

There was still a mountain of things to learn, and I wanted to make J beg for me to come back.

I revised my request to return to the manor, and stayed at the brothel.



GOING SO SOON?
AND HERE I WAS HOPING TO ENJOY A LITTLE MORE CONVERSATION.

thunk



Before I realized it, three whole years had flown by since I first arrived.

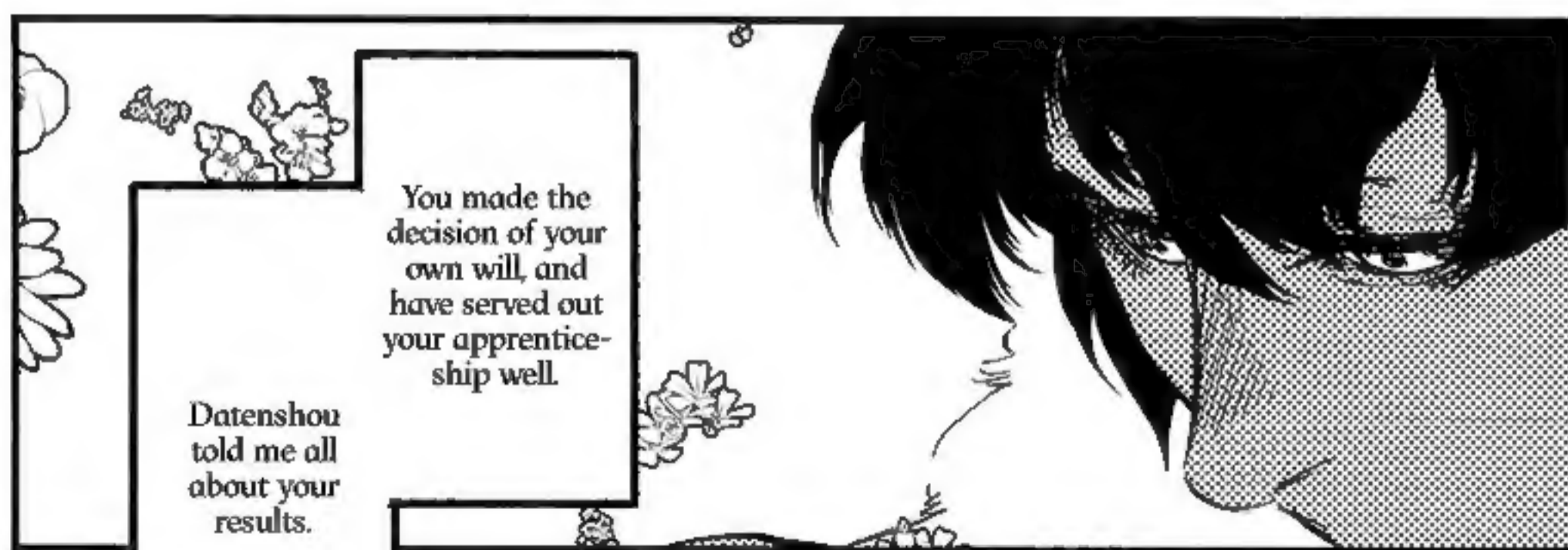
MY APOLOGIES.

MADK
硯
Ryo Suzuri
遼



J'S CALLING ME, SO...







Come back.



I'd like your assistance with my work.

I'll send a ride for you today.



D-SAN...

Splash



YET AGAIN, SO ABRUPT.

YOU'VE ONLY JUST GOTTEN TO THE POINT WHERE YOU CAN HANDLE THE MARQUIS CLASS...

..... REALLY, PERSONALLY I DON'T WANT TO LET GO OF A BEST-SELLER...



I KNOW I SAID
SOMETHING LIKE,
"I'LL MAKE YOU
ASK ME TO
COME BACK!"...

..... IF
SOMETHING
HAPPENS,
CAN I COME
BACK HERE?

BUT WHEN
HE COMES
OUT AND
SAYS IT LIKE
THIS IT'S
KIND OF
SCARY, I
GUESS.



