





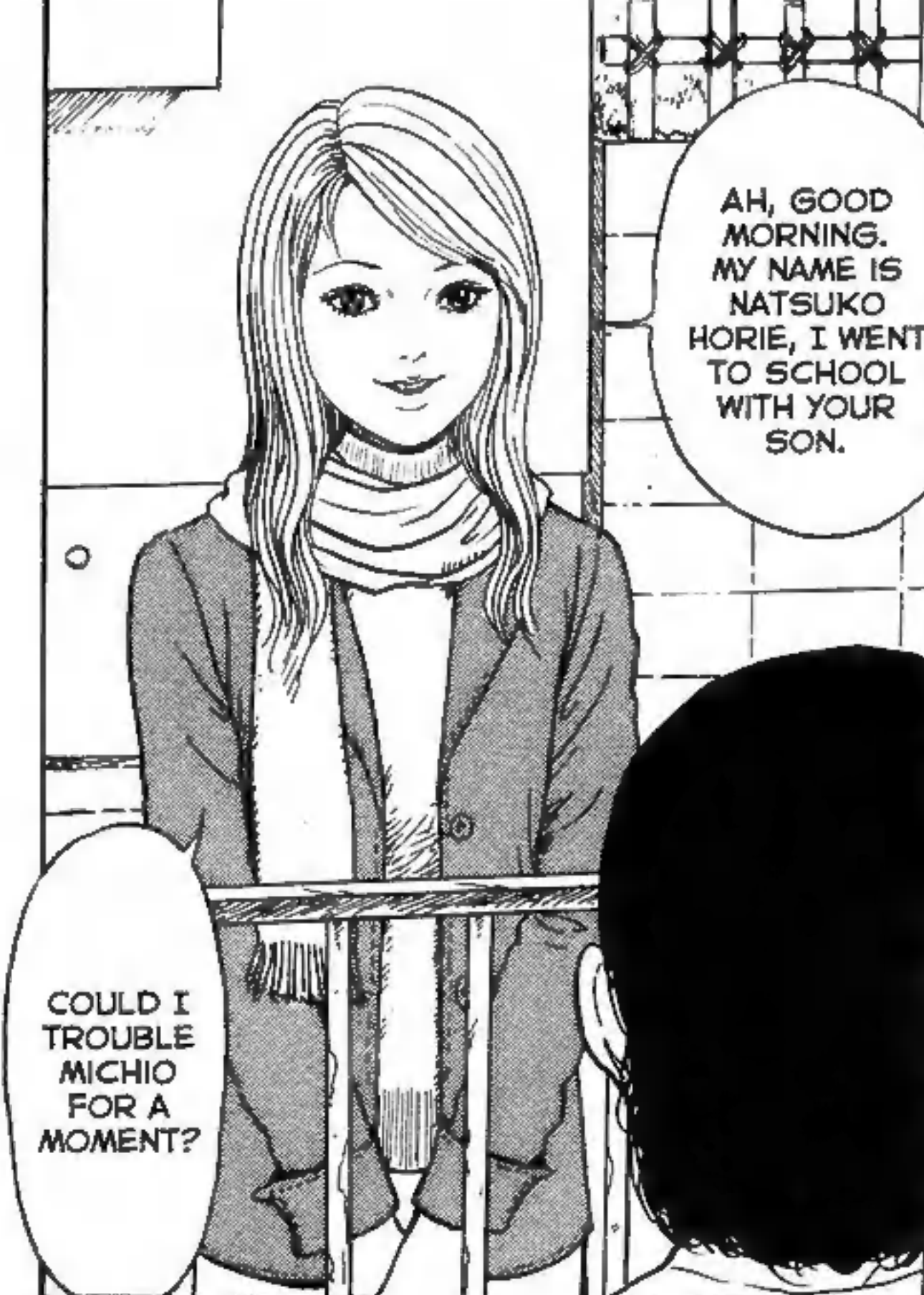
ARMY OF ONE

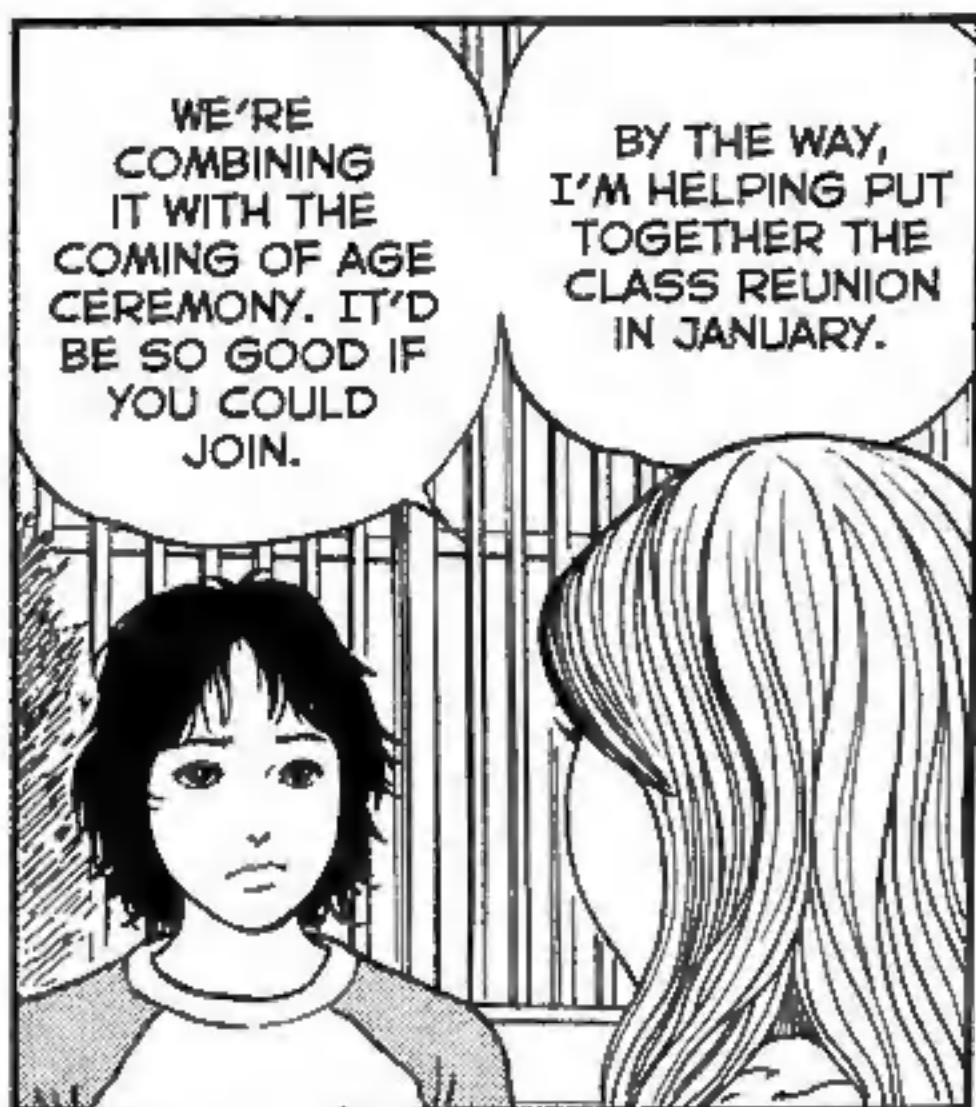
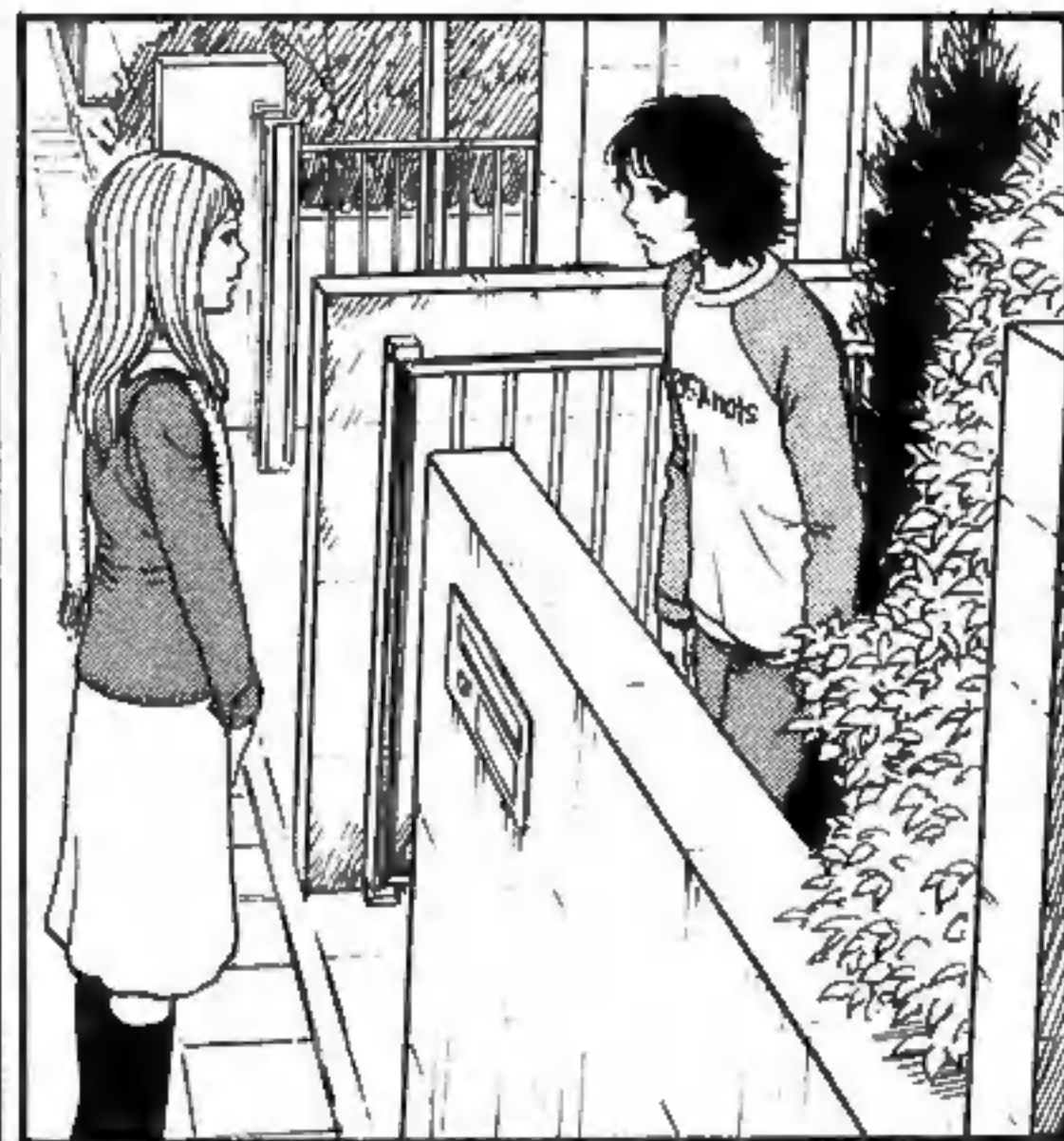
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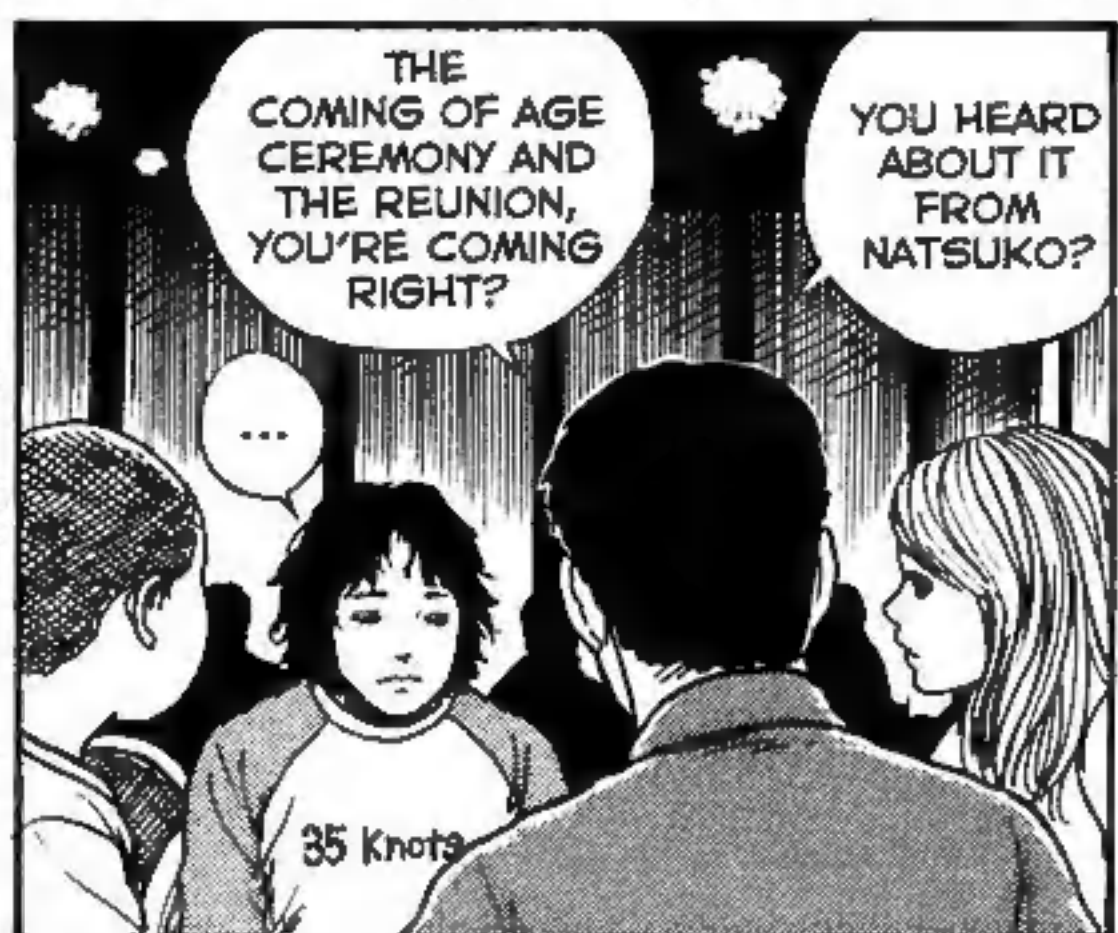


