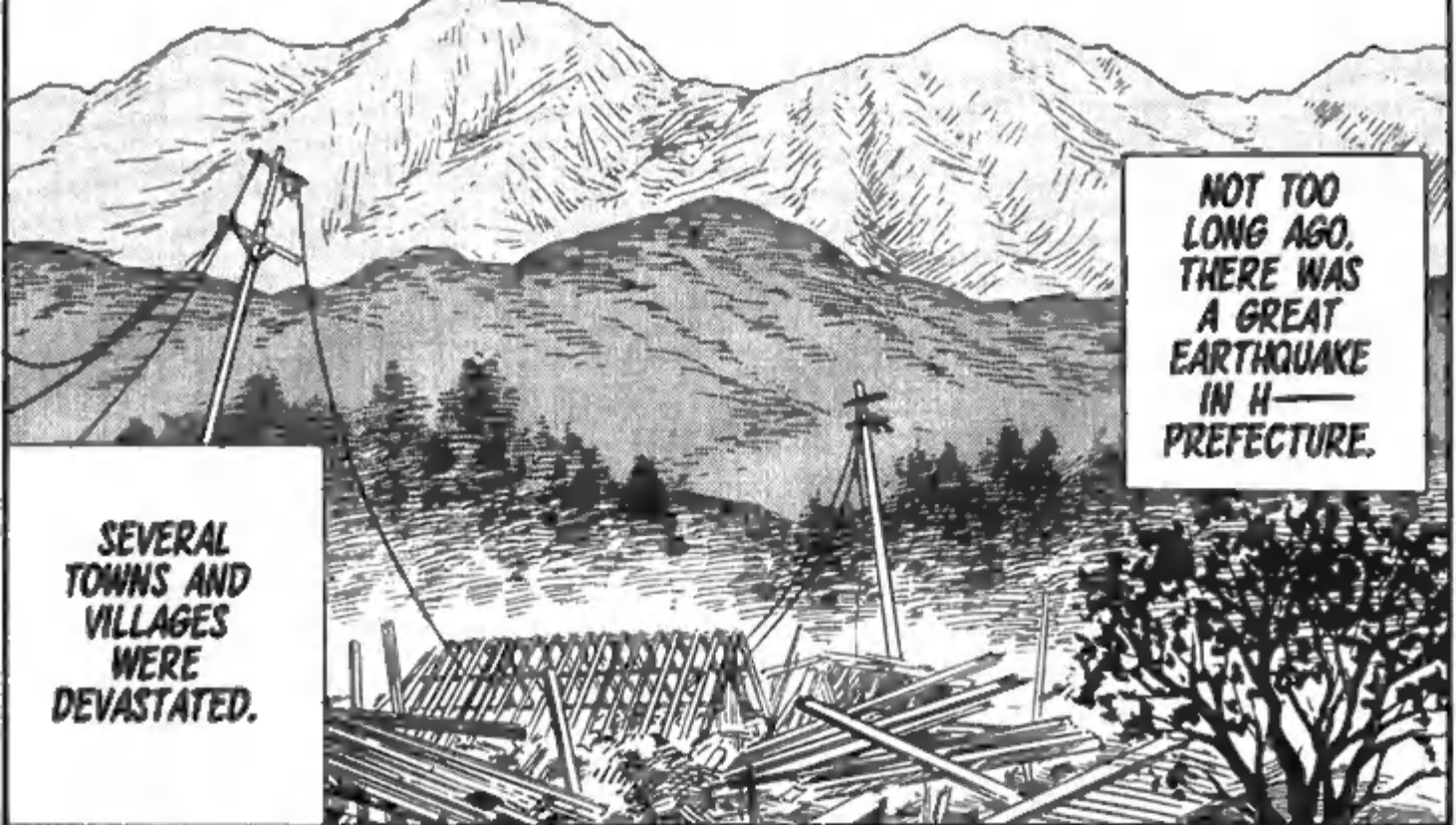


# The Enigma of Amigara Fault





NOT TOO  
LONG AGO,  
THERE WAS  
A GREAT  
EARTHQUAKE  
IN H—  
PREFECTURE.

SEVERAL  
TOWNS AND  
VILLAGES  
WERE  
DEVASTATED.



THE FAULT  
WAS DEEP  
AND  
SEVERAL  
KILOMETERS  
LONG.



FOLLOWING THE  
EARTHQUAKE,  
A LARGE  
FAULT WAS  
DISCOVERED  
NEAR THE  
EPICENTER...



...OF THE  
BEGINNING  
OF THIS  
STRANGE  
INCIDENT.

THIS  
WAS  
THE  
SIGN...

...ON THE  
NORTH  
SLOPE OF  
AMIGARA  
MOUNTAIN.