THOUGH
WHEN YOU
DO, I'LL HAVE
YOU WORK
WHILE YOU'RE
AT IT.

COME BY
ANYTIME.

... YES,
SIR.

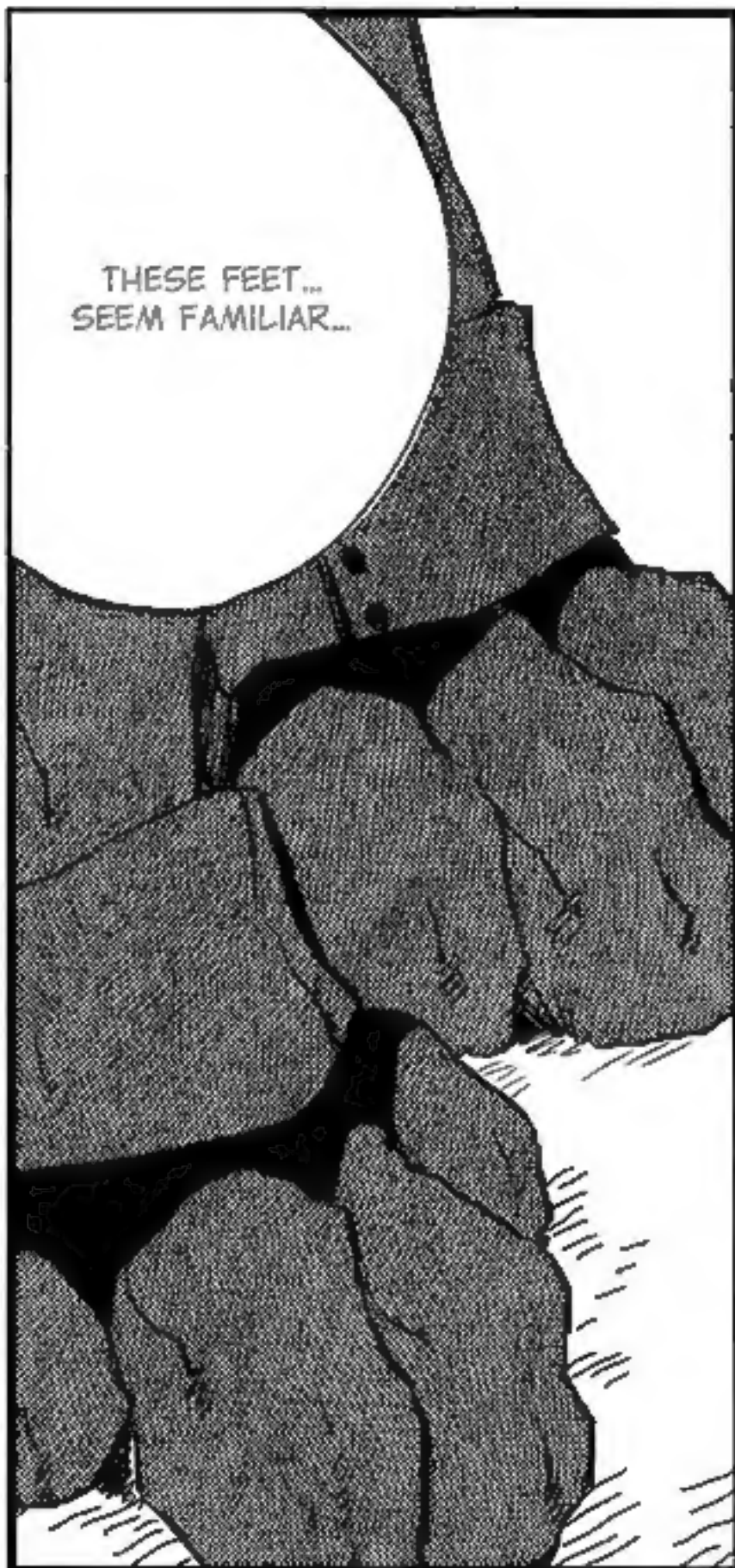
