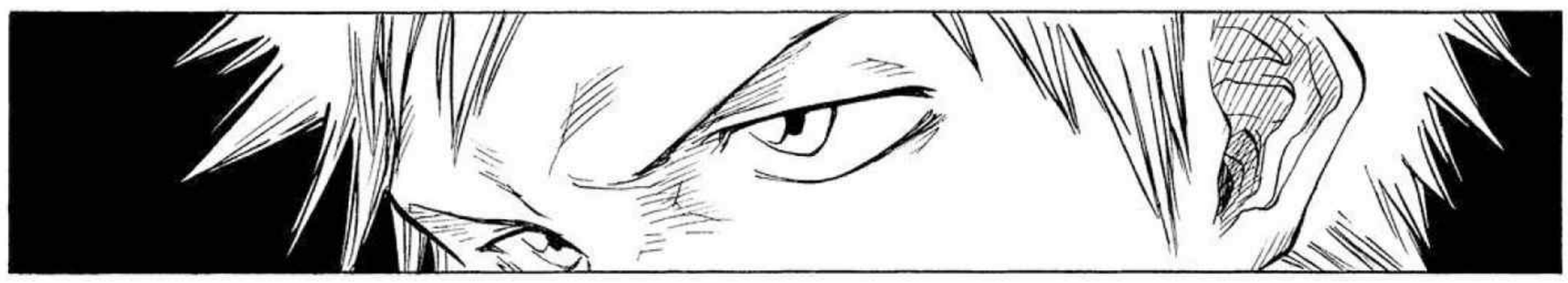
BLEACH
ブリーチ
SHONENJUMP MANGA
Story & Art by
Tite Kubo
volume
1



We fear that which we cannot see

BLEACH 1

STRAWBERRY AND THE SOUL REAPERS

Shonen Jump Manga

BLEACH

STRAWBERRY AND THE SOUL REAPERS

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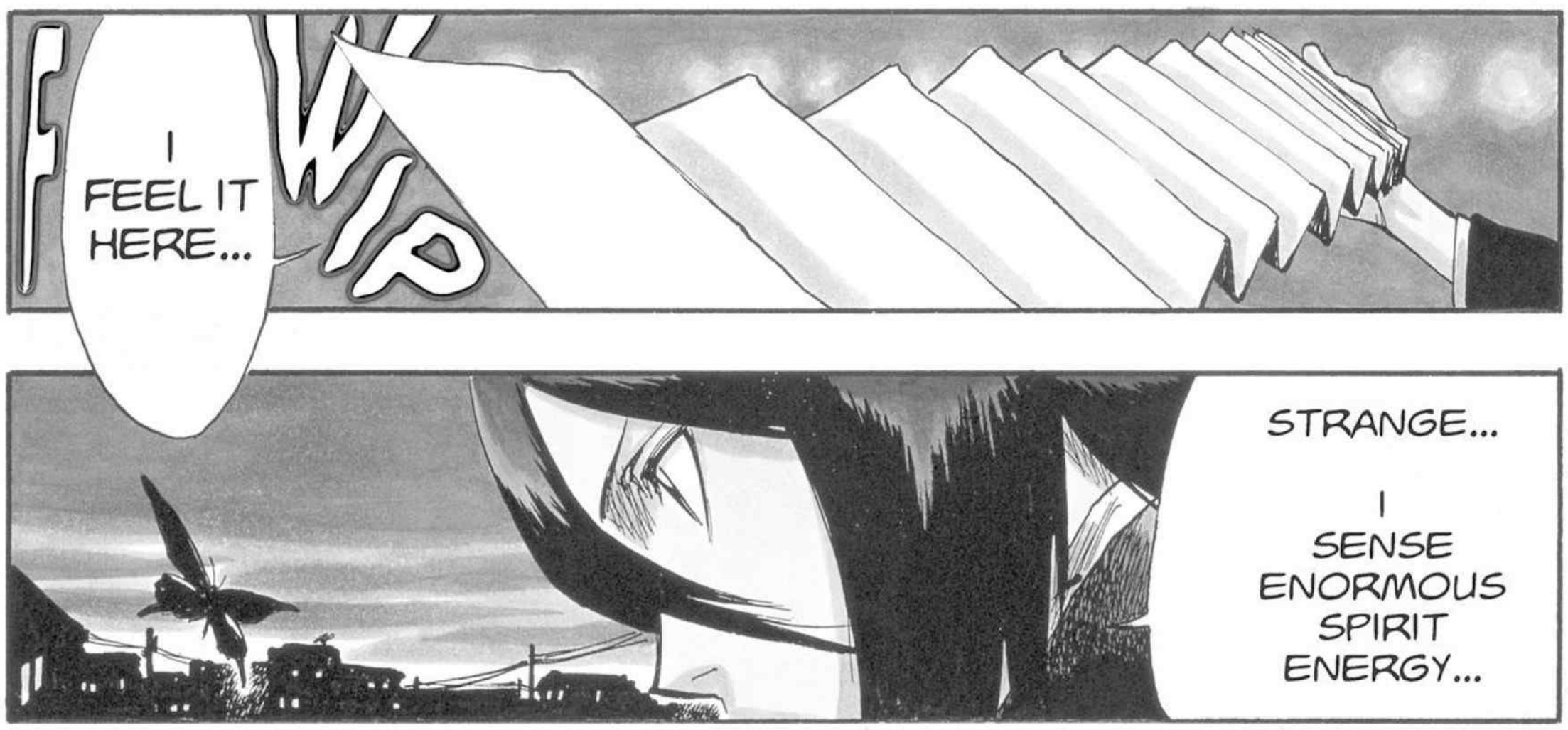
2:23 A.M., FRIDAY KARAKURA TOWN



1. DEATH & STRAWBERRY

AND SO FELL THE SWORD OF FATE.

BLEACH
ブリーチ
1. DEATH & STRAWBERRY

KARAKURA TOWN 7:30 P.M., FRIDAY

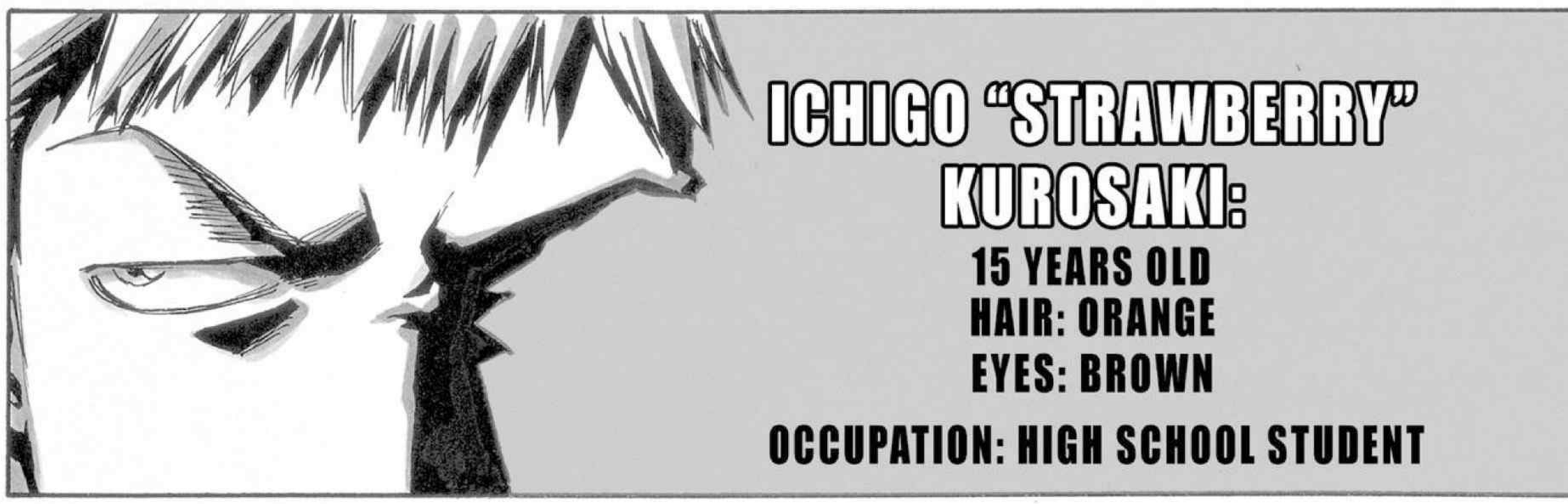
WHAT THE ...!?

YOU COME HERE, STOMP LI'L YAMA IN THE FACE, AND ORDER US OUT LIKE WE WAS DOGS?!

YOU CRAZY, PUNK?

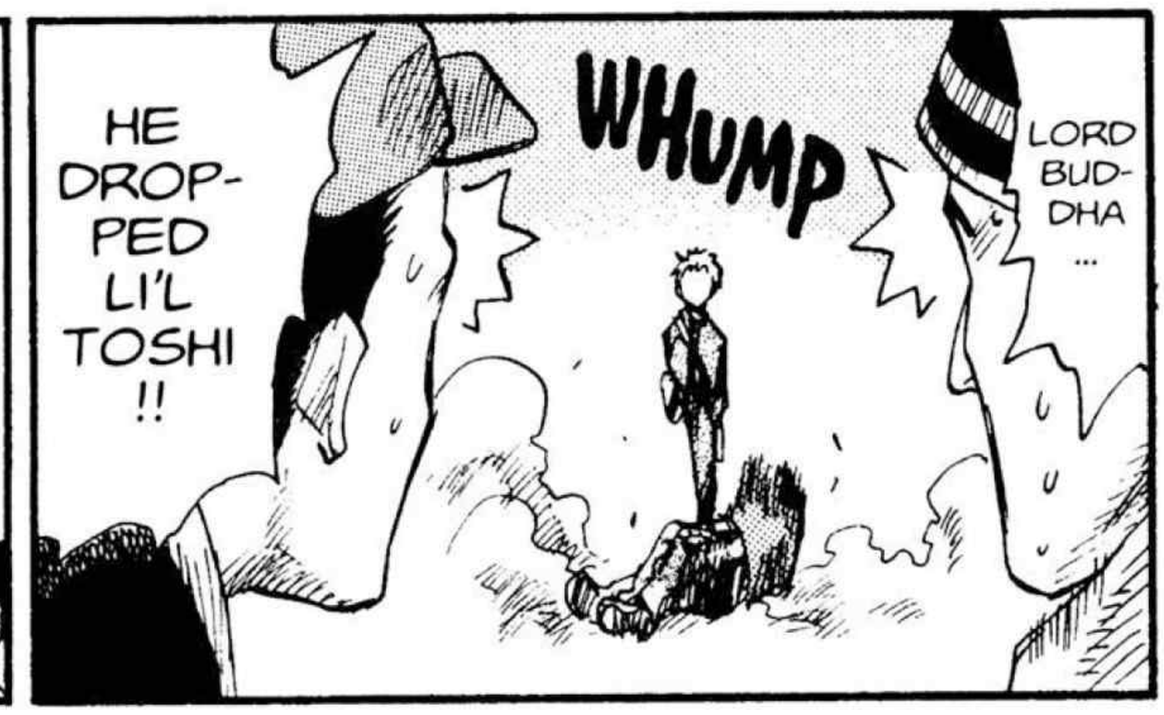
GOT A DEATH-WISH?

SPEAK!



OOF!

KABL



DA-DA-DA-DA-

AN OFFERING FOR SOME DEAD KID?

UMM ...

YOU, SMELLY LOOKIN' DUDE!!

YOU TELL ME!!

HUH?

M-ME?

SMELLY?

WHAT'S THAT!?

QUESTION ONE!!

UPPER

LI'L MITCH ?!

QUESTION TWO!!!

YOU OKAY, LI'L MITCH ?!

LI'L MITCH !!

KA

CHECK OUT THE BRAIN ON SMELLY !!

GOM

WE KNOCKED IT OVER WITH OUR SKATE ...

DA-DA DA DA-DA DA DA

DAT'S 'CUZ...

BOARDS?

IS THAT SO?

ICHIGO "STRAWBERRY" KUROSAKI:
15 YEARS OLD

HAIR COLOR: ORANGE

EYE COLOR: BROWN

OCCUPATION:
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

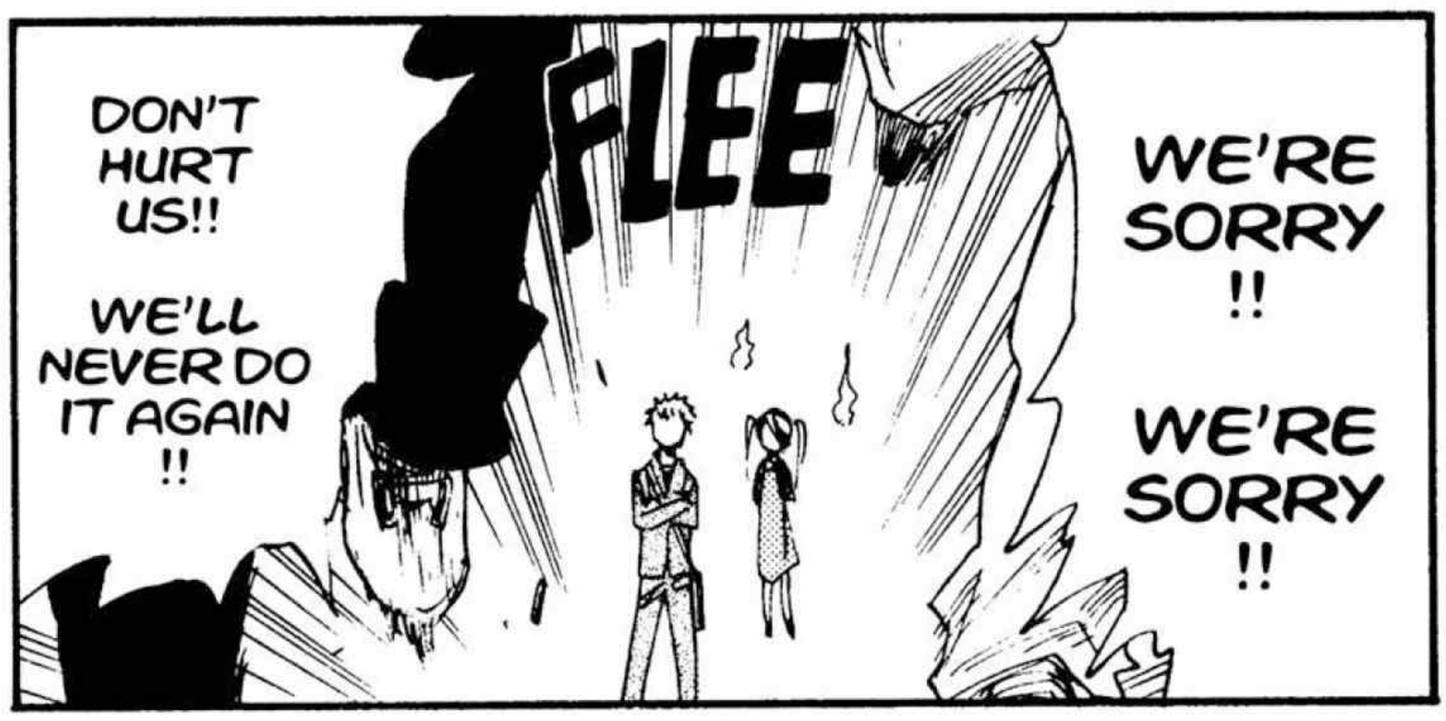
WHY IS THAT VASE ...

LYING ON ITS SIDE?

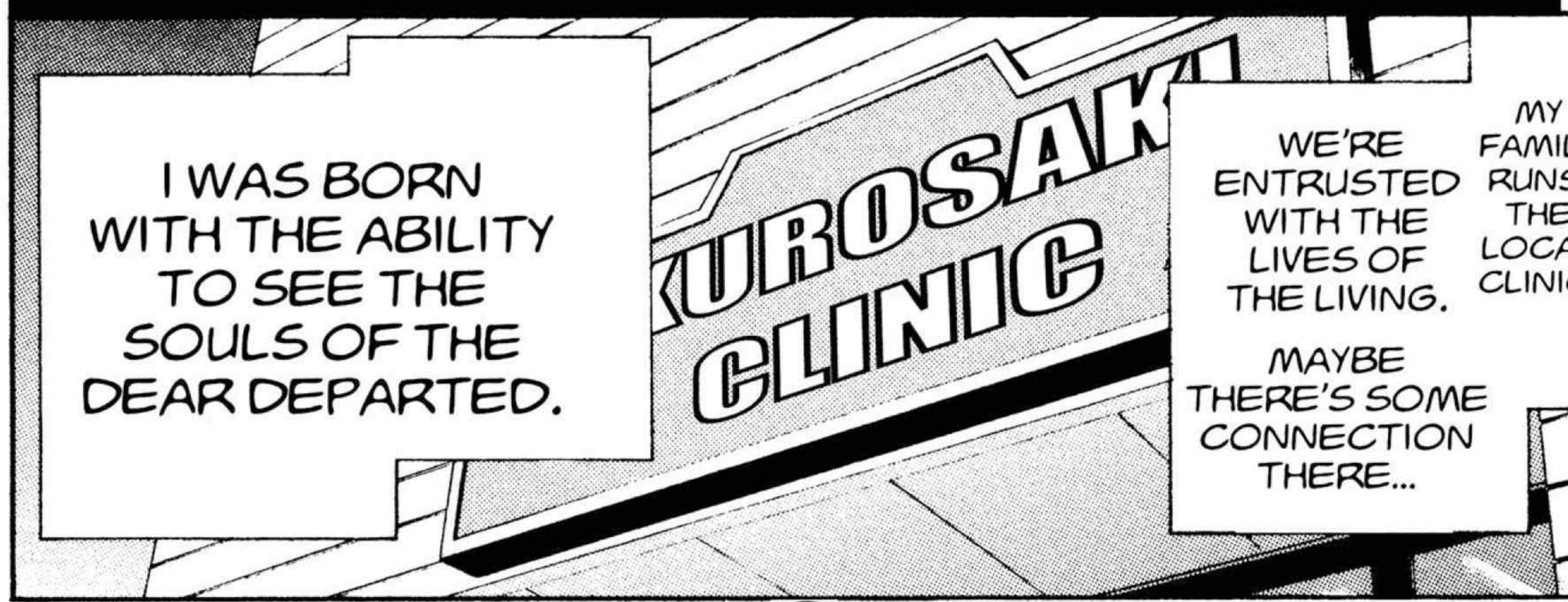
SPECIAL SKILL...

"HE CAN SEE GHOSTS"

THEN YOU BETTER APOLOGIZE TO **HER**, HADN'T YOU !?



IT'S TRUE. I CAN SEE AND TALK WITH GHOSTS.



NO EXCUSES!

THE RULES OF MY HOUSE ARE IRON!

YOU BREAK 'EM, YOU GOTTA BLEED!!

JERK!

IS THAT HOW YOU GREET YOUR SON WHO JUST HELPED A GHOST FIND PEACE?!

DINNER IN THIS HOUSE IS AT 7 O'CLOCK SHARP, EVERY NIGHT!!

DO YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS, DELIN-QUENT?!

LET THEM FIGHT, YUZU.

LEAVES MORE FOR US.

DINNER'S GETTING COLD!

PLEASE STOP FIGHT-ING!

SHUT UP!

I DIDN'T ASK FOR IT!!

OR MAYBE YOU WANT TO RUB IT IN MY FACE THAT YOU CAN SEE GHOSTS AND I CAN'T!? WHY CAN'T I HAVE THE GIFT?!

WHY?!

BA-SHIP, SH

GEEZ, WHEN DID YOU...?

HEY!

ICHIGO, I THINK YOU HAVE A NEW "FRIEND" HAUNTING YOU.

DECENT FATHERS DON'T MAKE THEIR TEENAGE SONS BE HOME BY 7:00!!

YOUR RULES ARE WAY TOO STRICT !!

WHOA!

A QUADRUPLE THREAT.

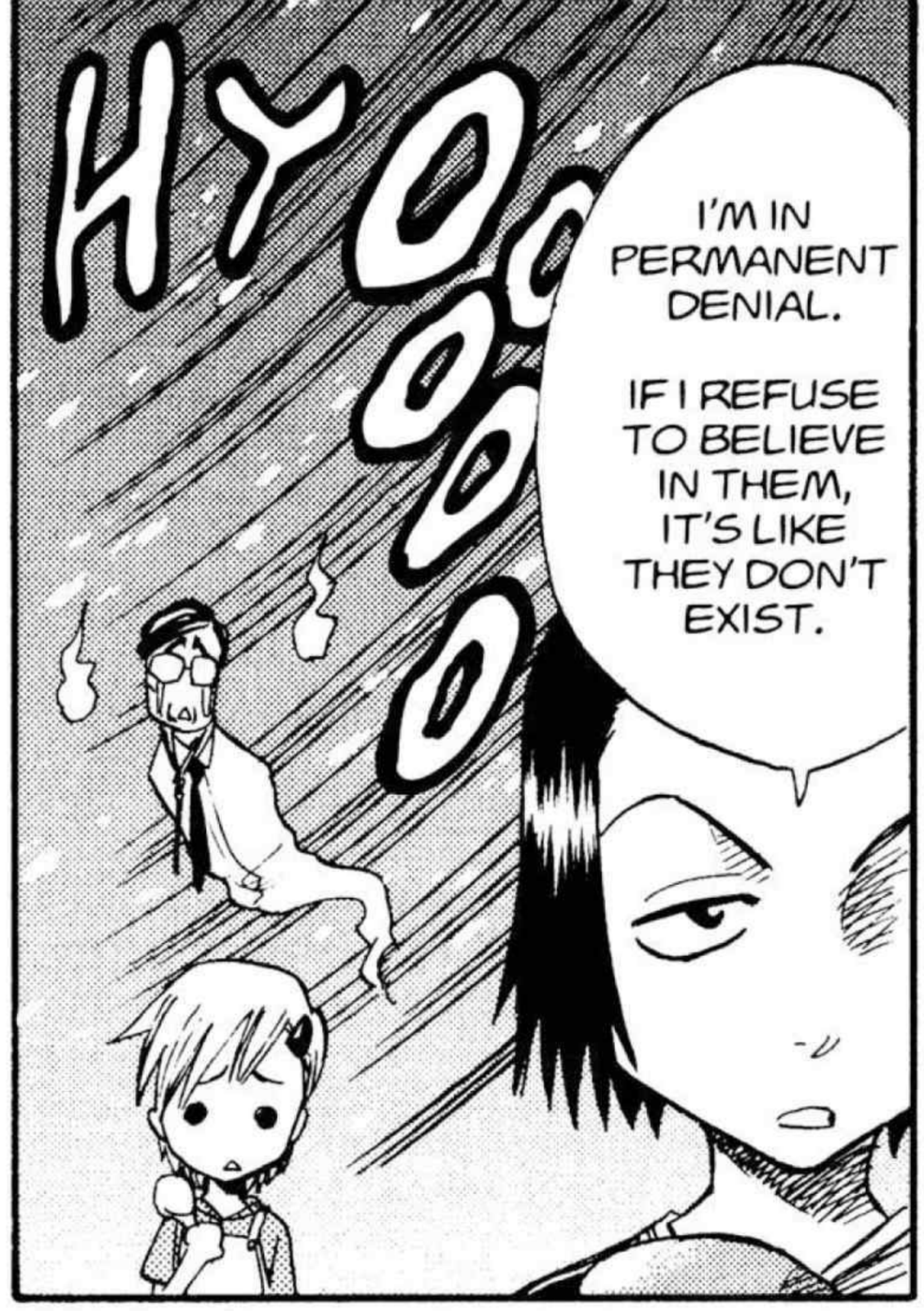
MUST BE A PAIN, STRAWBERRY, TO BE IN SUCH HIGH DEMAND.

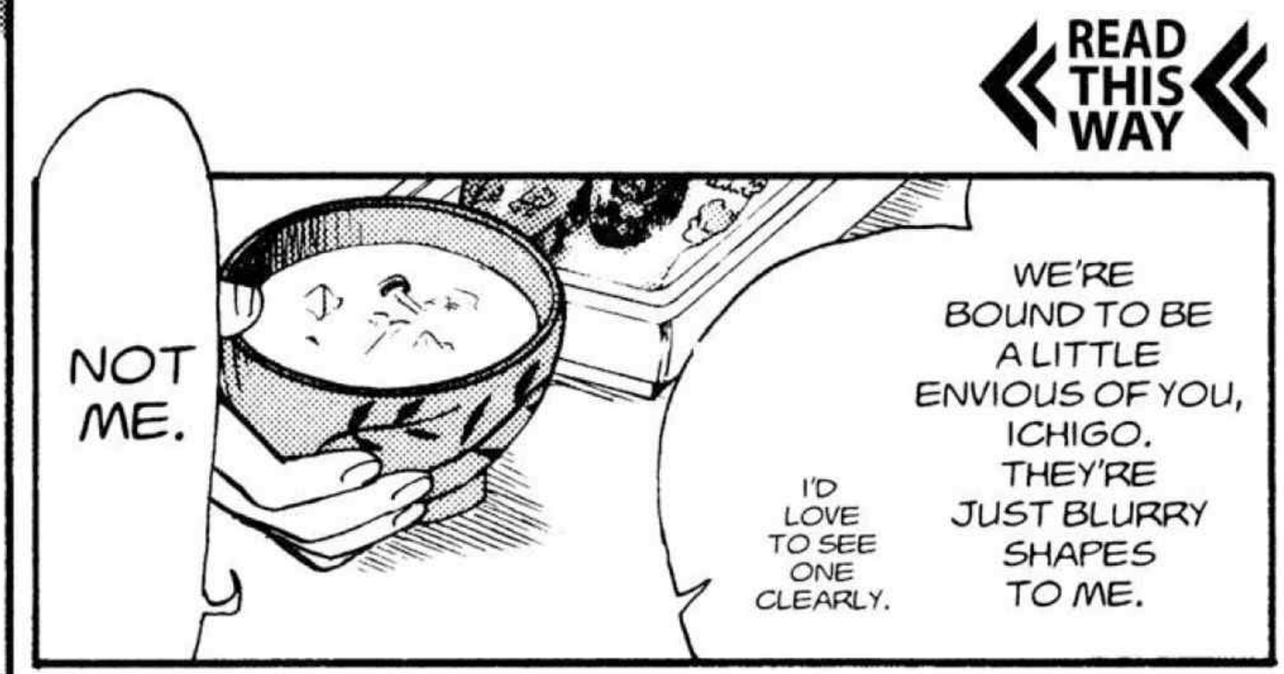
BUT YOU KNOW...

HE SEES THEM, TALKS TO THEM, TOUCHES THEM, AND CHANNELS THEM--

I EXORCISE ONE AND ANOTHER LATCHES ONTO ME!!

CRAP!!

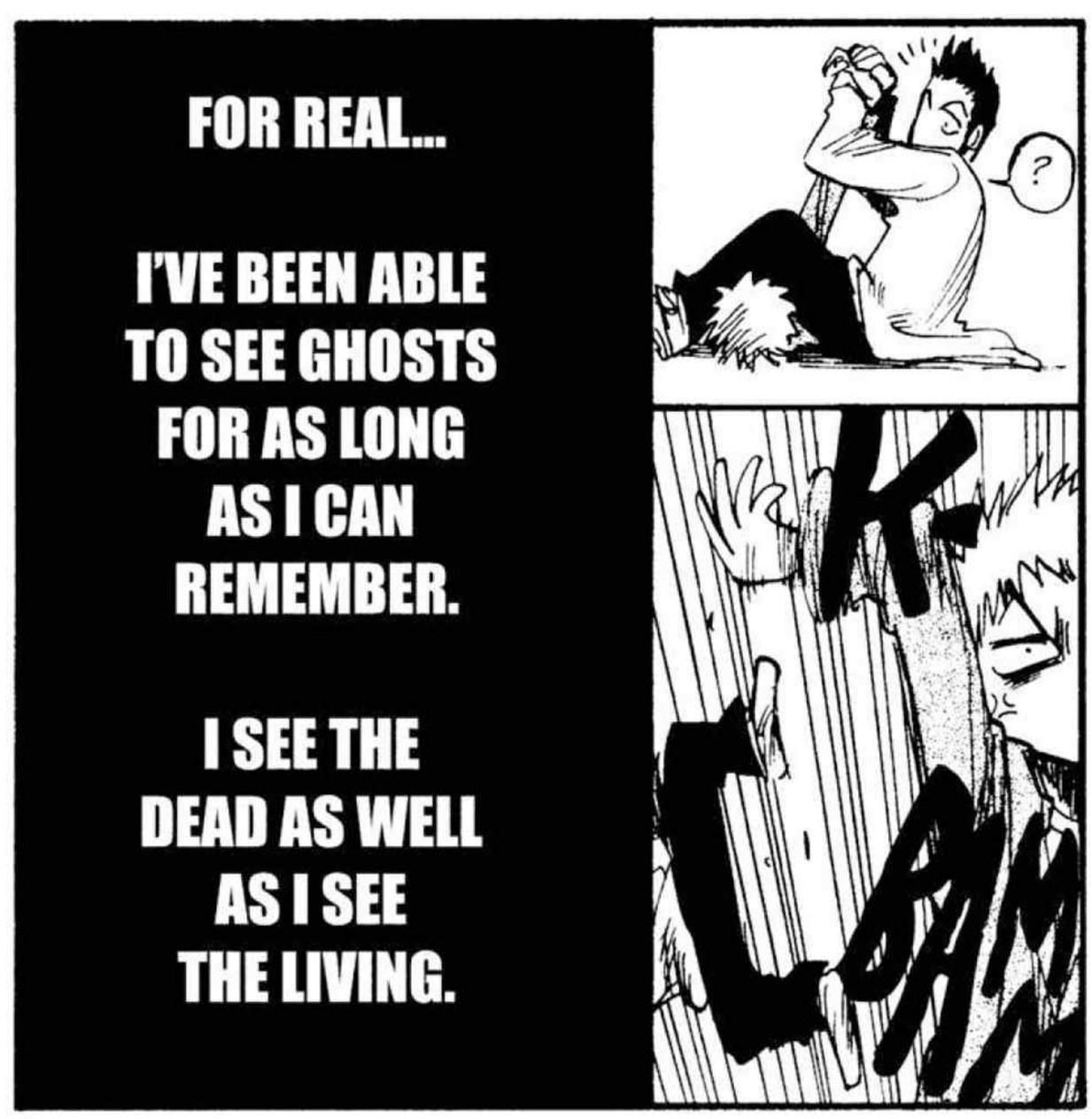

HYO
I'M IN PERMANENT DENIAL.
IF I REFUSE TO BELIEVE IN THEM, IT'S LIKE THEY DON'T EXIST.


READ THIS WAY
NOT ME.
I'D LOVE TO SEE ONE CLEARLY.
WE'RE BOUND TO BE A LITTLE ENVIOUS OF YOU, ICHIGO. THEY'RE JUST BLURRY SHAPES TO ME.

HUH? BUT YOU SEE THEM TOO, KARIN!
DUMMY.
ONLY DADDY CAN'T.
I DON'T BELIEVE IN GHOSTS.

YOU'RE NOT MAKING MONEY OFF MY GRIEF!!
I'M NOT A FREAK-SHOW !!
DAMMIT, KARIN !!
CHERRY BLOSSOM WATCHING WAS LAST MONTH, RIGHT?
"WANT TO FLIRT WITH GHOSTS WHILE BEING CARESSED BY THE FIRST BREEZE OF SUMMER?
A LIMITED ENGAGEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, THE KARUIZAWA GHOST PICNIC."

SO --
HERE'S MY LATEST PLAN.


FOR REAL...
I'VE BEEN ABLE TO SEE GHOSTS FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER.
I SEE THE DEAD AS WELL AS I SEE THE LIVING.
?
K-
CRA

RA
DROP-PED YOUR GUARD !!
GA

SO...

WHAT ?!

HE TALKS ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT WITH YOU!!

ICHIGO'S BEEN UNDER A LOT OF PRESSURE LATELY!

HE TOLD ME MORE GHOSTS THAN EVER HAVE BEEN HAUNTING HIM.

HE'S FED UP!

WHAT'D I DO?!

IT'S YOUR FAULT, DAD.

HE LEFT.

THAT'S IT!

I'M GOING TO BED!!

TUMP TUMP TUMP

OH!

ICHIGO !!

FIRST, TAKE DOWN THAT STUPID MEMORIAL PICTURE.

MASAKI FOREVER

AW ...

MOTHER...

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE THEY'VE HIT PUBERTY, BUT OUR DAUGHTERS TREAT ME LIKE DIRT...

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

I WOULDN'T BRING MY PROBLEMS TO YOU EITHER.

YOU'RE OVER 40 YET POSSESS THE EMOTIONAL MATURITY OF A PRE-SCHOOLER.

I'LL TAKE SOME SUPPER UP TO HIS ROOM LATER.

THAT BOY...

WHY DOESN'T HE COME TO **ME** WITH HIS PROBLEMS?

ARE YOU SERI-OUS?

THE EXISTENCE OF SOUL REAPERS...

...

?

A BLACK SWALLOWTAIL BUTTERFLY?

WHERE'D IT COME FROM?

FLUTTER

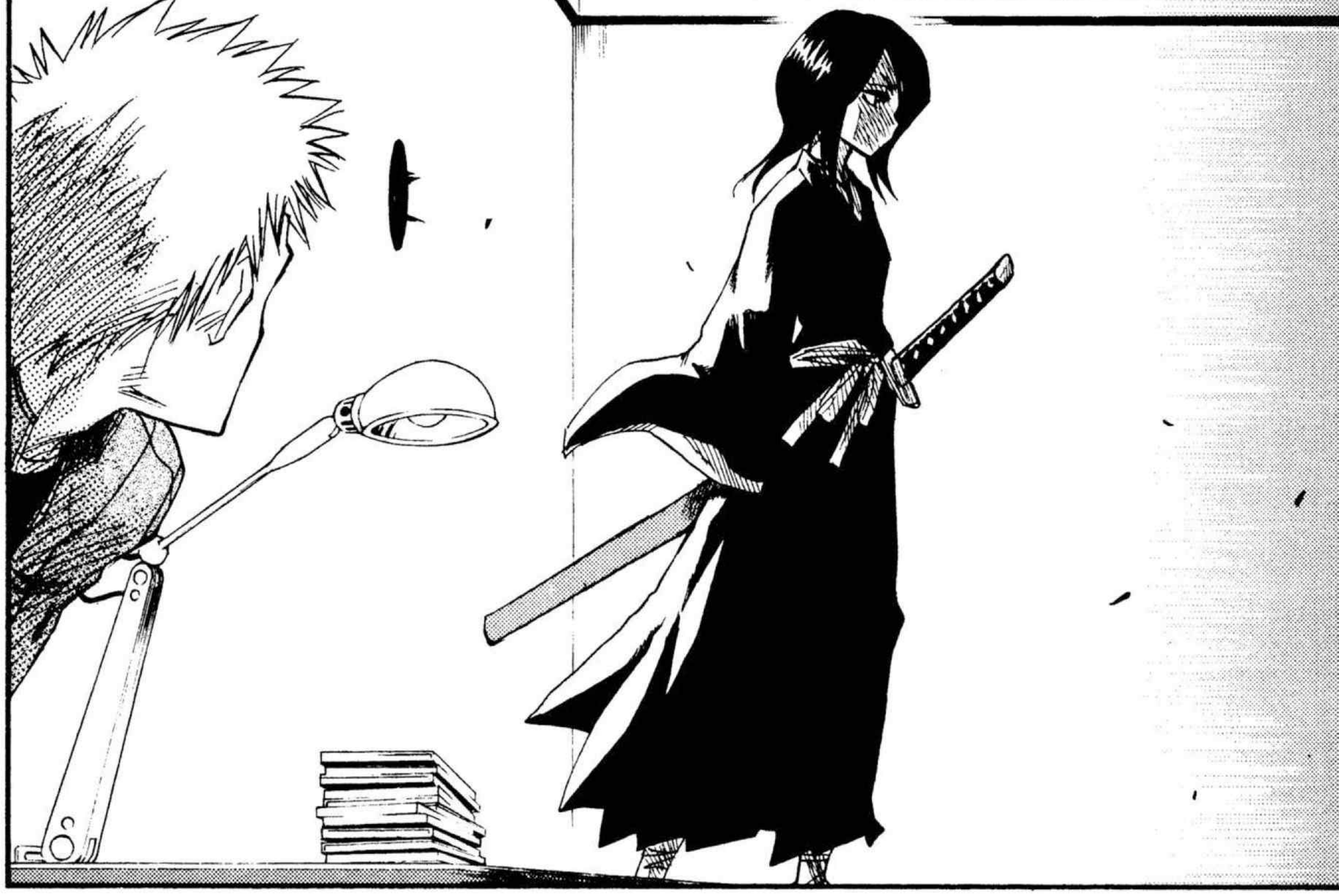
GEEZ...

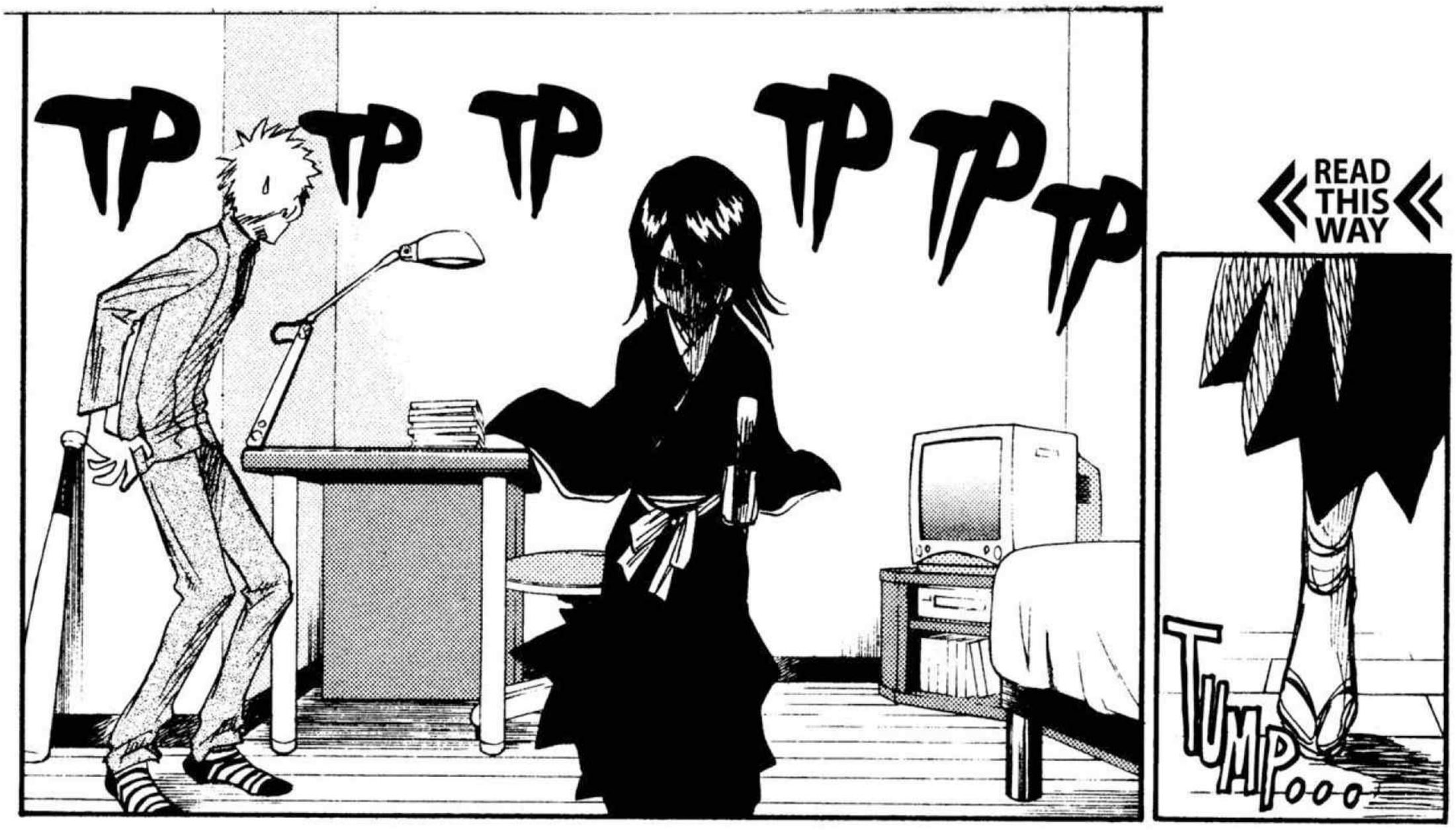
WHY IS MY FAMILY SO WEIRD?

SLAM

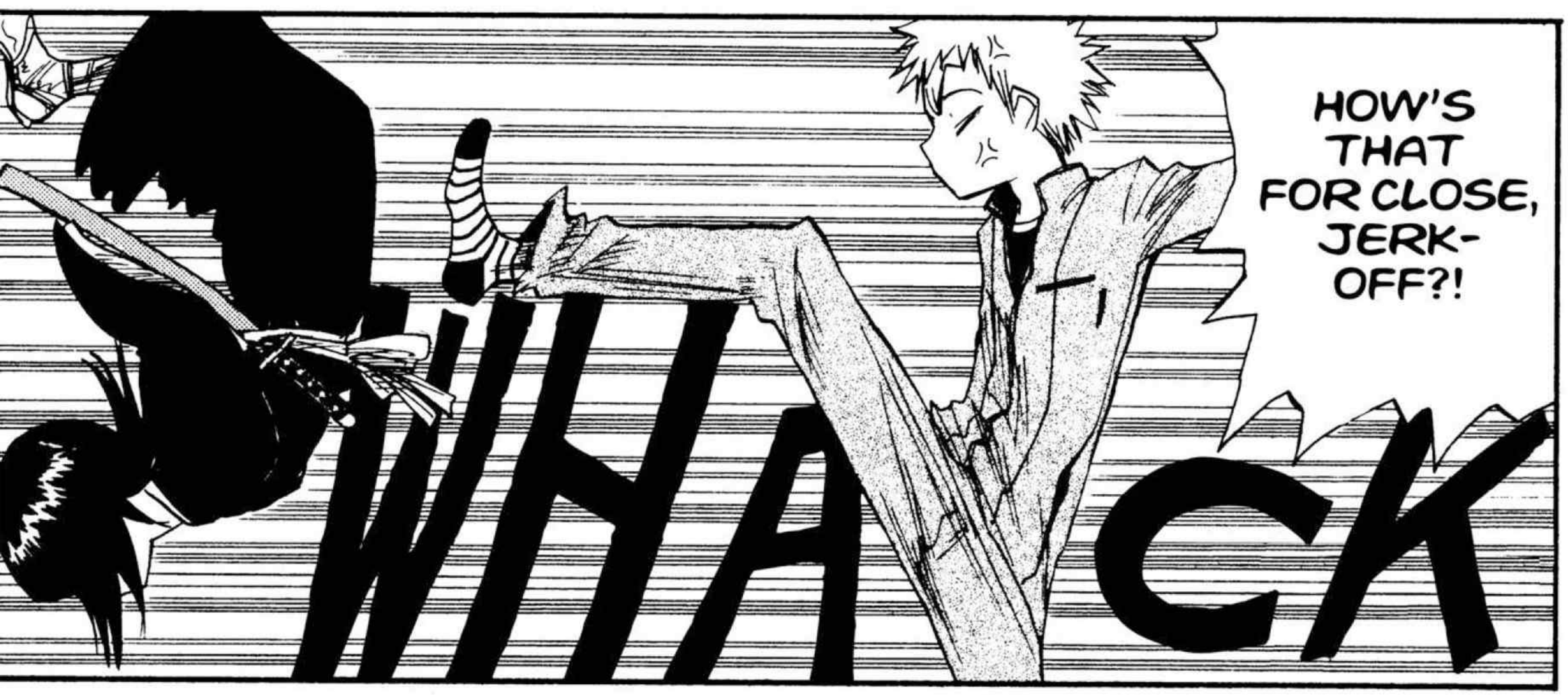
15

HAD NEVER CROSSED MY MIND.




TP TP TP TP TP TP
READ THIS WAY
TUMPooo

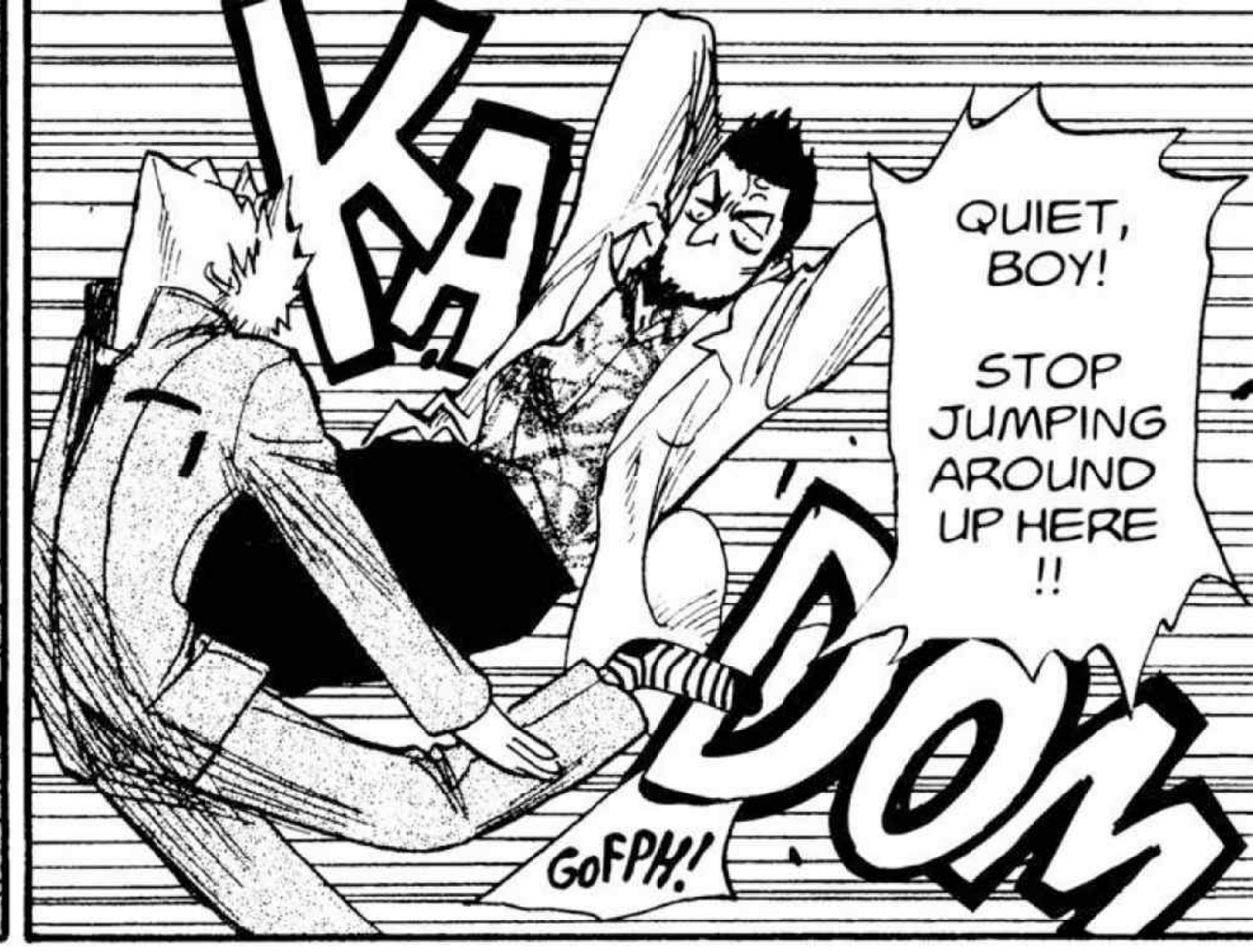
GWOOO
IT'S CLOSE ...!


HOW'S THAT FOR CLOSE, JERK-OFF?!
HHACK

HECK YEAH I CAN SEE YOU...
HUH?
STOP YAMMERING!
YOU...
YOU CAN SEE ME ?!!
AND...
YOU KICKED ME!

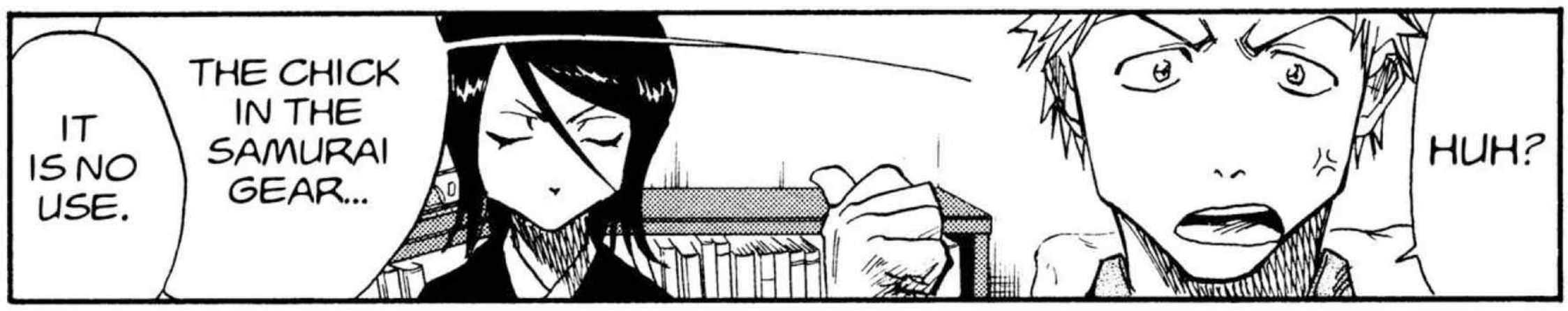
WHAT'S CLOSE?!
THE SAFE?
IS THAT BURGLAR-SPEAK OR SOMETHING ?!
? ? ?
PSH!!
PRETTY COCKY FOR A BURGLAR, AINTCHA ?!

CRA
HOW CAN I BE QUIET WHEN I'M SUBDUING INTRUDERS?!
NICE PUNCH!!


KA
QUIET, BOY!
STOP JUMPING AROUND UP HERE !!
DOM
GOFPH!

WHAT?
LOOK AT WHO?

HUH?
LOOK AT THIS!
WHERE'S OUR HOME SECURITY !?


IT IS NO USE.
THE CHICK IN THE SAMURAI GEAR...
HUH?

SOUL REAPER.
I'M A...

NORMAL PEOPLE CANNOT SEE ME.

KER-SPLASH

NEAR...

MUCH SPIRIT ENERGY...

...NEAR BY...

TWITCH

....!

RIP

TEAR

SHRED

KER-CHIK

DRIP

PLOP

DRIP

GADUMP

THAT MAKES SENSE...

TO VANQUISH AN EVIL SPIRIT.

YOU CAME ALL THE WAY FROM THIS **SOUL SOCIETY** THING ...

YOU'RE A SOUL REAPER, AND...

ICHIGO HIT ME HARD. DADDY'S UPSET.

THERE, THERE.

YOU ASKED FOR IT.

THAT'S YOUR STORY?

KUROSAKI CLINIC

I'VE NEVER SEEN A SOUL REAPER BEFORE.

OF COURSE NOT!

YOU INSOLENT...

YOU CAN SEE GHOSTS, YET YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN SOUL REAPERS?!

I DON'T BELIEVE **ANYTHING** UNTIL I SEE IT WITH MY OWN PEEPERS.

WHAT !?

KLA

CAUTION: FOR USE IN SIGHT GAGS ONLY!

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR FREAK-ING MIND ?!

GR

RRR

SHOVE

BUT GO PLAY "SOUL REAPER" SOMEWHERE ELSE!

GOT THAT, YOU LITTLE SNOT?

SINCE DAD COULDN'T SEE YOU, YOU'RE PROBABLY NOT LIVING...

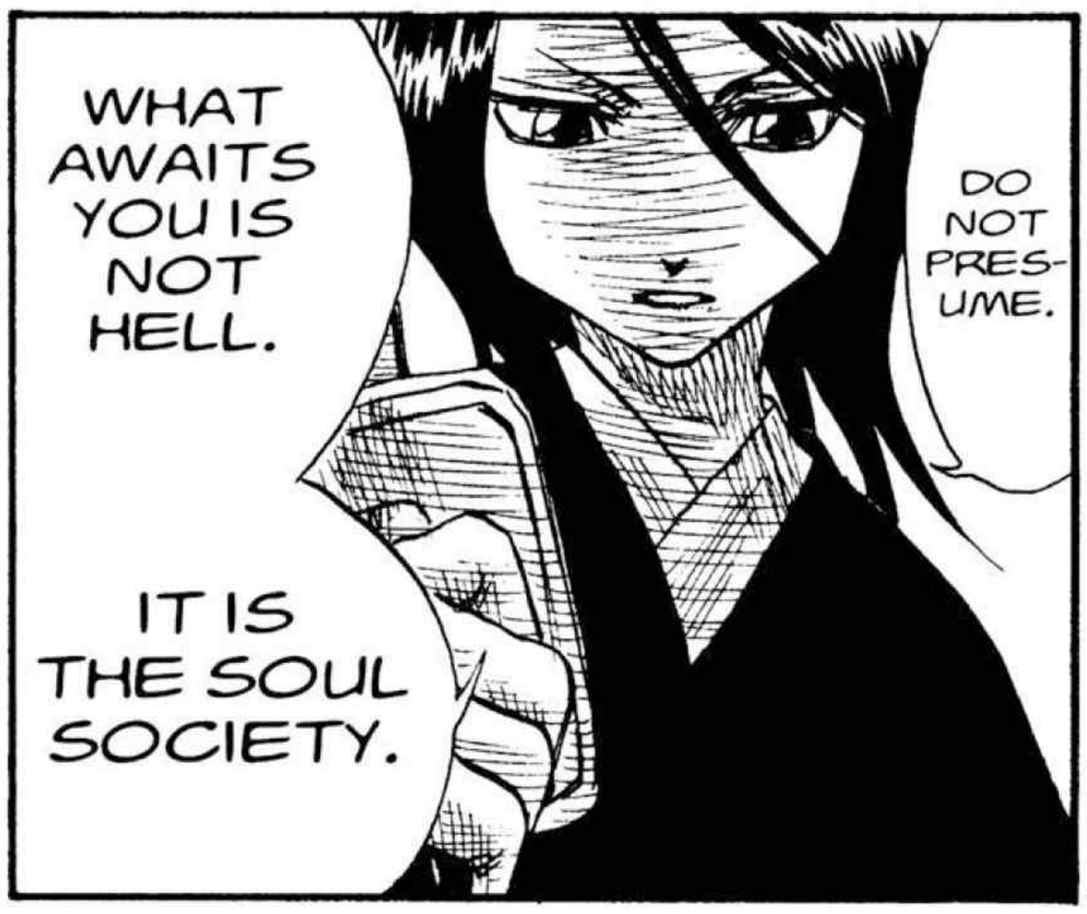
KLAK

YOU DARE SPEAK THAT WAY TO ME?

SAI !!

BIND-ING SPELL, THE FIRST !

READ THIS WAY
THIS IS KIDÔ, THE DEMON WAY, A HIGH-LEVEL SPELL ONLY A SOUL REAPER CAN CAST!
HEH HEH... IT IS USELESS TO STRUGGLE!
CRAZY GIRL... WHAT DID YOU DO?!
DOMP!
OW OW OW OW OW !!
TUMBLE
I WOULD KILL AN INSOLENT FOOL LIKE YOU, BUT THE PROVISIONAL SPIRIT LAW FORBIDS UNAUTHORIZED EXECUTIONS.
YET YOU DARE TO CALL ME "LITTLE SNOT?"
DESPITE MY APPEARANCE, I HAVE LIVED TEN OF YOUR LIVES!
W-WAIT...
AND THIS...
...!
BE GRATEFUL, LITTLE SNOT!
I WILL LET YOU OFF WITH A MINOR CASE OF PARALYSIS THIS TIME.
HERRGGG !!!
FREAKIN' WANNABE SAMURAI...

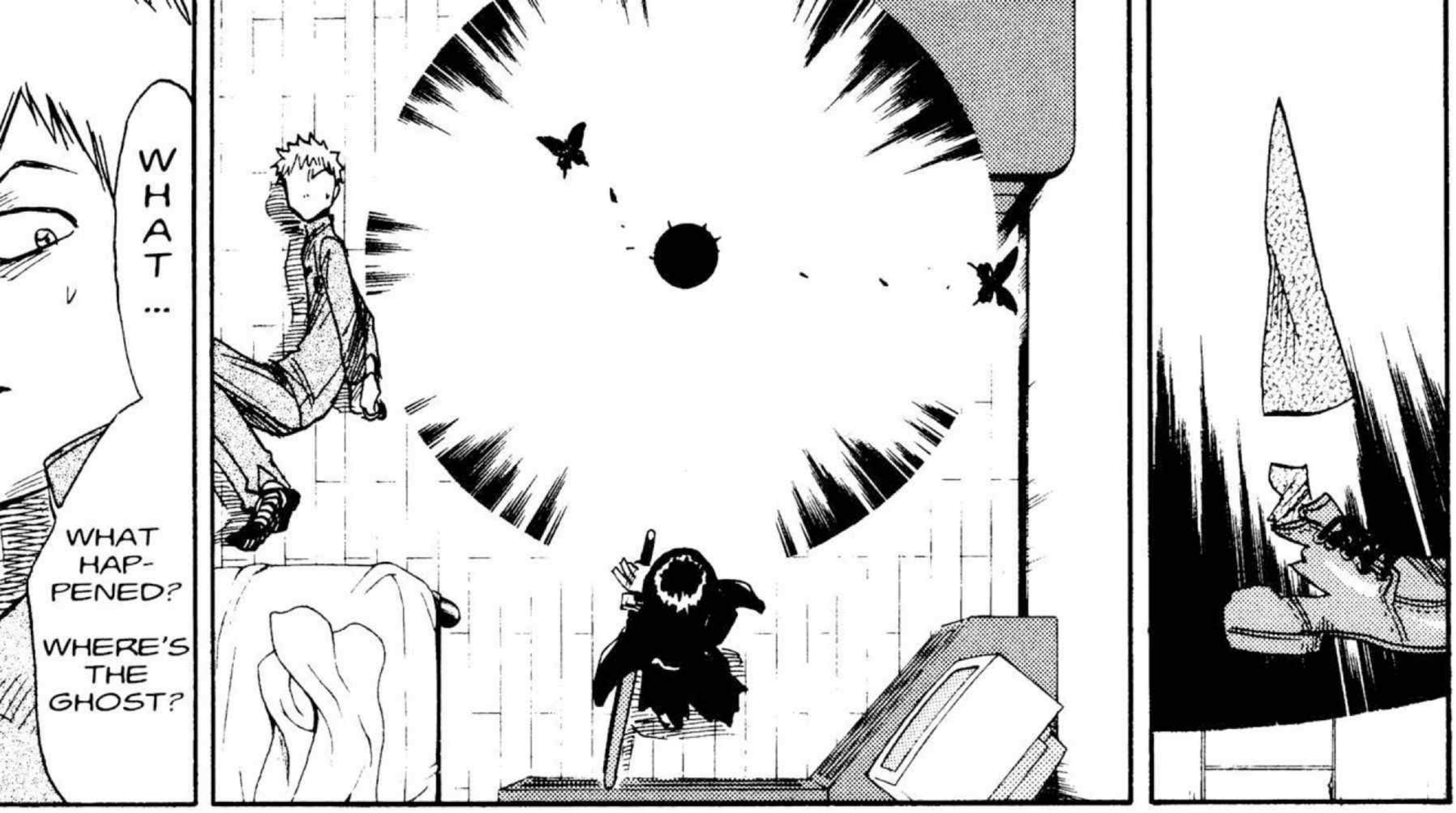

WHAT AWAITS YOU IS NOT HELL.
IT IS THE SOUL SOCIETY.
DO NOT PRES-UME.

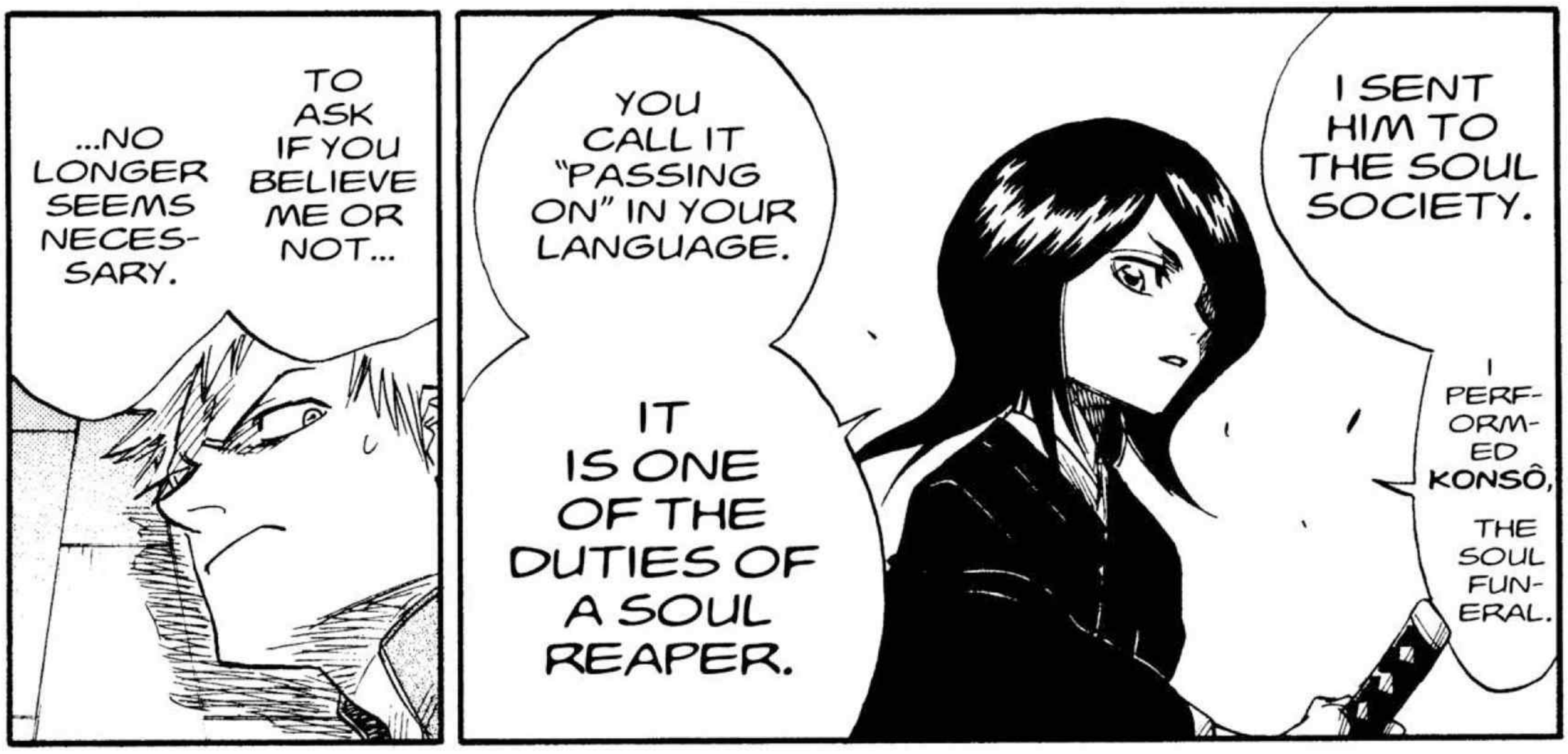
NO...
I...
N...
DON'T WANT TO GO TO HELL!

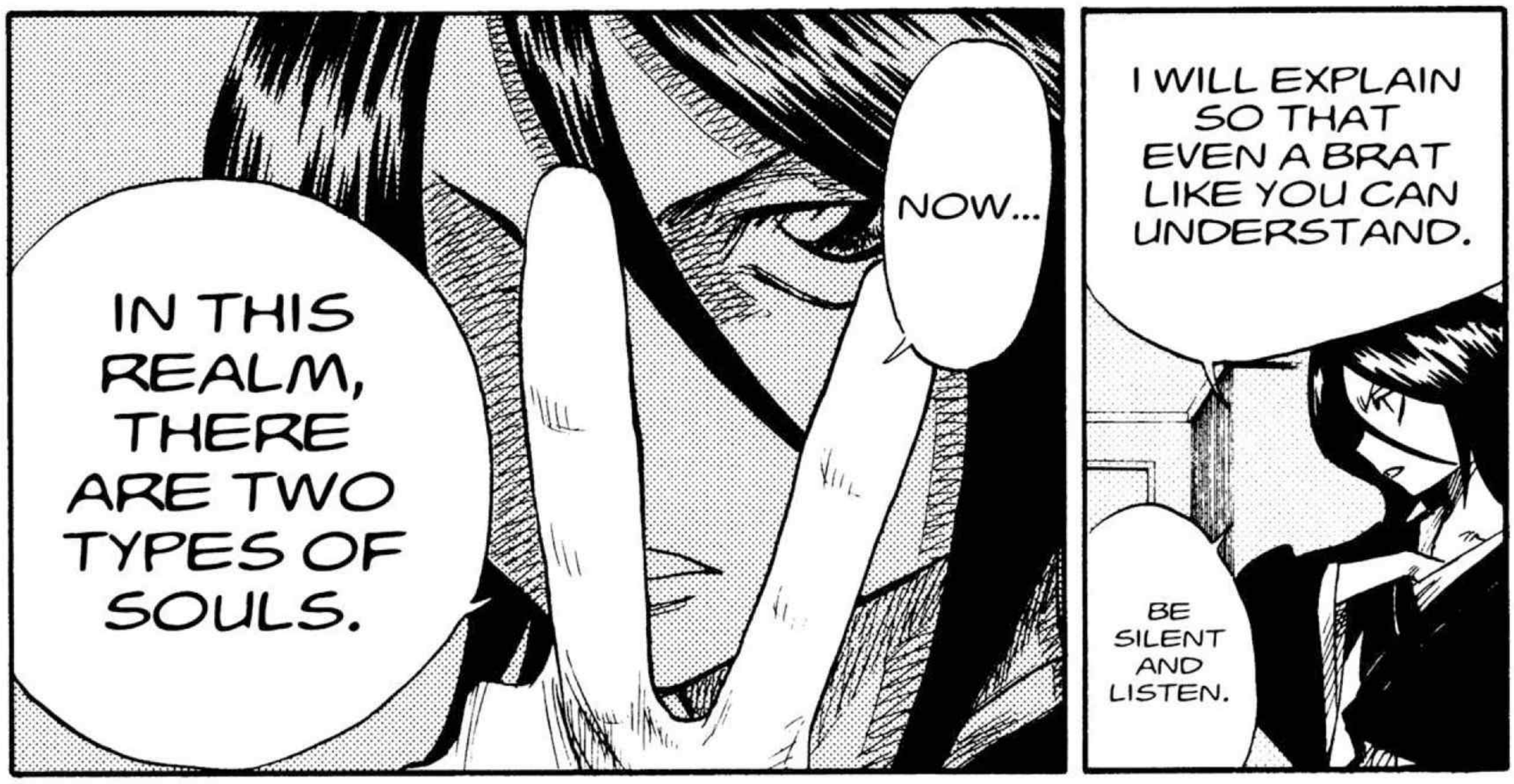
WHA...?

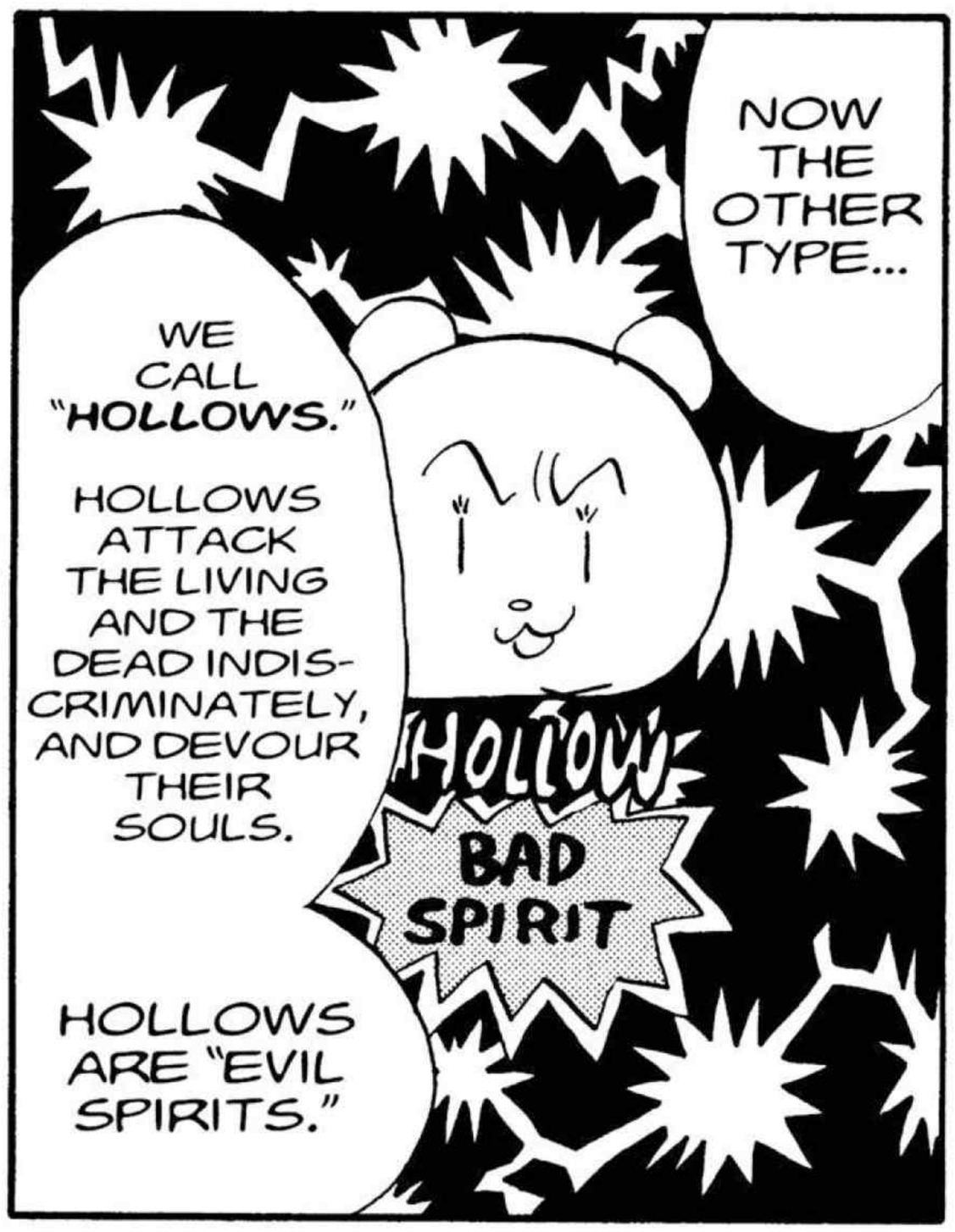
IT IS A RESTFUL PLACE.

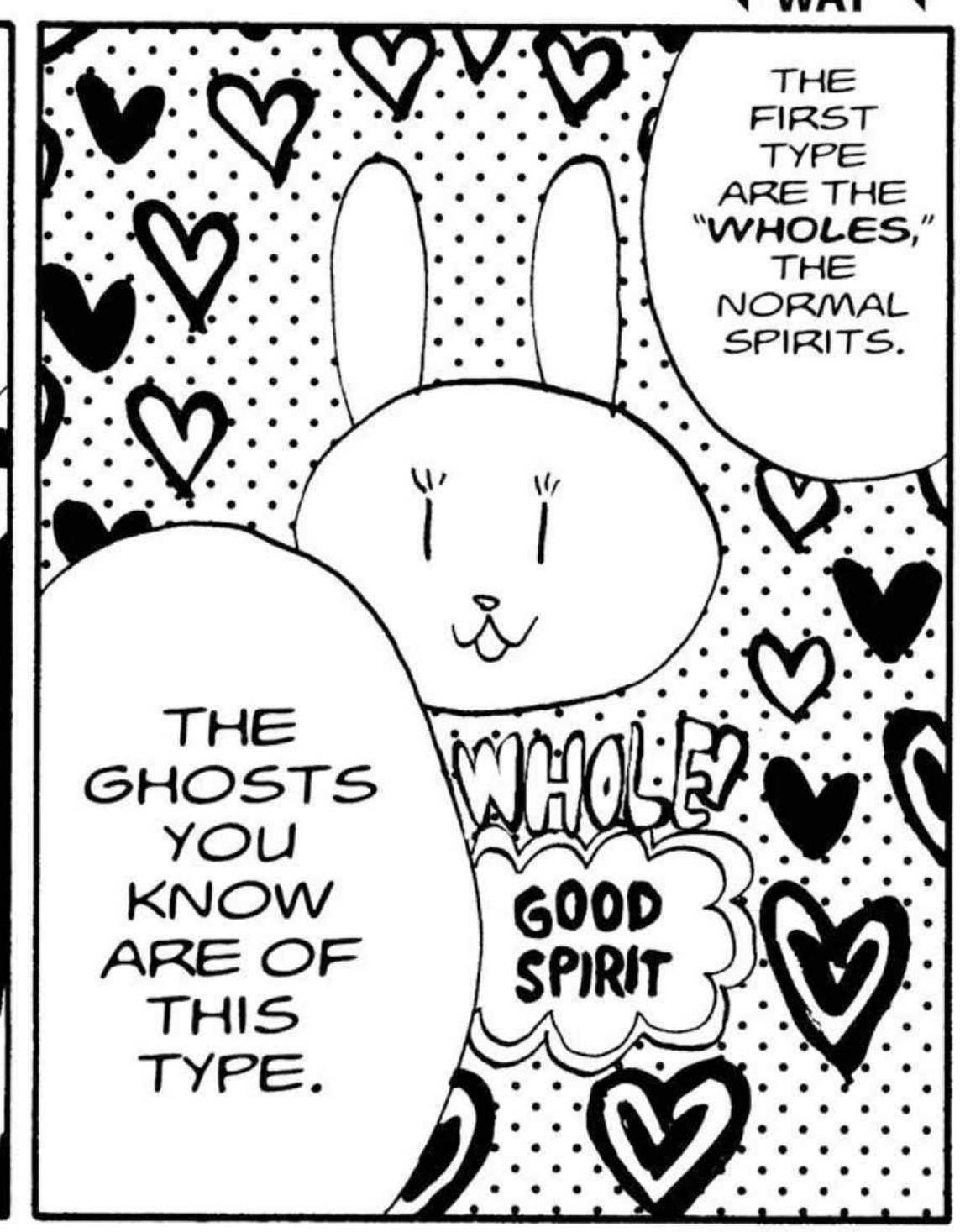
UNLIKE HELL...

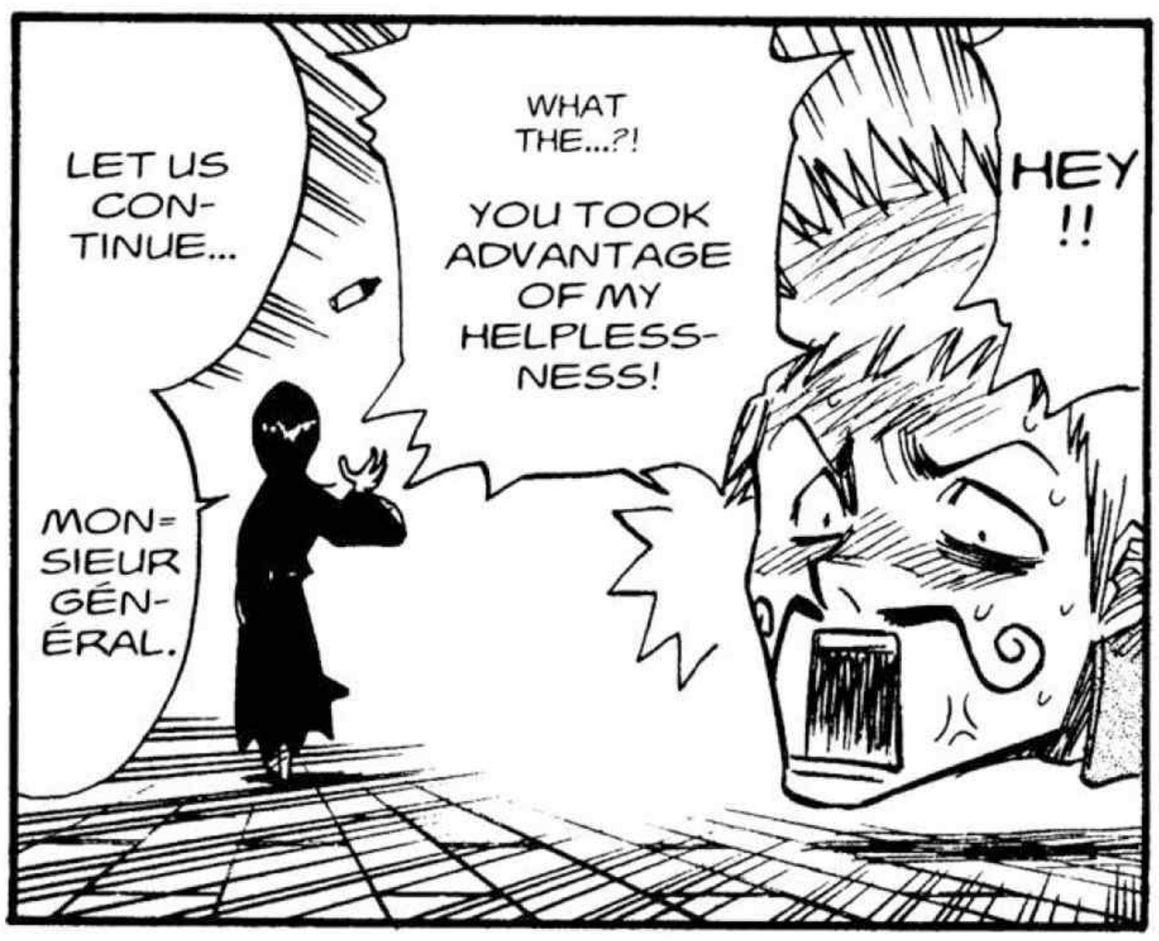

WHAT ...
WHAT HAP-PENED?
WHERE'S THE GHOST?