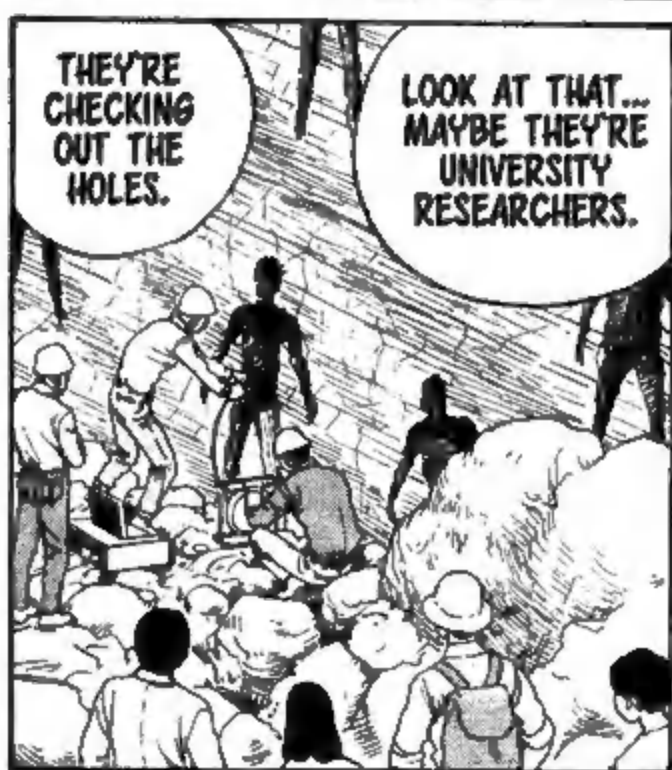


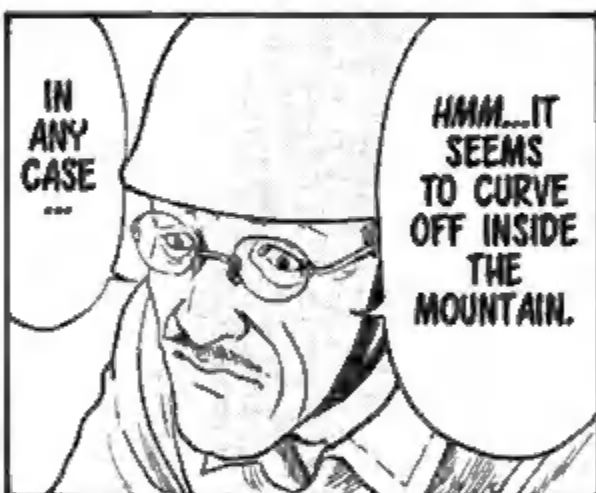












IN  
ANY  
CASE  
...

HMM...IT  
SEEMS  
TO CURVE  
OFF INSIDE  
THE  
MOUNTAIN.



HOW  
DEEP  
DO YOU  
THINK  
IT GOES,  
PROFESSOR  
?

EVEN THIS  
30-METER  
FIBER SCOPE  
CAN'T FIND  
THE END.



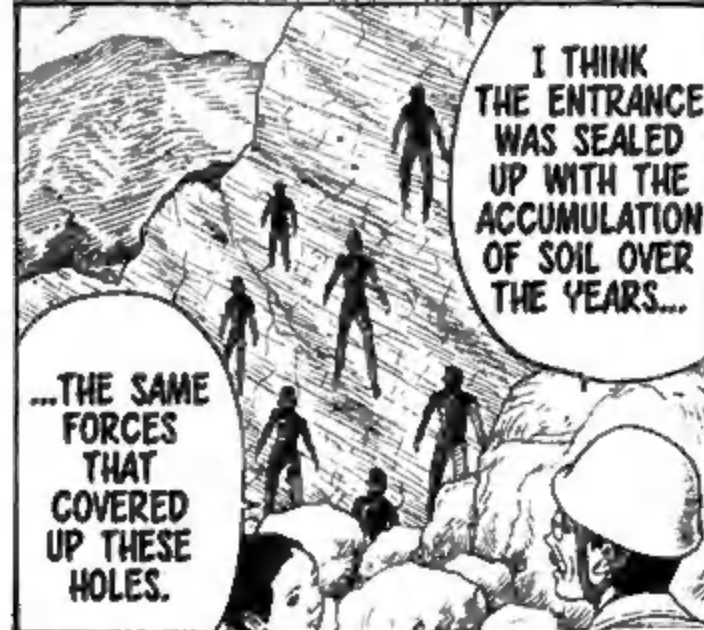
BUT HOW  
COULD YOU  
DIG THIS  
SHAPE OUT  
OF SUCH  
SOLID ROCK?



IT'S  
IMPOSSIBLE  
THAT THIS  
COULD BE  
A NATURAL  
FORMATION...

SOMEONE  
MUST HAVE  
DUG THEM  
OUT FROM  
INSIDE.





...THE SAME  
FORCES  
THAT  
COVERED  
UP THESE  
HOLES.

I THINK  
THE ENTRANCE  
WAS SEALED  
UP WITH THE  
ACCUMULATION  
OF SOIL OVER  
THE YEARS...



NO ONE'S  
FOUND  
ANYTHING  
LIKE THAT.

BESIDES,  
WOULDN'T THERE  
BE A TRACE  
OF AN ENTRANCE  
OF SOME KIND?



IT'S  
STEEP.

CAREFUL,  
YOSHIDA.



GLANCE

GLANCE

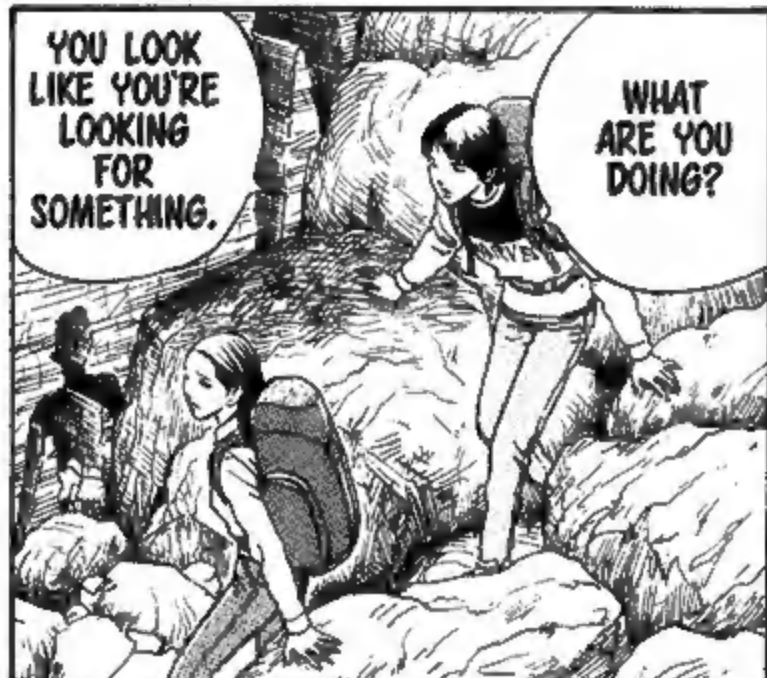
...