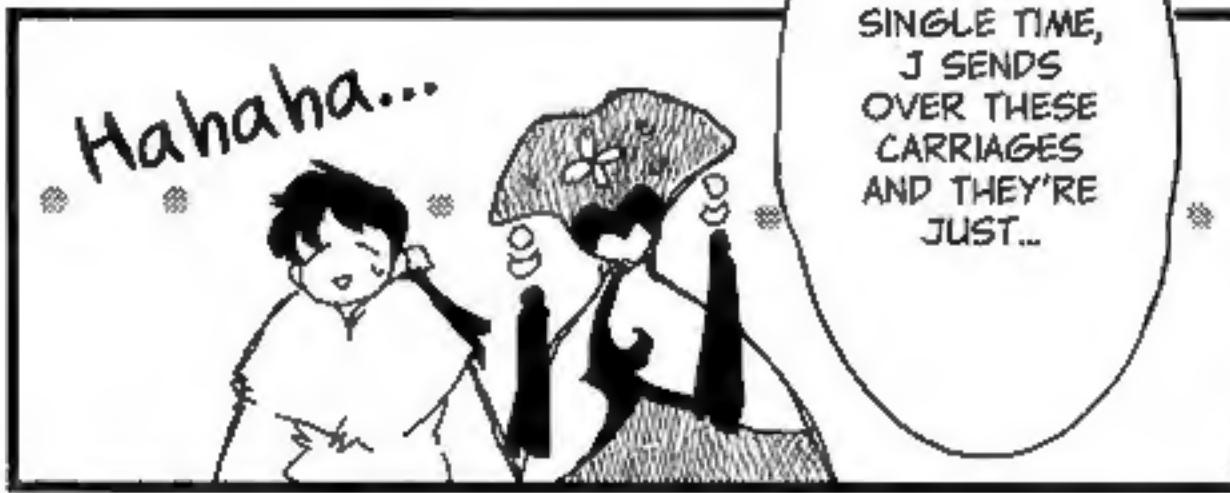
SERIOUSLY
NOW~~~~!
HASN'T THIS
BEEN YOUR
DEAREST WISH?

