



STORY & ART BY
JUNJI ITO

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GYO VOLUME 1

STORY & ART BY JUNJI ITO

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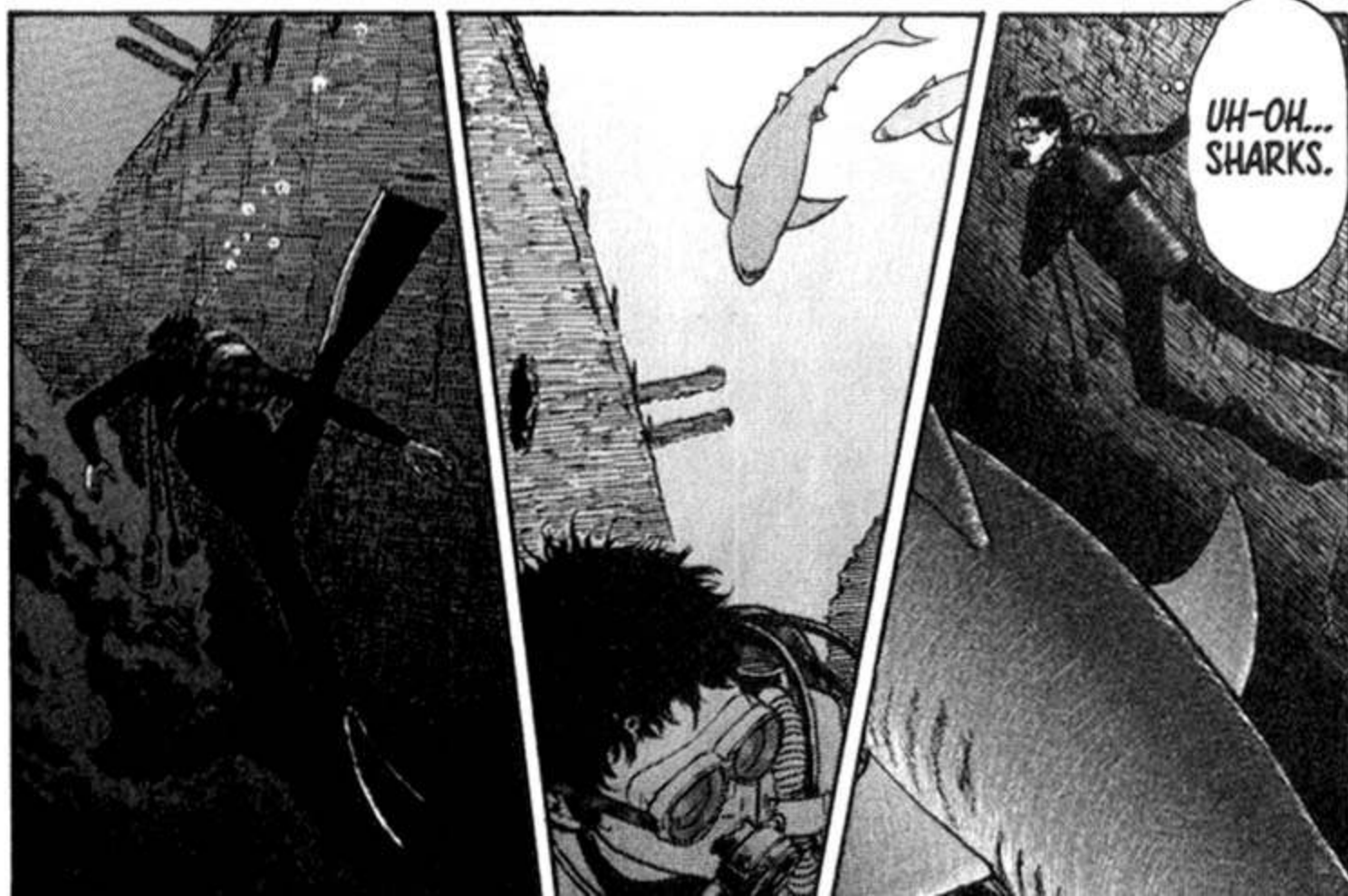
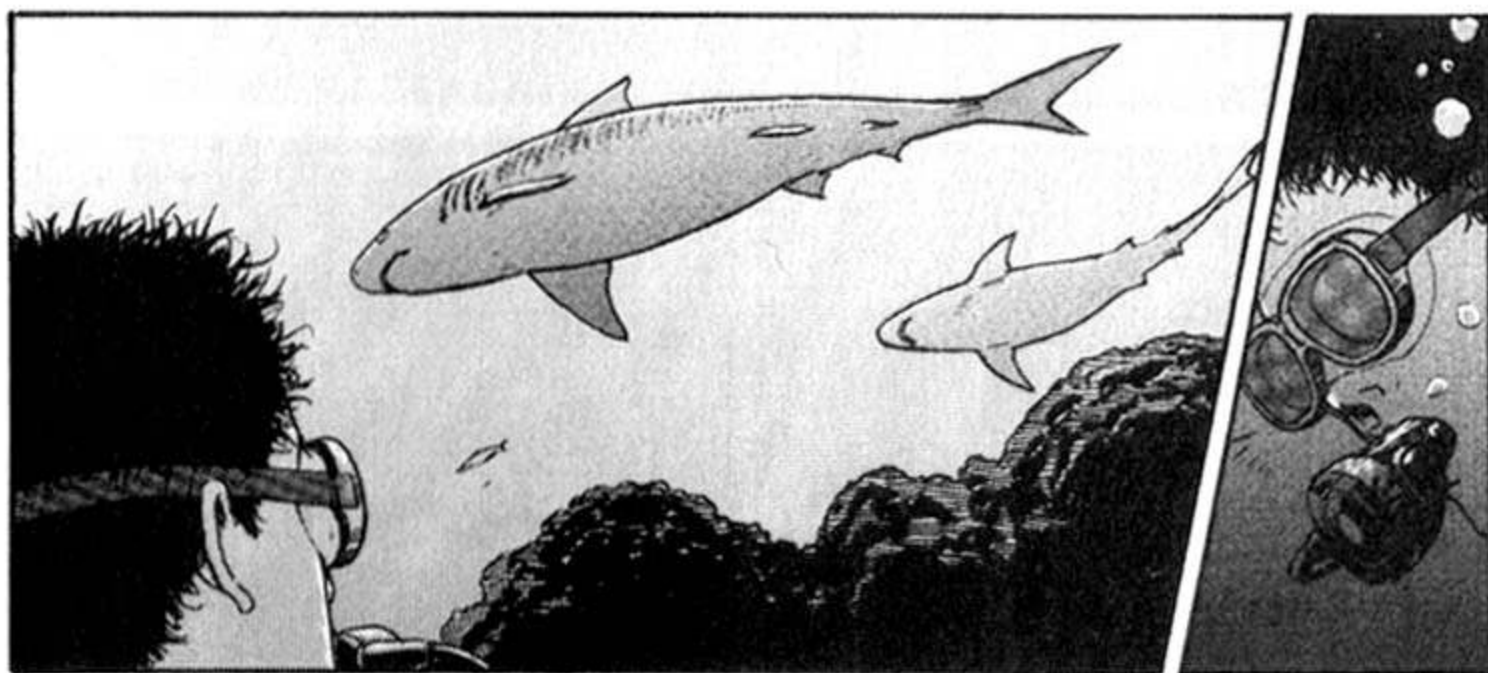
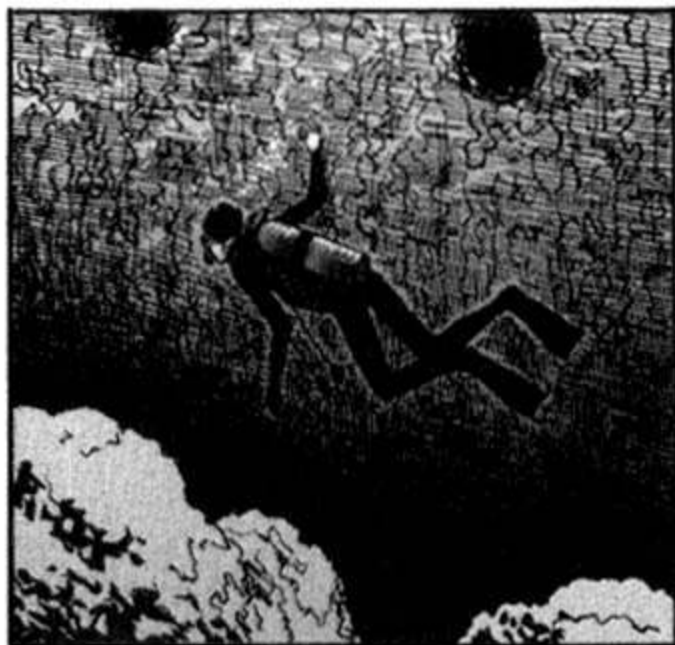
*The Death-
Stench of the
South Seas*











BLLRRRRBB



HM?



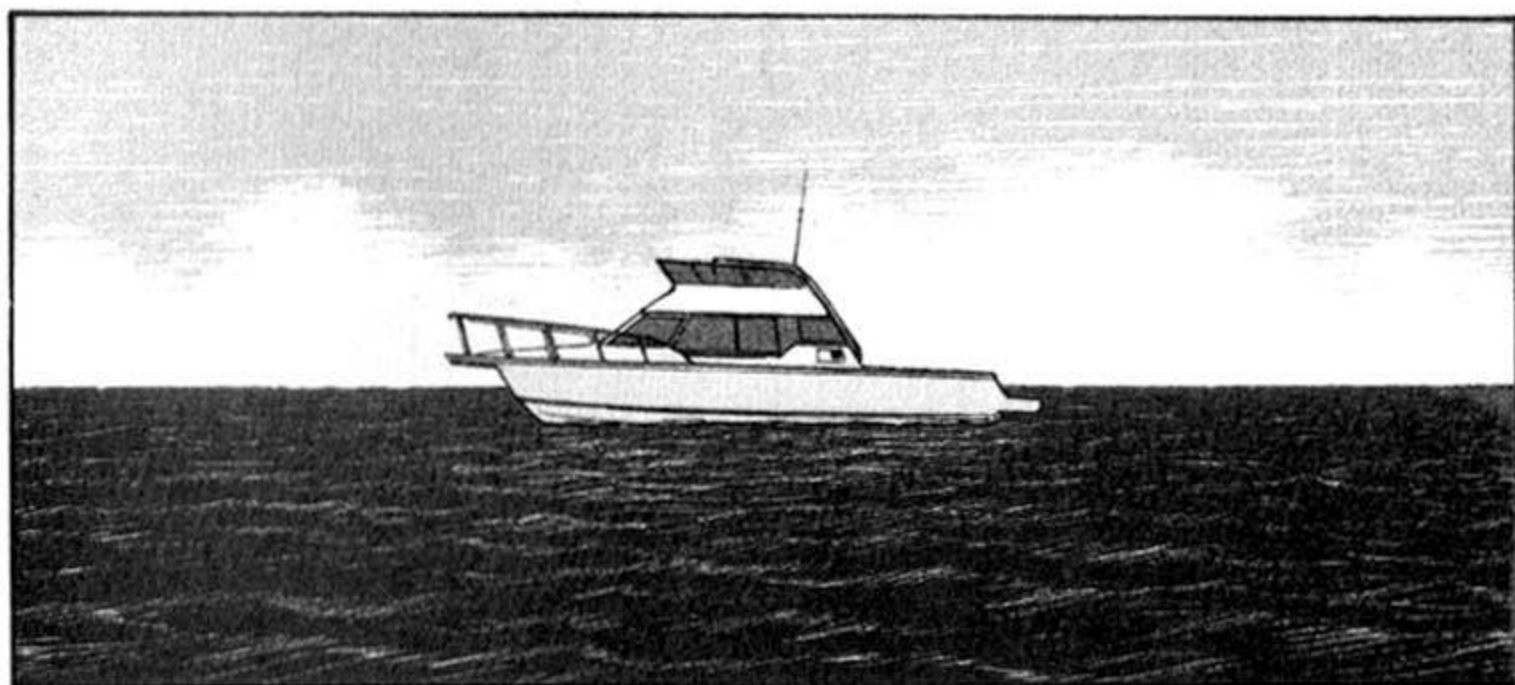
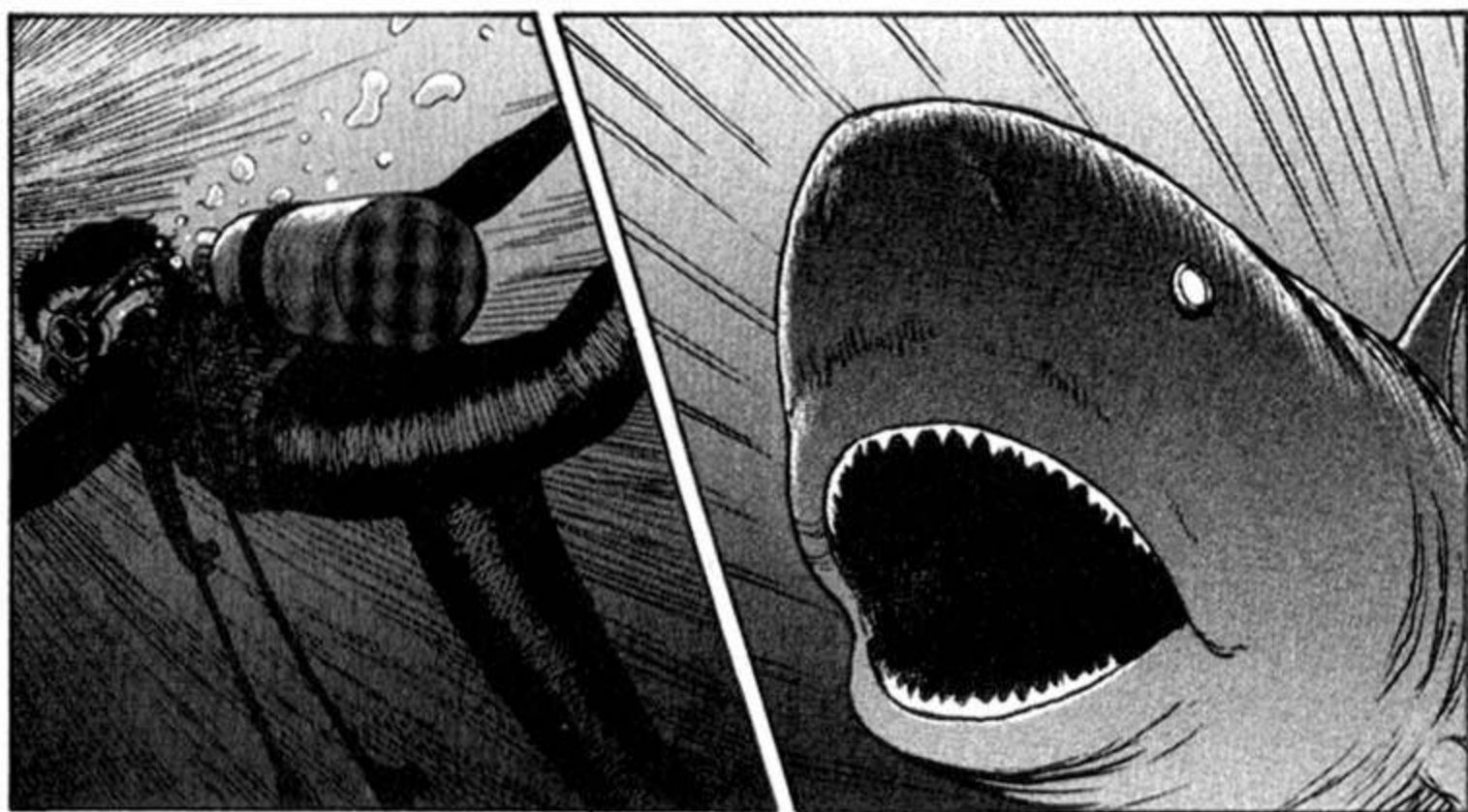
BLLRRRB

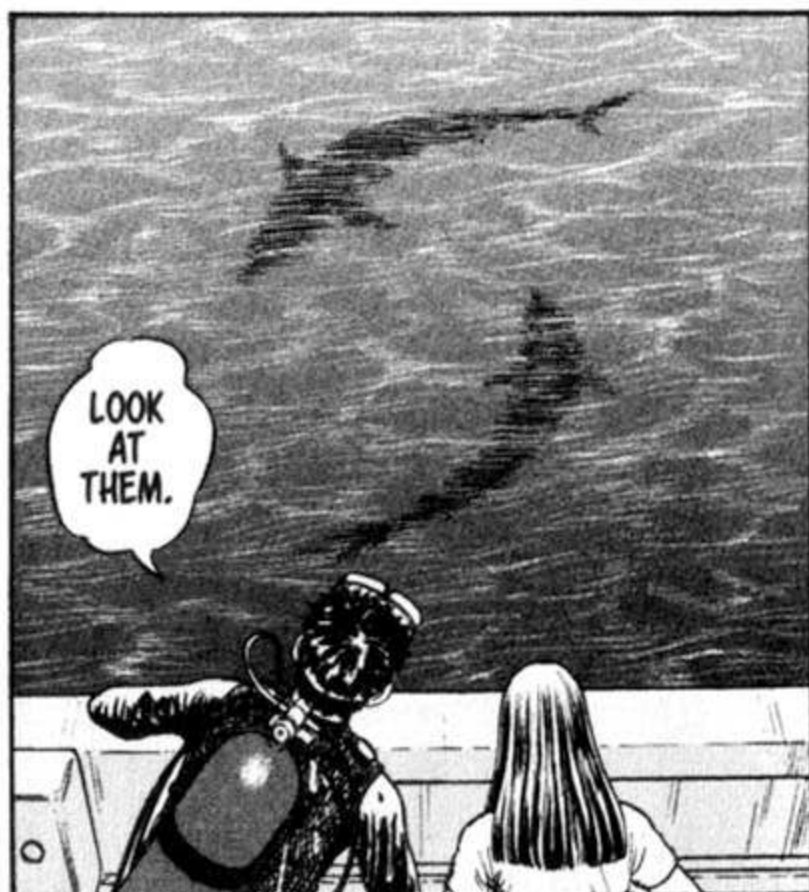


AH!?



WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT ...?







JESUS...
I NEARLY
GOT
KILLED...



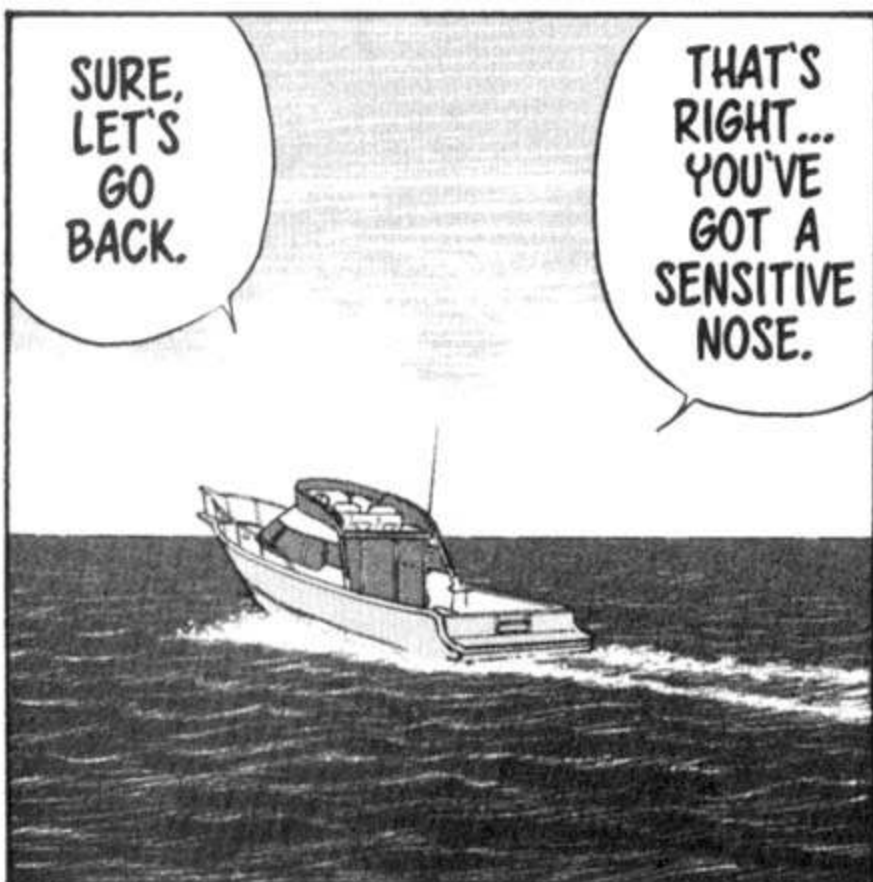
ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

I WANT TO
GO BACK
TO THE
HOUSE.



--BUT IT
ZOOMED PAST
ME LIKE A
TORPEDO. I
DIDN'T GET
A GOOD LOOK
AT IT, BUT IT
DIDN'T MOVE
LIKE A
FISH.

BEFORE
THE SHARKS
CAME, THIS
THING
NEARLY
HIT ME. IT
WASN'T
BIG--



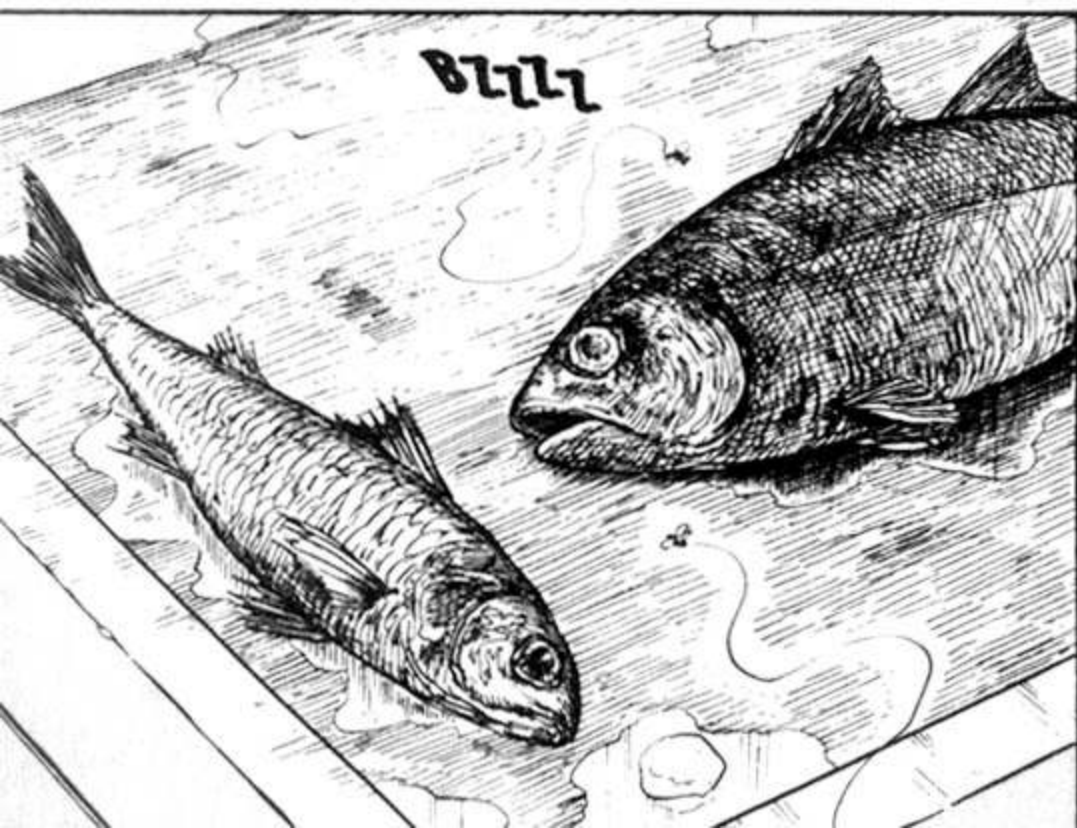
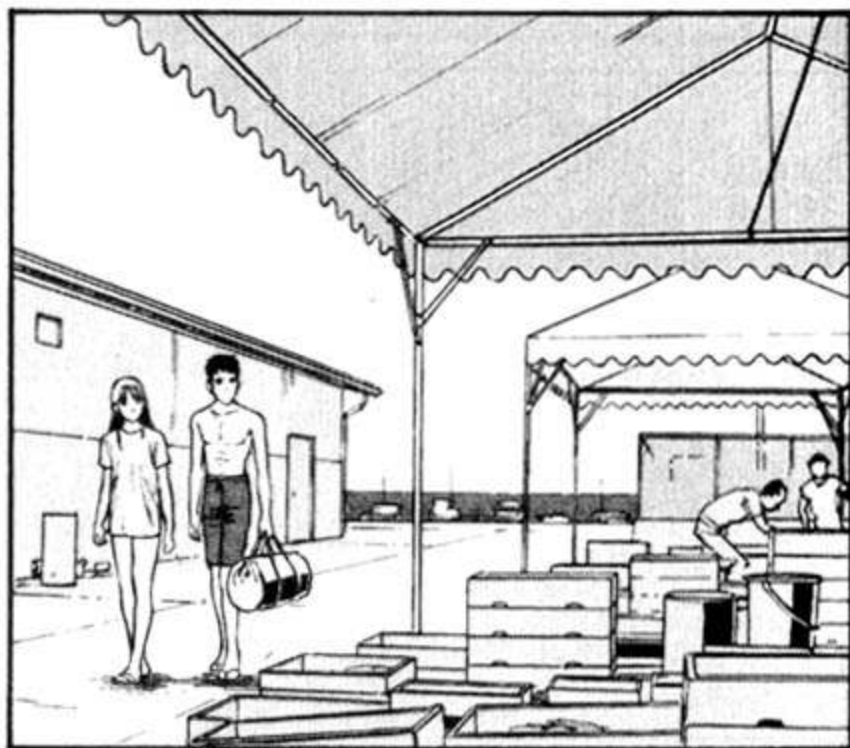
SURE,
LET'S
GO
BACK.

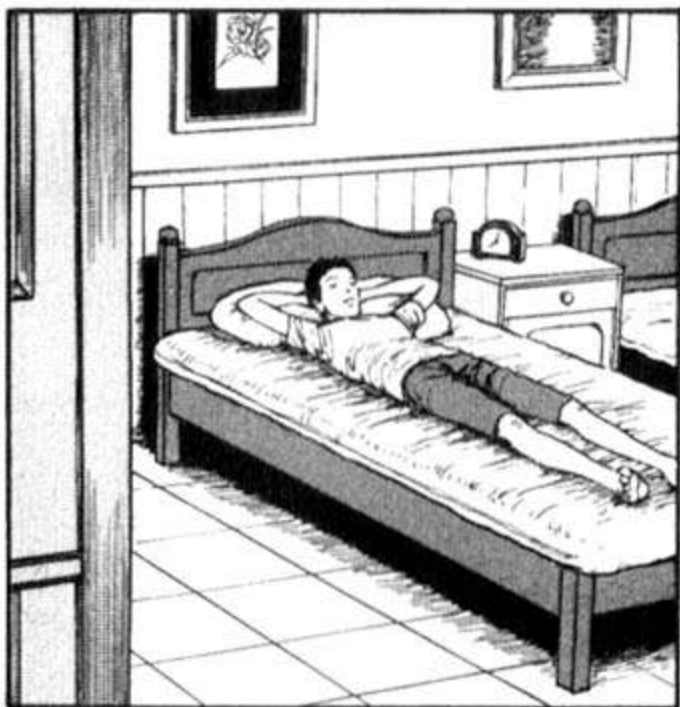
THAT'S
RIGHT...
YOU'VE
GOT A
SENSITIVE
NOSE.



THE
SMELL OF
THE SEA IS
MAKING ME
SICK.

NOT
REALLY.







YES I DID. I JUST PUT UP WITH IT EVER SINCE WE STARTED GOING OUT.

BUT YOU DIDN'T MIND KISSING ME BEFORE.

I HAVE BAD BREATH?
H A A H
JUST A LITTLE ...



BUT I DO BRUSH MY TEETH... TWICE A DAY ...



SO BRUSH YOUR TEETH FROM NOW ON, OKAY?

BUT I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY-MORE.



YOU JUST --



THAT WOULD BE NICE.



IF WE KISS TEN TIMES A DAY THEN I HAVE TO BRUSH TEN TIMES?




ARE YOU SAYING I HAVE TO DO IT EVERY TIME WE KISS?



GIVE ME A BREAK! I CAN'T DEAL WITH YOUR NEUROSES!!





IF IT WASN'T FOR ME, YOU WOULDN'T BE HERE IN OKINAWA. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT ANYMORE.



AND NOW ALL YOU DO IS COMPLAIN ABOUT THE SMELL, OR THAT THE FISH STINK...THE FISH STINK! WHAT A SURPRISE!



WE TOOK THIS TRIP BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO BE OUT AT SEA!!



YOU'RE JUST BEING SELFISH!



THIS HOUSE, THE BOAT, AND EVERYTHING ELSE HERE IS YOUR UNCLE'S!



BESIDES, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU OWN THIS PLACE.



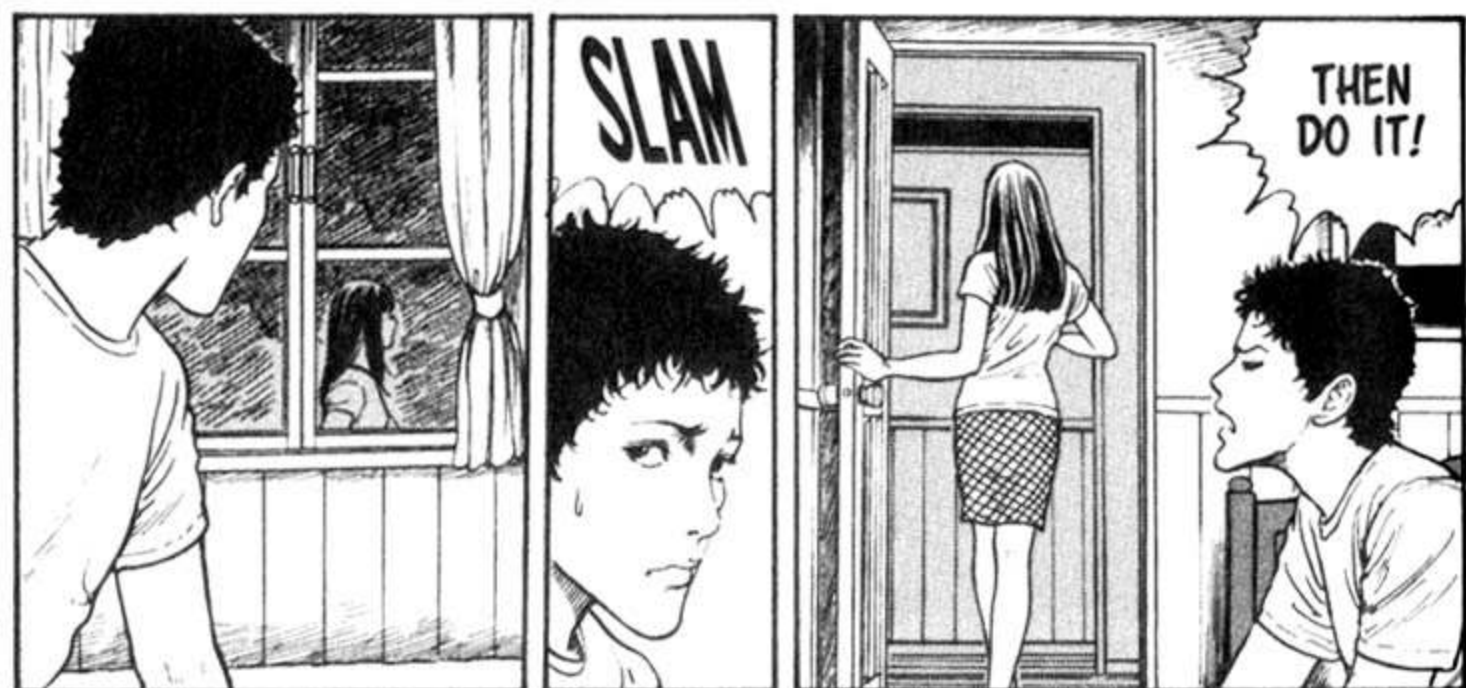
WHAT THE HELL'S YOUR PROBLEM?
DO YOU HAVE TO THROW A FIT EVERY TIME I ASK FOR SOMETHING?



OH, YOU'LL GET YOUR MONEY BACK!



I PAID FOR THE PLANE FLIGHT!





SHAAAA



DAMN IT...



...



KAORI!
WHERE ARE YOU?

KAORI!



WHAT WAS THAT?

WHAT'S THAT SMELL?



HM?



AIEEEE!

AH?

WOW...
IT
REALLY
REEKS...

WHAT'S
WRONG,
KAORI?

THERE
YOU
ARE.

I WAS
LOOKING
ALL OVER
TOWN FOR
YOU.

WHAT?
IS IT A
SNAKE?

TADASHI...THERE'S
SOMETHING IN
THE GRASS...

SHFFFFF





IN FACT...
IT'S NOT
JUST
STICKING
TO US...

I
KNOW.



TADASHI!
DO
SOMETHING!!



IT'S
INSIDE
THE
HOUSE...

IT
SMELLS
HERE,
TOO...



...GIVE
ME A
BREAK.

...WHILE
YOU GO AND
BUY AIR
FRESHENER!
ALL RIGHT?

OKAY?
I'M GOING
TO TAKE
ANOTHER
SHOWER...

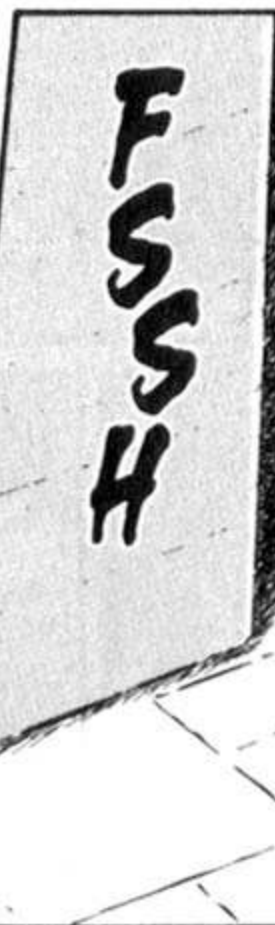


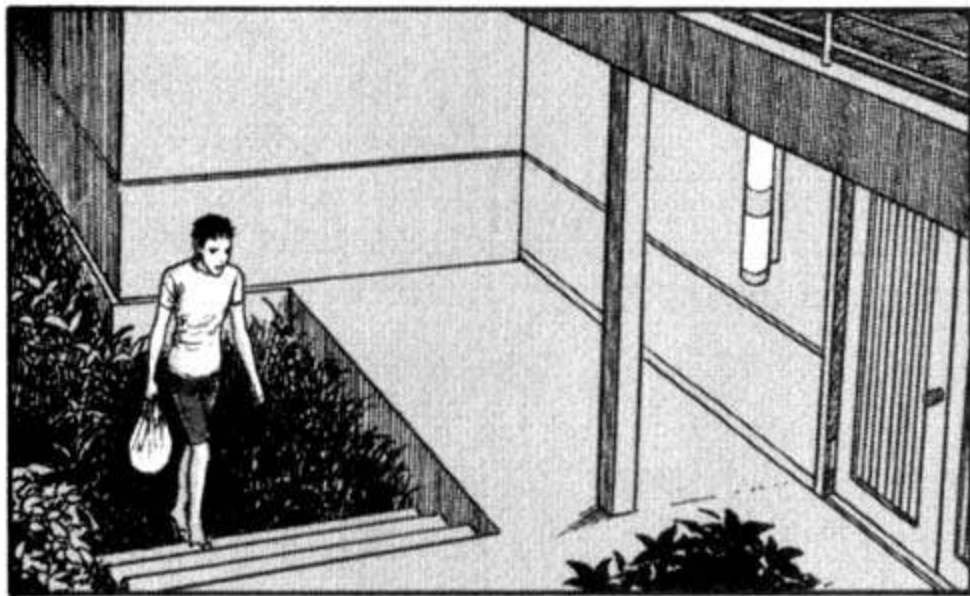
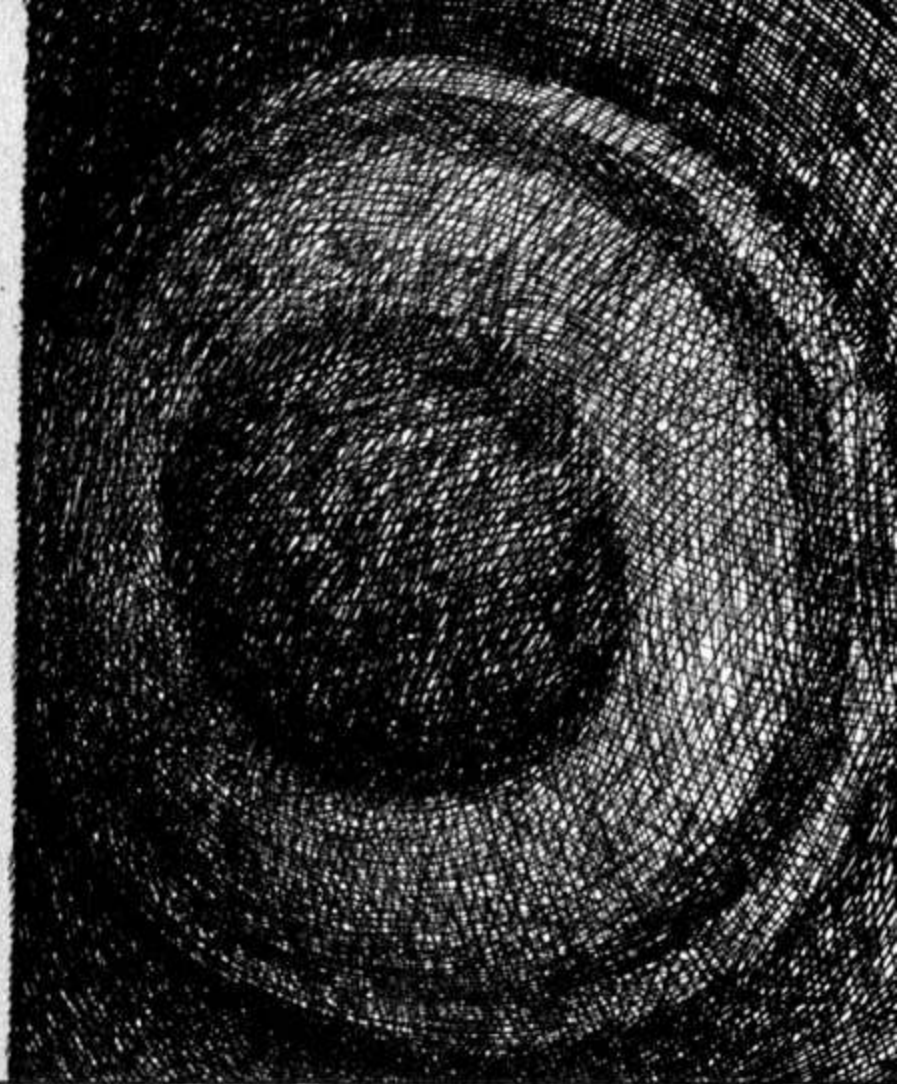
THERE'S
NOTHING
I CAN DO
ABOUT THIS
SMELL...

GO BUY
SOME DIS-
INFECTANT!
SOME AIR
FRESHENER!
ANYTHING!



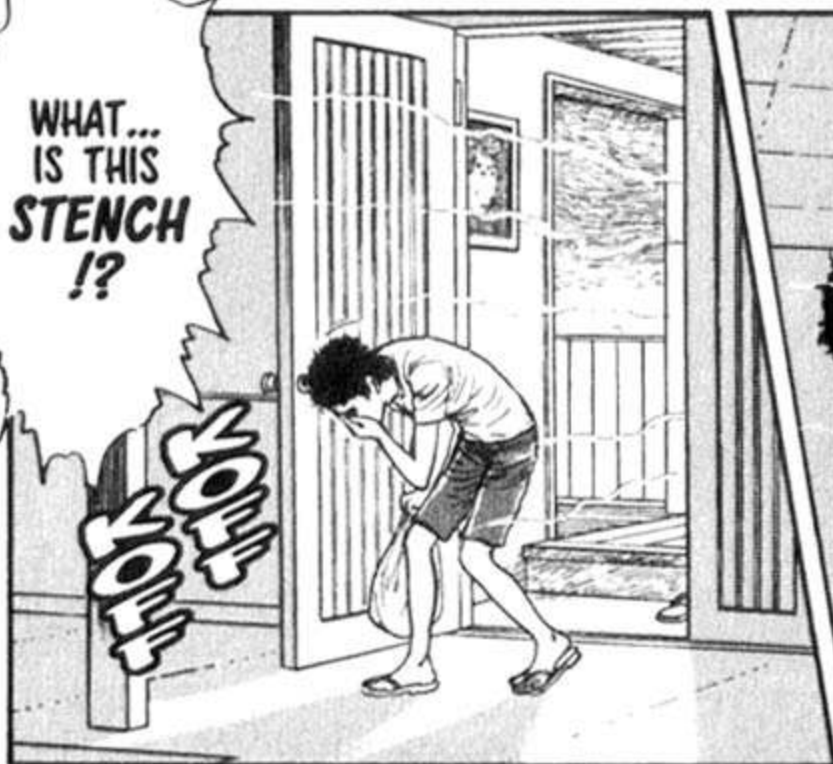






WHAT...
IS THIS
STENCH
!?

KOH
KOH
KOH



AAGH!



POSH

KAORI!
WHERE
ARE
YOU!?



HEY...
KAORI?

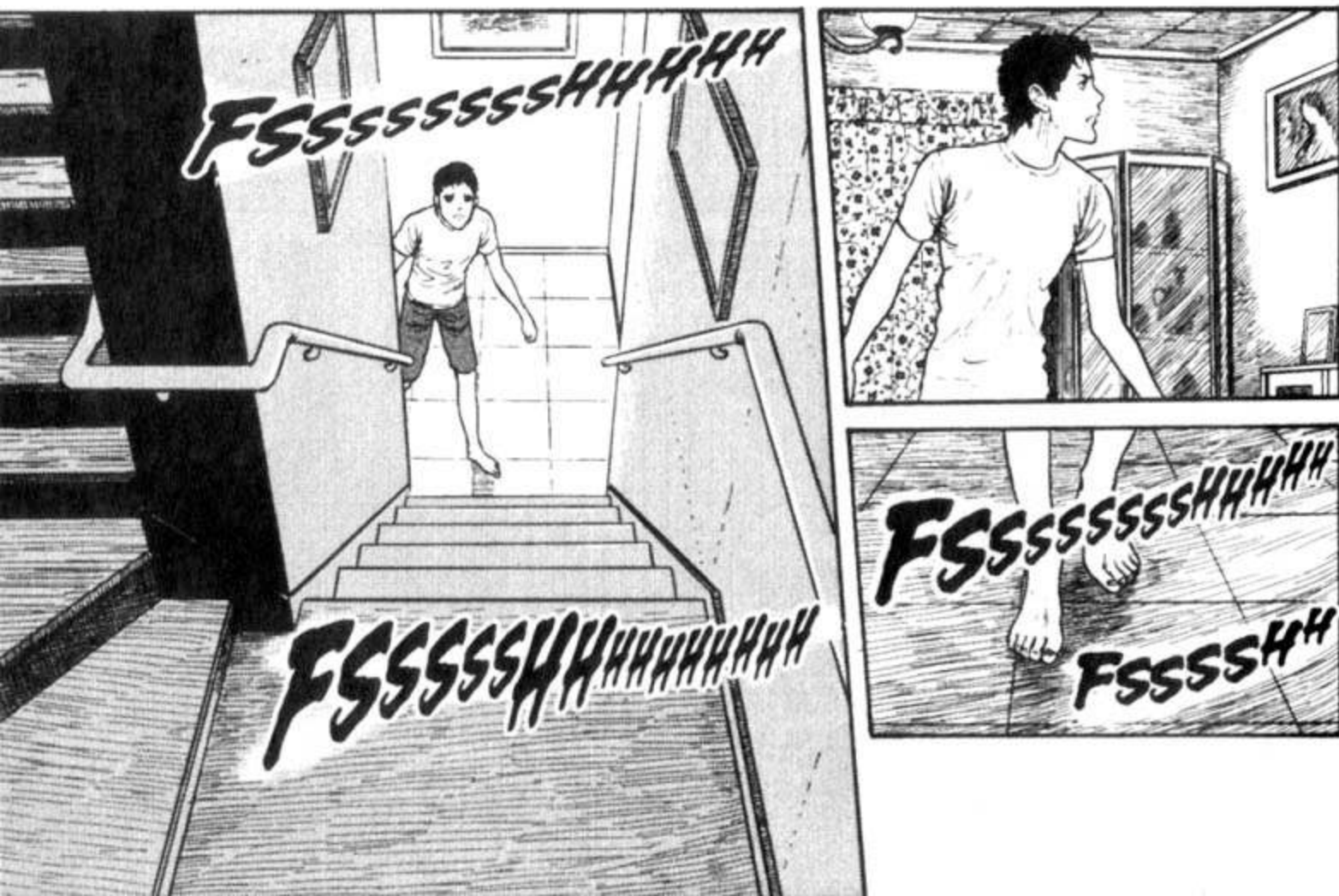


I'M
GETTING
DIZZY...

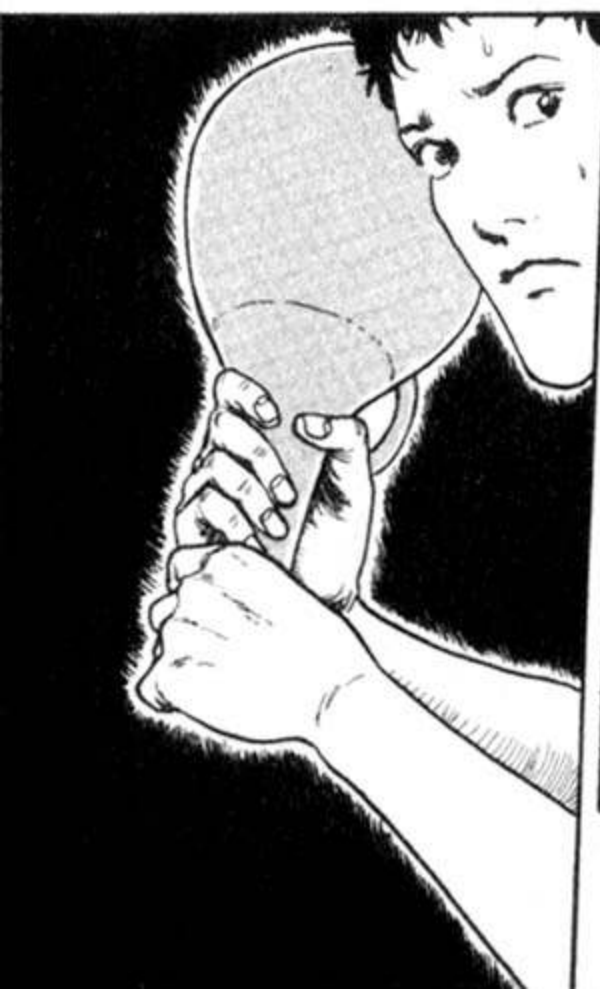
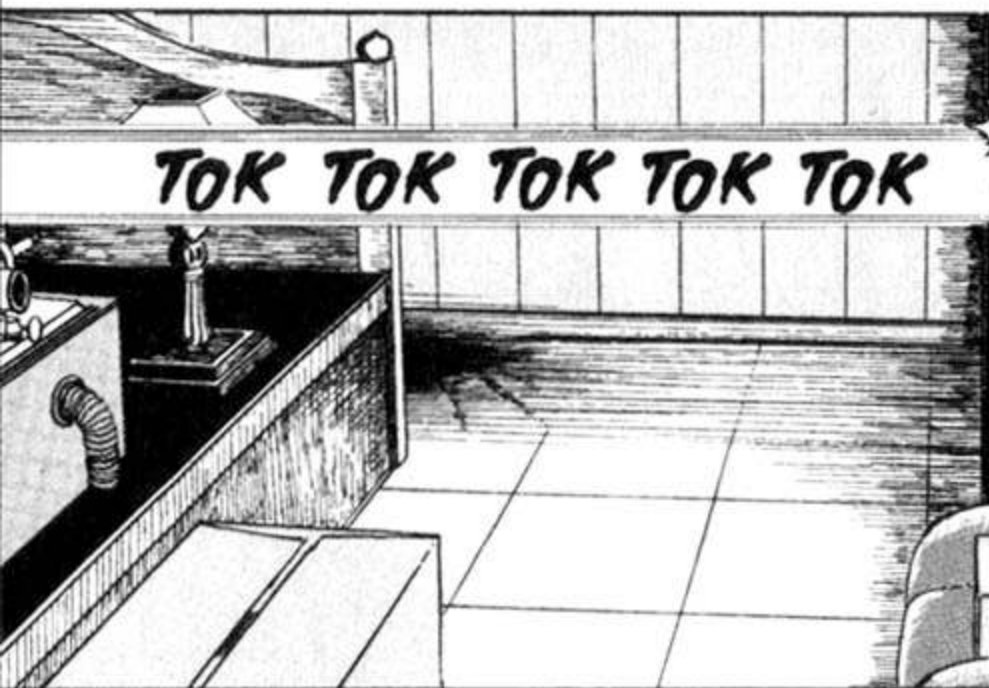
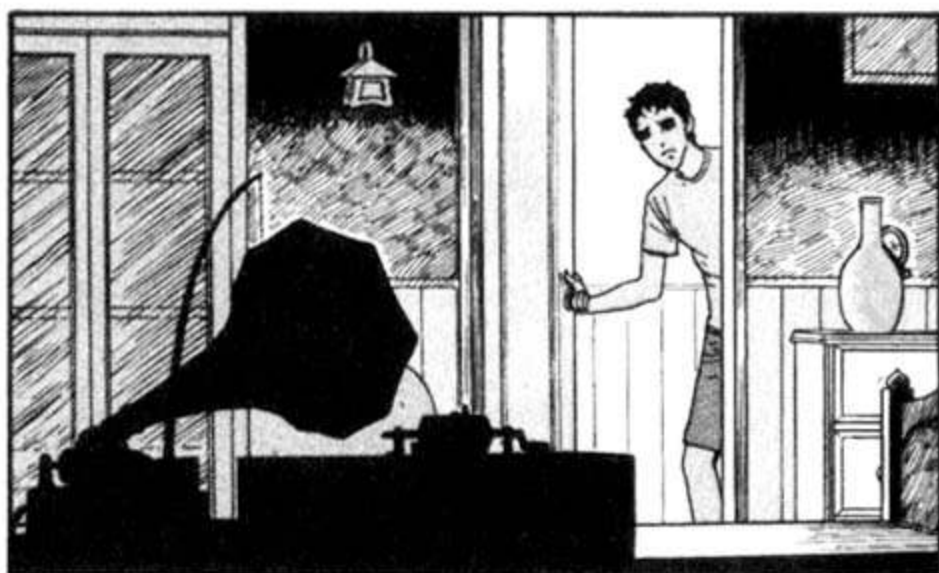
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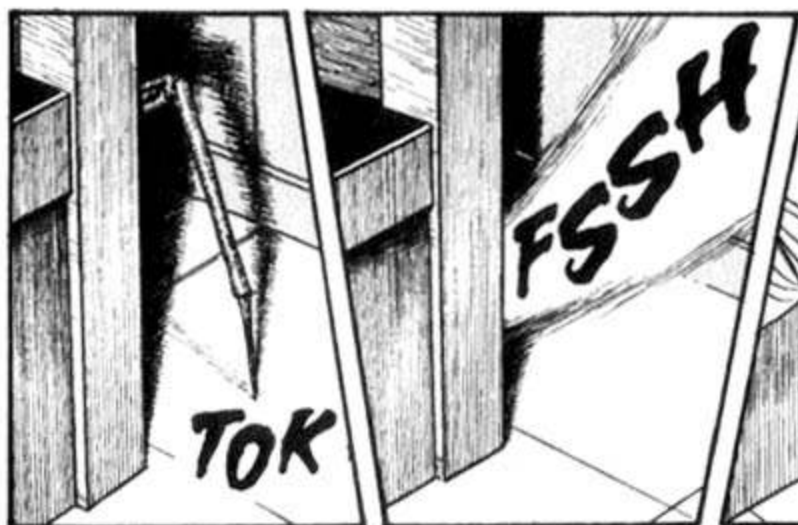
















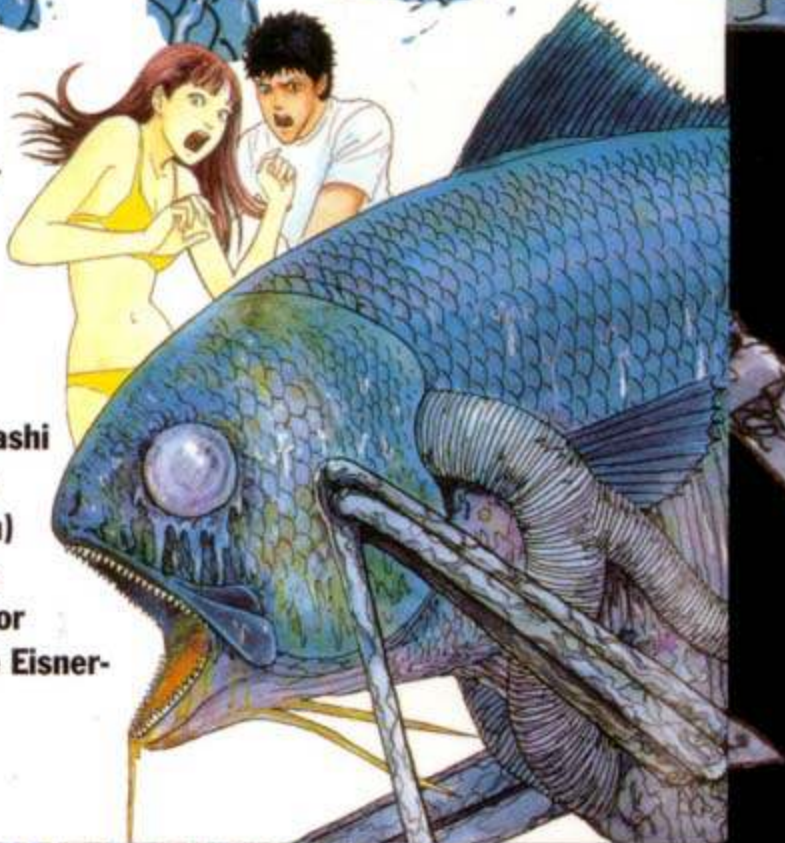
VIZ Graphic Novel

\$12.95 USA/\$20.95 CAN

editor's choice

GRO

Something is rotten in Okinawa...the floating stench of death hangs over the island...What is it? A strange, legged fish appears on the scene...so begins Tadashi and Kaori's spiral into the horror (and stench) of the sea. Here is the long-awaited new horror manga series from the Eisner-nominated creator of *Uzumaki*, Junji Ito.



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This book reads from right to left.

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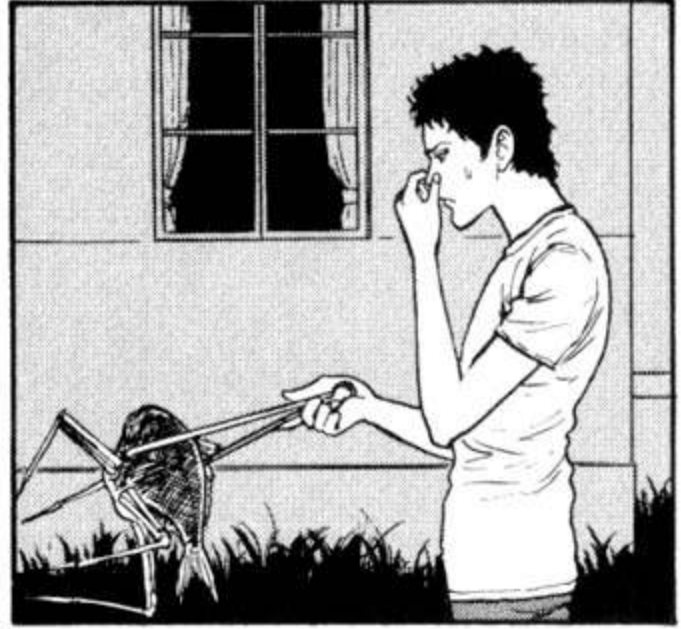
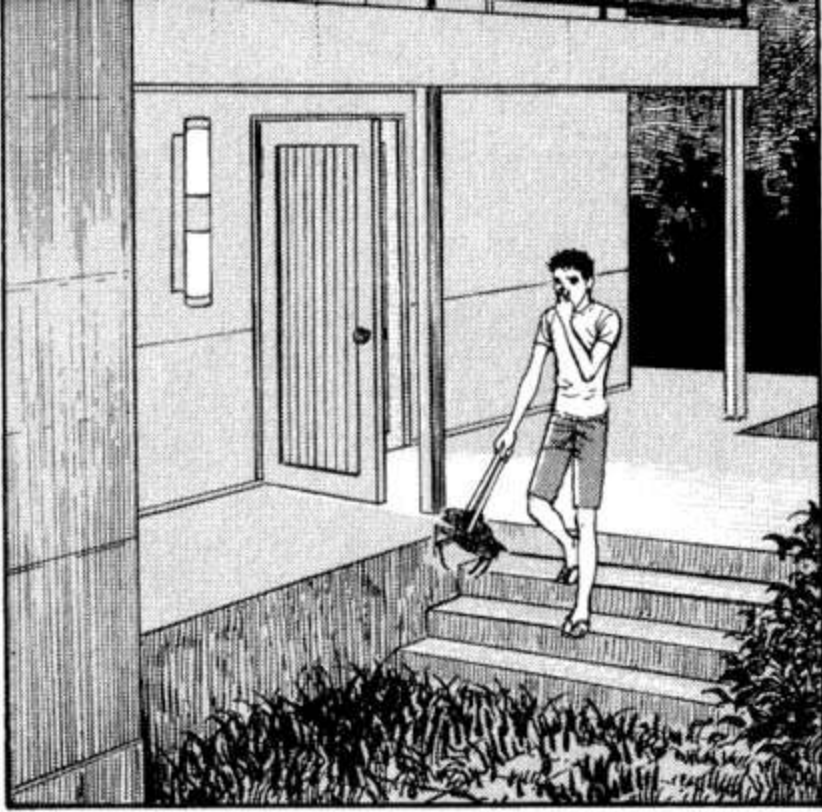
VIZ



Story & Art by Junji Ito
From the creator of UZUMAKI

2 / *The Death-
Stench in the Air*









YEAH, DON'T WORRY.



REALLY!?!
SO IT'S GONE?

IT'S ALL RIGHT, I TOOK CARE OF IT.



TADASHI...
A MONSTER!
IT WAS A MONSTER!

KAORI!
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!



THE SMELL...
GET RID OF THIS SMELL.

I WILL, JUST HOLD ON, AND I'LL GET RID OF WHAT'S CAUSING IT.



SHWIP



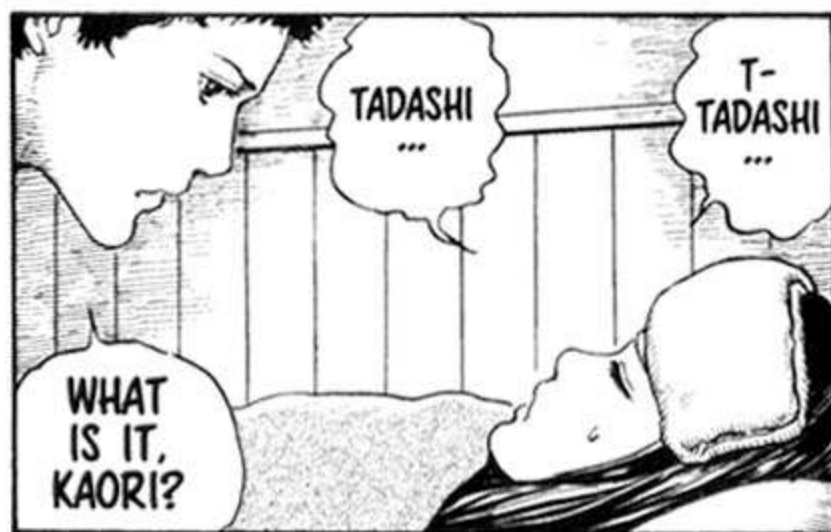
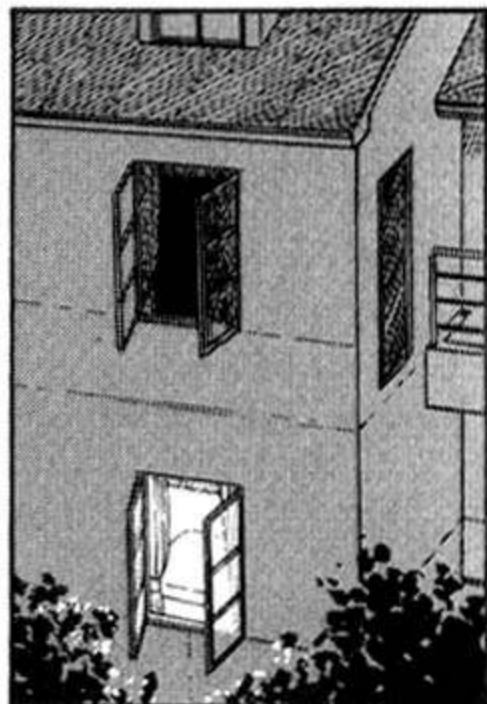
THOP



THW

THW







WE MIGHT HAVE DISCOVERED A NEW SPECIES, LIKE THE LOCH NESS MONSTER, OR THE TSUCHI-NO-KO. THIS COULD BE A BIG DEAL.

I DON'T THINK SO... BESIDES, I CAN'T JUST TOSS IT OUT.



...



GET RID OF IT... NOW!!

DON'T BE STUPID!! YOU HAVE TO GET RID OF THAT THING!!



WHAT...? IT'S GONE!!

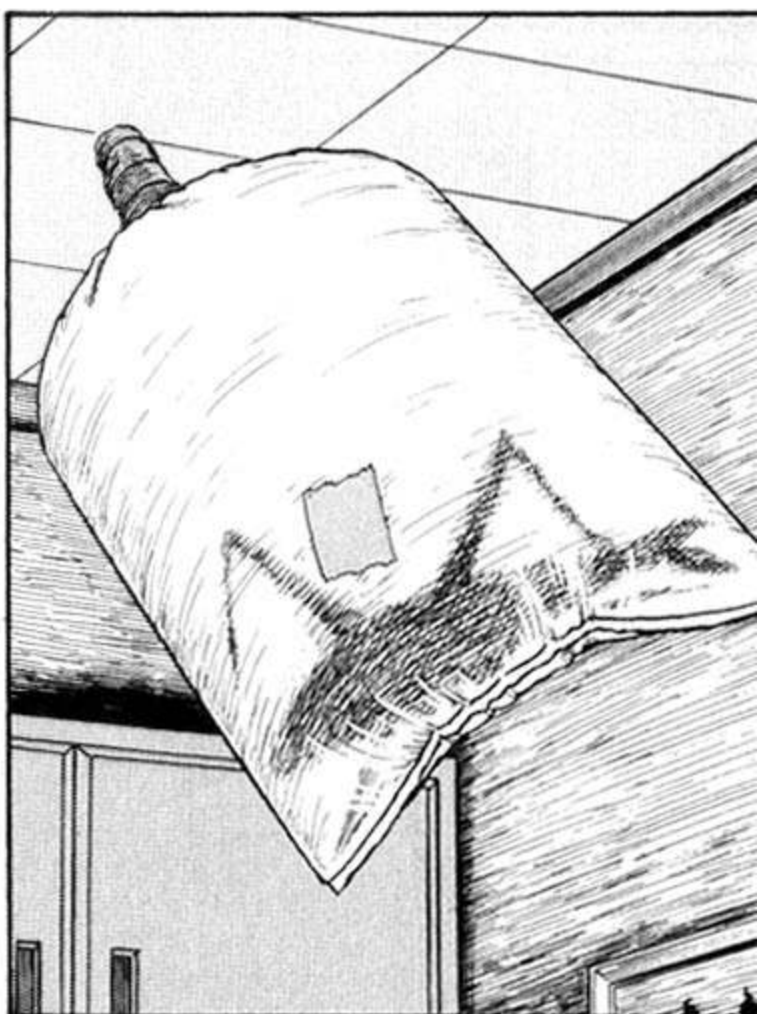
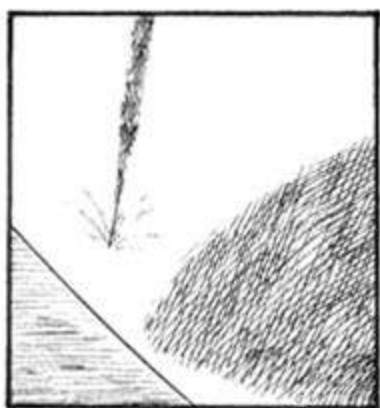


I'LL MOVE IT FARTHER AWAY...



HUH !?



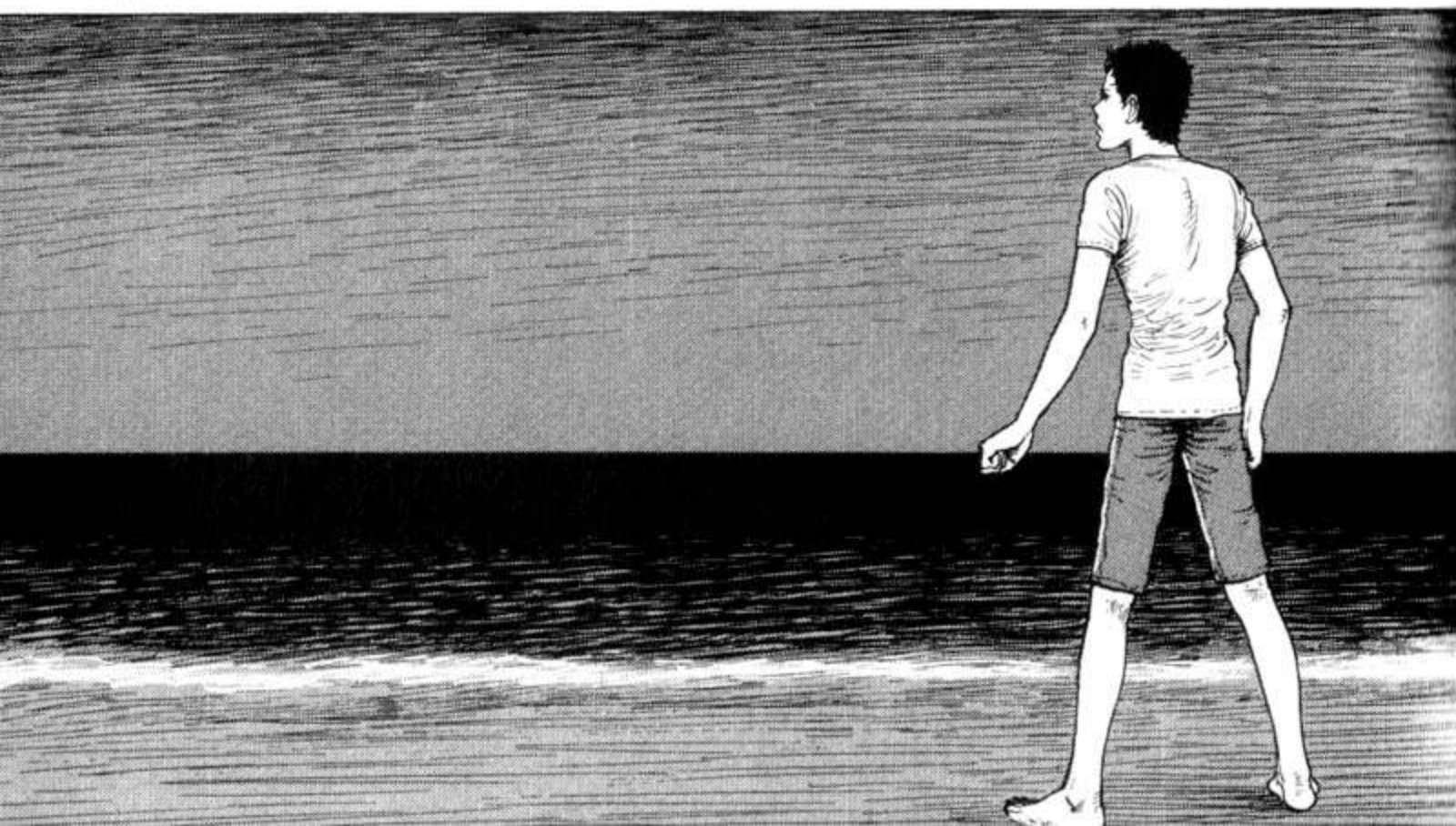




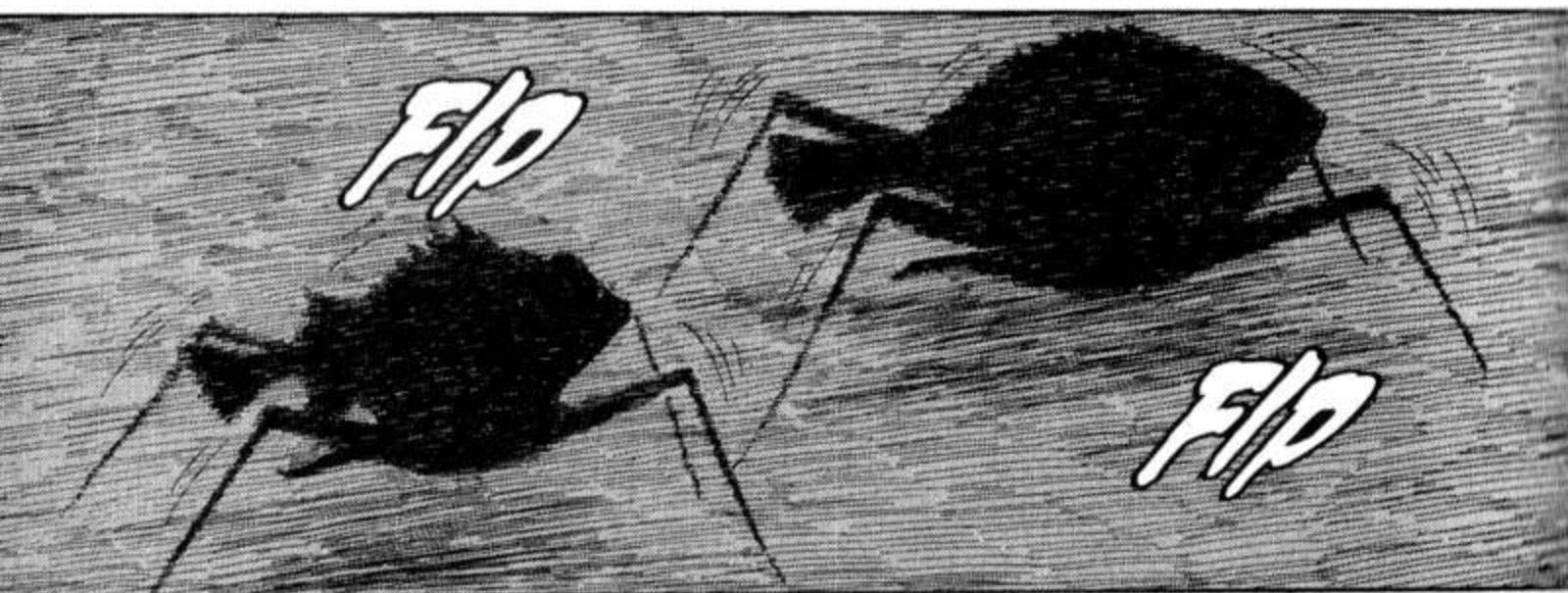


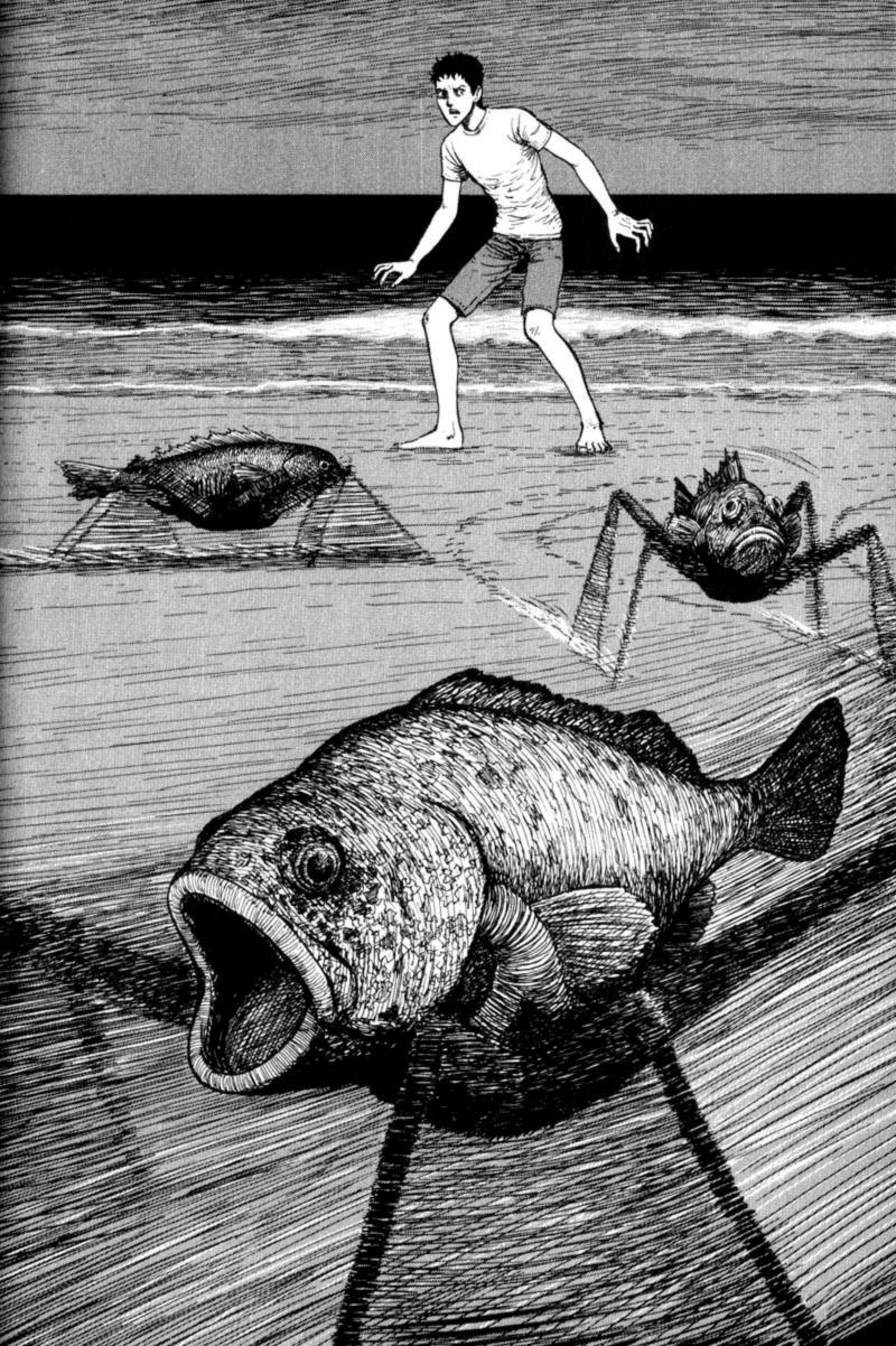








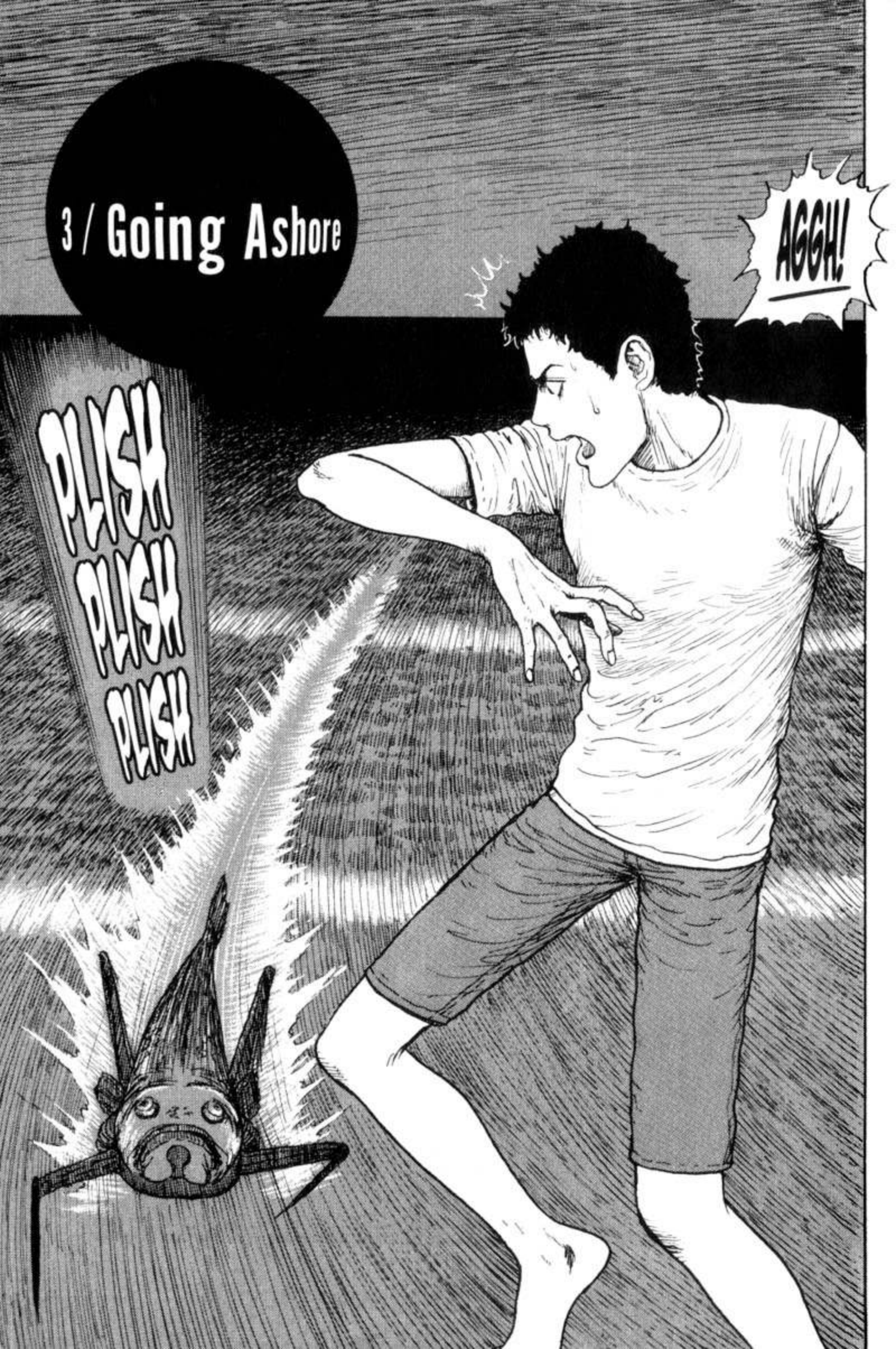


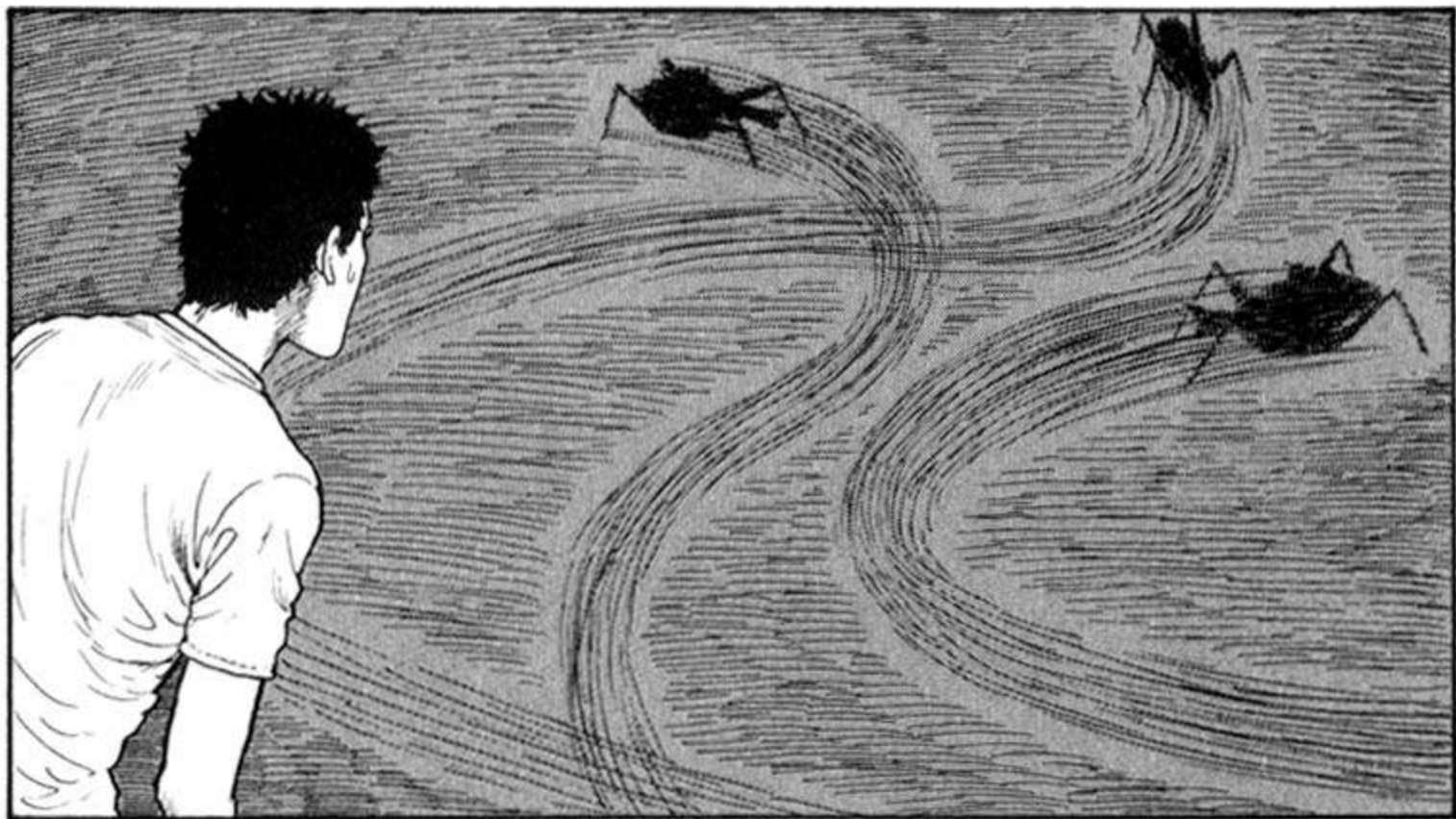


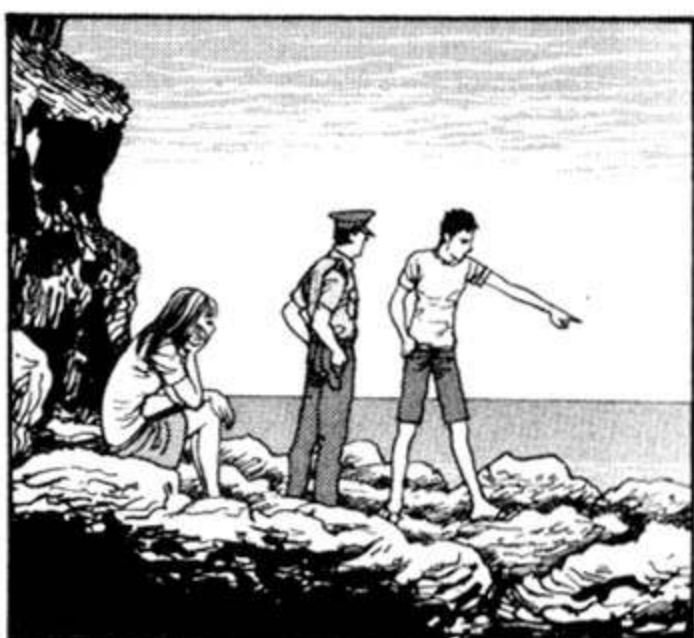
3 / Going Ashore

AGGH!

PLISH
PLISH
PLISH









THANKS TO YOU, HE WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME!



WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL HIM!?

KAORI!



DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT ME AT ALL!?

AND YOU HAVE THE NERVE TO DRAG ME OUT UNDER THE SUN?



GIVE ME A BREAK!

I STILL HAVE A FEVER, YOU KNOW!!

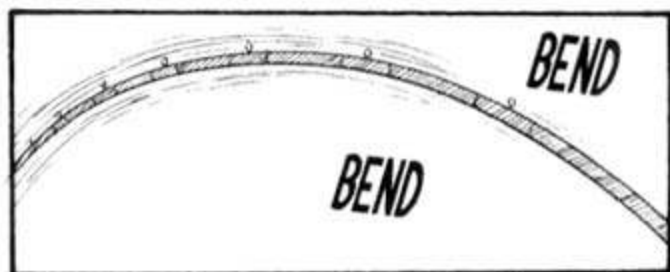
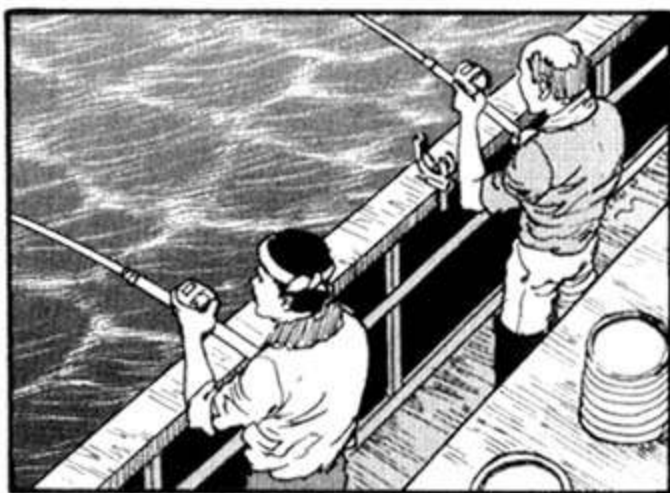
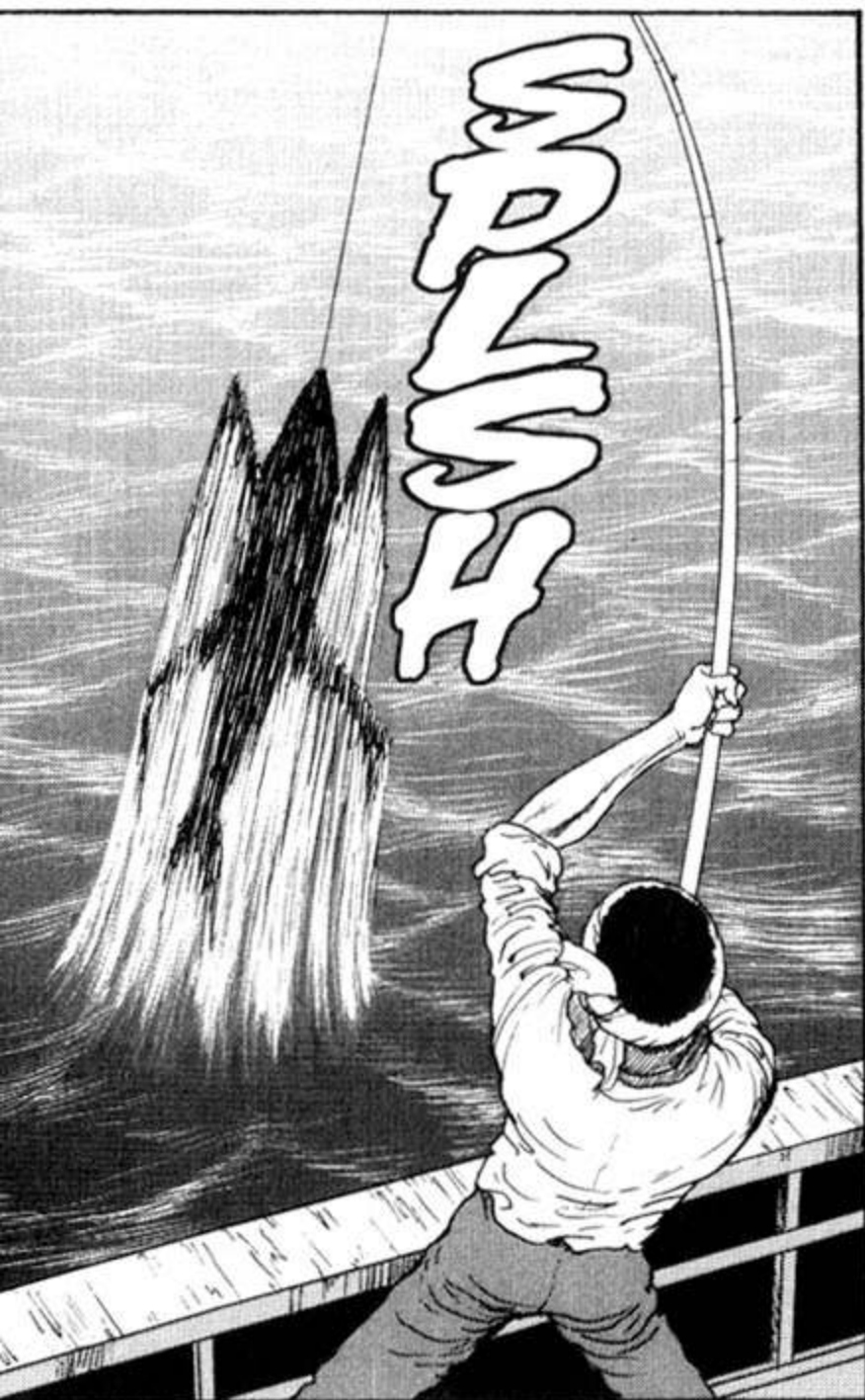
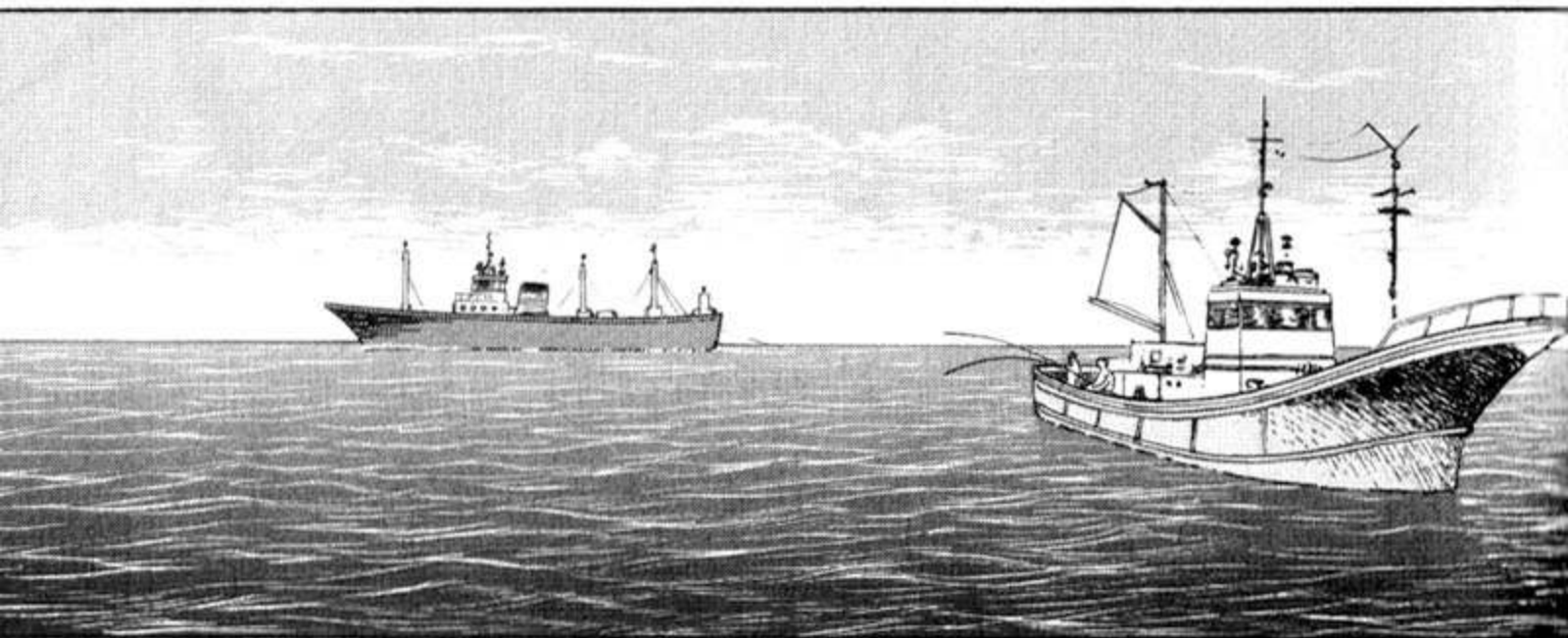


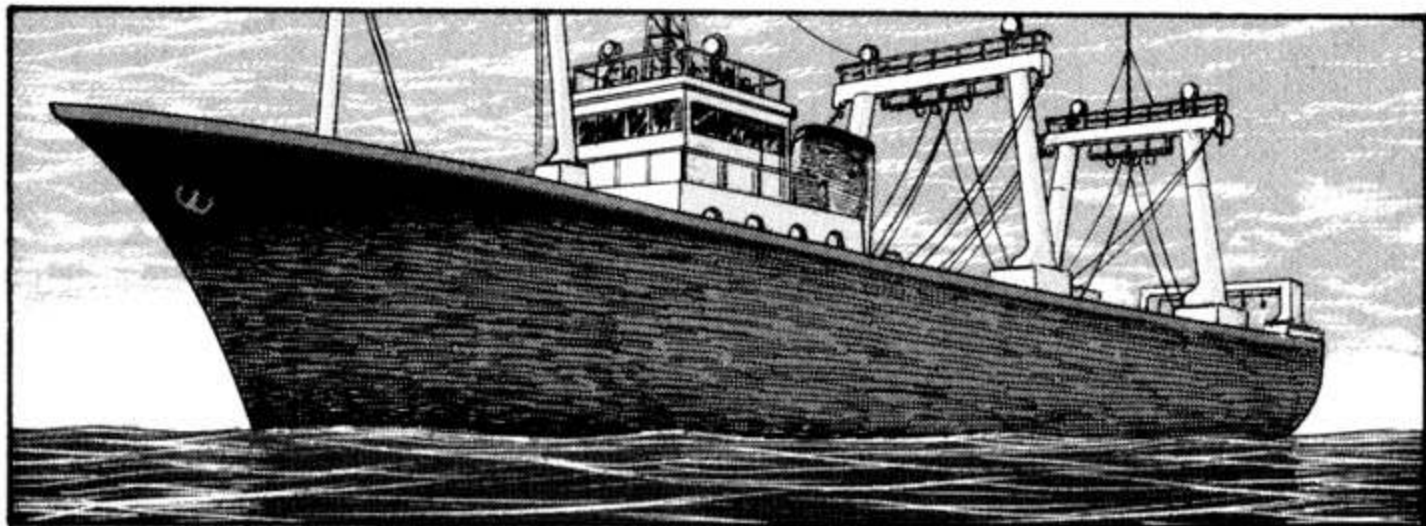
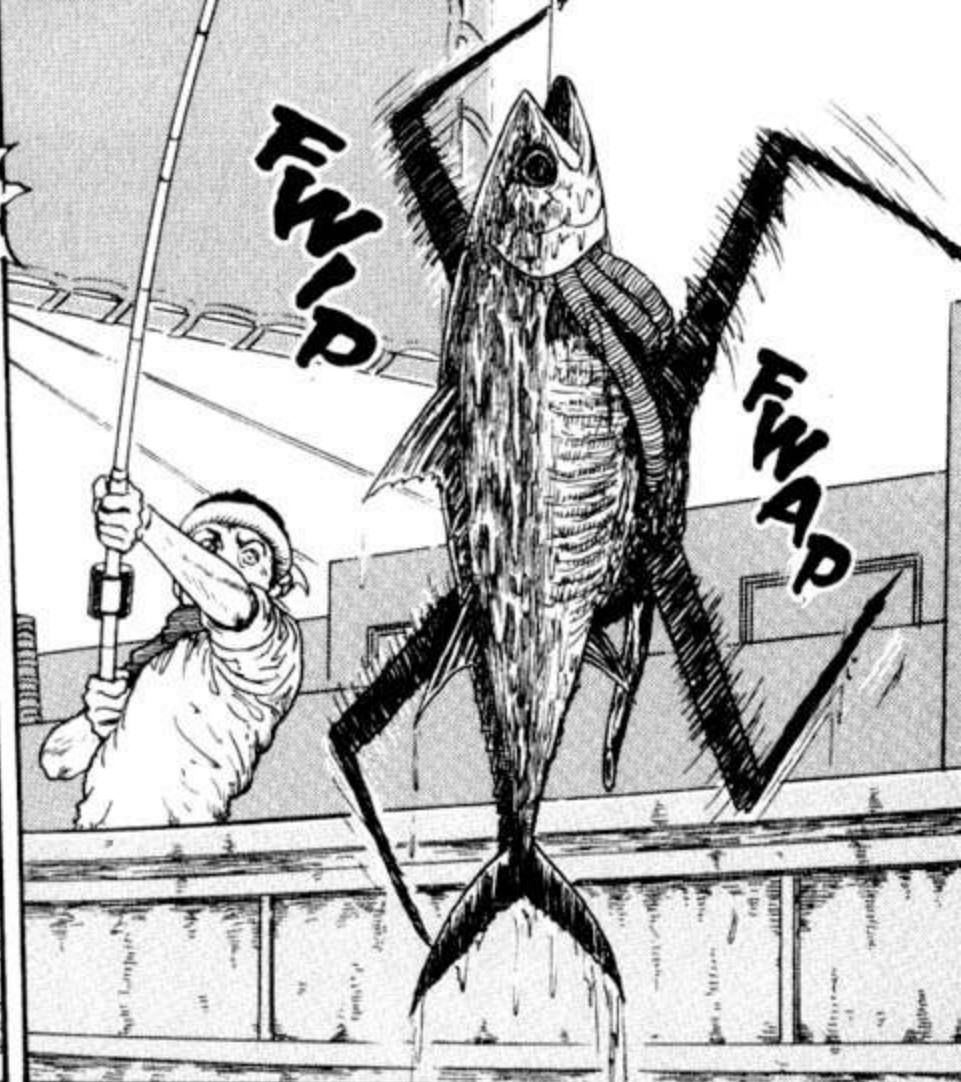
COME ON!!