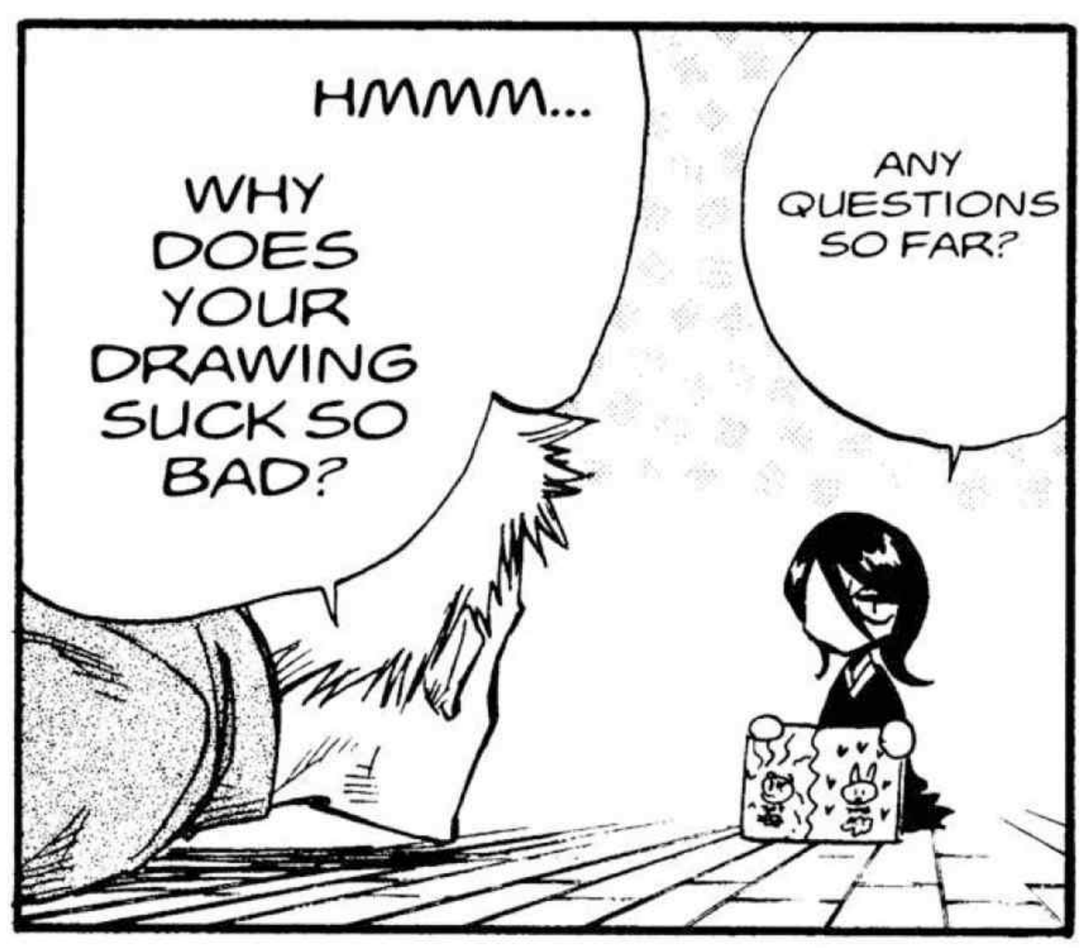

...NO LONGER SEEMS NECES-SARY.
TO ASK IF YOU BELIEVE ME OR NOT...
YOU CALL IT "PASSING ON" IN YOUR LANGUAGE.
IT IS ONE OF THE DUTIES OF A SOUL REAPER.
I SENT HIM TO THE SOUL SOCIETY.
I PERF-ORM-ED KONSÔ, THE SOUL FUN-ERAL.

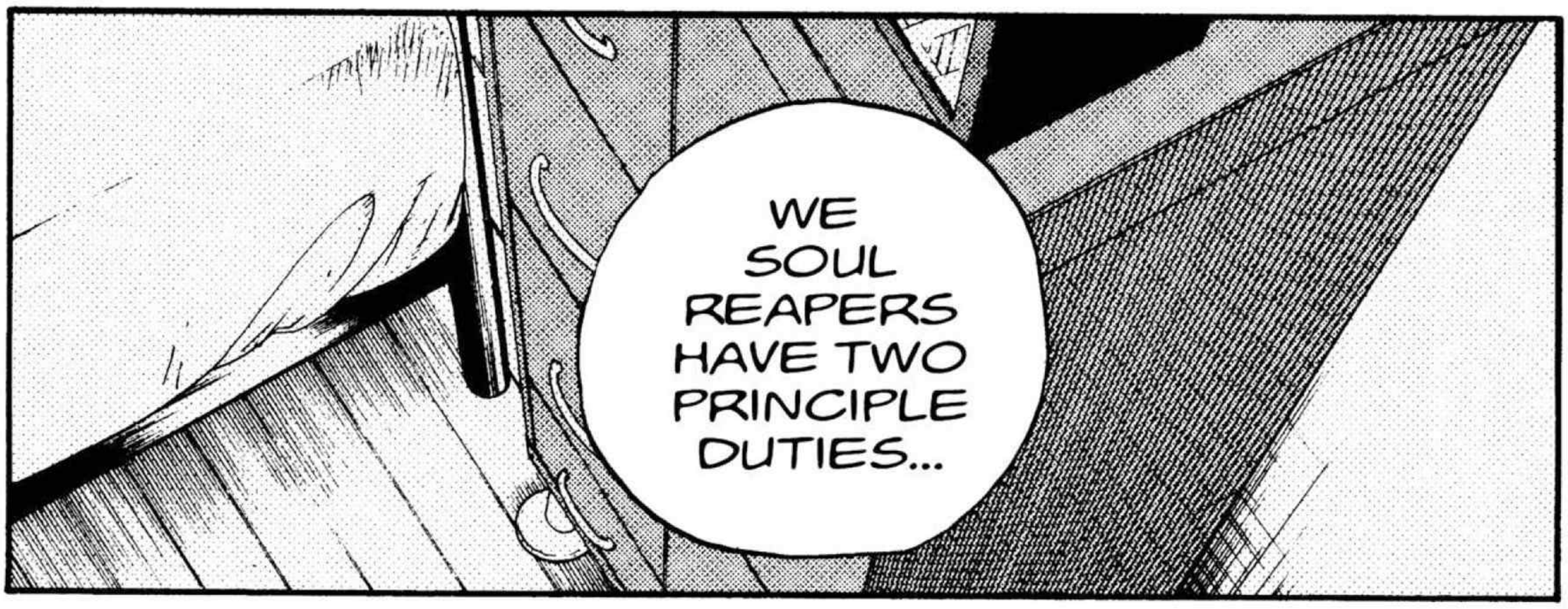

IN THIS REALM, THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF SOULS.
NOW...
I WILL EXPLAIN SO THAT EVEN A BRAT LIKE YOU CAN UNDERSTAND.
BE SILENT AND LISTEN.

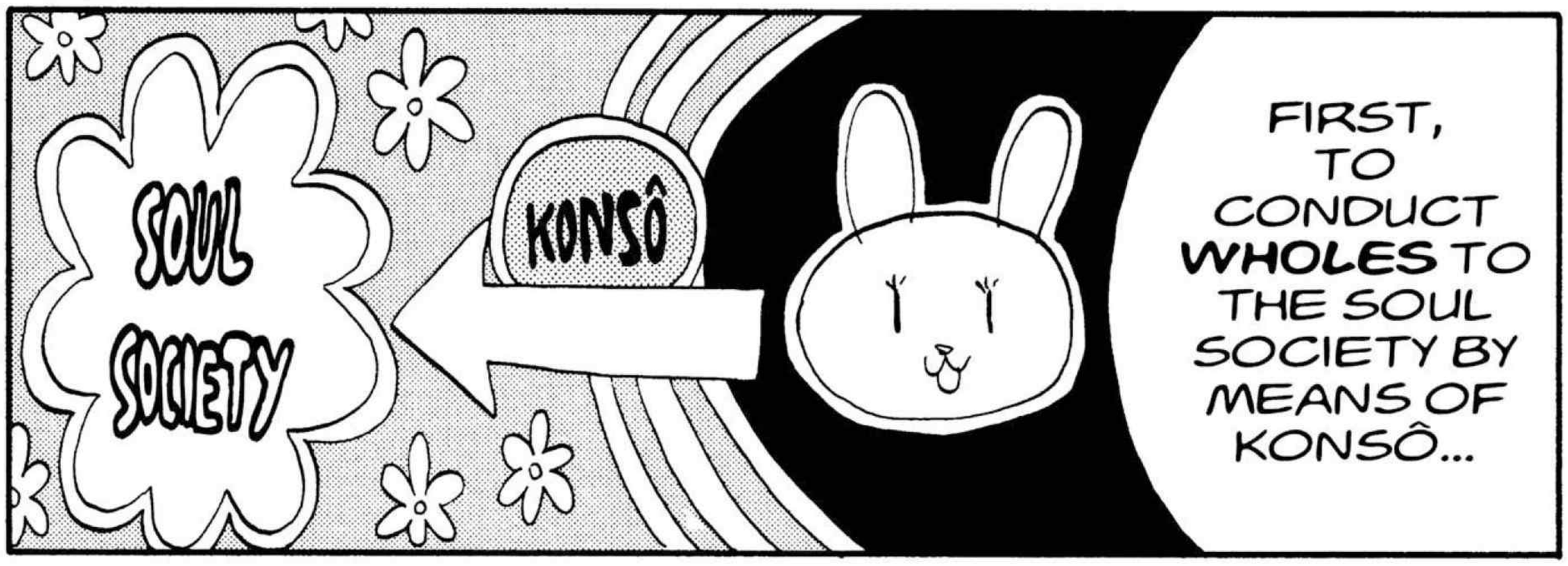

NOW THE OTHER TYPE...
WE CALL "HOLLOWS."
HOLLOWS ATTACK THE LIVING AND THE DEAD INDIS-CRIMINATELY, AND DEVOUR THEIR SOULS.
HOLLOW
BAD SPIRIT
HOLLOWS ARE "EVIL SPIRITS."

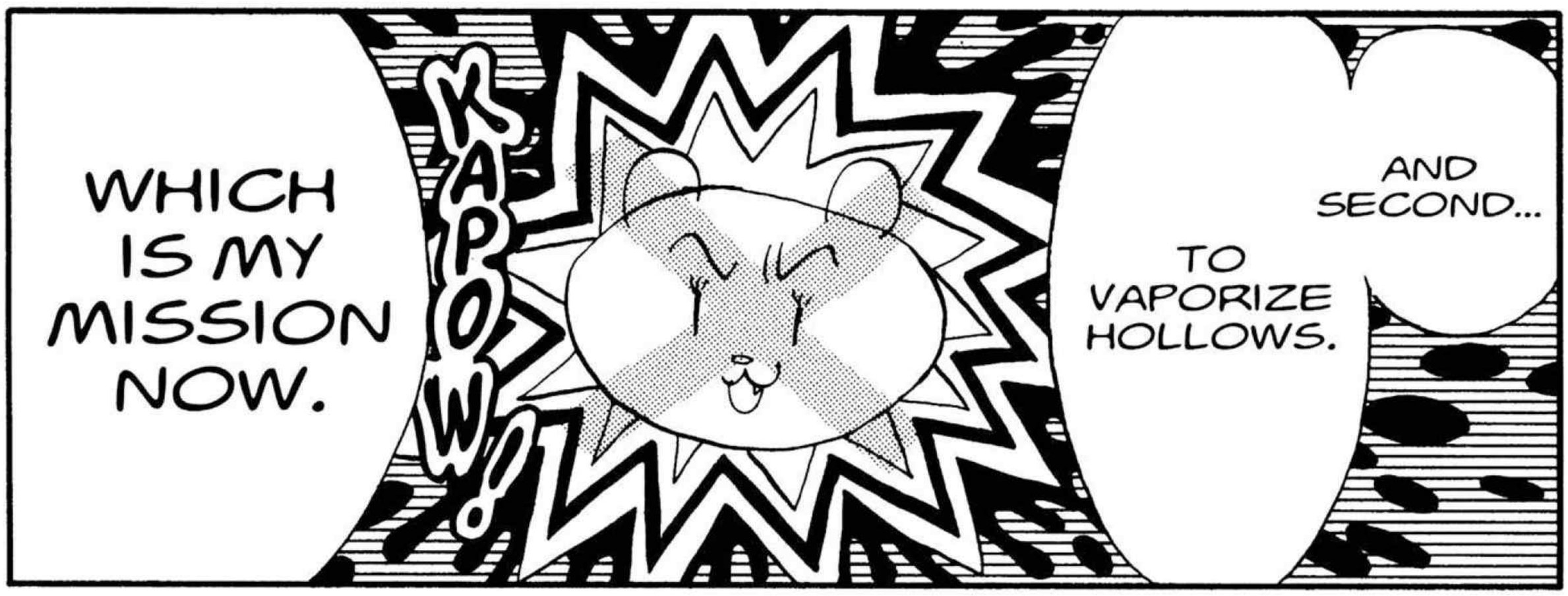

THE FIRST TYPE ARE THE "WHOLES," THE NORMAL SPIRITS.
THE GHOSTS YOU KNOW ARE OF THIS TYPE.
WHOLE
GOOD SPIRIT

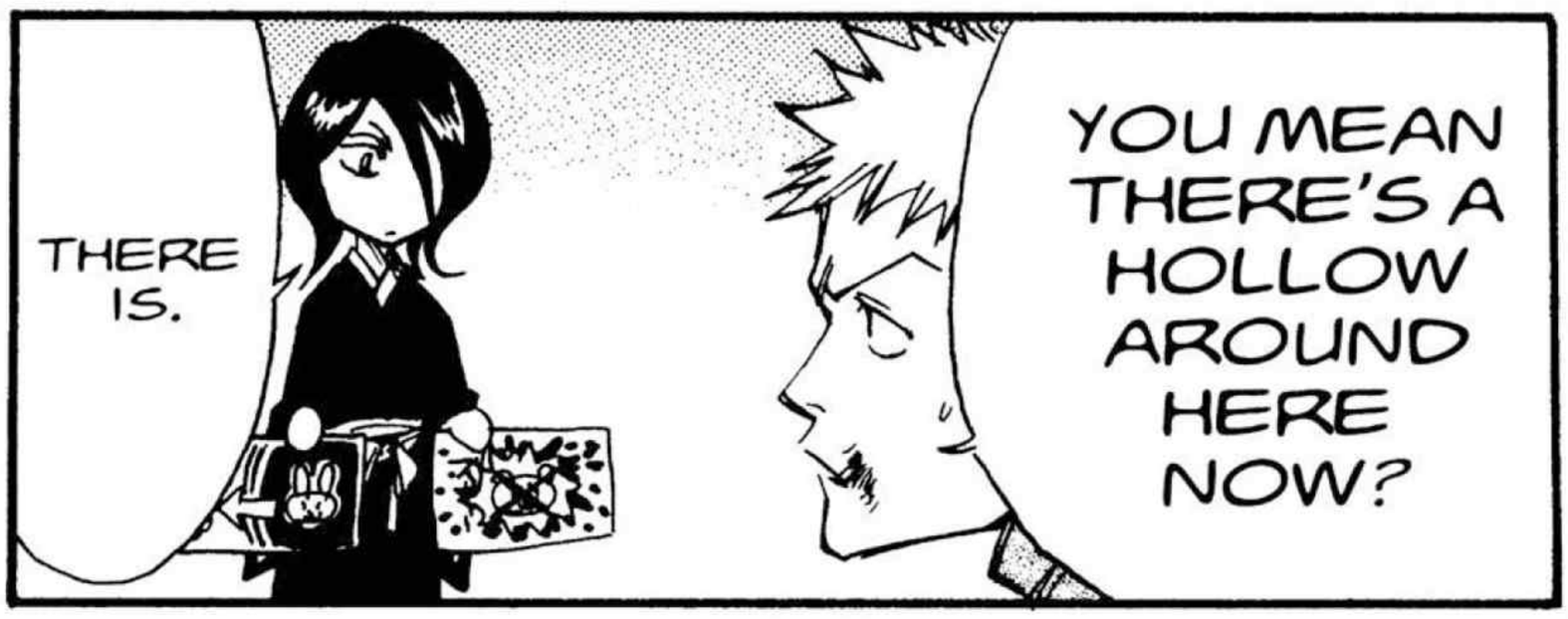

LET US CON-TINUE...
MON=SIEUR GÉN-ÉRAL.
WHAT THE...?!
YOU TOOK ADVANTAGE OF MY HELPLESS-NESS!
HEY !!

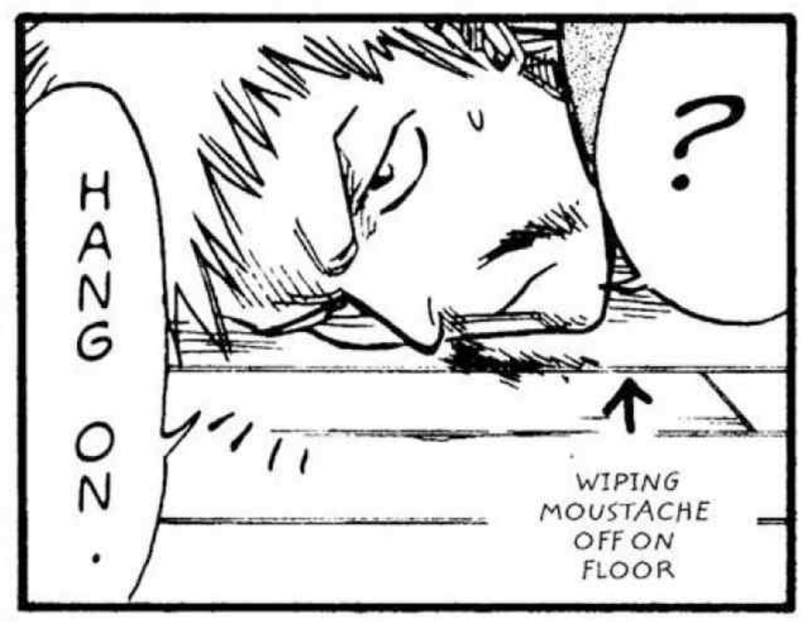

HMMM...
WHY DOES YOUR DRAWING SUCK SO BAD?
ANY QUESTIONS SO FAR?

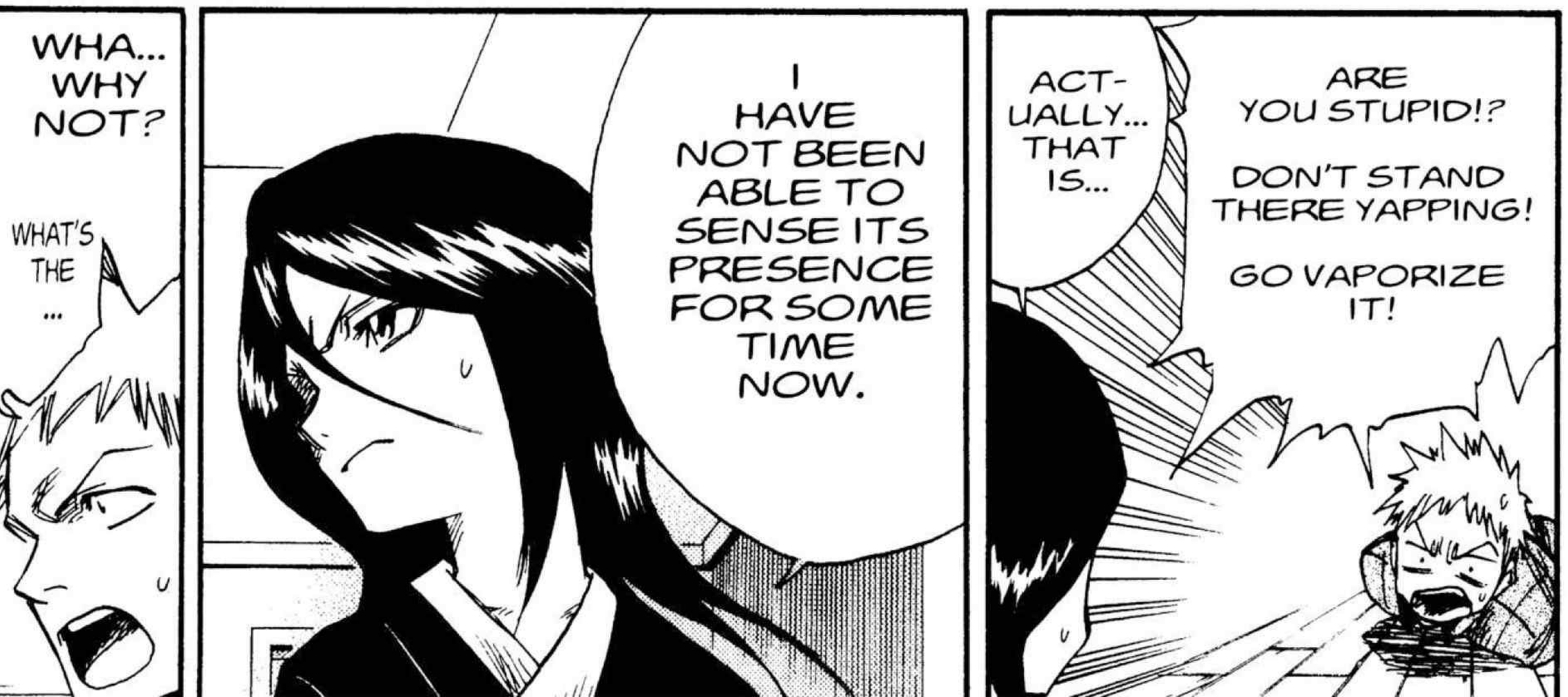

WE SOUL REAPERS HAVE TWO PRINCIPLE DUTIES...

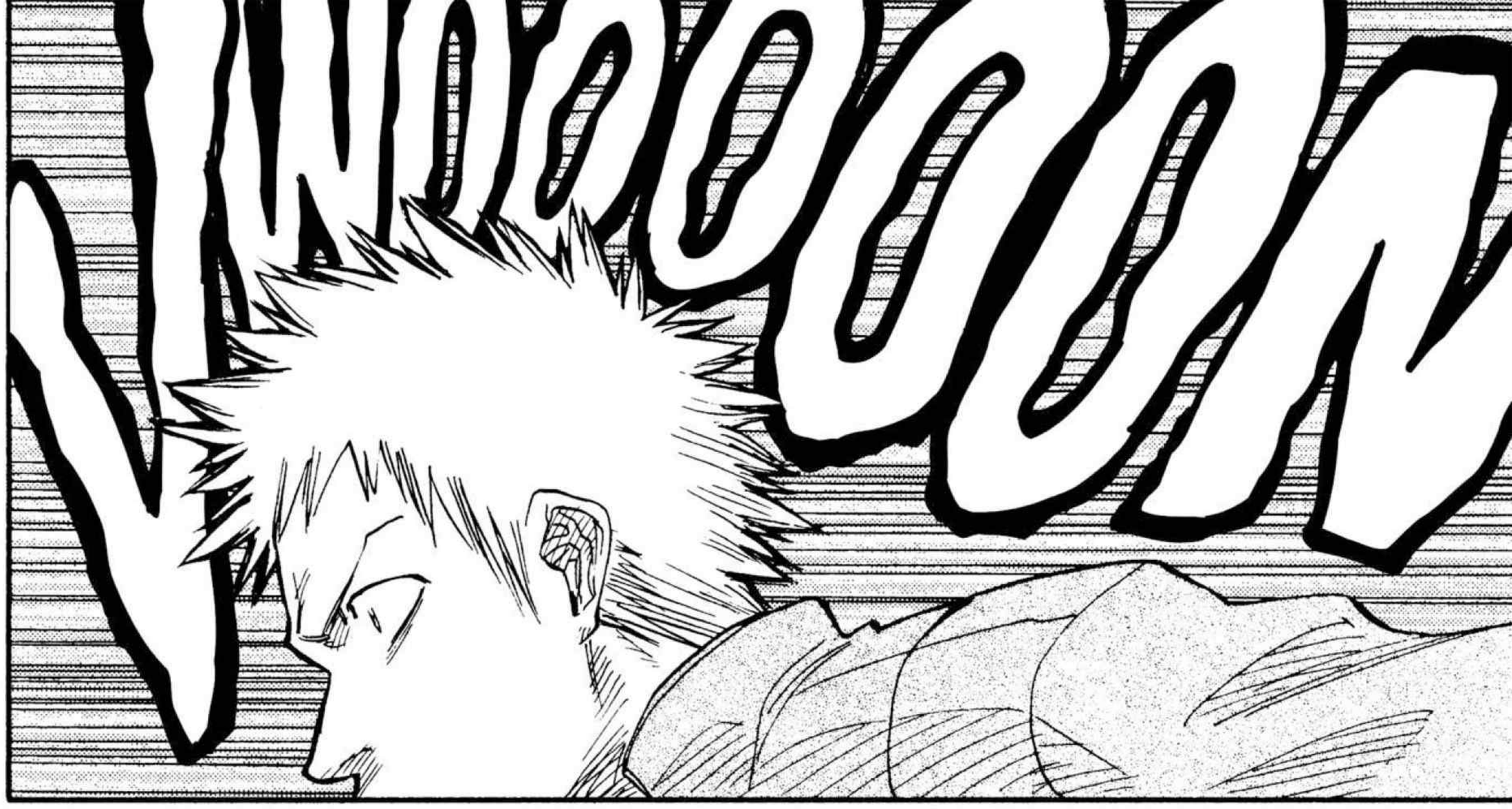

SOUL SOCIETY
KONSÔ
FIRST, TO CONDUCT **WHOLES** TO THE SOUL SOCIETY BY MEANS OF KONSÔ...


WHICH IS MY MISSION NOW.
KAPOW!
AND SECOND...
TO VAPORIZE HOLLOWS.

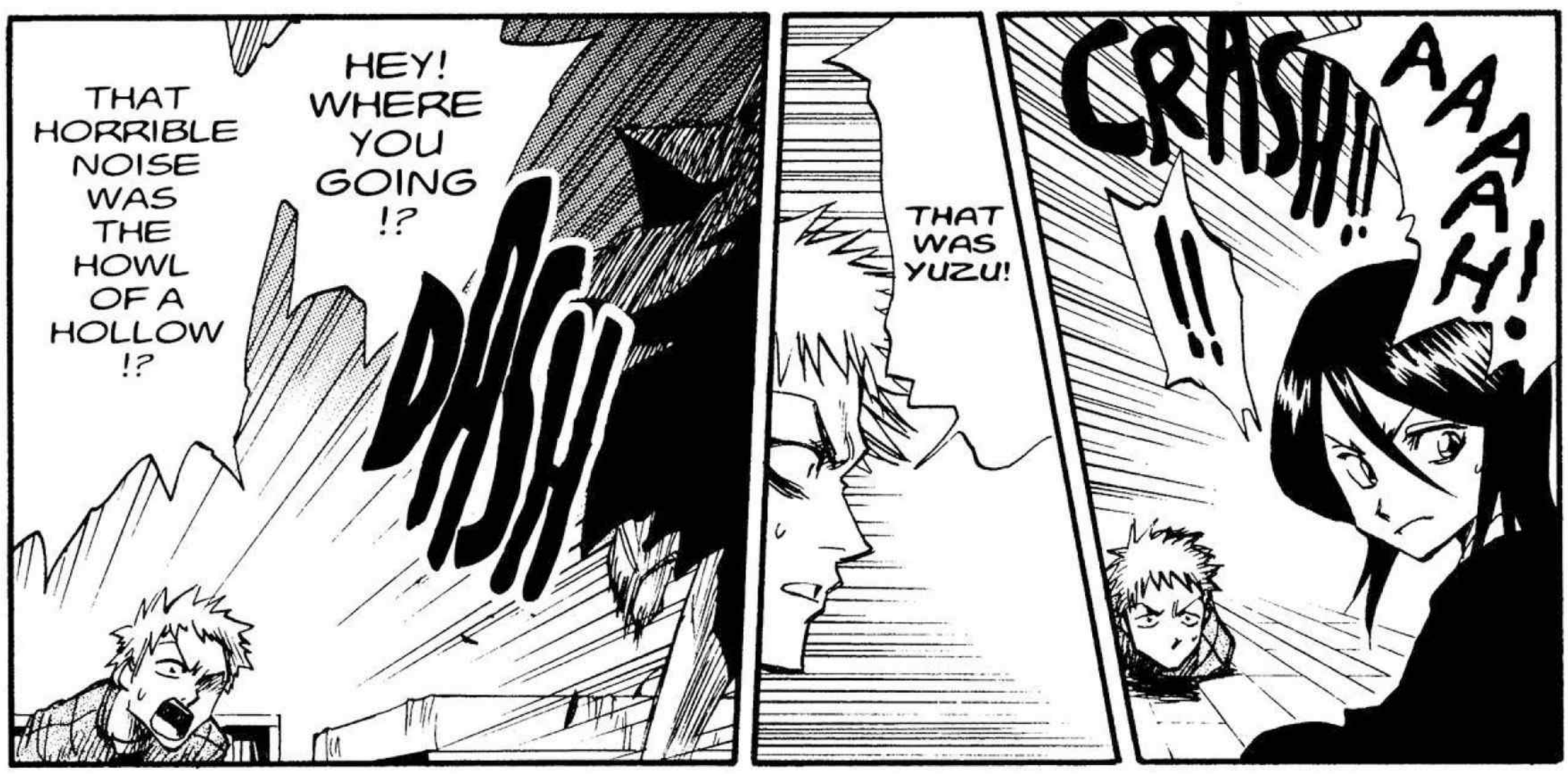

THERE IS.
YOU MEAN THERE'S A HOLLOW AROUND HERE NOW?


HANG ON.
?
WIPING MOUSTACHE OFF ON FLOOR


WHA... WHY NOT?
WHAT'S THE ...
I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO SENSE ITS PRESENCE FOR SOME TIME NOW.
ACT-UALLY... THAT IS...
ARE YOU STUPID!? DON'T STAND THERE YAPPING! GO VAPORIZE IT!


BOOO

AAOOU OOO
BUT... IT'S LIKE I'M HEARING IT THROUGH SOME UNSEEN FILTER.
WHAT IS IT I'M SENSING !?
THAT WAS... THE CRY OF A HOLLOW !!
I HEARD IT !!
...HEARD THE HOWL BEFORE I SENSED IT!?
THIS ONE HAVE...
BUT HOW COULD...


THAT HORRIBLE NOISE WAS THE HOWL OF A HOLLOW !?
HEY! WHERE YOU GOING !?
DASH!
THAT WAS YUZU!
CRASH!!
AAAAH!

UNDO YOUR SPELL !!

NOW !!

HOLD UP!!

THAT'S MY FAMILY BEING ATTACKED !!

I AM GOING TO KILL IT!!

YES!

STAY HERE !!

KER-CHACK

YOU'LL ONLY SUCCEED IN ADDING TO THE BODY COUNT!

BE QUIET AND LEAVE THIS TO ME!

UNDERSTAND ?!

DON'T BE A FOOL !!

THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO!

WHAT...

I DID NOT SENSE IT UNTIL NOW...

THIS SPIRIT ENERGY ?!

SWOOO!!

...ARE YOU OKAY?

ICHIGO...

I...

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO ME !?

KARIN !!

THEN IT WENT FOR ME AND YUZU... SO FAST...

...IT HAPPENED SO FAST...

DAD'S BACK EXPLODED AND HE FELL...

... I THOUGHT... HAD TO WARN...

ICHIGO...

GOOD...

...IT HASN'T COME THIS WAY...

HURRY...

BE-FORE IT FINDS YOU...

...ICHIGO...

I DON'T THINK DAD AND YUZU COULD SEE IT...

WHAT IS IT ...?

I DIDN'T GET A GOOD LOOK...

... RUN ...

STOP!

STOP!

KRK

WHAT ARE YOU DOING !?

NO HUMAN'S STRENGTH IS ENOUGH TO BREAK THE KIDÔ!!

KRAK

SHE JUST PASS-ED OUT.

IT'S OKAY,

KER-CRACK

AAAAAA

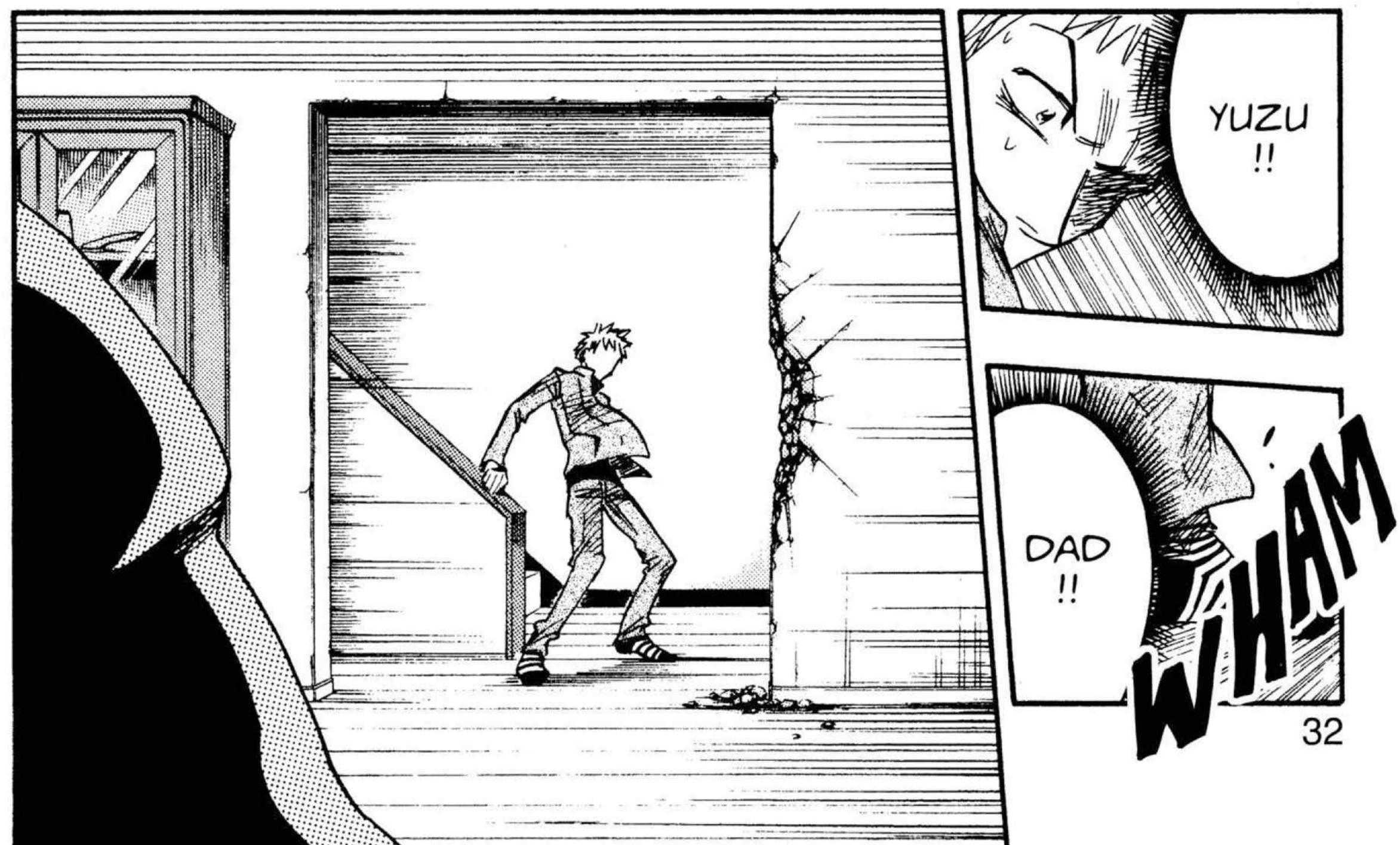
IF YOU FORCE IT, YOUR SOUL WILL...

STOP

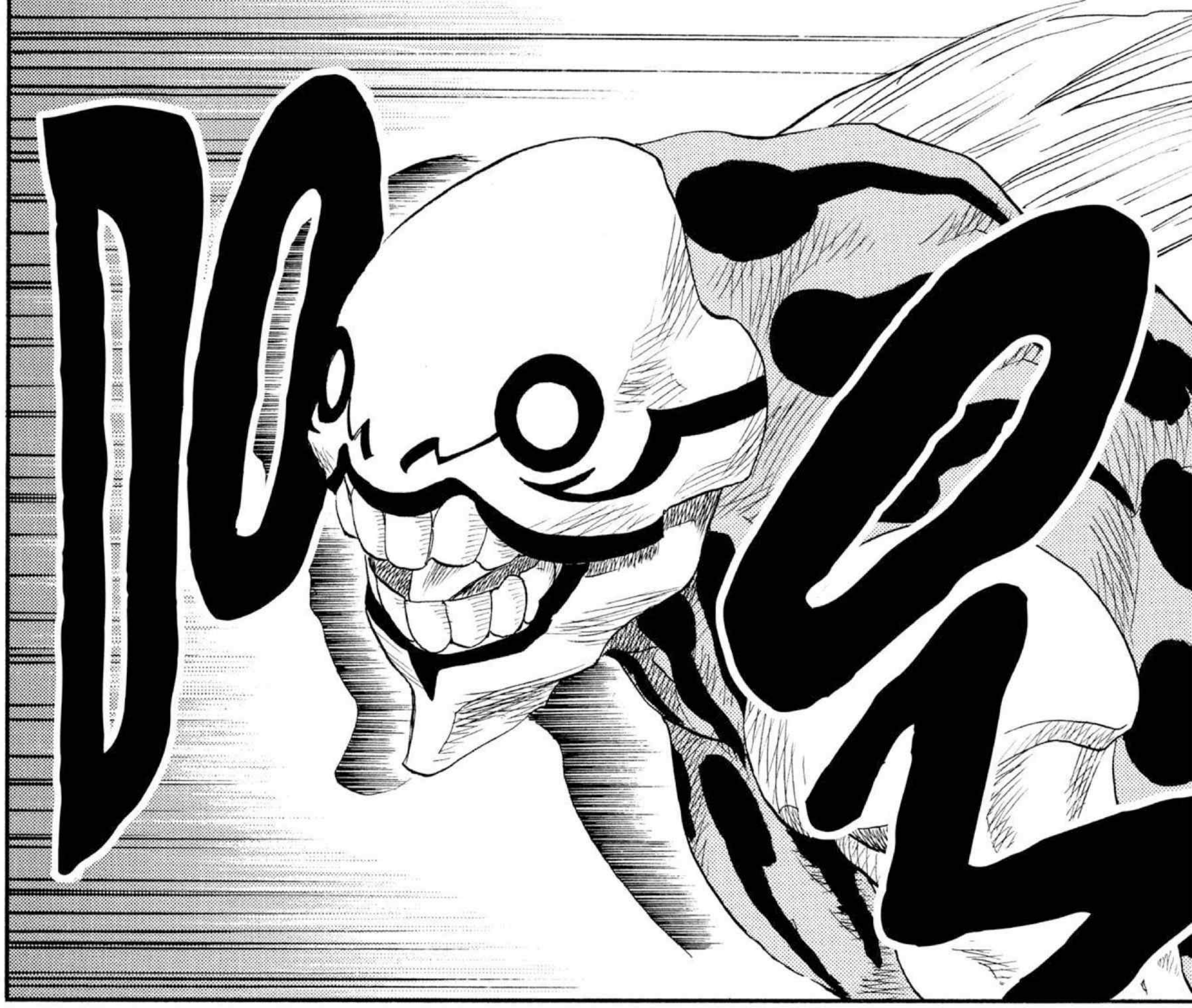
THAT CANNOT BE !!
HE BROKE THE KIDÔ BY HIS OWN POWER ?!
Impossible!!

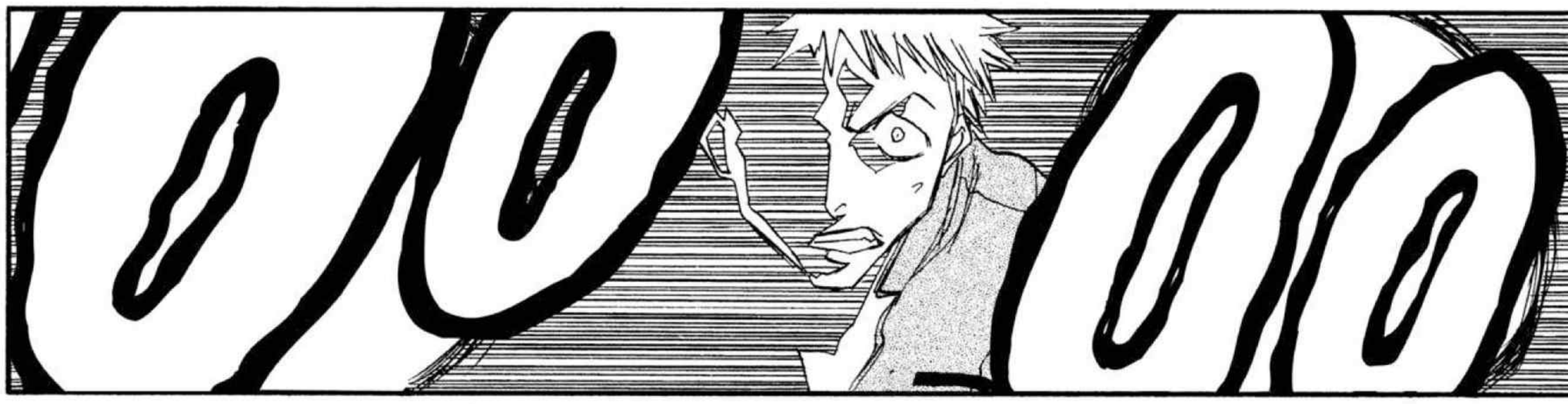
WAIT!!

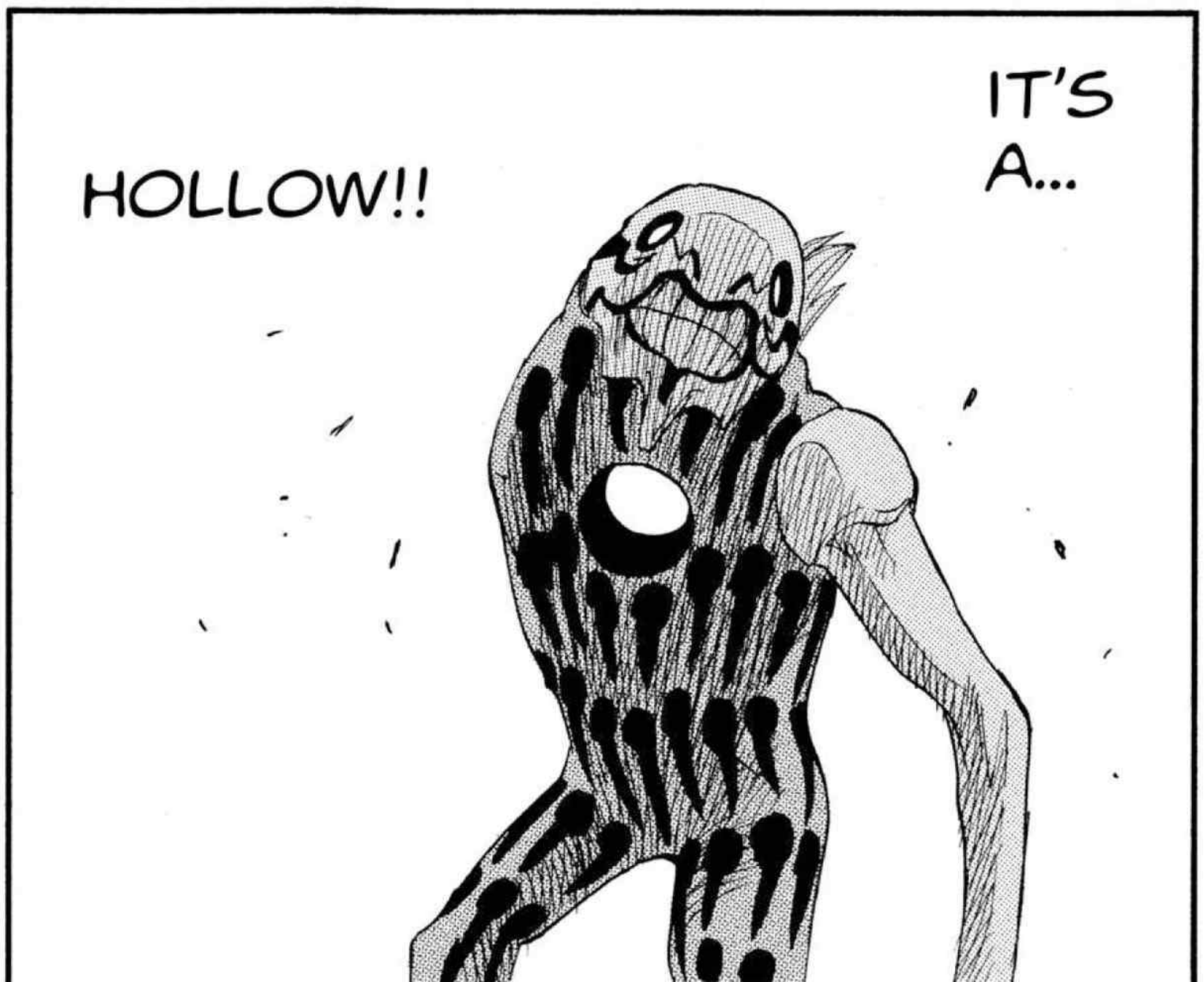
WHAT IS HE...?


YUZU !!
DAD !!
WHAM

READ THIS WAY

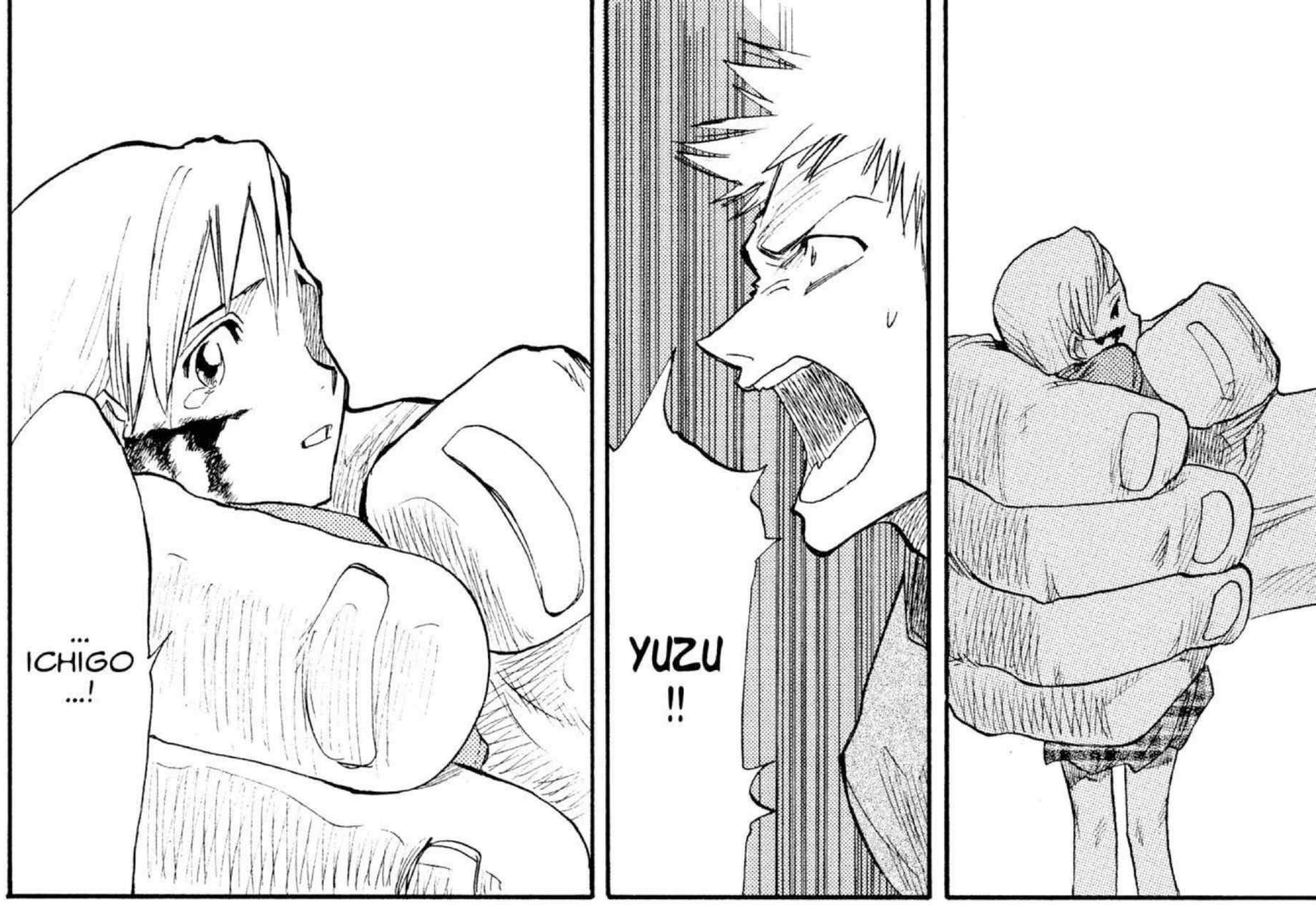




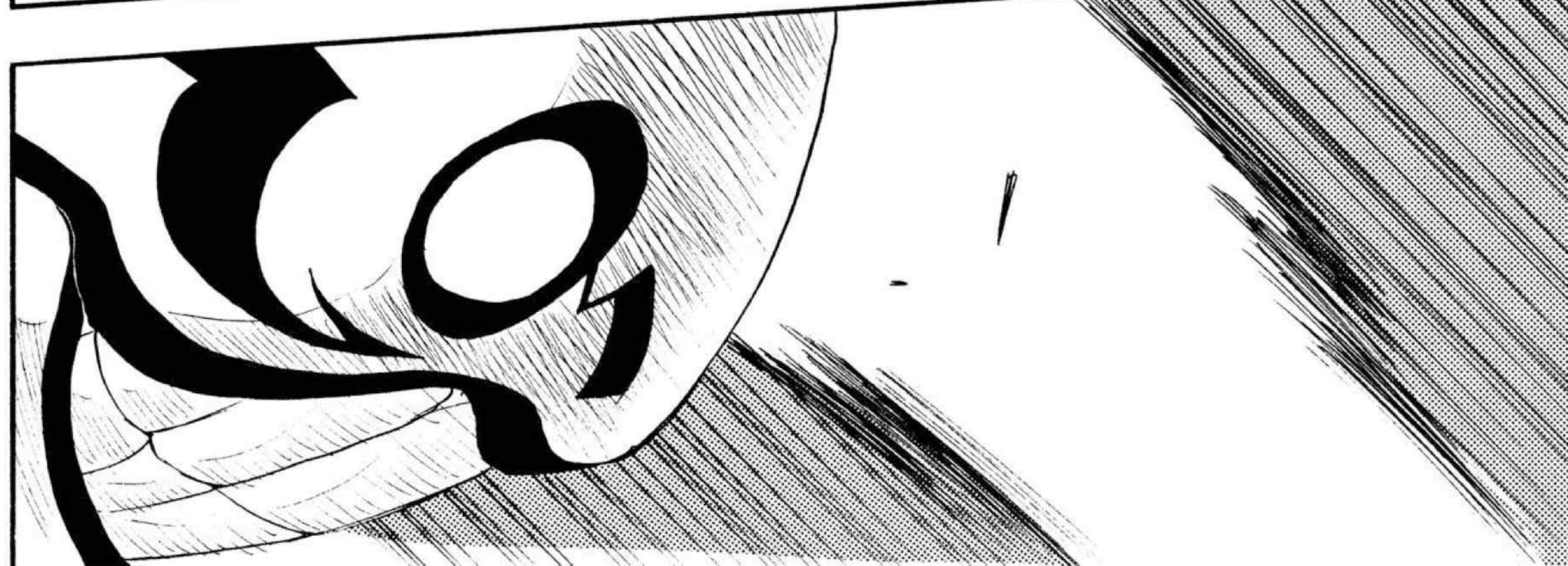

HOLLOW!!
IT'S A...

IT...

WHEN SHE SAID EVIL SPIRIT, I THOUGHT IT'D LOOK HUMAN...
...BUT IT'S A MONSTER!!
BOOOMMM


...
ICHIGO
...!
YUZU
!!

AGH!
WAP



KRK
KOFF
KOFF
KOFF
...
!!
KREEK
FO
OM

SHE
YUZU
!!

SKIP

THE HOLLOW HAS NOT EATEN ANY OF YOUR FAMILY'S SOULS YET!

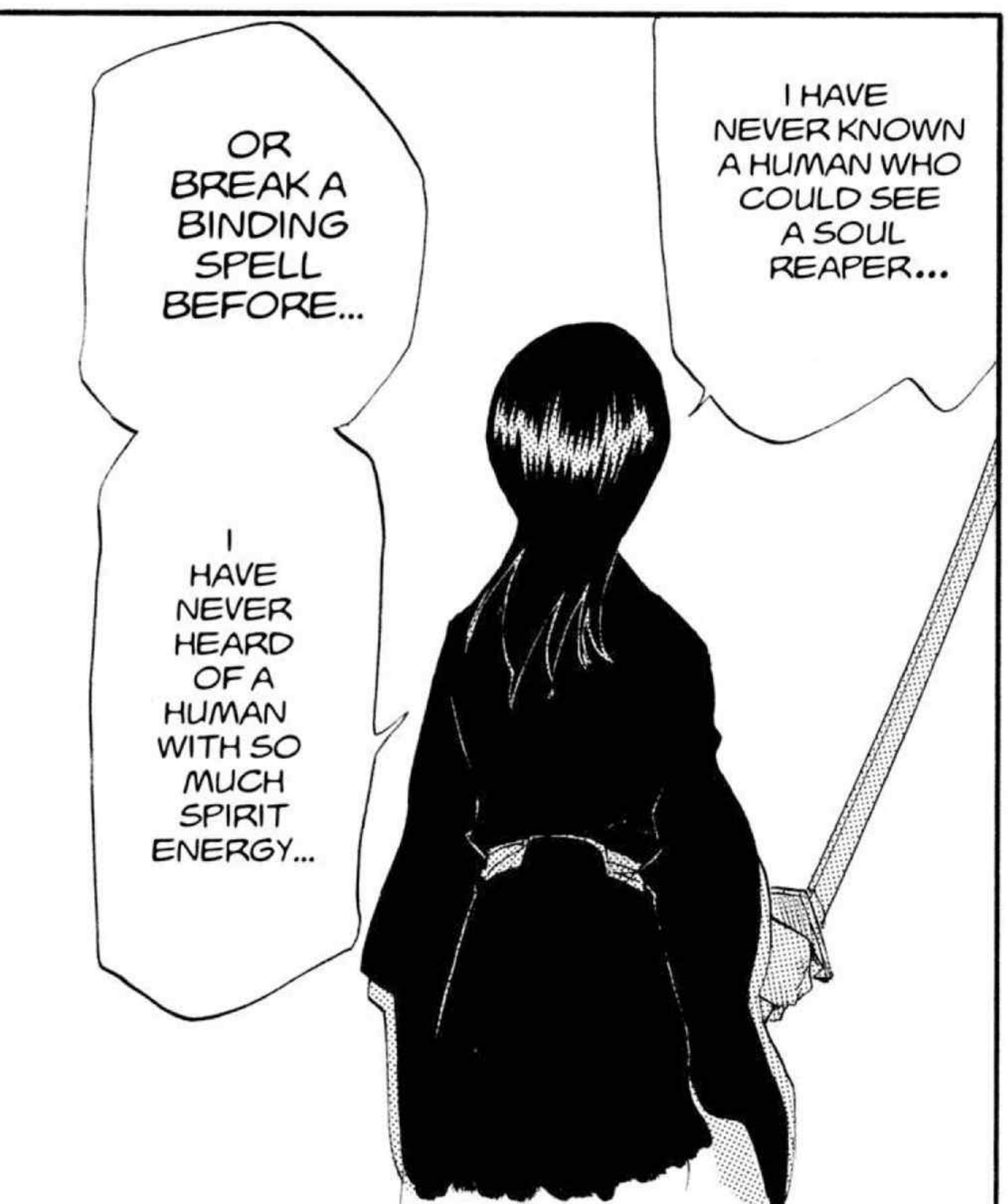
STAY CALM, BOY!

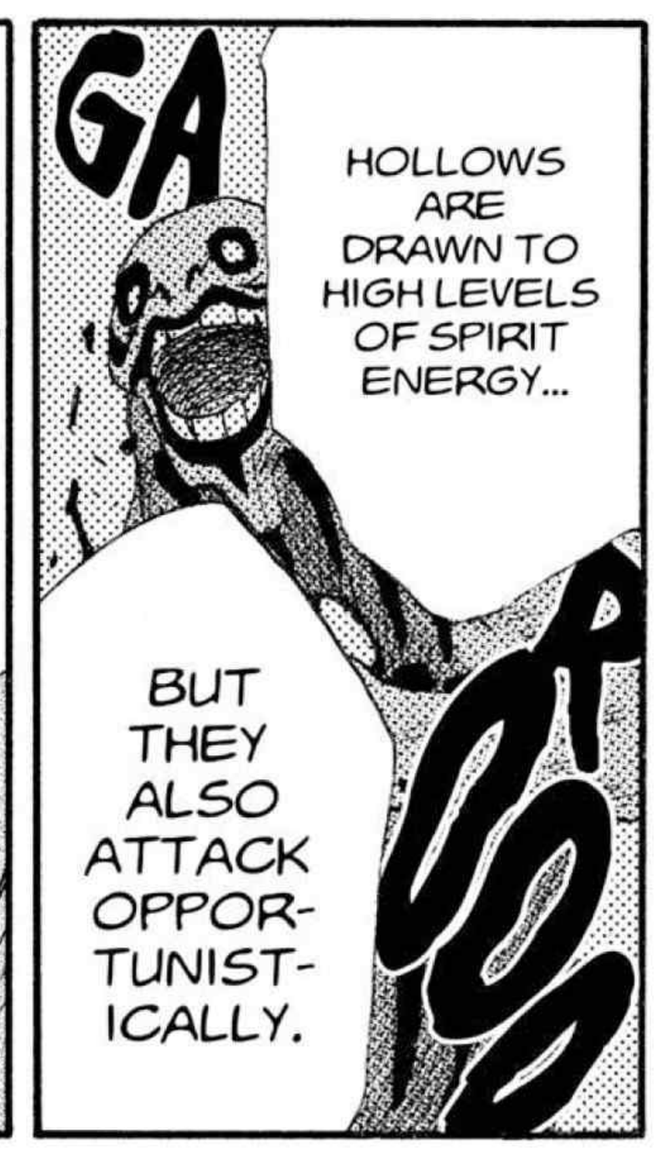
READ THIS WAY

YUZU!

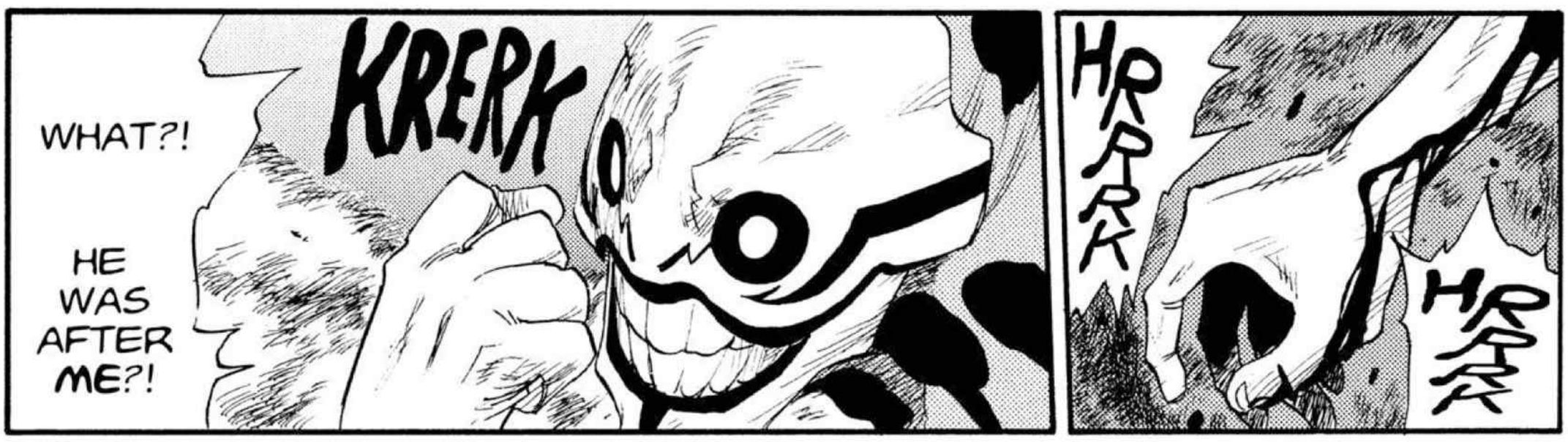
YOU OKAY!?

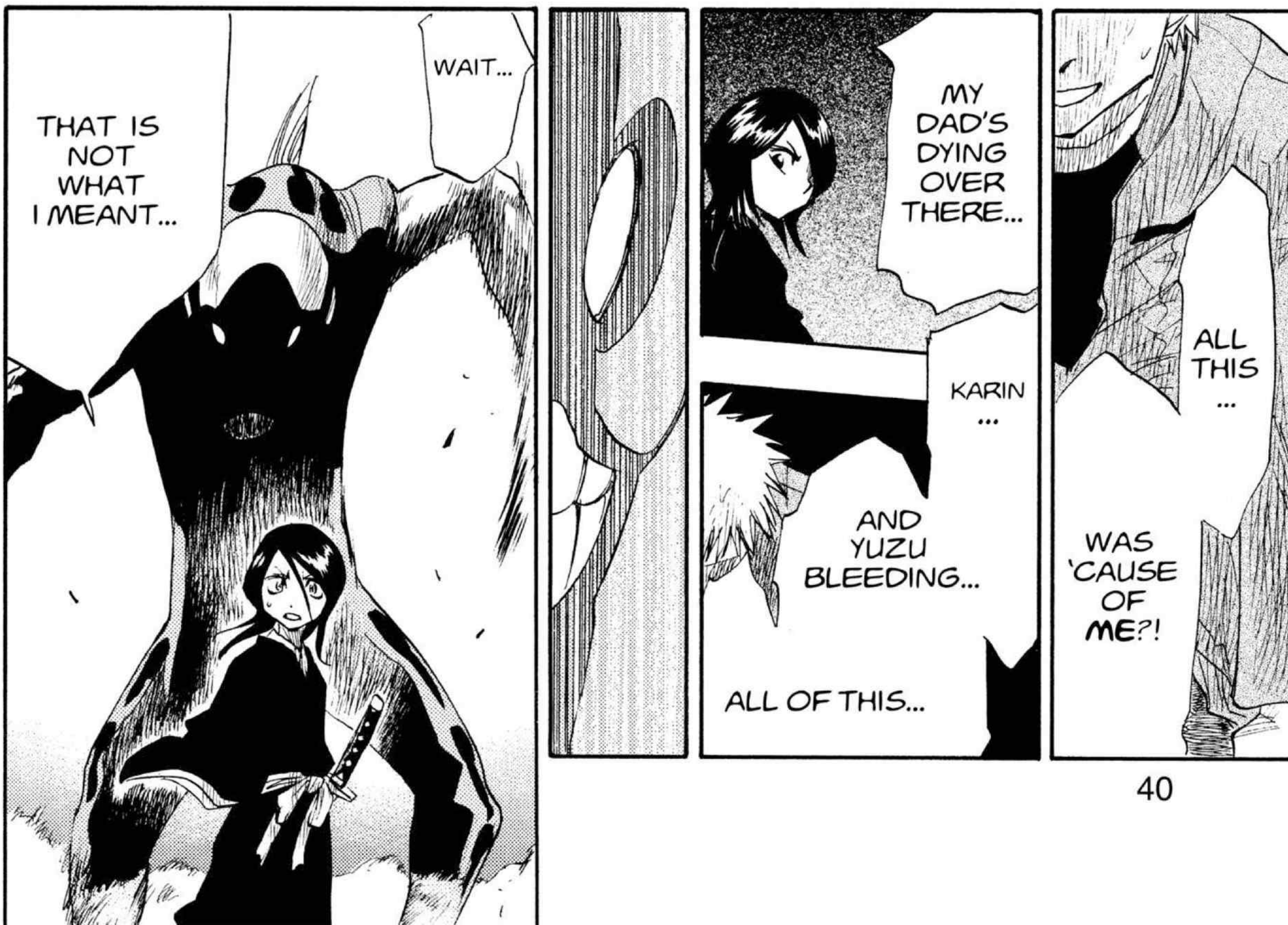
SHAKE SHAKE





!
FOR YOU!
I BELIEVE HE WAS LOOKING...


WHAT?! HE WAS AFTER ME?!
KRERK
HRRRK
HRRRK


THAT IS NOT WHAT I MEANT...
WAIT...
MY DAD'S DYING OVER THERE...
KARIN ...
AND YUZU BLEEDING...
ALL OF THIS...
ALL THIS ...
WAS 'CAUSE OF ME?!

KA-THUNK

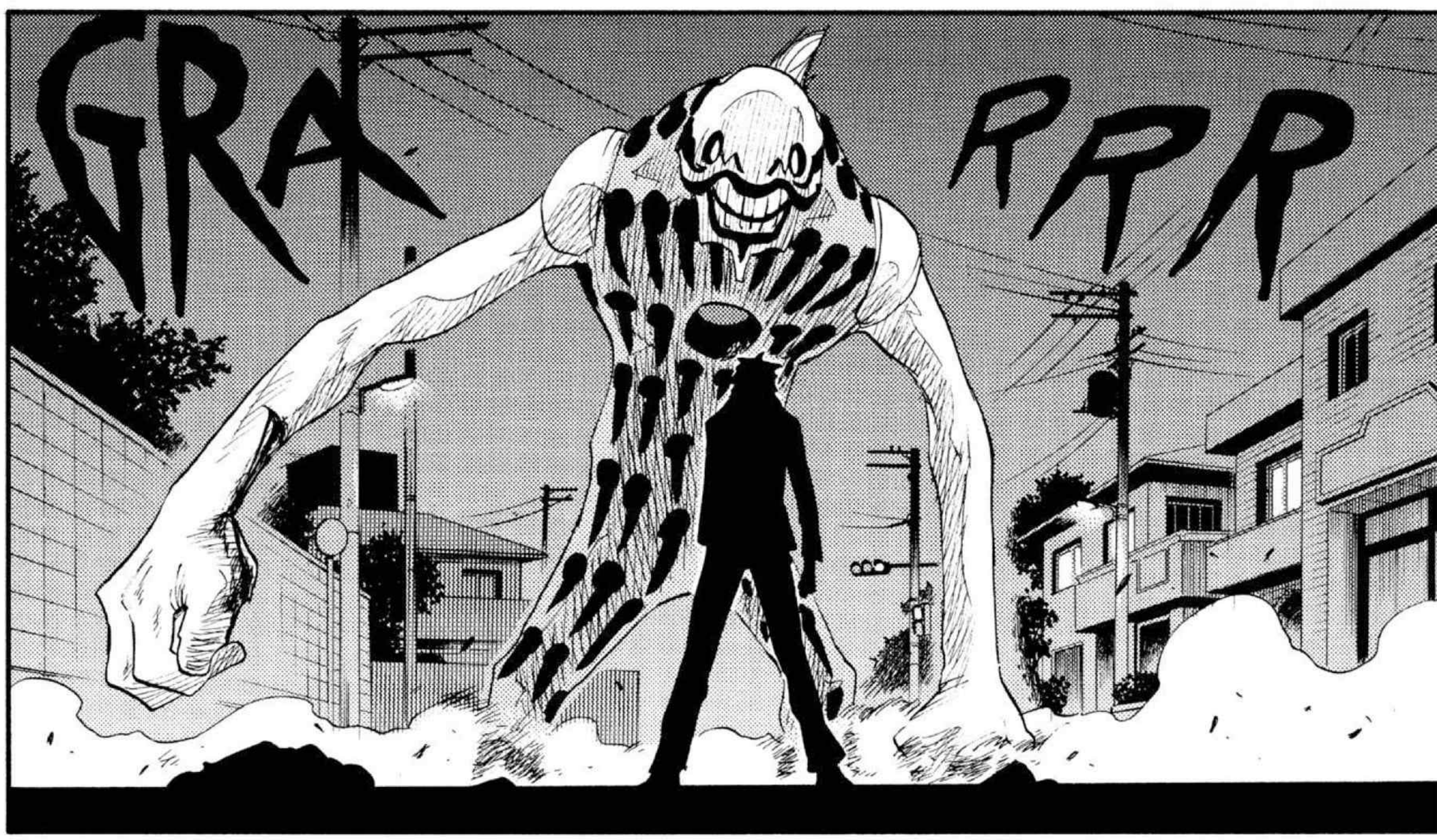
SOUL REAPER!

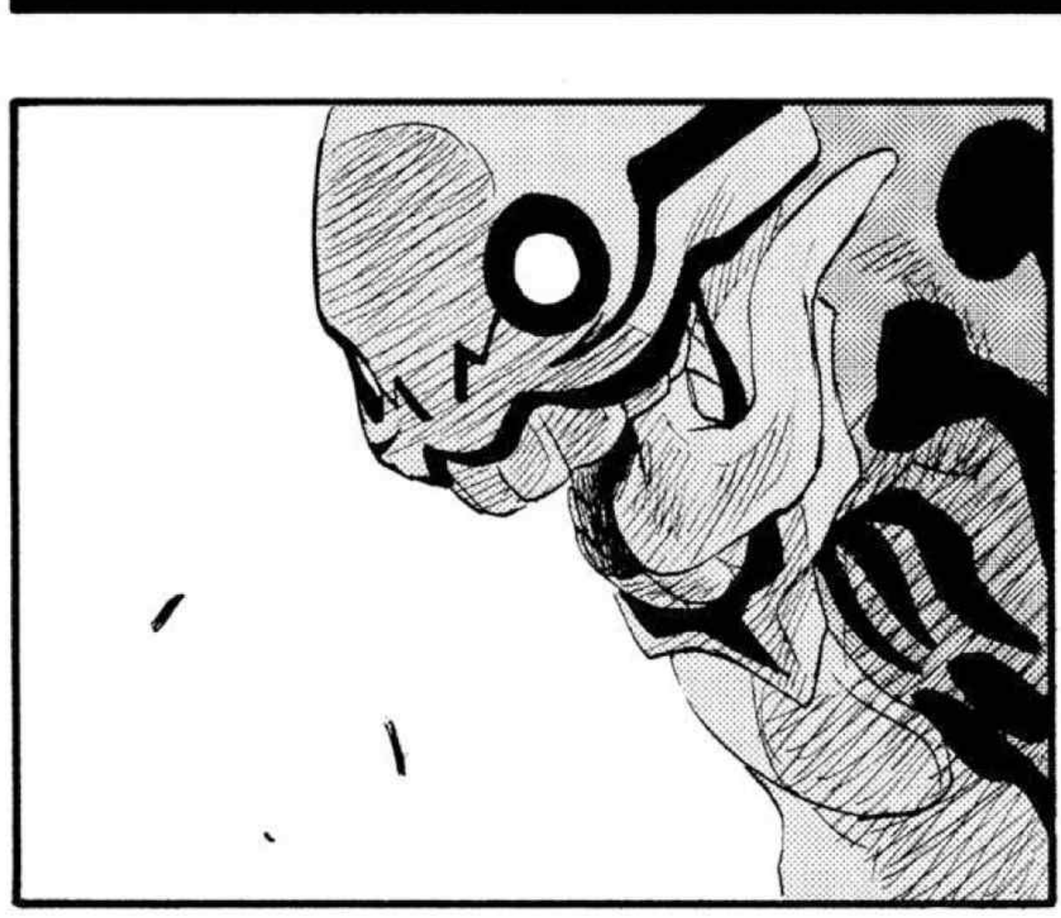
...OF YOU!!

I'VE HAD ENOUGH...

I FAILED TO GUARD MY FLANK...
HOW CARE-LESS.
SHAME-FUL...

READ THIS WAY
KOOSH
UNH...


GRA
RRR



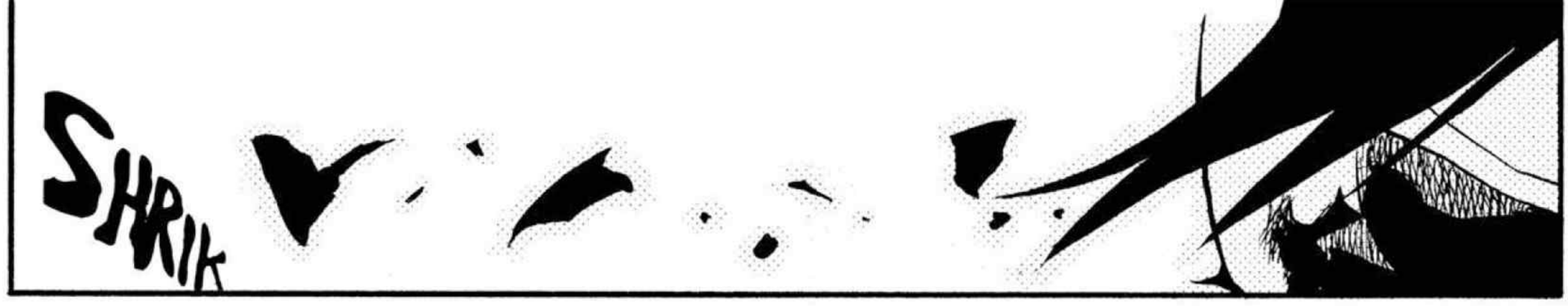
HEY...
UGLY...
YOU WANT MY SOUL?

FORGET THE OTHERS!!

IT'S ME YOU WANT!!

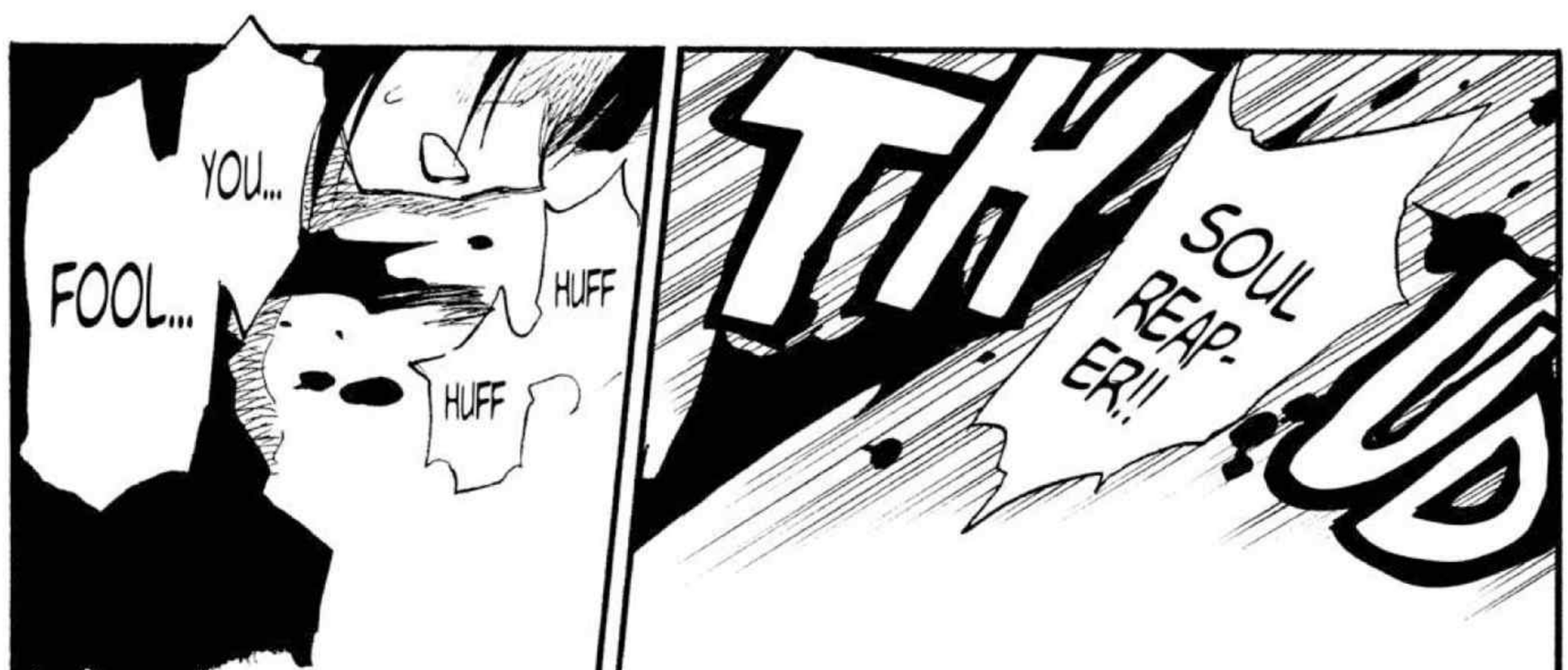
SO KILL ME!!

THEN FIGHT ME LIKE A MAN!!

