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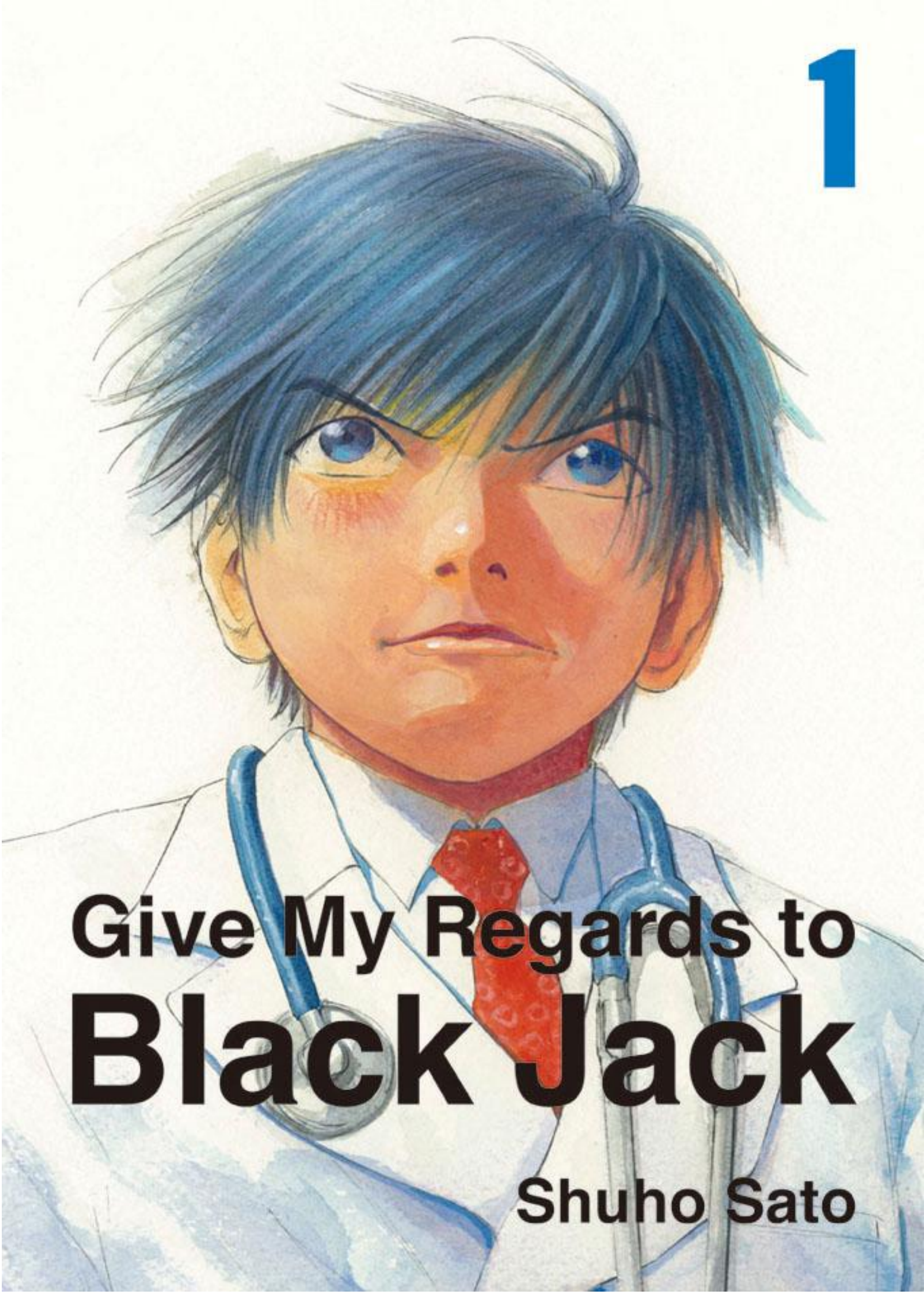


漫画onWeb

Give My Regards to Black Jack

Ep. 01 Night of the Intern

Ep. 02 Eels and Godhands

Ep. 03 The Price of Being 75

Ep. 04 Summer Clouds

Ep. 05 Surgery, Internists, Departments, and Saito

Ep. 06 The First Lie

Ep. 07 The Top-Tier Trap

漫画onWeb

"EVERY YEAR, 8000 STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM THE 81 MEDICAL UNIVERSITIES IN THIS COUNTRY."
"8000..."

"AND, OF THOSE 8000, YOU ARE THE TOP EIGHTY!"

漫画onWeb

JAPAN'S MEDICAL FUTURE RESTS IN YOUR HANDS!!
#1
Night of the Intern

漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb

Eiroku
University Hospital
永禄大学附属病院

手術室
YOU LOOK PRETTY SLEEPY, SAITO...
YEAH, I JUST GOT OFF MY SHIFT.

漫画onWeb

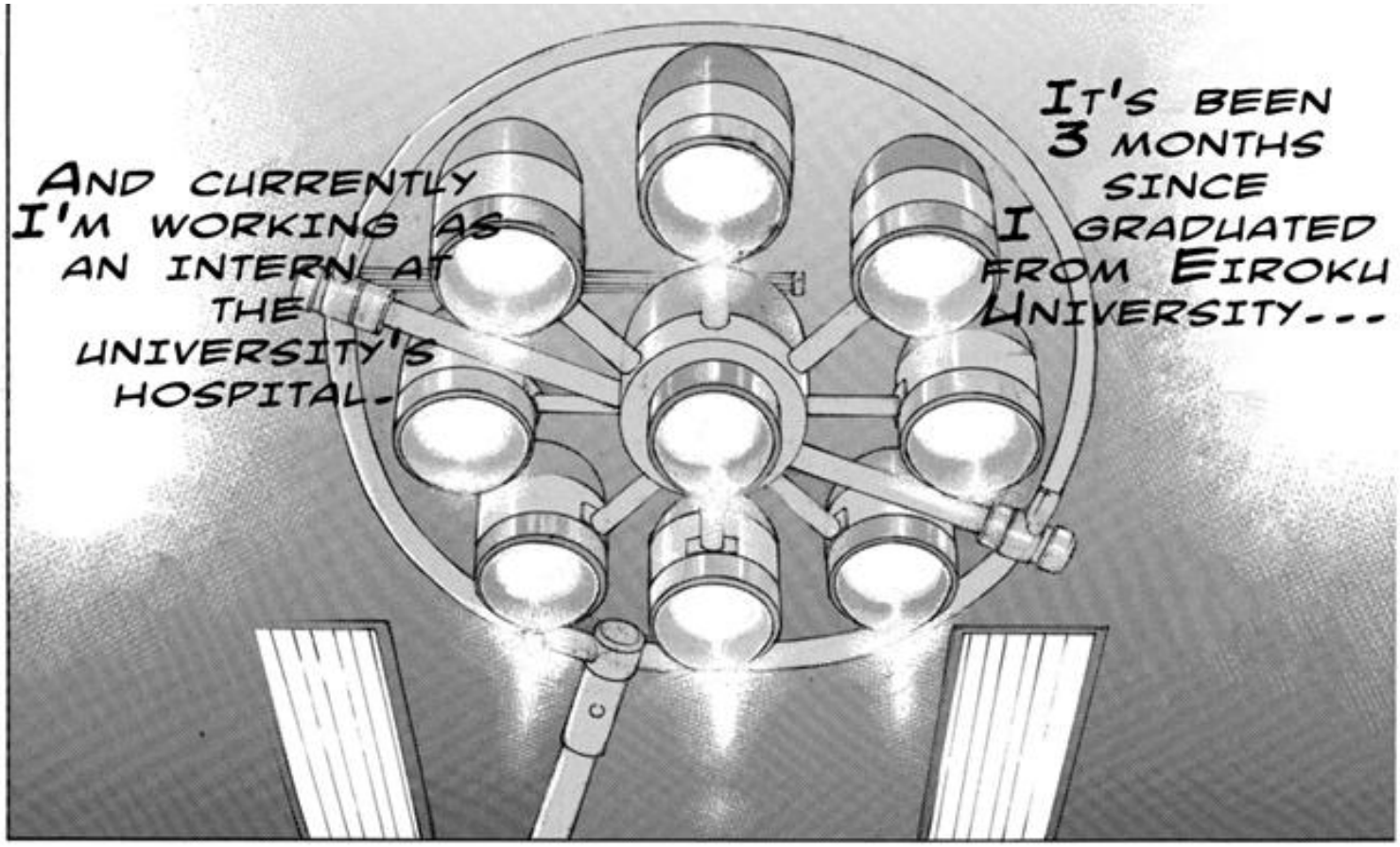
ゴミ
HELPING OUT WITH THE DOCTOR'S EXPERIMENTS.
I ONLY SLEPT 3 HOURS...
ゴミ

ゴミ
ゴミ
I'VE BEEN HERE OVER 24 HOURS SINCE YESTERDAY MORNING.
YEAH, ME TOO.

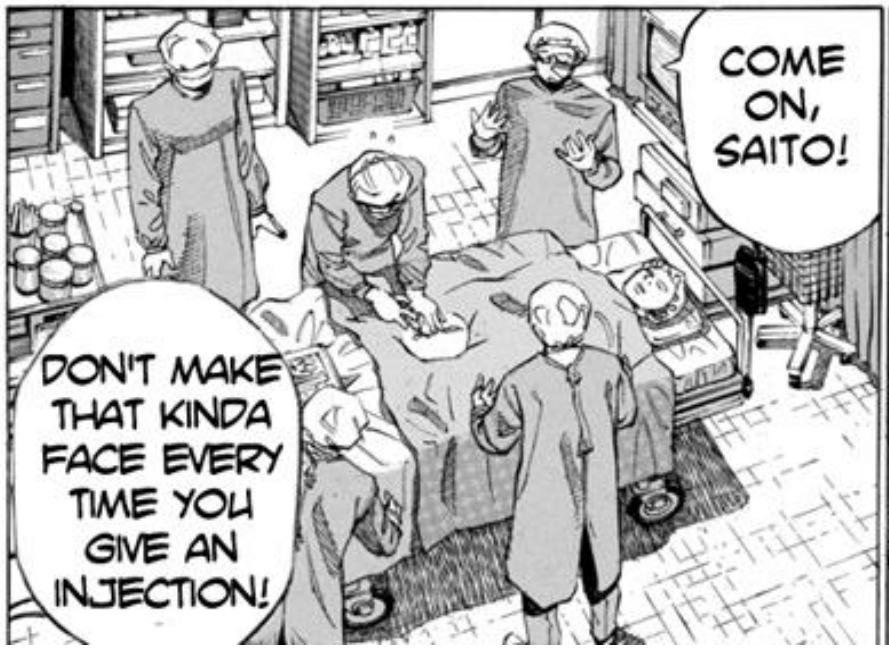
THEN I WIN.

I ONLY SLEPT 2 HOURS!

漫画onWeb


It's been 3 months since I graduated from Eiroku University...
And currently I'm working as an intern at the university's hospital-

Shlucuuuurp


Come on, Saito!
Don't make that kinda face every time you give an injection!

チュー

漫画onWeb

To become a doctor, we need to study at a medical university for 6 years...

Interns are basically apprentices.

and then pass the National Medical Practitioners Qualifying Examination.

But the National Medical Practitioners Qualifying Examination only tests medical knowledge.

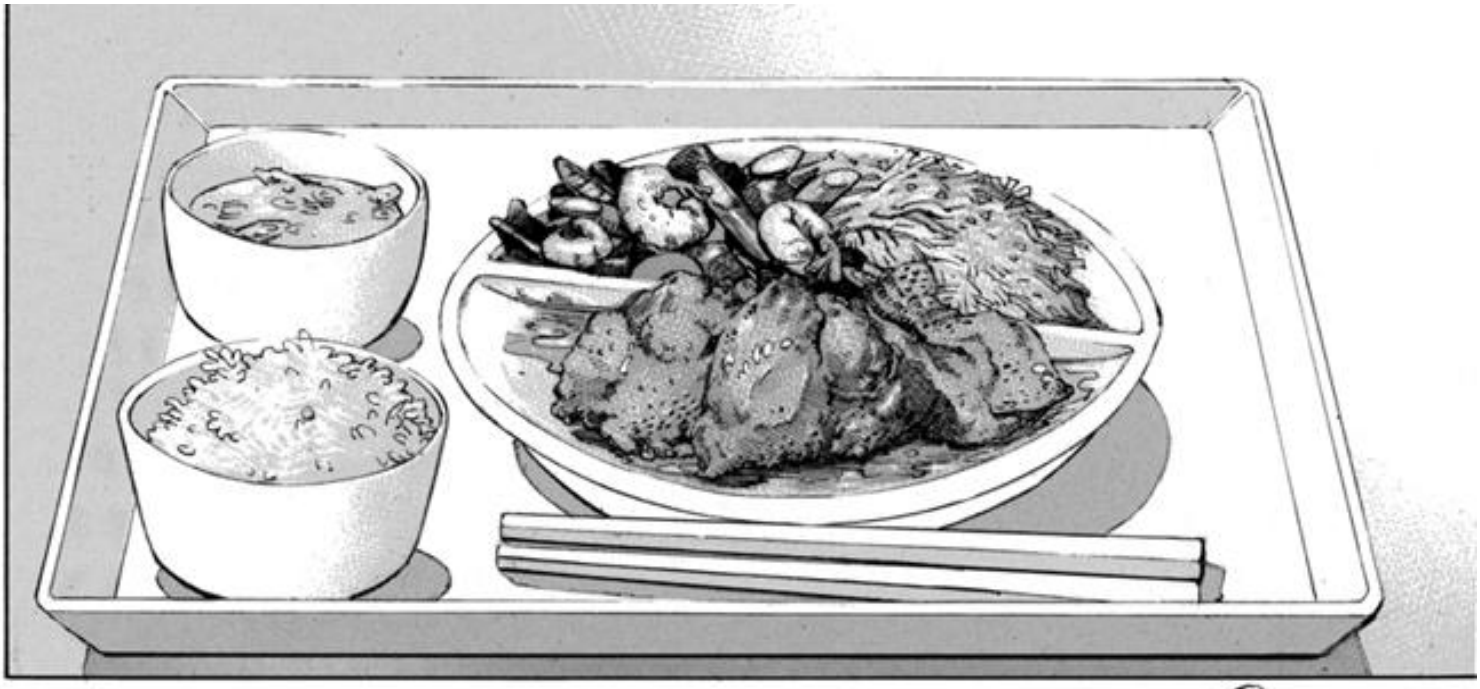
There is no practical exam!

That's why most graduates spend the next 2 years as an intern at a university hospital.

Widen the incision, Saito.

Yes, sir!

漫画onWeb

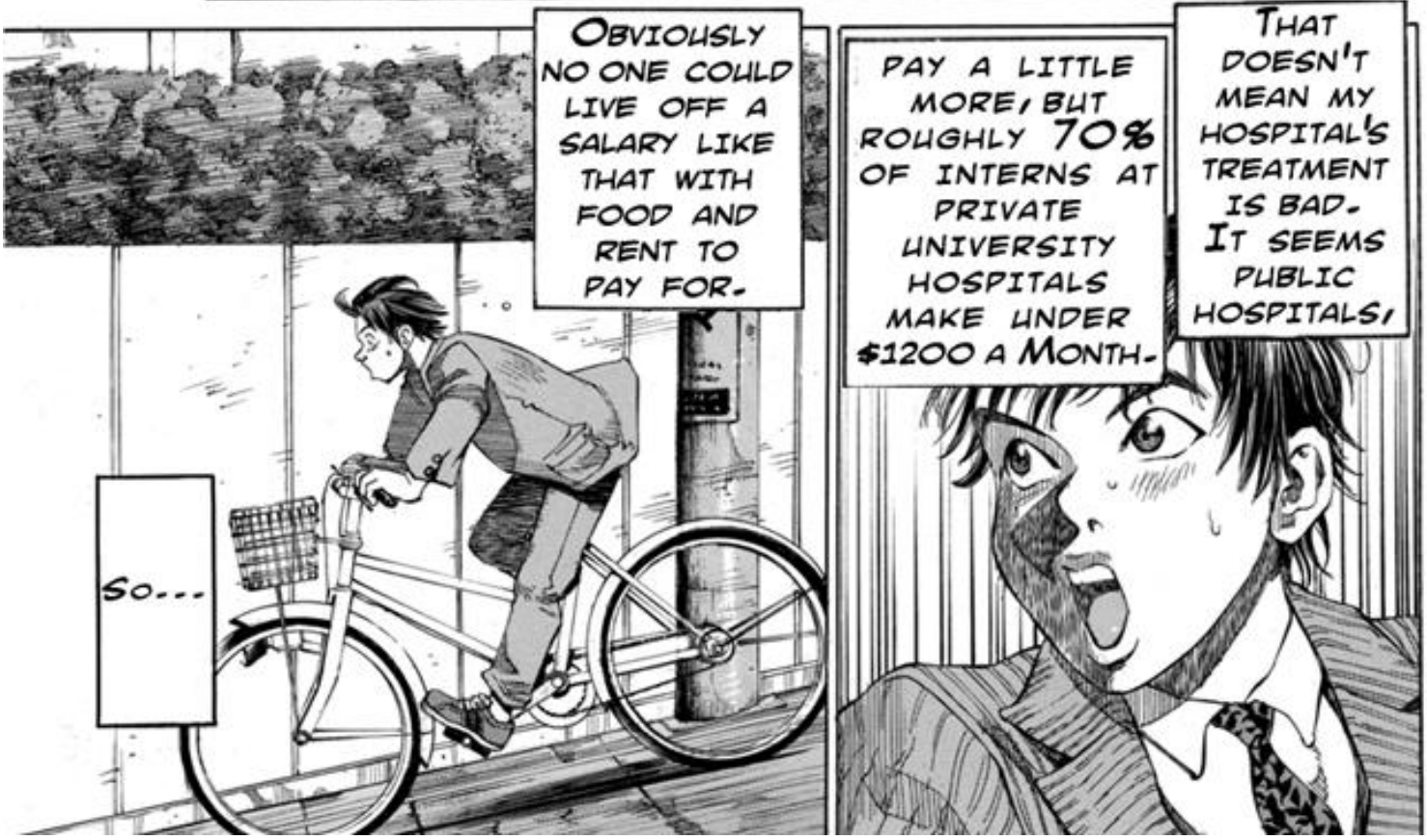


SUCCC

On average, interns work about 16 hours a day.

My monthly salary is an astounding...

459 dollars!!!



漫画onWeb

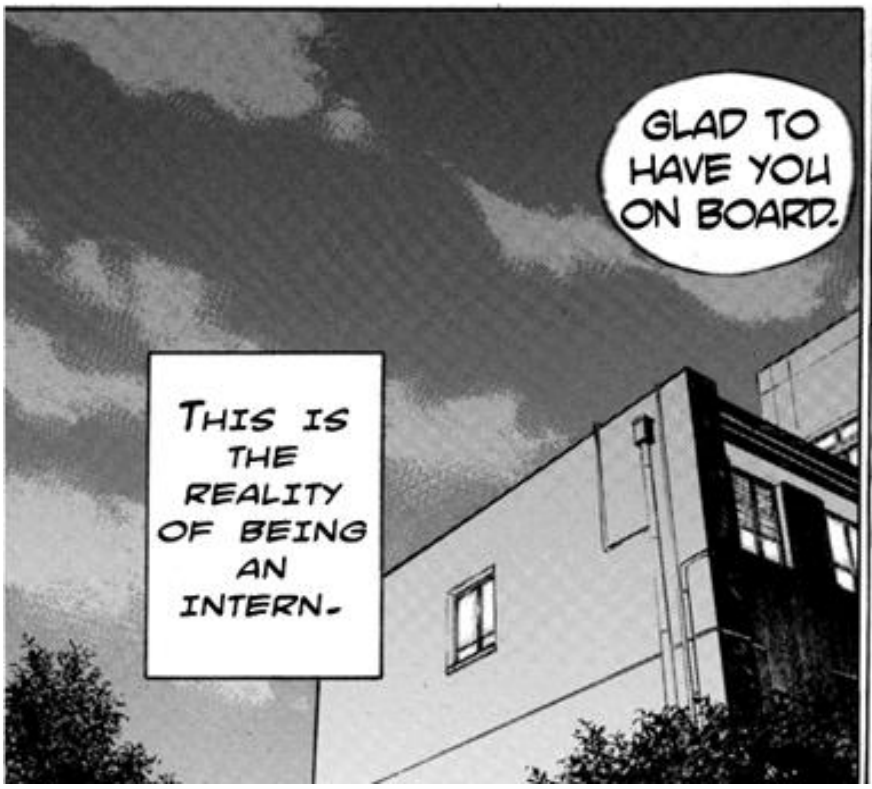
STARTING TODAY, YOU WILL BE STARTING A PART-TIME SHIFT AT THIS HOSPITAL.
WELL THEN, MR. SAITO..
Seido Hospital
誠同病院

THIS WILL BE YOUR FIRST TIME ON DUTY... WELL...
GRADUATED FROM EIROKU UNIVERSITY'S MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.
EIJIRO SAITO, 25 YEARS OLD...

SO YOU'RE ONE OF THE ELITE...
FROM EIROKU, HUH?

漫画onWeb

YES, SIR!
I WILL TRY MY BEST NOT TO SOIL EIROKU'S FINE REPUTATION!

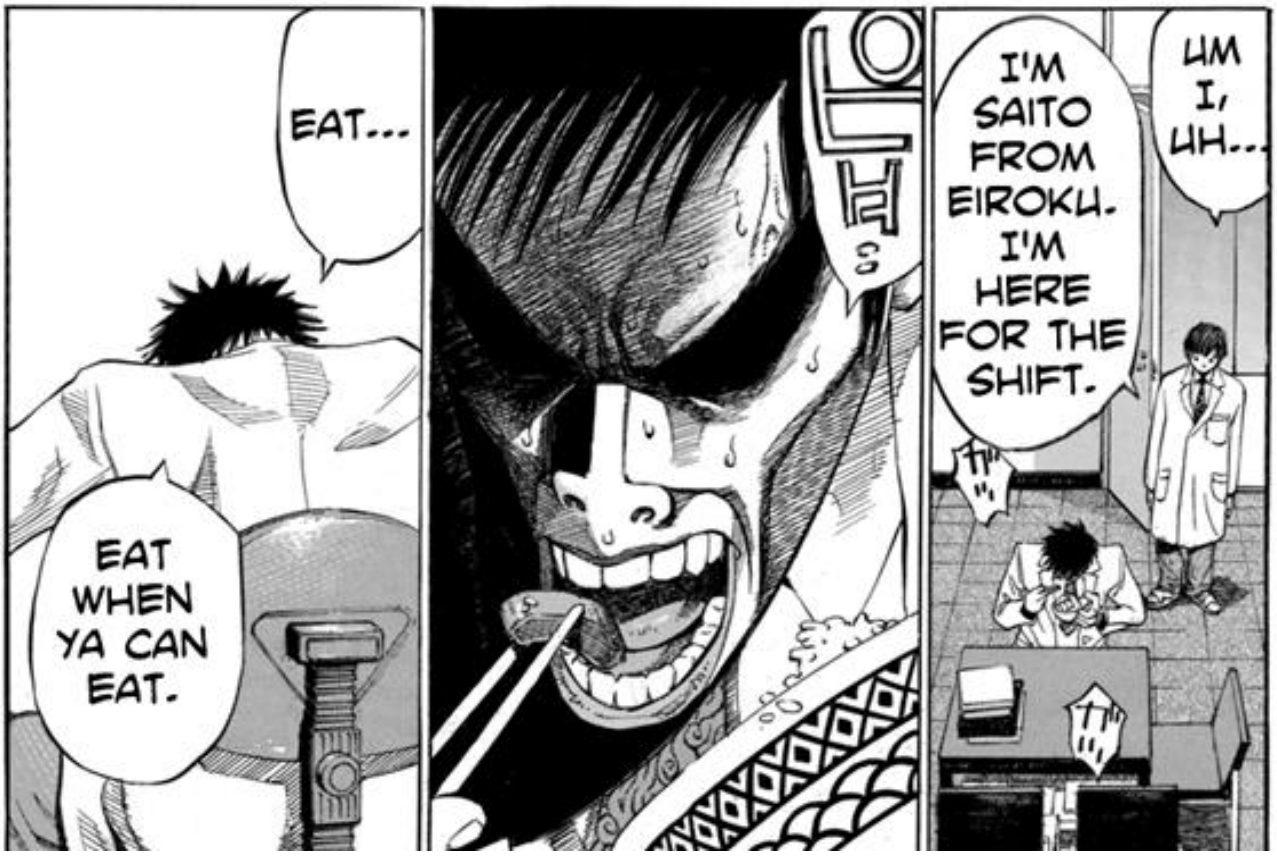

GLAD TO HAVE YOU ON BOARD.
THIS IS THE REALITY OF BEING AN INTERN.

SINCE TODAY'S YOUR FIRST DAY, WE ALSO HAVE SOMEONE ELSE ON DUTY.
ASK HIM HOW THINGS WORK AROUND HERE.

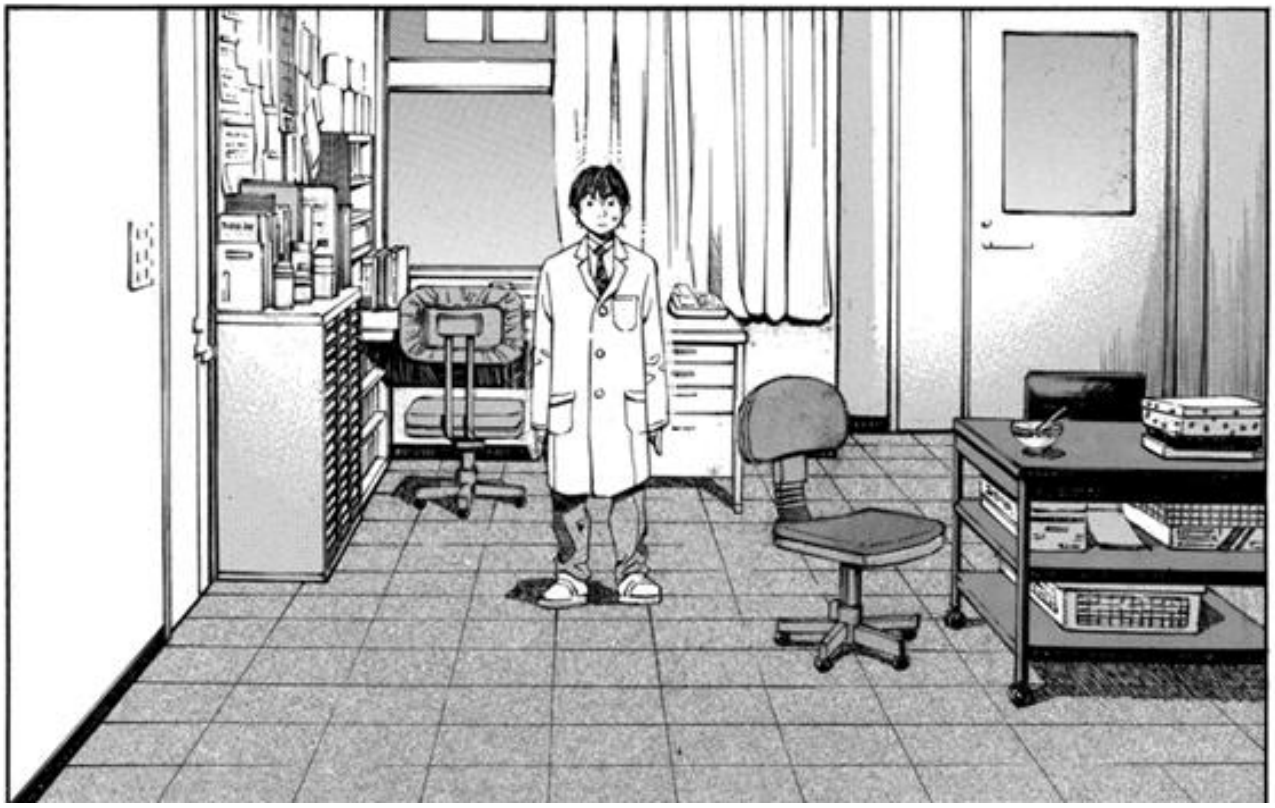
漫画onWeb

PLEASED TO MEET YOU!
I'M SAITO AND I'M HERE FROM EIROKU AS A PART-TIME DOCTOR.

Rolf
Rolf
Rolf


EAT...
EAT WHEN YA CAN EAT.
OUCH
UM I, UH...
I'M SAITO FROM EIROKU. I'M HERE FOR THE SHIFT.

漫画onWeb



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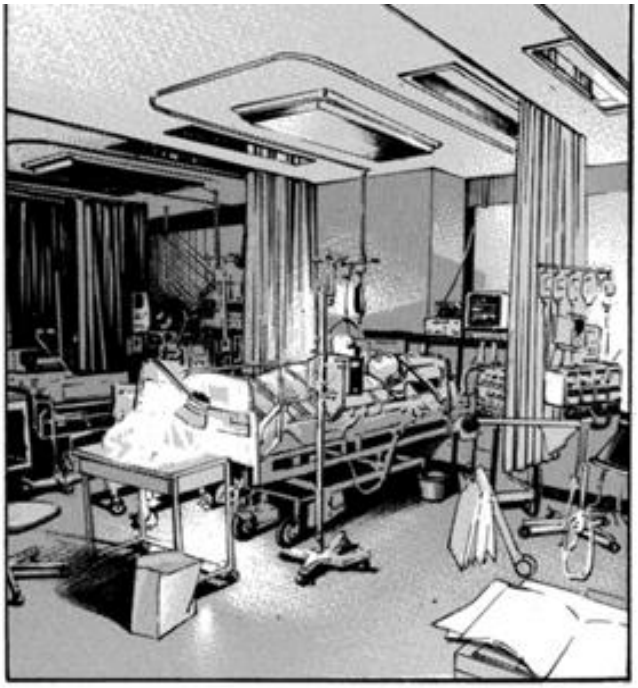
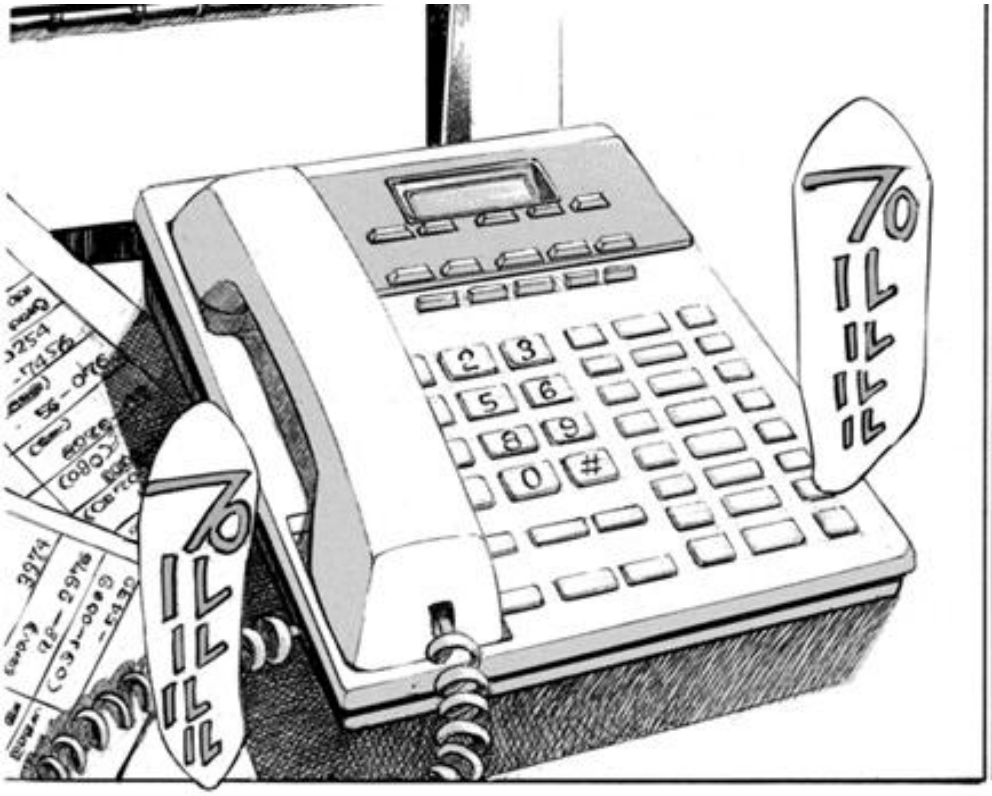


EMERGENCY ENTRANCE
救急用入口

THREE DOCTORS.
THE FIRST PERSON I MET WAS THE HOSPITAL DIRECTOR AND THAT LAST GUY WAS MR. USHIDA.
TONIGHT IT'S JUST ME AND MR. USHIDA.

SEIDO HOSPITAL.
120 BEDS.
A PRETTY LARGE HOSPITAL... TAKING ON THE MAJORITY OF THE AREA'S RESIDENTS... HMM...

漫画onWeb


プルルルル
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AAAHHH!
PLEASE! HELP ME!!!

HURRY! IT'S GONNA BE A WAR ZONE IN THERE!
YES, SIR!

ハマリ
ハマリ

漫画onWeb

PATIENT IS A 20 YEAR OLD MALE! HE FELL OFF HIS MOTORCYCLE ROUGHLY 30 MINUTES AGO.

HIS LEFT LEG IS SHATTERED!

GET ME HIS BLOOD COUNT, BLOOD TYPE, AND A COMPREHENSIVE CHEMICAL BREAKDOWN! STAT!

AND BRING ME 10 PACKS OF PRBCS!!

EIROKU GRAD!

GIVE HIM A LACTEC INJECTION AND 1,000 MILLIGRAMS OF HYDRO-CODONE!

ガチ

ガチ

HURRY IT UP, EIROKU!!!

THEN, WHEN YOU'RE DONE, CROSS-MATCH HIS BLOOD!!

漫画onWeb

I WASN'T ABLE TO HELP AT ALL IN THERE...
SORRY...

THE NIGHT'S ...
JUST STARTING.
YOU AIN'T GOT TIME TO BE DEPRESSED.

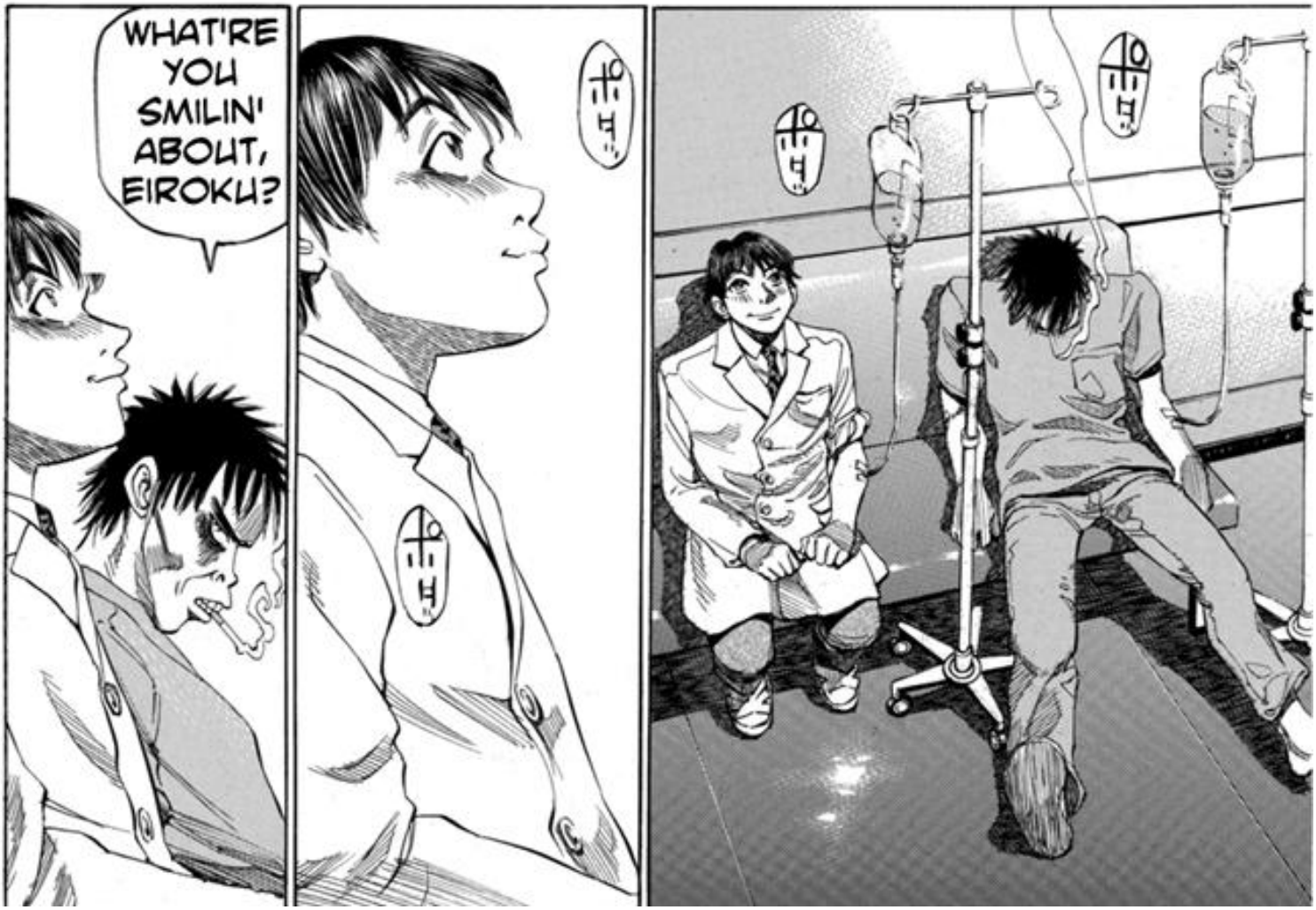
漫画onWeb

ピルルルル
MR. USHIDA!
HER BLOOD PRESSURE'S DROPPING!!
JUST SHUT UP AND GIVE HER THE TRANSFUSION!
IF SHE CAN SCREAM THAT DAMN MUCH, THEN SHE'LL BE ALRIGHT!
うあぁぁぁぁ
あぁぁぁぁ

漫画onWeb

"I'VE GOT AN ACCIDENT VICTIM!"
"HIS HEART BEAT IS IR-REGULAR, AND HE'S HAVING TROUBLE BREATHING!"
ピピピ
ピピピ
"WE'VE GOT A MALE IN HIS 60S!"
"HE'S STILL UNCONSCIOUS FROM A HEAD-ON COLLISION" AT A STOP LIGHT!
WOW... MR. USHIDA IS AMAZING...

漫画onWeb



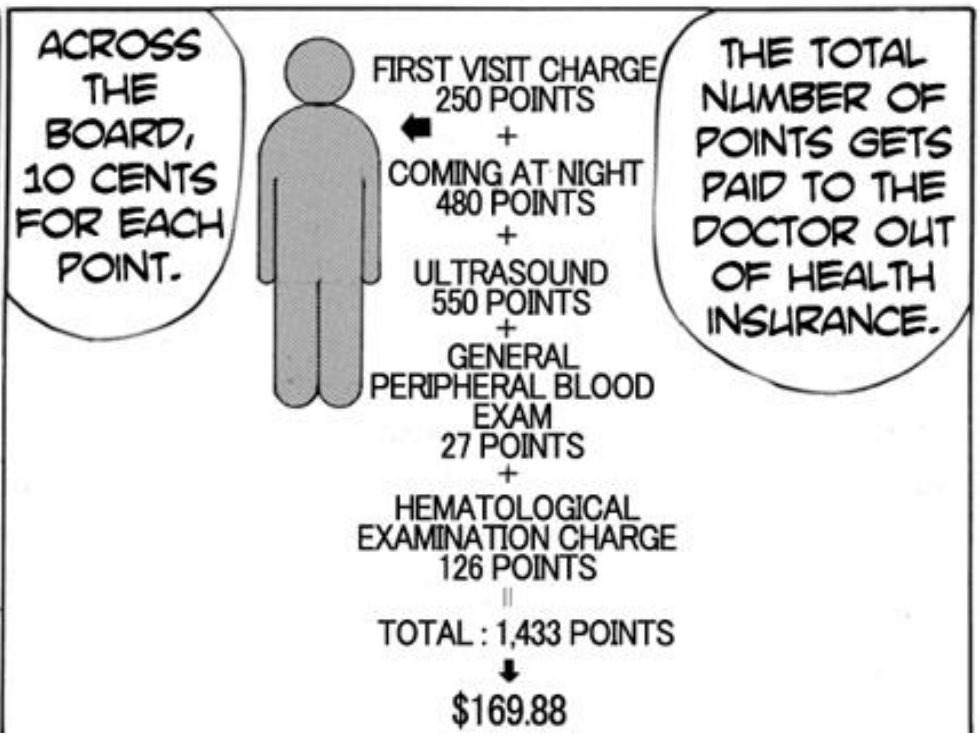
漫画onWeb

SHIT...
STOP TALKIN' LIKE A DAMN AMATEUR.

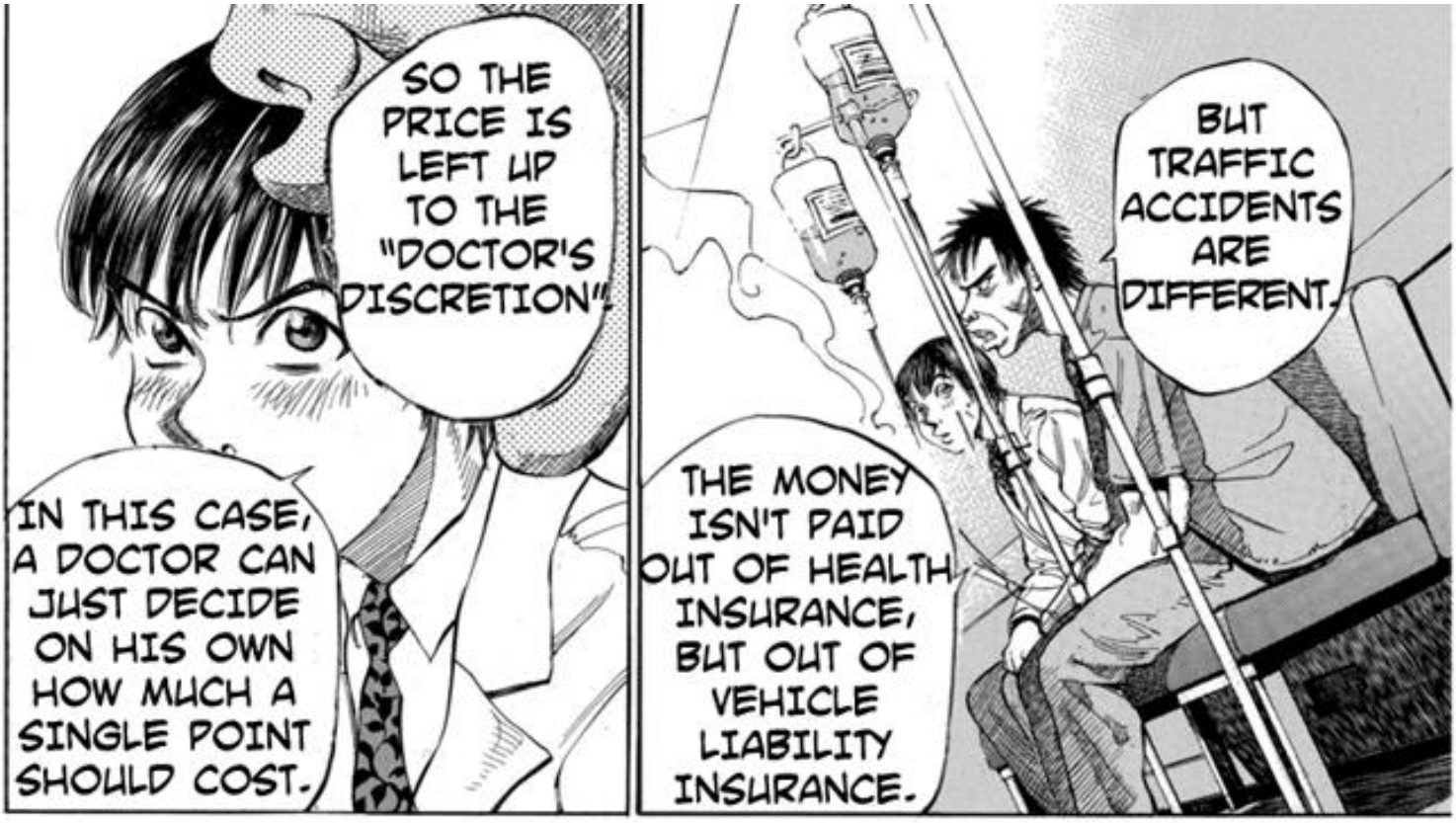
THIS HOSPITAL IS AMAZING.
HOW IT NEVER TURNS AWAY AN AMBULANCE.

A DOCTOR'S ACTIONS ARE ALL BASED ON A POINT SYSTEM...
IF YOU GIVE AN ENEMA, YOU GET 42 POINTS... DRAW BLOOD AND YOU GET 12 POINTS.

OKAY...


ACROSS THE BOARD, 10 CENTS FOR EACH POINT.
FIRST VISIT CHARGE
250 POINTS
+
COMING AT NIGHT
480 POINTS
+
ULTRASOUND
550 POINTS
+
GENERAL PERIPHERAL BLOOD EXAM
27 POINTS
+
HEMATOLOGICAL EXAMINATION CHARGE
126 POINTS
=
TOTAL : 1,433 POINTS
$169.88
THE TOTAL NUMBER OF POINTS GETS PAID TO THE DOCTOR OUT OF HEALTH INSURANCE.

漫画onWeb


SO THE PRICE IS LEFT UP TO THE "DOCTOR'S DISCRETION".
IN THIS CASE, A DOCTOR CAN JUST DECIDE ON HIS OWN HOW MUCH A SINGLE POINT SHOULD COST.
BUT TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS ARE DIFFERENT.
THE MONEY ISN'T PAID OUT OF HEALTH INSURANCE, BUT OUT OF VEHICLE LIABILITY INSURANCE.

IN OTHER WORDS...
WHEN A DOCTOR IS DEALING WITH A PATIENT FROM A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT, HE CAN CHARGE HOWEVER MUCH MONEY HE WANTS...?

DIDN'T YOU NOTICE?
THE ONLY PATIENTS WE ACCEPT ARE FROM TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

漫画onWeb

AT THIS HOSPITAL, WE CHARGE 40 CENTS FOR EACH POINT IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.
WE'RE OVER-CHARGING THEM FOUR TIMES THE NORMAL RATE.

IN THE END, IT'S ALL FOR THE MONEY.
IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE DOING THIS AS A PUBLIC SERVICE...

I MADE 94 DOLLARS.
IN JUST ONE NIGHT, I MADE OVER TWICE MY MONTHLY SALARY AS AN INTERN...

キコ…
キィ…

漫画onWeb

HOW WAS THE PART-TIME JOB?
SO...?
ゴミ
ゴミ

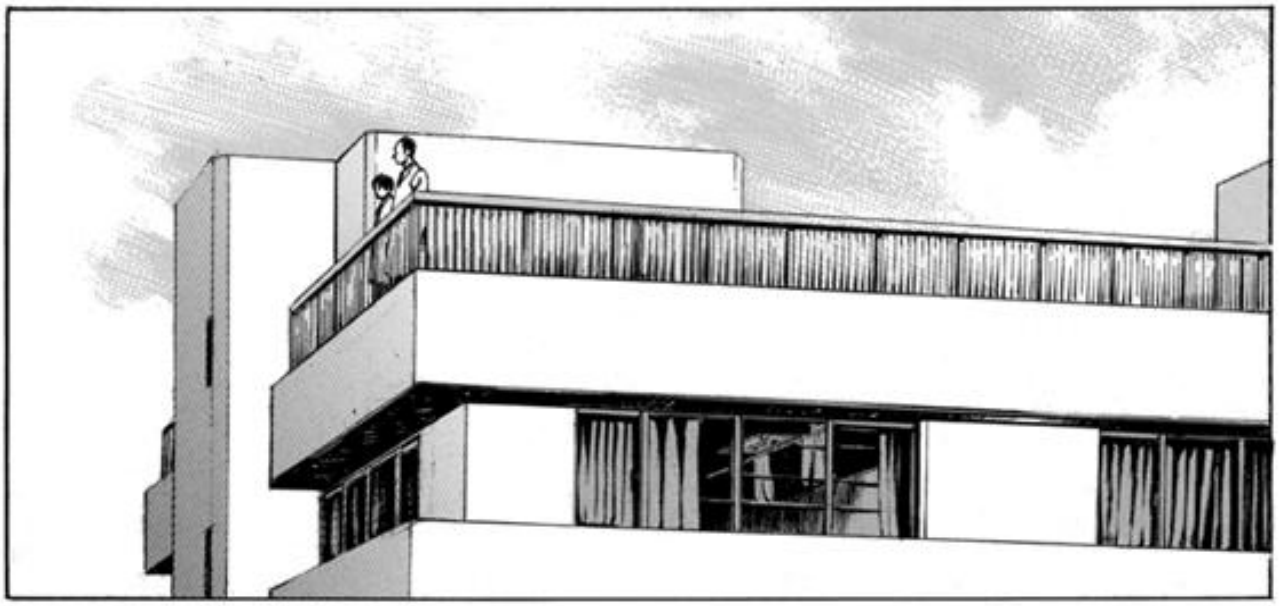
I ONLY SLEPT 3 HOURS AGAIN LAST NIGHT...
INTERNS HAVE GOTTA BE THE UN-HEALTHIEST PEOPLE IN THE WORLD...
ゴミ
ゴミ

...
UH...

カラ
カラ

漫画onWeb

WHO'S THAT?
LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER PATIENT DIED...
カラ
カラ



YEAH, BUT...
THIS KINDA MONEY IS...

WHY NOT...?
YOU WORKED PRETTY HARD FOR IT.

IS IT REALLY OKAY?
ME TAKING THIS $948...

