

CRIMSON FLOWER

Translation & English adaptation: Kuroneko003

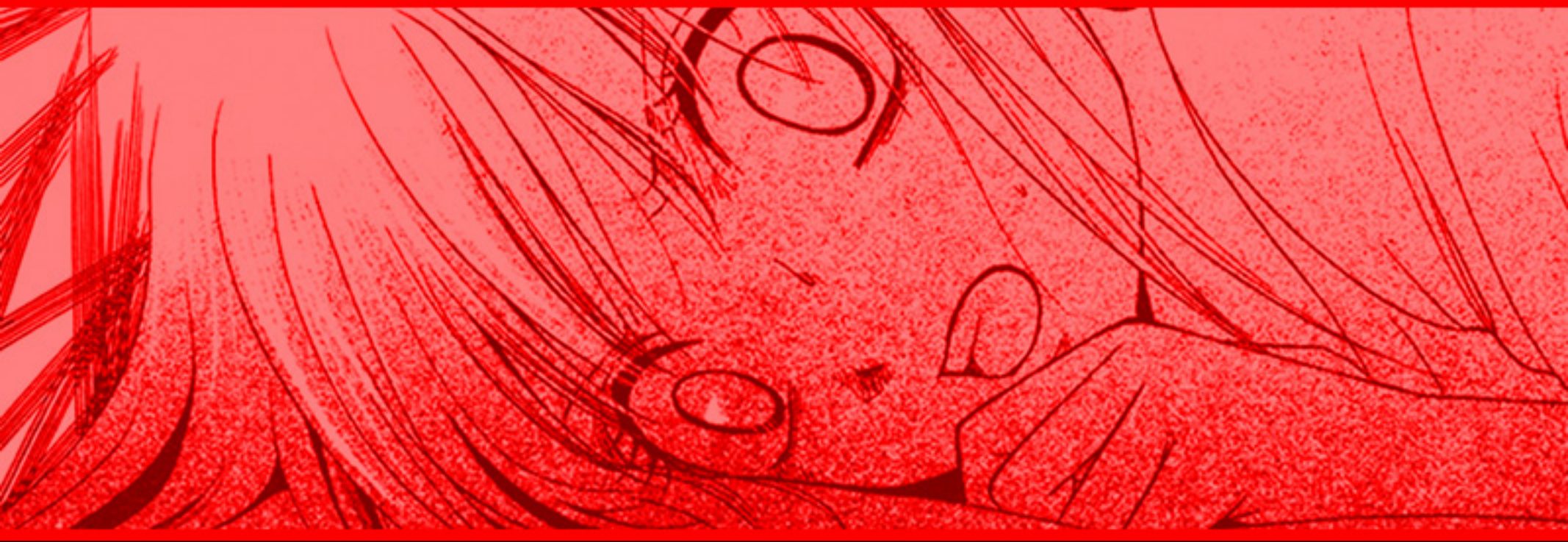
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You can't go home.

帰れません。^{かえ}

Tranquil days
suddenly
scatter into
disarray...

Kaeremasen.

さか もと いさお
坂元勲

Isao Sakamoto

Highest
Level of
Scariness





I'M HOME!

HARUNA!!

Tmp



IS THERE A REASON YOU'RE SAYING THAT?!

YOU DON'T NEED TO. THAT WOULD BE EMBARRASSING.

EVEN SO, I'M STILL WORRIED. SHOULD I COME WALK YOU HOME FROM SCHOOL?



WELCOME HOME! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

Tmp



IT'S NOT THAT BIG OF A DEAL.

Lately in this neighborhood, there have been several sightings of a suspicious man around 40 years old.



I WOULD DIE

IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOU.



DON'T WORRY.

I'LL BE WITH REINA MOST OF THE WAY HOME.

SINCE THE ANNOUNCEMENT ONE WEEK AGO DURING MORNING ASSEMBLY, IT'S BEEN LIKE THIS.

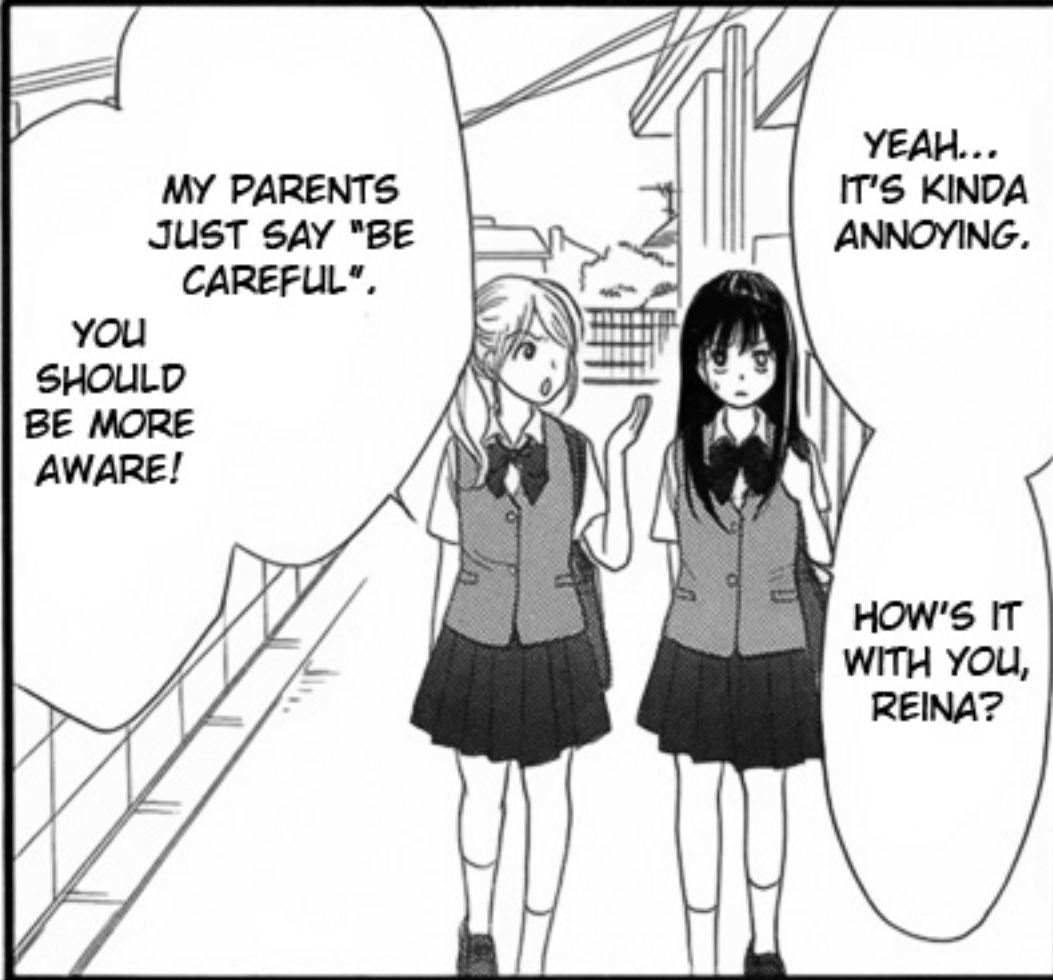
As much as possible, make sure you are not alone.