HARVEST



THEN THESE  
HOLES MUST BE  
ANCIENT. BUT IF  
THAT'S THE CASE,  
WHO HAD THE  
TECHNOLOGY TO  
MAKE THEM?

AND  
WHAT  
PURPOSE  
DID THEY  
SERVE...?

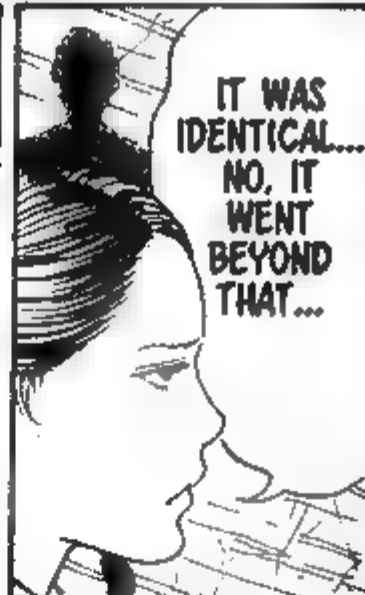






IT WAS  
BASED ON  
ME. I  
SWEAR, I'M  
SERIOUS!

THAT  
HOLE  
WAS MY  
SILHOUETTE!



IT WAS  
IDENTICAL...  
NO, IT  
WENT  
BEYOND  
THAT...



WHAT?



HOW  
COULD THEY  
HAVE BASED  
IT ON  
YOU? THAT'S  
KIND OF  
EGOTISTICAL,  
DON'T YOU  
THINK?

THESE  
HOLES ARE  
SUPPOSED  
TO BE  
THOUSANDS  
OF YEARS  
OLD.



WHAT  
ARE YOU  
SAYING?




SO,  
YOU  
TOO...



I KNEW  
IT WAS  
ME. IT  
DOESN'T  
HAVE TO  
MAKE  
SENSE!

I'M NOT  
JOKING!  
DON'T MAKE  
FUN OF  
ME!



MY NAME'S NAKAGAKI.

AND YOU'RE...



I CAME HERE TO LOOK FOR MY HOLE.

I FELT THE SAME WAY... AFTER I SAW IT ON T.V....



...I FINALLY FOUND MINE.

AND...



WE'RE ALL LOOKING FOR OUR HOLES.

IT'S AN UNBELIEVABLE PHENOMENON. MOST OF US CAME HERE FOR THE EXACT SAME REASON.



HMM? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME.



SEE HOW PERFECTLY I FIT?

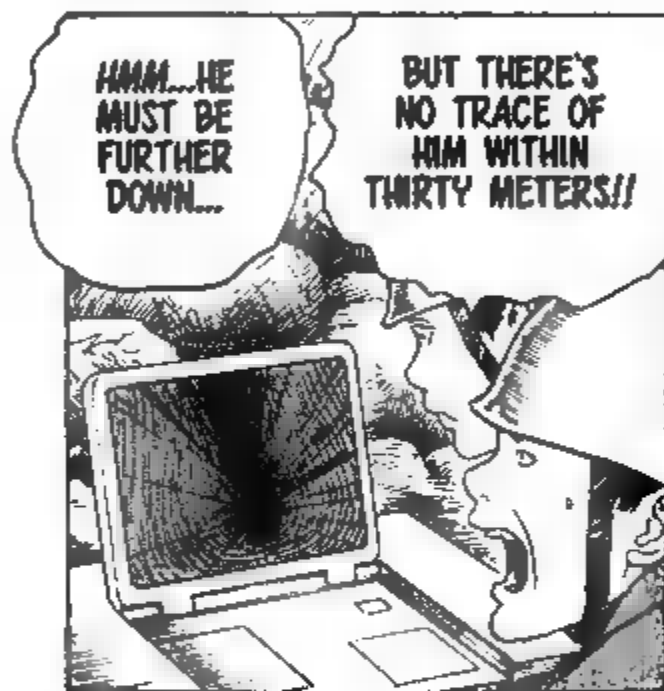
THIS IS IT...



WELL, I DON'T BLAME YOU.











ONE  
OF THEIR  
MEMBERS.  
5'7 TALL.  
IS TRYING  
TO GO  
IN...

A  
RESCUE  
SQUAD IS  
ATTEMPTING  
TO ENTER  
THE HOLE.




OVER  
THREE HOURS  
HAVE ELAPSED  
SINCE HIS  
DISAPPEARANCE.

WE NOW  
HAVE THIS  
UPDATE ON  
THE MAN WHO  
DISAPPEARED  
INTO ONE OF  
THE MYSTERIOUS  
HOLES...



WE MUST  
HAVE BEEN  
CRAZY TO  
GO IN  
THERE!



THE 5'7  
RESCUE SQUAD  
MEMBER HAD TO  
RETREAT AFTER GOING  
NO MORE THAN FIVE  
METERS INTO  
THE HOLE...

NIGHT HAS  
FALLEN AND  
THERE'S NO  
SIGN OF THE  
MAN WHO  
WENT INTO  
THE HOLE.



I WAS  
COMPLETELY  
TRAPPED  
IN PITCH  
BLACKNESS,  
HUNDREDS  
OF METERS  
INTO THE  
HOLE.

THAT  
NIGHT I  
HAD A  
NIGHTMARE.

IN MY  
DREAM,  
I WAS  
NAKAGAKI.

...THE EARTHQUAKE.  
THE HOLE MUST  
HAVE BEEN DEFORMED  
BY THE EARTHQUAKE.  
SO I CAN'T  
MOVE...

I-I  
CAN'T  
MOVE...

