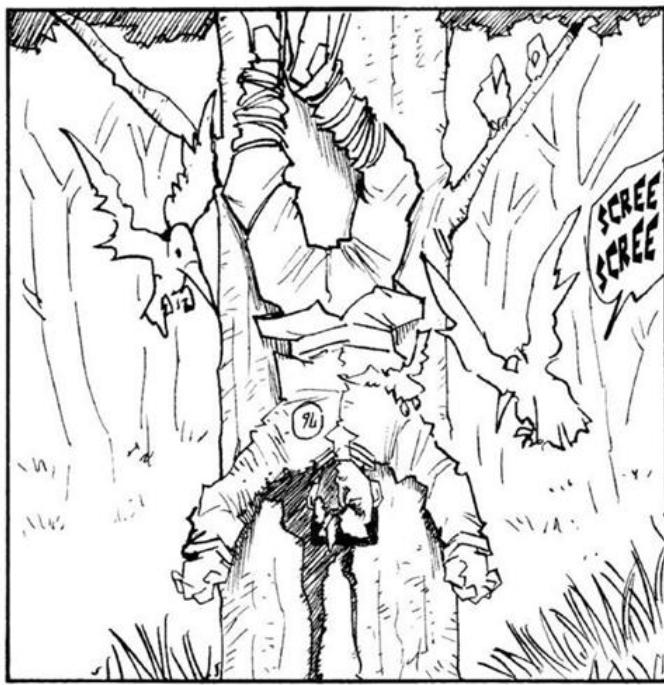
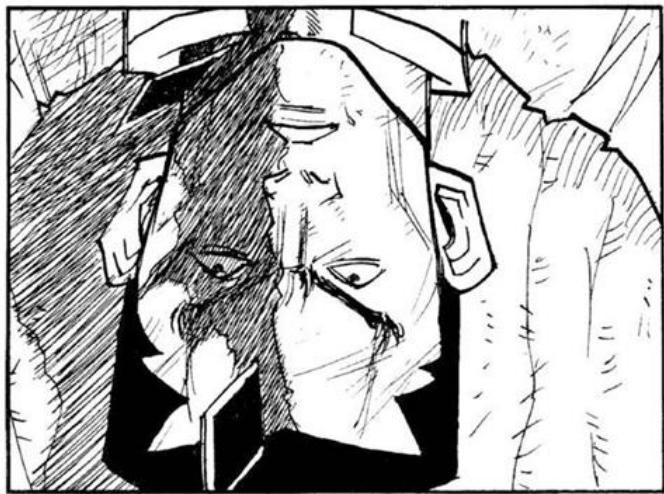
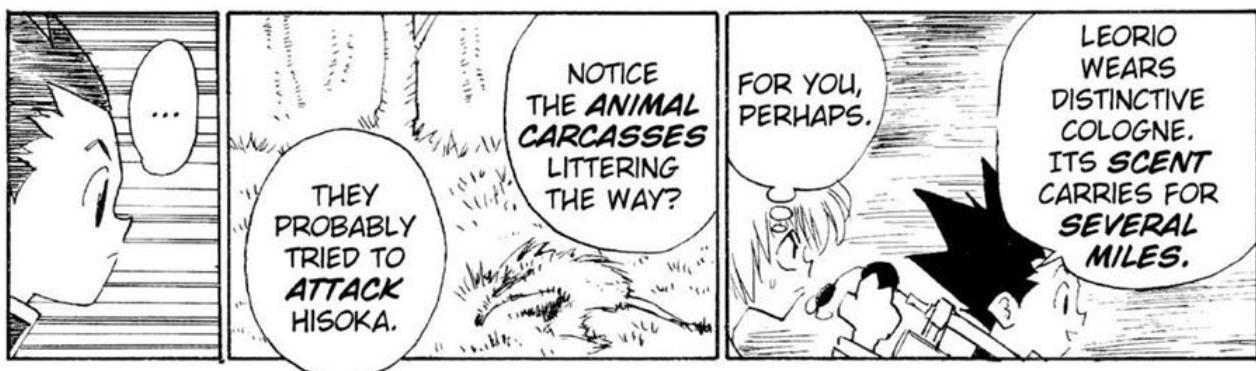


