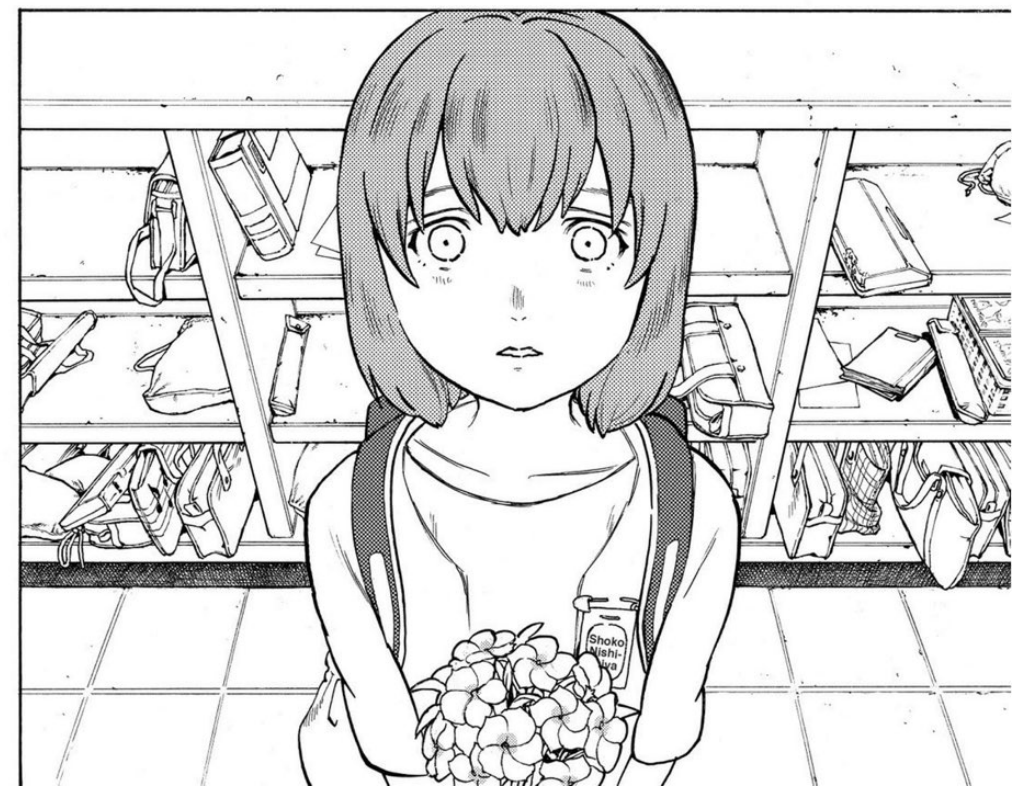
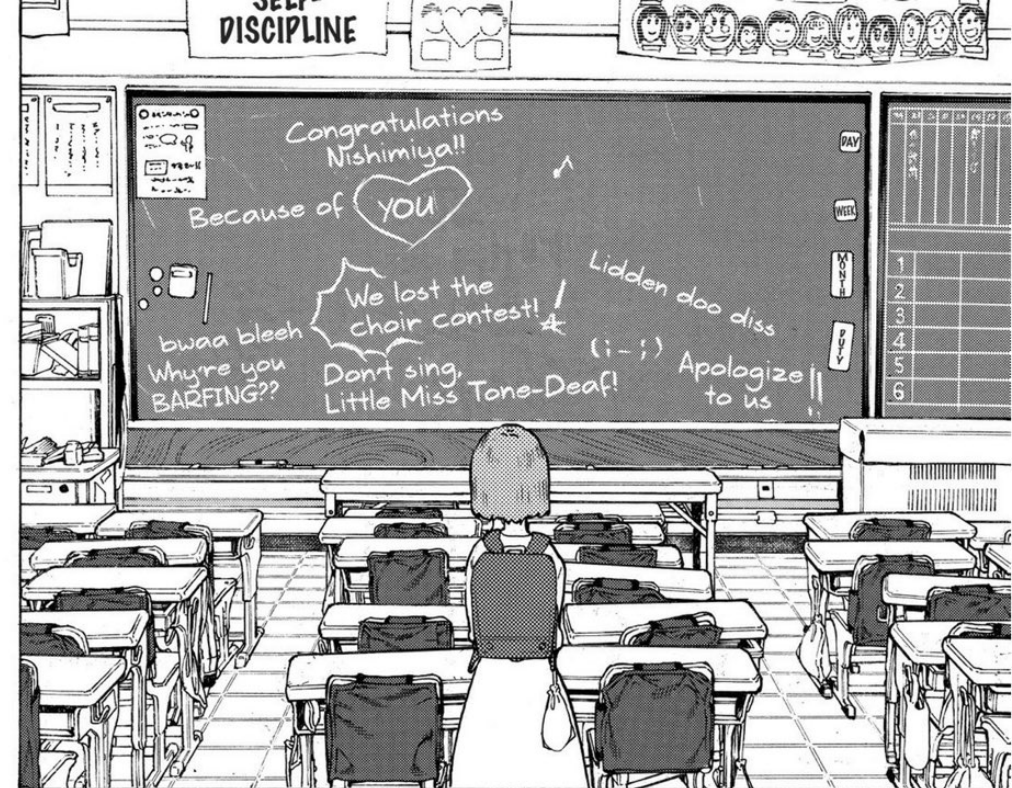
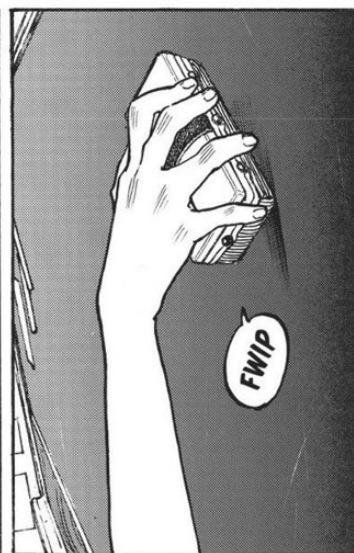
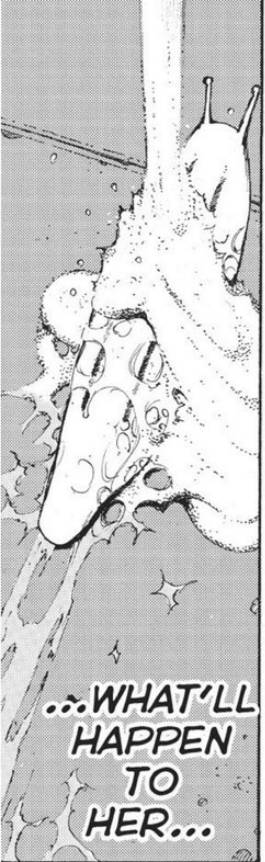






...WHAT'LL
HAPPEN
TO
HER...



HHHHH

I WANNA
KNOW...



...IF I
KEEP
THIS
UP...



WELL,
NOW
SHE'S
GOT
MY
ATTEN-
TION!



...OR GET
PISSED OFF...

LET'S
TAKE
THIS
OUTSIDE.



OR CRY...



IS THAT
ALL
SHE'S
GOT?

RARGH!

WHO THE
HELL DID
THIS?

I THOUGHT
SHE'D FLIP
OUT LIKE THAT!



WHAT'S WITH
THIS CHICK?

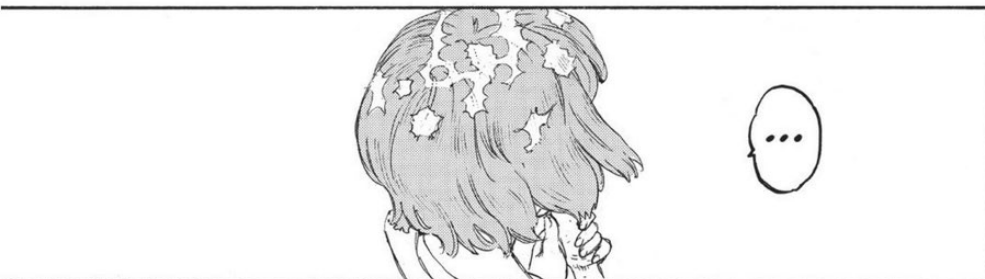


DIDN'T I, NISHI-MIYA?!



I ALREADY DID!

SAY YOU'RE SORRY.



...



I'LL ASK HER WHEN I GET A CHANCE.



APOLOGIZE TO HER LATER.

SEE?



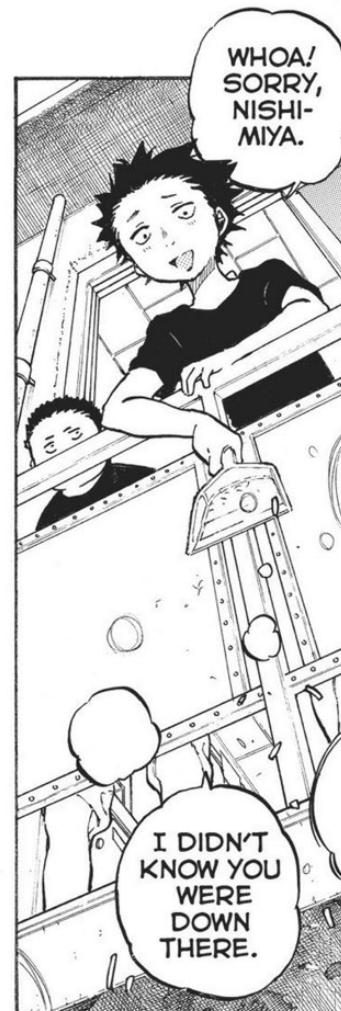
I KNOW!

OH!



MR. TAKEUCHI! WHY CAN'T SHOKO HEAR, ANYWAY?

