
セキレイ
Sekirei
14
極楽院櫻子


BATCHMANGA.IN
DOWNLOAD MANGA BAHASA INDONESIA


Sekirei
14
SAKURAKO
GOKURAKUIN


Sekirei 14
SAKURAKO GOKURAKUIN

SEKIREI ⑭

Sakurako Gokurakuin



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Da-dada-daaah!!
OOH. THAT'S A JINKI.
THAT'S ALL THREE OF THEM, RIGHT?
FOURTH ROUND MUST BE OVER.
The third phase is over!
Let's start the count-down!
HUH?
WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW!?
3!
2!
1!
HUMMM





Chapter 132: The Final Jinki


...YEAH. THEIR SEKIREI CRESTS'RE GONE.
BUT WHY'RE THE ASHIKABI DOWN FOR THE COUNT TOO.....?
THEY'VE CEASED FUNCTION-ING...?
...JUST KNOCKED UNCON-SCIOUS, SOMEHOW.
AT LEAST THE ASHIKABI ARE STILL BREATHING.
ORIHIKO-SAN.
ARE YOU OKAY? NOTICE ANY CHANGES?
KAHO?
!?
NO. I'M JUST FINE.
OH, YES, THIS...
IT ROLLED NEAR MY FEET WHILE WE WERE FIGHTING...
KAHO, THAT'S...
WHAT'S THAT IN YOUR HAND...?
YO...!


YOU GUYS ALL RIGHT?
TOGETHER AGAIN!!
SANADA-SAN!
THE GUYS WE WERE FIGHTING JUST DROPPED TO THE GROUND!
SAME THING HAPPEN HERE?
YEAH, ALL OF A SUDDEN...
DAMN. WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?
HEY, YOU GUYS!
GET RID OF THOSE CARDS FROM MBI!


SHIT... TOO LATE FOR SOME OF 'EM.
MBI'S REALLY GONE AND DONE IT NOW.
IT'S ALREADY GONE!!
OH! MINE GOT BROKEN.
C-CARDS?
TH-THIS THING ??
THAT'S A GIRL ASHI-KABI!
IF YOU STILL HAD THAT CARD, YOU'D BE ON THE FLOOR WITH THE REST OF THESE SUCKERS.
LOOKS LIKE YOU HAD A STROKE OF LUCK, LITTLE LADY.
SO, WAIT. WHY'RE ALL YOU STILL STANDING?
"BIG BRO"?
DON'T THROW THAT CRAP THIS WAY, BIG BRO.
HUH?
WHOA!
FLING
SIS-TER!?
WHAM
WHAM
LET'S SMASH IT!
OH...
THIS IS MY SISTER.


NOT SURE ABOUT THE SPECIFICS, BUT...
...I KNOW IT'S GOTTA HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THESE THINGS.
THE JINKI...
DAMN THAT MINAKA.
BASTARD THINKS HE CAN GET AWAY WITH THIS.
THAT WENT BETTER THAN EXPECTED...


THAT LITTLE EXPERIMENT TO ARTIFICIALLY ACTIVATE THE JINKI.
THE POWER EMITTED BY THE JINKI WAS REROUTED INTO A SIGNAL SENT THROUGH THE SPECIAL DEVICES HELD BY THOSE ASHIKABI.
THOSE ASHIKABI SERVED AS CONDUITS TO SHUT DOWN ANY SEKIREI ASSOCIATED WITH THEM.
BUT IF THE ASHIKABI OR SEKIREI WAS HOLDING A JINKI OF THEIR OWN, THE POWER WAS CANCELED OUT...
YOU REALLY THOUGHT THIS ONE THROUGH.
WELL DONE, CEO.
NO...
THIS WAS A FAILURE.


WITH THE LOWEST POWER SETTING, THE PLAN WAS TO CAUSE ONLY THE SEKIREI TO CEASE FUNCTIONING...
...BUT THE ASHIKABI WERE HARMED AS WELL. I'VE NOTHING BUT REGRET CONCERNING THAT.
ONLY A SINGLE JINKI WAS USED...
...AND AT THE LOWEST POWER SETTING, NO LESS... YET STILL, THE HUMANS WERE KNOCKED OUT.
TRULY TERRIFY-ING.
TO THINK THERE'S SOMETHING IN THIS WORLD EVEN THE MIGHTY MBI CAN'T FULLY CONTROL...
YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO HIT YOUR CEO WHERE IT HURTS!
SORRY. I'M JUST AN EASYGOING, ORDINARY EMPLOYEE. ♡


NOW THEN, ICHINO-MIYA-KUN.
ACCEPT THIS.
A JINKI.
TRULY THE FINAL ONE.
...WITH PLEASURE.


HAD I ALLOWED YOUR SEKIREI TO JOIN THE BATTLE FROM THE BEGINNING...
...THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THE WHOLE SEKIREI PROJECT WOULD'VE COME TO NOTHING.
IT'S THANKS TO YOUR MANAGEMENT THEY'VE BEEN ABLE TO WATCH OVER THE GAME AS THE "DISCIPLINARY SQUAD" UP THROUGH PHASE THREE.
SO IN THAT SENSE, GOING BY THE RULES, THIS IS THE PERFECT COMPENSATION FOR YOUR EFFORTS.
...IS IT REALLY ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO HAVE THIS?
I'D SAY THIS VIOLATES THE RULES OF YOUR "GAME."
BUT...
I PROMISED YOU THIS MUCH FROM THE VERY START.
SO WHY HAVE DOUBTS NOW?
...IS THAT SO?
VERY WELL.
WE WON'T HOLD BACK.
...OH, MY PHONE.
YEAH, IT'S ME.


HEY, NATSUO ...?
YUP. WE'RE ALL DONE HERE!
THE GROUP AT THE TERMINAL WHO DIDN'T BOARD THE SHIP HAS BEEN DISCIPLINED!
THE FOURTH ROUND'S ALREADY OVER, RIGHT?


ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS, CEO?
WHAT?
THERE'RE STILL SOME LEFT...
...ON THE SHIP?
KASHINK
WE GOTTA GET TO THAT DOCK! YOU LISTENING, BLACK!!?
HE'S SAYING THERE'RE SOME WHO DIDN'T GET KNOCKED OUT EVEN THOUGH THEY DIDN'T HAVE A JINKI.
WHAT ...?
A JOB ...?
... URP.
YOU'VE NEVER DONE WELL ON BOATS, HUH...?
LOOKS LIKE I'M GONNA BE SICK AGAIN...
HERE'S HOPING THESE ONES PUT UP AN ACTUAL FIGHT.
I HAVEN'T HAD ENOUGH FUN YET.


SPLASH
SPLASH
...!


Chapter 133: End of Phase Three


THOSE WHO NEVER MADE IT ONTO A VOLUME COVER




The S.S. Minaka is about to dock.
Thank you to all who participated in the fourth round.
OH!
JUMP
Once again, thank you for your participation.
...a special team will soon board the ship to deal with the matter.
Please watch your step as you disembark.
As for those who are currently unconscious ...
URK! SHIJIME !?
YAAAY! BENIKOOO, BENIKOOO!
SHOUT
SHOUT
...KARASUBASAMA.
HEH... HEH-HEH... BENITSUBASA... YOU'VE ALWAYS HAD A HARD TIME WITH SHIJIME...
YIKES. GET OFFA ME!
BENI-kooo!
WHAT'S UP? THEY KNOW EACH OTHER?
THEY'RE ONLY ONE NUMBER APART!


?
...OHH, IT'S YOU...
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GOT KIDNAPPED ON KAMIKURA ISLAND, ALONG WITH MU-CHAN...
...WHAT'S YOUR NAME, AGAIN?
...IT'S BEEN A LONG WHILE.
.....I DON'T PARTICULARLY CARE THAT YOU DON'T REMEMBER ME.
...NEVERTHELESS, I WANT YOU TO TAKE THIS TO HEART.
I WILL BE THE ONE TO DEFEAT YOU.


...
KAHO.
WHOA, KU-CHAN, SLOW DOWN...
THIS WAY, BIG BROTHER, THIS WAY!


...OH ...!
DISCI- PLINARY... SQUAD .....
...I TAKE IT YOU'RE THE LAST TWO TO LEAVE THE BOAT...
...BY YOUR OWN POWER?
Y...
YES.
...HMPH.
THAT'S ODD.
THERE SHOULD'VE BEEN ONE MORE CONSCIOUS PAIR.
YOU...
...DON'T HAPPEN TO KNOW WHERE THEY ARE, DO YOU?


...WHO KNOWS?
...THIS IS BAD.
WE'VE GOT FIVE TEAMS BUT ONLY THREE JINKI.
EVEN IF SAHASHI'S AN EXCEPTION 'COS HE HAD ONE TO START WITH, THAT STILL LEAVES ONE EXTRA PAIR.
MBI'S... NOT GONNA BE HAPPY ABOUT THAT.


SORRY ABOUT THAT. US GETTING ONE WAS KIND OF AN ACCIDENT...
KU'S! THAT ONE'S KU'S!
K-KU-CHAN...
...I APOLOGIZE...
THERE IS A REASON WHY I HAVE TO GO ON FIGHTING.
...BUT I CANNOT GIVE THIS UP.
THAT'S KU'S!


FINE, FINE!
WE FOLD!


Y-YUKARI?
I HATE IT WHEN PEOPLE DON'T JUST COME OUT AND SAY WHAT THEY MEAN.
AND ANYWAY...
...WE'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR KU-CHAN ALL ALONG, AND WE FINALLY FOUND HER!
WE'VE GOT NO REASON TO KEEP PLAYING THIS DUMB "GAME" NOW.
...SO...
THE "EXTRA" PAIR'S OBVIOUSLY ME AND SHIINA, RIGHT?


...WE'RE DROPPING OUT OF THE SEKIREI PROJECT!
...BIG BRO...


URP!
WISH SOMEONE'D TOLD ME THIS LIFE RAFT WOULD ROCK LIKE CRAZY!!
Y-YUKARI-SAN...
BIG BRO AND THOSE OTHER GUYS...
THEY SHOULD GET TO THE HARBOR SOON...
...I'LL ASK YOU ONCE MORE.
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW?
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
KEEPING SECRETS FROM ME WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD.....
...WHERE DID OUR TARGETS RUN OFF TO?
MINATO-SAAAN!
I...
I DON'T...


...
HUH...?
MINATO-SAN! ♡


...
MUSUBI.
SAHASHI ...!
THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE SAFE...
I'VE MISSED YOU, MINATO-KUN! ♡♡♡
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED A HEAD START, MUSUBI !!
STOP ALWAYS RUNNING AHEAD OF US!
WE CAME TO GREET YOU! ♡♡
WHY'RE YOU HERE...?
EVERY-ONE...!


YOU'RE DEAD ...!!
ARGH! NO. 88!!
A FIGHT!? THEY'RE GONNA FIGHT!?
WH-WHAT DO WE DO...?
AHHH...
WAHH ...
MUSUBI ...!
BANG
JOLT
BANG
WHIZZZ
ヒュルルル...
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
Wa-ha-ha-ha-ha!
Ladies and gentlemen! Well done!!
This officially marks the end of Phase Three!!


RUMBLE
.....!?
WHA —!?
Now! We've finally reached the climax!
The Sekirei Project has entered its final phase.
And it'll all happen here, on—


Kouten
!!!


Let us now open the doors ...
...to a new legend !!


Chapter 134:
Sky Before the Storm


BAM
BAM
BAM
TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK
TH-THIS DAMAGE WAS ENTIRELY M-MY FAULT.
I APOL-OGIZE, MINATO.
PHEW.
JUST A BIT MORE.
S-SORRY FOR EVERYTHING, STARTING BACK WHEN MUSUBI DESTROYED THE BATH.
YOU'VE GOTTEN QUITE GOOD AT THESE SORTS OF REPAIRS, SAHASHI-SAN.
LANDLADY-SAMA! ♡ IS MUSUBI ALSO GETTING GOOD AT REPAIRING THINGS!?
THERE WOULD BE NO NEED TO "GET GOOD" IF YOU WEREN'T SO DESTRUCTIVE IN THE FIRST PLACE, MUSUBI-SAN. ♡
FUFU.


THE END OF THE FOURTH ROUND MARKED THE END OF PHASE THREE.
ACK...! SORRY AGAIN...!
HA HA...
WE'RE BACK TO OUR EVERYDAY LIVES, FOR A TIME.
...YET...
U-FU-FU. YOU SEEM TO BE PURPOSELY MISUNDERSTANDING MY MEANING, MUSUBI-SAAAN.
THAT THOUGHT MAKES MUSUBI'S FISTS TINGLE WITH EXCITEMENT ...!!
ROAR
SO YOU WANT MUSUBI TO GET STRONG ENOUGH TO FIGHT TOUGH OPPONENTS WITHOUT BREAKING ANYTHING, RIGHT, LANDLADY-SAMA?
...ABOUT WHAT'S ACTUALLY HAPPENING...
...WELL...
THERE'S NOTHING "EVERY-DAY"...


RUMBLE
WHA .....!?
WHAT IS THAT...?
...THE BEGIN-NING...
...OF THE END.....!!
... KOUTEN.


KARA-SUBA-SAMA!
FLAP
THAT'S THE PROMISED PLACE.
THAT'S KOUTEN!
IT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING TO MEET IN BATTLE!!


HEH HEH!
HEH.....
... TARGET LOST.
THE DISCIPLINARY SQUAD IS PULLING OUT.
B- BLACK !?
HAS SHE SNAPPED!?
AHHH HA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA!
OUR WORK AS DOGS HAS COME TO AN END.


KARA-SUBA-SAMA .....
WAIT, SERIOUSLY? WE'RE REALLY RETREATING?
DAMN YOU, NO. 88!! NEXT TIME WE MEET WILL BE YOUR LAST!!
BLACK!? HOLD ON—
NO DOUBT. THIS WHOLE THING'S TOTALLY DIVORCED FROM REALITY.
B-BUT SOMETHING CRAZY'S HAPPENING IN TEITO NOW.
SHOULDN'T WE...?
HUH!?
I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME WE SPLIT UP TOO.
...THERE'S NOT MUCH WE CAN DO UNTIL MINAKA DECIDES TO MAKE SOME SORT OF ANNOUNCEMENT.
BUT EVEN IF IT PISSES ME OFF...
R-RIGHT. MAKES SENSE...
MUSUBI WON! ♡♡
WHAT HAPPENED WITH THAT EAST GUY!? WHAT ABOUT IZUMO INN!?
WAIT!? MUSUBI-CHAN!!
OH YEAH... FIGHT...
THAT'S KOUTEN! ♡ MUSUBI'S GONNA FIGHT KARASUBA-SAMA UP THERE! ♡


YES.
I KNOW.
HIGA-SAMA...
...WE'RE NEARLY AT HQ.
HIGA...
...SAMA.....

