

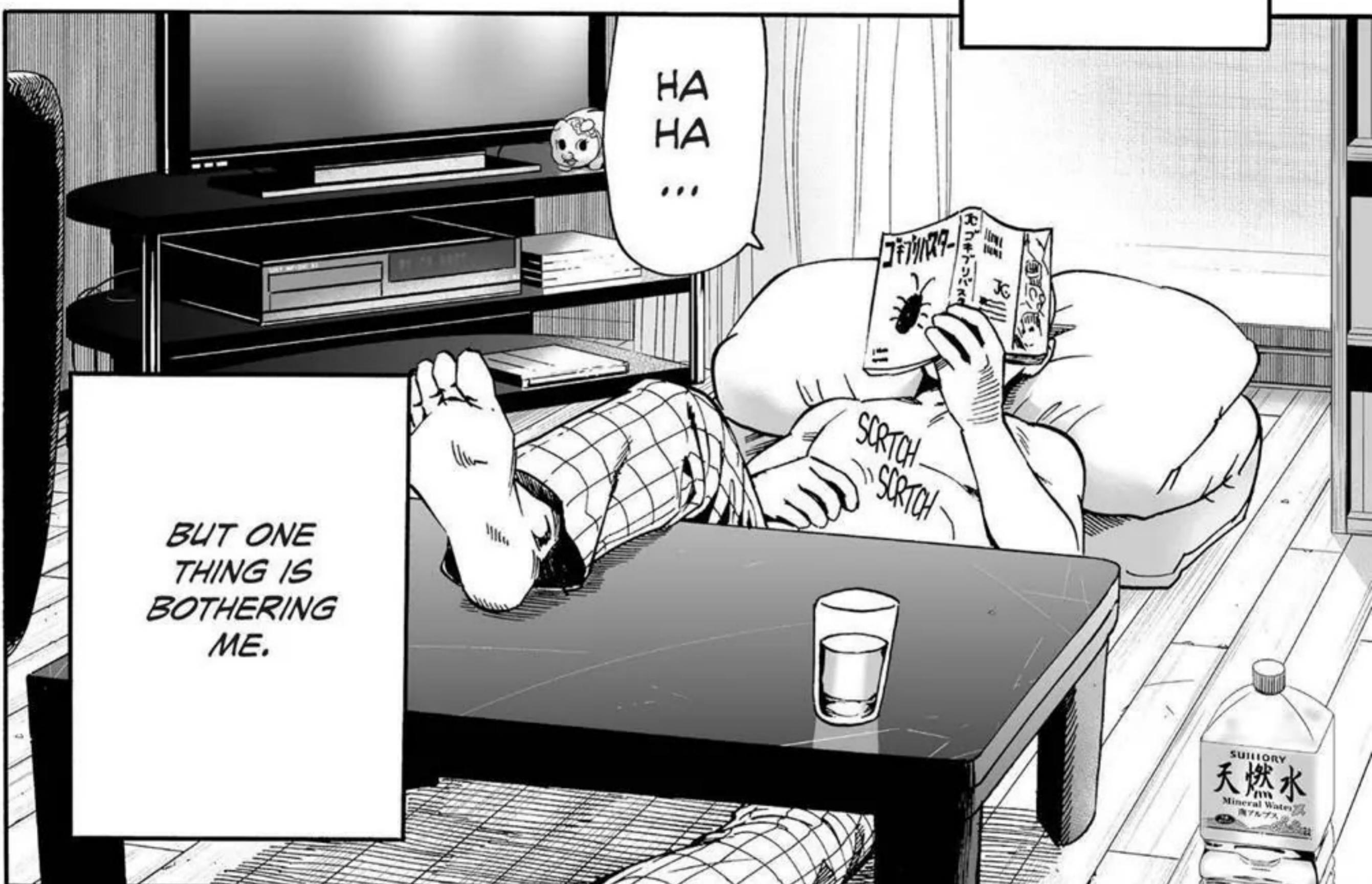
PUNCH 18: POUNDING THE PAVEMENT

IT'S BEEN
FIVE DAYS
SINCE I
MADE MY
PROFESSIONAL
DEBUT AS A
HERO.

SO FAR,
NOTHING
MAJOR HAS
HAPPENED.



IT'S
NORMAL
FOR ME
TO HAVE
NOTHING
TO DO.



