



STORY & ART BY
REI HIROE

PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT
CONTENT

REI HIROE

It's volume 8. It's *Lagoon*'s longest story arc so far.
I hope you can keep up.



Rei Hiroe was born on December 5, 1972. After working at a game company, he debuted as a mangaka in 1993. He has been an active illustrator and dojinshi, and has created many titles released through the dojin community. He is best known for his works, *Hisuikyoukitan* and *SHOOK UP!* (both currently available in new formats published by Shogakukan) and his first artwork collection, *Barrage*.

BLACK LAGOON

008

VIZ Signature Edition

Story and Art by
REI HIROE

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
BLACK LAGOON is rated M for Mature and is recommended for mature readers.
This volume contains graphic violence, strong language, nudity, adult situations,
drinkin', smokin', ass-kickin', law breakin', gun-love, running with scissors and
just about everything your mother ever told you not to do.

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008
STORY & ART BY
REI HIROE
BLACK LAGOON

Dutch

SKIPPER OF THE BLACK LAGOON AND LEADER OF THE CREW. DUTCH STAYS COOL NO MATTER HOW BAD THINGS GET. HIS BACKGROUND INCLUDES MILITARY SERVICE, INCLUDING A TOUR IN VIETNAM.

Benny

THE MAN IN CHARGE OF THE HIGH-TECH ELECTRONICS ONBOARD THE BLACK LAGOON. BENNY ESCAPED FROM THE U.S. AND IS ON THE RUN FROM BOTH THE FBI AND THE MAFIA.

Crew of the Black Lagoon

Rev

THE BLACK LAGOON'S TOP GUNSLINGER, NICKNAMED "TWO HAND." HER FOUL MOUTH AND EXTREMELY SHORT FUSE USUALLY GET HER IN LOTS OF TROUBLE.

Rock

A FORMER JAPANESE SALARYMAN, WHOSE REAL NAME IS ROKURŌ OKAJIMA. ABANDONED BY HIS COMPANY AFTER THE CREW OF THE BLACK LAGOON ABOUCED HIM, ROCK LATER JOINED HIS CAPTORS.

STORY

ROCK, FORMERLY KNOWN AS ROKURŌ OKAJIMA, WAS A FACELESS EMPLOYEE AT A LARGE JAPANESE COMPANY. AFTER BEING ABDUCTED BY THE CREW OF THE BLACK LAGOON AND ABANDONED BY HIS COMPANY, HE TAKES ON THE NAME "ROCK" AND FINDS A NEW LIFE IN THE SHADY BUSINESS OF SMUGGLING.

ROBERTA SHOWS UP IN ROANAPUR ONCE AGAIN, THIS TIME WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF ELIMINATING THE U.S. SPECIAL FORCES UNIT THAT MURDERED HER BOSS AND GARCIA'S FATHER, DIEGO LOVELACE.

MEANWHILE CHANG, STILL UNCERTAIN OF THE AMERICANS' INTENTIONS, USES ROCK TO LOCATE ROBERTA TO PREVENT ANY INTRUSION INTO ROANAPUR BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.



Roberta

LOVELACE FAMILY MAID. EX-FARC TERRORIST ONCE FEARED AS "THE BLOODHOUND OF FLORENCIA."



Fabiola

LOVELACE FAMILY MAID. ROBERTA'S SUBORDINATE.

Garcia

NEXT HEAD OF THE LOVELACE FAMILY, ONE OF THE 13 FAMILIES OF SOUTH AMERICA. SON OF DIEGO LOVELACE.



Caxton

LEADER OF THE U.S. UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE SPECIAL FORCES UNIT GREY FOX.



Abrego

COLOMBIAN MAFIOSO. SCHEMING TO MURDER ROBERTA.



Balalaika

BOSS OF THE THAI BRANCH OF "HOTEL MOSCOW," A NOTED RUSSIAN CRIMINAL GANG. BALALAIIKA ONCE WAS A CAPTAIN IN THE RED ARMY OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION.



Chang

BOSS OF THE ROANAPUR BRANCH OF THE HONG KONG TRIAD CRIMINAL GANG.



Eda

A NUN AT THE CHURCH OF VIOLENCE. ACTUALLY A CIA AGENT.



Shenhua

FREELANCE ASSASSIN. CALLED "CHINGLISH GAL" BY REVY.



Sawyer

CLEANER OF DARKNESS. A CHAINSAW IS HER WEAPON OF CHOICE.



Lotton

FREELANCE ASSASSIN. ENJOYS MAKING AN ENTRANCE FROM HIGH PLACES.

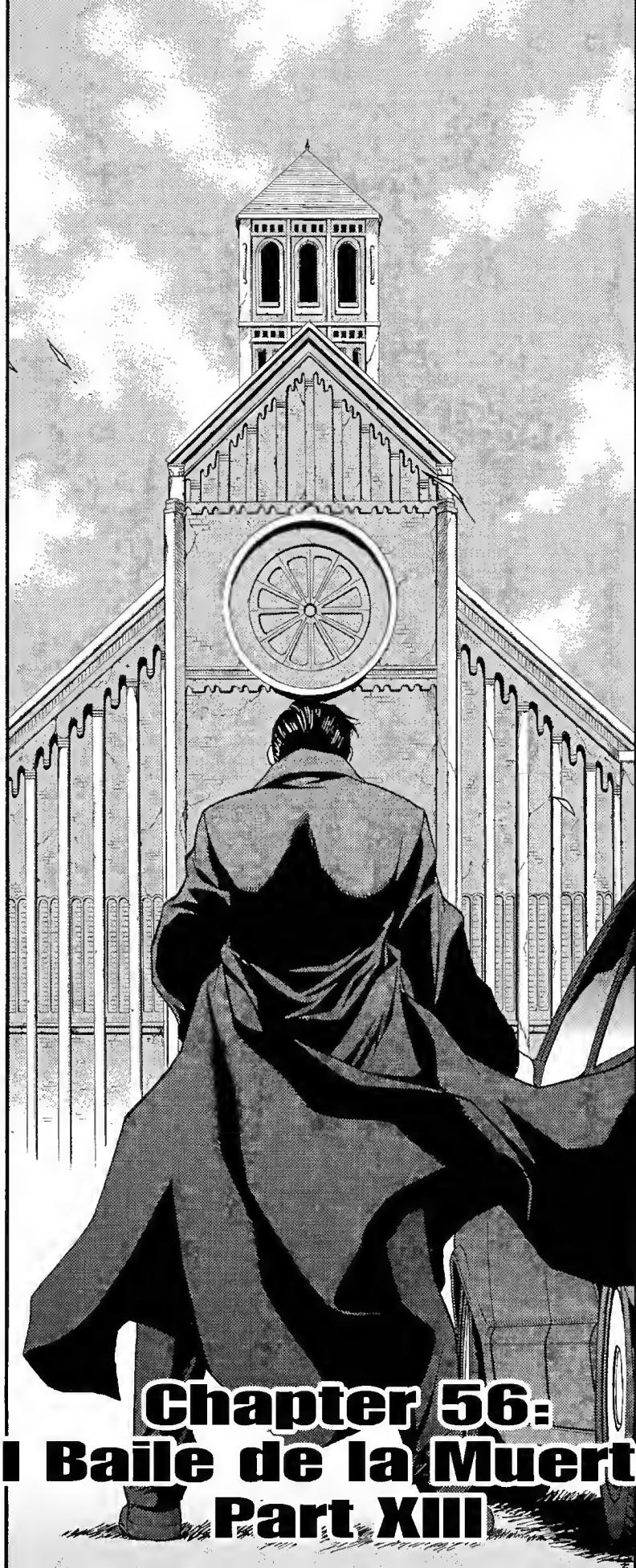
BLACK LAGOON



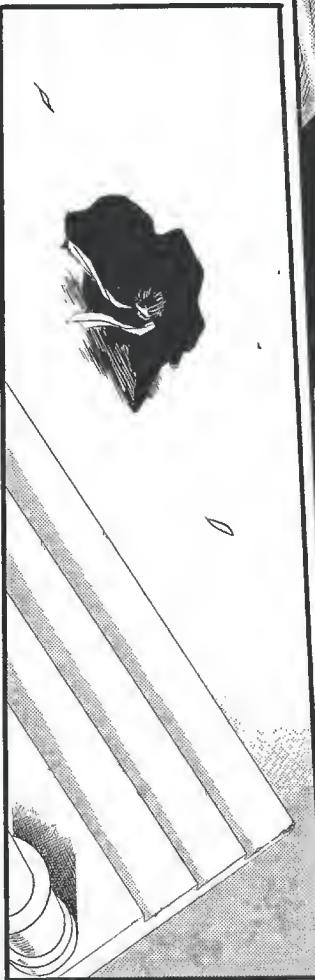
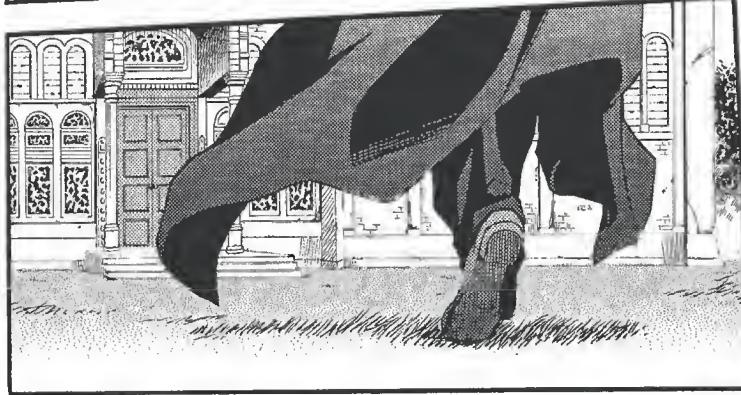
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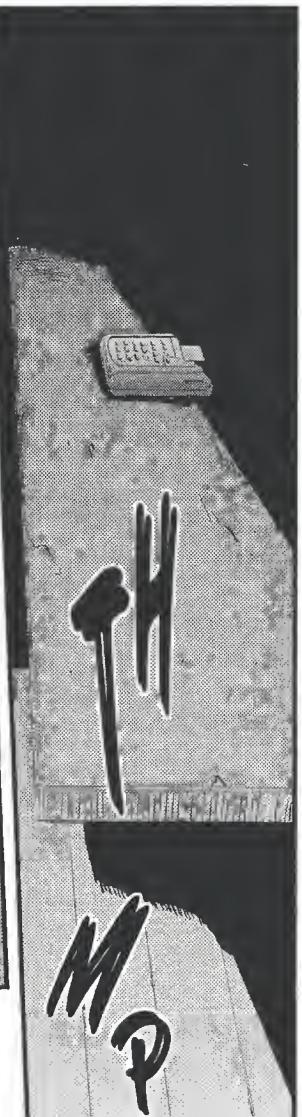
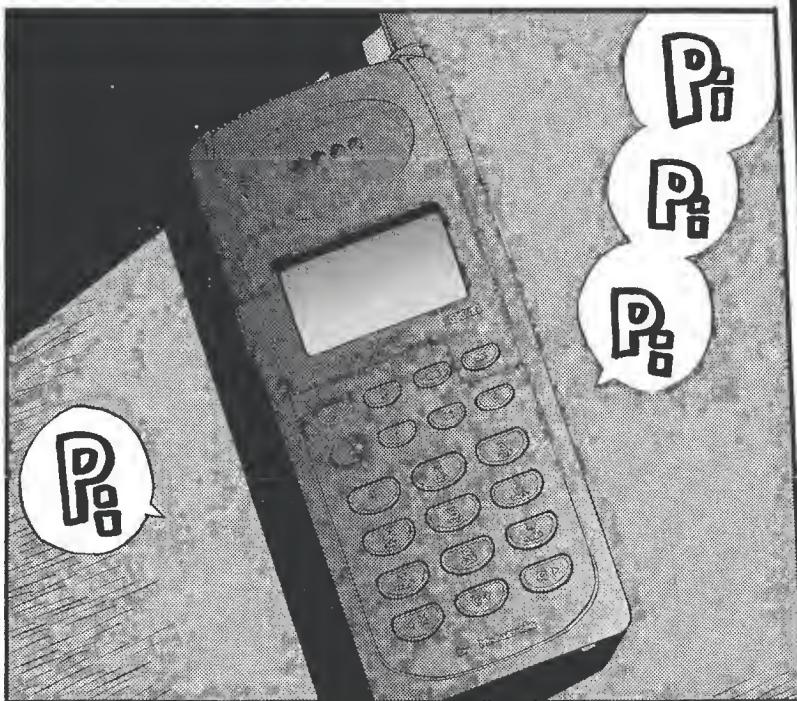
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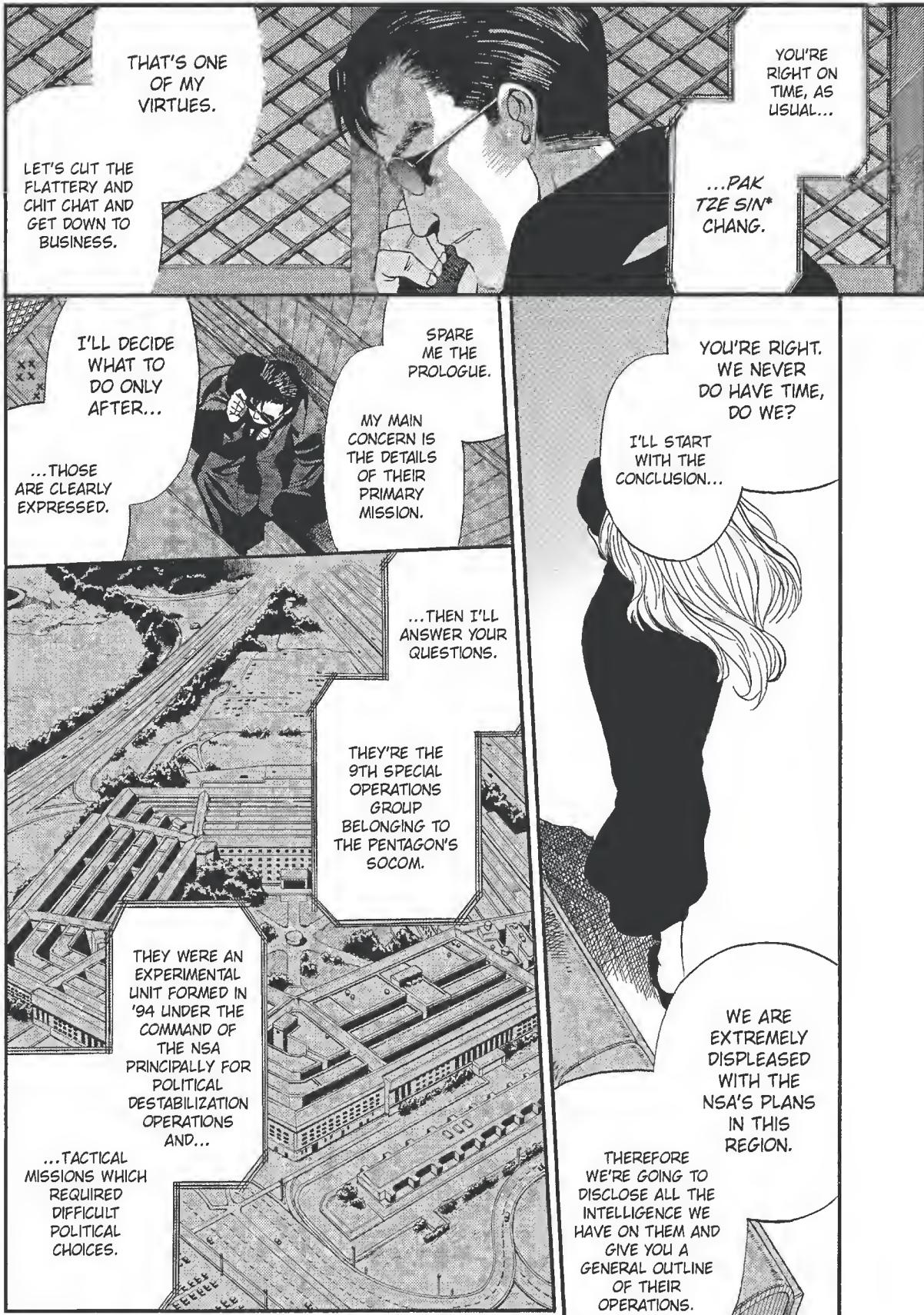
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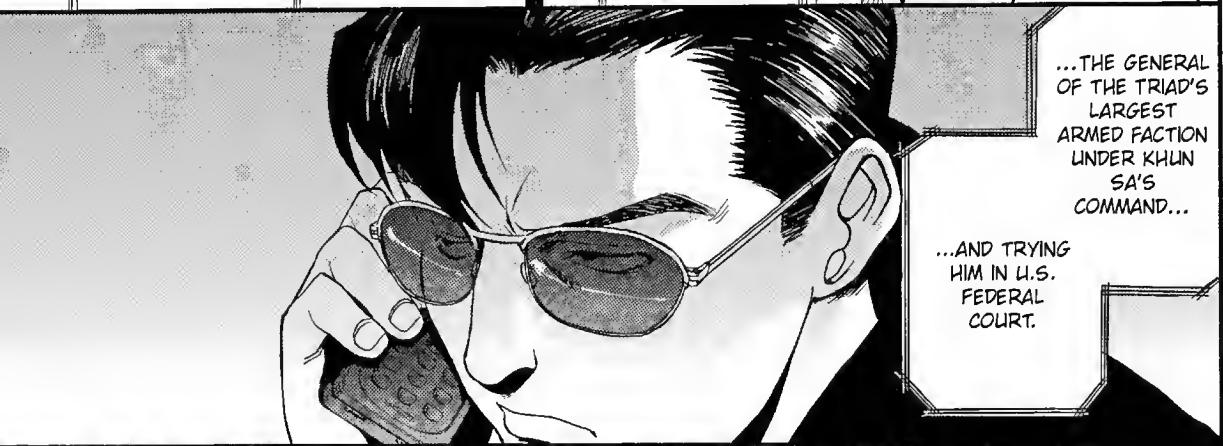
**Chapter 56:
El Baile de la Muerte -
Part XIII**

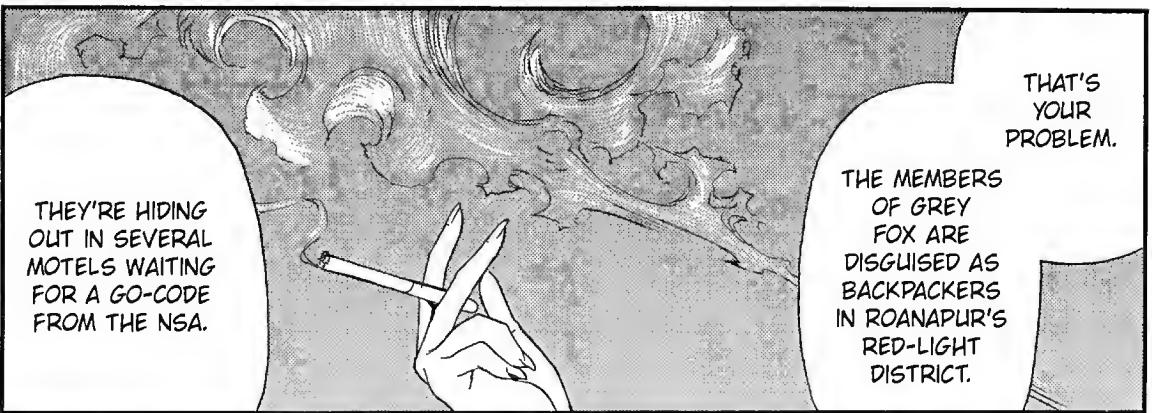






*LITERALLY, "WHITE PAPER FAN," A TRIAD ADVISOR.

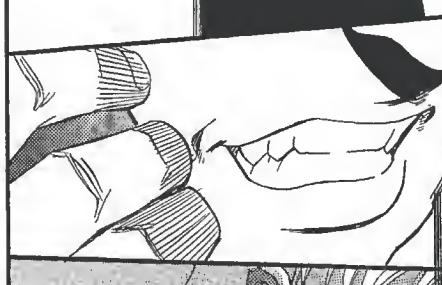








WE'RE NOT
YOUR DOGS
OR YOUR
APPRENTICES.



...YOU'RE
DEAD
WRONG.



HAH...

HAH
HAH
HAH.

...THE ONLY
REASON...



...WE'RE
LENDING A
HAND IN THIS
LOVERS'
QUARREL
BETWEEN YOU
BUREAUCRATS
IS...

...BECAUSE
WE HAVE A
MUTUAL
INTEREST.



YOU SEEM
TO BE
GROSSLY
MISTAKEN
AS WELL.

MR.
CHANG.

HAH
HAH
HAH...
HAH.
HAH.

...CALLED
AGENCIES.

THE UNITED
STATES ITSELF IS
LIKE A HYDRA, A
COUNTRY WITH
NUMEROUS
HEADS...

FOR
ONE...

WE ARE
NOT "UNCLE
SAM'S ASS-
KISSEERS."

...THE
UNITED
STATES.

WE
ARE...

AND ALL THE
AGENCIES THAT
PROTECT THE
UNITED STATES
EMBRACE THE
EMBLEM OF THE
BALD EAGLE. IN
OTHER WORDS...

BUT WE
POSSESS
THE POWER
TO SUBDUCE
AND
ANNIHILATE
ENTIRE
COUNTRIES.

YOU PEOPLE
MAY POSSESS
THE POWER
TO SUBDUCE
INDIVIDUALS OR
CORPORATIONS
...

AND ONE
MORE
THING.
THREATS
ARE NOT
EFFECTIVE
AGAINST
POWERS
GREATER
THAN YOURS.

SO DON'T
EVER...

AND "THE
SUPREME."

IN THIS
WORLD,
WE ARE...

"THE
ONLY"...

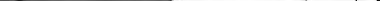
"THE
ONE"...

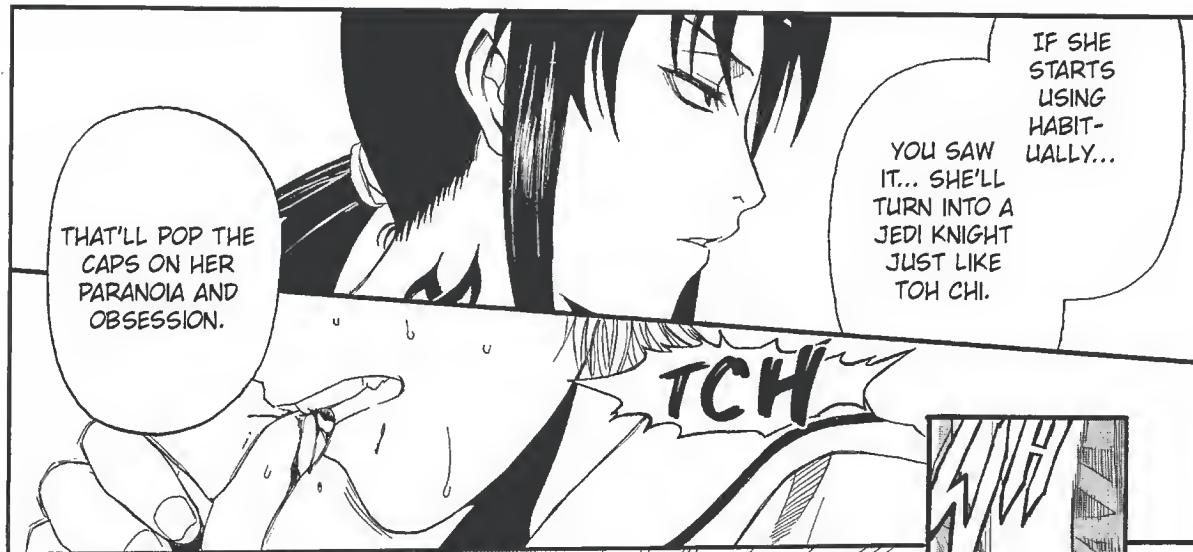


...
UNDER-
ESTIMATE MY
COMPANY.

PUNK.







YOU'RE NOT
HER FAMILY!

THAT'S
WHY!!

IT'S
ALL
BECAUSE
...

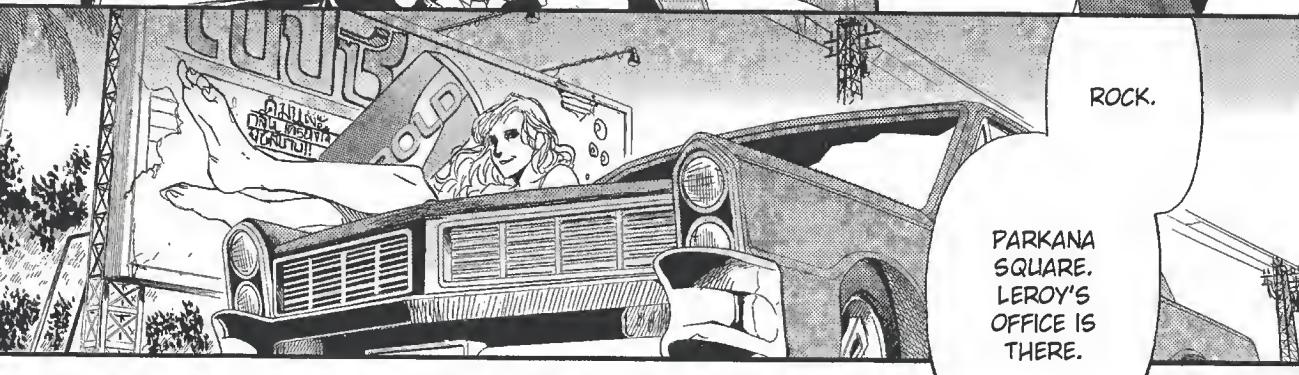
WE'VE
GOTTEN
CLOSER TO...

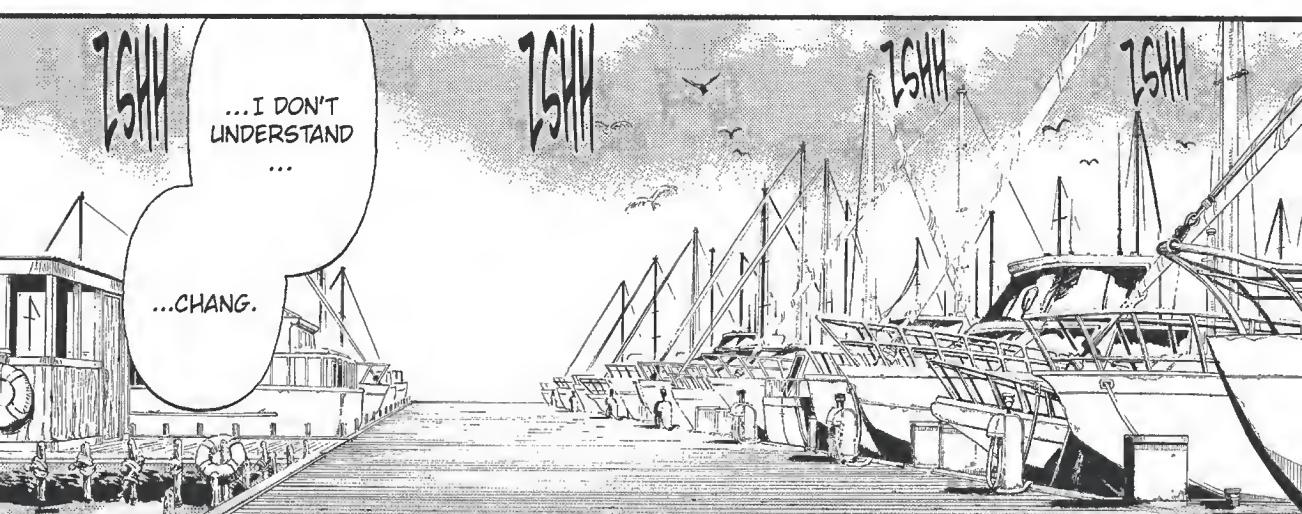
IN
JUST
ONE
DAY...

...GRABBING
HER BY THE
SCRUFF OF
HER NECK
THAN ANYONE
ELSE.

WE'VE
ALMOST GOT
EVERYTHING
WE NEED
TO END
THIS THING
PEACEFULLY.

...YOU'RE THE
CENTER OF ALL
THIS, BUT ALL
YOU'RE DOING IS
SCREAMING AND
CRYING AS SHE
DROWNS NEXT
TO YOU.

