



BATTLE ROYALE

KOUSHUN TAKAMI & MASAYUKI TAGUCHI

BATTLE ROYALE

BY

KOUSHUN TAKAMI & MASAYUKI TAGUCHI

VOL. I



LOS ANGELES • LONDON • NEW YORK • TOKYO



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WORK IS, AFTER ALL,
WORK, WHATEVER
GOVERNMENT YOU
SERVE. AND SCHOOL
IS SCHOOL.
NOT THAT THAT'S
A GOOD THING. SEE?
WE GOT GOOD,
WE GOT BAD.
CAN YOU SAY
ANY DIFFERENT?

AS MILITARY
DICTATORSHIPS
GO, IT COULD BE
WORSE. BUT NOT
BY MUCH. SHOW
YOUR FACE AT A
POLITICAL RALLY
OR TWO,
MOUTH THE STATE
SPONSORED
RHETORIC...
WE GET BY.

THOUGHT NOT.
SPEAKING OF BAD,
JUST HOPE YOU'RE
NEVER SUBJECTED
TO WHAT PASSES
FOR MUSIC AROUND
THESE PARTS.
MUZAK, MORE LIKE.
YOU WANNA ROCK,
YOU BETTER GROW
EYES IN THE BACK
OF YOUR HEAD,
KNOW WHAT I MEAN?



WHAT KIND
OF GAME ARE
WE TALKING
HERE? PRIME-
TIME BULLSHIT.
I KID YOU NOT.

CONTESTANTS
FALL INTO
MY AGE
GROUP.
THAT'D BE
NINTH
GRADE,
GIVE OR
TAKE A
YEAR OR
TWO FOR
THE
OCCASIONAL
NIMROD
REPEATER.



AND WHILE
WE'RE
ON THE
SUBJECT
OF BAD,
LET ME TIP
YOU OFF
ON THE
ABSOLUTE
WORST.

A STATE-
SPONSORED
TV SHOW. A
"GAME
SHOW."
RATINGS
THROUGH THE
ROOF. THEY
CALL IT THE
PROGRAM.
YEAH...
CREATIVITY
ABOUNDS.

Chapter 1: The Worst Game in History

BATTLE ROYALE





BATTLE ROYALE



HURRY UP! IT'S COMING ON!



JIKEIKAN ORPHAN CARE FACILITY.

SHUUYA!



ALL RIGHT!



TOO COOL, EH, YOSHITOKI?

WAY COOL!



CARRIAGE



COME ON! IT'S STARTING!



HEY! NO FAIR!

THE PROGRAM SEASON FINALE WILL AIR TONIGHT AT 8:00 P.M. STANDARD TIME. ALL NON-ESSENTIAL SERVICES WILL BE SUSPENDED TO MAXIMIZE VIEWER PARTICIPATION IN THE EVENT.

WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM FOR A SPECIAL REPORT. ATTEND.



7:00pm



THIS SEASON'S WINNING CONTESTANT CAME CLOSE TO BREAKING THE '07 RECORD OF THREE DAYS, SEVEN HOURS AND TWENTY-TWO MINUTES SET BY FOURTEENTH WARD JUNIOR HIGH, MYOKI DISTRICT...

AWWW... I WANNA SEE MAXIMUM CARNAGE.

A REMINDER THAT THE CONTESTANTS FOR THIS SEASON OF THE PROGRAM WERE CULLED FROM CLASS E CANDIDATES PUT FORWARD BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF OF THIRD WARD JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, KASAWA DISTRICT. HONOR THEM IN THOUGHT AND DEED.

...

... MISSING THE RECORD BY A SCANT NINETEEN MINUTES. AH... I'M BEING TOLD WE HAVE LIVE COVERAGE OF...



WE'RE MISSING OUR SHOW!



HUH?



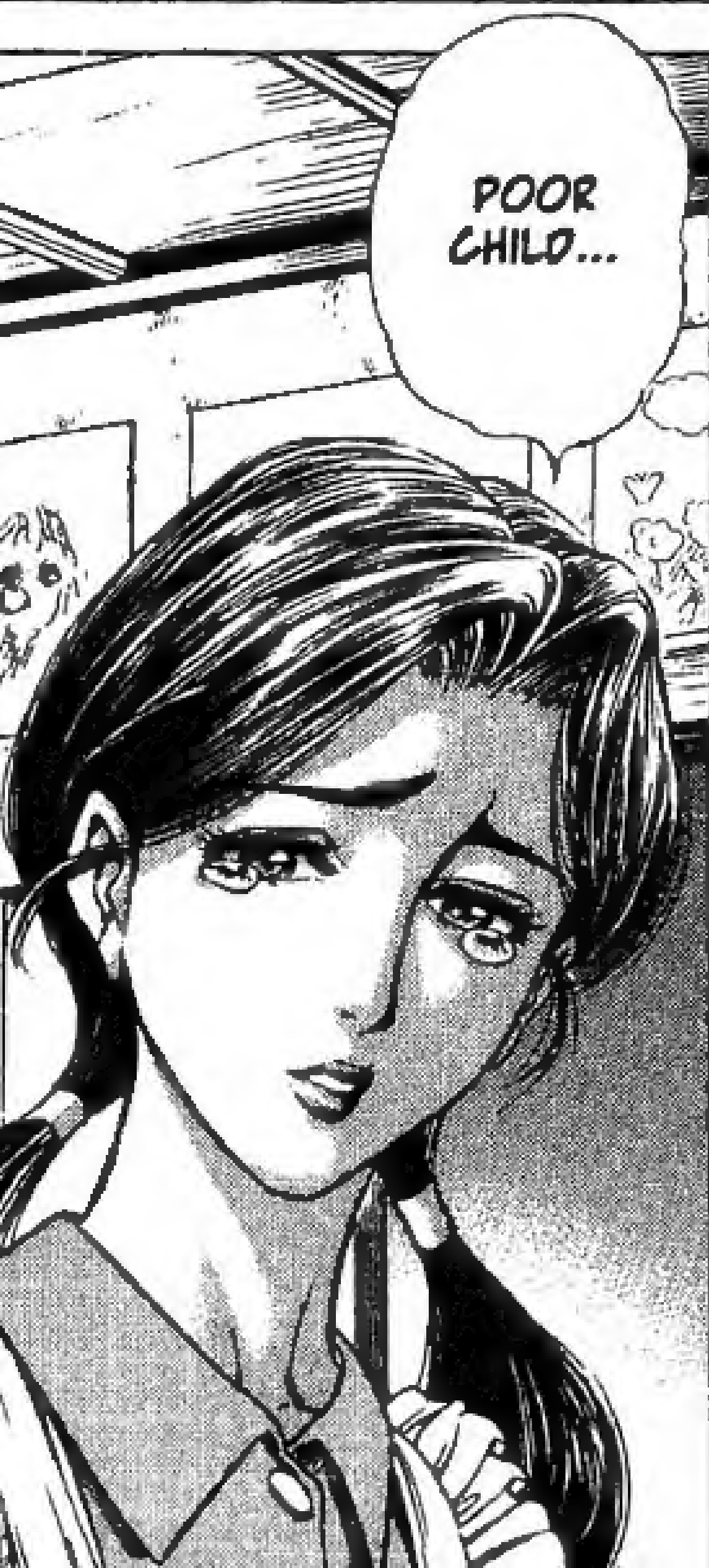
A GIRL! IT'S A YOUNG GIRL. THIS IS ONE FOR THE RECORD BOOKS!

YES. WE HAVE LIVE COVERAGE OF THE WINNING CONTESTANT BEING ESCORTED BY AN HONOR GUARD OF...



SHE LOOKS LIKE A MONSTER. SHUYA, WHY DOES SHE LOOK LIKE A--

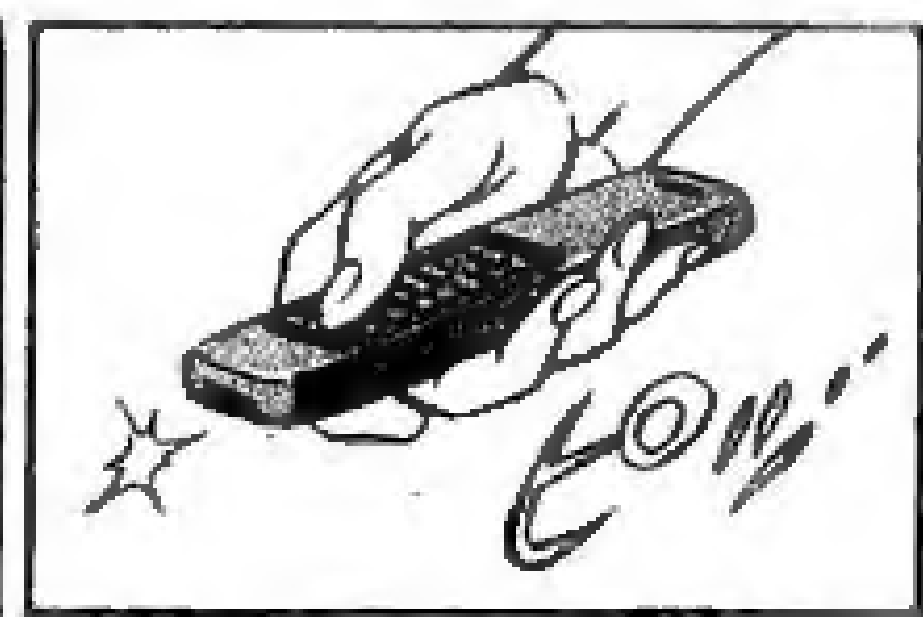
SHE'S NOT A MONSTER! SHE'S... SHE'S JUST LAUGHING.



POOR CHILD...



MS. RYOKO! OUR SHOW!



fsk-t!



THAT GIRL WAS LAUGHING, BUT I DON'T THINK SHE WAS HAPPY.

NO. I... WHEN WE GET TO NINTH GRADE, DO WE HAVE TO GO ON THE PROGRAM TOO?



UM... MS. RYOKO?

HRM?



ARE YOU TRYING TO BUY TIME, YOSHITOKI?



ONE I WON'T LET YOU WIN.

PROMISE



NO. SHE WASN'T.

I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE PROGRAM. IT'S... LIKE A LOTTERY. A BAD LOTTERY.



EVEN HIGHER WITH ME HERE TO PROTECT YOU.

OF COURSE NOT. THE ODDS ARE WAY TOO HIGH.

whir

BESIDES, DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO'S EVER WON A LOTTERY? EVEN A BAD ONE?

...



... AND YOSHITOKI AND I ARE MEN! WE'LL USE MAXIMUM CARNAGE!

NO, MS. RYOKO.

YOSHITOKI AND I WILL PROTECT YOU. THAT'S WHAT MEN DO, PROTECT LADIES...

!

!



ULTIMATE POWER. YEAH...



YEAH! MAXIMUM CARNAGE! ULTIMATE POWER!

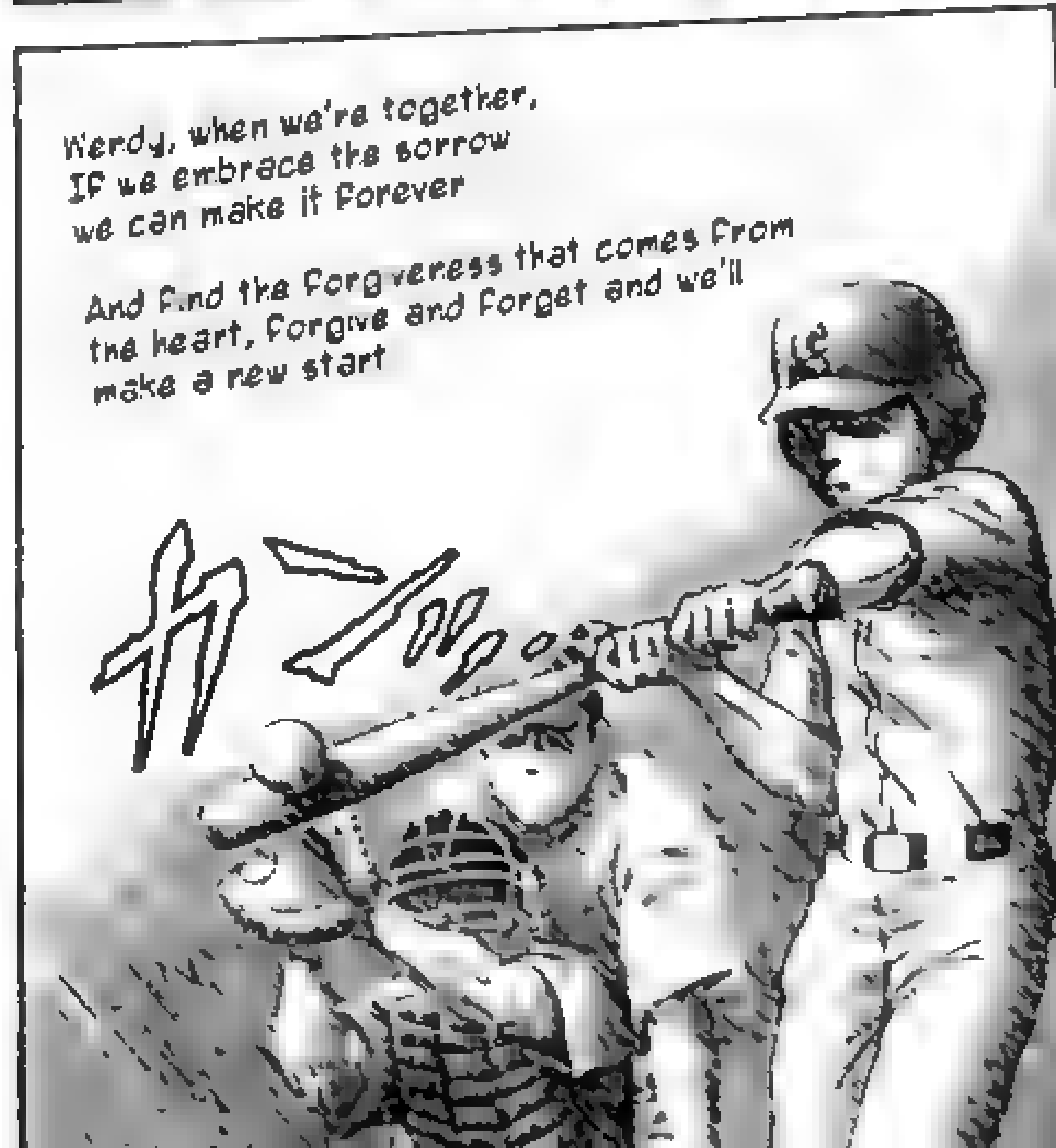
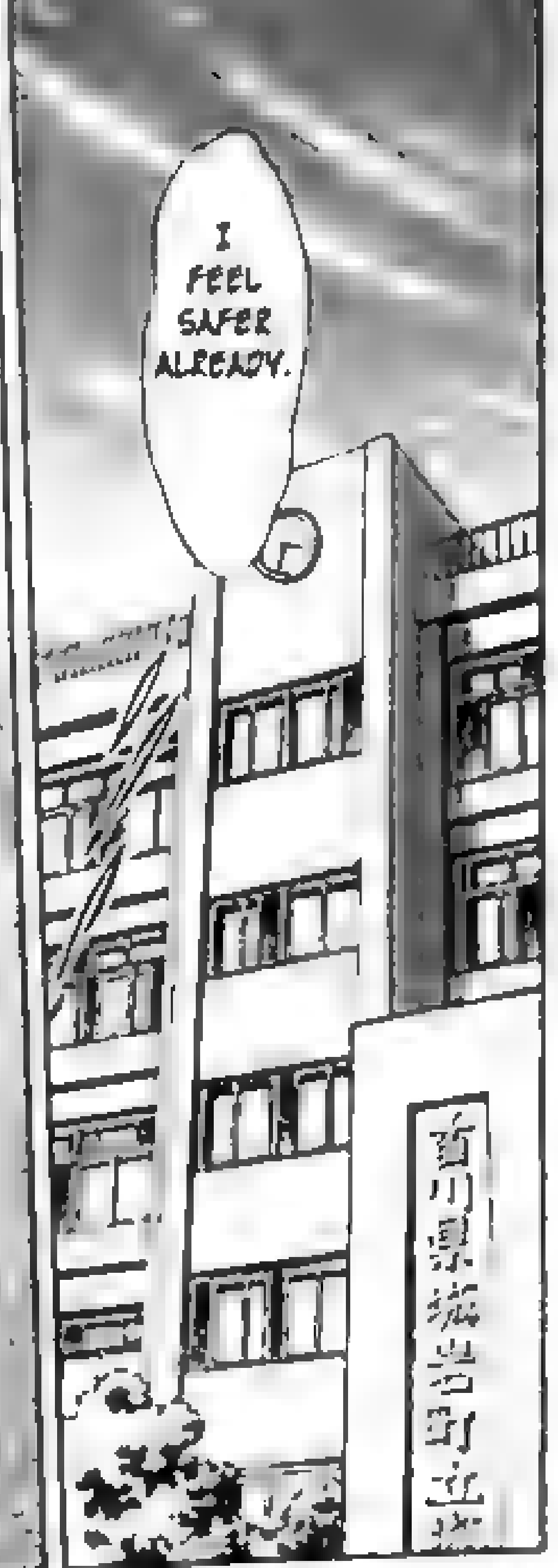
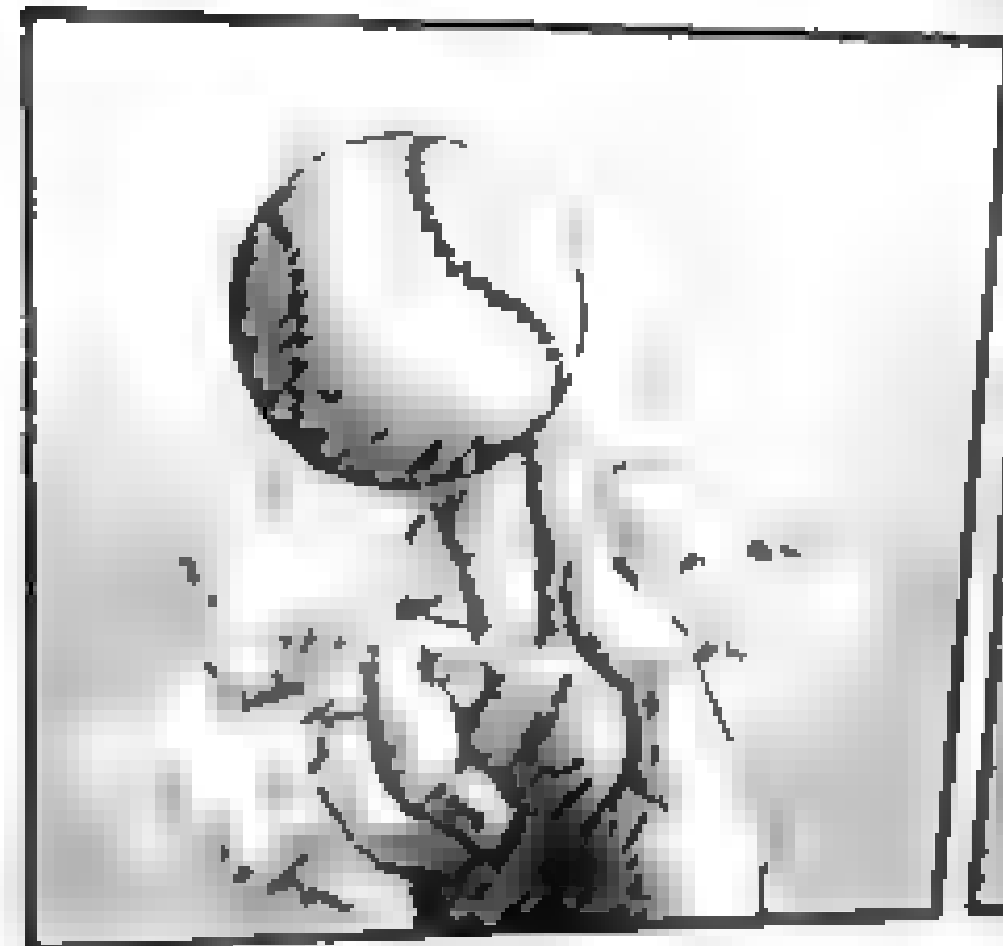
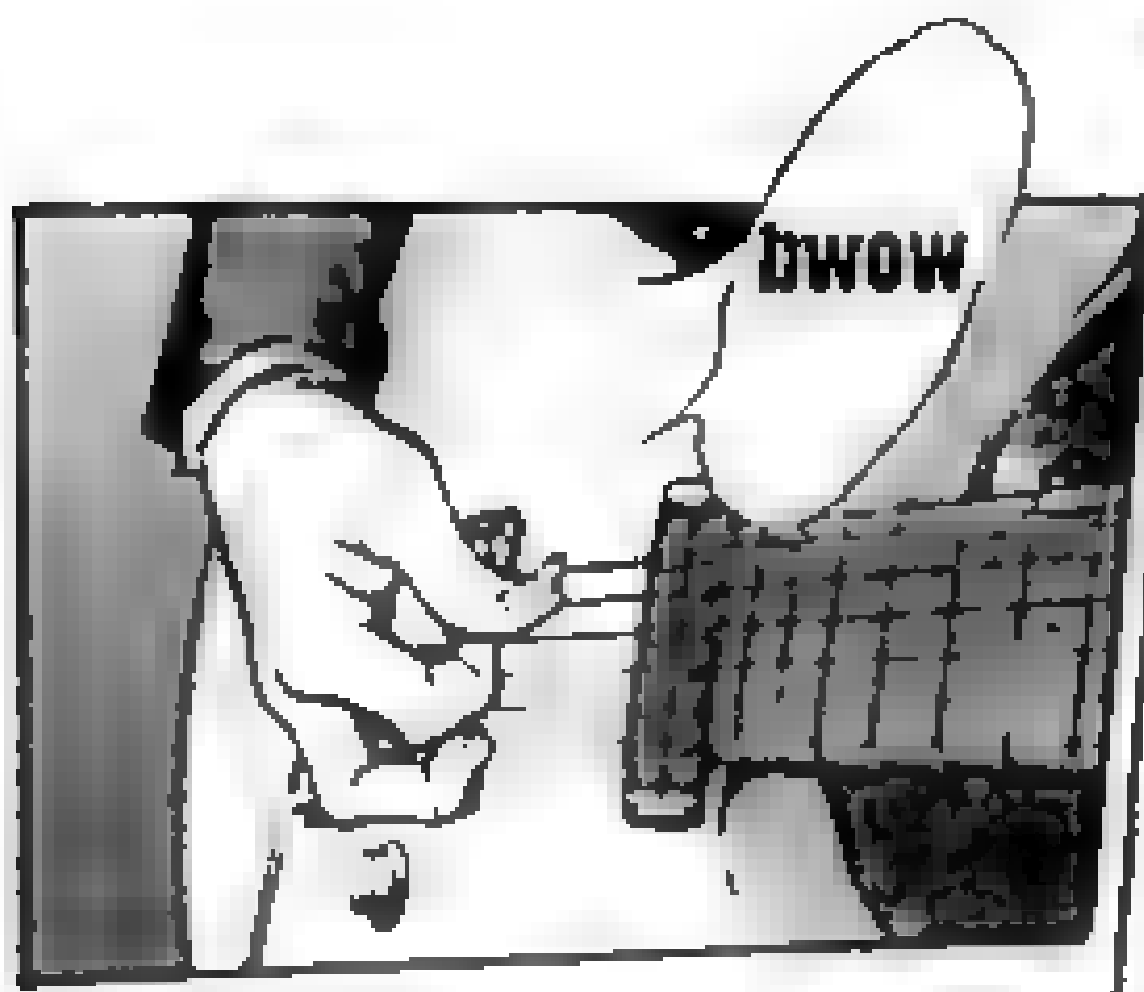
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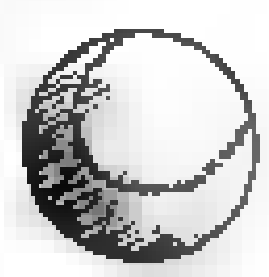
THAT'S... COMFORTING TO KNOW, LITTLE WARRIORS.

...

...



There will come a day you'll know
that it's true... ♪



Know there's no one who loves
you the way that I do... ♪

But until that day comes, when
you're back in my arms... ♪

Until we're no longer apart.
Deprived of your charms, there's
not much I can do... ♪

But live in the
shadow cast
over my heart. ♪



SHUUYA!



SHUUYA!





TELL ME I'M WRONG.

LOOK AT YOU. ALL PARANOID AND WORRIED AND STILL LOVING EVERY NOTE OF IT.

LEVEL WITH ME, YOSHI, WAS I NOT BORN TO ROCK? THAT'S ROCK AS IN ROLL, M'FRIEND, JUST IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T BEEN PAYING ATTENTION.

NINTH GRADE/CLASS B - BOY #15:
SHUUYA NANAHARA



OR DO YOU WANT THE WRONG EARS HEARING YOUR TONE-DEAF SCREECHING?

YOU WANT TO HOLD IT DOWN TO A DULL ROAR?



Ask me if I care. I'd tell you that I don't.

Tell me that I gotta stop, you know damn well I won't



COULD I EVER?

NINTH GRADE/
CLASS B - BOY #7:
YOSHITOKI KUNINOBU



ポカッ



ROCK ON, YOSHI-TOKI.

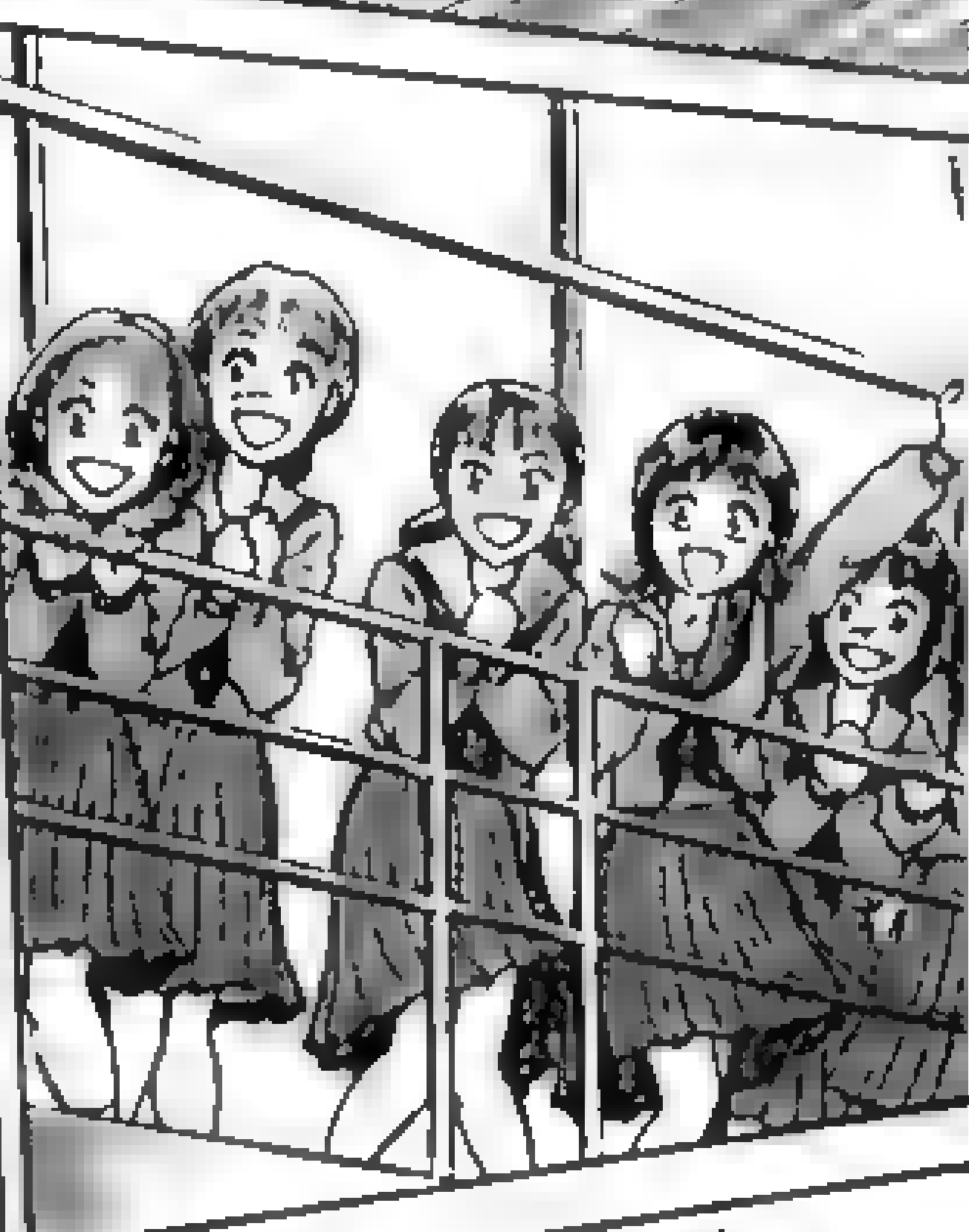
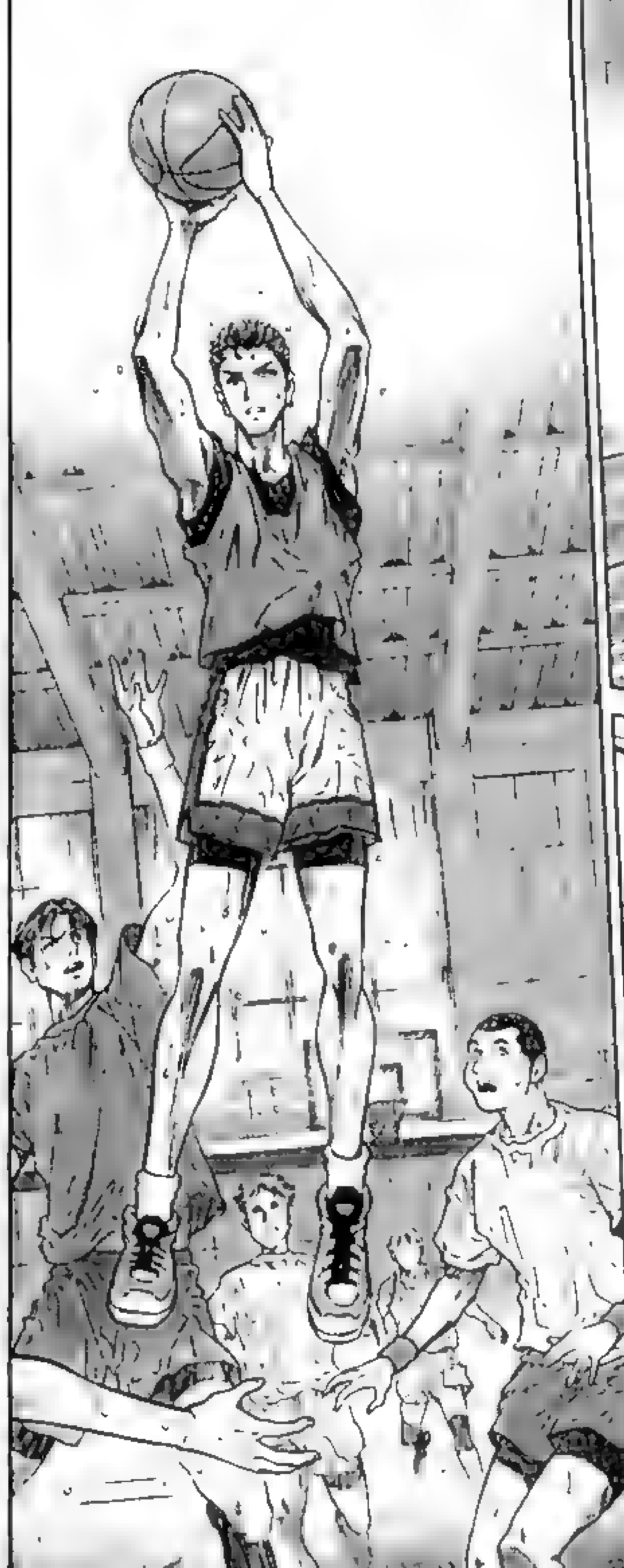


MI-MU-RA! RAH!
MI-MU-RA! RAH!



HOW
MANY
CONDOMS
SURVIVED
THE PEP
RALLY...?

H
H
H
H
...





DAMN...
NOT
NEARLY
ENOUGH.



SAY
WHAT?



1

2

3

4

X

X

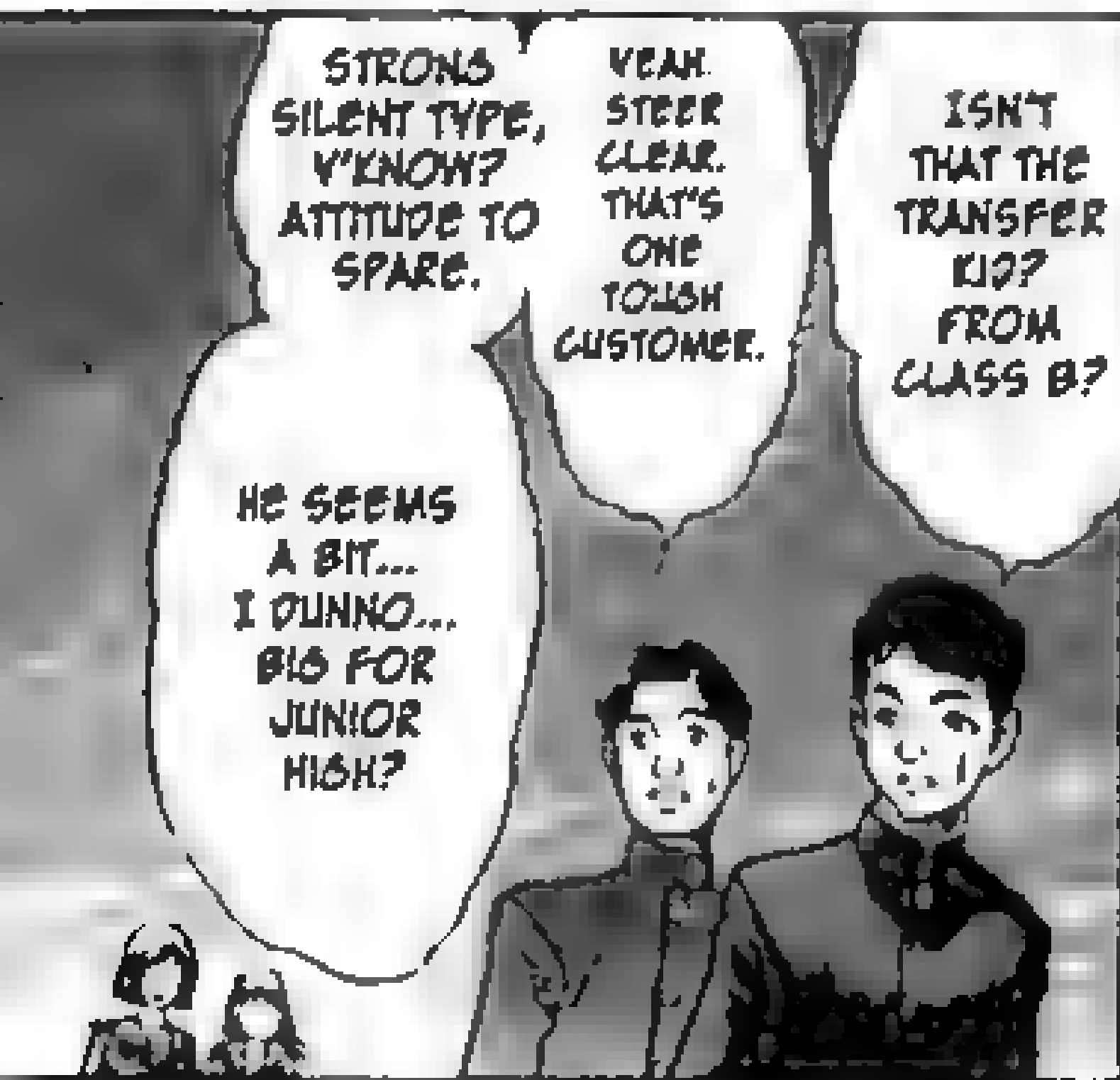
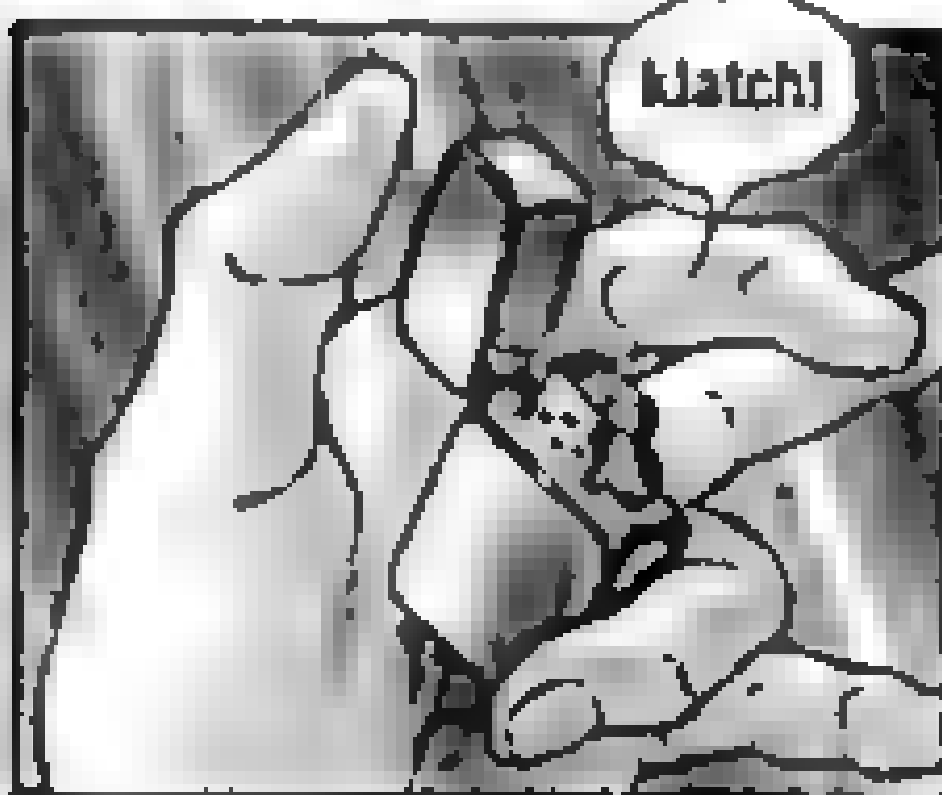
TWO...
FIVE...
NO,
FOUR...



AND I DO
SO HATE TO
DISAPPOINT A
CUTE GIRL...
WHAT THE
HELL, I'LL
IMPROVISE.

BAD TIME
TO COME
UP WALLET
LIGHT ON
L'IL SHINJI'S
RAINCOATS.

NINTH GRADE/CLASS B - BOY #19:
SHINJI MIMURA

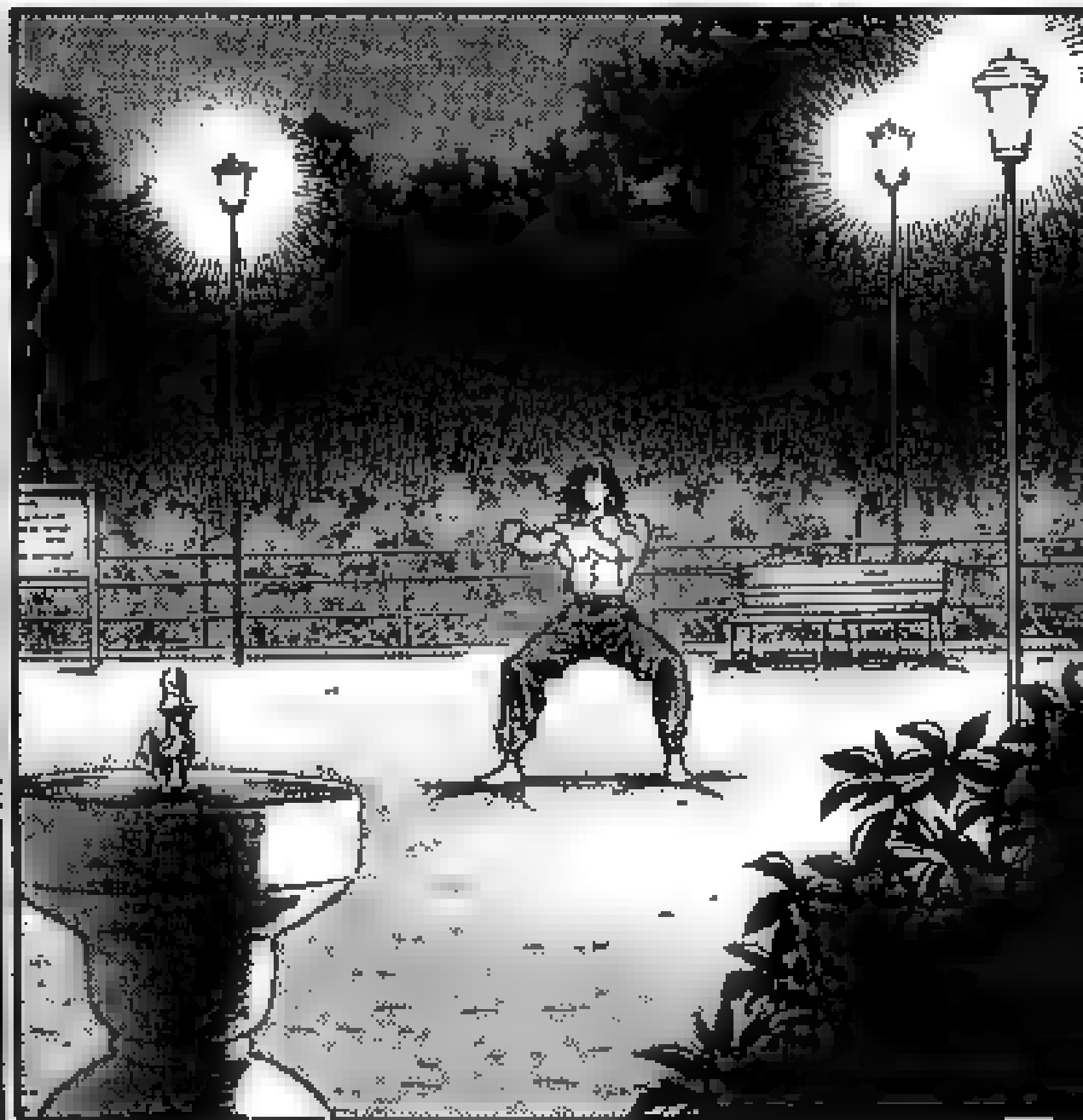


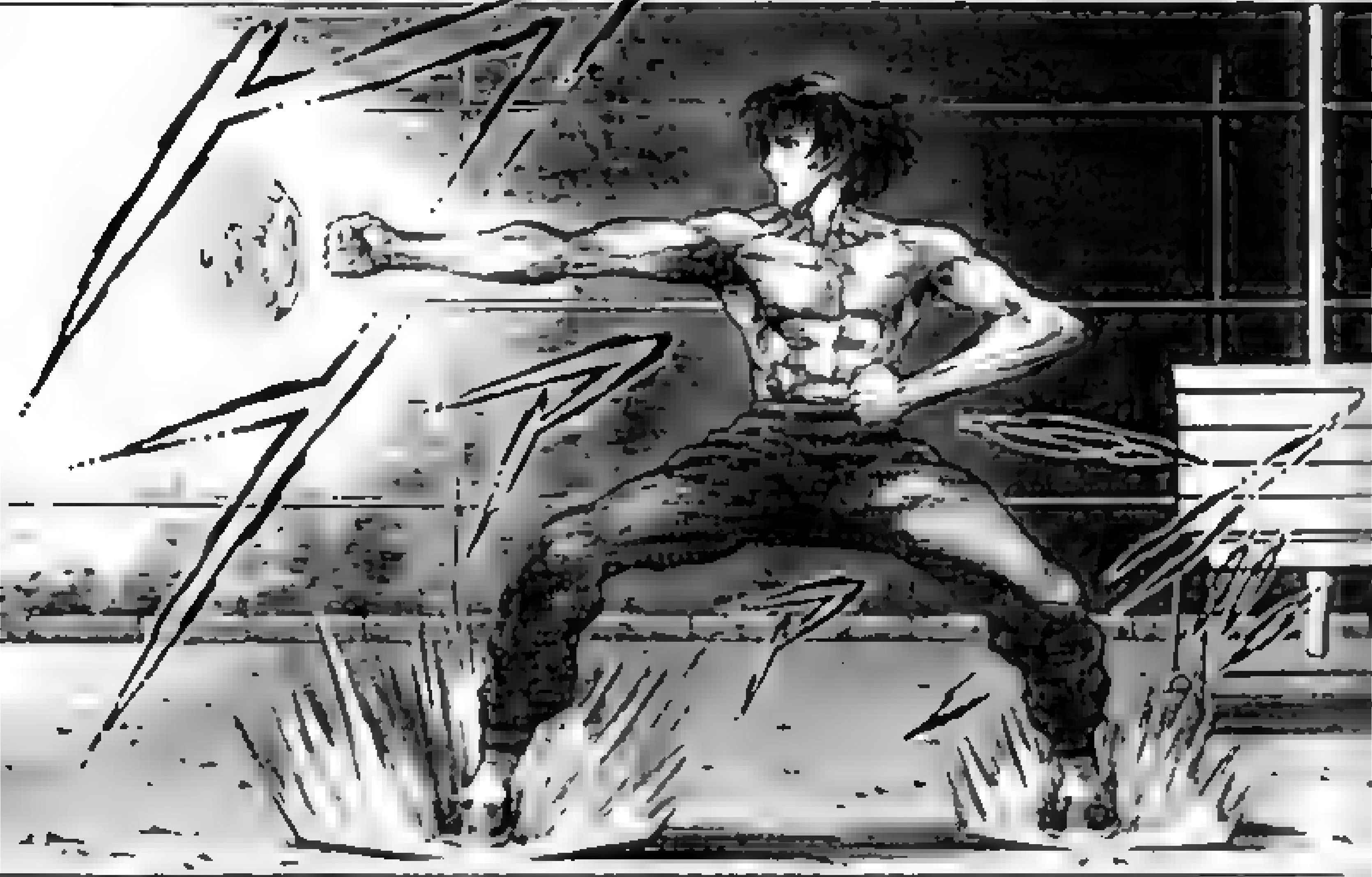
WOUND UP MISSING MOST OF THE YEAR AND GOT LEFT BACK. "LUCKY" US HE WOUND UP HERE, EH?

MESSED WITH THE WRONG CROWD. GOT HIMSELF DAMN NEAR KILLED.

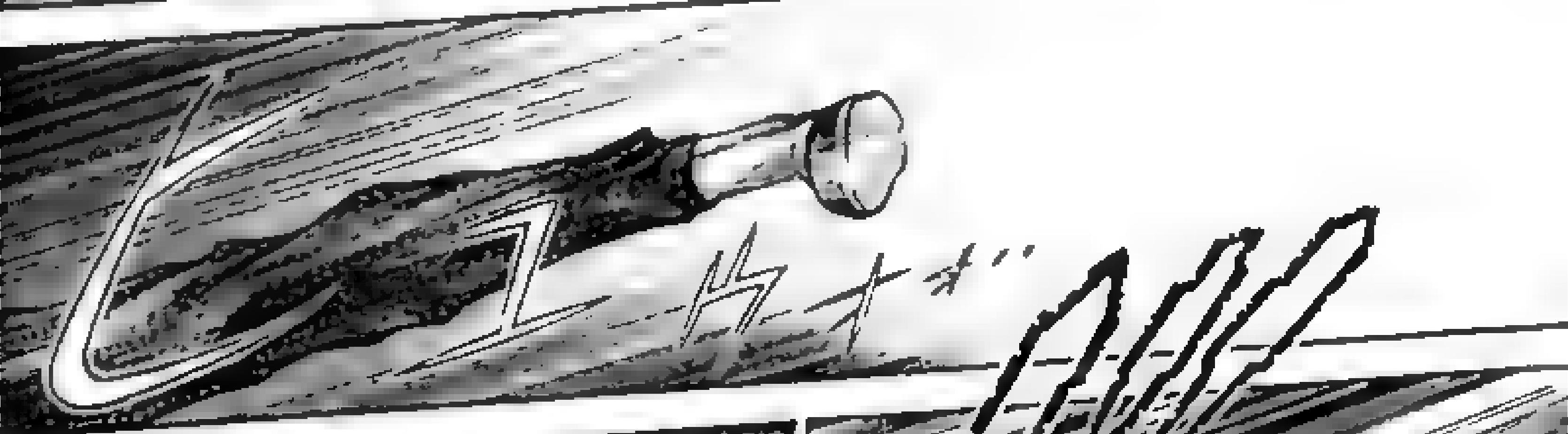
NINTH GRADE/CLASS B - BOY #5:

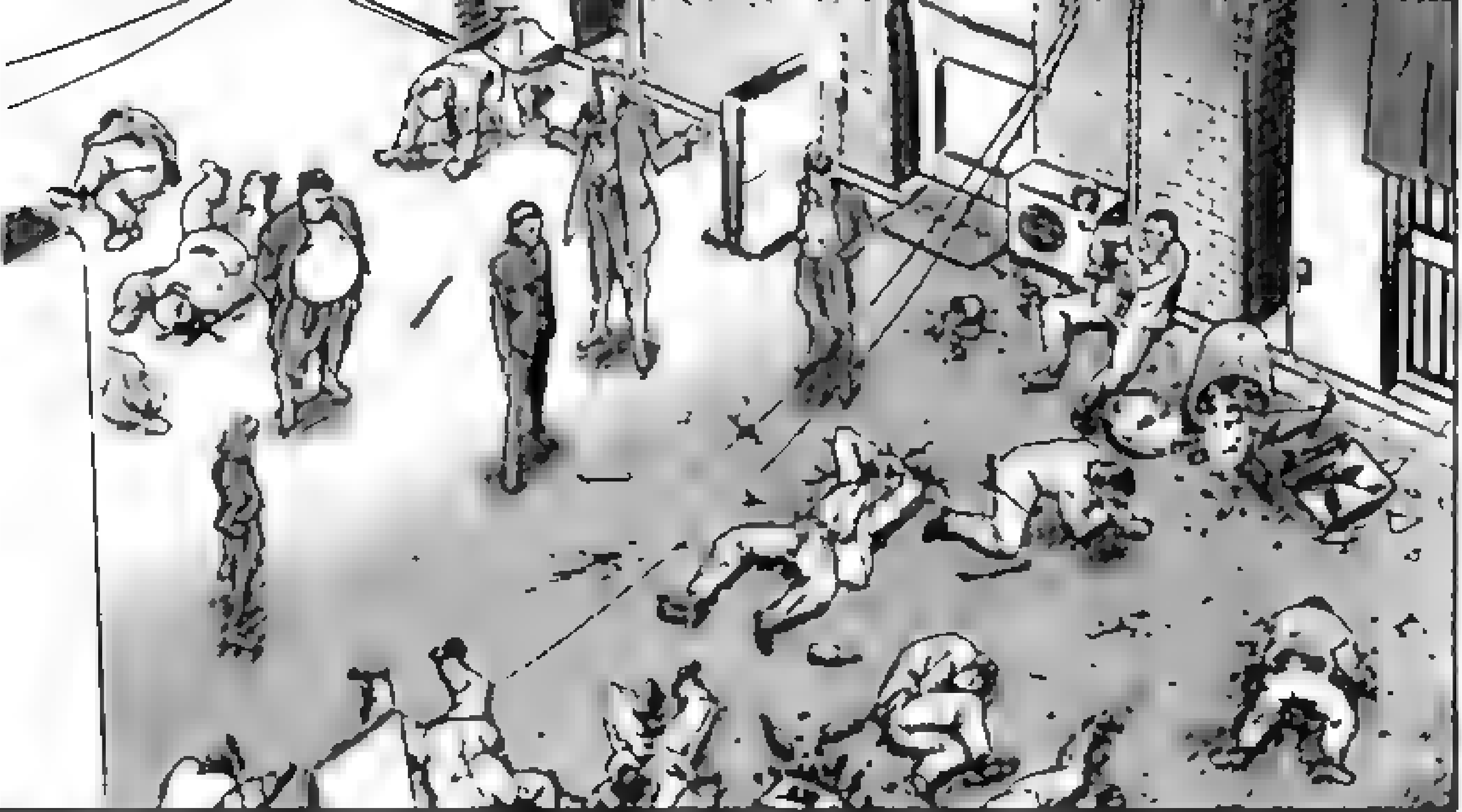
SHOGO KAWADA





NINTH GRADE/CLASS B - BOY #15:
HIROKI SUGIMURA





WAY TO GO, BOYS
DEAD BANSI!