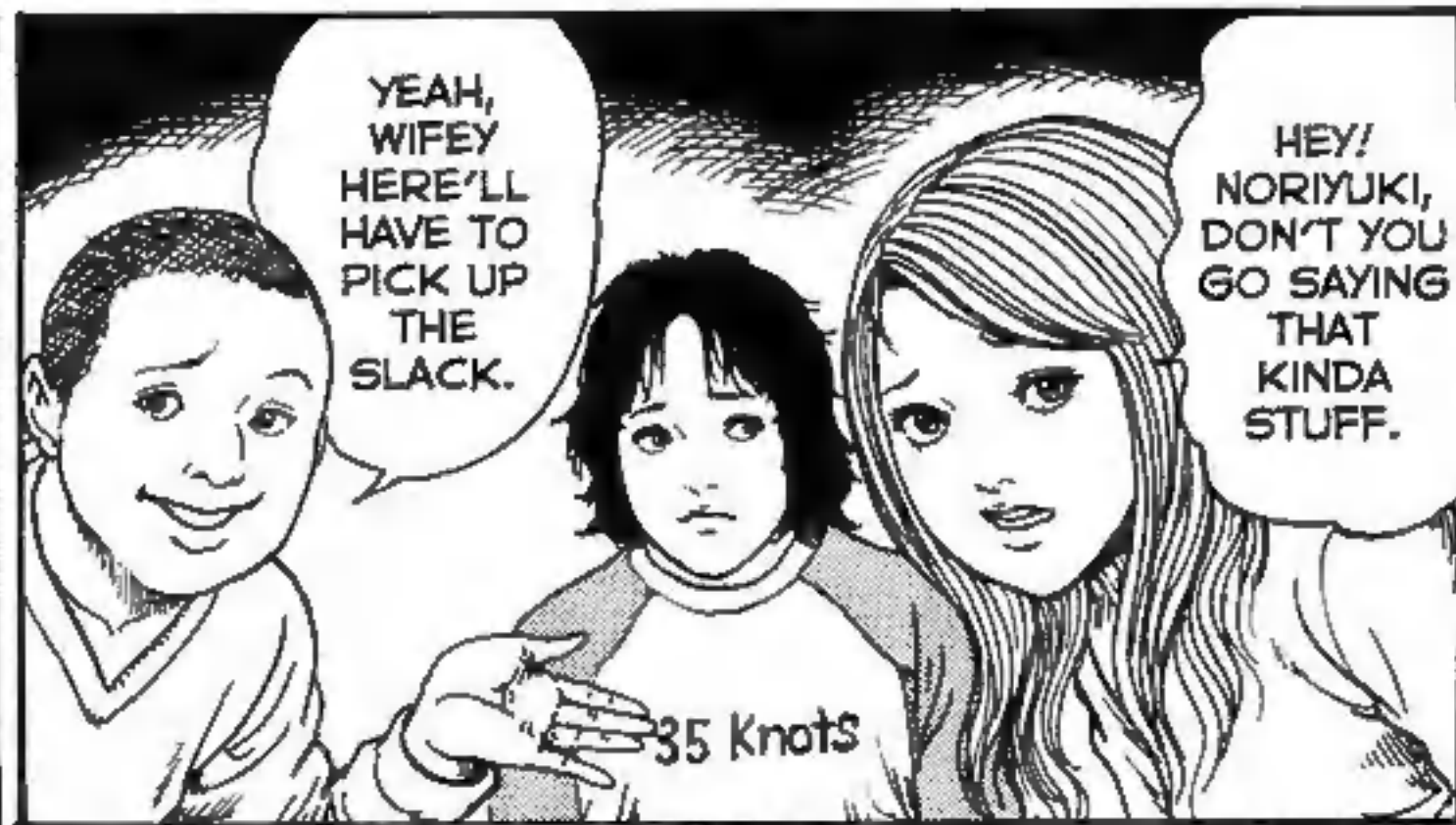




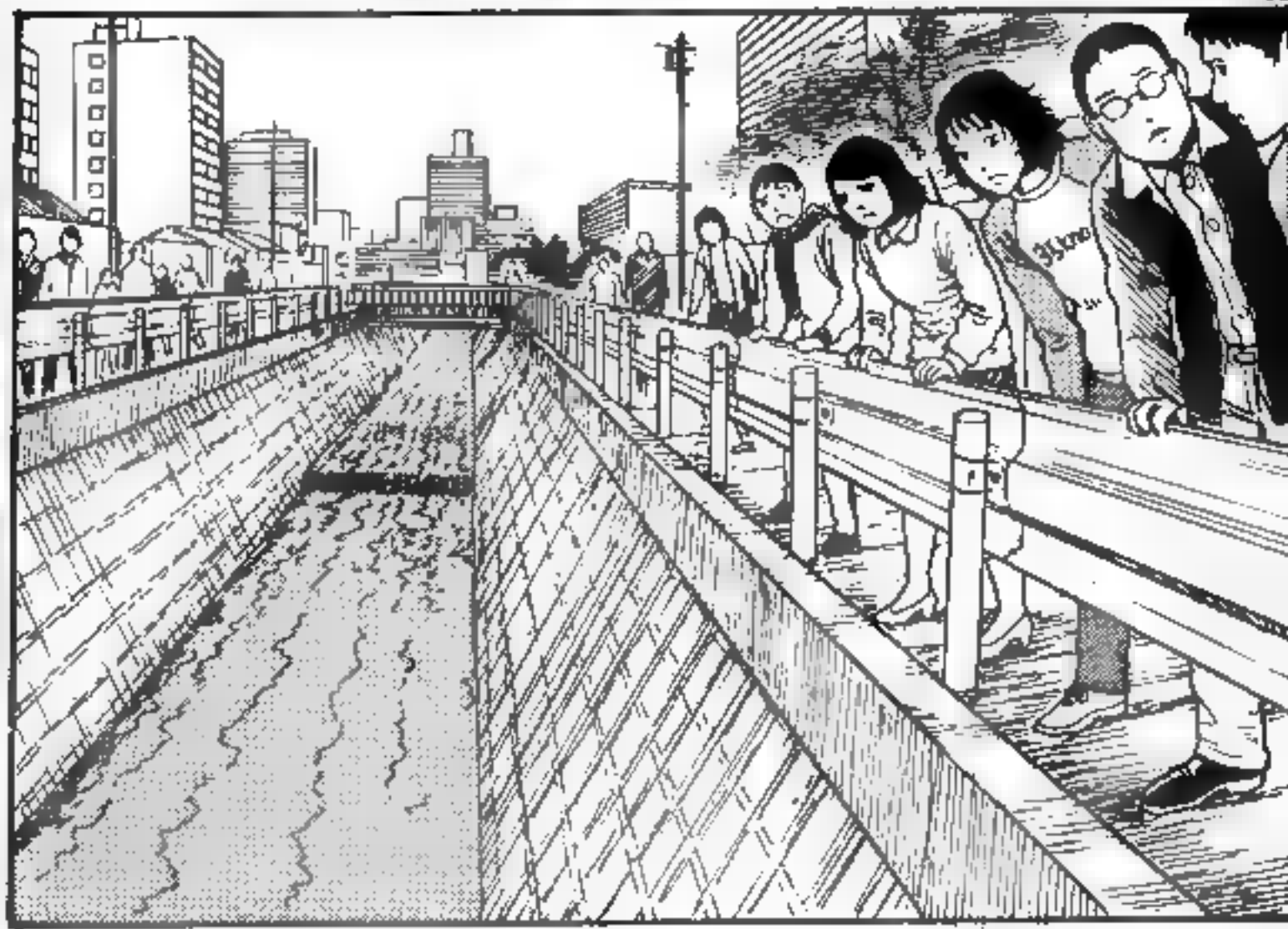
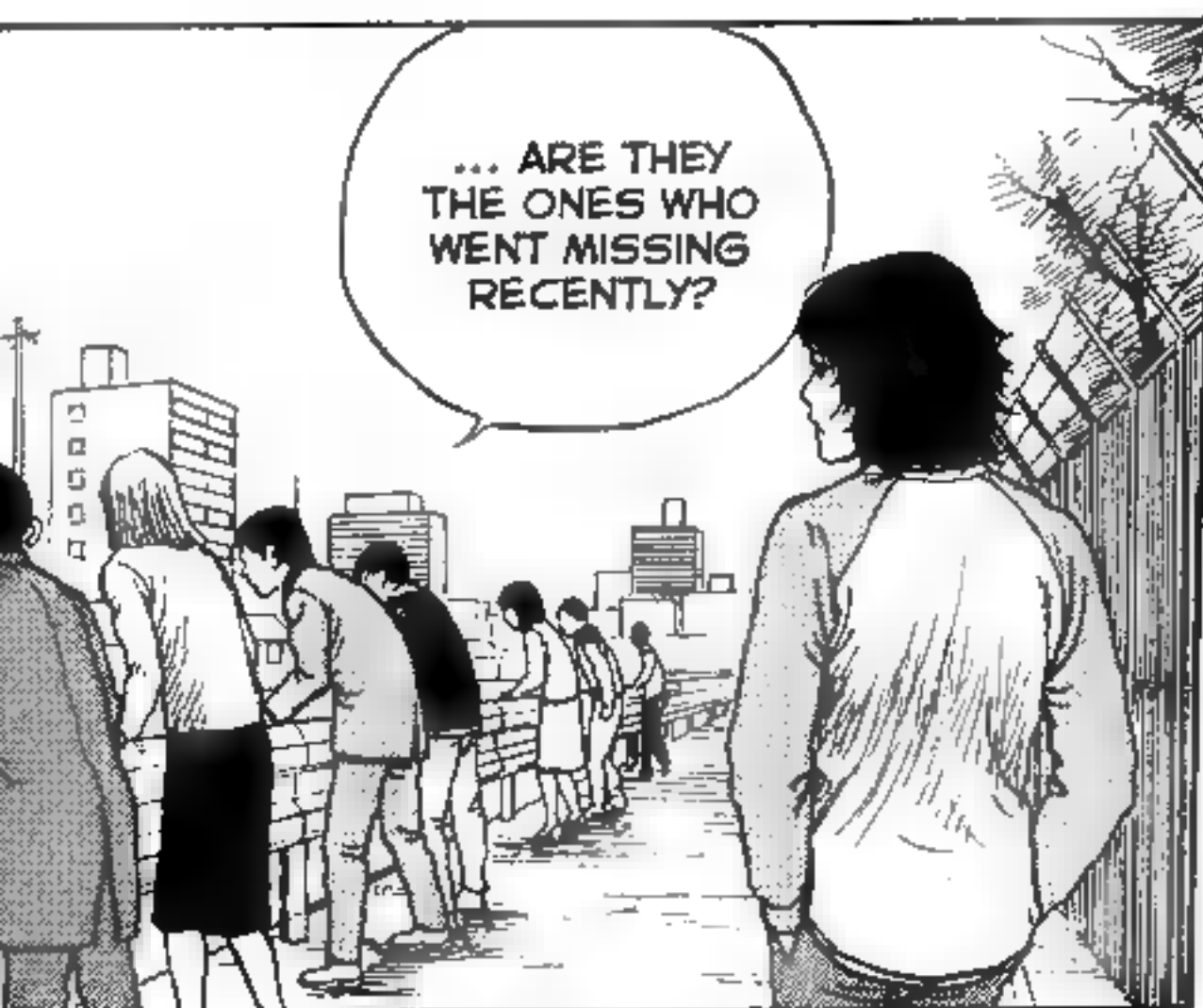




