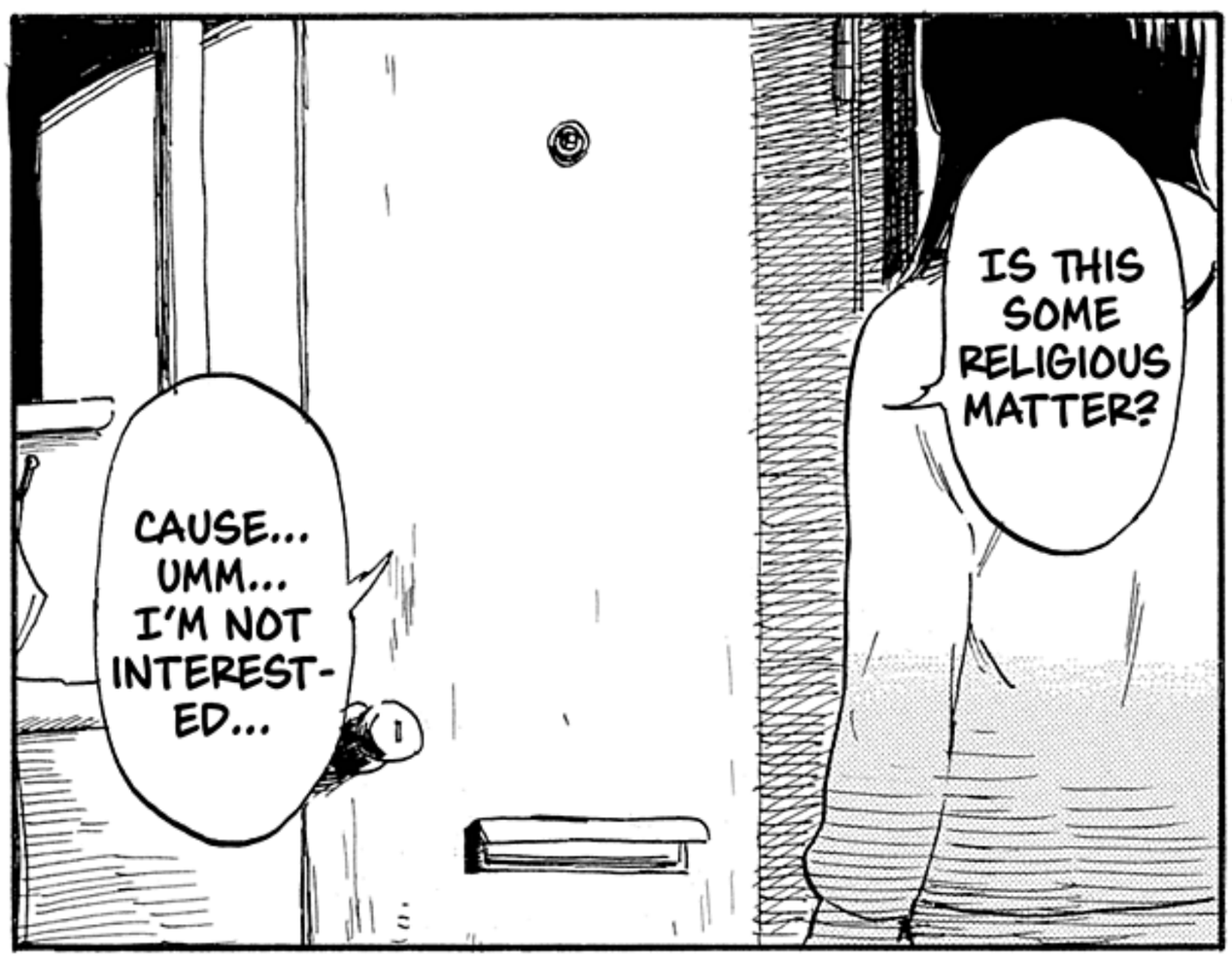


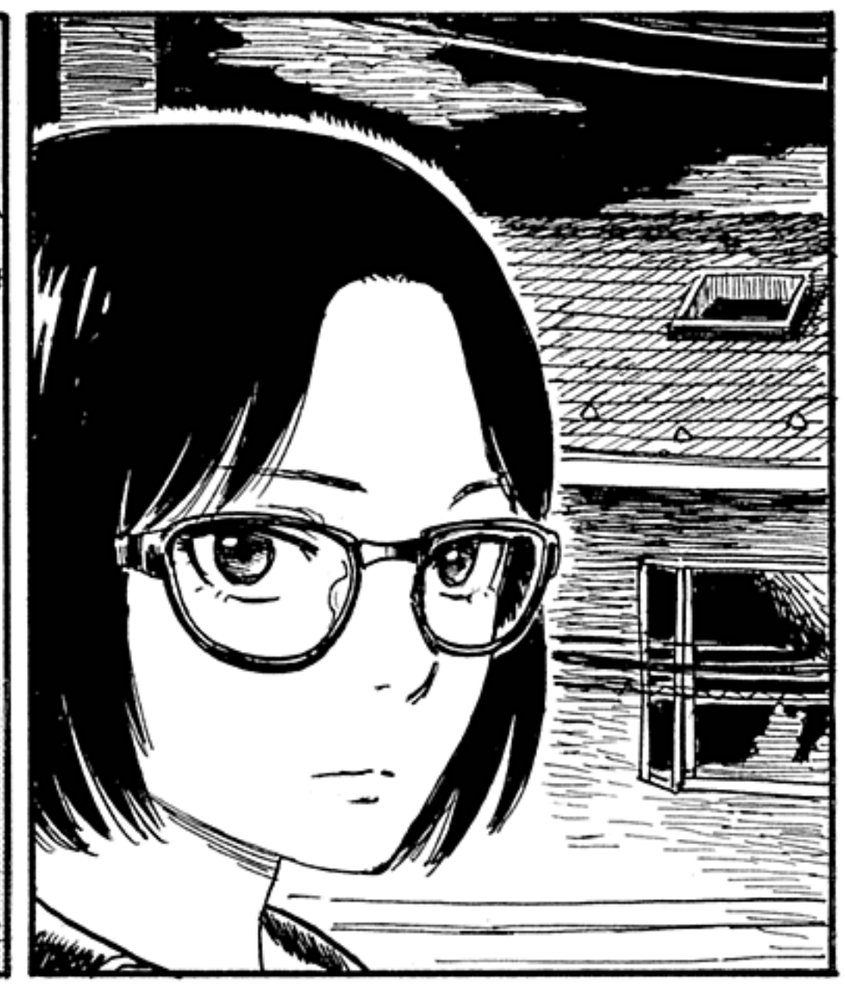


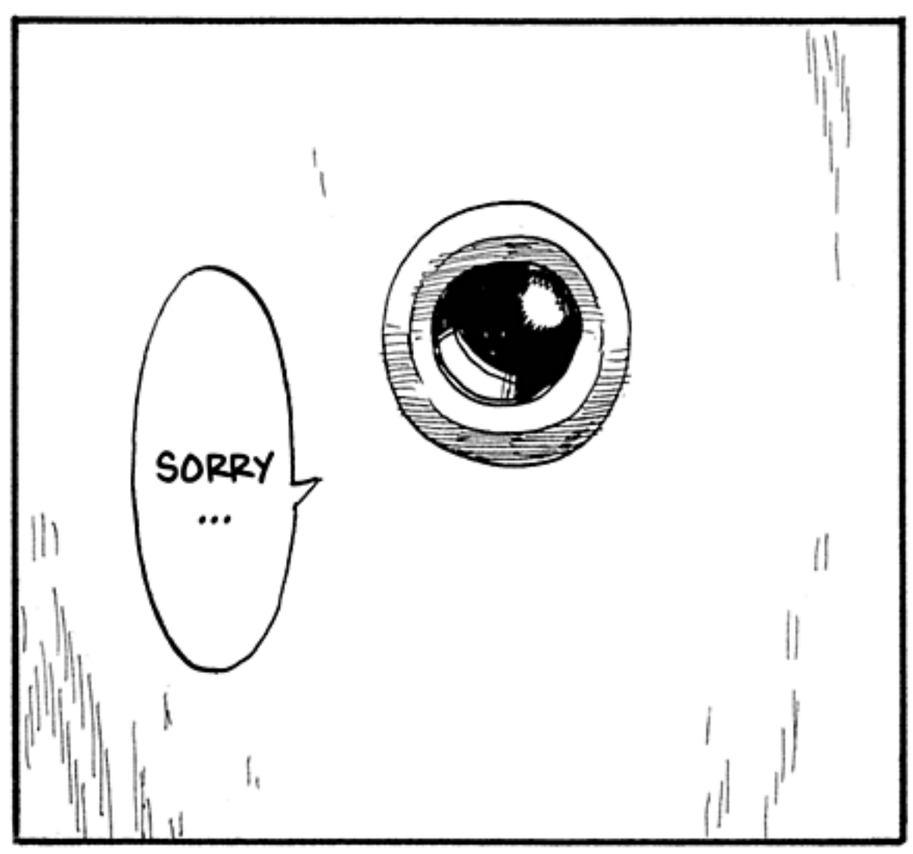

YES?


BUT I NEED TO SPEAK WITH YOU!
UM... I'M SORRY THAT IT'S SO LATE...

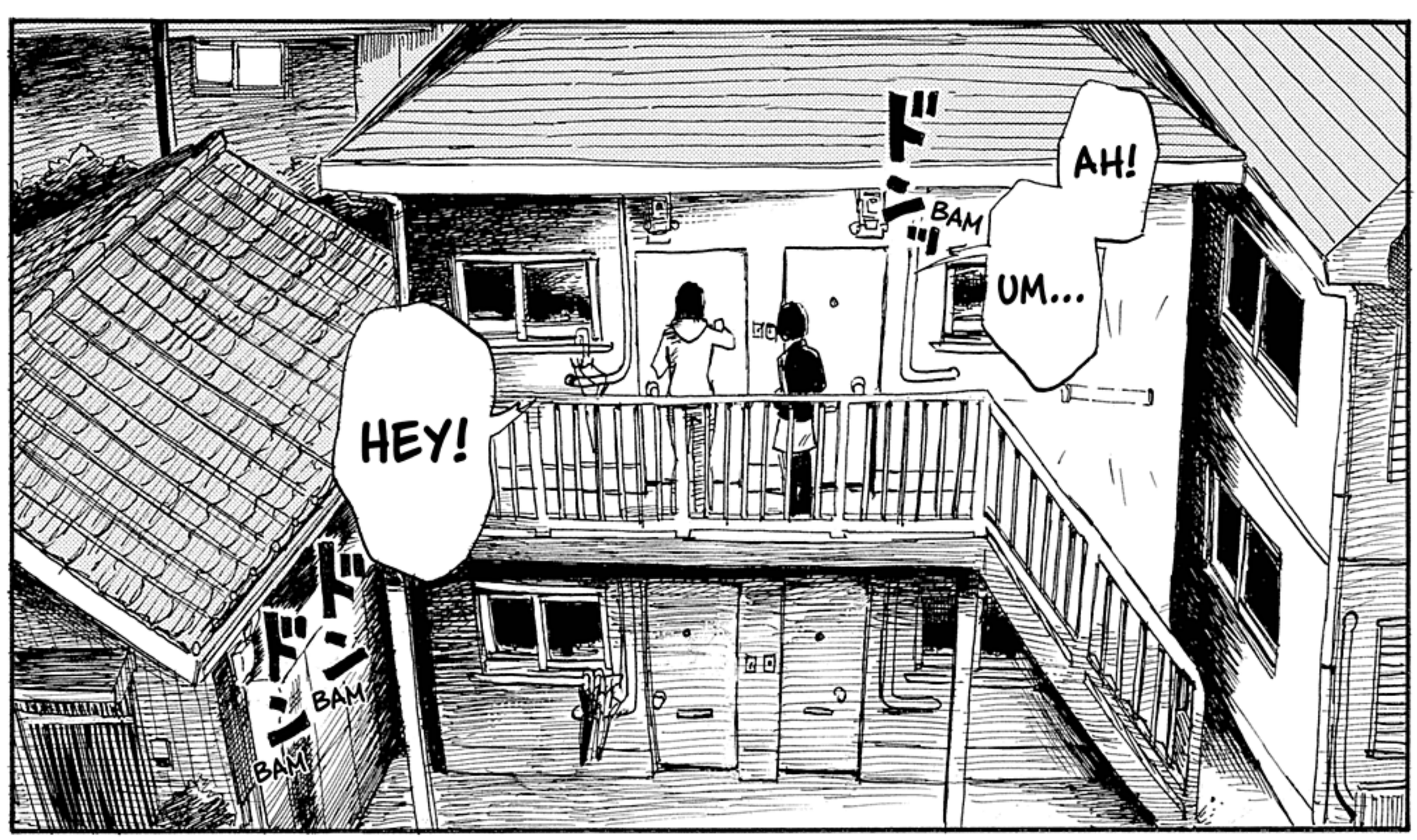
BUT IT'S REALLY SERI-OUS!
THIS MAY SOUND STRANGE,
IT'S REALLY IMPOR-TANT!

