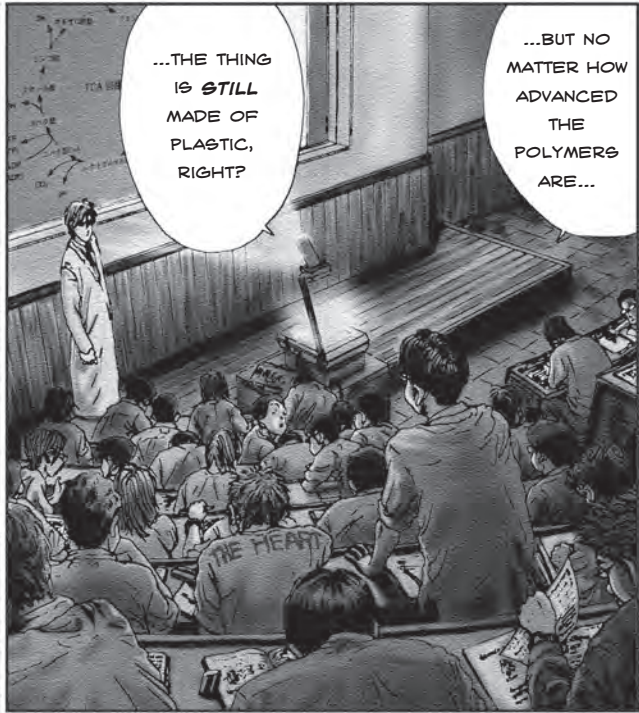




IT'S NOT RIGHT TO PUT THAT THING INSIDE OF A PERSON!

MUR MUR

MUR MUR



...THE THING IS *STILL* MADE OF PLASTIC, RIGHT?

...BUT NO MATTER HOW ADVANCED THE POLYMERS ARE...



MUR MUR

MUR MUR

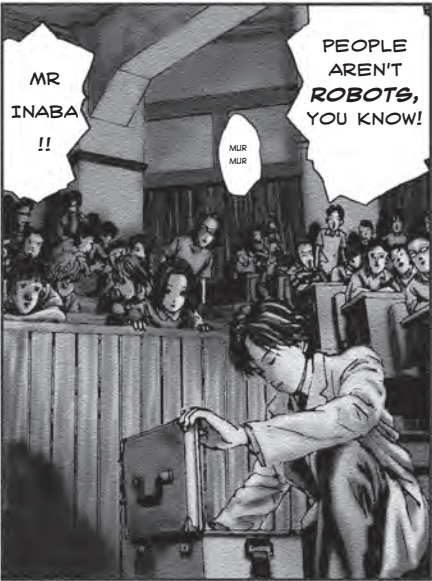


HEY... LOOK!

MUR MUR

MUR MUR

NO ANSWER HUH?



MR INABA !!

PEOPLE AREN'T *ROBOTS*, YOU KNOW!

MUR MUR



...

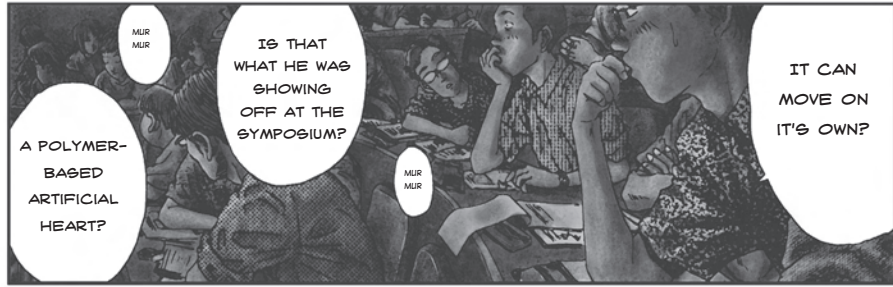


...IT CAN ASSIST THE HEART IN ITS FUNCTIONS

IF WE CAN AFFIX IT TO THE PATIENT'S WEAKENED HEART AT THE MOLECULAR LEVEL...