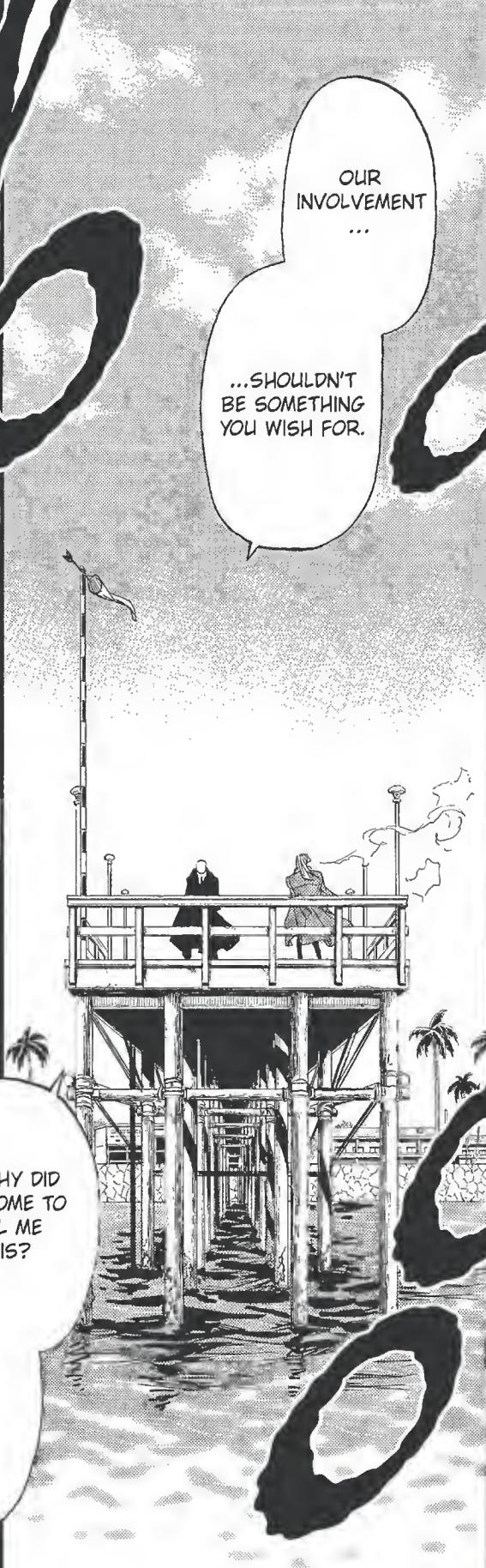


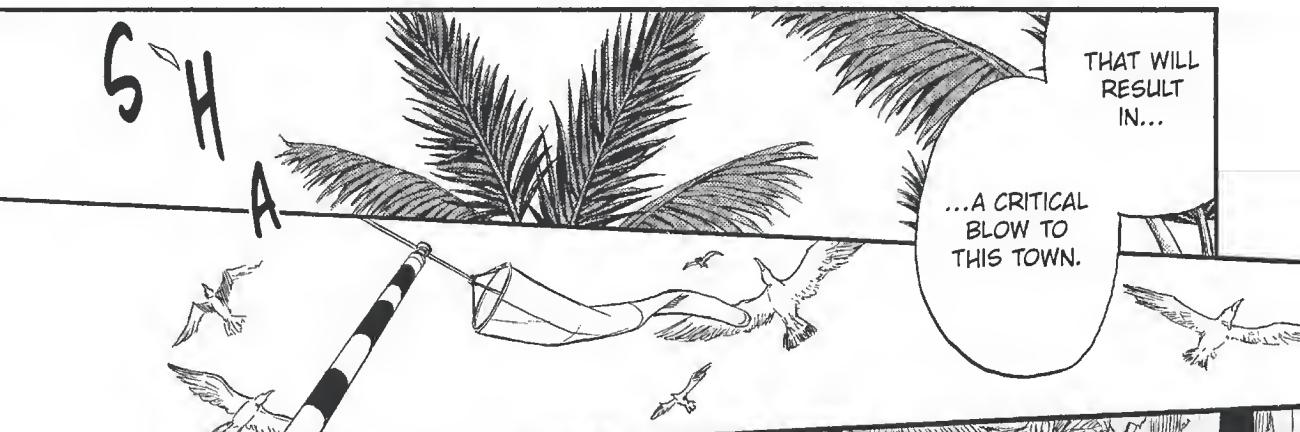
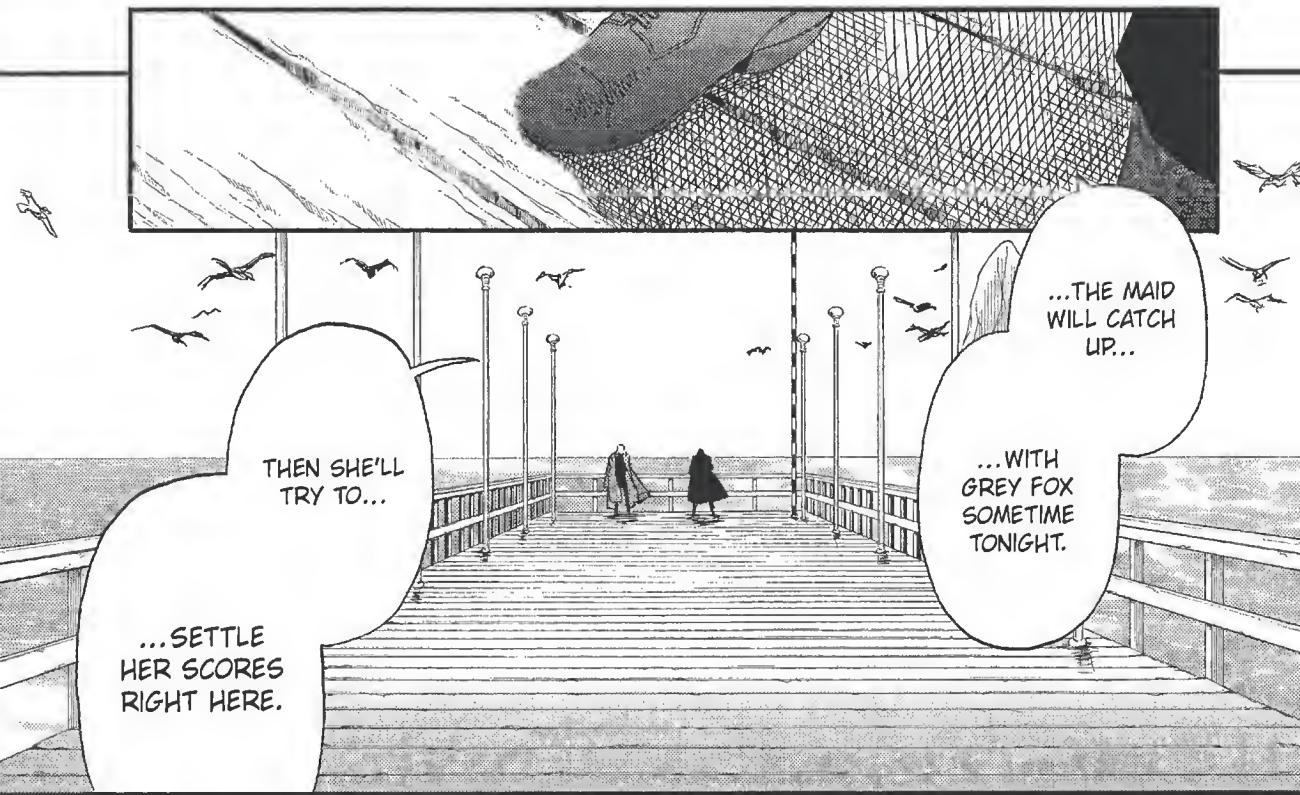


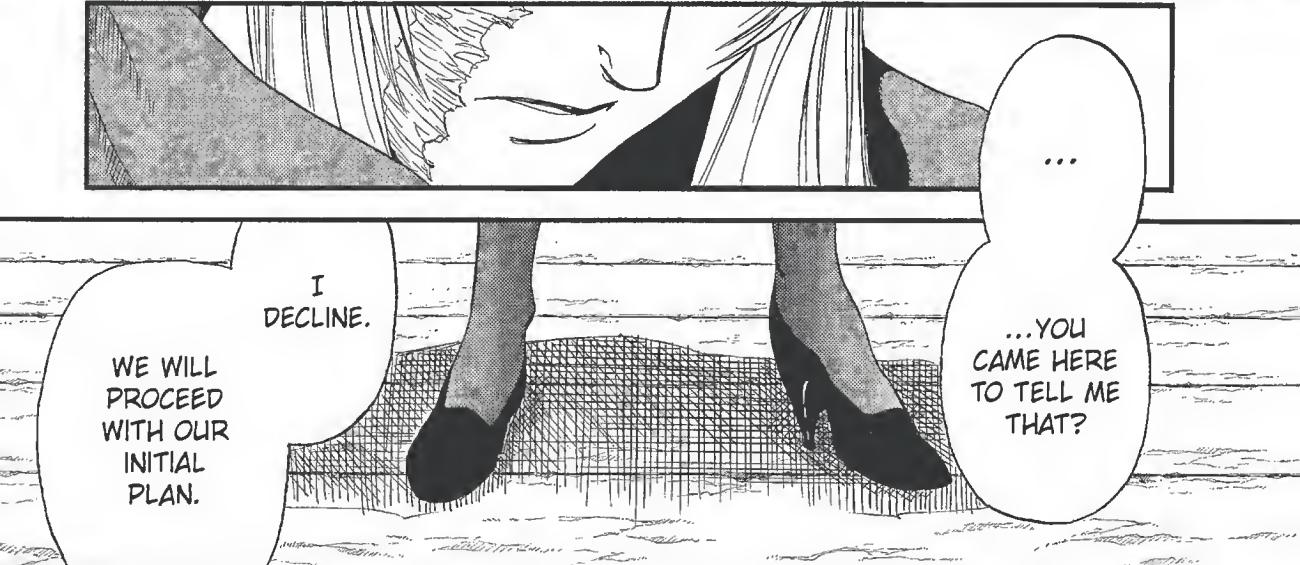
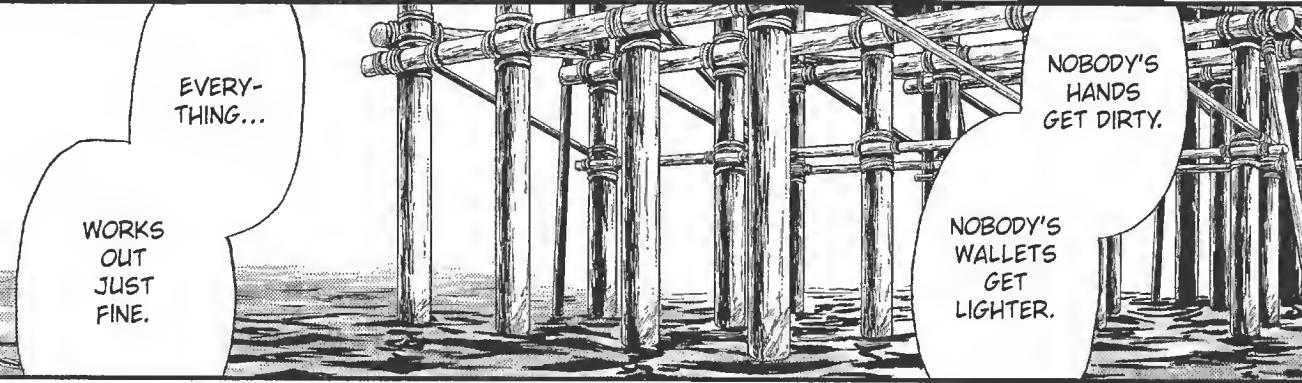


WHAT'S
YOUR
REAL
MOTIVE?

SO WHY DID
YOU COME TO
TELL ME
THIS?







...SO
THAT'S
HOW YOU
WANT TO
DO IT?

YOU WANT
TO DIE AS A
SOLDIER?

WE'RE NO
LONGER
SOLDIERS,
NOT EVEN
DESERTERS...

WE'RE
EX-MILITARY.
WE DON'T
BELONG TO
ANYTHING,
THE SAME
AS YOU.

A DIE-HARD
MOBSTER LIKE
YOU WOULDN'T
UNDERSTAND.

...CHANG.

WHEN
WE LOST
EVERYTHING,
WHAT WERE
WE LEFT
WITH?

WHEN
THE NEW
RUSSIA
BETRAYED
US...

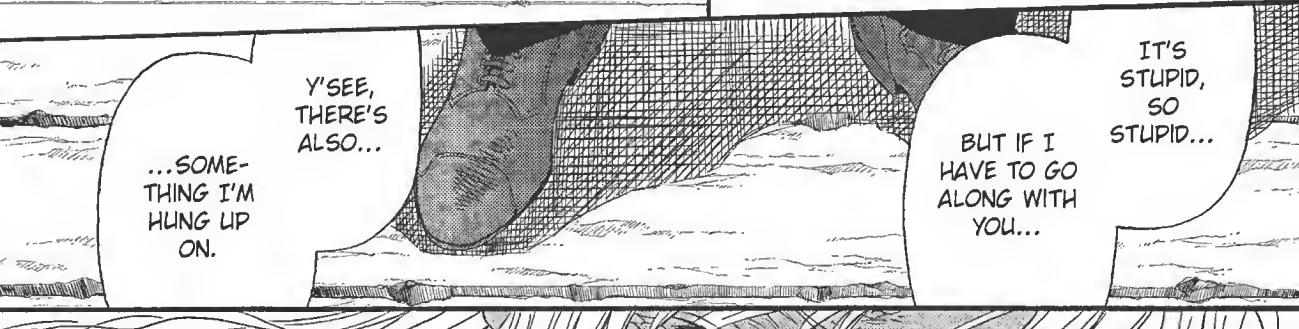
BUT...
WHEN THE
SOVIET
UNION
ABANDONED
US...

WE'RE
VESTIGES OF A
KIND OF PRIDE
THAT'S BECOME
AN OLD, MOLDY
TOMBSTONE.

WE TASTED LIFE
AND DEATH AND
EVERYTHING
THERE IS TO
KNOW ABOUT
FIGHTING FOR
A FLAG.

THAT
PRIDE...





...SAME
HERE.

I TOOK
THREE .22 LR
ROUNDS.

IT WAS A
BEAUTIFUL
SILVER
MOONLIT
NIGHT.

THE NUMBER
THAT NIGHT
WAS...

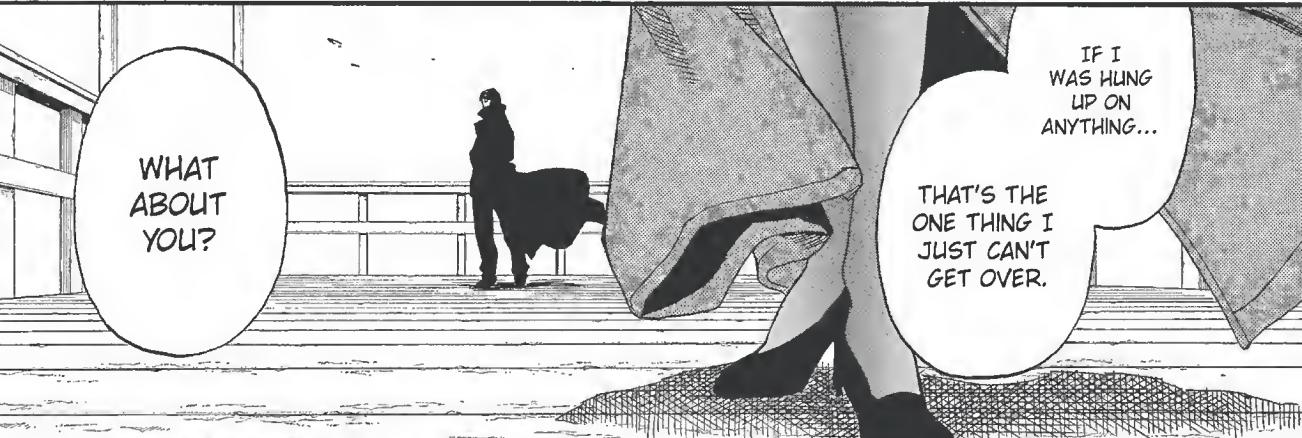
"IT'S A BLUE
WORLD."

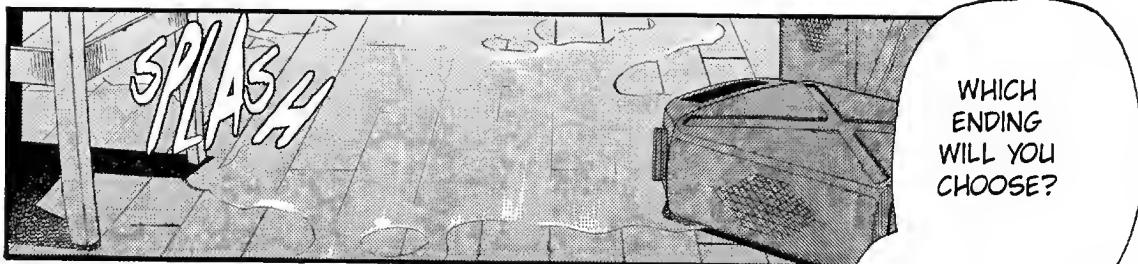
IT WAS
THE PERFECT
EVENING
BANQUET FOR
A BULLET
BALLET.

ONE OF
US WAS
SUPPOSED TO
KISS THE DIRT
AND SAY
GOODBYE TO
THIS WORLD
THAT NIGHT.

BUT...

WE'RE BOTH
STILL HERE.





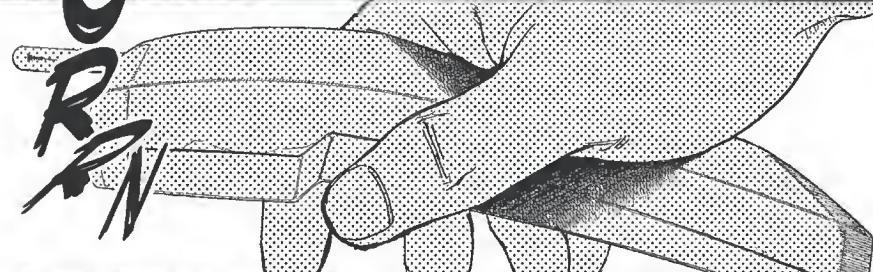
Chapter 57: El Baile de la Muerte - Part XIV



IT'S
ALWAYS
LIKE THAT
FOR US.

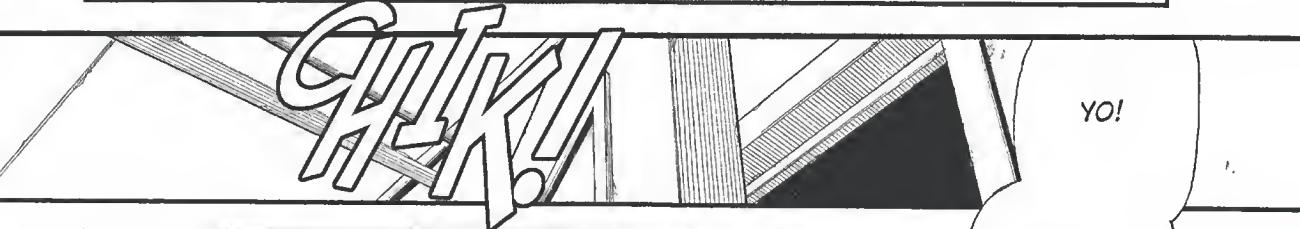
LIFE IS
IMPERFECT.

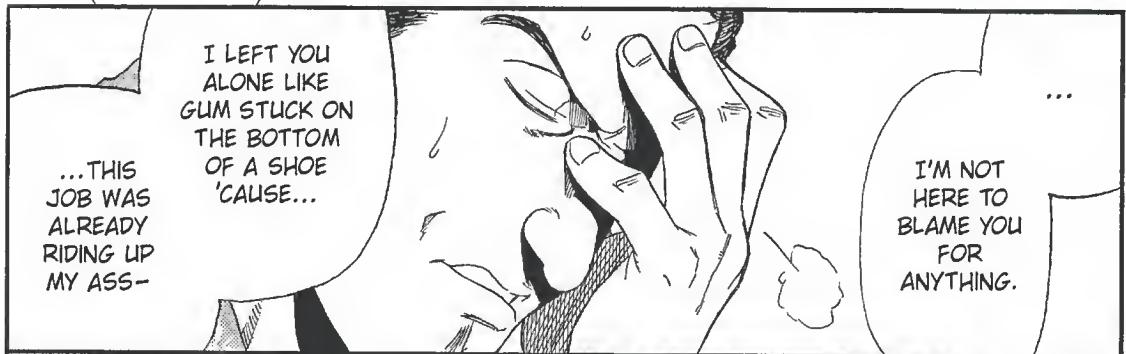
IMPORTANT
MATTERS
ALWAYS
RUN AHEAD
OF US.









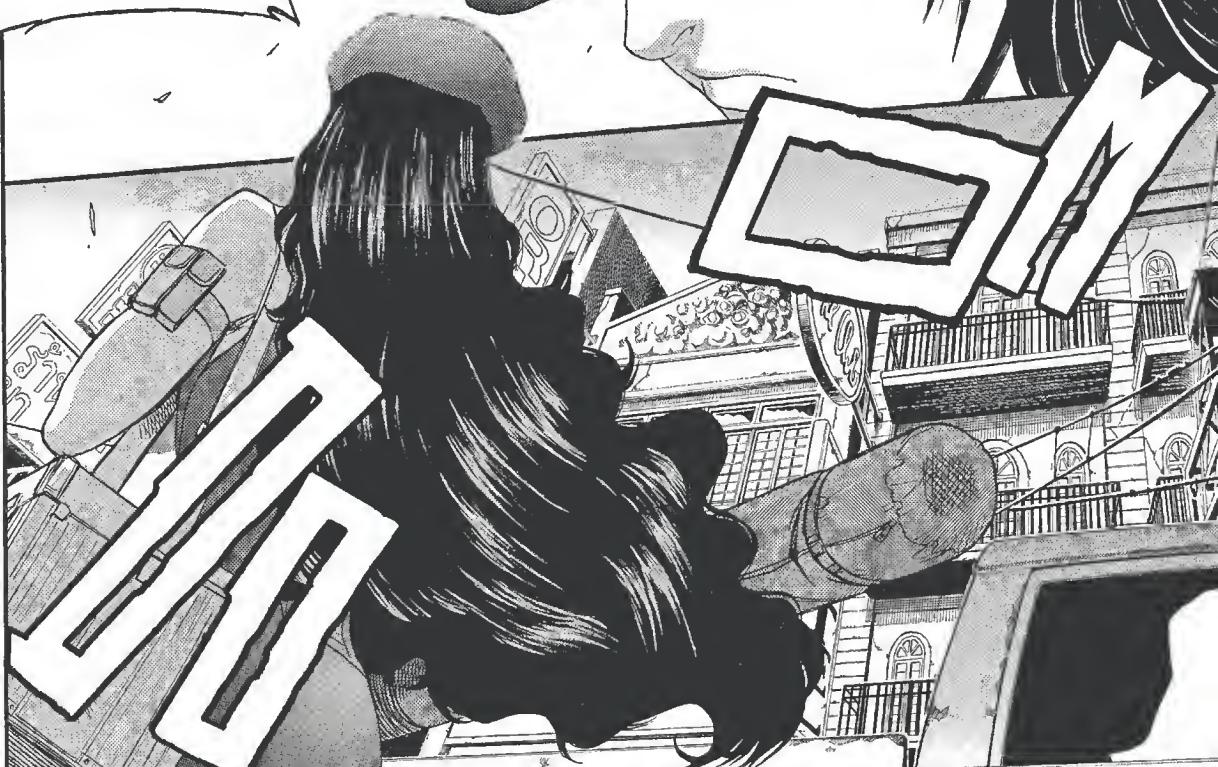


WHY?!
BECAUSE OF
THAT CRAZY
BITCH! THAT'S
WHY!!

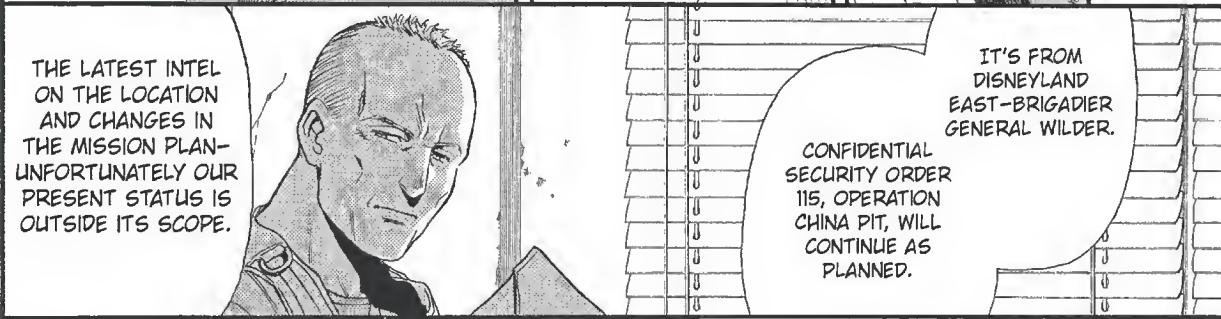
LISTEN, REVY,
THAT BITCH...

...BAILED
BEFORE SHE
PAID ME HALF
OF WHAT SHE
PROMISED!!

1/2 - To the Total
Total 1/2
Total 1/2
Total 1/2







IN ADDITION,
FOR THE FIRST
TIME SINCE
WE'VE BEEN
HERE, THE
ROADSIDE
STANDS HAVE
DISAPPEARED.

CHARKWAN
STREET AND
THE STREETS
LEADING TO
MANTAI STREET
HAVE BEEN
BLOCKED.

RESIDENTS OF
TOWNS LIKE
THESE KNOW
WHEN DANGER'S
IN THE AIR.

BUT THERE
WERE NO SIGNS
OF ACTUAL
CONSTRUCTION.

THE
CONSTRUCTION
WORKERS ALL
HAD BULGES
UNDER THEIR
LEFT ARMS.

WE
SPOTTED
NINE
LOOKOUTS
AND FOUR
TAILS INSIDE
A 200-YARD
RADIUS.

CONTACT SAFE
HOUSES MALIBU
AND MONTANA.
USE THE PRC*.

WE'RE
UNDoubtedly
SURROUNDED.
THE UNKNOWNs
ARE WAITING
TO SEE HOW
WE MOVE.

I THOUGHT
I FELT A
PRESENCE
OF SOMEONE
IN A SNIPING
POSITION.

THIS IS
JUST A
HUNCH,
SIR,
BUT...

*A PORTABLE MILITARY RADIO

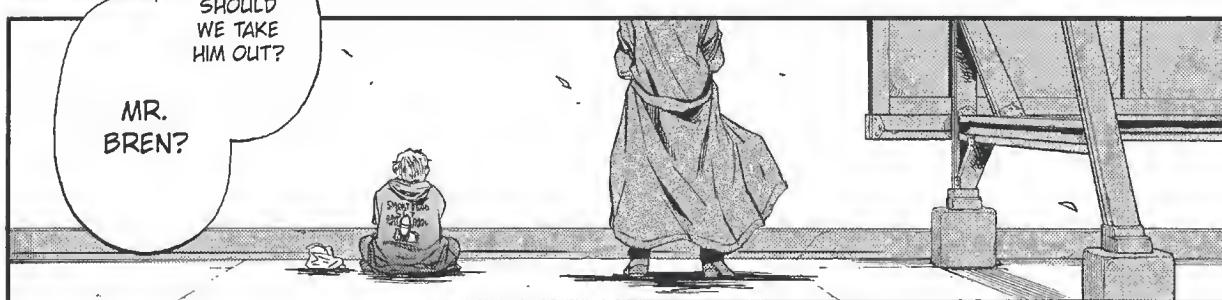
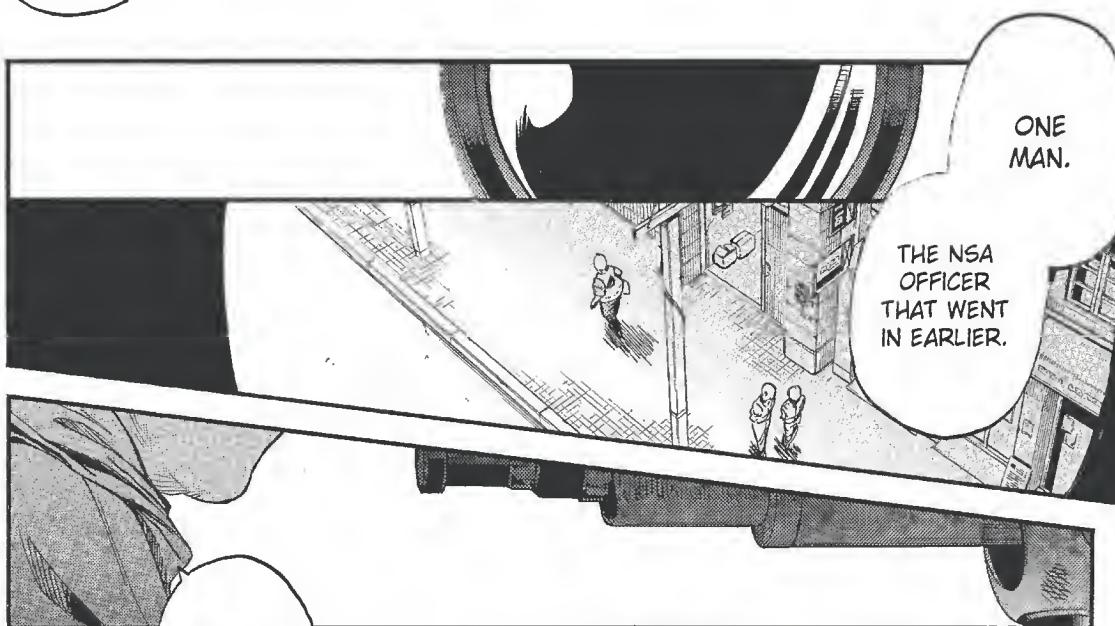
ROGER
THAT.

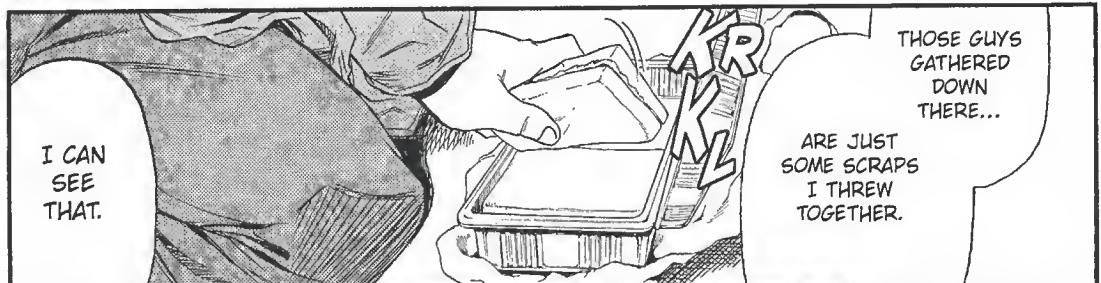
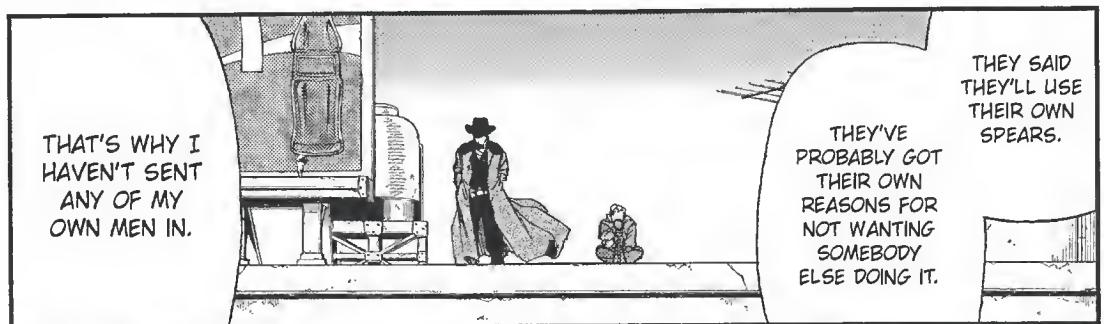
SEND
THEM THE
EMERGENCY
RALLY CODE?