If you see a suspicious man, run away immediately.

Several female students are being followed.



SEE YOU LATER, BYE-BYE!



MY PARENTS JUST SAY "BE CAREFUL".

YOU SHOULD BE MORE AWARE!

YEAH... IT'S KINDA ANNOYING.

HOW'S IT WITH YOU, REINA?



I UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERN, BUT...

SHE'S BEING OVERPROTECTIVE, ISN'T SHE?





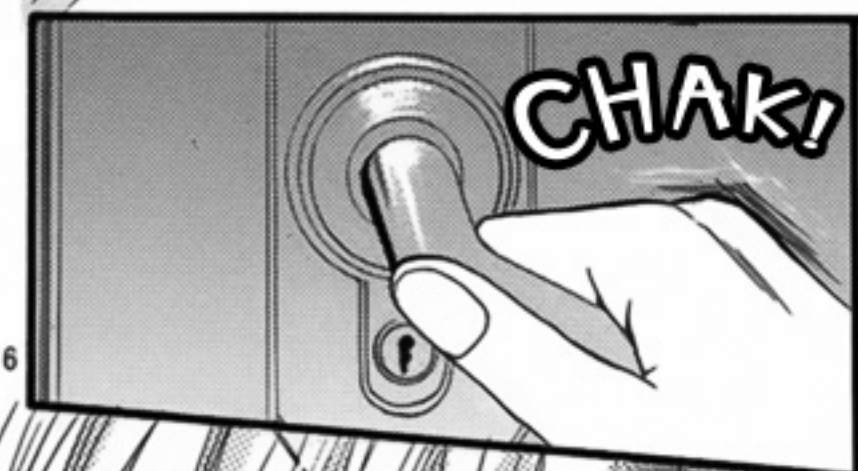
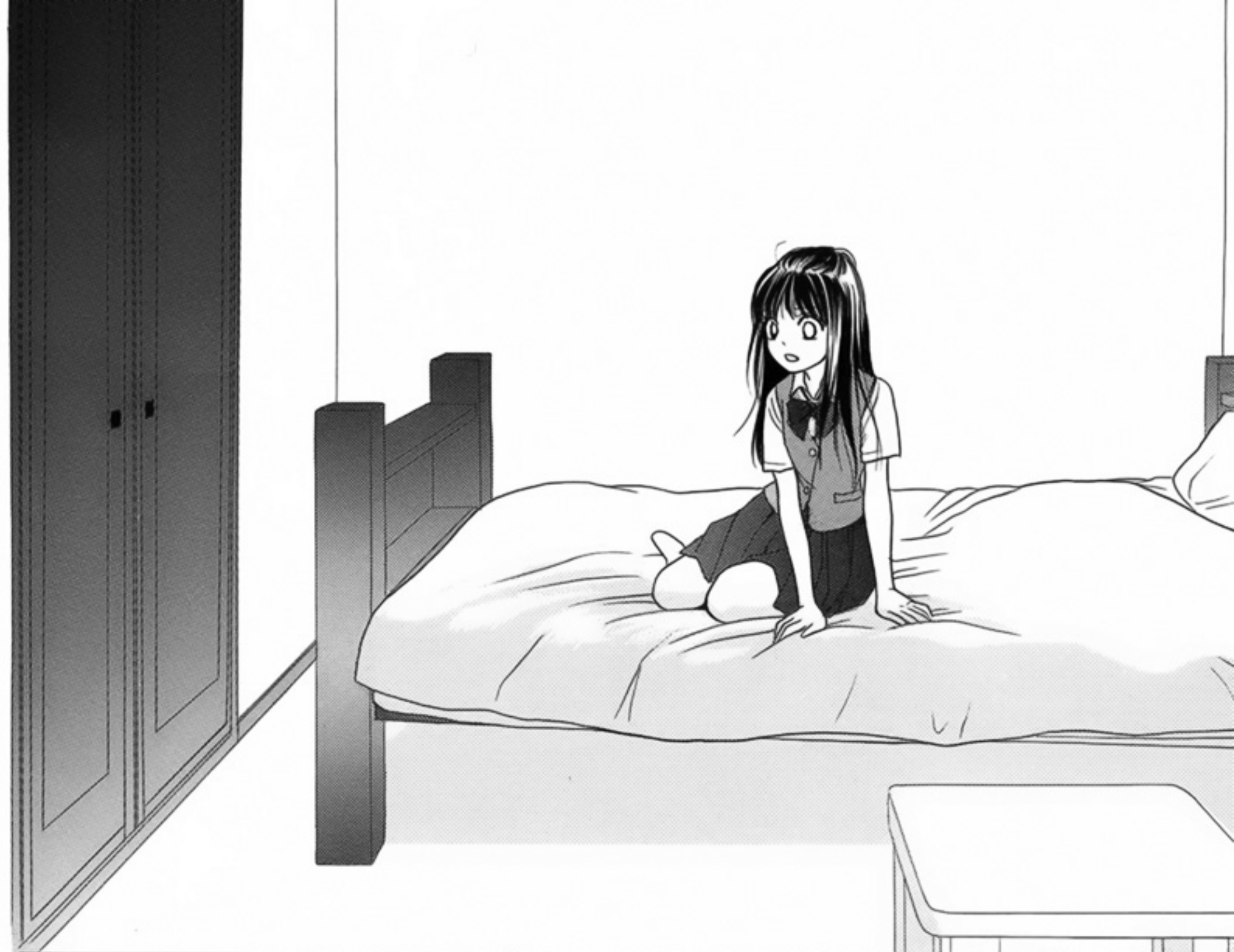
MOM!!