THIS POLYMER GEL USES THE METABOLIC PROCESSES OF THE MITOCHONDRIAL MATRIX...

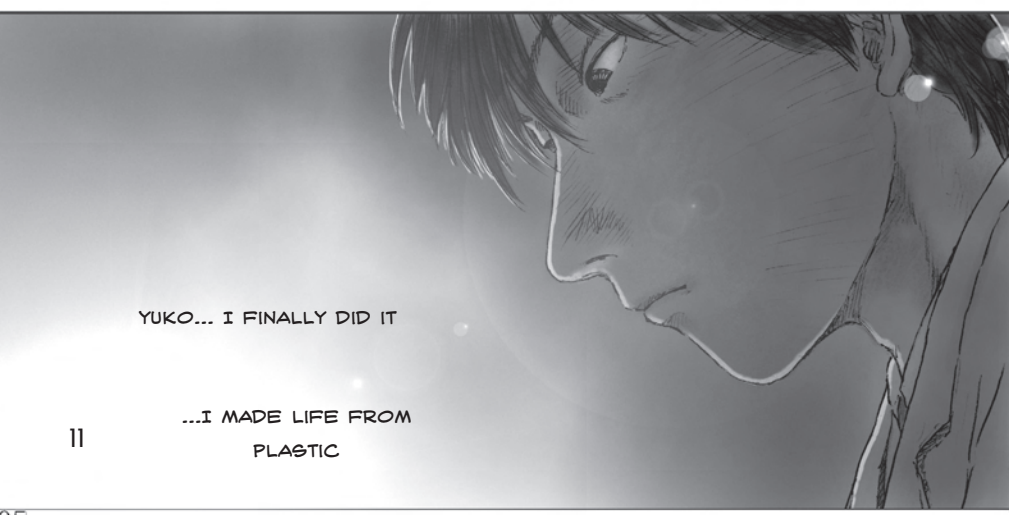
...AND THE TCA CIRCUIT TO EXPAND AND CONTRACT ITSELF



A POLYMER-BASED ARTIFICIAL HEART?

IS THAT WHAT HE WAS SHOWING OFF AT THE SYMPOSIUM?

IT CAN MOVE ON IT'S OWN?