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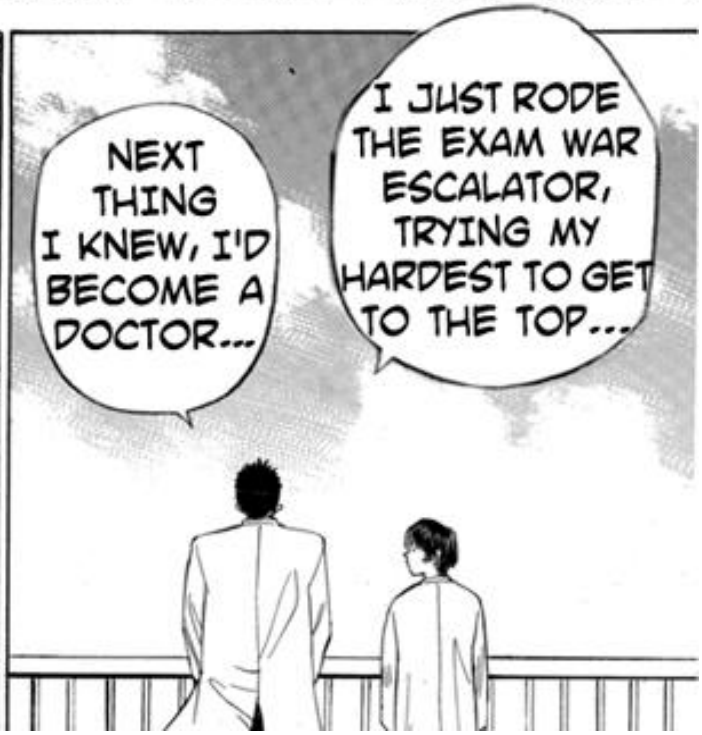
I...

I DON'T WANT TO BECOME A CORRUPT DOCTOR...



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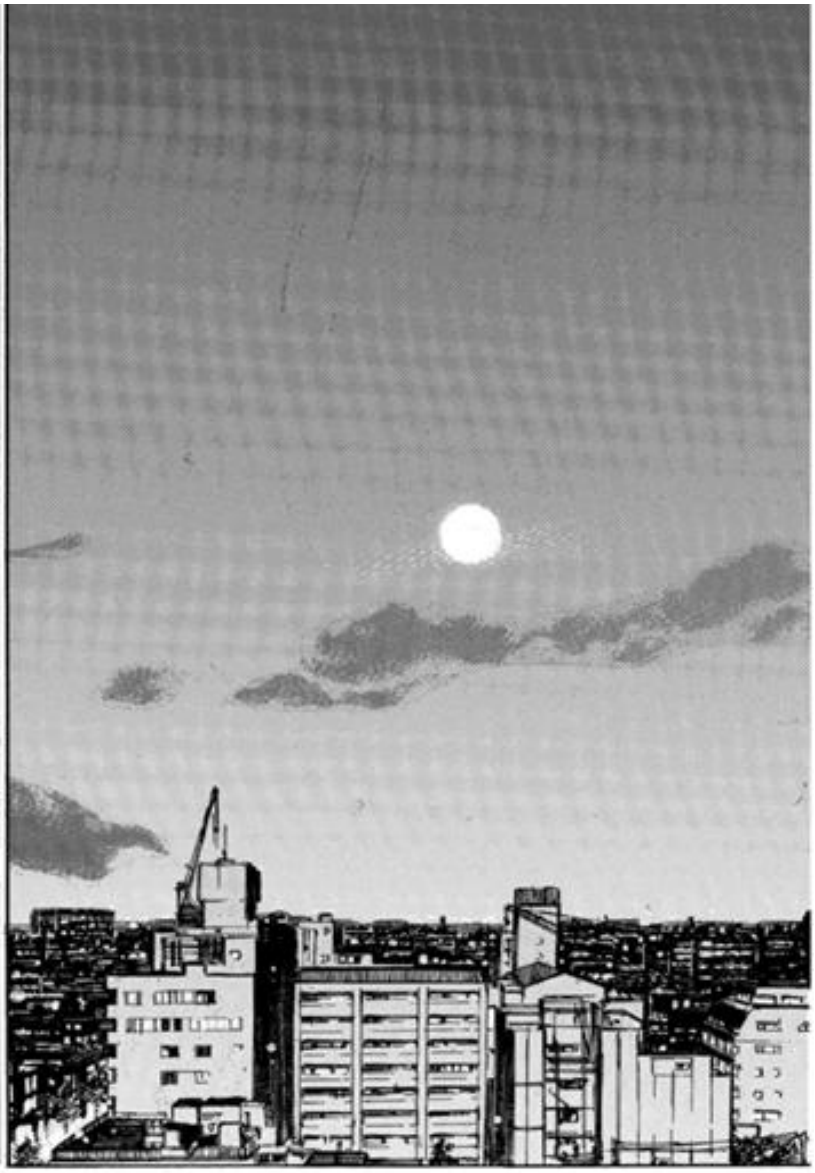
Seido Hospital

漫画onWeb

THERE ARE CURRENTLY 240,000 DOCTORS IN JAPAN.
WHAT DOES THAT NUMBER TELL YOU?



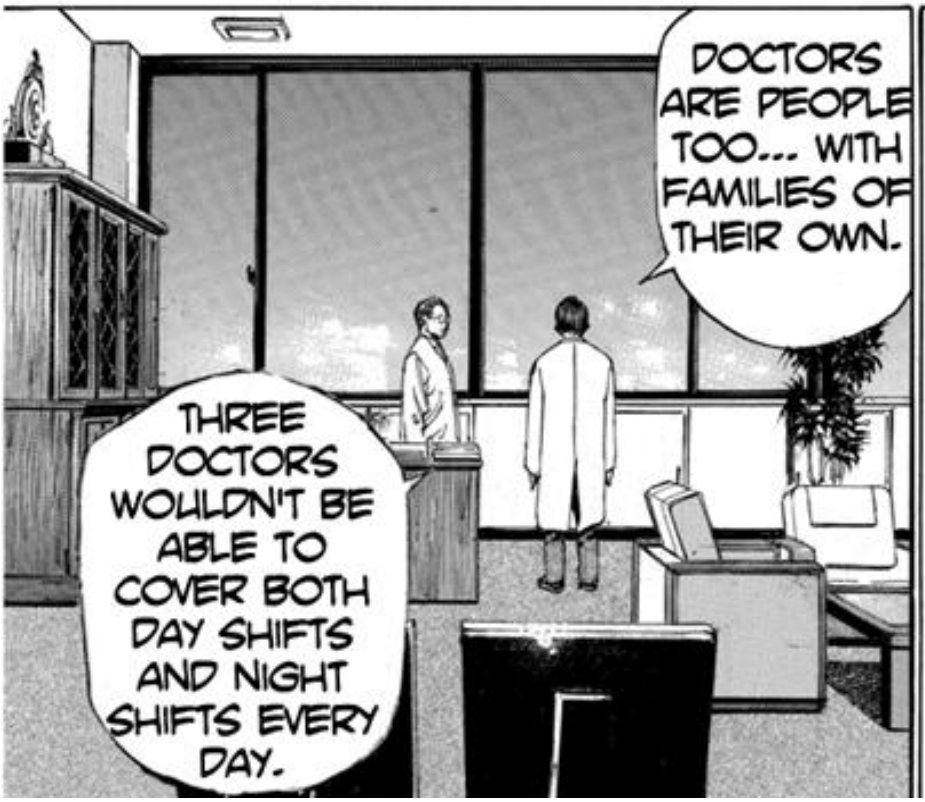
IT'S PRETTY IMPRESSIVE, I THINK.
THAT THERE'S ABOUT ONE DOCTOR FOR EVERY 500 PEOPLE.
THAT CAN'T BE BEATEN BY ANY OTHER FIRST-WORLD COUNTRY.

GOOD ANSWER.
BUT YOU'RE FORGETTING SOMETHING IMPORTANT...

漫画onWeb

JAPAN HAS A LOT OF DOCTORS, BUT IT ALSO HAS A RIDICULOUS NUMBER OF HOSPITALS.
THAT'S WHY EVEN A HOSPITAL AS BIG AS OURS ONLY HAS THREE DOCTORS.
THE NUMBER OF HOSPITALS.

TO PUT IT SIMPLY...
THE NUMBER OF DOCTORS TO A SINGLE HOSPITAL IN JAPAN IS EXTREMELY SMALL.


DOCTORS ARE PEOPLE TOO... WITH FAMILIES OF THEIR OWN.
THREE DOCTORS WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO COVER BOTH DAY SHIFTS AND NIGHT SHIFTS EVERY DAY.

I KNOW THAT...
...

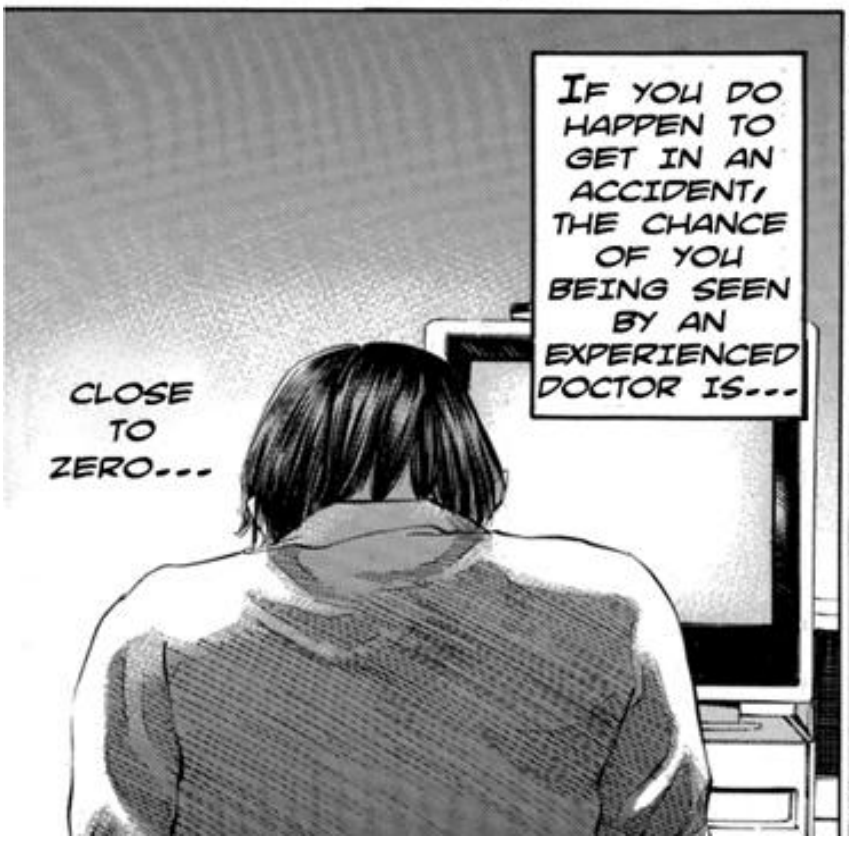
漫画onWeb

I FEEL LIKE I JUST DID SOMETHING VERY BAD.

漫画onWeb

I NEEDED MONEY FOR MY LIVING EXPENSES.

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS, THAT'S NOT UNUSUAL...
AT NIGHT, THERE'RE ONLY INTERNS IN A HOSPITAL.


IF YOU DO HAPPEN TO GET IN AN ACCIDENT, THE CHANCE OF YOU BEING SEEN BY AN EXPERIENCED DOCTOR IS...
CLOSE TO ZERO...

QUITE THE OPPOSITE. FOR HOSPITALS IN JAPAN, IT'S JUST COMMON SENSE.
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE, DON'T RIDE YOUR CAR AT NIGHT.

漫画onWeb

This is night in Japan.

In a survey of 79 university hospitals from

all around the country, no more than

2% forbade their interns from part-time work.

80% of the interns involved in part-time work

had treated patients with no supervision.

漫画onWeb

Additionally,

over 90% of the interns treating patients unsupervised,

treated their patients while in a state of unease.

(Data taken from a survey of the Association of Independent Japanese Medical Students)

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ファン
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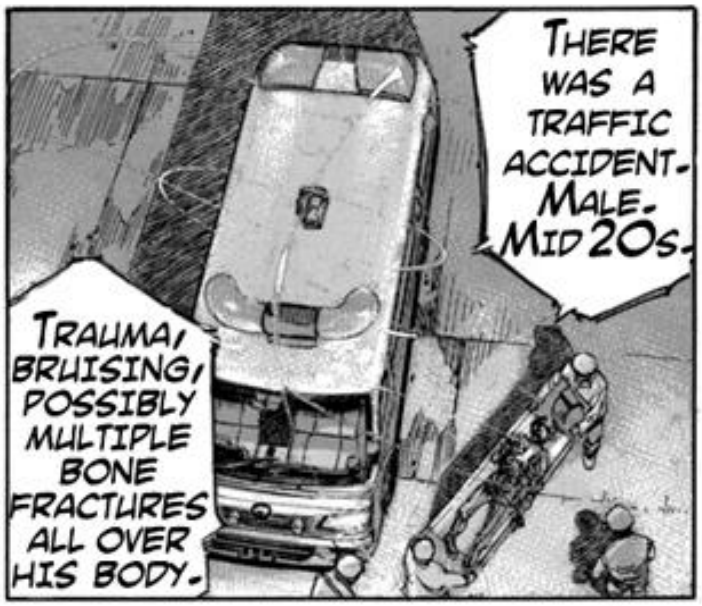
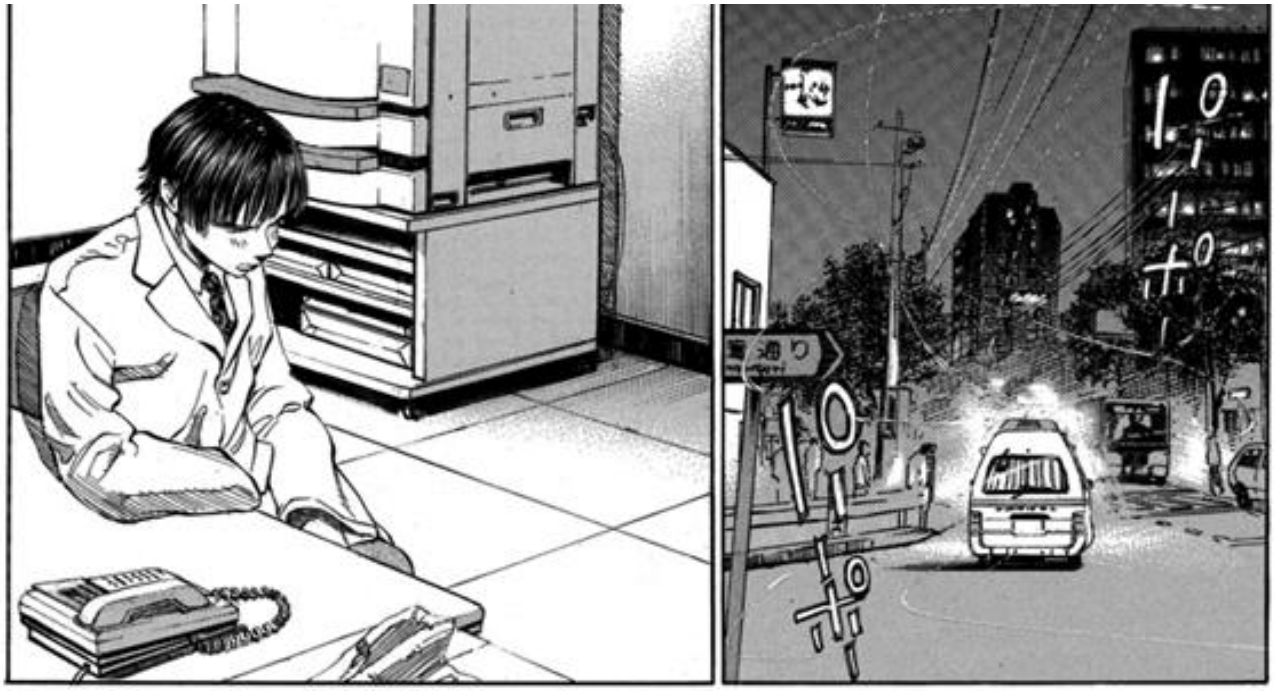
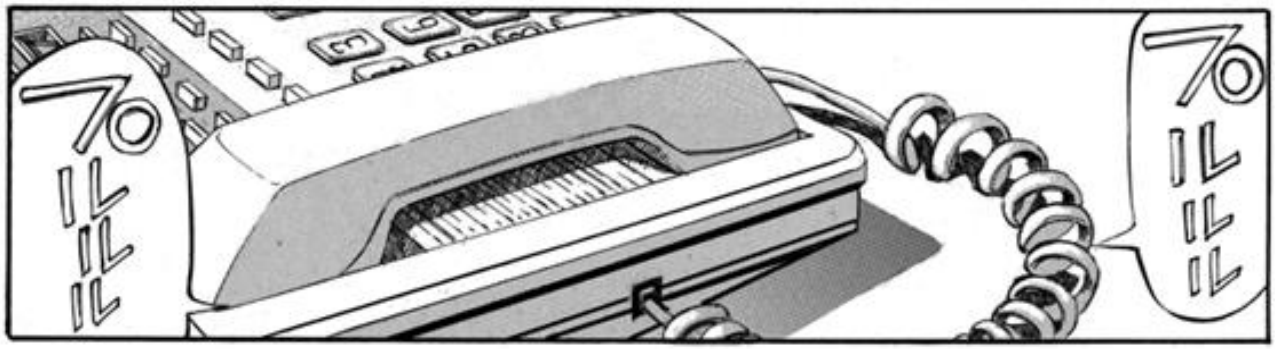
LEVEL 30.
RESPIRATION: 24. PULSE: 120.

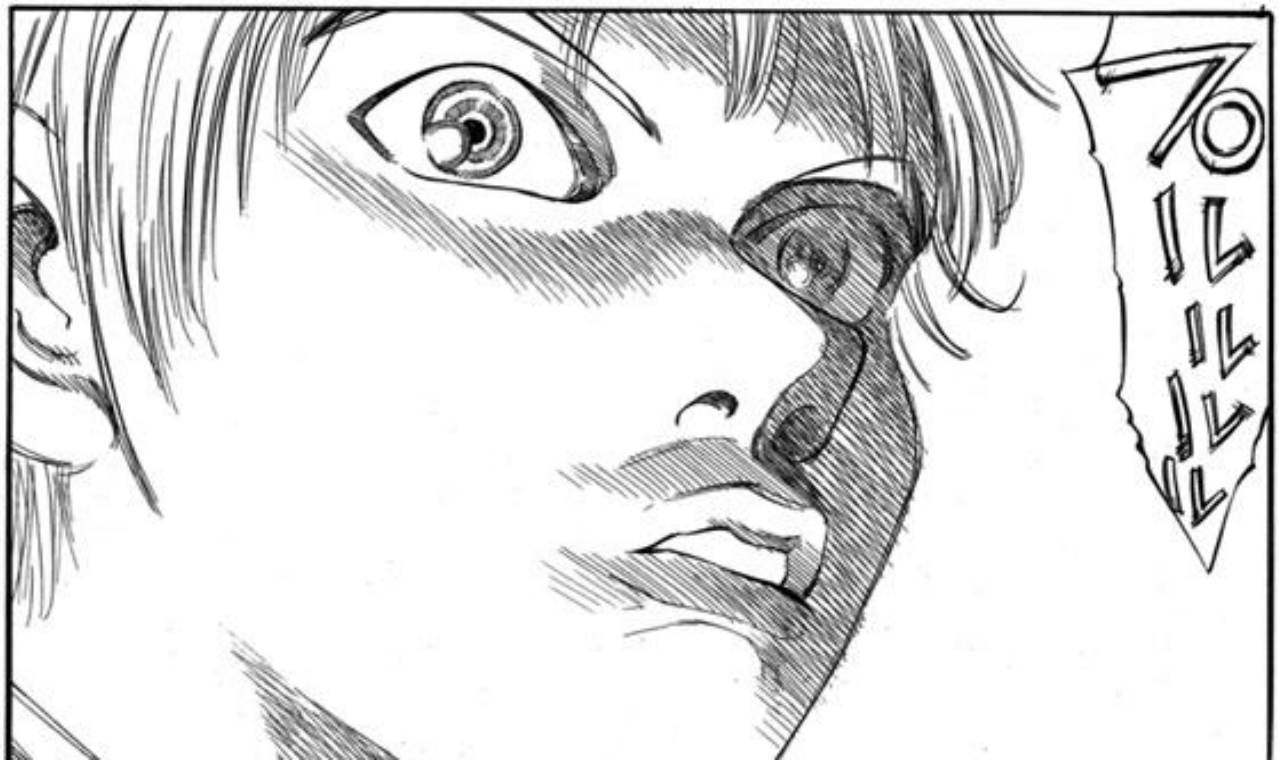

THERE WAS A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT. MALE. MID 20S.
TRAUMA, BRUISING, POSSIBLY MULTIPLE BONE FRACTURES ALL OVER HIS BODY.

GET THIS MAN TO THE HOSPITAL IMMEDIATELY!
WE'RE READY TO GO!

漫画onWeb







漫画onWeb

WE'RE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE PATIENT!

救急用入口

THE AMBULANCE WILL BE HERE IN 10 MINUTES!

I GOT IT, OKAY?!

DOCTOR, PLEASE HURRY TO THE OPERATING ROOM!

HEY-HEY! YOU'VE REACHED THE USHIDA RESIDENCE. IF YOU-

UHM, HELLO?

IS MR. USHIDA-

プルルルル

プルルルル

漫画onWeb

DAMMIT!!
SAKU
MR. USHIDA, PLEASE WAKE UP!!
THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!!
WE MAY HAVE TO OPERATE!!

DOCTOR!
THE AMBULANCE IS HERE!!

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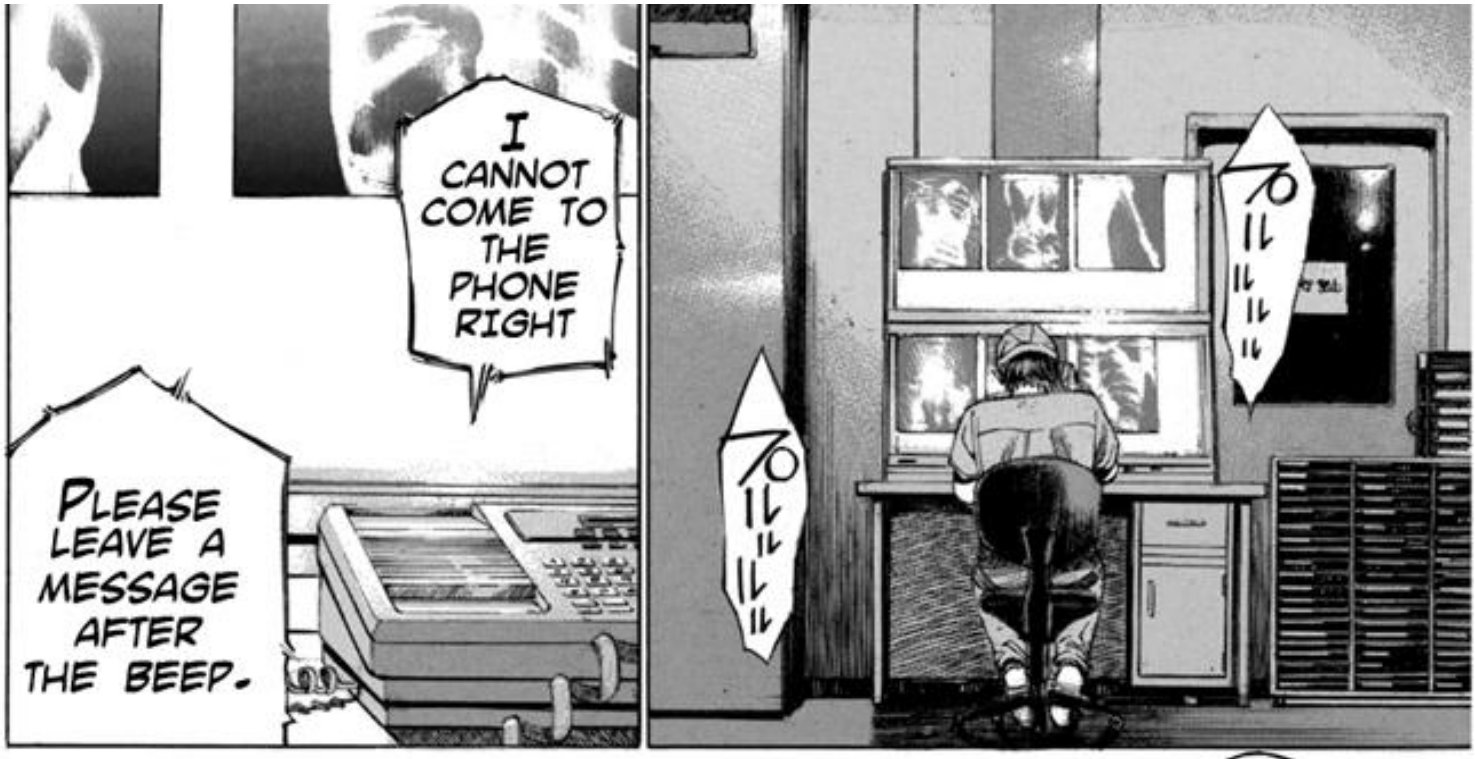
漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb


I CANNOT COME TO THE PHONE RIGHT
PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AFTER THE BEEP.
ル ル ル ル ル
ル ル ル ル ル

SHIT... THE DIRECTOR ISN'T HOME EITHER.

THAT... DOCTOR... WHAT'S GOING ON...?
HE'S NOT COMING BACK.

I CAN'T DO IT...

漫画onWeb

!!
!!
HIS LIVER'S RUPTURED AND THERE'S A HOLE SOMEWHERE IN HIS DIGESTIVE TRACT...
I'VE... I'VE NEVER DONE THIS KIND OF MAJOR OPERATION BEFORE...
HE'S GOING TO DIE...
WHAT AM I GONNA DO...?
ガチャッ
!!
I JUST CAN'T DO IT...
コツ
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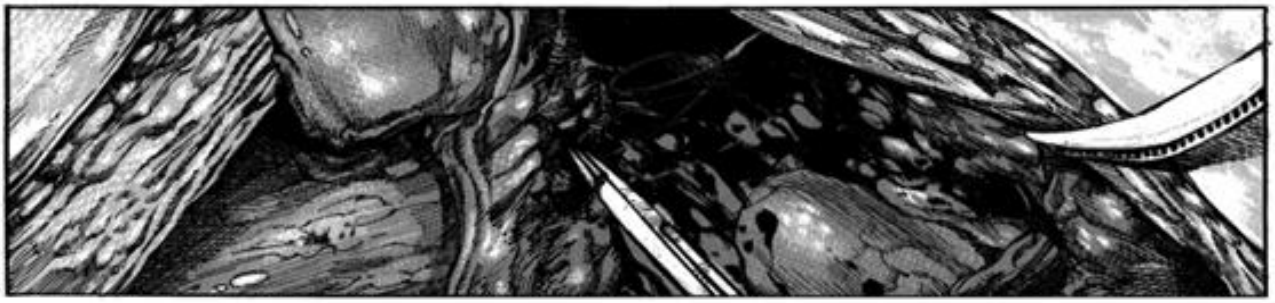
漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb

手術中
IN SURGERY



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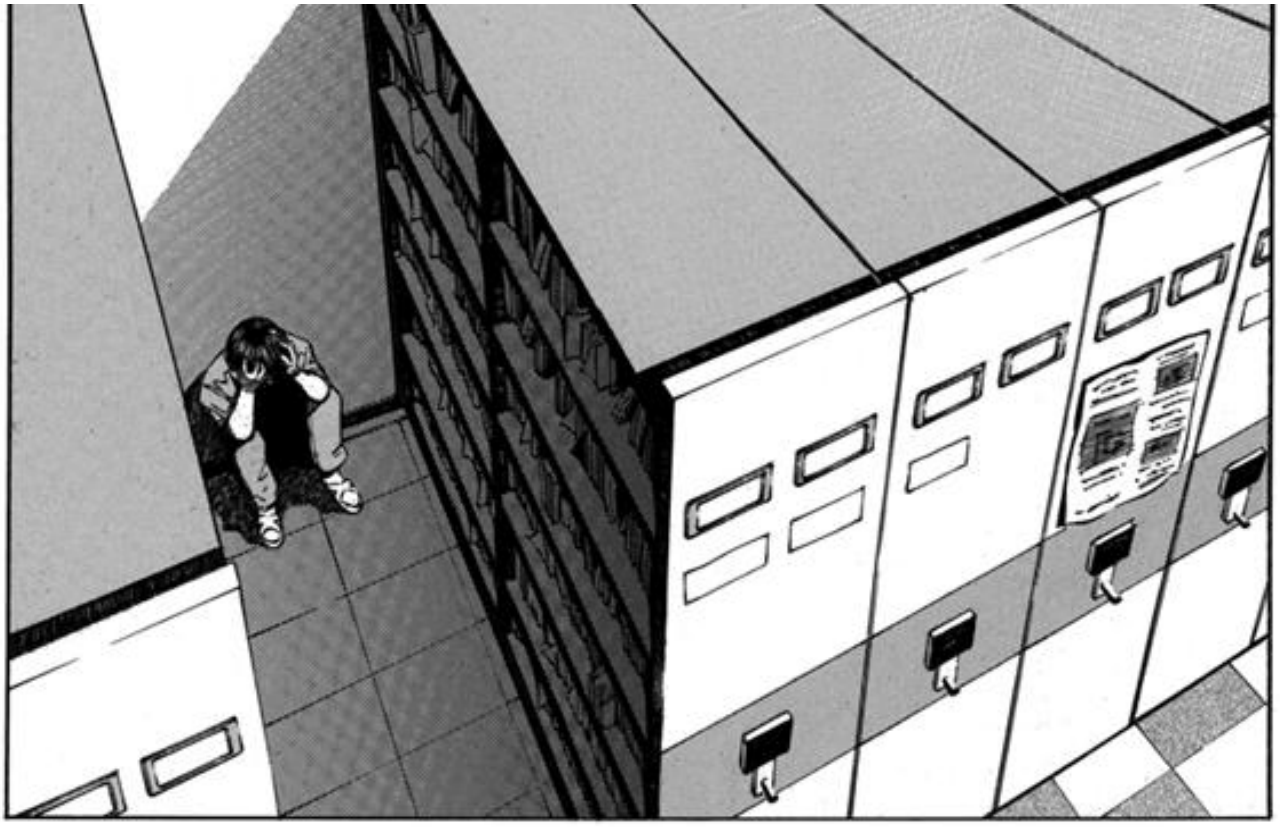

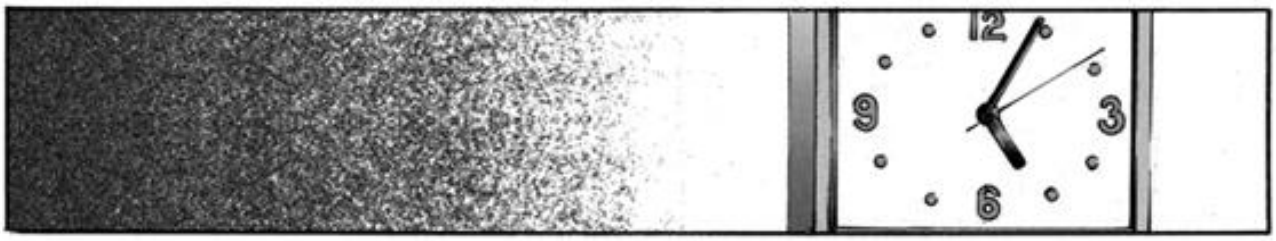

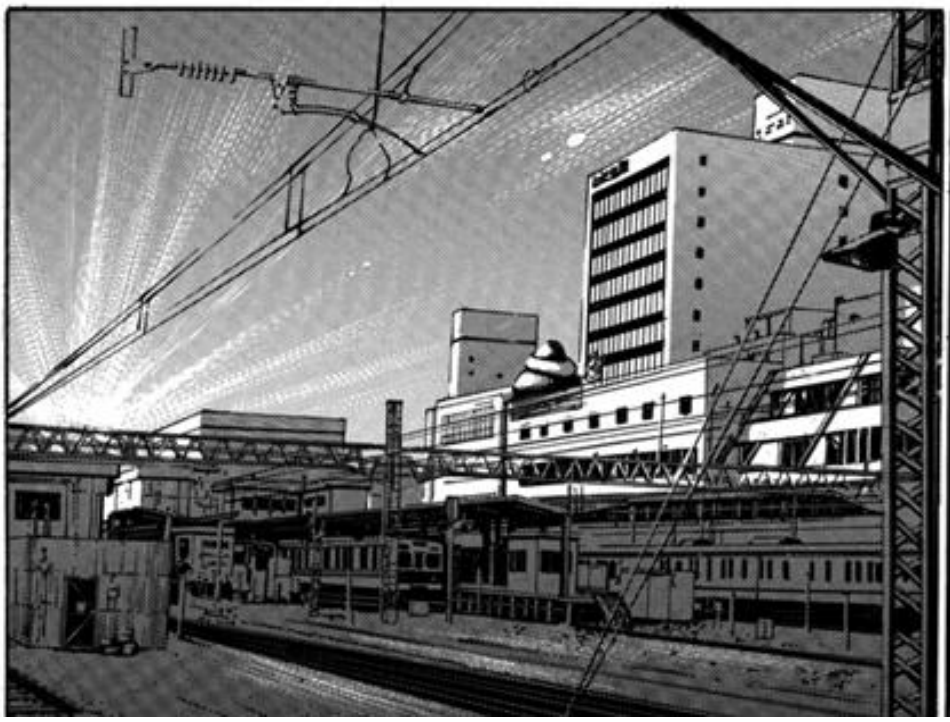

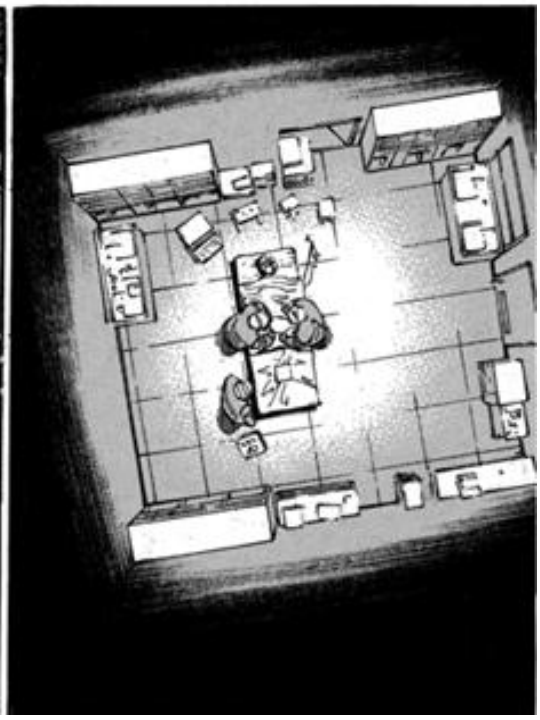

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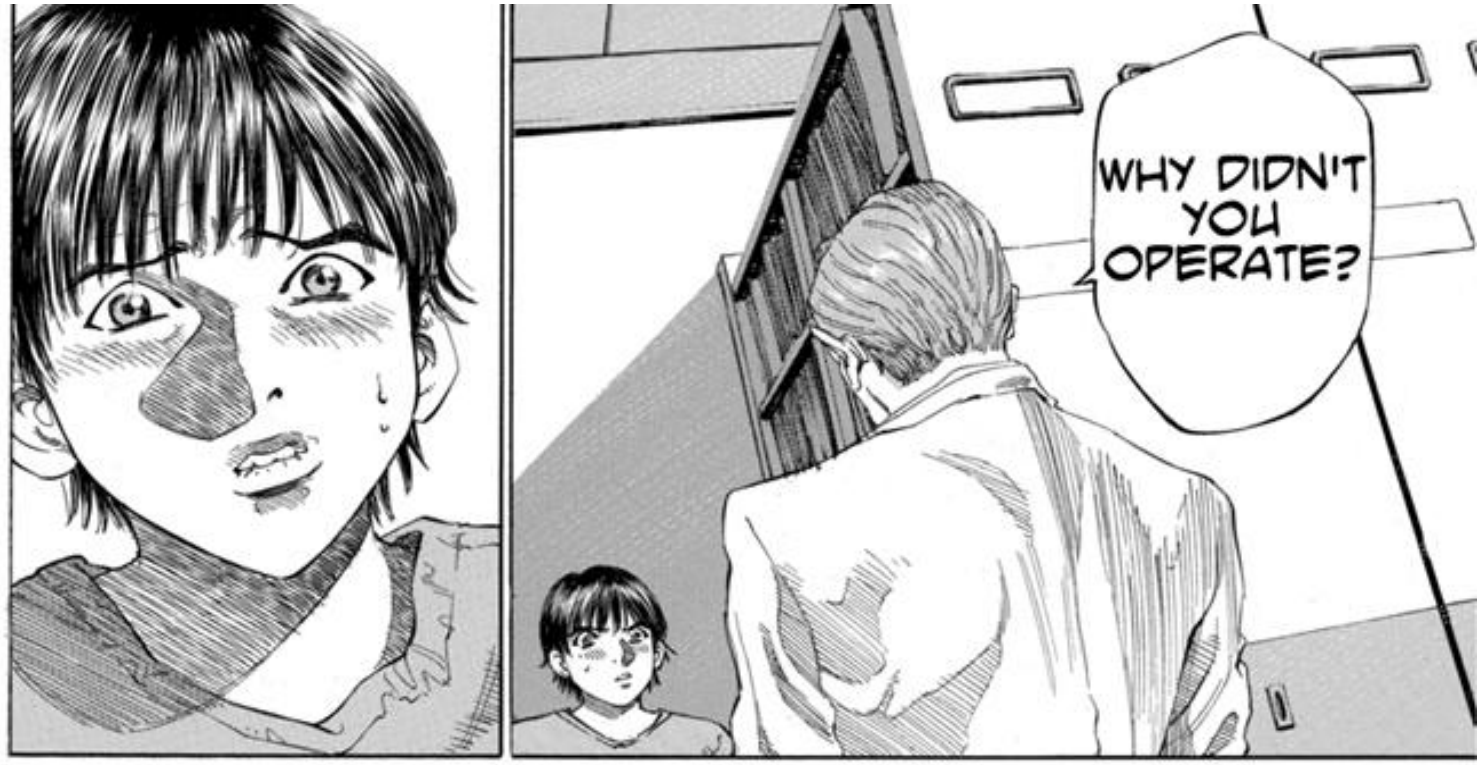

WHY DIDN'T YOU OPERATE?

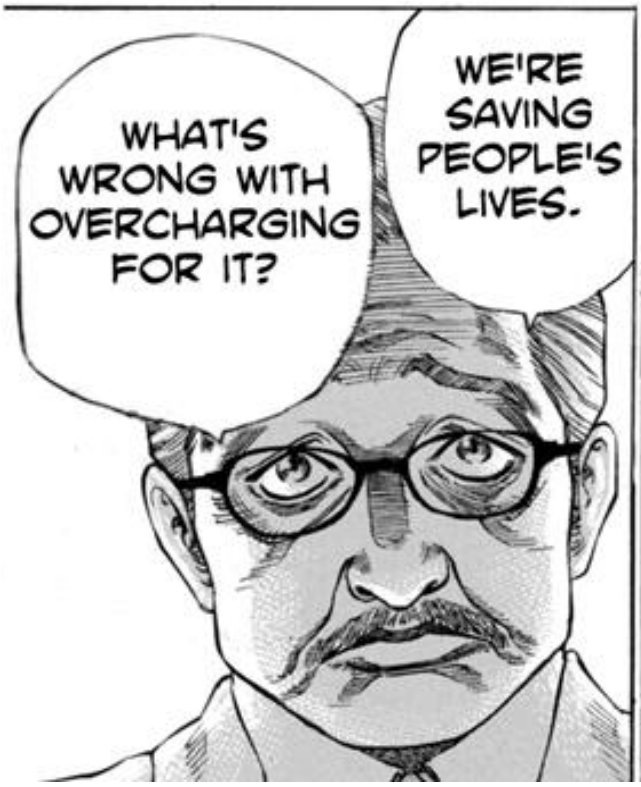
IF YOU JUST IGNORE HIM, HE'S GONNA DIE.
AND IF HE'S GOT TO DIE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL CUT HIS ABDOMEN OPEN...

YOU WERE JUST GONNA LET THAT PATIENT DIE WITHOUT EVEN TRYING TO HELP...
IT'S BETTER THAN DOING NOTHING.
BECAUSE...
IF I SCREW UP, THEN I'M A MURDERER.

漫画onWeb

IT'S THE HOSPITAL'S FAULT FOR LEAVING AN INTERN LIKE ME HERE ALONE ALL NIGHT!
No!!!

BUT ALL YOU CARE ABOUT IS MONEY, RIGHT!?
IF YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH DOCTORS, YOU SHOULDN'T EVEN ACCEPT ANY PATIENTS!


WHAT'S WRONG WITH OVERCHARGING FOR IT?
WE'RE SAVING PEOPLE'S LIVES.

SO?

漫画onWeb

WHAT DOES ME TAKING SOMEONE'S MONEY...
AND YOU NOT OPERATING ON THAT PATIENT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH EACH OTHER?

YOU'RE A DOCTOR...
WHETHER YOU'RE NEW OR INEXPERIENCED, TO THE PATIENT, YOU'RE STILL A DOCTOR.

YOU THINK THAT IF YOU SCREW UP THE OPERATION, YOU'RE A MURDERER?
WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT, IT'S THAT PATIENT'S FAULT FOR CAUSING THE ACCIDENT IN THE FIRST PLACE.

漫画onWeb

DON'T GIVE ME ANY MORE OF YOUR FANCY PHILOSOPHICAL ARGUMENTS.
DO THE OPERATIONS NO MATTER WHAT.

BEING RIGHT JUST MEANS BEING WEAK.

BEING STRONG...
MEANS BEING WRONG.

漫画onWeb

YOU'RE A DOCTOR.

SINCE THE MOMENT YOU GOT YOUR MEDICAL LICENSE, YOU STOPPED BEING A NORMAL PERSON.

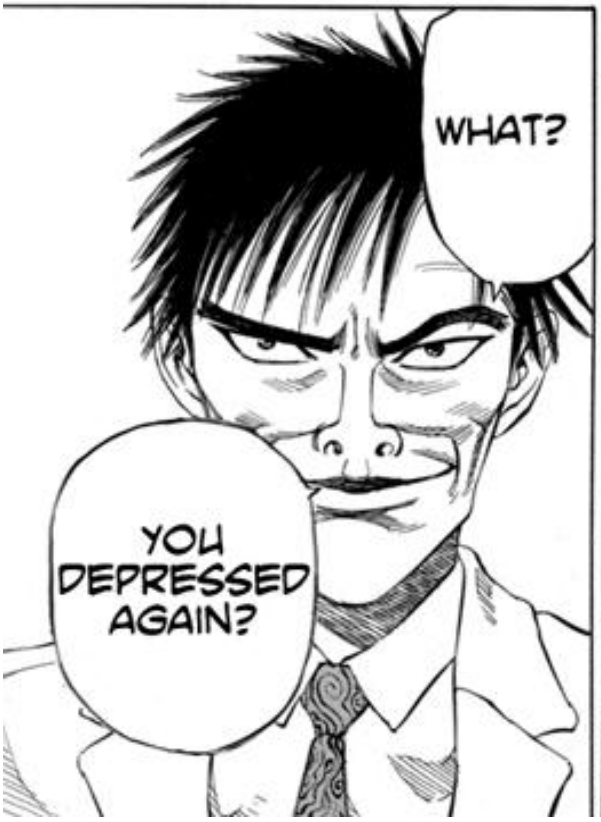
BE STRONG.

漫画onWeb

白木屋
白木屋

MR. USHIDA...

HEY, 'SUP?
EIROKU GRAD!


WHAT?
YOU DEPRESSED AGAIN?

ぐずっ

I GOT SO DRUNK I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE YOUR PHONE CALL.
SORRY 'BOUT LAST NIGHT...

漫画onWeb

A LONG TIME AGO...
I ARGUED WITH WHAT THE DIRECTOR WAS DOING TOO...

"THE WAY YOU'RE DOING THINGS IS WRONG."
"HOSPITALS AREN'T A TOOL FOR MAKIN' MONEY."
Y'KNOW? THAT'S WHAT I TOLD HIM...

BUT, YOU KNOW WHAT?
JUST TRYING TO SATISFY YOURSELF BY BEING RIGHT ISN'T GOING TO CHANGE ANYTHING.

I STILL THINK HE'S WRONG...

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THE TRUTH IS...

THAT MAN IS SAVING PEOPLE'S LIVES...

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漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A DOCTOR...?

AND I STILL DON'T HAVE AN ANSWER...
IT'S BEEN A WEEK SINCE THAT NIGHT...

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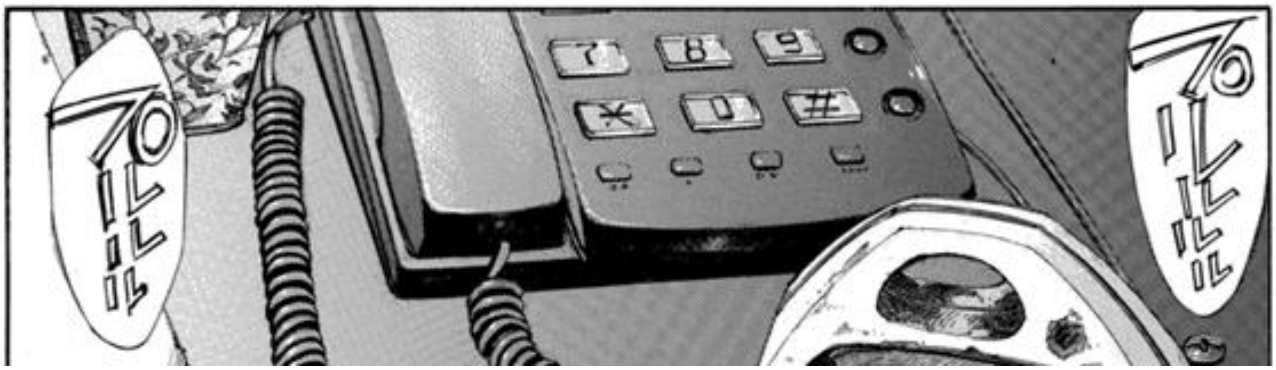
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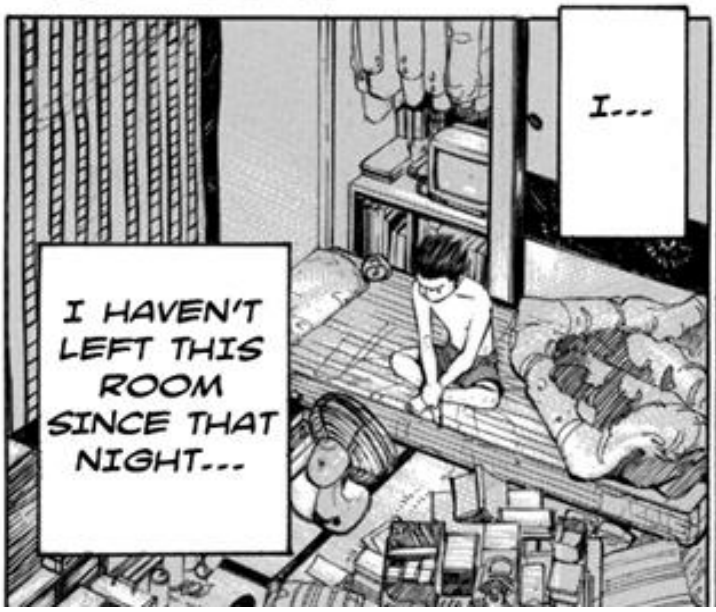
漫画onWeb

#2
Eels and Godhands
"I'M NOT HOME RIGHT NOW."
"PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AFTER THE BEEP."

漫画onWeb

"Uh... This is Ushida from Seido Hospital."

"The director was saying that he'd like to have you back on shift if you're up for it..."