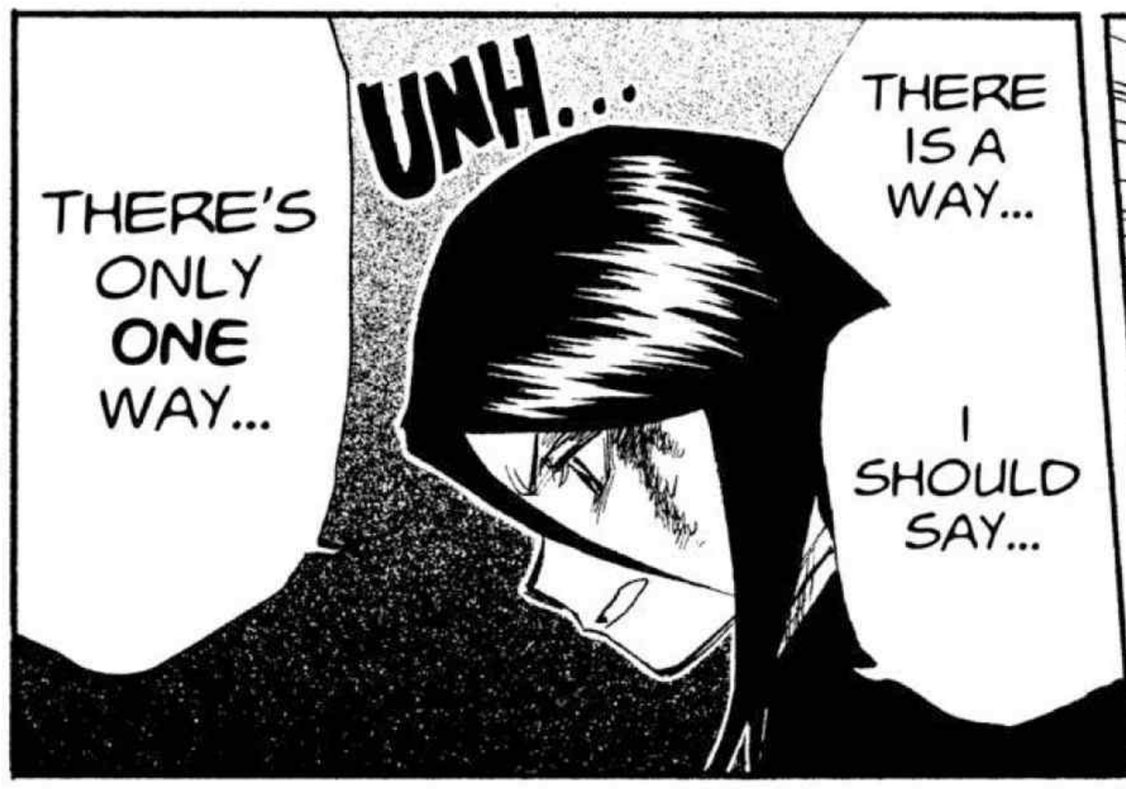

SHRIK

WHIG
MP
STRIIIII
RAAA

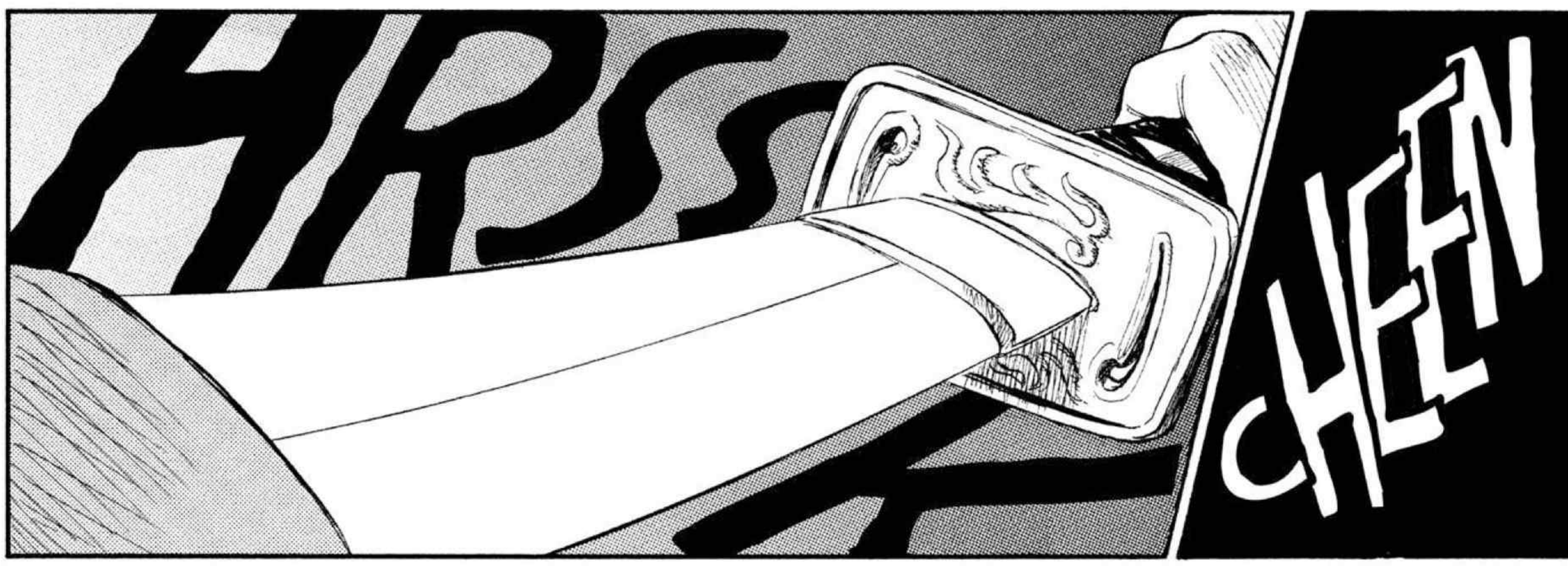
WHA
...


YOU...
FOOL...
HUFF
HUFF
TH
SOUL REAP-ER!!

READ THIS WAY
THEN YOU ARE A FOOL!
DID YOU THINK IT WOULD BE OVER IF YOU GAVE HIM YOUR SOUL?
FOOL ...
I AM TOO BADLY INJURED TO FIGHT IT...
I FEAR... I CANNOT CONSOLE YOU...
I'M SORRY ...
I JUST WANTED TO...
UNTIL WE ALL BECOME ITS FOOD.
IT IS A MATTER OF TIME...
DO YOU WISH TO SAVE YOUR FAMILY?
HUFF
WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!
IT'S ALL MY FAULT!

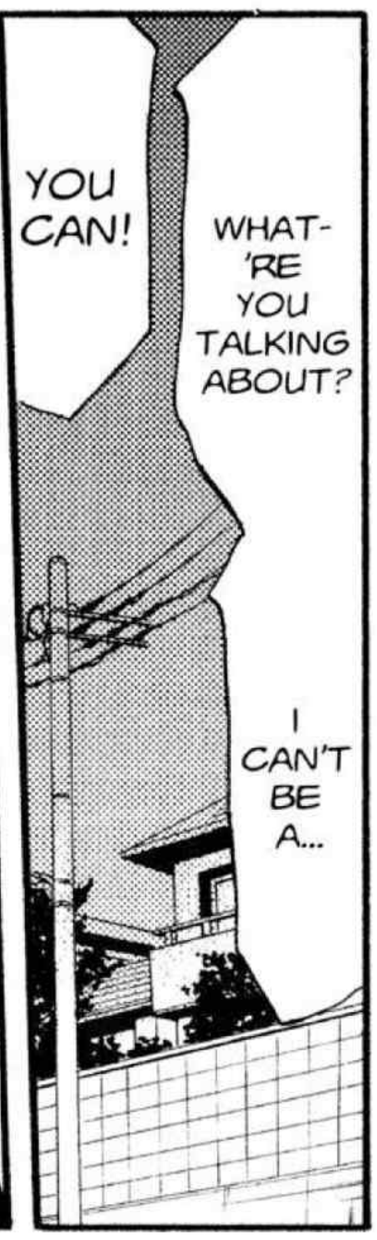

UNH...
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY...
THERE IS A WAY...
I SHOULD SAY...

!!
TELL ME !!
JUST TELL ME HOW!
I'LL DO ANYTHING!!


HPSS
CHEEN

YOU MUST ...
... BECOME A SOUL REAPER !!

WASH



THE CHANCE OF SUCCESS IS LOW, AND...
IF WE FAIL, YOU DIE!
PERHAPS, BECAUSE YOUR SOUL IS SO POWERFUL, BUT...
I DO NOT KNOW.
ARRRR

...ICHIGO...

!!

WHERE ARE YOU...?
...ICHIGO...

YUZU...
IS SHE HAVING A BAD DREAM?

DON'T COME...
DAN-GER...
...RUN...
...ICHIGO...

WORRYING ABOUT ME WHEN THEY WERE IN DANGER!

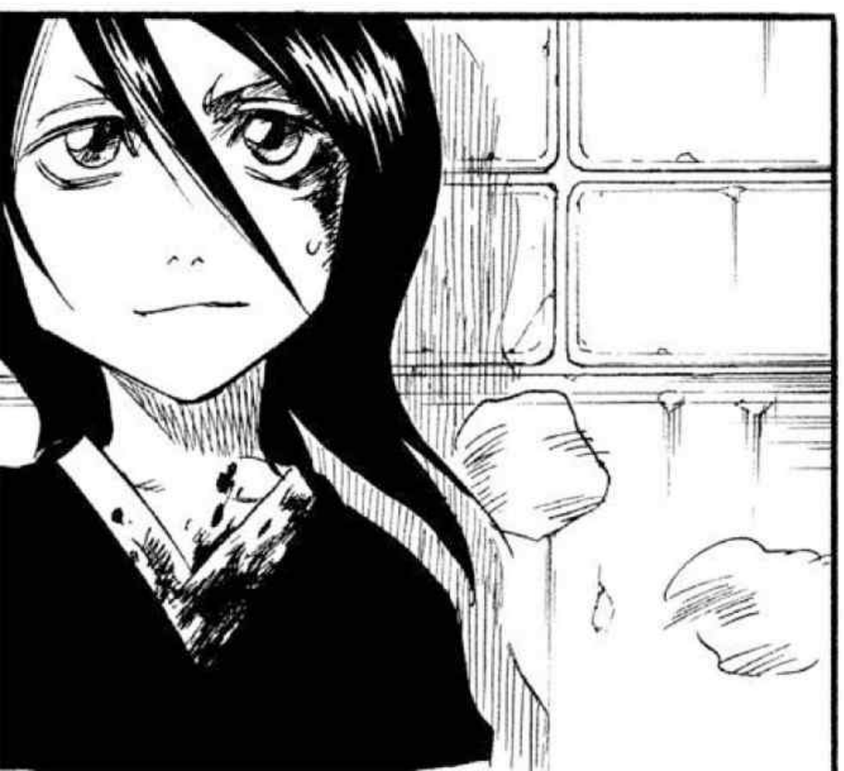
MY SIS-TERS ...

THIS IS SO BAD!

WE'LL TRY YOUR PLAN!
GIMME THE SWORD, SOUL REAPER!

I'D HAVE TO BE A REAL PUNK TO DO THAT !!

TO CONSIDER MY OWN SAFETY NOW...
Kpk



I AM RUKIA KUCHIKI.

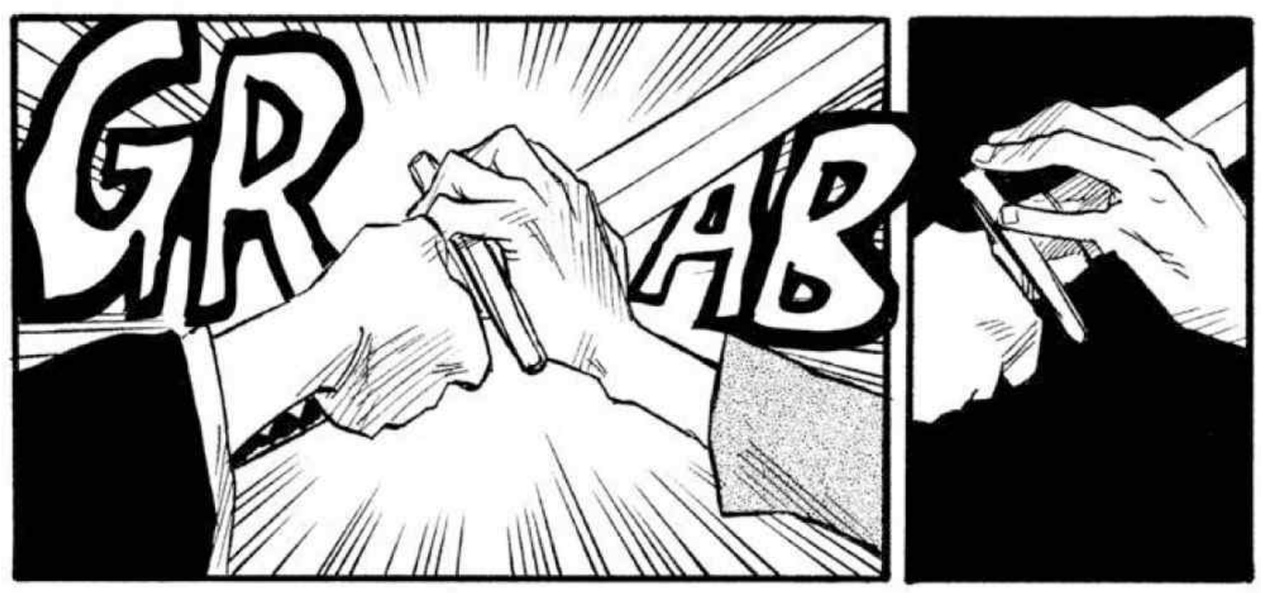
NOT "SOUL REAPER."

LET'S PRAY THIS WON'T BE...

OUR LAST MEET-ING.

OH...

ICHIGO KUROSAKI, NICE TO MEETCHYA ...

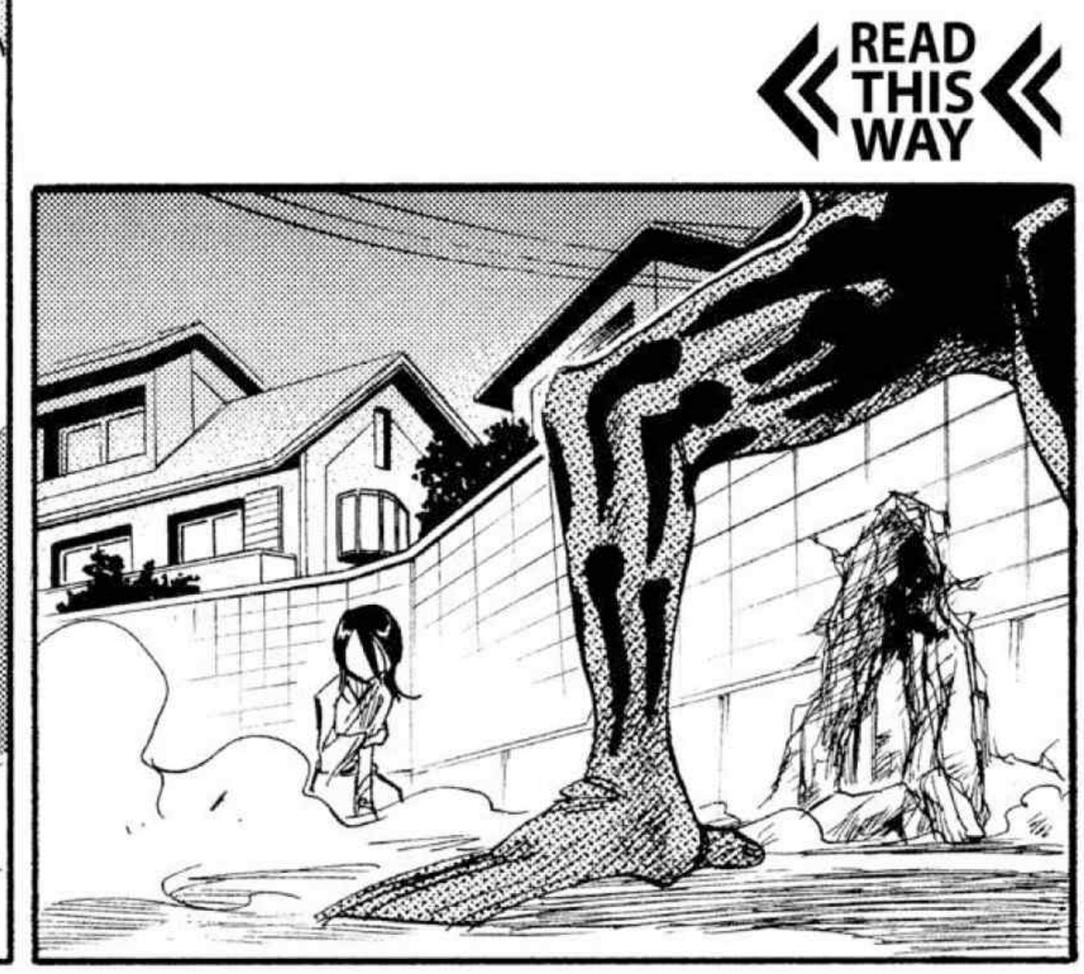


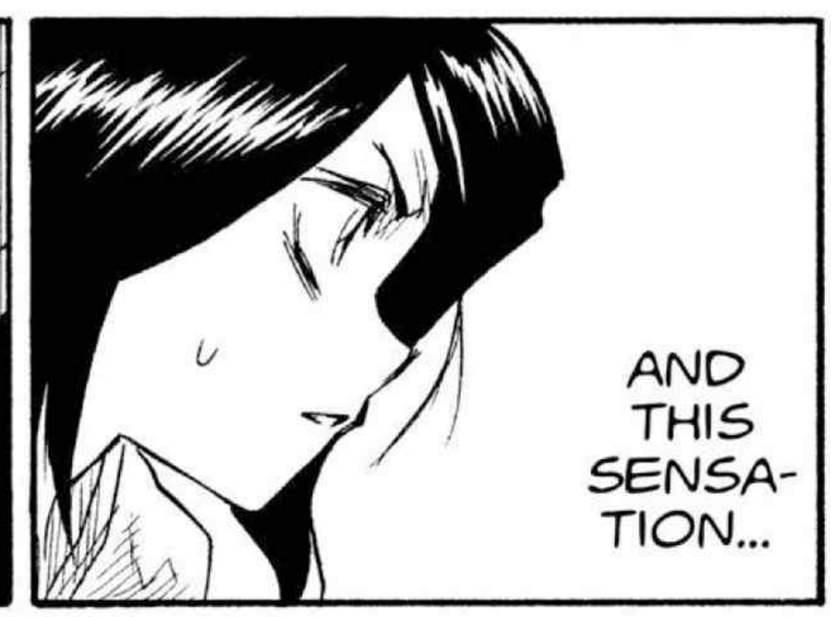
WOOOOP
YES.
BA-BA-BA-

BO
!?

SMASH
FWOOM

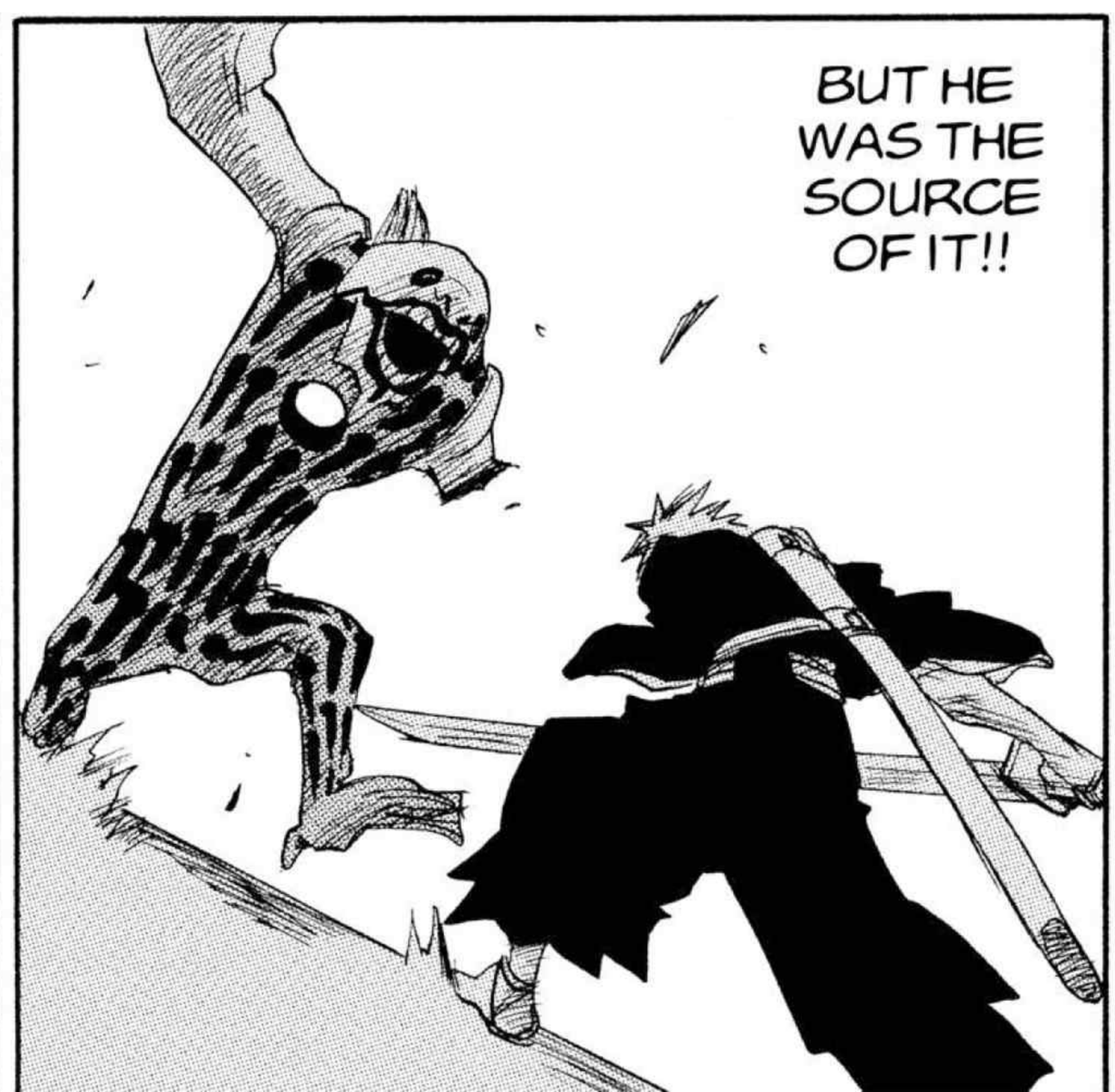
SPLAT



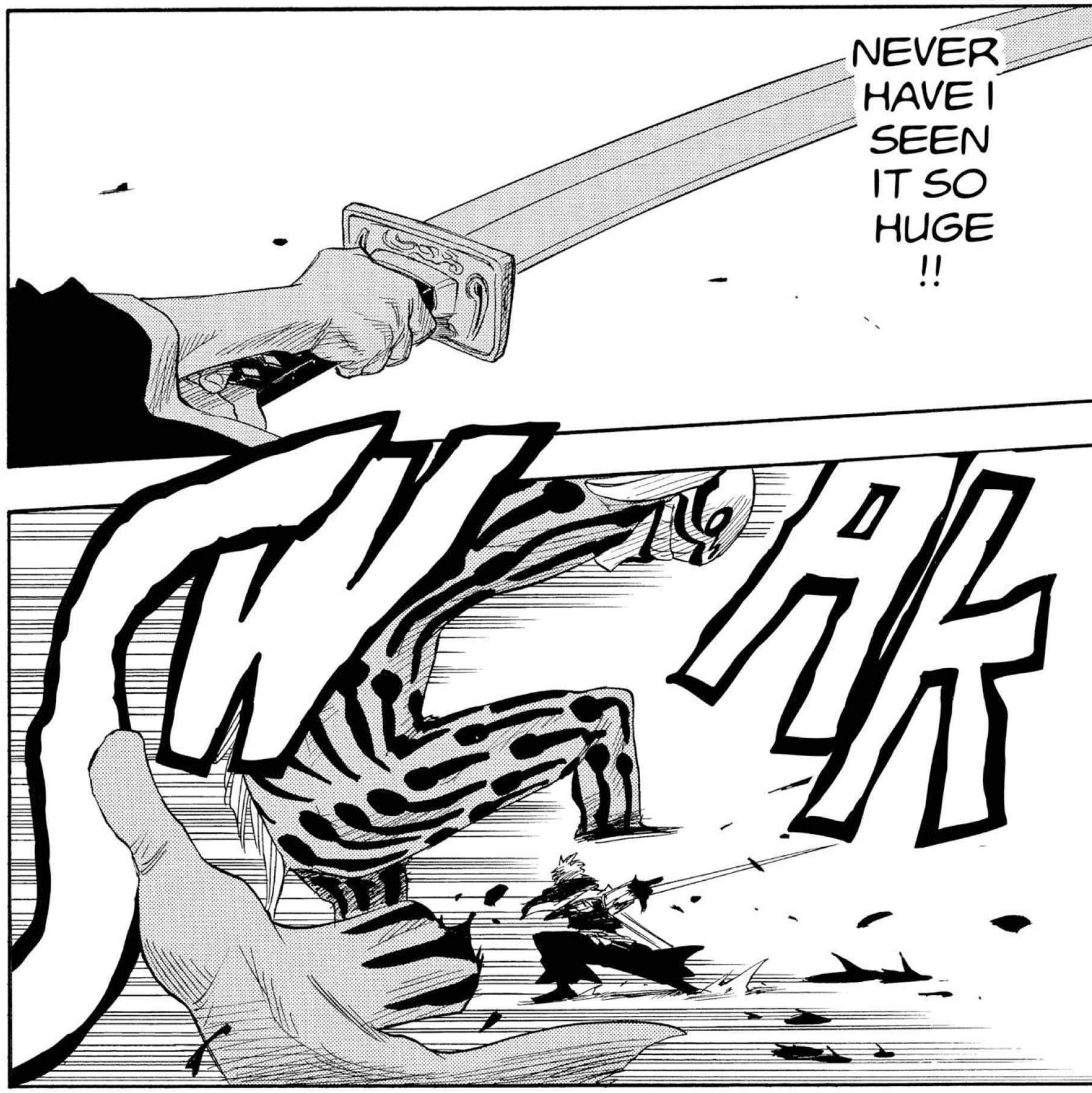


THAT ROOM WAS FULL OF SPIRIT ENERGY... FROM HIM.

THAT WAS WHAT CONFUSED MY SENSES!



THE ZANPAKU-TÔ RESPONDS TO DARK FORCE BY CHANGING SHAPE...
NEVER HAVE I SEEN A HUMAN BREAK A BINDING SPELL!
NEVER HAVE I HEARD OF A HUMAN WHO COULD SEE A SOUL REAPER!

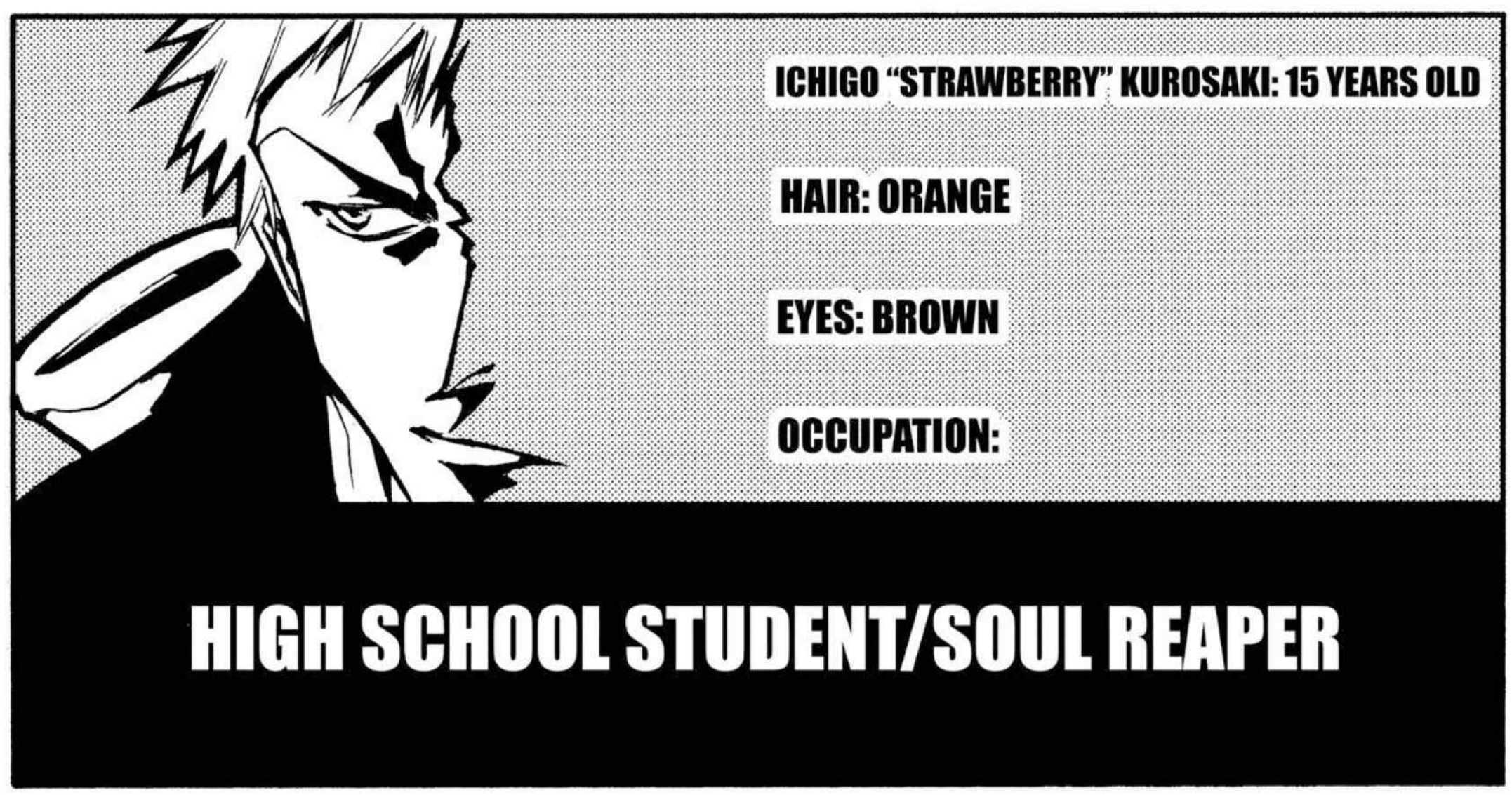

NEVER HAVE I SEEN IT SO HUGE !!
GAK

SUPEE!

WHAT IN THE WORLD ...
YOU FISH-FACED FREAK!!
THAT'S FOR ATTACK-ING MY FAMILY --

SWIP
...IS THIS CHILD?

READ THIS WAY


ICHIGO "STRAWBERRY" KUROSAKI: 15 YEARS OLD
HAIR: ORANGE
EYES: BROWN
OCCUPATION:
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT/SOUL REAPER

TOO TOO TOO

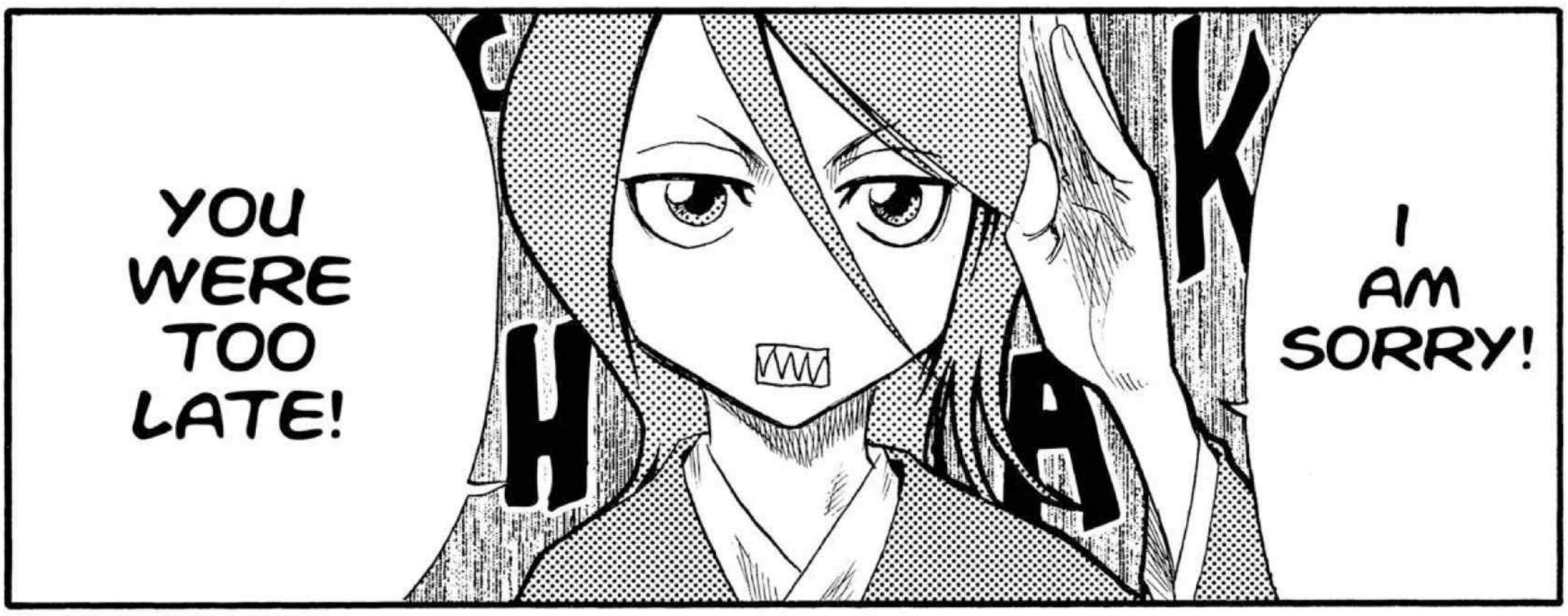
ICHIGO...

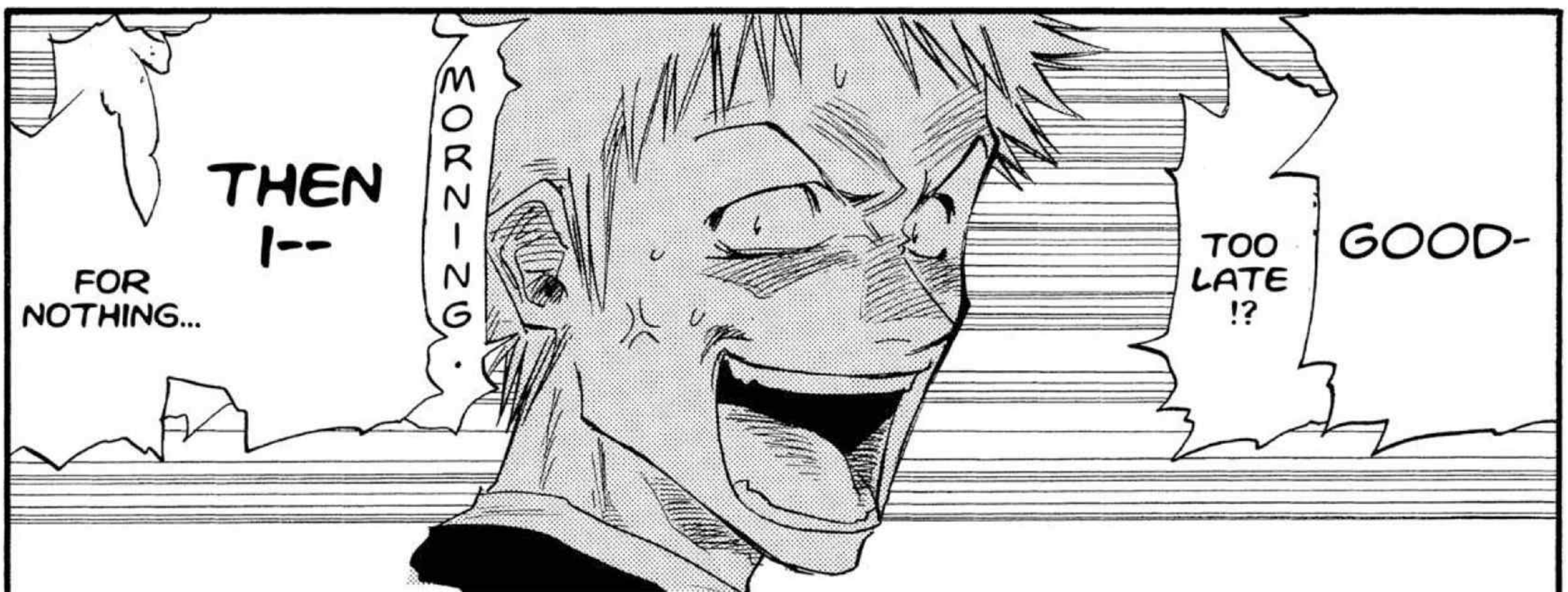
IT HURTS...

OW...

WHAT'S GOING ON, ICHIGO...

2. STARTER





GO !!

ICHI-

WUMP

BAM

FWAP

KEESH

HAI-YAHHHH !!!

...WHERE ARE YOUR WOUNDS?

HEY...

I HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO TEACH YOU!!

I...

WHAT KIND OF SICK FREAK ATTACKS HIS OWN SON IN HIS SLEEP ?!

UMF...!

NOT BAD, BOY!

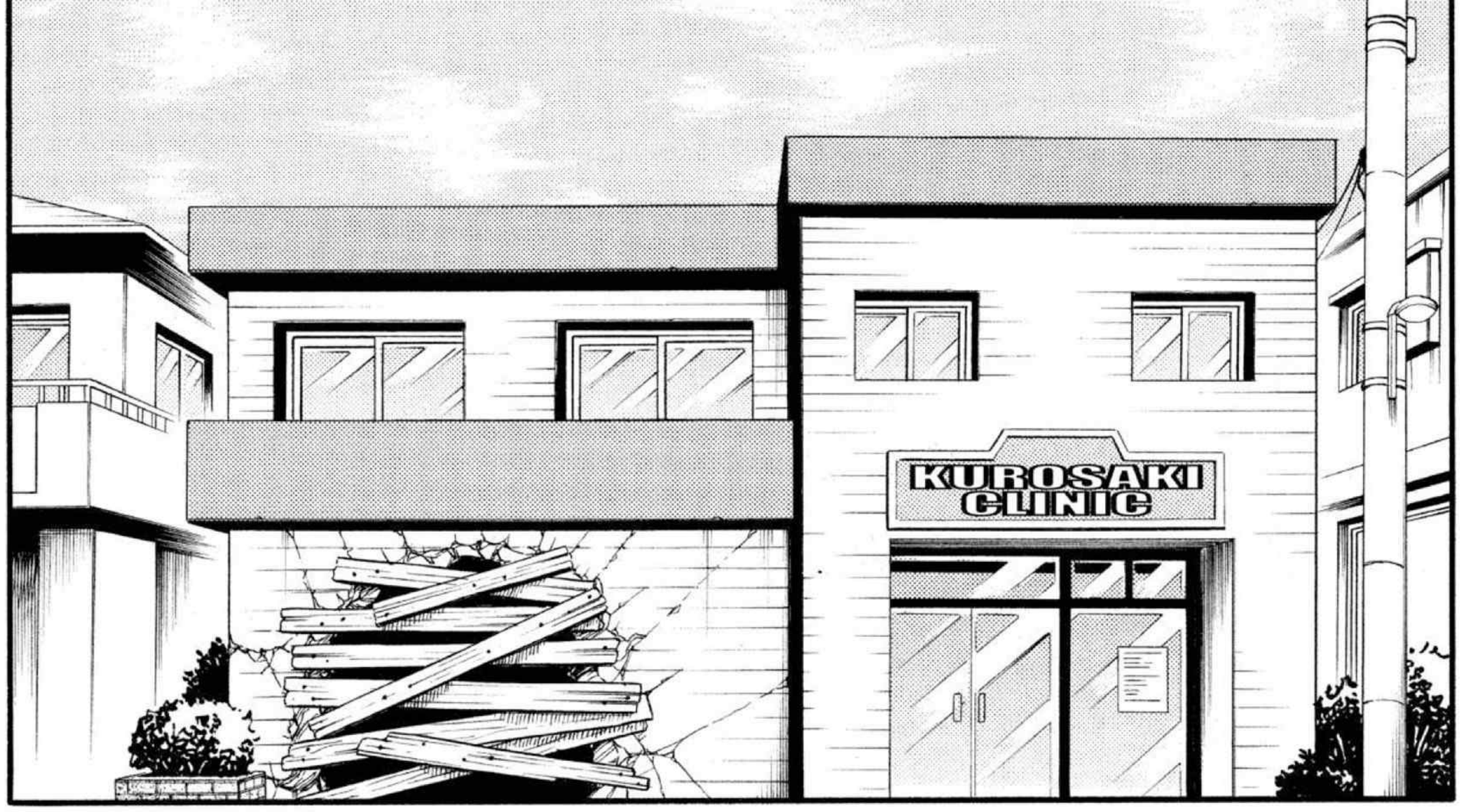
DID I GET HURT?

WOUNDS?

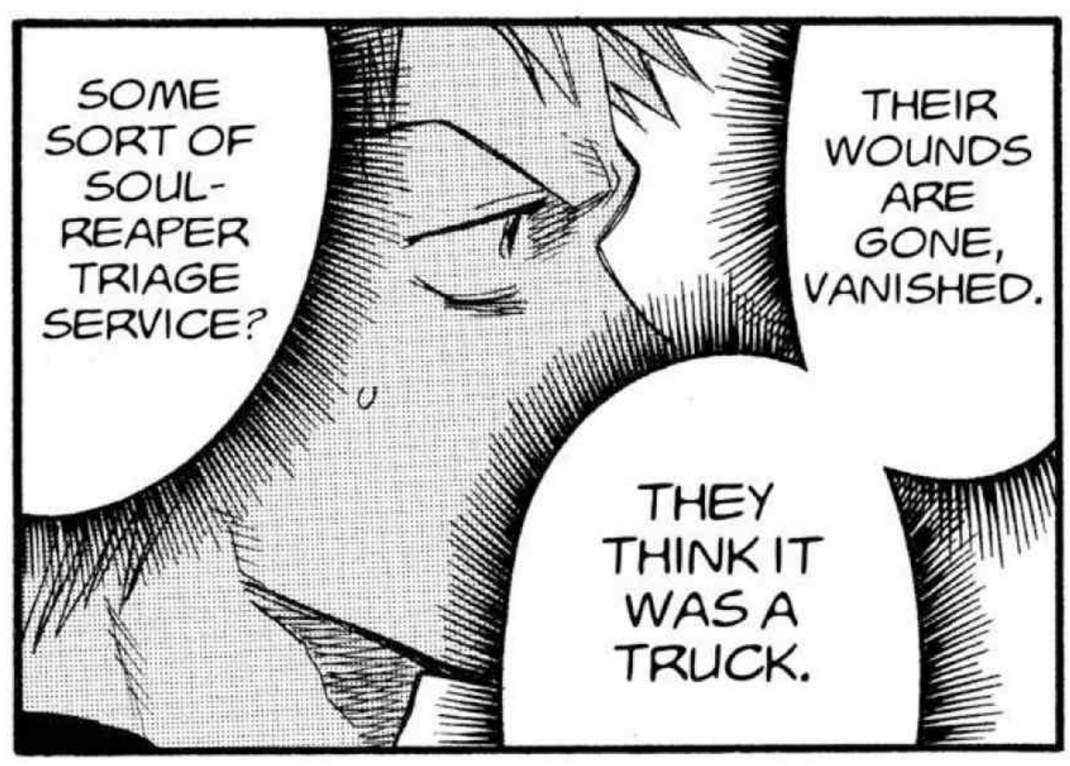
WHAT WOUNDS?

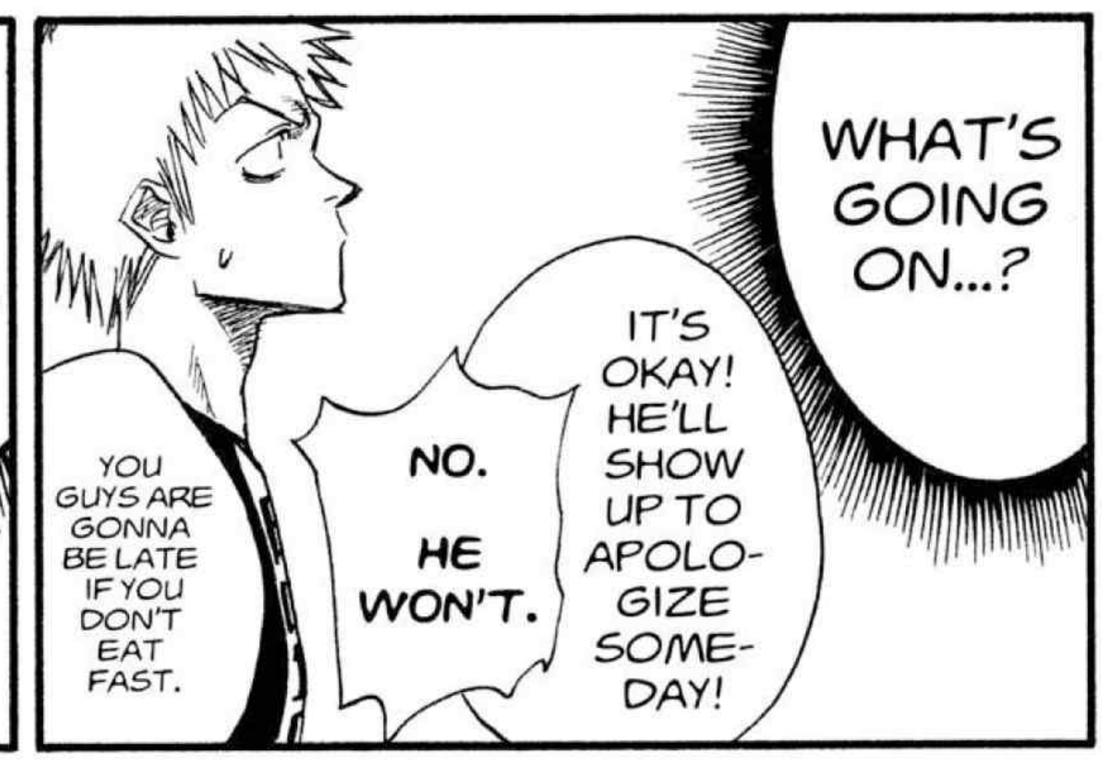
BLEACH
ブリーチ

2.
STARTER


KUROSAKI CLINIC

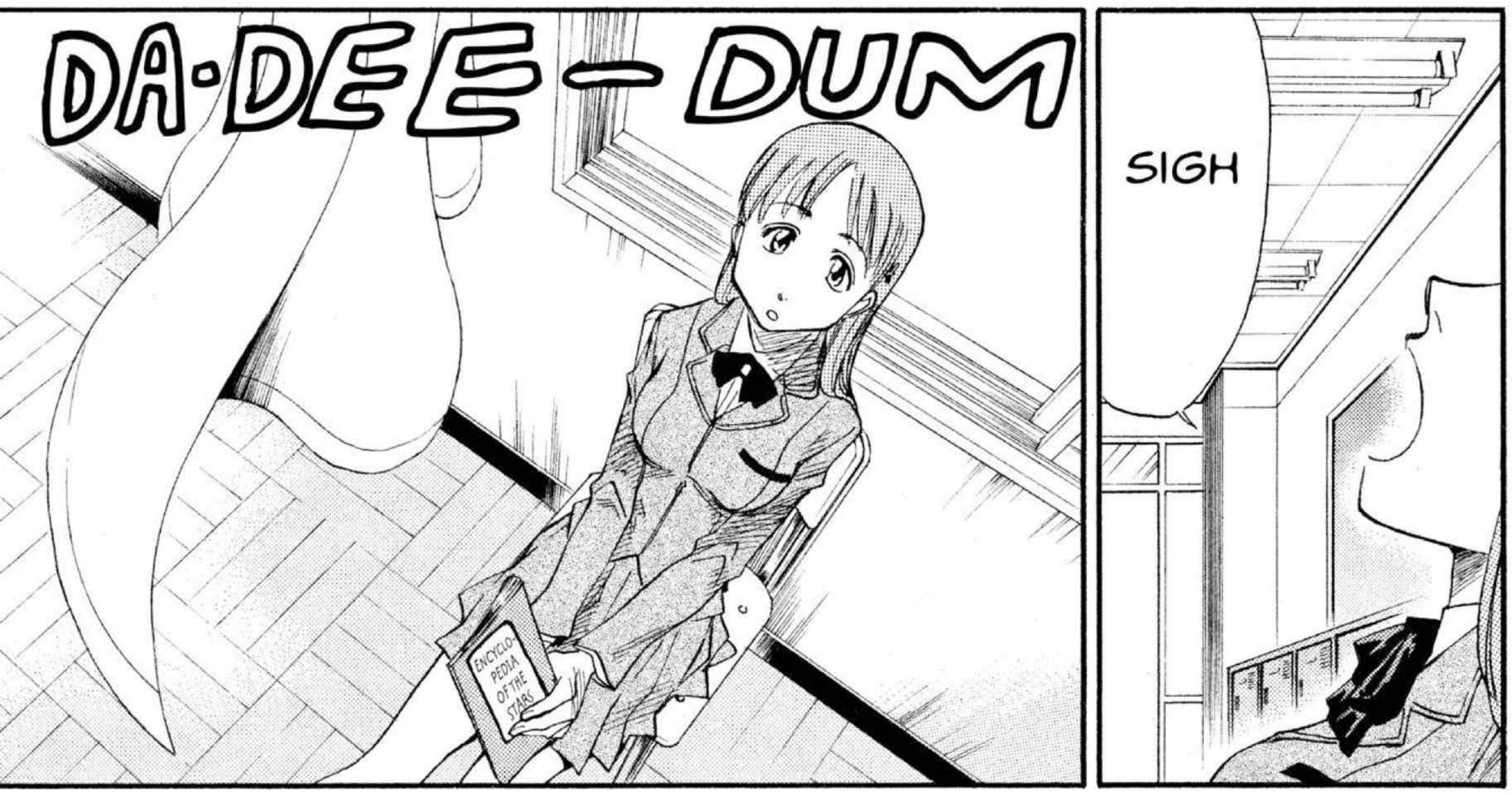
THE JERK LEFT US THE REPAIR BILLS.
THIS FAMILY, GEEZ...
SOME MIRACLE.
BREAK-FAST IS READY, ICHIGO.
DOUBLE MIRACLE, NONE OF US EVEN WOKE UP!
WHAT A MIRACLE!
A TRUCK CRASHES INTO OUR HOUSE AND NOBODY GETS A SCRATCH!
I ♥ CONSTRUCTION


SOME SORT OF SOUL-REAPER TRIAGE SERVICE?
THEIR WOUNDS ARE GONE, VANISHED.
THEY THINK IT WAS A TRUCK.


WHAT'S GOING ON...?
IT'S OKAY! HE'LL SHOW UP TO APOLO-GIZE SOME-DAY!
NO. HE WON'T.
YOU GUYS ARE GONNA BE LATE IF YOU DON'T EAT FAST.

GO BACK TO THAT SOUL SOCIETY PLACE?
DID SHE...

KARAKURA 1ST HIGH SCHOOL 10:43 A.M.



...

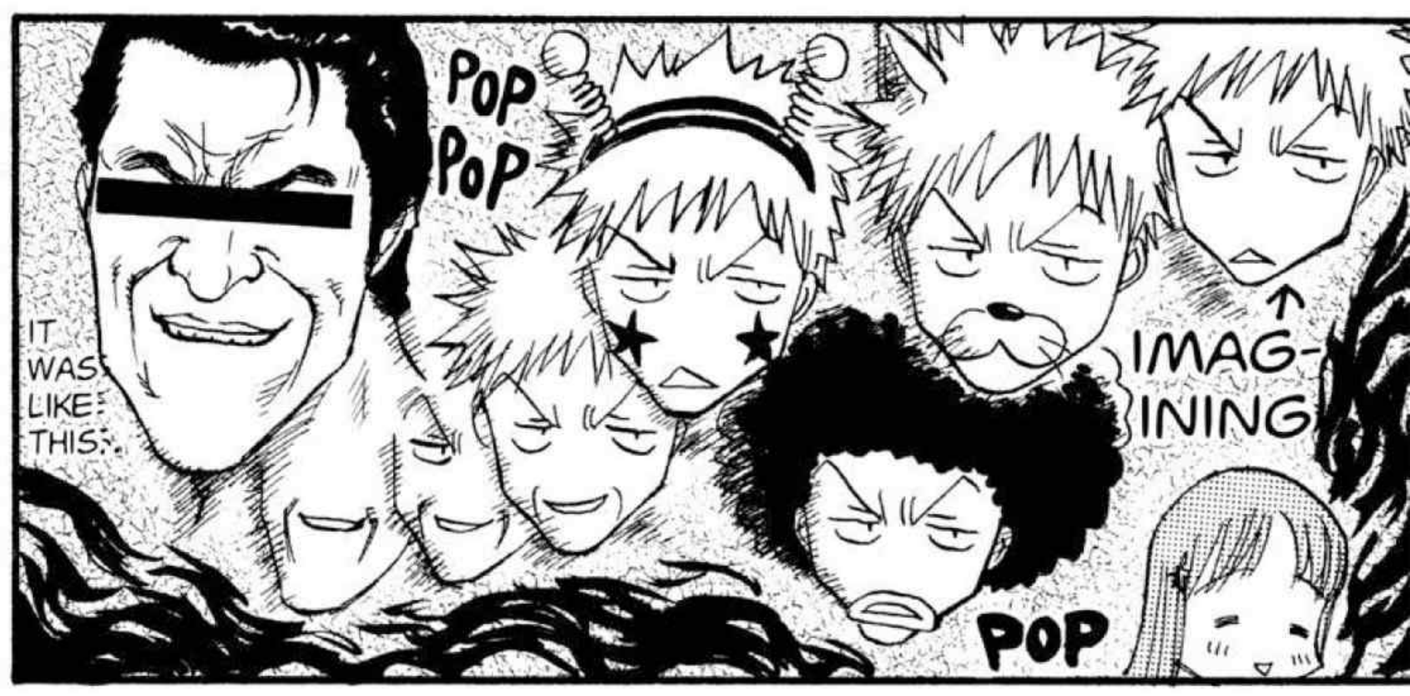
UNH!
...
NO!
WEREN'T YOU THINKING ABOUT HIM?

HUH?
ICHIGO'S LATE!

WHEN I THINK OF ICHIGO'S SCOWLING FACE...
WUH ...?

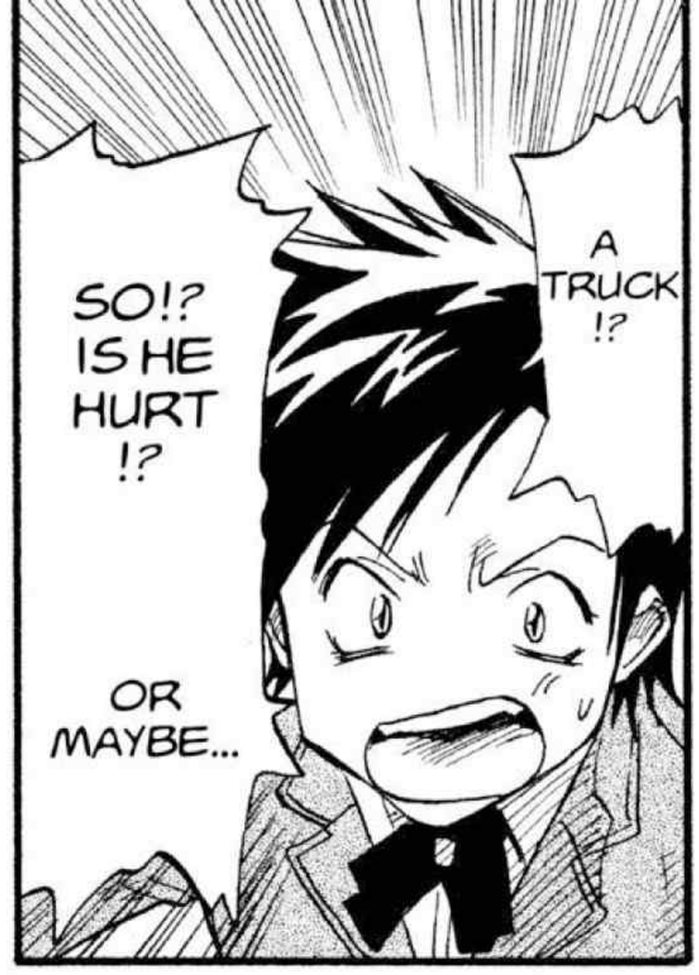
HE'S FUNNY!
A GIRL WITH BOOBS LIKE YOURS COULD DO A LOT BETTER.
WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT HIM, ORIHIME?
HE'S GOT TWEAKED-OUT HAIR, HE'S RUDE, IMMATURE, SHORT-TEMPERED...

UM, OKAY...
IT'S HILARI-OUS!!
SNORK
HA HA HA !!


IT WAS LIKE THIS:
POP POP
POP
IMAG-INING

ICHIGO.

HE MAY BE ABSENT TODAY.


SO!? IS HE HURT !?
A TRUCK !?
OR MAYBE...

I STOPPED BY HIS PLACE THIS MORNING AND THERE WAS A BIG HOLE IN HIS HOUSE.
THEY SAID A TRUCK PLOWED INTO IT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.
SO HIS DAD SAID.
YEAH.
IT WAS LIKE THIS.
MIZU-IRO.
HOW COME?
YOU USUALLY COME TO SCHOOL WITH ICHIGO.

ICHIGO!
SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, WE ALL SURVIVED.

ALIVE.
DEAD ...
WHAP

SON OF A ...
ARE YOU KURO-SAKI?
SKREECH

YEAH, WHAT'S THIRD PERIOD?
CON-TEMPOR-ARY EVENTS
THAT'S MISS OCHI.
SHE WON'T ASK ANNOYING QUESTIONS.
YOU'RE HERE.
WEREN'T YOU FIXING YOUR HOUSE?

HUH?
RIGHT.
G...
GOOD MORN-ING!
YOU'RE HAPPY AS USUAL, ORIHIME.
AMPUH

NICE TO MEET YOU!

DO YOU MIND SHARING YOURS WITH ME?

SON OF A...

ICHIGO, I DON'T HAVE ANY TEXT-BOOKS YET.

SHUFF

?

WHY ARE YOU...

WHAT?

PLIP PLIP PLIP

OH,

THIS IS RUKIA KUCHIKI.

SHE STARTED HERE YES-TERDAY.

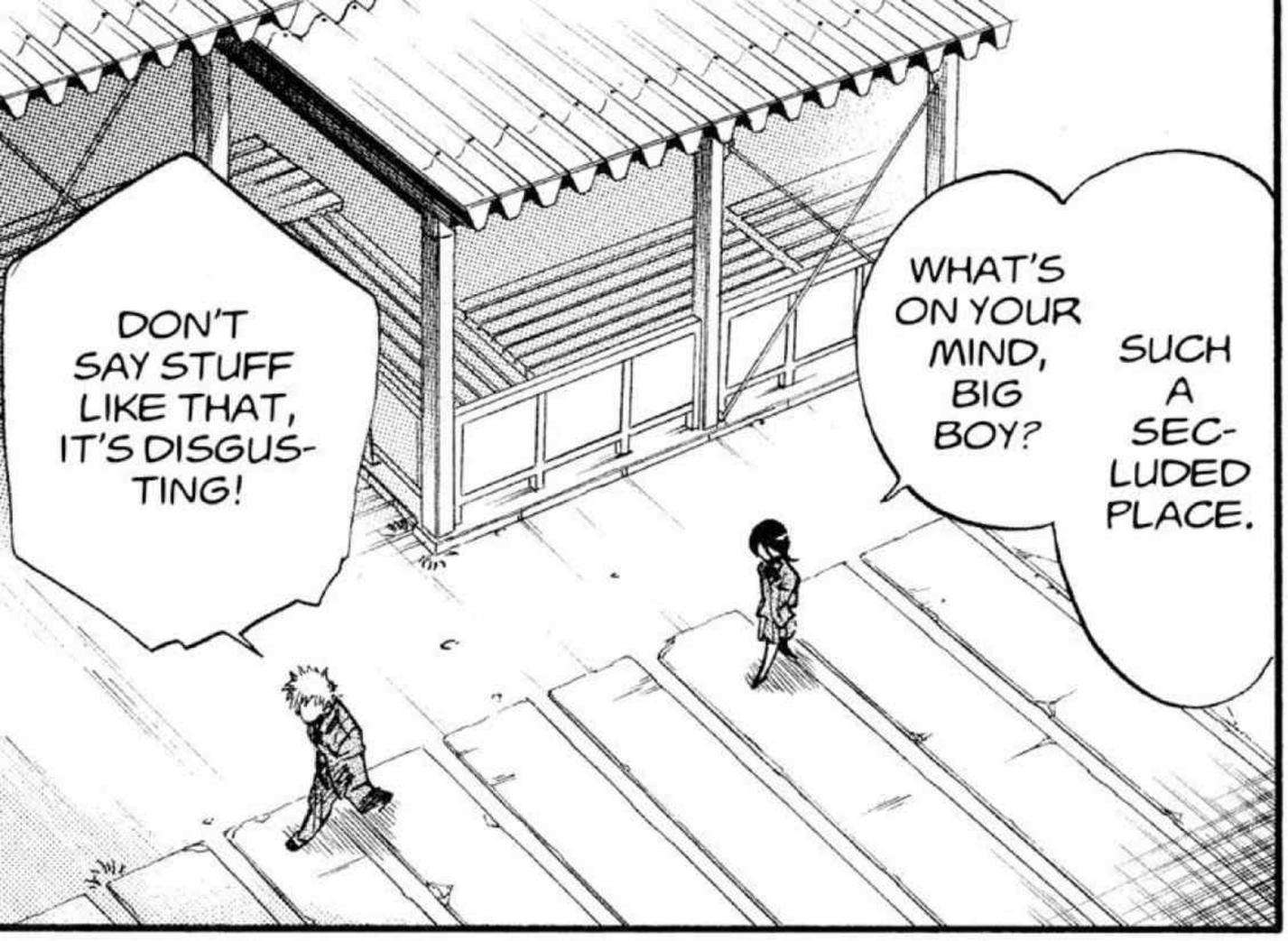
IT'S AN UNUSUAL TIME TO TRANSFER, BUT HER FAMILY HAD TO MOVE.

K?

WHAT'S ...

WHIP

MAKE A SCENE AND YOU'RE SO DEAD.


DON'T SAY STUFF LIKE THAT, IT'S DISGUSTING!
WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND, BIG BOY?
SUCH A SECLUDED PLACE.

IS SHE OUT OF HER MIND ?!
HOW FAR ARE WE GOING?

EXPLAIN?

EXPLAIN WHY YOU'RE HERE!
SHUT UP!
DISGUSTING?
HOW RUDE.
I SPENT THE WHOLE NIGHT LEARNING COLLOQUIALISMS! NOT BAD, EH?

WHY DIDN'T YOU GO BACK TO THE SOUL SOCIETY OR WHATEVER !?
WHY ARE YOU SNEAKING INTO MY CLASS?
ISN'T YOUR WORK HERE FINISHED !?
THAT'S RIGHT!

HUH?
WHY NOT?
I CAN'T GO BACK.
SHUSH!
I'D HAVE TO BE A SOUL REAPER TO RETURN TO THE SOUL SOCIETY!

I LOST ALL MY DARK FORCE!

BECAUSE...

...WHAT...

!?

...

NOT IN YOUR BODY, BUT YOUR SOUL.

YOU'VE BECOME A SOUL REAPER.

INSIDE **YOU.**

YOU LOST YOUR POWERS?

WHAT ARE THEY, SOCKS?

WHERE DID THEY GO?

AND I HAVE TO RELY ON THIS **GIGAI!**

I CAN ONLY DO A FEW DEMONIC SPELLS NOW...

LAST NIGHT --

YOU STOLE ALL MY POWERS FROM ME!

I'D BE EASY PREY FOR A HOLLOW WITHOUT MY POWERS --

SO I HAVE TO DISGUISE MYSELF AS A HUMAN.

IT HAS TO.

THAT'S A GIG-THING?

IT LOOKS HUMAN.

A TEMPORARY BODY WE SOUL REAPERS USE IN EMERGENCIES.

DISEM-POWERED SOUL REAPERS INHABIT GIGAIS UNTIL THEIR POWERS RETURN.

GIGAI ...?

HERE IT IS!

THE POINT.

FWASH

WHAT DOES A POWERLESS SOUL REAPER WANT WITH ME?

YOU HAVE TO DO THE WORK OF A SOUL REAPER!

UNTIL I REGAIN MY POWERS...

THAT'S WHY THE OTHER KIDS CAN SEE HER...

SO?

B01

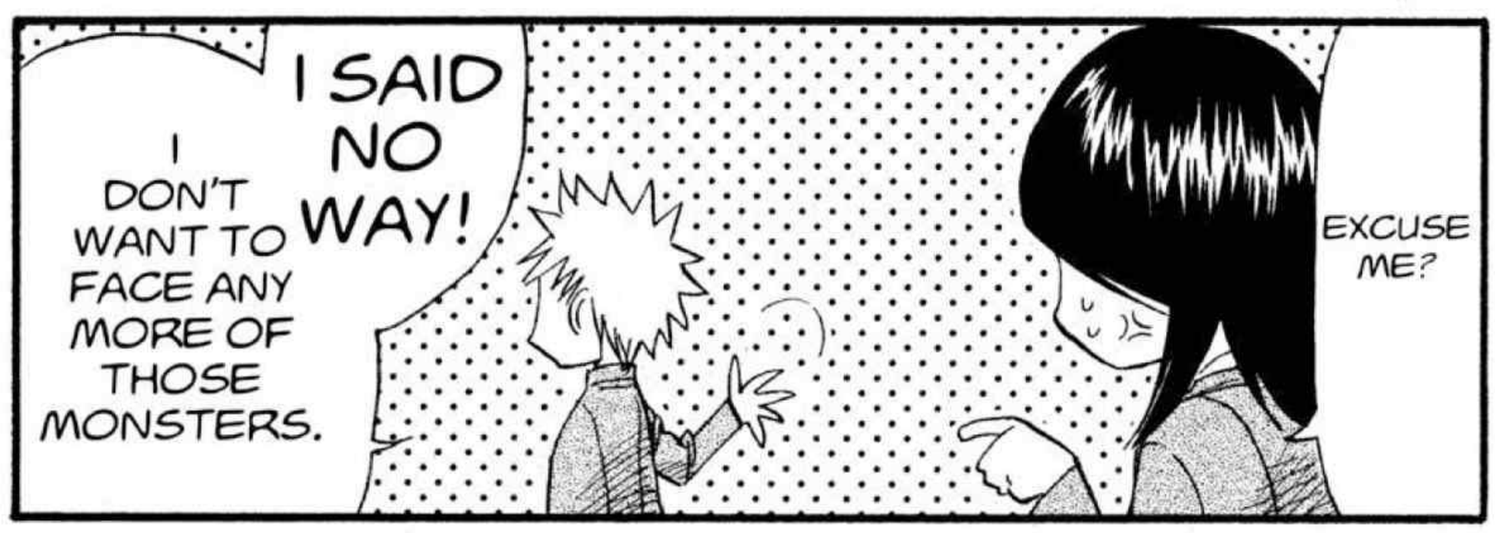
YOU HAVE NO CHOICE, THIS REALLY IS ALL YOUR FAULT...

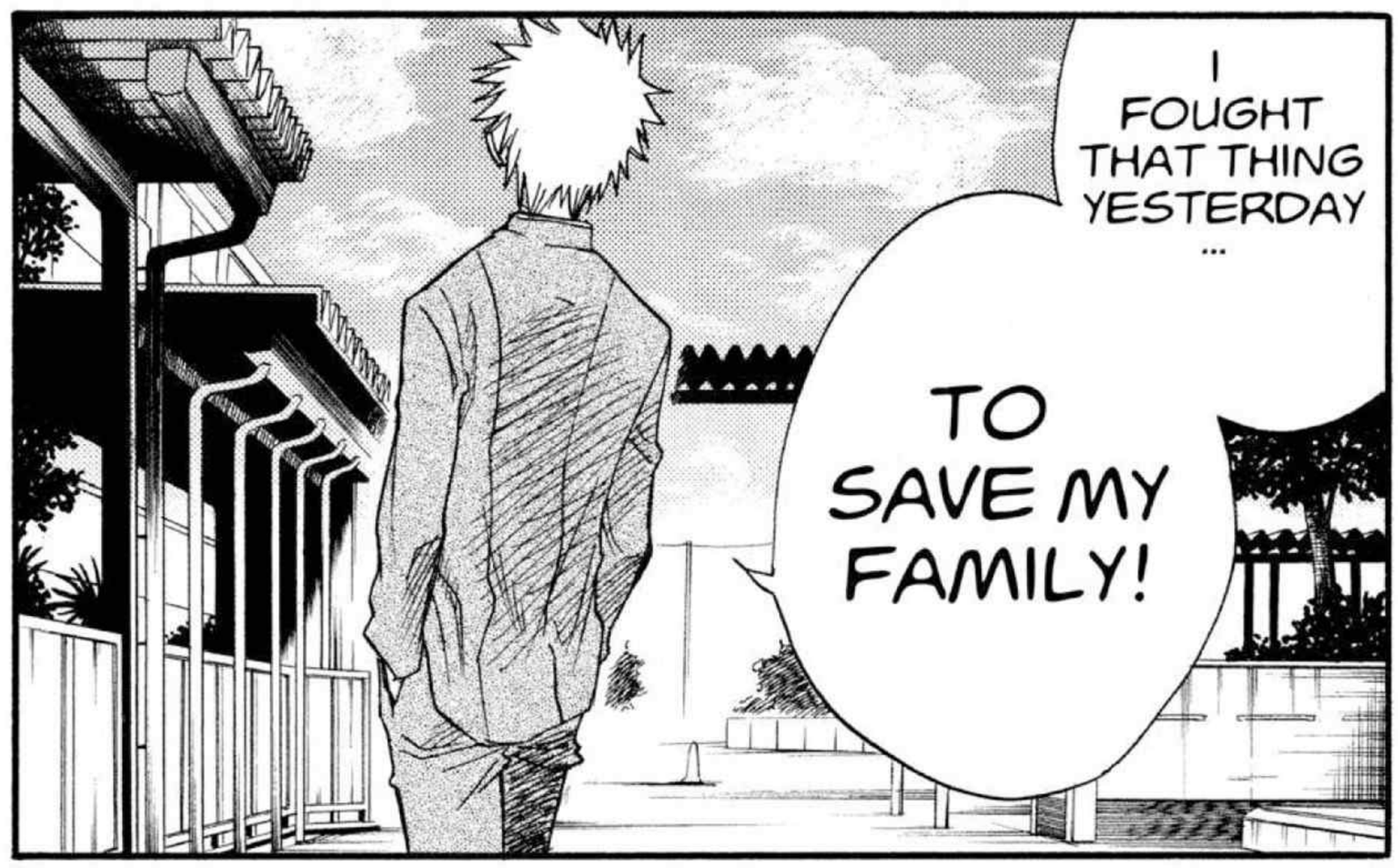
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? YOU HAVE THE POWERS OF A SOUL REAPER NOW. AND I'LL HELP YOU.

HUH!?

B01

FW
HP
NO WAY!


I DON'T WANT TO FACE ANY MORE OF THOSE MONSTERS.
I SAID NO WAY!
EXCUSE ME?

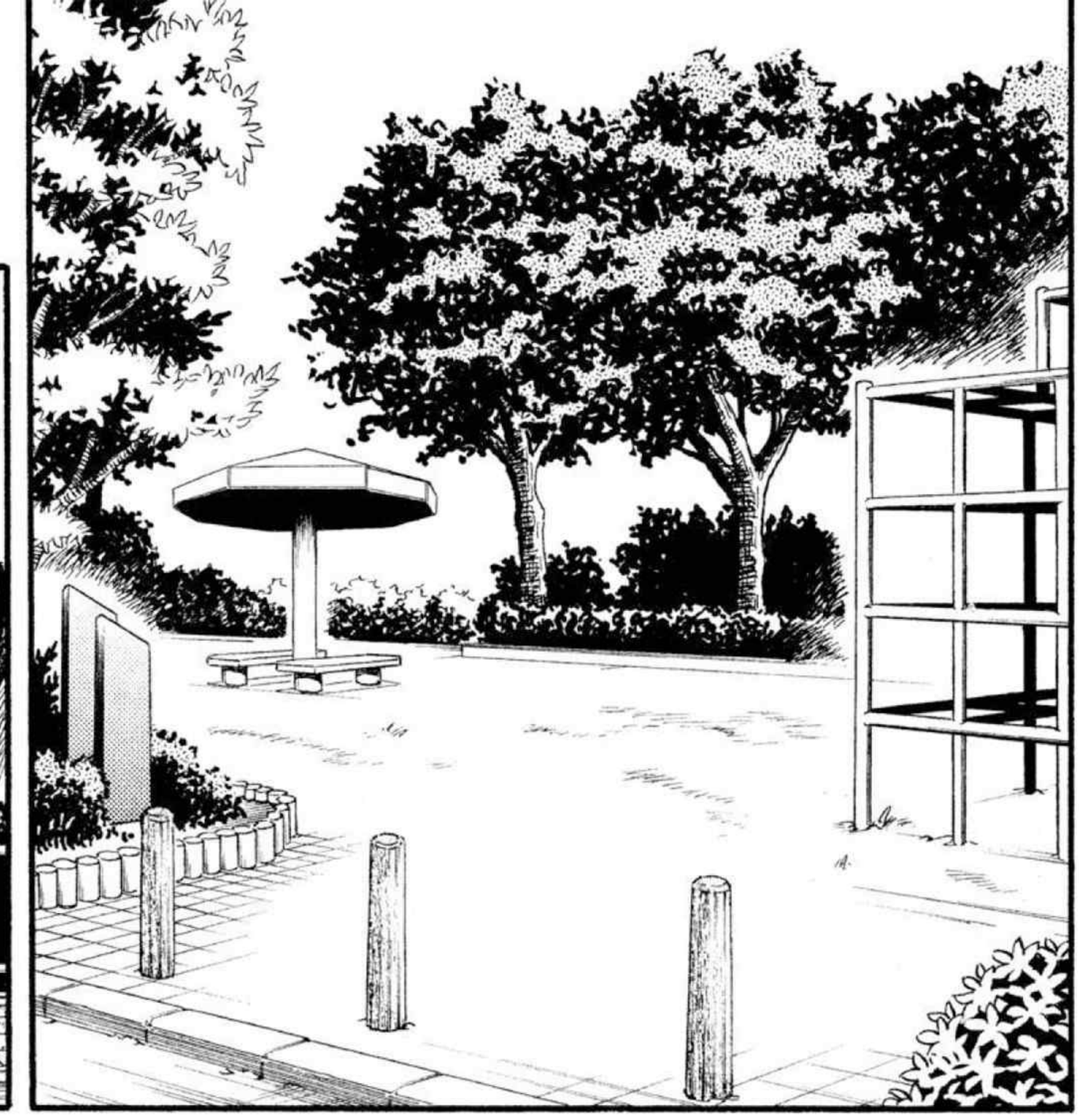

I FOUGHT THAT THING YESTERDAY ...
TO SAVE MY FAMILY!

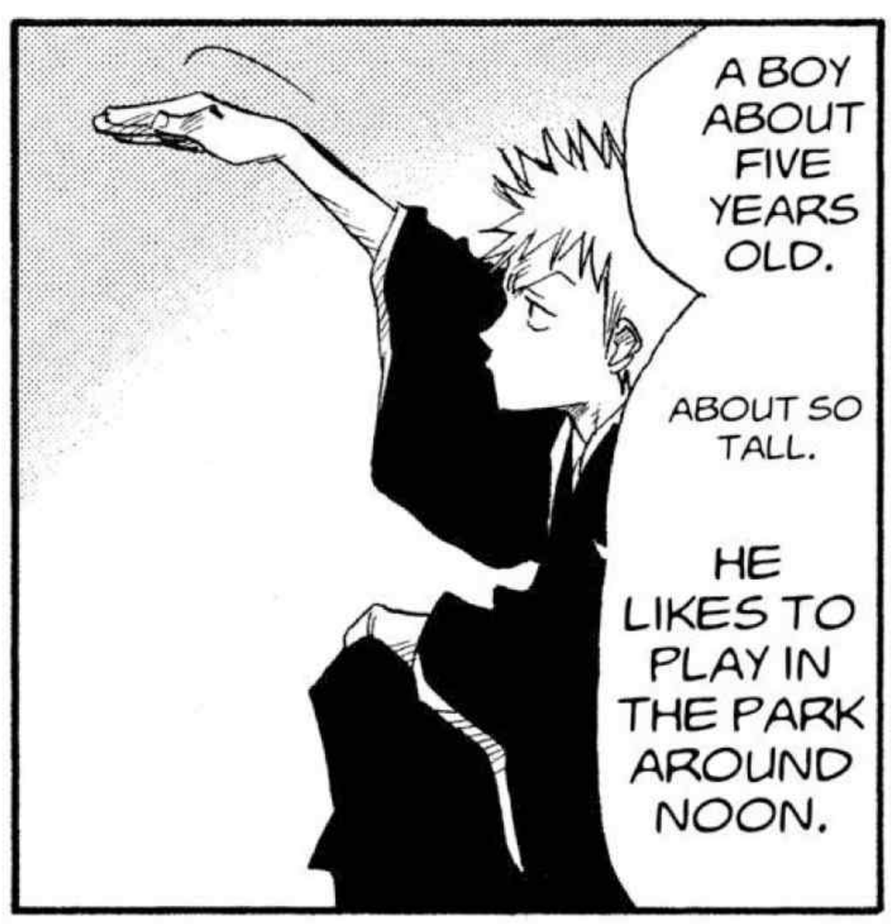
WAIT A SECOND!
YES-TERDAY ?!
YOU...

I'M NOT THAT SELF-SACRIFICING !!
I'M NOT GONNA FIGHT THOSE THINGS FOR TOTAL STRANGERS!

TMP TMP
!?
WHAT-'RE YOU...
HUK
YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE!
SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU.
VERY WELL.
THWA
COME WITH ME!
YOU.
DUDE!?
!?
THAT'S MY SOUL !?
HEY! WAKE UP, ME !!
WHOA !?
TMP

JUST WAIT.
IT WON'T BE LONG.
YOU...

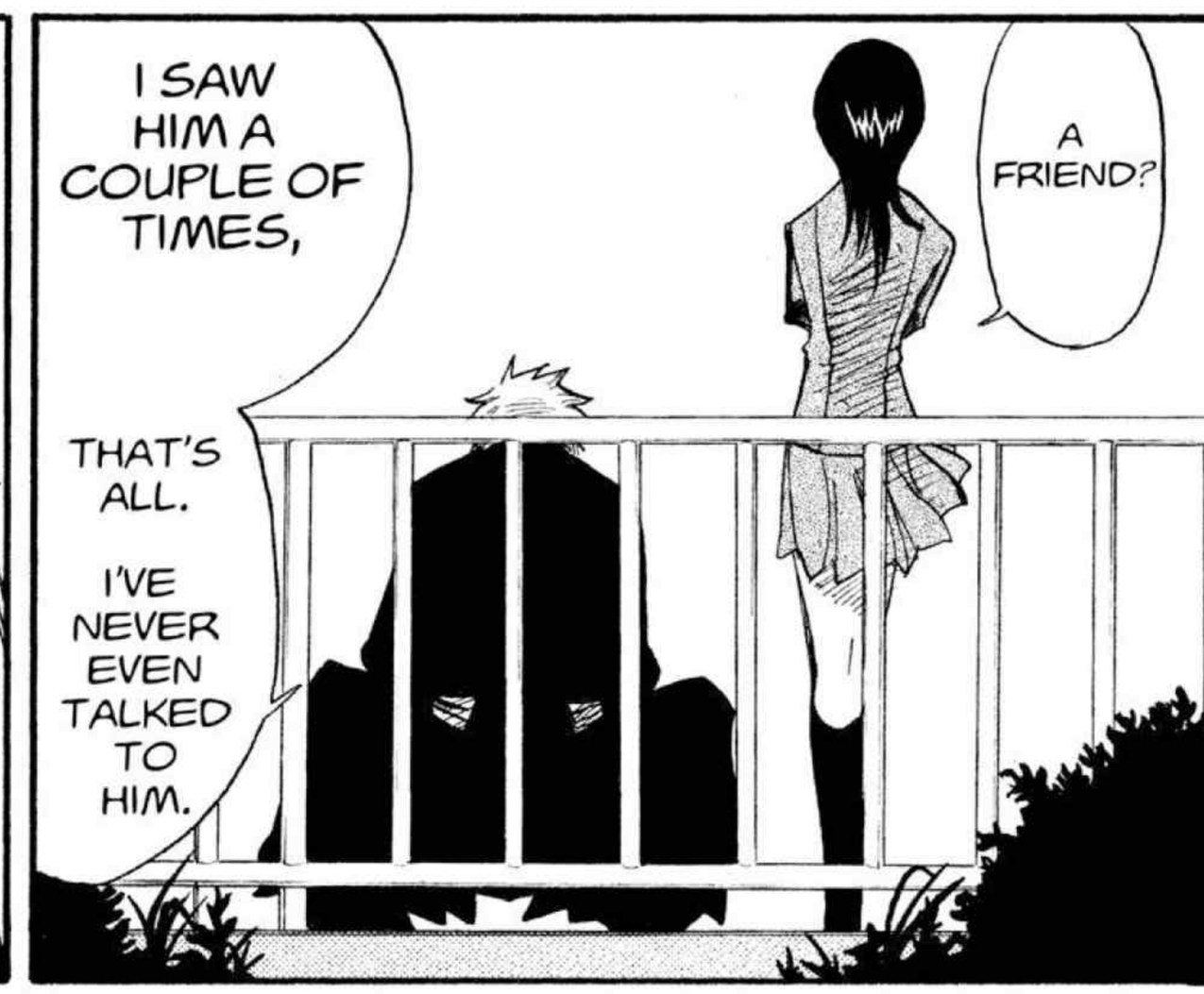



A BOY ABOUT FIVE YEARS OLD.
ABOUT SO TALL.
HE LIKES TO PLAY IN THE PARK AROUND NOON.