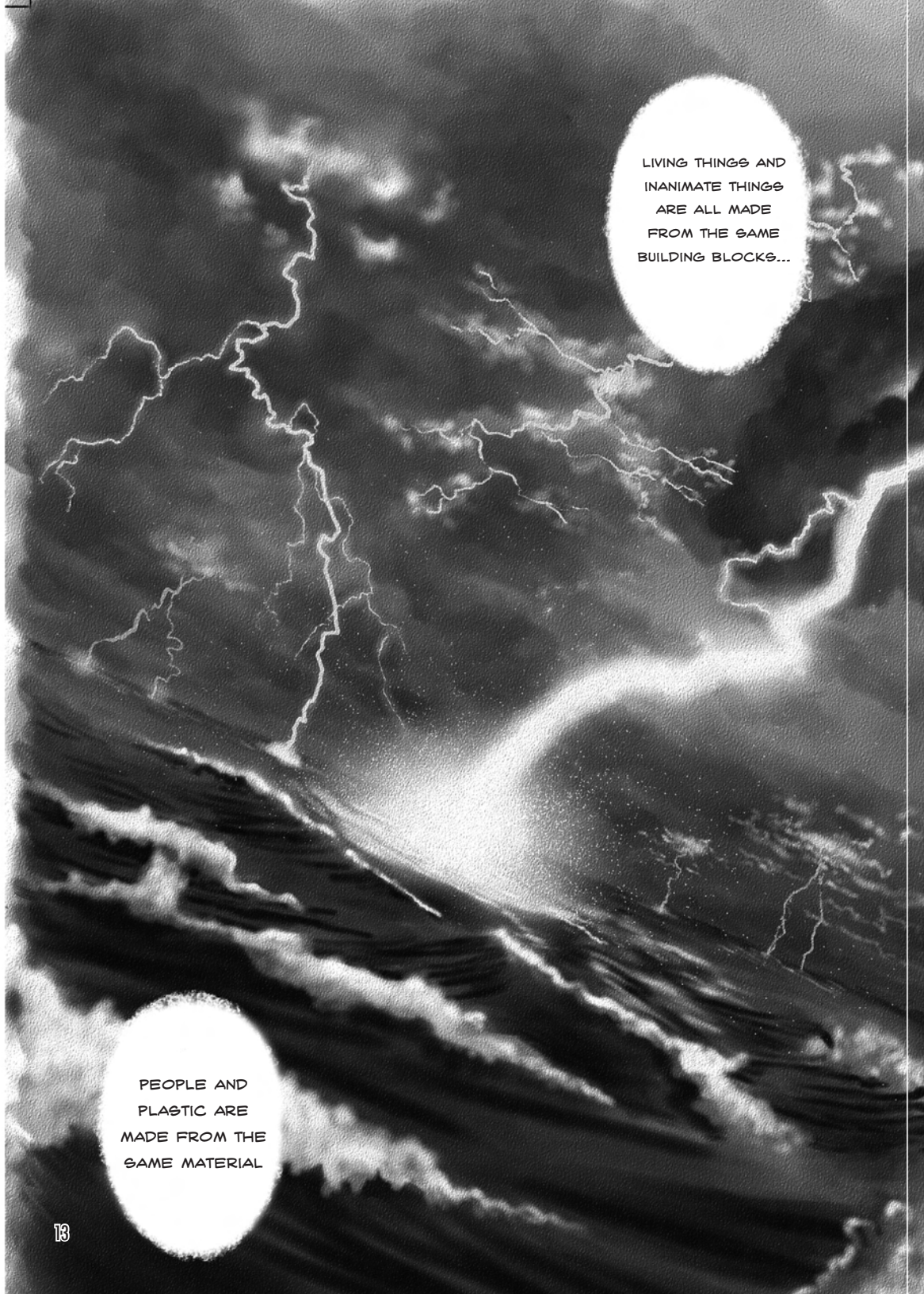
YUKO... I FINALLY DID IT

...I MADE LIFE FROM PLASTIC



4 BILLION
YEARS AGO
THE PRIMORDIAL
SEA WAS FILLED
WITH ONLY 92
ELEMENTS...

AND OUT OF
THE VARIOUS
COMBINATIONS OF
THOSE ELEMENTS
CAME ALL THE
LIFE FORMS ON
EARTH

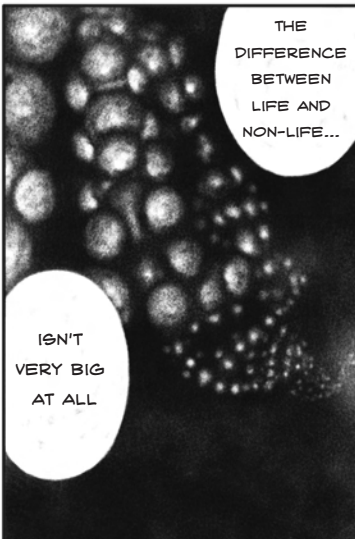


LIVING THINGS AND
INANIMATE THINGS
ARE ALL MADE
FROM THE SAME
BUILDING BLOCKS...

PEOPLE AND
PLASTIC ARE
MADE FROM THE
SAME MATERIAL



IS THAT
REALLY
TRUE, SEI?



THE
DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN
LIFE AND
NON-LIFE...

ISN'T
VERY BIG
AT ALL



WELL,
FROM THE
PERSPECTIVE
OF SCIENCE
...



IT'S
ALRIGHT...
I'M READY



I
ALREADY
TOLD
YOU...



YUKO



TO THINK
THAT YOU
AND ME...



THE HOSPITAL
DIRECTOR
SAYS THAT I
STILL HAVE
LOTS OF TIME
LEFT

DON'T GO
WORRYING
ABOUT ME
NOW



MAKES ME
HAPPY...