H-HEY... KAORI, ARE YOU OKAY?



STAGGER











STOP THEM!



WHUD

WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY!?



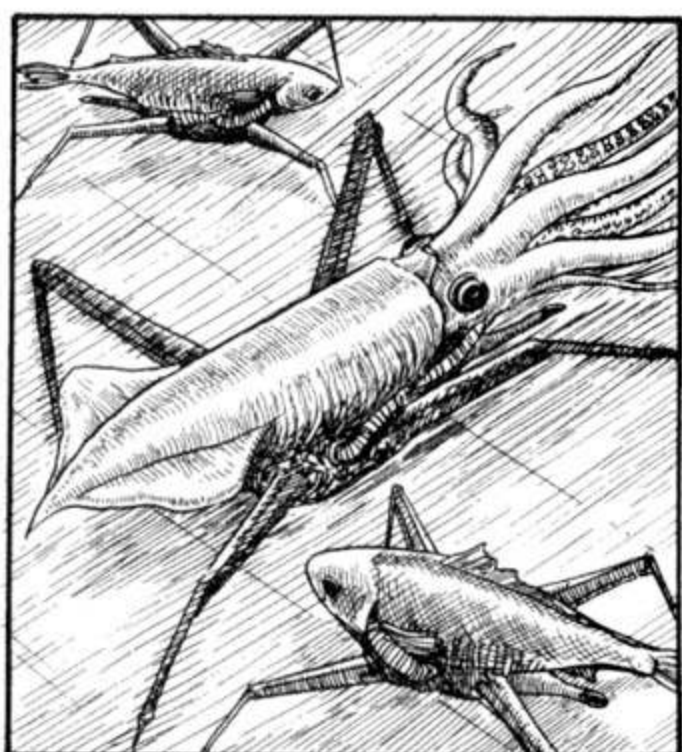
**AGGH!
OW OW
OW!**

SKITTA SKITTA



AIEE!

ARGH!



SHHAAAAAAA



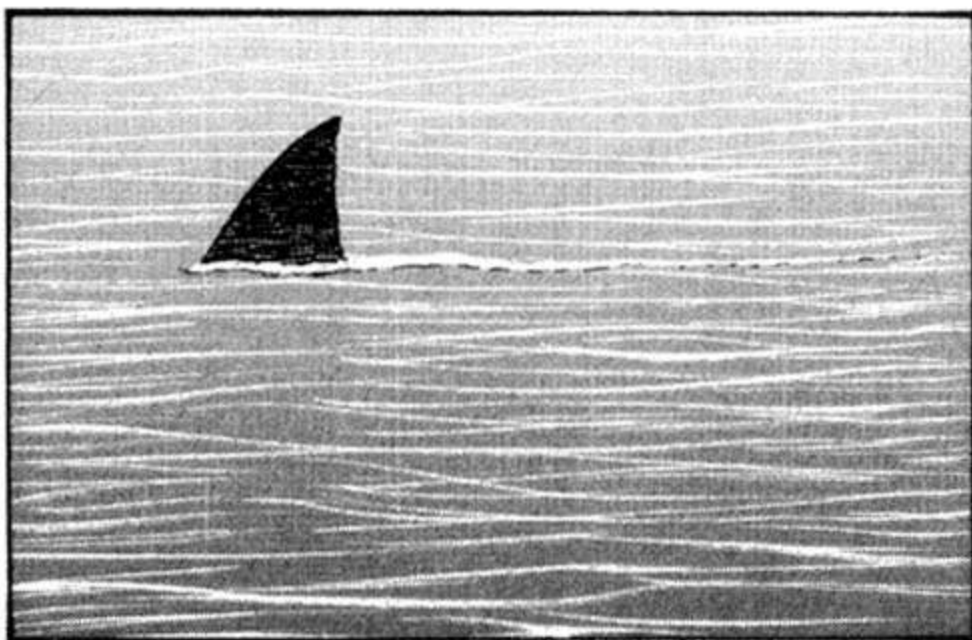
EEK!

HA
HA!



HA HA
HA!

EEE!
STOP
IT!



GET
OUT OF
THE
WATER!

HEY,
THERE'S
A
SHARK!

SHARK
!!

WHA
--!?



SPLASH SPLASH
EEYAGH!

WHAT
!?

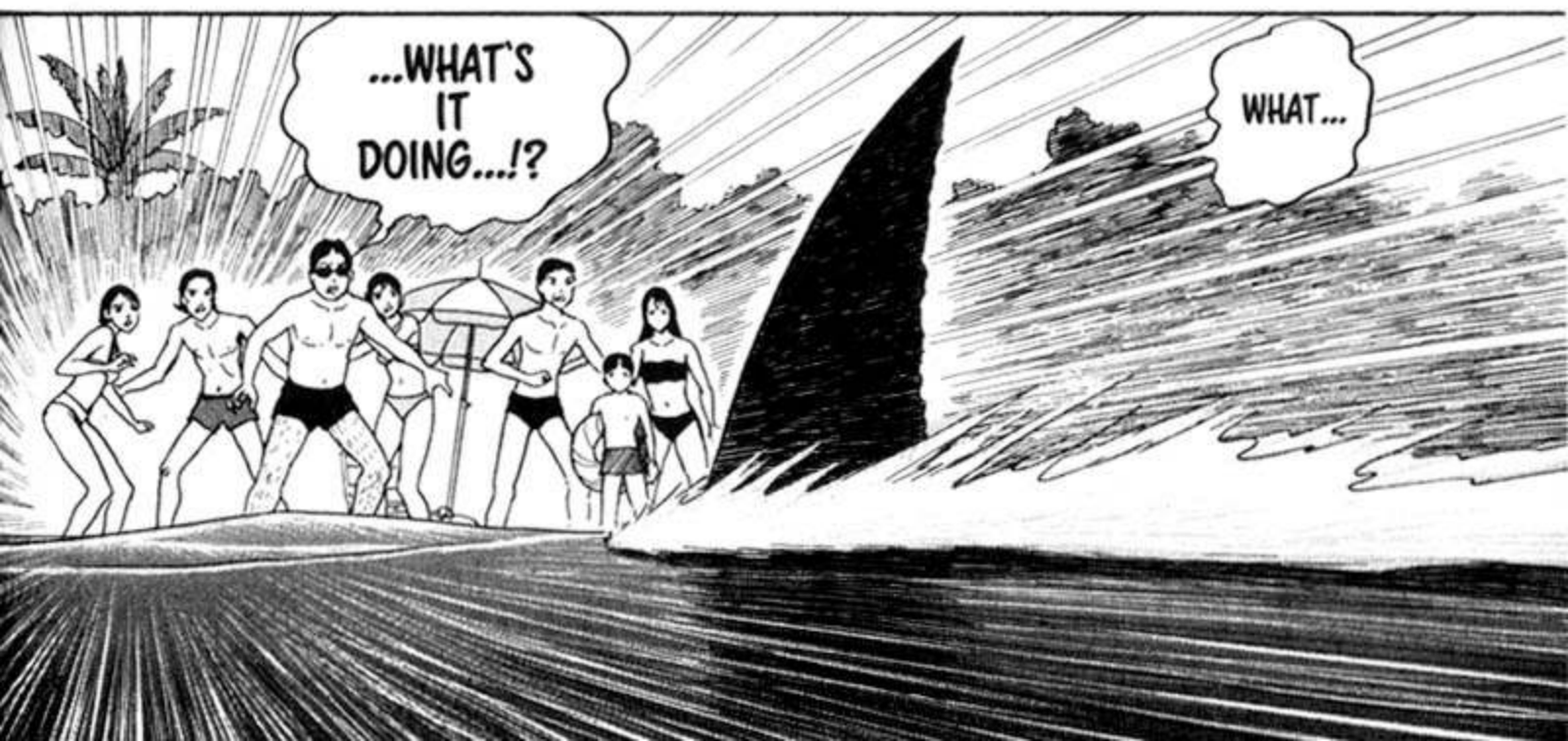
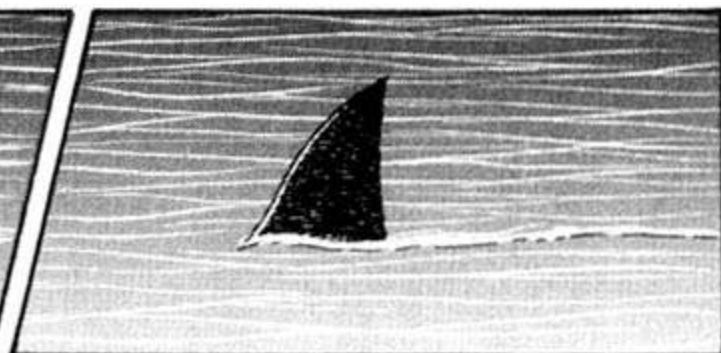
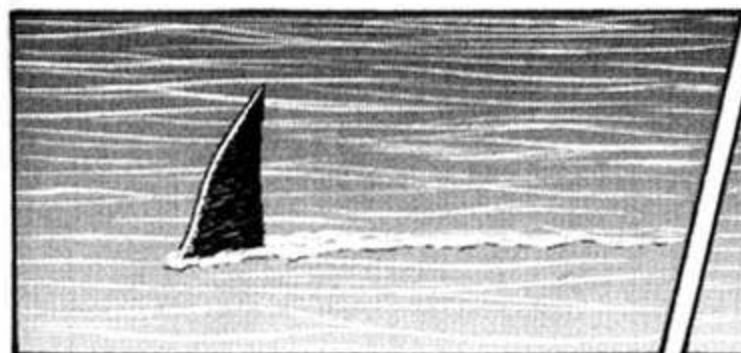


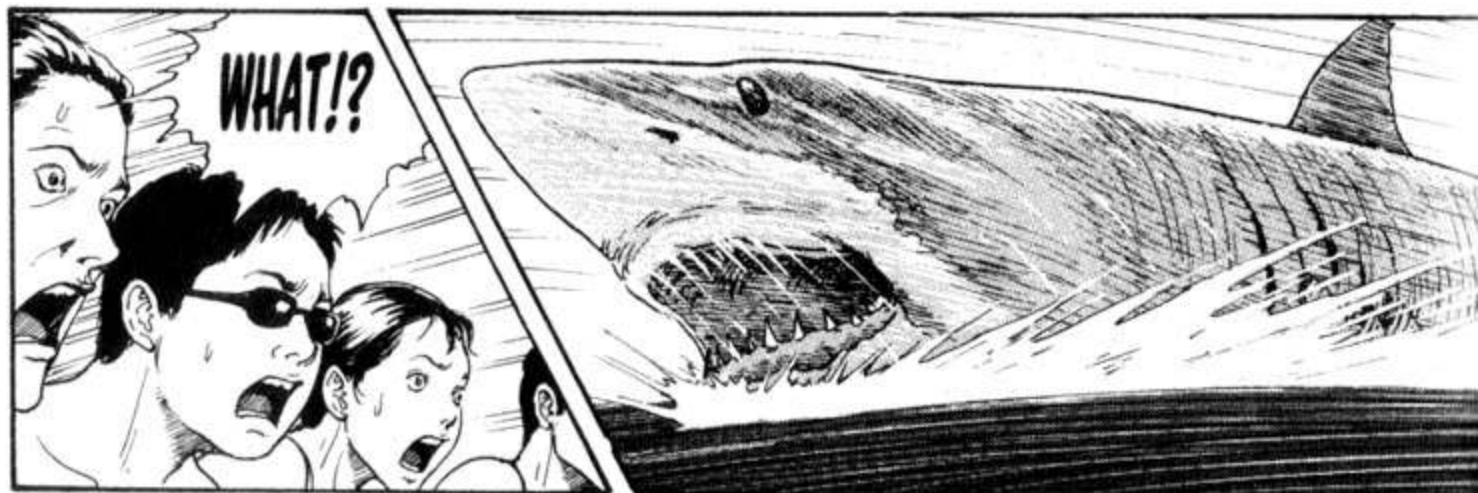
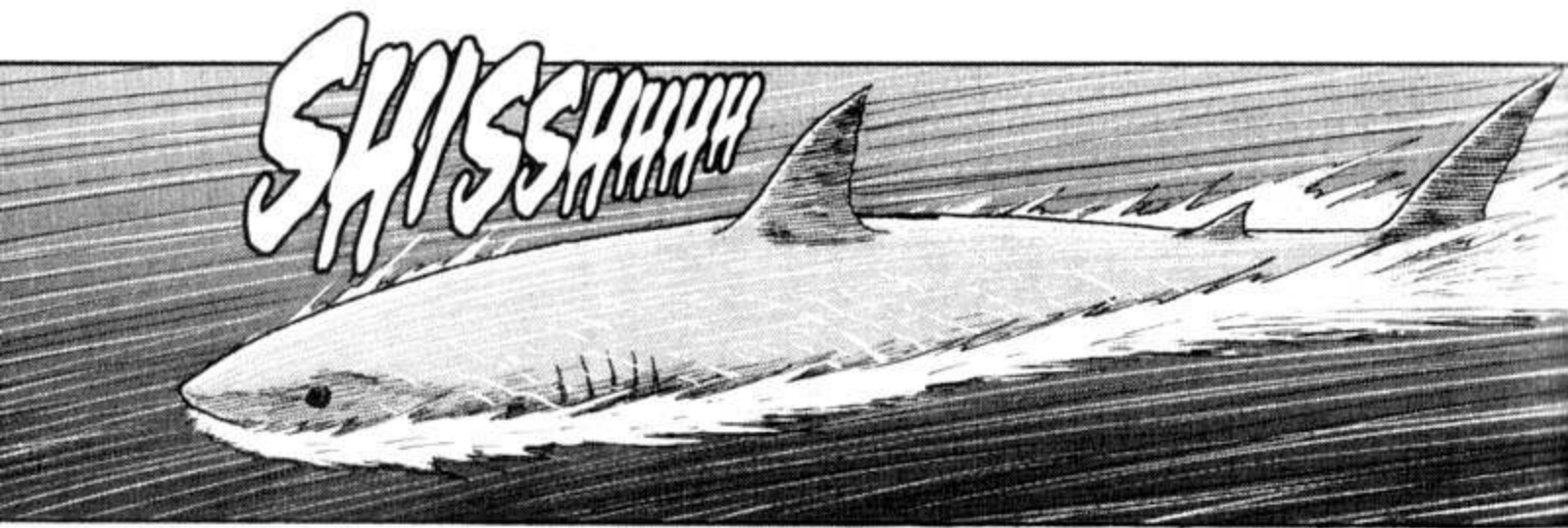
IS
EVERYONE
OUT!?

EEYAGH!



HURRY!
GET ONTO
SHORE!







GASHUNK

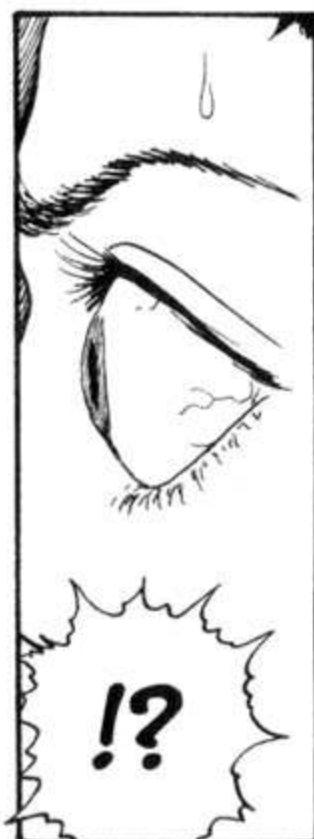
UWAAAA!

GYAAAAA!

SHAAA







FSSSSHHHHHHHHHHHHHH

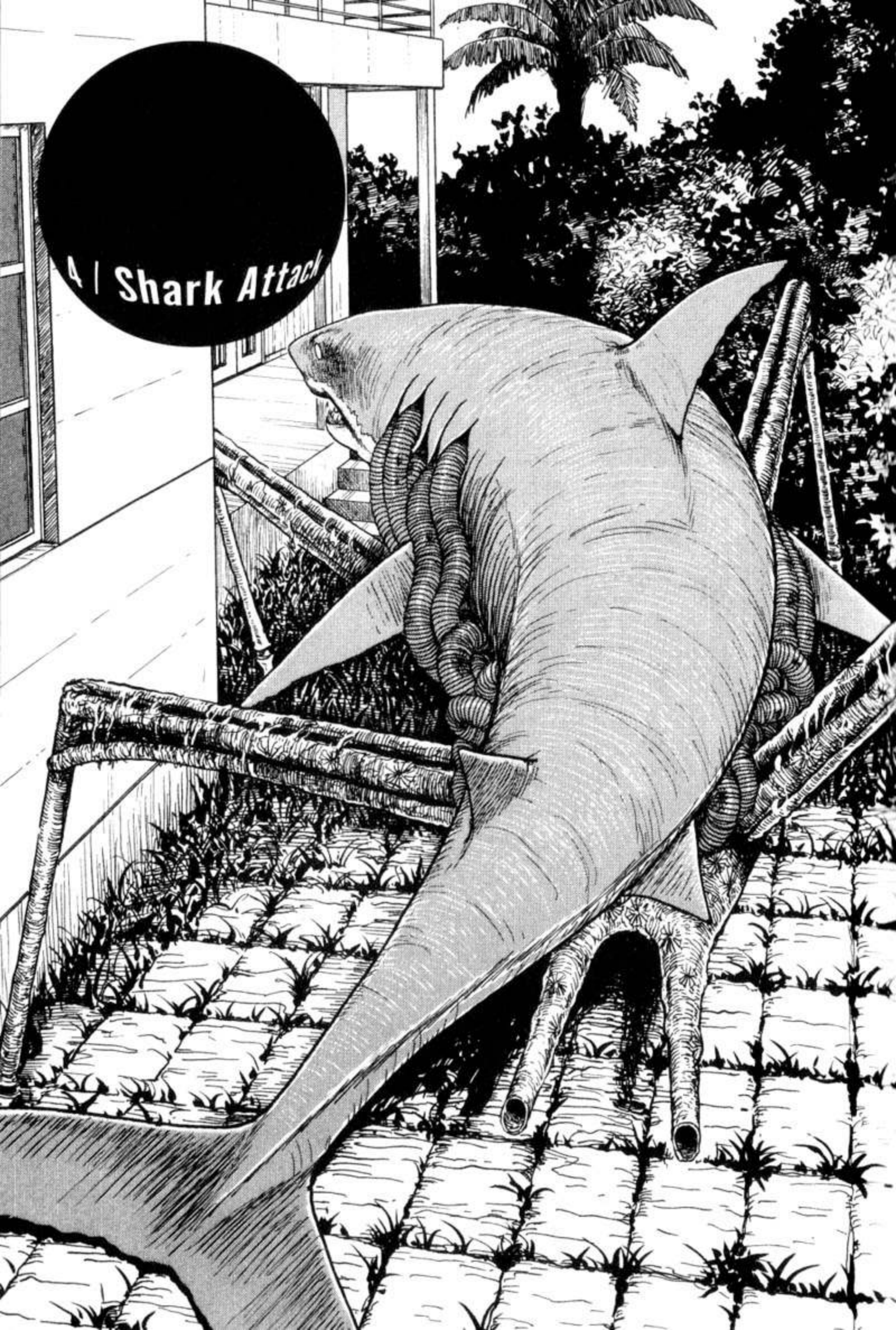


GASHU! GASHU!

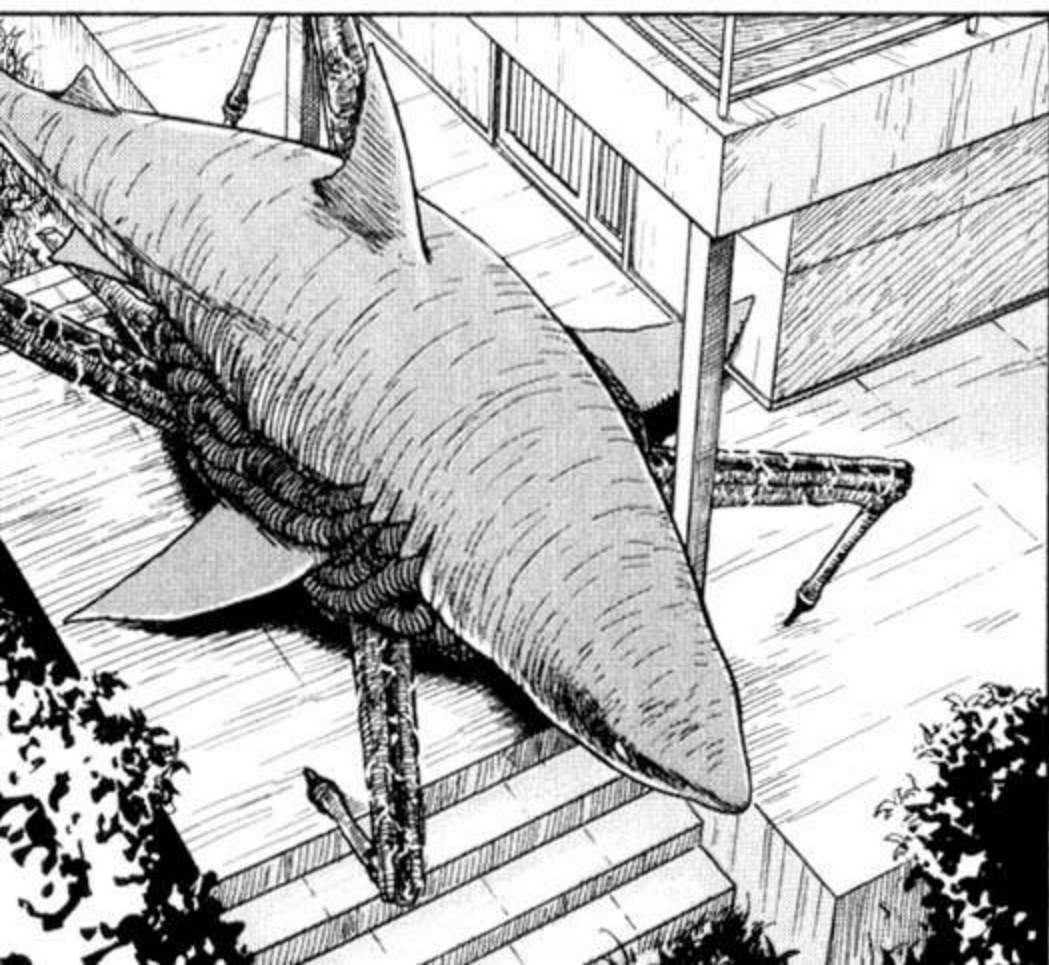
18



4 / Shark Attack

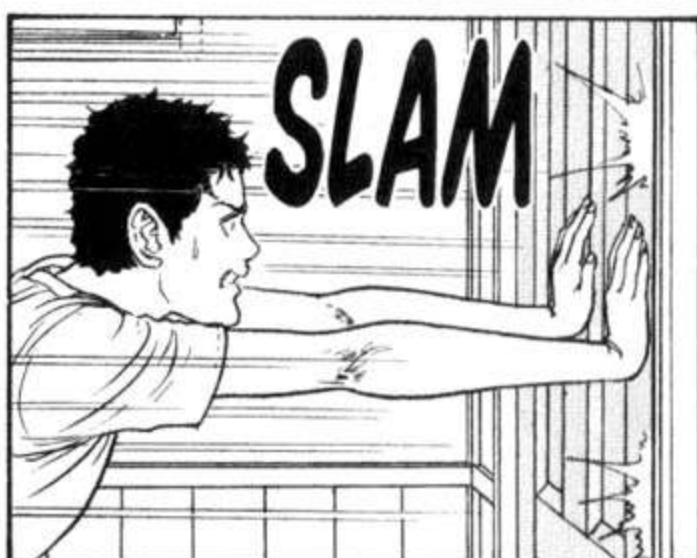
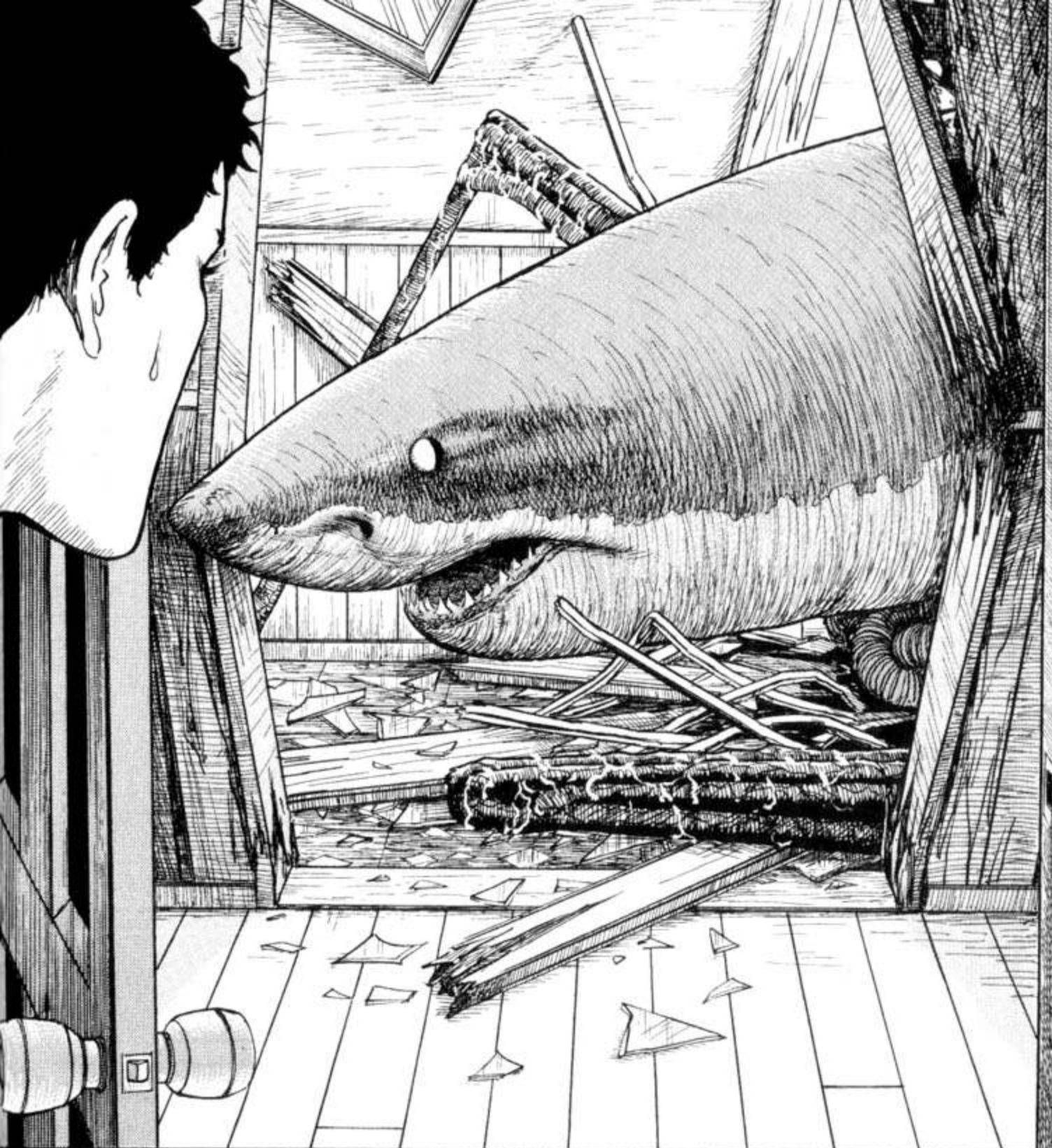






KRRRAK!
KAKRUNCH!









AIIEEEEE!

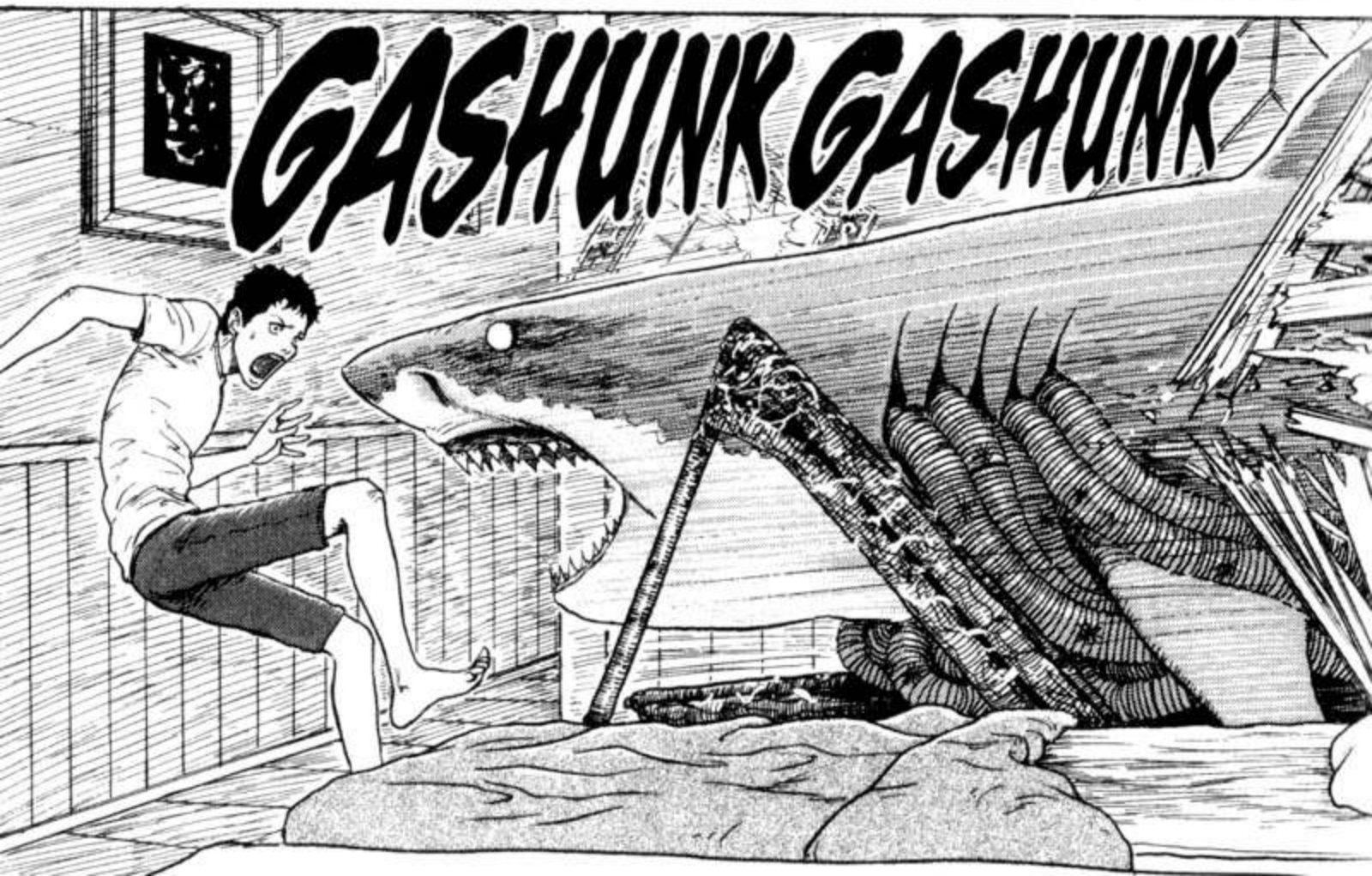


KAORI!

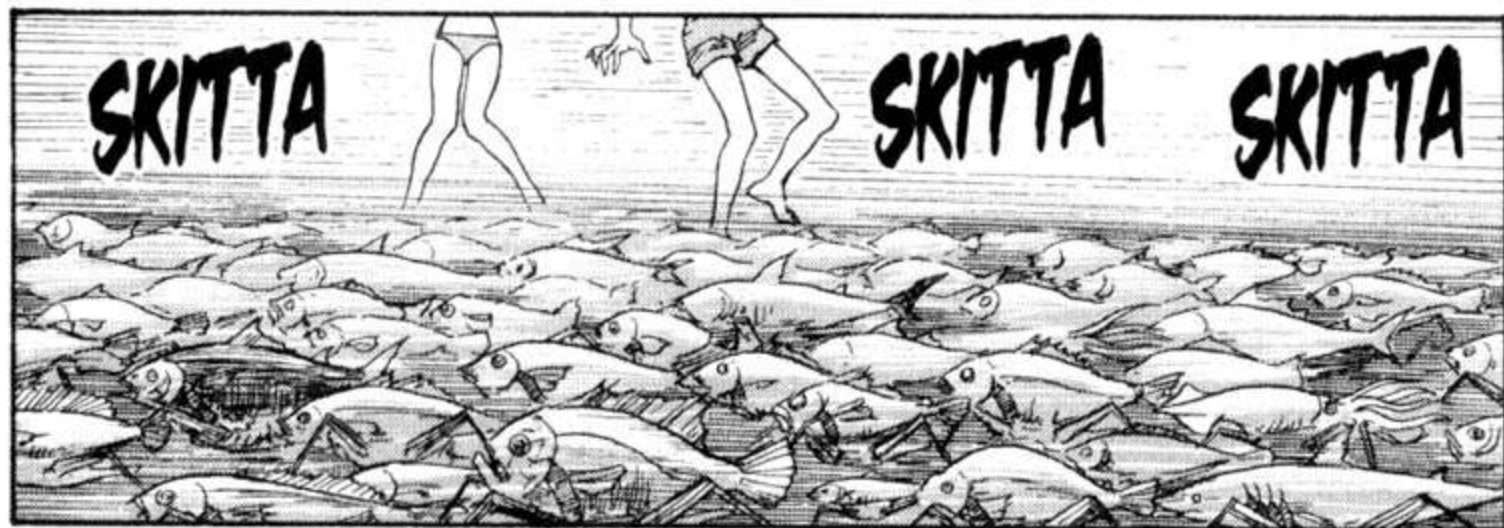
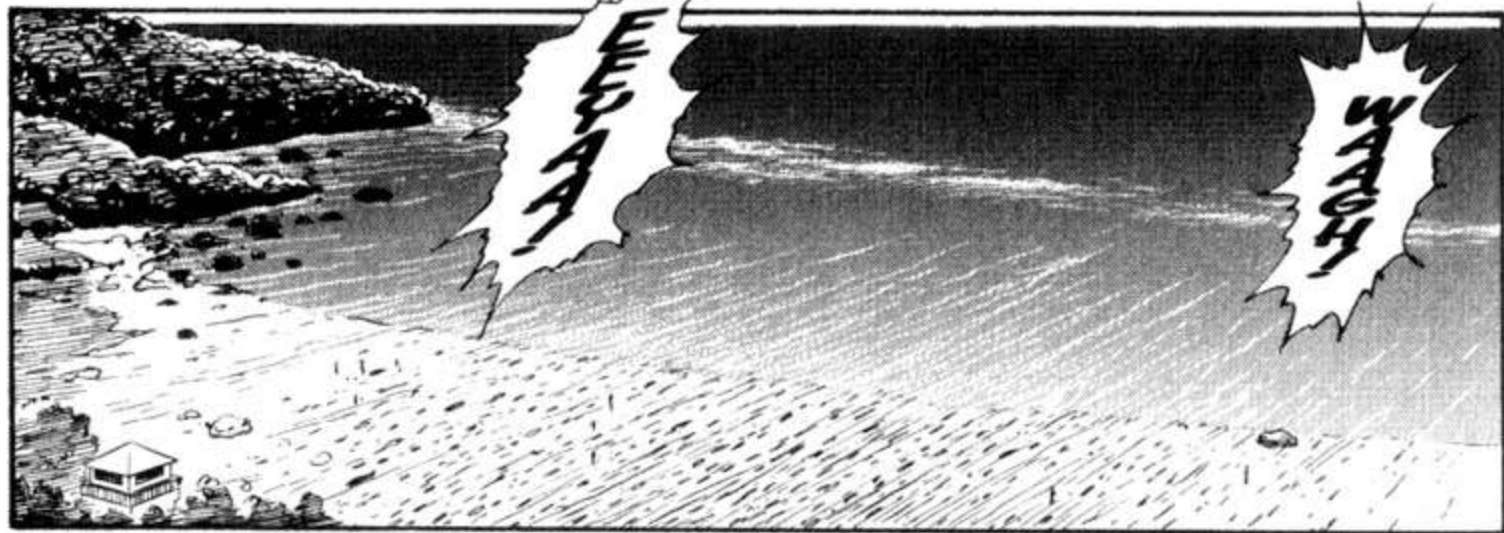


**WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING!? I
SAID GET
OUT!**

GASHUNK GASHUNK









WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

AIEE!



THE
FISH...
THE FISH
ARE
WALKING
...!?

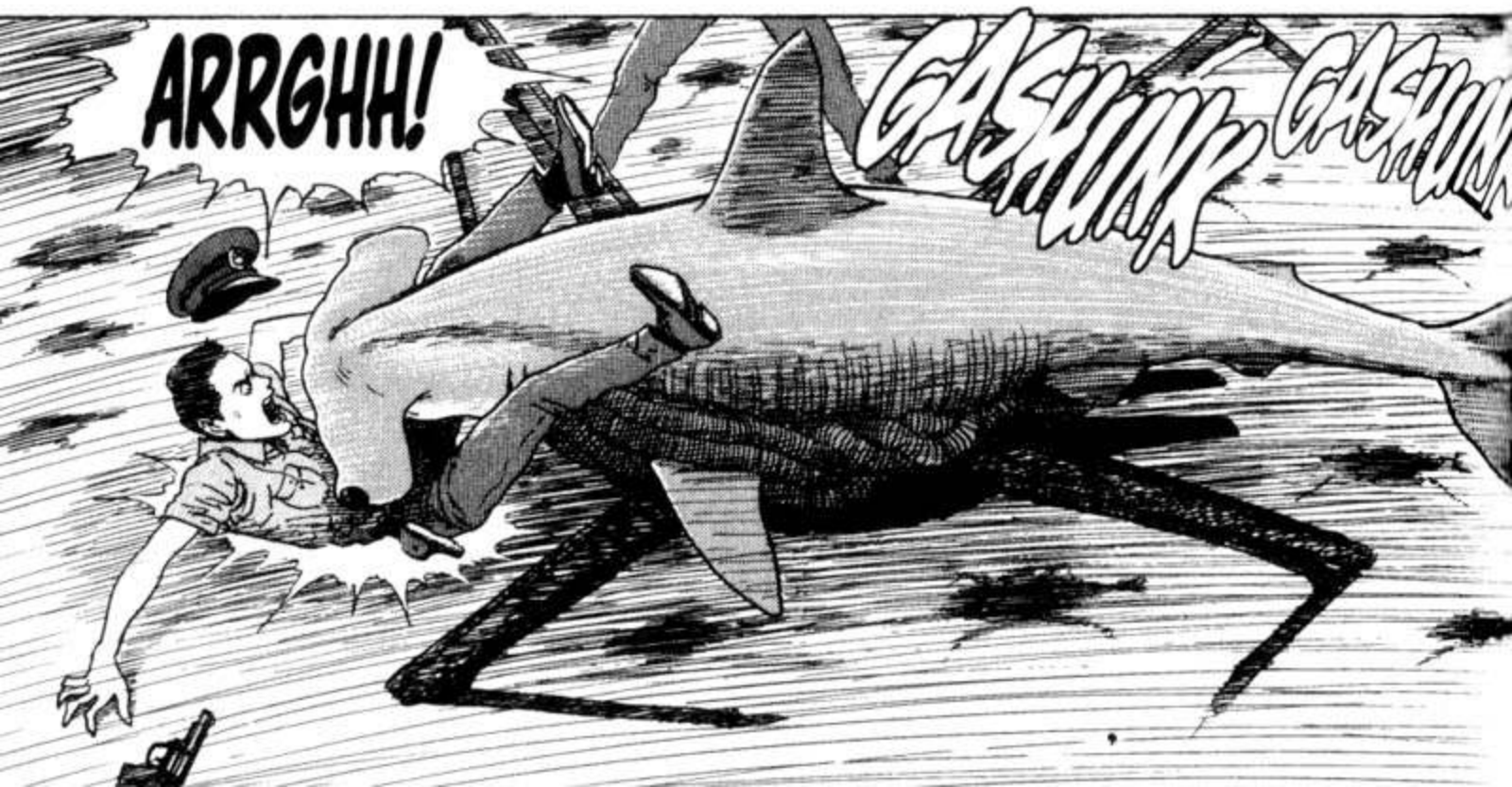


SMELLS
LIKE
THEY'RE
ROTTEN!

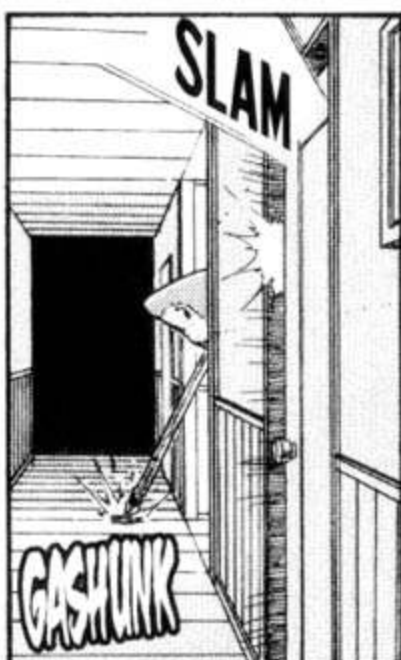
WHAT
A
STINK!

THERE'S
TOO
MANY!

CALL
FOR
BACK-
UP!!







I CAN'T FIGHT A SHARK!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?



TAKE CARE OF THAT THING!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "GOOD!?" STOP RUNNING AWAY!!



KAORI! GOOD, YOU'RE HERE!

TADASHI!



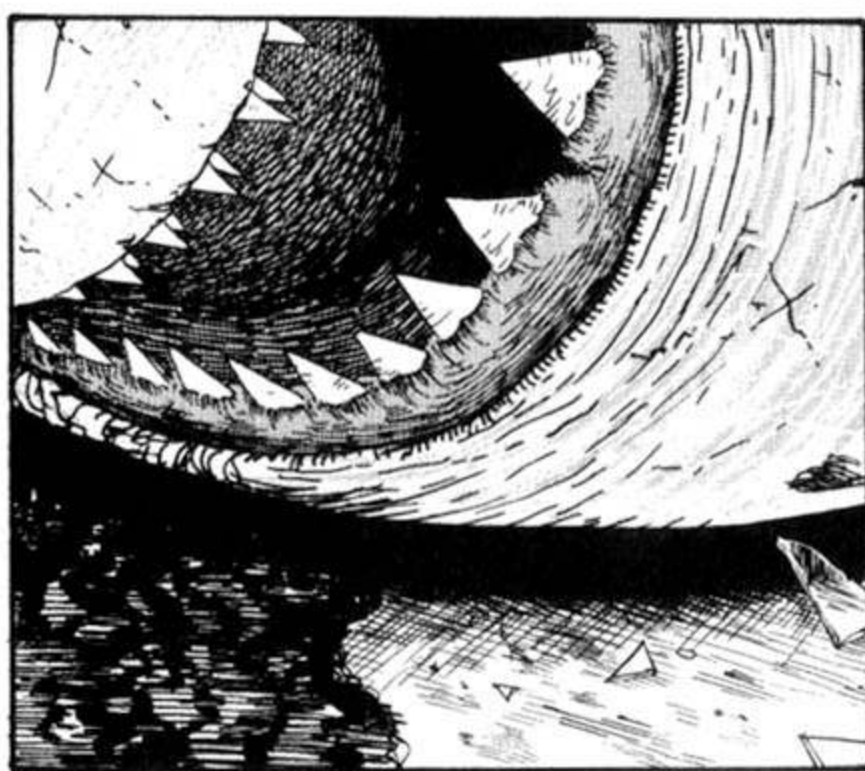
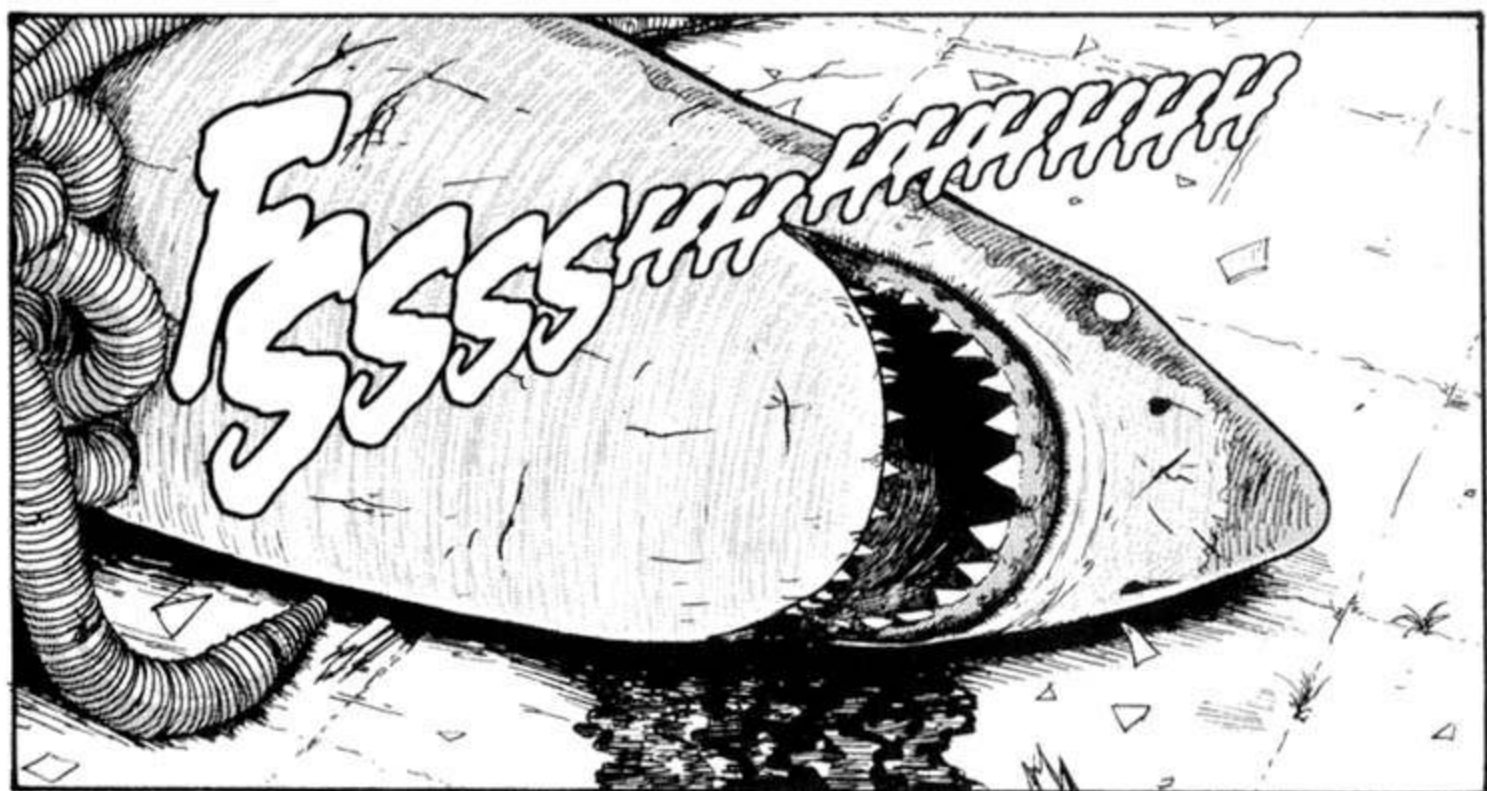








Flight



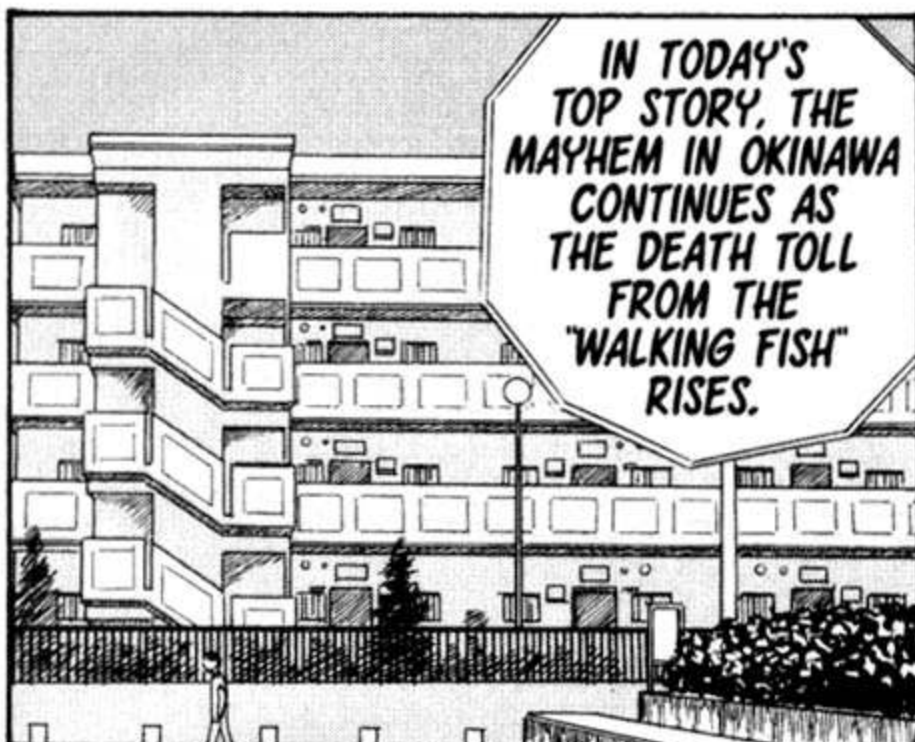
TOKYO.



THE LEGGED FISH CREATURES SWARMING THE MAIN ISLAND OF OKINAWA HAVE NOW BEEN SIGHTED THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND CHAIN...



IN TODAY'S TOP STORY, THE MAYHEM IN OKINAWA CONTINUES AS THE DEATH TOLL FROM THE "WALKING FISH" RISES.



THE MOST THREATENING "WALKING FISH," THE GREAT WHITE SHARK SPECIES, HAVE CAUSED NUMEROUS DEATHS AND INJURIES.

LOCAL HUNTERS AND THE JAPAN SELF DEFENSE FORCES HAVE MOBILIZED TO HUNT DOWN THE CREATURES.



ECONOMIC DAMAGE HAS BEEN MEASURED IN THE HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF YEN AS STREETS ARE EMPTY AND BUSINESS IS AT A STANDSTILL.

...INCLUDING IRIOMOTE, ISIGAKI, AND MIYAKO, AS WELL AS THE SMALLER SURROUNDING ISLANDS.



...BUT
THEY DON'T
EVEN REACT!
THEY'RE
MONSTERS!!

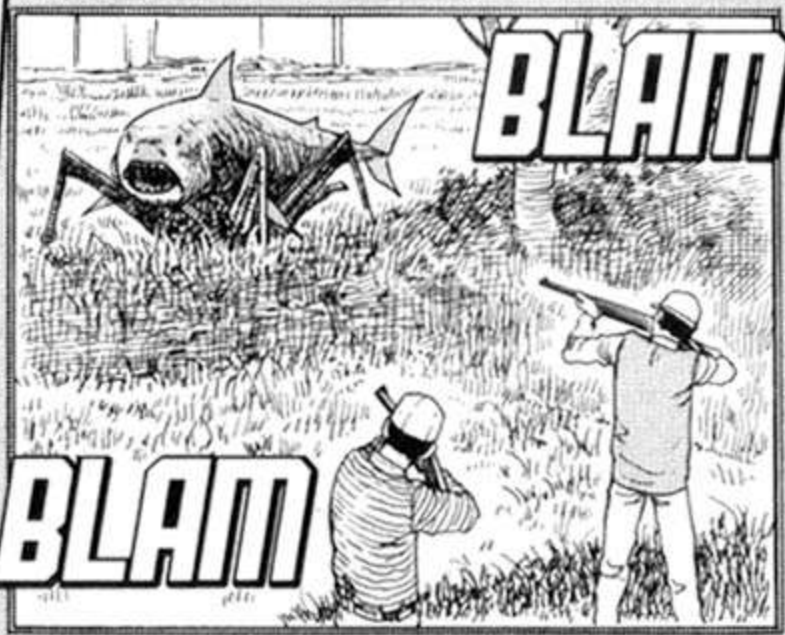
WE
KEEP ON
HITTING
THEM..



YAMADA

BLAM

BLAM



YAMADA

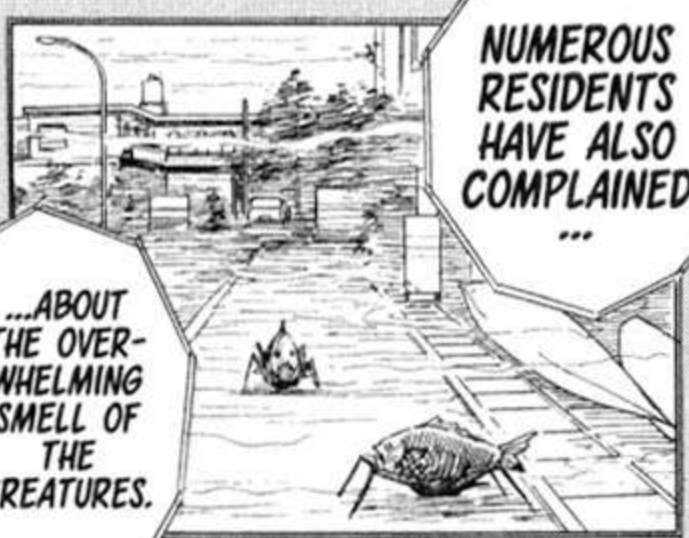
I WISH
THEY'D HURRY
UP AND
TAKE CARE
OF IT!

IT'S DISGUST-
ING! IT SMELLS
LIKE A DEAD
BODY!



...ABOUT
THE OVER-
WHELMING
SMELL OF
THE
CREATURES.

NUMEROUS
RESIDENTS
HAVE ALSO
COMPLAINED
...



YAMADA

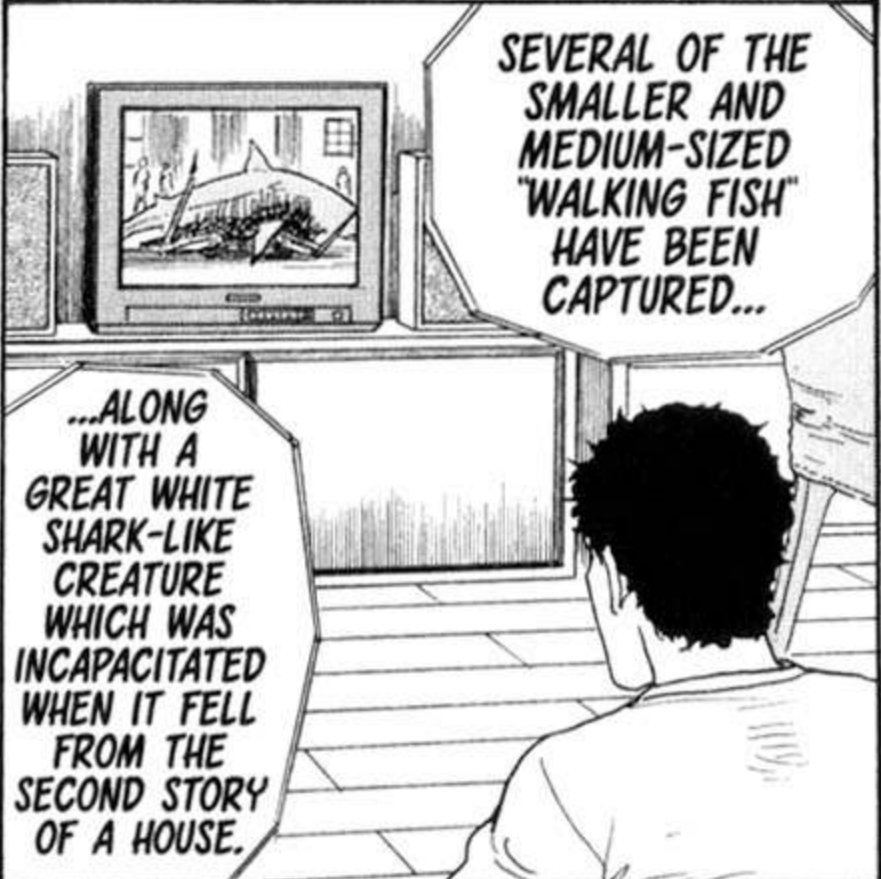
WE'RE
STILL
WAITING
FOR THE
RESULTS
OF THE
ANALYSIS
...

RESEARCH
FACILITIES
AROUND THE
NATION HAVE
BEGUN TO
EXAMINE THE
CREATURES
...

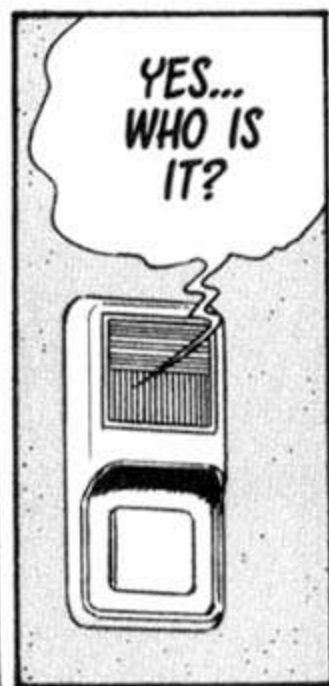
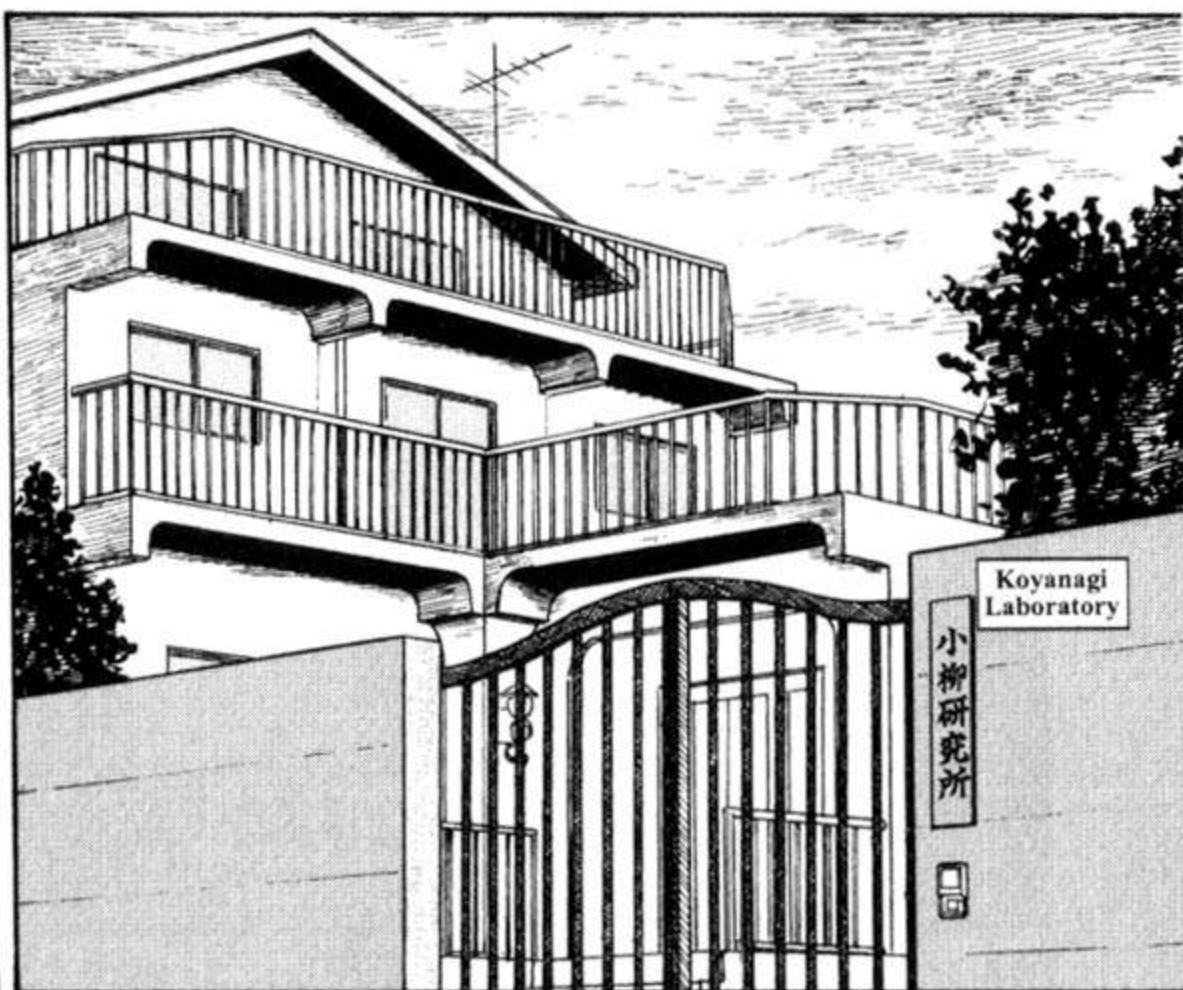
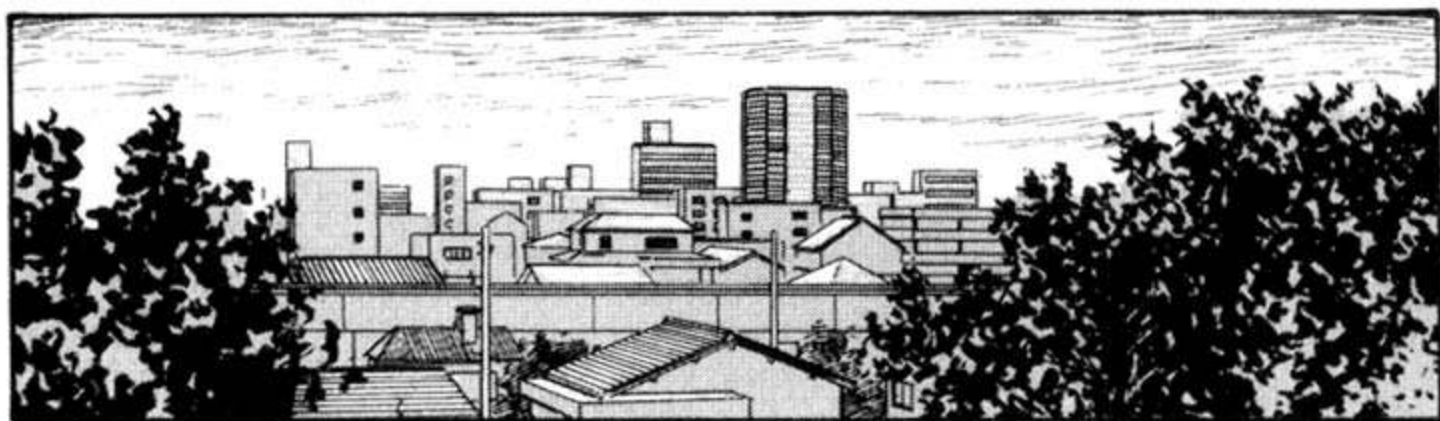


SEVERAL OF THE
SMALLER AND
MEDIUM-SIZED
"WALKING FISH"
HAVE BEEN
CAPTURED...

...ALONG
WITH A
GREAT WHITE
SHARK-LIKE
CREATURE
WHICH WAS
INCAPACITATED
WHEN IT FELL
FROM THE
SECOND STORY
OF A HOUSE.









OH,
TADASHI...
GOOD TO
SEE YOU.



DOCTOR
KOYA-
NAGI
...

YOUR
NEPHEW
IS
HERE.



MY
DAYS AS
THE YOUNG,
GENIUS
INVENTOR
ARE LONG
GONE. YOU
CAN'T
FIGHT
AGE.

AHH,
I'M KIND
OF IN A
SLUMP. I'VE
BEEN
SHORT ON
IDEAS.



HOW'S
YOUR
WORK
GOING
?

HEY.



BUT
ANYWAY,
THAT'S NOT
IMPORTANT.

HA HA...IT
WASN'T SO
GREAT. KAORI
GOT KIND
OF UPSET.



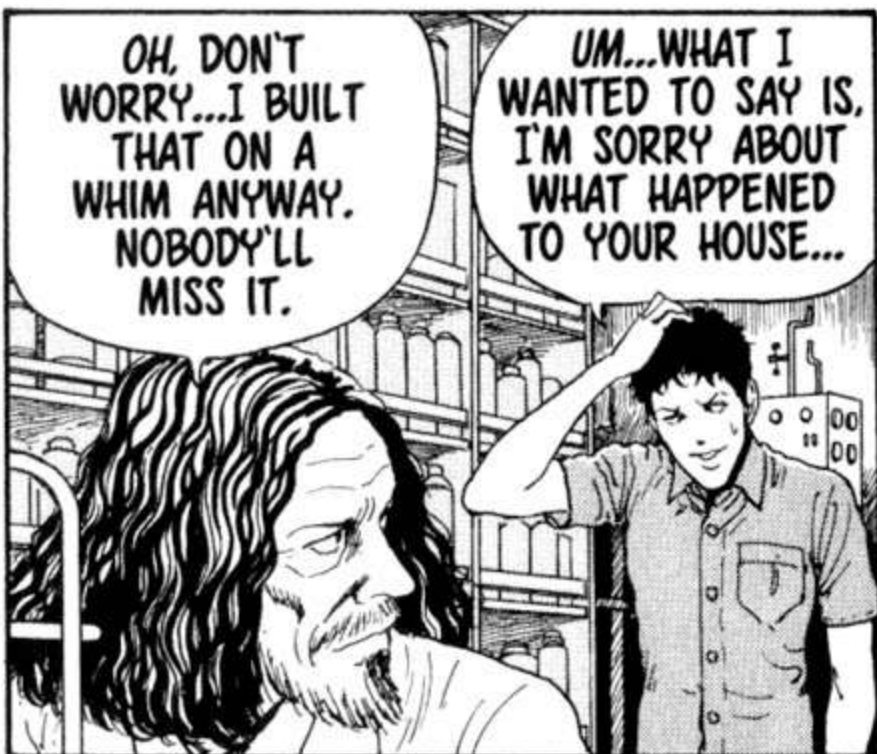
WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?

HOW
WAS YOUR
TRIP TO
OKINAWA
WITH YOUR
GIRL-
FRIEND?



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "THE HOUSE WAS DESTROYED BY SHARKS?"

YOU SAID SOMETHING STRANGE IN YOUR MESSAGE, THOUGH.



OH, DON'T WORRY...I BUILT THAT ON A WHIM ANYWAY. NOBODY'LL MISS IT.

UM...WHAT I WANTED TO SAY IS, I'M SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HOUSE...



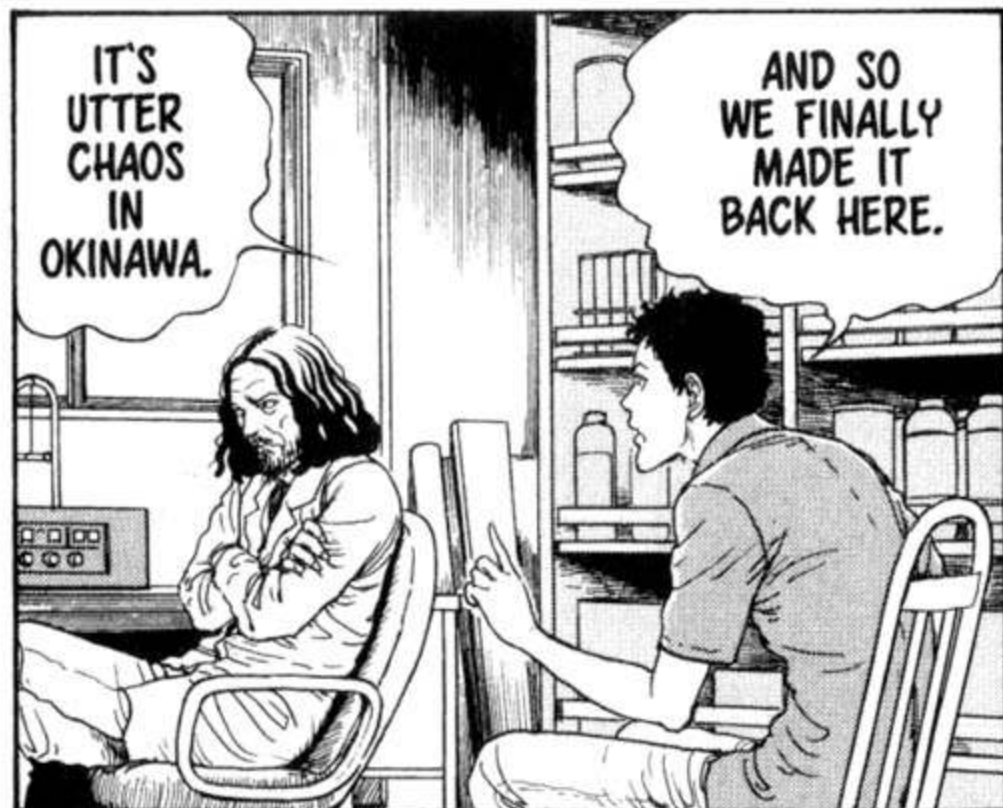
WHAT'S GOING ON?

NEWS? NO, I DON'T WATCH TV.



WHAT!?! YOU HAVEN'T BEEN WATCHING THE NEWS?

CARE TO EXPLAIN?

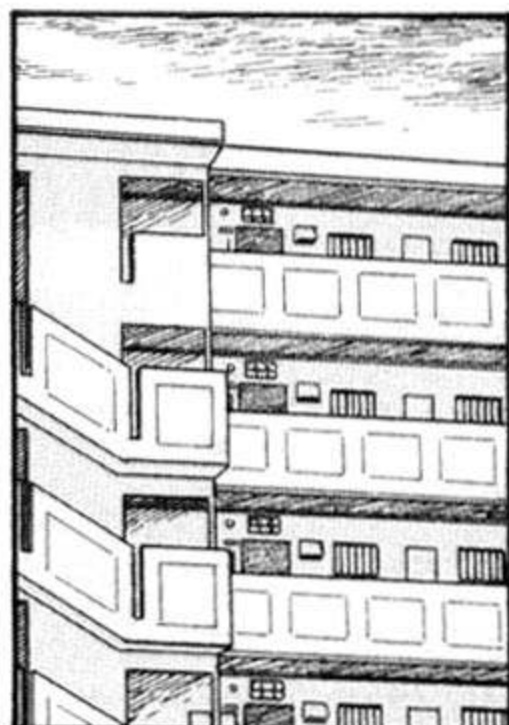


IT'S UTTER CHAOS IN OKINAWA.

AND SO WE FINALLY MADE IT BACK HERE.





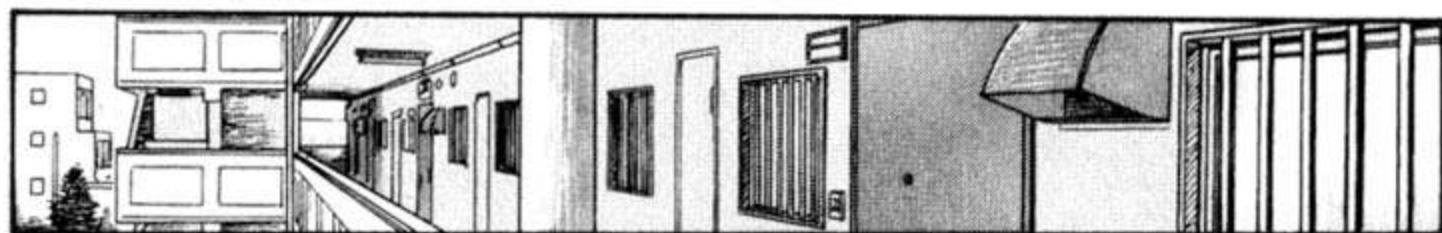


I'M NOT
CRAZY!
WHY
WON'T
YOU
LISTEN
TO ME?

LOOK,
KAORI...YOU
HAD A SCARY
EXPERIENCE
SO YOU CAN'T
GET RID OF
YOUR MEMORY
OF THAT
SMELL.

EVEN
NOW...IT'S
COMING
CLOSER...

IT'S
GETTING
STRONGER
AND
STRONGER!!



I
CAN
SMELL
IT...

I
CAN
SMELL
...



DO
YOU
WANT
A CUP
OF
COFFEE
?

HEY.

IT'S
ALMOST
HERE!

KAORI,
CALM
DOWN!!

IT'S
GETTING
NEARER
...

IT'S
REALLY
CLOSE!

KAORI
!?

NOOOOOOO!!!

KAORI!



KAORI!!
WAIT!!



JUST LOOK
AROUND.
NO ONE
ELSE
SMELLS
ANYTHING.

KAORI!
LISTEN,
IT'S ALL
IN YOUR
HEAD.



IT'S
COMING
THIS
WAY...

I CAN
STILL
SMELL
IT.

...CLOSER
AND
CLOSER!



THAT,
OVER
THERE...



WHAT?

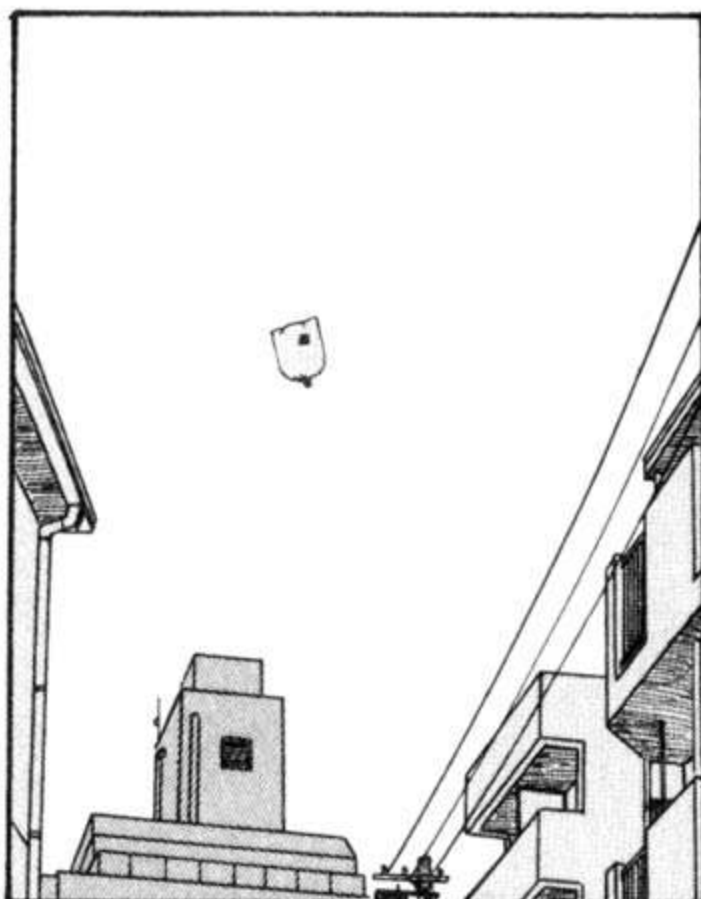
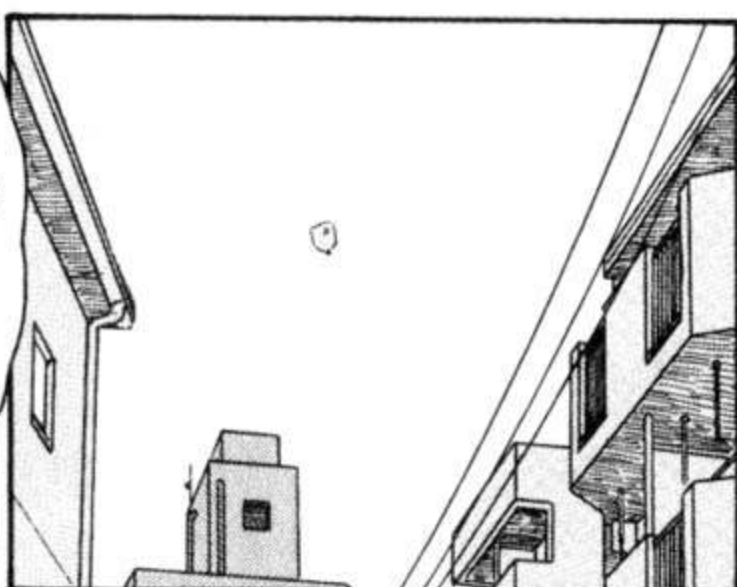
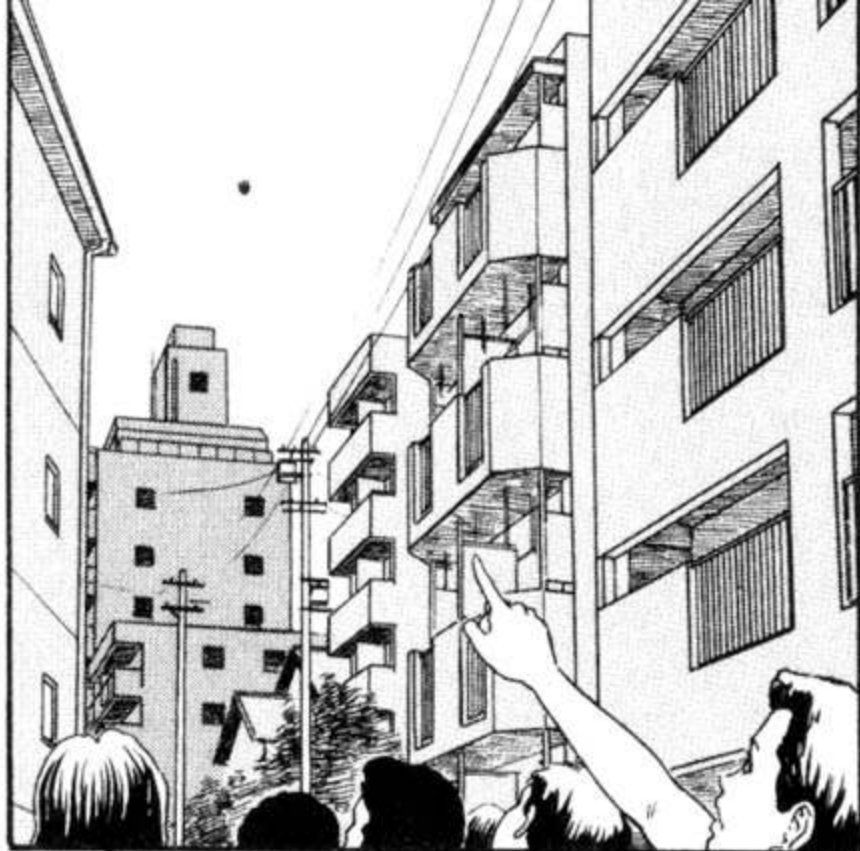


HEY...
WHAT'S
THAT?



COME
ON, LET'S
GO BACK.

HAVE
SOME
COFFEE.
COME
ON.
PLEASE.





NOOOOOO!!

FSSHHHH



THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!



I-IS THAT ...



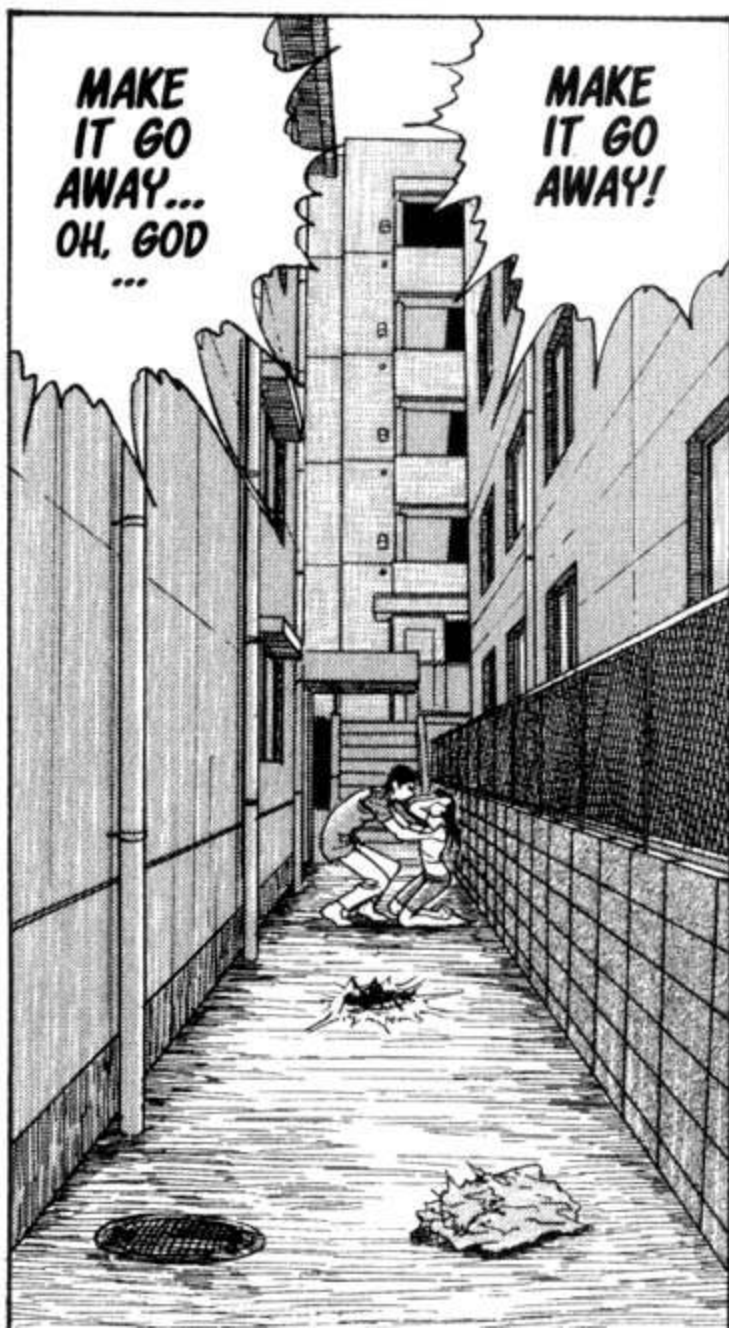
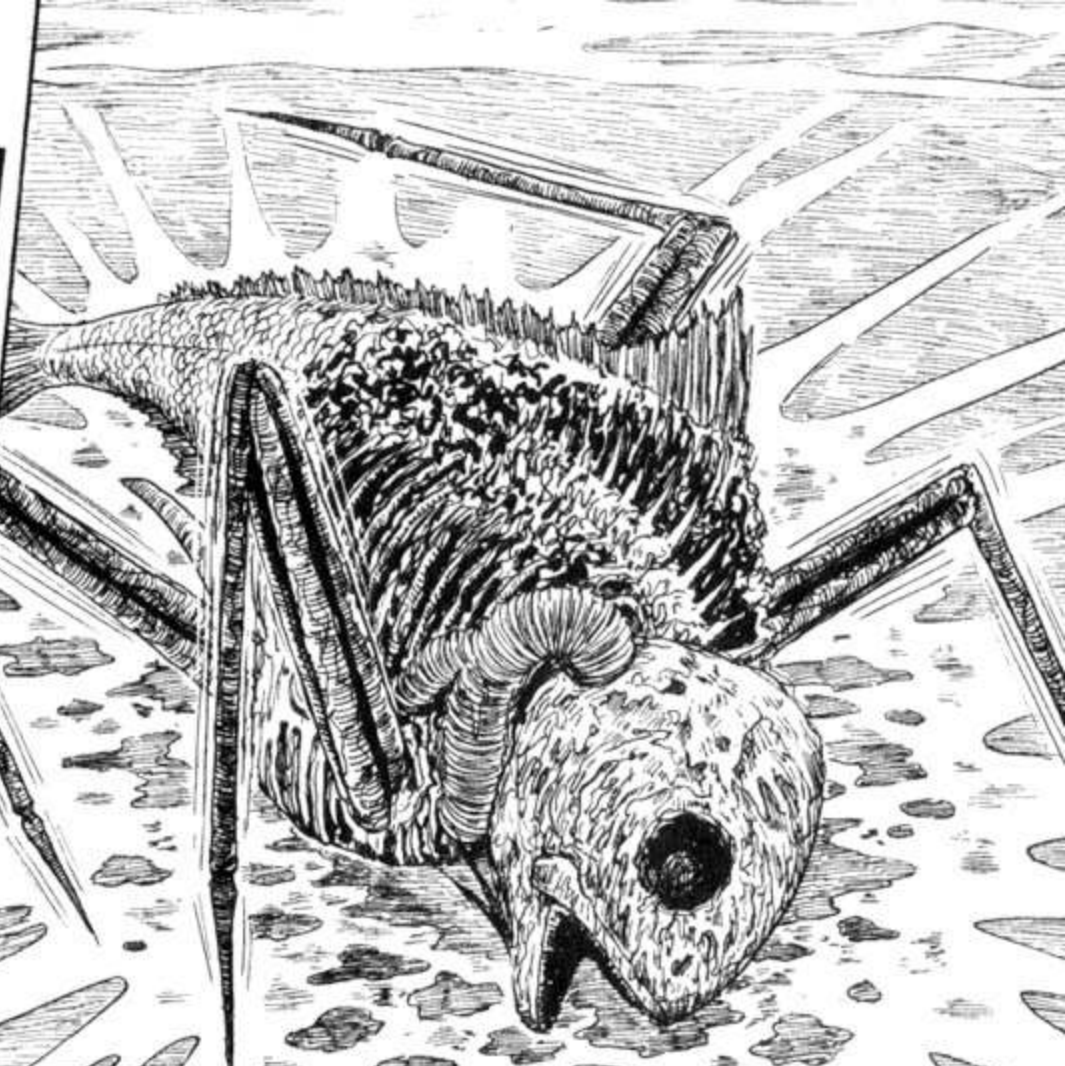
FSSSSSSSHHHHHH





6 / The Death-Stench Creeps







THE OTHER BAG WAS BROKEN SO I PUT IT IN A NEW ONE. IT'LL FLOAT IF YOU LET IT GO, SO BE CAREFUL.

I GUESS I WON'T HAVE TO GO TO OKINAWA. I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT IT RIGHT HERE.



HMM...SO THAT'S ONE OF THE CREATURES...?



THIS BAG'S BLOWN UP LIKE A BALLOON ...

FLOAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?







IT WAS MY FATHER.

IN FACT ...



YES... I HAVE.

HAVE YOU?



UH... NO, I HAVEN'T ...



HE WAS SUCH A WORK-AHOLIC HE HARDLY EVER CAME HOME.

SEVERAL DECADES AGO, MY FATHER HAD A PRIVATE WORK-ROOM...SORT OF A FACTORY.



...