WHAT IS IT LIKE?
UM,
ACT-UALLY, ONE DOES.

DO GHOSTS COME TO THIS PARK?
WHAT WON'T BE LONG !?
IT'S BEEN 20 MINUTES ALREADY ...

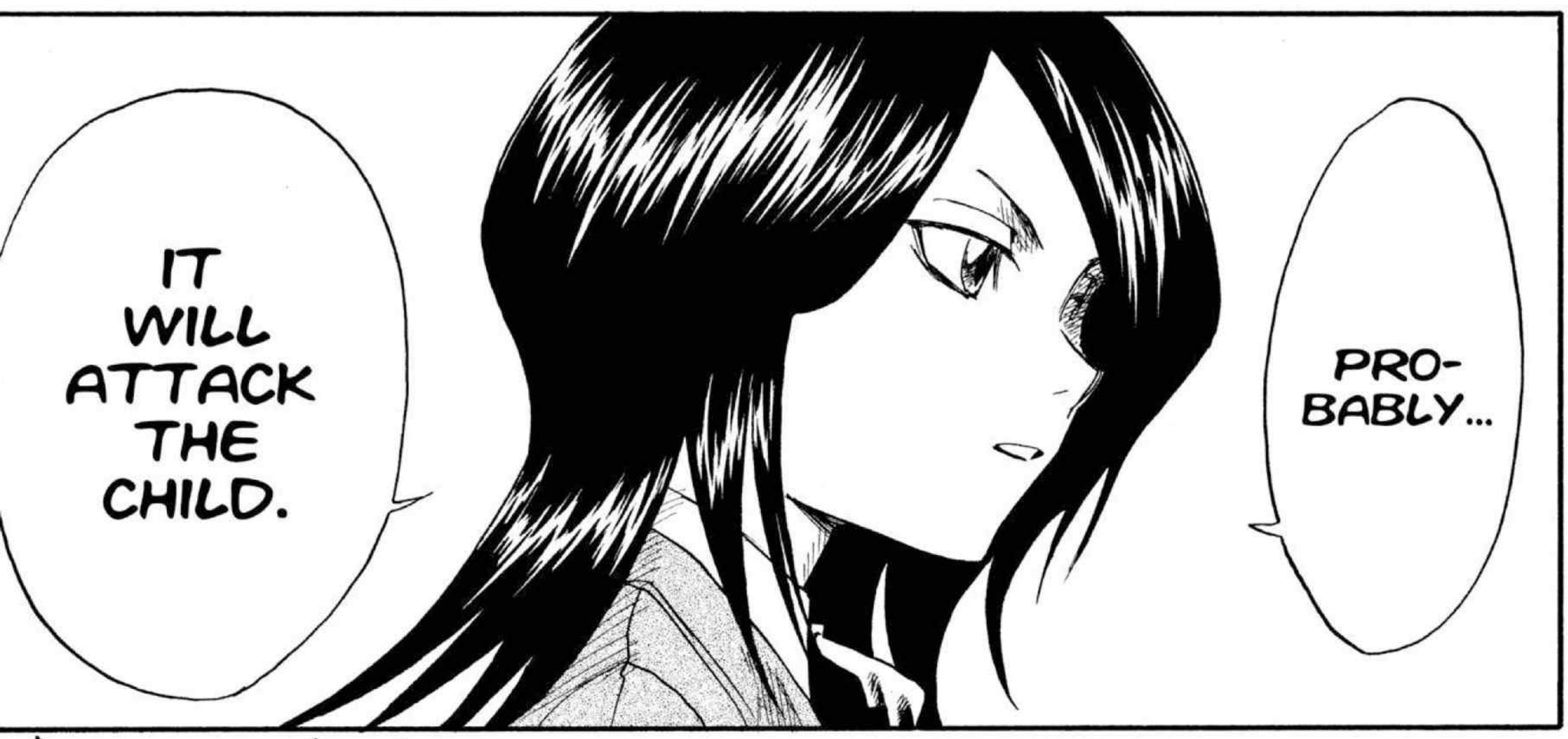
SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
SWUP


I SAW HIM A COUPLE OF TIMES,
THAT'S ALL.
I'VE NEVER EVEN TALKED TO HIM.
A FRIEND?

AN ORDER --
FROM THE SOUL SOCIETY.
?
WHAT IS THIS?

YUMIZAWA CHILDREN'S PARK
20M
12:00 PM
+-- 15 MIN

A HOLLOW WILL APPEAR.
WITHIN A 20 METER RADIUS OF YUMIZAWA CHILDREN'S PARK.
12:00 P.M., PLUS OR MINUS 15 MINUTES.


IT WILL ATTACK THE CHILD.
PRO-BABLY...

AAAAAAH!!

!

!!

WAAAH!!!

BUT HE'S A COM-PLETE STRANG-ER?
ARE YOU GOING TO HELP HIM?

WAIT!!

THEY'RE GOING TO BE ATTACKED EITHER WAY!

I CAN'T STAND HERE AND WATCH THAT THING EAT HIM!

BEFORE YOUR EYES, OR OUT OF SIGHT...

ARE YOU CRAZY !?

DON'T HELP HIM!

FWUMP

AAH!

!

!!

THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS!

YOU'D SAVE HIM JUST BECAUSE YOU HAPPEN TO BE NEARBY!?

EVEN IF YOU SAVE HIM NOW...

HE'LL JUST GET EATEN LATER UNLESS YOU DO MY JOB!

ONLY SAVING THEM WHEN IT'S CONVENIENT WON'T DO!

A SOUL REAPER MUST BE FAIR TO ALL GHOSTS!

YOU MUST TRY TO SAVE THEM ALL!

IF YOU ARE GOING TO SAVE HIM NOW...

KRK

SO DON'T HELP THE CHILD UNLESS YOU CAN COMMIT!

!!

BE WILLING TO GO ANY-WHERE!

EVEN BE WILLING TO SACRIFICE YOURSELF FOR THEM!

READ THIS WAY
SACRIFICE MYSELF...
I'M...
SH
SSK
...THAT'S RIGHT...
WHAT ARE YOU?
!
TMP
!

AAGH!!

ICHIGO...

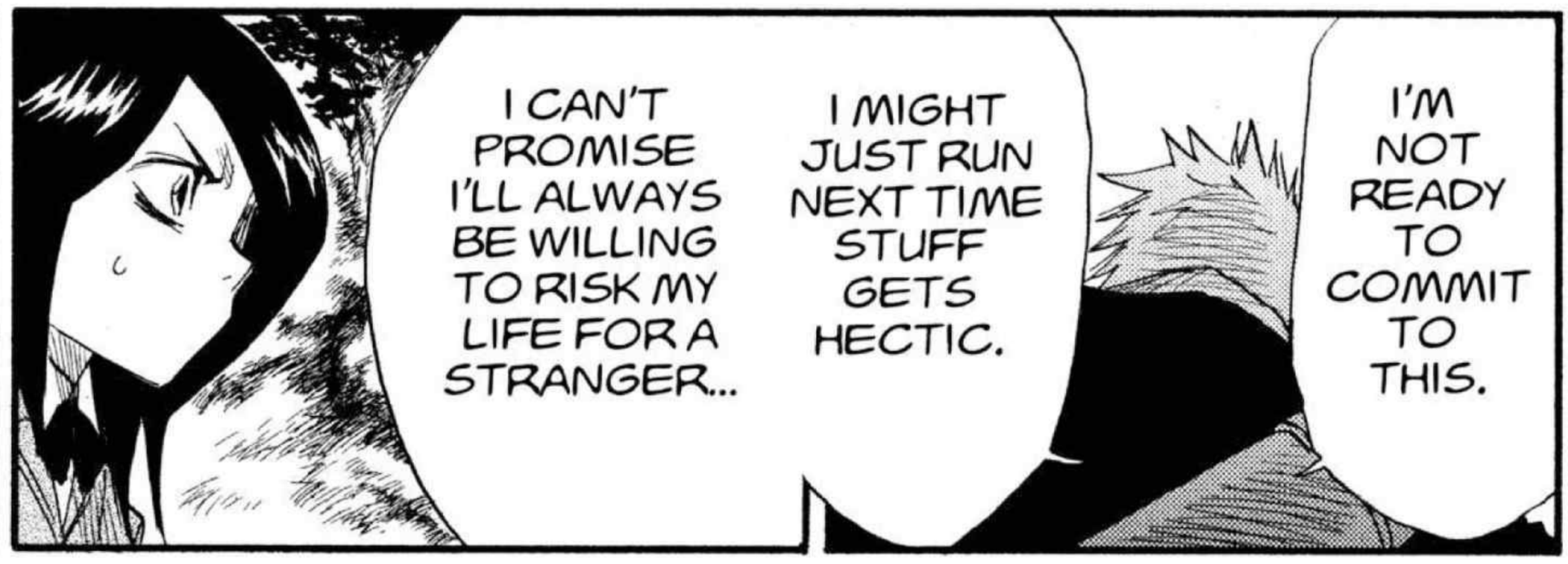
TMP
GRUAAAA!!

...YOU MADE
KLAK
YOUR DECI-SION?
WILL YOU SHUT UP !?
CHUFUN
EEP.

READ THIS WAY
WHAT ABOUT YOU !!
WHAT ...?
I HELPED HIM BECAUSE I WAS HERE!
I DON'T BUY ALL THIS SELF-SACRIFICE AND COMMIT-MENT CRAP!!
SO WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT IT!!
SHAKE SHAKE
!!
DUTY IS NO REASON TO SACRIFICE YOURSELF !!
WAS THAT JUST YOUR DUTY AS A SOUL REAPER !?
YOU SACRIFICED YOURSELF THAT NIGHT TO SAVE ME!!
SHUK
NOT FOR ME !!
WHOOM
AT LEAST...

THOOM

BUT...

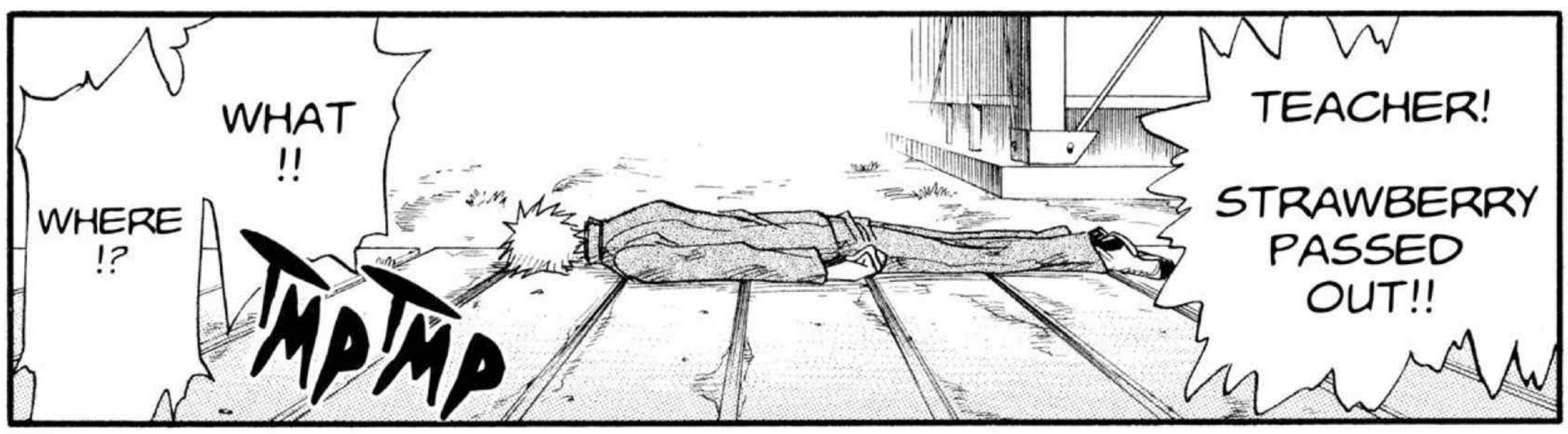

I CAN'T PROMISE I'LL ALWAYS BE WILLING TO RISK MY LIFE FOR A STRANGER...
I MIGHT JUST RUN NEXT TIME STUFF GETS HECTIC.
I'M NOT READY TO COMMIT TO THIS.

AND I'M NOT A TOTAL SCUM BAG!
I KNOW I OWE YOU A LARGE DEBT!

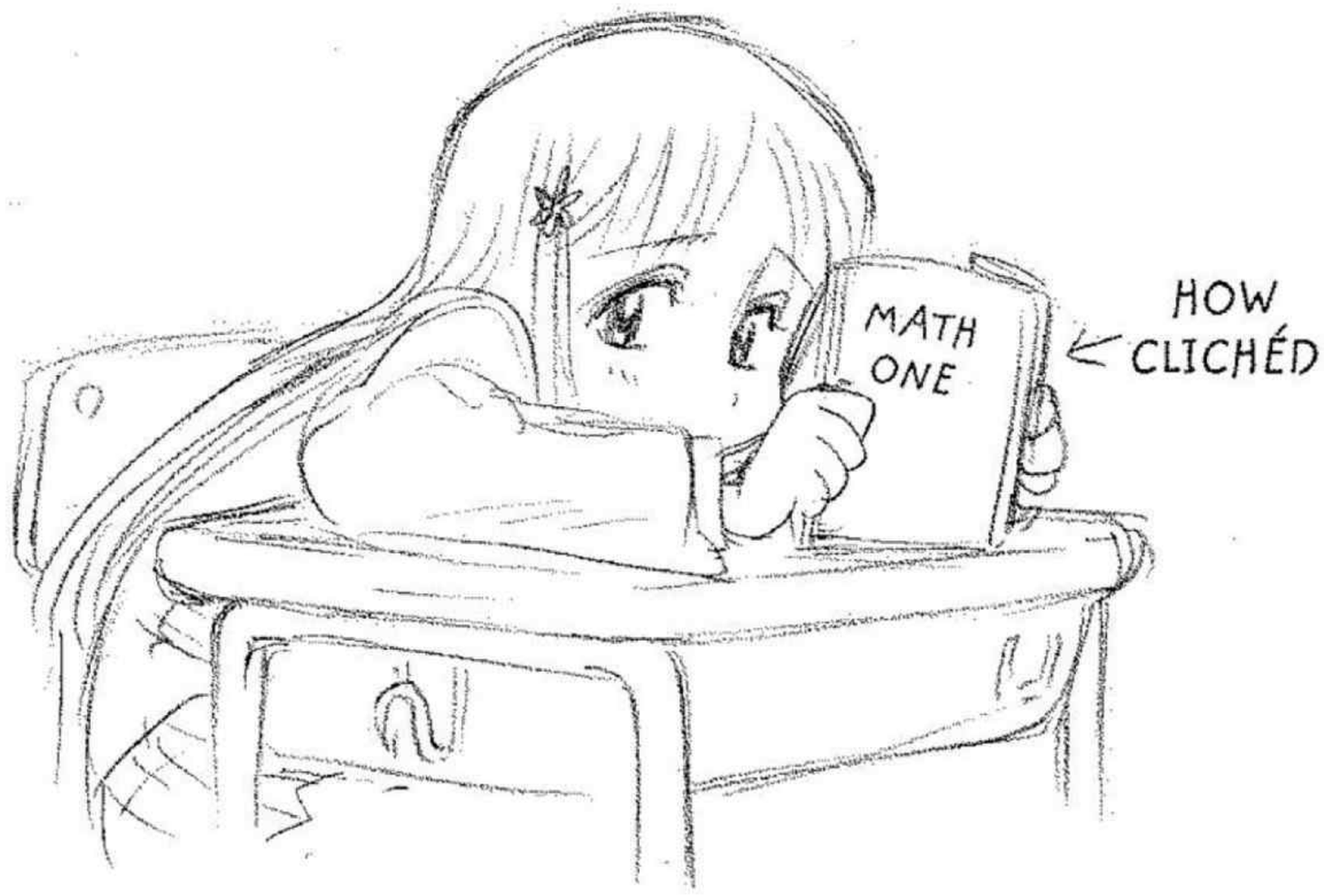
WITH THIS SOUL REAPER JOB OF YOURS !!

BUT I WON'T ENJOY IT.

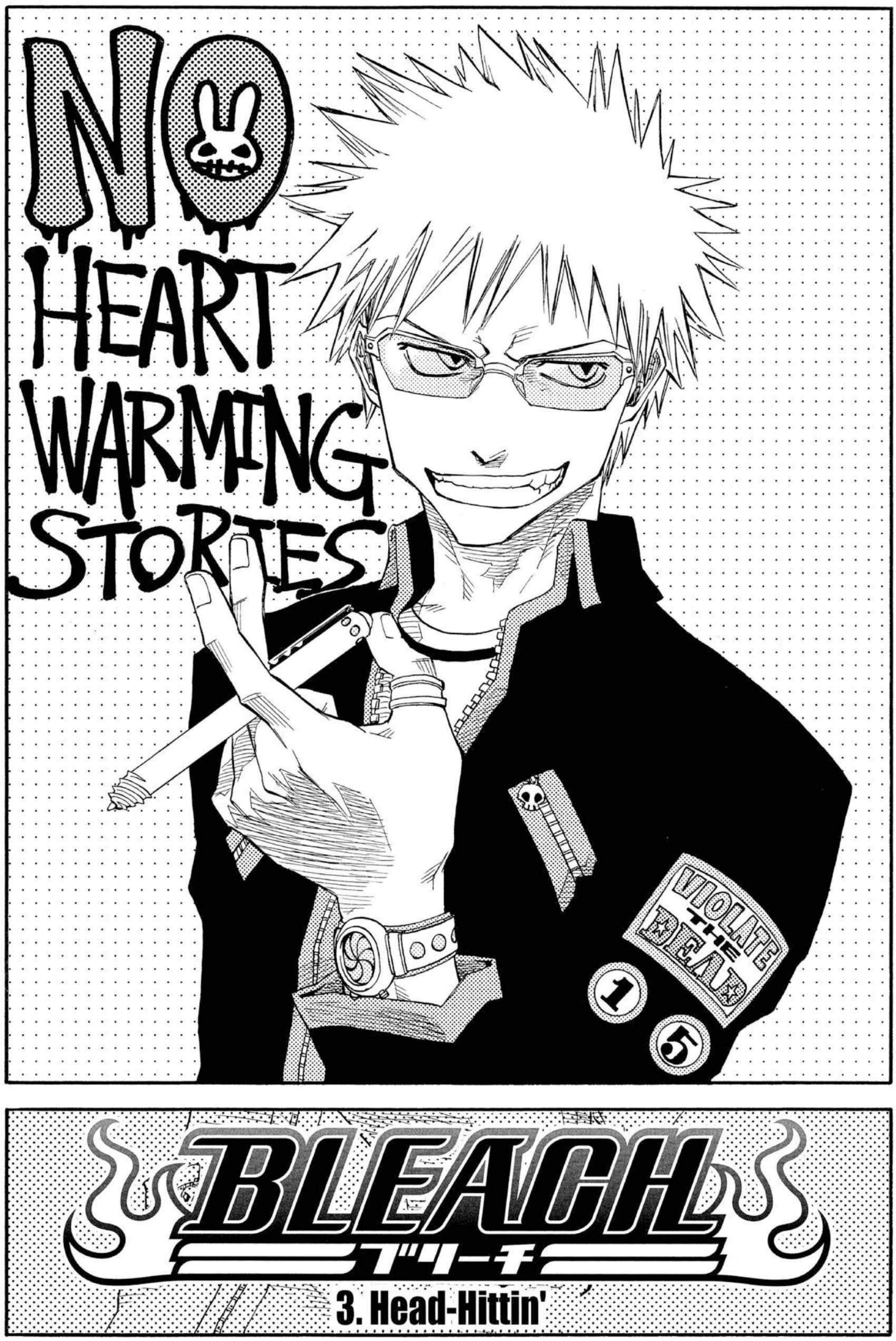
I'LL HELP YOU OUT...



ICHIGO
ISN'T BACK
YET...



SHI, A SHIN-GAWA SHOJI'S SHI!
RA, A RAMEN'S RA!
THAT'LL BRING US BACK TO...
KREEH
EEEEEE
EEEEEE
EEEEEE
3. Head-Hittin'


NO
HEART
WARMING
STORIES
VIOLATE THE DEAD
1
5
BLEACH
ブリーチ
3. Head-Hittin'

THE JADE BOX THAT MOTHER GAVE YOU.

I KNOW ABOUT IT, MY SISTER.

IT'S ALL HIDDEN IN THAT BOX, ISN'T IT?

NO!

FRAN-COISE!!

NOOOO!!

DON'T OPEN THAT BOX!

GO ON !!

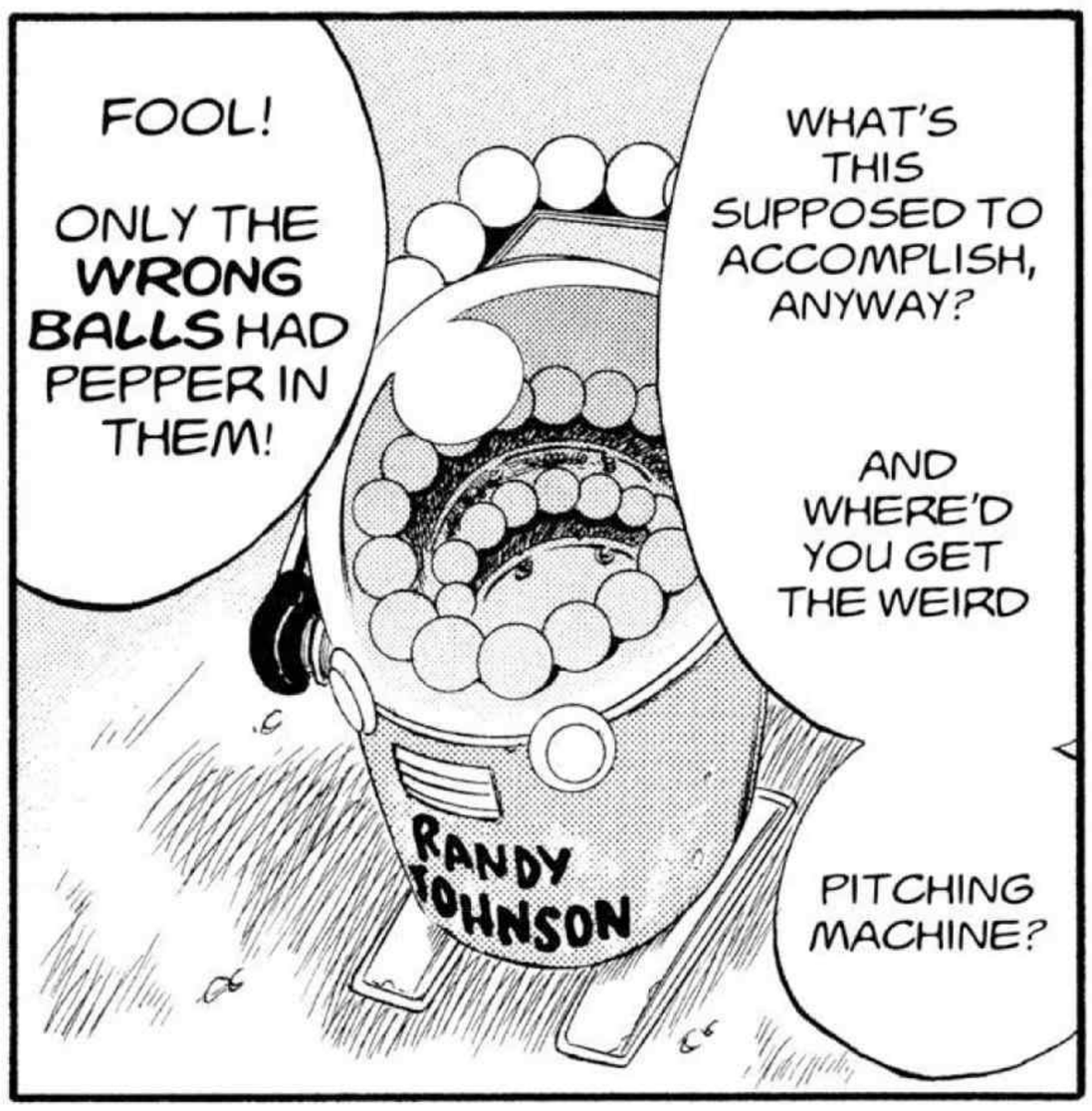
GIVE ME THAT BOX, MY SISTER MARIANNE!

EEEEK !!

HEY, WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING!!

SPEAKING IS NOT COMMUNICATION

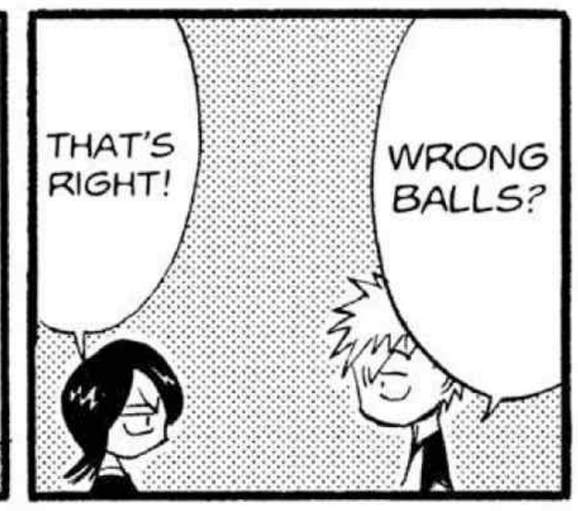
YOU WERE READIN' A STUPID HORROR COMIC WHILE I WAS TRAININ' MY SOUL REAPER BUTT OFF?
WHERE'D YOU FIND IT, ANYWAY?
YOU WERE NOT.
USING THAT TO STUDY?
I'M STUDYING THE CONTEMPORARY VERNACULAR OF THIS WORLD!!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
OOOH! YOU SCARED ME !!

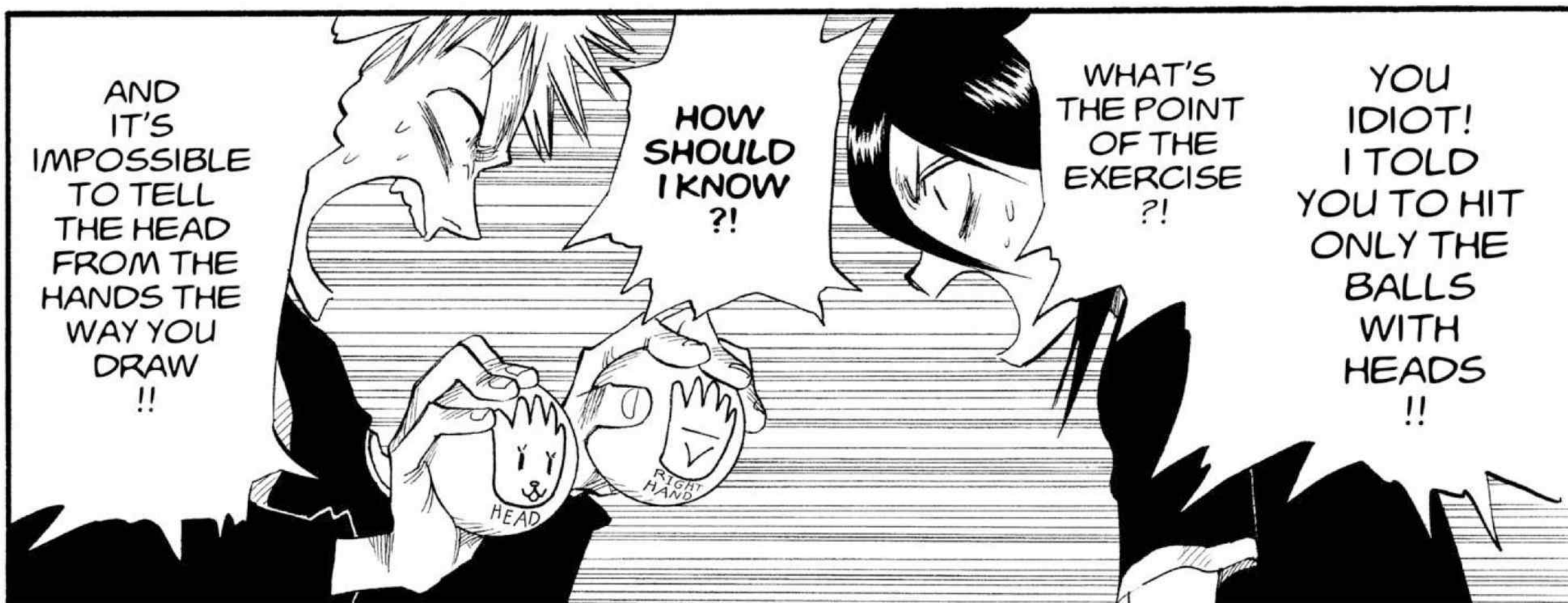

FOOL!
ONLY THE WRONG BALLS HAD PEPPER IN THEM!
WHAT'S THIS SUPPOSED TO ACCOMPLISH, ANYWAY?
AND WHERE'D YOU GET THE WEIRD
PITCHING MACHINE?
RANDY JOHNSON

I'M DONE!
I HIT THESE STUPID PEPPER BALLS A HUNDRED TIMES, RIGHT?
HUH?
YOU FINISHED YOUR TRAINING?
SWAP
SPEAKING IS NOT COMMUNICATION

YES!
GREAT!
YOU DIDN'T...
HIT EVERY SINGLE ONE, DID YOU?

...
...


THAT'S RIGHT!
WRONG BALLS?


AND IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL THE HEAD FROM THE HANDS THE WAY YOU DRAW !!
HOW SHOULD I KNOW ?!
WHAT'S THE POINT OF THE EXERCISE ?!
YOU IDIOT! I TOLD YOU TO HIT ONLY THE BALLS WITH HEADS !!
HEAD
RIGHT HAND

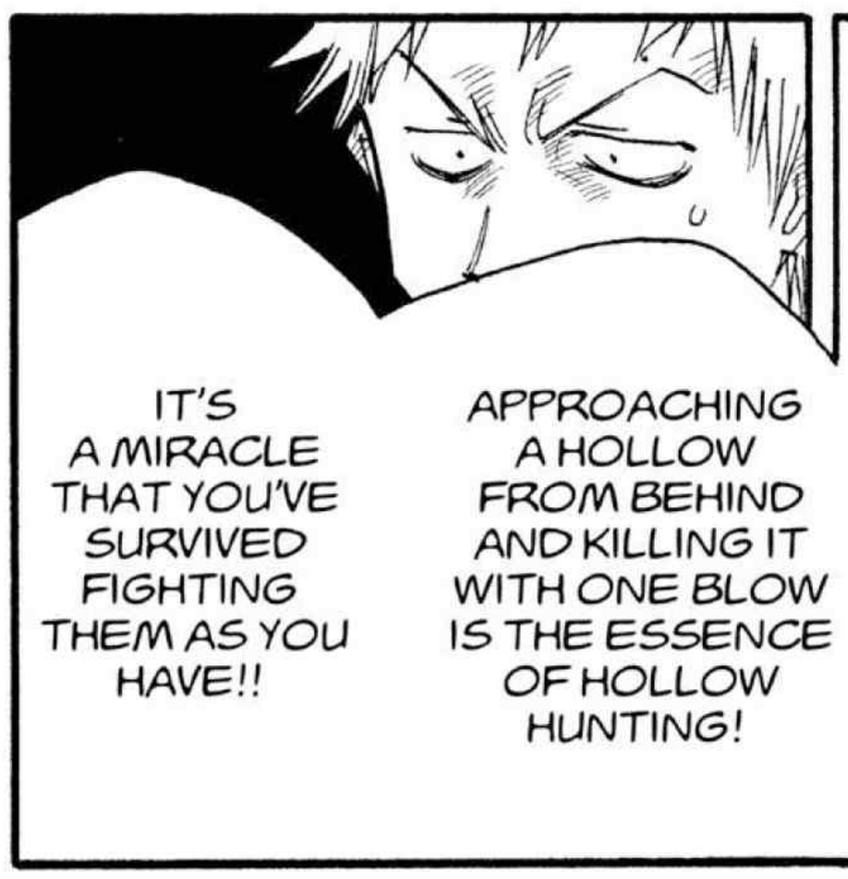
READ THIS WAY
RE, ELECTRIC COMIC'S RE.
TMP
TMP
DO, A DRUNK DRAGON'S DOOOO.
...
ALFALFA'S...
HUH?
FA, AN...
MI, ELECTRIC COMIC'S MI.
ICHIGO!

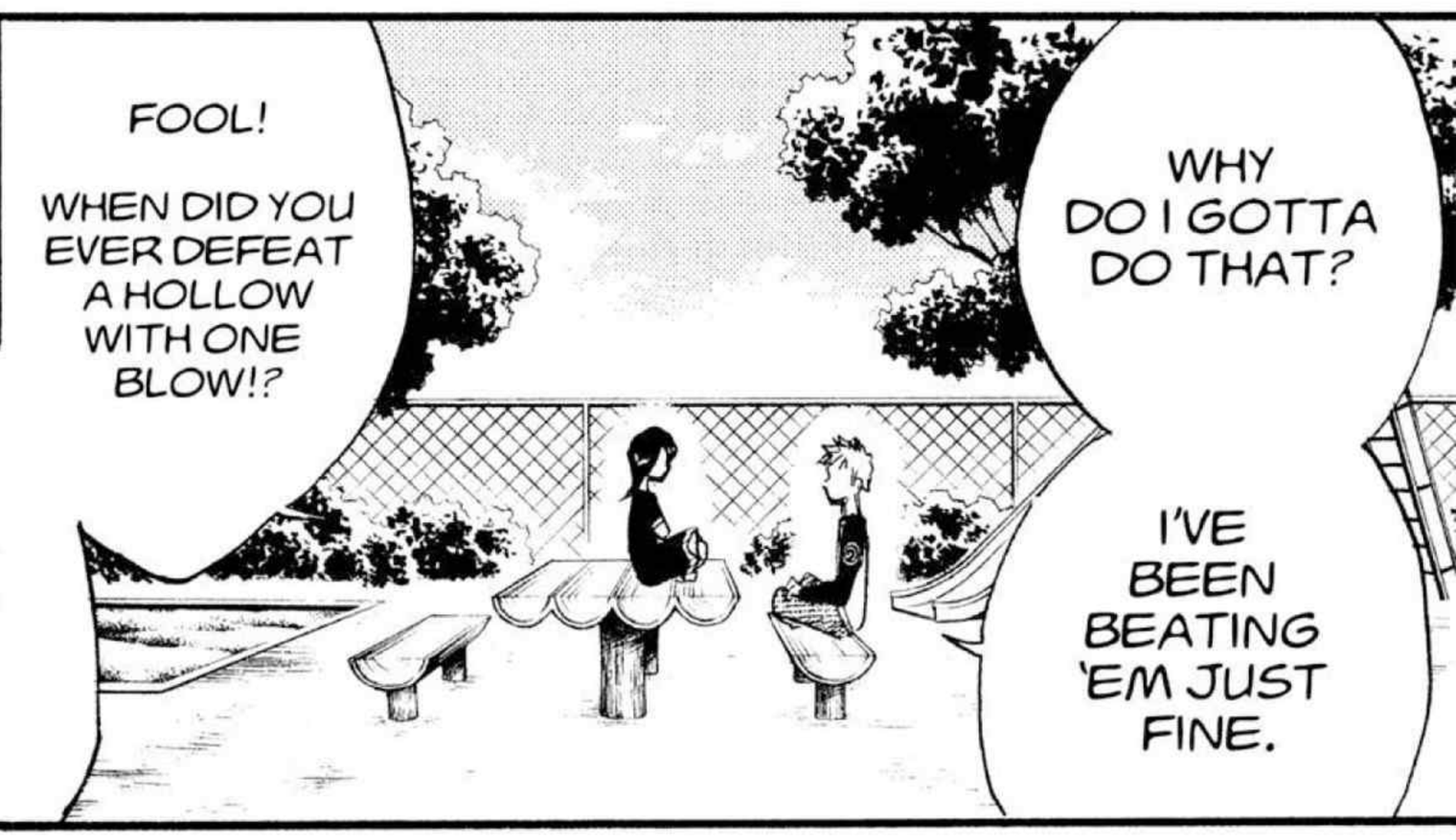
THIS TRAINING WILL HELP YOU CRACK HEADS WITH PRECISION, WHATEVER THE SITUATION!

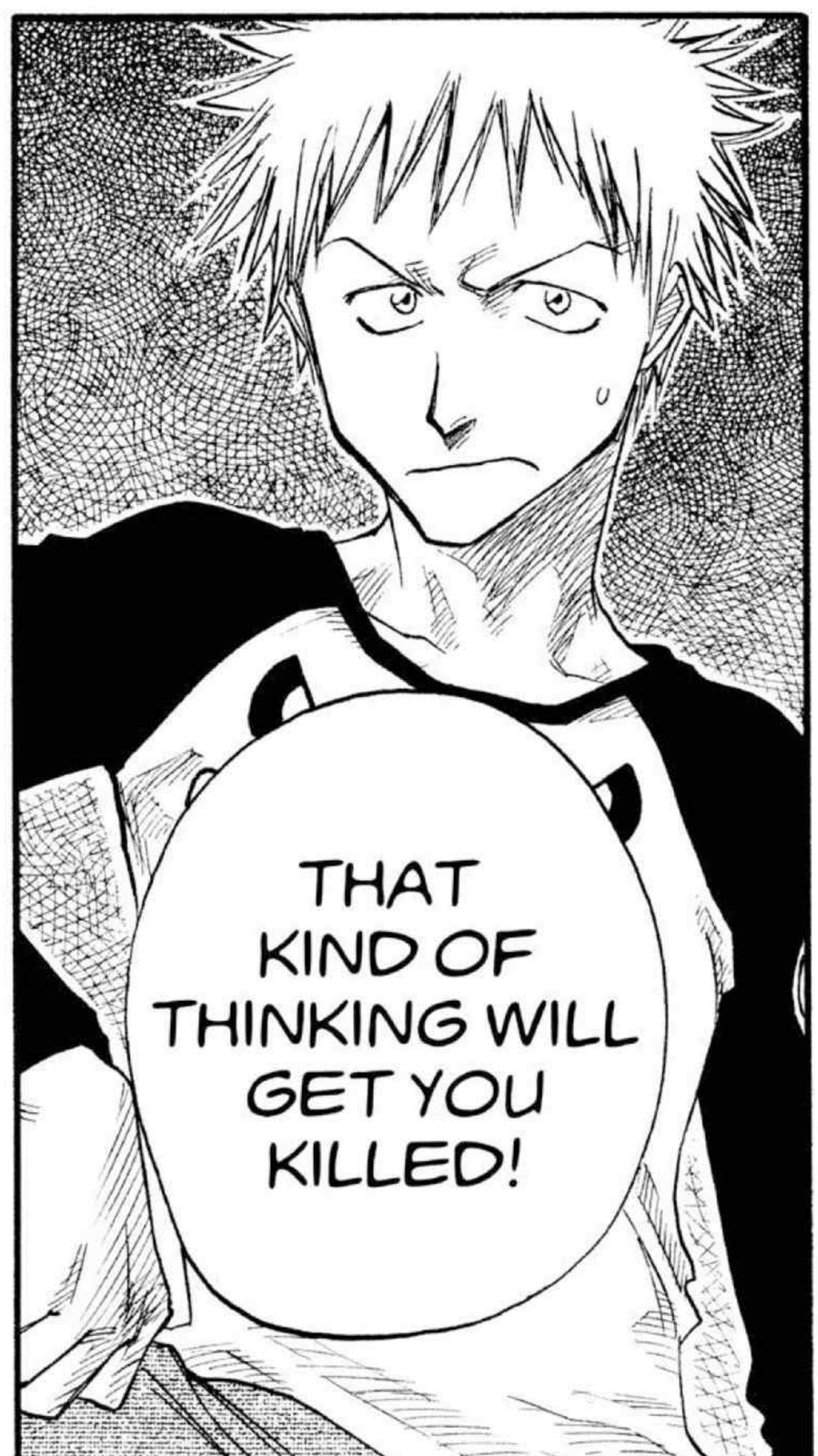
THE HEAD IS A HOLLOW'S WEAK SPOT!

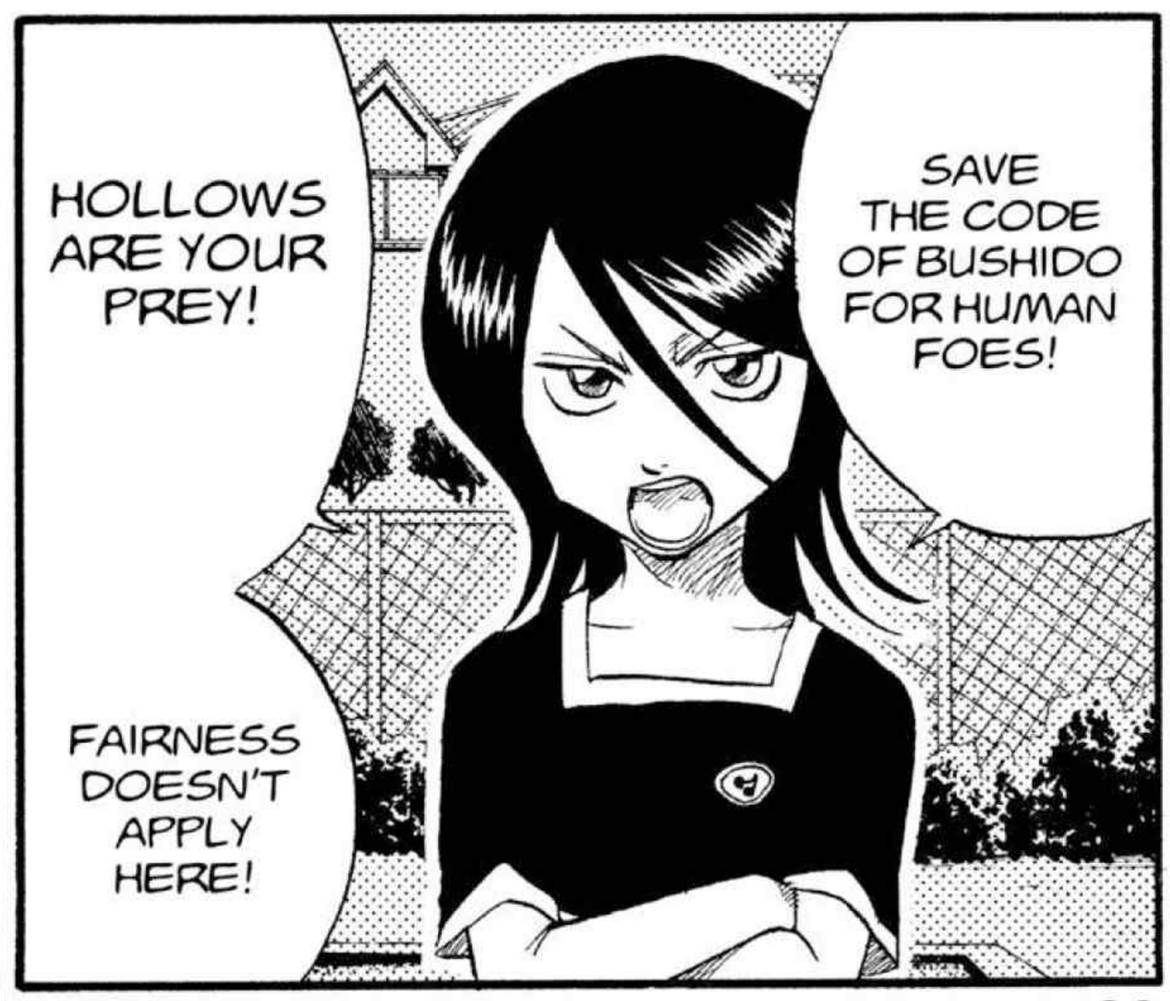
LISTEN!

ONE GOOD WHACK WILL SPLIT IT OPEN LIKE A MELON!





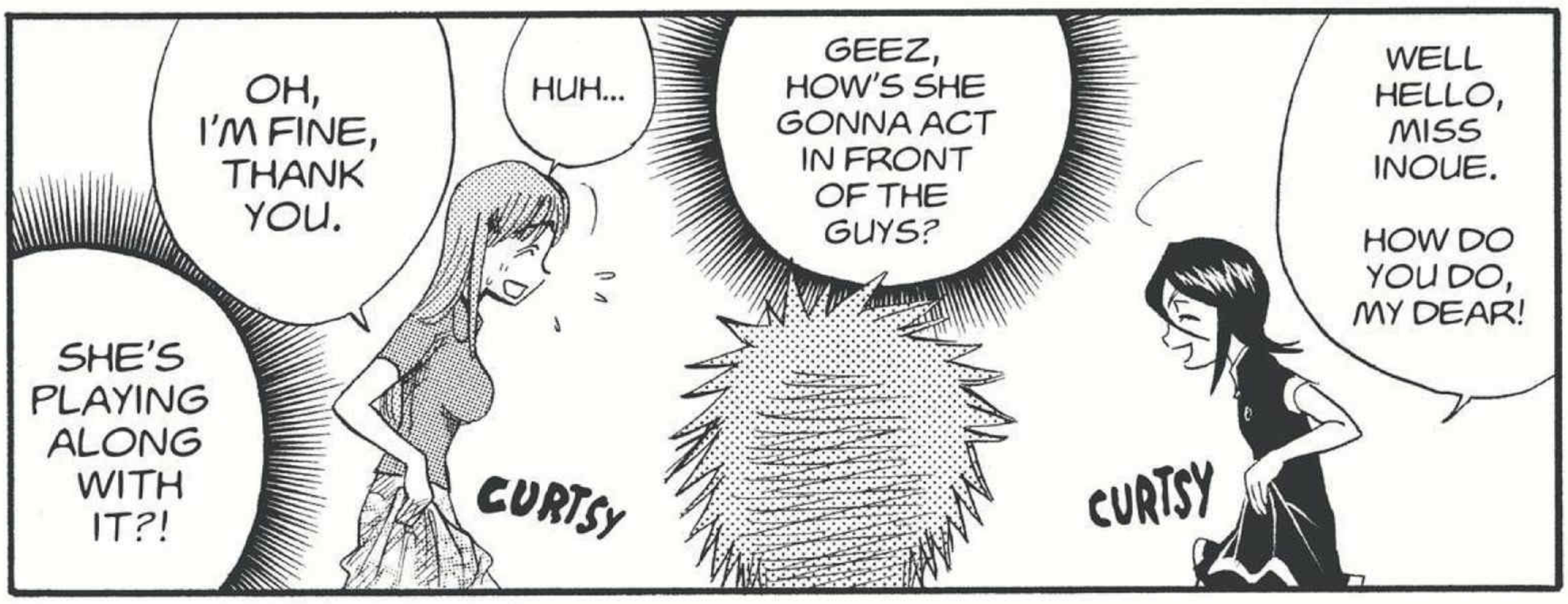




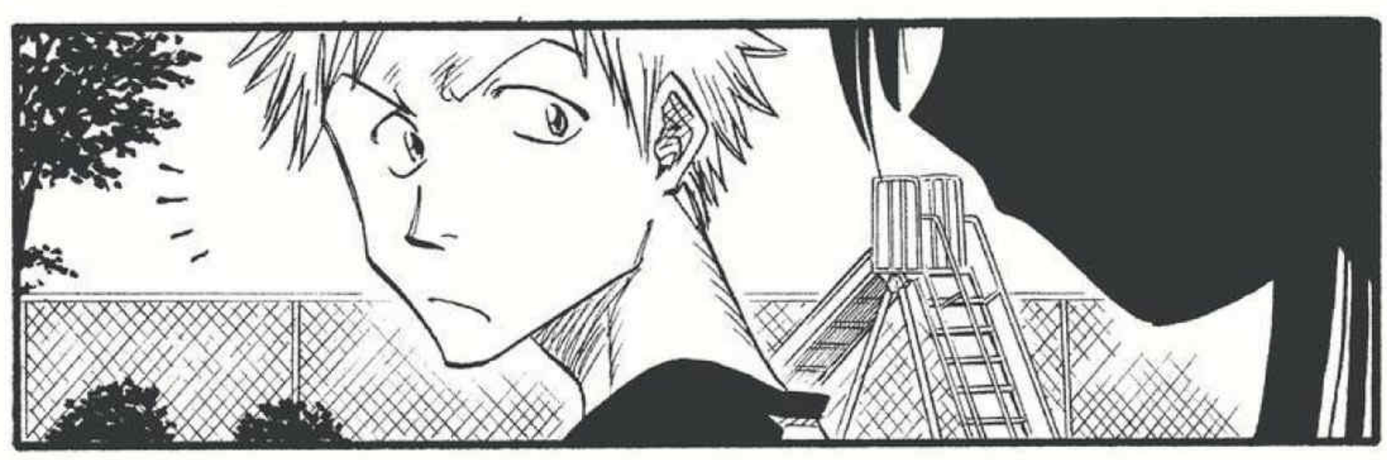
...I JUST...
...
EEEEK !!
BA-BOOM
HI, ICHI-GO!
GASP
WHAT'S SHE PLANNING TO MAKE?
I BOUGHT LEEKS, BUTTER, BANANAS, AND BEAN JAM JELLY!
SHOP-PING FOR DINNER!
HEE HEE!
ORIHIME!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!?
I'M UH... UM...
WHAT SHOULD I SAY? THE TRUTH IS TOO EMBAR-RASSING.
HUH? ME?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, ICHIGO?

SHE'S ORIHIME INOUE!
SHE'S IN OUR CLASS!
IDIOT!
DO I KNOW YOU?

HUH?
RUKIA!?


OH, I'M FINE, THANK YOU.
HUH...
SHE'S PLAYING ALONG WITH IT?!
CURTSY
GEEZ, HOW'S SHE GONNA ACT IN FRONT OF THE GUYS?
WELL HELLO, MISS INOUE.
HOW DO YOU DO, MY DEAR!
CURTSY

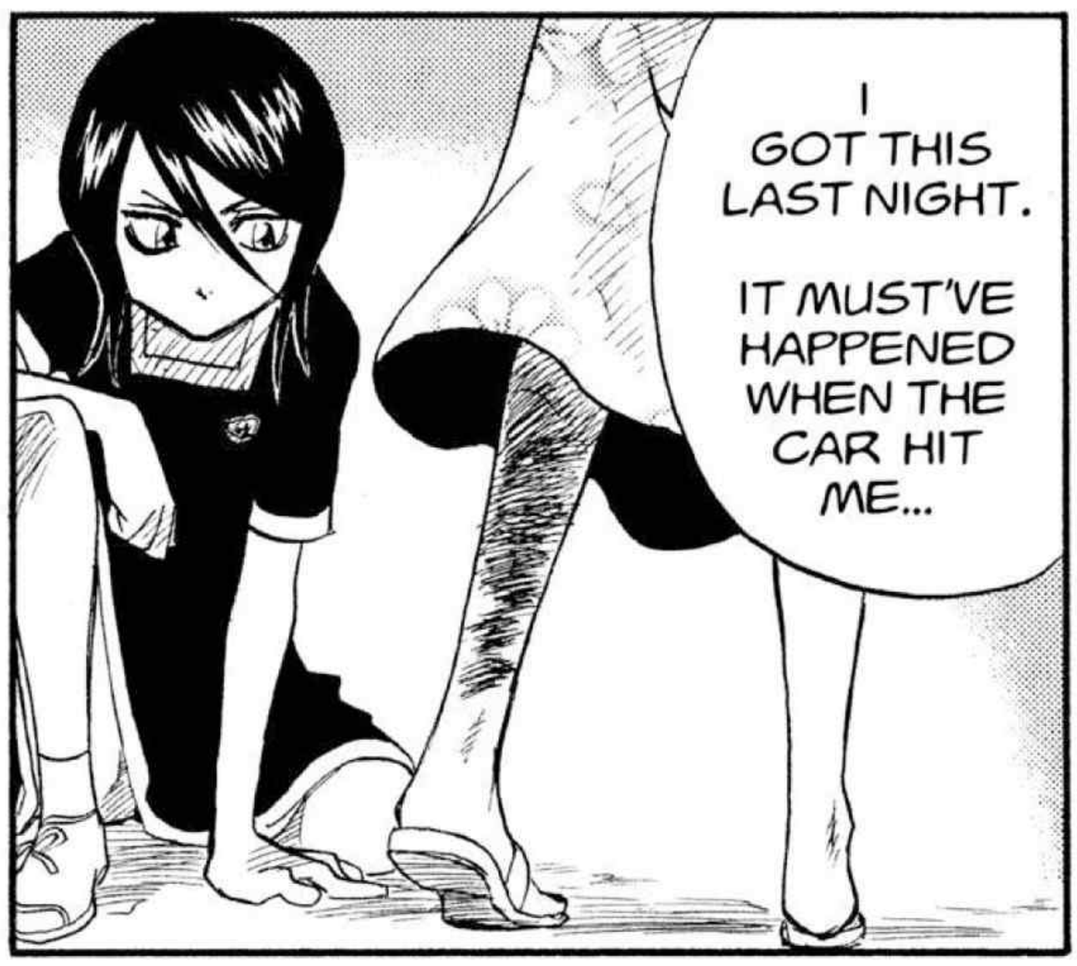
IN OUR CLASS!?

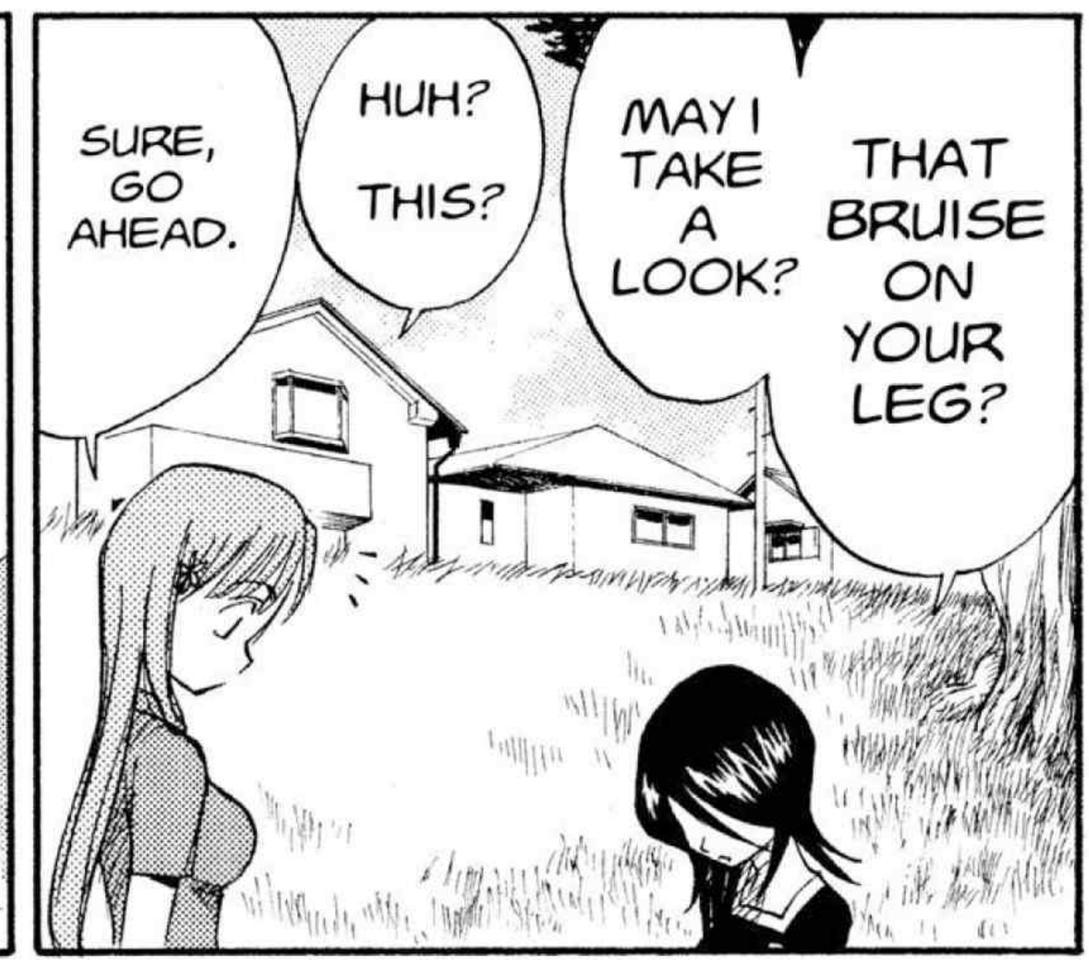


OH THIS?
HUH...
YOUR ARM... WHAT HAPPENED?
NO! I WAS RUN OVER!
YOU FALL AGAIN?

...
....
.....
....
...

READ THIS WAY
BUT THEY DIDN'T HIT ME ON PURPOSE ...
NO HEE HEE!
THAT'S SERIOUS!
AREN'T YOU UPSET?!
I WENT OUT TO BUY A DRINK LAST NIGHT AND--BAM!
I'VE BEEN GETTING RUN OVER A LOT LATELY.
HEE HEE
YEAH.
BY A CAR!?
RUN OVER!?
DON'T BE SO CASUAL ABOUT IT!
I DAY-DREAM ...
ALMOST EVERY DAY!
DOES ORIHIME GET HURT A LOT?
HMM
REALLY ...
MAYBE SHE'S JUST CLUMSY ...


I GOT THIS LAST NIGHT.
IT MUST'VE HAPPENED WHEN THE CAR HIT ME...


SURE, GO AHEAD.
HUH? THIS?
MAY I TAKE A LOOK?
THAT BRUISE ON YOUR LEG?

!

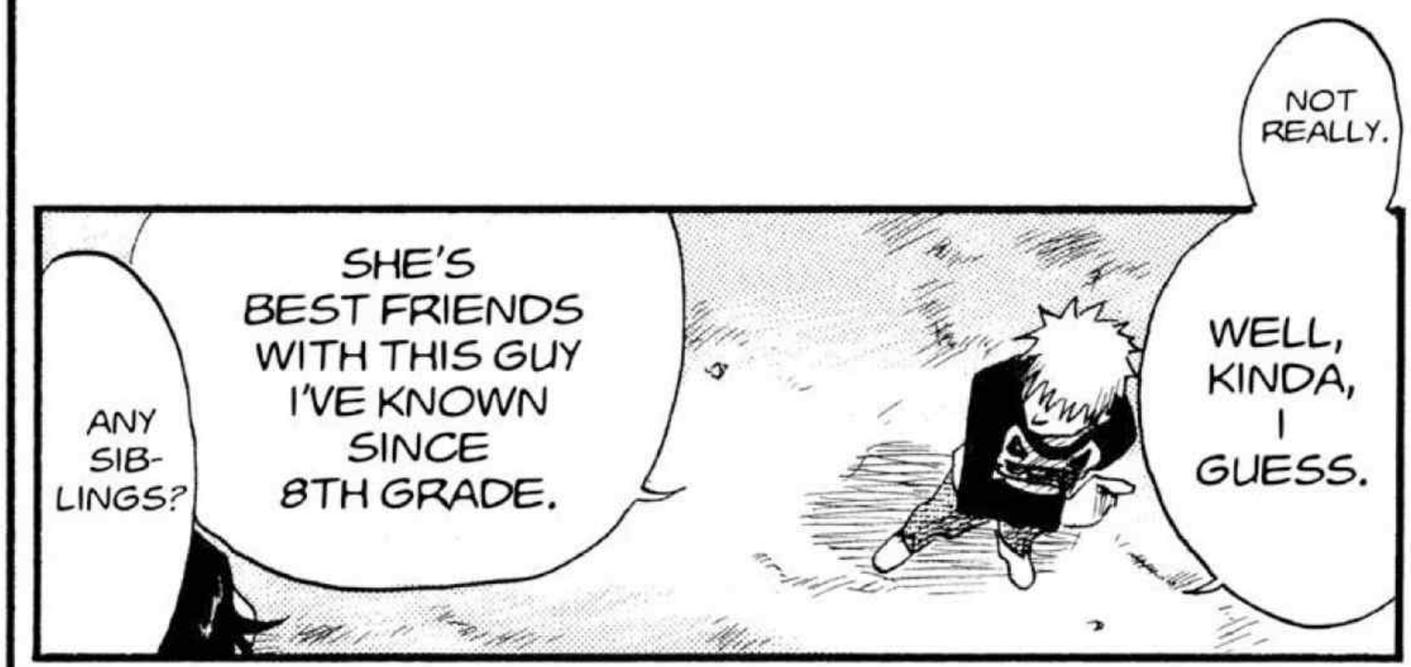
REALLY !?
SPEAKING IS NOT COMMUNICATION
HOW DID YOU KNOW!?
MY LEG HURTS WORSE THAN MY ARM!

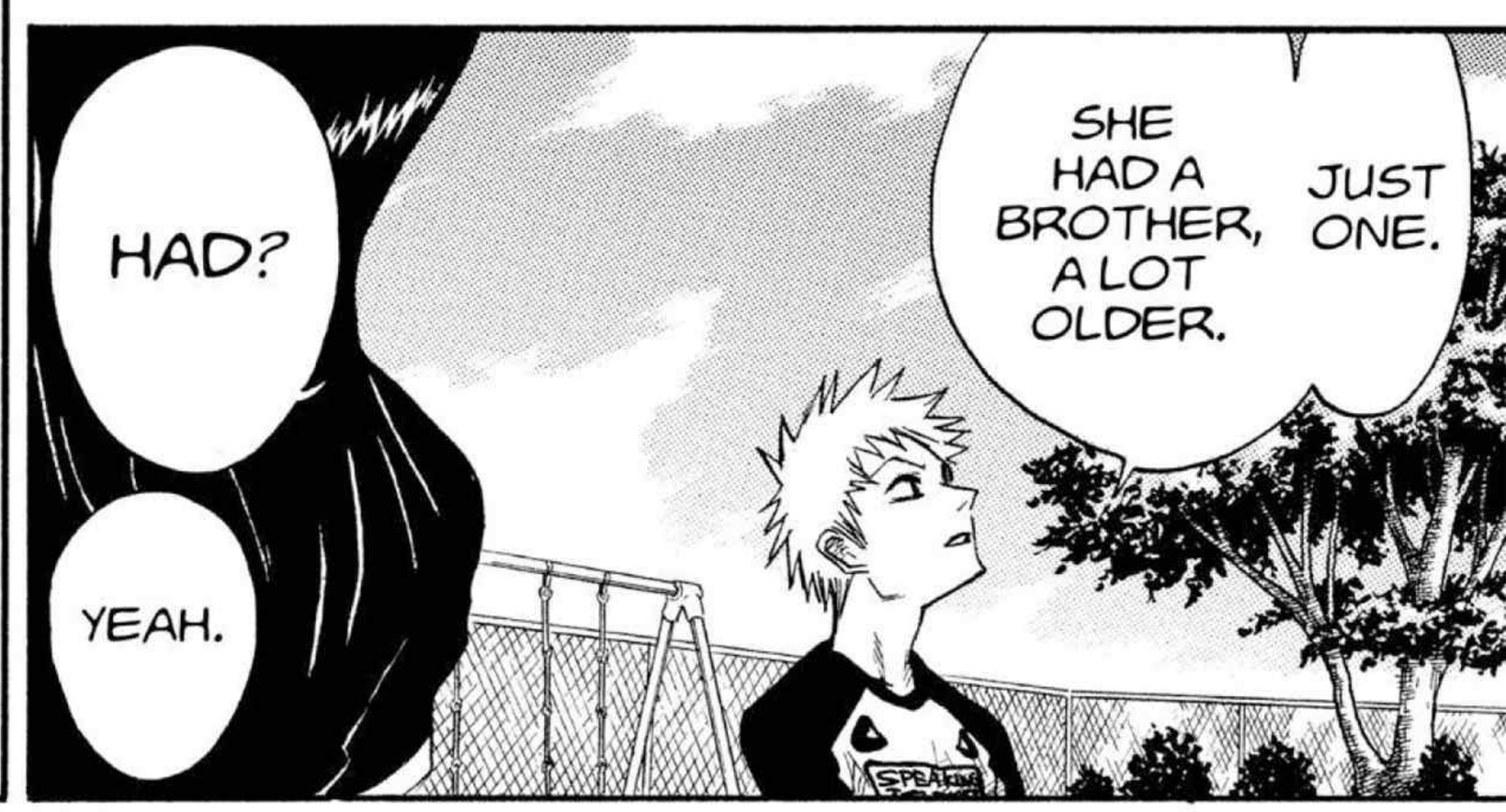
OH, IT'S NOTHING.
HUH?
IT JUST LOOKS SO PAINFUL ...
RUKIA? WHY ARE YOU LOOKING LIKE THAT?

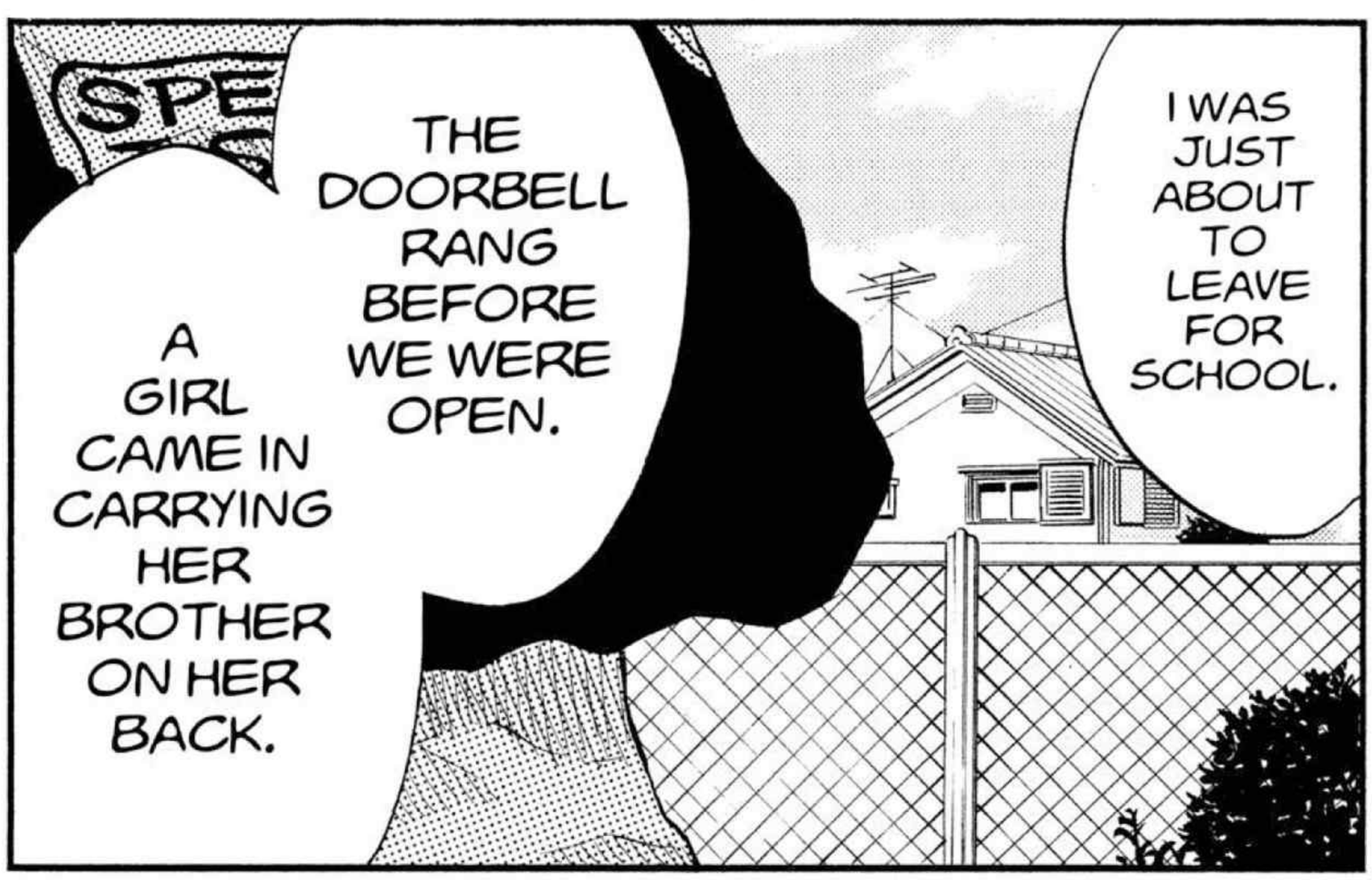
WHY ARE YOU BLUSHING ?
HUH?
...UM...
MAYBE IT'S PARALYZED OR SOMETHING!?
YOU SHOULD GO TO THE DOCTOR!

SHOTEN'S GONNA START!
YES!
IN A HUR-RY?
TMP TEE-TMP
READ THIS WAY
I'M LATE!
OH NO!
'KAY! SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW!
HUH? UM...
OKAY! SEE YA TOMORROW THEN!
N-NO, I'M FINE !!
HUH!?
YOU GONNA BE OKAY!? WANT ME TO WALK YOU HOME!?
THAT GIRL...
PHEW ...
JUST WATCHING HER MAKES ME TIRED.
I HOPE SHE'S ALL RIGHT.
ARE YOU TWO CLOSE ?
HUH ?
I'M SO STUPID.
HE COULD'VE BEEN MORE PERSIS-TENT THOUGH...
SHOOT ... I REALLY WANTED TO SAY YES...

HE DIED THREE YEARS AGO.


ANY SIB-LINGS?
SHE'S BEST FRIENDS WITH THIS GUY I'VE KNOWN SINCE 8TH GRADE.
NOT REALLY.
WELL, KINDA, I GUESS.

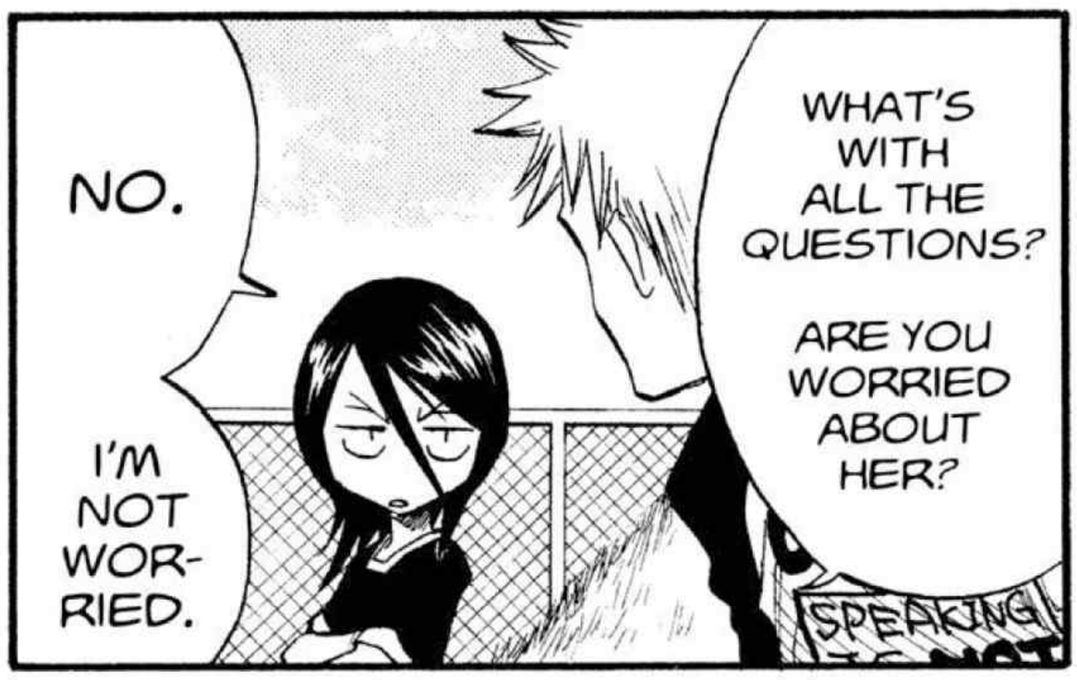

HAD?
YEAH.
SHE HAD A BROTHER, A LOT OLDER.
JUST ONE.

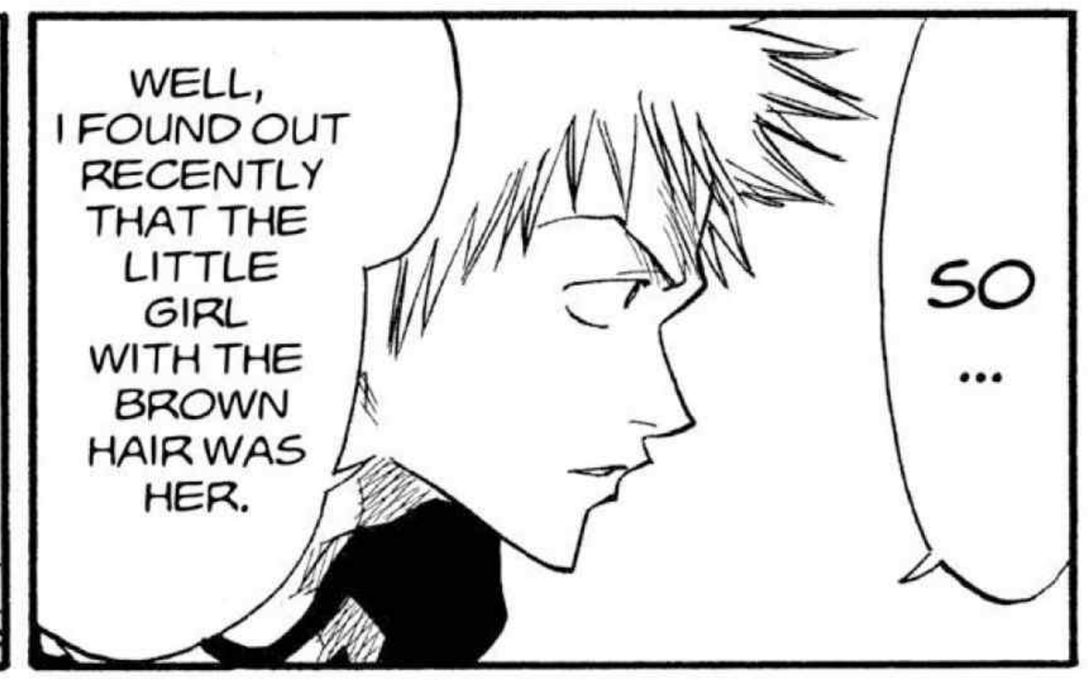

A GIRL CAME IN CARRYING HER BROTHER ON HER BACK.
THE DOORBELL RANG BEFORE WE WERE OPEN.
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR SCHOOL.

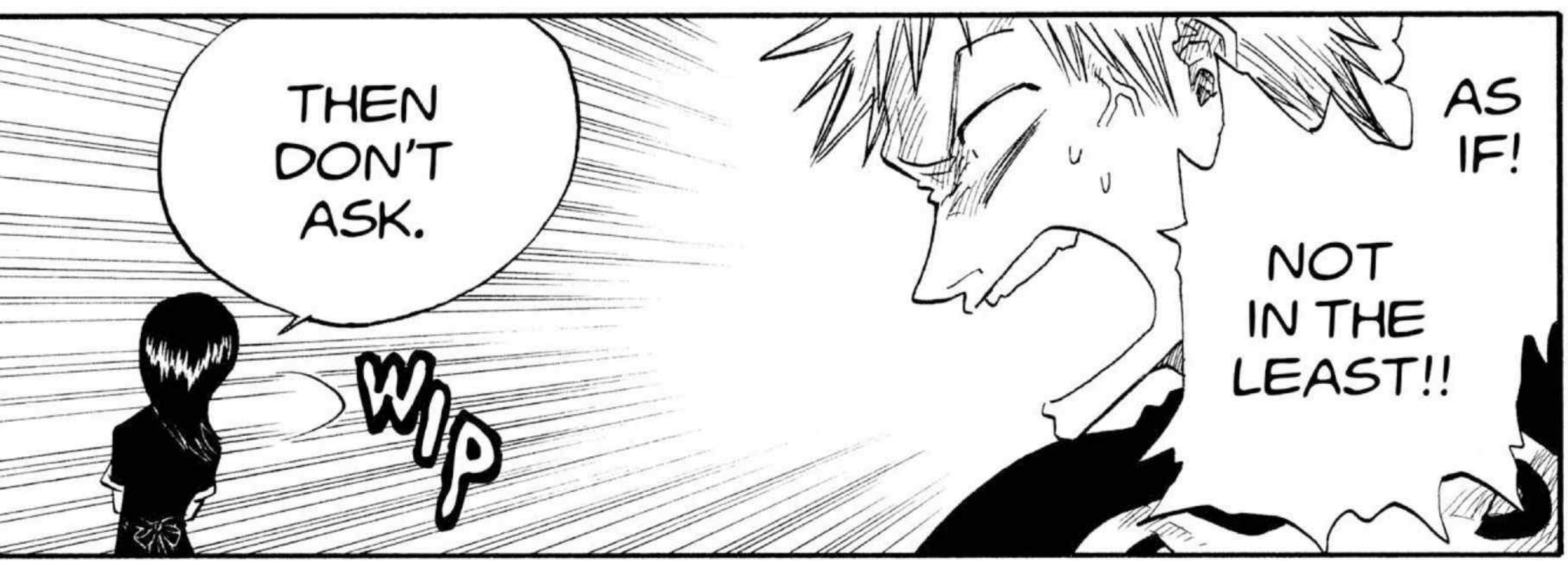
I RE-MEMBER BECAUSE I OPENED THE DOOR.