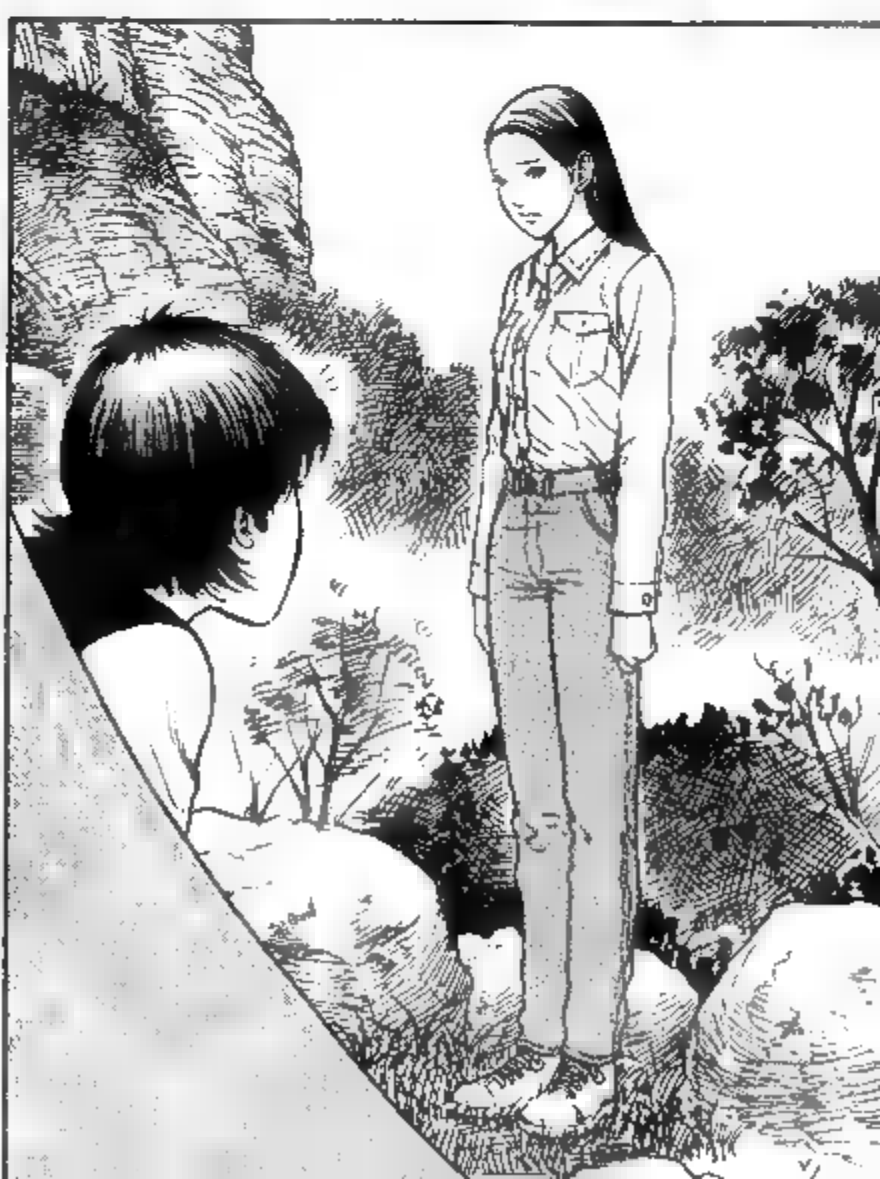
I'M  
STUCK  
...

AGGH...  
GGH...  
GGH...

ANYONE!  
HELP  
ME!

S-  
SOME-  
ONE!







I FOUND MY HOLE.



I FOUND IT.

WHAT IS IT?



I NEED TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING.

NEVER MIND... OWAKI, CAN YOU COME WITH ME?



NO WONDER I COULDN'T FIND IT.

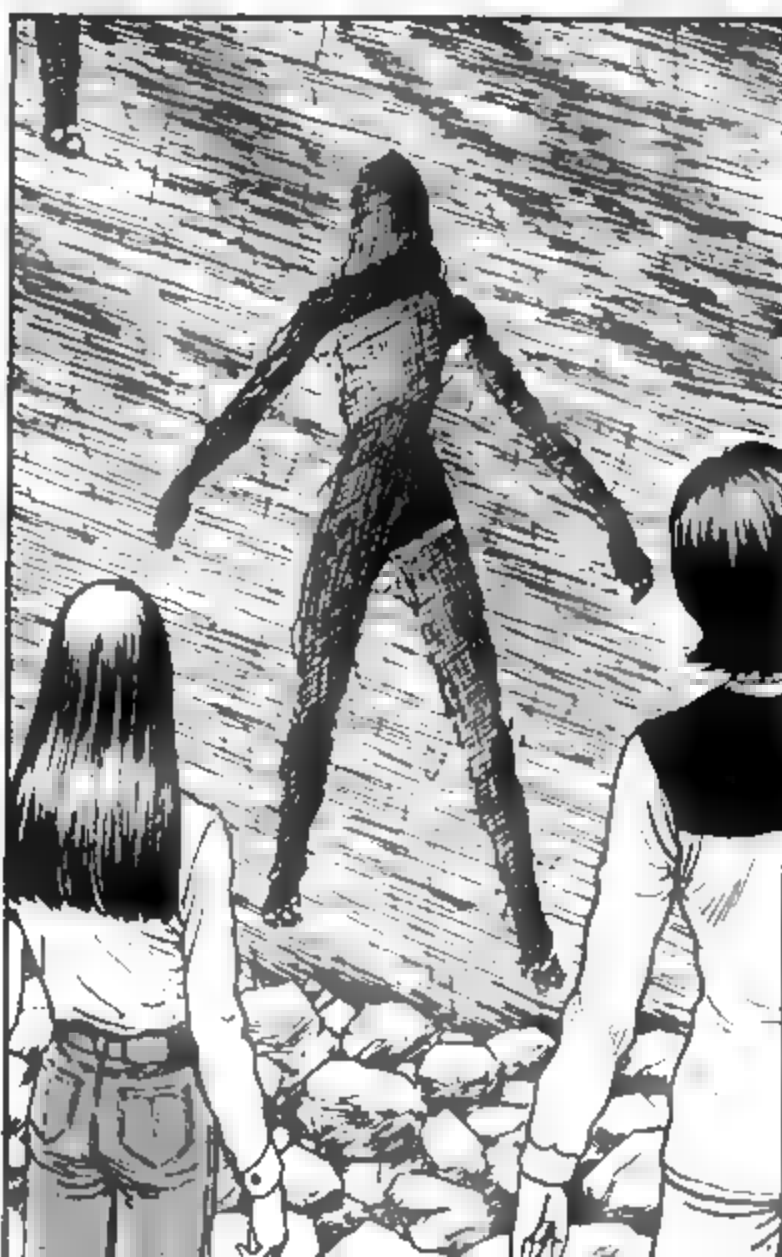
IT TURNED OUT IT WAS FURTHER DOWN AT THE FOOT OF THE FAULT.