**Chapter 10**

# **An Unexpected Task**





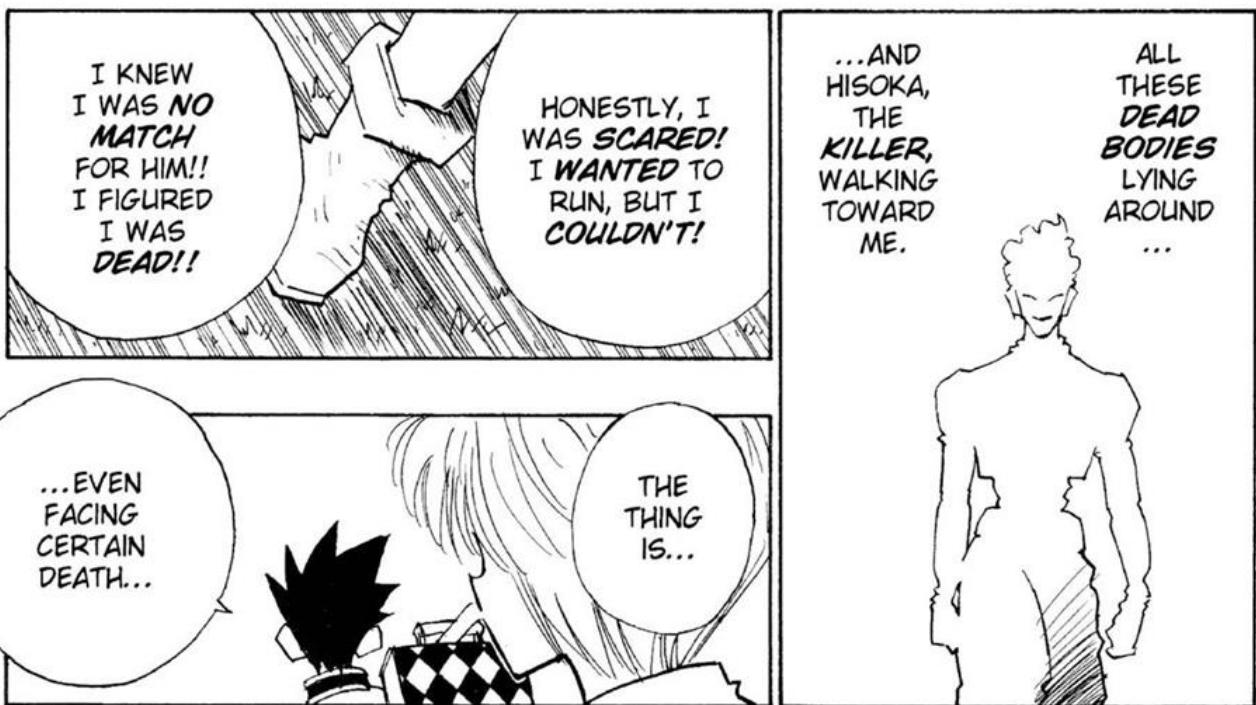
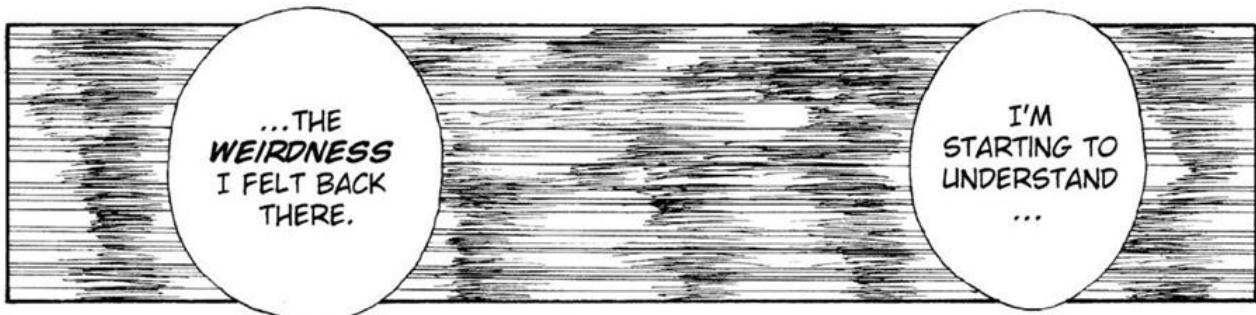