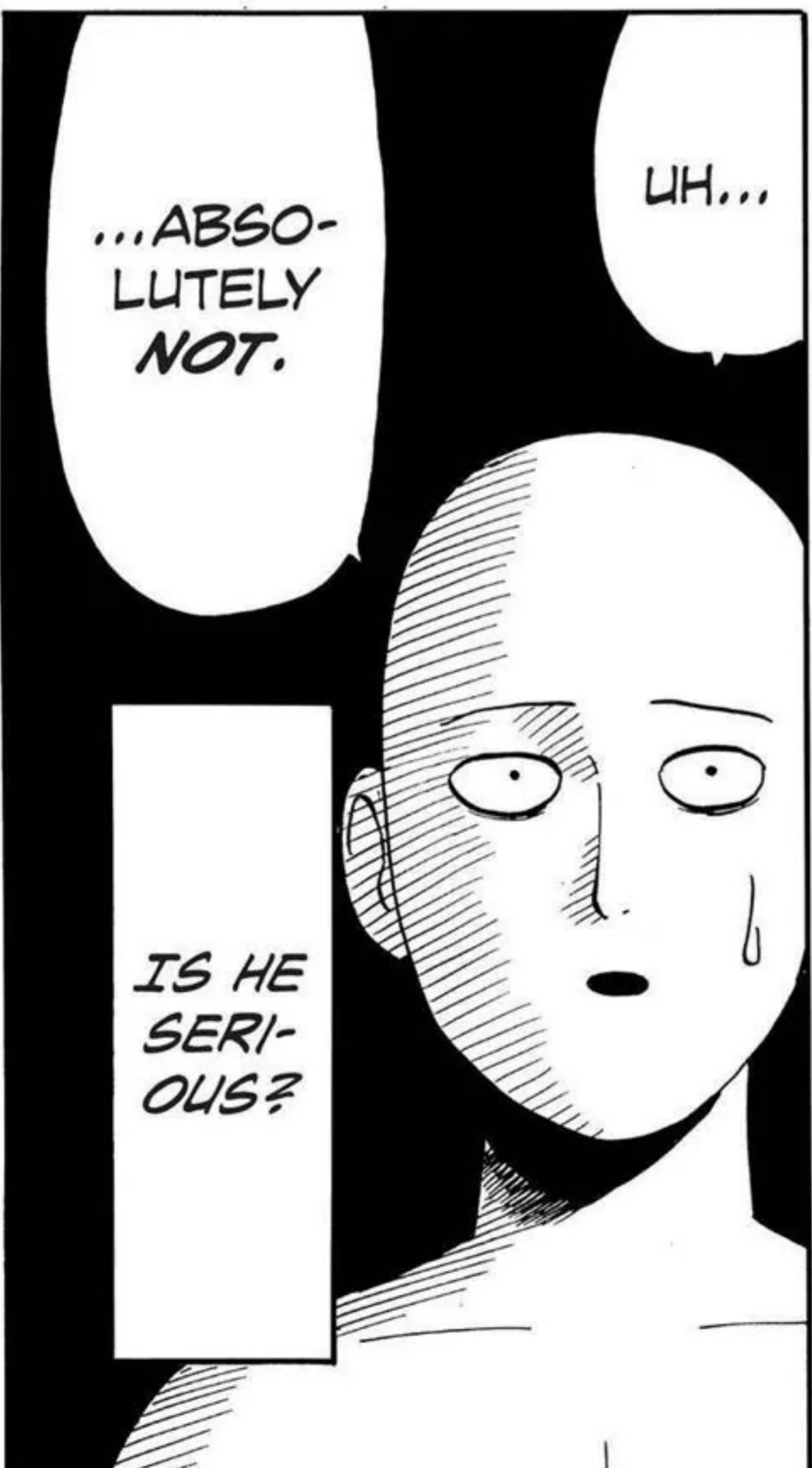
MANGA: COCKROACH BUSTER



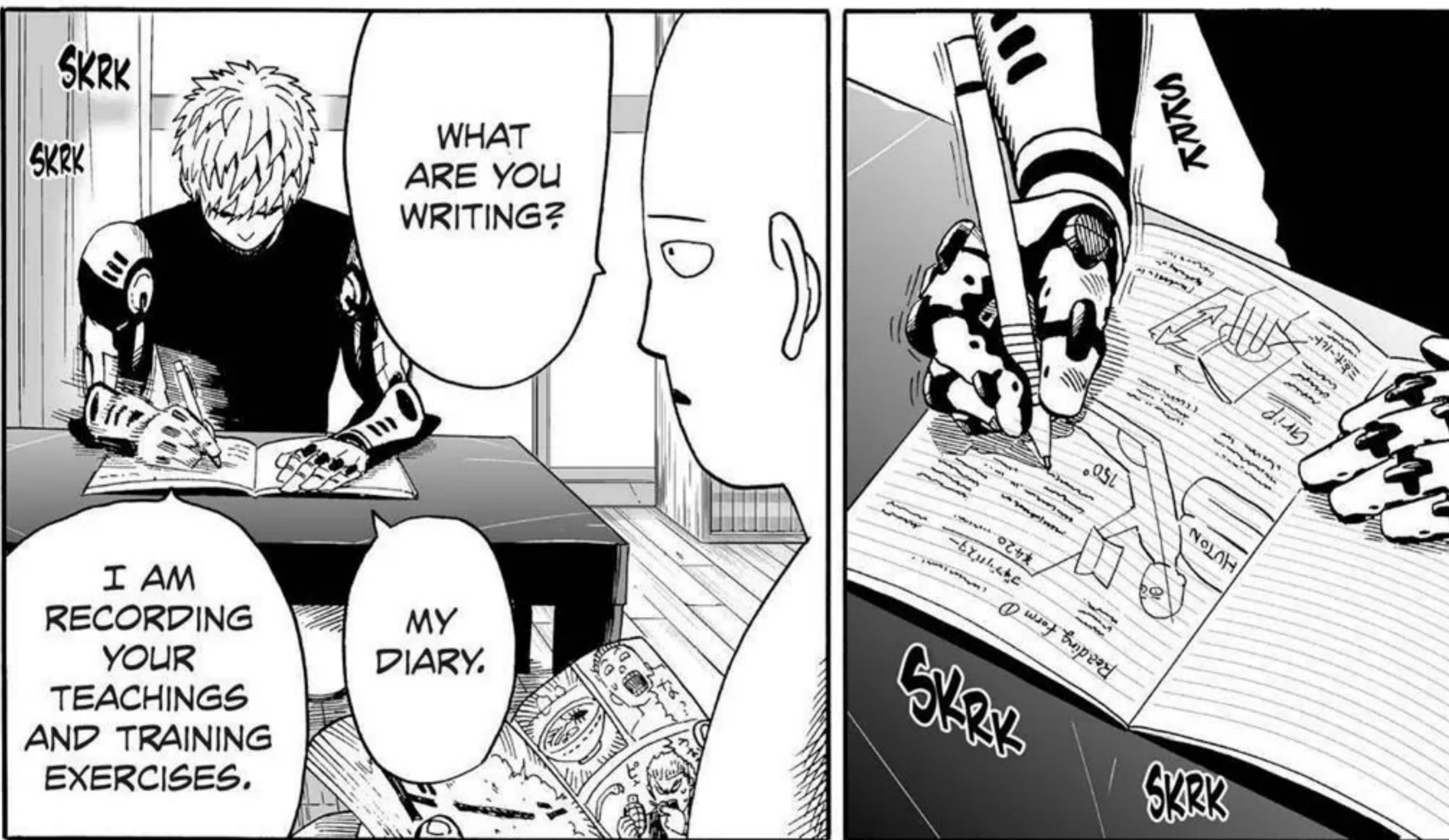
AND IT
APPEARS
HE HAS A
LARGE
PACK ON
HIS BACK.

WHY IS
HE JUST
STANDING
THERE?

OR IS THAT
JUST MY
IMAGINATION?







...SO IT FEELS WRONG TO KEEP PLAYING THE MASTER.

I DON'T HAVE A SINGLE THING TO TEACH HIM...

ARGH!
IT'S NO USE!
I CAN ONLY
THINK OF
MUSCLE
TRAINING!
THAT'S ALL
I EVER DID!
BUT HE WON'T
ACCEPT THAT!

THINK!
COME UP
WITH SOME
KIND OF
TRAINING
METHOD OR
SPIRITUAL
TEACHING!

...A CLASS C HERO WHO REMAINS INACTIVE FOR ONE WEEK IS DROPPED FROM THE HERO REGISTRY. WILL YOU BE ALL RIGHT?