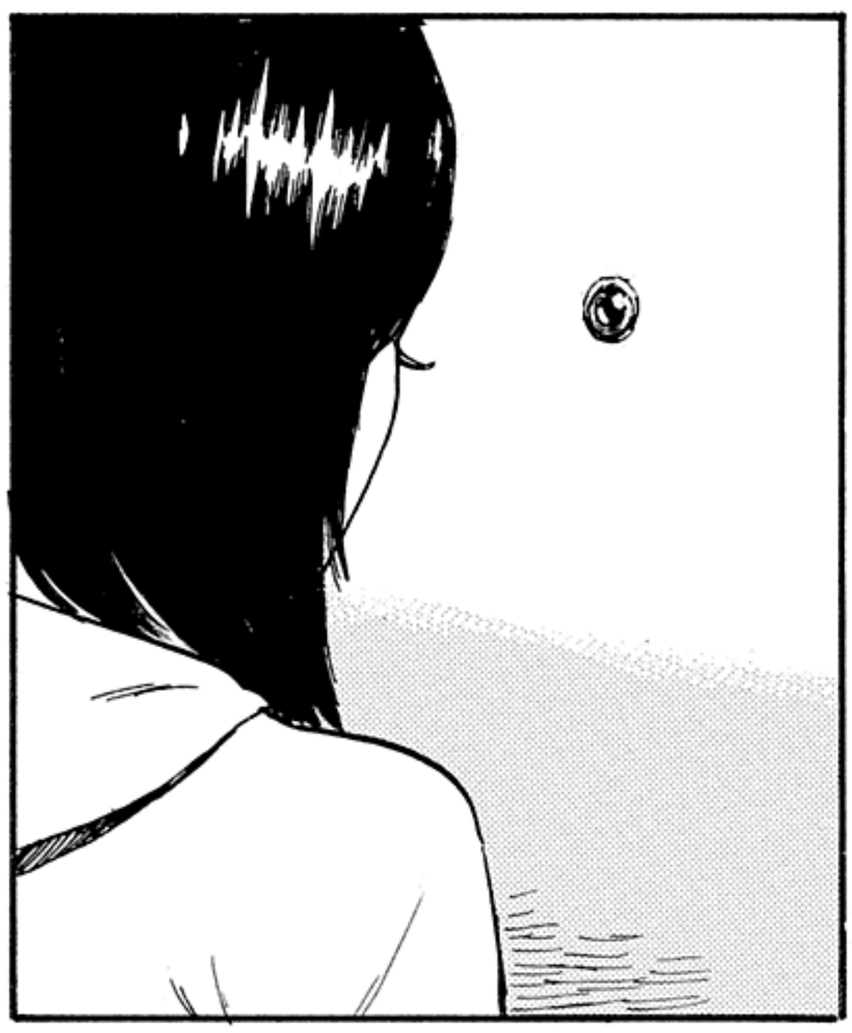

CAUSE... UMM... I'M NOT INTEREST-ED...
IS THIS SOME RELIGIOUS MATTER?

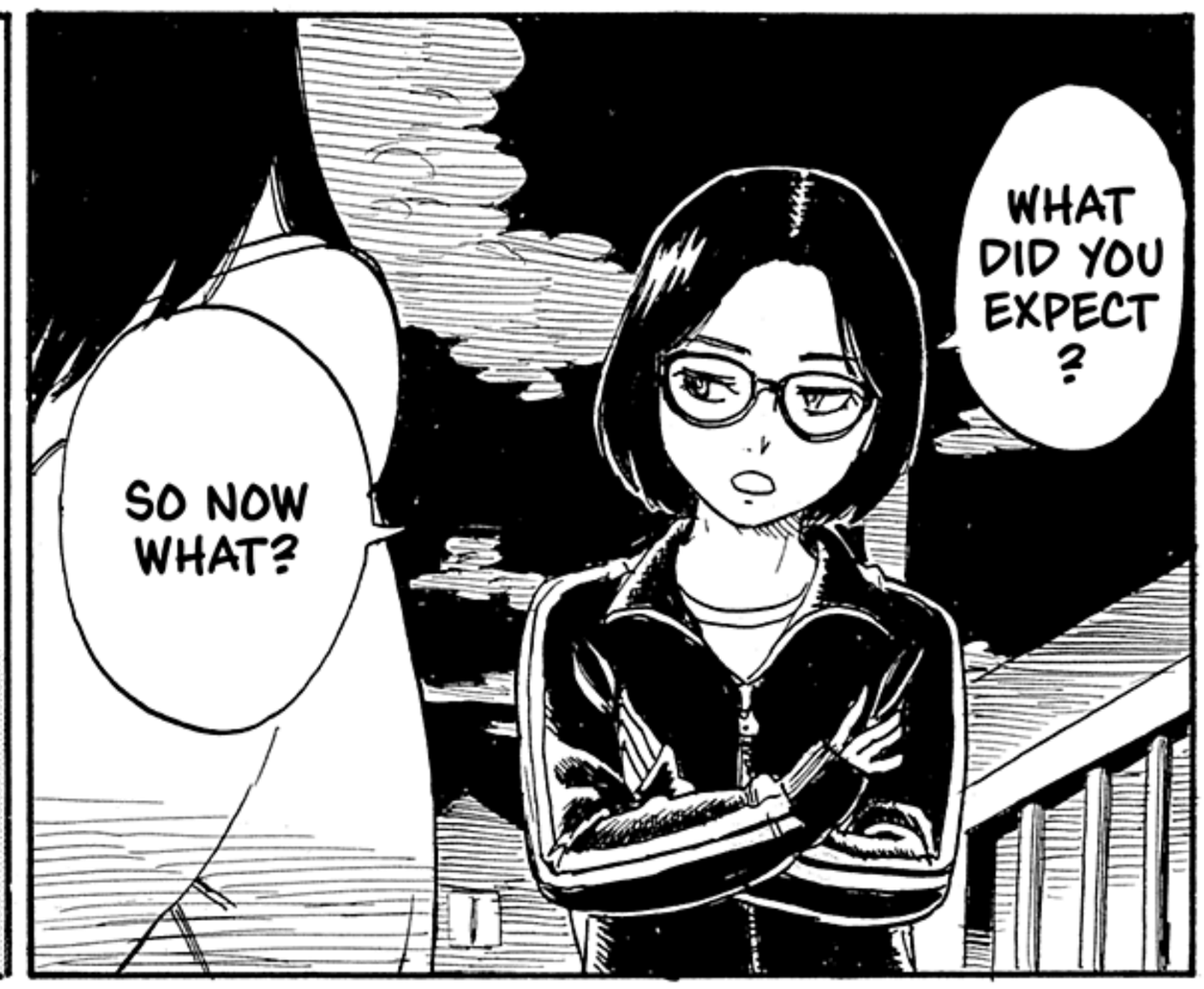


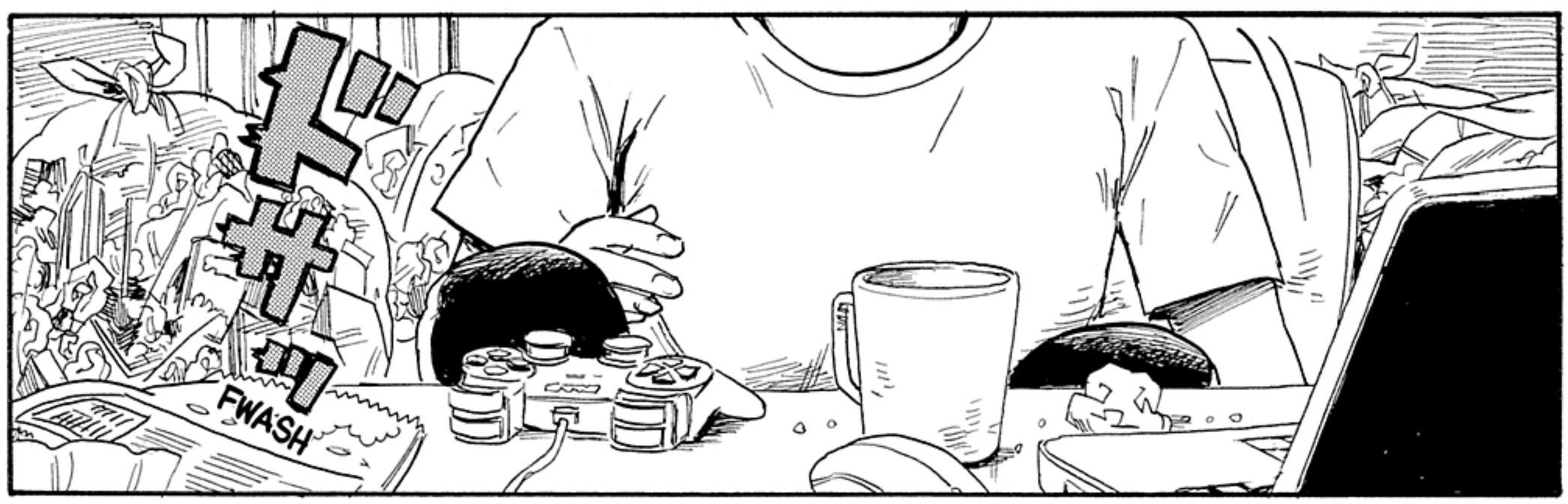

SORRY ...

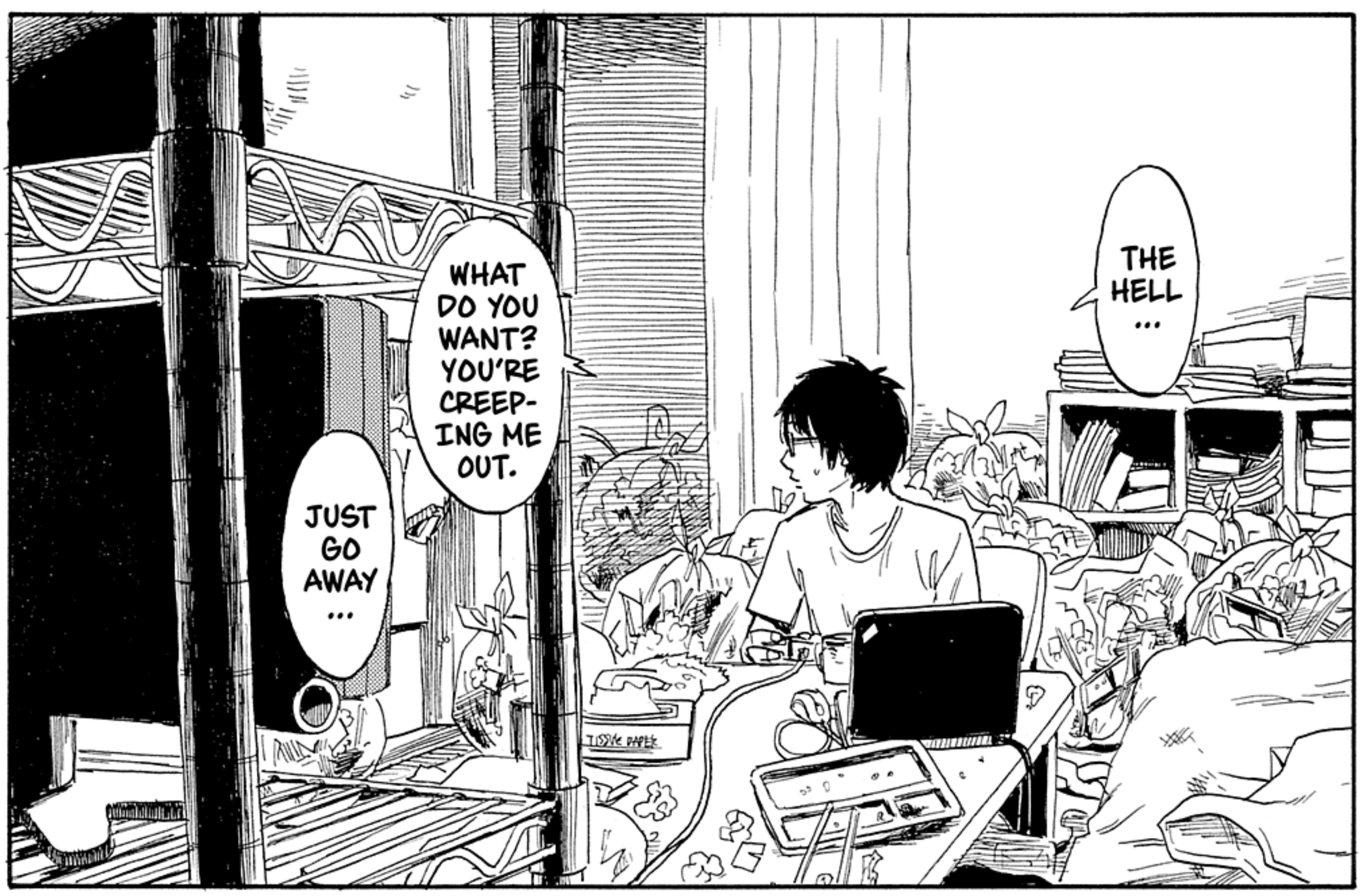
IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT!
NO!

