

ワンピース

# ONE PIECE

## CHAPTER 953: 'A FOX OF A SINGLE DISGUISE\*' \*

TL NOTE: EXPLANATION OF THE TITLE AT THE END OF THE CHAPTER.



SHORT-TERM FOCUSED COVER PAGE SERIALS, PART 24  
GANG BEGE'S ALL MY FAMILY

VOL. 4: "TIME TO HIJACK THE ENEMY'S SHIP! OFF TO THRILLER BARK!!"

EIICHIRO ODA

# ONE PIECE

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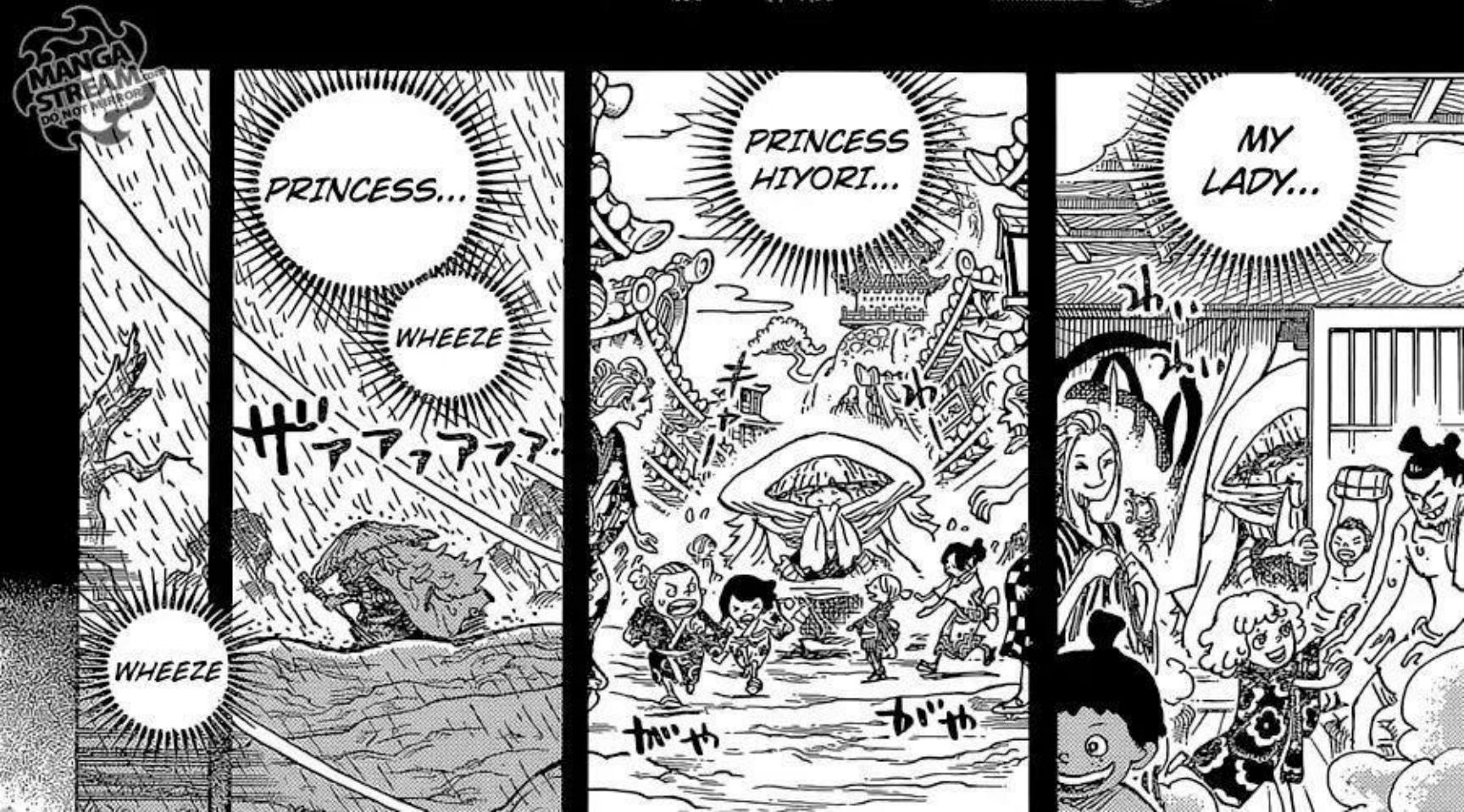
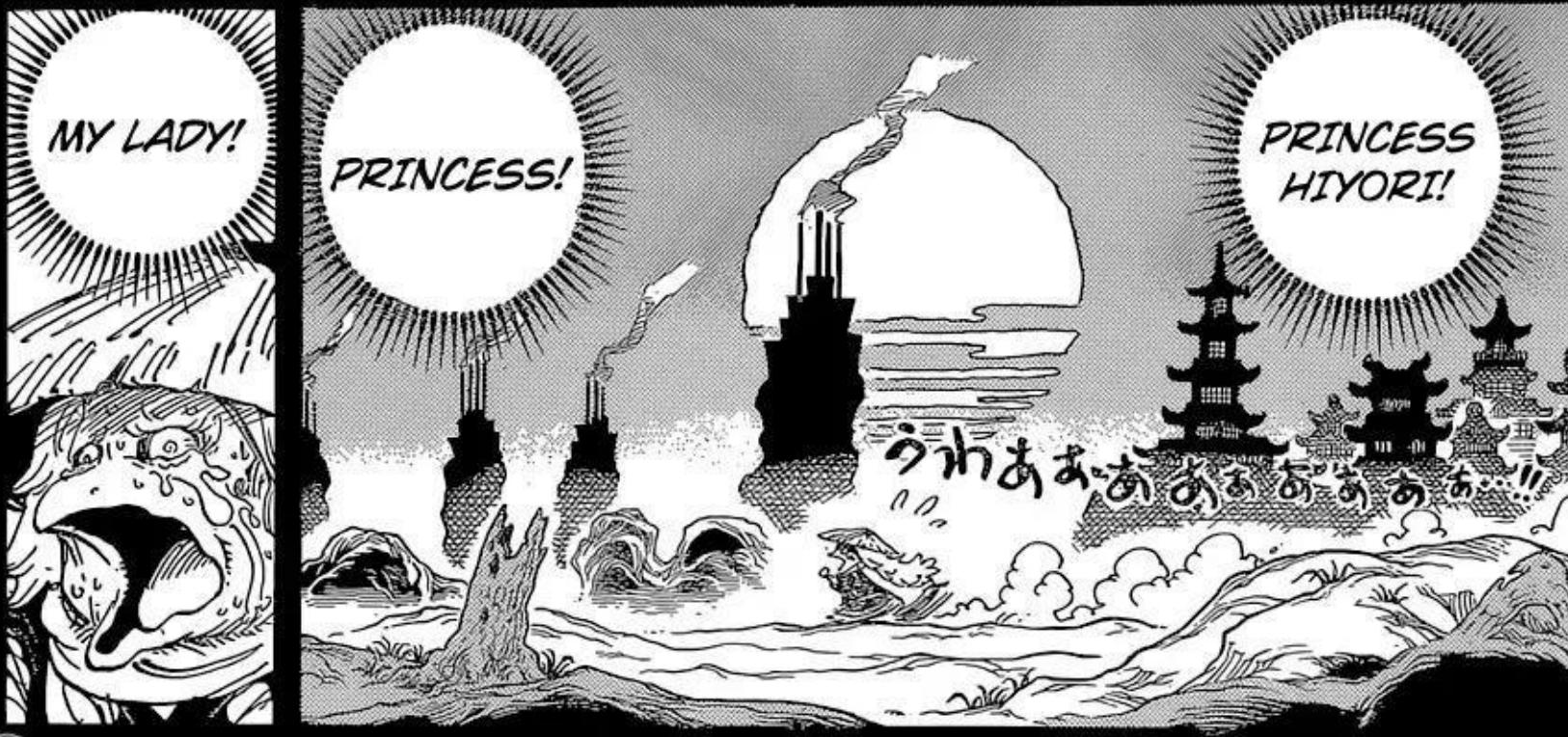
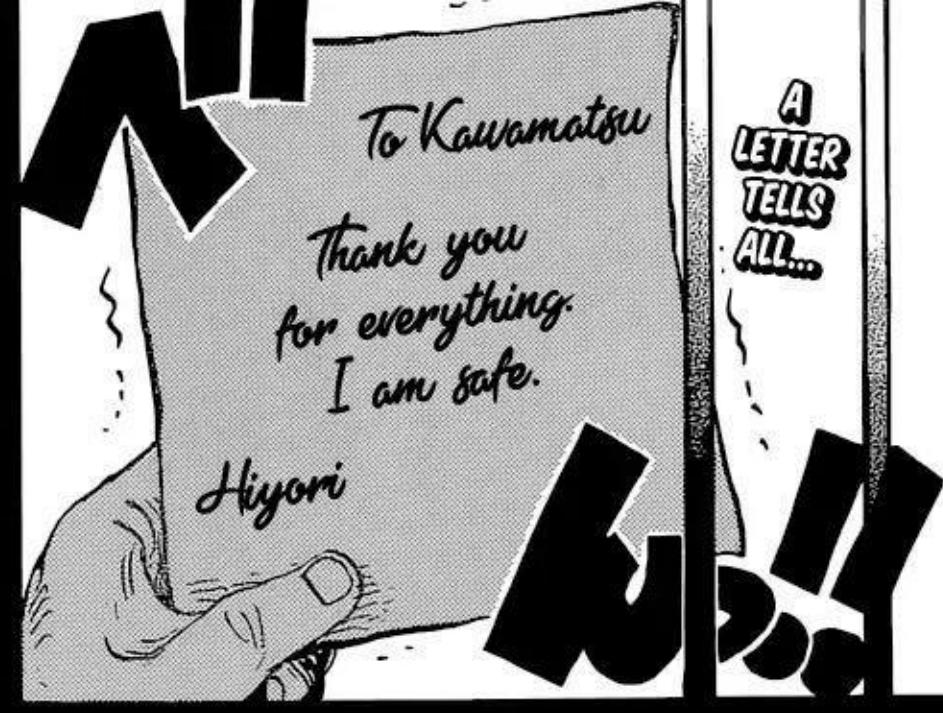
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PRESENT  
DAY  
RINGO





THIS IS  
THE PLACE  
TO DO IT!

