



BOOK 1
SUGIN VALLEY
CHAPTER 3

CURTLY FERGUSON

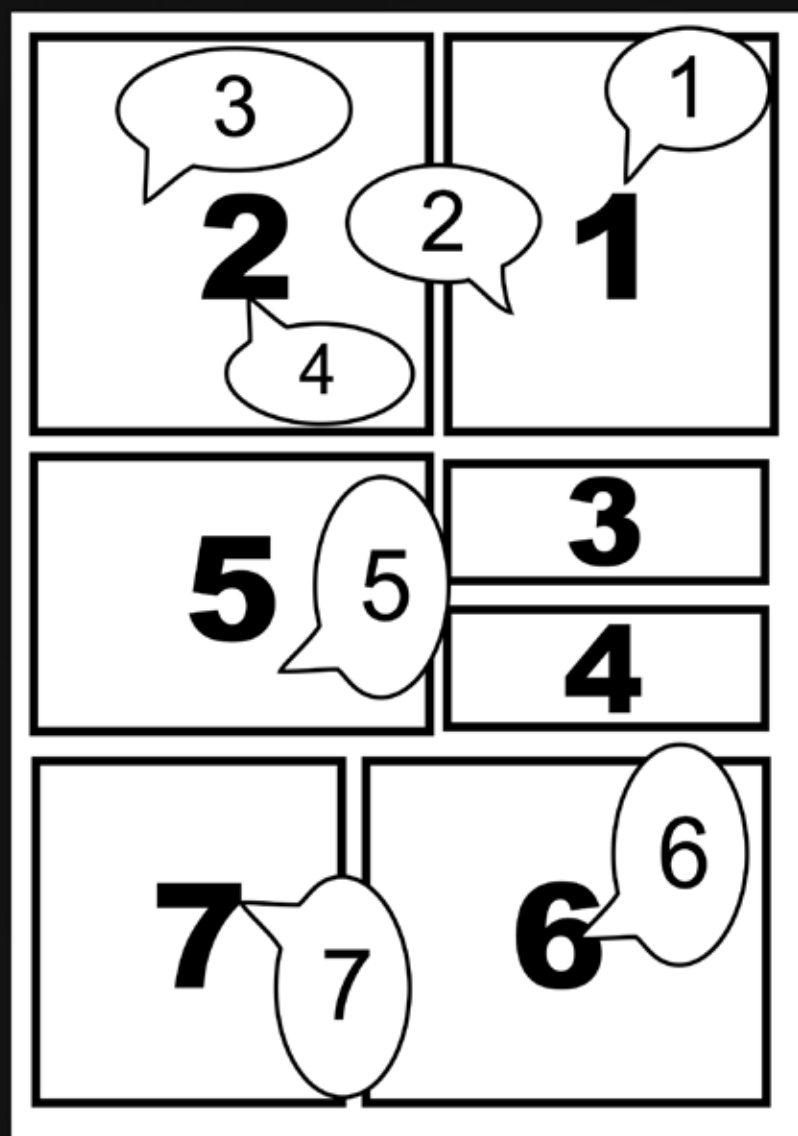
C.H. BARNETT

WAIT!

**THIS BOOK READS FROM
RIGHT TO LEFT!**



(FOLLOW ALONG THIS WAY)



In order to enjoy this book properly, read it **from right to left!** Japanese books read from right to left. we have formatted our manga in the traditional japanese way. We have done this for the familiarity of other manga fans, and to pay homage to the whole manga tradition in general!

THANK YOU!



AKIO

BOOK 1 SUGIN VALLEY CHAPTER 3

CREATED BY
CURTLY FERGUSON
C.H. BARNETT



STAFF CREDITS
C.M. BARNETT
CURTLY FERGUSON
C.H. BARNETT

VISIT US AT
DREAMBAKED.COM

AKIO
BOOK 1
CHAPTER 3
DREAMBAKED
DIGITAL EDITION

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This is a work of fiction.
Names, characters, places, and
incidents are used fictitiously.
Any resemblance to actual
events, locales, or persons
is entirely coincidental

RATED
12
TEEN

This volume contains graphic
scenes of fantasy violence, &
Alcohol and drug references

CHAPTER 3: ONE STEP AHEAD



Spirit is the energy found above.
It is amassed from consciousness
on an individual level.

