

# Nekogataro

STRAY CAT  
SAMURAI



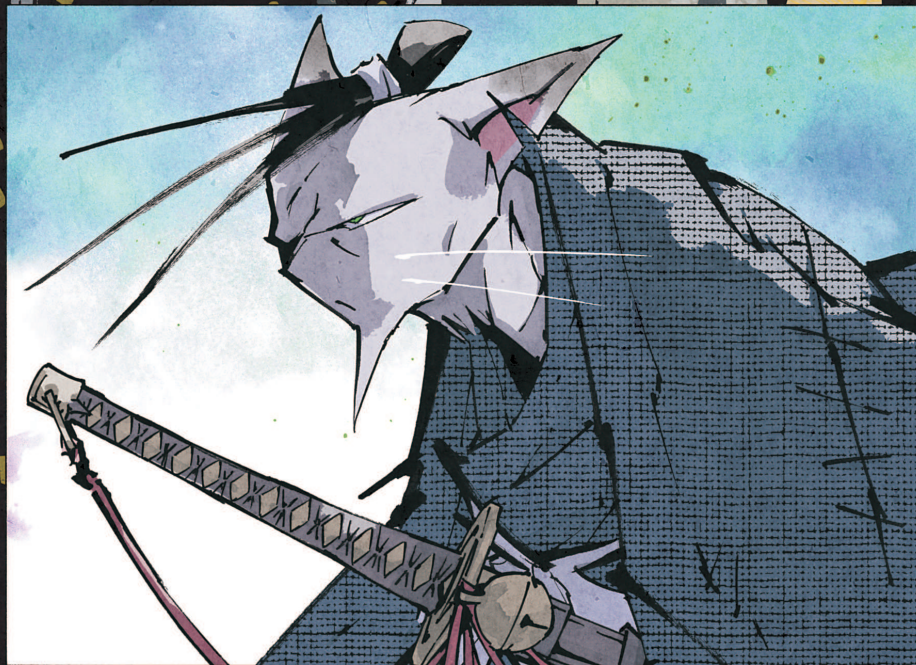
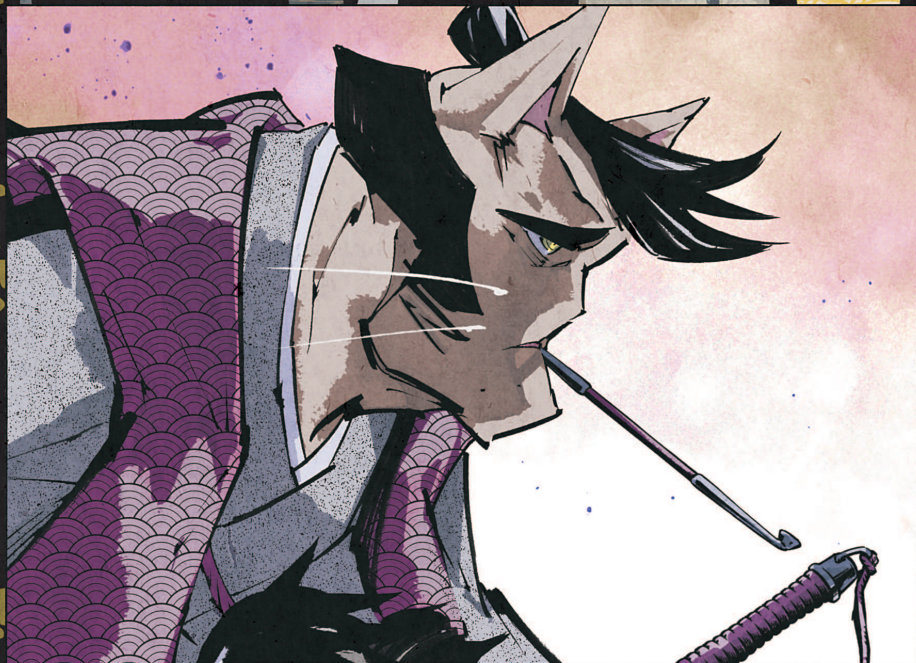
2

**HIROYUKI TAKEI**  
CREATOR OF SHAMAN KING

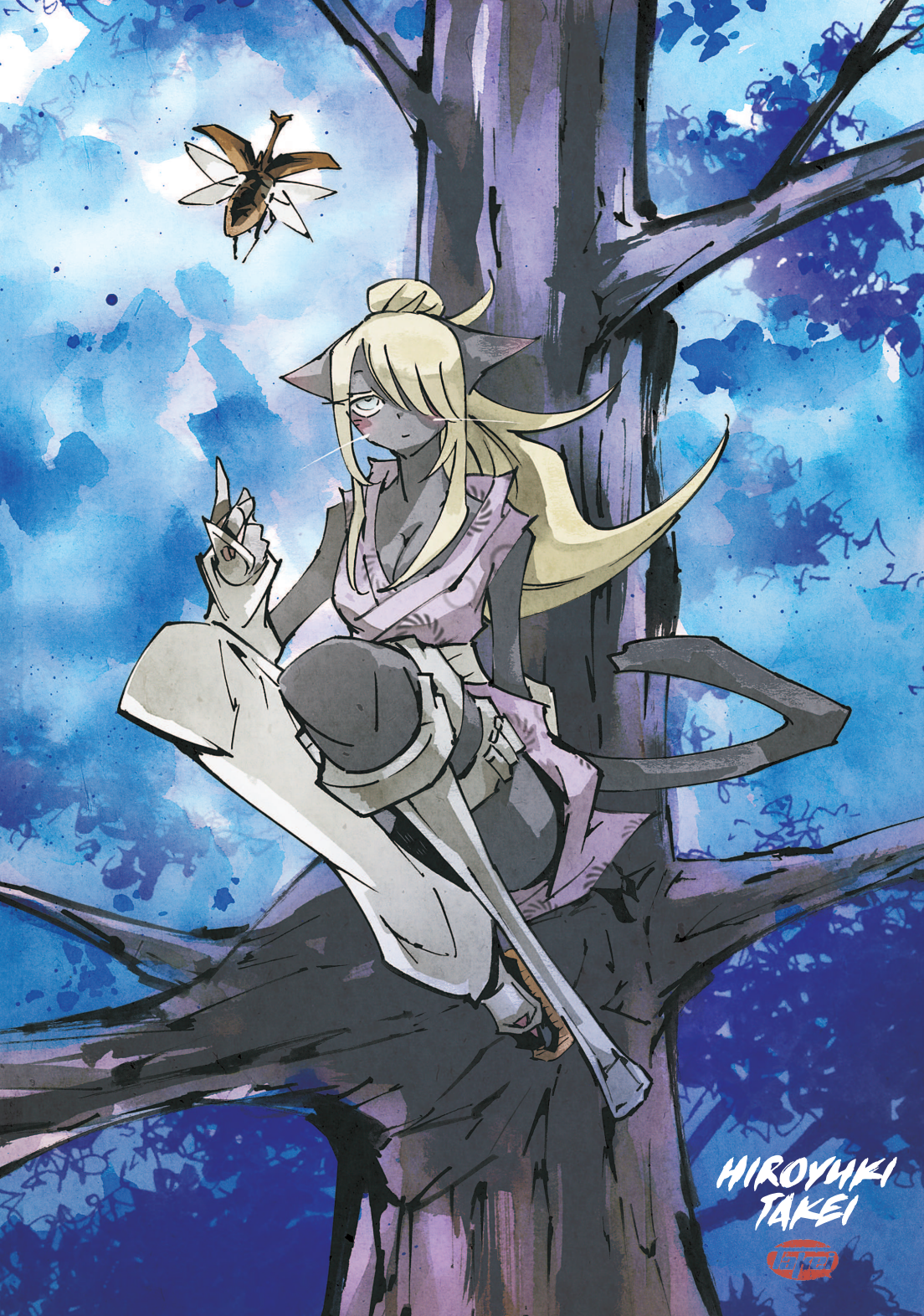












HIROYUKI  
TAKEI





# NekoGoro

CHAPTER 7:  
STUMPED



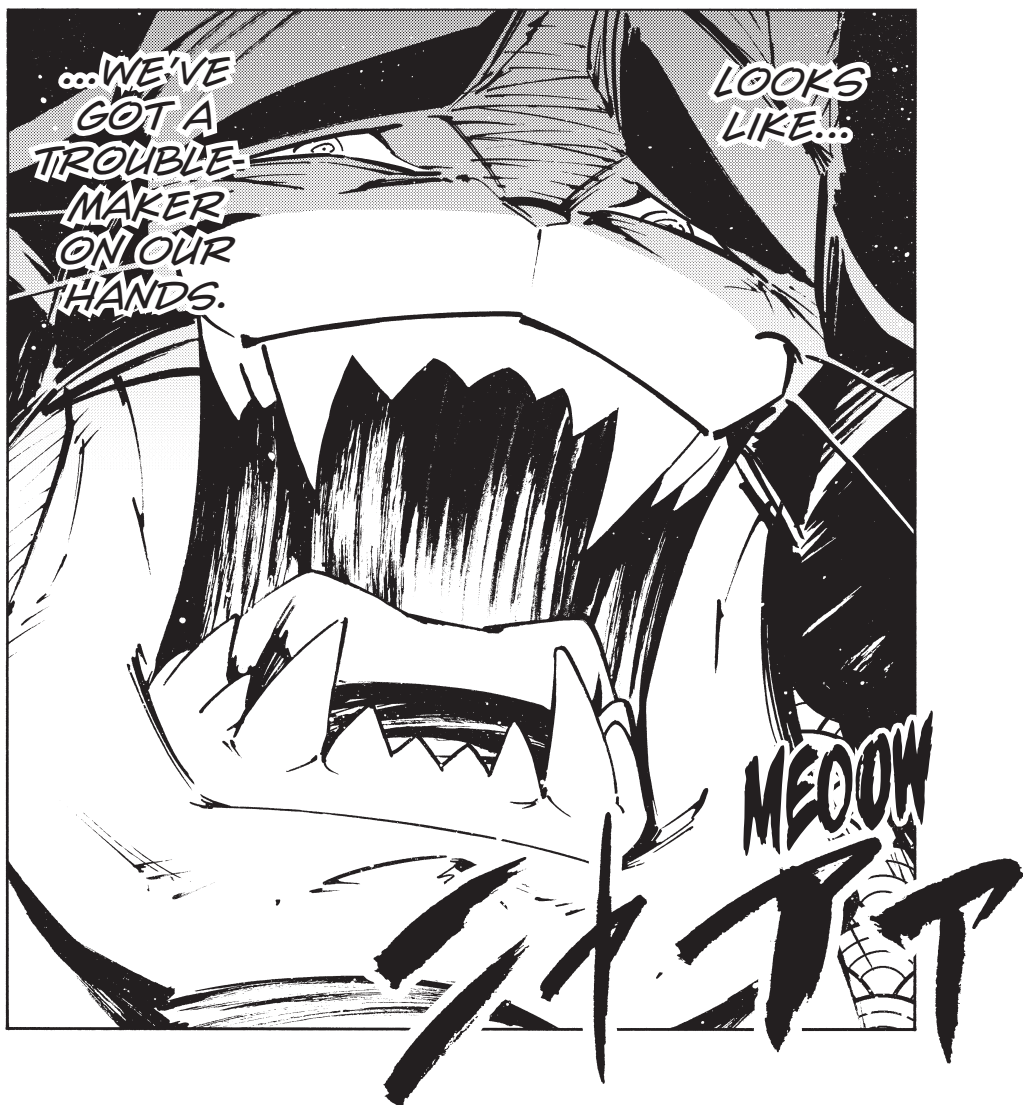
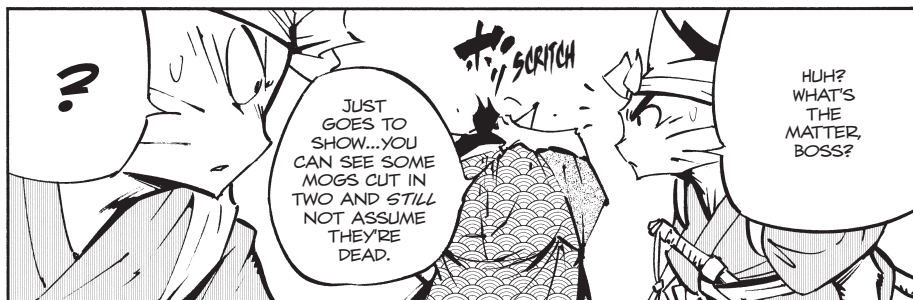
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SPECIAL MANGA IN HONOR OF THE NEKOGAHARA/ NOBUNYAGA'S AMBITION COLLABORATION	PAGE 156
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...EH?



WHAT  
HAVE WE  
HERE? I  
THOUGHT I  
JUST SLICED  
A PRIEST.







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Nekogahara

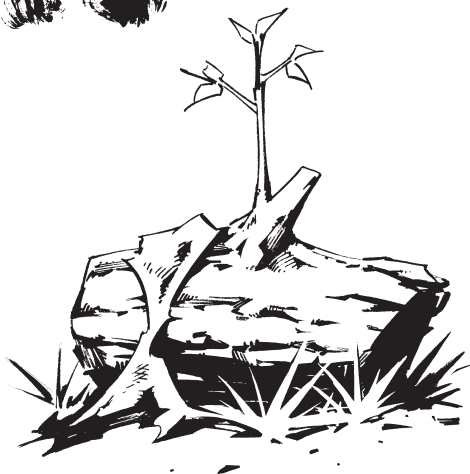
CHAPTER 7:  
STUMPED



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HIROYUKI  
TAKEI







I  
WOULD  
LIKE TO  
HAVE  
A WORD  
WITH YOU,  
NORACHIYO-  
SAN.

EXCUSE  
ME.



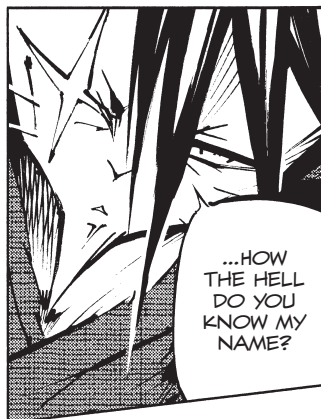




HUH...  
I DIDN'T  
THINK CATS  
COULD  
STILL JUMP  
THAT HIGH  
AT YOUR  
AGE.

AND  
BLACK  
CATS  
SHOULDN'T  
STAND  
AROUND  
IN THE  
DARK.

YOU  
STARTLED  
ME.



...HOW  
THE HELL  
DO YOU  
KNOW MY  
NAME?



BUT  
SINCE  
YOU  
CAN...

...THEN  
MAYBE  
YOU  
REALLY  
ARE  
WORTHY  
TO JOIN  
US.

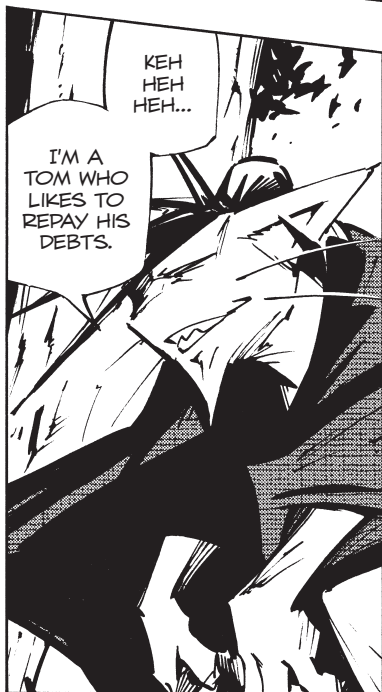






REALLY?

BUT YOU  
HELPED  
THE KITTEN  
AT THE  
TEAHOUSE.



KEH  
HEH  
HEH...

I'M A  
TOM WHO  
LIKES TO  
REPAY HIS  
DEBTS.



...IF  
SHE'S  
A SUS-  
PICIOUS  
MOLLY  
LIKE  
YOU...

...SPORT-  
ING A PEG-  
LEG THAT'S  
PRACTICALLY  
SCREAMING  
THAT IT HAS  
A SECRET.



OUT  
OF THE  
WAY,  
KITTEN.  
I'M  
IN A  
HURRY.

SO  
THERE  
YOU  
HAVE IT.

...LITTLE-  
FOLD  
TOLD ME  
YOU'D SAY  
THAT.

HE  
ALSO  
TOLD ME  
THAT'S  
WHY I  
HAD TO  
TAKE THIS  
MISSION.

I HATE  
TO TELL  
YOU, BUT  
HEADSTRONG  
MOLLIES LIKE  
YOU AREN'T  
MY TYPE.

...WELL,  
WELL.  
ARE YOU  
GOING TO  
SEDUCE ME?

THE  
REASON  
I WAS  
CHOSEN  
FOR THIS  
JOB...

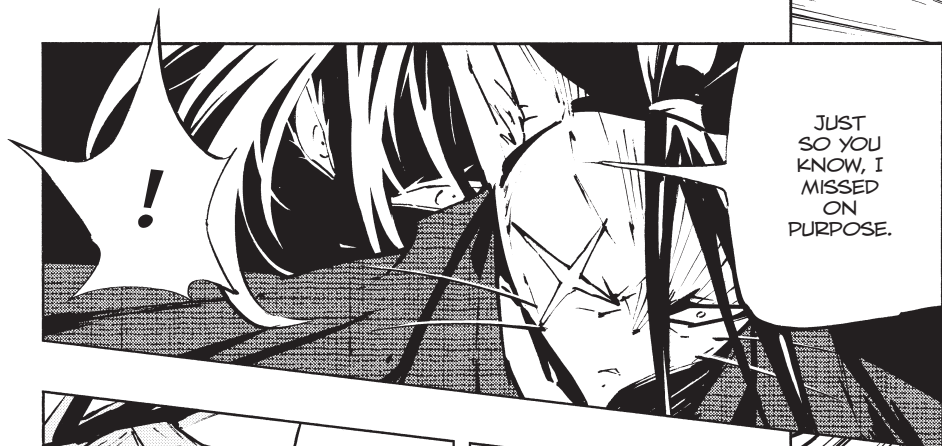
...DON'T GET  
ANY FUNNY  
IDEAS, YOU  
DIRTY OLD  
TOM.

...IS  
THAT  
I'M A  
RIDICU-  
LOUSLY  
GOOD  
FIGHTER  
!!!

SHURIKEN?

THAK  
THAK  
THAK



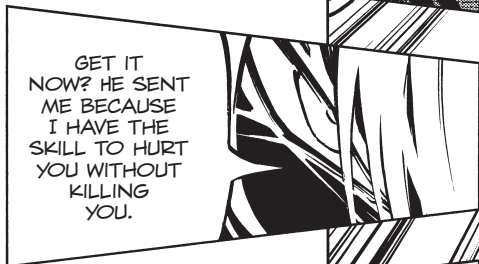


JUST  
SO YOU  
KNOW, I  
MISSED  
ON  
PURPOSE.



HEH HEH...  
YOU THINK  
YOU CAN  
TAKE ME BY  
FORCE?

YOU  
MUST  
THINK  
I'M AN  
AMATEUR.

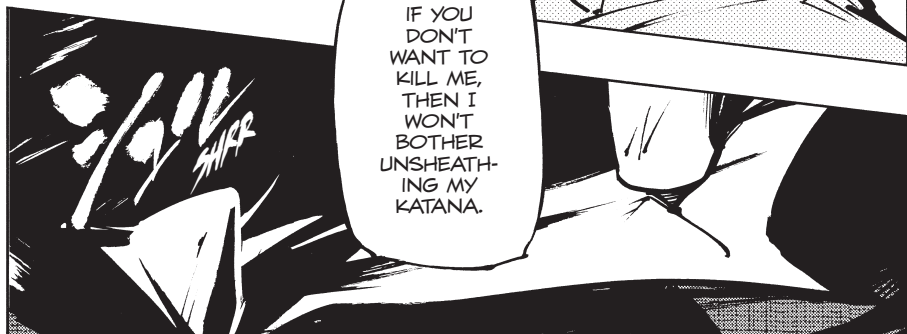


GET IT  
NOW? HE SENT  
ME BECAUSE  
I HAVE THE  
SKILL TO HURT  
YOU WITHOUT  
KILLING  
YOU.



IN  
OTHER  
WORDS, AS  
LONG AS  
I'M ALIVE,  
I WILL  
NEVER  
LOSE.

LISTEN  
TO ME,  
KITTEN.  
IN BATTLE,  
IT'S KILL OR  
BE KILLED—  
ALWAYS.



IF YOU  
DON'T  
WANT TO  
KILL ME,  
THEN I  
WON'T  
BOTHER  
UNSHEATH-  
ING MY  
KATANA.



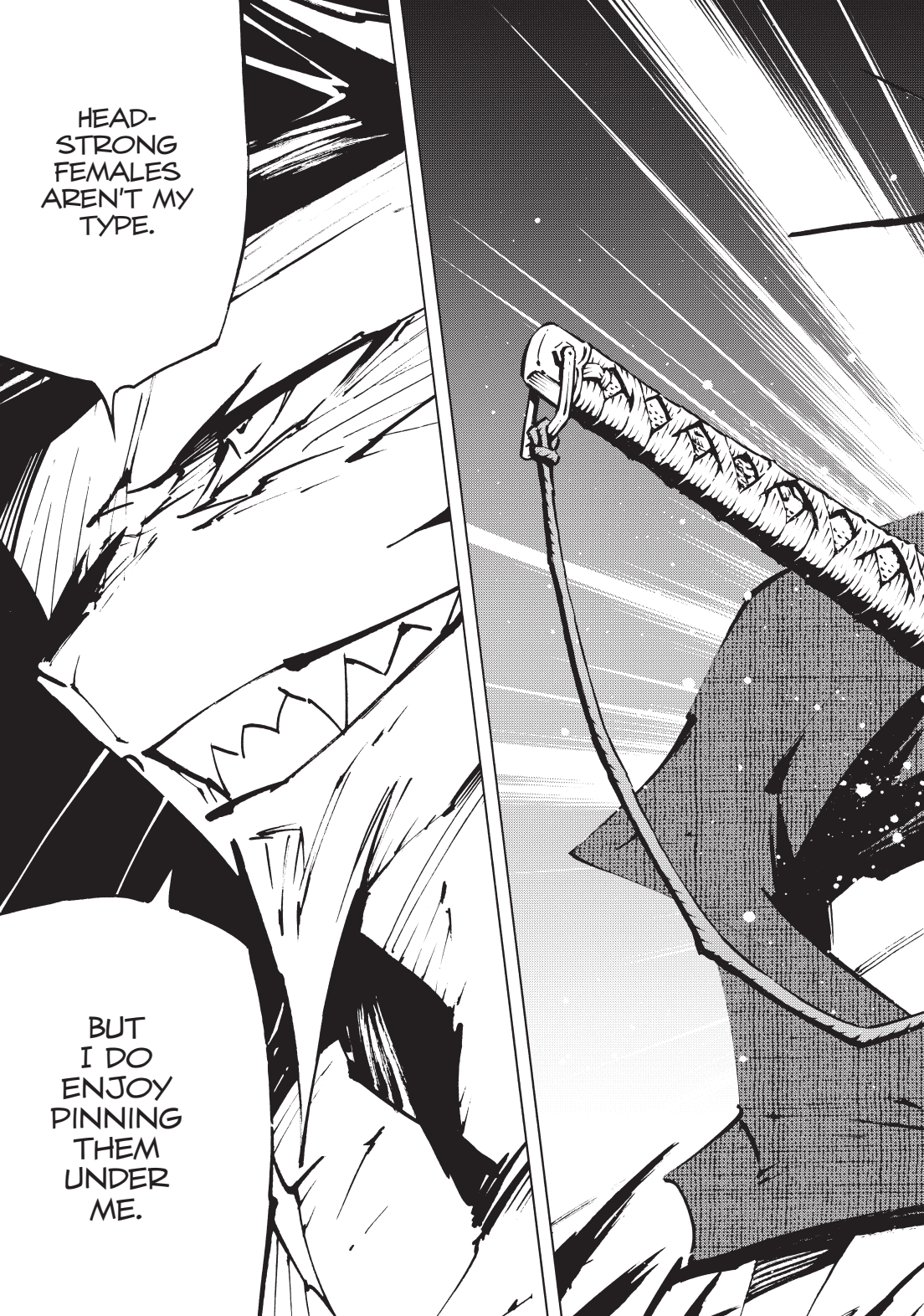
BUT I WILL  
UNSHEATHE  
SOMETHING  
ELSE.