...NNN...

GASP!

WROOOM...

SLAM



WHERE...
AM I?!

HUH?



I'M BEING
IMPRIS-
ONED?!

IT WON'T
OPEN!



...LET
ME...



CHAK

I'M
LOCKED IN!

CHAK



WHY
ME?!!

HELP
ME!!!

WHY?!

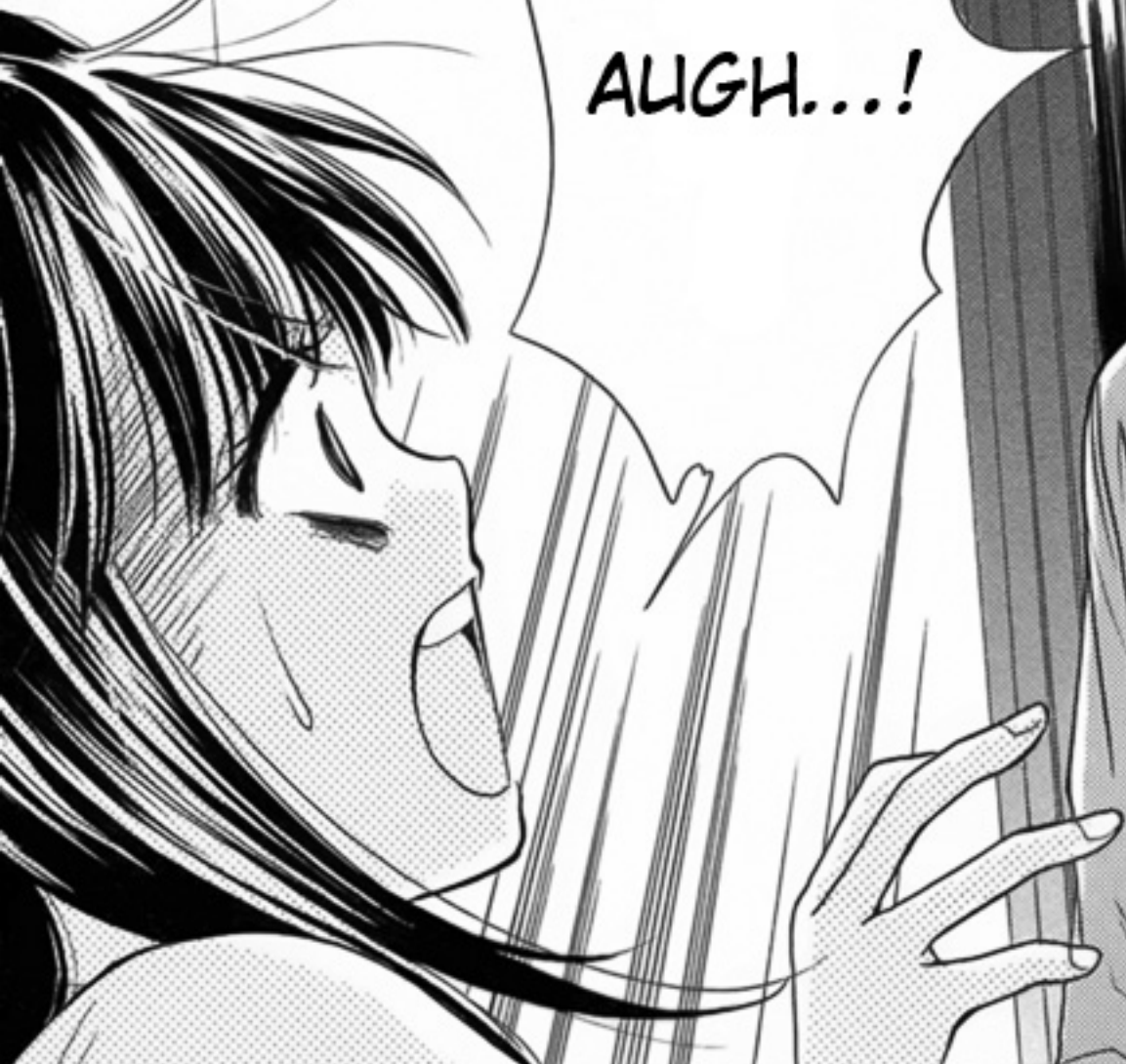
SOMEONE LET ME
LET ME OUT!!

KER-CHAK

WHAM

WHAM

ALUGH...!



YOU'RE
HUNGRY,
RIGHT?

HERE
YOU GO.

KER-CHAK...

THEY'RE
GOING TO
KILL ME!!

NO...!

N-





MEALS
ARE
BROUGHT
TO ME 3
TIMES PER
DAY.

THIS IS HOW
I BECAME
IMPRISONED
IN THIS
ROOM.

WITHOUT
KNOWING
WHY,



I'M WATCHED
WHEN I TAKE
A BATH OR
USE THE
TOILET.

I WONDER
HOW MANY
DAYS HAVE
PASSED...

WHEN I
ASK ABOUT
ANYTHING, I
GET NO
ANSWER.

WHERE AM I?
WHAT'S GOING TO
HAPPEN TO ME?

THERE IS NO
WINDOW, SO I
HAVE NO IDEA
OF WHAT IT
LOOKS LIKE
OUTSIDE.



EVERYONE
PROBABLY
THINKS I'M
DEAD.

I HAVE NO WAY TO
CONTACT ANYONE
BECAUSE MY BAG
WAS CONFISCATED.

I'M PROBABLY
ALL OVER THE
NEWS BY NOW.



WHAT
SHOULD
I DO?

HOW CAN I
GET BACK
HOME?!

10



WH- WHAT?!

OH NO!!



FREEZE!







I'LL PUT
AN END
TO IT.

THAT'S TRUE,
I WILL NEVER
GIVE THAT
CHILD BACK,
YOU HEAR?



WE HAVE
TO QUICKLY
SETTLE
MATTERS.

