



THIS
IS
KURŌZU-
CHO,
WHERE
I GREW
UP.

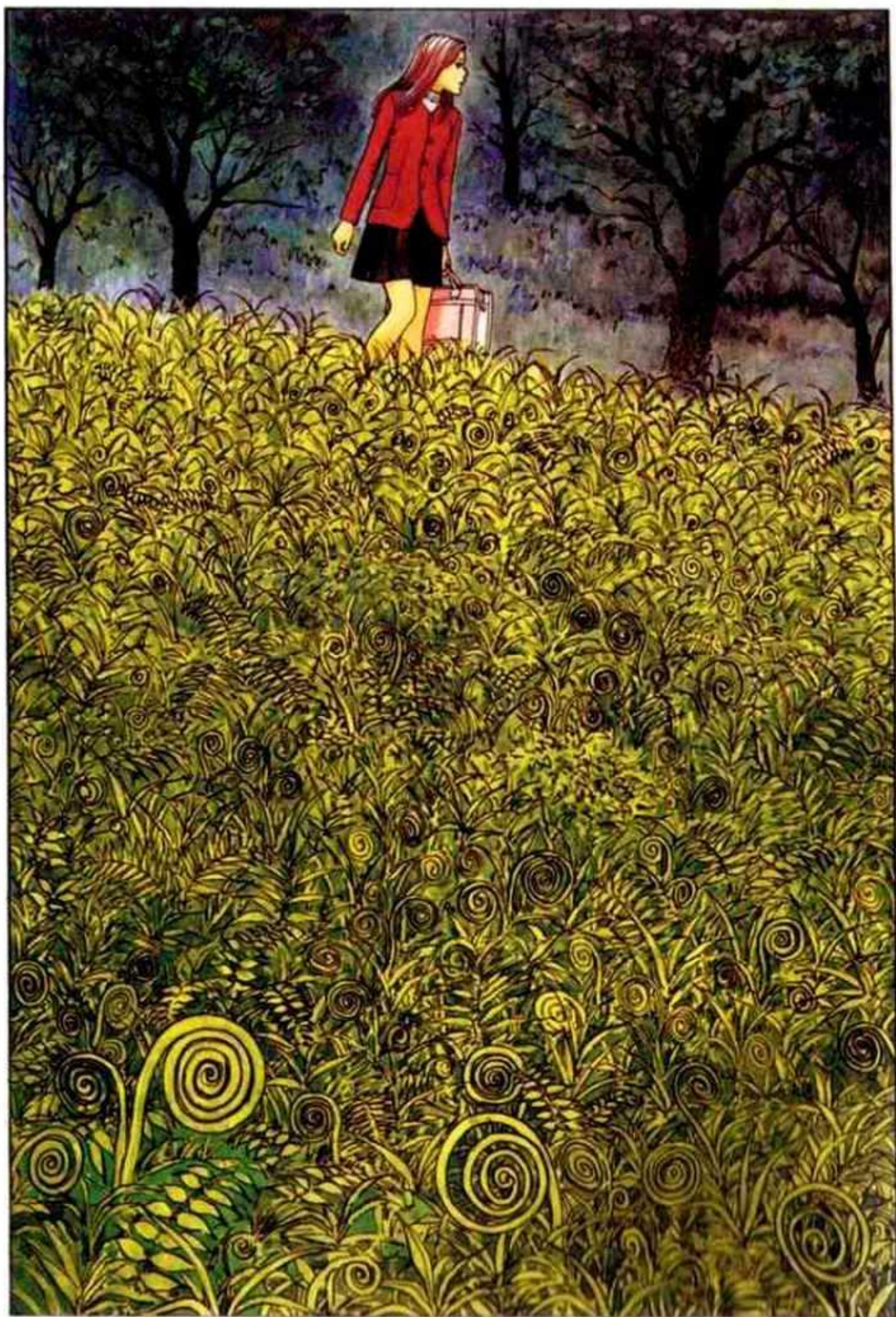
I
WOULD
LIKE
TO
SHARE
WITH
YOU...



CHAPTER

I
THE
MURDERER'S
MANSION

...THE
STRANGE
EVENTS
THAT
TOOK
PLACE
HERE.



UZUMAKI

by Junji Ito





MY
NAME
IS
KIRIE
GOSHIMA.

I ATTEND
KUROZU
HIGH SCHOOL
LOCATED
HALFWAY
UP THE
MOUNTAIN
OVERLOOKING
OUR
TOWN.



I LIVE
WITH MY
FATHER WHO
IS A
POTTER, MY
MOTHER AND
MY YOUNGER
BROTHER...

...IN
THE
CENTRAL
DISTRICT
OF
THE
TOWN.



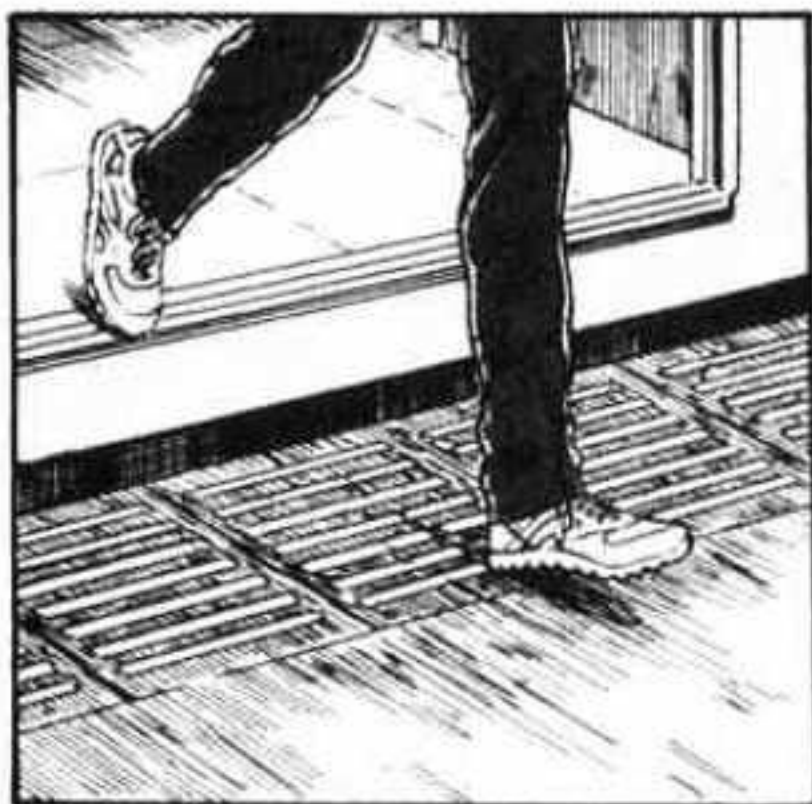
OH NO...
I'M LATE!
I MIGHT
MISS
SHUICHI
AT THE
STATION!