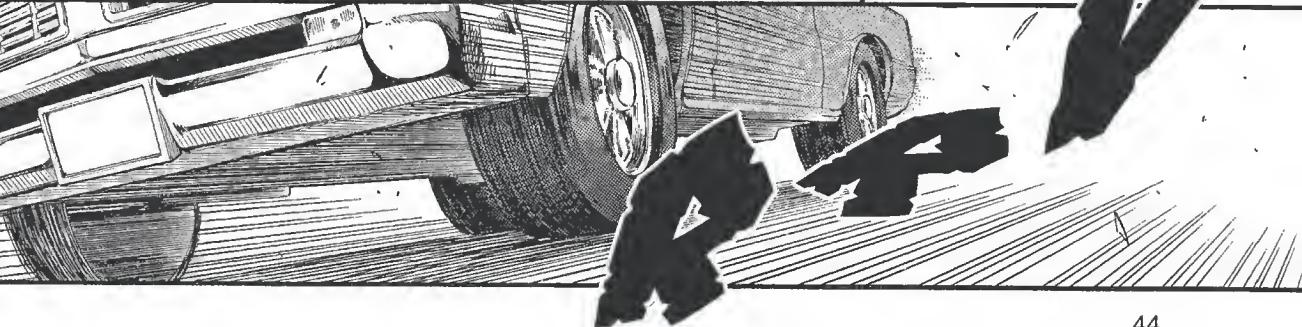
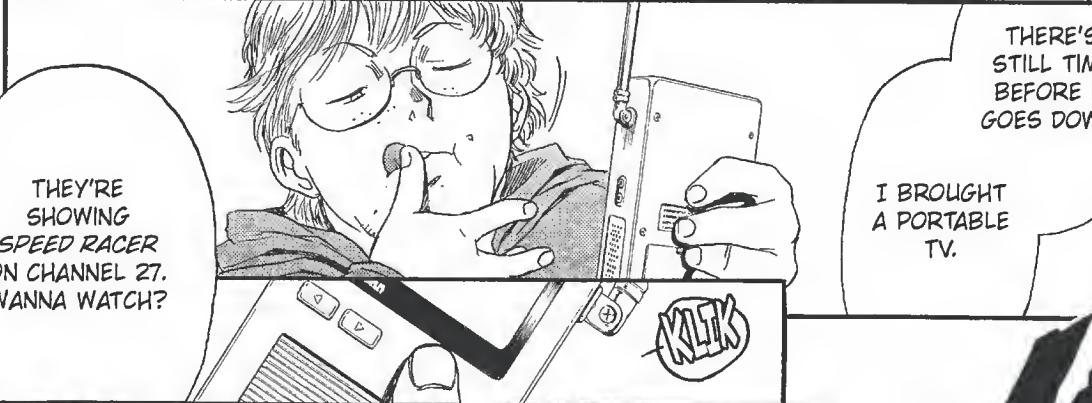
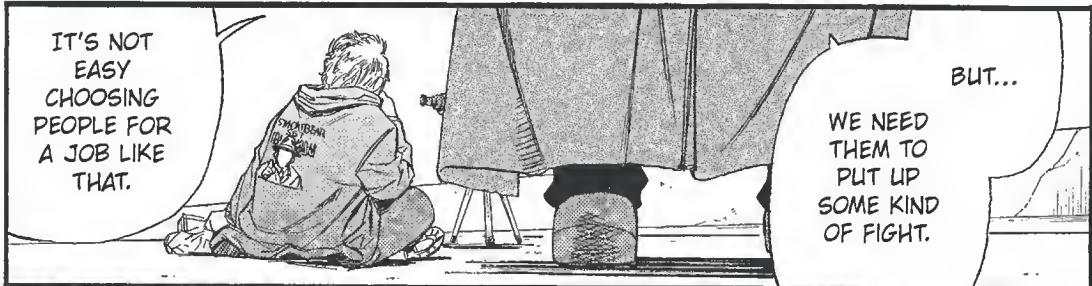
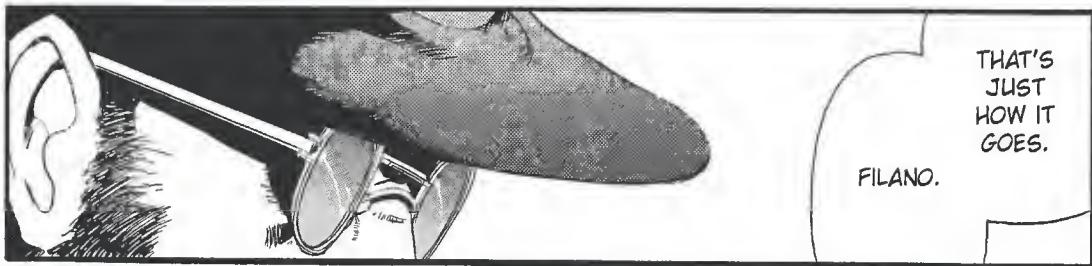
WE'LL FLANK
THEM WHEN
THEIR MAIN
UNIT MAKES
ITS MOVE AND
TAKE THEM
OUT.

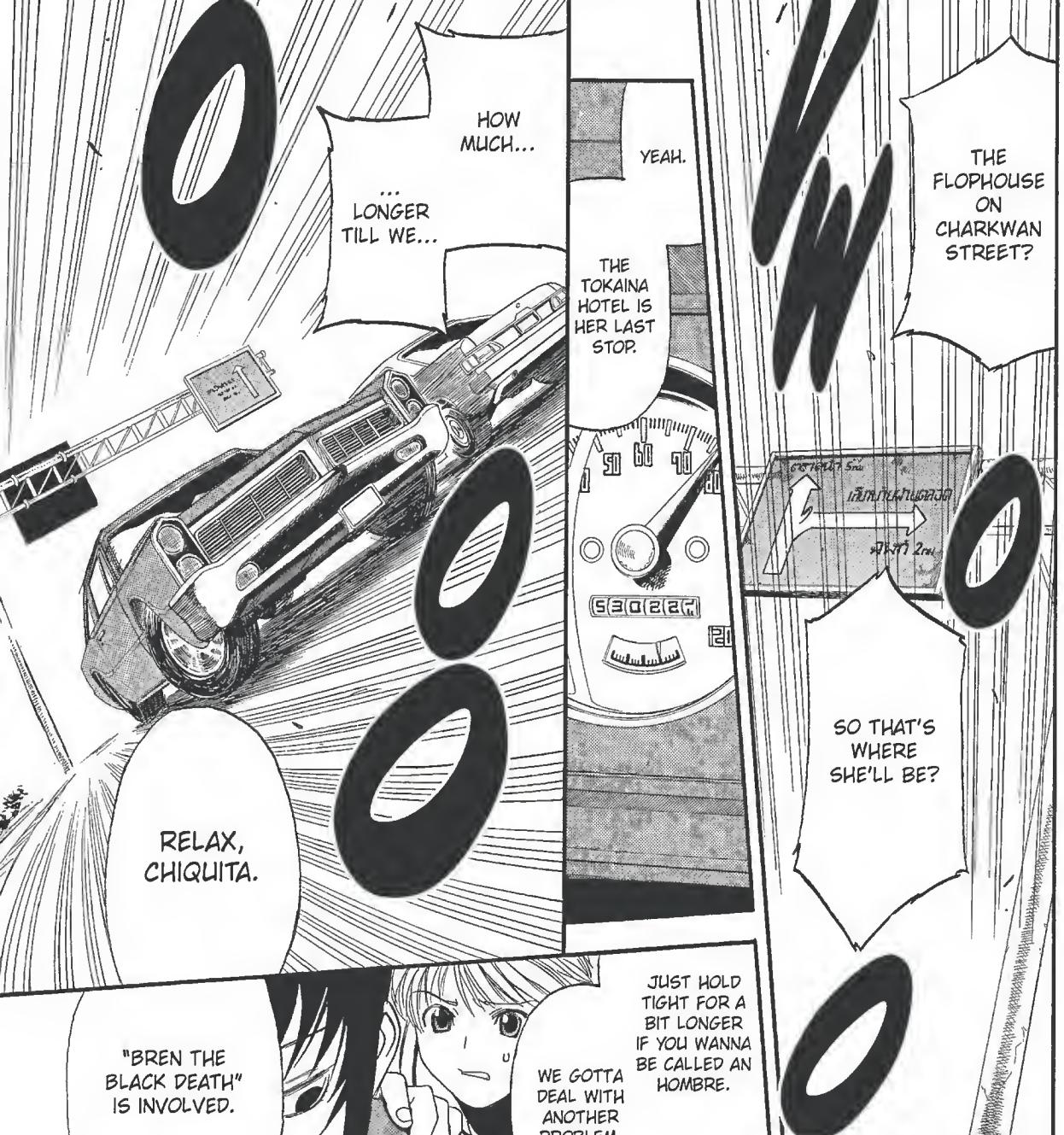
NO.

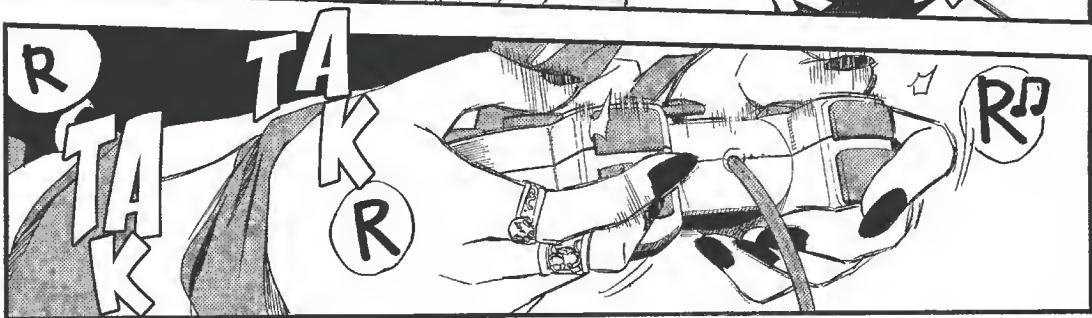
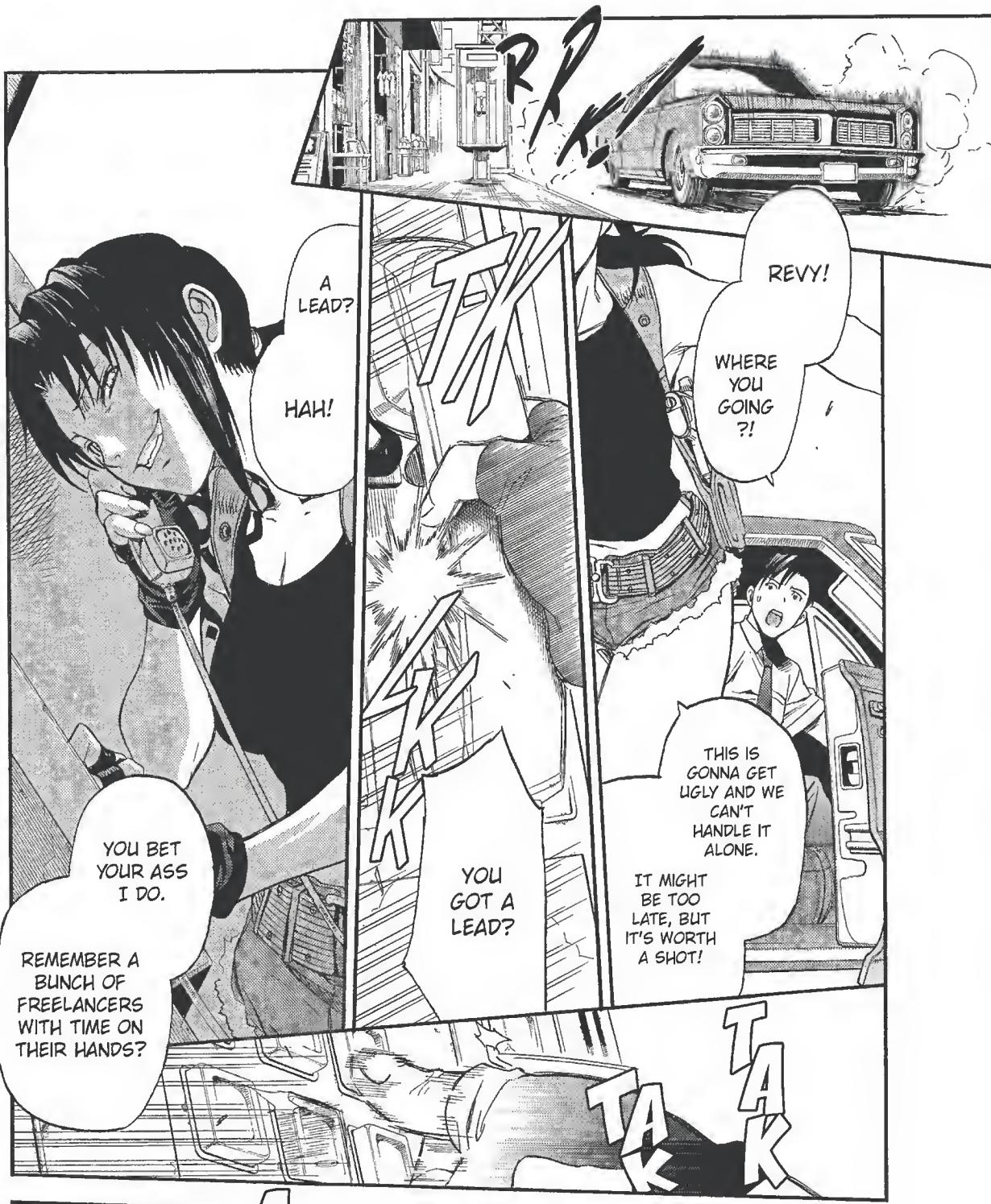
THEY MIGHT
RUN A SWEEP,
SO TELL
THEM TO BE
ON STANDBY
ON AN OPEN
CHANNEL.





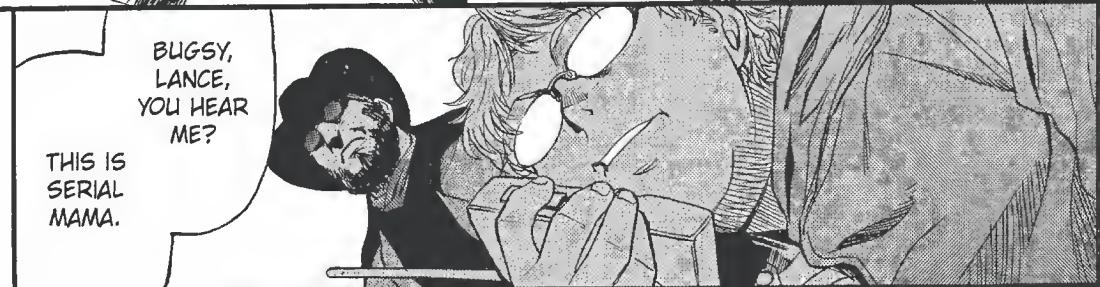
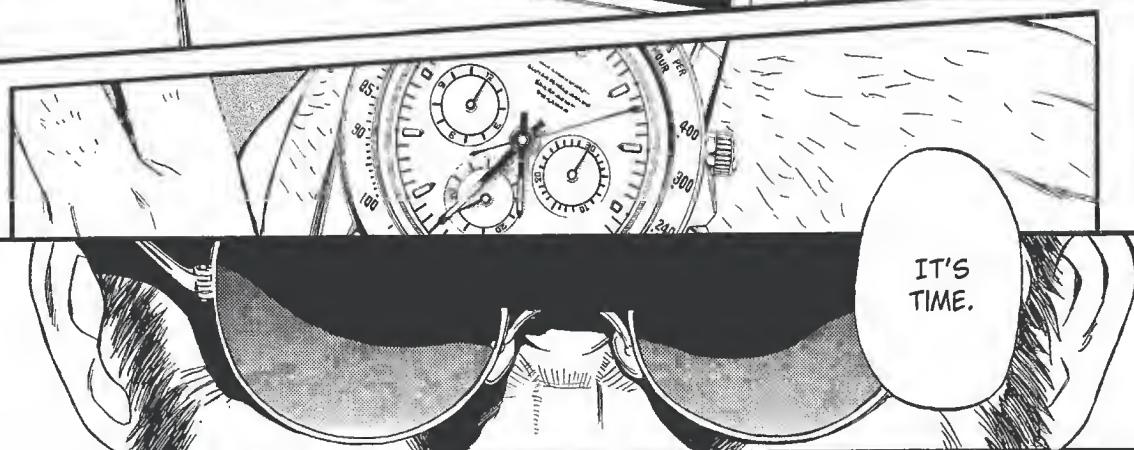
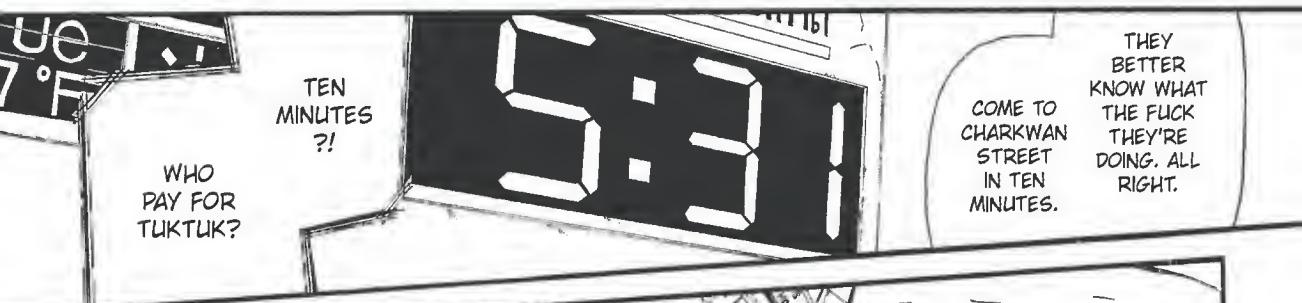
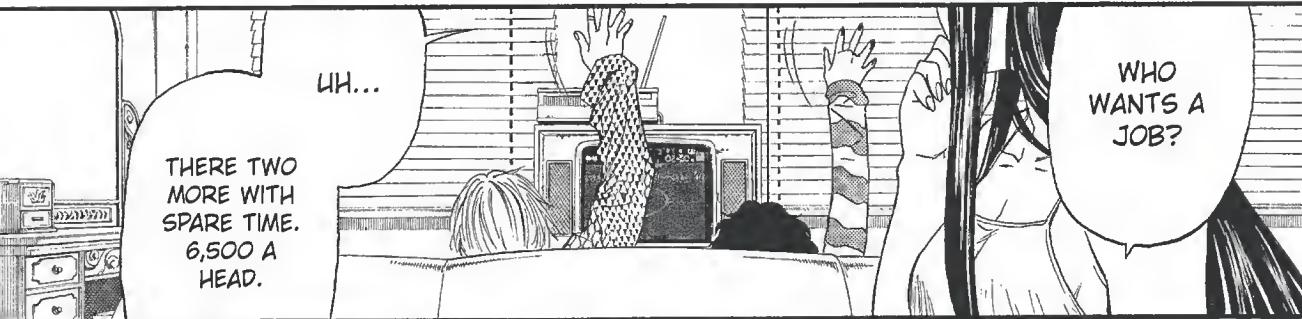
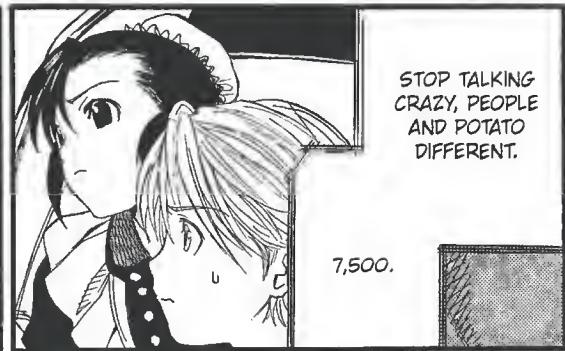
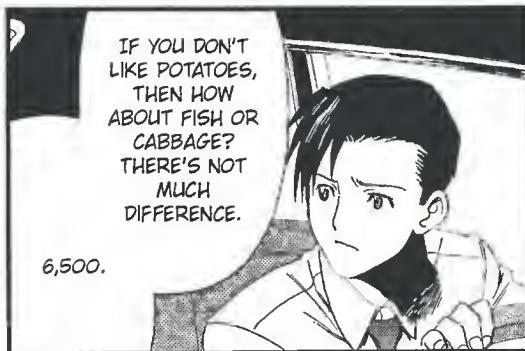


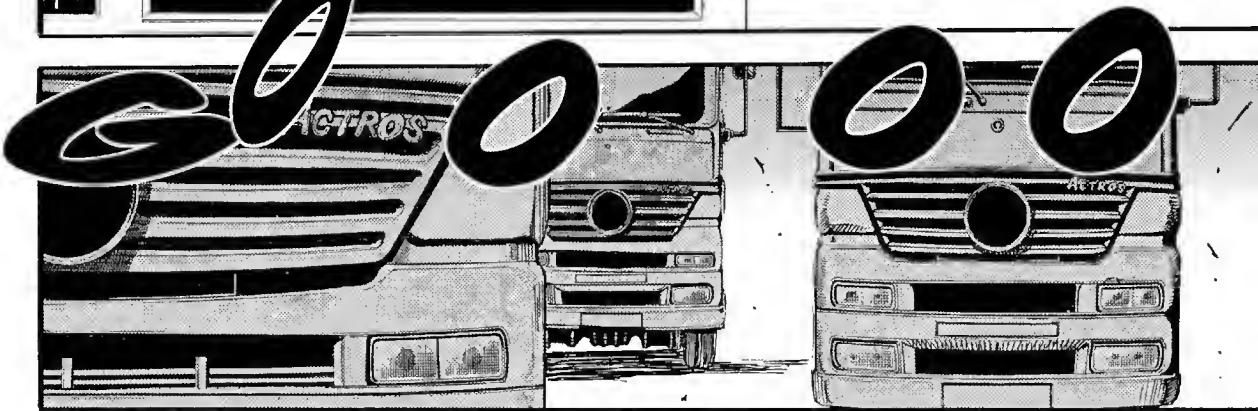














OUR
TARGET IS
ROSARITA
TISNEROS.

RO



SHE'S A
CONVERTED
REACTIONARY,
EX-ADVISOR TO
COMMANDER
MARULANDA.

DO NOT
UNDER-
ESTIMATE
HER JUST
BECAUSE
SHE'S A
WOMAN.

SHE WAS ONCE
KNOWN AS THE
"BLOODHOUND OF
FLORENCIA"...



...AND SHE
CAN PULL
THEM OFF FAR
BETTER THAN
ANY OF YOU.



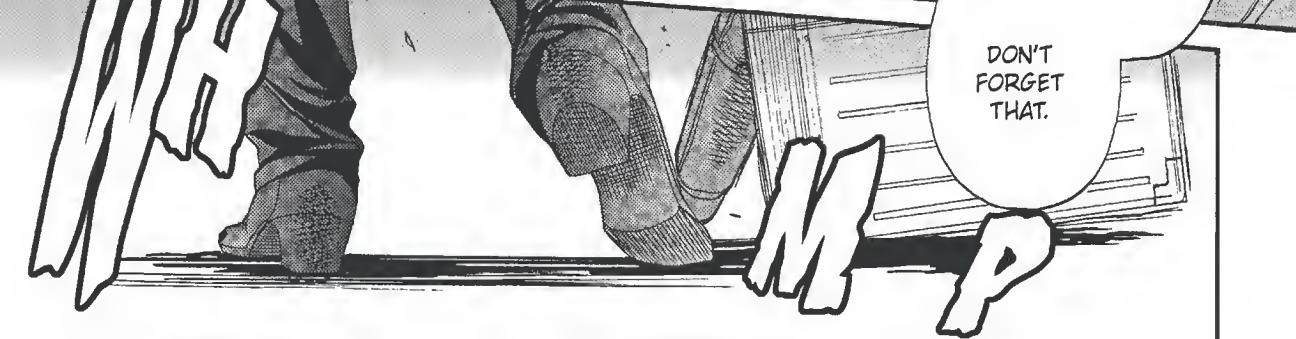
SHE KNOWS
EVERY TRICK
IN THE BOOK...



SHE WAS EYED
AS THE NEXT
CARLOS THE
JACKAL IN OUR
REPUBLIC. SHE'S
THE REAL THING.



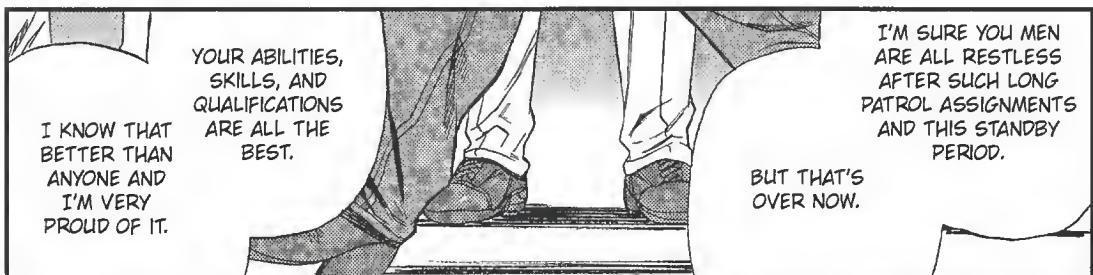
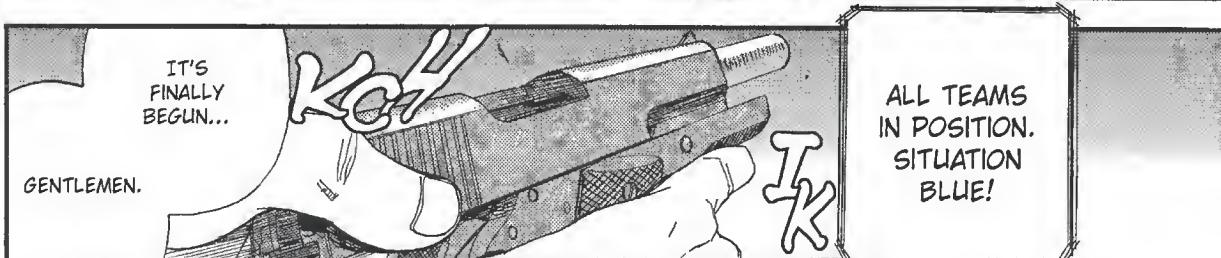
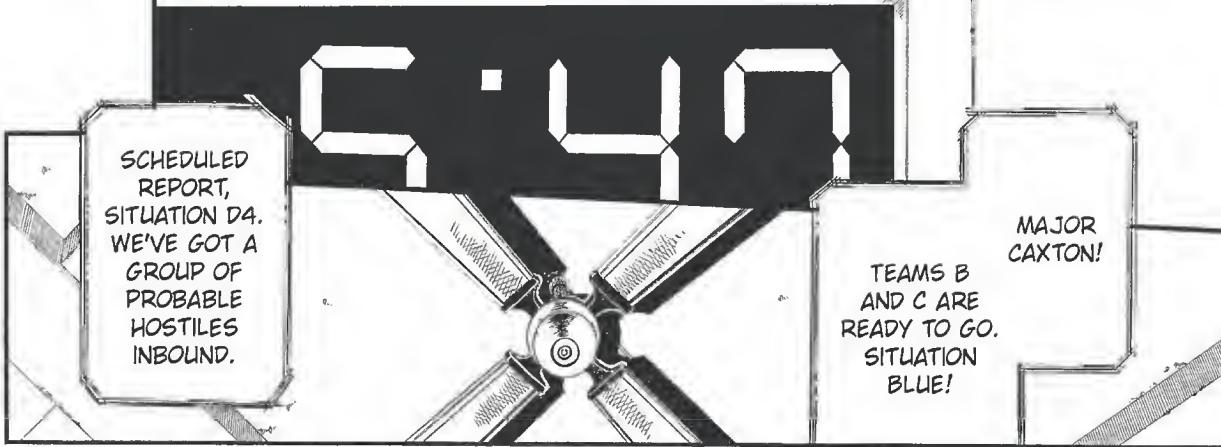
SHE'S A
CARNIVORA IN
HUMAN SKIN.



DON'T
FORGET
THAT.

MP





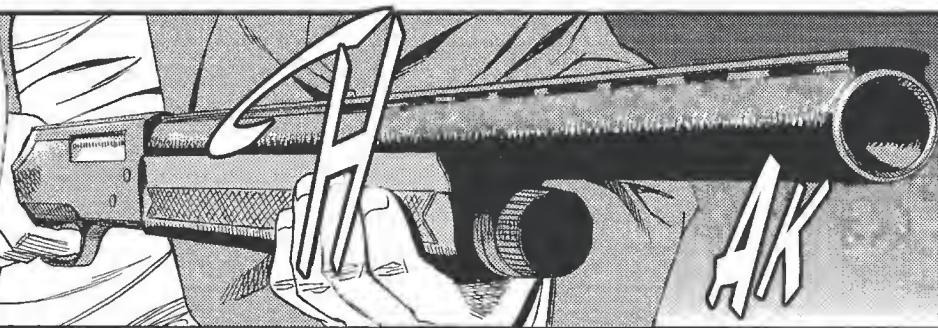
...IT'S
DARK IN
HERE.

SHUT UP,
MIKEY.

I CAN'T SEE
MY FEET. I'M
TRIPPIN' ALL
OVER THE
PLACE.

SOMEBODY
GOT A
LIGHT?
TURN IT-
YOU
FUCKING
CRAZY?
YOU WANNA
DIE?

THEY'RE
UPSTAIRS.
BE CAREFUL.

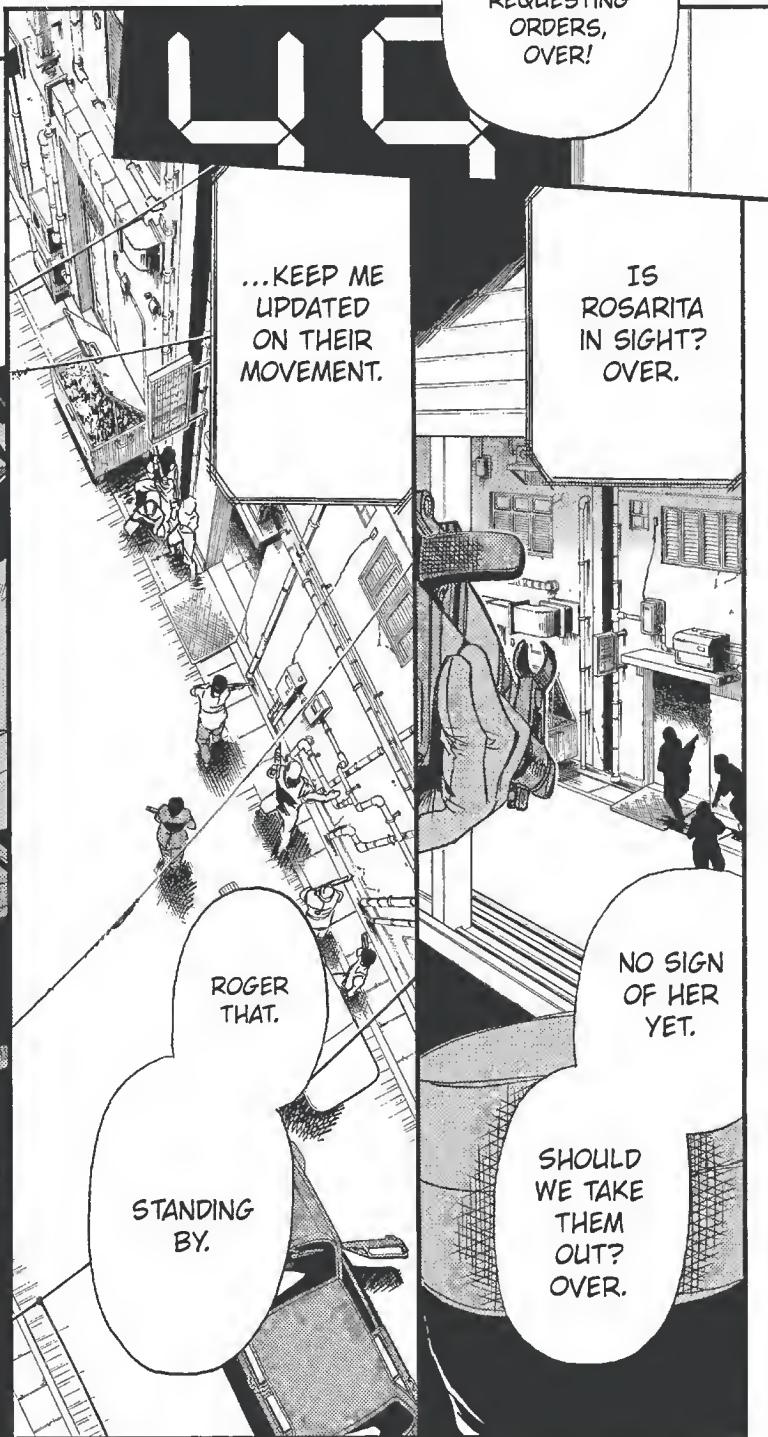
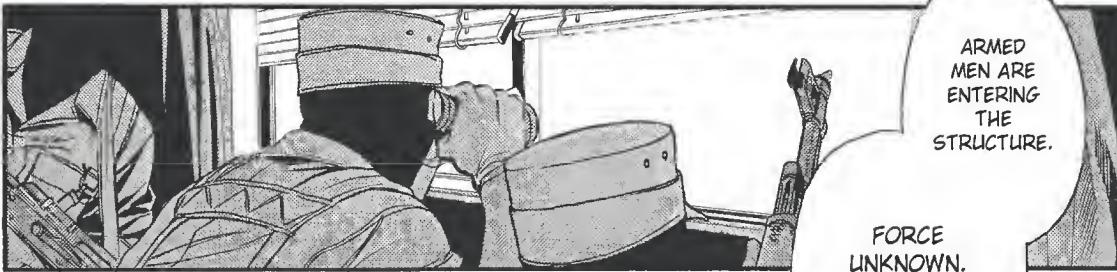


Chapter 58: El Baile de la Muerte - Part XV

IS LEROY'S
INFO SOLID?