WE CAN'T
LET THE
SITUATION
REMAIN
LIKE THIS
FOREVER.

HUH?

"I WILL
NEVER GIVE
THAT CHILD
BACK"?

WE
HAVE TO
HURRY.

THEY
REALLY
ARE GOING
TO KILL
ME!!

"QUICKLY"
DO WHAT?

WHAT DOES
THAT MEAN?
"SETTLE
MATTERS"?

KER-CHAK





THE MAN
IS SCARY,
BUT

THE
WOMAN
IS NICE.



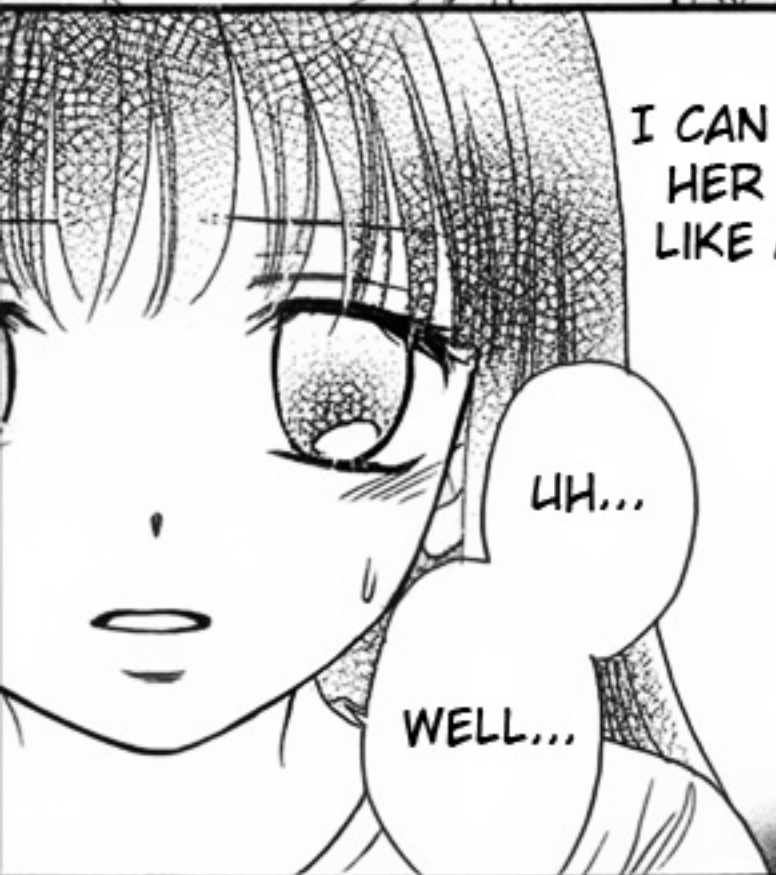
KER-CHAK...

I HAVE TO GET
OUT OF HERE
IMMEDIATELY!

BUT WHAT
SHOULD I
DO?

IT'S
BREAK-
FAST
TIME.

GOOD
MORN-
ING!



I CAN GET
HER TO
LIKE ME,

UH...

WELL...



MAYBE
IF

YOU
OFTEN
LEAVE
FOOD ON
YOUR
PLATE.

IS THE
FOOD NOT
GOOD?

"I'LL PUT
AN END
TO IT."



IS THERE
ANYTHING
ELSE YOU
DON'T
LIKE?

IS THAT
SO? I'M
GLAD YOU
TOLD ME.

BUT IT'LL
TAKE
SOME
TIME.



I MIGHT
BE ABLE
TO
ESCAPE.

I DON'T
LIKE SOFT-
BOILED
EGGS.

I SHOULD TRY TO SPEAK NORMALLY TO HER AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

I MUSTN'T UPSET HER.

I MUSTN'T SAY THOSE THINGS.

"WHERE AM I? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH ME? WHAT IS YOUR OBJECTIVE? TAKE ME BACK HOME."

IT'LL BE SUSPICIOUS IF I SUDDENLY CHANGE MY BEHAVIOR.

OH? AND WHAT ABOUT SUSHI?

SASHIMI.

I HAVE TO BECOME FRIENDS WITH HER!

LOOK ♥ AS I THOUGHT, YOU LOOK ABSOLUTELY ADORABLE THIS WAY.

YEP...!

GASPI!

IT'S KIND OF REFRESHING.

MY MOM TOLD ME SHE PREFERS MY HAIR DOWN.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

THERE'S A BREEZE ON MY NECK.