IF SOMETHING  
EVER HAPPENS  
TO THE PRINCESS,  
AND I MUST END  
MY OWN LIFE,

MY FEET  
EVENTUALLY  
CARRIED ME  
HERE.

AFTER YOU LEFT,  
I DRIFTED, DOING  
THIS AND THAT.

RULED BY  
THE FIERCE  
AND POWERFUL  
SHIMOTSUKI  
CLAN.

HAKUMAI

RINGO

THESE  
FROSTY NORTHERN  
REACHES OF WANO  
- RINGO AND THE  
NEIGHBORING  
HAKUMAI -  
WERE ONCE  
BOTH

UNFORTUNATELY,  
RINGO TOO WAS  
TURNED INTO A  
WASTELAND BY THE  
WRATH OF KAIKO.

THE DAIMYO OF THE  
CLAN WAS A MAN NAMED  
USHIMARU SHIMOTSUKI. A  
MASTER SWORDSMAN, WHO  
WAS ALWAYS ACCCOMPANIED  
BY HIS PET FOX.

FOX?

INDEED. AND  
THE MARKERS  
USED FOR THESE  
ETERNAL GRAVES  
ARE SWORDS.  
KATANAS.

I HAVE HEARD...  
IT IS SO COLD HERE  
THAT BODIES LEFT OUT  
IN COFFINS WILL STAY  
PRESERVED FOR HUN-  
DREDS OF YEARS.

DO YOU KNOW  
OF THE RINGO  
CUSTOM KNOWN  
AS THE ETERNAL  
BURIAL?

BARK  
BAAARK!

SUCH IS RINGO.  
THE LAND UPON  
WHICH WE NOW  
STAND.

THESE  
GRAVES WERE  
CONSTANTLY  
LOOTED!

SOME  
OF THEM  
WERE FAMED  
MEITOU.

HM?

WHAT IS IT?  
WON'T YOU EVEN  
LET ME DIE IN  
PEACE?

GRRR!  
BARK  
BARK!

HE'S  
GOING TO  
BITE US TO  
DEATH!

UWAAGH!

YOU'RE...

BARK!  
BARK!

GRRRR!

ONIMARU?!

THE BELOVED  
COMPANION OF  
THE LATE DAIMYO  
OF RINGO,  
USHIMARU  
SHIMOTSUKI.

THAT  
LIONFOX'S  
NAME WAS  
ONIMARU.

MANGA  
STREAM  
DO NOT MIRROR

HM?

ONI-  
MARU!

I... I HAVE  
MET YOU ONCE  
BEFORE.

!!!

....!!

FOR THE FIVE  
YEARS THAT HAD  
PASSED SINCE  
RINGO FELL,

BY YOUR-  
SELF?!

DON'T  
TELL ME... YOU  
PROTECTED  
ALL THIS

ONIMARU HAD  
FOUGHT, ALONE,  
AGAINST THE  
EVILS OF GRAVE  
ROBBERS.

FOR IF YOU  
DIE, WHO WILL  
PROTECT YOUR  
MASTER'S  
GRAVE?

YOU  
MUST EAT  
TO HEAL.