IT'S SUCH A PAIN, HUH?



WHOA! SORRY, NISHI-MIYA.

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE DOWN THERE.



MR. TAKEUCHI, SHOYA ...

WHAT HAPPENED?

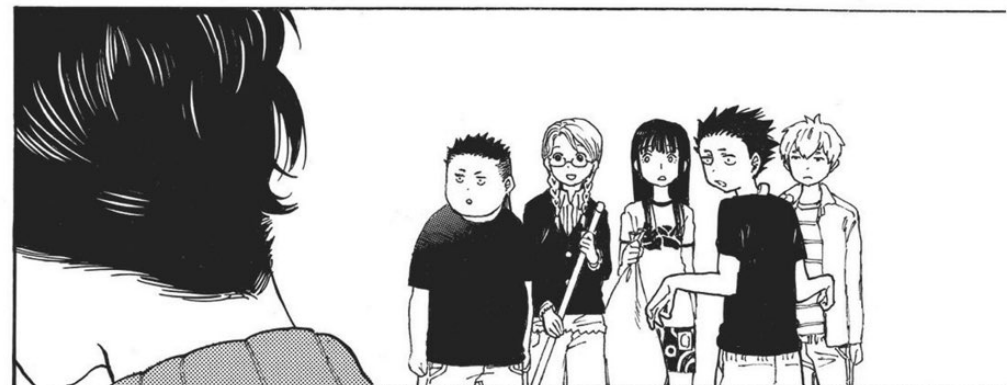
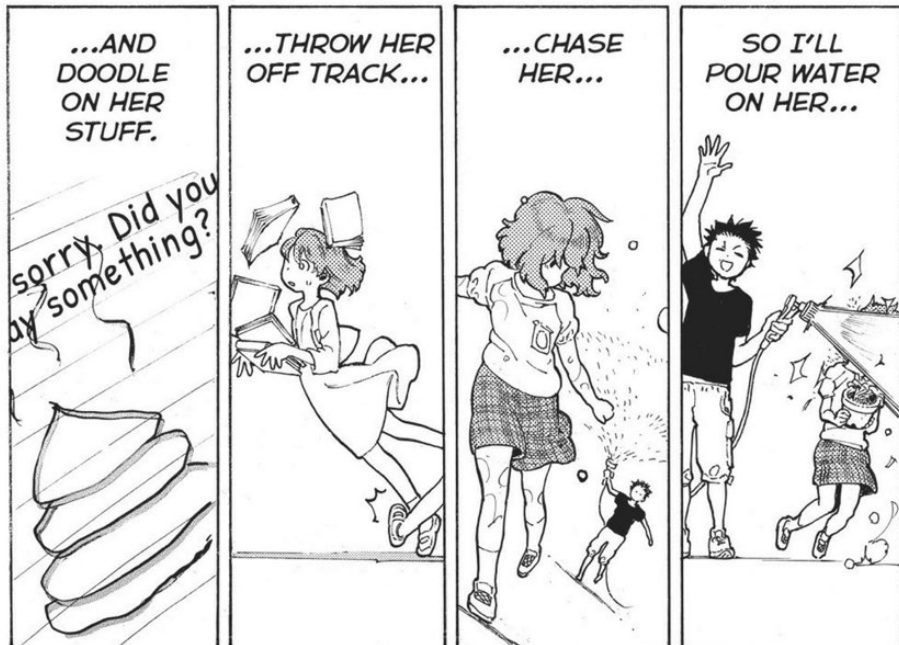


KAZU JABBED ME IN THE EYE EARLIER!

I MEAN IT, MIKI! I CAN'T SEE VERY WELL TODAY!

STOP GOOFING OFF, BOYS!

SORRY 'BOUT THAT.



*A LEGENDARY MINSTREL WHO WAS FORCED TO PLAY FOR EVIL SPIRITS. HIS FRIEND, A PRIEST, PAINTED HOICHI'S BODY WITH SUTRAS TO WARD OFF THE SPIRITS BUT FORGOT TO PAINT HIS EARS. WHEN THE SPIRITS CAME FOR THE NIGHTLY PERFORMANCE, HIS EARS WERE THE ONLY PART OF HIS BODY THEY COULD SEE, SO THEY RIPPED THEM OFF.







WHADDA
YOU
WANT?

GET
OUTTA
OUR
WAY.

WHOA!
SHE'S
HERE!



WHAT'S
SHE
WRITING?

"PLEASE
APOLO-
GIZE" OR
SOME-
THING?



WAS SHE...
WAITING
FOR ME?



i'm sorry.

YEAH,
RIGHT.
LIKE I'D
APOLOGIZE
TO THE
LIKES
OF-



THOUGH,
WELL...
I DO
UNDER-
STAND
HOW YOU
FEEL.



HE KNOWS
SHE'S
BRINGING
THIS ON
HERSELF.

HUH...
SO EVEN
MR. TAKEUCHI
GETS IT.



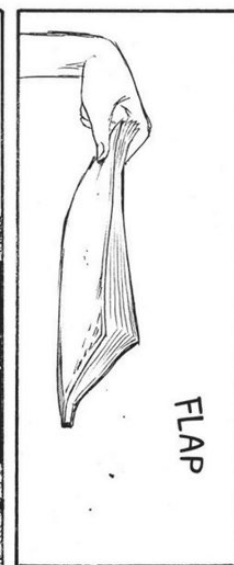
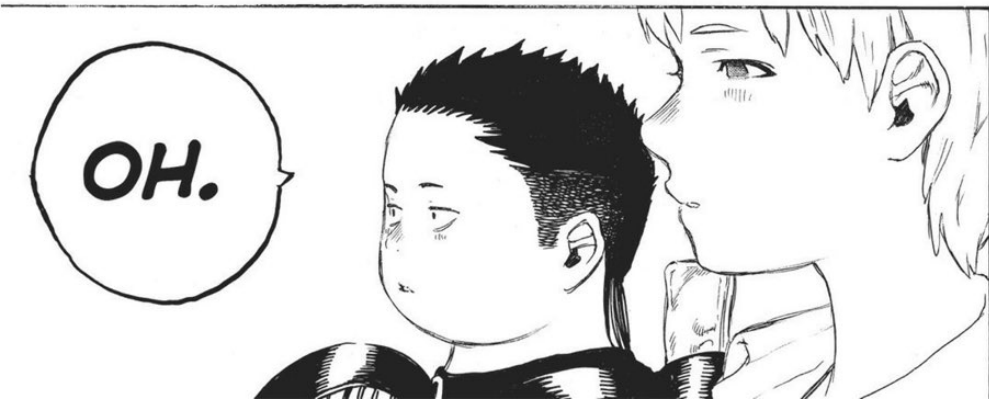
HUH?

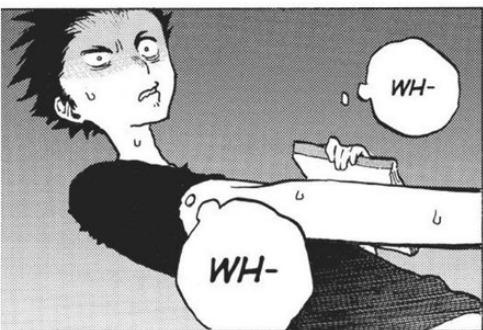
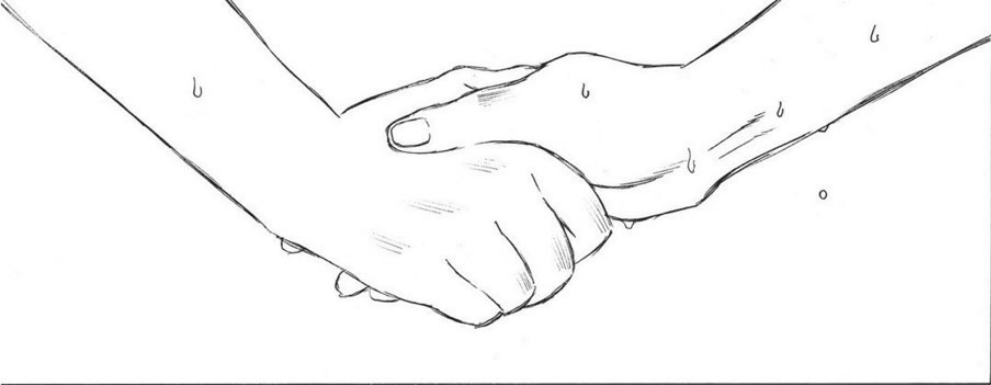
SPEAK
OF THE
DEVIL.

ALL'S
WELL THAT
ENDS
WELL.
LET'S GO
HOME.

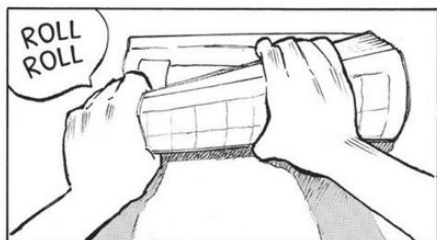
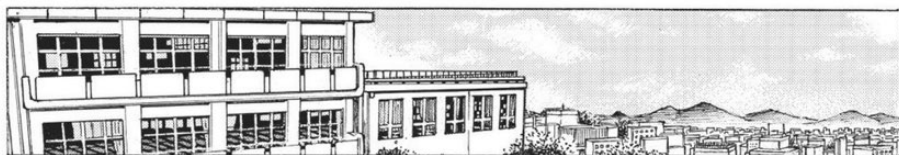
AWW. I
WANTED
TO SEE
YOU SAY
SORRY.

I DON'T
HAVE TO
APOLOGIZE!
I FIGURED
IT OUT.