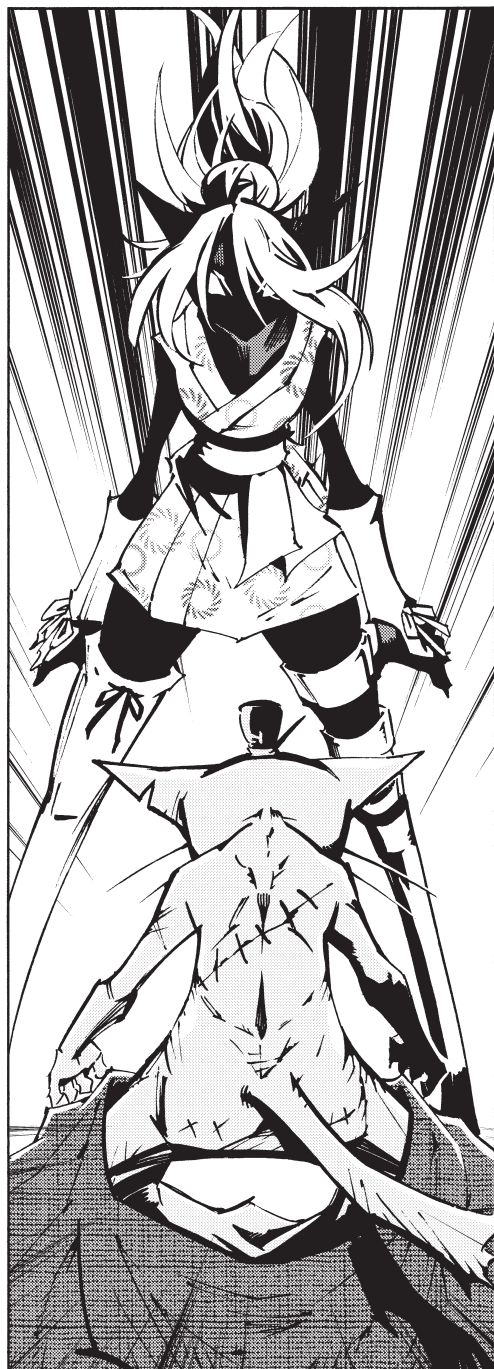
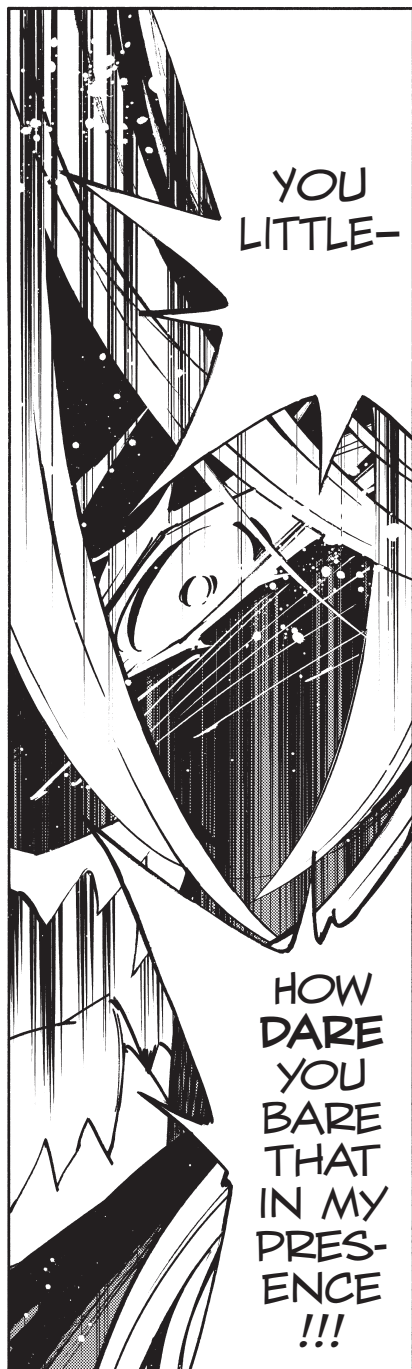
DU-DUN



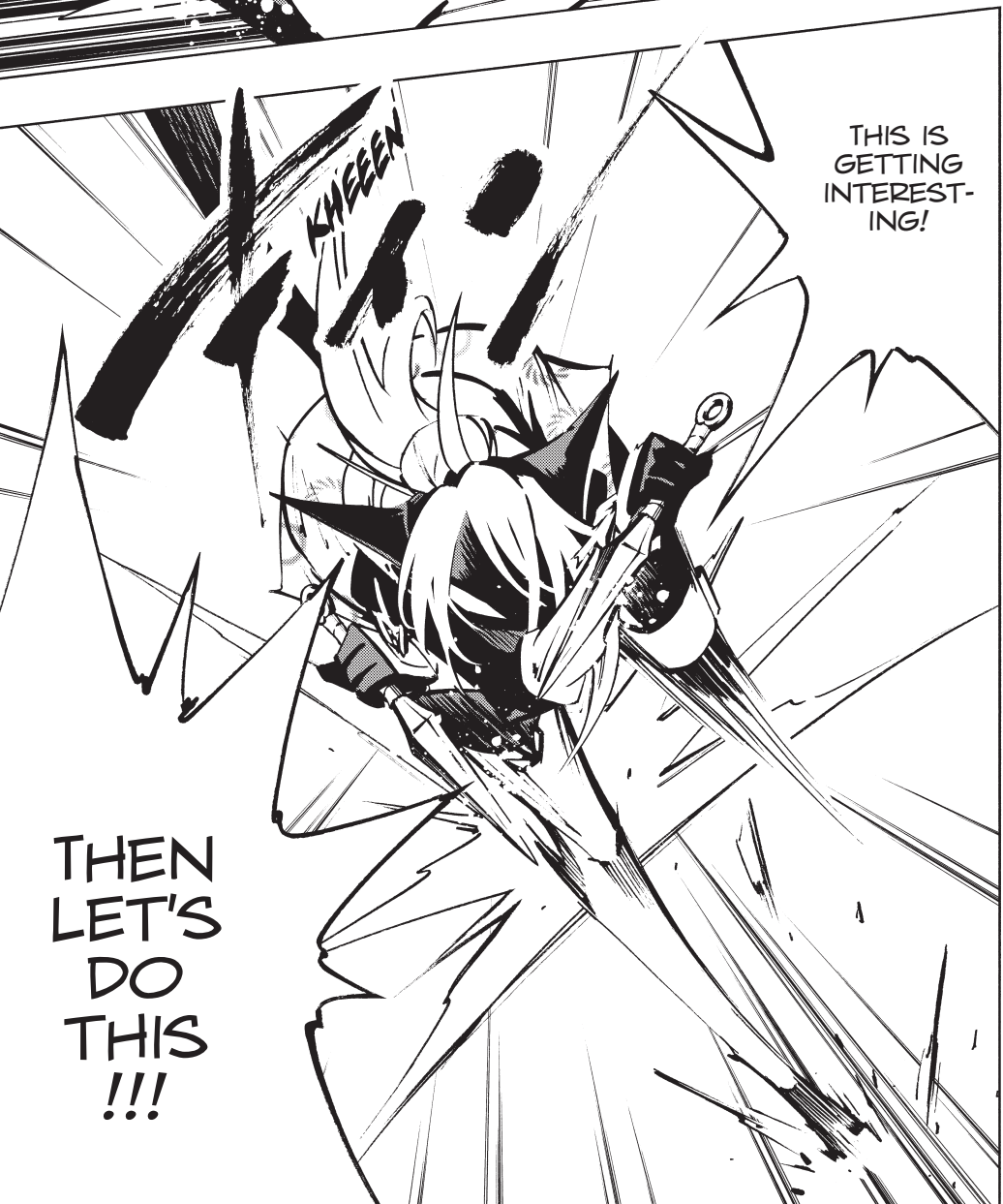
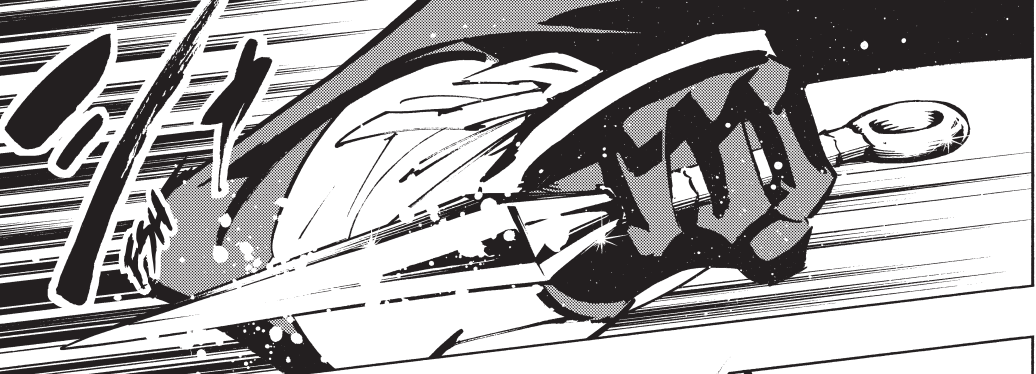
HEAD-  
STRONG  
FEMALES  
AREN'T MY  
TYPE.

BUT  
I DO  
ENJOY  
PINNING  
THEM  
UNDER  
ME.







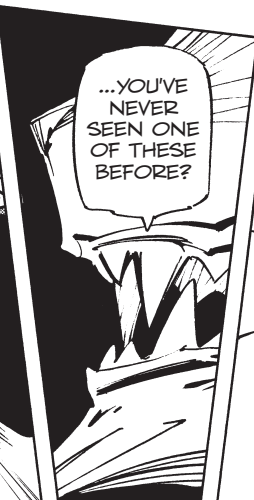


THIS IS  
GETTING  
INTEREST-  
ING!

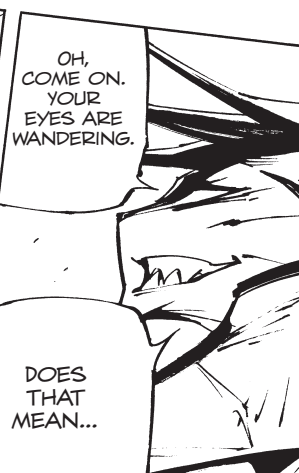
THEN  
LET'S  
DO  
THIS  
!!!



YOU...!



...YOU'VE  
NEVER  
SEEN ONE  
OF THESE  
BEFORE?

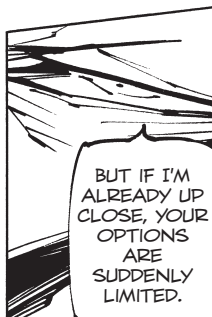
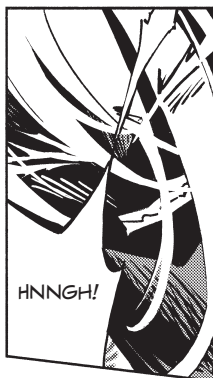


OH,  
COME ON.  
YOUR  
EYES ARE  
WANDERING.


DOES  
THAT  
MEAN...



YOUR  
LEGS  
ARE AS  
FLEXIBLE  
AS A  
WHIP.







THAT'S  
WHY  
I LURED  
YOU IN  
CLOSE.

THAT'S  
RIGHT.

GHING  
AND NOT  
WITH MY  
LONG  
SWORD  
OR MY  
WAKIZASHI,  
BUT WITH  
THIS.

BUT  
I DO  
THINK  
YOU  
SHOULD  
HAVE  
ASKED  
WHAT MY  
FALSE  
LEG WAS  
HIDING.


HA...

YOU  
REALLY  
ARE AN  
INFURI-  
ATINGLY  
DIRTY  
OLD  
TOM.

KAT  
POP



OKA-  
KA-  
TŌ  
!!!

A high-contrast, black and white manga-style illustration. The central figure is a character with long, spiky hair, wearing a dark, form-fitting suit with a high collar. The character is depicted in a dynamic, almost contorted pose, with one arm raised and the other bent. The background is filled with bold, diagonal black lines, creating a sense of intense action or conflict. In the upper right corner, there is a large, stylized speech bubble containing the text "YOU STUPID FUR-BALL!!!!". The overall style is reminiscent of classic Japanese manga art, emphasizing dramatic lighting and movement.

**YOU  
STUPID  
FUR-  
BALL  
!!!!**

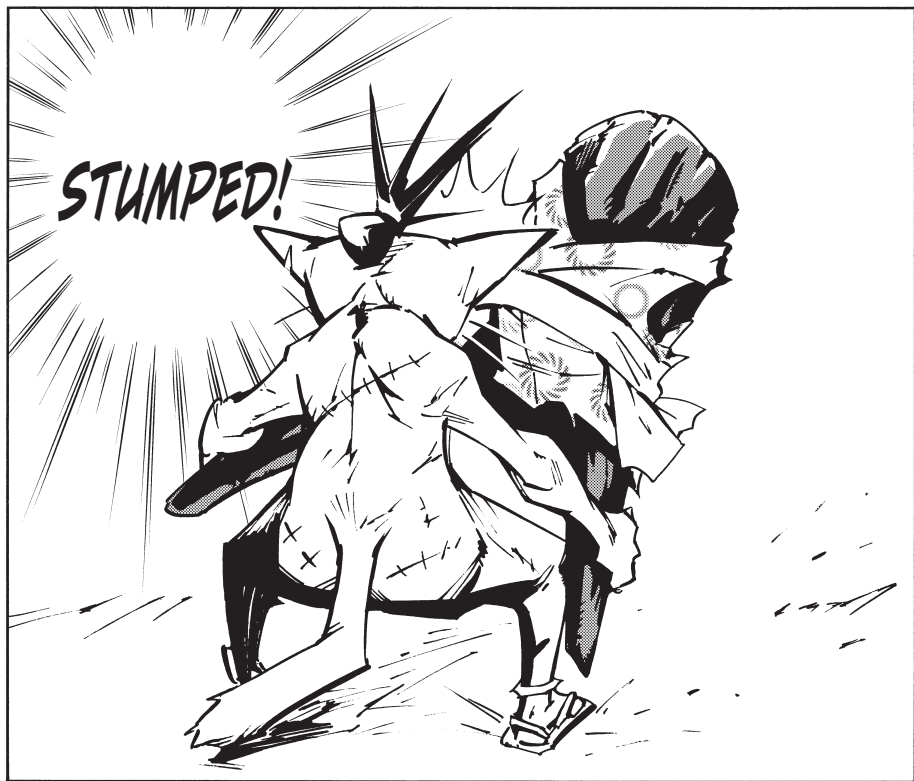
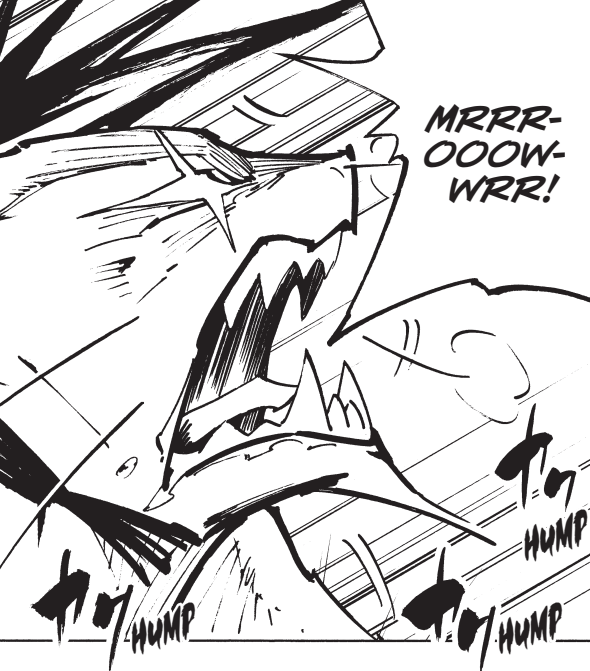




KA-THWACK

IF YOU  
KILL ME,  
I CAN'T  
BED  
YOU!!!









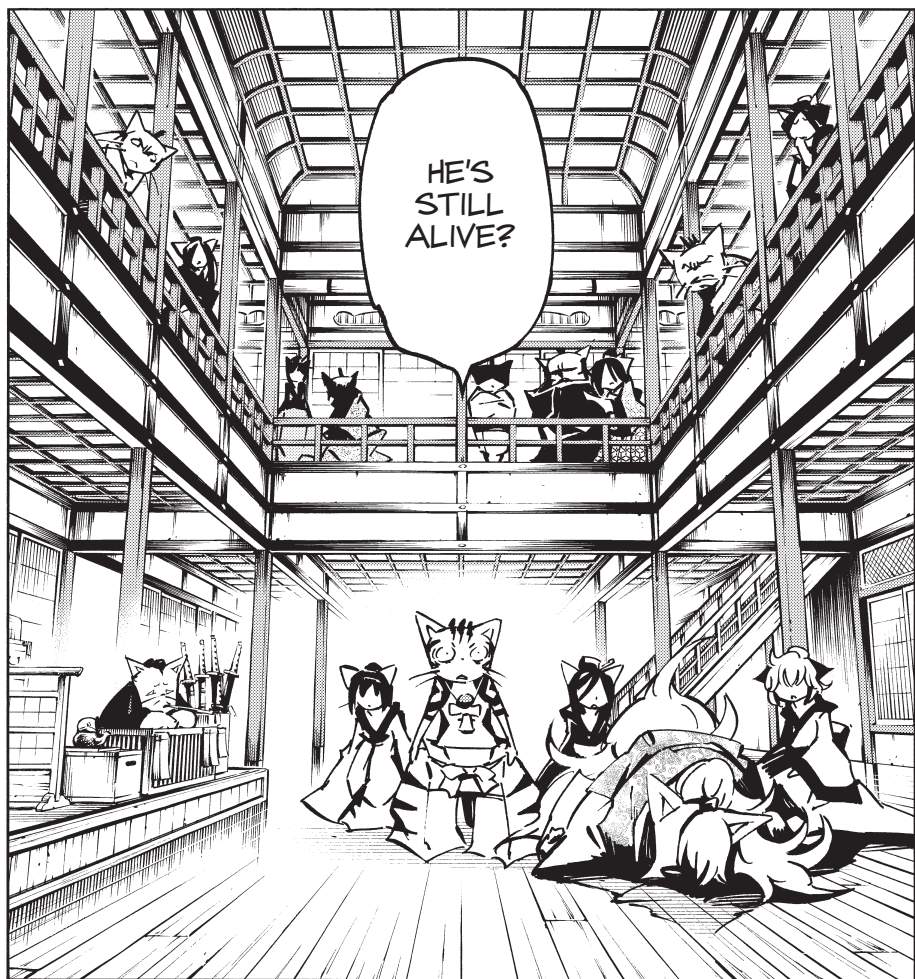
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WAIT A  
MINUTE,  
SIR! THAT  
SWORD  
BELONGS  
TO  
ANOTHER  
GUEST!!!

AH?



CLANK

!!



IF  
THAT  
MOG'S  
STILL  
ALIVE...

CAN IT.  
PUT IT  
ON MY  
BILL  
FOR THIS  
PLACE.



...THEN  
IT'S  
MY  
JOB...

...TO  
CUT  
HIM  
DOWN  
!!!



# NekoGō Horo

CHAPTER 8:  
AU NATUREL  
ENEMIES



HIROYUKI  
TAKEI





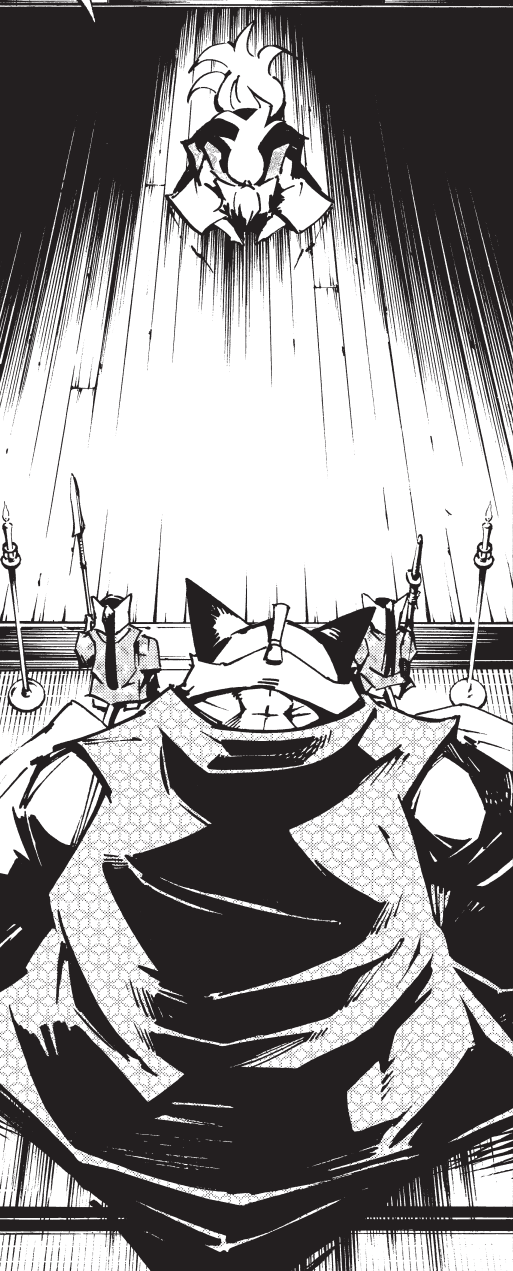
HMPH...

HIMEMASU  
CASTLE



I HAVE NO  
DOUBT THAT  
HE IS THE  
ONE WHO  
SLEW YOUR  
SON'S COM-  
PANIONS.

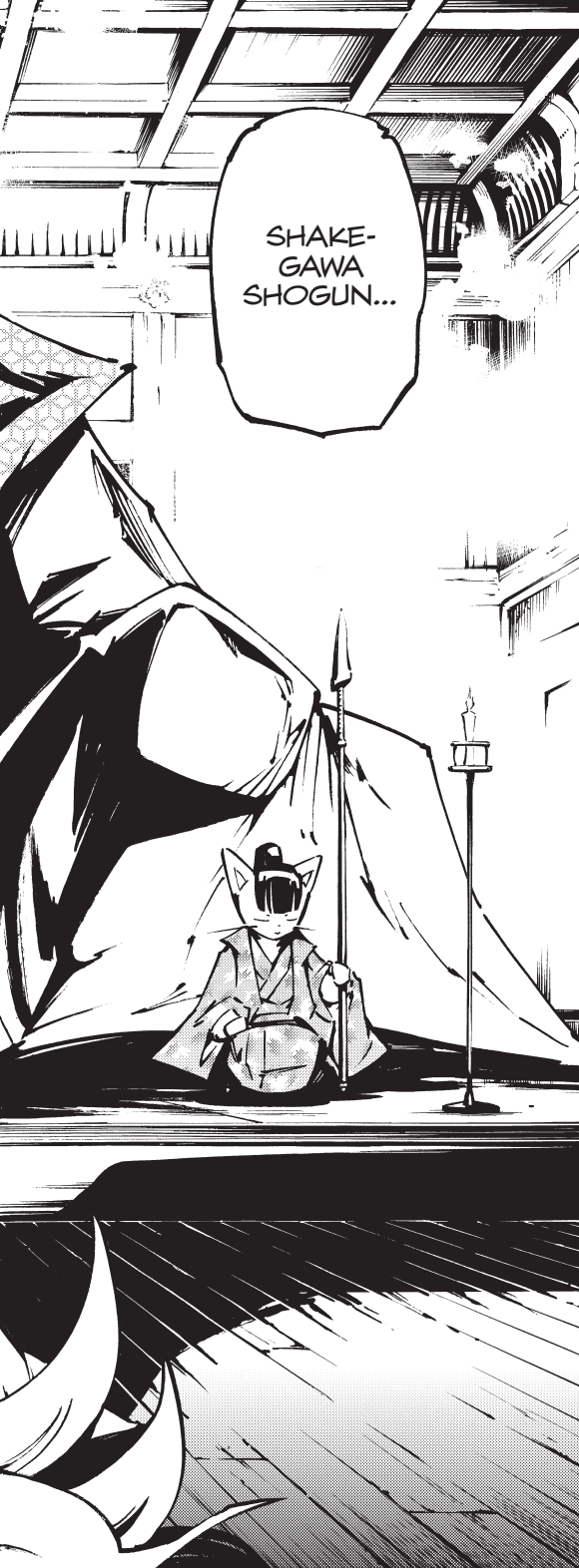
YES,  
YOUR  
LORD-  
SHIP!



...SO  
HE HAS  
VISITED  
MY  
TOWN.







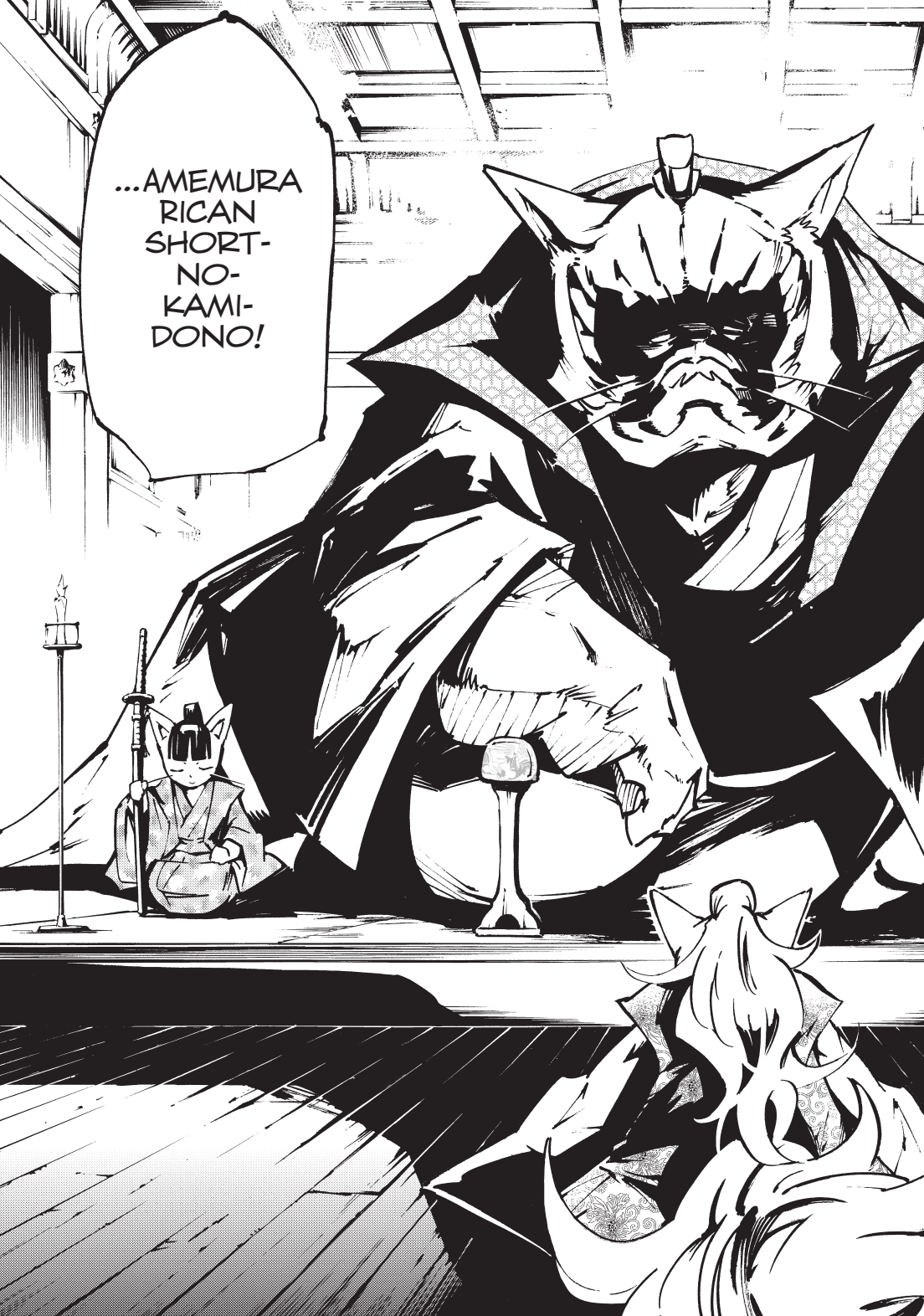
SHAKE-  
GAWA  
SHOGUN...



I HAD HIS  
BELL AS  
PROOF, BUT  
IT HAS BEEN  
TAKEN FROM  
ME. NEVERTHELESS,

WON'T YOU  
ALLOW THE  
HUMBLE  
SHISHIWAKA  
TO LEAD THE  
HUNT FOR  
THE WANTED  
CRIMINAL  
NORACHIYO?