BWAHAA!
MAKO-CHAN,
I CAN'T TELL IF
YOU'VE GOT
SERIOUS PLUCK
OR NOT.



... dearest
wish...?

THANKS FOR
YOUR CARE.



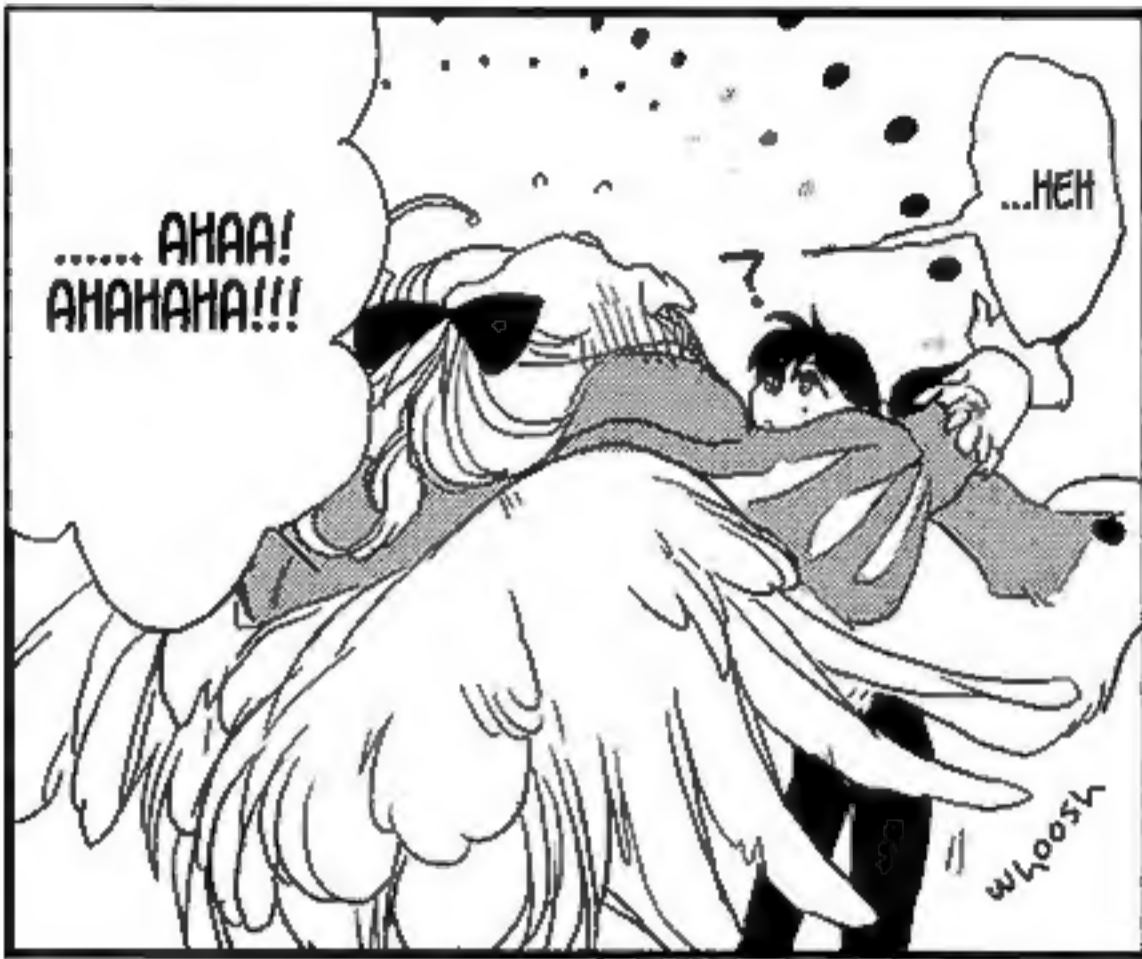


I'VE
COME TO
RETRIEVE
YOU,

MAKOTO-
DONO.



DEAR ME, EVEN IF YOU DON'T CLING SO GREEDILY, ONCE WE RETURN TO THE MANOR WE CAN TAKE OUR TIME...





NO WAYYY!
I ABSO-
LUTELY
HATE HIM,
YOU
KNOW!!!

BARE

ARE YOU
SERIOUS?
HE'S THAT
GOOD A
TECHNI-
CIAN?!

I'M
MESSING
WITH YOU.

slap



THE WHOLE
TIME I WAS AT
THE BROTHEL,
I THOUGHT OF
NOTHING BUT
YOU, J.

NO ONE
TAUGHT ME.









FOR NOW,
WELCOME
HOME.



... AMAZING.

WELL?
HOW'S THE
LONG-AWAITED
SCENERY,
WON FROM
YOUR OWN
EFFORTS?





IT'S J'S
MANOR.



PARDON?!

What
do you
mean...
a usual?!

YOUR
TASTE IS
HORRIBLE
AS USUAL.

cuckoo
cuckoo



J'S
HOME.



AND
MAKO-
CHAN'S
HOME, AS
WELL.