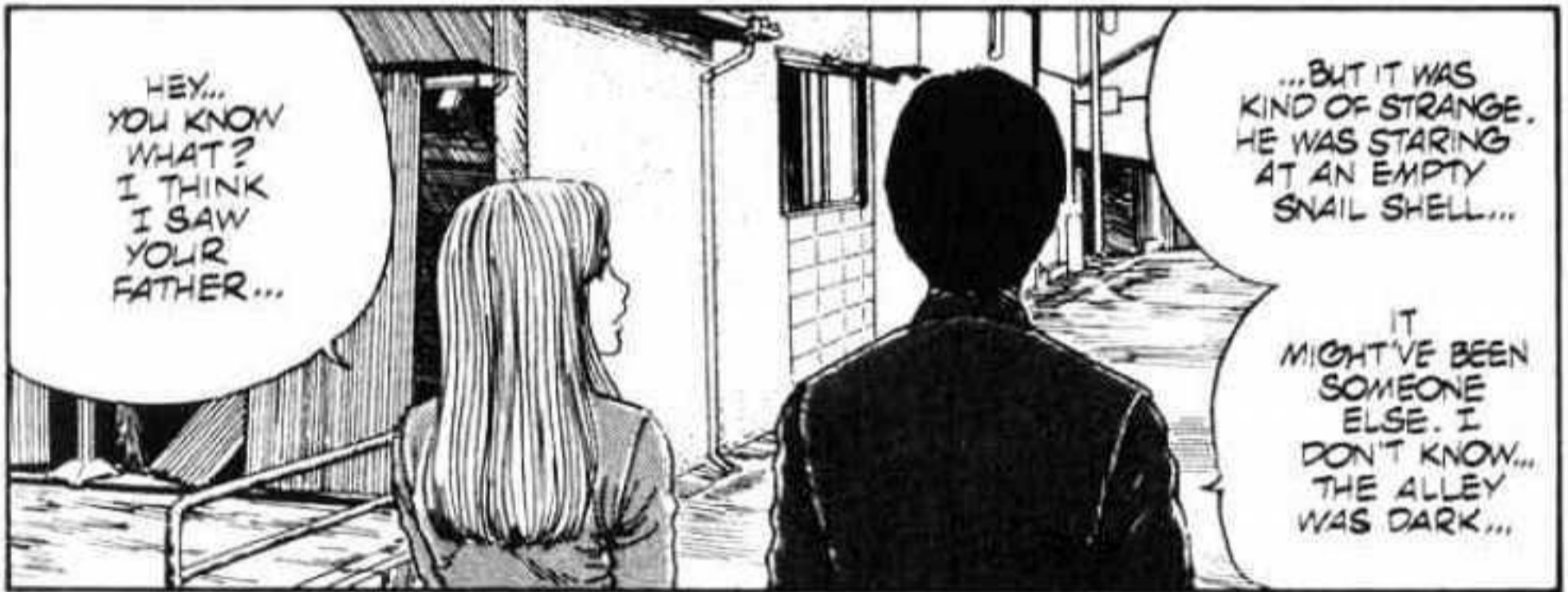
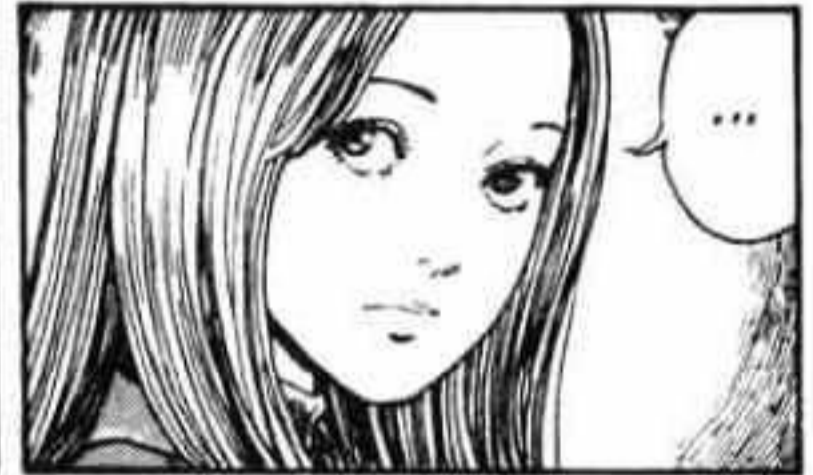






SHUICHI SAITO
AND I USED
TO BE CLASSMATES
BUT NOW HE
GOES TO
HIGH SCHOOL
IN THE
NEXT TOWN.

HEY
SHUICHI.







I CAN'T STAND THIS PLACE.

WE'LL GO CRAZY IF WE STAY HERE.



IT'S SO OBVIOUS TO ME BECAUSE I SPEND THE DAY AWAY FROM HERE.

I FEEL DIZZY EVERY TIME I GET OFF AT THE STATION PLATFORM.

THIS TOWN IS DRIVING ME INSANE!



I DON'T FEEL IT.

BUT... DON'T YOU FEEL IT?



I DON'T FEEL IT...







THE OCEAN LOOKS NOTHING LIKE THIS IN MIDORIYAMA-SHI, WHERE I GO TO SCHOOL.

THAT BLACK LIGHTHOUSE IS EVIL, TOO!



THE LOOMING MOUNTAINS BEHIND US.

THE WINDING STREETS... IT GETS ON MY NERVES...



YES, WINDING... I'M GETTING WOUND UP...

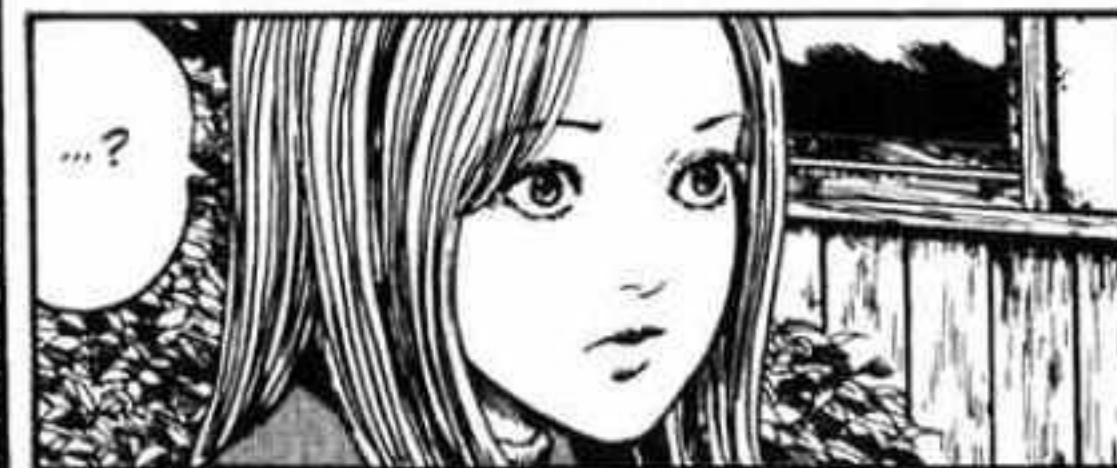
SPIRALS... THIS TOWN IS CONTAMINATED WITH SPIRALS...



HUH... WHAT? WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?

OH...

...NO- NOTHING...



...?