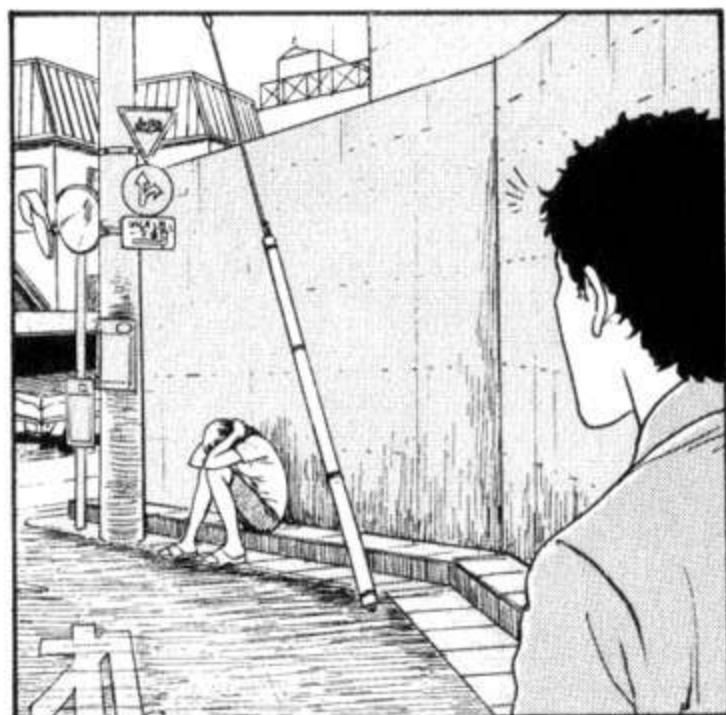
...I'LL HAVE A LOOK AT THE CONTENTS OF THIS BAG.

I'M SORRY... NEVER MIND ALL THAT...



IT HAPPENED DURING A HOT SUMMER.

HE WAS AT THE FACTORY WHEN HE DIED OF A HEART ATTACK, SO HE WASN'T DISCOVERED FOR A WHILE.



FIND
THEM
NOW!



AND
GET
RID OF
THEM!!

DON'T
YOU GET
IT?!
THEY'RE
ALREADY
HERE!



NO!!
I KNOW
THEY'RE
ALL
AROUND
US!

MY DE-
LUSIONS...
"MY DE-
LUSIONS"...
ALWAYS
PATRON-
IZING ME
...



I CAN'T
DEAL
WITH YOUR
DELUSIONS!
THERE IS
NO SMELL!
WE'RE
GOING
HOME.



KAORI...
ENOUGH!!

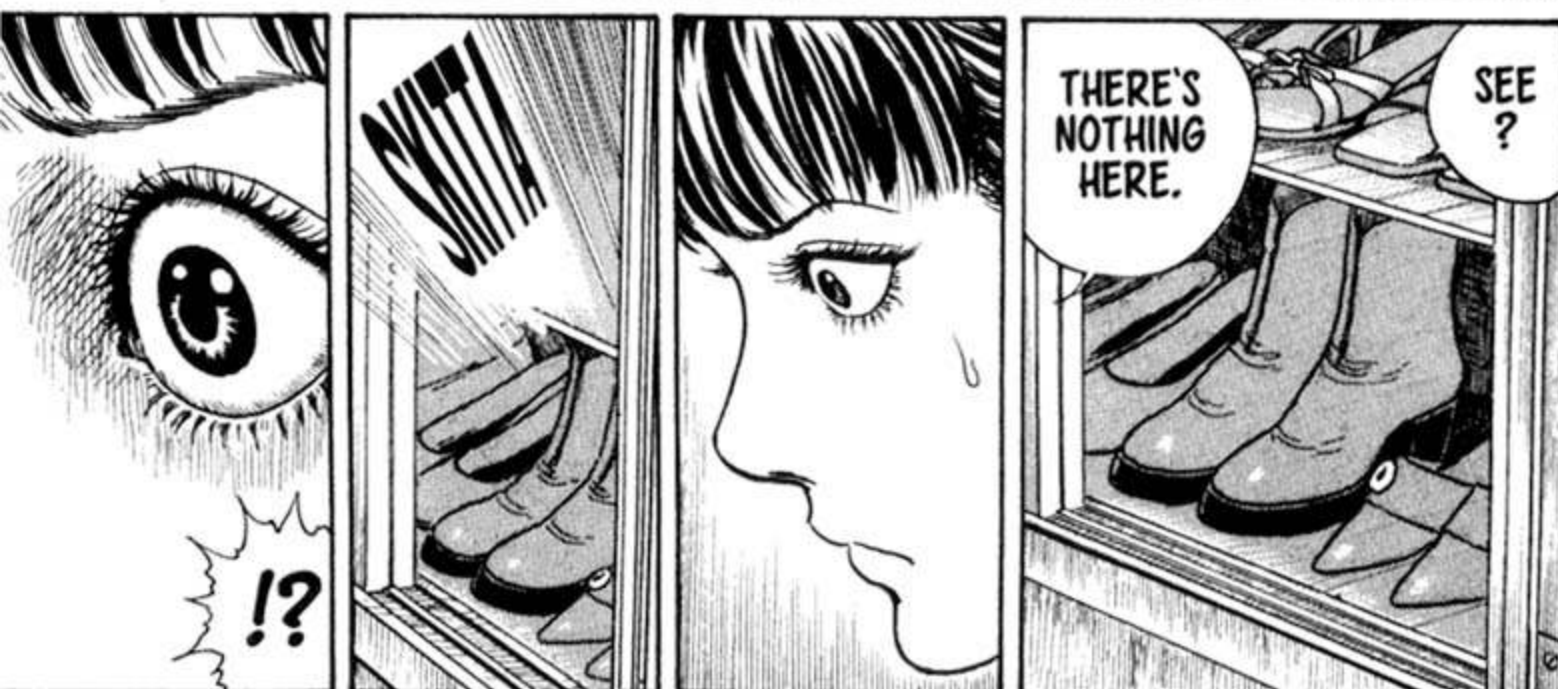
BEHIND
THE
DRAWERS
...UNDER
THE
BED...



NO...
I'M SURE
THEY'RE
IN OUR
ROOM.



COME
ON.





KAORI,
CALM
DOWN!!

I'M
HANDLING
IT!

KILL
IT!!





WAK



WHAT
!?



YOU
WERE
WRONG.

SHUT
UP.



I
TOLD
YOU
SO!!

SEE
?!

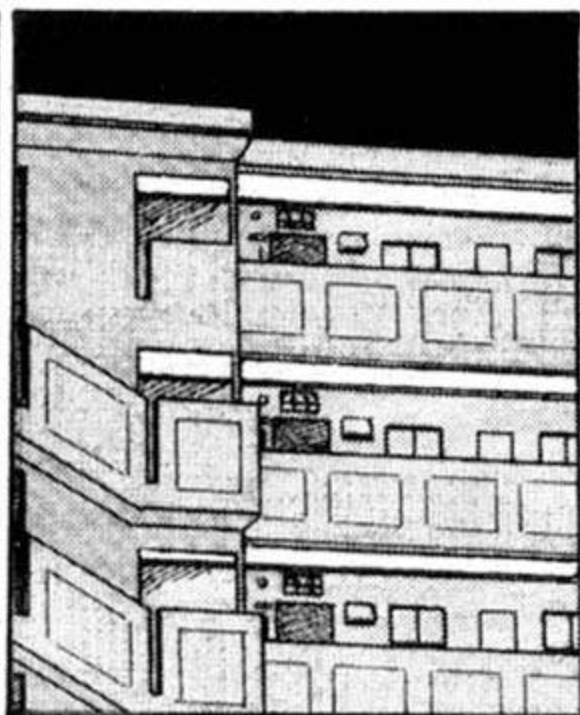


YOU'RE
IMAGINING
THINGS.

SEE
?

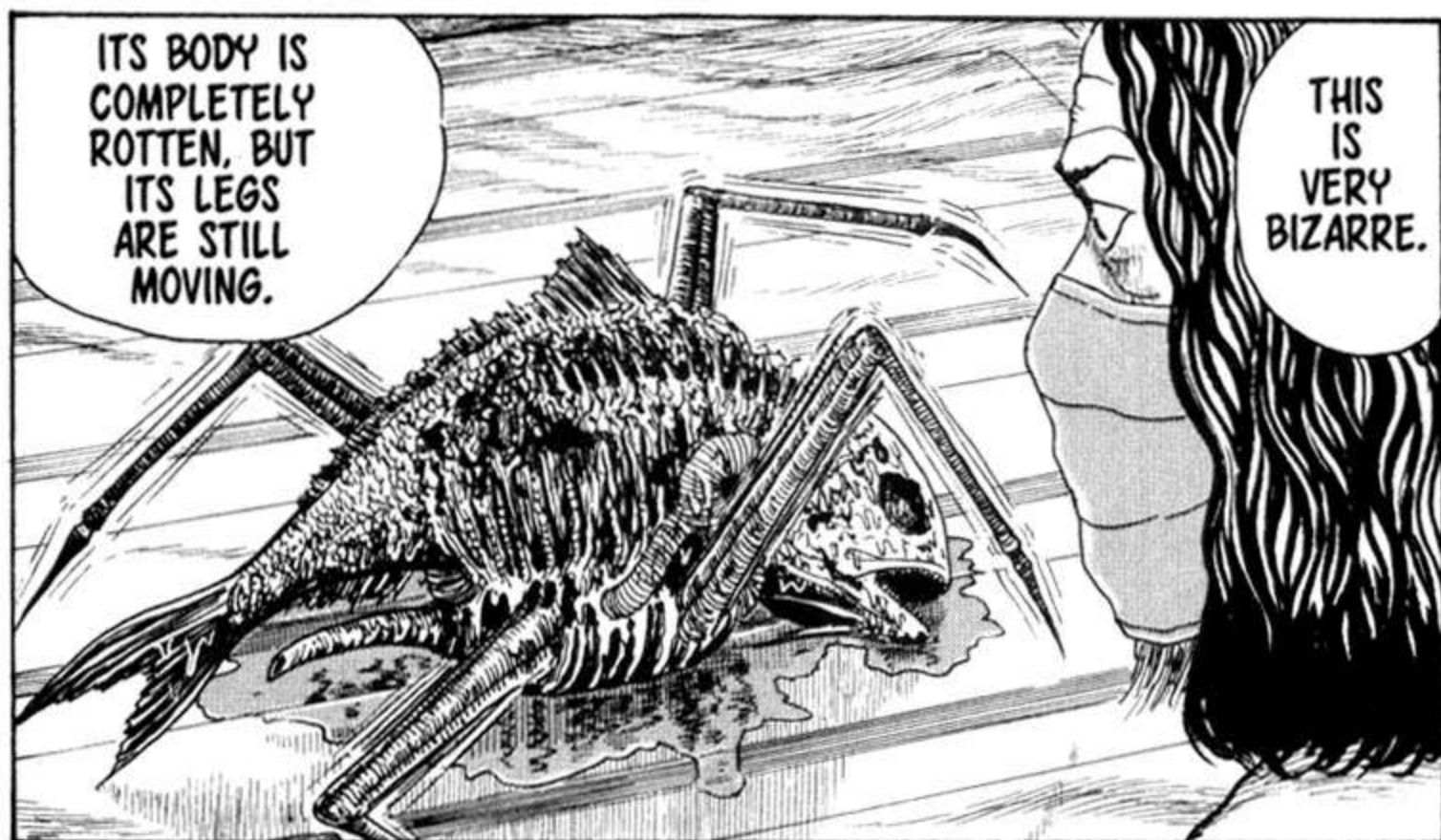
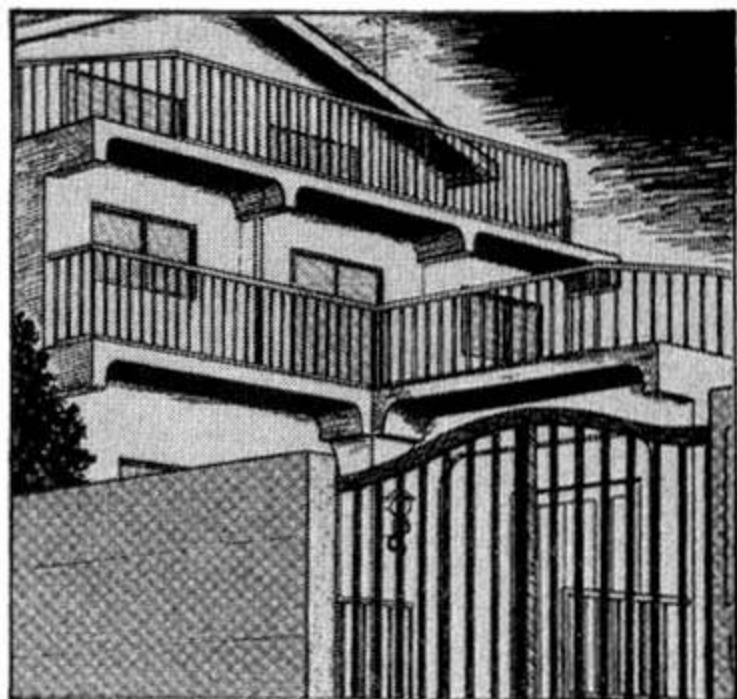


IT WAS
JUST A
COCKROACH.



NO WAY ...





ITS BODY IS COMPLETELY ROTTEN, BUT ITS LEGS ARE STILL MOVING.

THIS IS VERY BIZARRE.

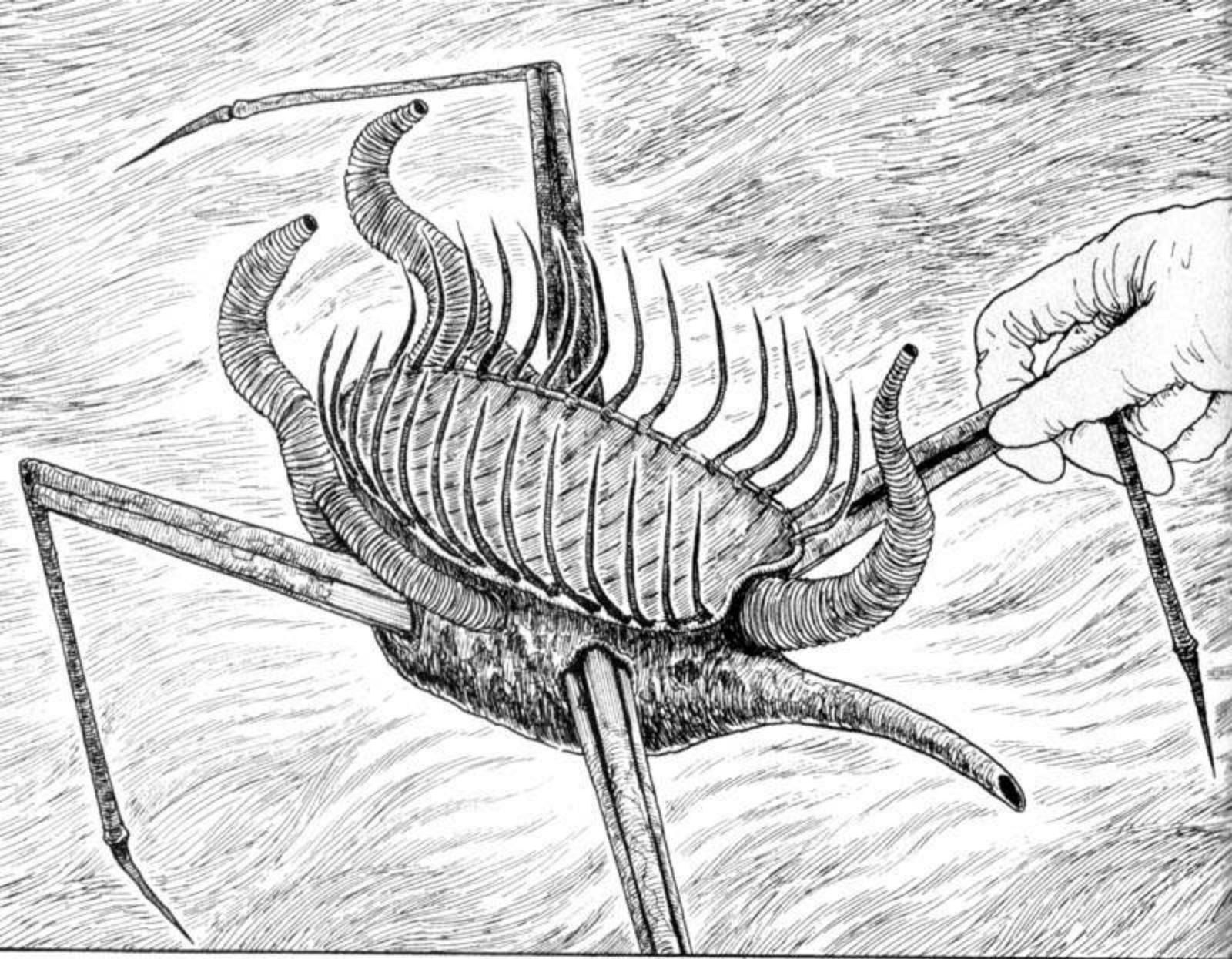


...I MUST DISSECT IT.

IN ANY CASE ...

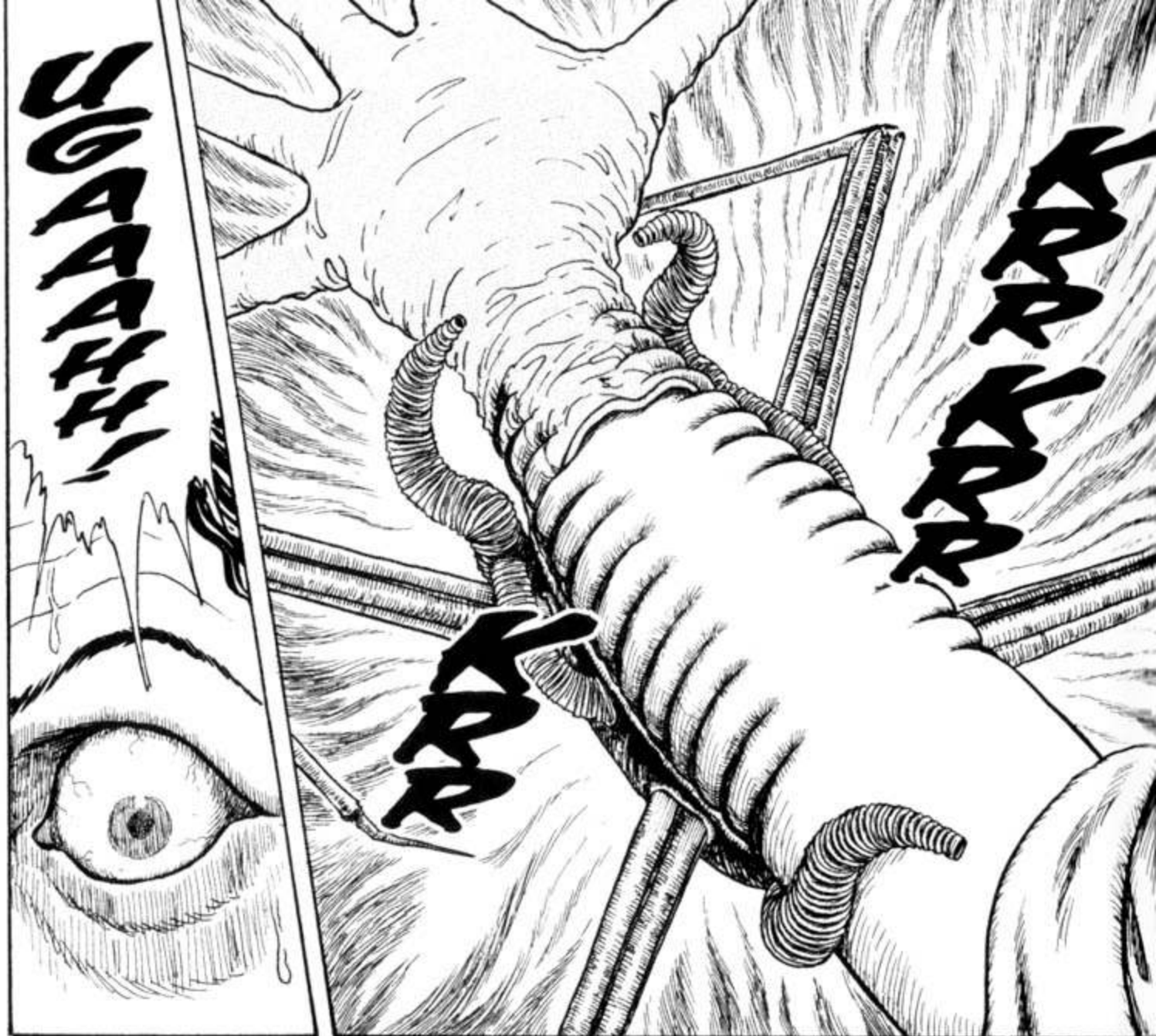


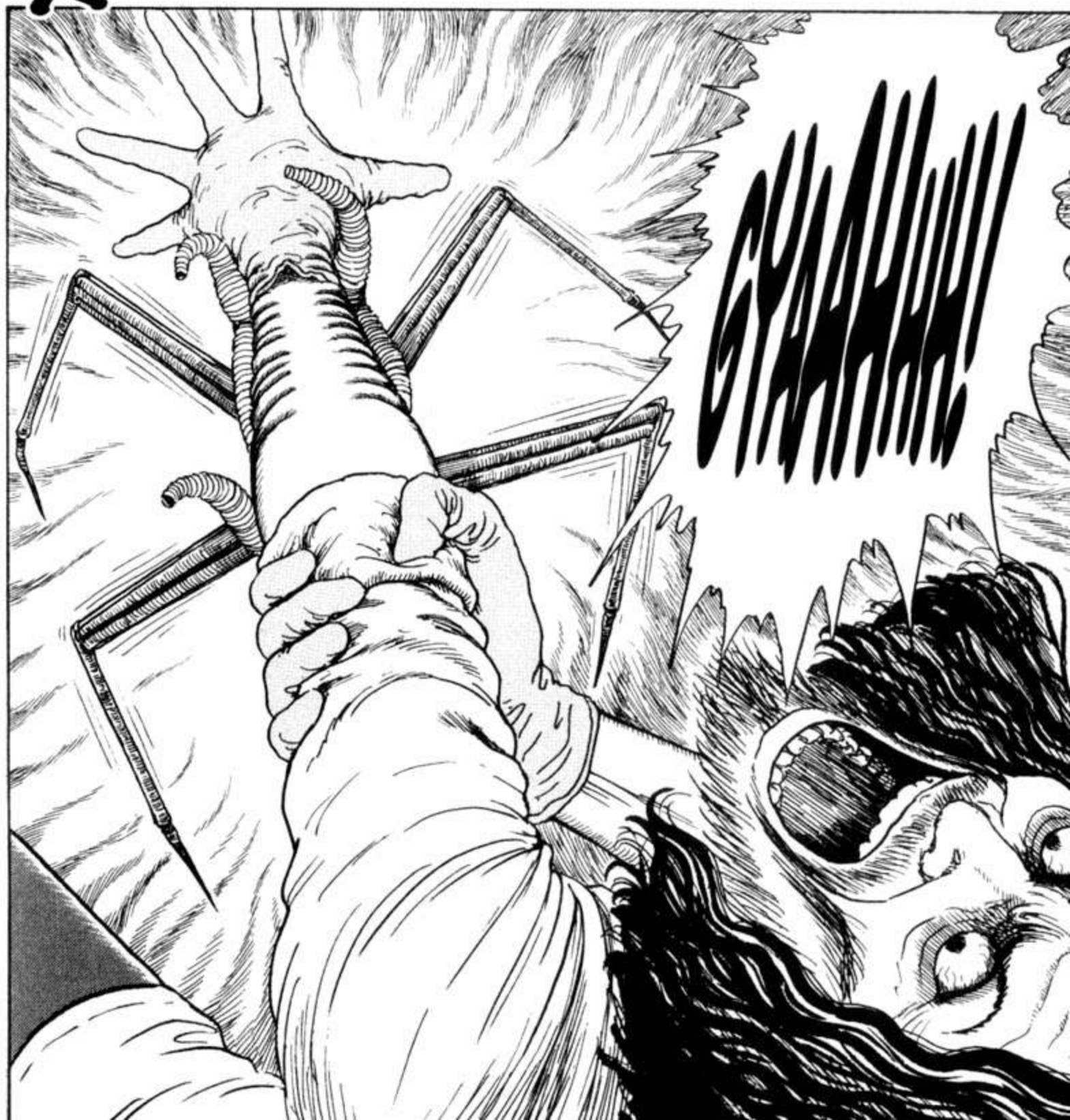
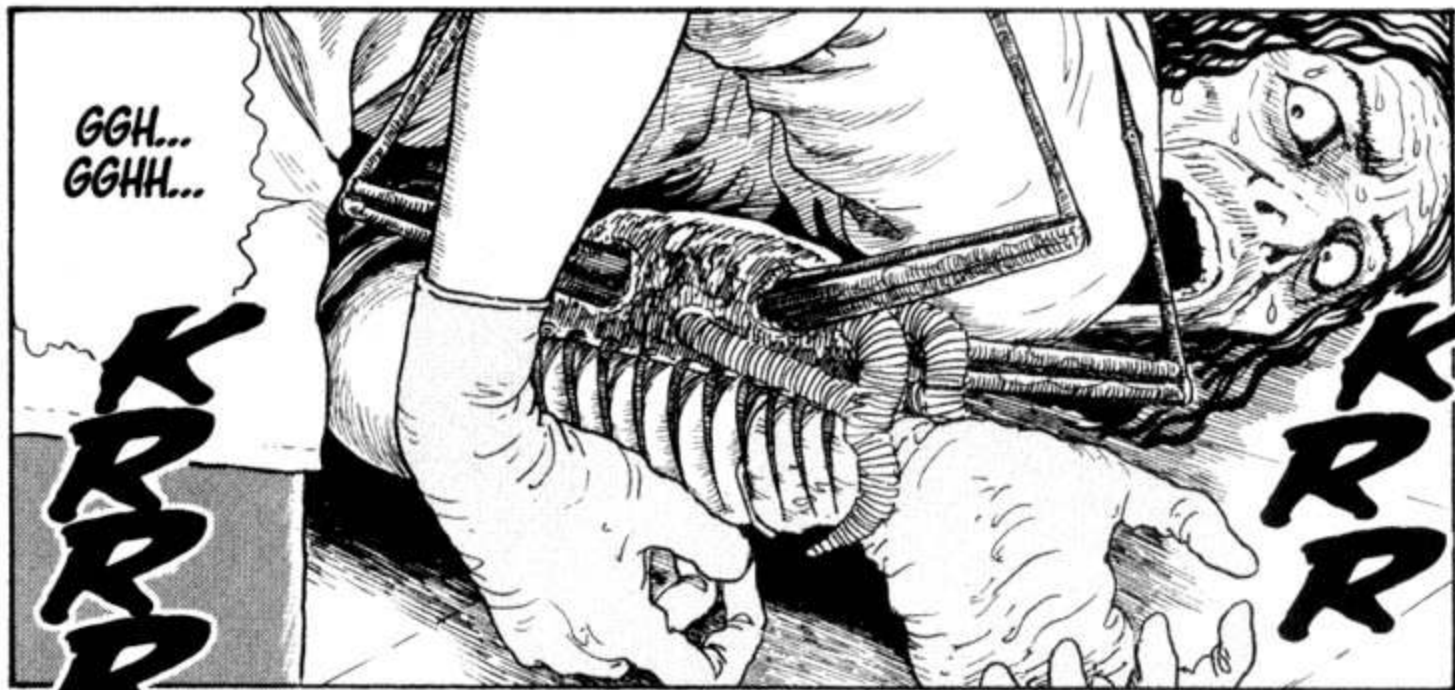






PANS









AAIIIEEE!!





...HAS NOW SPREAD TO MAINLAND JAPAN.

THE "OKINAWA WALKING FISH CRISIS" ...



WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM FOR THIS SPECIAL REPORT.



AS OF 8:00AM, WE HAVE CONFIRMED ACCOUNTS OF "WALKING FISH" AS FAR NORTH AS THE SETO INLAND SEA.

EARLY THIS MORNING, SIGHTINGS WERE REPORTED FROM BEACHES THROUGHOUT KYUSHU, BEGINNING WITH KAGOSHIMA IN THE SOUTH.



MAYBE THEN THEY REALLY ARE IN TOKYO...

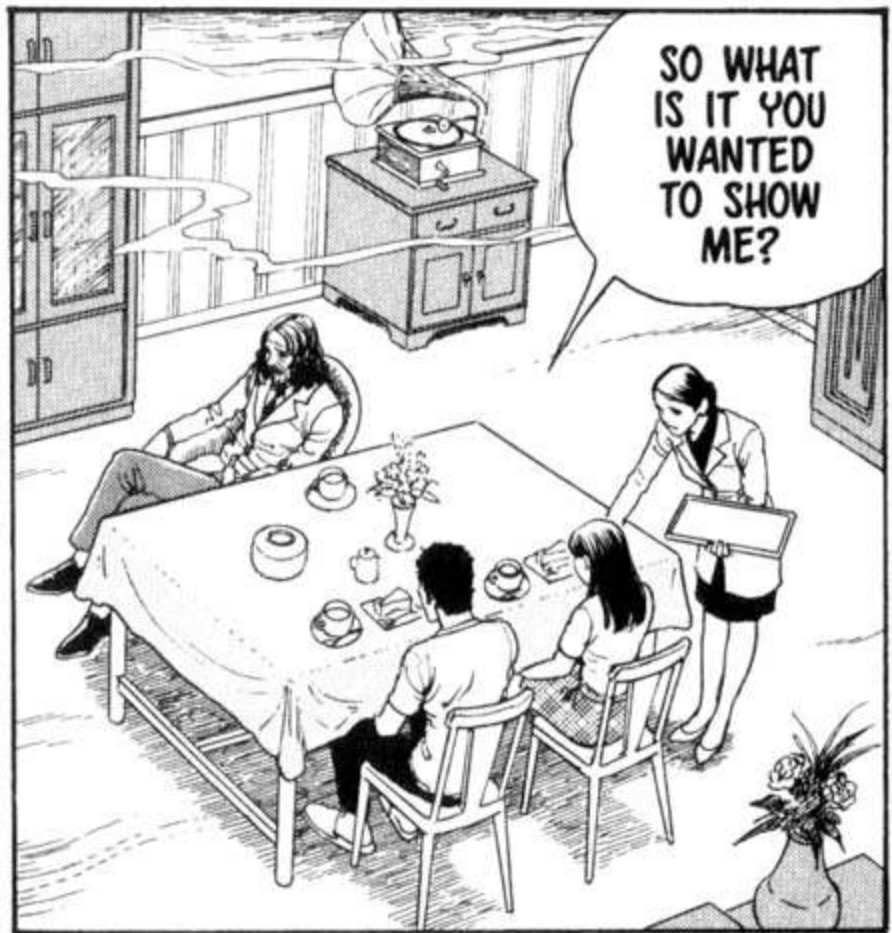


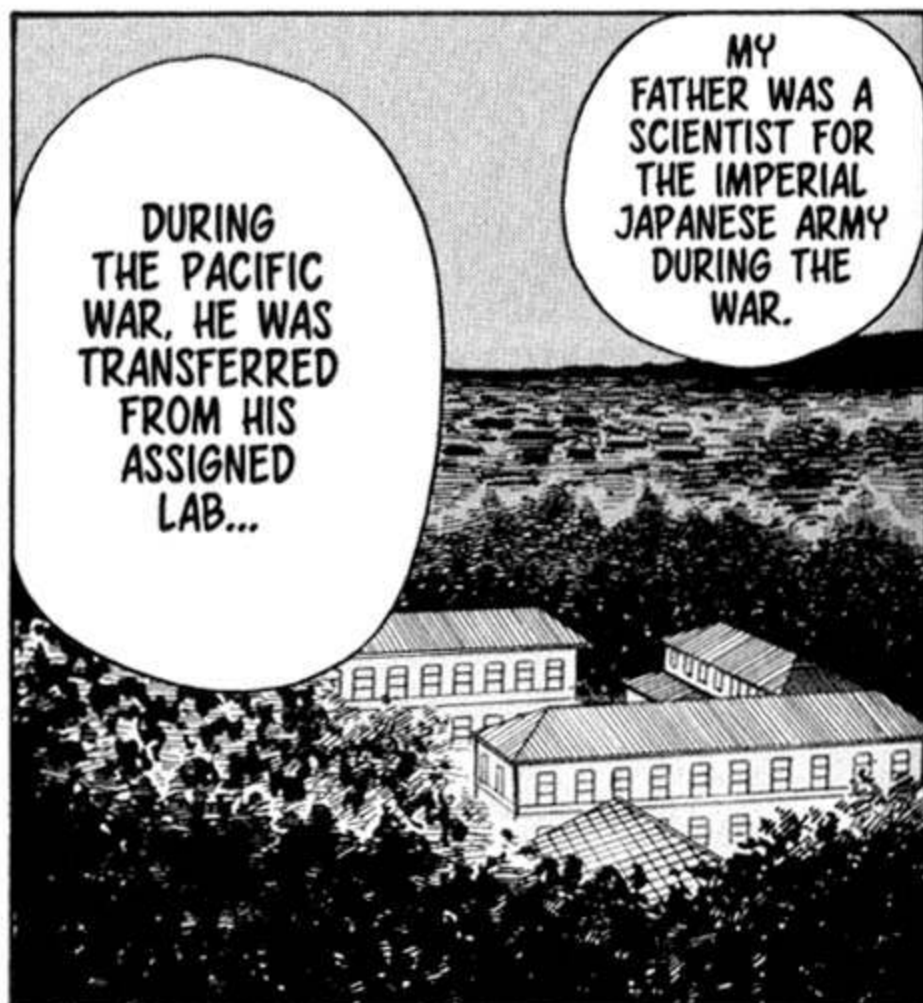
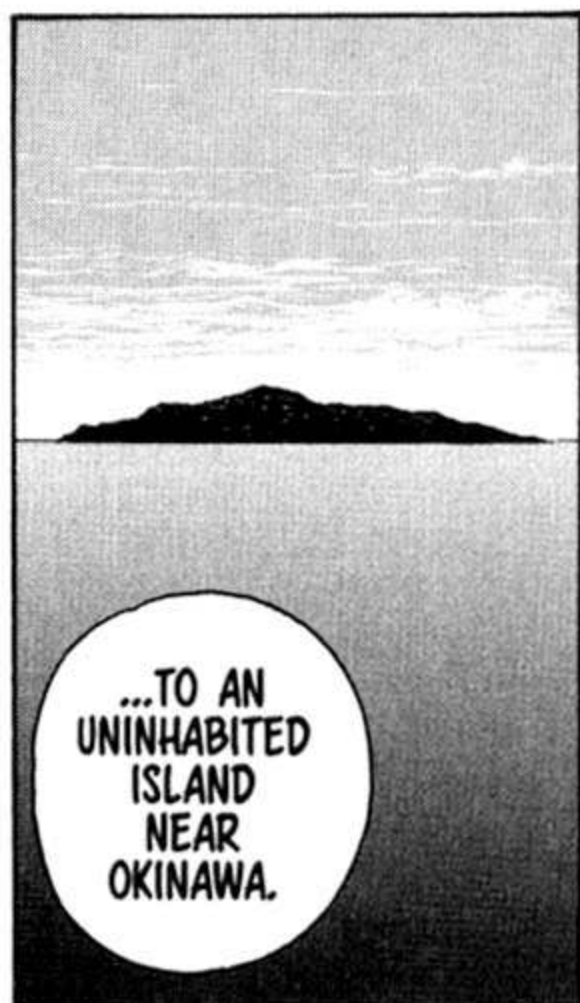
LOCAL AUTHORITIES, FIREFIGHTERS, AND FISHERMEN ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO CAPTURE AND ELIMINATE THE WALKING FISH!

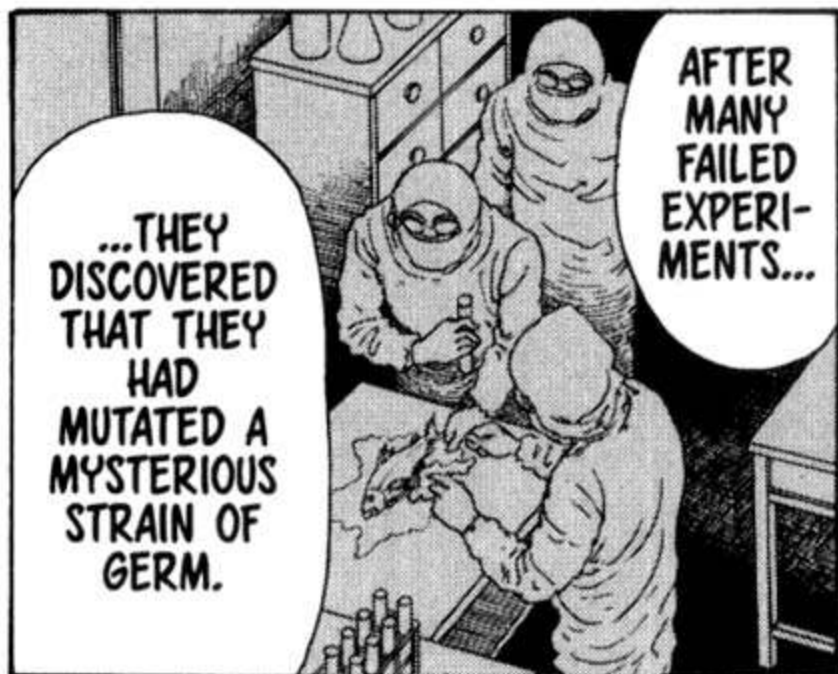












...THEY DISCOVERED THAT THEY HAD MUTATED A MYSTERIOUS STRAIN OF GERM.

AFTER MANY FAILED EXPERIMENTS...

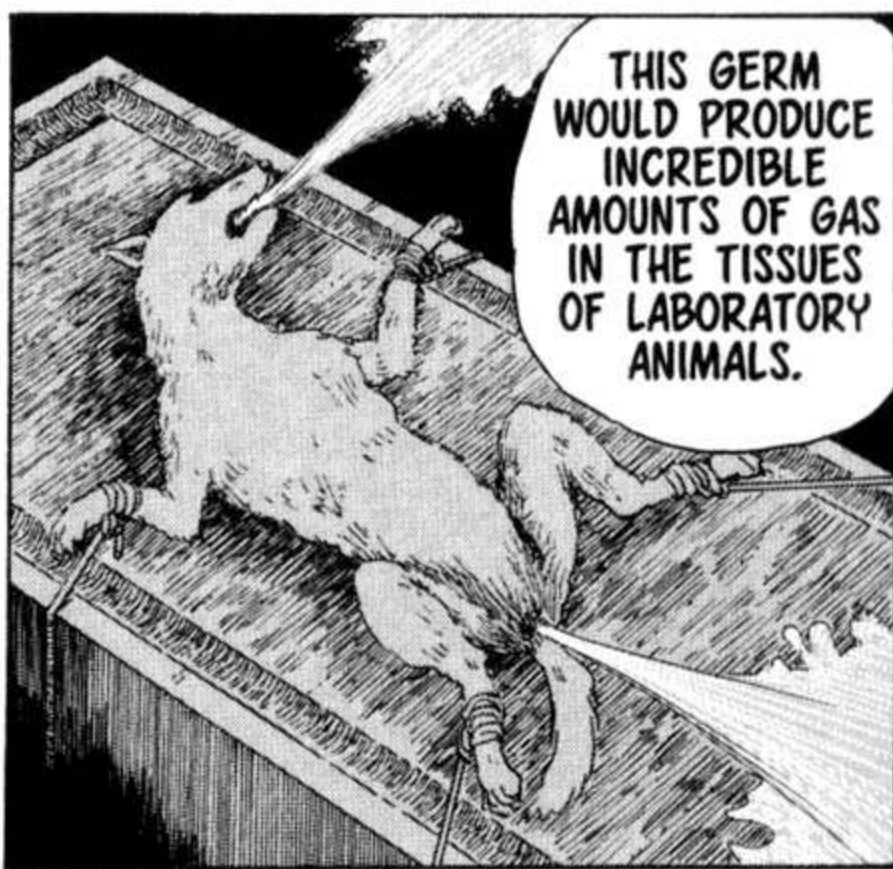


APPARENTLY, THE IMPERIAL ARMY WAS SECRETLY DEVELOPING BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS.



...THE ANIMALS' BODIES WOULD INFLATE.

WHEN THE TECHNICIANS SEALED THEIR ORIFICES...



THIS GERM WOULD PRODUCE INCREDIBLE AMOUNTS OF GAS IN THE TISSUES OF LABORATORY ANIMALS.



IT REEKED OF ROTTING FLESH...THE STENCH OF A HUMAN CORPSE.

BUT WHAT REALLY SURPRISED THE SCIENTISTS WASN'T THE AMOUNT OF THE GAS...IT WAS THE SMELL.



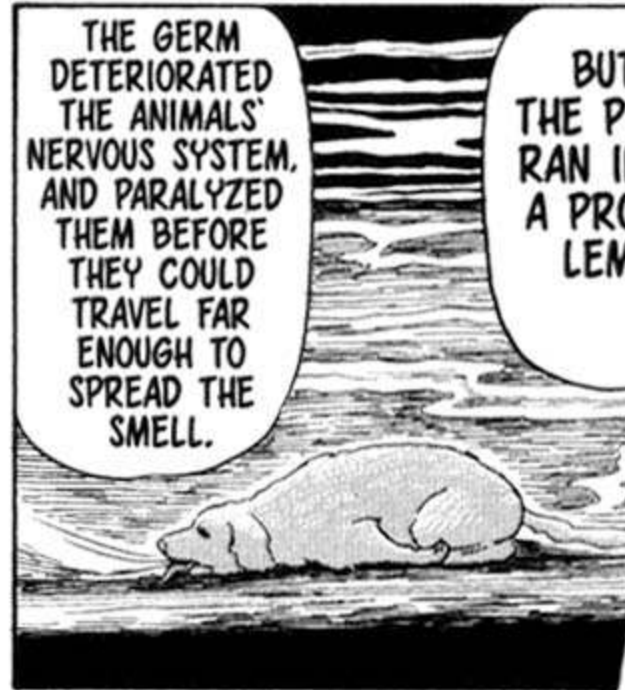
THAT'S
WHEN THEIR
SUPERVISORS
REALIZED THAT
IT COULD BE
USED AS A
WEAPON.

THE SMELL
WAS SO BAD,
MANY OF THE
RESEARCHERS
BECAME
ILL.




BUT AS
JAPAN'S MILITARY
POWER RAPIDLY
DETERIORATED, THE
GOVERNMENT
APPROVED THE
PROJECT OUT OF
DESPERATION.

USING
A SMELL
AS A WEAPON
SEEMS
INEFFICIENT...
WHAT A
FOOLISH
IDEA.



THE GERM
DETERIORATED
THE ANIMALS'
NERVOUS SYSTEM,
AND PARALYZED
THEM BEFORE
THEY COULD
TRAVEL FAR
ENOUGH TO
SPREAD THE
SMELL.

BUT
THE PLAN
RAN INTO
A PROBLEM.



THEIR
FIRST IDEA
WAS TO SEND IN WAVES
OF INFECTED DOGS
AND CATS TO
NAUSEATE THE
ENEMY.



AND
SO THEY
ASKED A
BRILLIANT
SCIENTIST
...MY
FATHER.

THEY
NEEDED A
BETTER
MEDIUM FOR
TRANSMISSION.

IT MIGHT
HAVE WORKED IN
CLOSE-QUARTERS
COMBAT, ISLAND
BY ISLAND,
JUNGLE BY
JUNGLE.

...WAS A
WALKING
MACHINE
OPERATED
BY GAS
PRESSURE!!

HIS
SOLU-
TION...

OF COURSE, HE
HAD HIS DOUBTS,
BUT HE WAS
CURIOUS ABOUT THE
GERM'S ABILITY
TO PRODUCE
GAS...

...AND HE
CLAIMED
HE CAME
UP WITH
THE
ANSWER.

IT
SEEMS LIKE
TOO MUCH TO
IMAGINE...
WHAT A
BIZARRE
WEAPON!

CATS, DOGS,
COWS, OR HORSES
WOULD RIDE THESE
WALKING MACHINES
PROPELLED BY THE
GAS, INVADING
ENEMY TERRITORY
AS THEY SPREAD
THE CLOUD OF
DECAY.

ACCORDING
TO HIM,
THEY MANU-
FACTURED
SEVERAL...

...AND
THEY
WERE VERY
SUCCESSFUL
AT
WALKING.

MY
FATHER
WENT TO
THE ISLAND
TO BUILD
THIS
MACHINE.



MY FATHER WAS THE ONLY SURVIVOR.

BUT AMERICAN FIGHTERS SUNK THE TRANSPORT SHIP CARRYING THE COMPLETED PROTOTYPES SOUTH TO THE BATTLEFIELD.



WELL... IT'S REALLY WEIRD...

FOR A LONG TIME, I DIDN'T BELIEVE HIM, BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK?



BUT WHO KNOWS WHETHER IT'S TRUE? IT'S SO IMPLAUSIBLE, AND I CAN'T FIND ANY CORROBORATING RECORDS.

HE WAS DEAD SERIOUS WHEN HE TOLD ME THIS STORY.



NO... CAN I USE YOUR BATHROOM?



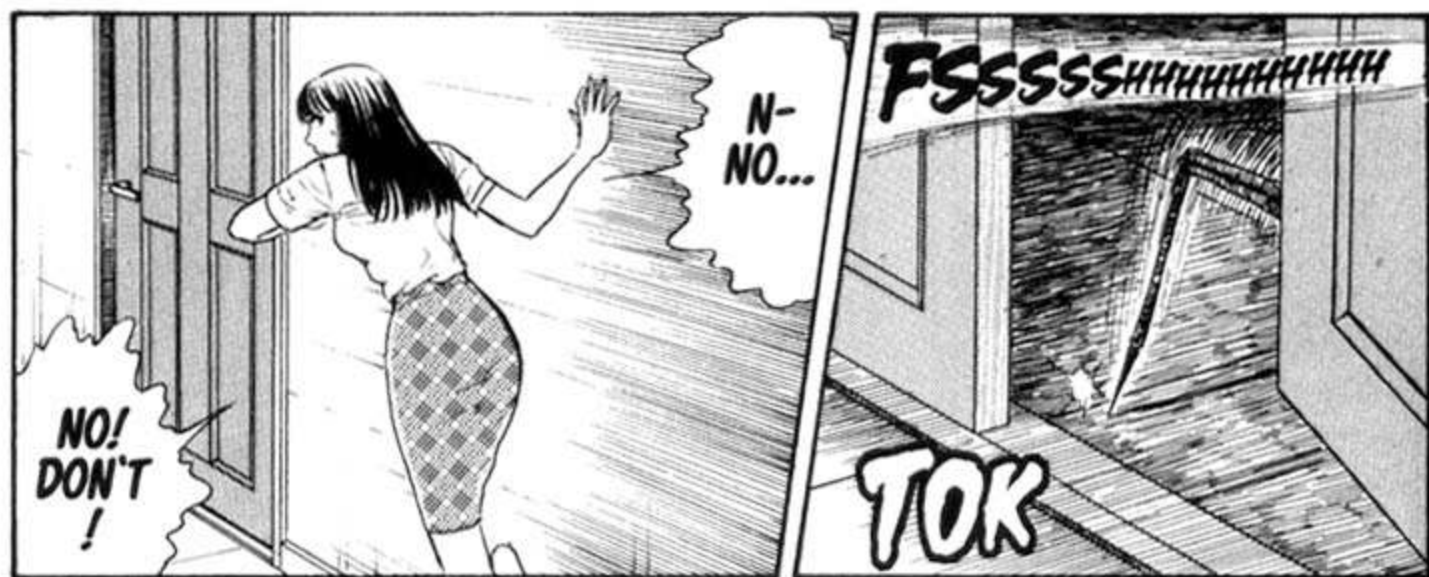
KAORI, DO YOU FEEL ALL RIGHT?











REALLY
!?

WHAT
!?

I
ANALYZED
THAT
WALKING
FISH.

SO
ANYWAYS,
TADASHI...

WHAT
DO
YOU
MEAN
?

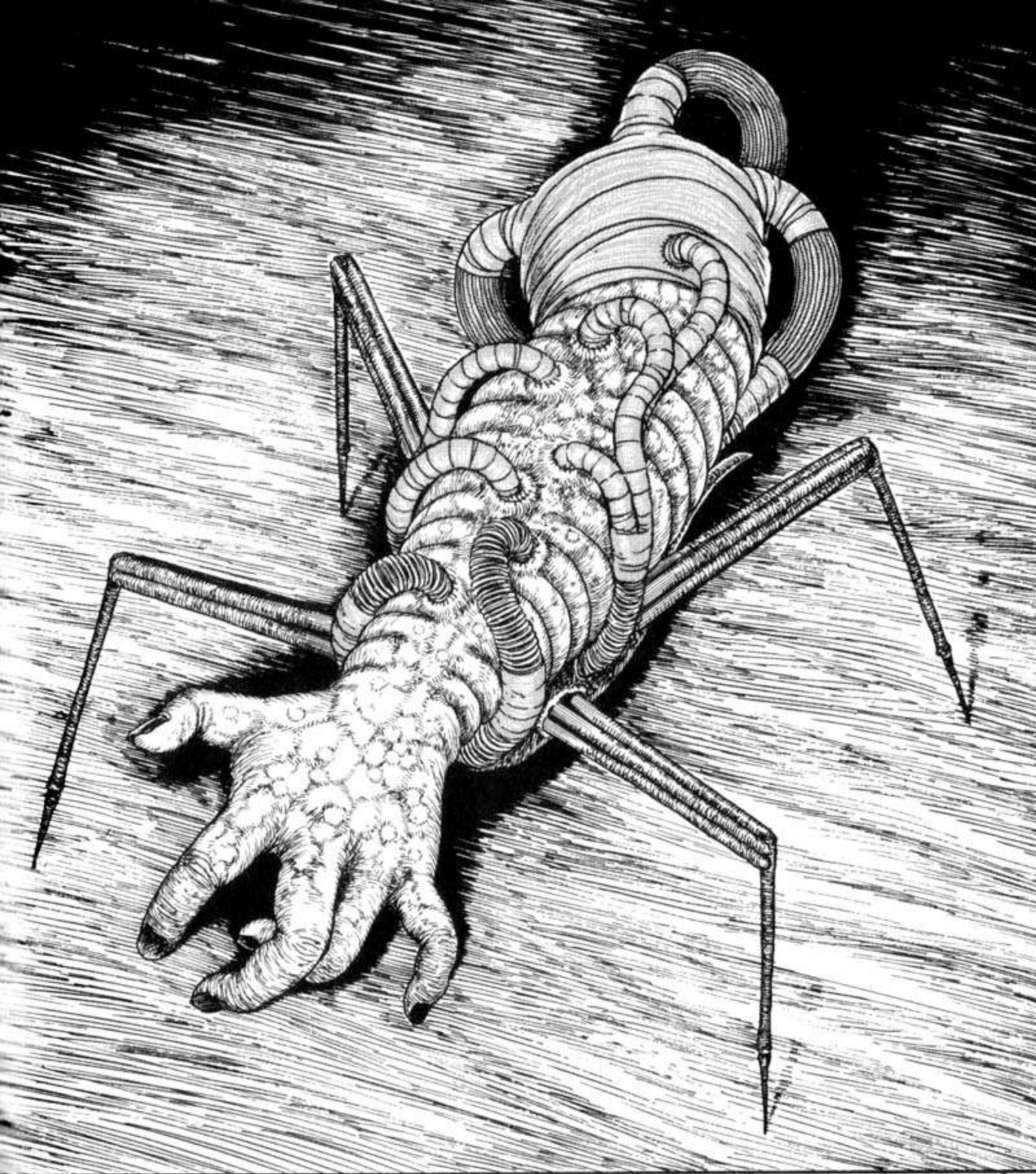
FUSED
...?

THE LEGS
AND THE
FISH WERE
SYNTHETIC-
ALLY FUSED
TOGETHER!

YES...
THAT FISH
DIDN'T
GROW
LEGS...

AAAIIEEEEE!!





WH...
WHAT
THE
HELL...?

8 / Infection







THE LEGS WHICH HAD BEEN ON THE FISH CAUGHT MY ARM...I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO AMPUTATE.

THAT'S RIGHT... IT'S MY OWN ARM.



WHAT GERMS ...?

GERMS ?



IF I HADN'T, THE GERMS IN THE FISH WOULD HAVE SPREAD THROUGHOUT MY BODY.

THEY'VE ALREADY INFECTED MY ENTIRE ARM.



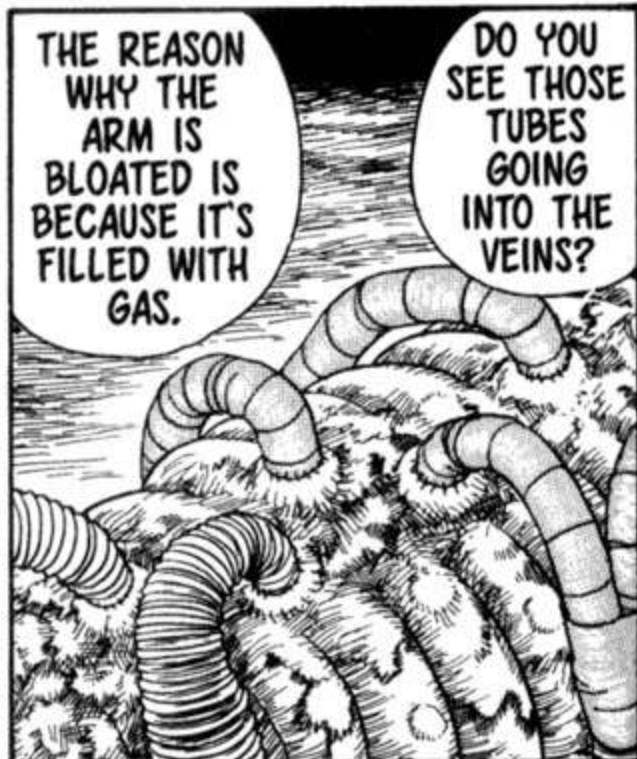
LOOK CLOSER.



...IS PRODUCED BY THE GERMS IN THE ARM.

FSSHHH

AND THIS GAS...



THE REASON WHY THE ARM IS BLOATED IS BECAUSE IT'S FILLED WITH GAS.

DO YOU SEE THOSE TUBES GOING INTO THE VEINS?

AND, AS I EXPECTED, THE LEGS STARTED TO MOVE.

TWIK
TWIK

IN NOT TOO LONG I COULD HEAR THE GAS PASSING THROUGH...

AFTER MY ARM CAME OFF, I INSERTED THESE TUBES INTO THE TISSUE.

THE DISSECTION WAS DIFFICULT. ITS BODY AND LEGS WERE ALL MADE OF METAL... NO SCREWS, NO SEAMS... LIKE AN ORGANIC WHOLE.

I WAS EXCITED, SO I TOOK IT APART TO SEE HOW IT WORKED.

...AND TUBES WHOSE GAS PRESSURE MOVES THE LEGS.

BUT IT TURNED OUT TO BE VERY SIMPLE. BASICALLY IT'S MADE UP OF PISTONS AND CYLINDERS...

Exhaust

THE
CONTRAST
IS TRULY
SHOCKING...

BUT
DESPITE ITS
SIMPLICITY,
LOOK HOW
COMPLEX ITS
LEG MOVEMENTS
ARE!

TOK TOK TOK TOK TOK TOK

IT
WAS
EASY
TO
REPAIR
...

THE FRONT
LEFT LEG
WAS BROKEN...
PROBABLY
BECAUSE YOU
CRUSHED IT
BEHIND YOUR
DRESSER.

TWIK

TWIK

INSTEAD
OF THE FISH,
NOW IT'S MY
ARM THAT'S
WALKING!

JUST
LOOK
AT IT
GO!

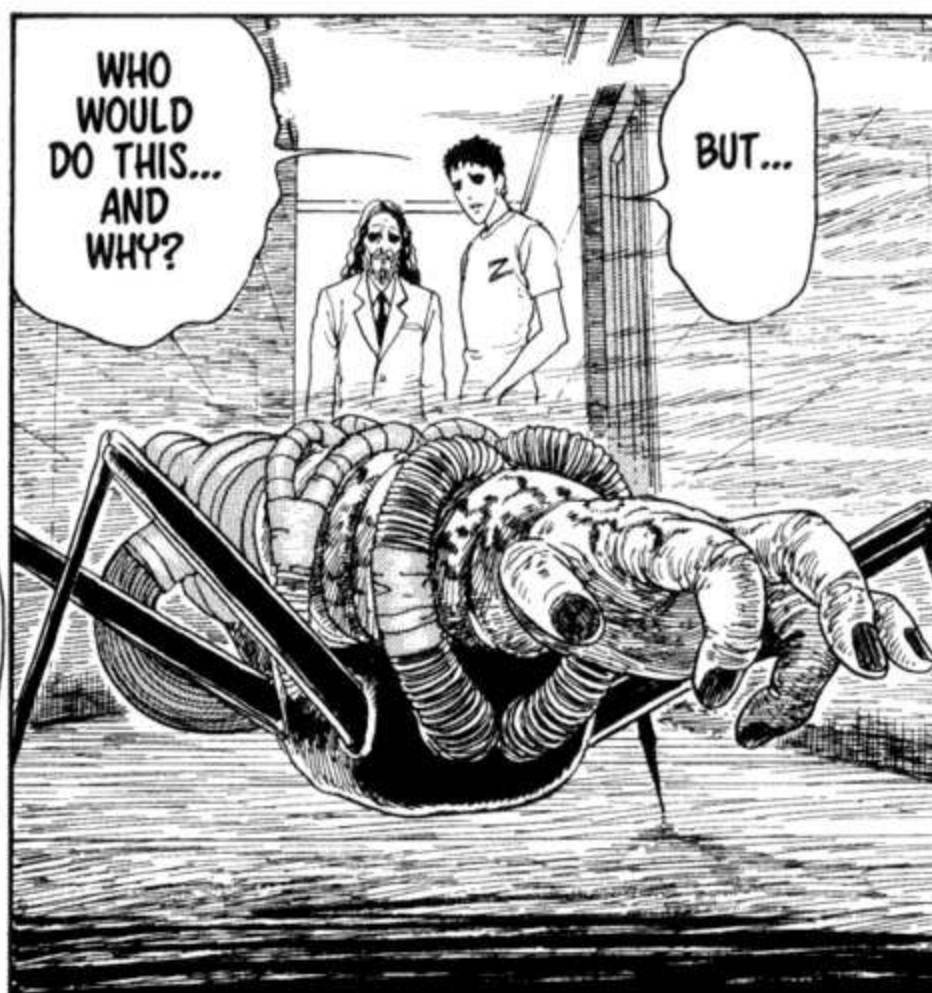
TOK TOK

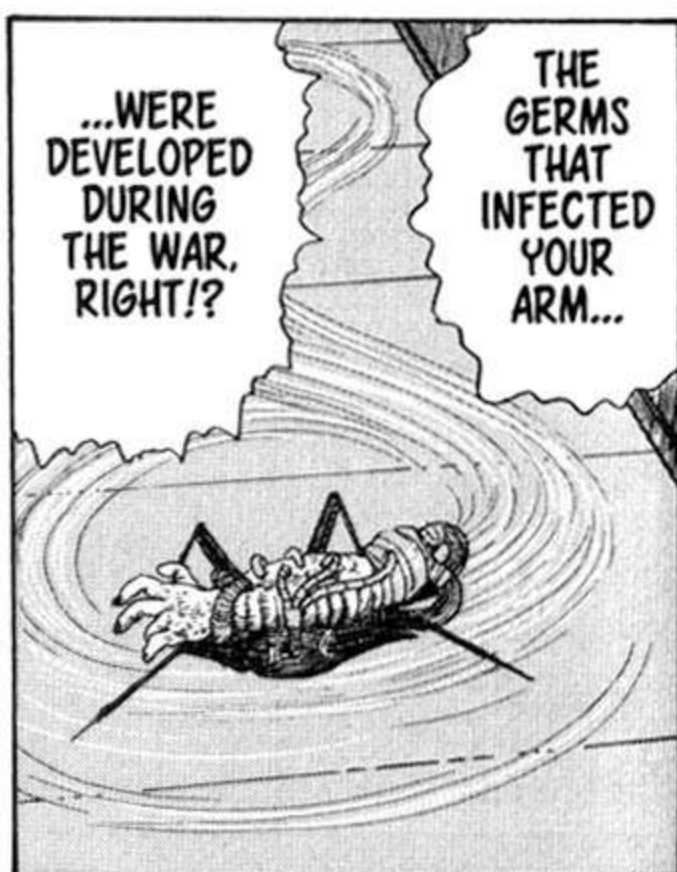
TOK

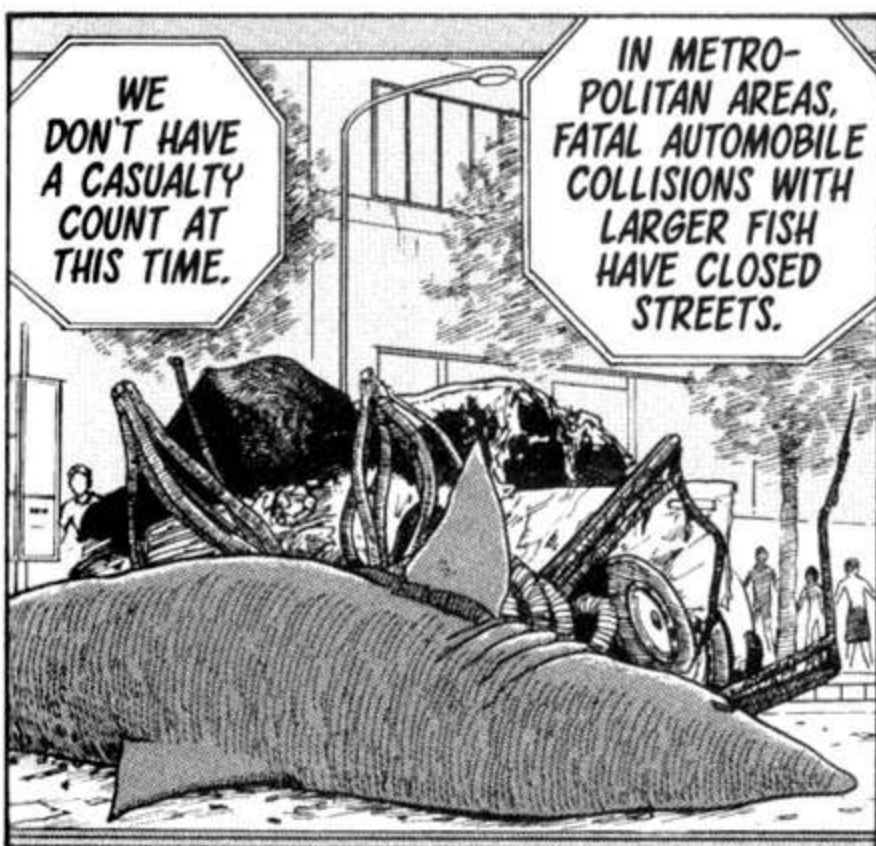
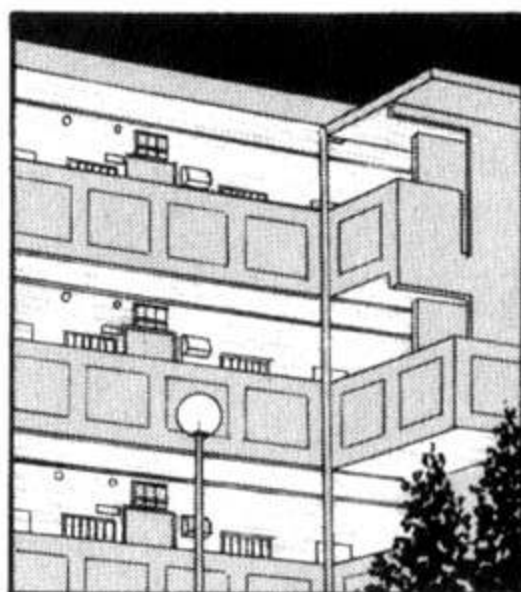
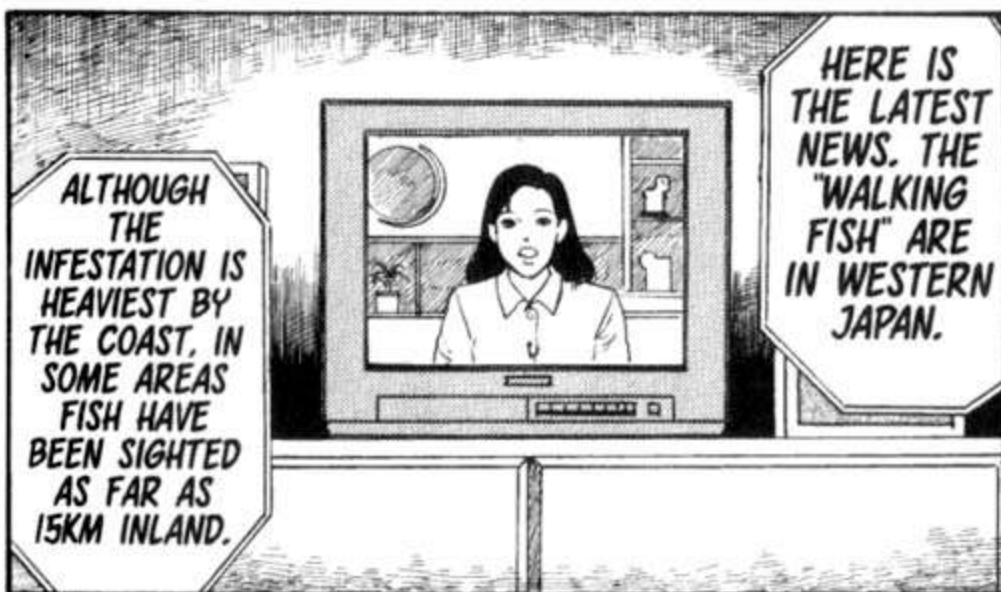
I BELIEVE THIS
ARTICULATION
IS DUE TO THE
GERM'S IRREGULAR
PRODUCTION
OF GAS.

TOK
TOK TOK
TOK

THIS
MACHINE
MOVES
LIKE AN
ORGANISM
BECAUSE
THE GERM
IS ALIVE!





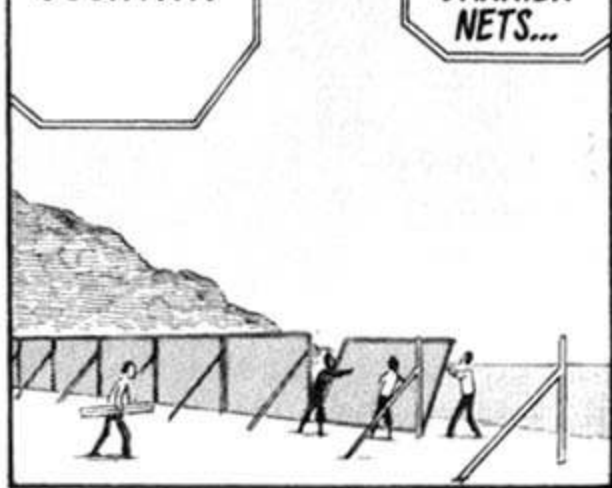
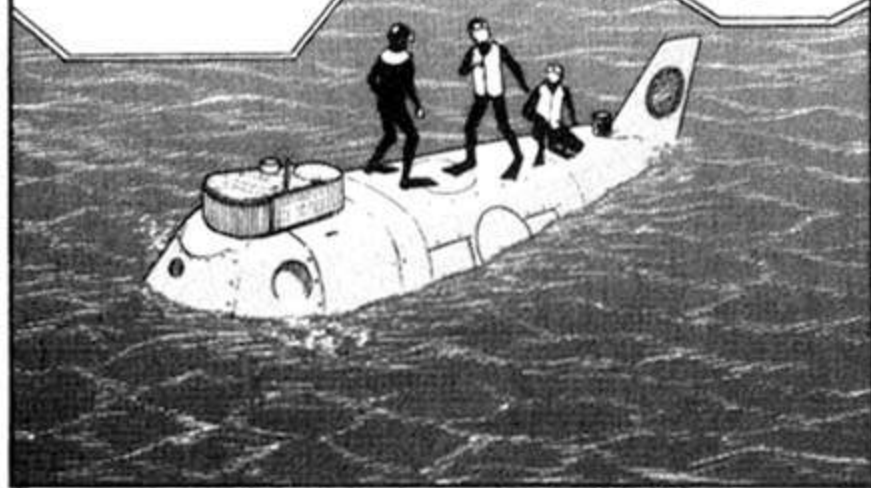


...BUT THE ORIGINS OF THE FISH REMAIN UNKNOWN.

UNDER-WATER INVESTIGATIONS CONTINUE ...

...ON BEACHES ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ORDERED THE INSTALLATION OF BARRIER NETS...

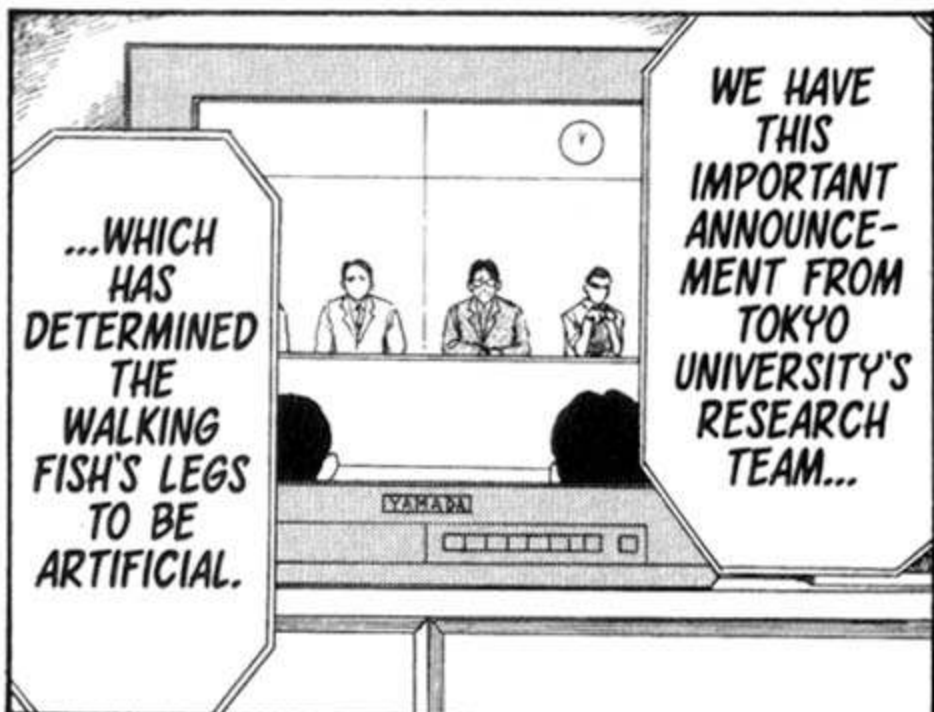


WE AREN'T CLEAR ON ITS EXACT MECHANISM.

WELL ...

...WHICH HAS DETERMINED THE WALKING FISH'S LEGS TO BE ARTIFICIAL.

WE HAVE THIS IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM TOKYO UNIVERSITY'S RESEARCH TEAM...

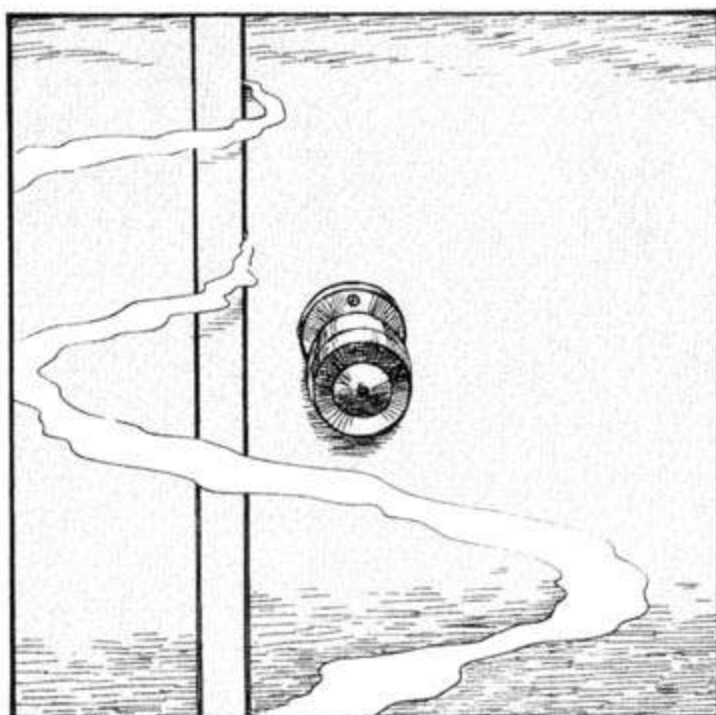


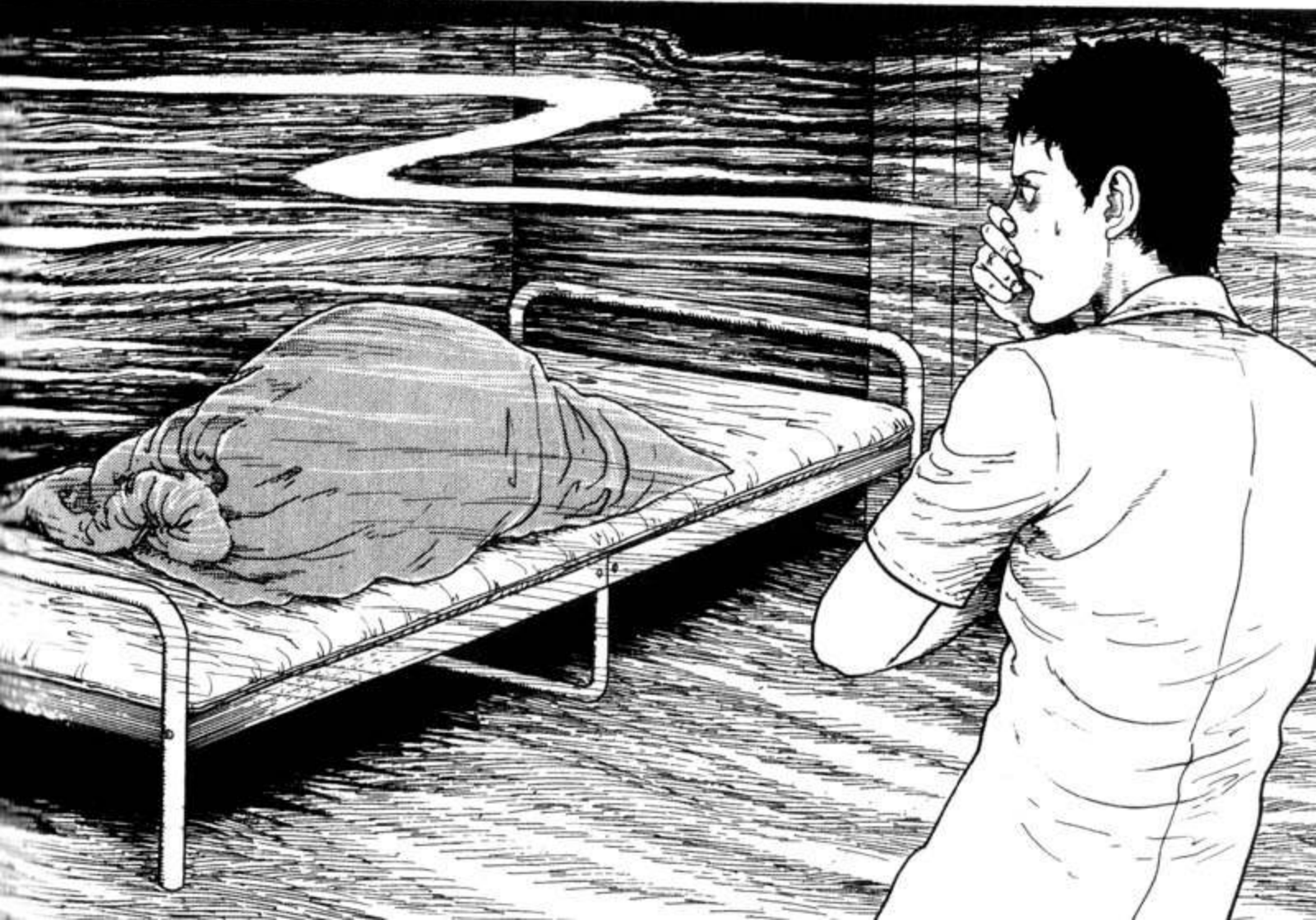
TWO OF OUR RESEARCHERS HAVE BEEN INJURED ALREADY.

WE ARE CONDUCTING A THOROUGH ANALYSIS, BUT THESE MACHINES ARE VERY DANGEROUS.











YOU
GET
OUT!!

NO!



KAORI...
GET OUT OF
THE ROOM!

THIS
IS
AWFUL!



FSSSSHHHHHH

HUH
?!



I
THOUGHT
YOU
HATED
IT!

DON'T BE
CRAZY!
HOW CAN
YOU STAND
THIS
SMELL?!



FWOM

URGH
...

KAORI
!!

FWOOSH



DID YOU
HEAR THAT,
KAORI!? IT'S
THE SOUND
OF THE
CREATURE!!

THE
CREATURE'S
IN THIS
ROOM!!







IT
STINKS...
WHY...
WHY...
!?

AHH...
NO--!!

SHOOOOOOSH



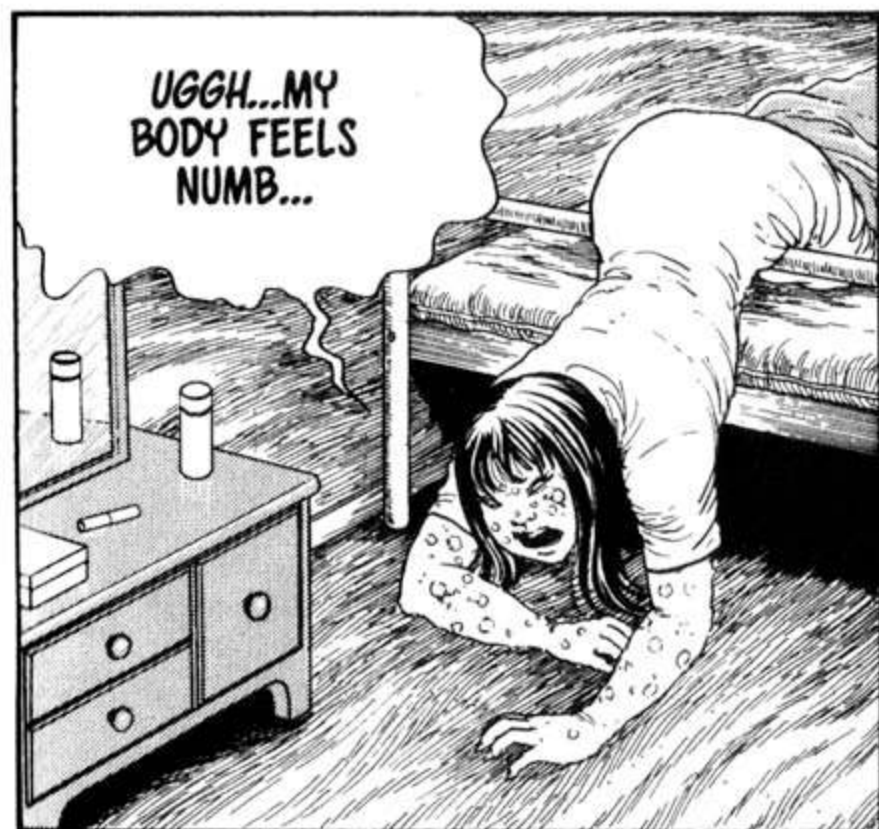
SHOW
ME
THE
MIRROR
!

NO
!!



KAORI...
FORGET
ABOUT THE
MIRROR.
LET'S GO
TO THE
HOSPITAL
!

UNNH...MY
FACE FEELS
FUNNY...TADASHI,
BRING ME THE
MIRROR...



UGGH...MY
BODY FEELS
NUMB...

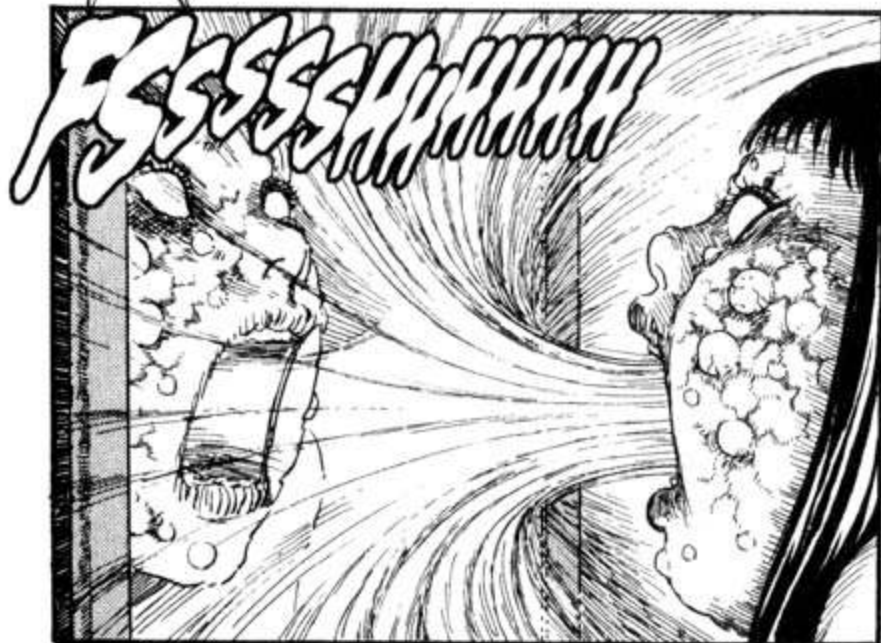


FINE,
I'LL LOOK
FOR
MYSELF.

E E E Y A A A !!



CHAK



FSSSSSHHHHHH



NO... NO!!

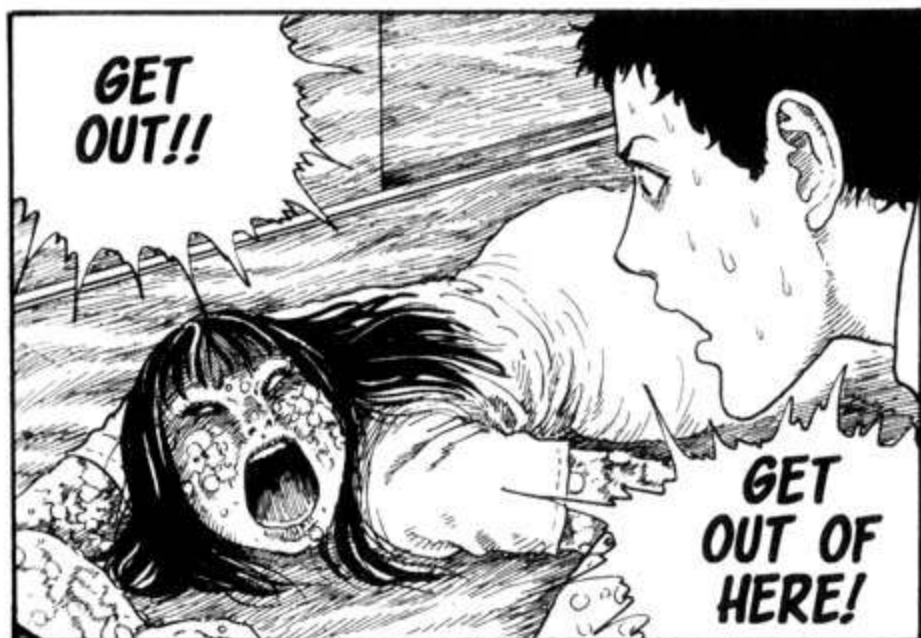
IS... IS THIS REALLY ME!?



I SMELL LIKE THOSE MONSTERS !!

FSSHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH

AHH... THAT SMELL... IT'S THE SMELL OF THOSE MONSTERS !!



**THE
WALKING
FISH HAVE
ENTERED
THE KANTO
AREA!**

**WE
INTERRUPT
THIS PROGRAM
TO BRING
YOU THIS
EMERGENCY
REPORT!!**

**IN
ADDITION TO
SURUGA BAY AND
SAGAMI BAY,
THEY ARE NOW
SWARMING THE
KUJUKURIHAMA
AREA AS
WELL!!**

**THE
BARRIER
NETS HAVE
PROVEN TO BE
COMPLETELY
INEFFECTIVE
IN HOLDING
BACK THE
INVASION!**

**THEY
ARE
SWARMING...
THIS USED
TO BE A
BEACH!**

**WE
HAVE
THIS LIVE
BROADCAST!**

**9 / The Death-
Stench Invades,
Part 1**

RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR



NNNNNNNNNNNNNNNN

RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR



GASHUNK



SHOSSH



SHOSSH



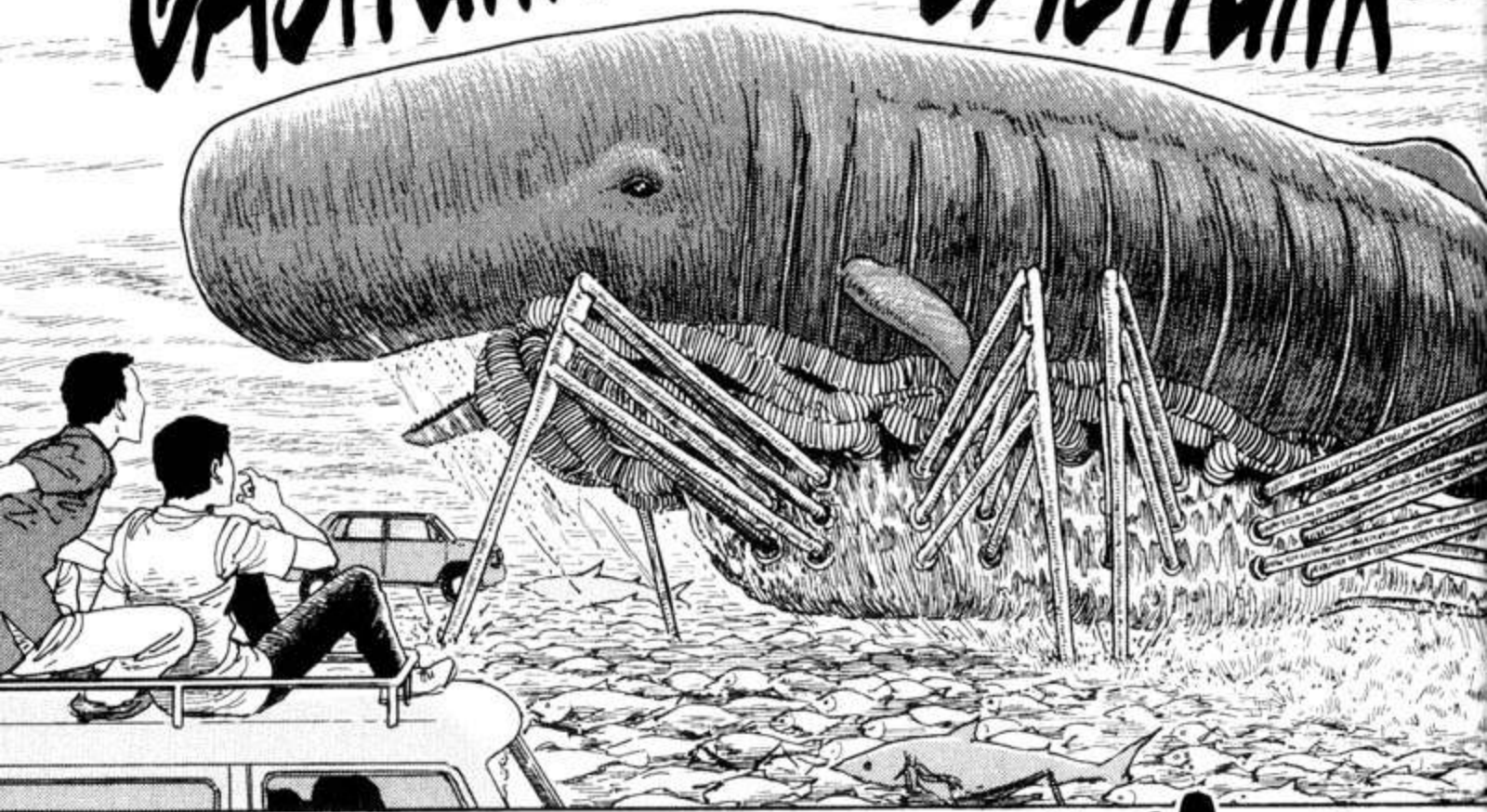
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?

**AAAH!
LOOK
OVER
THERE!!**



GASHUNK

GASHUNK



THE
LEGS
COULDN'T
TAKE THE
WEIGHT!!

PSSSHHHH

LOOK,
ITS LEGS
ARE
BENDING.



MY
CAMERA
FELL OFF THE
TRUCK!!

HEY,
DID YOU
GET
THAT?

WHAT
...

WHAT!?
YOU
IDIOT!!



WHAT
THE HELL
DO THEY
WANT?



RRR

THE
CAR
WON'T
MOVE!

RRRRRRRR

WE'LL NEVER GET
IT OUT FROM UNDER
THOSE FISH! THEY
KEEP COMING! LET'S
GET BACK TO TOWN!

Y-
YOU
IDIOT
!!



...OF THE
EMERGENCY
OFFICE OF
RELIEF
COORDINA-
TION...

oooooooo

WEEEEoooo

THE
GOVERN-
MENT HAS
ANNOUNCED
THE FORM-
ATION...





BE HONEST !!

YOU MUST THINK I'M DISGUSTING!

AND I CAN'T EVEN MOVE RIGHT...

THESE UGLY BOILS ALL OVER MY BODY...

DON'T YOU LIE TO ME!

YOU'LL FIND A PRETTIER WOMAN WHO DOESN'T SMELL, RIGHT!?

DON'T LIE!! YOU'RE GOING TO GET RID OF ME, RIGHT!?

WH-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

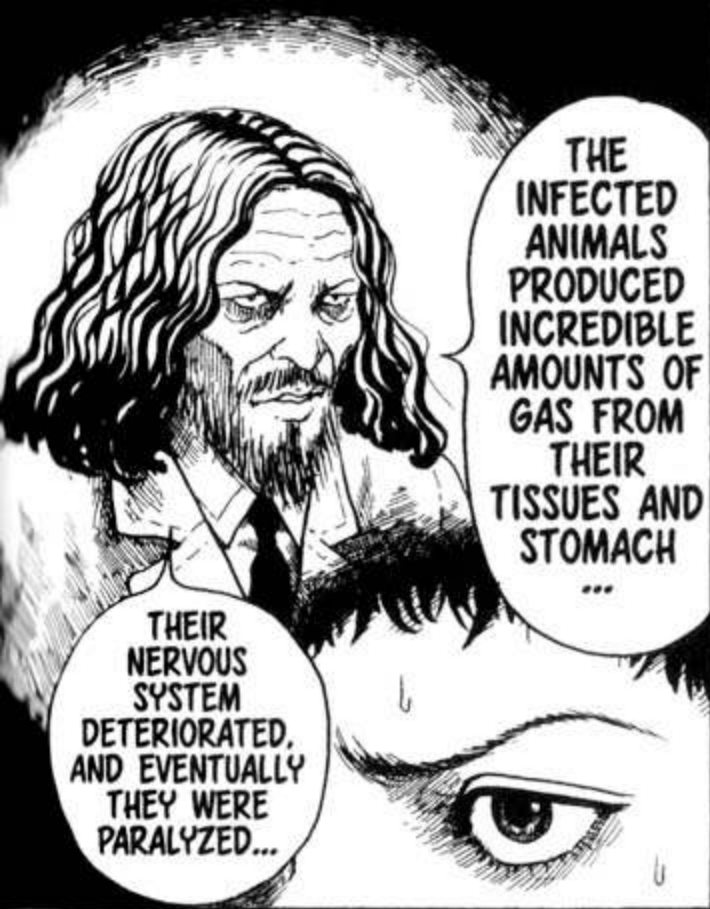
KAORI...

OH, TADASHI... PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME.

SHE'S PRETTY! YOU LIKE HER, DON'T YOU!?

THAT'S RIGHT... LIKE YOUR UNCLE'S LAB ASSISTANT...

ENOUGH! YOU'RE MAKING ME MAD!



THE
INFECTED
ANIMALS
PRODUCED
INCREDIBLE
AMOUNTS OF
GAS FROM
THEIR
TISSUES AND
STOMACH
...

THEIR
NERVOUS
SYSTEM
DETERIORATED,
AND EVENTUALLY
THEY WERE
PARALYZED...



WHAT
CAN I
DO...?



SO
PRETTY
SOON...
KAORI
WILL...



B-BUT I
NEED TO
TALK TO
HIM!!
PLEASE
LET ME
TALK TO
HIM!!

I'M
SORRY,
BUT HE'S
TOO BUSY
WITH HIS
RESEARCH.
HE CAN'T
TAKE YOUR
CALL.