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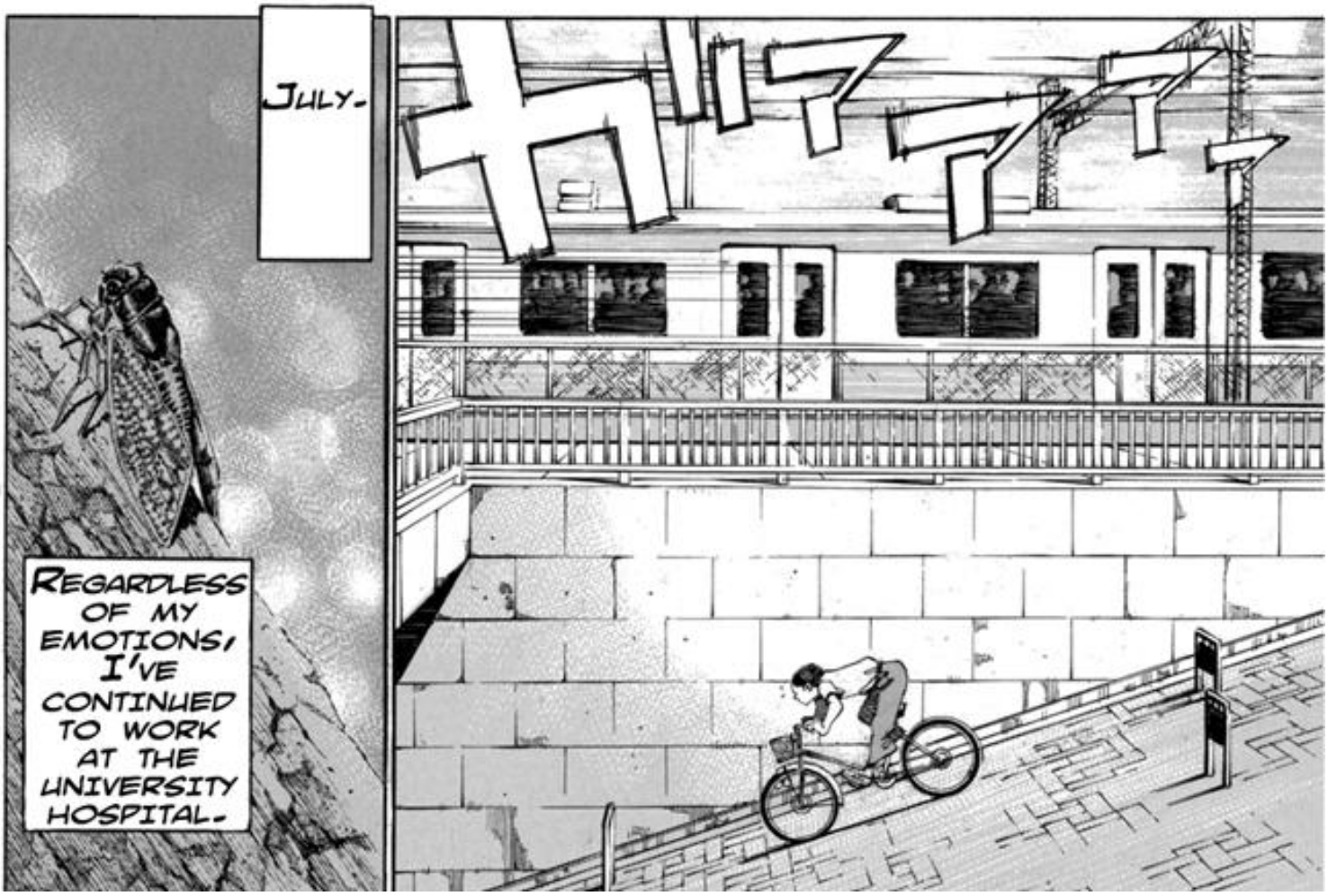
I WANNA GO BACK HOME!!!


JULY.
ナルラァァァァ
REGARDLESS OF MY EMOTIONS, I'VE CONTINUED TO WORK AT THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL.

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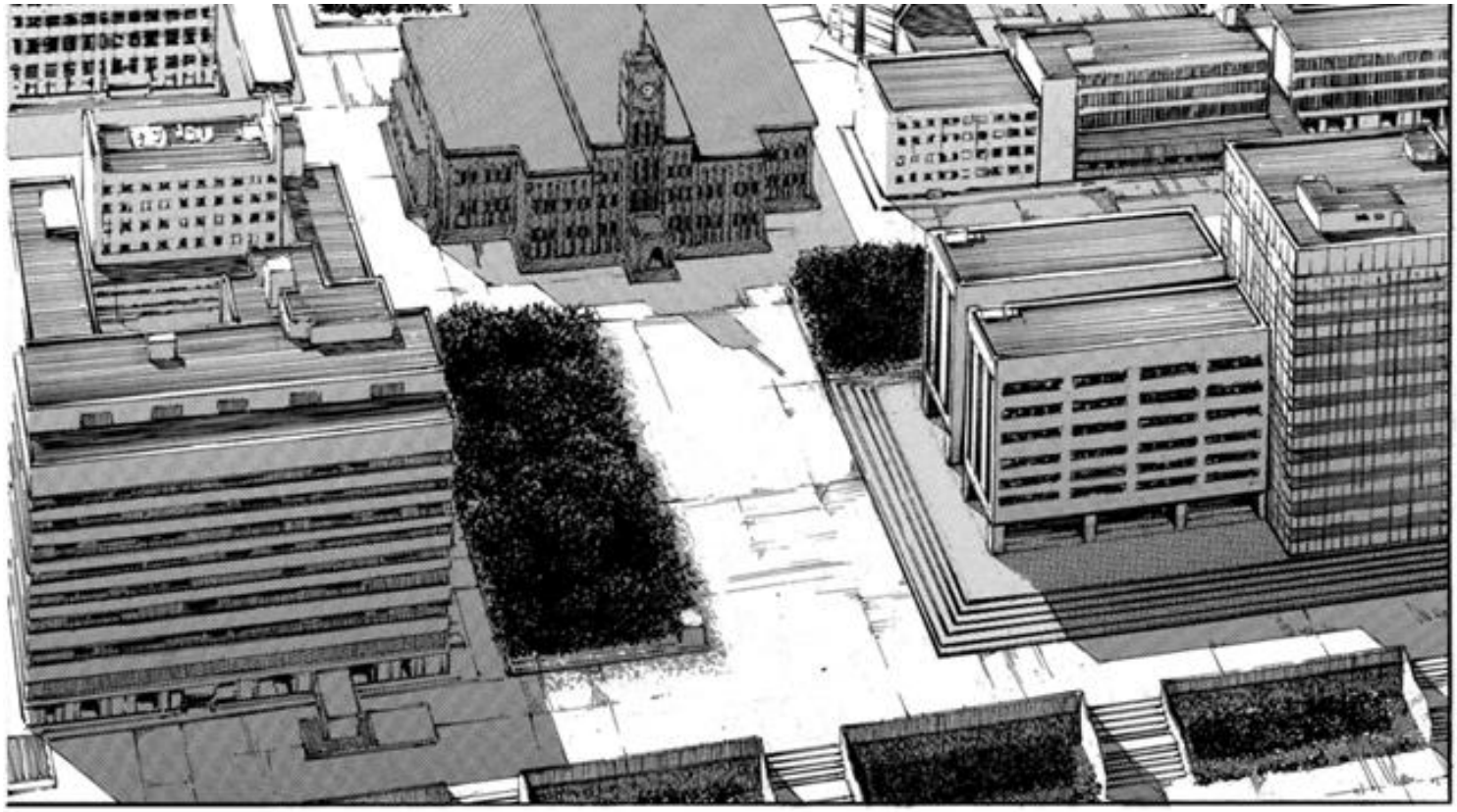

SEVEN OF YOU WILL BE INTERNING HERE AT "PRIMARY SURGERY."

YOU INTERNS HAVE FINISHED YOUR 3 MONTH BASIC TRAINING.
SO NOW IT'S TIME TO START YOUR CORE TRAINING.
永禄大学附属病
ALRIGHT. SINCE TODAY IS THE FIRST OF JULY... THAT MEANS,

KUNIYA DEKUNE.
EIJIRO SAITO.

漫画onWeb

SHLUURP
GOOD MORNING!
IT'S TIME TO DRAW BLOOD!

HOW ABOUT MEETING MY DAUGHTER NEXT TIME?
HEY, DOC. YOU GUYS MAKE A LOT O' MONEY, RIGHT?

内科/麻酔科
外科
整形外科
眼科

I GET IT OKAY? STOP TAKING IT OUT ON ME, SAITO.
THAT IF I WASN'T DOING MY NIGHT SHIFT, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO EAT!!
I MAKE A MEASLY $449 A MONTH! I'M SO POOR,
WHY DOES EVERYONE THINK US DOCTORS ARE RICH?

漫画onWeb

ONCE YOU'VE FINISHED GETTING READY, GO TO THE OPERATION ROOM.
I'LL START THE EXPLANATION WHEN EVERYONE'S THERE.
NORMALLY THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT ATTACHED TO A UNIVERSITY-- IN OTHER WORDS, THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL...
YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW THIS, BUT UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS ARE UNIQUE IN THAT THEY HAVE 3 SPECIFIC GOALS: EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND MEDICAL CARE.
TODAY'S PATIENT IS A 75 YEAR OLD MALE.
HE HAS RUPTURED ESOPHAGEAL VARICES DUE TO HEPATIC CIRRHOSIS, FURTHER COMPLICATED BY A HEPATIC COMA.
...IS NOT THERE WITH ONLY THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING MEDICAL CARE.
永禄大学医学部
永禄大学附属病院

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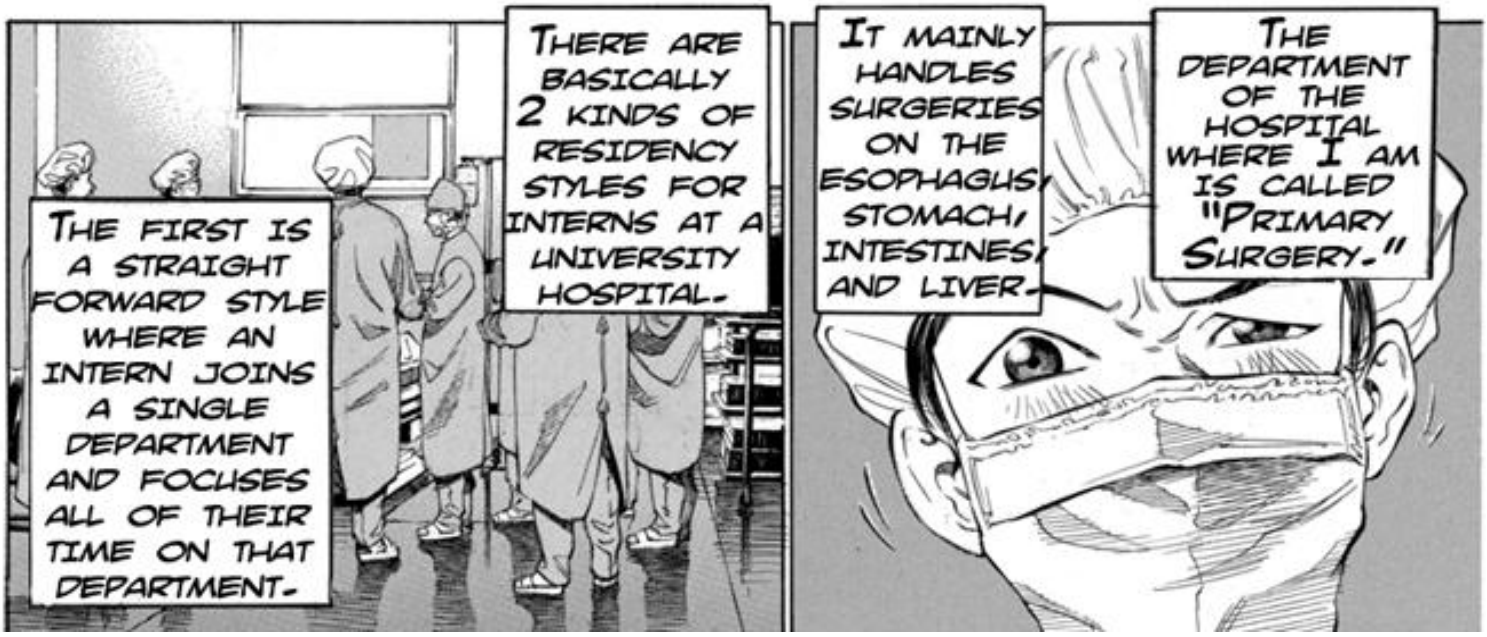
THE FIRST IS A STRAIGHT FORWARD STYLE WHERE AN INTERN JOINS A SINGLE DEPARTMENT AND FOCUSES ALL OF THEIR TIME ON THAT DEPARTMENT.
THERE ARE BASICALLY 2 KINDS OF RESIDENCY STYLES FOR INTERNS AT A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL.
IT MAINLY HANDLES SURGERIES ON THE ESOPHAGUS, STOMACH, INTESTINES, AND LIVER.
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE HOSPITAL WHERE I AM IS CALLED "PRIMARY SURGERY."

漫画onWeb

EIROKU UNIVERSITY'S HOSPITAL FOLLOWS THE HEAVY ROTATION STYLE.
WE SPEND 2 TO 3 MONTHS AT EACH DEPARTMENT, LEARNING AS MUCH AS WE CAN.

THE SECOND IS A HEAVILY ROTATING STYLE WHERE AN INTERN MOVES FROM DEPARTMENT TO DEPARTMENT FOR ABOUT 2 YEARS.

AND, AFTER 2 YEARS...
WE DECIDE WHICH DEPARTMENT WE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE WORKING IN.

PROFESSOR KASUKABE WILL BE HERE IN A FEW MOMENTS.
THE PROFESSOR HIMSELF WILL BE OPERATING ON THE PATIENT TODAY.

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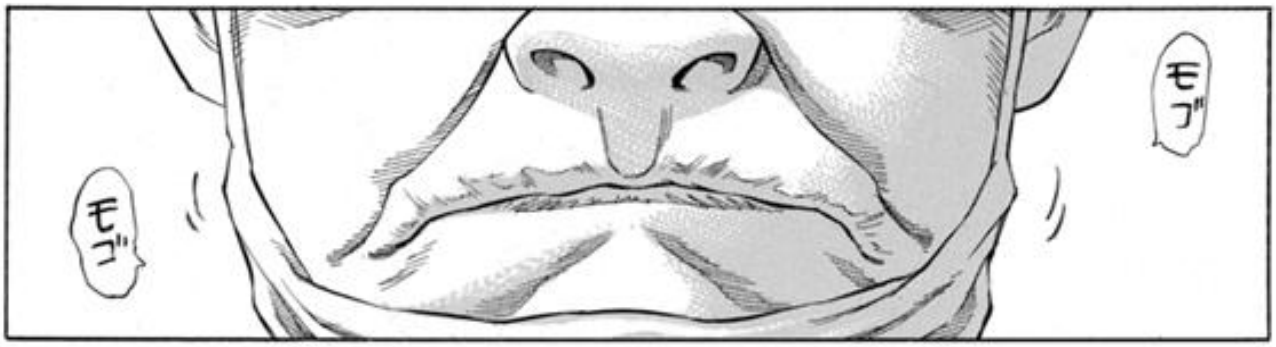
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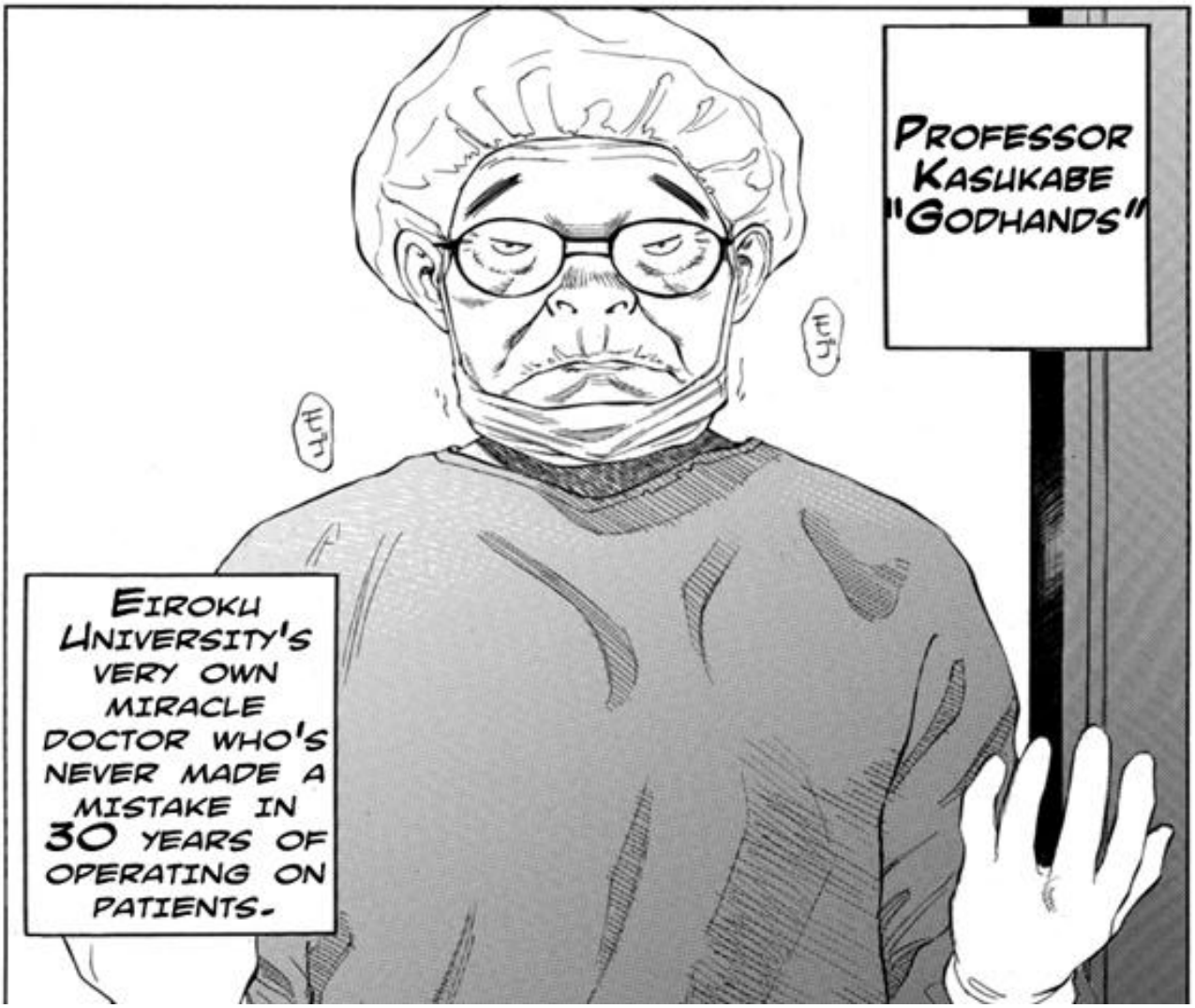
PROFESSOR KASUKABE "GODHANDS"
EIROKU UNIVERSITY'S VERY OWN MIRACLE DOCTOR WHO'S NEVER MADE A MISTAKE IN 30 YEARS OF OPERATING ON PATIENTS.

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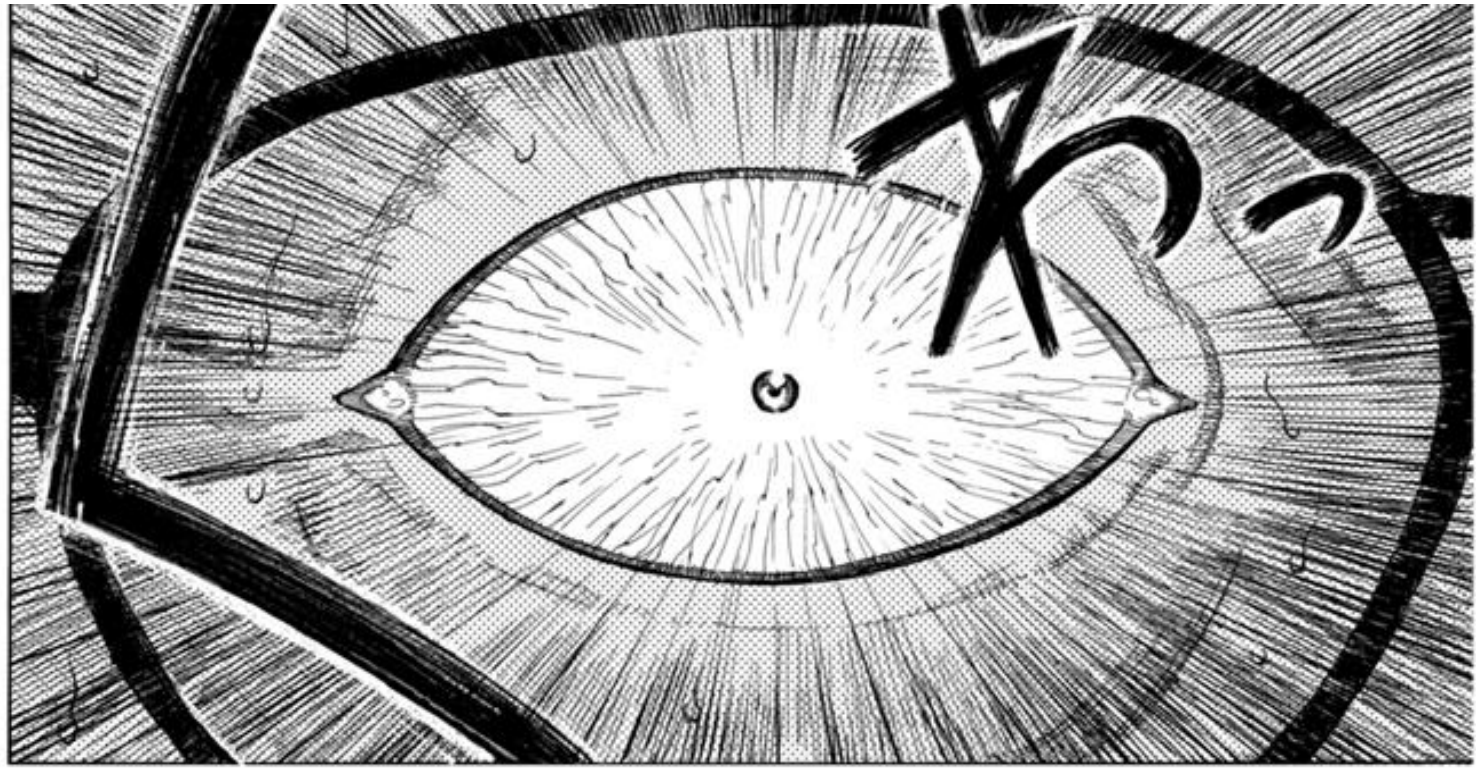

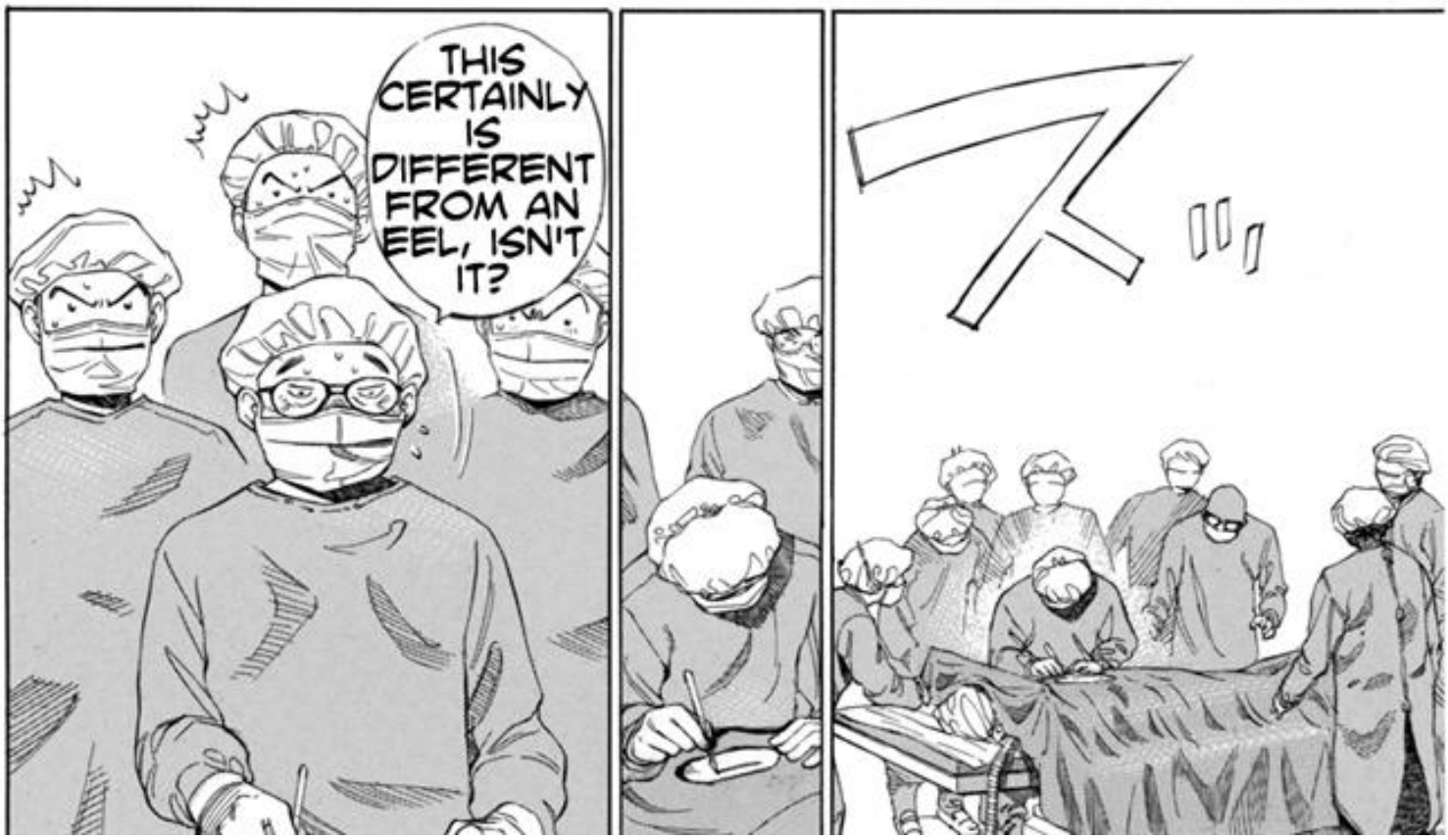

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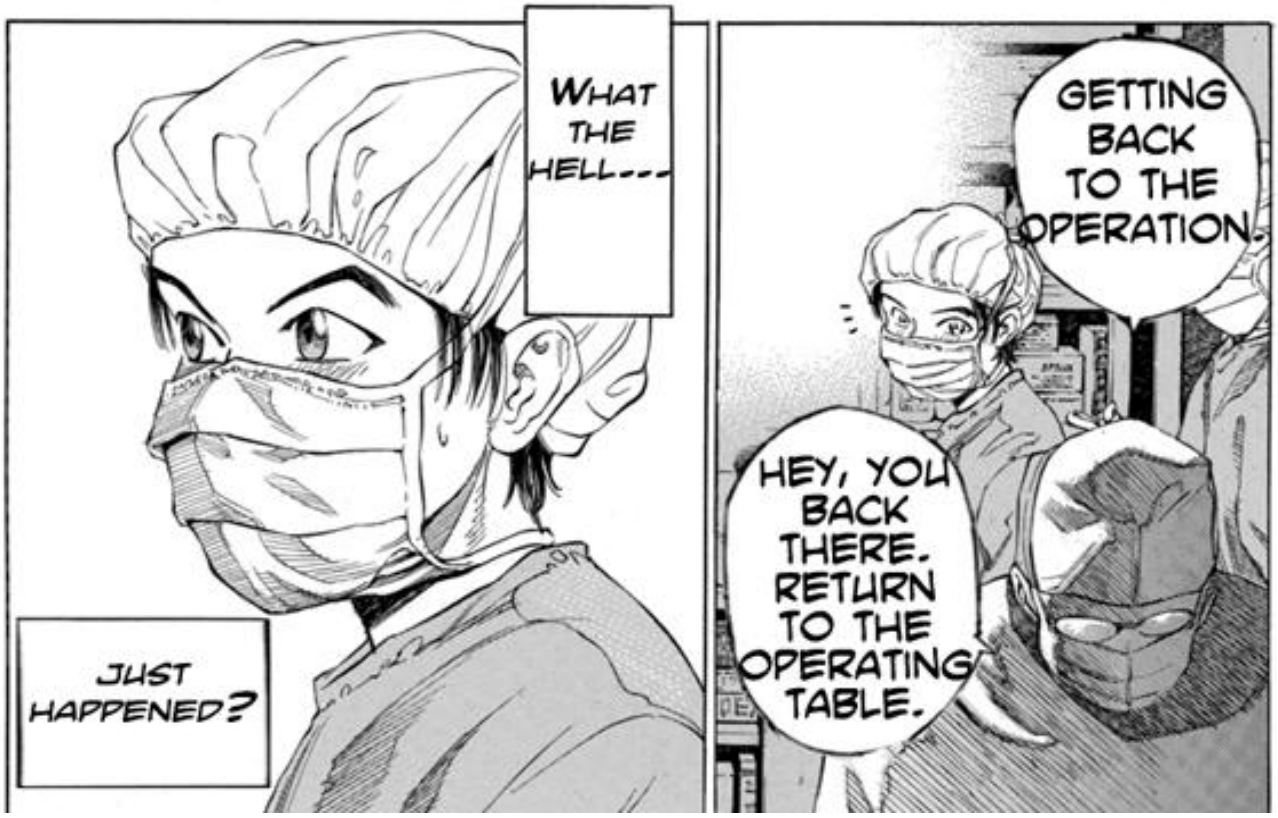
WELL, THEN, I'LL LEAVE THE REST UP TO YOU.
I'LL BE RETURNING TO MY RESEARCH.
MM.
THAT WAS AN EXCELLENT INCISION, PROFESSOR.

!?
H
...


WHAT THE HELL---
JUST HAPPENED?
GETTING BACK TO THE OPERATION.
HEY, YOU BACK THERE. RETURN TO THE OPERATING TABLE.

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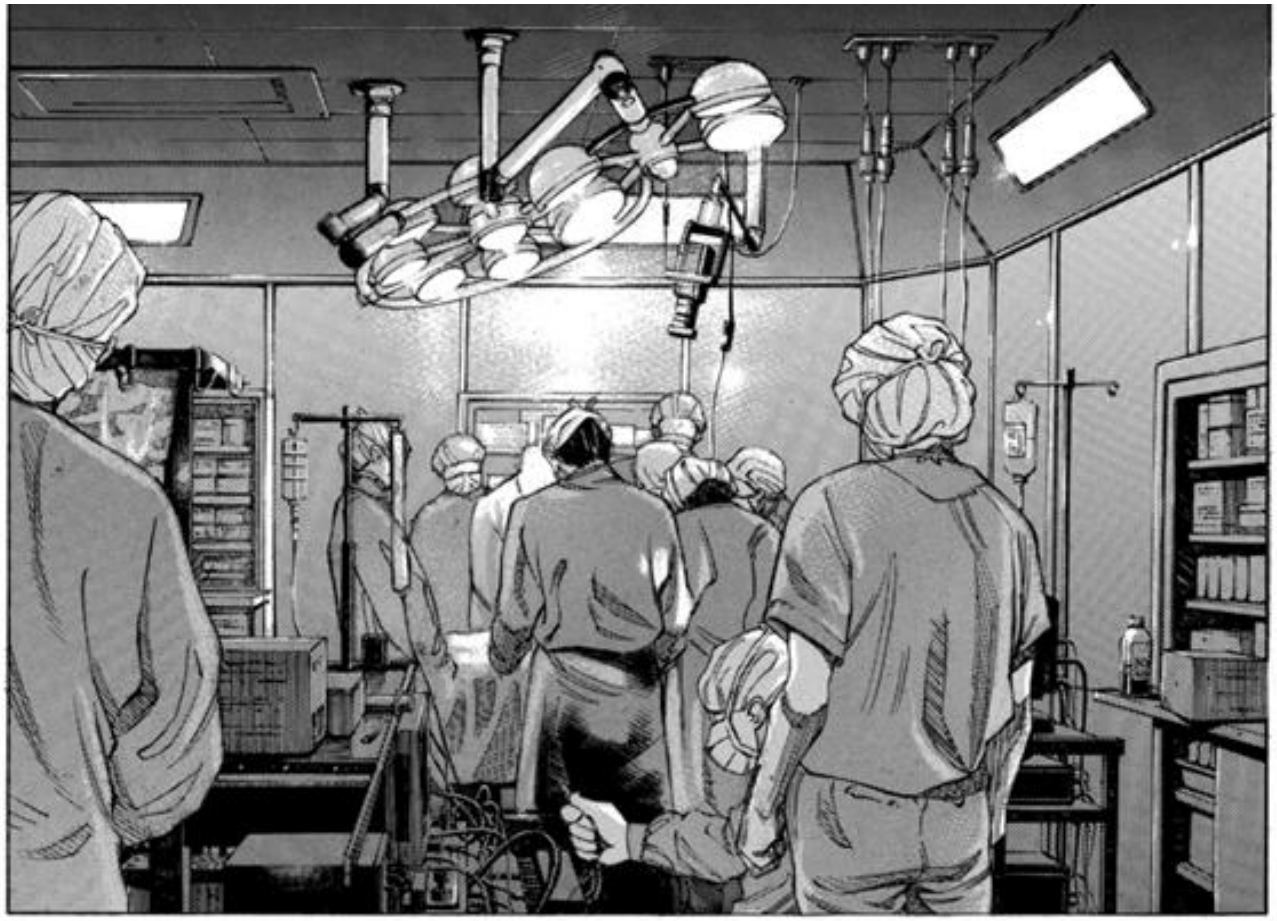

HE'S NOT VERY FAST, BUT HE SURE DOES HIS JOB CAREFULLY AND THOROUGHLY...
THIS DOCTOR...

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IF I EVER GET SICK, I'M NEVER COMING TO A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL...

PUT ON THE TABLE BUCK NAKED...
THAT MEANS HAVING MY DICK STARED AT BY INTERNS LIKE US, HUH?

HEY, SAITO.
LET'S GO DRINKING WITH SOME GIRLS, MAN. GIRLS!
I DON'T WANT TO JUST LOOK AT GUYS' DICKS ALL DAY.

THEN DO SOME MORE OF THAT PART TIME JOB.
YOU MAKE $900 IN A SINGLE NIGHT, RIGHT?

CAN'T...
I DON'T HAVE THE TIME OR THE MONEY.

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I CAN'T...

SUPPOSEDLY HE NORMALLY DOES NOTHIN' BUT EXPERIMENTS IN EEL DISSECTION...

I'VE HEARD RUMORS THAT THE PROF'S OPERATIONS ARE ALWAYS JUST EPIDERMAL INCISIONS.

HEY, DEKUNE.

WHAT WAS THE POINT OF THAT PROFESSOR OPERATING BACK THERE...?

30 YEARS OF NOTHING BUT EPIDERMAL INCISIONS...

食券販売機

YEAH, I SUPPOSE HE WOULDN'T MAKE MIS-TAKES, NOW WOULD HE?

BUT HE'S NEVER MADE A MISTAKE IN 30 YEARS OF OPERATING, RIGHT...?

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THE FACT THAT HE'S A PROFESSOR,

DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT HE'S A SKILLED PHYSICIAN.

WRITING AN EXPERIMENTAL THESIS TO GET HIS DOCTORATE...

THEN DOING NOTHING BUT RESEARCH AFTER THAT... HE KEEPS CHURNING OUT RESEARCH PAPERS AND EVENTUALLY BECOMES A PROFESSOR.

A SKILLED DOCTOR DOING THE ROUNDS AT A HOSPITAL FOR THE PATIENTS' SAKES...

...COULD NEVER BECOME A PROFESSOR.

漫画onWeb

I MEAN, HE'S A "PROFESSOR."
THERE'S GOTTA BE A REASON FOR THIS.
BUT...
IF HE'S NOT CONFIDENT IN HIS ABILITY TO OPERATE, THEN WHY DOES HE DO IT?

IN THIS CASE, IT'S MONEY.

AH...
YOU WERE THE DOCTOR BACK IN THE "OR"...

FROM THE FAMILY'S PERSPECTIVE, THEY FEEL SAFE ASKING THE LEGENDARY EIROKU UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR TO DO THE OPERATION.
THE PROFESSOR RECEIVED ABOUT 10 THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE PATIENT'S FAMILY.

漫画onWeb

TAKAHISA SHIRATORI FROM PRIMARY SURGERY.
I'M THE SUPERVISING DOCTOR FOR BOTH OF YOU.

WHEN YOU'RE DONE EATING, COME WITH ME.
I'VE GOT SOME WORK FOR YOU GUYS TO DO THIS AFTER-NOON.

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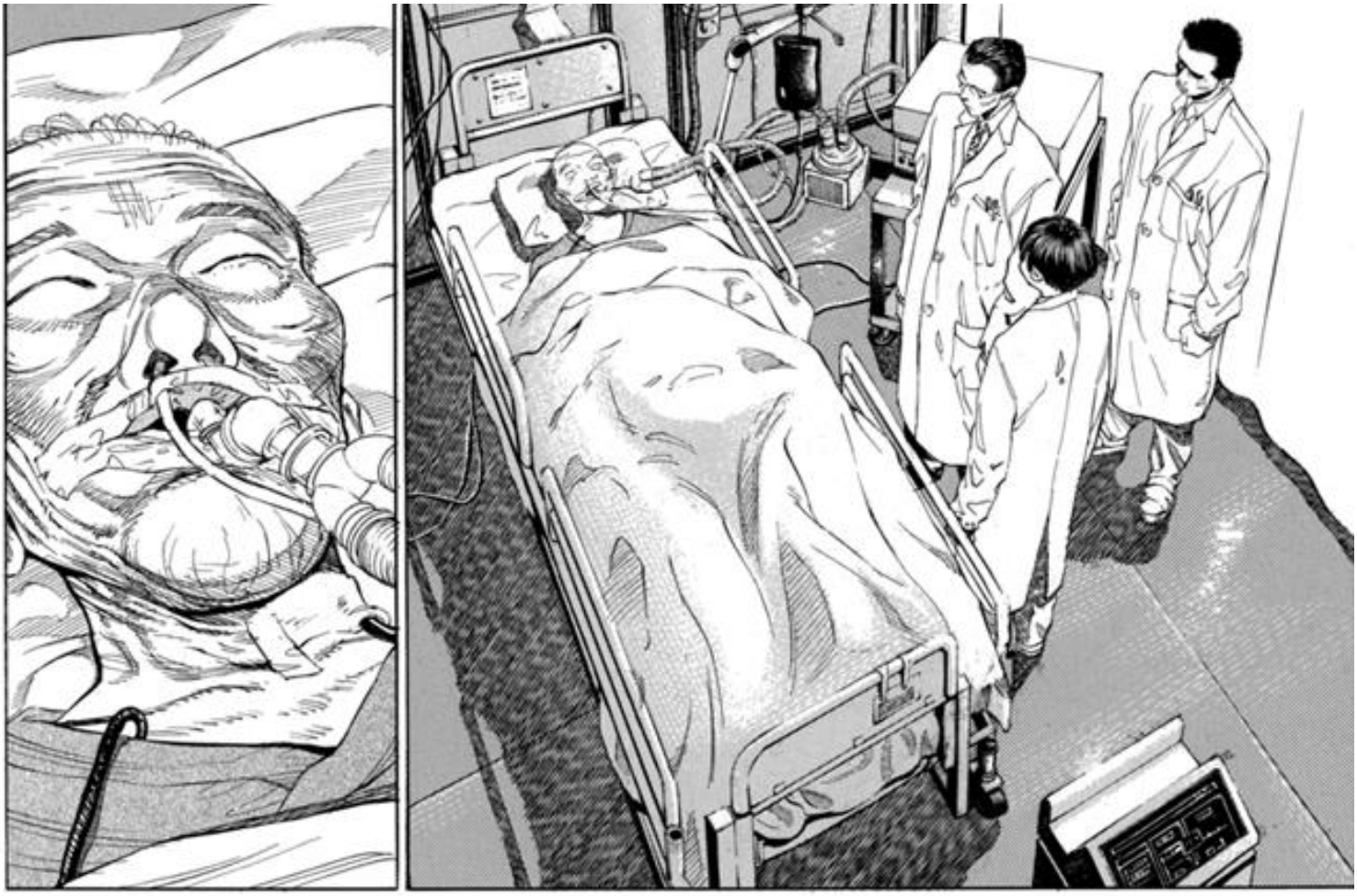

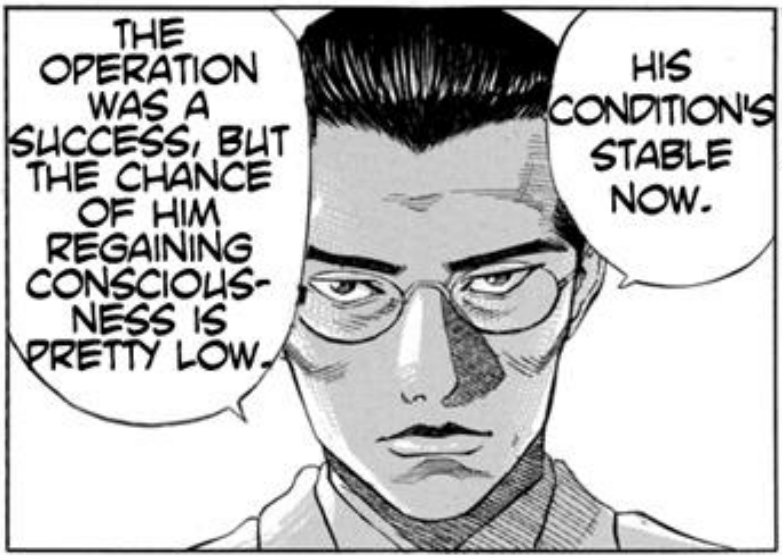
THE OPERATION WAS A SUCCESS, BUT THE CHANCE OF HIM REGAINING CONSCIOUSNESS IS PRETTY LOW.
HIS CONDITION'S STABLE NOW.

THE OLD MAN WE WERE OPERATING ON, RIGHT?
THIS IS...

AND ON TOP OF THAT, HE HAS RENAL FAILURE DUE TO MASSIVE HEMORRHAGING CAUSED BY HIS RUPTURED ESOPHAGEAL VARICES.
SERIOUS LIVER FAILURE COMPOUNDED WITH A COMATOSE STATE.

漫画onWeb

USE THE DIURETIC LASIX TO SECURE THE PATIENT'S URINE OUTPUT AND THEN WRITE UP A RECORD OF HIS OPERATION.
FOR THE MOMENT THAT'S ALL I WANT YOU TO DO.
DR. SAITO.
I'M GOING TO ASK YOU TO TAKE CARE OF THIS PATIENT.
HE'S NOT GOING TO BE WORKING WITH ME...?
HUH?
DR. DEKUNE
I HAVE ANOTHER PATIENT FOR YOU.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IT'S COMMON SENSE THAT AN INTERN AT ANY HOSPITAL WOULD DO THIS KIND OF WORK BY HIMSELF.

漫画onWeb

THE DOCTOR IN CHARGE OF THIS PATIENT...

IS YOU!

MY TASK IS TO PROTECT THIS OLD MAN'S LIFE...

TODAY,

...IS THE FIRST DAY I'VE EVER BEEN PUT IN CHARGE OF A HOSPITALIZED PATIENT...

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Toshio Kaneko, 75 years old...
Yesterday he collapsed at his home and was brought unconscious to the hospital.

I hold this man's life...
In my hands...

You're a doctor...
Whether you're new or inexperienced, to the patient, you're still a doctor.

This is a test...

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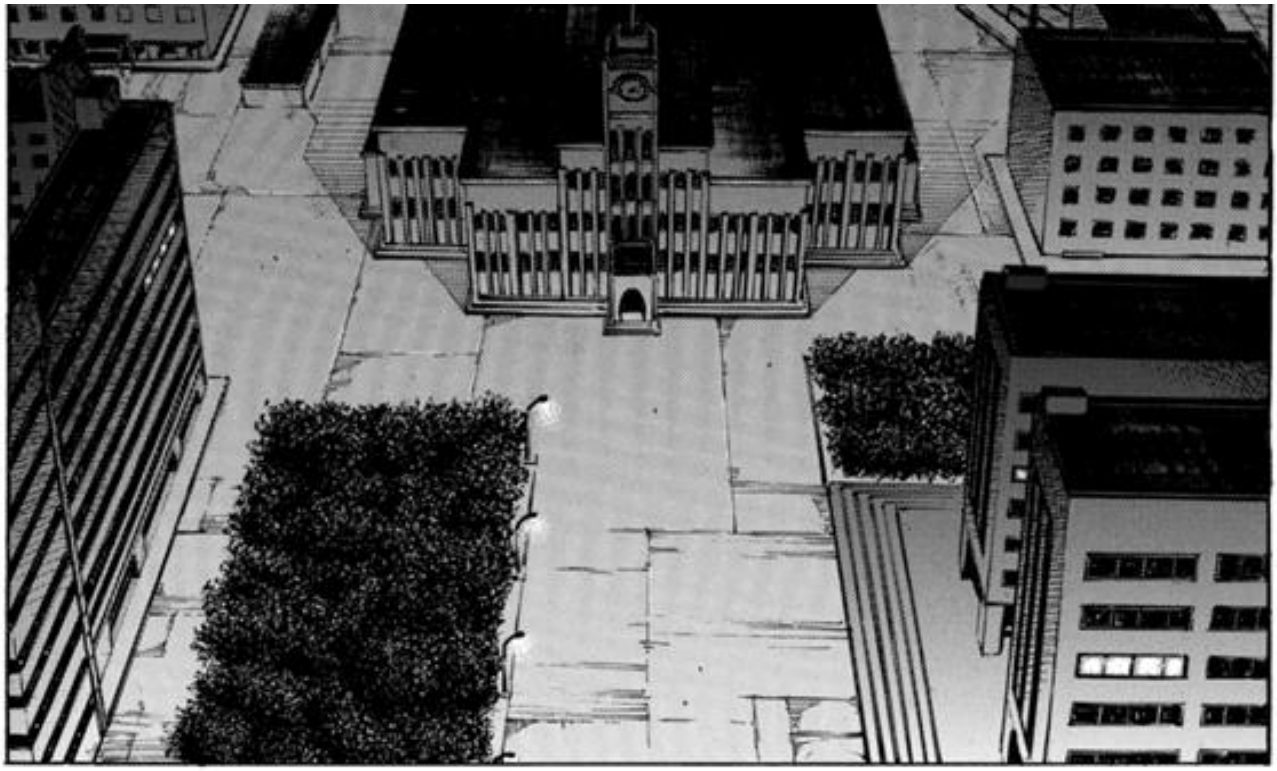

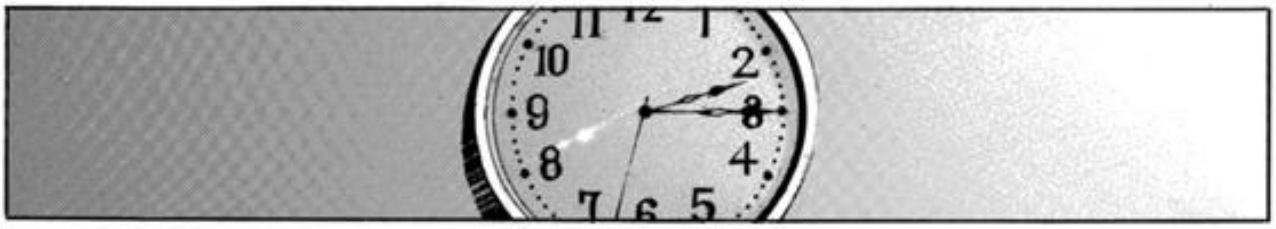

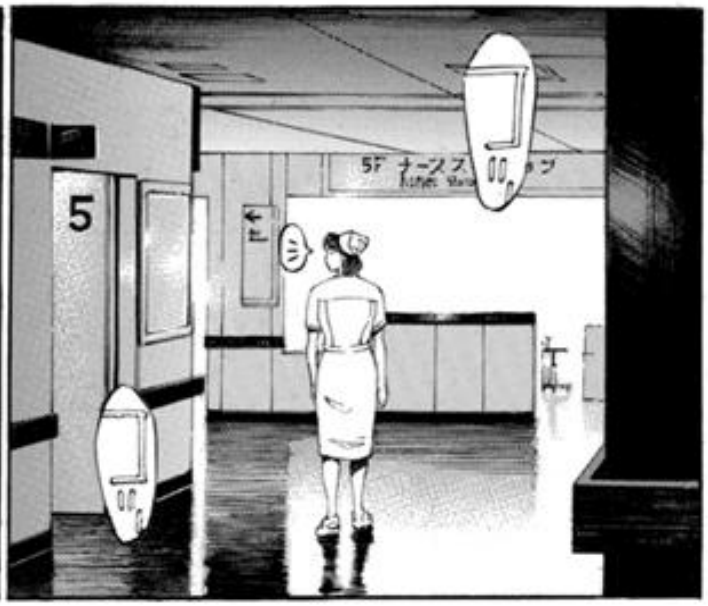

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GOOD MORNING!

GOOD MORNING!

YOU SURE ARE PUMPED UP TODAY.
ムフー"
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU, SAITO?

第一外科
PRIMARY SURGERY

DR. SAITO?
YOU USED ALL OF THESE ON THAT OLD MAN?

5 GRAMS OF GLOBULIN.
6 VIALS OF PLASMANATE CUTTER.
60 UNITS OF BLOOD PLATELETS.

漫画onWeb

AS A RESULT, HE IS IN THE BEST OF SHAPE TODAY!
YES, SIR!!

DON'T GO OVER-BOARD.
I WILL TELL YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO DO.

I'M SURE HE'S HAPPY TO HAVE BEEN OPERATED ON BY SUCH AN ESTEEMED DOCTOR!
517
金子敏夫
笠原　誠
吉村直之
高原一彰
THANK YOU, PROFESSOR!

漫画onWeb

THE OPERATION ITSELF WAS 100% SUCCESSFUL, BUT SINCE THERE HAVE BEEN COMPLICATIONS TO HIS HEART...

HIS CONDITION HAS BEEN PRETTY GOOD SINCE THE OPERATION.

THIS IS THE MAN WHO ASSISTED ME ON THE OPERATION, DR. SHIRATORI.

AND THE RESIDENT INTERN IN CHARGE OF MR. KANEKO, DR., UHM...

I'M NOT SURE IF HE CAN RECOVER WITHOUT SUFFERING A PULMONARY EMBOLISM... OR HEART FAILURE.

TO BE HONEST, HOW IT GOES FROM HERE WILL REALLY DEPEND ON HIS ABILITY TO STAY ALIVE.

SAITO, SIR!!