THE NEXT DAY, SHUICHI'S FATHER VISITED MY FATHER AT WORK.



MR. GOSHIMA, YOU'RE ALWAYS WORKING SO HARD...

WELL, YOU KNOW...



...IT'S MORE "WORKING SLOW" THAN WORKING HARD.

IT'S NOT EASY BEING A CRAFTSMAN.



NO, NO! I TRULY RESPECT YOU, MAKING THESE TRADITIONAL CERAMICS ...

IT'S REALLY THE ART OF THE SPIRAL!



I'M SORRY?

THE ART OF THE SPIRAL?



OH, OF COURSE ...THE SPINNING WHEEL ...

IT CAN BE PRETTY DIZZYING... HA HA...



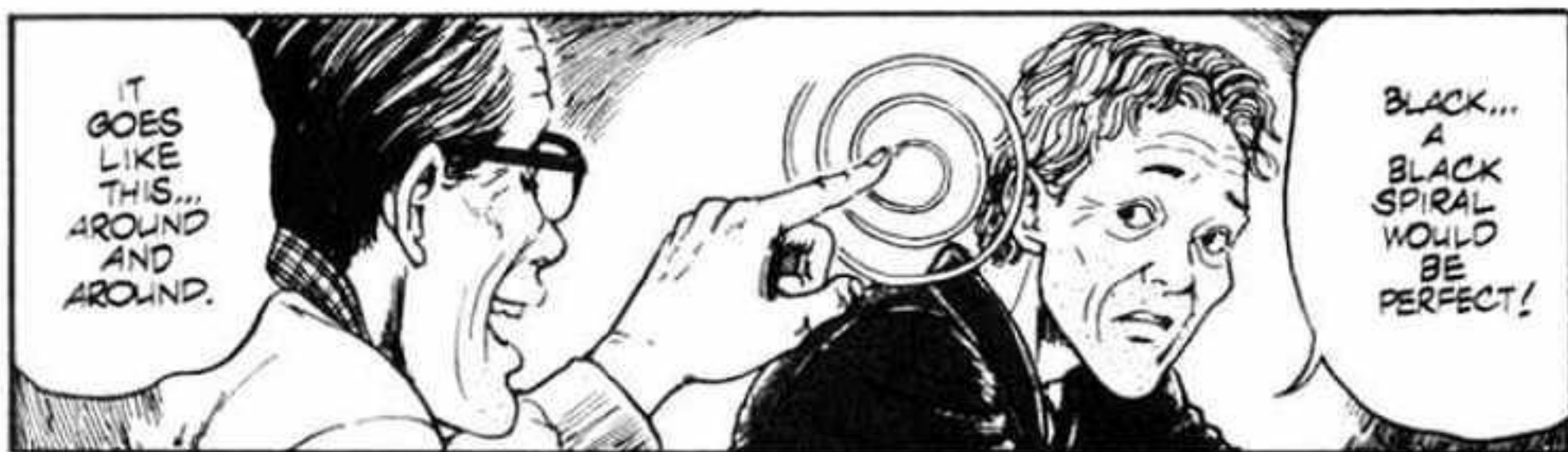
YES!
PLEASE!
CAN
YOU MAKE
ME
ONE?

I WANT
ONE
THAT
WILL
MAKE
ME
DIZZY.



I
WANT
ONE
WITH
A
SPIRAL
PATTERN.

THE
SPIRAL
PATTERN
IS
CRUCIAL!



IT
GOES
LIKE
THIS...
AROUND
AND
AROUND.

BLACK...
A
BLACK
SPIRAL
WOULD
BE
PERFECT!



LATELY
I'VE
COME TO
LOVE
THAT
PATTERN.

I'M
COLLECT-
ING
EVERYTHING
THAT
HAS
SPIRALS.



OLD
AND
NEW
KIMONOS
WITH
VOLUTE
PATTERNS,
CONCHES,
SNAIL
SHELLS,
AMMONITE
FOSSILS...

WIND-UP
SPRINGS,
SCOTCH TAPE,
MOSQUITO
REPELLENT
INCENSE,
EVEN
TWISTING
VINES...

THEY'RE
EVERY-
WHERE
ONCE
YOU
LOOK
FOR
THEM!



SO I THOUGHT, "WHY NOT ASK THE TOWN'S BEST POTTER TO MAKE ME A SPIRAL BOWL?"

MONEY IS NO OBJECT. NAME YOUR PRICE.



MR. GOSHIMA, I FIND THE SPIRAL TO BE VERY MYSTICAL.

IT FILLS ME WITH A DEEP SENSE OF MYSTERY... LIKE NOTHING ELSE IN NATURE... LIKE NO OTHER SHAPE...



I'M SURE YOU WILL UNDERSTAND HOW WONDERFUL THE SPIRAL IS!! IT IS PERFECT! THE MOST SUBLIME ART!

AND NO ONE BUT YOU CAN CREATE SUCH ART!

...



DIDN'T MY DAD VISIT YOUR HOUSE YESTERDAY?

UHH, YEAH... HE FREAKED ME OUT A LITTLE.



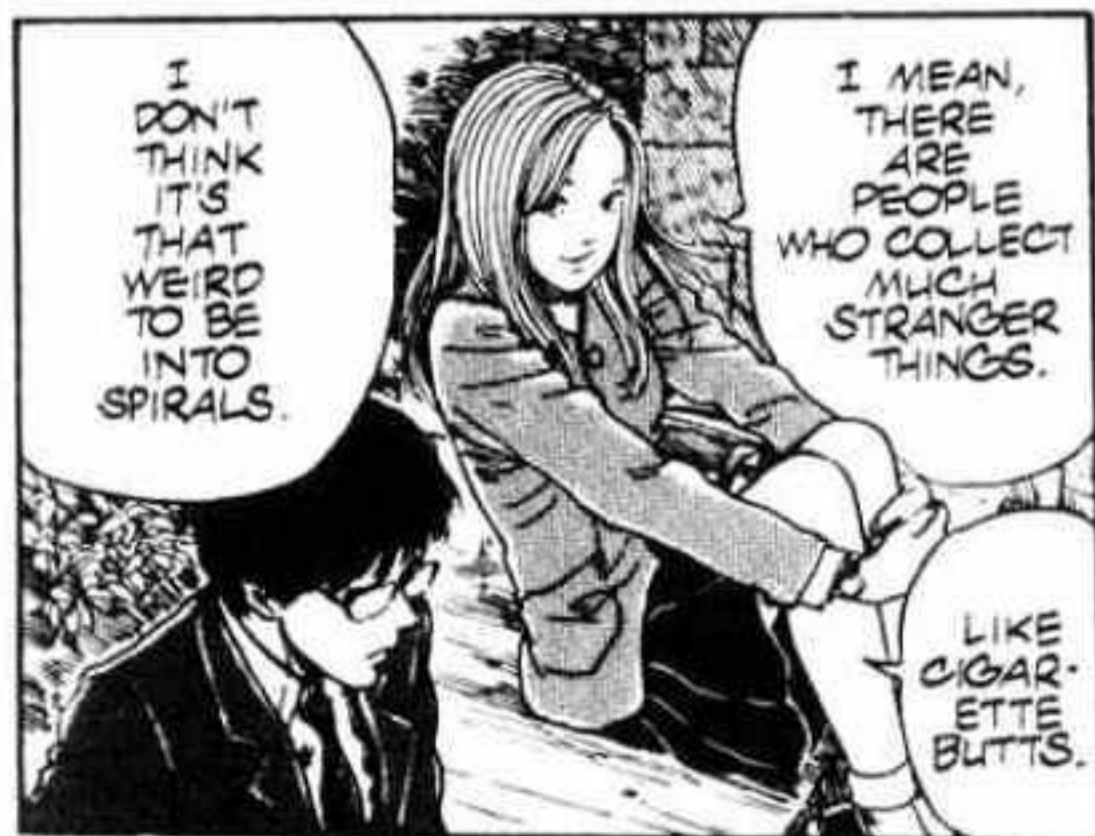
I'M SORRY YOU SAW THAT. HE'S BEEN WEIRD LATELY.