LEROY'S
INFO'S
ALWAYS
SOLID. HE'S
NEVER
WRONG.

THESE GUYS
ARE RENEGADE
GANGSTERS
FROM THE
COUNTRYSIDE?









MR.
BREN!

WELL WELL,
THEY'VE
TURNED THE
SITUATION
AROUND!

THIS WAS
UNEXPECTED,
MR. BREN.

THEY'RE...

THE
PROBLEM
IS...

IT'S A
GAMBLE TO
FIGHT A FORCE
OF UNKNOWN
NUMBER AND
FIREPOWER
HEAD-ON.

HOW THEY FIND
THEMSELVES
ANOTHER WAY
OUT.

...BLOWING
OUT THE
ADJACENT
ROOMS TO
CREATE AN
EXIT.



KEEP
MOVING!
UPSTAIRS!

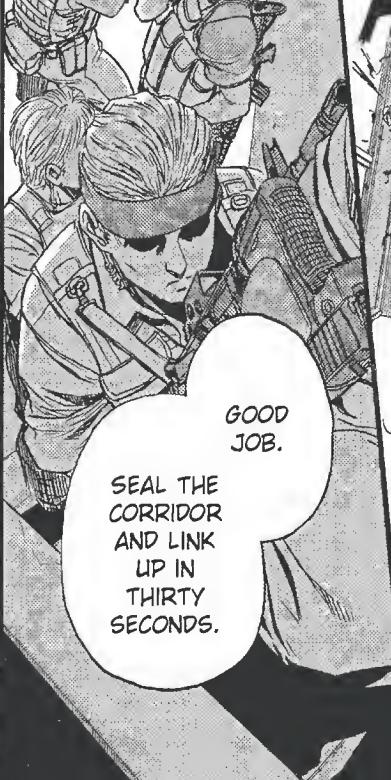
SHIT!
WHAT
HAPPENED
?!

HEY?!

UP!
UP!

WOW



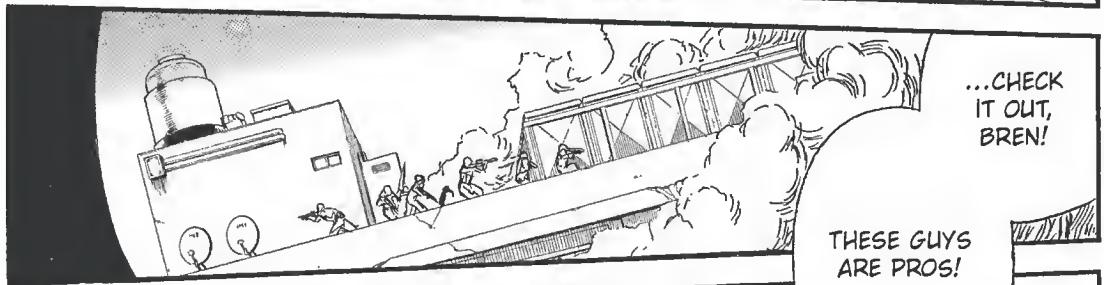




WE'LL SHOW
THEM THEY'RE
THE TURDS
FLOATIN' IN
THE BOWL!

WE PULL
BACK NOW
AND THEY
WOULD'VE
DIED FOR
NOTHING.

WHADDAYA
THINK,
MORON?!

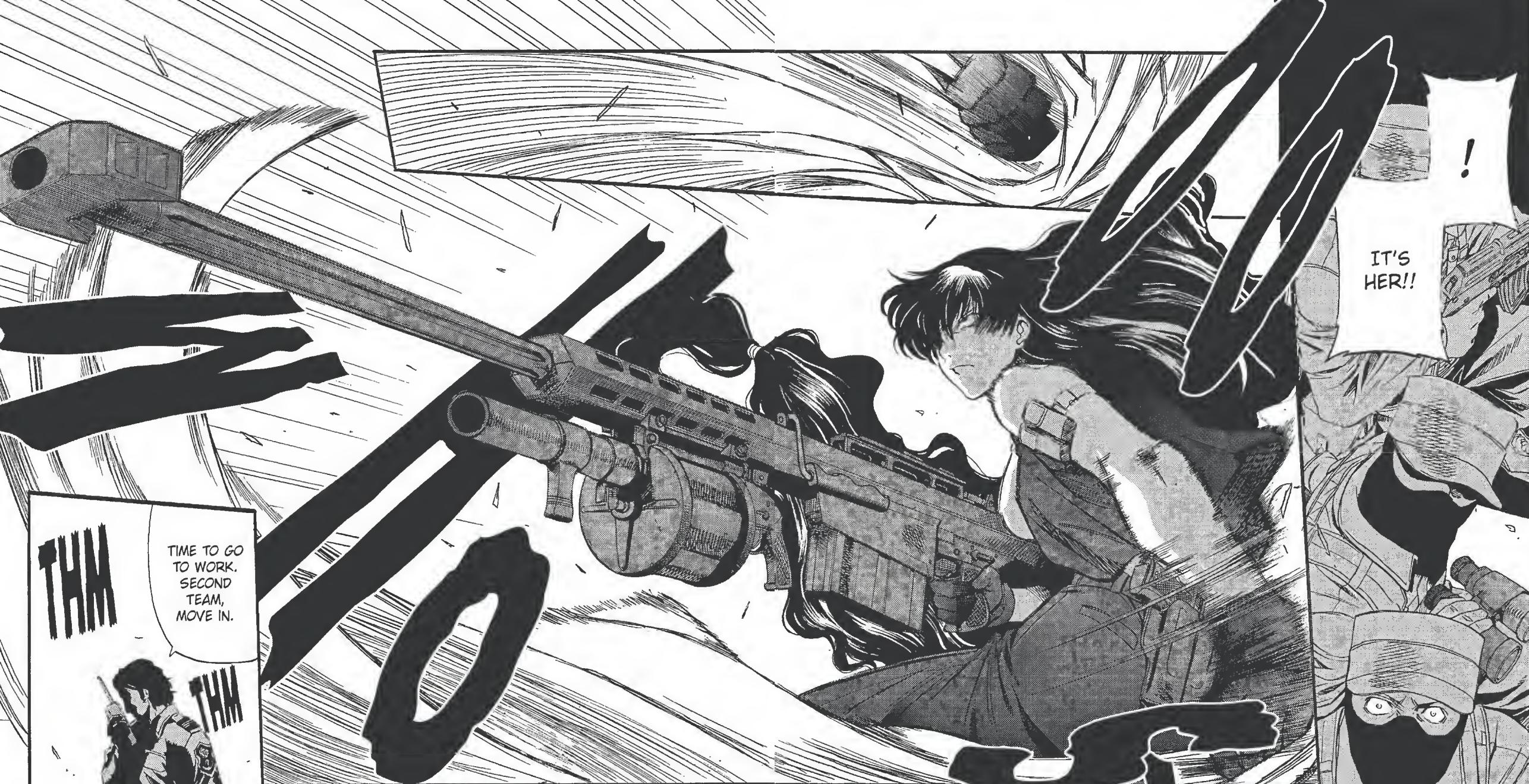


THEY'VE
DETERMINED IT'S
DISADVANTAGEOUS
TO FIGHT IN CLOSE
QUARTERS, SO
THEY'RE...

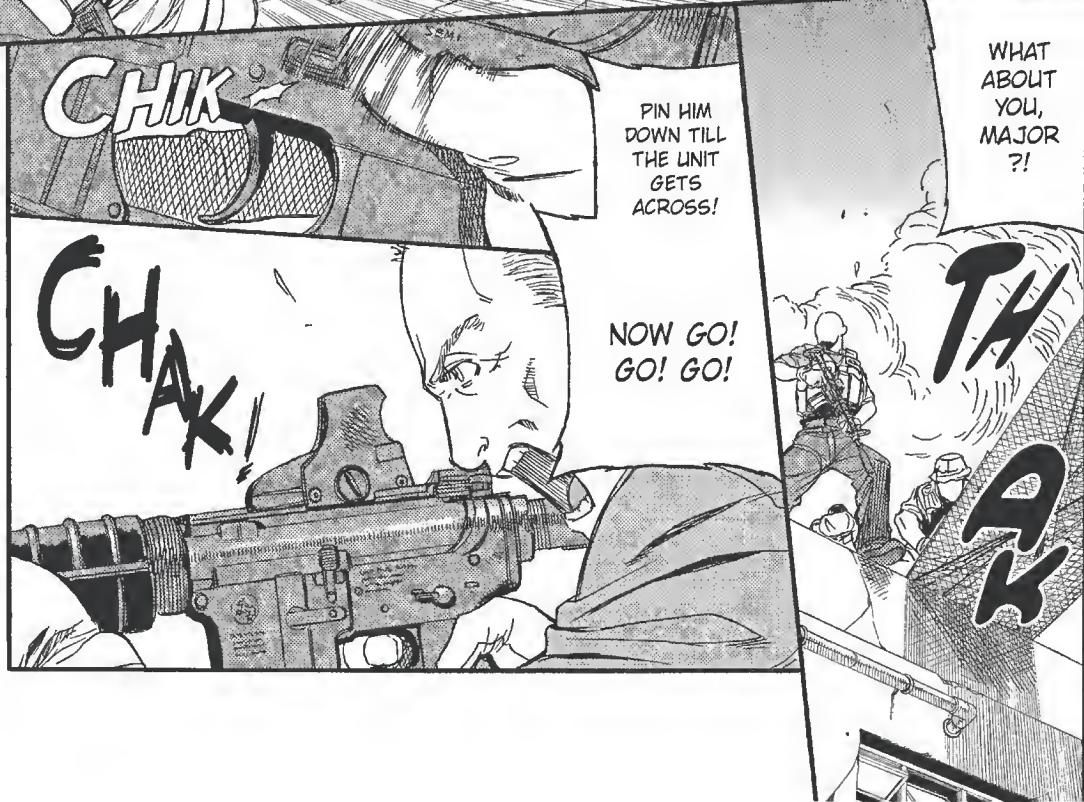
RETREATING
TO THE
ROOF!

THESE GUYS
ARE PROS!













GARCIA.

IT'S UP
TO YOU.

IF YOU
SEE THIS
THROUGH
...

I'LL STICK
WITH YOU TO
THE END.

I HAVE TO
FIND HER.

WELL. THAT
SETTLES IT.

IF
ROBERTA'S
WAITING...

...I'M
GOING.

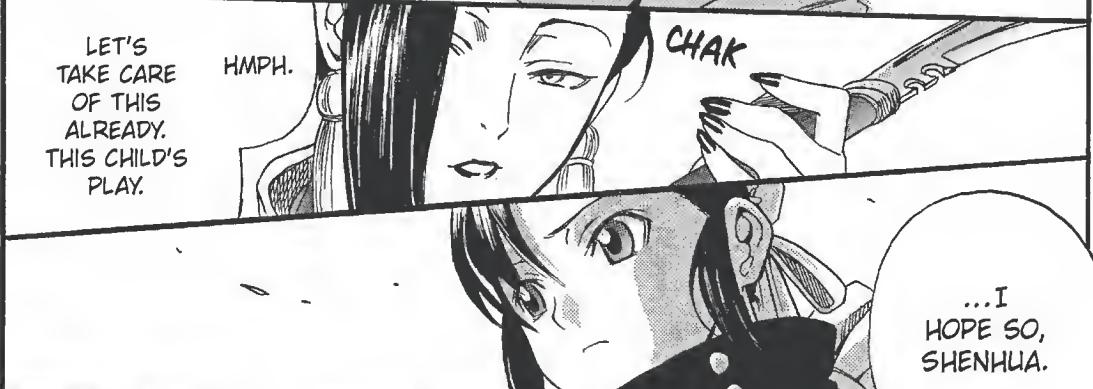
K
T
H
N
K

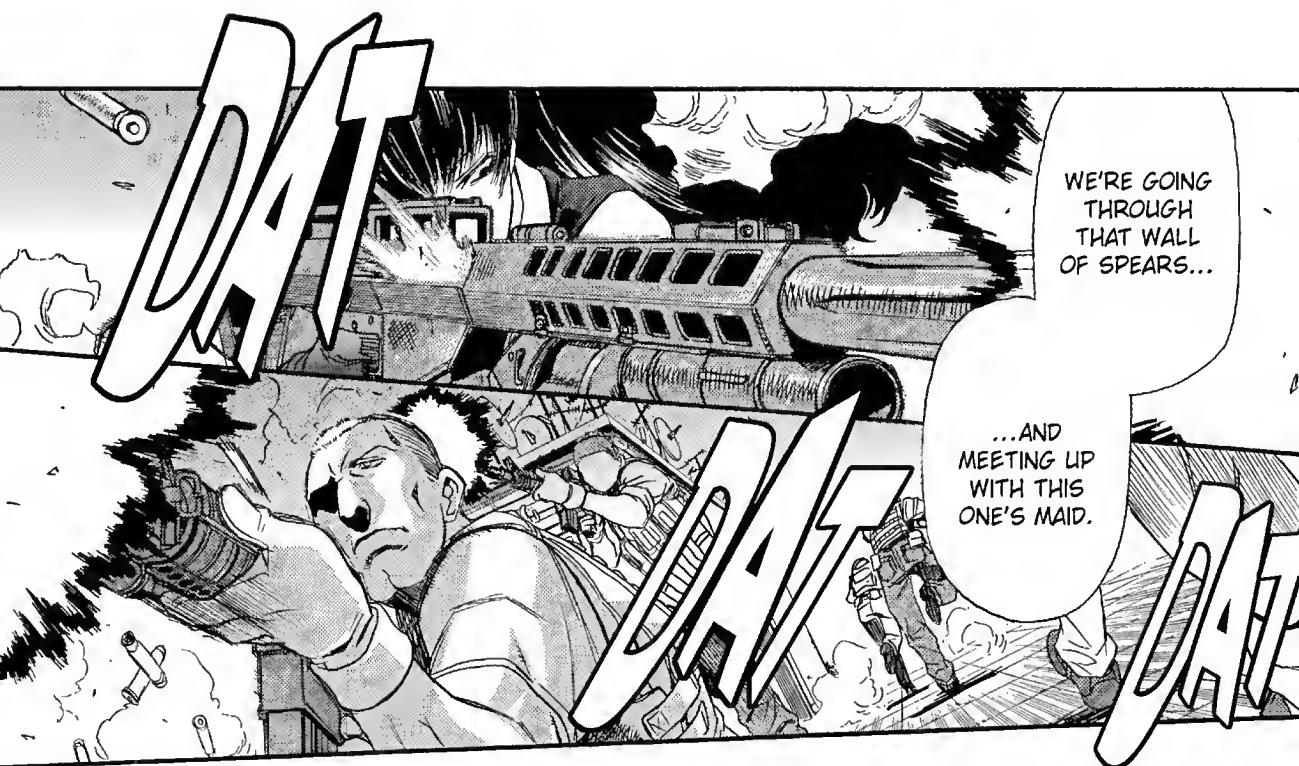
YOU STAY
HERE AND
CONTACT
THE BOAT.

ROCK.
I CAN'T
BE BABY-
SITTING YOU
OUT THERE.

WAY TO GO,
MR. LITTLE
BOY. THAT
SPIRIT OF
OUTLAW!

YOU WANT
BE MY
CHILD?



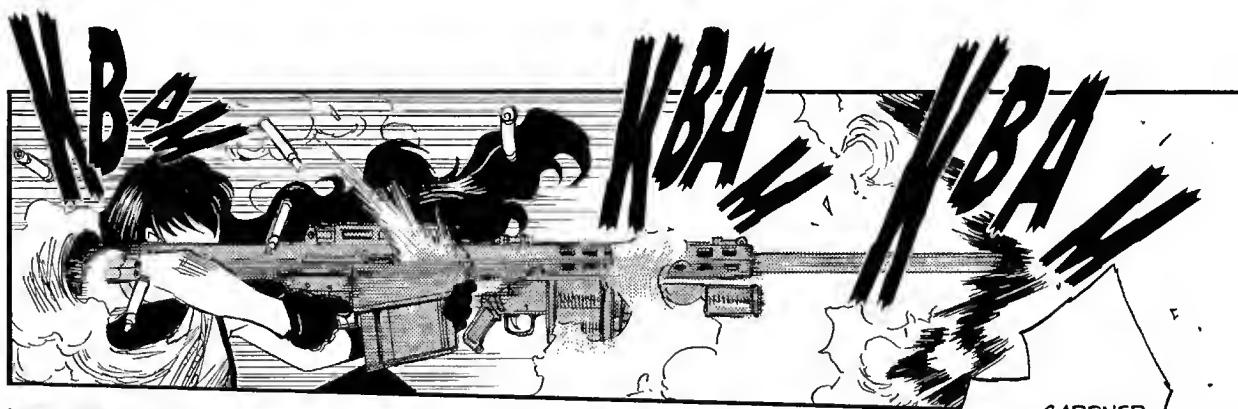


Chapter 59. El Baile de la Muerte – Part XVI









*ORP: OBJECTIVE RALLY POINT



SPLASH

...HEY,
SHORTY.

YES!

WELCOME TO
HELL'S 1ST
AVENUE. YOU
READY?

...THE BAR
WHERE YOU
POPPED YOUR
CHERRY?

THIS AIN'T
GONNA BE
LIKE THE
LAST TIME.

WAS...

HUH?

IT WAS
SHAKING SO
MUCH I
THOUGHT
YOU WERE
TYPING.

...I KNEW
WHEN I
SHOOK
YOUR
HAND.

I'M NOT
SAYING
THAT'S
FOR
CERTAIN.
BUT...

DON'T
GET ME
WRONG.

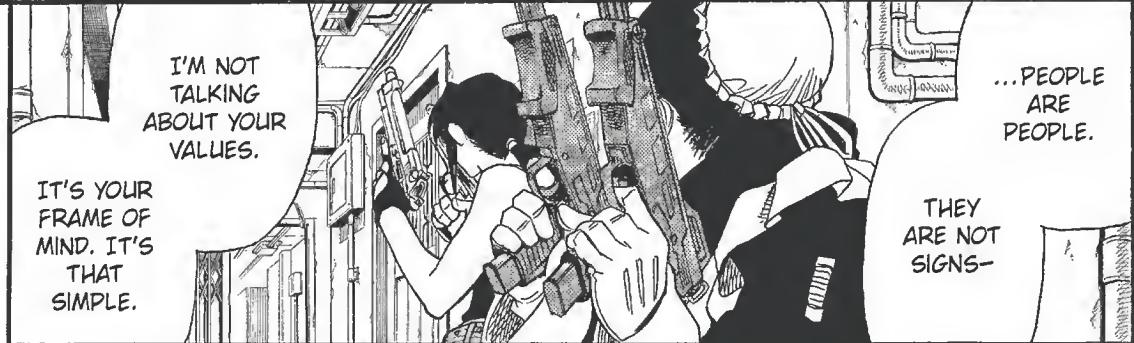
THOSE GUNS OF
YOURS WERE
FOUR EYES'
CHOICE, RIGHT?
SHE KNOWS
HER SHIT.

AND...
ONCE THE
SHOOTING
WAS OVER
AND THINGS
CALMED
DOWN...

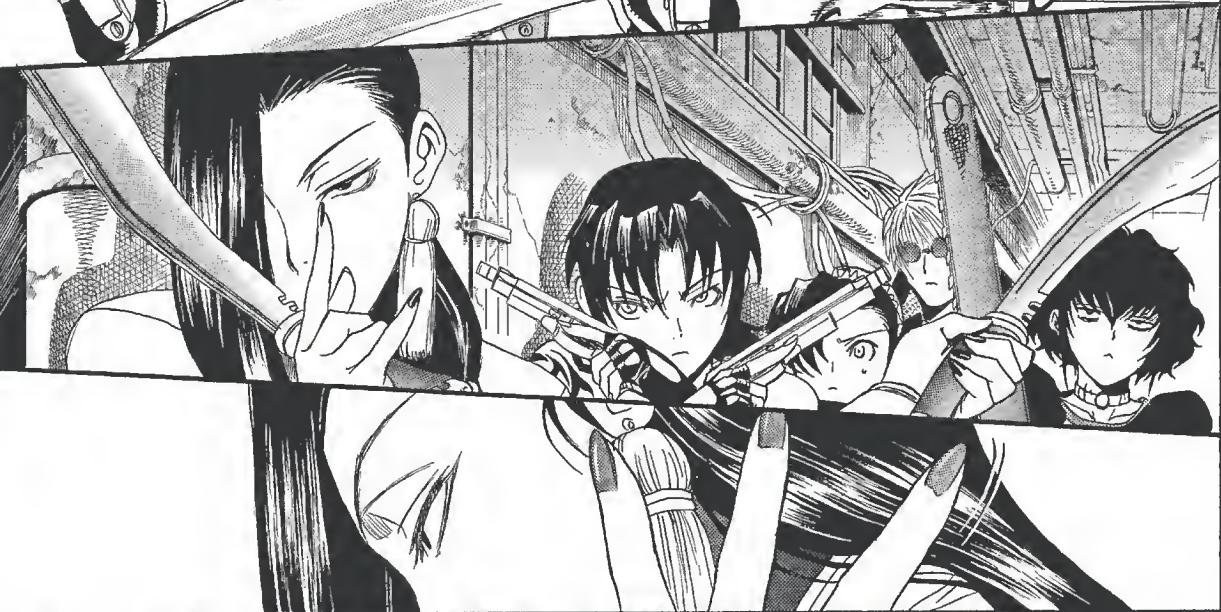
YOUR
KNEES WENT
WEAK...

THAT
BASICALLY
TELLS ME
YOU DON'T
HAVE THE
CONTROL TO
PULL OFF A
SINGLE-SHOT
KILL.

THOSE
THINGS
ARE FOR
SPRAYING.



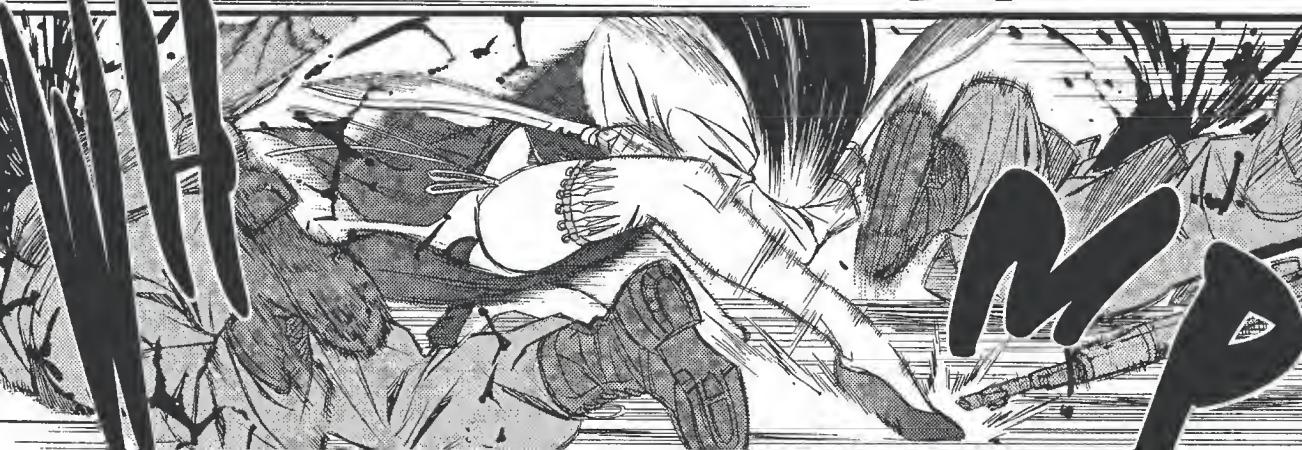


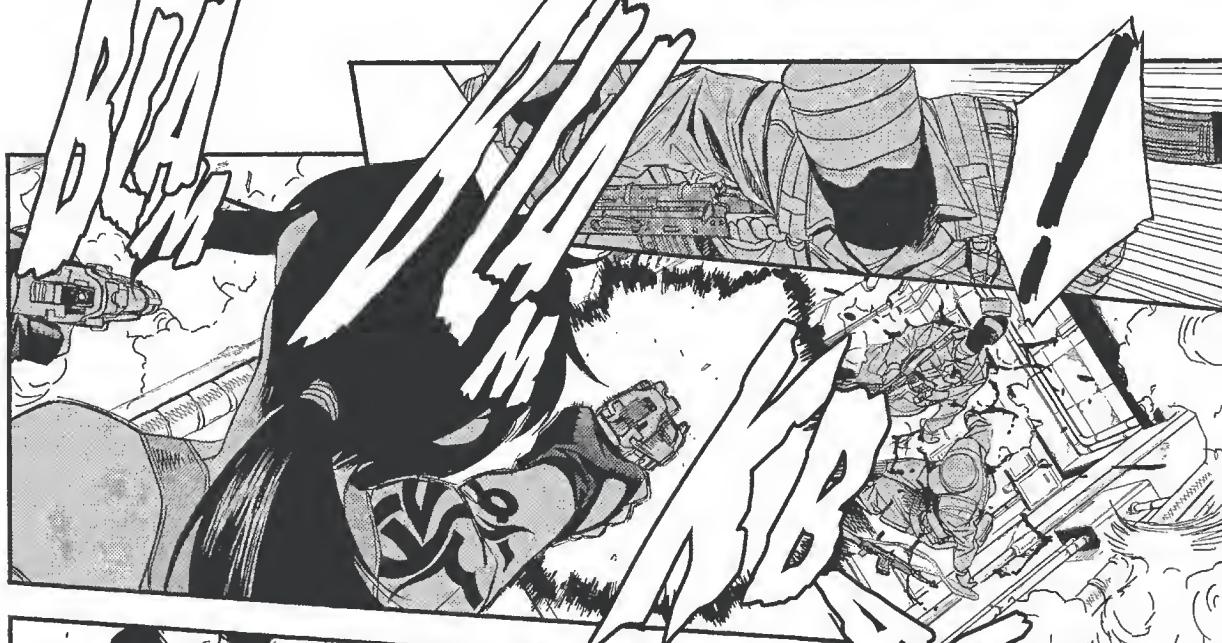


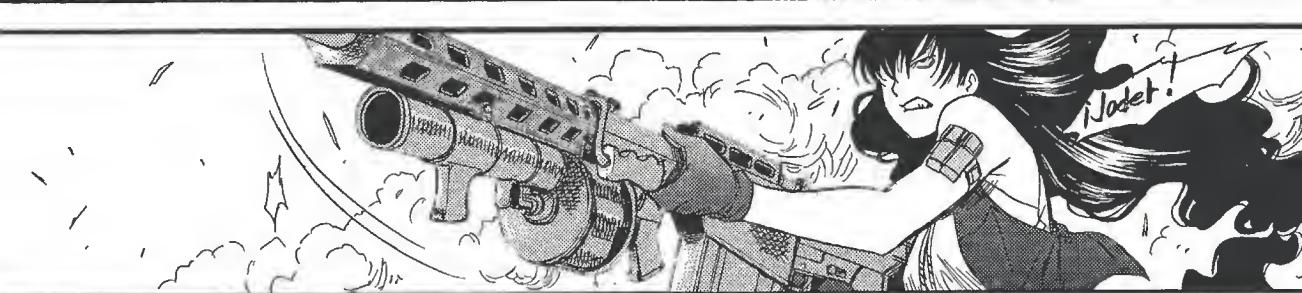


SHENHUA!

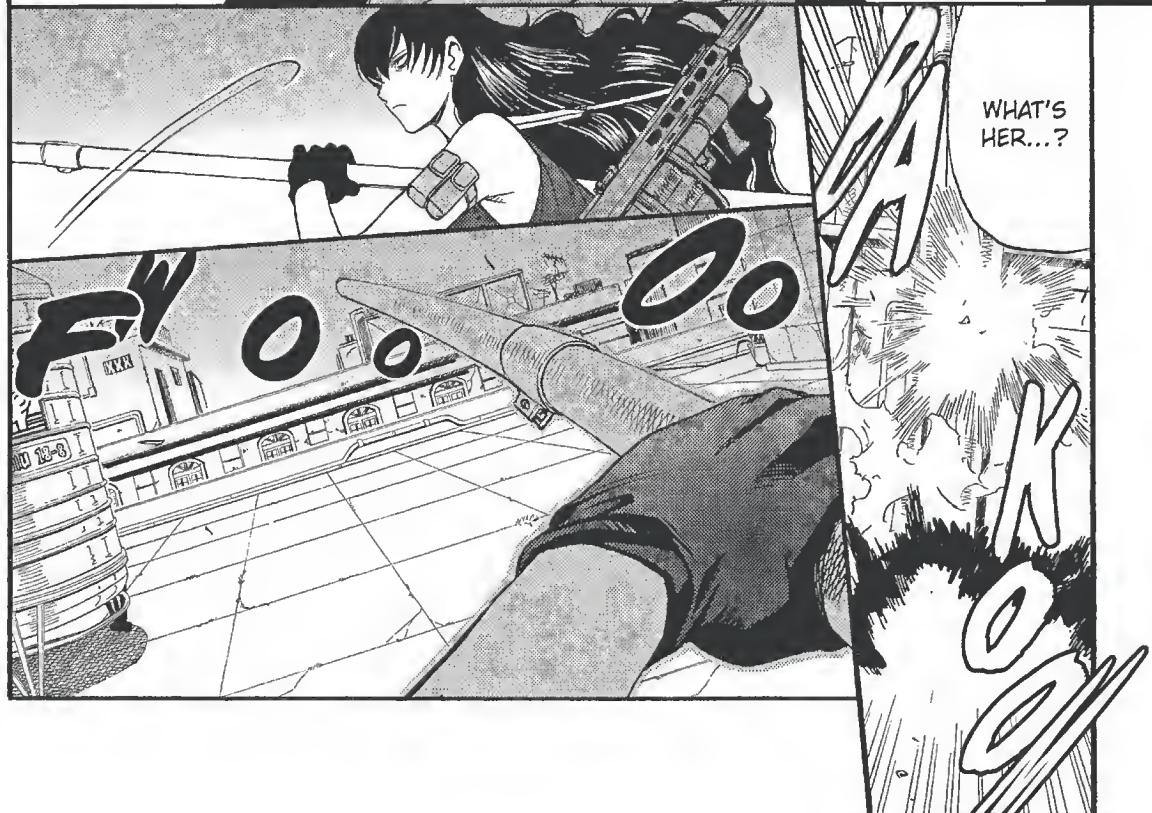
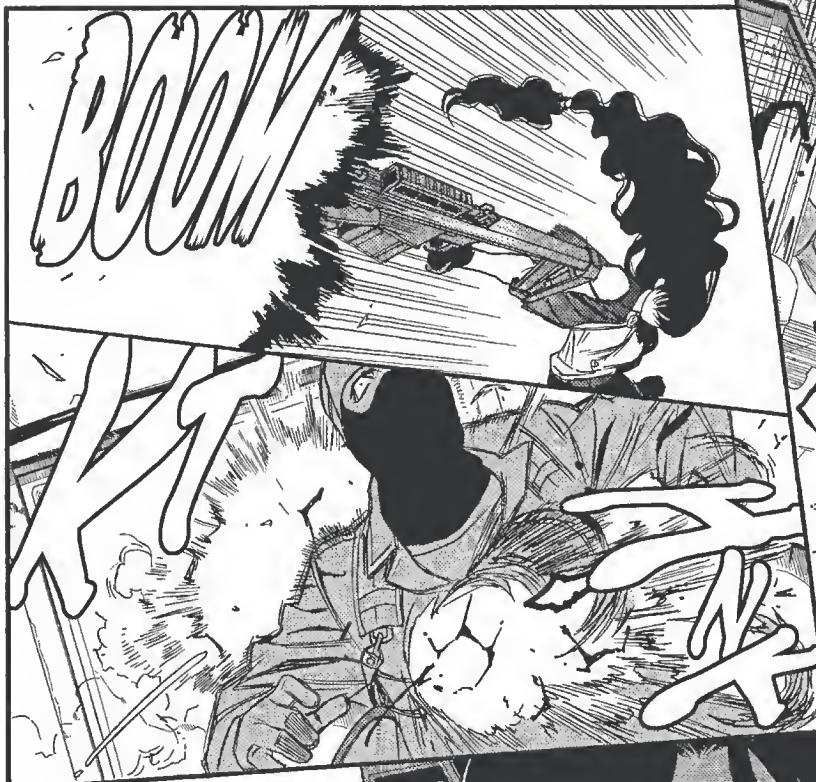
MOW 'EM
DOWN!