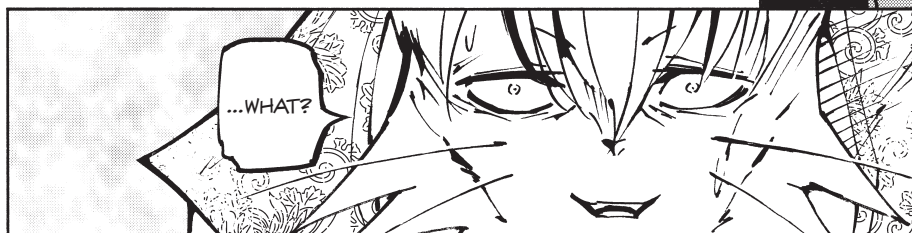
...AMEMURA  
RICAN  
SHORT-  
NO-  
KAMI-  
DONO!



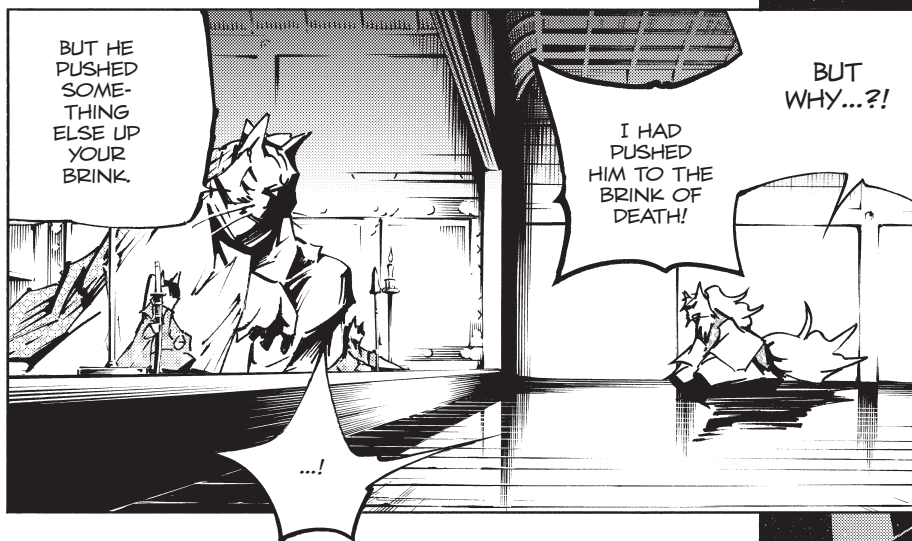


THAT  
I CAN-  
NOT  
DO.





...WHAT?

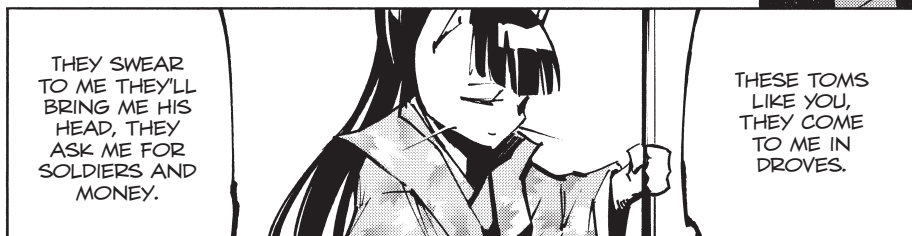


BUT HE  
PUSHED  
SOME-  
THING  
ELSE UP  
YOUR  
BRINK.

BUT  
WHY...?!

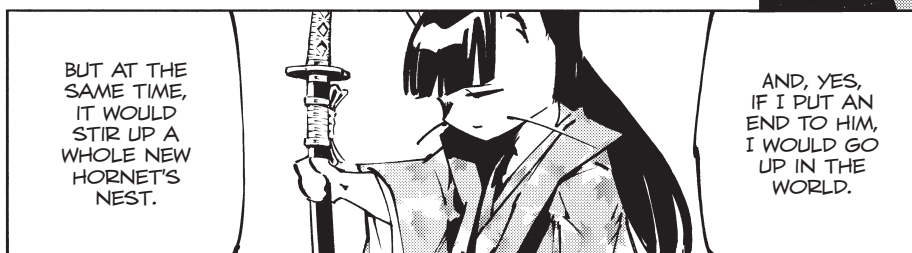
I HAD  
PUSHED  
HIM TO THE  
BRINK OF  
DEATH!

...!



THEY SWEAR  
TO ME THEY'LL  
BRING ME HIS  
HEAD, THEY  
ASK ME FOR  
SOLDIERS AND  
MONEY.

THESE TOMS  
LIKE YOU,  
THEY COME  
TO ME IN  
DROVES.



BUT AT THE  
SAME TIME,  
IT WOULD  
STIR UP A  
WHOLE NEW  
HORNET'S  
NEST.

AND, YES,  
IF I PUT AN  
END TO HIM,  
I WOULD GO  
UP IN THE  
WORLD.

BUT...  
BUT RICAN-  
DONO! WE  
MUSTN'T  
LET THAT  
OUTLAW  
ROAM  
FREE!

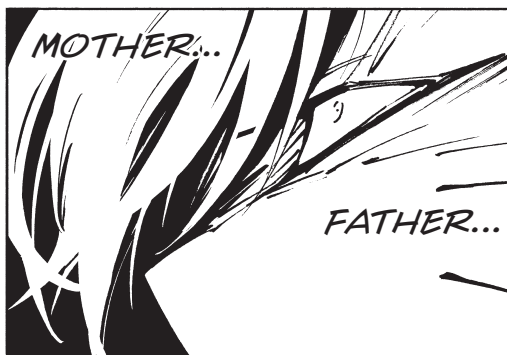
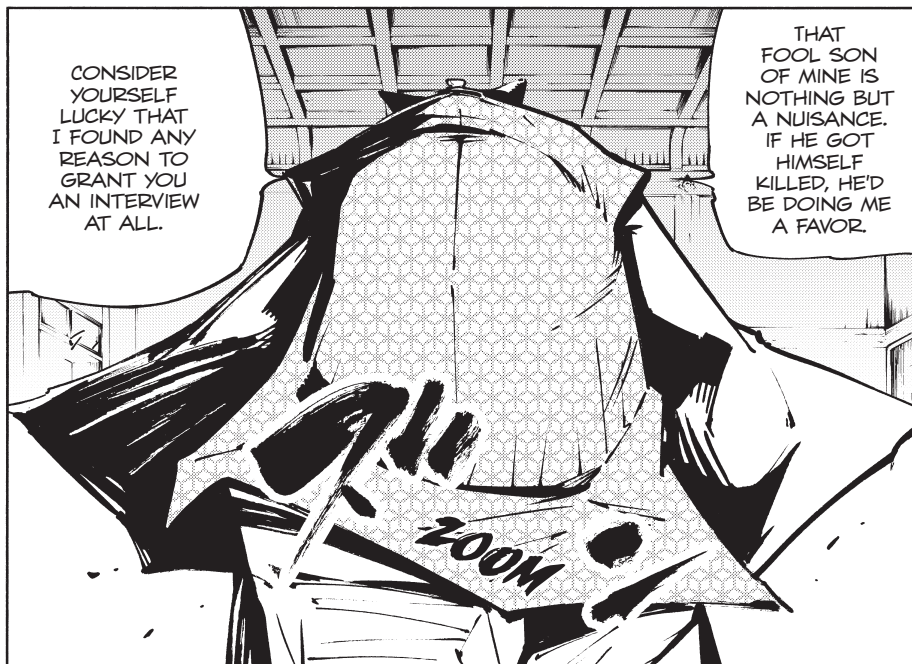
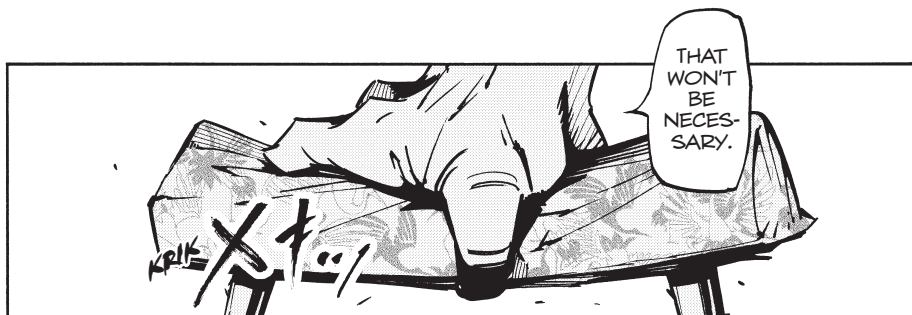
BESIDES,  
YOUR  
HONORABLE  
SON HAS  
ALREADY  
SET OUT TO  
AVENGE HIS  
FRIENDS!

IF I COULD  
AT LEAST  
ACT AS  
HIS BODY-  
GUARD...!

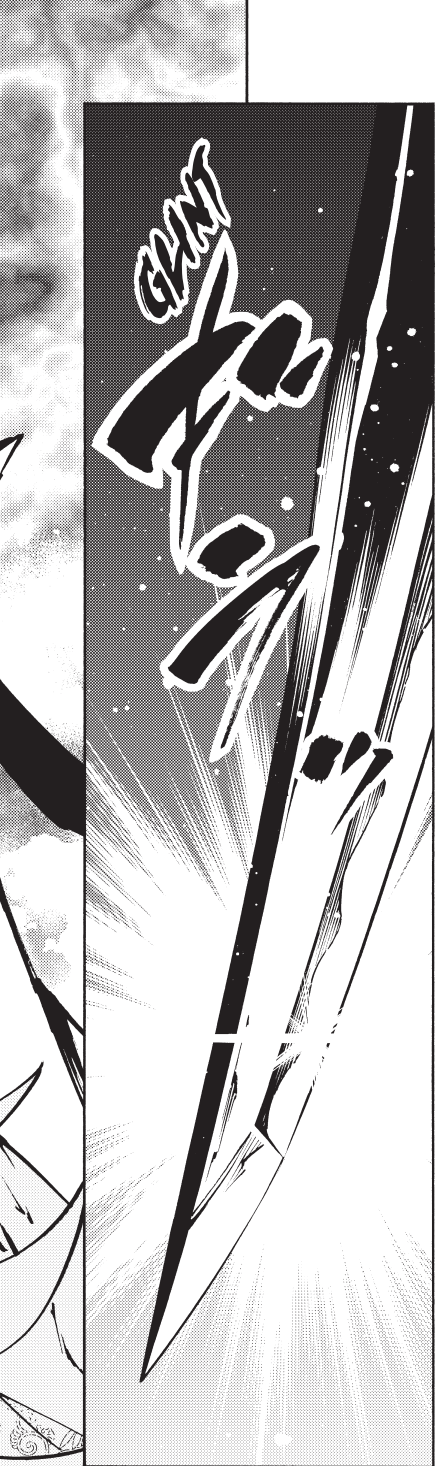


WHICH  
IS TO  
SAY...

...I LIKE  
THINGS  
JUST FINE  
THE WAY  
THEY ARE  
NOW.







SHISHIWAKA,  
YOU ARE NO  
LONGER OUR  
SON.



RICAN-  
DONO!  
PLEASE,  
WAIT!

NO...!

THERE  
ARE SOME  
BAD GUYS  
THAT YOU  
CHOOSE  
TO KEEP  
AROUND.

YOU  
JUST  
DON'T  
GET IT,  
DO YA?



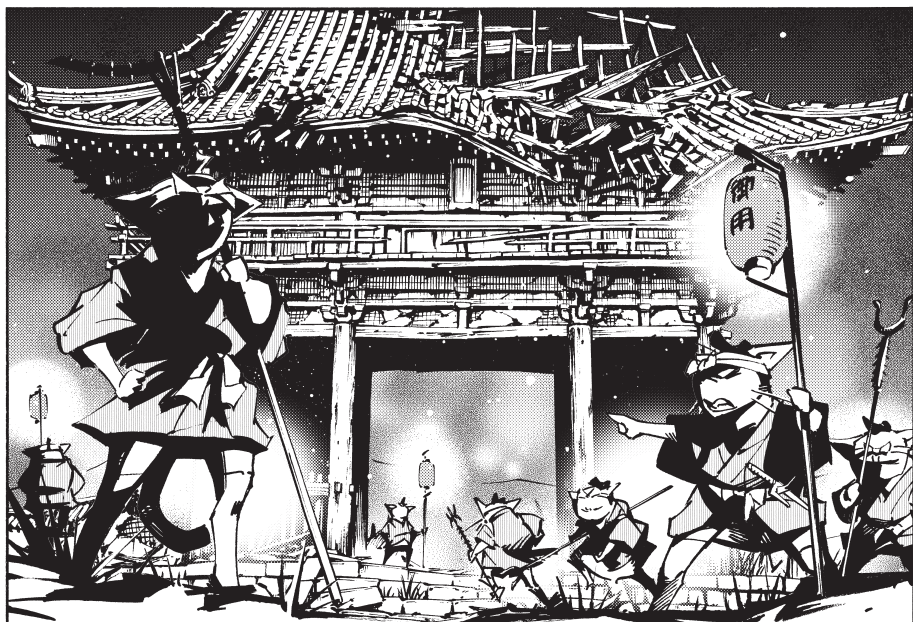




I'M  
KURO-  
GANE  
HYOE.

IF YOU WANT,  
YOU CAN GO  
A ROUND  
WITH ME,  
PRETTY BOY.







YOU THINK  
I WOULD  
PLEASURE  
MYSELF  
WITH A  
TREE, DOG  
BRAIN?

THIS WAS  
A MOLLY  
UNTIL A  
MINUTE  
AGO.

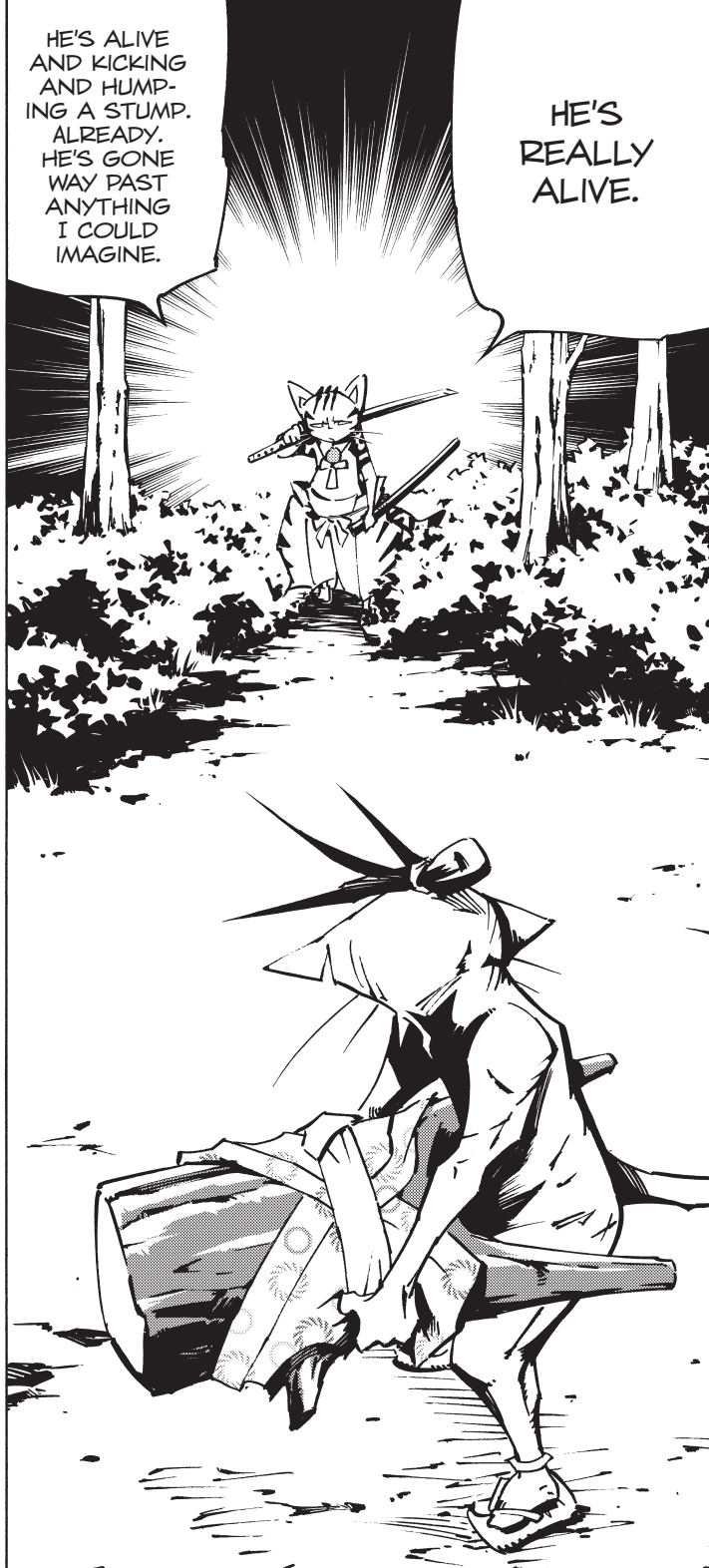
SHE USED  
THE  
PROVERBIAL  
"SUBSTITU-  
TION TECH-  
NIQUE." I'D  
NEVER SEEN  
IT BEFORE.

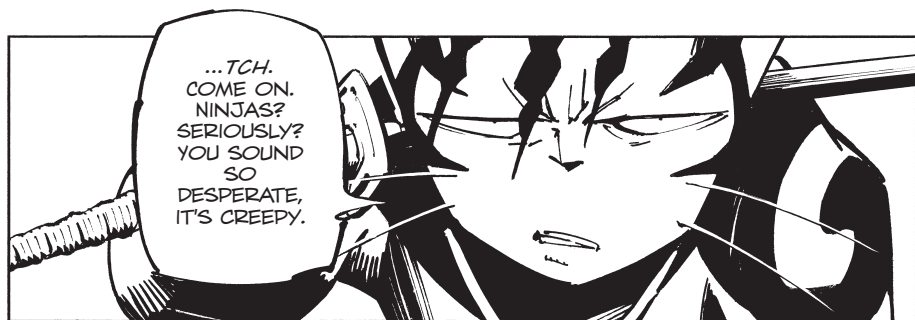
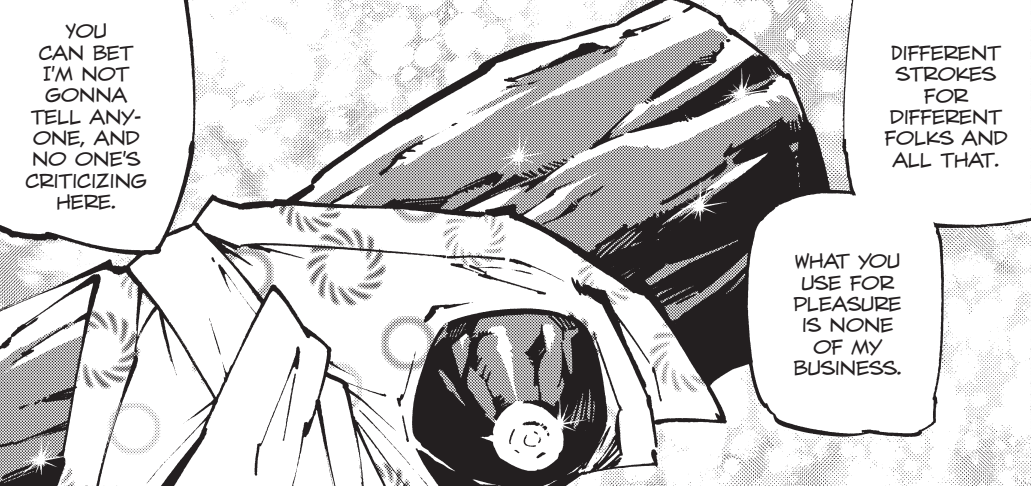


...I DON'T  
NEED  
YOUR  
SORRY  
EXCUSES.

HE'S ALIVE  
AND KICKING  
AND HUMPI-  
NG A STUMP.  
ALREADY.  
HE'S GONE  
WAY PAST  
ANYTHING  
I COULD  
IMAGINE.

HE'S  
REALLY  
ALIVE.







...MAKING  
YOU  
HALLUCIN-  
ATE  
AGAIN?

...IT'S  
NOT  
THE  
'NIP...



...YOU  
MAY BE  
ON TO  
SOME-  
THING.



QUIT  
MESSING  
WITH ME!  
PUT THAT  
DOWN AND  
GET SOME  
CLOTHES  
ON!



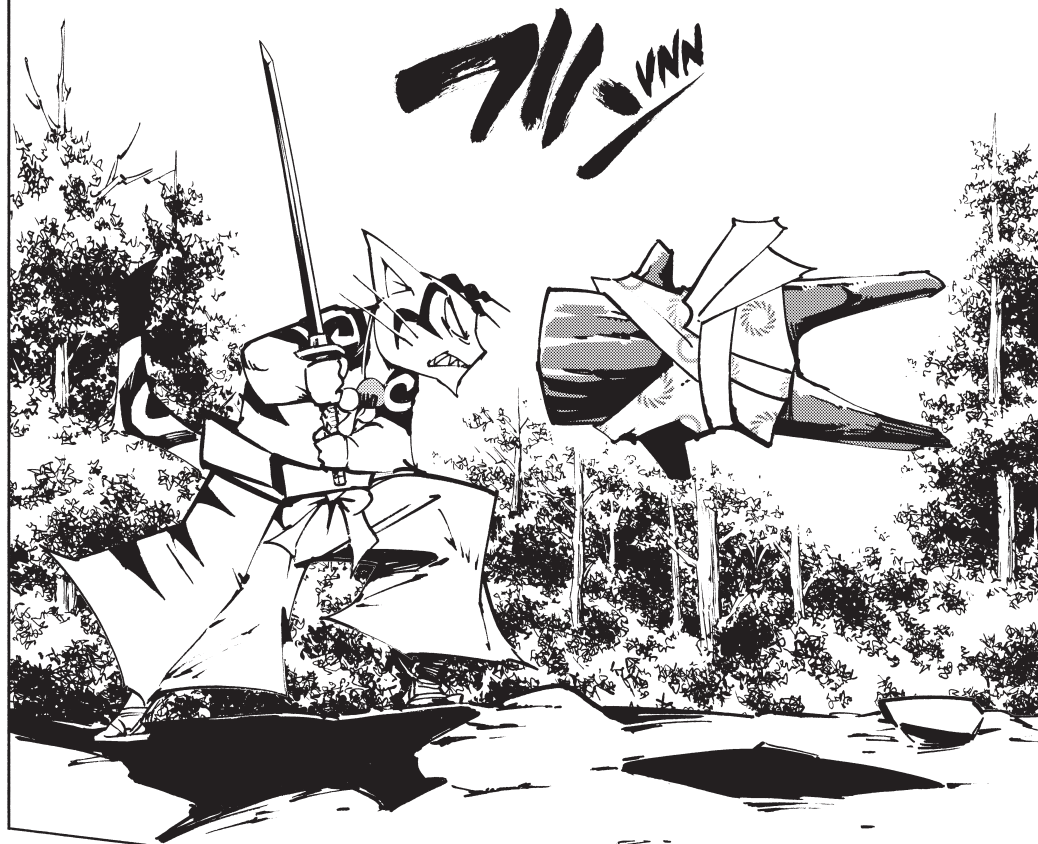
I'VE NEVER  
SEEN A  
MOLLY THAT  
SLIM AND  
WITH SUCH BIG  
JUGS, AND I  
AM ALMOST  
OUT OF THE  
STUFF.

WHAT DO  
YOU SAY?  
SPARE ME  
A TWIG?

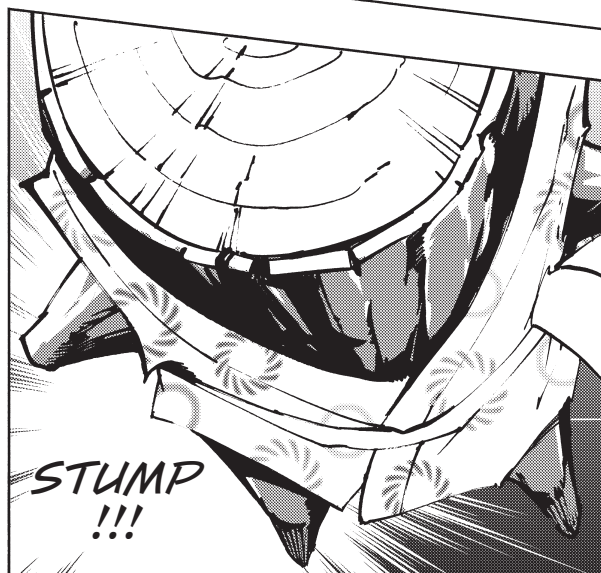
I'M  
READY  
TO  
MURDER  
YOU  
RIGHT  
NOW!!!



I'M  
TIRED  
OF  
WAITING.



7/1-VNN



STUMP  
!!!









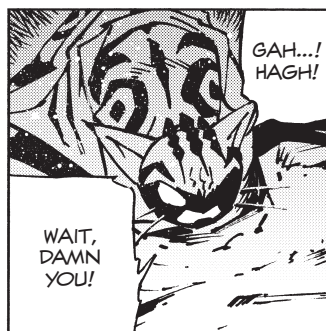
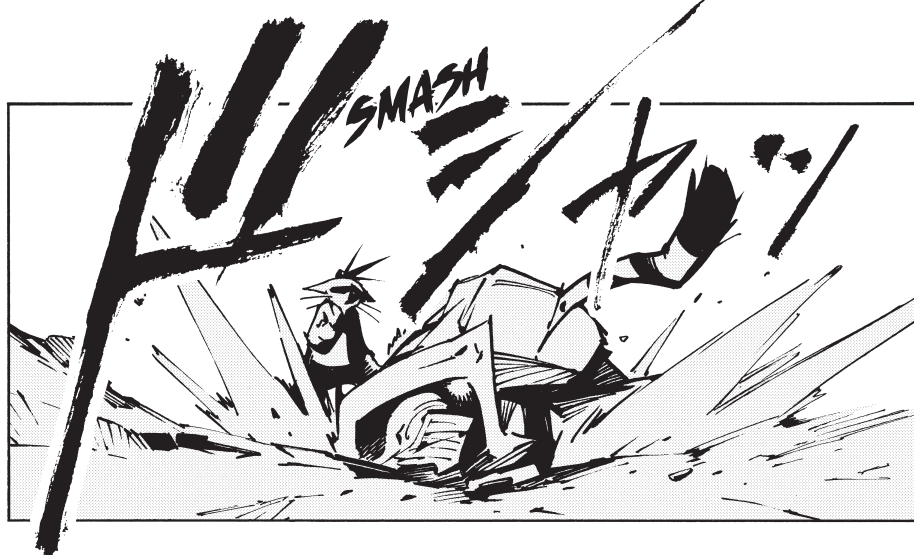


IF YOU  
REALLY  
WANT TO  
KILL ME,  
THEN STOP  
TALKING  
AND DO  
IT!