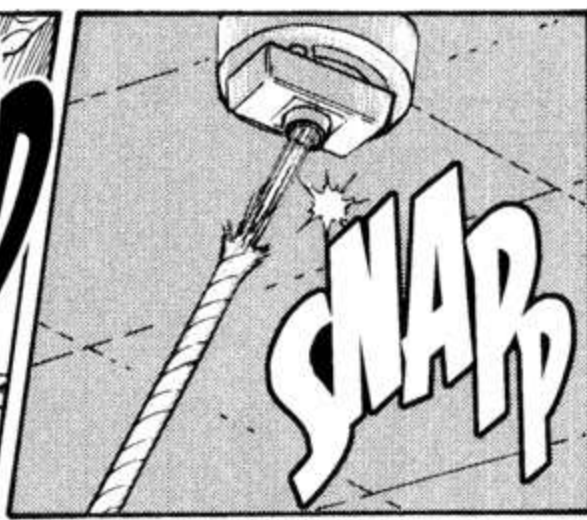


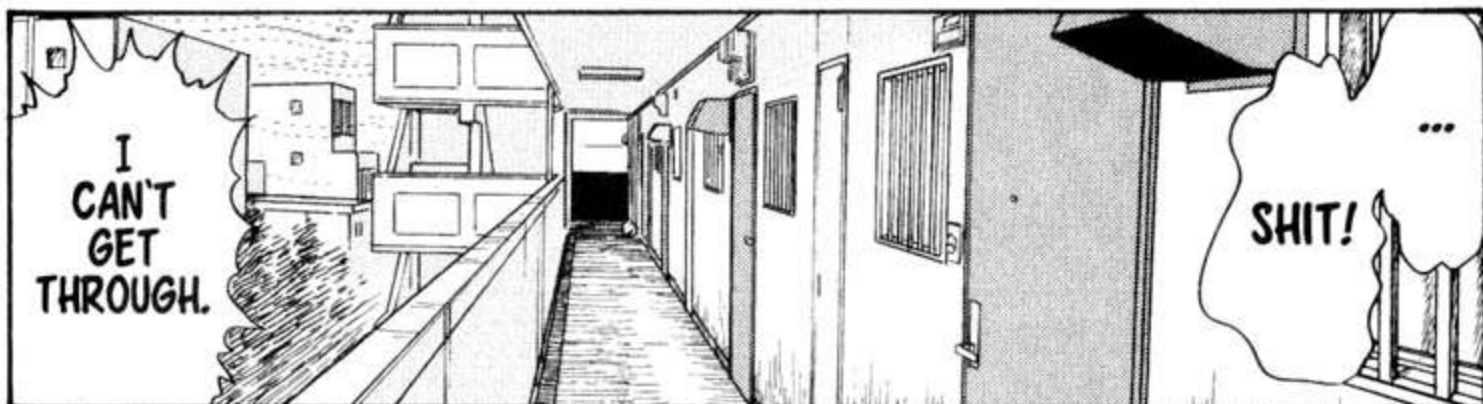
MS.
YOSHIYAMA?
THIS IS
TADASHI.
CAN I
SPEAK TO MY
UNCLE?

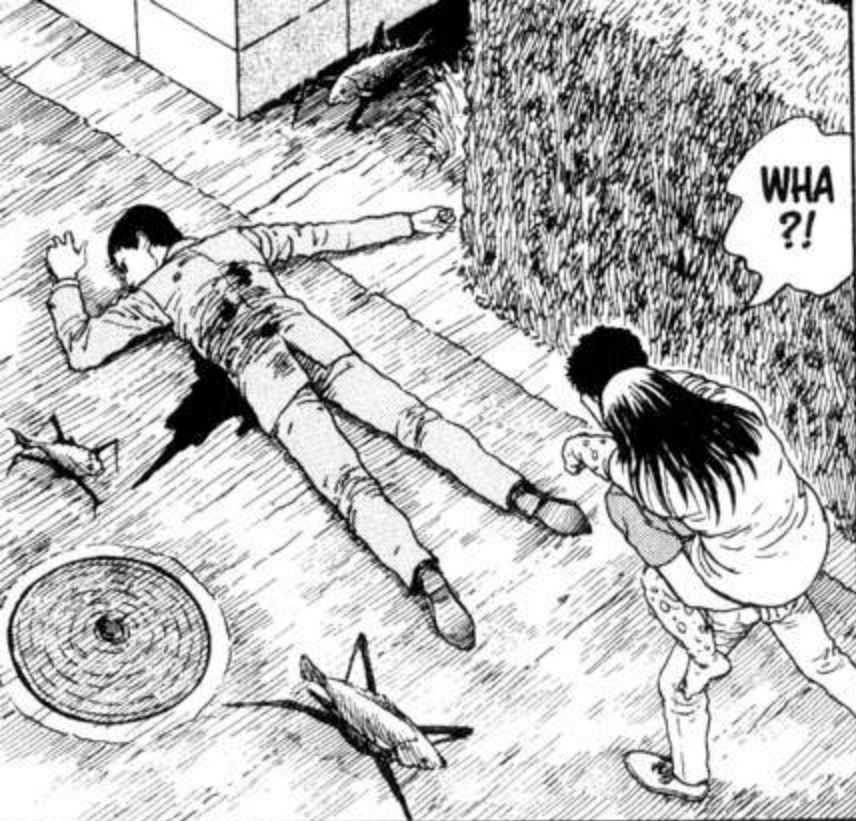
KOYANAGI
LABORA-
TORY.











GASHUNK



GASHUNK

OH NO!!!



GASHUNK

GASHUNK GASHUNK

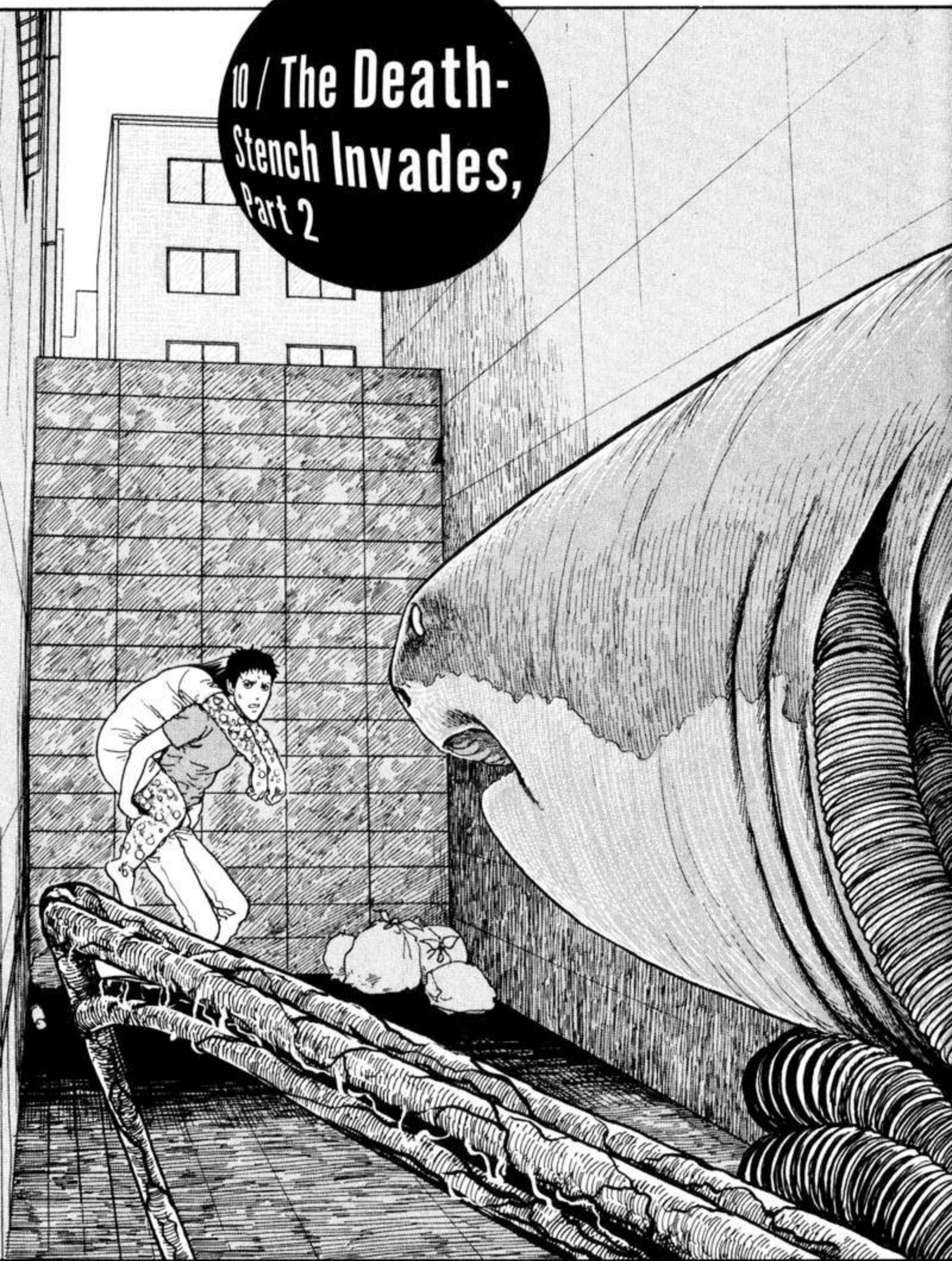


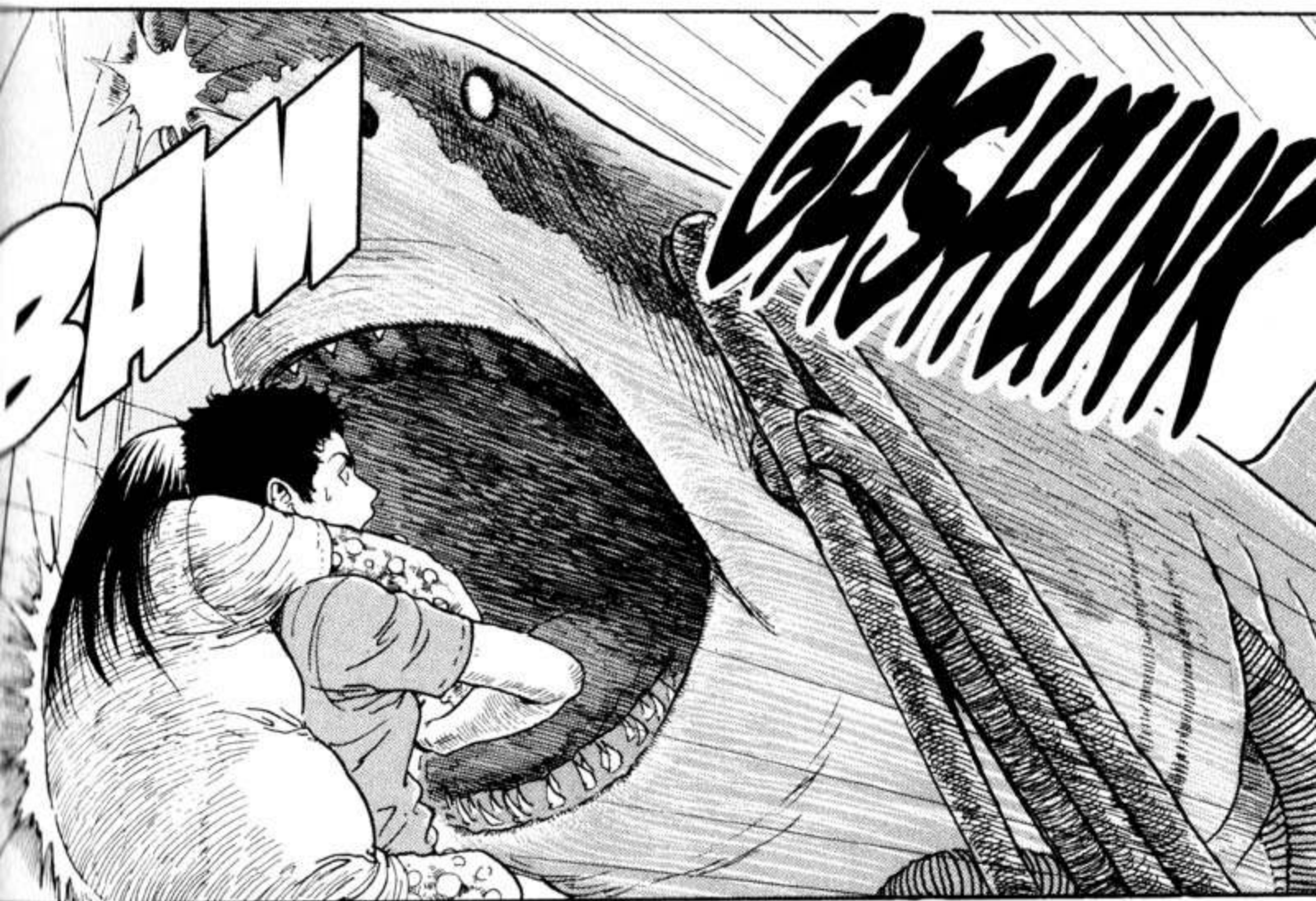
HOLD
ON
TIGHT!!

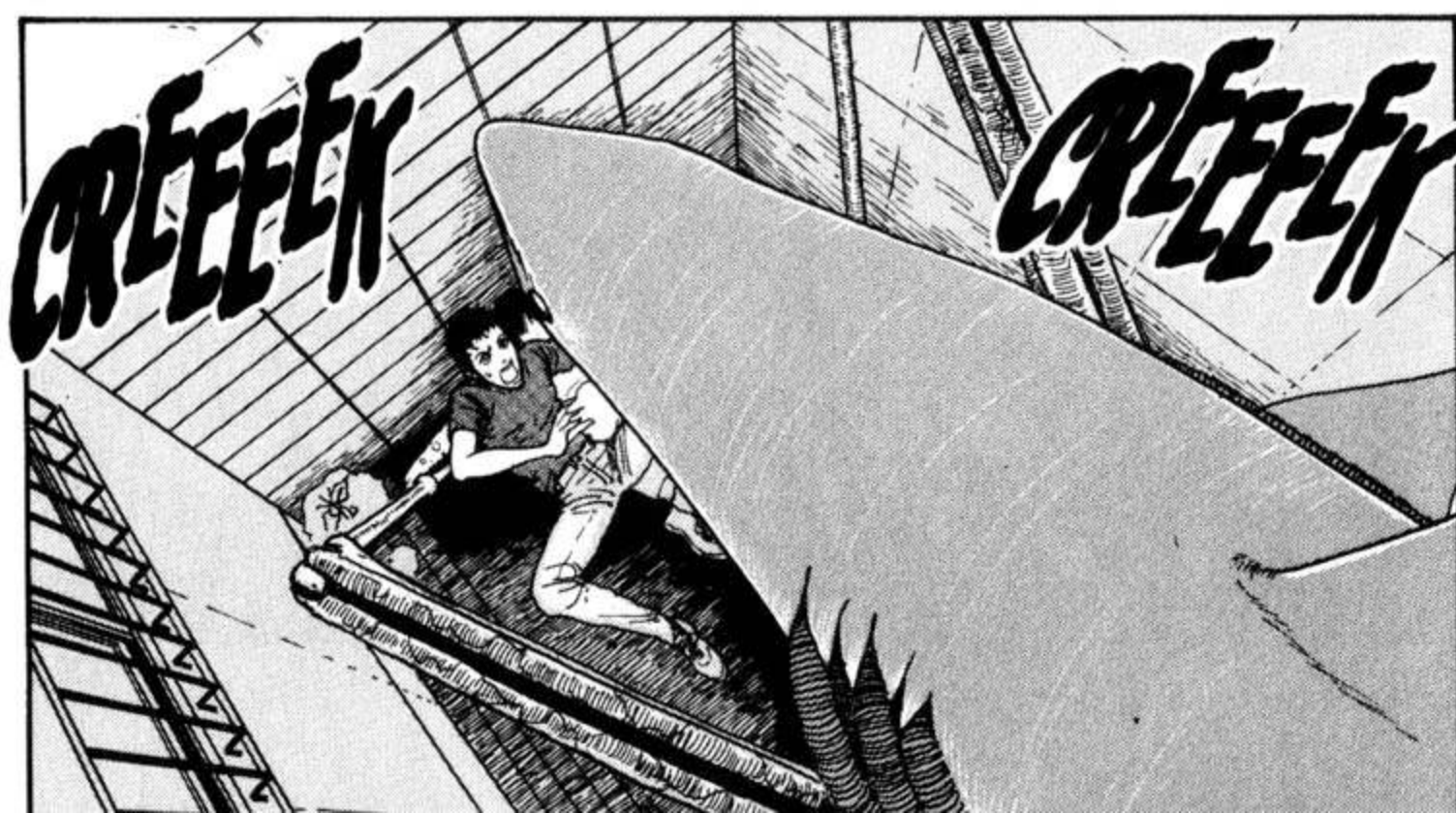
KAORI
...

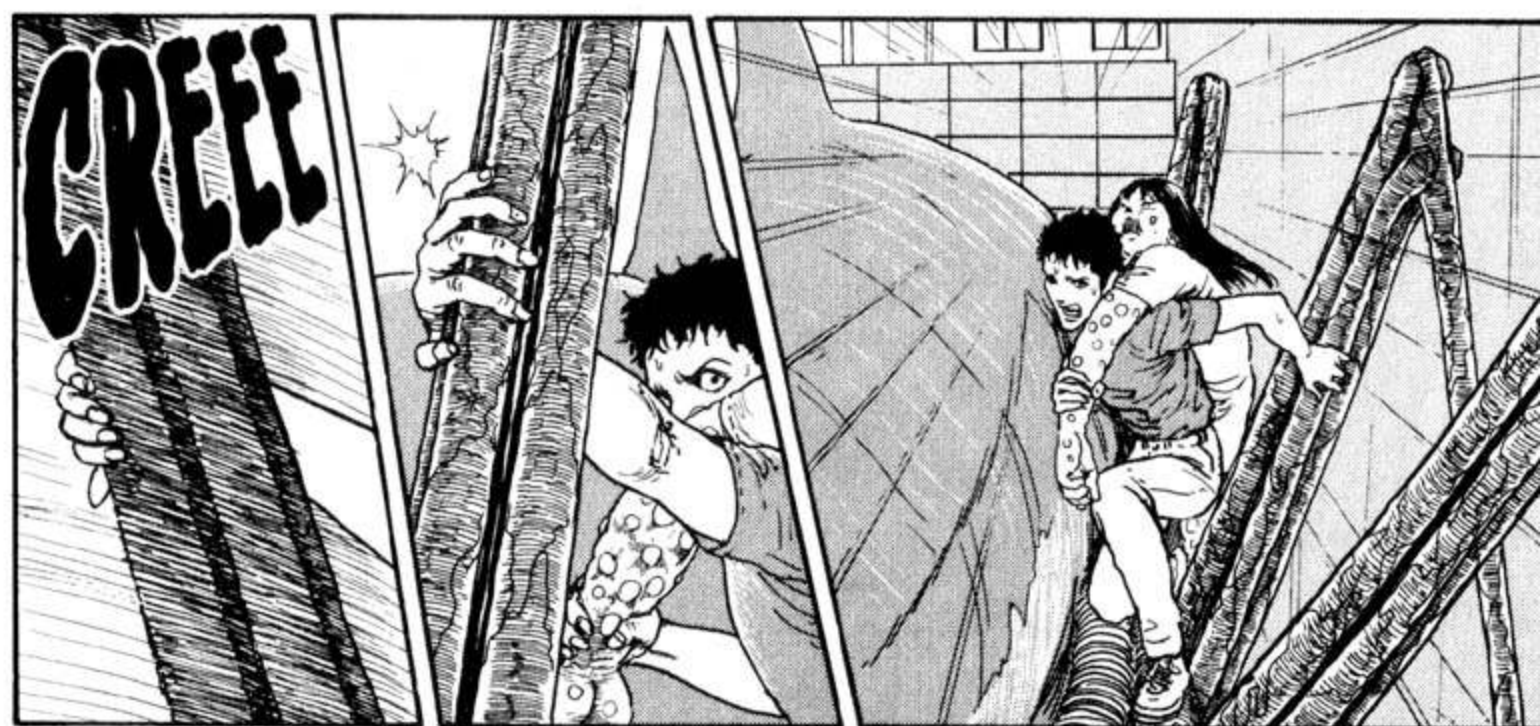


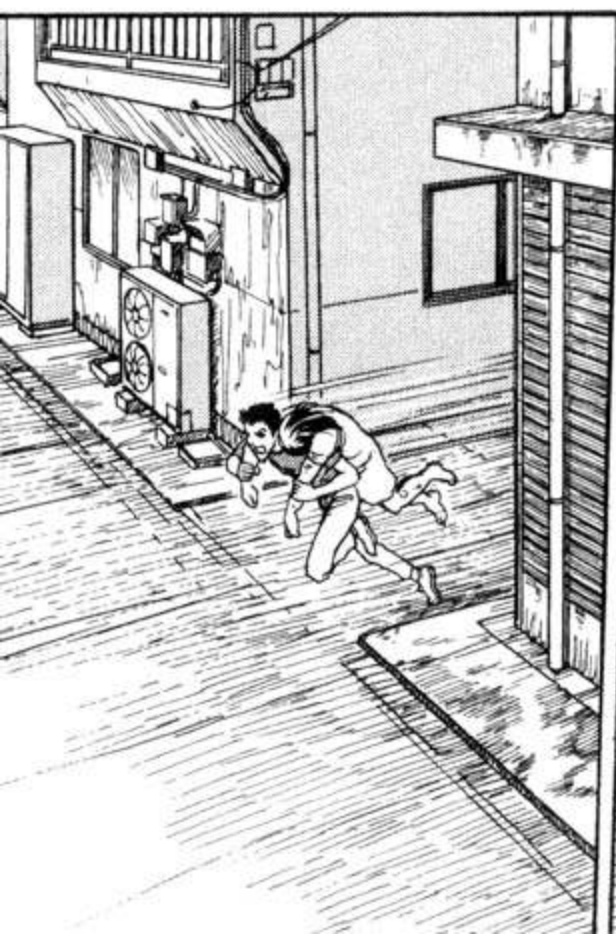
10 / The Death-
Stench Invades,
Part 2

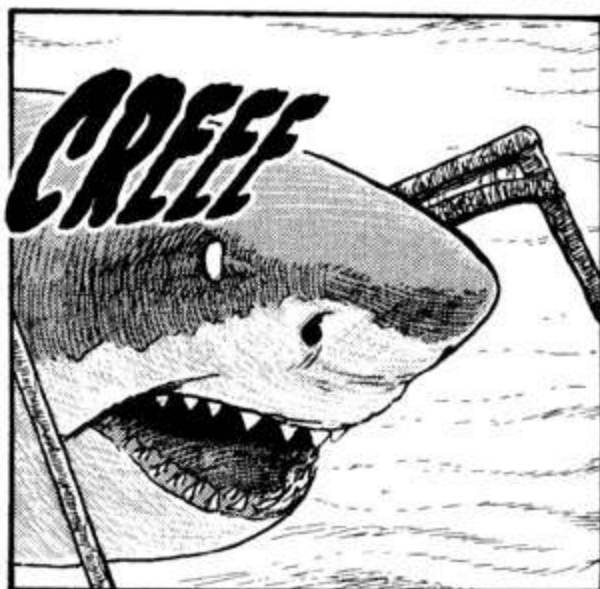
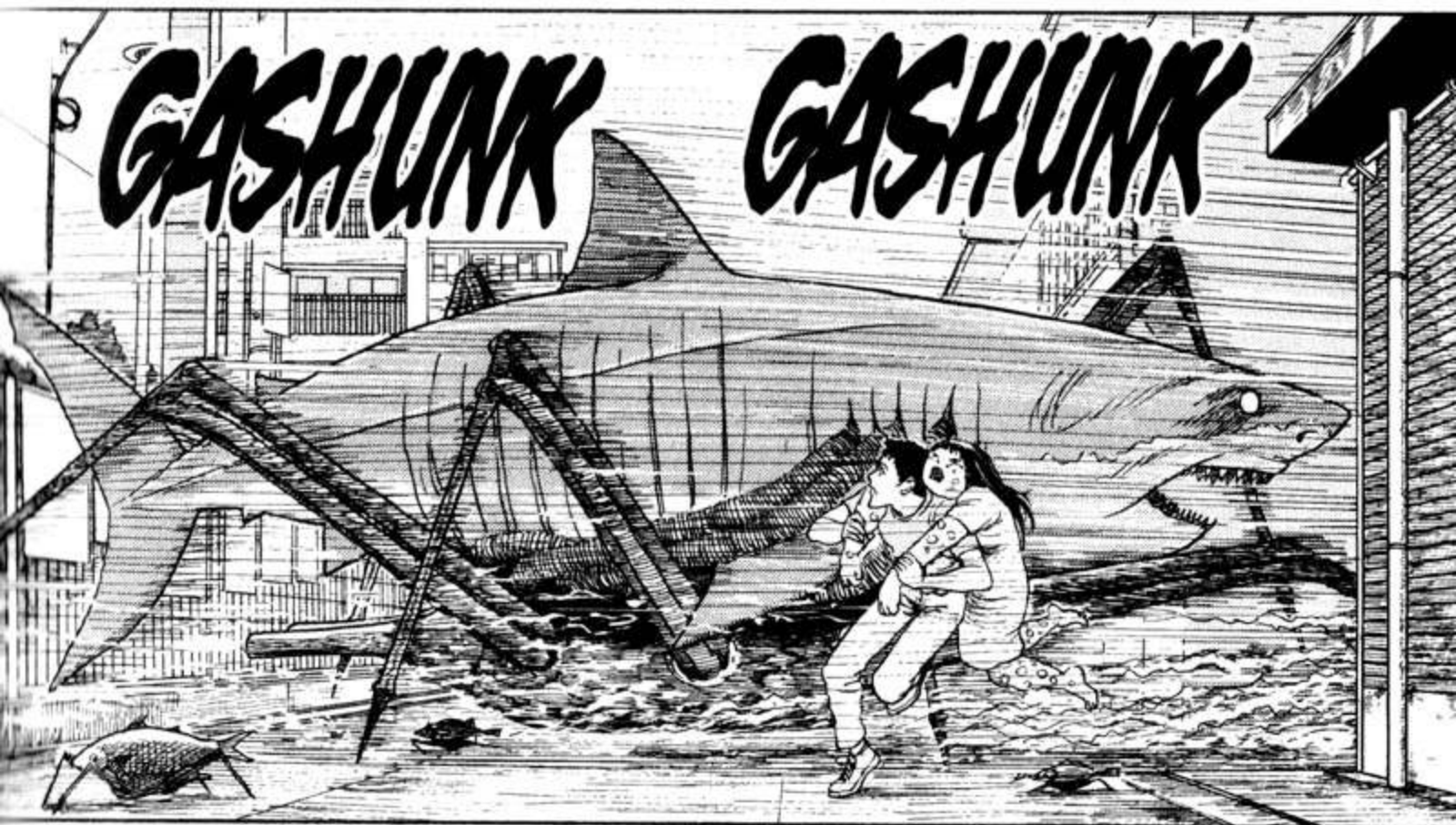


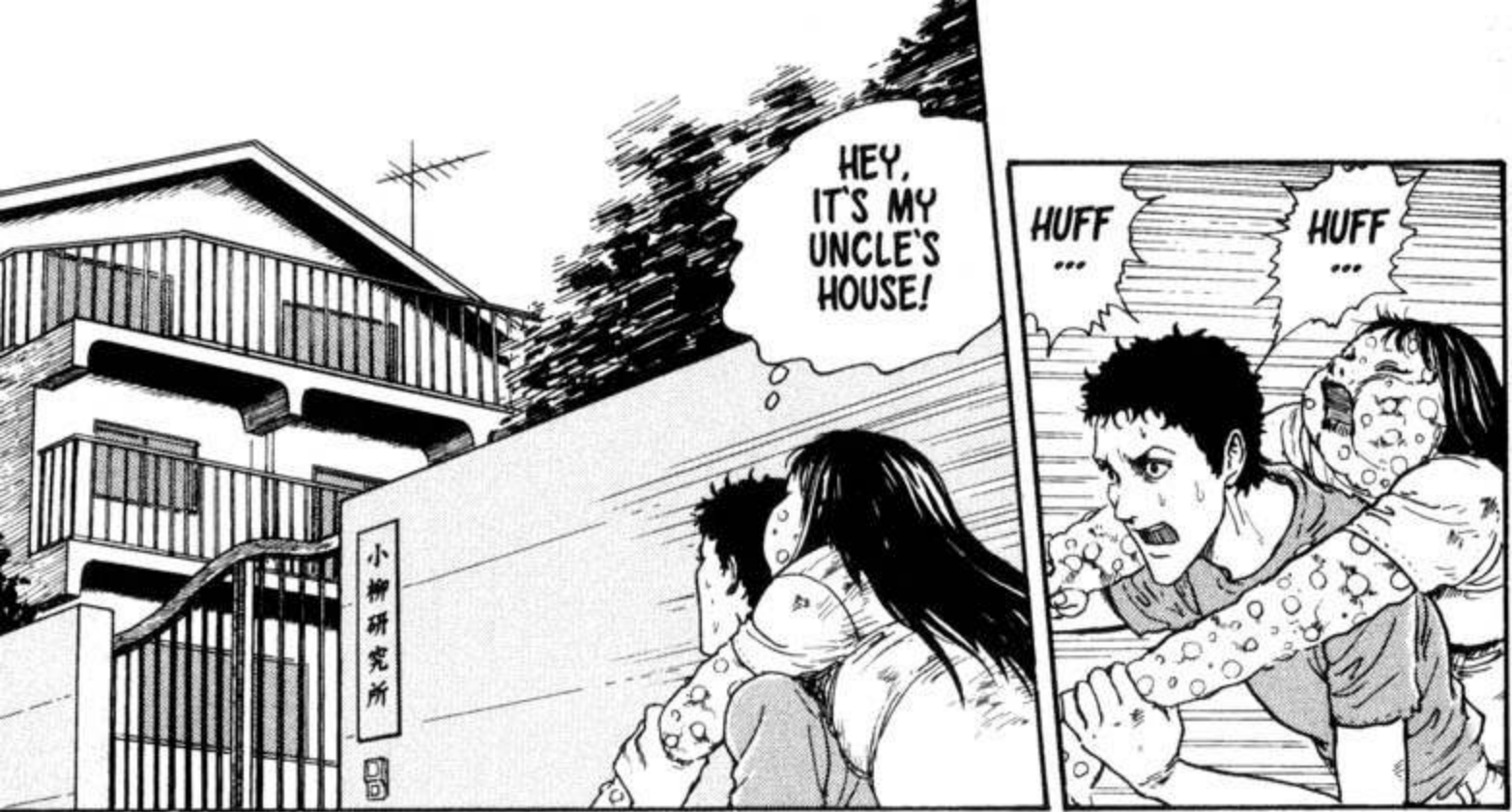


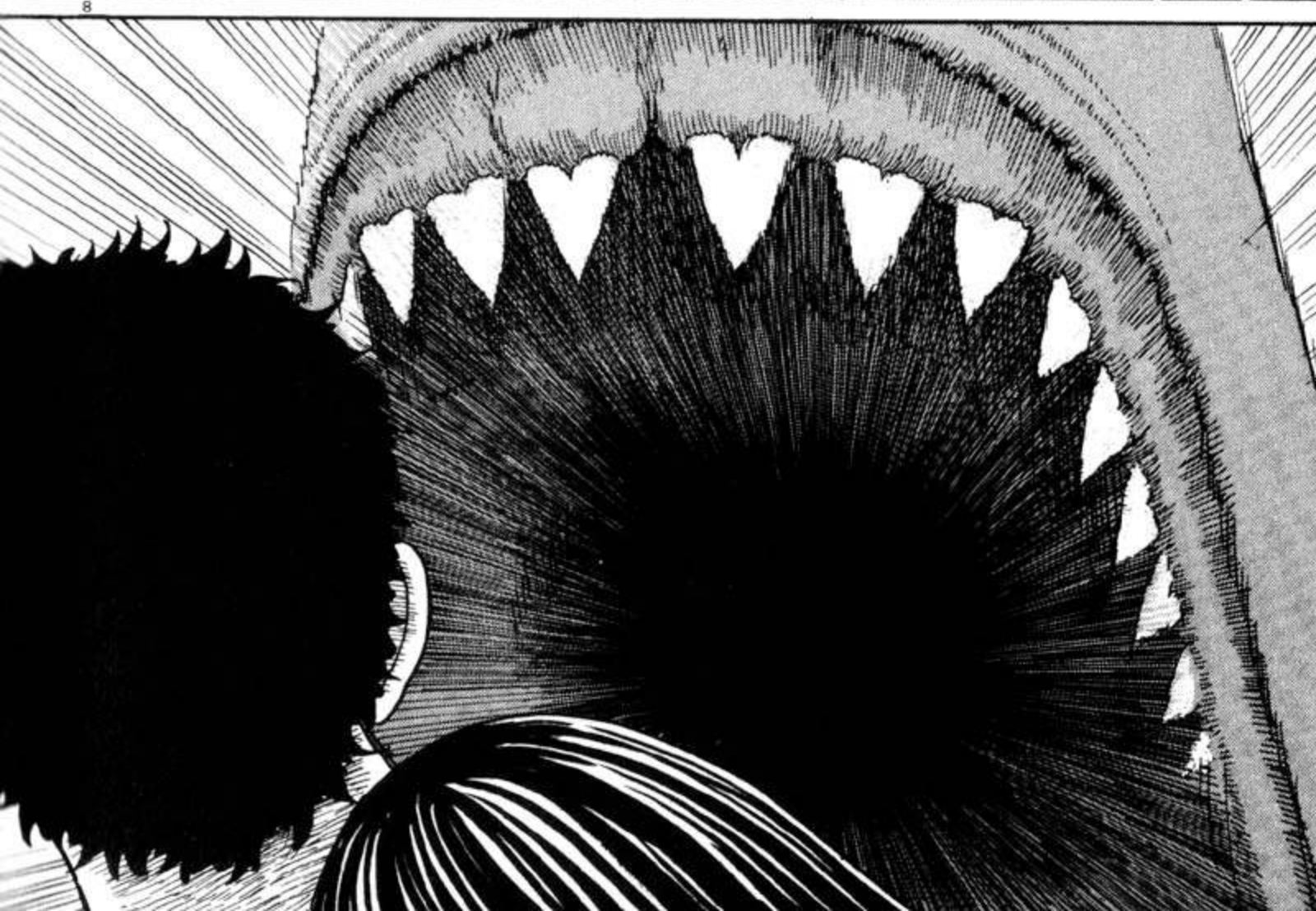
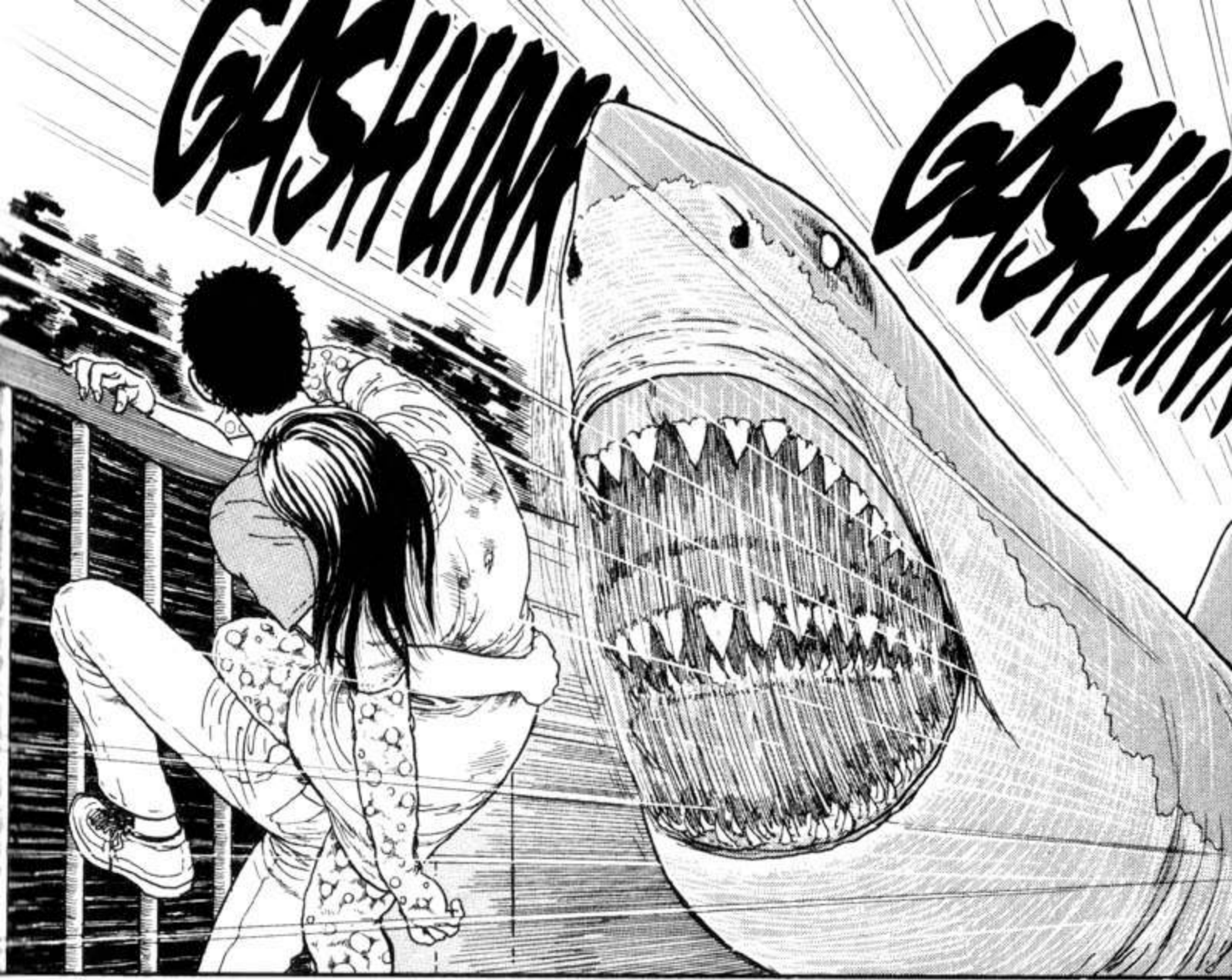




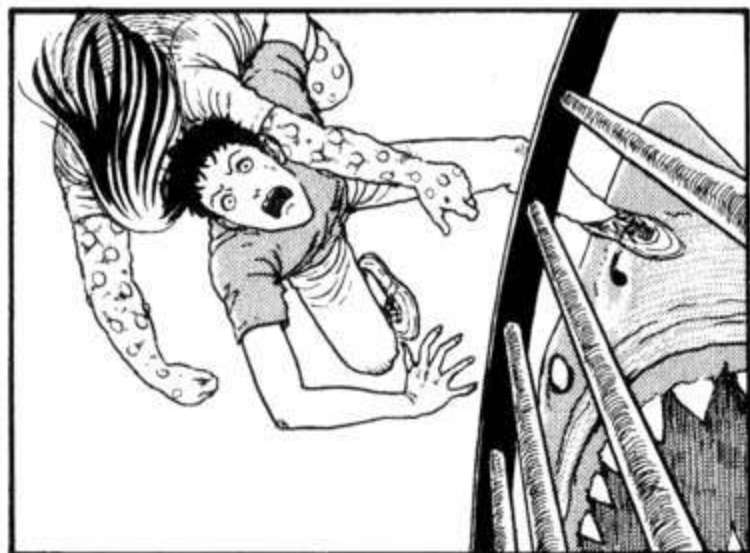
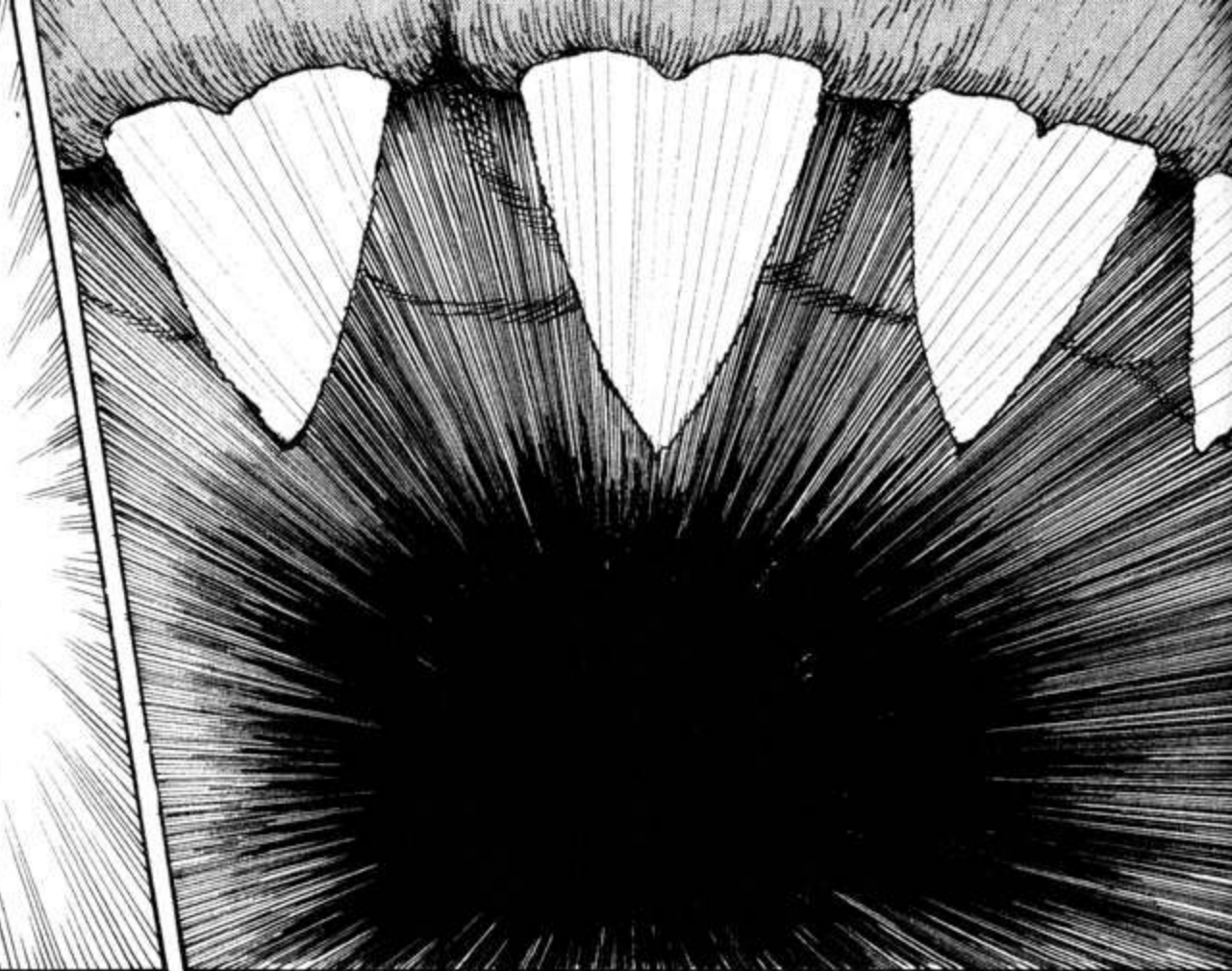








**B
A
M**





WE
NEED
TO CALL
AN AMBU-
LANCE!!

TADASHI
...WHAT
IS IT?



KAORI...
KAORI'S
DYING!!

YOSHIYAMA
...A SHARK
CHASED
ME
HERE...



UNCLE!



NO,
YOU
STAY
HERE.

I'M
GOING
WITH
YOU!



YOSHIYAMA,
CAN YOU
GO GET
MY CAR?

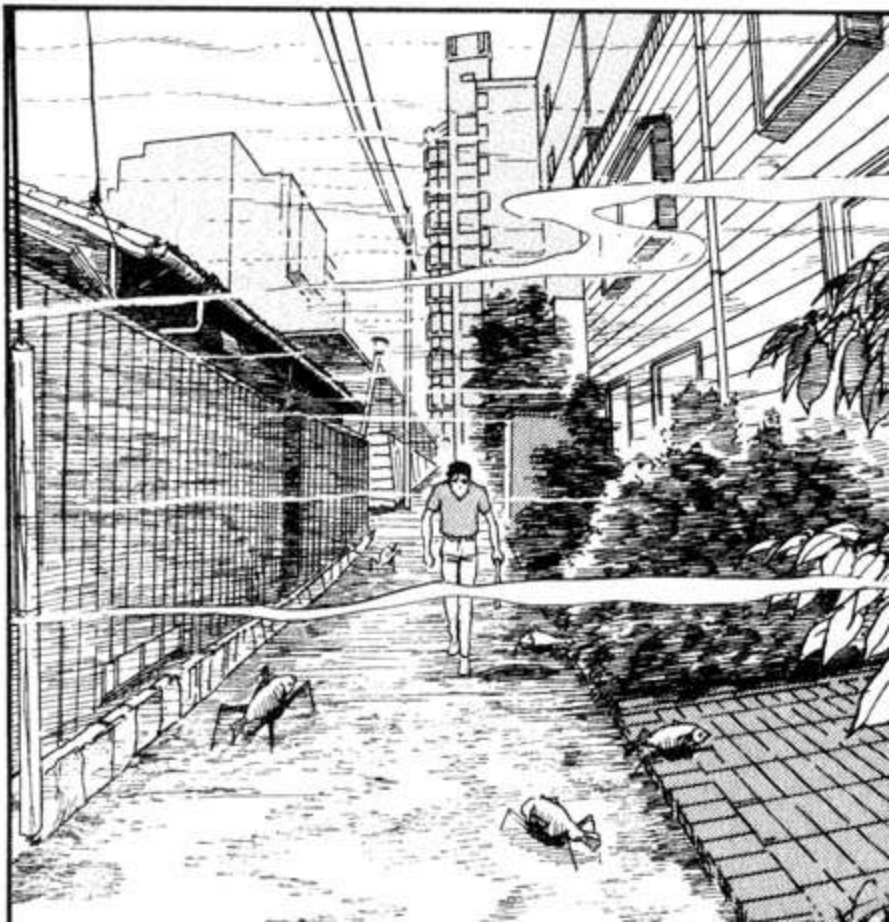
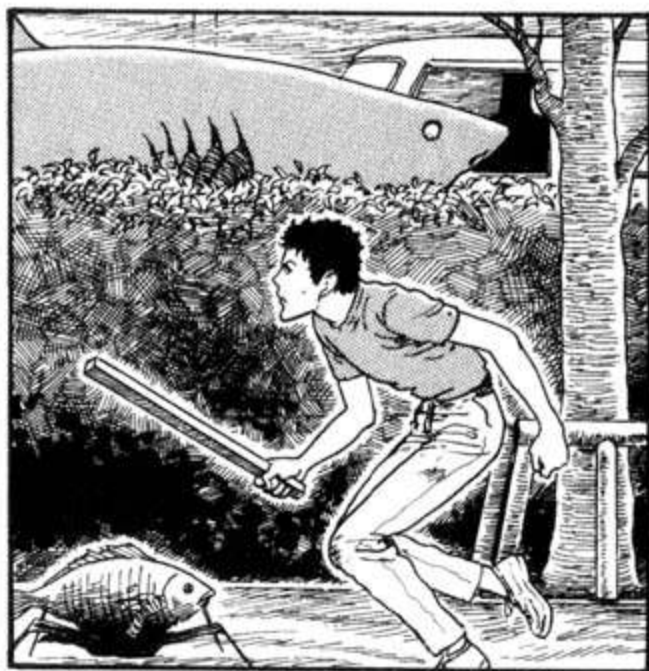
THIS IS
NOT GOOD...
ALL RIGHT.
I'LL TAKE
HER TO THE
HOSPITAL.

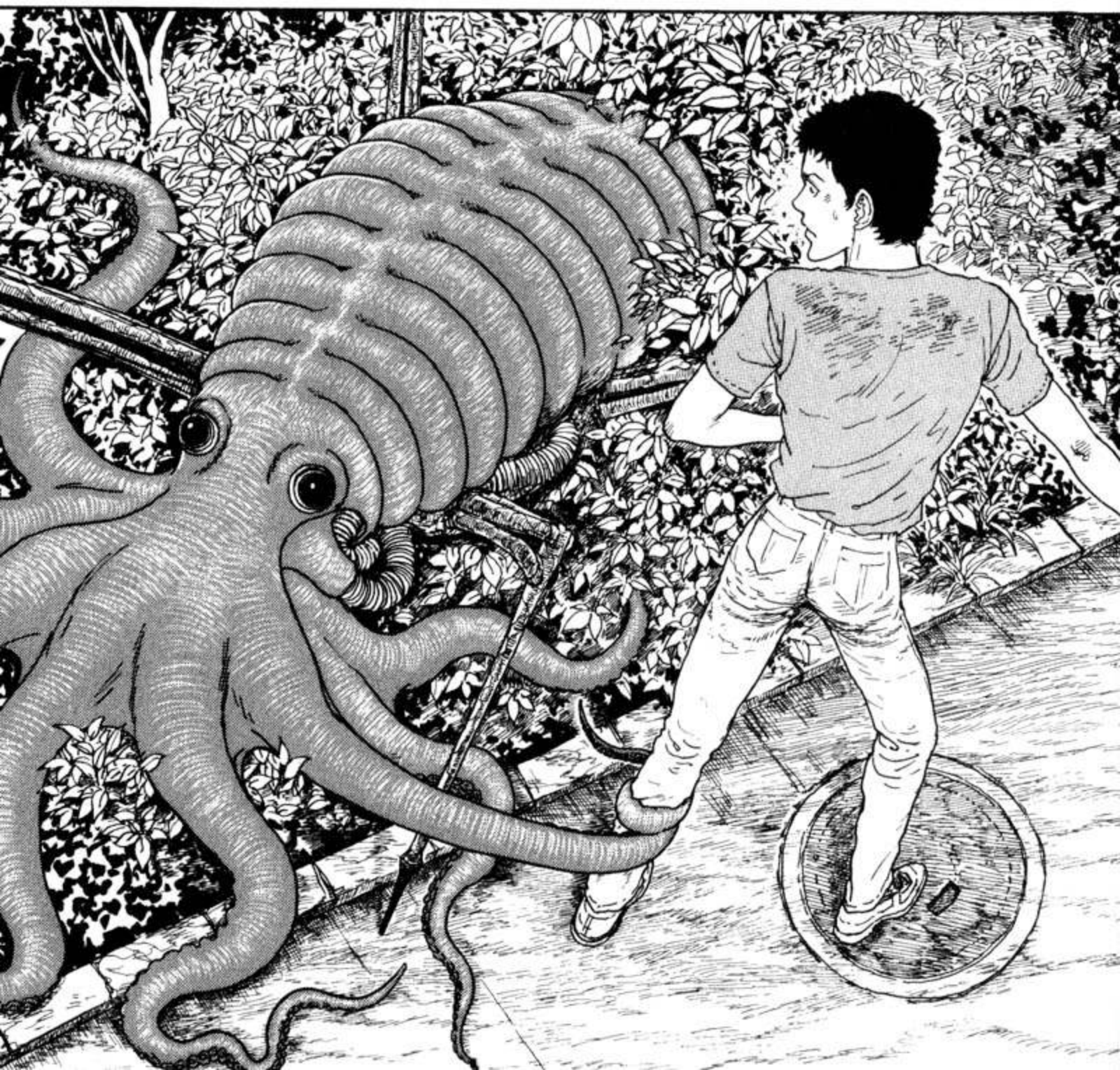
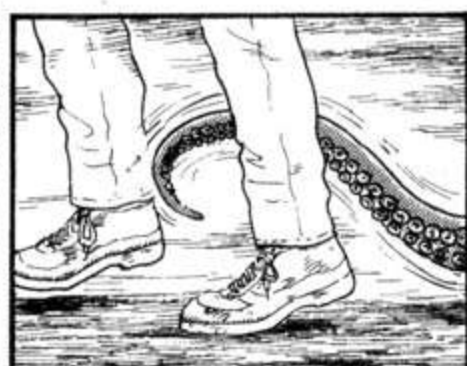
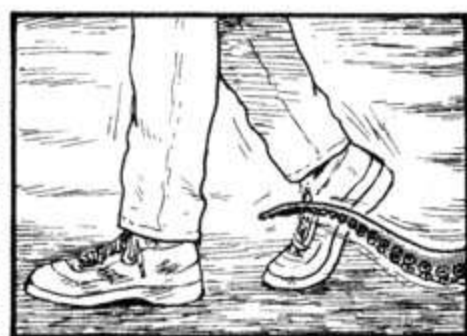
YES,
SIR.

I'M WORRIED ABOUT THEM. DO YOU THINK YOU COULD GET TO THEIR HOUSE IN KANAGAWA?

BY THE WAY...I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO CONTACT YOUR PARENTS.

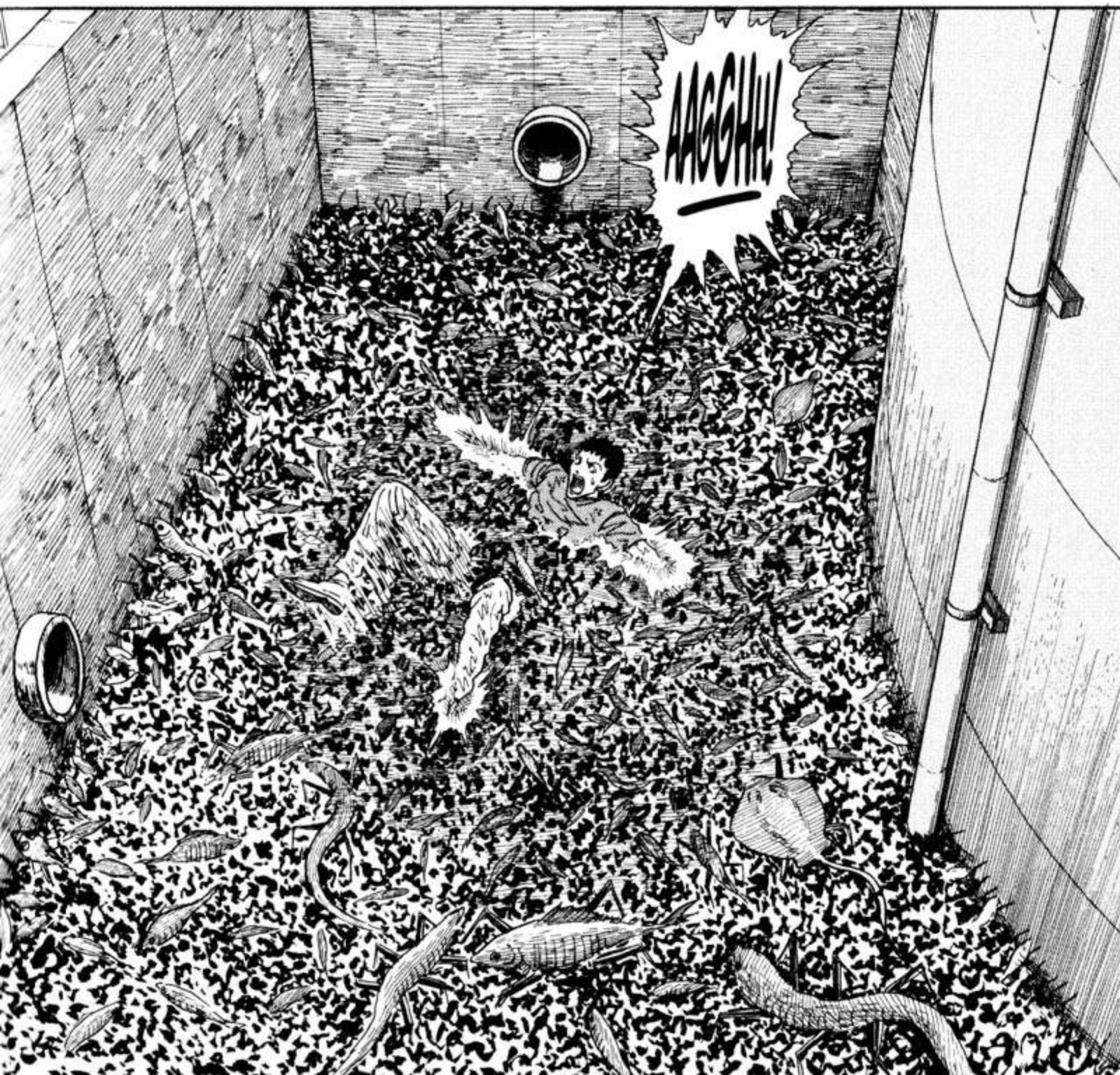




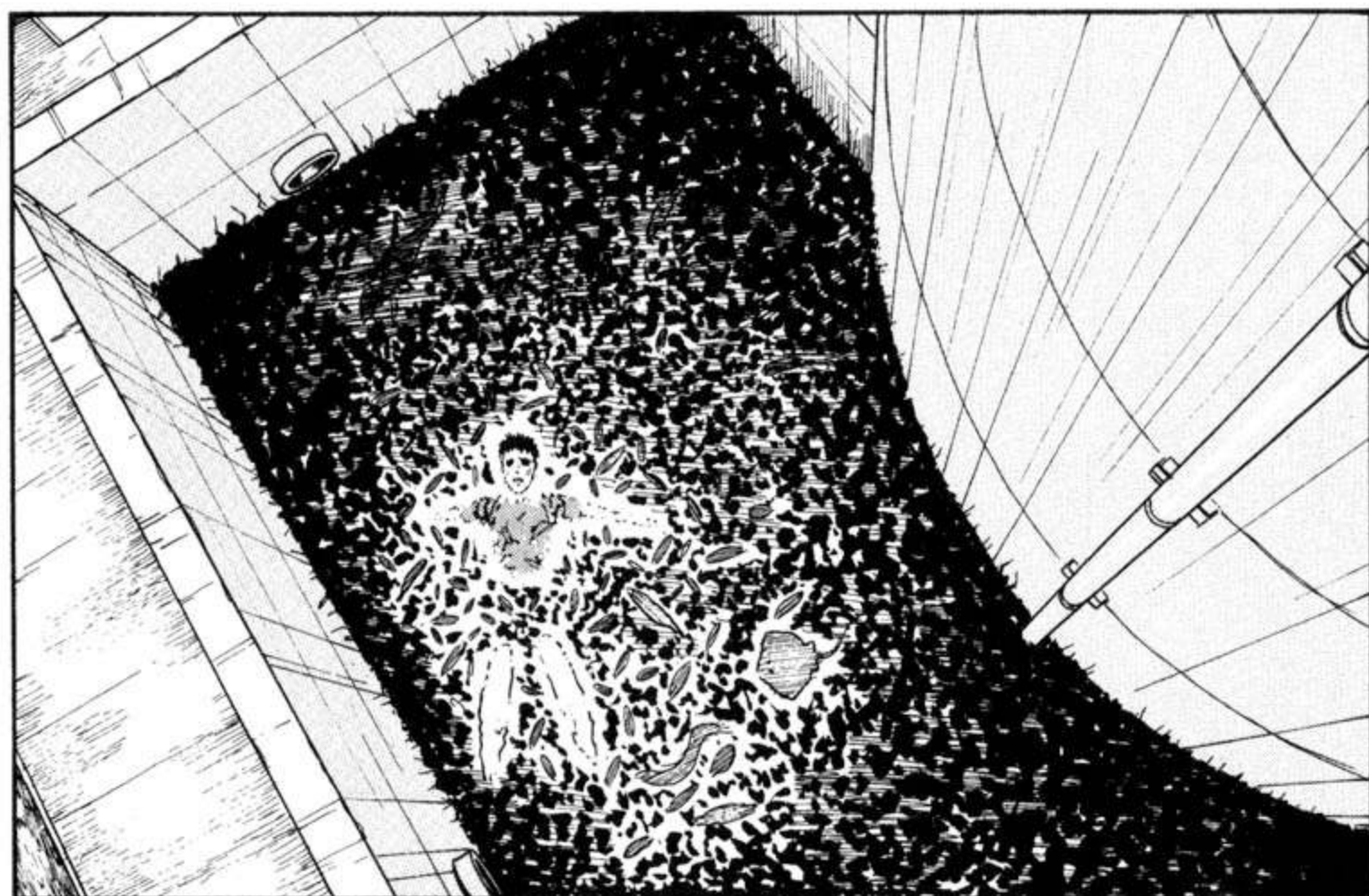












TO BE CONTINUED...

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Junji Ito was born in 1963 in Gifu-ken, Japan. Beginning with his debut story, "Tomie," in 1987, Ito has gone on to become Japan's leading horror comics artist. His influences include classic manga greats Kazuo Umezu (*Drochi*) and Hideshi Hino (*Hell Baby*), and the American horror author H.P. Lovecraft. Several of Ito's works have been published to critical acclaim in English in the United States, including *Tomie* and *Uzumaki* , which has been nominated for the Eisner Award and was also made into a live-action film.



GASHLYT

2

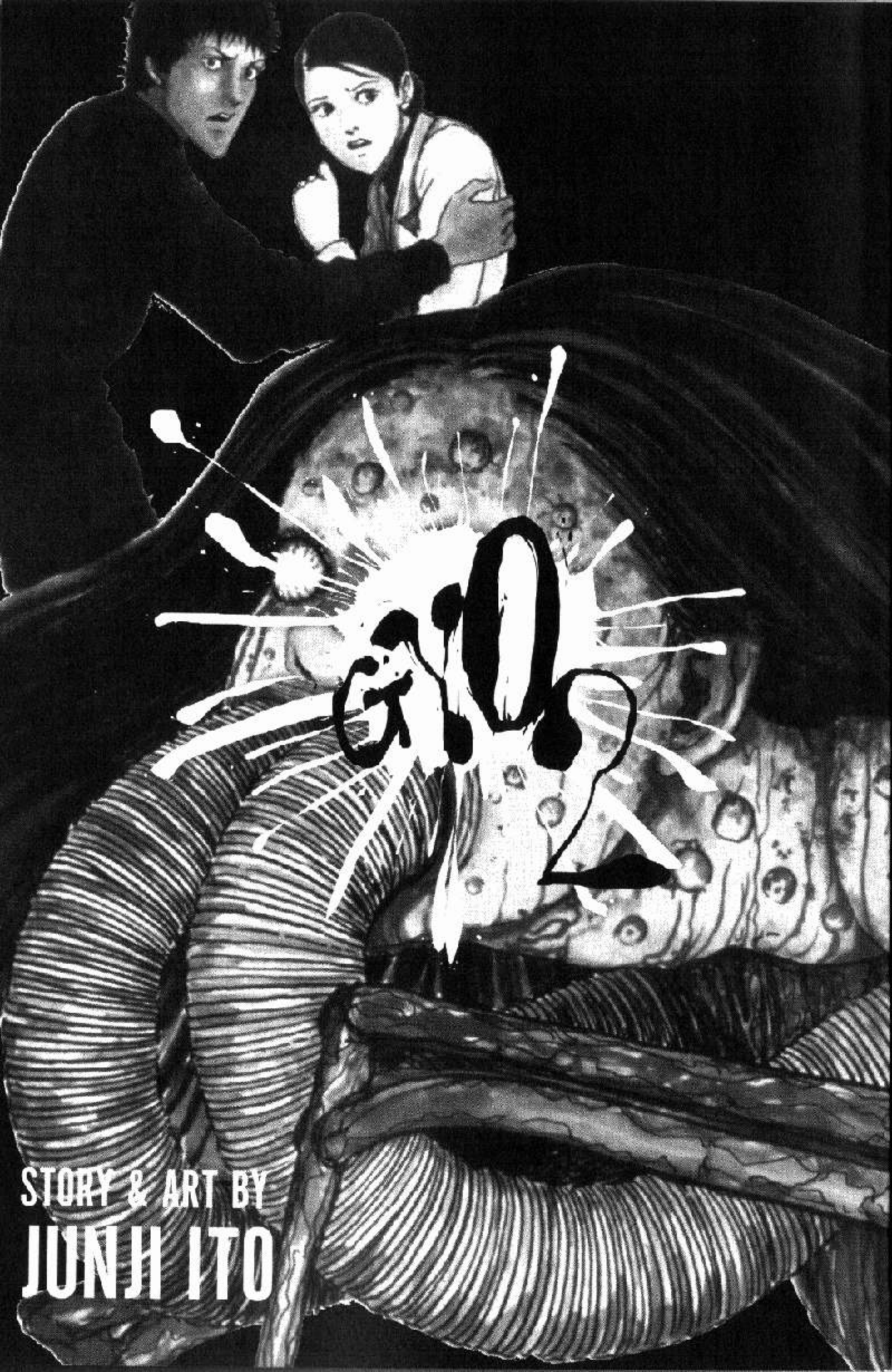
Story & Art by Junji Ito
From the creator of UZUMAKI!



**editor's
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SHONEN JUMP**



STORY & ART BY
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GYO VOLUME 2

STORY & ART BY JUNJI ITO

ENGLISH ADAPTATION BY YUJI ONIKI

**Touch-Up Art & Lettering/Steve Dutro
Design/Izumi Evers
Editors/Alvin Lu and Jason Thompson**

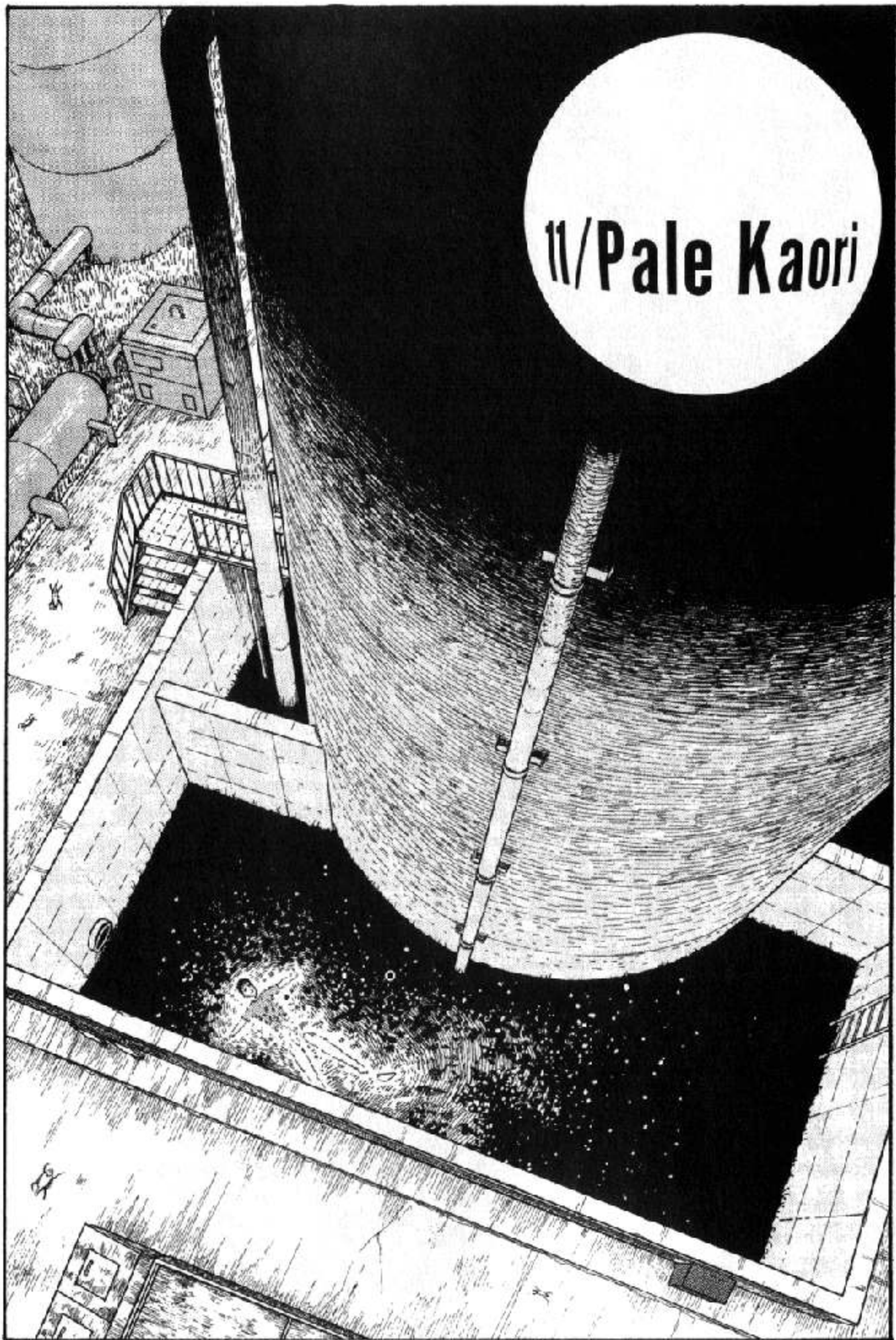
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THE WALKING FISH ARE NOW COMING ASHORE IN EVERY PREFECTURE OF HONSHU, AN ALMOST CONTINUOUS CARPET OF FISH STRETCHING 30KM INTO MAINLAND JAPAN.

THIS IS THE EVENING NEWSCAST. TOKYO IS IN A STATE OF EMERGENCY!

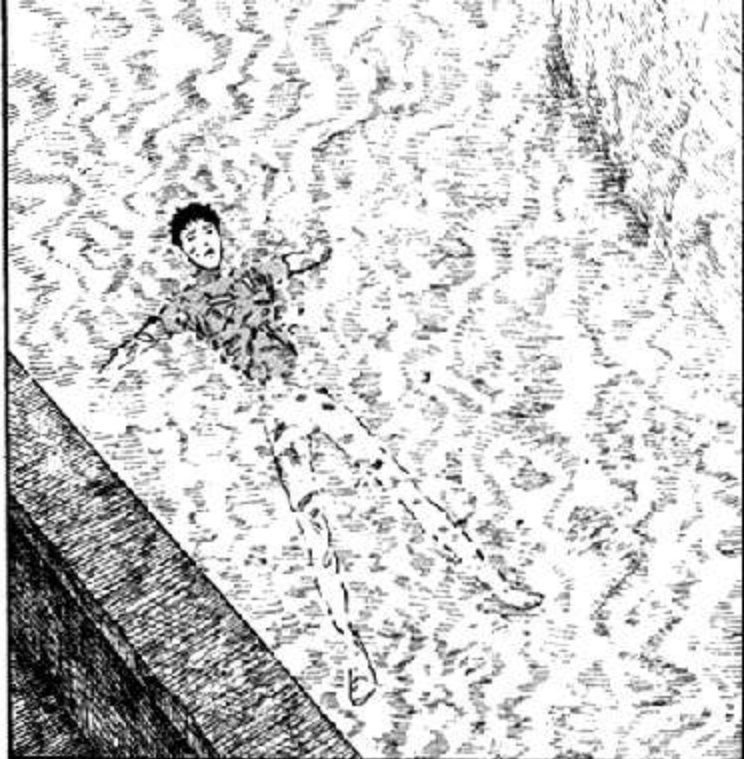


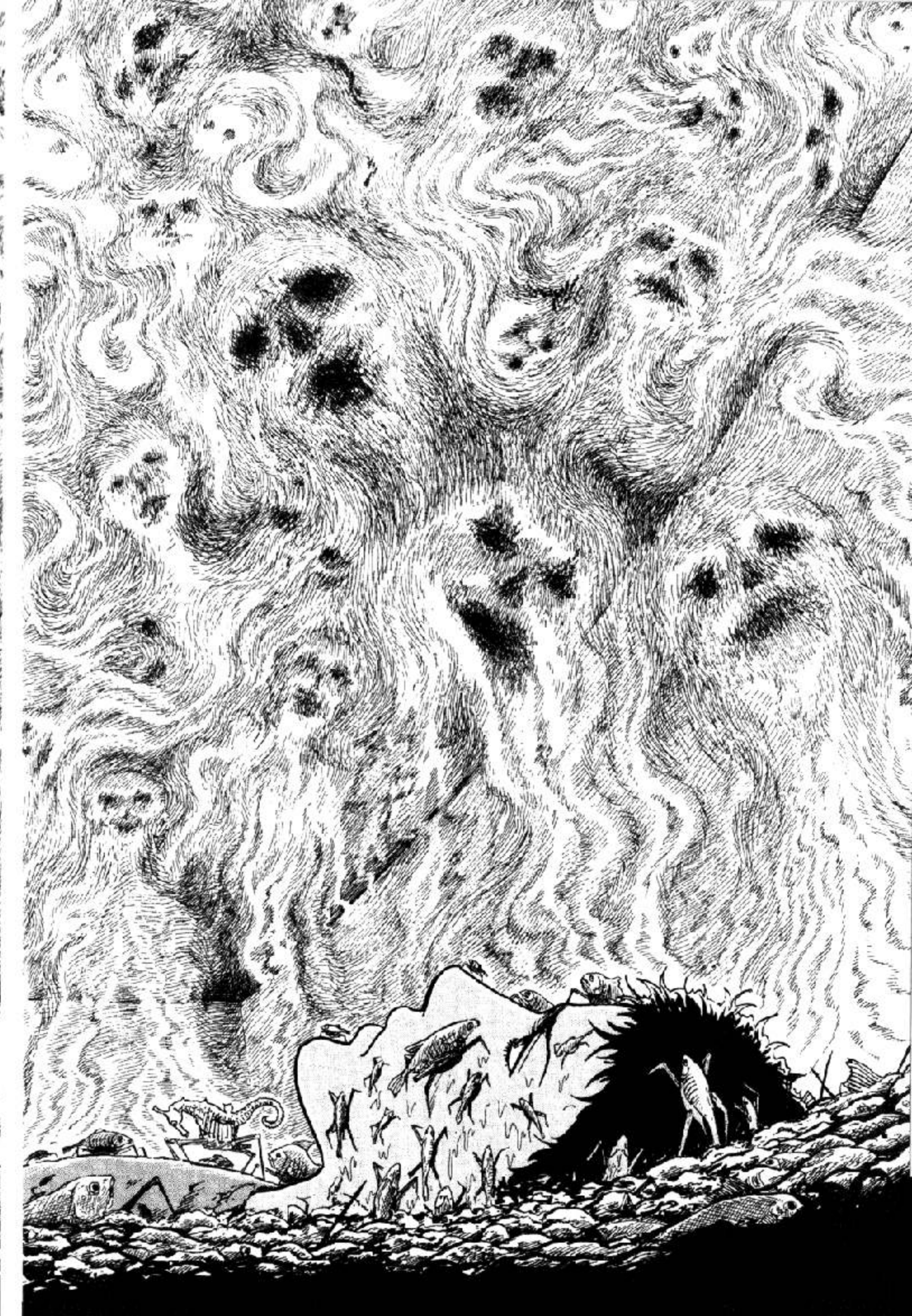
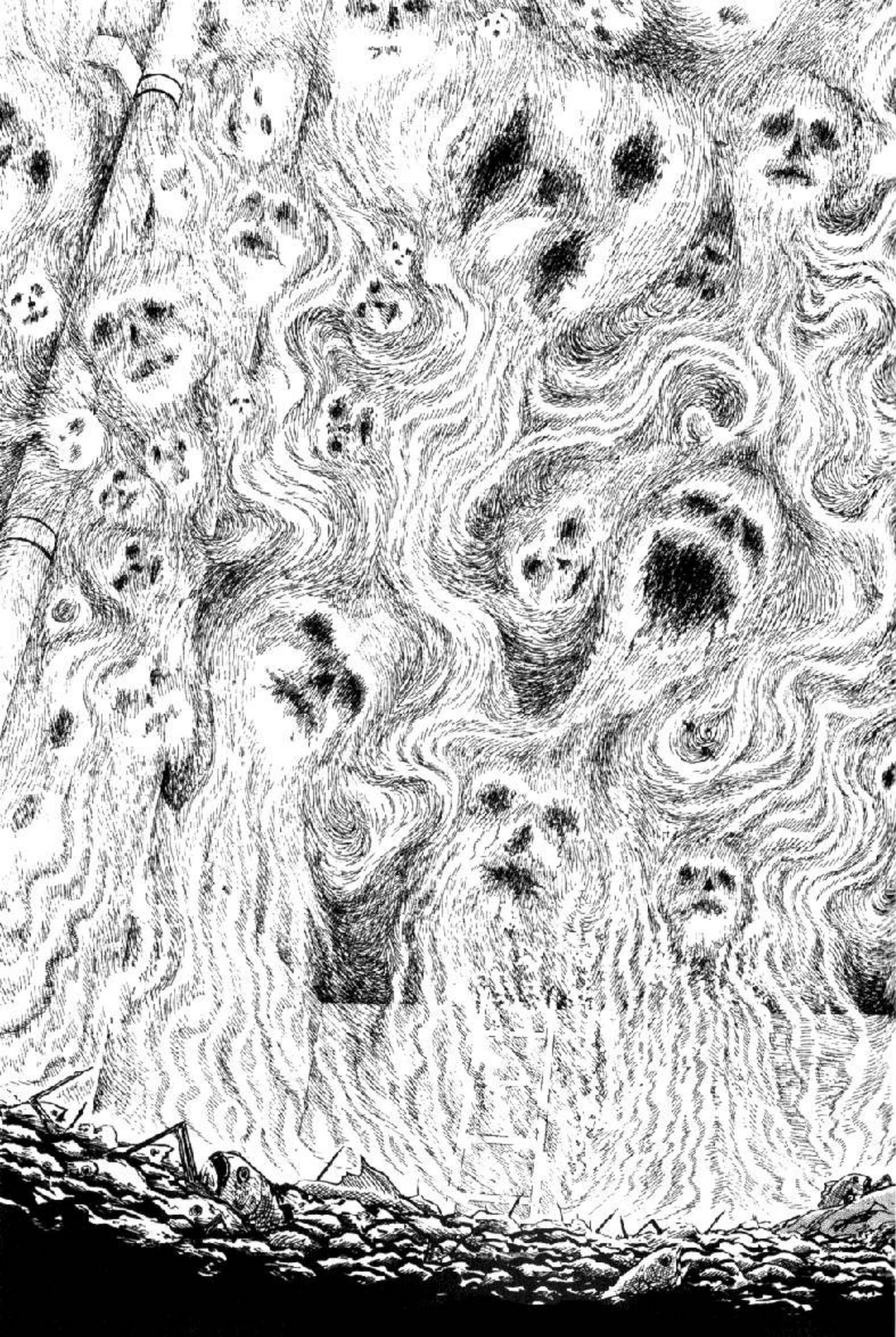
THE EMERGENCY OFFICE OF RELIEF COORDINATION HAS DENIED THIS...

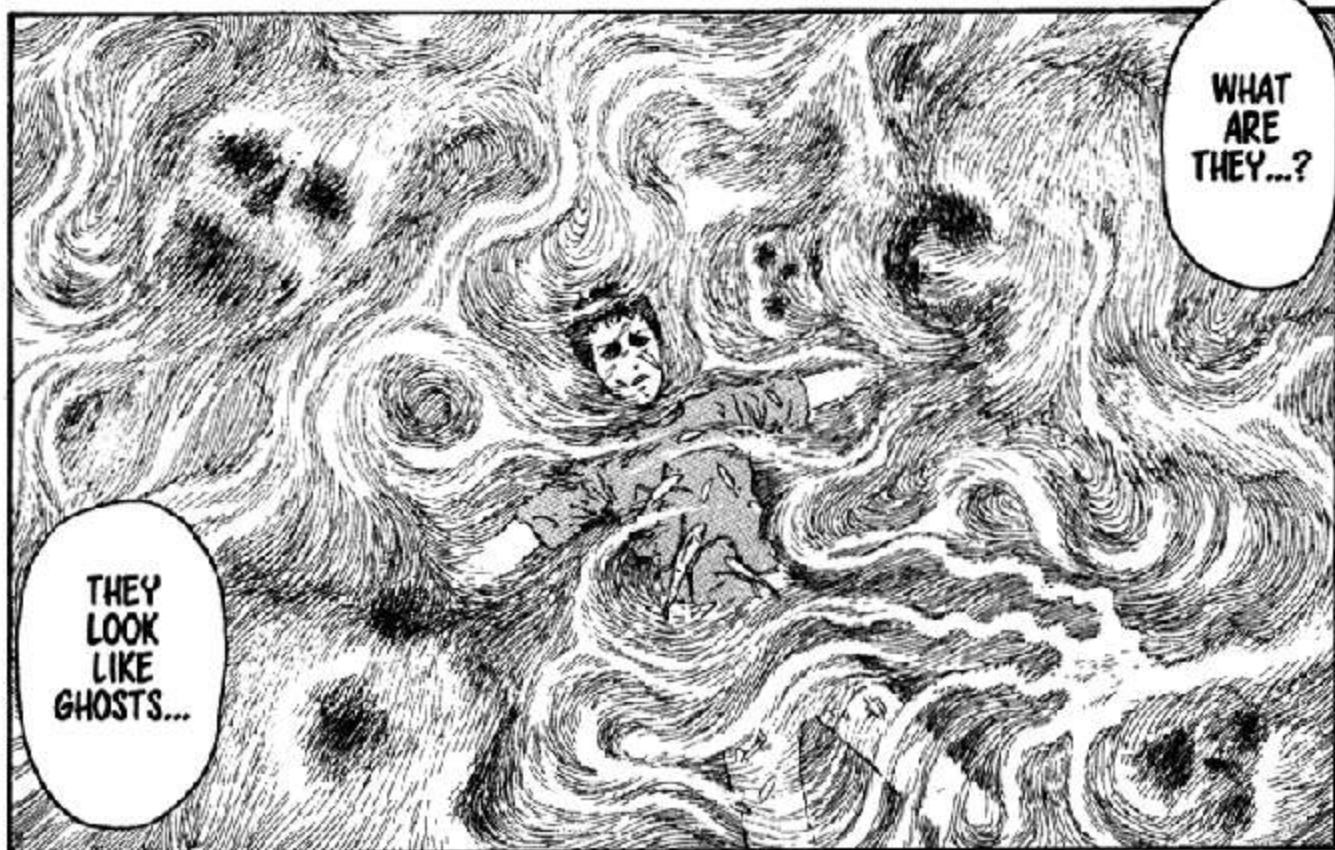
WE ALSO HAVE REPORTS THAT THE FISH MAY BE CARRYING A PREVIOUSLY UNIDENTIFIED GERM...

...ALL MAJOR HIGHWAYS ARE JAMMED WITH CARS FLEEING THE COASTAL AREAS.

IN TRAFFIC...







WHAT ARE THEY...?

THEY LOOK LIKE GHOSTS...



...SO THE GAS IS MADE OF THE SPIRITS OF THE DEAD...?

THE PROFESSOR SAID THE GERM WAS DEVELOPED BY THE JAPANESE ARMY DURING THE WAR...



SQUIRM SQUIRM SQUIRM

IT DOESN'T MATTER... I'M TRAPPED HERE NOW...

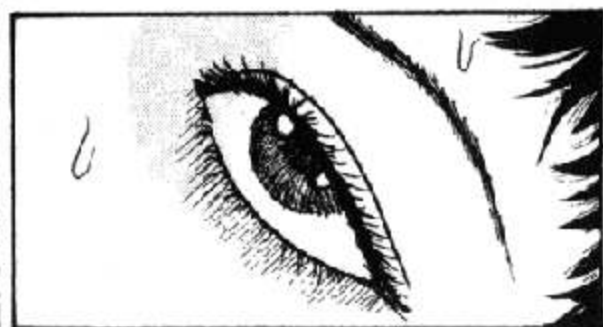
THAT CAN'T BE...



WHAT ARE THEY DOING...?

TAKING ME TO THEIR WORLD?







I WAS BEGINNING TO GIVE UP HOPE. WE NEED YOUR BED.

OH! YOU'RE UP! GOOD!



WHERE AM I...?

HUH...



WHAT!?! REALLY!?!?

ABOUT A MONTH.



HOW LONG... HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN OUT?



YOU WERE IN THE STORM DRAIN IN THE FACTORY. YOU'D HAVE DIED IF YOU HADN'T BEEN FOUND.



EVERYONE'S GOTTEN USED TO THE SMELL. NOT JUST HERE-- THEY'RE ALL OVER THE WORLD.

NO. THEY'RE ALL ON LAND NOW. THERE'S ALMOST NONE COMING OUT OF THE SEA.



WHAT ABOUT THE FISH? ARE THEY GONE?



YOU HAD FISH STINGS ALL OVER YOUR BODY, BUT YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM MUST BE STRONG.

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE FINE, THOUGH...

LOTS OF PEOPLE ARE GETTING INFECTED BY THE GERM THAT MADE THE FISH HOW THEY ARE.

THE FISH AREN'T AN ISSUE NOW AS MUCH AS THE DISEASE THEY BROUGHT WITH THEM.



TO THE QUARANTINE FLOOR! HURRY!

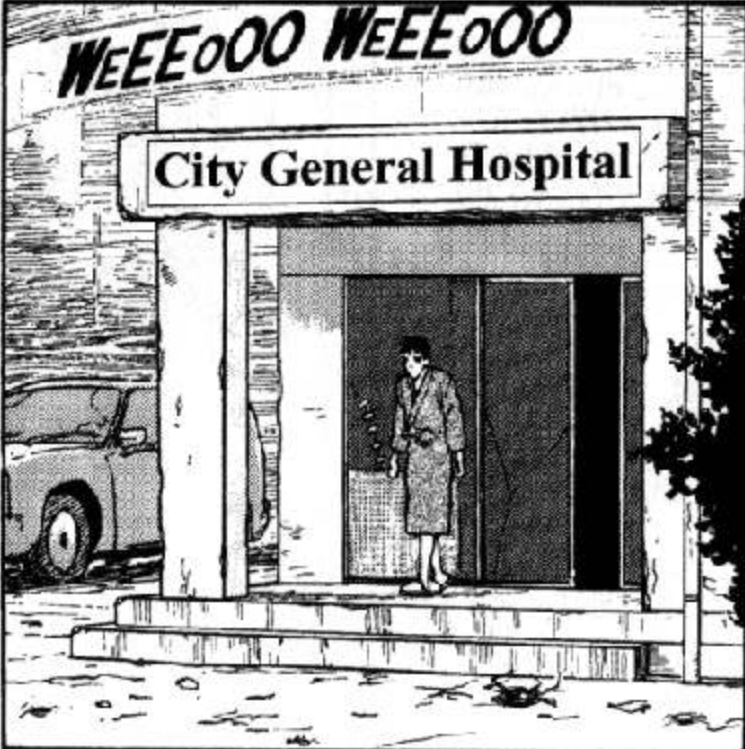


I DON'T KNOW... I'D HAVE TO LOOK HER UP.

DO YOU KNOW IF A WOMAN NAMED KAORI SAWAHARA IS STAYING HERE?



UMM...



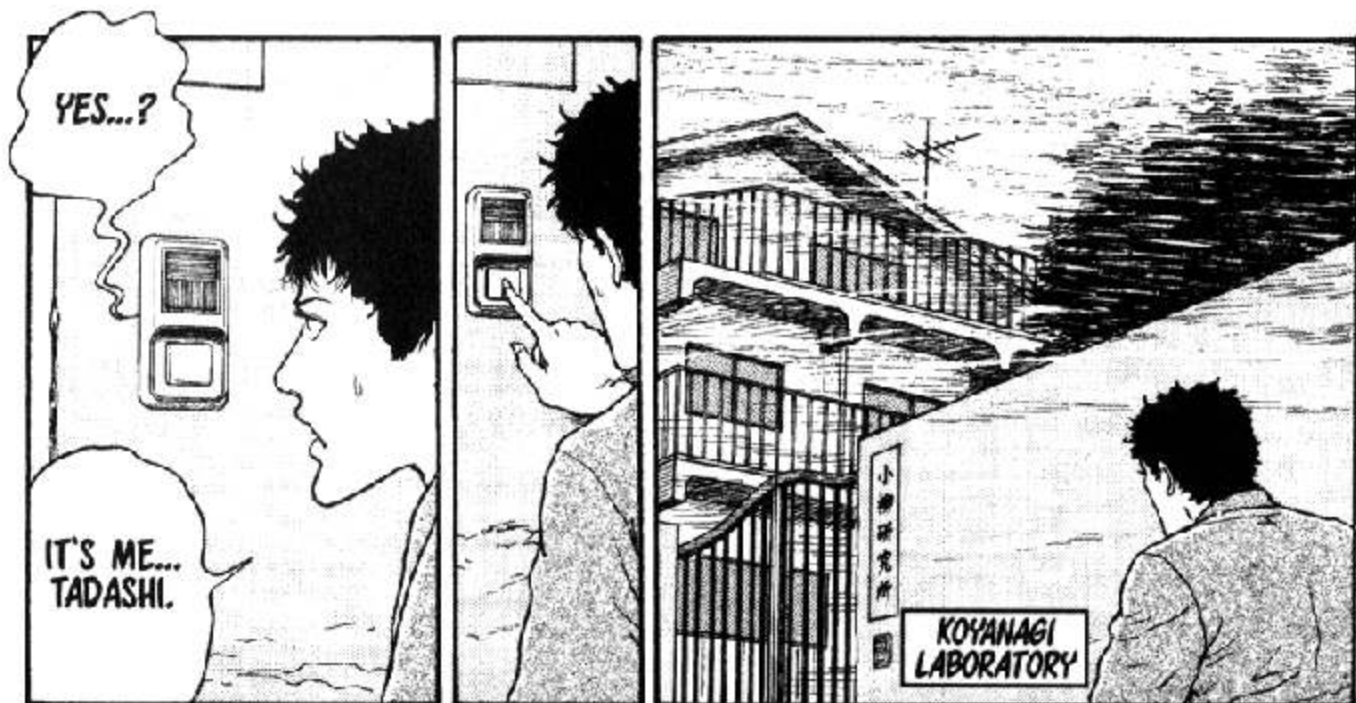
City General Hospital



I SEE... THANK YOU...

KAORI SAWAHARA? NO, SHE'S NOT EVEN ON THE QUARANTINE LIST.

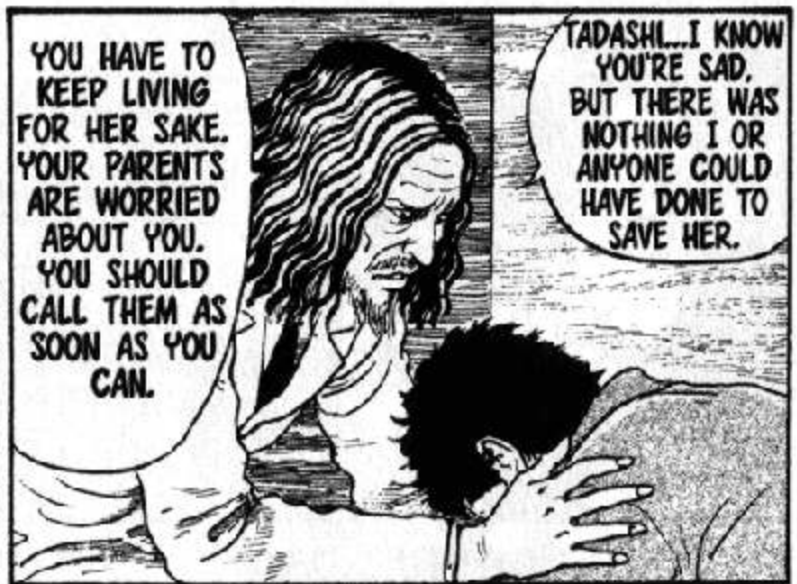






I WANT TO SEE HER.

WHERE'S HER BODY?



YOU HAVE TO KEEP LIVING FOR HER SAKE. YOUR PARENTS ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOU. YOU SHOULD CALL THEM AS SOON AS YOU CAN.

TADASHI... I KNOW YOU'RE SAD, BUT THERE WAS NOTHING I OR ANYONE COULD HAVE DONE TO SAVE HER.



YOU CAN GO BACK TO YOUR PARENTS' ONCE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT.

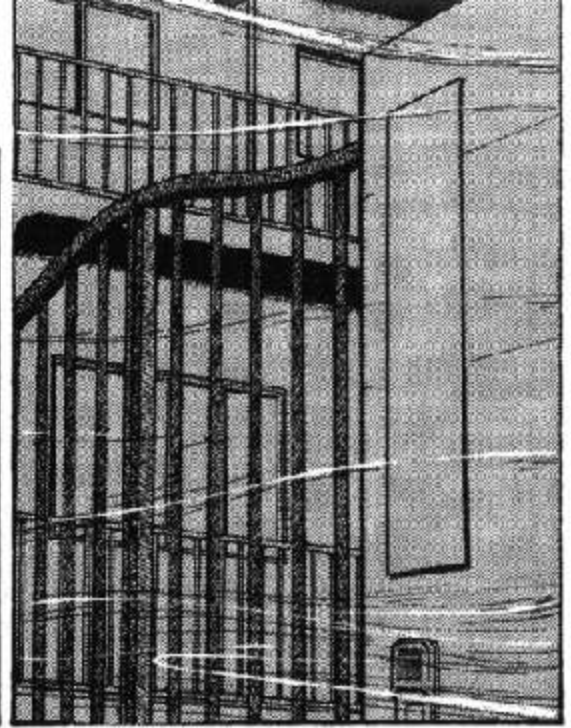
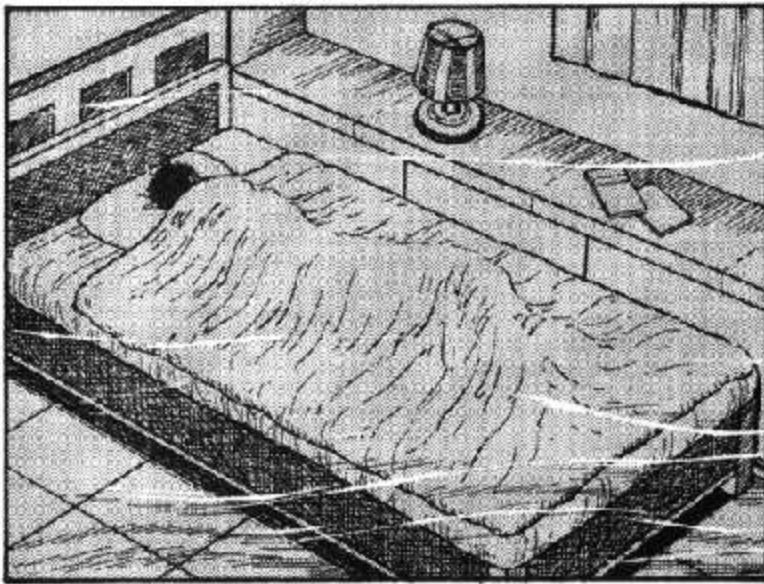


YOU'RE STILL WEAK... YOU NEED TO GET SOME REST HERE.