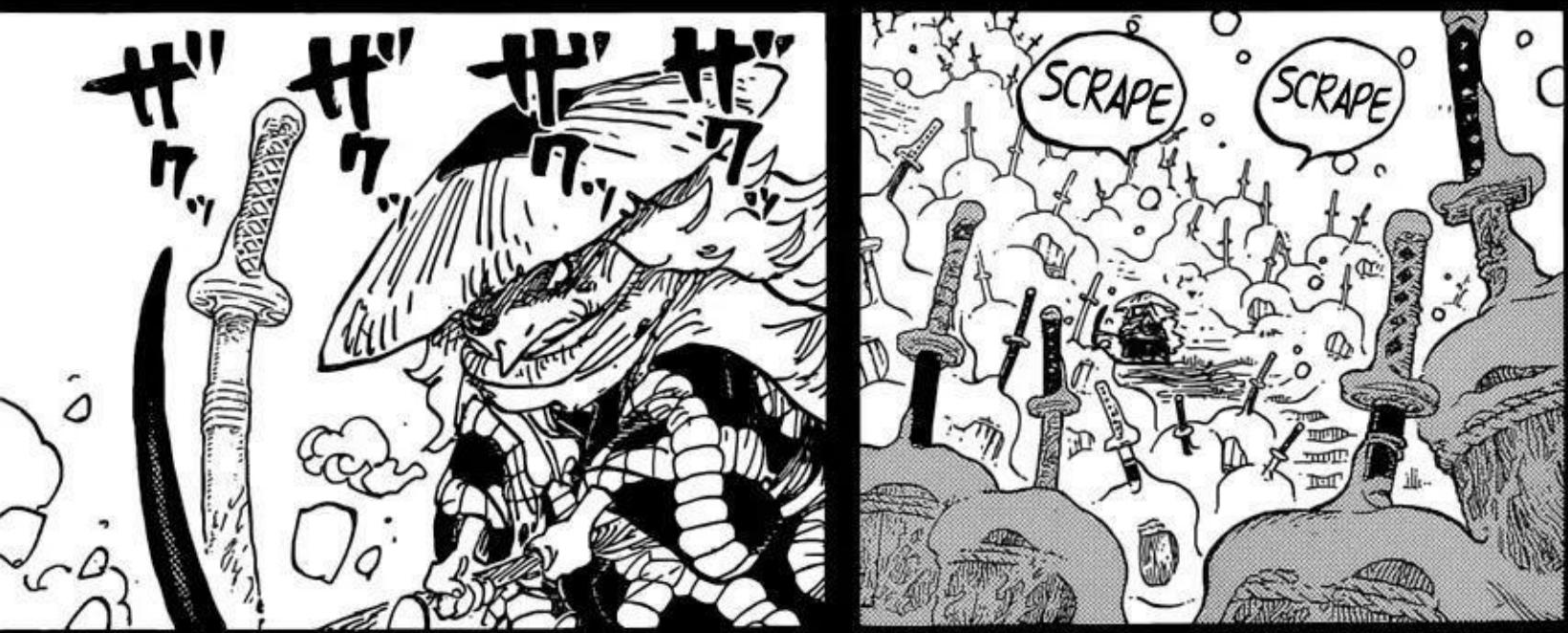
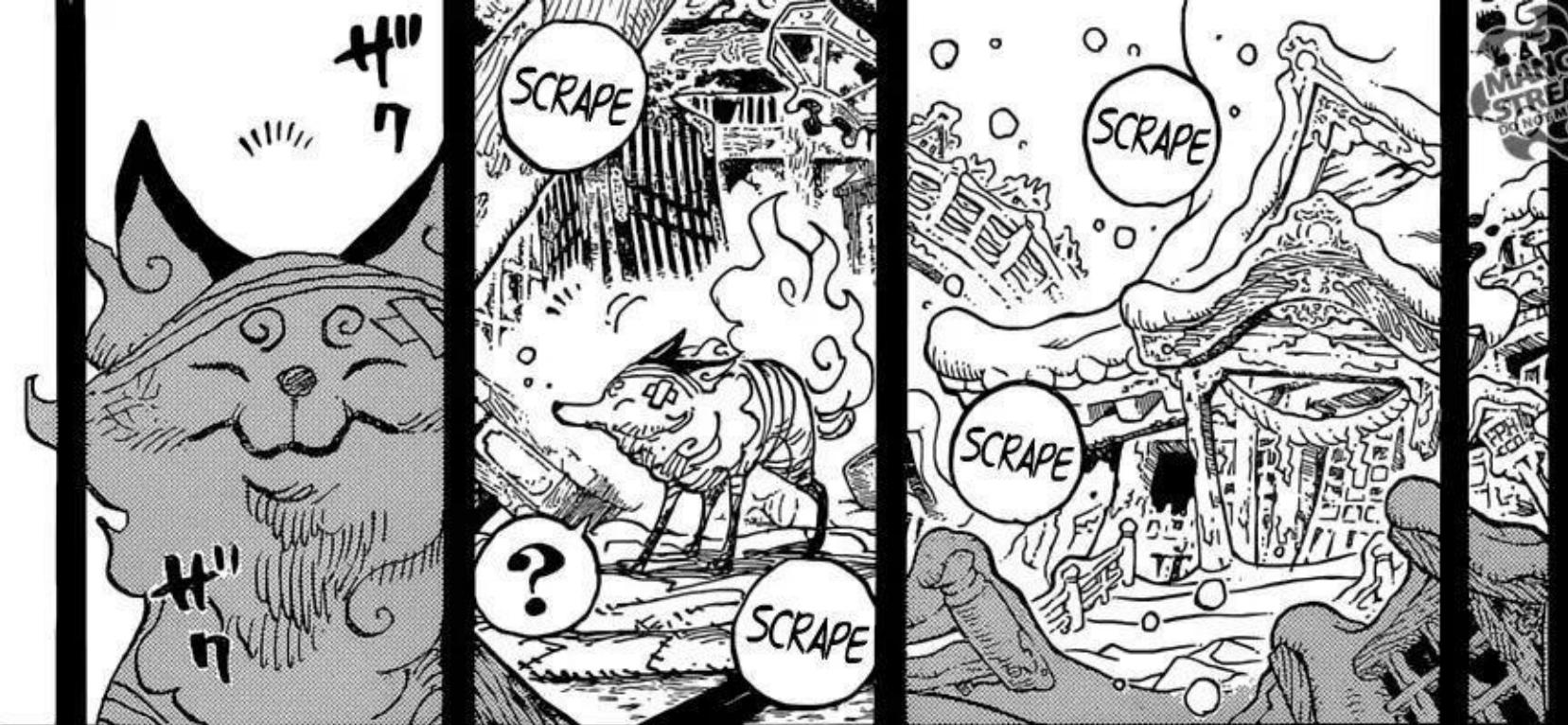
HERE!  
EAT UP.