ARE MADE
OUT OF
THE SAME
THING...



KNOCK
KNOCK



YOU
MEAN
SEI?

OH...



...WHAT'S
WRONG?

HEY
OISHI...



HE CAME
ALL THE
WAY FROM
TOKYO TO
SEE ME

THIS IS
SEI INABA
WE'VE BEEN
FRIENDS
FOR
FOREVER
...



ANYWAY,
MY OLD MAN
IS GETTING
OUT OF THE
HOSPITAL
TODAY!



GEEZ...
TOKYO'S
PRETTY
FAR



HEY...
NICE TO
MEET
YOU



SINCE I
LIVE JUST
DOWN THE
ROAD



YEAH WELL...
I'LL STILL
COME BY TO
CHECK IN ON
YOU...

REALLY?!
THAT'S
GREAT!



SEE YA
TOMORROW
YUKO!





I THOUGHT YOU LIVED IN TOKYO OR SOMETHIN'!



WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU STILL DOING HERE?!



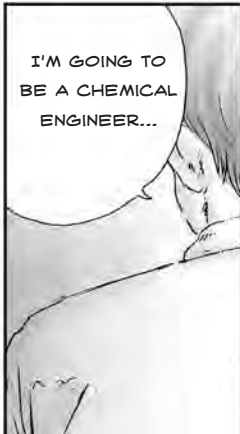
OH, WHAT'S THAT? YOU THINK YOU'RE JUST GONNA WALK AWAY?

YOU A GEEK?

YOU THINK YOU'RE ALL SMART AND SHIT?



I DECIDED TO TAKE SOME CLASSES HERE OVER THE SUMMER

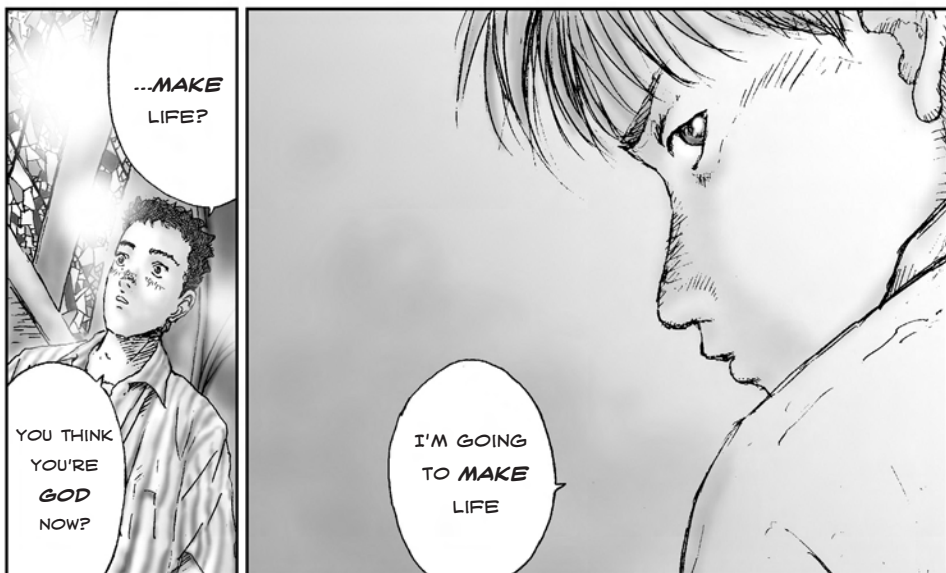


I'M GOING TO BE A CHEMICAL ENGINEER...



WHY NOT BE A DOCTOR AND SAVE YUKO...

WELL IF YOU'RE SO GODDAMN SMART...



...MAKE
LIFE?