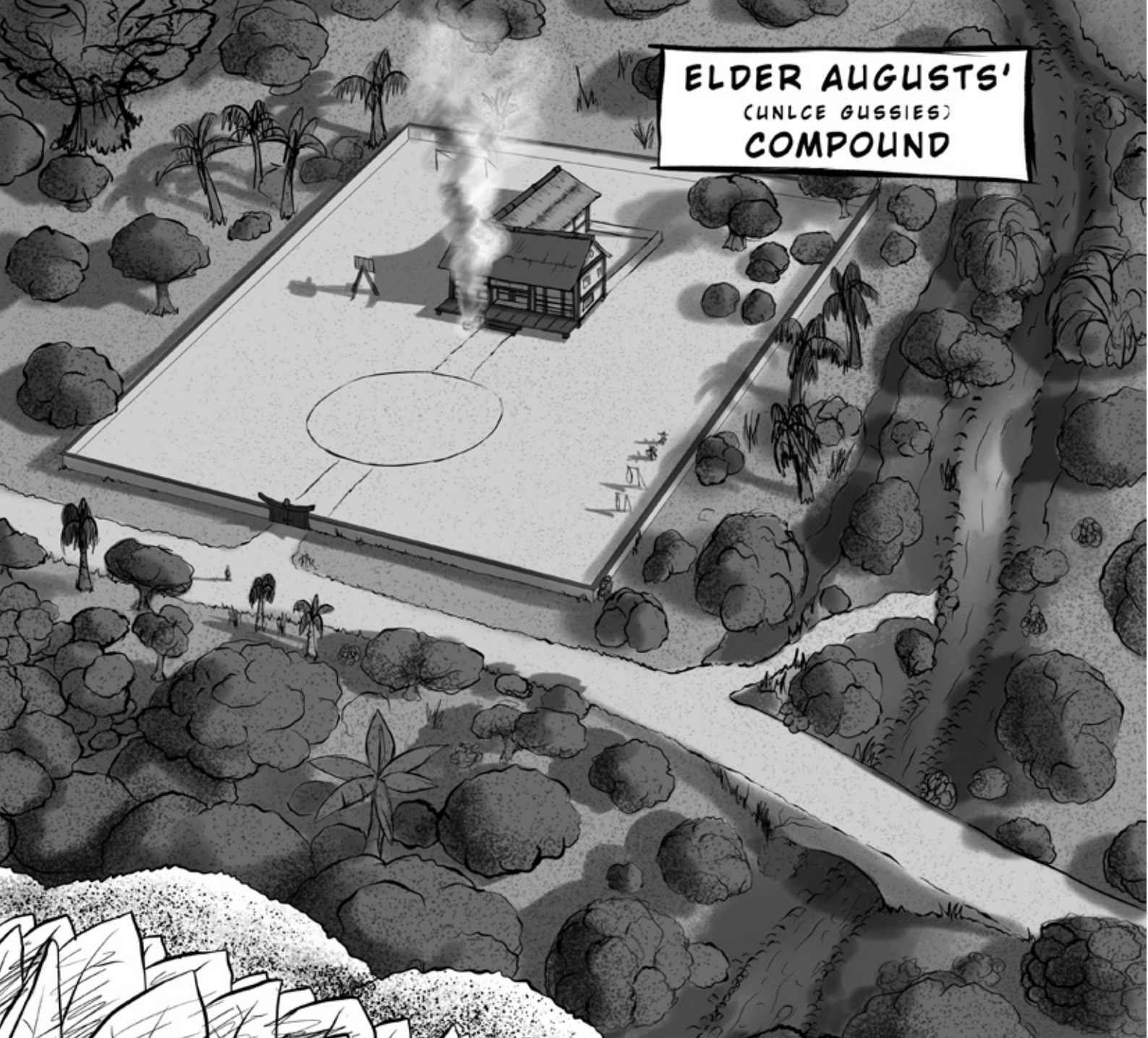
The martial artist will interpret the spirit as an
animal and derive their fighting style from this.



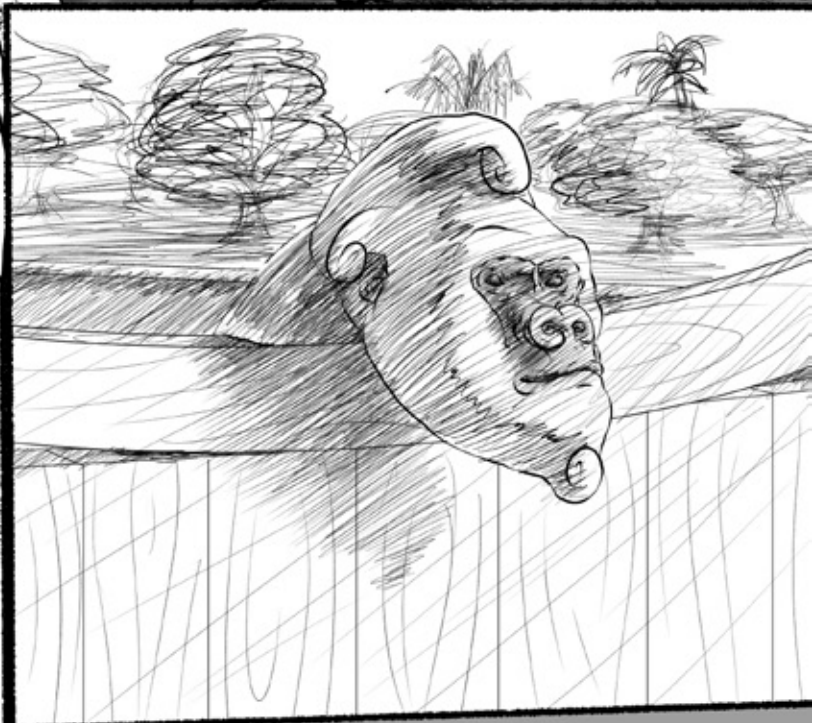
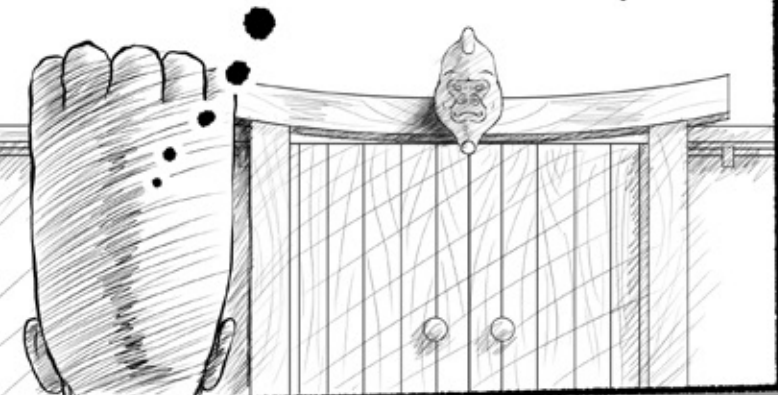
Shadow is the energy found within.
It is amassed from subconsciousness
on a collective level.