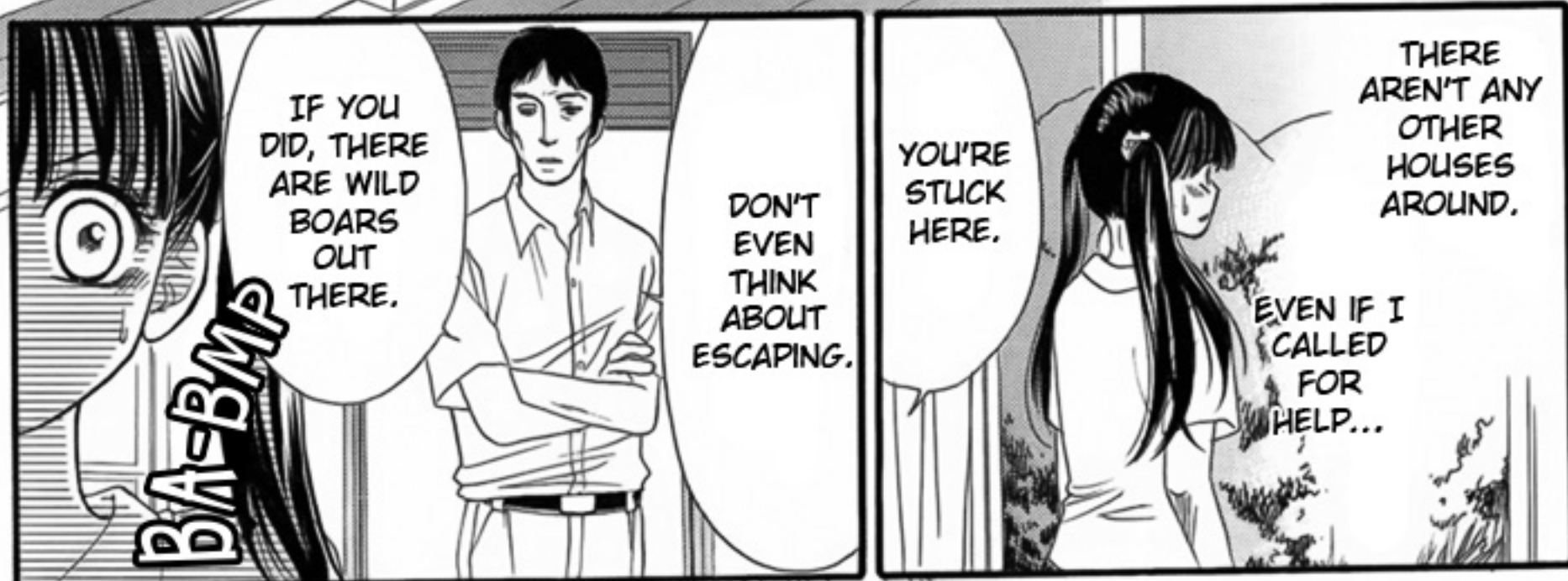


IS THIS
HOUSE THAT
DEEP IN THE
MOUNTAINS?

THE
WEATHER
IS NICE
TODAY.

OH...

COME
HAVE A
LOOK.



IF YOU
DID, THERE
ARE WILD
BOARS
OUT
THERE.

DON'T
EVEN
THINK
ABOUT
ESCAPING.

BA-BMP

YOU'RE
STUCK
HERE.

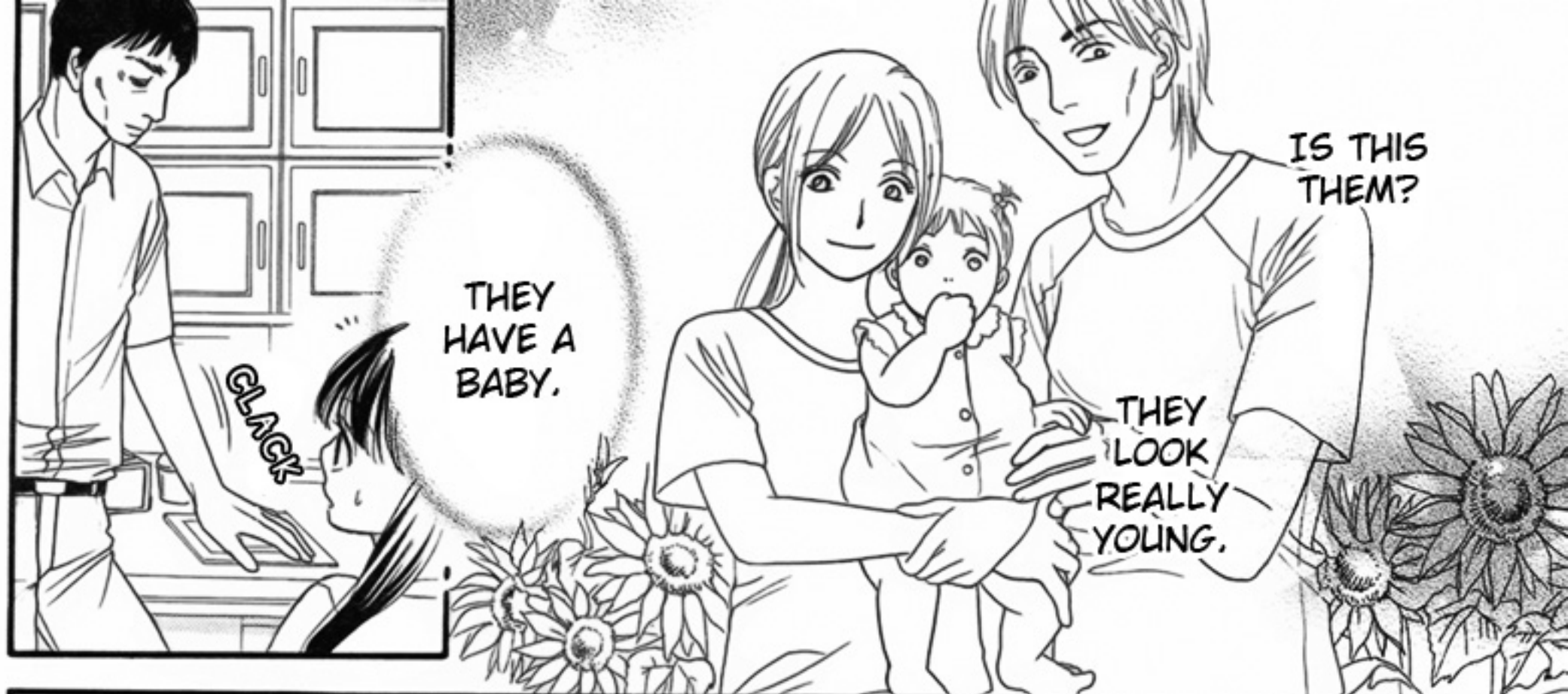
THERE
AREN'T ANY
OTHER
HOUSES
AROUND.

EVEN IF I
CALLED
FOR
HELP...



THINKING
THAT...

I
WASN'T
...



GLACK

THEY
HAVE A
BABY.

IS THIS
THEM?

THEY
LOOK
REALLY
YOUNG.



THAT
BABY IS
DEAD?

COULD
IT BE...