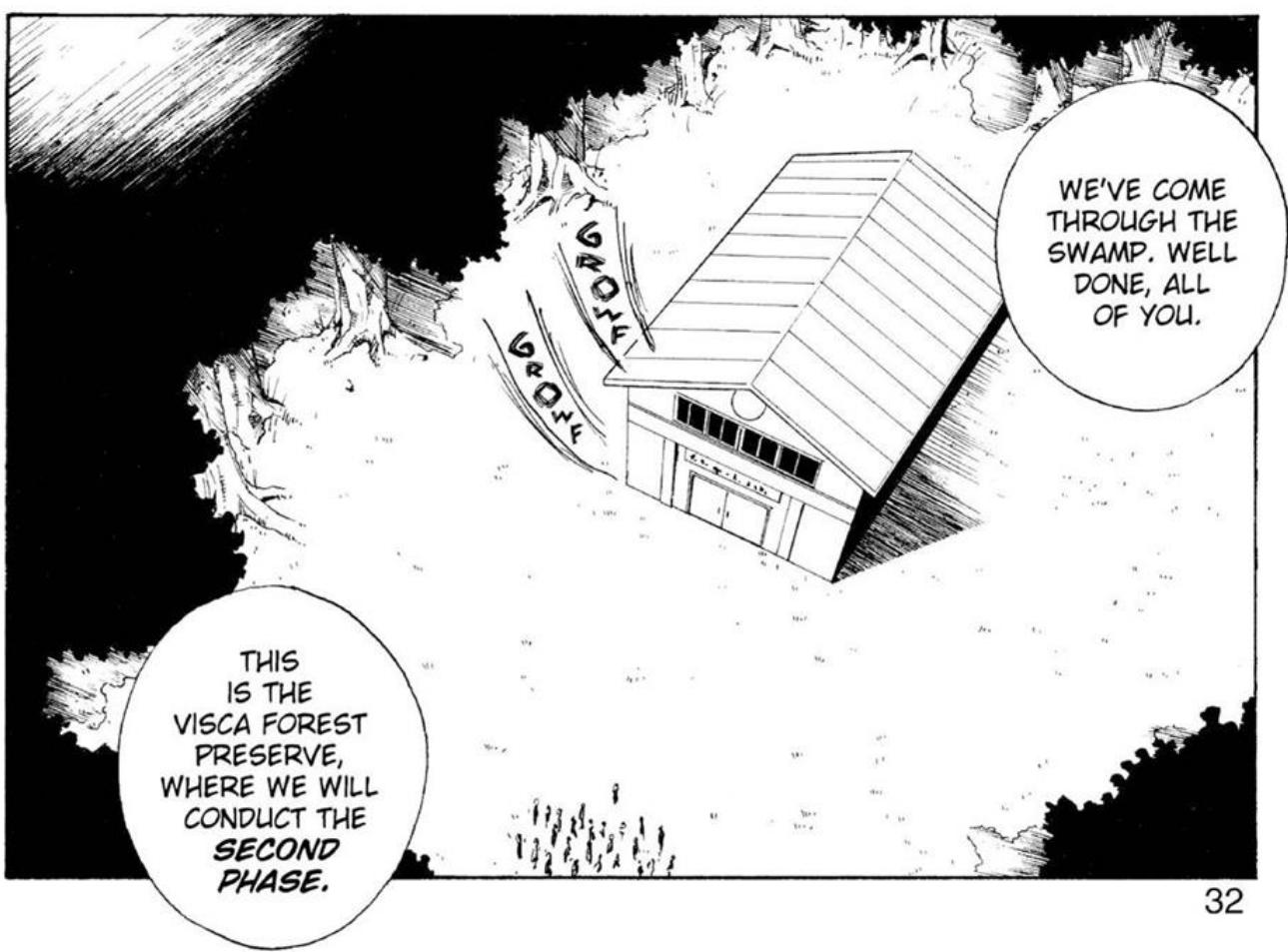


WITH HIS  
INTUITION AND  
EXPERIENCE, HE  
MAY VERY WELL  
HAVE PICKED UP  
ON YOUR POTENTIAL  
AND DEEMED IT  
WORTHY.



...AND THOSE  
WITH UNIQUE  
ABILITIES OFTEN  
SENSE SUCH  
THINGS IN  
OTHERS.







WE HAVE AN EXCEPTIONAL BATCH OF APPLICANTS THIS YEAR.

ABOUT 150 CAME THROUGH THE FIRST PHASE... FRANKLY, I WAS FIGURING ON LESS THAN 100.