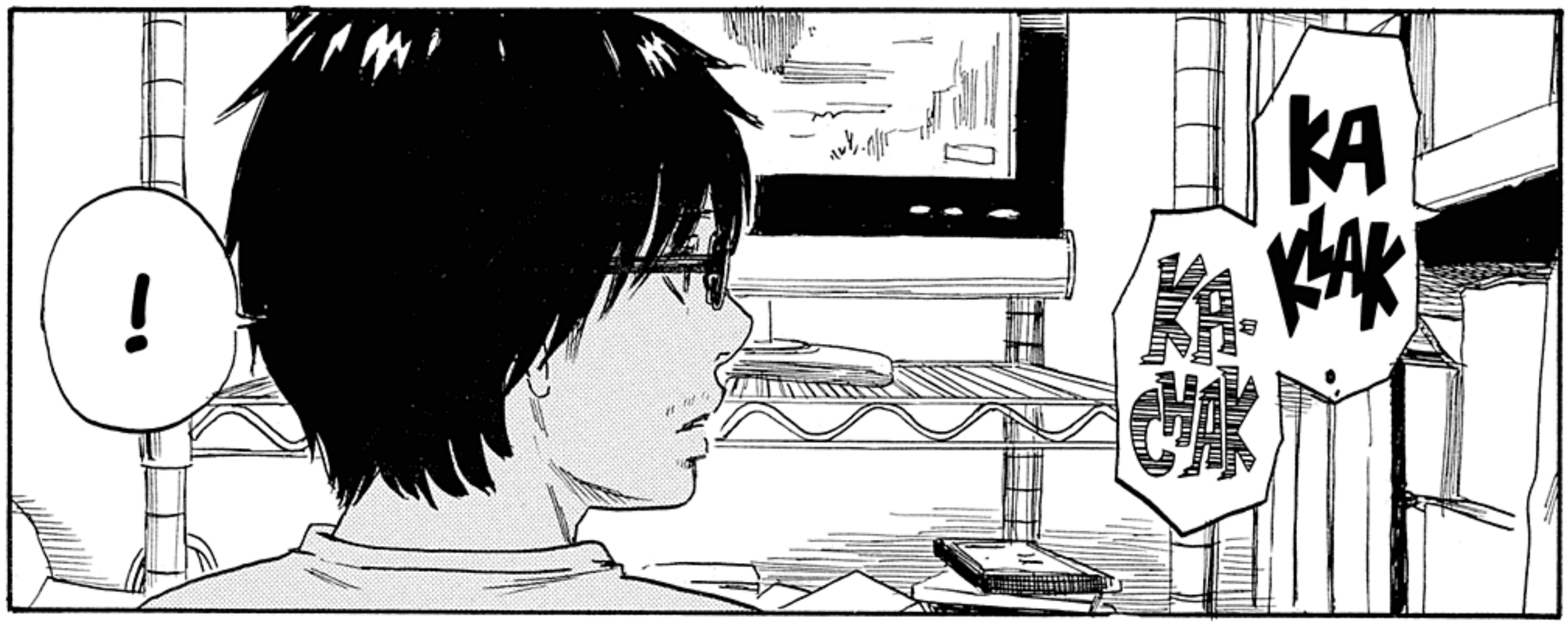

HEY!
ドンドン
BAM
BAM
ド
BAM
AH!
UM...



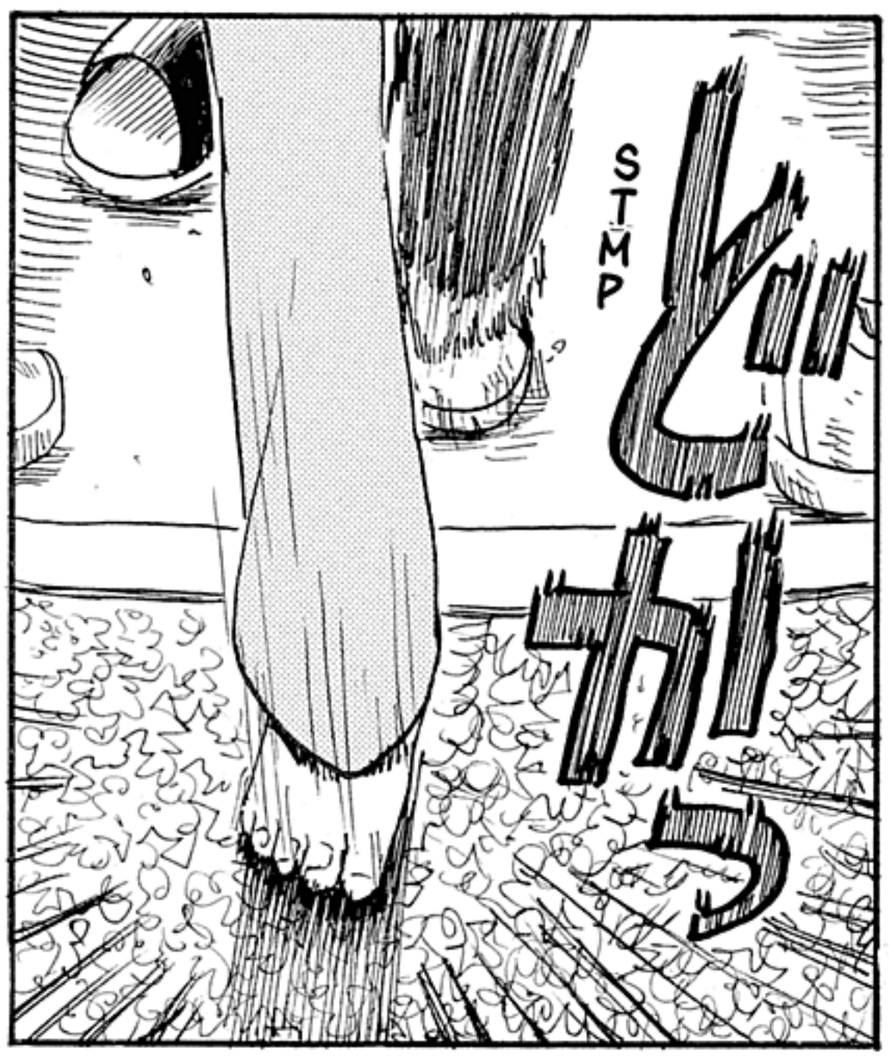

SO NOW WHAT?
WHAT DID YOU EXPECT ?


ドサッ
FWASH


WHAT DO YOU WANT? YOU'RE CREEP-ING ME OUT.
JUST GO AWAY ...
THE HELL ...
TISSUE PAPER


!
KA-CHAK
KA KLAK

KREAK


STMP
ガシッ

WHOA ?!

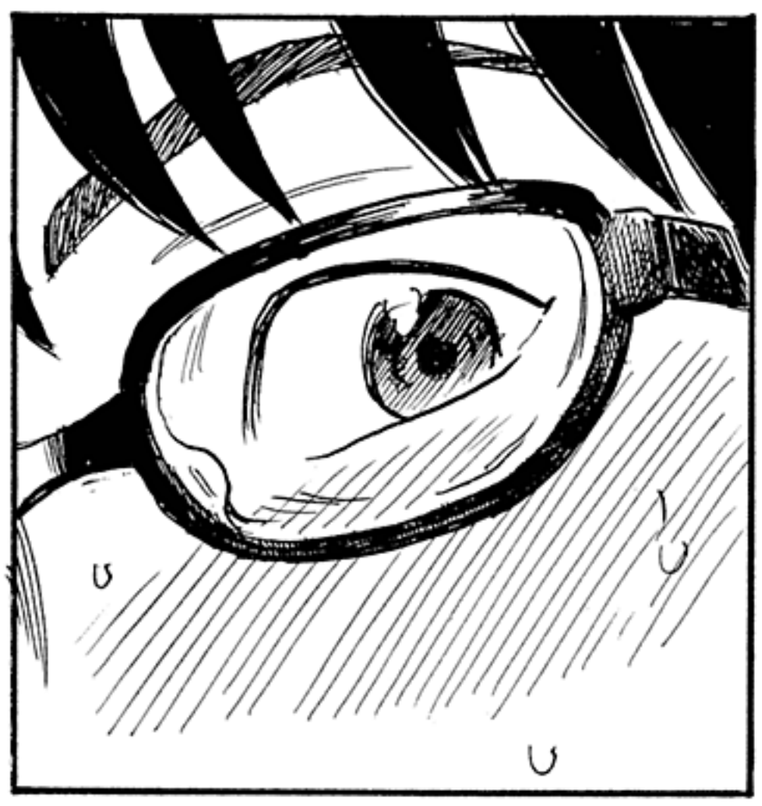
どかん
どかん
どかん
どかん
どーん
WHUMP!
A SPARE KEY HIDDEN IN THE UMBRELLA, RIGHT?
YOU ALWAYS KEEP

BE-CAUSE I AM YOU.

I KNOW THAT...

BECAUSE I AM ISAO KOMORI!