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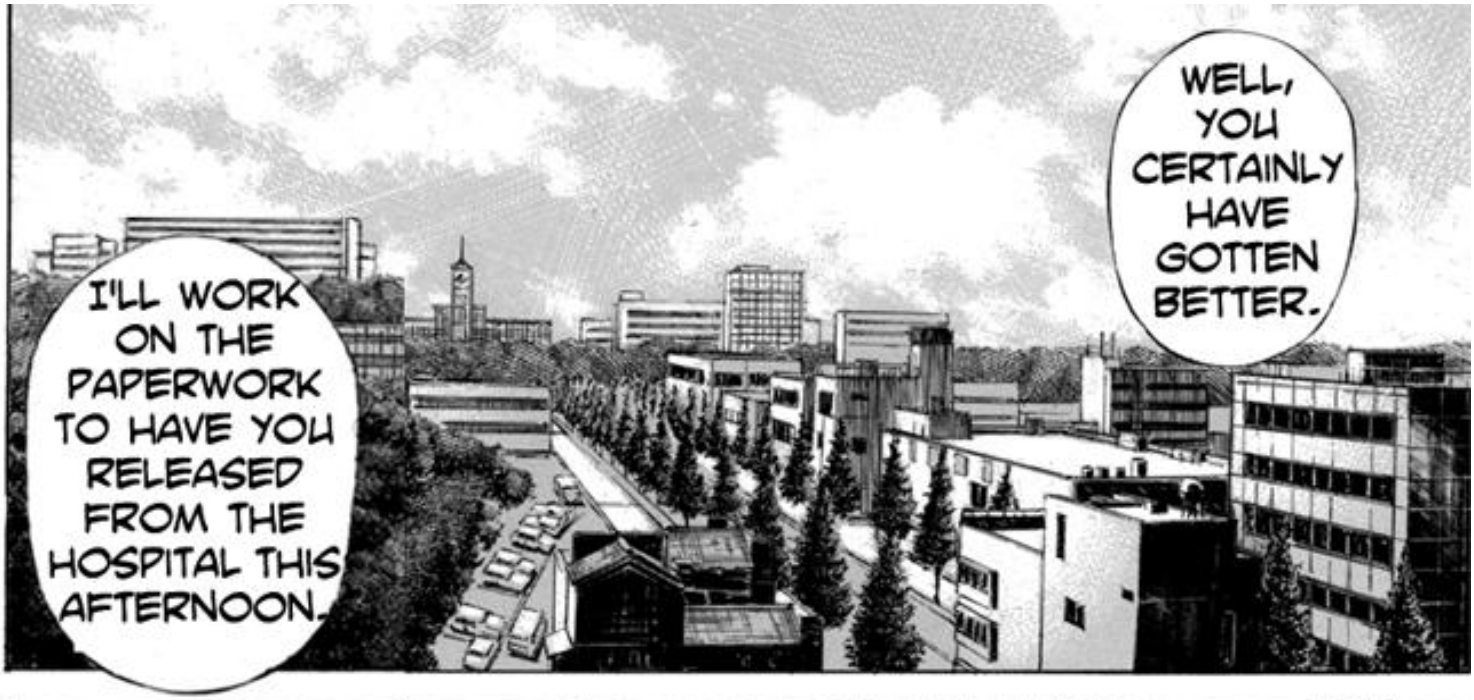
WELL, YOU CERTAINLY HAVE GOTTEN BETTER.
I'LL WORK ON THE PAPERWORK TO HAVE YOU RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL THIS AFTERNOON.

HEY, DOC.
SINCE I'M HERE ANYWAY, WHY DONCHA GIVE ME ONE MORE IV?

HM...
AN IV, HUH...?

I ALWAYS GO TO THE NEARBY CLINIC AND HAVE THEM GIVE ME AN IV.
AFTER ONE OF THOSE, I'M RARING TO GO!

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DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S IN AN IV?
MR. KUWAZAWA.
A 500CC IV CONTAINS NO MORE THAN 25 GRAMS OF GLUCOSE.
THAT'S A MERE 100 CALORIES OF NUTRITION, ABOUT THE SAME AS HALF A CUP OF MILK.
JAPAN IS THE ONLY PLACE IN THE WORLD THAT ACTUALLY GIVES AN IV TO SOME-ONE WHO ISN'T DEHYDRATED.
IT'S LIKE A PLACEBO
YES...
THERE'S NO REASON TO DO AN IV?
MEANING THAT...

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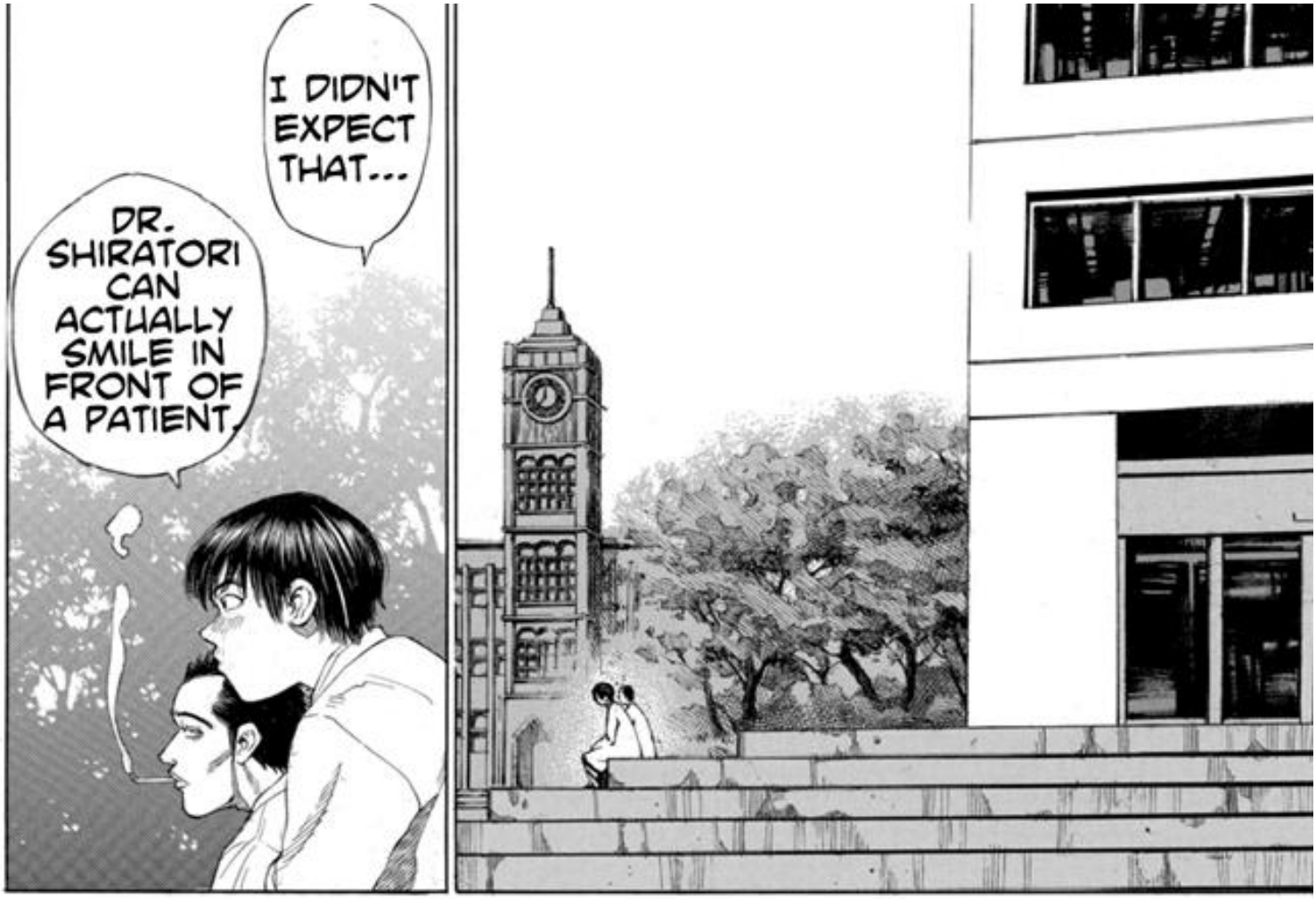
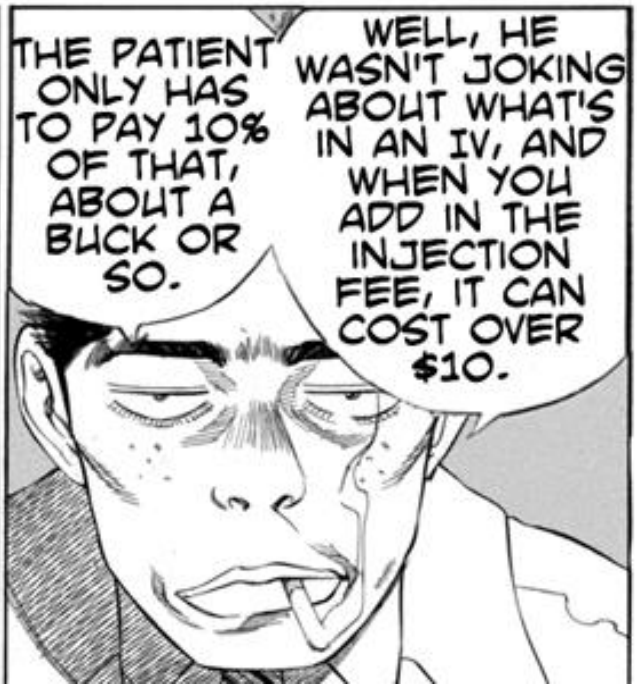

I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT...
DR. SHIRATORI CAN ACTUALLY SMILE IN FRONT OF A PATIENT.

BUT A DOCTOR THAT DOESN'T RECOMMEND DOING AN IV SURE IS RARE, HUH?

THE HOSPITAL MAKES $10 THOUGH.
THOSE UNNECESSARY THINGS JUST KEEP BUILDING UP UNTIL THEY THREATEN THE NATION'S MEDICAL FINANCES...


THE PATIENT ONLY HAS TO PAY 10% OF THAT, ABOUT A BUCK OR SO.
WELL, HE WASN'T JOKING ABOUT WHAT'S IN AN IV, AND WHEN YOU ADD IN THE INJECTION FEE, IT CAN COST OVER $10.

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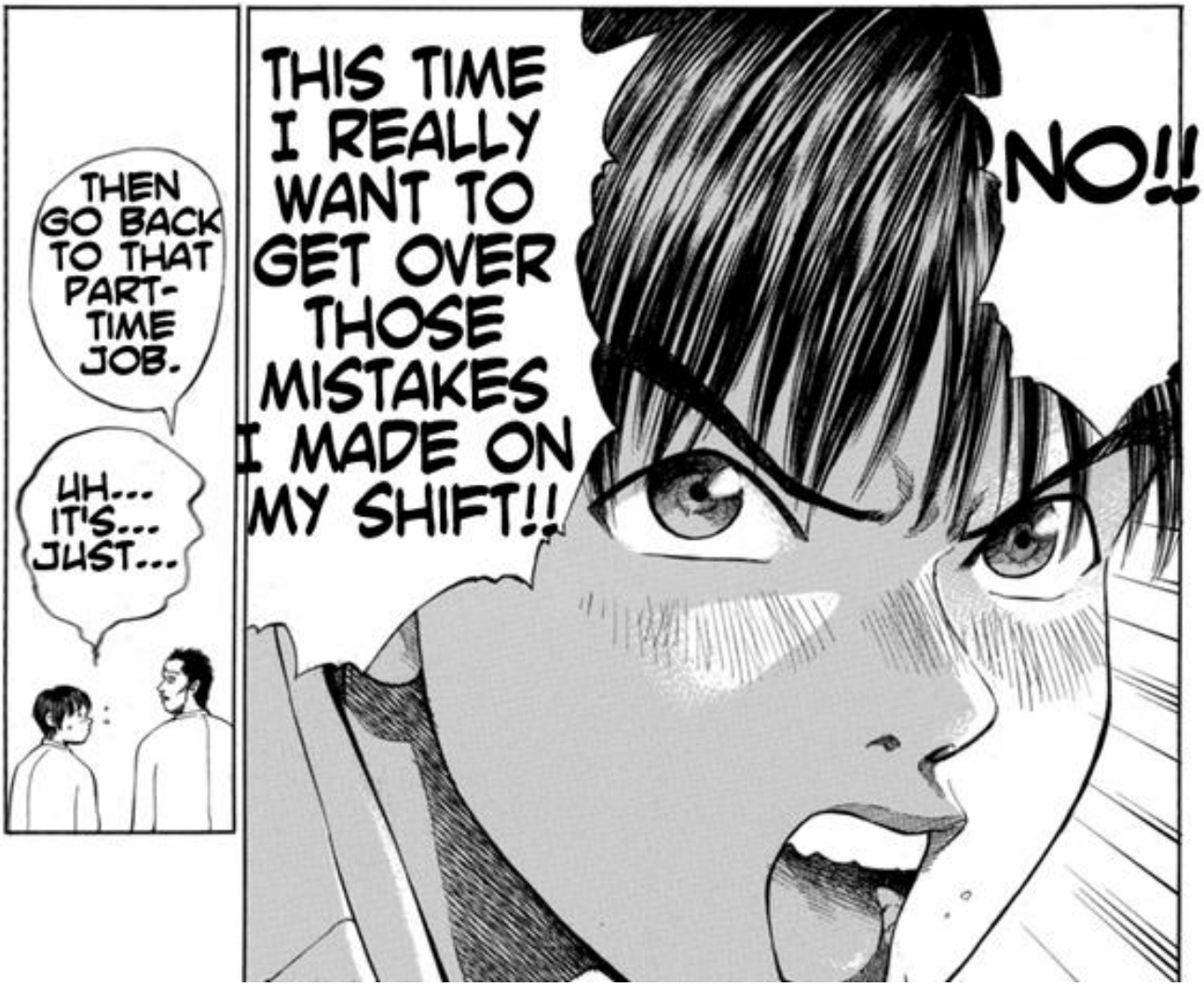
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO OUTTA YOUR WAY AND TRY SO HARD...
HELL, WE'RE ONLY MAKING $450 A MONTH, ANYWAY...
DR. SHIRATORI GOT MAD AT ME THIS MORNING FOR DOING UNNECESSARY TREATMENT...
I WONDER IF HE WAS TELLING ME TO STOP WASTING MEDICAL FEES ON THINGS THAT DIDN'T MATTER...


THEN GO BACK TO THAT PART-TIME JOB.
UH... IT'S... JUST...
THIS TIME I REALLY WANT TO GET OVER THOSE MISTAKES I MADE ON MY SHIFT!!
NO!!

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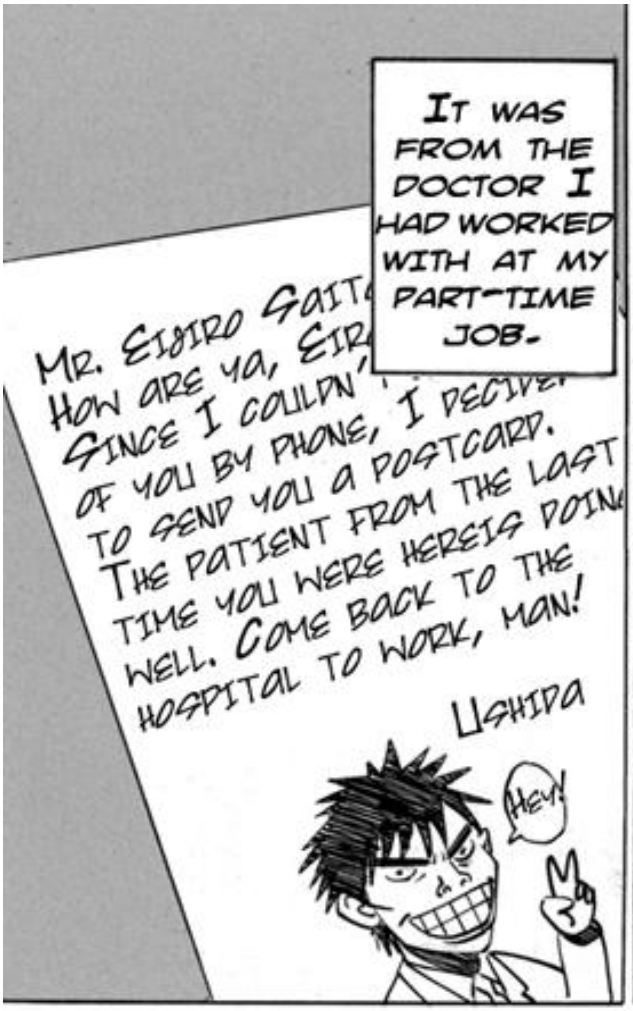
IT WAS FROM THE DOCTOR I HAD WORKED WITH AT MY PART-TIME JOB.
MR. EIJIRO GAIT
HOW ARE YA, EIR
SINCE I COULDN'
OF YOU BY PHONE, I DECIDE
TO SEND YOU A POSTCARD.
THE PATIENT FROM THE LAST TIME YOU WERE HERE IS DOIN
WELL. COME BACK TO THE HOSPITAL TO WORK, MAN!
UGHIDA
HEY!

WHEN I GOT BACK TO MY APARTMENT, THERE WAS A POSTCARD IN MY MAIL BOX...

"HOW ARE YOU DOING, EIJIRO?"
"IT'LL BE THE BON FESTIVAL PRETTY SOON. WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU, HONEY!"

"YOU HAVE 1 MESSAGE."
"HELLOOO? IT'S MOM."

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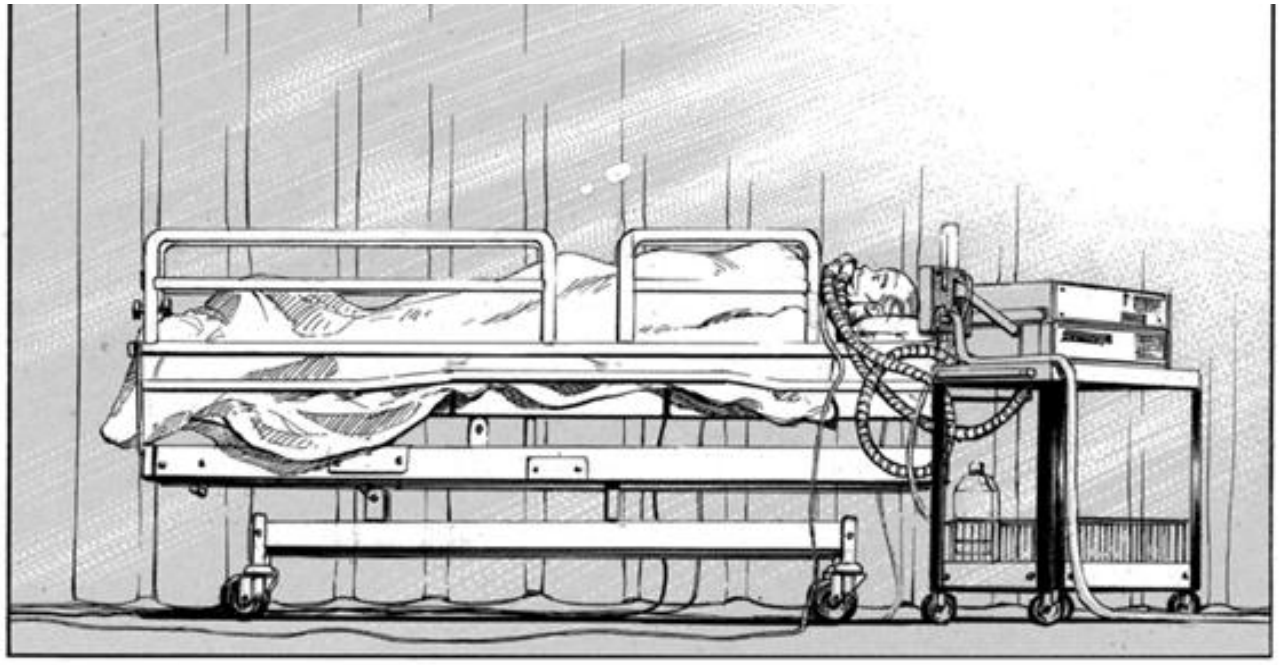
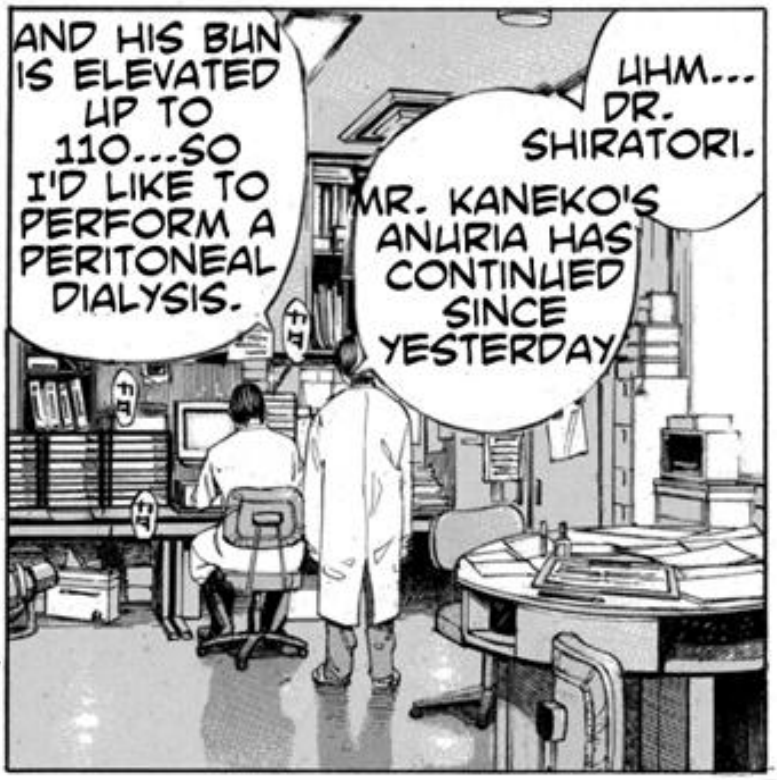


YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANY-THING...


AND HIS BUN IS ELEVATED UP TO 110...SO I'D LIKE TO PERFORM A PERITONEAL DIALYSIS.
UHM... DR. SHIRATORI.
MR. KANEKO'S ANURIA HAS CONTINUED SINCE YESTERDAY.

IF WE DON'T DO ANYTHING, MR. KANEKO IS GOING TO...
BUT, DOCTOR,

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HUH...?
YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
WHAT THAT SURGERY WAS ALL ABOUT...
THE PATIENT WAS BROUGHT HERE UN-CONSCIOUS AFTER COLLAPSING.
DESPITE THAT, WE PERFORMED THE SURGERY AN ENTIRE DAY LATER.
IT WAS BECAUSE IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE FROM THE BEGINNING.
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHY WE DIDN'T IMMEDIATELY OPERATE ON A MAN WHO WAS ABOUT TO DIE?

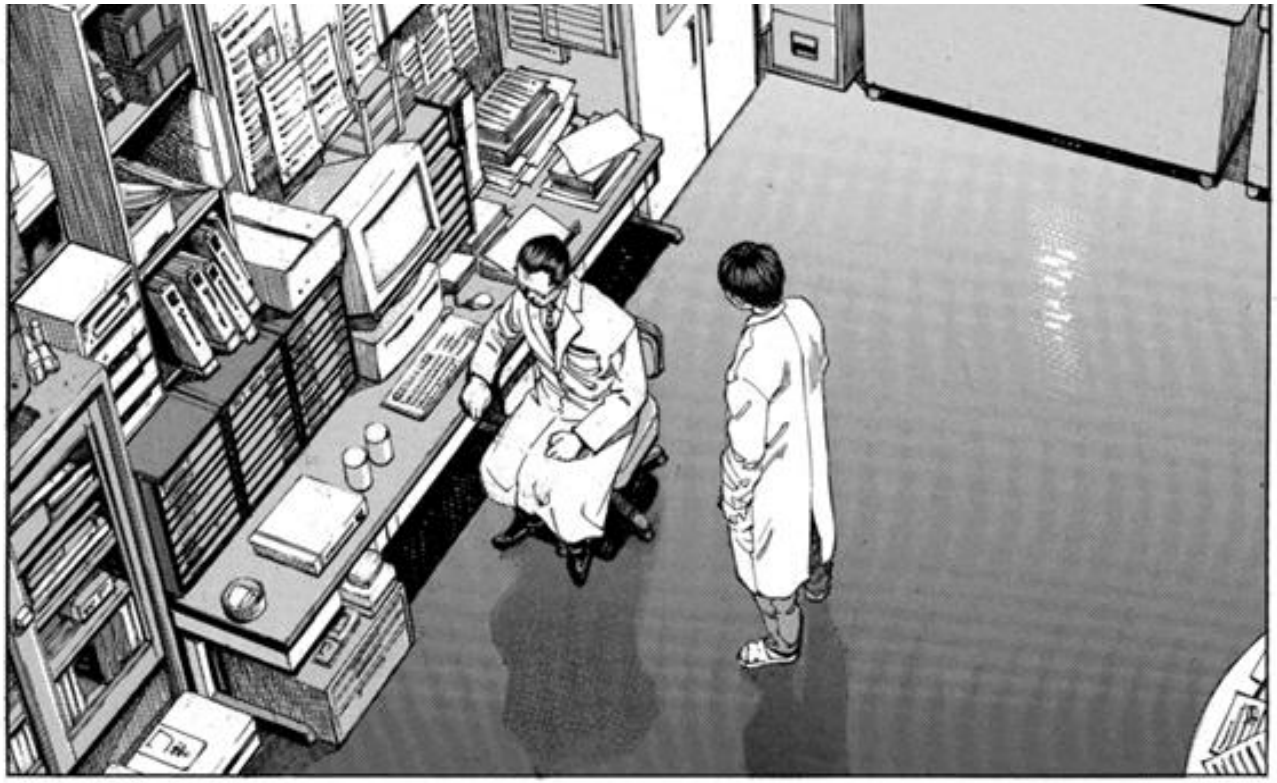
漫画onWeb

UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE PROFESSOR.
BUT WE DID THE OPERATION, DIDN'T WE...?
B... BUT...

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU THE PROFESSOR RECEIVED $10000 FROM THE PATIENT'S FAMILY.
WE OPENED UP THAT OLD MAN'S BODY FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN THE $10000 THEY GAVE HIM.

IN OTHER WORDS...
WHATEVER WE DO FOR HIM NOW IS MEANINGLESS.

漫画onWeb

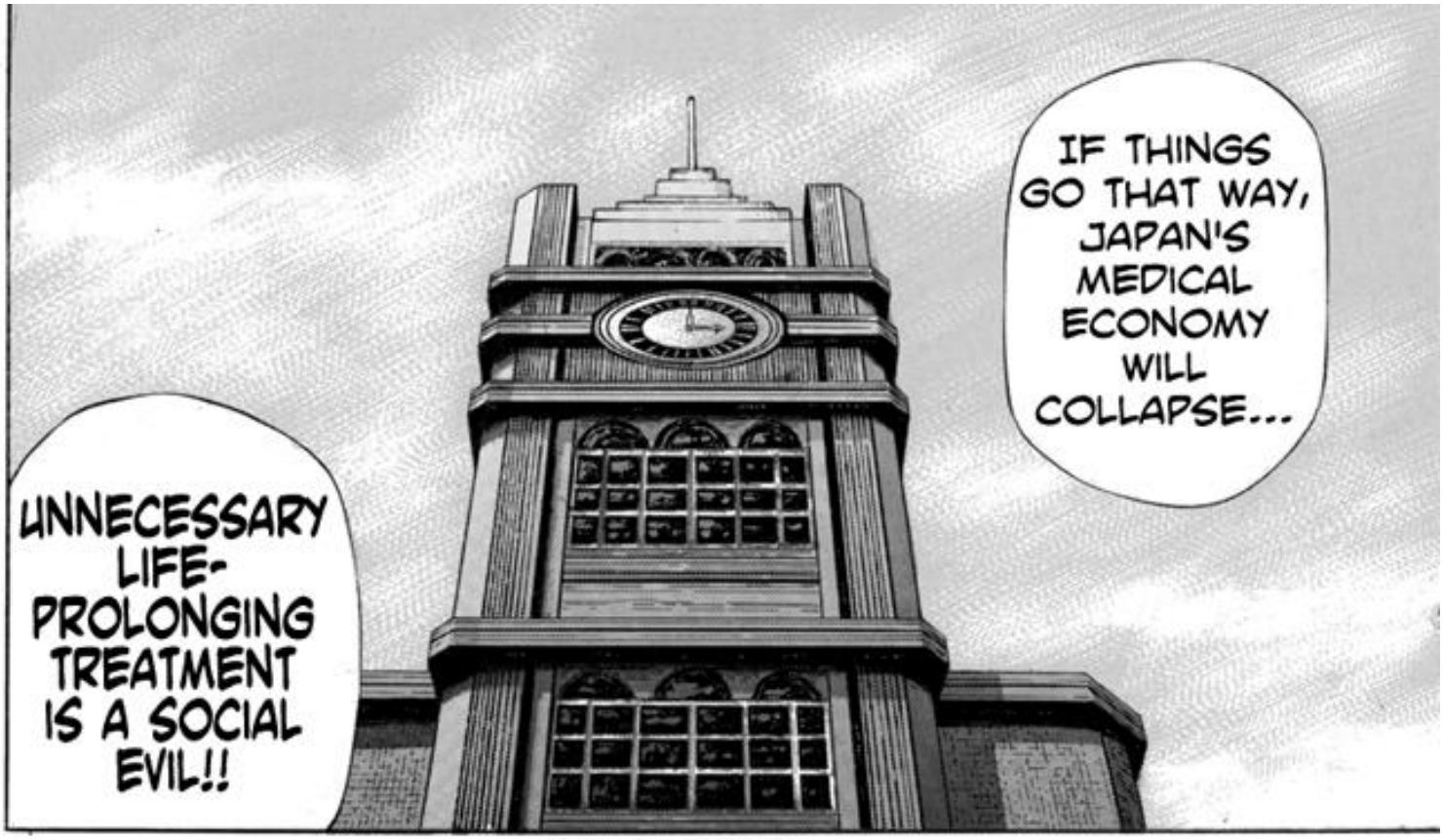


THANKS TO THE INSURANCE SYSTEM, THE FEES PAID BY THE PATIENT ARE ONLY IN THE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS EACH MONTH...
BUT IN REALITY, THIS KIND OF TERMINAL CARE COSTS ABOUT 100 THOUSAND DOLLARS.

THOSE COSTS ARE TAKEN FROM THE STOCK OF MEDICAL MONEY ALL OF JAPAN'S CITIZENS HAVE CONTRIBUTED.
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO SPEND TENS OF MILLIONS OF CITIZENS' MONEY JUST TO KEEP AN OLD MAN WITH VIRTUALLY NO CHANCE OF RECOVERY?

THE CURRENT MEDICAL COSTS IN JAPAN ARE AROUND 500 MILLION DOLLARS...
IT'S SAID THAT THEY WILL INCREASE TO 800 MILLION DOLLARS 15 YEARS FROM NOW...WHERE ARE YOU GONNA GET THAT MONEY?

漫画onWeb


UNNECESSARY LIFE-PROLONGING TREATMENT IS A SOCIAL EVIL!!
IF THINGS GO THAT WAY, JAPAN'S MEDICAL ECONOMY WILL COLLAPSE...

IF YOU CAN CALL LIFE-PROLONGING TREATMENT A "SOCIAL EVIL"...
THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU OPPOSE THE PROFESSOR'S INSTRUCTIONS?

THEN WHY DID WE DO THE SURGERY?

漫画onWeb

I'M THE SAME.

I WASN'T THINKING AT ALL ABOUT THE PATIENT HIMSELF...

I...
はは...
I DIDN'T SAY A SINGLE WORD TO DR. SHIRATORI...

漫画onWeb

I HAD FORGOT ABOUT THE PATIENT UNTIL THAT POSTCARD CAME.

I COULDN'T HELP BUT THINK ABOUT ANYTHING BUT MY OWN MISTAKES.

THE PATIENT FROM THE LAST TIME YOU WERE HERE IS DOIN WELL. COME BACK TO THE HOSPITAL TO WORK, MAN!

ISHIDA

HEY!

"THIS IS A TEST..."

"IF I CAN SAVE THIS MAN, THEN I'M A REAL DOCTOR."

I WAS ONLY THINKING ABOUT MYSELF.

WHAT KIND OF FEELINGS MADE THIS MAN'S FAMILY GIVE SOMEONE $10000?

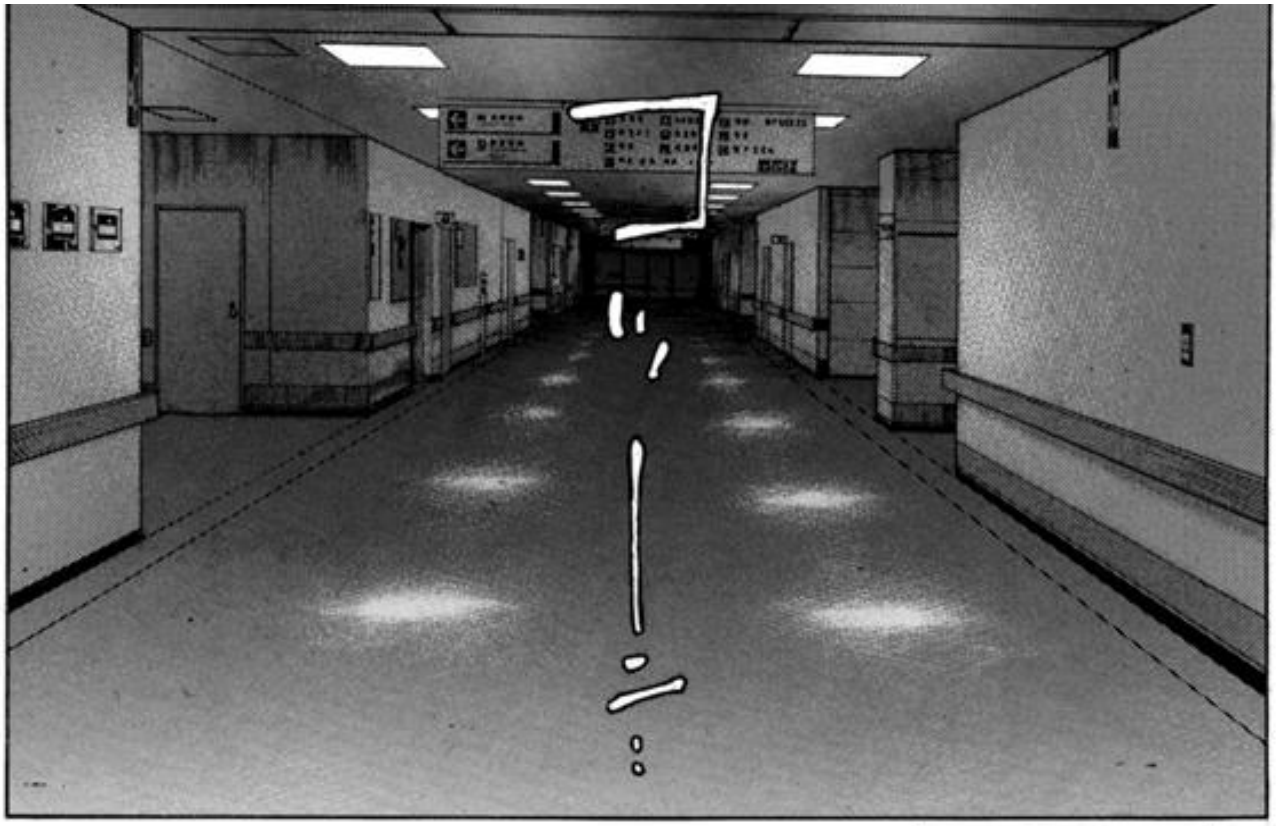
MR. KANEKO...

漫画onWeb

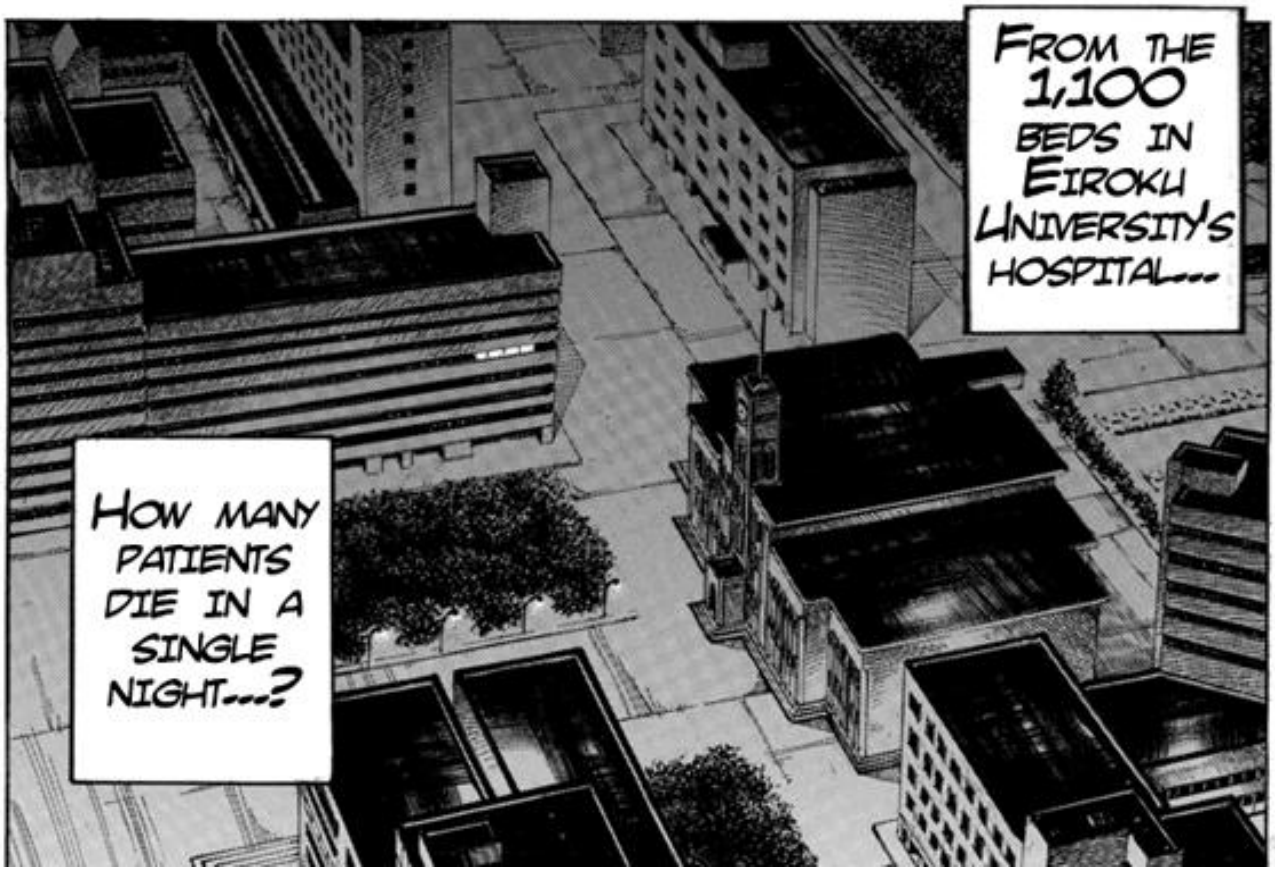
Do you...

want to live...?

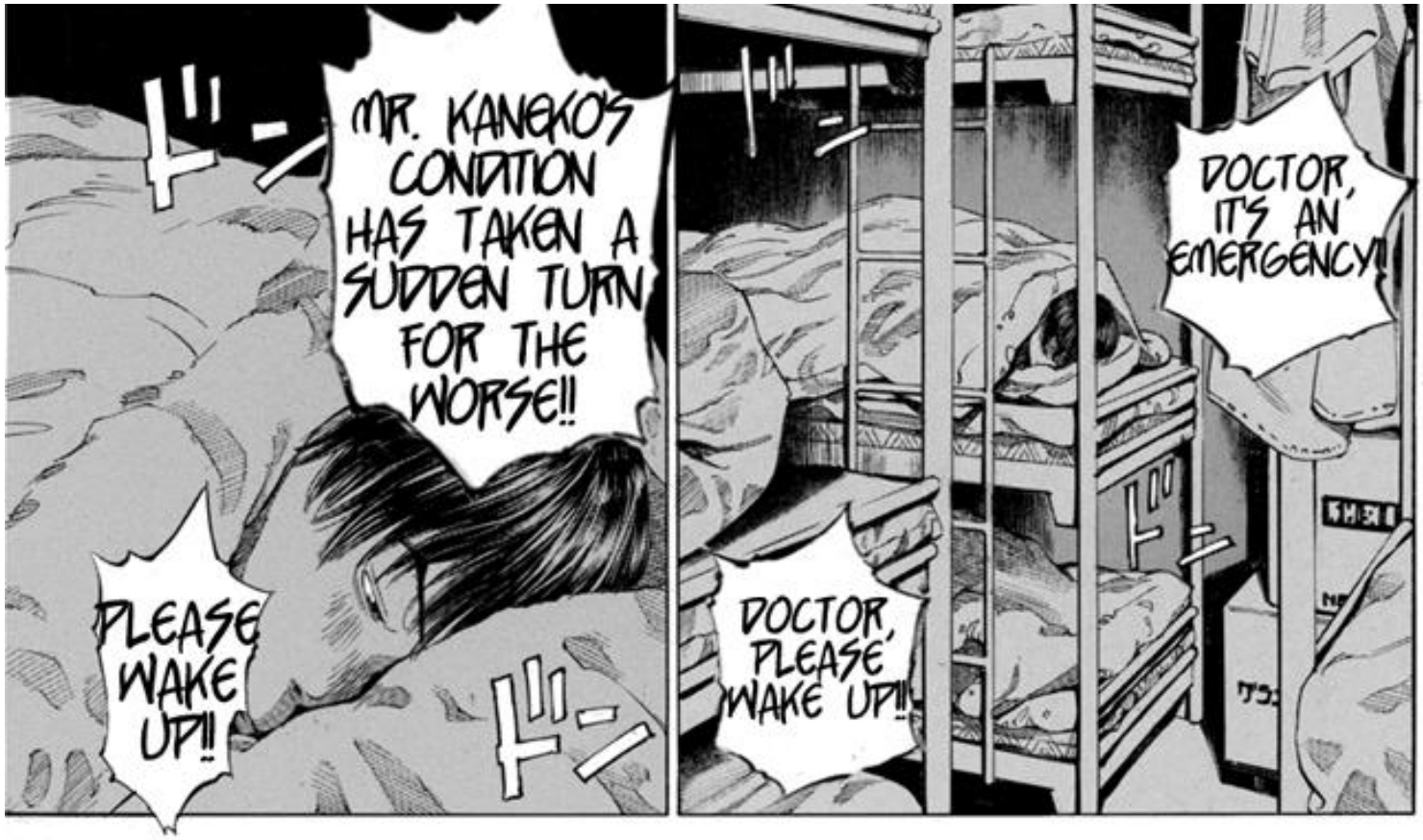
漫画onWeb



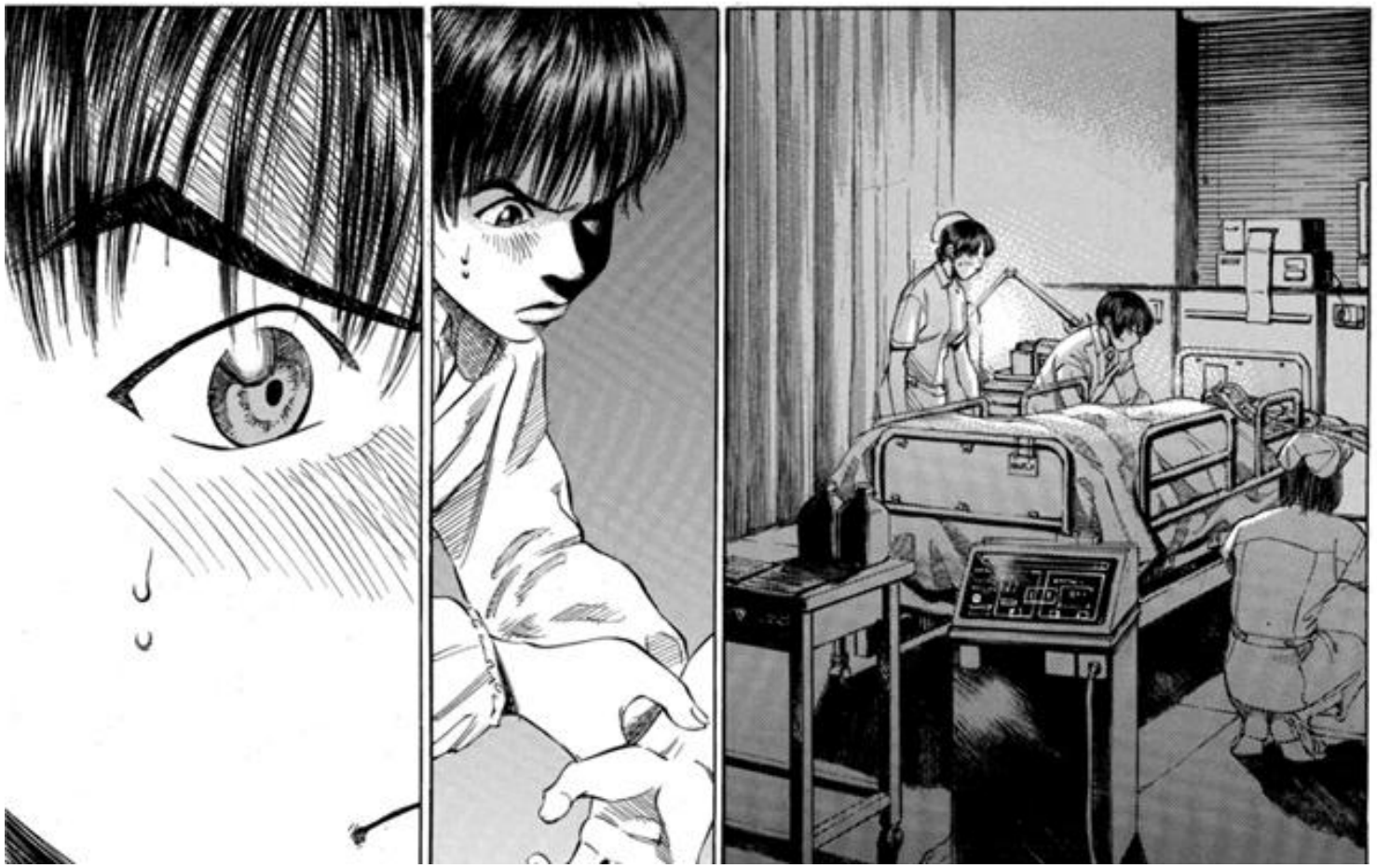
DEATH STRIDES THROUGH HOSPITALS AT NIGHT...


FROM THE 1,100 BEDS IN EIROKU UNIVERSITY'S HOSPITAL...
HOW MANY PATIENTS DIE IN A SINGLE NIGHT...?

漫画onWeb


ドー
MR. KANEKO'S CONDITION HAS TAKEN A SUDDEN TURN FOR THE WORSE!!
PLEASE WAKE UP!!
ドー
ドー
DOCTOR, IT'S AN EMERGENCY!!
DOCTOR, PLEASE WAKE UP!!
ドー

517
金子敏夫
笠原　誠
吉村直之
高原一彰



漫画onWeb

HE HAS NO PULSE.

漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb

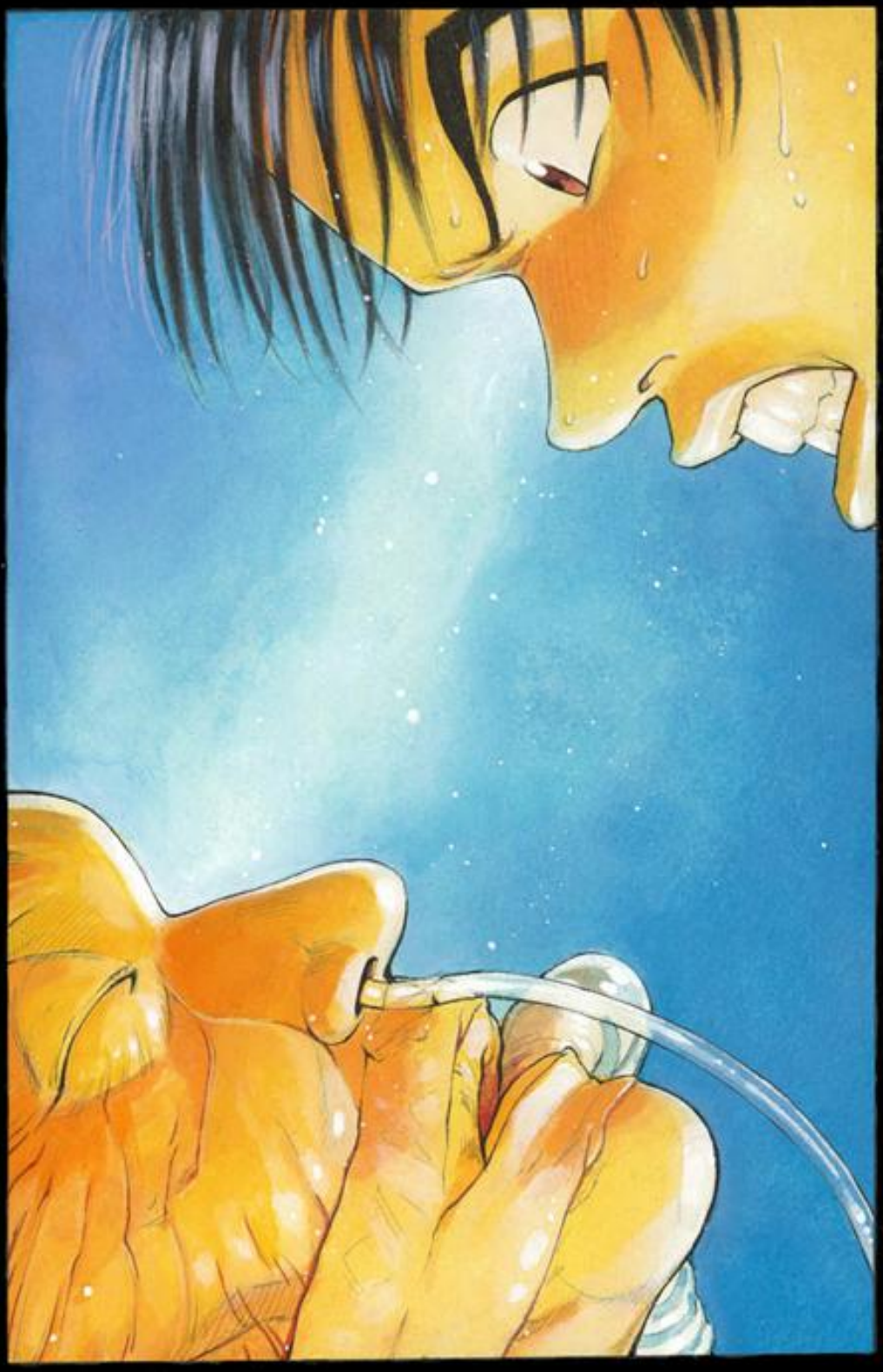
漫画onWeb

1:20 AM.