OR  
YOU'LL  
END UP  
HAVING  
TO FIGHT  
ME.

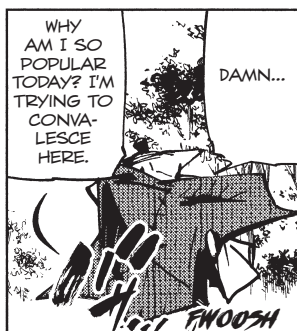






GAH...!  
HAGH!

WAIT,  
DAMN  
YOU!

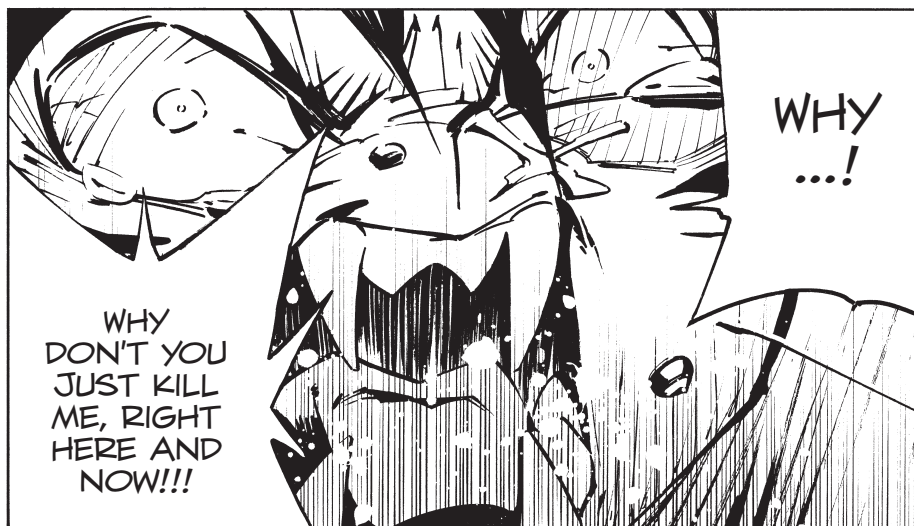


WHY  
AM I SO  
POPULAR  
TODAY? I'M  
TRYING TO  
CONVA-  
LESCERE  
HERE.

DAMN...



...



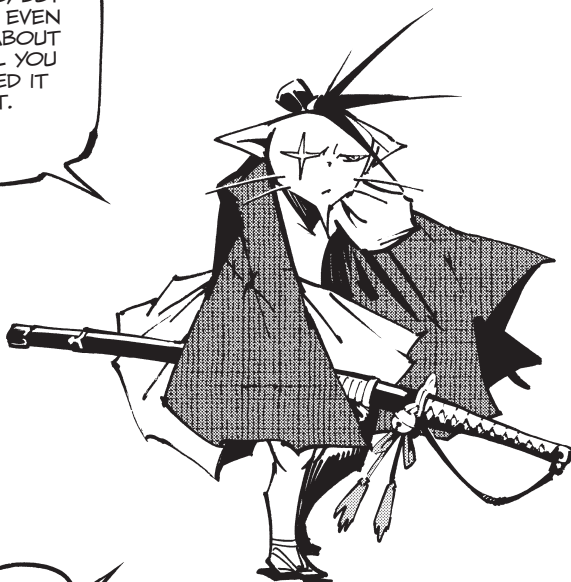
WHY  
...!

WHY  
DON'T YOU  
JUST KILL  
ME, RIGHT  
HERE AND  
NOW!!!

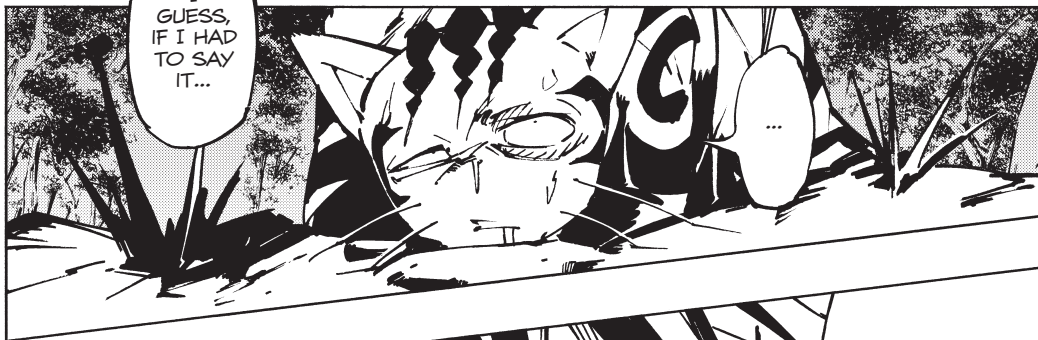


LOGICALLY,  
I **SHOULD**  
KILL YOU, BUT  
I DIDN'T EVEN  
THINK ABOUT  
IT UNTIL YOU  
POINTED IT  
OUT.

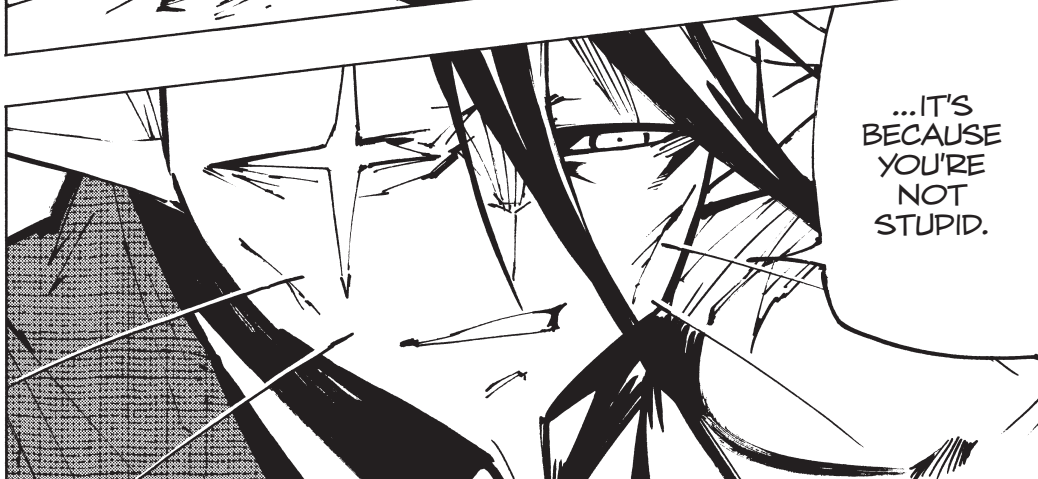
...THAT'S  
A GOOD  
QUESTION.



I  
GUESS,  
IF I HAD  
TO SAY  
IT...



...IT'S  
BECAUSE  
YOU'RE  
NOT  
STUPID.







THAT'S NOT  
A REASON!  
COME BACK  
HERE, DAMN  
YOU!

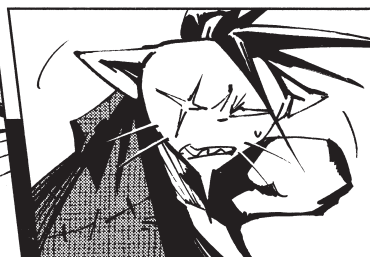
DOG...

...GONE  
IT!



I WON'T  
REST...  
UNTIL I'VE  
AVENGED  
MY TEAM!

YOU ALL  
THINK YOU  
CAN MAKE  
A FOOL OUT  
OF ME!



MAYBE  
I REALLY  
WILL  
KILL Y-

YOU  
DON'T  
KNOW  
WHEN  
TO  
QUIT...

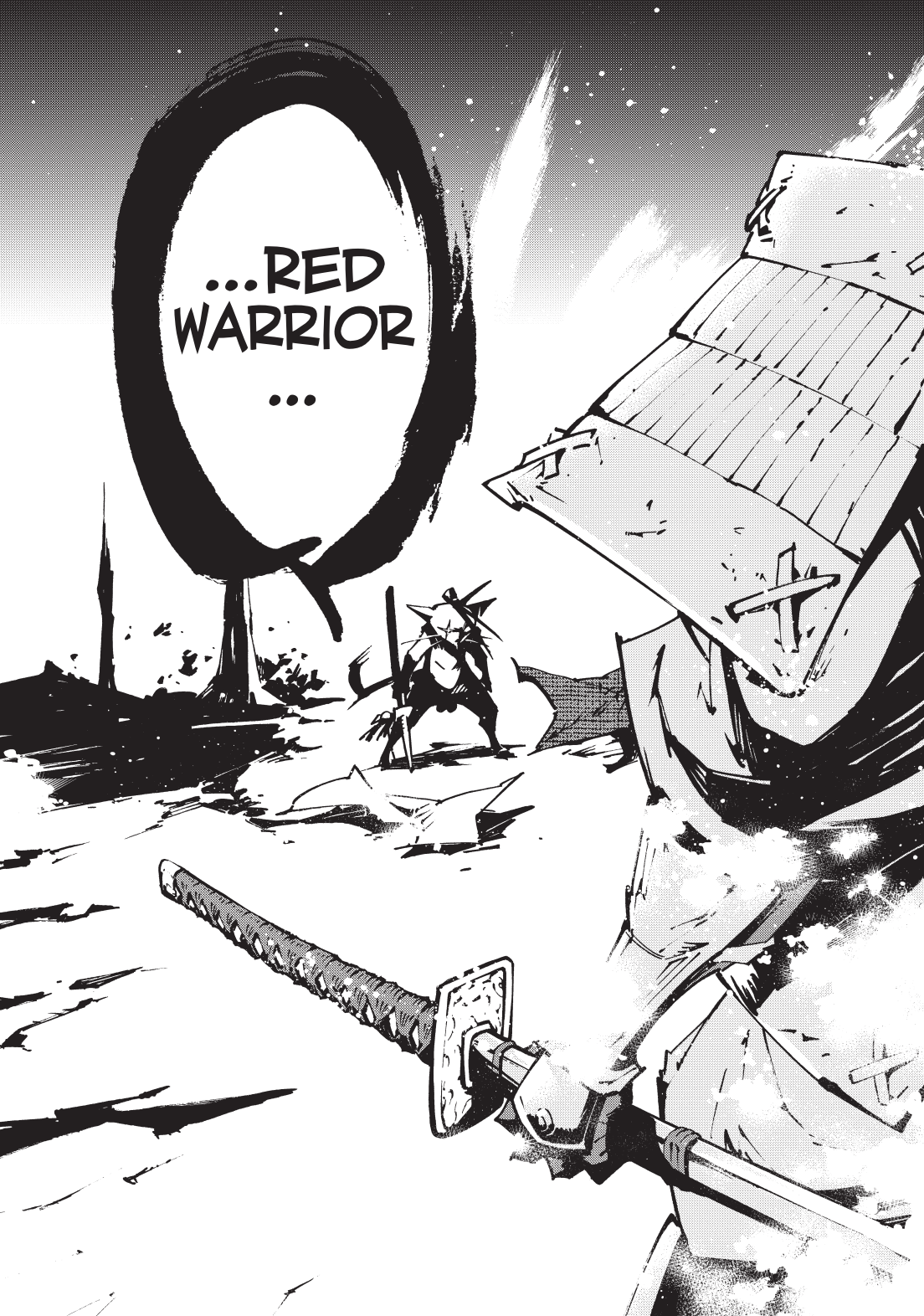






...RED  
WARRIOR

...







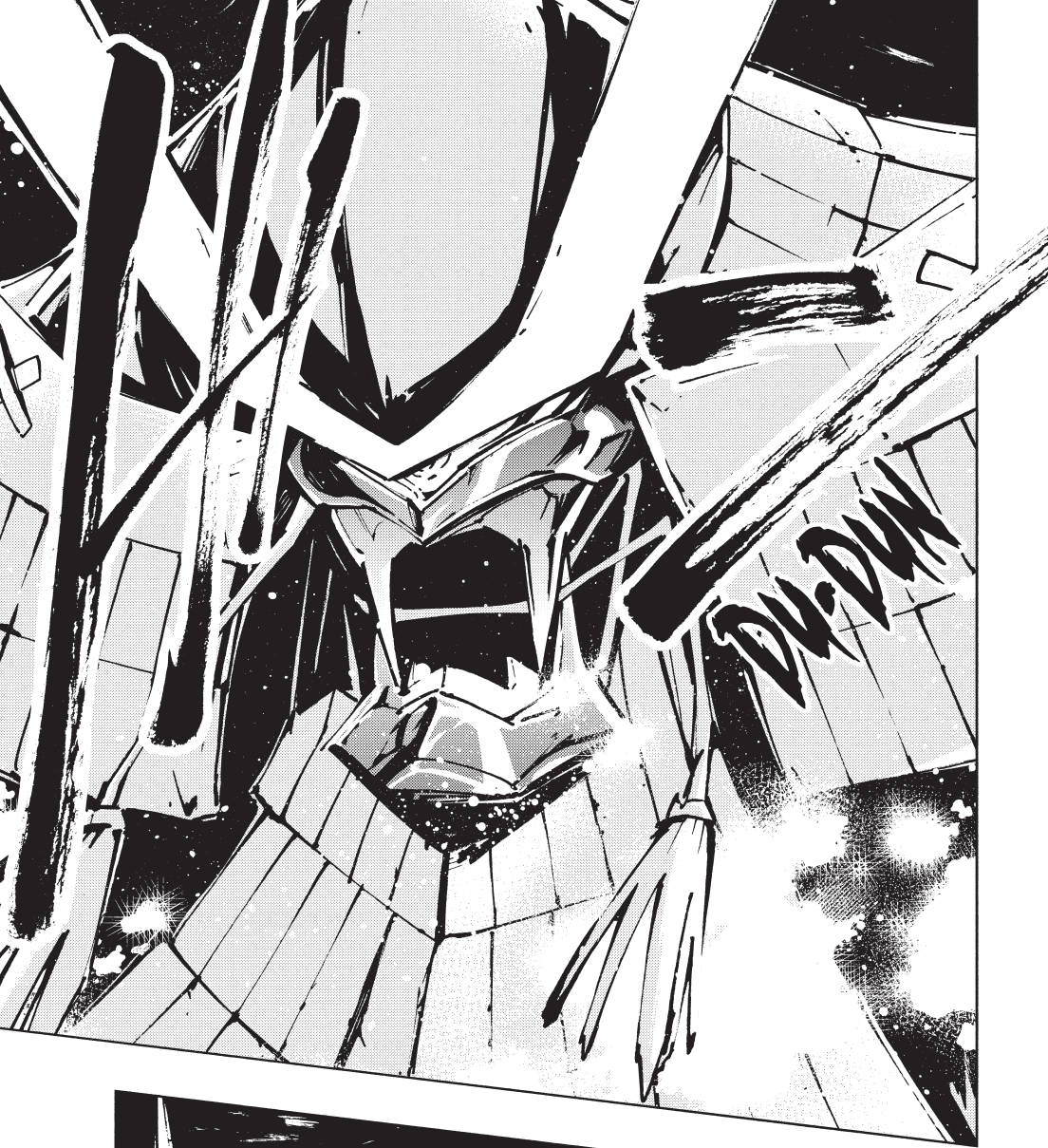
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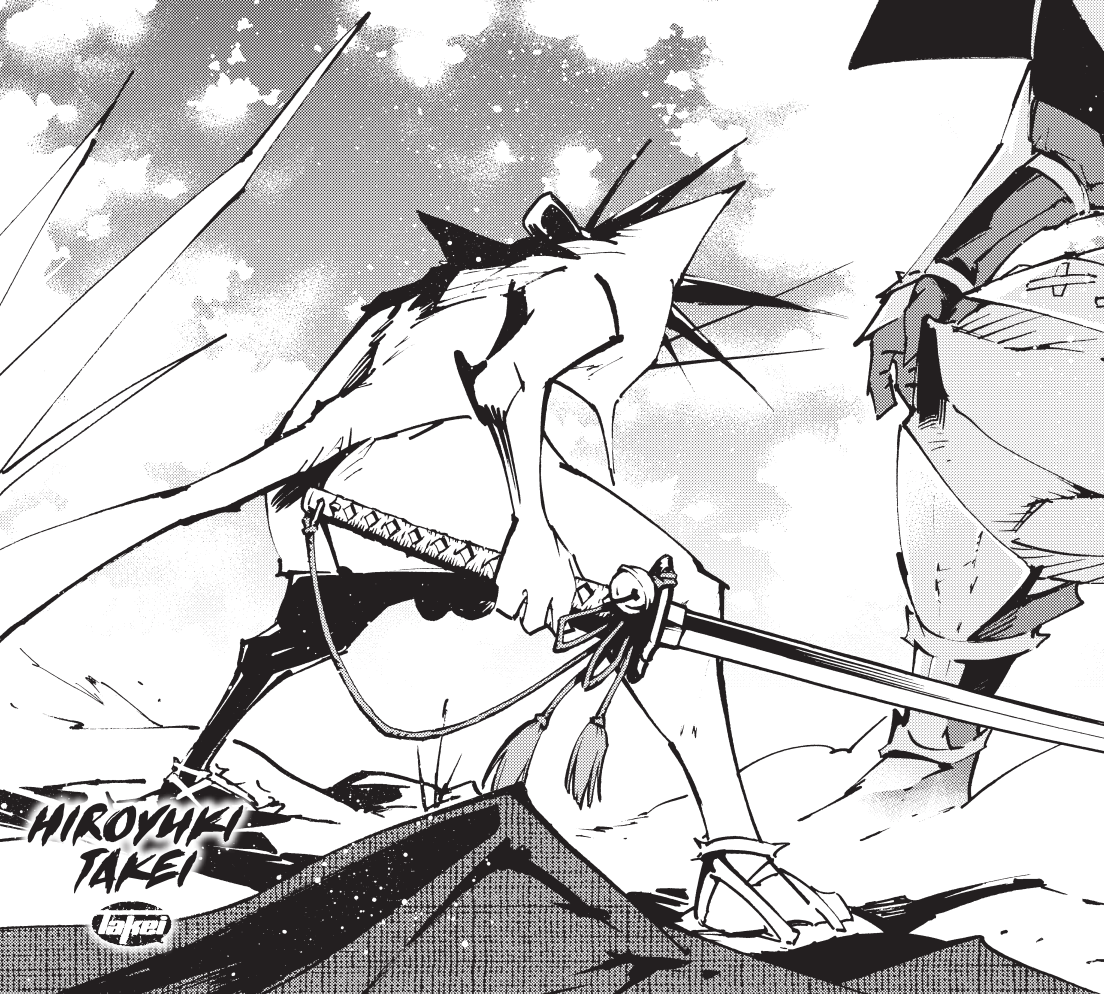
...RED  
WARRIOR

...



# Nekogallaro

CHAPTER 9:  
SHORT CAKE.  
ACT ONE



HIROYUKI  
TAKEI

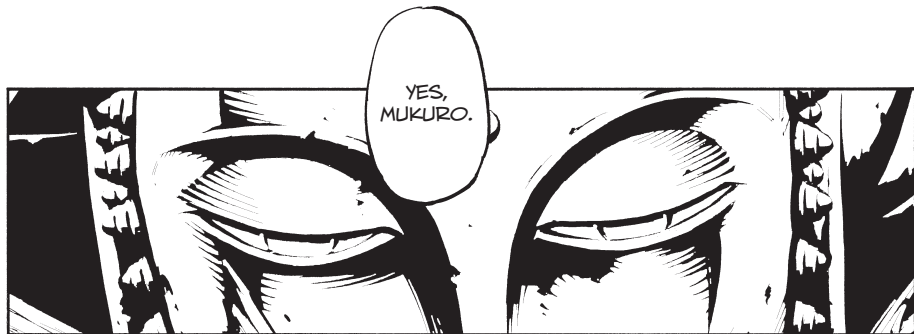







HALLUCINA-  
TIONS...?

# HIDEOUT OF THE CLOWDER OF EXTRAORDINARY CATS









THE PERSON  
TRIED TO SHAKE  
HIM OFF, BUT  
NORACHIYO WAS  
DESPERATE—HE  
LATCHED ON  
AND REFUSED  
TO LOOSEN HIS  
BITE.

THAT FATEFUL DAY,  
HE WAS DELIRIOUSLY  
TRYING TO PROTECT  
HIS MASTER, SO HE  
POUNCED ON AN  
ATTACKER, AND  
FOR BETTER  
OR WORSE, HIS  
FANGS SANK INTO  
THAT PERSON'S  
THROAT.



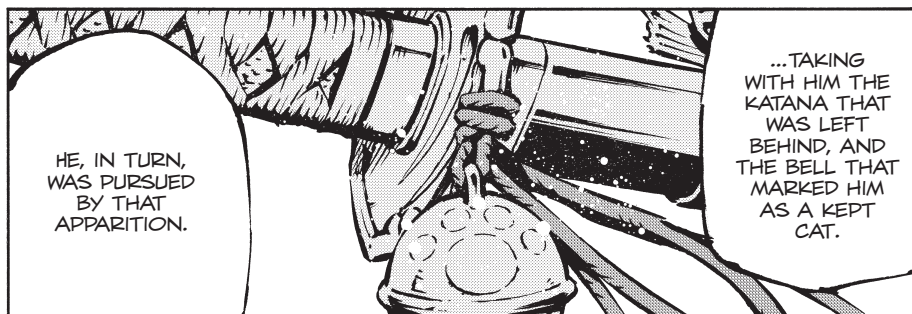
WHEN  
NORACHIYO  
EVENTUALLY  
CAME TO HIS  
SENSES, WHAT HE  
SAW WAS THAT  
PERSON ON  
THE FLOOR, HIS  
THROAT COVERED  
IN BLOOD. HIS  
MASTER WAS  
NOWHERE IN  
SIGHT.



AND SO  
NORACHIYO  
SET OFF ON A  
JOURNEY IN  
PURSUIT OF HIS  
MASTER...

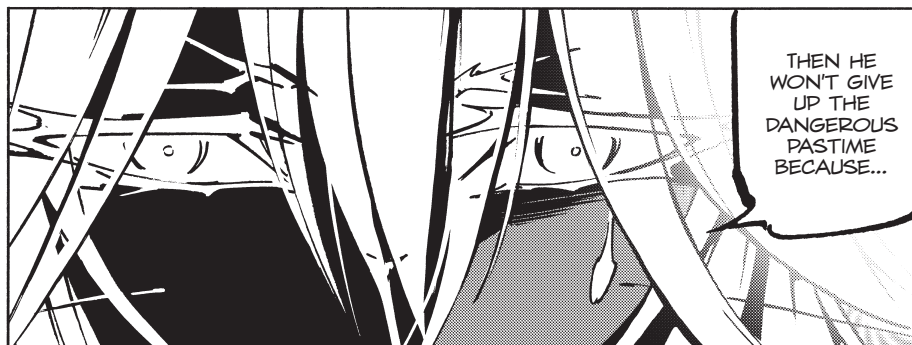






HE, IN TURN,  
WAS PURSUED  
BY THAT  
APPARITION.

...TAKING  
WITH HIM THE  
KATANA THAT  
WAS LEFT  
BEHIND, AND  
THE BELL THAT  
MARKED HIM  
AS A KEPT  
CAT.



THEN HE  
WON'T GIVE  
UP THE  
DANGEROUS  
PASTIME  
BECAUSE...

EXACTLY.  
HE'S TRYING  
TO ESCAPE  
THE  
SPECTER.



IT COMES  
TO HIM  
WHEN THE  
EFFECTS  
OF THE 'NIP  
WEAR OFF.

CLACK

A  
PERSON,  
DYED  
RED WITH  
BLOOD.





THE RED  
WARRIOR.



...RED  
WARRIOR...



WHAT'S  
UP? FINALLY  
READY TO  
HAVE A  
SERIOUS  
CONVERSA-  
TION?

HUH?

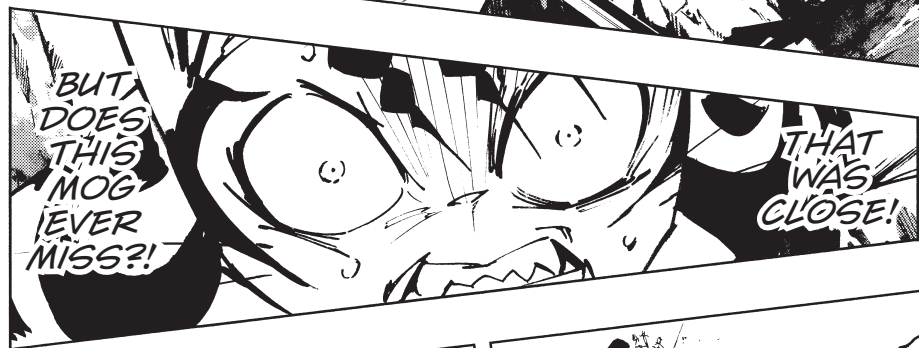




WHY  
WON'T  
YOU  
JUST  
LEAVE  
ME  
ALONE  
!!!



BA-BAH



BUT  
DOES  
THIS  
MOG  
EVER  
MISS?!

THAT  
WAS  
CLOSE!



DAMN IT!  
MY  
BLADE IS  
WEDGED  
IN YOUR  
ARMOR.

RELEASE

...TCH.



...





LIKE  
I DID  
BEFORE...

...WITH  
MY  
FANGS!