ON THE DAY OF  
THEIR BIRTH,  
THE PEOPLE OF  
RINGO WOULD  
GIVE THEIR  
CHILDREN  
SWORDS.

Tl NOTE: JAPANESE FOLK LEGEND.

A FOX'S  
FAVORITE FOOD  
IS FRIED TOFU,  
RIGHT?\*

THESE  
SWORDS WOULD  
ACCOMPANY THEM  
THROUGH THEIR  
LIVES, AND ONE DAY  
SERVE TO MARK  
THEIR GRAVES.



URGH!

GRRR!  
RRR!



BUT...  
THIRTEEN YEARS  
FROM TODAY A  
BATTLE WILL  
BE FOUGHT!

I DO NOT WISH  
TO DISTURB THE  
SLUMBER OF THE  
DEAD ANY MORE  
THAN YOU!

HOW AM I TO  
EXPLAIN THIS  
TO YOU?!

FORGIVE  
ME!

AND ON  
THAT DAY,  
THEY MUST BE  
ARMED! THEY  
WILL NEED  
COUNTLESS  
SWORDS!

THE DAY WILL  
COME THAT THE  
SAMURAI OF  
THIS NATION  
WILL RAISE  
THEIR BOWED  
HEADS IN  
UNISON!



A BATTLE  
STILL RAGES  
HERE!

GRRR  
RRR!

THE SOULS THAT  
LIVE ON IN THESE  
BLADES WILL STEEL  
THEIR HEARTS, AND  
ENABLE THEM TO  
VANQUISH THEIR  
ENEMIES!

ON THAT  
BATTLEFIELD, THEY  
WILL ADVANCE WITH  
THE SWORDS OF  
THEIR FALLEN  
COMRADES  
IN HAND!

AND THE  
PEOPLE OF  
WANO!

THESE  
BLADES  
MUST NOT  
YET BE PUT  
TO REST!

GRRR  
RRR!

THE WAR  
BETWEEN THE  
HUNDRED BEAST  
PIRATES

I HAVE DECIDED  
THAT THIS, AT LEAST,  
IS A TASK TO WHICH  
I CAN BIND MYSELF...

I WILL  
COLLECT THEM  
ALL AND HIDE  
THEM AWAY!

YET I CANNOT  
AFFORD FOR THEM  
TO BE PILFERED BY  
CROOKS BEFORE  
THAT FATED DAY  
COMES!

!!

SCRAPE

GRRR  
RRR!

THIS,  
AT LEAST,  
I CAN DO...  
I MUST  
DO!

AS SOMEONE  
THAT FAILED TO  
EVEN PROTECT  
PRINCESS  
HIYORI...