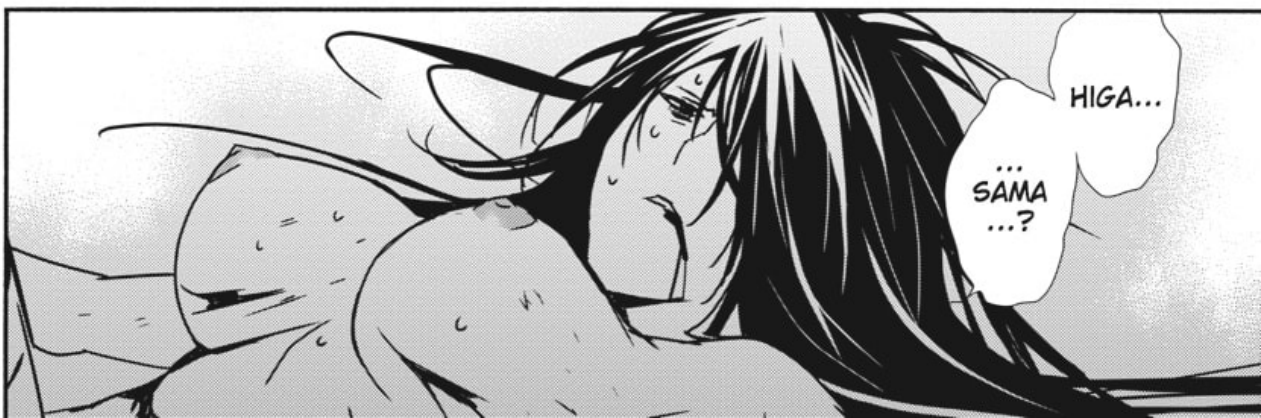

...TOYO-TAMA.
I'M... SO...
... SORRY...


I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD APOLO-GIZE.
...NO.
NO NEED FOR THAT.

BECAUSE WE'RE ASHIKABI, AFTER ALL!
TRY LOOKING AT THINGS AGAIN, FROM A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW.

NOTHING IN THAT WORLD OF YOURS WILL EVER REALLY CHANGE.
IF YOU ONLY EVER THINK ABOUT GROWN-UP STUFF LIKE PROFIT AND LOSS, YOU GET TRAPPED BY THE RULES OF SOCIETY!

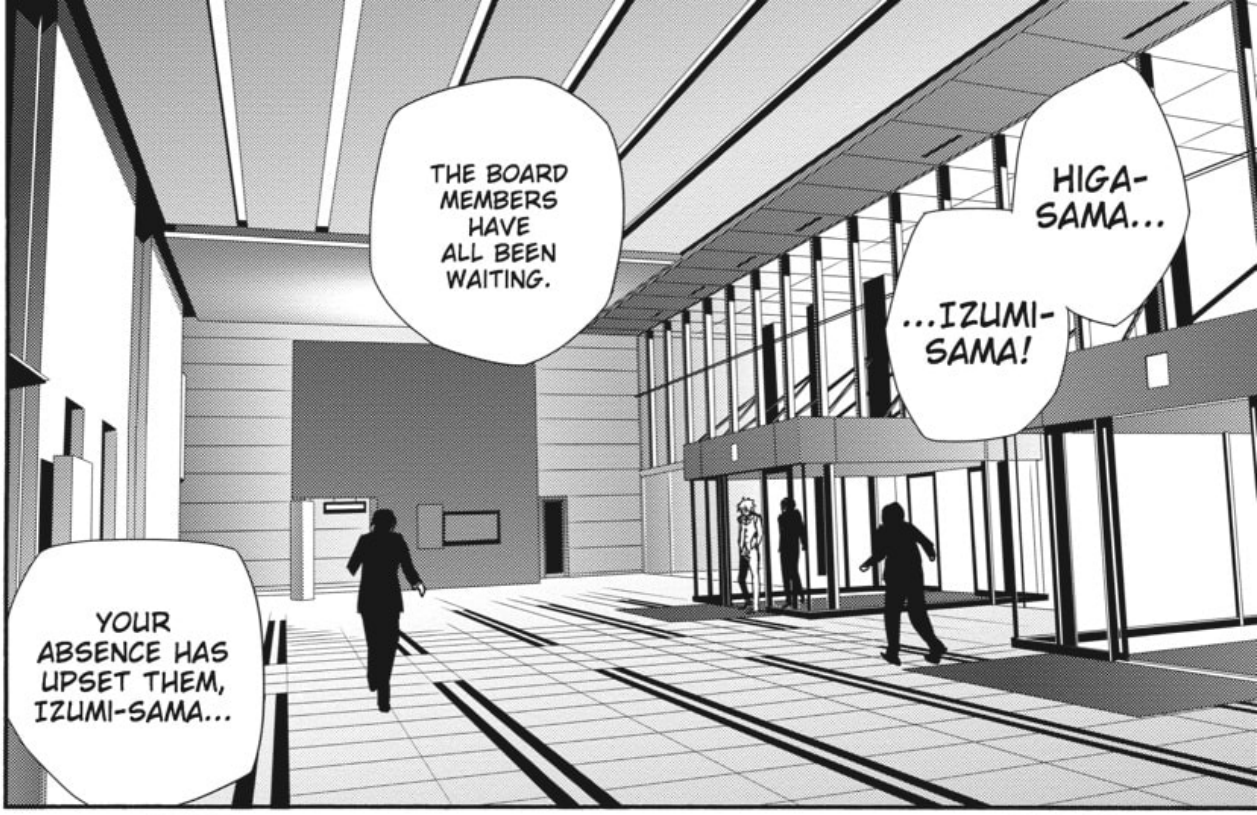

I'M SORRY FOR BEING SUCH A WORTHLESS ASHIKABI.
IT TOOK GETTING YELLED AT BY THAT BRAT TO MAKE ME REALIZE.
I WAS PRISONER TO MY OWN FOOLISH CONVICTIONS.
...SOMEHOW, I ENDED UP USING YOU GUYS IN THE WRONG WAY ENTIRELY.


HIGA...
...SAMA ...?


TOYO-TAMA.
I WILL GET YOU ALL BACK.
YOU CAN REST UNTIL THEN.
...BECAUSE I STILL HAVE NEED OF YOU— ALL OF YOU.
DON'T THINK ILL OF ME, BUT I CAN'T HAVE YOU RELAXING JUST YET, TERMINATED OR NOT...
UNDER-STOOD?
YES.
HIGA-SAMA...!
...YES...!
TOYO-TAMA!


WE'RE PULLING OUT.
OUR BUSINESS HERE IS CONCLUDED!
HIGA-SAMA!
HIGA-SAMA!?


HIGA CO.
KAKIZAKI, YOU MAY ESCAPE FROM TEITO IF YOU WISH.
NO... I'LL BE STICKING WITH YOU UNTIL THE END.
BESIDES, MY SEKIREI WILL BE MORE AT EASE WITH ME AT HQ.
FOR BETTER OR WORSE, WE'VE BEEN INSEPARABLE SINCE OUR COLLEGE DAYS.
AND IF YOU GET RID OF ME NOW, YOU WON'T HAVE A SINGLE FRIEND LEFT.
...THANKS.


HIGA-SAMA...
...IZUMI-SAMA!
THE BOARD MEMBERS HAVE ALL BEEN WAITING.
YOUR ABSENCE HAS UPSET THEM, IZUMI-SAMA...


I'LL MAKE THEM WAIT AS LONG AS I DAMN PLEASE.
...HUH?
DID I STUTTER?
I HAVE NO PROBLEM MAKING THOSE OLD DICTATORS WAIT UNTIL THEY CROAK.
SMASH


RUMBLE
I'M TAKING OVER HQ BY FORCE.
SO TELL THOSE STUPID, OLD BASTARDS ...
...THAT I'LL BE DOING AS I PLEASE FROM NOW ON.


RUMBLE
WOOOW!
♡
IT'S HEEERE!
IT'S HERE, IT'S HERE, IT'S HERE!!
IT'S HEEERE!
YES, YES!! THAT'S WHAT WE NEEDED.
A TWIST! A REAL PLOT TWIST!!
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
THE FINAL PHASE OF THE SEKIREI PROJECT.
THIS IS GONNA BE FUN!!


RUMBLE
TAKE A LOOK, TAKAMI-KUN!
KOUTEN!!
OUR GRAND PLAN HAS FINALLY ARRIVED AT THIS POINT!!
IT'S THE LAST STAGE OF THE PROJECT.
THE BITTERSWEET BATTLE THAT'S UNFOLDED IN TEITO WILL APPROACH ITS CLIMAX ON KOUTEN.
IF THAT THING'S APPEARED NOW...
...THEN SHE'LL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ACT...
I SUPPOSE .....


...THE LIVES OF THE DEAD HANG IN THE BALANCE.
...INDEED...
...BE-CAUSE...
...NOW!
WILL THE WORLD END IN A NEAT AND ORDERLY FASHION?
OR IS THE CHAOS OF THE PAST DOOMED TO REPEAT ITSELF?
...THE GAME MASTER CAN ONLY SIT BACK AND WATCH.
WHEN IT COMES TO WHAT FUTURE AWAITS US AT THE END OF THIS BATTLE...


THE NAME "ASHIKABI" IMPLIES...
...THE BUDDING OF A NEW POWER IN THIS WORLD.
...IS THE BURDEN THOSE YOUNGSTERS HAVE TAKEN ON.
TAKING CHARGE OF THOSE SPROUTING LIVES...



Chapter 135: Ashikabi and Sekirei (Part 1)


ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS ...
... SHOOT!
...SHOOT!
OH... SORRY. LOOKS LIKE I WON.
GRRR... WE WOUND UP WITH A STRANGE ORDER...
OHH? THE ORDER WE WERE WINGED IN BUT IN REVERSE...
WHAT'RE YOU ALL DOING OUT HERE?
?
OH, BIG BROTHER!


F.WIP
UMM...
WE'RE ALL GONNA MAKE SEKIREI "DECLARATIONS" TO YOU, BIG BROTHER—
SHHH! IT'S A SECRET!
SHH, SHH.
A SECRET, KUSANO !!
NOTHING! YOU HEARD NOTHING, MINA-TAN!
?
VERY WELL. IN THE ORDER WE JUST DETERMINED, THEN.
NO EAVES-DROPPING OR INTERFERING PERMITTED!!
GOT IT.
OKAAAY.
WITH THAT DECIDED, LET'S GET ON WITH IT!
S-SURE. NO NEED TO PUSH, TSUKIUMI.
SHOVE SHOVE
WH-WHAT?
IT'S CLEARLY NOT "NOTHING."
WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN??
UMM...
...SA-HASHI.


DO YOU... HAVE A MINUTE?
?
?
?
WHAT IS IT...
... KAGARI-SAN?
TWITCH
R-RIGHT.
WELL...
HOW DO I...? UH...


I-I GUESS I CAUGHT THE BUG...FROM TSUKIUMI RECENTLY.
TSUKIUMI? CAUGHT WHAT???
UM... I HAVE... AN ODD QUESTION FOR YOU.
SO I... I'M GONNA SAY SOMETHING THAT SOUNDS WEIRD.
SAHA-SHI... ... YOU...
HOW DO YOU FEEL... ABOUT ME...?
HOW DO I FEEL...? I LIKE YOU.
HUP.
!?
YOU'RE SUPER COOL, ALWAYS RELIABLE...
I LOOK UP TO YOU, AS A MAN.
BLUSH
カぁっ
AH... SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...
OH, I JUST REMEM-BERED!
DURING THE FOURTH ROUND, I MET SOMEONE WHO WANTED TO THANK YOU, KAGARI-SAN.
HUH ...?
THANK ME?
YUP.
SHE SAID SHE WAS SAVED BY NO. 06 BEFORE SHE GOT WINGED.
AND SHE WAS REALLY GRATEFUL FOR THAT.


THEY'RE WHY KU-CHAN AND I WERE ABLE TO COME HOME IN ONE PIECE.
IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU, KAGARI-SAN.
SO THANKS FOR THAT!
SHE RAN OFF RIGHT AFTER THE FOURTH ROUND ENDED, SO I DIDN'T GET ANOTHER CHANCE TO SEE HER AND HER PARTNER, BUT...
THEY SAVED ME FROM A TIGHT SPOT BECAUSE I SAID I WAS NO. 06'S ASHIKABI.


I SEE...
HEARING THAT... MAKES ME HAPPY...
I WAS REALLY HAPPY TO HEAR IT TOO.
TO KNOW EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE— IT REALLY MEANT SOME-THING...
...YOU KNOW?
SAHA-SHI...


NICE DAY, HUH?
...UMM.
I USED TO BE... A GUARDIAN FOR UNWINGED SEKIREI...AND ALSO A HOST AT A CLUB.
SO I'VE GOTTEN TO MEET ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE.
O-OH YEAH. YOU WERE A HOST.
WONDER HOW YASAKA'S DOING...
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
AND... THIS MIGHT JUST BE MY VIEWPOINT BECAUSE I'M GENERALLY A PESSIMIST, BUT...
...I BELIEVE PEOPLE ARE FUNDAMENTALLY INDIFFERENT TO THE PAIN OF OTHERS.
PHYSICAL... AND EMOTIONAL PAIN TOO... THEY CRY AND SHOUT WHEN THEY GET HURT THEMSELVES, YET...
...WHEN IT COMES TO OTHERS, THEY ONLY PRETEND TO GET IT, WITHOUT REALLY UNDERSTANDING...
BUT YOU'RE DIFFERENT.
...AND WITHOUT EVER REALLY TRYING TO SYMPATHIZE .....
THAT'S WHAT I BELIEVE.


YOU KNEW YOU'D GET BURNED, BUT YOU JUMPED INTO MY FLAMES.
YOU SAW MY PAIN AND DOVE RIGHT IN.
THAT MADE ME SO HAPPY, IN THE MOMENT.
THAT'S WHY MY FLAMES DIDN'T END UP BURNING YOU.
I ONLY GOT BURNED IN THE SPOTS THAT ACTUALLY TOUCHED YOU...?
COME TO THINK OF IT...!
I'M STILL A LITTLE CONFUSED ABOUT WHO I'M SUPPOSED TO BE.
BUT IF YOU'RE SO WILLING TO ACCEPT ME...
...THEN I GUESS...I CAN JUST ALLOW MYSELF TO BE ME.....
I STARTED THINKING THAT, EVER SINCE THAT DAY.