...MAY DWINDLE TO 50 OR LESS-- FAR LESS-- DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

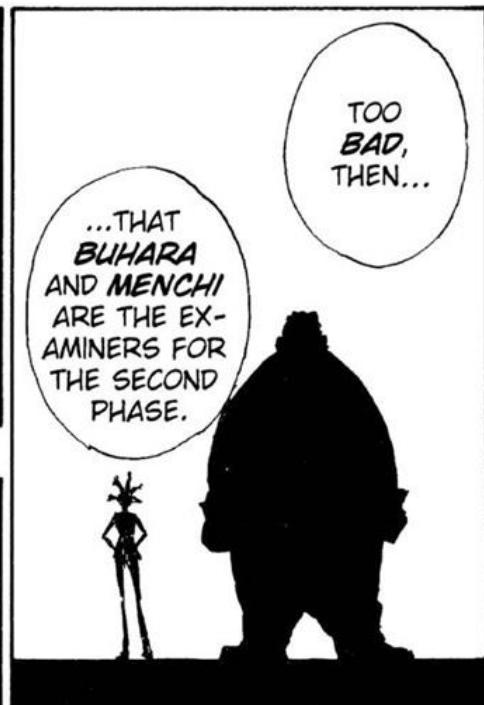
EXCEPTIONAL OR NOT, THIS GROUP...

TOO BAD, THEN...

...THAT BUHARA AND MENCHI ARE THE EXAMINERS FOR THE SECOND PHASE.

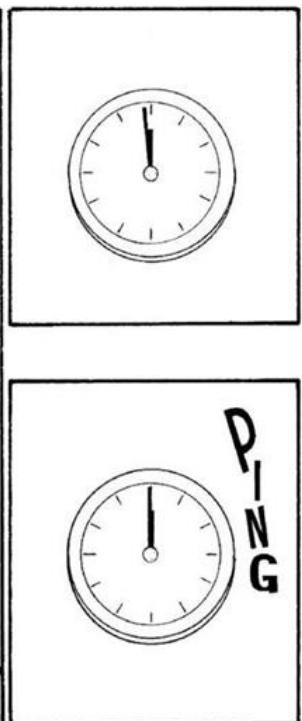
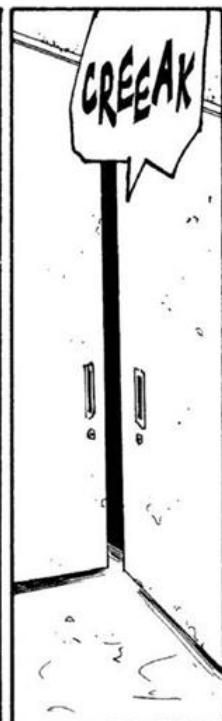
...I'LL STAY AND WATCH.

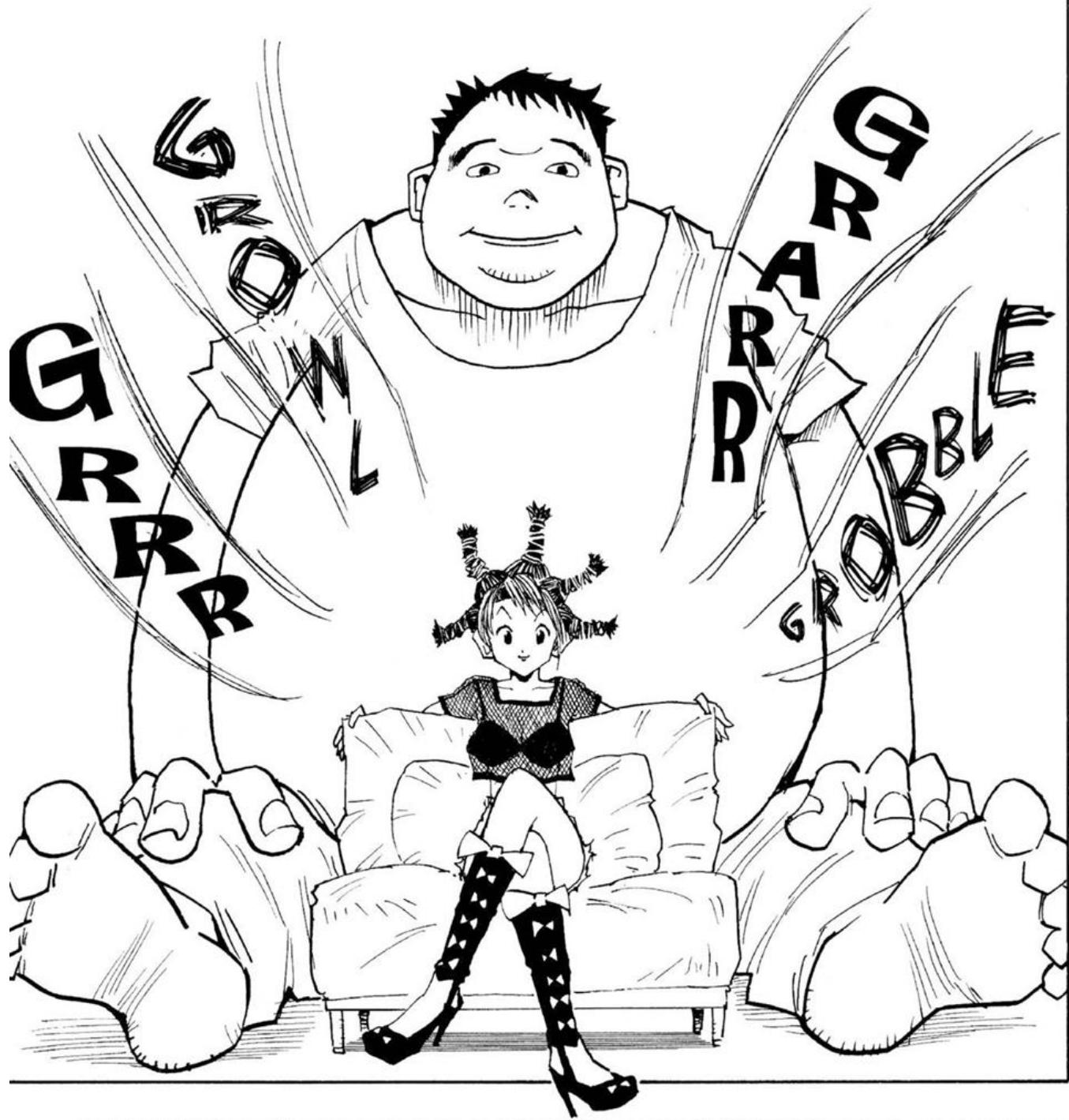
PERHAPS ...