There
there
now

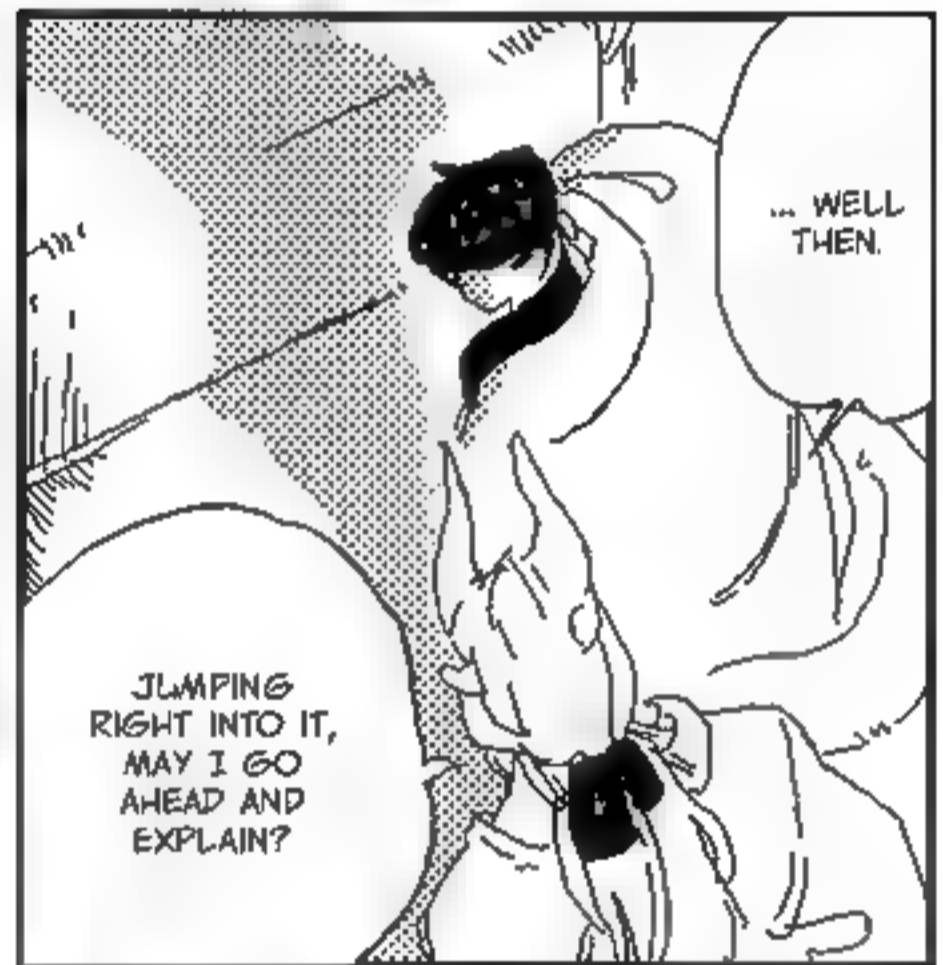
YES.



NOT A
THING'S
BEEN
TOUCHED
N YOUR
ROOM.



YEAH... IS IT
DIFFICULT?



... WELL
THEN.

JUMPING
RIGHT INTO IT,
MAY I GO
AHEAD AND
EXPLAIN?



RETRIEVING A
HUMAN'S SOUL.



HEAR OUT THEIR DEMANDS, AND COME WHAT MAY, MAKE THEM BELIEVE THEY ARE SATISFIED.

FOR DEMONS, THIS IS THE FOUNDATION OF THEIR WORK.

SOULS ARE SOMETHING LIKE PRECIOUS JEWELS, AND IF THE QUALITY DROPS THEY'LL BE NO BETTER THAN COMMON PEBBLES, SO DO BE CAREFUL TO COLLECT THEM AT THE HIGHEST STATE OF STIMULATION.

YOU'VE EXPERIENCED IT WITH ME. MAKO-CHAN, YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND SOMEWHAT, SHOULDN'T YOU?



THERE'S A SOUL ON THE CLISP OF FALLING. ALL I WANT IS FOR YOU TO COLLECT IT

..... NOT THAT I'LL LET YOU DO SUCH DIFFICULT THINGS.



..... WHAT HAPPENS TO THE SOULS I COLLECT?



NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU TRY, HE WON'T BE SATISFIED, SO IT'S NO TROUBLE IF YOU FAIL.

JUST EXCHANGE A WORD OR TWO, AND THAT SHOULD DO IT



AND IT WILL EVERMORE SERVE AS CURRENCY N OUR WORLD

IF THE QUALITY IS GOOD, IT WILL BECOME GOLD DUST HOUSING THE BITTEREST OF MEMORIES,



WHETHER TO BRING IT BACK AND TURN IT INTO GOLD, OR RAISE IT... I DEBATED WITH MYSELF QUITE A WHILE, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW.