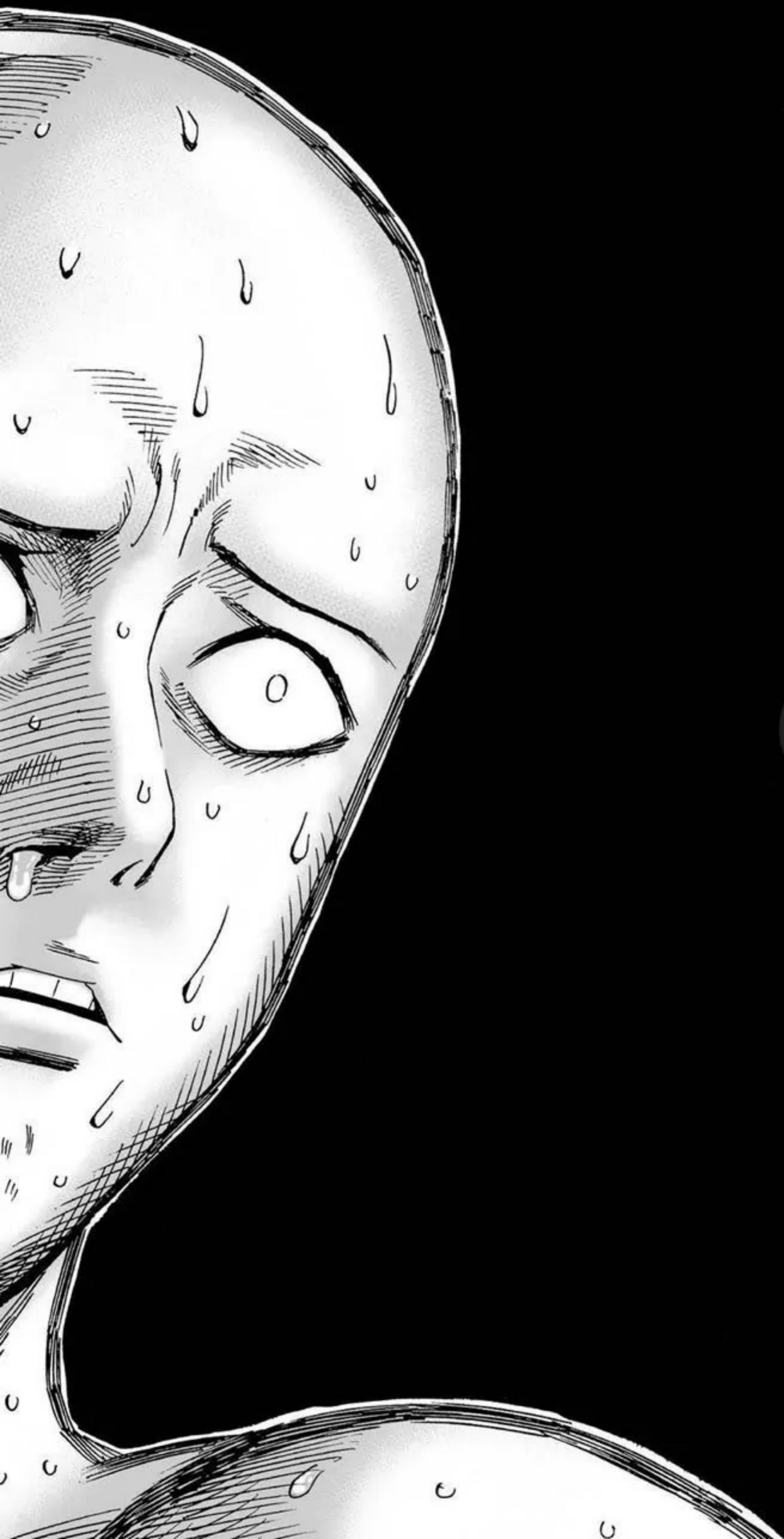
BY THE WAY,
ACCORDING
TO THE
SEMINAR...