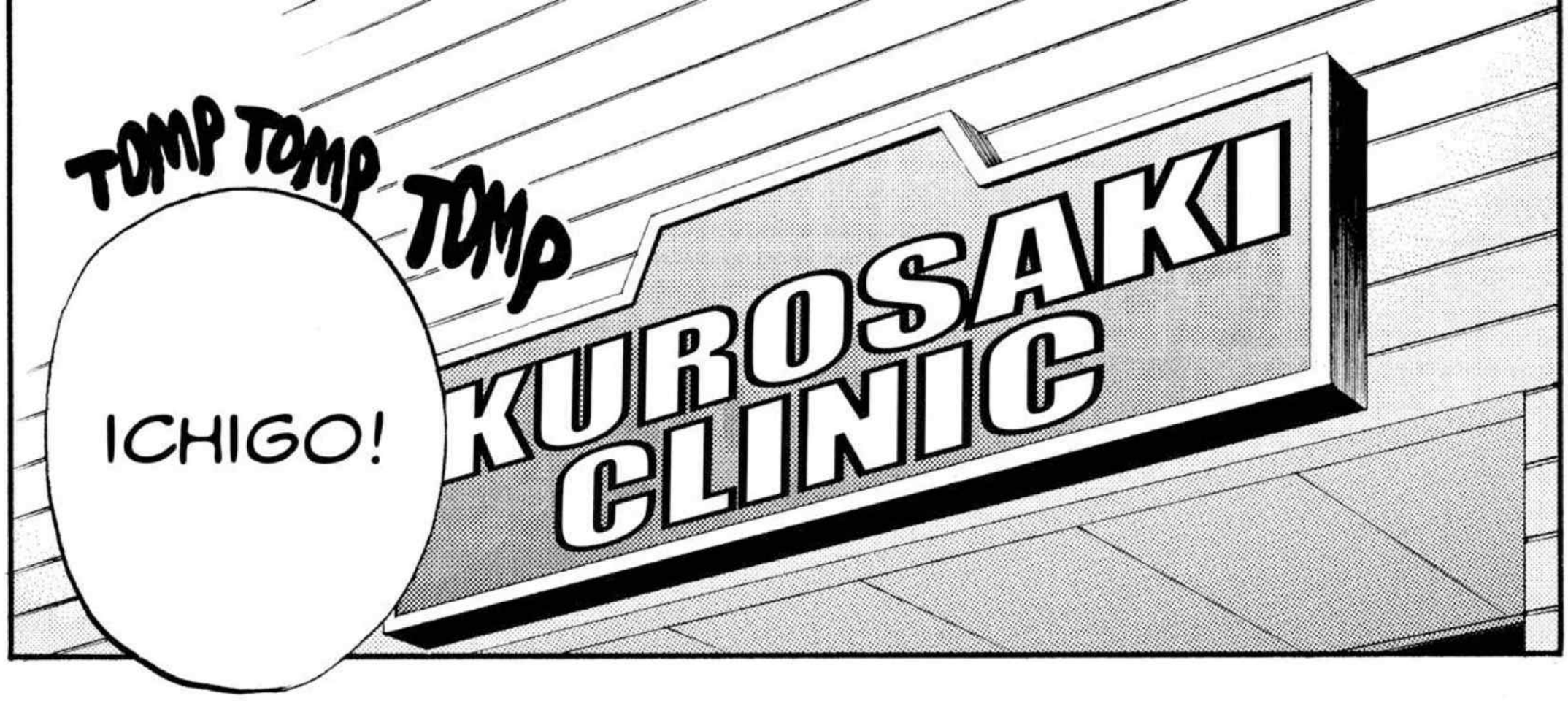
HE DIED WHILE WE WERE ARRANGING HIS TRANSFER TO A BIG HOSPITAL.
WE DIDN'T HAVE THE EQUIPMENT TO SAVE HIM.
HE WAS COVERED WITH BLOOD.
THEY SAID IT WAS A CAR ACCIDENT.

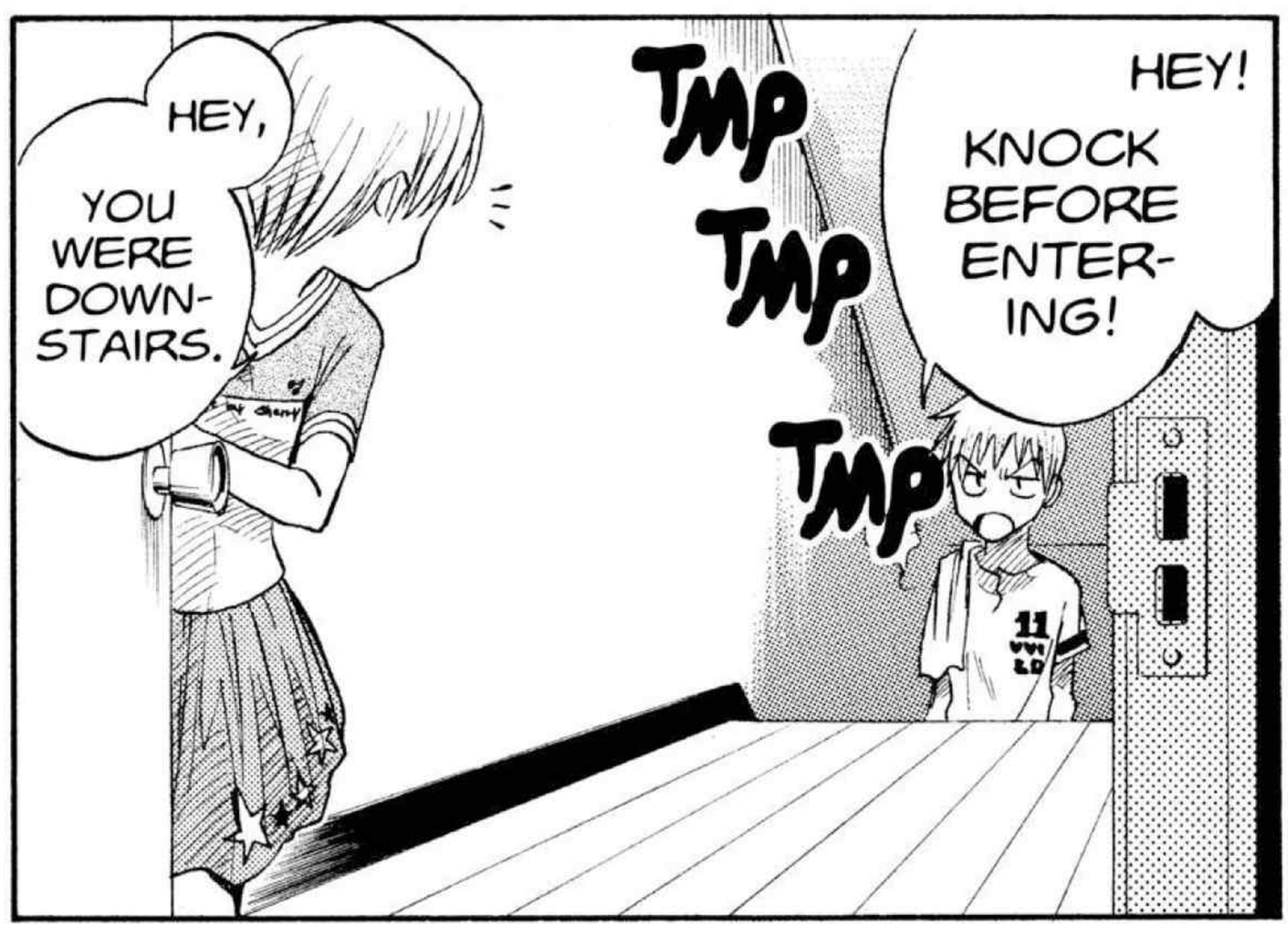
READ THIS WAY





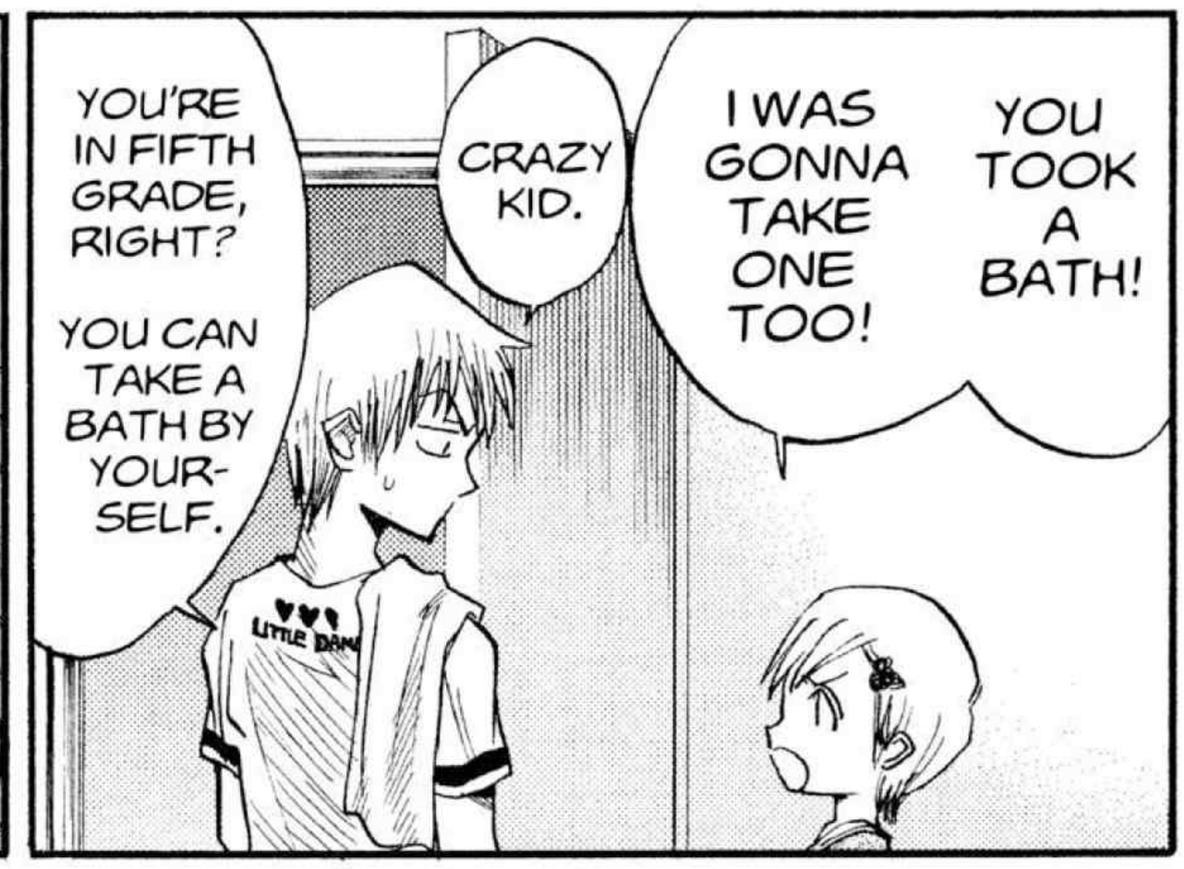



TOMP TOMP TOMP
KUROSAKI CLINIC
ICHIGO!


HEY, YOU WERE DOWN-STAIRS.
TMP TMP TMP
HEY! KNOCK BEFORE ENTER-ING!

YOU KNOW WHERE MY DRESS IS?
KLUK

ICHIGO... YOU'VE GOTTEN MEAN SINCE YOU STARTED HIGH SCHOOL!
NO I HAVE-N'T!
HM
AND I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOUR DRESS IS.


YOU'RE IN FIFTH GRADE, RIGHT?
YOU CAN TAKE A BATH BY YOUR-SELF.
CRAZY KID.
I WAS GONNA TAKE ONE TOO!
YOU TOOK A BATH!

YOU THINK I'M STEALING YOUR CLOTHES?
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT EITHER!

MY PAJAMAS ARE MISSING TOO!
WHAT !!

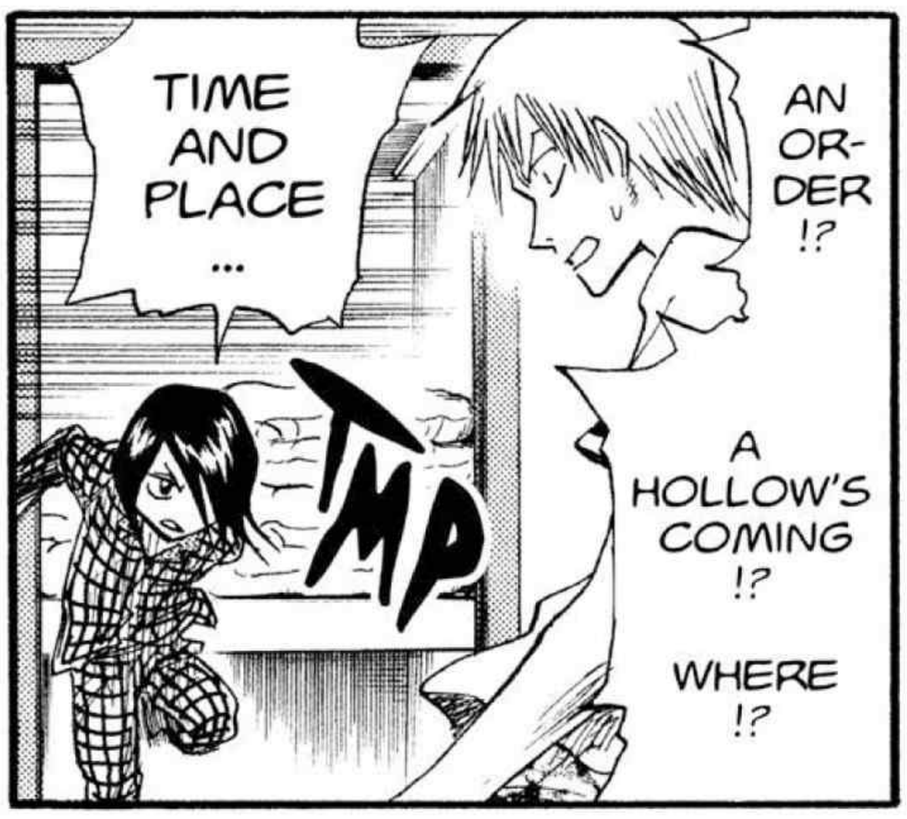
READ THIS WAY
!
BEEP BEEP
...
BEEP
AN ORDER ...
WHERE?
KLUK
BEEP BEEP
!!

BEEP
HMM, IT STOP-PED.

BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP
IS YUZU OR KARIN PLAYING A GAME OR SOME-THING?
GEEZ
WHAT ? THIS LATE ?

BEEP

WOO
WHOA !!
ICHIGO !!
SCH


TIME AND PLACE ...
TMP
AN OR-DER !?
A HOLLOW'S COMING !?
WHERE !?

NEVER MIND THAT!
IT'S AN ORDER !!
THOSE ARE YUZU'S PAJA-MAS!
H-H-H-HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN THERE !?

SN
HERE ...
AND NOW !!
PO
WHAT ...

CRE

SHWAA
AIM FOR THE HEAD!!
I KNOW !!

TOO SHALLOW !!

!!

GRAAAAR!

IKO

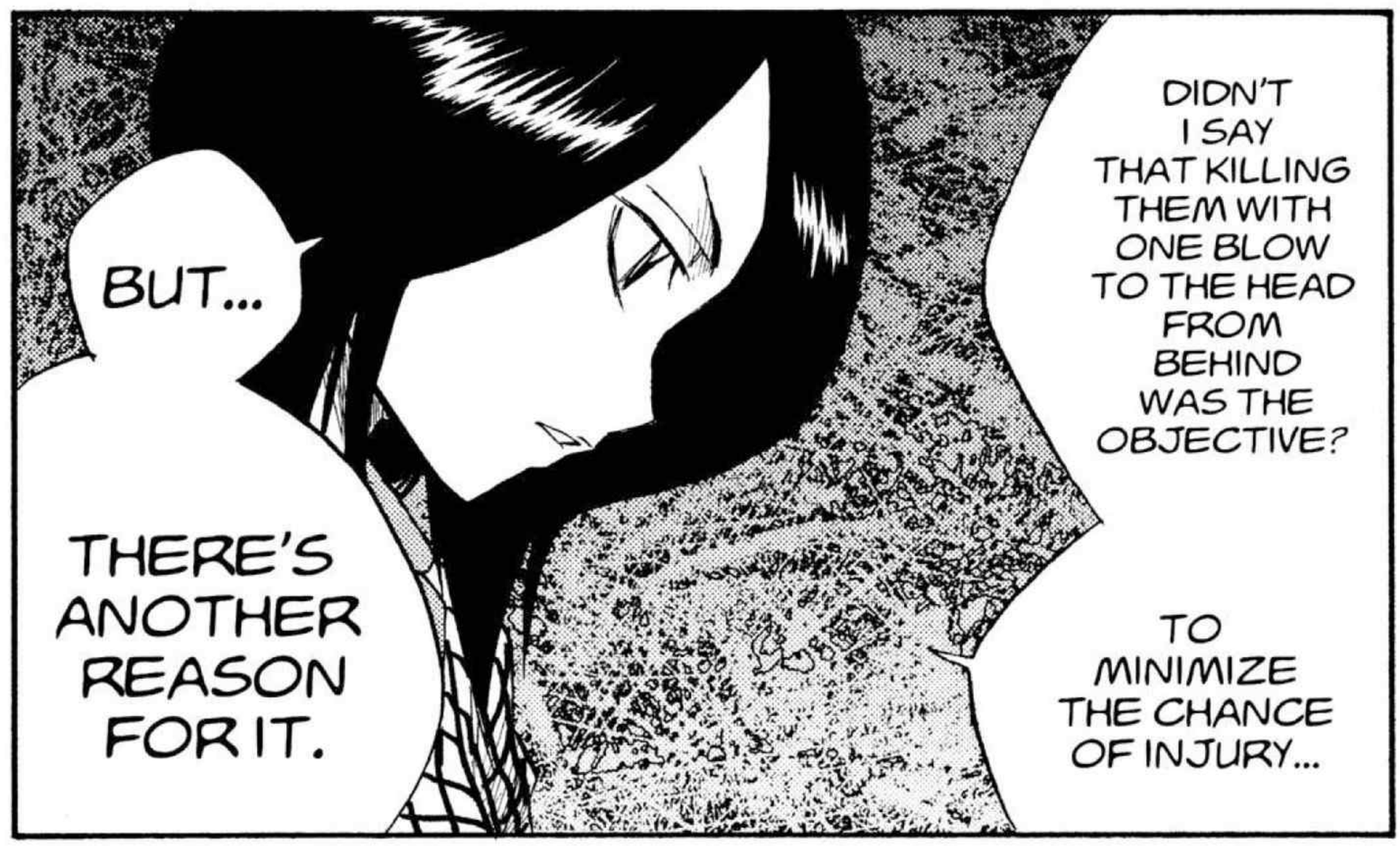
LET'S GO!!

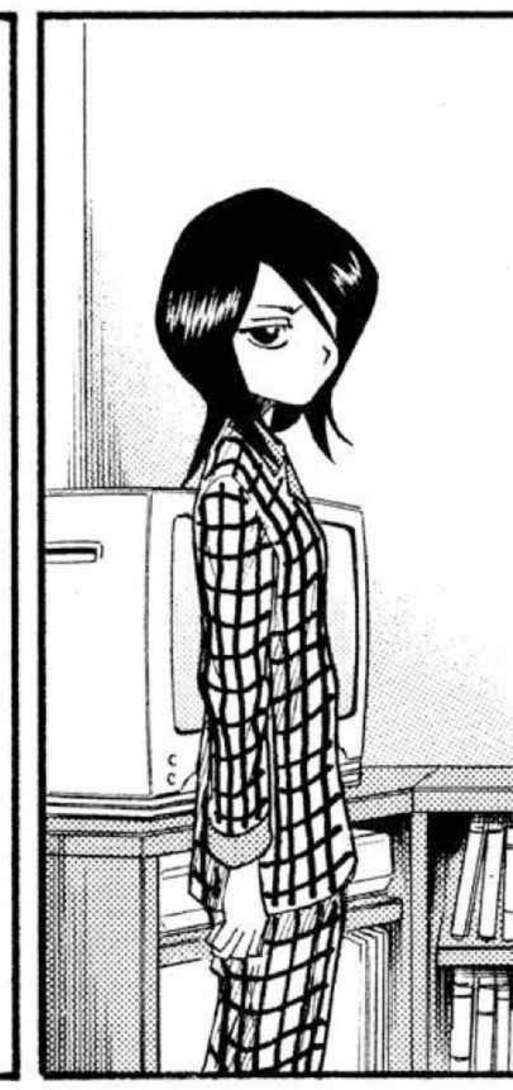
WAIT !!

IT GOT AWAY !

WHAT'S GOING ON?

ORIHIME'S BROTHER!
THAT WAS...

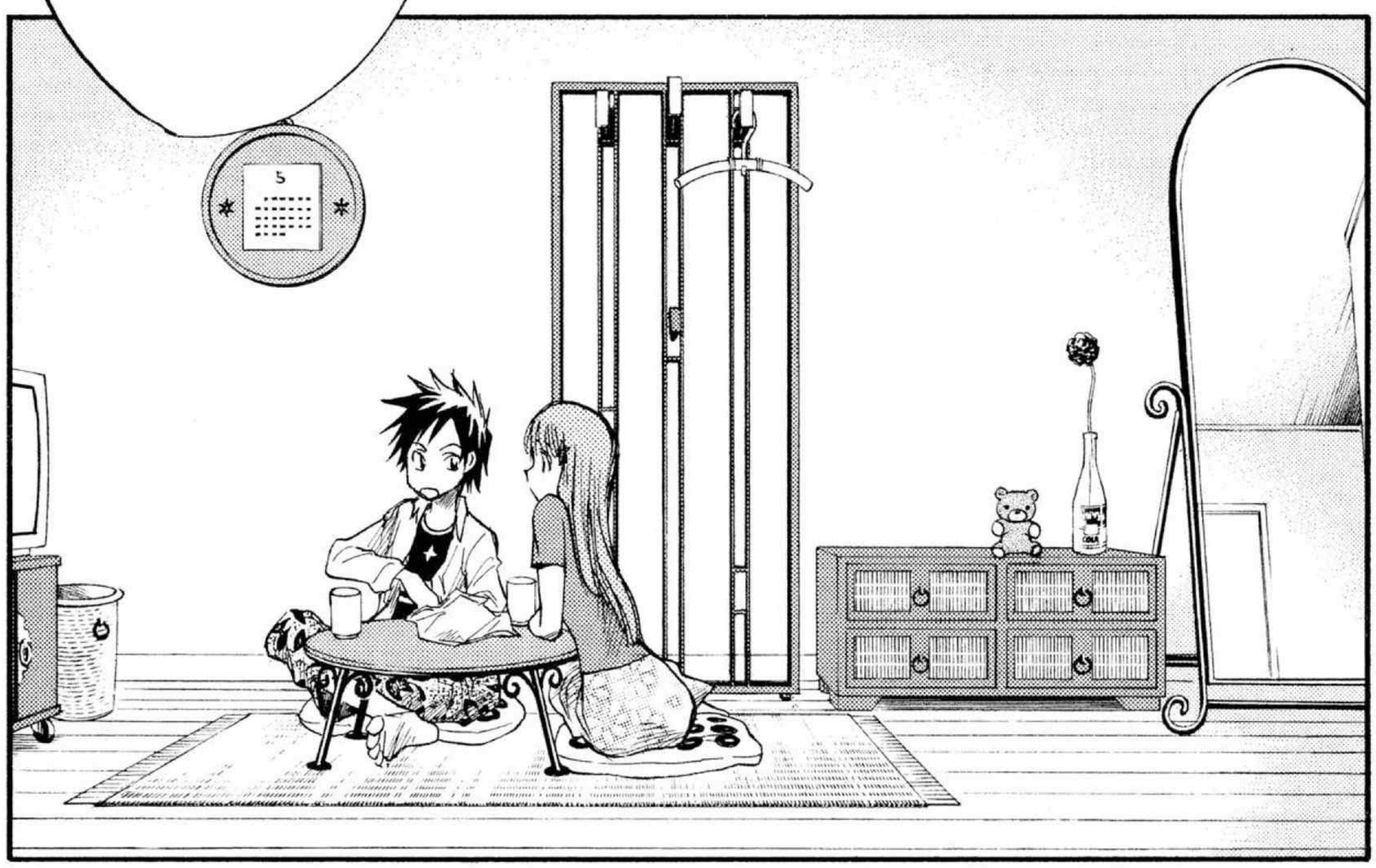

BUT...
THERE'S ANOTHER REASON FOR IT.
DIDN'T I SAY THAT KILLING THEM WITH ONE BLOW TO THE HEAD FROM BEHIND WAS THE OBJECTIVE?
TO MINIMIZE THE CHANCE OF INJURY...

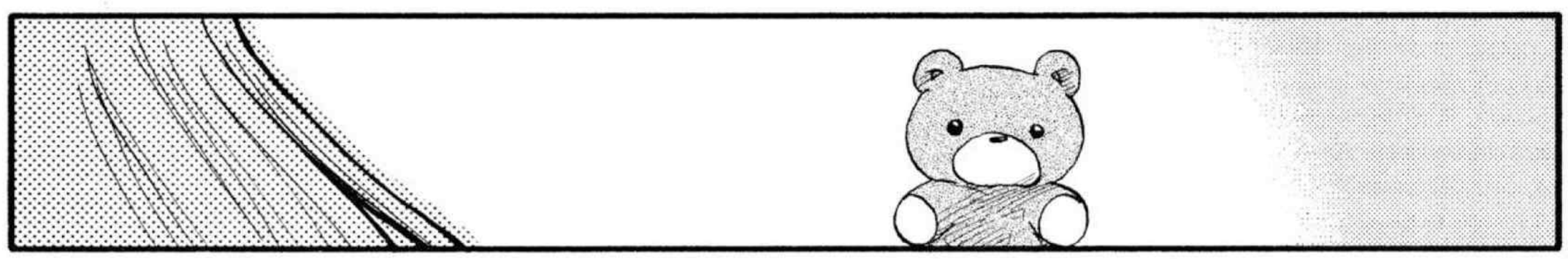


SO YOU NEVER LEARN THE HOLLOW'S HUMAN IDENTITY!
ONE BLOW TO KILL THEM ...

ALL HOLLOWS ...

WERE LIVING PEOPLE ONCE!!





SMALL ITEMS SERIES 1

THE COMIC RUKIA IS READING IN EPISODE 3.

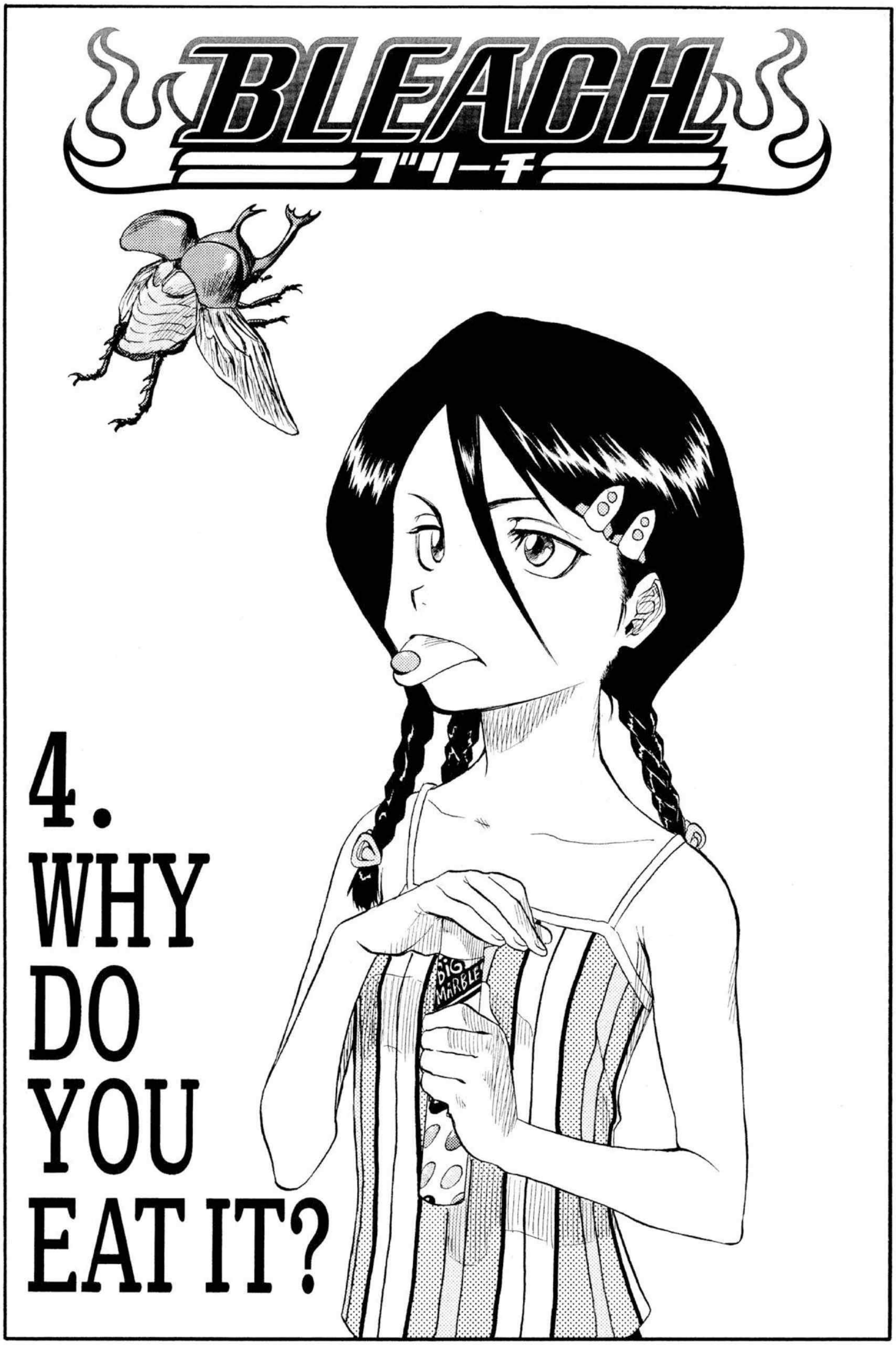
"THE JADE HERMITAGE"

WRITTEN BY: MARIE HATSUE

A STORY ABOUT
SOFT-MASOCHIST MARIANNE (OLDER SISTER)
AND HARD-GAY FRANCOISE (YOUNGER SISTER)
DOING ALL SORTS OF THINGS OVER
A JADE BOX GIVEN TO THEM BY THEIR MOTHER
(52-YEAR-OLD-WRESTLER).

SUPER SCARY STUFF

4. WHY DO YOU EAT IT?


BLEACH
ブリーチ
4.
WHY
DO
YOU
EAT IT?
BIG MARBLE

THAT'S RIGHT !!

NORMAL ?!

YOU DIDN'T ...!

I THOUGHT THEY WERE **MONSTERS?**

I GOTTA KILL 'EM?

WHA ...

AND WE MUST KILL THEM!

THEY **ARE** MONSTERS **NOW!**

NO TIME TO ARGUE!

SO THE ONES I WHACKED USED TO BE...!

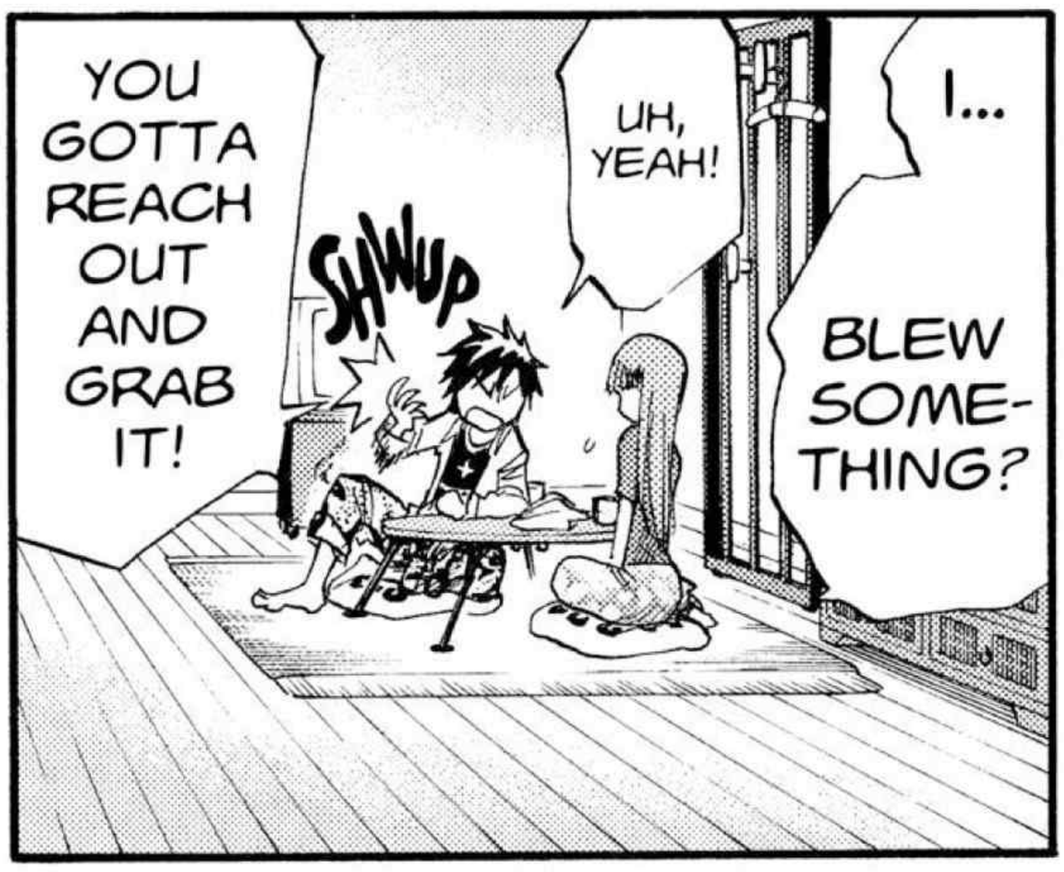
SO...!

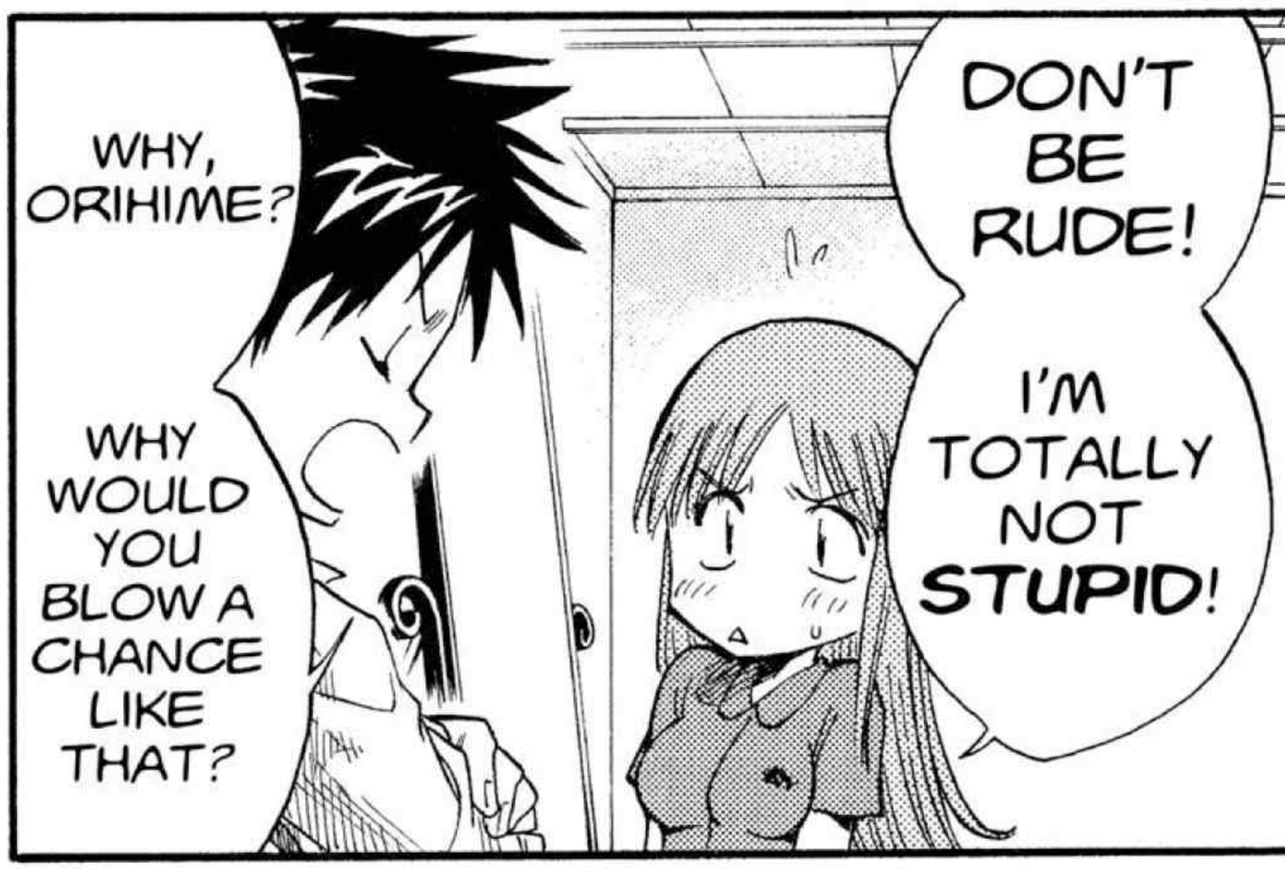
SO...!

GOING TO DIE!

THAT GIRL IS...

ARE YOU FREAKIN' STUPID?!





THAT ICHIGO'S NO SLOUCH ...

BUT HE'S ALREADY GETTING PRETTY CHUMMY WITH THAT NEW GIRL...

BOOBS?

HMMM, ACTUALLY, YOU COULD JUST SHOVE THOSE MAGNIFICENT BOOBS IN HIS FACE AND LET **HIM** ATTACK **YOU**!

THEN IT'S ALL **HIS** FAULT!

TATSUKI !!

PLIP PLIP PLIP PLIP

...ALONE IN THE PARK...

DA-DUM

ME ?

AND ICHIGO ?

HAVE **YOU** EVER BEEN TO THE PARK WITH ICHIGO?

WE WENT TO THE ARCADE ONCE...

OH, I JUST SAW THEM IN THE PARK TOGETHER.

HEE HEE HEE

ICHIGO ~~~~~~!!

HA HA HA HA HA

HEY! ORIHIME !!

READY ...

GO!!

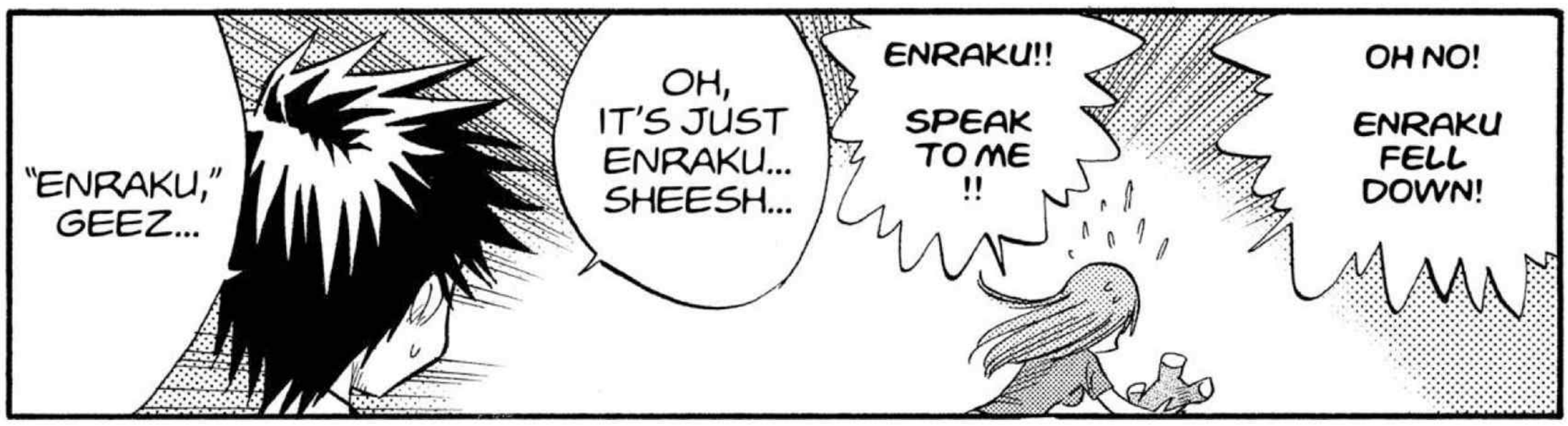
OH, ICHIGO! THAT PRACTICALLY RHYMES! YOU'RE AMAZING, ICHIGO!

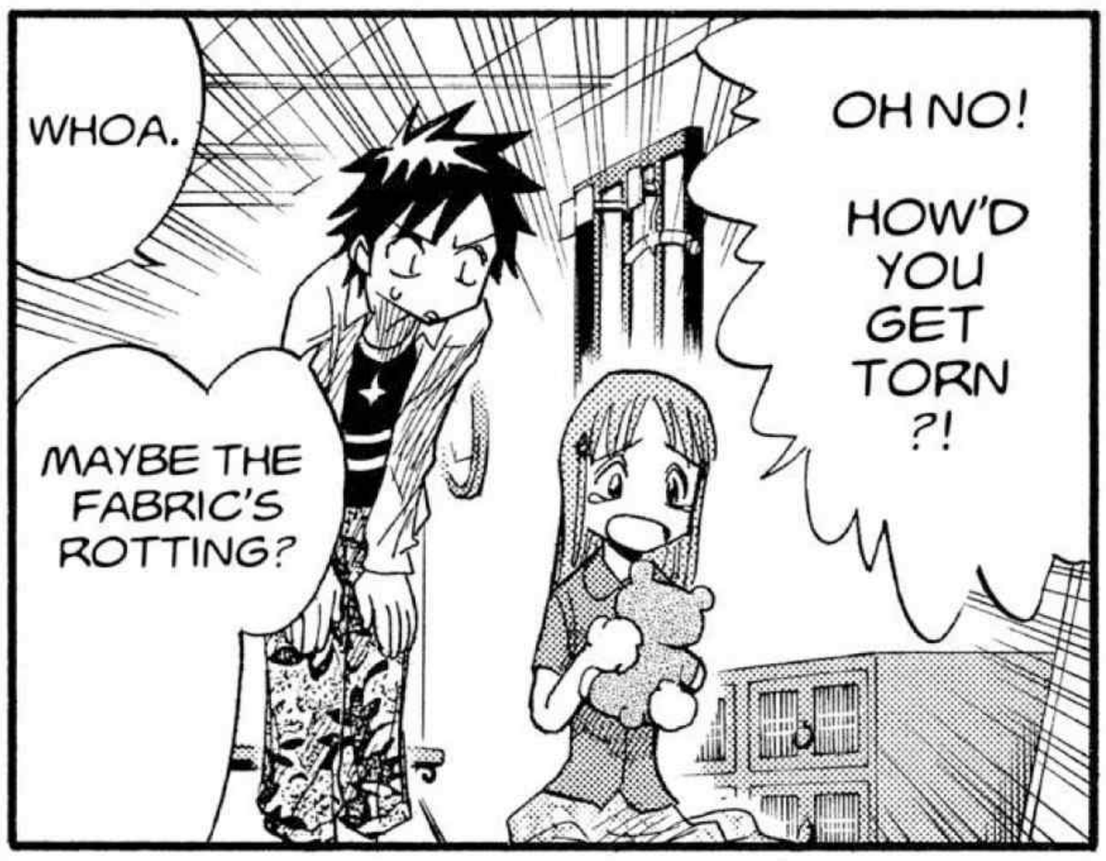
OKAY!

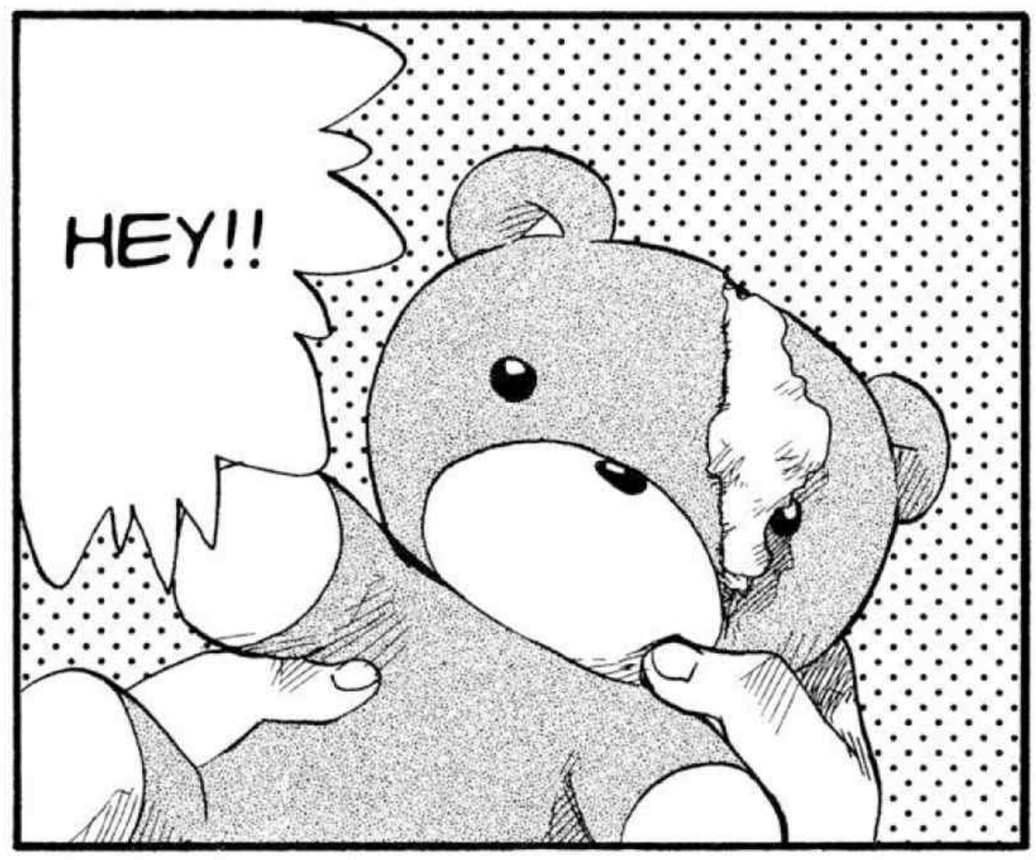
C'MON! RACE YOU TO THE TEETER-TOTTER!

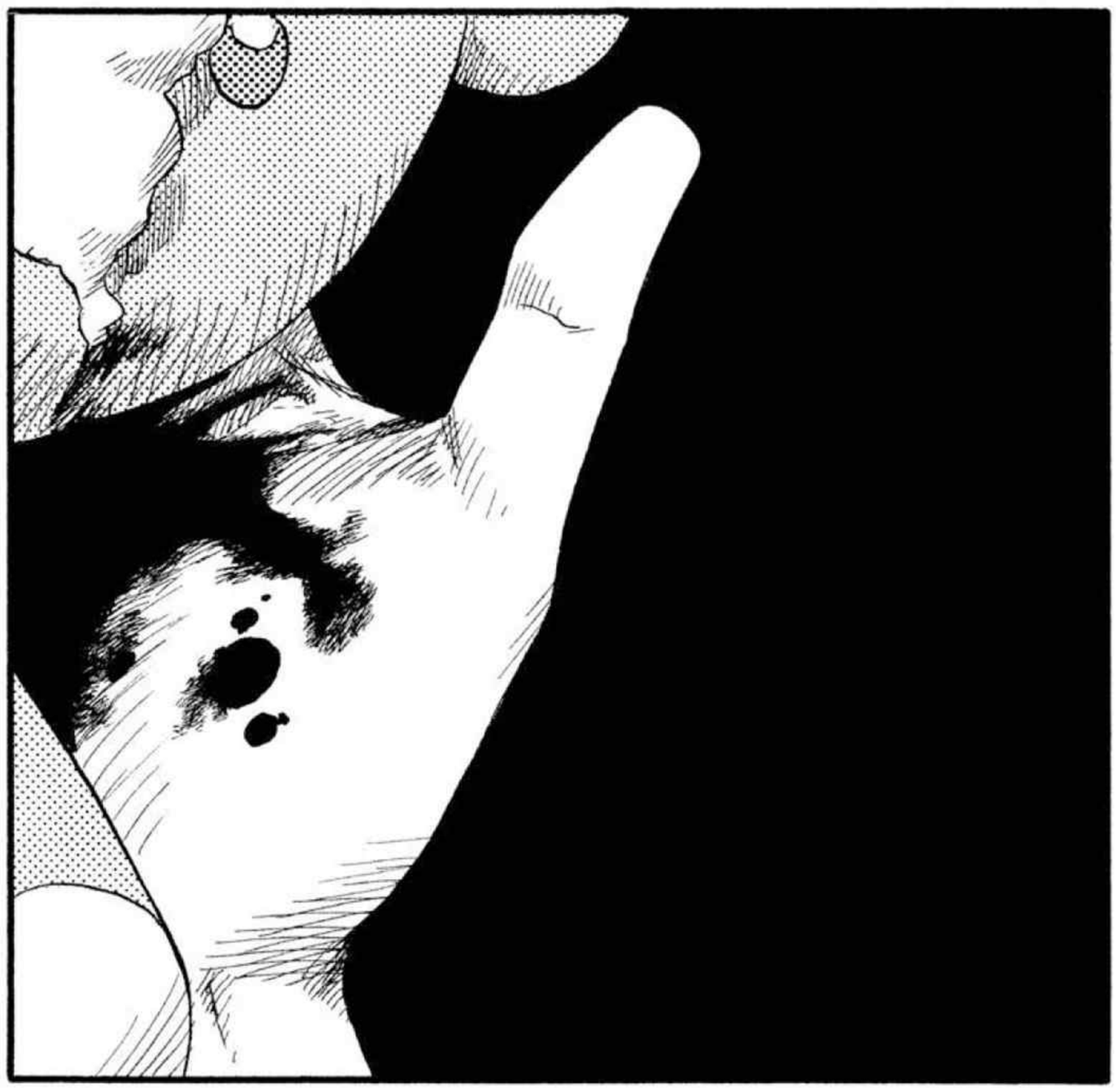
5001
!!

TYRANO INOUE
!!
TOM
WHAT THE...?
WHAT ?!
I MEAN, CHAMP !!
RUN!
RUN, ME!!
LOOK OUT !!
I THOUGHT THIS WAS A PARK FANTASY ?!
BLAM!
WHAT WAS THAT...
WH...
... SOUND ...?
JUMP


"ENRAKU," GEEZ...
OH, IT'S JUST ENRAKU... SHEESH...
ENRAKU!! SPEAK TO ME !!
OH NO! ENRAKU FELL DOWN!


WHOA.
MAYBE THE FABRIC'S ROTTING?
OH NO! HOW'D YOU GET TORN ?!


HEY!!



THAT CAN'T BE...
SHLOOP

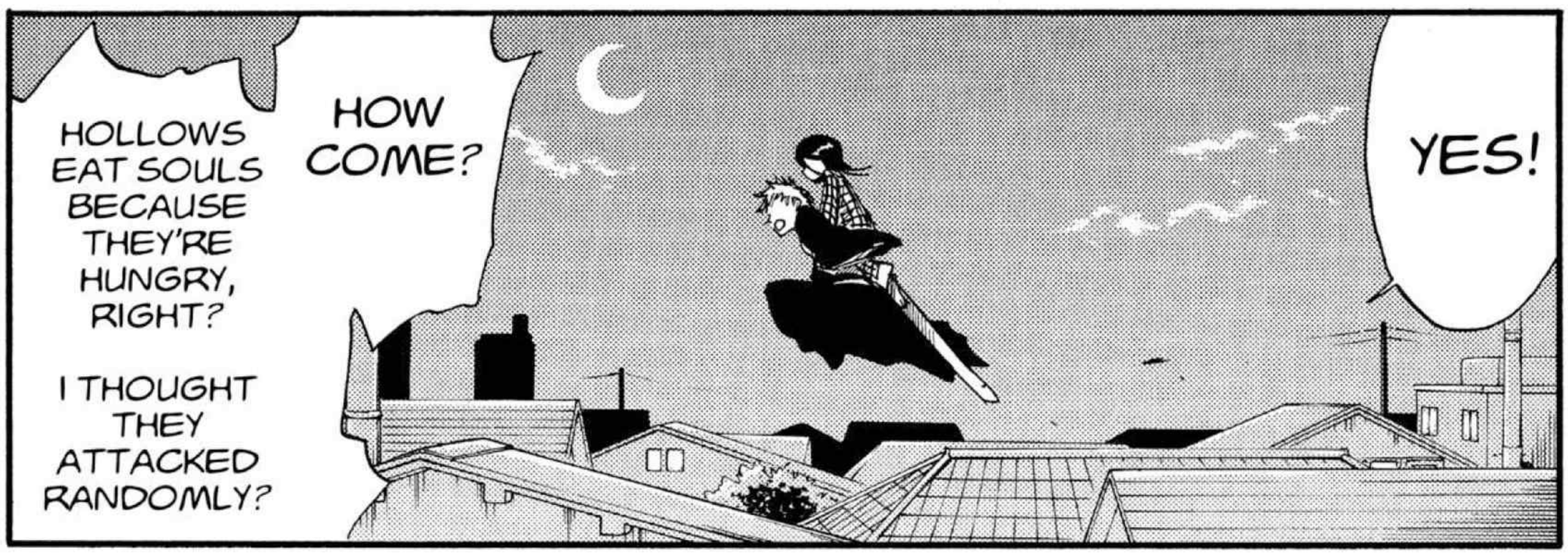
BLOOD...
IT LOOKS LIKE...
WHAT'S THIS?

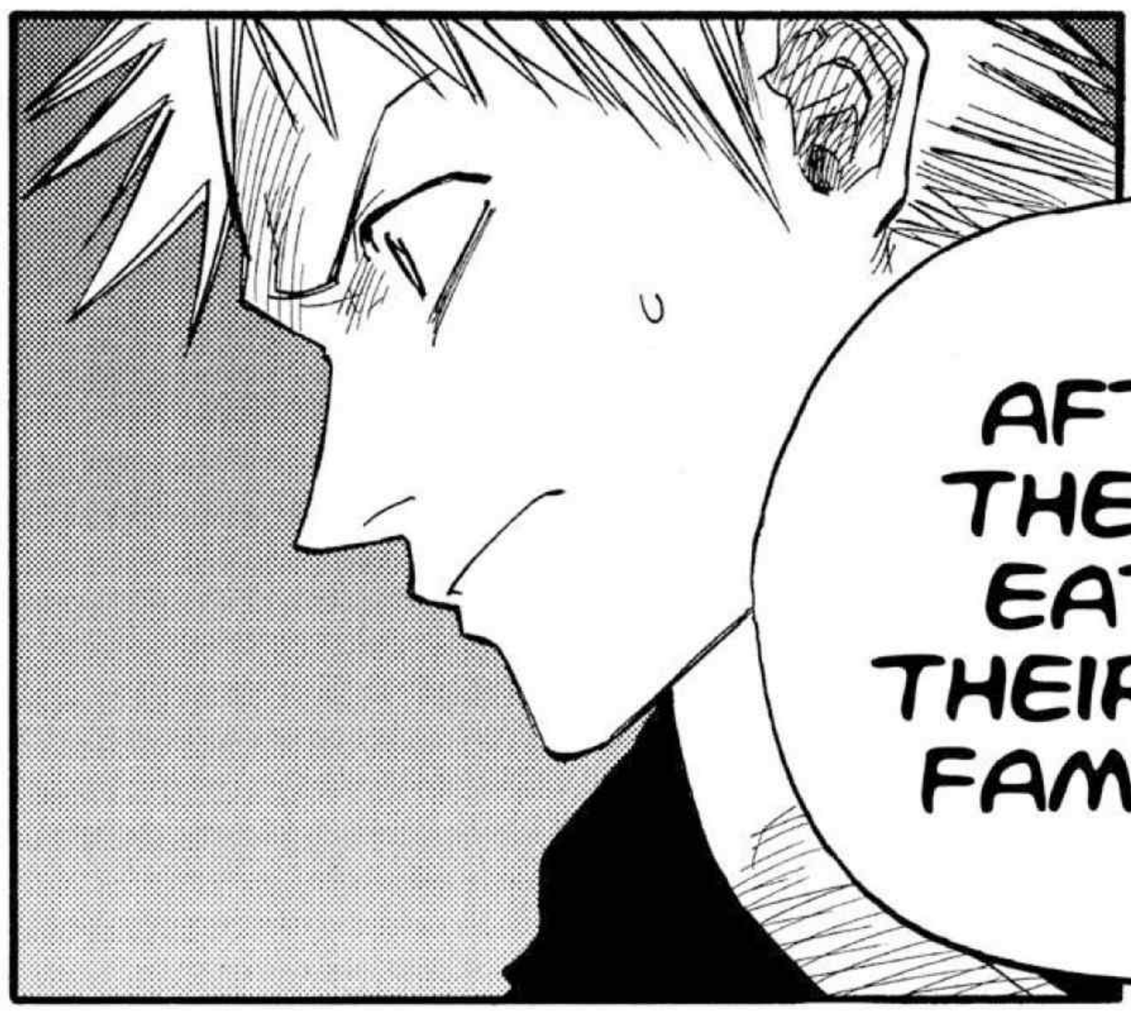
WHOA!
ORIHIME ?!
WHAT'S WRONG ?!
HEY!

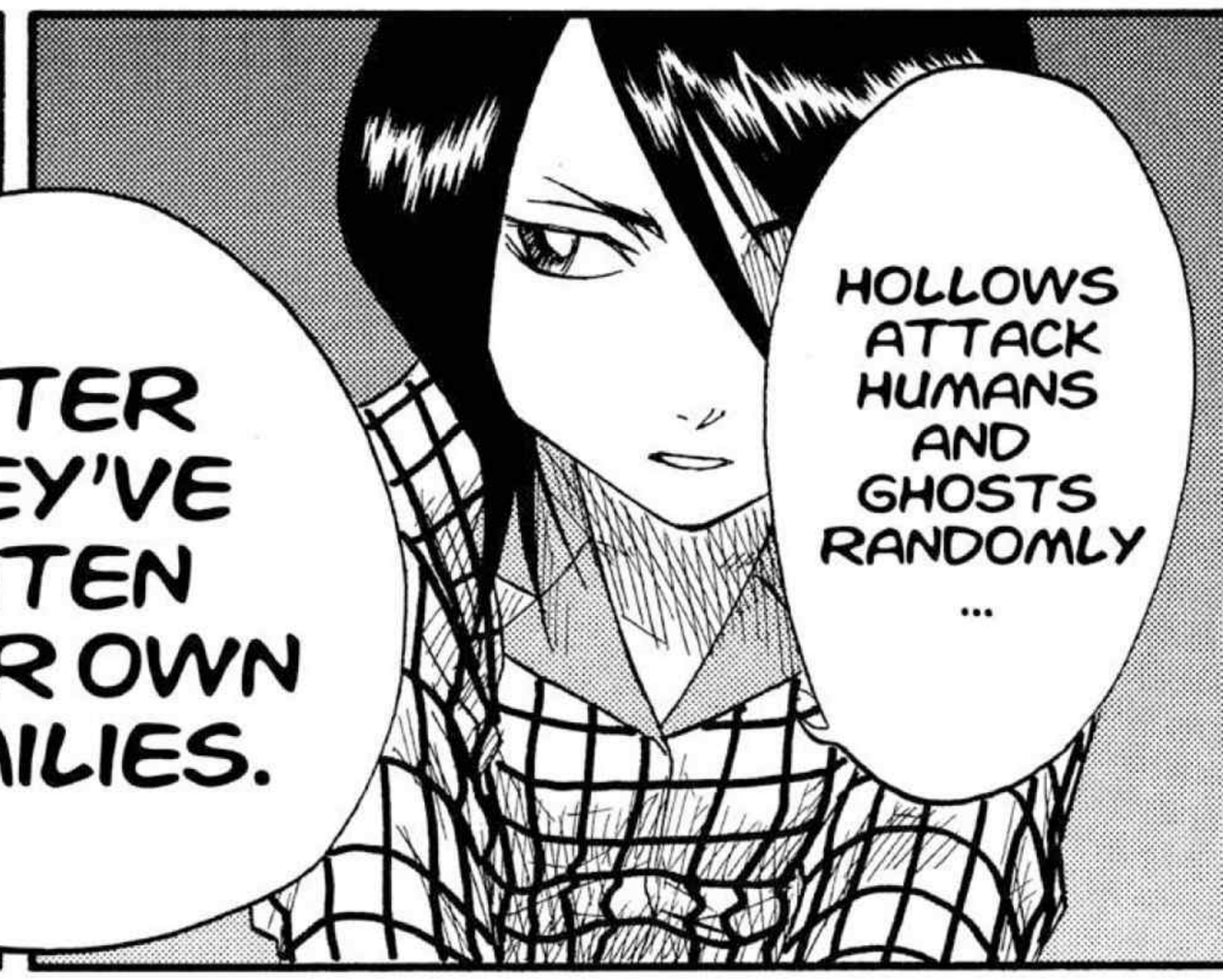
WHAT HAPPENED ?!

ATTACK THEIR OWN FAMILY ?!

HOLLOWS ...







THEY EAT SOULS TO EASE THEIR PAIN.

THEY DON'T EAT SOULS BECAUSE THEY ARE HUNGRY.

THESE FALL, LOSE THEIR HEARTS ... AND BECOME HOLLOWS THEM-SELVES.

SOULS THAT WEREN'T SAVED FROM OTHER HOLLOWS.

SOULS THAT WERE LEFT BEHIND ...

SOULS THAT WERE NOT ADMITTED TO THE SOUL SOCIETY BY A SOUL REAPER ...

HOLLOWS ARE FALLEN SOULS.

IT STALKS THE PEOPLE IT LOVED MOST IN LIFE.

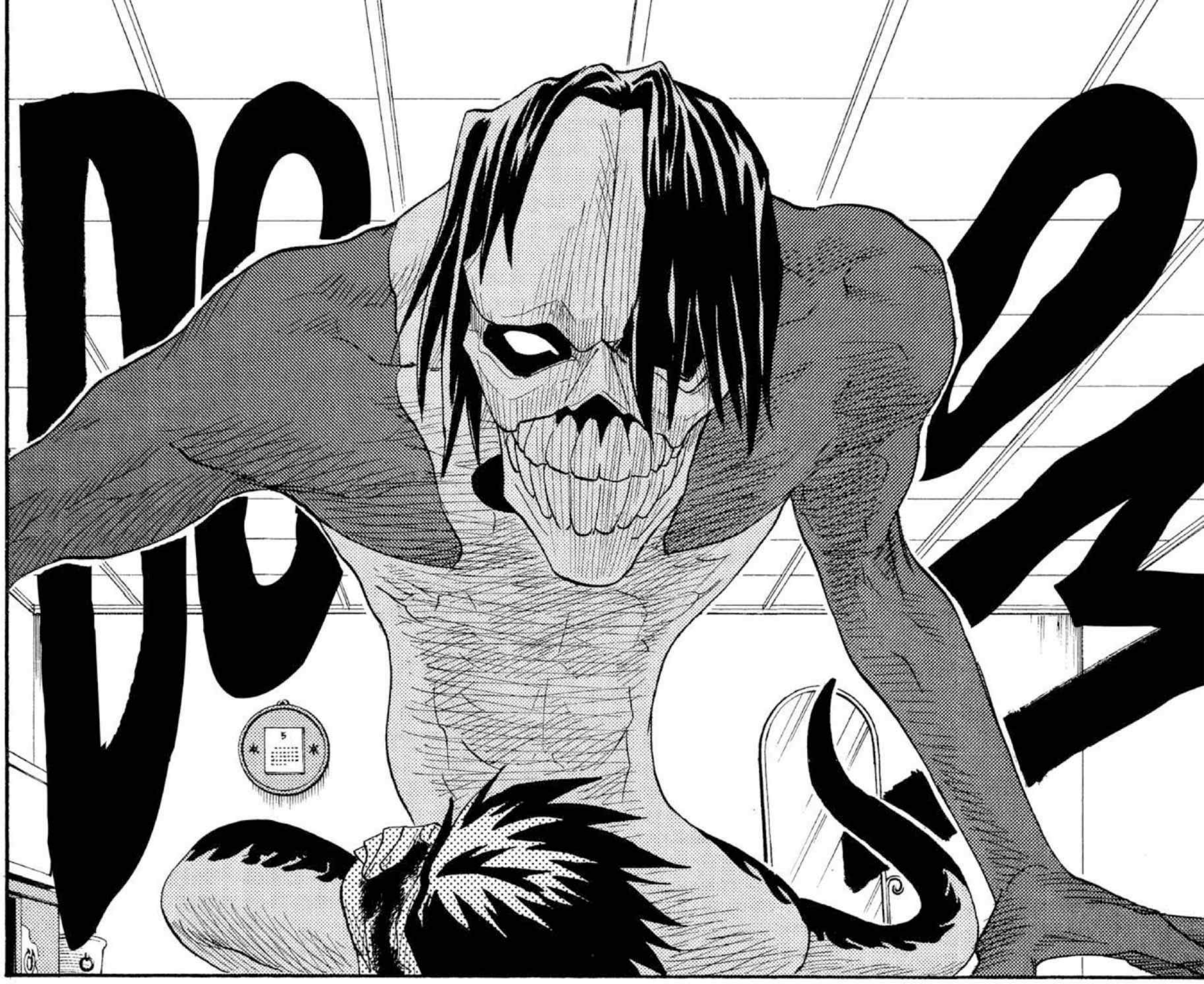
THEN THE HOLLOW SOUL FOREVER STRIVES TO FILL THE EMPTINESS INSIDE.

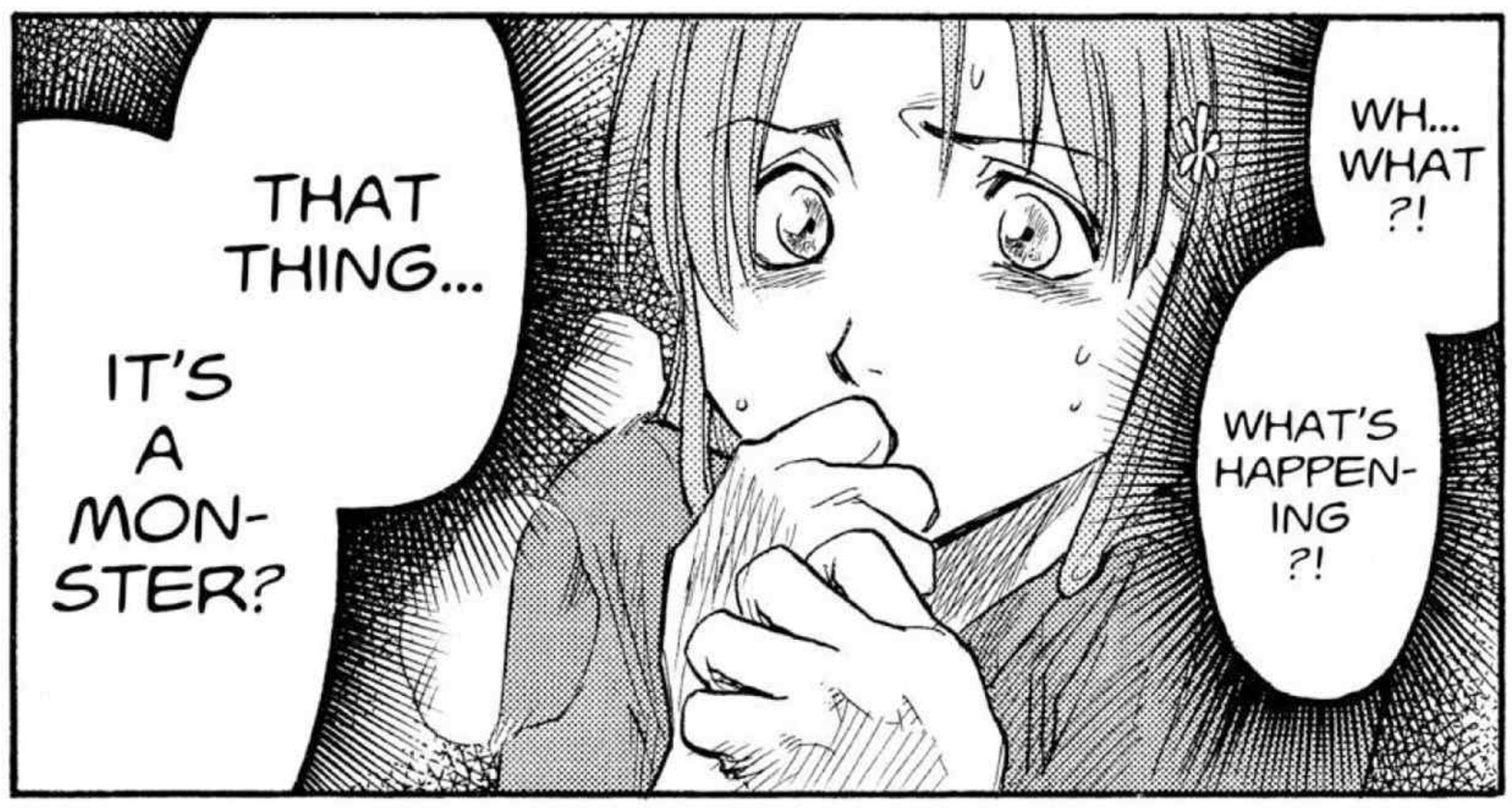
THEIR HUSBANDS ATE THEIR SOULS.

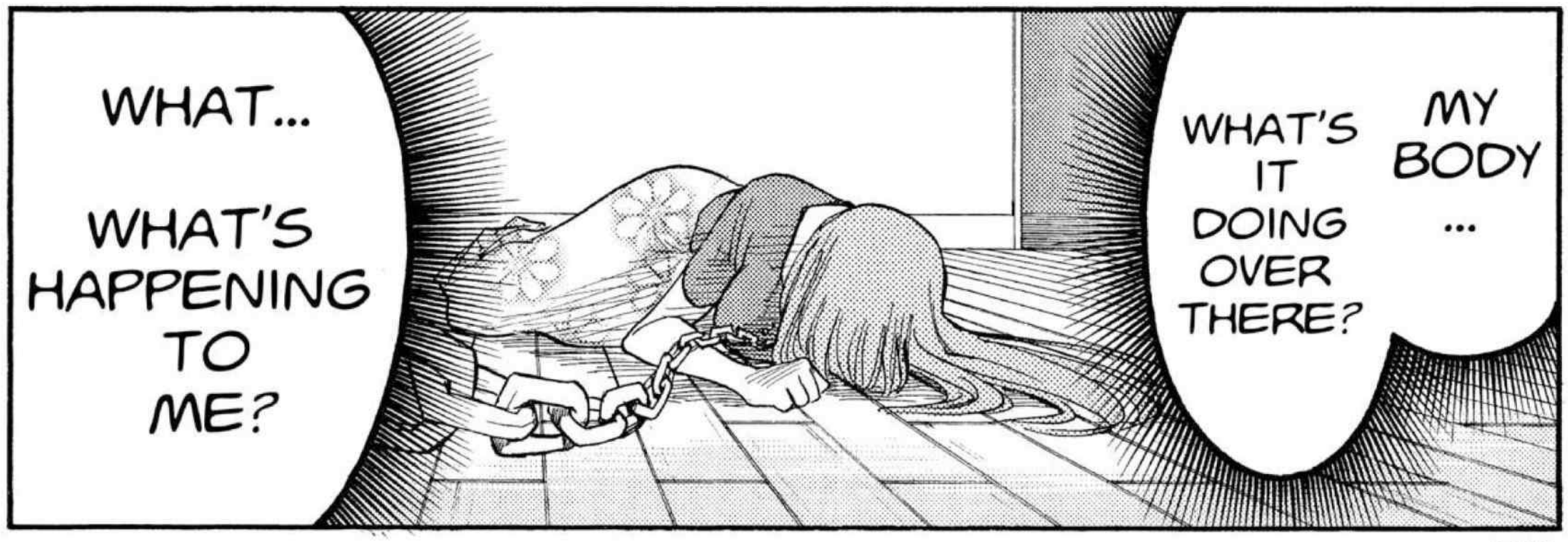
YOU'VE HEARD OF WIDOWS WHO SOON FOLLOW THEIR HUSBANDS TO THE GRAVE?

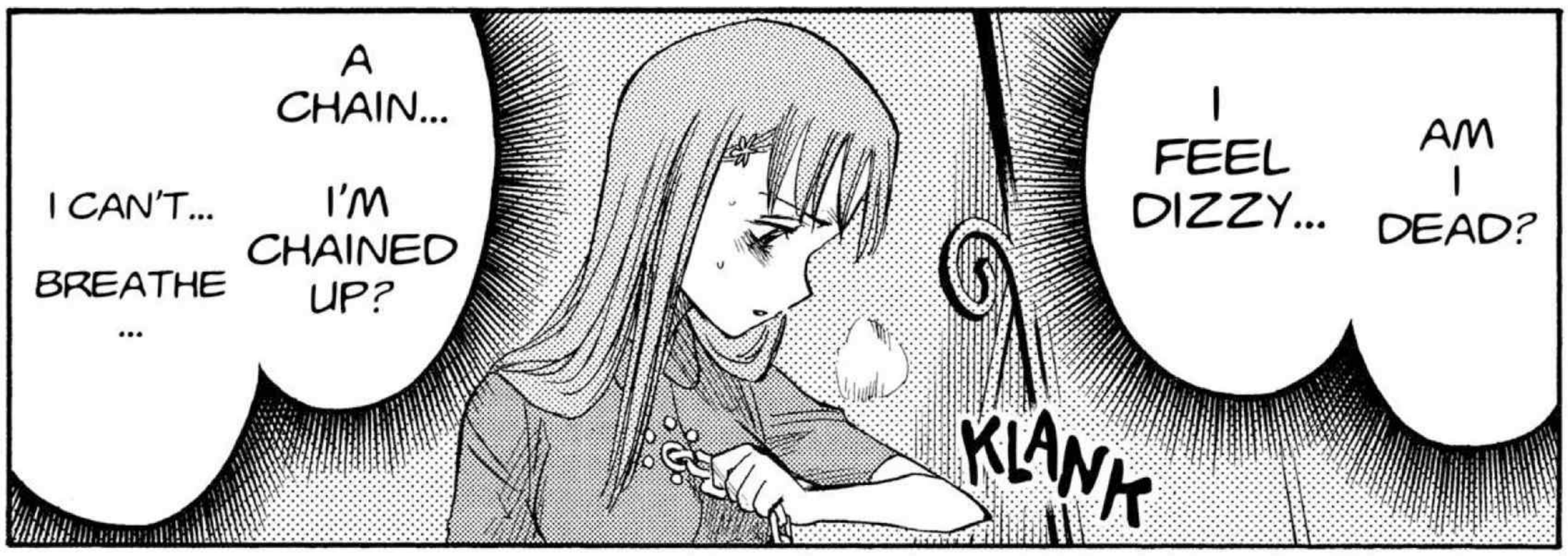
READ THIS WAY
WHERE A HOLLOW GRABBED HER.
!
SHE HAD A LARGE BRUISE ON HER LEG...
TO-DAY --
WHEN WE SAW ORI-HIME ...
...
YOU SAID SHE HAD --
AN OLDER BROTHER.
ABOUT HER FAMILY.
THAT'S WHY I ASKED ...
IF HE WAS HER ONLY FAMILY ...
THEN I'M CERTAIN ...
HE WILL COME FOR ORIHIME!!

HA
WHAT ON EARTH ...
WHAT HIT ME?
I...I'M BLEED-ING?
WHA ...
PLIP PLIP
UGH
IS GO-ING ...
TOM TOM TOM TOM



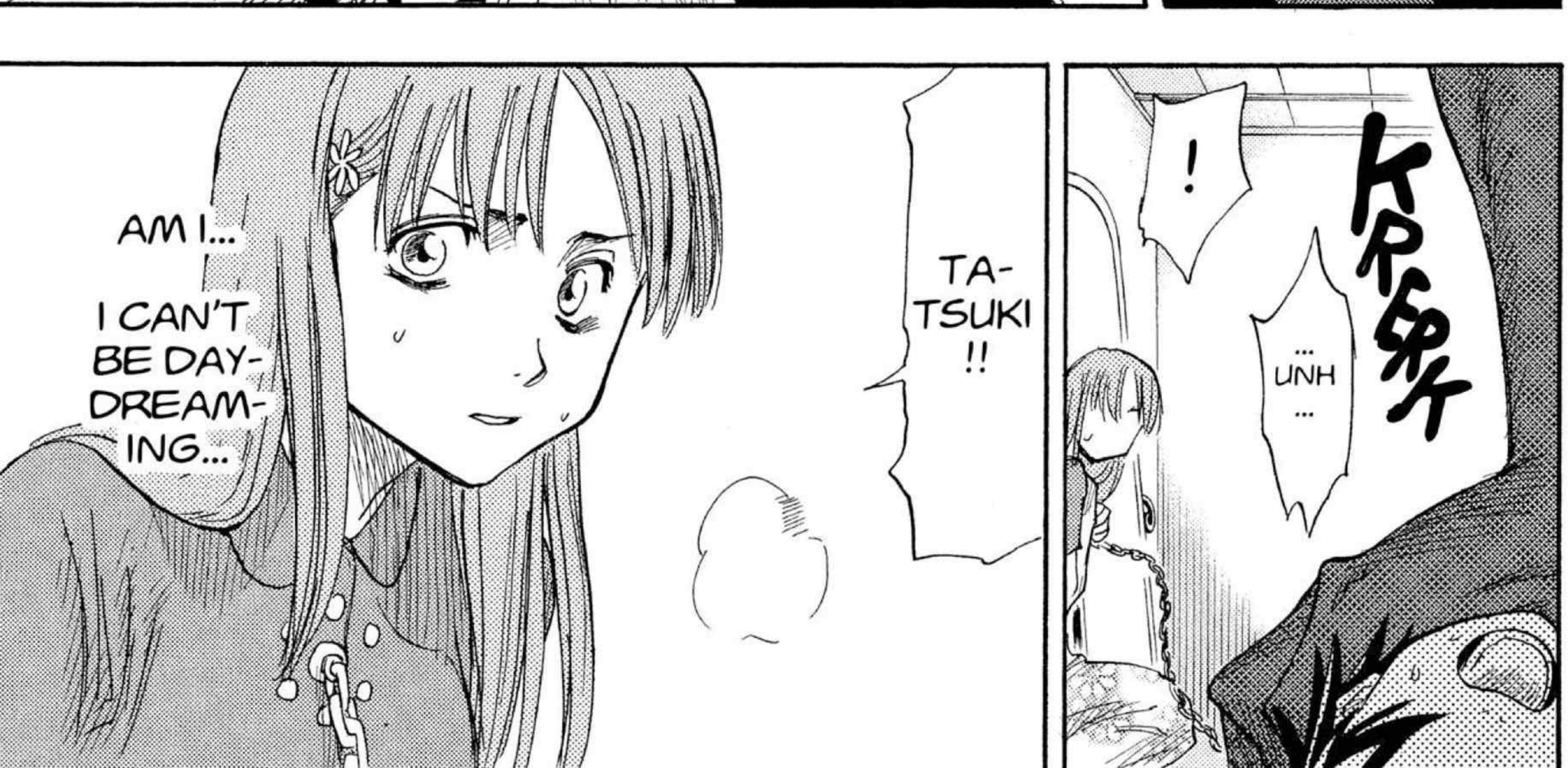

THAT THING...
IT'S A MON-STER?
WH... WHAT ?!
WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING ?!