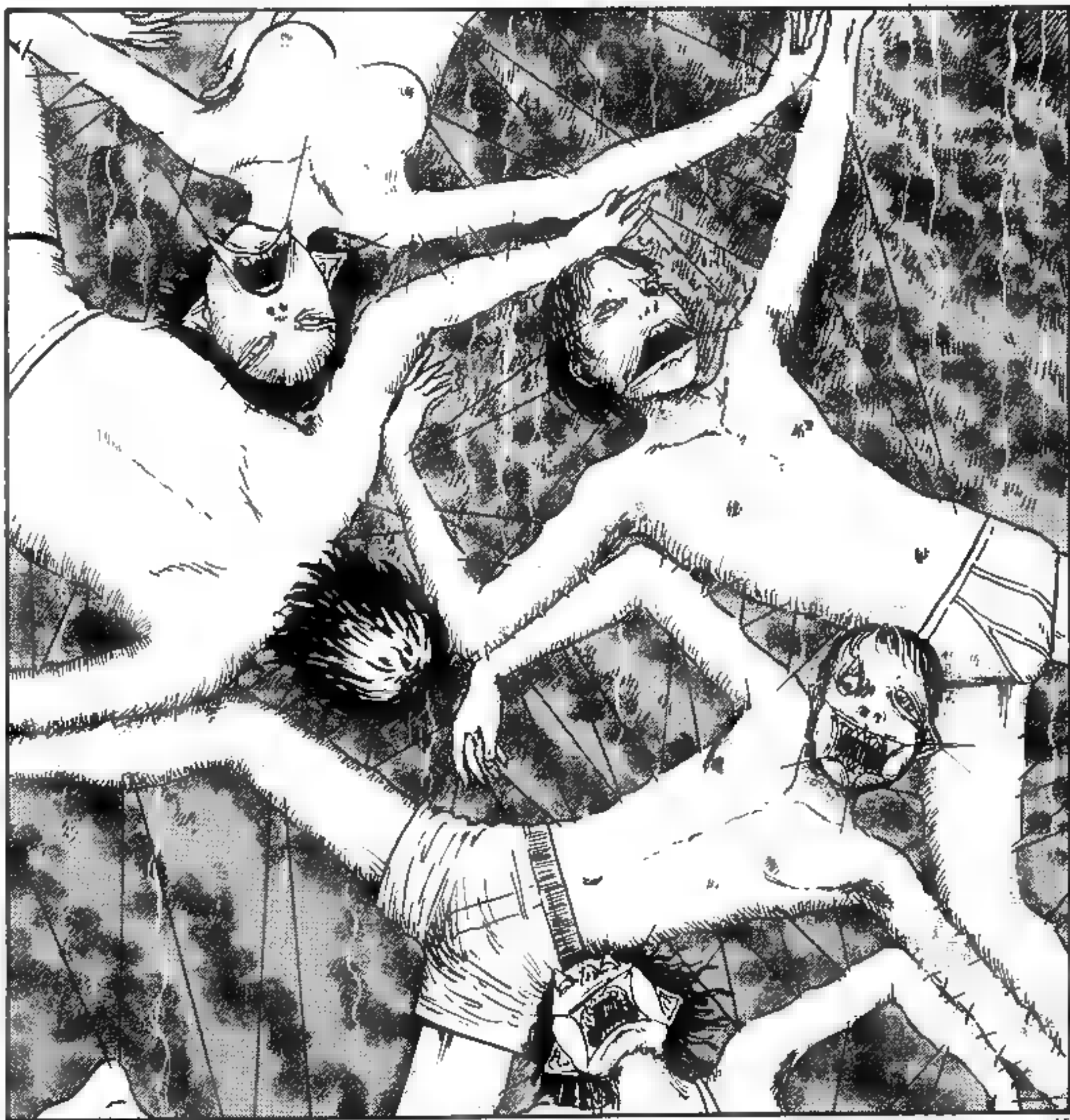




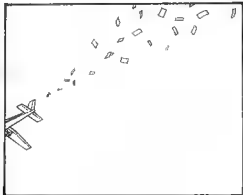


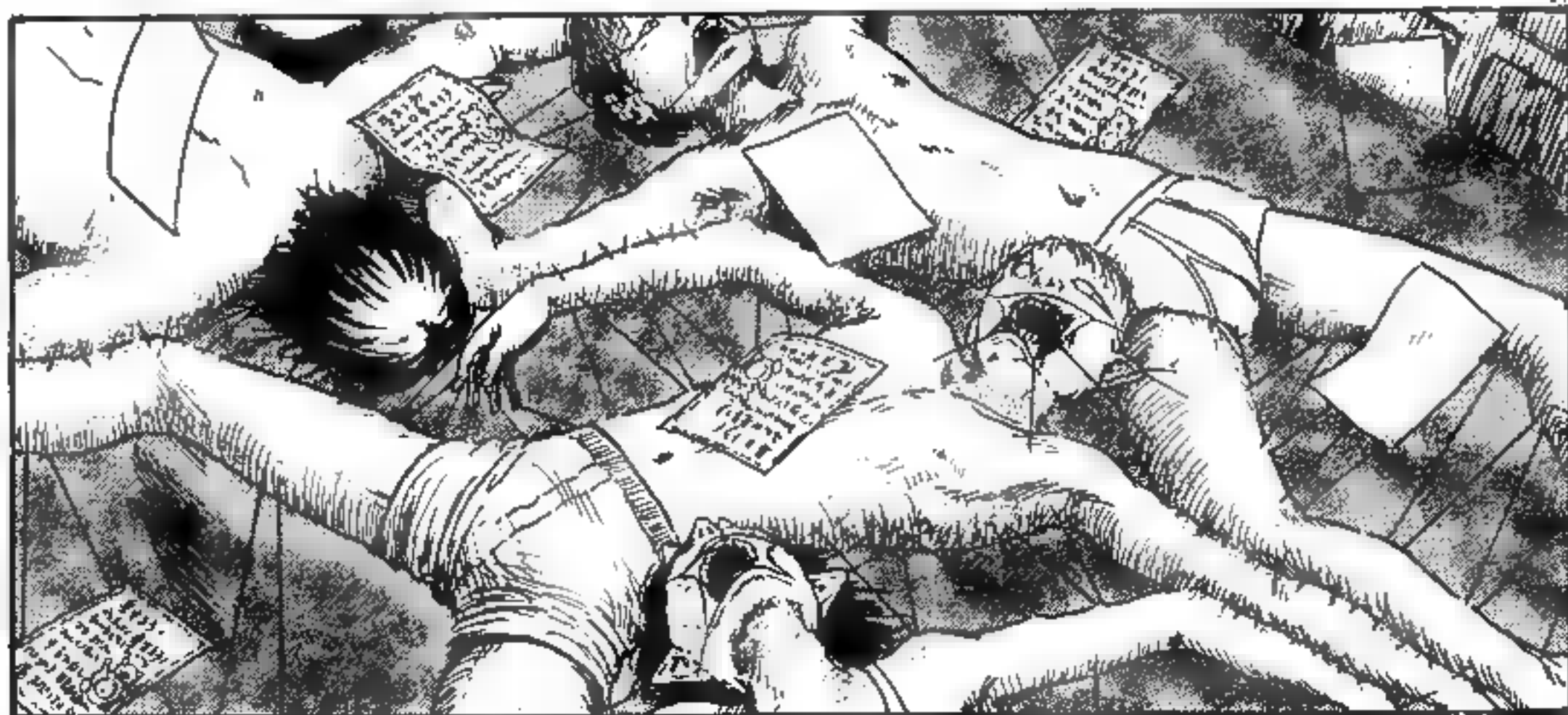
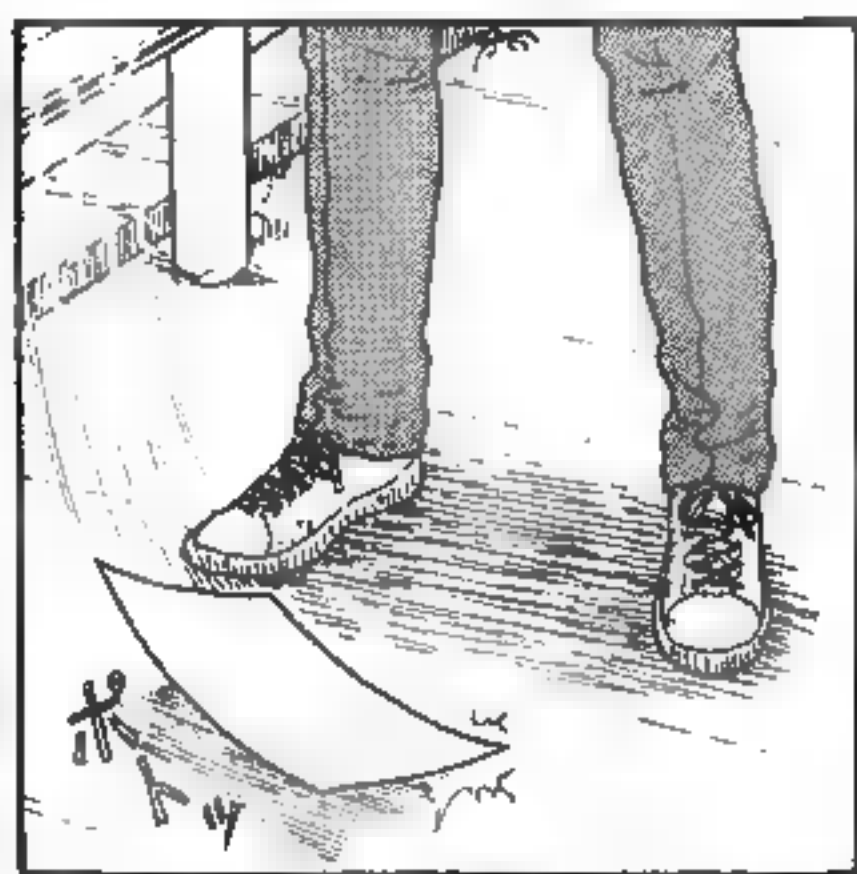






バルバルバル







NAME

E-mail

Anzu> are involved in the stitch murders

Anzu> lately, this "army of one" thing

Michio> what kinda rumor (11/21 - 13:01:02)

Anzu> strange rumor going round (11/21 - 13:01:02)

Michio> on the radio, and there are flyers everywhere (11/21 - 13:09:32)

Anzu> heard of em, yeah (11/21 - 13:09:32)

Michio> by the way - "army of one", ring any bell (11/21 - 13:08:58)

Anzu> thx (11/21 - 13:08:58)

Michio> sounds great, go for it (11/21 - 13:08:30)

カ タ カ タ カ タ カ タ カ タ

□ Anzu> strange rumor going round (11/21 - 13:01:02)

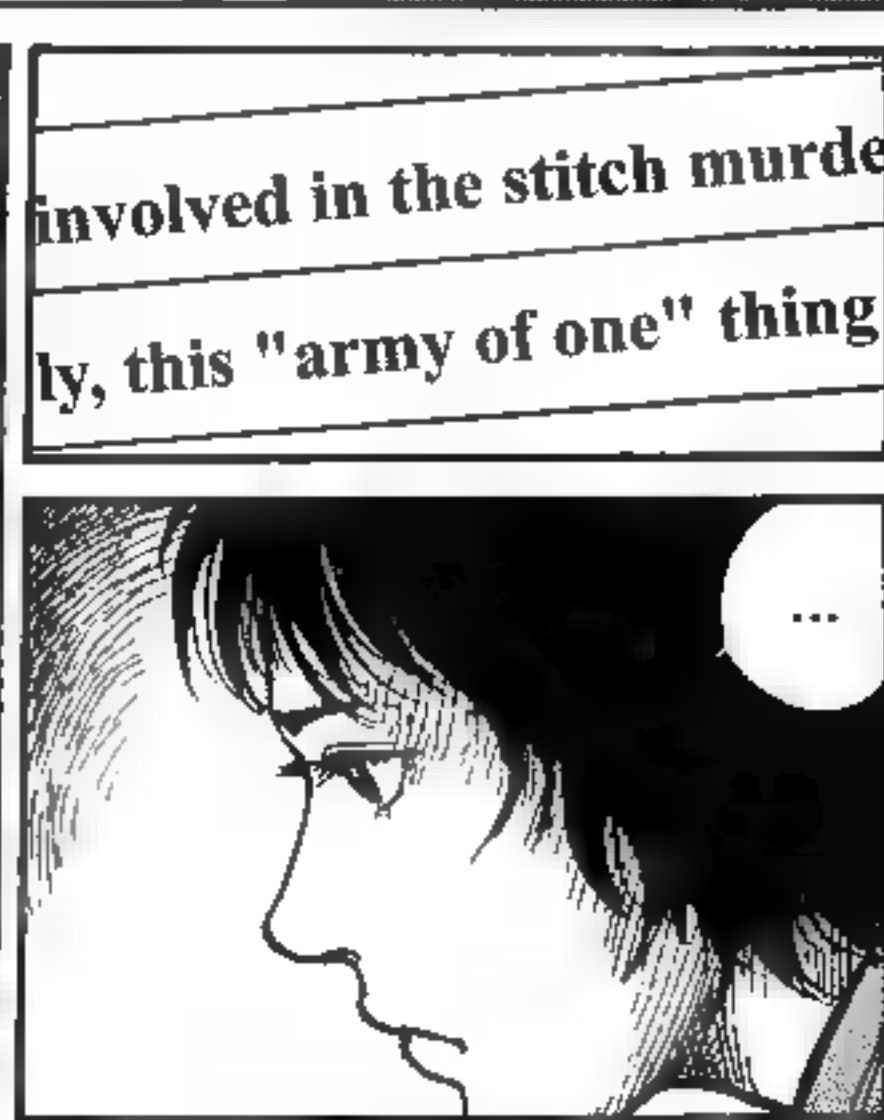
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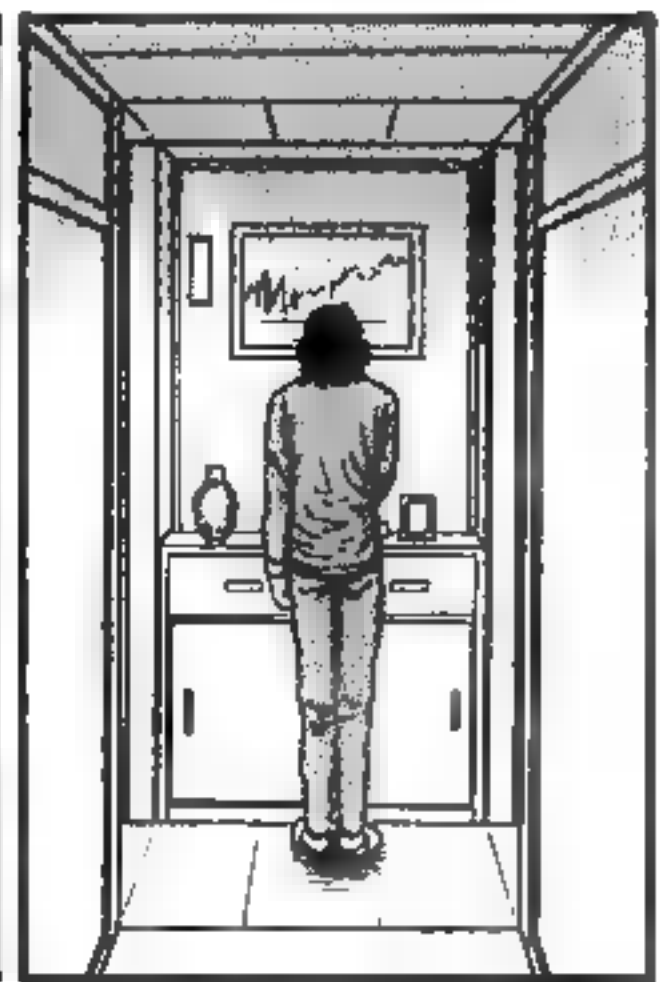
□ Anzu> heard of em, yeah (11/21 - 13:09:32)