WHY WOULD HE BE FIXATED WITH SPIRALS?



ANYWAY, HE CALLED MY DAD AN ARTIST...

WHICH GOT MY DAD GOING. HE'S ALREADY WORKING ON IT.



I DON'T THINK IT'S THAT WEIRD TO BE INTO SPIRALS.

I MEAN, THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO COLLECT MUCH STRANGER THINGS.

LIKE CIGAR-ETTE BUTTS.



...HOW ABNORMAL HIS OBSESSION'S BECOME.

HE STOPPED GOING TO WORK. NOW HE JUST SPENDS ALL DAY IN HIS STUDY...



YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW...

...STARING
AT
HIS
SPRAWLING
COLLECTION
OF
SPIRALS.





ONCE HE'S
FIXATED
HE
CAN'T
HEAR
US.



HE
JUST
STARES
INTO
THE
SPIRAL.

AND
WHAT'S
WEIRD
IS
THAT
...



...HIS
EYES
START
SPINNING
AROUND...
AROUND
AND
AROUND...
IT'S SO
STRANGE..

WHAT
?



HIS
EYES
SPIN?

THEY
SPIN
LIKE THEY'RE
FOLLOWING
THE
SPIRAL.



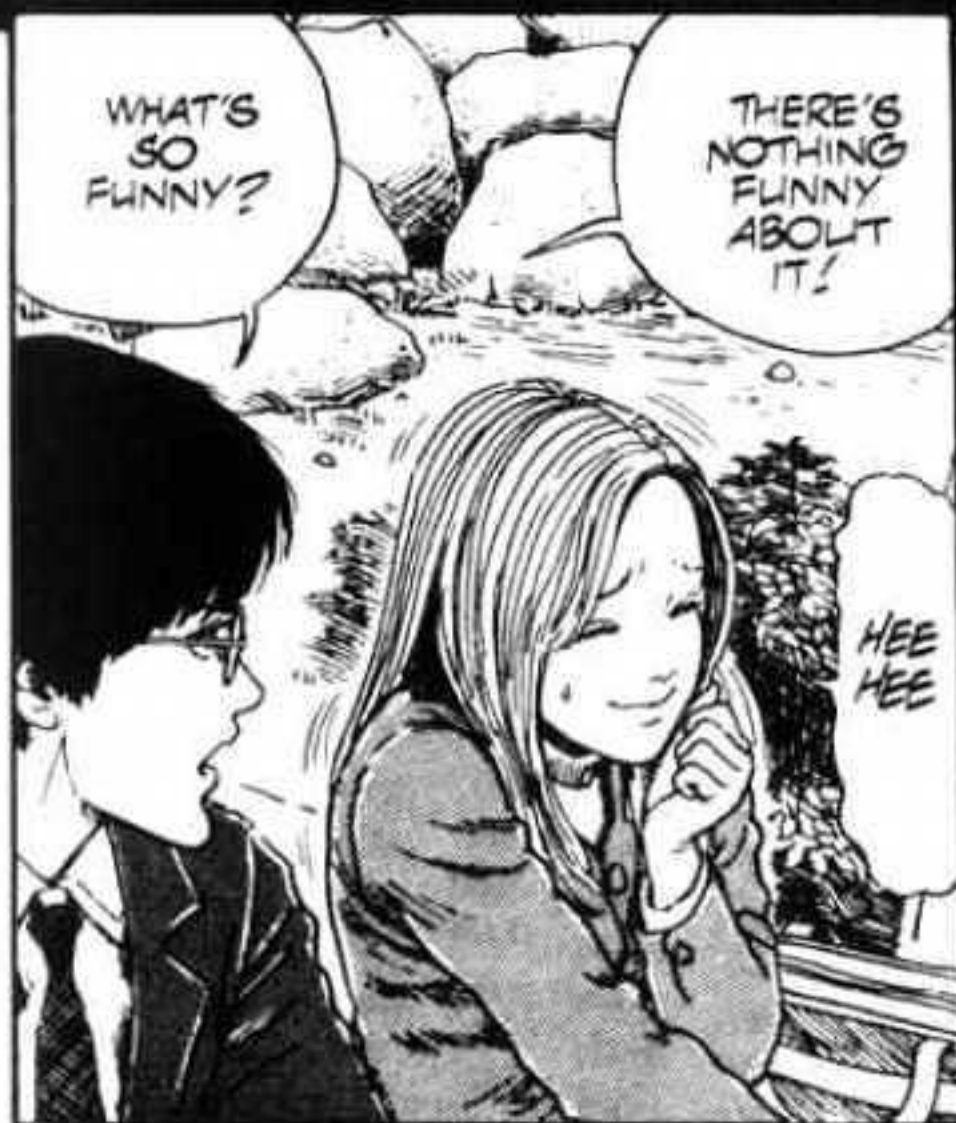
MAYBE
HE'S
TRYING
TO GET
A LAUGH
OUT
OF
YOU.



NO
IT'S
NOT
FUNNY
AT
ALL!

HIS
RIGHT
AND
LEFT
EYE
MOVE
INDEPENDENT-
LY OF
EACH
OTHER!









LOOK AT THIS STREAM.

ODD?