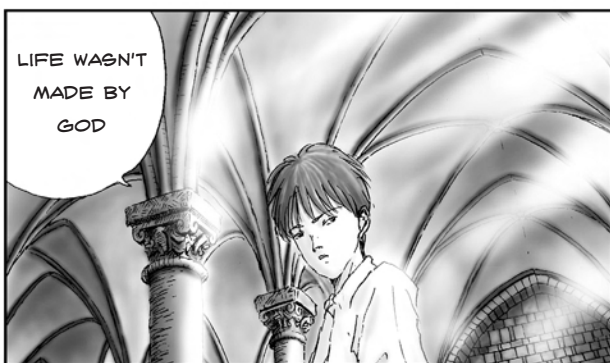
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
GOD
NOW?

I'M GOING
TO MAKE
LIFE

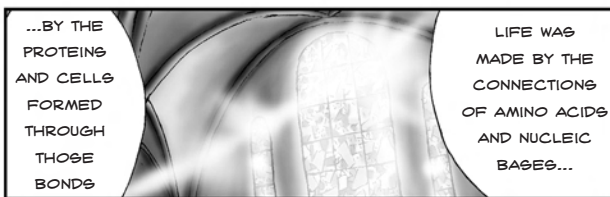


ME AND YOU
AND YUKO...
WE'RE ALL
BACTERIA!
DON'T YOU GET
IT?

AND THOSE
CELLS WENT
ON TO FORM
BACTERIA
AND OTHER
ORGANISMS!



LIFE WASN'T
MADE BY
GOD



...BY THE
PROTEINS
AND CELLS
FORMED
THROUGH
THOSE
BONDS

LIFE WAS
MADE BY THE
CONNECTIONS
OF AMINO ACIDS
AND NUCLEIC
BASES...



YOU'VE KEPT
YOUR HEAD
IN BOOKS
FOR TOO
LONG

CHILL
OUT
MAN!

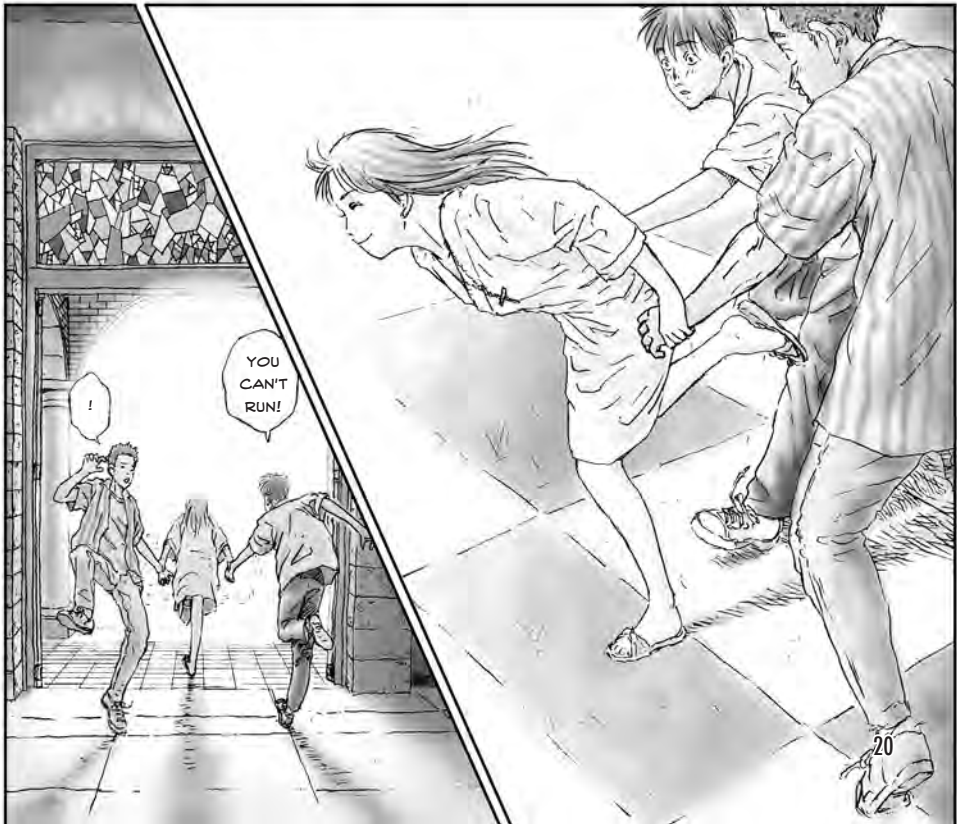


SO I CAN...
I CAN...!