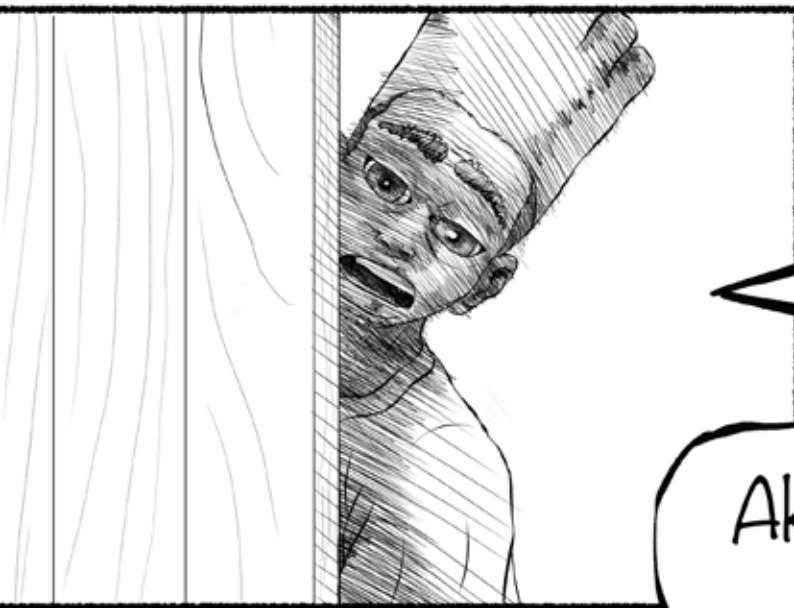
The martial artist will acknowledge their
shadow and channel it's raw strength.

ELDER AUGUSTS'
(CUNLCE GUSSIES)
COMPOUND



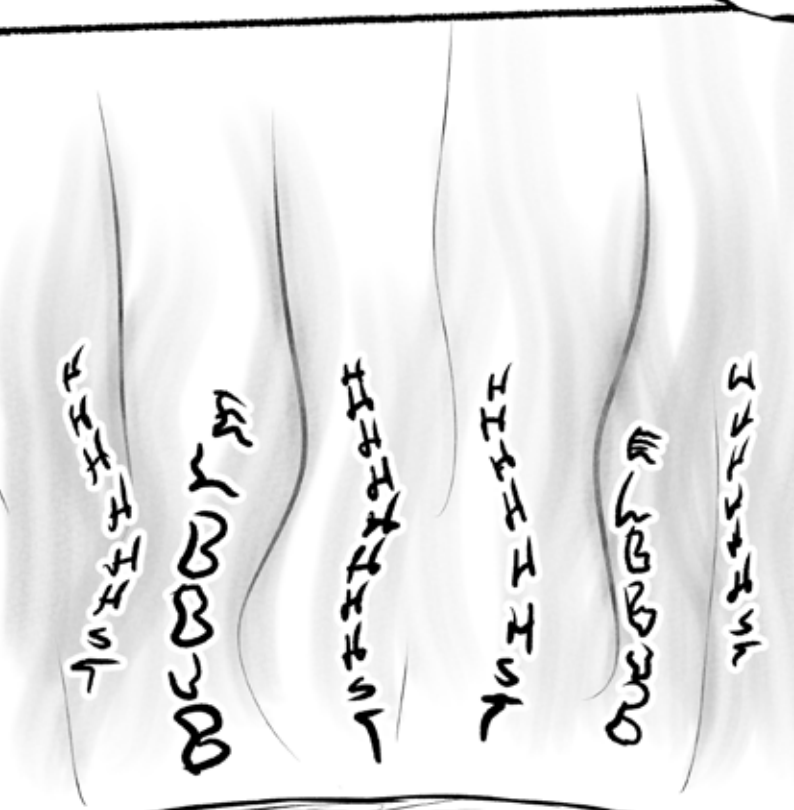
This must be the place





HELLO?!
Uncle Gussie?