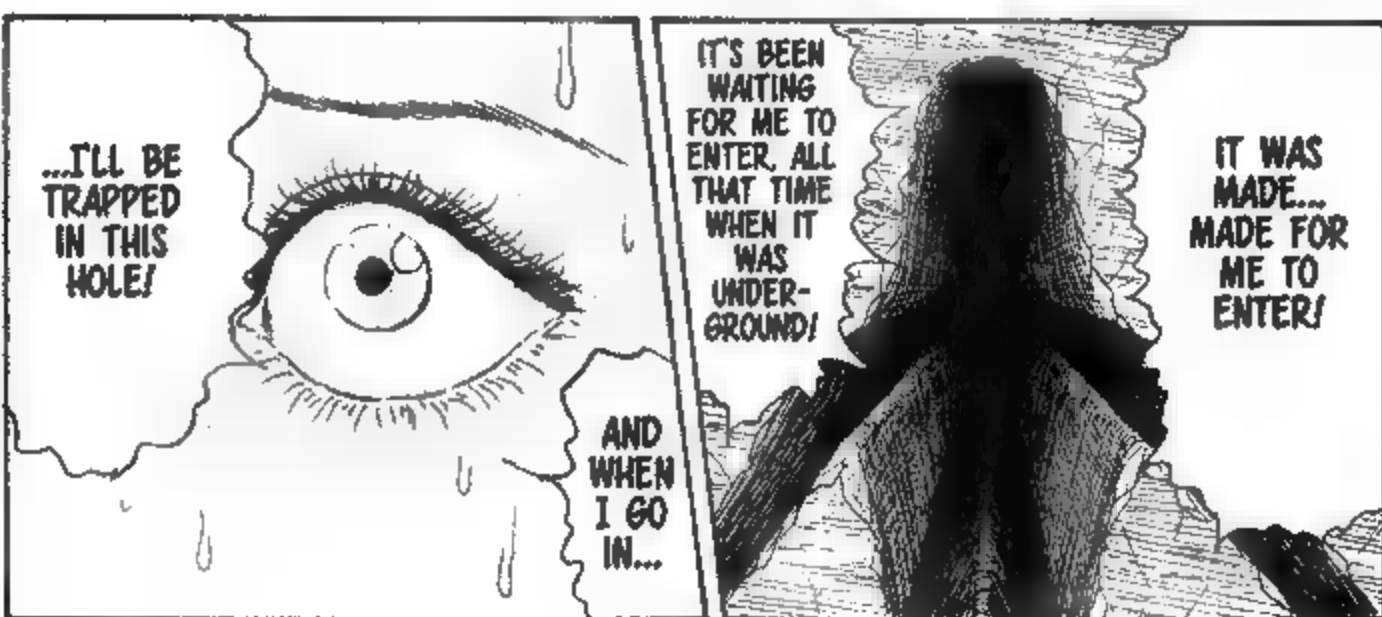
WELL, IT DOES LOOK KIND OF LIKE YOU...



IT'S IDENTICAL TO ME.



THIS IS IT...







HEY...



...HAS  
DISAPPEARED.  
HE HAS  
VANISHED  
WITHOUT A  
TRACE.

IT HAS  
BEEN A FULL  
DAY SINCE THE  
MAN WHO  
WALKED INTO  
THE HOLE...



HEY,  
WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING!?  
GET DOWN  
HERE BEFORE  
YOU HURT  
YOURSELF!!



WHAT'S  
THAT  
KID  
DOING?

LOOK  
OVER  
THERE!



IT WAS  
MADE FOR  
ME!

TH-  
THIS IS  
MY  
HOLE!





H-HEY!!

TELL MY MOM GOOD-BYE!



I HAVE TO GO IN!



...AND ENTER THE HOLES...!!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!! OTHERS MIGHT FOLLOW HIM NOW...



S-STOP!! SOMEBODY STOP HIM!



QUICK! GET THEM OUT!

HERE, TOO!!