I'D BE A BONFIRE FOR THE FLEDGLINGS FLYING THROUGH THE DARKNESS OF TEITO.
BEING A SMALL FLAME WAS GOOD ENOUGH.
I GAVE MYSELF THE NAME "KAGARI," MEANING "BONFIRE," WHEN I DECIDED TO BECOME THE SEKIREI GUARDIAN.
I...
...SA-HASHI.
I WANT TO BE YOUR GUIDING FLAME.
KAGARI...
...SAN ...?
Wagtail


BLOW
FWOOSH
WHOOSH
TMP
TMP


FWOOSH
!?
UH...
WHOA!
WHOA!
FWOOM
AAH!
WAA-AAH!
TUMP
OOF!
GUESS WHOOO?
GLOM
WHA...?
THE ROOF!?


K-KAZE-HANA-SAN!
JUST SIT HERE AND LISTEN.
FU-FU! ♡ BINGO! ♡
OF COURSE IT'S YOU!!
HEY, MINATO-KUN...
...DO YOU...
...LIKE ME?
WH—
WHERE'S THIS COMING FROM? YOU TOO, KAZEHANA-SAN?
FIRST KAGARI-SAN AND NOW YOU? EVERYONE'S ACTING WEIRD.
HEYYYY!
DO YOU LIKE ME OR NOOOT?
I LIKE YOU! I LIKE YOU, BUT WH—!!?
I...
.....
KOUTEN.
EVERY SEKIREI IS BOUND TO START ACTING STRANGELY.
IT'S BECAUSE THAT'S APPEARED IN THE SKY.


KOUTEN ...
HEY, MINATO-KUN.
WHAT'LL I...?
R-RIGHT. FIRST, I'LL HAVE TO FINALLY GET INTO COLLEGE...
...OR SOME-THING ...
HA HA...
YOU...
WHAT WILL YOU DO ONCE THE SEKIREI PROJECT'S OVER?
MM-HMM...
I'M NOT REALLY AWARE OF IT MOST OF THE TIME, I GUESS, BUT I'VE JUST GONE WITH THE FLOW MY WHOLE LIFE.
EVEN WITH COLLEGE, THE GOAL FOR NOW IS JUST "GET IN."
TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT THE TYPE OF GUY WHO THINKS MUCH ABOUT THE FUTURE...


I WAS FORCED TO START THINKING ABOUT WHAT I COULD DO FOR YOU GUYS.
...GETTING CAUGHT UP IN THE SEKIREI PROJECT ...
MEETING ALL OF YOU...
...BUT ...
AND THAT'S WHEN I REALIZED.
WHAT I WANTED TO DO...WHO I WANTED TO BE...
...I FINALLY KNOW WHAT I WANT FROM LIFE.
THROUGH MEETING YOU ALL...
I-IT'S STILL A SECRET!
WHAT, WHAT? WHAT IS IT?
WHAT YOU WANT?
YOU, KAZEHANA-SAN...
AND... BECAUSE I KNOW WHAT I WANT NOW...
THAT'S WHY I HOPE TO BE WITH YOU ALL FOREVER.
THAT'S WHAT I'M WORKING TOWARD!
...AND EVERYONE ELSE...


JUST AS I PROMISED ...
...I CAN SHOW YOU WHAT SORT OF MAN I AM, KAZEHANA-SAN!
I'M WORKING HARD SO THAT, THIS TIME FOR SURE...
MINATO-KUN.....
...MORE THAN ENOUGH OF A MAN ALREADY.....
... YOU'RE ...


?
KAZE-
HANA-
SA—
...!!
PWAHH!
WHOA...
KAZEHANA-
SA—
MINATO-
KUN...
...I
LOVE
YOU!
♡


KAZE-HANA-SAN...
DODGE
SPLASH
MY, MY. I THOUGHT WE PROMISED NOT TO INTERFERE WITH EACH OTHER?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WENT TOO FAR!!
NONE OF THAT, NOW!!
WH-WHAT JUST HAPPENED...?
I COULDN'T HELP IT...!
SEE YA, MINATO-KUN! ♡


IT'LL BE HOT AND HEAVY! ♡♡
BIG SIS'LL TEACH YOU EVERYTHING SHE KNOWS. ♡
IF YOU WANT MORE THAN A KISS, IT'LL HAVE TO WAIT...
...UNTIL THE SEKIREI PROJECT IS OVER.
SO LOOK FORWARD TO IT! ♡♡
MATSU-SAAAN, WHAT DOES "MORE THAN A KISS" MEAN?
SHHH. NOT NOW, MUSUBI-TAN.
THEY'LL FIND OUT WE'RE EAVES-DROPPING.
MORE THAN.....
MORE THAN A KISS...!?
!!
MINATO !?
A RAINBOW FROM MY NOSE-BLEED...
SPLORT


...
UHH...
...?
OH, MINATO!
ARE YOU FINALLY AWAKE?


...SO I SHALL ASK YOU PLAINLY.
I'M NO GOOD AT DANCING AROUND THE ISSUE...
MINA-TO!
WHY ...?
HUH!? I WAS IN YOUR L-LAP!?
ACK, S-SORRY, TSUKIUMI!
LEAD
MINATO... HOW DO YOU...
...FEEL ABOUT ME...?
WHAT THE HECK'S GOING ON AROUND HERE...?
EVEN YOU, TSUKIUMI...?
UM...
SERIOUSLY... THIS IS A WEIRD DAY.



Chapter 136: Ashikabi and Sekirei (Part 2)


...BEFORE THIS FINAL PHASE...
...I NEED TO ASK YOU PROPERLY.
FACE-TO-FACE...
I NEED TO KNOW YOUR FEELINGS...
UM, OKAY, BUT—
OF COURSE!
I KNOW I AM YOUR ONE, TRUE WIFE, NATURALLY! THAT IS THE TRUTH.
BUT WHAT I'M ASKING GOES BEYOND THAT!
UH... OKAY?
...THIS ISN'T ABOUT HOW YOU WOULD COMPARE ME TO THOSE CONCU-BINES.
I CAN A-APPROVE OF THEM.
SUCH IS MY MAGNANIMITY AS THE TRUE WIFE!


SIMPLY...
...TELL ME HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT ME. THAT'S ALL.
BECAUSE MY POSITION AS YOUR SEKIREI IS AN ABSOLUTE TRUTH.
CLENCH!
NO MATTER YOUR FEELINGS, I WON'T BE SHAKEN.
YOU NEEDN'T WORRY.
...TSUKI-UMI.
FWIP
GYAAAH!?


WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
UH, SORRY. MY SHIRT GOT SOAKED EARLIER.
FELT KINDA ICKY.
P-PARDON ME. IT WAS MY WATER THAT SOAKED YOU.
Y-YET, MAN OR NOT, YOU OUGHT TO HAVE SOME SENSE OF DECENCY.....!!
...HEY, TSUKIUMI.
REMEMBER WHEN YOU CAME HOME FROM TRAINING, ALL RAGGED AND WORN-OUT?
... AND...
...MINATO.
...YOU...
IT'S BEEN SOME TIME NOW SINCE WE WERE BONDED...
...ASKED ME SOMETHING.
YOU...
AND YOU...
...STILL HAVE NO DESIRE TO LAY WITH ME.....?
YOU.....
YOU ASKED IF I WANTED TO LAY WITH YOU...


I TOLD YOU TO FORGET THAT!!
F-FORGET THAT!
THAT MADE ME SO HAPPY.
BLUSH
かあぁっ
...!!!
...I THOUGHT YOU WERE SO PRETTY. STRONG AND COOL TOO.
I THOUGHT THAT, AS A SEKIREI, YOU WERE TOTALLY WASTED ON A LAME GUY LIKE ME...
'COS, YOU SEE, FROM THE DAY WE MET, TSUKIUMI...
WHAT ...!?
AH.
SPLASH
ヤアアッ!!
NEVER CALL YOURSELF A "LAME GUY"!!


I CANNOT FORGIVE SUCH SELF-DEPRECATION!!
AFTER ALL, WE ARE WED TO EACH OTHER!
SHE'S MAD AT ME, RIGHT? I THINK...
YUP. DEFINITELY MAD.....
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
I...
I LIKE YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE YOU, MINATO...
YEAH.
I UNDER-STAND. SORRY.
...THAT'S WHY...
...I'M WORKING SO HARD... TO BE AN ASHIKABI YOU GUYS DESERVE.
THE MAN YOU DESERVE.
SO WHEN THE TIME COMES, ASK ME AGAIN.
...JUST LIKE BACK THEN.


SOMEONE WHO CAN RETURN YOUR FEELINGS, TSUKIUMI.
I WANNA BE SOMEONE WHO CAN STAND TALL AND NOT HESITATE.
I'LL GIVE YOU A STRAIGHT ANSWER.
... MINATO...
I, TSUKIUMI, CAN ACCEPT THAT!!
...OKAY.
UNDER-STOOD.


NOW, ALLOW ME TO SAY THOSE WORDS ONCE MORE.
...“TO-GETHER FOR-EVER.”
TOGETHER FOREVER, UNDOUBT-EDLY.
MINATO ……

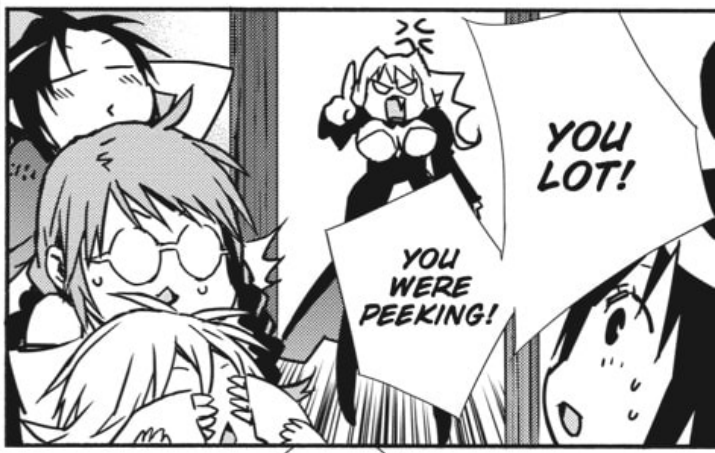

TSUKI-
UMI...
TSUUUKIIIUUUMIII-SAAAN?
!!
JUMP


I'M SORRY, LANDLADY-DONO!! I'LL WIPE IT UP AT ONCE!!
I'M SORRY!
U-FU-FU. NO, I KNOW YOU WOULD NEVER SHOOT YOUR WATER INDOORS, RIGHT? U-FU-FU-FU.
DID I JUST HEAR SPLASHING INSIDE THE HOUSE...?


TSUKI-UMI-SAN! A KISS IS ONE STEP TOO FAR!
OHH? YOU WERE THE ONE WHO PEEKED FIRST.
WE HAD AN AGREEMENT. NO EAVES-DROPPING AND NO INTERFER-ING!
GRRR! GRRR!
I-I GUESS I'LL JUST MOP THIS UP WITH MY SHIRT.
WH-WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND HERE?


AWW, AND WE WERE JUST GETTING TO THE GOOD PART.
SHHH, SHH! SHE'LL HEAR YOU, KAZEHANA-TAN!


AH!


YOU LOT!
YOU WERE PEEKING!


NEXT IS MATSU'S TURN! ♡


MINA-TAN, MINA-TAN.


LANDLADY-SAMAAA.
IS THERE ANYTHING MUSUBI CAN HELP WITH...?
佐橋
トントントン
TOK
TOK
TOK
カチ...
CLICK
OH, MUSUBI-SAN.
U-FU-FU. IS YOUR CONFESSION SESSION ALL FINISHED?
MUSUBI'S STILL WAITING FOR HER TURN!



SIGN: KITCHEN RULES: NO SNACKING, HEAVY DRINKING, OR FIGHTING ALLOWED!!




OF COURSE... EVEN THOUGH MY HUSBAND PASSED AWAY...
...I CONTINUE TO LIVE MY EVERYDAY LIFE.
THINK ABOUT IT FOR A MOMENT, AND YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND.
OH, RIGHT!!
MUSUBI WASN'T THINKING AT ALL!!
WELL. HOW IS IT YOU UNDERSTAND, THEN?
HUH?
UMM, UMM.
MUSUBI JUST GETS IT, SOME-HOW.
IT'S LIKE, UMM...
UMM ...
...IT'S BECAUSE ...
...I'M A SEKIREI WITH A FULL-BODY CREST...
...NO. 01.


I BELIEVE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE SPOKEN LIKE THIS.


...NO. 08.
YUME...


SO BASICALLY, THIS IS ONE BIG CONFESSION SESSION! ♡


THESE ARE OUR SEKIREI DECLARATIONS, Y'SEE.
IT'S WHEN WE EXPLAIN OUR TRUE FEELINGS TO OUR ASHIKABI AND COMRADES.
NOW, AS FOR MATSU'S SEKIREI DECLARATION...
CHANGED CLOTHES
OH...SO THAT'S WHY YOU'RE ALL GOING "IN ORDER"...
WAIT, WHAT!? CONFESSION SESSION!?
EXPERIMENTATION!!
MATSU WANTS TO EXPERIMENT WITH MINA-TAN ALL NIGHT LONG!
...THAT'S THE GIST OF IT, REALLY.
KU FU KU FU KU FU KU FU.
Y-YOU'RE CERTAINLY CONSISTENT, MATSU-SAN...
I'D SAY I'M ALMOST USED TO IT BY NOW.....
WELL!
MATSU'S STILL GONNA BE HER OLD SELF GOING FORWARD, WHICH MEANS I LIKE YOU, MINA-TAN.
THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT!


MATSU-SAN...
BUT GIVEN THAT MATSU IS YOUR TACTICIAN...
...I CAN'T HELP BUT BE INTERESTED IN THAT.
"THAT" ...?
YES.
"KOU-TEN."
IT CONCERNS OUR FATE, AS SEKIREI.
AS WELL AS THE FATE OF EVERY ASHIKABI AND HUMAN ON THE PLANET.
EVERYTHING WILL BE DECIDED THERE.

Chapter 137: Empty Throne




KOUTEN
.....
UM... THIS MIGHT BE A DUMB QUESTION, BUT...
YES?
ARE WE... GONNA FIGHT THERE?
HOW DO WE EVEN GET UP THERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
YES. KOUTEN IS THE FINAL BATTLE-FIELD.
THAT'S CORRECT.
BUT ONLY THE FINAL TWO SEKIREI— FATED TO BATTLE EACH OTHER— CAN ASCEND TO THOSE HEIGHTS...
YOU MAY'VE NOTICED KOUTEN IS SURROUNDED BY A VIOLENT WINDSTORM, SO IT'S UNAPPROACHABLE EVEN BY HELICOPTER.
IT'S NOT A PLACE YOU CAN GET TO JUST BECAUSE YOU WANT TO, SO WE NEEDN'T COME UP WITH A METHOD TO DO SO.
OH... I SEE...