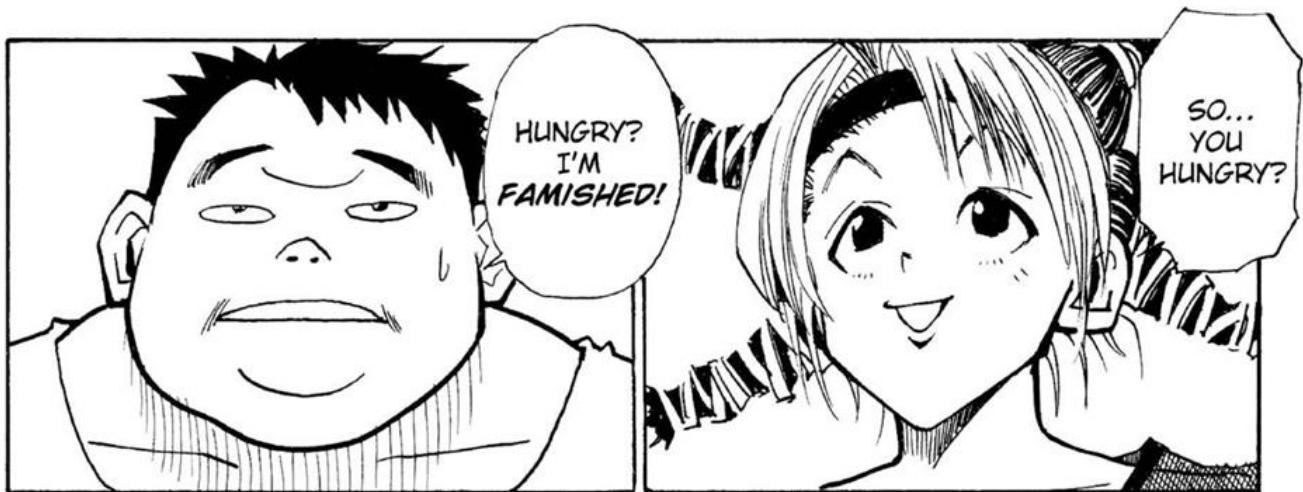


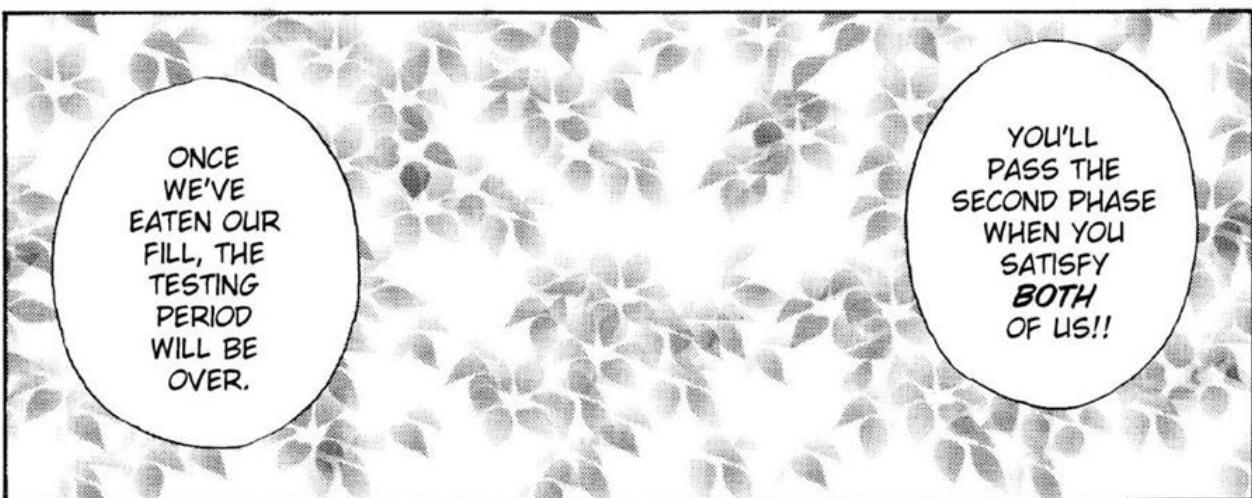