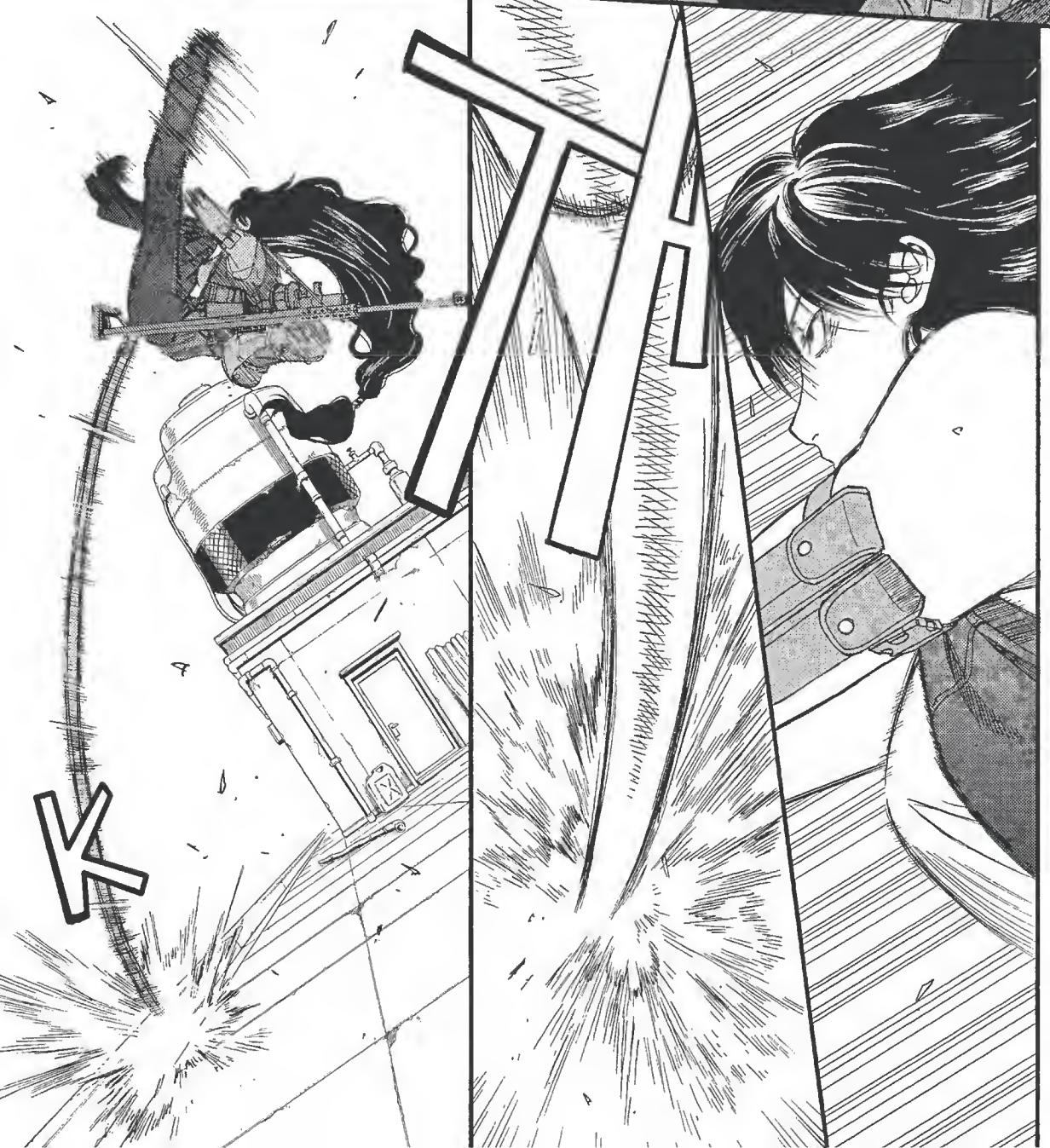




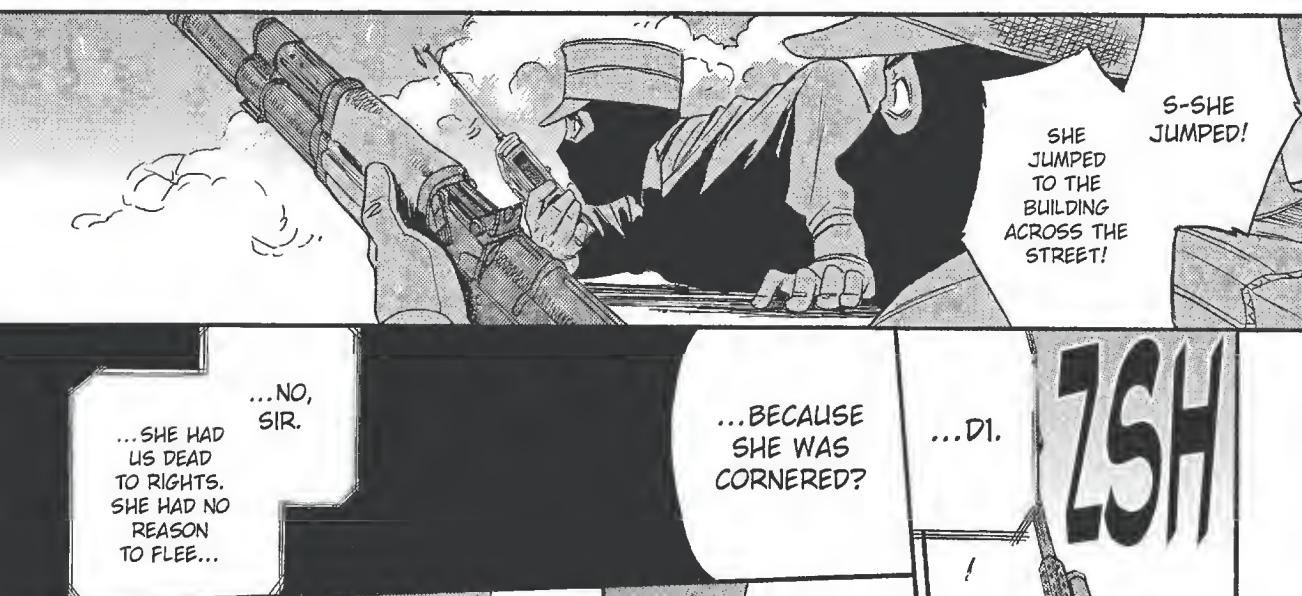
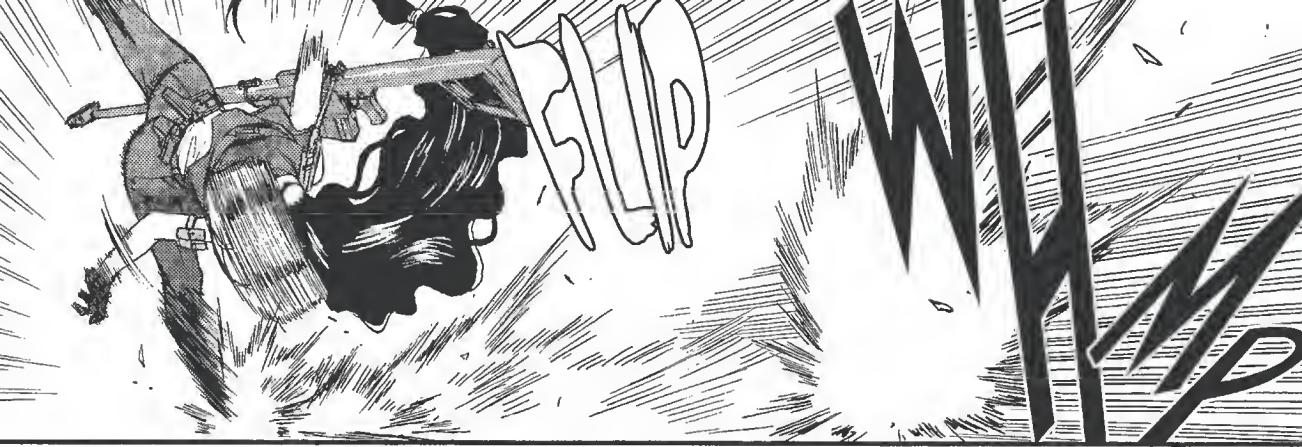








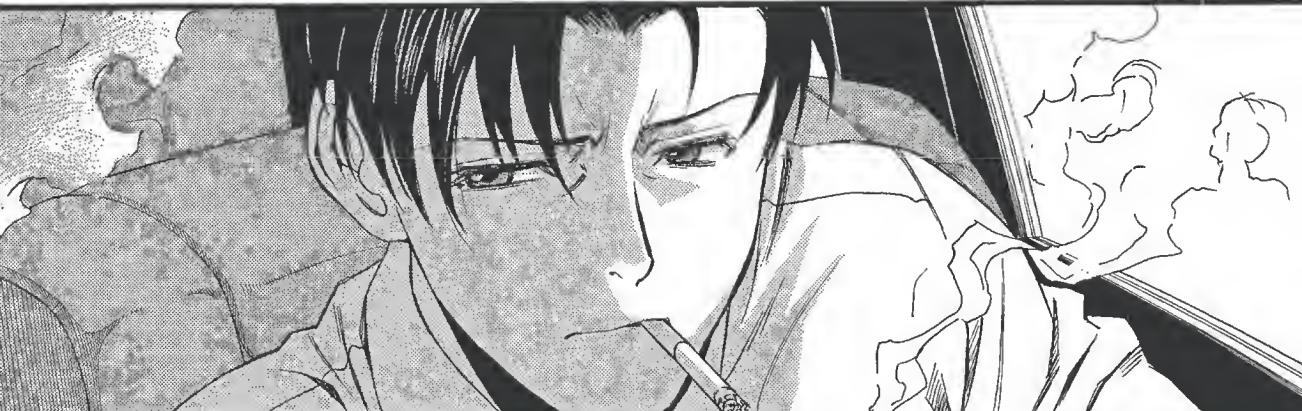
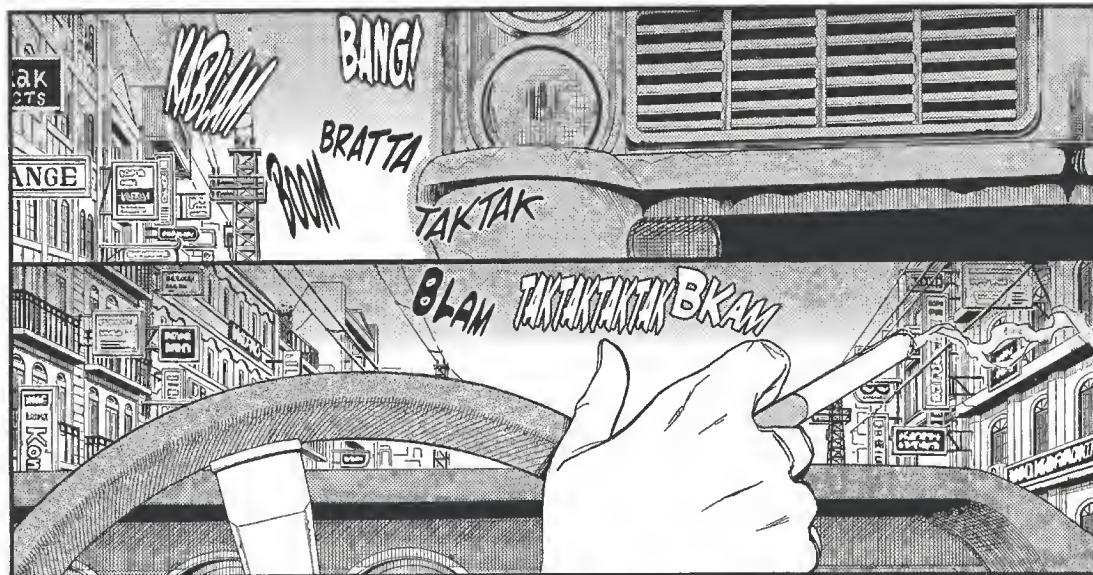






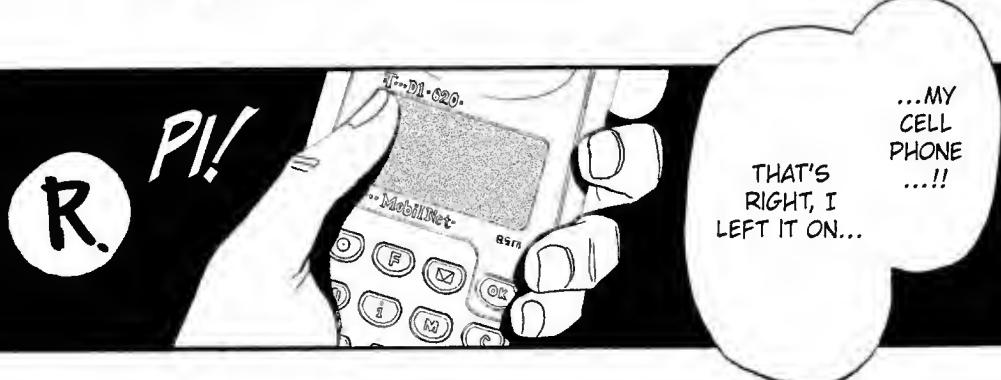
THE
CARTEL'S
KEPT
SECRETS
FROM US
TOO.

CONTACT
ABREGO.





Chapter 60: El Baile de la Muerte - Part XVII



IT'S ME.

LOOKS LIKE
YOU GUYS
WERE TOO
LATE, ROCK.

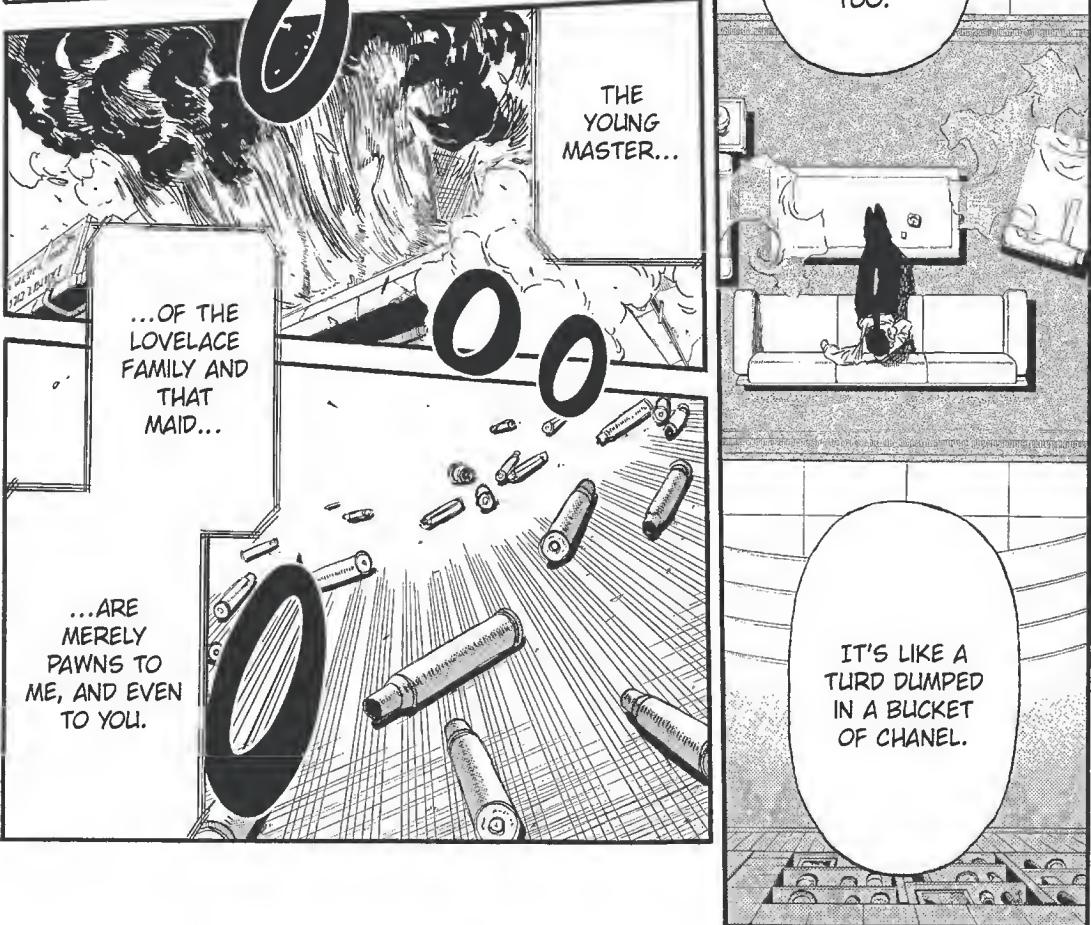
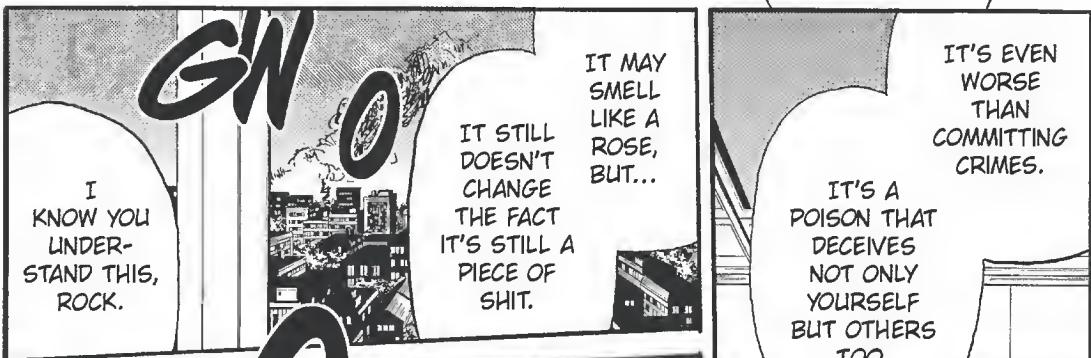
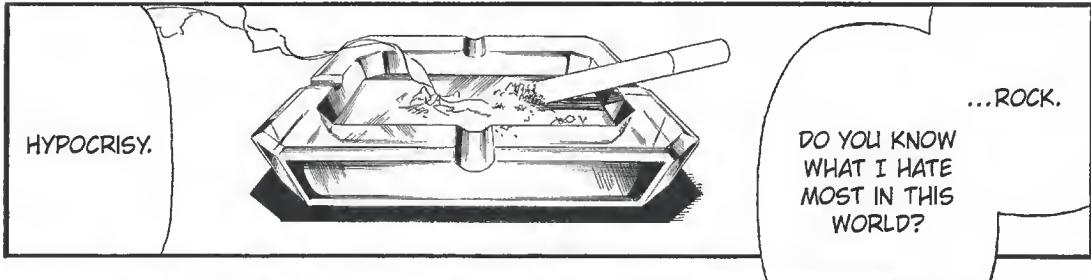
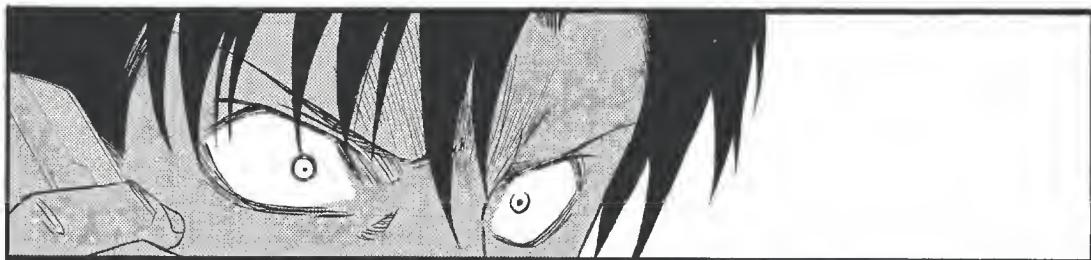
WE'LL
HANDLE IT
FROM HERE.
I'M SORRY,
BUT...

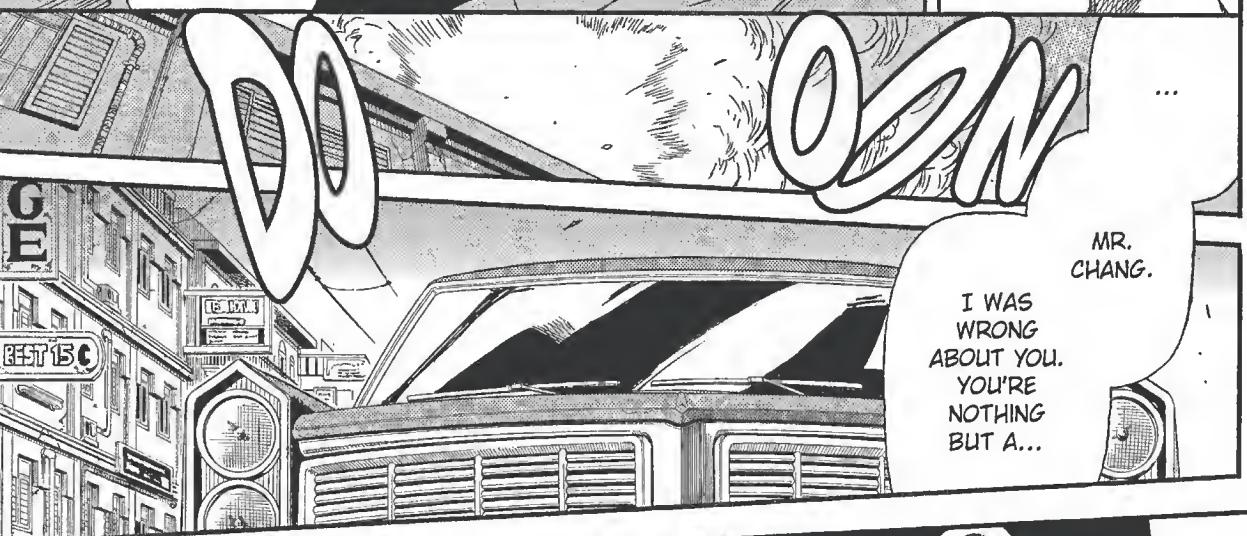
IT'S TIME
FOR YOU
TO CLOSE
UP SHOP.
DUTCH IS
PROBABLY
GETTING
ANGRY BY
NOW.

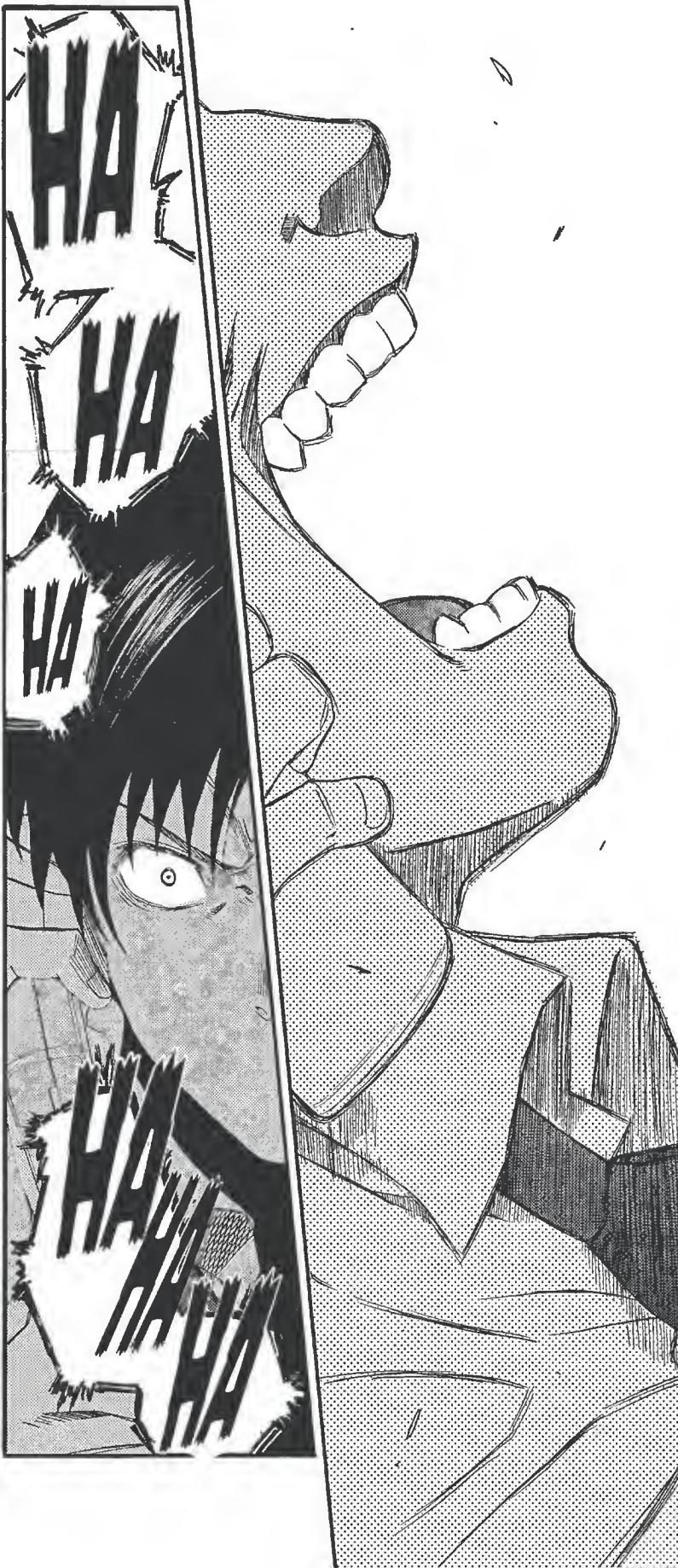
I CAN SEE IT
FROM HERE.
THE BET'S
OFF.

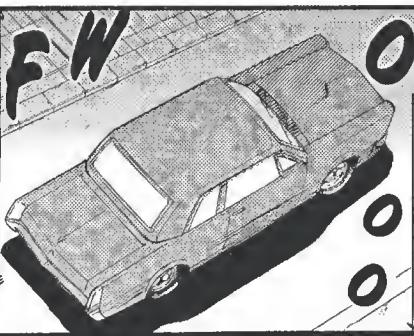
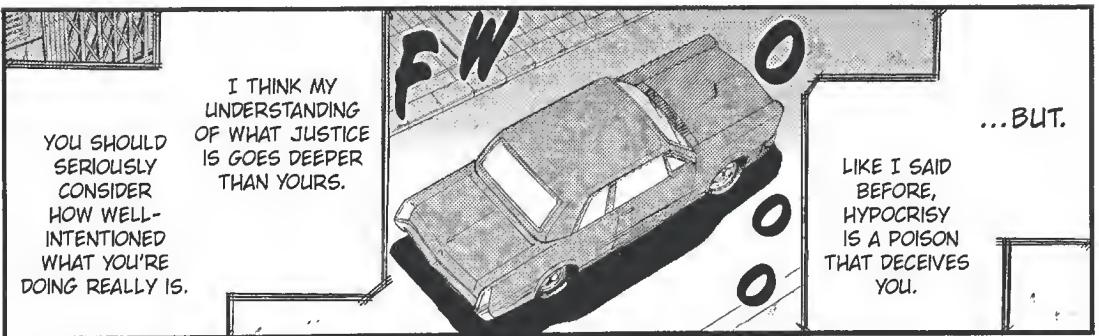
I'LL LET YOU
KNOW HOW IT
ENDS. GOOD
WORK.











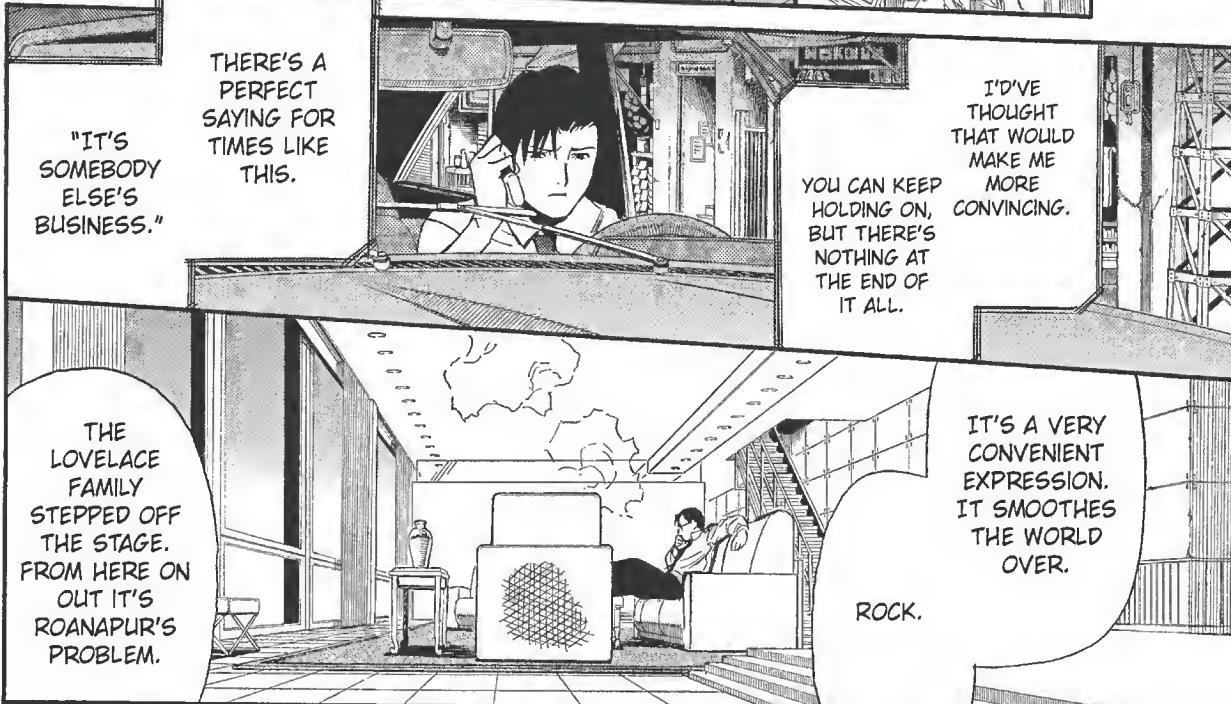
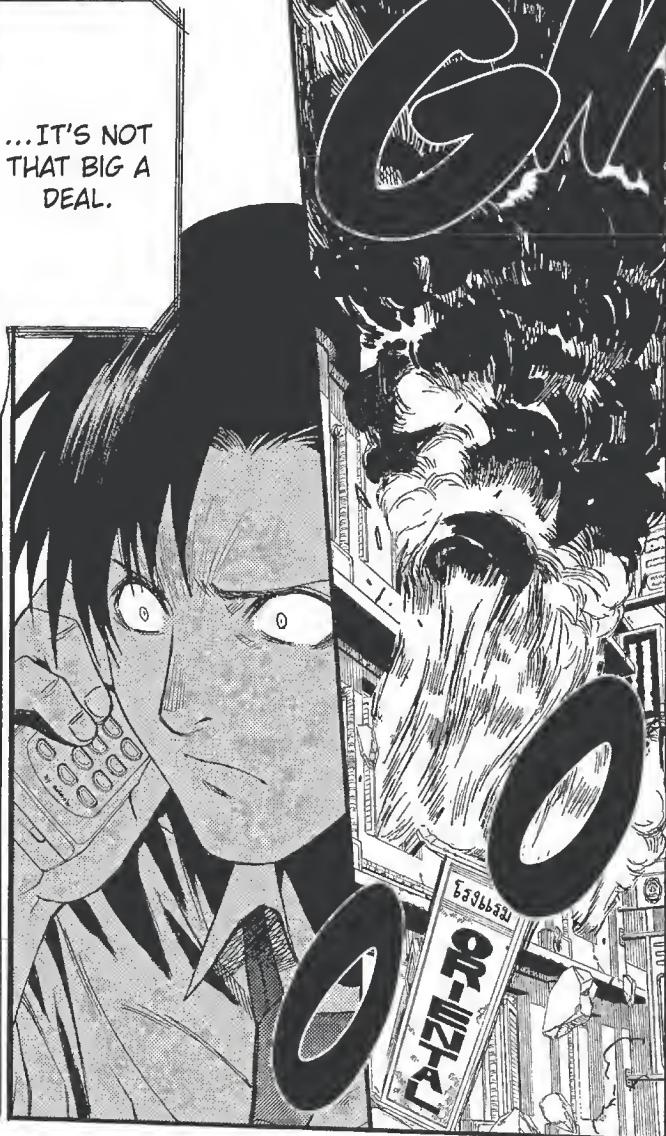
...BUT.