YOURS WAS QUITE THE NUGGET, MAKO-CHAN--





IF THEY DISAPPEARED COMPLETELY YOU'D BE TROUBLED, BUT ONE AT A TIME DOESN'T MATTER MUCH. WE DEMONS SEE "HUMANS" JUST LIKE THAT

AND WHITTLING DOWN MOUNTAINS TO DIG OUT THE TREASURE INSIDE ARE THE SAME.

CUTTING DOWN FORESTS FOR SCRAPS TO MAKE PAPER CURRENCY



I WONDER IF YOU CAN PUT YOUR PRECIOUS HUMANS THROUGH SUCH A THING.



TO COLLECT A SOUL.

TELL ME HOW



I'LL ALLOW YOU JUST ONE NIGHT...

LET'S SEE.

I'LL DO IT



QDD



You should be able to tell the waxing and waning of a soul by the skin.

When they enter a state where their conditions have been met and their regrets have disappeared...



Weak souls will go ahead and disintegrate.



SINCE HE'S ILL AND HASN'T MUCH LONGER, SEEMS HE FIGURED IF HE WAS GOING TO DIE ANYWAY, IT'D BE BETTER TO SELL HIS SOUL TO A DEMON. HE HAS A CHILLING TENACITY.

K NOSHITA YUJI, 72 YEARS OLD

..... AN OLD MAN?



IF YOU PASS
THROUGH
HERE, YOU'LL
COME OUT THE
OTHER SIDE.

..... THERE
NOW, IT'S
CONNECTED.



A BIT OF
ADVICE?



CAREFUL
ON YOUR
WAY, NOW.
♥

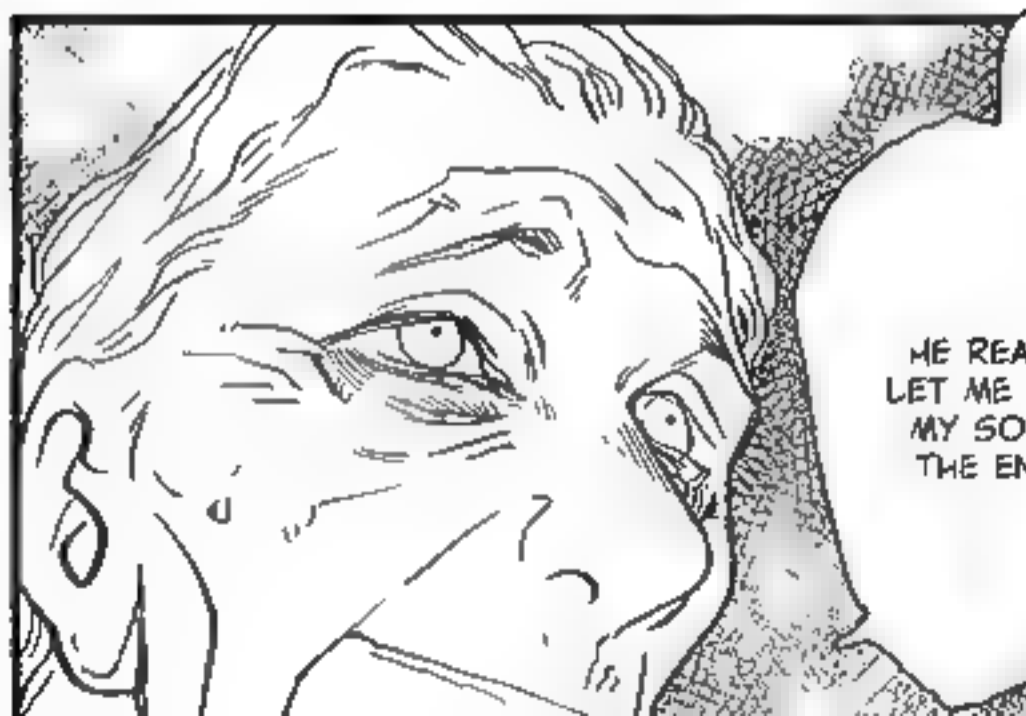
NO MATTER
WHO OR WHAT
THE OTHER
PARTY IS, DON'T
LET YOUR
HEART BE
DISTURBED.