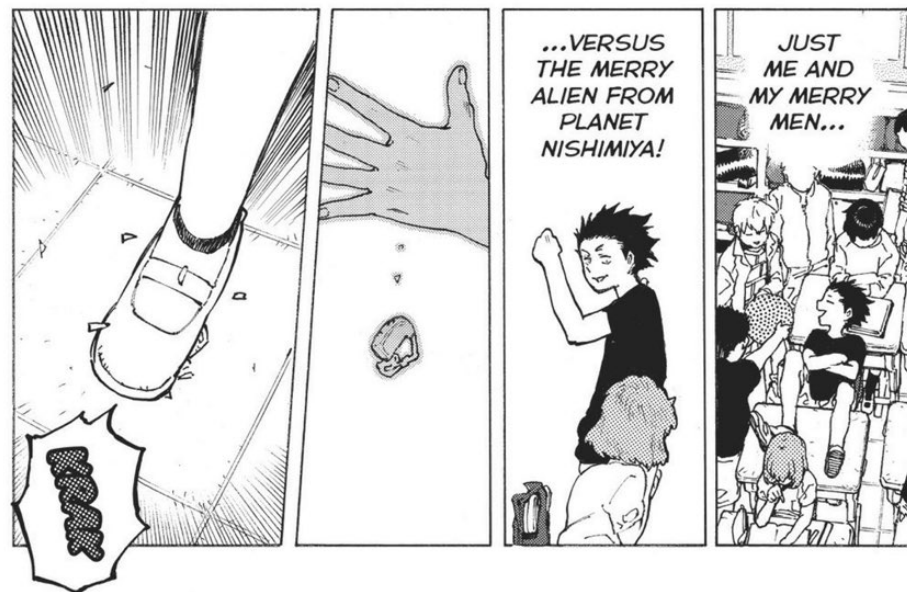


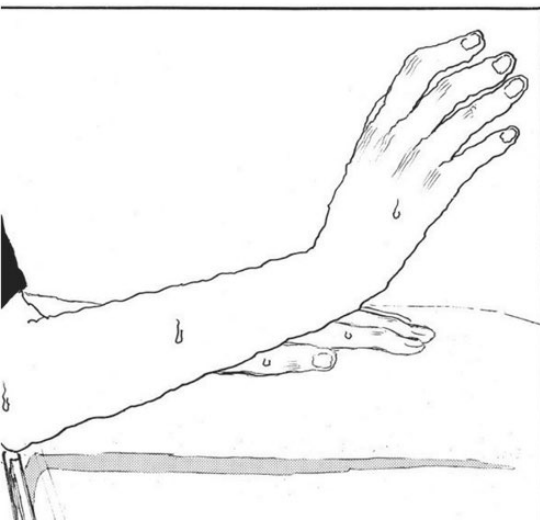
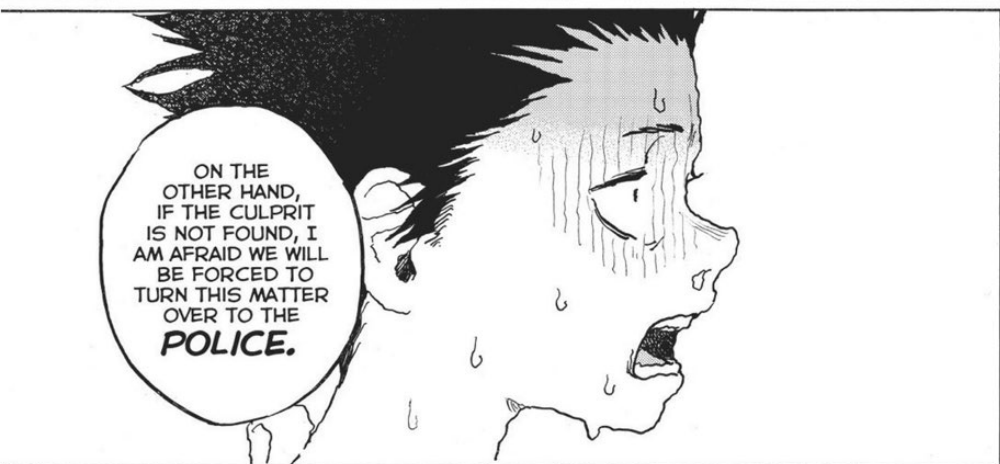


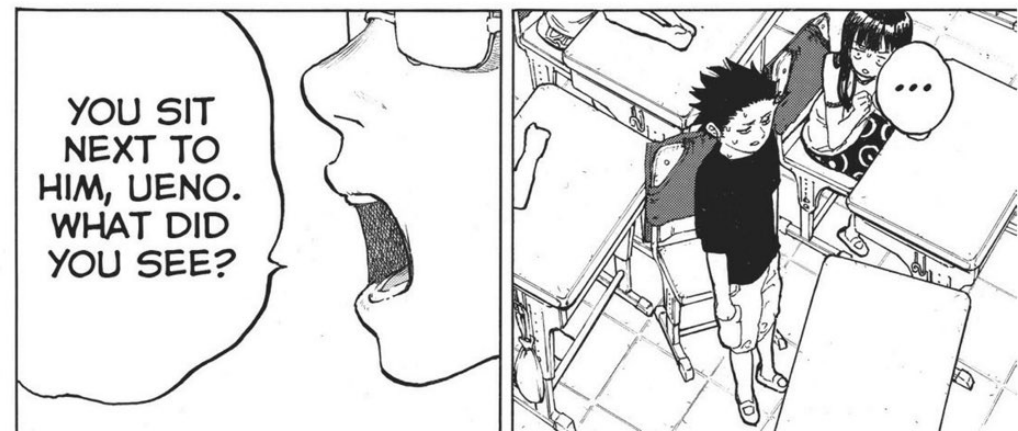
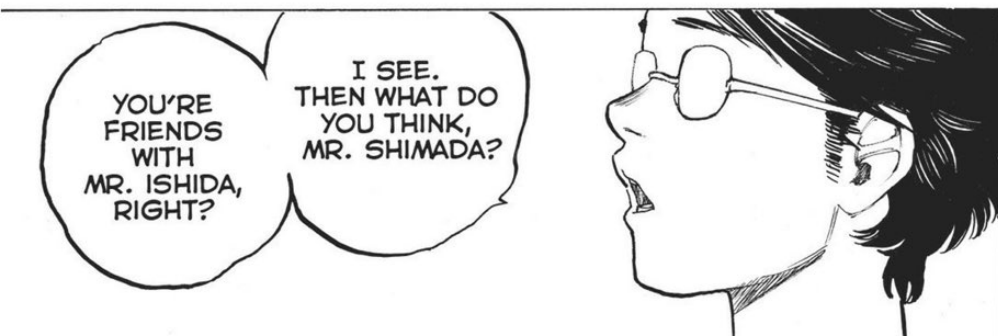
IS THIS THE
FEELING
THEY CALL
"SATISFAC-
TION"?!



WHAT
FUN!!









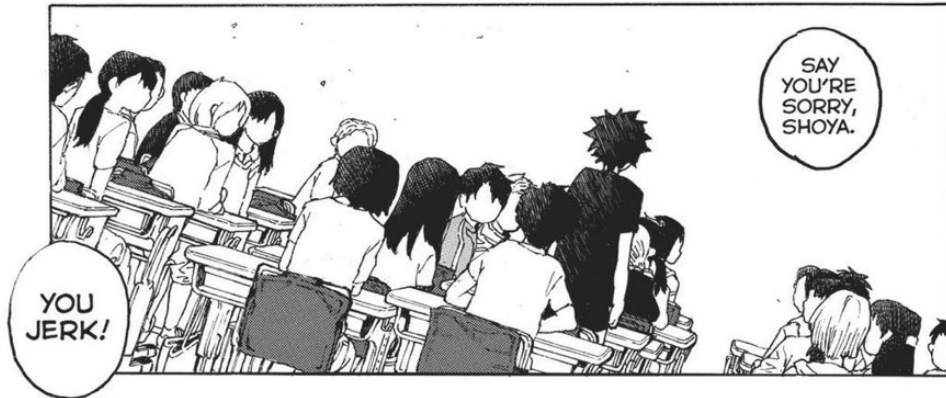
WHY CAN'T
WE ALL
JUST BE
FRIENDS?

YOU'RE
SO MEAN,
SHOYA...

I'M THE
CLASS
REPRESENTATIVE.
I WOULD
NEVER DO
SUCH A
THING!

Drip

WHY WOULD
YOU EVEN
SUGGEST
THAT?



SAY
YOU'RE
SORRY,
SHOYA.

YOU
JERK!



NOT THAT
SHOYA
LISTENED...

WELL,
I
GUESS
I...

...TOLD
HIM SOME-
THING LIKE
"KNOCK IT
OFF"...



HEY, WHY
ARE YOU
MAKING IT
SOUND LIKE
THIS WAS
ALL ME?!

YOU ALL
THOUGHT
IT WAS
FUNNY!!
EVEN
YOU, MR.
TAKEUCHI!!

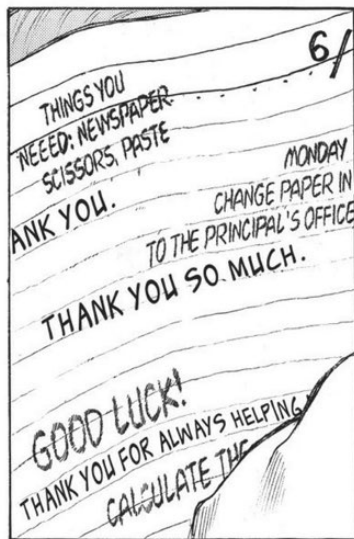
ISHIDA!!
WE'RE
TALKING
ABOUT
YOU
NOW!!