LIKE I SAID BEFORE, HYPOCRISY IS A POISON THAT DECEIVES YOU.



...YOU'RE A GANGSTER.





IT'S UP TO THEM TO DECIDE WHEN THEY WANT OUT.

THEY'RE STILL ALIVE.

...I WON'T LET YOU END THIS.

MR. CHANG.

I ACT WITH THE TOWN'S SURVIVAL AS A PRIORITY.

IT'S UP TO ME, ROCK.

I DON'T THINK YOU CAN TURN THIS DICE GAME AROUND.

ALTHOUGH ...

IF YOU INSIST ON CONTINUING THIS GAME, DO AS YOU PLEASE.

BUT...

AND AFTER WHAT YOU JUST SAID TO ME...

I WANT TO SEE YOU PROVE YOU'RE NOT SPINELESS.

BUT STICK A NOTE ON IT THAT SAYS, "YOU WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH ME."



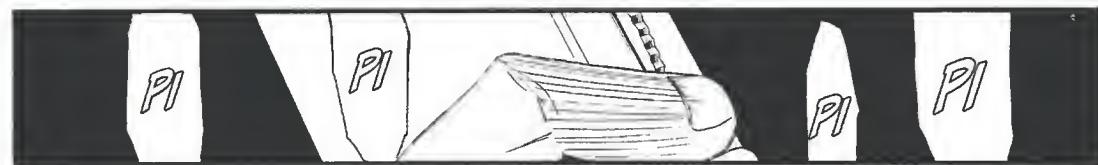
YOU MISINTERPRET THAT AND IT'LL END IN TRAGEDY FOR BOTH OF US.

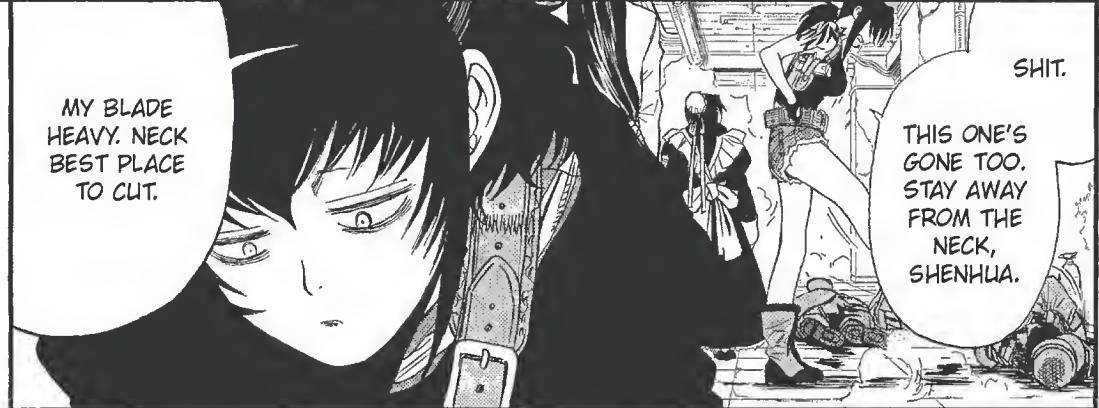
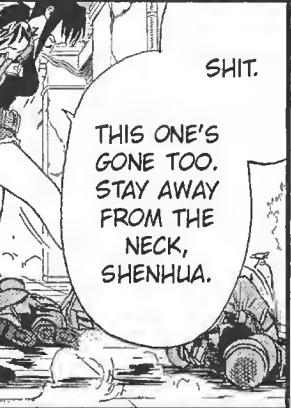
...ROCK.
YOU REMEMBER WHAT I TOLD YOU.

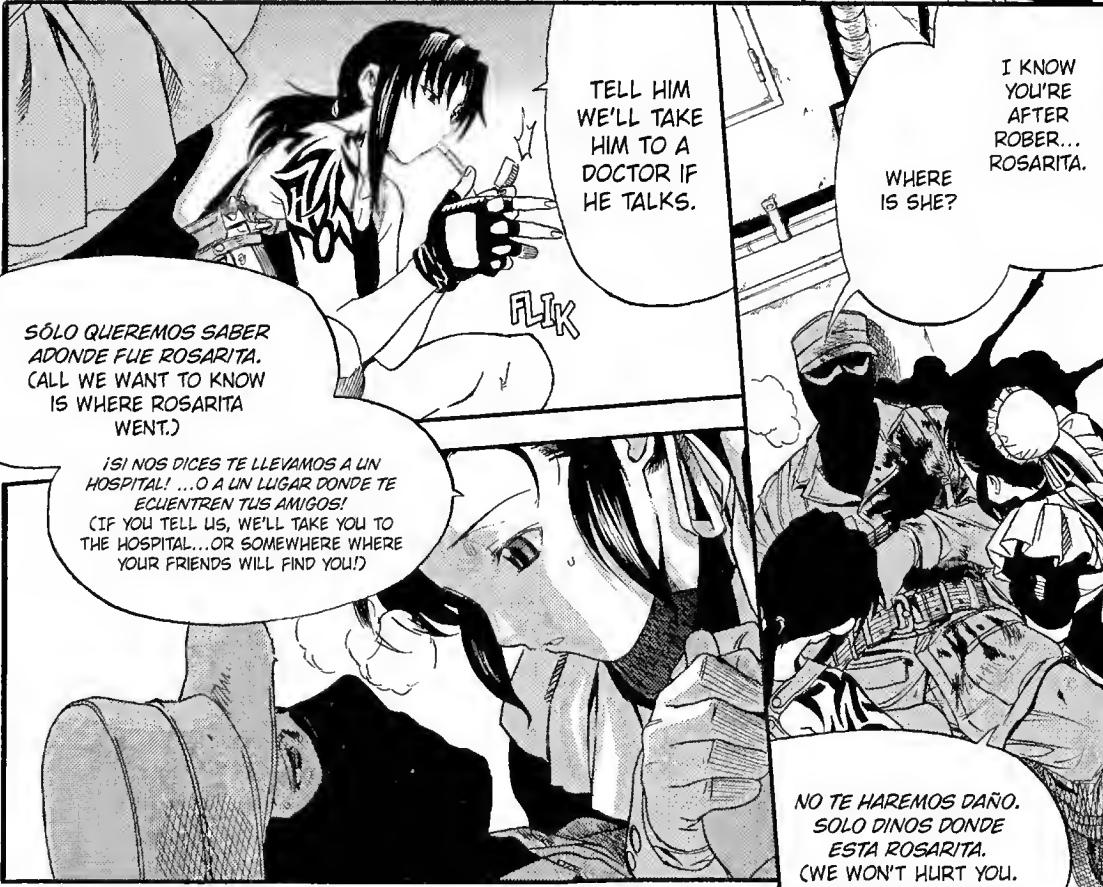


I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR NEXT MOVE.

BE EP







ELLA... PERSIGUE A
ALGUIEN.
(SHE... IS CHASING
SOMEONE.)

MI COMANDANTE ENVÍO UN
ESCUADRÓN POR ELLA.
(MY COMMANDER SENT A
SQUAD AFTER HER.)

ROSARITA CORRIÓ HACIA EL EDIFICIO
DE ENFRENTE. Y VA HACIA LA
INTERSECCIÓN EN LA CALLE OESTE...
(ROSARITA WENT INTO THE BUILDING
ACROSS THE STREET. SHE'S HEADED
TOWARD THE INTERSECTION TO THE
WEST.)

¿VOY A... VIVIR?
WILL I... LIVE?

¡QUE DIOS TE BENDIGA Y SE
APIADE DE TU ALMA!
MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND
TAKE PITY ON YOUR SOUL.





WHAT'RE
YOU DOING,
SHORTY?

LET'S CUT
OUT THE
BACK-

FABIOLA!

YOU GOT
THE BUSINESS
END OF THAT
WEAPON
POINTED
AT ME.

I WONDER
WHY THAT
IS?

HEY...

HEY.

SO WHY
THE HELL
DID YOU
SHOOT
HIM?!

THE
FIGHT
WAS
OVER.

WHAT WAS
THAT FOR?

BUT YOU
SHOT HIM.

IF WE TOOK
HIM TO THE
HOSPITAL, IT
WAS 60/40
HE WOULD'VE
DIED.

IT
IS.

WHAT'RE
YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

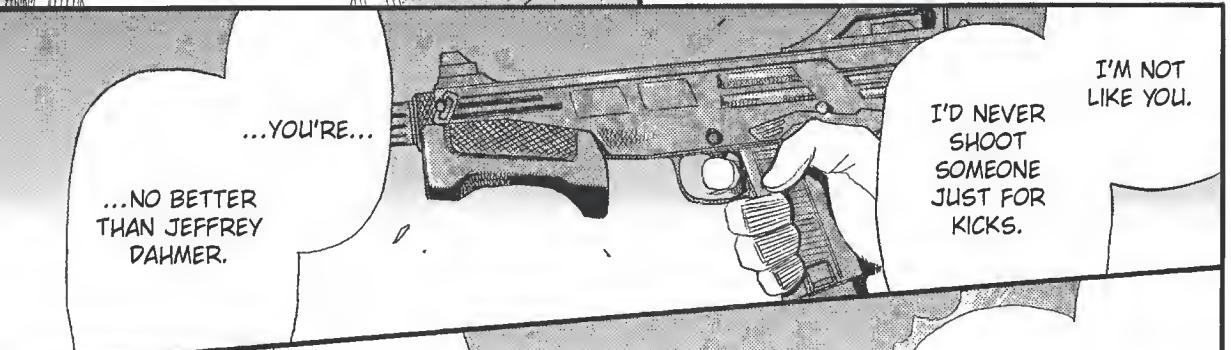
THAT WASN'T
SELF-DEFENSE.
WHAT YOU
DID WAS
ANIQUILACIÓN*!

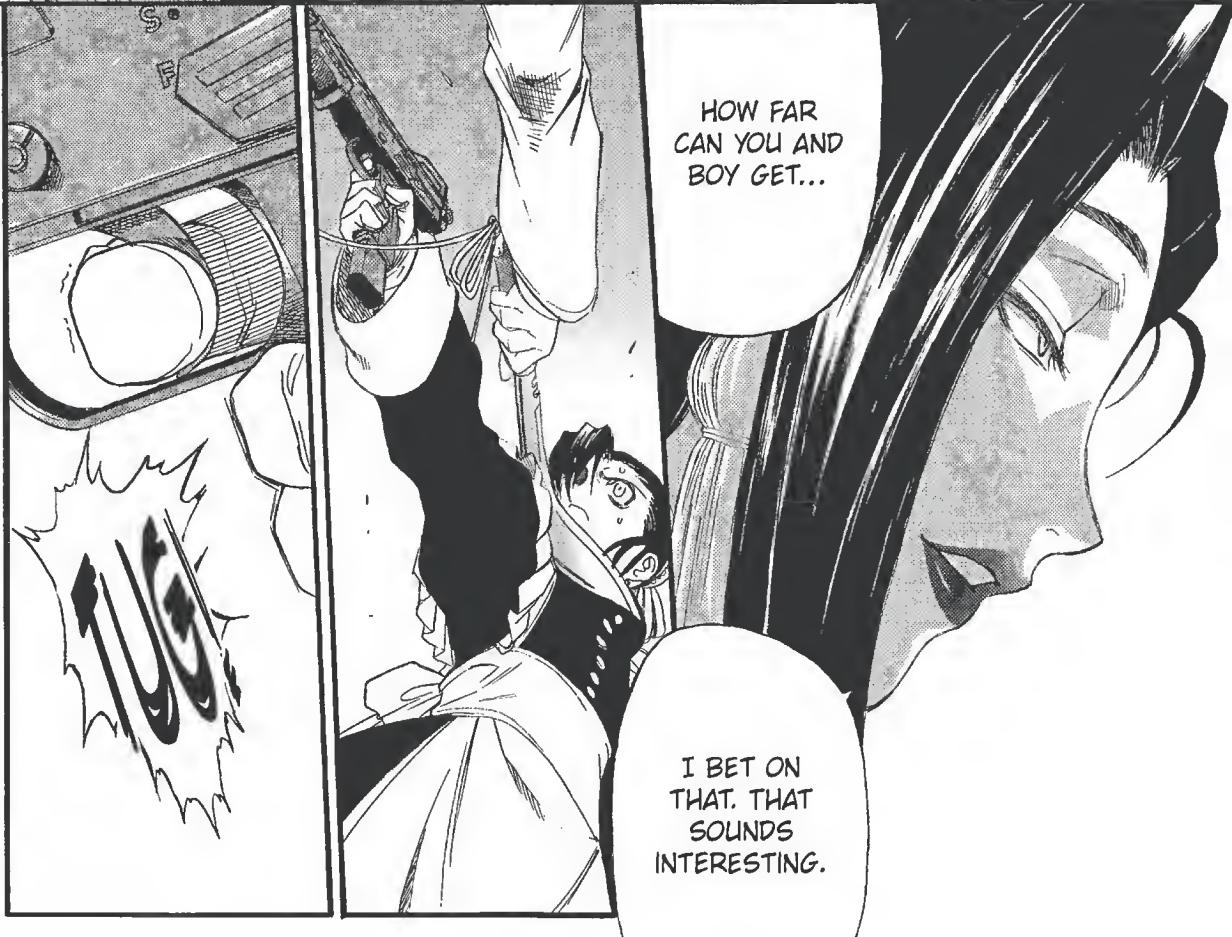
HE WAS
DYING.
HE WAS
DESPERATE
TO BE
SAVED.

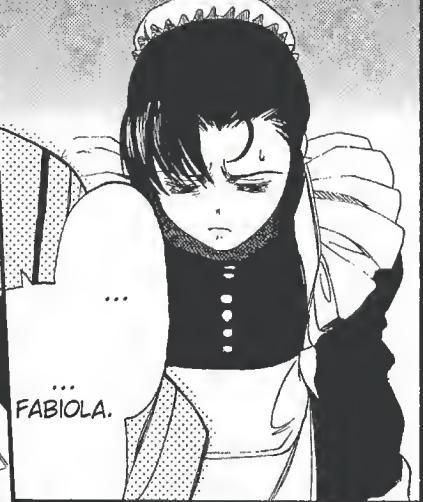
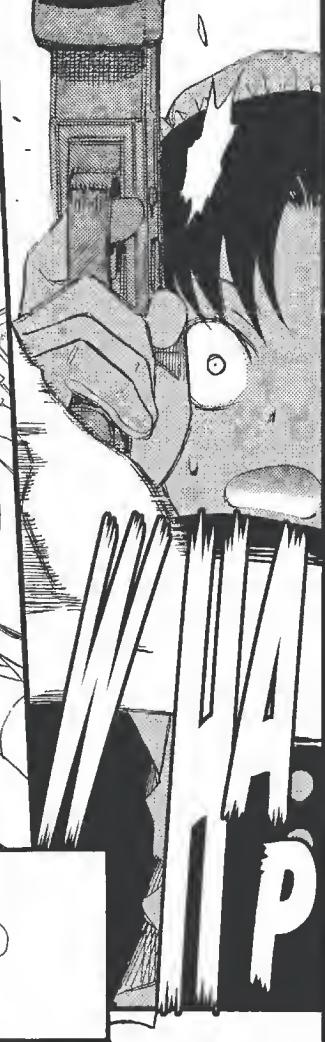
BUT...

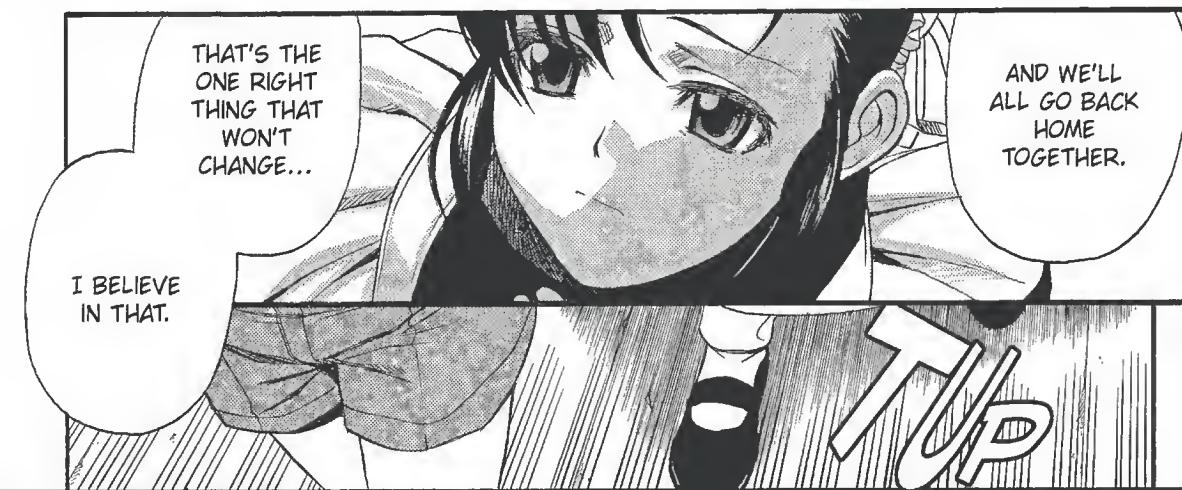
ISN'T IT LIKE
THAT IN THE
BARRIO?

YOU LEAVE
'EM HALF
DEAD AND I
PROMISE YOU
YOU'LL HAVE
TO TAKE
THEM ON
AGAIN.



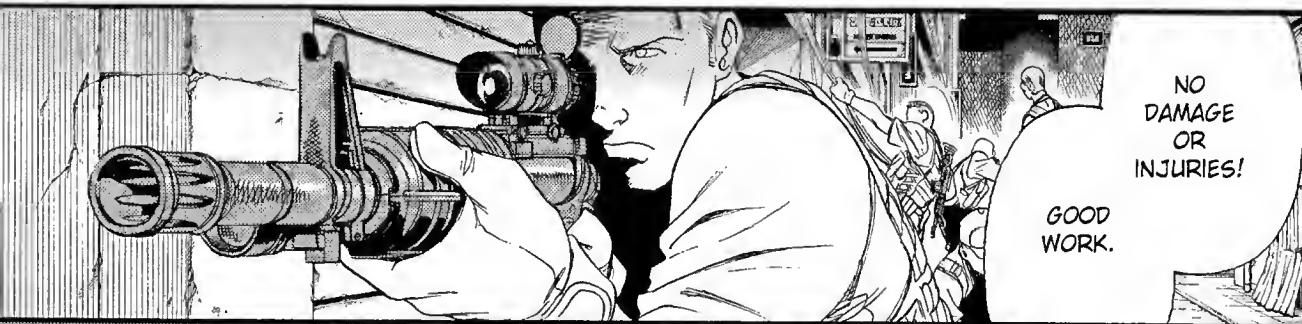




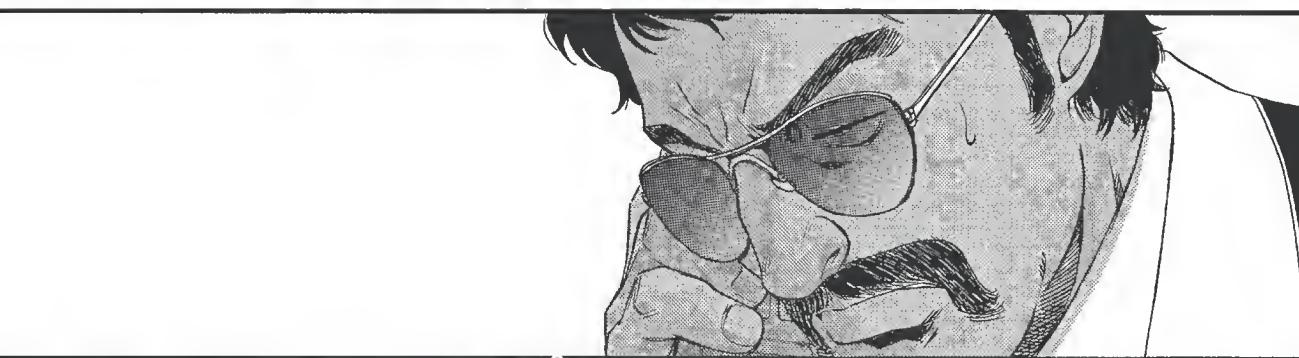
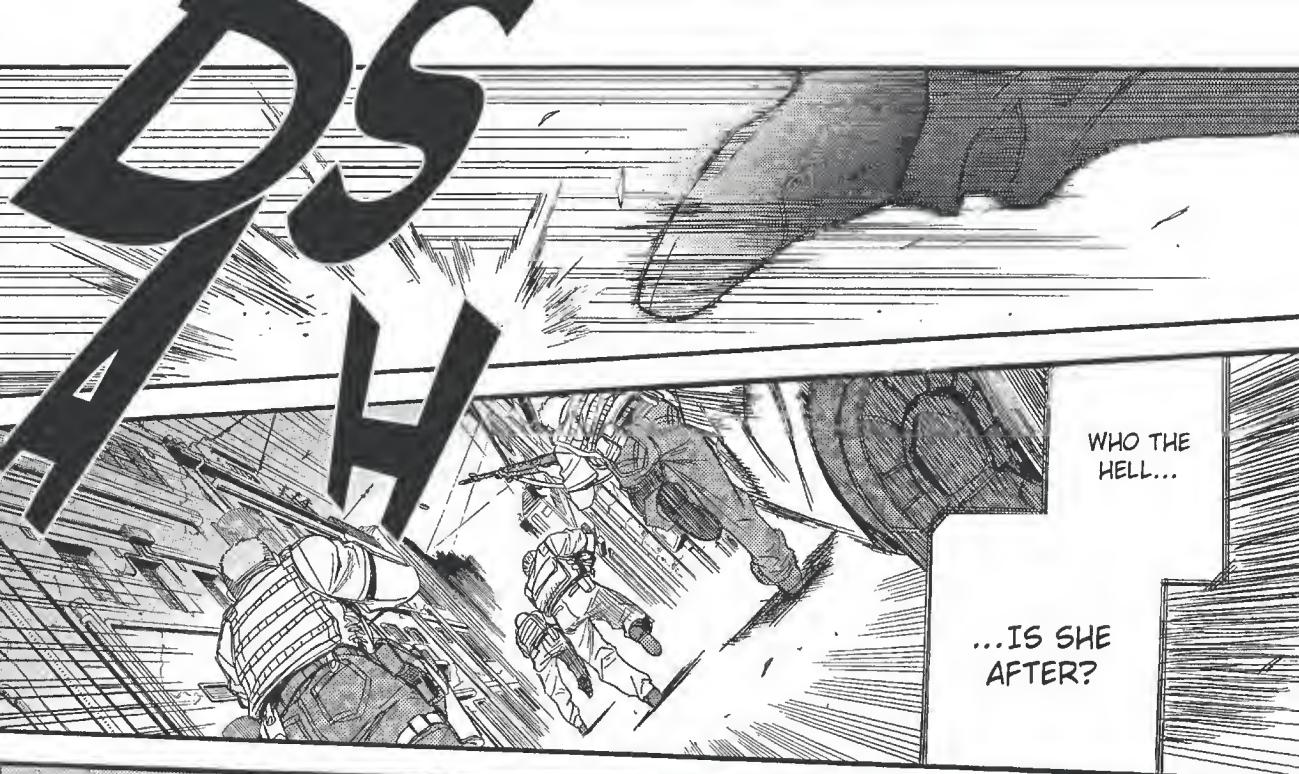


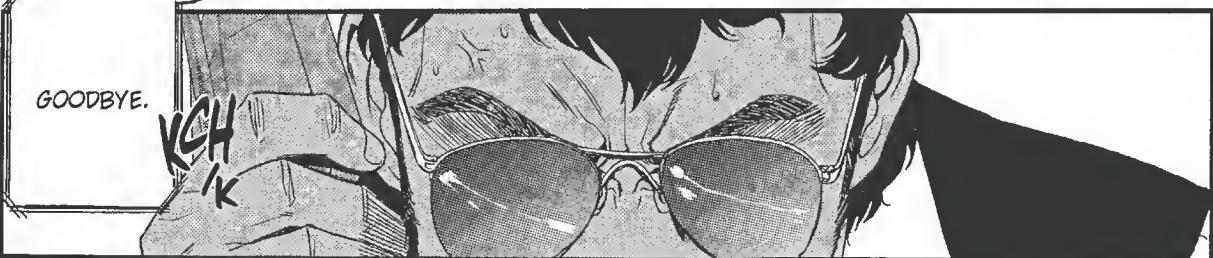


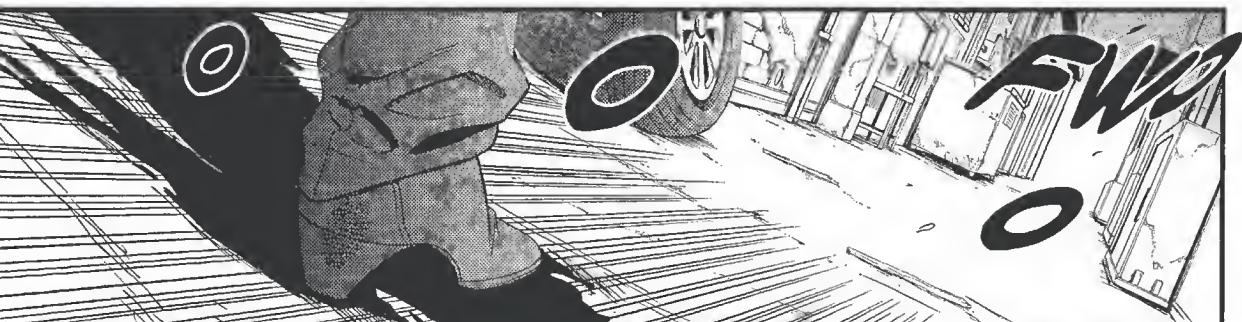
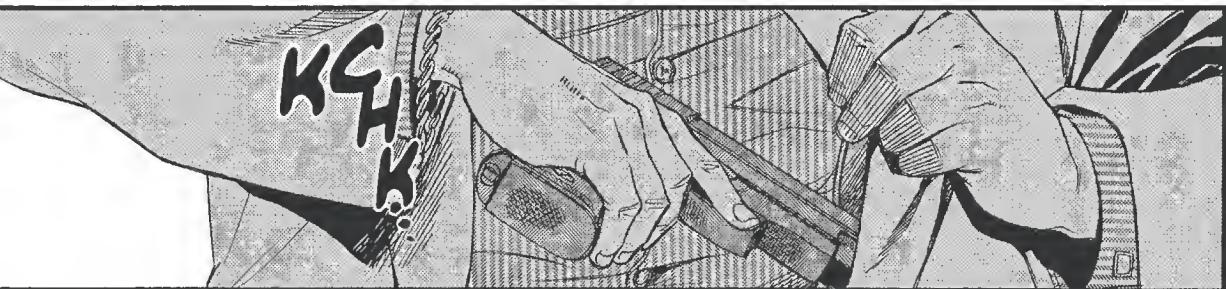
Chapter 61: El Baile de la Muerte - Part XVIII

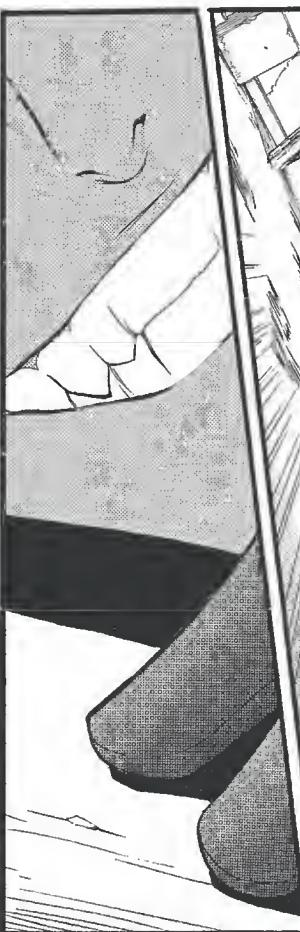


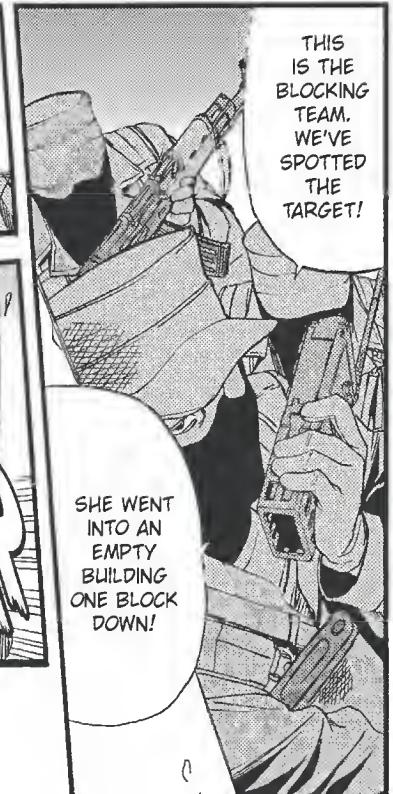
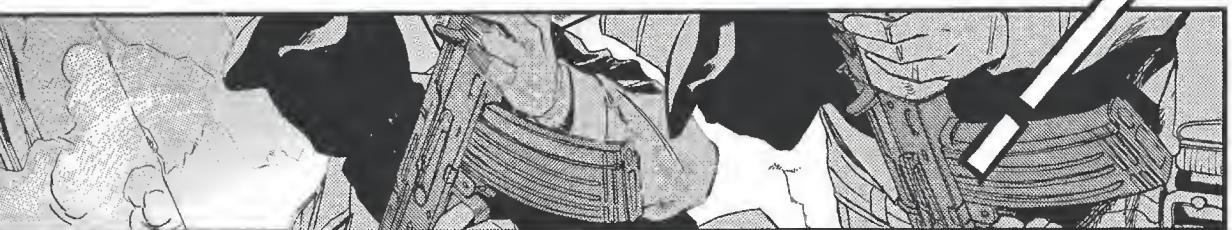












YO,
WAIT!