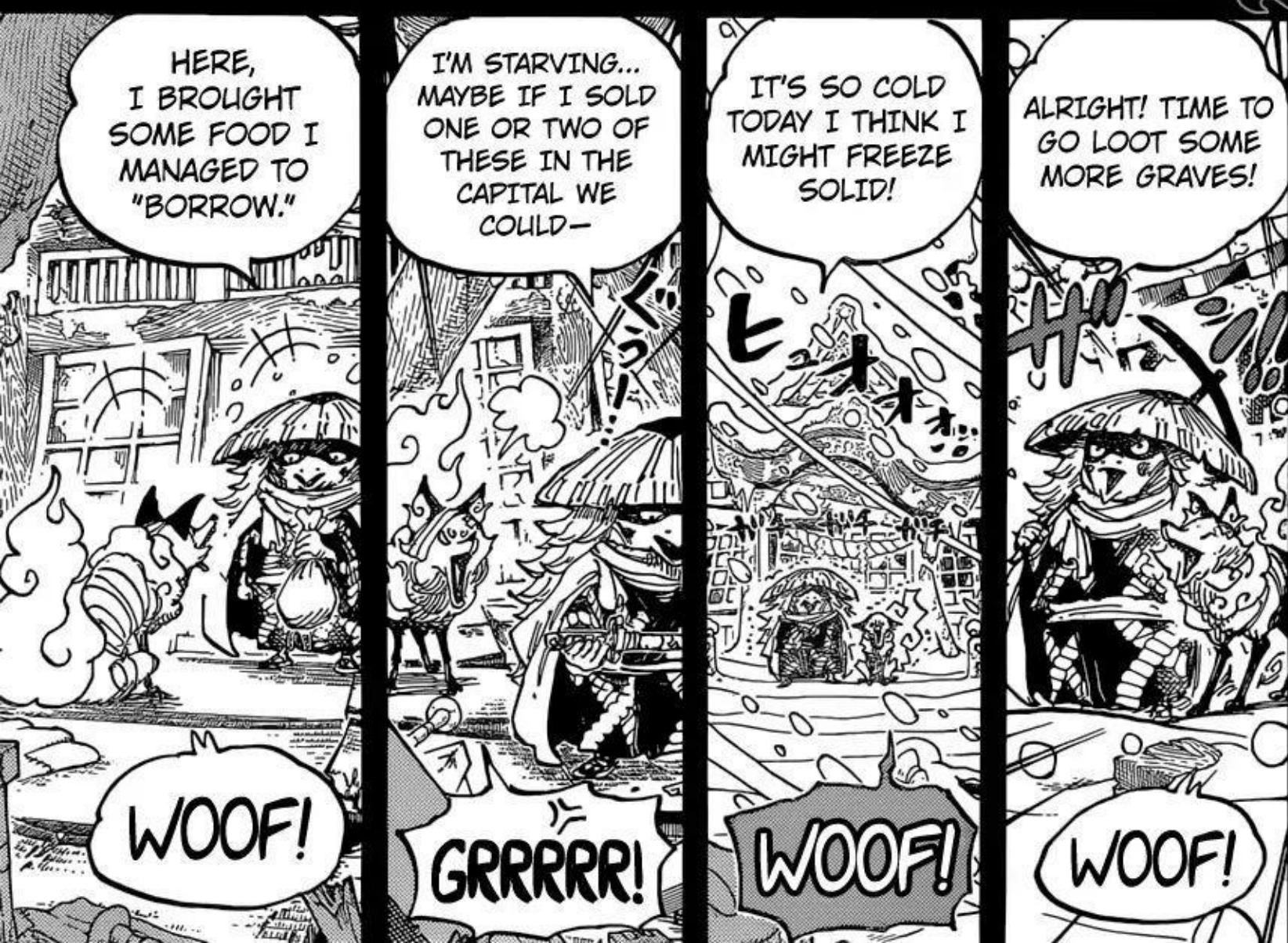
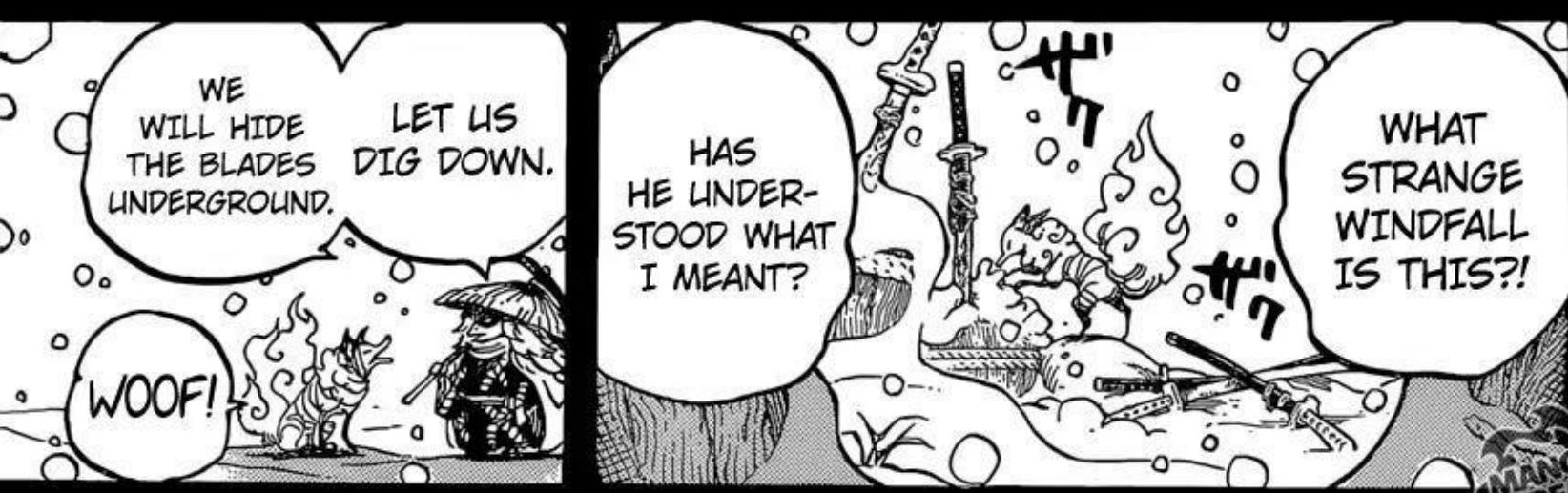
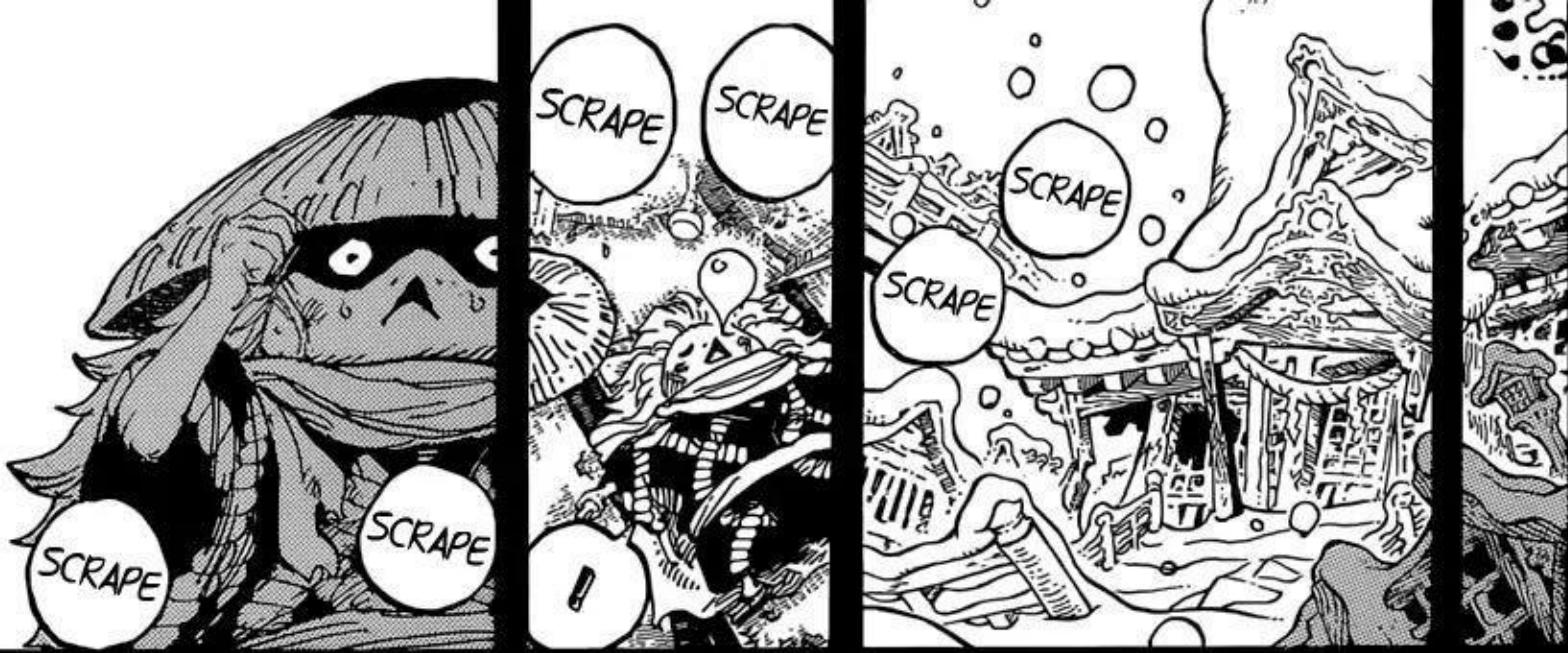
JUST BITE  
OFF THIS ARM  
AND BE DONE  
WITH IT!