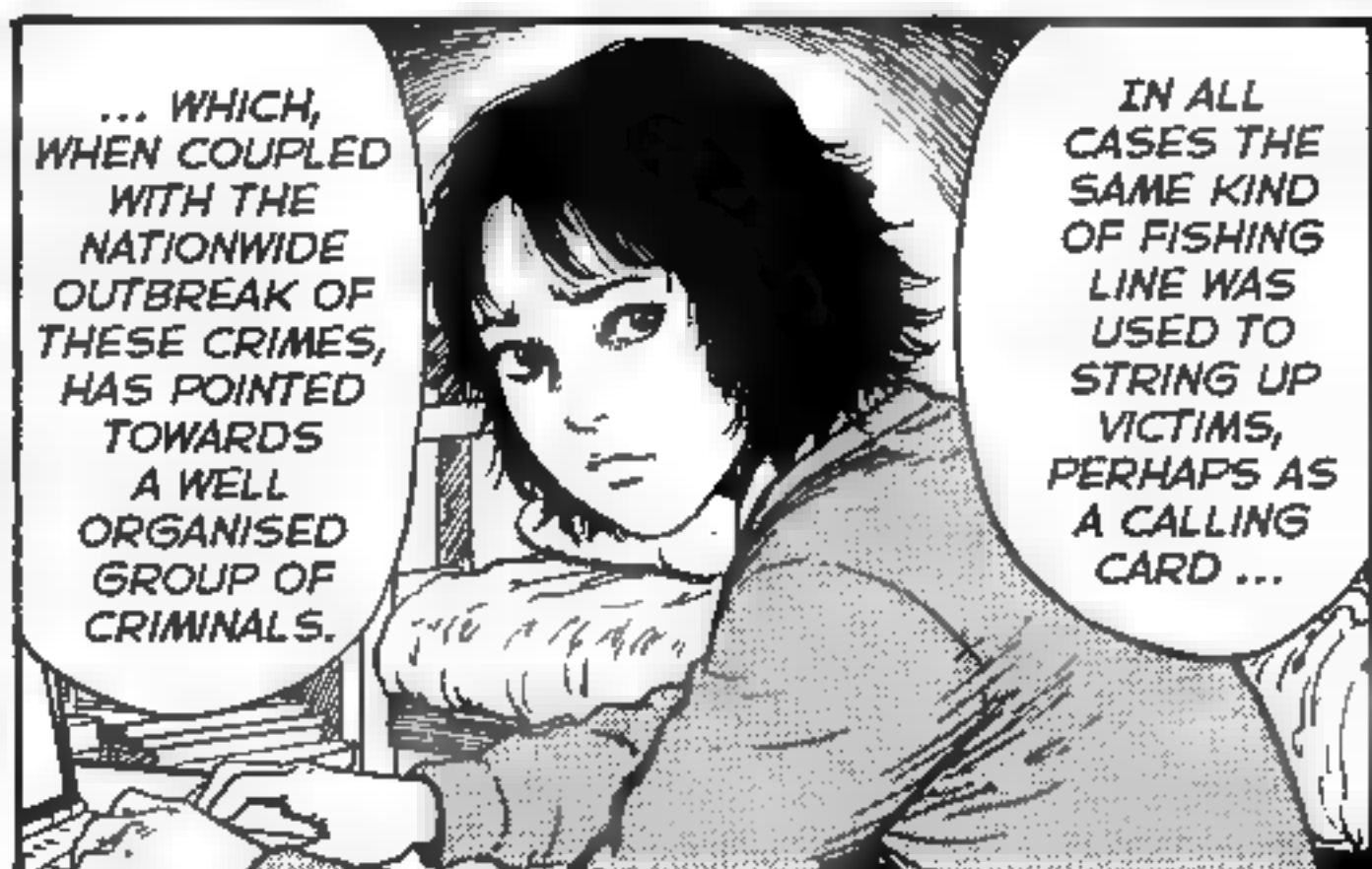
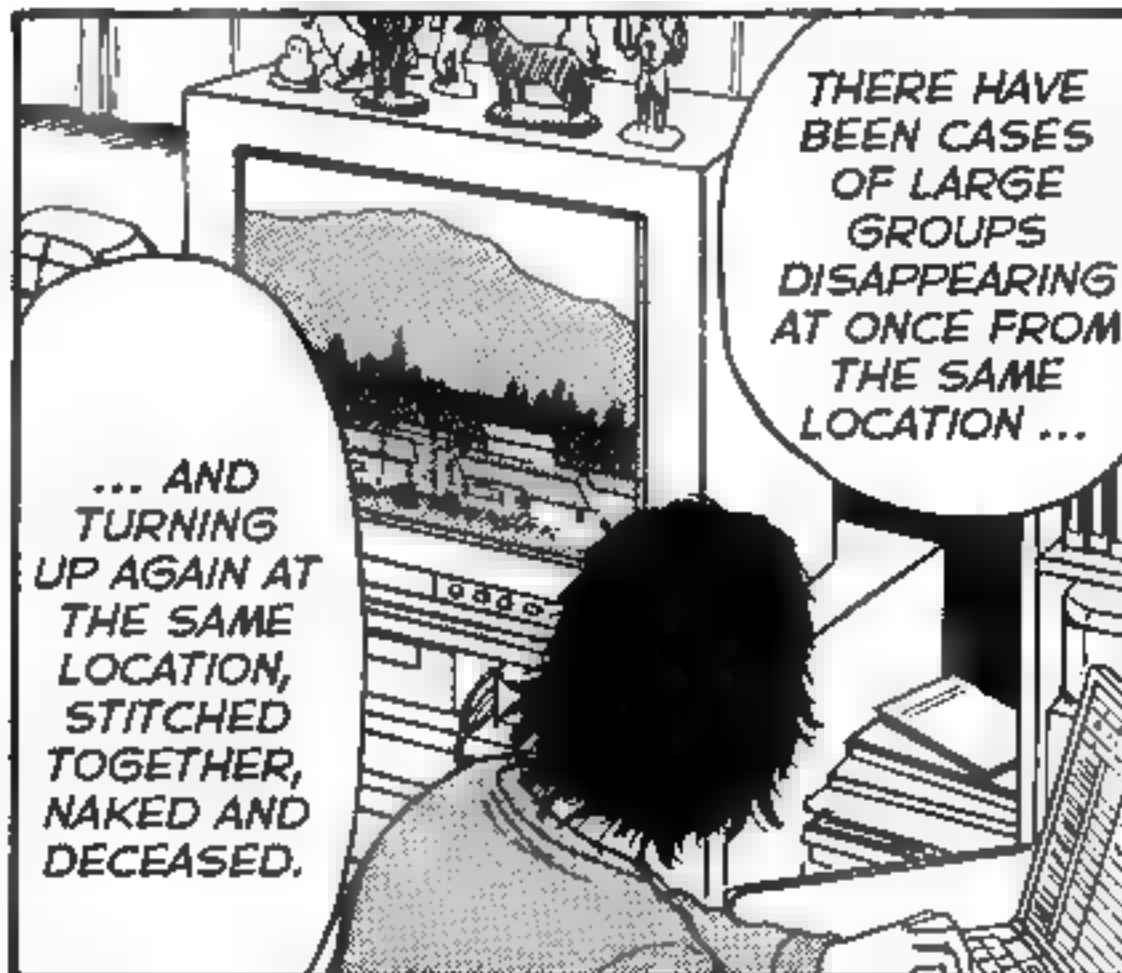
□ Michio> by the way - "army of one", ring any bell (11/21 - 13:08:58)

□ Anzu> thx (11/21 - 13:08:58)

□ Michio> sounds great, go for it (11/21 - 13:08:30)







- Anzu: just a rumor, so take it with a
- Anzu: stay away from crowded places.
- Anzu: then people inside big crowds ge
- Anzu: "army of one" is targeting place
- Anzu: only gonna mean more victims
- Michio: media's not reporting this one

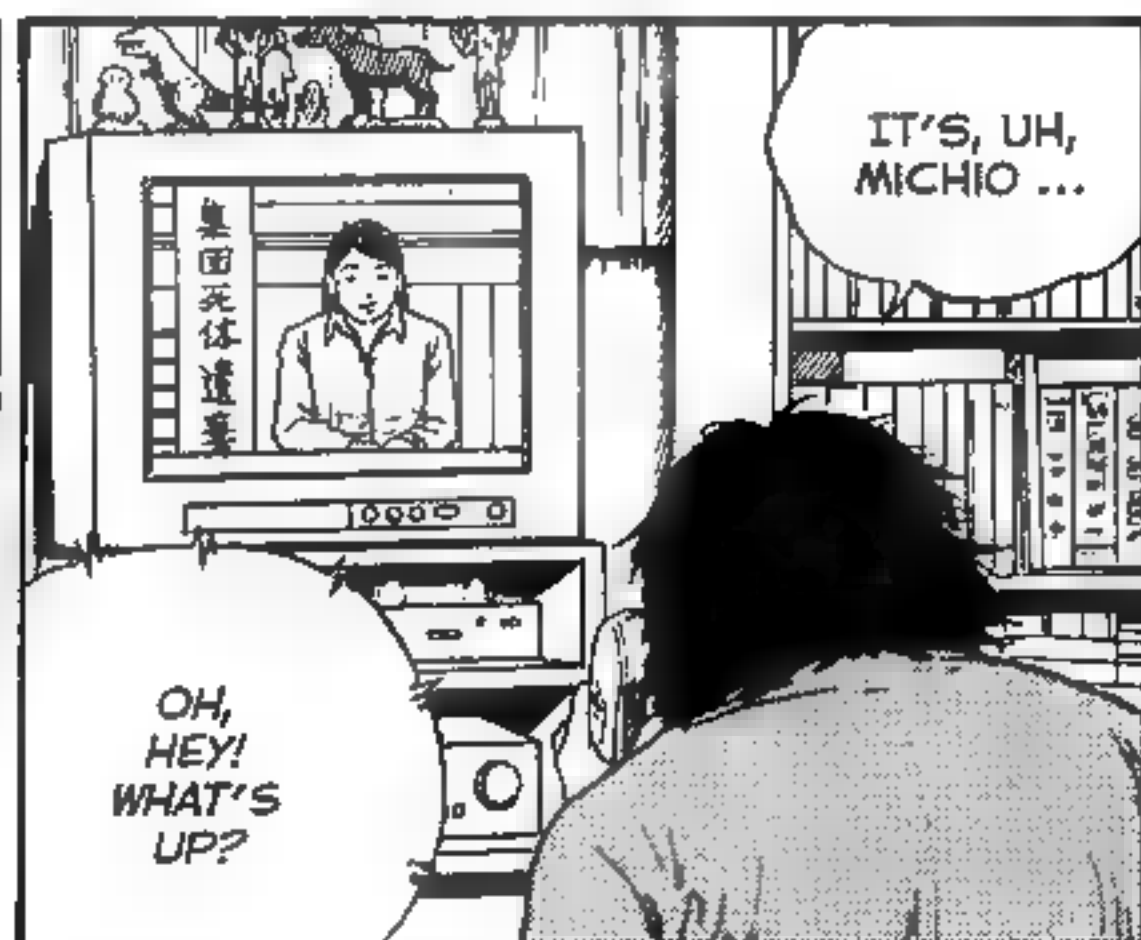
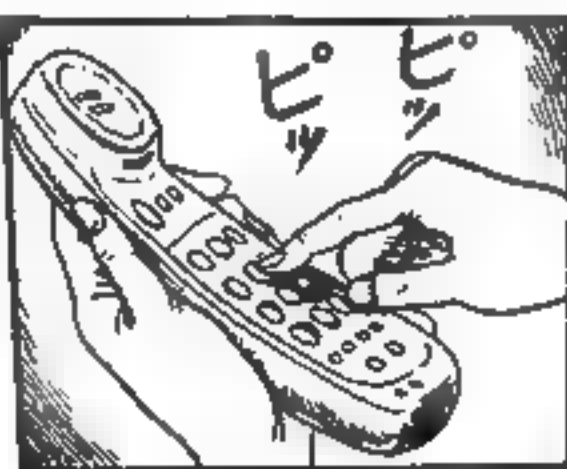
stay away from crowded places.

then people inside big crowds ge

"army of one" is targeting places

only gonna mean more victims







AND MICHIO ...
I THINK YOU
REALLY OUGHTA
BE THERE.