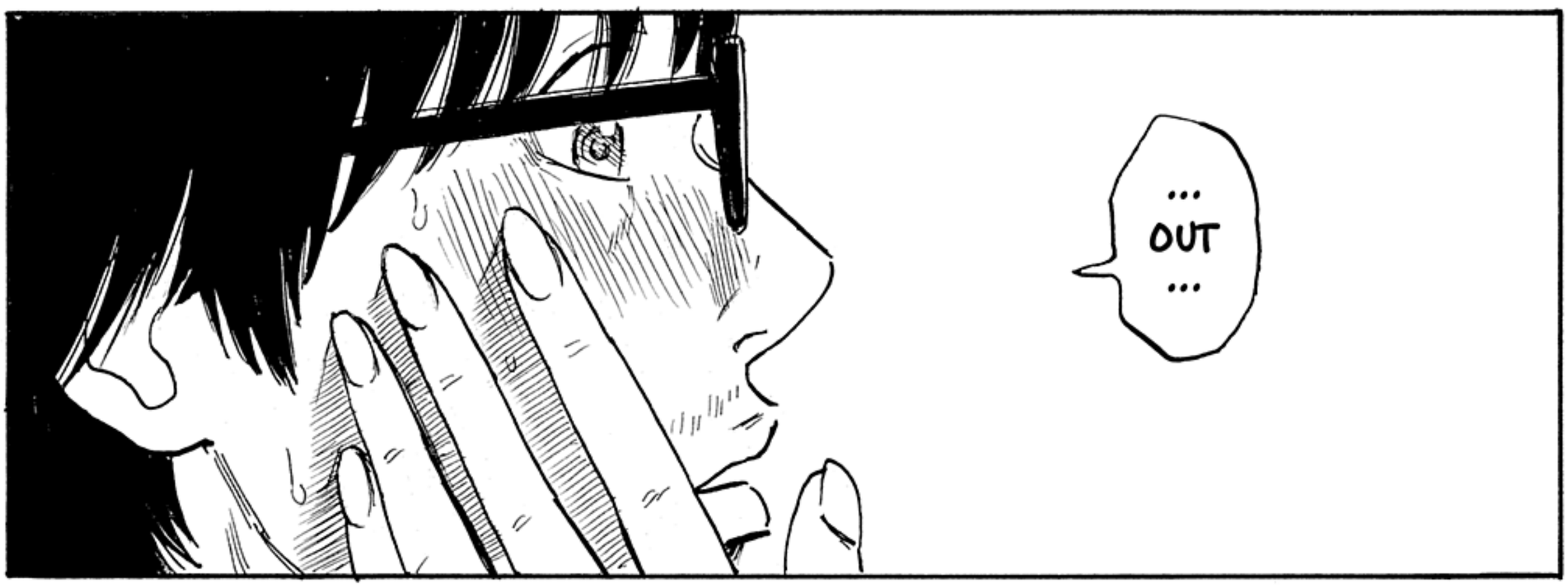
ギシ…
SKSHH

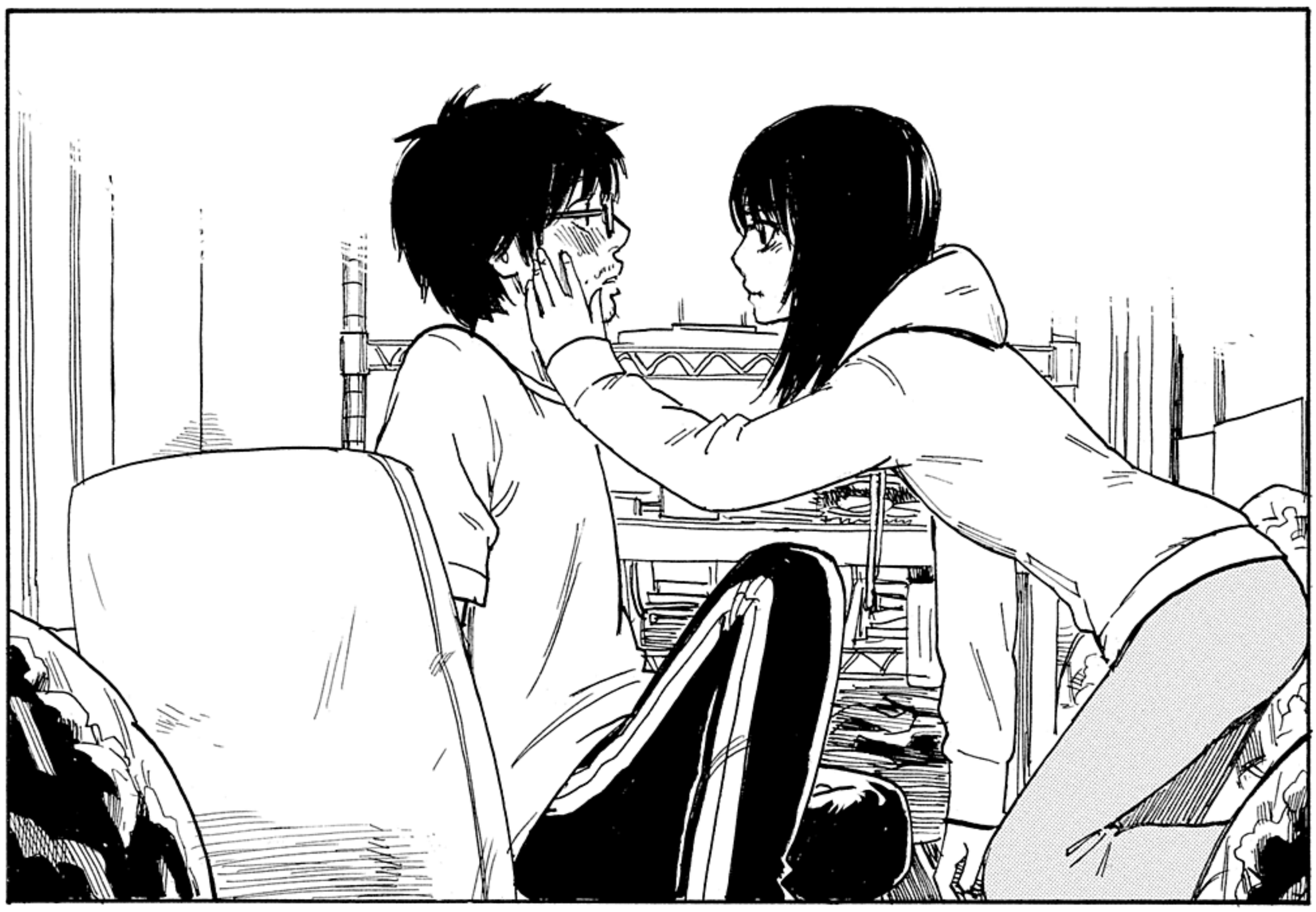


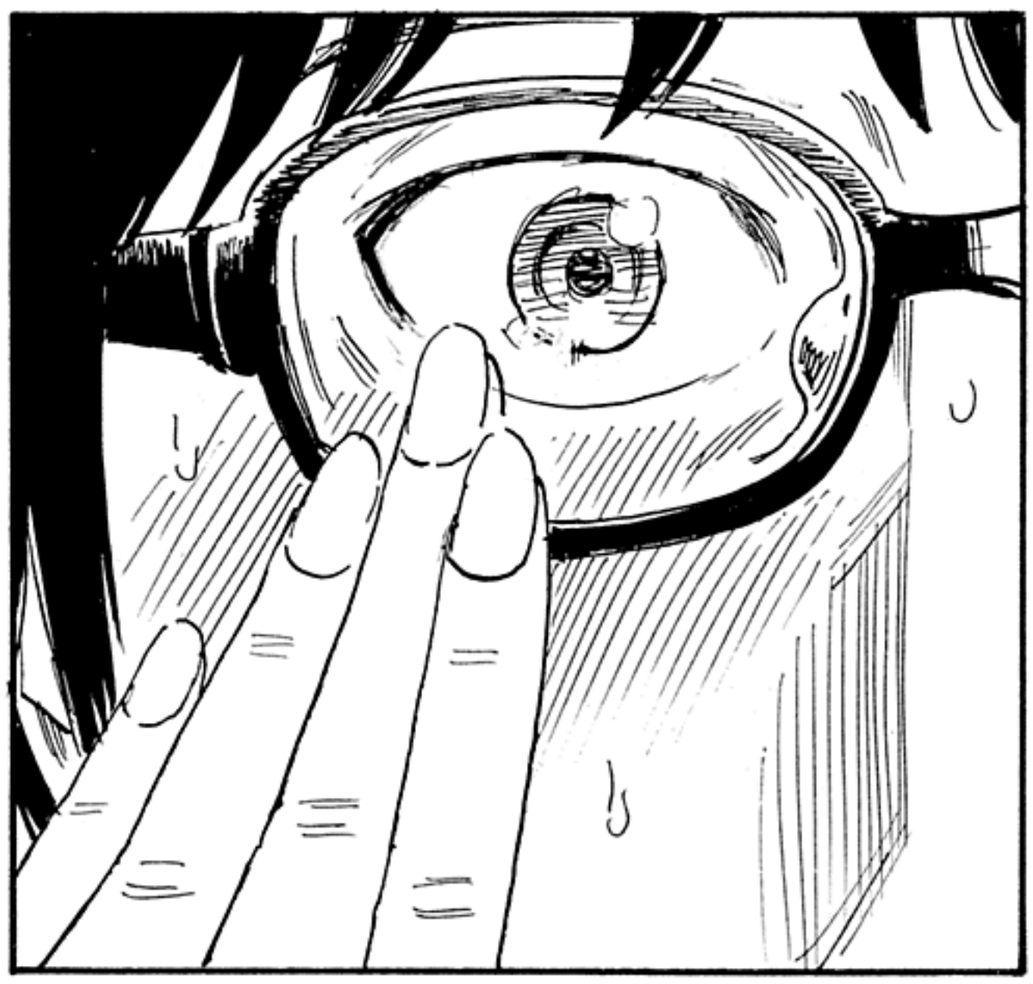
UH—
WHAT?

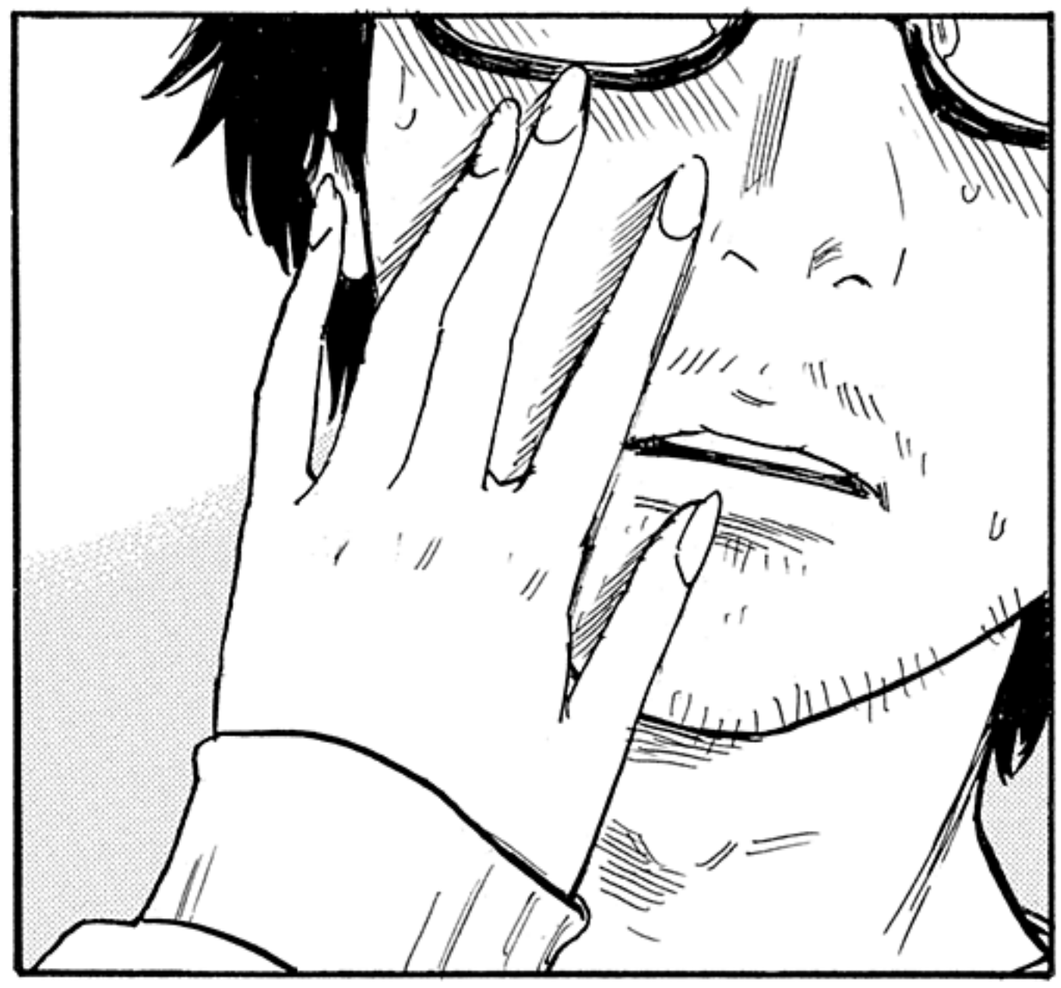
WH-WHAT DID YOU BARGE IN HERE FOR?
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
GET—