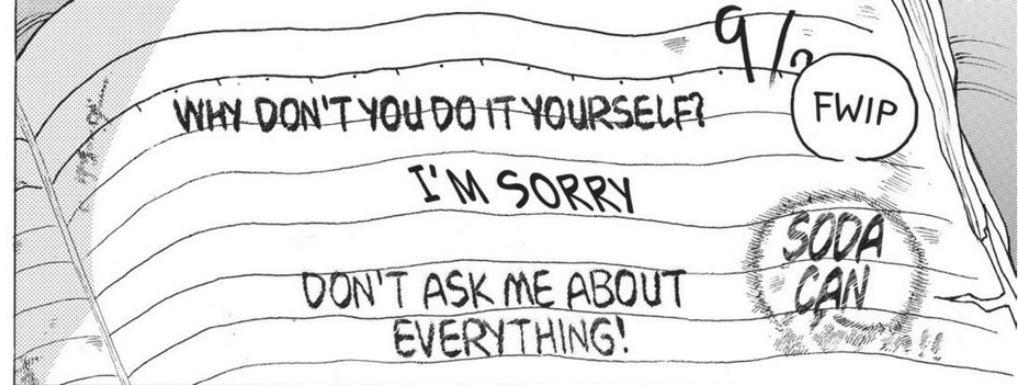
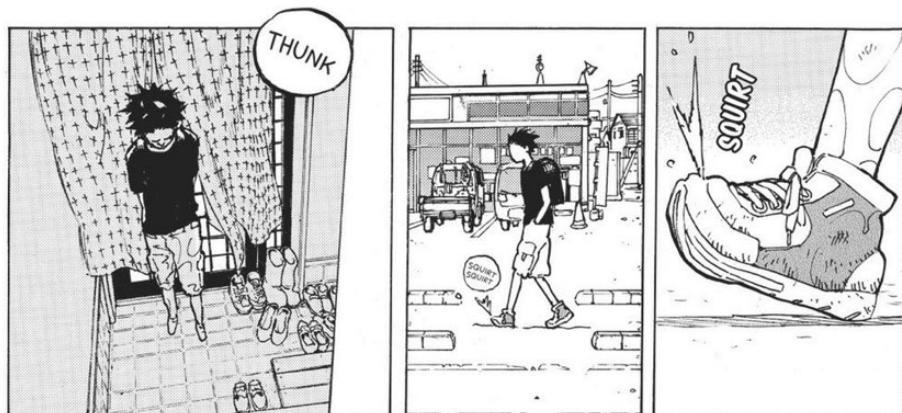


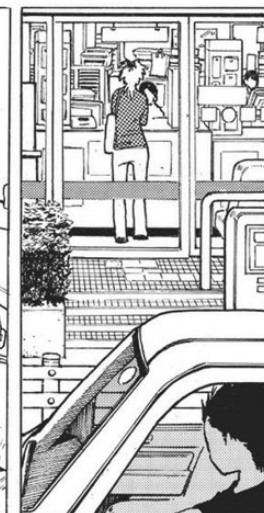
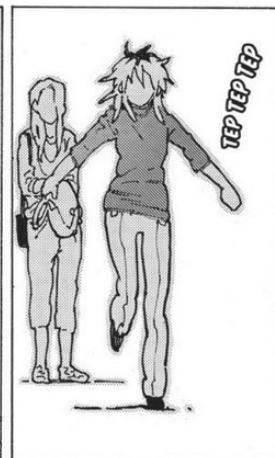
HUH
?!

AND IF YOU
COUNT
INSULTS,
THE GIRLS
BAD-
MOUTHED
HER MORE
THAN
ANYONE!

ESPECIALLY
MIKI AND
NAOKA!!









EK!



THE
FREAK'S
HERE?!



YAWN

I WONDER
IF MY LIFE'S
GONNA CHANGE
STARTING
TOMORROW...



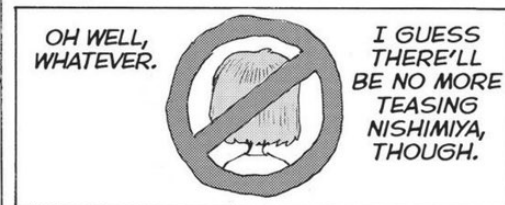
SHHHHH

BUT THAT
DOESN'T
MEAN I'M
GONNA
START
BEING
NICE TO
HER!



I
MEAN, THE
TEACHER'S
AGAINST ME
NOW, BUT
THE OTHERS
MIGHT
STILL TALK
TO ME LIKE
NORMAL...

HARD TO
SAY...



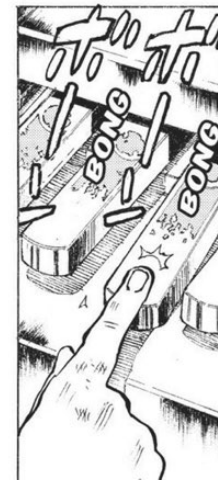
OH WELL,
WHATEVER.

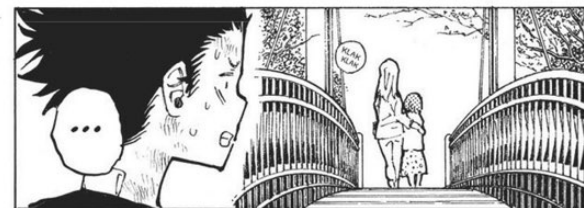
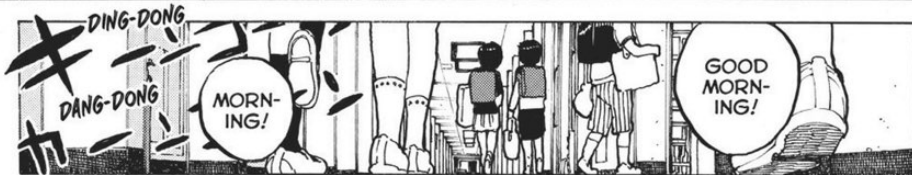
I GUESS
THERE'LL
BE NO MORE
TEASING
NISHIMIYA,
THOUGH.

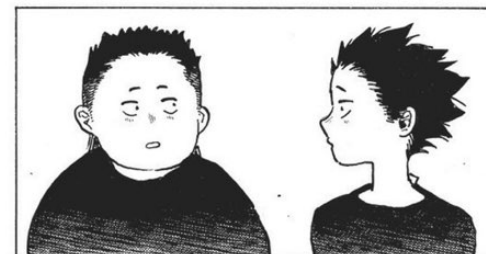
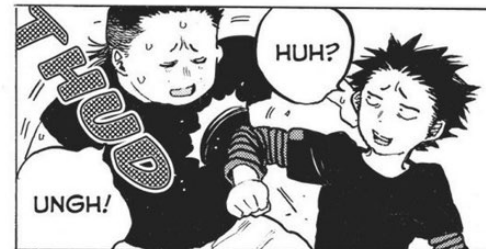
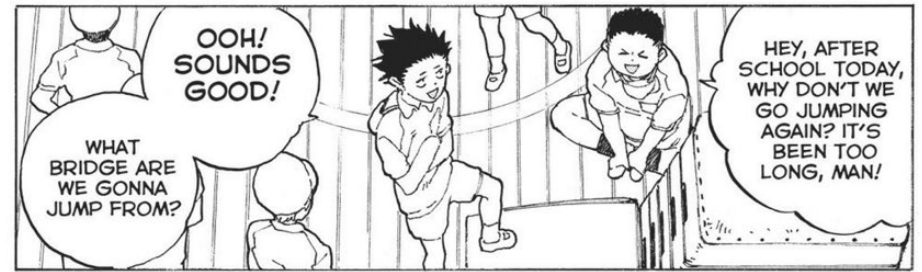


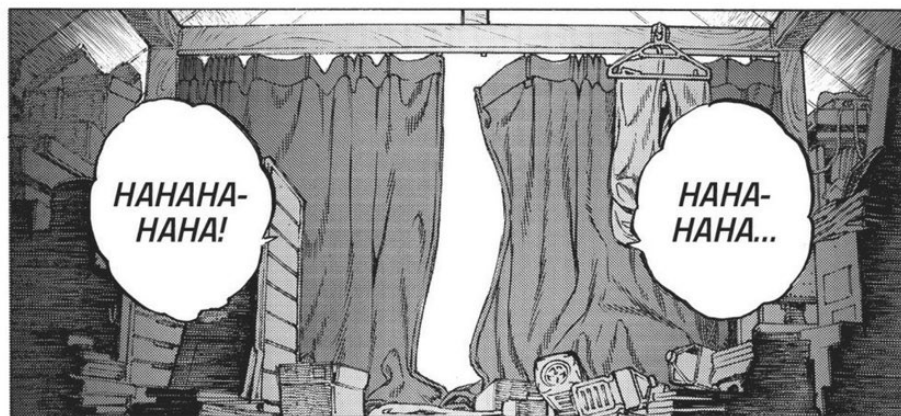
SHHH

HEY, IF
SHE WANTS,
I MIGHT
EVEN SAY
I'M SORRY.