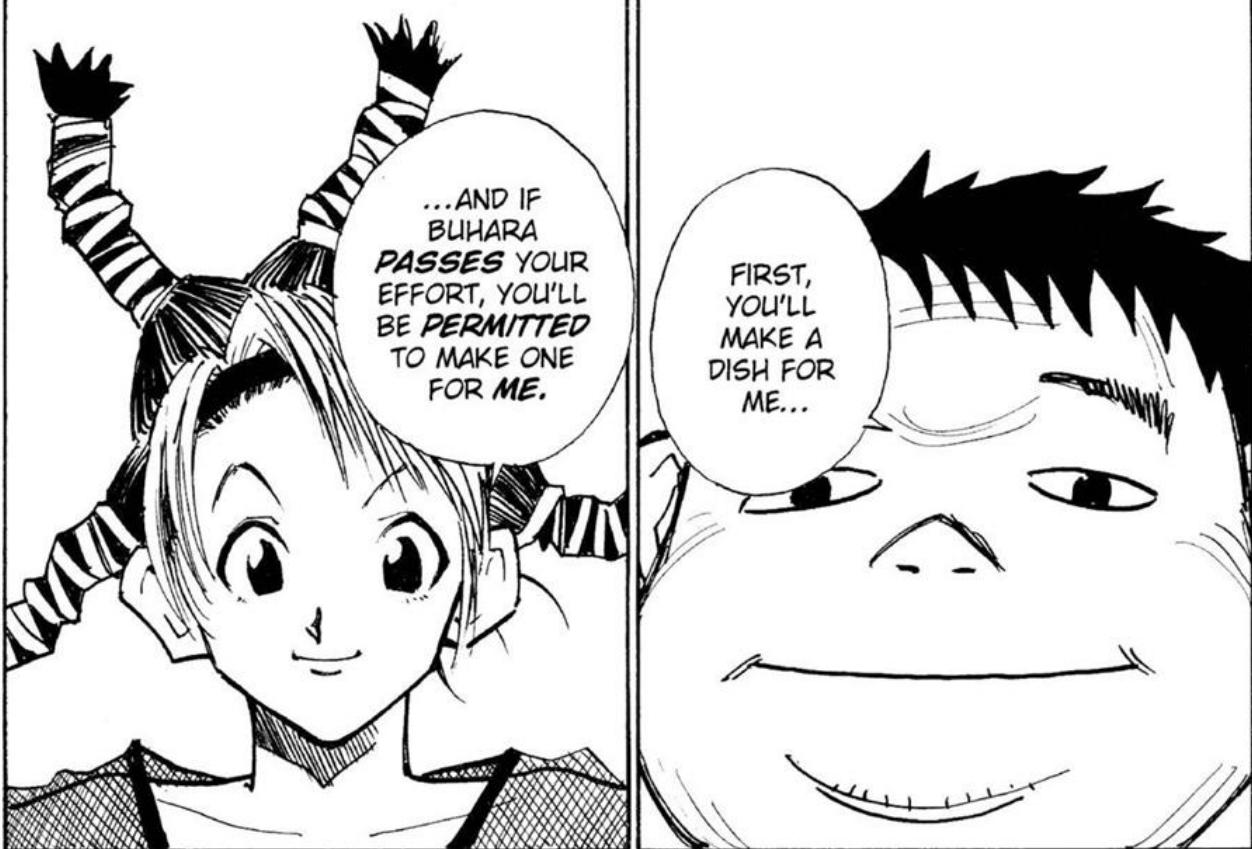