A PLEASURE TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE, K NOSHITA-SAMA I AM..

..... YOU LOOK SO ALIKE...

..... YOU REALLY CAME.....



REALLY, JUST AS HE PROMISED...

HE REALLY LET ME MEET MY SON IN THE END..





HE WAS MURDERED, AND HIS HEAD CUT OFF



WHAT...? WHAT'S GOING ON...?

EH?

THERE WAS SOMETHING I ALWAYS WANTED TO SAY TO HIM.

MY SON THAT DIED 30 YEARS AGO.



IT CAN'T BE!



AND THE BLOOD OF SOME OTHER MAN



SCATTERED AROUND THE CORPSE WERE OCCULTIC BOOKS, HIS SEMEN,

YEARS...?!



WHY COULDN'T HE HAVE JUST DIED SOMEWHERE ELSE?!

HE DIDN'T HAVE TO DIE IN OUR HOUSE!!!

THE POLICE FIGURED IT WAS SOME ABNORMAL PLAY BETWEEN TWO HOMOSEXUALS TOO DEEP INTO THE OCCULT.





WWA-?

アザナ





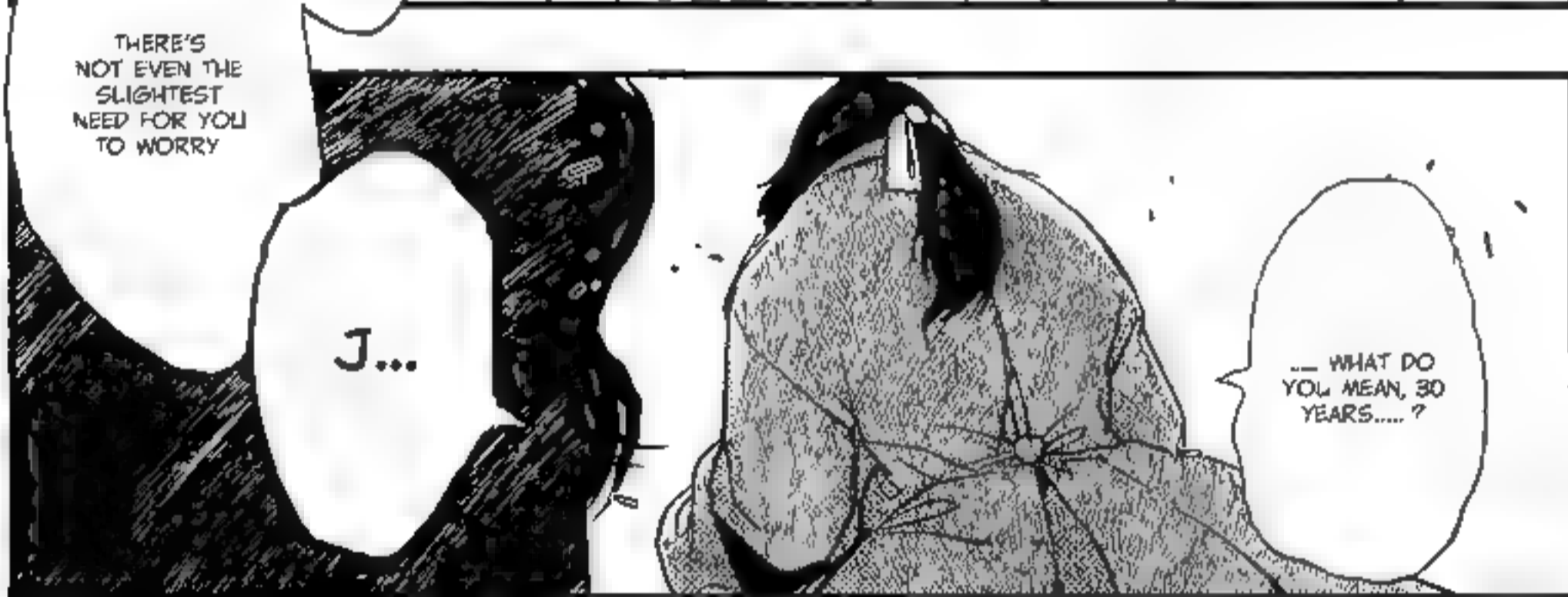


I'M TALKING ABOUT HOW THAT MAN WANTED TO CORNER MAKO-CHAN SO MUCH HE MANAGED TO SUMMON ME.