OH, YOU CAME!

MY TESTS ARE OVER!



YOU CAN'T RUN!

!

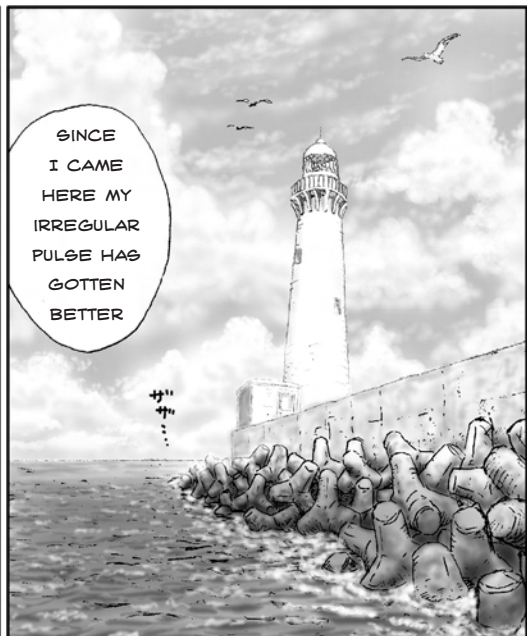


ISN'T
IT
AMAZING?



CAUSE
THE AIR
IS GREAT
IN THIS
TOWN!

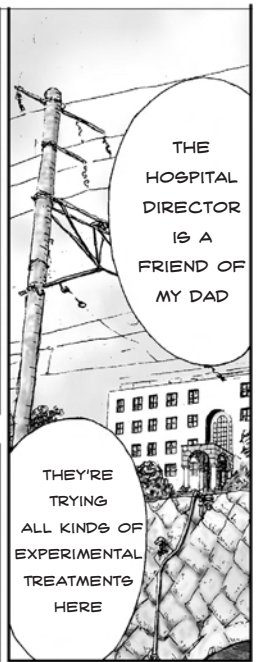
I FEEL
SO MUCH
BETTER!



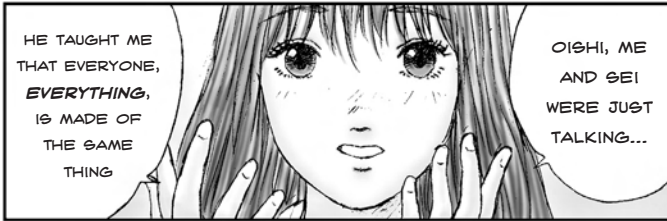
SINCE
I CAME
HERE MY
IRREGULAR
PULSE HAS
GOTTEN
BETTER



I HOPE
THEY CAN
CURE
ME



THE
HOSPITAL
DIRECTOR
IS A
FRIEND OF
MY DAD



HE TAUGHT ME
THAT EVERYONE,
EVERYTHING,
IS MADE OF
THE SAME
THING

OIGHI, ME
AND SEI
WERE JUST
TALKING...

THEY'RE
TRYING
ALL KINDS OF
EXPERIMENTAL
TREATMENTS
HERE



BUT THIS SHIRT
IS NO HUMAN
BEING

WELL
THAT'S
EASY
ENOUGH
TO SAY...