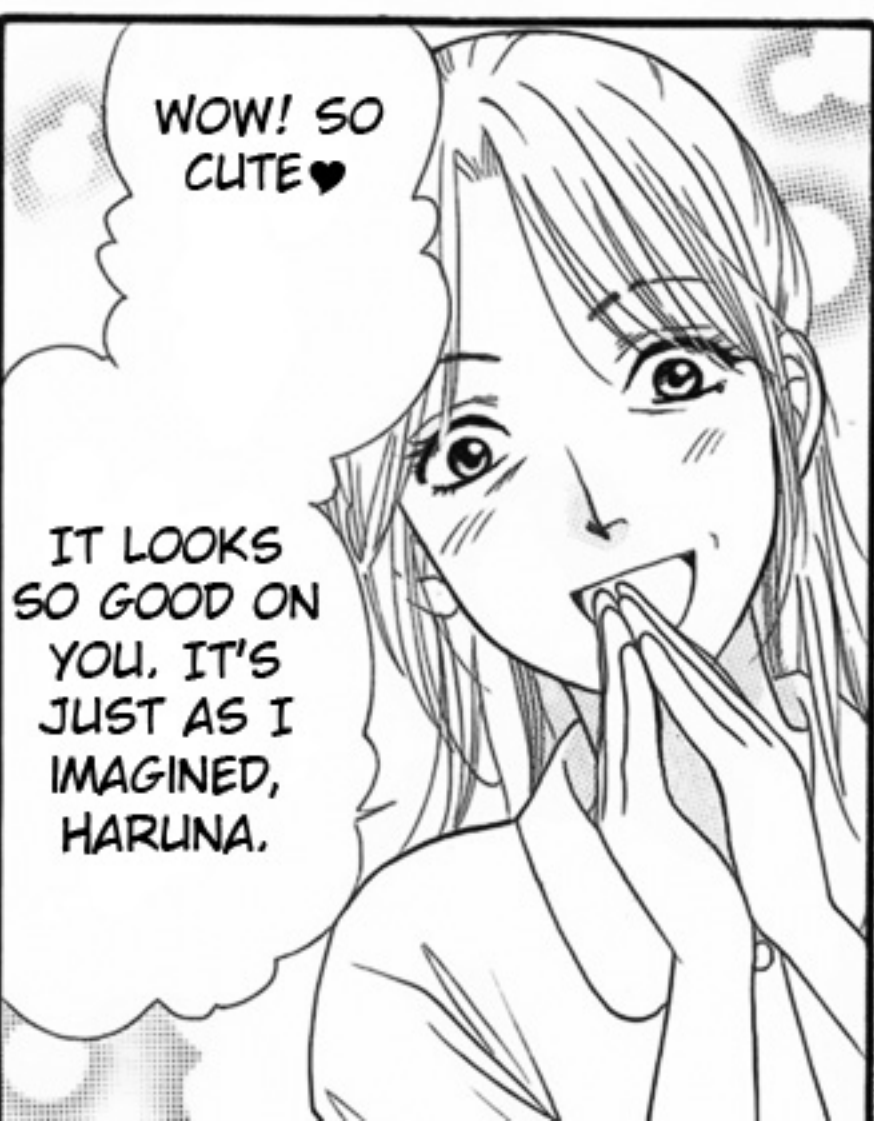


TWITCH!!



IS SHE
REPLACING
HER OWN
CHILD WITH
ME?

IF... SHE
WERE ALIVE,
SHE WOULD
BE ABOUT THE
SAME AGE AS
ME, WOULDN'T
SHE?



WOW! SO
CUTE ♡

IT LOOKS
SO GOOD ON
YOU. IT'S
JUST AS I
IMAGINED,
HARUNA.





HARUNA,
YOU'RE
TALENTED!

SURE!
DRAW ALL
YOU LIKE!

CAN I
DRAW
IN MY
ROOM?

IT'S
BECAUSE
I LIKE
DRAWING.



I'LL WAIT
FOR A
CHANCE!



BUT THE
ROOM
NEXT
DOOR
HAS A
WINDOW
...

I CAN'T DO
ANYTHING
FROM
HERE,



THAT MAN
LEAVES
SOMETIMES.

WHEN HE
DOES...



FOR NOW,

I'LL GO
WITH
WHAT
SHE
SAYS.



UH...

REALLY?

HELP
ME!!

WOULD YOU
LIKE TO GO
OUT FOR A
BIT?

PLEASE,
PLEASE—

I'M BEING
IMPRISONED.

SOMEBODY
FIGURE IT
OUT!

SFF...

ALL
RIGHT!

I WON'T
ESCAPE AS
SOON AS
I'M LET
OUT.

I FINALLY
MADE IT
TO THIS
POINT!

I'M
BEING
LET
OUT!!

AT
LAST!!

IT'S NO FUN
BEING IN THE
HOUSE ALL
THE TIME.

SHALL WE
GO TAKE A
WALK
AROUND?

HUH...?

STOP.