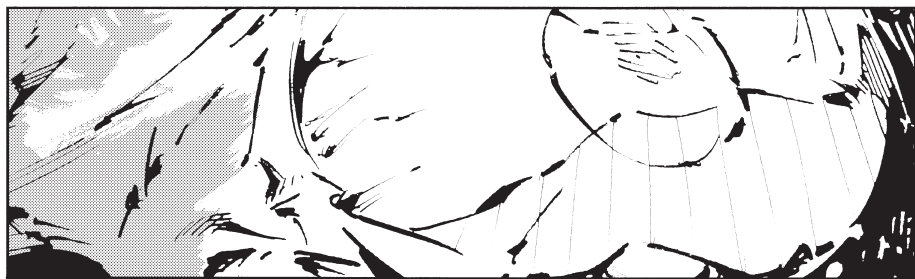
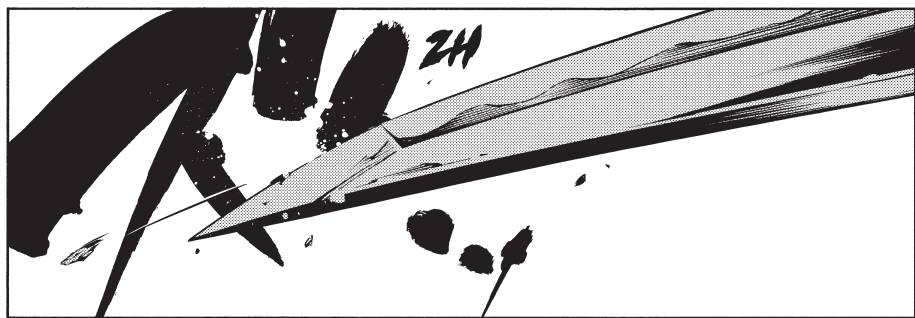
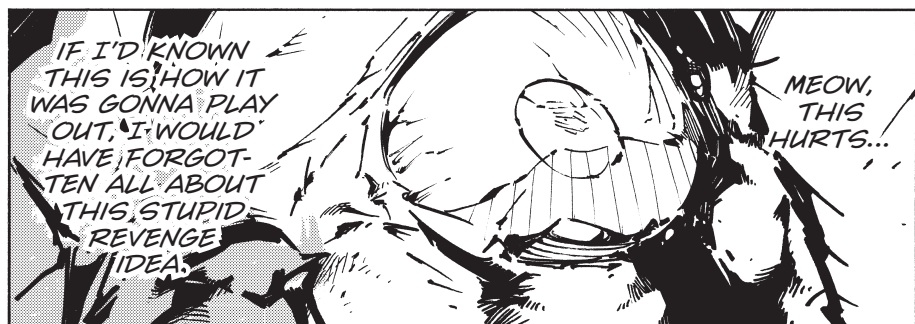
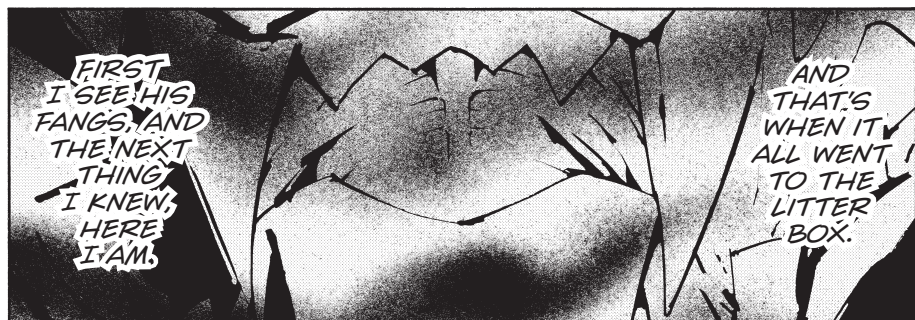
...FINE.  
I CAN  
MURDER  
YOU WITH  
OR WITH-  
OUT MY  
SWORD.











OH SCAT.  
HERE HE  
COMES  
TO FINISH  
ME OFF.





# NekkogalHoro

HIROYUKI  
TAKEI



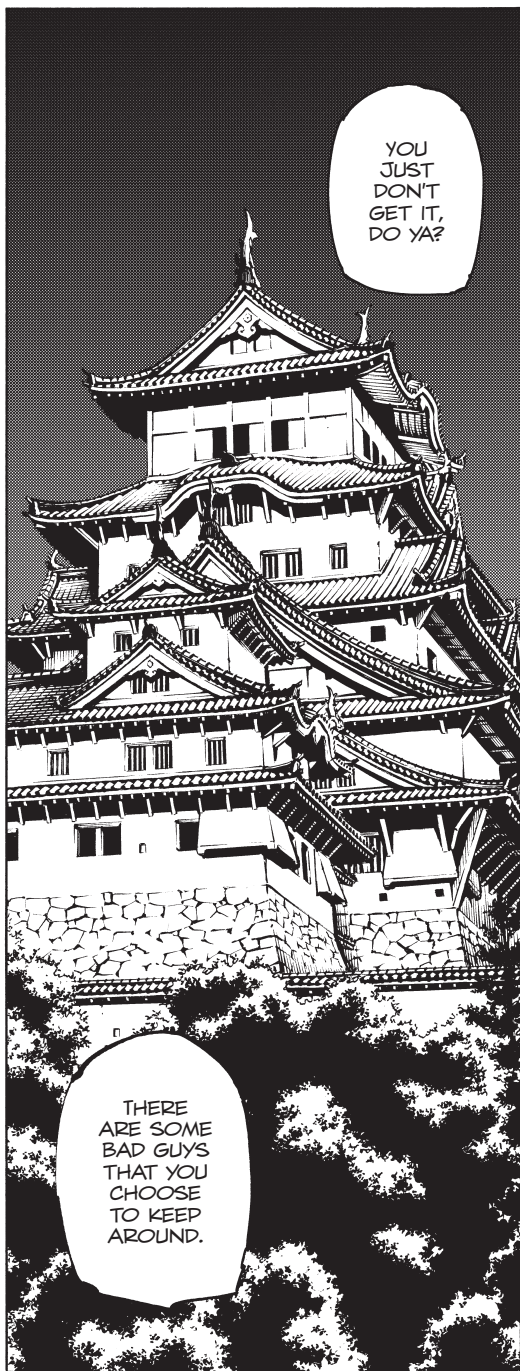
CHAPTER 10:  
SHORT CAKE.  
ACT TWO

BUT  
COME  
ON...  
HOW  
CAN  
THIS  
OLD  
TOM  
BE SO  
TOUGH  
?

I'M  
KURO-  
GANE  
HYŌE.

YOU  
JUST  
DON'T  
GET IT,  
DO YA?

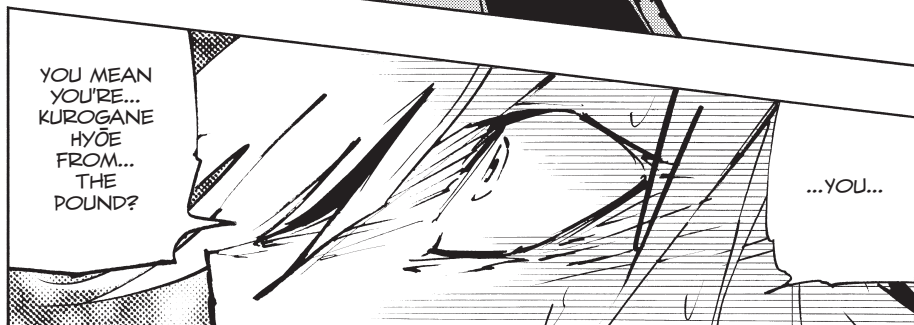
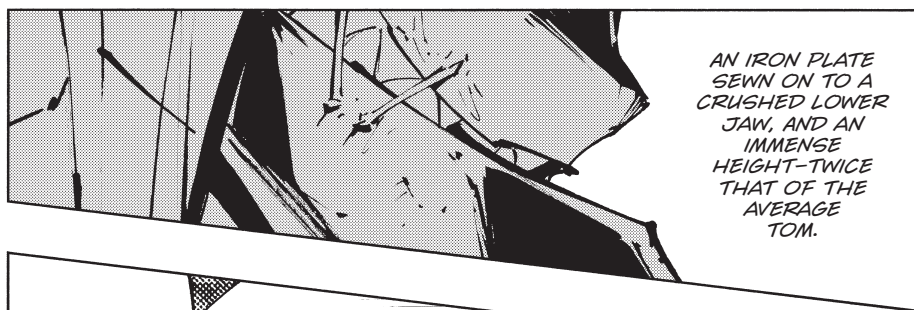
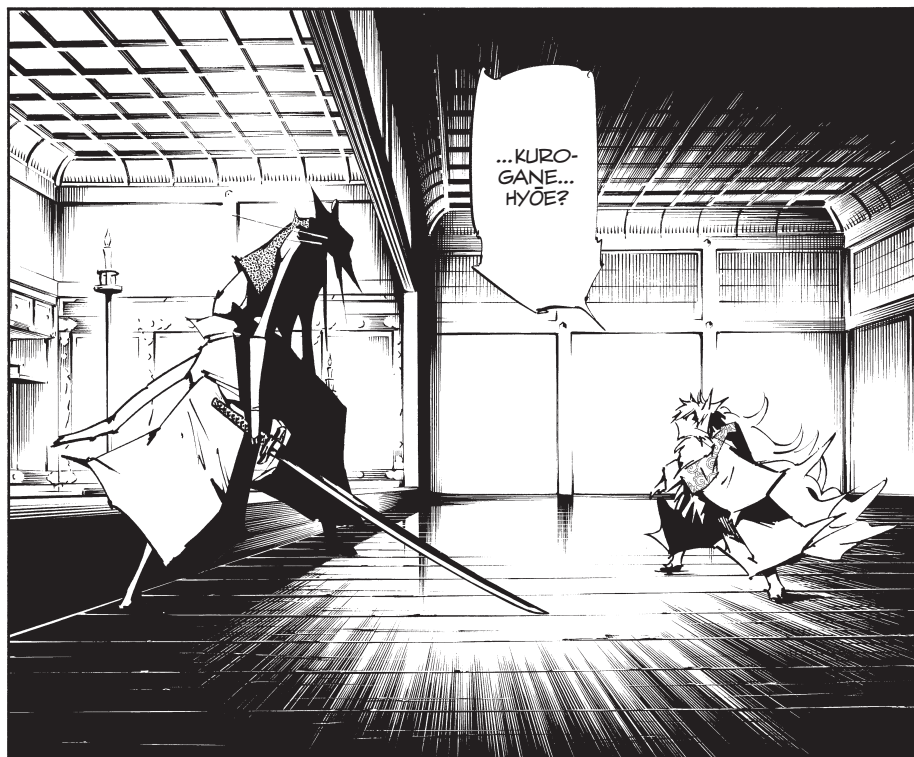
THERE  
ARE SOME  
BAD GUYS  
THAT YOU  
CHOOSE  
TO KEEP  
AROUND.



IF YOU  
WANT,  
YOU CAN  
GO A  
ROUND  
WITH ME,  
PRETTY  
BOY.









...OH?

I MUST BE  
GETTING  
FAMOUS.

KRIK



IT'S THE  
POND  
THAT'S  
FAMOUS.

WAIT,  
NO...

THE POUND.  
AN ISLAND  
WHERE THEY  
SEND THE  
WORST CATS—  
THOSE WHO  
HAVE BEEN  
CONVICTED  
OF THE MOST  
HEINOUS OF  
CRIMES.



IT TAKES  
SPECIAL  
POWERS!  
FOR A  
CAT TO  
SURVIVE  
THERE.



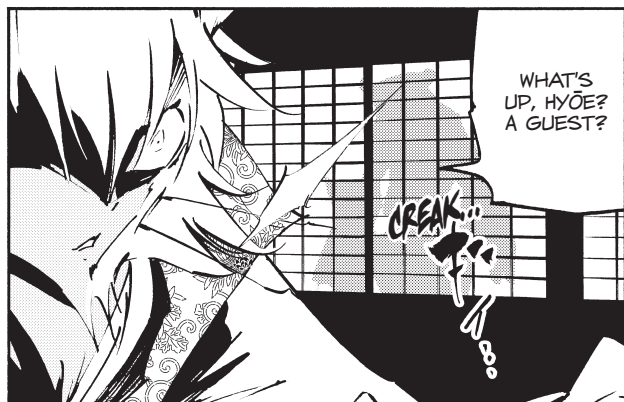


A PENAL  
COLONY  
FILLED YEAR-  
ROUND WITH  
TOXIC, VOLCANIC  
SMOKE, WHERE,  
TO SURVIVE,  
FELONS FIGHT  
TO THE DEATH  
DAY IN AND  
DAY OUT.



IN OTHER  
WORDS,  
EXILE TO  
THE POUND  
IS A  
VIRTUAL  
DEATH  
SENTENCE.





WHAT'S  
UP, HYŌE?  
A GUEST?

CREAK



...HOW  
CAN  
HE BE  
HERE?

BUT...



LET ME  
PLAY  
WITH HIM,  
TOO.

SOUNDS  
FUN.

TASS

SHARE  
WITH YOUR  
ISLAND-  
MATES,  
WHY DON'T  
YOU?

COME ON,  
DON'T HOG  
ALL THE  
FUN, SCAT-  
HOLE.



IT CAN'T  
BE DID  
AMEMURA  
RIGAN  
SHORT-  
NO  
KAWI  
BRING  
THEM  
HERE!

...THAT'S  
PREPOSTER-  
OUS. SIX  
CATS, ALL  
SENTENCED  
TO THE  
POUND?







WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK  
YOU ARE  
DOING?

HAVE YOU  
FORGOTTEN  
THAT YOU  
WERE TOLD  
SPECIFICALLY  
NOT TO  
SHED BLOOD  
INSIDE THE  
CASTLE?

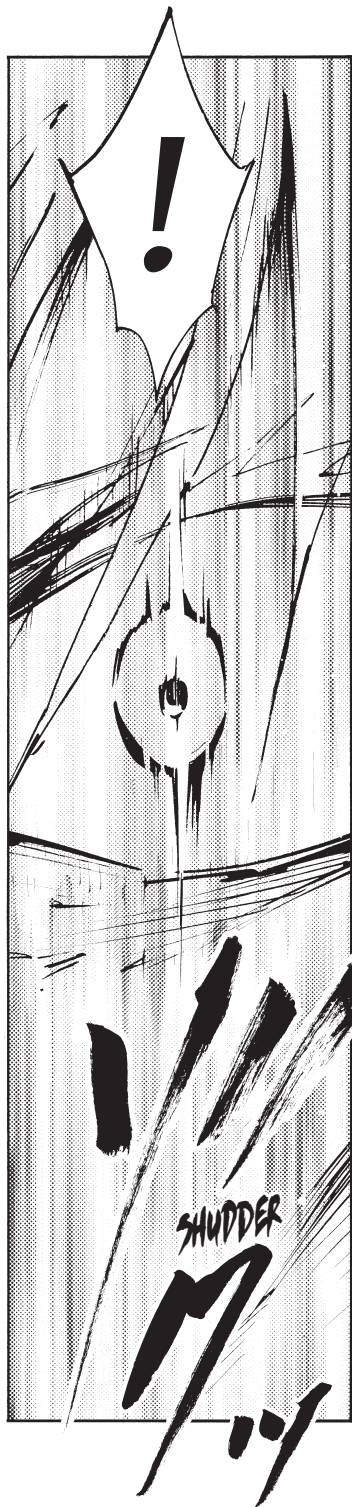
YEAH...  
THAT'S  
RIGHT.  
IT'S JUST  
A GAME.  
WE WERE  
PLAYING!

WHOA...WAIT  
A MINUTE,  
SHIRO-CHAN!  
WE WERE ONLY  
FUNNIN' HIM A  
LITTLE, THAT'S  
ALL!

NOTHING  
TO PUFF  
YOUR  
TAIL UP  
ABOUT,  
AMAGAMI.

IS  
THAT  
SO?

...



SHUDDER



...I USED  
THE BACK  
OF MY  
SWORD.







WIPE UP  
EVERY  
DROP OF  
BLOOD  
FROM THE  
FLOOR.

AND  
YOU.

IF YOU  
VALUE  
YOUR LIFE,  
YOU'LL  
NEVER  
COME HERE  
AGAIN.



WHAT  
EVER YOU  
DO, DO NOT  
DEFY YOUR  
FATHER.

SHORT...



AMAGAMI  
SHIRŌ...

THE  
LEGENDARY  
SWORDS-  
FELINE WHO  
IS SAID TO  
HAVE DIED IN  
A REVOLT  
AGAINST THE  
SHOGUNATE.

HA  
...

HA  
HA  
...

HA  
...

AM I  
SEEING A  
GHOST?





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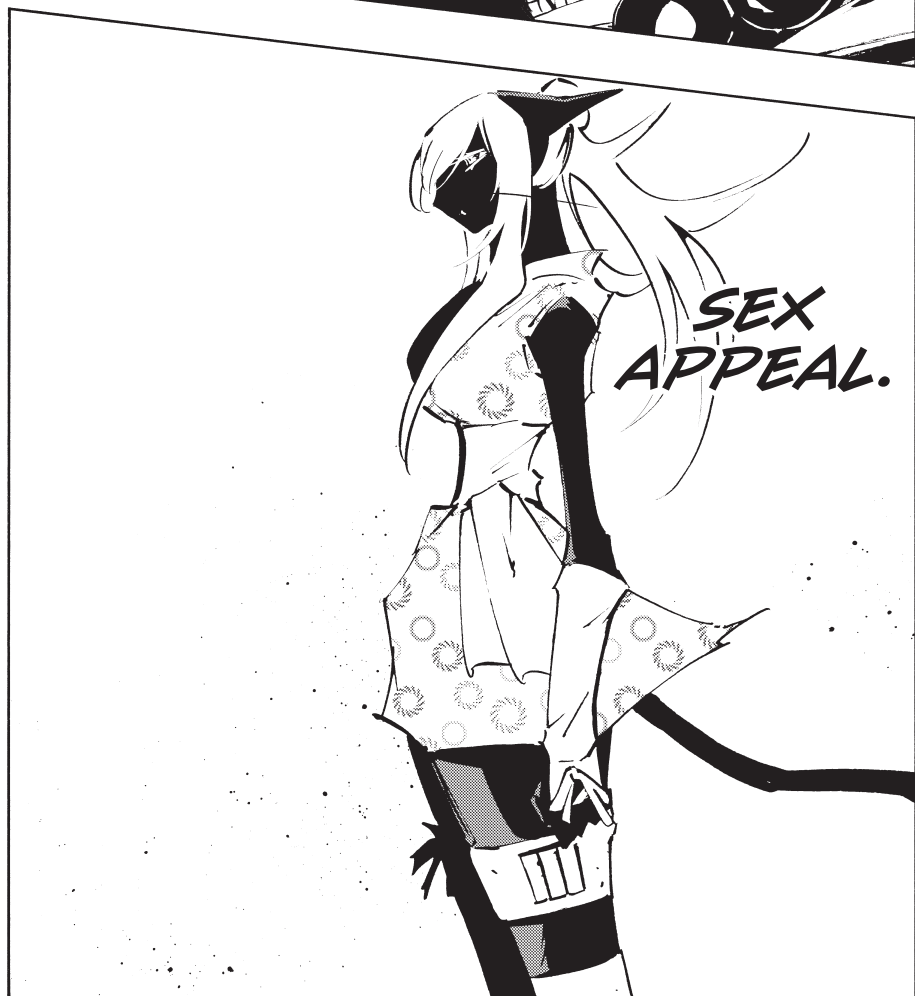
*THE  
WORLD  
IS  
ROTTEN  
WITH  
TOUGH  
GUYS.*

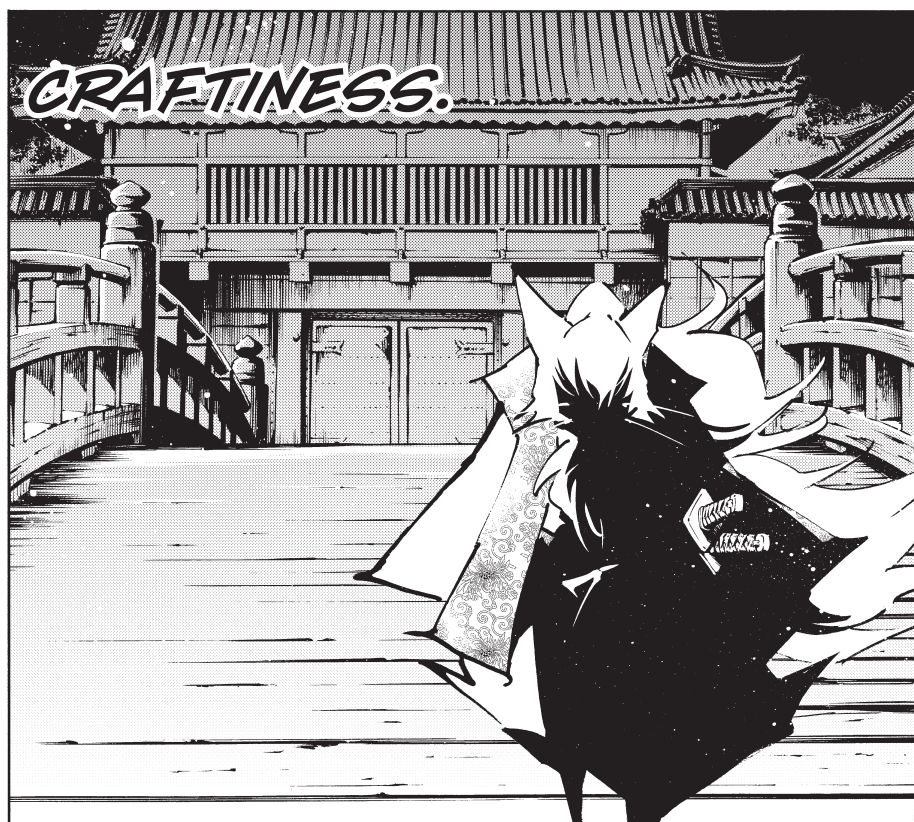
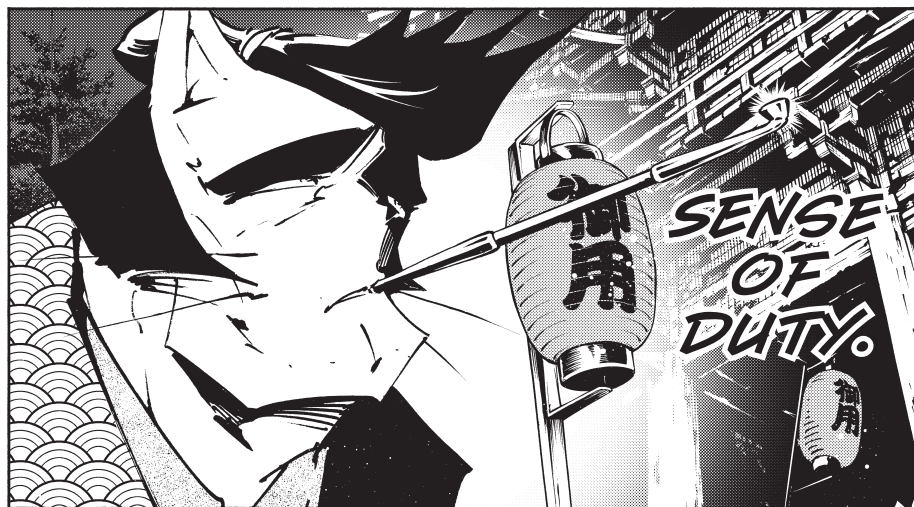
THERE'S  
PHYSICAL  
STRENGTH  
AND SKILL,  
OBVIOUSLY.

BUT  
THEIR  
STRENGTH  
COMES  
IN ALL  
SHAPES  
AND  
SIZES.

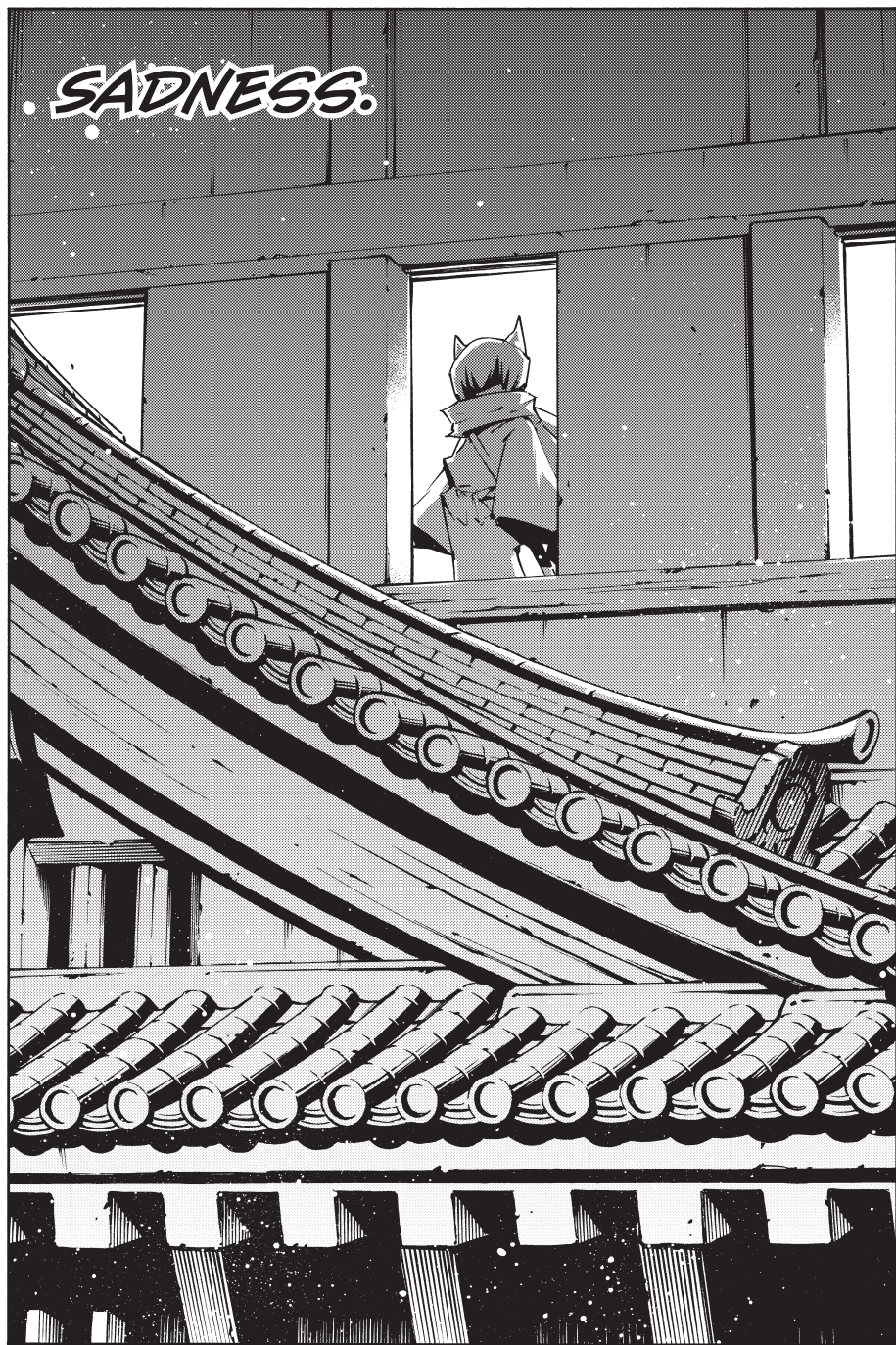














OR  
TOTAL  
IMMUNITY  
TO THE  
PANGS OF  
CONSCIENCE—







**AND  
POWER.**







AND  
WOULDN'T  
YOU KNOW  
IT, I AIN'T  
GOT EVEN  
ONE OF  
THOSE.