Toshio Kaneko, 75, experienced a sudden change in his condition, and his heart stopped.

漫画onWeb

COME BACK!



#4
Summer Clouds

漫画onWeb

I'M VERY SORRY TO HAVE TO TELL YOU THIS,
BUT THERE'S ALMOST NO POSSIBILITY YOUR FATHER WILL REGAIN CONSCIOUS-NESS.

THE DROP IN BLOOD OXYGEN WHEN HIS HEART STOPPED WILL HAVE DAMAGED HIS BRAIN CELLS.
モゴ
モゴ
WE'VE RESTORED HIS HEARTBEAT WITH CARDIAC MASSAGE, BUT HIS LIVER AND HEART ARE FAILING.

漫画onWeb

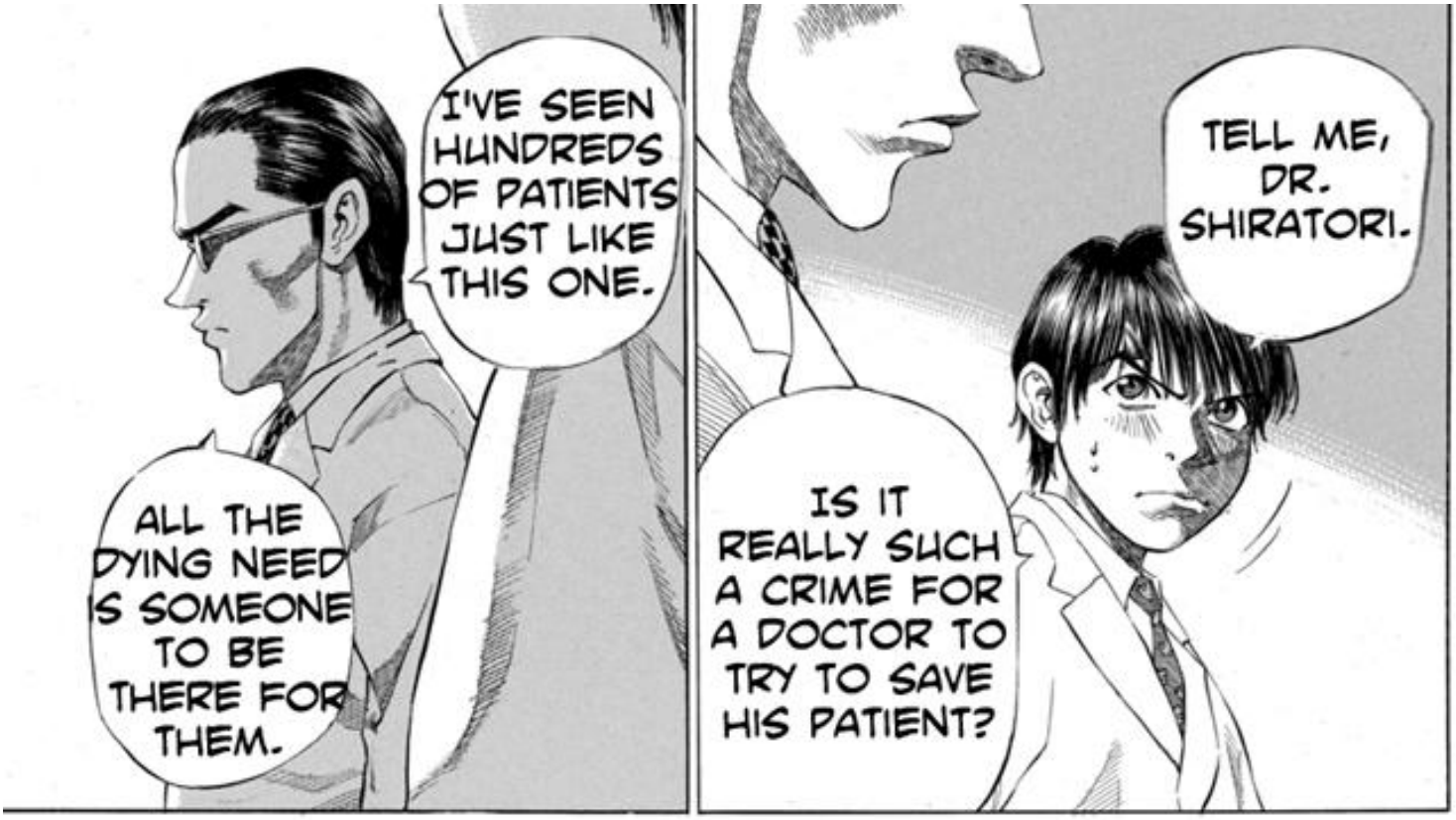
ミュー
ミュー

...

I TOLD YOU NOT TO DO THAT PERITONEAL DIALYSIS.
I'VE SAID THIS BEFORE, BUT SIMPLY PROLONGING HIS LIFE LIKE THIS IS A WASTE OF HEALTHCARE FUNDS.

WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST LET HIM DIE?
DR. SAITO...

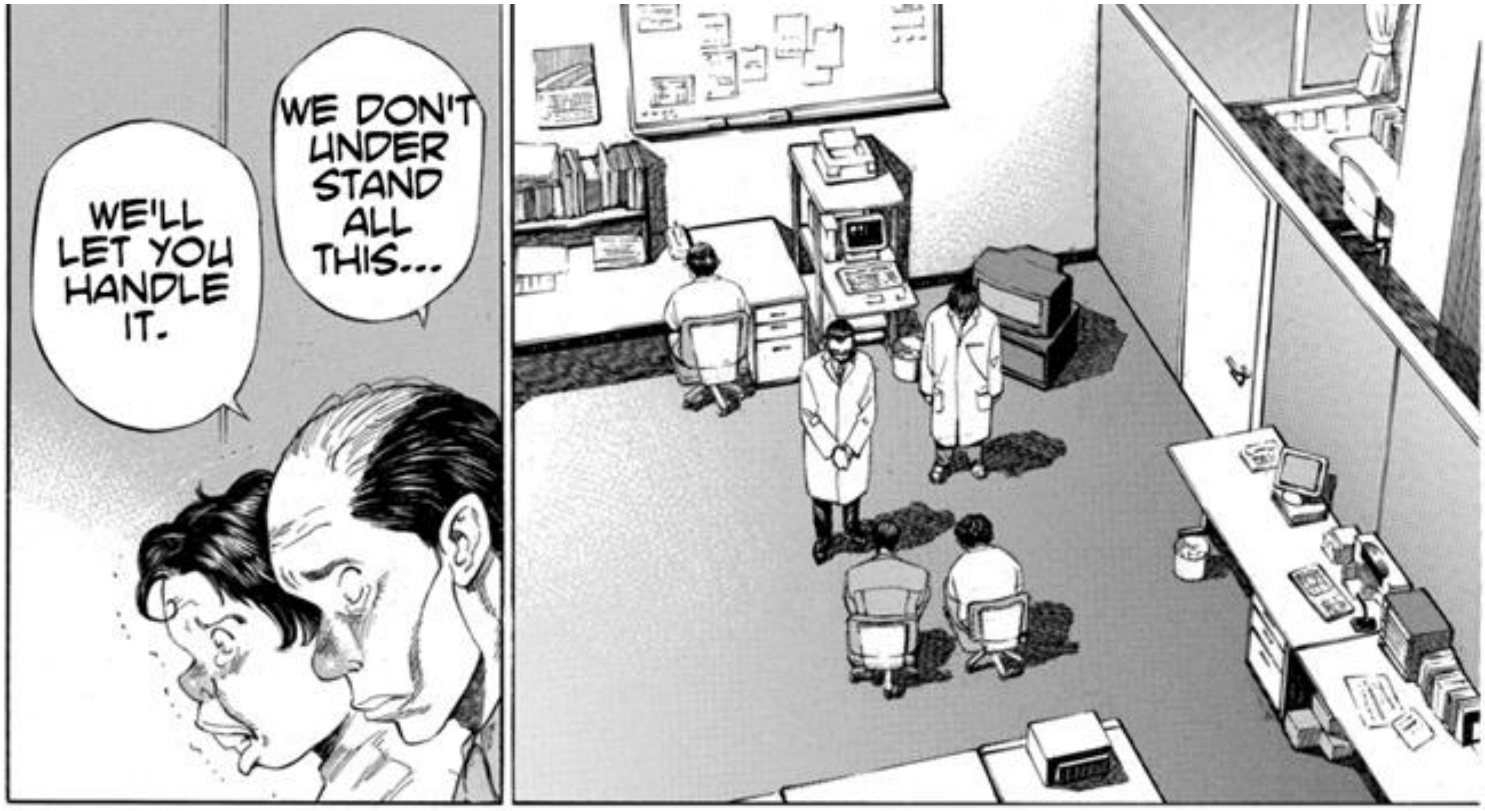
漫画onWeb


I'VE SEEN HUNDREDS OF PATIENTS JUST LIKE THIS ONE.
ALL THE DYING NEED IS SOMEONE TO BE THERE FOR THEM.
TELL ME, DR. SHIRATORI.
IS IT REALLY SUCH A CRIME FOR A DOCTOR TO TRY TO SAVE HIS PATIENT?

ARE YOU SAYING WE SHOULD JUST SHUT UP AND WATCH THEM DIE?

EXACTLY.

漫画onWeb


WE'LL LET YOU HANDLE IT.
WE DON'T UNDER STAND ALL THIS...

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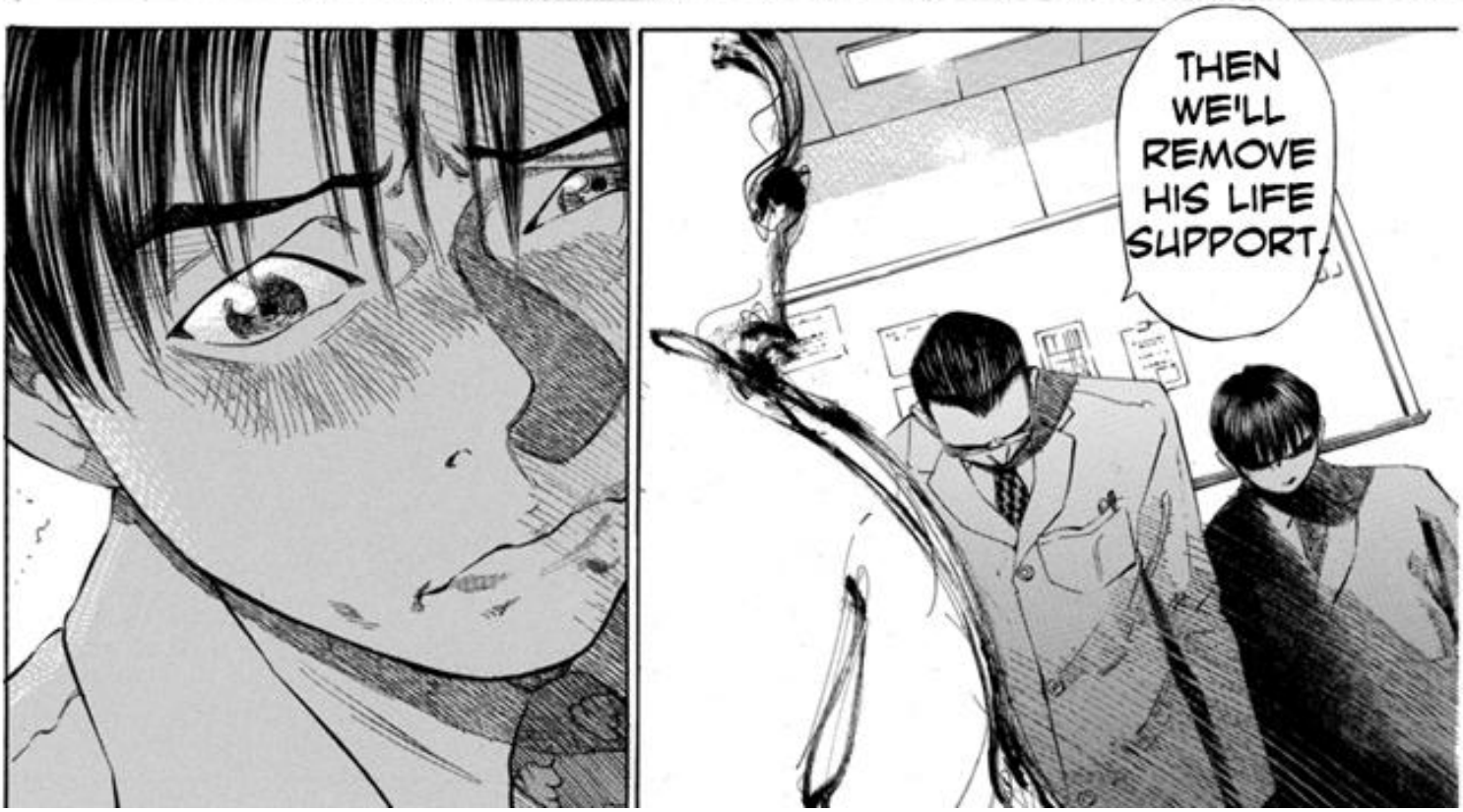
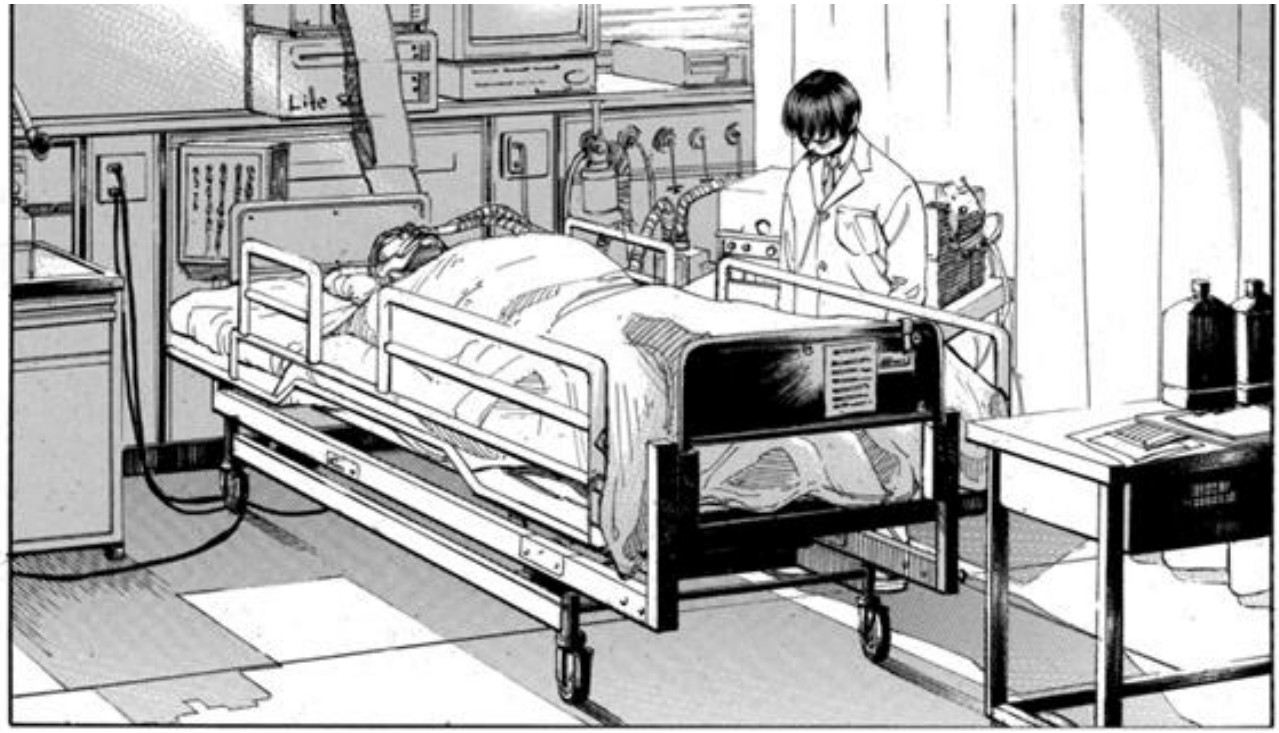

THEN WE'LL REMOVE HIS LIFE SUPPORT.

漫画onWeb



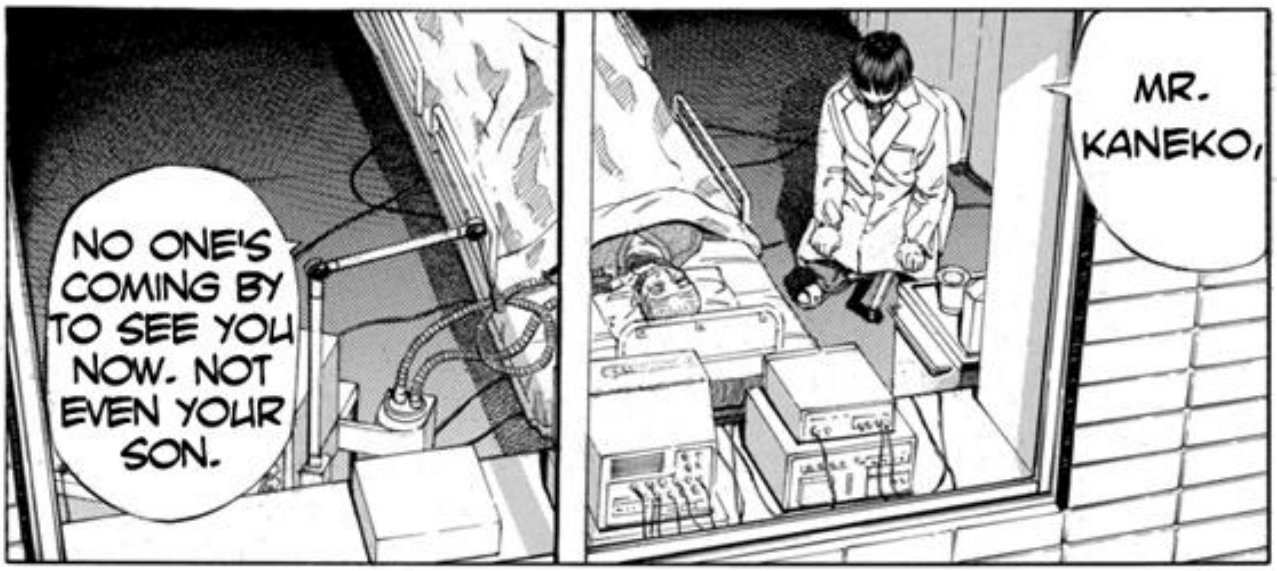
MR. KANEKO...
IS THERE REALLY NOBODY IN THERE ANYMORE?

EVEN IF YOU CAN'T MOVE YOUR EYES OR YOUR MOUTH OR YOUR BODY...
DOESN'T THAT JUST MEAN YOU CAN'T TELL PEOPLE WHAT YOU'RE THINKING?

PLEASE, ANSWER ME THIS:
ARE YOU OKAY WITH THIS BEING THE END?

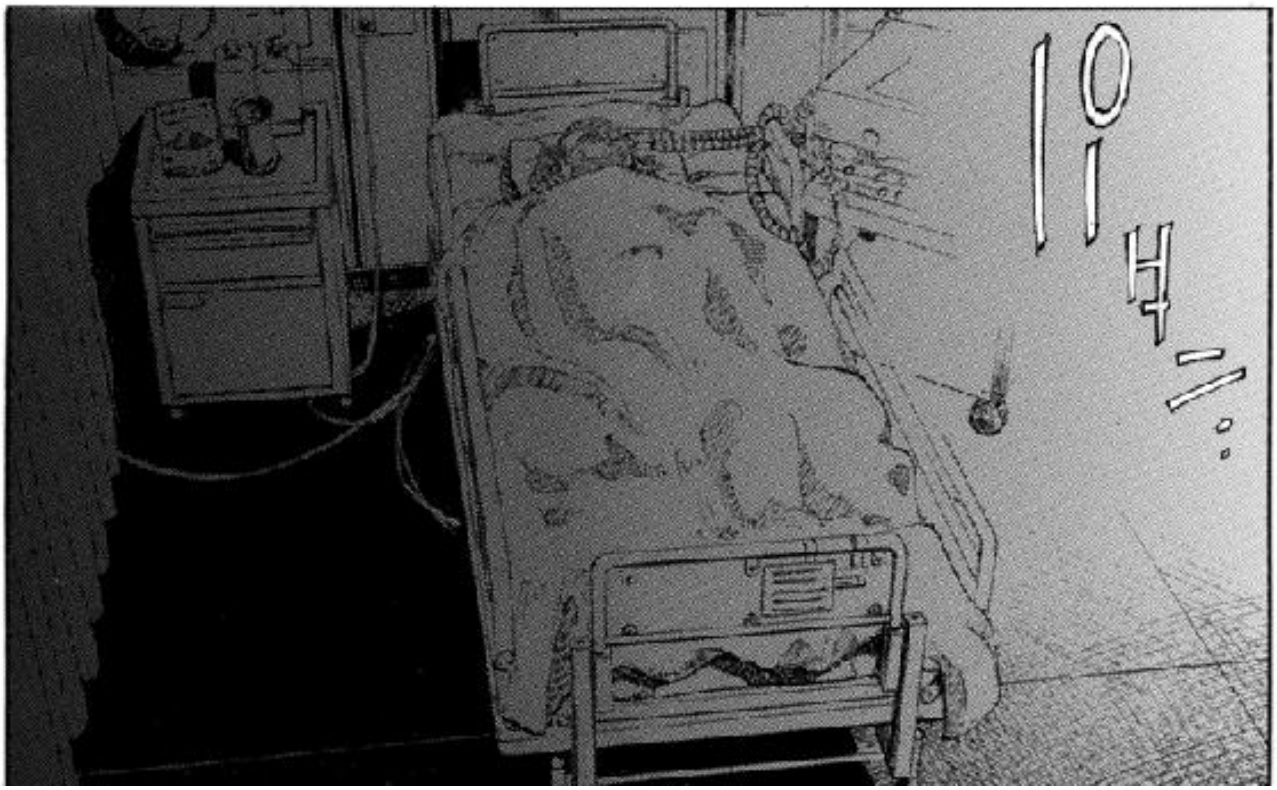
漫画onWeb

July 6,
three days after discontinuing life support.


MR. KANEKO,
NO ONE'S COMING BY TO SEE YOU NOW. NOT EVEN YOUR SON.

HE PAID $10000 FOR YOUR OPERATION TOO.
BUT ONCE WE DECIDED TO LET YOU DIE, HE DOESN'T EVEN VISIT ANYMORE.
I WONDER WHY?
WAS THAT MONEY A FAREWELL PRESENT...?

漫画onWeb



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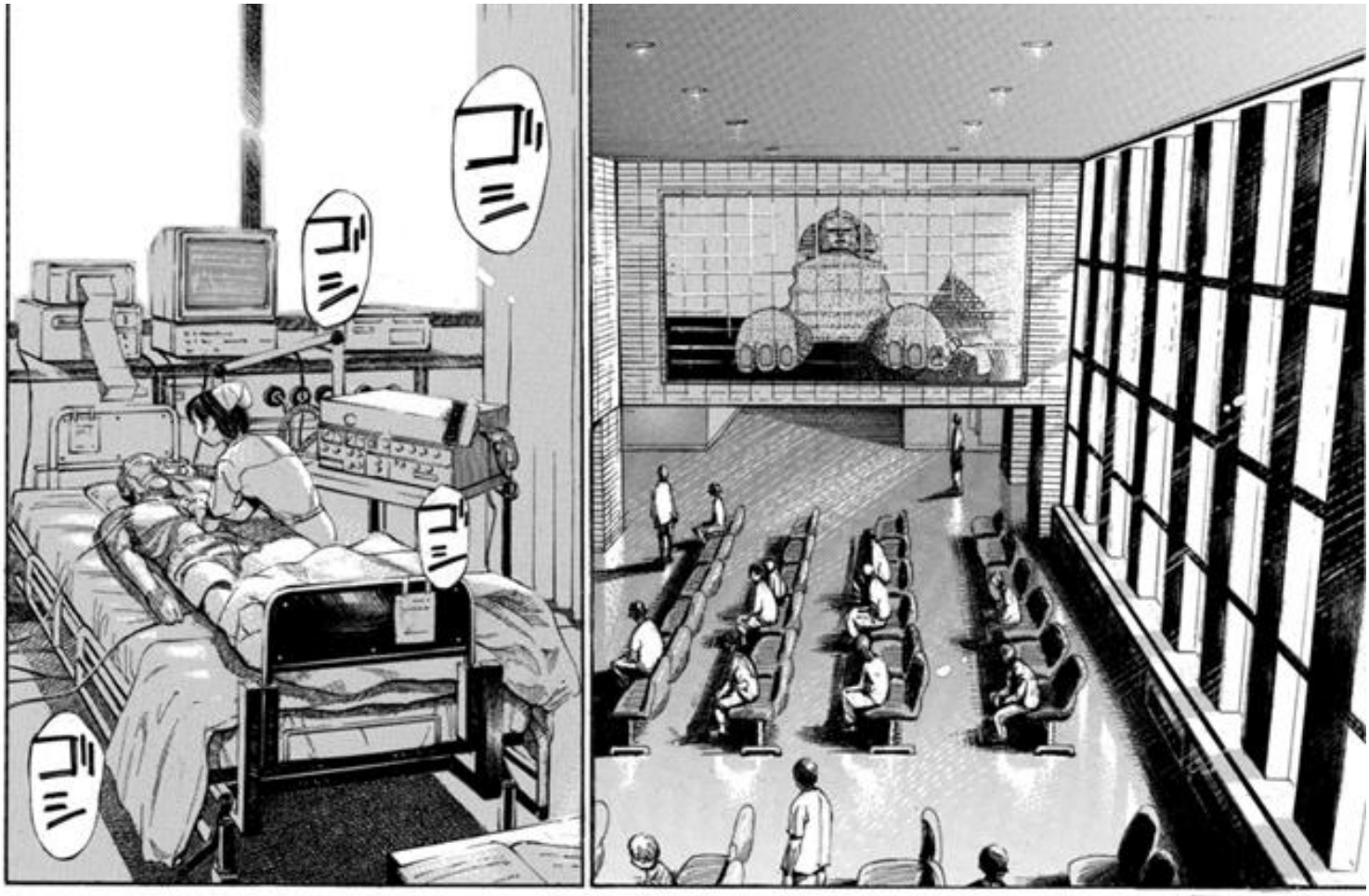
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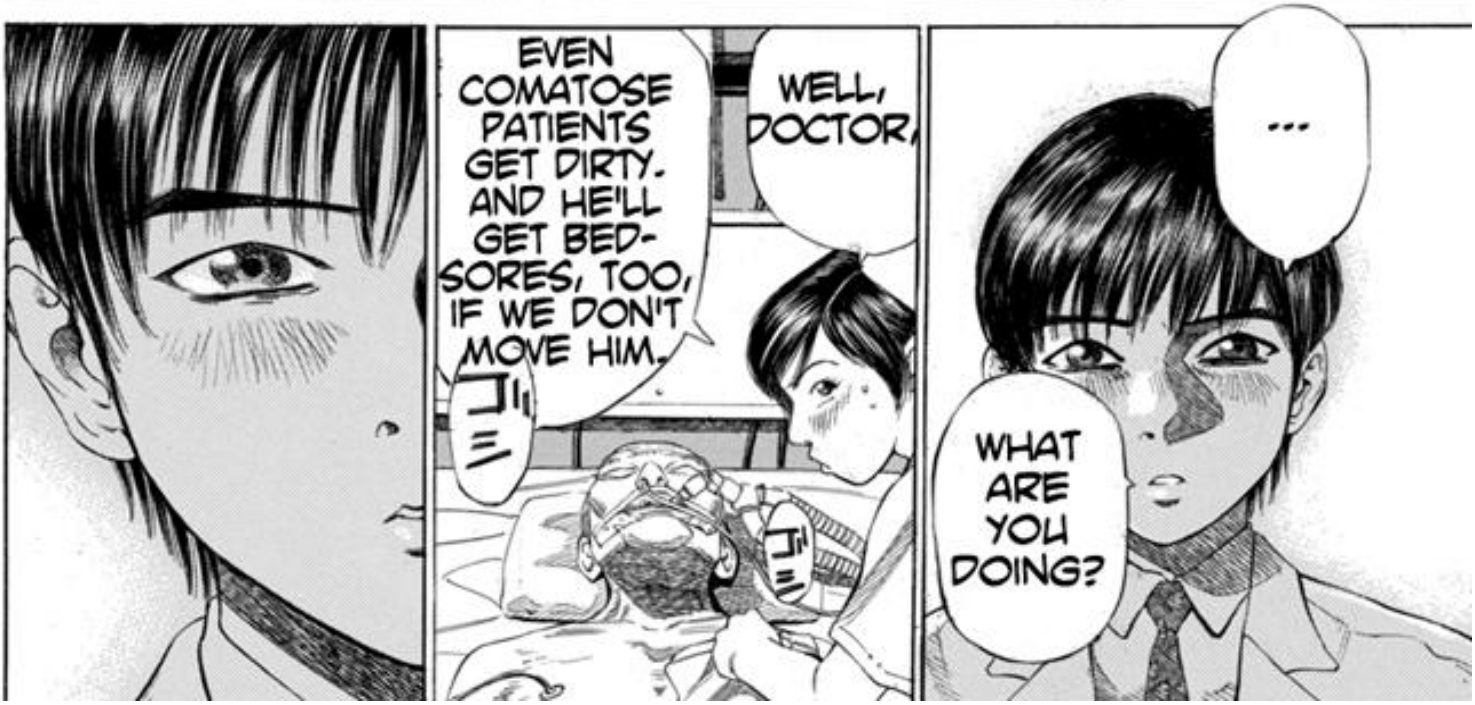
...
GOOD MORNING.


EVEN COMATOSE PATIENTS GET DIRTY. AND HE'LL GET BED-SORES, TOO, IF WE DON'T MOVE HIM.
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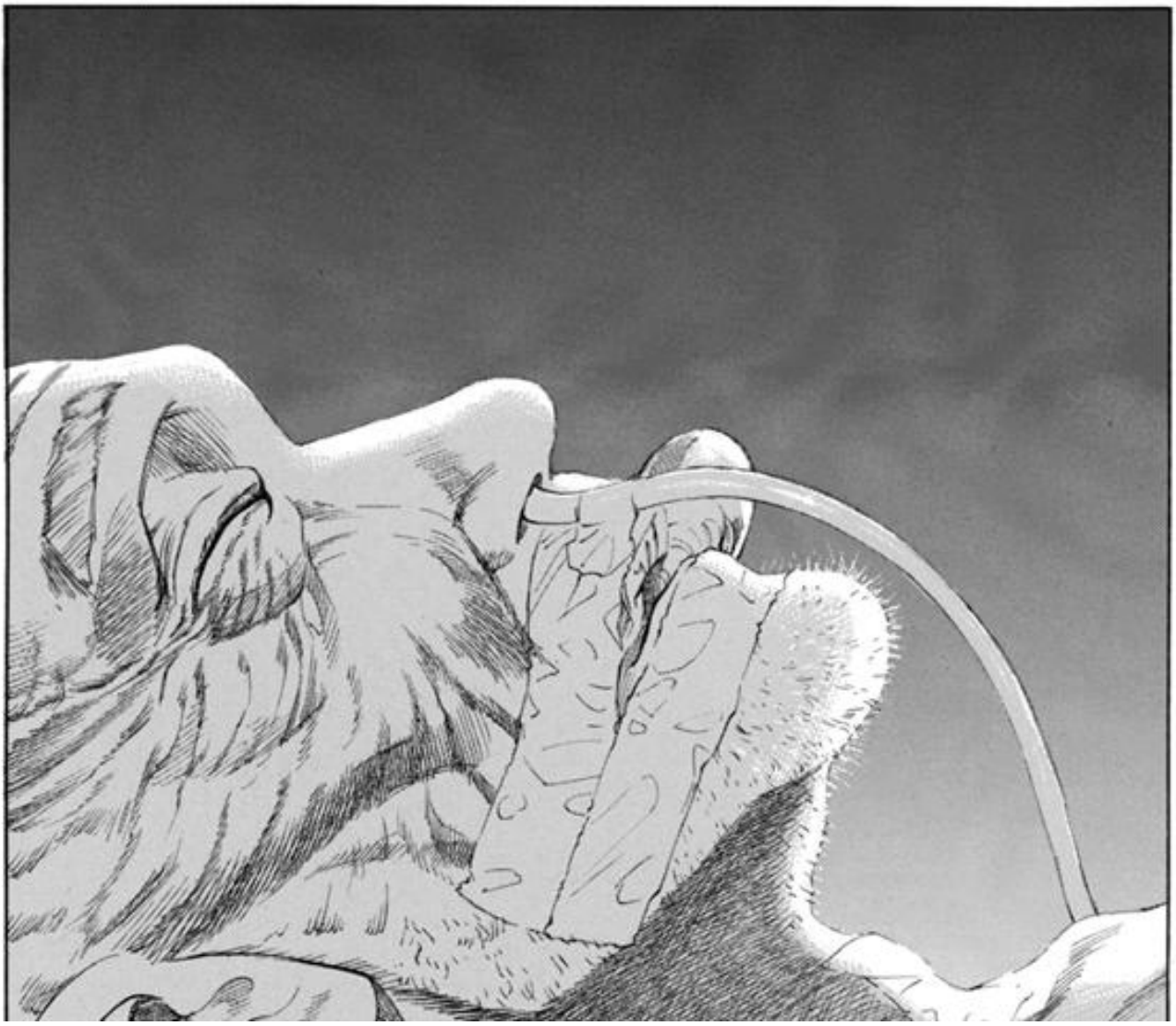
WELL, DOCTOR,
ゴミ
...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

漫画onWeb



漫画onWeb

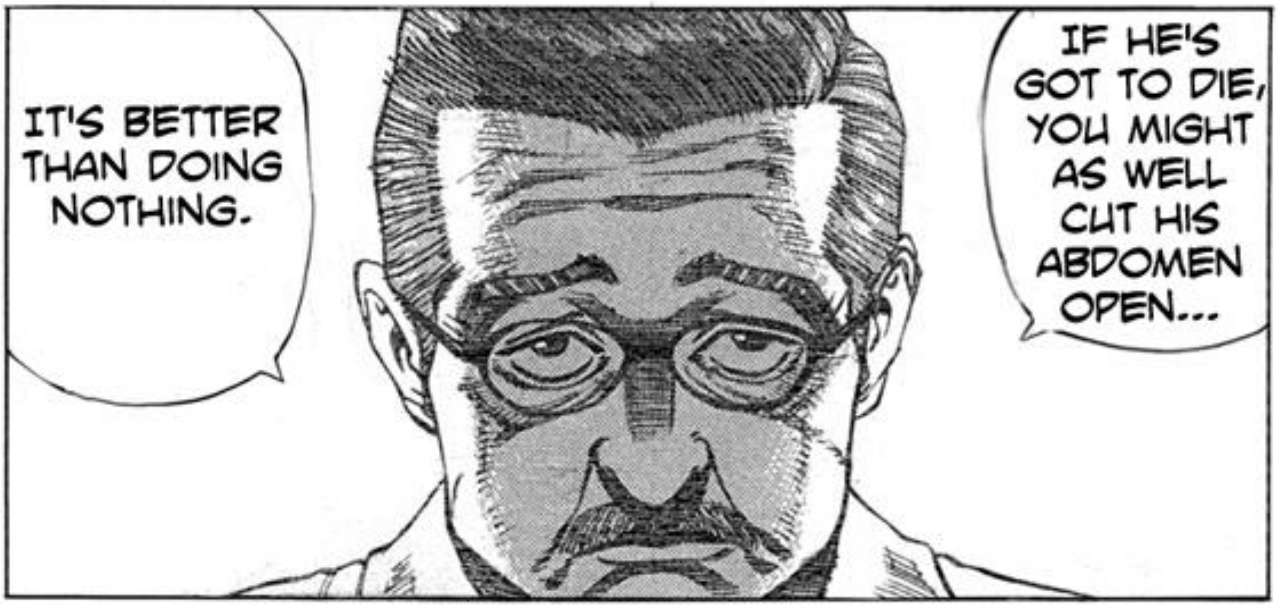
HELP ME, DOCTOR...

I AIN'T READY TO DIE...
DOCTOR... PLEASE...

CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING?
YOU DOCTORS ARE ALL ABOUT SAVING LIVES, AINTCHA?

漫画onWeb

EVEN IF THERE'S BARELY A 1% CHANCE OF RECOVERING CONSCIOUSNESS,
IT'S NOT RIGHT FOR DOCTORS TO WITHDRAW CARE FOR CONVENIENCE'S SAKE.


IT'S BETTER THAN DOING NOTHING.
IF HE'S GOT TO DIE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL CUT HIS ABDOMEN OPEN...

YOU'RE A DOCTOR...
WHETHER YOU'RE NEW OR INEXPERIENCED, TO THE PATIENT, YOU'RE STILL A DOCTOR.

漫画onWeb

I am!

I'm a doctor!

漫画onWeb

IF IT ISN'T DR. SAITO!
CAN I HELP YOU?

PLEASE LET ME GIVE MR. KANEKO PERITONEAL DIALYSIS AND A BLOOD TRANSFUSION.
P-PLEASE...

WE'VE GOT TO PUT MR. KANEKO BACK ON LIFE SUPPORT!
I'M BEGGING YOU!

漫画onWeb

YOU JUST WANT TO CONVINCE YOURSELF YOU'VE DONE EVERYTHING YOU CAN.

WE DON'T HAVE THE MONEY TO BLOW ON YOUR DAMN COMPLACENCY!

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?

UNNECESSARILY PROLONGING LIFE IS A SOCIAL EVIL.

I WANT SOMEONE LIKE DR. SHIRATORI TO OPERATE ON ME."

I THOUGHT, "IF I GET SICK,

WHEN I FIRST SAW YOU PERFORMING MR. KANEKO'S SURGERY...

I WAS MOVED.

漫画onWeb

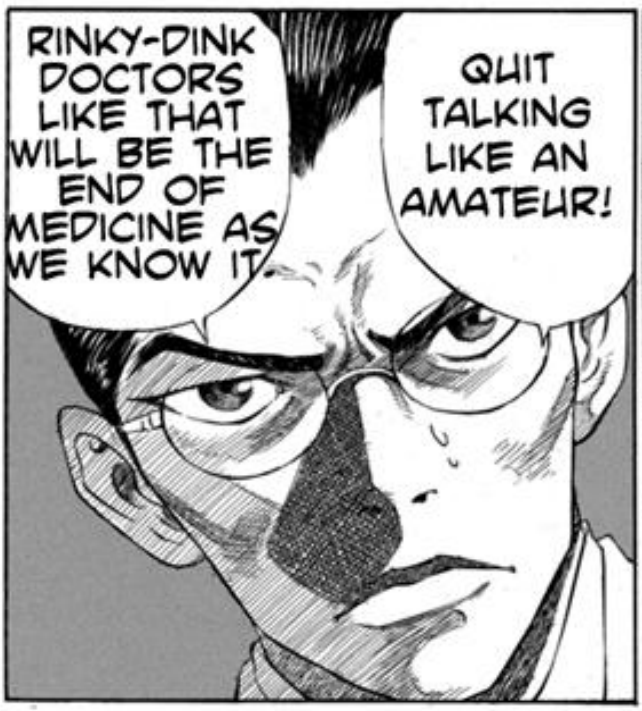
WHAT WAS GOING THROUGH YOUR HEAD DURING THAT OPERATION?

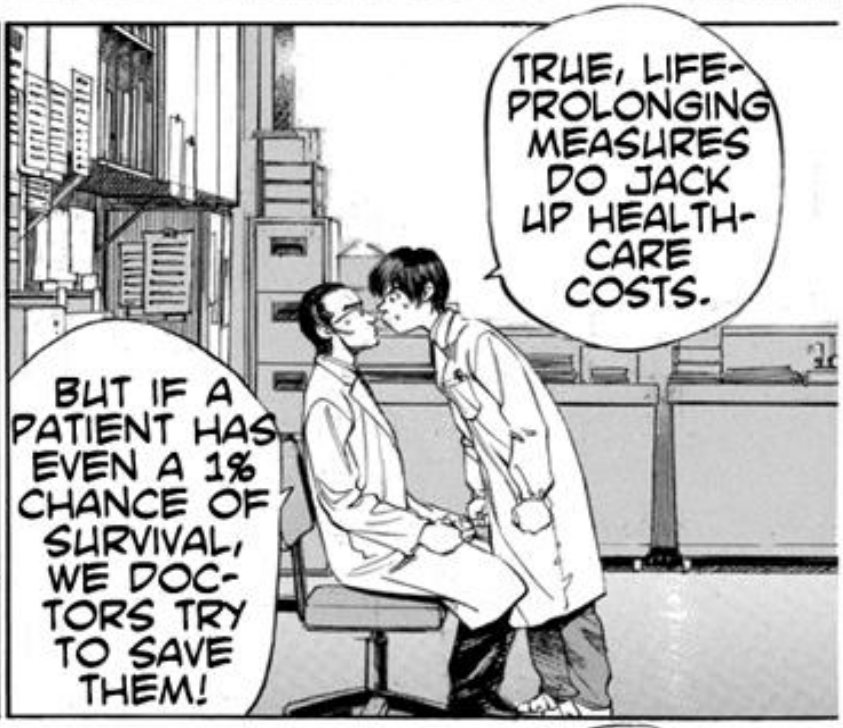
WHY DID YOU TAKE THE TIME TO DO SO WELL?
IF YOU FIGURED HE WAS GOING TO DIE ANYWAY,

THAT'S WHY? NOT BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO SAVE HIM!?

I'M A SURGEON.
I TAKE PRIDE IN MY WORK.

漫画onWeb


RINKY-DINK DOCTORS LIKE THAT WILL BE THE END OF MEDICINE AS WE KNOW IT.
QUIT TALKING LIKE AN AMATEUR!


TRUE, LIFE-PROLONGING MEASURES DO JACK UP HEALTH-CARE COSTS.
BUT IF A PATIENT HAS EVEN A 1% CHANCE OF SURVIVAL, WE DOCTORS TRY TO SAVE THEM!

COME ON--THAT'S A COP-OUT!
WHAT IF YOUR ATTENDING TOLD YOU TO EAT SHIT?

I WAS FOLLOWING ORDERS FROM MY ATTENDING.
IT'S NOT LIKE I WANTED TO.

YOU PERFORMED A MEANINGLESS SURGERY. YOU DROVE UP HEALTH-CARE COSTS.
THEN HERE'S WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

漫画onWeb

ONE DAY I'LL BE AN ATTENDING HERE MYSELF!

I'M PREPARED TO DO JUST THAT!

THEN I'LL CHANGE THE JAPANESE MEDICAL PRACTICE ITSELF!

AND WHEN I AM, I'LL CHANGE THIS UNIVERSITY...

I'LL CHANGE EVERY EIROKU-AFFILIATED HOSPITAL IN THE NATION...

DOCTOR ...

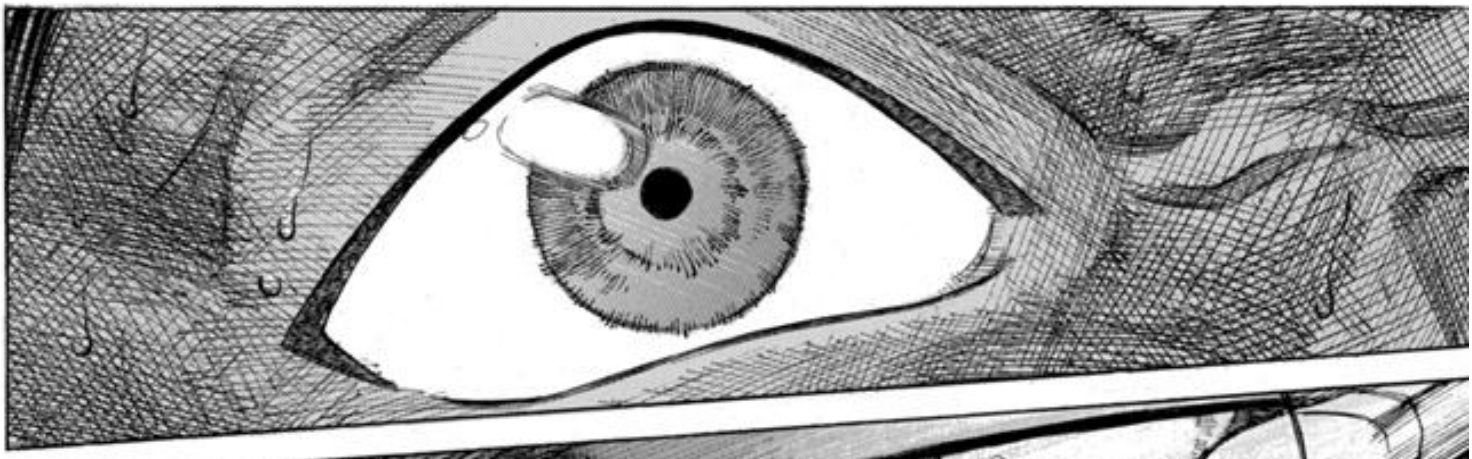
WHAT ABOUT THAT PATIENT?

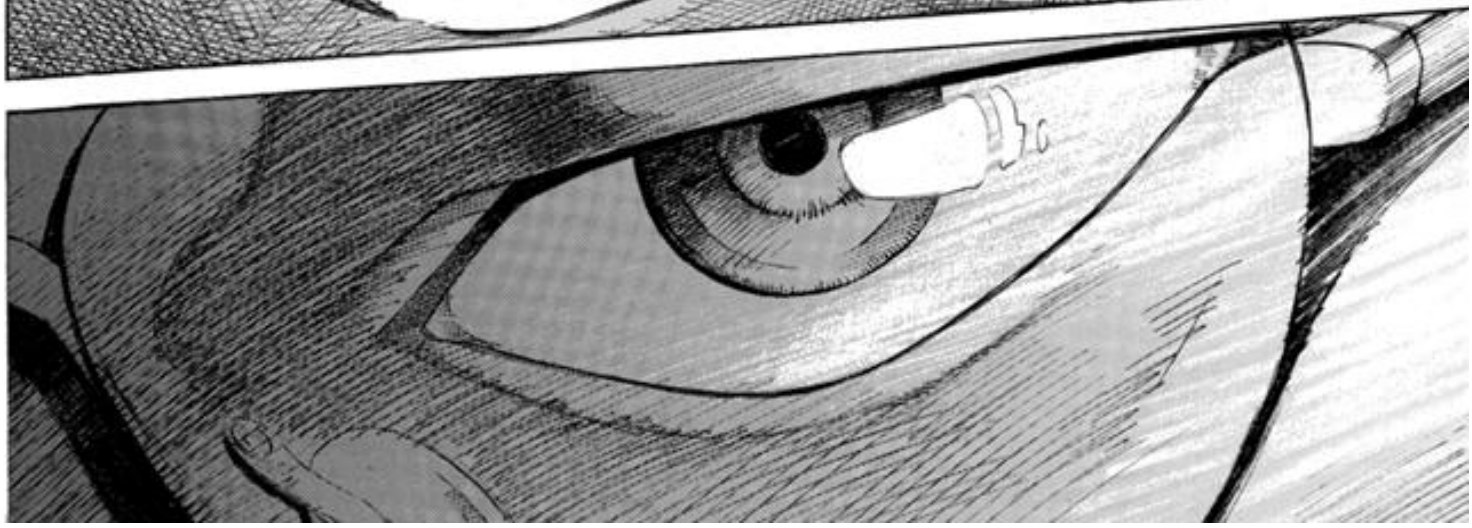
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR YOUR RATIONAL-IZATION.

AND THAT, IN THE END,

IS THE WAY TO SAVE MORE PEOPLE!