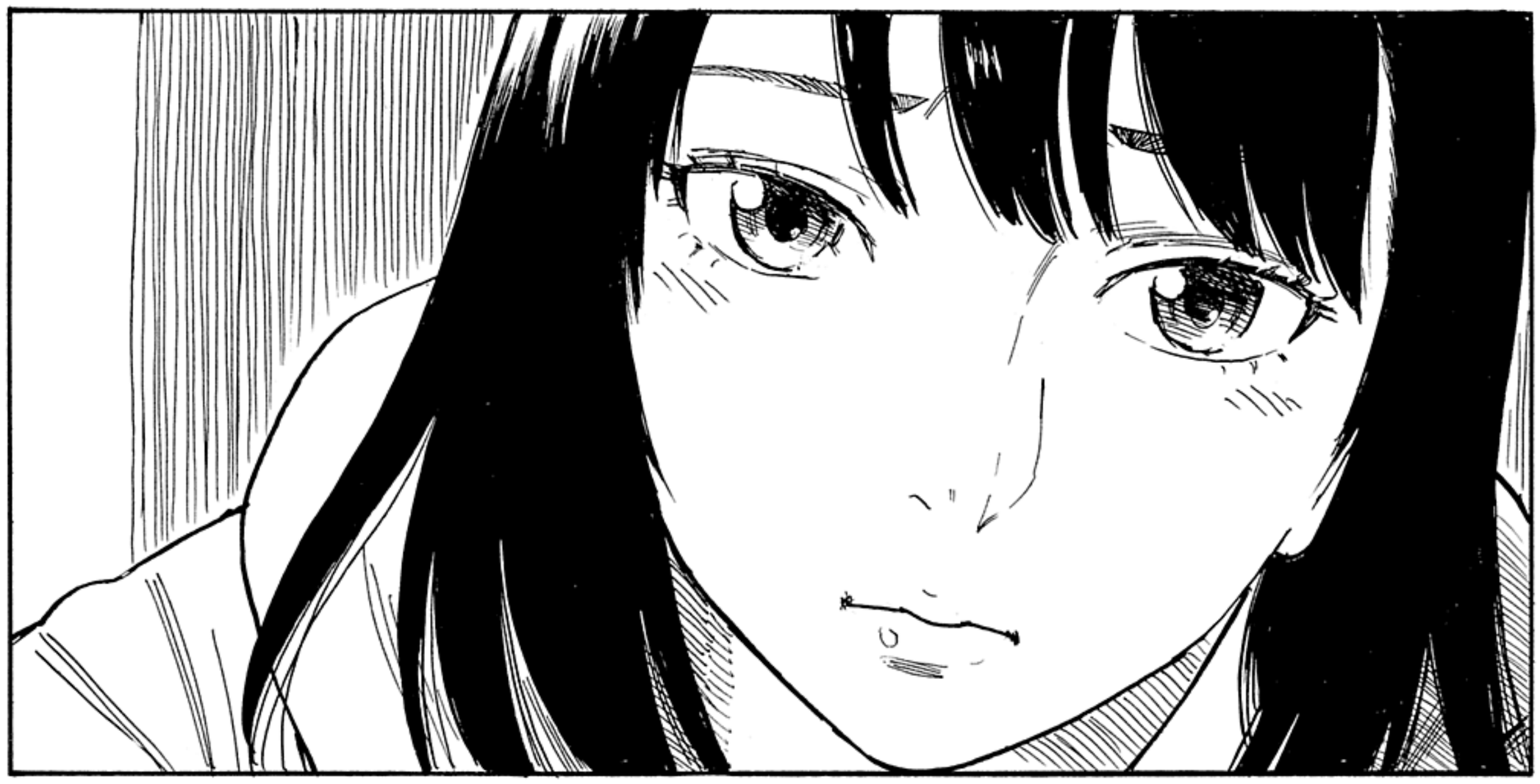
HEY! NOW I REMEM-BER!
YOU'RE THAT HIGH SCHOOL GIRL WHO WAS SPOUTING NONSENSE AT ME AT THE CON-VENIENCE STORE.

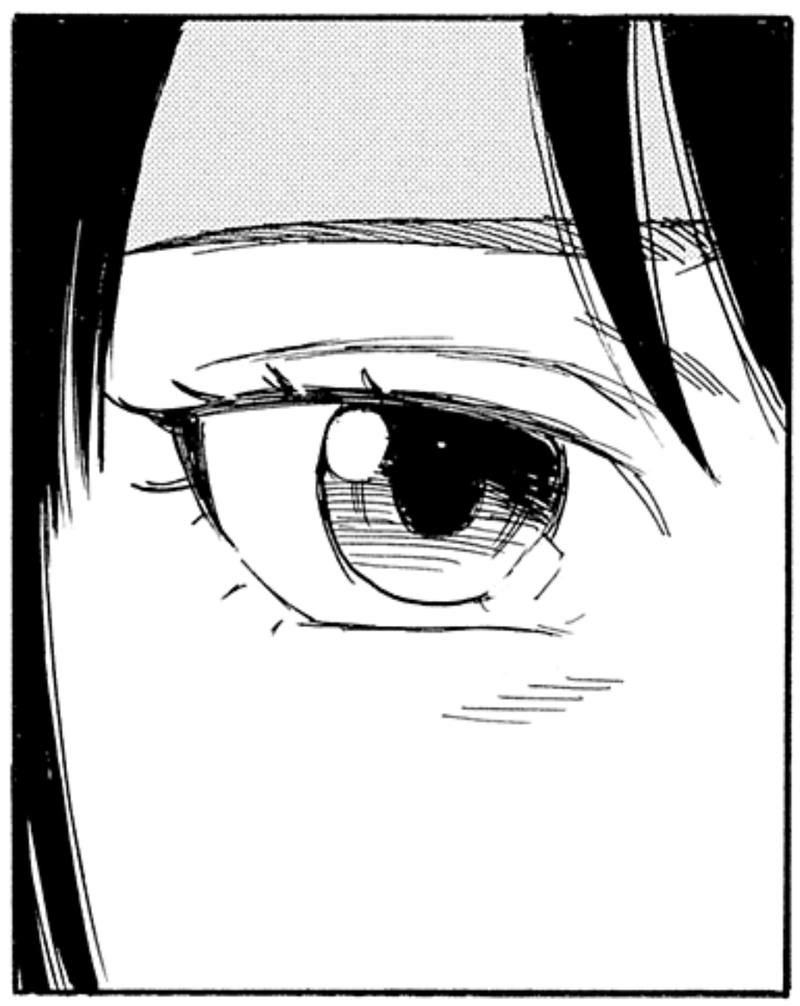

...
OUT
...