WHAT...
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?
WHAT'S IT DOING OVER THERE?
MY BODY ...


I CAN'T... BREATHE ...
A CHAIN... I'M CHAINED UP?
I FEEL DIZZY...
AM I DEAD?
KLANK

I DON'T LIKE THIS...
CHANK
...

UGH
OH!
SWIP

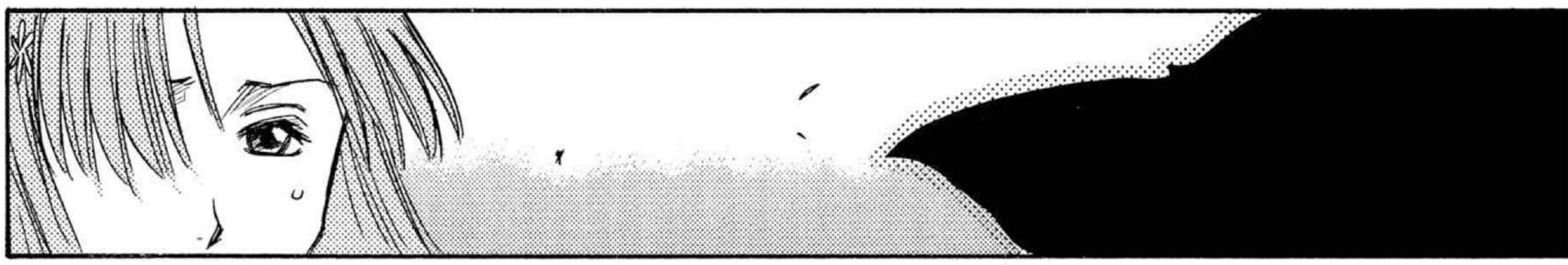

AM I... I CAN'T BE DAY-DREAM-ING...
TA-TSUKI !!
!
... UNH ...
KRAK

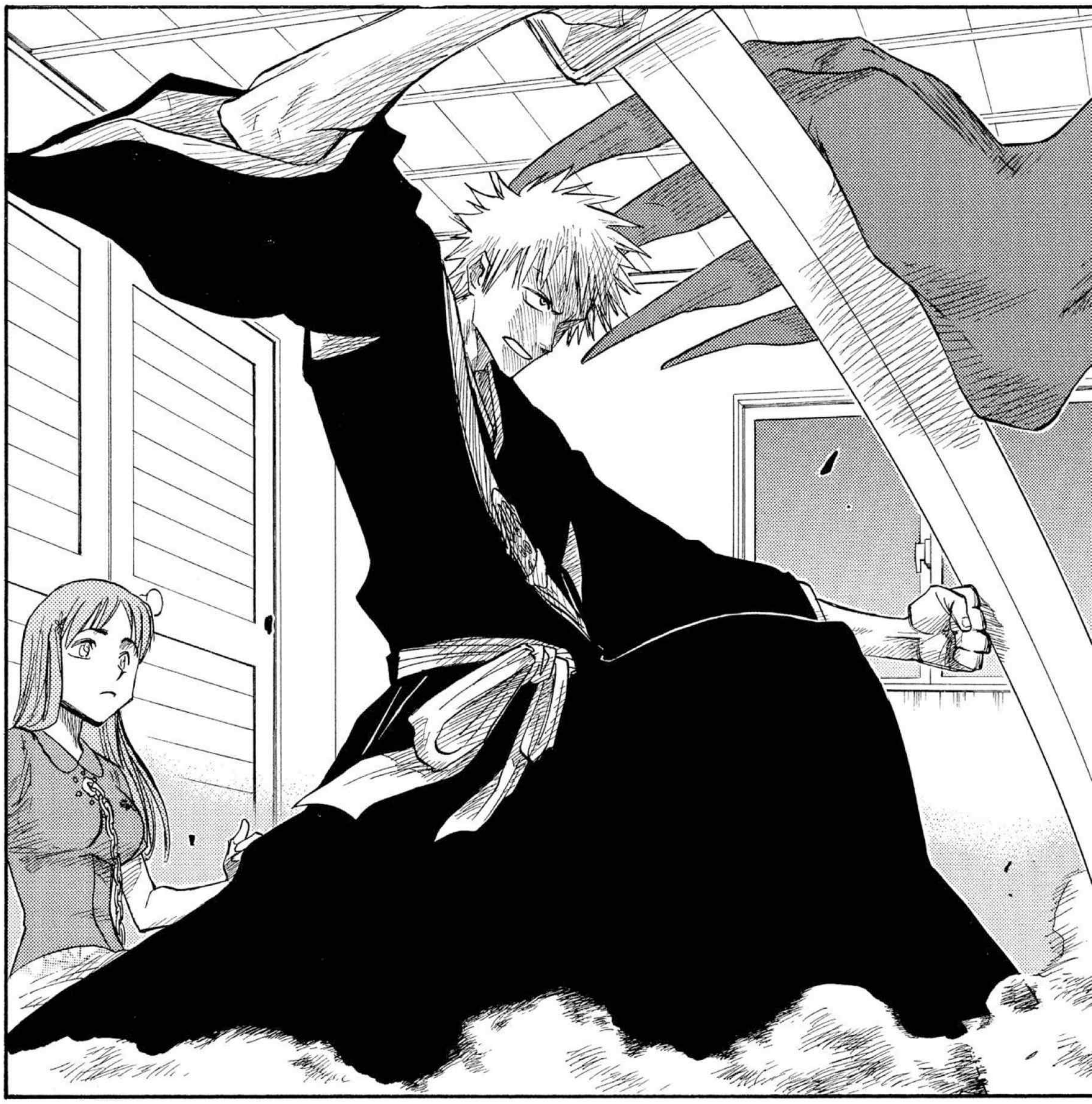
I'VE GOT TO SAVE TATSUKI!

HYA!!

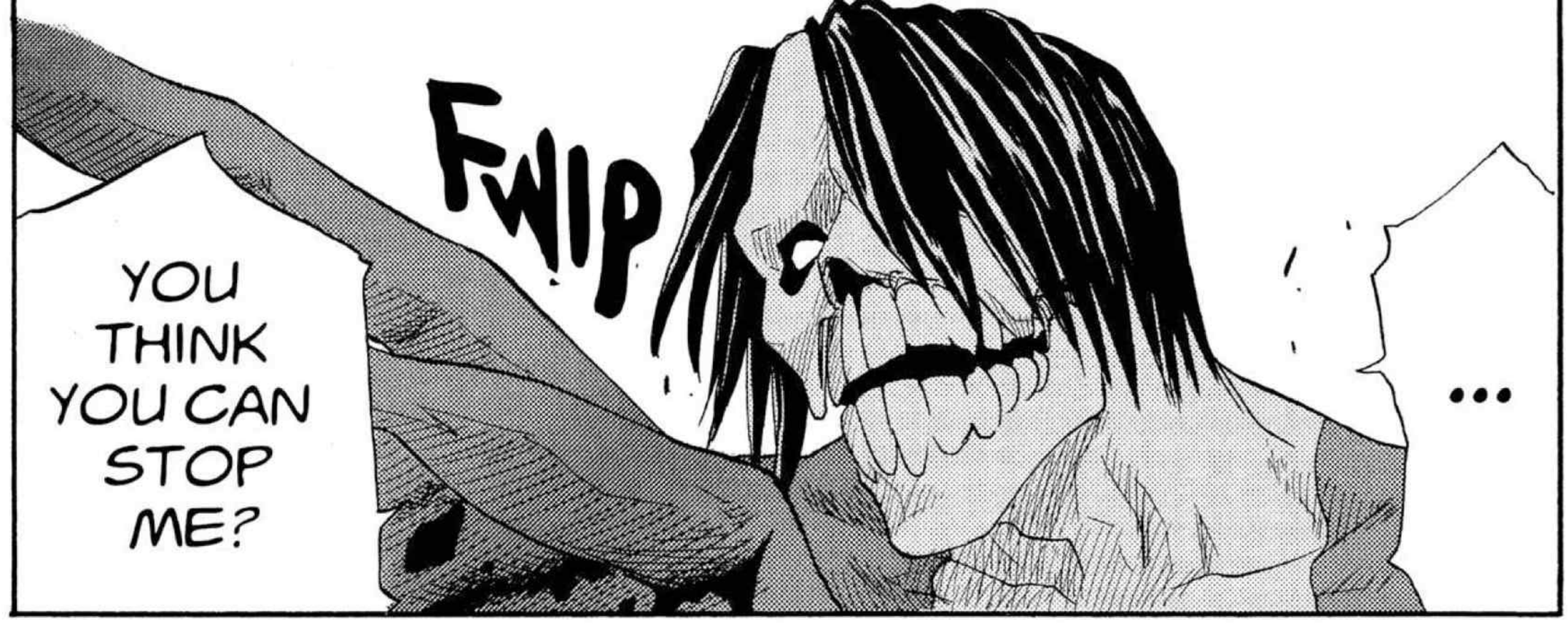
...DO YOU KNOW ...MY NAME?
HOW ...
SHE CAN'T SEE US, EITHER.
SHE CAN'T HEAR US.

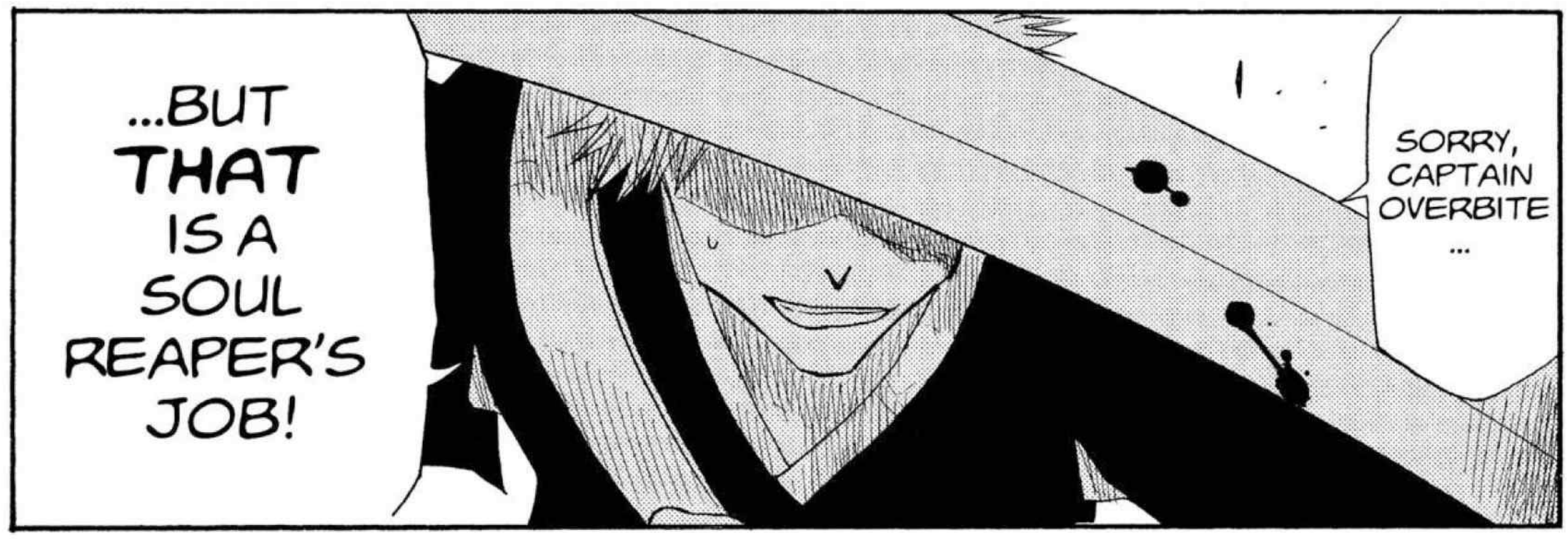
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN MY VOICE?
...
THAT WOUNDS ME, ORIHIME !!
WHO SHE

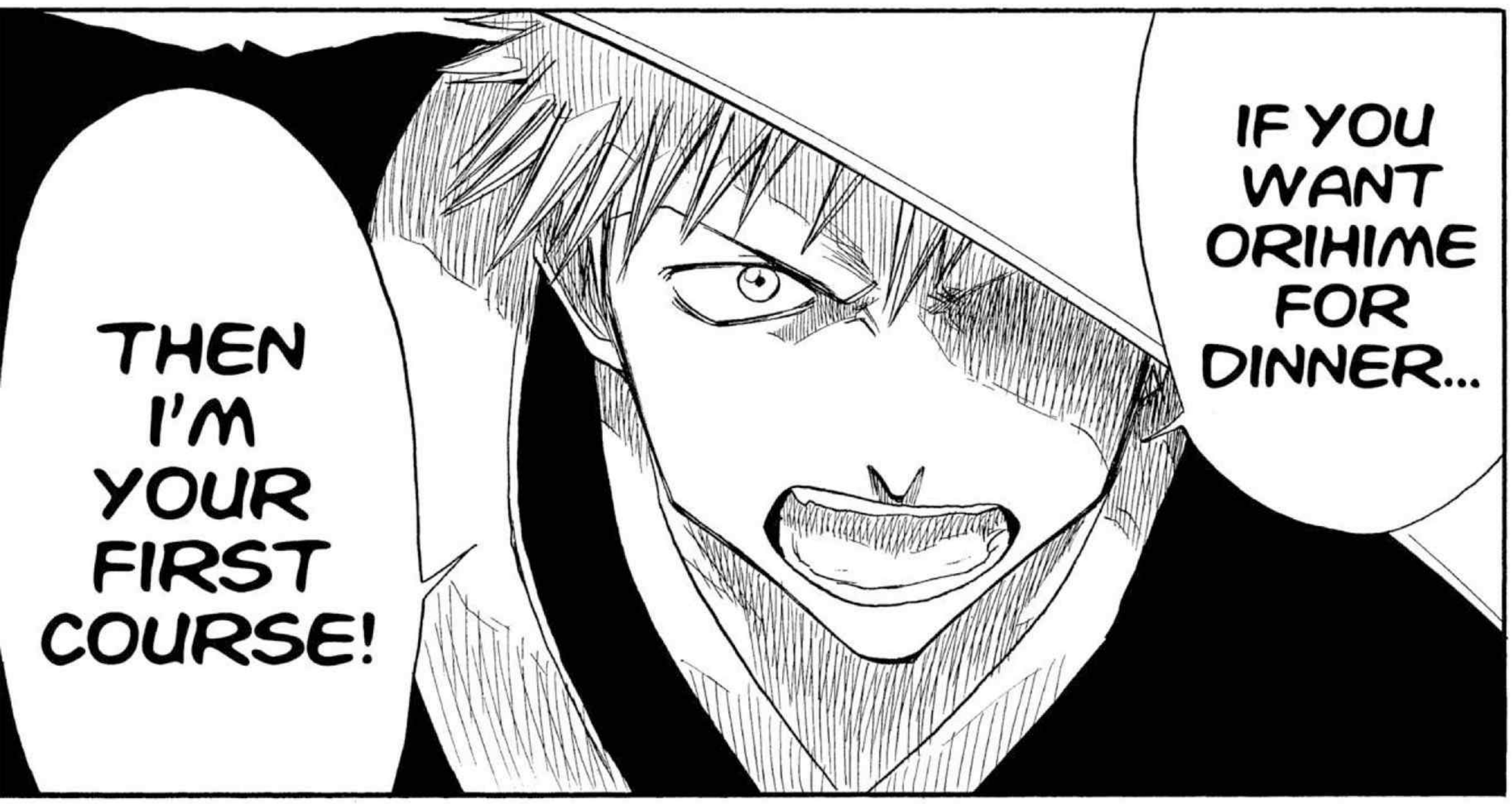




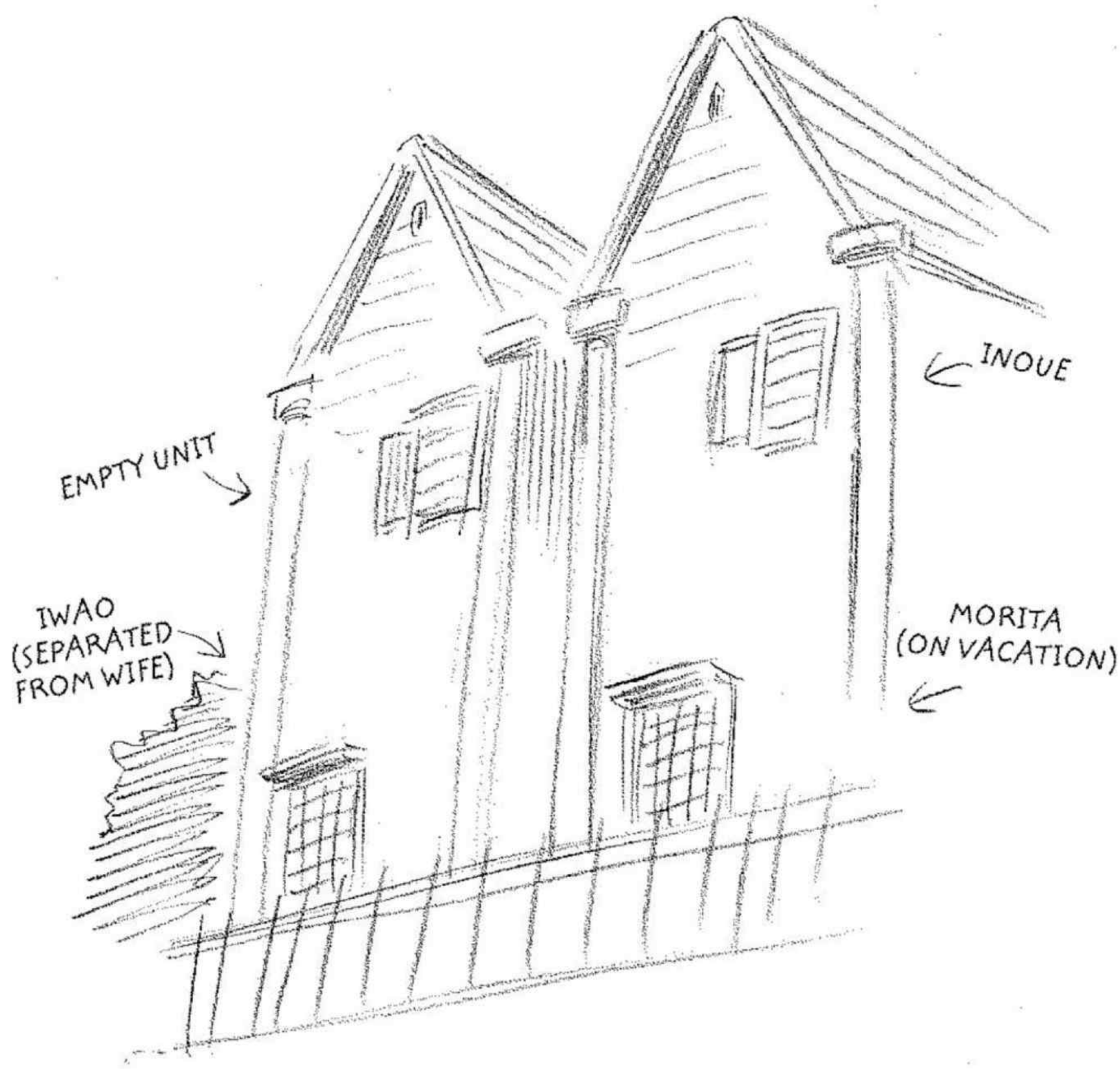
ICHIGO?

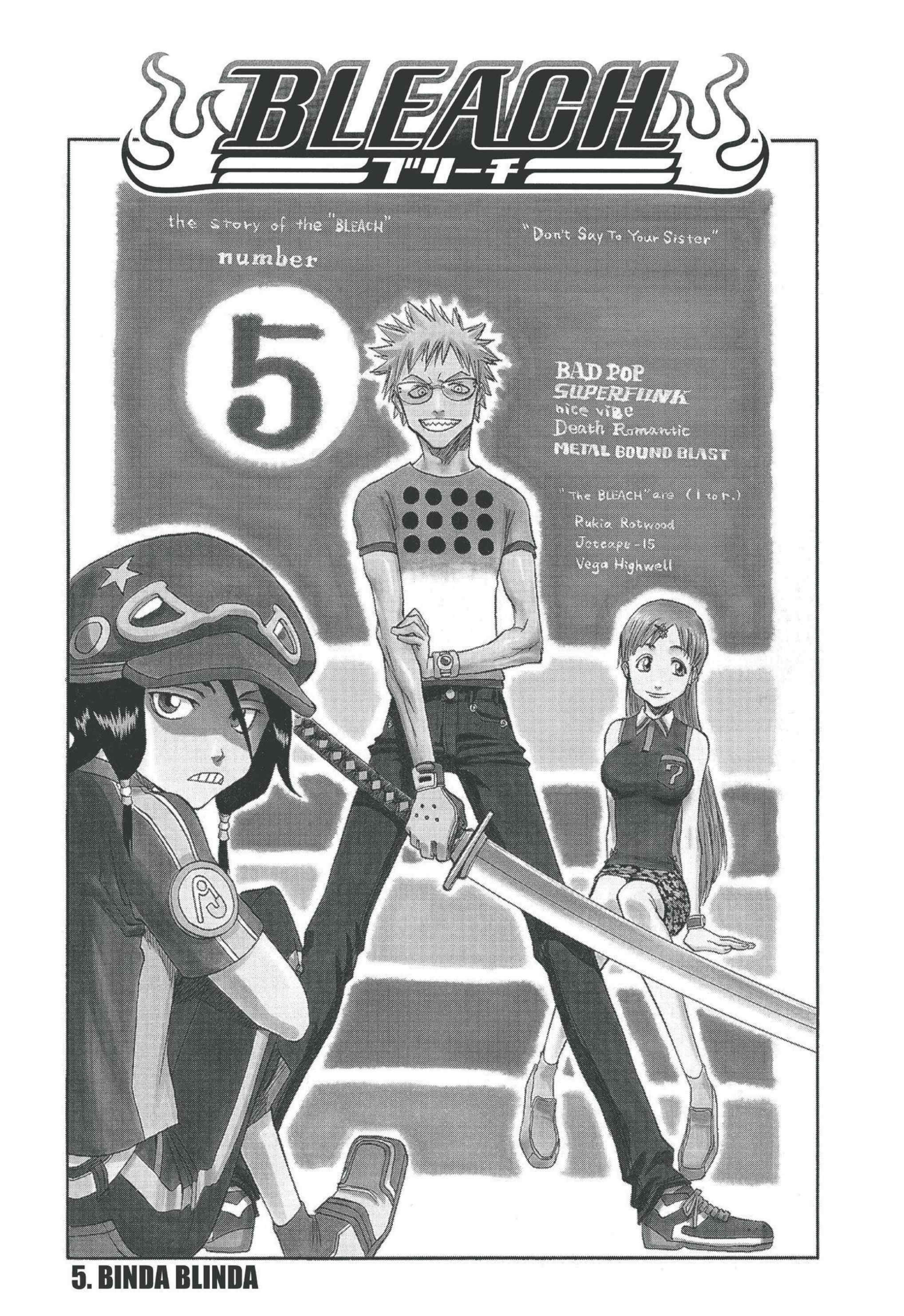

FWIP
YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP ME?
...


...BUT THAT IS A SOUL REAPER'S JOB!
SORRY, CAPTAIN OVERBITE ...


THEN I'M YOUR FIRST COURSE!
IF YOU WANT ORIHIME FOR DINNER...

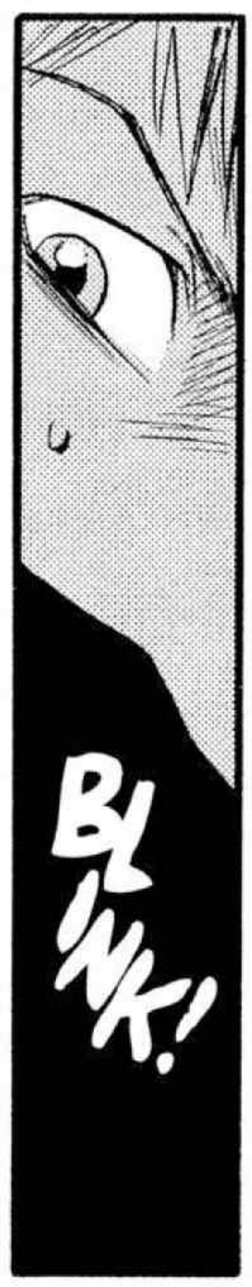
ORIHIME'S HOUSE IS AN APARTMENT.
THIS IS THE STREET SIDE.
APT. 202 IS THE INOUE RESIDENCE





5. BINDA BLINDA

IS THAT TA-TSUKI?
SHE WAS AT THE WRONG PLACE AT THE WRONG TIME!

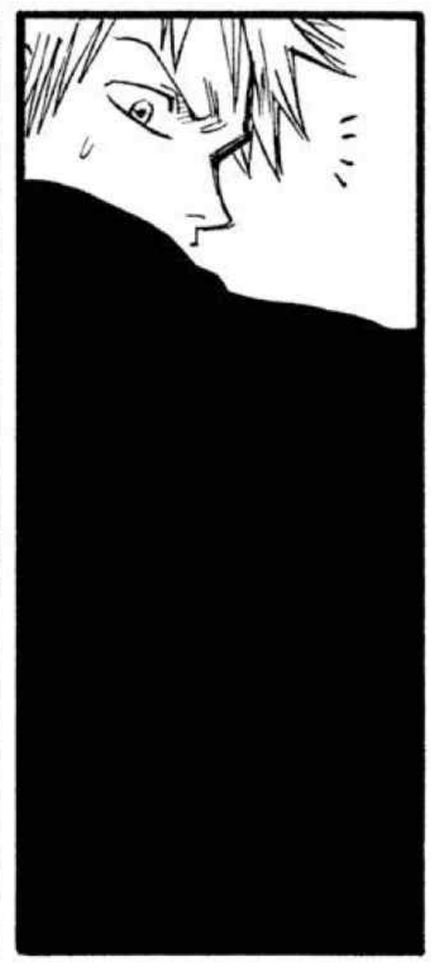

BLINK!

PLEASE, JUST RUN AWAY.
FAT CHANCE OF THAT.

HE'S NOT ...ATTACK-ING...
DID MY CUT SCARE HIM?

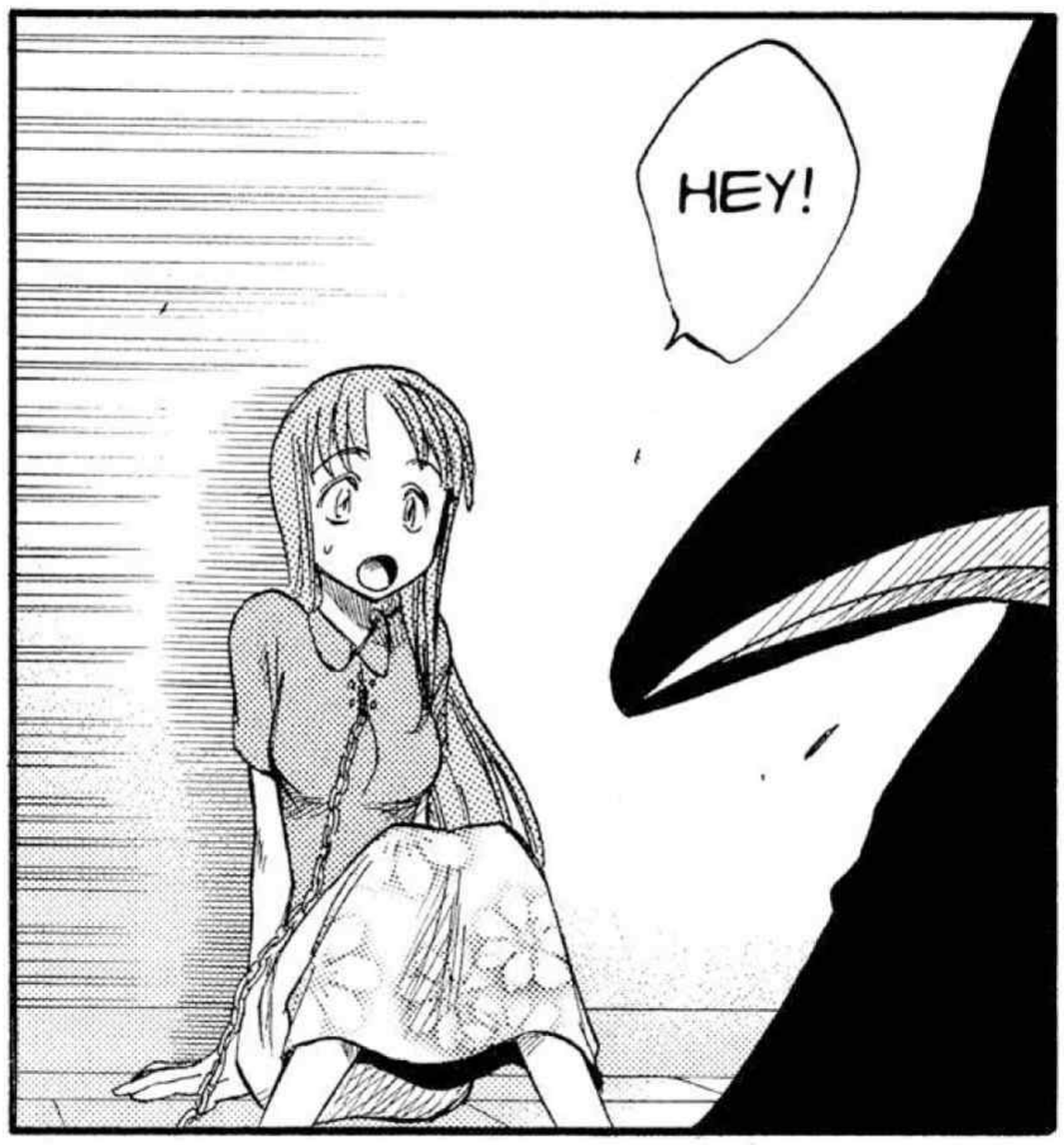
WHO...?

THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE LYING OVER THERE...
...?



ORIHIME?!

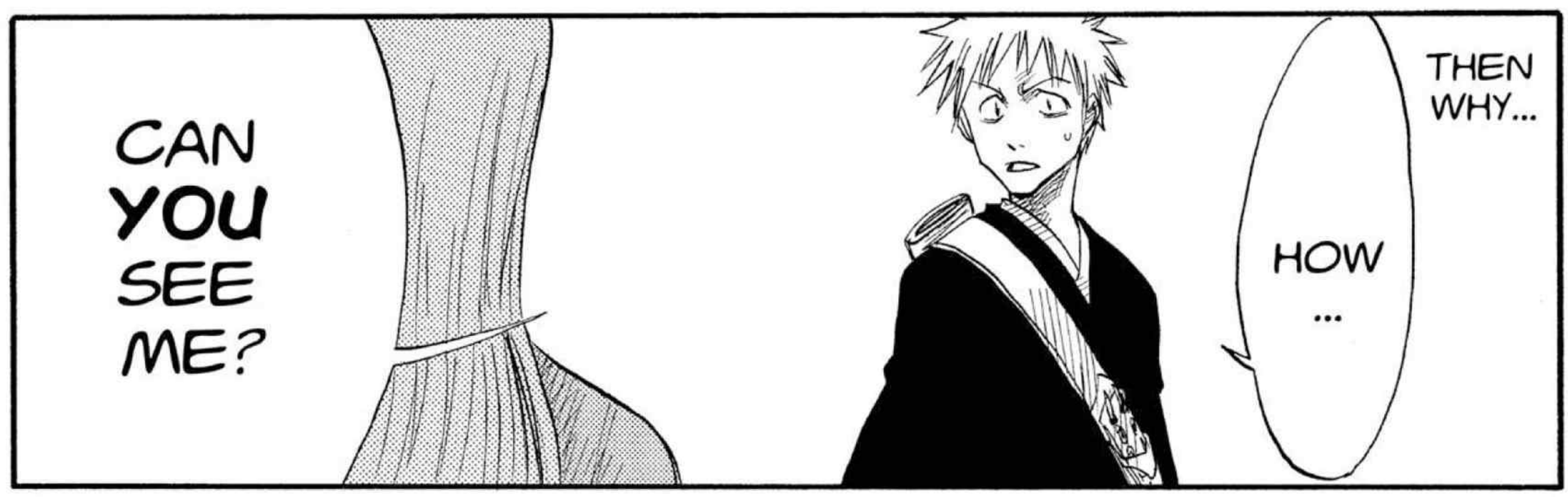
I KNEW IT!

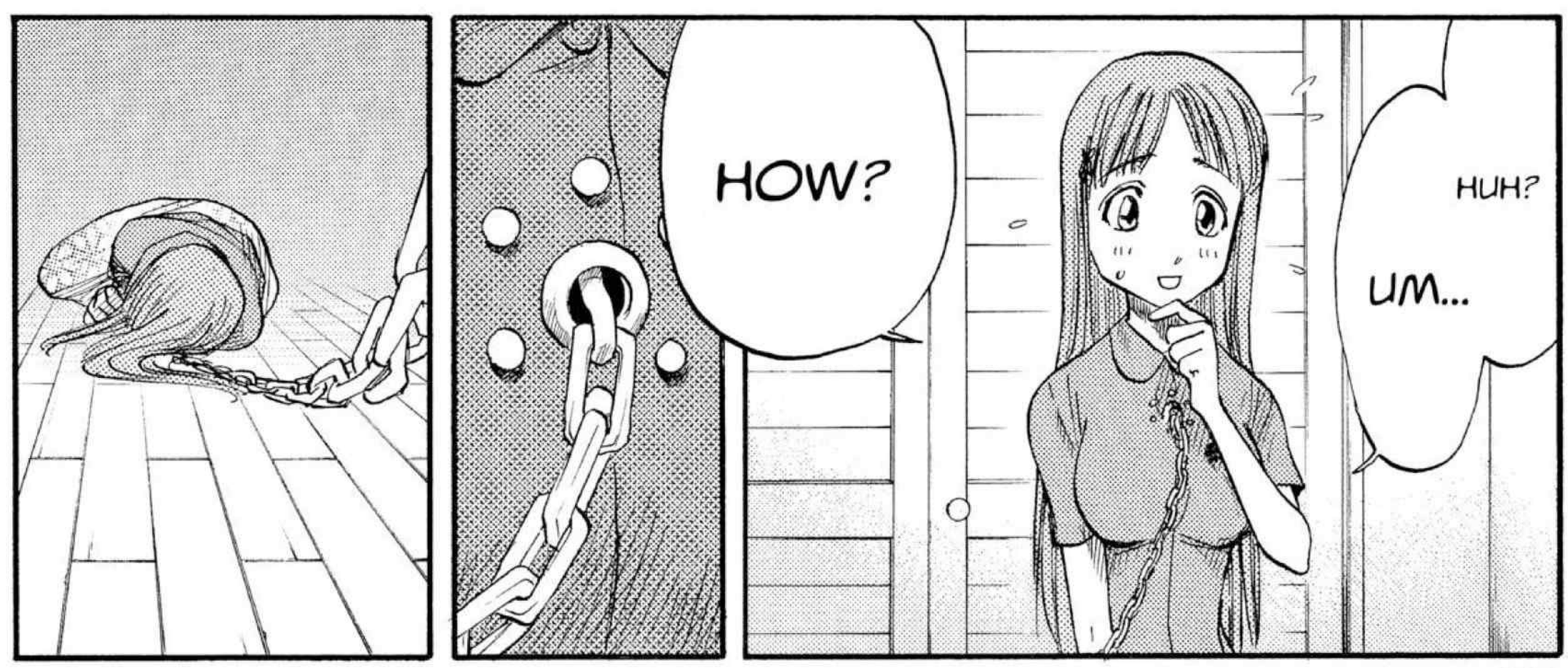

HEY!

BUT...
SHE'S STANDING BEHIND ME!

IT'S YOU, ICHIGO!!

FOOL!
THEY'LL HAUL ME OFF TO MOVIE VILLAGE!
IF ANYBODY SEES ME DRESSED LIKE THIS I'M HISTORY!
WHY?
WHAT CHOICE DO I HAVE!
WHY ARE YOU SKULKING LIKE THAT?
A SOUL REAPER IS A SPIRITUAL ENTITY!
YOU CAN ONLY BE SEEN BY OTHER SPIRITUAL ENTITIES!
DO YOU THINK NORMAL PEOPLE CAN SEE A SOUL REAPER?


CAN YOU SEE ME?
THEN WHY...
HOW ...


HOW?
HUH?
UM...

SHE'S A SPIRIT!

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?

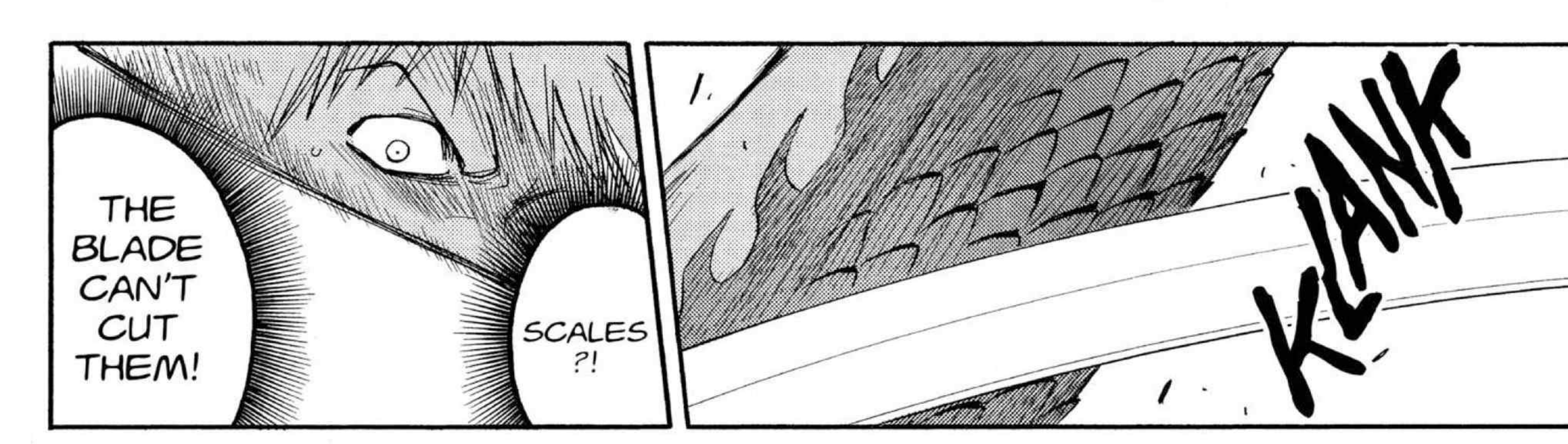
I'M SORRY BUT ...

DEAD !!

ORIHIME IS ALREADY...

SHIKI

NO!

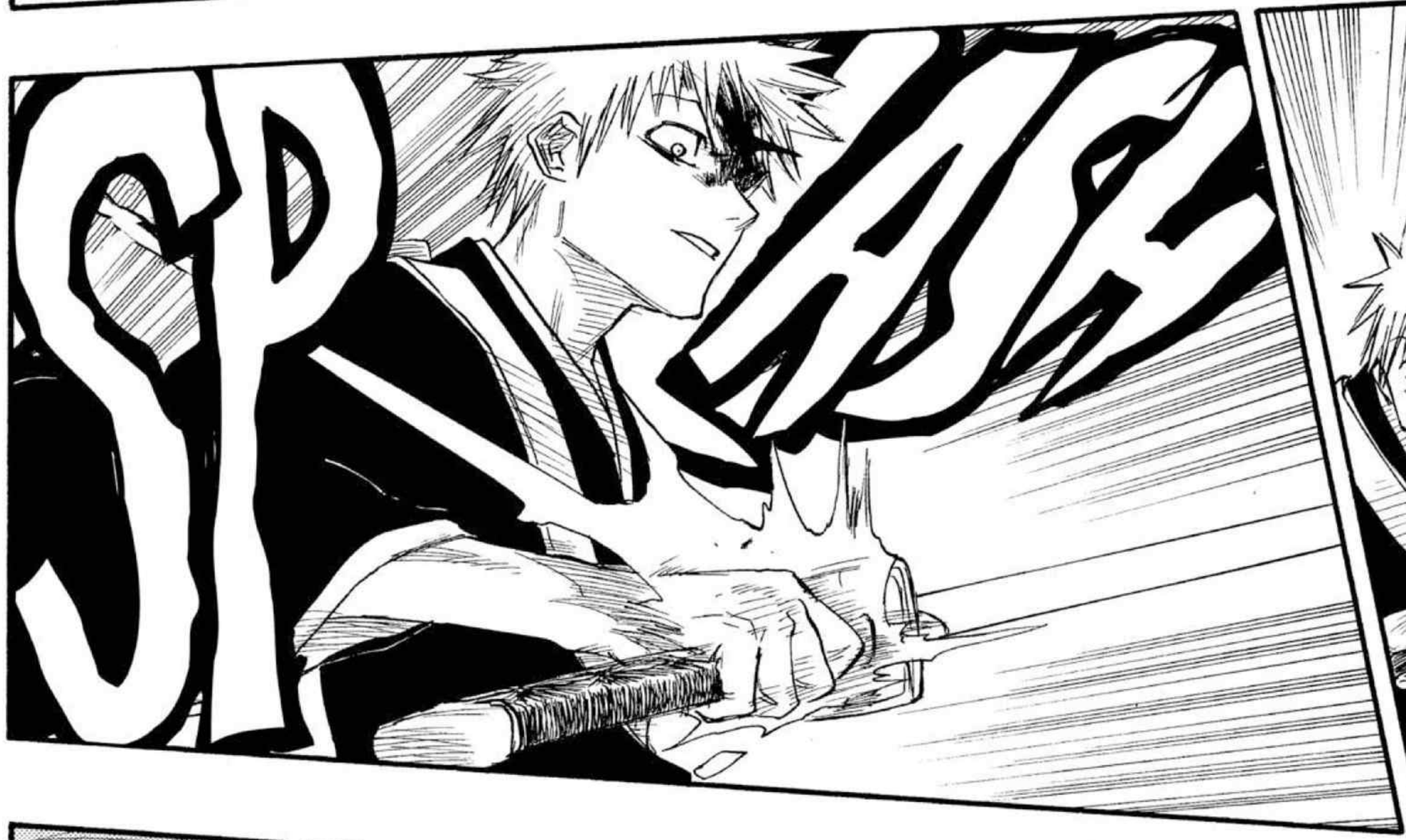

THE BLADE CAN'T CUT THEM!
SCALES ?!
KLANK

NO!
LUCY

SKUFFFFFFFFA
FU
ARGH !
YOU TALK TOUGH BUT...
YOU'RE FAR TOO SLOW...
WHAT'S WRONG?

ICHIGO KUROSAKI !!
HUH?!

READ THIS WAY
SO SHOCKING THAT ORIHIME'S SOUL HAS BEEN FORCED FROM HER BODY?
IS IT ... -
RARR


!!

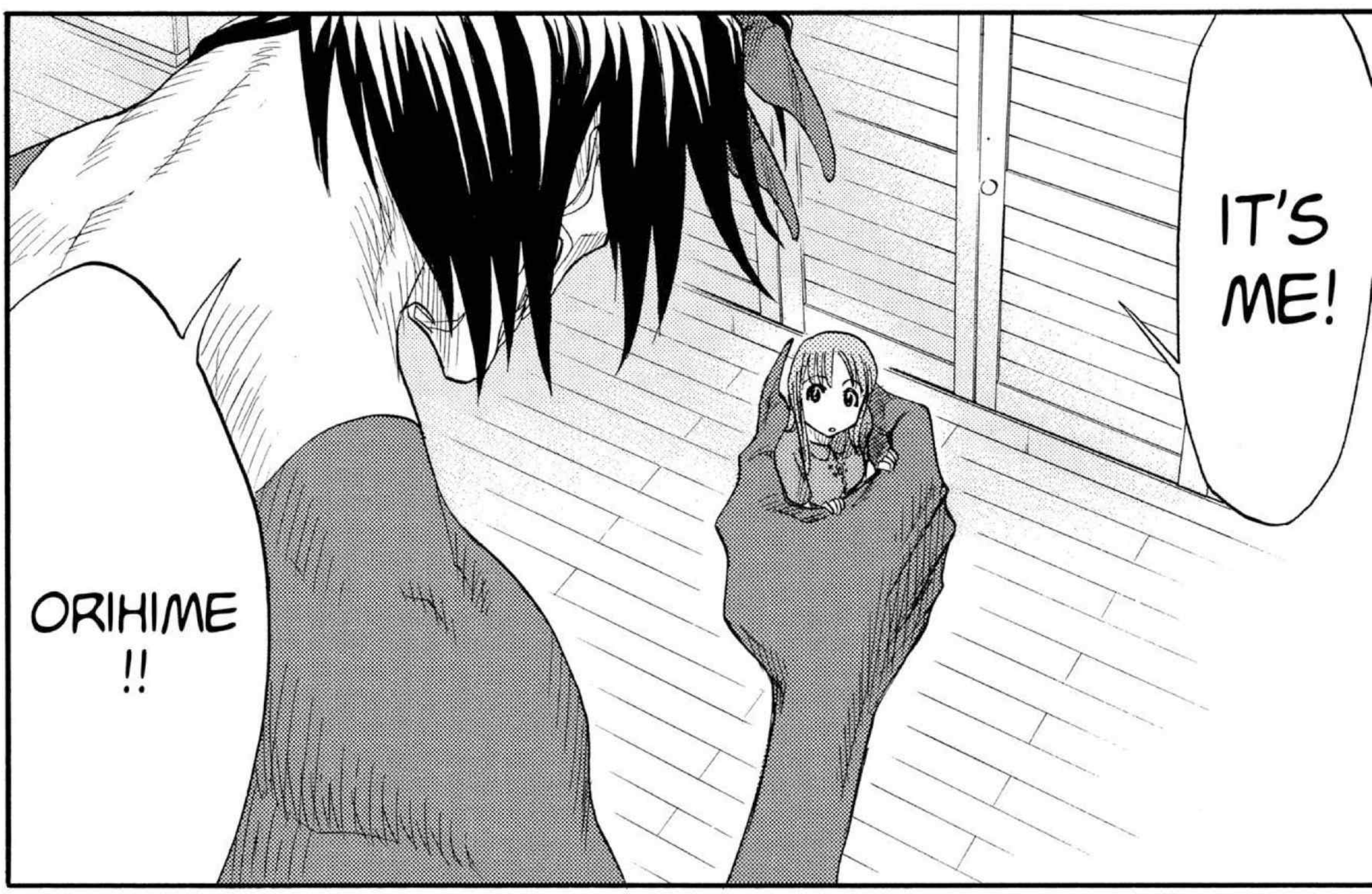
WRRR
ACID ?!
KSSS

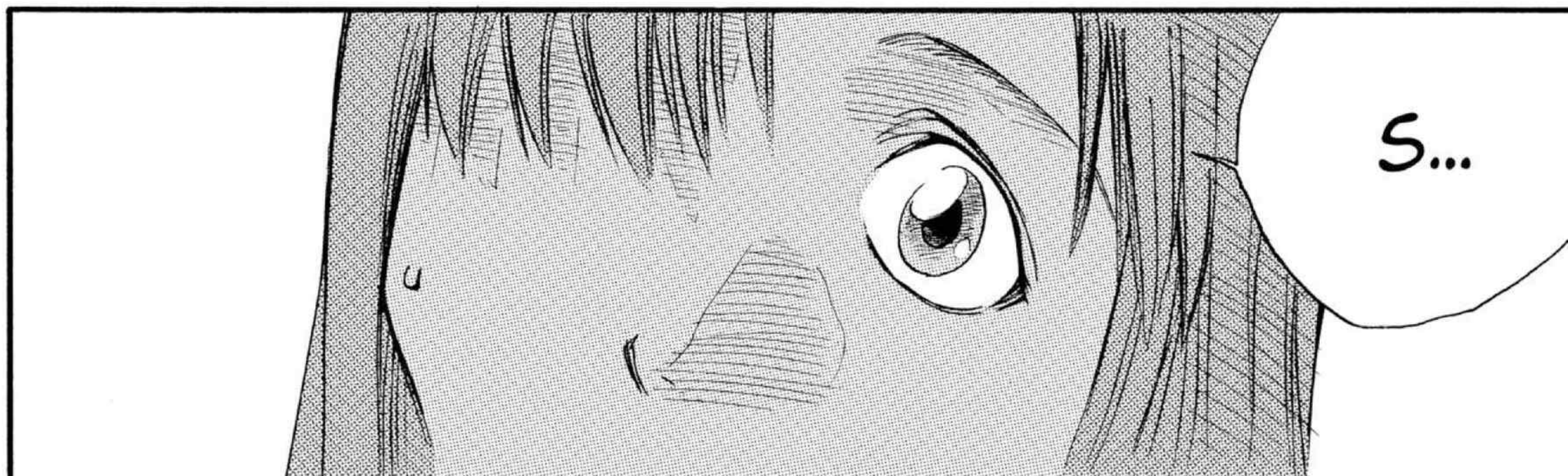
KRAH
SLAP
ICH...
TMP
ICHIGO !!
SPLAP
ICHIGO ...

ORIHIME ...
CHOMP
I SAID, LET GO!

LET ME GO!
LET ME GO!
ICHIGO'S ...

REALLY FORGOTTEN ME?
HAVE YOU...


IT'S ME!
ORIHIME !!

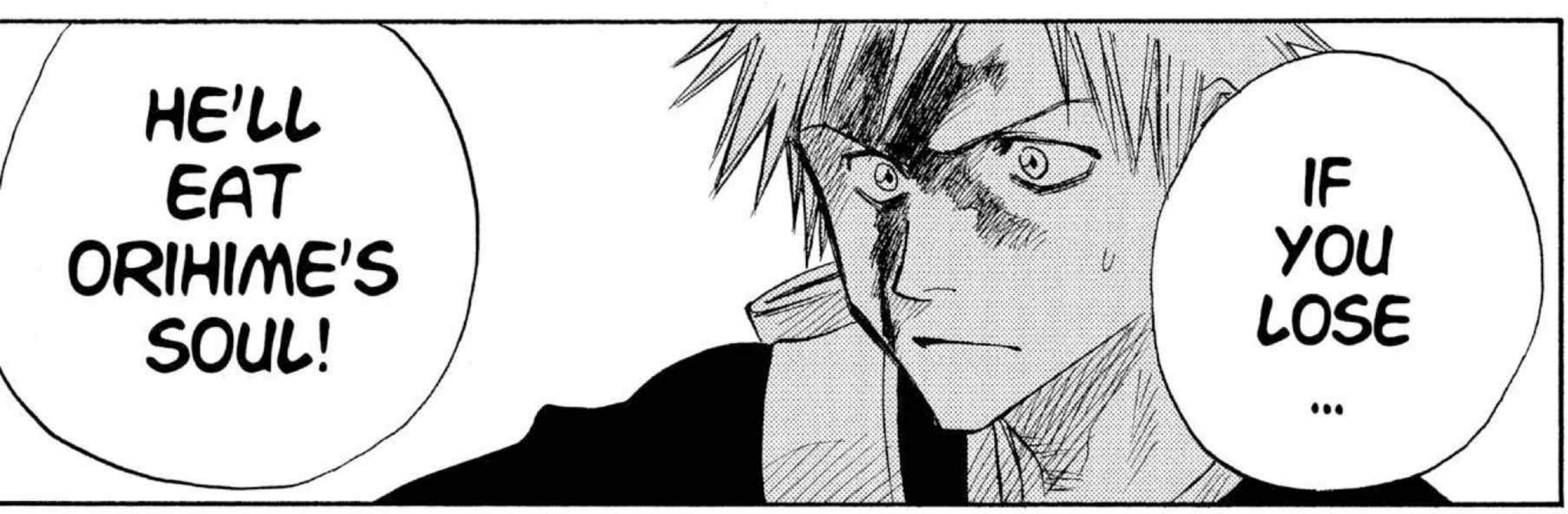

S...

SORA?!

THAT'S ALL YOU'VE GOT TO SAY?!
YOU'VE SHAMED SOUL REAPERS EVERYWHERE TODAY!!
STOP YELLING ...
WUP
UGH ...
ICHIGO !!
WAKE UP!! ICHIGO!!

BUT BEAR IN MIND ...
SO BE IT ...

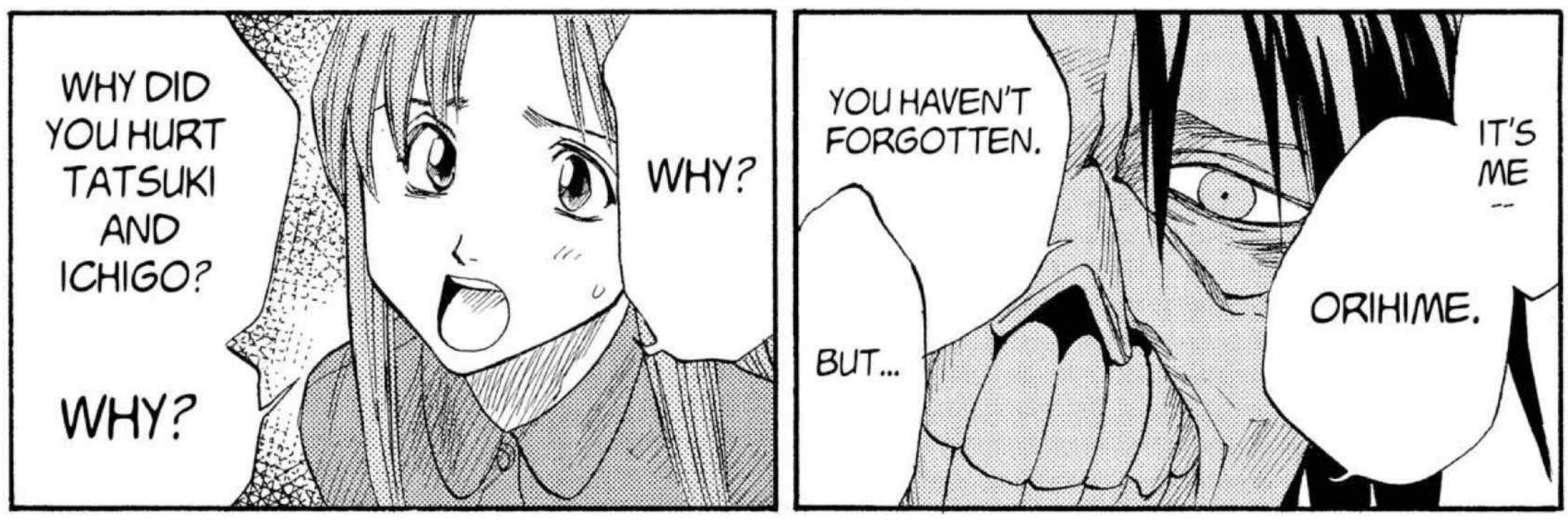
HE'S NOT LIKE THE OTHERS.
I DUNNO ...
I HESI-TATED...

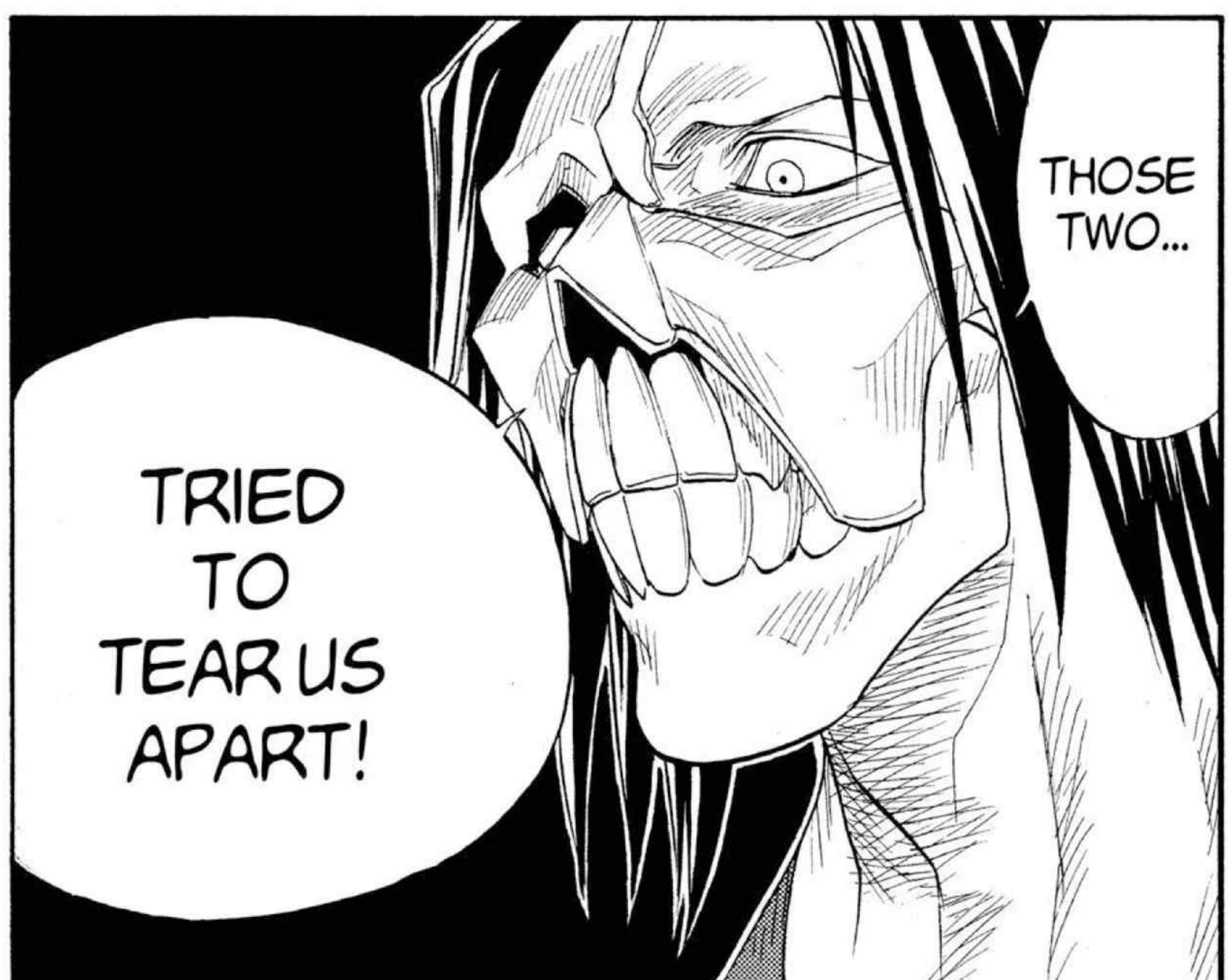

HE'LL EAT ORIHIME'S SOUL!
IF YOU LOSE ...

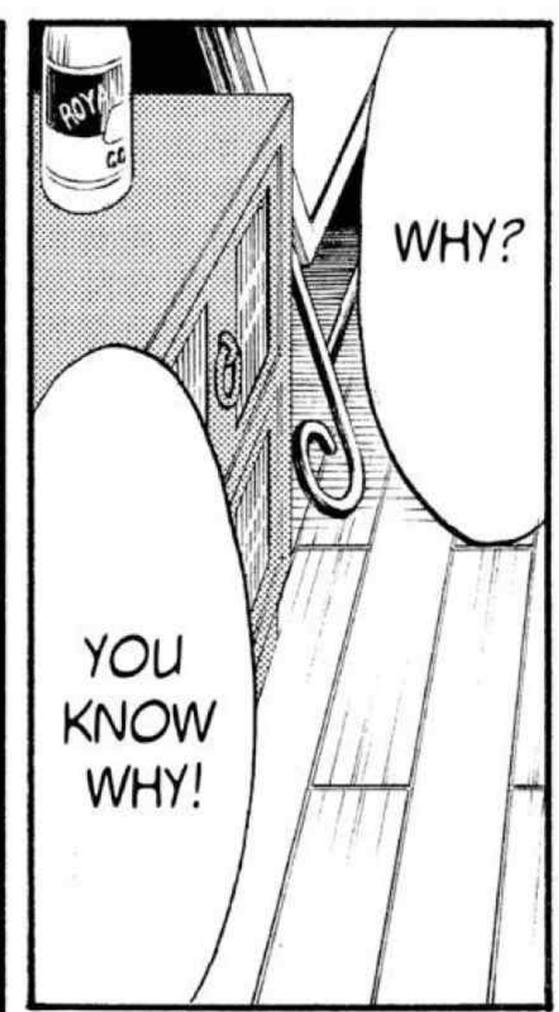
YOU, SORA?

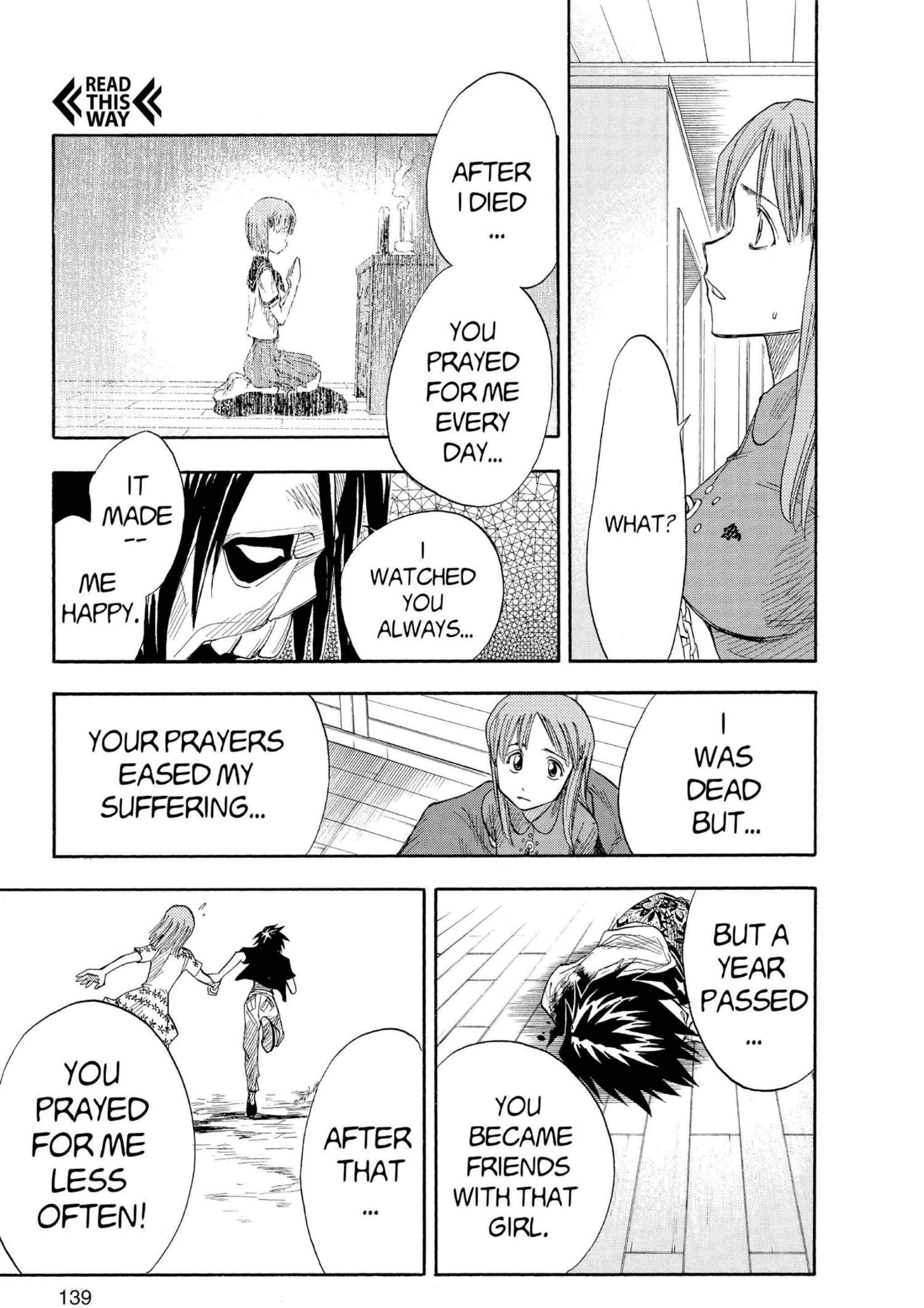
IS...

IS IT REALLY ...

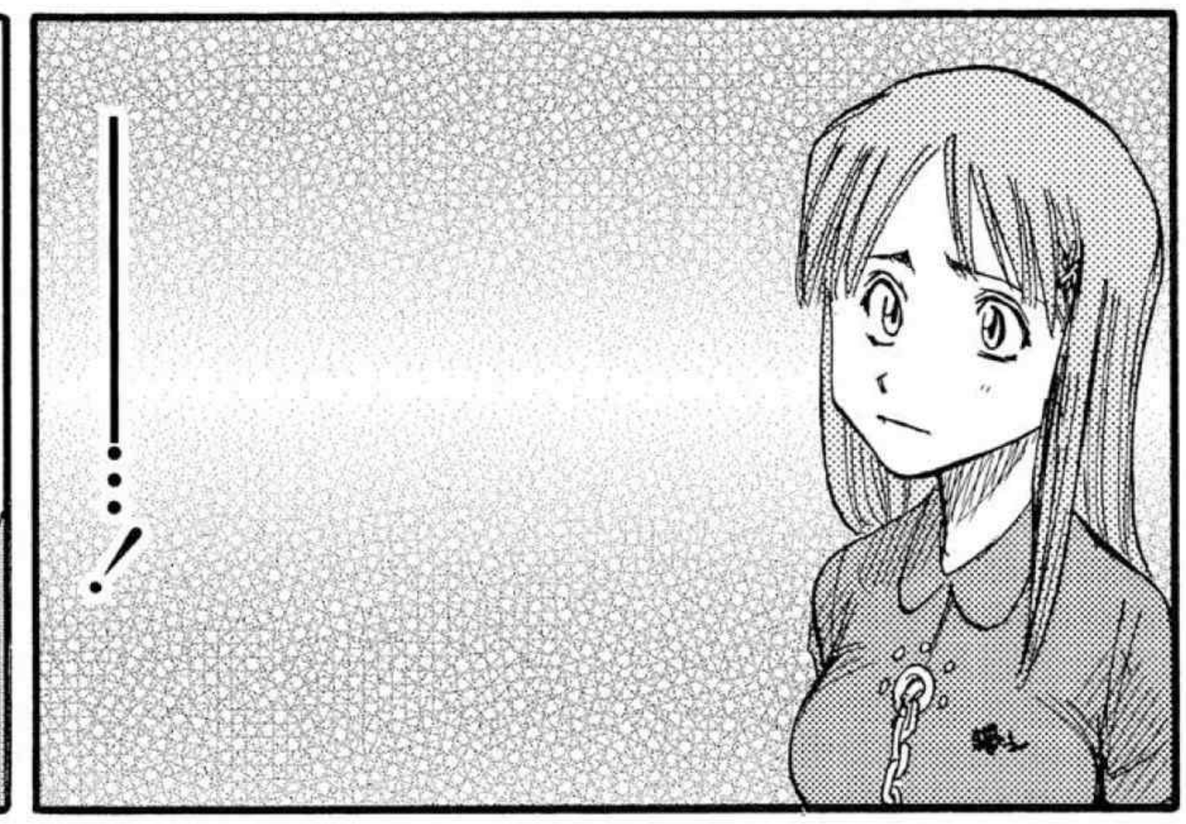







READ THIS WAY
AFTER I DIED ...
YOU PRAYED FOR ME EVERY DAY...
IT MADE -- ME HAPPY.
I WATCHED YOU ALWAYS...
WHAT?
YOUR PRAYERS EASED MY SUFFERING...
I WAS DEAD BUT...
YOU PRAYED FOR ME LESS OFTEN!
AFTER THAT ...
BUT A YEAR PASSED ...
YOU BECAME FRIENDS WITH THAT GIRL.

THEN YOU ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL ...
AND ICHIGO KUROSAKI SHOWED UP.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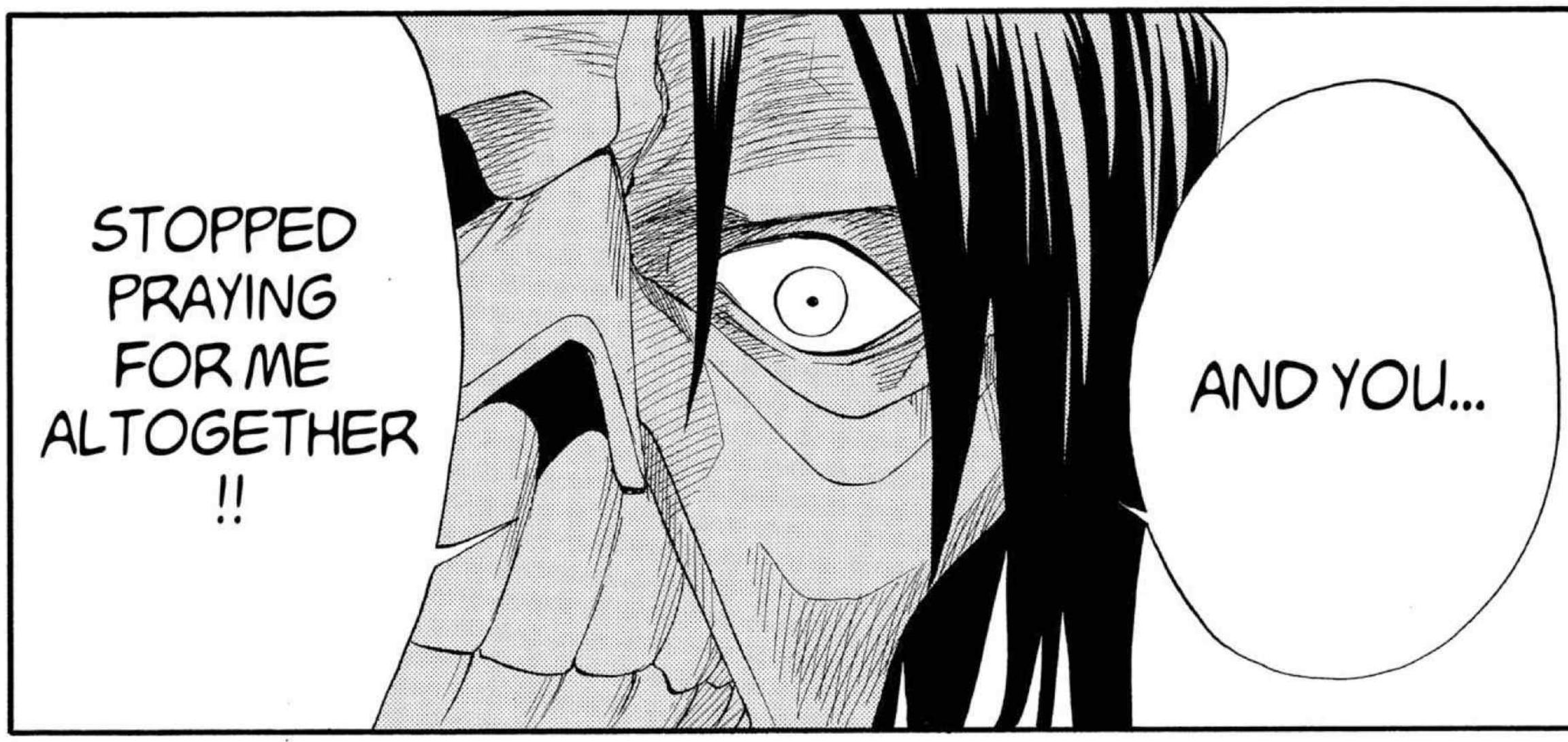
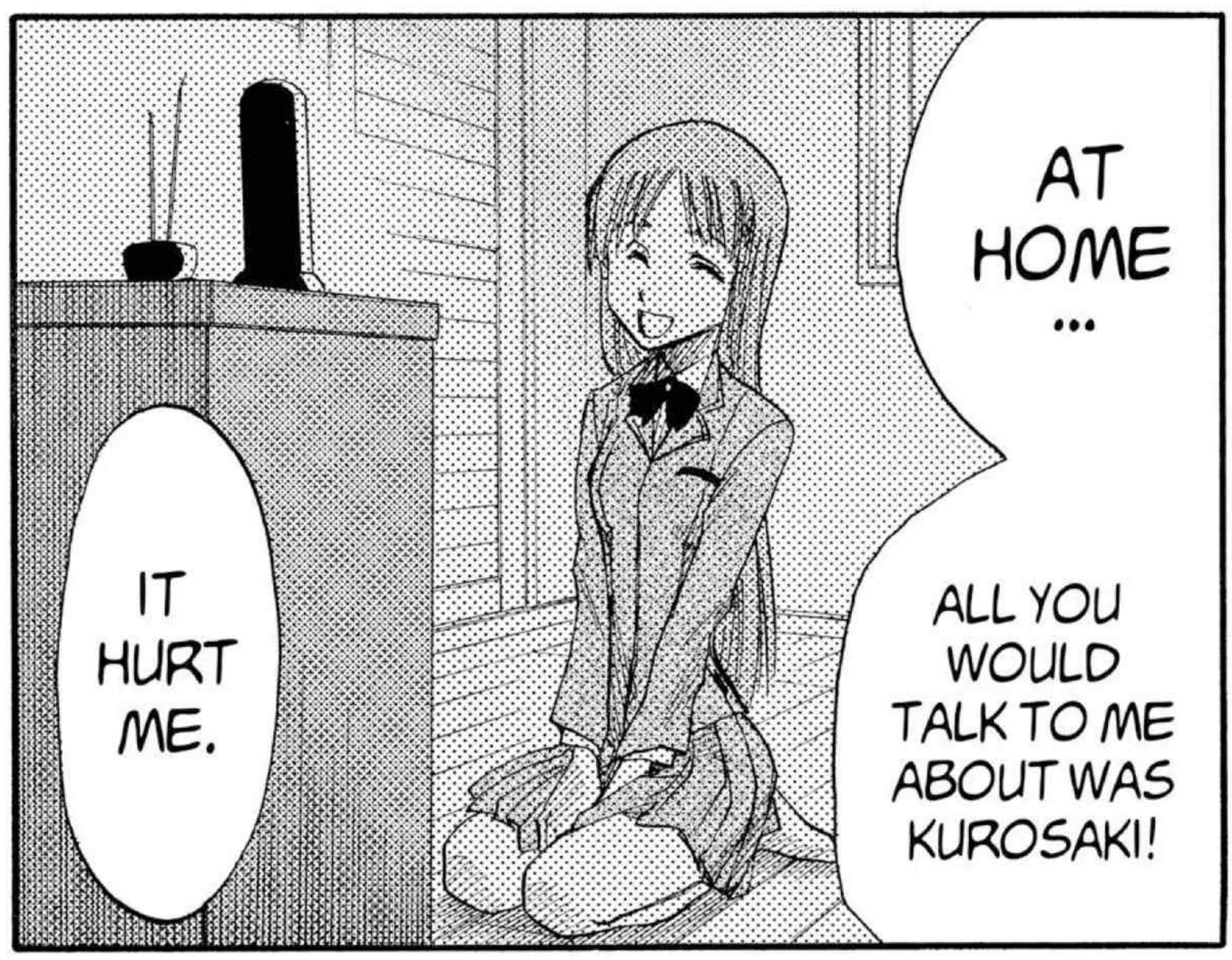
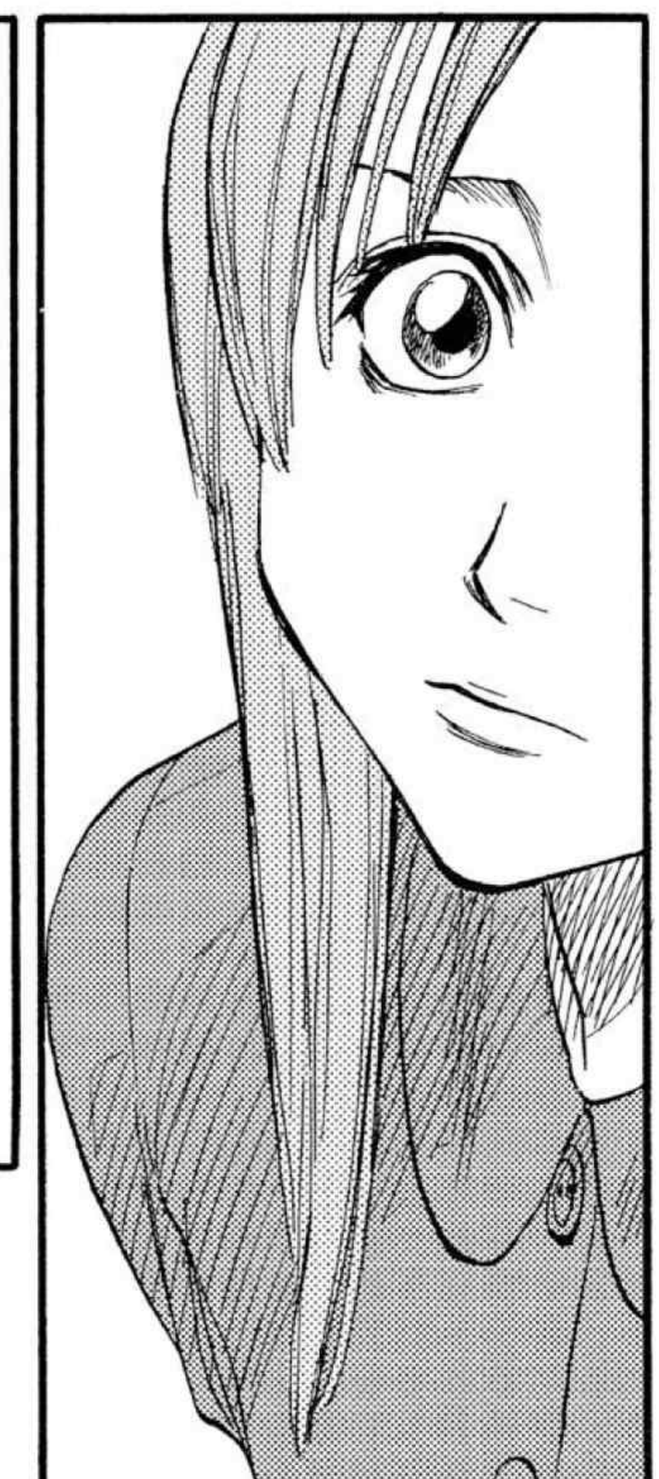
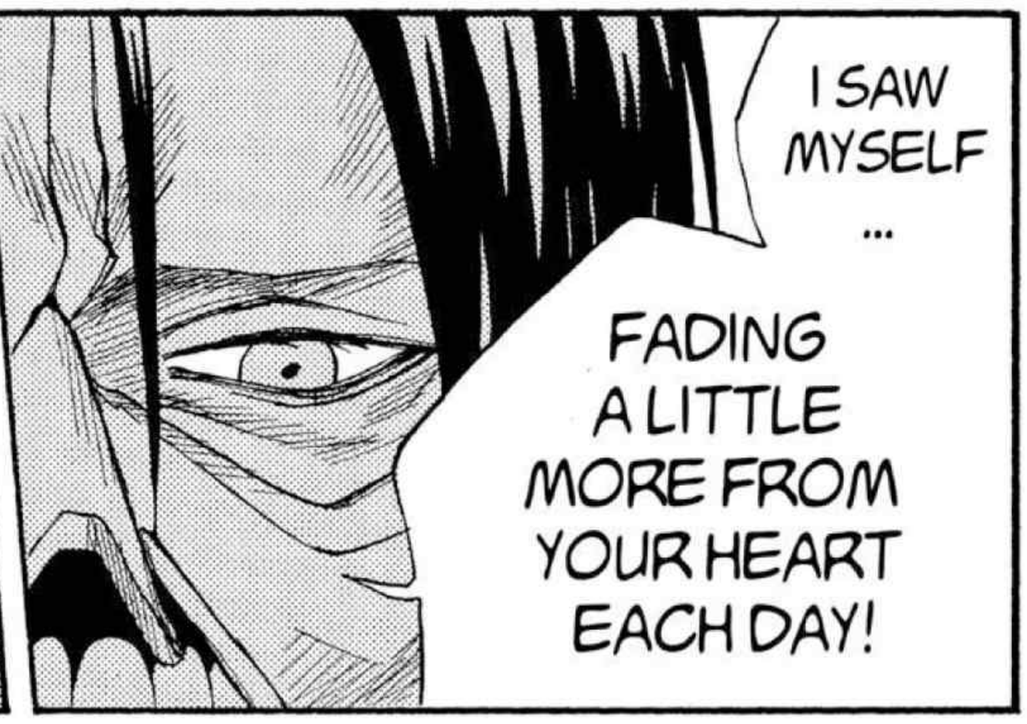
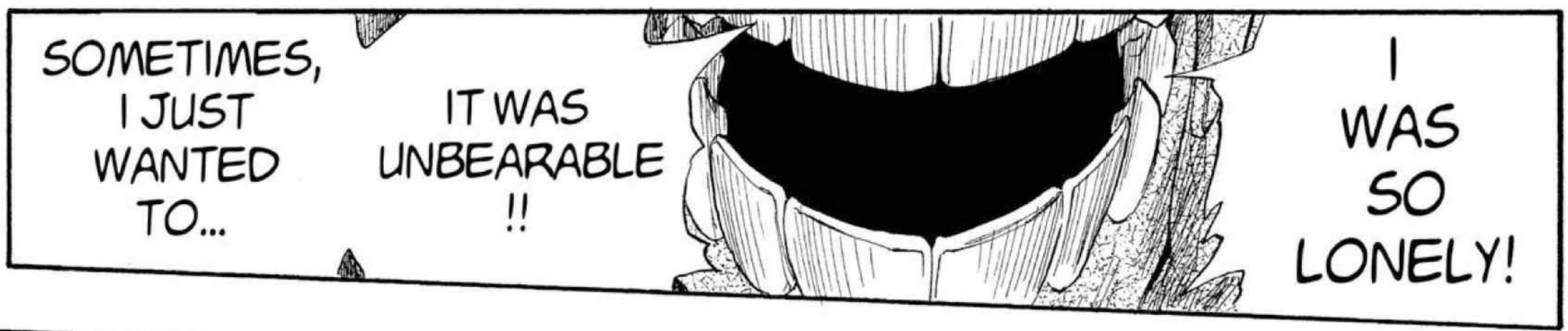

STOPPED PRAYING FOR ME ALTOGETHER !!
AND YOU...