THE ENTIRE COUNTRY'S IN SUCH CHAOS... IT WAS PROBABLY COLLECTED AND BURNED.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HER BODY.



TADASHI...

TADASHI...



I CAN'T LIE TO YOU LIKE THIS.

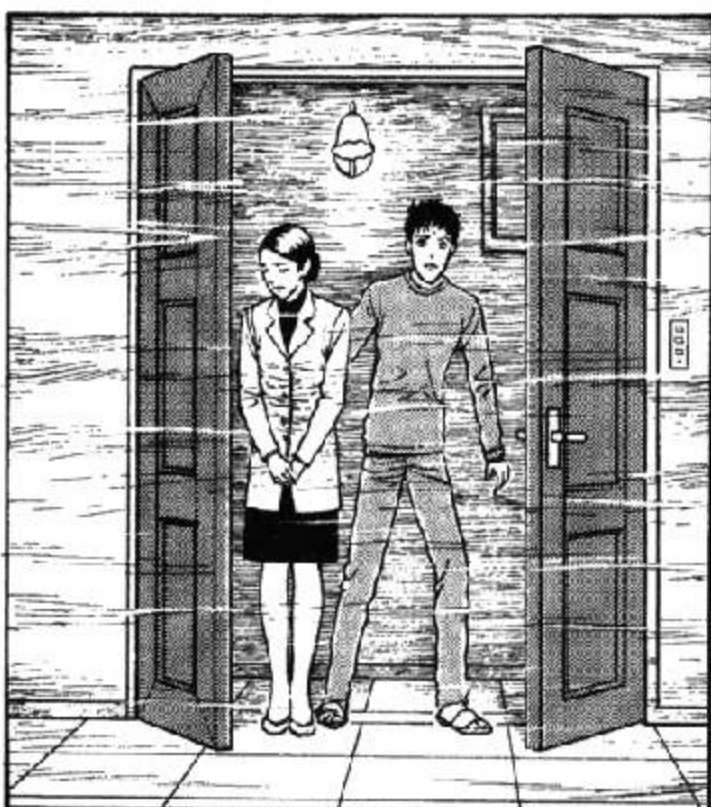
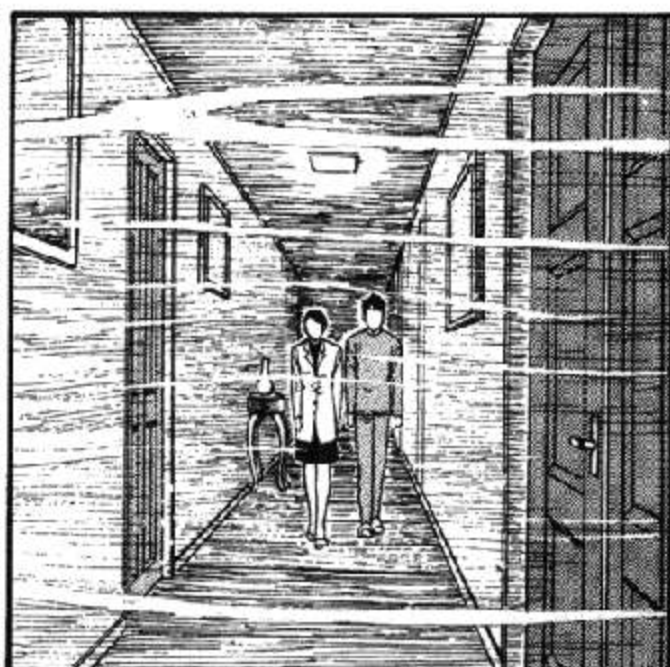
I...I JUST CAN'T BEAR IT ANYMORE...

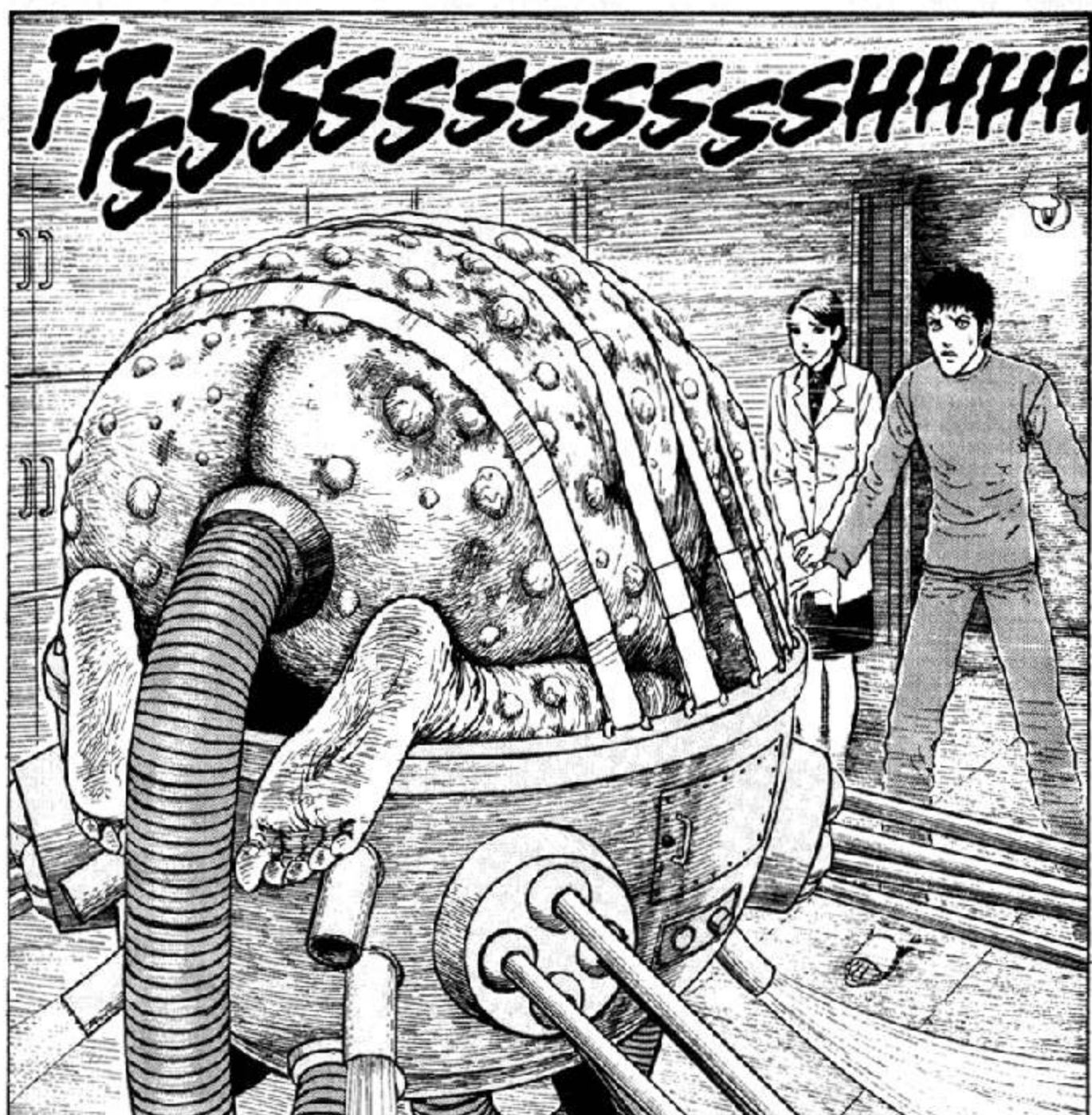
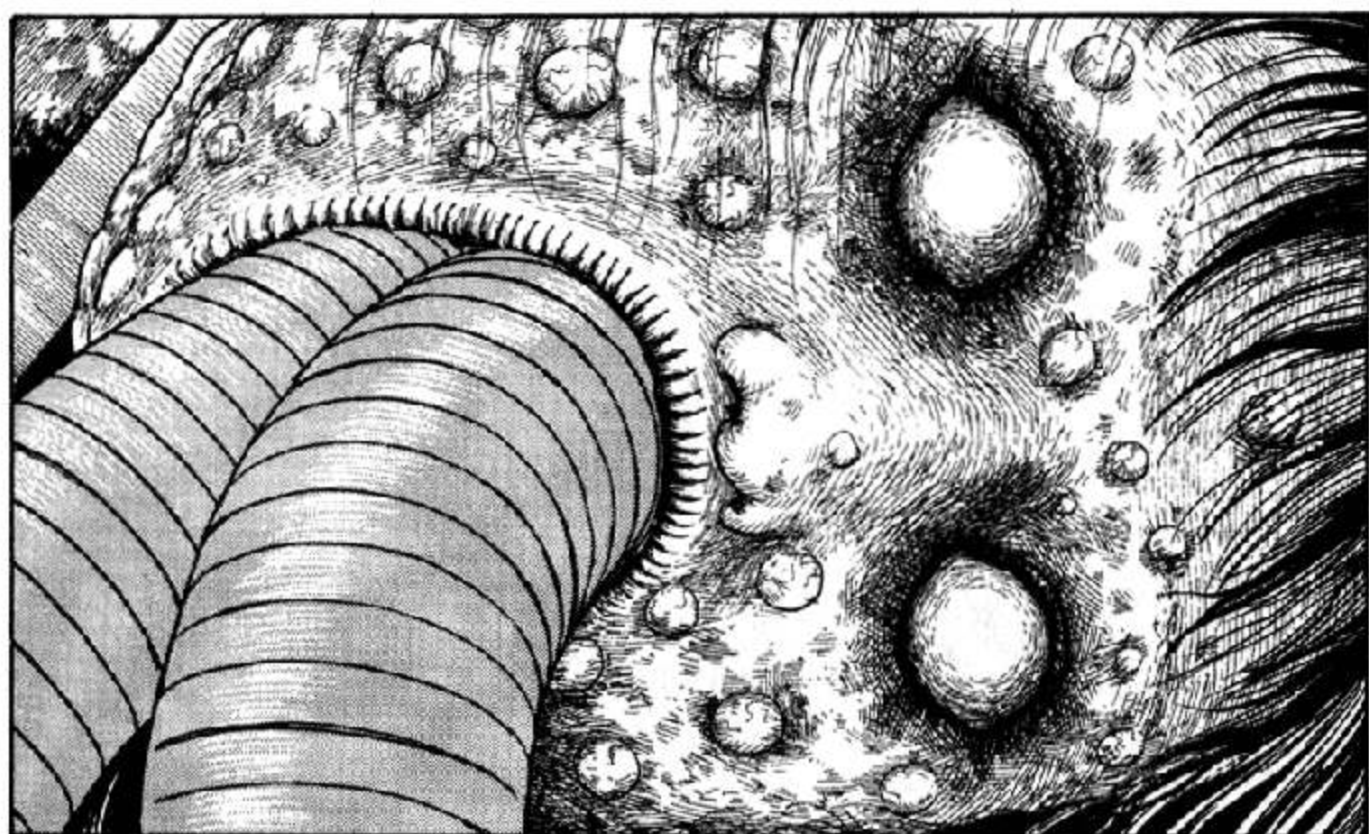
PLEASE COME WITH ME.



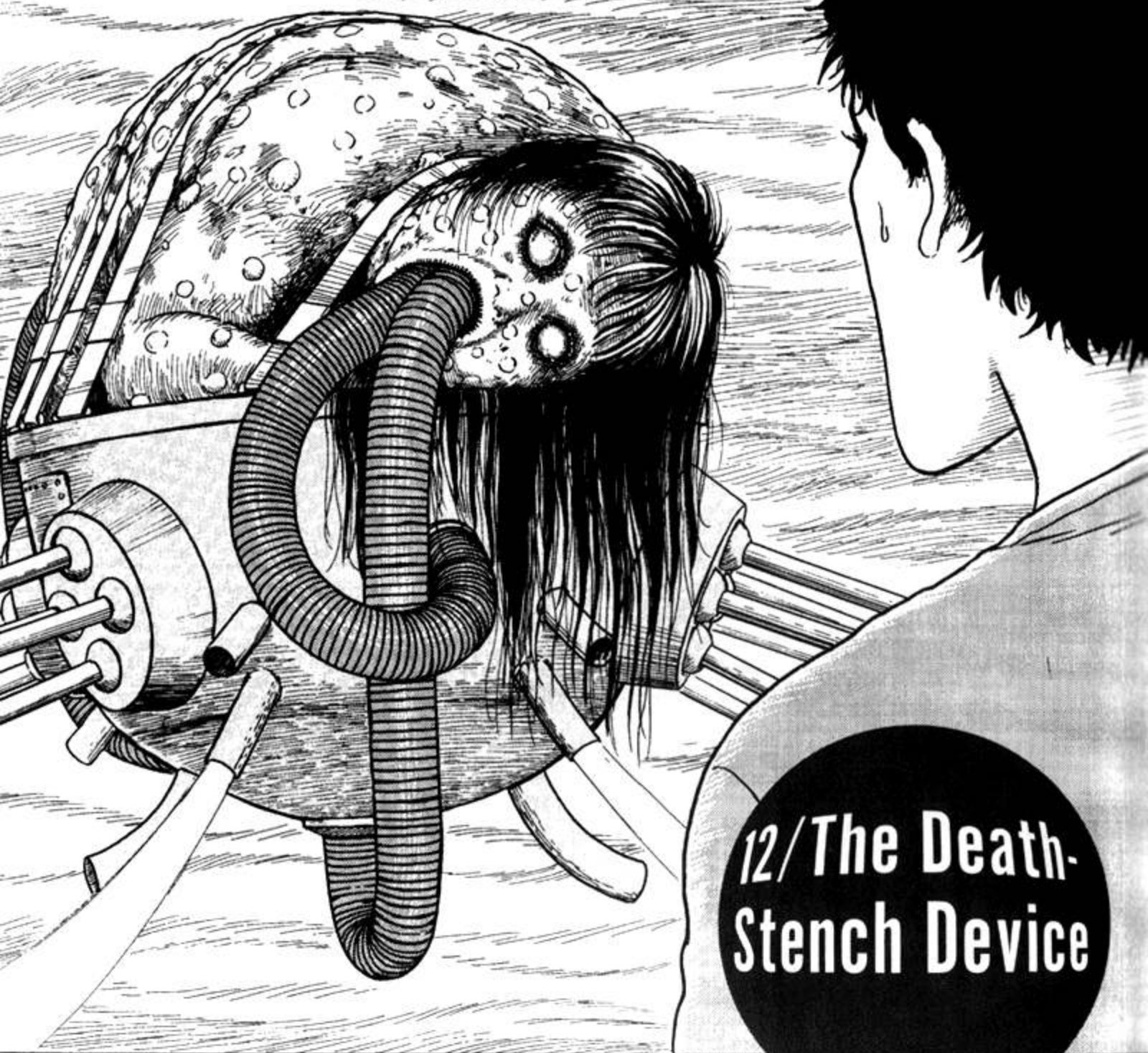
WHAT IS IT?

MS. YOSHIYAMA ...





FFSSSSSSHHHHHHHHHH



**12 / The Death-
Stench Device**



WHAT IN...?

KAORI...
KAORI!



KA...

KAORI
...



WHAT'S SHE DOING ON THAT THING?!

IS SHE STILL ALIVE?!



MS. YOSHIYAMA, WHAT IS THIS?!



WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE!?

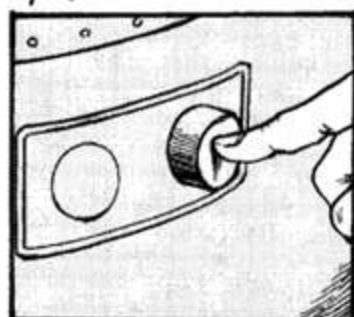
THEN WHY?!

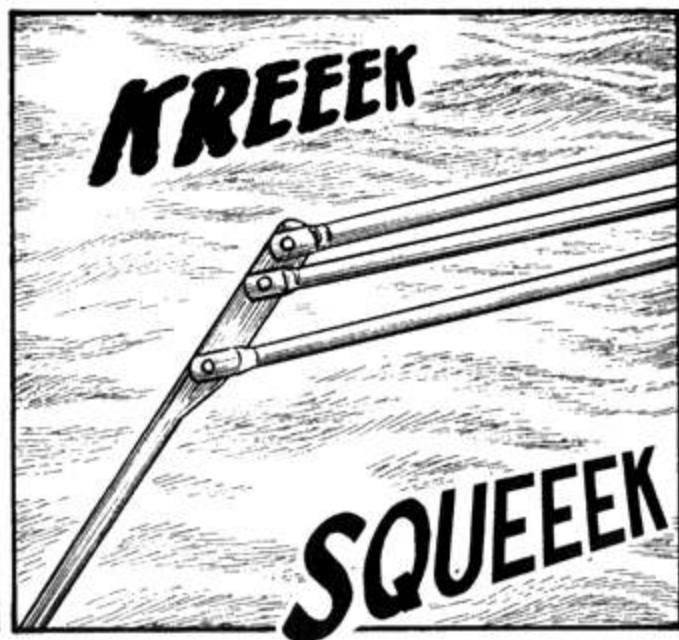
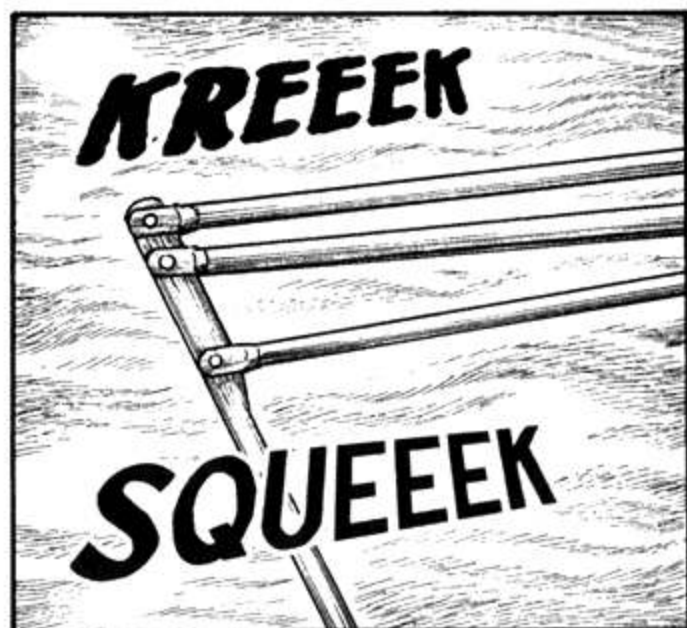


KAORI IS IN A COMA... SHE'S BEEN IN A COMA SINCE YOU BROUGHT HER HERE A MONTH AGO.

I'M SO SORRY, TADASHI...









THEY
HAVE NO
"CONTROLS"--
NO CENTRAL
NERVOUS
SYSTEM.

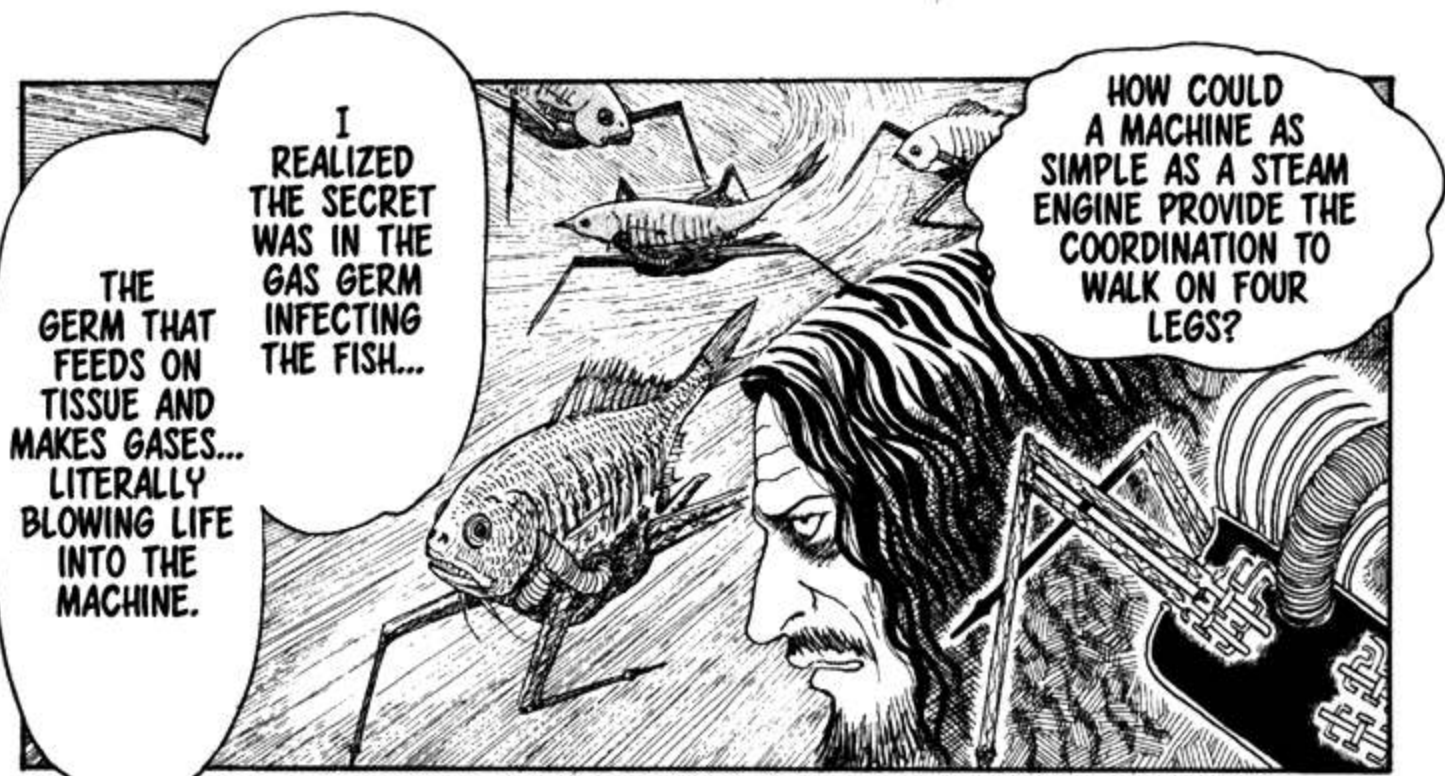
I COULDN'T
BELIEVE WHAT I
DISCOVERED
FROM DISSECTING
THE WALKING
FISH-
MACHINES.

LOOK
AT IT!
SEE HOW
IT MOVES!

DO YOU
SEE? I
BUILT THAT
WALKING
MACHINE!

GASHUNK

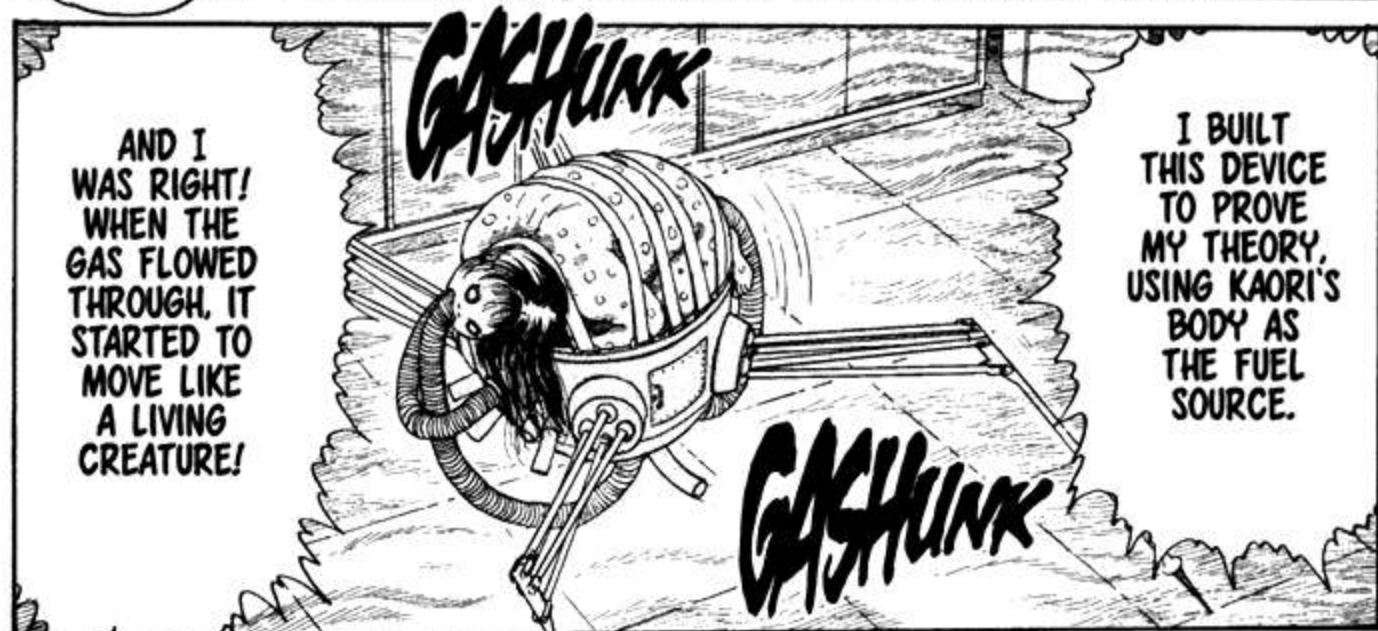
GASHUNK



THE GERM THAT FEEDS ON TISSUE AND MAKES GASES... LITERALLY BLOWING LIFE INTO THE MACHINE.

I REALIZED THE SECRET WAS IN THE GAS GERM INFECTING THE FISH...

HOW COULD A MACHINE AS SIMPLE AS A STEAM ENGINE PROVIDE THE COORDINATION TO WALK ON FOUR LEGS?



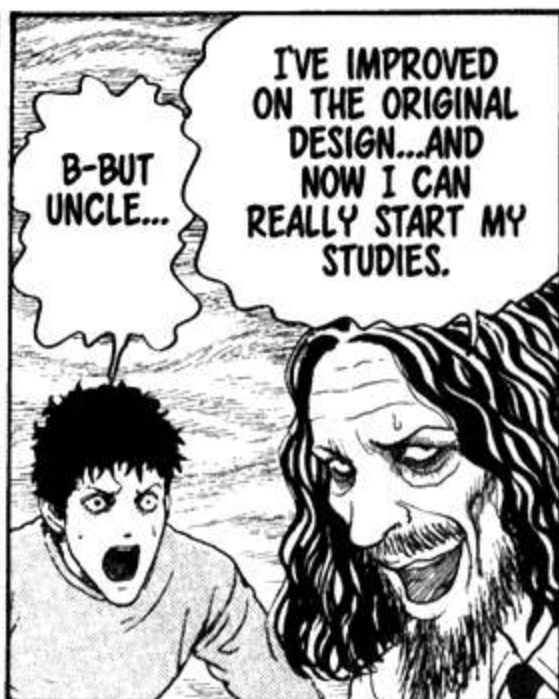
AND I WAS RIGHT! WHEN THE GAS FLOWED THROUGH, IT STARTED TO MOVE LIKE A LIVING CREATURE!

I BUILT THIS DEVICE TO PROVE MY THEORY, USING KAORI'S BODY AS THE FUEL SOURCE.



WHY'D YOU USE KAORI AS YOUR GUINEA PIG?

THERE'S FISH EVERYWHERE...



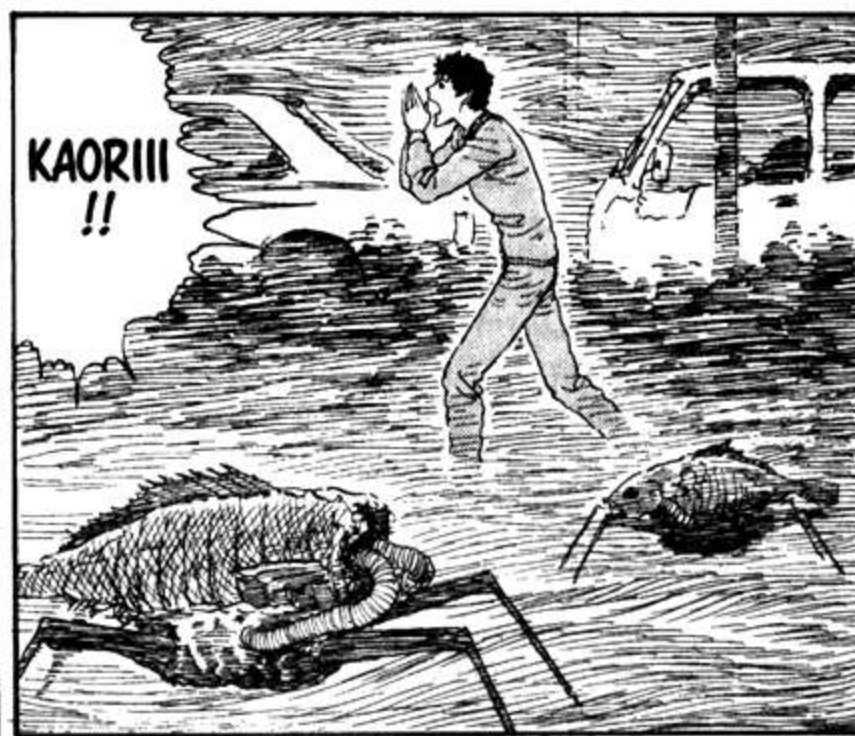
B-BUT UNCLE...

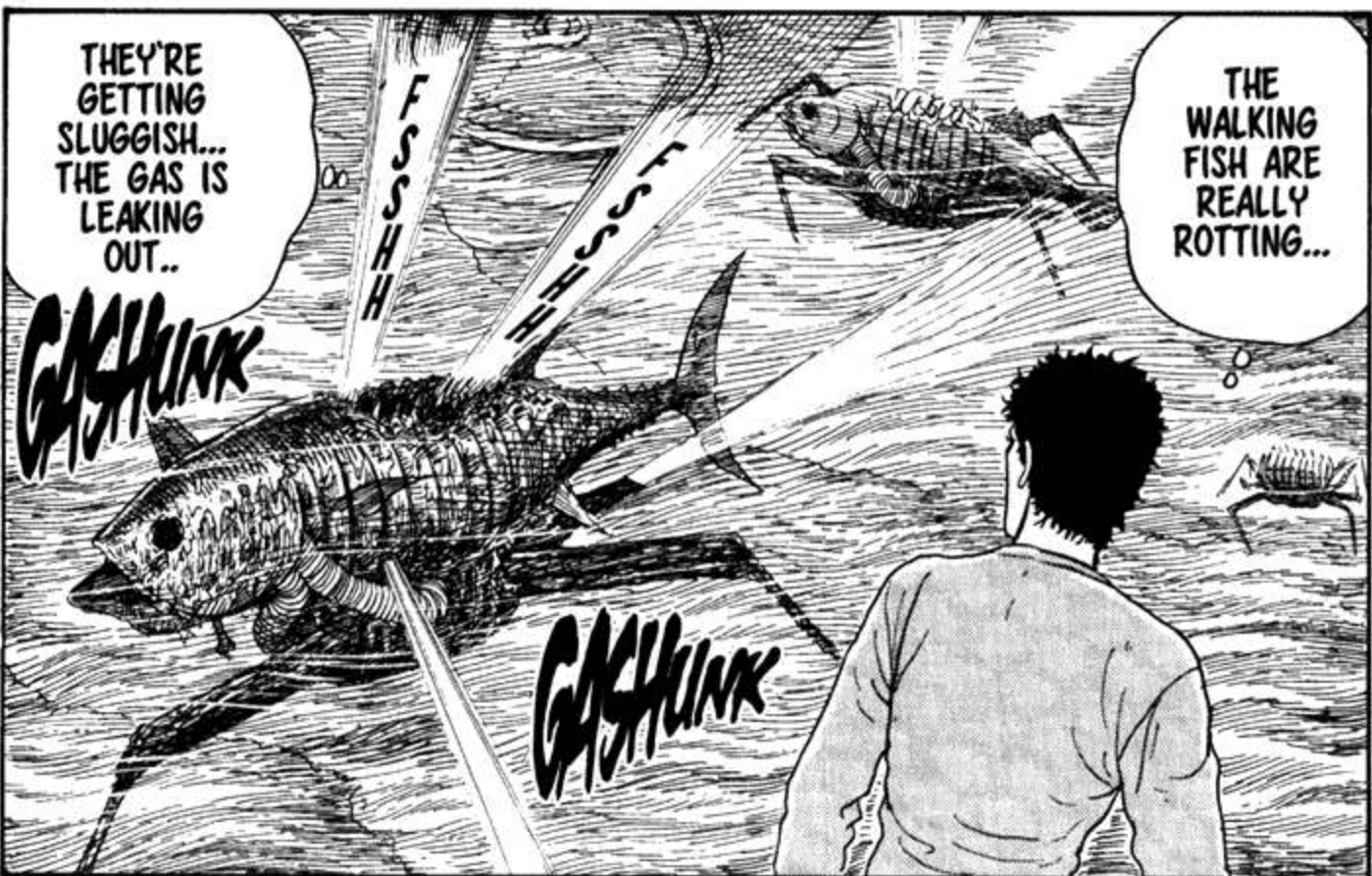
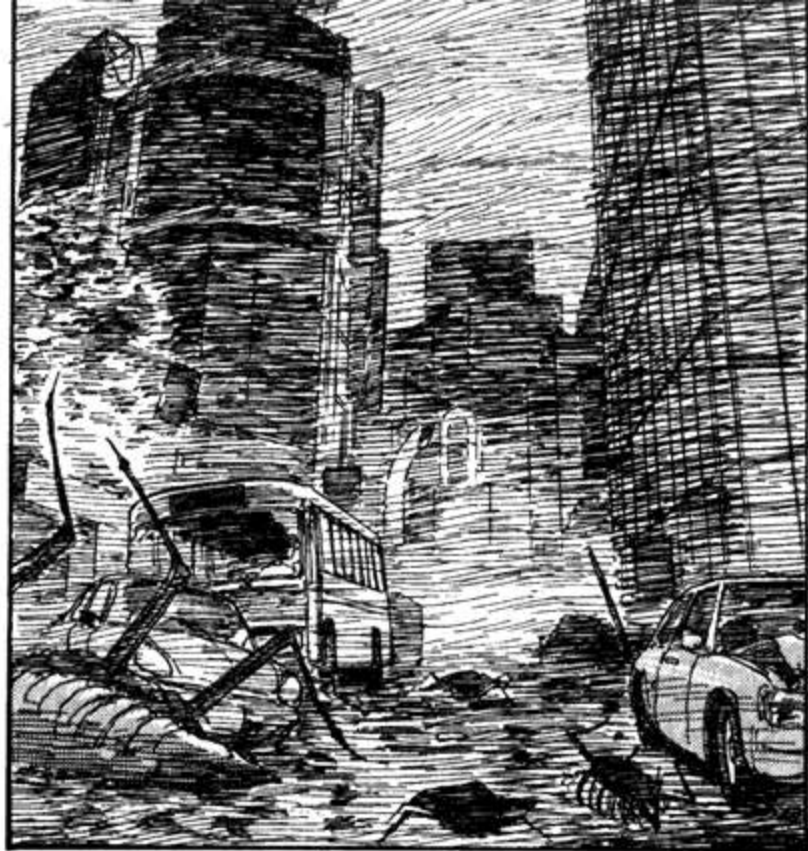
I'VE IMPROVED ON THE ORIGINAL DESIGN...AND NOW I CAN REALLY START MY STUDIES.

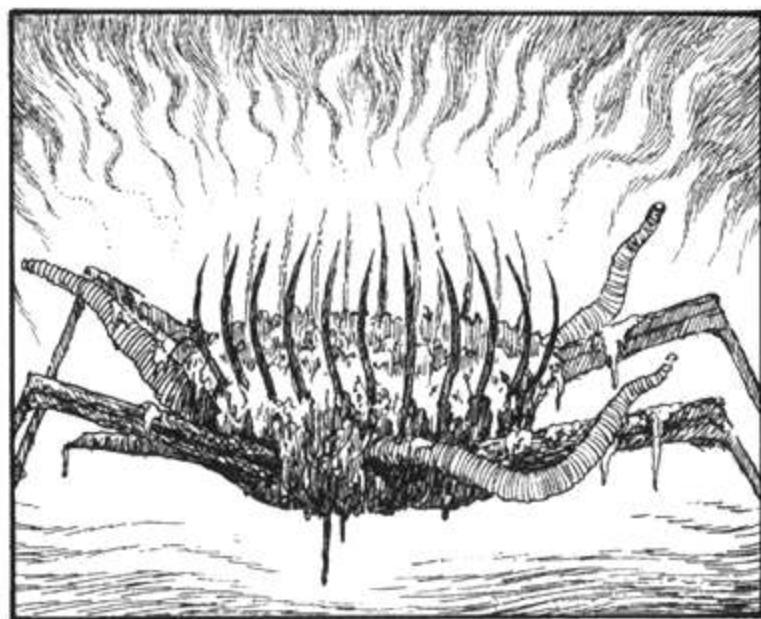


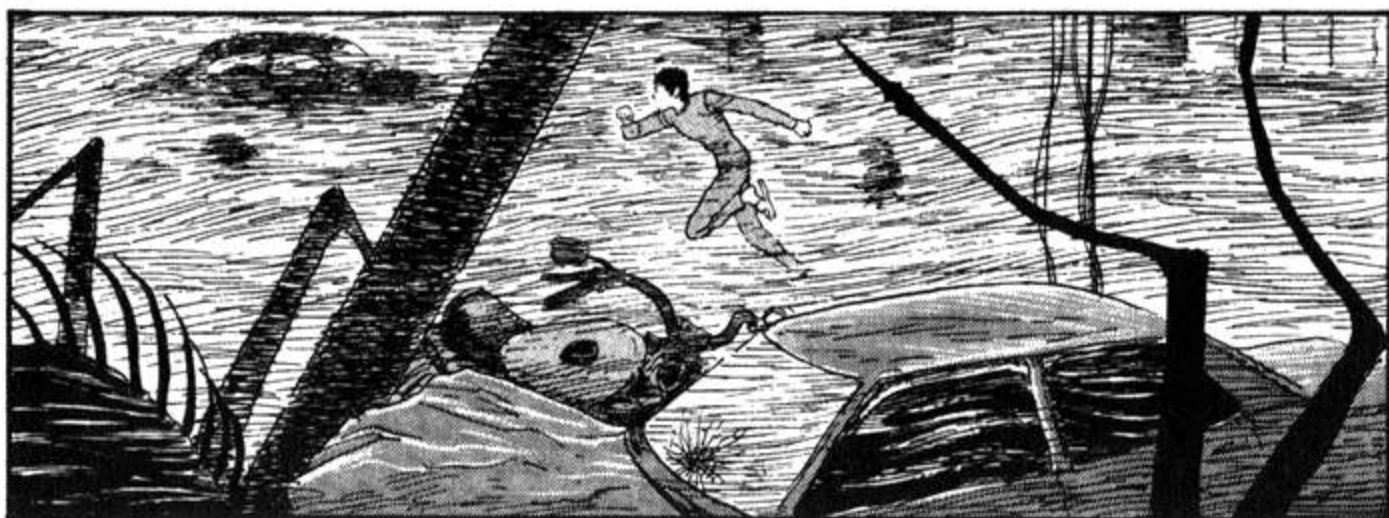














AH...!



WAIT FOR ME!

KAORI! IT'S ME!



KAORI!

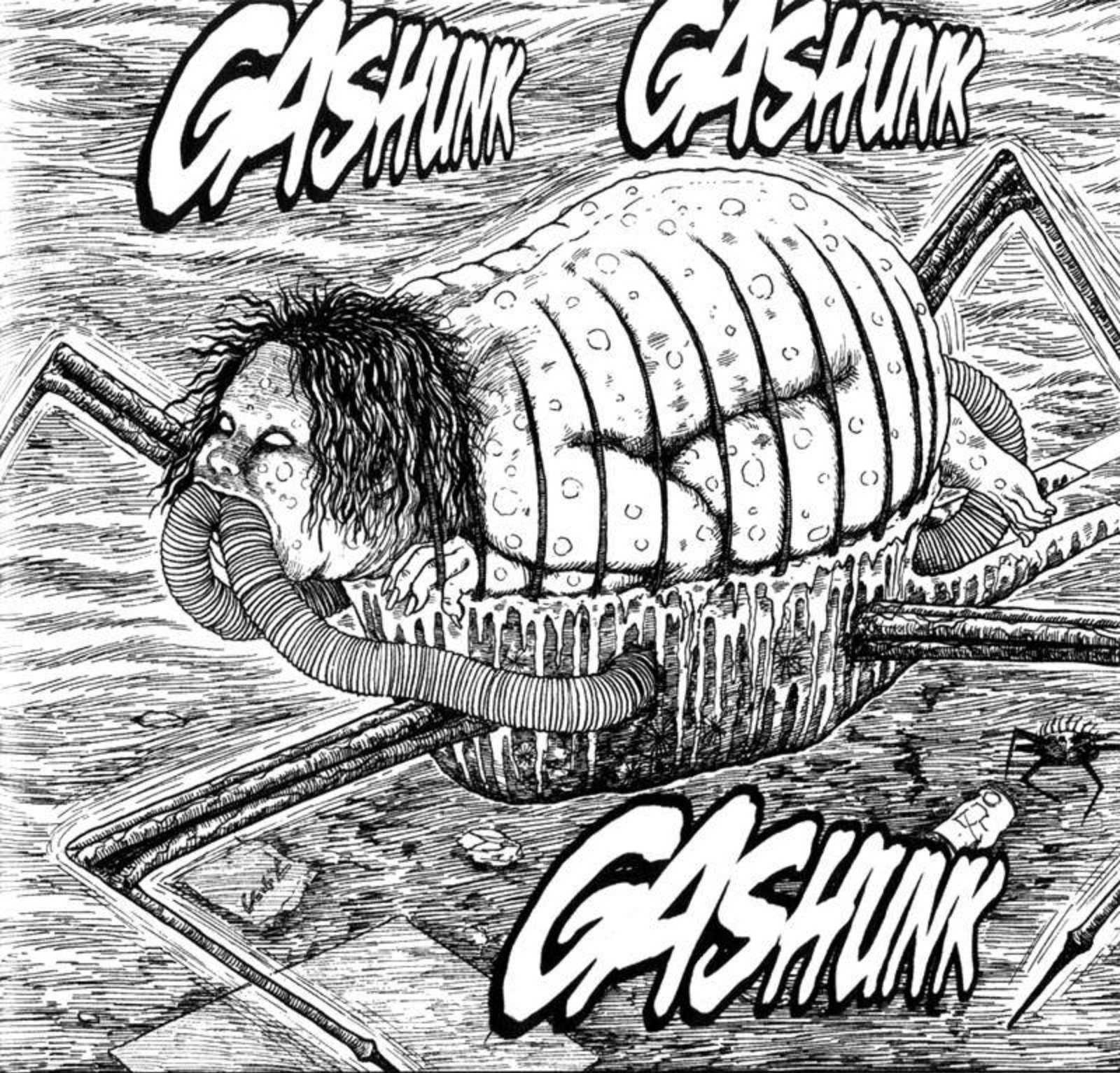


HUH!?



IT'S OKAY!
I'M HERE
TO HELP
YOU!

KAORI...



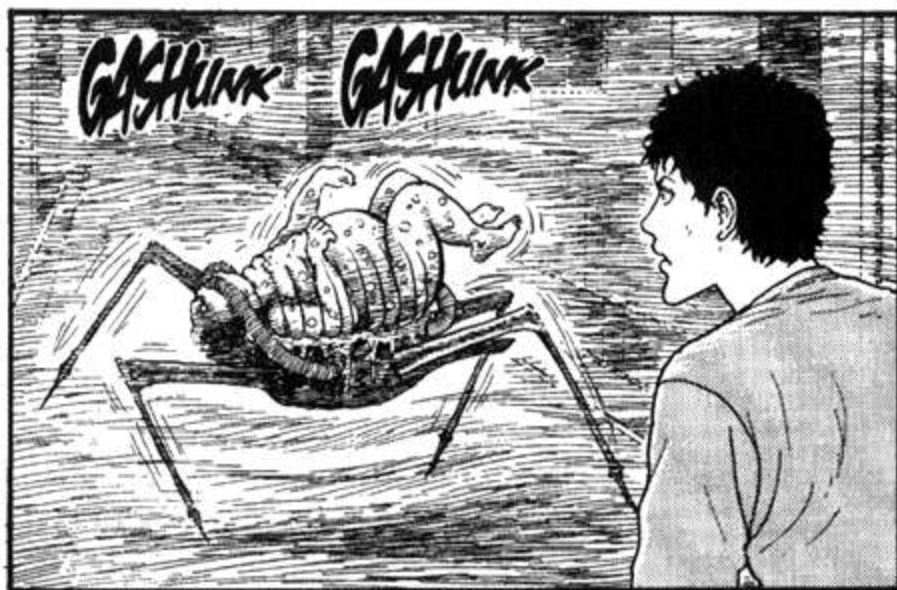
...THE
SAME FEET
AS THE
WALKING
FISH...

BESIDES...
SHE'S
GOT...



THIS
ISN'T
HER...

...NO...



FFSSSSSSSSSSSHHHH
GASHUNK
GASHUNK
GASHUNK

FFSSSSSSSSSSSHHHH
FFSSSSSSSSSSSHHHH
GASHUNK

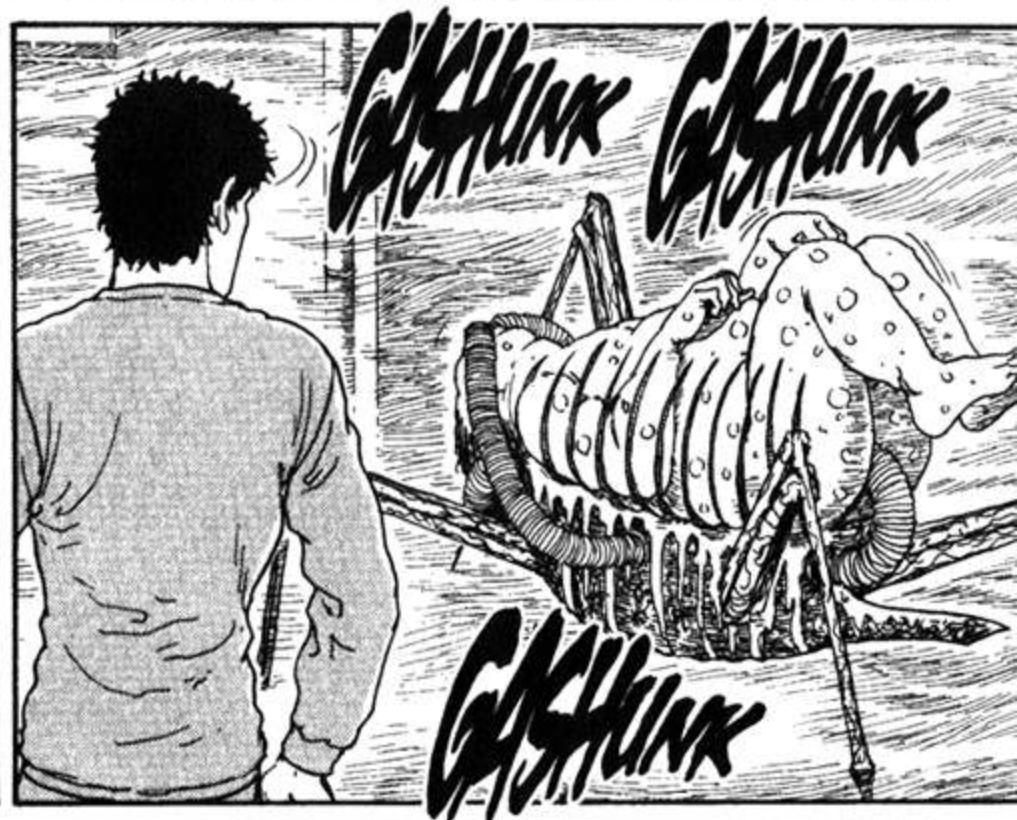
FFSSSSSSSSSSSHHHH

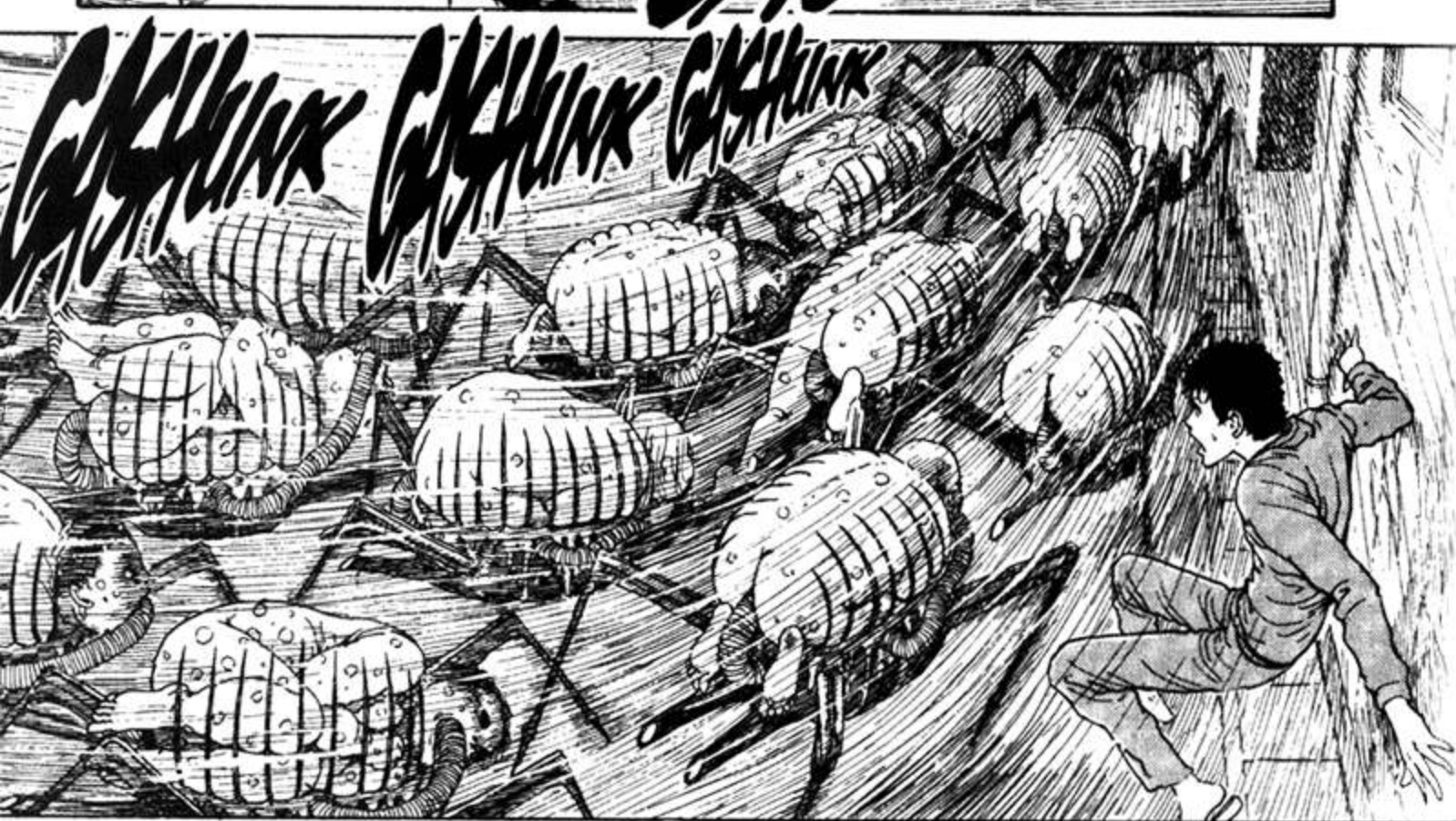
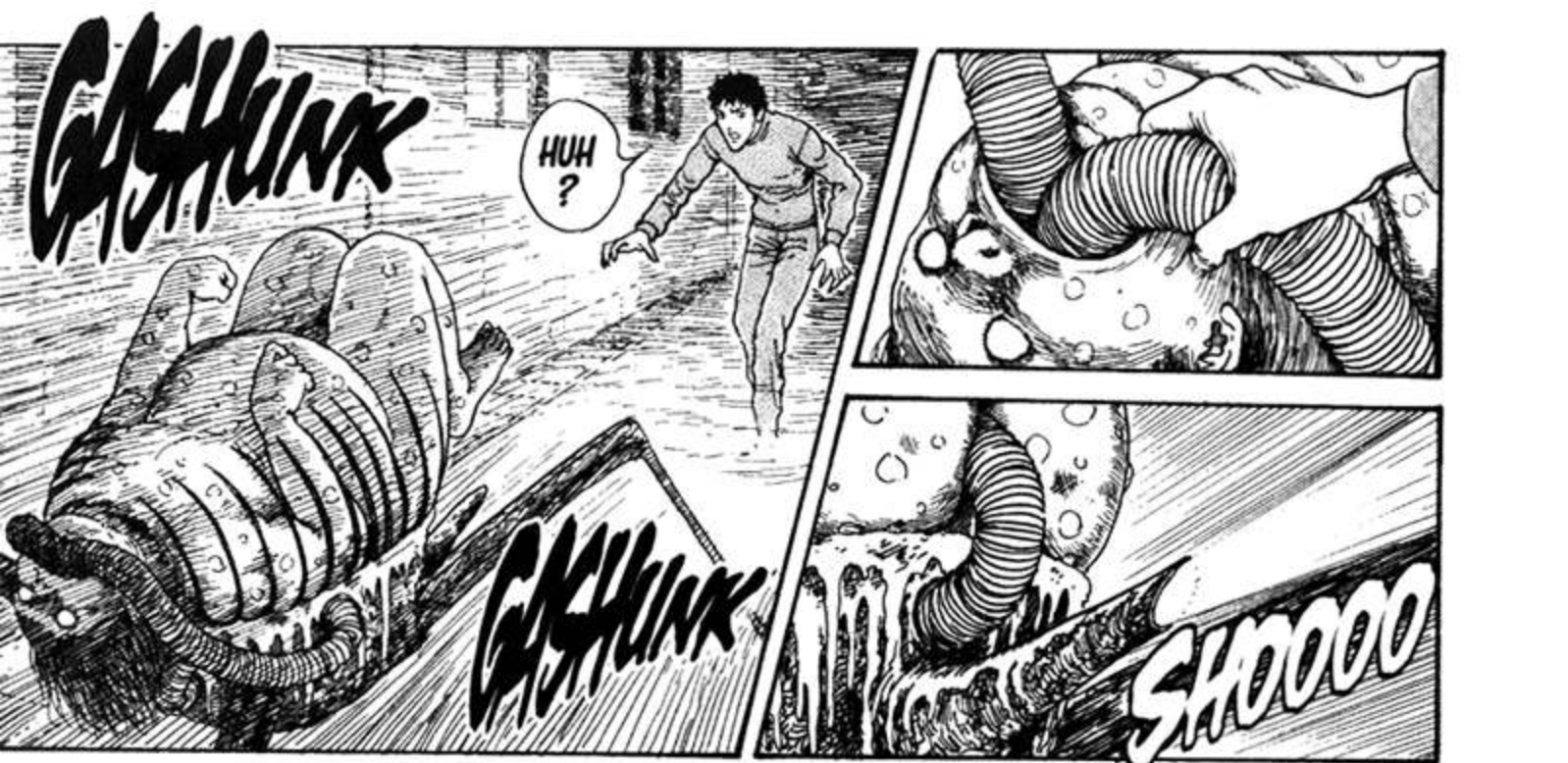
WH-WHAT...

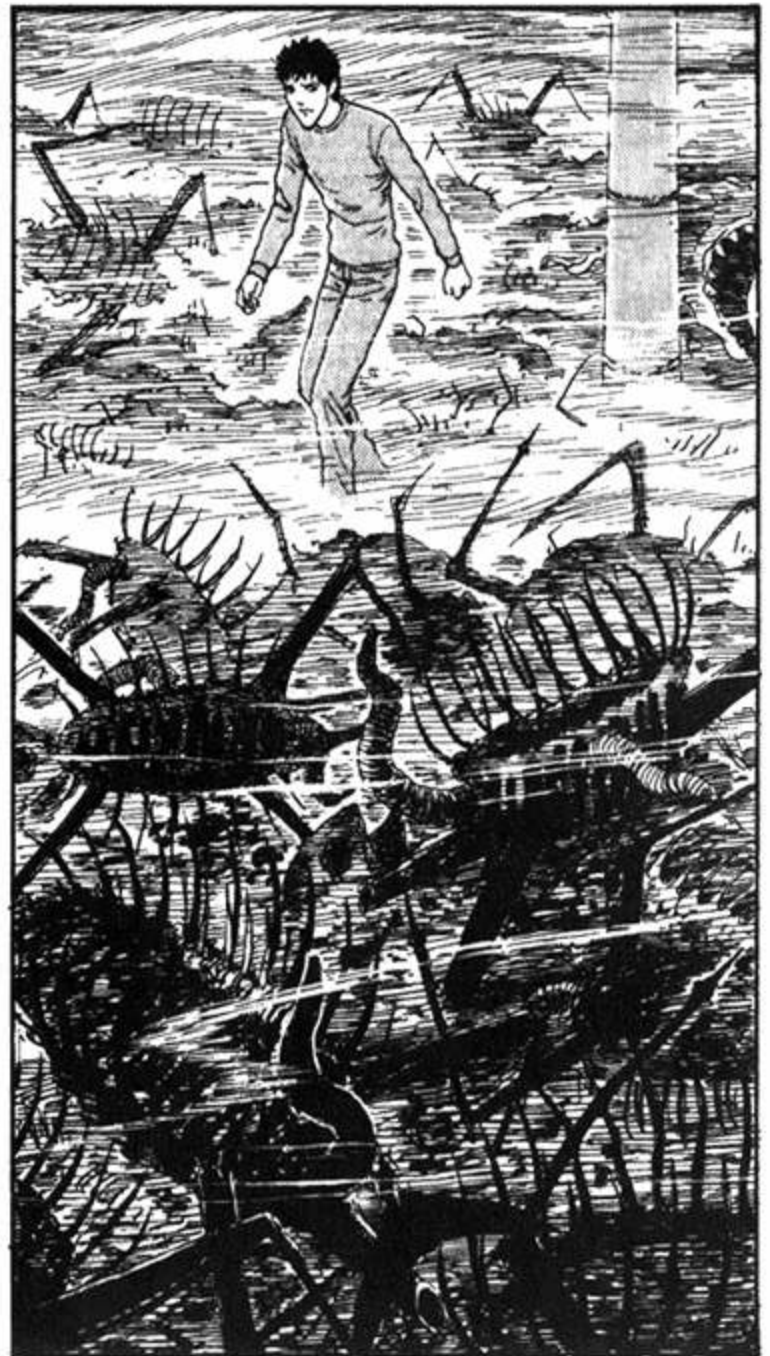
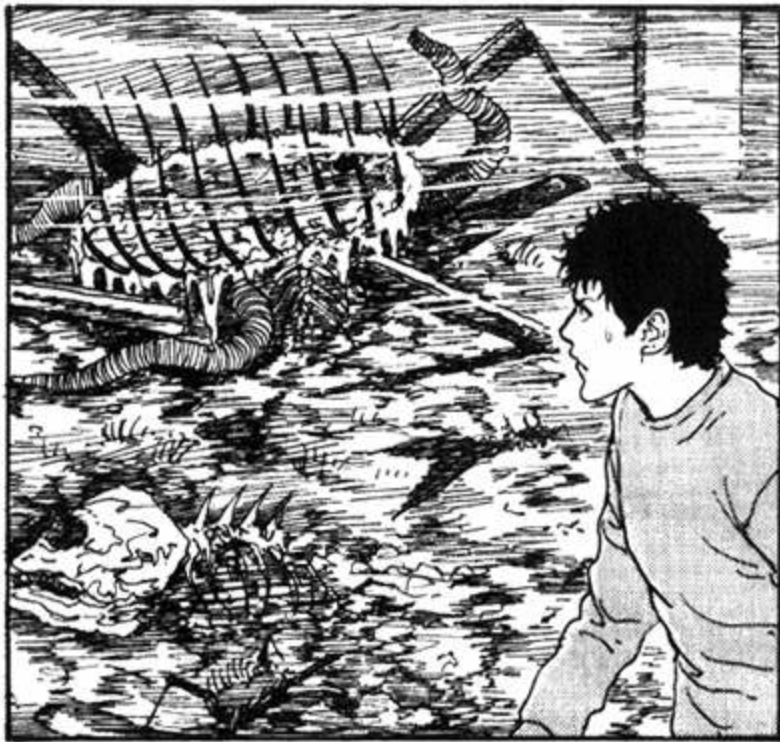
GASHUNK
GASHUNK

13/The Inheritors











IT LOOKS LIKE THE WHOLE SKY IS SQUIRMING ...



IT MUST BE THE LIGHT FROM THE GAS...

THE NIGHT SKY IS PALE BLUE...



FSSSSSSSHHHHHHH
SWAY
SWAY
SWAY



FSSSSSSSHHHHHHH



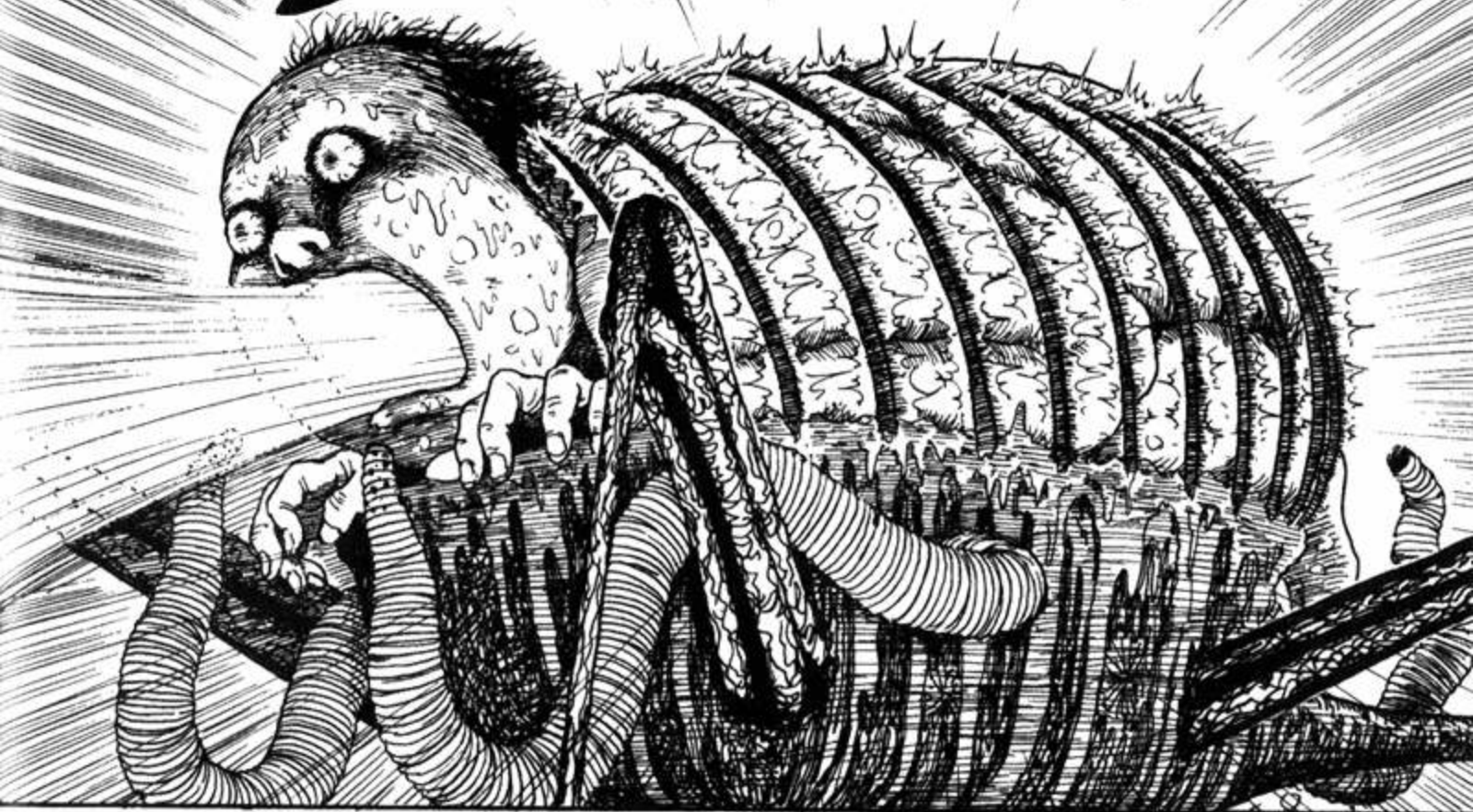
FSSSSSSSSSHHHHHHH
SWAY



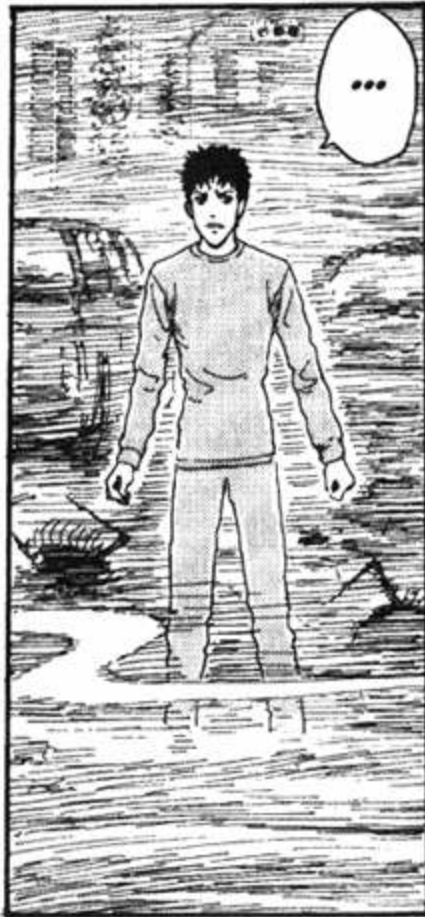
WHOM!



SWAAP

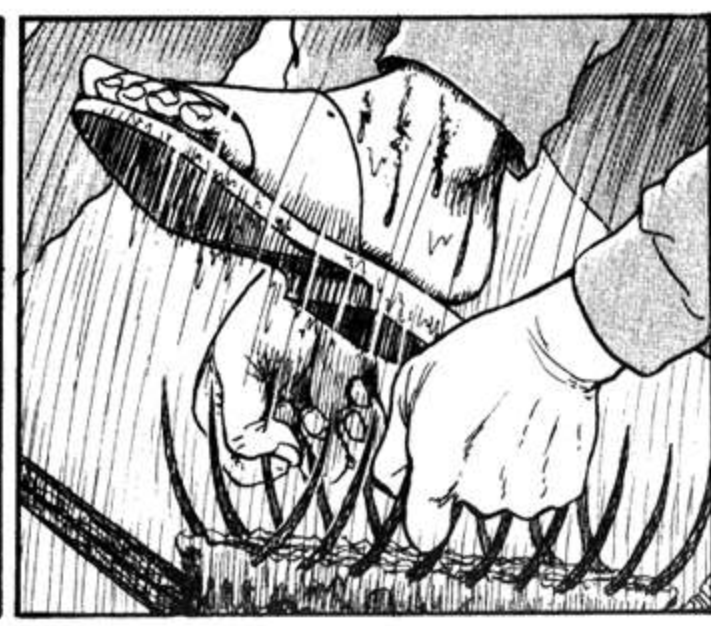


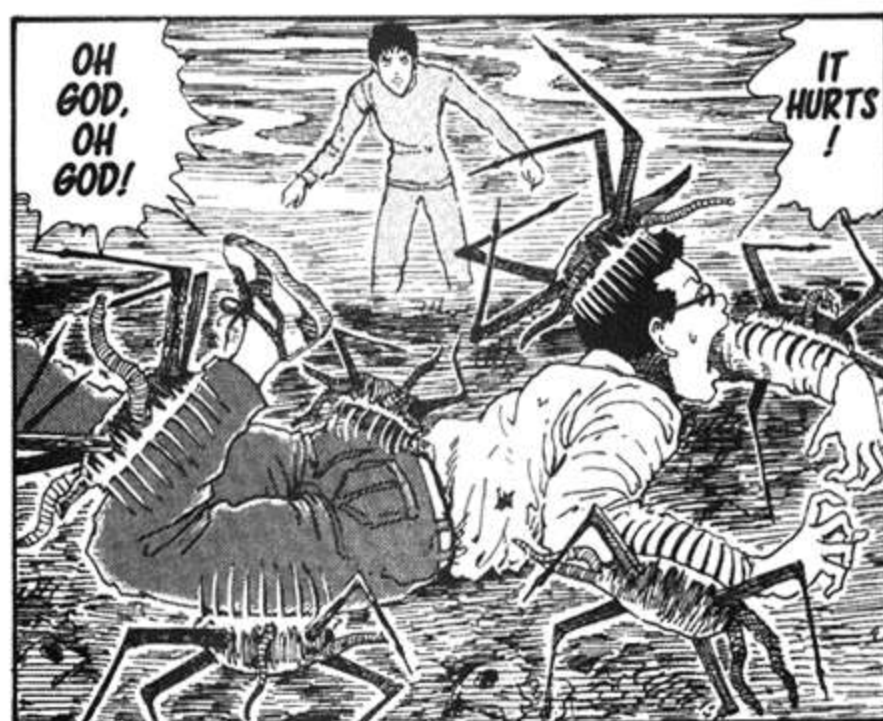


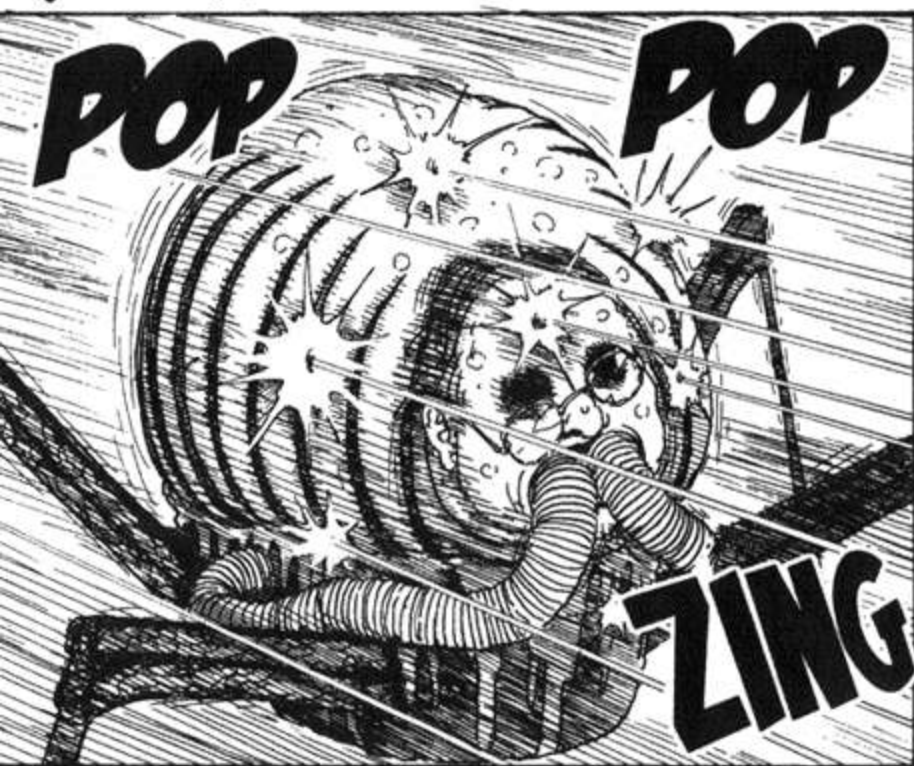














THEY'RE ALL DEAD!!

SHUT UP!



HEY...WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

THERE'S A MAN ON THAT THING!



EVEN IF THEY WERE ALIVE, THEY'RE NOT HUMAN ANYMORE!

LOOK! THEY'RE JUST FEEDING THE MACHINE!



TRY TO STOP ME AND I'LL SHOOT YOU, TOO!

I SAID SHUT UP!



ARE THOSE YOUR ORDERS!?

NO!! YOU CAN'T JUST KILL THEM! I'M SURE THERE'S A WAY TO RESCUE THEM!

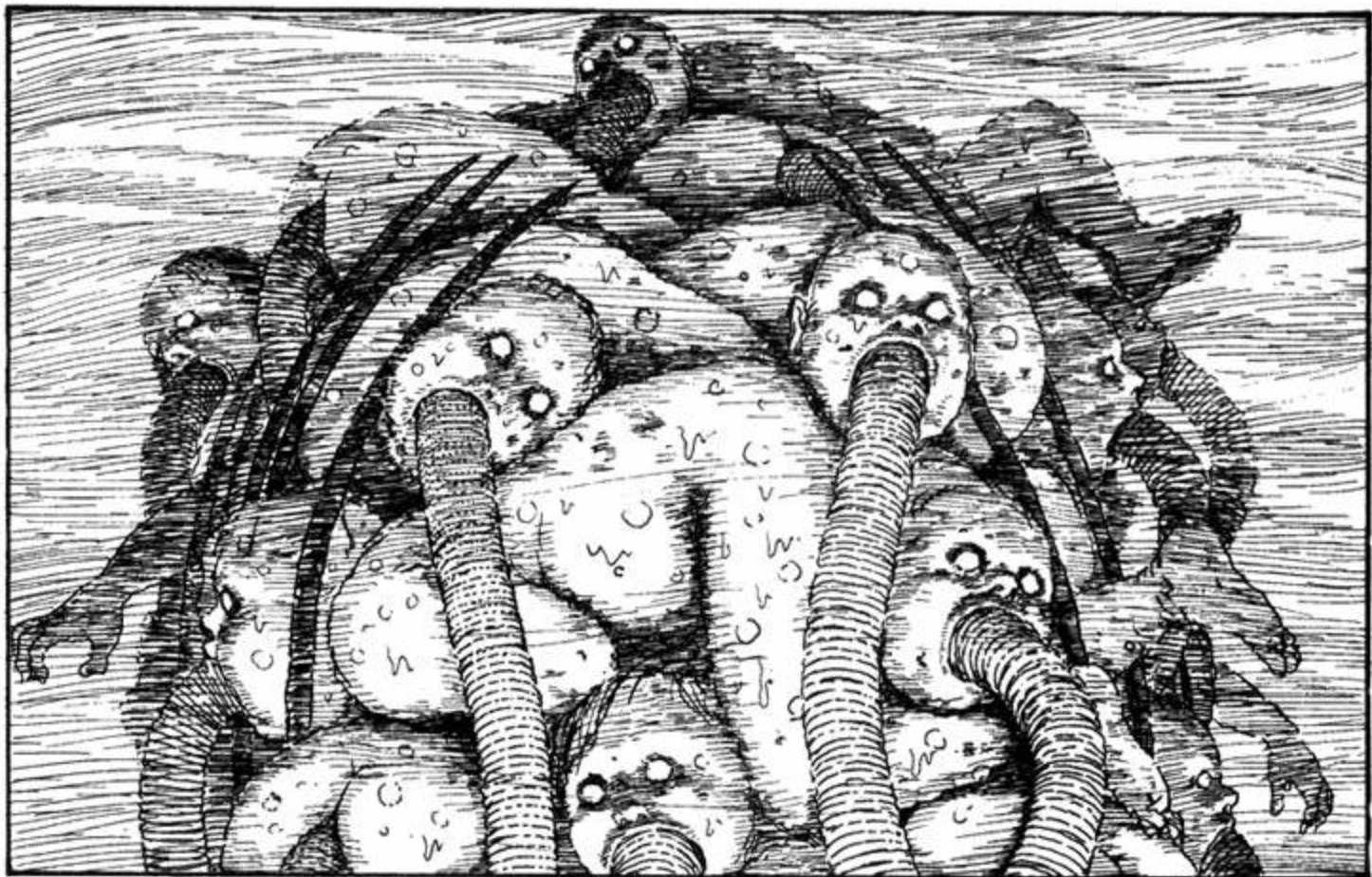


...

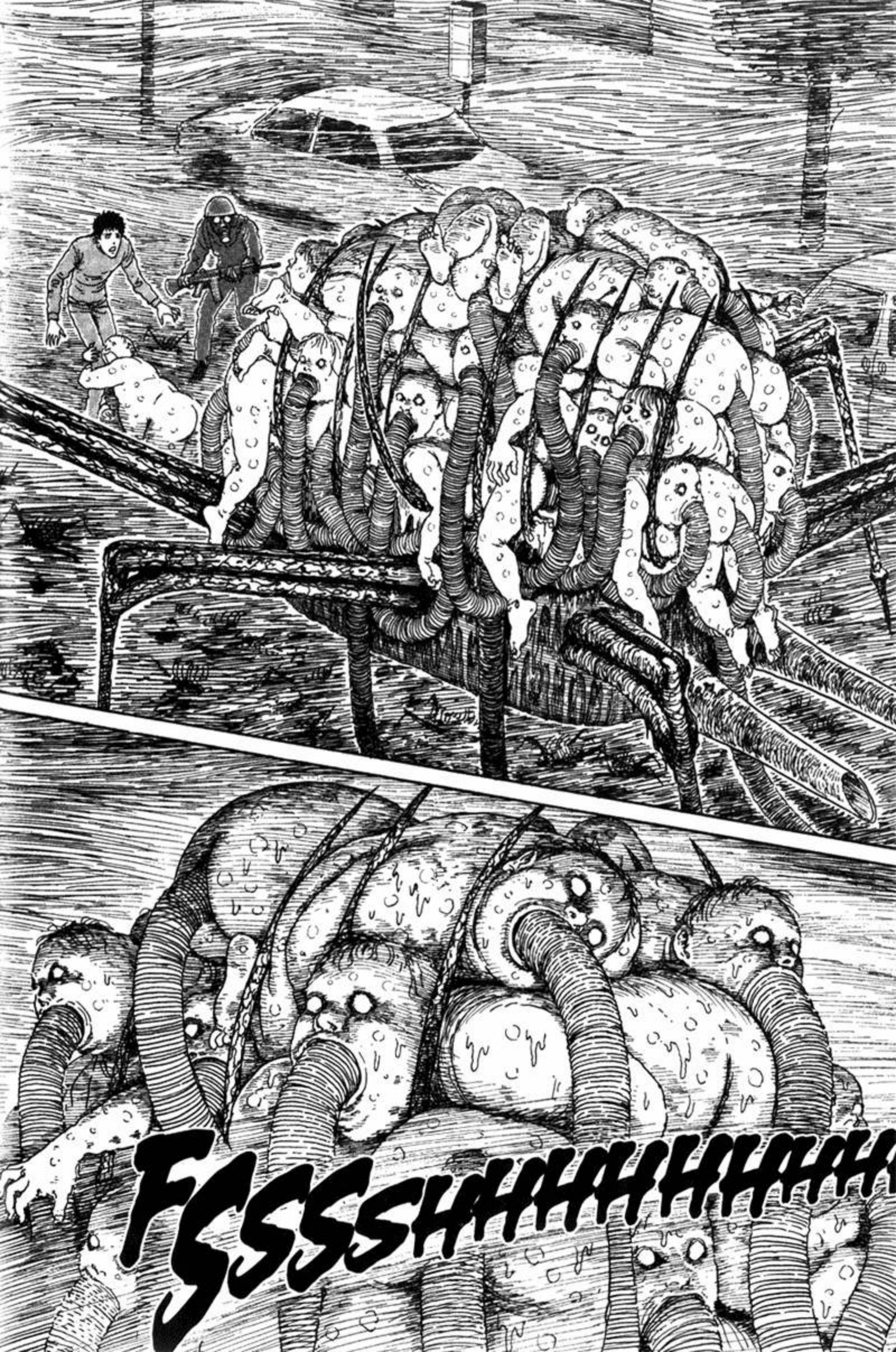


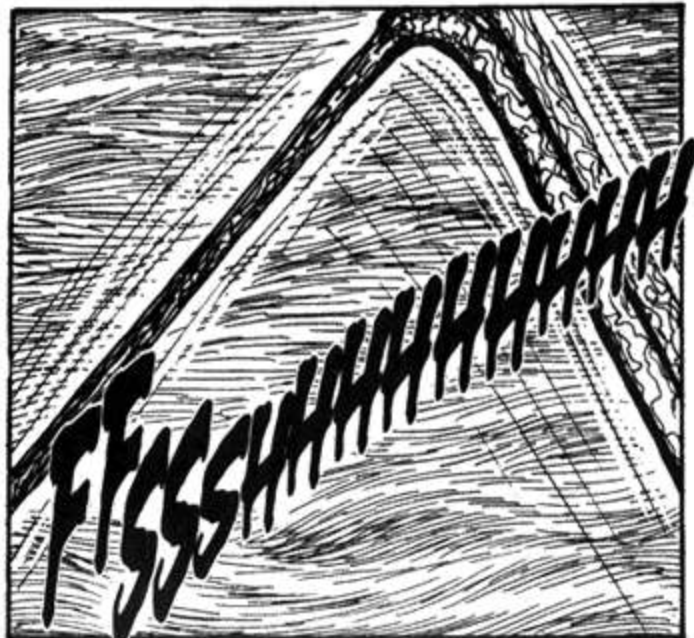
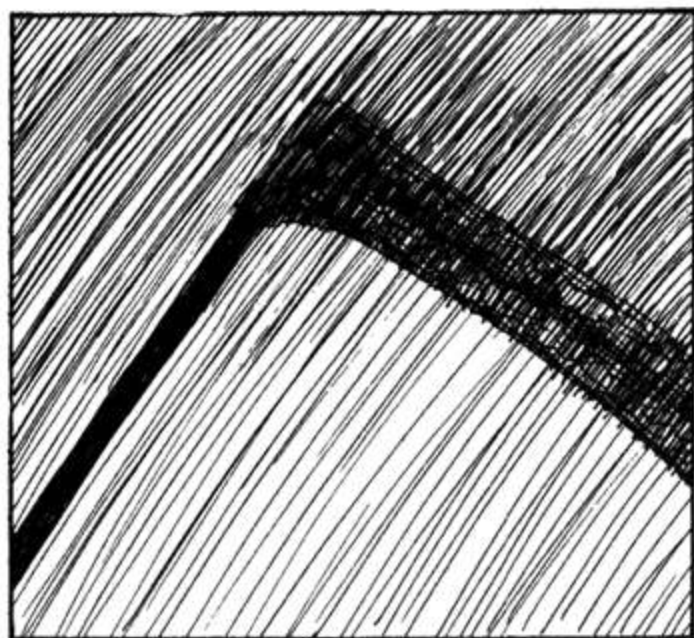
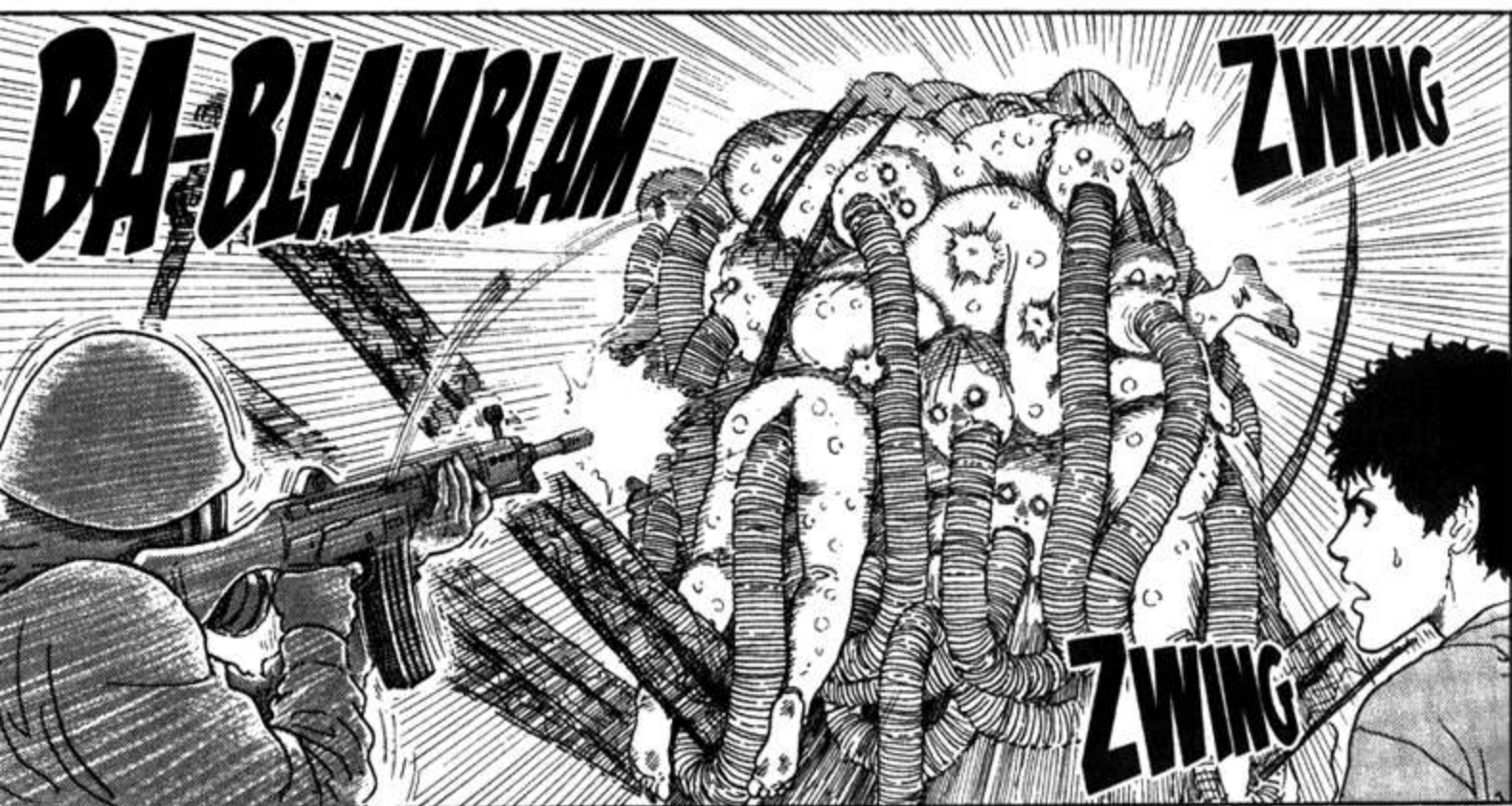


14/The Pull of the
Death-Stench





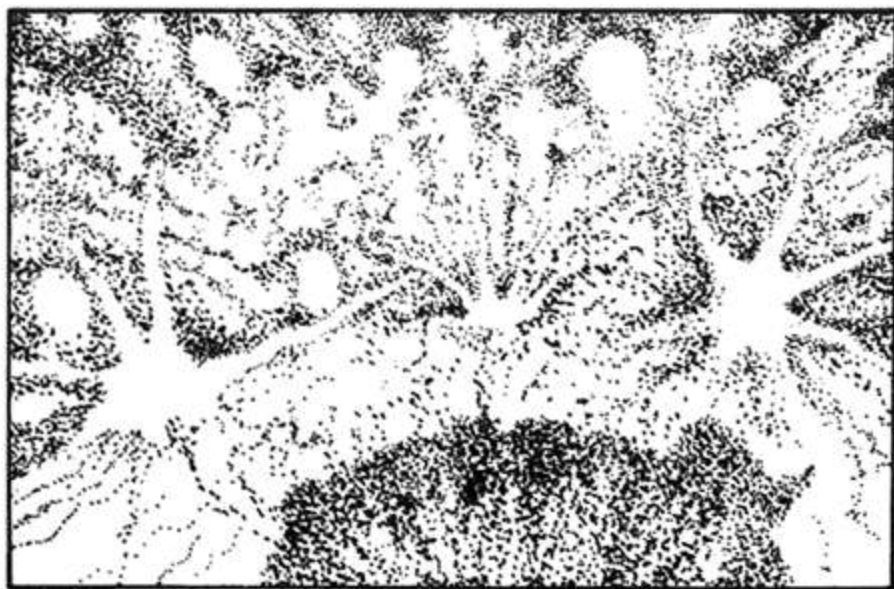




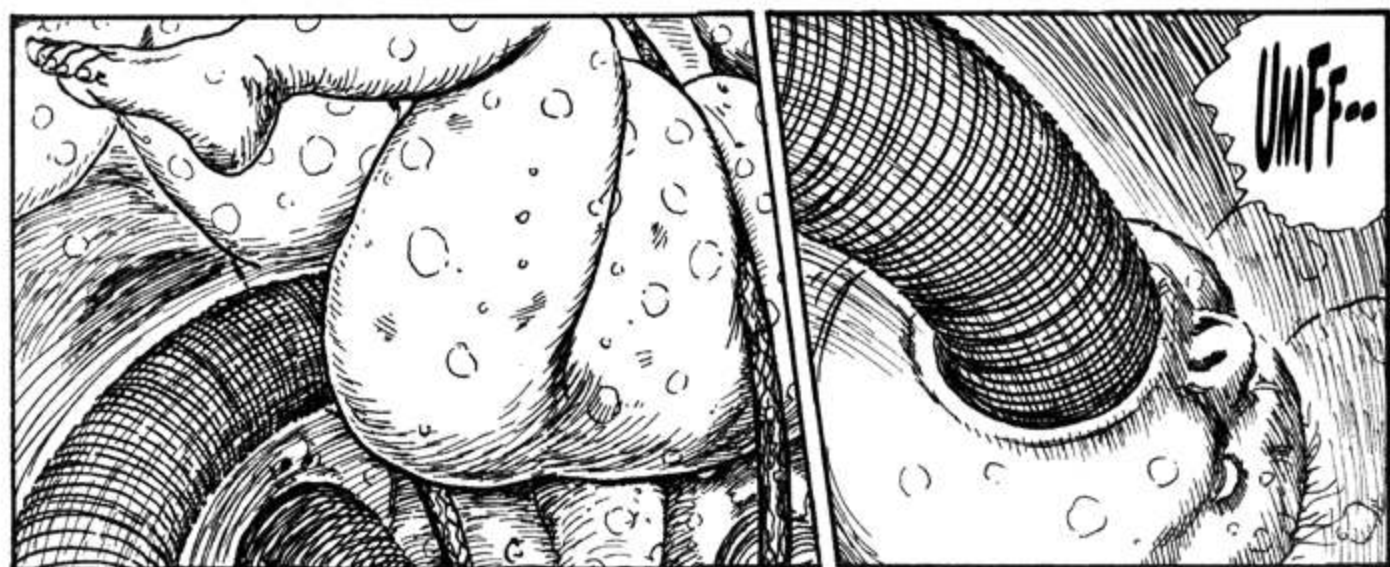
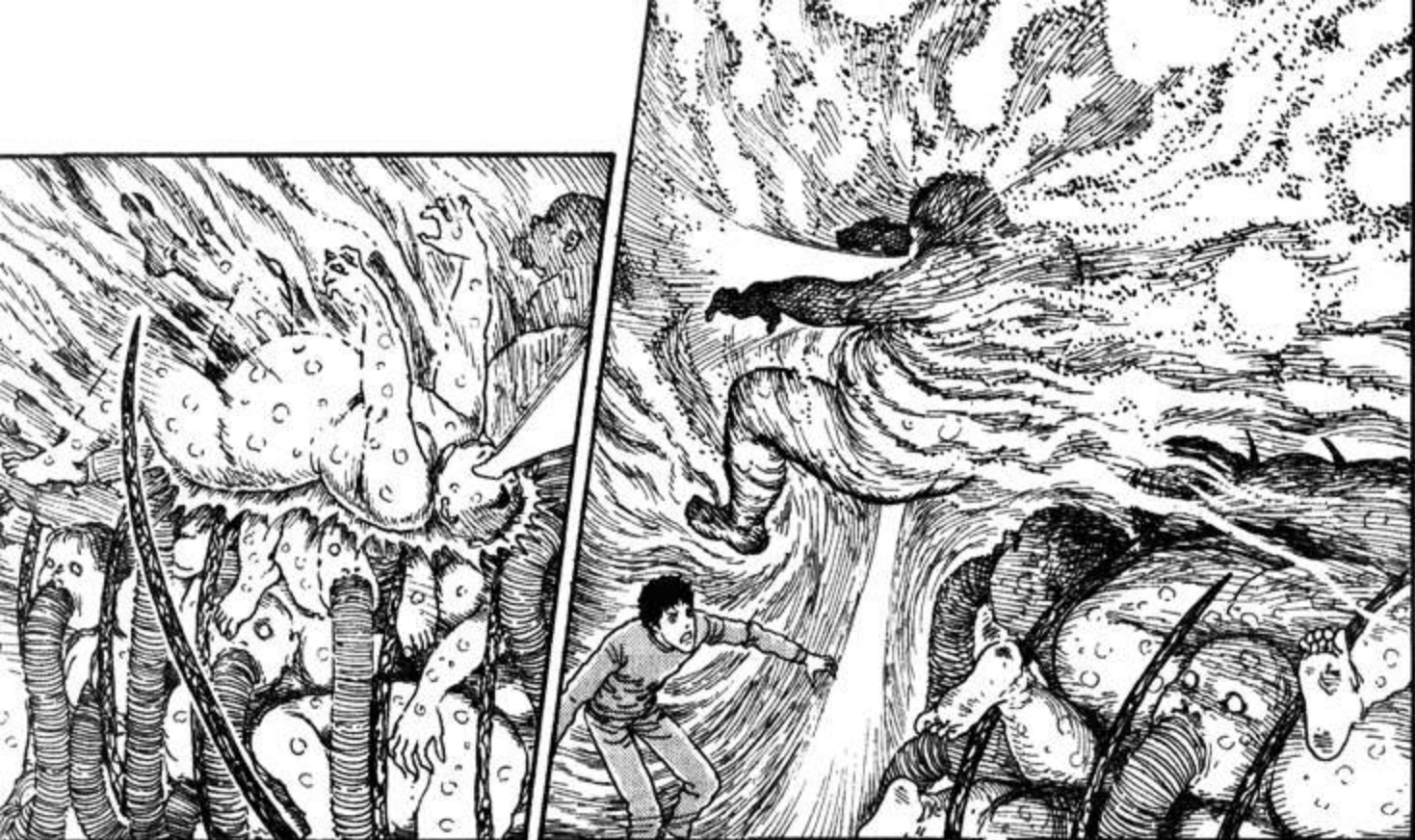


HHWOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

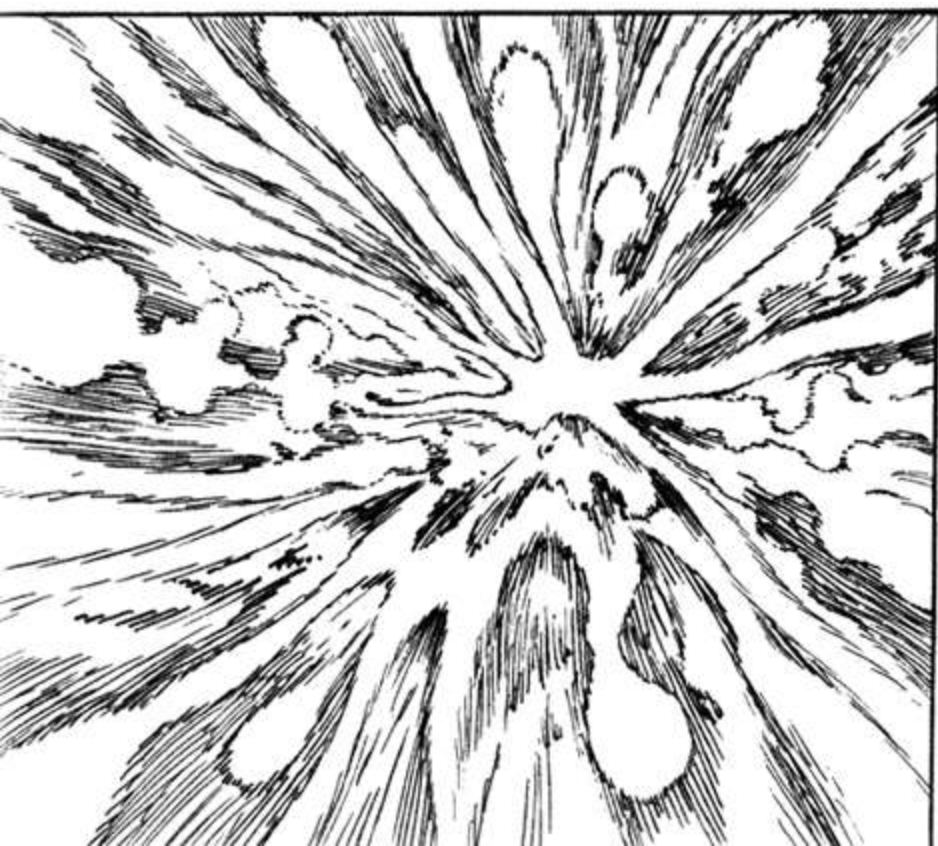
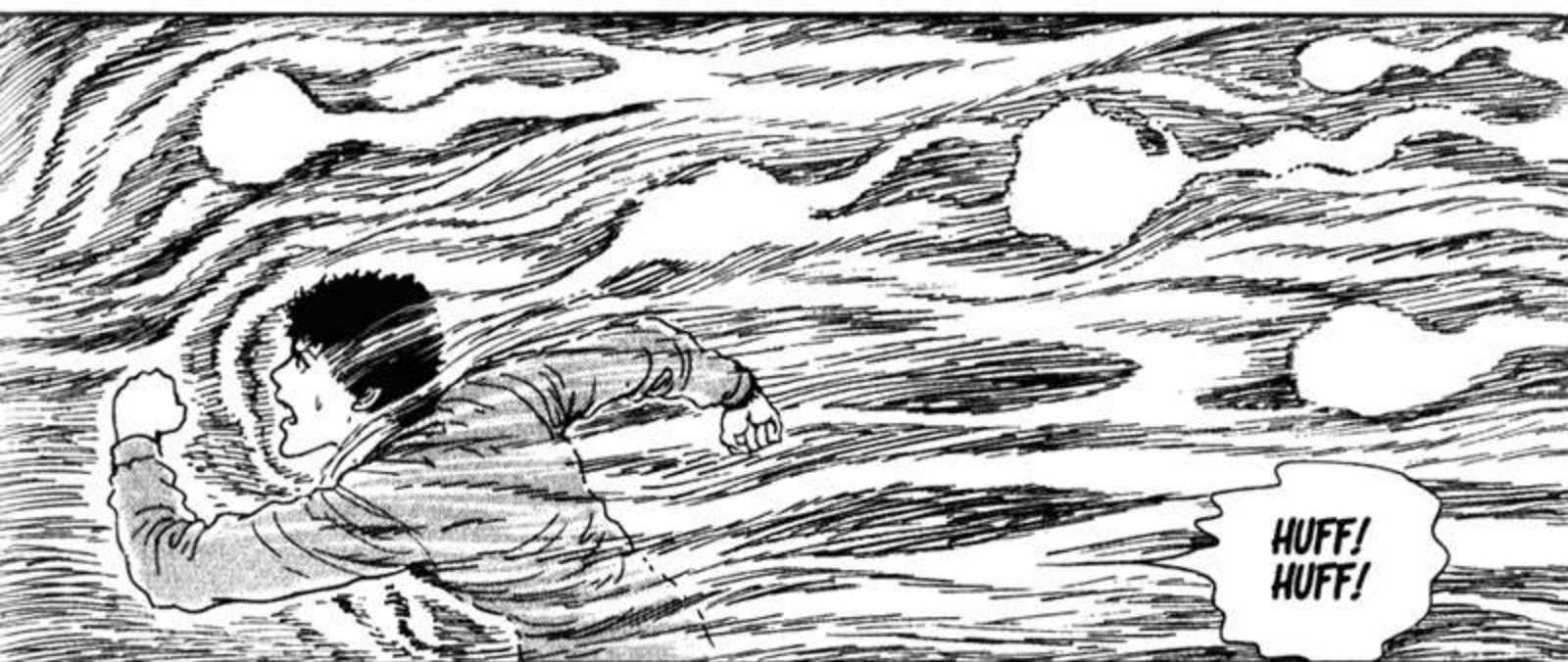




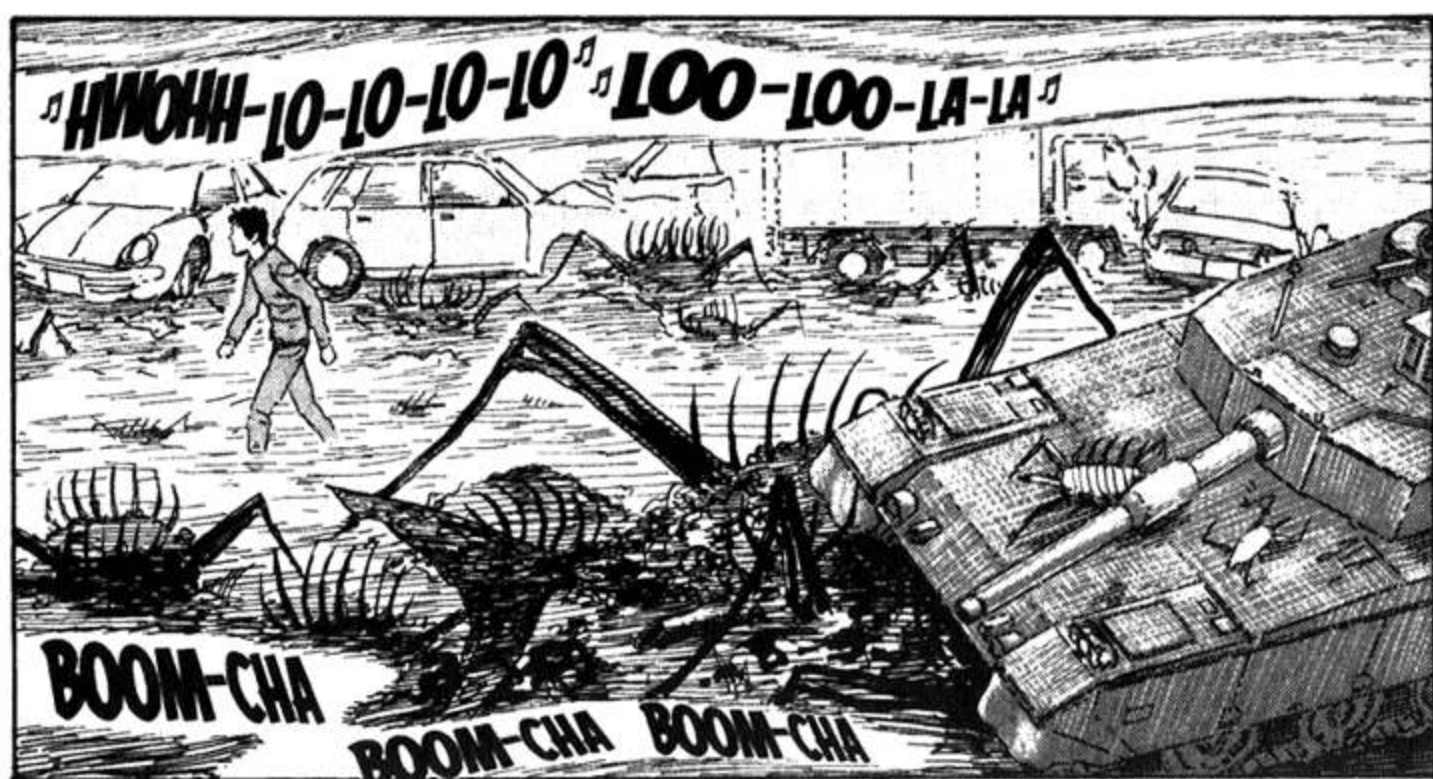
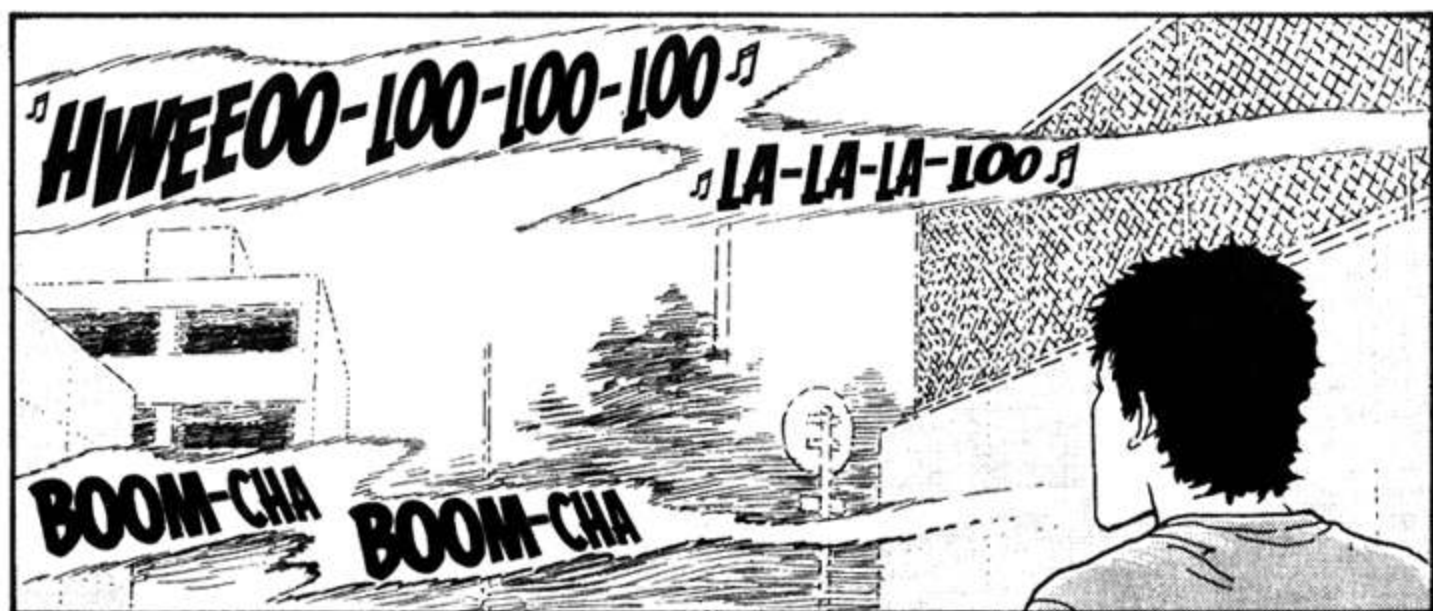


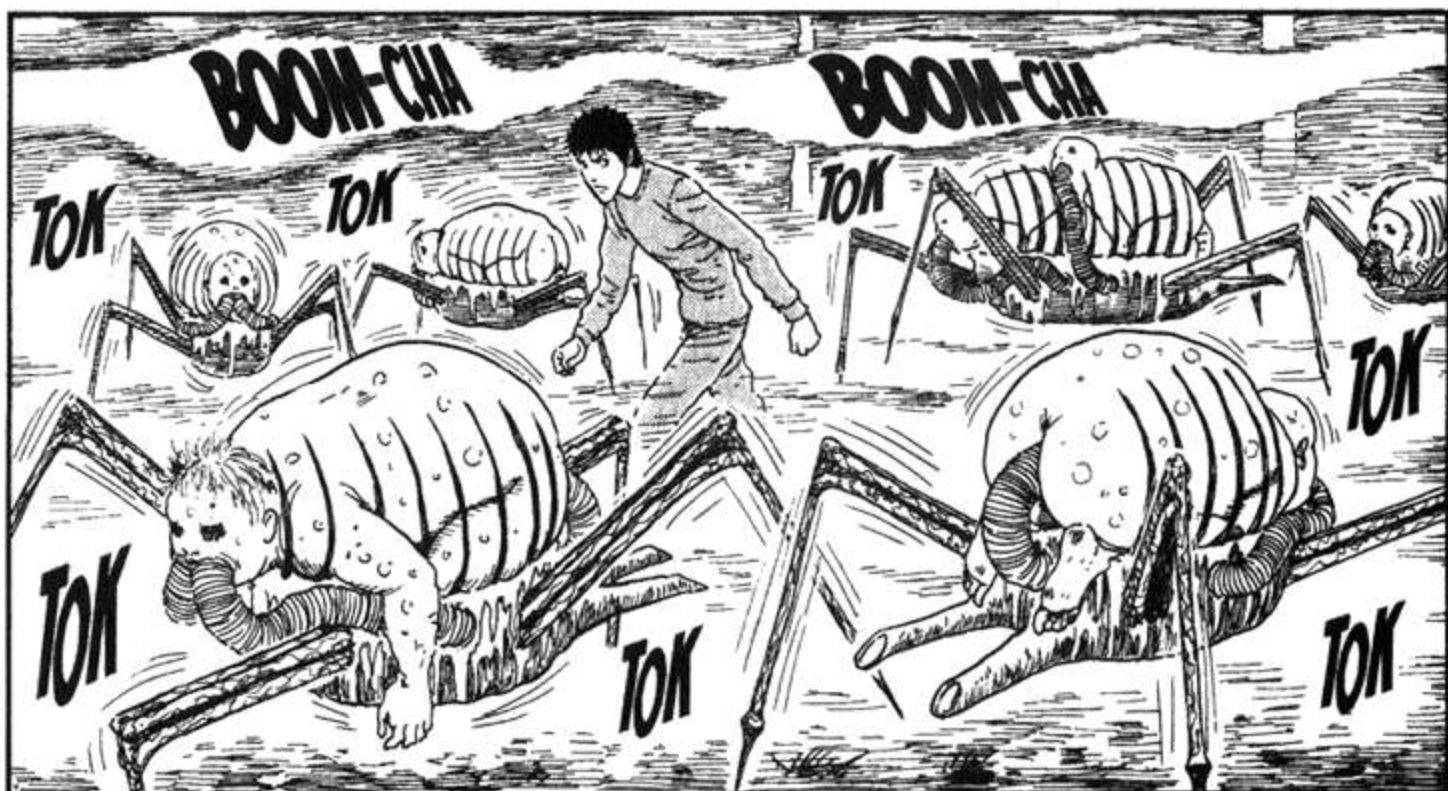
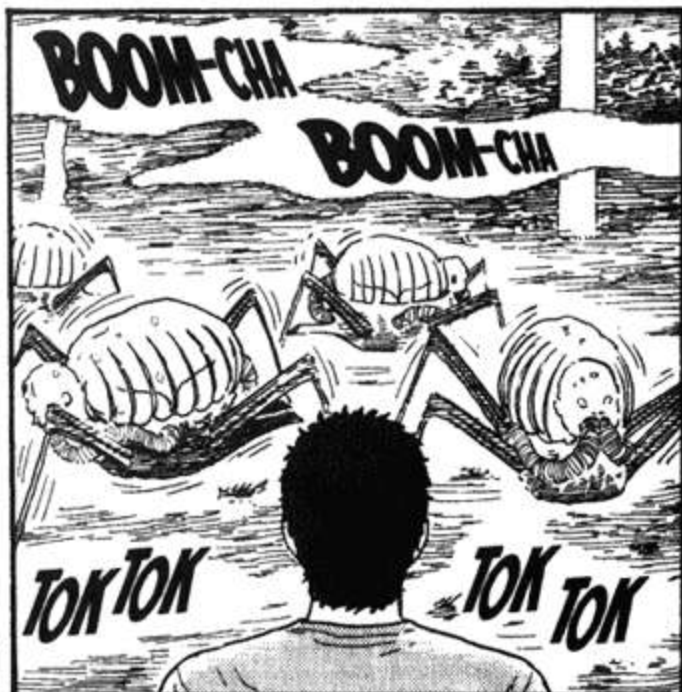
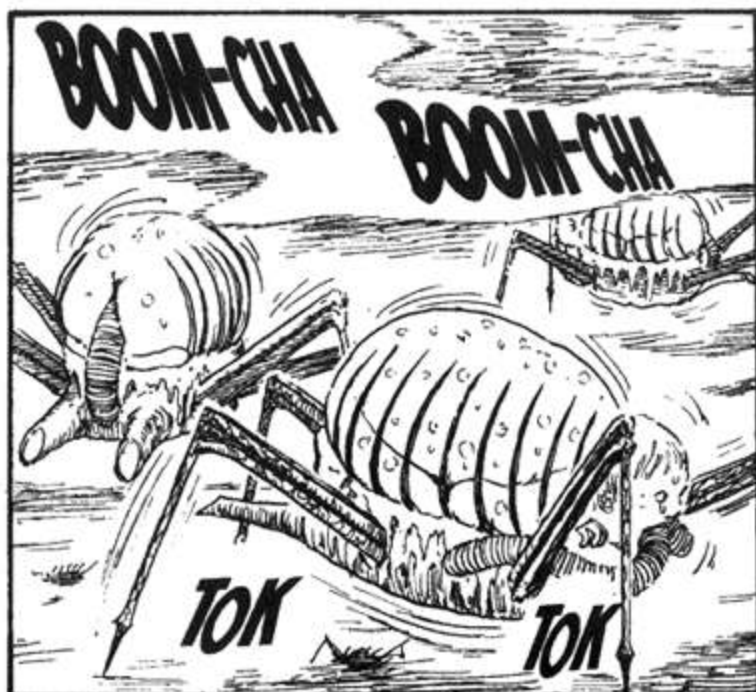




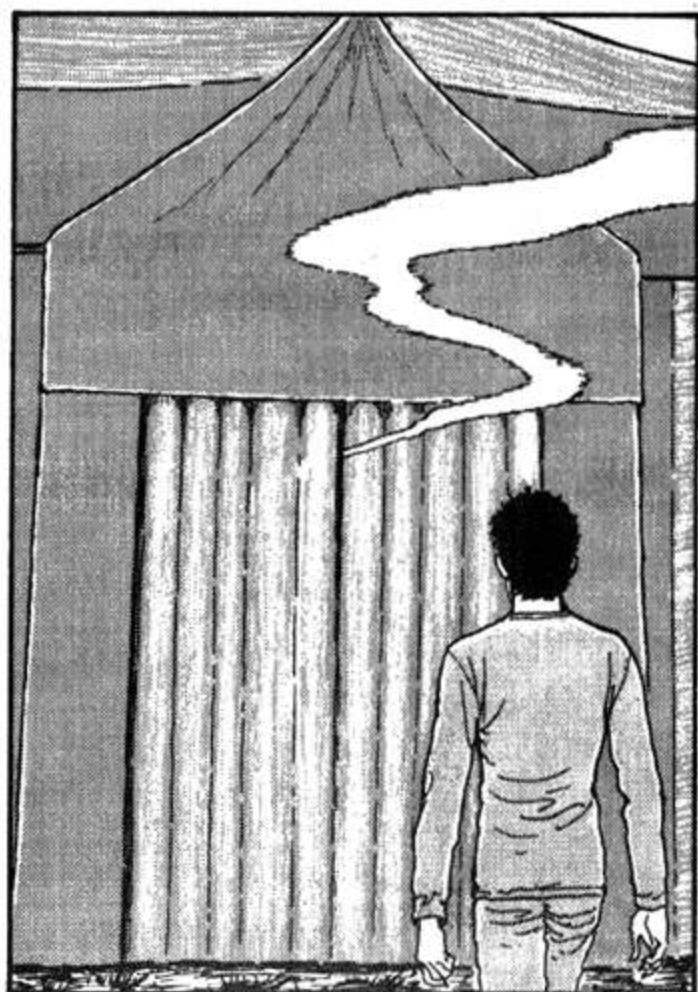
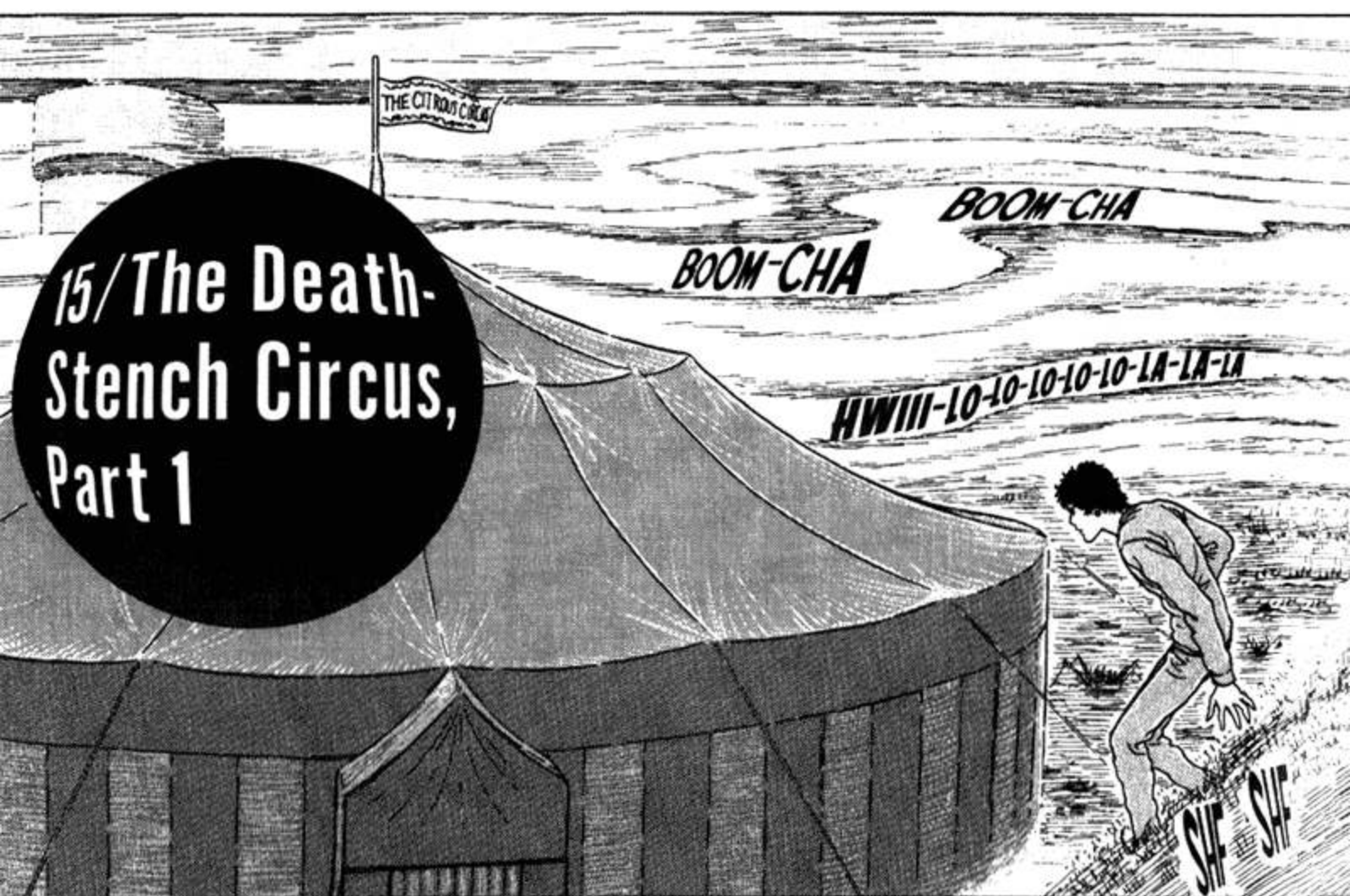


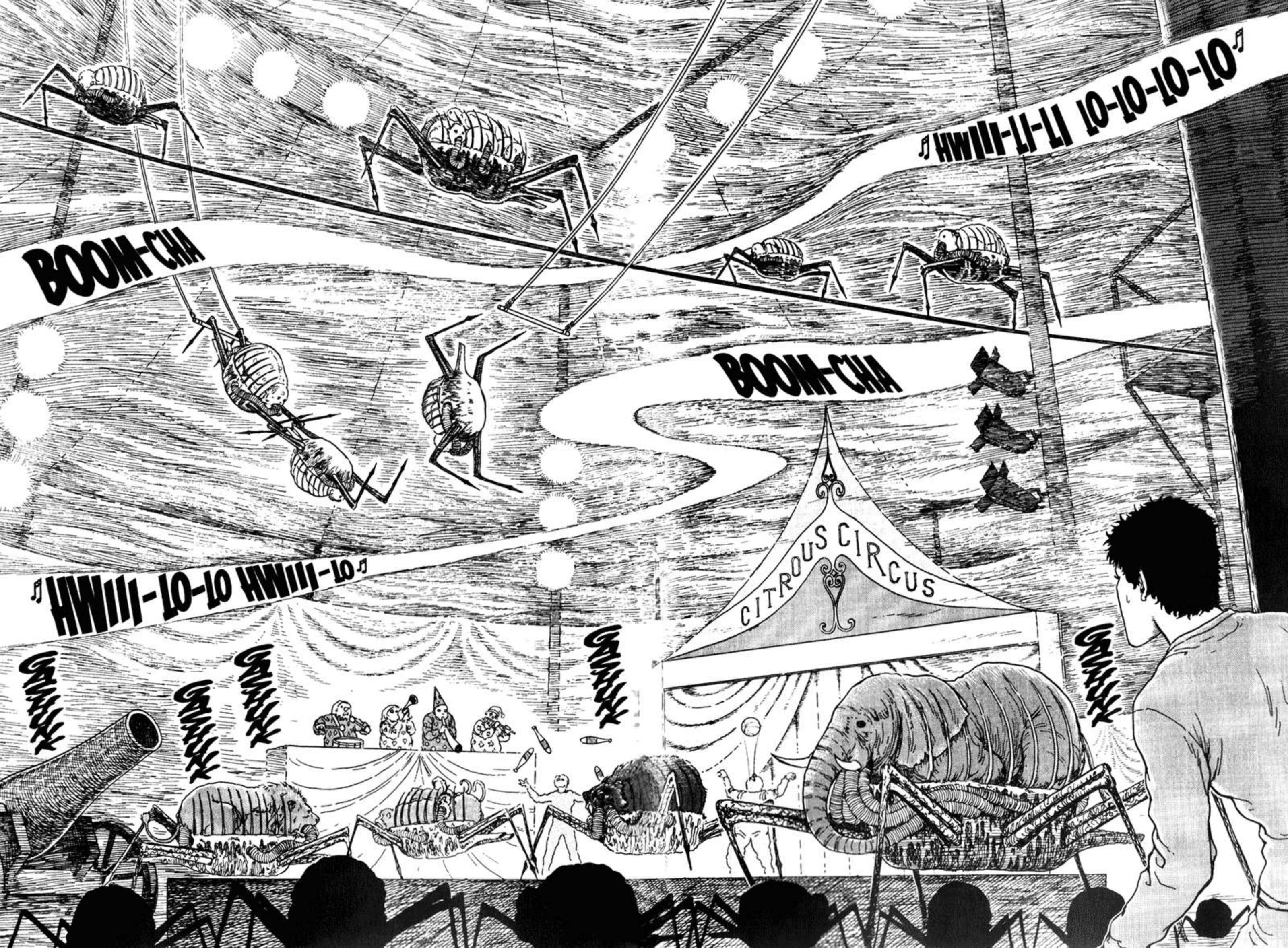






15/The Death-Stench Circus, Part 1





HWIII-LI-LI 10-10-10-10

BOOM-CHA

BOOM-CHA

CITROUS CIRCUS

HWIII-LO-LO HWIII-LO

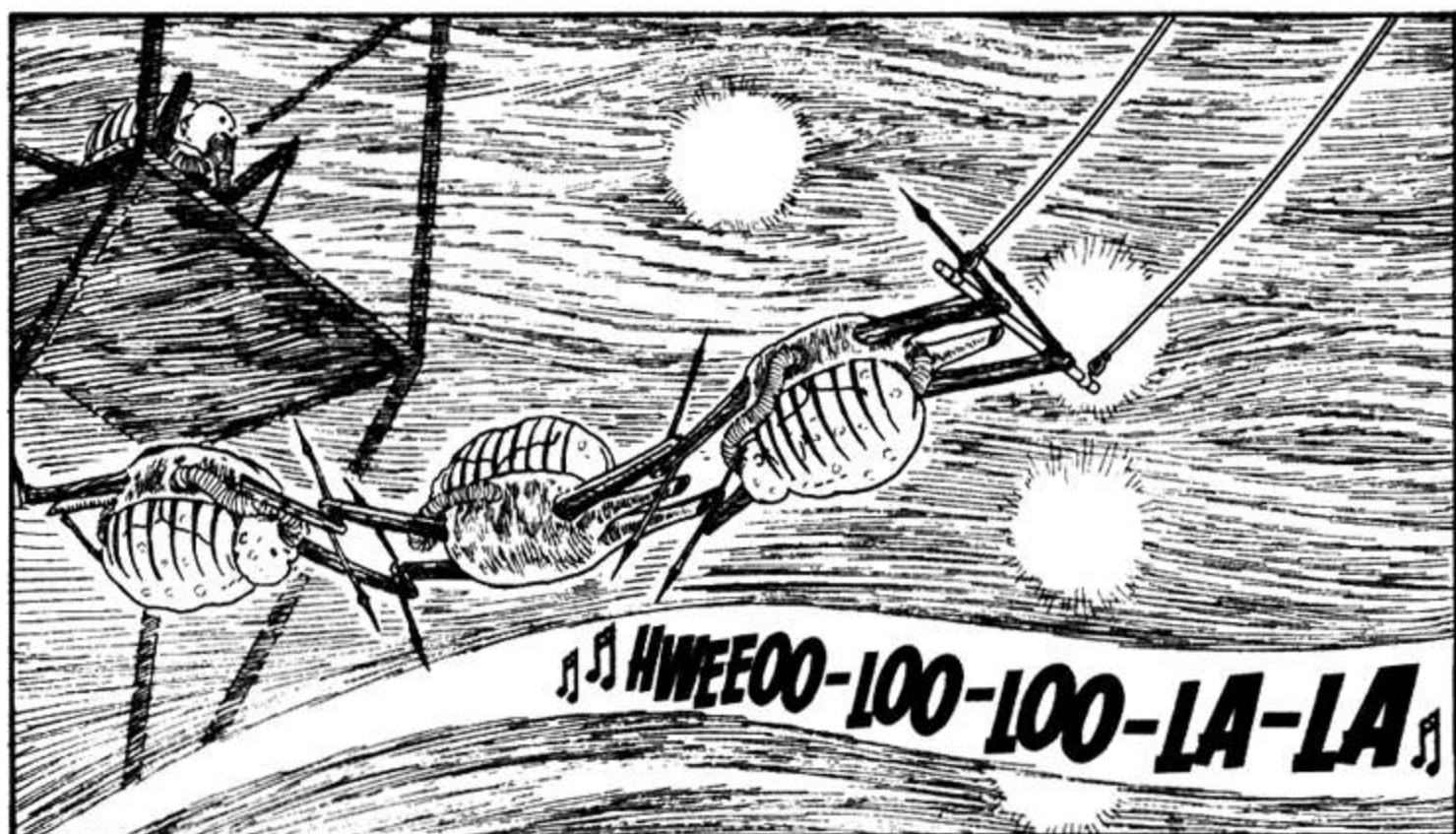
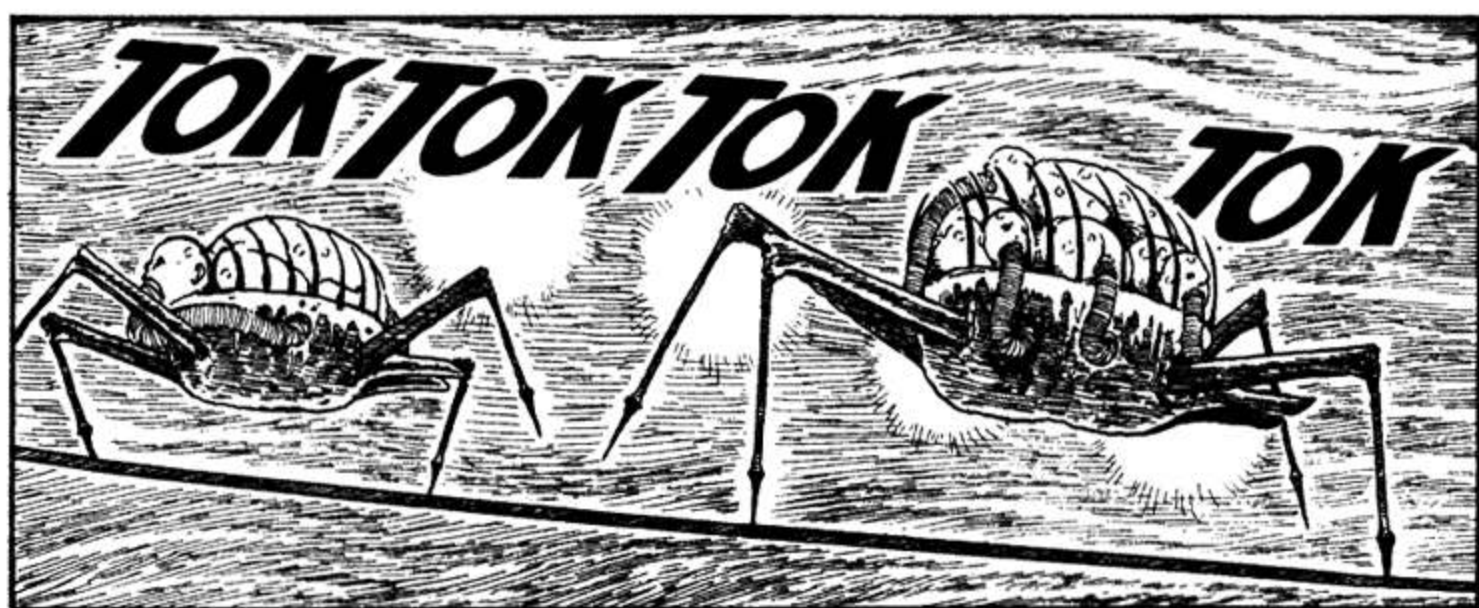
HWIII-LO-LO

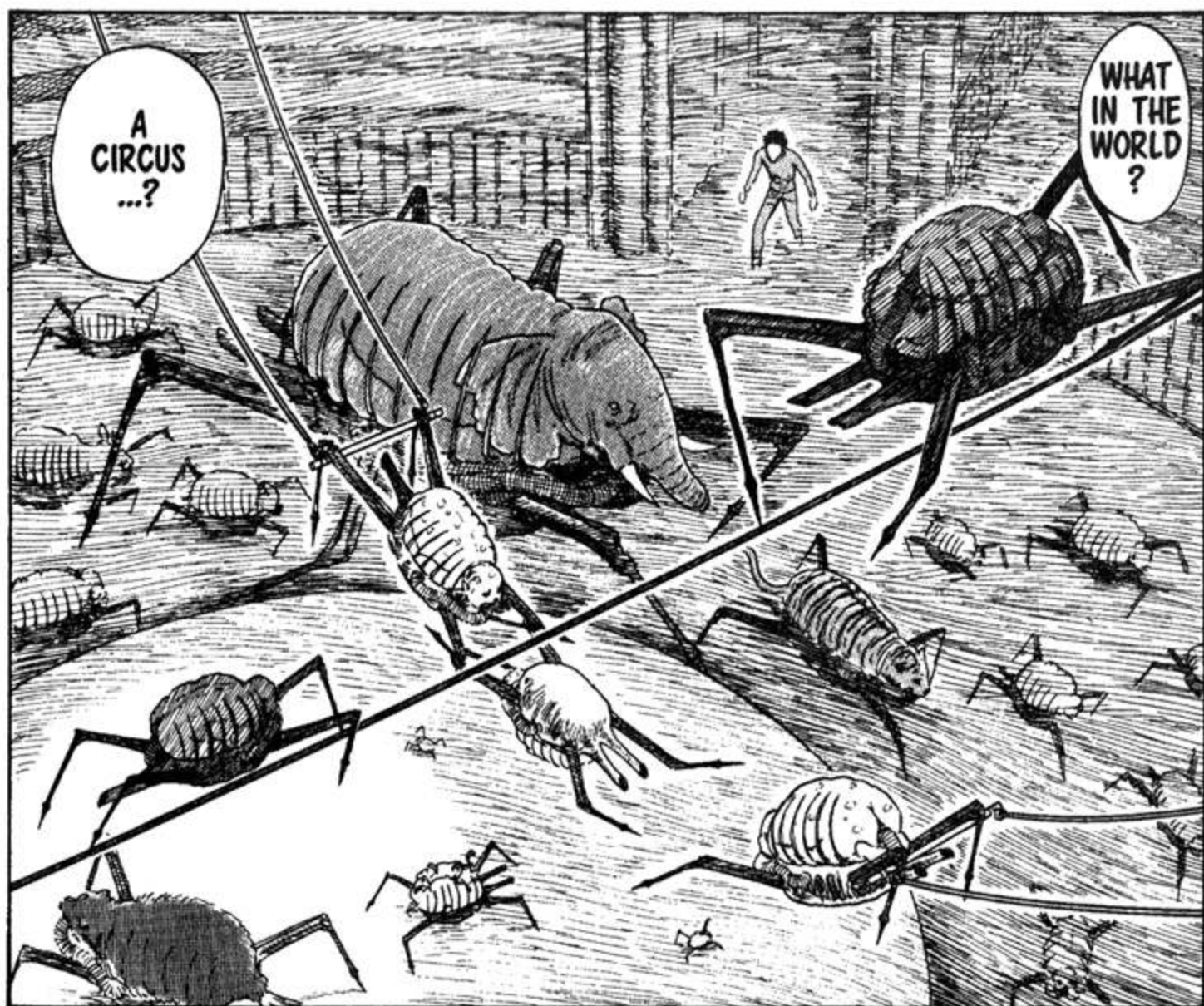
HWIII-LO-LO

HWIII-LO-LO

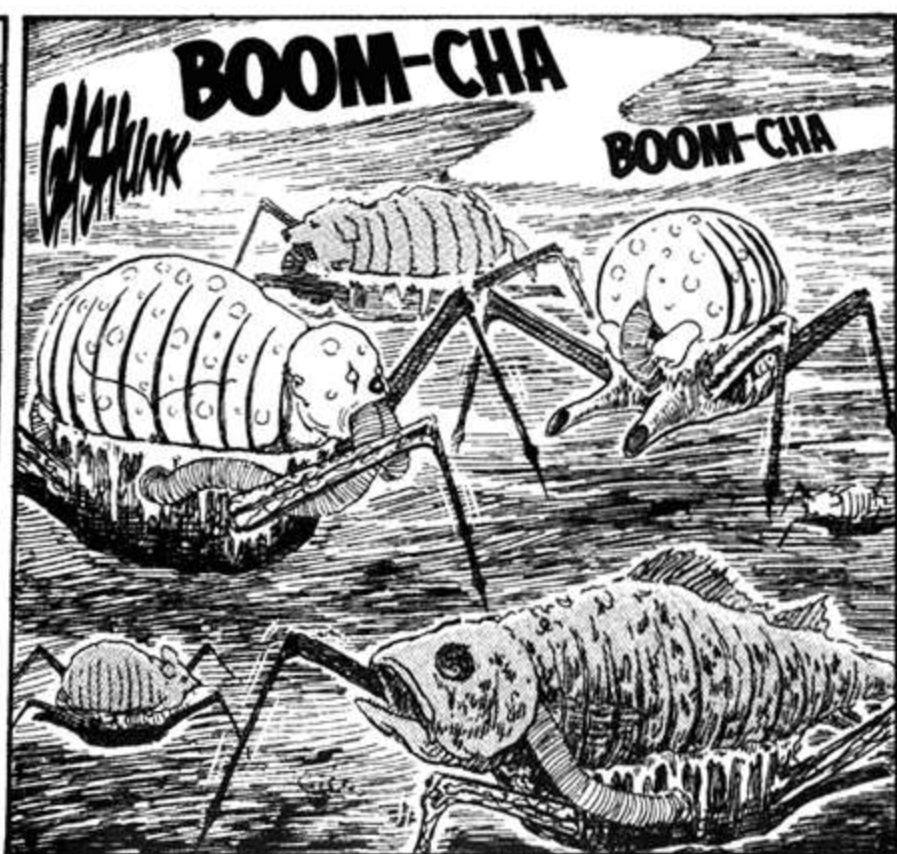
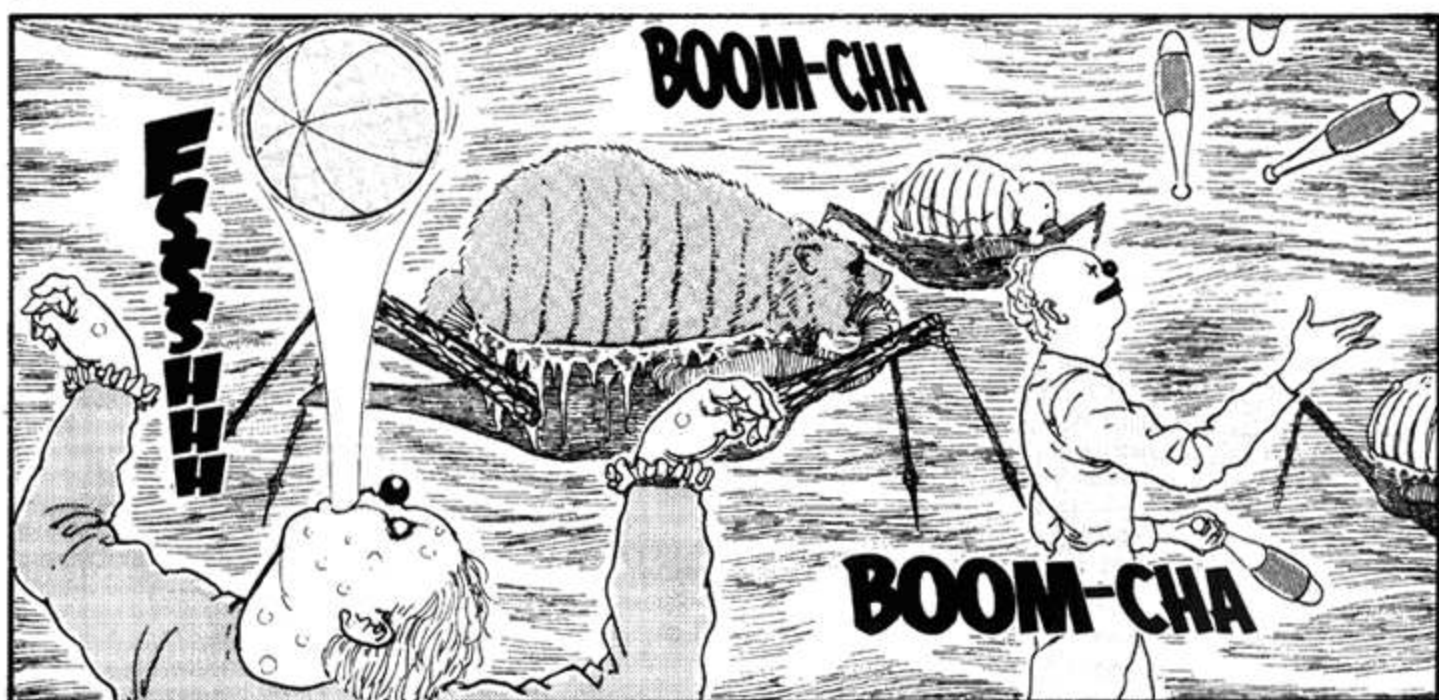
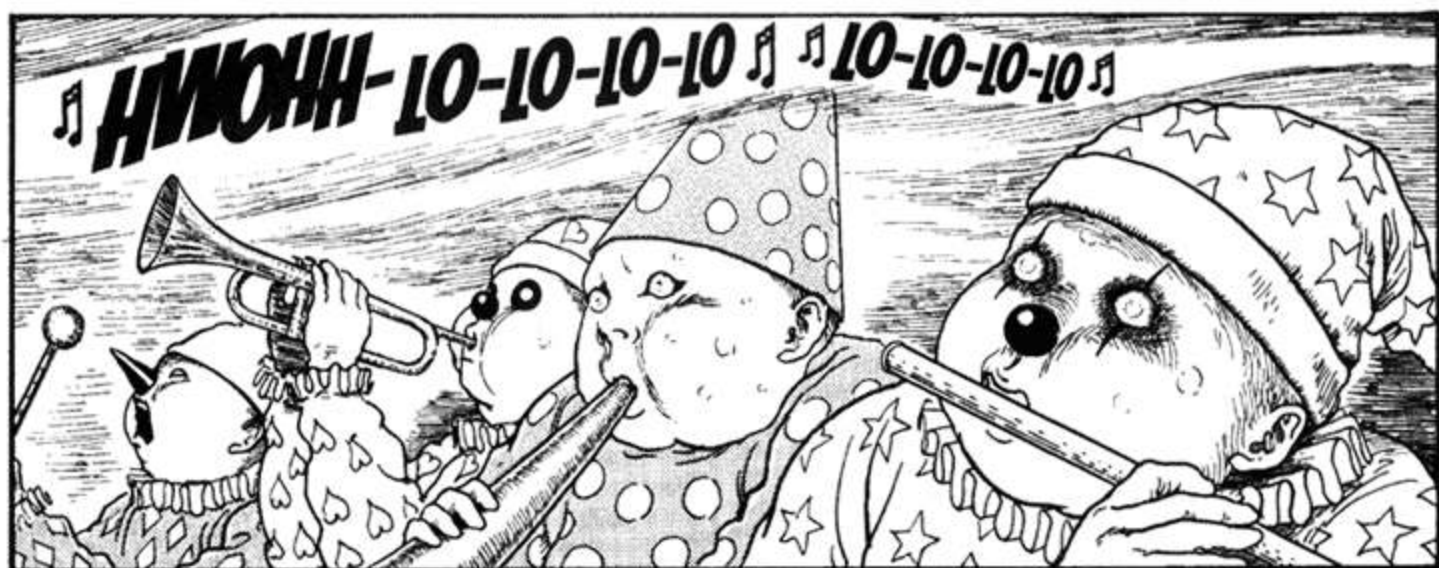
HWIII-LO-LO

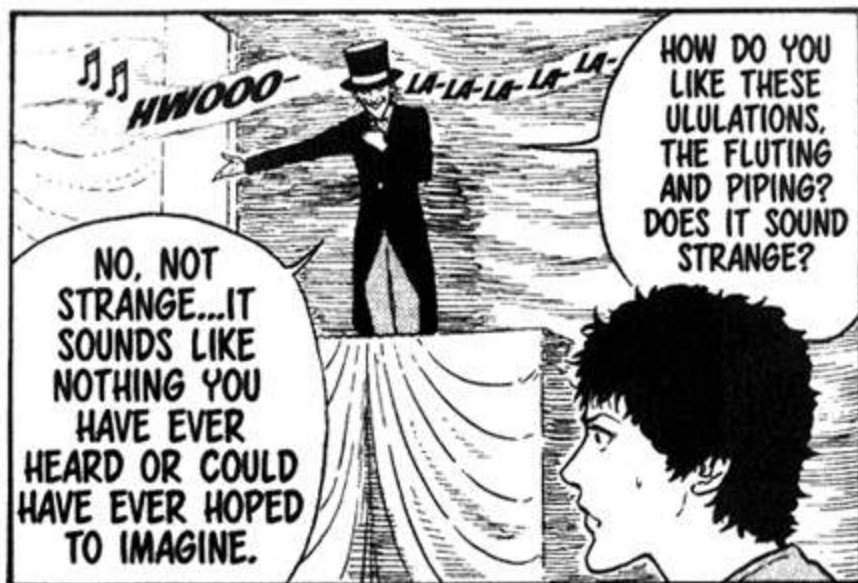
HWIII-LO-LO

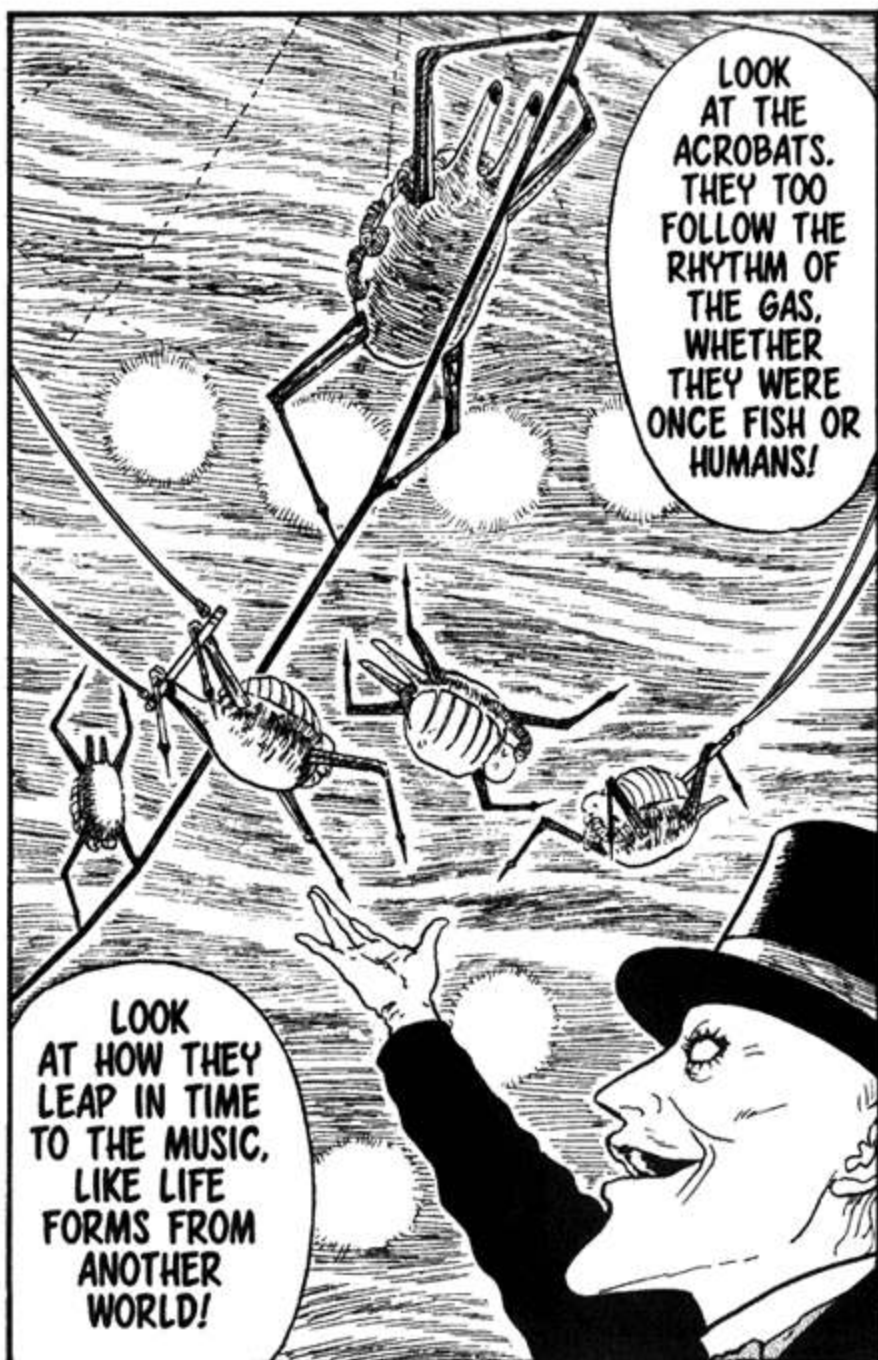












LOOK AT THE ACROBATS. THEY TOO FOLLOW THE RHYTHM OF THE GAS, WHETHER THEY WERE ONCE FISH OR HUMANS!

LOOK AT HOW THEY LEAP IN TIME TO THE MUSIC, LIKE LIFE FORMS FROM ANOTHER WORLD!



HWEEOO-10-10-10

NOW WOULD YOU SAY IT?

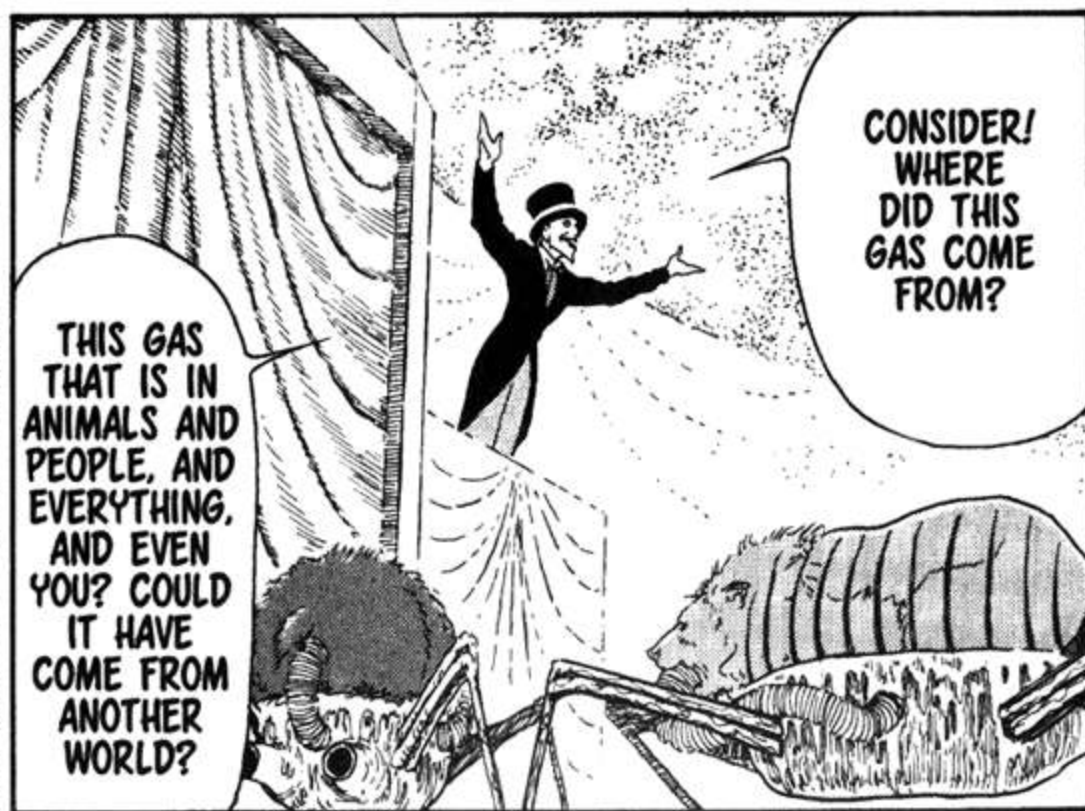
WOULD YOU SAY THE GAS HAS A WILL OF ITS OWN?



PLEASE OBSERVE.



YES... IT DID... I KNOW BECAUSE...



THIS GAS THAT IS IN ANIMALS AND PEOPLE, AND EVERYTHING, AND EVEN YOU? COULD IT HAVE COME FROM ANOTHER WORLD?

CONSIDER! WHERE DID THIS GAS COME FROM?



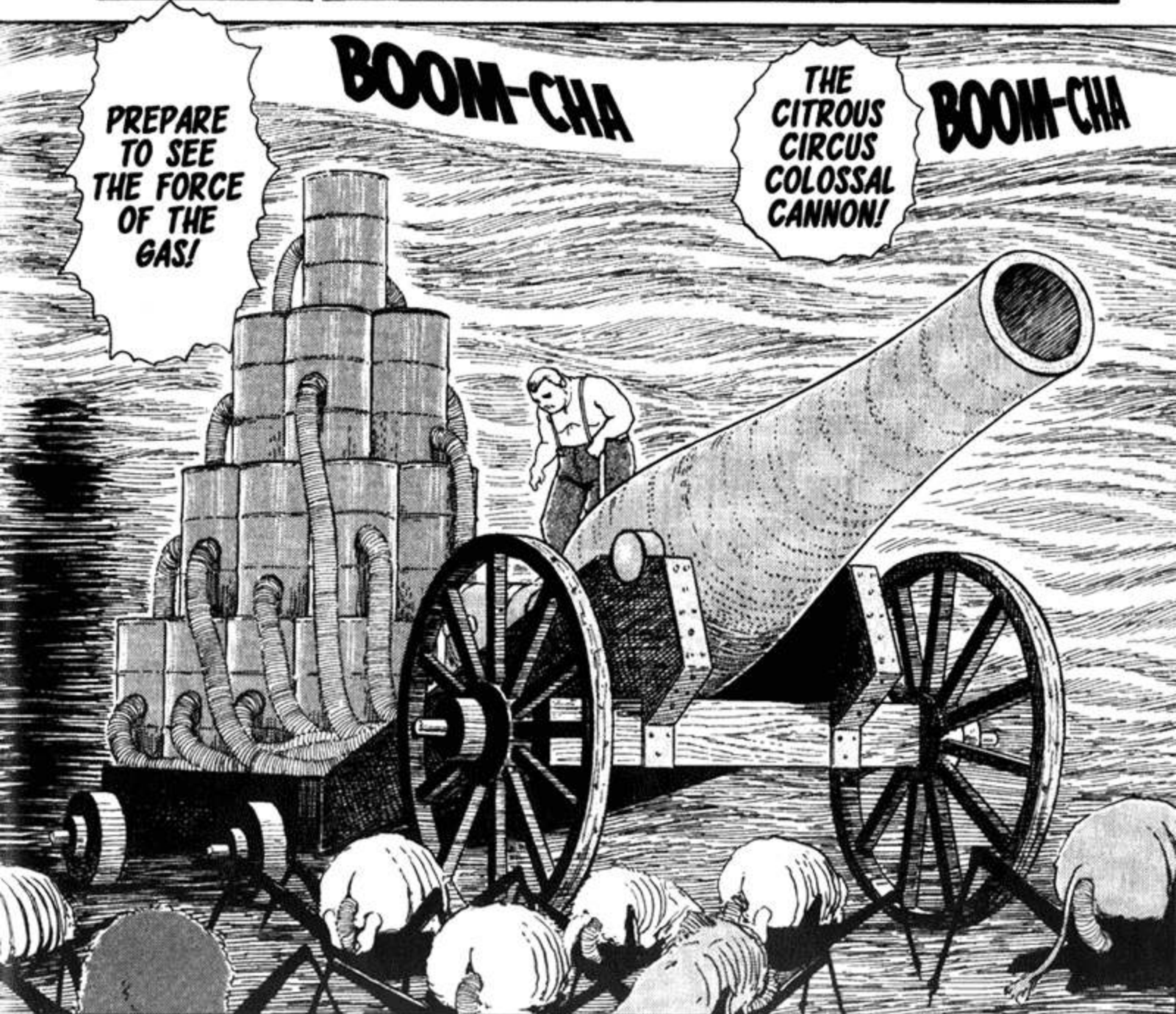
AND NOW...

LET ME SHOW YOU SOMETHING MORE STIMULATING.

EVEN OUR TROUPE, WHO SOUGHT TO BAND TOGETHER, HAVE FALLEN PREY TO NATURAL SELECTION.

AND IT WILL STILL BE ALIVE WHEN ALL THE HUMANS AND ANIMALS ARE GONE.

...BECAUSE THE GAS IS ALIVE!

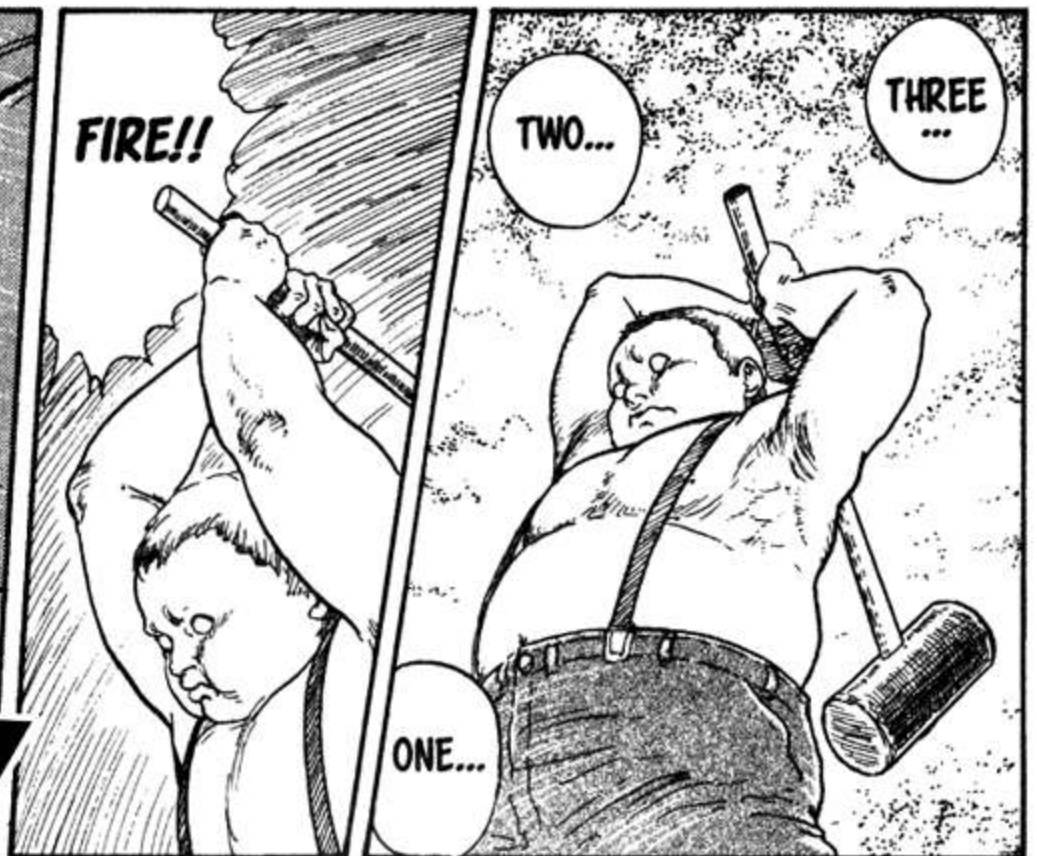
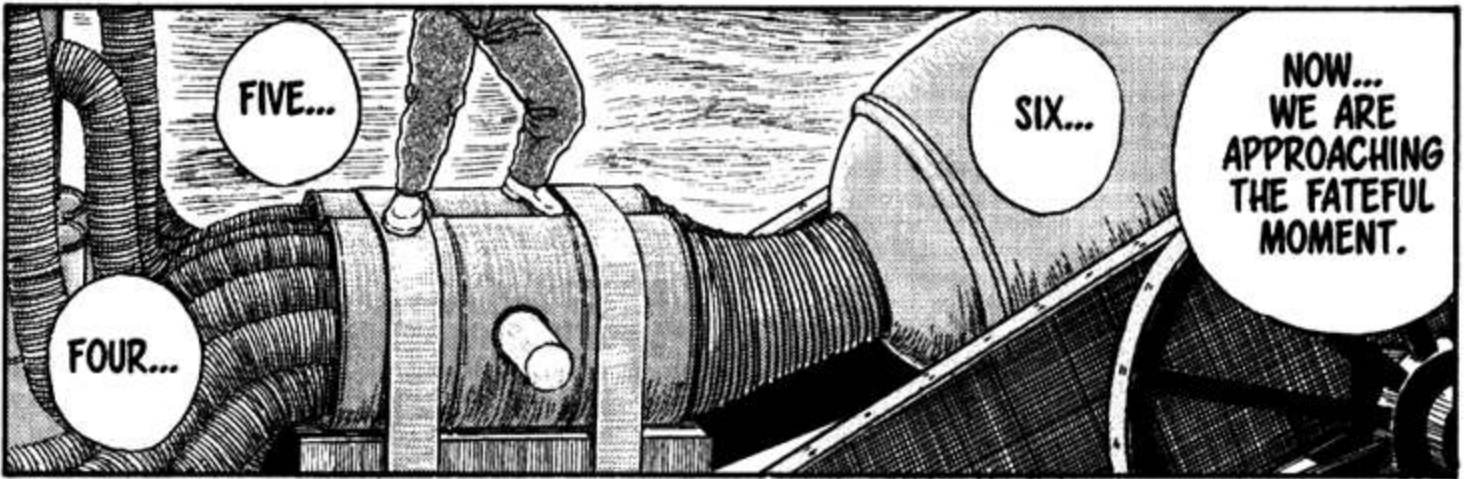
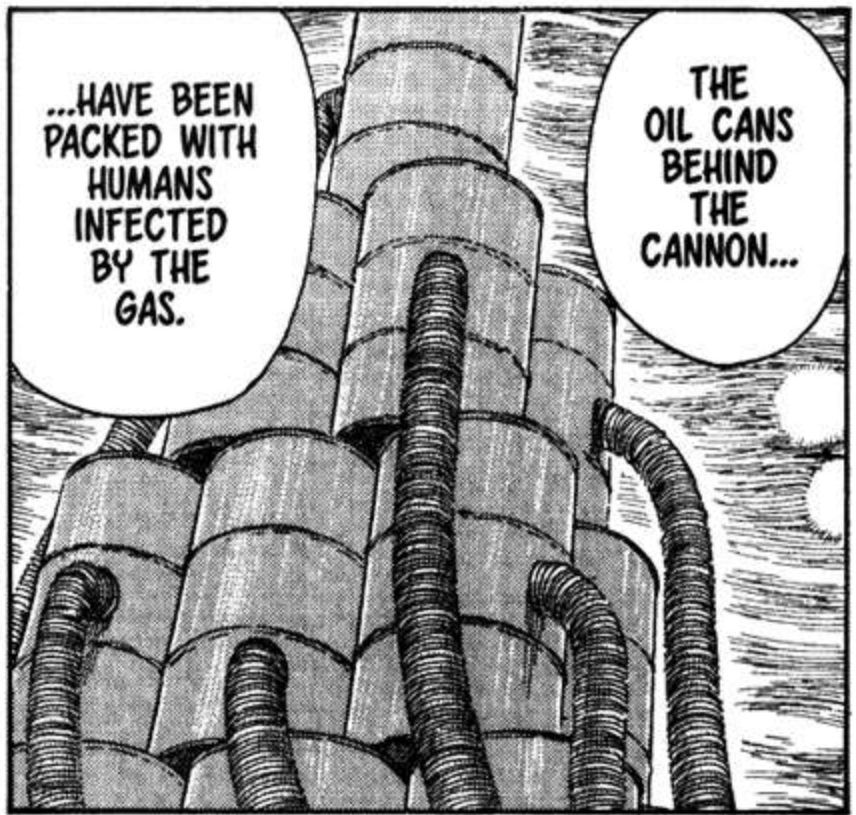
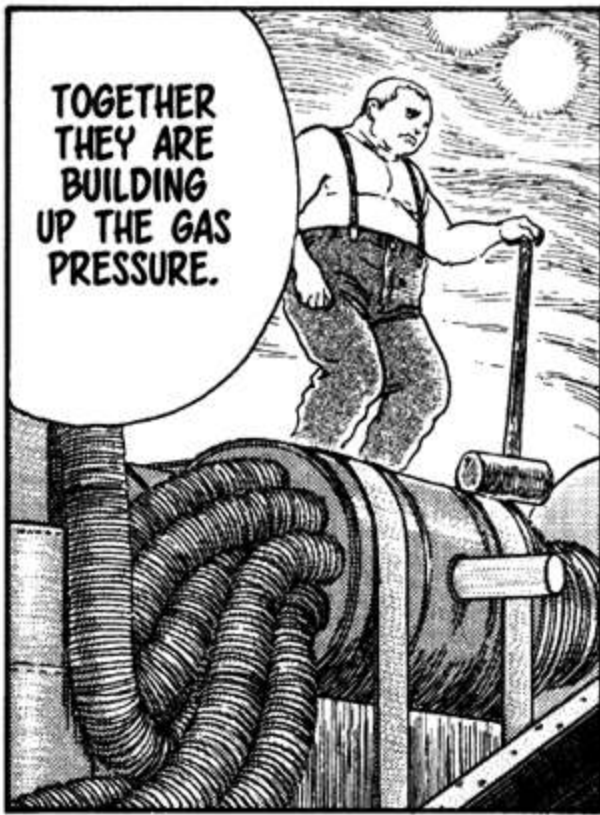


PREPARE TO SEE THE FORCE OF THE GAS!

BOOM-CHA

THE CITROUS CIRCUS COLOSSAL CANNON!

BOOM-CHA







THE PALE BLUE, SQUIRMING GAS...

SO YOU TOO...CAN SEE IT?



...I MUST SAY YOU'RE QUITE PERCEPTIVE ...

IF YOU DO SEE IT...



BOOM-CHA

IT'S MOVING AGAIN...

BOOM-CHA

IT'S FOLLOWING THE MUSIC...

BOOM-CHA





YOU'LL
SEE... YOU
WILL ENJOY
THIS
SPECIAL
SHOW!

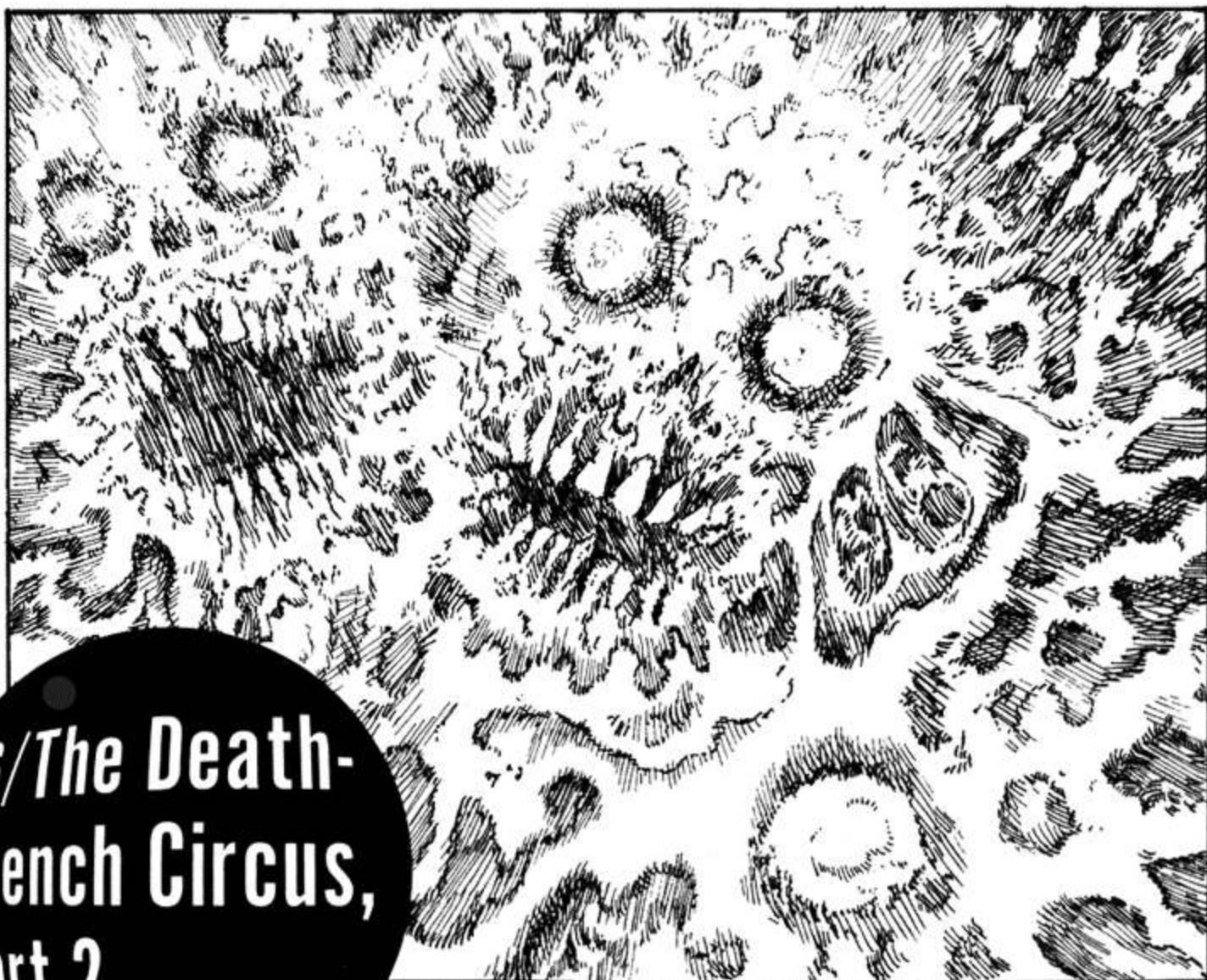


THEN
WHAT'S SO
SPECIAL
ABOUT IT,
YOU ASK?

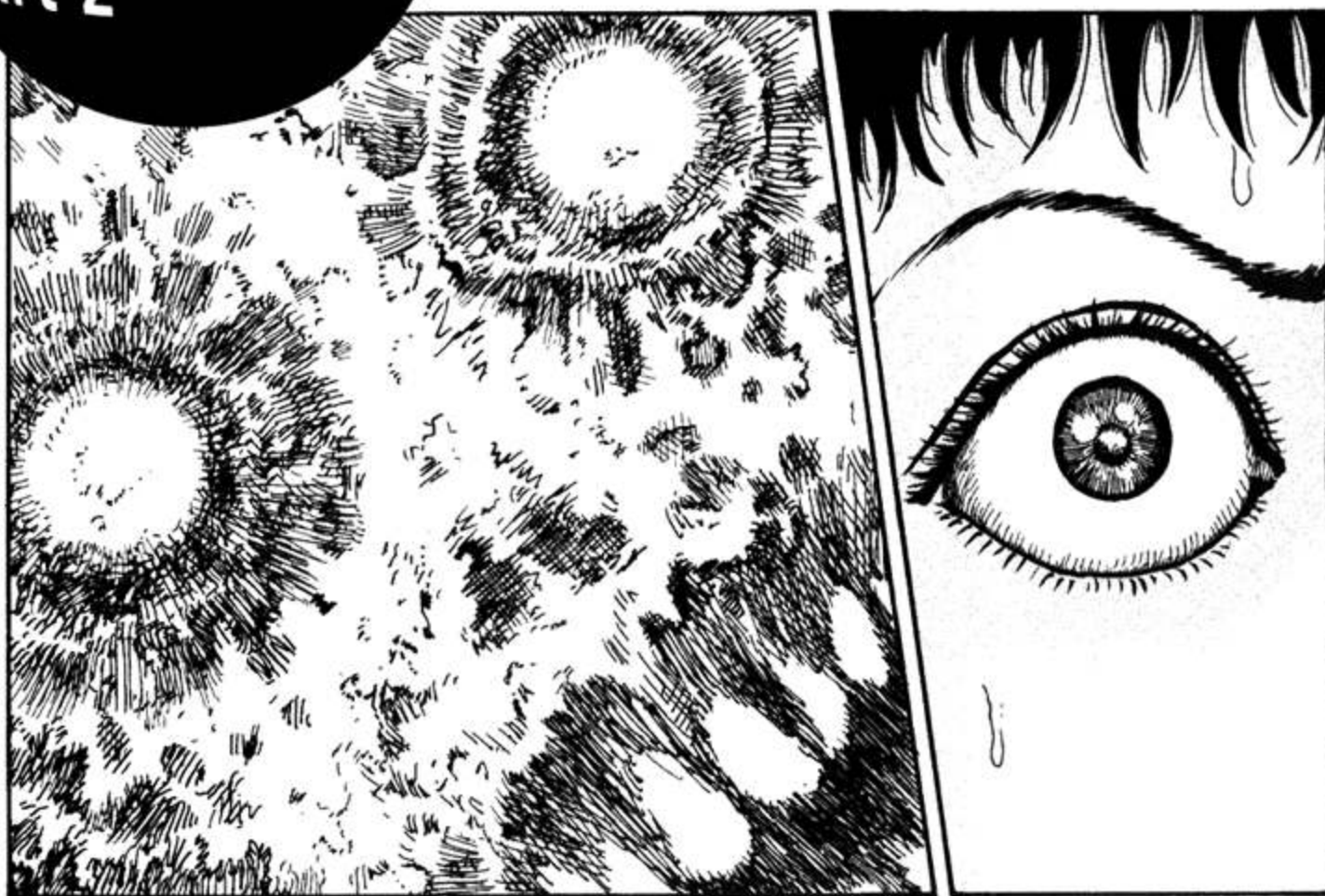
WHAT WE
ARE ABOUT
TO SHOW YOU
ISN'T JUST
YOUR AVERAGE
FLAME
THROWER.





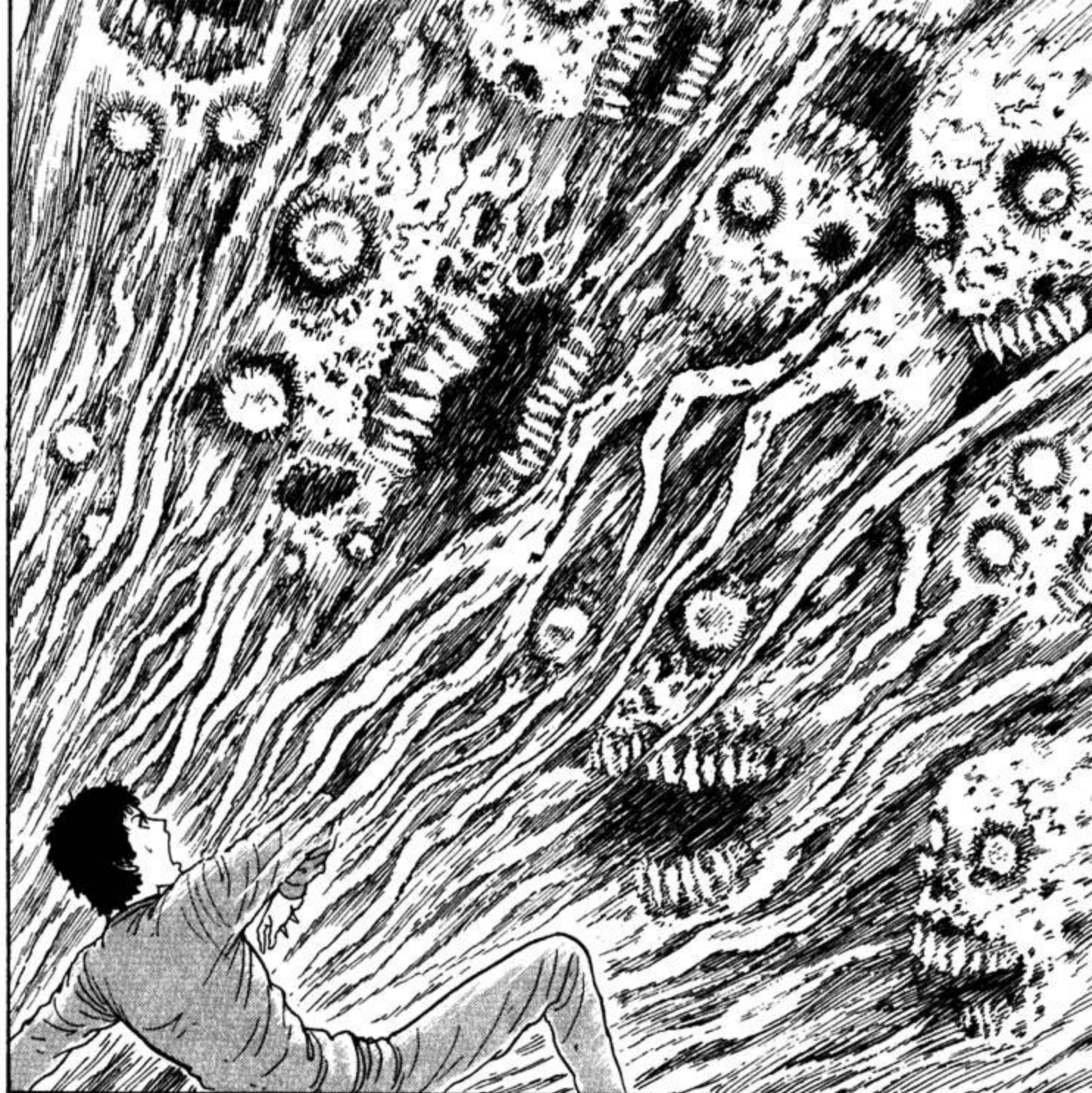


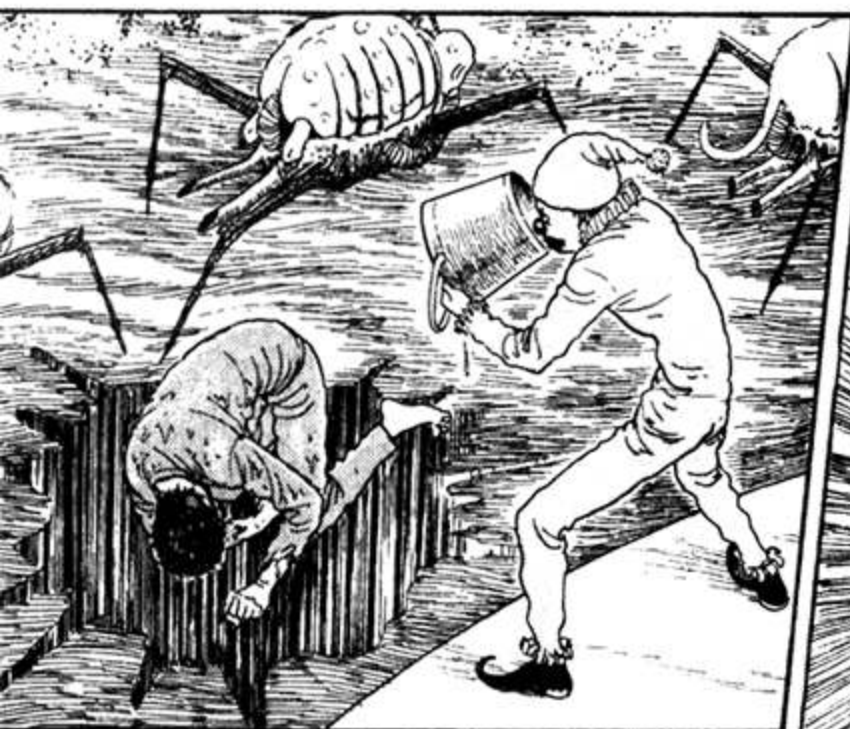
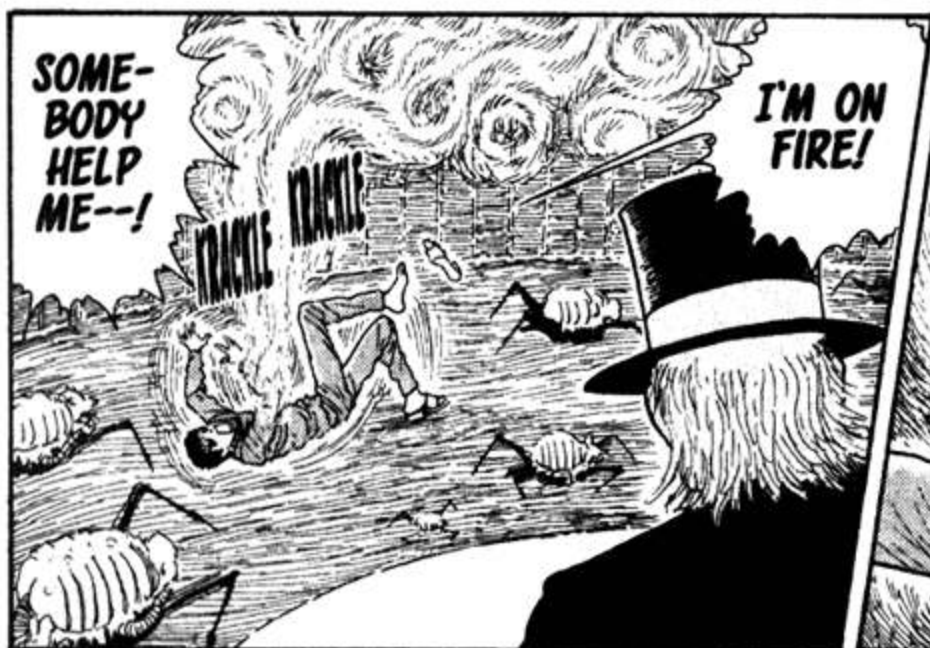
**16/ The Death-
Stench Circus,
Part 2**

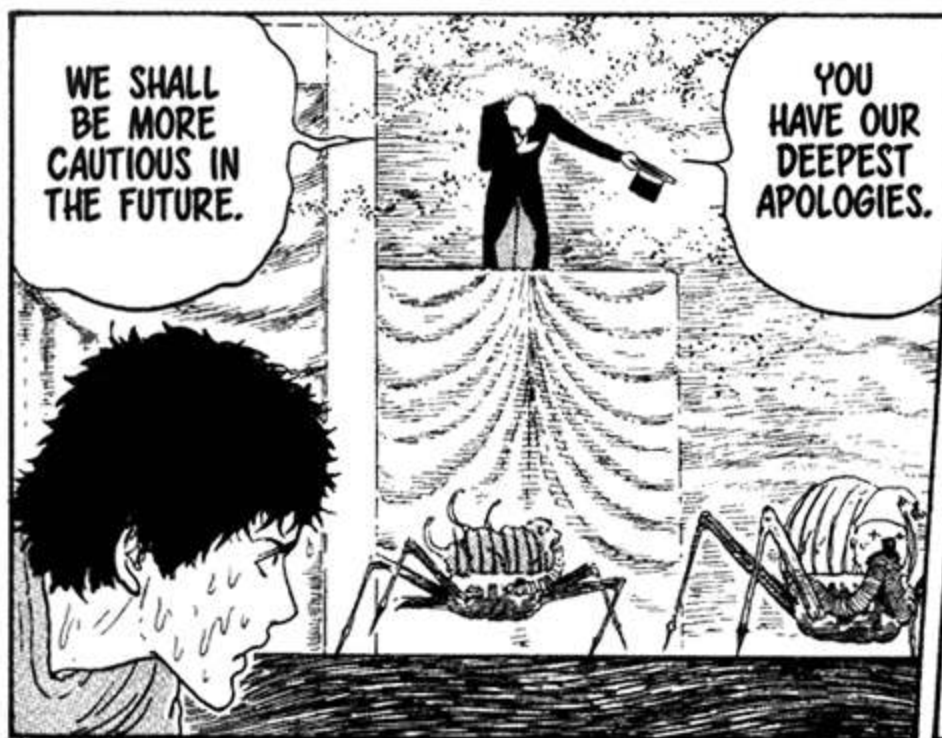


SHUN









WE SHALL
BE MORE
CAUTIOUS IN
THE FUTURE.

YOU
HAVE OUR
DEEPEST
APOLOGIES.



HUFF...
HUFF...