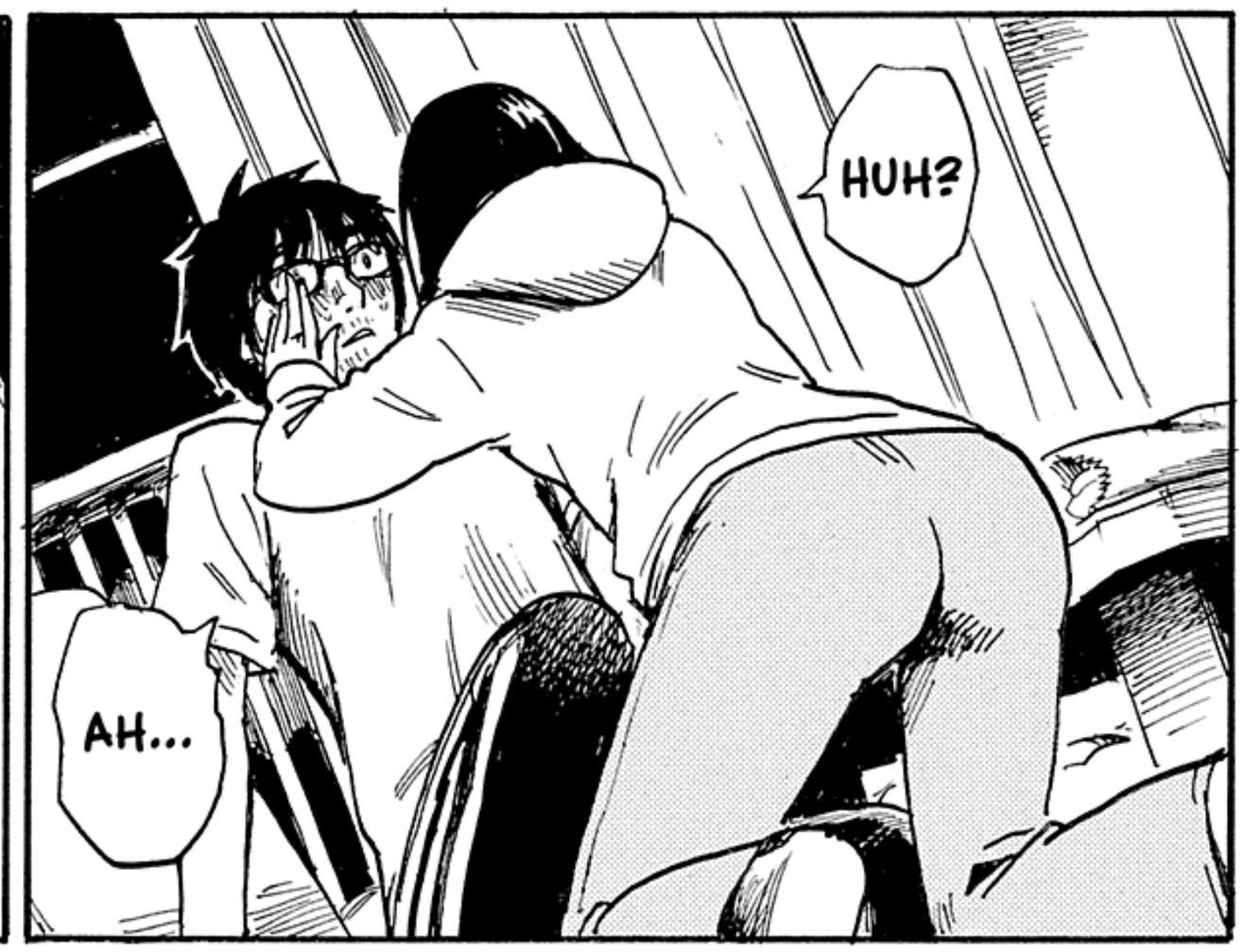




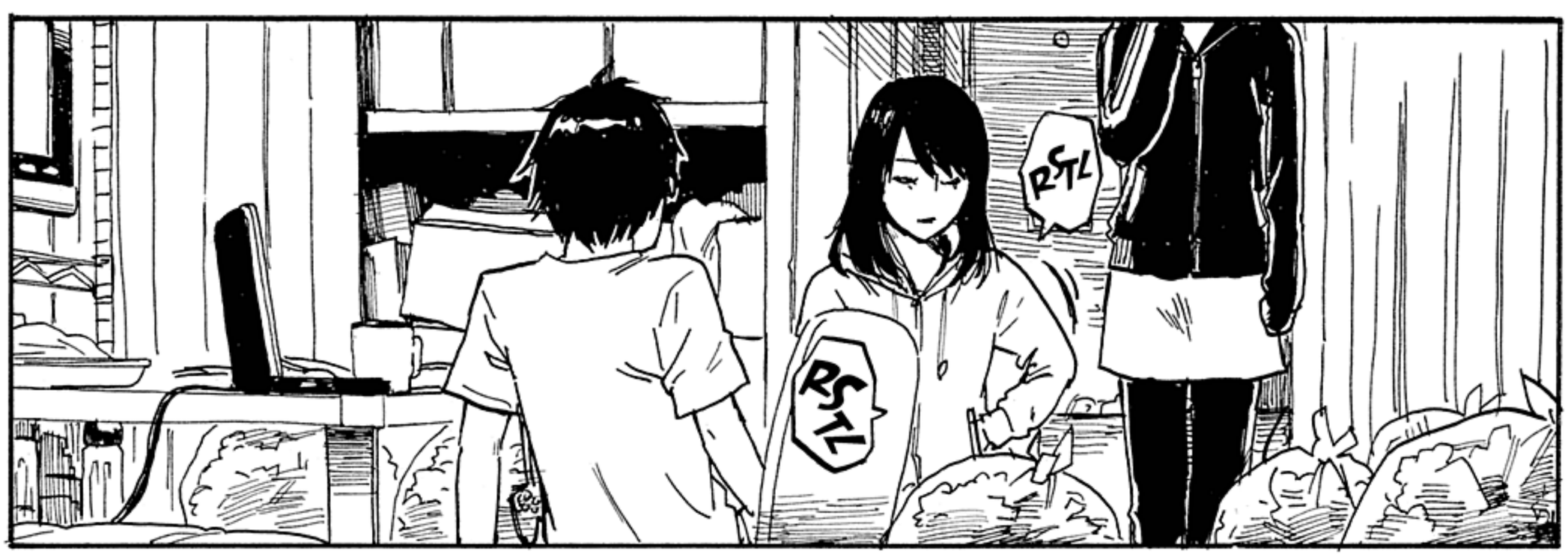




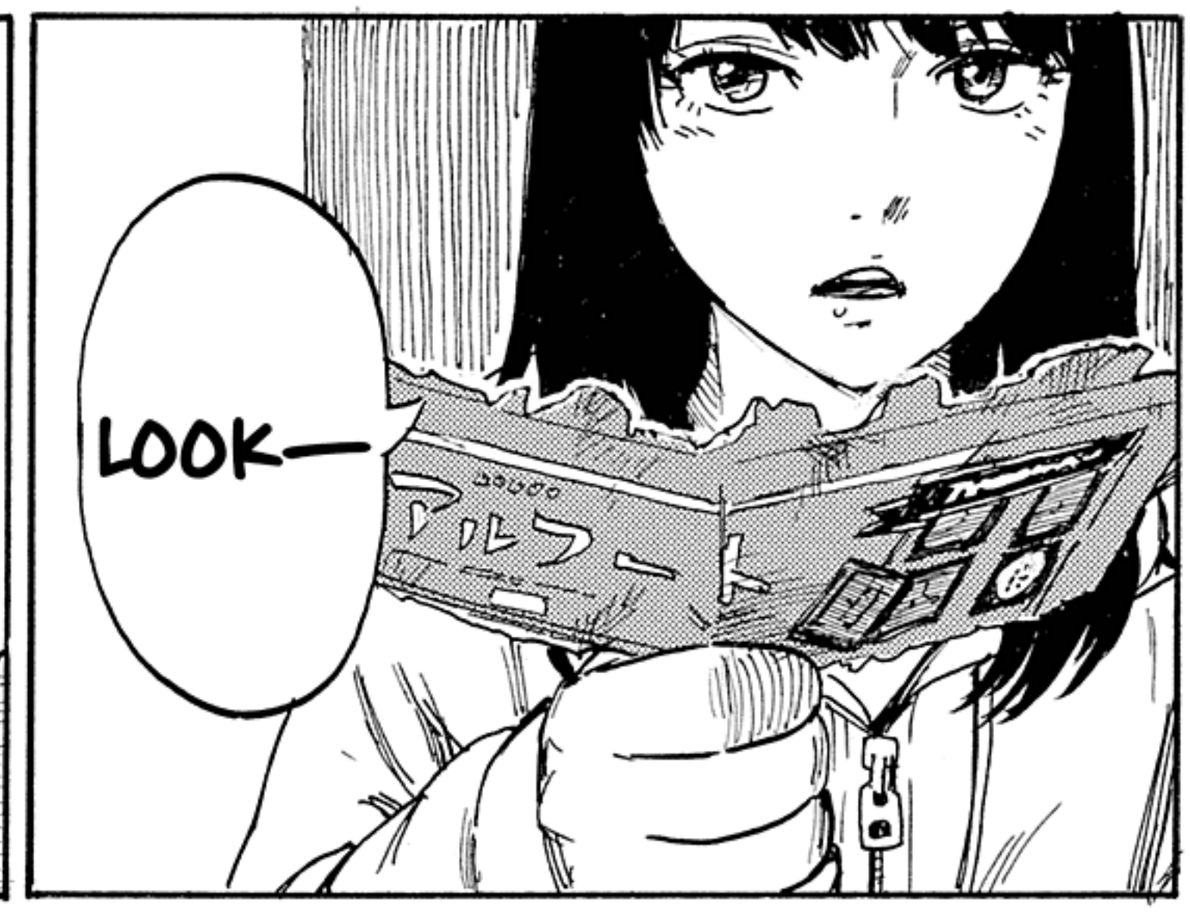



HUH?
AH...

I...
DON'T REALLY KNOW WHO THIS GIRL IS?
...
HUH ...?


RSTL
RSTL

HUH?
WHA?


LOOK—
アルコール

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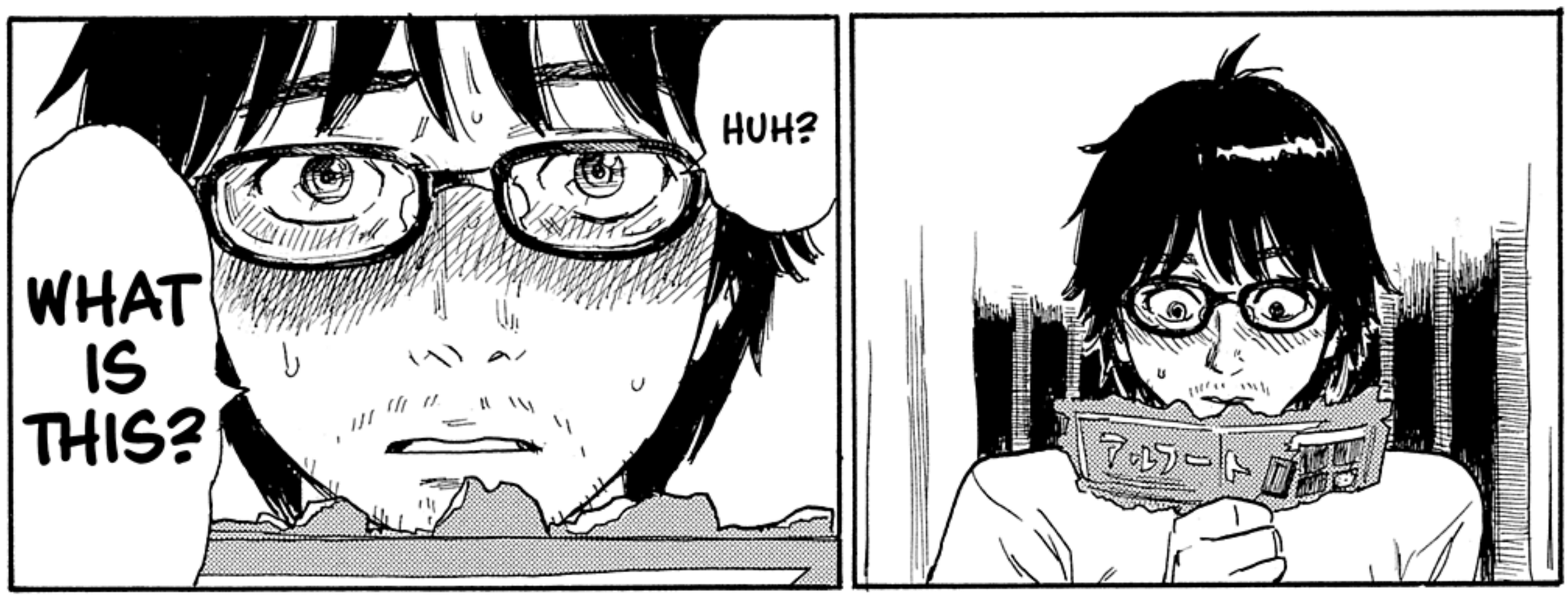
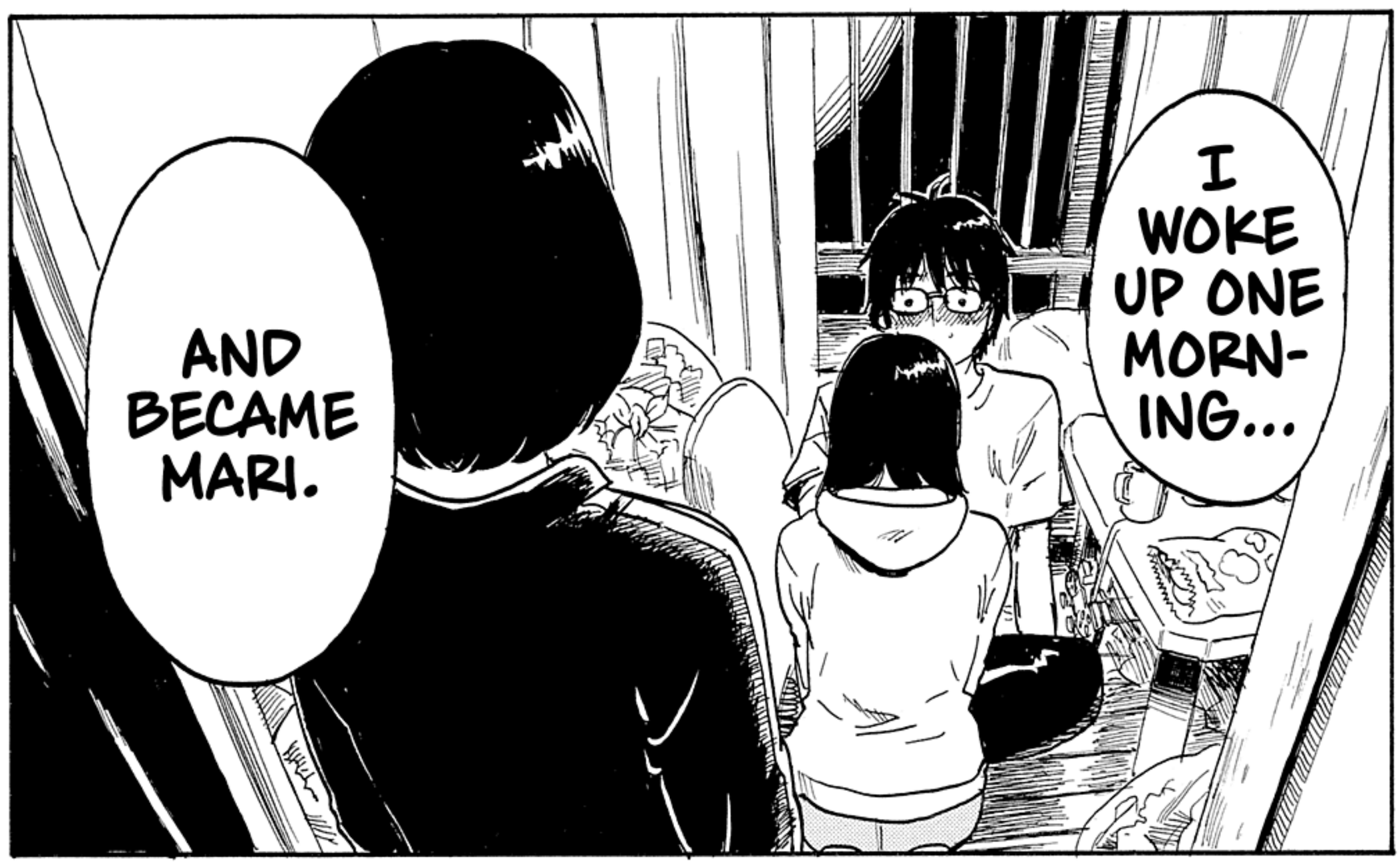
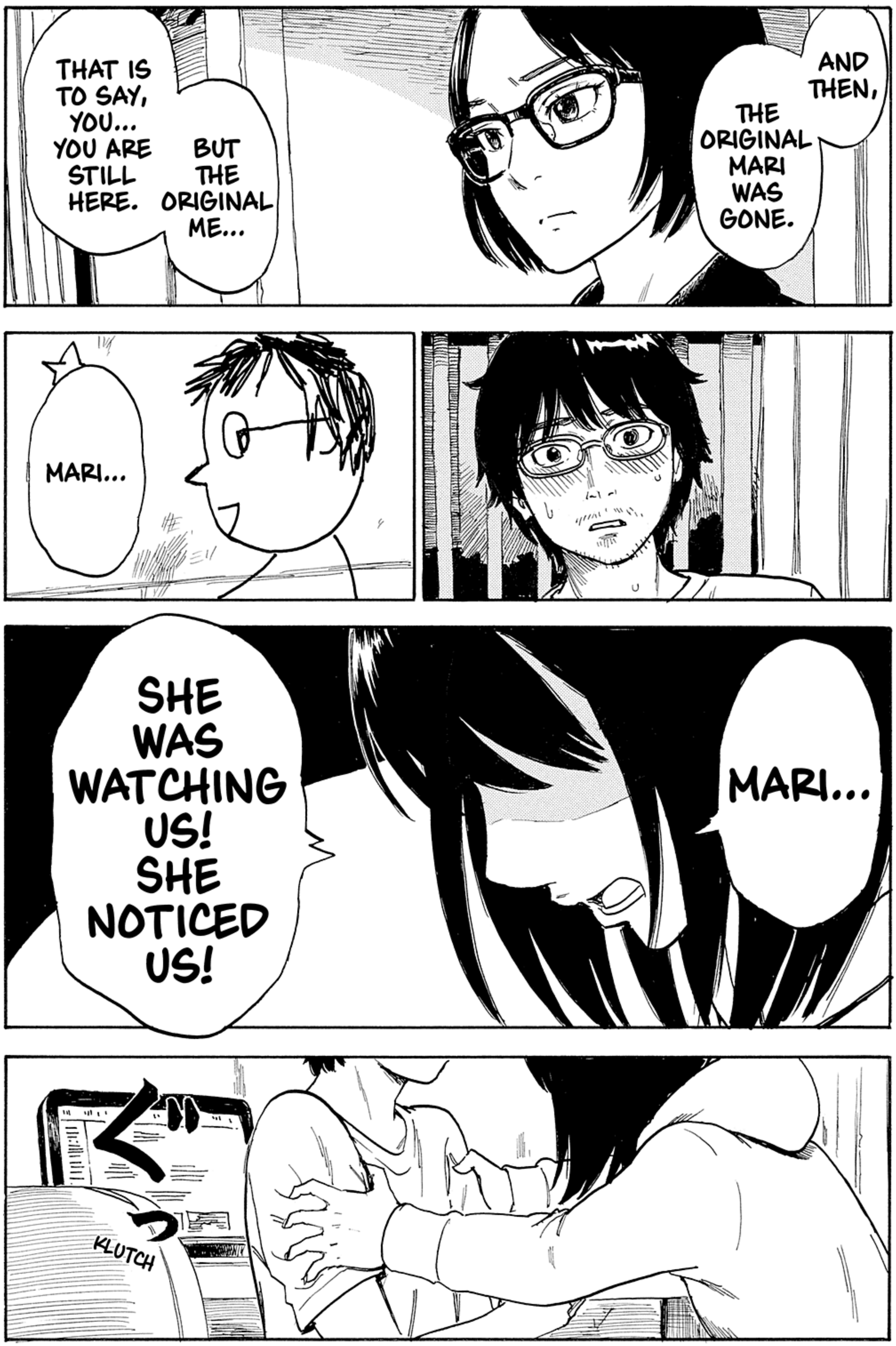
And for dinner, he had a convenience store curry set with pork cutlet.
You don't know how good you have it.
So, please, don't ever change.
-MARI

ISAO KOMORI
TODAY'S ...