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CHAPTER 10:  
SHORT CAKE.  
ACT THREE

HIROYUKI  
TAKEI



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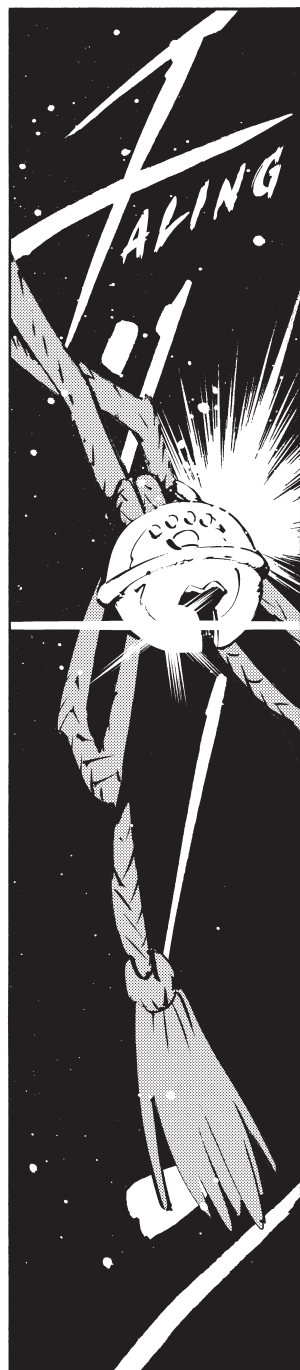
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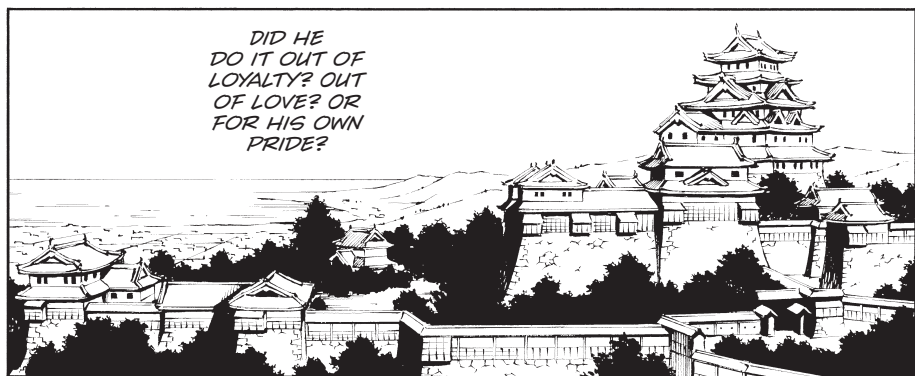
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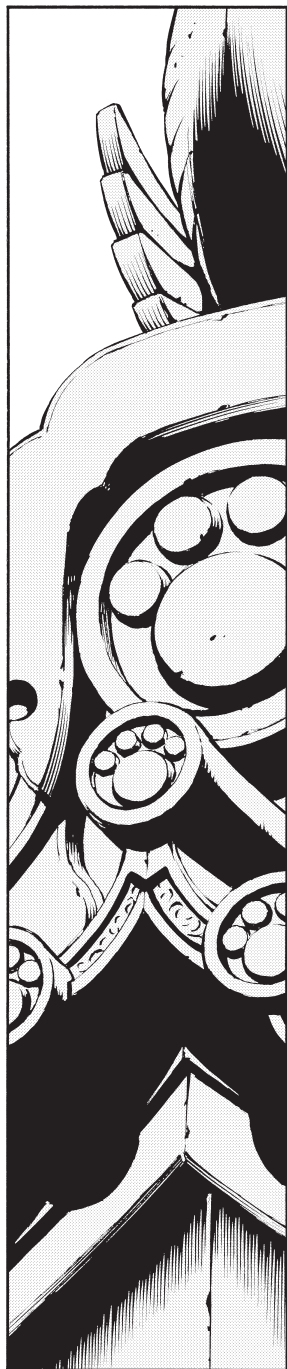
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THE ONE  
THING  
I KNOW  
FOR SURE  
IS THAT  
I'VE SEEN  
THAT  
CREST  
BEFORE.





IN  
YOUR  
EYES...



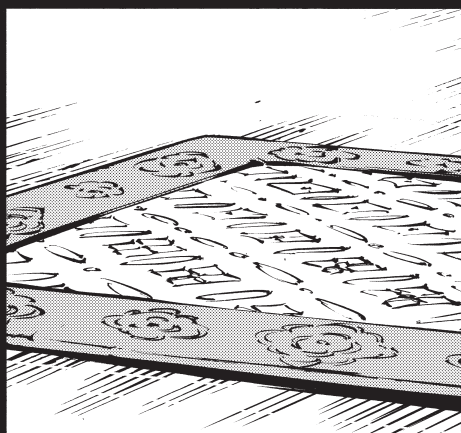
...THAT  
MASTER  
MUST HAVE  
BEEN ONE  
HELL OF  
GUY.













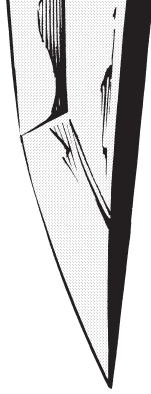






*...MY  
LORD.*














**THE  
SCENT OF  
MY VILE  
ARCH-  
NEMESIS,  
THE MAN  
WHO  
DROVE  
OUT MY  
MASTER.**

**RA-CHAK**





...MY DAD...  
IS YOUR  
ARCHNEMESIS?

**THE  
SCENT  
OF  
SHAKE-  
GAWA...  
AMEMURA'S  
KEEPER!**



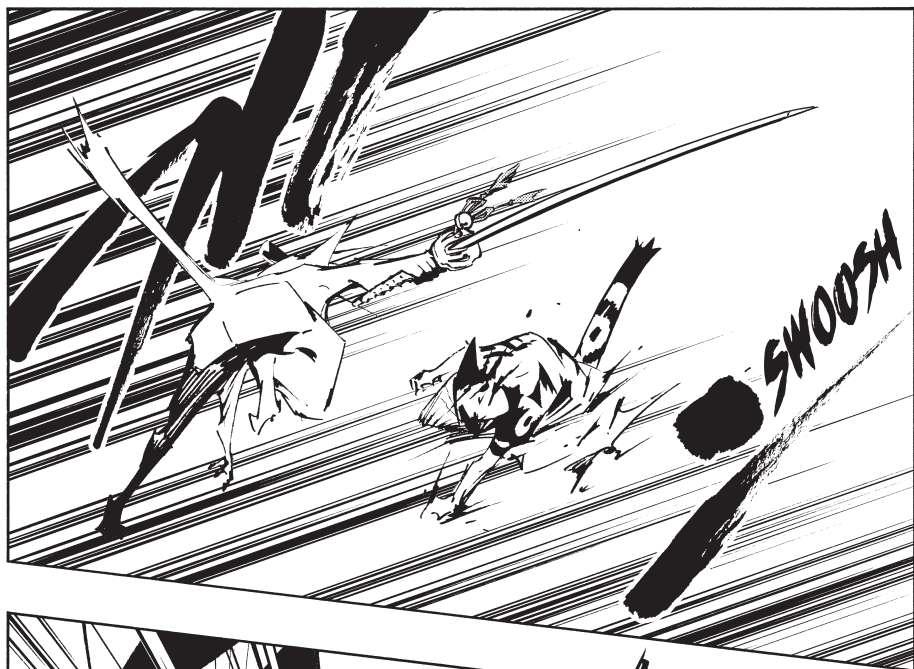
NOW I  
REMEM-  
BER...

THAT  
CREST  
BELONGS  
TO ISHIDAI  
TSUNARI,  
THE LORD  
OF ŌMEOW  
PROVINCE  
CAS...



DO ME  
A FAVOR  
AND DIE.  
NOW.

IF YOU  
DON'T GET  
OFF MY TAIL,  
I'M GOING TO  
HAVE MORE  
PROBLEMS  
THAN  
I NEED.

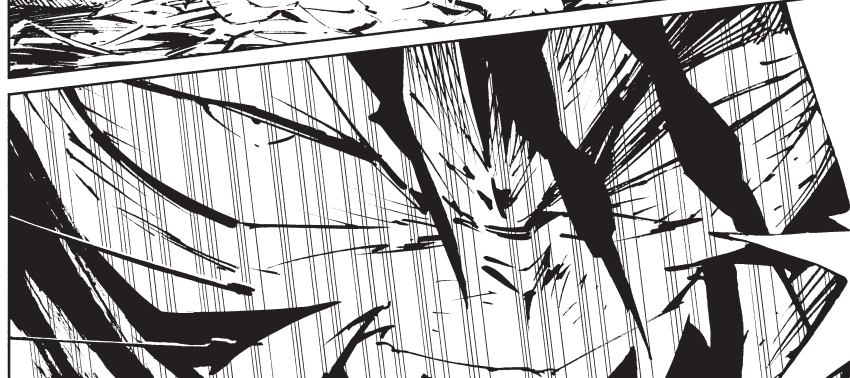






WELL,  
WELL.

HE'S  
MORE  
ABLE-  
BODIED  
THAN I  
THOUGHT.



FINE! IF  
THAT'S  
WHAT  
YOU  
WANT,  
I CAN  
FIGHT,  
TOO!!!!



MY  
OWN  
UNIQUE  
WEAPON  
!!!

WHOOOSH



WITH  
THIS!

WHACK

...HEH.


YOU BIRD  
BRAIN! YOU  
MUST BE OUT  
OF YOUR MIND,  
BRINGING A TOY  
TO A LIFE  
OR DEATH  
STRUGGLE!

HEH!

THE  
KEN-  
DAMA'S  
STRING.  
IT'S-?!

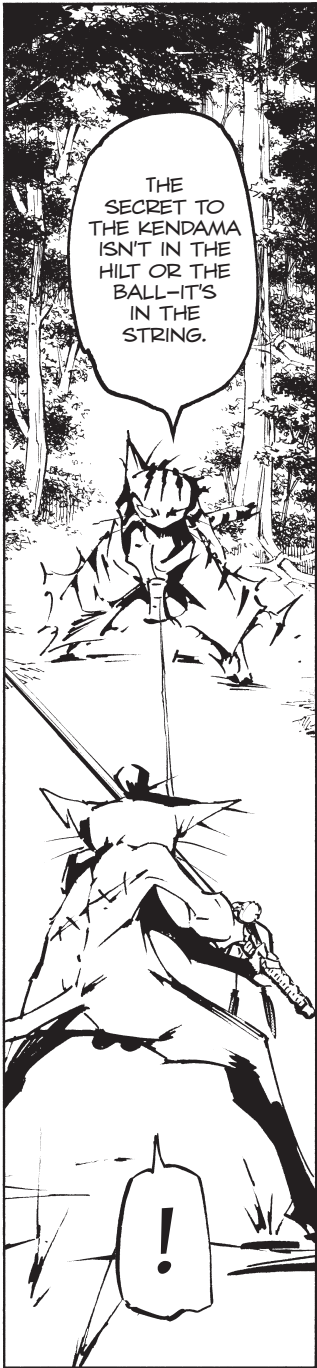
YOU'LL  
NEVER  
CUT IT.





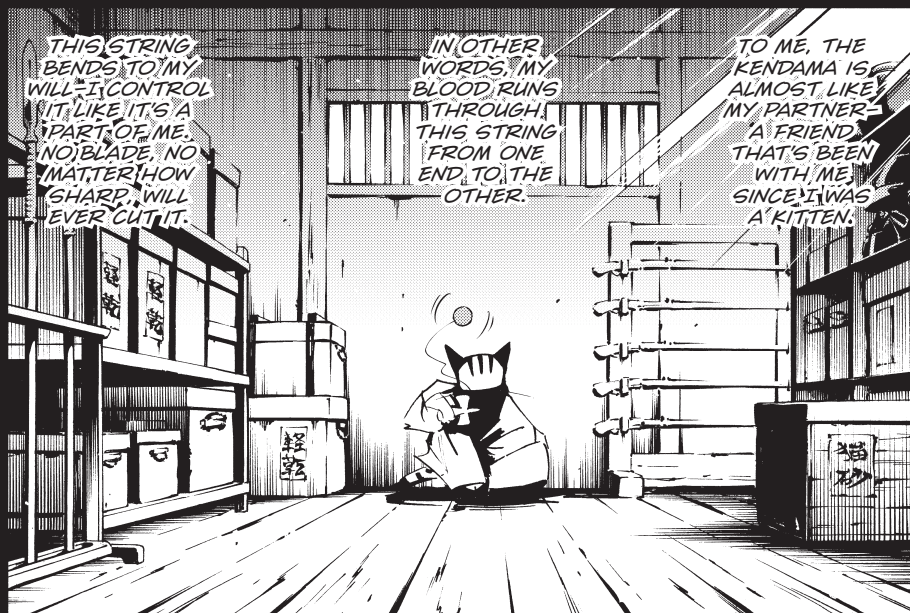
AMATEURS  
ARE ALWAYS  
LOOKING AT  
THE HILT AND  
THE BALL, BUT  
THOSE ARE  
JUST EASY  
TARGETS.

IT'S NOT  
UNTIL YOU  
CAN  
CONTROL  
THE STRING  
THAT YOU  
START TO  
MASTER  
THE SKILL.



THE  
SECRET TO  
THE KENDAMA  
ISN'T IN THE  
HILT OR THE  
BALL-IT'S  
IN THE  
STRING.

!

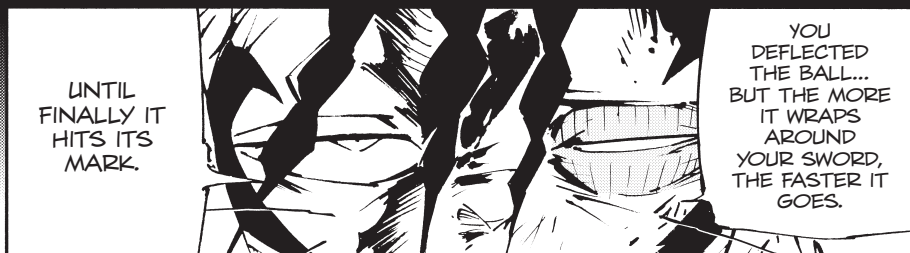


BOX: KITTY LITTER

THIS STRING  
BENDS TO MY  
WILL. I CONTROL  
IT LIKE IT'S A  
PART OF ME.  
NO BLADE, NO  
MATTER HOW  
SHARP, WILL  
EVER CUT IT.

IN OTHER  
WORDS, MY  
BLOOD RUNS  
THROUGH  
THIS STRING  
FROM ONE  
END TO THE  
OTHER.

TO ME, THE  
KENDAMA IS  
ALMOST LIKE  
MY PARTNER—  
A FRIEND  
THAT'S BEEN  
WITH ME  
SINCE I WAS  
A KITTEN.



UNTIL  
FINALLY IT  
HITS ITS  
MARK.

YOU  
DEFLECTED  
THE BALL...  
BUT THE MORE  
IT WRAPS  
AROUND  
YOUR SWORD,  
THE FASTER IT  
GOES.





**GO!**

**FINISHING  
MOVE!!  
NETHER-  
WORLD  
SOUL-  
REAPER!**

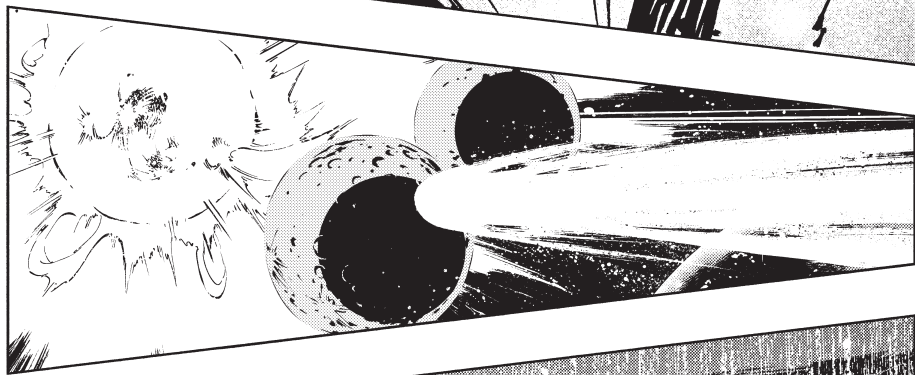
**GRNK**



**CRACK**



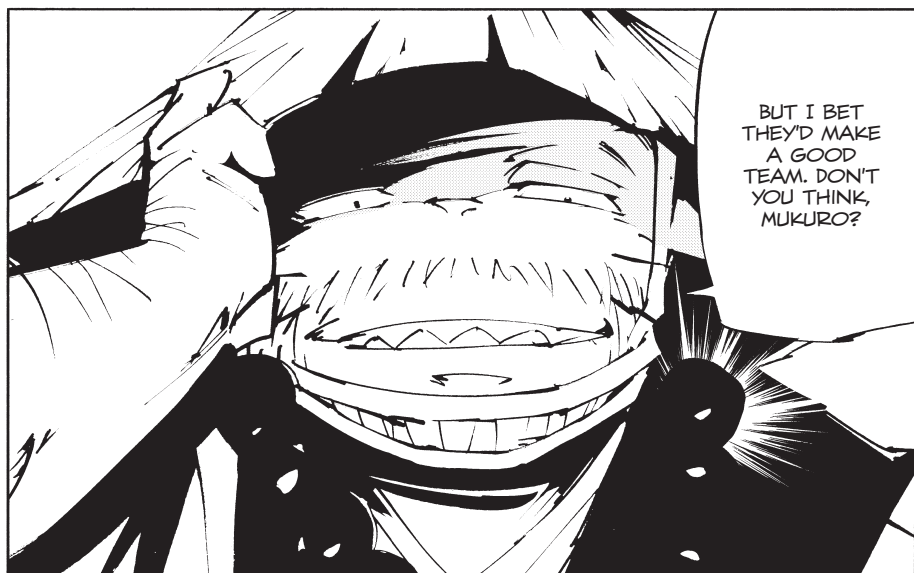












TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 3...





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# Nekogotaro

EXTRA CHAPTER:  
BEARING TROUBLE  
AWAY BY BEARING  
TALES

HIROYUKI  
TAKEI





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ANYWAY,  
IT'S THAT  
WACKJOB  
SAMURAI.

NO, I  
MEAN  
...

CLAMOR

CLAMOR

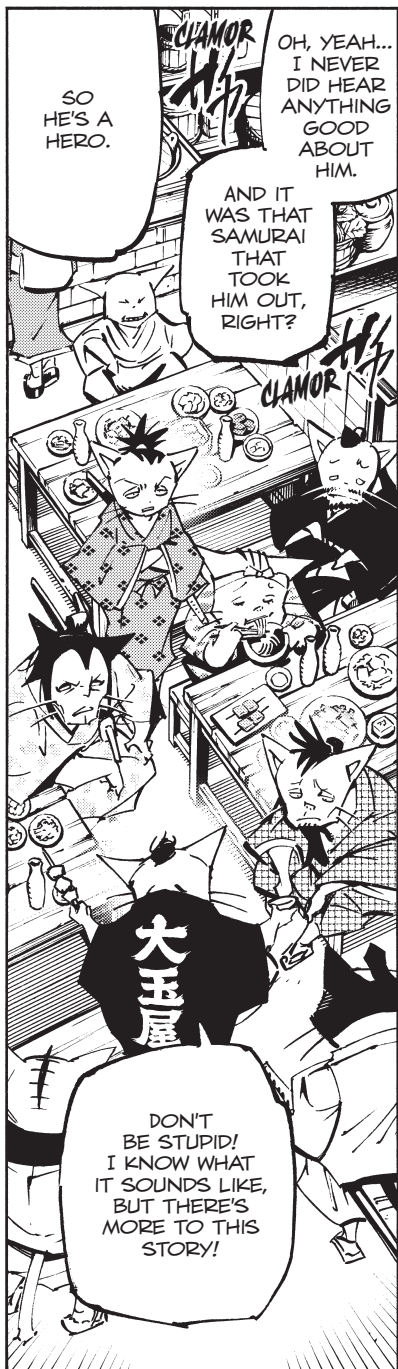
JACKET: ŌTAMAYA

DO YOU  
CATS KNOW  
ABOUT THE  
LANDLORD  
WHO OWNED  
THE VILLAGE  
ON THE  
RIDGE?

HIS  
NAME  
WAS...  
WHAT  
WAS IT  
AGAIN?

I'M  
TELLING  
YOU,  
MY LIFE  
IS THE  
PITS!





SO  
HE'S A  
HERO.

CLAMOR  
CLAMOR

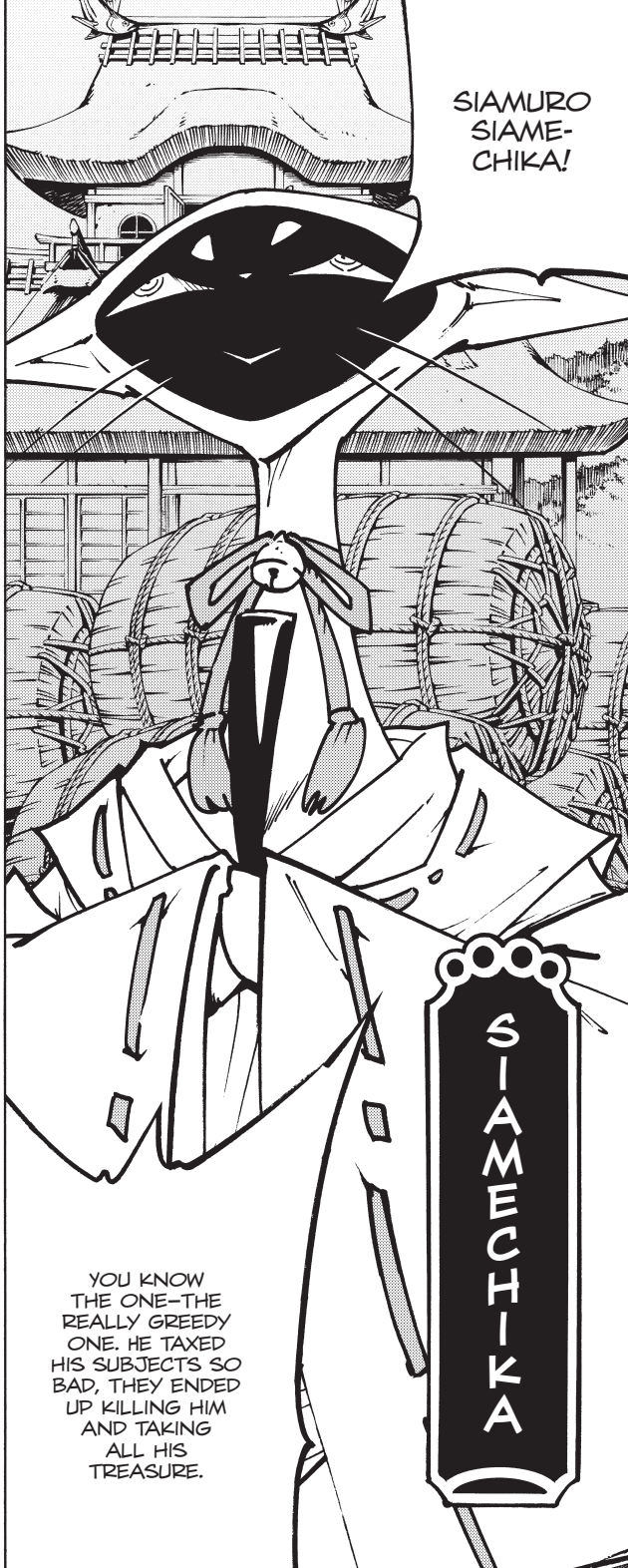
OH, YEAH...  
I NEVER  
DID HEAR  
ANYTHING  
GOOD ABOUT  
HIM.

AND IT  
WAS THAT  
SAMURAI  
THAT  
TOOK  
HIM OUT,  
RIGHT?

CLAMOR

大玉屋

DON'T  
BE STUPID!  
I KNOW WHAT  
IT SOUNDS LIKE,  
BUT THERE'S  
MORE TO THIS  
STORY!



SIAMURO  
SIAME-  
CHIKA!

YOU KNOW  
THE ONE--THE  
REALLY GREEDY  
ONE. HE TAXED  
HIS SUBJECTS SO  
BAD, THEY ENDED  
UP KILLING HIM  
AND TAKING  
ALL HIS  
TREASURE.

SIAMECHIKA



WHEN THE  
VILLAGERS  
TRIED TO  
LEAVE THE  
MANSION  
WITH THE  
LANDLORD'S  
TREASURE,  
THAT SAMURAI  
KILLED THEM,  
TOO!

BELIEVE  
IT OR  
NOT!



AND  
THAT'S  
NOT  
ALL.

HELL IF I  
KNOW. HE  
PROBABLY  
WANTED TO  
KEEP THE  
TREASURE  
FOR HIM-  
SELF.

HAVE  
YOU CATS  
HEARD  
ABOUT  
WHAT  
HAPPENED  
AT THE  
PORT  
TOWN?

SON  
OF A-!  
WHY  
WOULD  
HE DO  
THAT?

WHA  
?!

INNOCENT  
VILLAGERS  
WHO DID  
NOTHING  
WRONG?!