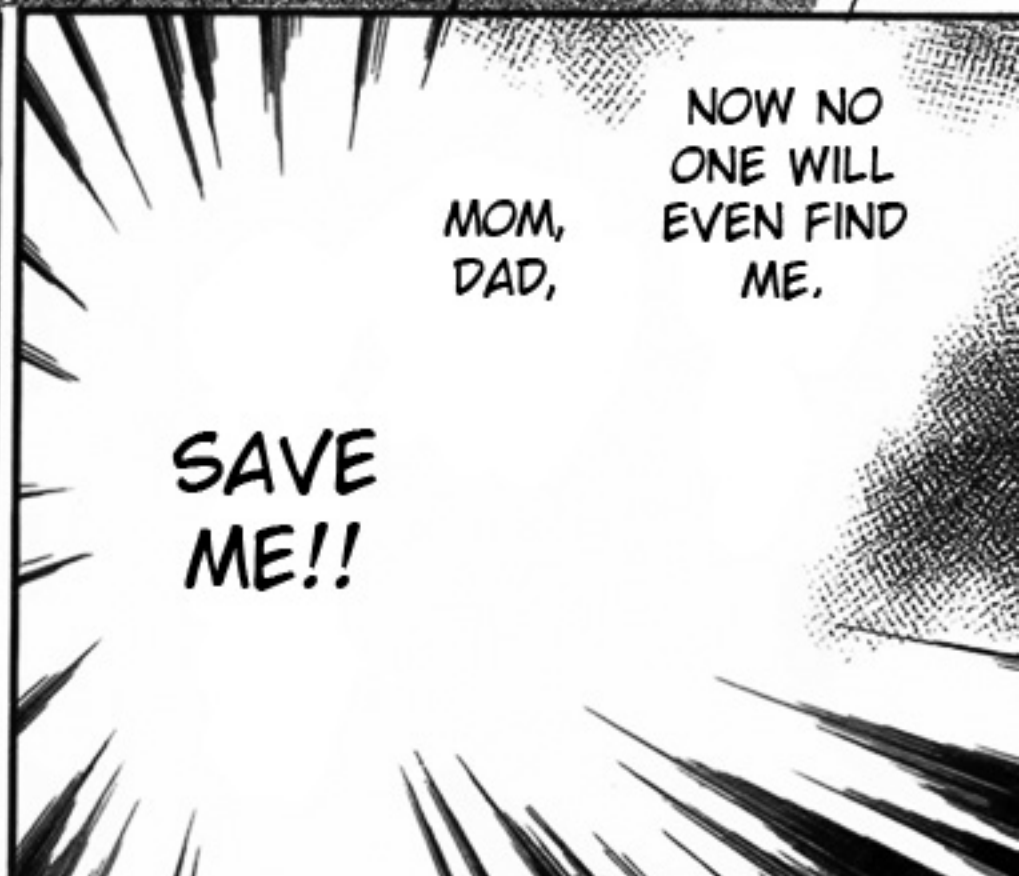




THEY'RE
GOING TO
KILL ME!

IT'S
OVER...

THERE'S
NOTHING
MORE I
CAN DO.



NOW NO
ONE WILL
EVEN FIND
ME.

MOM,
DAD,

SAVE
ME!!



I'M GETTING
THE HELL
OUT OF
HERE!!

I'M
LEAVING.

CHAK
CHAK
CHAK

CLICK

!!

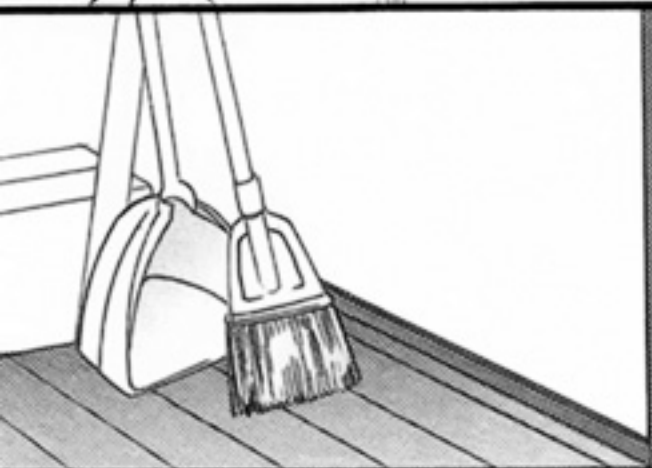


TINK
30



BUT THIS IS
THE ONLY
ESCAPE
ROUTE.

THEY'RE
HERE...



I HAVE
TO FIND
SOME-
THING TO
USE AS A
WEAPON



KERCHAK...



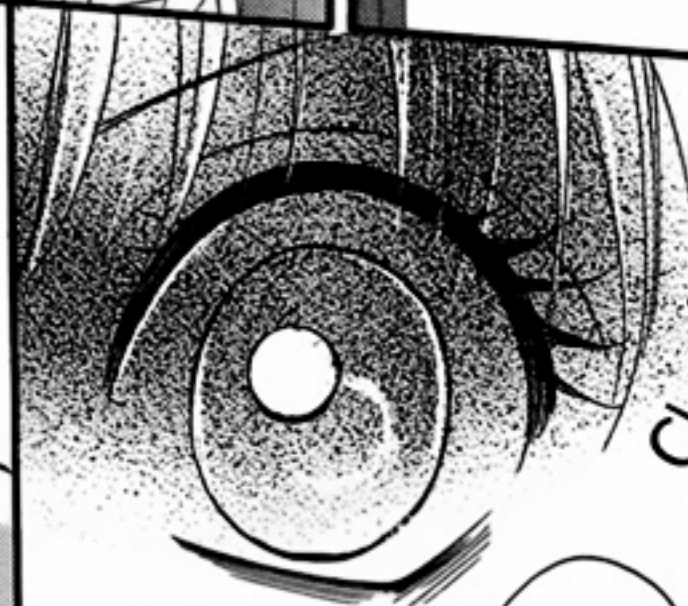
WHEN
WE'RE DIS-
COVERED,
WE'LL BE
ARRESTED.

TRUE.

WE WON'T BE
ABLE TO GET
AWAY WITH
THIS ANY
LONGER.



SNEAK



CLAT

!!

IT'S
ABOUT
TIME TO
PUT THIS
TO AN END.





WHACK



DID YOU THINK I'D LET YOU KILL ME?!!

WHACK

WHACK

NO!!

NEVER!

NEVER!