IF YOU  
ARE THAT  
STARVED  
FOR FOOD,

I REFUSE TO  
STOP DEFILING  
THESE GRAVES!  
I HAVE NO OTHER  
CHOICE!

IF I DO NOT  
KEEP THESE  
HANDS BUSY,  
THE GUILT WILL  
CONSUME ME!





I'M  
GYUKIMARU!  
OF BANDIT  
BRIDGE!

UHM...  
LET'S SEE...  
I'M—

YOU  
BASTARD!  
WHO THE  
HELL ARE  
YOU?!

OI! HALT, YOU  
ACTUAL GRAVE  
ROBBERS!

KAPPAPPA!

AND  
BEGONE!

LEAVE YOUR  
WEAPONS  
HERE

BEYOND  
HERE LIES THE  
HEARTLAND OF RINGO!  
YOU SHALL NOT HAVE  
THE TREASURES OF  
THESE TOMBS!

WOOF!

ああああ

WE'VE  
CAUGHT THE  
FRIED TOFU  
THIEF!

AND CERTAIN  
CIRCUMSTANCES  
PREVENTED ME  
FROM RETURNING  
TO RINGO.

I WENT TO  
THE CAPITAL  
TO PROCURE  
FOOD.

SOME  
TIME  
AFTER  
THAT,

HOW  
CARELESS  
OF ME.

YOU  
CALLED YOURSELF  
GYUKIMARU? A COIN-  
CIDENCE, I GUESS.  
INTERESTING...

IF THE SWORDS WE MANAGED TO HIDE TOGETHER REMAIN HIDDEN,

AFTER ALL, IT HAS BEEN 13 YEARS... I DOUBT HE'S AROUND AT ALL.

I DO NOT THINK ONIMARU WILL RETURN. HE'S PROBABLY RUN OUT OF PATIENCE WITH ME.

ARE YOU HERE TO SEE THAT FOX, THEN?

THEY WILL BE ENOUGH TO OUTFIT HUNDREDS OF SOLDIERS, BUT...



HE LEFT THIS DOOR OPEN AND JUST RAN OFF.

THAT BIG GUY'S GONE.



PRRRR!

THIS IS THE PASSAGE-WAY TO THAT UNDERGROUND CHAMBER.

WELL, SHALL WE PURSUE HIM OR ENTER HERE? HOW STRANGE...