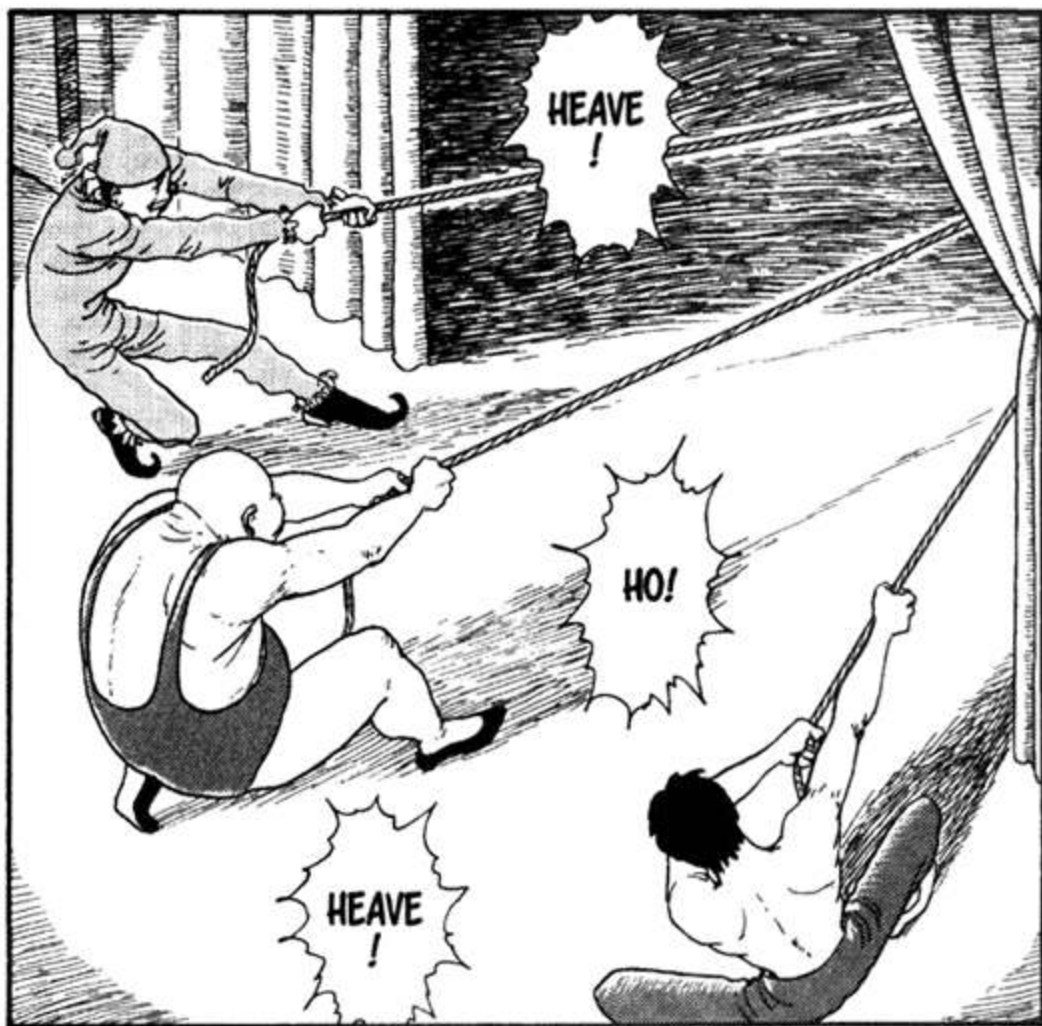
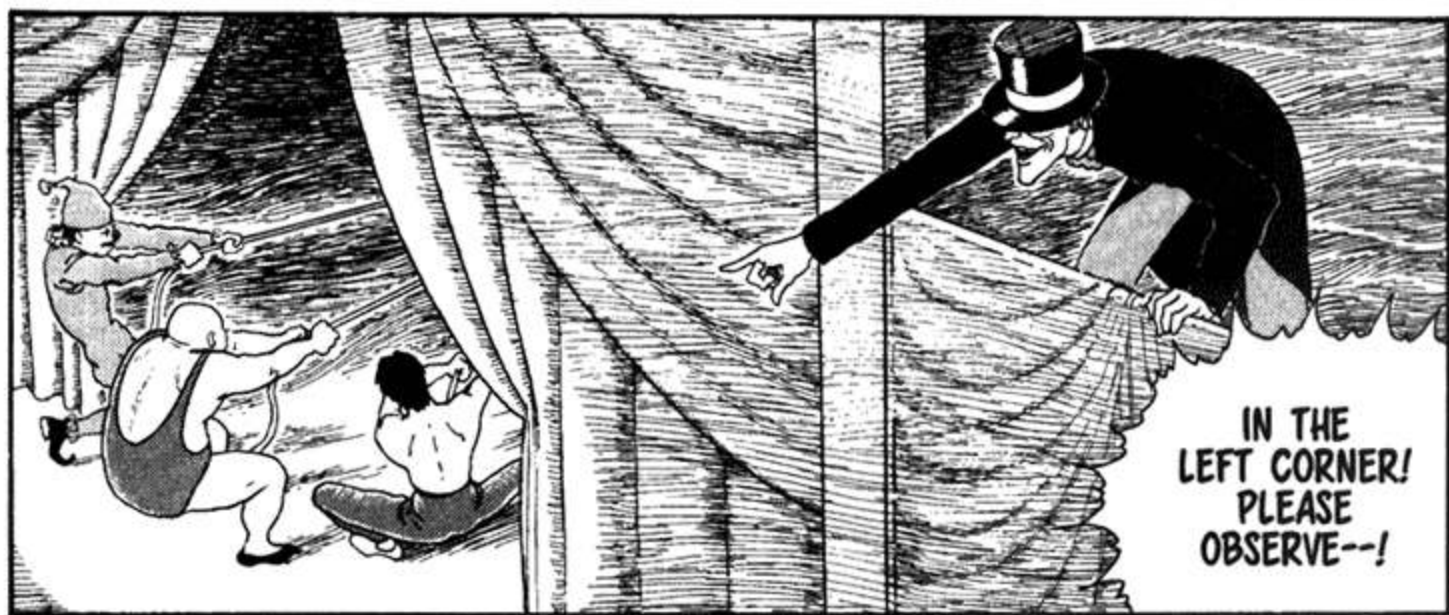
WHAT...
WHAT
WAS
THAT?



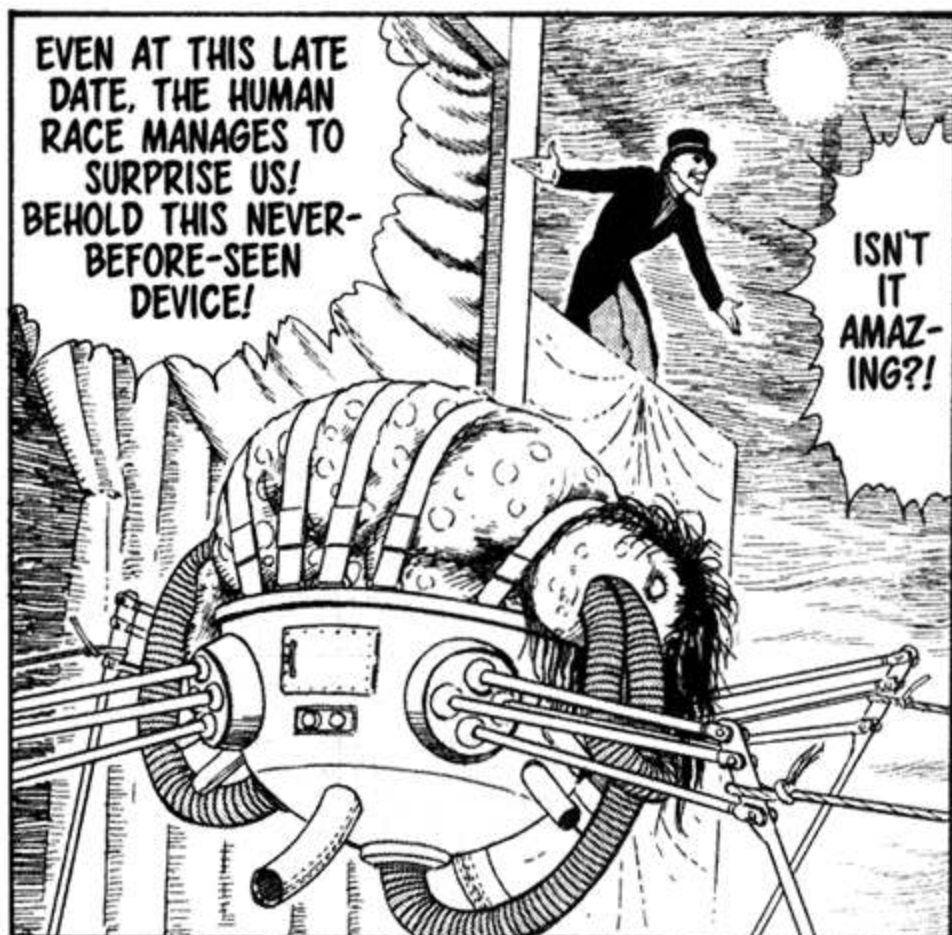
THAT IS
THE FACE OF
THE DEATH-
STENCH WHICH
SPREADS ITS
DISEASE THROUGH
THE CITY.

THE TRUE
NATURE OF THE
GAS CAN BE
SEEN MORE EASILY
WHEN IT IS
IGNITED WITH
GASOLINE.









OBSERVE
HOW IT LEAPS
AND STRUGGLES,
COMPLETELY OUT
OF SYNC WITH
THE MARCHING
TUNE!!

UNLIKE THE
SLIMY, RUSTED
MACHINES FROM
THE SEA, IT IS
CONSTRUCTED
ENTIRELY OF
STAINLESS STEEL!
AND ITS DESIGN--
SLEEK,
FUTURISTIC!



QUIET
DOWN!

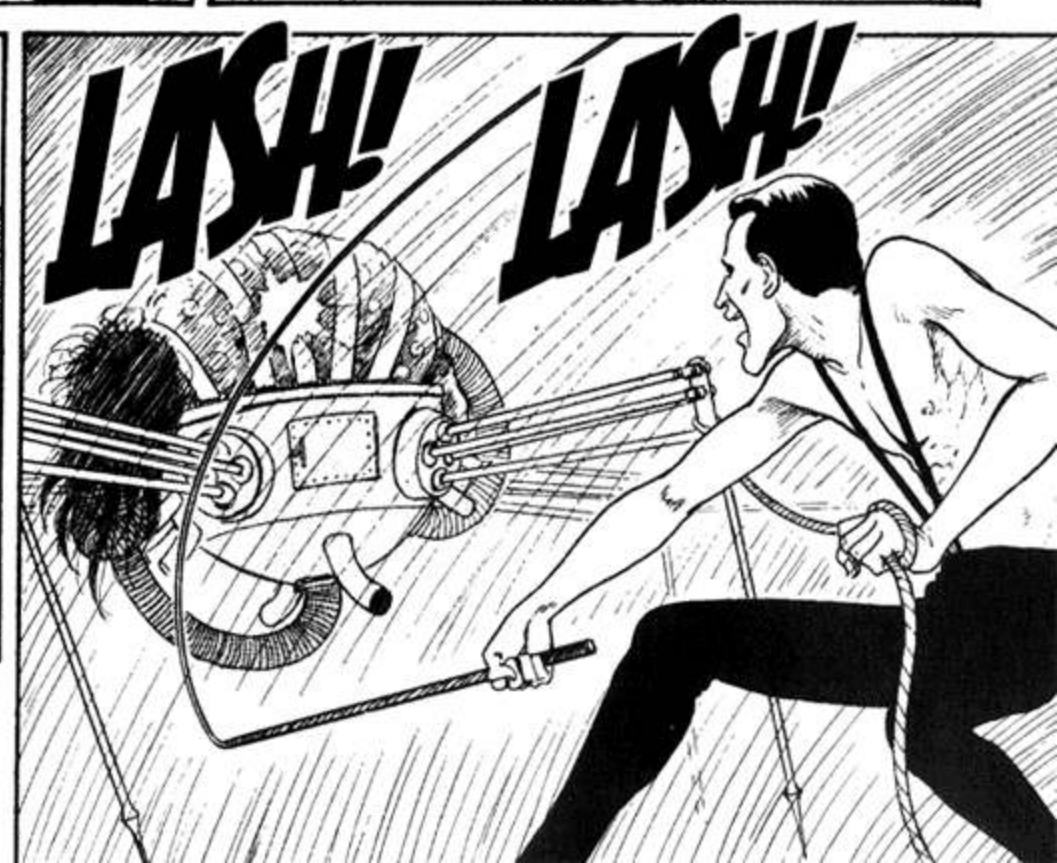


GASHUNK GASHUNK

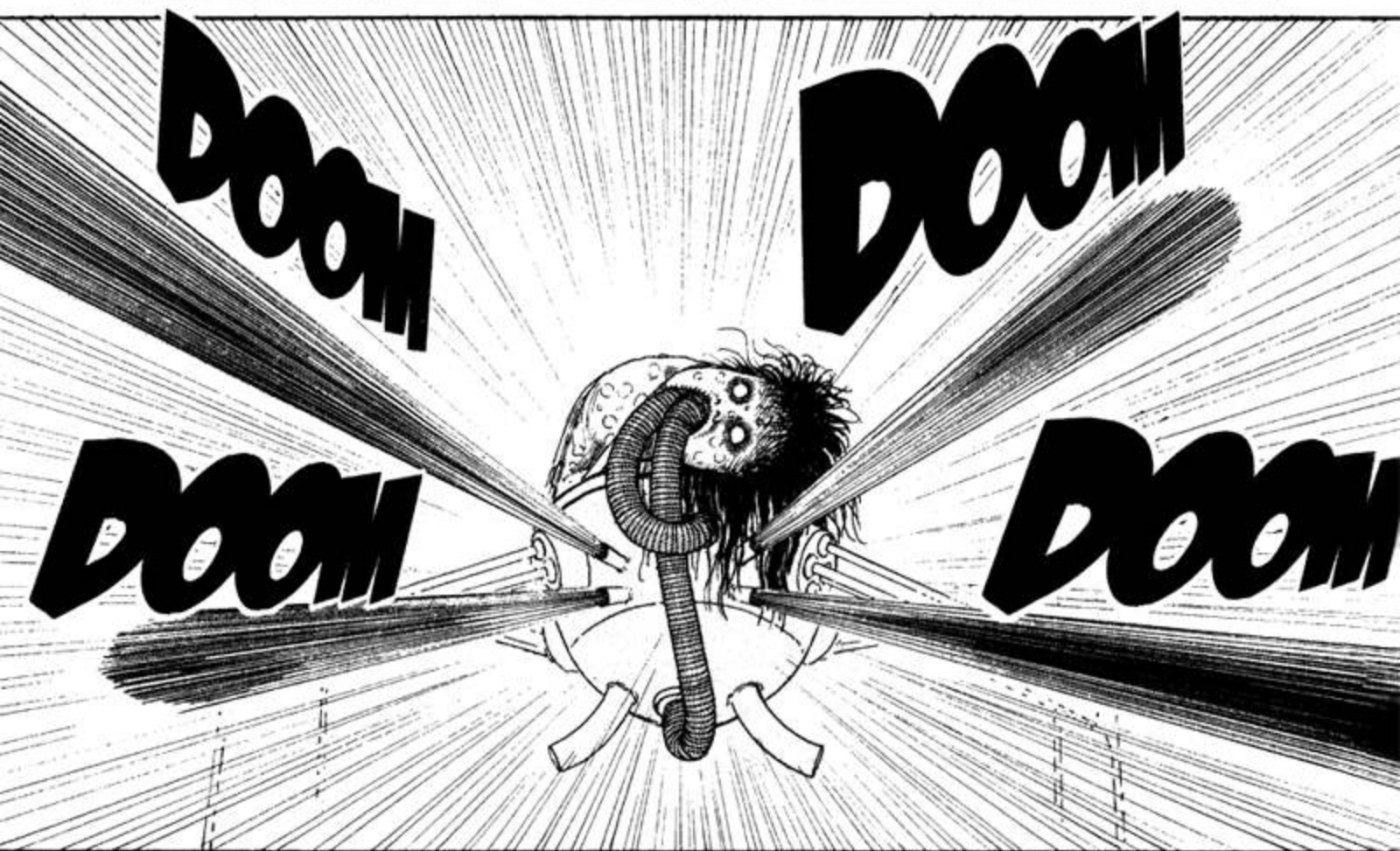
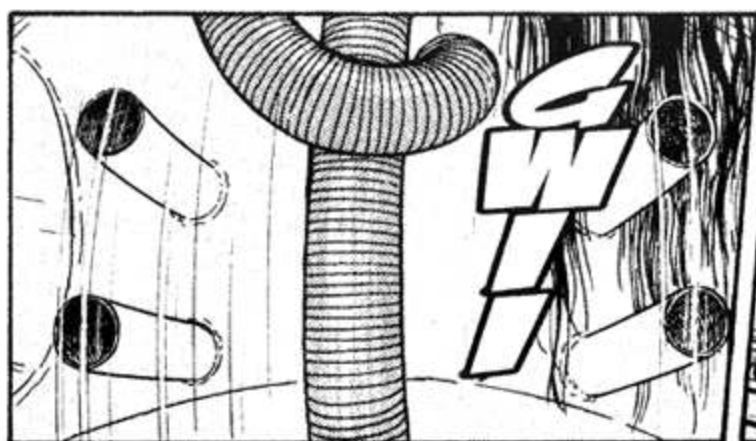


STOP
IT!

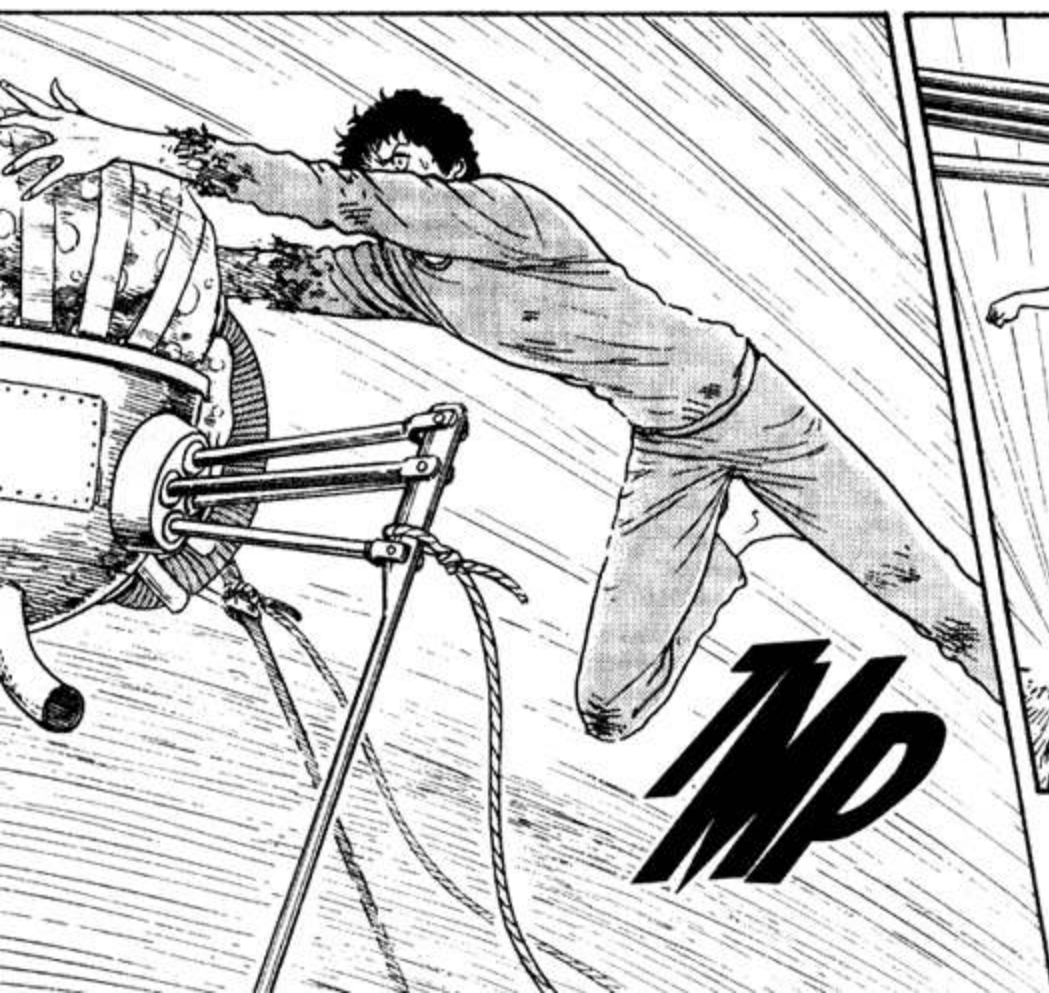
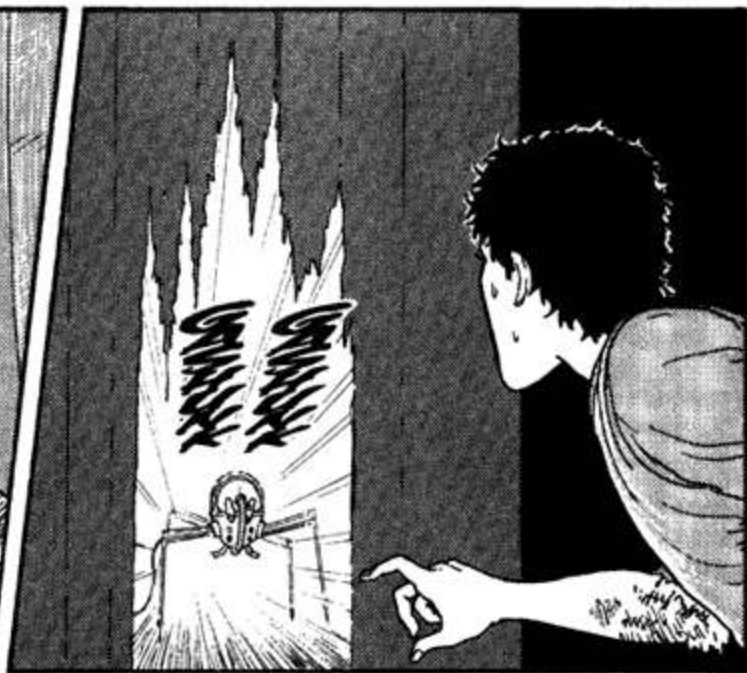
S-

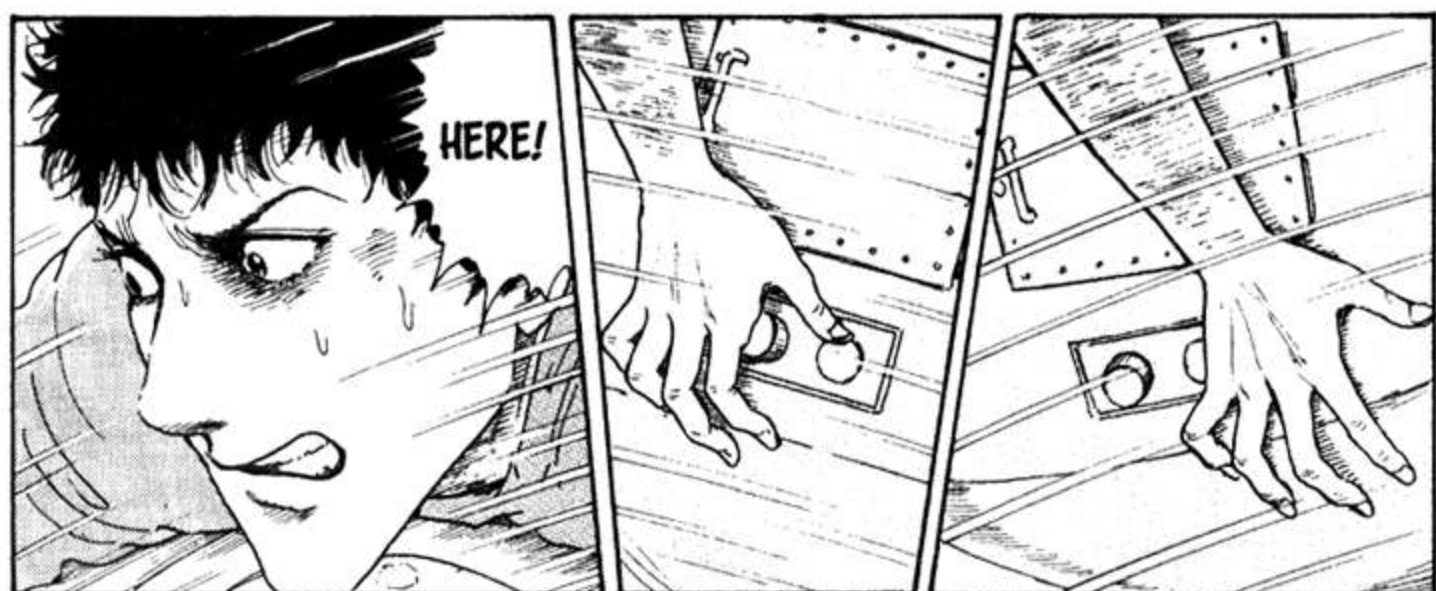


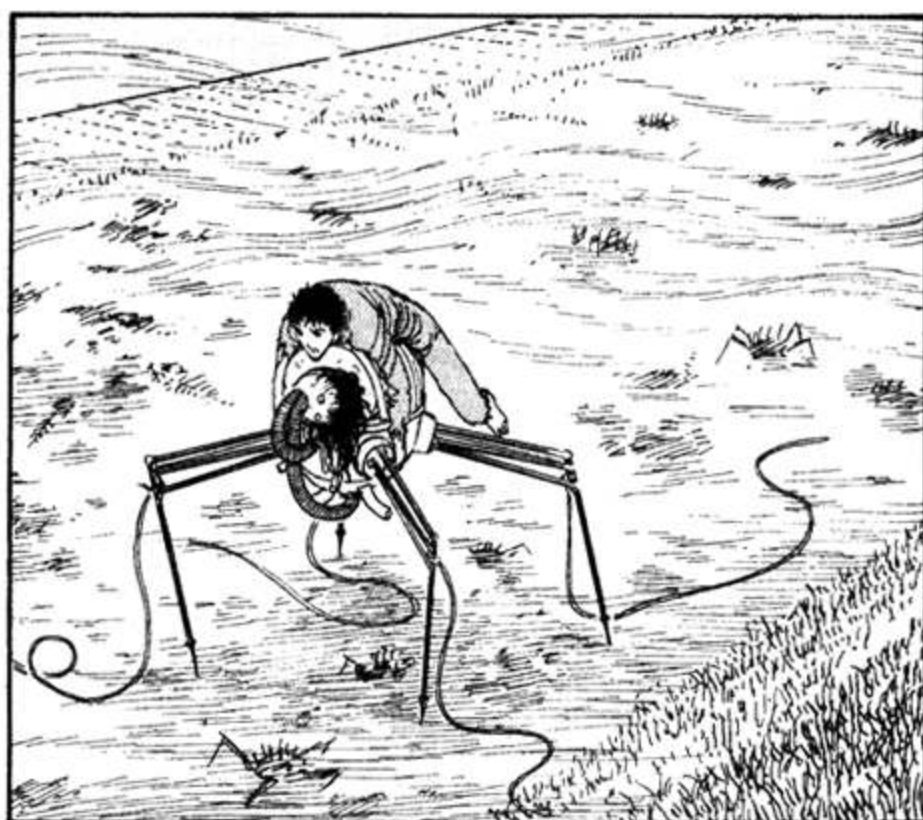
LASH! LASH!

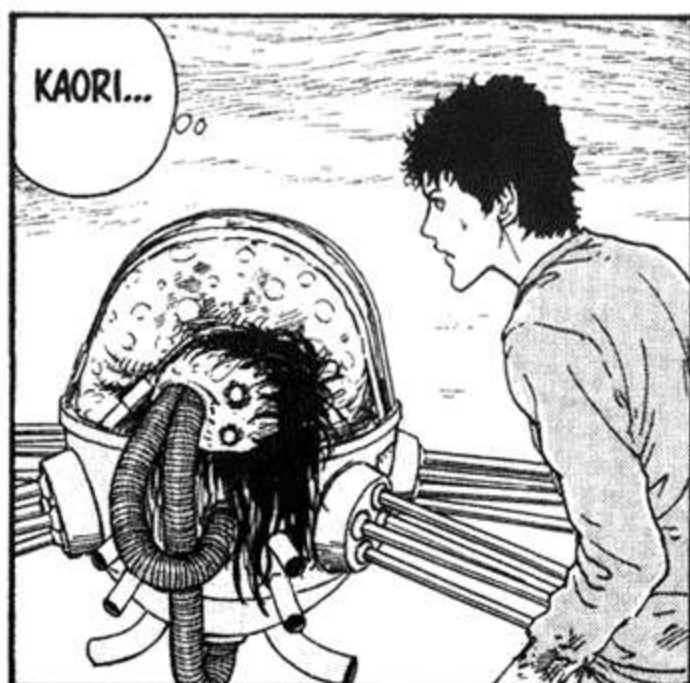


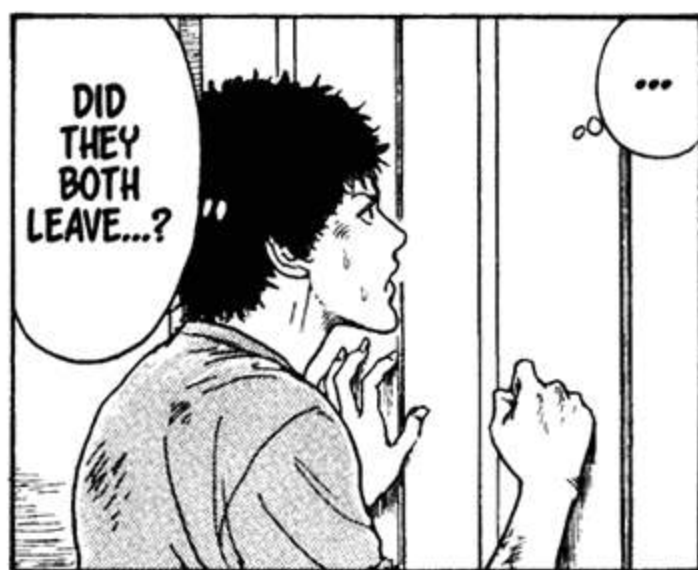
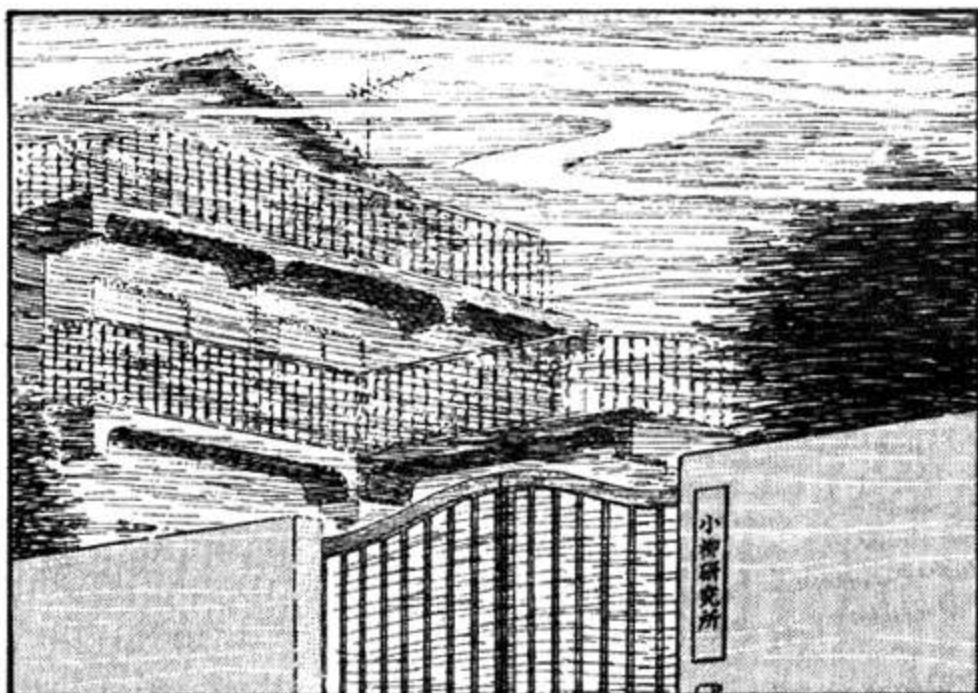
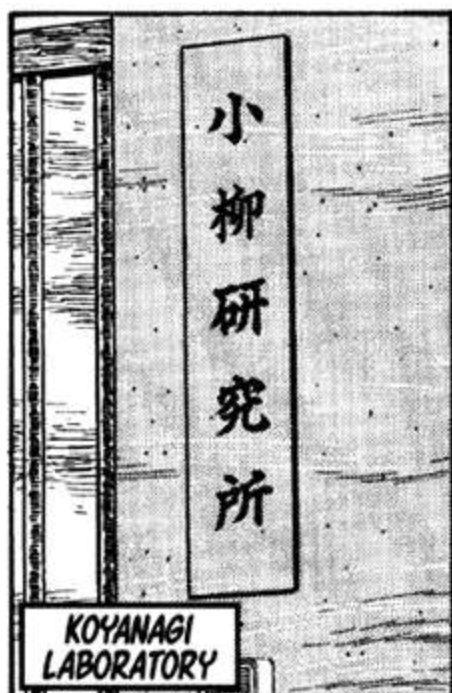


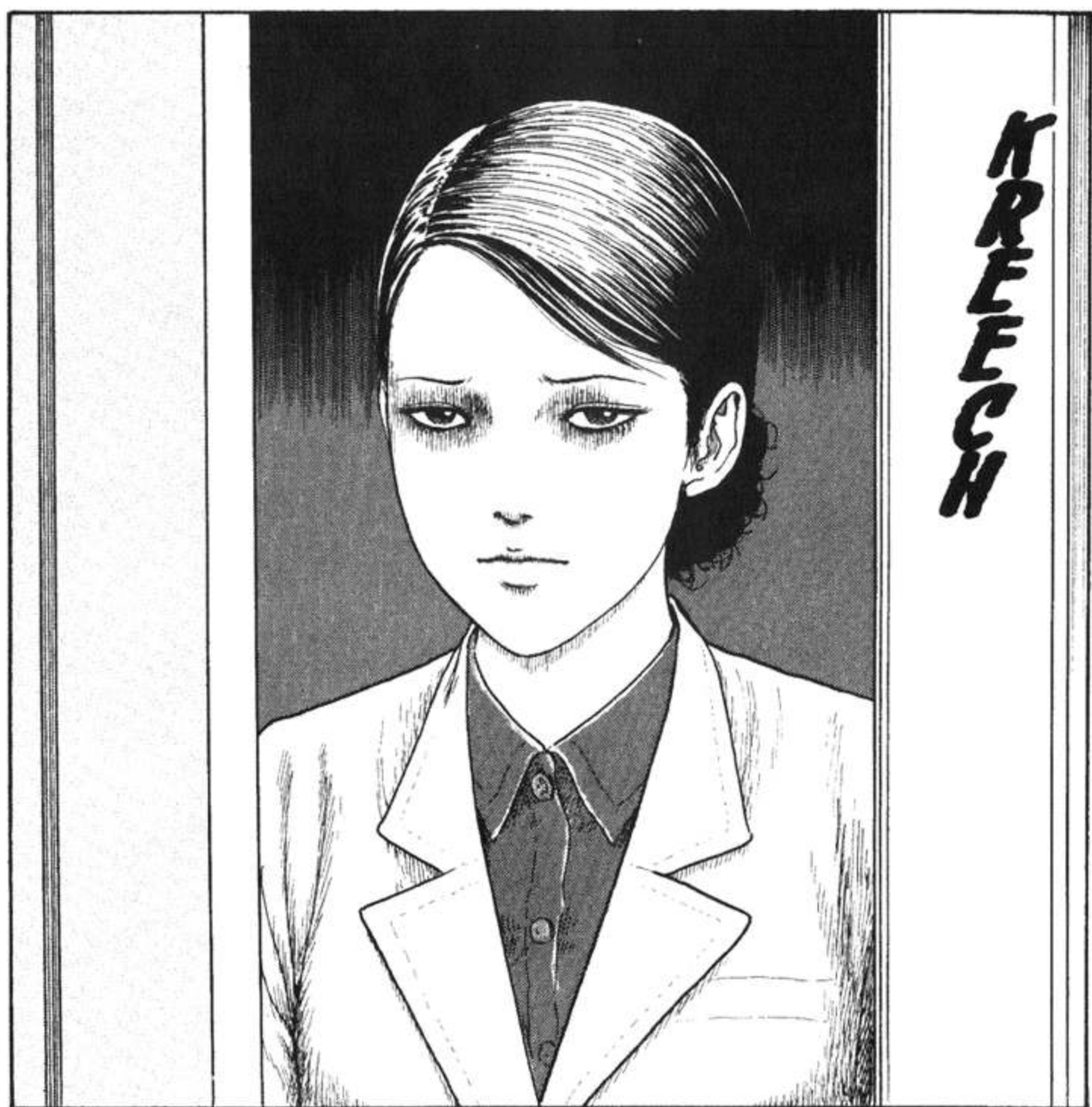


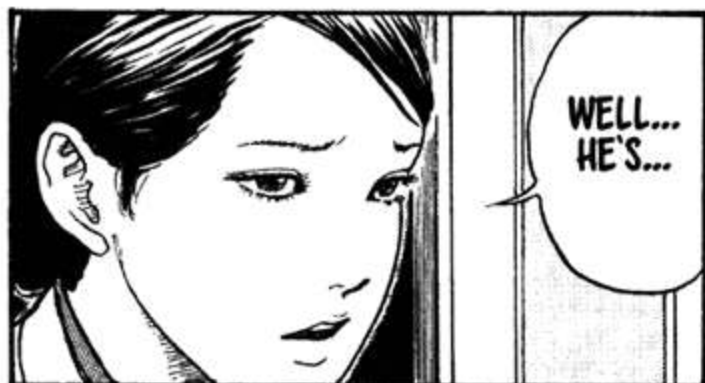














IT'S...
TOO
LATE.

DOCTOR...
I'LL TAKE
YOU TO THE
HOSPITAL!



DOCTOR
KOYANAGI
...

...DIED
FROM THE
STAB WOUND
FROM KAORI'S
MACHINE.



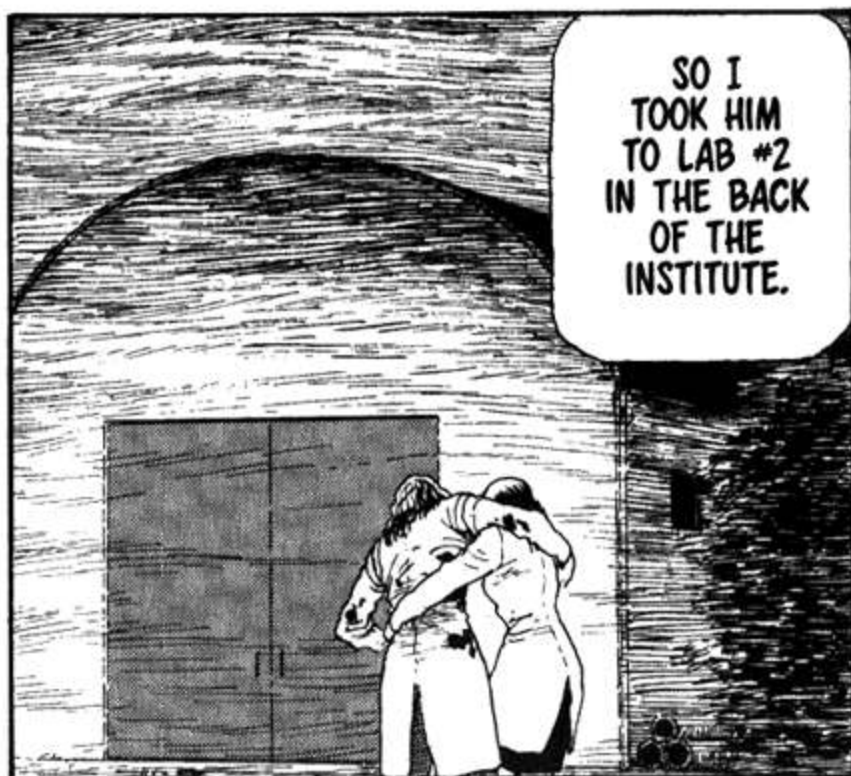
PLEASE
TAKE ME
TO
LAB #2.

I WANT
TO DIE
PEACEFULLY...
IN MY
LAB.

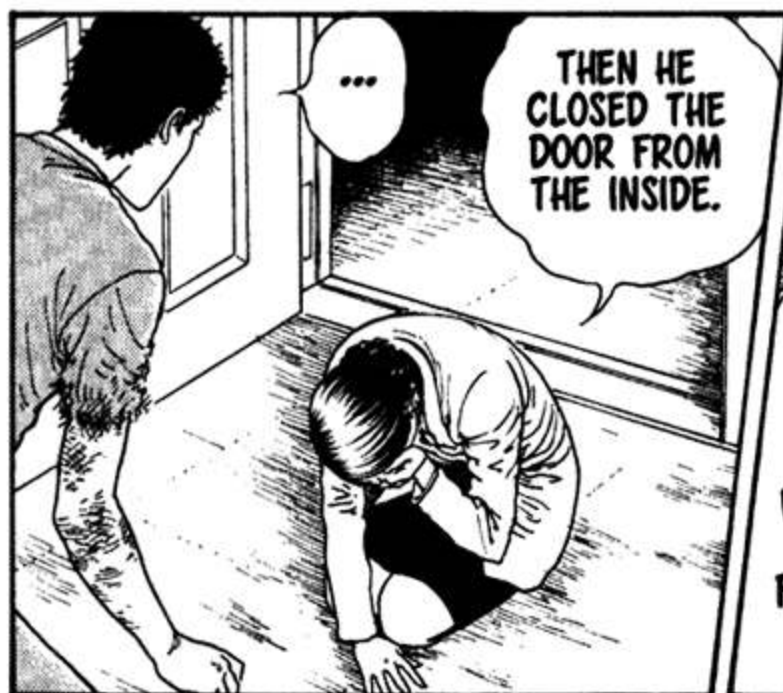
IF...
IF I'M
GOING
TO DIE...

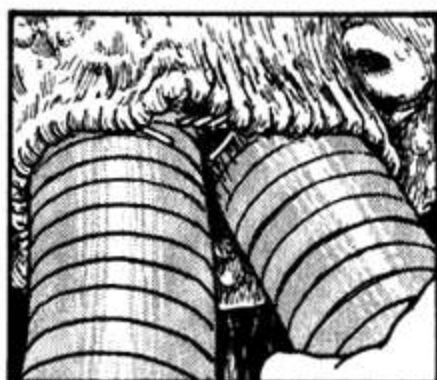
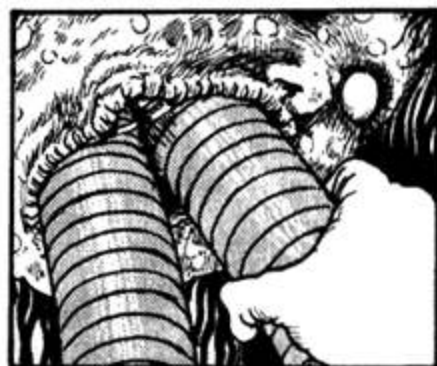


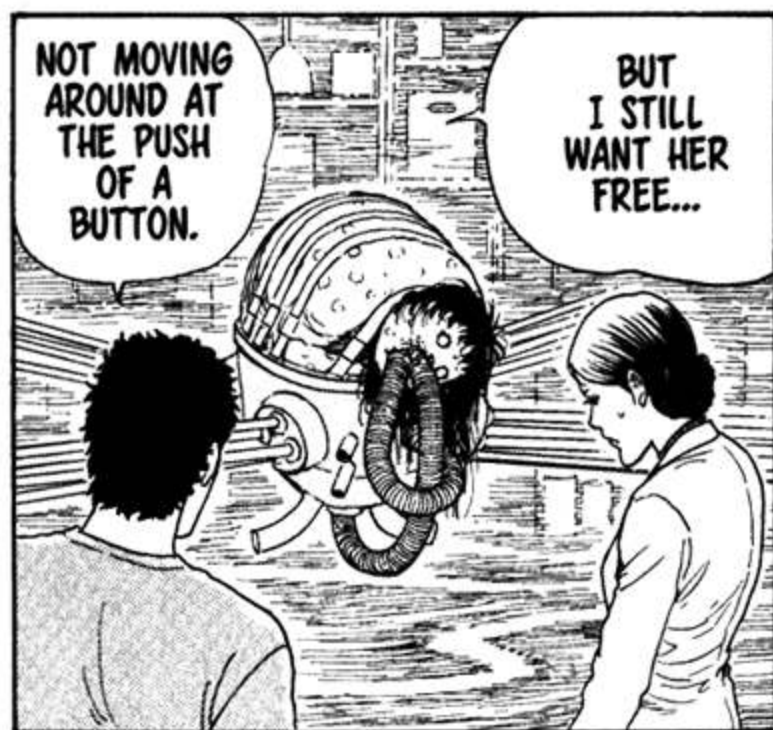
HE
ASKED
TO GO IN
ON HIS
OWN.



SO I
TOOK HIM
TO LAB #2
IN THE BACK
OF THE
INSTITUTE.









SHE
TURNED
INTO A
BATTERY
FOR THIS
MACHINE.

BUT
EVEN THEN
SHE COULDN'T
ESCAPE
IT...



SHE
WAS
ALWAYS
SENSITIVE
TO
SMELLS...

SHE
KILLED HERSELF
BECAUSE SHE
COULDN'T STAND
HER OWN SMELL...
SHE COULDN'T
ACCEPT WHAT
HAD HAPPENED
TO HER.



MS.
YOSHI-
YAMA...



I WANT
TO SET
HER FREE
AND
CREMATE
HER...

KAORI
DESERVES
BETTER
...



YES...
YES.

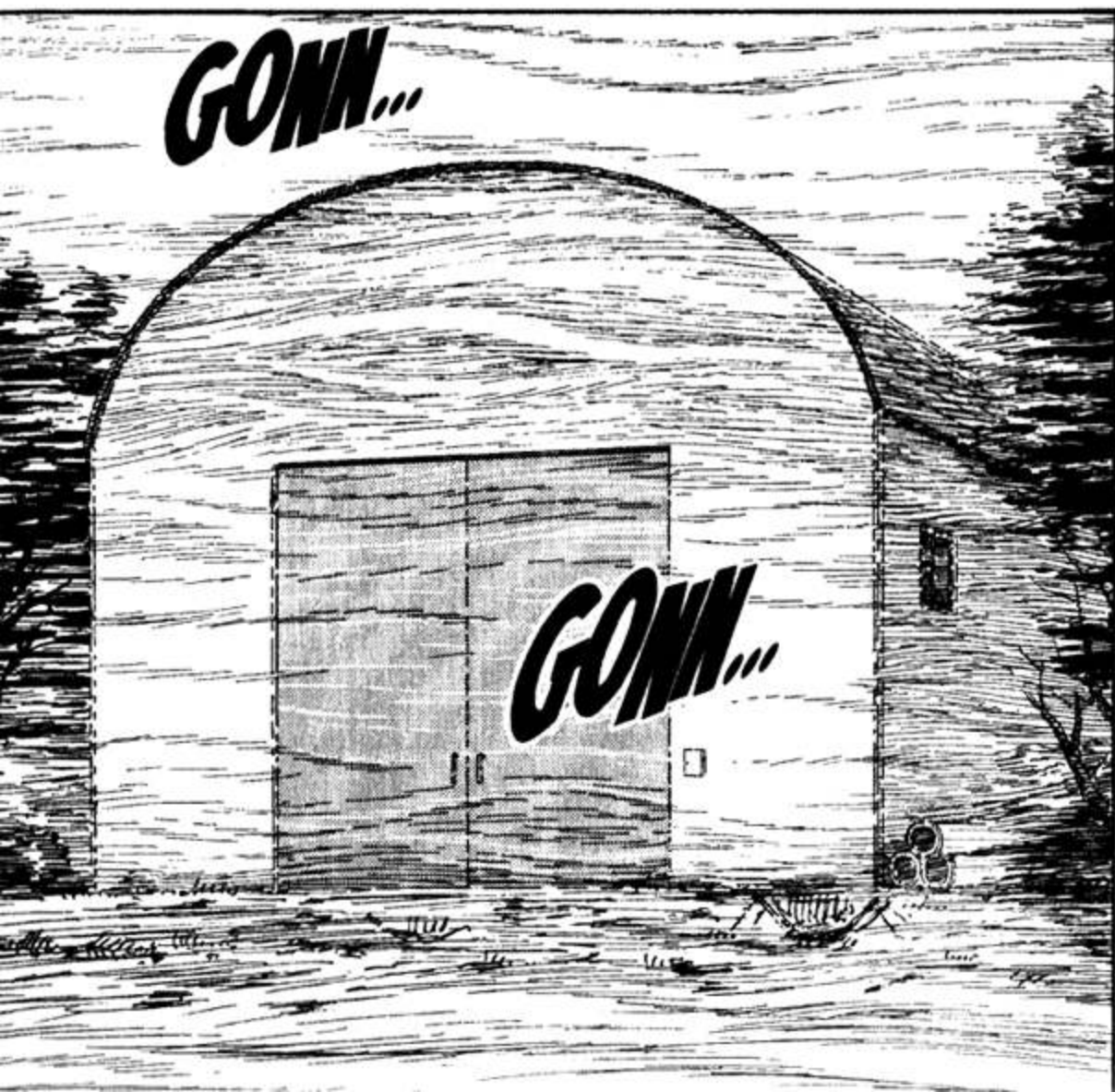
Y-Y...



I KNOW HOW
HE WAS. HE WAS
OBSESSED WITH HIS
WORK, SO I KNOW
YOUR RELATIONSHIP
WITH HIM COULD
ONLY BE
PROFESSIONAL,
BUT...

I KNOW
YOU
LOVED
HIM.

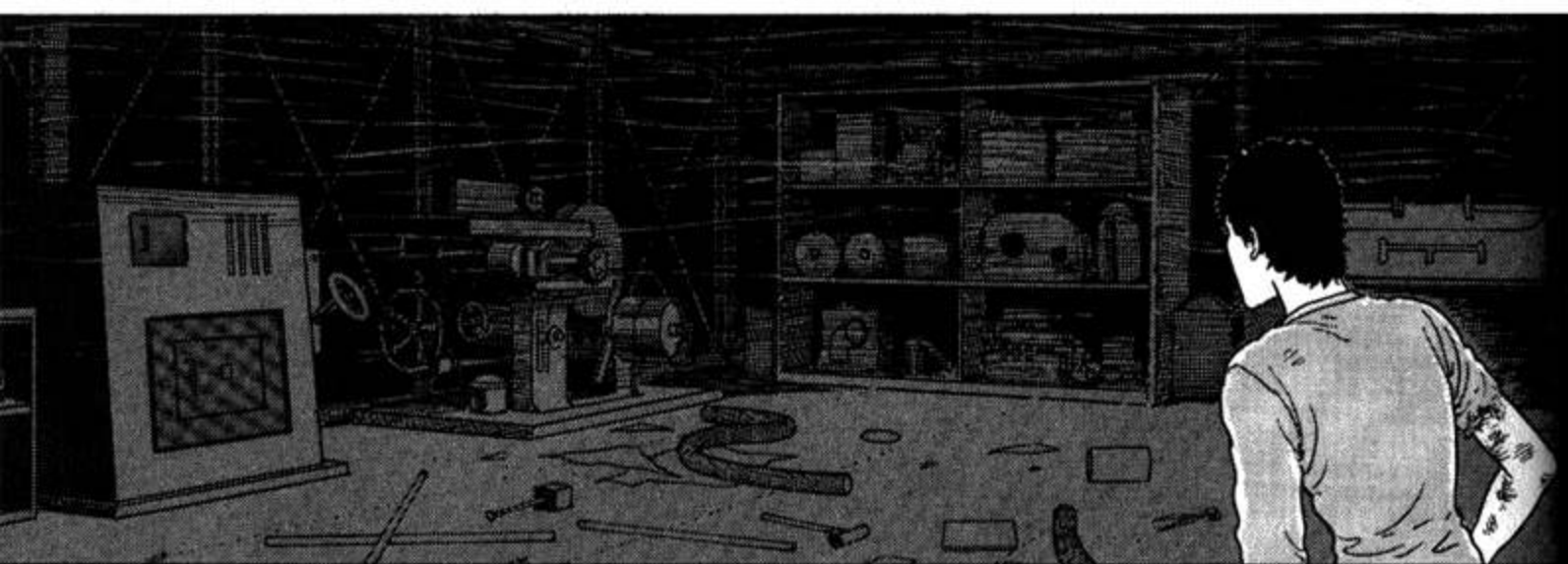
LET'S
CREMATE
UNCLE
KOYANAGI,
TOO.





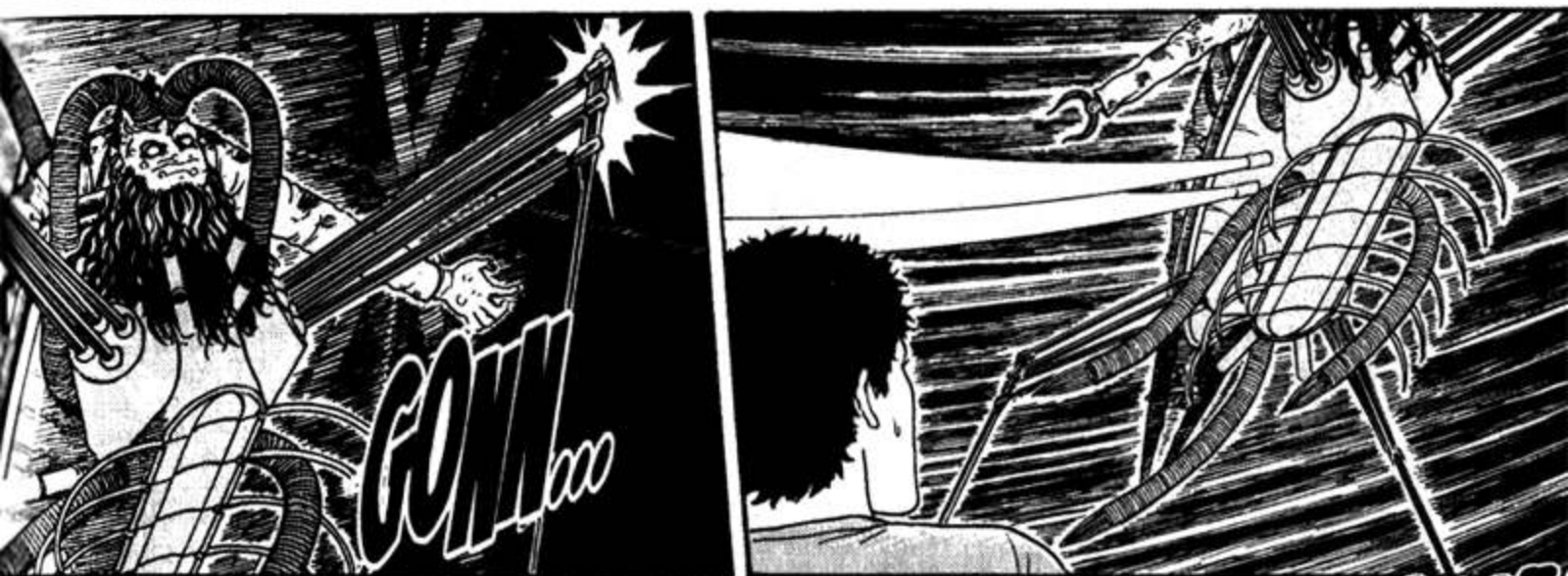
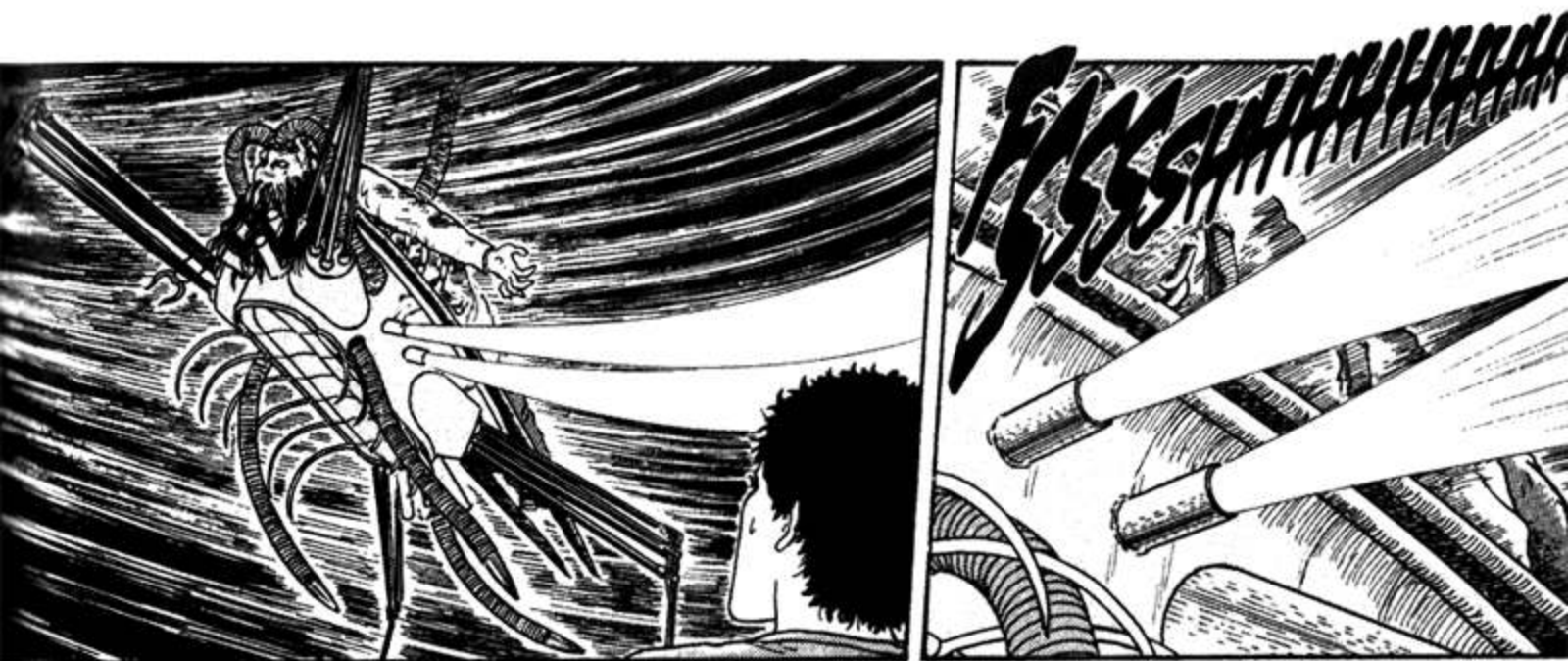


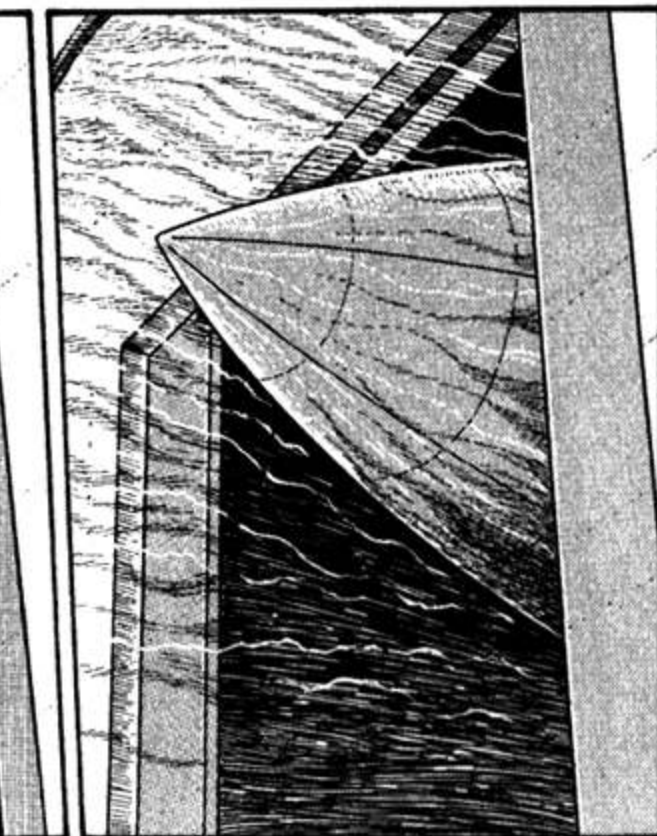
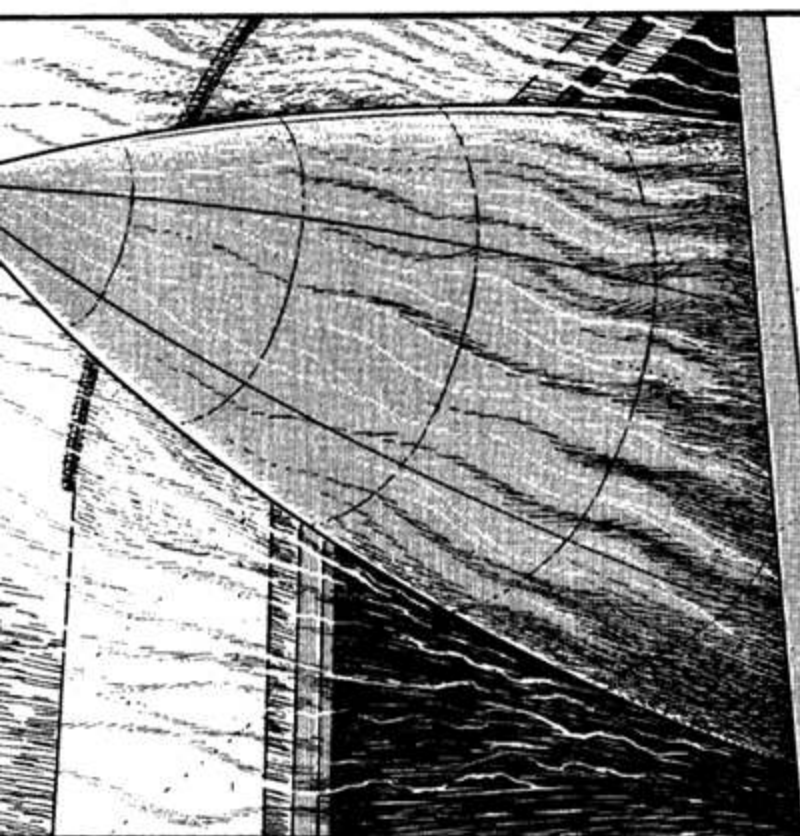


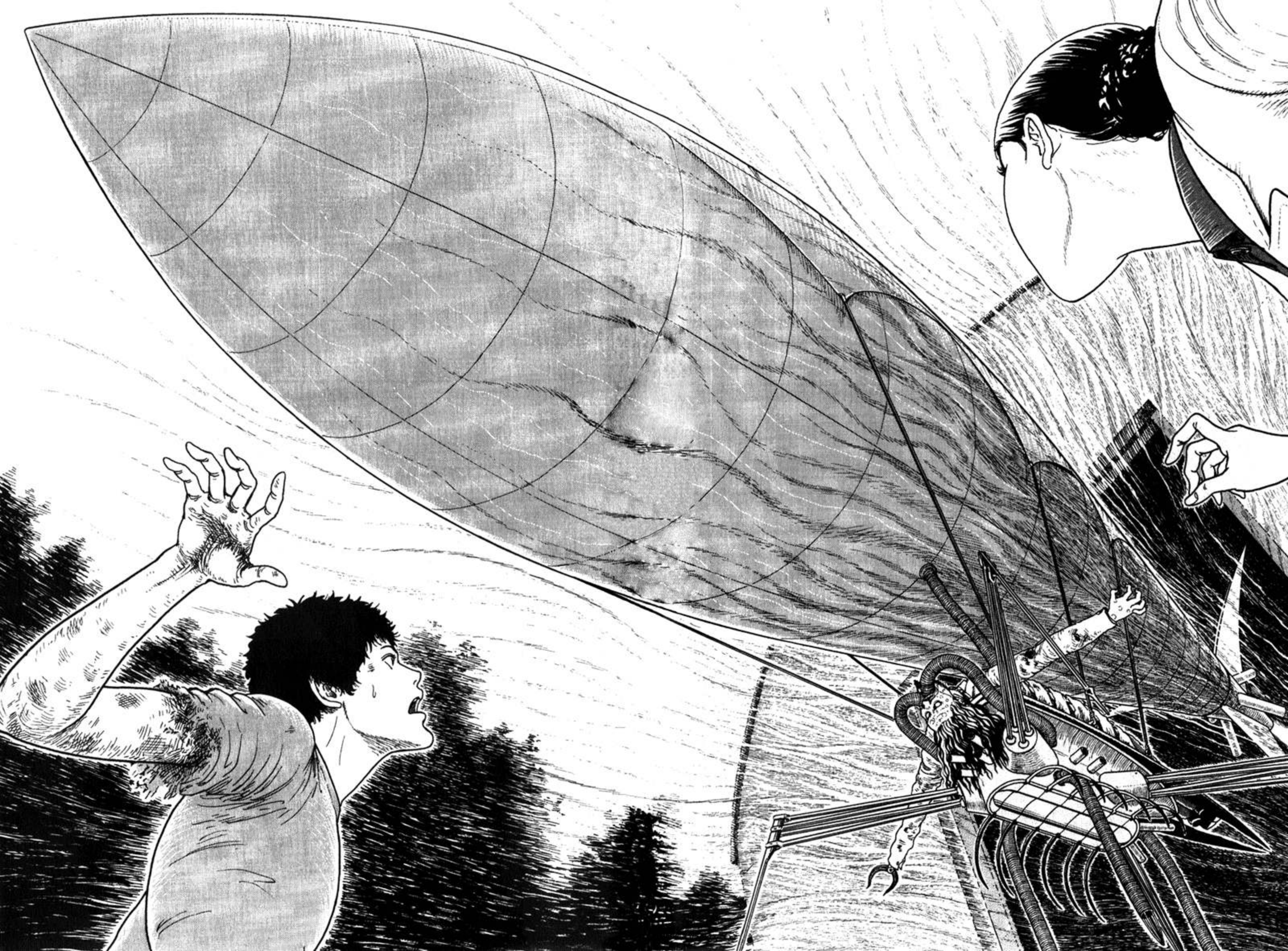


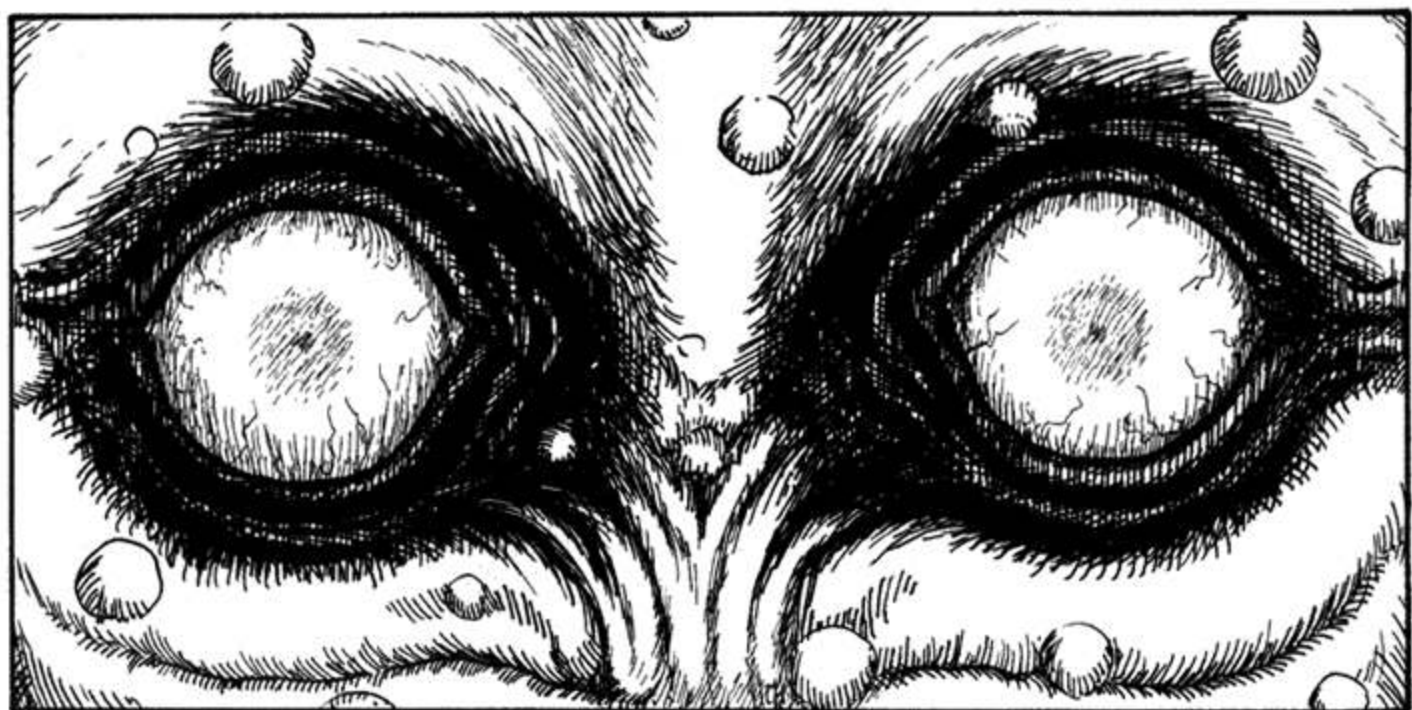
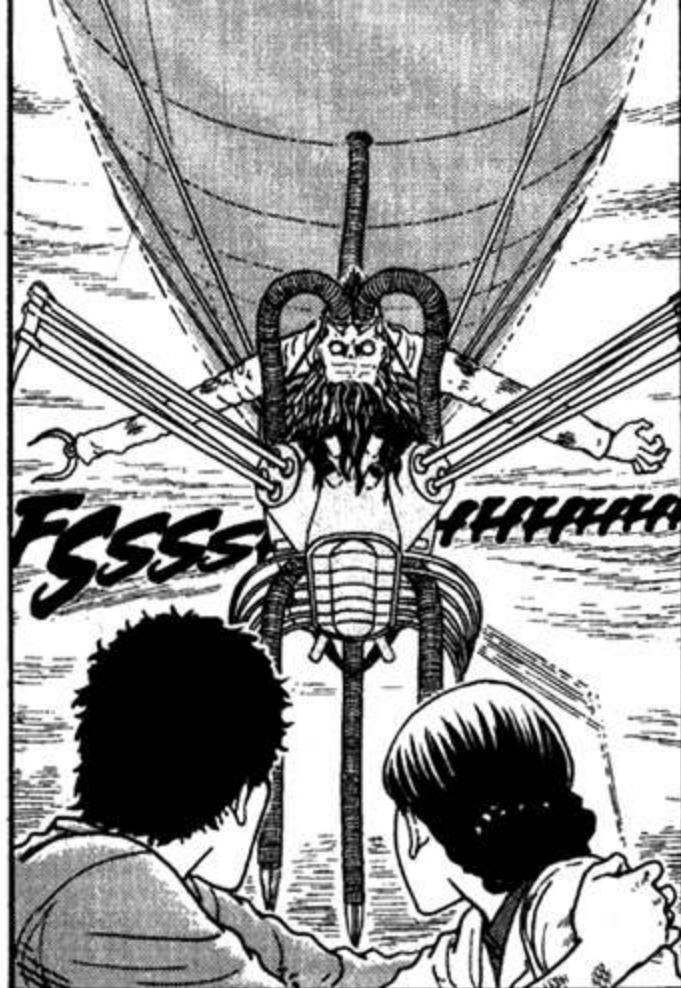


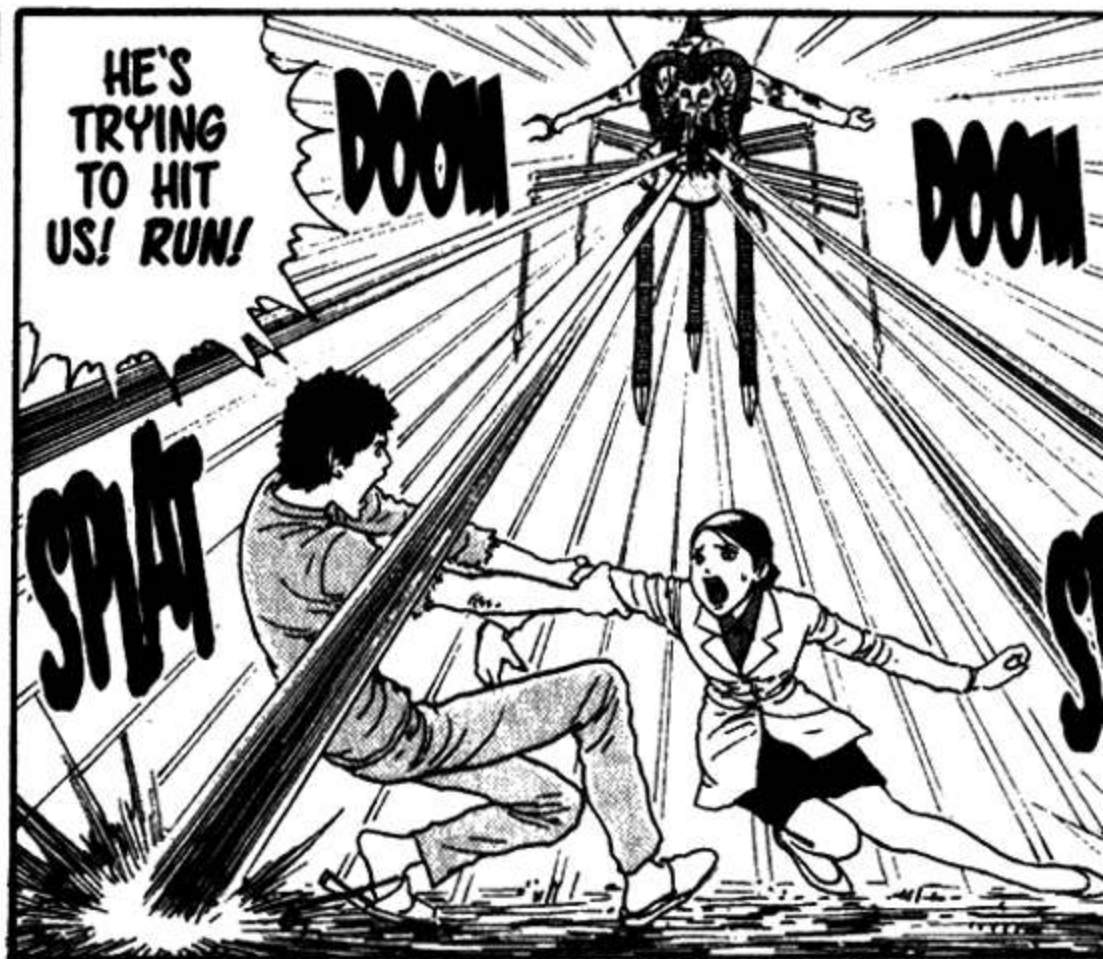


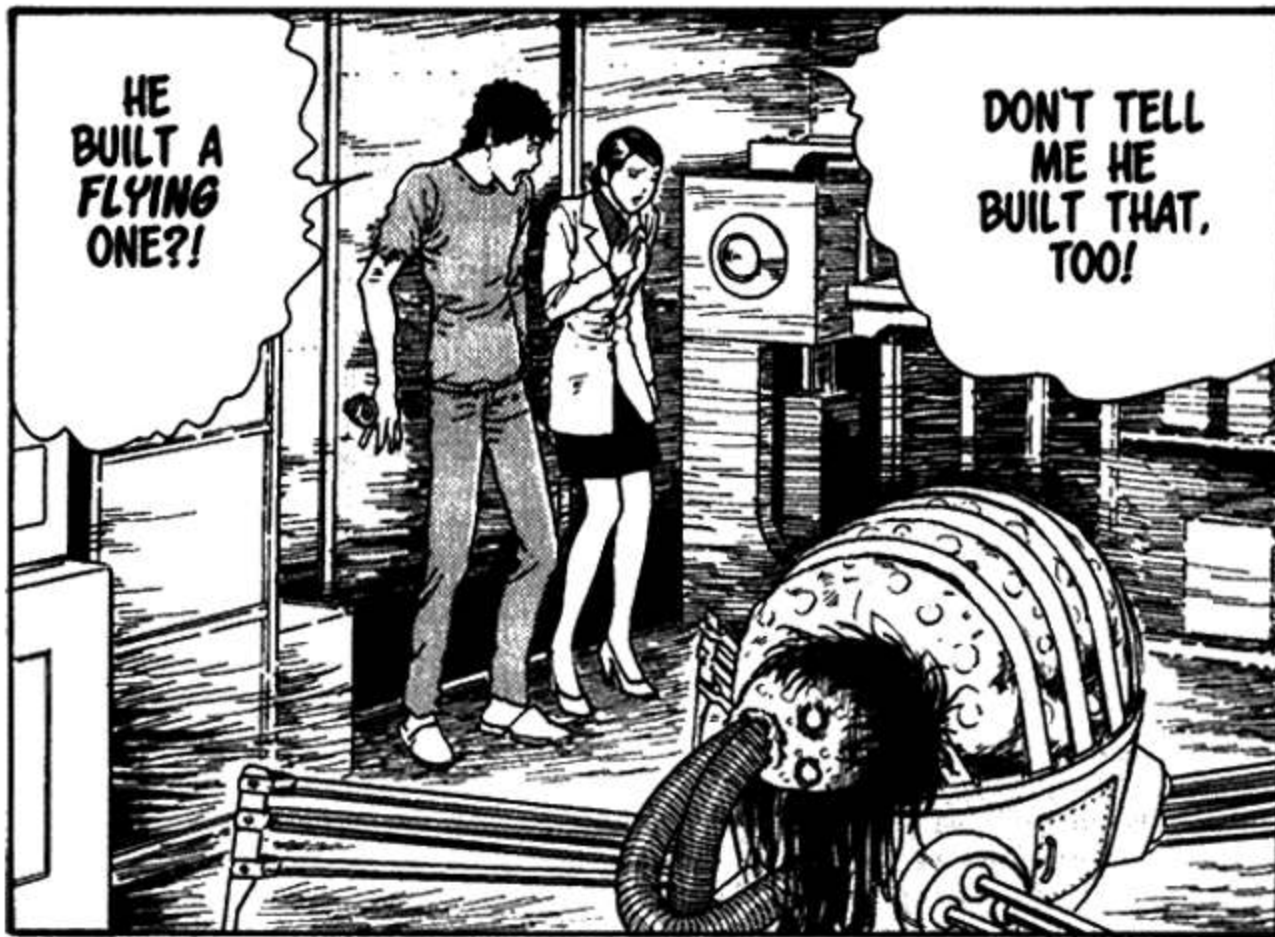














WHY WOULD HE...?

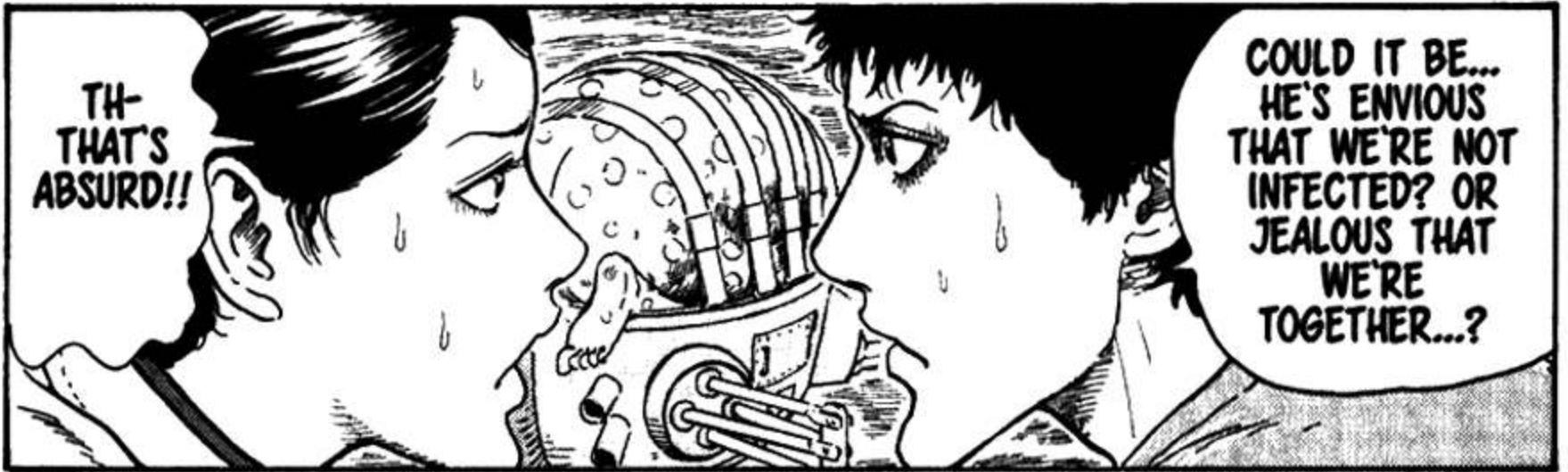
GONN!

HE'S DEFINITELY AFTER US...

GONN!



GONN! GONN!



TH- THAT'S ABSURD!!

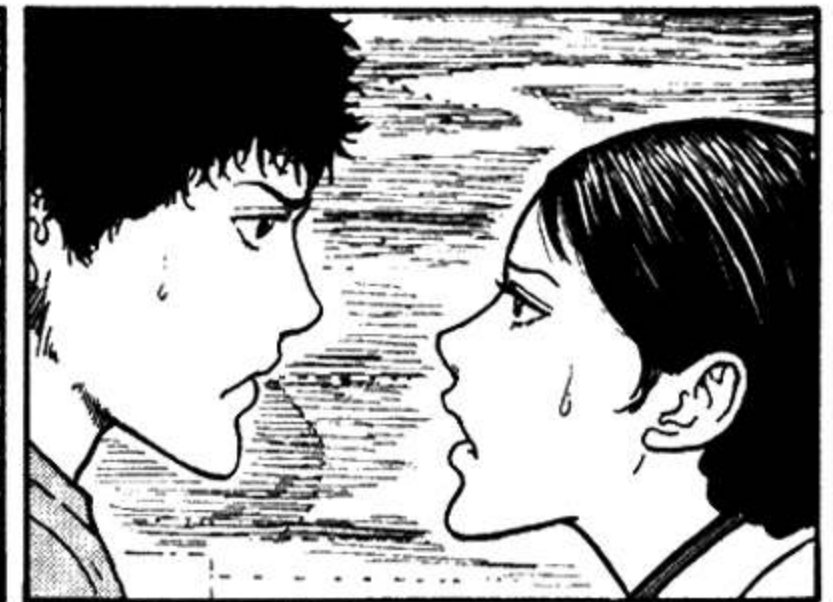
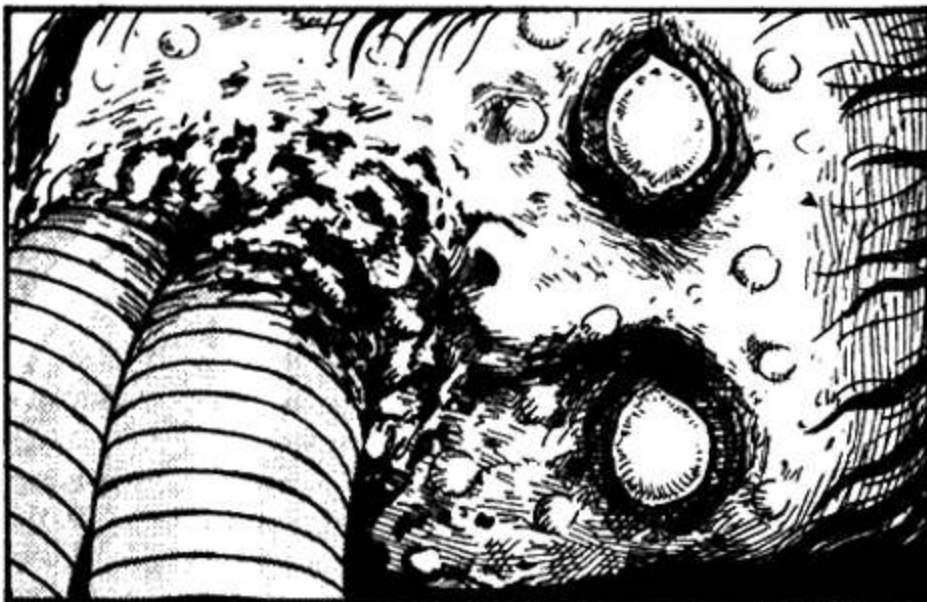
COULD IT BE... HE'S ENVOIOUS THAT WE'RE NOT INFECTED? OR JEALOUS THAT WE'RE TOGETHER...?

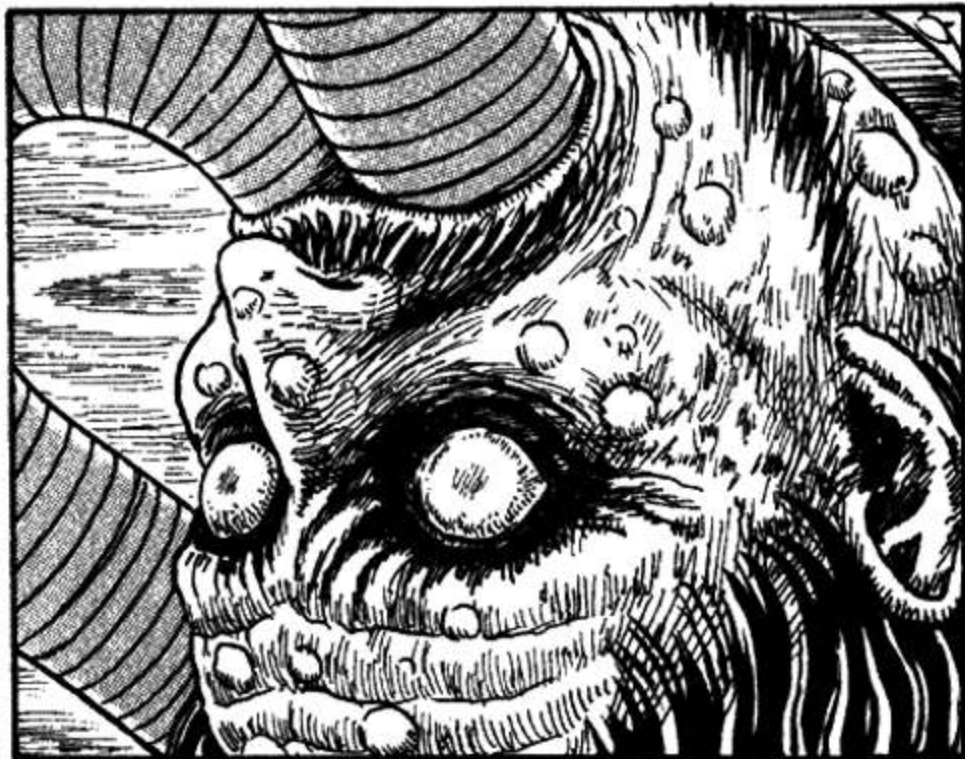
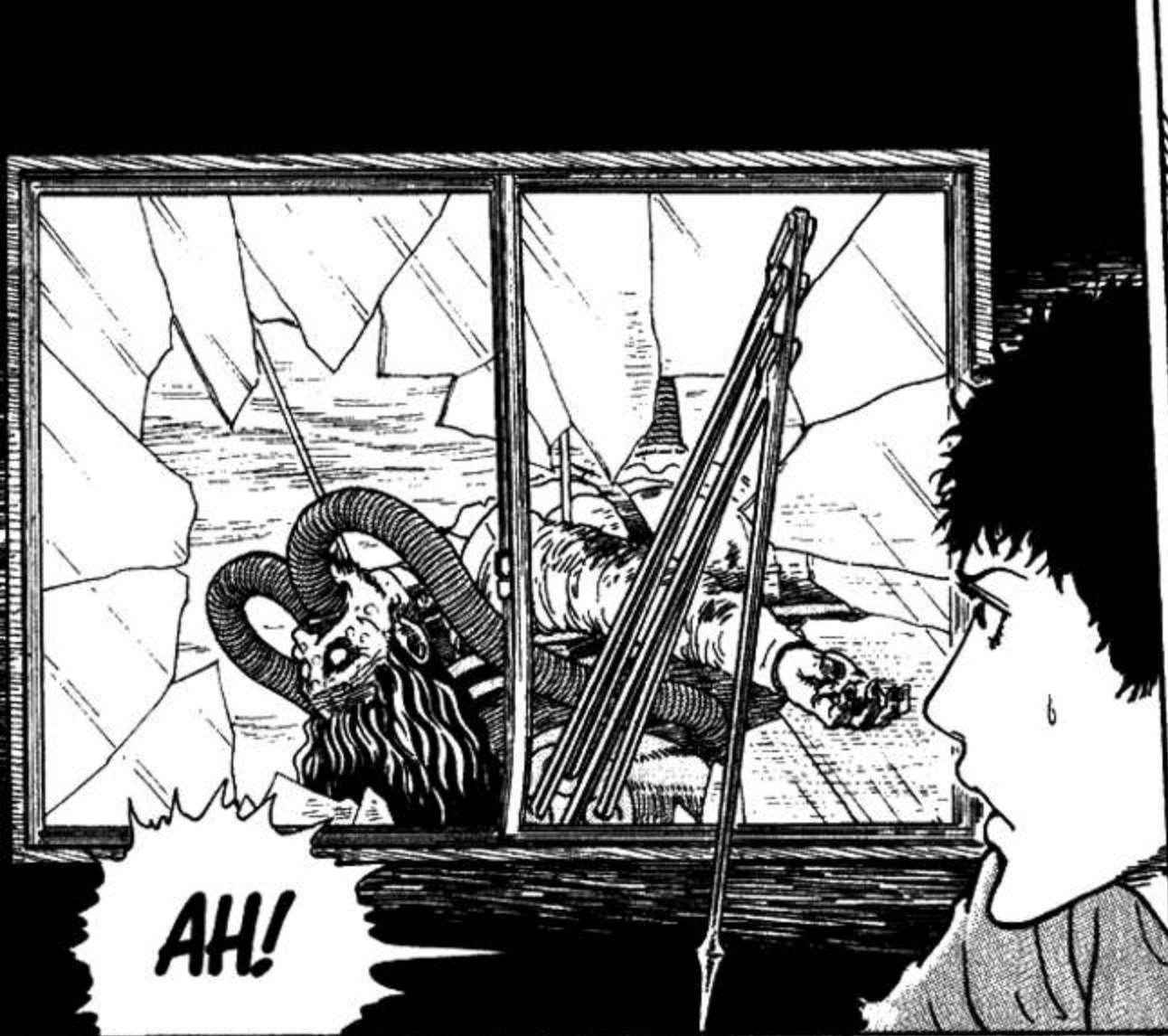


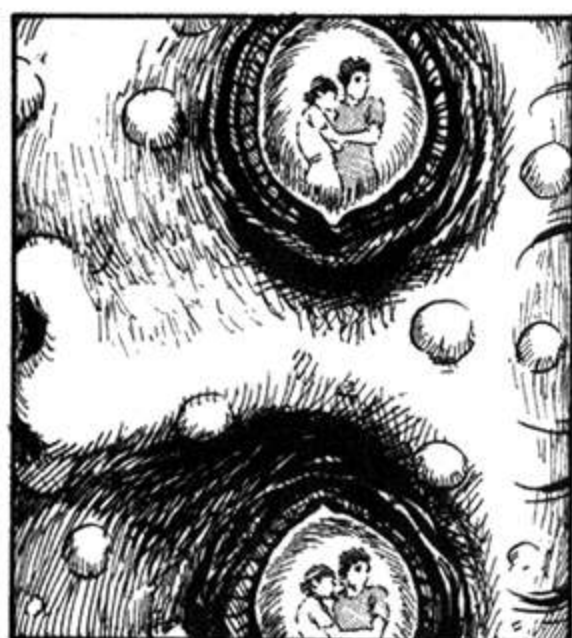
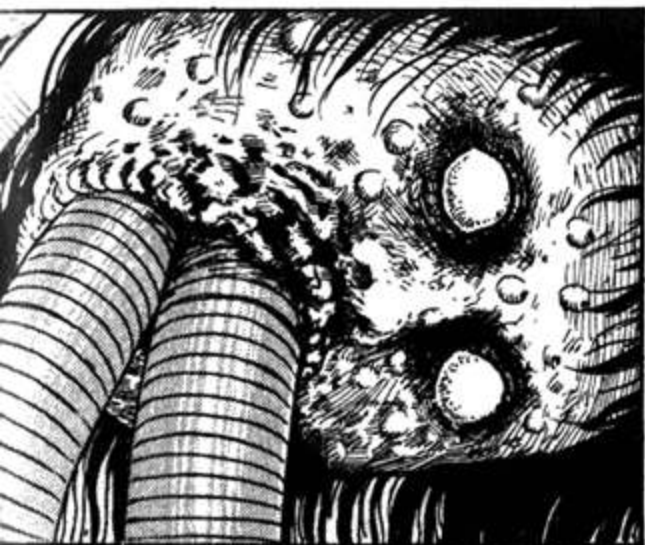
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE THE GERM AND NOT THE DOCTOR THAT'S MAKING THE MACHINE MOVE!

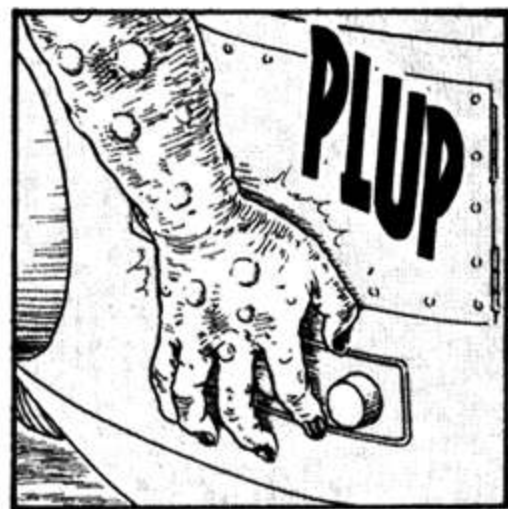
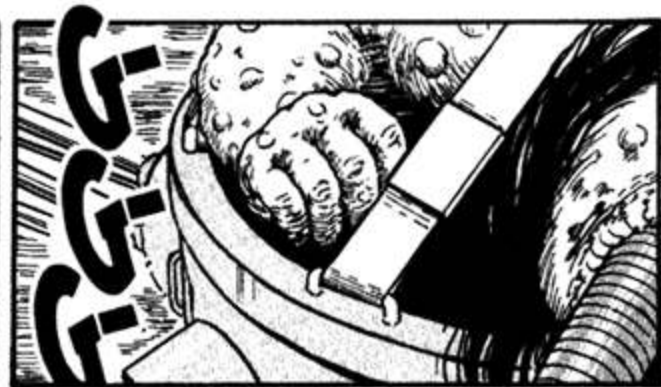
HE CAN'T POSSIBLY BE CONSCIOUS!