B-BUT EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE "FINAL PHASE," THERE'RE STILL A LOT OF PARTICIPANTS LEFT.
HOW'S THAT WORK .....?
IN-DEED.
I SUSPECT THE POOL WILL BE NARROWED DOWN AT ANOTHER LOCATION.


CLAK
CLAK
カカカ..!!
THE PLACE WHERE EVERYTHING BEGAN—


YES.
"ANOTHER LOCATION" ...?


KAMIKURA ISLAND.


...WE FLEDGLINGS AWOKE.
THE PLACE WHERE...
...AND THE PLACE WHERE...
...NO. OO...
...MUST RETURN TO.


HERE I COME!


CLASH
CLASH
CLASH
CLASH
WHY...
...DIDN'T YOU BOND WITH ANYONE?


CLASH
IF YOU'D BEEN WINGED...
.....NO. OO...
...YOU COULD'VE BEEN SET FREE.
...I SEE.
NO. 08, YOU DON'T KNOW...
...WHAT HAPPENED, DO YOU?
JUMP
HOW TAKEHITO-SAN LOST HIS LIFE.


IF ONLY HE'D BEEN MY ASHIKABI...
...THAT TRAGEDY WOULDN'T HAVE OCCURRED.
!?
THE REASON I REMAIN UNWINGED ...
...IS BECAUSE THE MAN I LOVE WAS NOT MY ASHIKABI.
THAT'S THE TRUTH BEHIND THE TRAGEDY.


KU-CHAAAN...
KU-CHAN?
IT'S YOUR TURN. WHERE ARE YOUUU?
...OH!
SHE'S ASLEEP...
LOOKS LIKE SHE COULDN'T HOLD OUT...
MATSU-SAN, COULD YOU SET UP KU-CHAN'S FUTON?
I'LL CARRY HER IN.
SURE, YOU GOT IT.


SEKIREI DECLARATION
TO BIG BROTHER,
I LOVE YOU, BIG BROTHER!
BIG BROTHER
KU




...KU-CHAN.
I LOVE YOU TOO...
BIG BROTHER ...
SQUEEZE


YO!
GOT ANYTHING TO EAT, MIYA-CHAN?
WE'RE SO SORRY.
IT'S LIKE THIS EVERY TIME...
COMING AND BEGGING FOR FOOD LIKE THIS...HE'S THE LOWEST OF SCUM.
BLINK
.....
!
BONK
BE VIGI-LANT. ♡
MY, MY. WE HAVE AN ANNOYING GUEST, IT SEEMS.
WHAT WAS MUSUBI JUST DOING!?
HUH? A BUMP ON MY HEAD??
HUH?
HUUUH?
NO. OO...


...LAND-LADY-SAMA?
I THINK I CAN SAFELY SAY I HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO TEACH YOU.
YOUR PRACTICAL BATTLE EXPERIENCE HAS ALSO HASTENED YOUR GROWTH AS A FIGHTER.
YOU'VE CUT DOWN ON UNNECESSARY MOVEMENTS AND IMPROVED A LOT.
YOUR SEKIREI CORE WILL SHINE ALL THE BRIGHTER WHEN TWO HEARTS BEAT AS ONE.
AND THAT BRILLIANT LIGHT CAN EVEN BRING ABOUT MIRACLES.
THE POWER OF EMO-TION.
IN THE END, WHAT WILL GIVE YOU STRENGTH IS THE POWER OF BONDS.
REMEMBER THIS.
YOU'VE MASTERED ALL I HAVE TO TEACH.


THIS IS KUSANO'S SEKIREI DECLARATION—
BIG BROTHER ...
...I LOVE YOU! ♡♡
SQUEEZE
BIG BROTHER, PLEASE...
...MAKE KU YOUR WIFE. ♡



Chapter 138: First Feelings


SQUEEZE
きゅっ。
I...
...CAN'T MOVE.
SHE'S SERIOUSLY NOT LETTING GO OF MY SHIRT...
SQUEEZE
きゅーっ
Mmph.
Big brother
...
YO!
GOT ANYTHING TO EAT, MIYA-CHAN?


HEY, SAHASHI!
OH, THERE'S A LETTER HERE, ADDRESSED TO YOU.
FOUND IT IN THE MAILBOX AT THE FRONT DOOR.
WHO'S THIS ...?
TH-THANKS.
...?
SNOOZE
ZZZ
WHAT'S WITH YOU? CRADLING THE LITTLE TYKE LIKE THAT...
SHE'S ASLEEP. WON'T LET GO OF MY SHIRT...
AH... HA HA...
GOOD TO SEE YOU, SEO-SAN.
ENVELOPE: GENZABUROU TOUJOU
WHOA!
JOLT
LOOM
ROAR
U-FU-FU-FU...
BARGING INTO OUR HOME UNINVITED, I SEE...


SAHASHI-SAN...
...MUSUBI-SAN SAYS SHE'S "WAITING FOR YOU IN THE BACKYARD. ♡"
PLEASE GO TO HER BEFORE THE YARD ENDS UP FULL OF HOLES.
MM?
HA-HA... OKAY.
OH, YOU'RE AWAKE, KU-CHAN?
OH, PIKA-CHAN AND HI-CHAN! ♡
GUH...
ARE YOU POOR AGAIN? DID YOU COME FOR MORE FOOD?
IT'S ALL THE MORE PAINFUL COMING FROM SOMEONE SO INNOCENT.
...MIYA-CHAN.
WE'RE HAVING CURRY TONIGHT. ♡
WELL, JUST COME ON IN ALREADY.
STAYING FOR DINNER, TOO, I ASSUME?
WE'RE ALSO USED TO THAT.
NOT LIKE WE'RE NOT USED TO IT.
WATCH YOUR MOUTH, BOY!
WAIT. "BOY"? "GIRL"?
I'VE ACTUALLY GOT SOMETHING TO ASK YOU.
THINK YOU CAN SPARE A MINUTE?





ENVELOPE: TO SAHASHI / HARUKA SHIGI










SHIGI-
KUN...!?


"DEAR SAHASHI ...
"...I BET MBI WOULD INTERCEPT THIS IF I SENT IT DIRECTLY, SO INSTEAD, I'M SENDING IT TO THAT BALD—
"I MEAN, THAT LANDLORD OF YOURS— AND ASKED HIM TO PASS IT ON..."
THANKS FOR HELPING US ESCAPE TEITO.
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET IN TOUCH VIA PHONE AND E-MAIL THIS WHOLE TIME, BUT NOTHING GETS THROUGH, SO THIS IS MY LAST RESORT.
I HOPE THIS LETTER ACTUALLY REACHES YOU.
WE COULD KEEP THANKING YOU FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES, AND IT STILL WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH.
AFTER ALL THAT, WE MANAGED TO REACH MY FAMILY IN KYOTO.
IT WAS TOUGH EXPLAINING KUNO TO THEM, BUT...
...I SAID WE INTEND TO BE TOGETHER FOREVER AND SOMEHOW CONVINCED THEM!
(I COULDN'T VERY WELL MENTION THE SEKIREI PROJECT.)
MY MOM'S ACTUALLY THRILLED ABOUT IT NOW. SHE SAYS, "I ALWAYS WANTED A DAUGHTER INSTEAD OF A SON ♡"
WE'RE DOING GOOD.

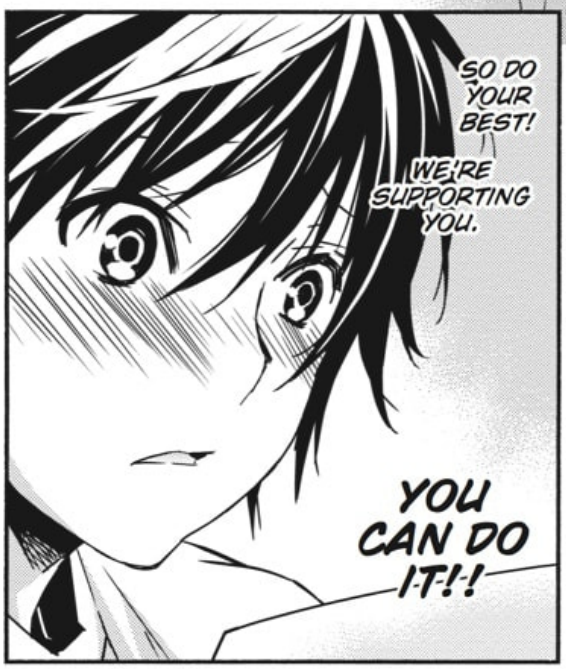

LOOKS LIKE TEITO'S GETTING PRETTY CRAZY.
I SAW WHAT HAPPENED ON THE NEWS.
SO GLAD TO HEAR IT.
THROUGH EXCHANGING INFO WITH THEM, WE LEARNED YOU AND YOURS ARE SAFE.
ACTUALLY, WE RAN INTO ANOTHER PAIR WHO, LIKE US, LUCKILY MANAGED TO ESCAPE FROM THE CITY.
EVEN THOUGH WE LEFT THE CITY, THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT KUNO'S A SEKIREI AND I'M AN ASHIKABI.
GIVEN YOU'VE COME THIS FAR, I'M ROOTING FOR YOU TO WIN IT ALL.
...I'M...
...BETTING IT ALL ON YOU, SAHASHI.
IT'S HARD TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NOW.
THAT'S WHY...

I'M BETTING OUR FUTURE...

...AND THE FUTURE OF ALL SEKIREI...

...AND ASHIKABI.












...SHIGI-KUN...
...THANK YOU.
...KAGARI-SAN.
KAZE-HANA-SAN.


TSUKI-
UMI.
MATSU-
SAN.
UWA
KU-
CHA—?
KU-
CHAN.

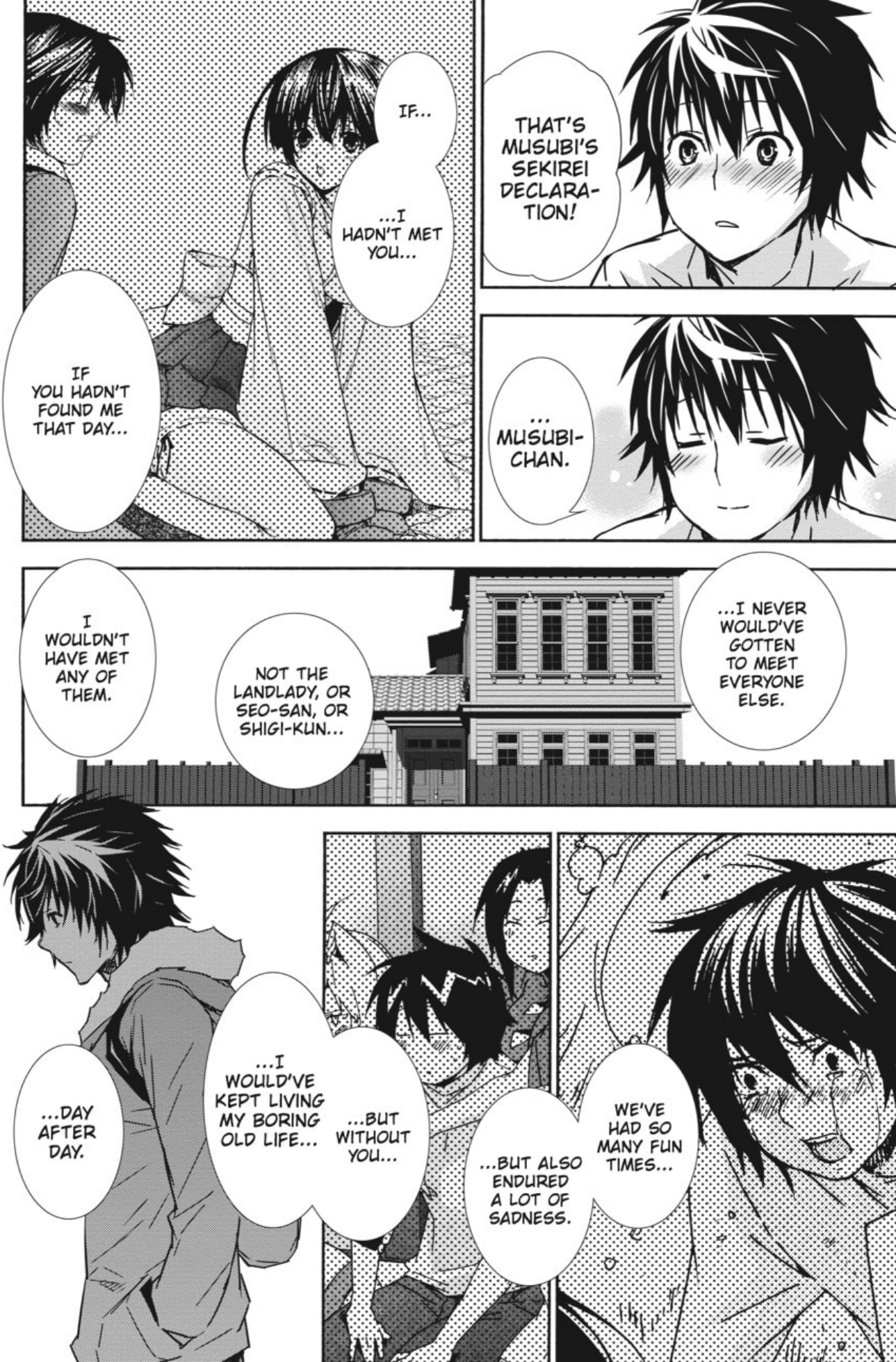

OH! ♡
MINATO-SAN! ♡
MINATO-SAAAN!


ALL DONE WITH TRAINING?
YES!
EH-HEH-HEH. ♡ ACTUALLY, I JUST GOT EXCITED AND CHANGED CLOTHES. IT HAD TO BE THIS OUTFIT, AFTER ALL.


YEAH.
SO... SEKIREI DECLARA-TION?
YOURS IS THE LAST ONE.
OH!
HOLD ON A MINUTE.
MY HEART IS POUNDING ...
MINATO-SAN!
FROM THE DAY WE FIRST MET...
...I'VE LOVED YOU!
EXHALE
INHALE
INHALE
はー
すー
DEEP BREATHS, NOW.
CLENCH
I WAS A TOTAL STRANGER, BUT...
...YOU STILL GAVE ME A HAMBURGER TO EAT...
...AND A PLACE TO SLEEP.
YOU SAVED ME WHEN THOSE LIGHTNING GIRLS WERE IN PURSUIT.
AND EVEN AFTER WE BONDED, YOU WERE SO KIND.
THAT'S THE MINATO-SAN I LOVE.