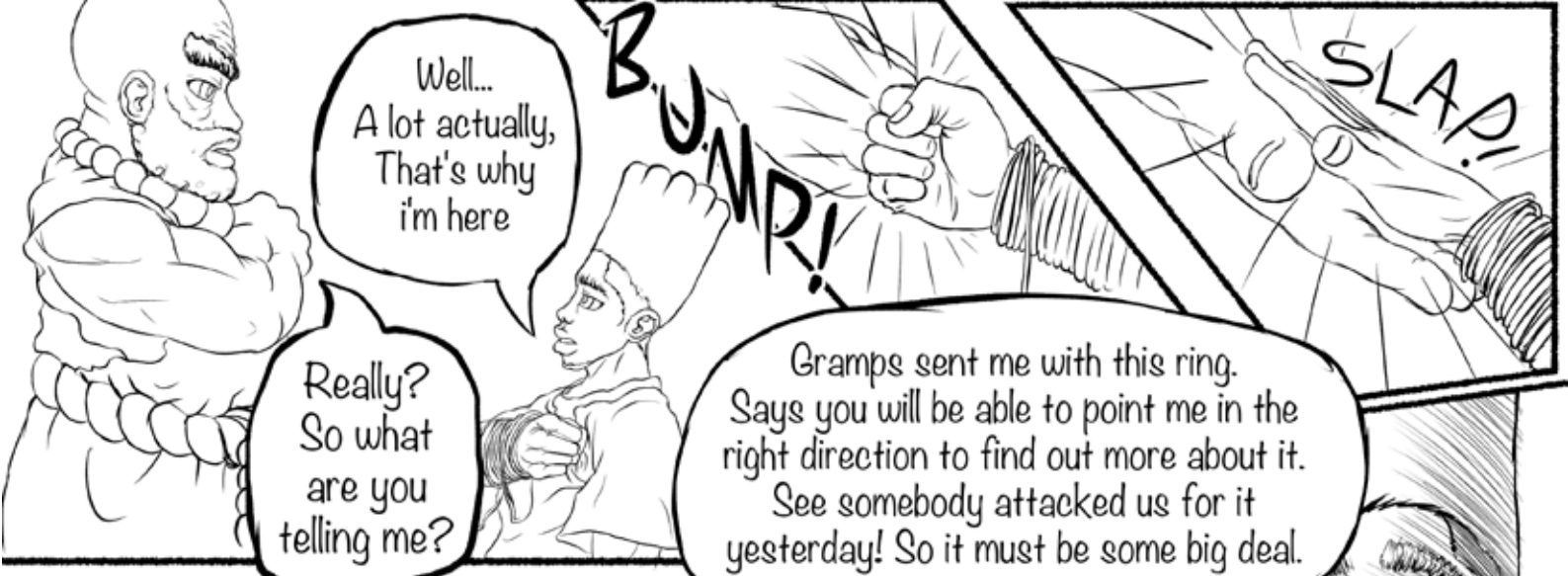
Aki!? Is that You?
Come right in!



Long time
I don't
see you!
What's
happening?

YES!
Uncle Gussie!





Well...
A lot actually,
That's why
i'm here

Really?
So what
are you
telling me?

Gramps sent me with this ring.
Says you will be able to point me in the
right direction to find out more about it.
See somebody attacked us for it
yesterday! So it must be some big deal.



So...
The time Has
Come...

I see...
Well.
I suppose
you must be
hungry after
your journey?



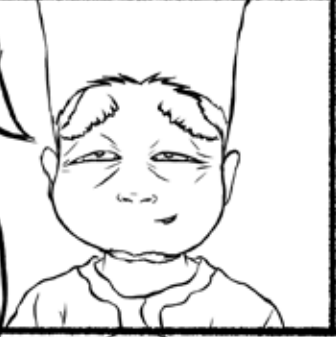
Please!
I'm staaarving.



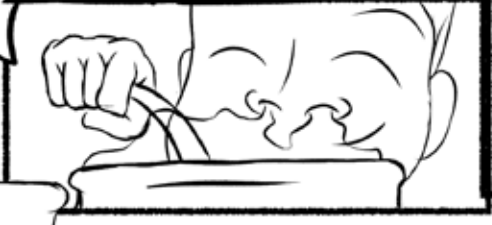
Haha!
Come on
then!

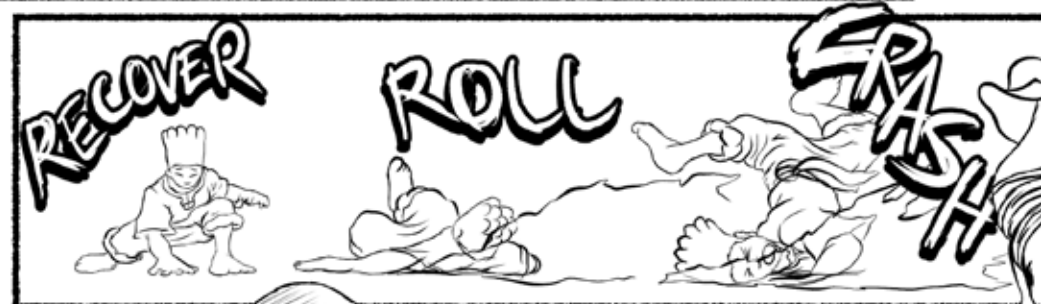
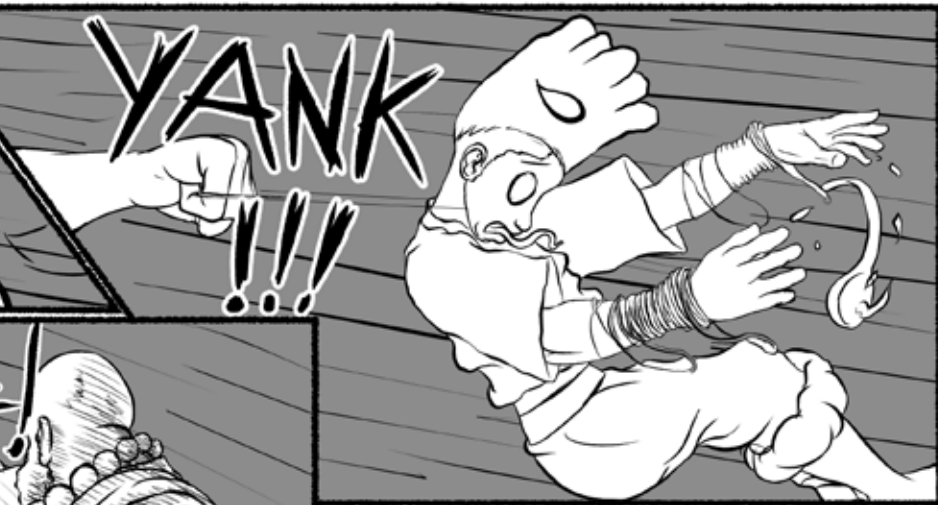