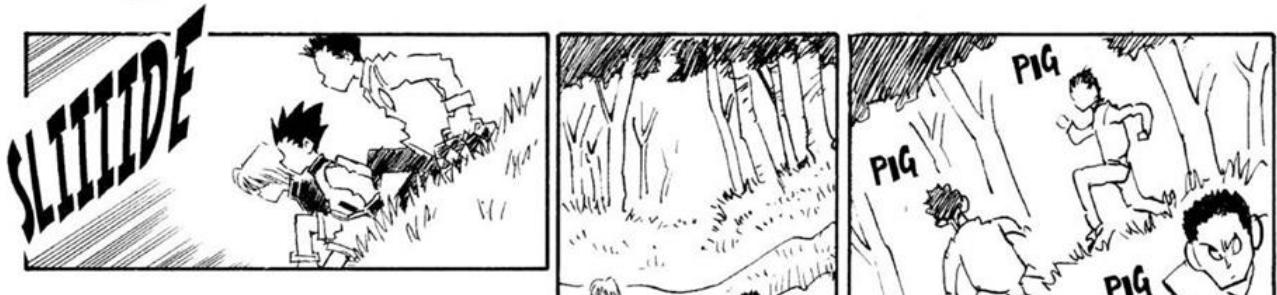




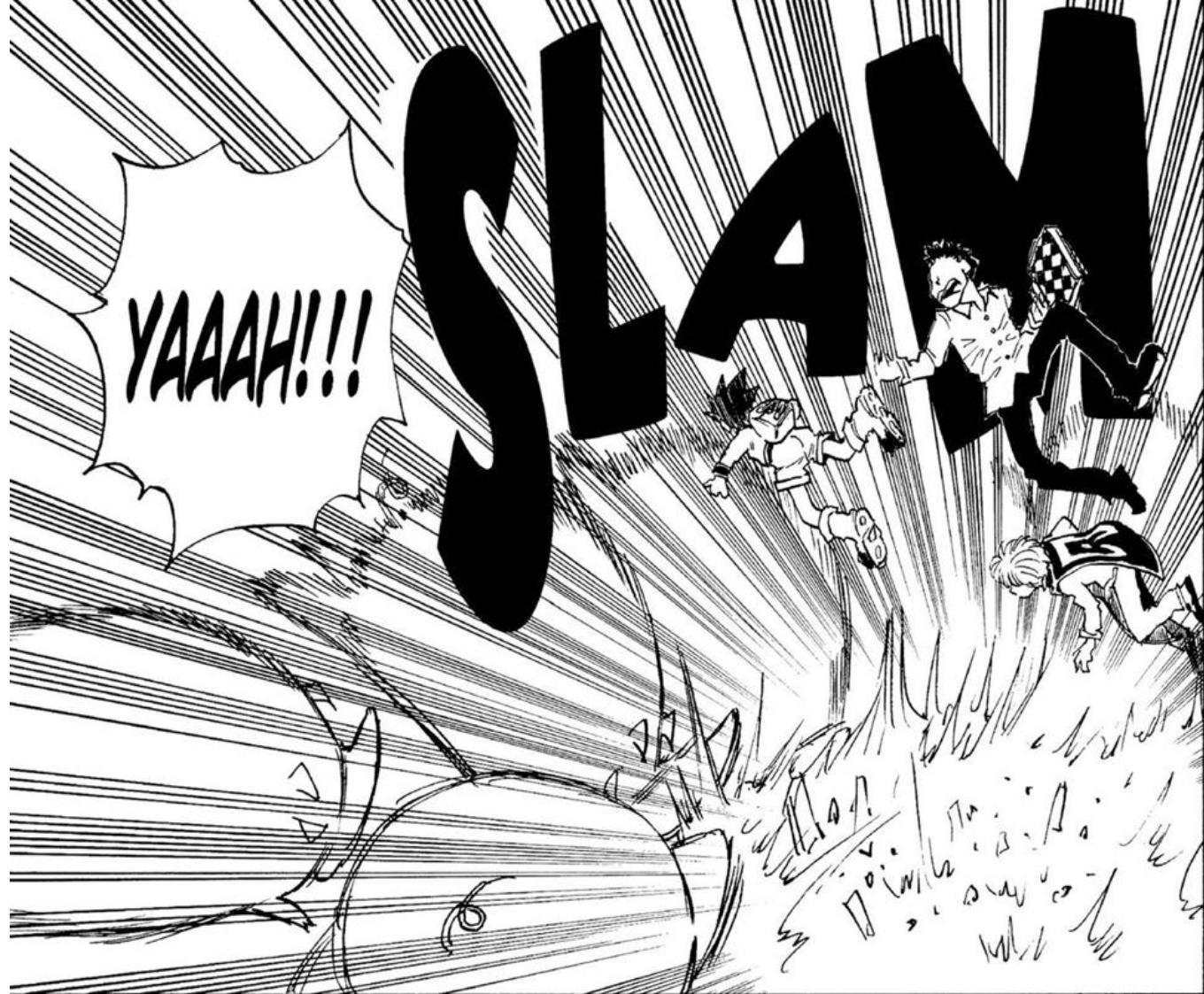