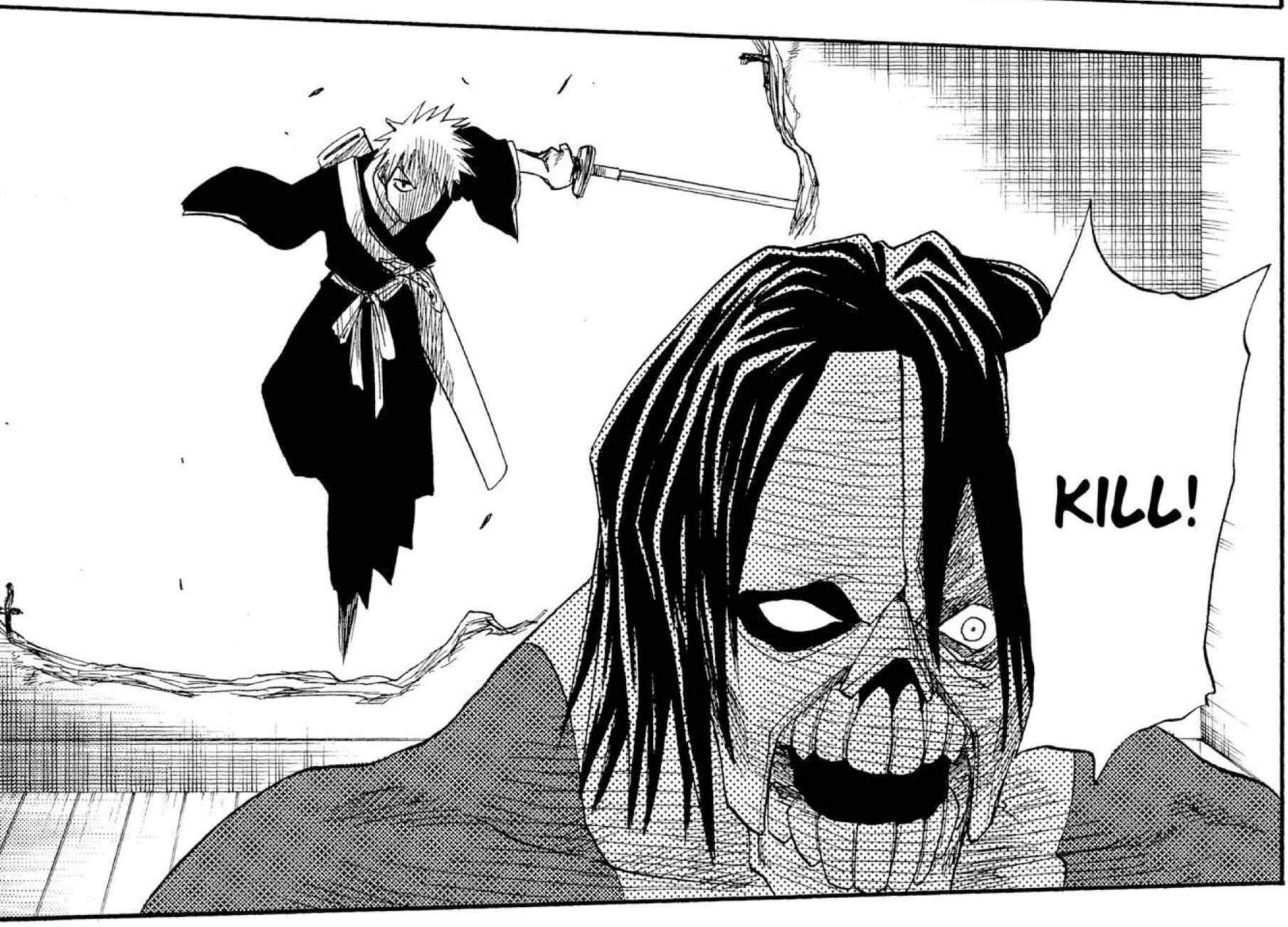

AT HOME ...
IT HURT ME.
ALL YOU WOULD TALK TO ME ABOUT WAS KUROSAKI!



NO, SORA!
THAT'S NOT--
NO ...


I SAW MYSELF ...
FADING A LITTLE MORE FROM YOUR HEART EACH DAY!


SOMETIMES, I JUST WANTED TO...
IT WAS UNBEARABLE !!
I WAS SO LONELY!


KILL!

UNH
HWMP
CLASH

WHY?

COME...
BACK TO WHEN IT WAS JUST US TWO.
COME WITH ME, ORIHIME ...

ICHIGO !!

WHY, SORA?
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO HURT ICHIGO AND TATSUKI?
IF YOU WERE LONELY, YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME...

WOULD NEVER DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS!

THE BROTHER I LOVED...

KRA

UNH

HOW DO YOU THINK I BECAME THIS...

THING?!

IT WAS ALL YOUR FAULT, LITTLE SISTER!

KILL YOU !!

I'LL KILL YOU !!

KRA KRA KRA

SAB

MMF

GR

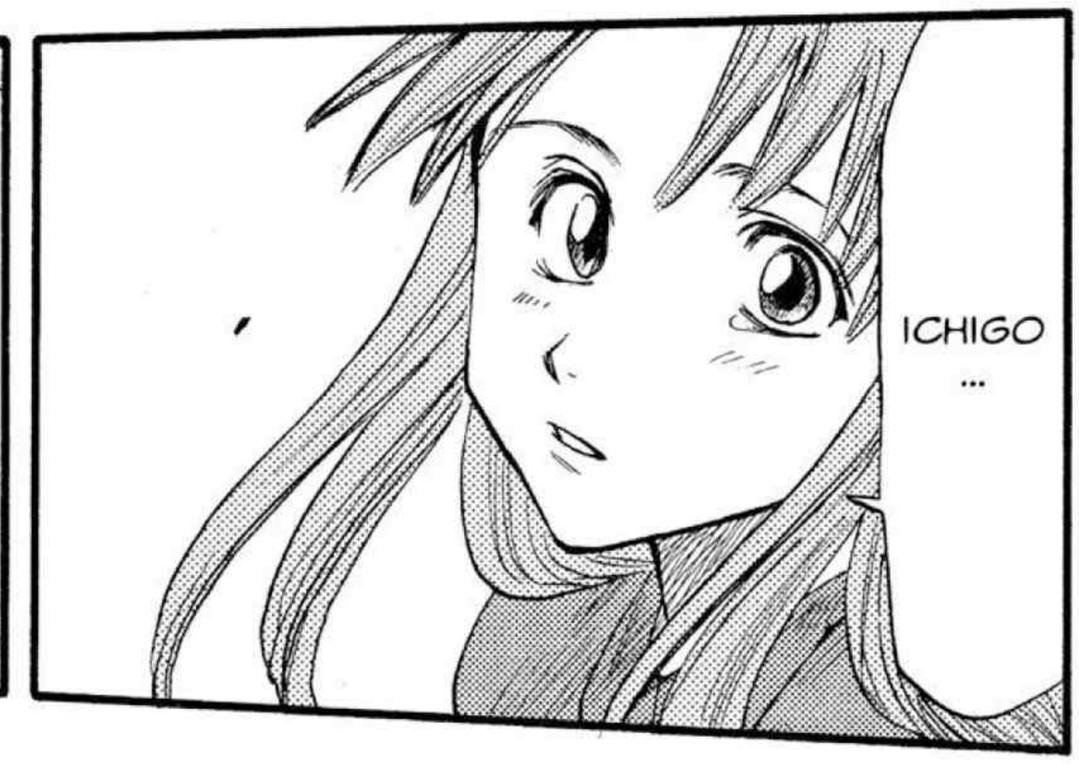
I'LL KILL YOU!

SWASH

THE LITTLE ONES WHO COME AFTER THEM!!
TO PROTECT ...
BIG BRO-THERS ...
YOU KNOW WHY THEY'RE BORN FIRST?

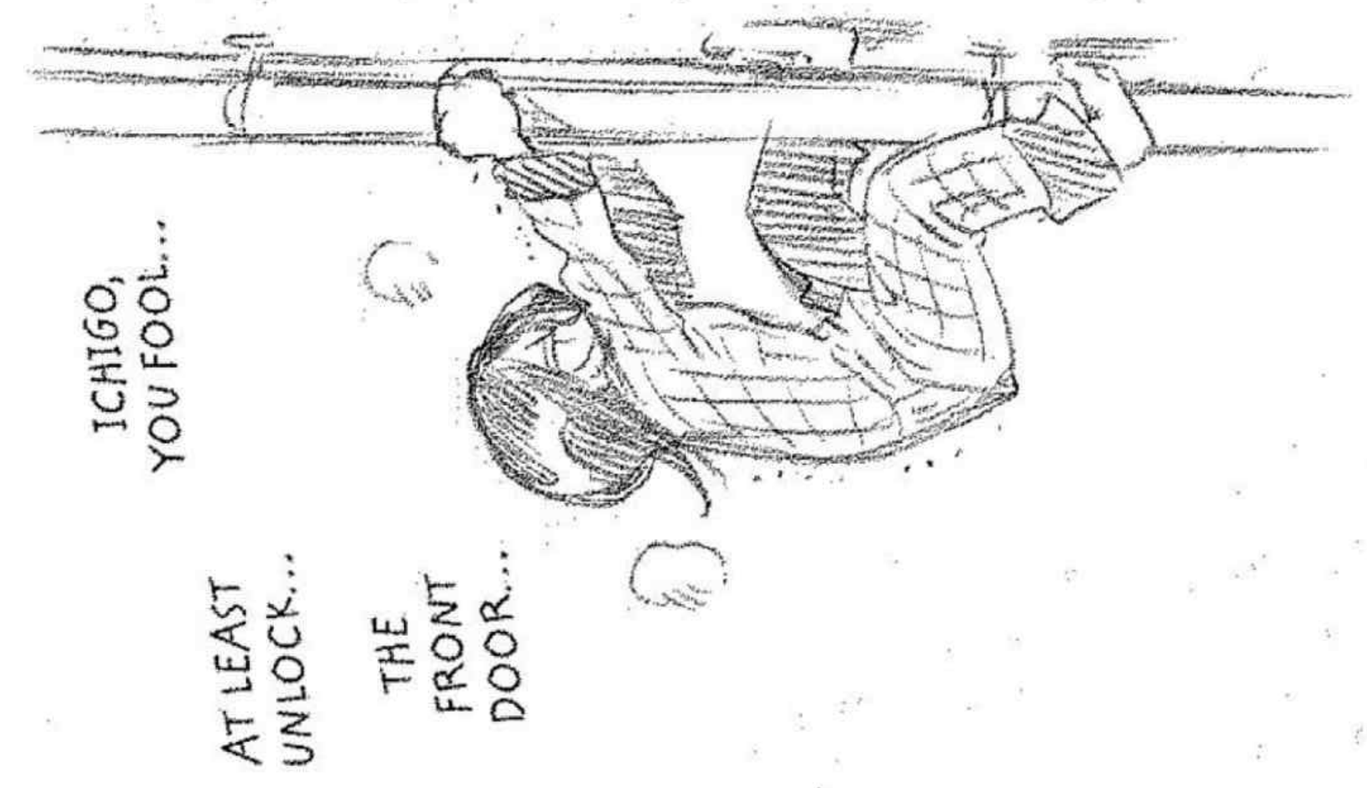
EVEN A MONSTER SHOULDN'T SAY THAT!!

WHAT KIND OF BROTHER SAYS HE'LL KILL HIS OWN SISTER?!

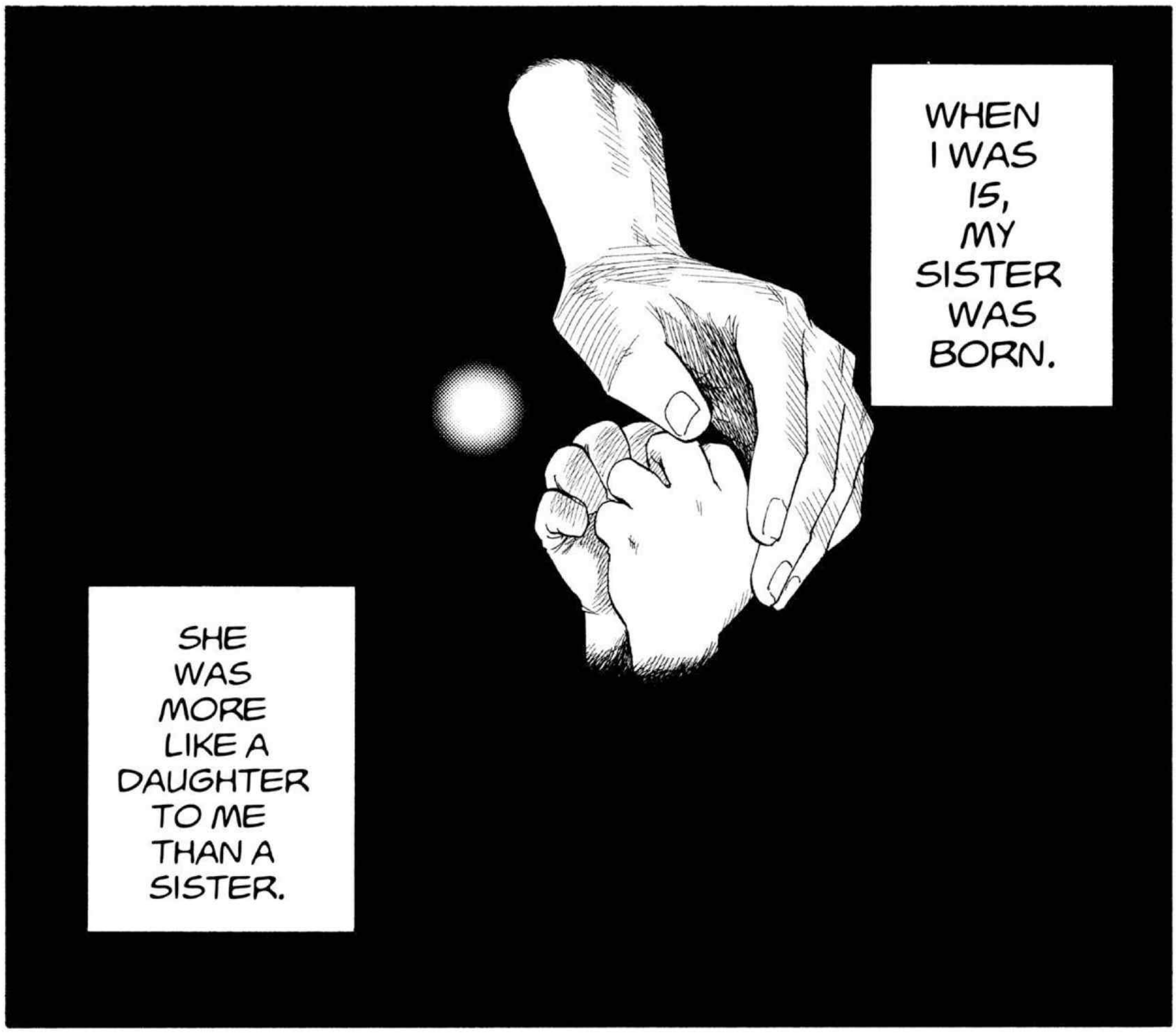


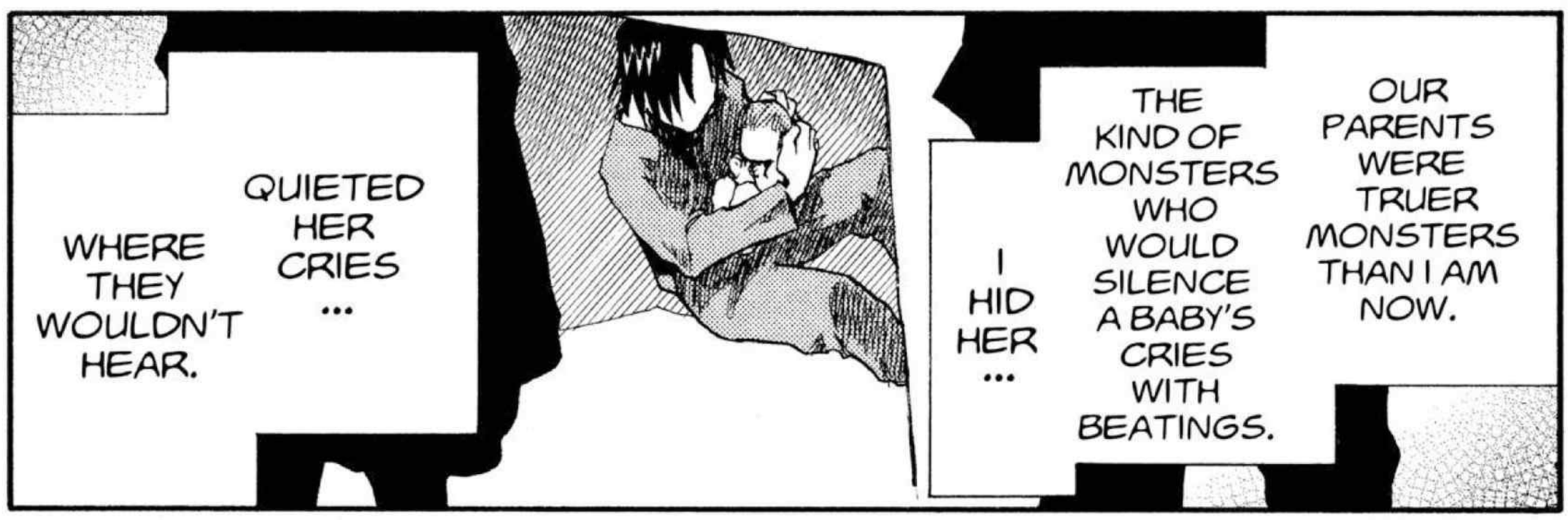
WHY DO YOU STAND IN MY WAY, ICHIGO KUROSAKI!!

WHY?!


ICHIGO, YOU FOOL...
AT LEAST UNLOCK...
THE FRONT DOOR...

6. Microcrack.





AND FLED THAT CURSED HOUSE.

TOOK MY THREE-YEAR-OLD SISTER...

I...

IN MARCH, WHEN I WAS 18...

JUST THE TWO OF US!

FOR-EVER!

AFTER THAT ...

IT WAS US AGAINST THE WORLD!

NOBODY ELSE CAN HAVE HER!!

LEAST OF ALL YOU, ICHIGO KUROSAKI !!

SHE'S MINE!

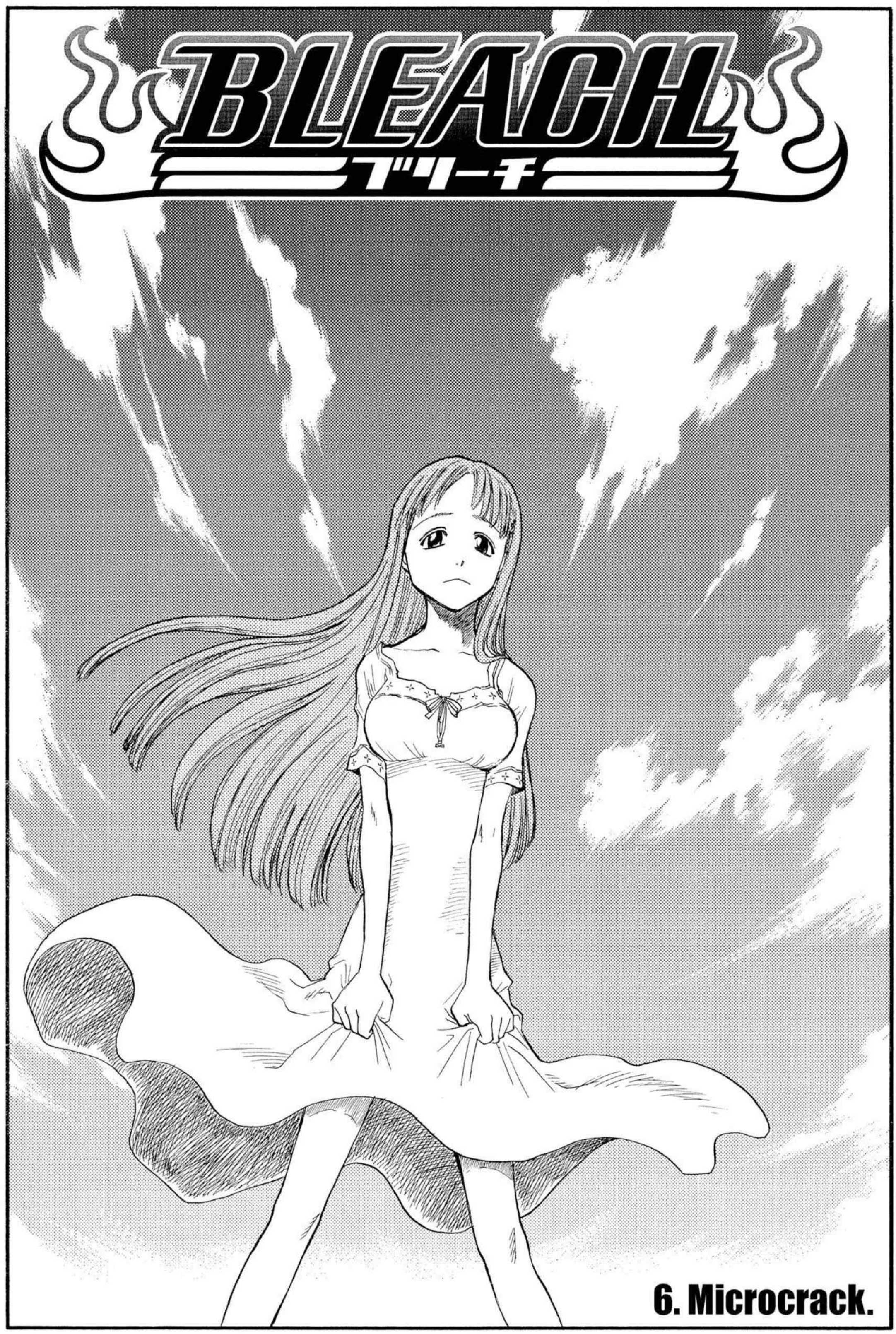
I RAISED ORIHIME!!

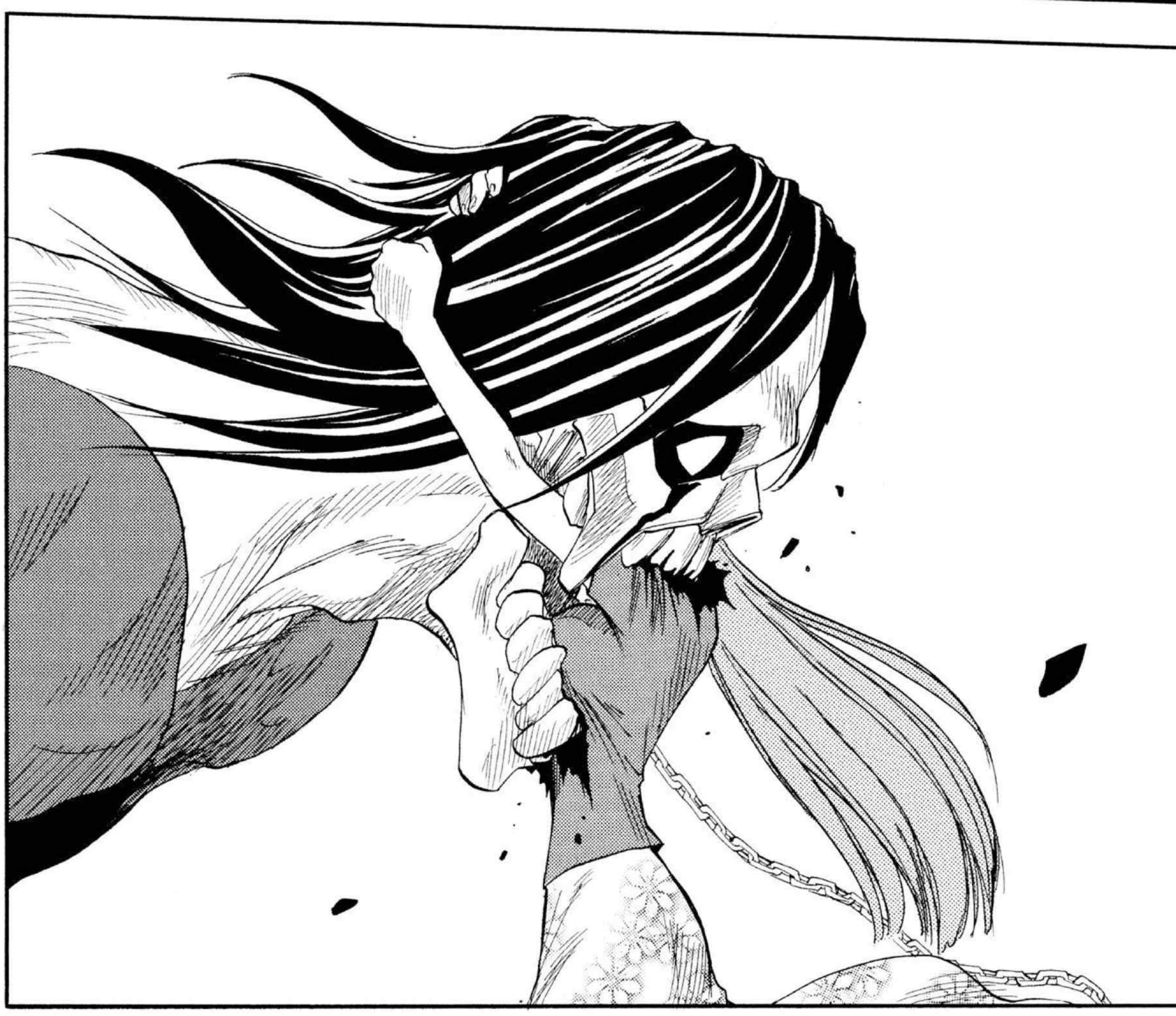
I PROTECTED HER!!

YOU WILL NEVER...

SORA !!
HAVE HER !!
CRACK
AS IF --
CAPTAIN OVERBITE.
DOESN'T BELONG TO ANYONE!
ORI-HIME ...
SHE'S MINE!
HER SOUL IS MINE!!
I LIVED FOR HER!!
BUT SHE...
WON'T LIVE FOR ME!!
VERY WELL ...

SWASH
THEN SHE WILL DIE FOR ME!!
NO !!
CHOOP


BLEACH
ブリーチ
6. Microcrack.



FWUMP
PLIP
PLIP

...
ORIHIME
...

READ THIS WAY
SQUEEZE
ORI ...
HIME?
ORI- ...
...SORA.
I'M SORRY...
I...
WANTED TO SHARE THEM...

PEOPLE I LIKED...

THINGS I LIKED...

THE HAPPY STUFF...

FUN THINGS AT SCHOOL ...

I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO FEEL MY PAIN.

TO SEE MY SAD-NESS.

I DIDN'T WANT YOU ...

BUT I THOUGHT THAT WAS WRONG.

AT FIRST, ALL I DID WAS PRAY EVERY DAY...

I ONLY SHARED MY HAPPINESS WITH YOU!

SO YOU WOULDN'T SUFFER FOR ME!

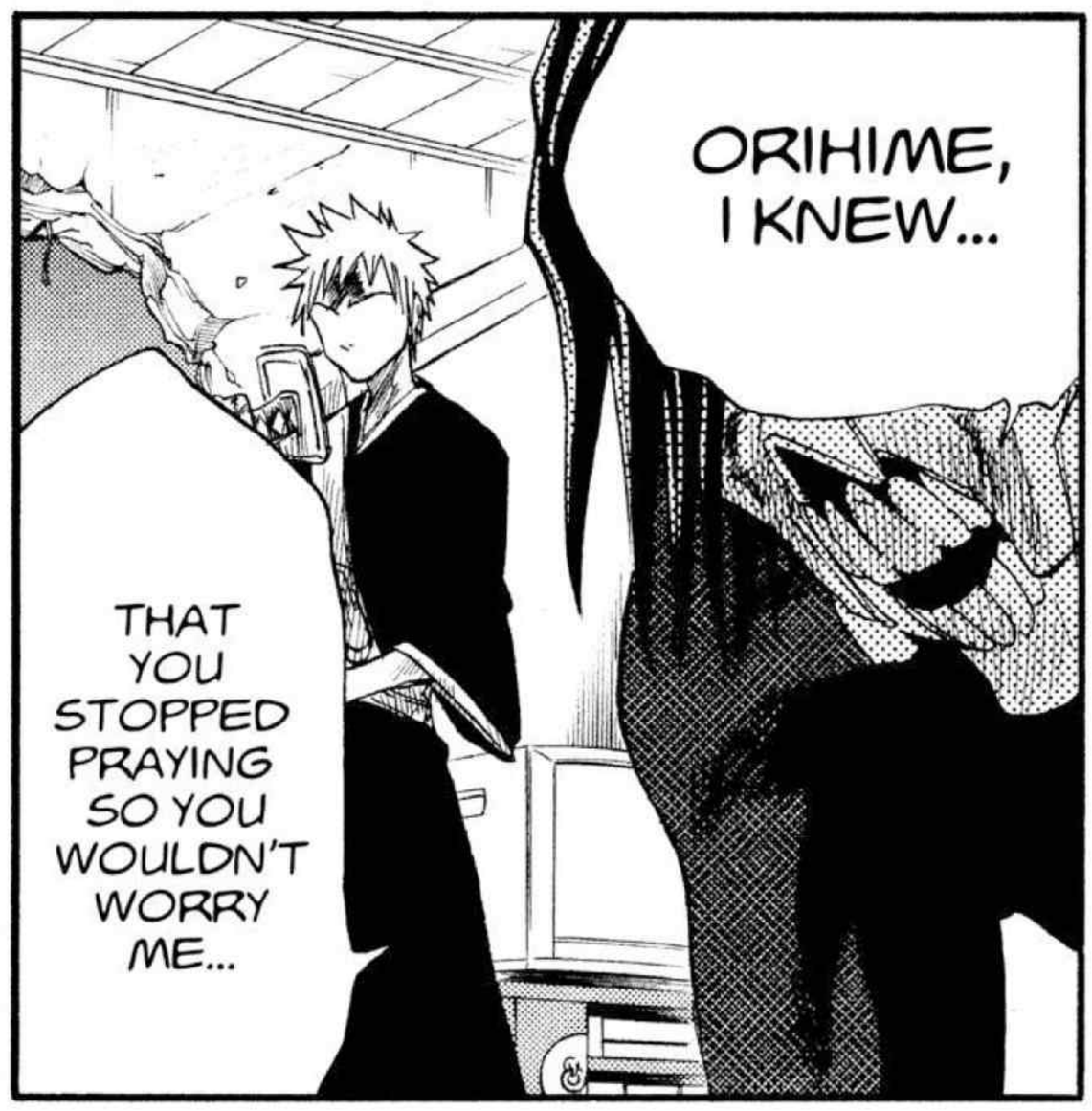
SO I HID IT FROM YOU!

READ THIS WAY
... SORA ...
I HAD ... NO IDEA...
CHANK
I... DIDN'T REALIZE IT MADE YOU FEEL LONELY...
... I LOVE YOU ...
I'M SORRY I HURT YOU...
IT'S NOT TOO LATE!
TOMP
SHE CAN STILL BE SAVED!!
ORIHIME !!
ORI...

I CAN USE MY KIDÔ TO SAVE HER!
AS LONG AS IT'S CONNECTED TO HER BODY, SHE ISN'T REALLY DEAD!

READ THIS WAY
THE INGA NO KUSARI-- THE CHAIN OF FATE --IS STILL ATTACHED!
RUKIA ...

BUT ...
I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO STOP.


ORIHIME, I KNEW...
THAT YOU STOPPED PRAYING SO YOU WOULDN'T WORRY ME...

ORI-HIME ...
SISTER ...
YOU'RE IN MY WAY, STEP BACK!

WHAT ...
ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

YOUR HEART WAS ALL MINE...
WHEN YOU WERE PRAYING...

SHE STILL WEARS IT EVERY DAY.

IT WAS THE FIRST GIFT YOU EVER GAVE HER.

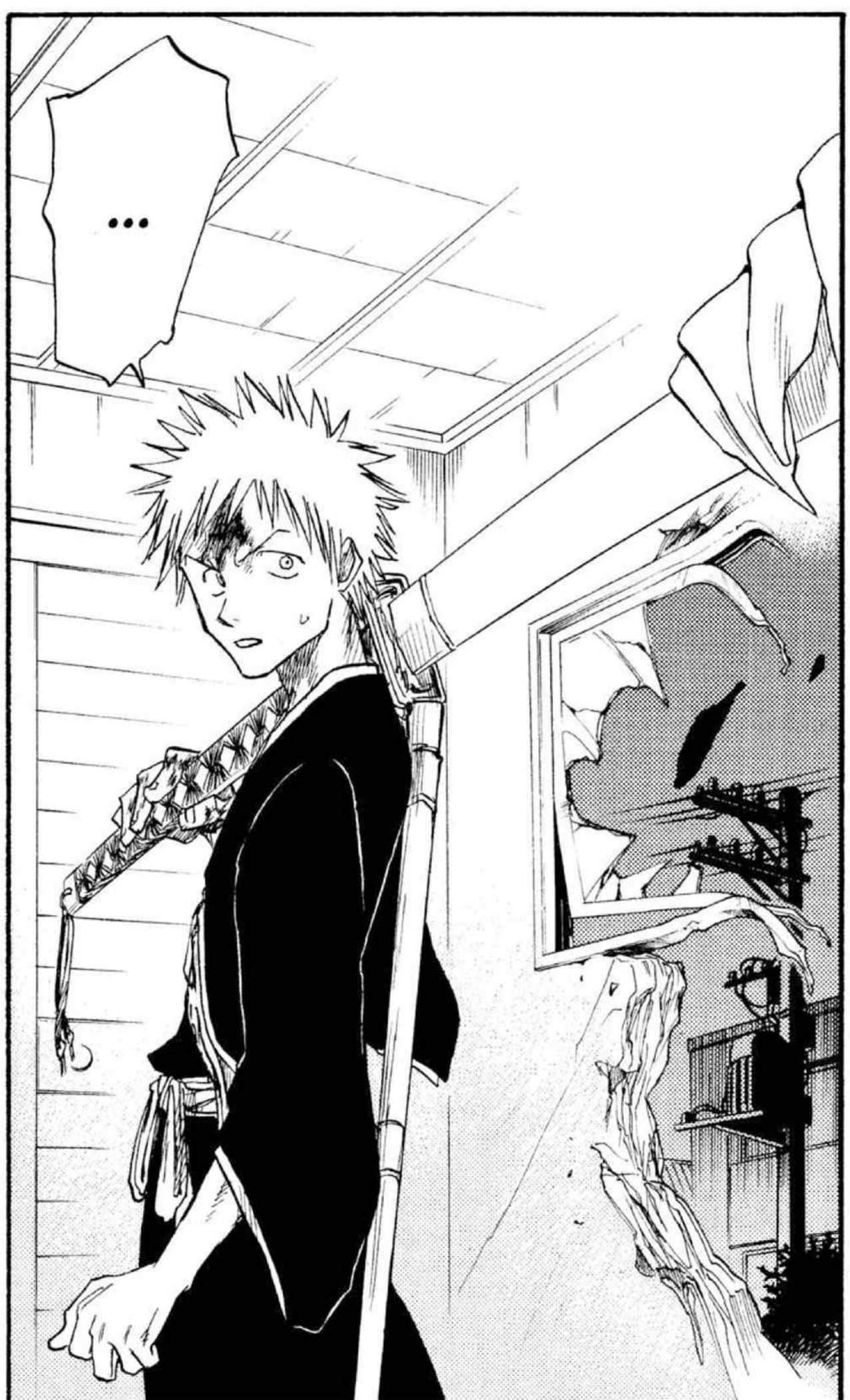
SHE TOLD ME...

THE HAIRPIN...

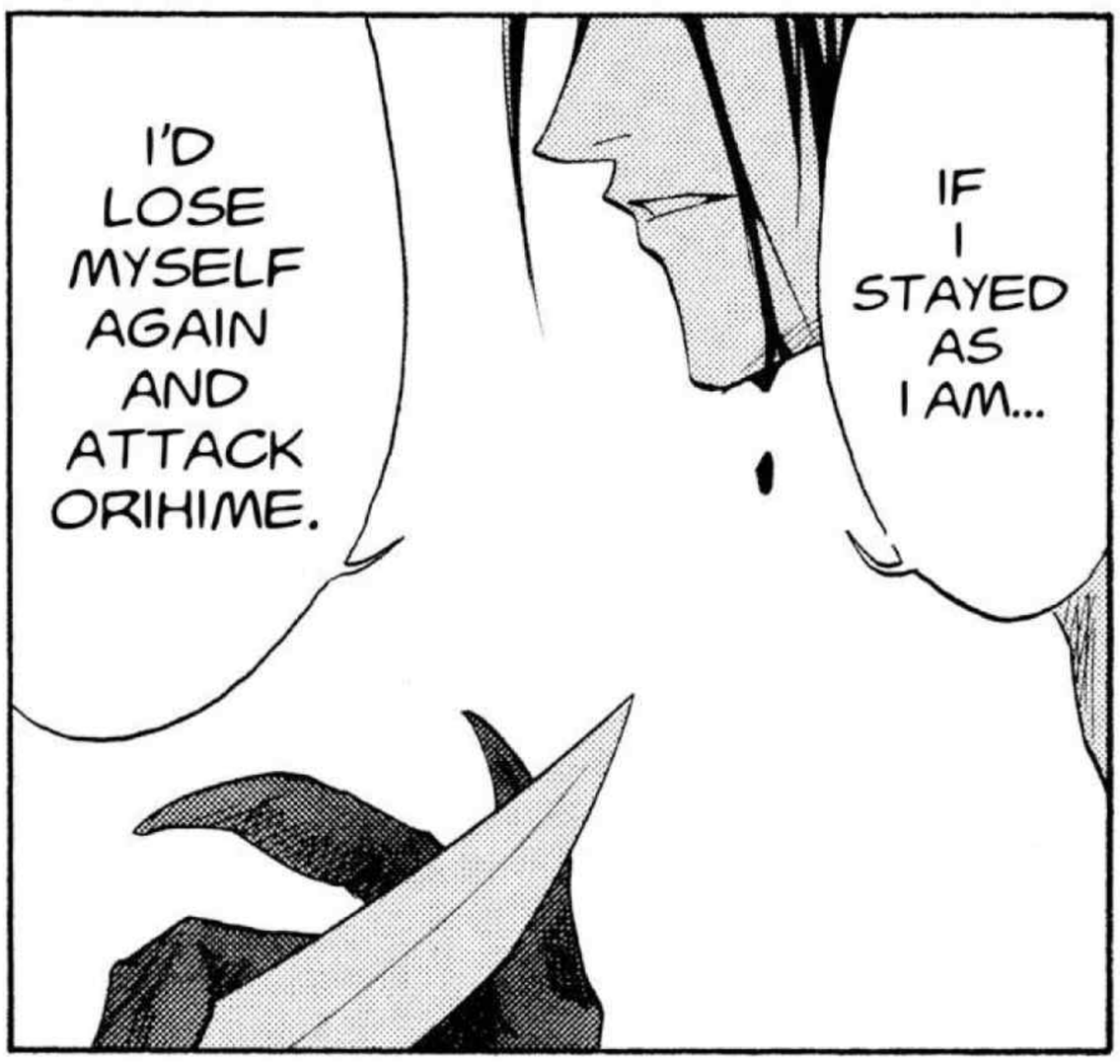
THAT WAS A GIFT FROM YOU.

YOU FORGOT ABOUT HERS!

YOU WERE SO CAUGHT UP IN YOUR OWN LONELINESS ...



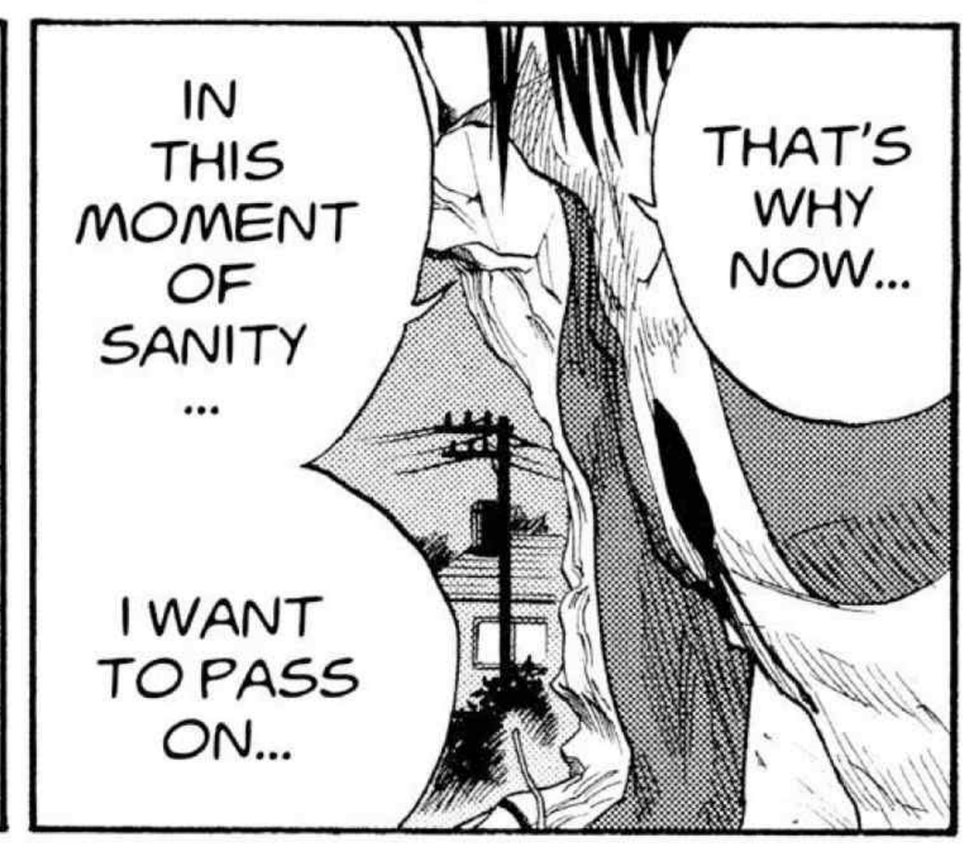
READ
THIS
WAY


I'D LOSE MYSELF AGAIN AND ATTACK ORIHIME.
IF I STAYED AS I AM...

IT'S ALL RIGHT ...
KLAK

WHY DID YOU ...
...DO IT?!

YOU DON'T ...
ICHIGO!
BUT WHY?


IN THIS MOMENT OF SANITY ...
I WANT TO PASS ON...
THAT'S WHY NOW...

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

RUKIA!
LET HIM PASS ON.

HOLLOWS CAN NEVER GO BACK!
HIS DECISION IS RIGHT.

REAPING MERELY FREES THEM OF SIN.

TO REAP HOLLOWS IS NOT REALLY TO KILL THEM.

SOUL REAPERS EXIST.

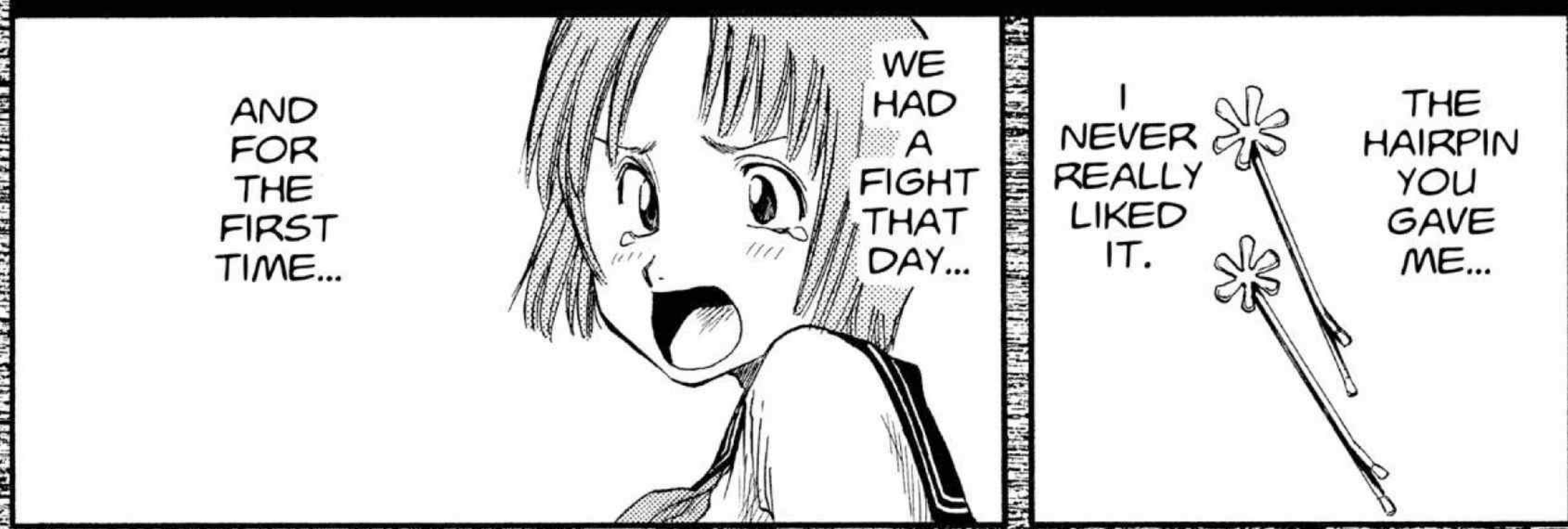
THAT IS THE REASON ...

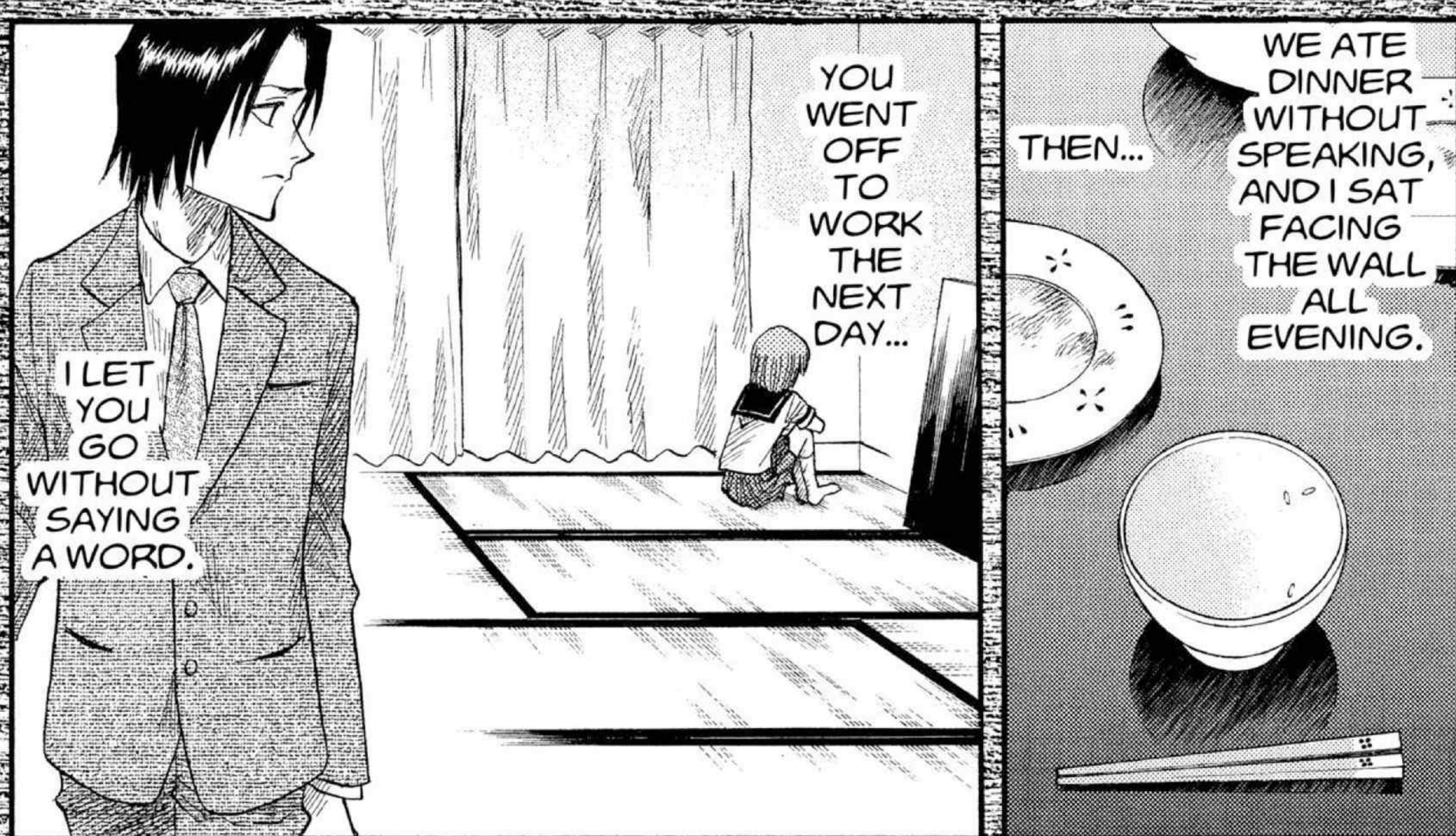
THE ZANPAKU-TÔ CLEANSES THEM...

SO THEY CAN ENTER THE SOUL SOCIETY.

SORA...

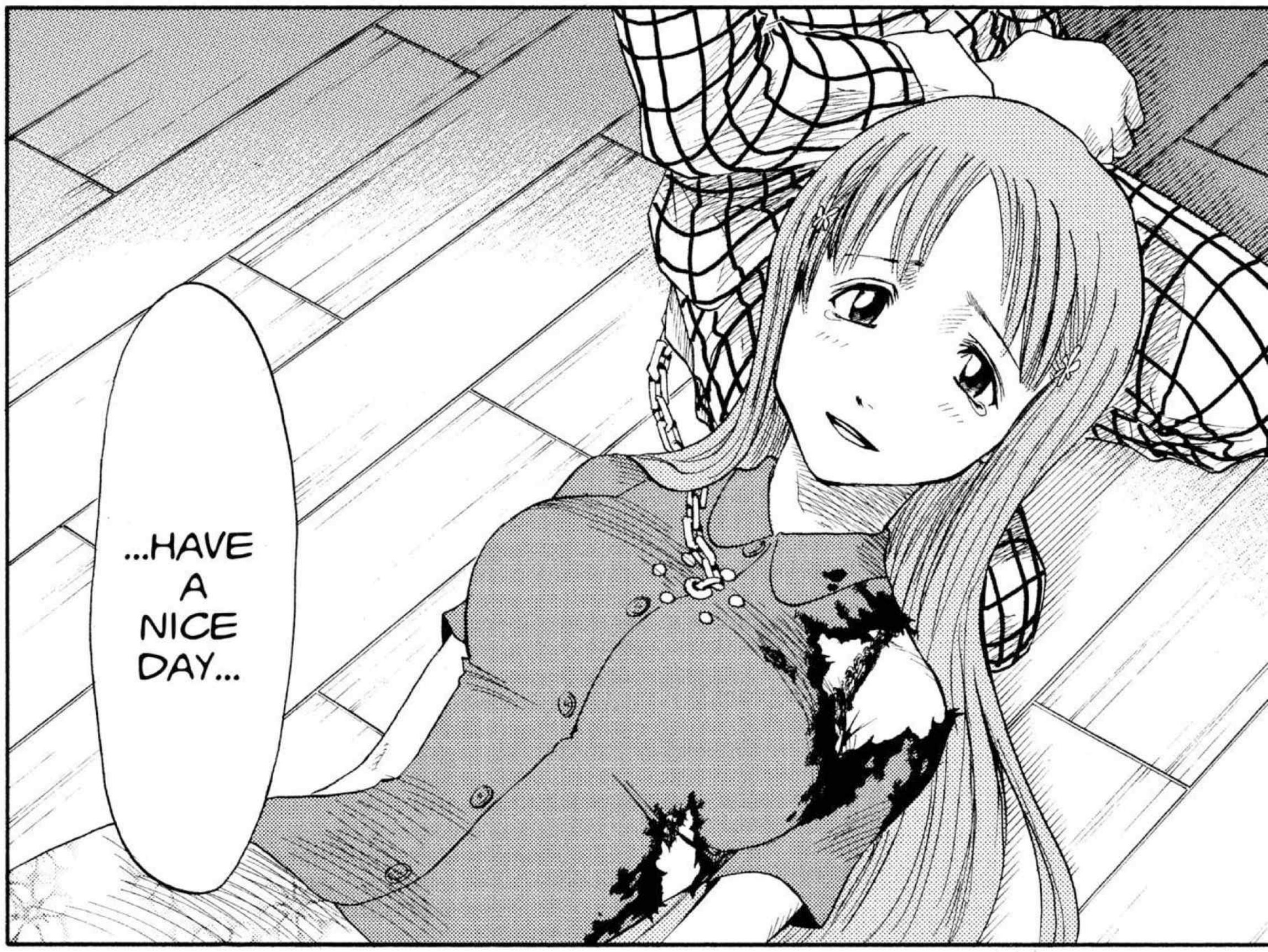
THERE'S SOMETHING I ALWAYS WANTED TO TELL YOU.





WHY DID IT HAVE TO BE THAT DAY?

SORA...

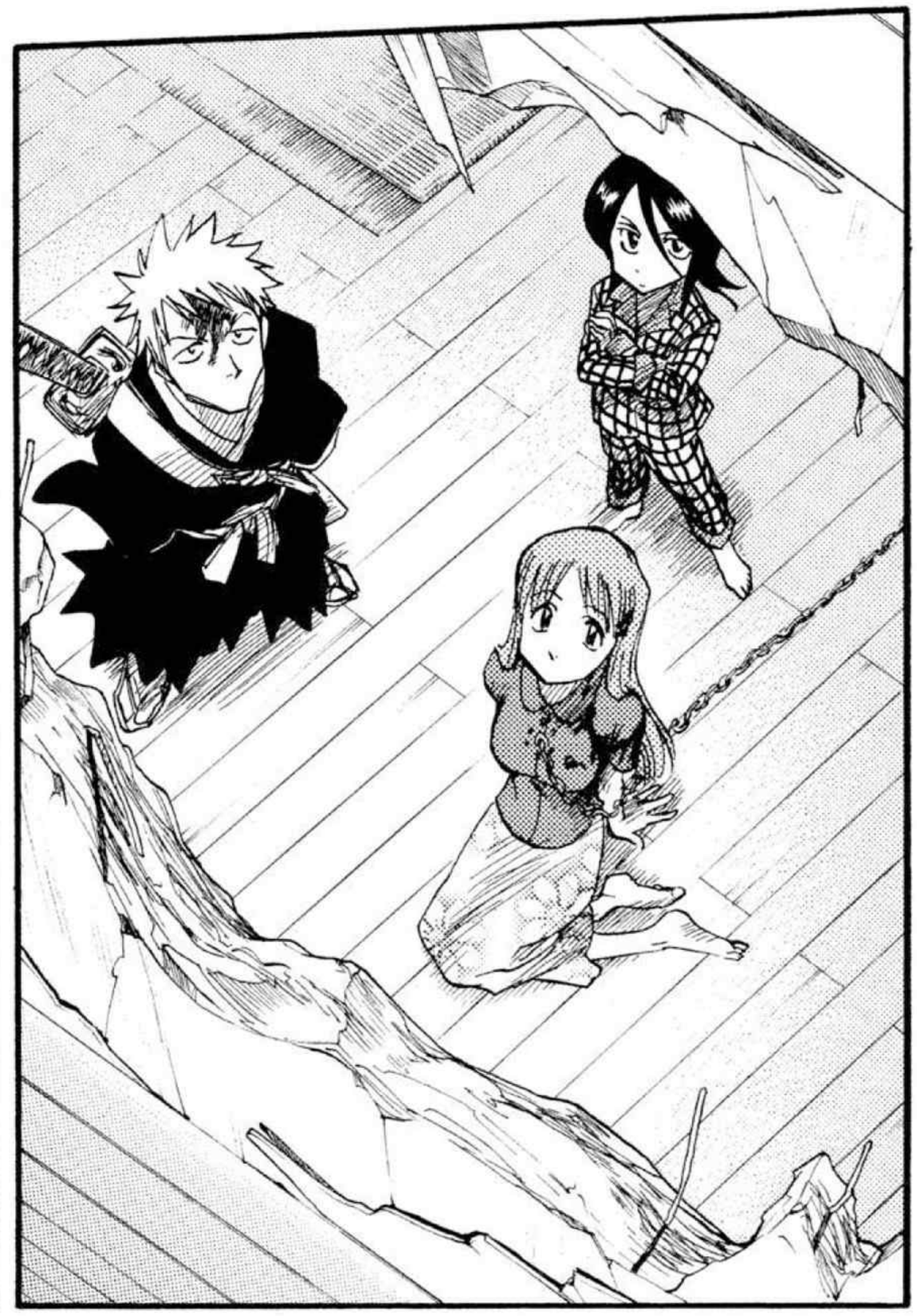


WHOOSH!

GONE ...
HE'S GONE ...

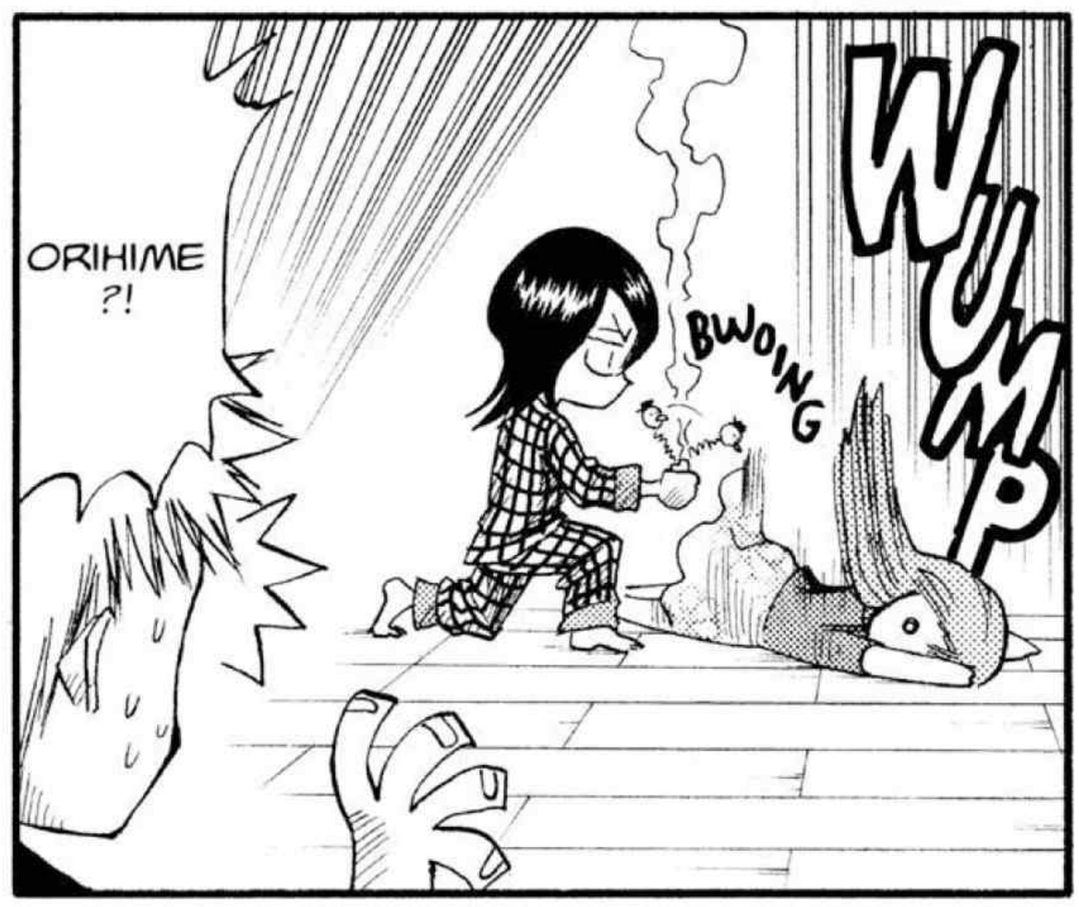
I HAVE TONS OF QUESTIONS I WANT TO...
ANYWAY ...
THEY DON'T MATTER!
WIP

YOUR WOUNDS ...
THEY'RE BETTER, MOSTLY...

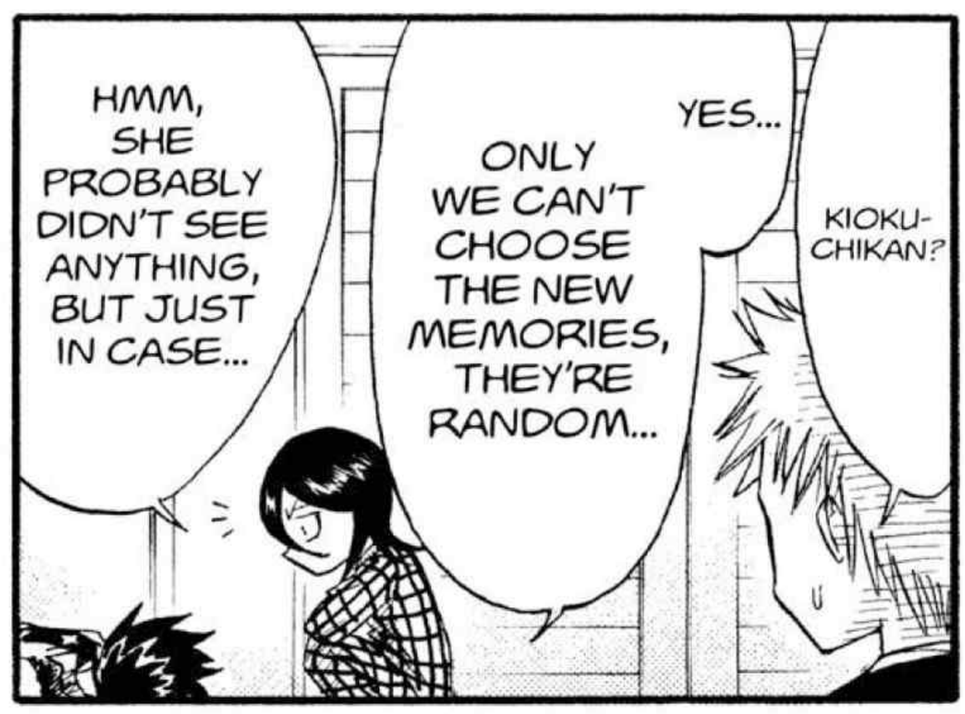


ROO
FLIK
...ASK YOU!!

I ERASED TONIGHT FROM HER MEMORY AND GAVE HER SUBSTITUTE MEMORIES.
KIOKU-CHIKAN--MEMORY REPLACE-MENT.
WHAT'D YOU DO?!
WE CAN'T LET PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT US...
BWOING


ORIHIME ?!
BWOING
WUMP

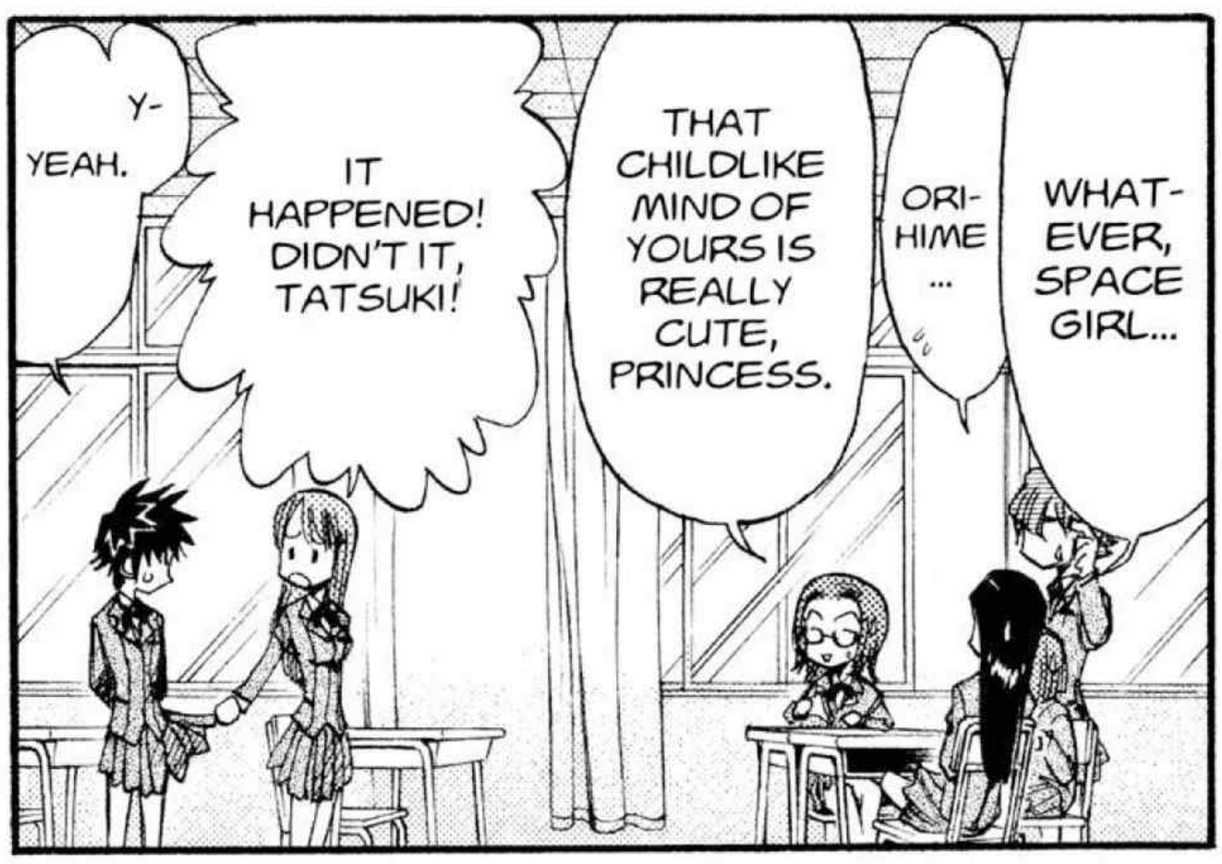
BOOM
YOU'LL SEE WHAT I MEAN TOMOR-ROW.
?
RANDOM?
ACK!!
BWOING


HMM, SHE PROBABLY DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING, BUT JUST IN CASE...
ONLY WE CAN'T CHOOSE THE NEW MEMORIES, THEY'RE RANDOM...
YES...
KIOKU-CHIKAN?

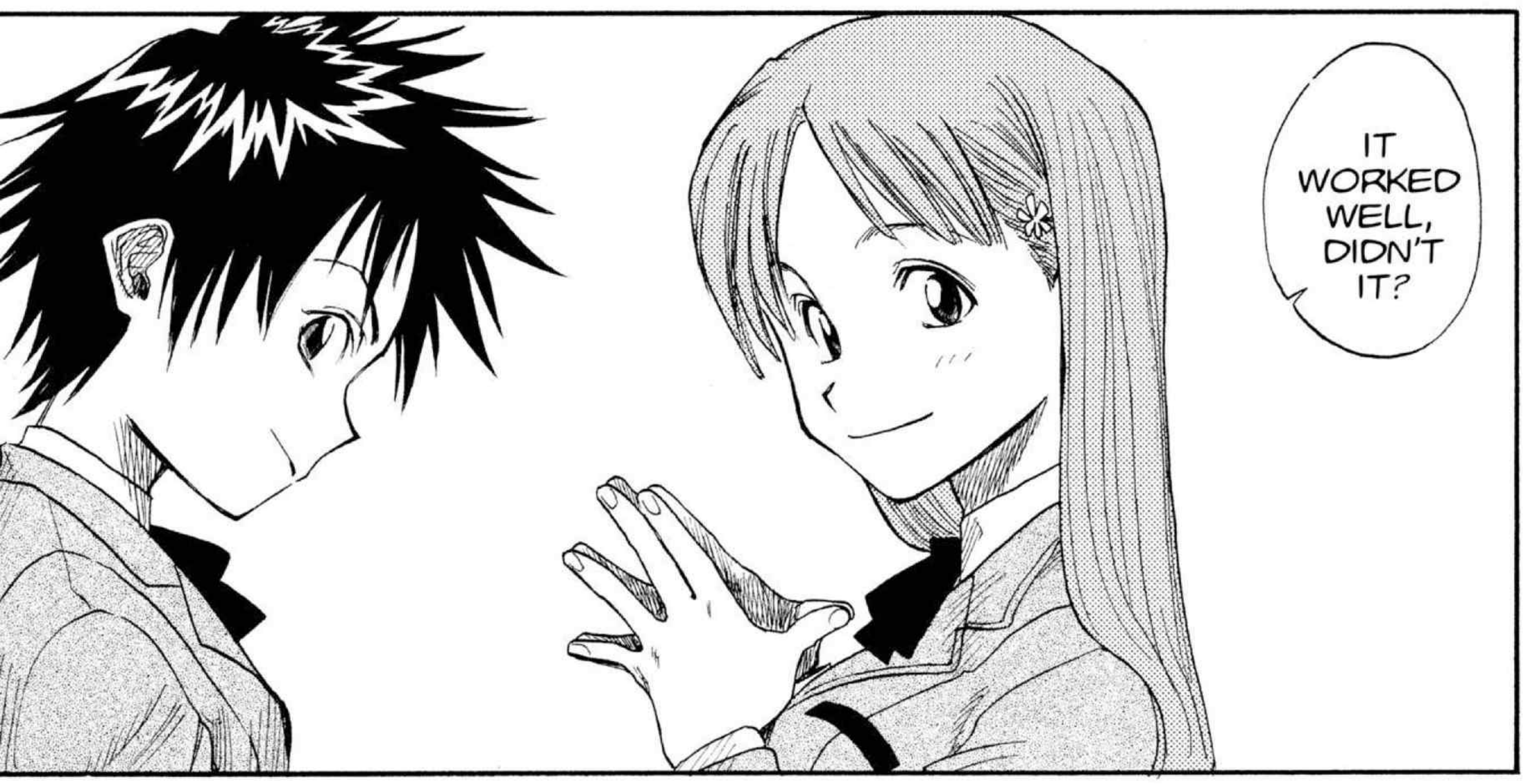
A YAKUZA GUNMAN TOTALLY CAME IN AND, LIKE, BLASTED A HUGE HOLE IN MY WALL!!
NO, FOR REAL!!

WHITE SKY

EEEEK
OKAY, I GET IT NOW.
YOU SAW IT TOO, TATSUKI?!
UH-HUH.


Y-YEAH.
IT HAPPENED! DIDN'T IT, TATSUKI!
THAT CHILDLIKE MIND OF YOURS IS REALLY CUTE, PRINCESS.
ORI-HIME ...
WHAT-EVER, SPACE GIRL...

YOU USED IT ON MY FAMILY THE OTHER DAY, HUH?
YUP. I DID.


IT WORKED WELL, DIDN'T IT?

A CURSED PARAKEET?!

7. The Pink Cheeked Parakeet

WHAT?

AND IT ENDED UP WITH YOU?

MUNCH MUNCH

YEAH ...

I'M, LIKE, REALLY SCARED NOW.

UH-HUH...

ALL OF HIS OWNERS HAVE HAD TERRIBLE LUCK AND DIED.

BUT HE ALWAYS ENDS UP WITH SOMEONE ELSE.

HOW 'BOUT YOU, CHAD?

ISN'T HE CUTE?

DO I LOOK STUPID TO YOU?!

DORK!

WANT HIM, SHIGEO?

工事中

SNAP

YEAH, CHAD LIKES CUTE THINGS...

KRAAA

!!

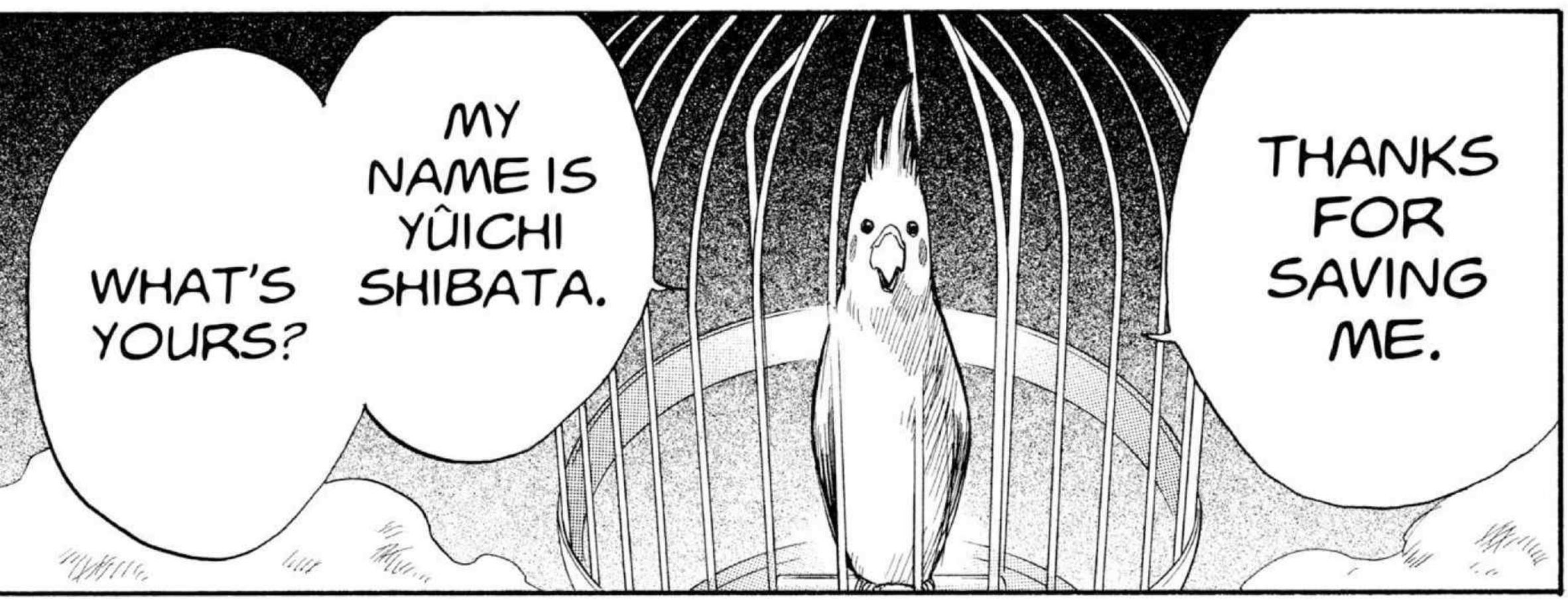
HOLY...

BOOM

KRA

...I'M FINE.
YEAH.
FINE?!
YOU'RE BLEEDING, BRO!!!
PLUP PLUP

HRRRRRRK
Y-YOU OKAY, CHAD?!
CH... CHAD?!
UNBELIEVABLE!!
TUMP
HE CAUGHT IT ON HIS BACK?!


WHAT'S YOURS?
MY NAME IS YÛICHI SHIBATA.
THANKS FOR SAVING ME.

DUDE, IT'S LIKE HE'S REALLY TALKING... LIKE A PERSON...
WHAT THE HECK ...

I'M 15.
WHOA! CHAD'S INTERESTED NOW!
Y-
YASUTORA CHAD...
STILL ...

7. THE PINK CHEEKED PARAKEET

DUDE...