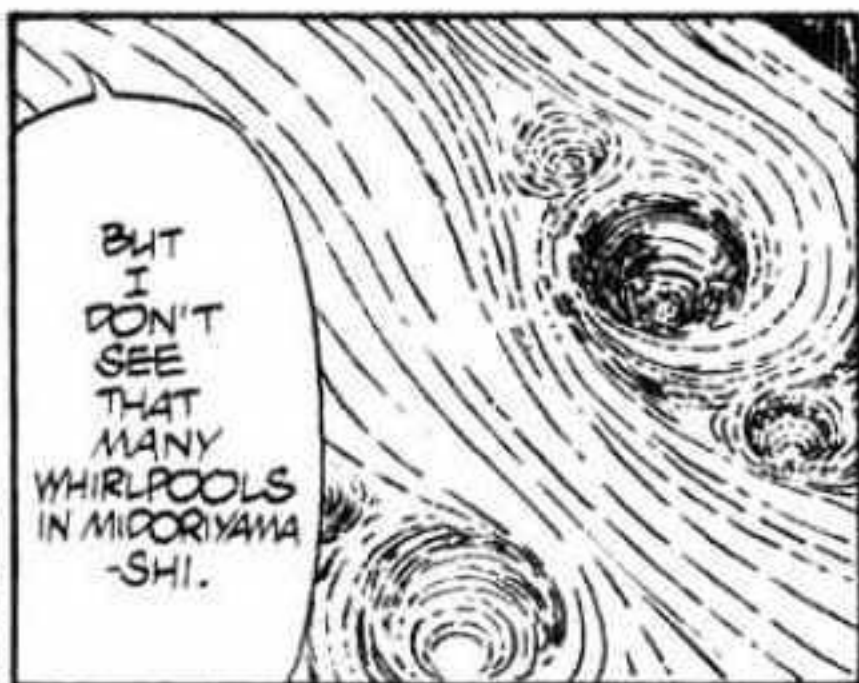
LOOK AT ALL THOSE WHIRLPOOLS.

DO YOU SEE SOMETHING ODD?



OH... WELL... THAT'S PROBABLY DUE TO THE FLOW.

YEAH WELL... IT COULD BE.



BUT I DON'T SEE THAT MANY WHIRLPOOLS IN MIDORIYAMA-SHI.



AND THEN THERE'S THE WHIRLWINDS.

THESE DUST DEVILS.



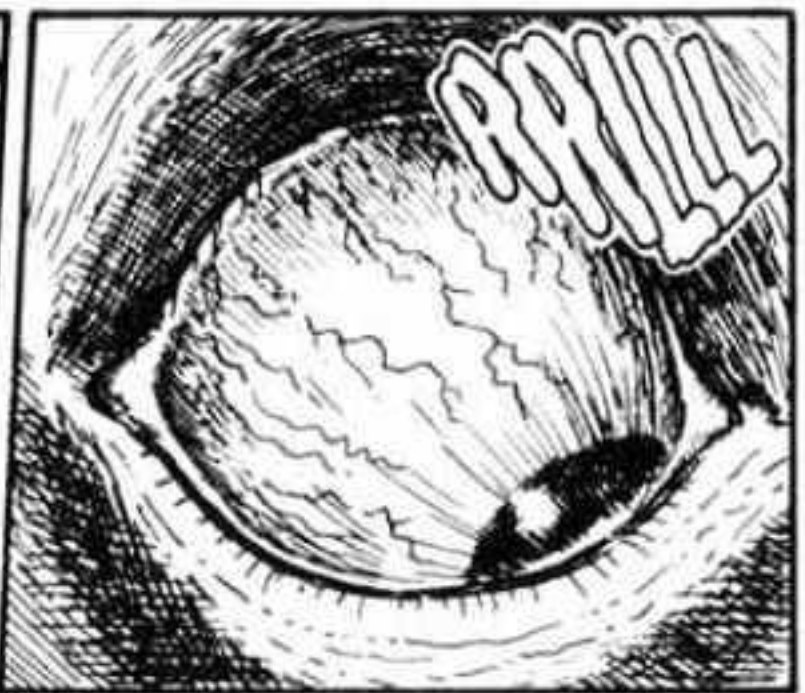
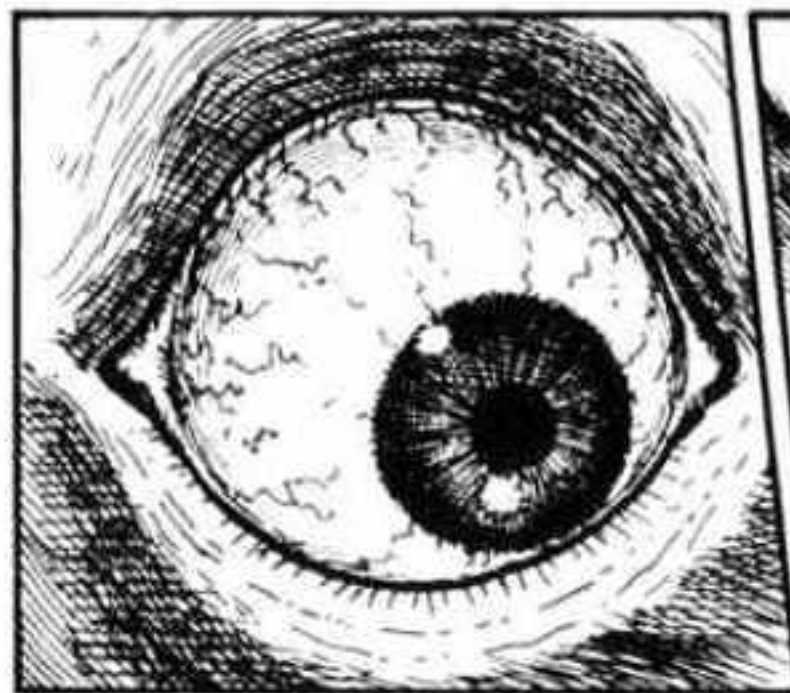
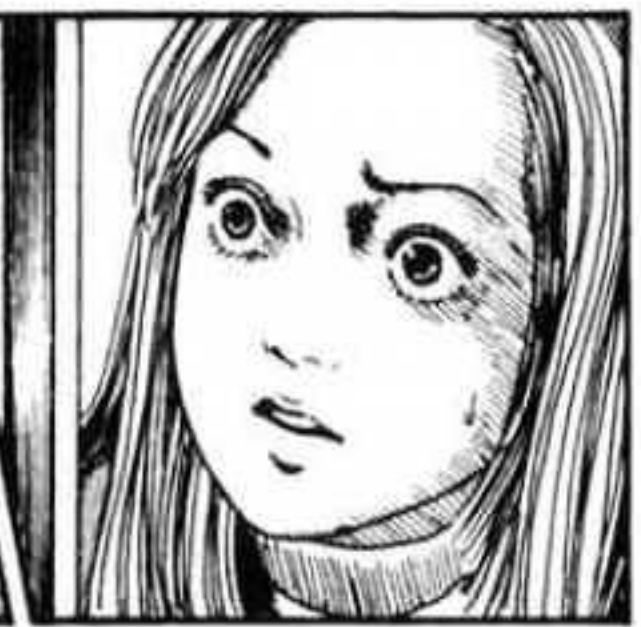
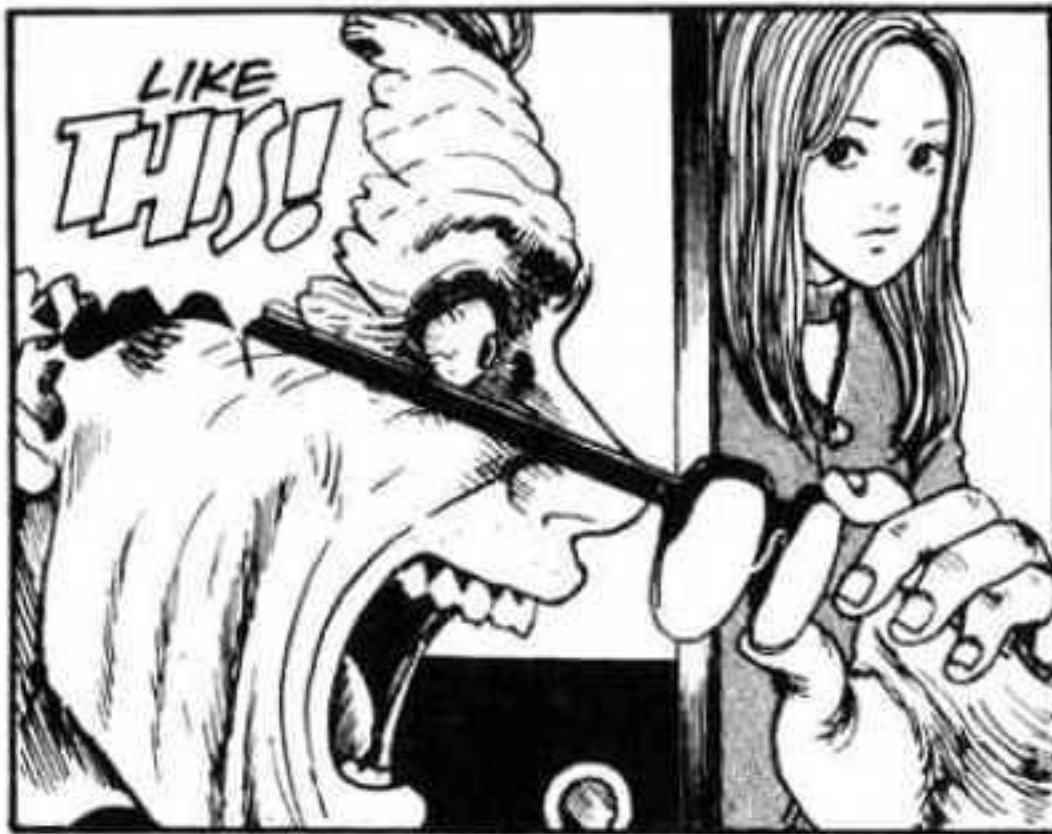
BUT WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH YOUR FATHER'S OBSESSION WITH SPIRALS?