PRRRR!

?



INDEED!  
WELL  
SPOTTED!  
WE'RE IN  
A BIND.

THAT BAS-  
TARD OROCHI...  
OVER THE LAST  
20 YEARS HE'S  
CONFISCATED ALL  
THE SWORDS IN  
THE COUNTRY!

BUT  
YOU'RE HAVING  
TROUBLE FIND-  
ING ENOUGH  
WEAPONS, AM  
I RIGHT?

WHAT  
HAPPENED AT  
UDON PROBABLY  
SWELLED OUR  
RANKS QUITE  
CONSIDERABLY,

KAWAMATSU!  
I'M SO GLAD  
YOU'RE STILL  
ALIVE!

GACHA!

KINEMON?

EACH OF  
THEM SHALL BE  
OUTFITTED WITH  
A BLADE!

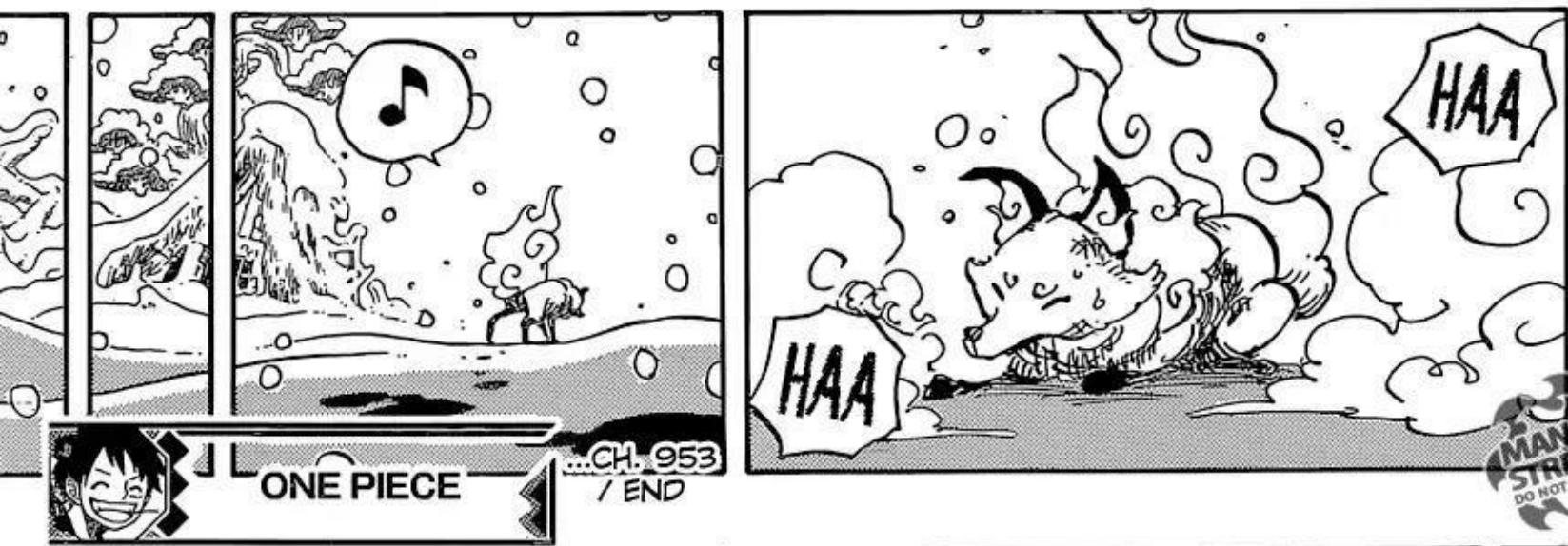
ARE YOU  
SERIOUS?!

SEND MEN  
TO THE PLACE  
I WILL NOW  
DESCRIBE  
TO YOU.

DO NOT WORRY.  
NO MATTER HOW  
MANY THOUSANDS  
OF MEN JOIN US,

HAA  
+ii  
"o  
ONIMARU?  
WAS THIS YOU?  
NO, THIS IS  
A MAN'S  
WORK...

HOW IN THE  
WORLD ARE  
THERE SO  
MANY?!



TL NOTE: ENMA IS THE JAPANESE NAME FOR THE GOD OF THE UNDERWORLD.



## Translation Note Page:

The title is a reference to the popular Kyoto rakugo tale 'A Fox of Seven Disguises' (written 七度狐, aka 'Seven-Time Fox'). The story tells of a pair of men, Kiroku and Seihachi, that accidentally incite the ire of a mystical fox-spirit (known as a "kitsune," which is also the word for "fox" in Japanese) while traveling to Ise Shrine. In its anger, the fox visits the pair seven more times in different disguises to play tricks on and torment them.

Anyway, this idea of a trickster fox-spirit is common in Japanese folktales, and is similar to the coyote trickster god that appears in Native American mythologies. Oda has inverted the concept here, where Onimaru, clearly a mystical fox, takes on just one disguise to bring fortune to Kawamatsu and his mission during his long absence. The title is an explicit reference to this.