WHACK



WHACK

WHACK

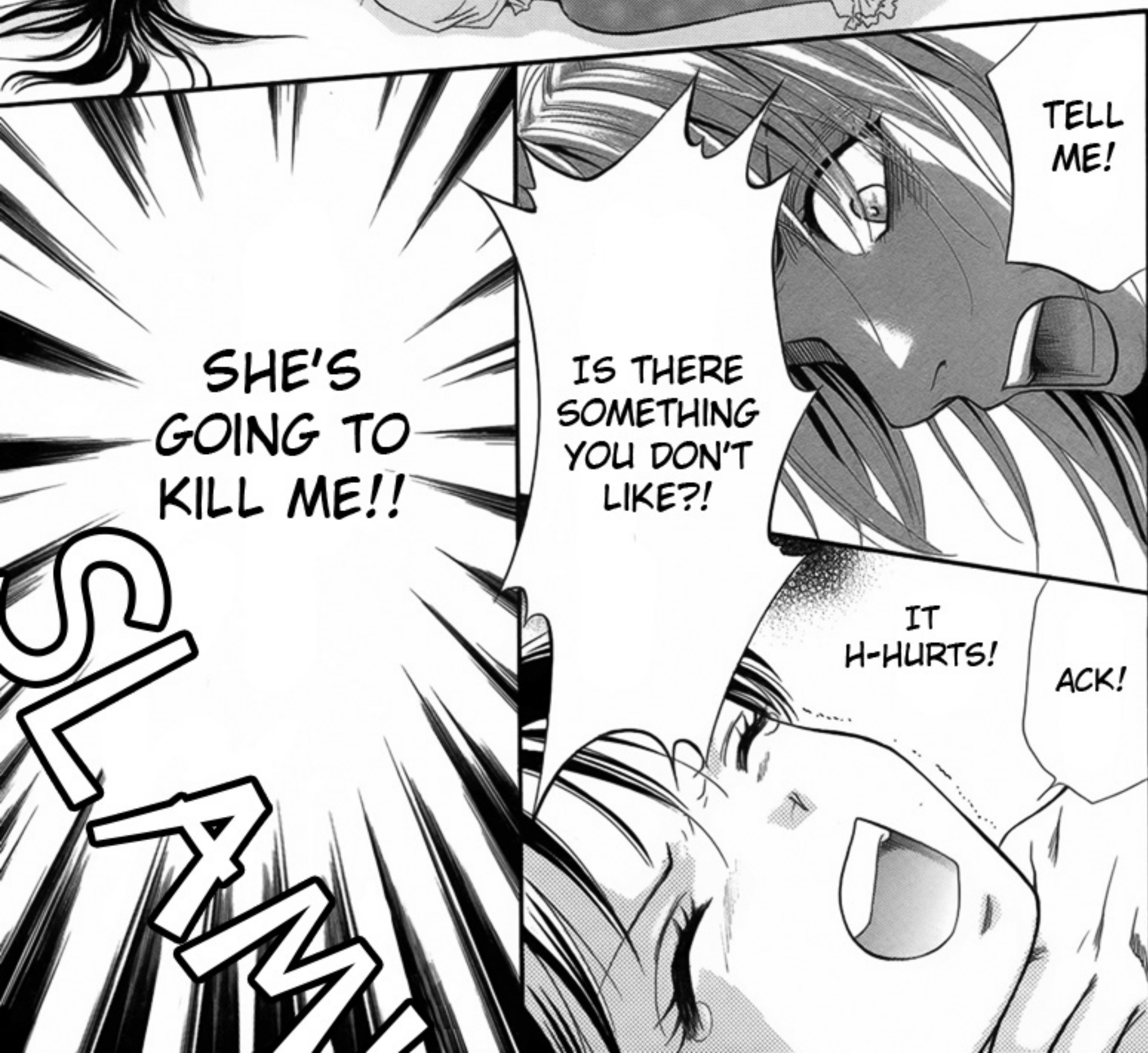
WHACK

!!



WHY ARE
YOU TRYING
TO RUN
AWAY?

WHY?



TELL
ME!

SHE'S
GOING TO
KILL ME!!

IS THERE
SOMETHING
YOU DON'T
LIKE?!

IT
H-HURTS!

ACK!



I'M...

DON'T
MOVE!!

BY CHANCE
SOME LOCALS
HAPPENED TO
PASS BY,
PICKED IT UP,
AND REALIZED
WHAT IT WAS.

ONE OF
MY PAPER
AIRPLANES!

SAVED!



MOM!



HARUNA!!



MOM!
DAD!



CHIEF!

WE'VE
DISCOVERED
THE
SUSPECT
CHIZURU'S
DIARY.

WHY
WOULD
THEY DO
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS?

TADASHI
FUJINAKA, 40
YEARS OLD,
AND CHIZURU
FUJINAKA,
38.

There's no mistaking it. The
birthmark on her neck is
proof that she is my child.
Thank goodness she's alive. At
last I found her.

IT WAS
WRITTEN IN
EVERY DAY
SINCE
HARUNA'S
ABDUCTION.

WHAT?

13
YEARS
AGO,

THIS
COUPLE'S
CHILD WAS
ABDUCTED,
AND

"Before we're get
caught, I'll get a
DNA test to prove
we are her parents.
I'm sure that will
put an end to this."

"It makes me so
happy to see her
birthmark when I
put her hair up. I
want to hug her."

"What should I
say? You are my
child. She'll never
believe me now.
I'll wait until she
opens her heart."

REMAINED
SO UNTIL
NOW.

Diary pages:

7/30 (Tues) What should I say? You are my child. She'll never believe me now. Of course she won't. I'll wait until she opens her heart. It shouldn't take much time. I can't help but want to hug her.

7/31 (Wed) Today, she smiled. It was so precious, just like when she was a baby. It makes me so happy to see her birthmark when I put her hair up. I want to hug her. I want her to call me "Mom" someday. We'll be discovered... I know...



"I've always wanted to live as a family with my child."

YOU'RE HURTING ME, LET GO...

WH...

WHAT'S WRONG, MOM?



SAY TO YOU?

WHAT DID THAT CRIMINAL...



MOM?!

WHY?

WHY NOW...?

WHY...?!!



SOMEHOW... IT SEEMS SHE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT I WAS HER OWN CHILD.

HUH?

WHAT?

WHEN SHE DID, SHE'D TOUCH MY NECK.



FOR 13 YEARS
I CONVINCED
MYSELF I
WAS RAISING
MY OWN REAL
CHILD!!

YOU ARE THE
CHILD WE
KIDNAPPED 13
YEARS AGO!

YOU AREN'T
MY CHILD.

WHEN I
SEE THAT
BIRTHMARK,
I REMEM-
BER.



WHAT?

HOW ABOUT I REMOVE THAT BIRTH-MARK?

SAY... HARUNA,

HEY! STOP!

STAGGER...

HUH?

YOU WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH, DON'T YOU?
THAT THOSE PEOPLE ARE YOUR REAL PARENTS?

29



WHAT ON EARTH IS SHE SAYING?

YOU ARE OUR CHILD, AFTER ALL, RIGHT?

WITHOUT THAT BIRTH-MARK, I'M SURE WE CAN BECOME A REAL FAMILY.



WHAT IS GOING ON...?

YOU LOVE MOM AND DAD, DON'T YOU?



IT'S STRANGE,
DAD AND MOM
AREN'T MOVING
ANYMORE.

WHAT A
GREAT IDEA.
I CUT ONES
INTO THEIR
NECKS WITH
A KITCHEN
KNIFE, BUT

DAD SAID IT
WOULD BE
QUICKER IF
THEY HAD
THE SAME
BIRTHMARK
AS ME.

RATHER
THAN
REMOVE MY
BIRTHMARK,



31

BUT I
THOUGHT BY
DOING THIS,
WE COULD AT
LAST BECOME
A REAL
FAMILY.

I
WONDER
WHY?

I'M
HOME.

DAD,
MOM,

Heheh...

THE END