Well you'll have
to defeat me
in combat if
you want food.



SMELLS GOOD MAN!





Wha?!
What's all that about?!



It seems like you have lost the sacred stone already young man!

Now...
If you want to eat. If you want this stone back, you have to put your life on the line!

CHARGE!!!



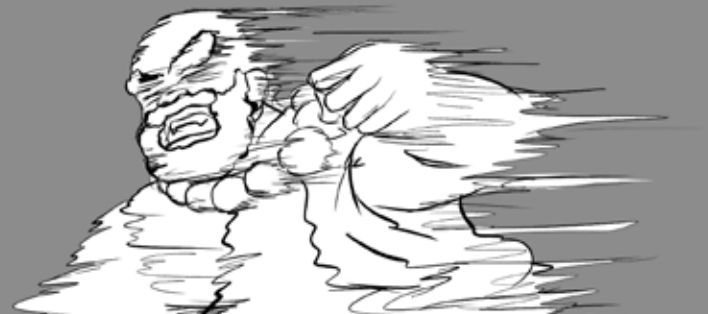
Prepare yourself Akio!



YO-AKI... 3x0
WHO HE IS.
TAKE HIM OUT!



UNCLE GUSTIE
????



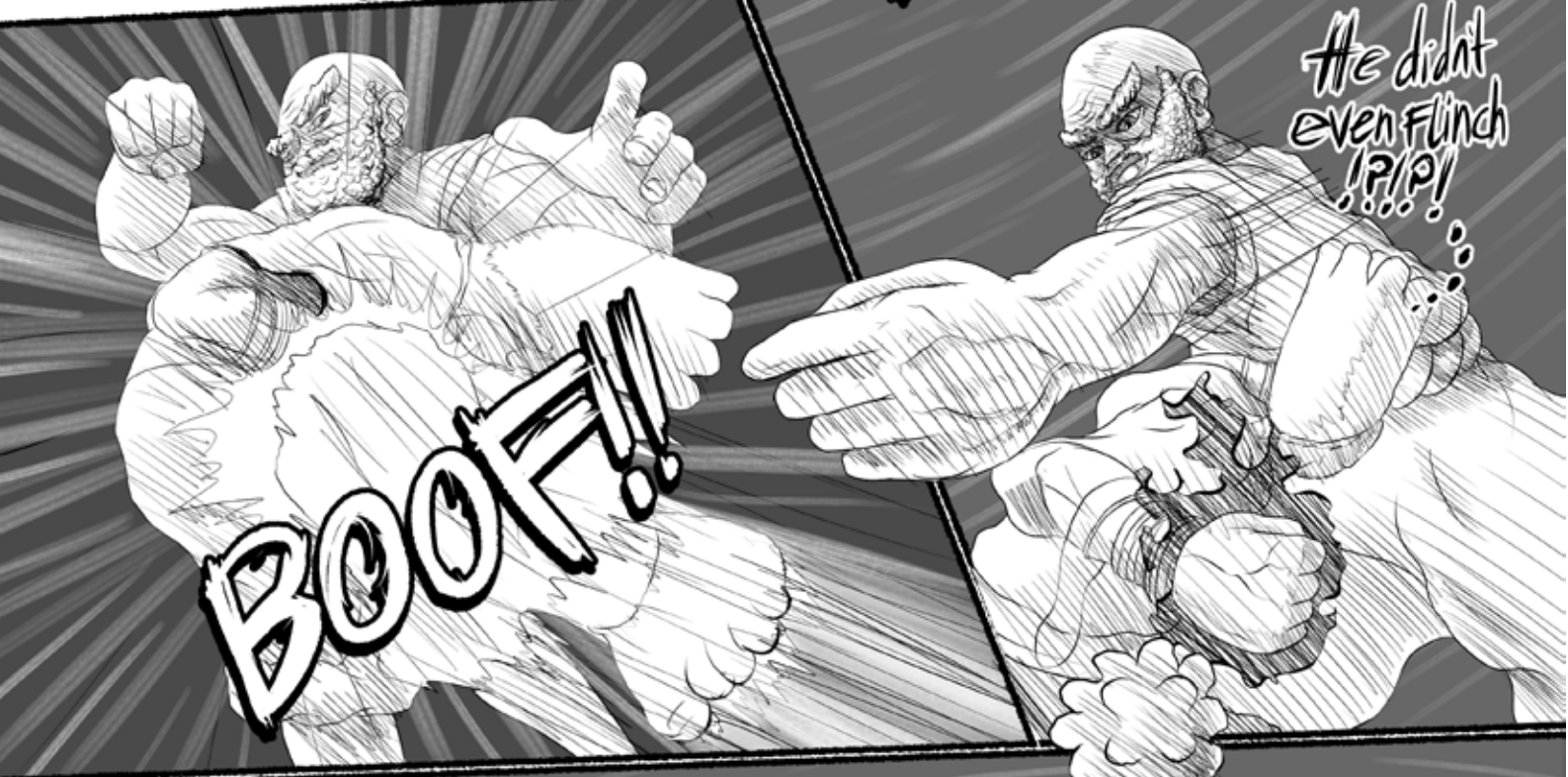


DOOF!!