I SHOULD
TELL YOU ...
IT'S NOT JUST A
REUNION ANYMORE,
WE'RE ALSO IN
MOURNING FOR
KEISUKE. IT HAS
TO GO ON.

WELL,
NOT LIKE
I'M 100%,
BUT ...



...



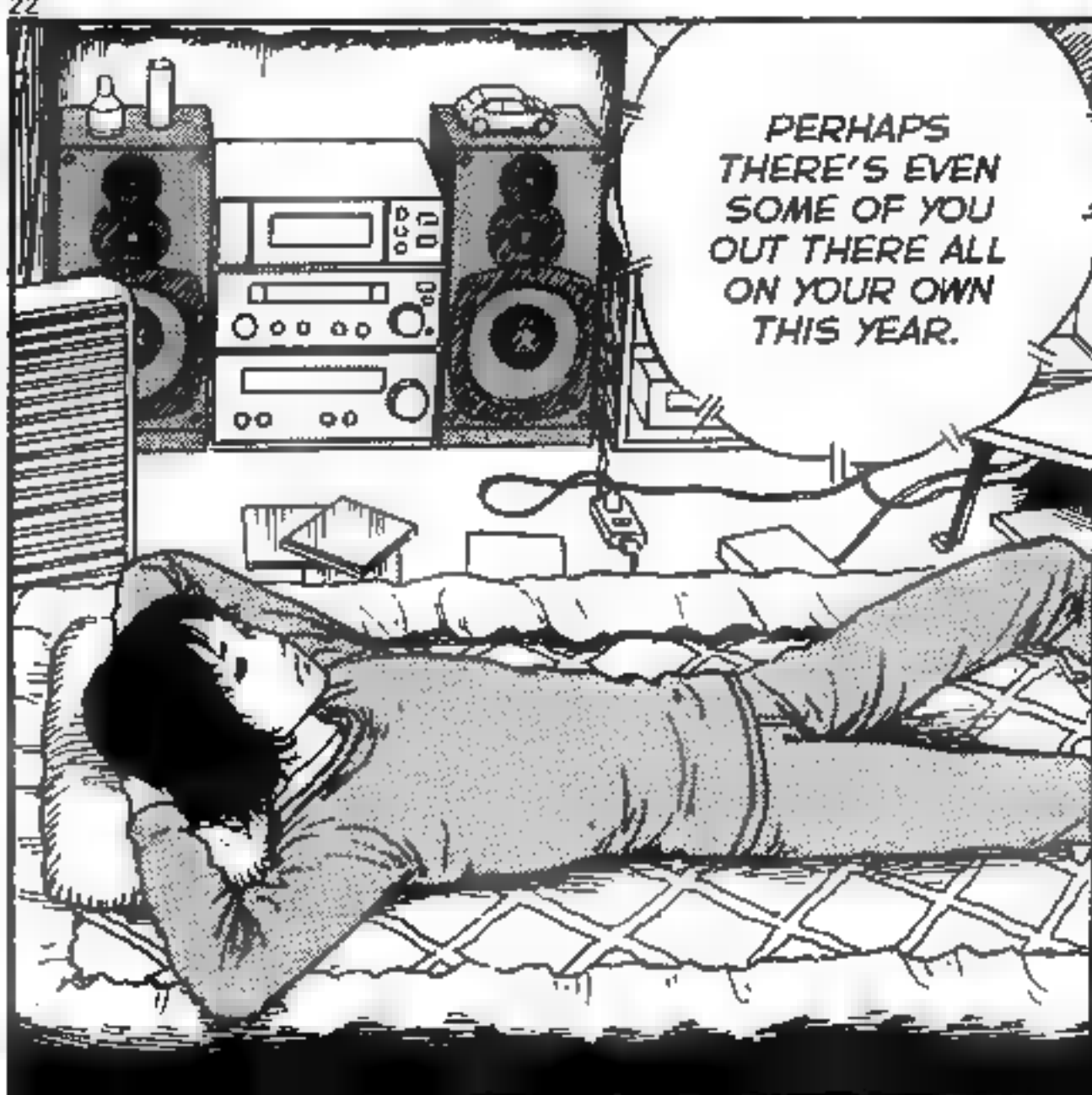
I'LL
THINK
ABOUT
IT.

UM ... YOU
KNOW ...
YEAH ...



FOLKS, THE
NEW YEAR'S
ALMOST ON
US BUT FOR
TONIGHT, HOPE
YOU'RE HAVING A
LOVELY CHRISTMAS
EVE WHEREVER
YOU ARE!

Jingle Bells,
Jingle Bells,
jingle alllll
the way!



PERHAPS
THERE'S EVEN
SOME OF YOU
OUT THERE ALL
ON YOUR OWN
THIS YEAR.



HOW
ARE YOU
SPENDING
YOUR EVE OUT
THERE? NEXT
TO THE ONE
YOU LOVE?

OR
PARTYING
IT UP WITH
YOUR
FRIENDS?



HUH?

RRRRR
EEEE



EEEE

RRRREE

THIS NEXT
ONE'S FOR
ALL OF YOU -
JOHN LENNON,
WISHIN' YOU
A HAPPY
CHRISTMAS
...

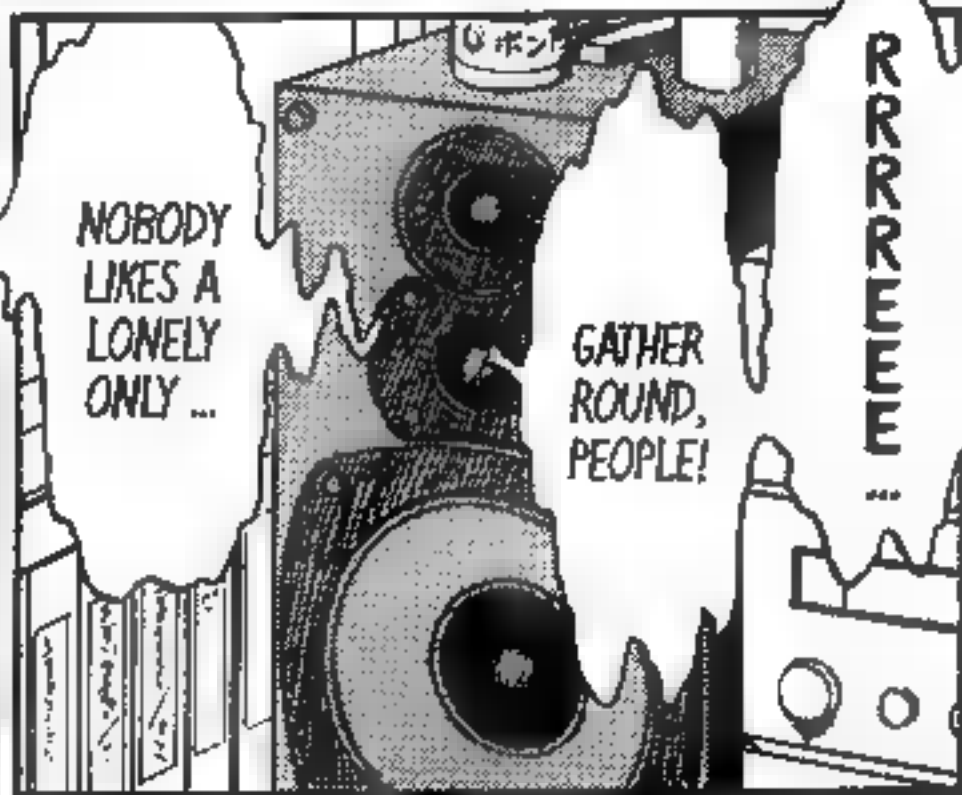


THIS AD
FREAKS
ME OUT
...

AGAIN?

SO
JOIN
HEARTS
AND
SING -

EVERYONE'S
YOUR
FRIEND,



NOBODY
LIKES A
LONELY
ONLY ...

GATHER
ROUND,
PEOPLE!

RRRREE



ARMY
OF ONE

EVERYBODY
JOIN
HEARTS
NOW

EVERYBODY
JOIN
HANDS
NOW

WE'RE
AN ARMY
OF ONE!

ARMY
OF ONE,



The
next
day

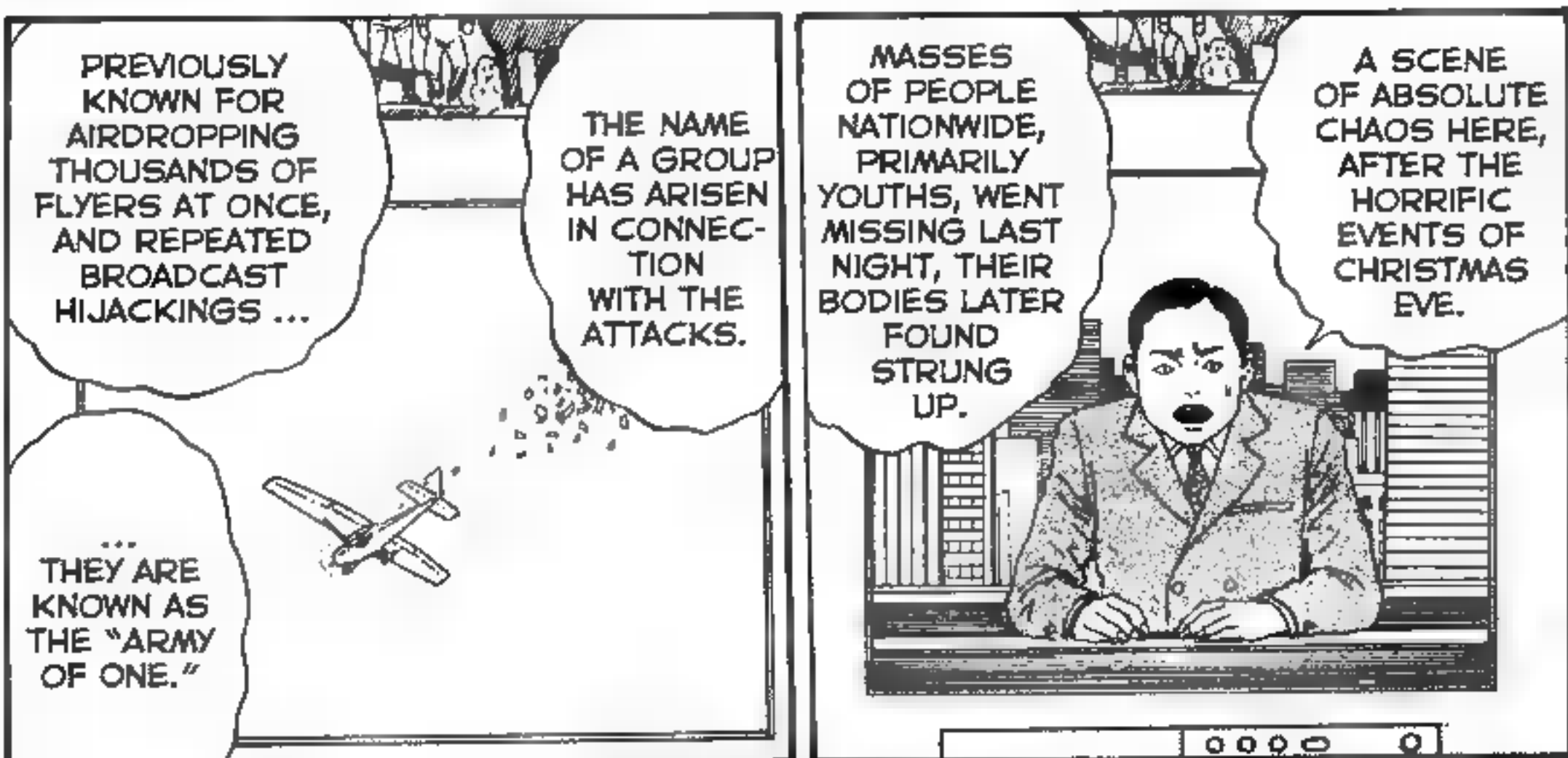
HOLY
FUCKING
SHIT!



EVERYBODY
JOIN
HEARTS
NOW ...

ARMY
OF ONE





PREVIOUSLY KNOWN FOR AIRDROPPING THOUSANDS OF FLYERS AT ONCE, AND REPEATED BROADCAST HIJACKINGS ...

THE NAME OF A GROUP HAS ARISEN IN CONNECTION WITH THE ATTACKS.

MASSSES OF PEOPLE NATIONWIDE, PRIMARILY YOUTHS, WENT MISSING LAST NIGHT, THEIR BODIES LATER FOUND STRUNG UP.

A SCENE OF ABSOLUTE CHAOS HERE, AFTER THE HORRIFIC EVENTS OF CHRISTMAS EVE.

... THEY ARE KNOWN AS THE "ARMY OF ONE."



ALL THAT SEEMS CERTAIN FOR NOW IS THAT THE GROUP ARE TARGETING CROWDS AND PLACES THAT MIGHT ATTRACT THEM.

THE POLICE AND THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUREAU HAVE LAUNCHED A JOINT INVESTIGATION INTO THE GROUP, BUT AT THE TIME OF THIS REPORTING THEY REMAIN A MYSTERY.