HNSH...
HNSH... MY
ARM... SON
OF... HNSH...
OF A BITCH
BROKE MY
ARM.



BOUGHT
YOURSELF
A WORLD OF
TROUBLE,
FINE ASS

NOT
SMART, KID...
YAKUZA DONT
TAKE TO... TO
FINE-ASS
KIDS...

NOT
...



BOSS?!
YOU?!
BUT YOU...
YOU'RE
JUST A...
A KID!

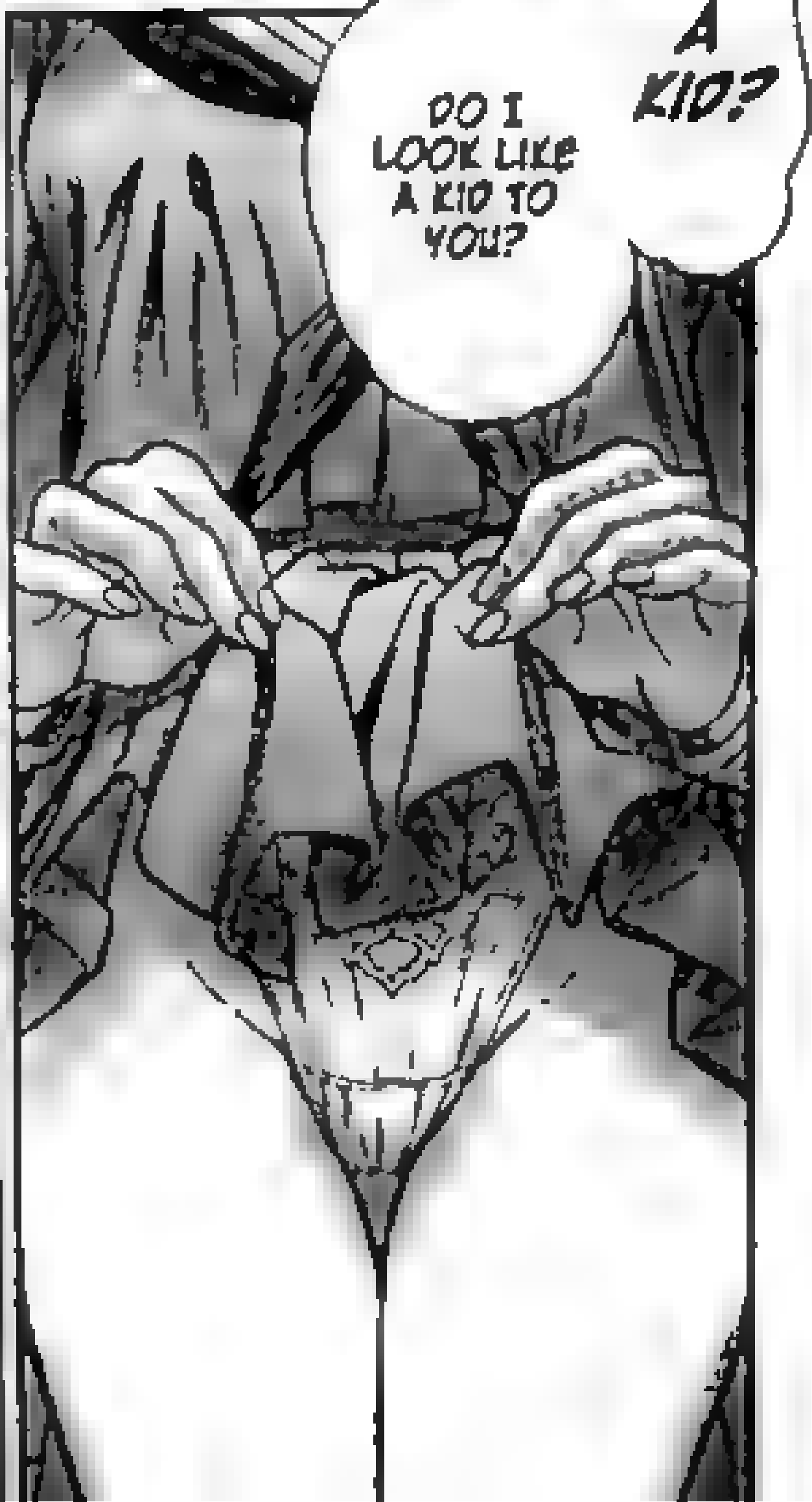
NINTH GRADE/CLASS B - BOY #6:
KAZUO KIRIYAMA



THERE... YOU
SEE? IT'S ALL
A MATTER OF
PERSPECTIVE,
ISN'T IT?



YOU
LIKE?



DO I
LOOK LIKE
A KID TO
YOU?

A
KID?

NINTH GRADE/CLASS B - GIRL #11:

MITSUKO SOUMA

M
M
M
7

HOW MUCH DO YOU LIKE, LITTLE MAN?

NAME IT!
NAME YOUR PRICE!
I... I...

A PEEK...
JUST A PEEK OF PINK...

TELL ME!

TELL ME AND IT'S YOURS.

ANYTHING!
PLEASE!

SO.

WE UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER, EH, LITTLE MAN?









Just don't get the boys for him 'cause he's so much better looking than me

OH YEAH

NOT FUNNY, SKILL! BESIDES... IT'S NOT LIKE I'M READY TO... I MEAN, SHE'S NOT

TCW



!!

and social skills that are the shame of my family. So my friend here wrote a song to tell you how I feel!

Oh, baby though I can't tell you how I feel 'cause I'm pretty much a dork with a limited vocabulary



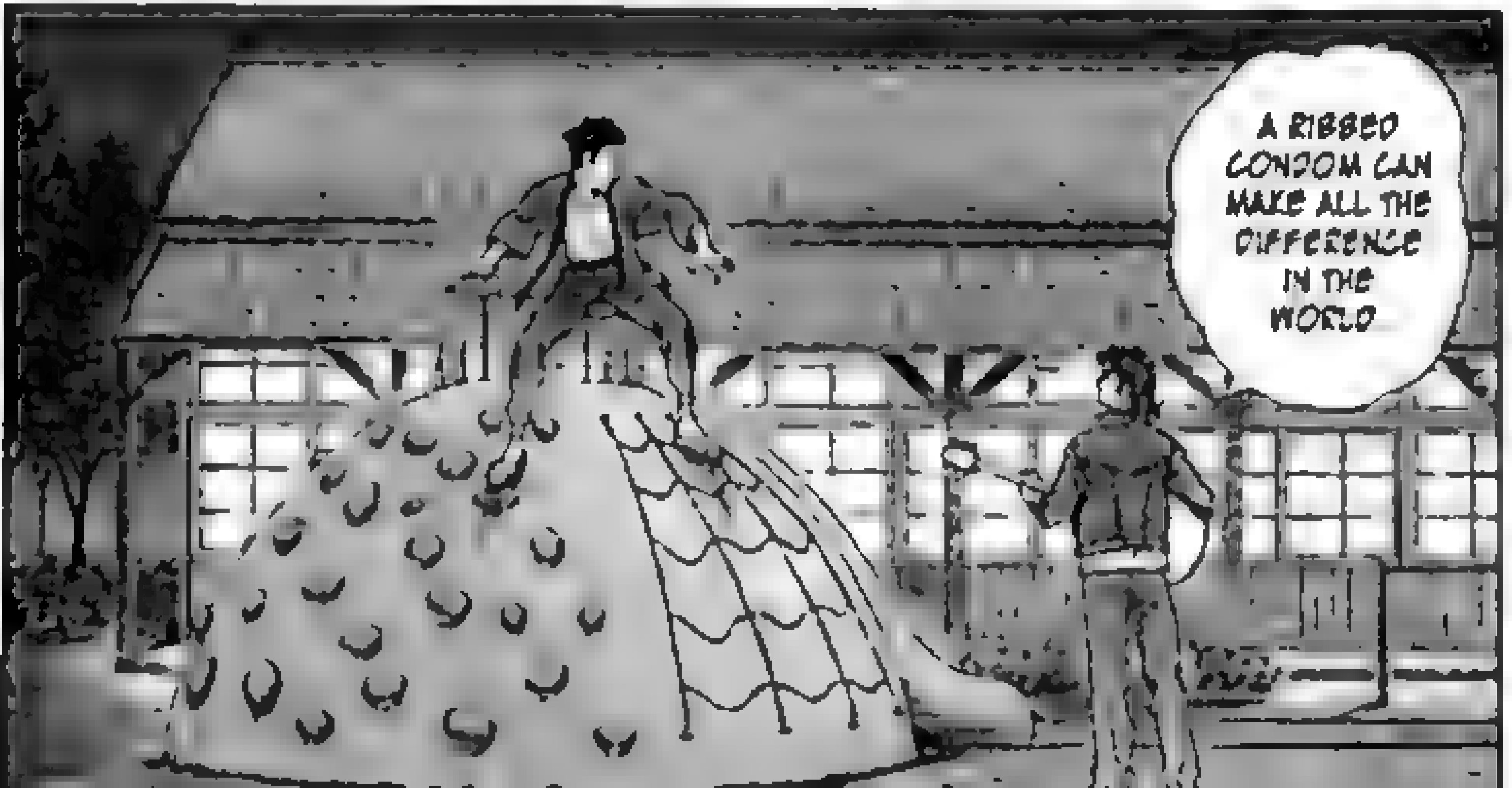
S-SURE. WHAT IS IT?

LM... LM...



AND IF YOU'VE NEVER LISTENED TO ME BEFORE... LISTEN NOW.

WORD TO THE WISE, YOSHI MY FRIEND.



A RIBBED CONDOM CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD





SHUJYA,
WOULD
YOU JUST
SHUT THE
HELL UP!



YOU NEED
ANYTHING,
JUST SAY
THE WORD,
BOSS



SHUJYA?



I SAID
I WAS
SORRY.
LOOK
LOOK
HOW
SINCERE
I AM.

C'MON, YOSHI.
IS THAT ANY
WAY TO BE?





I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT... I MEAN, YOU AND YOSHITOKI MIGHT LIKE--

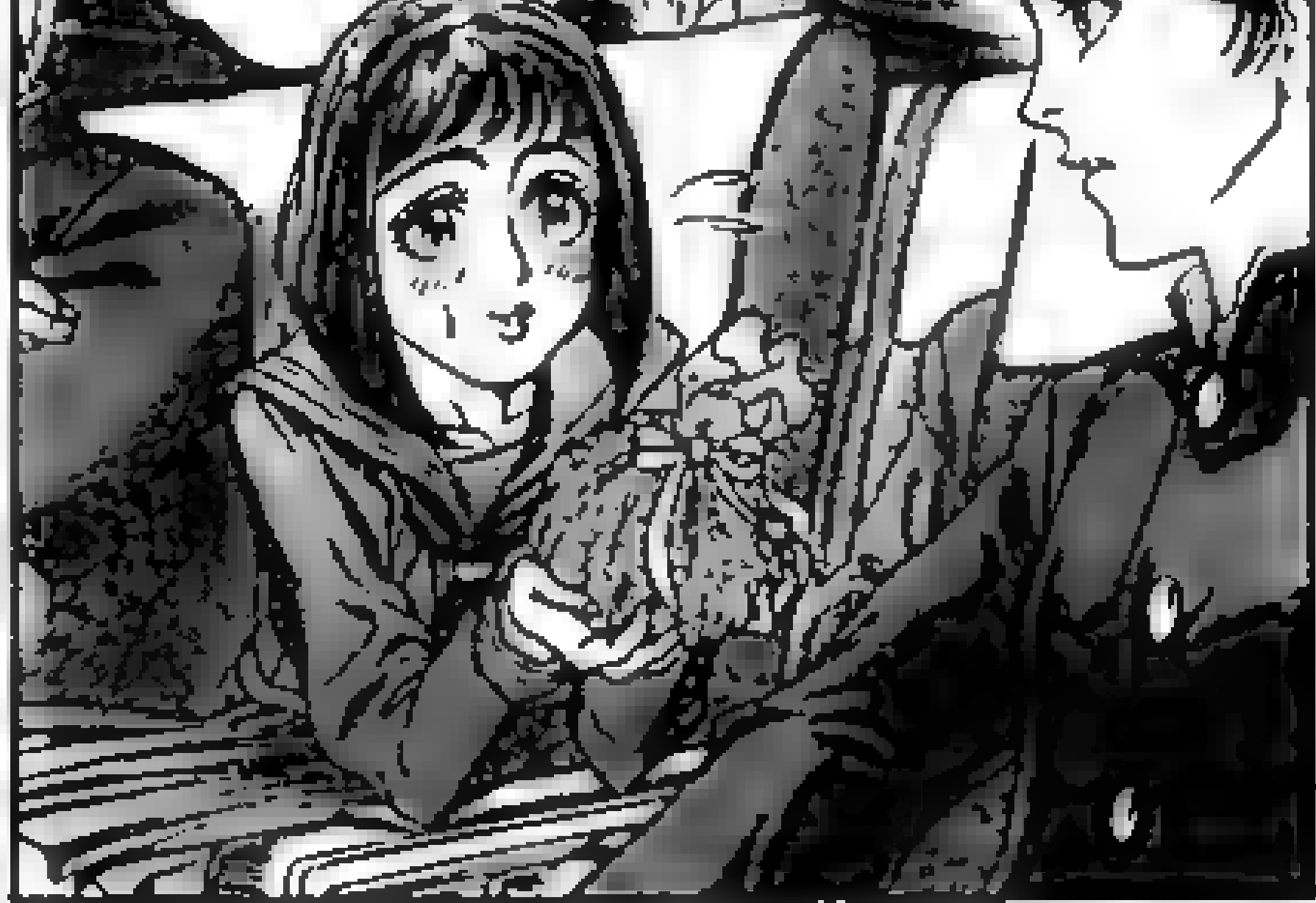
THERE WERE, AH... SOME LEFT OVER AND YOU KNOW HOW COOKIES GET IF THEY... IF THEY SIT TOO LONG?

UM... YESTERDAY MY PAIN-IN-THE-A... BUTT LITTLE BROTHER BEGGED ME TO BAKE UP A BATCH OF COOKIES FOR HIM AND...



THAT IS SO COOL! NO, REALLY, THEY MUST BE REALLY GOOD.

REALLY? WOW! YOU MADE THEM YOURSELF?



"KINDA" DOES HAVE A NAME...

YO, DON JUAN, GUL IT DOWN A FEW.



THAT'S SO SHEET OF YOU TO SAY. ♡

MM-MMM... YUP. I KNEW IT. REALLY GOOD. REALLY. ♡



PSST... SHOULD I GET MY GUITAR?



RIIIIIING!



!!



HEY, YOSHI?

?

ZZZZZZ...



HA-//

WHAT ...
COOKIES ...

HUH ...
ZZZ-MNF ...
WHAT'S ... NORIKO TOO?
WHAT'D YOU PUT IN THEM COOKIES, GIRL?

HNGH... LOOKA THA' ...
WHUZZA ... HAPPEN ...



'KAY... OKAY. MEBBE... MEBBE I TAKE A NAP TOO... SOUN' RIGHT...
HEY, EVER'BODY... CALL THIS A GRADU... LATION TRIP? HELLO?

EVER'BODY SLEEPIN'... HOW'S THAT? WHAT KINDA CLASS TRIP... EVER'BODY FALLS ASLEEP?



ZZZZ ...



WHAT'S HE...?

HMM...? KAWAADA ?



JUS' STRAP ONNA
MAS' WHEN IT
DROPS AND YOU
BE HUNKY DORY
A-OKAYYYY...
'SPECIALLY YOU
BE DRIVIN' TH'
BUS... HOWZAT
FAIR? BUS DRIVER
GETS A OSHEGEN
MAS' AN' WE
DON'...

LADIES AN'
GEM'IN...
IN CASE OF
CABIN DECOM...
DECOMPRESHEN'
WE GOT THESE
HERE OSHEGEN
MAS' GONNA HE'P
YOU ALL
BREEVE...

'R LIKE ONNA
AIRPLANE...
LIKE A
OSHEGEN
MAS'...

WHA'S UP
WI' THAT?



DON'
SEEM
FAIR T'
ME...
NOT...
FAIR...

... AT
ALL...



LOOK
LIKE A SPACE...
SPACE ALIEN'R
SUM'IN...



NO
...





I...
I WON'T
ACCEPT
THIS!

I
CAN'T...

SHUUYA?
AND
YOSHITOKI?
THE WHOLE
CLASS?!



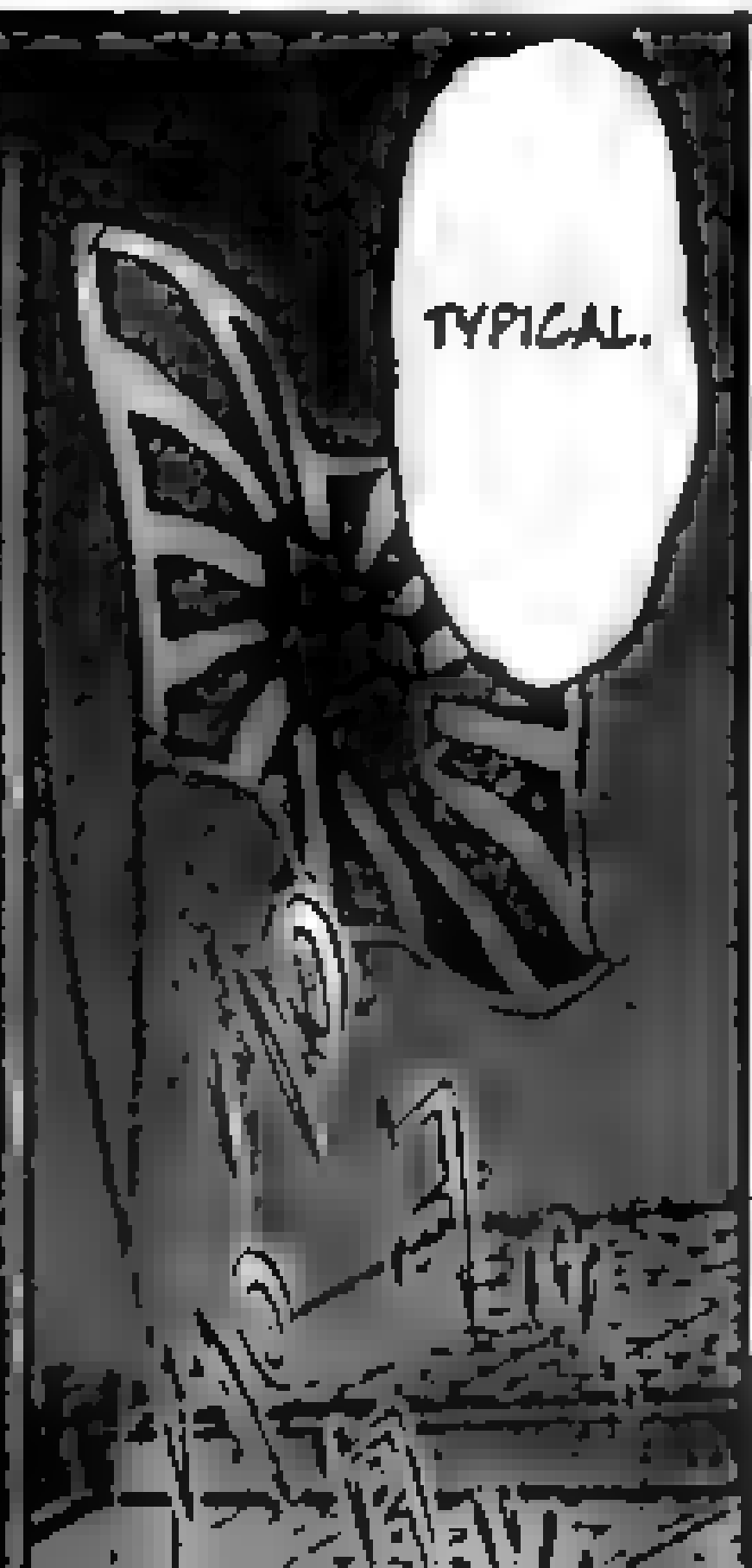
NO! I
WON'T HAVE
IT! DO YOU
HEAR ME!?

RYOZO!

HOW
DARE
YOU!

THOSE
POOR
BOYS!

THEY'VE
DONE NOTHING
TO DESERVE
THIS! NOTHING!



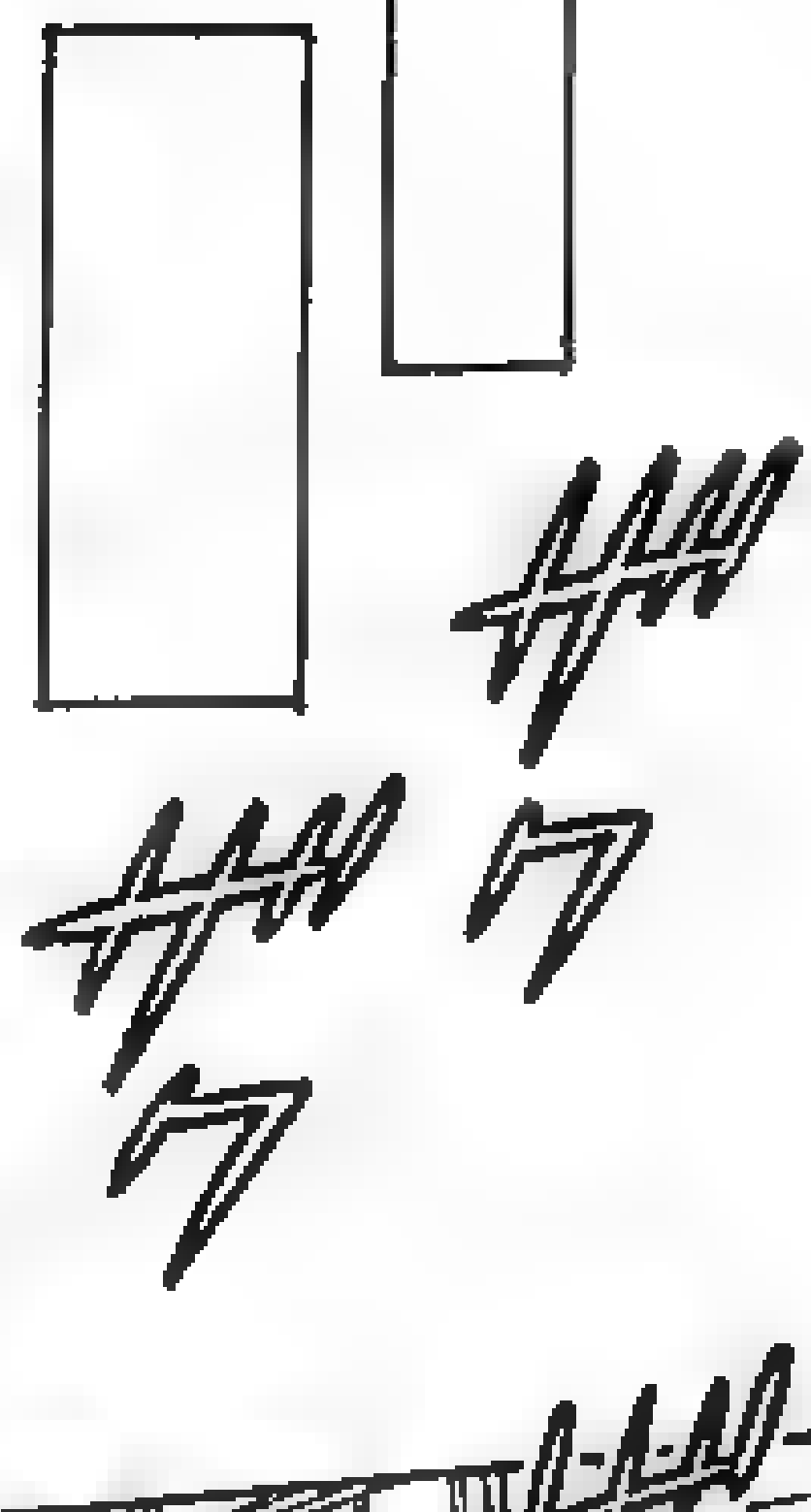
TYPICAL.



SIGH
...



I WILL
NOT HAVE
THOSE BOYS
PUNISHED
FOR BEING
ORPHANS!



WHERE IS...
WHERE ARE
WE?

ALL
OF
US?

HEY! MY
WATCH!
SOMEBODY
STOLE
MY...

DOES
ANYONE
KNOW HOW
LONG WE
WERE OUT?
WHAT TIME
IS IT NOW?

HOW COULD
ALL OF US
FALL
ASLEEP
AT THE
SAME...

IS THIS A
CLASSROOM?
ARE WE
BACK AT
SCHOOL?

SOMEONE'S
SCREWING
WITH OUR
HEADS. THAT'S
GOTTA BE...

SINCE
WHEN
ARE OUR
FLOORS
WOOD?
CHECK
IT OUT!

AH, GEEZ,
THERE GOES
YUKIO,
TURNING
ON THE
WATERWORKS.
GET A GRIP,
GIRL.

WHAT
IS THIS?
IT'S LIKE
A DOJO
WITH
DESKS.

...



HUH?

NORIKO.
HEY,
NORIKO...

?

YO!

YOSHITOKI.
OVER
HERE.



UH-
HUH...

UH-
HUH.

...

IS
THAT A
COLLAR?

WHAT'S
...



LADIES.
GENTLEMEN.
IF YOU'LL
PLEASE
SETTLE
DOWN.

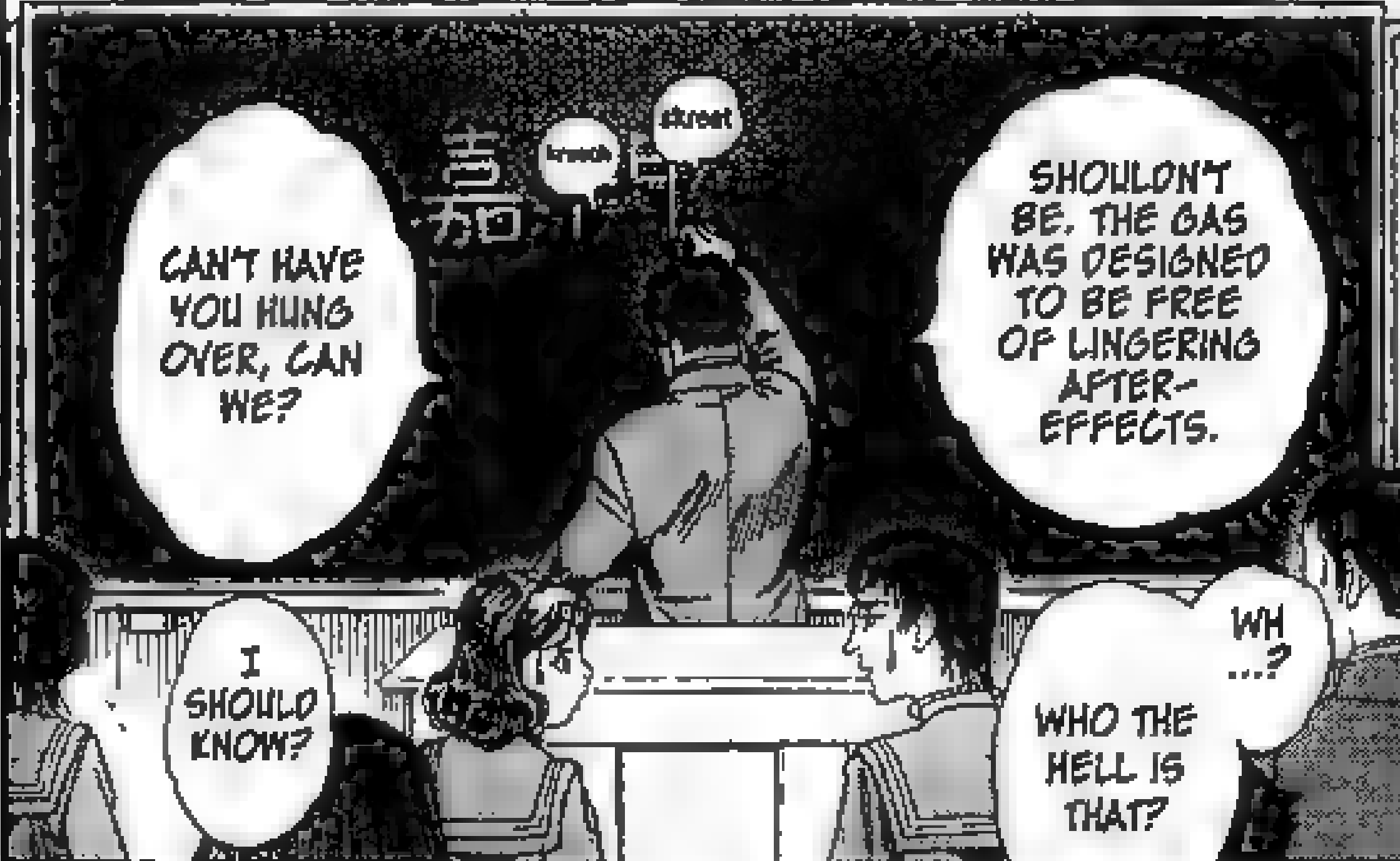
IF I CAN
HAVE YOUR
ATTENTION,
PLEASE...

!!

NOT
GOOD. MOST
DEFINITELY
NOT GOOD.

!!

SUNNIVA!
TAGGED
ME TOO!?



CAN'T HAVE YOU HUNG OVER, CAN WE?

SHOULDN'T BE. THE GAS WAS DESIGNED TO BE FREE OF LINGERING AFTER-EFFECTS.

I SHOULD KNOW?

WH...?
WHO THE HELL IS THAT?



NO LINGERING ILL EFFECTS, I HOPE?



THAT SAID, LET ME BE THE FIRST TO WELCOME YOU TO OUR LITTLE COMPETITION.

YOU MAY CALL ME "SIR."

SO. WE BEGIN. I AM YOUR NEW TEACHER. MY NAME IS YONEMI KAMON.



KEEP THIS UP AND WE CAN SPARE OURSELVES ANY... UNPLEASANTNESS DOWN THE LINE.

AN ATTENTIVE CLASS IS AN EFFICIENT CLASS. AS FIRST IMPRESSIONS GO, VERY GOOD!

ATTENTIVE. VERY GOOD.



SOME AMONG YOU MIGHT EVEN "GET OFF ON IT," TO USE THE VERNACULAR.

I THINK YOU'LL FIND THE NEXT FEW DAYS... INTERESTING, TO SAY THE LEAST.

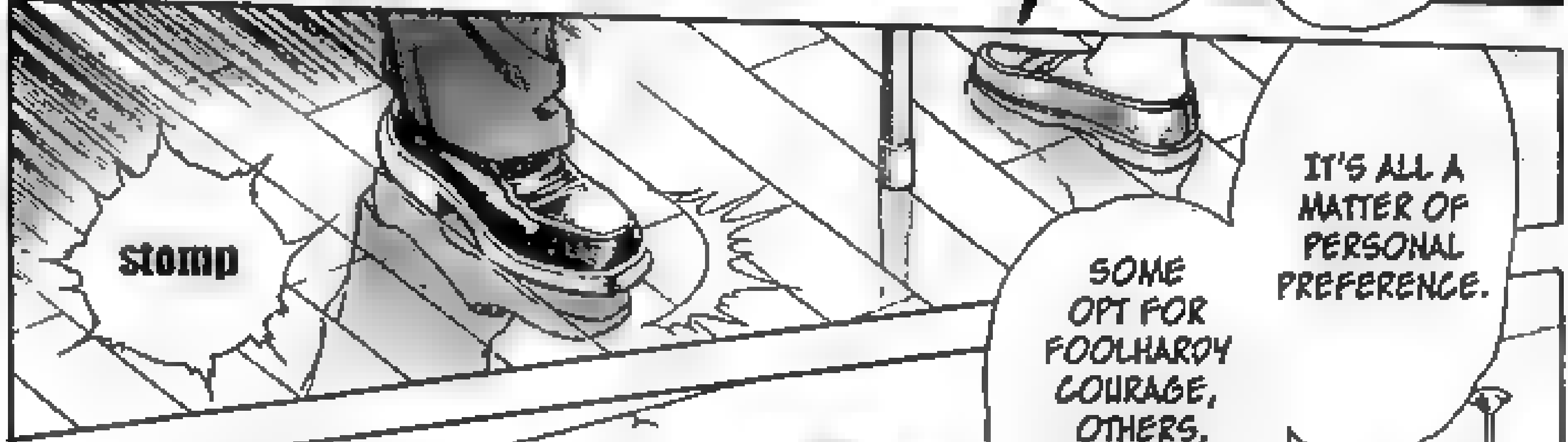
SO ...

?

IS THIS GUY SERIOUS?

GET REAL!

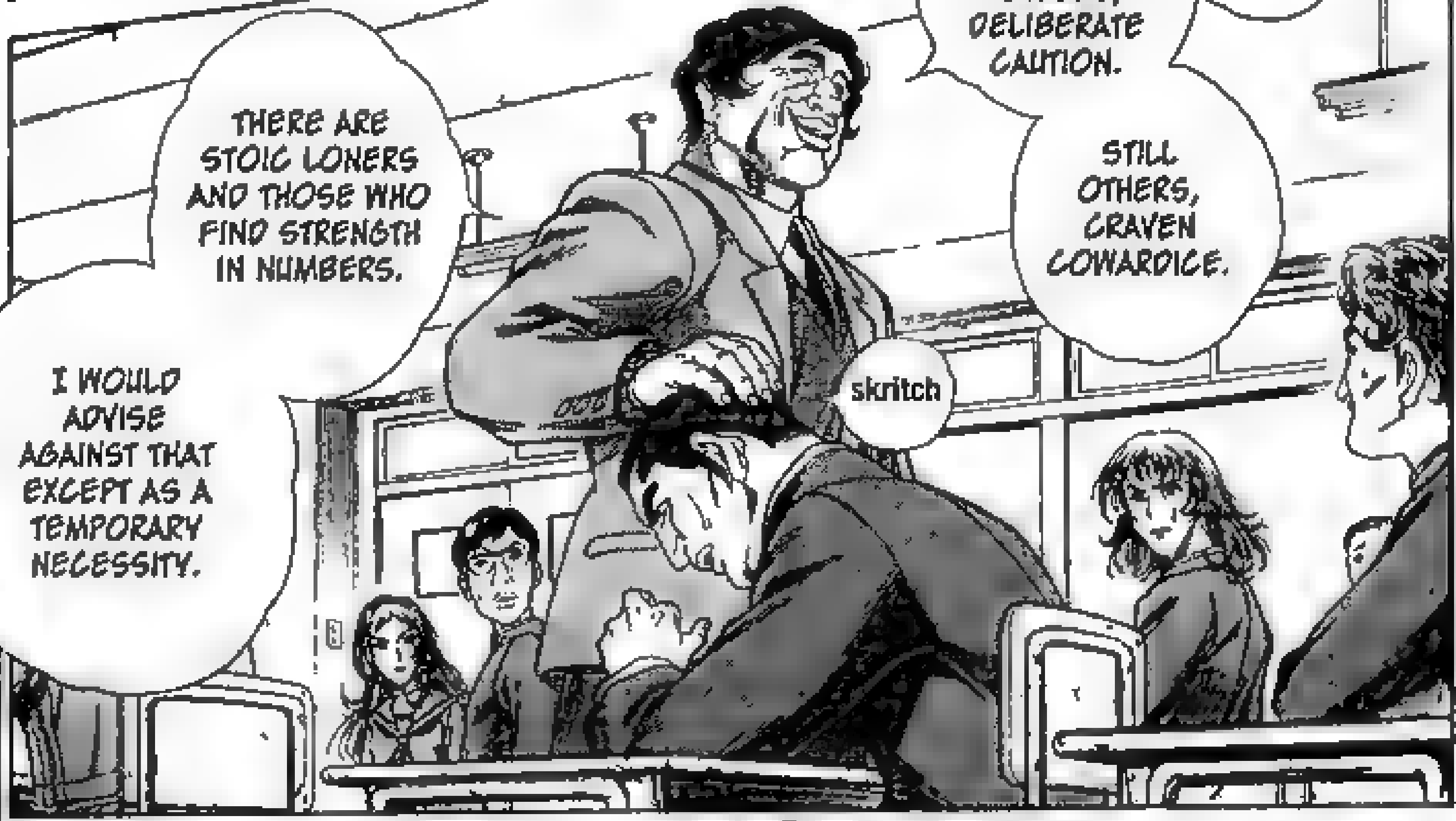
COMPETITION? LIKE A GAME?



stomp

IT'S ALL A MATTER OF PERSONAL PREFERENCE.

SOME OPT FOR FOOLHARDY COURAGE, OTHERS, DELIBERATE CAUTION.



THERE ARE STOIC LONERS AND THOSE WHO FIND STRENGTH IN NUMBERS.

STILL OTHERS, CRAVEN LOWARDICE.

I WOULD ADVISE AGAINST THAT EXCEPT AS A TEMPORARY NECESSITY.

skritch



AH, AH... I NEVER SAID IT WOULD BE EASY.

SANITY EVEN MORE FRAGILE.

THIS... IT CAN'T BE...

FRIENDS, I'M SORRY TO SAY, ALL TOO SOON BECOME LIABILITIES. TRUST, FRAGILE.

YES...



SURVIVAL
OF THE FITTEST...
OR SO WE LIKE
TO BELIEVE.



FORTY-TWO
COMPETE UNTIL
A WINNER IS
DETERMINED.

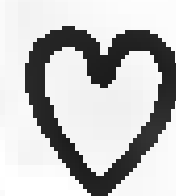


WE'RE GOING TO BE ON THE PROGRAM!

THE PROGRAM!

...

... JUST BE SURE YOU MAKE IT STICK.



WOULD THEY? COULD THEY? GOD HELP US... THE FUCKING PROGRAM!

YOSHITOKI... NORIKO... I-I CAN'T...

BASTARDS!



DO UNTO OTHERS ...

KILL OR BE KILLED.

BATTLE ROYALE

SHIRO IWA Junior High School - Grade 9/Class B - Student Roster

Boys: 21 - Girls: 21 - Total: 42



15: Noriko Nakagawa



8: Kayoko Kotohiki



1: Mizuno Inada



15: Shunrya Nanahara



8: Yoji Kuramoto



1: Yoshio Akamatsu



16: Yuka Nakagawa



9: Yuko Sakaki



2: Yukio Utsumi



16: Kazushi Niida



9: Hiroshi Kurokaga



2: Keita Iijima



17: Satomi Noda



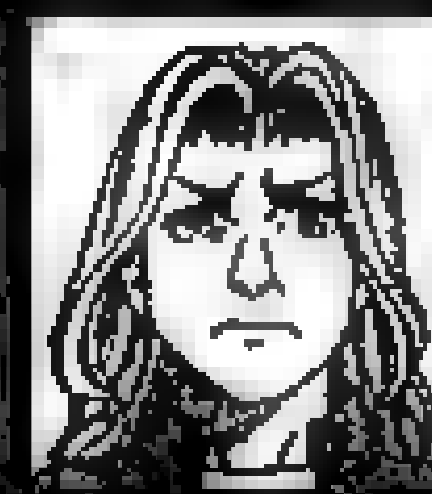
10: Hirono Shimizu



3: Megumi Eto



17: Mitsuru Numai



10: Ryuhei Sasagawa



3: Tatsunichi Ooki



18: Fumiyo Fujiyoshi



11: Mitsuko Souma



4: Sakura Ogawai



18: Tadakatsu Hatagawa



11: Hiroki Sugimura



4: Toshinori Oda



19: Chisato Matsui



12: Haruka Tanizawa



5: Izumi Kanai



19: Shinji Mimura



12: Yutaka Sato



5: Shogo Kawada



20: Kaori Mirami



13: Takako Chigusa



6: Yukiko Kitano



20: Kyoichi Motobuchi



13: Yaichiro Takiguchi



6: Kazuo Kiriyama



21: Yoshimi Yahagi



14: Mayumi Tendo



7: Yumiko Kusaka



21: Kazuhiko Yamamoto



14: Sho Tsukioka



7: Yoshitoki Kuninobu



BATTLE ROYALE

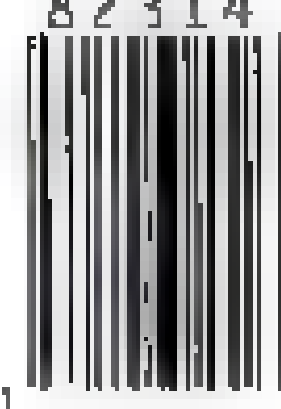
KOUSHUN TAKAMI & MASAYUKI TAGUCHI

It's a lottery. But in this lottery, there's no multimillion-dollar check to turn your life around. No, this is the worst thing that could happen to you if you're a ninth grader in the economically and sociologically bankrupt future that creators Koushun Takami and Masayuki Taguchi have dreamed up. Their controversial series about "The Program"—a game that picks random classes and puts them on an abandoned island for a televised fight to the death—has drawn an incredible following in Japan. Is America ready for it? Are you ready for it? TOKYOPOP brings you this groundbreaking series featuring an English adaptation by renowned writer Keith Giffen. Put aside your morals, hold on to your seats and prepare yourself for an unforgettable manga experience... Prepare yourself for **BATTLE ROYALE!**

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BATTLE ROYALE 1

KOUSHUN TAKAMI & MASAYUKI TAGUCHI

TOKYOPOP®



ENGLISH ADAPTATION BY KEITH GIFFEN



DO
UNTO
OTHERS
...



... PROGRAM...
CHOSEN FOR THE
PROGRAM... CAN'T...
WON'T... HOW
COULD THIS
HAPPEN...?

Chapter 2: Best Friend

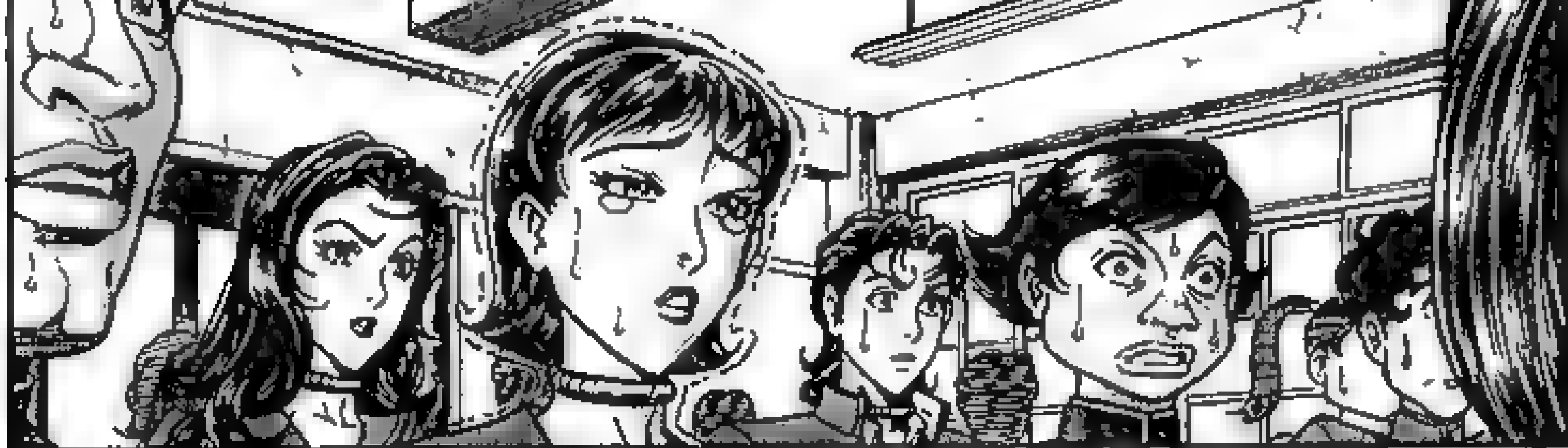


NO TAKERS?
HRMM... JUST AS
WELL.

FORTY-
TWO
COMPETE
UNTIL
ONLY ONE
REMAINS.

BASIC
SUBTRACTION,
CLASS. FORTY-
TWO MINUS
FORTY-ONE...







YOU WOULD BE MASTER MOTOBUCHI, CLASS PRESIDENT, AM I RIGHT?

AMUSING.



I CAN'T BE CHOSEN... I CAN'T! NO, NO, NO... NOT... NOT ME...

YOU SEE?



AN AMUSING CONCEPT AND ONE THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO EXPLORE.

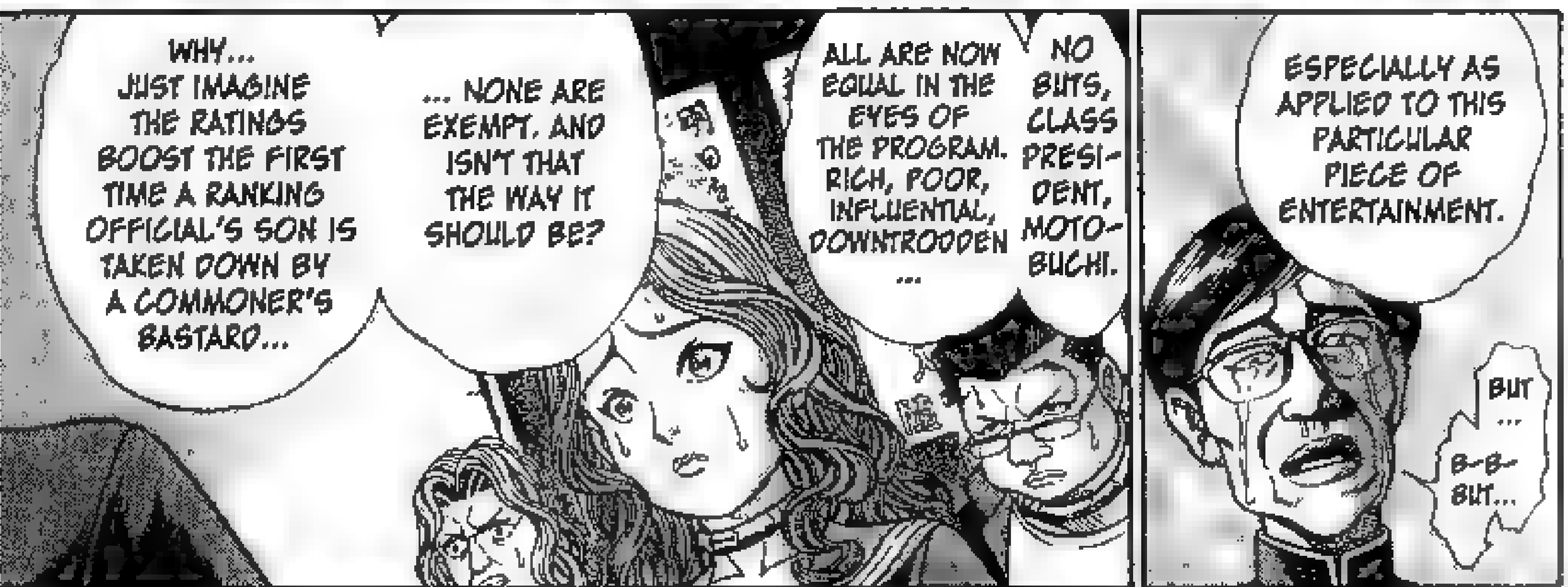
... "HAVING THE SAME STATION, PRIVILEGES OR RIGHTS."

MOST OFTEN DEFINED AS, AND I QUOTE...

EQUALITY.

THE REST OF YOU AS WELL.

OF COURSE I'M RIGHT. LISTEN WELL, "CLASS PRESIDENT" MOTOBUCHI.



WHY... JUST IMAGINE THE RATINGS BOOST THE FIRST TIME A RANKING OFFICIAL'S SON IS TAKEN DOWN BY A COMMONER'S BASTARD...

... NONE ARE EXEMPT, AND ISN'T THAT THE WAY IT SHOULD BE?

ALL ARE NOW EQUAL IN THE EYES OF THE PROGRAM. RICH, POOR, INFLUENTIAL, DOWNTRODDEN ...

NO BITS, CLASS PRESIDENT, MOTOBUCHI.

ESPECIALLY AS APPLIED TO THIS PARTICULAR PIECE OF ENTERTAINMENT.

BUT ...

B-B-BUT...



SO, CLASS PRESIDENT MOTOBUCHI, WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED SO FAR?

GREAT...

OUR, SO-CALLED TEACHER IS A FUCKING LOON.

...OR THE FIRST TIME A YAKUZA BOSS' PRECIOUS DAUGHTER GIVES UP HER VIRGINITY TO... WELL, TO WHOMEVER DECIDES TO TAKE IT, EH?

WE HAVE
LEARNED...
HAVE WE NOT,
CLASS
PRESIDENT
MOTOBUCHI?

I...



ESPECIALLY
LIKE THE
"SHE" VERY
GOOD

EXCEL-
LENT.
MOST
EXCEL-
LENT.

♡



I AM
AMONGS...
EQUALS.
SIR.



I
AM
...

I
...