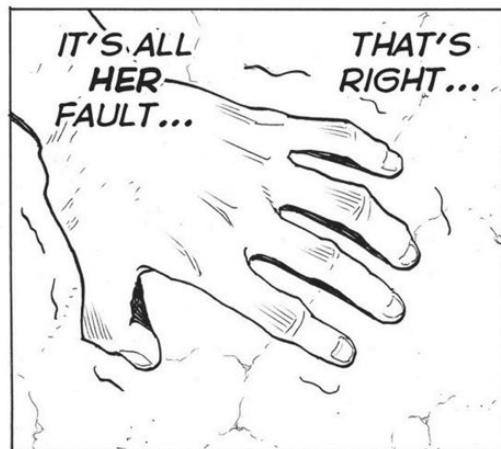






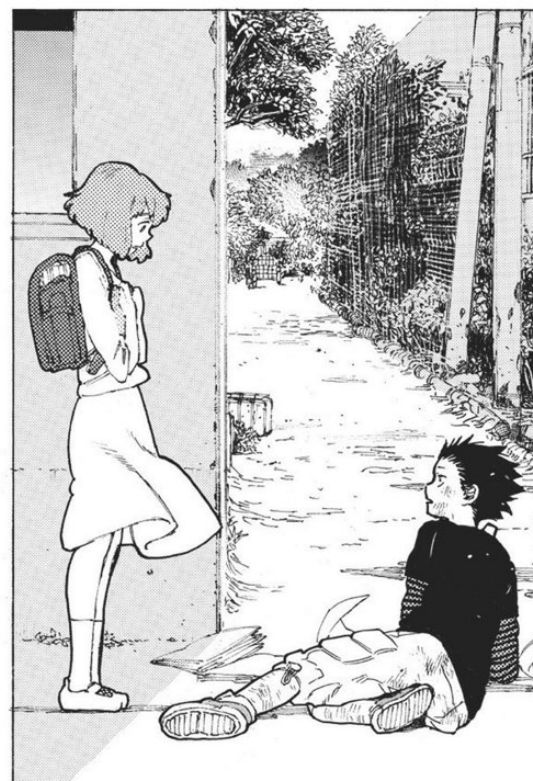
ALL I WANTED...
...WAS TO FIGHT
OFF BOREDOM.

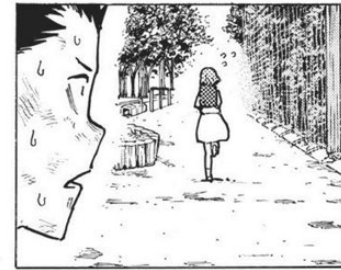


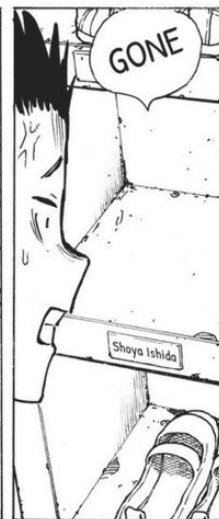




CHAPTER 4: NISHIMIYA, YOU PIECE OF SHIT









THAT WHAT
HAPPENS IS
**YOUR
RESPONSIBILITY.**



LET'S
PRETEND
IT'S THE
TRUTH.

THEN LET'S
PRETEND THAT
THOSE TWO
ARE STEALING
YOUR SHOES. I SEE.



YOU'RE
STILL THE
ONE WHO
STARTED IT,
AREN'T
YOU?

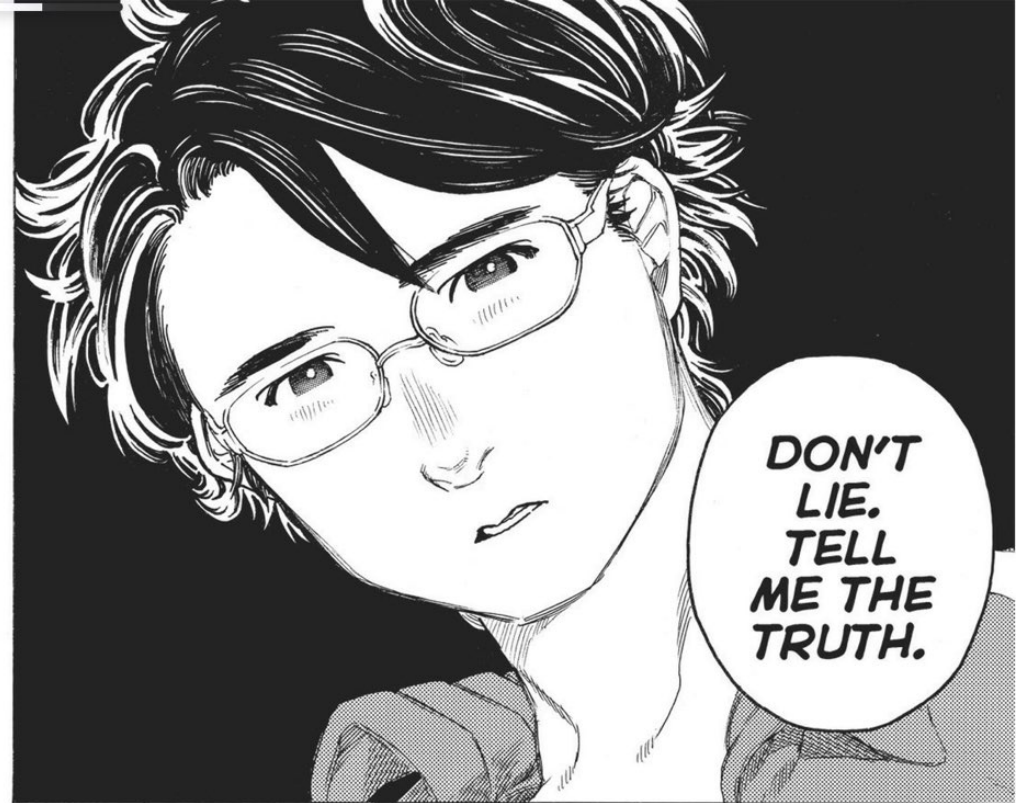
WHAT RIGHT
DOES THE BOY
WHO BULLIED
SHOKO HAVE
TO JUDGE HIS
FRIENDS?



I DID
WARN YOU,
DIDN'T I?

OVER...

...AND
OVER
AGAIN.



**DON'T
LIE.
TELL
ME THE
TRUTH.**



IT'S GOTTA
BE KAZU AND
KEISUKE!
THEY'RE ALWAYS
MESSING WITH
ME...

I...
I'M NOT
LYING,
SIR!



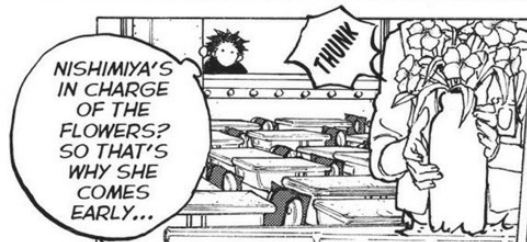
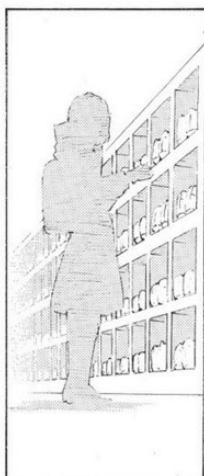
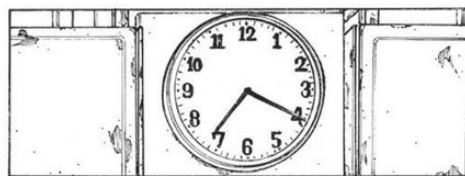
...!

THAT'S RIGHT.
THOSE TWO
JUST TOLD
ME YOU
SUSPECTED
THEM OF
DOING IT.



BUT...
MY SHOES
REALLY ARE
DISAPPEAR-
ING!!







AWW...
I HURT MY
SHOUL-
DER...

LET'S
TELL ON
SHOYA.

HA HA
HA!

OH.
HE
CAUGHT
US.

I KNEW
IT WAS
YOU, YOU
JERKS!

YOU
PIECES
OF
SHIT...

KEISUKE,
YOU PIECE
OF SHIT...

KAZUKI,
YOU PIECE
OF SHIT...

SHE'S
STILL
BEING
BULLIED?
SUCKS TO
BE HER.

YOU
GOTTA
FIGHT
LIKE
ME.

NISHIMIYA...
KEEPIN'
QUIET'S
NOT
GONNA
CHANGE
ANYTHING.



PLOP





AWW...
I HURT MY
SHOUL-
DER...

LET'S
TELL ON
SHOYA.

HA HA
HA!

OH.
HE
CAUGHT
US.

I KNEW
IT WAS
YOU, YOU
JERKS!

YOU
PIECES
OF
SHIT...

KEISUKE,
YOU PIECE
OF SHIT...

KAZUKI,
YOU PIECE
OF SHIT...

SHE'S
STILL
BEING
BULLIED?
SUCKS TO
BE HER.

YOU
GOTTA
FIGHT
LIKE
ME.

NISHIMIYA...
KEEPIN'
QUIET'S
NOT
GONNA
CHANGE
ANYTHING.



PLOP

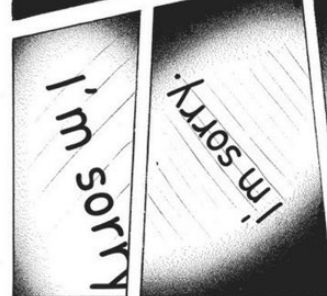




THAT'S
WHAT
YOU'RE
REALLY
THINKING
TOO, RIGHT,
NISHIMIYA?



I MEAN,
THAT CAN'T
BE ALL YOU
HAVE TO SAY,
CAN IT?



I'm sorry.



"SHOYA,
YOU PIECE
OF SHIT..."



YOU STAY
QUIET AND
ACT WEAK
TO GET THE
TEACHERS
ON YOUR
SIDE!!



HAVE YOU
EVER ONCE
SAID HOW
YOU REALLY
FEEL DEEP
DOWN IN
YOUR GUT
?!



YOU'RE
SUCH A
COWARD!



FRIGGIN'
GOODY-
TWO-
SHOES...

WHADDA
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
DOING?



THERE'S
THAT
FACE
AGAIN...