WHAT'S EVEN STRANGER IS THAT THE VICTIMS SUSTAINED NO VISIBLE INJURIES, OR EVEN SIGNS OF A STRUGGLE.

YOU CAN'T TELL ME THAT EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WENT DOWN WITHOUT A FIGHT ...

... HOW CAN THEY HAVE POSSIBLY CARRIED OUT CRIMES ON THIS SCALE, IN SUCH A SHORT TIME, AND GOTTEN AWAY WITH IT?

LOOK, I DON'T CARE HOW BIG AND ORGANISED THIS "ARMY OF ONE" IS ...

IT'S OFFICIALLY NO LONGER SAFE TO GATHER IN GROUPS.

IN ANY CASE, WE'RE ALL GOING TO HAVE TO BE EXTRA CAREFUL FROM HERE ON.

THINK ABOUT IT - THE ARMY OF ONE IS SOME KIND OF SHIP OF EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL ORIGIN. IT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING.

THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE FORCES AT WORK HERE BEYOND OUR UNDERSTANDING.

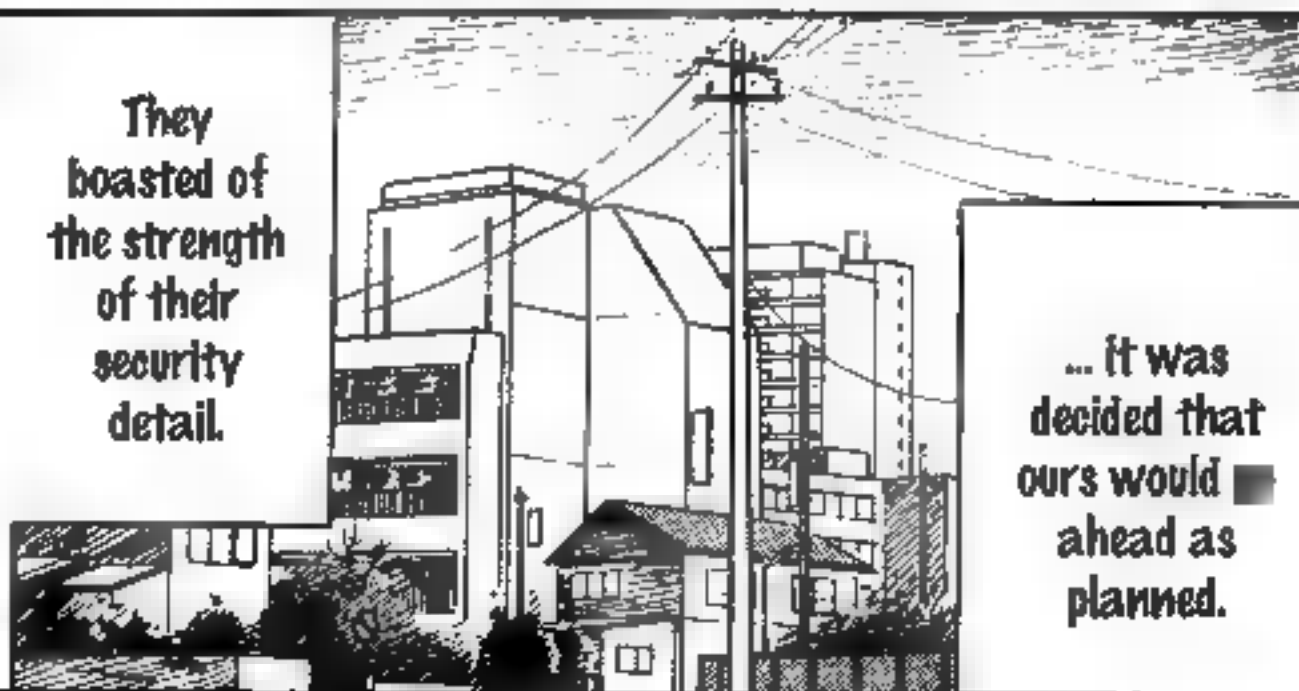


They boasted of the strength of their security detail.

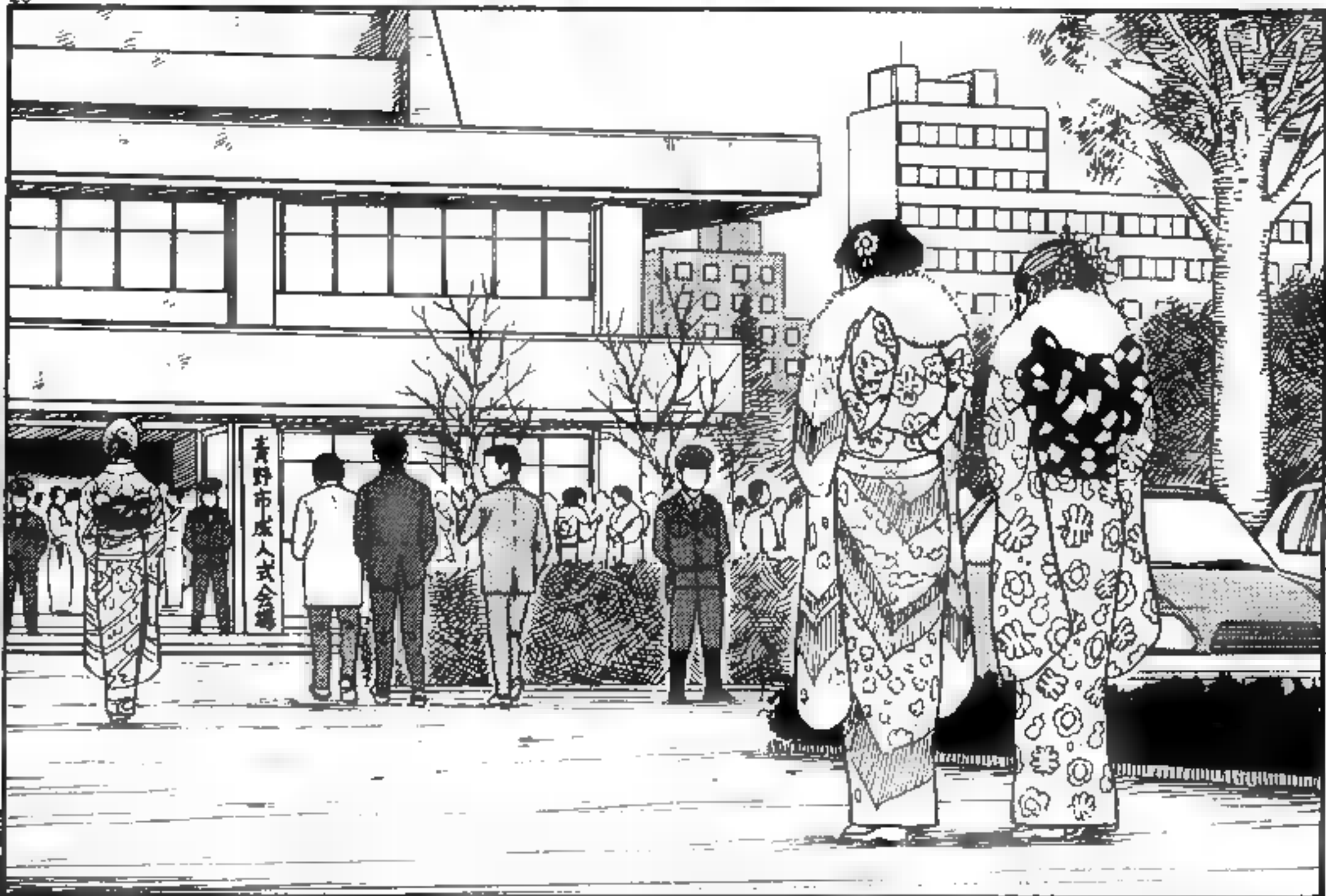
And after all, the participants themselves wanted it - the ones coming of age.

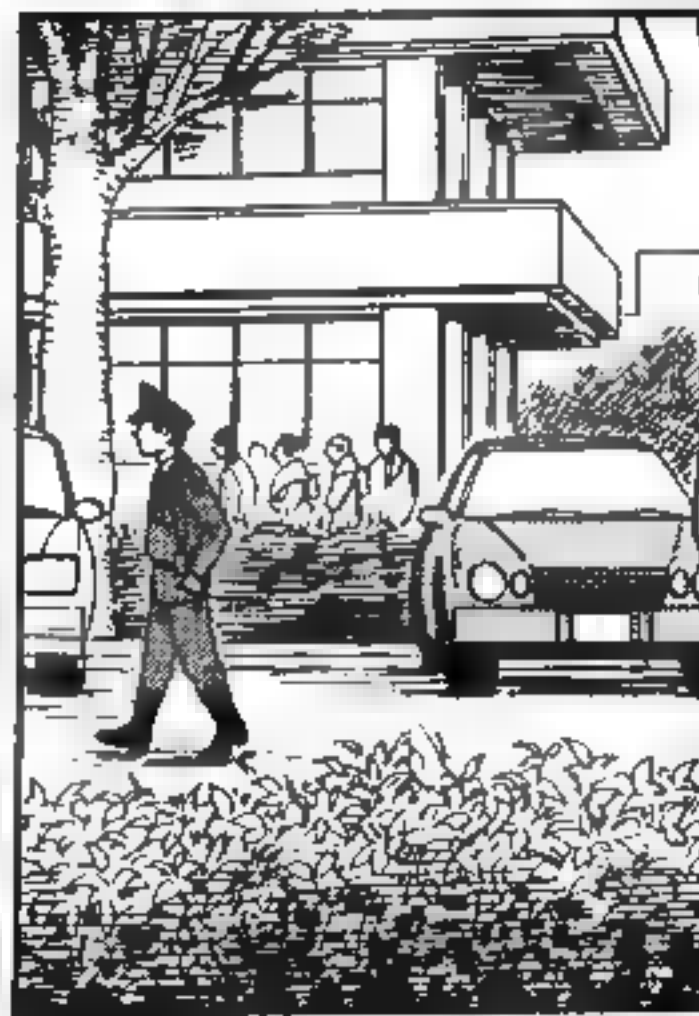
... it was decided that ours would go ahead as planned.

As local councils over the country cancelled and postponed their coming of age ceremonies ...



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HEY!
HOLD IT
RIGHT
THERE!



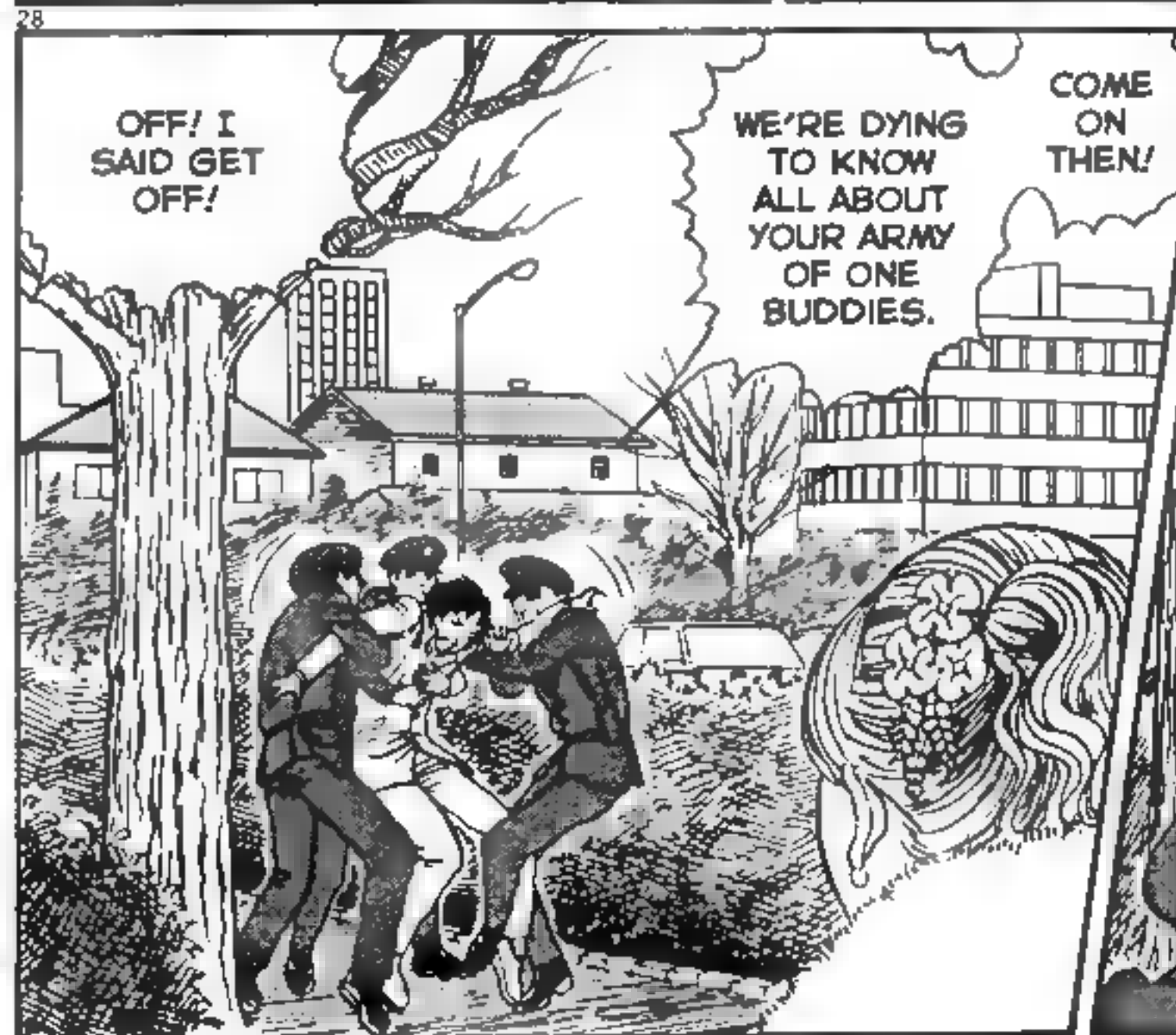
YOU'RE
AWFUL
SUSPICIOUS
IS WHAT YOU
ARE. YOU'RE
COMING
WITH ME.