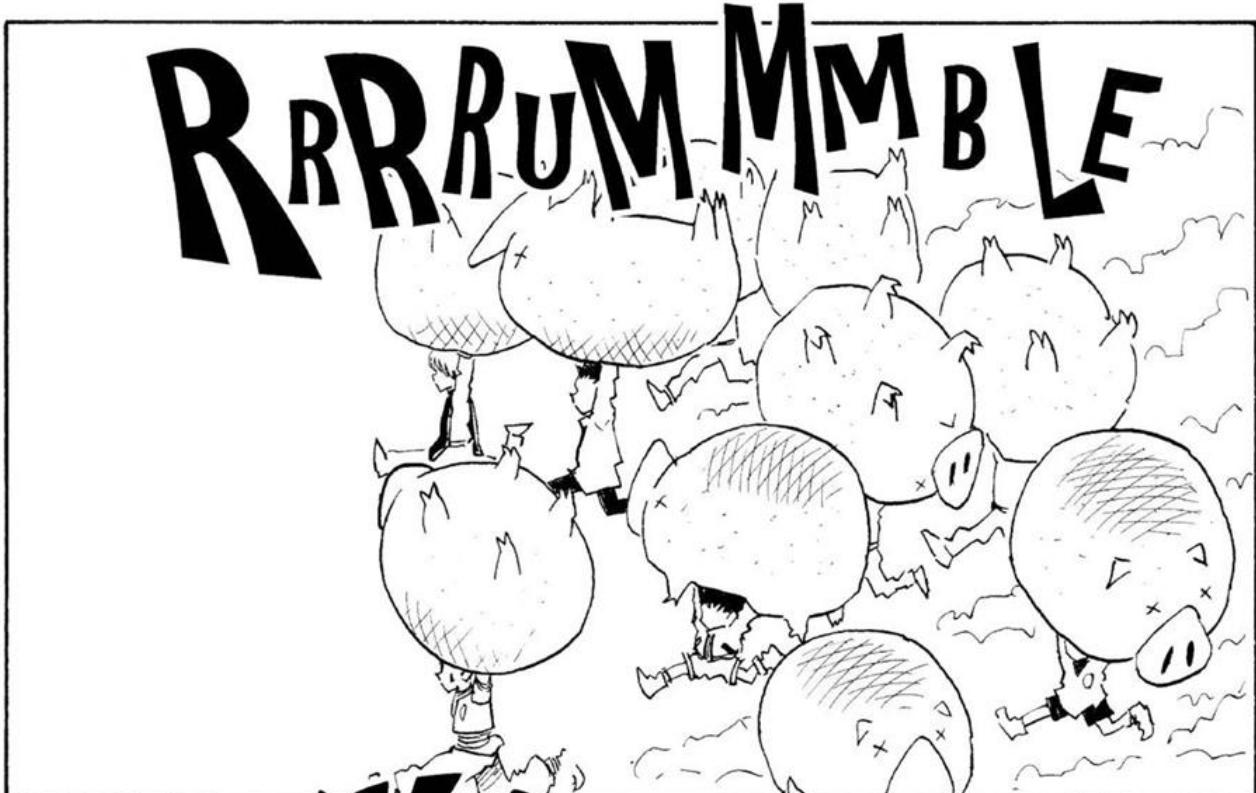


BUT IT'S  
STILL NOT  
LIKE...



...A  
REAL  
KICKER!!







Buhara