WE'RE
GONNA KEEP
GOING?! WE
ONLY GOT—

BUGSY
WENT TO
STRAIGHTEN
THIS OUT.

THIS JOB'S
NOT OVER
UNTIL HE GETS
BACK. AND
BESIDES...

KTM
WE PULL
BACK
NOW...

SHUT UP,
JOSÉ!

THE GUYS
WOULDA DIED
FOR NOTHING!



ANOTHER
WALL OF
SPEARS.

THE
FUCKERS IN
THIS TOWN
REALLY LIKE
SHOOTING
SHIT UP.

WHAT DO
YOU SAY TO
GUYS WITH
OVERHEATED
2-DOLLAR
BRAINS
CARRYING
250-DOLLAR
GUNS...

...BESIDES,
THEY ONLY
SPEAK
SPANISH.

YOU'D
BE BETTER
OFF TALKING
TO A FIRE
EXTINGUISHER.

AIYA,
THIS NO
GOOD.

MAYBE
WE CAN
SWEET-
TALK OUR
WAY PAST
THEM?

DOESN'T
MATTER,
WHICHEVER
BUNCH
MAKES THE
FIRST MOVE.

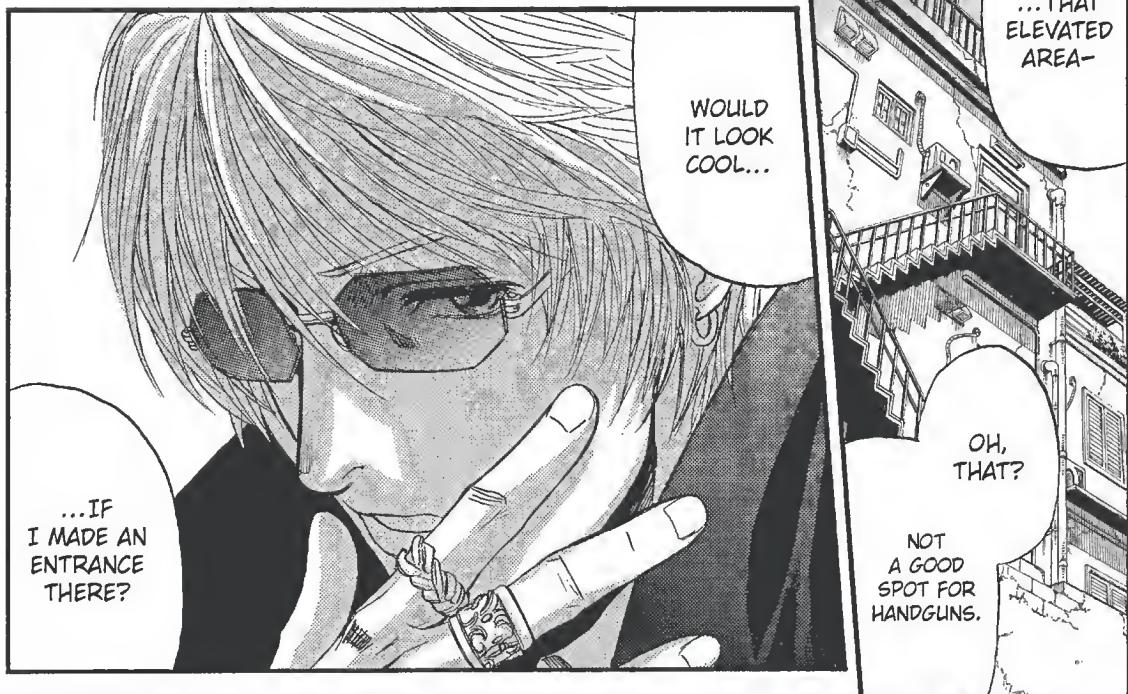
OK, WE
SHOOT
THEM.

...WHICH
ONE...?

WHAT
DO YOU
WANNA
KNOW?

OH,
YOU CAN
TALK?

...I DON'T
MIND
CHARGING
IN.
...BUT I
WANT TO
ASK ONE
QUESTION.





YOU'RE JUST
A DOG NO
MATTER WHAT
YOU MIGHT
THINK.



IF YOU'RE
SERIOUS
ABOUT
SAVING
YOUR YOUNG
MASTER...



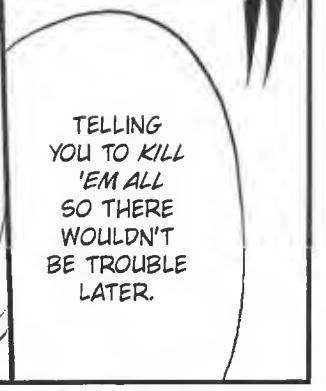
THAT WAS
THE BEAST
INSIDE YOU
TALKING.



I'M TELLING
YOU OUTTA THE
GOODNESS OF
MY HEART, THIS
IS IT. AFTER
THIS YOU GOTTA
WIPE YOUR OWN
ASS.



THAT SHIT
ONLY FLIES
IN PLACES
WHERE LOVE
AND
FRIENDSHIP
ACTUALLY
MATTER.



TELLING
YOU TO KILL
'EM ALL
SO THERE
WOULDN'T
BE TROUBLE
LATER.



THIS
PARTY'S
ROCKIN'
AND WE'RE
GOONA BE
LATE.



EVER
SEE THE
MAGNIFICENT
SEVEN?



CREAK





SHOOT
ANYTHING
THAT
MOVES!
THEY'RE
ALL
ENEMIES!
FIRE!

WE GOT
A NEW
THREAT!

WHO
ARE
THEY?!



GOD ONLY
SITS ON
HIGH AND
OBSERVES.

THERE-
FORE...

MY GUN KILLS ITS
TARGET WITHOUT
DISCRIMINATION!

...THERE ARE
NONE BUT I
TO PUNISH
THE WICKED IN
HIS STEAD.

YOU VILLAINS
WHO WOULD
POINT
SINISTER
BLADES AT
A CHILD...

...BENEATH
THIS PALE
BLUE
MOONLIGHT.

STOP!



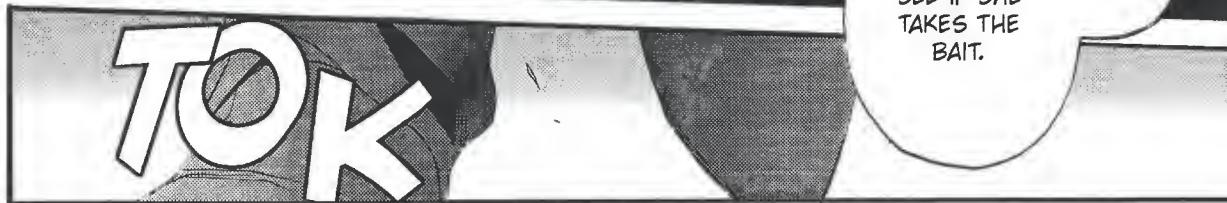
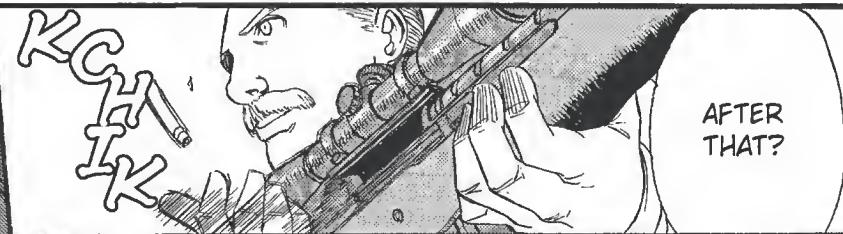


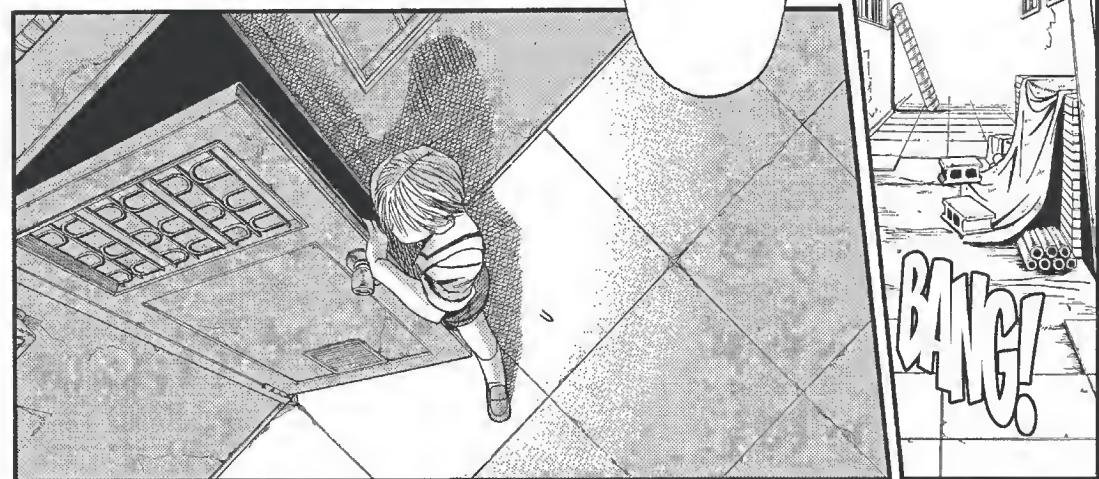
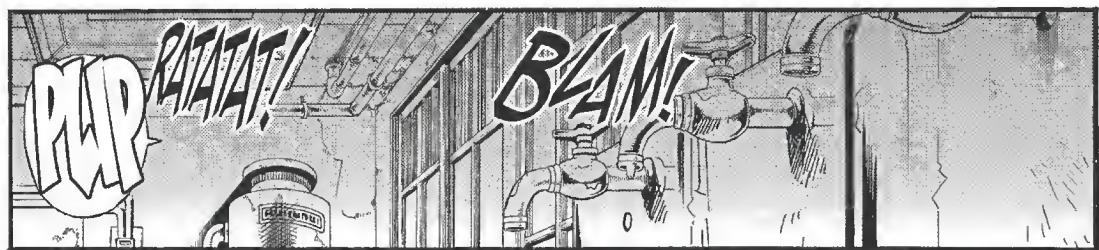


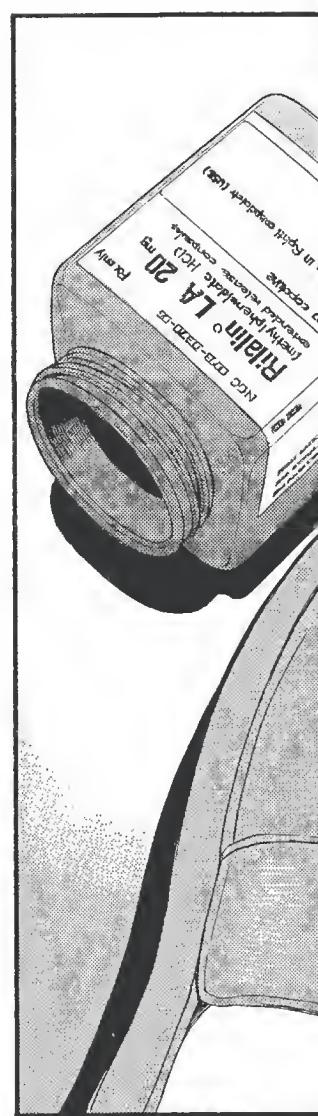


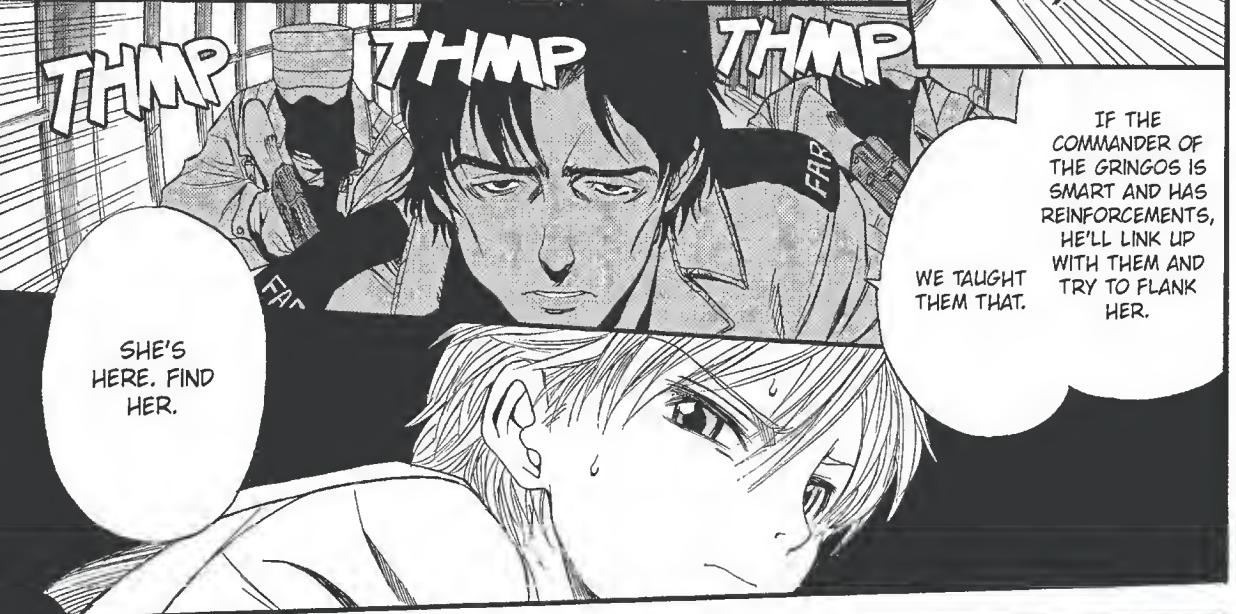
Chapter 62: El Baile de la Muerte - Part XIX



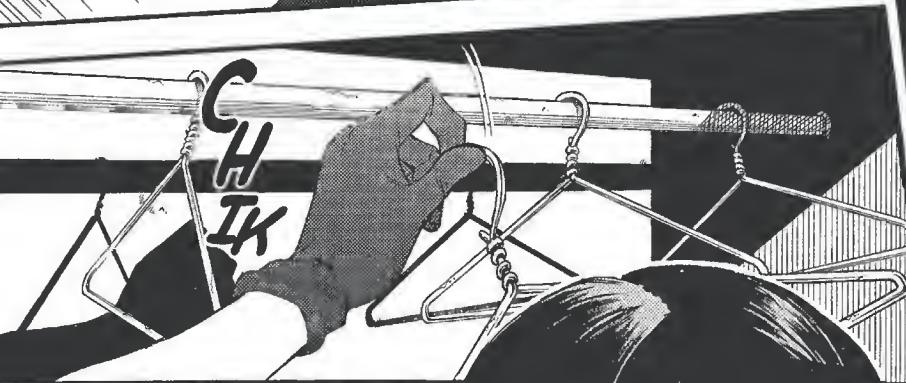
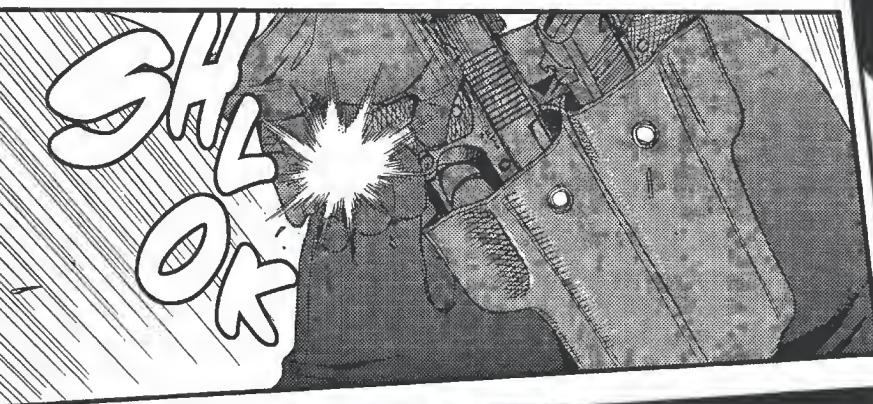














EVEN
THOUGH
WE HAD TO
COME TO
THIS
HORRIBLE
PLACE...

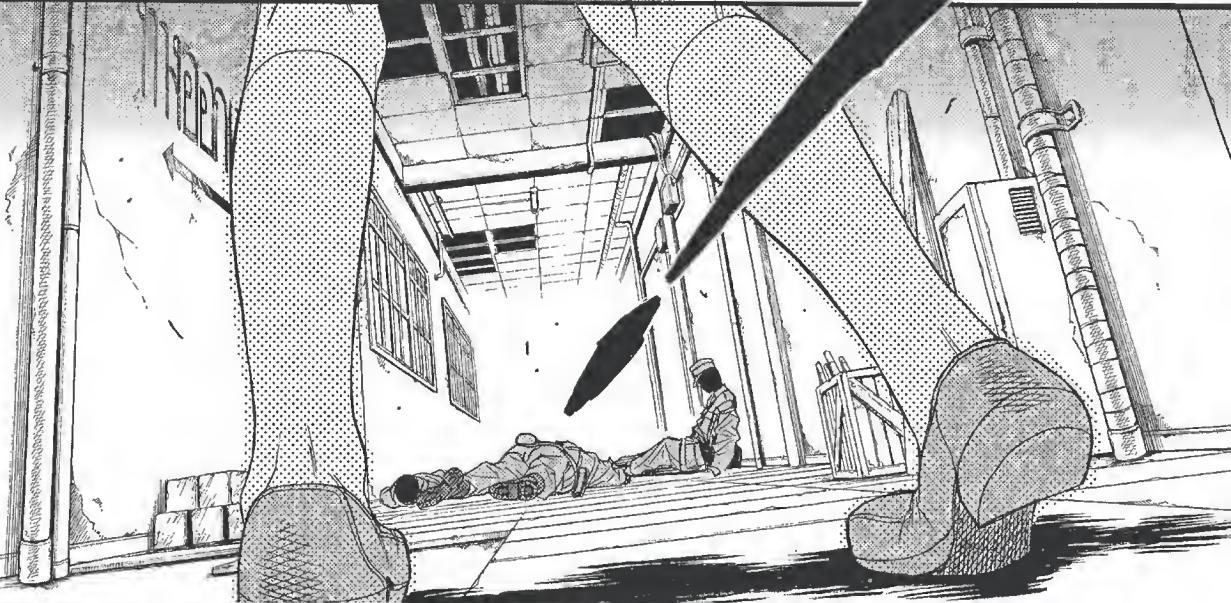
ROBERTA'S
HERE!

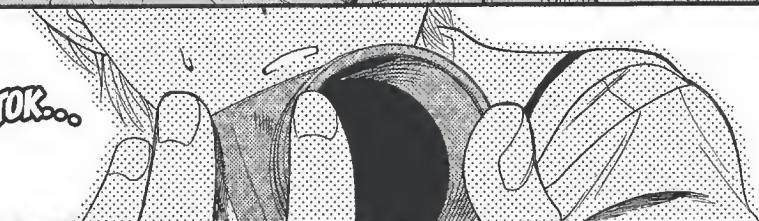
FINALLY,
FINALLY...

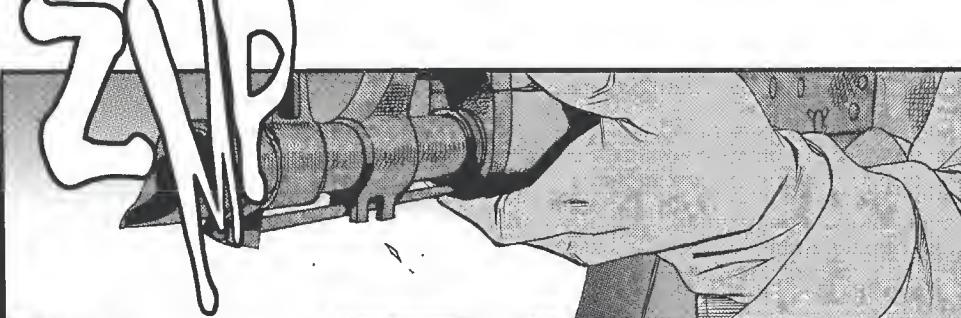
BUT...

I'LL BE
THERE
SOON!

I'VE
CAUGHT
UP TO
HER!







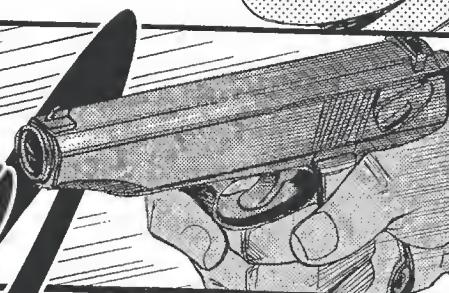






THE YEARS
HAVE PASSED,
BUT YOU'VE
STILL GOT IT...

EL
SABUESO!

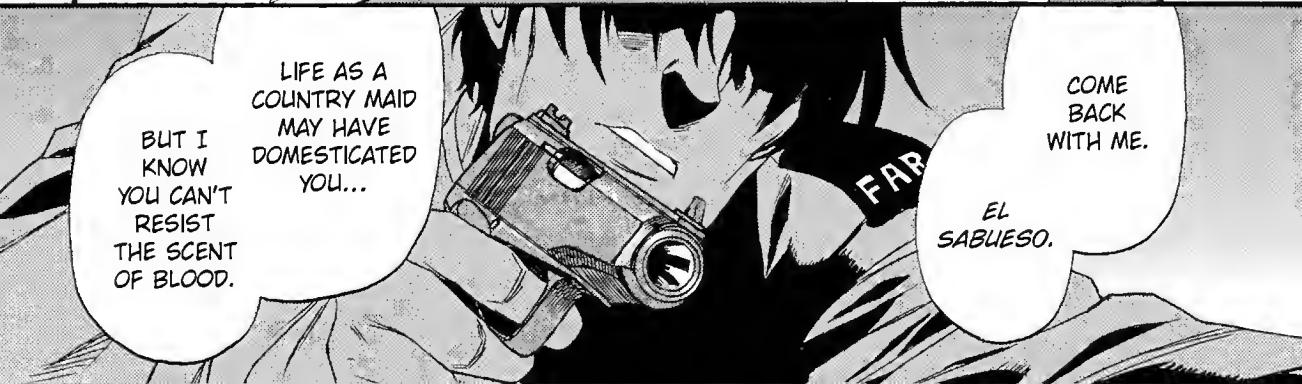


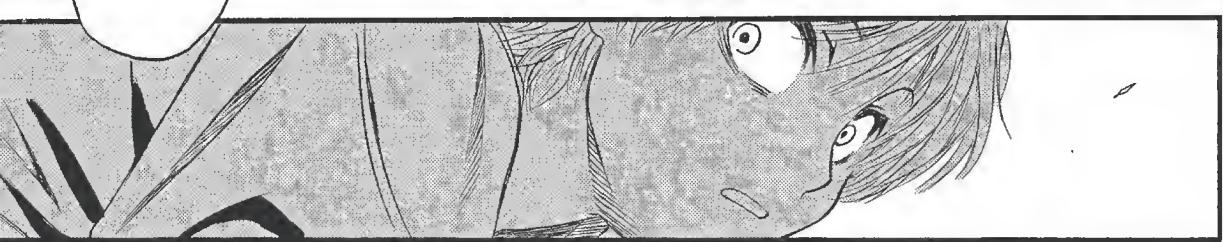
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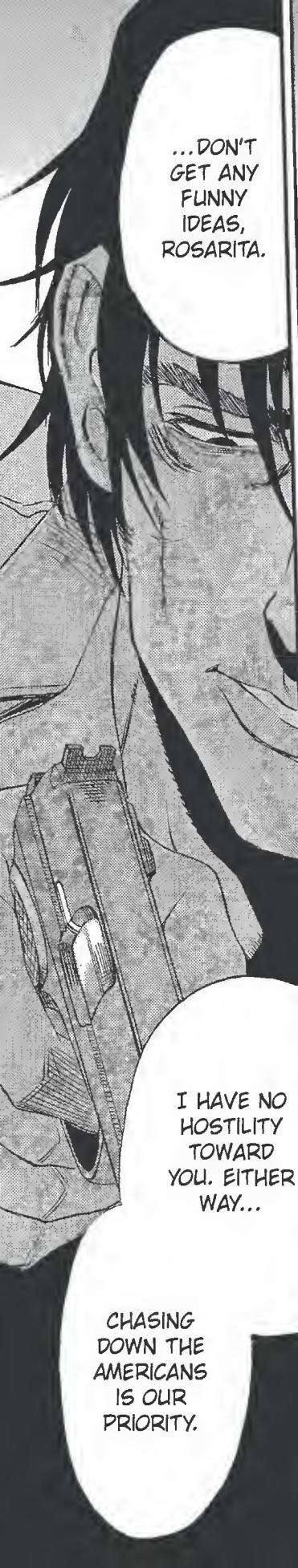






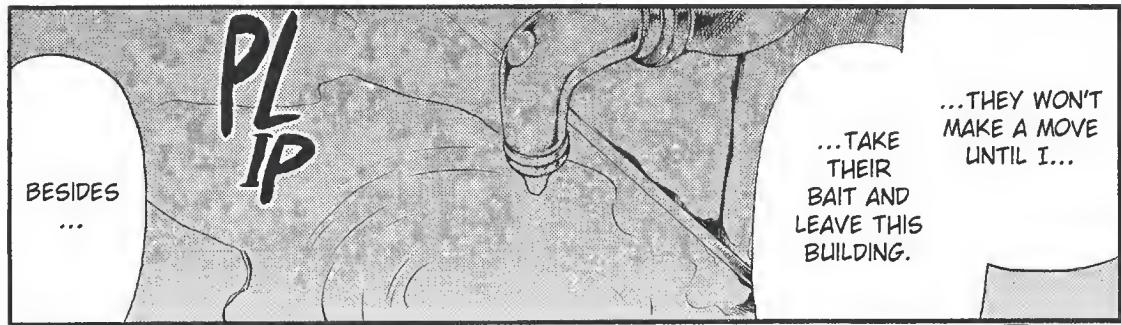


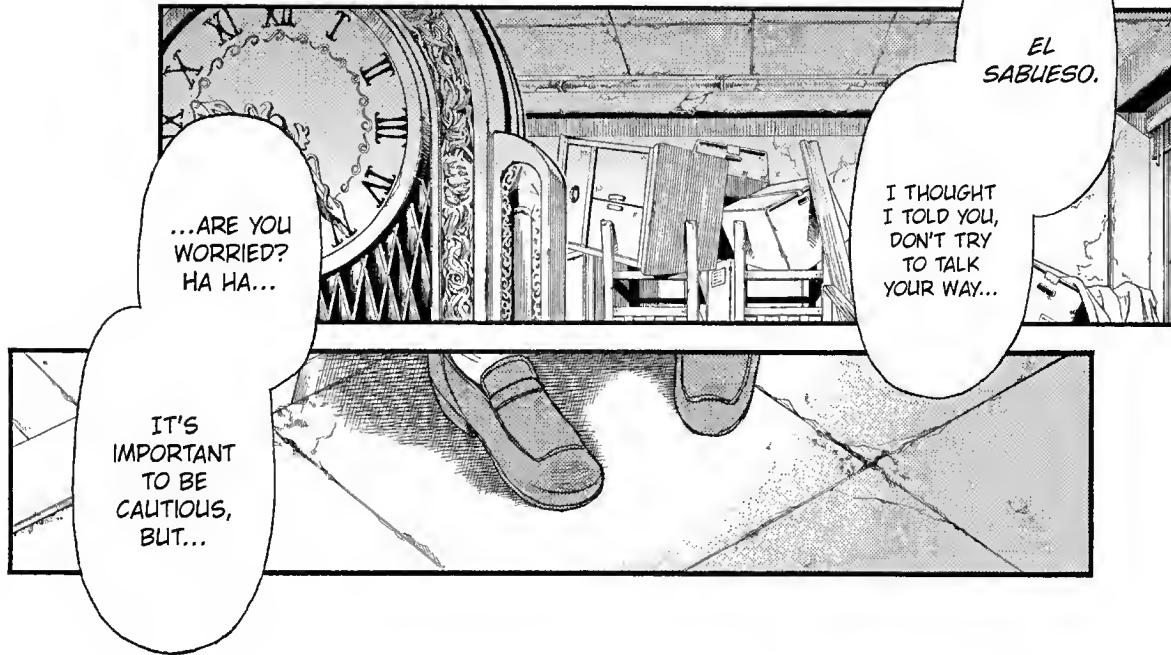




...DON'T
GET ANY
FUNNY
IDEAS,
ROSARITA.



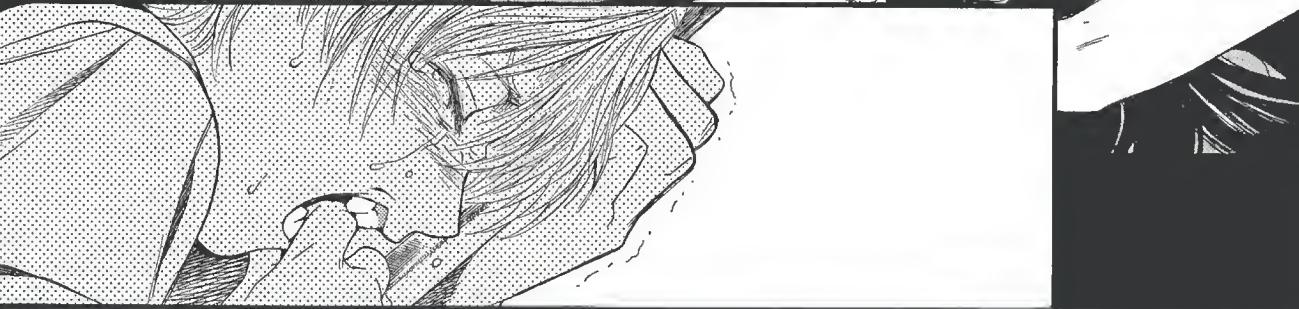




Chapter 63: El Baile de la Muerte - Part XX

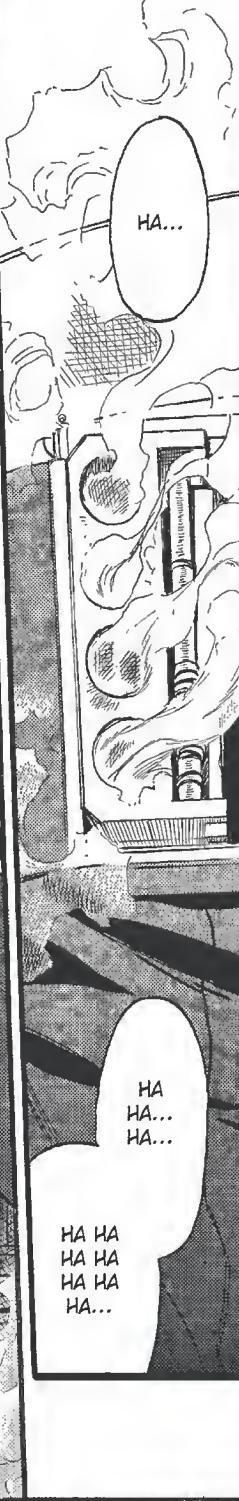














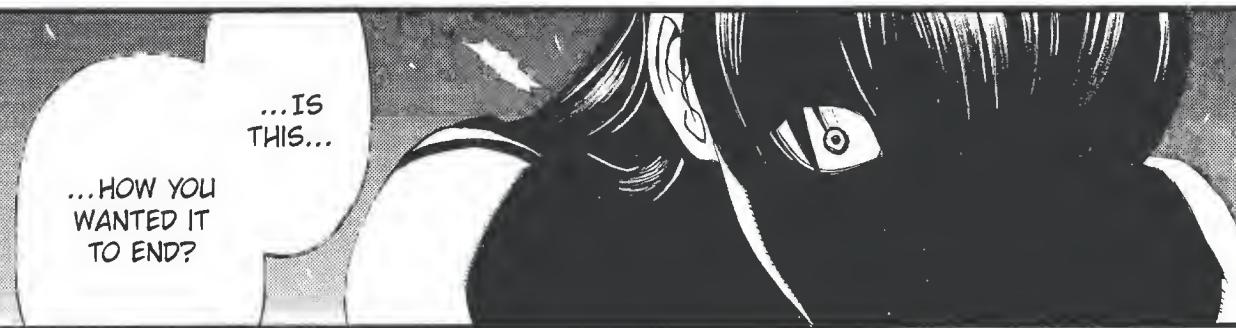














YOU TORE
UP MY
FAMILY'S
PHOTO
BEFORE YOU
EXECUTED
ME.