I'M NOT SURE, BUT...







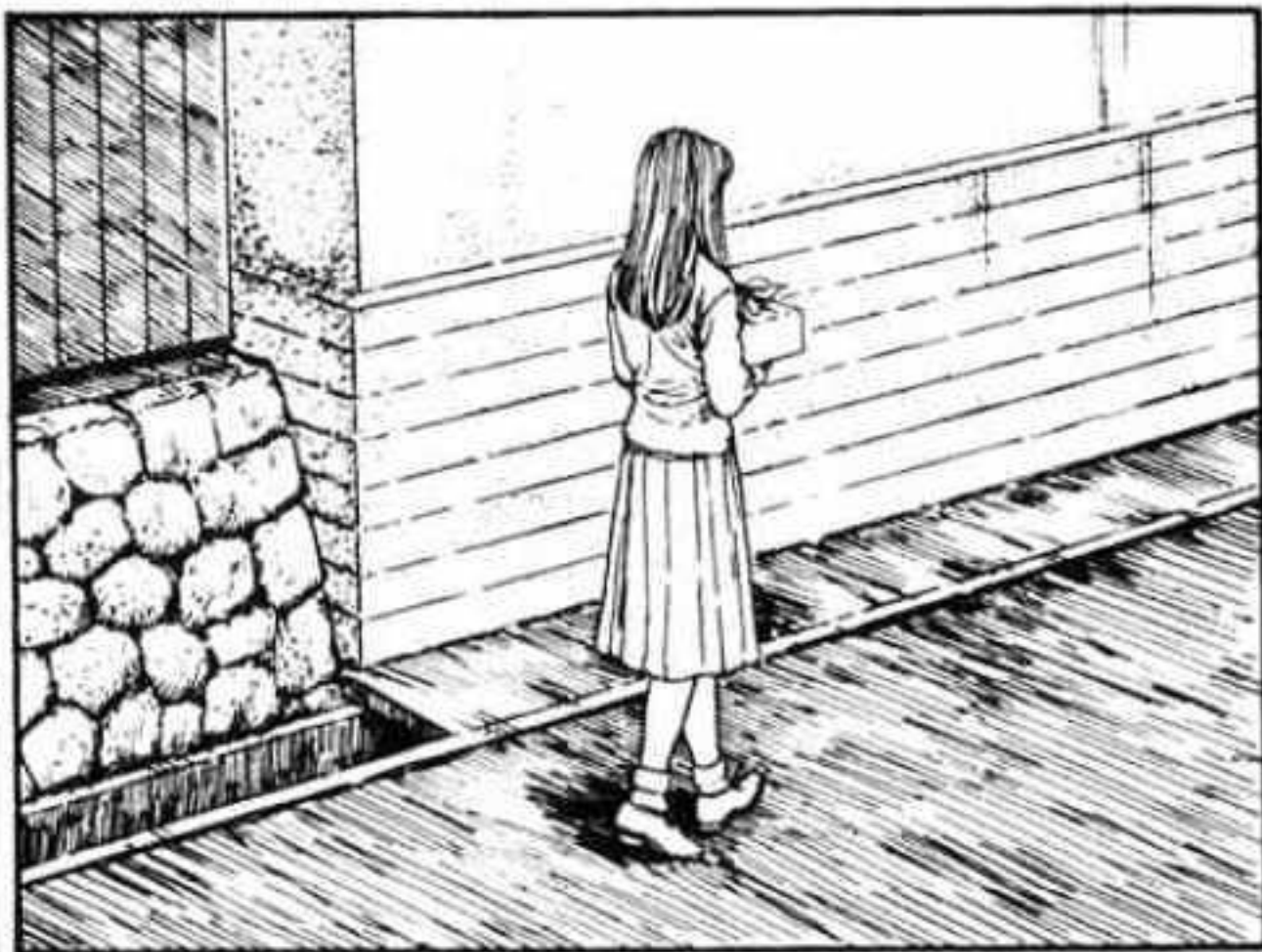


I
SAW
IT
MYSELF
NOW.

HA
HAHA
HAHA
HA!

HIS
EYES
WERE
SPINNING
AROUND
AND
AROUND
...