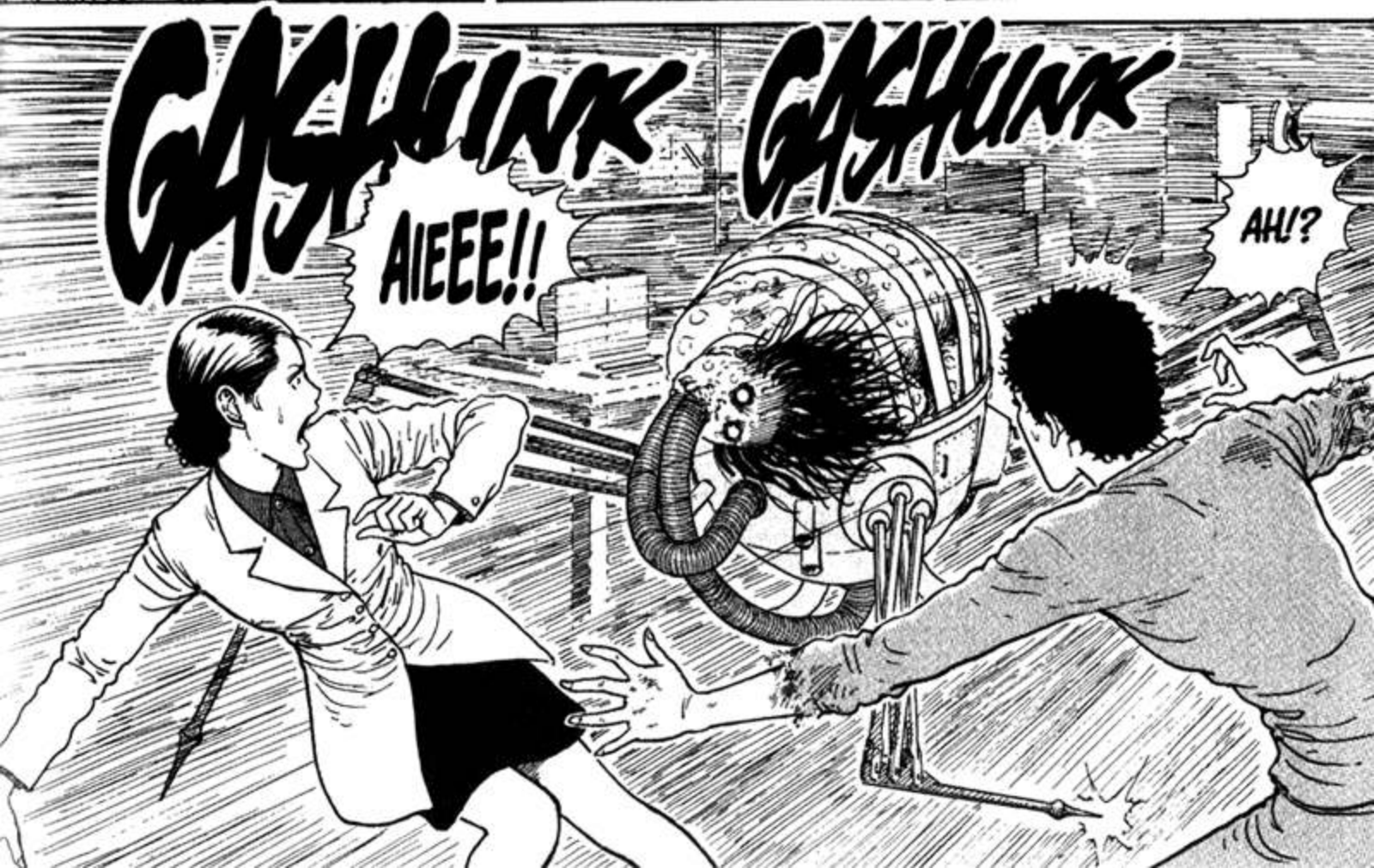
GONN! GONN!













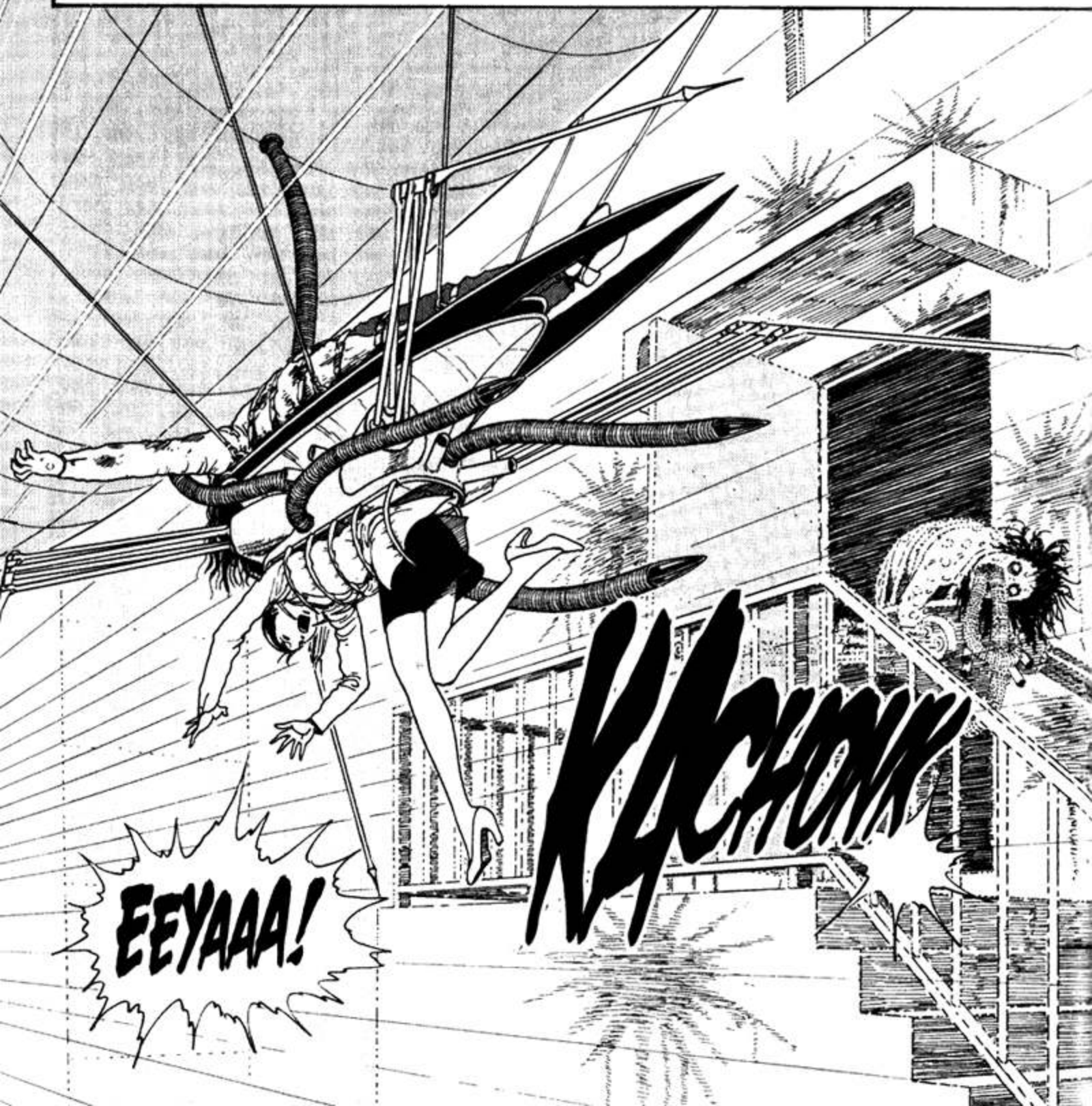




EEEEEE--

FSSSS

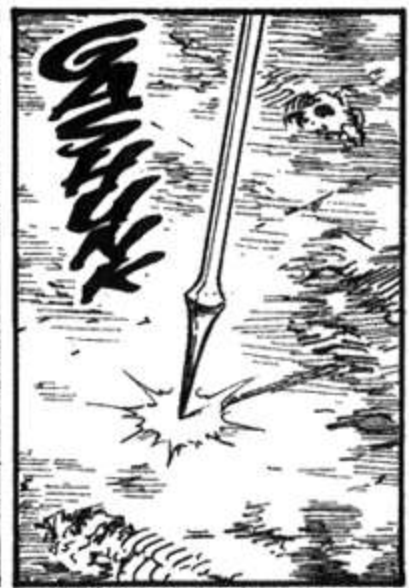
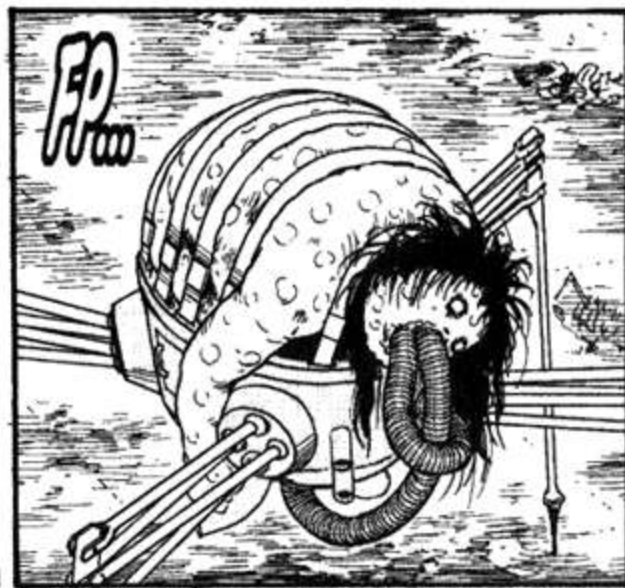
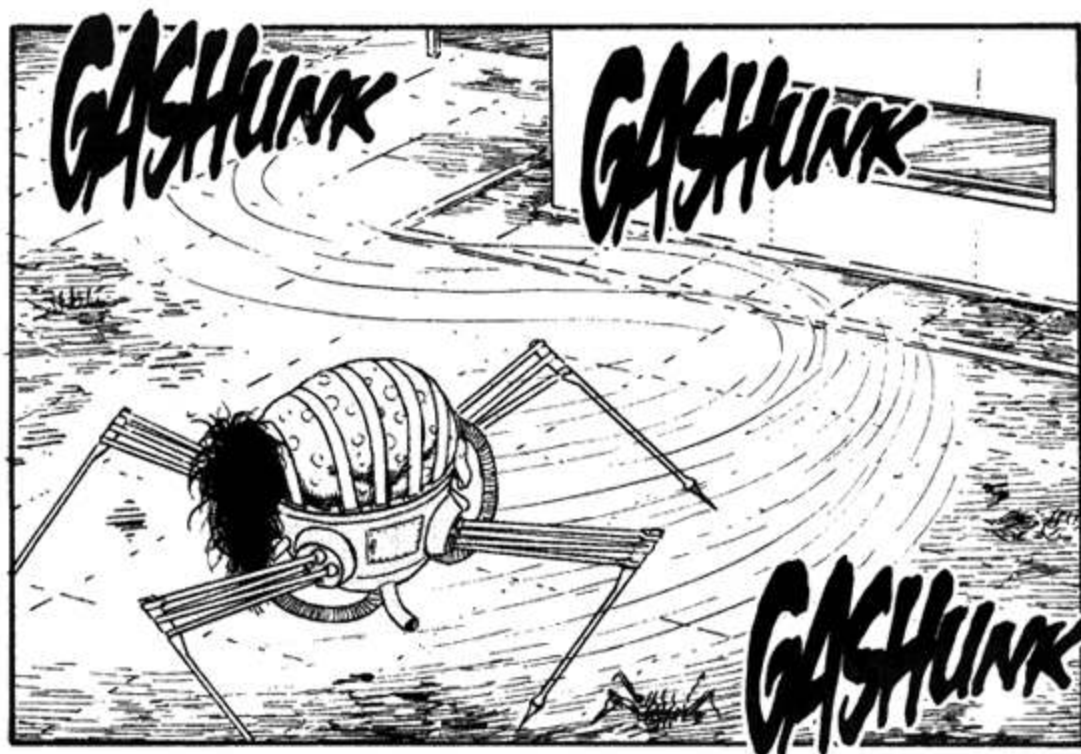
HAHAHA

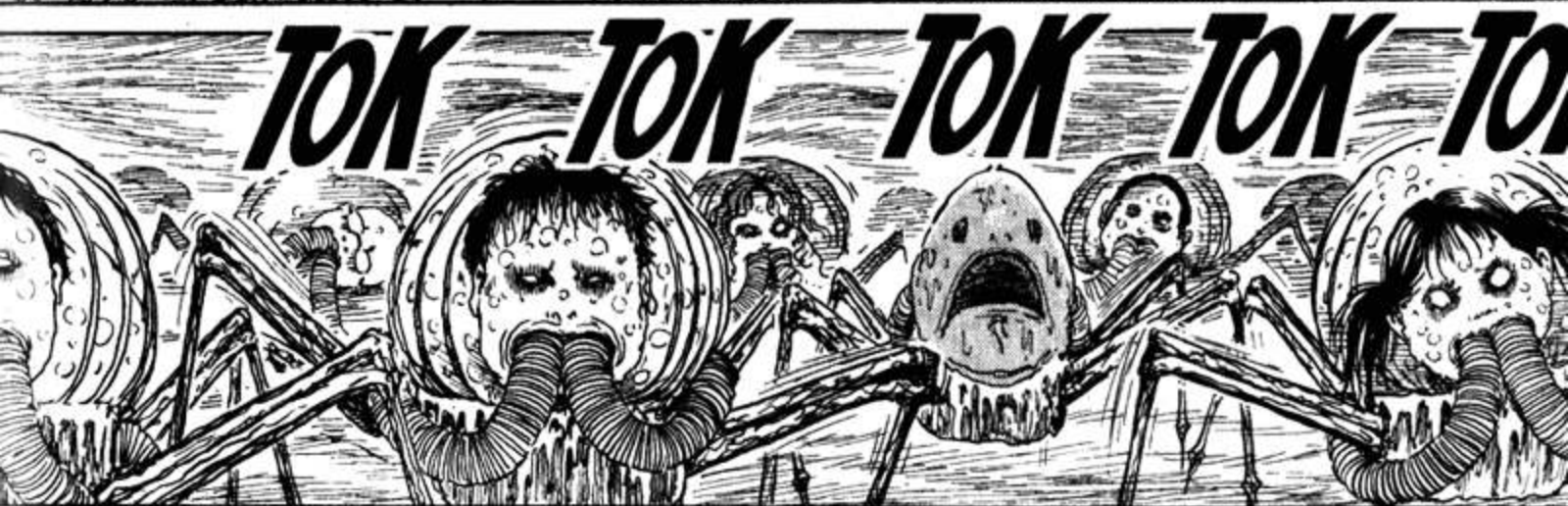
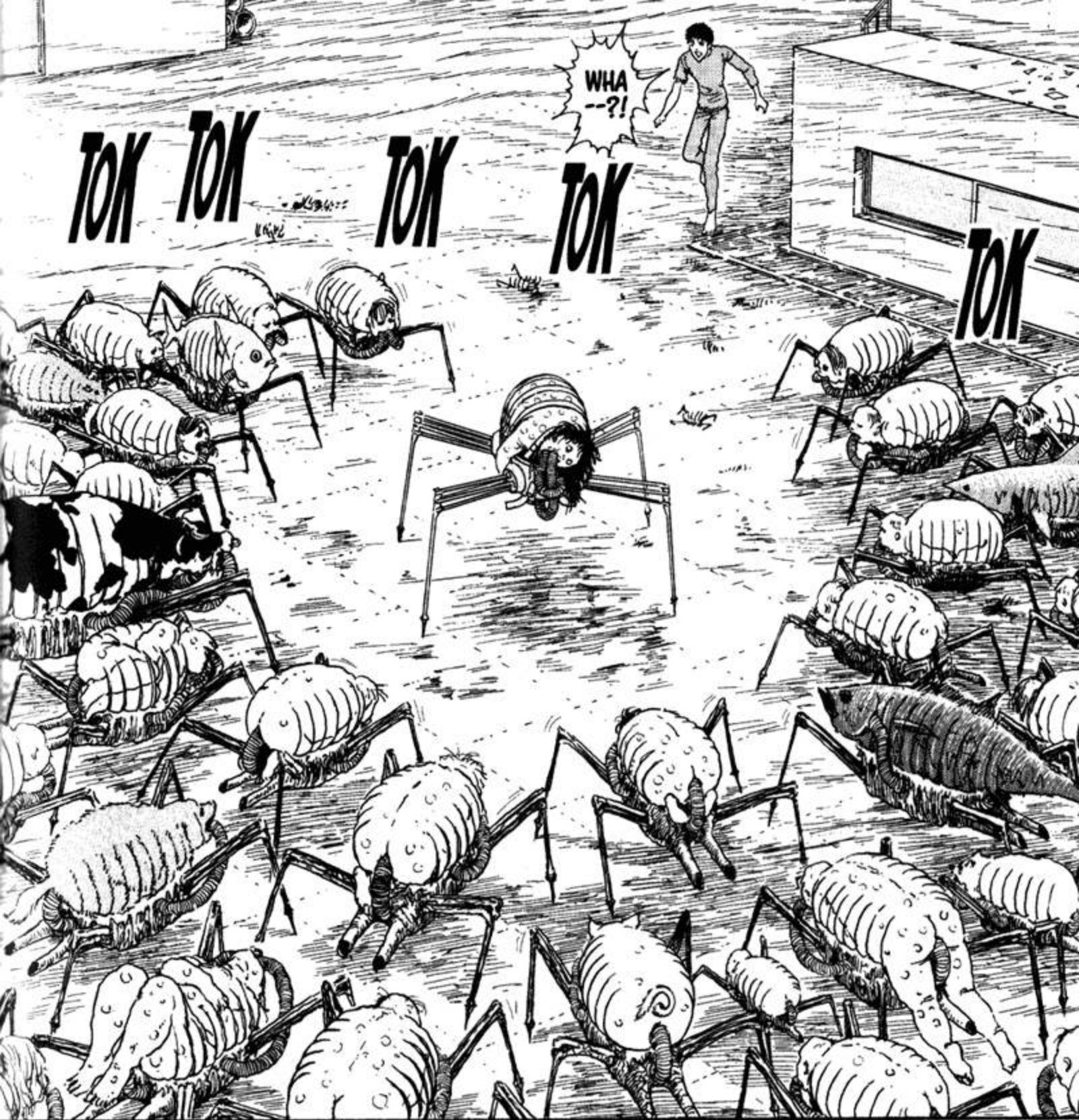


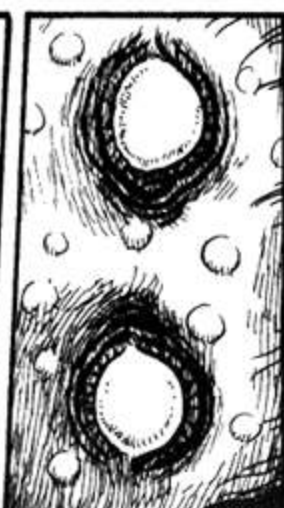
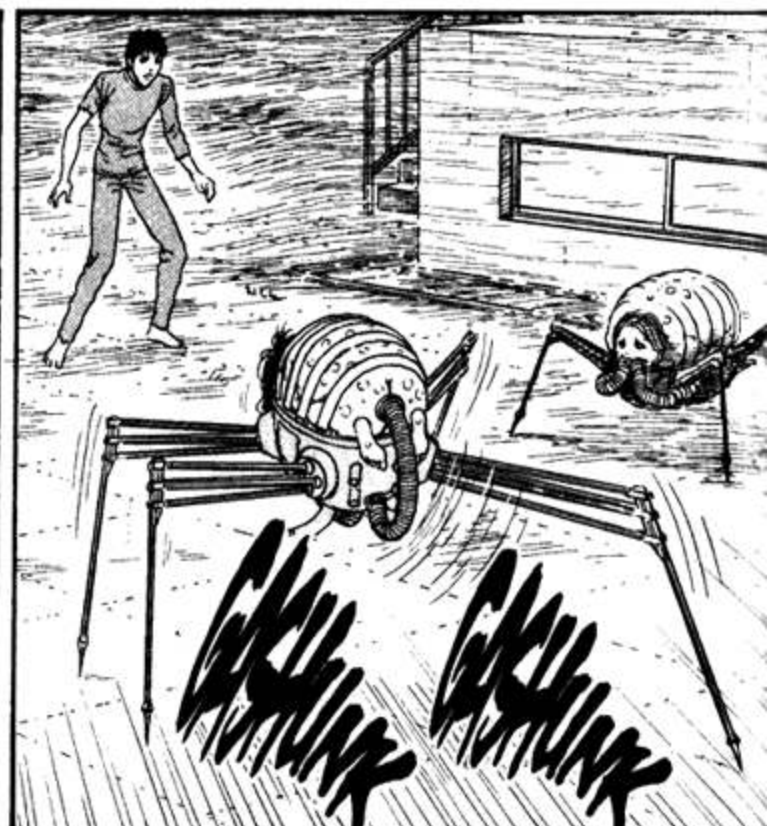
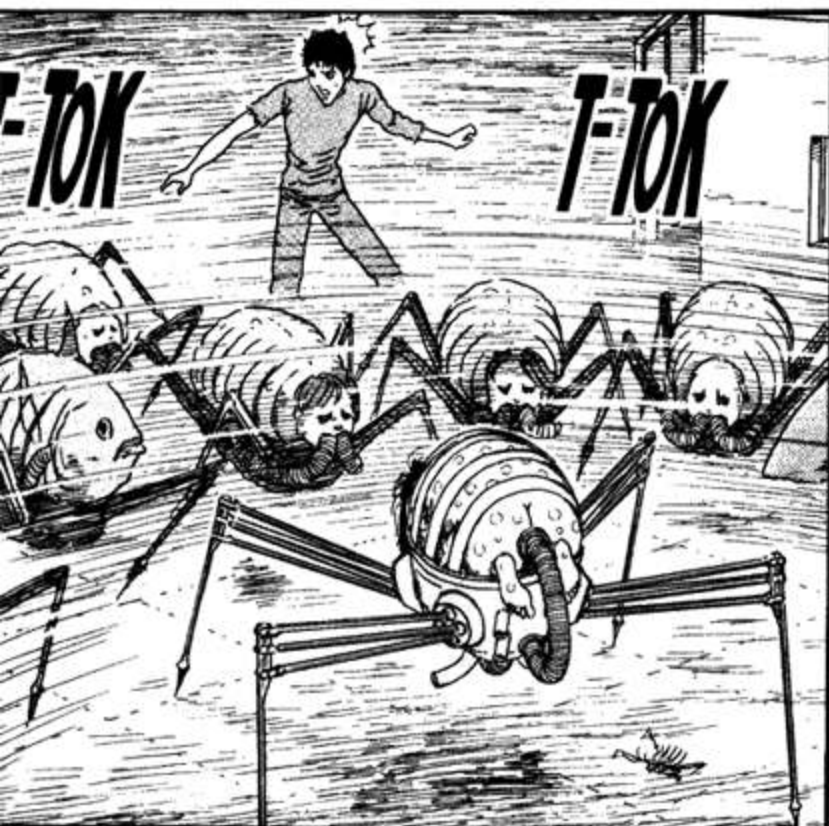
EEYAAA!

KACHONK

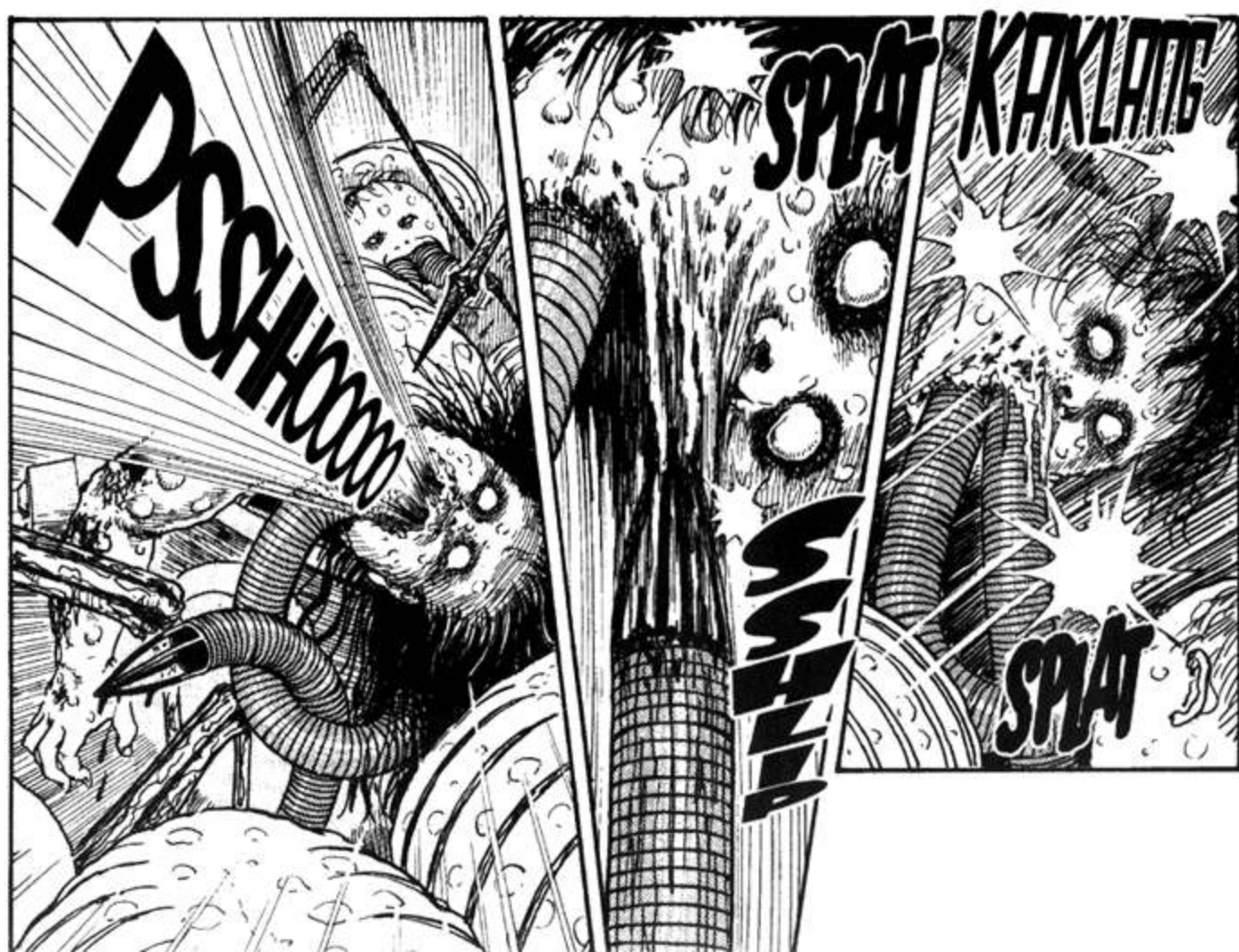














**K
A
O
R
I**

**19/The Death-
Stench World**

**K
A
O
R
I**



KAORI!!

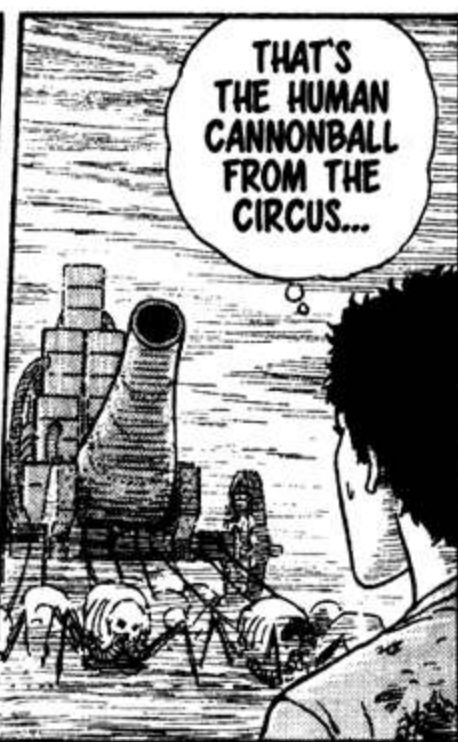
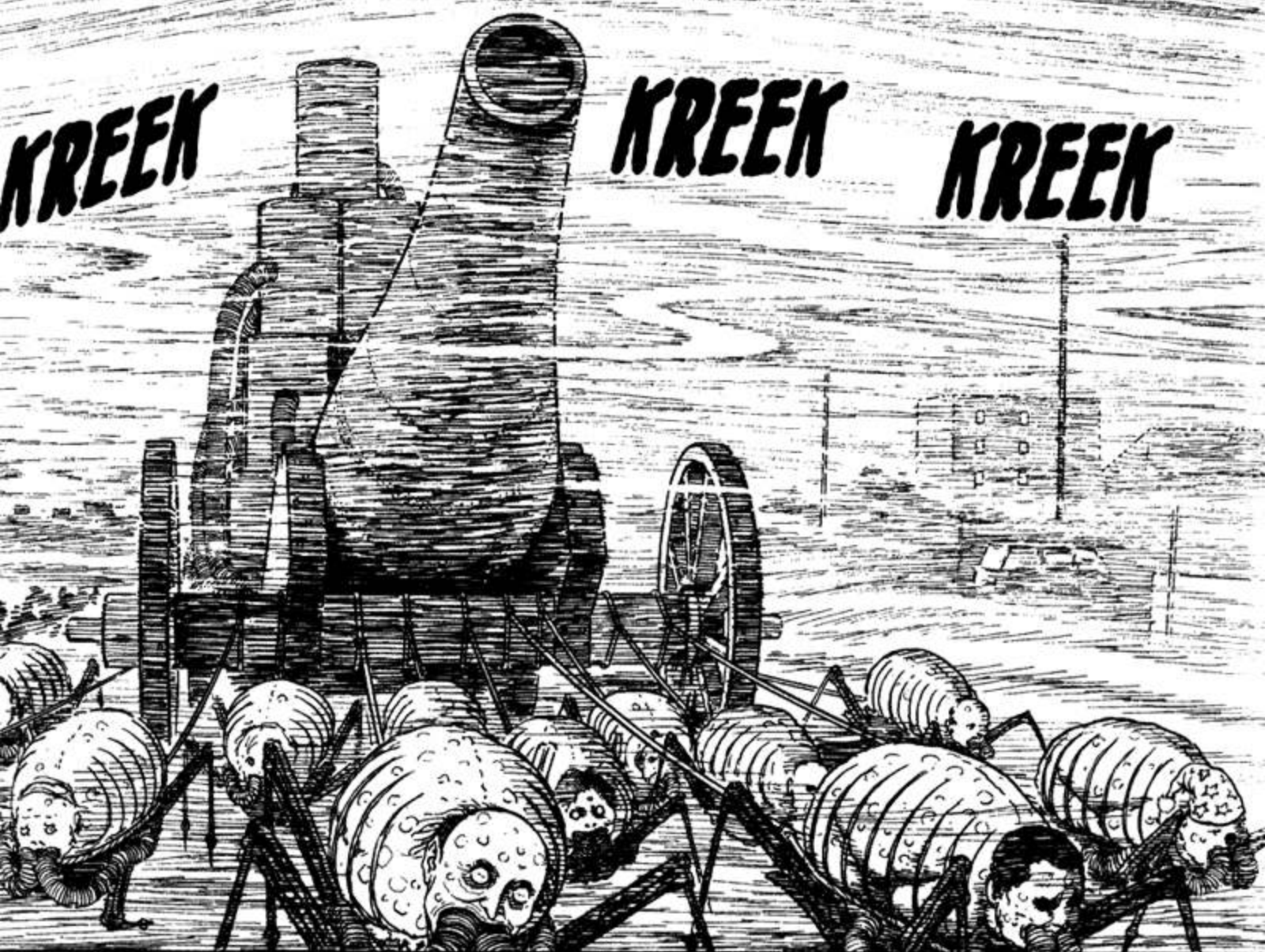


BOOM-CHA BOOM-CHA BOOM-CHA BOOM-CHA

KREEK

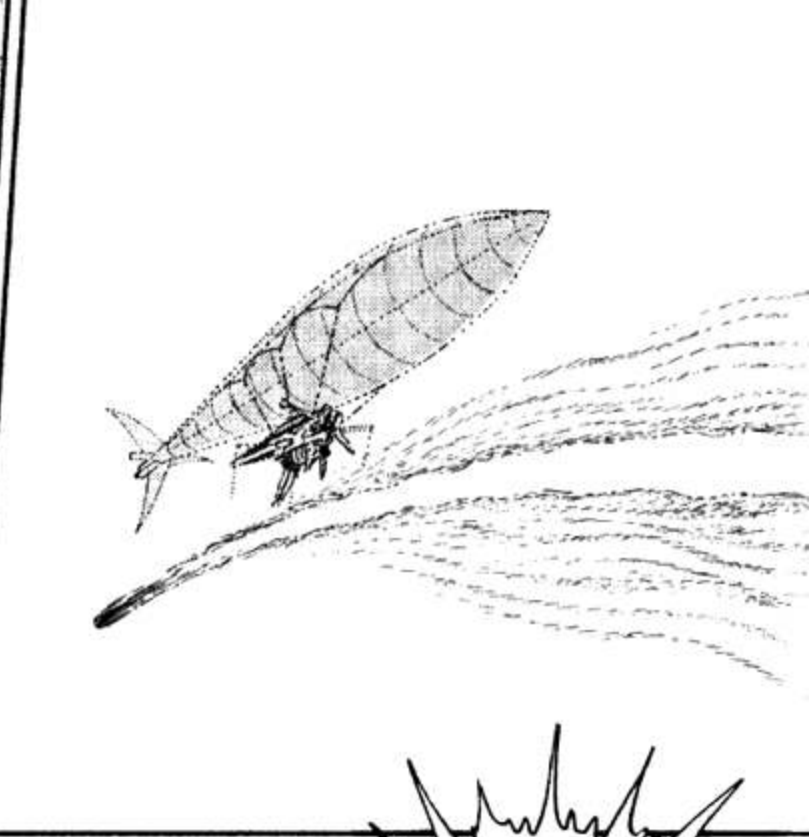
KREEK

KREEK



BOOM







BFFF



FWIPP

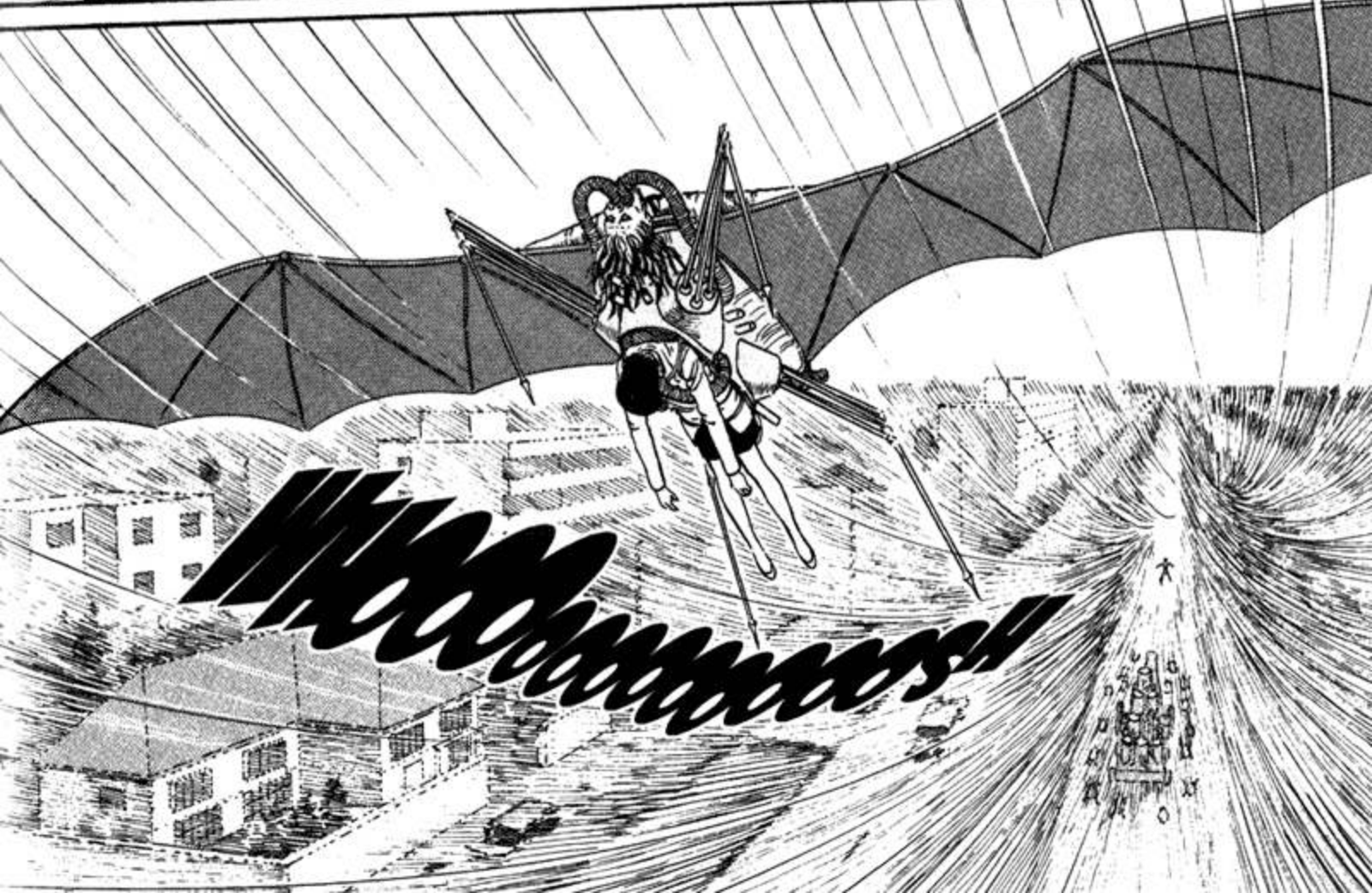


PSHOOO

**BANZAI!
BANZAI!!!**

**DIRECT
HIT!**









WERE THEY WEAPONS DEVELOPED BY JAPAN'S MILITARY DURING THE WAR, LIKE UNCLE KOYANAGI'S FATHER CLAIMED?

EVEN SO, WHO MADE ALL THESE MACHINES?

RRR
DOES THE GAS HAVE A WILL OF ITS OWN?

SO WHAT IS MAKING THEM DO THIS?



YOU WON'T FIND A SINGLE SCREW, NOT EVEN A SOLDER JOINT INSIDE THOSE MACHINES.

WHAT !?

THEY WEREN'T MANMADE... THERE'S NO OTHER ANSWER.



A MACHINE CREATED BY MOTHER NATURE...

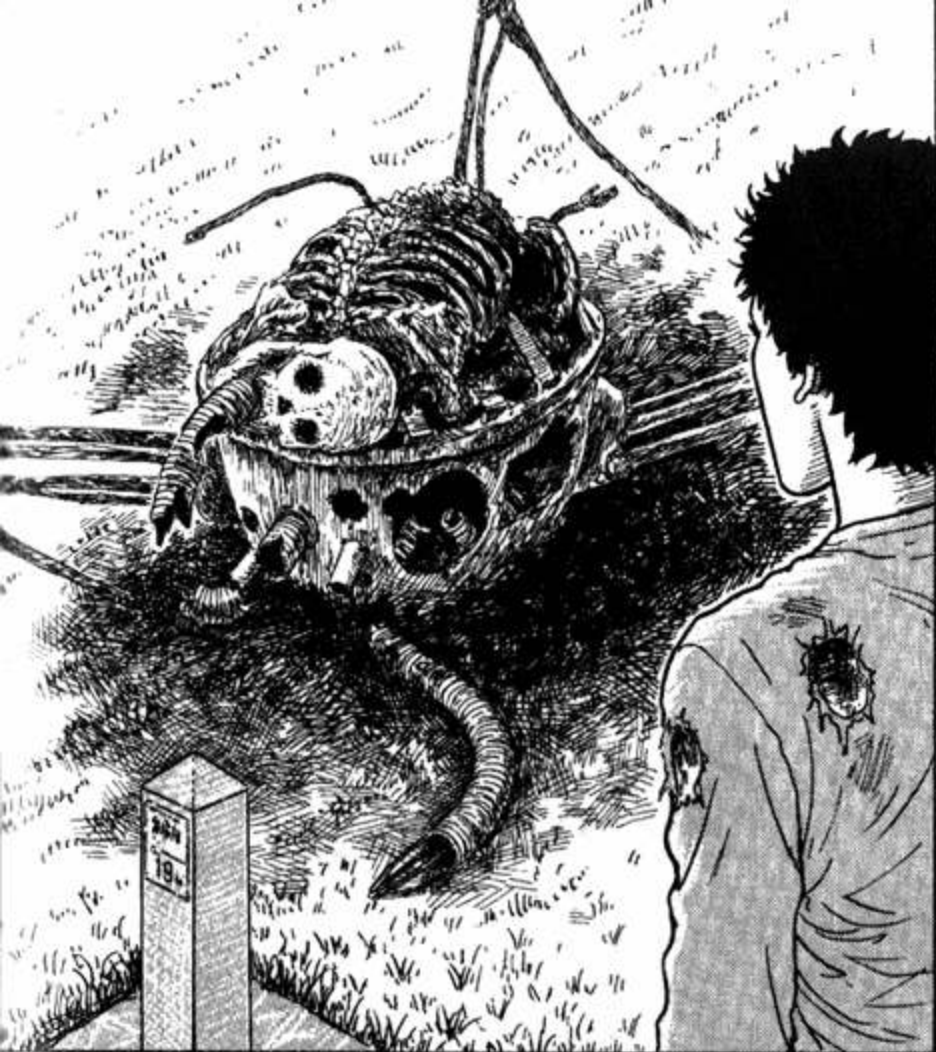
PERHAPS THE BACTERIA WHICH MAKES THE GAS SYNTHESIZED WITH THE WRECKS OF BATTLESHIPS IN THE DEEP SEA.

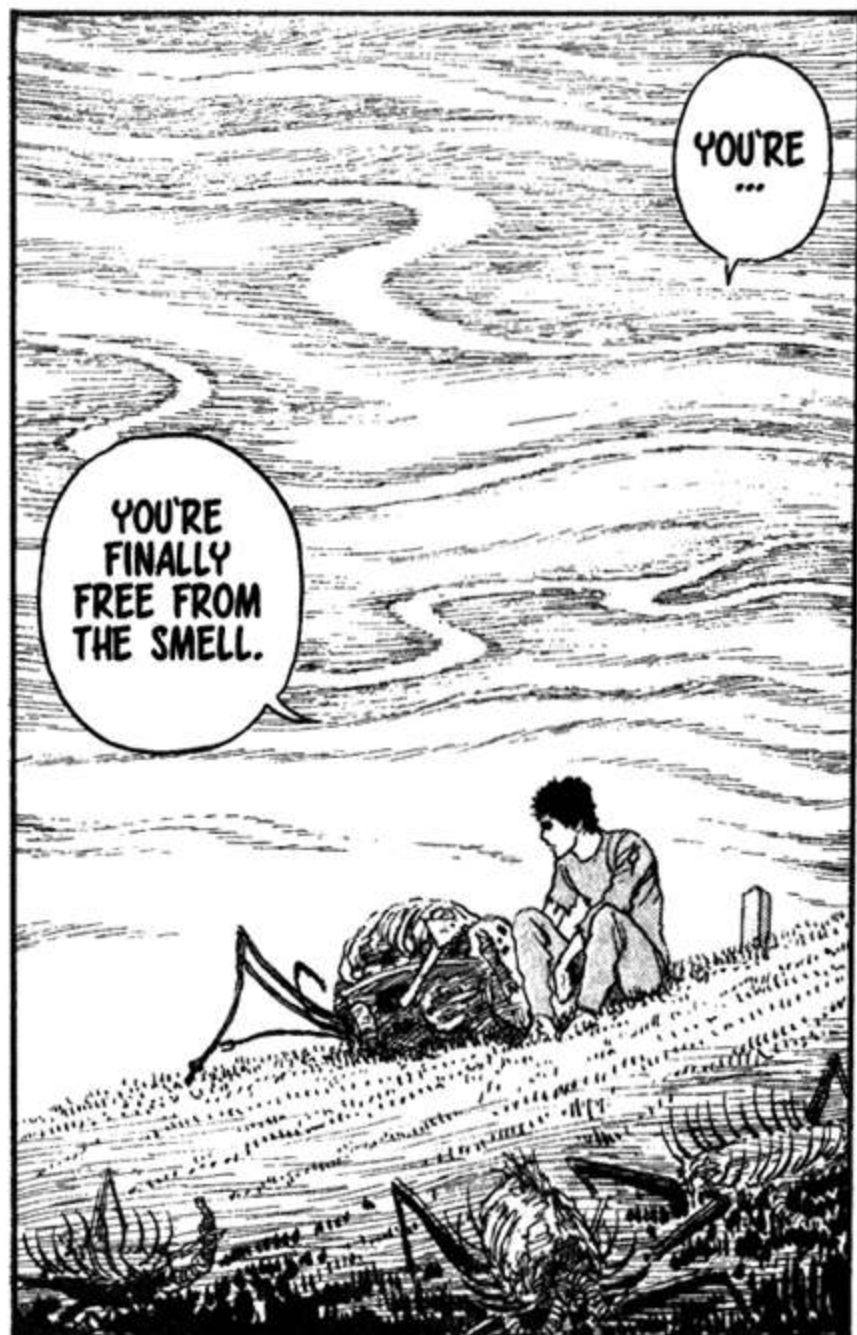
MAYBE IT STARTED ON THE MICROSCOPIC LEVEL.

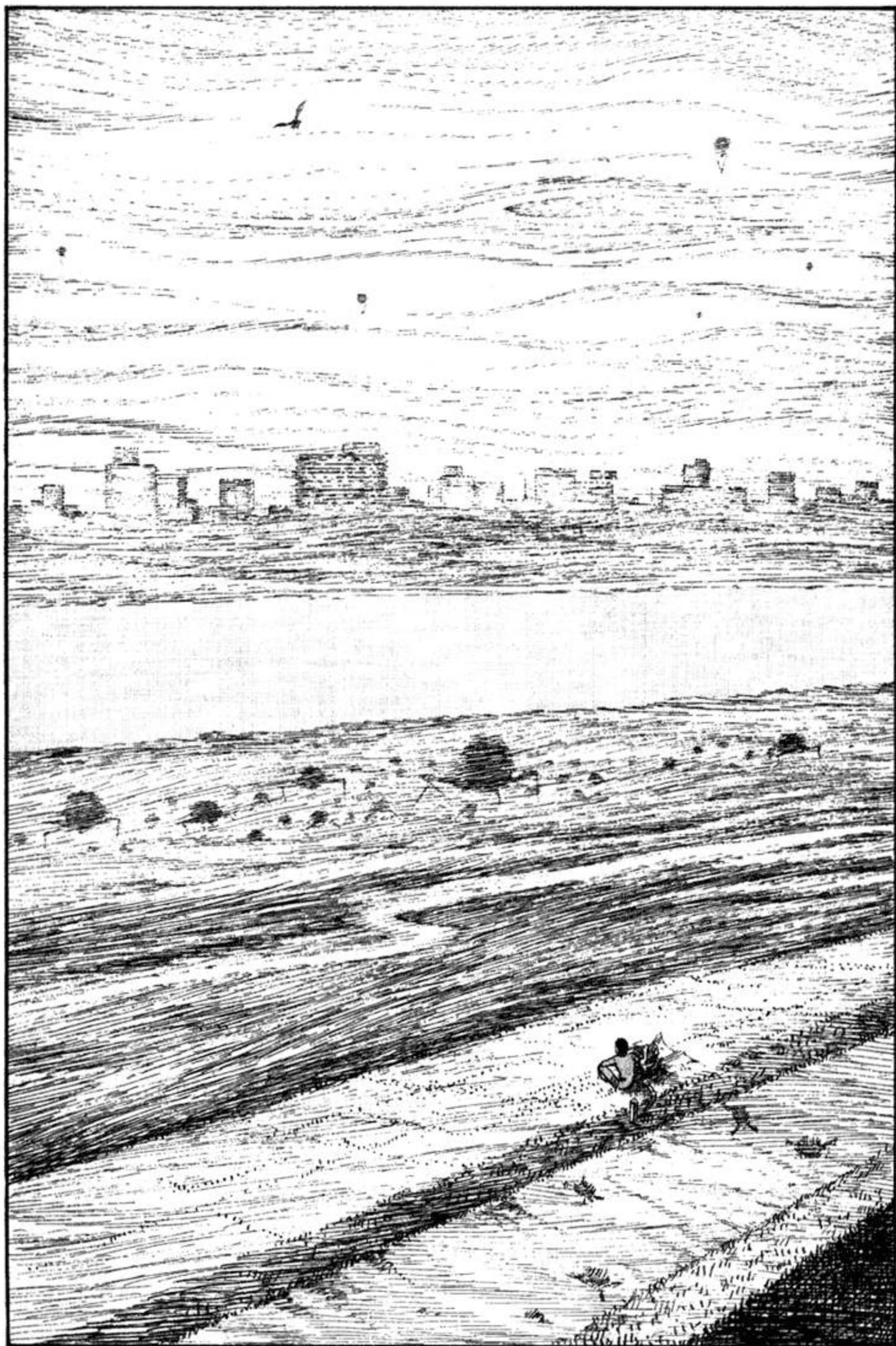
RRR
NO HUMAN FORCE COULD HAVE BUILT THEM... THEY MUST BE SELF-REPLICATING MACHINES.

A STATE-OF-THE-ART LABORATORY COULDN'T HAVE BUILT SIX HUNDRED OF THEM, LET ALONE SIX BILLION.









GYO=THE END

**BONUS
Stories**

The Sad Tale of the Principal Post







AS HIS WIFE,
DAUGHTER AND
FRIENDS
WATCHED OVER
HIM, HE
PASSED AWAY
LATER THAT
EVENING.



I'M NOT
GOING TO
MAKE IT.
I'LL DIE
SUPPORTING
THIS HOUSE.



WH-
WHAT!?

LEAVE
ME
HERE...

DEAR...



DADDY,
NO--!

...AND NOW NO
ONE WILL EVER
KNOW HOW HE
ENDED UP GETTING
UNDERNEATH IT.



HE STILL
REMAINS
UNDER THE
PRINCIPAL
POST...

THE SAD TALE OF THE
PRINCIPAL POST: THE END

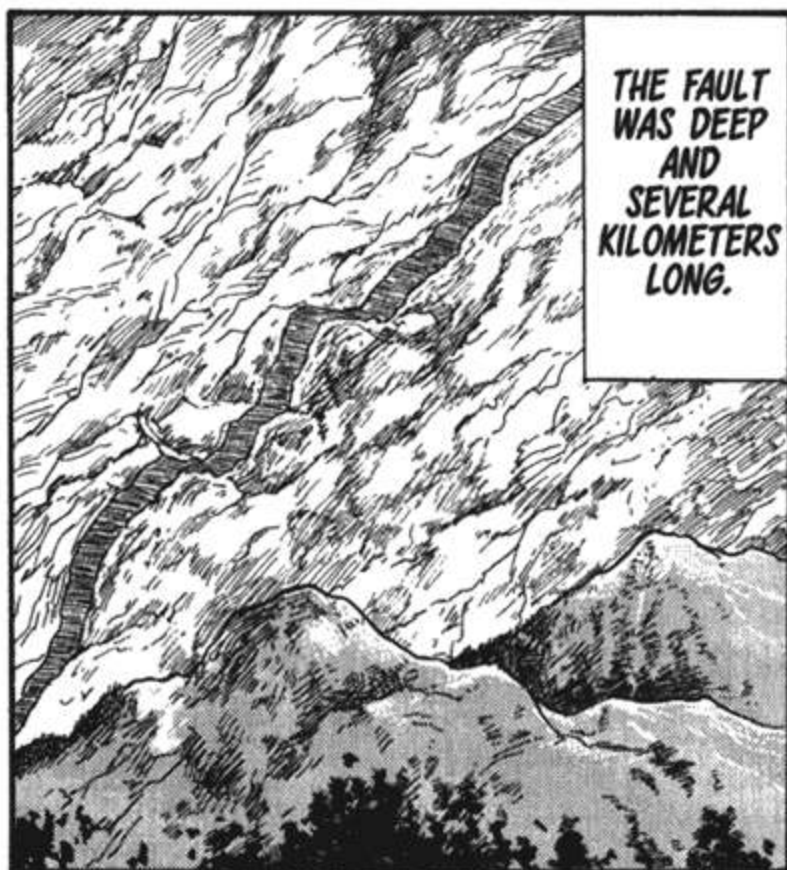
The Enigma of Amigara Fault





NOT TOO
LONG AGO,
THERE WAS
A GREAT
EARTHQUAKE
IN H—
PREFECTURE.

SEVERAL
TOWNS AND
VILLAGES
WERE
DEVASTATED.



THE FAULT
WAS DEEP
AND
SEVERAL
KILOMETERS
LONG.



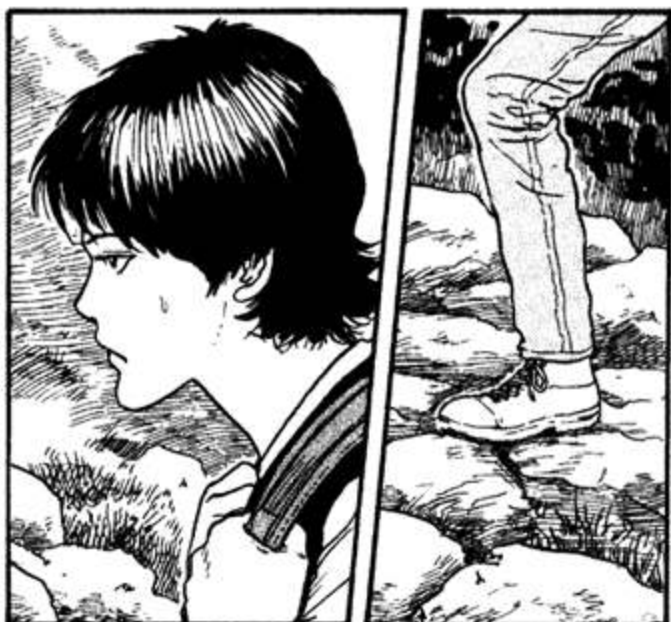
FOLLOWING THE
EARTHQUAKE,
A LARGE
FAULT WAS
DISCOVERED
NEAR THE
EPICENTER...



...OF THE
BEGINNING
OF THIS
STRANGE
INCIDENT.

THIS
WAS
THE
SIGN...

...ON THE
NORTH
SLOPE OF
AMIGARA
MOUNTAIN.





I THOUGHT THAT MUST BE WHY YOU CAME HERE, I MEAN NO OFFENSE, A WOMAN HIKER, ALL ALONE.

SO ARE YOU LOOKING FOR THE FAULT, TOO?



I'M YOSHIDA.

I'M OWAKI... WHAT'S YOUR NAME?



REALLY? IT WAS THE SAME WITH ME.

IT'S A REAL MYSTERY, ISN'T IT?



I SAW IT ALL ON T.V. IT KIND OF MADE ME RESTLESS...

WHEN I SAW IT I KNEW I HAD TO GO.







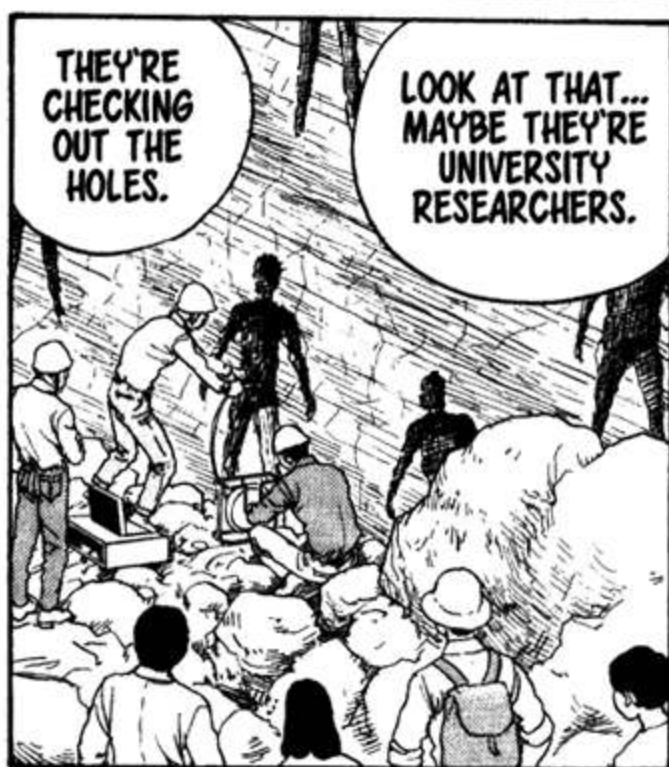
BUT A
LOT MORE
POWERFUL.

IT'S
JUST LIKE
HOW IT
WAS ON
T.V....



IT MAKES
YOU
WONDER,
HOW
COULD IT
HAPPEN
...

SO
BEFORE
THE
QUAKE,
THEY
WERE
UNDER-
GROUND.



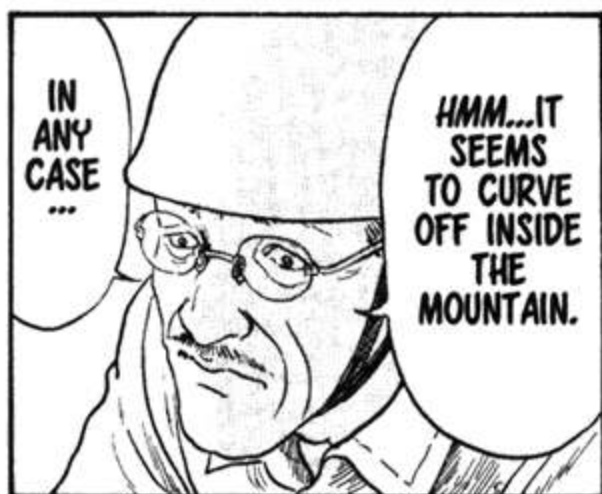
THEY'RE
CHECKING
OUT THE
HOLES.

LOOK AT THAT...
MAYBE THEY'RE
UNIVERSITY
RESEARCHERS.



THOUSANDS
OF HUMAN-
SHAPED
HOLES...

...FOUND
IN THE
FAULT
EXPOSED
BY THE
EARTHQUAKE.





I THINK THE ENTRANCE WAS SEALED UP WITH THE ACCUMULATION OF SOIL OVER THE YEARS...

...THE SAME FORCES THAT COVERED UP THESE HOLES.



BESIDES, WOULDN'T THERE BE A TRACE OF AN ENTRANCE OF SOME KIND?

NO ONE'S FOUND ANYTHING LIKE THAT.



THEN THESE HOLES MUST BE ANCIENT. BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHO HAD THE TECHNOLOGY TO MAKE THEM?

AND WHAT PURPOSE DID THEY SERVE...?



CAREFUL, YOSHIDA.

IT'S STEEP.

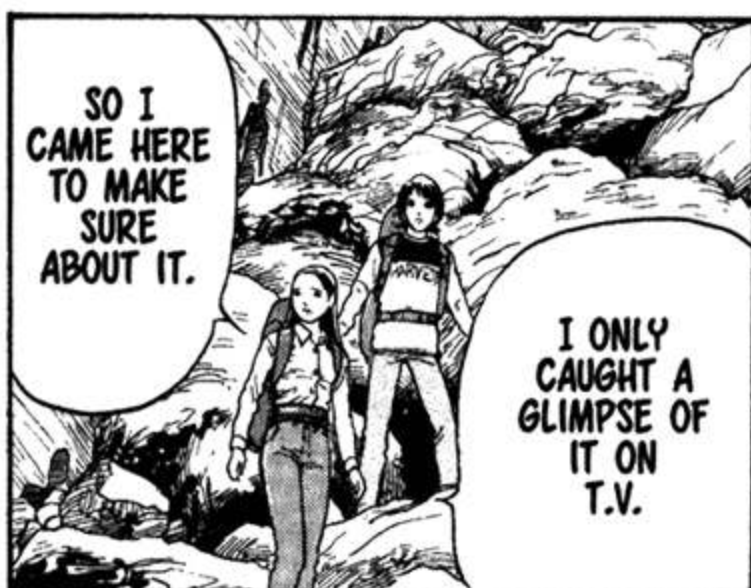
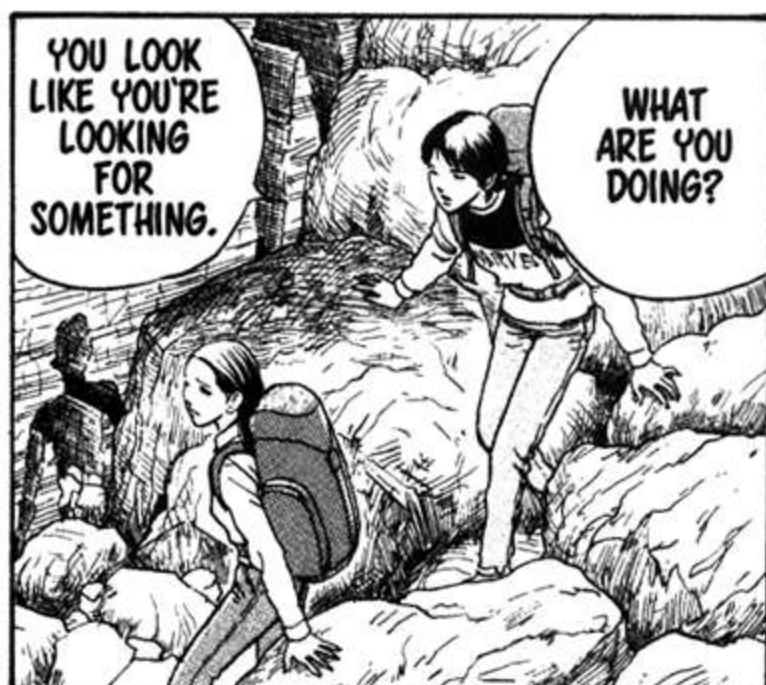


GLANCE

...

GLANCE

HARVEST













ONE OF THEIR MEMBERS, 5'2" TALL, IS TRYING TO GO IN...

A RESCUE SQUAD IS ATTEMPTING TO ENTER THE HOLE.



OVER THREE HOURS HAVE ELAPSED SINCE HIS DISAPPEARANCE.

WE NOW HAVE THIS UPDATE ON THE MAN WHO DISAPPEARED INTO ONE OF THE MYSTERIOUS HOLES...



HE MUST HAVE BEEN CRAZY TO GO IN THERE!



THE 5'2" RESCUE SQUAD MEMBER HAD TO RETREAT AFTER GOING NO MORE THAN FIVE METERS INTO THE HOLE...

NIGHT HAS FALLEN AND THERE'S NO SIGN OF THE MAN WHO WENT INTO THE HOLE.





I WAS COMPLETELY TRAPPED IN PITCH BLACKNESS, HUNDREDS OF METERS INTO THE HOLE.

THAT NIGHT I HAD A NIGHTMARE.

IN MY DREAM, I WAS NAKAGAKI.



...THE EARTHQUAKE. THE HOLE MUST HAVE BEEN DEFORMED BY THE EARTHQUAKE. SO I CAN'T MOVE...



I-I CAN'T MOVE...

I'M STUCK ...



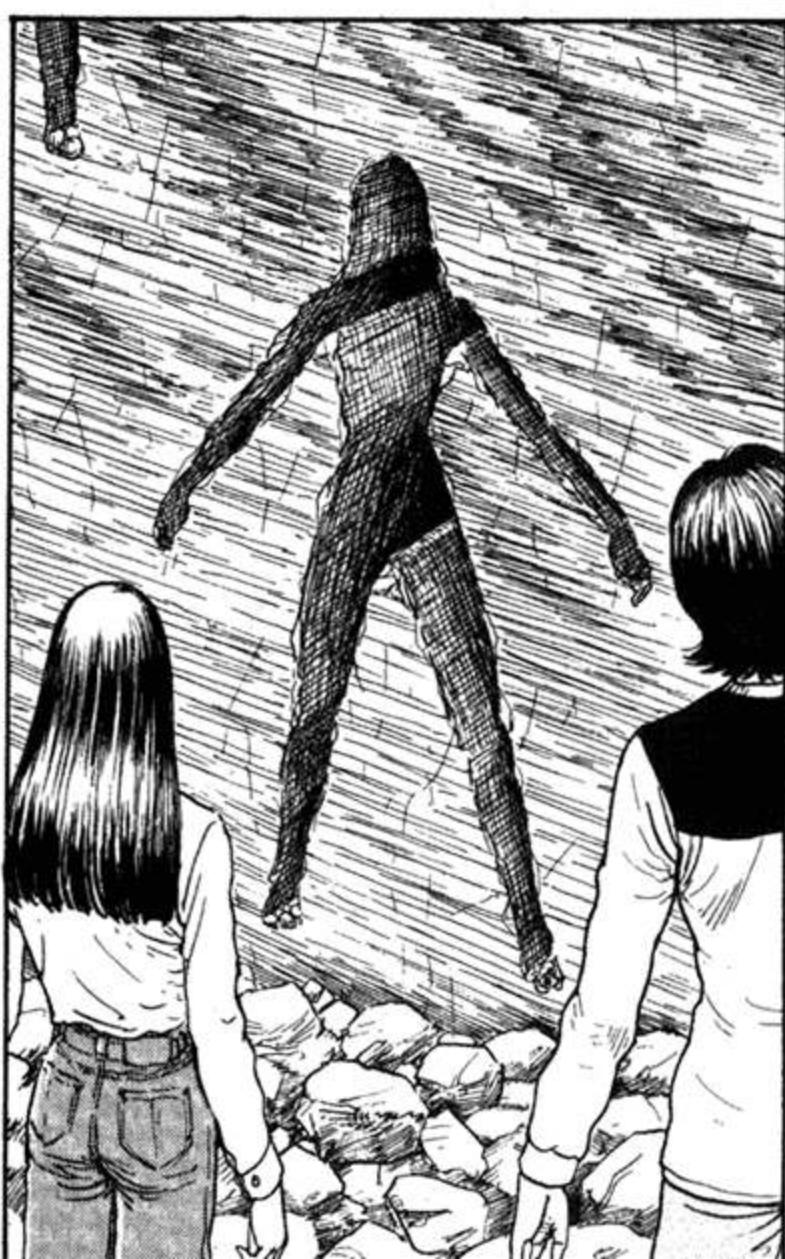
AGGH... GGH... GGH..



ANYONE!
HELP ME!

S-SOME-ONE!

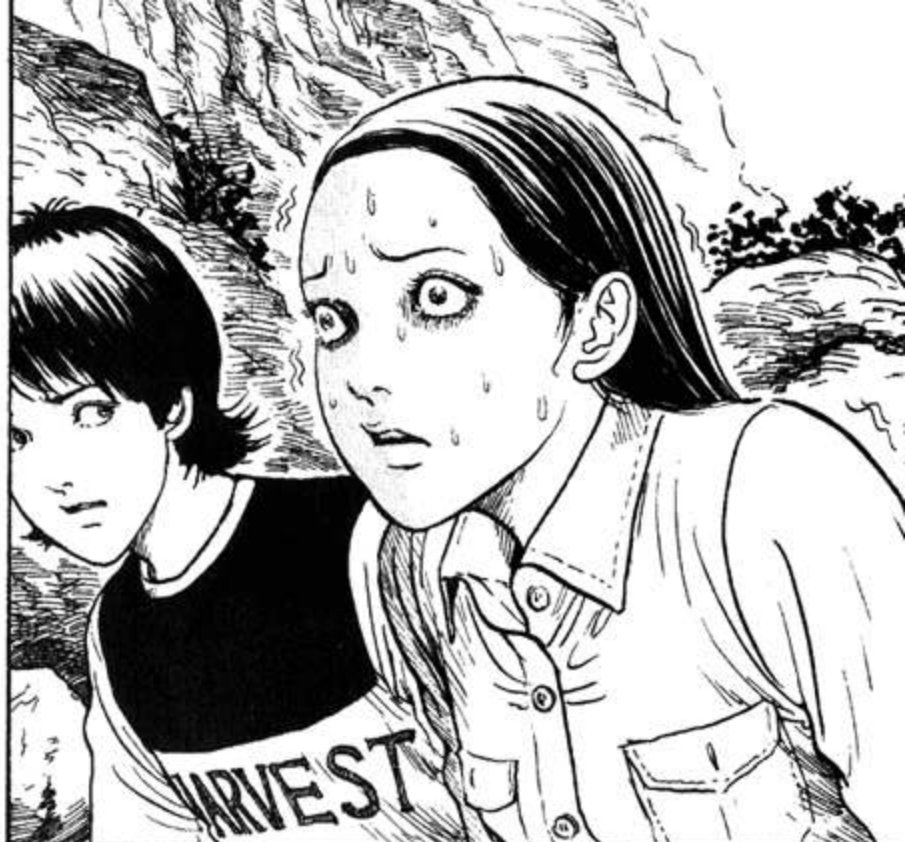






WHY ARE YOU SHAKING?

YOSHIDA, WHAT IS IT?



THIS IS MY TUNNEL... THEY DUG IT FOR ME...

I'M SCARED... I'M SO SCARED...



THIS IS MY TUNNEL!

NO...



IT JUST HAPPENS TO LOOK A LITTLE LIKE YOU!

IT'S JUST A COINCIDENCE !!



...I'LL BE TRAPPED IN THIS HOLE!

AND WHEN I GO IN...



IT'S BEEN WAITING FOR ME TO ENTER, ALL THAT TIME WHEN IT WAS UNDERGROUND!

IT WAS MADE... MADE FOR ME TO ENTER!



HEY...



...HAS
DISAPPEARED.
HE HAS
VANISHED
WITHOUT A
TRACE.

IT HAS
BEEN A FULL
DAY SINCE THE
MAN WHO
WALKED INTO
THE HOLE...



HEY,
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING!?
GET DOWN
HERE BEFORE
YOU HURT
YOURSELF!!



WHAT'S
THAT
KID
DOING?

LOOK
OVER
THERE!



IT WAS
MADE FOR
ME!

TH-
THIS IS
MY
HOLE!





H-HEY!!

TELL MY MOM GOOD-BYE!



I HAVE TO GO IN!



...AND ENTER THE HOLES...!!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!! OTHERS MIGHT FOLLOW HIM NOW...



S-STOP!! SOMEBODY STOP HIM!



QUICK! GET THEM OUT!

HERE, TOO!!



LOOK OVER HERE!! SOMEONE ELSE JUST WENT IN!

OH, NO--!!



I'M GOING TO DIE THERE, INSIDE THAT HOLE!

I'M GOING TO HAVE TO ENTER THAT HOLE.



YOSHIDA !!

NO... NO! I'M SCARED!



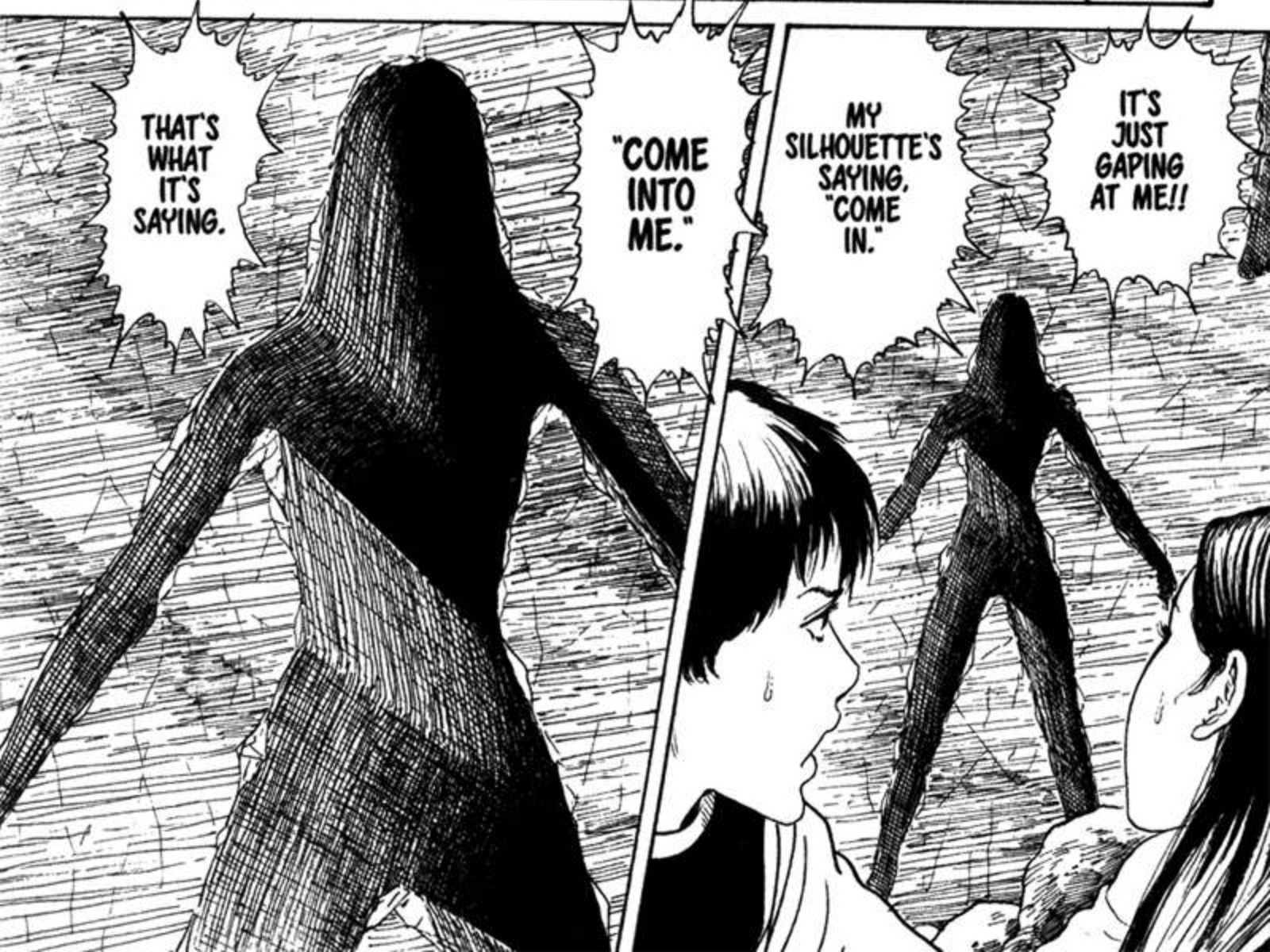
YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT!

DON'T WORRY!



LOOK OVER THERE...

IT'S NO GOOD...



THAT'S WHAT IT'S SAYING.

"COME INTO ME."

MY SILHOUETTE'S SAYING, "COME IN."

IT'S JUST GAPING AT ME!!



JUST WATCH ME!!

I'LL FILL THIS HOLE UP!



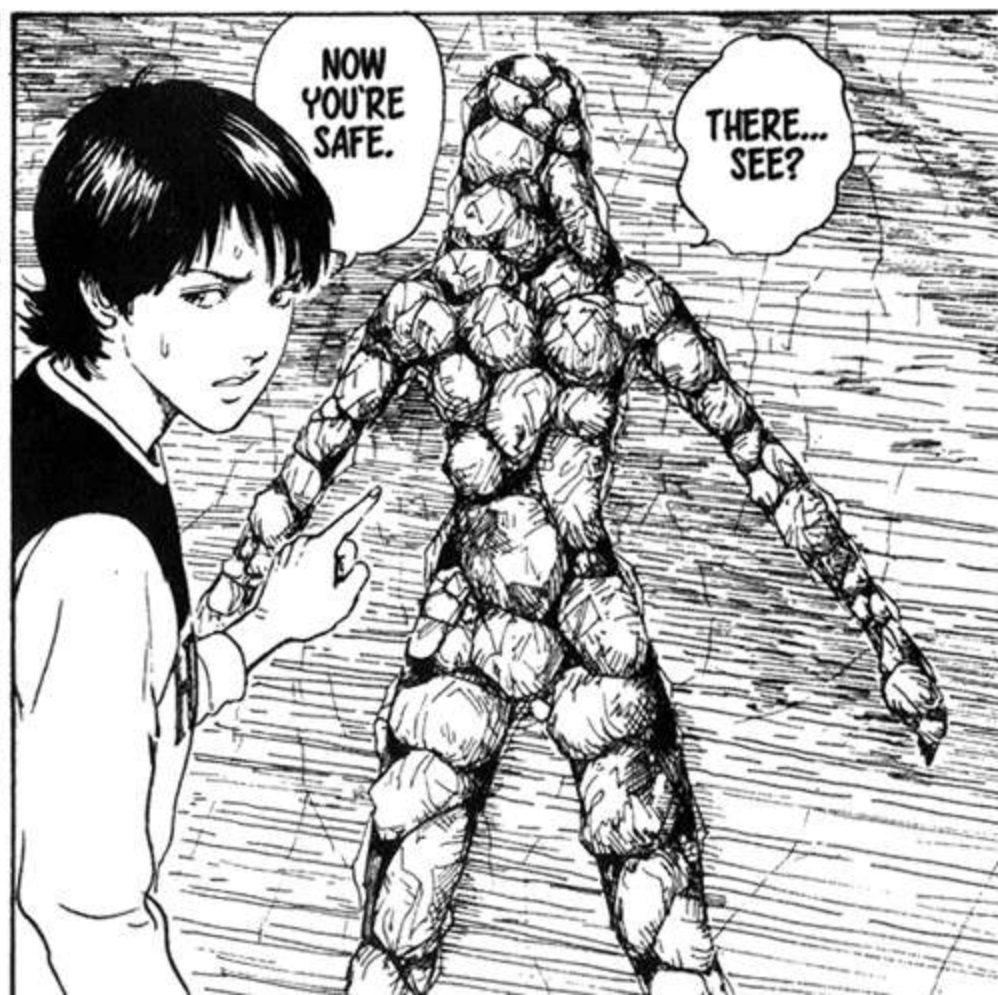
GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF!

OH GOD! OH GOD I'M SCARED!



I'LL HELP YOU.

ALL RIGHT, IF YOU'RE SO SCARED...

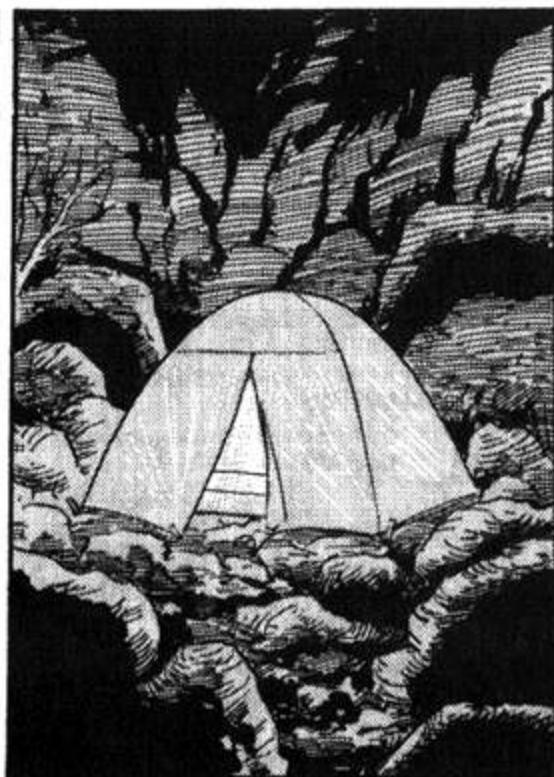


NOW YOU'RE SAFE.

THERE... SEE?



DON'T YOU
HAVE TO GO
BACK TO
YOUR TENT?



MY PARENTS
DIDN'T CARE
ABOUT ME...
NEITHER DID
MY FRIENDS...

I'VE ALWAYS
BEEN ALONE...
EVER SINCE
I WAS A
CHILD...



DON'T
WORRY,
I'M HERE
WITH
YOU.



I'M TOO
SCARED
TO BE
ALONE.

NO...



REALLY
?



YOU HAVE
NOTHING TO WORRY
ABOUT, THOUGH, NOW
THAT I'M WITH YOU.



NOTHING
COULD BE
LONELIER
THAN THAT
HOLE.

DO YOU SEE,
YOSHIDA?...YOU'RE
AFRAID OF THAT
HOLE BECAUSE
YOU'VE BEEN
LONELY.



I HAD COMMITTED A HORRIBLE CRIME, AND I WAS ABOUT TO BE PUNISHED.

IT WAS ANOTHER TIME...I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG AGO.



THAT NIGHT I HAD ANOTHER NIGHTMARE.



I WAS ABOUT TO ENTER THIS HOLE.

WHEN A PERSON COMMITTED A CRIME OF MY MAGNITUDE, THE PEOPLE IN THE PAST WOULD DIG HUMAN-SHAPED HOLES...

ALONG THE CLIFF WALL WERE COUNTLESS HOLES FOR CRIMINALS EXECUTED IN THE PAST.


ACTUALLY IT WAS MORE LIKE A DEATH SENTENCE.





...I WAS SLIDING SLOWLY, SLOWLY DOWN... MOVING FORWARD WITH EACH MOVEMENT I MADE.

THE WALLS WERE CARVED IN A WAY THAT KEPT YOU FROM RETREATING...



I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO MOVE FORWARD, INTO THE CLAUSTROPHOBIA ALL AROUND.

I FELT THE COLD STONE ON ALL SIDES AROUND ME.



...STRETCHING IT UNTIL IT SHOULD HAVE TORN OFF.

TO MY HORROR, THE PART CORRESPONDING TO MY NECK ONLY GOT LONGER AND LONGER...



I FELT A TUG ON MY NECK.

AND WITH TIME...

UNHH... UNHH...!!

URR...



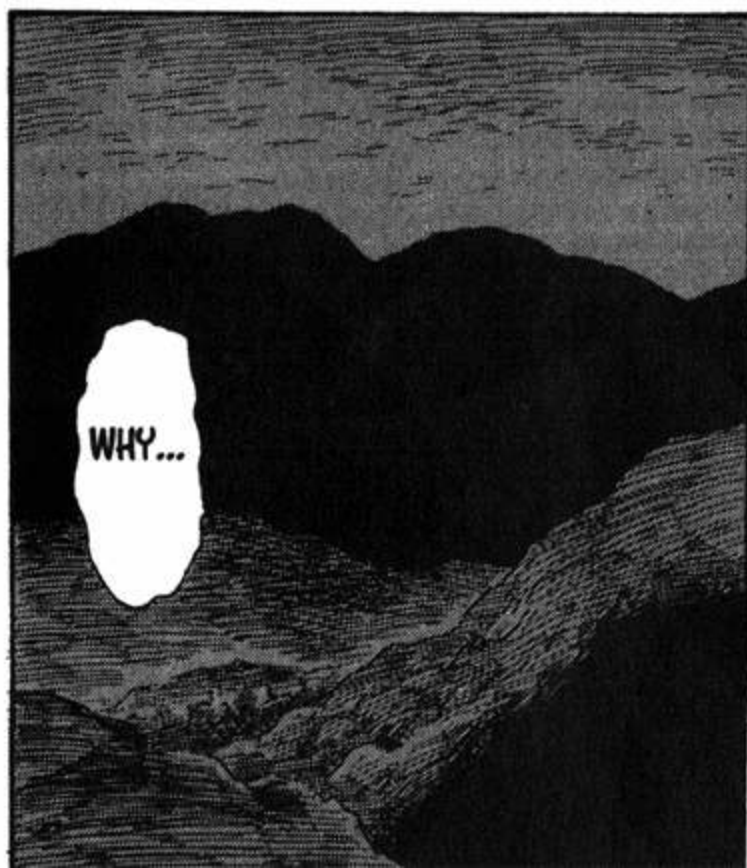
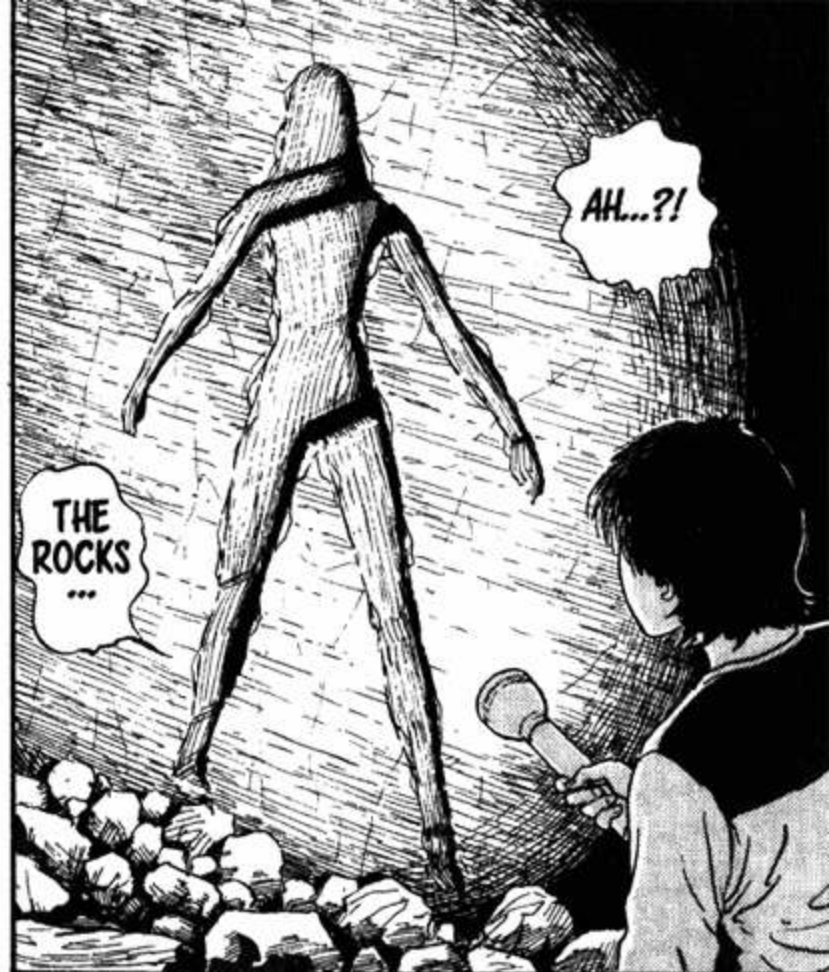
SOMEONE! ANYONE! HELP ME!

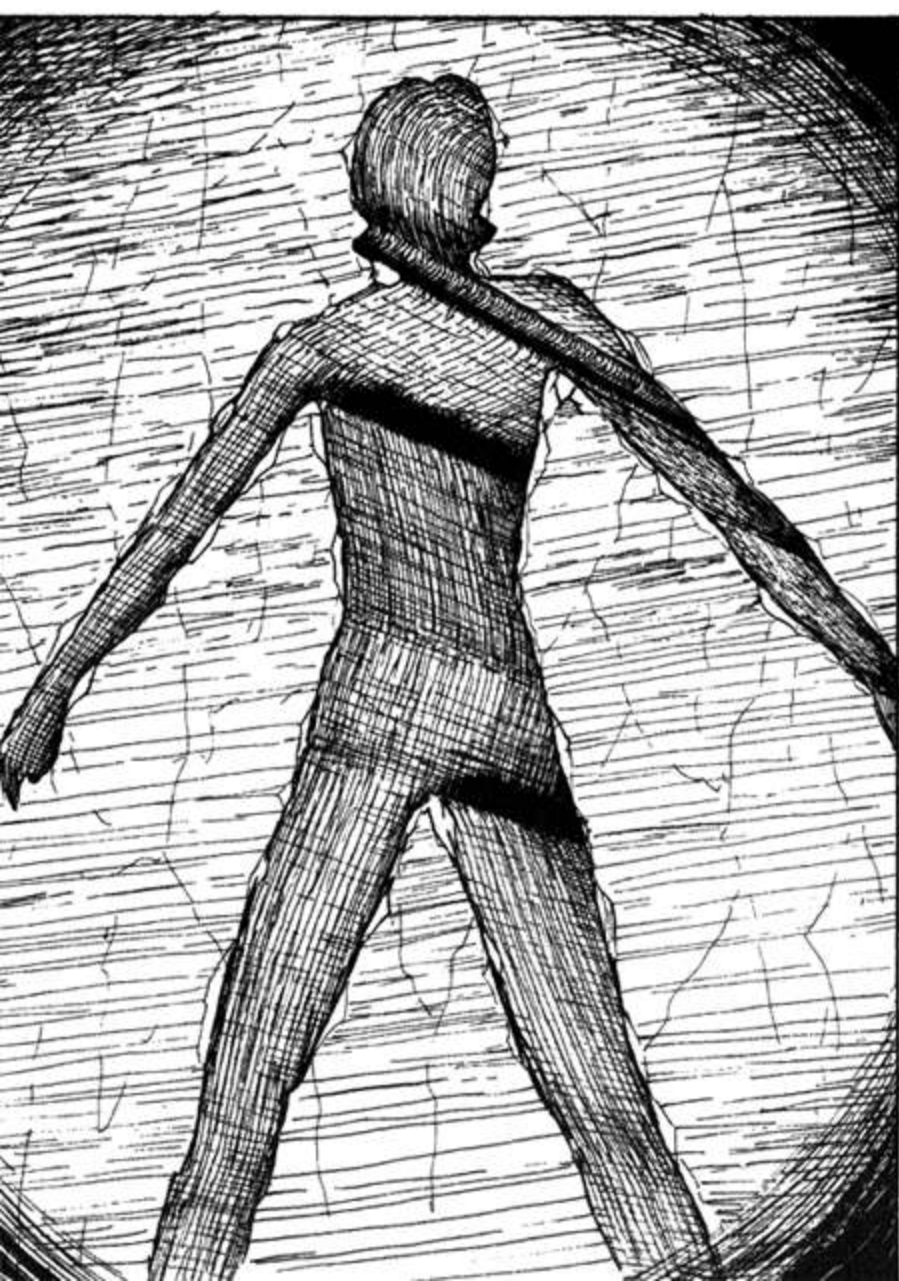


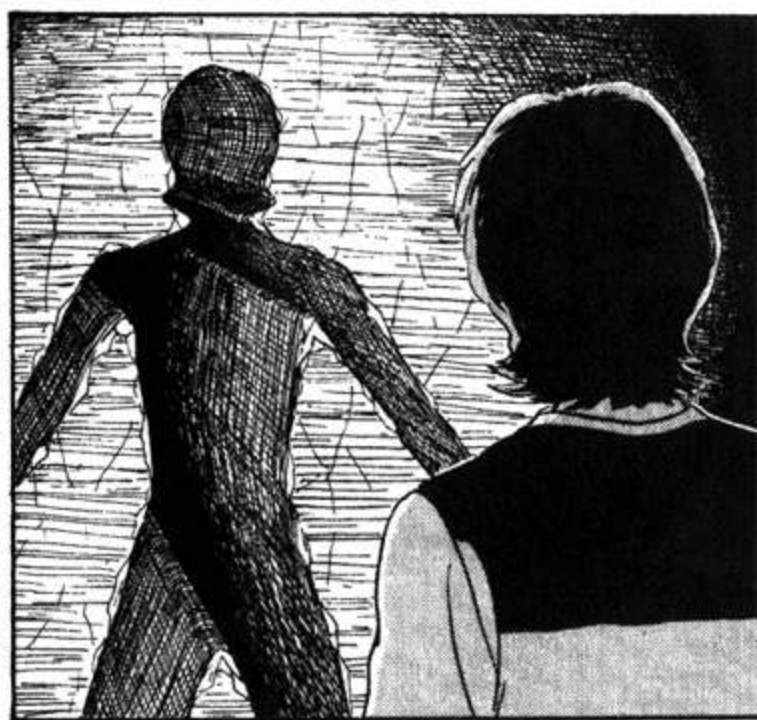
THE HOLE STRETCHED OUT INTO SEVERAL DIRECTIONS AT ONCE...!

NO...NOT JUST MY NECK...MY ARMS, LEGS, AND TORSO...











JUST AS THAT CLIMBER INFORMED US.

PROFESSOR... HERE IT IS!!

SO THERE WAS A FAULT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN!!



SEVERAL MONTHS LATER...



DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY FORM...

THERE ARE HOLES, BUT THEY'RE NOT HUMAN SHAPED...

BUT UNLIKE THE ONE ON THE OTHER SIDE, THIS ONE'S QUITE SMALL.

HMM... I'M SURE THIS WAS FORMED BY THE EARTHQUAKE AS WELL.



TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!

AHA!



UHH...

...

YAAAAHH!



I'M GOING TO TAKE A LOOK.

I WONDER IF THEY'RE CONNECTED TO THE ONES OVER THERE.

I-I SEE SOMETHING !!

SI-SIR!!

IT'S SLOWLY COMING THIS WAY!!

DRR... DRR... DRR

THE ENIGMA OF AMIGARA FAULT: THE END

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Junji Ito was born in 1963 in Gifu-ken, Japan. Beginning with his debut story, "Tomie," in 1987, Ito has gone on to become Japan's leading horror comics artist. His influences include classic manga greats Kazuo Umezu (*Orochi*) and Hideshi Hino (*Hell Baby*), and the American horror author H.P. Lovecraft. Several of Ito's works have been published to critical acclaim in English in the United States, including *Tomie* and *Uzumaki*, which has been nominated for the Eisner Award and was also made into a live-action film.