THAT IS TO SAY, YOU... YOU ARE STILL HERE.
BUT THE ORIGINAL ME...
AND THEN, THE ORIGINAL MARI WAS GONE.
MARI...
SHE WAS WATCHING US! SHE NOTICED US!
MARI...
KLUTCH

THAT NO ONE WOULD EVER LOOK AT US, RIGHT?

NO ONE!

YOU THOUGHT ...

BUT...

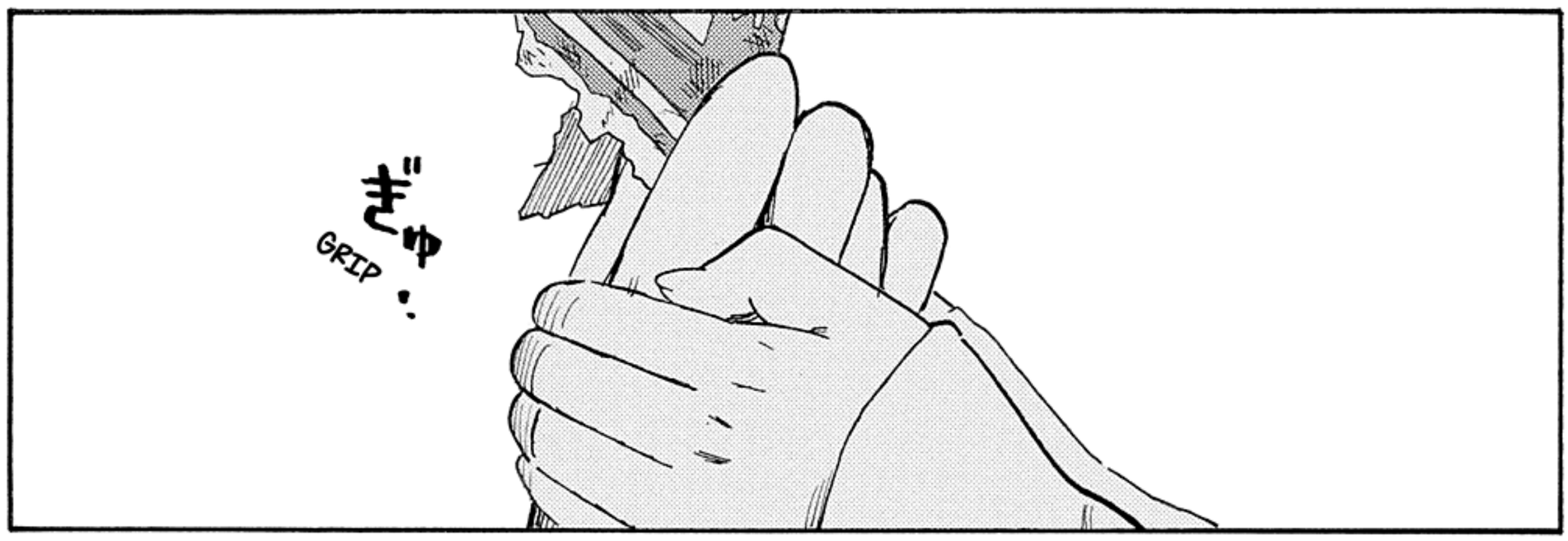
BUT...

YOU ARE ME.

BUT...

OF COURSE NOT. I DON'T REALLY UNDER-STAND IT EITHER.

YOU DON'T GET WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, DO YOU?

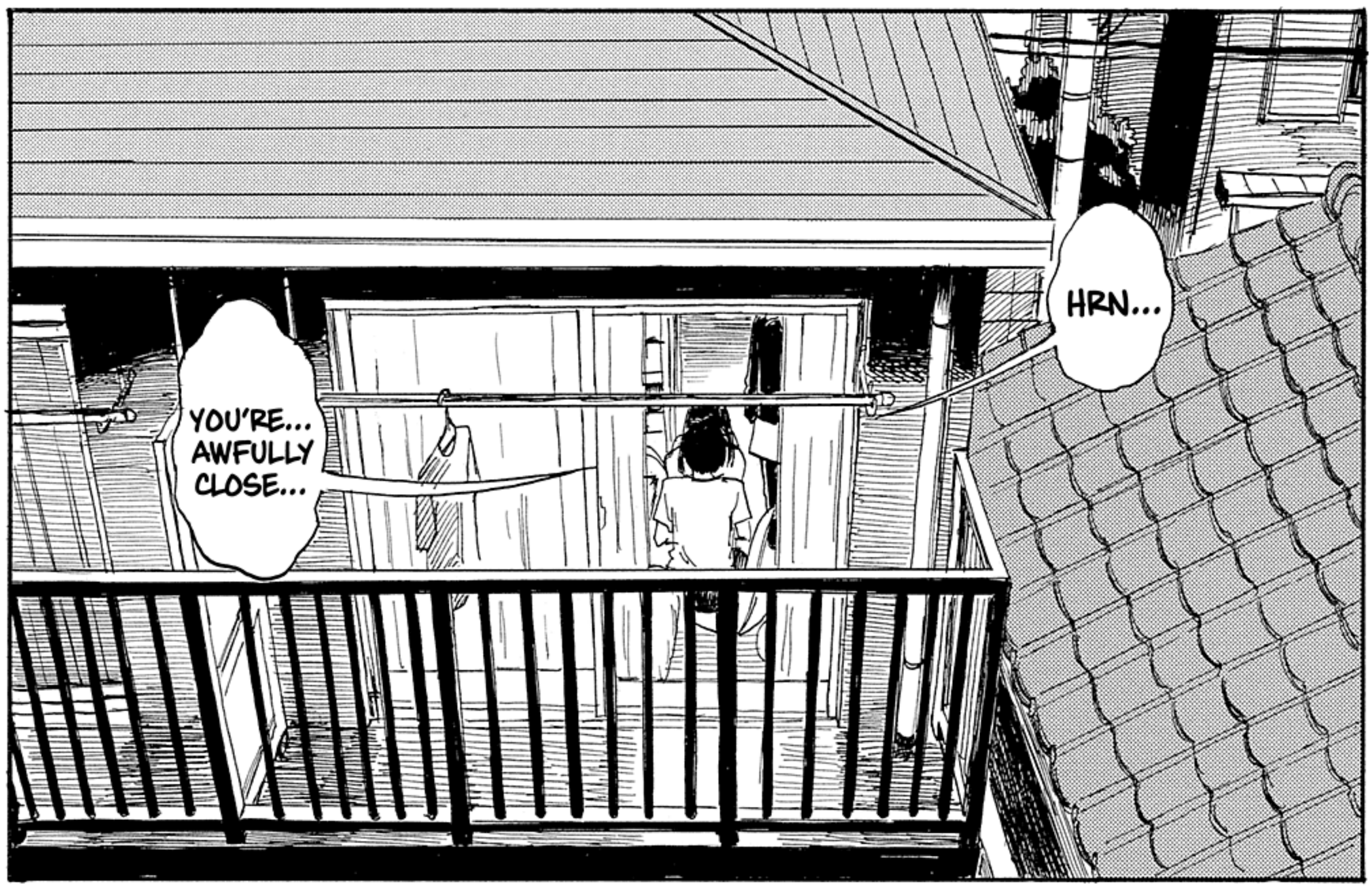

ぎゅ
GRIP

WHY DID THIS HAPPEN?
THAT'S ALL I WANT TO KNOW.
HELP ME!

IT HAS TO BE INSIDE OF ME.
OR SO MY GUTS TELL ME...
THE AN-SWER ...

IF I CAN FIND WHAT THAT IS...

I THINK I CAN FIND MARI!


YOU'RE... AWFULLY CLOSE...
HRN...

to be continued

Mari was looking at us...

Why did this happen?

The answer is inside of me.

If I could just find that out...

...I think we'll be able to **meet** Mari!

But, will we, with Yori, be able to find her?!

Inside Mari volume 4... Coming Soon!

IN SEARCH OF HOMETOWN EROS

~REPLACING THE AFTERWORD~

I THINK I'LL GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF MY MEMORIES AND FOLLOW THEM FROM THE START.

THIS TIME I'M GOING TO COVER WHAT "EROS" MEANS TO ME.

GOOD EVENING, EVERY-ONE.

THANK YOU FOR READING THIS.

I BELIEVE I WAS TWO OR THREE YEARS OLD.

IS A SCENE WHERE MY MOTHER IS HOLDING ME AS WE LOOK DOWN FROM HIGH GROUND AT THE TOWN WHERE I WAS BORN.

THE EARLIEST MEMORY THAT I CAN RECALL...

AND IT COMES FROM A MEMORY OF WHEN I WAS ABOUT FOUR.