TOGETHER FOREVER.


YOU ALWAYS...
...MAKE MY HEART GO CRAZY.
SO I'LL SAY IT AGAIN!


IF...
...I HADN'T MET YOU...
IF YOU HADN'T FOUND ME THAT DAY...
THAT'S MUSUBI'S SEKIREI DECLARATION!
...MUSUBI-CHAN.
I WOULDN'T HAVE MET ANY OF THEM.
NOT THE LANDLADY, OR SEO-SAN, OR SHIGI-KUN...
...I NEVER WOULD'VE GOTTEN TO MEET EVERYONE ELSE.
...DAY AFTER DAY.
...I WOULD'VE KEPT LIVING MY BORING OLD LIFE...
...BUT WITHOUT YOU...
...BUT ALSO ENDURED A LOT OF SADNESS.
WE'VE HAD SO MANY FUN TIMES...


THANK YOU, MUSUBI-CHAN.
THANKS FOR CHOOSING ME.
FOR BONDING WITH ME.
THANK YOU.....


MINATO-SAN.....
TOO CLOSE, MUSUBI— YOU'RE GETTING TOO CLOSE!
GRRR! GRRR!
STOP IT, KUSANO-TAN, TSUKIUMI-TAN! WE'LL BE FOUND OUT.
THEY'LL DISCOVER US PEEKING!
CLATTER
CLATTER


MUSUBI-CHAN... I...
...WANT TO BE WITH YOU.
I...
...WANT TO BE WITH ALL OF YOU, FOREVER.
SO LET'S GET OUT THERE...
...AND WIN THIS "FINAL PHASE"!



Chapter 139: An Old Tale




...THE MOON'S SO BEAUTIFUL TONIGHT, ISN'T IT?


TAKE-HITO-SAN...
...LOOK OVER THERE.
HUH?
THE MOON... AROUND THE RABBIT'S EARS, THAT'S...
AH!
THAT AGAIN?
GIGGLE
ARE YOU MAKING IT MOVE?
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
ISN'T IT CUTE?
IT'S LIKE A LITTLE BOW, NO? ♡
S-SURE IS...
IT DOESN'T SHOW UP ON RADAR, JUST LIKE A UFO, AND IT'S USUALLY HIDDEN BY CLOUDS...
...KIND OF LIKE LAPUTA?
THAT THING...
IT'S IN SYNC WITH YOU, RIGHT?


YES.
...IT IS, FOR NOW.
BUT FOR AGES NOW, LEADING TO THE PRESENT...
...KOUTEN HAS HAD NO MASTER...ITS THRONE HAS REMAINED EMPTY.
THAT'S WHY IT'S REACTING TO THE LAST "ME," NO. 00, NOW.
...
"ANOTHER WILL COME TO INHERIT THE THRONE."
WHILE I WAS SLEEPING, ANOTHER "ME" PROCLAIMED THAT...
...AFTER WE WERE ALL DESTROYED...
...I'M SORRY.


...I COULD RELEASE YOU FROM THAT THING'S GRIP.
I'M SORRY.
IF I WERE YOUR ASHIKABI...
EVEN IF I CAN NEVER TRULY BE FREE...
IT'S MY OWN SELFISH CHOICE TO BE WITH YOU.
...NO.
...AM MORE THAN HAPPY ENOUGH, IF WE CAN BE TOGETHER.
...I...
MIYA.....


I MAY'VE PARTED WAYS WITH MBI, BUT...
I WON'T USE MINAKA'S METHODS.
BUT I HAVE TO RELEASE ALL THE SEKIREI FROM THEIR CHAINS.
IT'S ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT.
THIS "PROJECT S"... THE SEKIREI PROJECT... I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING.
YOU AND THE OTHER SEKIREI.
ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT.
TAKEHITO-SAN.....
YEAH, YEAH, BUT RESEARCH TAKES A LOT OF MONEY, Y'KNOW. AND THAT PRACTICALLY GROWS ON TREES FOR MBI.
WHOOP
WHOOP
WHOOP
WHOOP


RING
RING
RING
Hiroto Minaka
WE'VE GOT AN EMERGENCY ...
...ASAMA-KUN!
TAKEHITO-SAN?
UM...
I'VE GOTTA RUN OVER TO MBI.
...I UNDER-STAND. IS IT SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE JINKI?
I'M COMING TOO.
YOU CAN'T.
YOU'RE THE PROPER OWNER OF THE JINKI.
THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF YOU GET TOO CLOSE TO THEM NOW.
IT'S OKAY. I'LL FIGURE SOMETHING OUT.


TAKE-
HITO-
SAN...
I'LL
BE HOME
SOON...
...MIYA
.....


SORRY ABOUT THIS, ASAMA-KUN.
REGRET-FULLY, YES.
SOMETHING SUDDENLY WENT WRONG. IT'S ALL GOING HAYWIRE.
IT'S A SYSTEM-WIDE REACTION, THEN?
THE SILVER LINING IS THAT ONLY ONE OF THE JINKI IS REACTING.
I KNOW THAT, BUT...I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO RELY ON YOUR EXPERTISE.
I KNOW I HAVE NO RIGHT TO COME CRYING TO YOU, NOW THAT YOU'VE LEFT THE COMPANY.
WE NEED TO GET THEM OUT OF HERE BEFORE THEY RESONATE ...
A JINKI IS REACTING !?
WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?
...IN THIS UNKNOWN CIRCUM-STANCE... WHO CAN SAY IF THOSE CALCULATIONS ARE EVEN MEANINGFUL?
ACCORDING TO OUR CALCULATIONS, THE DESTRUCTION WOULD ONLY ENCOMPASS THE GROUNDS OF MBI, YET...
THIS JINKI'S BECOME AN "ARAMITAMA," A ROUGH SOUL, AND IT WON'T CALM DOWN UNTIL THAT ENERGY'S RELEASED.


WE'VE ALREADY EVACUATED THE RESEARCHERS AT THIS FACILITY.
...BUT THE SEKIREI STILL UNDERGOING MODIFICATIONS CAN'T BE MOVED IN TIME.
!
STOPPING THE JINKI ISN'T POSSIBLE AT THIS POINT.
BUT YOU'RE THE MAN WHO WAS ABLE TO MODIFY NO. 00.
IF ANYONE CAN MINIMIZE THE DAMAGE BY TINKERING WITH THE JINKI, IT'S YOU.
SHOULD ANYTHING HAPPEN TO TAKAMI-KUN AND ME DURING THIS PROJECT...
...I'M ENTRUSTING YOU WITH MBI AND THE SEKIREI.
MINAKA-KUN!?
AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, THE JINKI AFFECT NOT ONLY SEKIREI BUT ALSO ASHIKABI.
TAKAMI-KUN IS STILL IN THE BUILDING, STICKING WITH THOSE SEKIREI UNDERGOING MODIFICATIONS.
WE'RE BOTH ASHIKABI. THE JINKI'S REACTION WILL LIKELY AFFECT THE TWO OF US.....
HEY.
WILL YOU ABANDON THEM?


KARA-SUBA!
YOU'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE—
PRO-FESSOR ASAMA.
BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO?
YOU'RE CAPABLE OF SAVING THE SLEEPING SEKIREI.
WILL YOU ABAN-DON THEM?
.....I'M CAPABLE OF...?
.....OH.
...OH, RIGHT...!
I GET WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, KARASUBA.
HEY, MINAKA-KUN.
EVERYONE WAS EVACUATED, RIGHT?
THE ONLY PEOPLE LEFT ARE YOU, ME, AND TAKAMI-KUN...
ALL THE EMPLOYEES ARE GONE, YES.
...PLUS THE SEKIREI WHO CAN'T GET AWAY ON THEIR OWN.
...RIGHT. OKAY.
SO I'M THE ONLY HUMAN LEFT WHO COULD BE AFFECTED BY THE JINKI.
—!?
ASAMA-KUN, DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GOING TO...


BY DOING THAT...
...IT'LL ONLY TERMINATE ANYONE WHO'S NOT A SEKIREI OR ASHIKABI.
I'LL REVERSE THE JINKI'S POWER FLOW.
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN LIMIT THE DAMAGE AND GET THIS SITUATION UNDER CONTROL.
MINAKA-KUN, WE ALL KNOW YOU'RE A GENIUS, BUT YOU'VE GOT NO TALENT FOR DELICATE MATTERS LIKE THE MODIFICATION REQUIRED HERE.
YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH! YOU ESCAPE WHILE I TAKE CARE OF THINGS!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I CALLED YOU HERE FOR!!
DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT, ASAMA-KUN!!
JUST LET HER LIVE A NORMAL LIFE, FROM HERE ON.
DON'T GET NO. OO... DON'T GET MIYA INVOLVED WITH ANY MORE OF MBI'S SHENANIGANS.
BUT YOU GOTTA PROMISE ME SOMETHING IN EXCHANGE, OKAY?
...I'M SORRY, MIYA.
...FINE.
OF COURSE.


...!
RIP
NO...!
TAKE-HITO-SAN!
NOOO ...!!
FLASH




...HEY, MIYA-CHAN.
WATCHIN' THE MOON ALL BY YOUR-SELF?
KAORU-SAN.
YOU MENTIONED YOU HAD SOMETHING TO ASK ME.
YEAH.
THAT THING.
WHY'S IT MOVING?
TAKEHITO ONCE TOLD ME IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO MOVE WITHOUT YOU.
SO IF YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS SEKIREI PROJECT...
...WHY'S KOUTEN MOVING NOW?
THE BATTLE TO DETERMINE THE FINAL SURVIVOR IS STARTING.....
I CAN NO LONGER REMAIN AN IDLE BY-STANDER.



Chapter 140: Island Under the Heavens


SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
CRASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SO FREAKING BORED!!
ENOUGH! ALREADY!
IT'S BEEN FIVE WHOLE HOURS SINCE WE GOT THE STANDBY ORDER!
HOW LONG DO WE GOTTA STAND AROUND HERE DOING NOTHING!?
COME NOW, BENITSU-BASA.


SPLASH
SPLASH
A TYPHOON'S COMING.
IT'S STORMY SEAS AHEAD.
SO IT SEEMS THE ARRIVAL'S BEEN THROWN OFF SCHEDULE.
NATSU-OOO!
LOOK.
THIS WIND.
RING
RING
THE CEO IS SUPPOSED TO CONTACT US IF THERE'S ANY NEWS OF...
OH, SPEAK OF THE DEVIL...
YES, THIS IS ICHINO-MIYA.
YES... RIGHT.
THE PRIVATE ARMY'S BEING DEPLOYED IN TIME FOR THE ARRIVAL? WOW.


...IF YOU'RE THAT BORED...
...THEN LET ME ENTERTAIN YOU WITH AN OLD STORY.
WH-WHAT? THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU, BLACK...
REALLY? AN OLD STORY?
FU-FU.
HUH...?
THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU NEARLY CEASED TO FUNCTION IN YOUR SLEEP WHEN ONE OF THE JINKI WENT HAYWIRE.
IT HAPPENED BACK WHEN YOU GUYS WERE STILL ASLEEP AT MBI.
DIDN'T YOU KNOW?
I-I DIDN'T... I NEVER HEARD ABOUT THAT!!
SO? SO? WHAT HAP-PENED !?
IN ORDER TO SAVE ALL OF YOU, ONE VERY FOOLISH HUMAN GAVE HIS OWN LIFE.


THEN I WENT OUT OF MY WAY TO DELIVER ALL THAT WAS LEFT OF HIM.


SHUDDER




I HAD NO IDEA WHAT HAD HAPPENED.
WHEN I CAME TO, I WAS KNOCKING ON DEATH'S DOOR.
...OR, NO, I WAS VERY MUCH ALIVE.
NEARLY KILLED? YOU, BLACK!?
IT'S TRUE I WAS CARELESS, BUT I WAS ALSO STILL UNWINGED BACK THEN.
THANKS TO MBI'S REGENERATIVE HEALING TECHNOLOGY, ALL THAT'RE LEFT NOW ARE A FEW SMALL SCARS.
FU-FU... IT GETS MY BLOOD PUMPING.
THAT TERROR... THAT PAIN...
FACING THAT ONCE MORE WOULD BE OH SO FUN.
... YET ...


...THE DEATH MATCH I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO IS...


WAIT, HOLD ON!
WHO WAS IT!? WHAT HAPPENED !?
YOU'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH.
IF YOU SURVIVE THAT LONG, THAT IS.
AHHH.
IT'S... FINALLY HERE.
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
RUMBLE

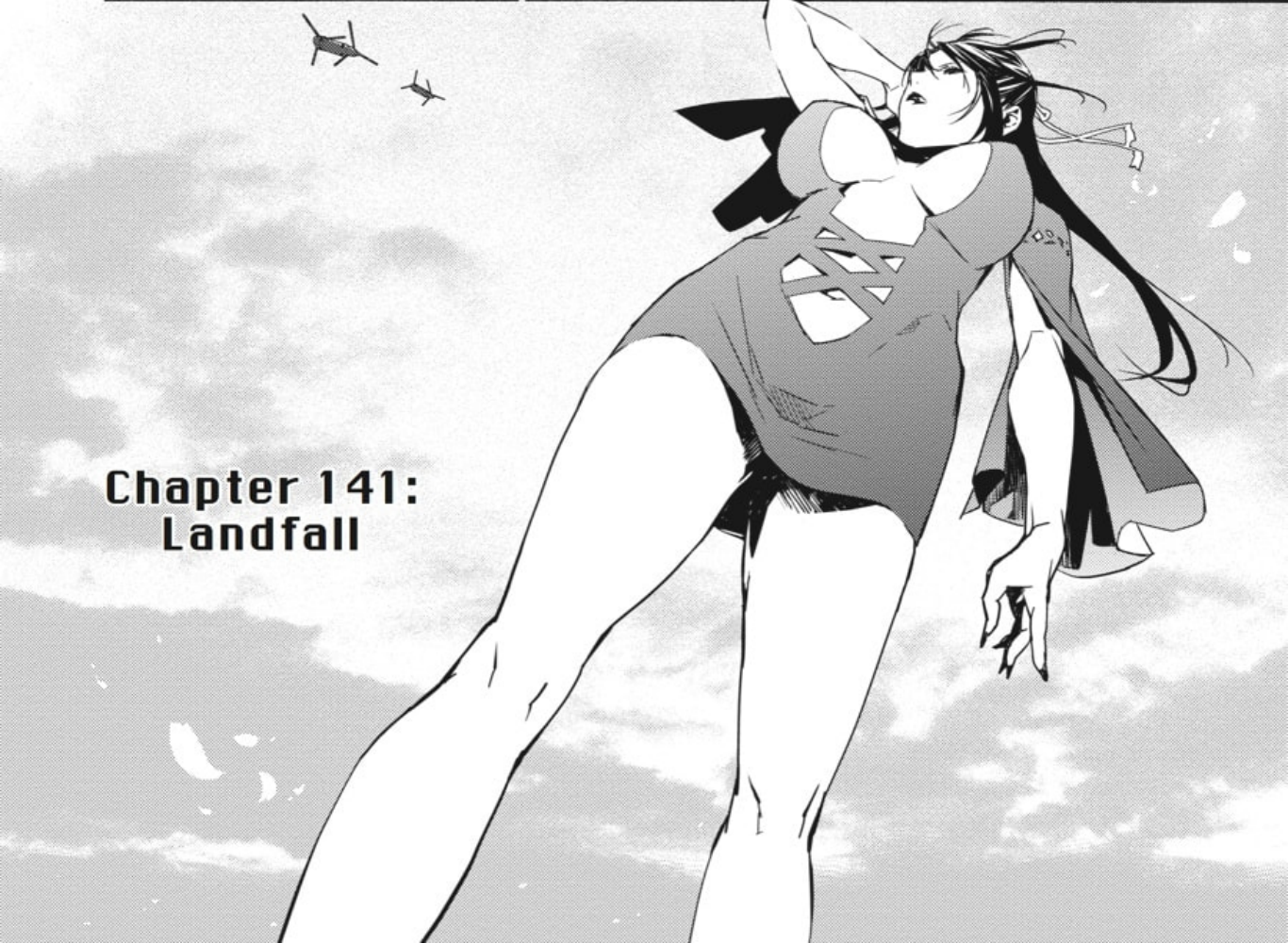

KAMIKURA ISLAND.