漫画onWeb





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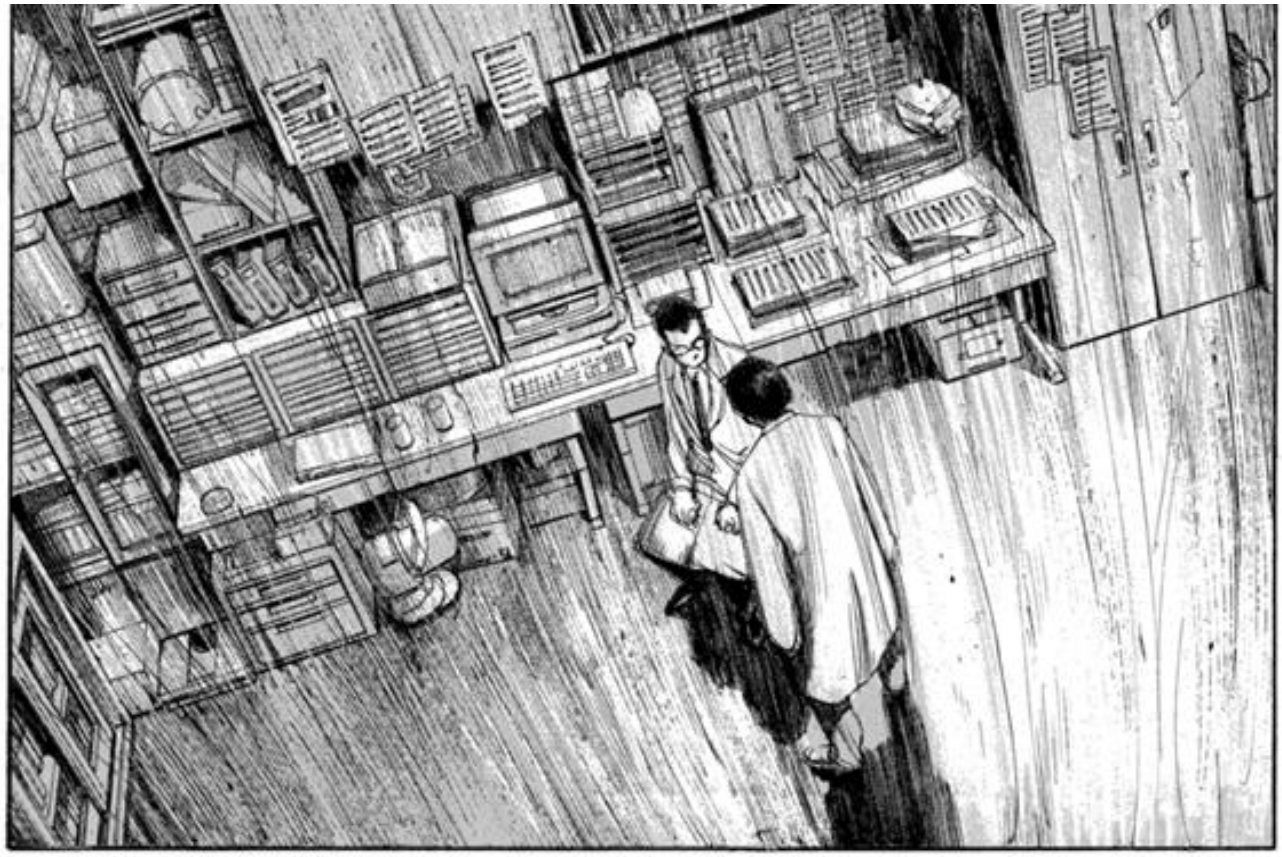
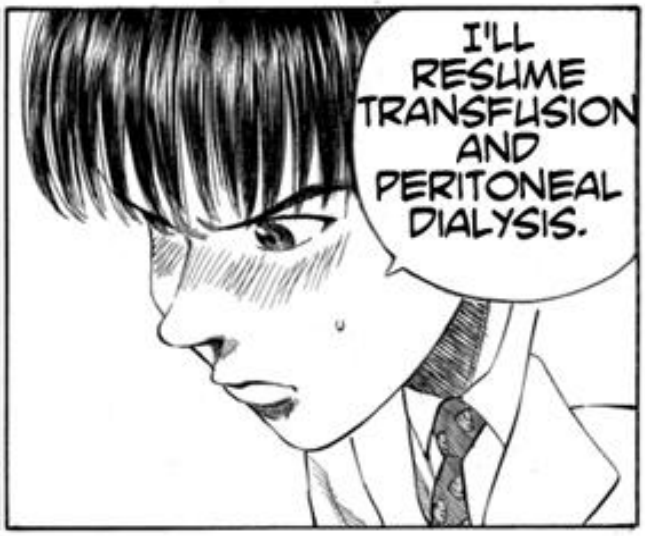



I'LL RESUME TRANSFUSION AND PERITONEAL DIALYSIS.

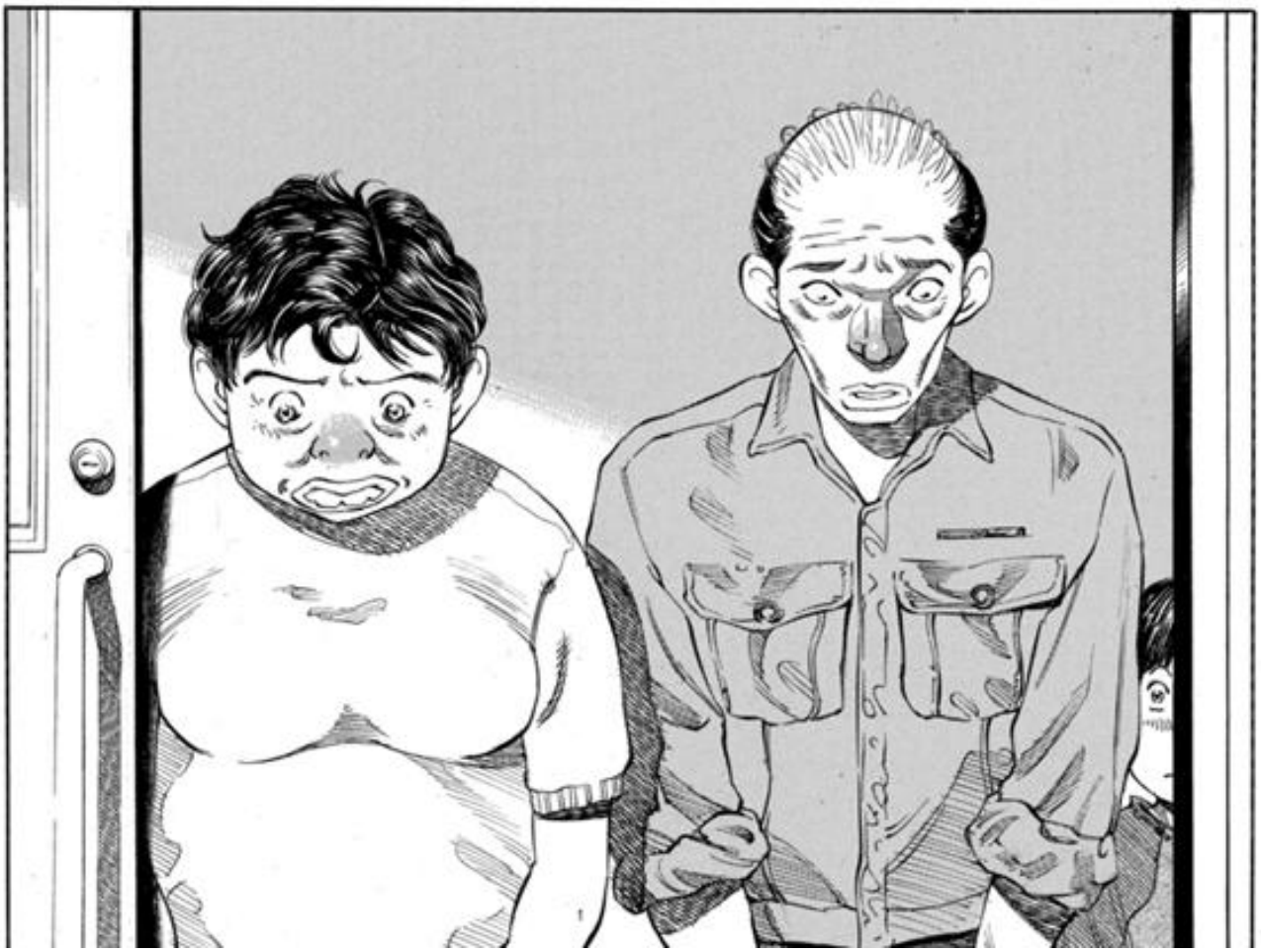
AFTER ALL...
I'M HIS DOCTOR!

漫画onWeb

July 7.

Mr. Kaneko is undergoing blood transfusion and peritoneal dialysis again.

漫画onWeb



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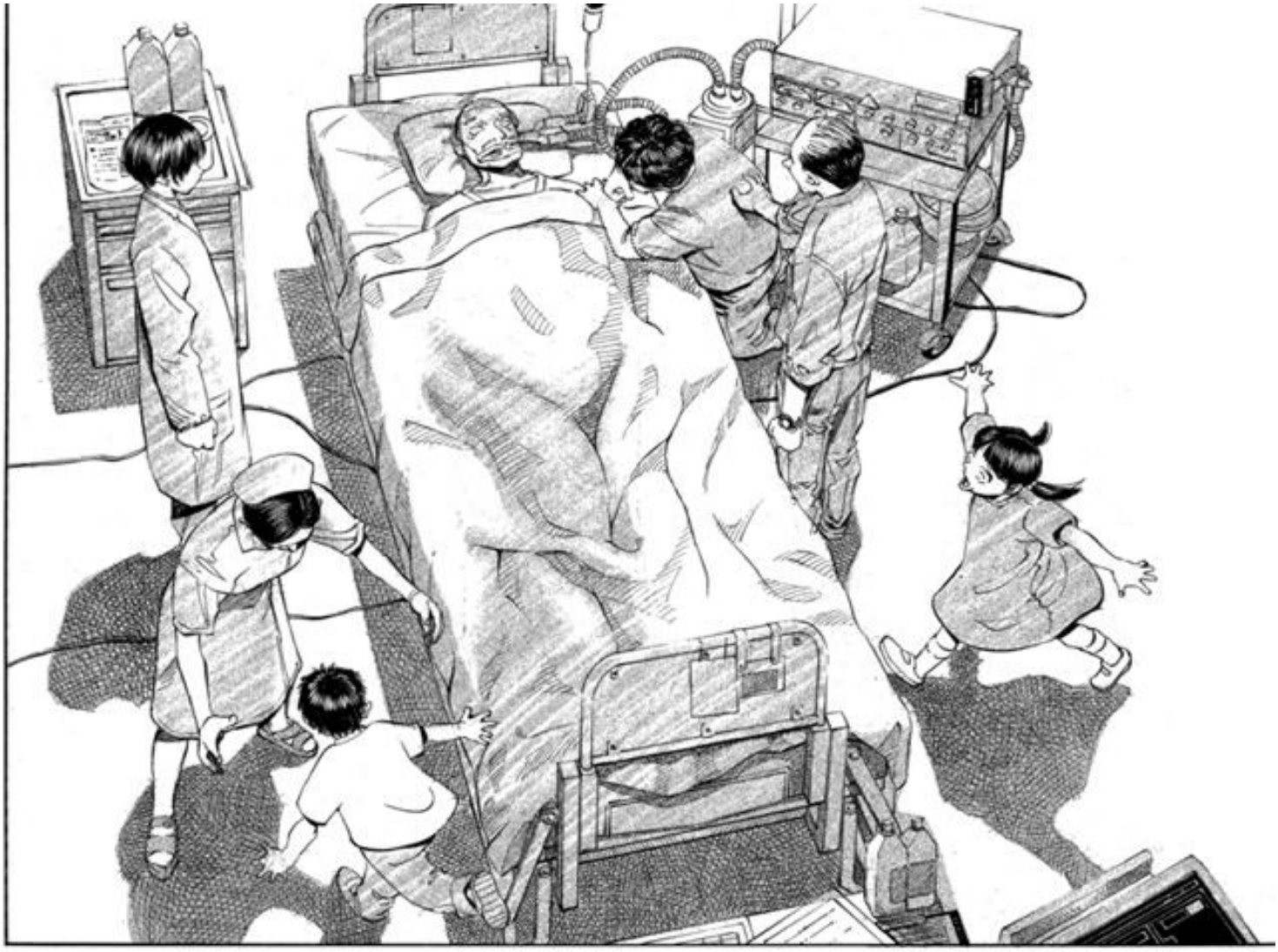


SOON AFTER WE RESUMED TREATMENT,
THE OLD MAN'S FAMILY STARTED COMING BY AGAIN.

漫画onWeb

Dr. Shiratori,
I don't really know if Mr. Kaneko wants to live.
But...
I can tell his family really wants him to, at least.
They truly do.

漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb

Toshio Kaneko

75 years old at time of death.

漫画onWeb

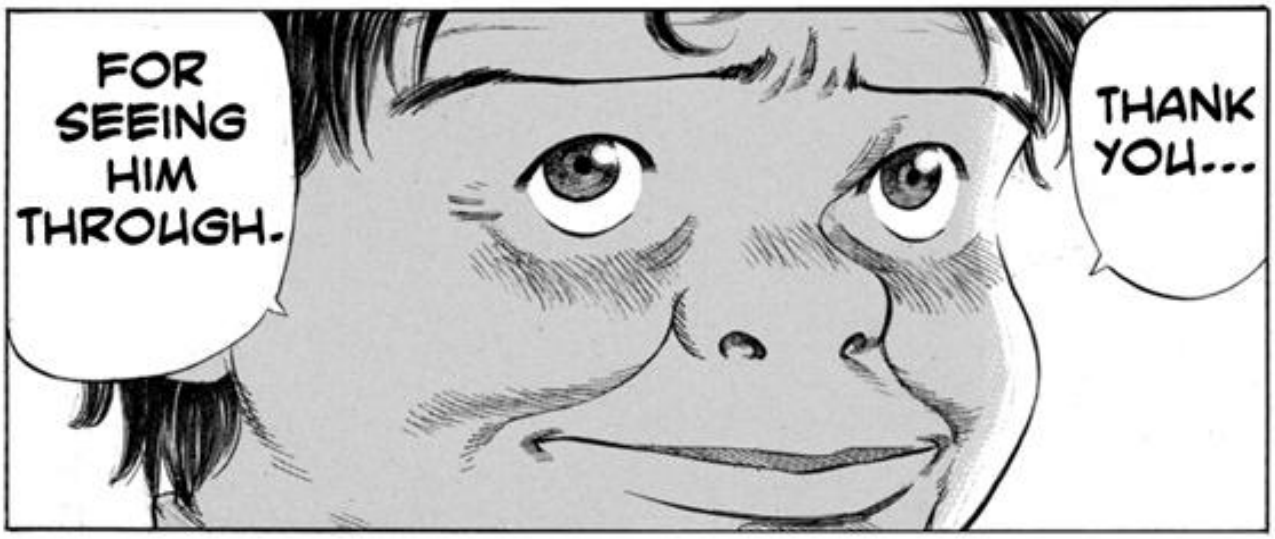
I'M SO SORRY.
IF ONLY THERE WERE MORE I COULD HAVE DONE...

DOCTOR...
WHEN MY DAD FELL ILL, I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING TO HELP,
SO I GAVE THE ATTENDING A 10000 DOLLARS.

SO WHEN YOU SAID YOU'D TAKE HIM OFF LIFE SUPPORT,
OUR GUILTY CONSCIENCES KEPT US AWAY FROM THE HOSPITAL...

BUT WHAT IF HE WOUND UP BEDRIDDEN? WE BOTH WORK...
I ADMIT WE HAD SOME CONCERNS.

漫画onWeb



漫画onWeb

THERE'S NO GOOD OR BAD WAY TO DIE.

DEATH IS DEATH...
AND I COULDN'T SAVE THAT PATIENT.

DR. SAITO?
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP DOING THIS?
YOU UNDER-STAND
HE'S JUST THE FIRST IN A LONG LINE OF PATIENTS LIKE HIM.

漫画onWeb

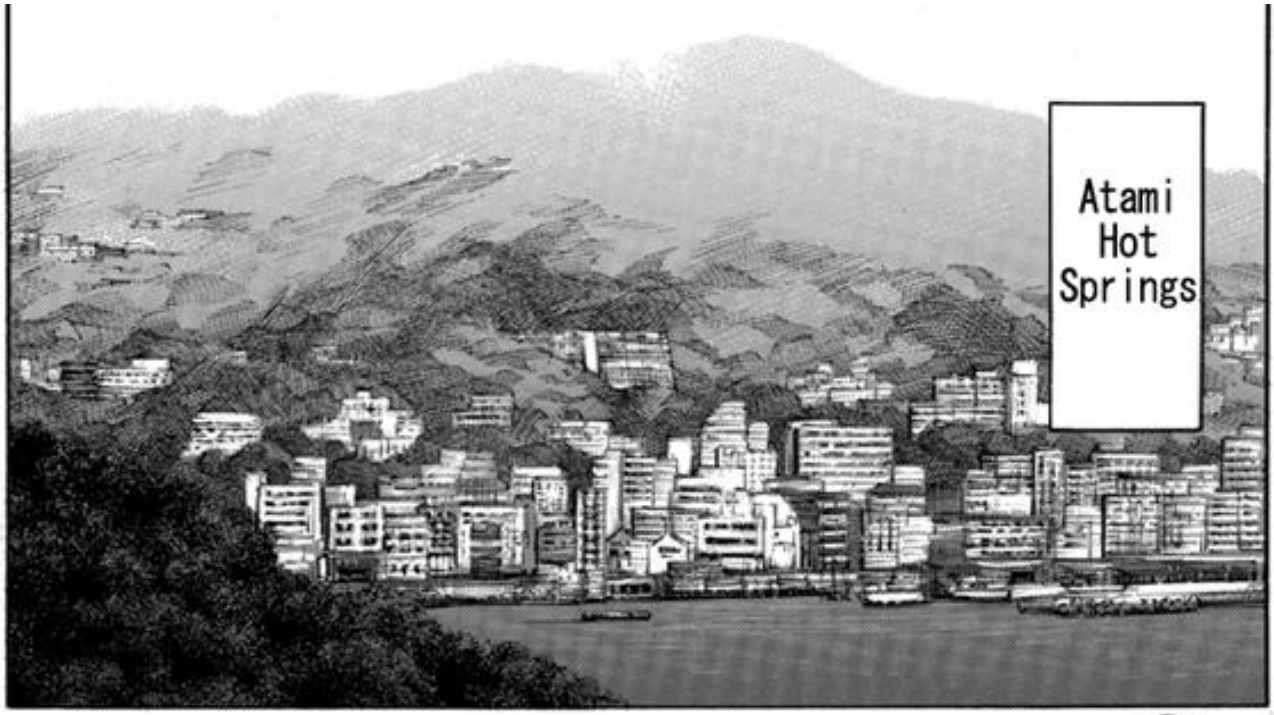
永禄大学附属病院

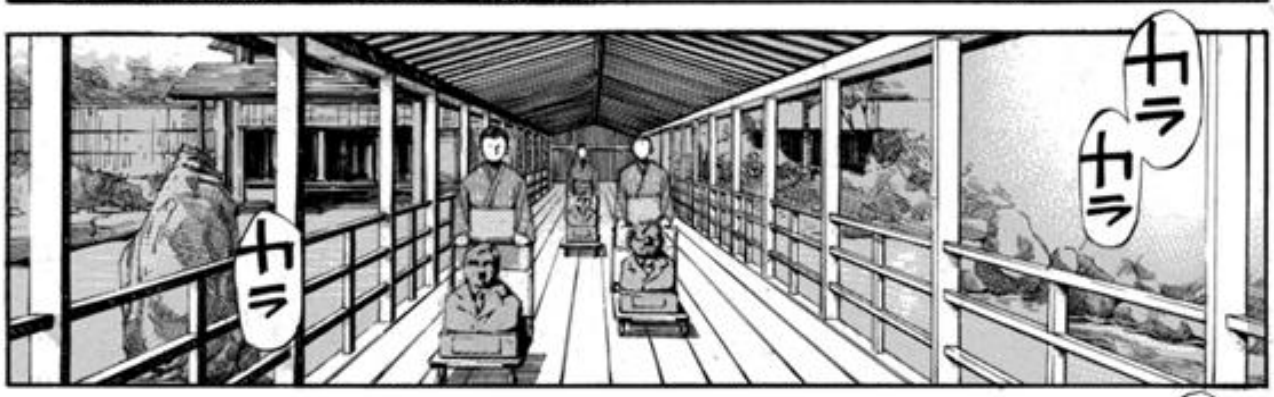
YES, HELLO.
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU HAD ANOTHER PART-TIME SHIFT OPENING...

漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb


Atami Hot Springs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カラ
カラ

SAY, WHY ARE WE LINING UP THESE BUSTS, ANYWAY?
REMEMBER? THAT WHOLE EIROKU THING IS TODAY.

カラ
カラ
第十一代主任教授
春日部一郎博士
11TH DEPARTMENT CHAIR
DR. ICHIRO KASUKABE

漫画onWeb

#5 Surgery, Internists, Departments, And Saito

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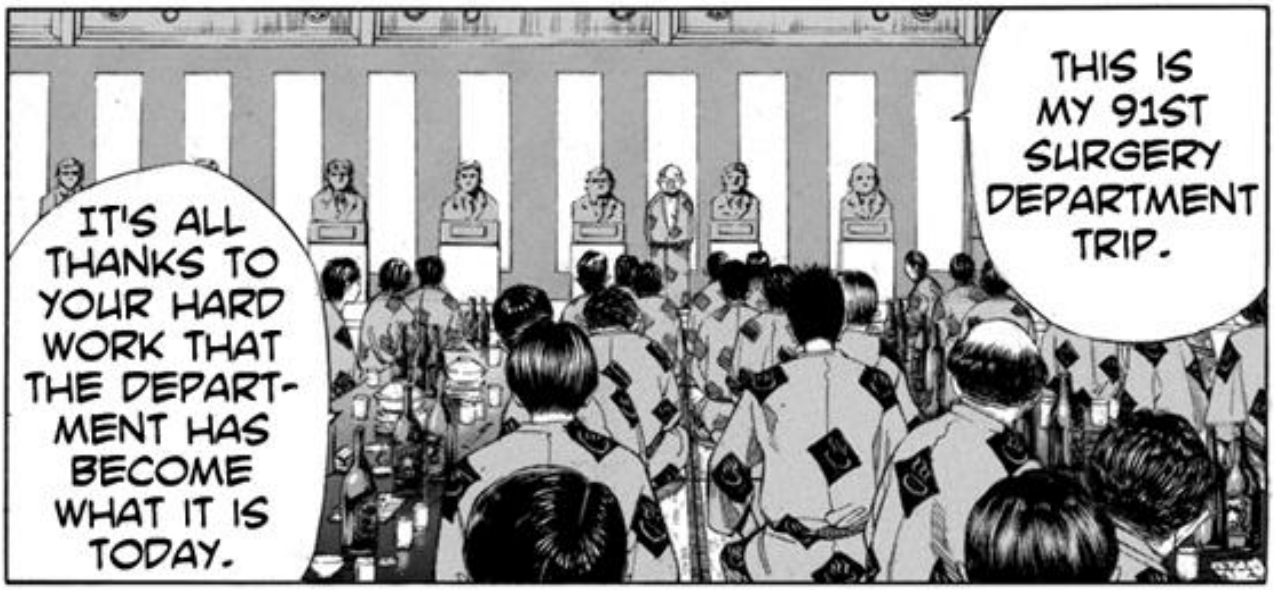
第91回
永禄大学第一外科医局交流会

THE 91ST EIROKU UNIVERSITY 1ST DEPT. OF SURGERY MEET-UP



漫画onWeb

IF YOU'RE LOOKING TO GET DRUNK,
ALCOHOL REALLY DE-LIVERS!

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ピチ…
ピチ…

漫画onWeb

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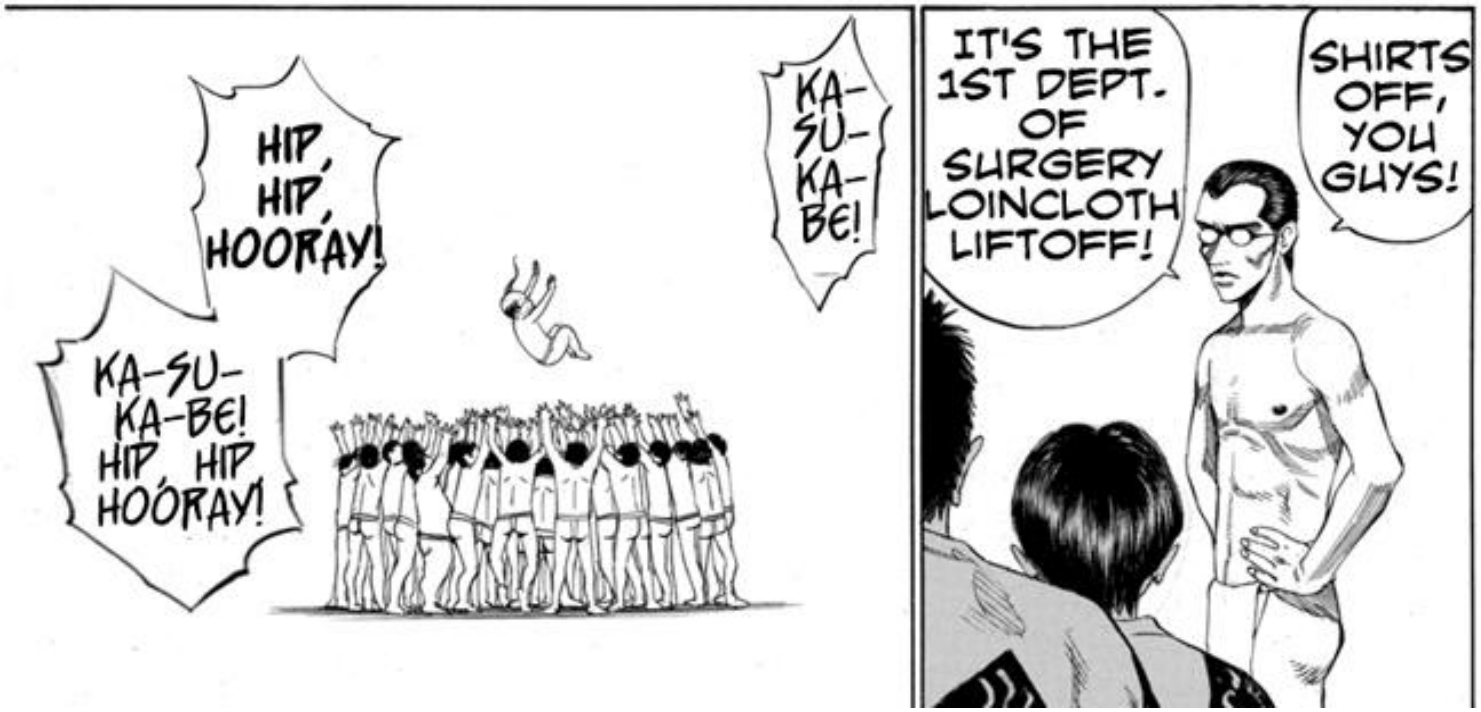
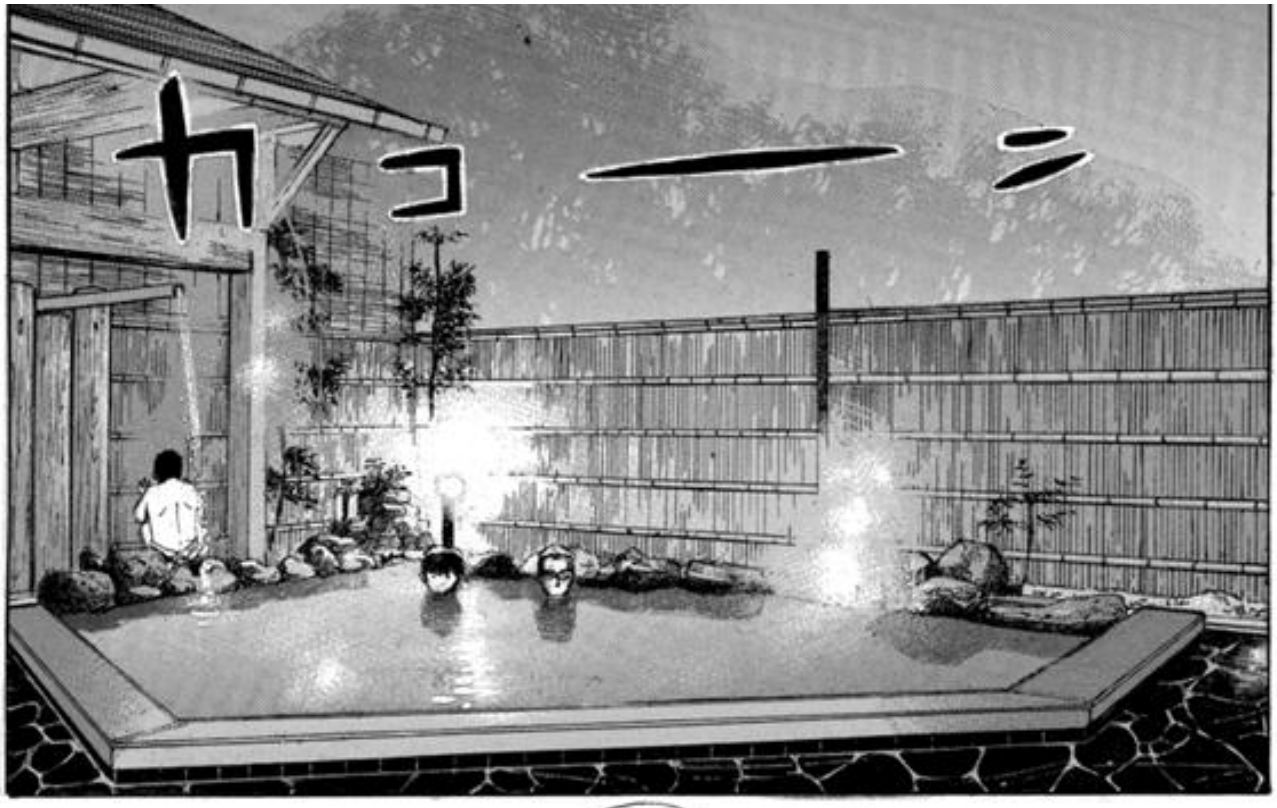
HEY-
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, DR. SHIRATORI?


KA-SU-KA-BE!
HIP, HIP, HOORAY!
KA-SU-KA-BE! HIP, HIP HOORAY!
IT'S THE 1ST DEPT. OF SURGERY LOINCLOTH LIFTOFF!
SHIRTS OFF, YOU GUYS!

漫画onWeb


カコーン

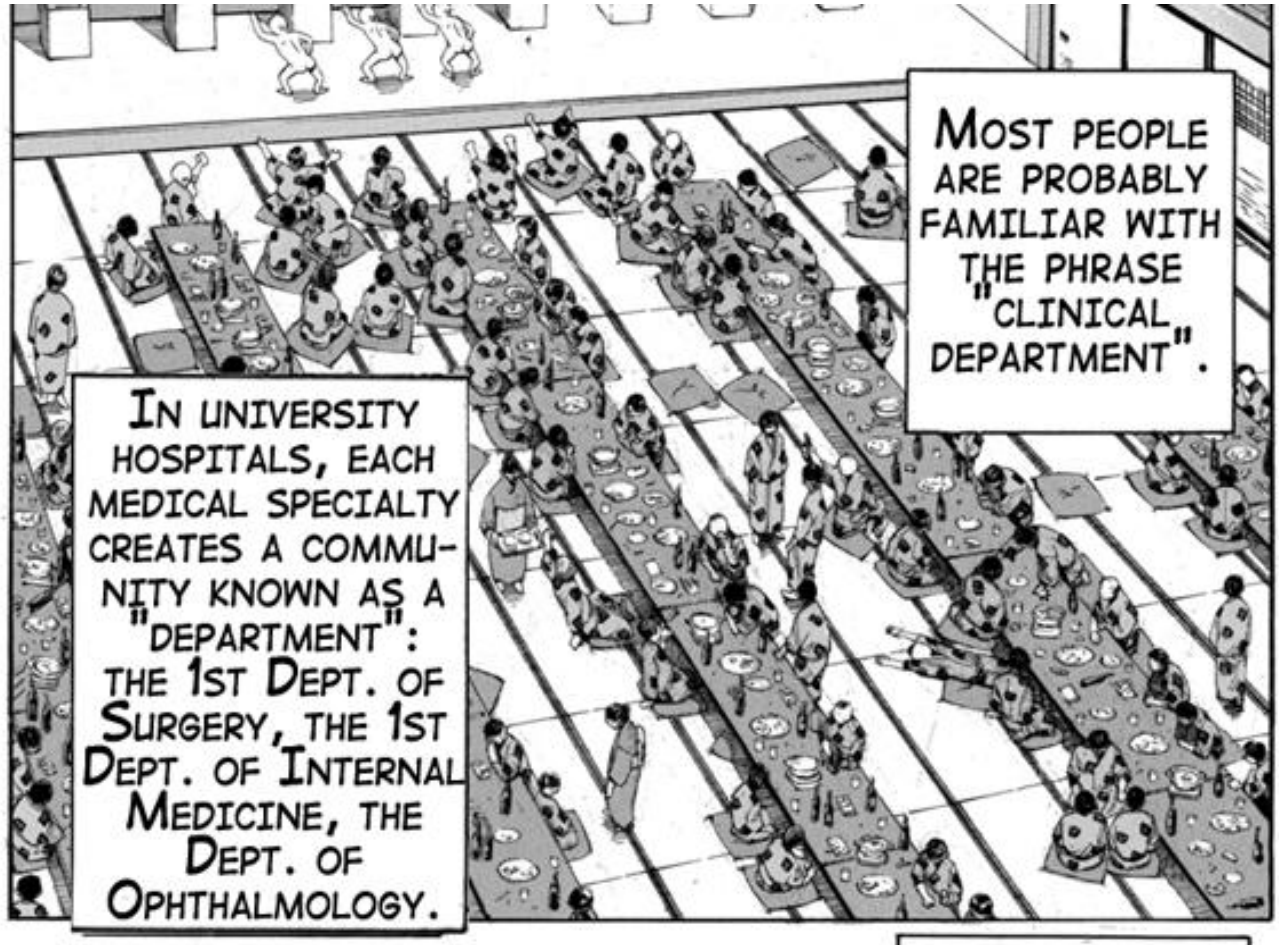
THIS IS A DOCTOR'S WORLD, SAITO.

HEH
HEH
HEH...

SHEER SKILL ALONE WON'T GET YOU ANYWHERE HERE.
BUT ENOUGH WHEELING AND DEALING IN THIS "COMPANY" AND YOU'LL GO FAR.

TAKE A GOOD, CLOSE LOOK...
DOCTORS ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM COMPANY EMPLOYEES.

漫画onWeb


MOST PEOPLE ARE PROBABLY FAMILIAR WITH THE PHRASE "CLINICAL DEPARTMENT".
IN UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS, EACH MEDICAL SPECIALTY CREATES A COMMUNITY KNOWN AS A "DEPARTMENT": THE 1ST DEPT. OF SURGERY, THE 1ST DEPT. OF INTERNAL MEDICINE, THE DEPT. OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

INDEED, JUST ABOUT EVERY DOCTOR, WHETHER IN A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, PUBLIC HOSPITAL, PRIVATE HOSPITAL,
OR A LOCAL FAMILY PRACTICE IS AN ALUM OF SOME UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL'S CLINICAL DEPARTMENT.

OH, DR. KASUKABE!
PLEASE LET ME BE YOUR ASSISTANT PROFESSOR.

DOCTOR!
WE COULD REALLY USE MORE VETERAN DOCTORS AT OUR HOSPITAL...

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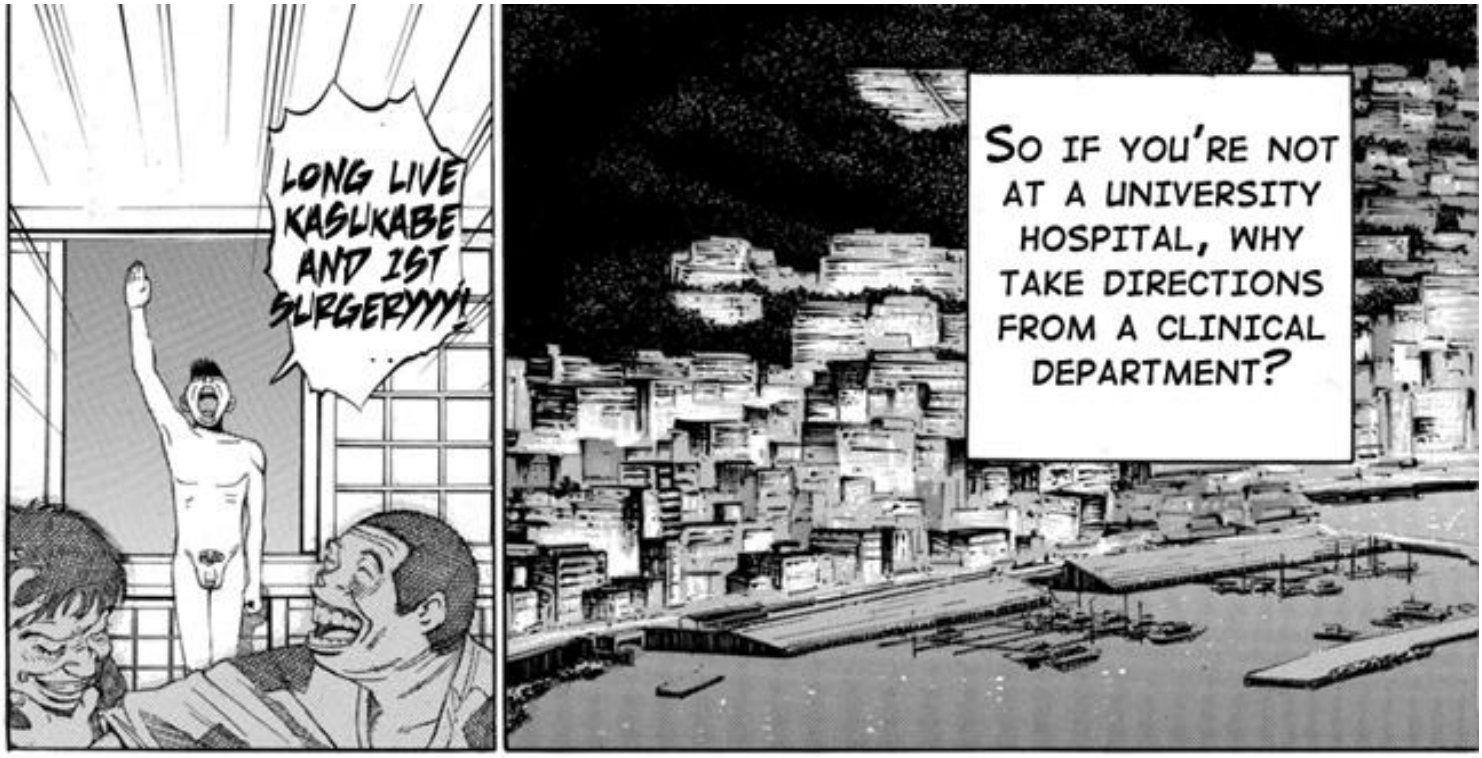

LONG LIVE KASUKABE AND 1ST SURGERYYY!
SO IF YOU'RE NOT AT A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, WHY TAKE DIRECTIONS FROM A CLINICAL DEPARTMENT?

HOSPITAL A IS AFFILIATED WITH TOKYO U., HOSPITAL B WITH KEIO U., AND SO ON.
JAPANESE HOSPITALS ARE ALMOST ALL AFFILIATED WITH SOME UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL OR OTHER.

THESE AFFILIATIONS AREN'T FINANCIAL ONES, OF COURSE.
BUT UNIVERSITY CLINICAL DEPARTMENTS HAVE *AUTHORITY OVER PERSONNEL* IN THEIR AFFILIATE HOSPITALS.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF AT MY HOSPITAL JUST CHANGED OUR AFFILIATION TO Y UNIVERSITY...
DOCTOR!

漫画onWeb

In other words, private hospitals have to ask the university to find them a doctor,
and if a doctor doesn't belong to any department, good luck finding a place to work.
If a private hospital needs a new doctor,
they'll discuss it with the university's clinical department, who'll send one over.
There's no escaping from this organization,
which is why some people even call it the "Medical Mafia"!
In a clinical department, the teachers are gods.
whether you soar high or crash and burn is entirely up to them.
And who wields the department's power over HR and everything else?
The department's idiot teachers, that's who.

漫画onWeb

YES, DOCTOR!

SEVERE INFLAMMATION AROUND THE APPENDIX...
WE'LL SEPARATE IT, STARTING FROM THE ADHESION AT THE ROOT.

漫画onWeb

HUH?
MAYBE I'M NOT CUT OUT FOR SURGERY.
医師更衣室

NO MATTER HOW GOOD YOU ARE, YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT BIG IF YOU CAN'T WORK THE SYSTEM.
AND I CAN'T GET USED TO THAT.

LOOK, FORGET ALL THAT!
IT'S DATE NIGHT!
NOT AGAIN...

IT'S MORE A ROUGH-AND-TUMBLE, PHYS-ED KINDA WORLD.
BUT, HELL, SURGERY MIGHT NOT BE THE PLACE FOR YOU AFTER ALL.

NOTHIN' TO DO WITH SURGERY, PARTICU-LARLY.
SURGERY, INTERNAL MEDICINE--IT'S THE SAME WHEREVER YOU GO.

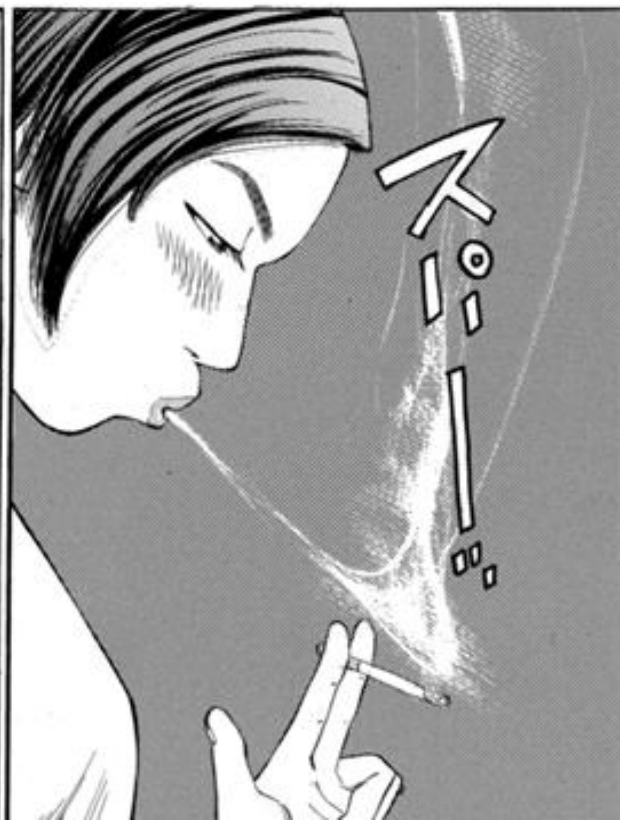
漫画onWeb

FEEL LIKE GOING OUT TONIGHT?
HELLO, LADIES!
Nurses' Break Room
看護婦休憩室

WOMEN ALWAYS WANNA MARRY DOCTORS, AMIRITE?
AW, YEAH!

THAT DOES IT! MIGHT AS WELL OFF MYSELF!
SO MUCH FOR THE ANGEL IN WHITE...

NO MONEY, NO TIME--BUT PLENTY OF PRIDE. NOT AN IDEAL HUSBAND, IF YOU ASK ME.
AN INTERN'S SALARY IS THE PITS.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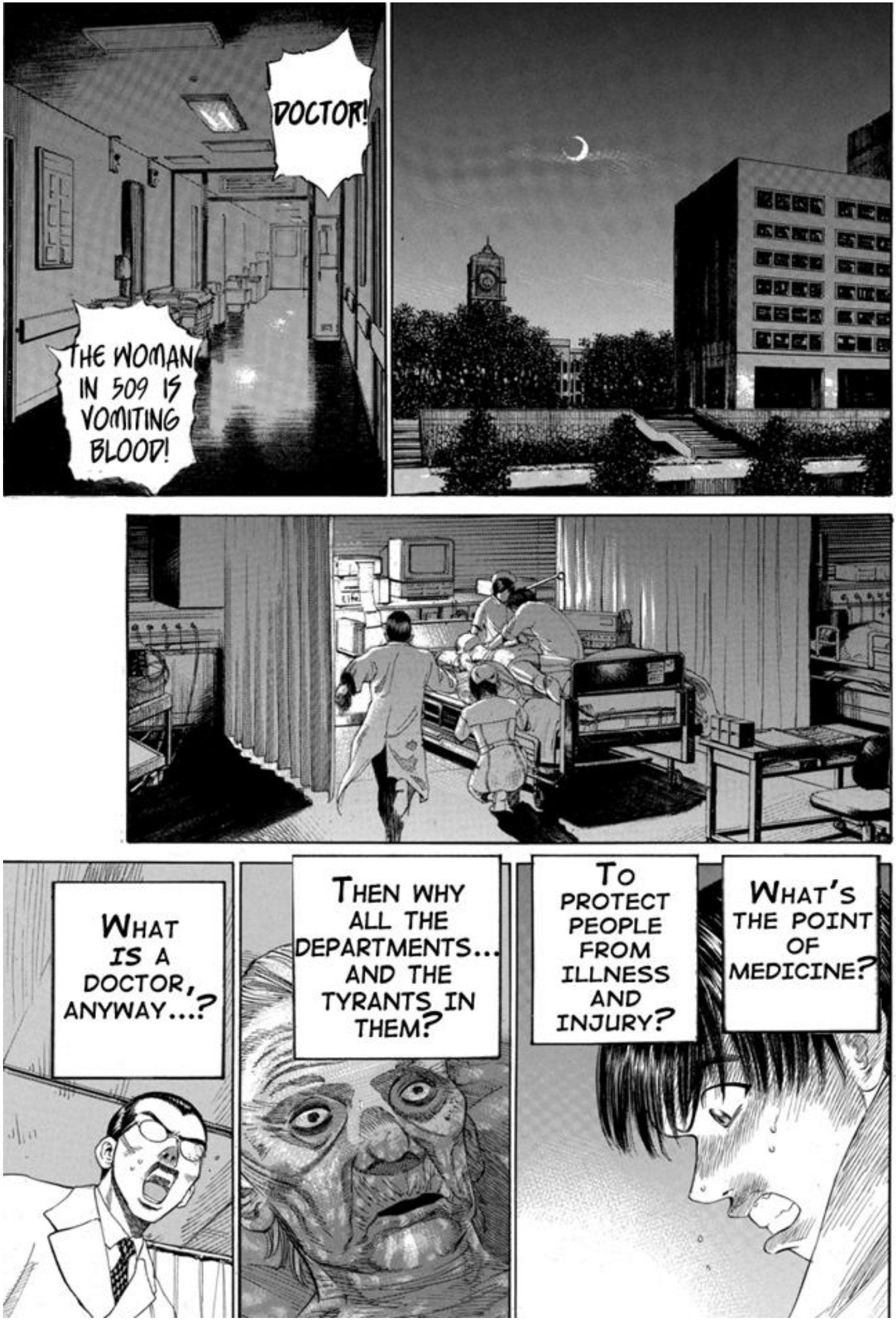
DOCTOR!
THE WOMAN IN 509 IS VOMITING BLOOD!
WHAT IS A DOCTOR, ANYWAY...?
THEN WHY ALL THE DEPARTMENTS... AND THE TYRANTS IN THEM?
TO PROTECT PEOPLE FROM ILLNESS AND INJURY?
WHAT'S THE POINT OF MEDICINE?

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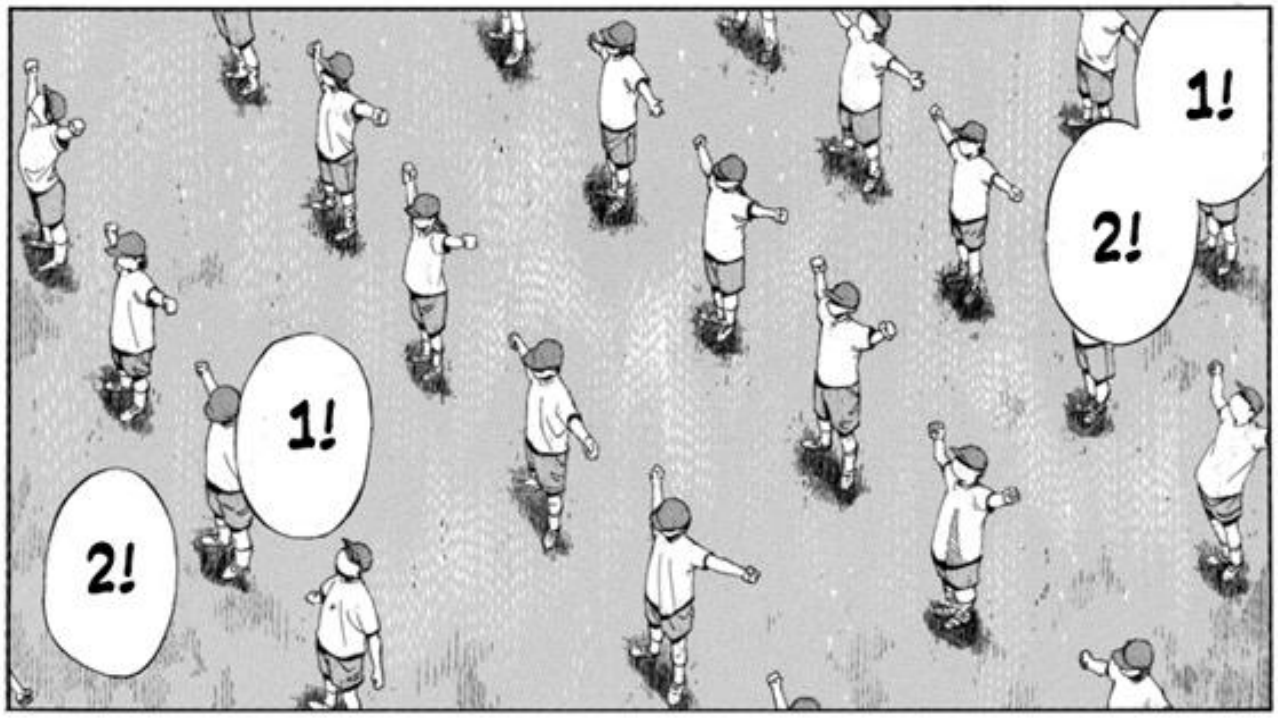
1!
2!
1!
2!

NOTHING BEATS THE BEER YOU SNEAK OUT TO DRINK AFTER YOUR SHIFT.
AHH...

ゴ
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漫画onWeb

STOP BEING SO SELF-CONSCIOUS.
HOW CAN YOU WORK IF YOU LET EVERYTHING GET TO YOU?
THAT WOMAN ENDED UP DEAD.
GEEZ, DR. SHIRATORI...