BOTH HIS DEATH AND FALLING INTO HELL IS HIS JUST DESERTS.

THAT HELLFIRE WAS A SEED HE SOWED ALL BY HIS LONESOME.

A seed that's been spreading roots for 30 years...



THERE'S NOT EVEN THE SLIGHTEST NEED FOR YOU TO WORRY

J...

... WHAT DO YOU MEAN, 30 YEARS..... ?



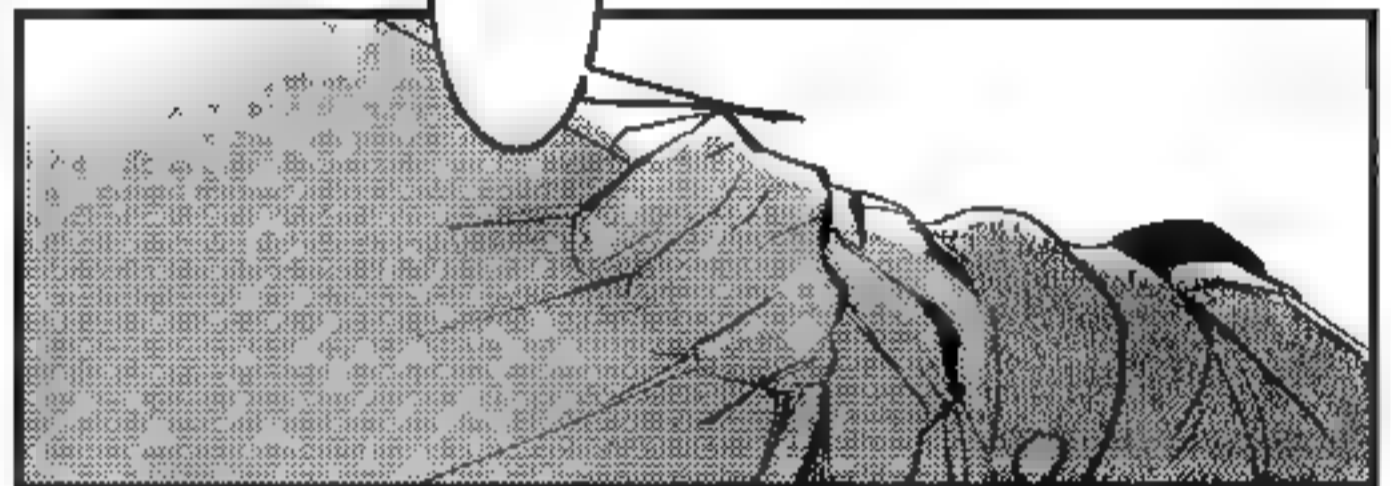
IN ANOTHER FIVE YEARS OR SO, YOU WON'T HAVE EVEN ONE ACQUAINTANCE IN THE HUMAN WORLD

WITH THAT YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SAY GOOD-BYE AND GOOD RIDDANCE, WON'T YOU?



JUST EXACTLY THAT

THE FLOW OF TIME BETWEEN HERE THE HUMAN WORLD AND THERE THE DEMON WORLD — IS DIFFERENT





..... POOR,
POOR
THING.

NO MATTER
HOW MUCH
YOU WANT TO
DIE, THERE IS
ONLY PAIN.

YOU JUST
CAN'T DIE SO
EASILY.

SLIDE



TO BE CONTINUED

MADK

by SUZURI RYO



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