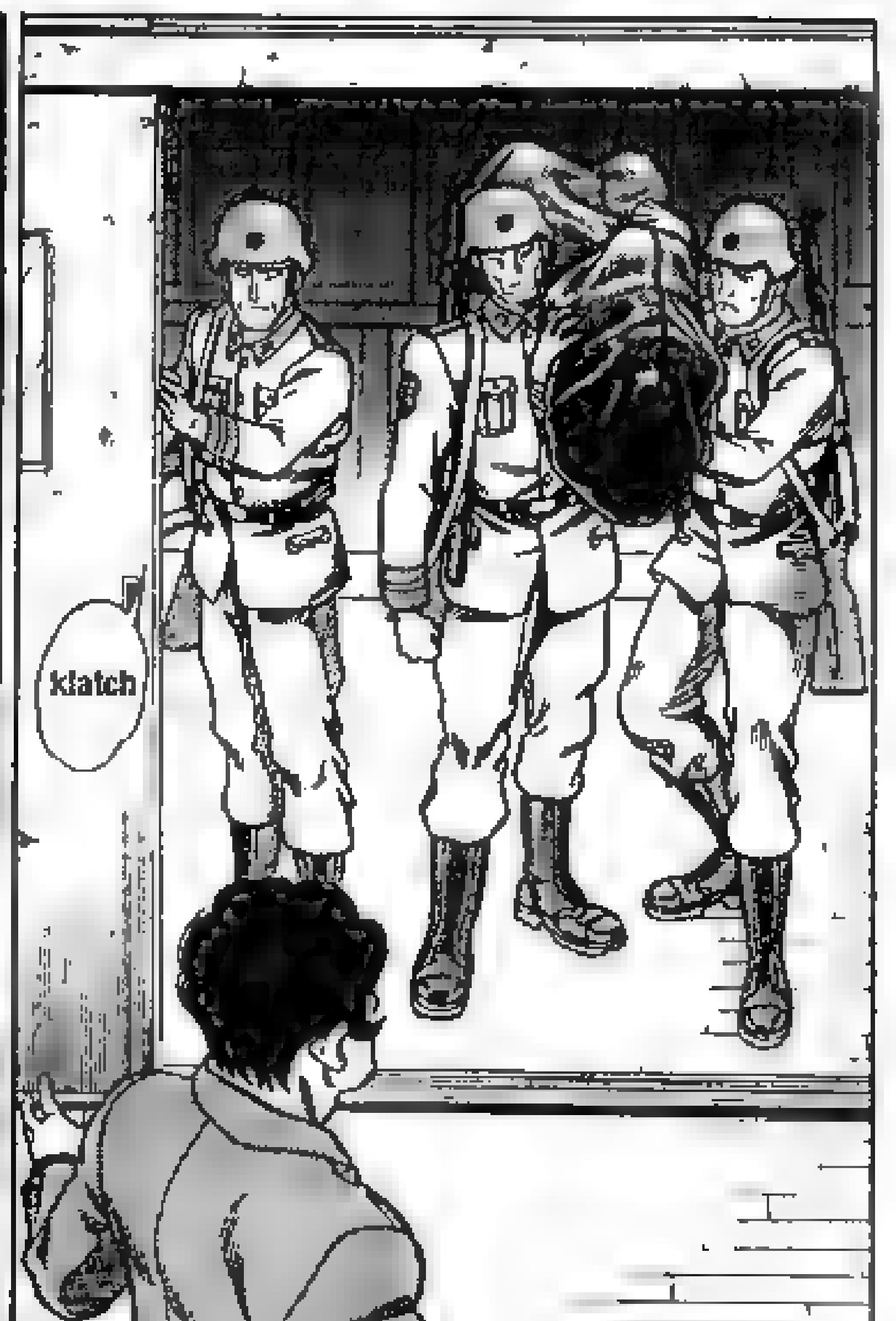
DO THEM
PROUD,
LITTLE
WARRIORS, IF
ONLY TO RUB
THEIR FACES
IN YOUR
VICTORY.

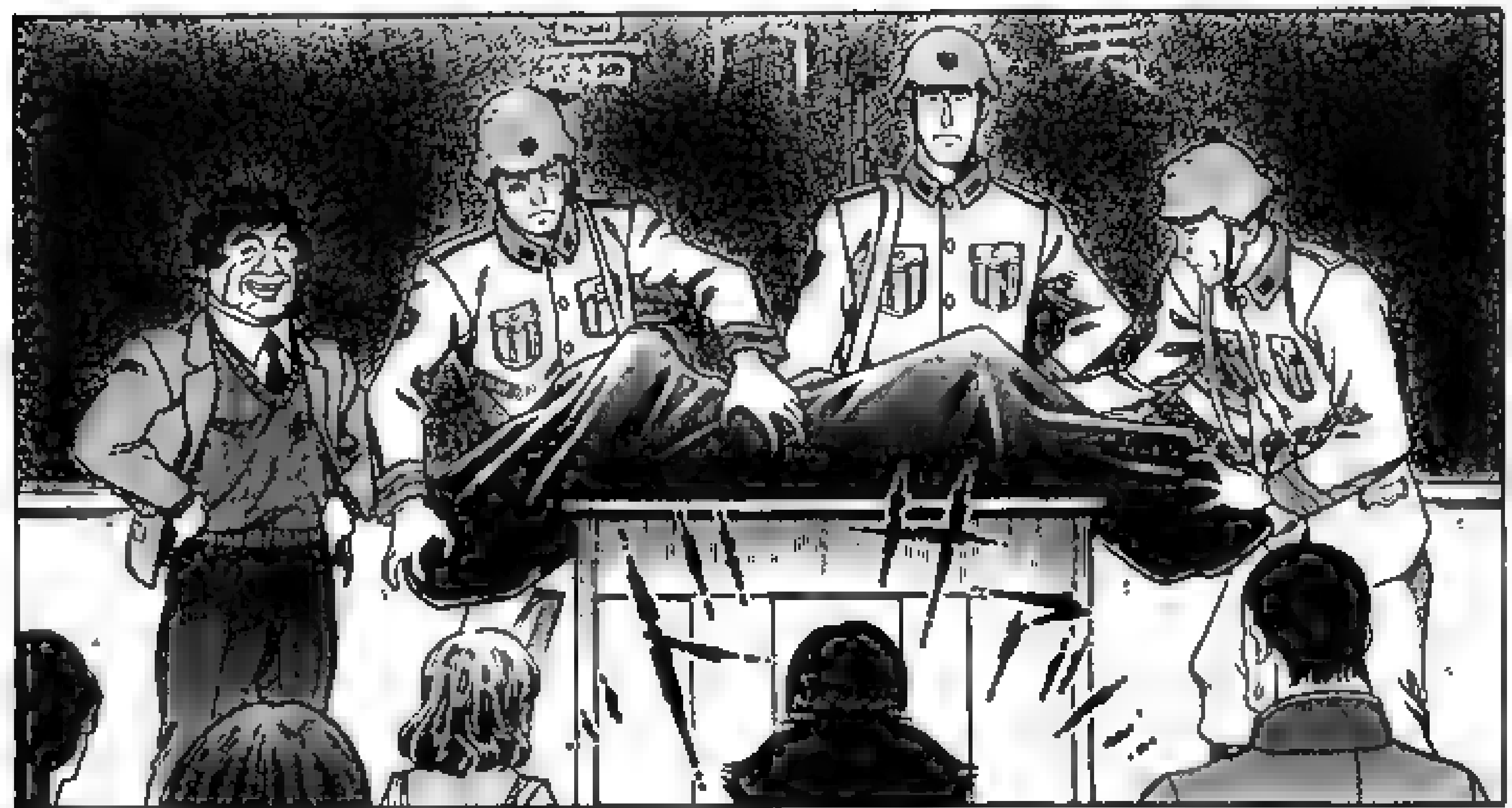
♡

THEY SEND THEIR
BEST WISHES...
LOVE, KISSES,
YAOA, BAH...
THAT WOULD BE
EXCEPTING THOSE
GLAD TO BE RID OF
YOU. YOU KNOW
WHO YOU ARE.

IN CASE ANY
OF YOU WERE
WONDERING,
YOUR PARENTS,
GUARDIANS,
WHATEVER,
HAVE BEEN
NOTIFIED
ABOUT YOUR
PARTICI-
PATION ..

ON-
WARD
THEN.









MR.
HAYASHIDAAAAA
!!!



GLARK
...

WH-
WHAT?!

HLC-
GO...



MR.
HAYASHIDA
...

ホ
ァ!!!





OH ..
NO OFFENSE.

MR. KAYASHIDA HAS DEAD SET AGAINST THIS CLASS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM. NOT QUITE AS VOCAL AS HIS ORPHANAGE WHORE, BUT THEN FEW TONGUES CUT SHARPER THAN A WOMAN'S.

AND DOES OUR LITTLE MISS NAKASAMA KNOW WHY MR. KAYASHIDA JOINED US TODAY?

SUCH A SPECIAL GRL. YOU'D BE OUR LITTLE MISS NAKASAMA, NO?

EVEN WITH THE MODIFICATIONS MADE TO HIS APPEARANCE.

AREN'T YOU SOMETHING? RECOGNIZED HIM AS YOUR TEACHER..



SEEMS WE MISCALCULATED THE EXTENT TO WHICH MR. KAYASHIDA WOULD DECOMPOSE. OUR BAD.

SHP... AN.. MY APOLOGIES



YOU'RE PART OF THE PROGRAM NOW.

SHP OUT OF IT, SHUYA

THERE'LL BE NO MAKING UP FROM THIS NIGHTMARE.

THEY'RE
GONNA MAKE YOU
A STAR, SHUUYA.
JUST LIKE YOU
ALWAYS
DREAMED.

THINK, SHUUYA,
THINK. THERE'S
GOT TO BE
SOMETHING...
ANYTHING
YOU CAN DO TO
GET OUT OF...



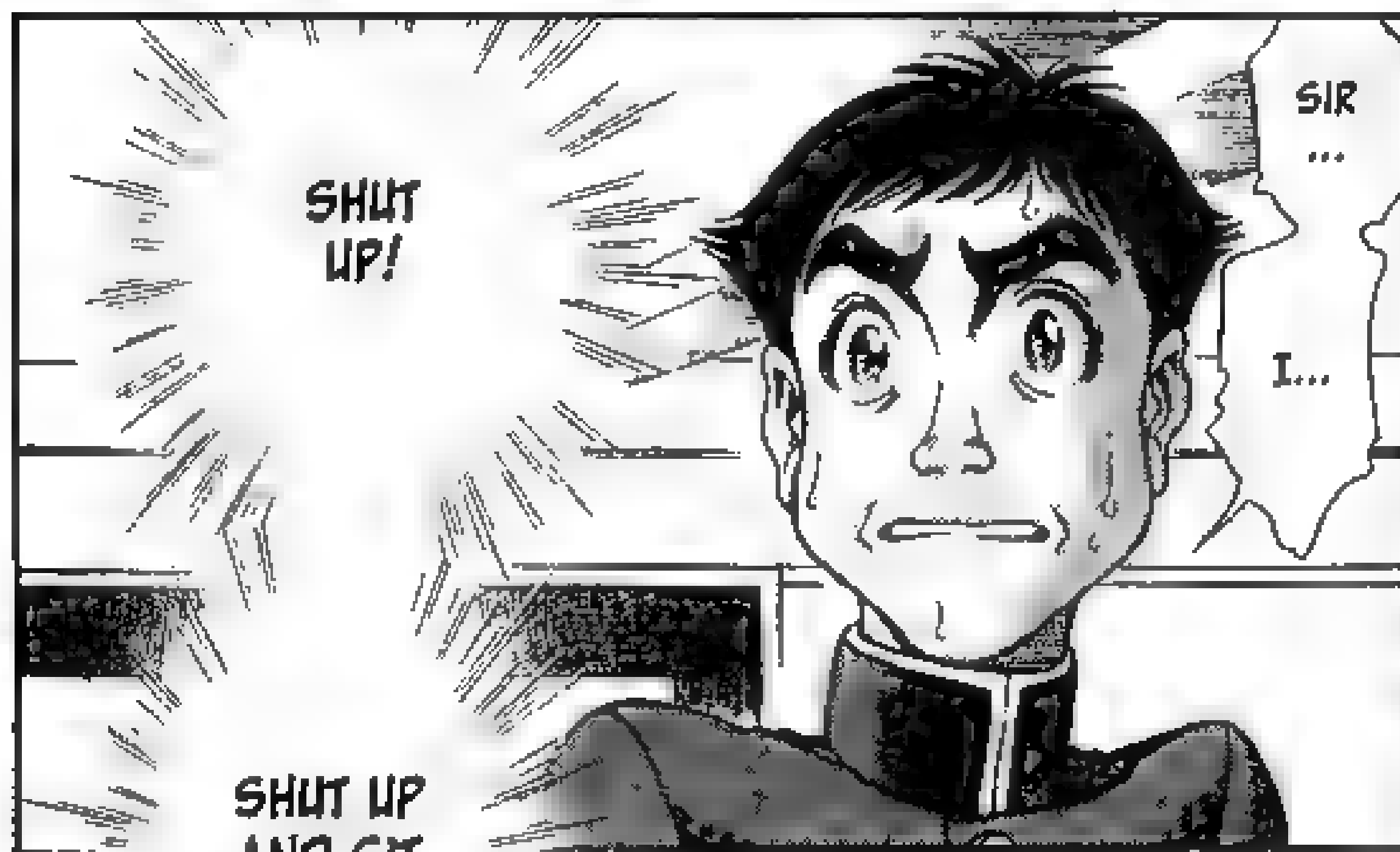
AND ALL
THEY ASK
IN RETURN
IS THAT YOU
KILL ALL
OF YOUR
FRIENDS.

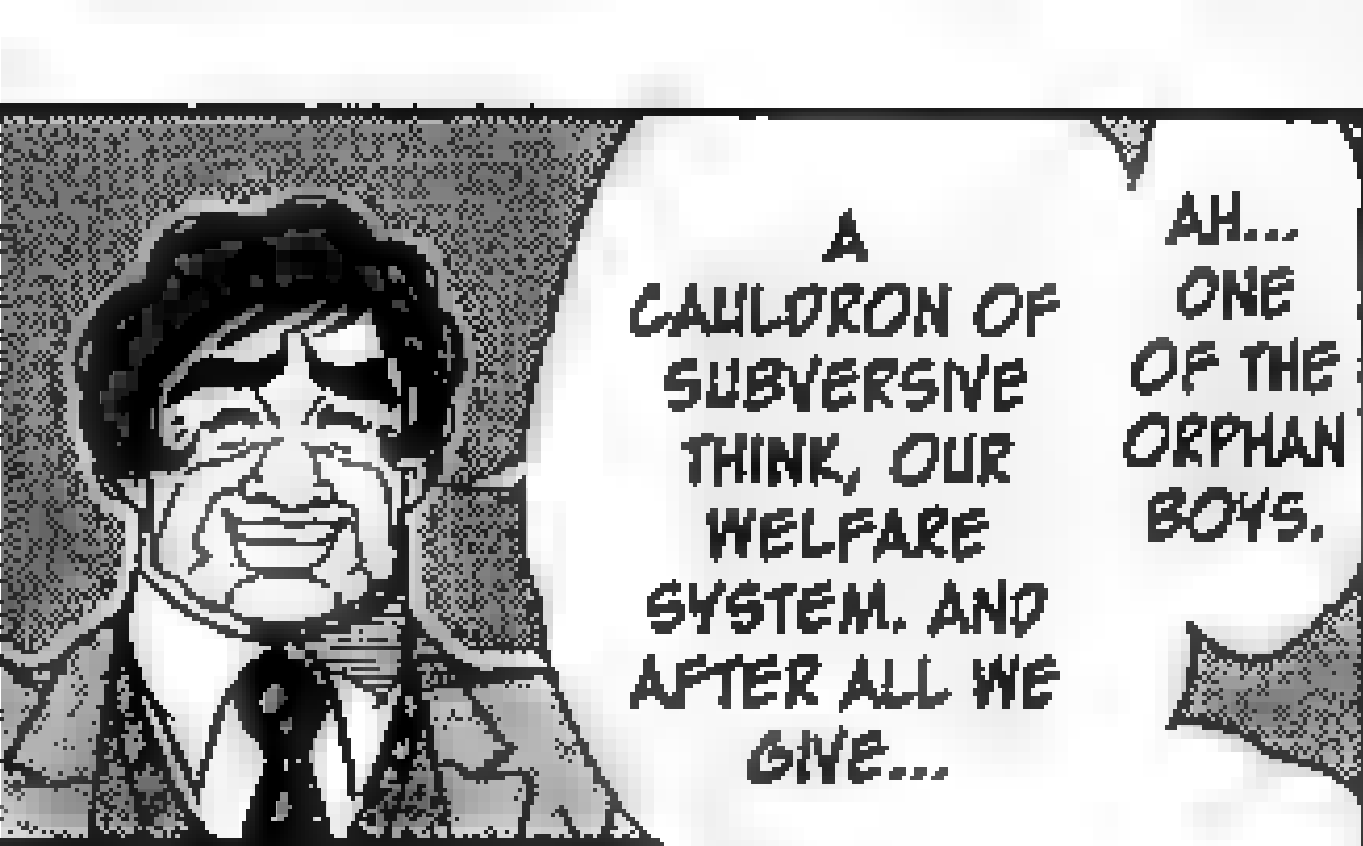
THINK!

THINK, GODDAMN YOU, THINK!!

WHA
...?







A CAULDRON OF SUBVERSIVE THINK, OUR WELFARE SYSTEM. AND AFTER ALL WE GIVE...

AH... ONE OF THE ORPHAN BOYS.



WHO DID YOU TELL... ABOUT THIS? ABOUT ME?

I HAVE NO PARENTS.

I...



PROOF POSITIVE THAT NO GOOD DEED GOES UNPUNISHED.



NOT HIM! ME! I'M THE ONE YOU WANT!



TURNED A BLIND EYE TO ALL MANNER OF DELINQUENT BEHAVIOR. HAD HER FAVORITES, SHE DID.

SHE WAS A SHARP-TONGUED BITCH, THAT ONE. TOO TOLERANT FOR HER OWN GOOD, YOU ASK ME. MISPLACED TOLERANCE.

HEH!

ONE WANTED TO BE A ROCK STAR. WOULD THAT ONE BE YOU?



THE ORPHANAGE BITCH WAS NOTIFIED ABOUT THE BOTH OF YOU. A PITY...

NANAHARA AND KUNINOBU, RIGHT?

HARDLY... I JUST LIKE TO KNOW WHO'S WHO.





SEEK IT'S ALWAYS THE SURPRISE GUES

YOU SEE? I SMILE TO REMEMBER FOR



SEEK A DELICATE BEAUTY

SO COLLECTABLE

POO



WHAT DID YOU DO TO MS RYOKO?

WH...

WH...



BUT THEN, IS THERE ANY OTHER KING?

WH...

♥

FROM LOVE, YOUR WASTEE



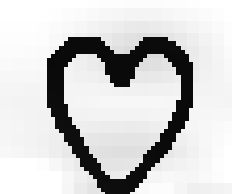


HOW HIGH,
WHERE
WERE YOU?

SORRY,
SORRY. GOT
LOST IN THE
MONEY.



... MORE
THAN WILLING
TO SHARE IT.

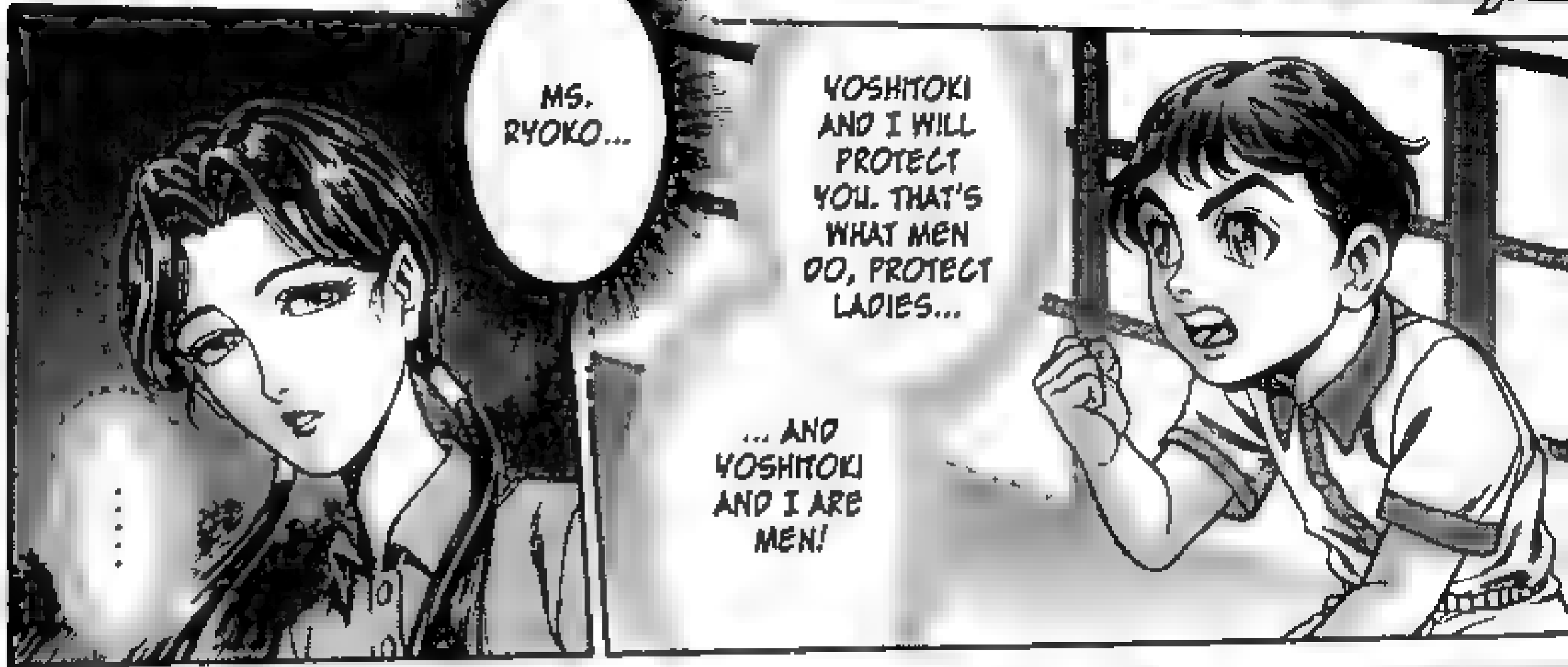




MS.
RYOKO...

MS...

NO,
MS. RYOKO.



MS.
RYOKO...

YOSHITOKI
AND I WILL
PROTECT
YOU. THAT'S
WHAT MEN
DO, PROTECT
LADIES...

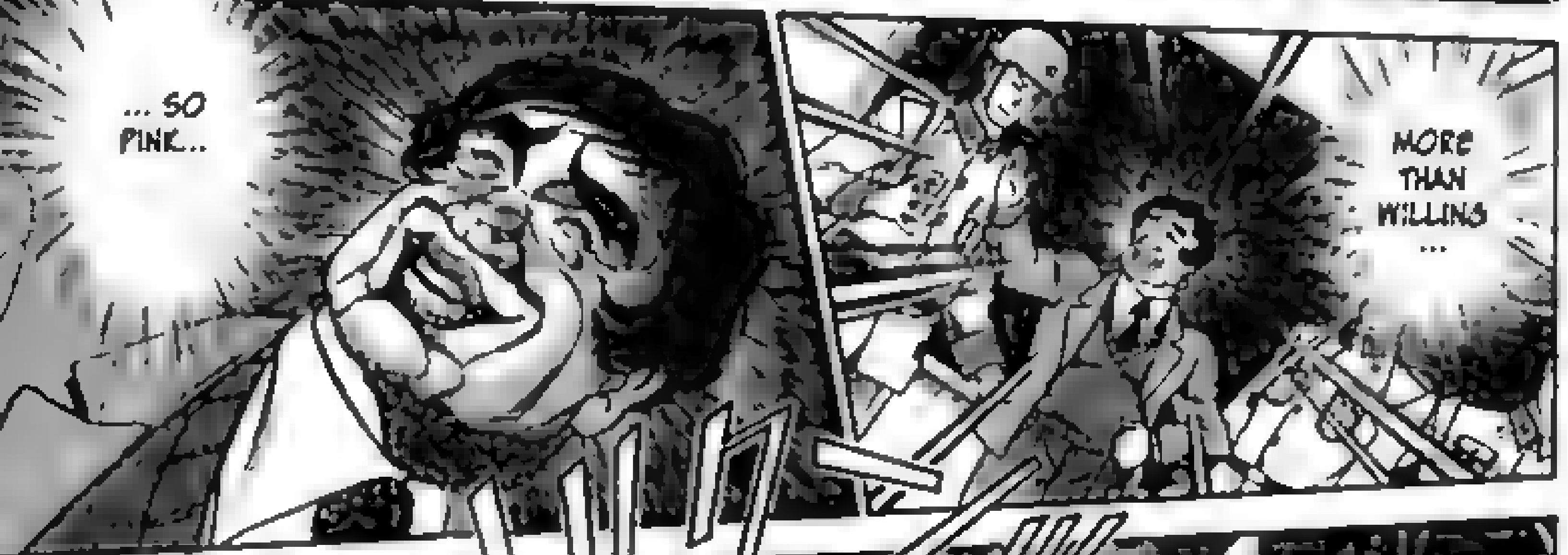
... AND
YOSHITOKI
AND I ARE
MEN!



ULTIMATE
POWER.
YEAH!

YEAH!
MAXIMUM
CARNAGE!
ULTIMATE
POWER!





**AND
SHIT DOWN
YOUR THROAT,
YOU MISERABLE
SON OF A
BITCH!**

**I'LL
RIP OFF
YOUR
HEAD...**

**YOU...
COLD
BLOODED
BASTARD!**







I'LL
KILL YOU!
YOU'RE DEAD,
YOU FUCKING
BASTARDS!
DEAD!

YOU STOP
TALKING
ABOUT HER
LIKE
THAT!



TOO FAST!
IT'S ALL
HAPPENING
TOO--

YOSH!

YOSH! YOU!
DO SOMETHING,
DAMN YOU!
STOP HIM!
HELP HIM!



I'LL KILL YOU!
I'LL KILL YOU!
I'LL KILL YOU!
I'LL...

IT'S
YOUR BEST
FRIEND! DO
SOMETHING!
STOP THINKING
ABOUT IT
AND--



YOSH! YOU!
NO! DON'T
GO IN!

ALWAYS
THERE
WHEN NO
ONE ELSE
WAS...
ALWAYS
THAT DOPEY
YOSHI
SMILE...



THAT'S
THE WAY,
SHUUYA!

MY BEST
FRIEND...
ALWAYS
THERE...
ALWAYS
CARING...

HEY,
SHUUYA!

THAT IS
SO YOU,
SHUUYA.



ONLY EVER
SEEN HIM
ANGRY
TWICE...

NEVER
A BAD
WORD...



YOSHI!

YOU KILLED
EDDIE!
STOP HIM!
SOMEBODY
STOP...

THE ORPHANAGE
DOG. EDDIE.
STUPID NAME
FOR A DOG. CAR
HIT HIM... YOSHI
CHASED THAT CAR
SIX BLOCKS
BEFORE HIS
LEGS GAVE
OUT...



THIRD
TIME'S THE
CHARM...
MY ASS!

SECOND TIME WAS
THAT COLLECTIONS
AGENT. CAME
AROUND SMART-
MOUTHING MS.
RYOKO...

YOU SHUT UP!
YOU SHUT UP
AND GO!
NOW!

GASP...
YOSHI!





I, UM...
I THINK I
FOUND A
GIRL I KINDA
LIKE.

KINDA?
SHE
"KINDA"
GOT A
NAME?

I THOUGHT IT
WAS NORIKO.

YO
...

YOSHI...
I DIDN'T
PUT IT
TOGETHER
...



SIGH...
I CAN SEE
YOU'RE
DETERMINED
TO SEE THIS
THROUGH.
ATTEND CLASS,
THE FIRST
ONE'S ON
ME.

♡



NO
OOOOO
OOOO
OO
!

YOSHITOKI!





YOSHITOKI... HE'S ALWAYS THERE. IN EVERY MEMORY WORTH REVISITING... HE'S ALWAYS THERE.

SINCE WE WERE KIDS...



MY BEST FRIEND ...



... AND LAUGHING THAT CONTAGIOUS YOSHI LAUGH.

ALWAYS SMILING THAT BIG, DOPEY YOSHI SMILE...



... WHENEVER I NEEDED HIM...

THERE FOR ME WHENEVER IT COUNTED ...

Chapter 3: Shinji Mimura

TOO FAST...
IT ALL HAPPENED
TOO FAST.
I COULDN'T...
COULDN'T...
NO...

AND WHEN HE
MOST NEEDED
ME? WHERE
WAS I WHEN HE
MOST NEEDED
ME?!

A-
HWH...

MY BEST
FRIEND...

I COULDN'T
MOVE.
I COULDN'T
BE THERE
FOR HIM!

YOSHI...





THAT IS
SO YOU,
SHUUYA!!

SHU
...

SHU
...

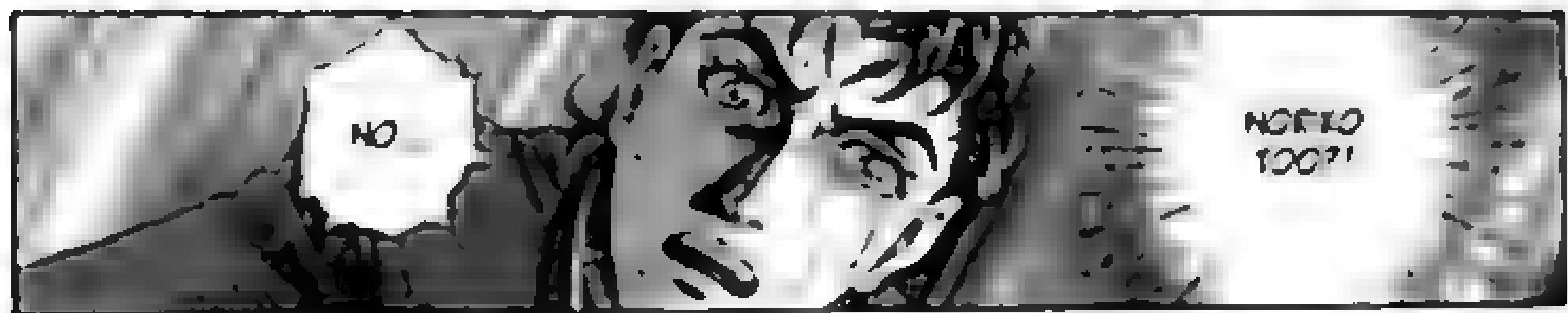
NO
SWEAT,
SHUUYA.

SHU
...



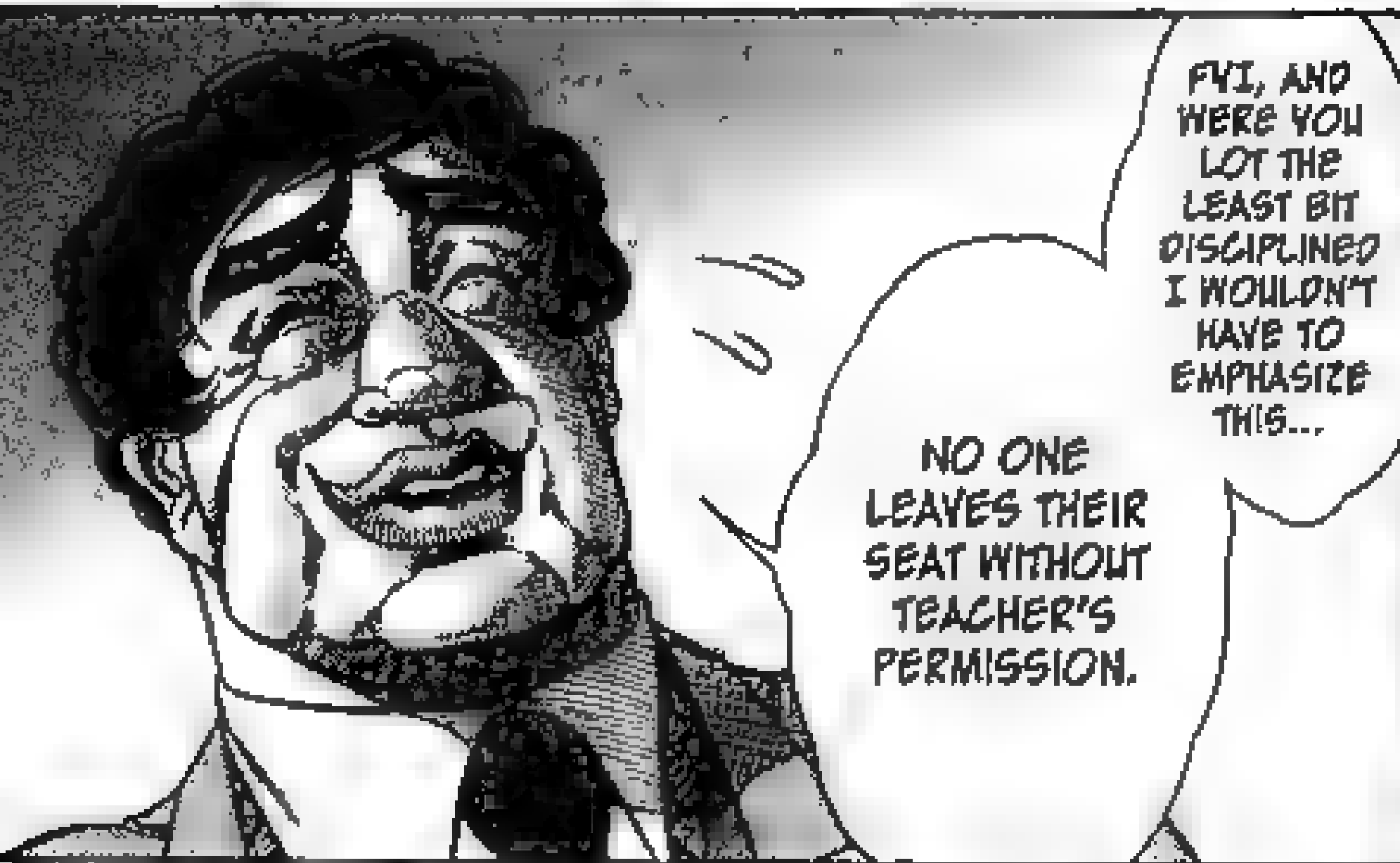
I
CAN'T
...

CAN'T
...





NORIKO!!





PLEASE
HELP
HIM...

YOSHITOKI...
PLEASE
HELP HIM,
SIR.



ホ
カ
カ...



NOT
NORIKO
TOO...



SHU
...

SHU
...

SHU
...



HE'S DYING!

YOSHITOKI IS DYING! ARE YOU JUST GOING TO... TO LET HIM DIE!?



RETURN TO YOUR SEAT, MISS NAKABAWA, AND STOP WASTING TEACHER'S TIME WITH DAMAGED GOODS.

SO SELFLESS. SUCH A SPECIAL GIRL, LITTLE MISS NAKABAWA. DIDN'T I SAY SO?



HARD LESSONS ARE BEST LEARNED AT ANOTHER'S EXPENSE.

THAT'S, PRETTY MUCH WHAT I HAD IN MIND.

LIK

...

...
LIK
...
HOO
...



YOU SHAME ME, MISS NAKABAWA. I SHOULD DO MORE THAN WATCH THE POOR BOY DIE...

SUCH A LOOK!



OR PERHAPS I'M MISINTERPRETING? COULD HE HAVE BEEN MAKING A LAST REQUEST TO MISS NAKABAWA?

SUCH LANG-
UAGE

...

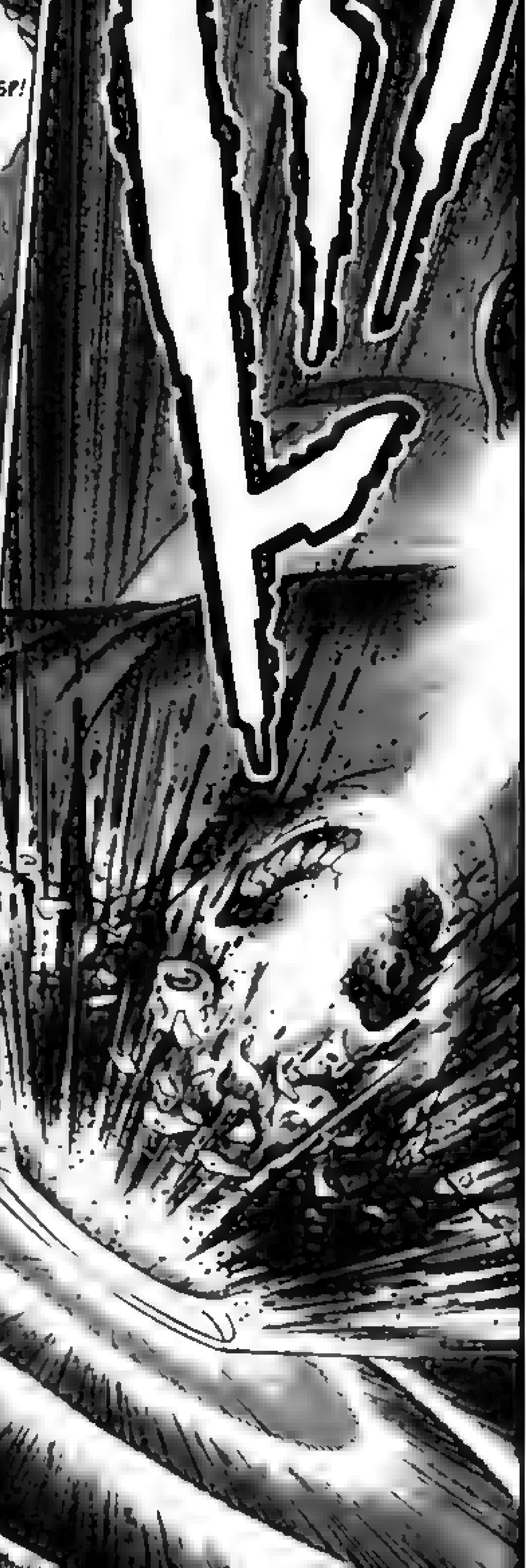
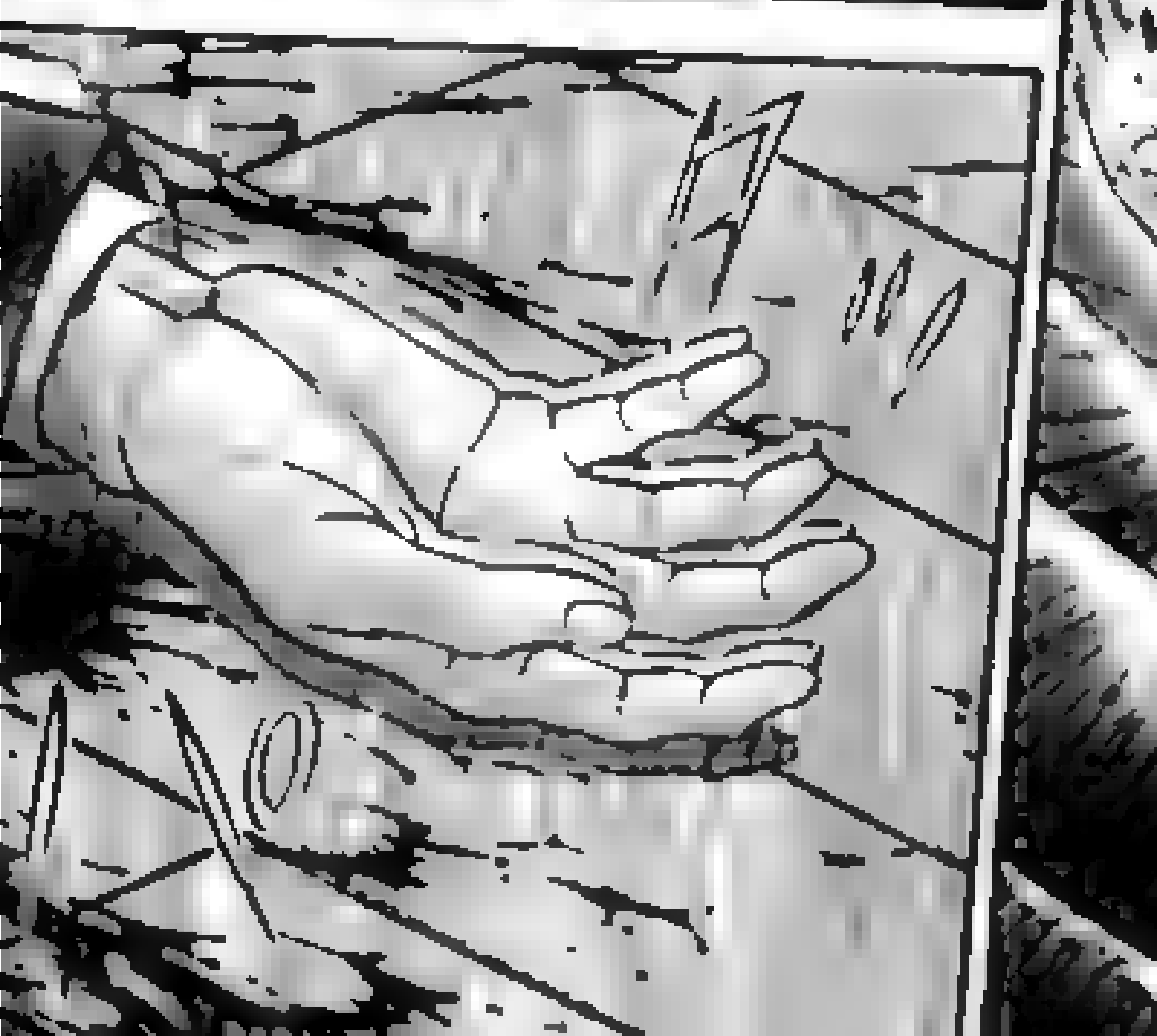


GASP!



THERE IS DARK BEAUTY HERE, IF YOU'VE AN EYE FOR IT.

DO YOU SEE?



I SHOULD FINISH WHAT I STARTED.





**NO
MORE!**

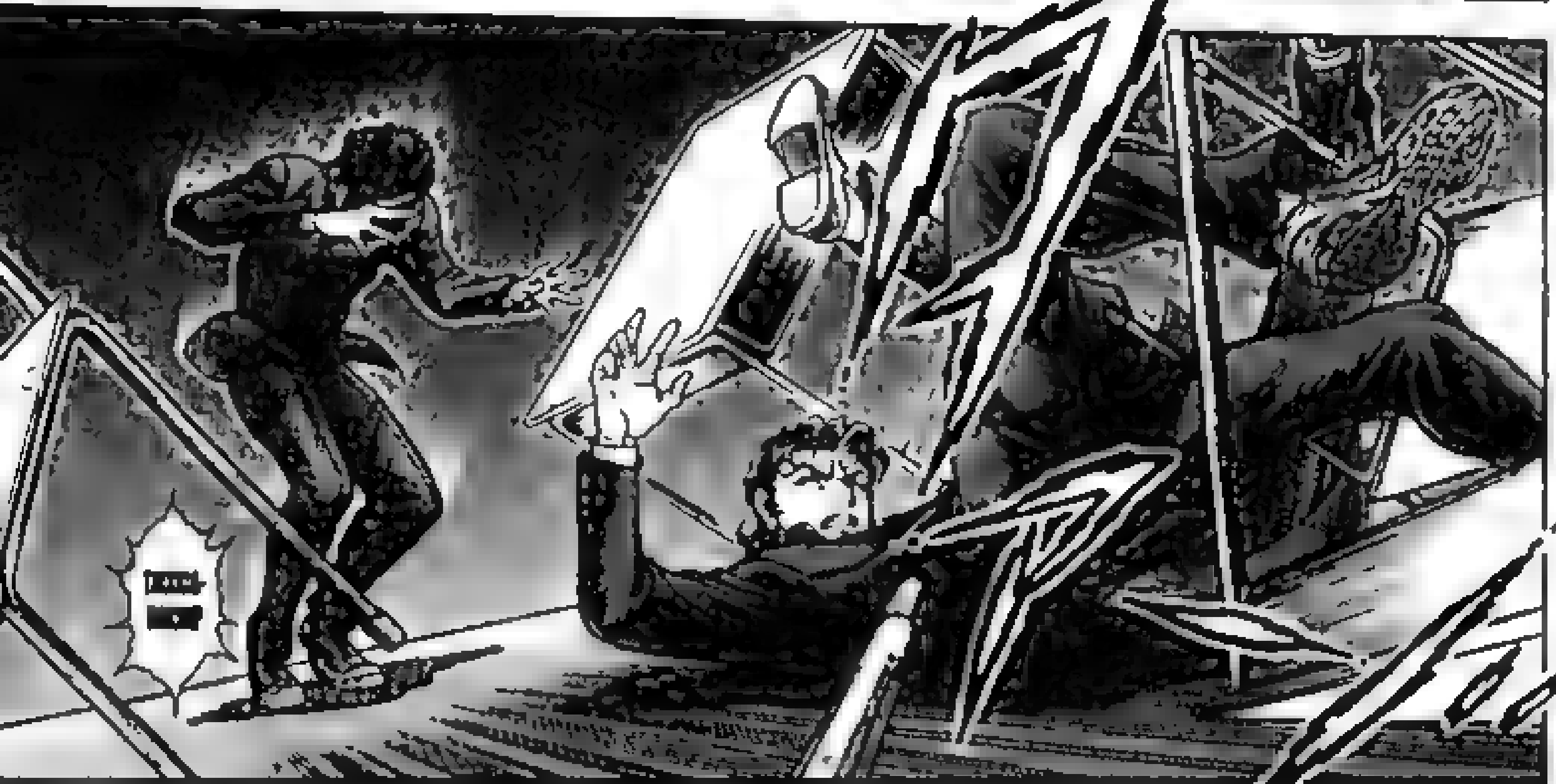
**YOU
PSYCHOTIC
SON OF A
BITCH!**

**NO
FUCKING
MORE!**



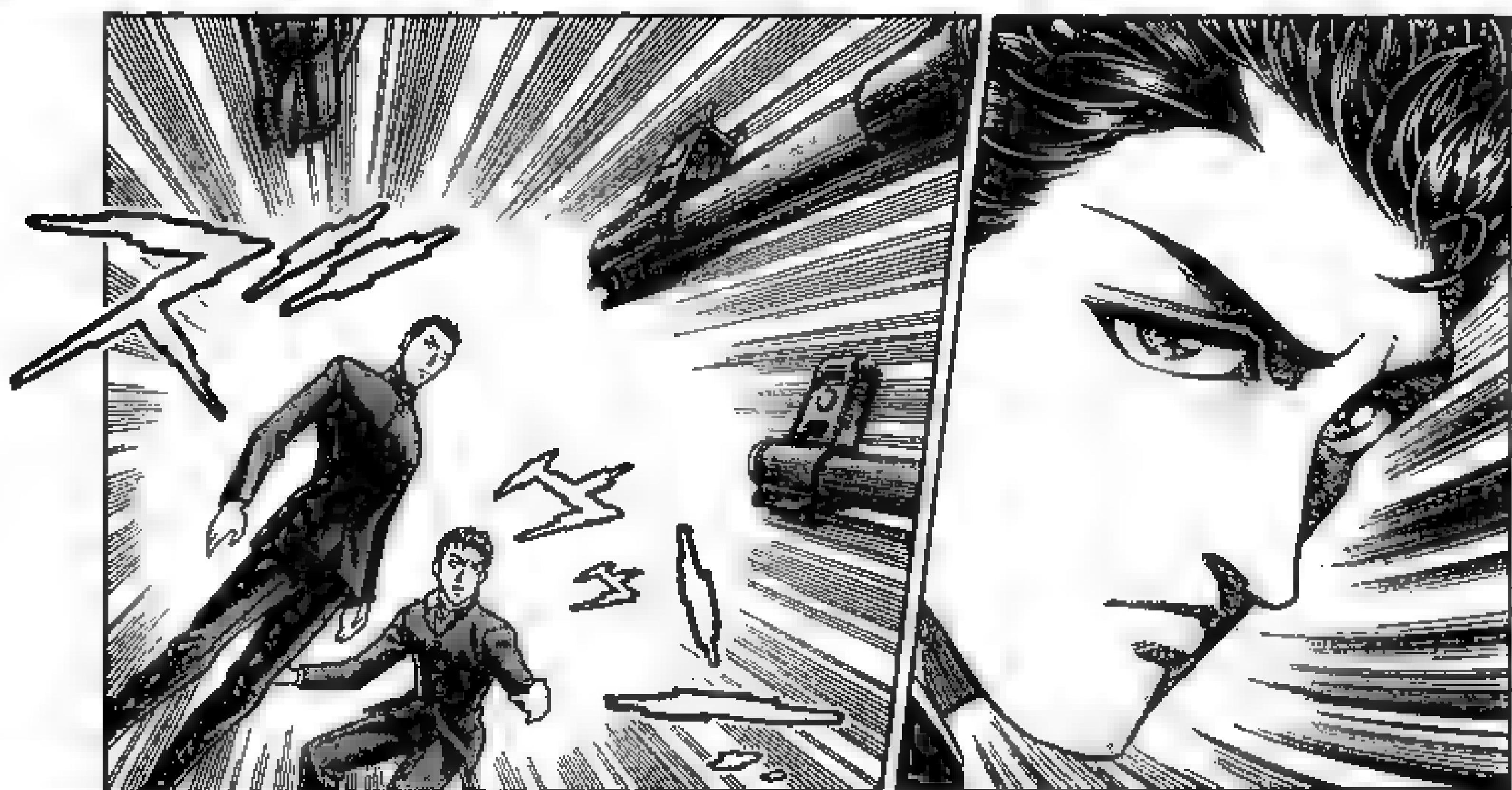
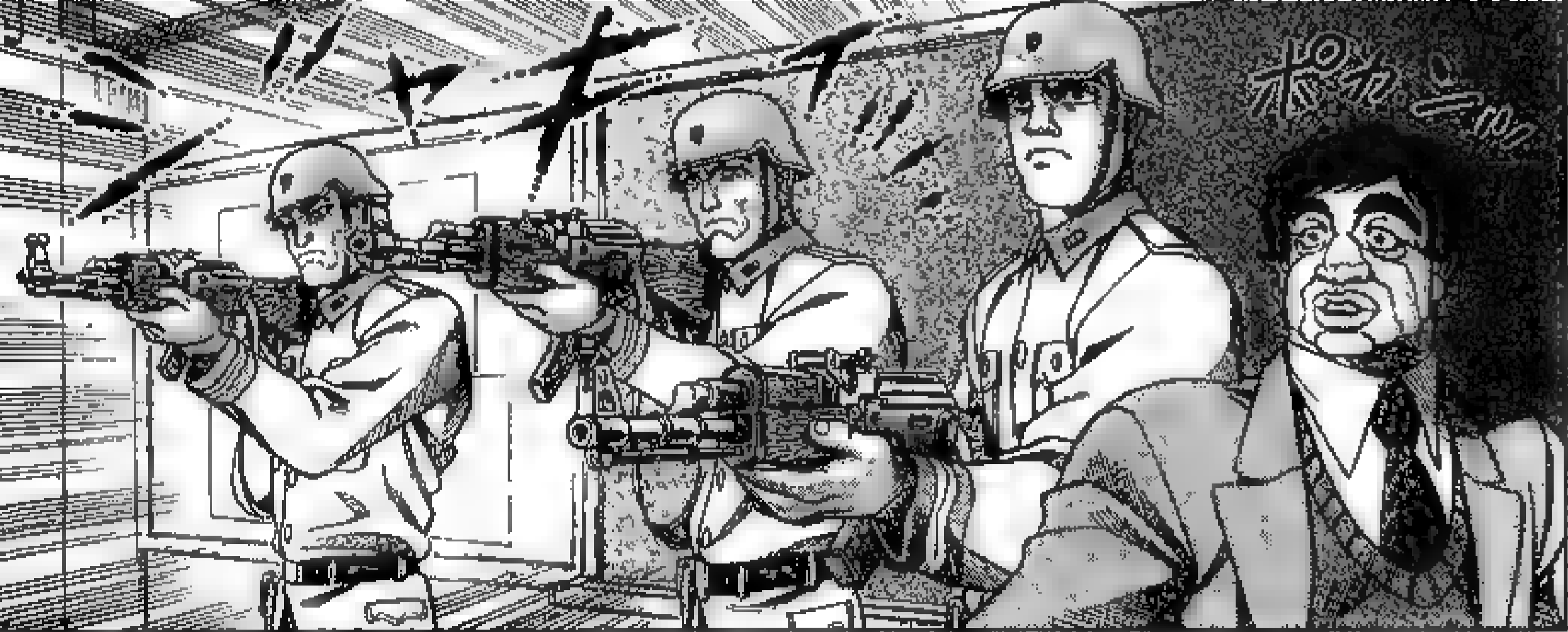








MIMURA!



HE... HE
STANDS BY
ME!

MURRAY!

THE WAY
I SHOULD
HAVE WITH
YOSHI.