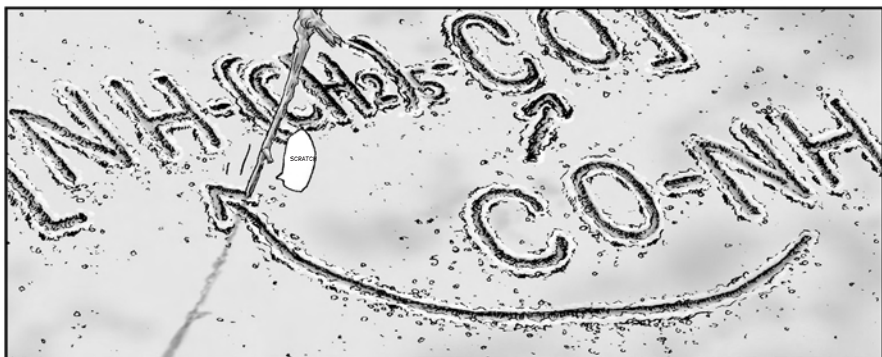
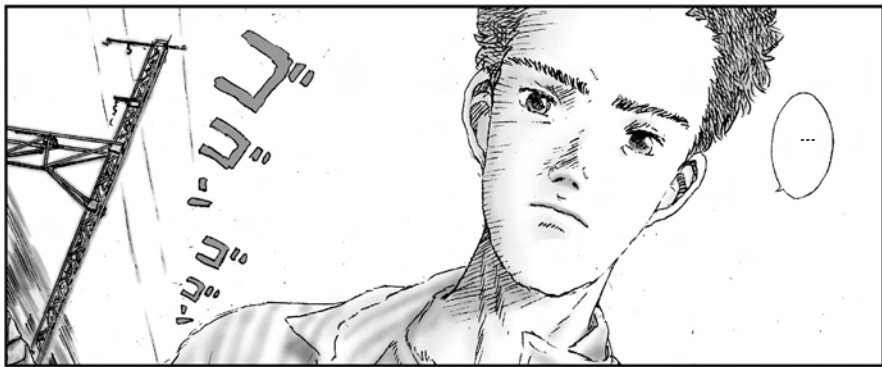
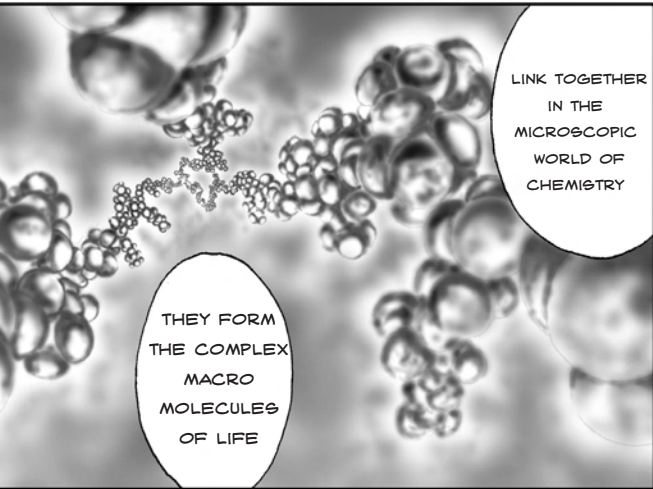


THIS C
IS FOR
CARBON
AND...

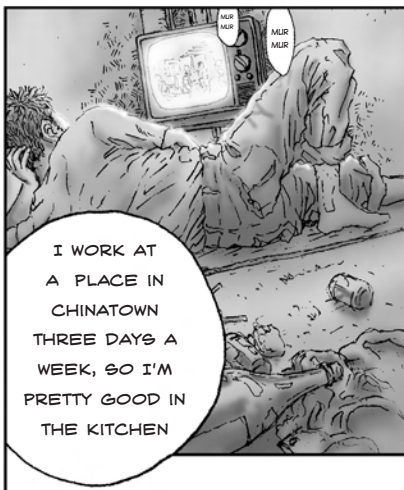
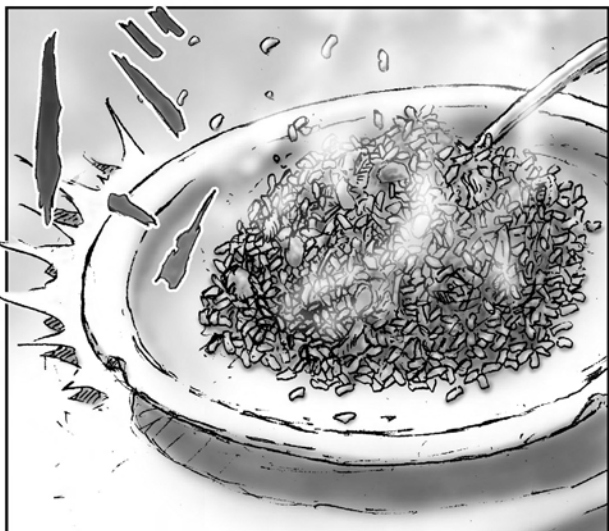
N GOES
HERE
AND H
GOES
HERE...