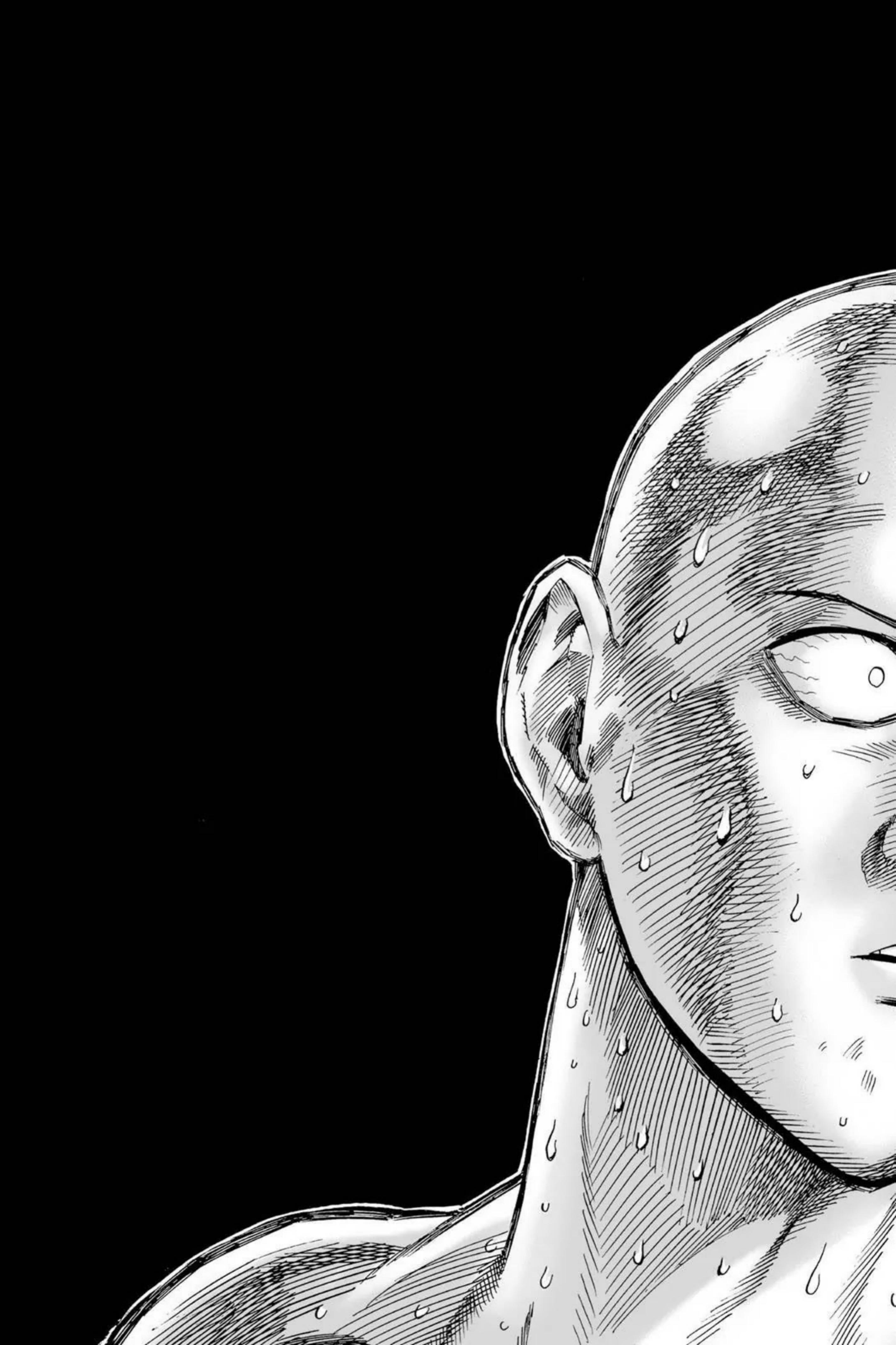






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THERE ARE TONS OF CLASS C GUYS, AND THE BAR IS LOW, SO THEY WEED THEM OUT.

YES.

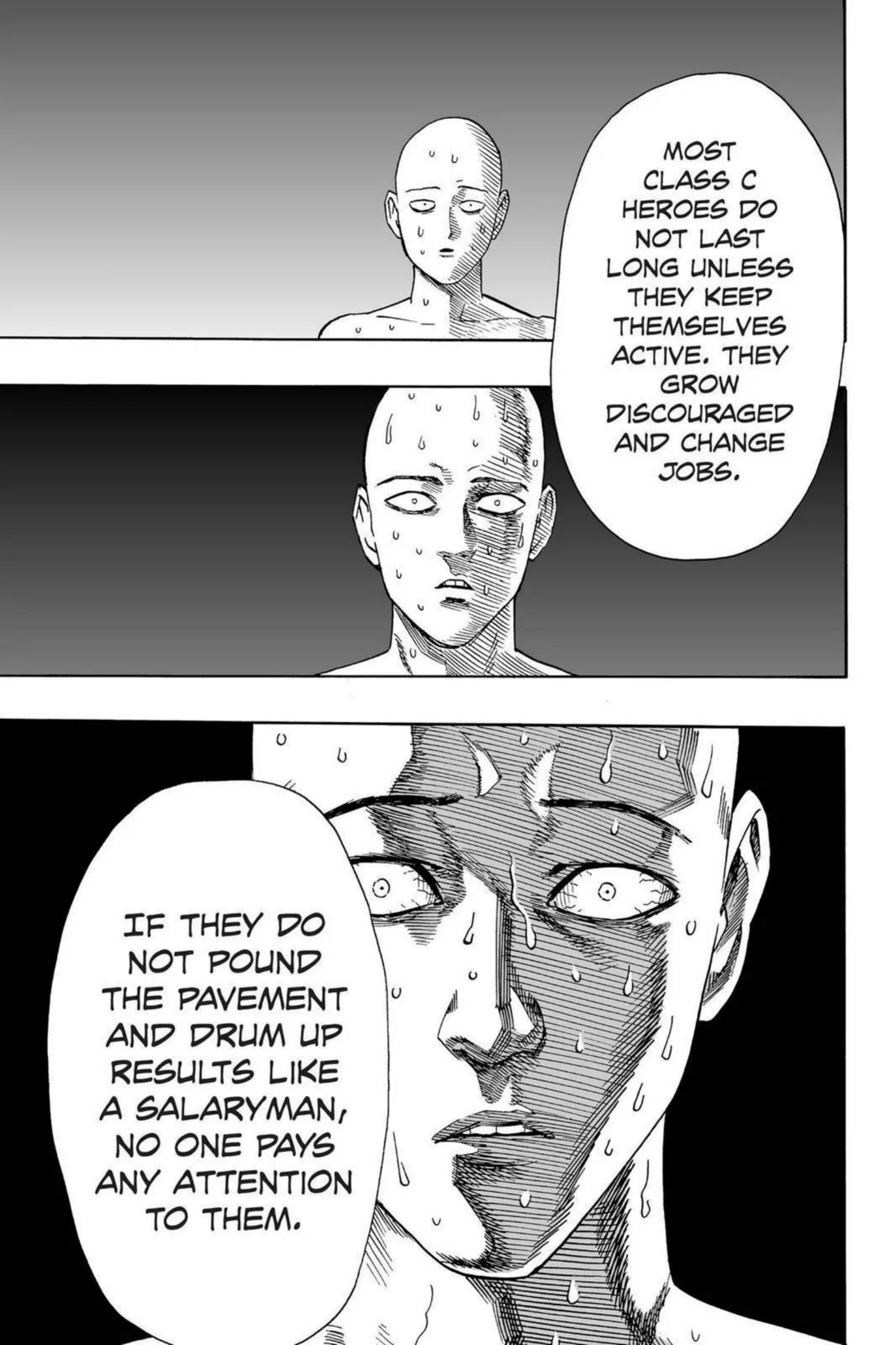
THEY SAID THAT?