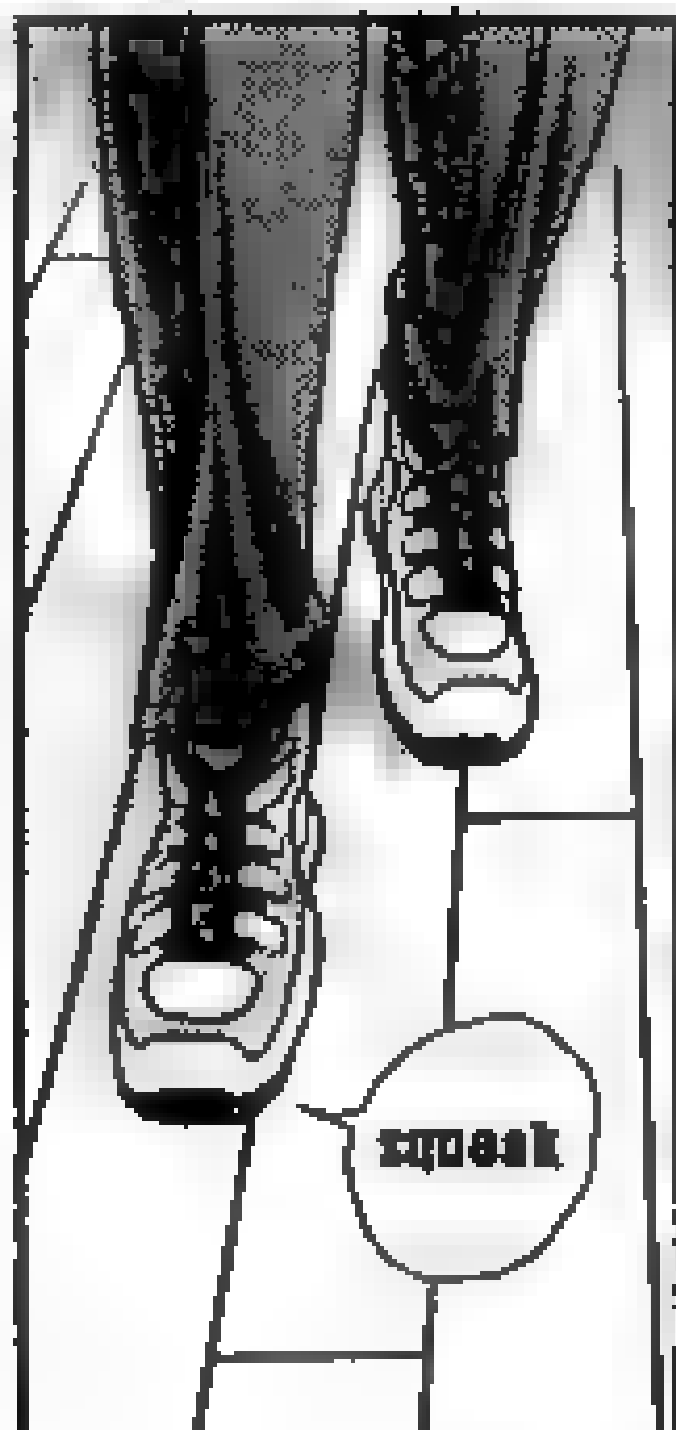
... JUMP
AROUND THE ROOM
LIKE DEMENTED
GRASSHOPPERS?



DOES
HE DIE TOO?
DO THE BOTH
OF US DIE
NOW?



THE TWO
OF YOU WILL
RETURN TO
YOUR SEATS.
NOW!



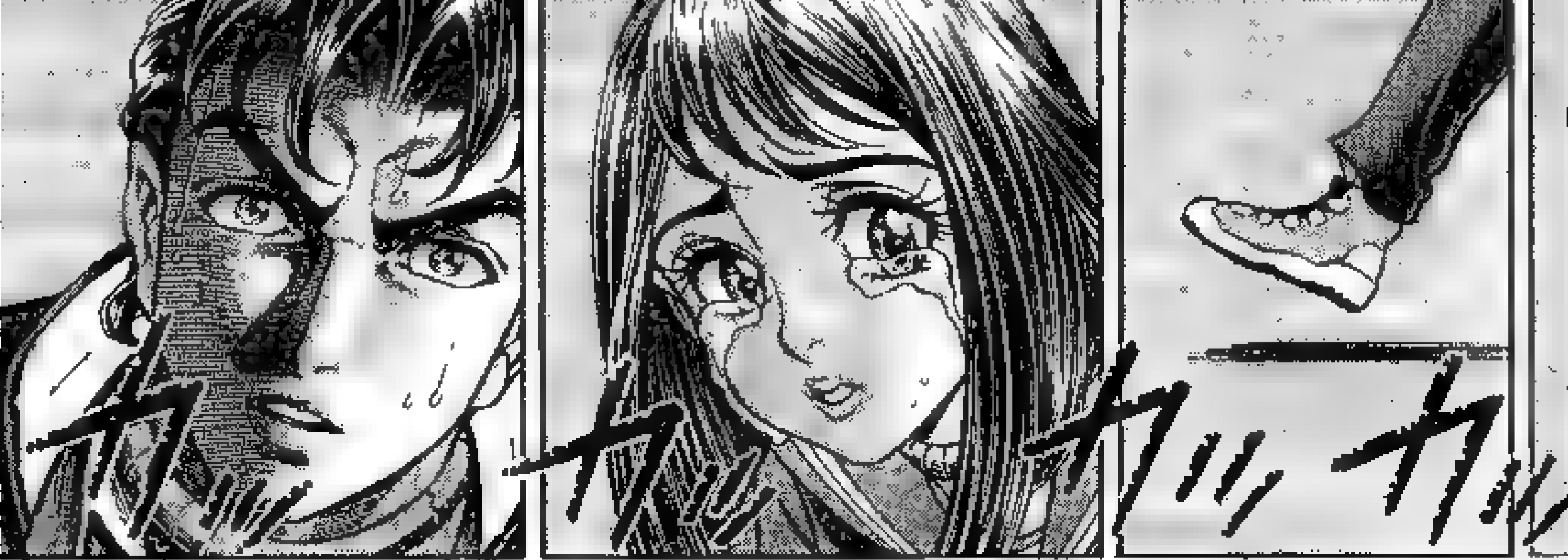
squeak



rattle



NOT
BECAUSE
OF ME,
MIMURA...
PLEASE...



Chapter 4: The Oath



HOW
MUCH
PER
DEAD
BODY?

HOW
MUCH DO
THEY DEDUCT
FROM YOUR FEE
FOR EVERY...
"CONTESTANT"
YOU TAKE
DOWN?



WHAT'S
THIS
NOW?



AND HOW BADLY ARE THE RATINGS AFFECTED IF THERE ARE TOO FEW OF US TO MAKE A RUN AT THE '07 RECORD?

YOU SAID FORTY-TWO START THE GAME. YOU'RE ALREADY DOWN TO FORTY-ONE.

BET THERE'S ALL KINDS OF PENALTIES FOR FUCKING UP THAT PARTICULAR CASH COW.

HOW MUCH DO YOU FORFEIT AT FORTY? THIRTY-NINE? I'M GUESSING THE PENALTIES RUN KIND OF STEEP.



I'M THINKING YOU MIGHT WANT TO RECONSIDER YOUR MOTIVATIONAL TACTICS...

THEY PAY YOU TO SEE TO IT WE DIE OUT THERE. IN FRONT OF THE CAMERAS.



"SIR"...



BWAH
HAAAA!

HA
HA
HAAA
!

HANA
HAAA...
HANA
HAAA...
HANA
HAAA...

PRICELESS!
HANA
HAAA...



HE'S
PLAYING US
THE SACRIFIC
BASTARD!



PLAYING
US!

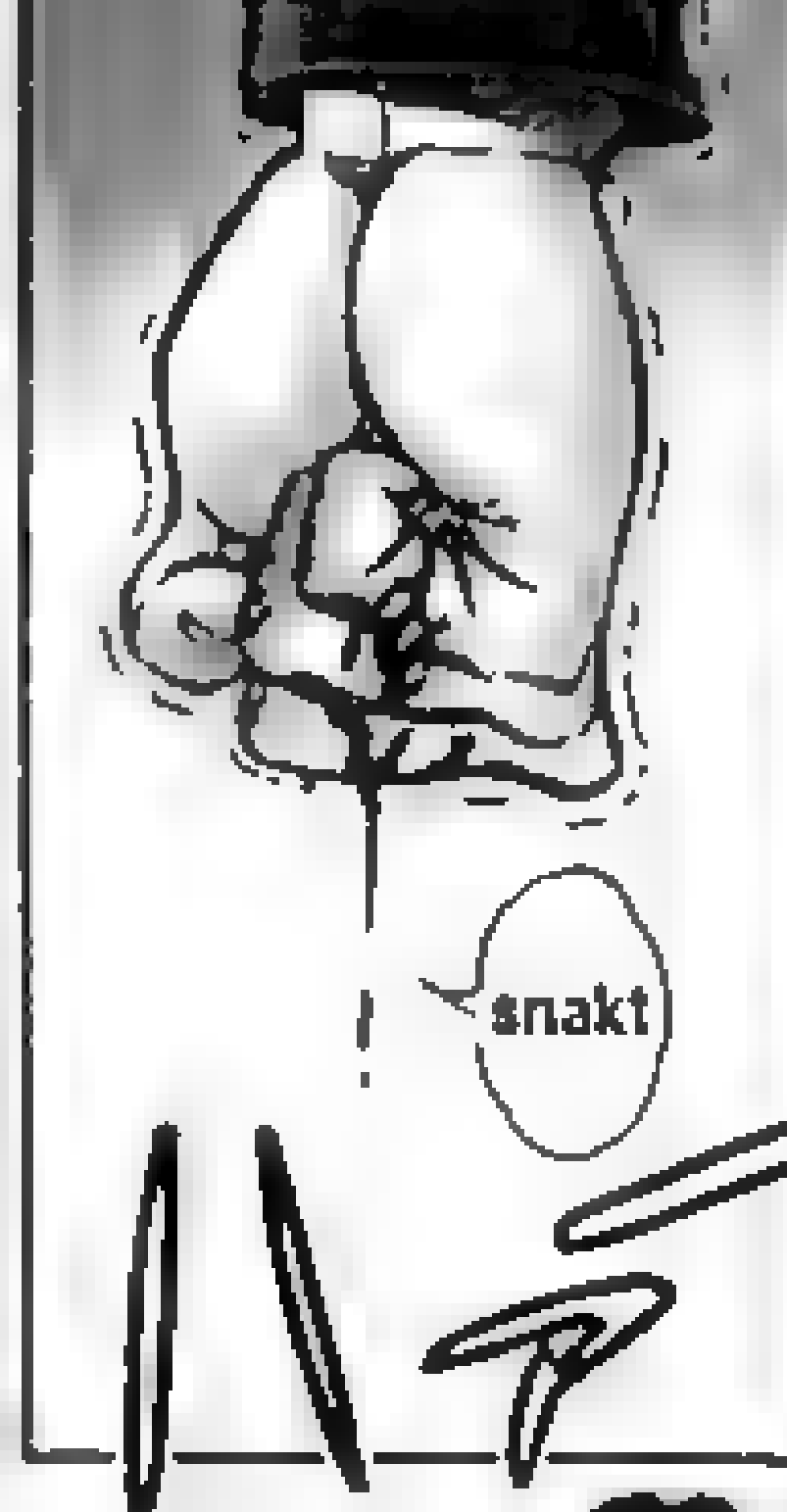


AND SO WELL
THOUGHT OUT
I ALMOST
BOUGHT INTO
IT MYSELF!





BACK
DOWN,
MINURA.



snakt



SICK
BASTARD!



THERE IS
SOMETHING
ELSE.

SIR!

MOST
EXCELLENT,
YOUNG MASTER...
WHOEVER. IT'S
BEEN A WHILE
SINCE I'VE
ENJOYED A
GOOD
LAUGH.

NOW
SIT DOWN
BEFORE I
FORGET I'M
IN A GOOD
MOOD.



WELL...
FORTY-ONE
DOESN'T BREAK
DOWN... IT'S NOT
AN EVEN MATCH.
YOU SEE?
NORIKO'S JUST
WOUNDED.

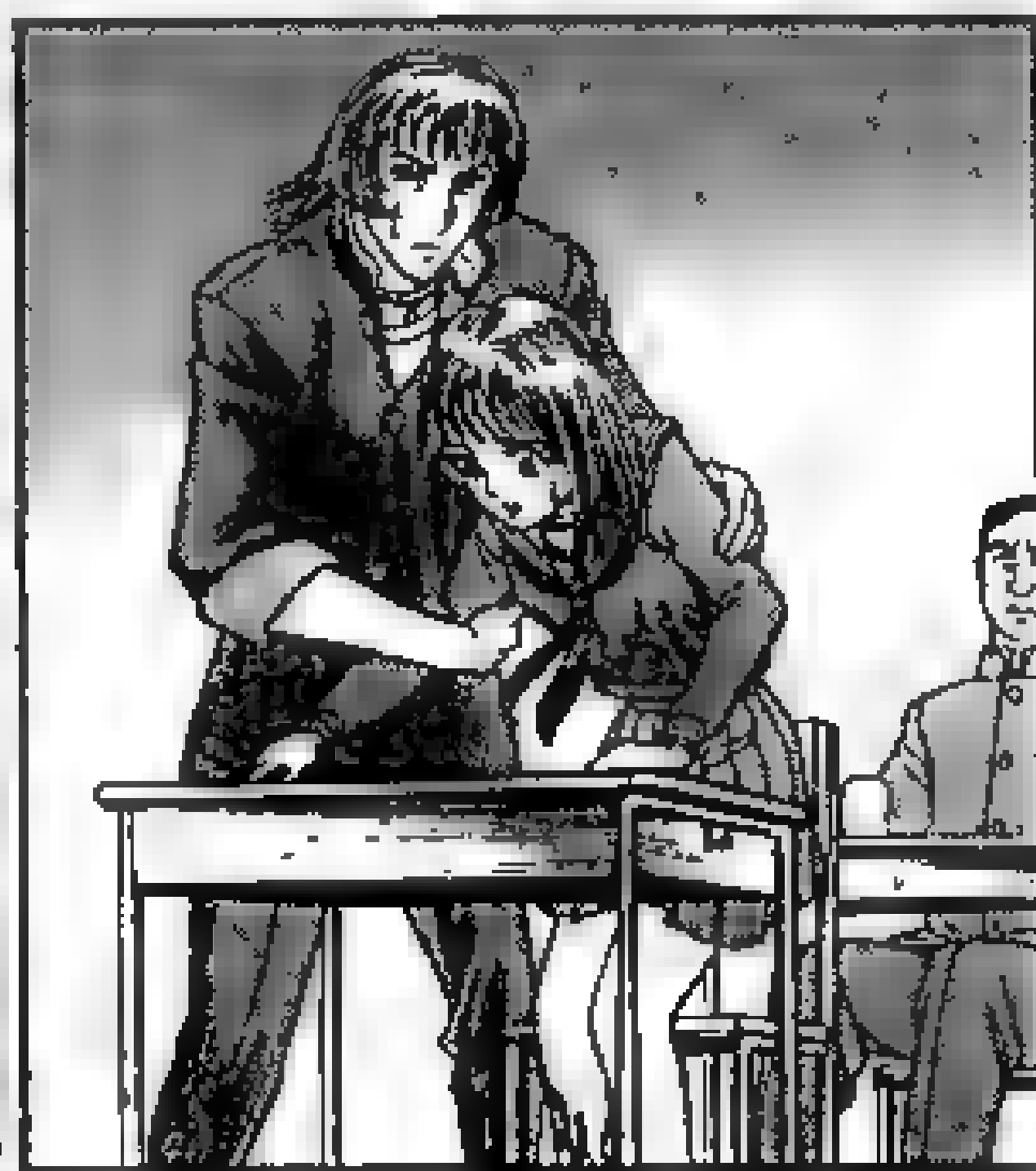
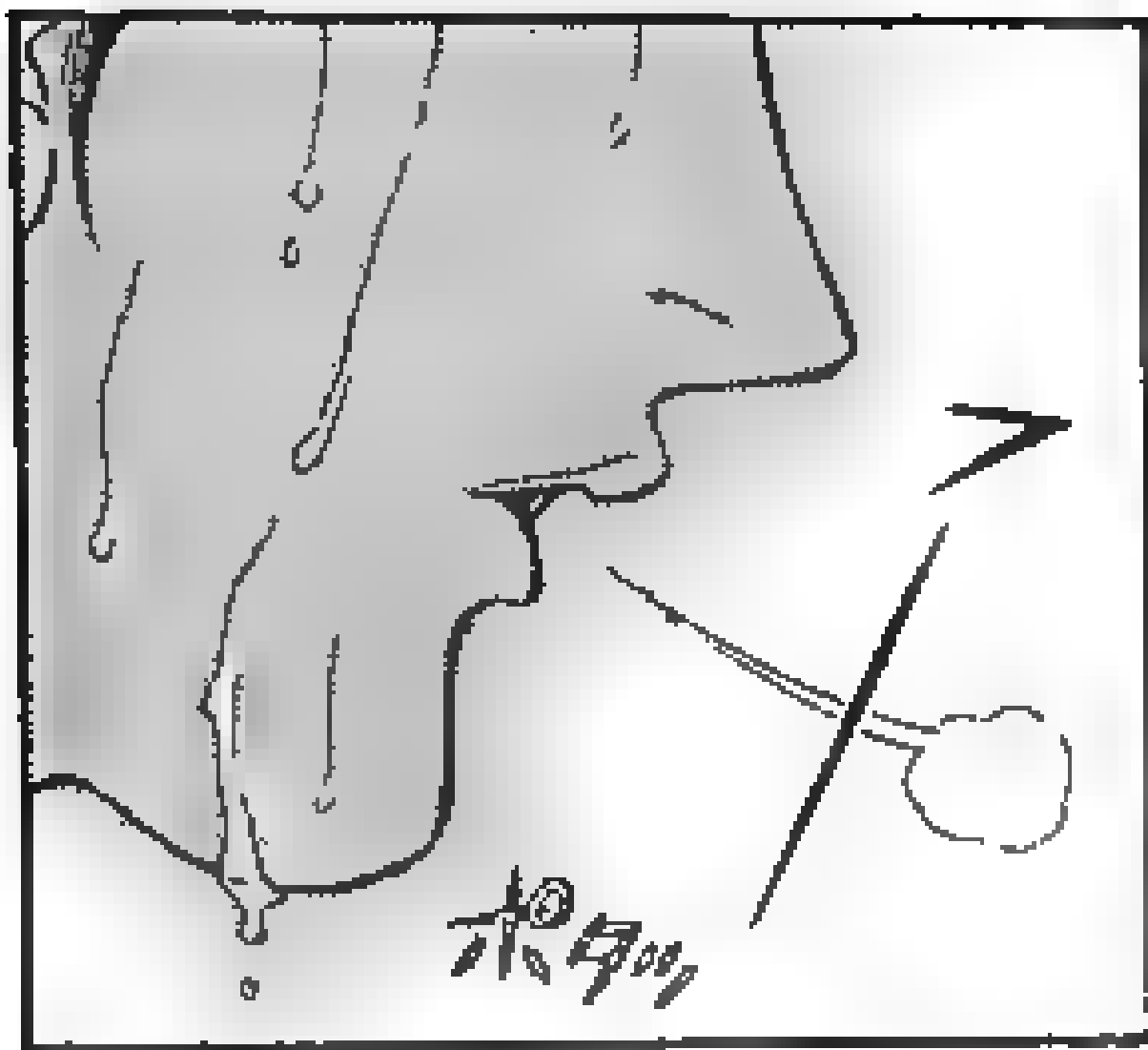
IT'S JUST...
THE ODDS ARE
LOPSIDED. IN
FAVOR OF A GIRL
WINNING. ONE OF
THE BOYS... YOU
SHOT HIM AND...



I'M
BEGINNING TO
REMEMBER
WHY I LOATHE
TEENAGERS.

BE
QUICK.









... AS IN THE YOUNG LADY'S INHERENT ABILITY TO AGGRAVATE THE TEACHER. ♡

THERE YOU GO. A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF INHERENT ABILITY...

THIS LACK OF... PARTY IS A BIG PART OF THE PROGRAM'S APPEAL.

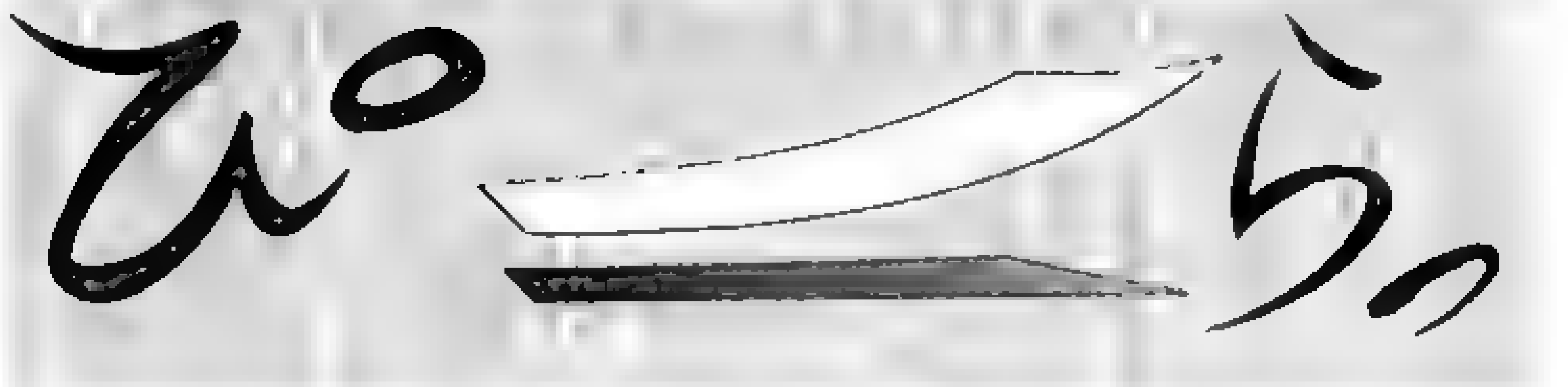
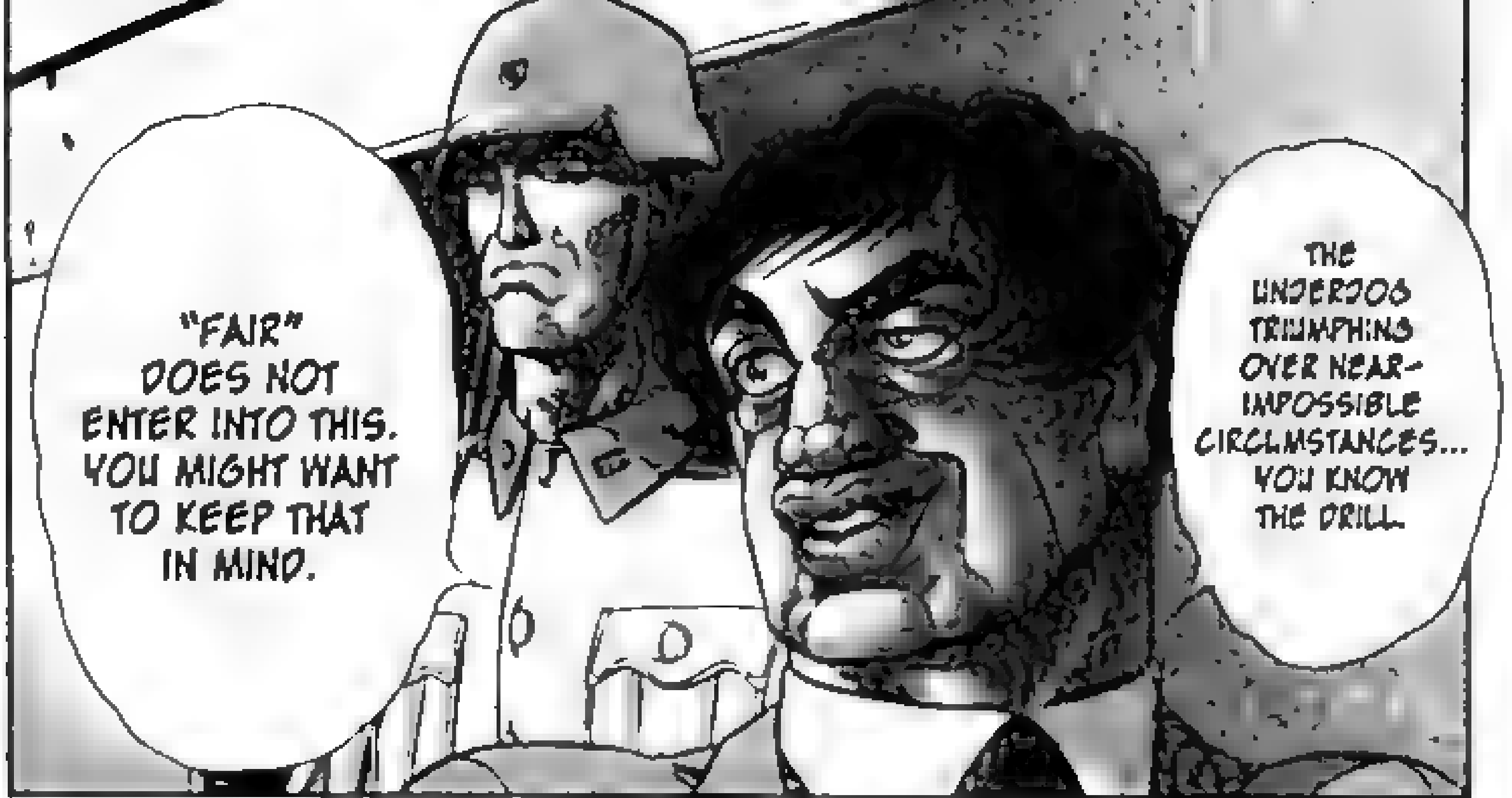
SAD BUT TRUE

TO CONTINUE. YOUR ABILITIES ALREADY RENDER YOU UNEQUAL.

CATTLE ...

CATTLE FOR HIS SLAUGHTERHOUSE PROGRAM

THAT'S ALL WE ARE TO HIM.

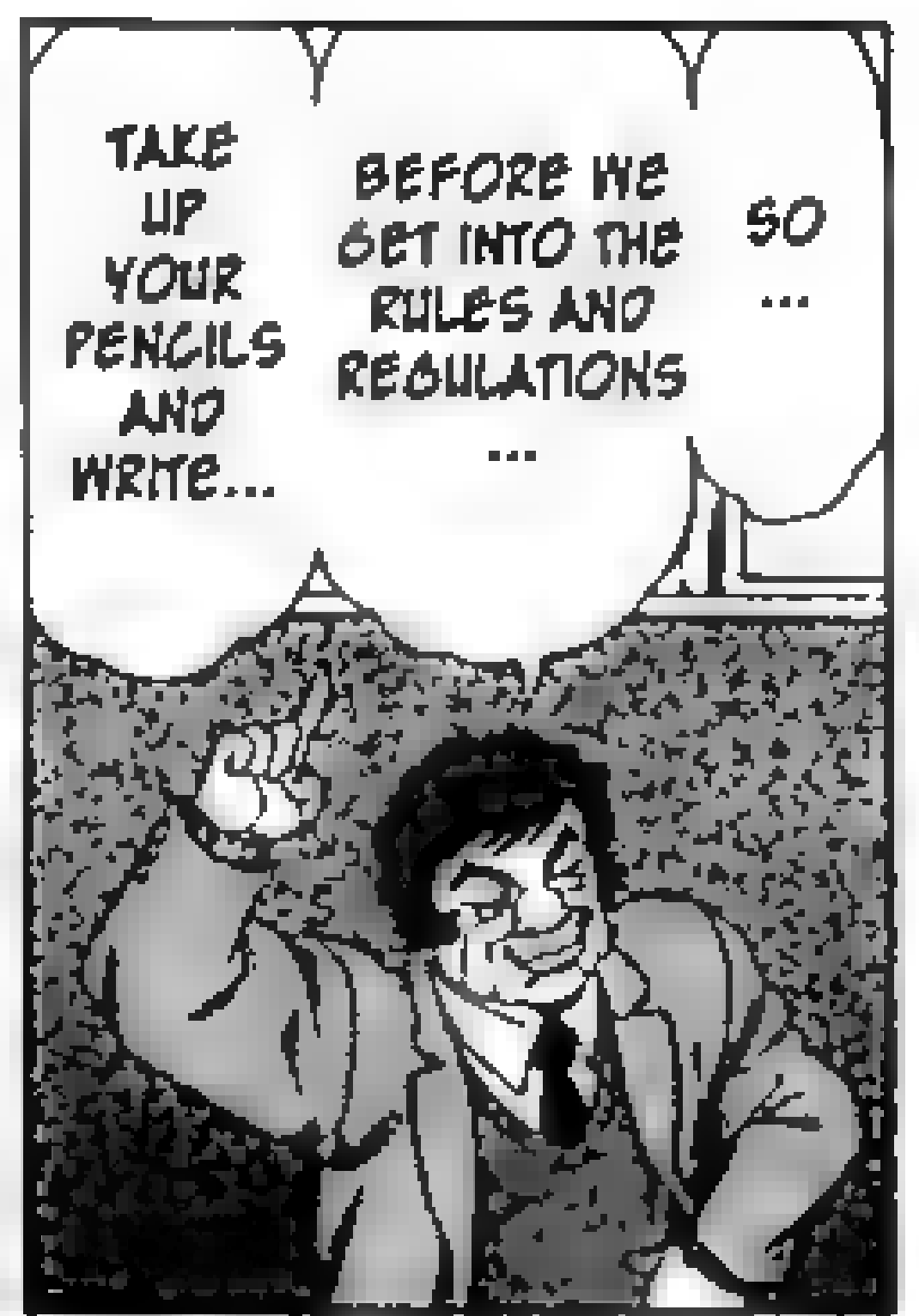




I WILL KILL,
 FOLLOWED
 BY THE
 NAME OF A
 CLASSMATE.

REPEAT UNTIL
 ALL OF YOUR
 CLASSMATES
 HAVE BEEN
 NAMED.

♡



TAKE
 UP
 YOUR
 PENCILS
 AND
 WRITE...

BEFORE WE
 GET INTO THE
 RULES AND
 REGULATIONS
 ...

SO
 ...



BUY A
 BULLET
 TO THE
 HEAD?

THEN
 WHAT?

...



UP HIS!
 I'M NOT
 WRITING
 SHIT!

HE'S
 GETTING
 OFF ON
 THIS...
 PERVERT
 FUCK!



TO
 MAKE
 UP FOR
 YOSHI
 ...

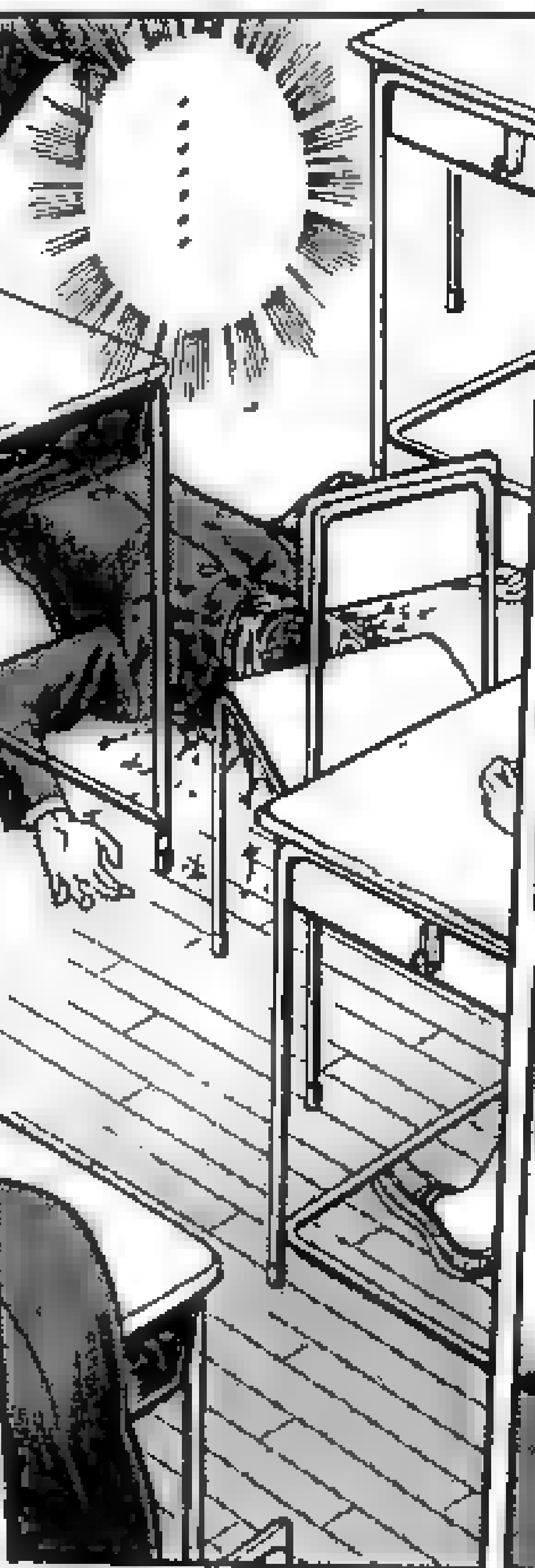
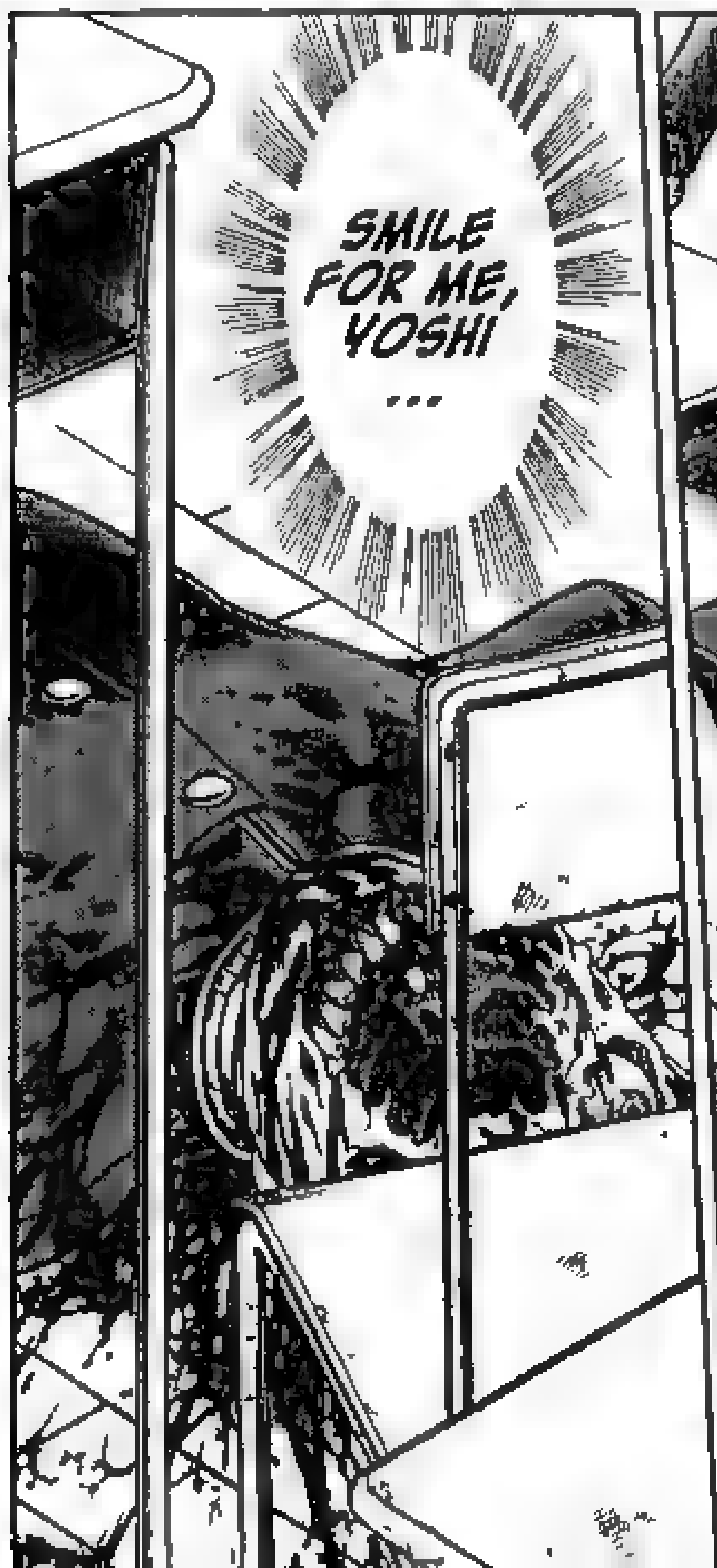
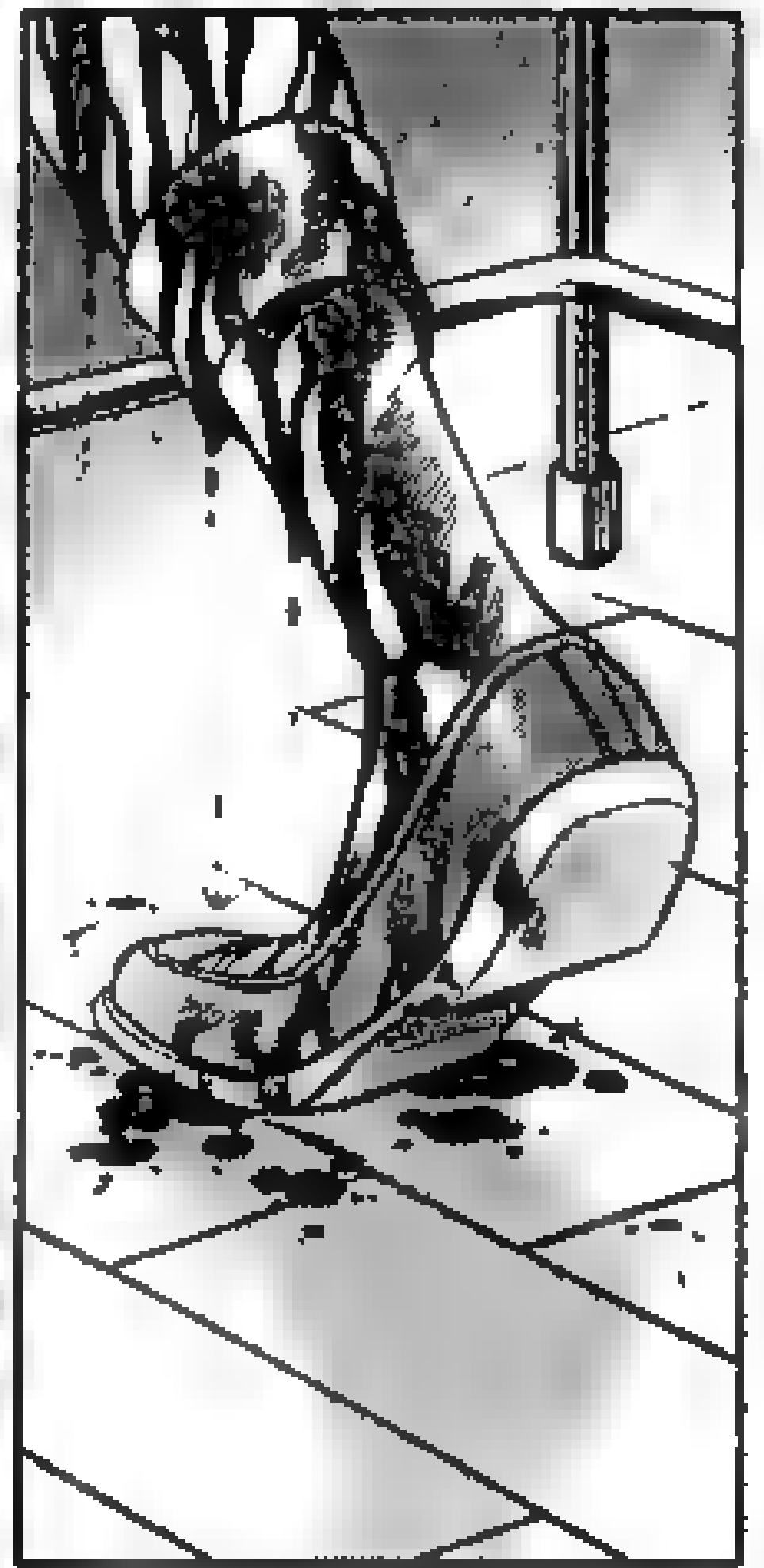


NORIKO
 ...



PLAY
 ALONG...
 CHOOSE
 THE
 MOMENT
 TO... TO...
 TO WHAT?

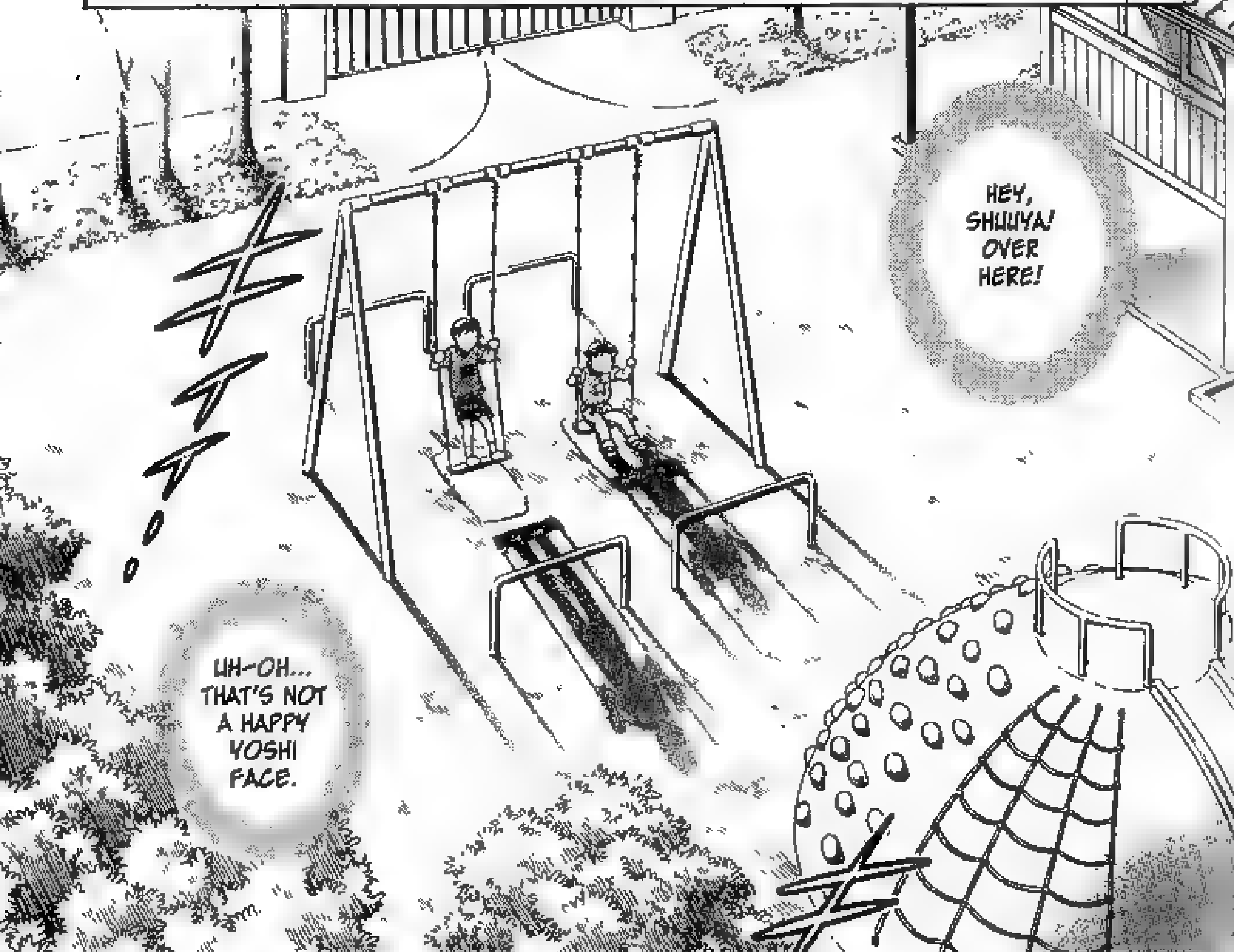
NO.
 FOLLOW
 MIMURA'S
 LEAD.





HEY,
SHUUYA!

I'VE
NEVER
NEEDED IT
MORE.



HEY,
SHUUYA!
OVER
HERE!

UH-OH...
THAT'S NOT
A HAPPY
YOSHI
FACE.



ABOUT
GI-IRRRLS,
I BET.



I BEEN
THINKING...



NO. NO BABIES. EVER.

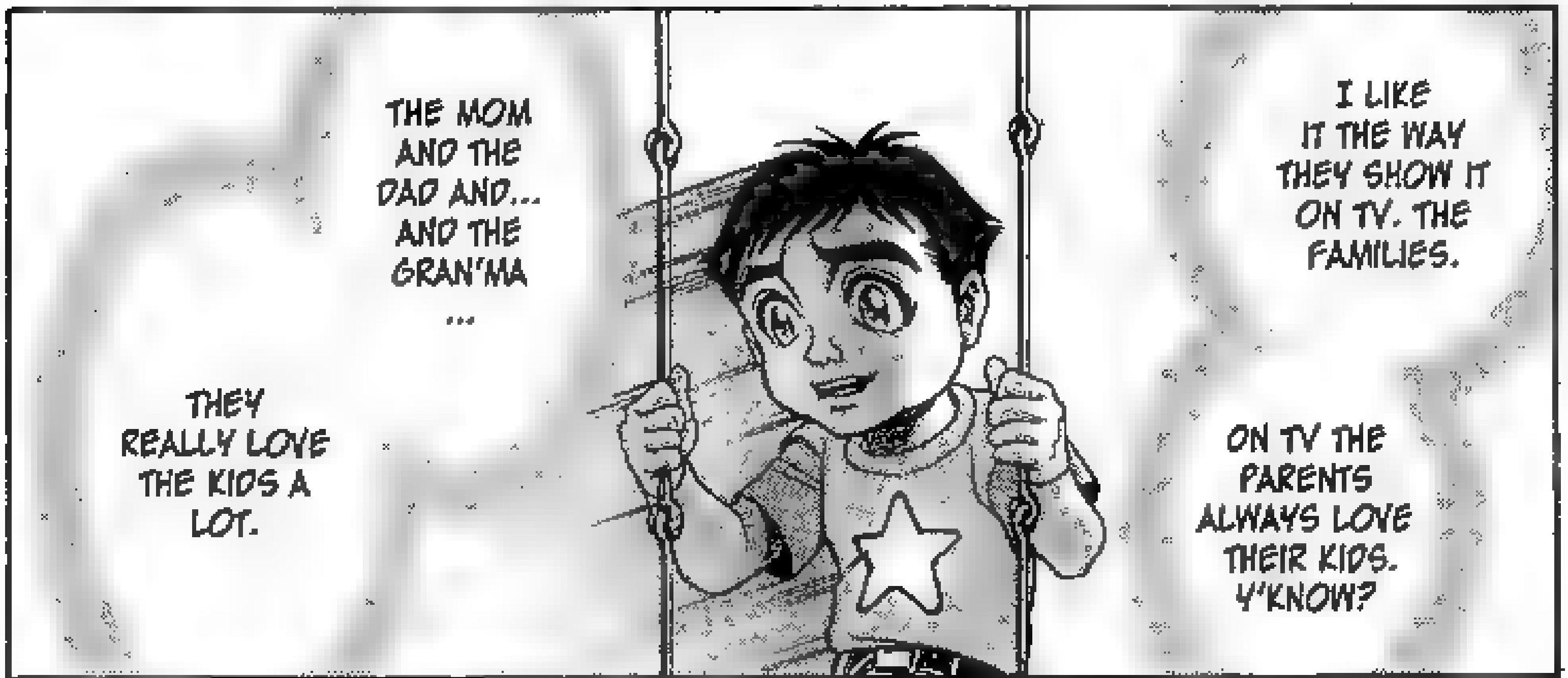


EVER?



YOU WANT TO KISS AND HUG AND MARRY THEM AND HAVE A MILLION BABIES AND--

I THINK ABOUT MORE THAN GIRLS!



THE MOM AND THE DAD AND... AND THE GRAN'MA ...

I LIKE IT THE WAY THEY SHOW IT ON TV. THE FAMILIES.

ON TV THE PARENTS ALWAYS LOVE THEIR KIDS. Y'KNOW?

THEY REALLY LOVE THE KIDS A LOT.



ON TV THEY KEEP THEIR KIDS. LOVE THEM.

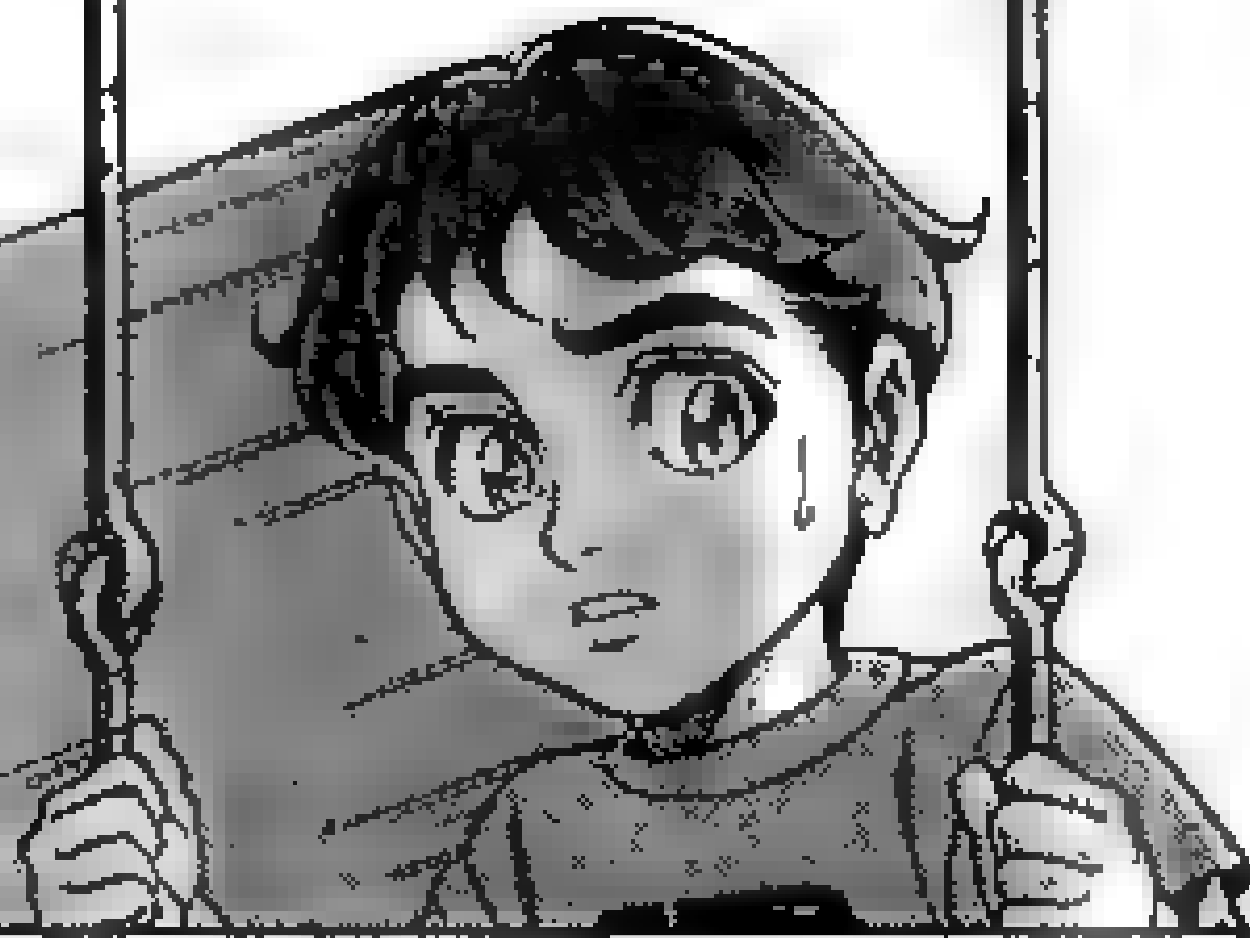


IT'S NOT RE-EAL ...