WELL IF YOU
REALLY
LOOK AT IT...
THAT SHIRT IS
NYLON, WHICH
YOU WRITE LIKE
THIS...











WHEN YOU FINISH THAT I WANT YOU TO TEACH ME SOME STUFF

THIS IS PRETTY GOOD



SNIFF



LATELY I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT GOING TO NIGHT SCHOOL I THINK I REALLY WANT TO DO IT

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



BUT WHEN I HEARD YOU TALKING EARLIER... ABOUT HOW EVERYONE IS MADE OF THE SAME THING...



SINCE MY DAD IS AS STUPID AS THEY COME...

I HAD ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT STUDYING WAS A WASTE OF MY TIME...

BLUB

BLUB



THAT IF I REALLY TRIED, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE IT

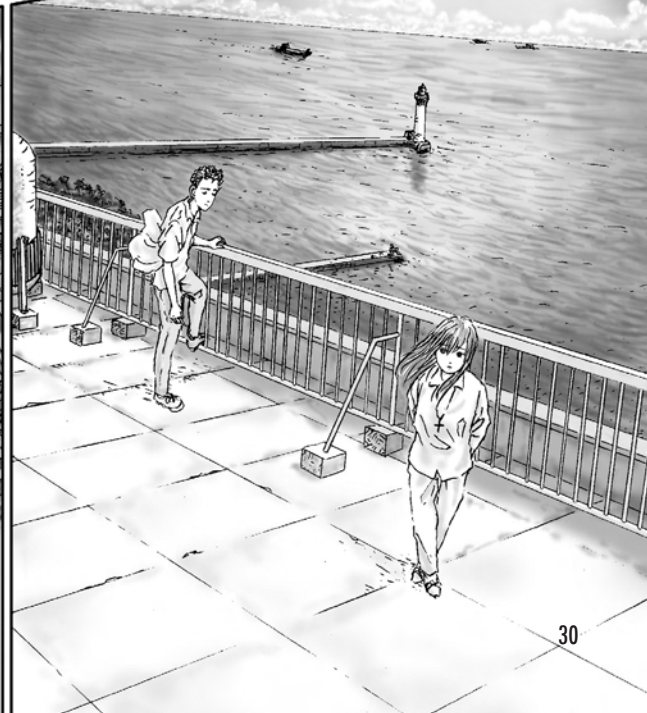


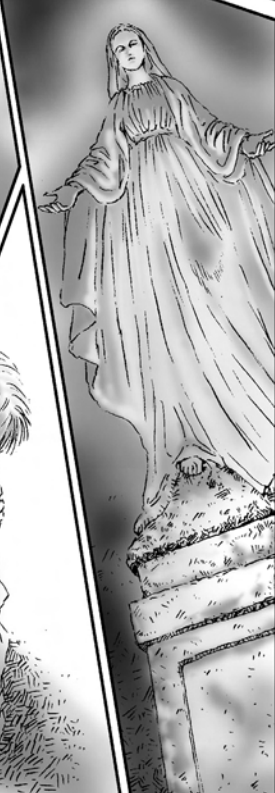
IT GOT ME THINKING... YOU KNOW?













DOCTOR!

TAP

TAP

TAP



**YUKO!!
YUKO!!**



SLAM

SLAM

SLAM

**ANSWER
ME,
YUKO!!**