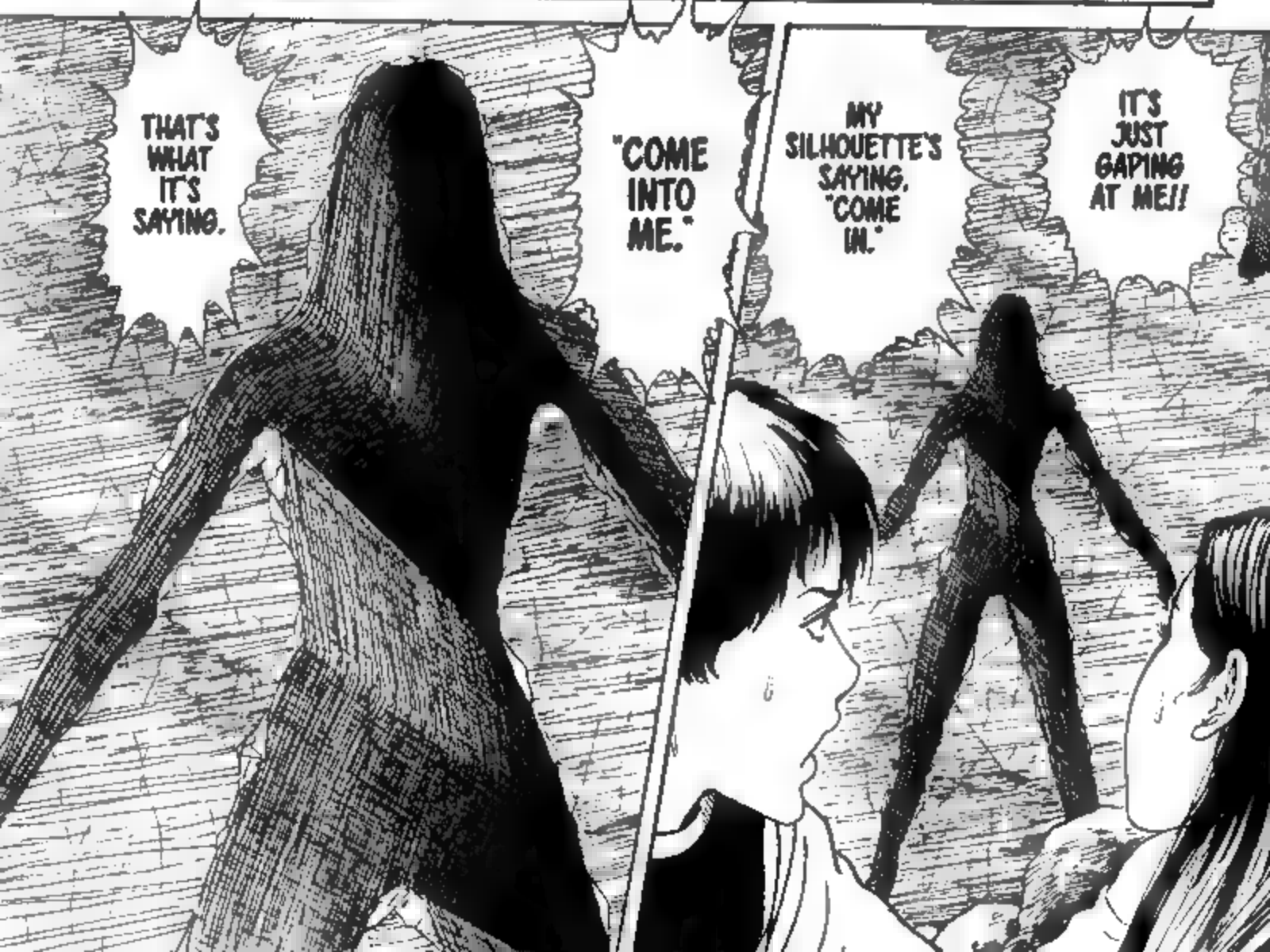
LOOK OVER HERE!! SOMEONE ELSE JUST WENT IN!

OH, NO--!!

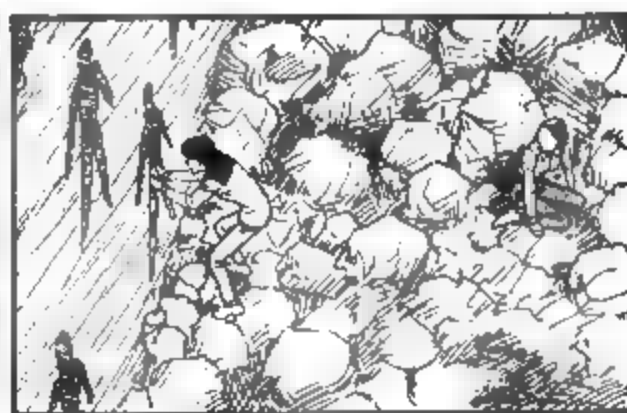


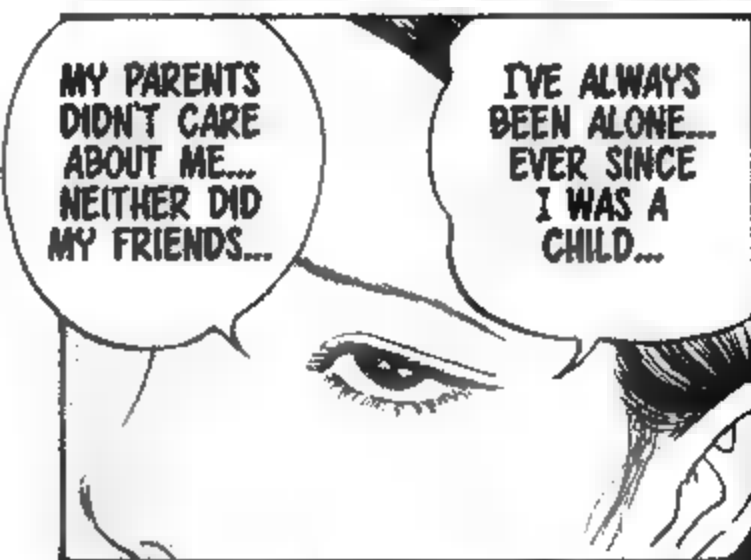
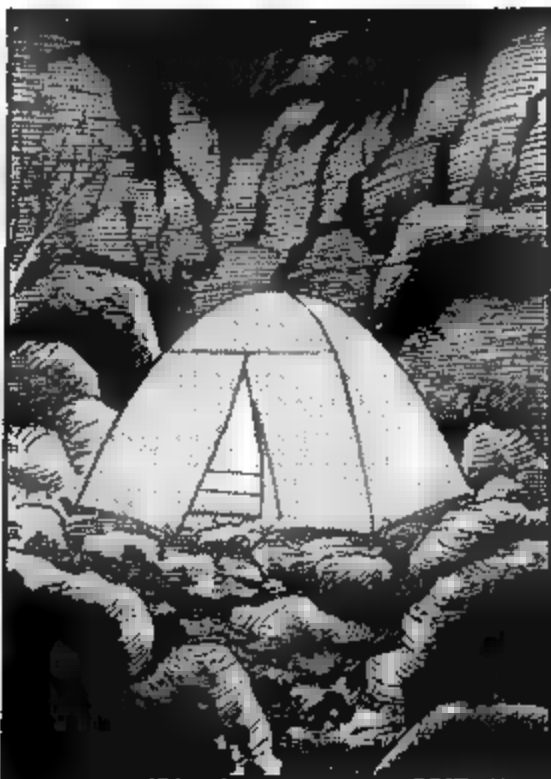
YOSHIDA !!