NO,
I'M
JUST,
UH ...



SOME-
THING
TO
HIDE?

WHAT'S
YOUR
HURRY?



OFF! I
SAID GET
OFF!

WE'RE DYING
TO KNOW
ALL ABOUT
YOUR ARMY
OF ONE
BUDDIES.

COME
ON
THEN!



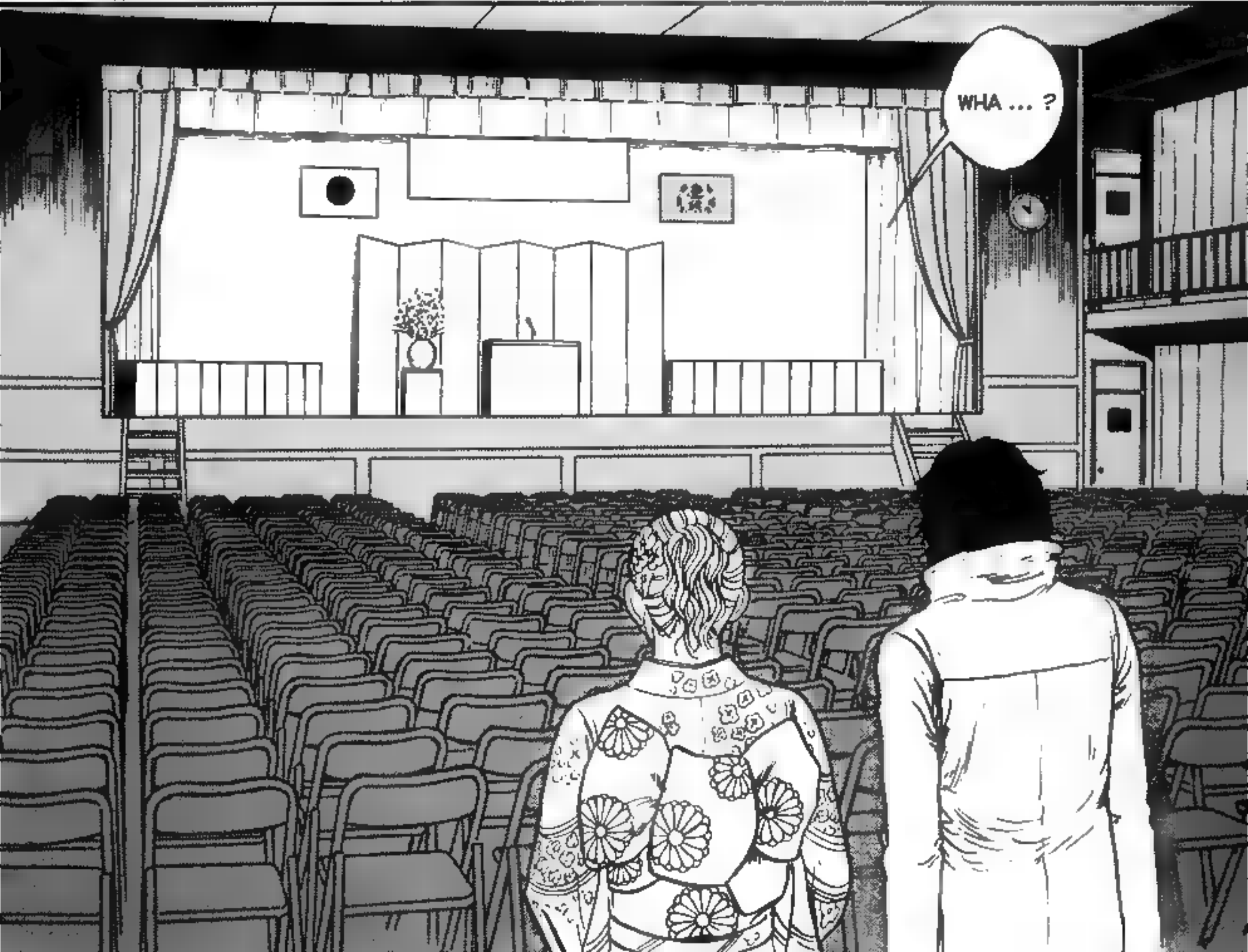
GET
OFF ME!
I'M IN THE
CEREMONY!

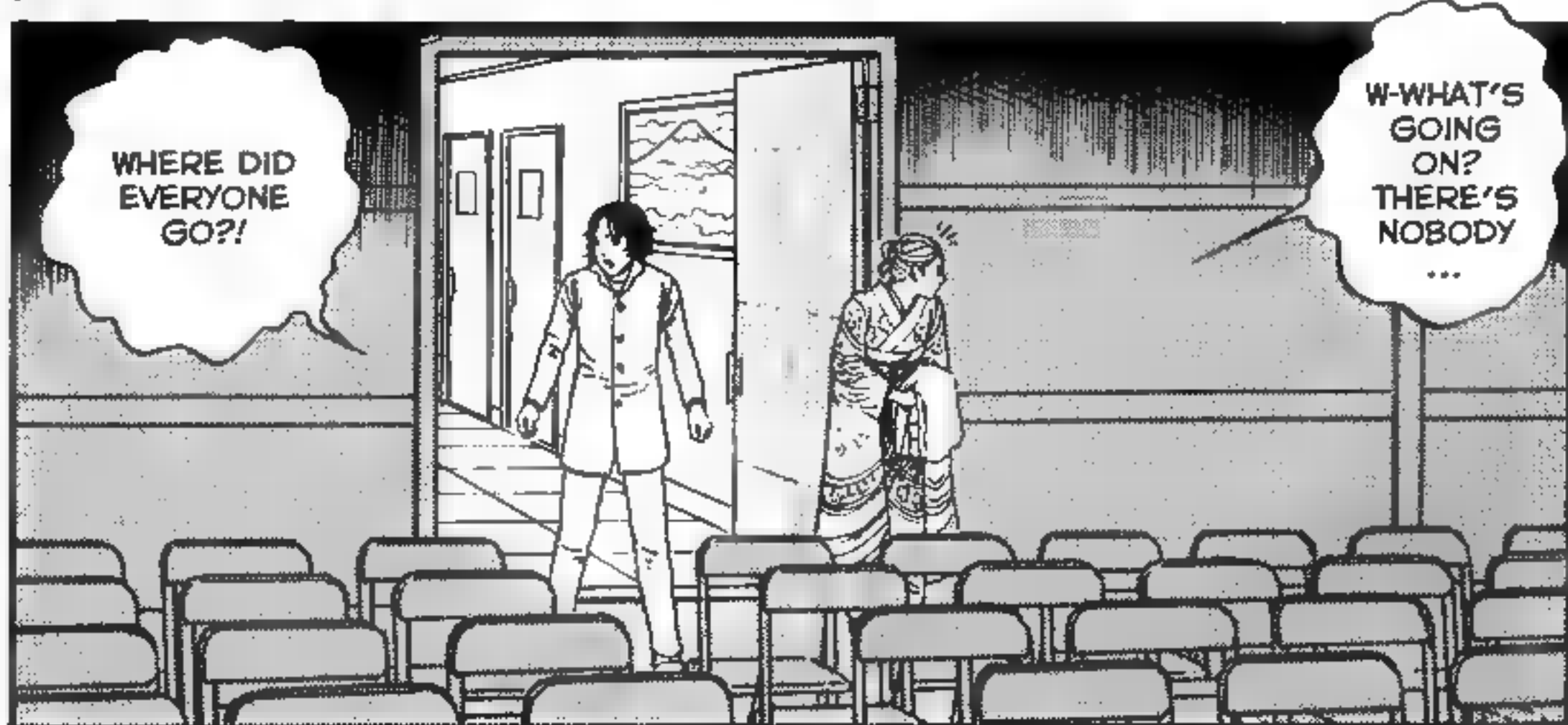
THERE
AIN'T NO
CEREMONY
HERE IN THE
DARK DOWN
BY THE
BUSHES,
PAL!

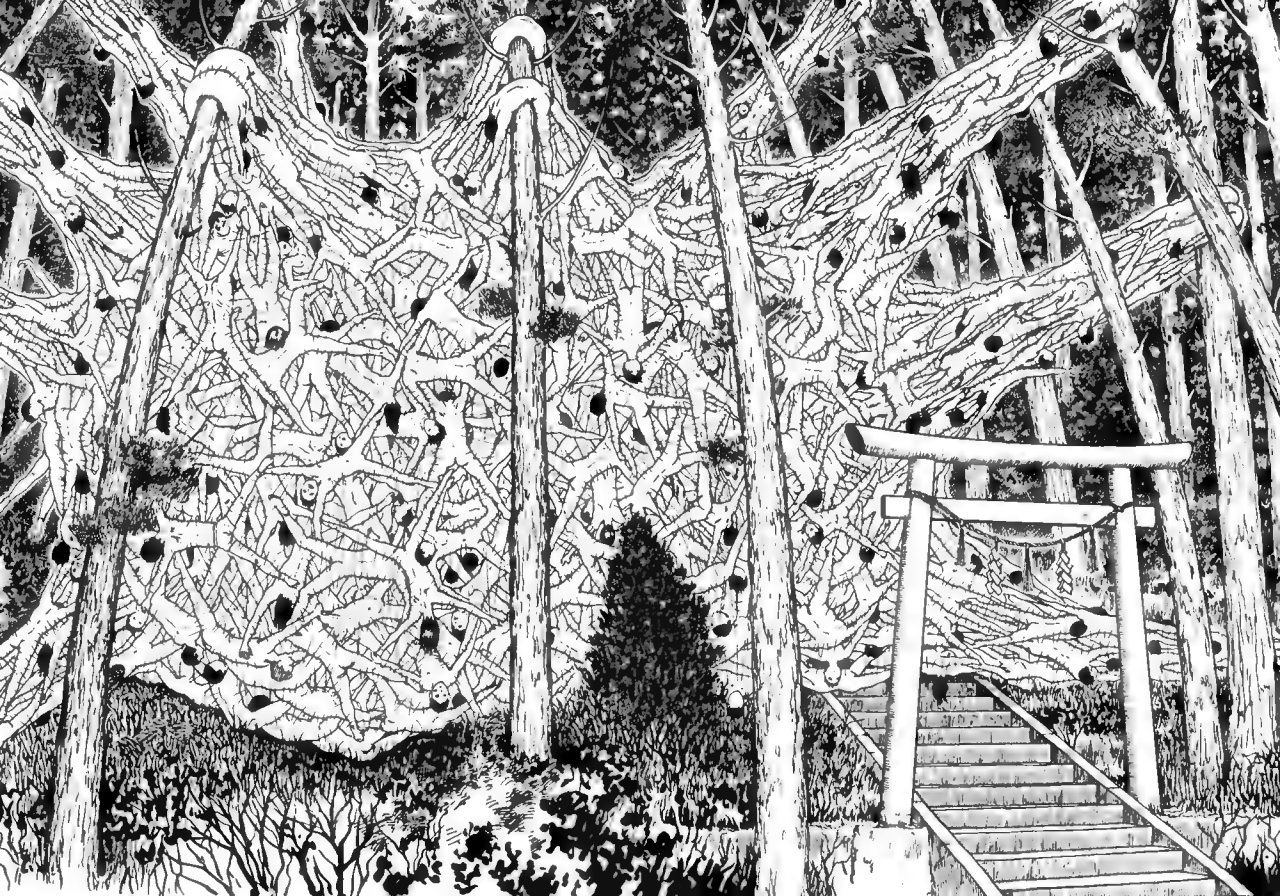




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And mothers
wept at the
doors of their
sons.

Couples
slept in
separate
rooms.

They instead
retired to their
own dwellings,
and spent their
days alone.

From that point
on, people gradually
began ■ avoid
congregating
outdoors.

...
AH,
HELLO.

IS
THAT
NAT-
SUKO?

I'M
DOING A BIT
BETTER, BUT ...
I'VE LOST THE
WILL TO DO
ANYTHING.