WOOSH!!

KOOOF!!

I actually felt that!
He's a lot stronger and faster...



BOOF!!

He didn't even flinch!
!?!?!?



But he's already blacked out with shade... I better put an end to this fast.

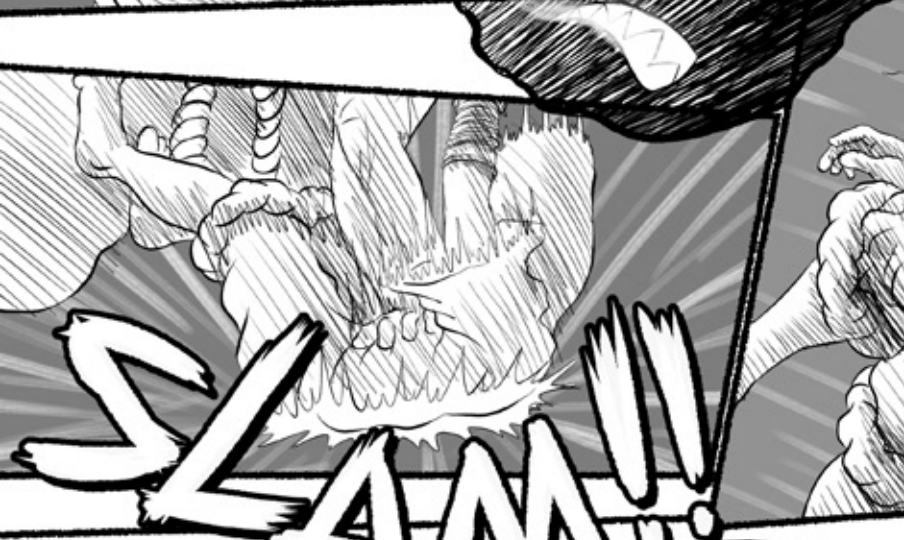
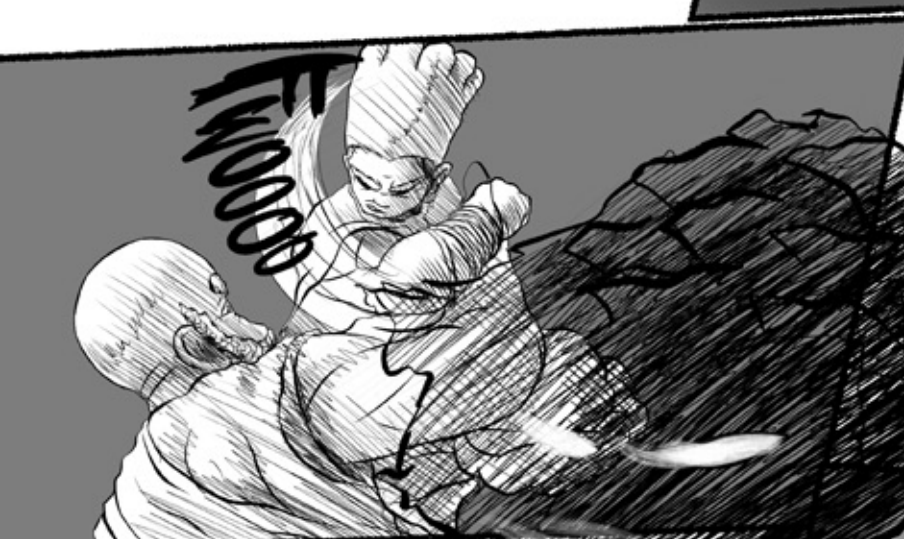
DASH!!

Alright i've had it now!!



DASH!!





Sorry Akio!
I was just testing your
abilities! I had to make
it seem at least half
real in order to see
your full strength.

ワカチヤ



UUUughh...
How did I get
down here?
...

Let that be your first lesson in survival for the quest you will soon undertake. Never let your guard down around anybody who knows you are carrying that stone!