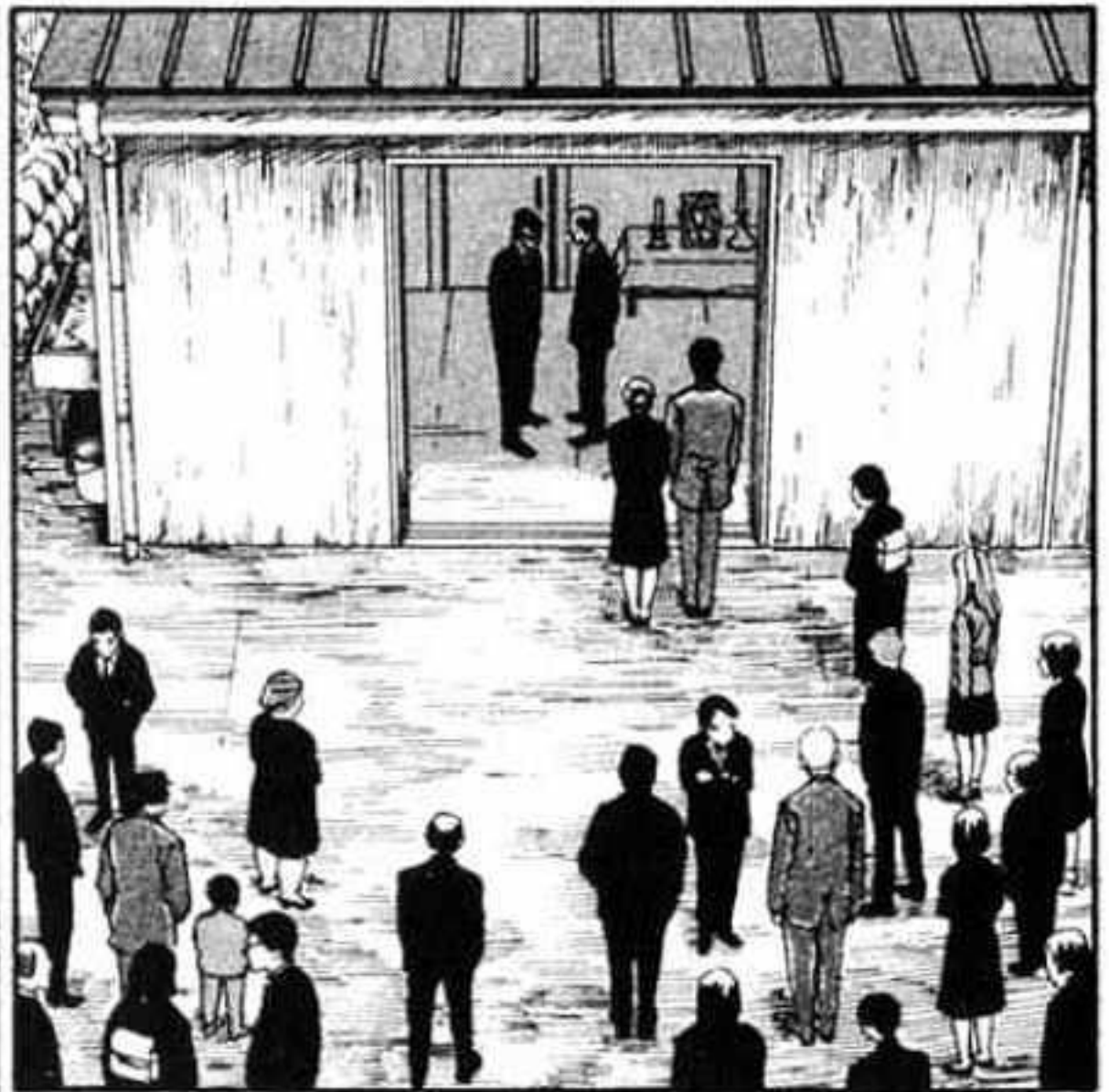
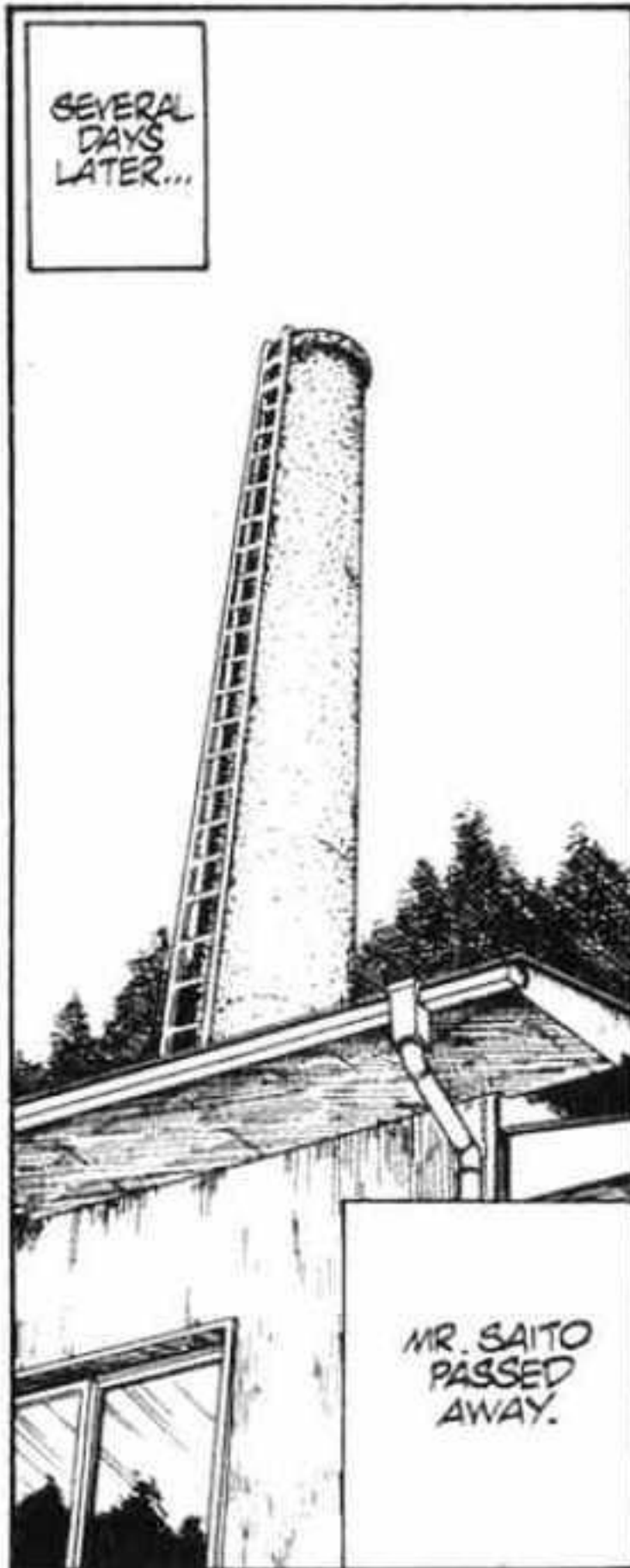
...SEPARATELY
...