KOUTEN.
THE MOST TERRIFYING AMONG US WILL WATCH OVER ALL FROM UP THERE....
...
WHILE WE SEKIREI...
...SLAUGHTER ONE ANOTHER ON THIS ISLAND UNDER THE HEAVENS.
LET THE ANNIHILA-TION...
...BEGIN.


WHOOM
WHOOM
WHOOM
WHOOM
WHOOM
TEITOTV
Everyone, please observe !!
The island that has just emerged in Teito Harbor is about two kilometers in length.
MBI — which currently holds the city within its grasp — is claiming the island for its own purposes...
OOH! ♡
IT'S KAMIKURA ISLAND!
WH-WHAT? WHAT'S HAPPENING?
SO THIS IS WHY IT VANISHED FROM ALL RADAR ABOUT A WEEK AGO.
OH DEAR ...







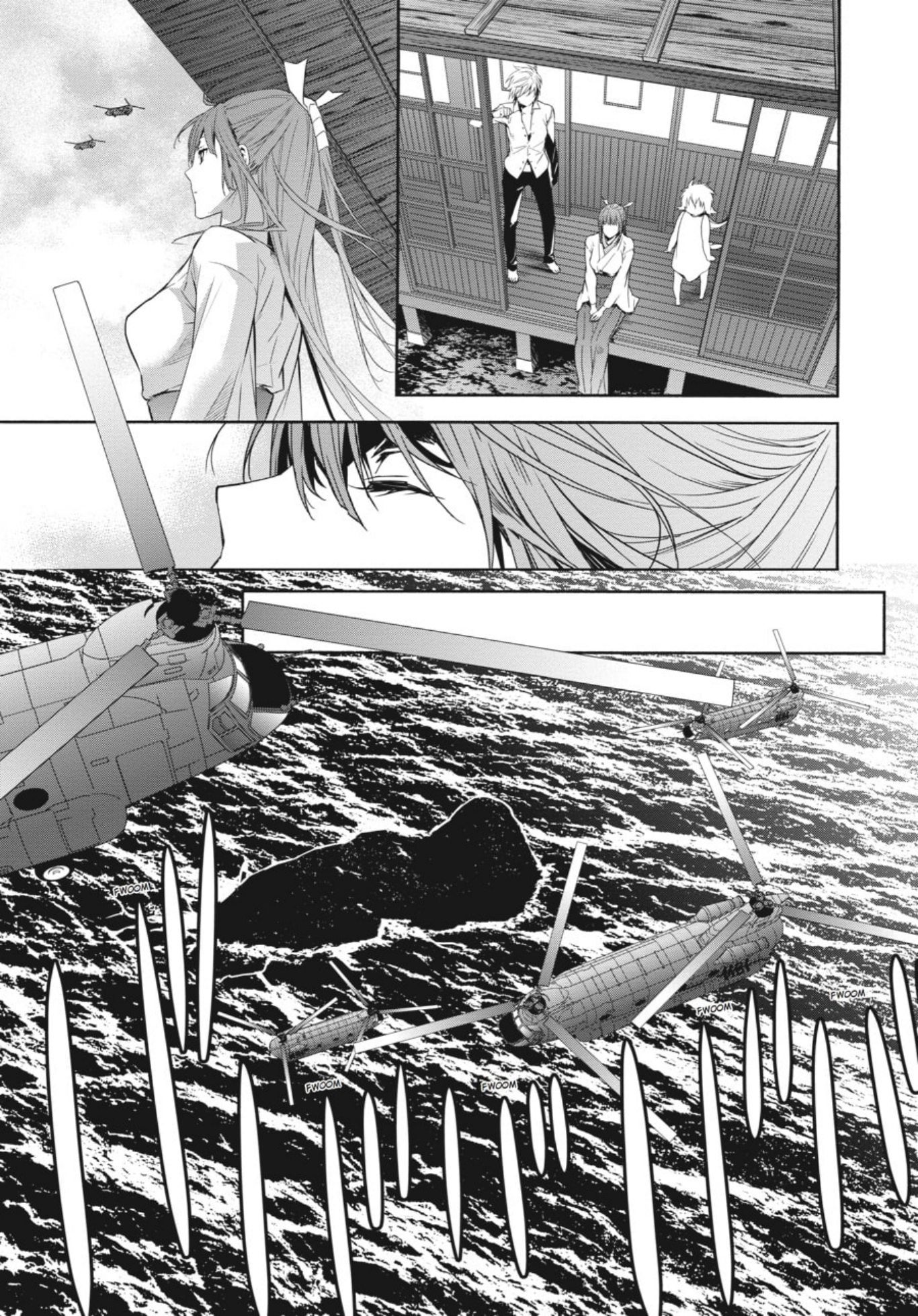
Chapter 141: Landfall

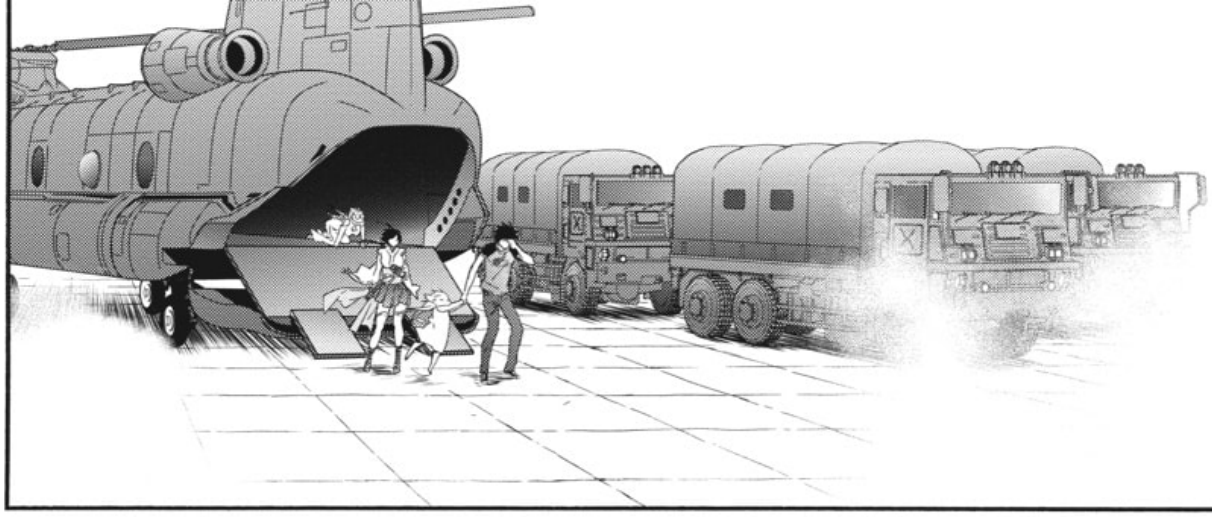

FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
MBI
MBI has deployed its troops to the harbor..... We reporters are being ordered to evacuate.
KZZT
.....LADIES AND GENTLE-MEN!
...WHEN I PROCLAIM THAT THE WORLD AS WE ONCE KNEW IT IS OVER.
THIS IS THE MOMENT ...


A NEW AGE OF GODS WILL SOON ARRIVE ...
...ON THIS EARTH.
A NEW WORLD, WITH NEW DEITIES.
MBI'S VERY EXIS-TENCE HAS ALL BEEN FOR THIS MOMENT.
AND MY ROLE AS GAME MASTER IS AT AN END.
KAMIKURA ISLAND!


WHAT'S ABOUT TO UNFOLD ON THIS ISLAND...
...IS THE FINAL BATTLE LEADING TO AN AGE OF GODS.
THIS WHOLE, BITTER-SWEET WAR...
...WILL COME TO A HEAD WHERE IT ALL BEGAN.
STARS OF THE SHOW!
ARE YOU PREPARED TO PASS THE POINT OF NO RETURN?
I HOPE SO! BECAUSE WE'RE HERE TO TAKE YOU.
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
RUMBLE


FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
RUMBLE
WH-
WHAT!?
FWOOM
FWOOM
RUMBLE
FWOOM
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
RUMBLE


FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM










WHOOSH
SO THIS...
...IS KAMIKURA ISLAND...
YO.
SAHA-SHI.
SEO-SAN!
SHIT... DRAGGED HERE BY A BUNCH OF THUGS, JUST LIKE DURING THE FIRST ROUND.
NOT TO MENTION WE'RE TOTALLY TRAPPED. NO WAY OFF THIS ROCK.
DID HE TRY TO GET AWAY, MAYBE ...?

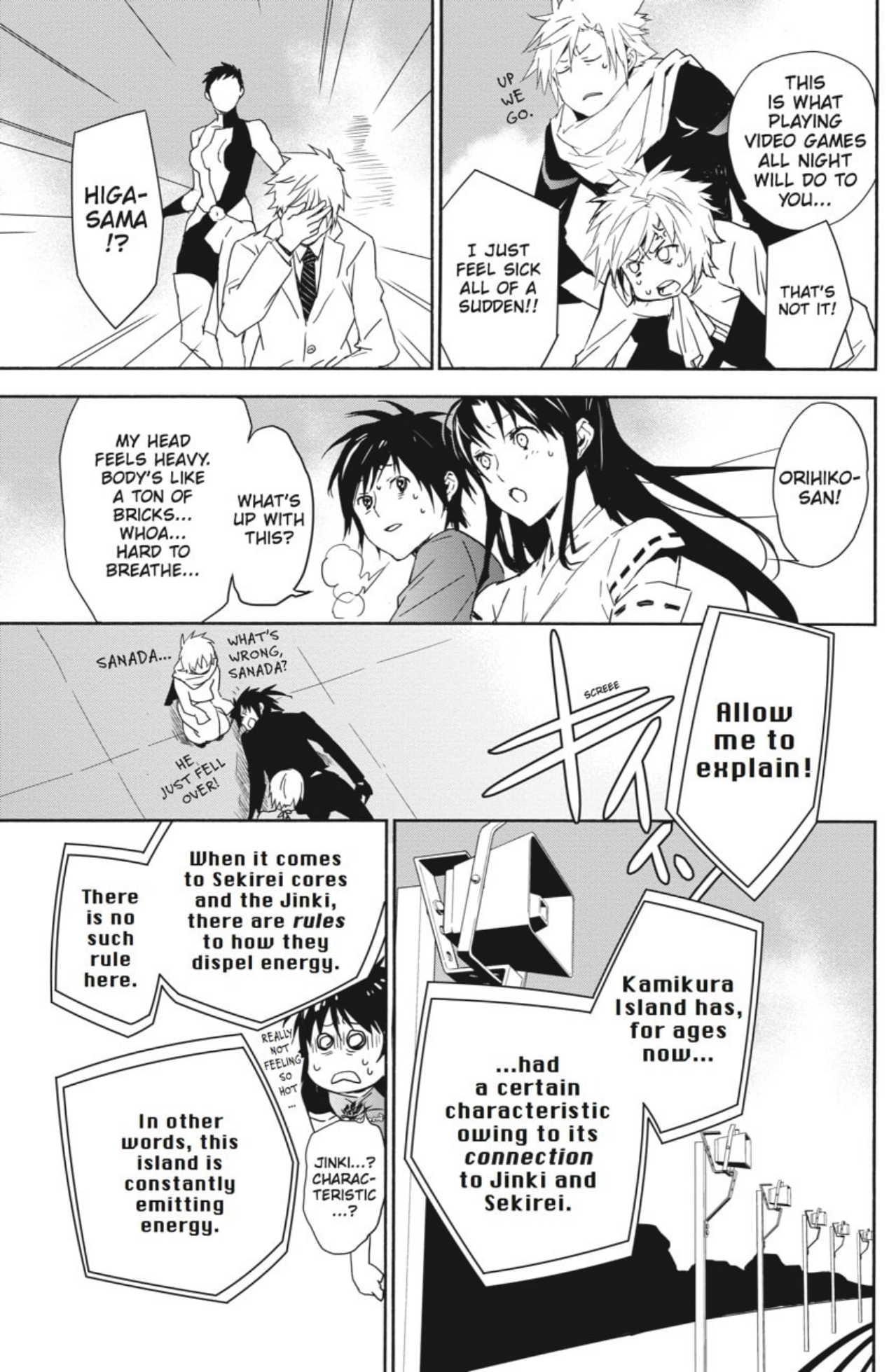

SA-HASHI...
...DOES YOUR HEAD...AND WHOLE BODY FEEL KINDA HEAVY?
?
MAYBE... YOU CAUGHT A COLD...?
NAH... THAT'S NOT IT... IT'S WORSE THAN THAT...
THROB
OUCH...
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
SANADA-SAN.
NEVER KNEW YOU WERE SUCH A DELICATE SOUL, SEO.
AS FOR ME, I'VE NEVER BEEN SICK A DAY IN MY LIFE!
HEH.
IT'S LIKE THEY SAY— FOOLS DON'T CATCH COLDS!