THE MEDIA ONLY REPORTS BIG INCIDENTS SUCH AS DISASTERS REQUIRING EVACUATION, TERRORISM AND THE APPEARANCE OF DANGEROUS MONSTERS.

BUT NOTHING'S COME UP ON TV...

YOU MAY NOT BE AWARE OF IT BECAUSE YOU HAVE ONLY CONFRONTED SUPERVILLAINS AND EVIL ORGANIZATIONS THAT NO ONE ELSE COULD HANDLE...

...BUT CLASS C HEROES MAINLY ADDRESS PURSE-SNATCHERS, ROBBERS AND STREET ASSAILANTS.



MOST
CLASS C
HEROES DO
NOT LAST
LONG UNLESS
THEY KEEP
THEMSELVES
ACTIVE. THEY
GROW
DISCOURAGED
AND CHANGE
JOBS.

IF THEY DO
NOT POUND
THE PAVEMENT
AND DRUM UP
RESULTS LIKE
A SALARYMAN,
NO ONE PAYS
ANY ATTENTION
TO THEM.

**THIS IS
NO TIME
TO BE
READING
MANGA!**

DON'T
COME
WITH
ME!

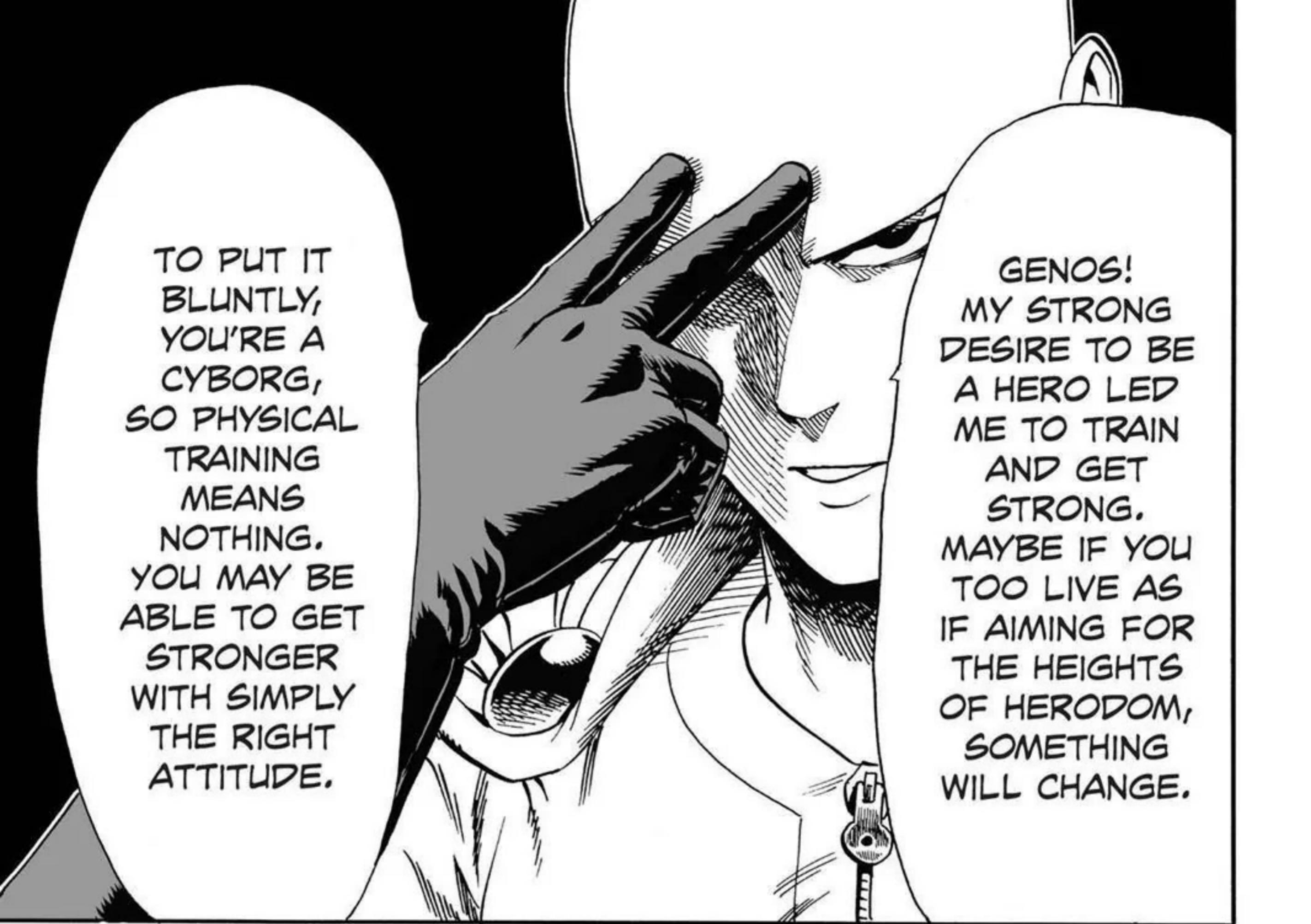
SWUP

SHALL
WE GO
THEN?