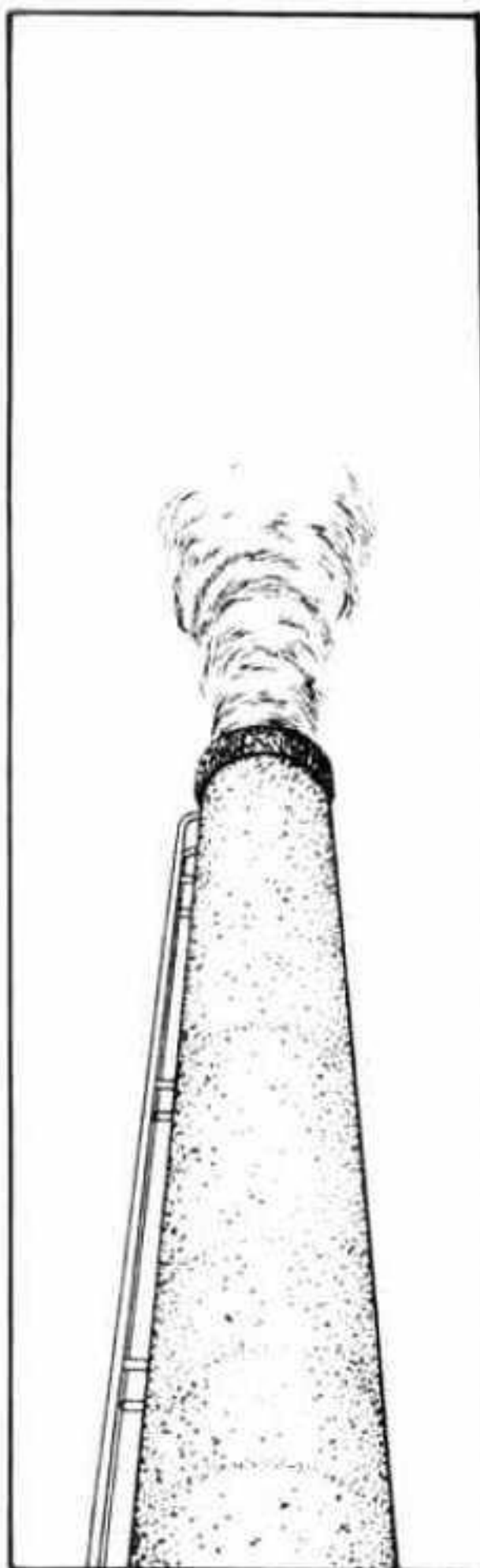












KIRIE...

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW MY FATHER DIED?

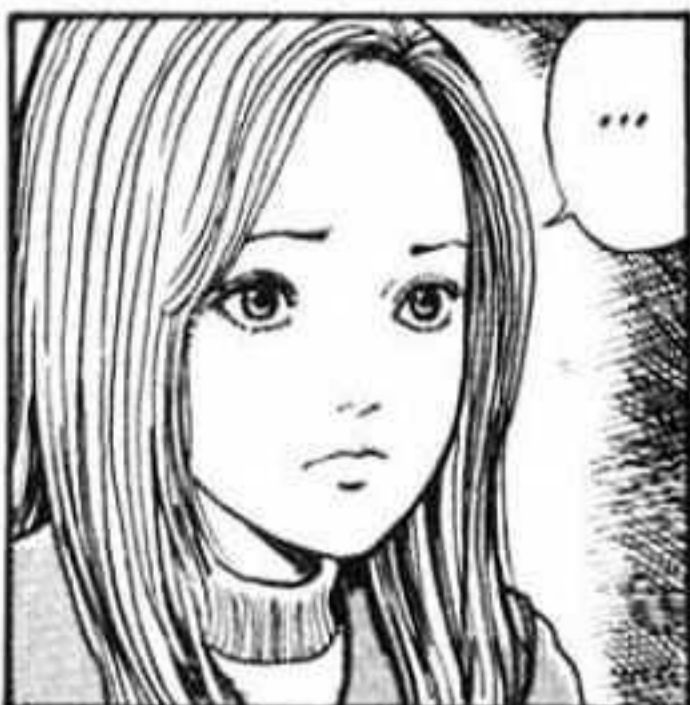


HM?

I THOUGHT HE FELL DOWN THE STAIRS?



BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENED!



MY MOM AND I WENT TO THE HOSPITAL. WE CONSULTED A DOCTOR WITHOUT TELLING HIM.



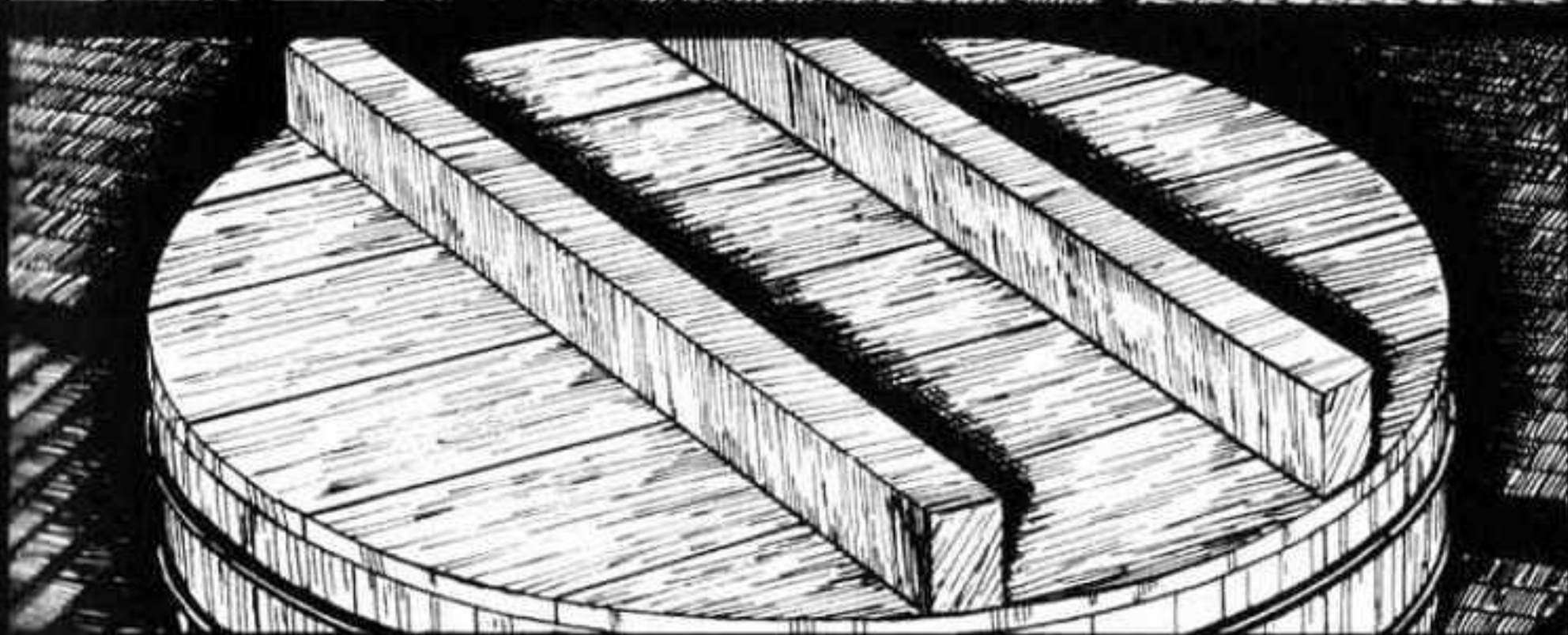
...WE COULDN'T FIND HIM...





WE FOUND THIS LARGE TUB WE'D NEVER SEEN...

...IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS STUDY.



I WONDER...

...WHAT THIS IS...