SHILE

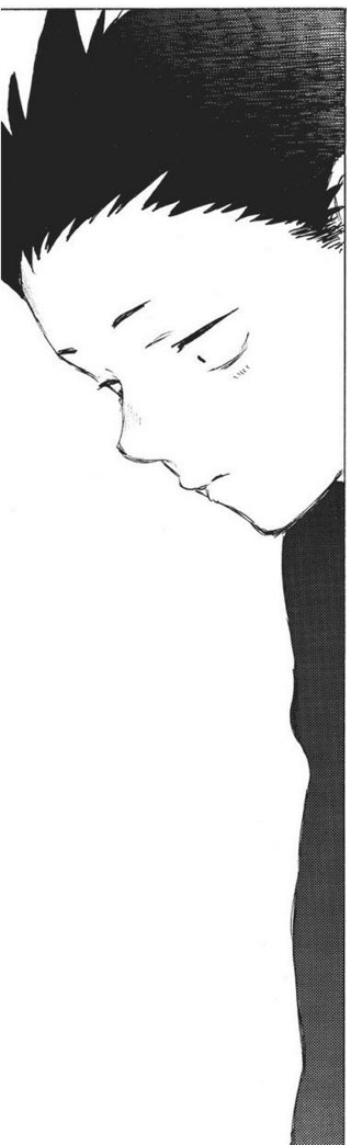
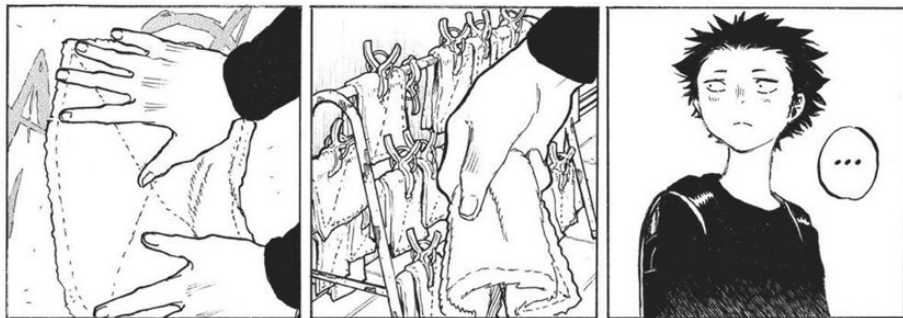


IF YOU GOT
SOMETHING
TO SAY,
THEN SAY
IT!!

THOK







IT WAS
MY
DESK.





...PISES
ME
OFF!

SHE
REALLY...



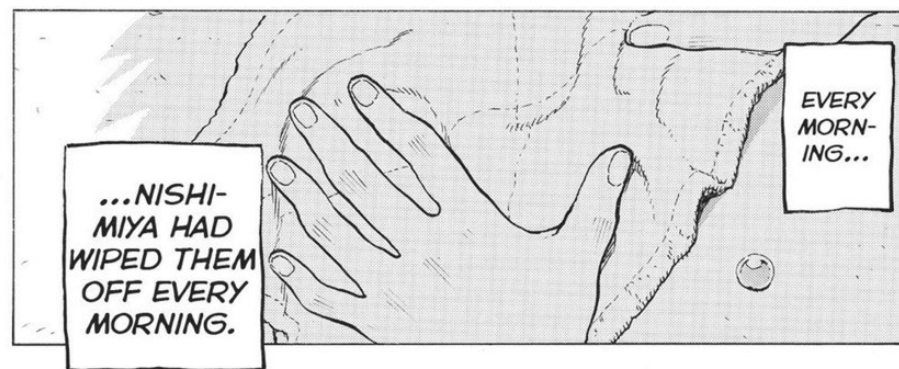
THE
MESSAGES
WRITTEN
IN CHALK
CONTINUED
FAITH-
FULLY...

...EVERY
SINGLE
MORN-
ING...



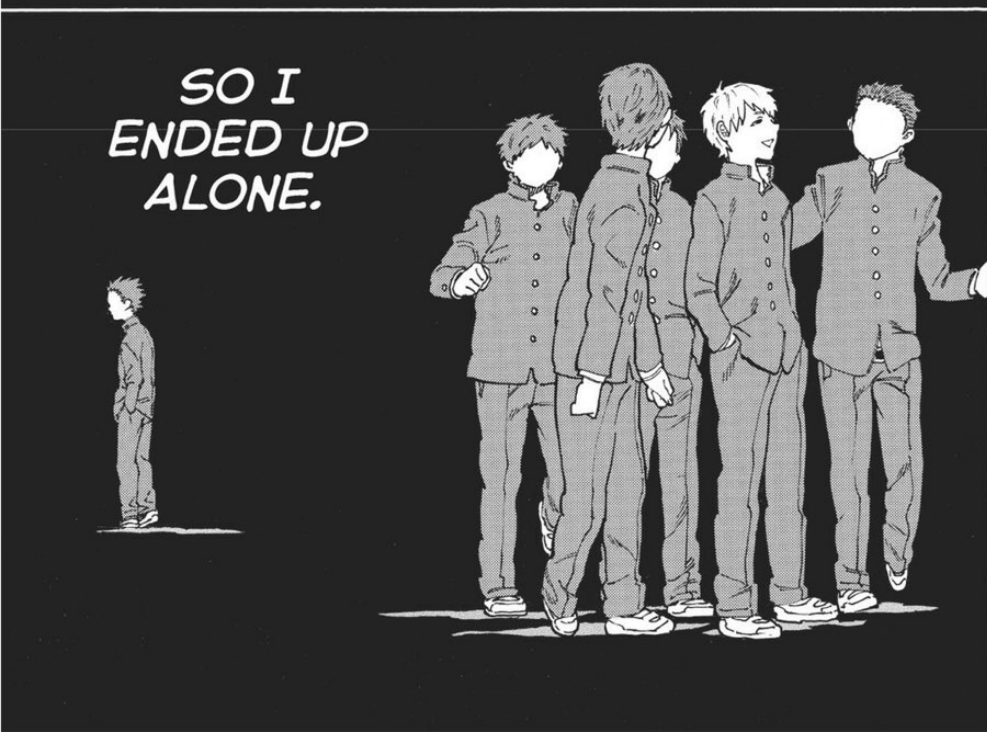
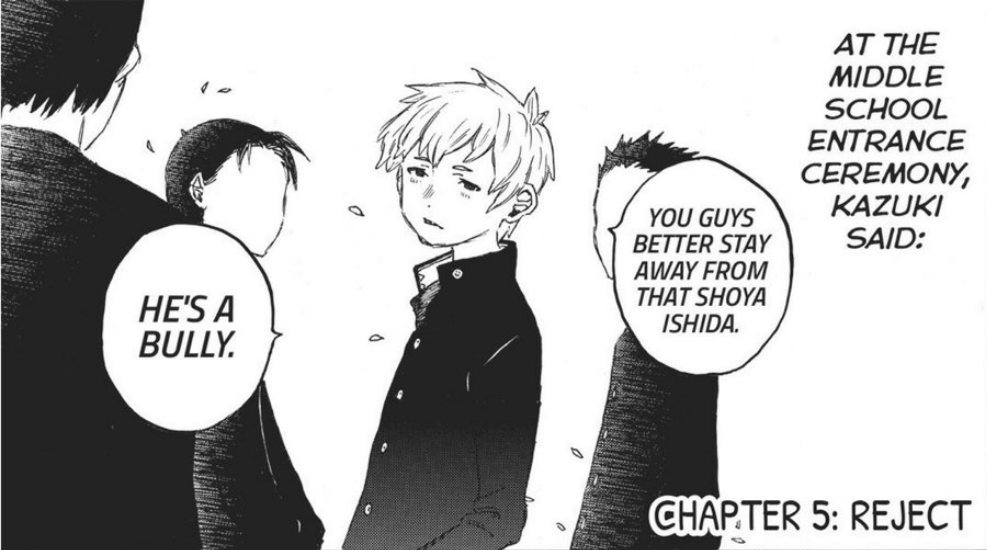
...UNTIL
THE DAY
I GRADU-
ATED.

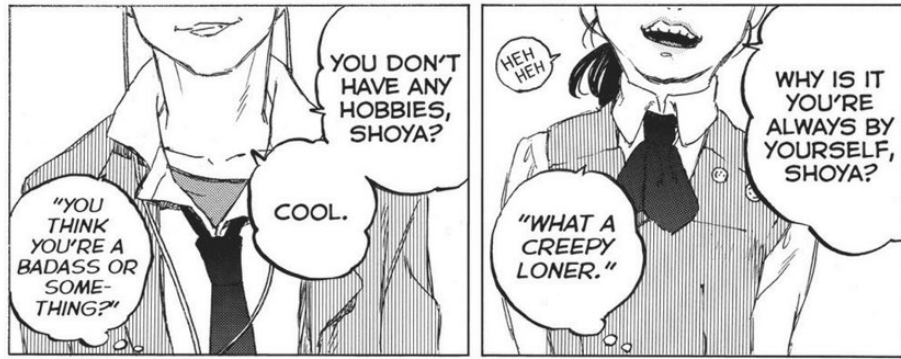
NISHIMIYA
WAS CLEANING
MY DESK.



...NISHI-
MIYA HAD
WIPED THEM
OFF EVERY
MORNING.

EVERY
MORN-
ING...





IT
MAKES
ME SICK.



AND YOU
BUTT-UGLY
BASTARDS,
STOP TALK-
ING ABOUT
DATING.

IT'S NOT
FUNNY.

I HATE
THOSE
GROPPERS
ON THE
TRAIN.

THAT
GOES
FOR YOU,
TOO.

WHAT,
AGAIN?



AND I'VE HAD
ENOUGH OF
YOU ACTING
LIKE YOU'RE
HOT STUFF.

THIS WEIRD
OLD GUY
TALKED
TO ME
TODAY.

HE WAS
FLIRT-
ING WITH
YOU.

NO
WAY!

ACTING
LIKE
YOU'RE
SO UN-
HEALTHY.

KRUNCH KRUNCH

STOMP STOMP

ACTING
LIKE
YOU'RE
SO
BUSY.



I HATE
ALL THE
STUFF
YOU LIKE.