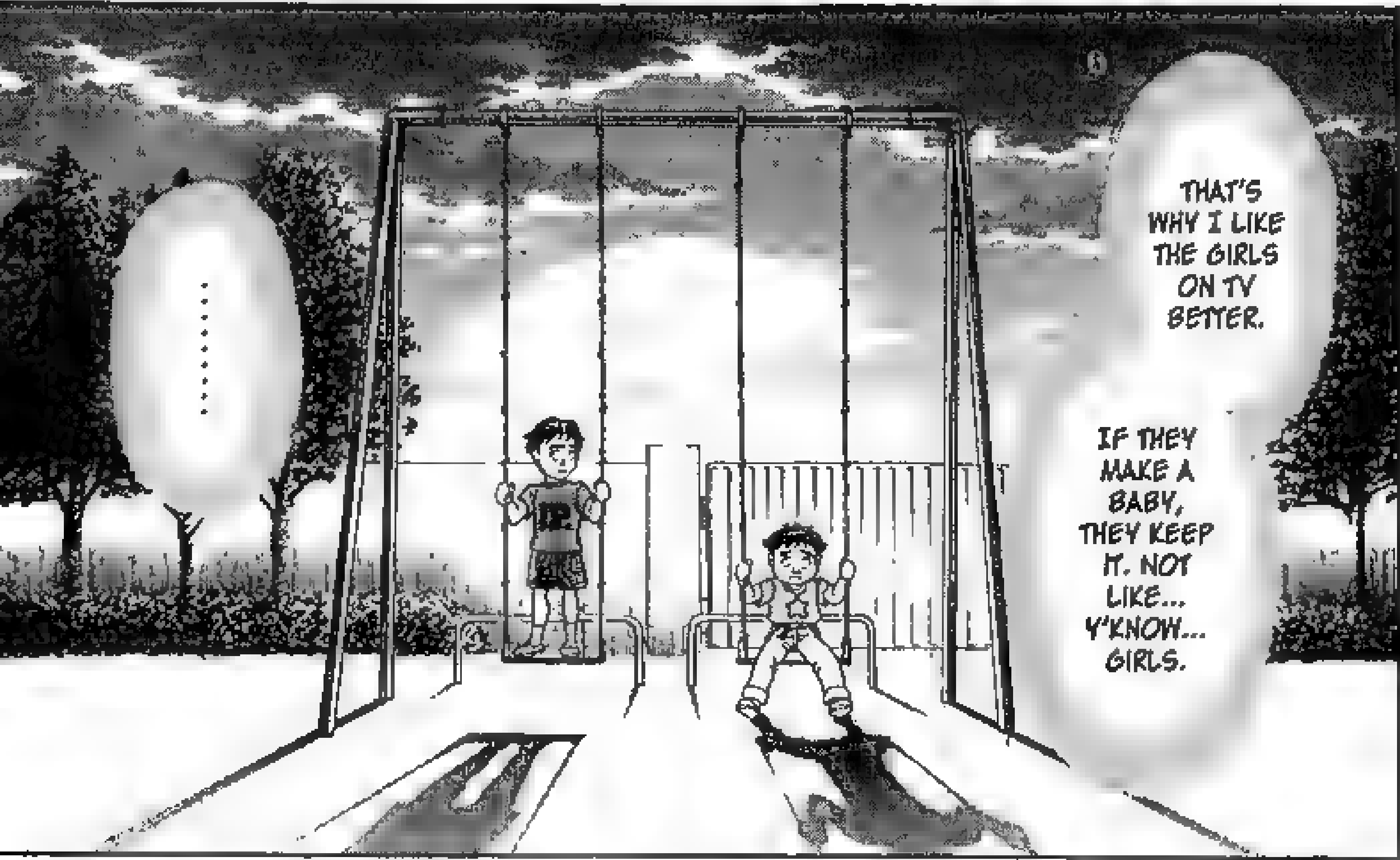
I DON'T CARE!

JEEZ,
YOSHI
...



THAT'S
WHY I LIKE
THE GIRLS
ON TV
BETTER.

IF THEY
MAKE A
BABY,
THEY KEEP
IT. NOT
LIKE...
Y'KNOW...
GIRLS.



AHHH...
DAMN!!
WHY AM I
DRESSING
ALL OF
THIS UP
NOW!?



TOO
STUPID. IT
WAS SO EASY
TO BLAME IT
ALL ON GIRLS.
WHAT DID WE
KNOW?

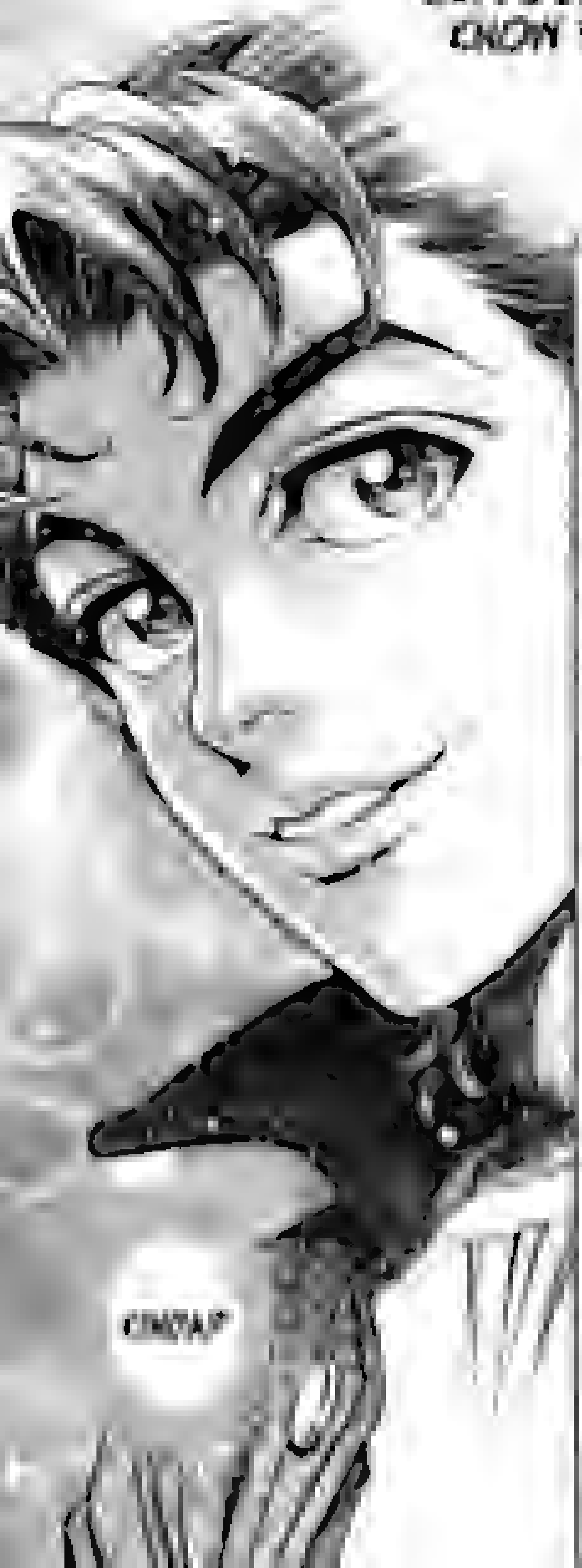
I DIDN'T
GET IT BACK
THEN... TOO
YOUNG...



UM
...
OKAY
...



YOU WERE
MY BEST
FRIEND! I WAS
SUPPOSED TO
KNOW YOU!




NORIEO!
IT WAS
SUPPOSED
TO BE
NORIEO!






TOO
FULL OF
MYSELF
TO SEE...

NORIKO...
IT WAS
SUPPOSED
TO BE
NORIKO.



IF ONLY
FOR THAT I
WILL PROTECT
HER TO MY
LAST BREATH.

I'M SORRY YOSHI
I'M SORRY YOSHI
I'M SORRY YOSHI
I'M SORRY YOSHI



IF
ONLY FOR
THAT
...



I'M SORRY YOSHI
I'M SORRY YOSHI
I'M SORRY YOSHI
I'M SORRY YOSHI



TWO DOWN
AND THE
COMPETITION
NOT EVEN
BEGUN.



50
...

**NINTH GRADE/CLASS B - GIRL #18:
FUMIYO FUJIYOSHI-ELIMINATED**

**NINTH GRADE/CLASS B -
BOY #15:
YOSHITOKI KUNINOBU-
ELIMINATED**



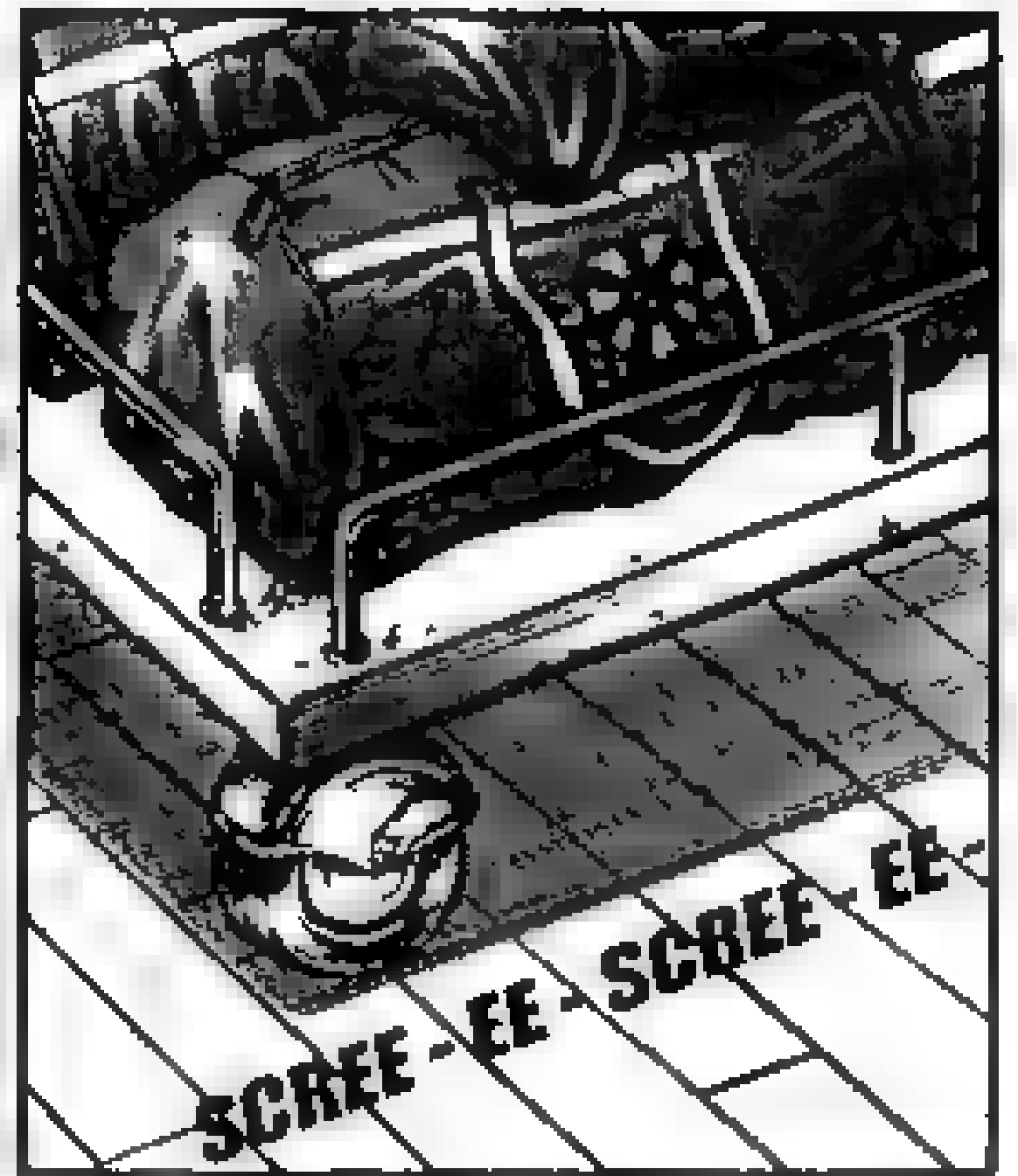
NOW,
TO THE RULES,
AND I'D ADVISE
YOU TO LISTEN AS
IF YOUR LIVES
DEPENDS ON IT.
THEY DO.

♡

A TESTAMENT
TO MY
GENEROSITY,
NO?

OH...
POINTS FOR
CREATIVITY TO
YOUNG MASTER
SHUYA. A TRULY
TOUCHING
"ESSAY"... IF
INEFFECTUAL.

Chapter 5: Other Side Of The Door



LOOKS CAN DECEIVE. ALL OF YOU MIGHT WANT TO TAKE NOTE OF THAT.

MALE PRIDE, GENTLEMEN.

THE YOUNG GENTLEMEN MIGHT WANT TO TAKE NOTE THAT THE LAST WINNER WAS A GIRL.

WEAPONS RANGE FROM KNIVES TO SEMIAUTOMATIC MACHINE GUNS, PLUS THE ODD SURPRISE OR TWO.

THE YOUNG LADIES MIGHT WANT TO LAY HANDS ON A FIRING WEAPON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



RIGHT THEN. LOGISTICS.

"X" INDICATES YOUR CURRENT LOCATION. THE SCHOOL.

THE ENTIRE ISLAND IS YOUR ARENA. THERE ARE NO "OUT OF BOUNDS." NO SAFE ZONES.

WE ARE ON AN ISLAND.





... OVERSEEING THE TROOPS MONITORING YOUR PROGRESS... OR LACK THEREOF.

I WILL BE ON THE SCHOOL PREMISES THROUGHOUT THE COMPETITION ...

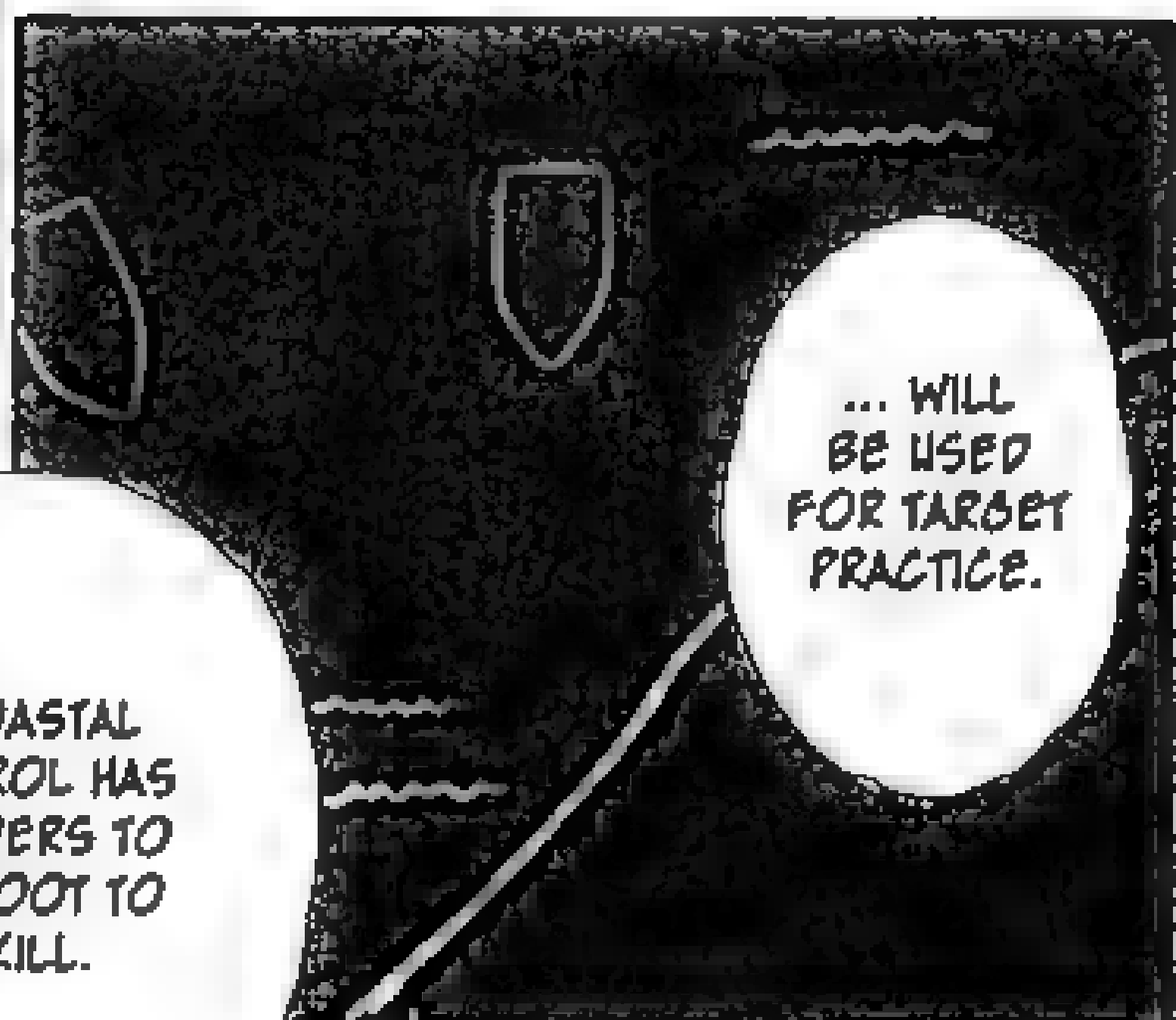


Tak Tak

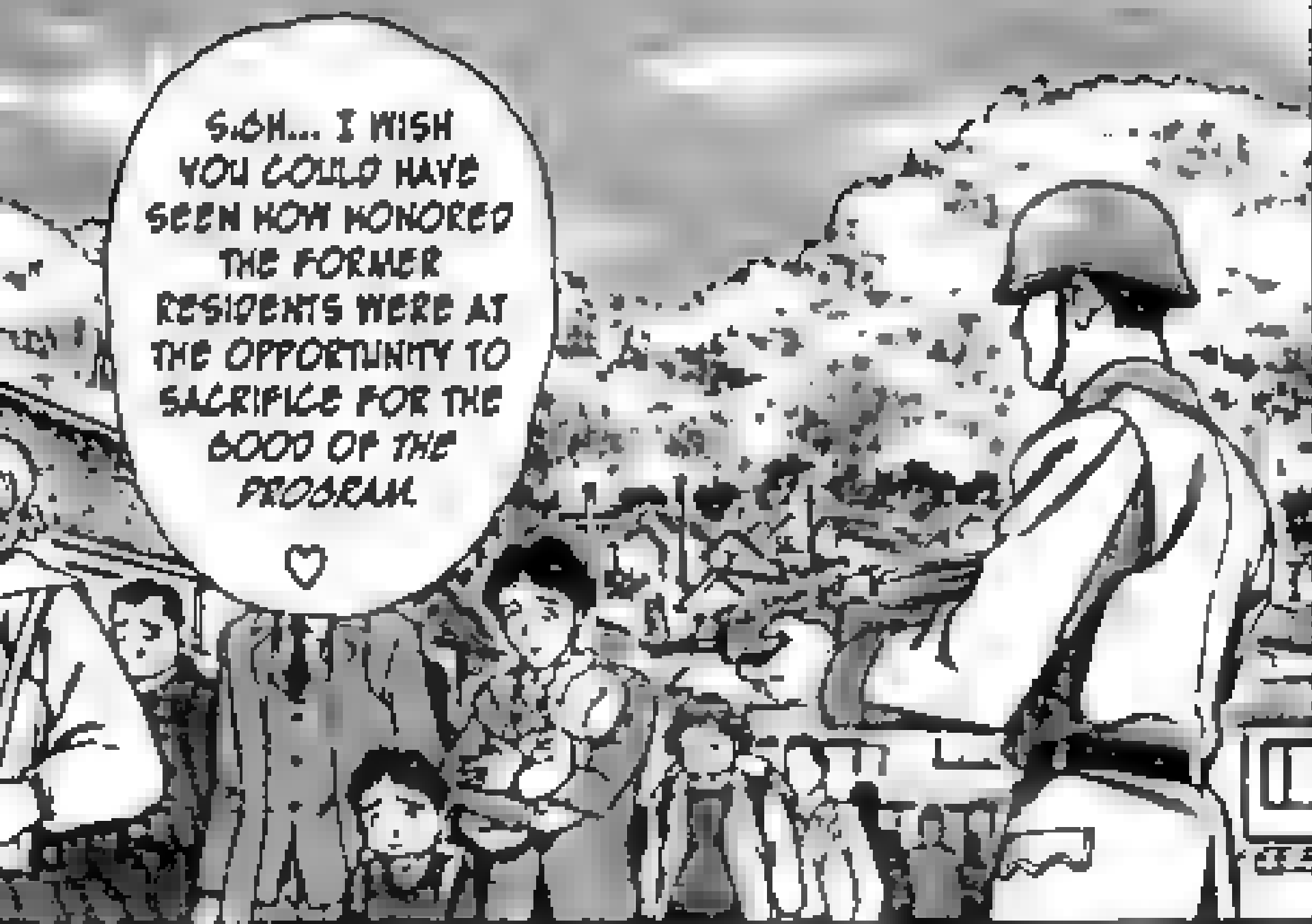
THE OCEAN IS NOT AN ESCAPE OPTION. ANYONE FOOLHARDY ENOUGH TO TRY SUCH A COURSE OF ACTION...



COASTAL PATROL HAS ORDERS TO SHOOT TO KILL.



... WILL BE USED FOR TARGET PRACTICE.

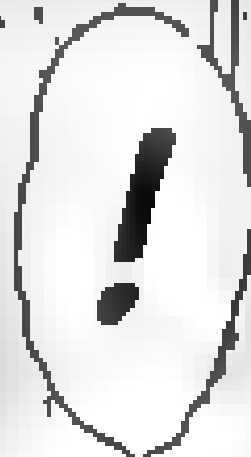


S.O.H... I WISH YOU COULD HAVE SEEN HOW HONORED THE FORMER RESIDENTS WERE AT THE OPPORTUNITY TO SACRIFICE FOR THE GOOD OF THE PROGRAM



COLLATERAL DAMAGE IS NOT AN ISSUE.

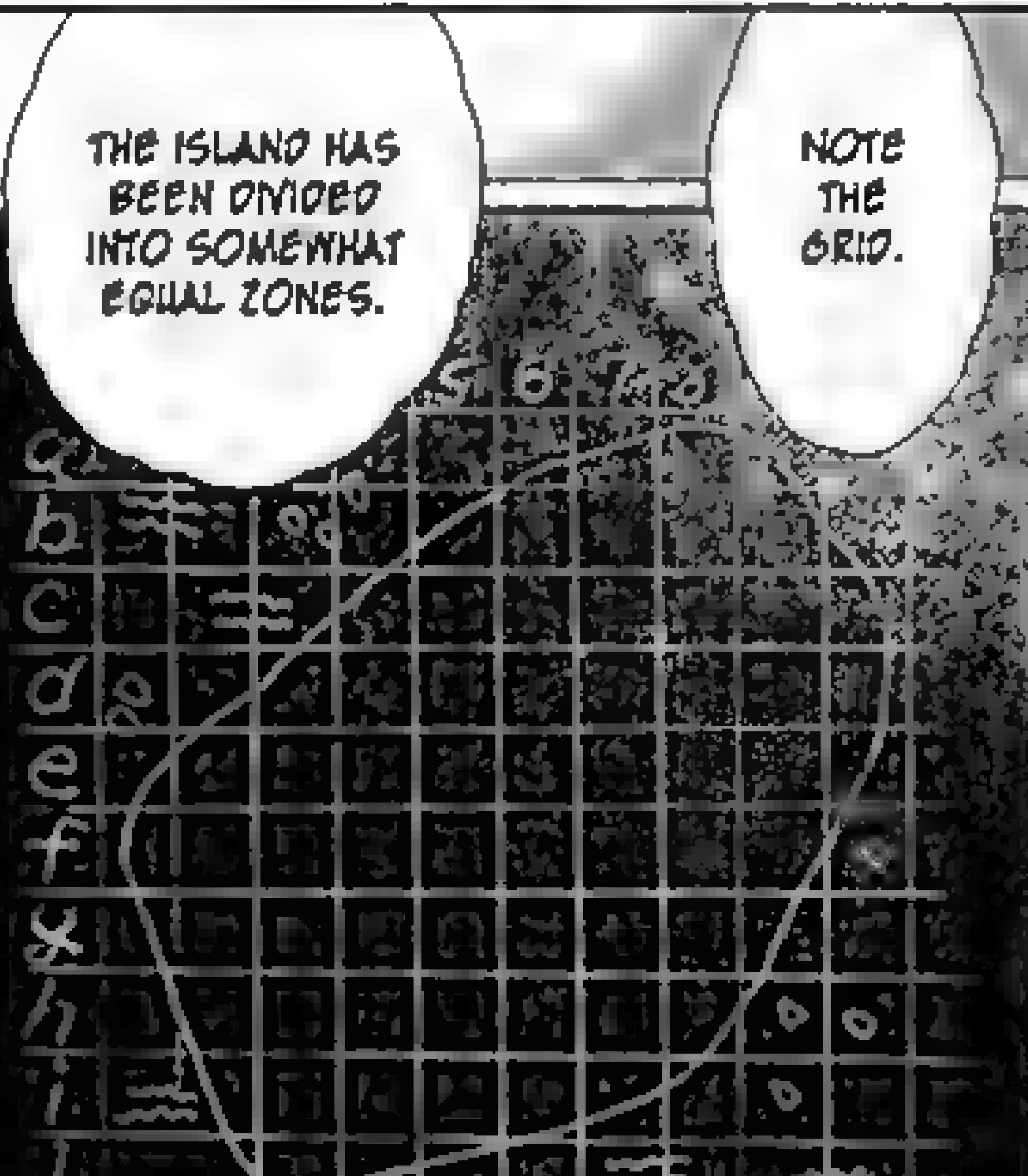
THE ISLAND IS QUITE DESERTED... PRESENT COMPANY EXCEPTED.



STILL, FEEL FREE TO USE ANY STANDING STRUCTURE TO YOUR BEST ADVANTAGE. HIDE IF YOU FEEL YOU MUST...



PATRIOTS ALL. BUT I DIGRESS... PHONE AND POWER LINES ARE DOWN, AS ARE THE WATER MAINS.



THE ISLAND HAS BEEN DIVIDED INTO SOMEWHAT EQUAL ZONES.

NOTE THE GRID.



ee-eeek

I'D ADVISE AGAINST IT.

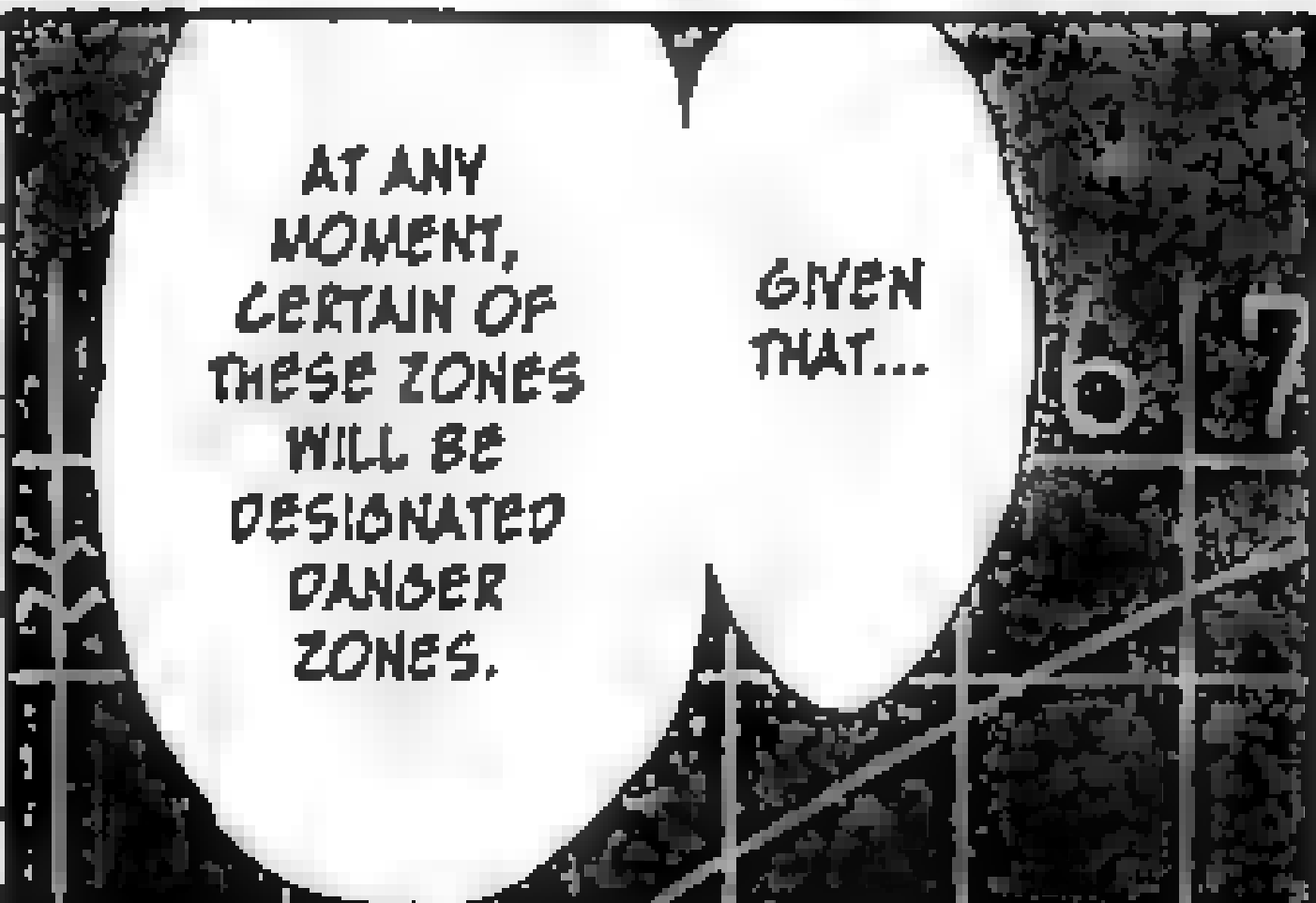
YOU'LL BE FLUSHED OUT, SOONER OR LATER, BY THE MORE AMBITIOUS. ATTEND.

!?



FAILURE TO DO SO... MOST UNPLEASANT.

YOU WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO VACATE THAT ZONE WITHIN FIVE MINUTES OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT.



AT ANY MOMENT, CERTAIN OF THESE ZONES WILL BE DESIGNATED DANGER ZONES.

GIVEN THAT...



VERY EFFECTIVE. AND SHOULD IT RECEIVE THE APPROPRIATE SIGNAL...

WHICH BRINGS US TO THE COLLARS EACH OF YOU HAVE BEEN FITTED WITH. VERY HIGH-TECH.

!?

ping!



skatch skk

THE DANGER ZONES WILL BE P.A. BROADCAST. *D-5 IS NOW A DANGER ZONE.*



ooo
EXPLOSIVELY
LETHAL.





THE COLLARS ALSO RELAY VITAL SIGNS AND LOCATION TO OUR COMPUTERS.

OH ...

THE SCHOOL GROUNDS BECOME A PERMANENT DANGER ZONE ONCE THE LAST OF YOU PASSES THROUGH THE PERIMETER.

THAT SAID ...



... ALL OF THE COLLARS DETONATE.

ALL DIE. NO GLORY. SO SAO.

SO... SHOULD YOU ALL BAND TOGETHER AND REFUSE TO FIGHT...

AND TWENTY-FOUR HOURS PASSES WITHOUT AN ELIMINATION ...



KILL OR BE KILLED, LITTLE WARRIORS!



YOU SNOOZE, YOU LOSE.

FILE THAT UNDER ...





AKAMATSU WOULDN'T HURT A FLY.

C'MON GIGANTOR. ONE MORE SET.

THAT'S... THAT'S DONE ME IN, SHUUYA... HUFF...

THE BIGGEST KID IN THE CLASS... BAWLING LIKE A BABY...

WILL I LOOK THAT SCARED WHEN IT'S MY TURN?

AKAMATSU...



BOY NUMBER FIVE.

HURRY AND YOU CAN HAVE THE BIG CRYBABY FOR FIRST KILL. ♡

DON'T DANGLE, LITTLE MISS.

MOVING RIGHT ALONG...



GIRL NUMBER FOUR.



A PERSONAL FAVORITE...

AH.



LET'S SHOW SOME HUSTLE HERE...



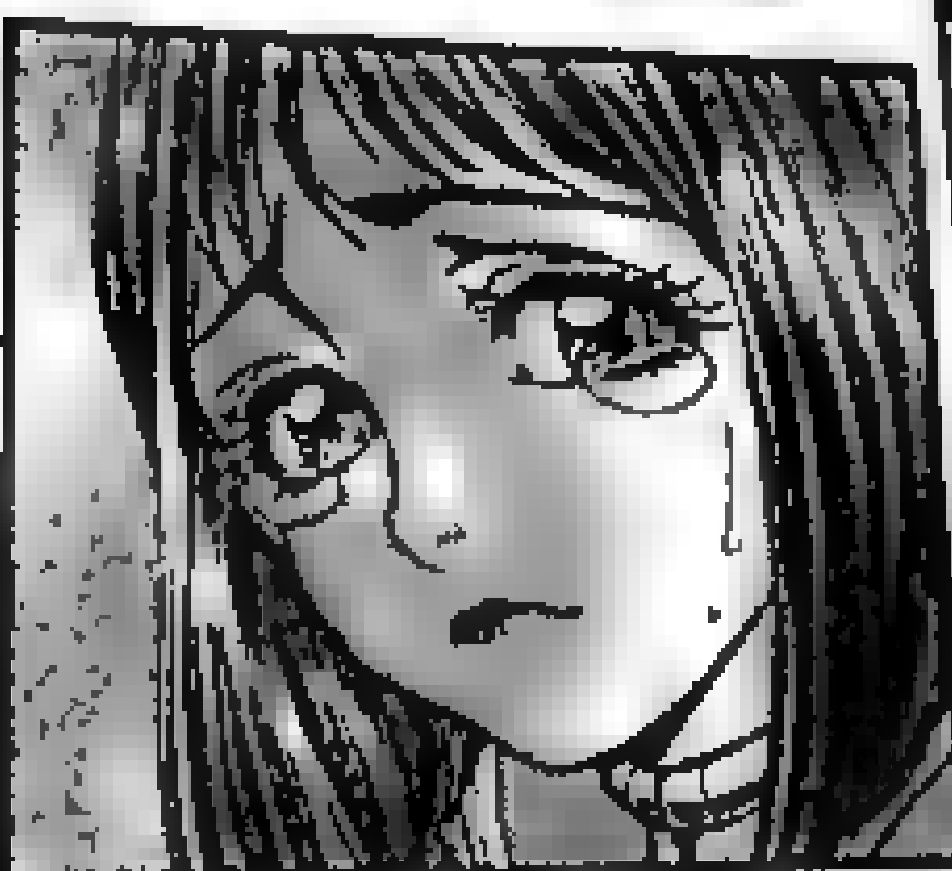
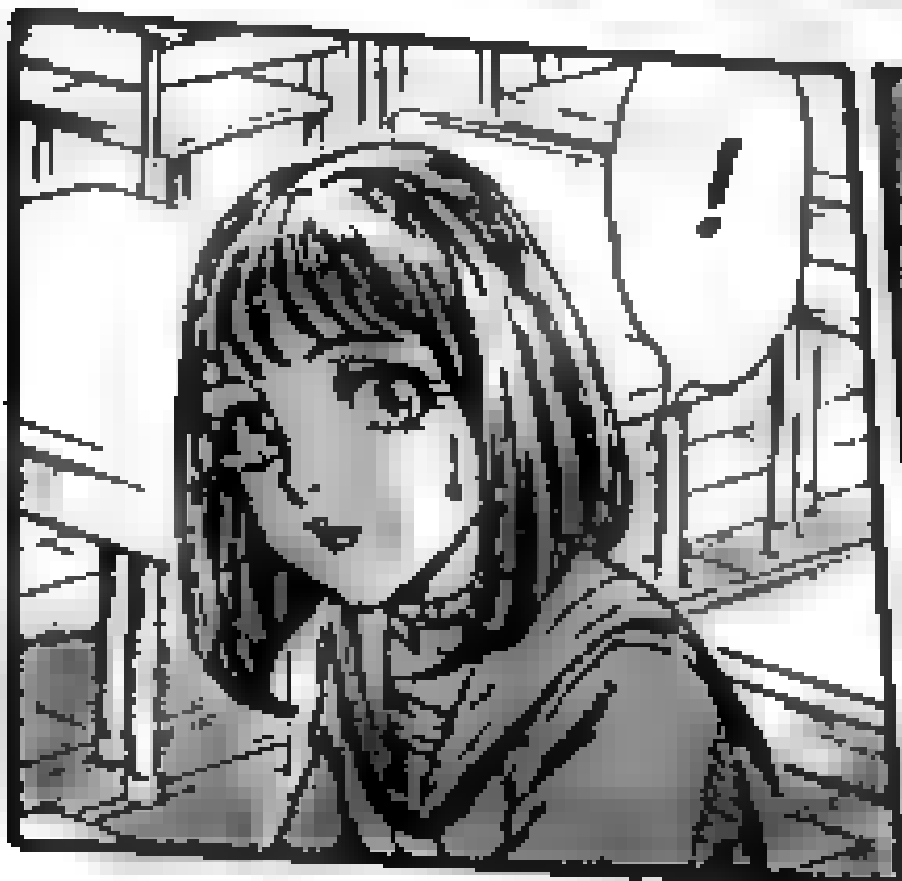
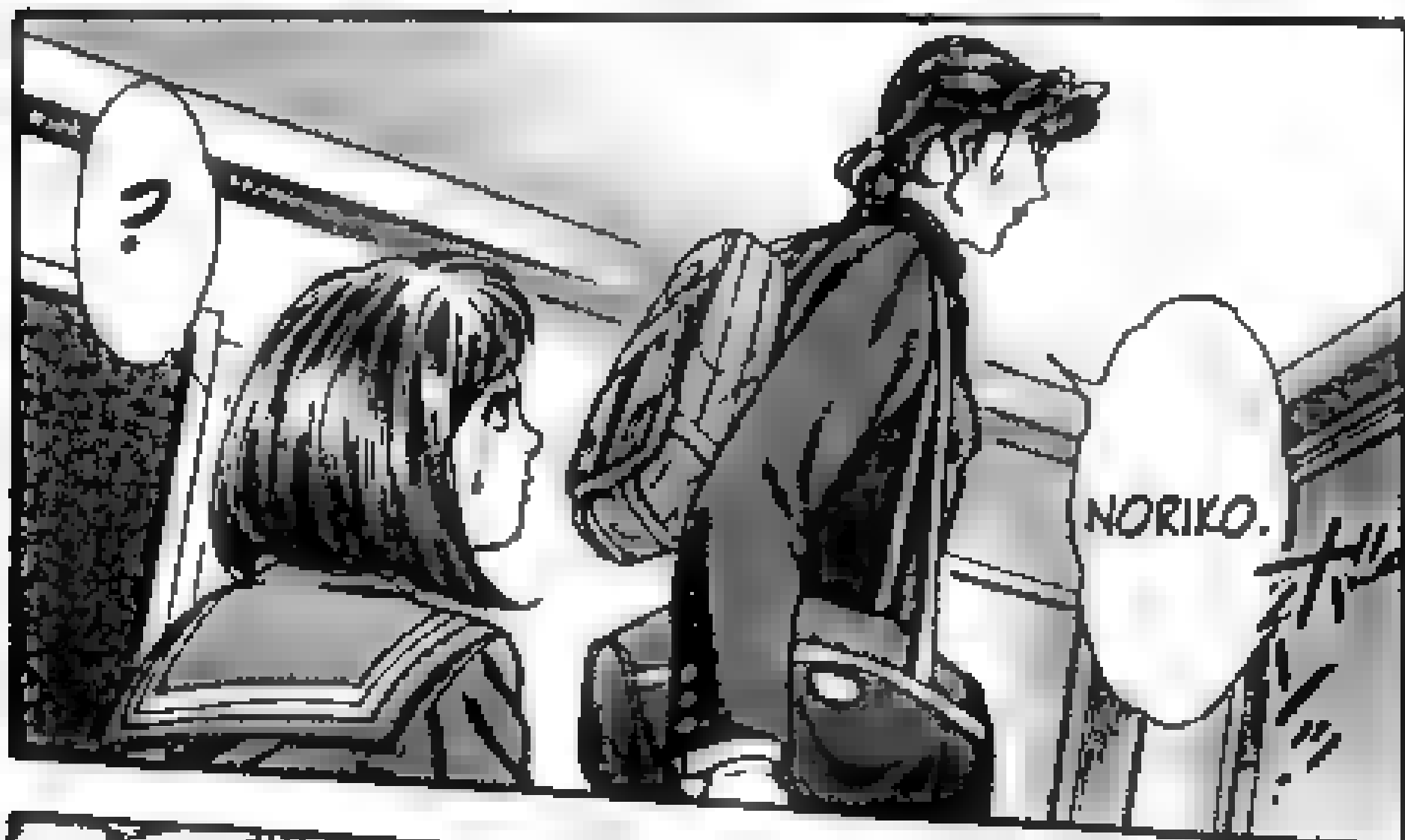
THIRTEEN

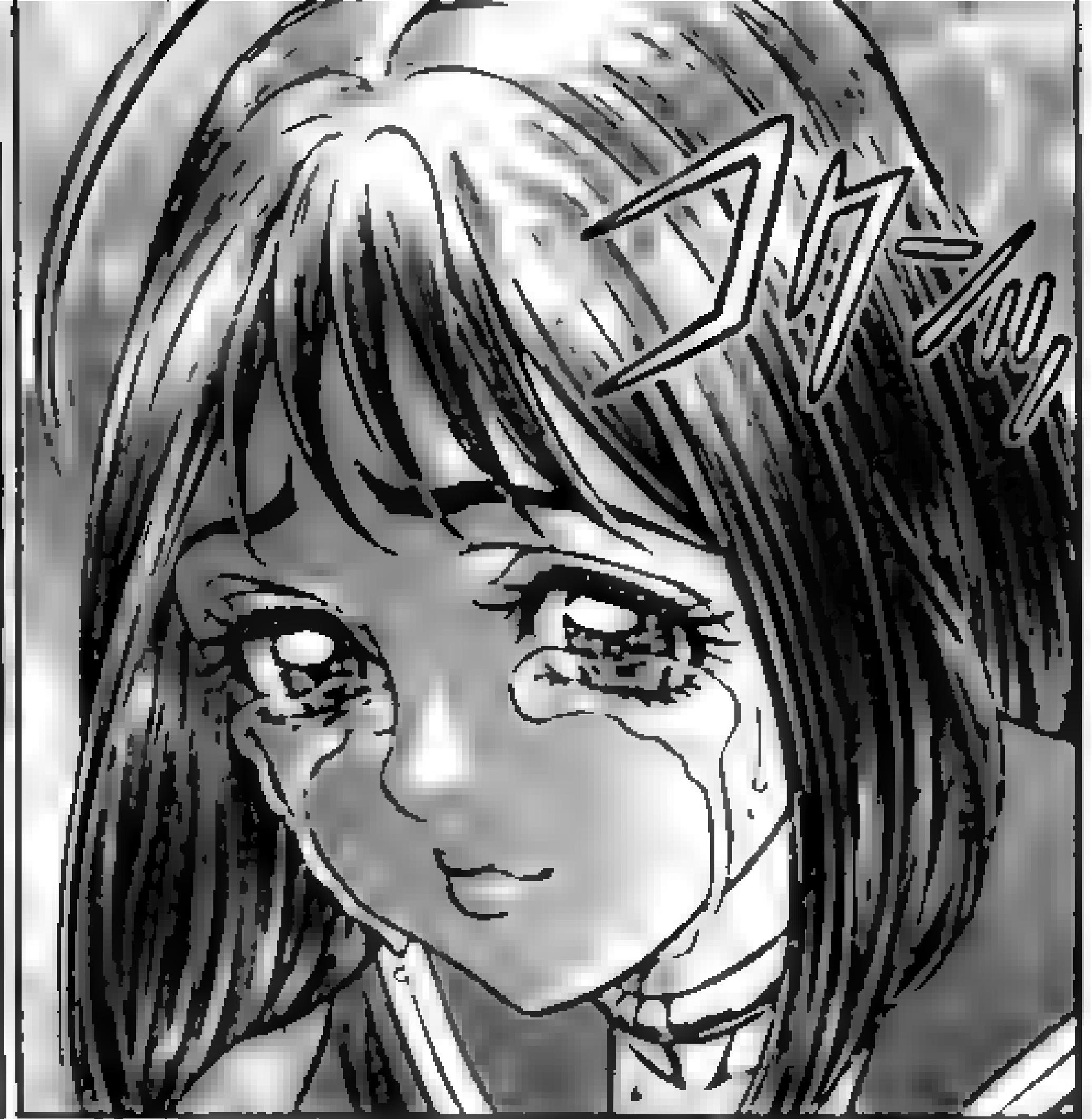


NUMBER TEN.



NUMBER SEVEN.







THIS IS SUCH BULLSHIT!

THIS IS BULLSHIT!



TOGETHER WE CAN GET THROUGH THIS.

WE GOTTA ALL PULL TOGETHER AND THINK THIS THROUGH.

GOTTA THINK THIS THROUGH.



IF IT WASN'T FOR HIM I'D BE DEAD ALREADY. WE CAN RALLY THE OTHERS.

LUCKY FOR YOU I WASN'T.

NOBODY'S GONNA BUY INTO THIS PROGRAM SHIT. SHINJI... SHINJI WASN'T BUYING INTO IT. I COULD TELL.



WROX!
SUSINERA!
SUEE!



WROX!



HE'D BE ALL
FOR TURNING
THIS AROUND!
GOT ALL THE
RIGHT MOVES



HE'S
PERFECT!

JUST THE
GUY TO
CRACK A
FEW
HEADS



UNBE-
FUCKING-
LIEVABLE!

FACE ASS
MOVES!





PARANOID
BUT
SCARED

WHAT
ARE YOU
THINKING?
THIS IS THE
WAY THEY
WANT US!

GIVE IN
TO THAT
AND THEY
WIN!



SOUNDS
LIKE A
PLAN!

ONE STEP
AT A TIME.
FIRST
MORDO .

CLAY...
CLAY...

THEN
MORDO
THEN
THEN PLAY
IT AS IT
COMES.

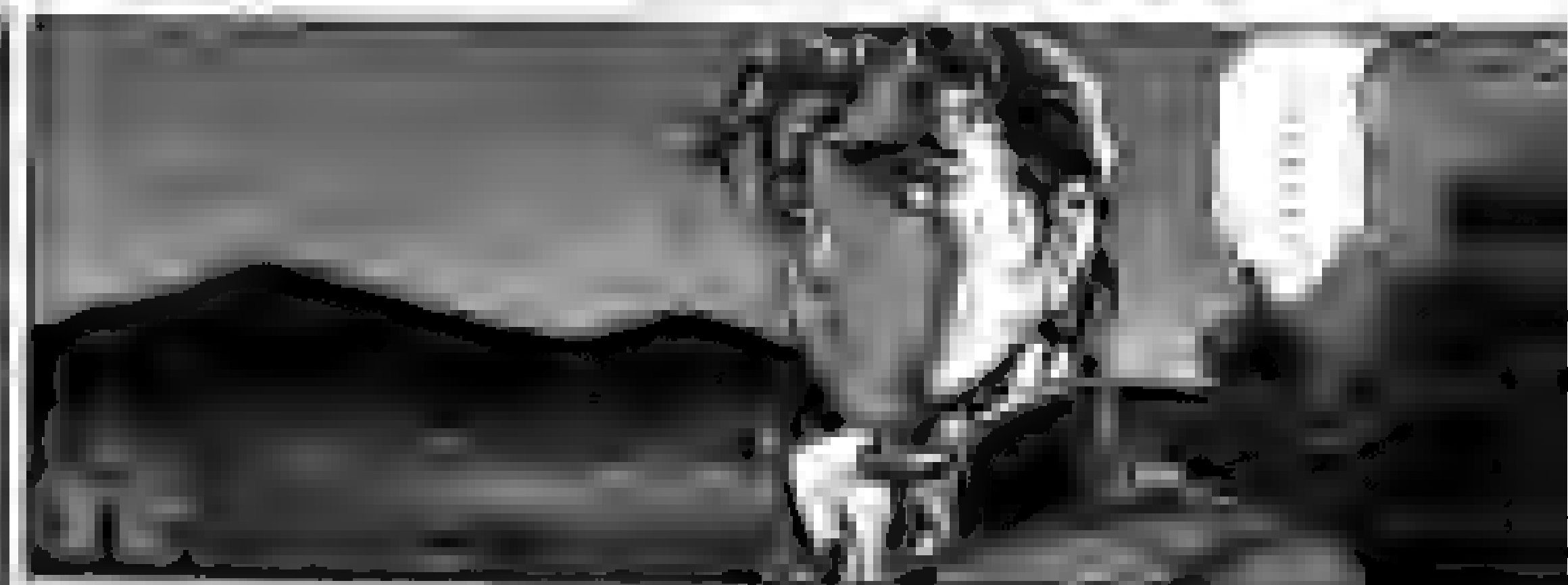


WE'LL
STILL
HAVE
TWENTY-
FOUR
HOURS

WE
CAN COME
UP WITH
SOMETHING
I KNOW IT!

PERHAPS
ALREADY
WITH THE
OTHERS OUT
THERE

AND
SUSINERU!
HE'S
ALREADY
OUT THERE.





MAYUMI?





A-HEH!

AKAHATSU!!

A-HEH!



A-
HEH!

A-
HEH!

NNN-
NNN-
NNNN...