NO... NO! I'M SCARED!











YES.

I HAD  
COMMITTED  
A HORRIBLE  
CRIME, AND  
I WAS  
ABOUT  
TO BE  
PUNISHED.

IT WAS  
ANOTHER  
TIME...I  
DON'T KNOW  
HOW LONG  
AGO.

THAT  
NIGHT I  
HAD  
ANOTHER  
NIGHTMARE.



I WAS  
ABOUT TO  
ENTER  
THIS  
HOLE.

WHEN A PERSON  
COMMITTED A CRIME  
OF MY MAGNITUDE,  
THE PEOPLE IN  
THE PAST WOULD  
DIG HUMAN-  
SHAPED HOLES...

ALONG THE  
CLIFF WALL  
WERE COUNTLESS  
HOLES FOR  
CRIMINALS  
EXECUTED IN  
THE PAST.

ACTUALLY  
IT WAS  
MORE LIKE  
A DEATH  
SENTENCE.

FAWOOOOOOOOOOOOOO








...I WAS  
SLIDING  
SLOWLY,  
SLOWLY  
DOWN...  
MOVING  
FORWARD  
WITH EACH  
MOVEMENT  
I MADE.

THE WALLS  
WERE CARVED  
IN A WAY  
THAT KEPT  
YOU FROM  
RETREATING...



I HAD NO  
CHOICE BUT  
TO MOVE  
FORWARD.  
INTO THE  
CLAUSTRO-  
PHOBIA ALL  
AROUND.

I FELT  
THE COLD  
STONE ON  
ALL SIDES  
AROUND  
ME.



...STRETCHING  
IT UNTIL  
IT SHOULD  
HAVE TORN  
OFF.

TO MY  
HORROR,  
THE PART  
CORRESPONDING  
TO MY  
NECK ONLY  
GOT LONGER  
AND LONGER...

UNHH...  
UNHH...!!

URR...



I  
FELT A  
TUG  
ON MY  
NECK.

AND  
WITH  
TIME...



SOMEONE!  
ANYONE!  
HELP  
ME!



THE HOLE  
STRETCHED  
OUT INTO  
SEVERAL  
DIRECTIONS  
AT ONCE...!

NO...NOT  
JUST MY  
NECK...MY  
ARMS, LEGS,  
AND TORSO...



HUH?

ANOTHER  
NIGHT-  
MARE...

GASP...  
GASP...

AAAGH!



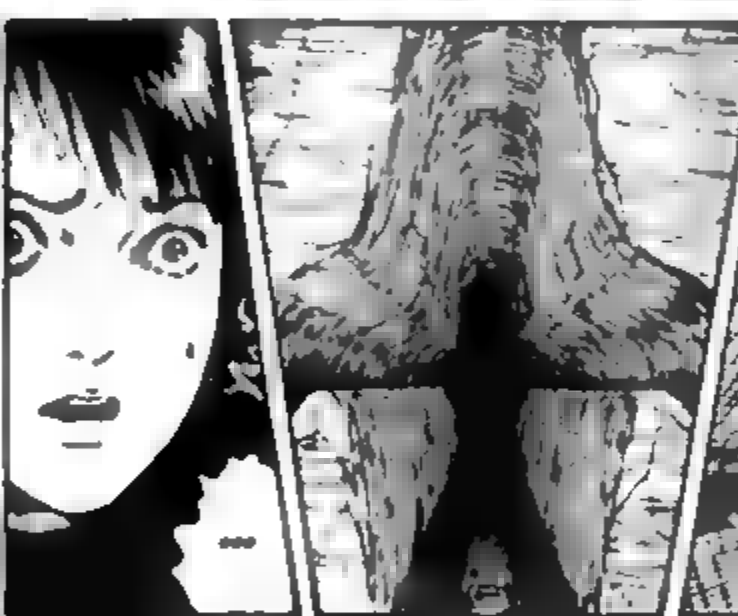
WHERE  
DID SHE  
GO?