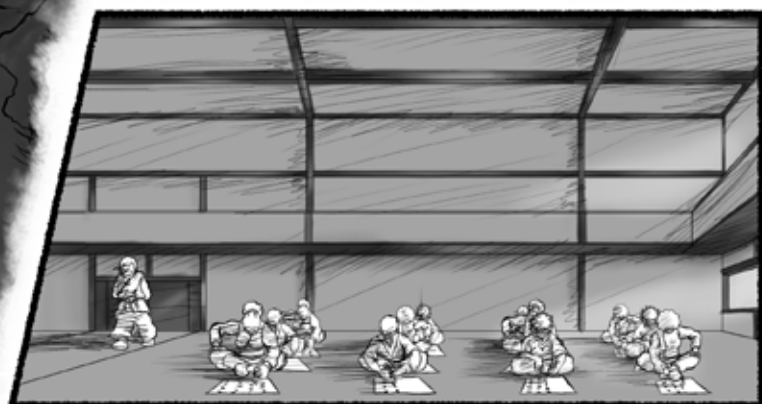
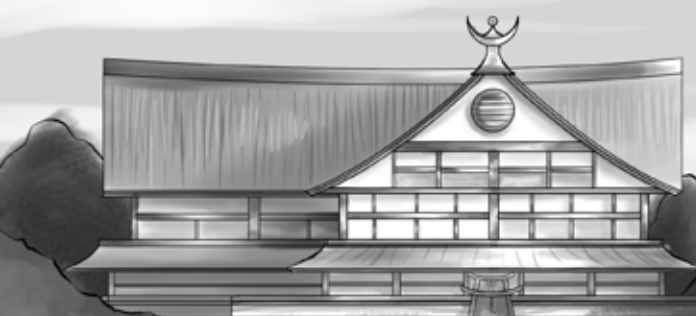


Countless lives have been lost over this one and others like it. It is important that you understand that carrying this stone marks you for death. So you must be careful who you reveal this ring to! Regardless of who they may say they are. Until you have good reason to, trust no one! Even family and so-called friends.



Let me tell you what I know about the ring. Hopefully that will shed some light on the real weight of this stone! ...It was over fifteen years ago now... When your father told me to take this damned ring...

15 YEARS AGO...
GRAND
LIBRARY
OF YOSAI





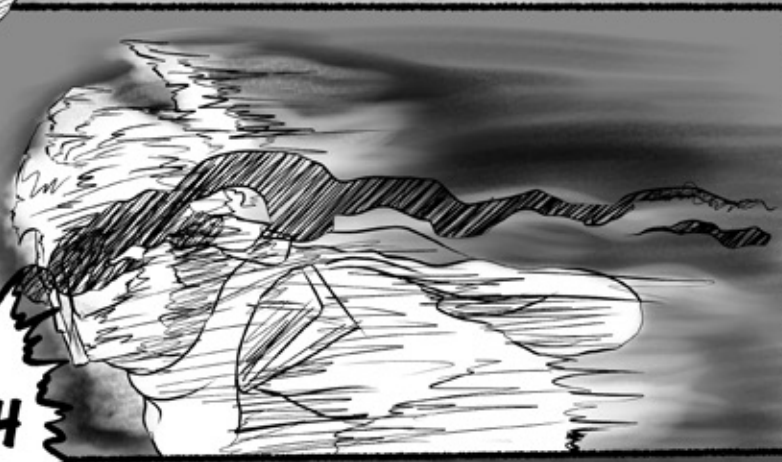
Take the gemstones
off the statue and get
out of here now!
I'll hold them off!

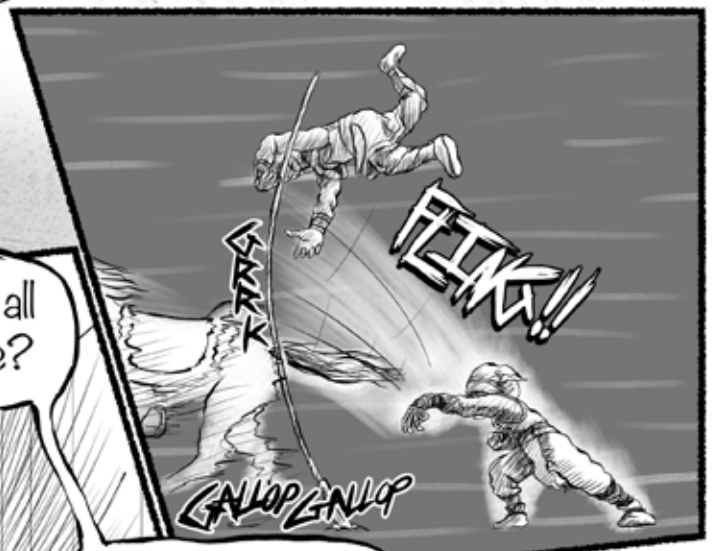
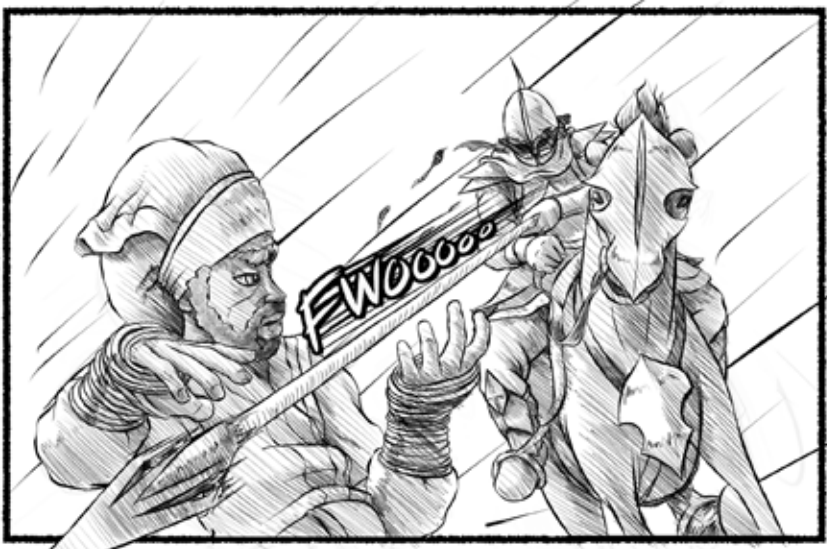


Hold who off? What's happening?