THERE'S NOT EVEN A TRACE OF THAT BURN LEFT.

HMM?

SOME-THING LIKE THAT...

GRADES?

WHAT, LIKE AT REAPER SCHOOL?

UM, BY THE WAY, ICHIGO...

RUSTLE RUSTLE

HEALING THAT WOUND WAS EASY.

SURPRISED?

I DID HAVE THE BEST GRADES IN MY KIDÔ CLASS.

WELL ...

HEY?!

STRAW?

JUST POKE THE STRAW IN IT.

HUH?

HOW DO I DRINK THIS?

YOU MUST BE IN LOVE OR SOMETHING.

TOGETHER AGAIN.

PEOPLE ARE GONNA TALK, THOUGH.

CLUELESS.

ANYWAY, DENY IT ALL YOU WANT.

I DUNNO ...

MORON.

DOES THIS LOOK LIKE LOVE TO YOU?

MIZUIRO.

THIS IS A "STRAW" ...

CHA-CHING!

HELLO, UM...

MIZU-IRO?

YOU REMEM-BERED MY NAME!

AND WE WEREN'T EVEN INTRODUCED.

I GUESS SO.

WHAT-EVER.

IF I CARED WHAT PEOPLE THOUGHT, I'D HAVE DYED MY HAIR BLACK A LONG TIME AGO.

HI, RUKIA!

I POKE IT WHERE?

MY HOBBY IS--

PICKING UP CHICKS?

MIZUIRO KOJIMA, 15 YEARS OLD!

ENCHANTED.

STOP! YOU'RE RUINING MY REP.

I'M HARMLESS TO GIRLS MY AGE.

ANYWAY, I ONLY GO FOR OLDER WOMEN.

WATCH OUT, RUKIA.

WHAT?! N-NO, NOT THAT!!

HE LOOKS LIKE A DORK, BUT HE'S A REAL PLAYER.

FORGET IT...

SO MUCH OLDER.

15 YEARS OLD

HUH?

15 YEARS OLD

LIKE I SAID, WATCH OUT.

I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM.

NO.

HMM? CHAD'S NOT HERE?

WEIRD, WHERE COULD HE BE?

HEY, KEIGO.

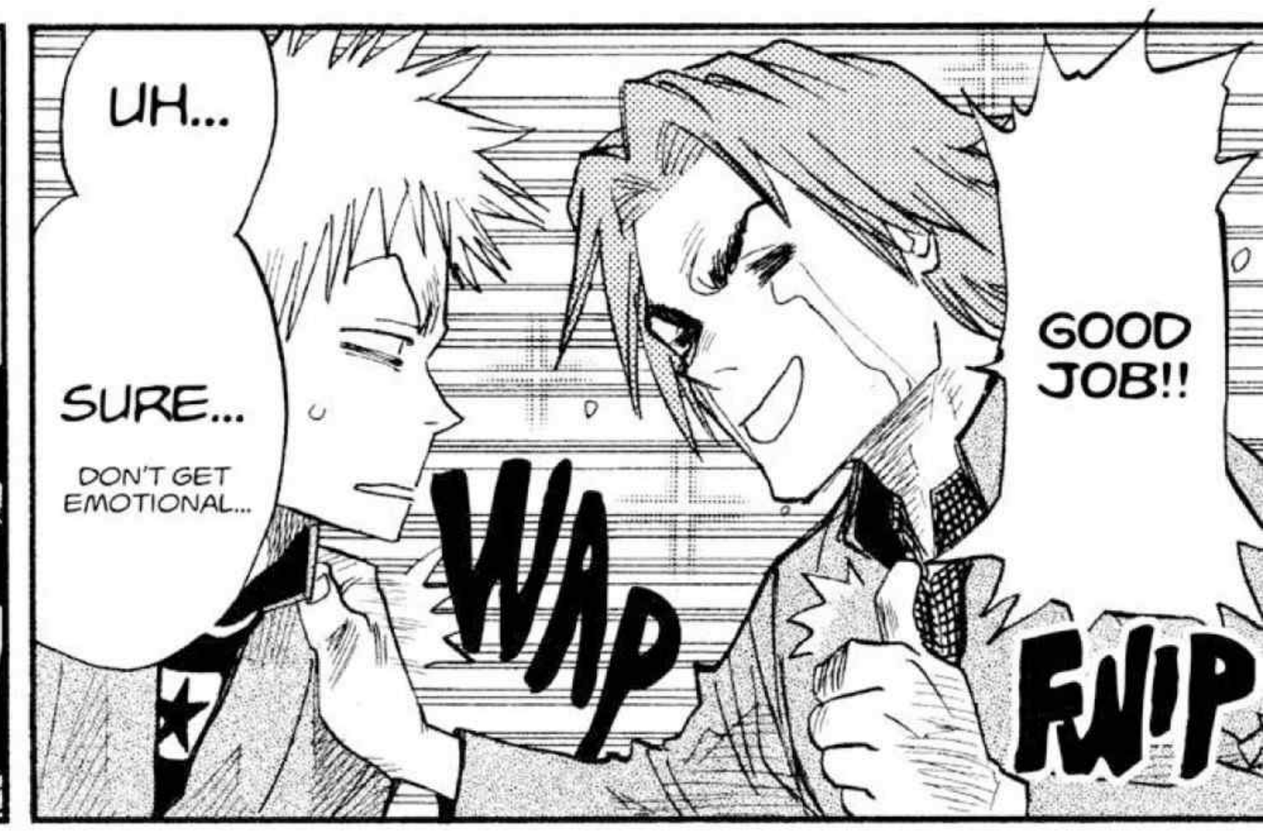
MIND IF I JOIN YOU GUYS?

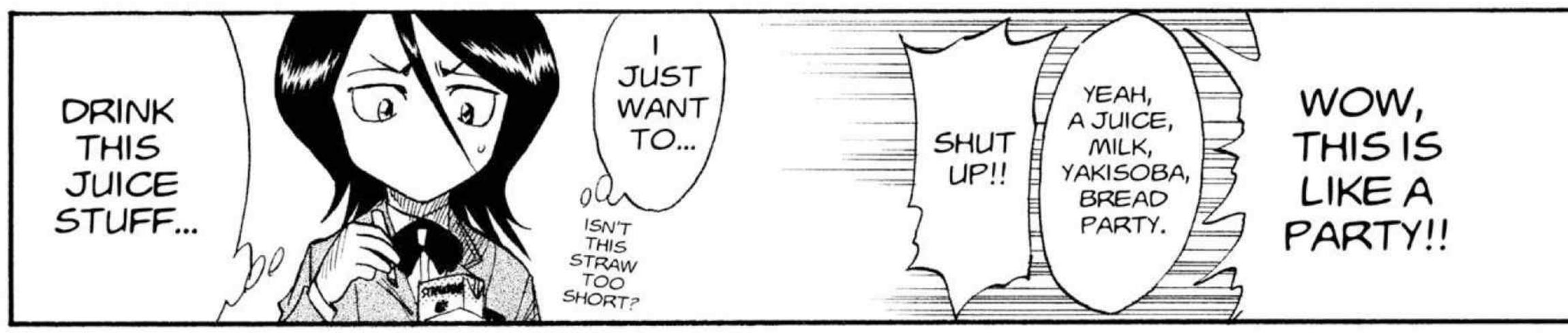
WHAT'S UP?

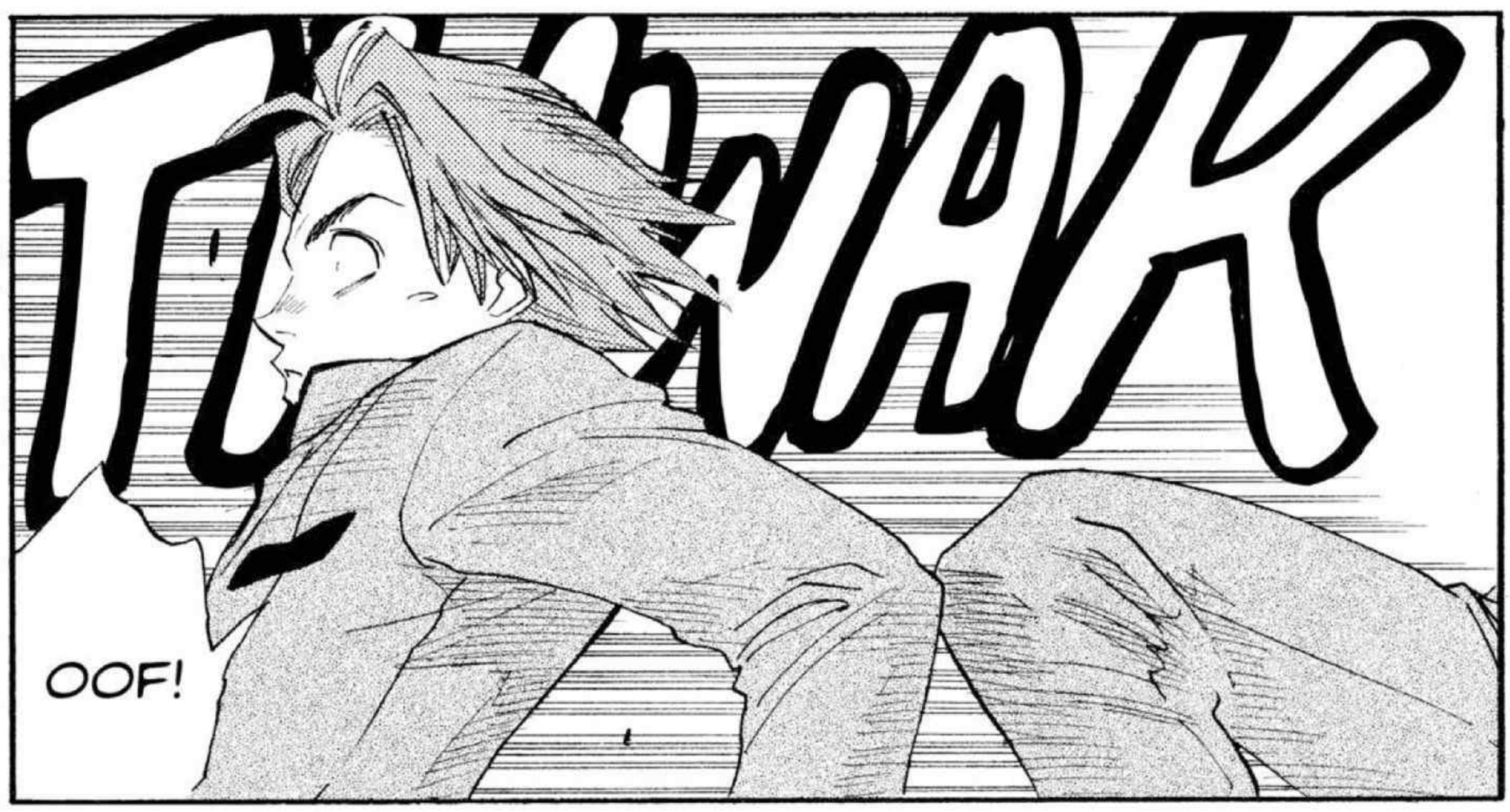
ICHIGO DID?!
WHAT? SHUT UP...
ICHIGO PICKED HER UP AND BROUGHT HER HERE.

WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?!
BOOM
WHOA! IS THAT THE BEAUTIFUL NEW GIRL I SEE?!

GREETINGS! I'M KEIGO ASANO!!
UM... HELLO?
WELCOME TO THIS GARDEN OF MANLINESS!!
SWAK


UH...
SURE... DON'T GET EMOTIONAL...
GOOD JOB!!
WAP
FWIP


DRINK THIS JUICE STUFF...
I JUST WANT TO...
ISN'T THIS STRAW TOO SHORT?
SHUT UP!!
YEAH, A JUICE, MILK, YAKISOBA, BREAD PARTY.
WOW, THIS IS LIKE A PARTY!!


OOF!

FU...
(ULP)...

WHAT THE...
OW, MAN!!

HEY, KUROSAKI...

DRAG QUEEN !!
DRAG QUEEN ...
WHY YOU...

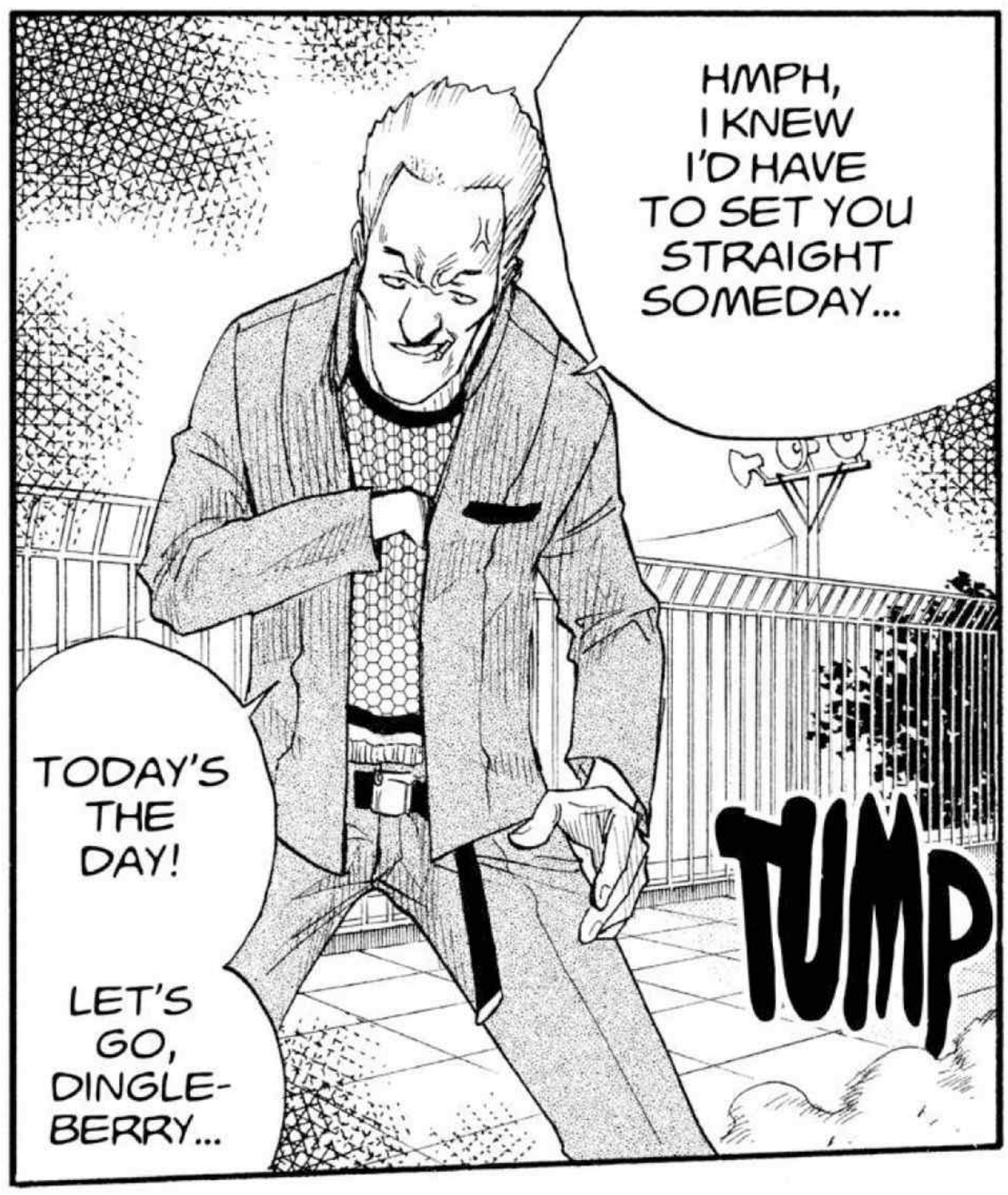
WHY YOU ALWAYS TRYING TO LOOK LIKE ME?
SLURP
BUMP
KUROSAKI, WHEN YOU GONNA DYE THAT CARROT-PISS HAIR BLACK?
I AIN'T TALKIN' TO YOU.

NOW FLY AWAY, DRAG QUEEN ...
BEFORE YOU TICK ME OFF.
LIKE I KEEP TELLING YOU, THIS IS MY NATURAL COLOR.
I DON'T LOOK ANYTHING LIKE YOU.

YOU'RE OFF SUSPEN-SION...
ÔSHIMA!
MUNCH MUNCH

LET HIM LIVE, ÔSHIMA!!
EVERYBODY KNOWS YOU'RE TOUGH!
NOBODY CAN WHIP YOU!
BEAT IT, ASANO!
I GOTTA KILL THAT!!

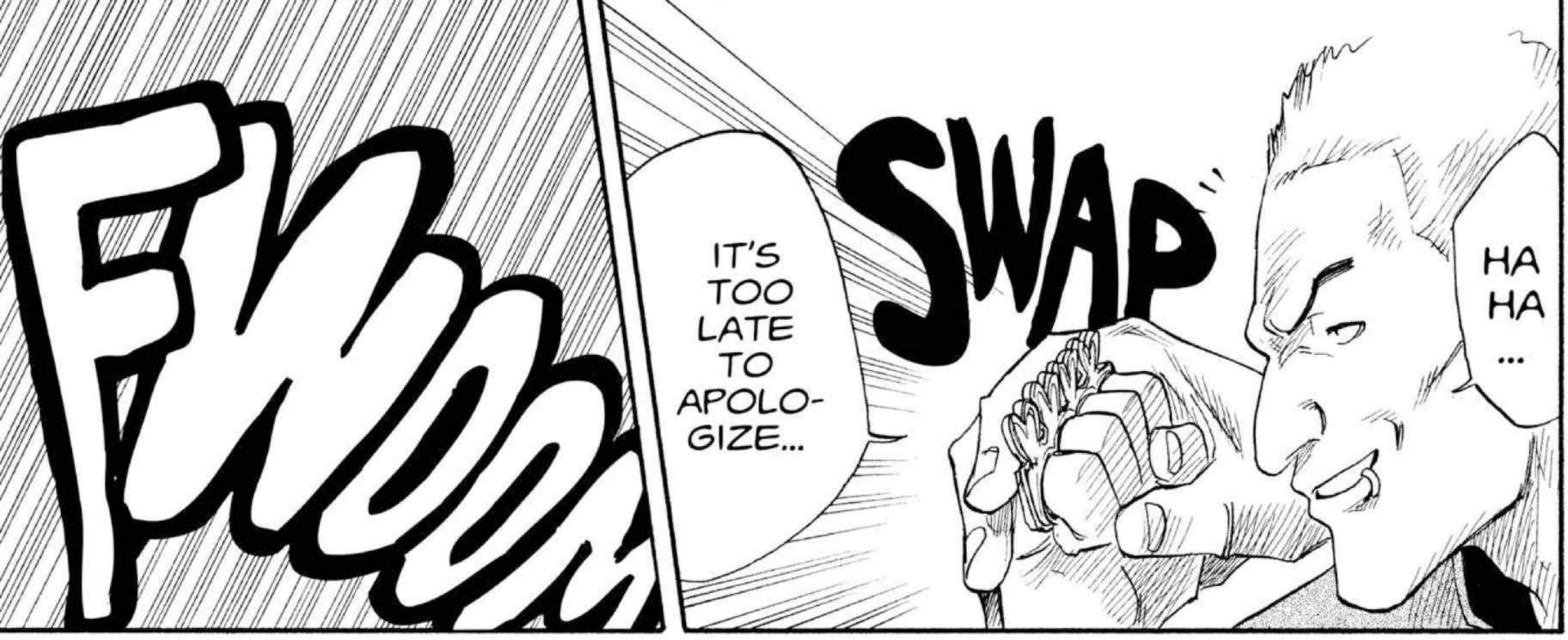
FUMP
NO FIGHTING!
OKAY, GUYS?!
WHOA, WHOA, WHOA!

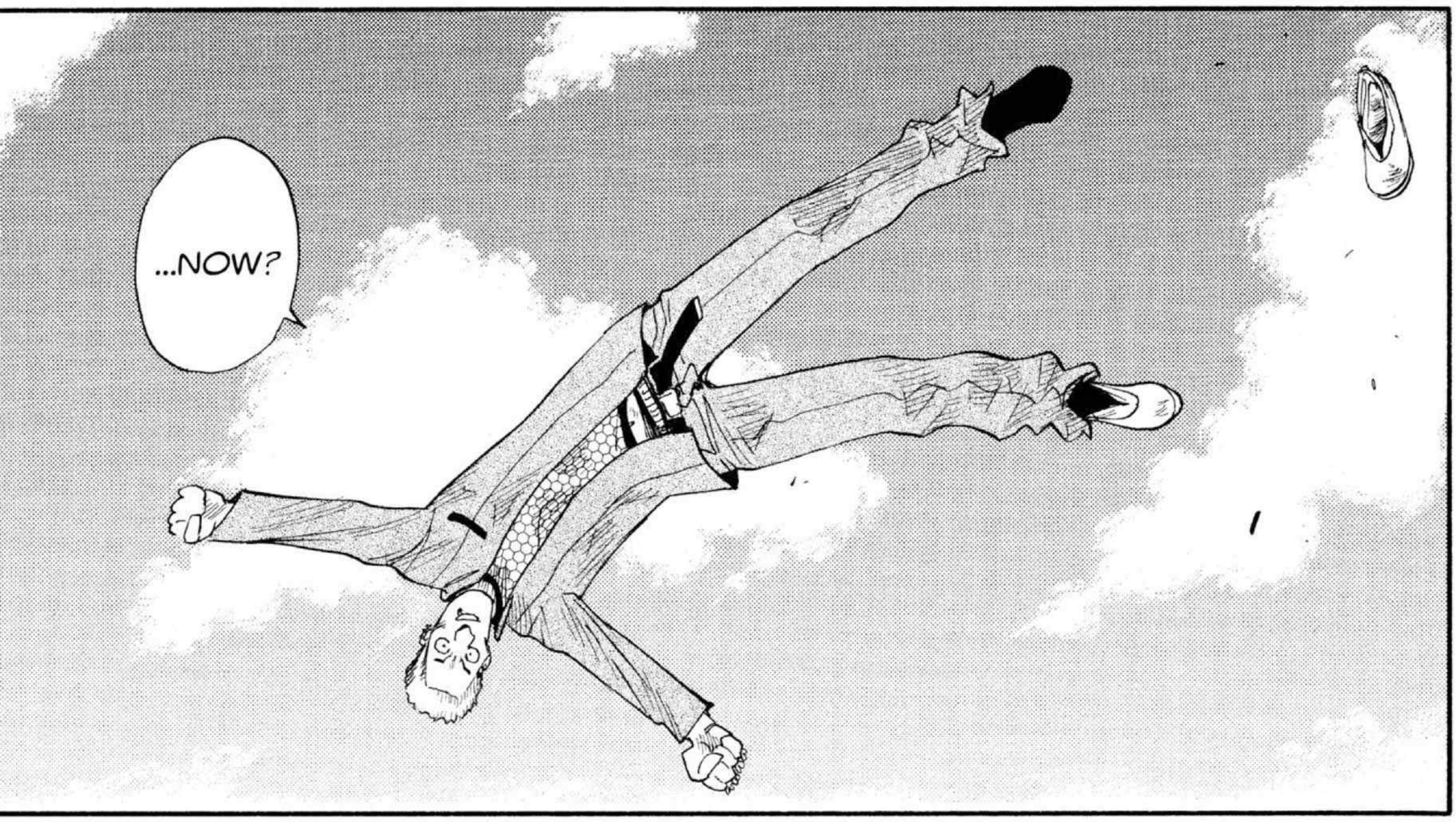

HMPH, I KNEW I'D HAVE TO SET YOU STRAIGHT SOMEDAY...
TODAY'S THE DAY!
LET'S GO, DINGLE-BERRY...
TUMP

YOU !!
EXCEPT ME.
I'LL STOMP THAT PUNK INTO NEXT WEEK!
ICHIGO, SHUT UP!!
I'M TRYING TO SAVE YOUR LIFE!!

THTRONGER... SOMEBODY'S GOTTA MAKE FUN OF THAT.
THAT'S SO WRONG.
DID HE JUST SAY "THTRONGER?!"
B-BRASS KNUCK-LES!
WAIT, ÔSHIMA!
DON'T GET YOURSELF--

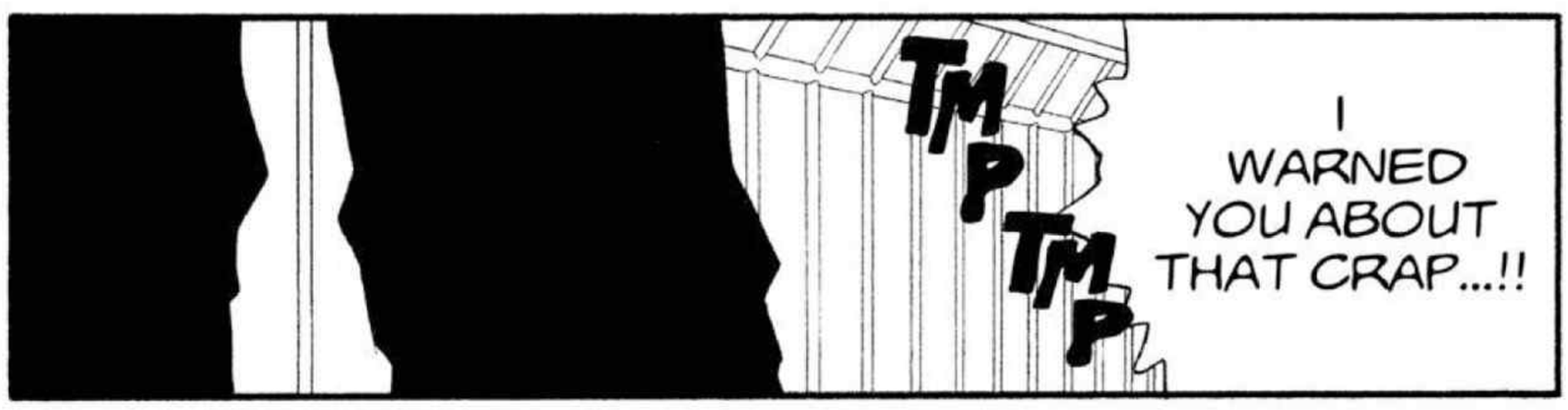
WE'LL SEE WHO'S THTRONGER !!
PK


FWOOM
IT'S TOO LATE TO APOLO-GIZE...
SWAP
HA HA ...


...NOW?

CH-CHA ....

ÔSHIMA ?!
OUCH !!
KRASH
SKRFFFF
OOF!
WHAM

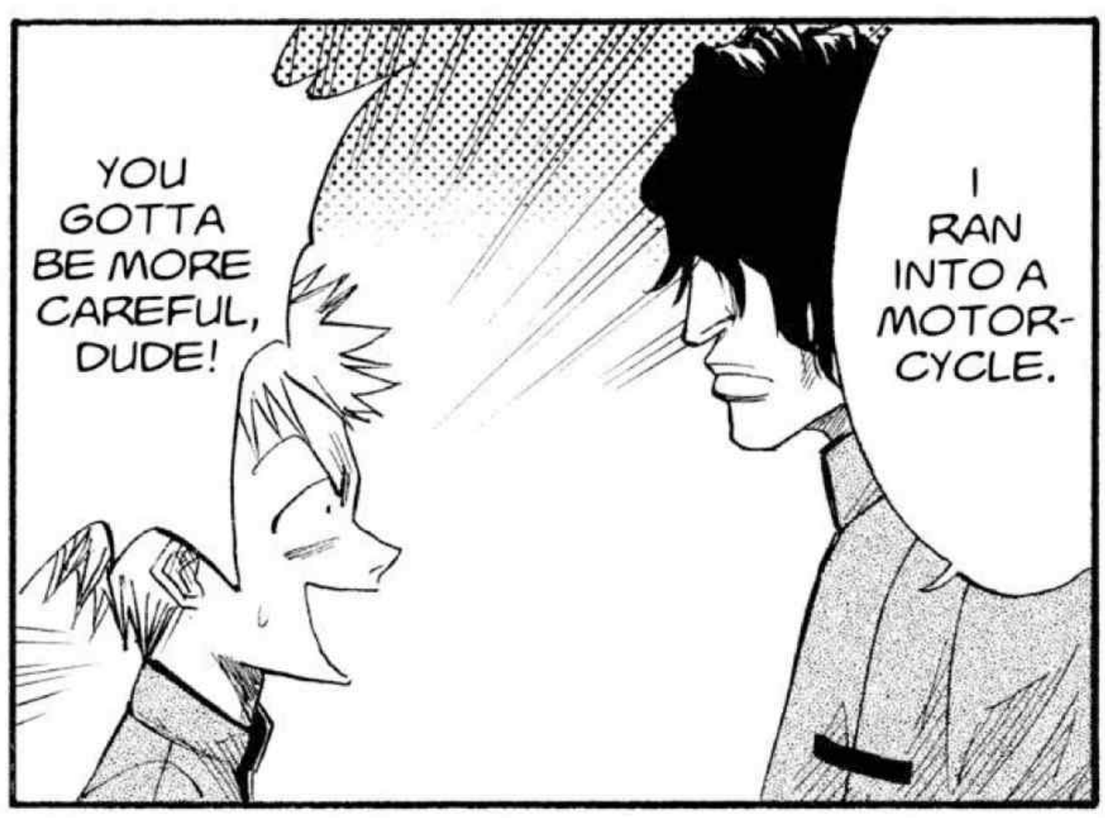

TMP TMP
I WARNED YOU ABOUT THAT CRAP...!!

MM...

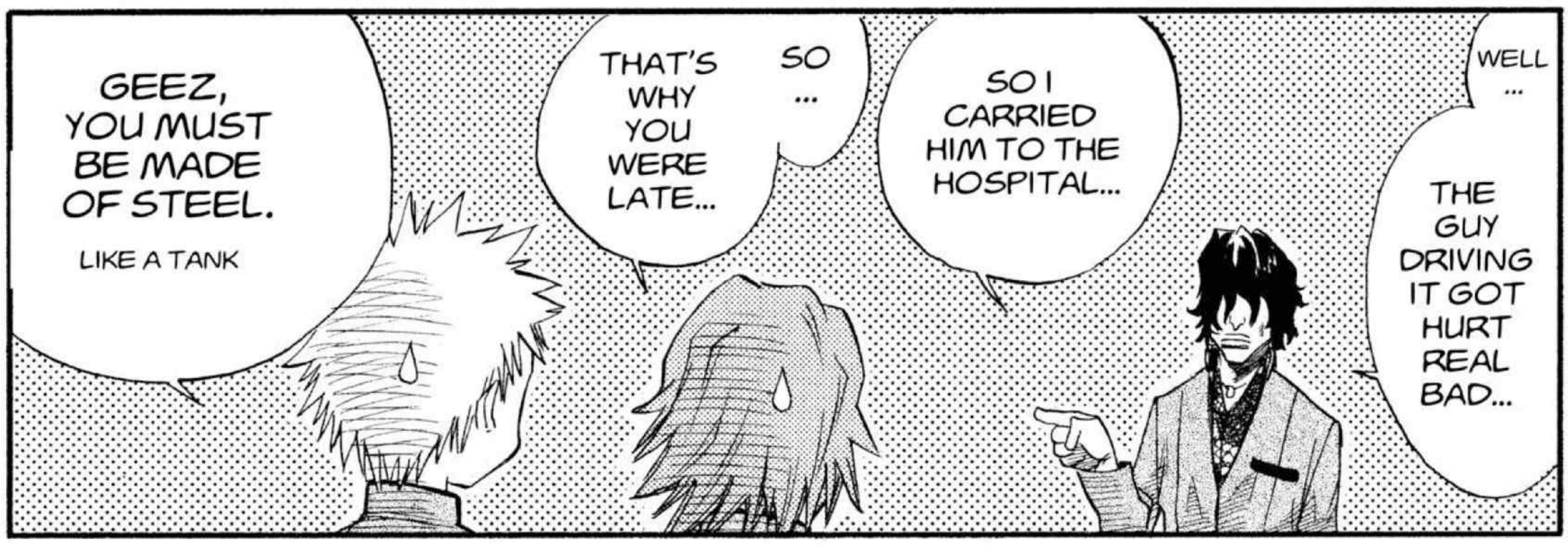
CHAD!

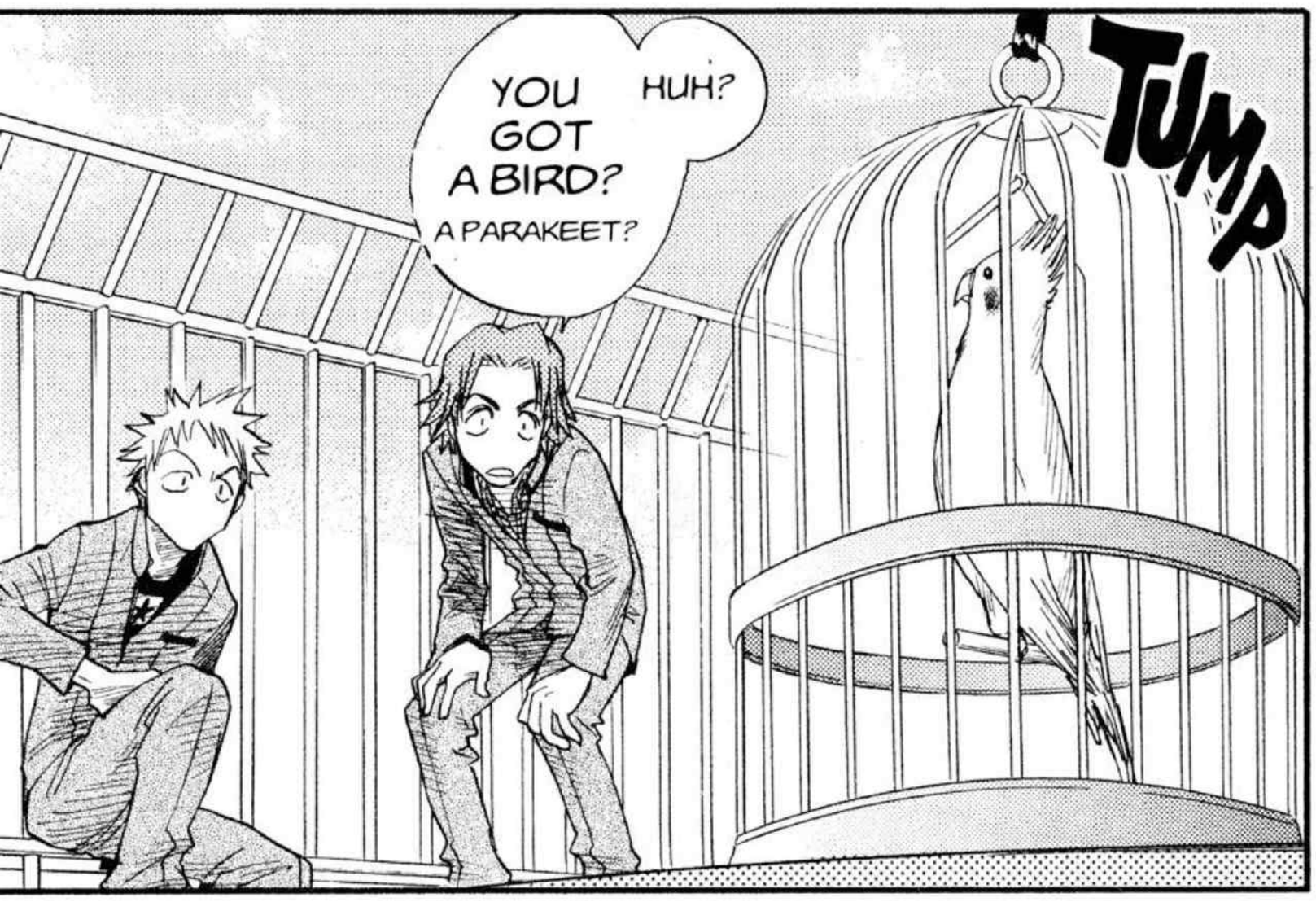
HEY...
HOW'D YOU HURT YOUR HAND?

MM....
TAKE IT EASY, YOU COULDA KILLED HIM!
BUT THANKS.
TUMP


YOU GOTTA BE MORE CAREFUL, DUDE!
I RAN INTO A MOTOR-CYCLE.

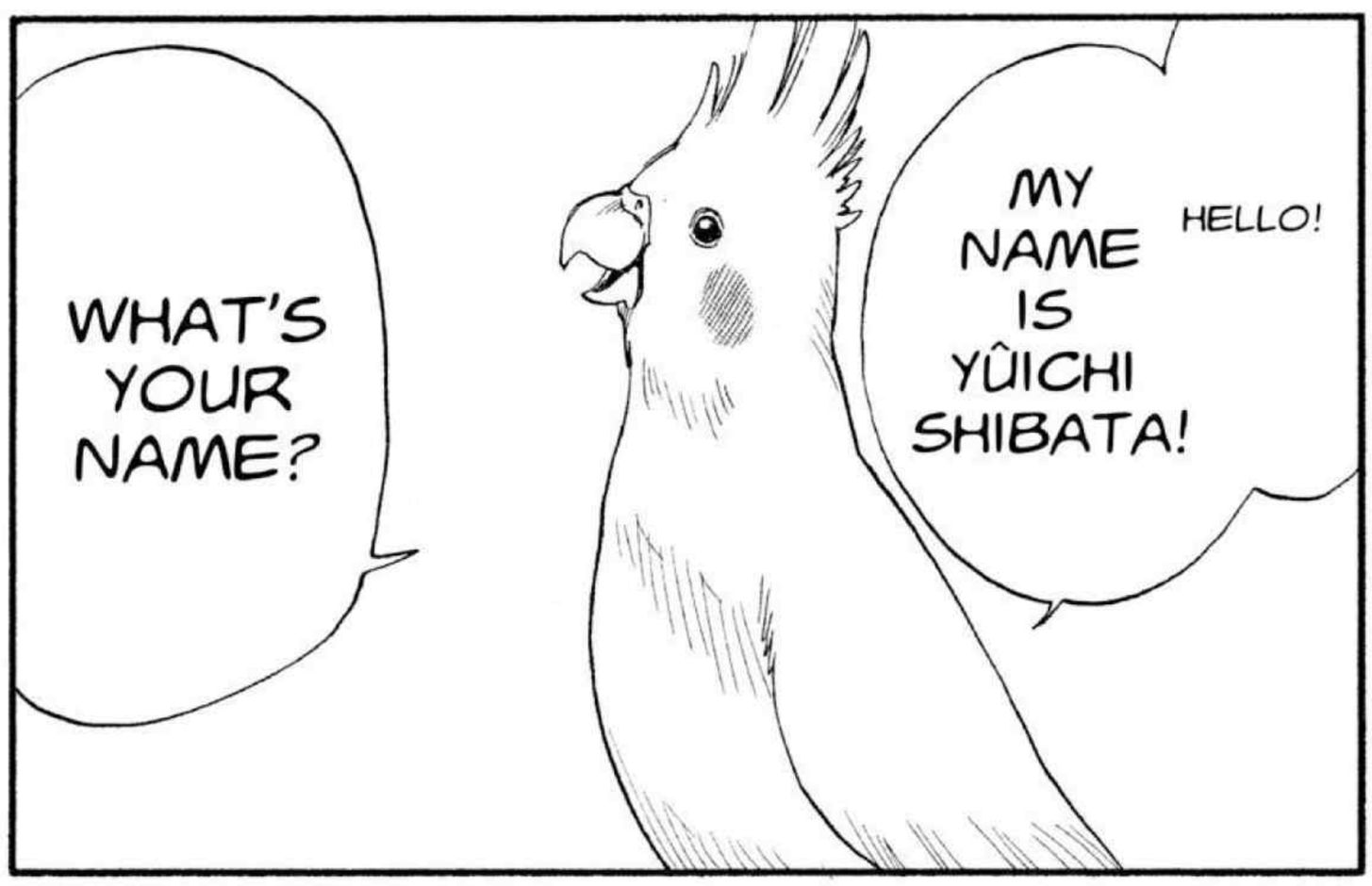
AND TODAY I HURT MY HAND GROCERY SHOPPIN' ...
AN I-BEAM?!
YESTER-DAY IT WAS MY BACK...
AN I-BEAM FELL ON ME...


GEEZ, YOU MUST BE MADE OF STEEL.
LIKE A TANK
THAT'S WHY YOU WERE LATE...
SO ...
SO I CARRIED HIM TO THE HOSPITAL...
WELL ...
THE GUY DRIVING IT GOT HURT REAL BAD...


YOU GOT A BIRD?
A PARAKEET?
HUH?
TUMP

RATTLE

WHOA!
AWESOME!
HE TALKS REALLY GOOD!
CAN YOU SAY "KEIGO?"
MY NAME'S KEIGO ASANO!


WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
MY NAME IS YÛICHI SHIBATA!
HELLO!

!

...

YESTER-DAY ...

WHERE'D YOU GET THE PARAKEET?
CHAD ...
MY NICKNAME IS EWAN MCGREGOR !!
THAT'S A GOOD ONE.
DO I HAVE TO LAUGH?

THAT WAS THE WHOLE STORY!
...
NO WAY!

HEY!!
DON'T BE LAZY!
TELL US THE WHOLE STORY!
...A GUY GAVE IT TO ME.
BAD HABIT!
SPILL IT, TELL US EVERYTHING!

STILL, IF WE LEAVE IT, IT'LL EVENTUALLY BECOME A HOLLOW.
WE SHOULD PERFORM KONSÔ TONIGHT.

THERE IS SOMETHING IN THAT BIRD, BUT IT'S HARMLESS.
PROBABLY JUST A LONELY SOUL.

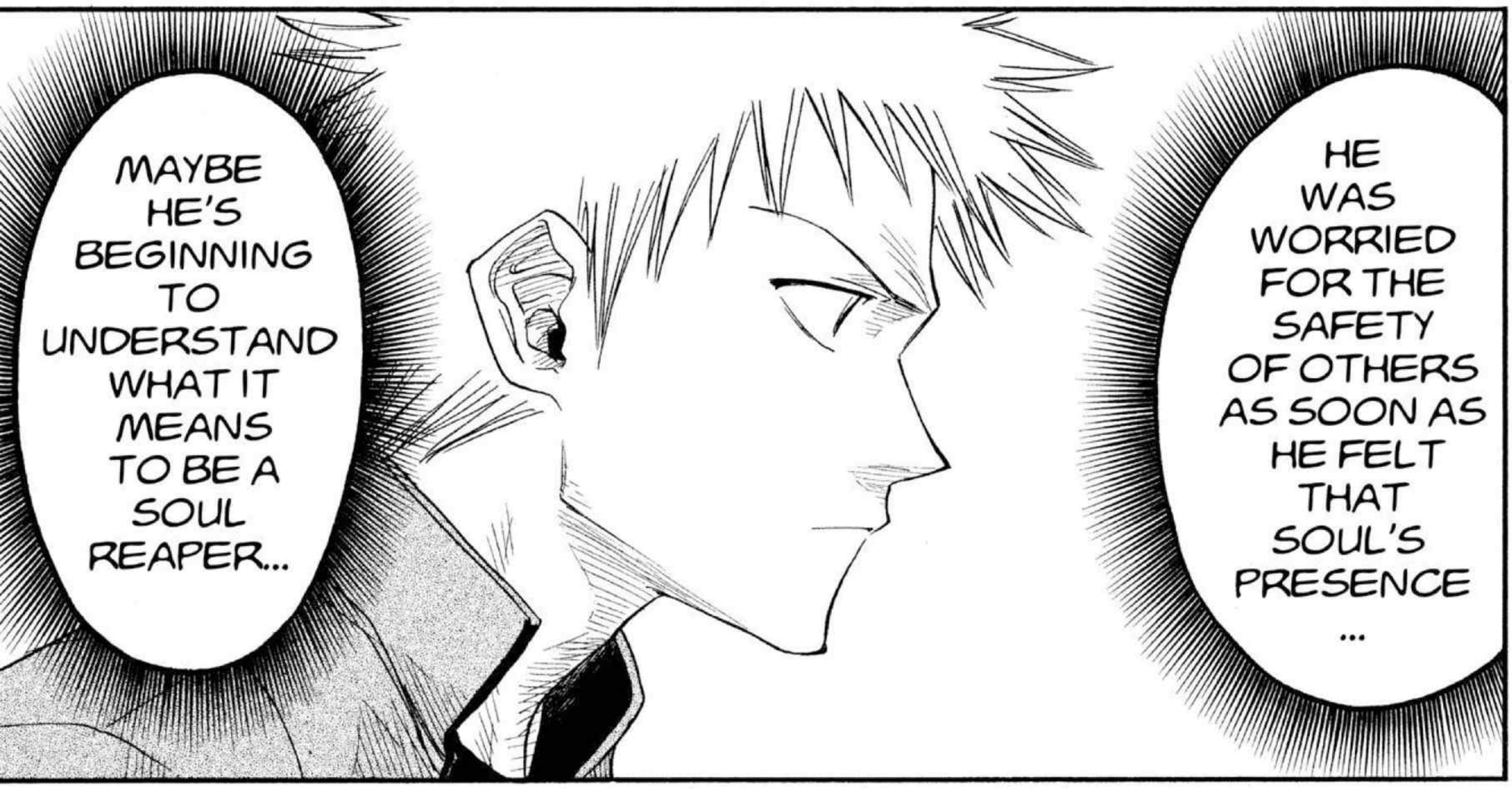
...
DON'T WORRY.

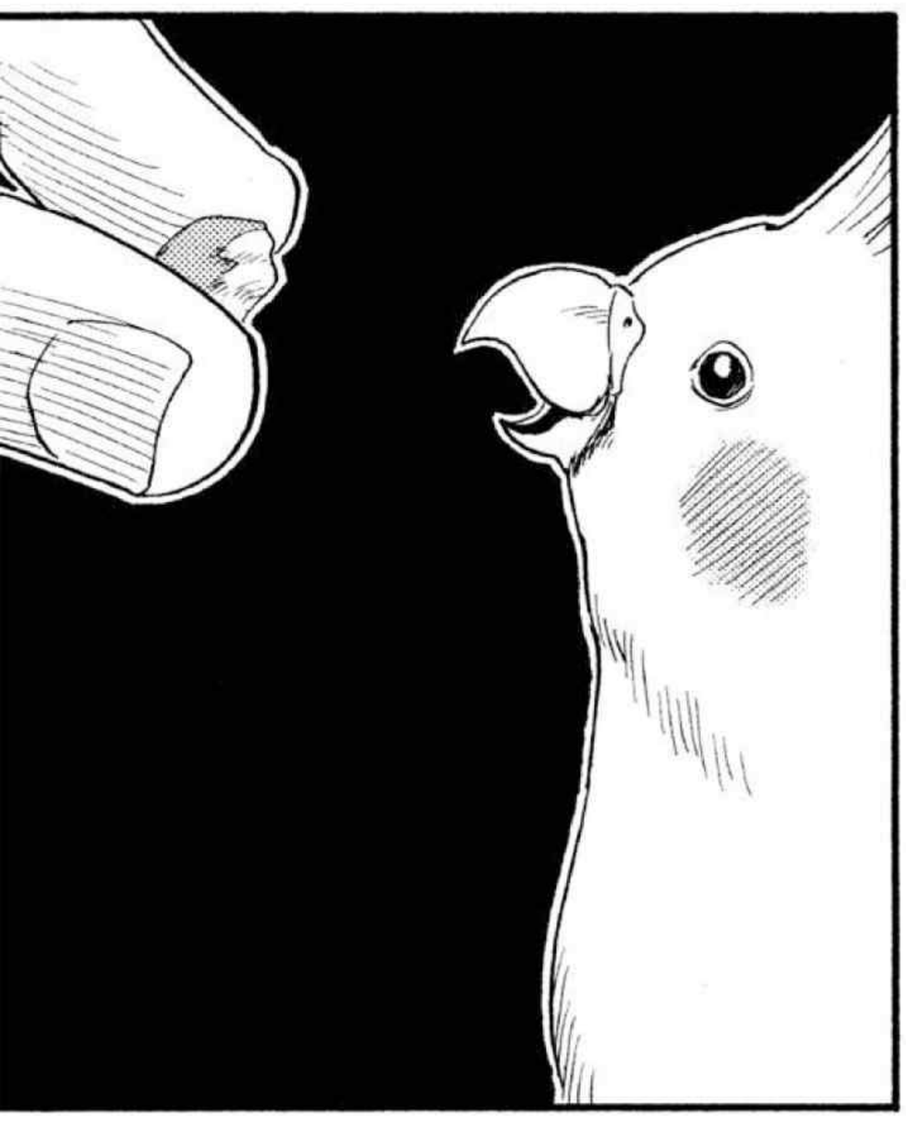
READ
THIS
WAY

HMM...

OKAY, OKAY ...

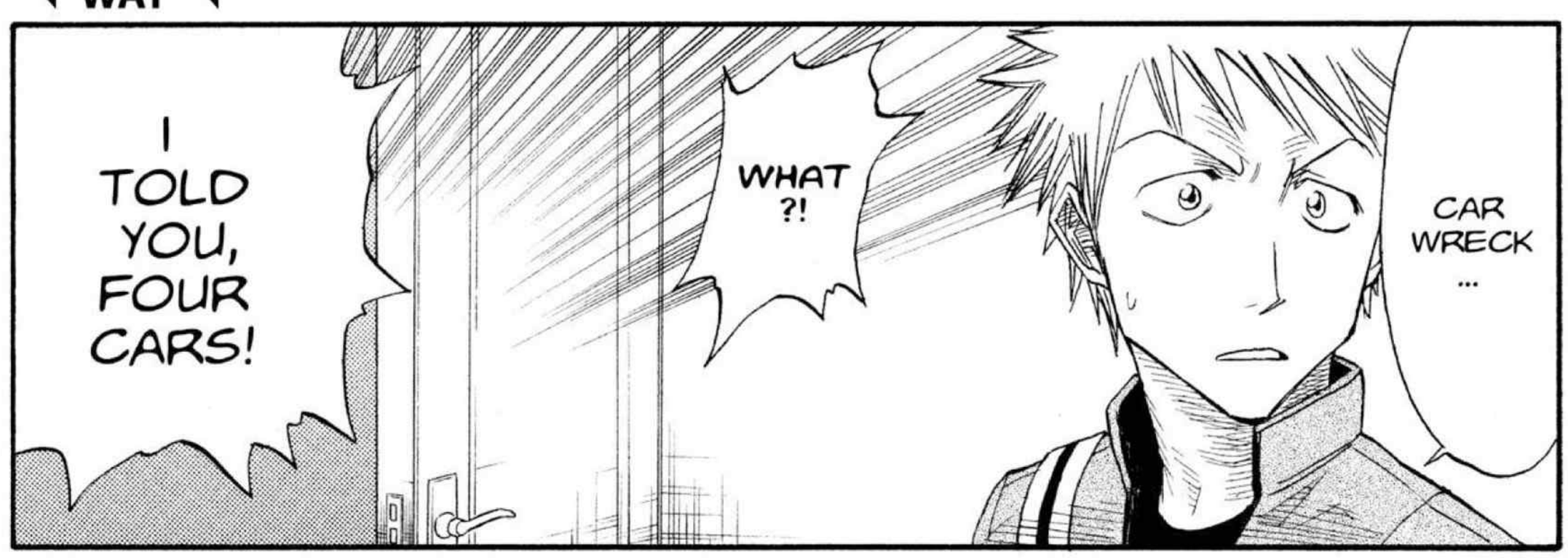
STOP COMPLAIN-ING!
ANOTHER NIGHT WITHOUT SLEEP...
GREAT ...


MAYBE HE'S BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A SOUL REAPER...
HE WAS WORRIED FOR THE SAFETY OF OTHERS AS SOON AS HE FELT THAT SOUL'S PRESENCE ...



KUROSAKI CLINIC
MOVE IT!
MOVE, ICHIGO!!
DO OR DIE
KUROSAKI MOTTO OF THE DAY
WHAT'S WRONG, YUZU?
WHERE'S THE FIRE?
TMP
TMP TMP TMP
DO OR DIE
KREEK
OUTTA THE WAY!!
UGH...
YUZU
KUROSAKI
KUROSAKI
A BIG CAR WRECK AT THE INTERSECTION!!
AN ACCIDENT !!
PLEASE REMOVE YOUR SHOES
WHAT'S GOING ON?!

READ
THIS
WAY


I TOLD YOU, FOUR CARS!
WHAT ?!
CAR WRECK ...

HE'LL FIND ME SOME FREE BEDS REAL QUICK!
DO IT!!
SQUEEK
LISTEN!
TELL YOUR BOSS IT'S A REQUEST FROM KUROSAKI!
TMP TMP TMP

WE CAN'T TREAT ALL OF THEM HERE!
YOU CAN'T TAKE THAT MANY?!
WELL THEY GOTTA GO SOMEWHERE!!

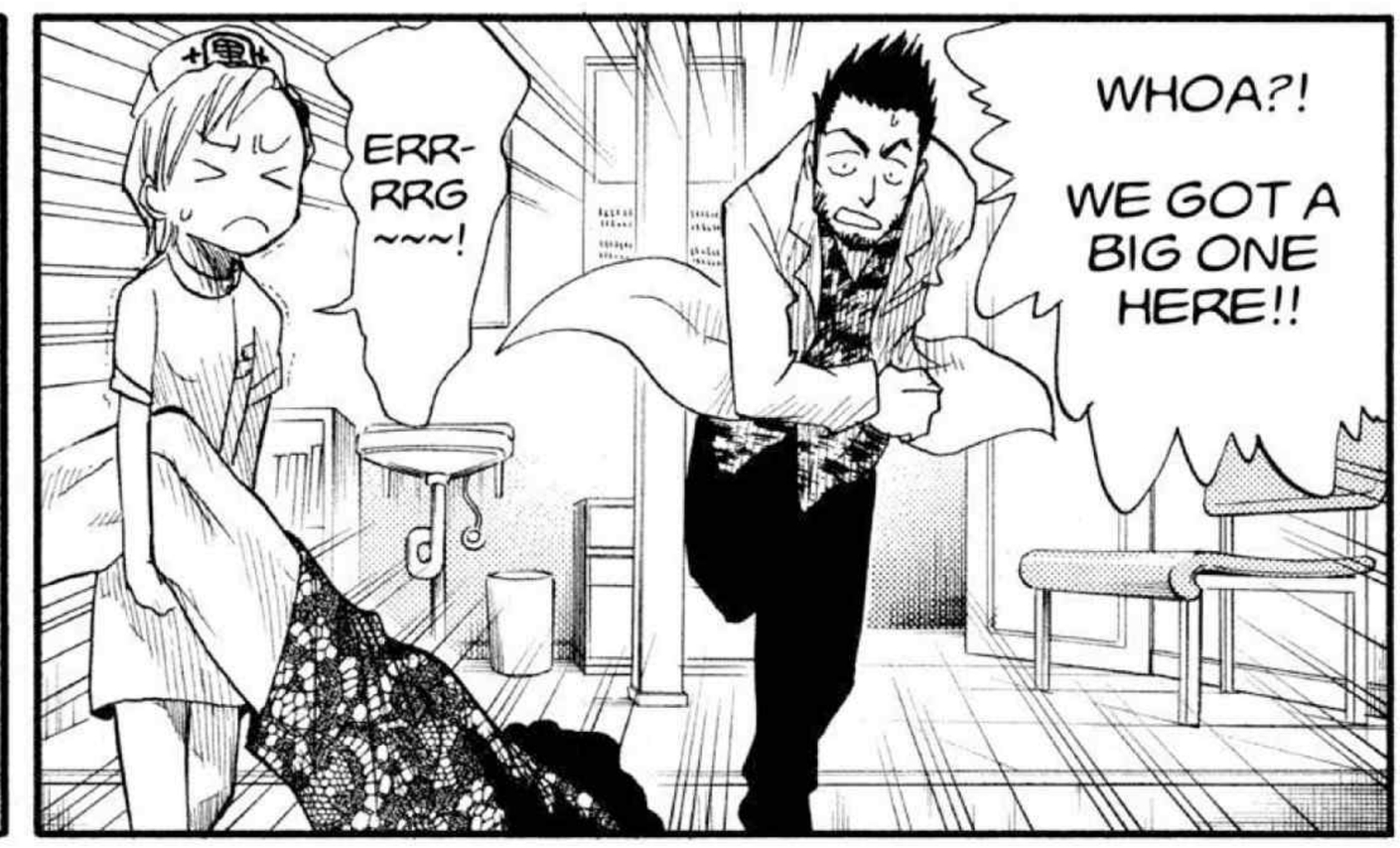
ASSUME THE FETAL POSITION, AND STAY OUTTA THE WAY!!
NO!!
ANY-THING I CAN DO?

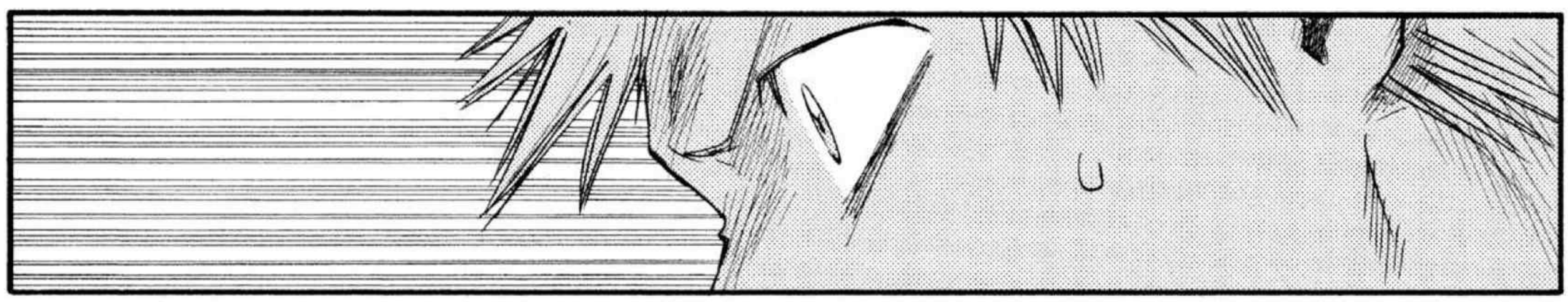
D-
DAD ...
DAMMIT!
STUPID FLUNKIES!!
WHA

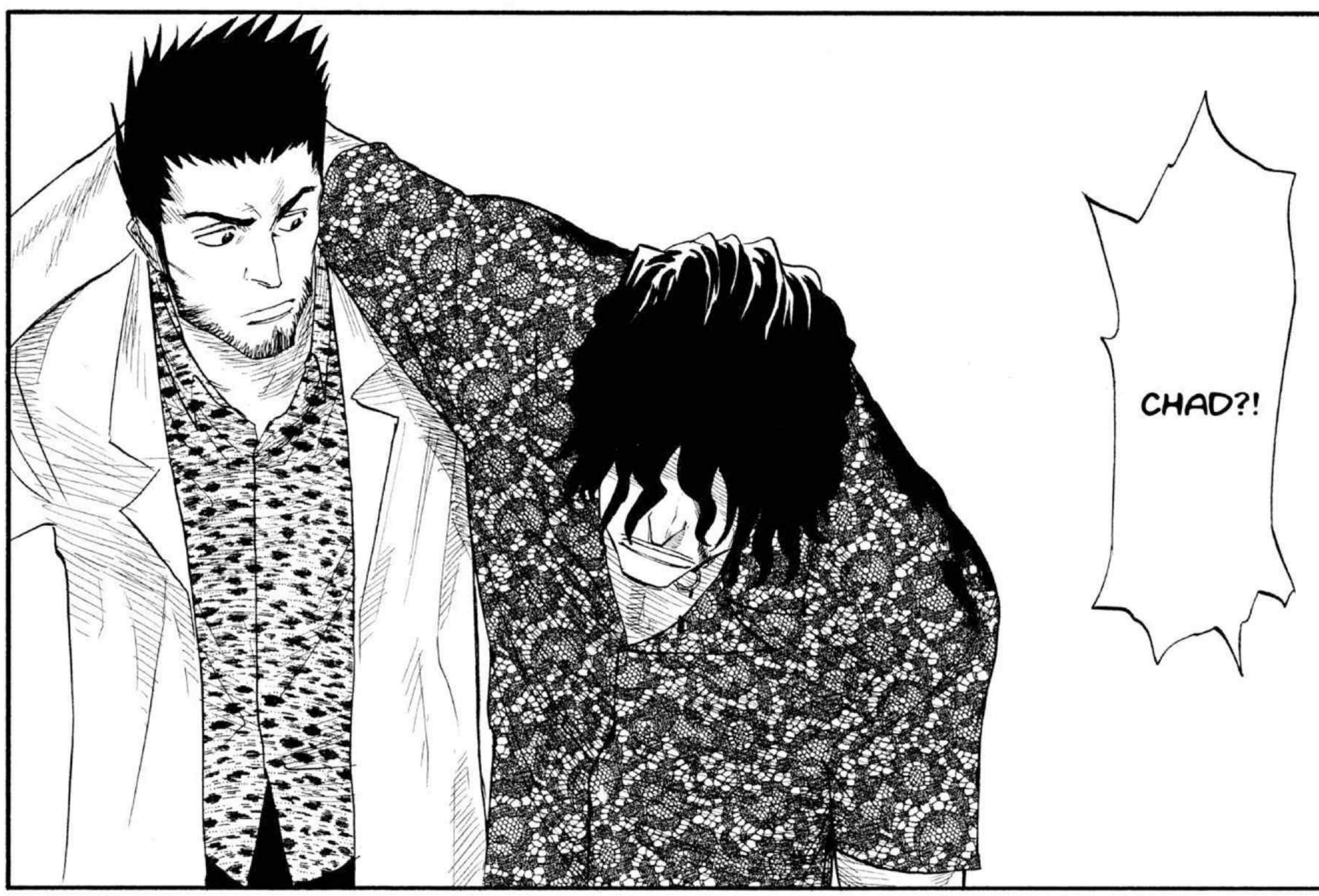
EEEK !!

SQUEEK SQUEEK
...
←USE-LESS

OH...
ICHIGO!
OKAY!
TUMP
GIMME A HAND WITH THIS GIANT!


ERR-RRG ~~~!
WHOA?!
WE GOT A BIG ONE HERE!!




CHAD?!

ST-STRAW ...BERRY?
HUH...

WHOA ...
WHAT A HOR-RIBLE WOUND ...

THIS FEEL-ING!

SLUK

YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO TAKE IT EASY...
WUP
UNH...

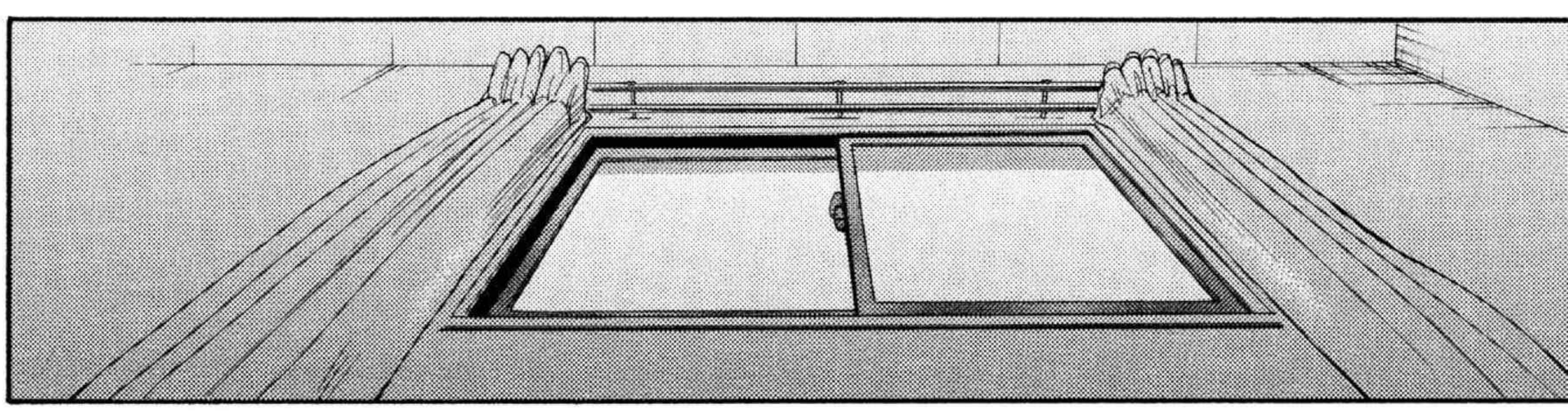
AND IT'S STILL BLEED-ING...
UH EH, THIS IS BAD, LOOKS LIKE A BURN.

STAGGER
HEY!!
YOU'RE NUTS!
I'LL DECIDE WHO'S FINE AROUND HERE!

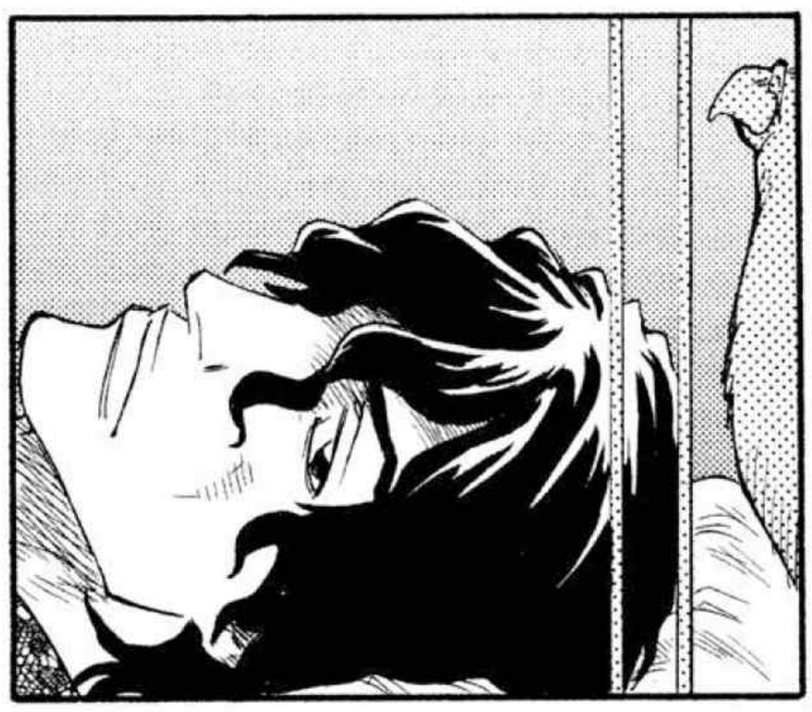
YUZU!
KARIN!
GET A BED READY!!
WHAT'D I TELL YOU?!
WOMP

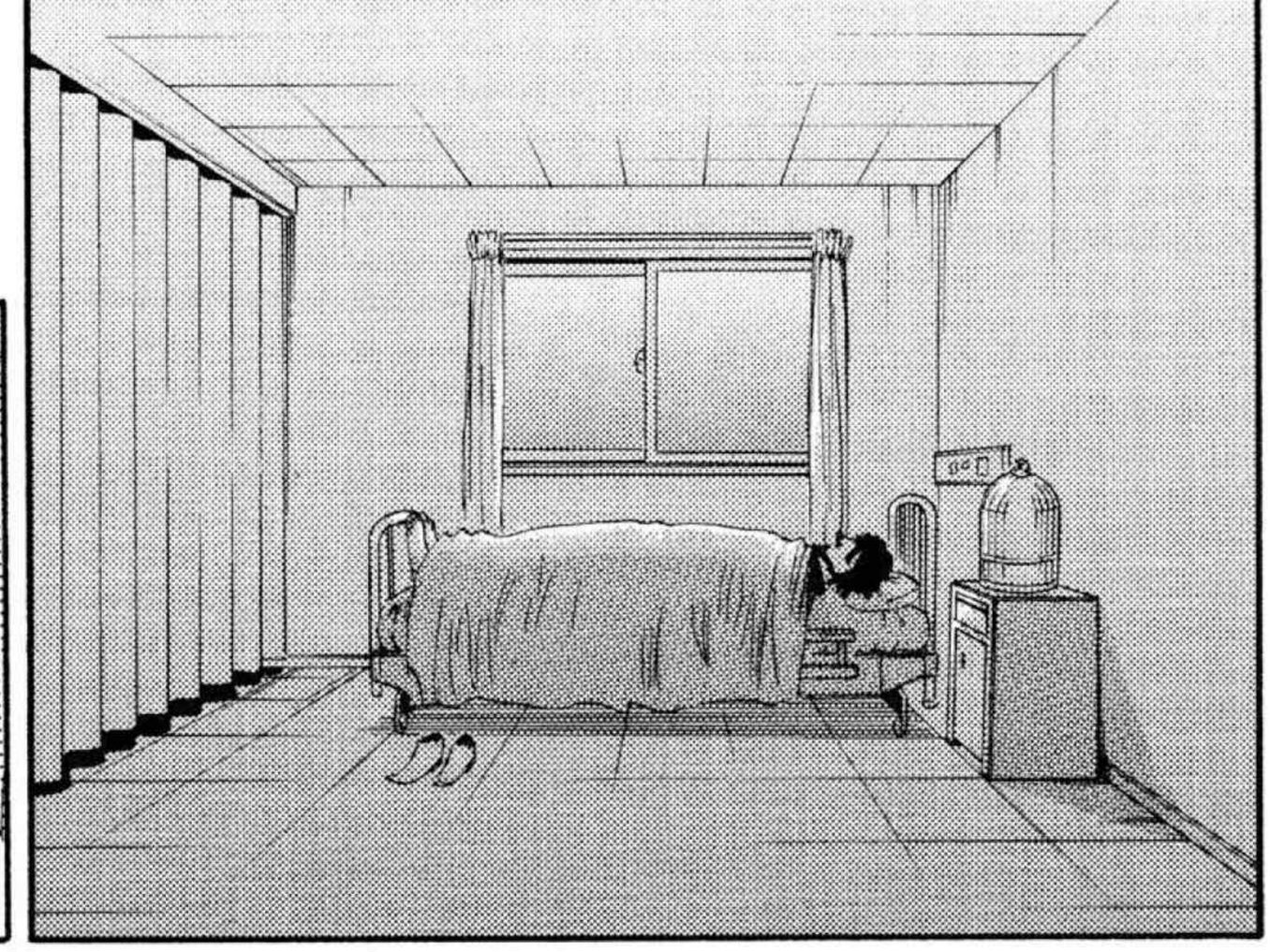
I'M ...
I'M ...
...FINE NOW...

UNH ...
C'MON!
TIME TO GO BEDDY-BYE.
.....



READ
THIS
WAY

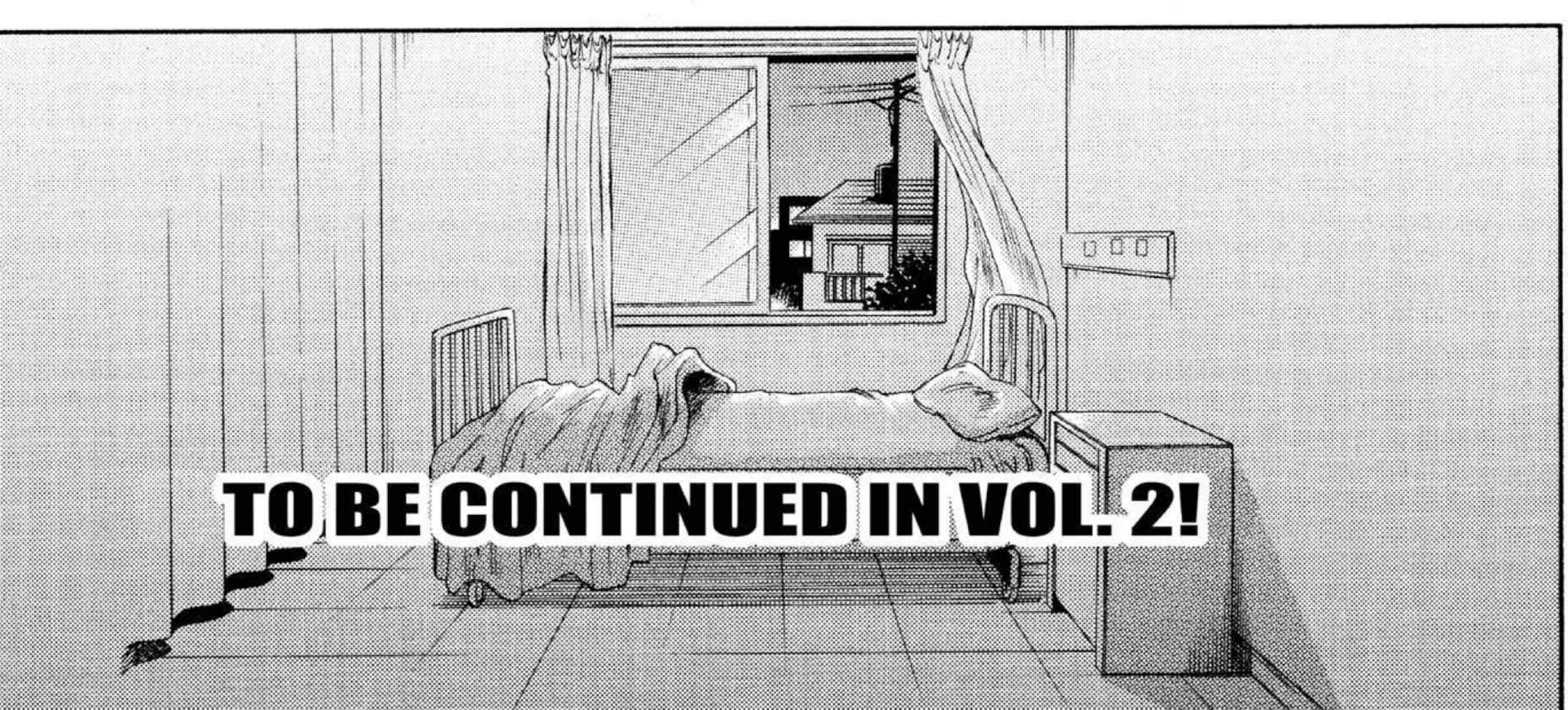




I FELT IT ALL THE WAY IN HERE.
OF COURSE.

DO YOU FEEL IT?

HIS WOUND ...
REEKS OF HOLLOW..!
I SENSED NO EVIL IN THE PARAKEET BUT...


TO BE CONTINUED IN VOL. 2!

OVERALL ATTENDANCE SCORE 13	ICHIGO KUROSAKI	クロサキ・イチゴ
MALE STUDENT ATTENDANCE SCORE 6		

174 CM
61 KG
BLOOD TYPE AO
D.O.B. JULY 15TH

- LIKES SLIM FIT SHIRTS AND PANTS
- LIKES CHOCOLATE AND KARASHI MENTAIKO
- FAVORITE CELEBRITIES ARE MIKE NESS AND AL PACINO
- PERSON HE RESPECTS MOST IS WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
- HOW TO PRONOUNCE NAME, ICHIGO EMPHASIS ON THE "I." ACCENTED LIKE "ECHIGO."

THEME SONG

BAD RELIGION

"NEWS FROM THE FRONT"

RECORDED IN
"STRANGER THAN FICTION"

OVERALL ATTENDANCE SCORE 11	RUKIA KUCHIKI	クチキ・ルキア
FEMALE STUDENT ATTENDANCE SCORE 6		

144 CM
33 KG
D.O.B. JANUARY 14TH

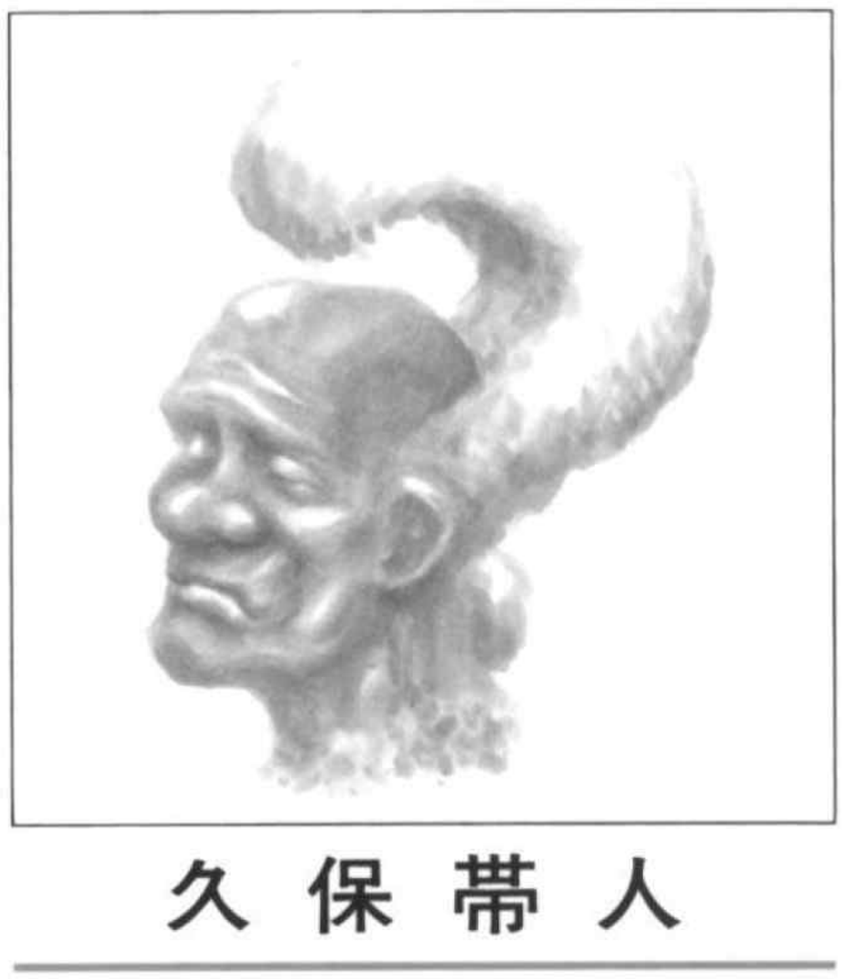
- DOESN'T LIKE TIGHT CLOTHES
- LIKES CLIMBING TO HIGH PLACES
- LIKES RABBIT-RELATED ITEMS
- LIKES CUCUMBER AND SHIRA-TAMA. BUT THE LIST COULD GET LONGER.

THEME SONG

ASHLEY MACISAAC

"WING-STOCK"

RECORDED IN
"HI HOW ARE YOU TODAY?"



Hello there. You are now holding the very first volume of Bleach. I worked really hard writing it. Please treat it kindly.
Sincerely,
Tite Kubo

BLEACH is author Tite Kubo's second title. Kubo made his debut with *ZOMBIE POWDER*, a four-volume series for *WEEKLY SHONEN JUMP*. To date, *BLEACH* has been translated into numerous languages and has also inspired an animated TV series that began airing in Japan in 2004. Beginning its serialization in 2001, *BLEACH* is still a mainstay in the pages of *WEEKLY SHONEN JUMP*. In 2005, *BLEACH* was awarded the prestigious Shogakukan Manga Award in the *shonen* (boys) category.

BLEACH VOL. 1
SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY TITE KUBO

English Adaptation/Lance Caselman
Translation/Joe Yamazaki
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