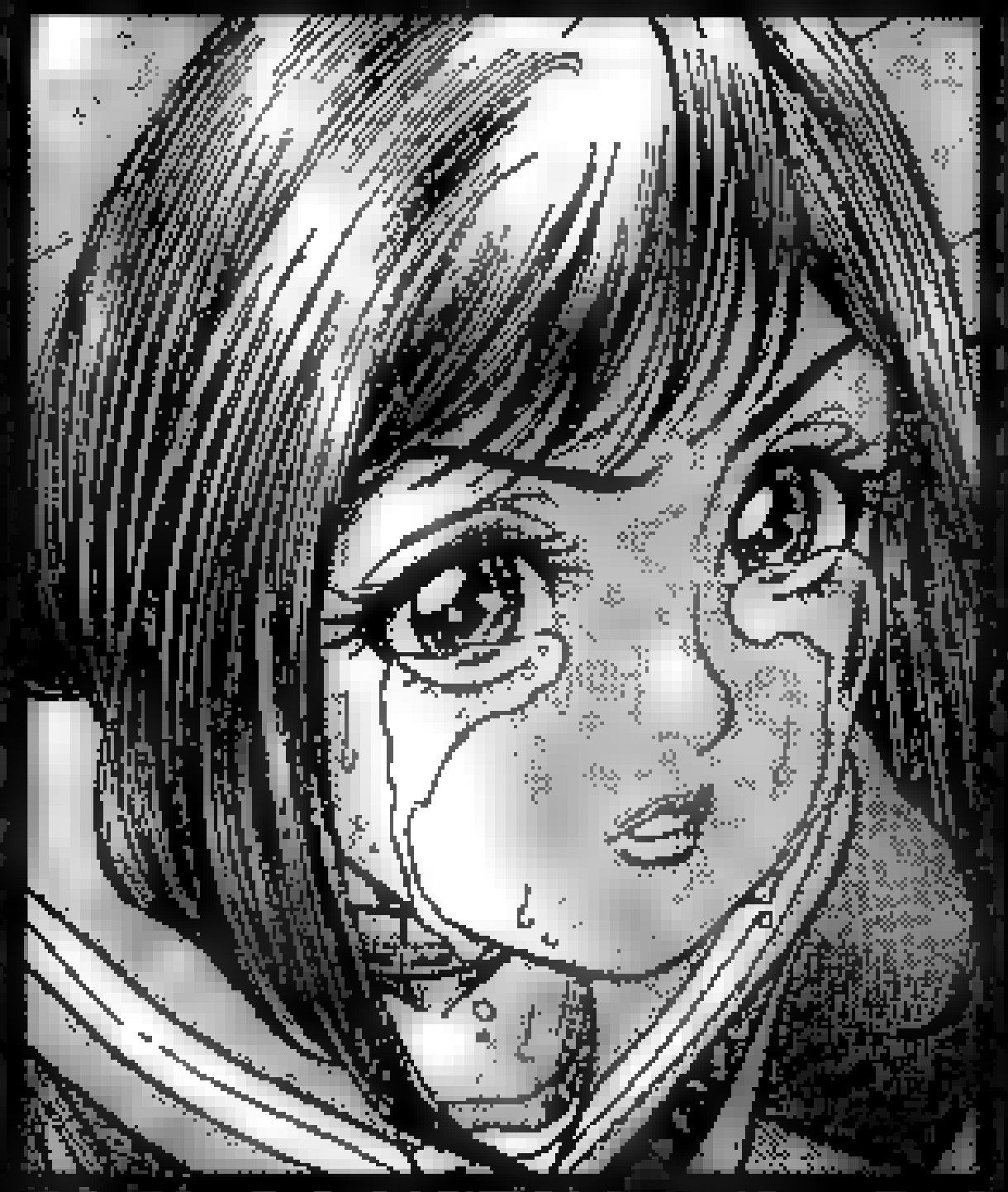
AKAMATSU

...

NO!

NO...

Chapter 6: Yoshio Akamatsu



BATTLE ROYALE



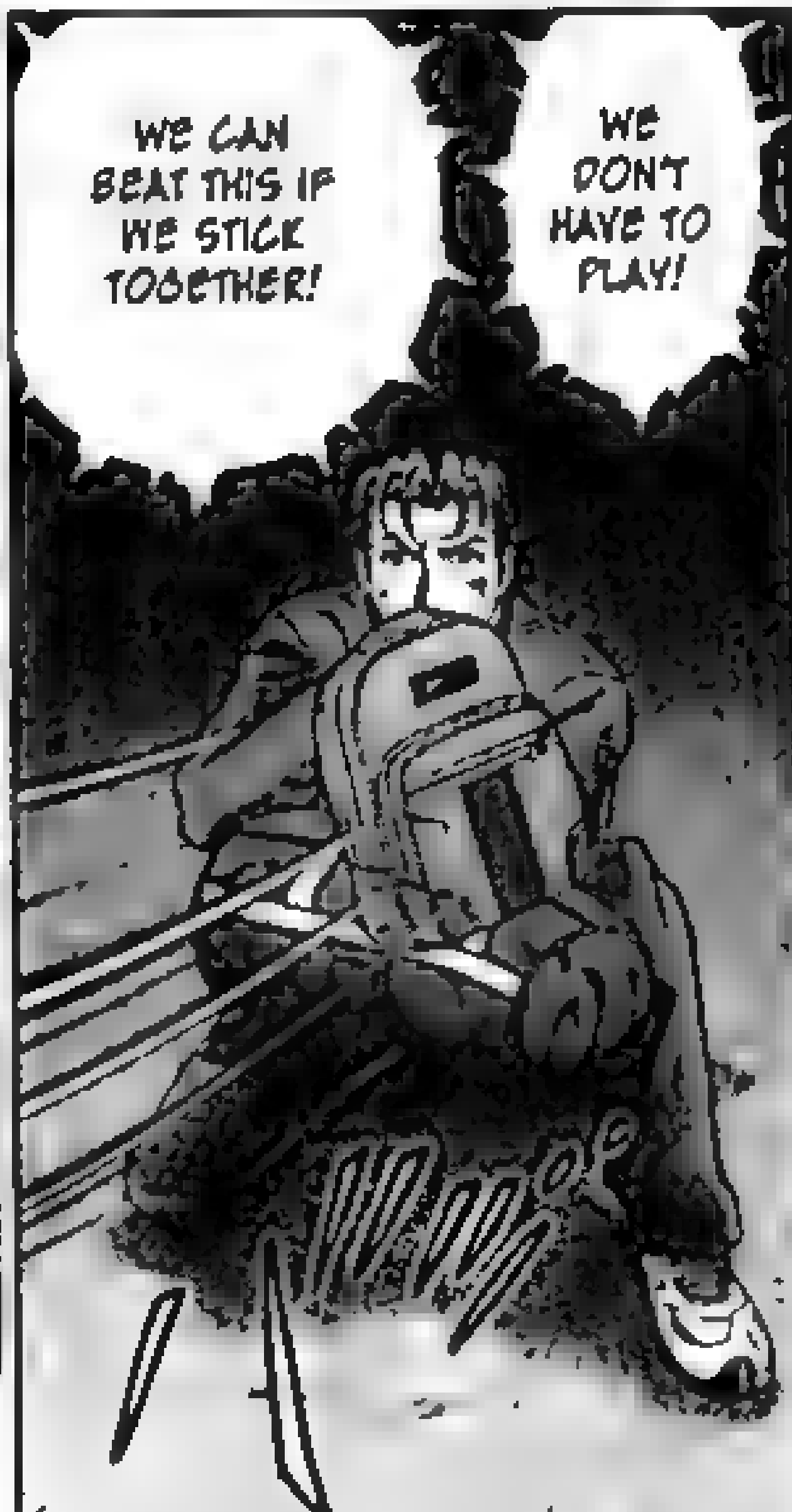
AKAMATSU ...

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
WHY?!



IT'S ME!
IT'S ME!

ME!



WE CAN
BEAT THIS IF
WE STICK
TOGETHER!

WE
DON'T
HAVE TO
PLAY!

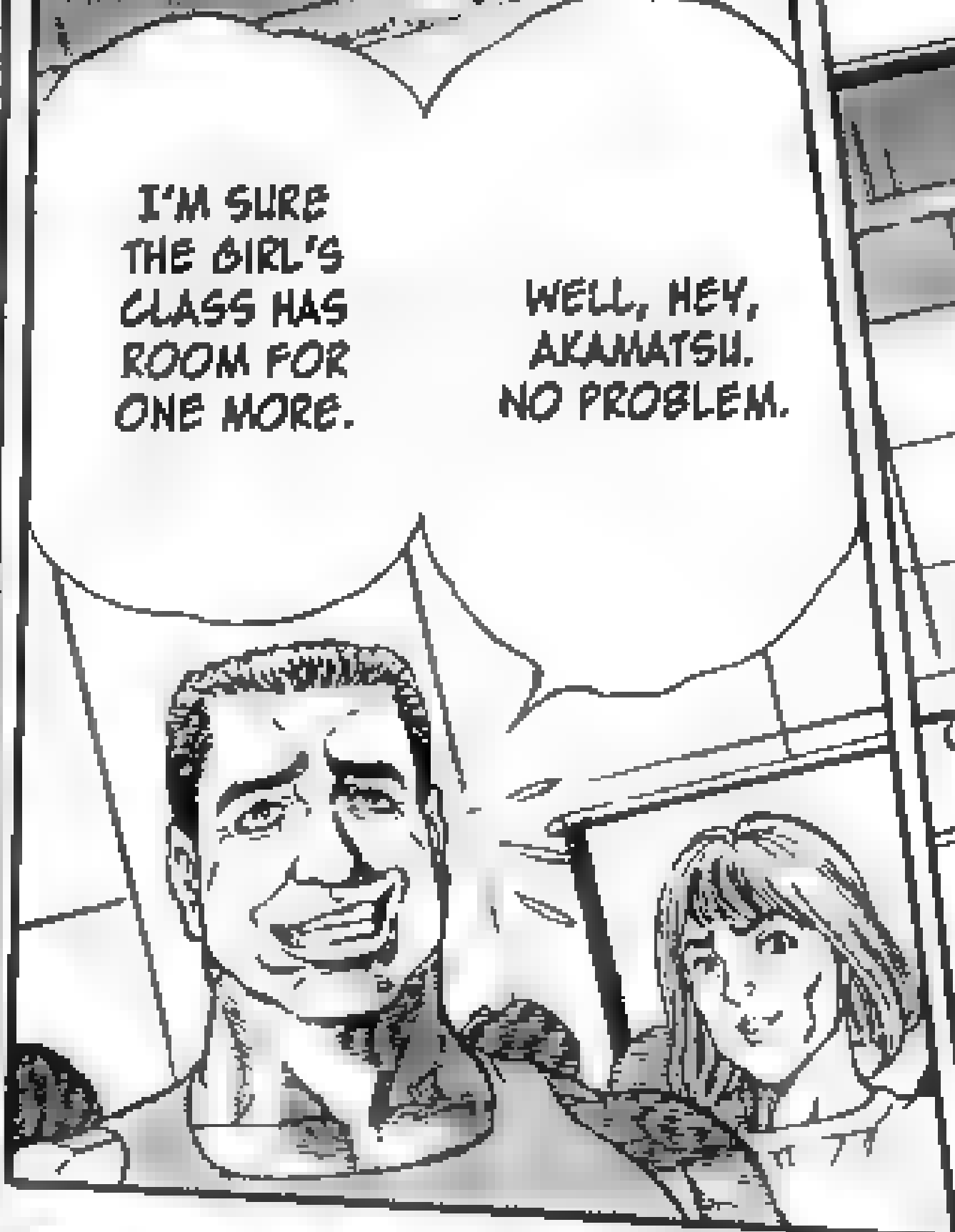


IT'S
YOU...
I SEE
THAT.





EVEN THE GIRLS!
I DON'T WANT TO BE KILLED BY A GIRL!



I'M SURE THE GIRL'S CLASS HAS ROOM FOR ONE MORE.

WELL, HEY, AKAMATSU. NO PROBLEM.



I CAN'T... IT'S... I JUST CAN'T...



NO! IT'S ME THEY'LL KILL FIRST! IT'S ME!

BECAUSE... BECAUSE I CAN'T! I CAN'T!



...FINAL WARNING, BLUBBERBALL. STAY OUT OF MY SIGHT!

WOHF!

I TRY ...

I REALLY, REALLY TRY, BUT... BUT...



AKAMATSU ...



TELL ME.

I THINK SOMEONE NEEDS DOOFUS BYPASS SURGERY...

SOB ...

I JUST... I JUST...

IT'S NOT MY FAULT! WHY IS IT ALWAYS MY FAULT?!





THAT'S
WHY I DID
IT! THAT'S
WHY I HAVE
TO KILL
FIRST!

TH-
THAT'S
WHY!



WAIT HERE
WITH ME! WE
CAN HOOK UP
WITH THE
REST OF THE
CLASS!

WE CAN
BEAT THIS!
LISTEN!!



NO!
NOBODY
HAS TO
KILL! LISTEN
TO ME!



PROMISE
PROMISE
YOU
WONT
KILL
ME



WE PLAY
THEIR GAME,
WE ALL LOSE!
ALL OF US
LOSE!!

IT'S US
AGAINST
THEM! NOT
AGAINST
EACH
OTHER!



DONT LET
THEM KILL
ME .

OR.. OR
LET THE
OTHERS .



WTF??



NO ONE IS
GOING TO
KILL YOU



WOW!

HEH



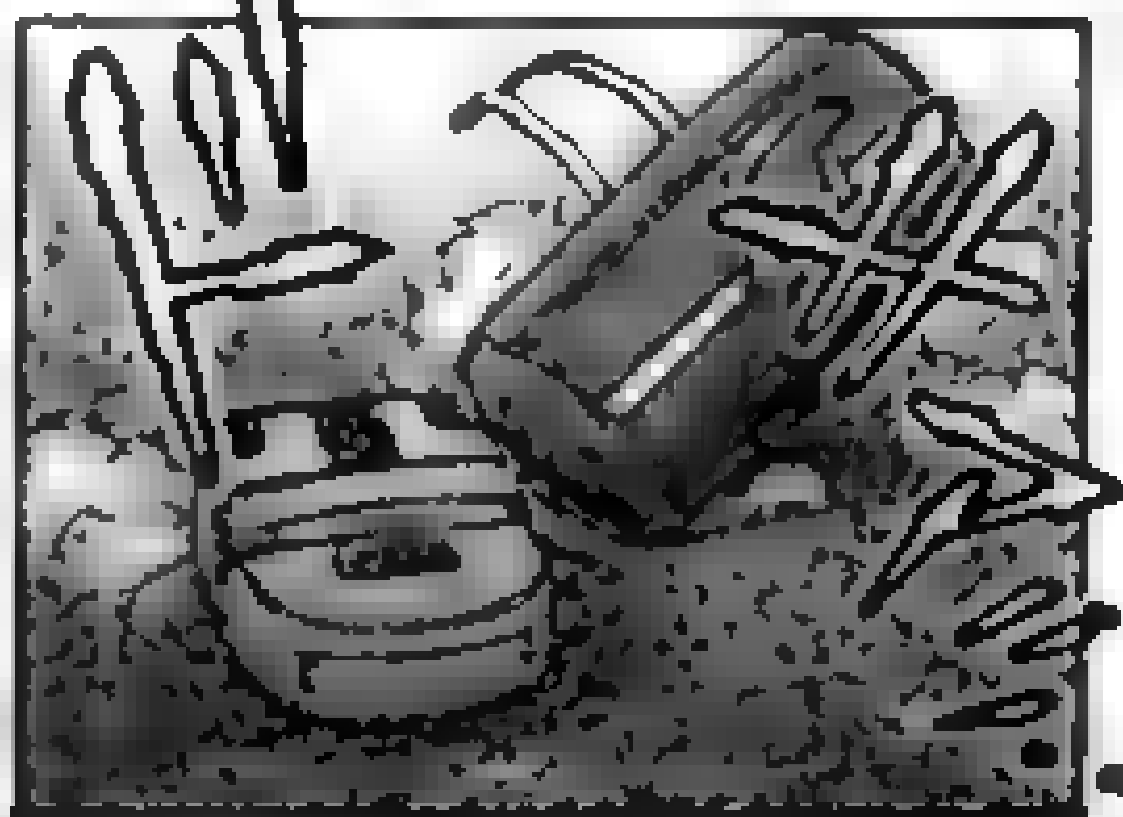
IF!
IF WE ALL
PUT OUR HEADS
TOGETHER AND
FIGURE A WAY
OUT OF THIS!

NOW'S
THIS THEN? I
SWEAR THAT
NO ONE IS
GOING TO
KILL ANYONE!

WANT A
FINNY
SWEAR?!

GOOD
ENOUGH?







AS FOR
SMILING...
IT'S WHAT
FRIENDS
DO, RIGHT?

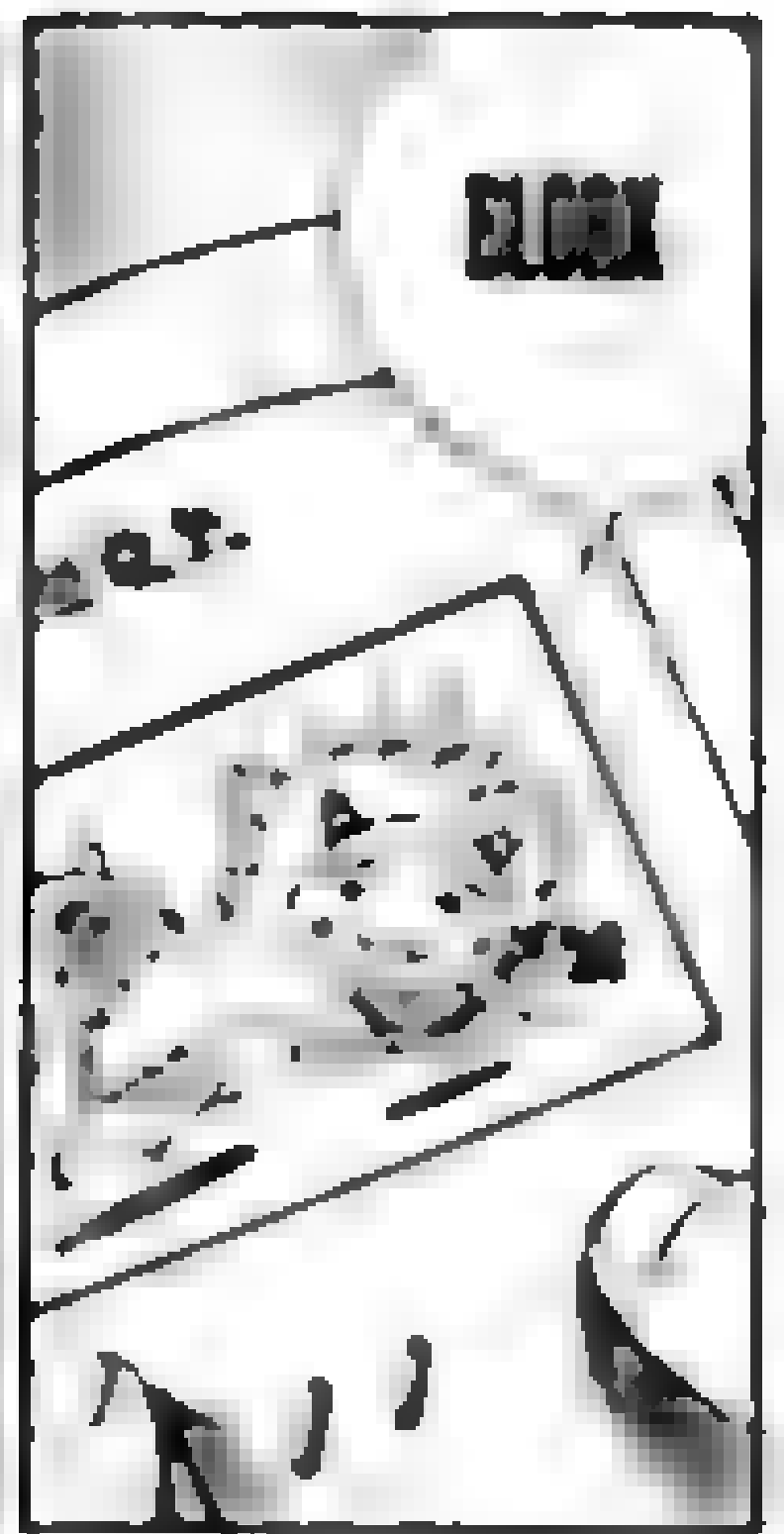
TRUST ME
ON THIS,
ATAMATSU...
LIKE I'M
TRUSTING YOU
NOT TO
SHOOT ME.

YOU'RE
NOT A
DOGFUS,
NOT TO
ME.











IT'S
REALLY
PRETTY
EASY

SURE

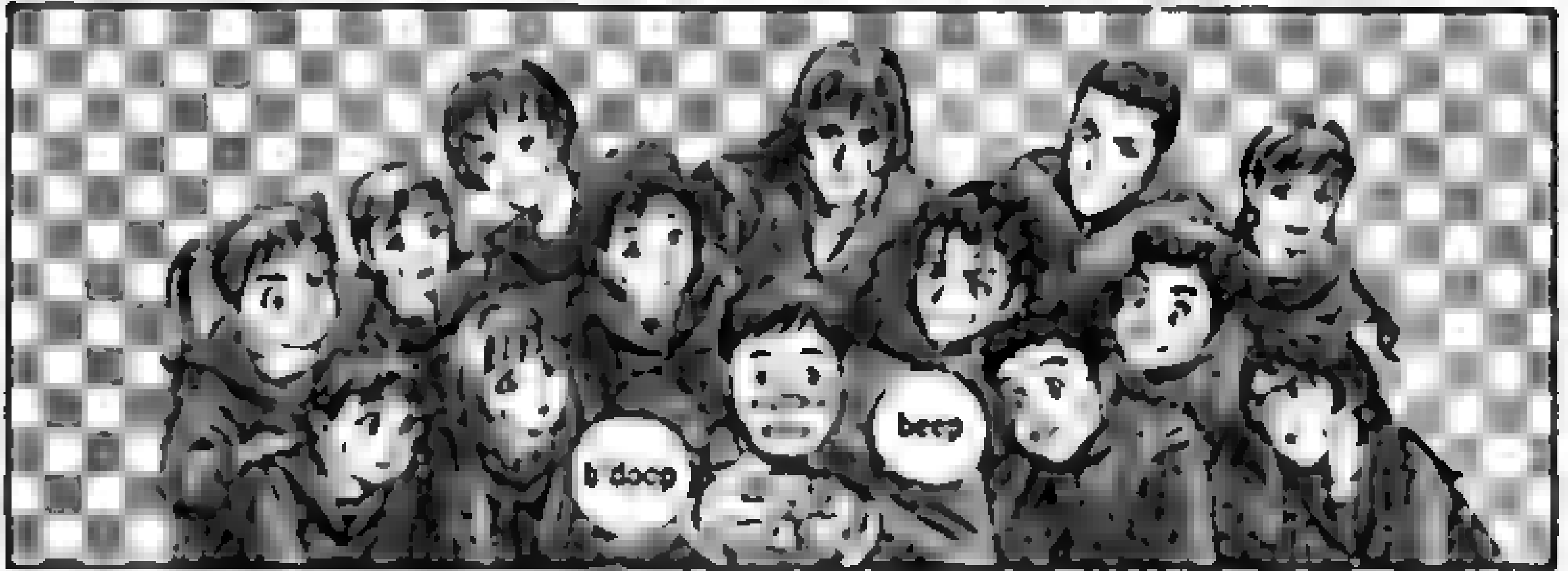
LM



C'MON!
SHOW
"ALMOST
BUT'S" HERE
NOW IT'S
GONE

ALWAYS

LOOKS
LIKE YOU
GOT THE
RIGHT
TOUCH



beep

beep



お

あ

beep









WHOSE
FRIEND AM
I NOW?!
I KILLED
HER!

I'VE
ALREADY
PLAYED! I'VE
PLAYED THE
GAME!

MAYUMI!
MAYUMI!!
TOO LATE!
TOO LATE
FOR ME!
MAYUMI IS
DEAD!

WHO
TRUSTS A
KILLER?
WHOSE
FRIEND AM
I NOW?!



MADE
ME KILL HER!
DOOFUS!
DOOOFUS!!

MADE
ME GO
FIRST!

THEY
DID
THIS!



AKAMATSU!
DON'T GO
THIS!



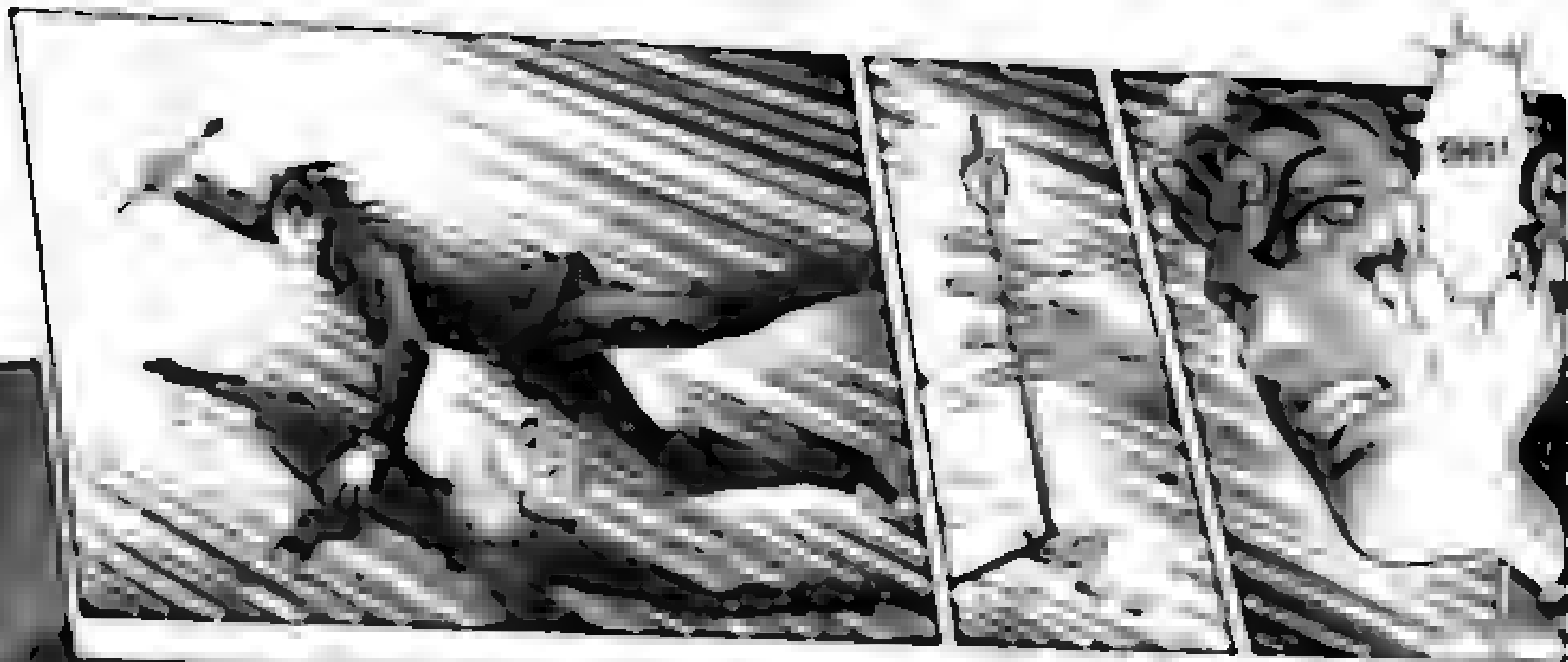


**IDIOT
GIRL! GET
WITH THE
PROGRAM
!**



!!









IT'S HAPPENING!
THE PROGRAM...

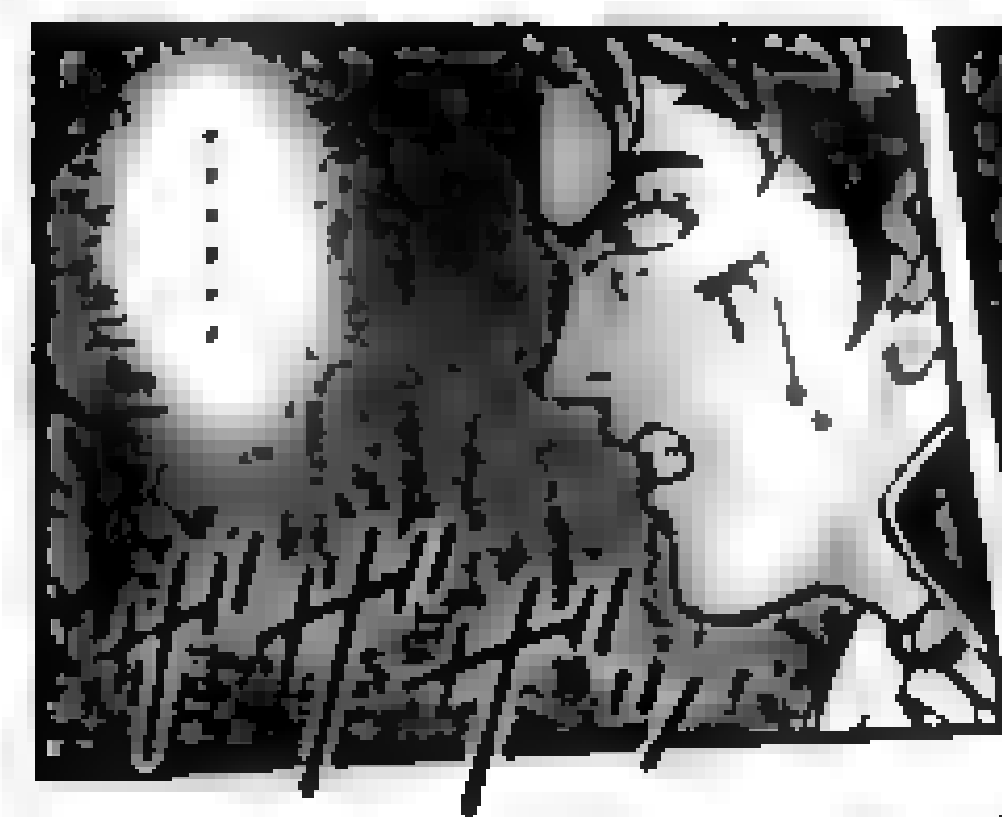
THIS WAY! STAY WITH ME!



WE'VE GOT TO FIND SHELTER!
WE'RE SITTING DUCKS OUT HERE!

GROAN...

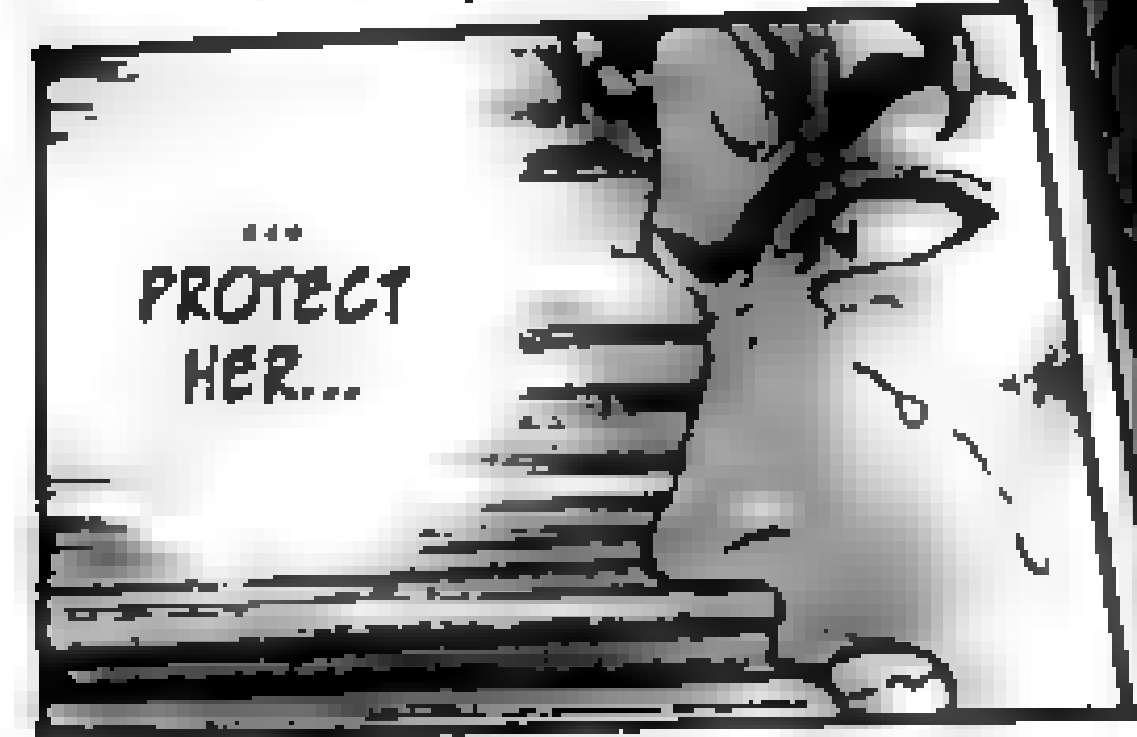
THEY'RE PLAYING! I THOUGHT WE COULD... THAT WE WOULD...



...

PROTECT NORIKO.
GET HER TO SAFETY AND... AND...

NORIKO...



... PROTECT HER...



... PROTECT
HER FROM ..

WHAT SHUYA
HAPPENED ...
BACK
THERE?

MINURA?
SUSUMURA?
ALL OF
THEM?

DONT
FORGET.
JUMP
FIRST.

... FROM
AKAMATSU?
I'M
PROTECTING
HER FROM
AKAMATSU!?

!!

NO ..



PLEASE
DON'T
PULL
UP
THE
CURTAINS...

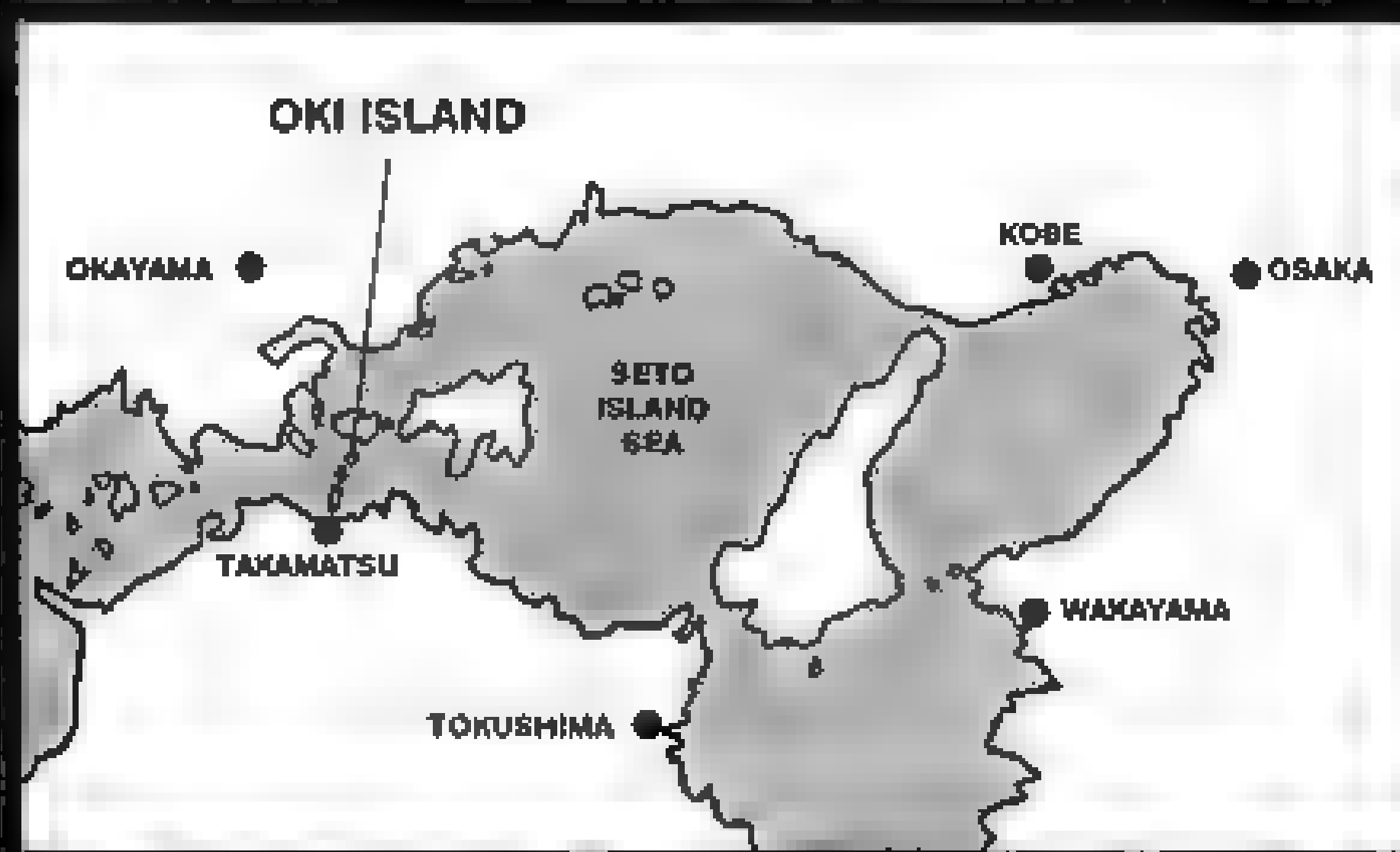
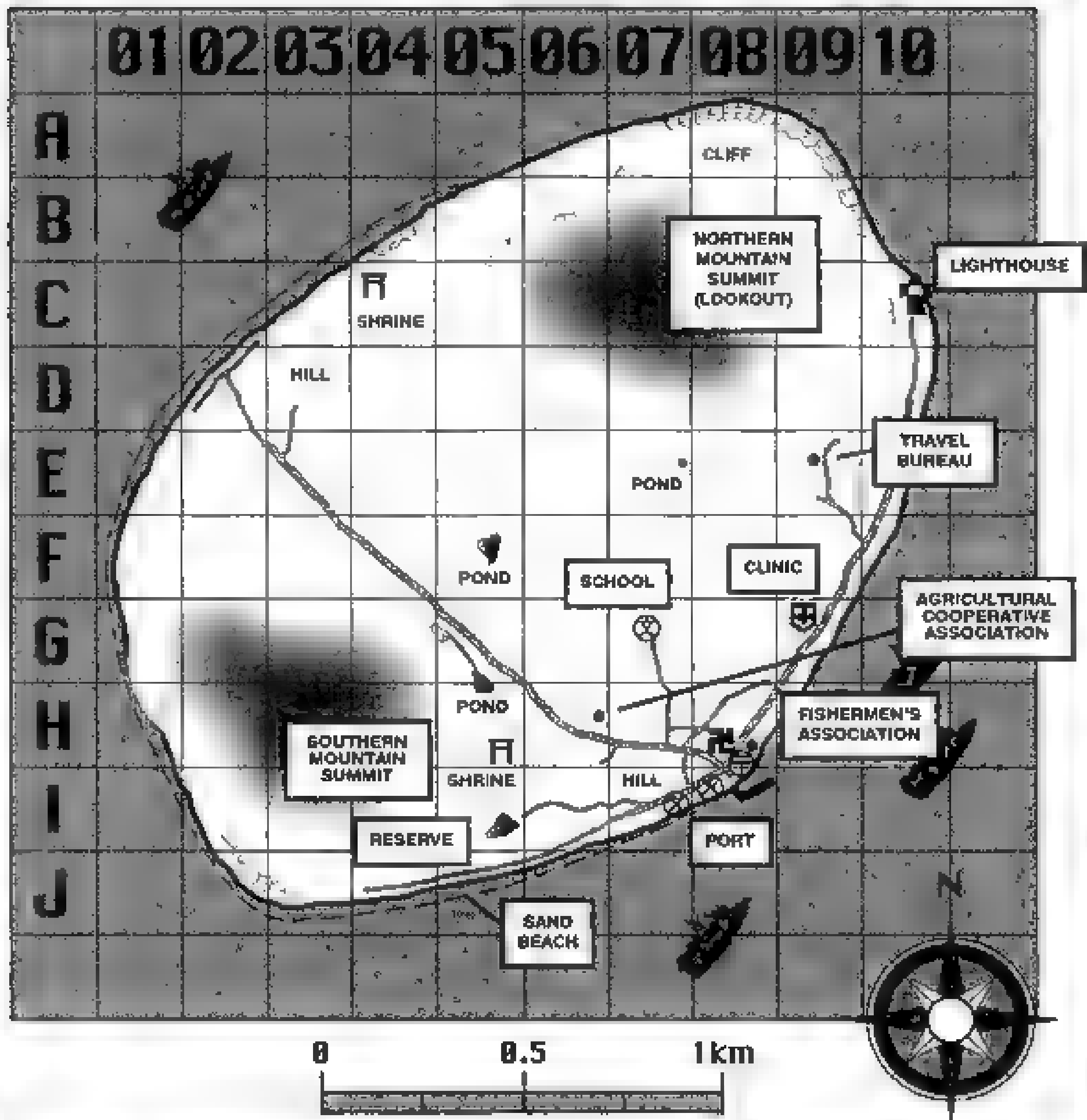


THESE
ARE MY
FRIENDS...
PLEASE
STILL LET
THEM
BE MY
FRIENDS...

MY
FRIENDS

OKISHIMA

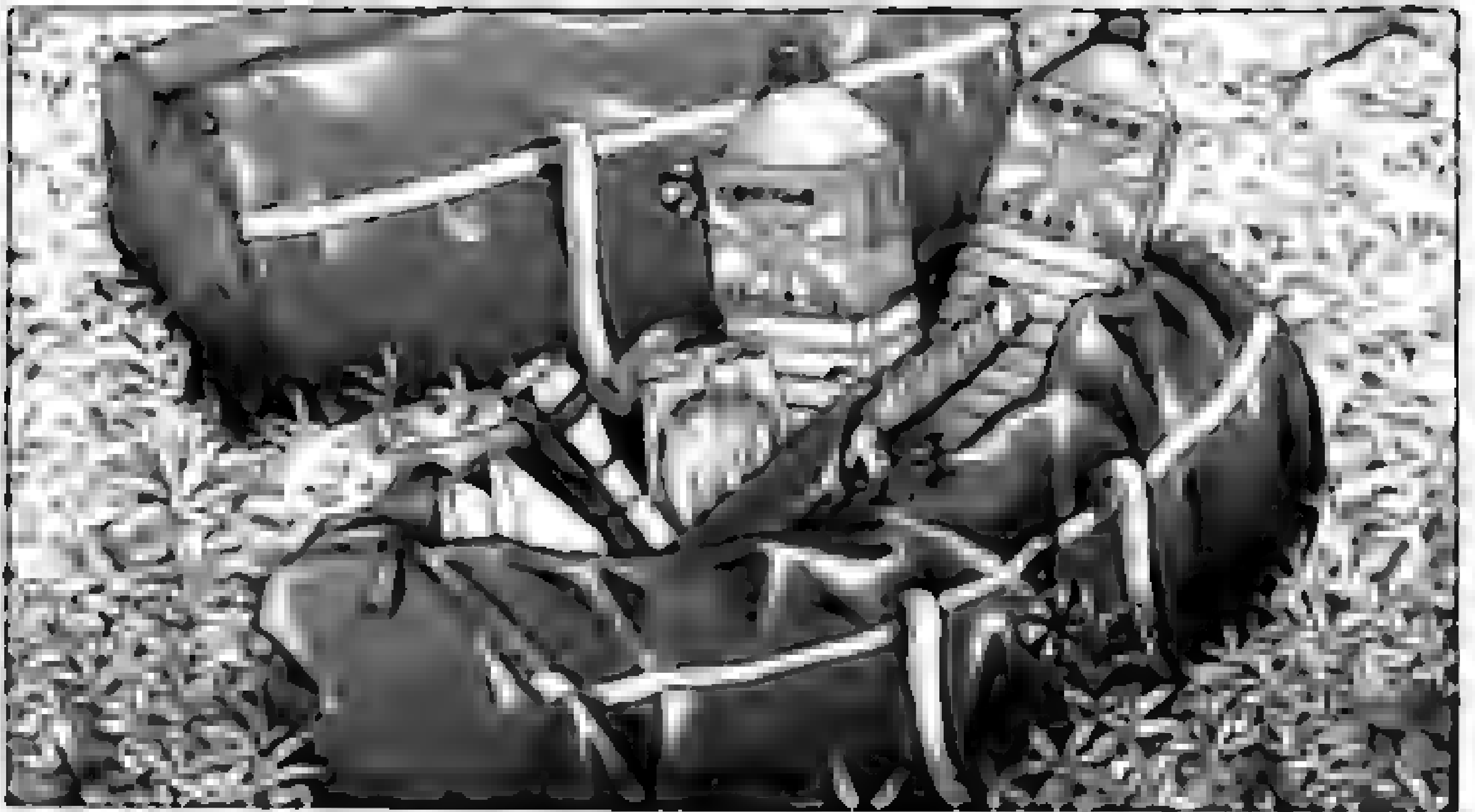
6 KILOMETERS AROUND

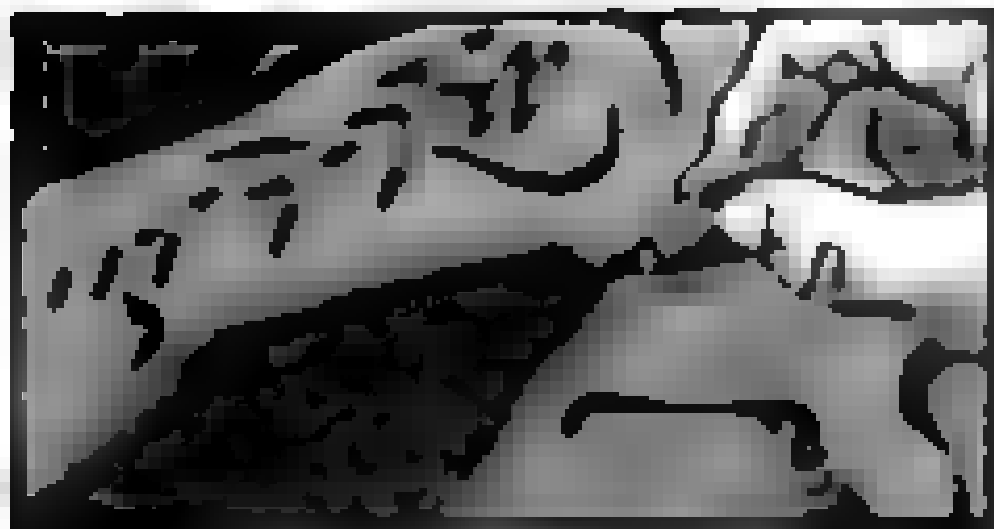




Chapter 7: Trust













FLIPPED OUT ON FEAR AND ADRENALINE. HE'S PLAYING THE GAME.

AKAMATSU LOST IT. BIG TIME.

FIGURED HE'D BE TARGETED BY THE KIDS WHO USED TO PICK ON HIM. KILL OR BE KILLED, Y'KNOW?



GOT ME WONDERING WHO MIGHT BE LOOKING TO TAKE ME DOWN.

HRN...



HE WAS PROBABLY RIGHT.

THAT'S THE HELL OF IT. HE WAS PROBABLY RIGHT.



NOW I'M WONDERING WHICH OF MY "FRIENDS" MIGHT KILL ME.

HOW'S THAT FOR YOU? NOT FIVE MINUTES AGO I WAS PREACHING SOLIDARITY.





I... SEE THINGS ...

NON TRUSTWORTHY DOES THAT MAKE ANY OF US?

NONE OF US IS. NOT EVEN THE GIRLS I HANG OUT WITH.



... IT ON OVER HERE N' GREASE DADDY'S POLE.

BLESSIN' LIKE A SQUEE PIS N' BAWLIN' LIKE A BABY HA!

THINGS THE... THE BAD GIRLS DO.



WOULD I GO RIGHT BY THEM . IF I... *FLIPPED OUT ON FEAR AND ADRENALINE*?

WOULD I TRUST ANY OF THEM TO DO RIGHT BY ME?

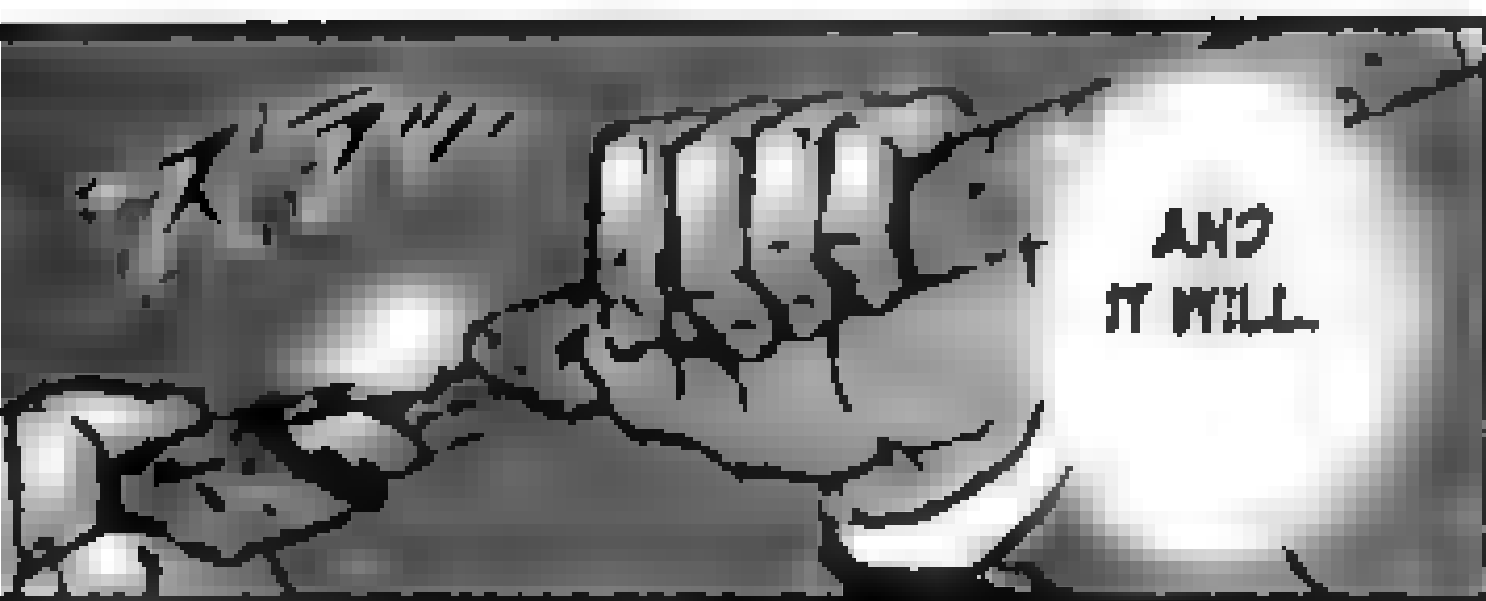
THINGS GOOD GIRLS, SO-CALLED THINGS THEY TOLERATE.



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE FEAR TAKES HOLD?



SAY ENOUGH OF US DID JOIN FORGES...



AND IT WILL.