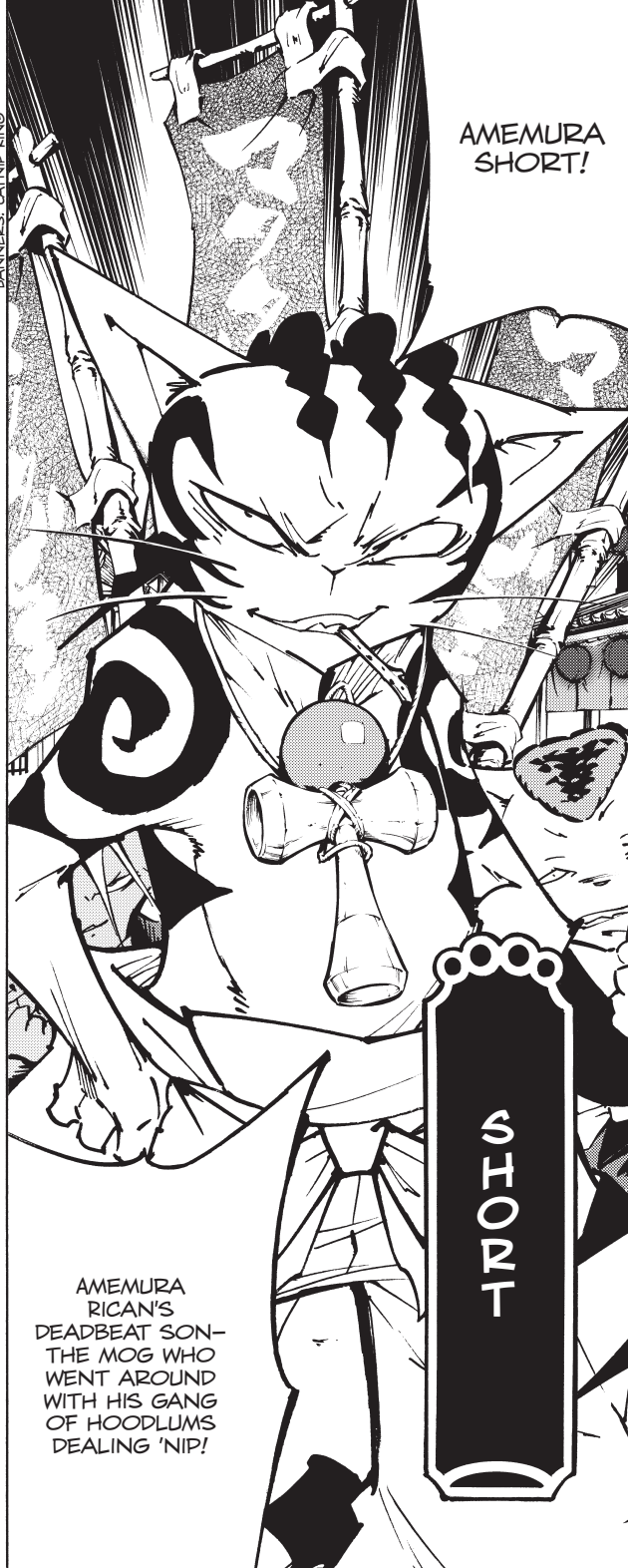
GOOD  
RIDDANCE,  
I SAY.

AND THAT  
SAMURAI  
KILLED  
'EM ALL,  
RIGHT?

OH YEAH...I  
HEARD ABOUT  
HIM. THAT  
DOGGONE  
KITTEN AND  
HIS PUNK  
FRIENDS  
WERE A REAL  
NUISANCE.

DON'T BE  
STUPID! I  
KNOW WHAT  
IT SOUNDS  
LIKE, BUT  
THERE'S  
MORE TO  
THIS STORY!

BANNERS: CATNIP KING



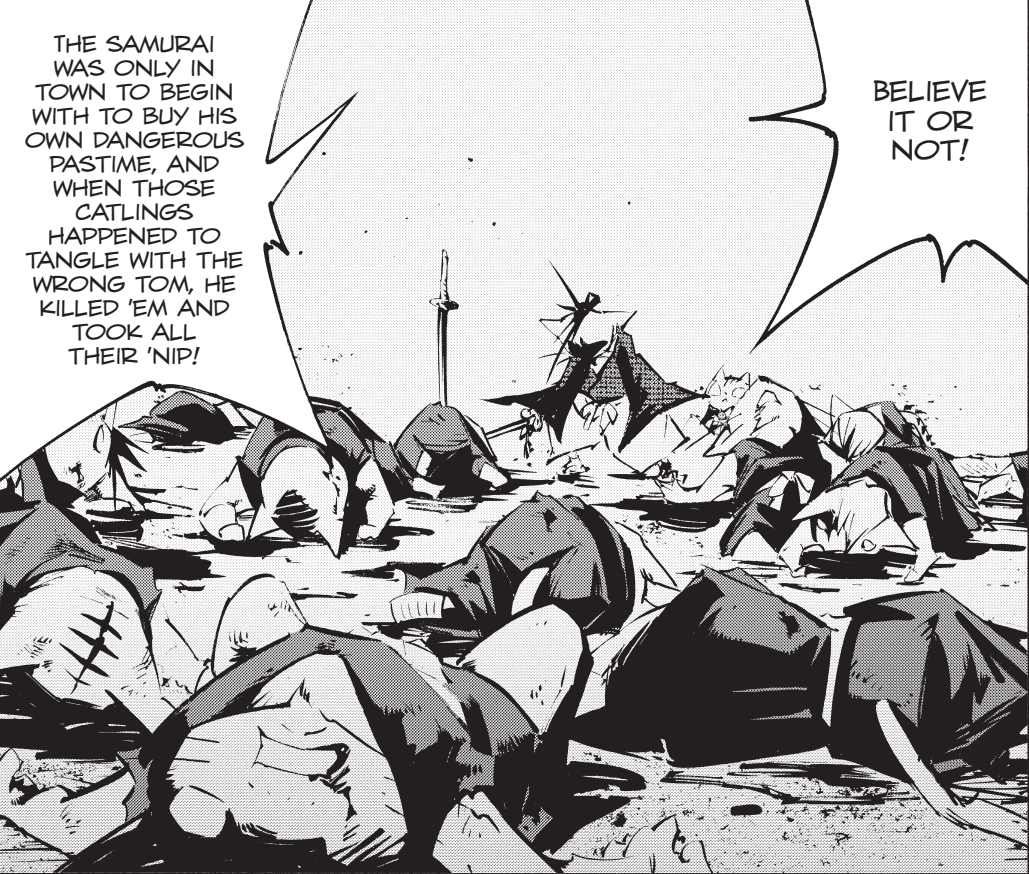
AMEMURA  
SHORT!

AMEMURA  
RICAN'S  
DEADBEAT SON-  
THE MOG WHO  
WENT AROUND  
WITH HIS GANG  
OF HOODLUMS  
DEALING 'NIP!

SHORT

THE SAMURAI  
WAS ONLY IN  
TOWN TO BEGIN  
WITH TO BUY HIS  
OWN DANGEROUS  
PASTIME, AND  
WHEN THOSE  
CATLINGS  
HAPPENED TO  
TANGLE WITH THE  
WRONG TOM, HE  
KILLED 'EM AND  
TOOK ALL  
THEIR 'NIP!

BELIEVE  
IT OR  
NOT!



THIS  
HAPPENED  
TO A GUEST  
AT MY  
ESTABLISH-  
MENT, SO  
I CAN'T GO  
AROUND SAY-  
ING IT TOO  
LOUD, BUT...

THERE'S  
MORE.

HIS NAME  
WAS...  
WHAT WAS  
IT AGAIN?

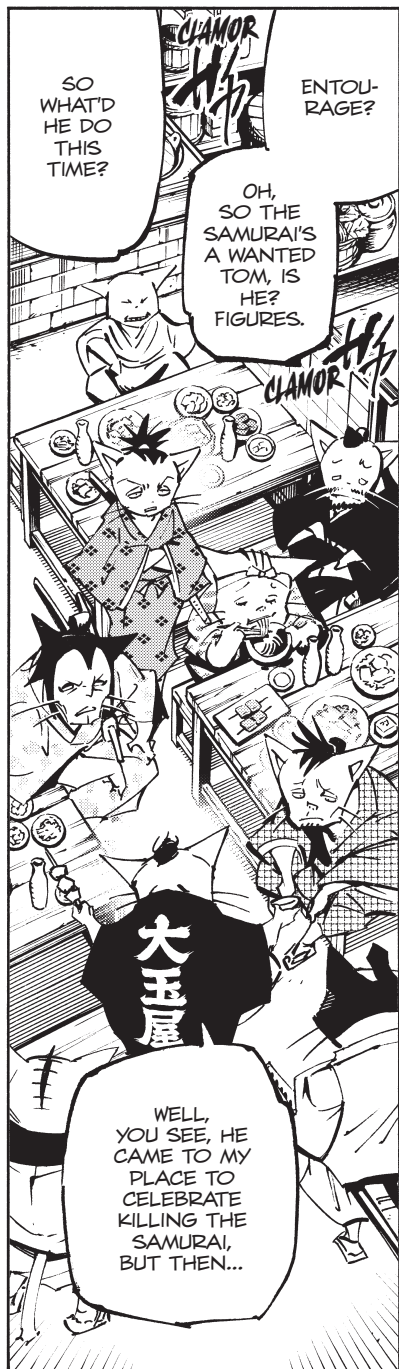


IN  
THAT CASE,  
I GUESS  
I DO FEEL  
SORRY FOR  
THE LITTLE  
KITTEENS.

WHAAA  
?!!!

SO HE'S  
A THIEF  
AND A  
JUNKIE?!





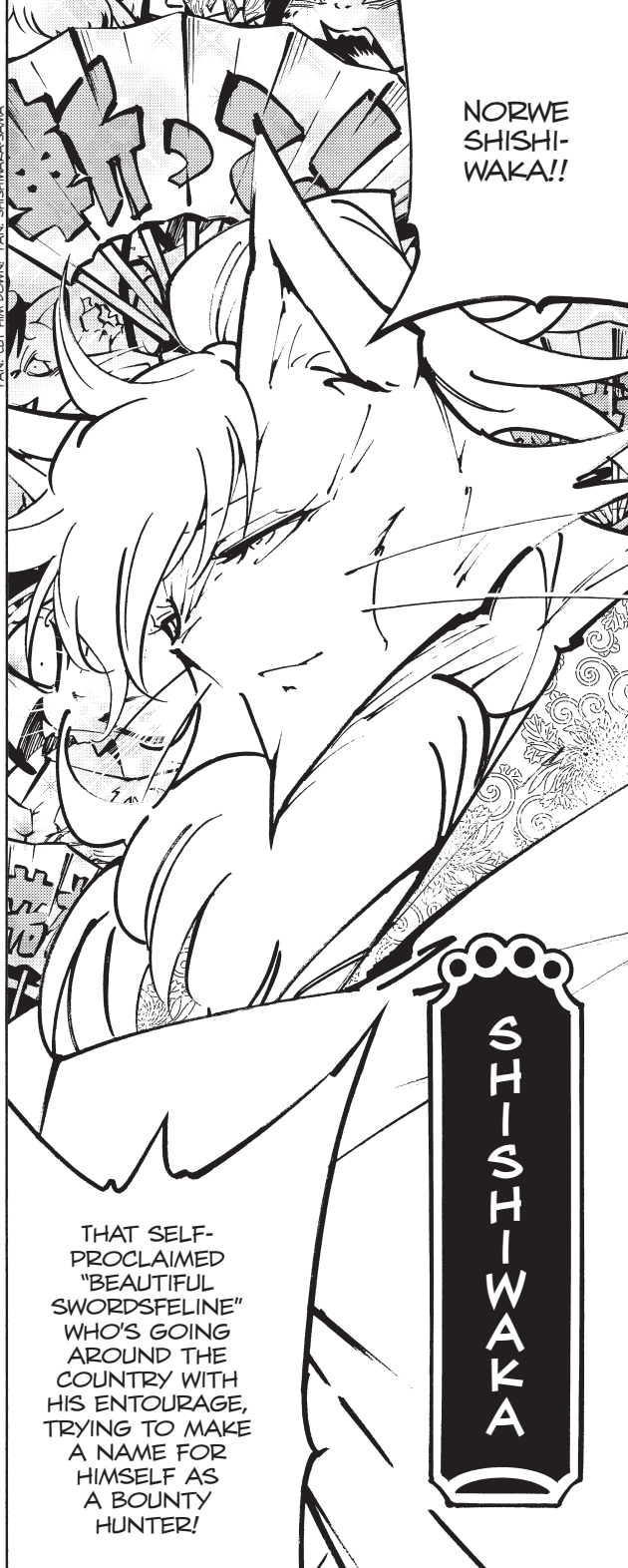
SO  
WHAT'D  
HE DO  
THIS  
TIME?

ENTOU-  
RAGE?

OH,  
SO THE  
SAMURAI'S  
A WANTED  
TOM, IS  
HE?  
FIGURES.

大玉屋  
WELL,  
YOU SEE, HE  
CAME TO MY  
PLACE TO  
CELEBRATE  
KILLING THE  
SAMURAI,  
BUT THEN...

PAN: OUT HIM DOWN! FAN: SHISHI-WAKA-SAWA



NORWE  
SHISHI-  
WAKA!!

SHISHI-WAKA

THAT SELF-  
PROCLAIMED  
"BEAUTIFUL  
SWORDSFELINE"  
WHO'S GOING  
AROUND THE  
COUNTRY WITH  
HIS ENTOURAGE,  
TRYING TO MAKE  
A NAME FOR  
HIMSELF AS  
A BOUNTY  
HUNTER!



THAT  
SAMURAI  
HID IN THE  
KITTY  
LITTER AND  
RAMMED  
A HOOK  
UP HIS  
ASS!!!

BELIEVE  
IT OR  
NOT!



AND HE WAS  
BARELY ALIVE  
AFTER TAKING  
A SWORD TO  
THE BACK.  
HE COULDN'T  
FIGHT IN ANY  
OTHER WAY.

WELL, THE  
"BEAUTIFUL  
SWORDS-  
FELINE"  
HAD  
TAKEN HIS  
KATANA.

OF COURSE,  
I ONLY  
HEARD ALL  
THAT FROM  
THE CAT WHO  
CAME TO OUR  
PLACE TO  
INVESTIGATE  
THIS MOG.



BUT WHO  
WANTS  
REVENGE  
SO BAD  
THAT THEY'D  
HIDE IN THE  
PRIVY AT A  
BROTHEL?

WHAAA  
?!!!

FIRST HE'S  
A JUNKIE  
AND NOW  
HE'S A  
PERVERTED  
FREAK?



ACCORDING  
TO HIM, THE  
SAMURAI'S  
NAME IS  
**NORA-  
CHIYO.**



A CERTAIN  
PERSON  
TOOK HIM  
IN WHEN  
HE WAS A  
KITTEN.

THEY GOT  
SEPARATED IN  
THE WAR, SO  
EVEN THOUGH  
HE'S GETTING  
ON IN YEARS,  
THE MOG'S  
STILL GOT HIS  
CHILDHOOD  
NAME.

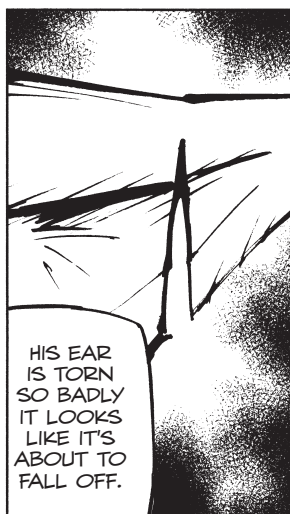
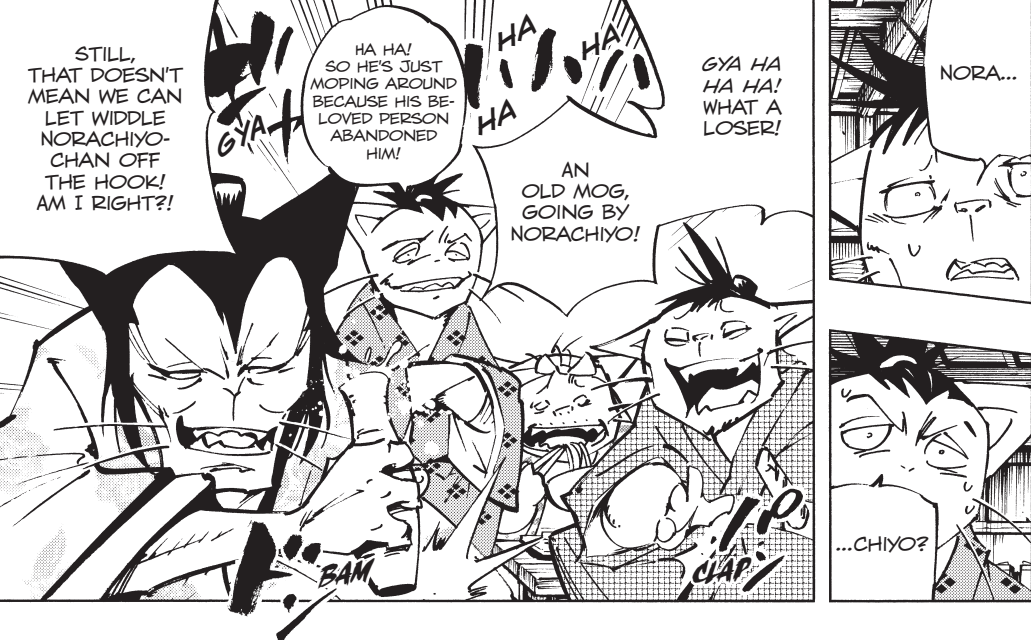
SHIRIYA  
ABYHEI.



A MEMBER OF  
THE SPECIAL  
SECRET POLICE  
FORCE, STRAIGHT  
FROM THE  
GOVERNMENT!!  
HE'S BEEN AFTER  
THIS SAMURAI  
FOR YEARS!

ABYHEI







K

RUSTLE

EX-CUSE ME.

AND MORE THAN ANYTHING, HE STINKS TO HIGH HEAVEN. ANYONE WOULD KNOW HIM THE MINUTE THEY SAW...

大玉屋

大玉屋

K

RUSTLE

EX-CUSE ME.

AND MORE THAN ANYTHING, HE STINKS TO HIGH HEAVEN. ANYONE WOULD KNOW HIM THE MINUTE THEY SAW...

大玉屋

大玉屋

K

RUSTLE

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大玉屋

大玉屋

K

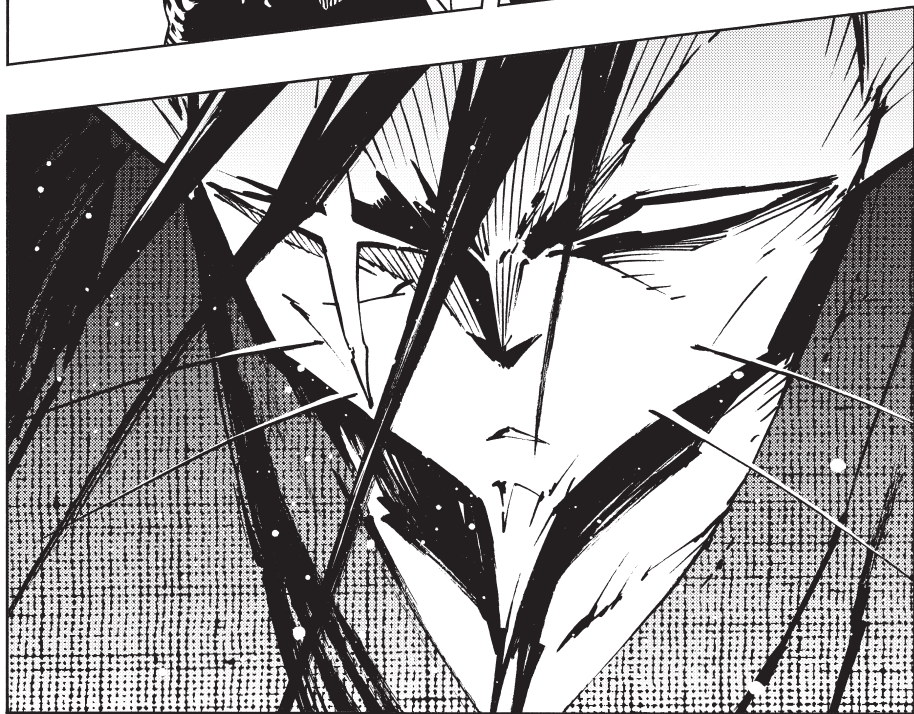
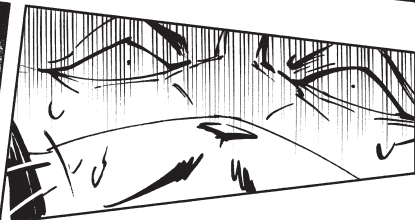
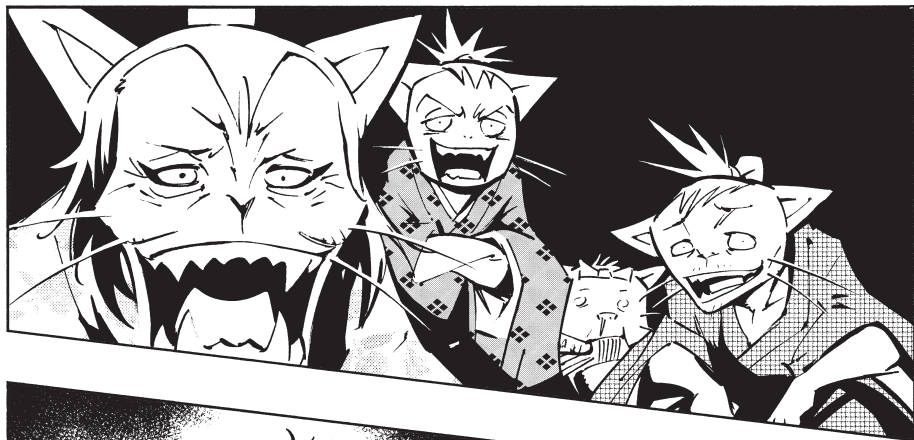
RUSTLE

EX-CUSE ME.

AND MORE THAN ANYTHING, HE STINKS TO HIGH HEAVEN. ANYONE WOULD KNOW HIM THE MINUTE THEY SAW...

大玉屋

大玉屋

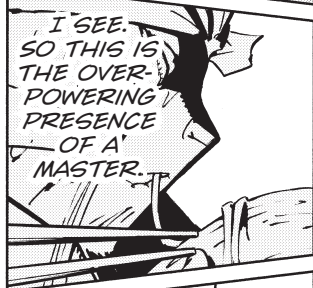
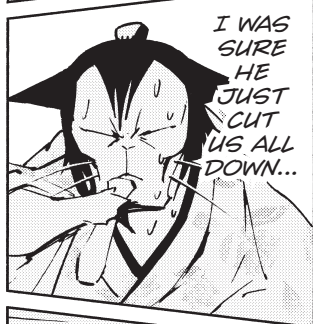












THIS  
PLACE  
SMELLS  
LIKE  
PISS.

HM?

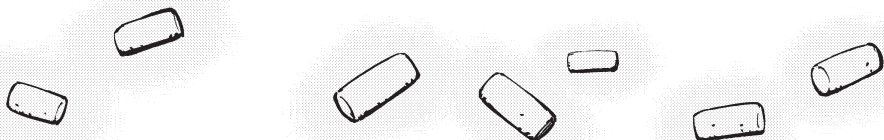
SNIFT

GASP!

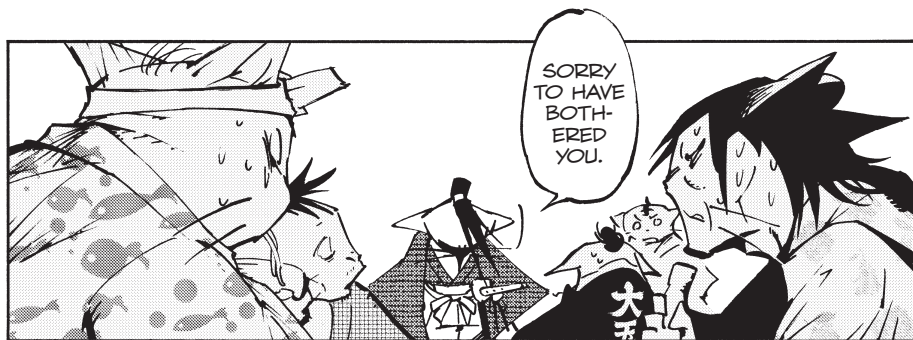
GASP!

NO  
WONDER  
EVERYONE  
GOT SO  
QUIET WHEN  
I WALKED  
IN.

OH.  
I DON'T  
THINK I'VE  
HAD A BATH  
SINCE I WENT  
BURROWING  
IN THE KITTY  
LITTER.









ネ

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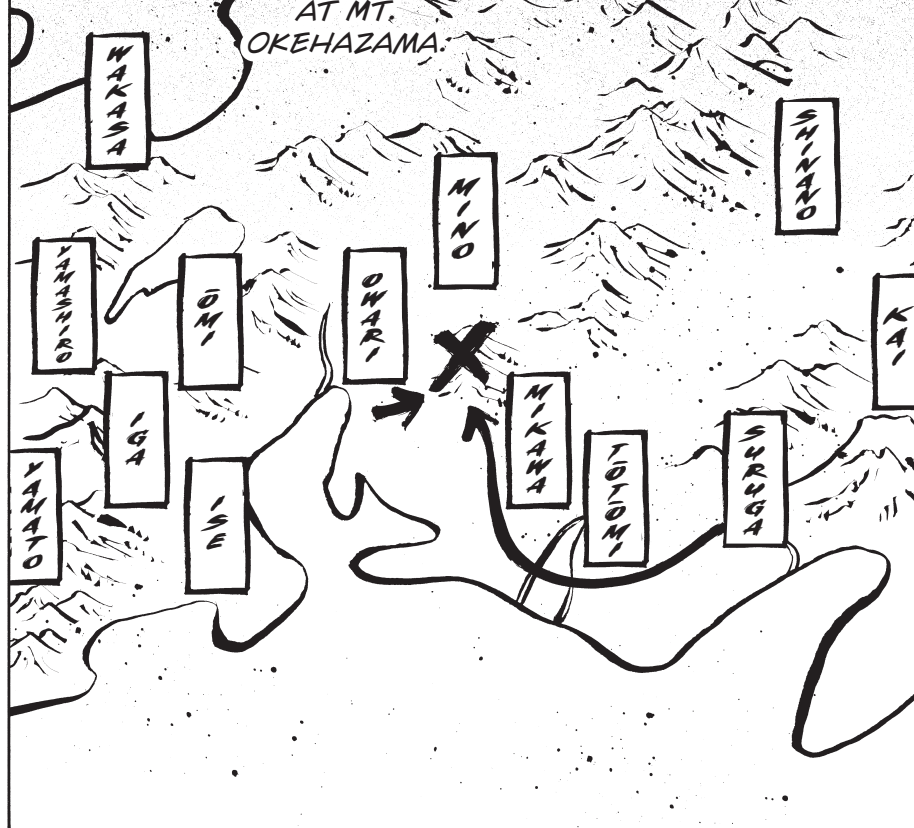
ラ

**SPECIAL  
MANGA  
IN HONOR  
OF THE  
NEKOGAHARA/  
NOBUNYAGA'S  
AMBITION  
COLLABORATION**



IN AN  
ATTEMPT TO  
VANQUISH THE  
MINOR DAIMYŌ  
ODA NOBUNYAGA,  
IMYAGAWA  
YOSHIMOTO OF  
SURUGA LED AN  
ARMY OF 25,000  
INTO OWARI AND  
TOOK UP CAMP  
AT MT.  
OKEHAZAMA.