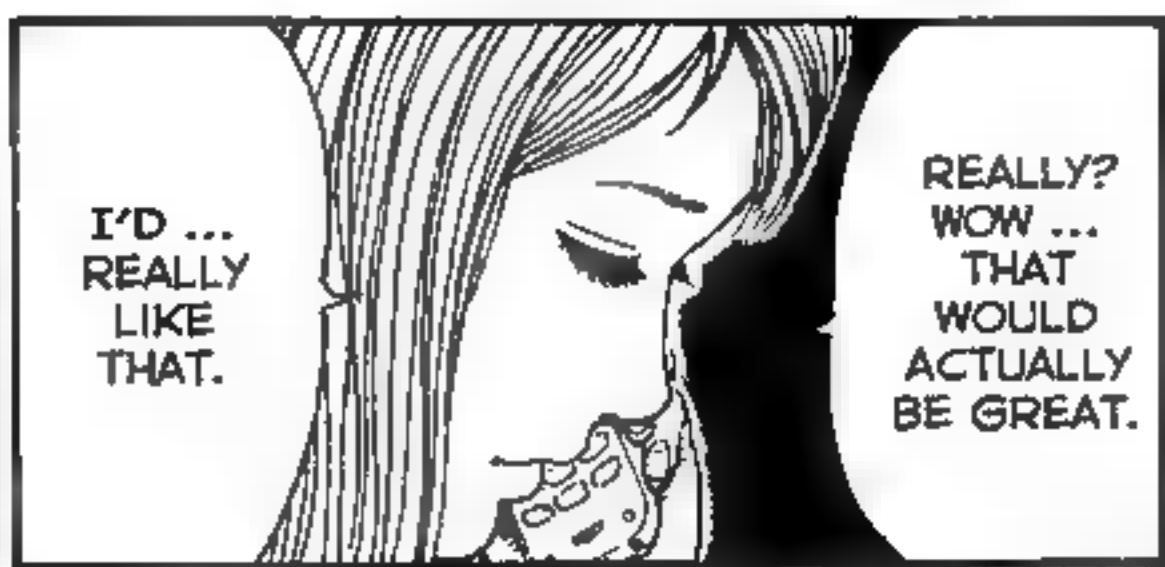
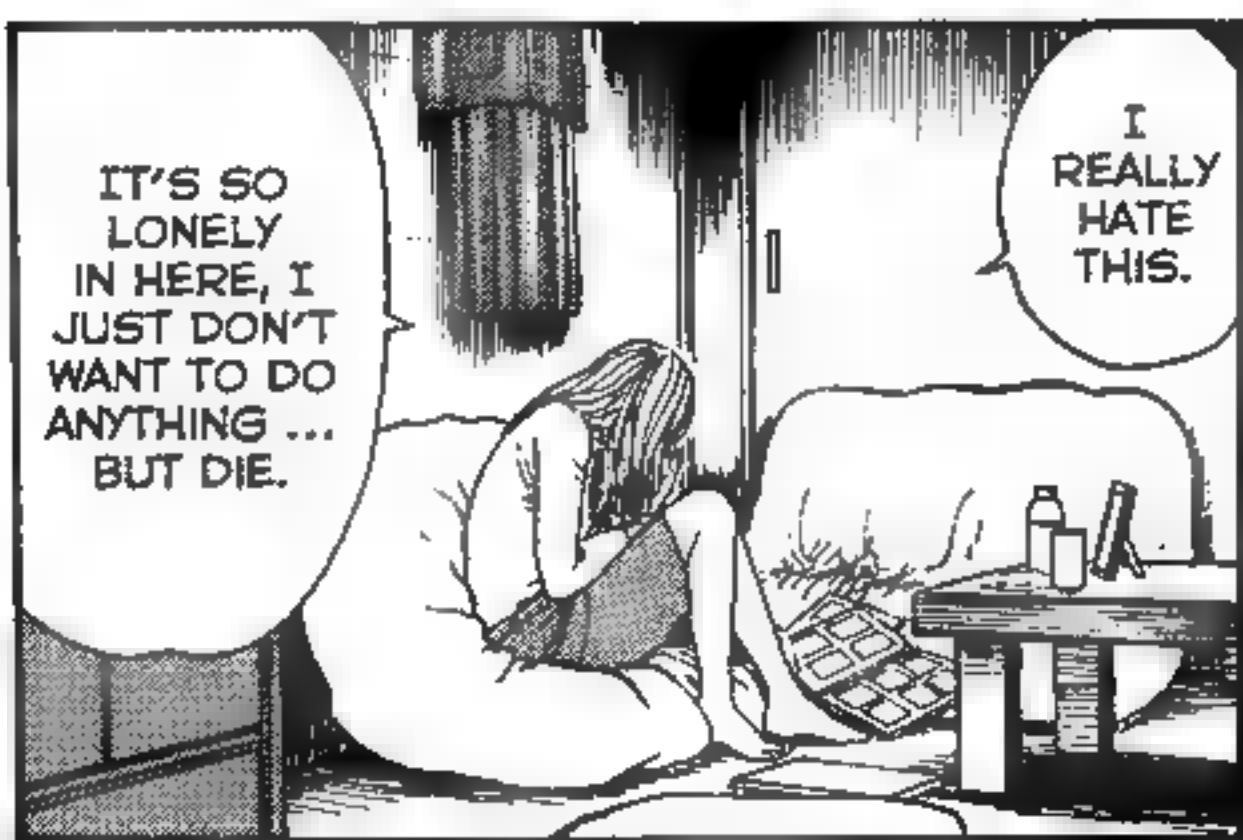
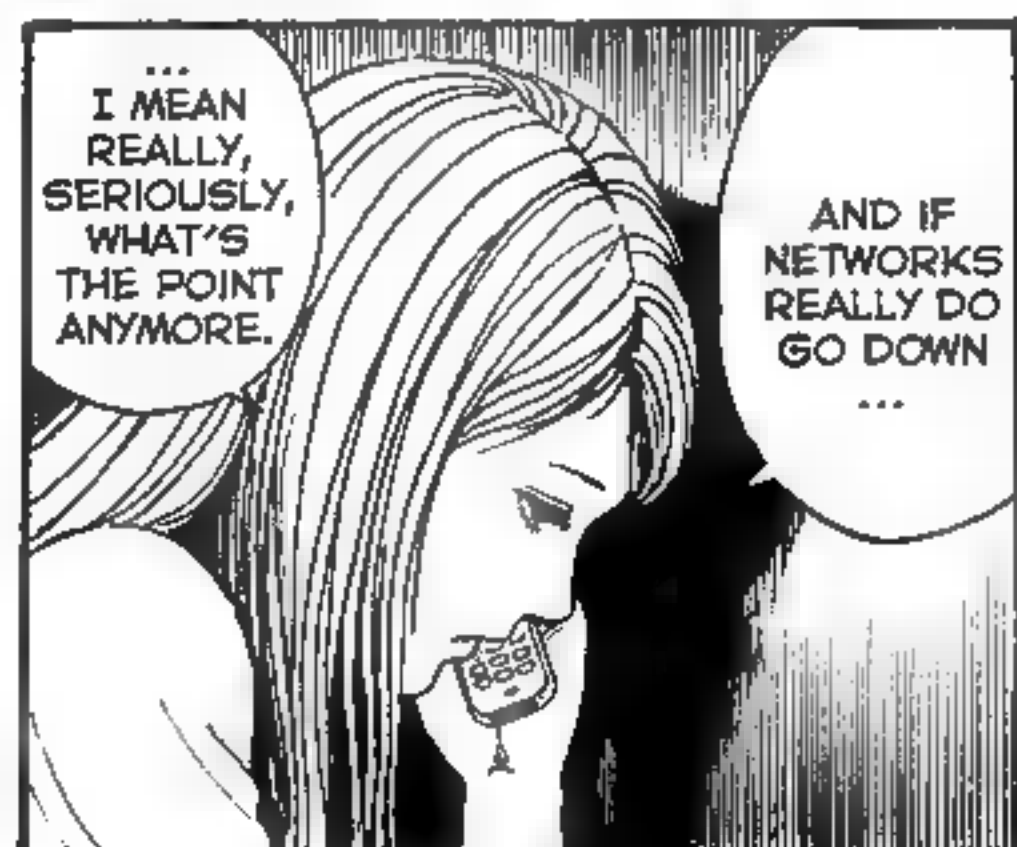
NOW
NORIYUKI'S
GONE, I
JUST DON'T
SEE ...

... ALSO,
THE WHOLE
COUNTRY'S IN
A MESS NOW.
THEY'RE SAYING
THE PHONES
MIGHT BE OUT
ANYDAY NOW ...

...
JUST WONDER-
ING IF
YOU WERE
HOLDING
UP ANY
BETTER
...

GOTCHA
...
THANKS.

THOUGHT
I'D CHECK
UP ON YOU
BEFORE
ANYTHING
LIKE THAT.





OH.
TAKE
CARE ...

I'M
GOING
OUT FOR
A BIT.



WHAT
IS IT?

DON'T
COME IN!



MOM?

MOM,
ARE
YOU
AWAKE?



... that honestly,
I didn't care
if we ended up
stitched together
and dead.

Wanted
to see her
so bad ...

The only thing
I wanted was
to see Natsuko
Horte.



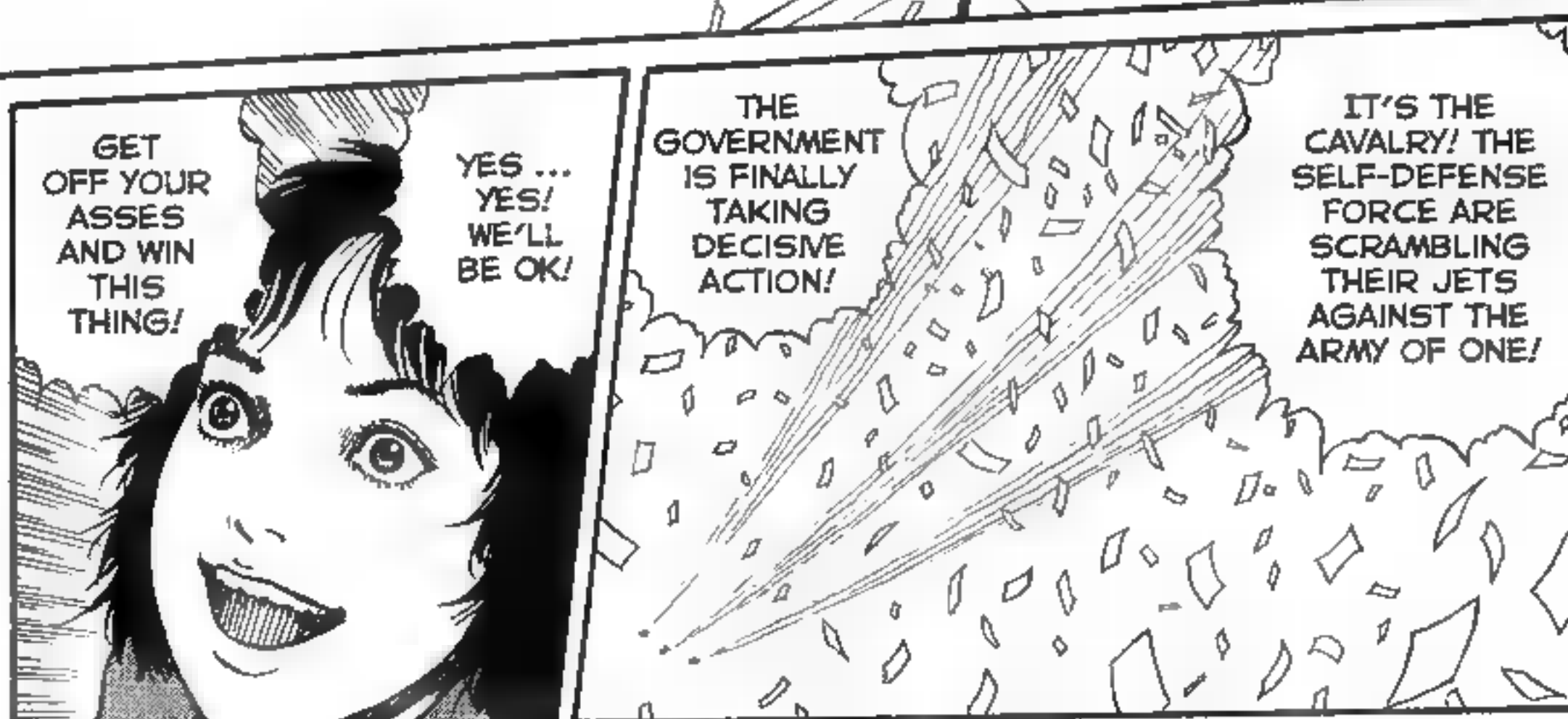
The whole
place was a
ghost town.

ALL
TOGETHER NOW!
NOBODY LIKES
A LONELY ONLY
...

GATHER
ROUND, PEOPLE

EVERYBODY
JOIN HEARTS
NOW ...

EVERYBODY
JOIN HANDS
NOW ...



GET
OFF YOUR
ASSES
AND WIN
THIS
THING!

YES ...
YES!
WE'LL
BE OK!

THE
GOVERNMENT
IS FINALLY
TAKING
DECISIVE
ACTION!

IT'S THE
CAVALRY! THE
SELF-DEFENSE
FORCE ARE
SCRAMBLING
THEIR JETS
AGAINST THE
ARMY OF ONE!

38



...
AND
ONE
MORE
THING.

I GOTTA
TELL HER
THAT ...

I GOTTA
TELL
NATSUKO!

IT'S
GONNA
TURN
OUT OK
...





WE
ARE
ONE
...

LIL'
LILLY
...

DADDY
...

MOMMY
...

40



WE'RE
AN ARMY
OF ONE.

ARMY
OF
ONE
...



NAT-
SU-
KO
...

NA -

ゴオオオオ

THE END

HELLSTAR REMINA

Big Comics

by Junji Ito

Translated by Daniel Lau

Edited by naereid

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禍々しくも、美しい

まがまが

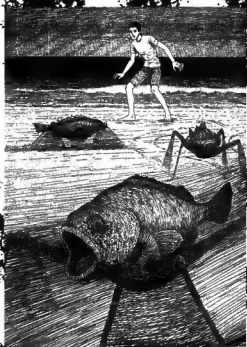


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