I HATE
ALL OF
YOU.

PRETENDING
YOU'VE GOT
INTEGRITY.

AND I
HATE
ALL YOUR
FRIENDS,
TOO.



ODDBALL
CHARAC-
TERS.

I SEE
ALL!

SUBCUL-
TURE
GEEKS.

SHUT
UP!



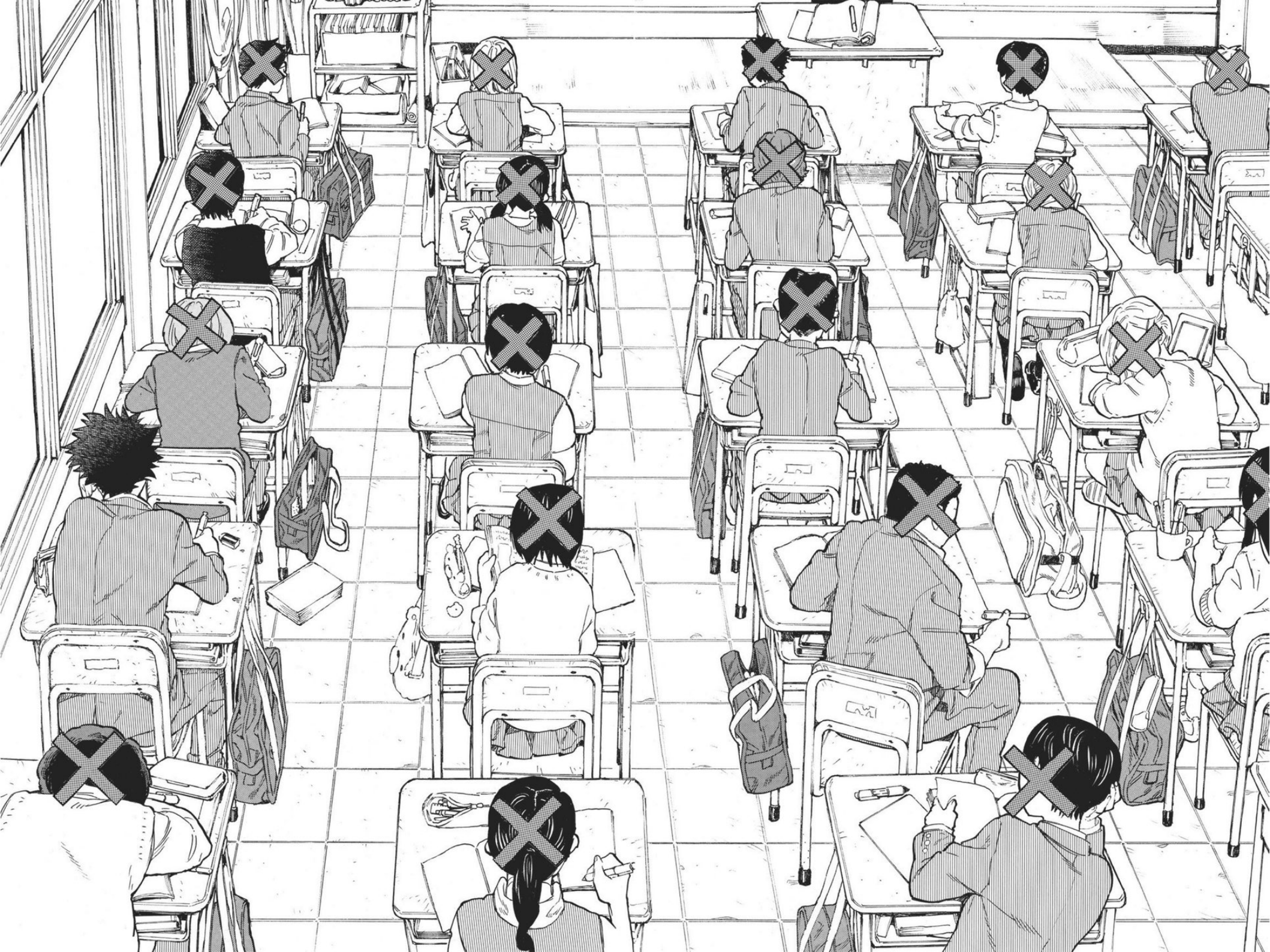
I'M THE
ONE WHO
HATES
YOU!!

I'M NOT
HERE TO
MAKE NICE
WITH YOU
IDIOTS!

YOU
LOOK
AWFUL
WITH
BROWN
HAIR!

FIRST
OFF--







ALL RIGHT!
I GOT THE
LIMITED
EDITION!



...AS LONG
AS YOU
HAVE THE
MONEY AND
THE GUTS,
IT'S SUR-
PRISINGLY
CLOSE.

WHAT I
LEARNED
WHEN
I GOT
THERE
WAS...



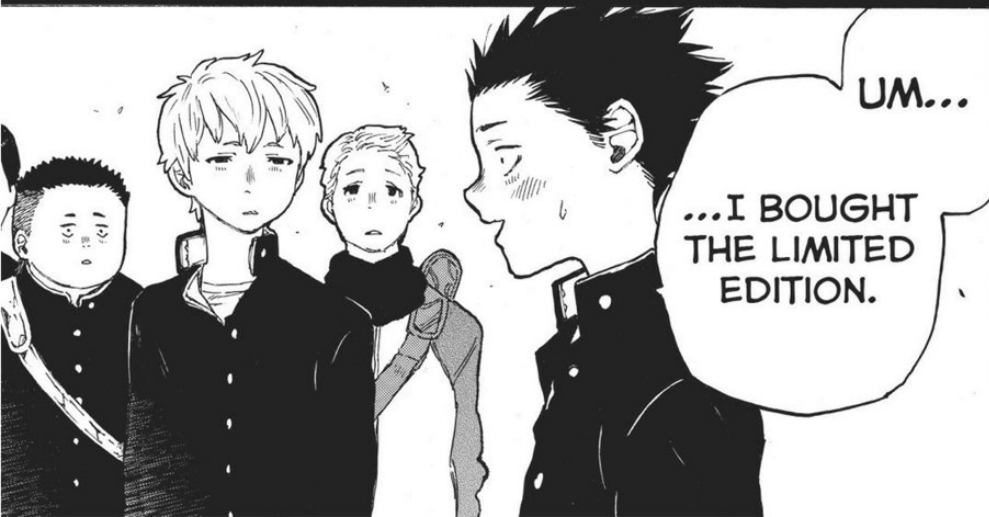
MAYBE WHAT
I THOUGHT
WAS SO FAR
AWAY WAS
ACTUALLY
WITHIN REACH
AFTER ALL.



NOT YET.
BUT I
WANT IT
BAD.

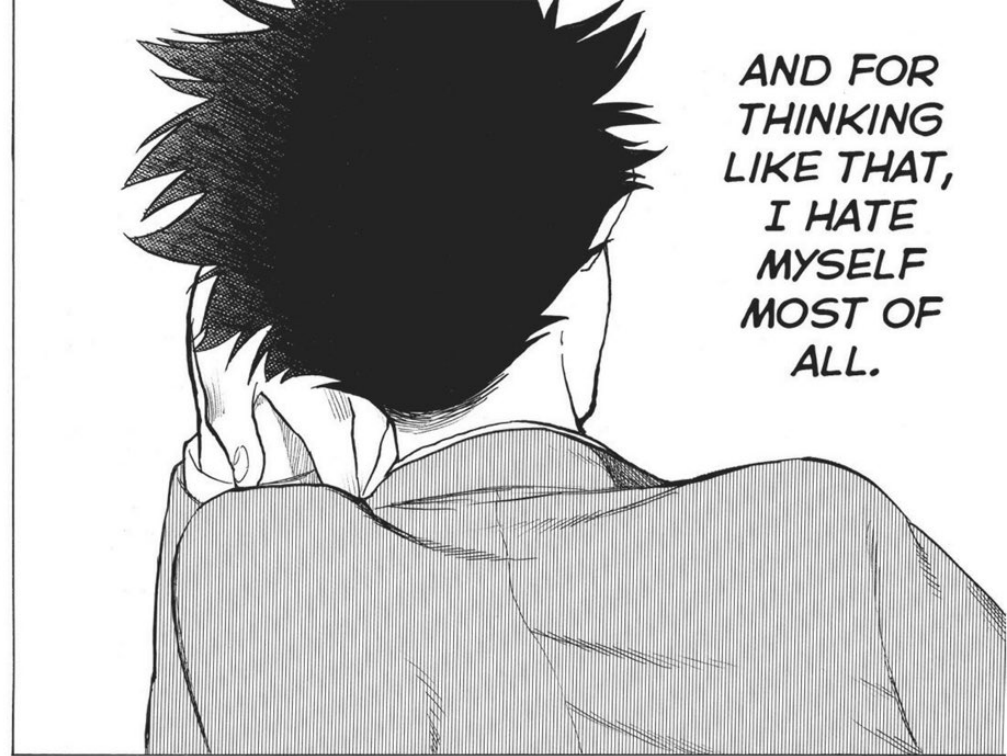


YOU
BUY THE
LIMITED
EDITION
YET?



UM...

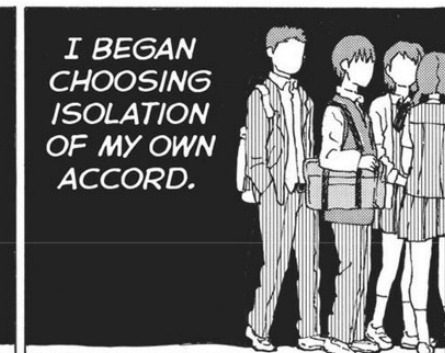
...I BOUGHT
THE LIMITED
EDITION.