MIKO-GAMI OF THE SOUTH ...
WHAT'D YOU SAY, BRAT?
HMPH.
ALL NOISE, NO SUBSTANCE.
!
HIGA OF THE EAST.


OH, THERE YOU ARE.
HEYA, SAHASHI-SAN.
...AH! NO. 87'S...
IT'S OOSUMI. ORIHIKO OOSUMI.
AH!
AH.
...!
WHAT'S WRONG?
BUT WE MADE A PROMISE!
WE PROMISED TO FIGHT THE NEXT TIME WE MET.
YES!
ISN'T SHE...A FRIEND OF YOURS?
SKFF
SKFF
SKFF
?
SO IF WE LOCK EYES, WE HAVE TO FIGHT!
IT'S A STRANGE FRIENDSHIP, I GUESS...
WHY SUFFER SO FOR FRIEND-SHIP?
I-IS THAT SO?
A-ANYWAY, LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE'S HERE...?
NOPE. DOESN'T JIVE WITH THE NUMBER OF JINKI.
SHOULD BE ONE MORE TEAM...
AAH!
JUMP


I'LL KILL YOU! I'LL MURDER YOU DEAD!!
CAN I, CAN I, NATSUO!? LEMME AT 'ER!
AH-HA-HA. SO IMPATIENT, BENITSU-BASA.
BUT THE CEO STILL HASN'T GIVEN US THE GREEN LIGHT.
NO. 88!!
GREETINGS, ALL. ☆
THE DISCI-PLINARY ...
... SQUAD...
THROB
...?
LOOK. MBI'S JARHEADS ARE PULLING OUT.
GUESS THAT MEANS, UNTIL THIS FINAL PHASE IS DONE WITH...
...WE AIN'T LEAVING THIS ISLAND...
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM


CRAP. THIS AIN'T NO COLD.
WHAT-EVER IT IS, IT'S BAD.
!?
SEO-SAN!
...!
WOBBLE
COLLAPSE
MINATO-SAN!!
MINATO !?
WH-WHAT? HUH?
MY BODY...
BADUM
SWAY
HUH!? WHAT'RE THESE GUYS PLAYING AT...?
!!
DAMN.
HAPPENING QUICKER THAN I THOUGHT.


HIGA-SAMA !?
UP WE GO.
THIS IS WHAT PLAYING VIDEO GAMES ALL NIGHT WILL DO TO YOU...
I JUST FEEL SICK ALL OF A SUDDEN!!
THAT'S NOT IT!
MY HEAD FEELS HEAVY. BODY'S LIKE A TON OF BRICKS... WHOA... HARD TO BREATHE...
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS?
ORIHIKO-SAN!
SANADA...
WHAT'S WRONG, SANADA?
HE JUST FELL OVER!
SCREEE
Allow me to explain!
There is no such rule here.
When it comes to Sekirei cores and the Jinki, there are *rules* to how they dispel energy.
REALLY NOT FEELING SO HOT ...
JINKI...? CHARAC-TERISTIC ...?
In other words, this island is constantly emitting energy.
Kamikura Island has, for ages now...
...had a certain characteristic owing to its *connection* to Jinki and Sekirei.


Sekirei with their cores intact...
...and ordinary humans won't feel any effect.
But for those linked to Sekirei ...
...who do not possess a core themselves... the energy is like a poison. That means you, my fine Ashikabi.
An Ashikabi's life will be sapped away as long as they remain on the island.....
WHAT? HOLD ON, CEO!!
WHAT KIND OF DUMB CRAP IS THAT?
WHAT!? NOOO.
SHAKE
SHAKE
NATSUO! NATSUO!!
NOOO!
Calm yourself, Benitsu-basa-kun.
Naturally, there is a way to prevent this.
THE KEY TO SURVIVAL IS THE JINKI.
I ASSUME YOU ALL REMEM-BERED TO BRING YOURS?
NOW, LET STAGE ONE...
...OF THE FINAL PHASE BEGIN!

Special Story: The Bride of Izumo Inn




DON'T BE SUCH A STICK-IN-THE-MUD.
WAIT, SEO-SAN!? WHY'RE YOU HERE ANYWAY?
ACK. THOSE'RE MY CHOP-STICKS!! AND MY BOWL!!
WOW ...
THE THINGS YOU LEARN ABOUT PEOPLE ...
OHH.
HECK, I'M THE ONE WHO TAUGHT HER EVERYTHING SHE KNOWS. EVEN HOW TO WASH RICE!
POW
SORRY. SO SORRY.
WE TAKE RESPON-SIBILITY FOR HIM.
KAORU-SAAAN.
PLEASE DON'T THINK THE MEALS YOU ENJOY AT IZUMO INN COME FOR FREE!
KIND OF PATHETIC, REALLY .....
GETTING PITIED BY A FORMER ENEMY IS ROUGH...
TCH ...
POUT
...COME ON IN AND EAT, YOU TWO.
THERE WAS A TIME, YES.
U-FU-FU. INDEED.
YOU COULDN'T ALWAYS COOK, MIYA-CHAN?


THE FACT THAT THIS SCUMBAG HAD TO TEACH ME ANYTHING IS A LIFELONG REGRET.
N-NO MERCY ...!!
...SO SEO-SAN'S ALWAYS BEEN SNEAKING IN HERE, HUH?
S'NOT IT. TAKEHITO WAS TOO OBSESSED WITH RESEARCH.
NEVER COULD MANAGE TO DO MUCH ELSE.
THERE WAS A TIME WHEN I TOOK CARE OF ALL THE HOUSEWORK IN THIS PLACE.
...FU FU.
YES...YOU SNUCK INTO THE HOME OF A NEWLY-MARRIED WOMAN JUST LIKE A SECRET LOVER...
WHY D'YOU LOOK SO FREAKING NOSTALGIC ABOUT IT?
AND SECRET LOVER, REALLY? IS THAT WHAT YOU THOUGHT OF ME?
GAHH!! WHAT'S SO FUNNY? WHAT IS IT THIS TIME?
...NO. IT'S TRUE THOUGH.
I REALLY COULDN'T DO ANYTHING BACK THEN.
...I'M SORRY.


TEAR
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
CHOMP
IT'S PROBABLY EDIBLE...
I'LL ADMIT IT'S NOT MUCH TO LOOK AT, BUT...
SORRY...
CAN'T... CHOKE IT DOWN...
CHING
THOSE "SEKIREI OF THE PAST."
AFTER YOU TOLD ME ABOUT THEM, I DID SOME RESEARCH ON A BUNCH OF ASHIKABI DNA.

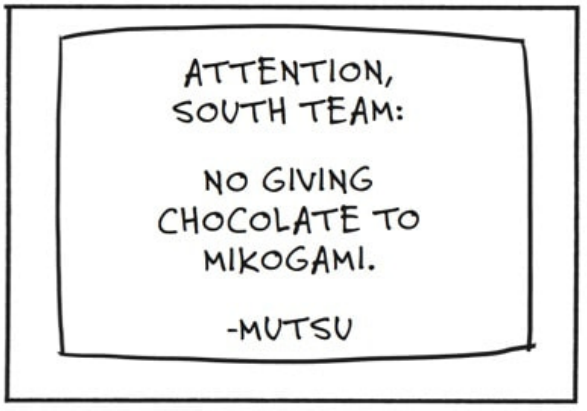

I WAS SURPRISED. THE "MOTHER" OF ALL ASHIKABI IS THE SAME AS ALL OF YOU.
THEY SAY THE COMMON HUMAN ANCESTOR— THE "MOTHER" OF HUMANITY— CAME FROM AFRICA, BUT...
...ASHIKABI DNA IS A BIT DIFFERENT.
...COULD BE THE MOTHER OF ALL ASHIKABI.
IF ANY-THING, YOU GUYS...
AH-HA-HA. NOT LITERALLY, NECESSARILY.
I'M TALKING ABOUT SEKIREI IN GENERAL.
I COULD BE A MOTHER...?
...DO YOU WANT...
...TO BE A MOTHER...?