PING

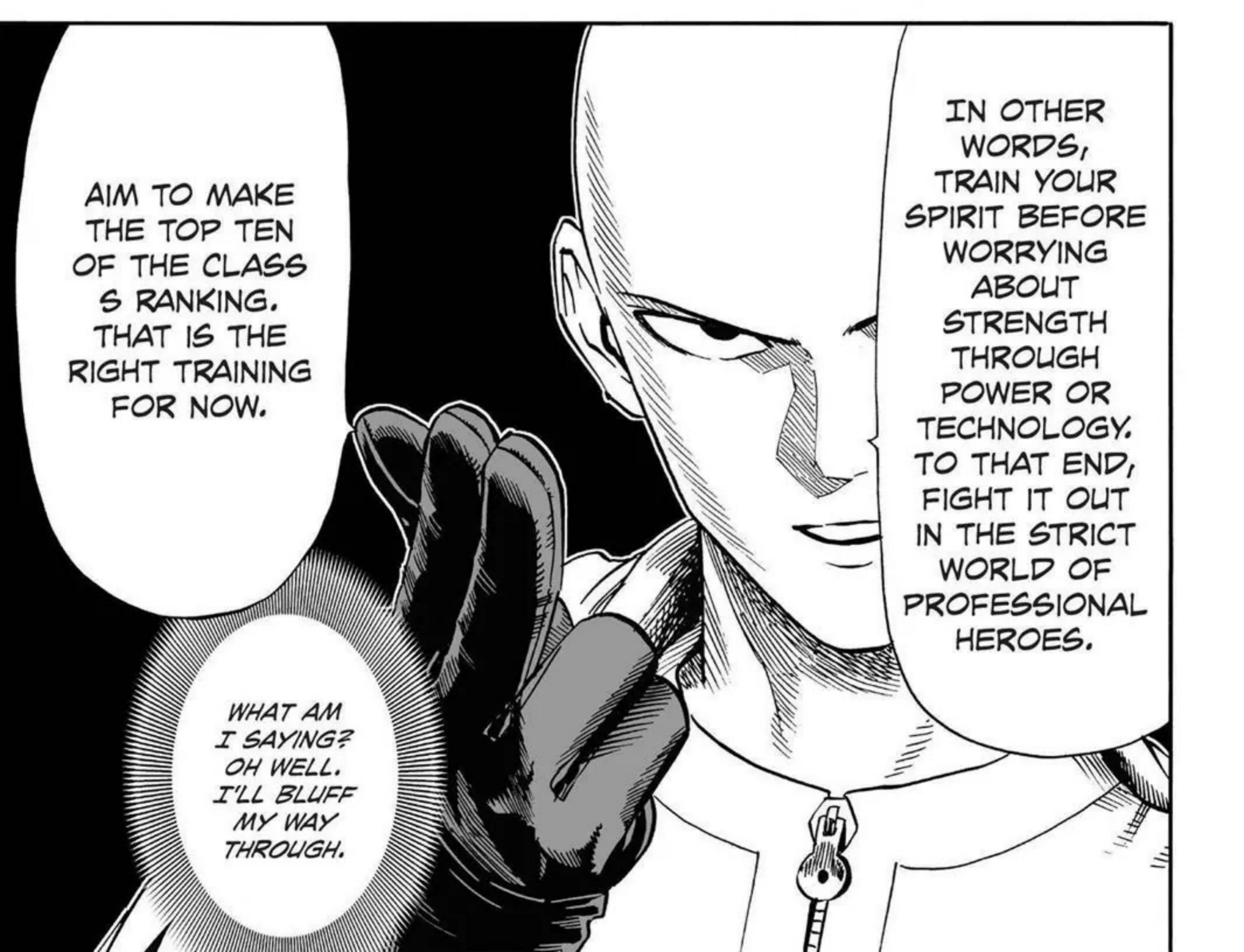
BUT
AS
YOUR
PUPIL
...

IF I'M WITH
A CLASS S
GUY LIKE
YOU, YOU'LL
GET THE
CREDIT FOR
ANYTHING
I DO!



TO PUT IT BLUNTLY, YOU'RE A CYBORG, SO PHYSICAL TRAINING MEANS NOTHING. YOU MAY BE ABLE TO GET STRONGER WITH SIMPLY THE RIGHT ATTITUDE.