AND FOR
THINKING
LIKE THAT,
I HATE
MYSELF
MOST OF
ALL.



MAYBE SO
I COULD
CONVINCE
MYSELF
I WASN'T
REALLY
ALONE.

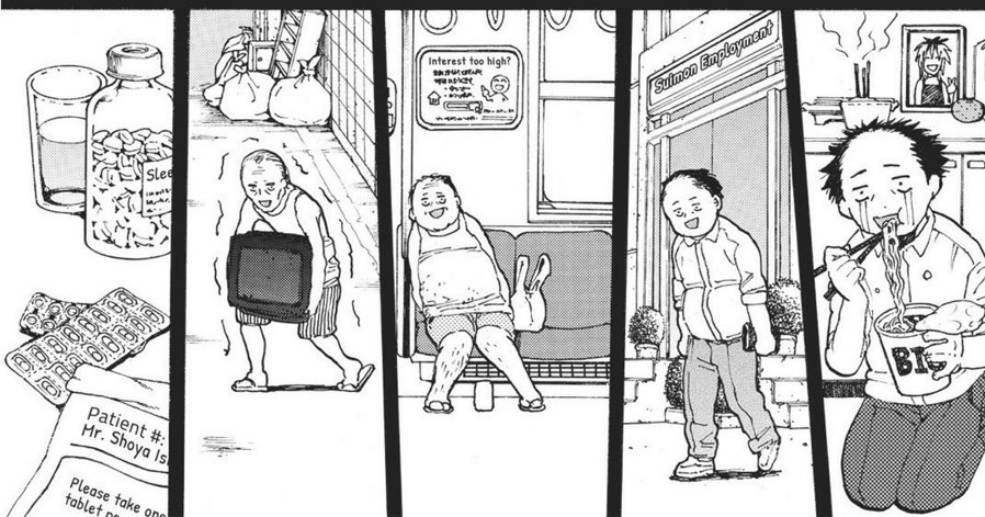


I BEGAN
CHOOSING
ISOLATION
OF MY OWN
ACCORD.



IT FELT
LIKE
I WAS
REALLY
FAR
FROM
HOME,
AND I GOT
REALLY
NERVOUS.

IN MY
SECOND
YEAR OF
MIDDLE
SCHOOL,
I WENT
ALL THE WAY
TO NAGOYA
ALONE FOR
THE FIRST
TIME.



MAY AS
WELL GO
AHEAD
AND TAKE
CARE OF
MY UN-
FINISHED
BUSINESS.

I'M
GONNA
DIE
ANYWAY.



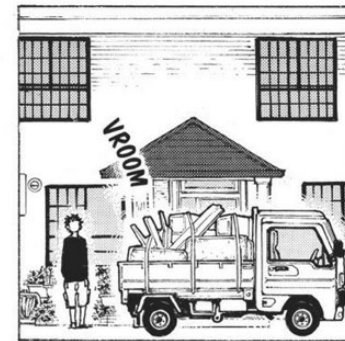
STOP BY
AROUND
FIVE.

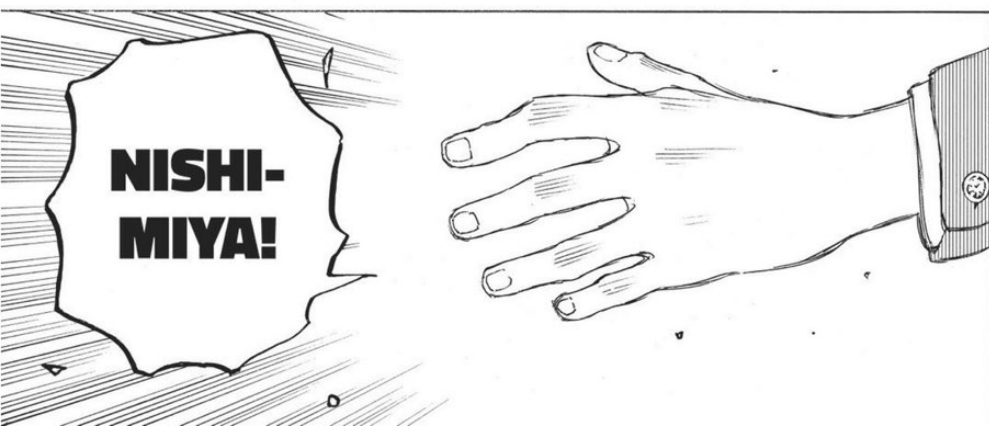
YEAH,
SHE COMES
IN ON
TUESDAYS.

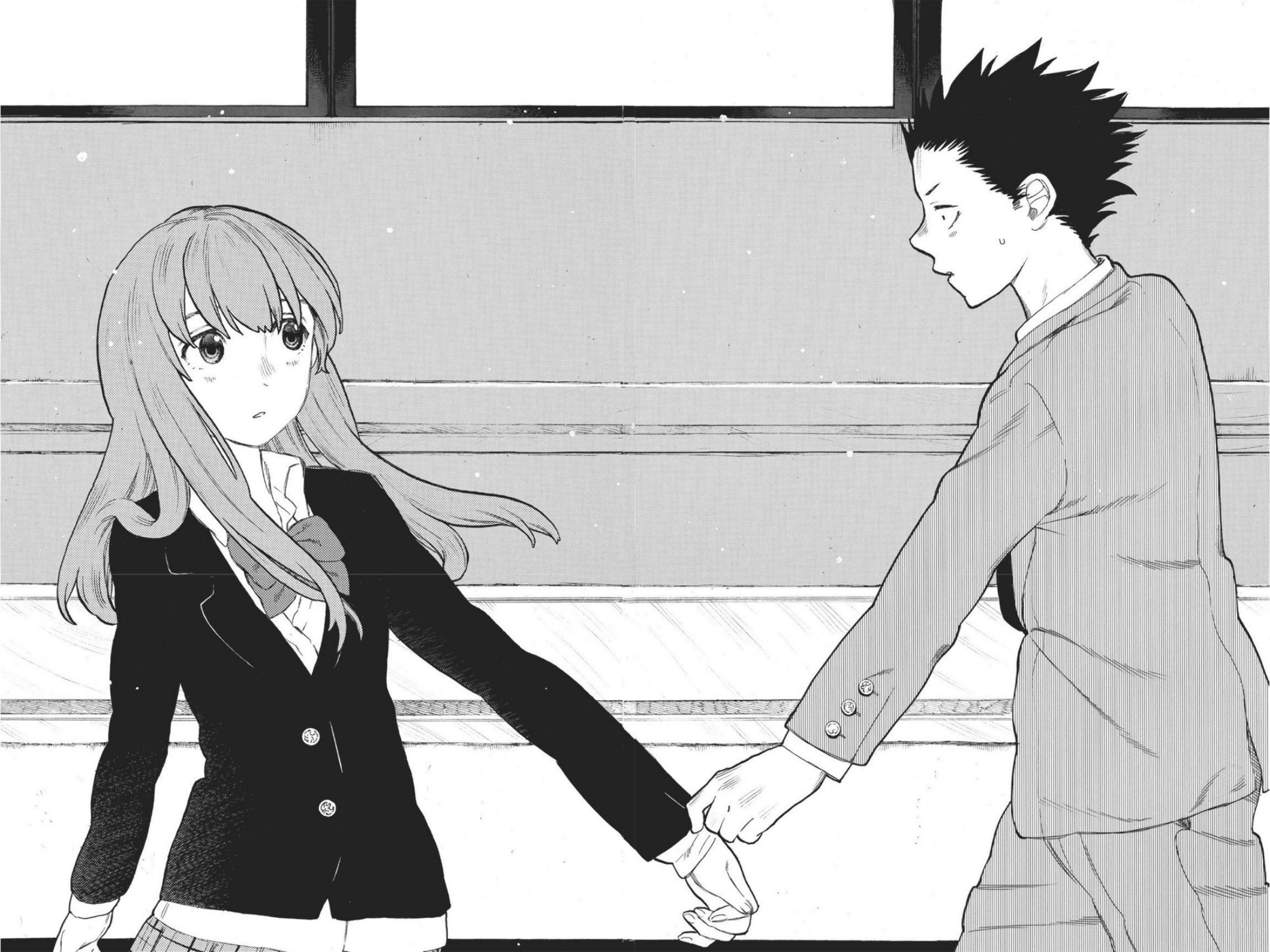
OH...
YES,
MA'AM.

YOU'RE
THE BOY
WHO WAS
LOOKING
FOR THAT
GIRL,
RIGHT?



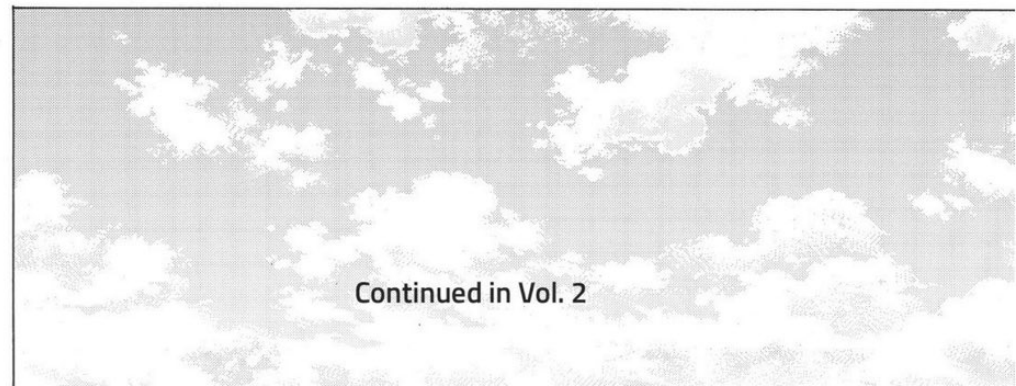








a Silent Voice



Continued in Vol. 2