YOUR INTERNSHIP WITH 1ST SURGERY IS NEARLY OVER.
ALMOST SEPTEMBER ALREADY.

I EXPECT YOU TO COME BACK TO 1ST SURGERY WHEN IT'S ALL OVER.
BUT LISTEN, DR. SAITO...
YOU INTERNS WILL BE SPENDING TIME WITH ALL KINDS OF SPECIALTIES FROM HERE ON OUT.

漫画onWeb

DR. SHIRATORI?

WHY DO WE HAVE TO BE PART OF A DEPARTMENT, ANYWAY?

WELL, IT'S NOT MANDATORY, OF COURSE...

BUT WITHOUT ONE, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN WITH YOUR POST-INTERNSHIP JOB HUNT.

THE FAST TRACK IS HOPELESS.

YOU CAN BARELY WRITE A THESIS IF YOU CAN'T DO BASIC RESEARCH-- AND FORGET ABOUT GETTING A DEGREE.

AND EVEN IF YOU DO HAPPEN TO FIND A POSITION AT SOME HOSPITAL,

THE CHIEF AND THE DEPARTMENT HEADS WILL SAVE THE BEST JOBS FOR THOSE IN THE UNIVERSITY'S CLINICAL DEPARTMENT.

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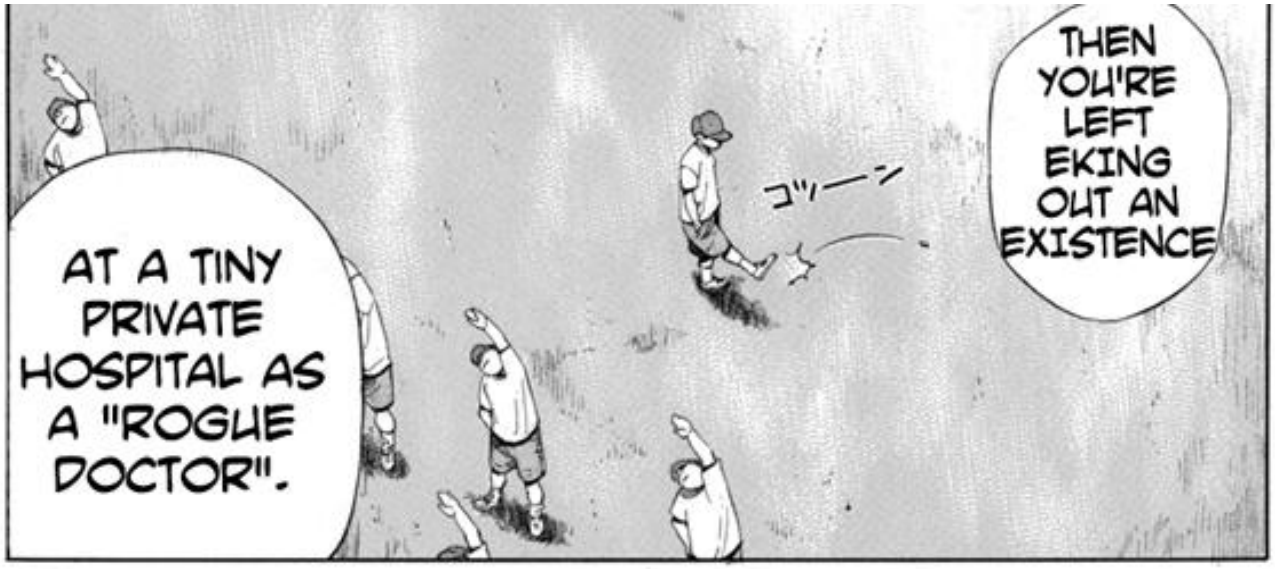
THEN YOU'RE LEFT EKING OUT AN EXISTENCE
ゴッーン
AT A TINY PRIVATE HOSPITAL AS A "ROGUE DOCTOR".

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR BEEF IS WITH THE DEPARTMENT SYSTEM,
BUT IT'S UP TO YOU TO TAKE CHARGE AND FIX IT.

AND WITH THOSE WORDS,
MY INTERNSHIP AT THE 1ST DEPT. OF SURGERY WAS OVER.

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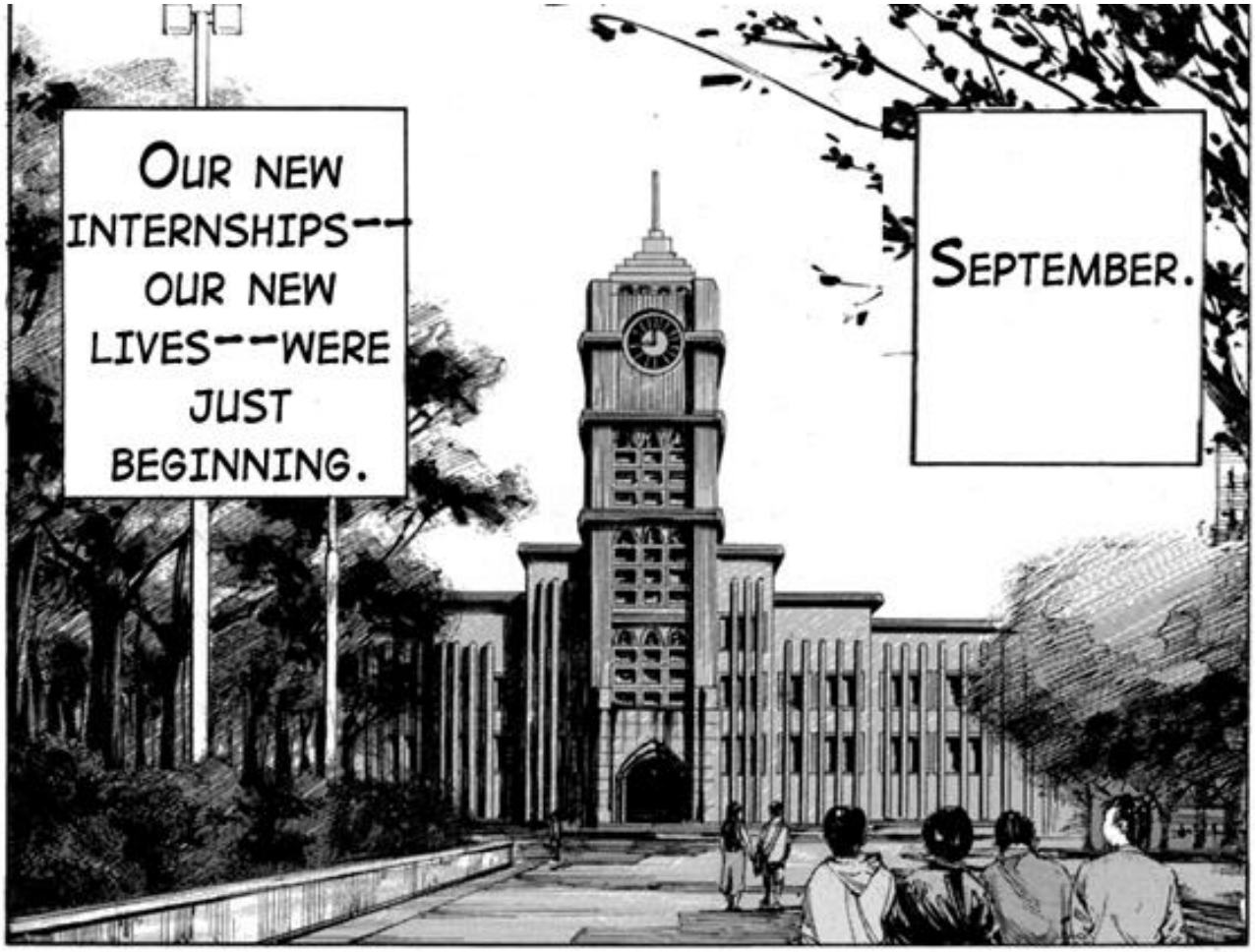
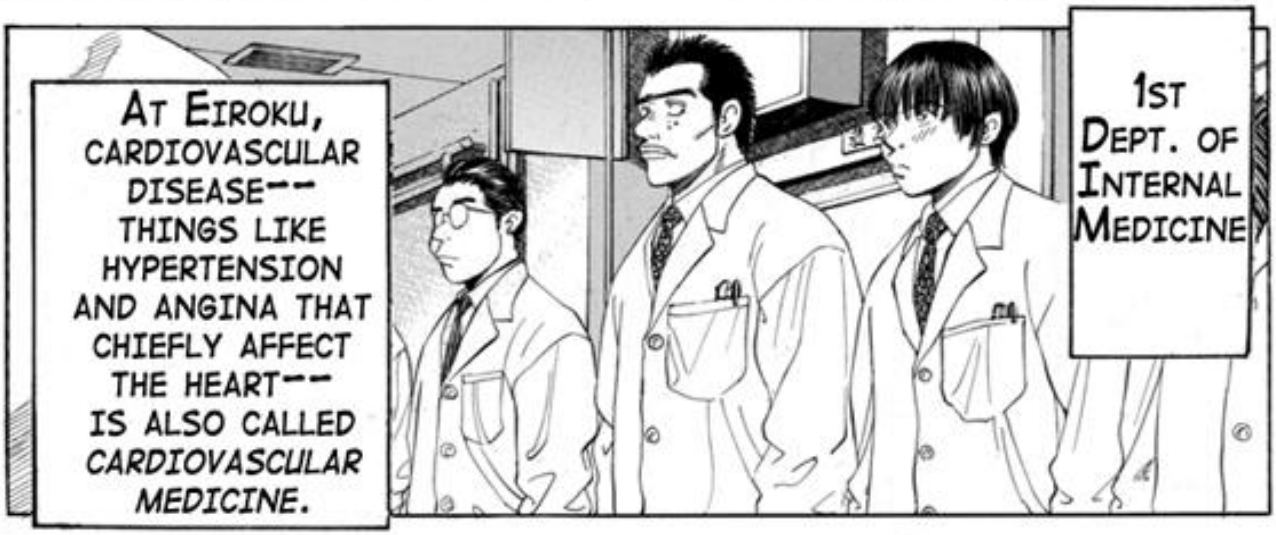
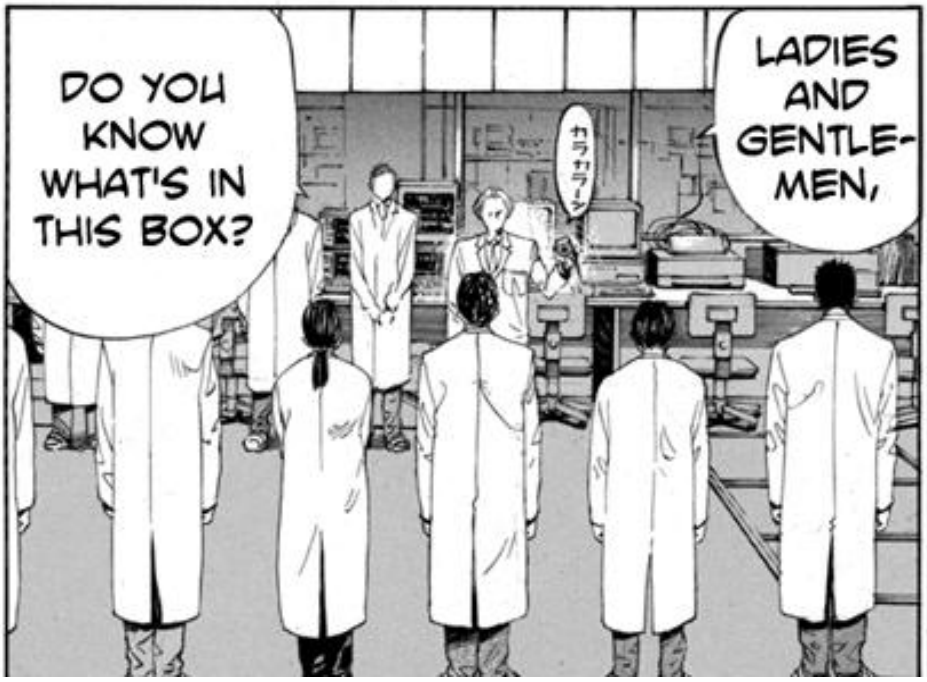

OUR NEW INTERNSHIPS-- OUR NEW LIVES--WERE JUST BEGINNING.
SEPTEMBER.


AT EIROKU, CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE-- THINGS LIKE HYPERTENSION AND ANGINA THAT CHIEFLY AFFECT THE HEART-- IS ALSO CALLED CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE.
1ST DEPT. OF INTERNAL MEDICINE


DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S IN THIS BOX?
LADIES AND GENTLE-MEN,
ガラガラ

FILTERS

漫画onWeb

WHEN IT COMES TIME TO FIND OUT,
ALL THOSE SURGEONS CAN DO IS OPEN THE BOX AND LOOK INSIDE.

BUT WE KEEP IT CLOSED AND GUESS WHAT'S INSIDE BASED ON ITS WEIGHT OR THE SOUND IT MAKES.
THAT'S INTERNAL MEDICINE.

IN HERE.

LET'S GO MEET YOUR PATIENT.
I'M KUME. I'LL BE YOUR ATTEND-ING.

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KAZUO MIYAMURA,
38 YEARS OLD.

LITTLE DID I KNOW
I WOULD SOON BE BRAVELY BATTLING THE "MEDICAL MAFIA" OVER THIS VERY PATIENT.

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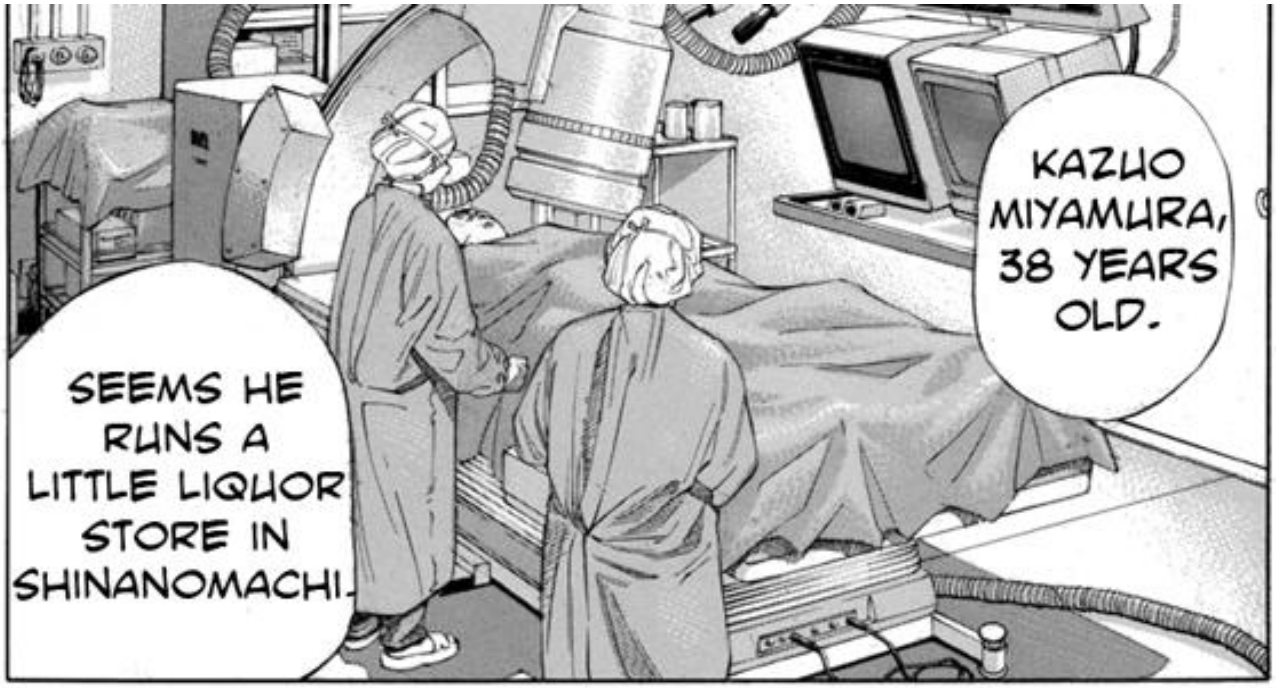
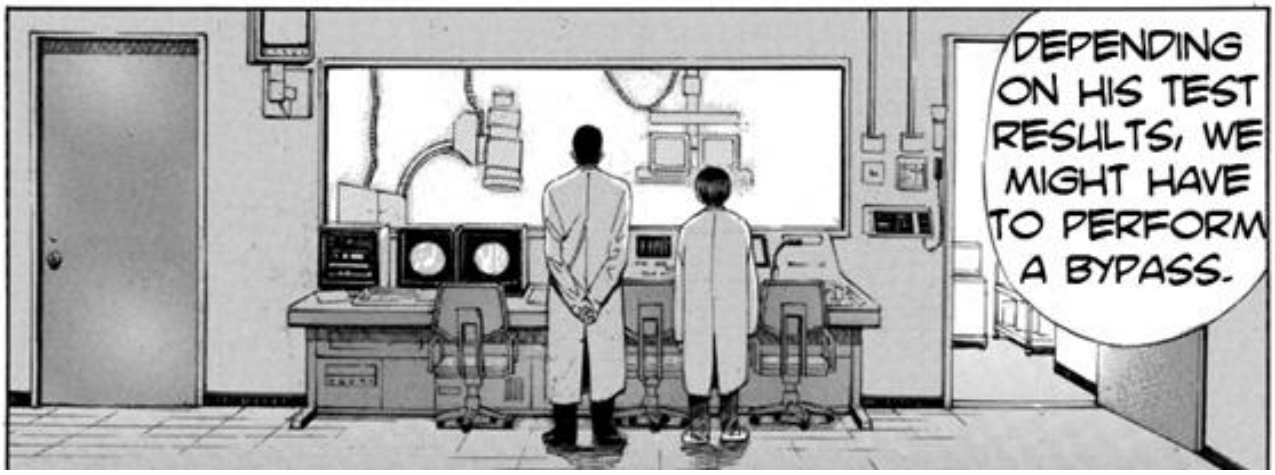

KAZUO MIYAMURA, 38 YEARS OLD.
SEEMS HE RUNS A LITTLE LIQUOR STORE IN SHINANOMACHI.

HE CAME IN FROM TOYOKU GENERAL HOSPITAL LAST NIGHT.
HIS SYMPTOMS AND HIS EKG POINT TO A DIAGNOSIS OF UNSTABLE ANGINA.


DEPENDING ON HIS TEST RESULTS, WE MIGHT HAVE TO PERFORM A BYPASS.

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WE'LL HAVE YOUR TEST RESULTS BY THIS EVENING.
I'LL LET YOU KNOW AS SOON AS THEY'RE IN.

SO, UH, IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS...
JUST KNOW THAT YOU CAN TELL ME ANYTHING.

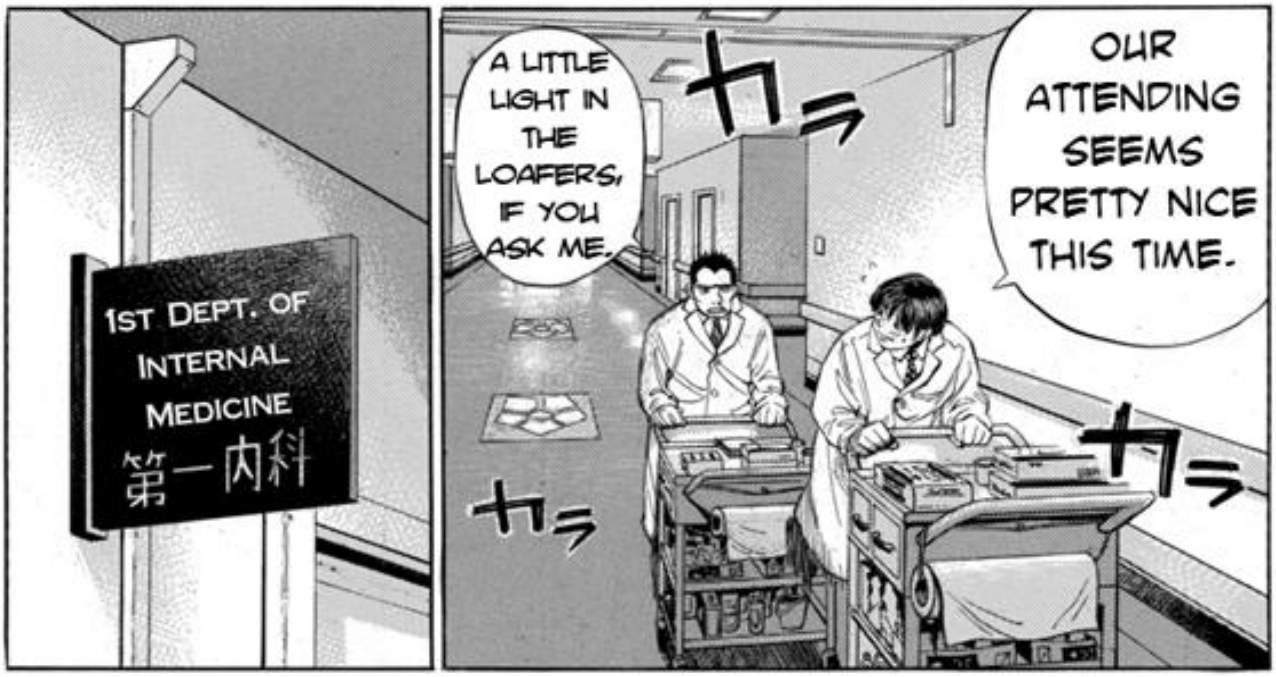
ER... I REALIZE YOU MIGHT BE A LITTLE UNEASY DEALING WITH SUCH A YOUNG DOCTOR,
BUT I'M WITH YOU FOR THE LONG HAUL.

漫画onWeb

ONCE AGAIN, I'M UP TO MY NECK IN UNFAMILIAR WORK, WITH NO TIME FOR PROPER MEALS.
IT'S BEEN 2 DAYS SINCE I LEFT 1ST SURGERY AND STARTED MY INTERNSHIP AT 1ST INTERNAL.
うめぇ
天そば
HEY, SAITO! DEKUNE!
TIME FOR ROUNDS!
WHEN THAT'S DONE, CHECK ON THOSE TEST RESULTS.
YESSIR!
AND THAT ALSO EXPLAINS WHY
THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE HERE ARE HEART PATIENTS.
THE 1ST DEPT. OF INTERNAL MEDICINE MOSTLY TREATS PATIENTS WITH HEART ISSUES, LIKE ANGINA OR HEART ATTACKS.
HELLO!
ガラ
THAT'S WHY LOTS OF PEOPLE CALL IT "CARDIO".

漫画onWeb

NO, TODAY I'M OKAY.
ANY PALPITATIONS AGAIN THIS MORNING?
HOW ARE YOU DOING, MR. TAMURA?
WERE SCHEDULED TO PUT IN YOUR STENT TOMORROW.


1ST DEPT. OF INTERNAL MEDICINE
第一内科
A LITTLE LIGHT IN THE LOAFERS, IF YOU ASK ME.
OUR ATTENDING SEEMS PRETTY NICE THIS TIME.
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カラ
カラ

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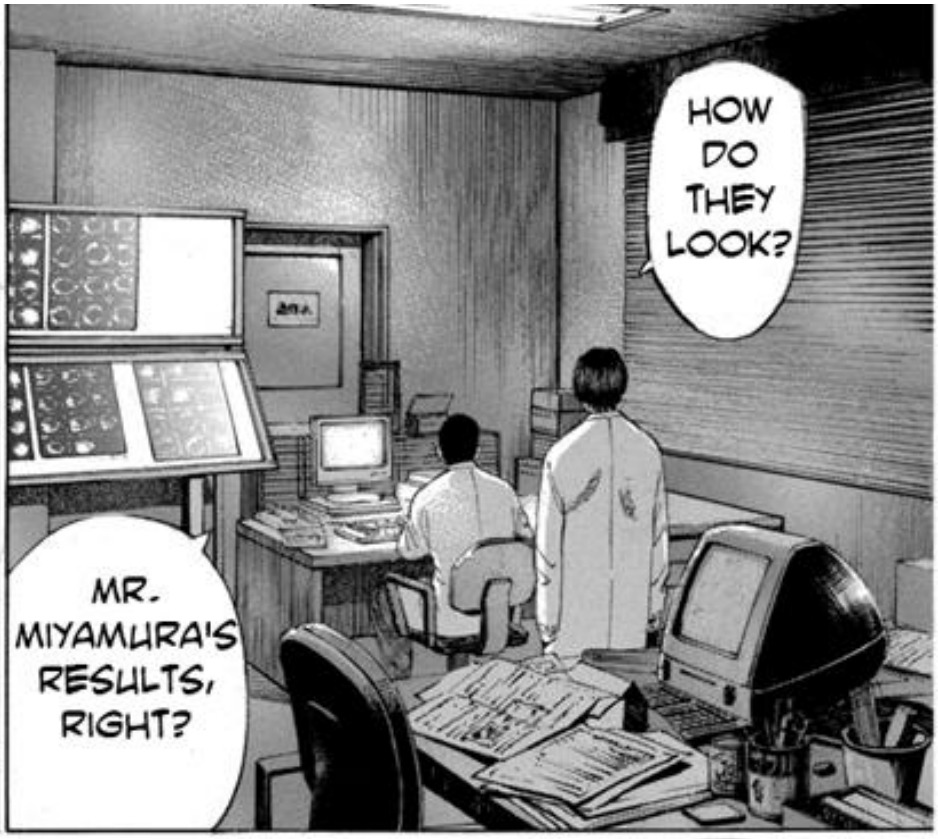
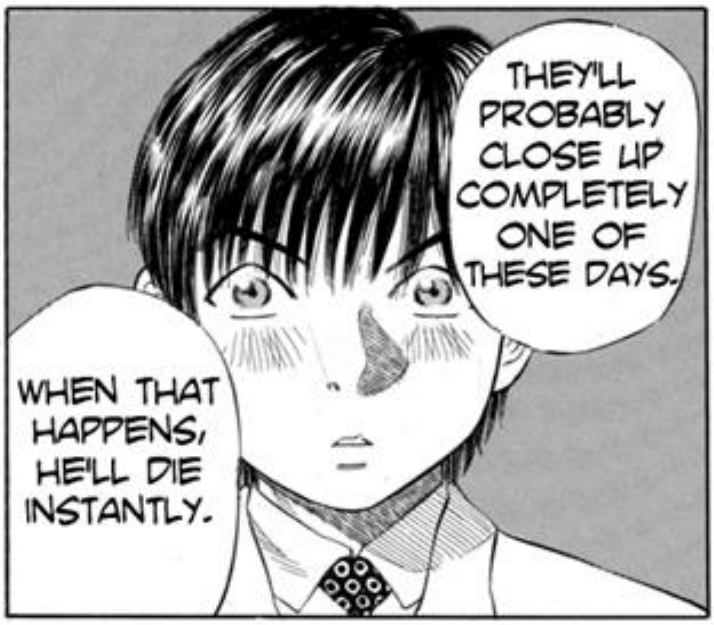
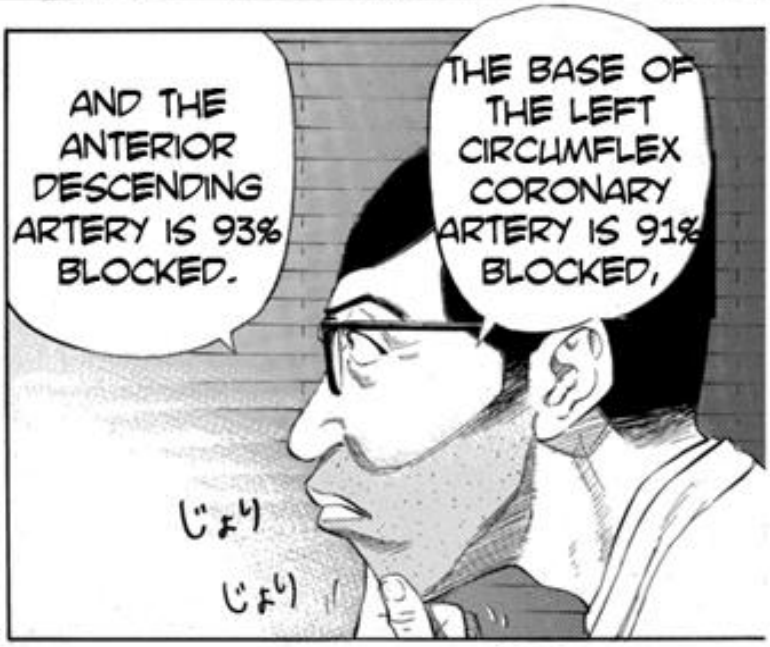
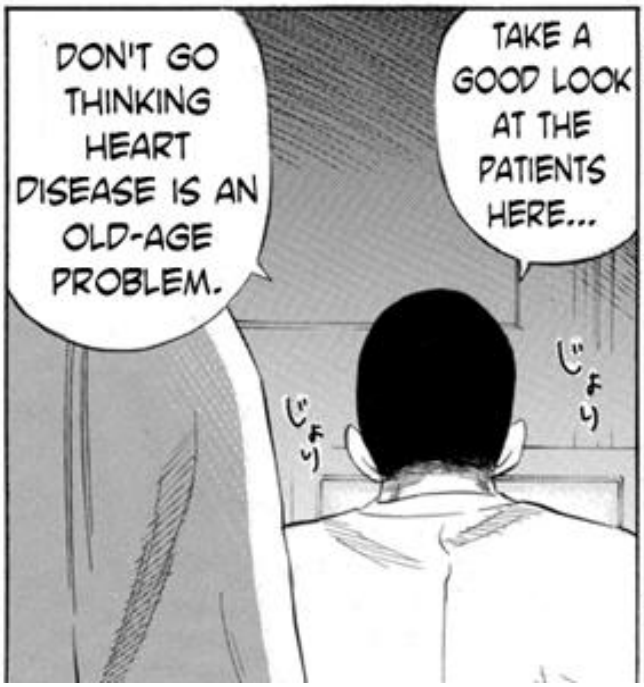
ドキン…
ドキン…


HOW DO THEY LOOK?
MR. MIYAMURA'S RESULTS, RIGHT?


THEY'LL PROBABLY CLOSE UP COMPLETELY ONE OF THESE DAYS.
WHEN THAT HAPPENS, HE'LL DIE INSTANTLY.


AND THE ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY IS 93% BLOCKED.
THE BASE OF THE LEFT CIRCUMFLEX CORONARY ARTERY IS 91% BLOCKED,
じょり
じょり

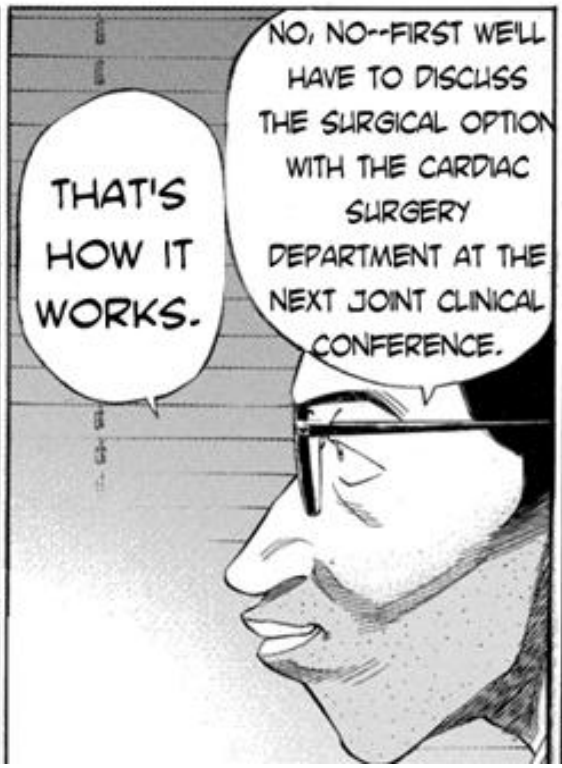

DON'T GO THINKING HEART DISEASE IS AN OLD-AGE PROBLEM.
TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THE PATIENTS HERE...
じょり
じょり

INSTANTLY?

漫画onWeb

MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION IS THE 3RD LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN JAPAN AFTER CANCER AND STROKE, STRIKING 6.42 MILLION PEOPLE ANNUALLY.

ONE IN 20 JAPANESE HAVE SUFFERED A HEART ATTACK.



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WHAT WE JUST DID.
YOU INSERT A CATHETER INTO THE CORONARY ARTERY TO GET AN ANGIOGRAPH, AMONG OTHER THINGS.
WHAT'S THAT?
THIS ACTUALLY HAPPENED HERE SOME YEARS BACK...
A PATIENT'S CORONARY ARTERY RUPTURED RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A CATHETERIZATION.
WE CALLED IN A HEART SURGEON RIGHT AWAY. IT WAS ALL SO SUDDEN, SURGERY WAS THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE THE PATIENT.
THE PATIENT'S BLOOD PRESSURE SUDDENLY DROPPED, SENDING THEM INTO SHOCK...
WE CAN'T OPERATE WITHOUT HIS PERMISSION.
TRY AGAIN AT TONIGHT'S CLINICAL CONFERENCE.
I CAN'T WAIT THAT LONG! IT'S STILL MORNING! I KNOW YOU'VE GOT AN OPEN OR!
TO-NIGHT?!
PLEASE WAIT UNTIL TONIGHT'S CLINICAL CONFERENCE.
THE DOCTOR IS OUT AT THE MOMENT.

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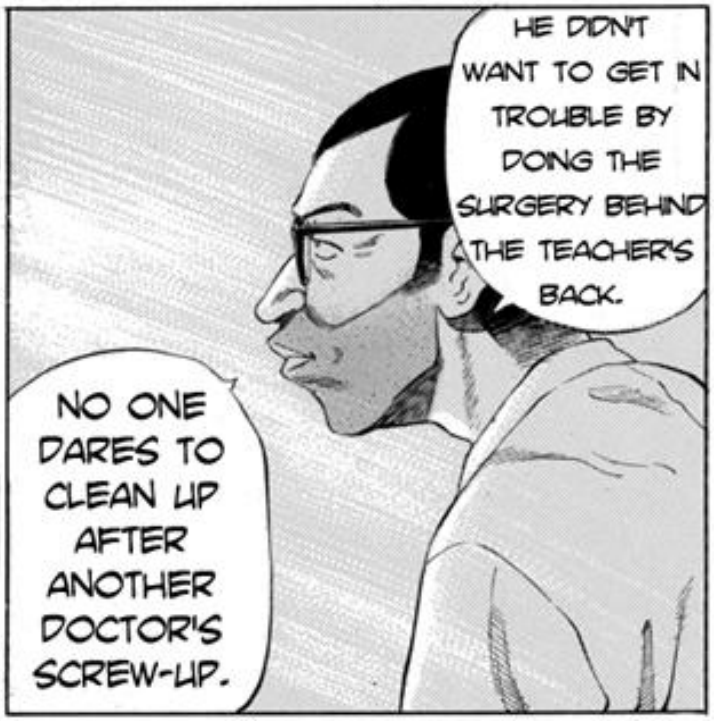
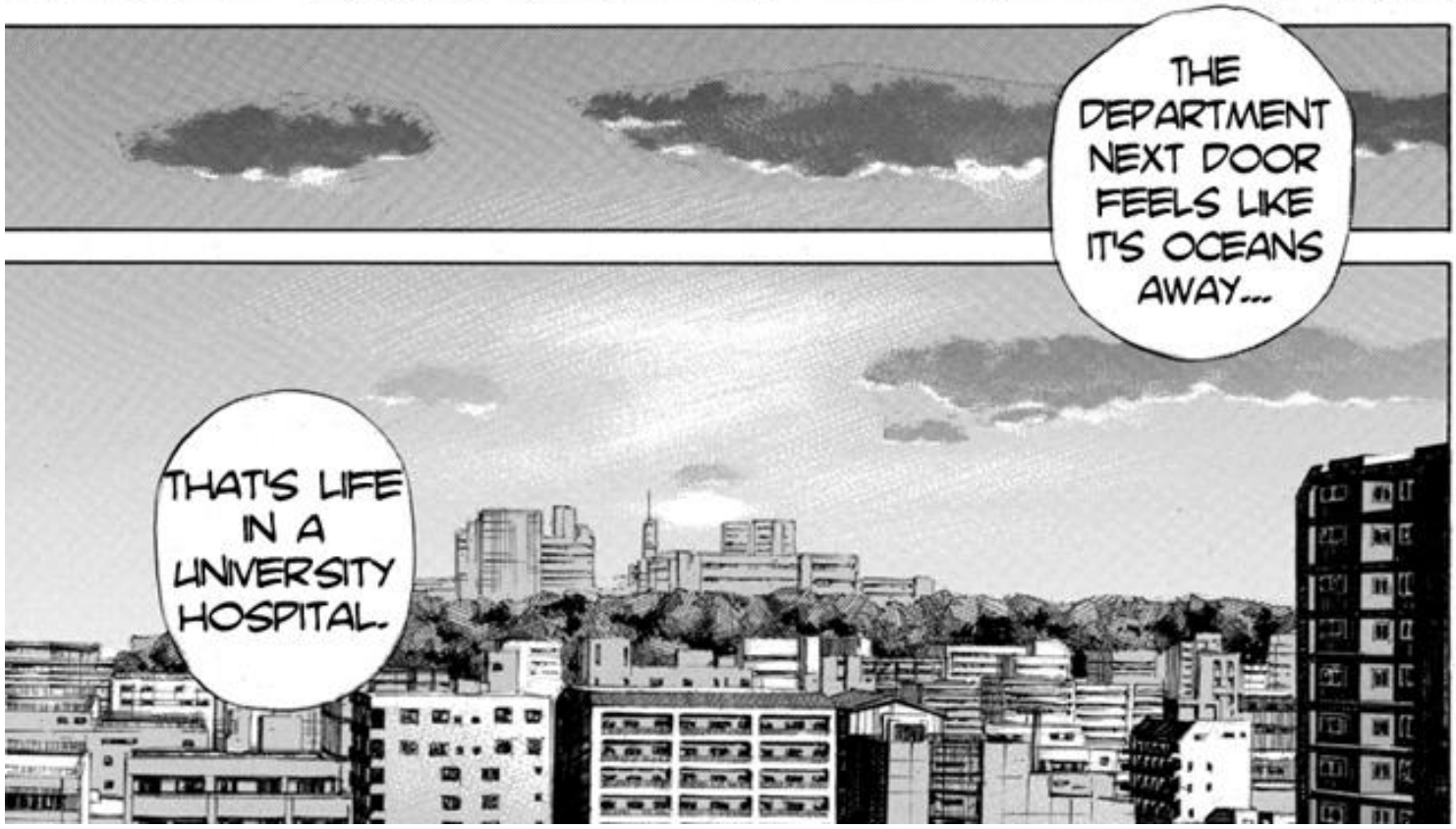
THE PATIENT WOUND UP DEAD...

THAT'S THE DARK TRUTH BEHIND CARDIAC SURGERY...


HE DIDN'T WANT TO GET IN TROUBLE BY DOING THE SURGERY BEHIND THE TEACHER'S BACK.
NO ONE DARES TO CLEAN UP AFTER ANOTHER DOCTOR'S SCREW-UP.


THE DEPARTMENT NEXT DOOR FEELS LIKE IT'S OCEANS AWAY...
THAT'S LIFE IN A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL.

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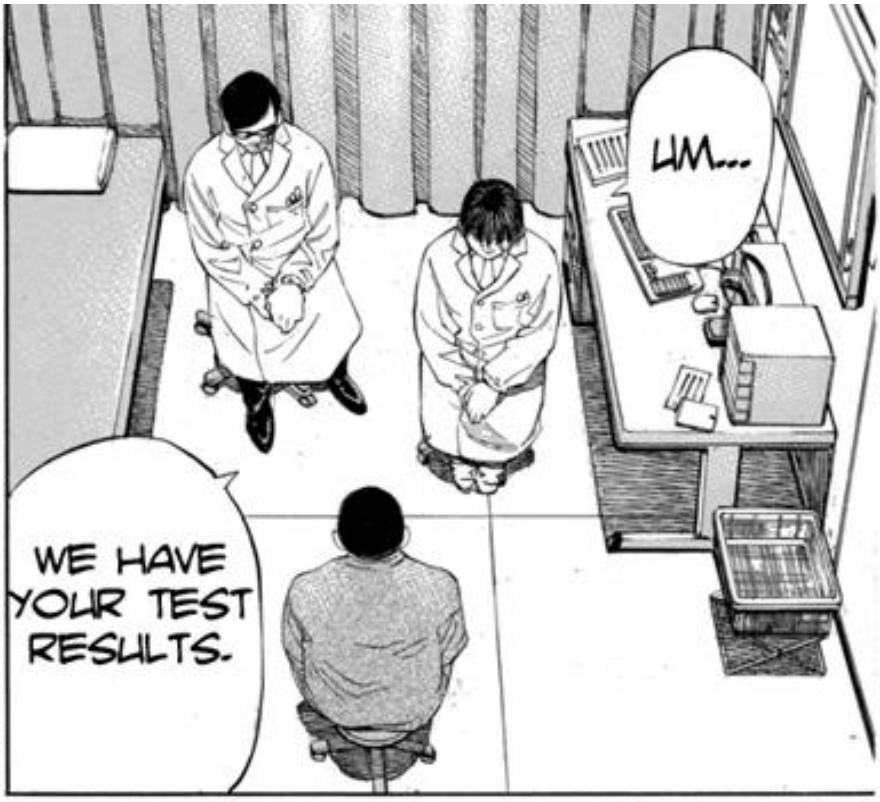
UM...
WE HAVE YOUR TEST RESULTS.

Let's see.
Your heart's job is to pump blood throughout your body,
but the heart itself needs its share of blood, too.

チラッ
In your case, Mr. Miyamura, this area here...
the base of the blood vessel on the left is clogged for some reason

It's called the coronary artery.
The vessels on the heart's surface circulate the necessary blood throughout the heart.

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LIES.

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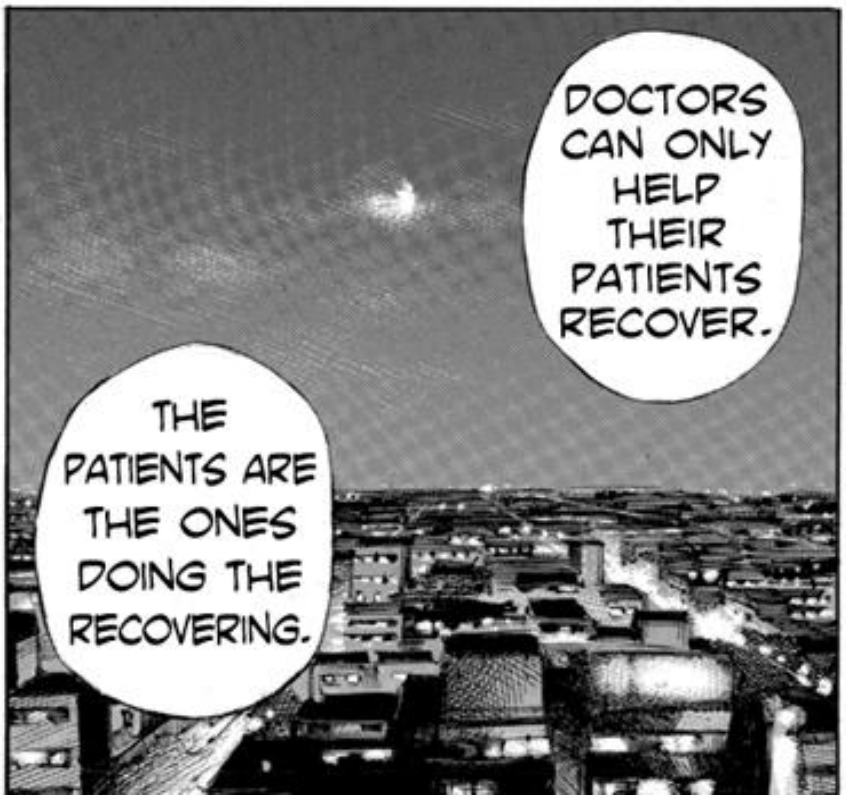
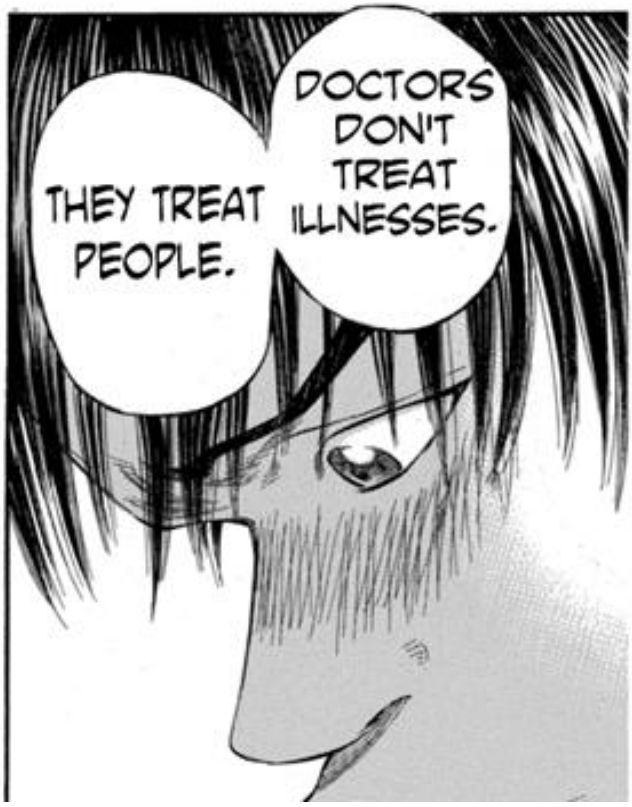
GUILTY CON-SCIENCE?

ALL YOU CAN DO IS CONFRONT YOUR PA-TIENTS HEAD ON, RIGHT?
THE PROBLEMS IN THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL SYSTEM AREN'T YOUR RESPONSIBILITY


DOCTORS CAN ONLY HELP THEIR PATIENTS RECOVER.
THE PATIENTS ARE THE ONES DOING THE RECOVERING.


DOCTORS DON'T TREAT ILLNESSES.
THEY TREAT PEOPLE.

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チチチ…

IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS, PLEASE, FEEL FREE TO SPEAK UP.
I'LL DO MY BEST TO ADDRESS THEM.

AFTER ALL, NOT TOO LONG AGO WE WERE REGULAR PEOPLE WITHOUT MEDICAL LICENSES...

MR. MIYAMURA... I MAY STILL BE AN INEXPERIENCED INTERN.
BUT I THINK INTERNS EXIST FOR A REASON, TOO.

漫画onWeb

SO WHO UNDERSTANDS A PATIENT'S FEELINGS

BETTER THAN AN INTERN?

...

Dammit

Guess I'm not very convincing.

ったーん..

ピーピー

PRRT

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*Ei comes from Eigo, Japanese for "the English language," and *jiro* means "the second son".

漫画onWeb

Once I got in, I found I was surrounded by kids from the best families.
I started to get a real inferiority complex about how ordinary I was.
I never gave much thought to what a doctor was or did...
My life's goal was to get into Eiroku's medical school
Ha...
Still... my parents borrowed hundreds of thousands of dollars
so I could be a doctor.
And I...
I'LL BE A GREAT ONE!