IT'S ALREADY
BEEN SEVEN
YEARS SINCE
YOU RAIDED
TAISHO
ELECTRIC'S
MAGDALENA
OFFICE...

WHEN YOU
WERE YOUNG IT
NEVER PAINED
YOU DURING
TIMES OF
VIOLENCE...

BUT YOU
NEVER
REALIZED...

...IT BECAME
ONE OF MANY
TINY SCARS
THAT
REMAINED
WITH YOU.

...DURING
TIMES OF
CALM AND
PEACE.

IT WAS
PROBABLY
MEANINGLESS
TO YOU THEN,
BUT...

...HOW IT
WOULD
ROTT AND
FESTER...



I SEE IT NOW.

HA HA HA!

...OH...

THE YOUNG
MASTER IS
WAITING FOR ME
IN THE ORCHID
GARDEN UNTIL I
COME BACK WITH
THE HEADS OF
THOSE FOXES.

OF COURSE YOU DO.

WHAT WOULD
THE YOUNG
MASTER BE
DOING IN A
PLACE LIKE
THIS?

RO

HA HA...
HA HA.

I GET IT... I
GET IT.

BUT THE YOUNG
MASTER WILL
LAUGH AND SMILE
AGAIN... AND
EVERYTHING WILL
BE AS IT ONCE
WAS.

I WON'T HAVE
TO PUT ON A
FALSE FACE
ANYMORE
EITHER.

THE MASTER
HIMSELF WON'T
EVER COME
BACK...

YOU
SHOWING
ME THIS...

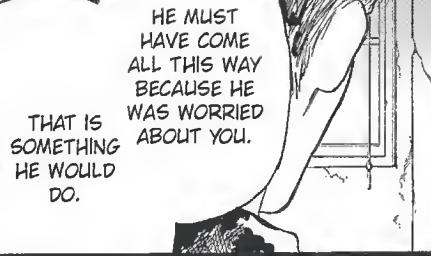
YOU MUST
WANT TO
FINISH ME OFF
THAT BADLY,
HUUH?

BUT...

I WILL NOT
FORGIVE
YOU FOR
THIS.

YOU'VE SHOWN
ME THE YOUNG
MASTER IN
THIS HORRIBLE
CONDITION.

YOU'VE
SHOWED ME
THE THING
I LEAST
WANTED
TO SEE.



SOMETHING
GARCIA FERNANDO
LOVELACE, THE
BOY YOU LOVE,
WOULD DO, BUT...



BLA
M

KRAK!

TATTAT TAT
BANG!



Chapter 64: El Baile de la Muerte - Part XXI

THOUGHT I HEARD
A RUMBLIN'. CALLIN'
TO MY NAME.

200 MILLION GUNS
LOADED. SATAN CRIES
'TAKE AIM'.

BETTER RUN THROUGH
THE JUNGLE. WOA, DON'T
LOOK BACK TO SEE.

BETTER RUN THROUGH THE
JUNGLE. BETTER RUN
THROUGH THE JUNGLE.



THE GUNFIRE
HASN'T
STOPPED...

IF THE MAID
CATCHES UP
TO THE
AMERICANS
BEFORE
THAT...

I GAMBLED
ON THE MAID
AND GARCIA
FINDING EACH
OTHER.

BANG!

BRAKK!

BUT...

BANG!

BANG!















DAK DAK DAK DAK DAK

MAJOR!
WE'VE
RESCUED
A BOY
CAUGHT IN
A FIREFIGHT
ON THE
SECOND
FLOOR!

WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

STAFF
SERGEANT
BURROUGHS,
WHAT
HAPPENED?

WE'RE
ABORTING
OUR PATROL
AND COMING
BACK IN!

I BELIEVE
HE MADE
THE RIGHT
DECISION,
SIR!

STAFF SERGEANT
BURROUGHS,
SIR! THE KID
WOULDA BEEN
DEAD IF IT
WASN'T FOR THE
MASTER
SERGEANT!

THIS IS MASTER
SERGEANT
HORNER! THE
BOY'S UNARMED.
ONE OF THE
HOSTILES WAS
ABOUT TO
SHOOT HIM!

NOT THE
SMOOTHEST
OP WE'VE
EVER PULLED,
EH?

SHANE?

I KNOW
THIS WAS
UNEXPECTED.
GIVE US AN
ORDER, SIR!

...
SERGEANT
MAJOR
HORNER,
DO YOU
READ ME?

ABANDON THE
PLAN TO
PLANK AND
MOVE TO
DAGGER 6
IMMEDIATELY.

SCOUTS
RETURN
TO THE
DESIGNATED
AREA AT
ONCE.

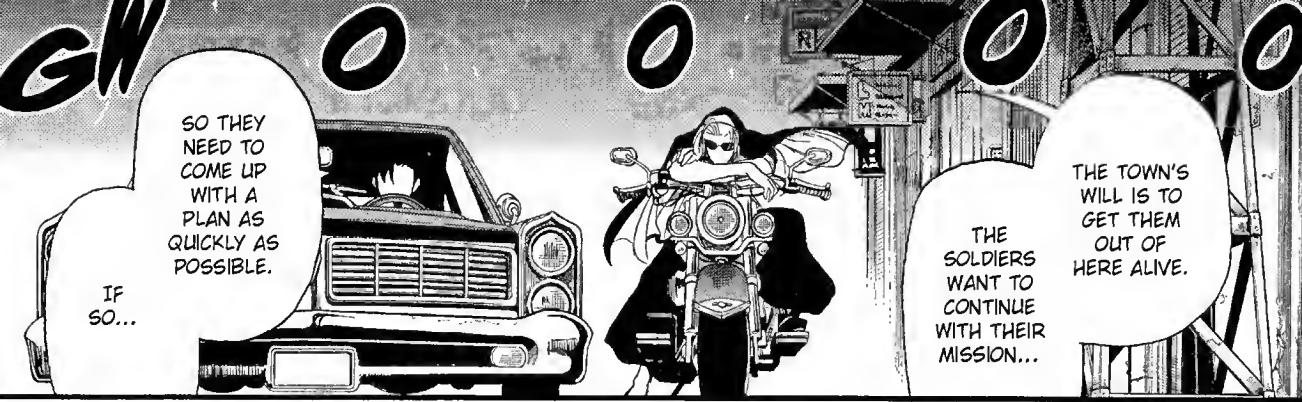
WITH THE EXTRA
PACKAGE, OUR
MISSION JUST
GOT THAT MUCH
HARDER.

I'M SORRY FOR
THE EXTRA
BAGGAGE,
SIR, BUT...

IT WAS THE
SAME ONE
THAT FIRED
ON US AS WE
LEFT OUR
SAFEHOUSE,
SIR!

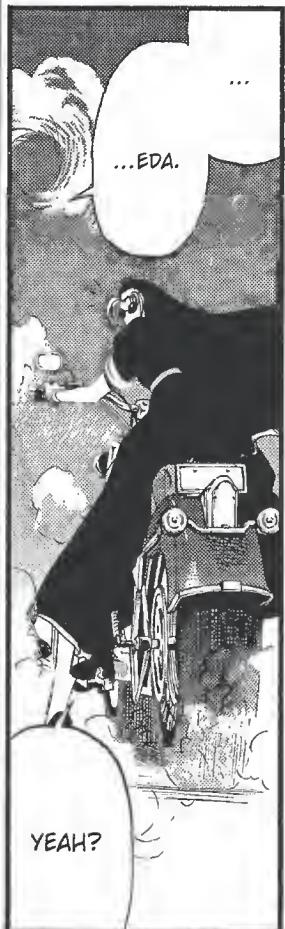




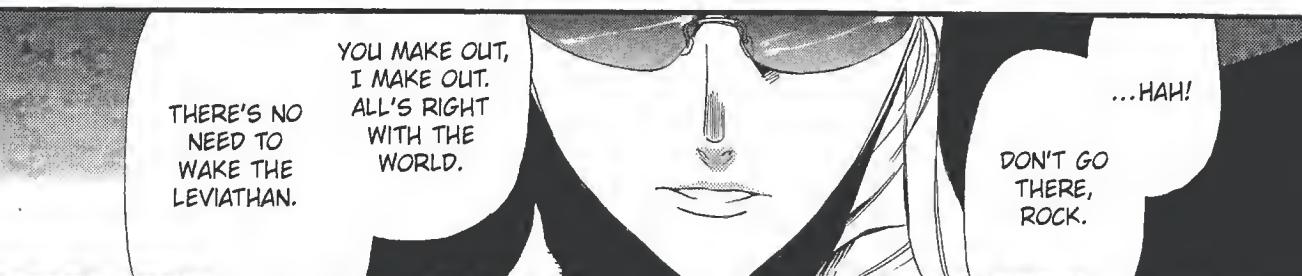




...WHAT'S
IN IT FOR
YOU?



YEAH?



...HAH!

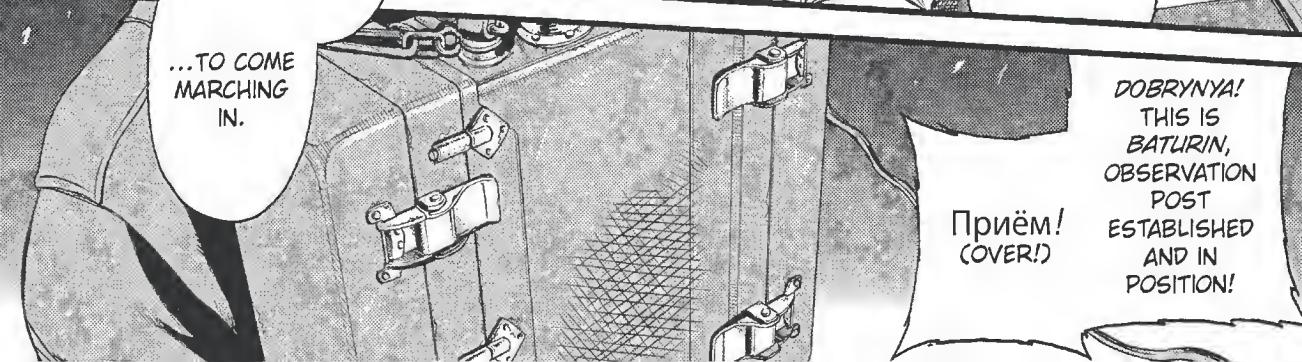
THERE'S NO
NEED TO
WAKE THE
LEVIATHAN.

DON'T GO
THERE,
ROCK.



LISTEN
CLOSE.

C'MON,
THERE'S
NO MORE
TIME TO
BULLSHIT.



Приём!
(COVER!)

DOBRYNYA!
THIS IS
BATURIN,
OBSERVATION
POST
ESTABLISHED
AND IN
POSITION!

DOBRYNYA,
SURVEILLANCE
TEAM 2
STANDING BY!

SHL-
CHAK!

ALL TEAMS
IN POSITION,
CAPTAIN.

THE
INTERSECTION
IS WITHIN OUR
KILL ZONE!

DOBRYNYA,
THIS IS
SURVEILLANCE
TEAM 1. WE'RE
IN POSITION!

TARGET BLUE
REMAINS
INSIDE THE
BUILDING
ON 34TH
STREET.
SHOULD WE
ENTER?

I DON'T WANT
TO GET INTO A
CLOSE QUARTERS
FIGHT. I'D
RATHER WE FIGHT
ON GROUND OF
OUR CHOOSING.

MAKE A
THOROUGH
CHECK OF ALL
EXITS AND
REMAIN ON
STANDBY.

THEN LET
THE HUNT
BEGIN.

LET'S SEE
WHAT THE
AMERICANS
CAN DO.

CHANG'S
WATCHING
TOO, SO
STAY ON
YOUR TOES.

LOSERS

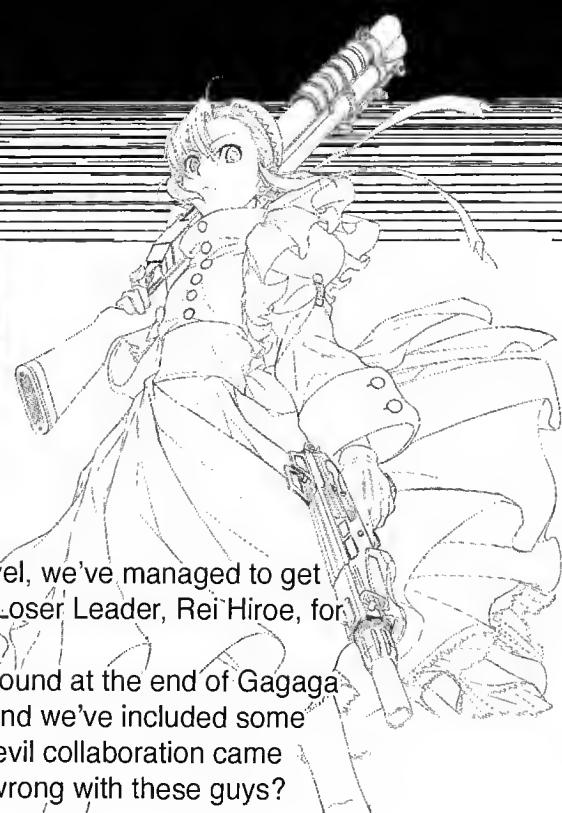
HORIZON

No Women
Allowed!?

Alternative

To celebrate the release of the *Black Lagoon* novel, we've managed to get the author, Mr. Gen Urobuchi, and our very own Loser Leader, Rei Hiroe, for a face-to-face discussion!

A more in-depth version of this interview can be found at the end of Gagaga Bunko's *Black Lagoon Shaitan Bahdi* (What?!), and we've included some excerpts from that interview here. It seems their evil collaboration came about from their twisted view of women. What's wrong with these guys?



GX: Well then, can you two tell us about how you began collaborating?

Hiroe: Mr. Urobuchi wrote the script for the PC game *Zoku – Satsuriku no Jango – Jigoku no Shokinsha* (Jango for short). The first thing I noticed was what one of the heroines said when she opened her mouth—"I wanna eat me a virgin!" (laughs) It just got me right here (puts hand over heart). I was like, "This bitch has it right!"

Urobuchi: I'm glad the readers accepted that, but...

Hiroe: (sigh) When will the Bitch-Moe era come? (laugh)

Urobuchi: Women are like monsters—I want them to be something scary. That's why there's a part of me that can't get excited over those childhood classmate types that are everywhere.

Hiroe: There's nothing wrong with that. We don't have to create a story like that when there are other people who do it better. Let's keep creating women that scream, "I wanna eat me a virgin!" (laughs)

Urobuchi: I naturally have this idea that women are strong or tough. Like men are just male bees—creatures that should die once they ejaculate!

Hiroe: (big laugh)

Urobuchi: In that sense men are weak. Whereas the battle begins for women once they get pregnant.

Hiroe: I agree.

Urobuchi: Women have to keep fighting. I don't see that kind of strength as cute. I can't dote on it.

Hiroe: On the other hand, some people think girls that are sad are cute. To put it more plainly, you know how some turn a weak girl into the heroine? In the end that's just the flip side of machismo, don't you think?

Urobuchi: Just goes to show men can't be superior unless they give women a handicap.

Hiroe: Yeah, yeah. In the end, the heroines are below them.

Hiroe: Mr. Urobuchi and I probably can't see it like that. We're more like, "We love women like Thatcher (former British prime minister)!!" (laughs)

Urobuchi: Yeah. (laughs) That's why when other people write about an extremely hard-working girl, they have to be a bit Lolita. If they had tits they wouldn't have to work so hard. (laughs) When I'm joking with my friends I passionately argue that the size of a girl's tits is equal to the size of their hitpoints. (laughs) The bigger the sturdier.

Hiroe: Interesting. (laughs)

Urobuchi: That's why when girls with big tits get attacked by monsters in movies and games, in a sense you can watch it in peace. You don't feel as bad when you see them die.

Hiroe: Yeah... Yeah? (laughs)

Urobuchi: I don't see that as picking on the weak. It's more like watching Wild Kingdom.

Hiroe: (laughs) Like, "You got those huge things, so get in there and fight!" (laughs)

Urobuchi: So if you really want to make characters like that pitiful, they have to be flat-chested... So it has to be either Lolita or bitch—two extremes. (laughs)

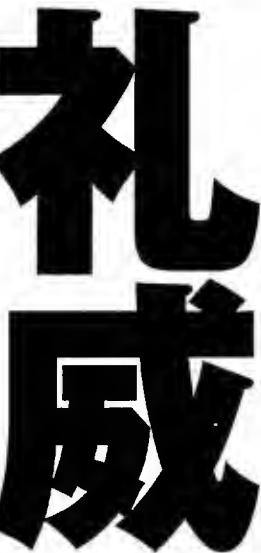
Hiroe: That's a real extreme way to place value on women—although I'm not one to talk. (laughs) If you want to make them cute or put them under your protection, I can see why. If not it's like, become independent and do something about it, because a girl can shoot an AK too.

Urobuchi: I believe men have a superior position in the structure of society as a kind of a defense mechanism. Men will die out if they're not held superior. Because honestly, if you could artificially create sperm we wouldn't need men, right?

Hiroe: Yeah.

Urobuchi: It might be harder to pass down your genes if men weren't superior. Some women are put at a disadvantage because of that, so I do feel bad about it. But maybe men are such worthless creatures that they have to go that far to survive.

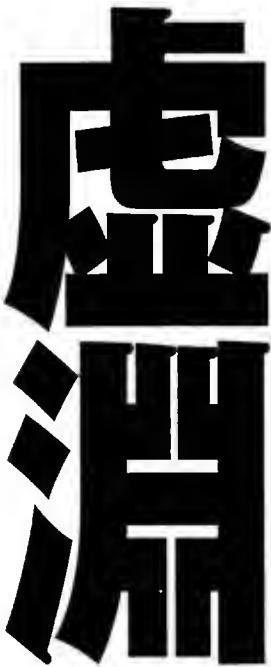
Hiroe: I'm getting the feeling that kind of social system...



PROFILE

Born in Kanagawa in 1972. After working at a game company, debuts as a professional manga artist with the release of *Hisuikyoukitan*. Notable works include *Shook Up!* and *Phantom Bullet*. Released his first collection of artwork and early illustrations in *Barrage: Rei Hiroe Artworks*. Writes the illustration column *REIGHBORHOOD* for the model magazine *Monthly Hobby Japan*.

LOSER'S HORIZON



GEAR INTERVIEW



PROFILE

Born in Tokyo in 1972. Exclusive screenwriter for game maker Nitro+. Debuted in 2000 with *Phantom - Phantom of Inferno*. Notable work include *Saya no Uta* and *Zoku - Satsuriku no Jango - Jigoku no Shokinkubi*. Also working as a novelist on the novel *Fate/Zero* for Type-Moon's PC game *Fate/stay night*.

Hiroe:...In the end its advantageous to women. If men work, they can raise their "seed" without fear. After all, I can't look women in the eye... Women are super scary!

Urobuchi: Plus in today's world, manual labor doesn't have to be done by men, so the position of women is improving. Men are constantly losing their status. So it's...hard for us guys.

Hiroe: Yeah. (laughs) So that means you're not manly right?

Urobuchi: I'm too afraid of women to be manly. I have this feeling I could never win against them.

Hiroe: I definitely feel that way too.

Urobuchi: When you think about the way humanity might evolve a thousand years from now, I think society should be based on women. A society without men would be much more efficient. If that were the case, the only time a male character could shine is when they die.

Hiroe: Interesting.

Urobuchi: So nothing gets resolved even if men work hard because men die after they fulfill their role, leaving the rest in the hands of women.

Hiroe: That reminds me of Balalaika and Boris's relationship...

Urobuchi: Oh, I can see that. Ms. Balalaika is scary.



A rough sketch from Gagaga Bunko's *Black Lagoon Shaitan Bahdi*.

LOSER'S HORIZON

Urobuchi: She's a female with fangs.

Hiroe: Yes. (laughs) I like scary women, but I also like cool women too. You know that scene in *Jango* where all three bitch characters are lined up? That scene is cool because each character has a unique quality to them. They balance each other out, yet their strength as women was captured really well.

Urobuchi: Women can still be cool even if they're unfair or uber-evil.

Hiroe: Yeah, yeah. It gets too raw if men are like that.

Urobuchi: It looks intelligent when women are like that. Not in the sense that they can use dirty tricks because they're inferior, but more like they'll use those tricks without any hesitation. It's more efficient in a way. They're not swayed by some nonsense about aesthetics.

Hiroe: The only aesthetic is machismo. (laughs)

Urobuchi: Exactly! Because we focus on that too much, it becomes a weakness. That's why it's hard for me to read really macho, hard-boiled material. I can't follow it. I want men to be rushing to their deaths.

Hiroe: Women can avoid those situations. Women remain! Men thoughtlessly charge in and die. (laughs)

GX: I'm sure both of you like the movie *The Wild Bunch*. Right before the climax, the four bad guys raid the Mexican Army to save their captured friends. Before they do that, they buy prostitutes, and after they sleep with them, the men prepare for battle, but the prostitutes quietly put on their clothes and send them on their way. Don't you think that's a memorable scene?

Hiroe: That is a great scene!

Urobuchi: They shined just before they died. And that scene where those four are side-by-side and go walking toward the enemy's base.

Hiroe: It's so unfair but it's so cool!

Urobuchi: They shine the moment they decide where they're going to die.

Hiroe: They're already dead at that point. That's what's so cool. They have no intention of getting out alive.

Urobuchi: That's really the only moment men can compete with women, I think. There'd have to be a third world war for men to shine. Like a *Mad Max* type of world. (laughs) Maybe only when there's a real danger of extinction will men have a role. Right now this society could exist only with women.

Hiroe: If women die out and only men survive, we'll only last for one generation. (laughs) One thing we made clear here is that we do not believe in machismo.

Urobuchi: Yeah. (laughs)

GX: Well I hope you two continue creating cool women and men who shine at their deaths!

AFTERWORD

HIROE HERE. THIS IS VOLUME EIGHT.
IT'S A CONTINUATION OF ROBERTA'S STORY. I DIDN'T
EXPECT IT TO GO ON THIS LONG. IT'S ALMOST OVER, SO
BEAR WITH ME.

INSTEAD OF THE REGULAR BONLIS MATERIAL, WE
INCLUDED MY MEANINGLESS DISCUSSION WITH MR.
UROBUCHI. THE NOVEL VERSION ALSO REVEALS HOW
STUPID I AM, SO IT WOULD BE NICE IF YOU COULD READ
THAT AS WELL.

OH YEAH, THERE'LL BE ANOTHER ANIME. (AS OF 2008)
YAY.

I CAN'T GET INTO TOO MUCH DETAIL, BUT IT'S A JOYOUS
THING. I'M GONNA WORK MY ASS OFF.

I'D LIKE TO THANK TO FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

EDITOR/MR. WOO
ASSISTANTS/ITAKO/AZUMA/TODA

COOPERATION
ENGLISH/DANIEL KANEMITSU
RUSSIAN/JUGO TSUKUDA/JE-NYA

SPANISH/MR. RONALDO (PANAMANIAN RESIDENT)
COLOR/TORATESTU YAMANAKA (NE-YAN)

SPECIAL THANKS
KEMUKEMU, DOCTOR MOCCHI, BIH, KONYA GA YAMADA.
SHINJUKU OUTLAW SURVIVOR.

I'LL SEE YOU IN VOLUME NINE.

-REI HIROE, JULY 18, 2008



Barrett M82A1 Anti-Materiel Rifle

The Barrett M82A1 is a semi-automatic, magazine-fed .50 caliber rifle that went into service with military forces around the world in the mid-1980s. It's a huge weapon at 57 inches (145cm) long and weighing in at 30 pounds (about 14kg). The M82 has an effective range of just over one mile and a maximum range of four miles! This makes it an excellent sniper rifle, and the heavy .50 caliber round can also penetrate light armored vehicles, hence the anti-materiel designation.

Former FARC terrorist and Lovelace family maid Roberta uses a Barrett to decimate her opponents during the intense pursuit through the streets of Roanapur. There isn't much that can stand up to the powerful .50 caliber rounds, and Roberta knows it, punching holes in her enemies through whatever cover they may find. She has also attached an automatic grenade launcher underneath. This combination would weigh close to 40 pounds fully loaded—not exactly easy to lift with one arm, much less fire it accurately! But when you are one of Rei Hiroe's heroines, this deadly combination makes the perfect dance partner for a bullet ballet!

Editor's Note



Urban Warfare

Fighting in urban areas has always been one of the most difficult military operations and one that generates heavy casualties on both sides. The U.S. military calls it UO (Urban Operations), but among the troops on the ground it's often called FISH (Fighting In Someone's House). This is not inaccurate, as many urban battles are quite literally fought house-to-house, often with little more than a wall separating the combatants. Urban warfare is nothing new, but focused tactics for clearing rooms of the enemy were perfected by special forces and are now commonly used by regular troops and police.

Major Caxton's men are of course highly trained in this form of combat and employ it to great effect as they try to fight their way out of Roanapur. Shooting through walls, blowing out doors, circling back around on a pursuer—all are effective ways of winning a close-quarters fight like this (which even Balalaika admits not wanting to get into, and that's saying something).

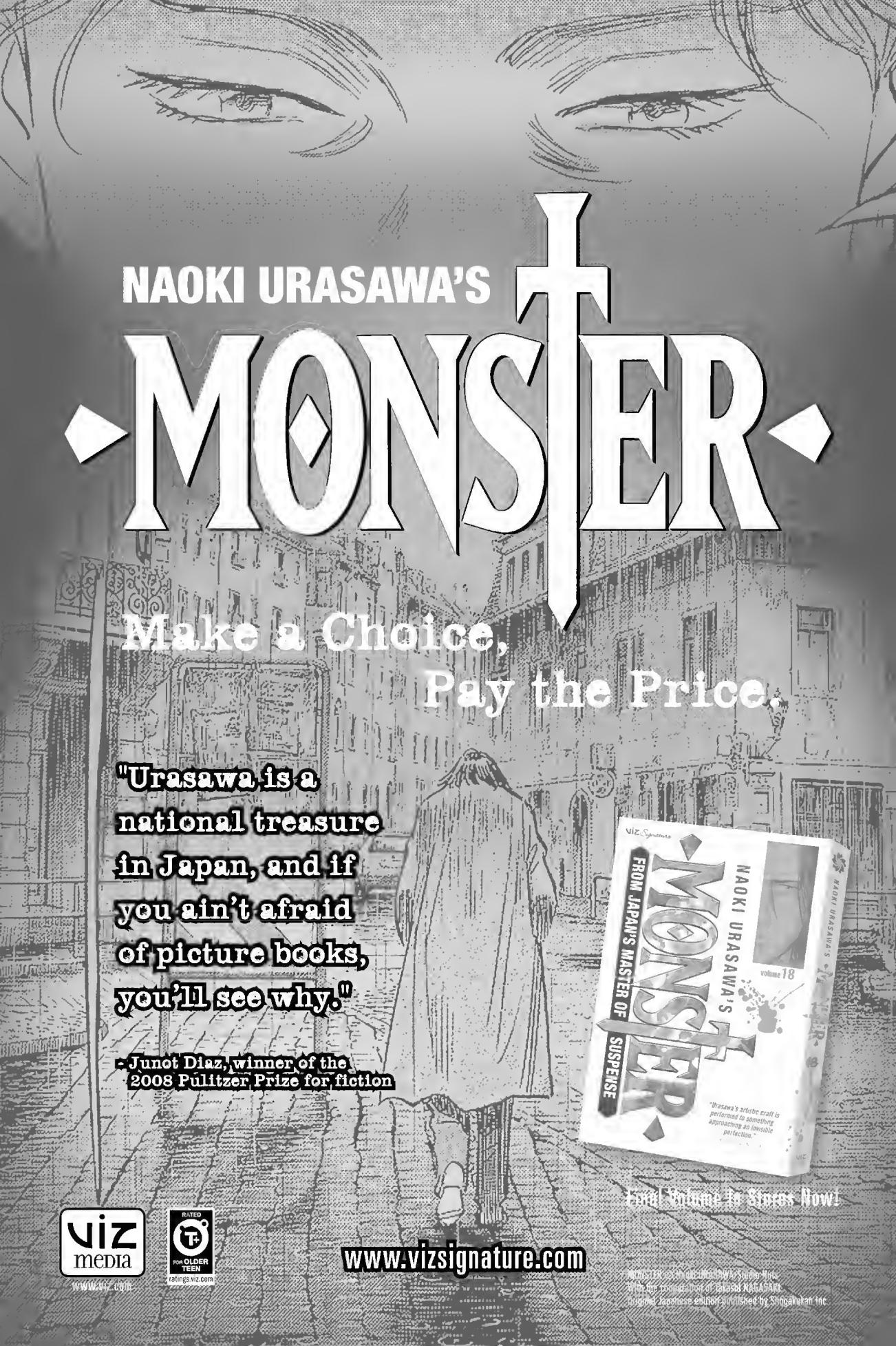




Where do you think you're goin'?

With the release of volume 8, the English adaptation of *Black Lagoon* catches up with its magazine serialization in *Sunday GX* in Japan. This means releases of the *Black Lagoon* graphic novel will slow down. Until then, as Dutch would say, "Everybody stay cool!"





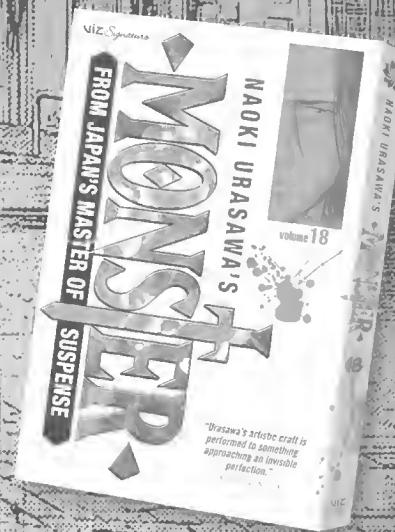
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THIS CHARACTER
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READER."**

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MIYAMOTO MUSHASHI

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