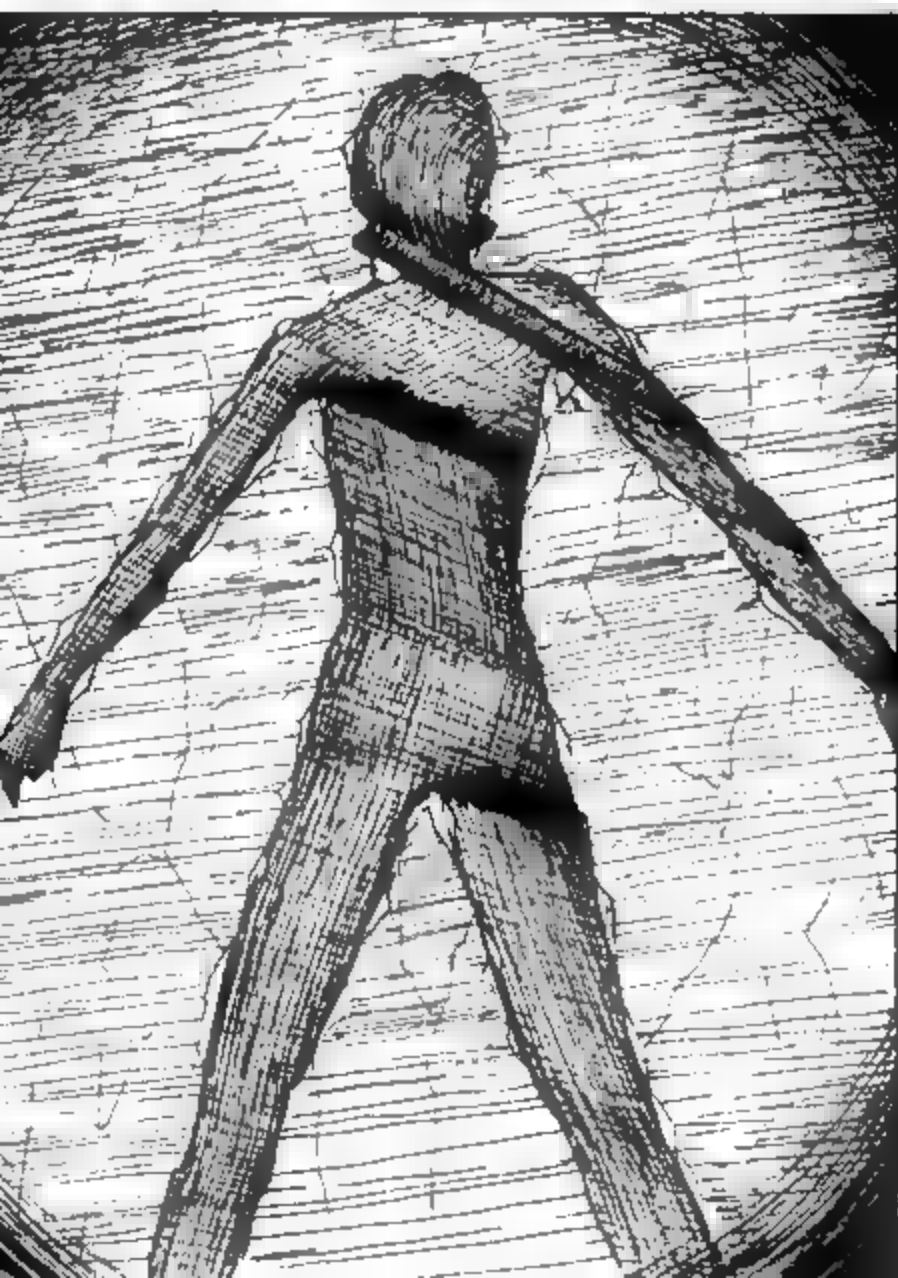
N-NO...

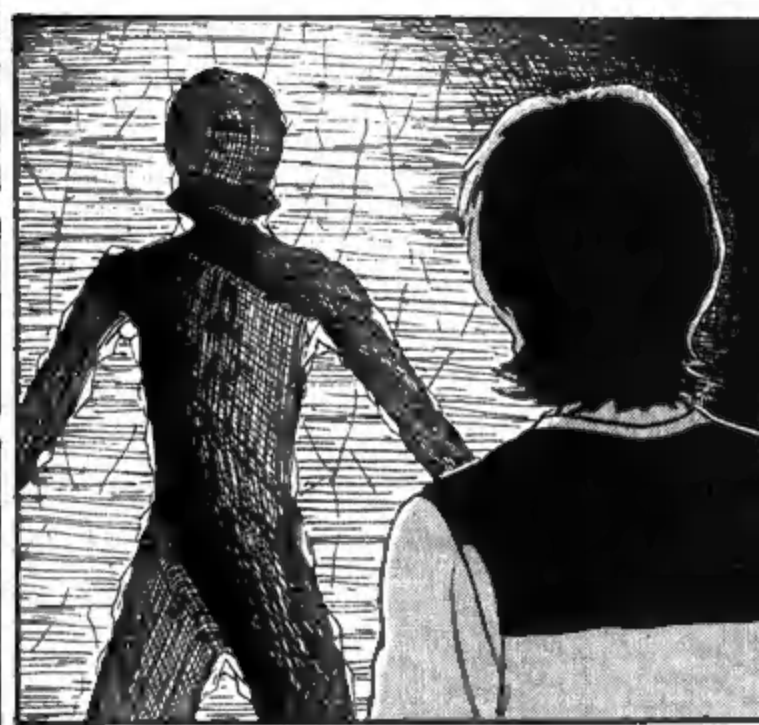


SHE  
CAN'T  
HAVE  
GONE  
FAR IN  
THE  
DARK.











JUST AS THAT CLIMBER INFORMED US.

PROFESSOR... HERE IT IS!!

SO THERE WAS A FAULT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN!!

SEVERAL MONTHS LATER...

DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY FORM...

THERE ARE HOLES, BUT THEY'RE NOT HUMAN SHAPED...

BUT UNLIKE THE ONE ON THE OTHER SIDE, THIS ONE'S QUITE SMALL.

HMM... I'M SURE THIS WAS FORMED BY THE EARTHQUAKE AS WELL.



TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!

AHA!





UHH...

...



I'M  
GOING  
TO TAKE  
A LOOK.

I WONDER  
IF THEY'RE  
CONNECTED  
TO THE ONES  
OVER THERE.

I-I SEE  
SOMETHING  
!!

SI-  
SIR!!

IT'S  
SLOWLY  
COMING  
THIS  
WAY!!

DRR  
DRR  
DRR

THE ENIGMA OF  
AMIGARA FAULT: THE END

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Junji Ito was born in 1963 in Gifu-ken, Japan. Beginning with his debut story, "Tomie," in 1987, Ito has gone on to become Japan's leading horror comics artist. His influences include classic manga greats Kazuo Umezu ( *Orochi* ) and Hideshi Hino ( *Hell Baby* ), and the American horror author H.P. Lovecraft. Several of Ito's works have been published to critical acclaim in English in the United States, including *Tomie* and *Uzumaki*, which has been nominated for the Eisner Award and was also made into a live-action film.