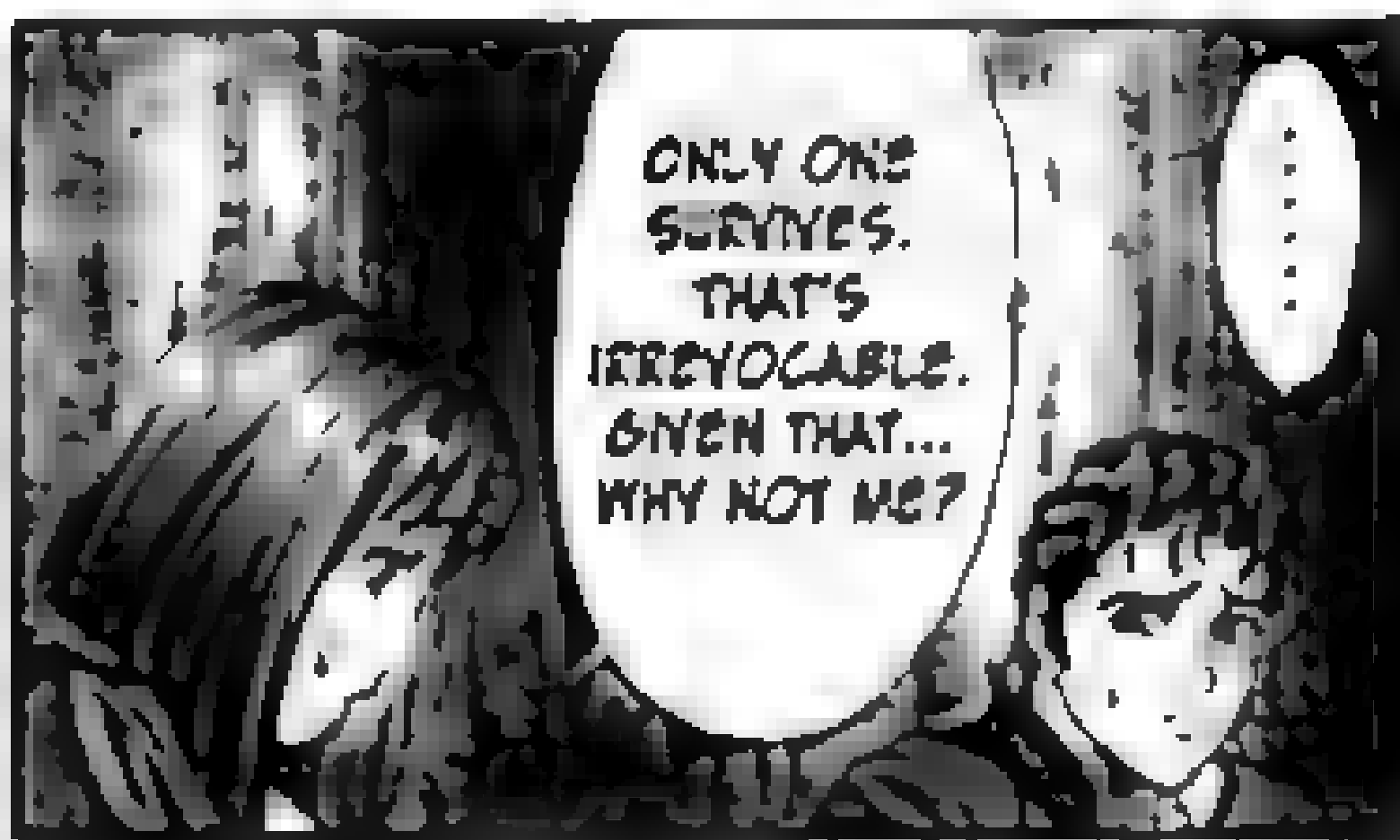
WHO CRACKS FIRST? IT'S KILL OR BE KILLED.

TWENTY-FOUR HOURS WITHOUT A KILL AND WE ALL DIE.



JEEZ... HEARNS IT JUST LAD OUT LIKE THAT ...

NOT TOO COLD-BLOODED, NOR!

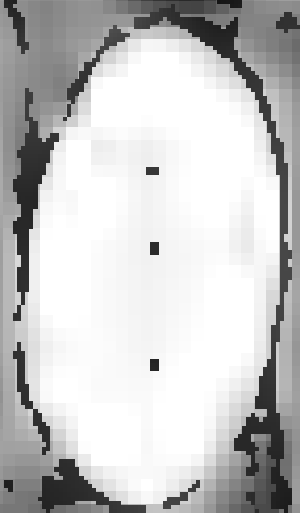


ONLY ONE SURVIVES. THAT'S IRREVOCALE. GIVEN THAT... WHY NOT ME?






YOU ..

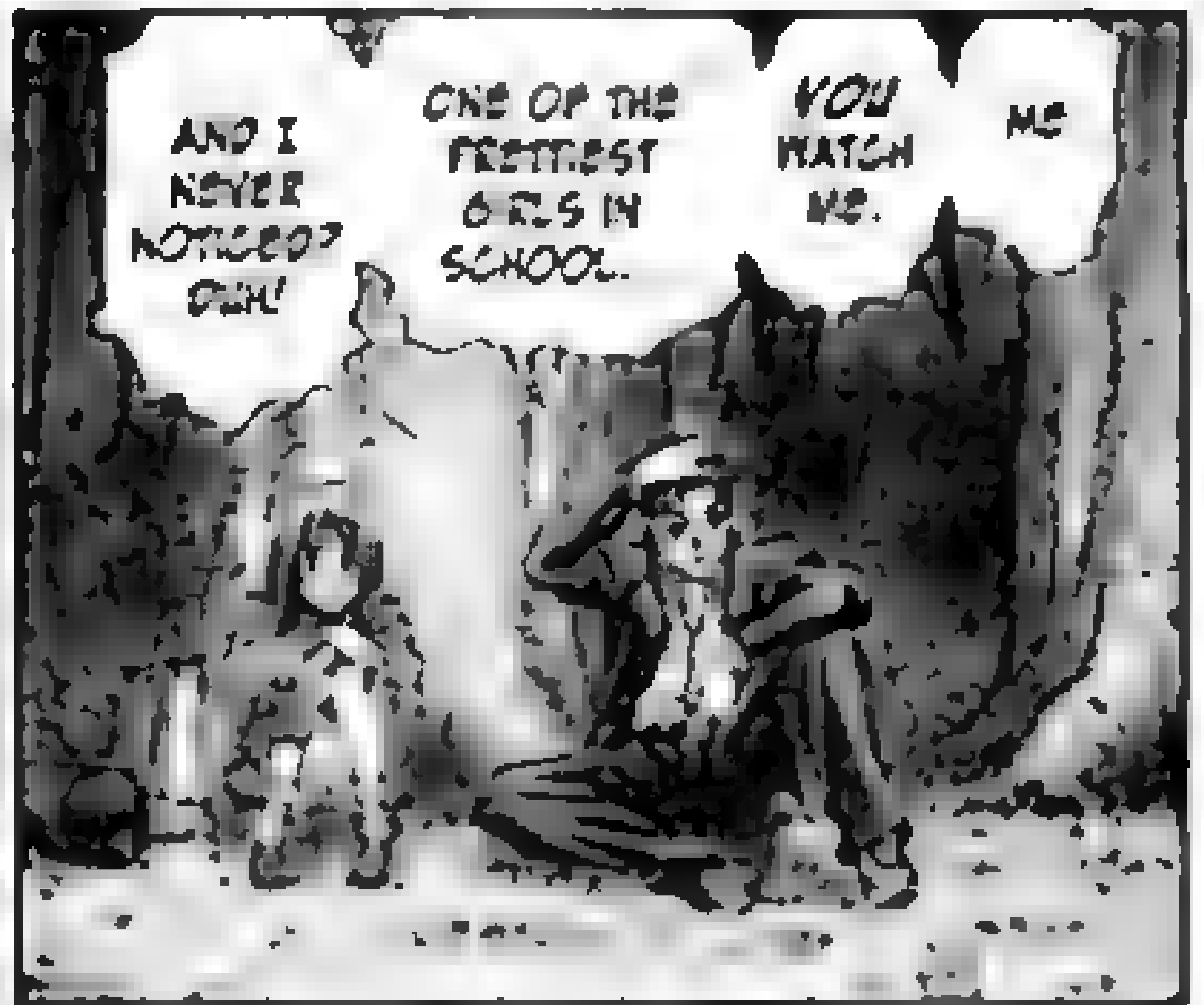


I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T ...



I SEE YOU
AT SCHOOL..
WITH YOUR
FRIENDS.
SO MUCH
FUN TO BE
WITH..

I'VE SEEN
YOU DO THINGS
FOR THEM WITH
NOTHING IN IT
FOR YOU.







BUT I'M WILLING TO TAKE A CHANCE ON BELIEVING THERE HAS TO BE A WAY.

I WOULDN'T GO THAT FAR.

ALL I NEED IS SOMEONE TO BELIEVE WITH ME. WHO'D YOU SAY?

EH?



ARE WE BACK TO TRUSTING AGAIN?

OPTED? HOPE?



Y'SEE, THAT'S WHAT THEY WANT, THESE PROGRAM GOONS.

I NEVER DOUBTED IT.



I... I CAN DO THAT.



BULLSHIT TO THAT! WE CAN'T BE THE ONLY TWO THINKING THIS.

THEY WANT US TO BELIEVE THAT THEIR WAY IS THE ONLY WAY.

THEY WANT US SCARED AND STUPID.



I HAVE
FAITH
IN YOU,
SHUNYA.

FAITH
IN YOUR
FRIENDS...
AND, MOST
IMPORTANT,
FAITH IN
YOURSELF.

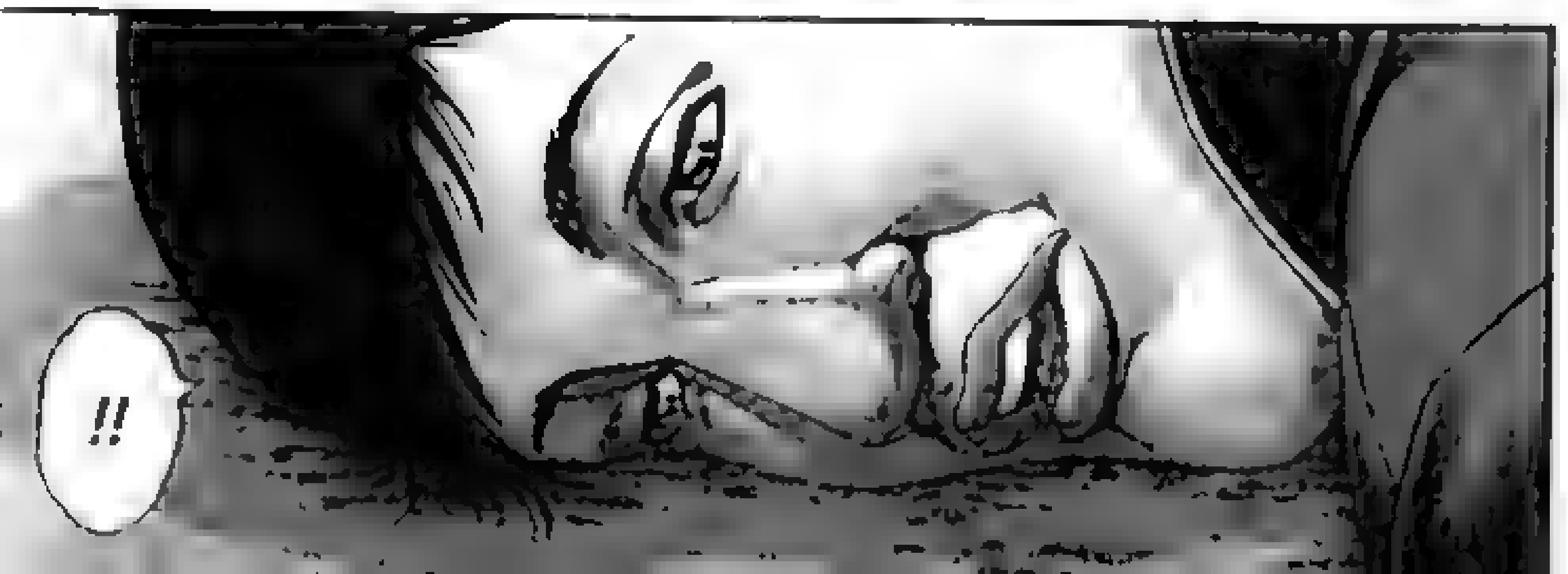
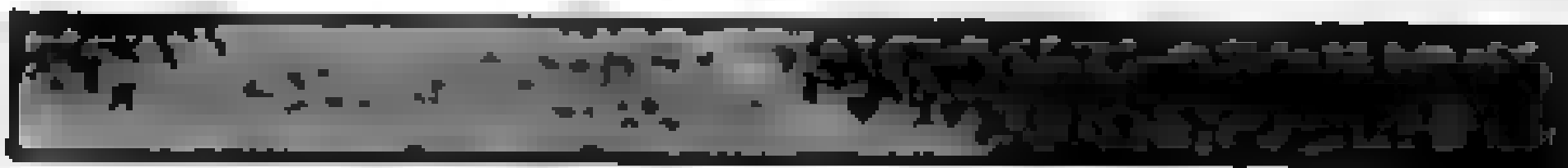
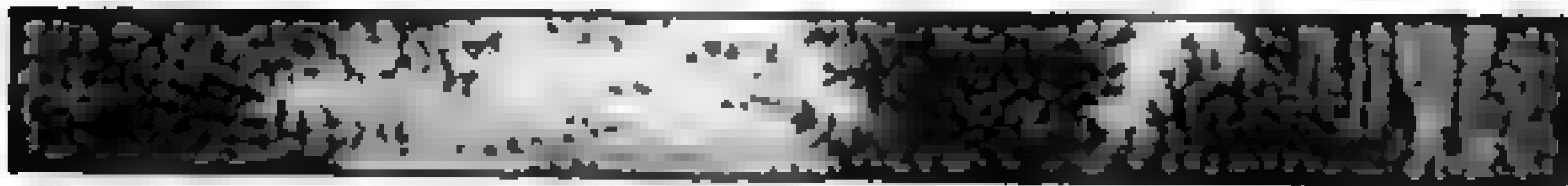
I GUESS
IT REALLY
COMES DOWN
TO FAITH.



GOT TO
BELIEVE

OKAY?

GOTTA
BELIEVE



!!







NO
MATTER
FREY'S
PLENIFUL,
EH?

WASTE
NOT,
WANT
NOT



DUMB-ASS
DOOPUS
SHOULD
PISSED HER
FIRST

MAY-
TENGO

SEE YOU
BASSED
YOURSELF
A TROPY
DUMB
LUCK'S MY
BLESS



GONNA
OBT ME ALL I
CAN OBT, MAN
TIS BLOOD
N' BOO-TAY!

GONNA
BE A STAR,
DOOPUS, M' MAN.
GONNA BE THE
MAN!

THERE
FOR THE
PISSING,
EVERY
PISSING
FANTASY
I EVER
HAD!

NINTH GRADE/CLASS - B BOY #16:

KAZUSHI NIIDA



!

NOT LIKE YOU
BOT ANY USE FOR
DAMN ALL NO
MORE, EH?

AND
YOUR
BAS

ITL HANS
ONTO THE
CROSSBOW,
IF IT'S ALL
THE SAME
TO YOU.



BONES
BOONS

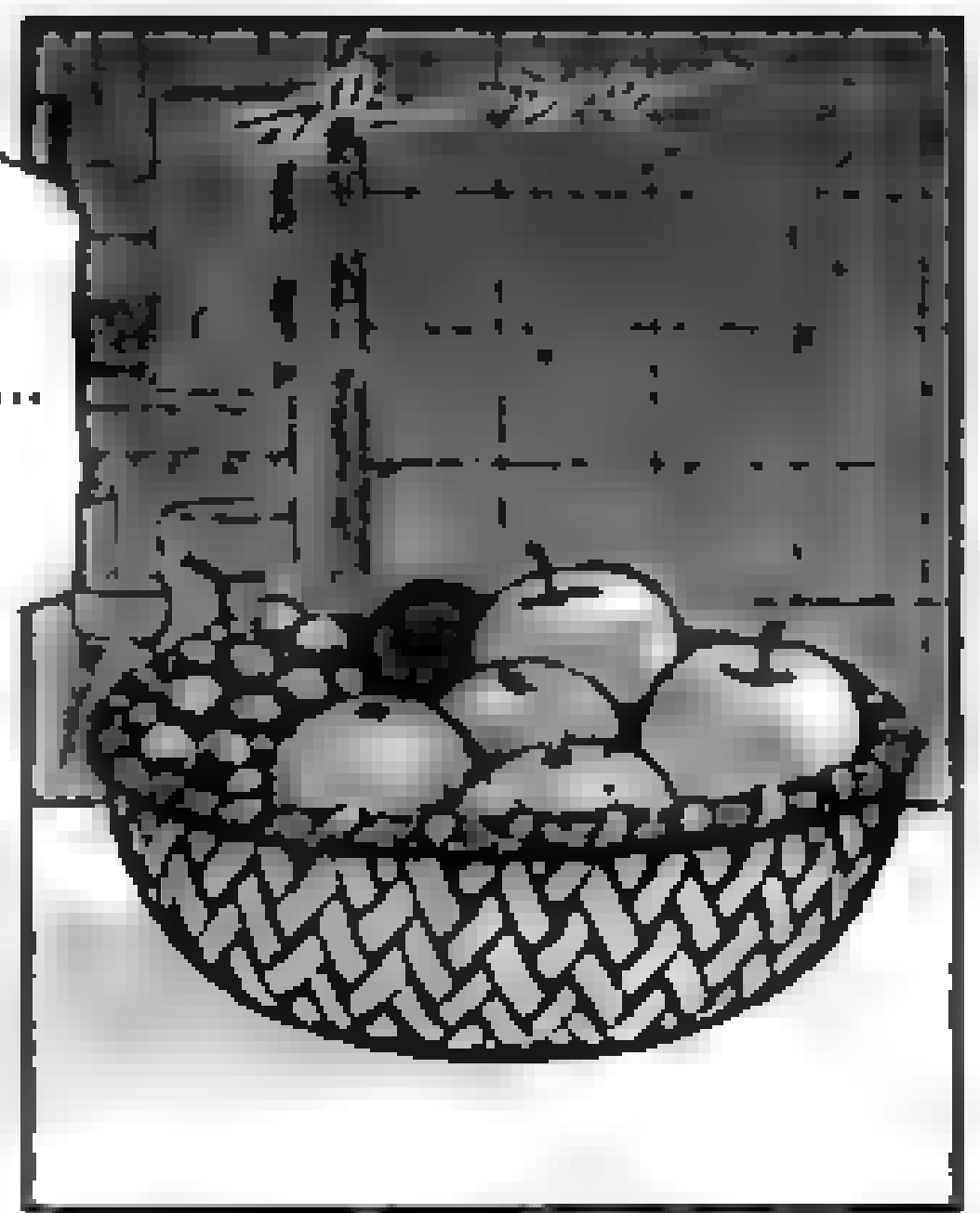


Chapter 8: Mitsuko Souma



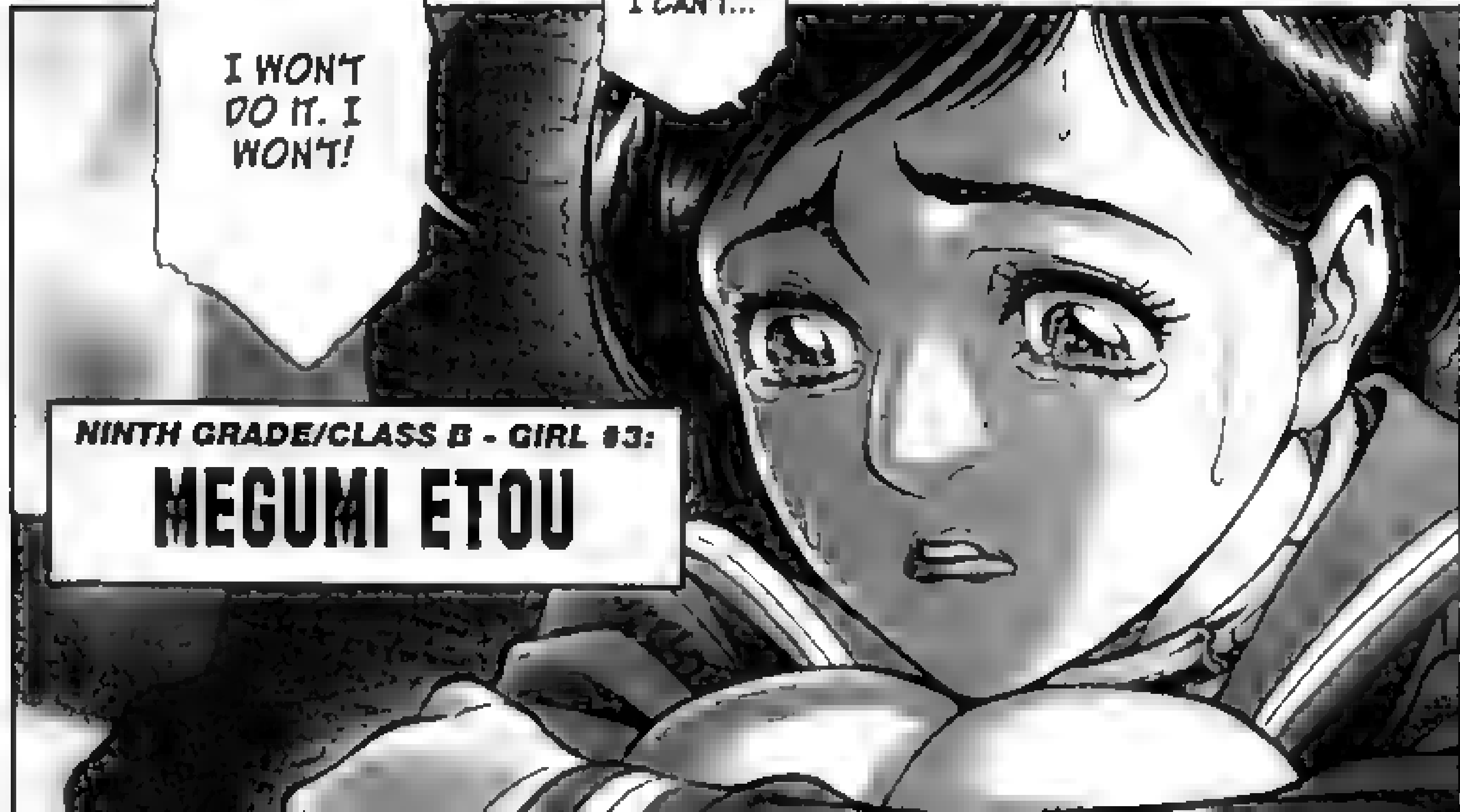


CANT...

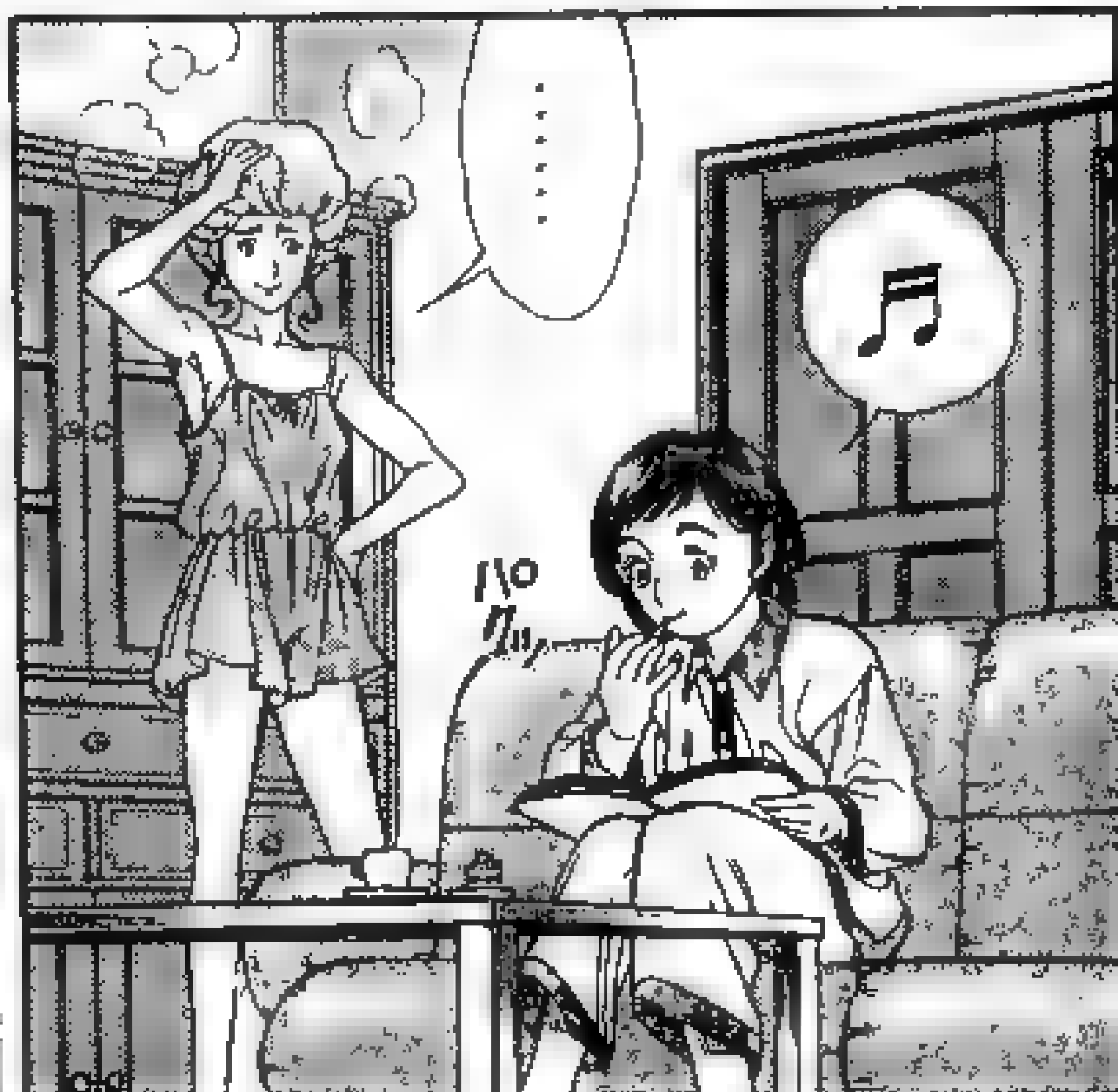
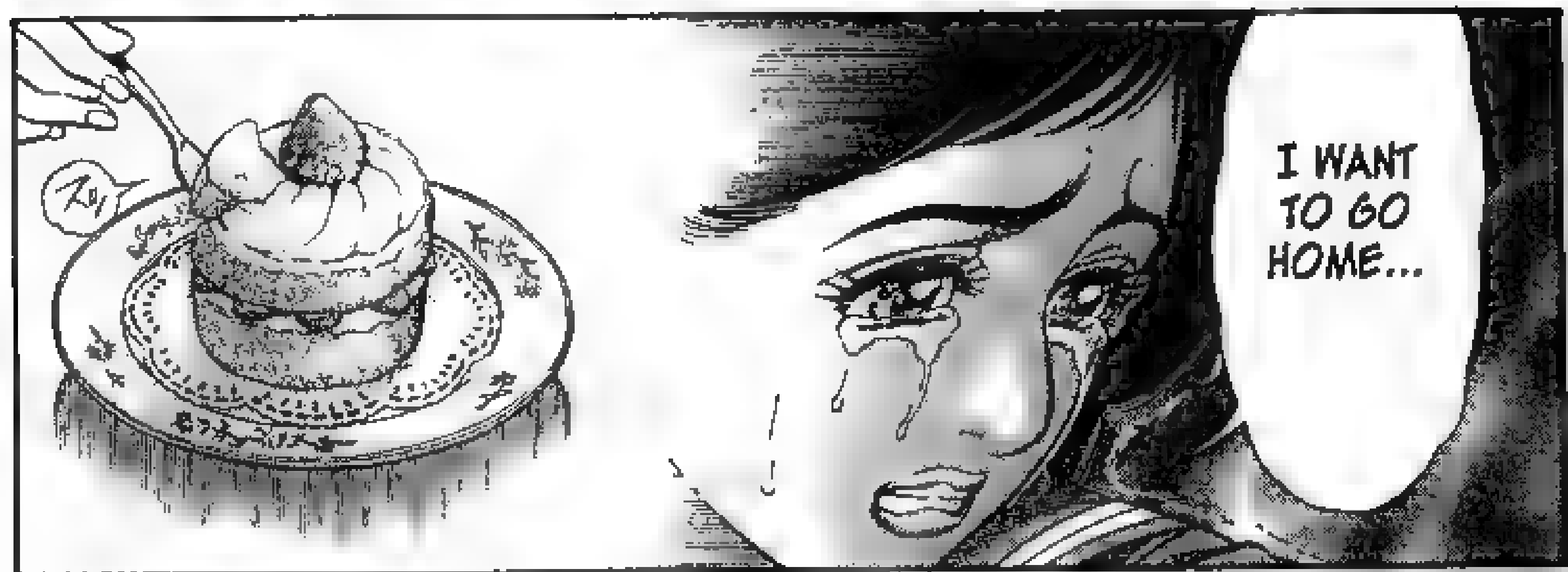


... I JUST...
I CANT...

I WONT
DO IT. I
WONT!



NINTH GRADE/CLASS B - GIRL #3:
MEGUMI ETOU





IT'S NOT MY FAULT YOU'VE GROWN OLD AND DUMPY!

HEY! STOP!

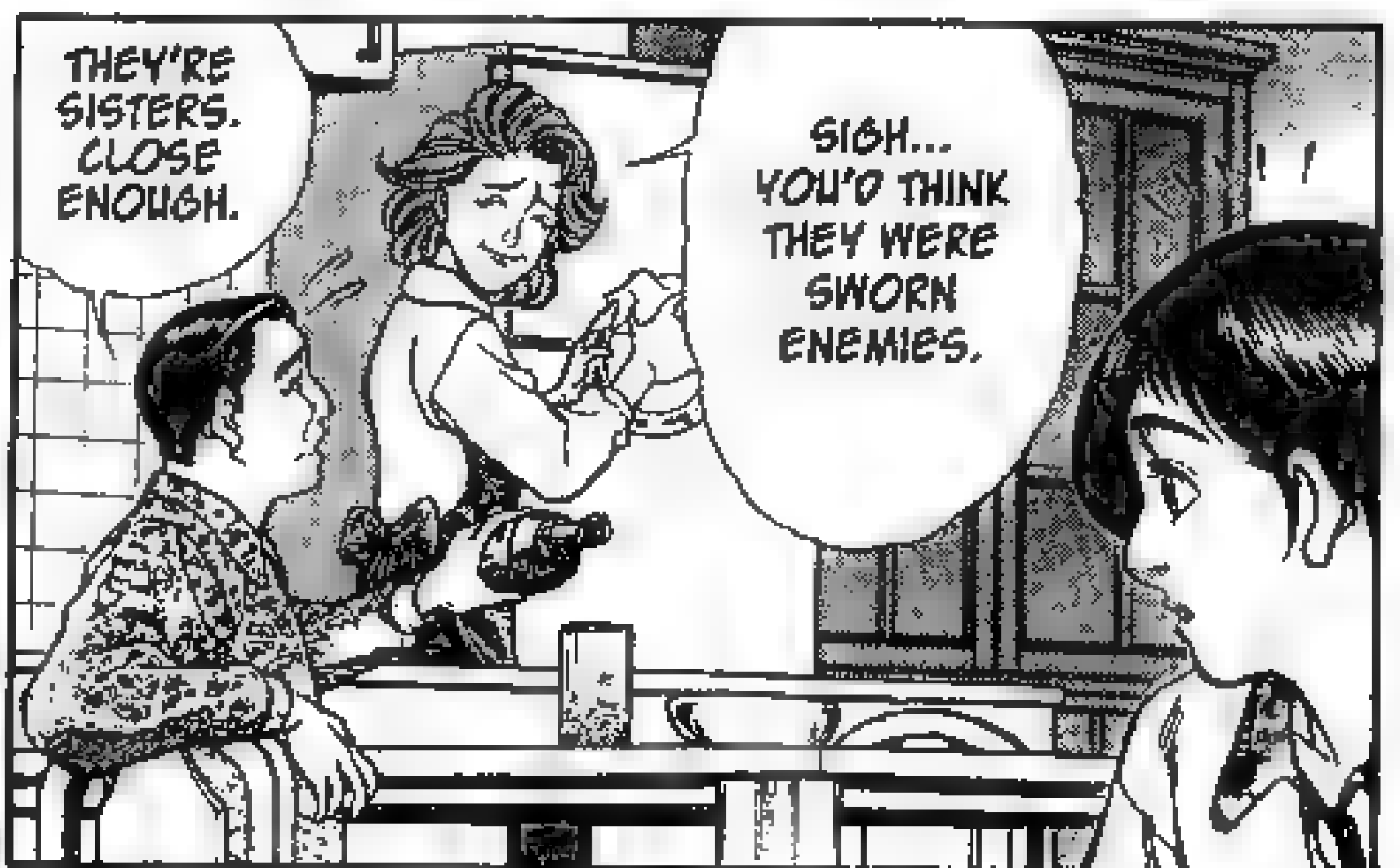
YOU LITTLE BRAT! JUST FOR THAT...

DIBS ON THE STRAWBERRY!



♪

BUT THE STRAWBERRY'S THE BEST PART!



THEY'RE SISTERS. CLOSE ENOUGH.

SIGH... YOU'D THINK THEY WERE SWORN ENEMIES.



RIGHT HERE.

I KNOW IT'S PROBABLY "UNCOOL," BUT...



NOT SO LITTLE. DID YOU GIVE HER THE CELL?

THEY GROW OLD SO FAST. LITTLE MEBUMI OFF ON HER FIRST OVERNIGHT TRIP TOMORROW...

HM?





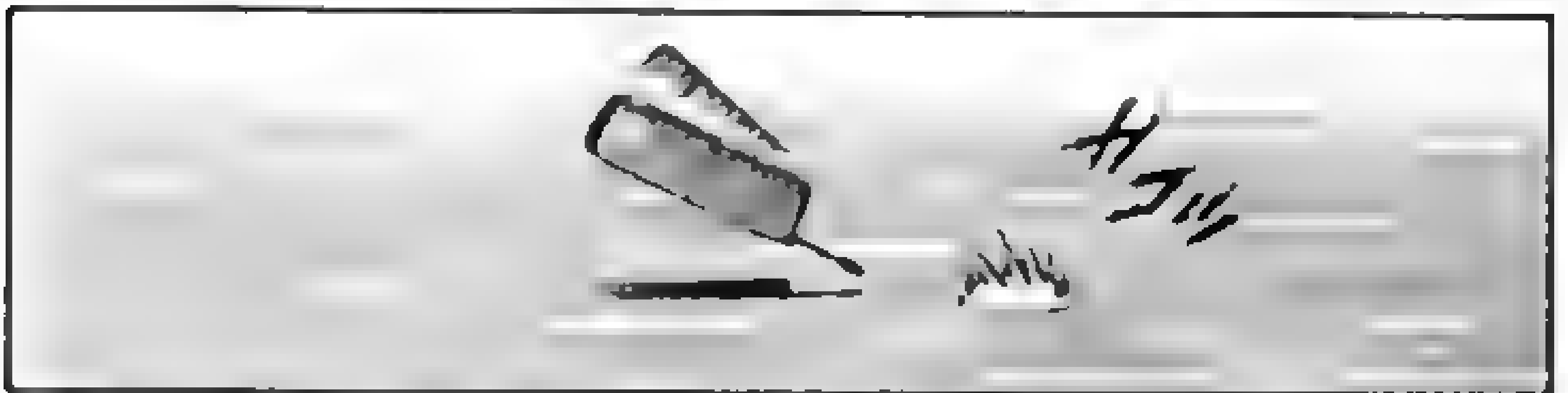
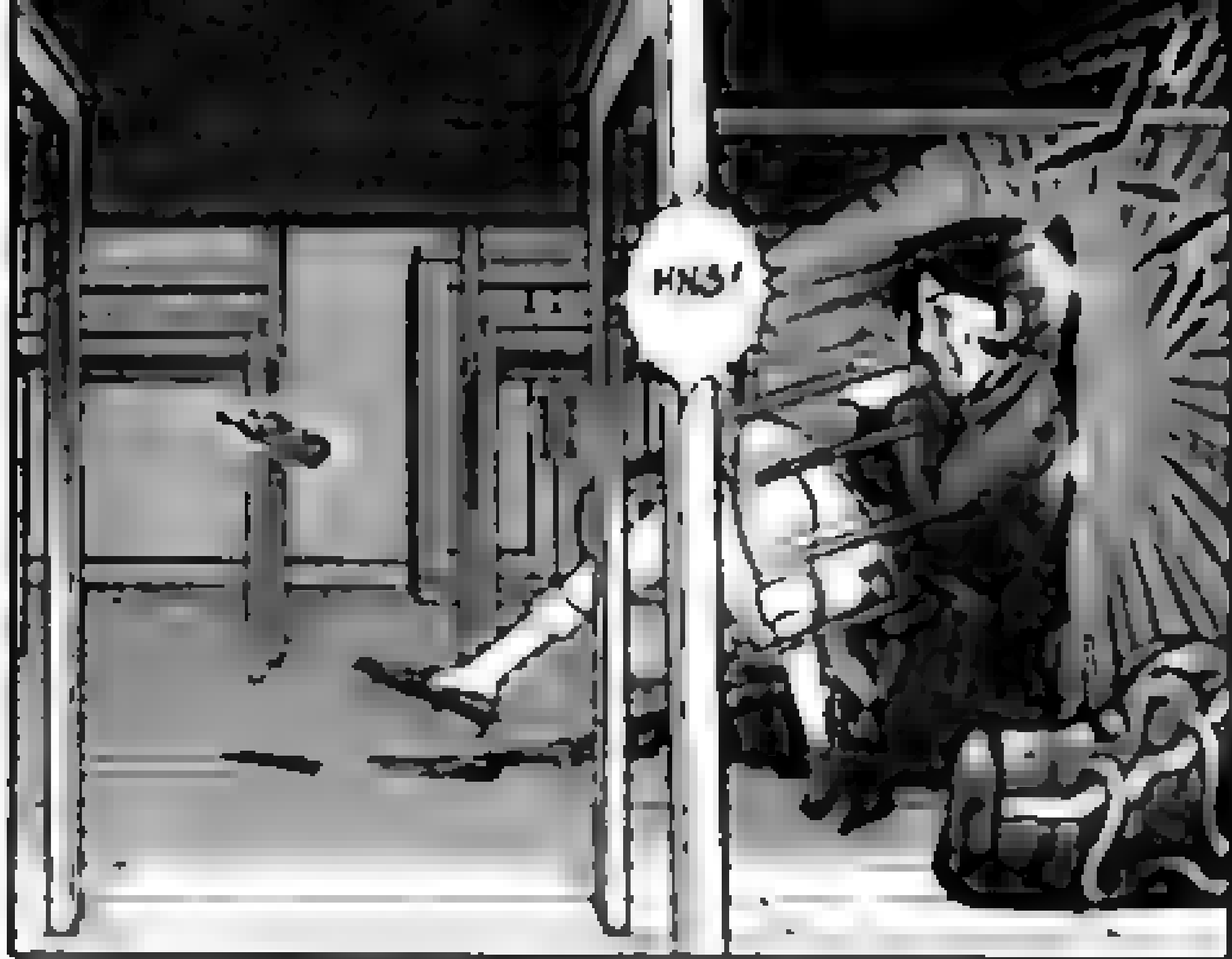


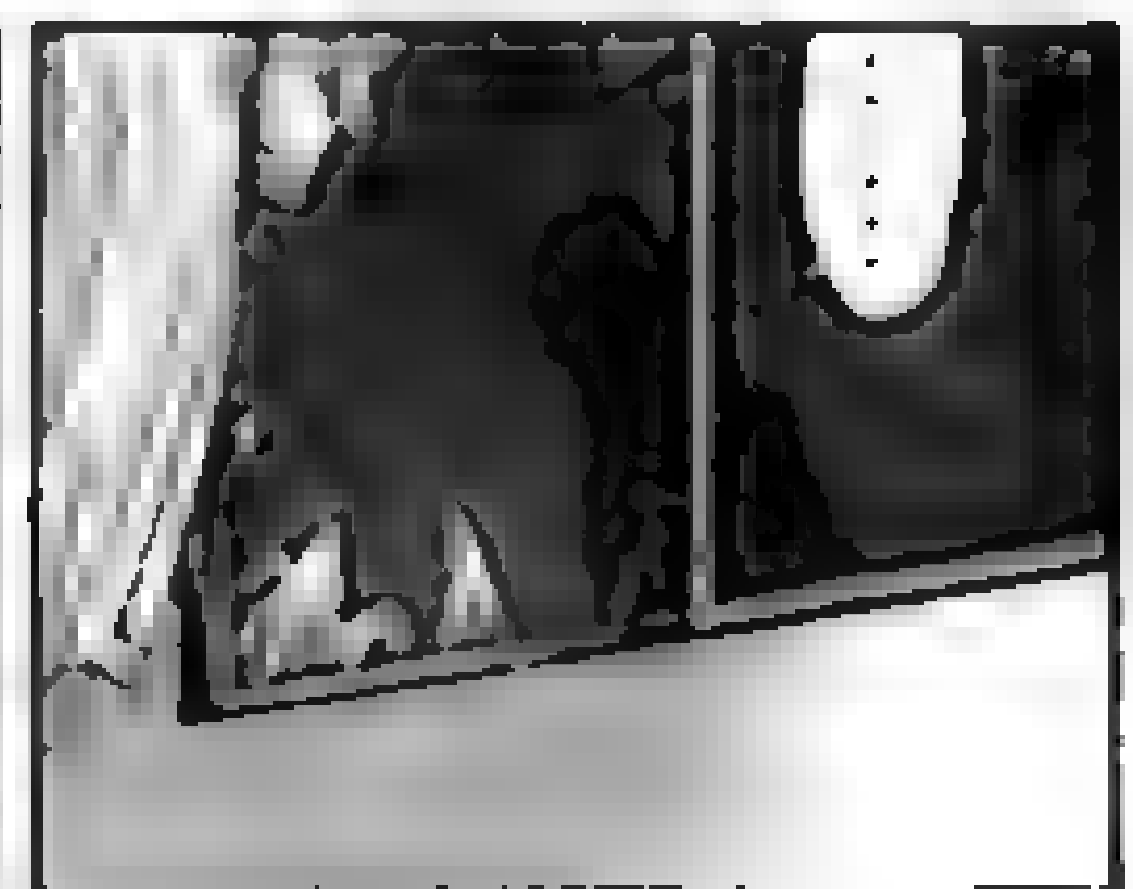
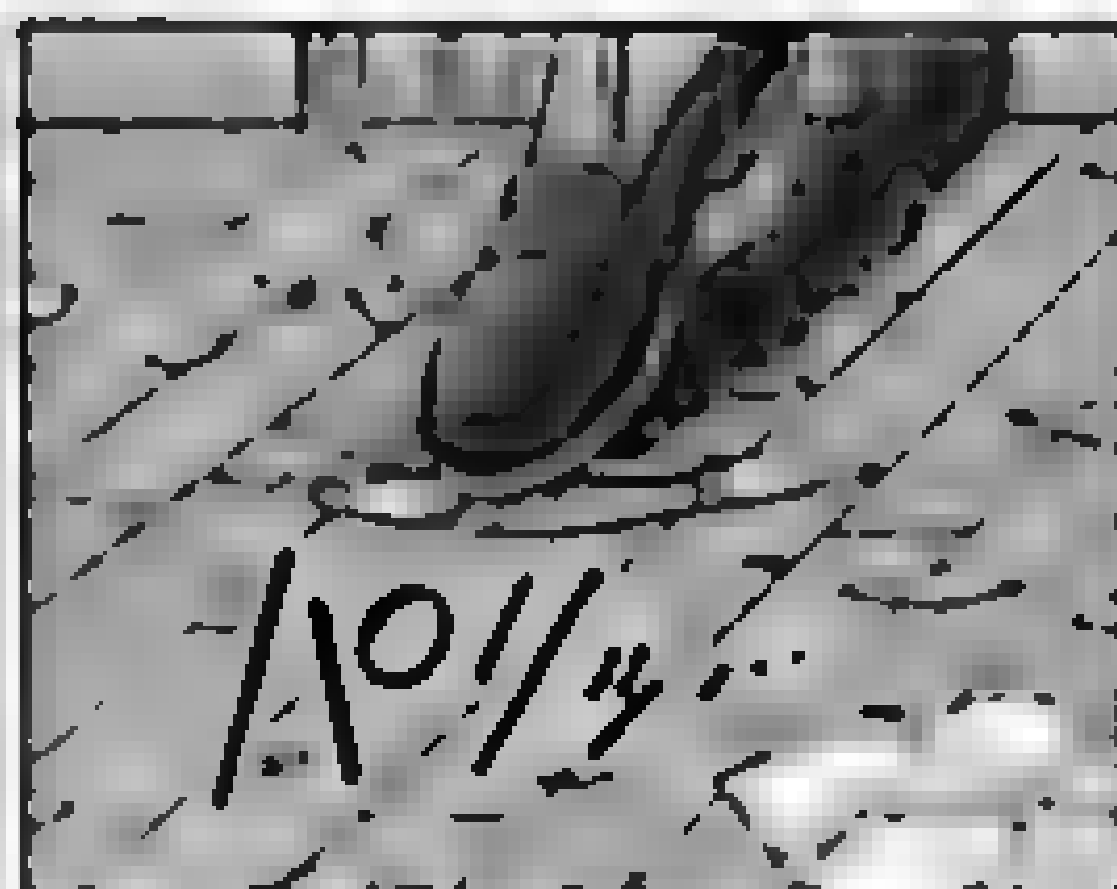
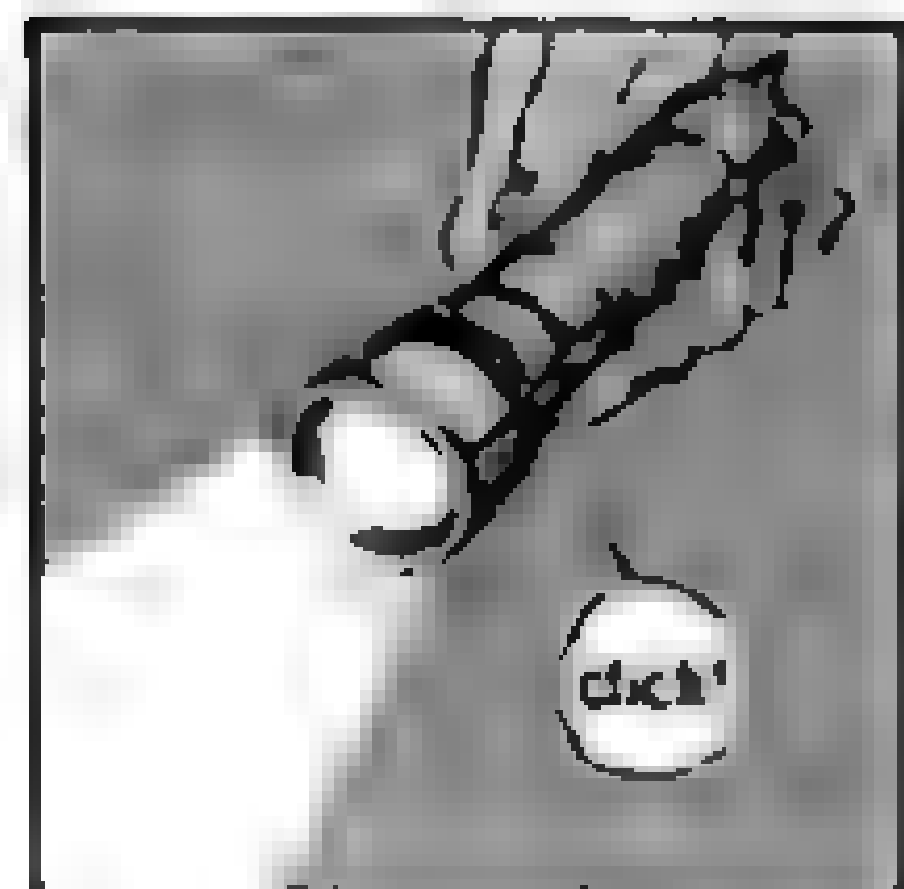
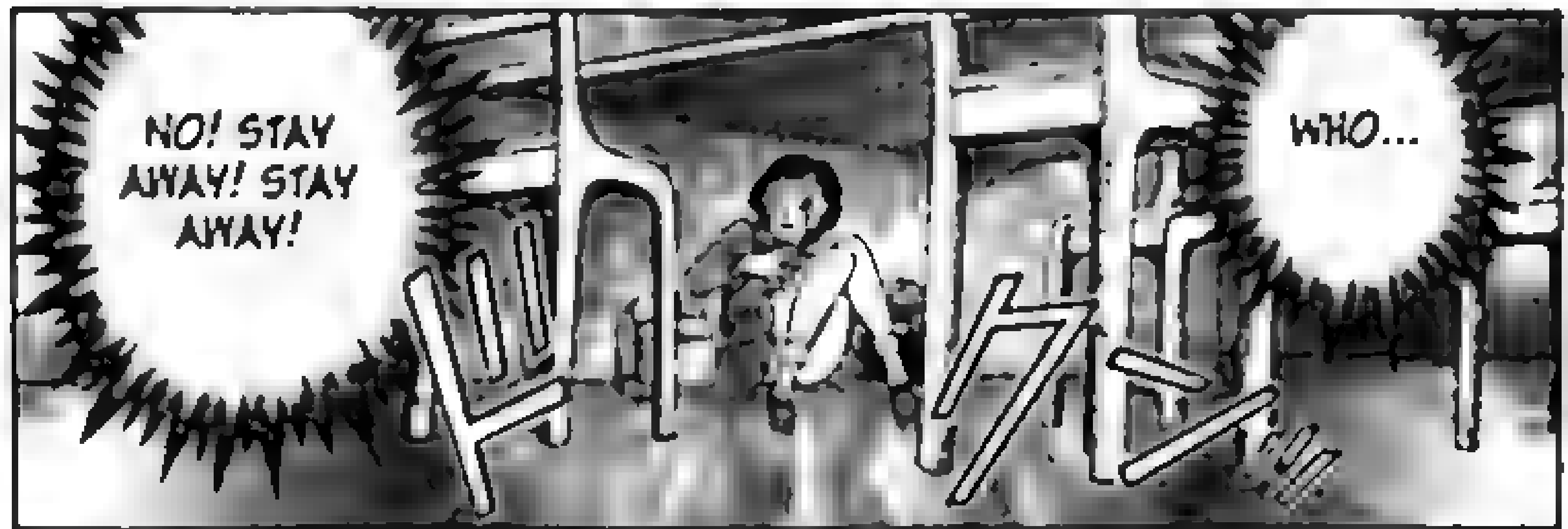
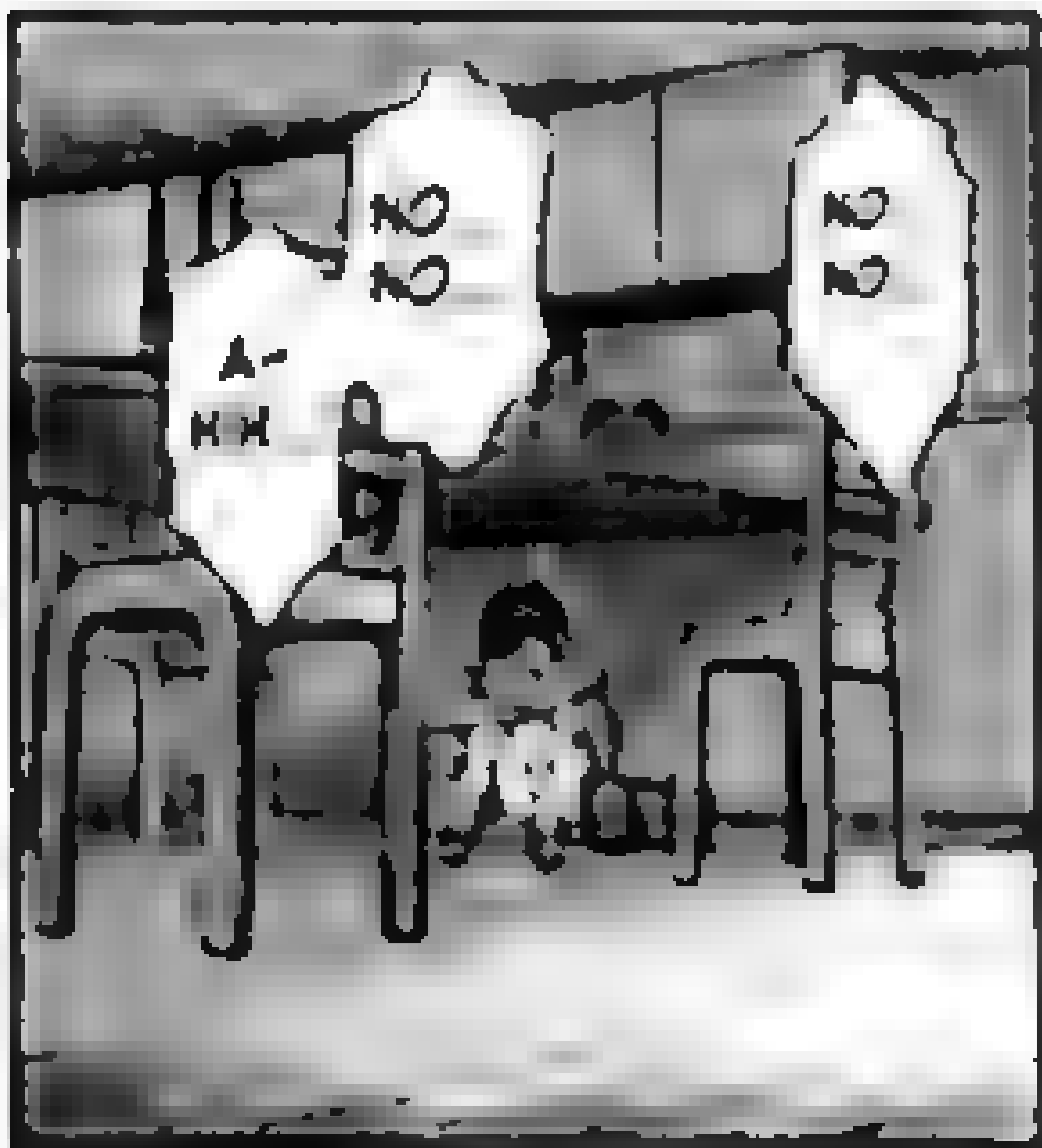
YOUR
TURN, YOUNG
MISSY. TELL
ME *SOMETHING*
I CAN MASTURBATE
TO, HMMMM?