Sekirei 14-End

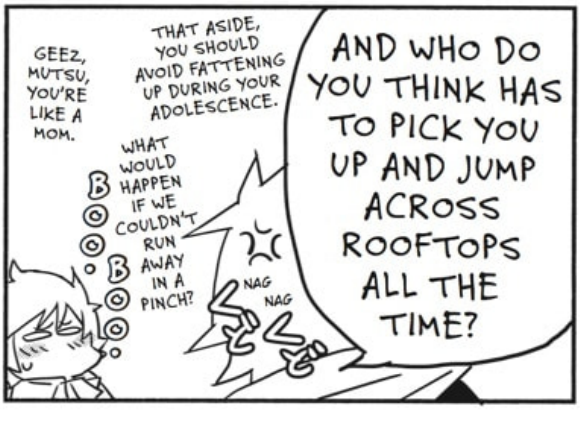
SHINTOU TEITO ON FEBRUARY 14

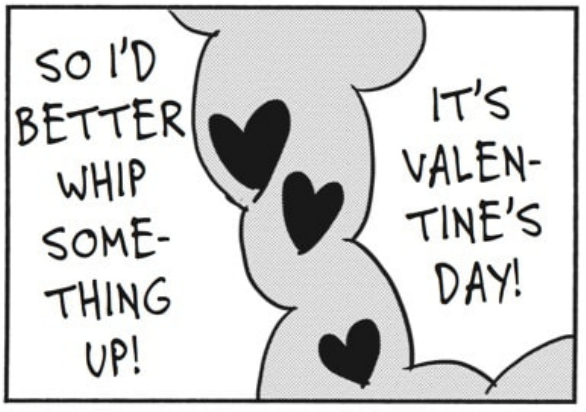
PART 1





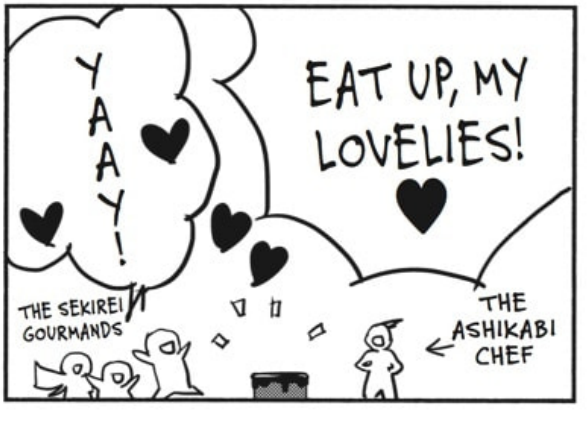












SHINTOU TEITO ON FEBRUARY 14

PART 2

SHINTOU TEITO ON FEBRUARY 14

PART 3





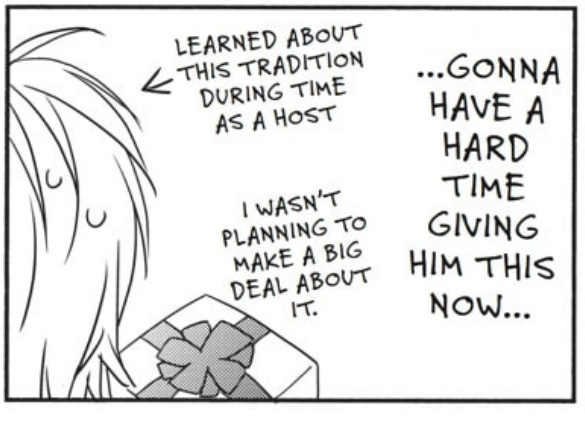










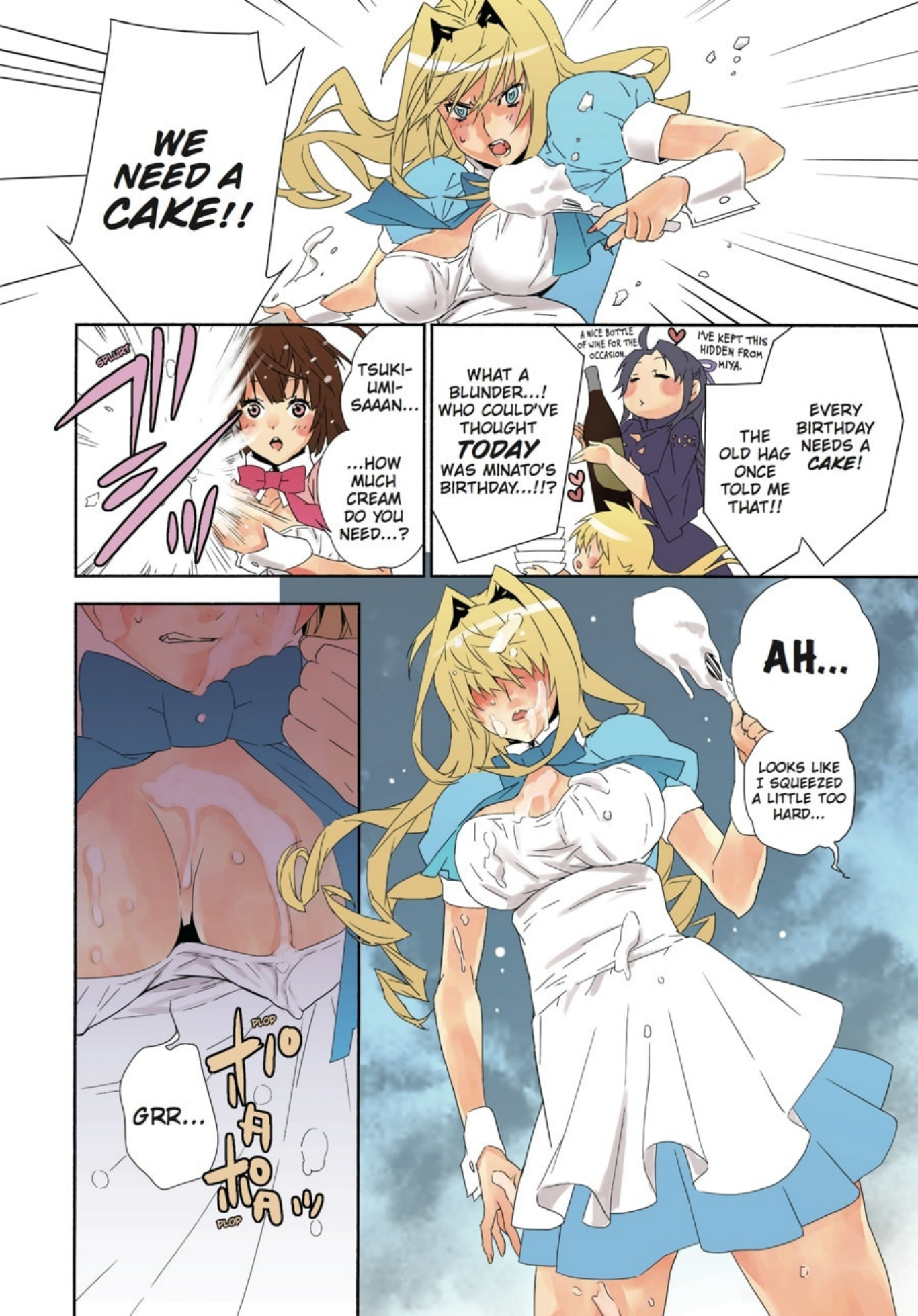


SHINTOU TEITO ON FEBRUARY 14

PART 4

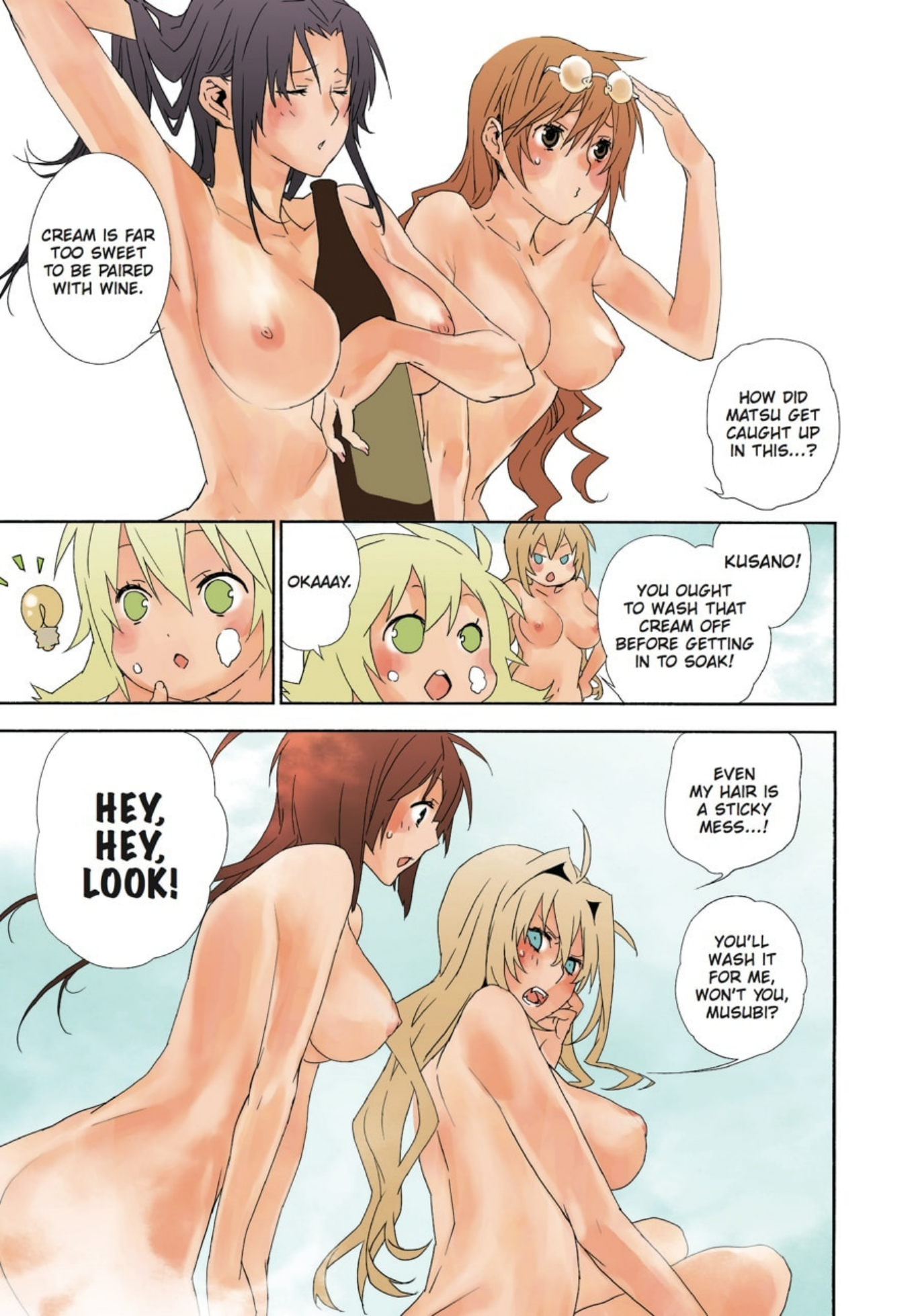

SEE YOU IN VOLUME 15!


Side Story: Celebration
HERE AT IZUMO INN, MOST HAPPENINGS BEGIN WITH A SINGLE, INNOCENT QUESTION FROM LITTLE KU-CHAN...
BIG BROTHER...
...WHAT'S A "BIRTHDAY"?
MORNING SHOW
TODAY, WE'VE GOT 108 CELEBS WITH BIRTHDAYS TODAY!!
A BIRTH-DAY...!?
UMM... IT'S WHEN YOU CELEBRATE THE DAY SOMEONE WAS BORN... I GUESS...?
WHAT ABOUT KU?
DAY THEY WERE BORN? CELEBRATE?
BASICALLY, THERE'S NO WAY TO KNOW...
OUR ORIGINS AND EXISTENCE ARE SHROUDED IN MYSTERY.
...OH.
UMM... THIS IS... KINDA SUDDEN... ALMOST HATE TO SAY IT, BUT...
WHAT ABOUT YOU, BIG BROTHER?
I SEE... MAKES SENSE...
C-COME TO THINK OF IT, DO SEKIREI HAVE BIRTH-DAYS...?
HOW DOES THAT WORK ??
MATSU-SAN! MATSU-SAAAN!!
HELP ME OUT?
RIGHT, RIIIGHT.
UH.


WE NEED A CAKE!!
SPLURT
TSUKI-UMI-SAAAN...
...HOW MUCH CREAM DO YOU NEED...?
WHAT A BLUNDER...! WHO COULD'VE THOUGHT TODAY WAS MINATO'S BIRTHDAY...!!?
A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE FOR THE OCCASION.
I'VE KEPT THIS HIDDEN FROM MIYA.
THE OLD HAG ONCE TOLD ME THAT!!
EVERY BIRTHDAY NEEDS A CAKE!
AH...
LOOKS LIKE I SQUEEZED A LITTLE TOO HARD...
GRR...
PLOP
PLOP


...AND SO...?
.....
CRASH
MUSU-BIIIII!!
KYAAA!!
THUMP
THUMP
WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?

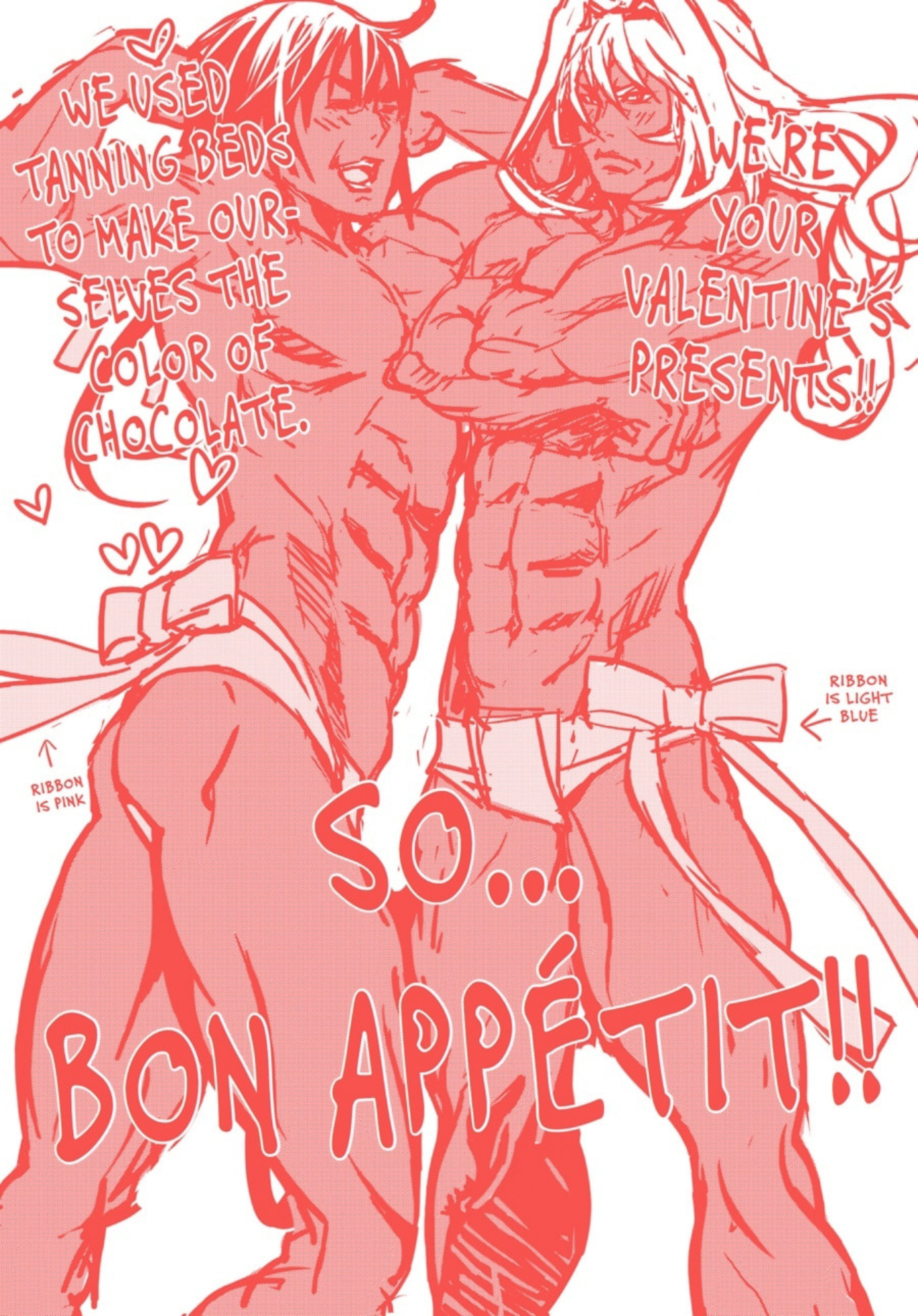

I'LL HANDLE CLEANUP !!
ENOUGH. EVERYONE, TO THE BATH!
ON THE DOUBLE!!
OKAAAY.
I'VE SHAMED MYSELF...
LEWD?
IT HARDLY LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE MAKING A CAKE AT THIS POINT.
I DARESAY IT RESEMBLES SOMETHING MUCH MORE LEWD.
THIS IS YOUR FAULT, MUSUBI.
NOW HOMURA'S CROSS WITH US.
AWW, I'M SORRY...!
ALL STICKY.
UGHHH!


CREAM IS FAR TOO SWEET TO BE PAIRED WITH WINE.
HOW DID MATSU GET CAUGHT UP IN THIS...?
OKAAAY.
KUSANO! YOU OUGHT TO WASH THAT CREAM OFF BEFORE GETTING IN TO SOAK!
HEY, HEY, LOOK!
EVEN MY HAIR IS A STICKY MESS...!
YOU'LL WASH IT FOR ME, WON'T YOU, MUSUBI?


KU TURNED INTO...
...A CREAM CAKE! ♡
YAY, YAY, OH SO FLUFFY!
CREAM CAKE...
...IS OH SO YUMMY!
HOLD ON, KUSANO.
YOU NEED A BIT MORE WHIPPED CREAM ON TOP.
LOOKS DELICIOUS! ♡♡


きゃー
KYAAAH!
AH-HA-HA-HA!


SOAKED
ベしょ…
…WELCOME HOME.
!
I'M HOME!
THEY EVEN PUT MY NAME ON IT…
I BOUGHT THIS…
I-I'M SORRY. ALL THIS TROUBLE FOR THE SAKE OF MY BIRTHDAY.
…DON'T MENTION IT.
BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW THE KITCHEN'S UNUSABLE BECAUSE YOUR LIVELIER SEKIREI DECIDED TO HAVE A CREAM BATTLE.
IT'S A SHAME AN ASHIKABI WOULD BE FORCED TO BUY HIS OWN CAKE.
AH-HA-HA… IT'S OKAY.
IT'S NOTHING NEW.
WELCOME HOOOME!
OH, BIG BROTHER.
HERE'S MY BIRTHDAY CAKE, EVERYONE.
LET'S ALL ENJOY IT TOGETHER.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
MINATO


WE USED TANNING BEDS TO MAKE OUR-SELVES THE COLOR OF CHOCOLATE.
WE'RE YOUR VALENTINE'S PRESENTS!!
RIBBON IS LIGHT BLUE
RIBBON IS PINK
SO...
BON APPÉTIT!!



THE IDEA FOR THIS VOLUME'S VALENTINE'S DAY GAGS AND FUNDOSHI RIBBONS CAME FROM MY SUPERVISOR! THANKS!!

Translation Notes

COMMON HONORIFICS
no honorific: Indicates familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.
-san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.
-sama: Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee.
-dono: A more archaic form of address similar to *-sama*.
-kun: Used most often when referring to boys, this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.
-chan: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.
-tan: A more cutesy version of *-chan*.

Page 4 - Minato's wagtail T-shirt
The Japanese wagtail is a common species of bird that prefers freshwater environments. The Japanese name for it, *sekirei*, also happens to be the title of the series.

Page 37 - *Hannya*
The *hannya* is a classical Noh theater mask that resembles a horned demon. It's also the intimidating "aura" face that often appears behind Miya when she's angry.

Page 126 - "The moon...around the rabbit's ears..."
In several East Asian cultures, the markings on the moon are said to resemble a rabbit (much like the Western "man in the moon"). In Miya's flashback, she's physically aligned Kouten with the moon so the giant Sekirei crest appears to be a bow for the rabbit.

Page 126 - Laputa
Laputa is the flying island from Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*. In Japan, it's perhaps better known as the titular floating castle in Hayao Miyazaki's film *Laputa: Castle in the Sky*.

Page 160 - "Fools don't catch colds"
This is a common superstition in Japanese culture. The implication is fools are too stupid to catch a cold when, by all means, they should have.

Page 175 - Valentine's Day
In Japan, chocolates are given on Valentine's Day (and on White Day, a month later) either out of "obligation" (*giri choco*) or out of romantic feelings (*honmei choco*). Obligation chocolate might be exchanged between coworkers or family members.

Page 189 - Fundoshi
Traditional Japanese undergarments worn by men.

SEKIREI 14

Sakurako Gokurakuin

Translation: Caleb D. Cook

Lettering: Phil Christie

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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