ON THE  
19TH DAY  
OF THE  
FIFTH  
MONTH,  
IN THE  
THIRD  
YEAR OF  
EIROKU\*...



\*JUNE 12, 1560

HAVING  
SUFFERED  
DEFEAT  
UPON  
DEFEAT,  
ODA'S ARMY  
COULD LEAVE  
ONLY A FEW  
HUNDRED  
SOLDIERS  
AT THE  
WESTERN  
FRONT BY  
MARUNE  
FORTRESS...

ODA  
HAD AN  
ARMY OF  
A MERE  
4,000 WITH  
WHICH  
TO MEET  
HIM.



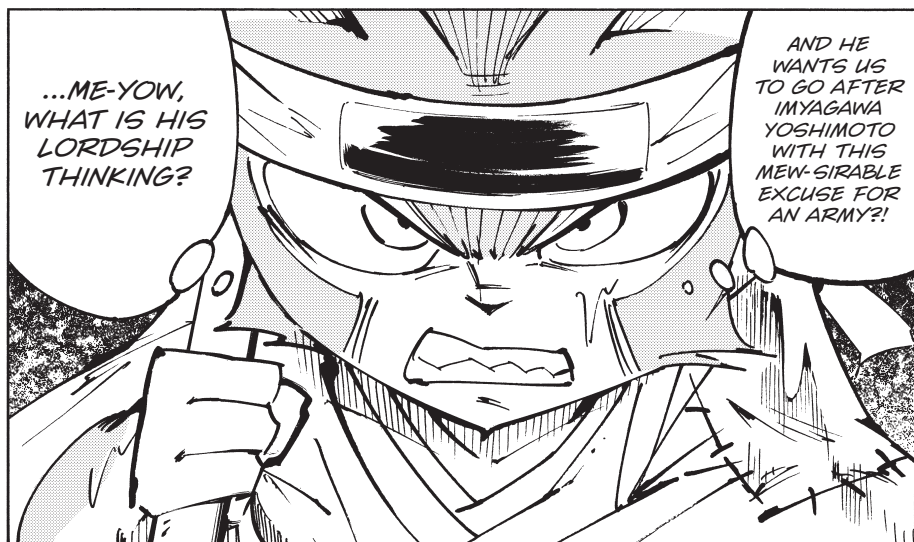


THIS  
EVENT  
WOULD  
COME TO  
BE KNOWN  
AS THE  
BATTLE OF  
OKEHAZAMA.

NEVER-  
THELESS,  
AGAINST ALL  
ODDS, THE  
ODA ARMY  
WENT FORTH,  
THROUGH  
TORRENTIAL  
RAIN, TO  
IMYAGAWA'S  
MAIN CAMP  
AT MT.  
OKEHAZAMA.

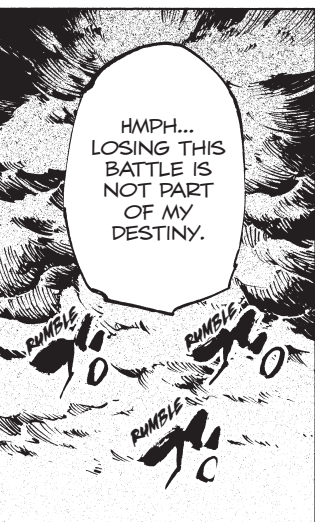






...ODA  
NOBU-  
NYAGA!!

YOU'RE  
A DOG-  
GONE  
FOOL...



HMPH...  
LOSING THIS  
BATTLE IS  
NOT PART  
OF MY  
DESTINY.

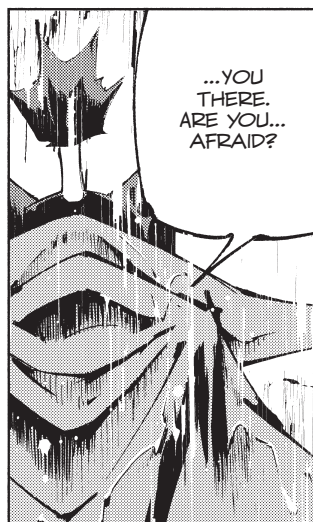


ME?!  
NO, MY  
LORDSHIP,  
FEAR IS THE  
FUR-THEST  
THING FROM  
MY MIND!

HUH  
?!

I WAS  
ONLY....!

HOW  
DID HE  
KNOW  
?!



...YOU  
THERE.  
ARE YOU...  
AFRAID?



**I,  
ODA  
NOBU-  
NYAGA...**

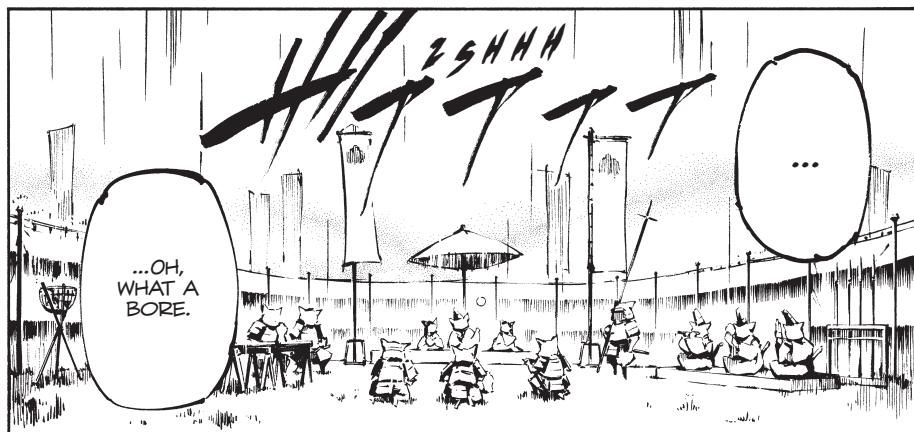
**...WILL  
CREATE  
ONE  
REALM  
UNDER  
ONE  
CAT.**

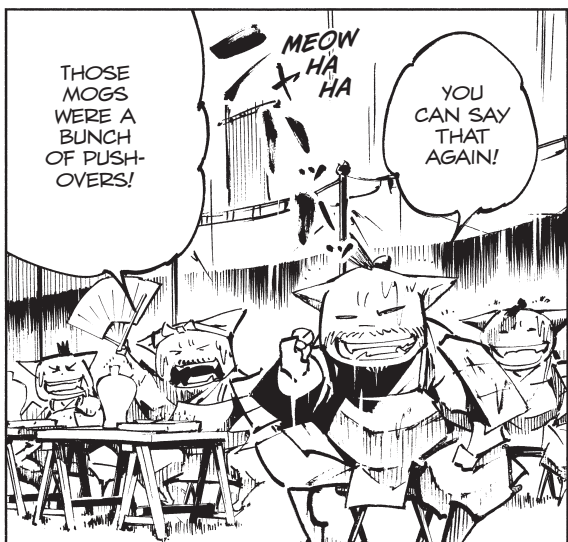


KA-  
CRACK

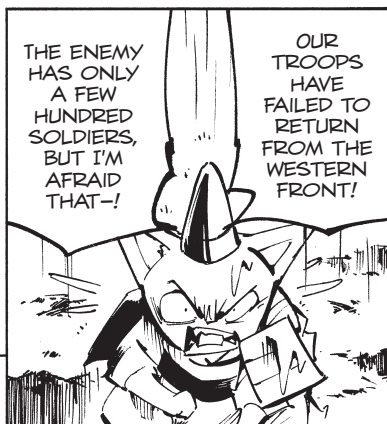
ORA  
NOBUNYAGA'S  
AMBITION

HIROYUKI  
TAKEI



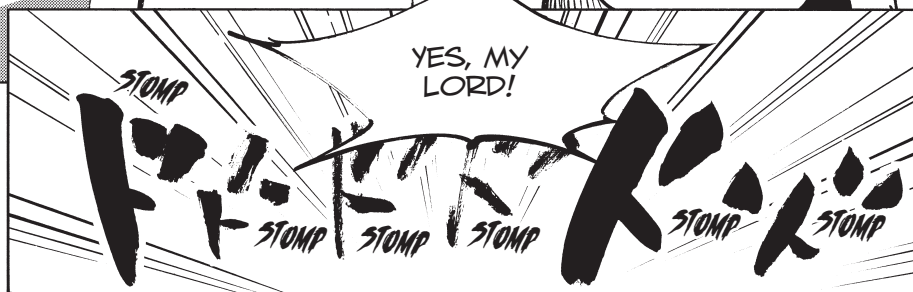


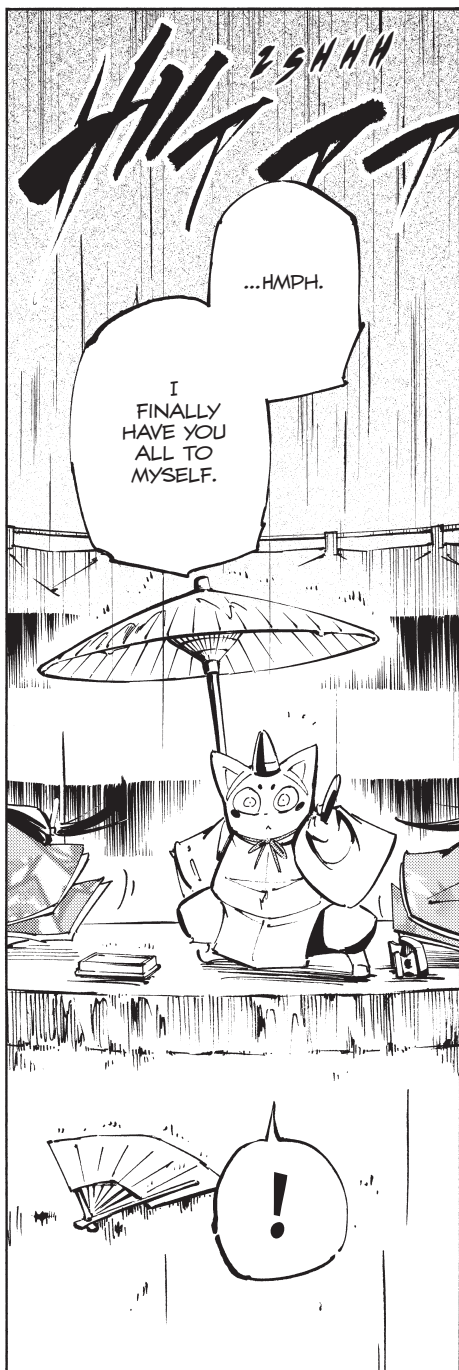


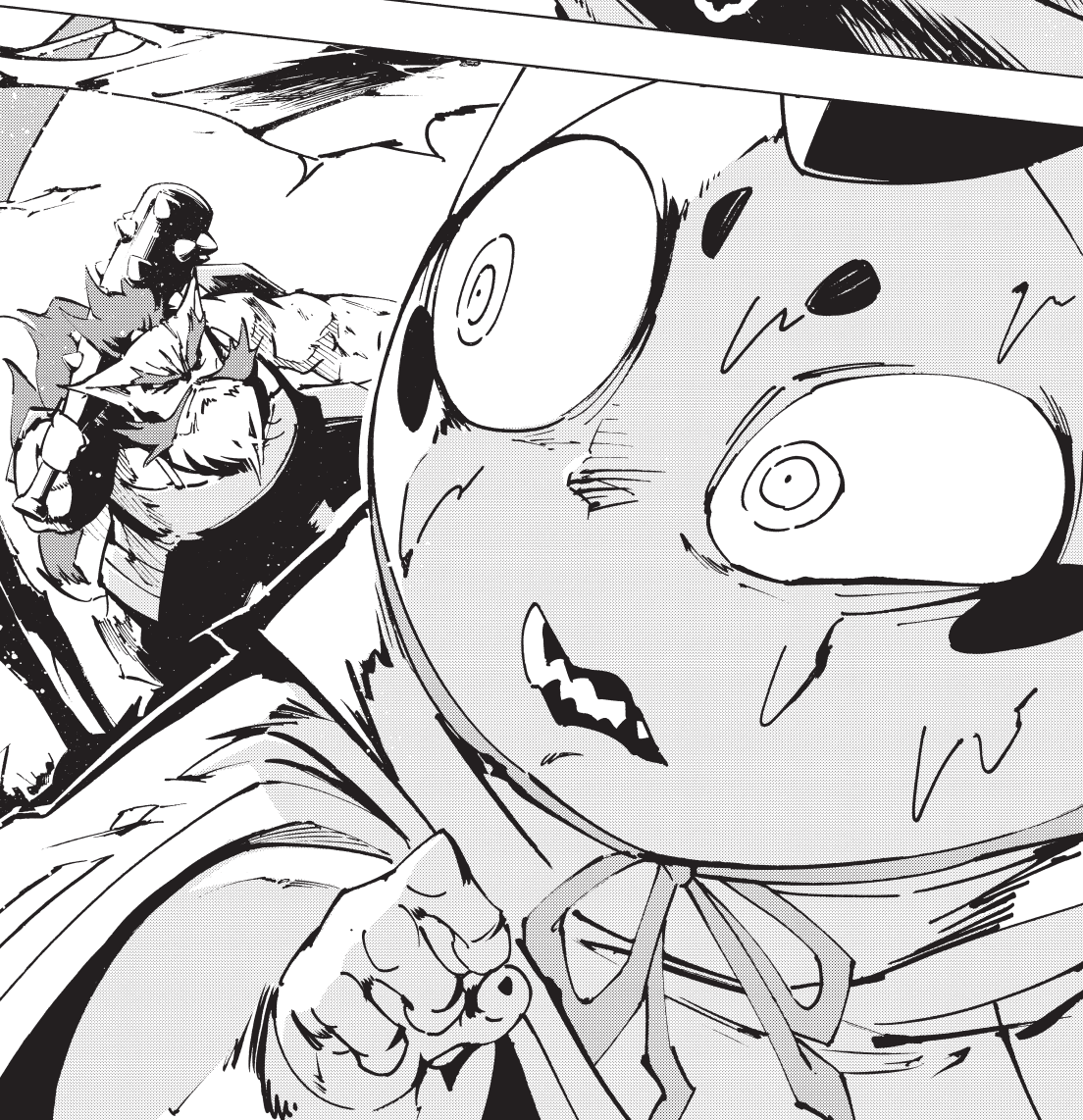
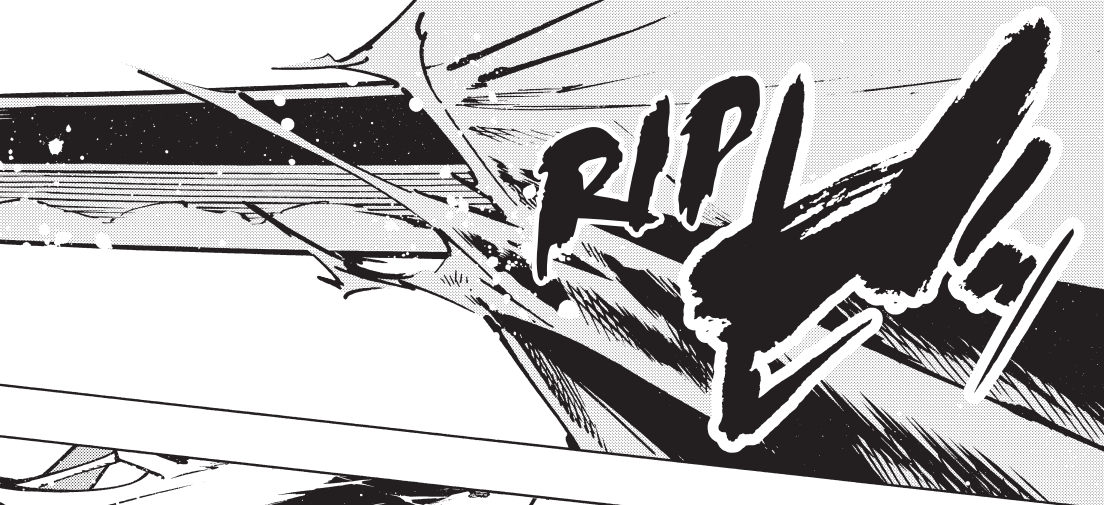


I WILL TEACH  
THE FOOL OF  
OWARI THAT HE  
IS POWERLESS  
BEFORE ME!!!

VERY WELL!  
THEN SEND  
IN ALL THE  
REINFORCE-  
MENTS!









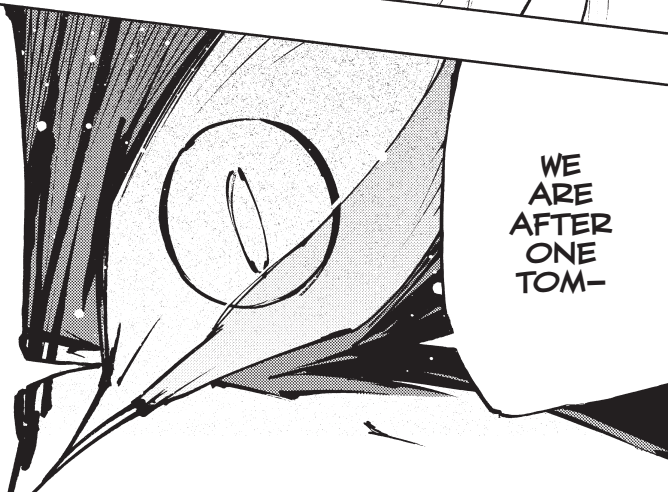


I KNEW  
THIS  
TORRENT  
WOULD  
MASK OUR  
APPROACH.

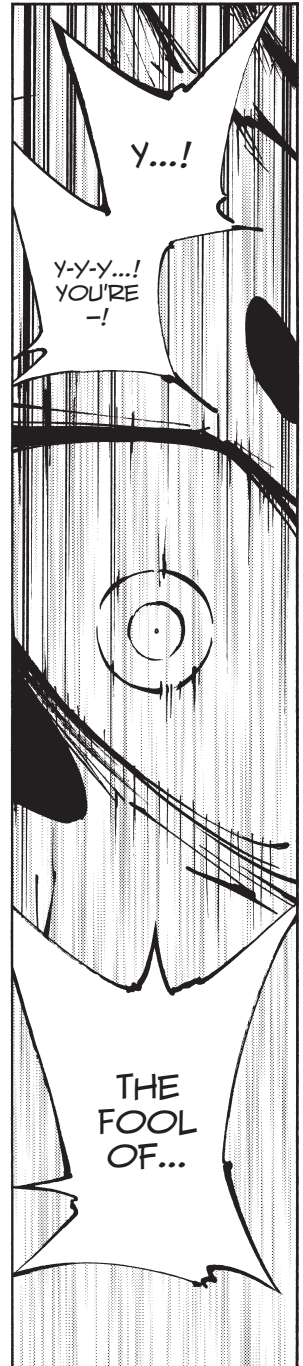


NOW IS THE  
MOMENT OF  
TRUTH. PAY  
NO HEED TO  
THE OTHER  
SOLDIERS.

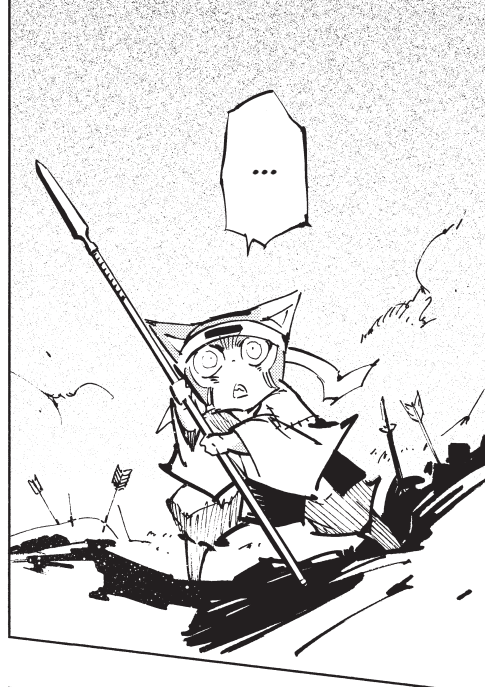
IMYA-  
GAWA  
YOSHI-  
MOTO,  
AND HIM  
ALONE.



WE  
ARE  
AFTER  
ONE  
TOM-







...RRREALLY  
DEFEATED  
THE FAMOUS  
IMYAGAWA  
YOSHI-  
MOTO!!!

BO-BOOM





I WILL  
CREATE  
ONE  
REALM  
UNDER  
ONE  
CAT!



IN THE  
WARRING  
STATES ERA,  
WARLORD  
FOUGHT  
WARLORD FOR  
SUPREMACY.  
THE FELINE  
COMMANDERS  
SHED EACH  
OTHER'S BLOOD  
IN THEIR CLIMB  
TO THE TOP.



IN THE  
END, THE  
ONE TO  
GAIN THE  
ENTIRE  
NATION  
WOULD  
BE...

**ODA**  
**NOBU-NYAGA'S**  
**AMBITION**

THIS-  
THIS-  
IS  
NOBU-  
NYAGA'S  
AMBITION  
!!!



# TRANSLATION NOTES

## Wakizashi, page 22



Meaning “side insert,” a *wakizashi* is a sword worn at a warrior's side along with his longer katana as a symbol of his samurai status. This blade can be used as a backup sword, or for closer combat.

## Okakatō, page 23



The name of Mukuro's secret weapon literally means “bonito flakes blade,” where bonito is a type of fish—possibly one of Mukuro's favorites. Or perhaps she named her sword after the tasty treat because together, *okakatō* means “heel,” as in “the heel of the foot.”

## Himemasu Castle, page 32

This castle bears a striking resemblance to the real life historical fortress, Himeji Castle, which was awarded by the shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu to his son-in-law for the latter's service in the battle of Sekigahara. The name Himemasu may be more palatable to the characters of *Nekogahara*, as it is the Japanese word for the sockeye salmon, and it is ruled by the Shakegawa, whose name means “salmon skin”.

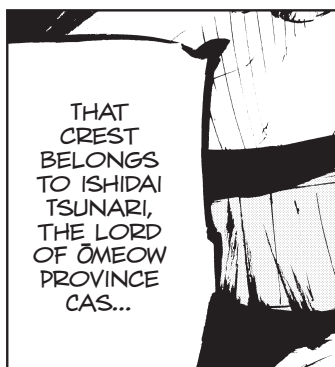




## I used the back of my sword, page 90

The katana used by samurai is a single-edged sword, meaning it's sharp on one side and blunt on the other. Striking one's enemy with the blunt side of the blade is a way to teach them a lesson while letting them live to remember it.

## Ishidai Tsunari, page 121



The name of the man Short is remembering will perhaps bring two things to the mind of a Japanese reader. The first is the striped beakfish, or *ishidai*. A few of these fish became famous for taking up residence in a ship that broke loose and went adrift after the Tohoku Earthquake and following tsunami in 2011, earning them the name “tsunami fish.” The second thing Japanese readers will remember is the name Ishida Mitsunari, who was a military commander who fought, and lost, in the battle of Sekigahara.

## Netherworld Soul-Reaper, page 129

The name of Short's special move is rife with wordplay. In Japanese, it is *jigoku no kama-otoshi*. The first part, *jigoku no*, is straightforward enough, meaning “of or relating to hell, the netherworld, etc.” *Kama-otoshi* can mean “sickle drop,” as in bringing a sickle down either to harvest grain or to strike an enemy. In Japan, a small sickle was often connected to a heavy weight via a chain, creating a weapon not entirely unlike Short's kendama. *Kama* is also the word for the





head of a fish, and *kama-otoshi* is the removal of the fish's head in preparation for cooking, hence the alternate spelling for this attack name: Netherworld Sole-Reaper.

## Nobunyaga's Ambition, page 156

*Nobunyaga's Ambition* is a spinoff of the *Nobunaga's Ambition* game series, in which all the characters—who are real Japanese historical figures—are reimagined as cats. It's a social game that can be played on mobile devices, and for a time was available in North America as *Samurai Cats*. The game had a collaboration with this manga series, in which players could obtain in-game items featuring artwork by Hiroyuki Takei.

## Success story in the making, page 160



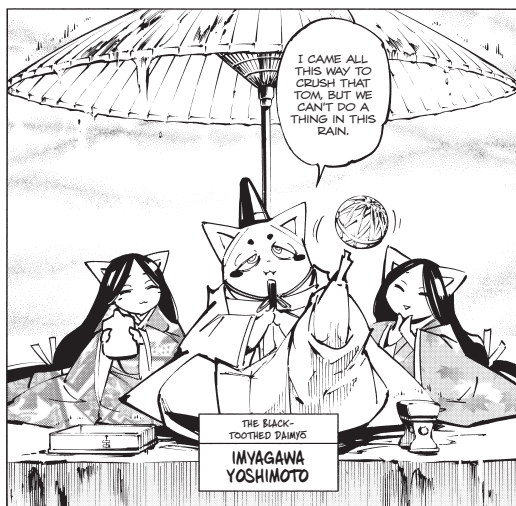
Kinoshita Tōkittyō, known in human form as Kinoshita Tōkichirō, began his career as a lowly foot soldier, but eventually became the successor to Nobunaga himself and the second of Japan's unifiers, who put an end to the Warring States Period.

## One realm under one cat, page 162

This is the feline version of one translation of Oda Nobunaga's historical slogan, *tenka fubu*, or “one realm under one sword.” The slogan, which he used on his personal seal to sign all written correspondence, announced his intention to unify the nation, which up to that point had been in a state of constant civil war.



## The Black-Toothed Daimyō, page 164



Imyagawa is seen here wearing the traditional dress of the nobles of his time, including the black lacquer over his teeth. Even though he was busy waging war, he still took the time to apply his makeup as a sign of his courtly sensibilities.

## **Nekogahara 2**

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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