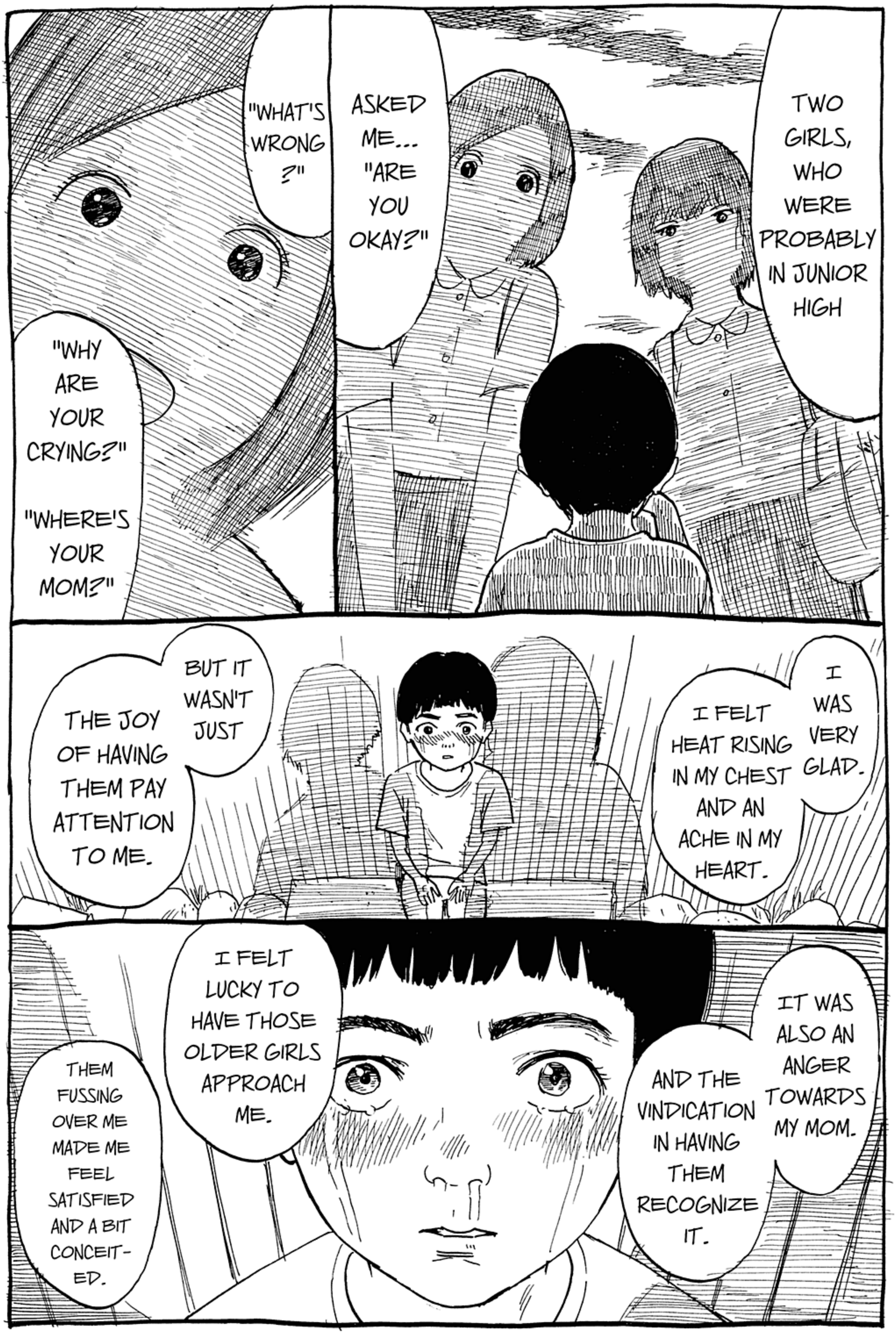
THE NEXT IMPRESSION I HAVE OF MY MOTHER IS AN INTENSE ONE

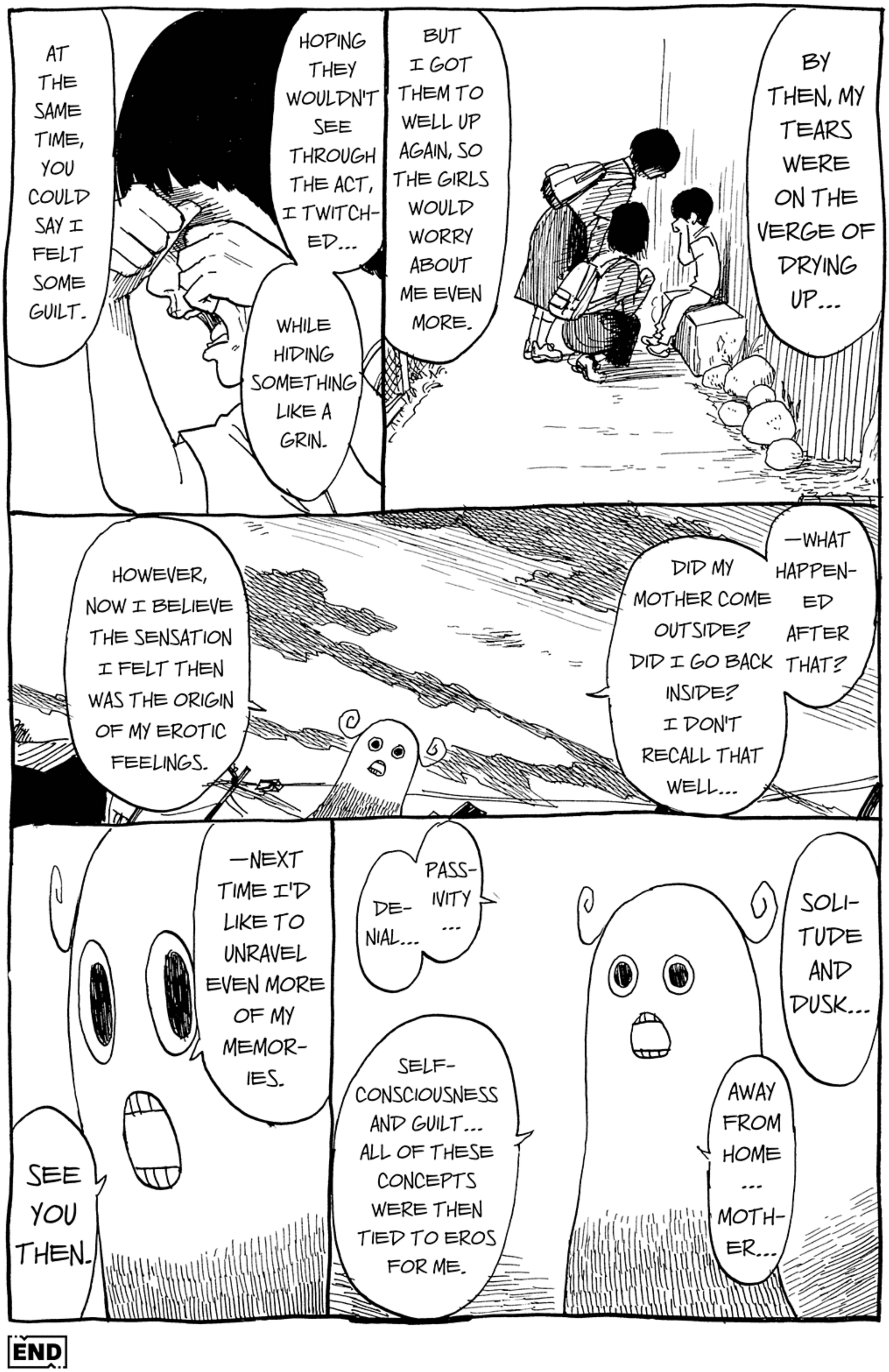
STILL, IT'S AN INEFFABLY SWEET MEMORY.

IT DOESN'T MAKE MUCH SENSE TO ME. SO IT COULD BE A FALSE MEMORY.

NOW, WHY WERE WE ALONE THERE?

WHACK
I'M SORRY!
WAAAH
...I SCREAMED IN TERROR.
TOYS SCATTERED ALL OVER THE FUTON.
MY MOTHER LOST HER TEMPER WHEN SHE SAW ME PLAYING WITH
I CRIED AND APOLOGIZED, BUT SHE WOULDN'T LET ME BACK IN.
I'M SURE STRESS HAD BEEN BUILDING UP INSIDE OF HER.
SHE KICKED ME OUT OF THE HOUSE.
BUT MY MOTHER WAS IN NO MOOD TO LISTEN.
HIC
HIC
THEN ...
AND SOBBED IN THE AFTER-GLOW OF SUNSET.
FINALLY, I TOOK A SEAT ON THE BANK OF A DRAINAGE DITCH NEXT TO MY HOUSE...


"WHAT'S WRONG?"
"WHY ARE YOUR CRYING?"
"WHERE'S YOUR MOM?"
ASKED ME... "ARE YOU OKAY?"
TWO GIRLS, WHO WERE PROBABLY IN JUNIOR HIGH
BUT IT WASN'T JUST THE JOY OF HAVING THEM PAY ATTENTION TO ME.
I WAS VERY GLAD.
I FELT HEAT RISING IN MY CHEST AND AN ACHE IN MY HEART.
I FELT LUCKY TO HAVE THOSE OLDER GIRLS APPROACH ME.
THEM FUSSING OVER ME MADE ME FEEL SATISFIED AND A BIT CONCEIT-ED.
IT WAS ALSO AN ANGER TOWARDS MY MOM.
AND THE VINDICATION IN HAVING THEM RECOGNIZE IT.


AT THE SAME TIME, YOU COULD SAY I FELT SOME GUILT.
HOPING THEY WOULDN'T SEE THROUGH THE ACT, I TWITCHED...
WHILE HIDING SOMETHING LIKE A GRIN.
BUT I GOT THEM TO WELL UP AGAIN, SO THE GIRLS WOULD WORRY ABOUT ME EVEN MORE.
BY THEN, MY TEARS WERE ON THE VERGE OF DRYING UP...
HOWEVER, NOW I BELIEVE THE SENSATION I FELT THEN WAS THE ORIGIN OF MY EROTIC FEELINGS.
DID MY MOTHER COME OUTSIDE? DID I GO BACK INSIDE? I DON'T RECALL THAT WELL...
—WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT?
—NEXT TIME I'D LIKE TO UNRAVEL EVEN MORE OF MY MEMORIES.
SEE YOU THEN.
DENIAL...
PASSIVITY...
SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS AND GUILT... ALL OF THESE CONCEPTS WERE THEN TIED TO EROS FOR ME.
SOLITUDE AND DUSK...
AWAY FROM HOME... MOTHER...

END

Volume 3

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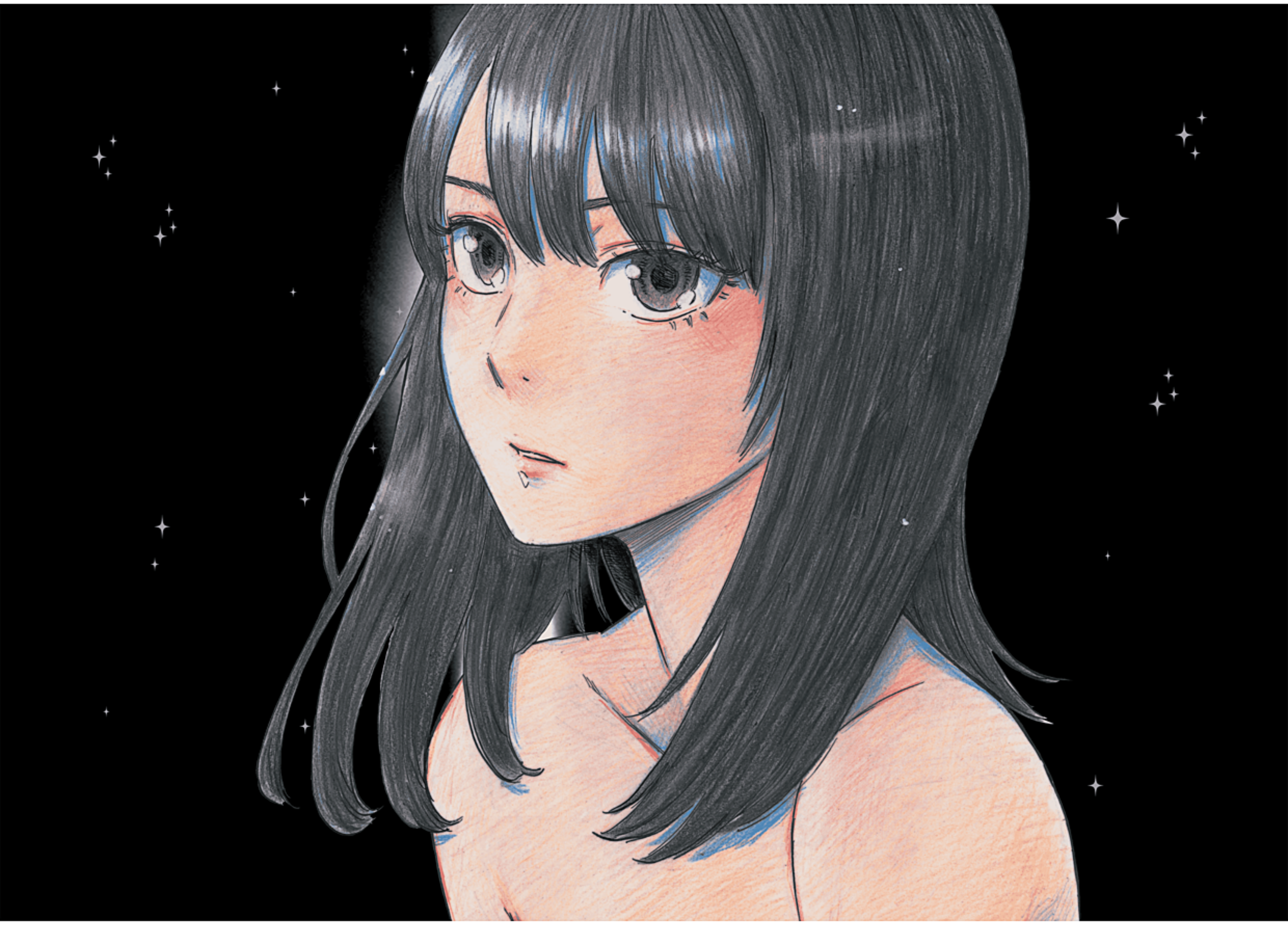
Mari is still missing and with few clues and even less options, Isao and Yori turn their focus on the mancurrently living in the Komori apartment.

Praise for Shuzo Oshimi:
"Shuzo Oshimi is a master of discomfiting manipulation himself... Be warned: just like that inevitable train-wreck, you won't be able to turn away."

—BookDragon (Smithsonian blog)

Inside Mari #3

Shuzo Oshimi



Born in
Gunma Prefecture,
Shuzo Oshimi (1981-)
is an award-winning
and best-selling
comic artist.
A fifteen year veteran,
Oshimi's works cover
a range of genres includ-
ing coming-of-age tales,
splatter horror-comedies,
and surreal dramas.

Best known for his
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(Vertical Comics),
Oshimi has penned more
than ten series for a some
of the biggest names in
Japanese publishing.

Winner of the
2002 Chiba Tetsuya
Award for New Artists,
has become a darling
of the Japanese film
industry with four of
his works, including
Inside Mari, receiving
film or television
adaptations.

3

Inside MARI

Shuzo Oshimi

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