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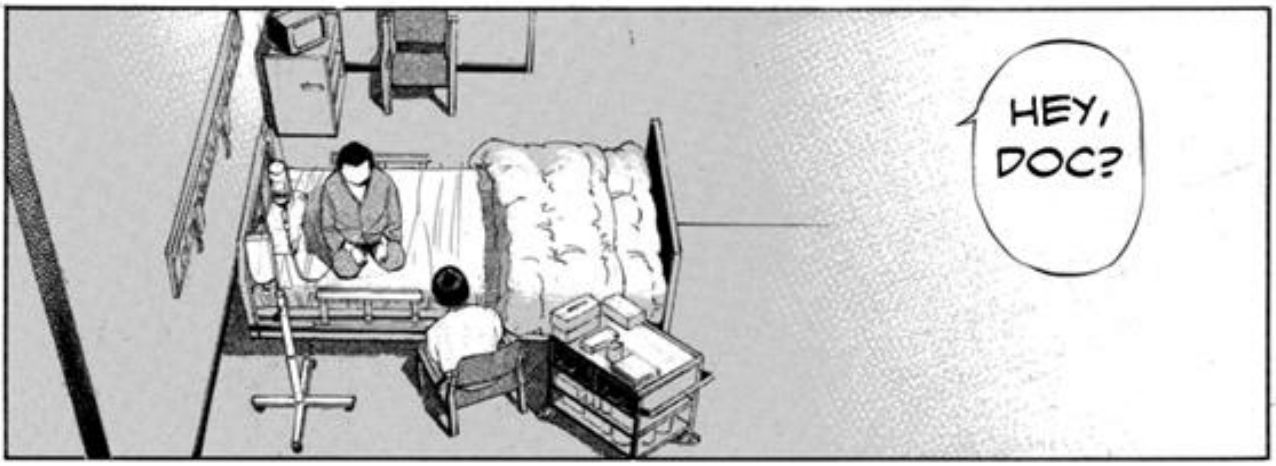

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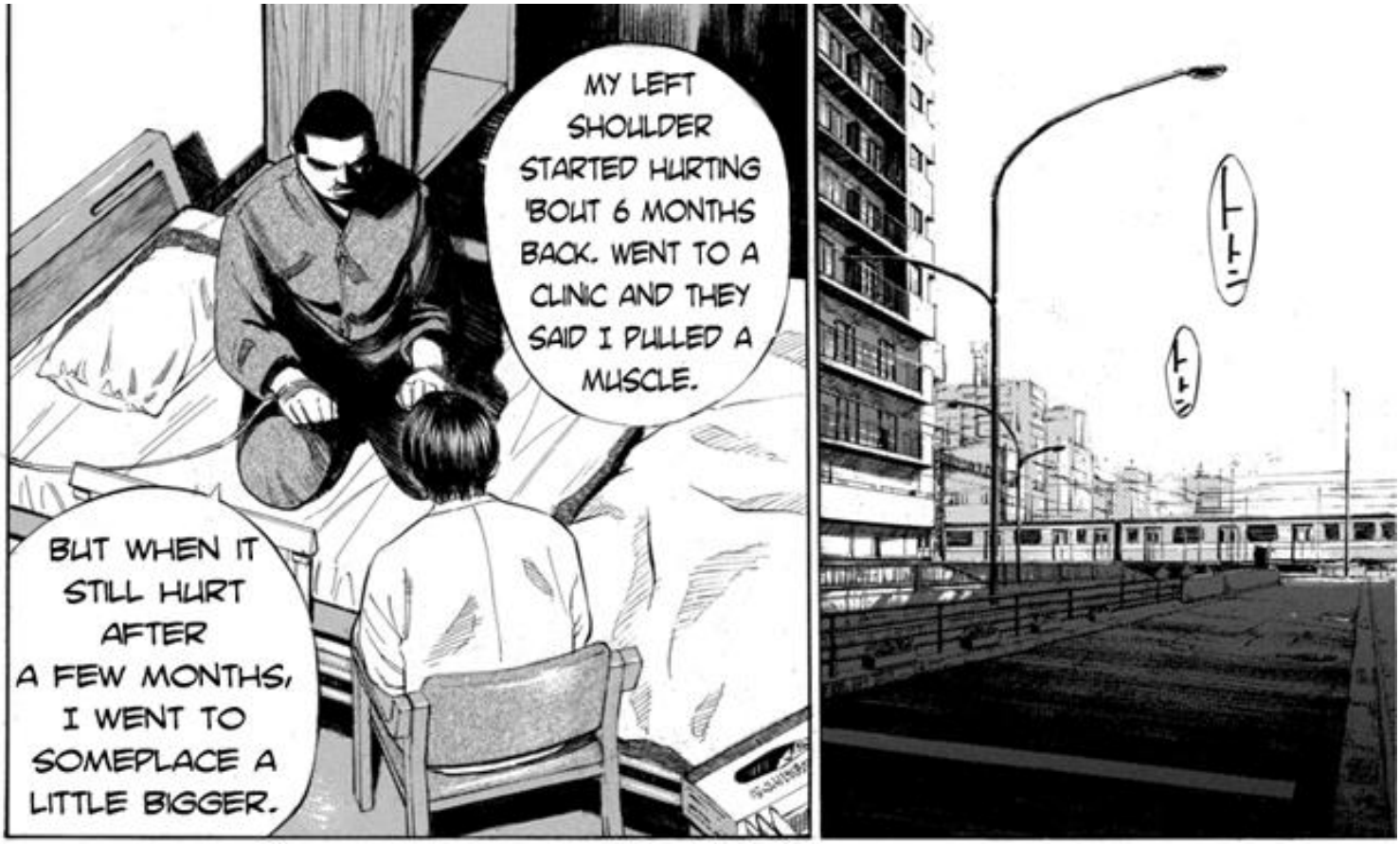
MY LEFT SHOULDER STARTED HURTING 'BOUT 6 MONTHS BACK. WENT TO A CLINIC AND THEY SAID I PULLED A MUSCLE.
BUT WHEN IT STILL HURT AFTER A FEW MONTHS, I WENT TO SOMEPLACE A LITTLE BIGGER.
トトン
トトン

THE DOCTORS TOLD ME THE TESTS TAKE TIME, SO I FIGURED I JUST HAD TO BE PATIENT...
THEY JUST DID SOME TESTS. I DIDN'T GET ANY BETTER.

THE AMBULANCE TOOK ME TO MY USUAL HOSPITAL.
THEY SAID I WAS TOO MUCH FOR THEM TO HANDLE AND SENT ME HERE.

AND I WAS --'TIL I COLLAPSED RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF MY SHOP.

漫画onWeb

SO WHY BRING ME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE?
BUT I LIVE OUT IN SHINANO-MACHI, SEE...
I DON'T NEED TO COME OUT THIS FAR. THERE'S A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL ON THE WAY
Toyoku General Hospital is affiliated with Eiroku University,
and since your doctor came from here, it would have been easier to get you in.
Well, the thing is...
MY LIFE IS IN YOUR HANDS, RIGHT?
LISTEN, DOC...
SO IT'S JUST FOR CONVENIENCE'S SAKE?

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漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb

漫画onWeb

...IS TO BUY A 24-SPEED BICYCLE.
MY DREAM ...
EIROKU UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, A.K.A. "HILLTOP".
YOU HAVE TO CLIMB THIS LONG SLOPE TO GET THERE.
ポイッ
スゥーッ
VRRM

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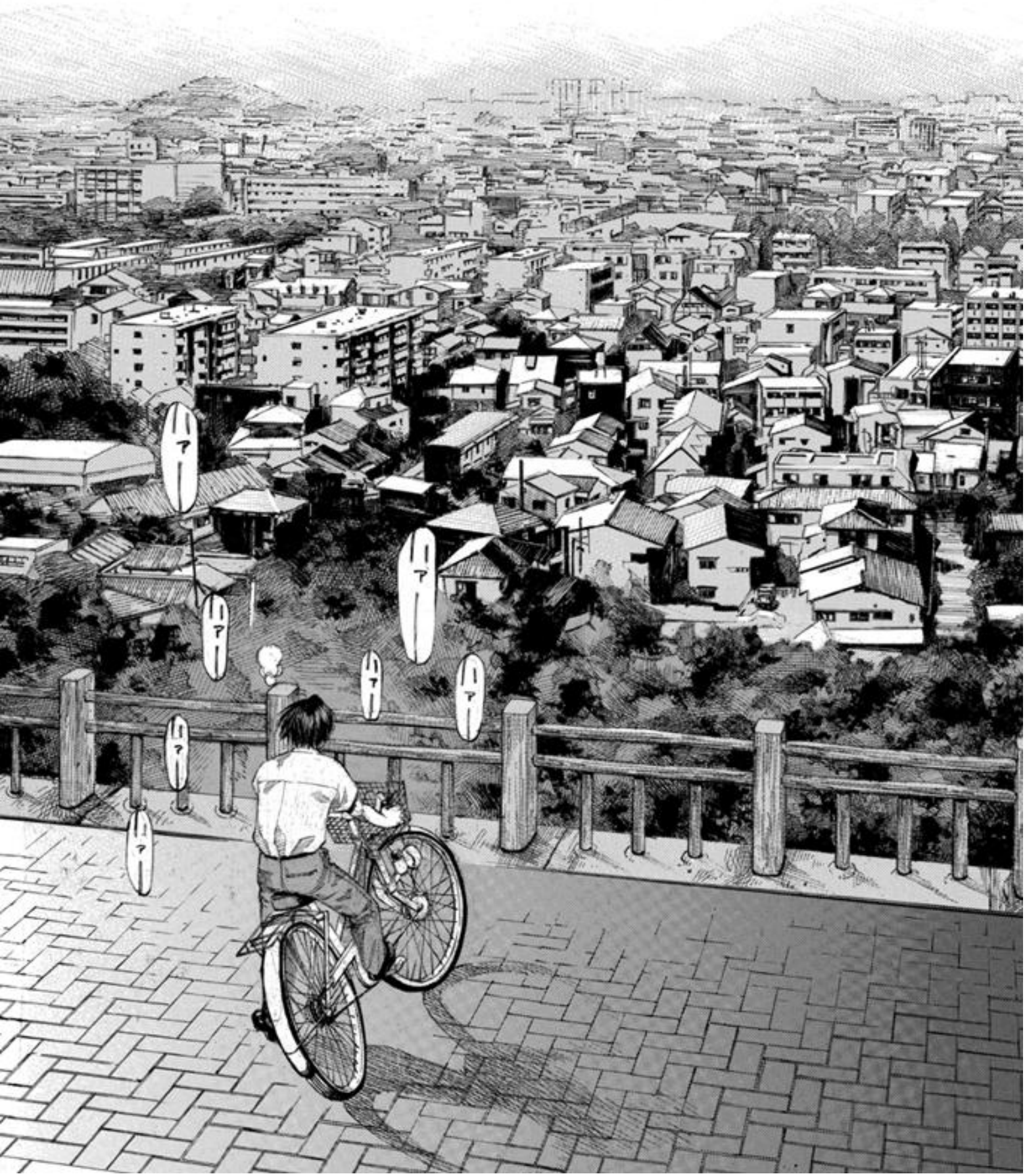
#7
The Top-tier Trap



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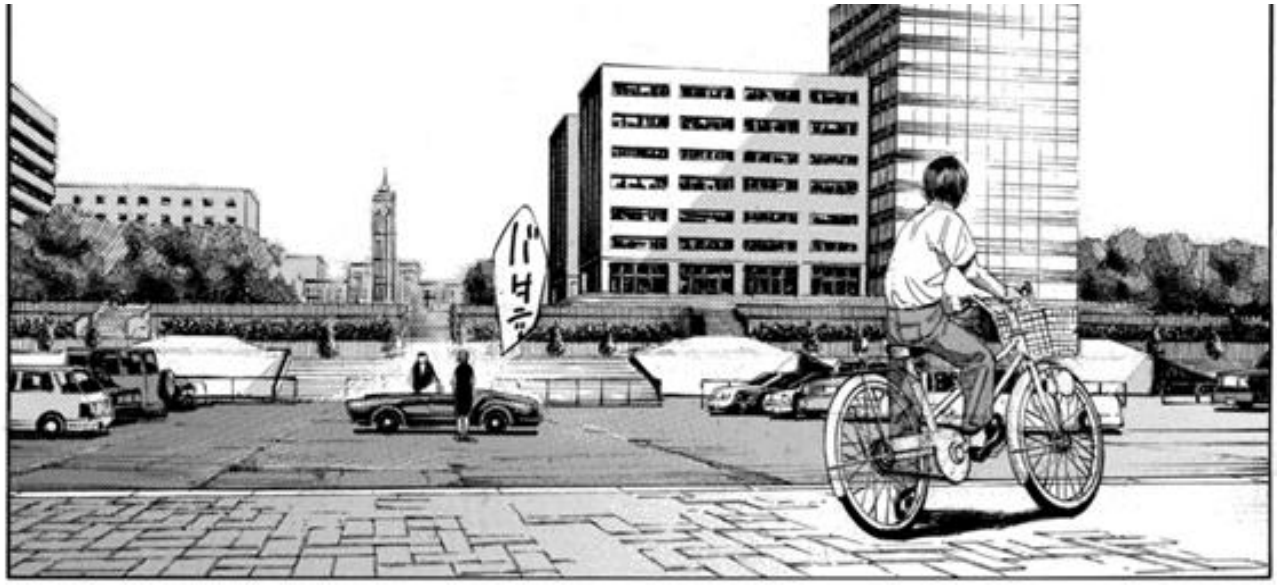
ビュン

I'M HOT.

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK? SWEET RIDE, EH?

Quit littering!
ギリ…
ハァー
ハァー
ハァー
プス
プス

HA HA HA! A/C IS USELESS IN A CONVERTIBLE!
AND RIDING AROUND BUNDLED AGAINST THE WINTER COLD IS PART OF THE WHOLE AES-THETIC, TOO.

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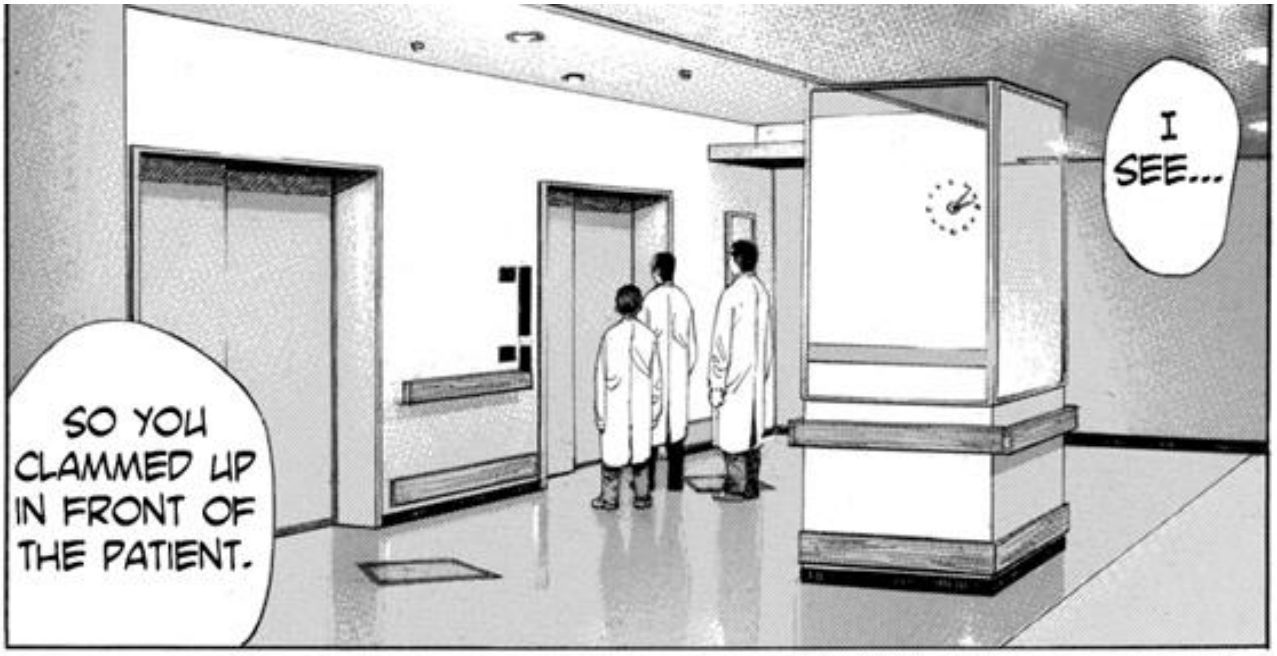
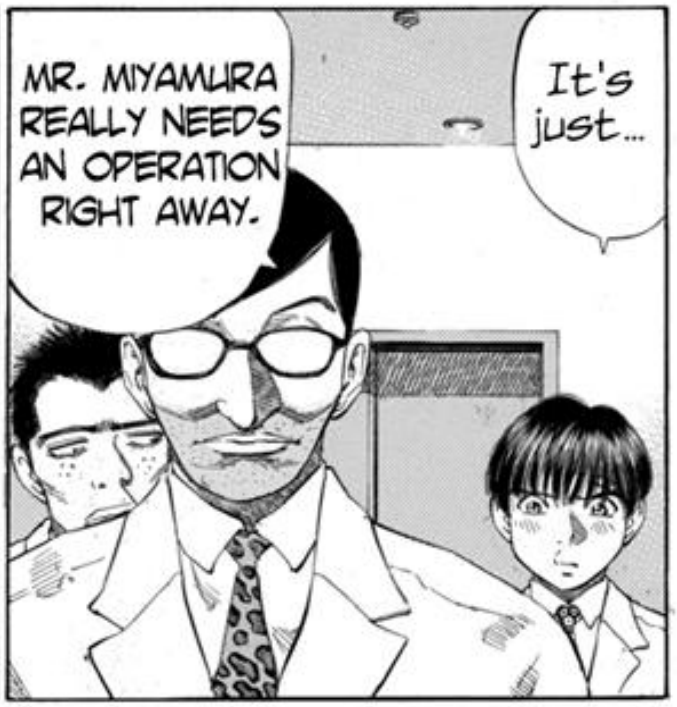

SO YOU CLAMMED UP IN FRONT OF THE PATIENT.
I SEE...

KEEPING QUIET WILL ONLY MAKE HIM WORRY MORE.
DIDN'T THE PATIENT ASK IF THIS HOSPITAL COULD BE TRUSTED?


MR. MIYAMURA REALLY NEEDS AN OPERATION RIGHT AWAY.
It's just...

B-BUT THAT'S...

PLUS YOU'RE LESS LIKELY TO BE SUED IF SOME-THING GOES WRONG.

THE END JUSTIFIES THE MEANS.
THE LESS YOU COMMUNICATE, THE BETTER IMPRESSION YOU'LL MAKE.

漫画onWeb

WE'LL MEET WITH THE SURGERY TEAM TODAY TO DECIDE WHETHER WE'LL OPERATE.
YOU'RE COMING ALONG, I SEE.
I'm sorry I couldn't give you an answer yesterday.
Er... uh...
SO PLEASE... TRUST US.
BUT WE REALLY ARE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN FOR YOU.

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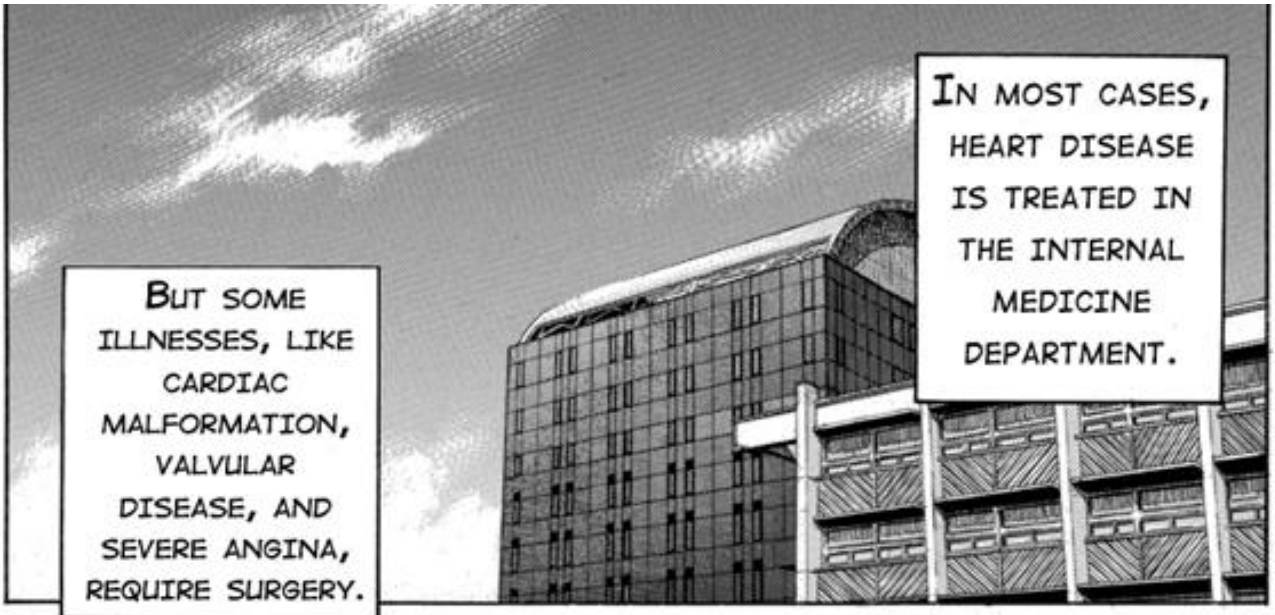
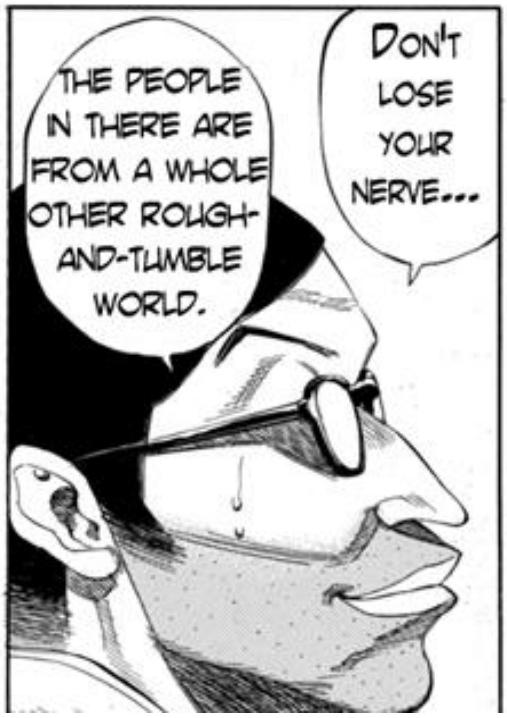


* *Indicated.* Necessary. *Requirements:* Conditions, like strength, needed to undergo surgery.



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JUST DON'T TALK BACK AND THEY'LL LET YOU GET OUT ALIVE.

ガチャ

* Plain films: Radiographic images of the chest.

ENOUGH WITH THE PLAIN FILMS*!

WHAT ABOUT THE ECHO FINDINGS IN THE ANNULUS, HUH!?

WE CAN'T HEAR YOU!

So, uh, here are the chest X-rays.

OVER THERE IS THE BIG CHEESE, DR. YOSHIYA FUJII.

THIS IS THE CARDIAC SURGERY TEAM...

QUIT SCREWING AROUND!

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I'M ASHAMED THAT YOU USELESS INTERNISTS BEAR THE EIROKU NAME!

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* CABG: Coronary artery bypass graft

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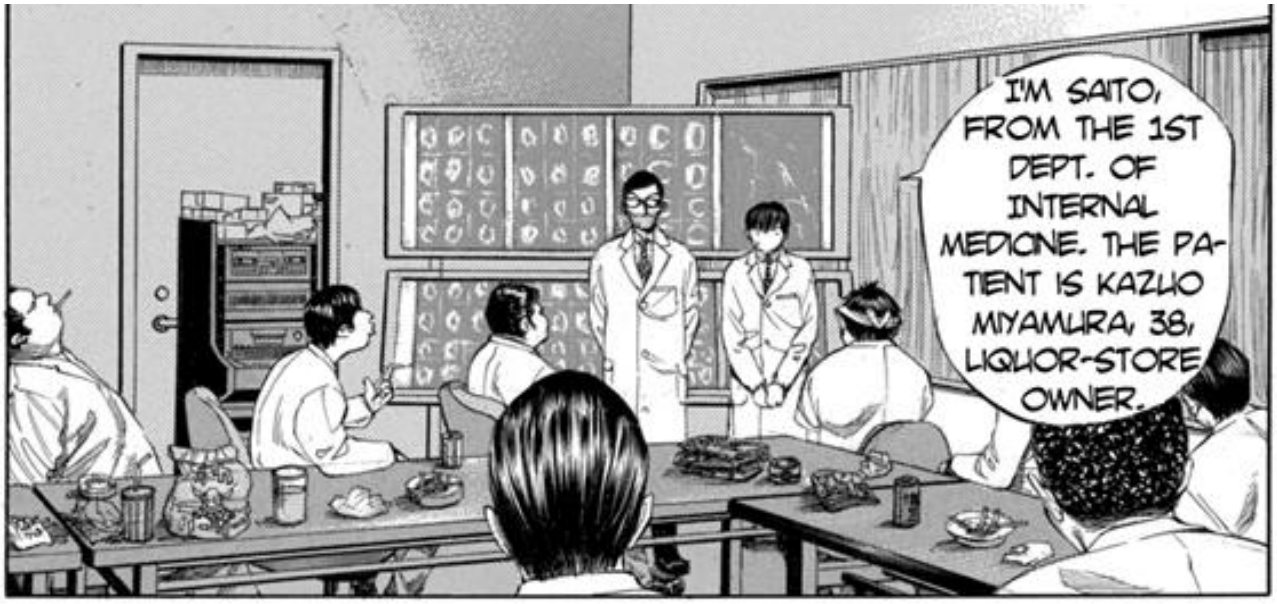
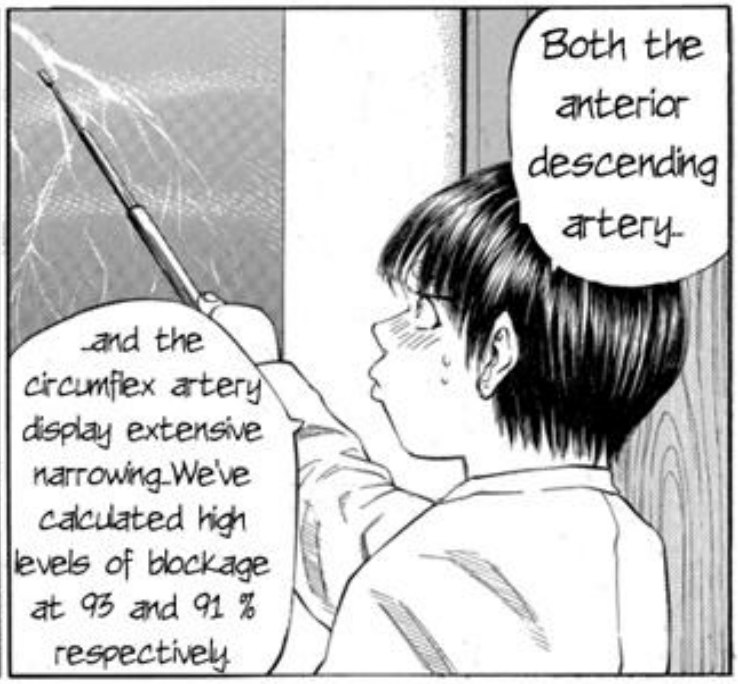

I'M SAITO, FROM THE 1ST DEPT. OF INTERNAL MEDICINE. THE PATIENT IS KAZUO MIYAMURA, 38, LIQUOR-STORE OWNER.

SURGERY!
THAT MEANS SURGERY.


Both the anterior descending artery...
...and the circumflex artery display extensive narrowing. We've calculated high levels of blockage at 93 and 91 % respectively.

.....
zhoop!
しゅん...

WHY'D YOU EVEN BOTHER COMING IF HE'S THAT FAR GONE?
NEVER MIND THAT! HE NEEDS SURGERY!

THE PATIENT CURRENTLY HAS AN ACT OF 200 WITH 800 UNITS OF HEPARIN PER HOUR.
WERE ALSO GIVING HIM MILLISROL.
NOW I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS THE HEMATOLOGICAL FINDINGS.

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THAT'S FOR US TO DECIDE.
GO ON BACK, NOW, AND LOOK AFTER THE PATIENT 'TIL YOU HEAR FROM US.

SO, AH...
WHEN CAN WE EXPECT THE SURGERY TO TAKE PLACE?

The patient repeatedly complained of chest pain yesterday. Perhaps sooner would be...
But... But, sir...

Ehh...

WE'RE THE ONES WHO'RE ALWAYS CLEANING UP AFTER YOU GUYS.
LISTEN, KID.

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WE CARDIAC SURGEONS KNOW MORE ABOUT THE HEART THAN ANYONE.
WHY DON'T YOU LET US HANDLE IT, HMM?

MY OWN PERSONAL HILLTOP...
AT EIROKU, THE IMPOSSIBLE IS STILL IMPOSSIBLE, WHEREVER YOU GO.

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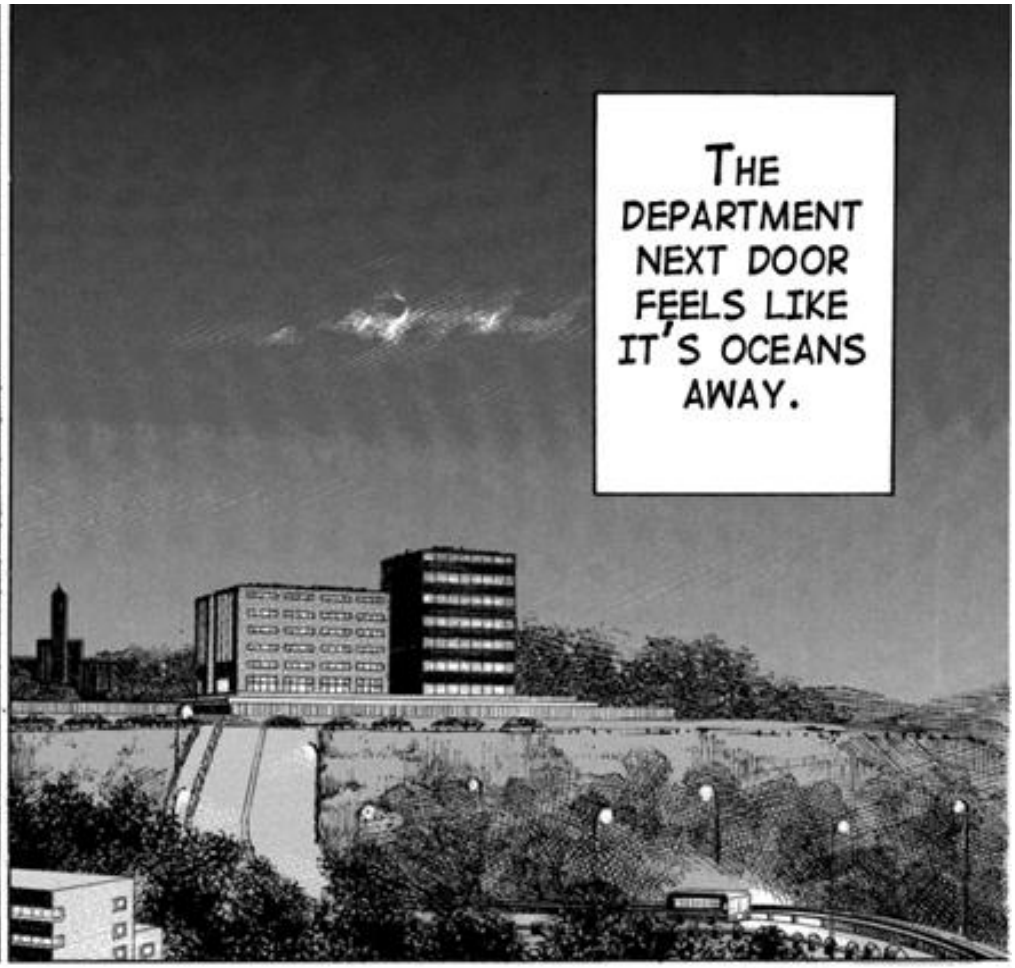
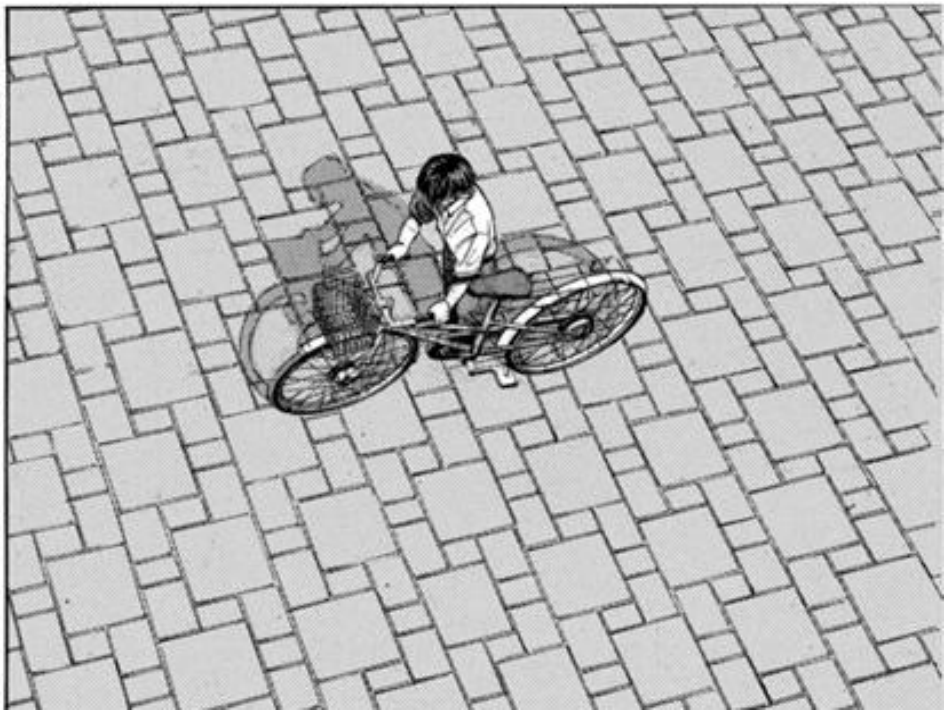
WHAT'S YER DEAL, SAITO?
WE GOT OFF EARLY FOR ONCE, SO LET'S GO HAVE SOME FUN!


THE DEPARTMENT NEXT DOOR FEELS LIKE IT'S OCEANS AWAY.

ヒィィィン
LOOSEN UP, MAN!
LIFE'S ROUGH IF YOU DON'T TAKE TIME TO SMELL THE ROSES!

SORRY. I'M HEADING BACK TO READ UP ON HEART DISEASE.
PLUS I'M KIND OF LOW ON CASH...

I TOLD YOU, I'LL TAKE THE BUS HOME!
I'M NOT JUST BEING POLITE, HONESTLY I'M NOT!



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HA HA HA! PLAYING HARD TO GET, EH?
YOU CAN GO NOW!
WHY NOT?
OH, C'MON!

ADIOS!
ブォーン
I'LL BE BACK!

イラ
イラ
GRR
イラ

IT'S DR. FUJII AND THE LITTER-BUG FROM THIS MORNING.
HEY...

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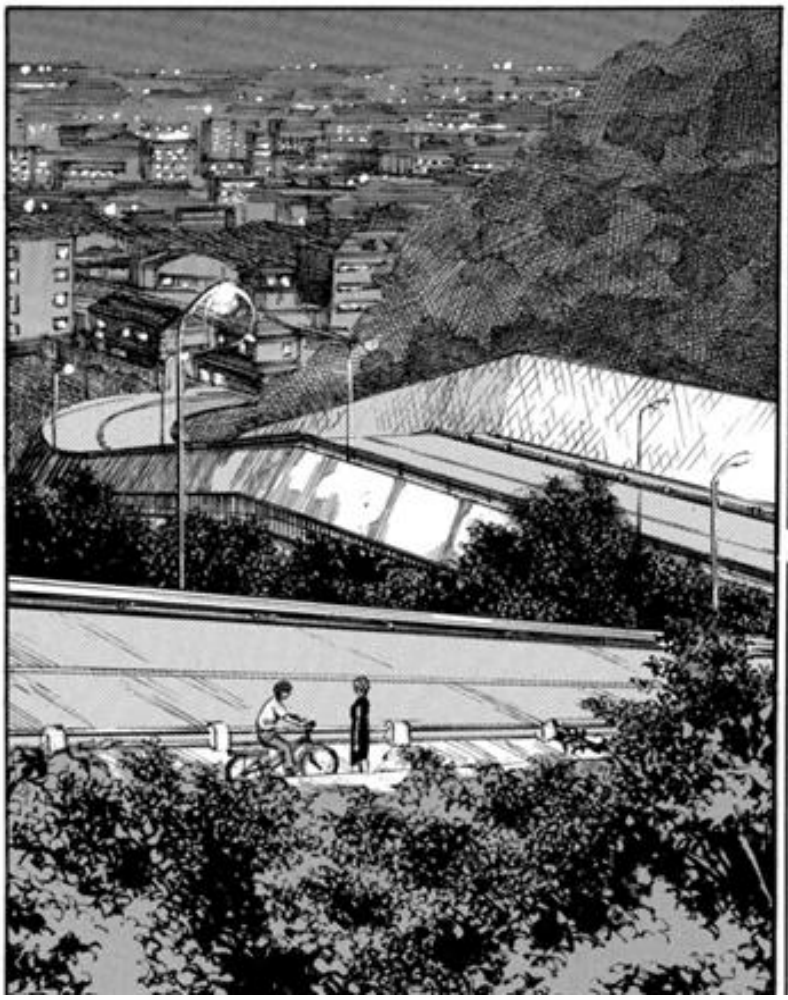
TOK
TOK
TOK

ding
ding

ding
ding



IT WOULD PROBABLY TAKE YOU A HALF HOUR AT LEAST.
IT'S, UH, PRETTY FAR TO WALK...

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PLUS THERE'S ONLY ONE BUS AN HOUR...
HMPH! WHO BUILDS A HOSPITAL ON TOP OF A MOUNTAIN.

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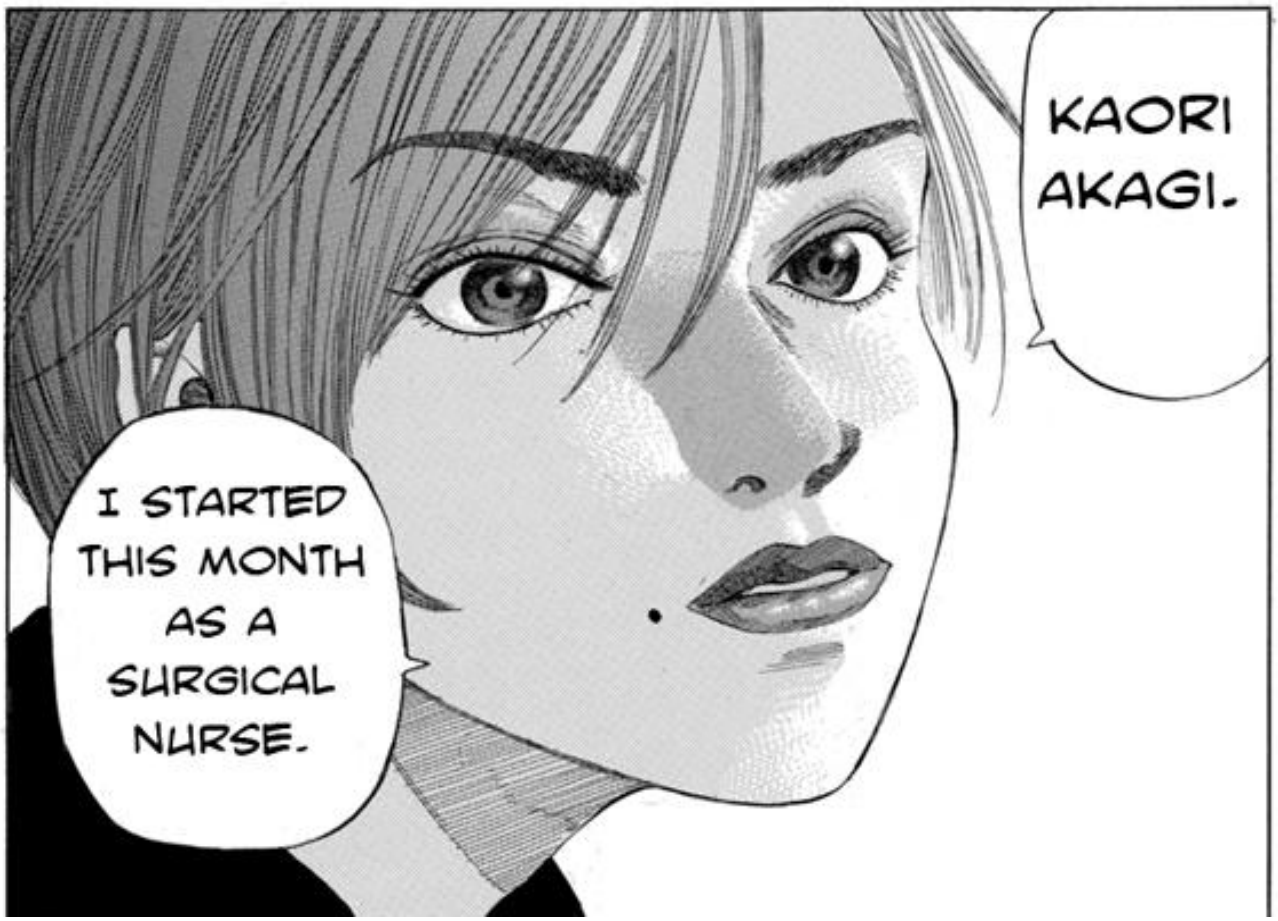
YOU WORK AT EIROKU UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL?
HUH?

I'VE BEEN AT ALL KINDS OF HOSPITALS, BUT THIS PLACE IS THE PITS.


KAORI AKAGI.
I STARTED THIS MONTH AS A SURGICAL NURSE.

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WOW...
SO YOUR PATIENT IS DYING, AND THERE'S STILL NO OPERATION SCHEDULED.
THAT'S MEN FOR YOU.
FULL OF THIS WEIRD KIND OF PRIDE, ALWAYS WANTING TO SHOW OFF THEIR AUTHORITY.
WHAT WITH SURGERY AND INTERNAL MEDICINE AND THE DEPARTMENTAL WALL...
I THINK WE NEED TO WORK IN A WAY THAT'S MORE PATIENT-CENTRIC.
I'M NOT MUCH DIFFERENT MYSELF.
ALL I DO IS COMPLAIN ON THE SIDELINES...

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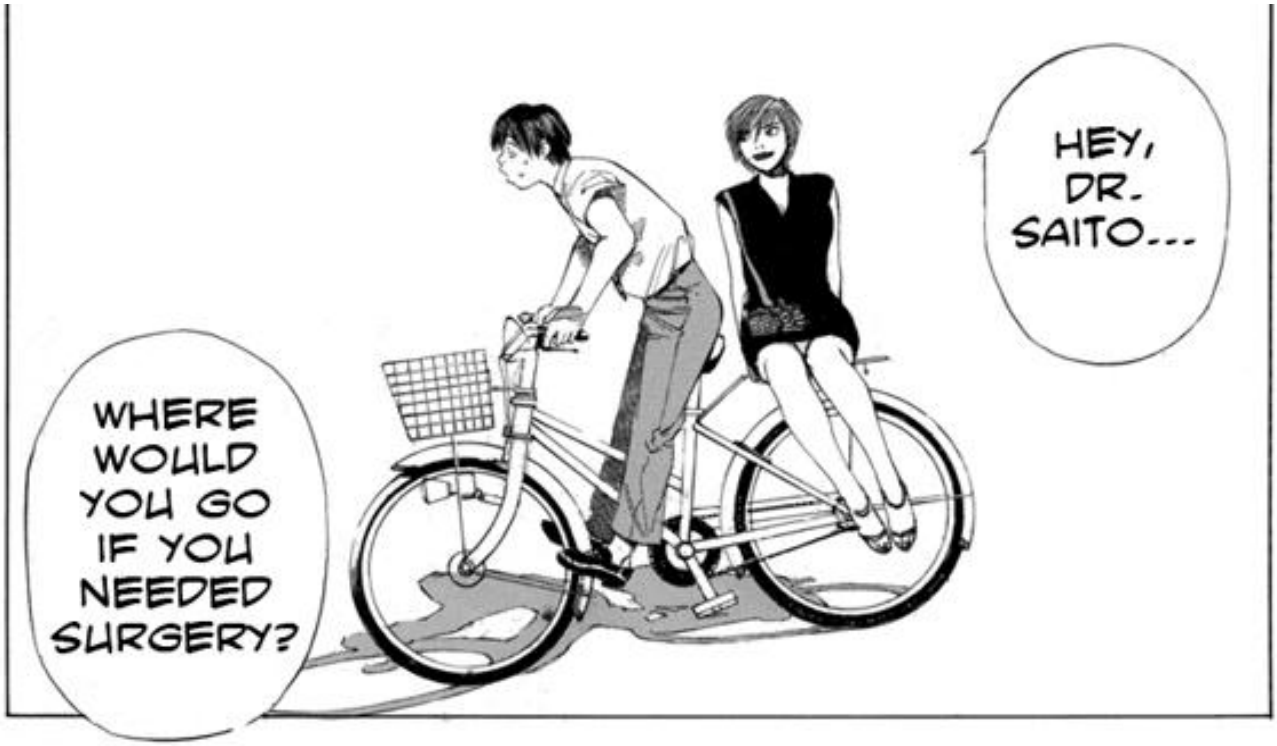
HEY, DR. SAITO...
WHERE WOULD YOU GO IF YOU NEEDED SURGERY?

HUH?

BECAUSE WHEN IT'S CRUNCH TIME, THEY HAVE WAY MORE DOCTORS THAN A REGULAR HOSPITAL!
I GUESS I'D STILL PICK A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL.

HAVING TOO MANY DOCTORS DULLS A SURGEON'S SKILLS.
THAT'S JUST DUMB.

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.....
OH.
HOSPITALS WITH TOO HIGH OF A DOCTOR-PATIENT RATIO WON'T POST GOOD SURGICAL RESULTS.
AFTER ALL, THE MORE OPERATIONS YOU DO, THE BETTER YOU GET.
THAT'S AN AVERAGE OF ABOUT 6 OPERATIONS PER SURGEON.
チラ...
...AND ABOUT 3 THOUSAND CARDIAC SURGEONS IN JAPAN.
THERE ARE ABOUT 18 THOUSAND BYPASS SURGERIES A YEAR
BUT IN CARDIO, EACH SURGEON HAS TO PERFORM 100 OPERATIONS A YEAR...
JUST TO KEEP UP HIS OR HER SKILLS.

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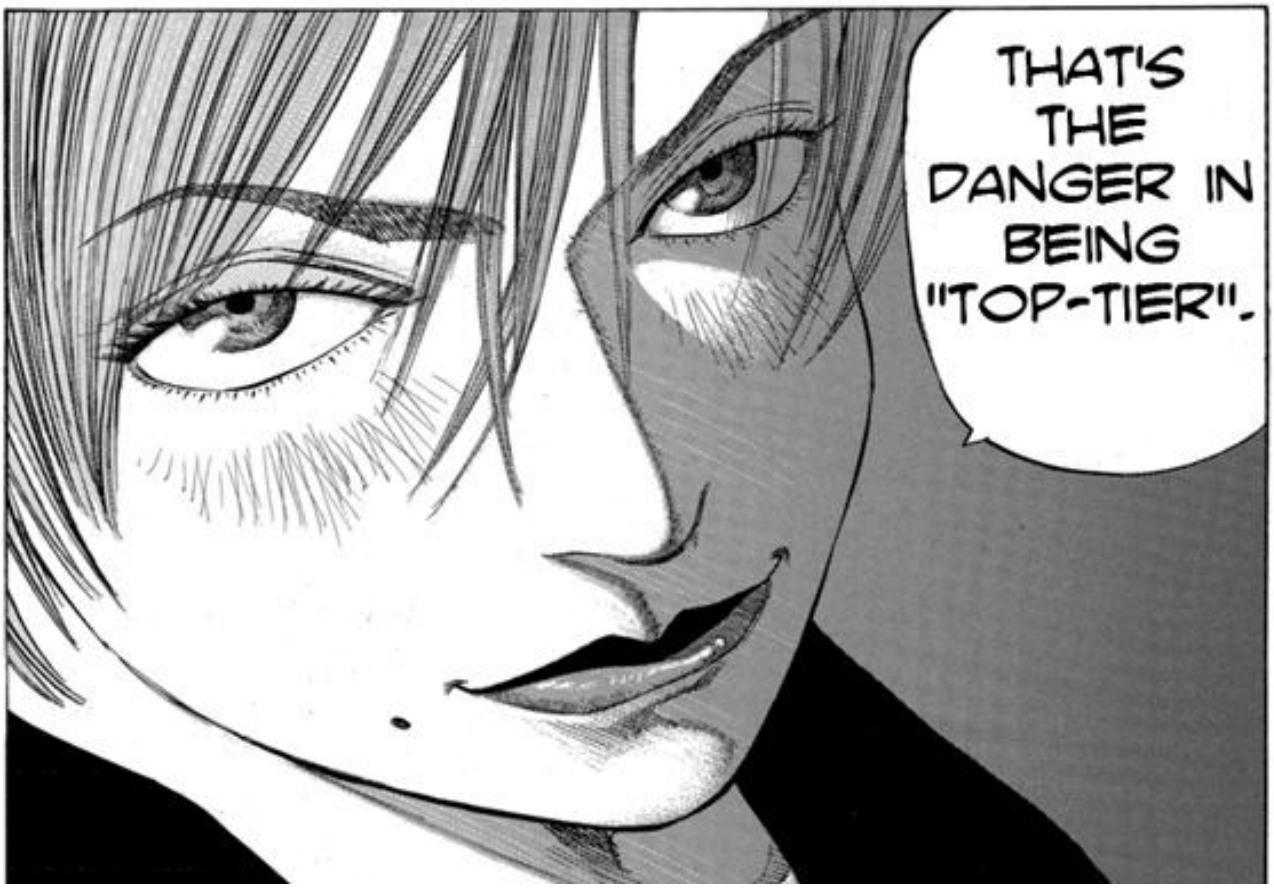
I GOT A GLIMPSE OF EIROKU'S OR RECORDS.
ALL THOSE CARDIAC SURGEONS, AND ONLY 12 OF THEM OPERATED LAST YEAR.

AH, YES: THE MIGHTY EIROKU.
THEY CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE THAT THERE COULD BE ANYONE OUT THERE MORE BRILLIANT THAN THEY ARE.

B-BUT
THE CARDIAC SURGERY PROFESSOR SAID IF THEY CAN'T DO IT HERE, THEY CAN'T DO IT ANYWHERE.


THAT'S THE DANGER IN BEING "TOP-TIER".

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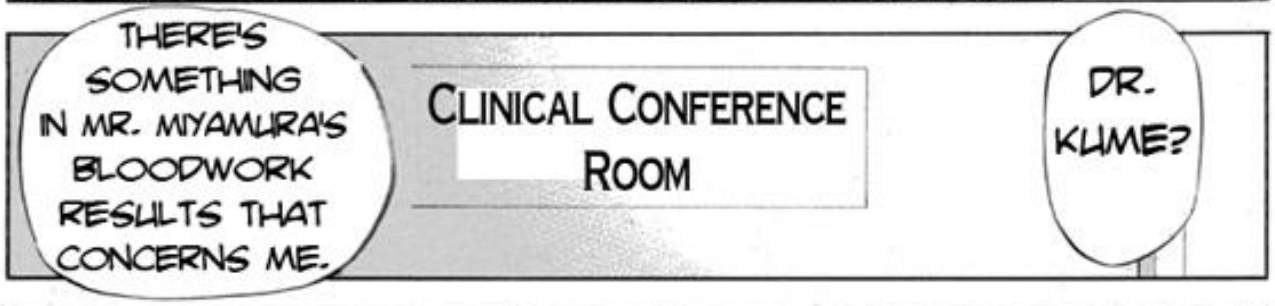
ROUTE 246


THERE'S SOMETHING IN MR. MIYAMURA'S BLOODWORK RESULTS THAT CONCERNS ME.
CLINICAL CONFERENCE ROOM
DR. KUME?

THIS IS TERRIBLE...

MR. MIYAMURA'S BODY...
WON'T WITHSTAND THE OPERATION...

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