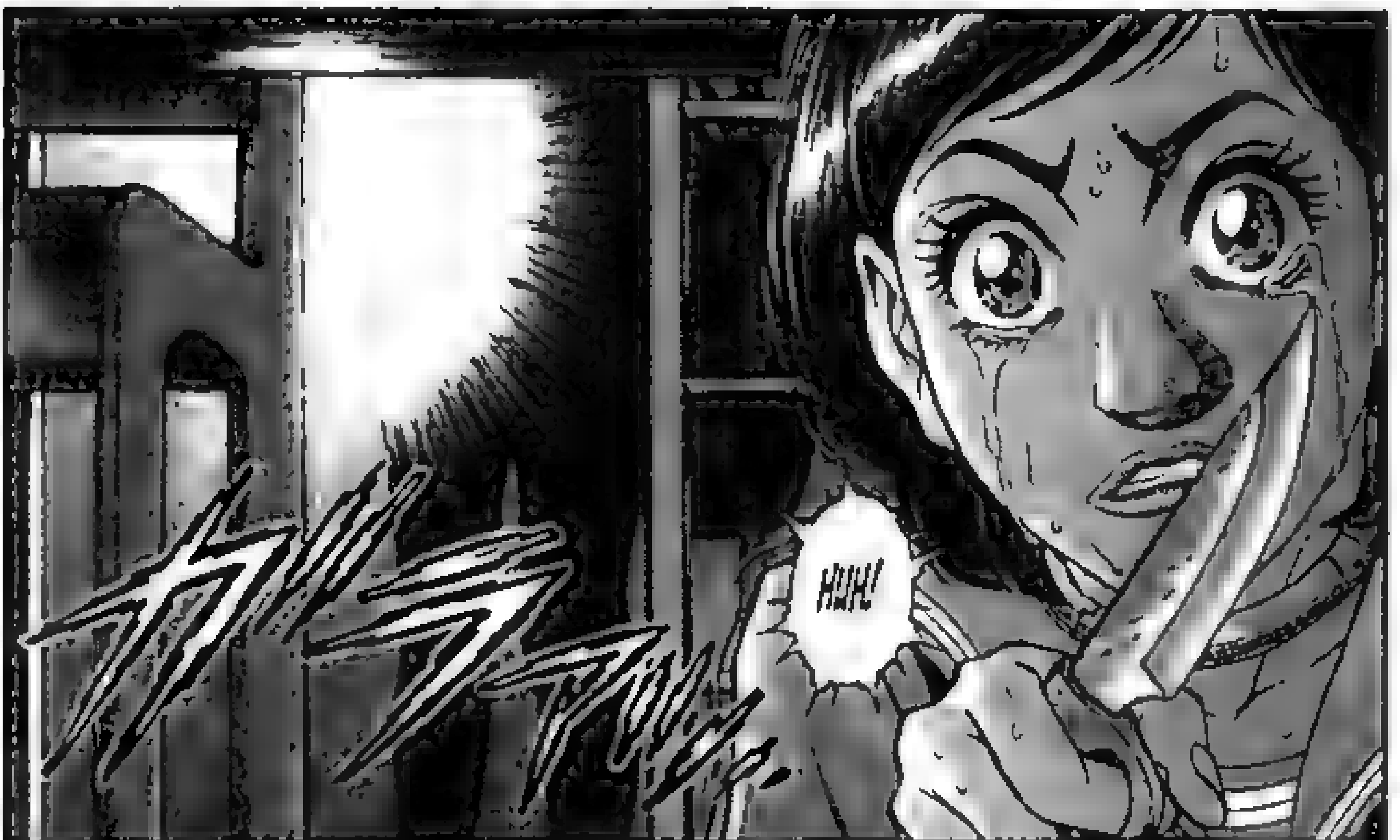
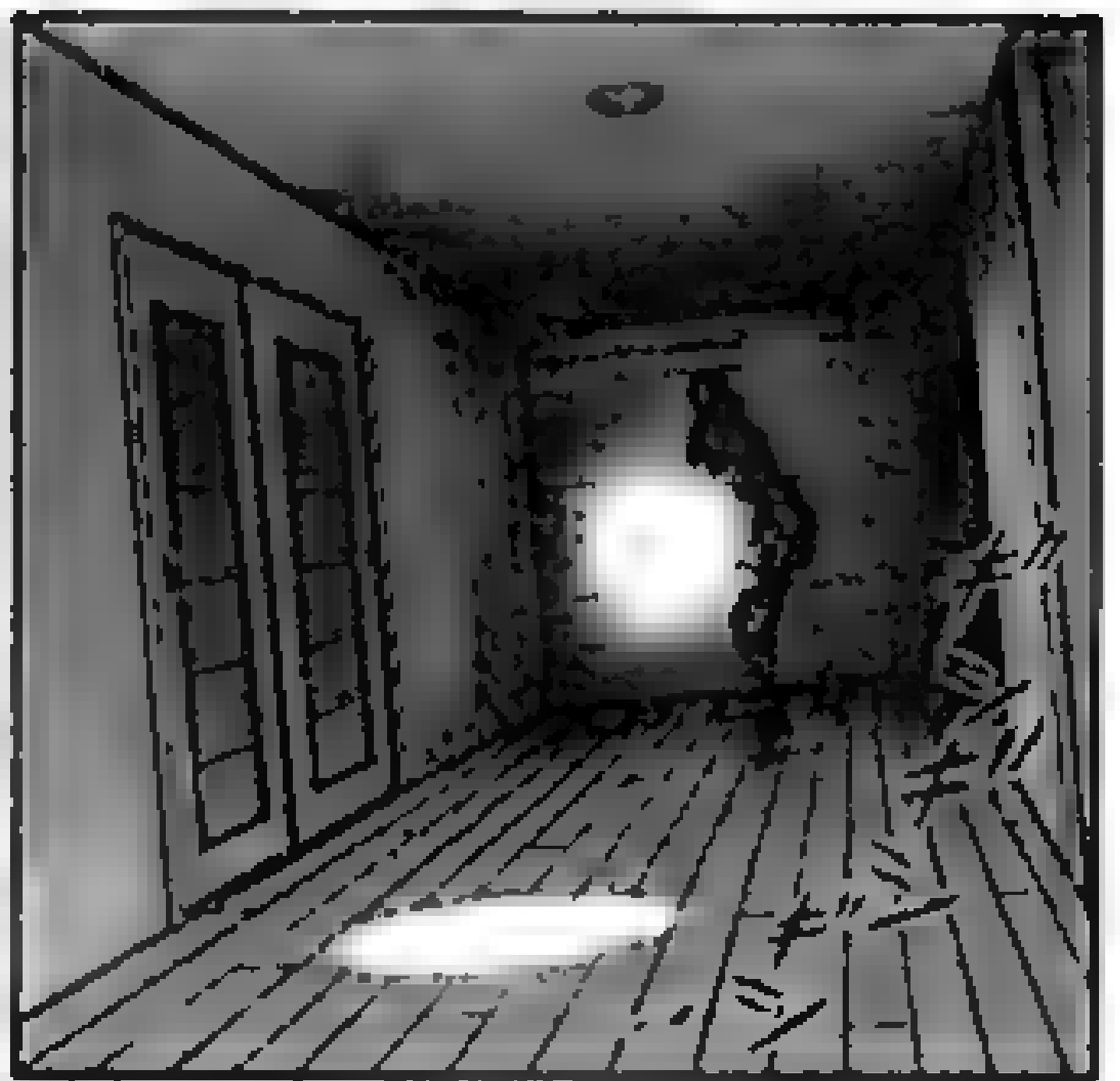


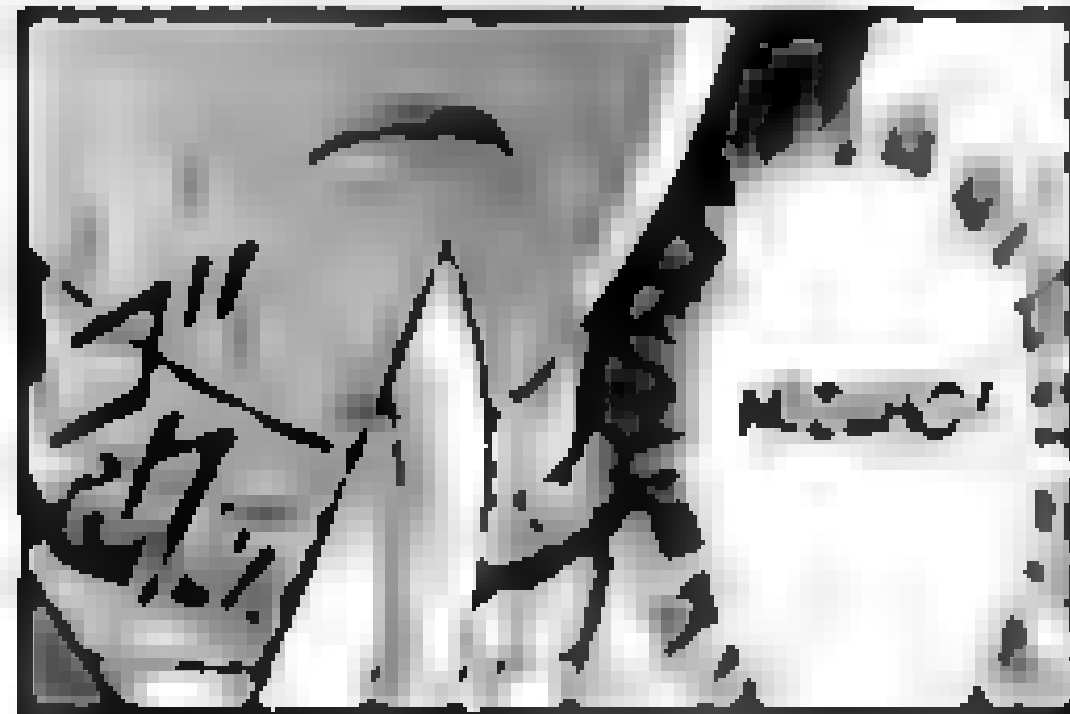
MMMM...
WHAT ARE
YOU WEARING,
YOUNG MUFFIN?
DADDY MISSES
HIS PEEK OF
PINK... YES,
HE DOES.













**HARD-CORE
SOLNA!
SHE... SHE'S
CRAZY!**

**MITSUKO
SOLNA!**



**SHE CUT
A BOY... HE
HAD TO... HAD
TO... THIRTEEN
STITCHES!**

**CRAZY AND,
AND HERE!
WITH ME!
ALONE!**



**SHE'S
CRAZY!**

**I CAN'T
FIGHT HER!
SHE CUT A
BOY!**

**NOT
ME**



**WHAT
IF SHE HAS
A GUN? OH,
PLEASE NOT
ME!**

**TOO
SMALL!**

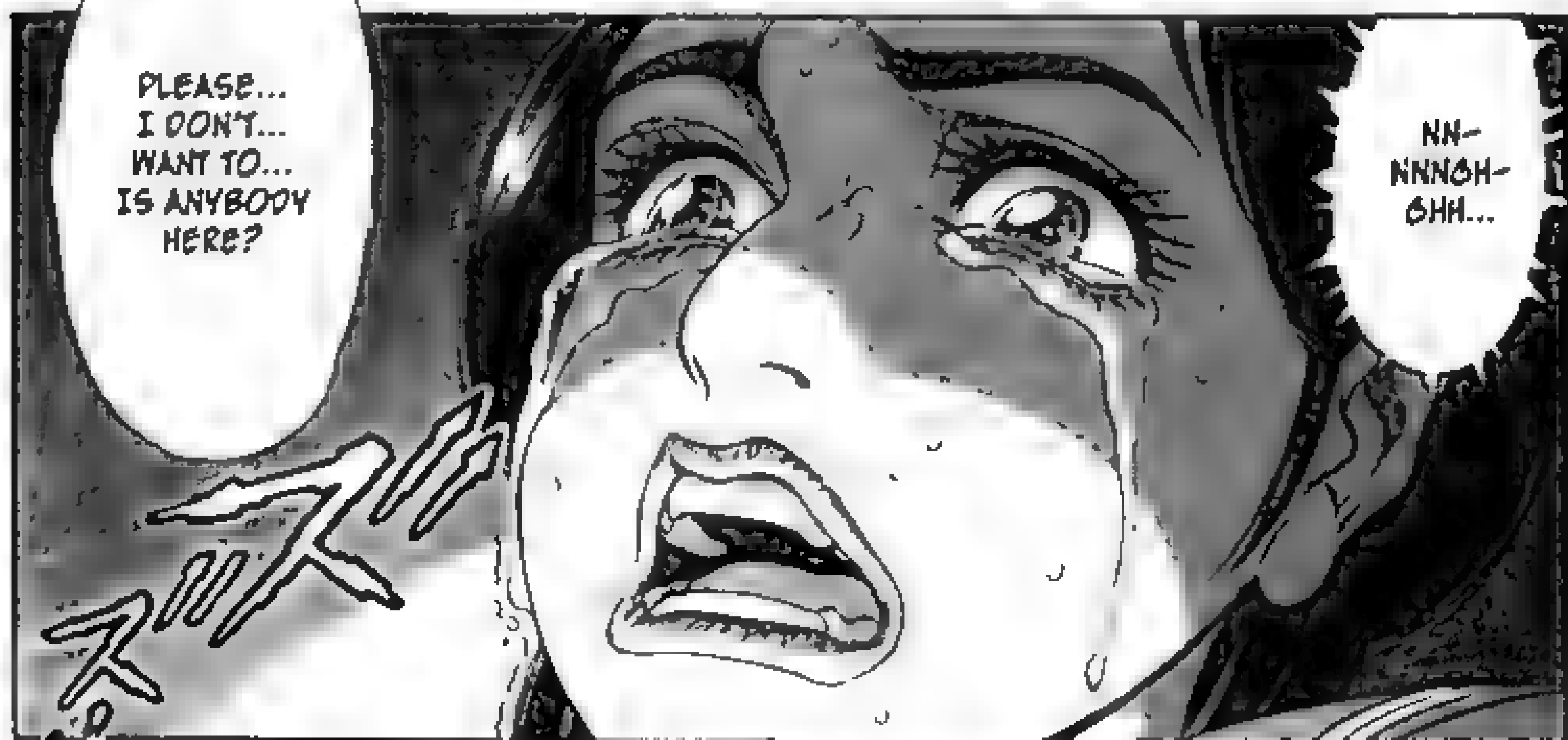




WHO...
WHO'S
THERE?



NOT
ME...
NOT
MEEEE
...

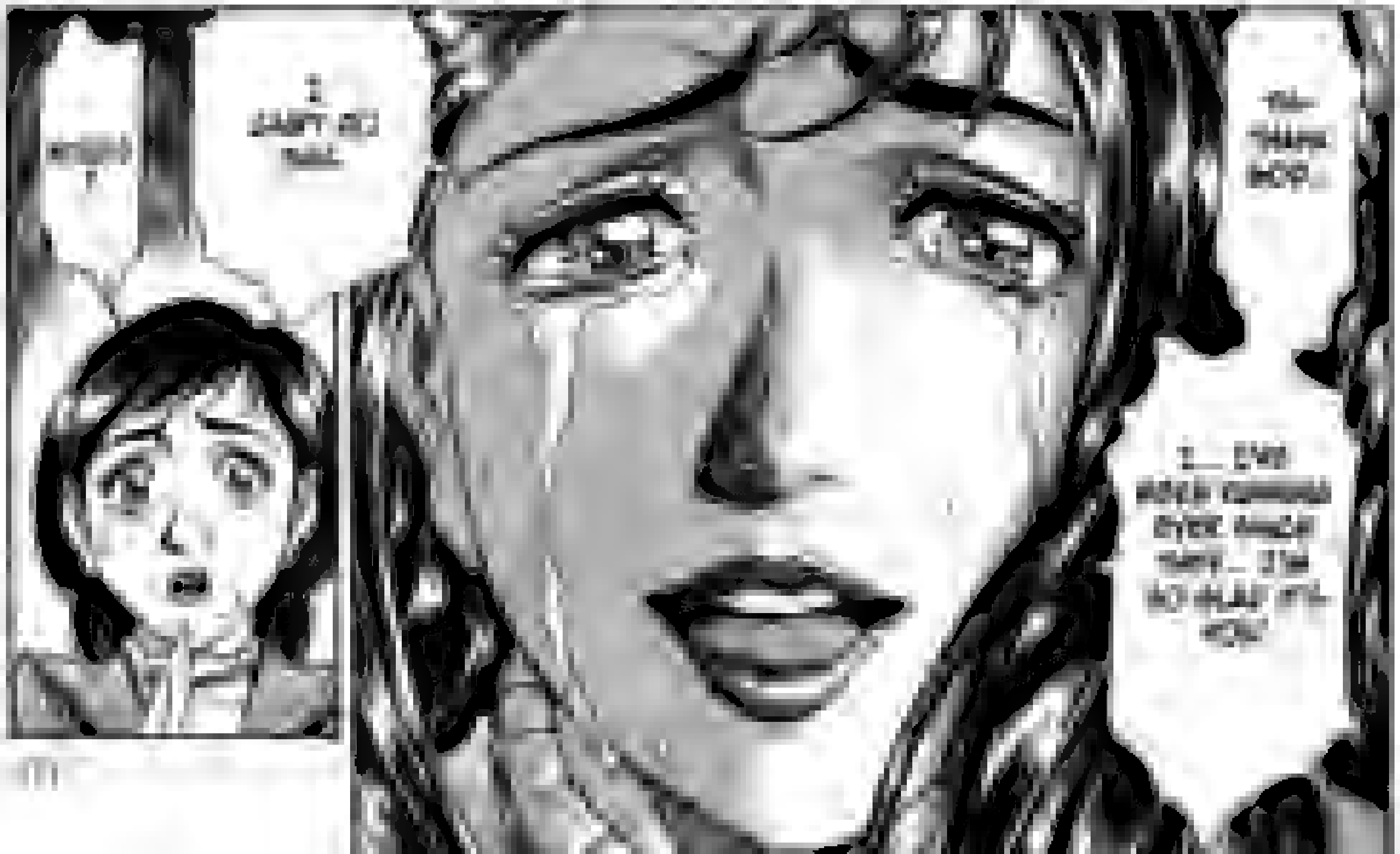


PLEASE...
I DON'T...
WANT TO...
IS ANYBODY
HERE?

NN-
NNNOH-
OH...



NO!!





... I NEED
SOMEONE
TO TRUST...

LOOK... I
JUST WANT
A WEAPON

PLEASE?

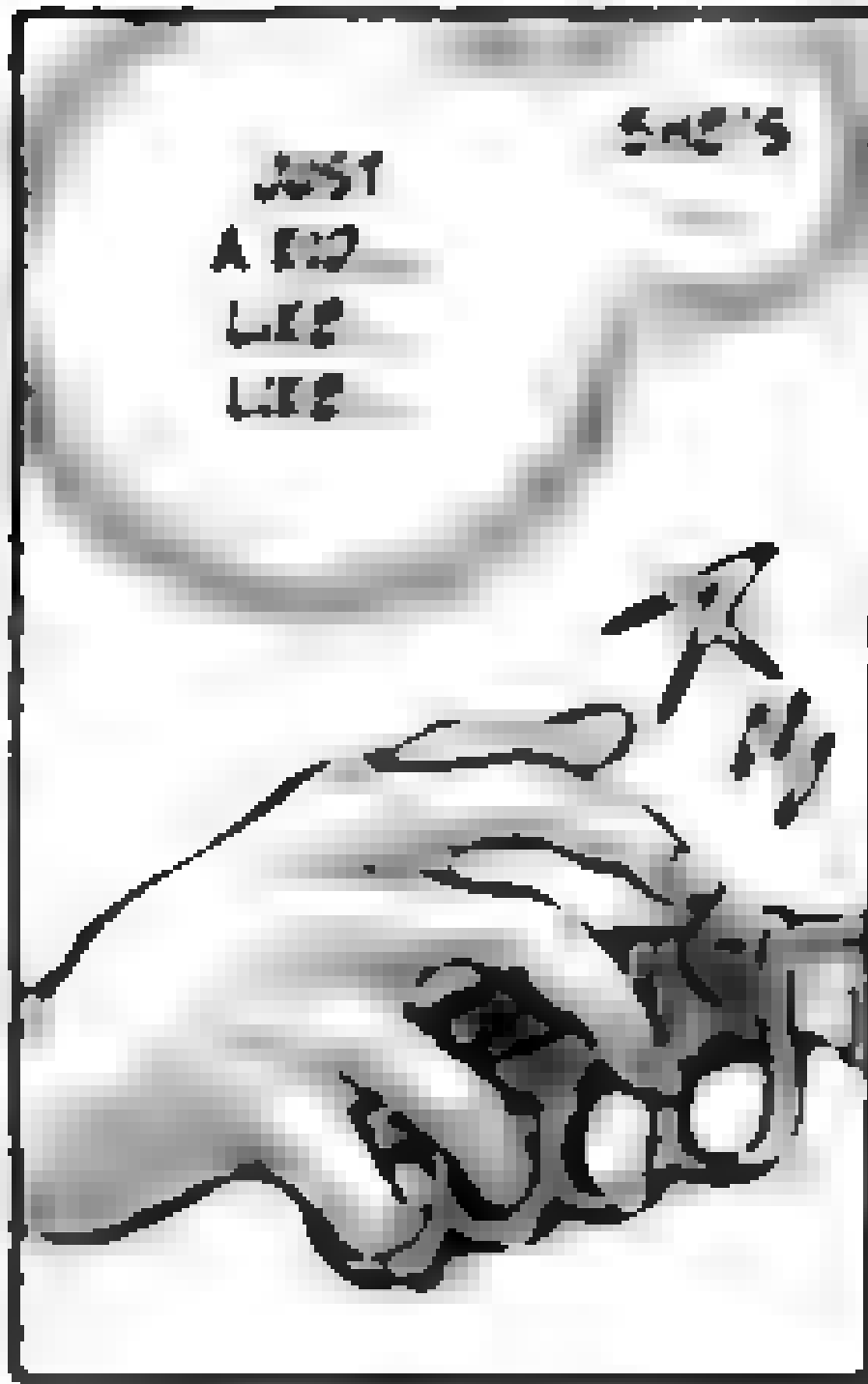
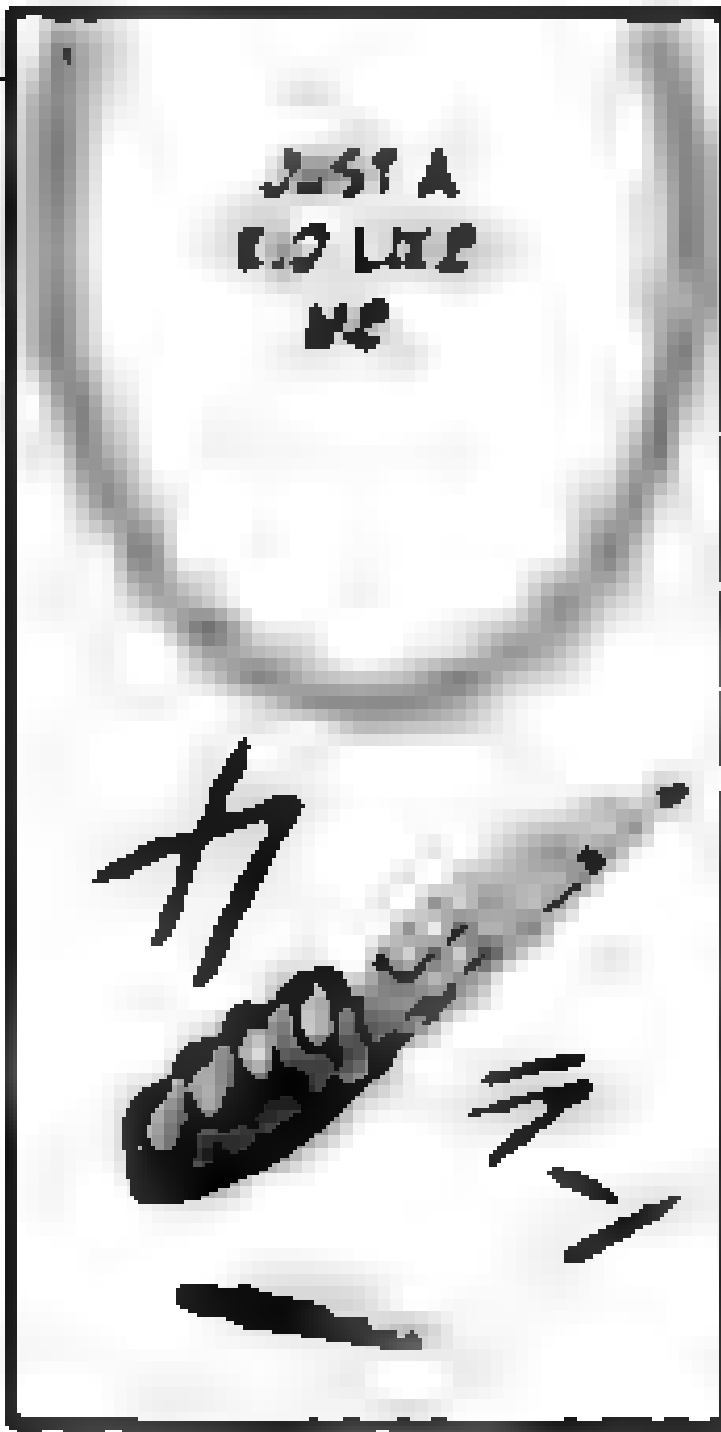
WE CAN
WE CAN
HELP
YOU



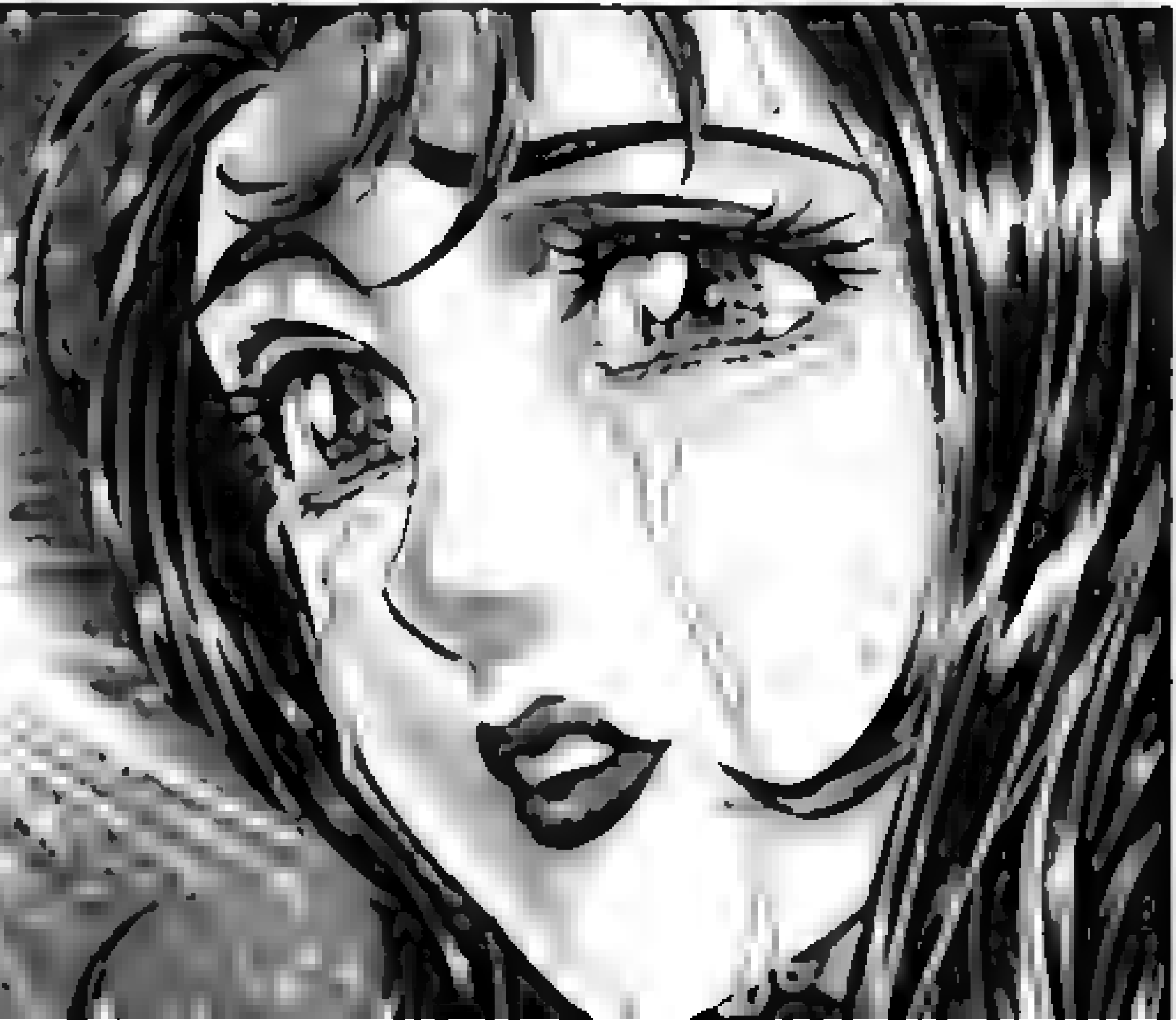
PLEASE?

SEE? NO
WEAPON.
I NEED
SOMEONE
TO TRUST... TO
TRUST ME...





MY
SISTER... HER
REPUTATION
WAS... BUT SHE
DIDN'T DO
ANYTHINGS...
MITSUKO...





WATCH OUT
FOR EACH
OTHER WE
CAN

THAT'S
WHAT
FRIENDS
DO



WE CAN
WATCH OUT
FOR EACH
OTHER

I'M
SCARED TOO.
WE CAN

WE
CAN
STAY
WITH
YOU

YES
DEAR
TEACHER
WE CAN
STAY
WITH
YOU



FRIENDS



FOR-REAL
FRIENDS,
MISSED I
PROMISE!

FOR-REAL
FRIENDS?
I'D LOVE
TO HAVE
A FOR-
REAL FRIEND!



I THOUGHT YOU WERE COMING TO... TO GET ME...

I WAS SO SCARED AND... AND I THOUGHT...

TO KILL ME. I... I THOUGHT YOU WERE...

I THOUGHT YOU WERE PLAYING THE GAME.



OH! GOD!



MISUMI

I WAS... WHEN I WAS... THINK...



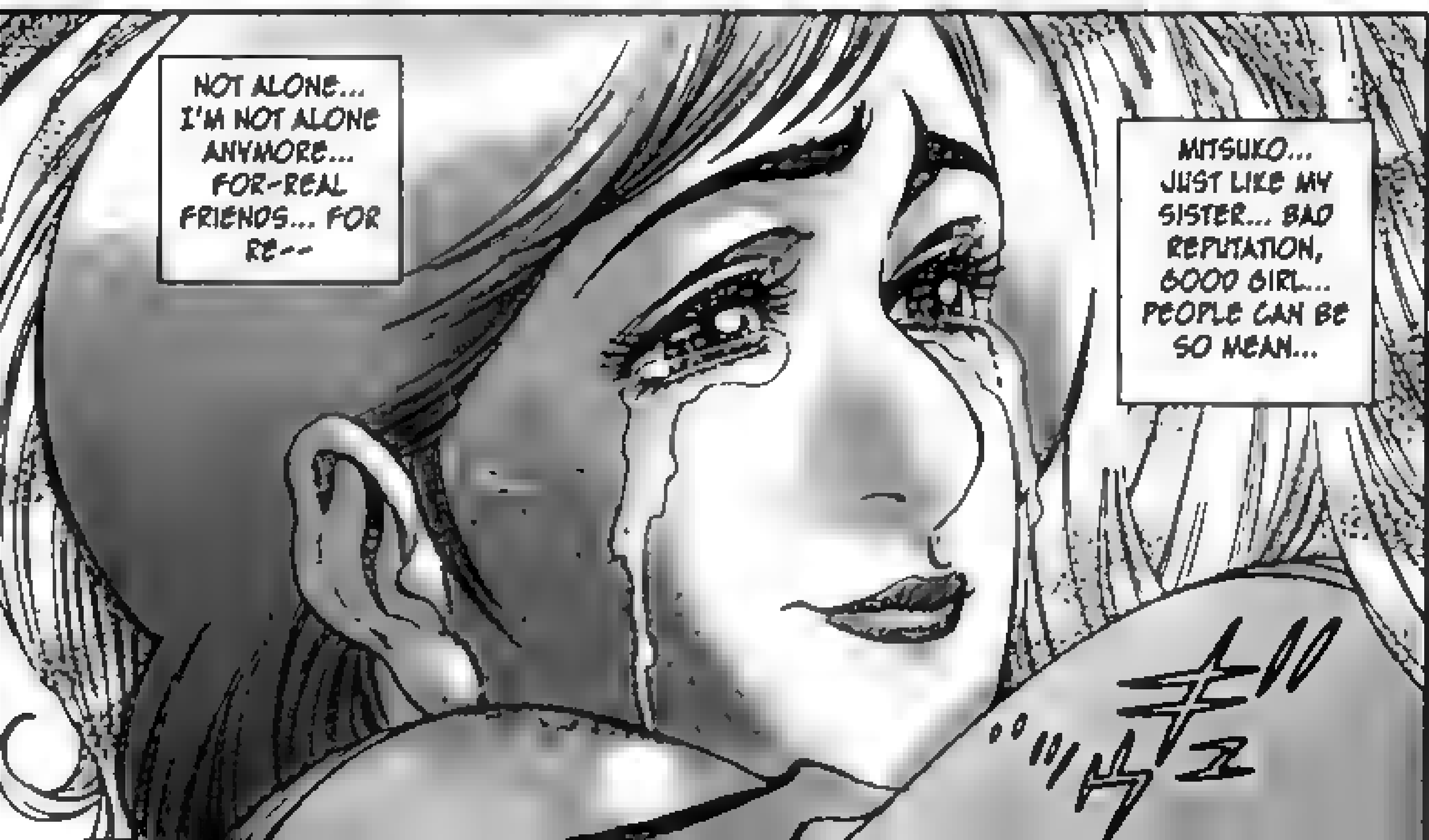
A LOT OF THEM WILL PLAY...

I KNOW..



I THINK A LOT OF THEM WILL... PLAY THE GAME. A LOT.

I THINK... I THINK A LOT OF THEM...

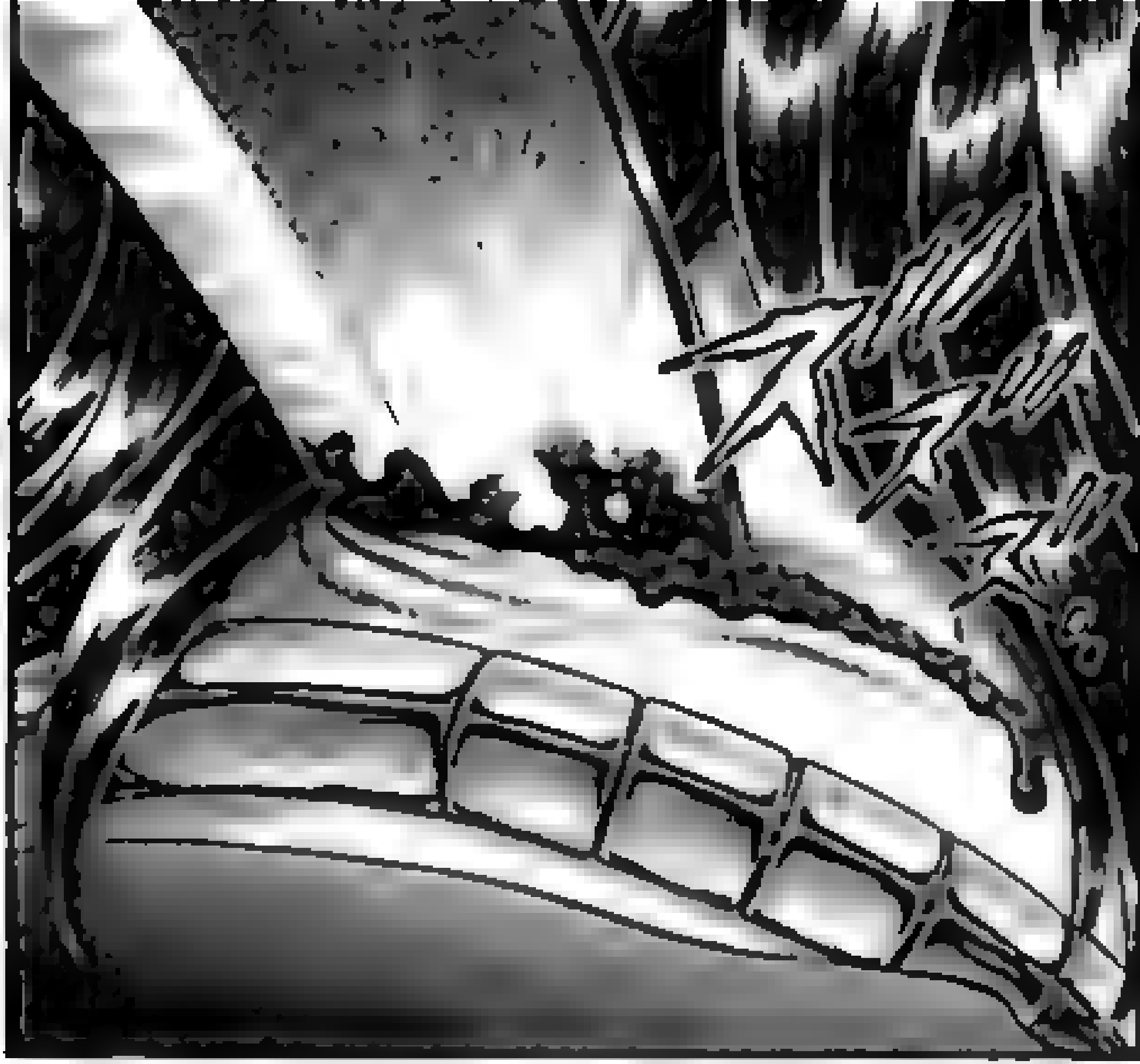


NOT ALONE... I'M NOT ALONE ANYMORE... FOR-REAL FRIENDS... FOR RE--

MITSUKO... JUST LIKE MY SISTER... BAD REPUTATION, GOOD GIRL... PEOPLE CAN BE SO MEAN...

Handwritten signature and scribbles.











OH... AND
RED? MOST
DEFINITELY
NOT YOUR
COLOR.



YOU
CALLED IT
RIGHT,
MEGUMI. A
LOT OF US
WILL
PLAY...



... AND
PLAY
TO WIN.
NO SENSE
PLAYING
OTHERWISE,
HMM?



GIRL
NUMBER FIVE
HAS BEEN
ELIMINATED.

slurp



!



REALLY?
AT THIS PACE,
WE MIGHT BE
LOOKING AT A
NEW RECORD.



DO ME
PROUD,
LITTLE
WARRIORS.
DO ME
PROUD.
♡

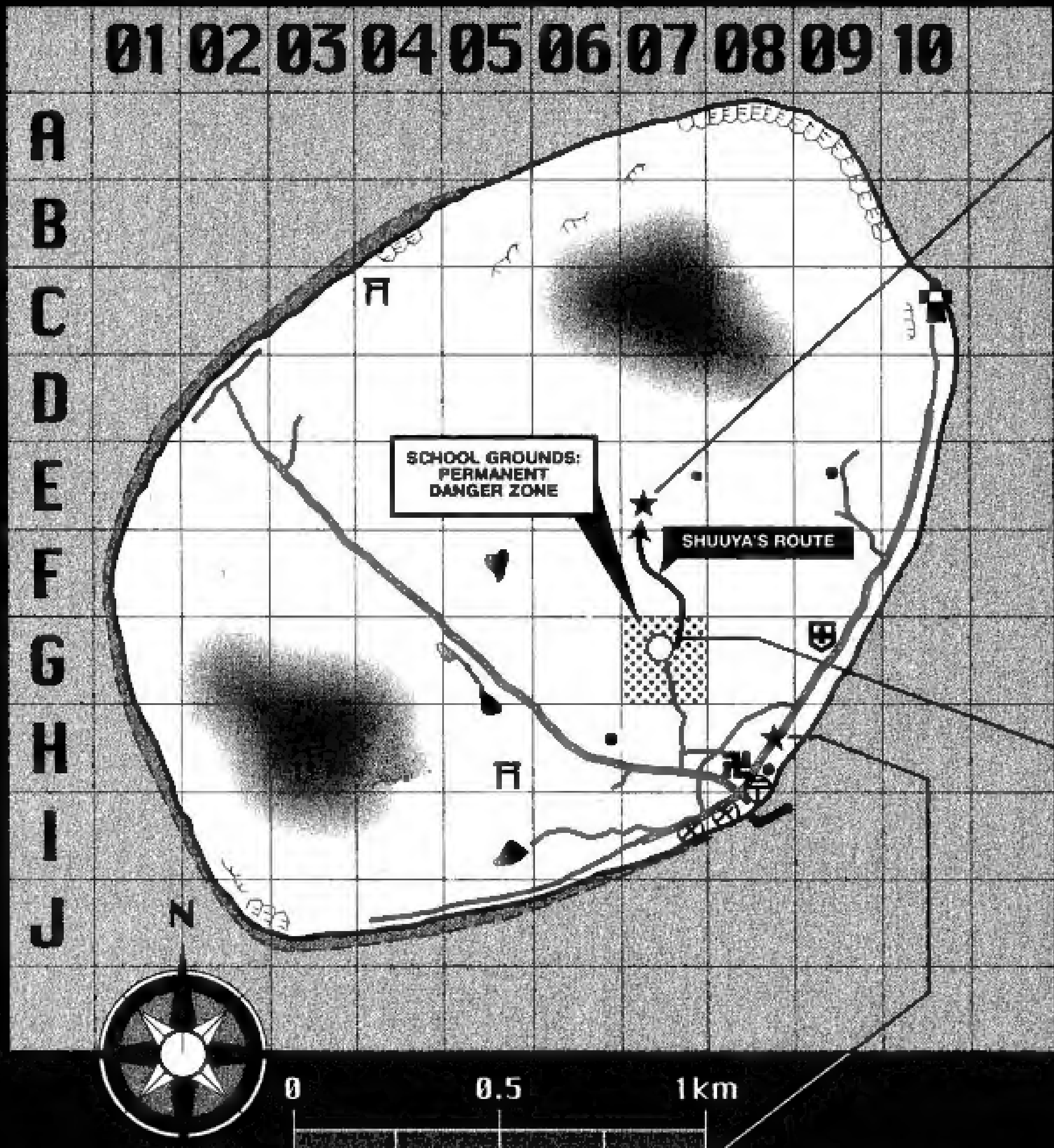
TO BE CONTINUED...

THE PROGRAM: UPDATE

PROGRAM CONDITIONS:

All members of the class must kill each other until one survivor remains • All students are supplied with a ration of food, a map of the island and a weapon • All students will wear an explosive bomb collar which also monitors life signs • Students are free to move about the island but must stay out of designated danger zones that will frequently change locations • If there is more than one survivor at the end of the game, the remaining bomb collars will detonated.

CHAPTER 7: Shuuya and Noriko rest.

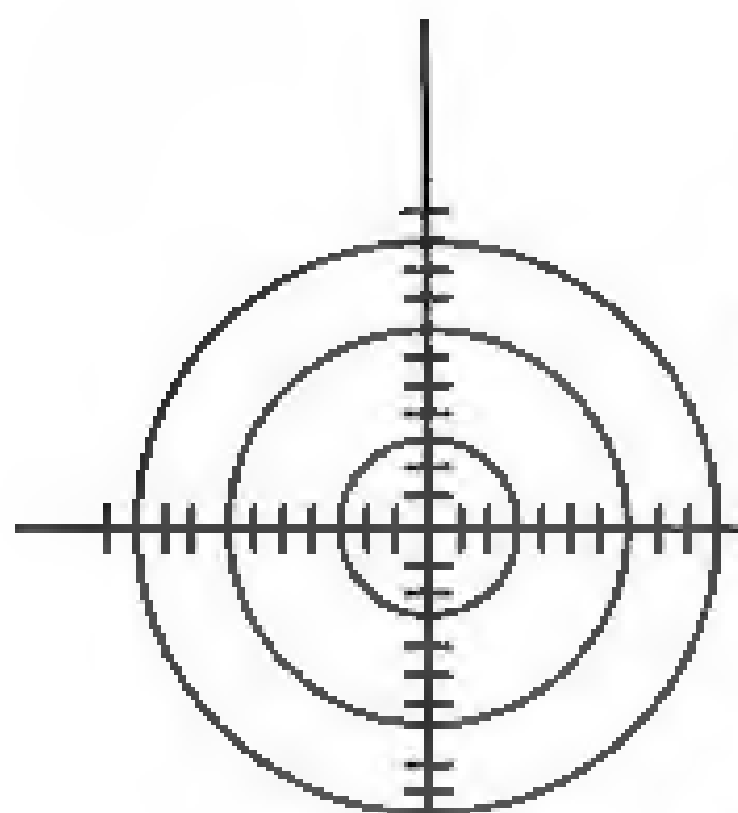


CHAPTER 8: Mitsuko Souma kills Megumi Etou.



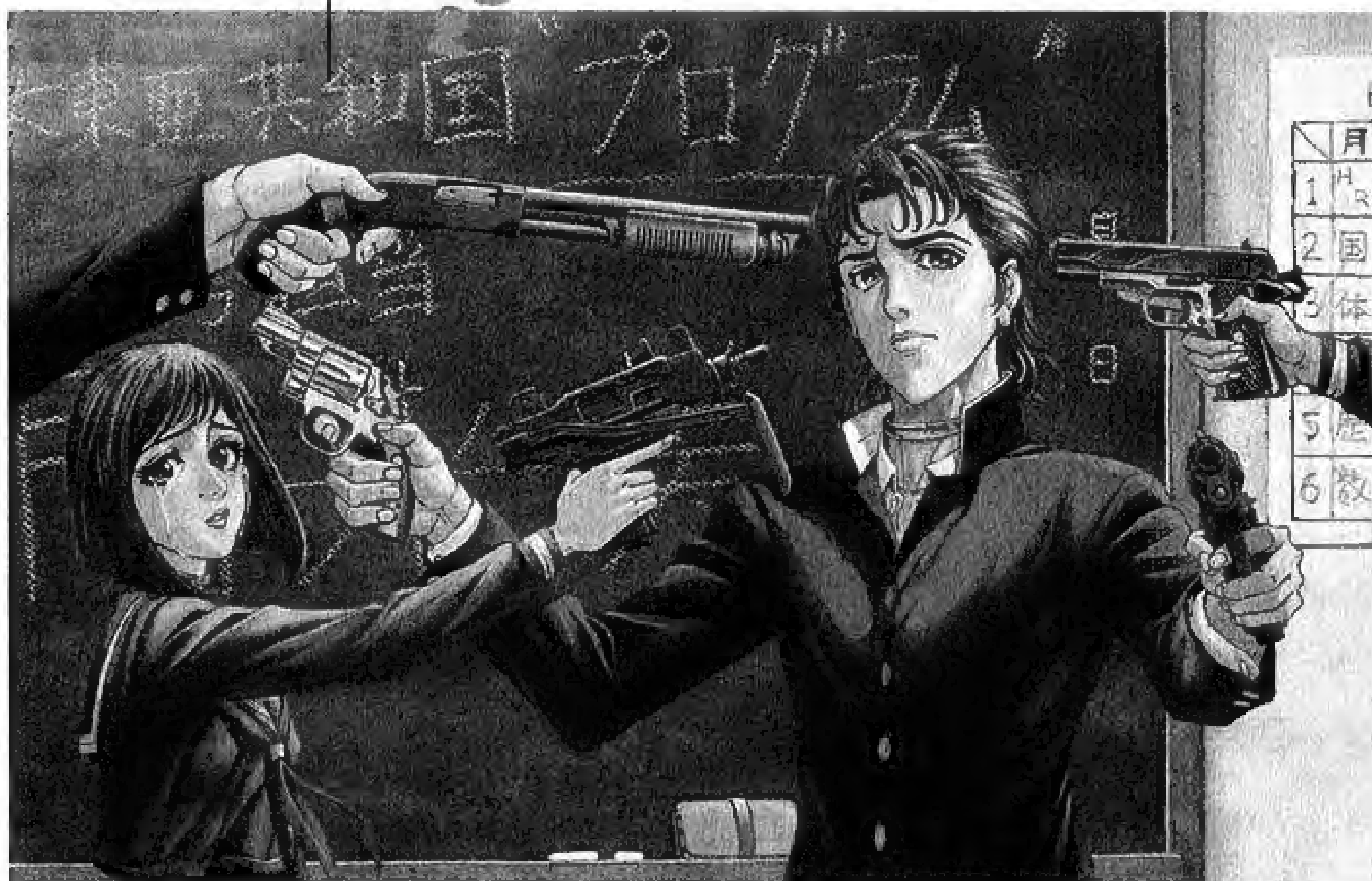
CHAPTER 2: Yoshitoki is shot.





BATTLE ROYALE

KOUSHUN TAKAMI & MASAYUKI TAGUCHI



IN THE NEXT VOLUME OF BATTLE ROYALE:

The demented Mr. Kamon has kicked off the program with more than a few “bangs,” and it looks like he’s going to get his share of sick kicks now that the carnage has started. While Shuuya reels from this nightmare, he continues his search for friends he can trust. But will his hopes to form an alliance to defeat “The Program” be dashed by the deception and manipulation of those who wish to win the game?