GENOS! MY STRONG DESIRE TO BE A HERO LED ME TO TRAIN AND GET STRONG. MAYBE IF YOU TOO LIVE AS IF AIMING FOR THE HEIGHTS OF HERODOM, SOMETHING WILL CHANGE.



AIM TO MAKE THE TOP TEN OF THE CLASS S RANKING. THAT IS THE RIGHT TRAINING FOR NOW.

WHAT AM I SAYING? OH WELL. I'LL BLUFF MY WAY THROUGH.

IN OTHER WORDS, TRAIN YOUR SPIRIT BEFORE WORRYING ABOUT STRENGTH THROUGH POWER OR TECHNOLOGY. TO THAT END, FIGHT IT OUT IN THE STRICT WORLD OF PROFESSIONAL HEROES.





AAAAA-
ARRR-
RRGH!

...BUT THE
TOWN WAS
PEACEFUL.

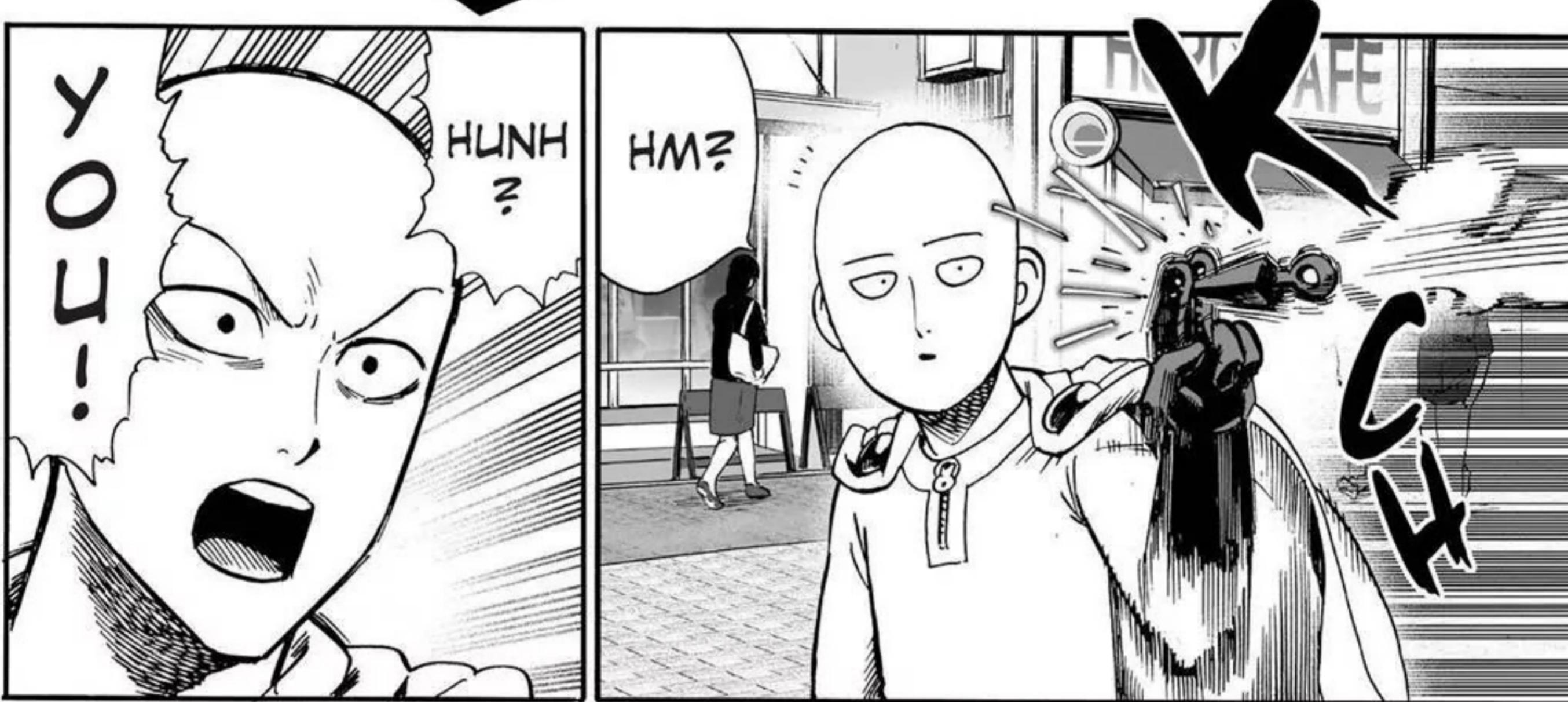
IT'S
NO
USE!
ONLY
ONE
DAY
LEFT!





THE NEXT DAY





**NO.
SPEED
-O'-
SOUND
SONIC!**

**JOINTS-
O'-PAIN
PANIC?**



LET'S EAT