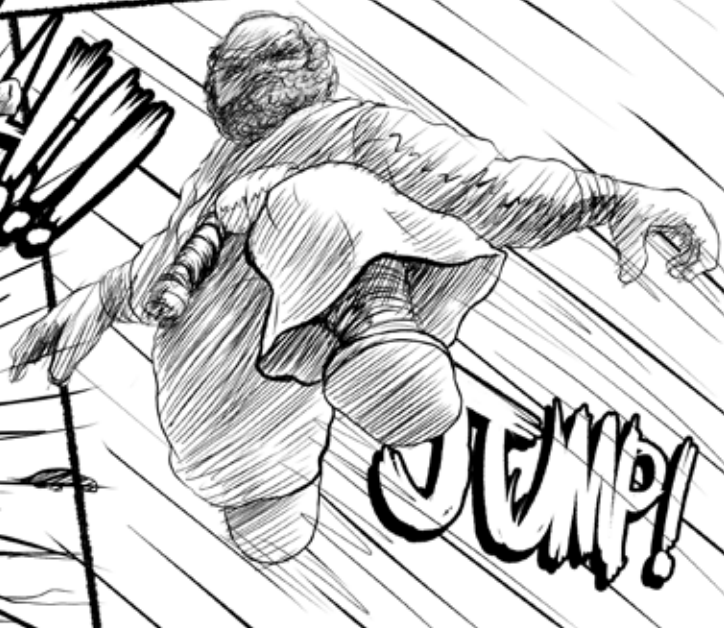
'Kichi
WATCH
OUT!!!





What are you all doing out here?

Get out of here NOW!
Save yourselves!
That's an ORDER!



Who sent them?
And WHY?

Yosian Cavalry,
filled with
shade energy?)

DASH

RUMBLE!!

RUMBLE!!

GALLOP!

GALLOP!

GALLOP!

GALLOP!

SHO

oooooooooooo

W

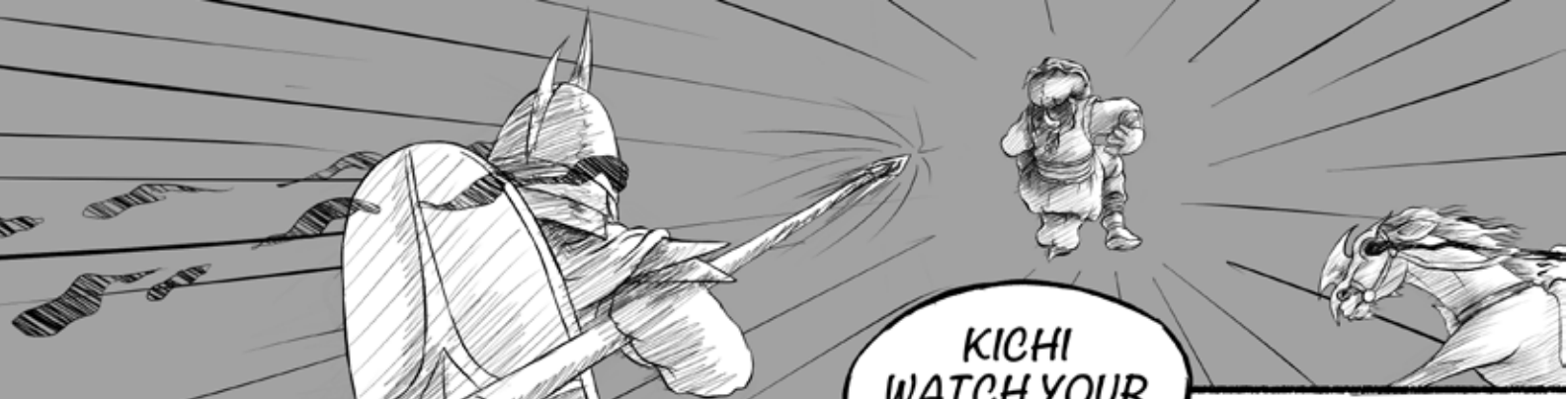
W

W

W

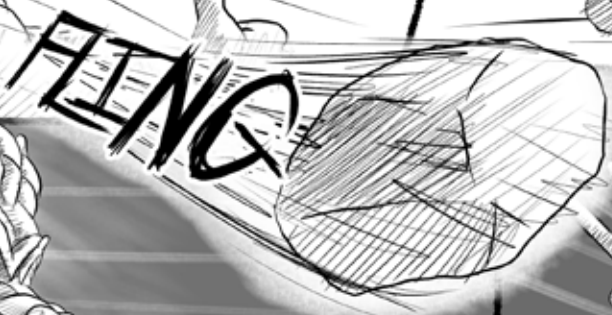
SHO

DASH



KICHI
WATCH YOUR
BACK!!!

They use the shade energy
like masters... They move fast!
These are no usual cavalry...
What's happening here?



WOOSH!!!





Looks like I'm here too late... This will probably be our last fight...



Aye... Probably...



LET'S GO!!!



!!! RUMBLE!!!

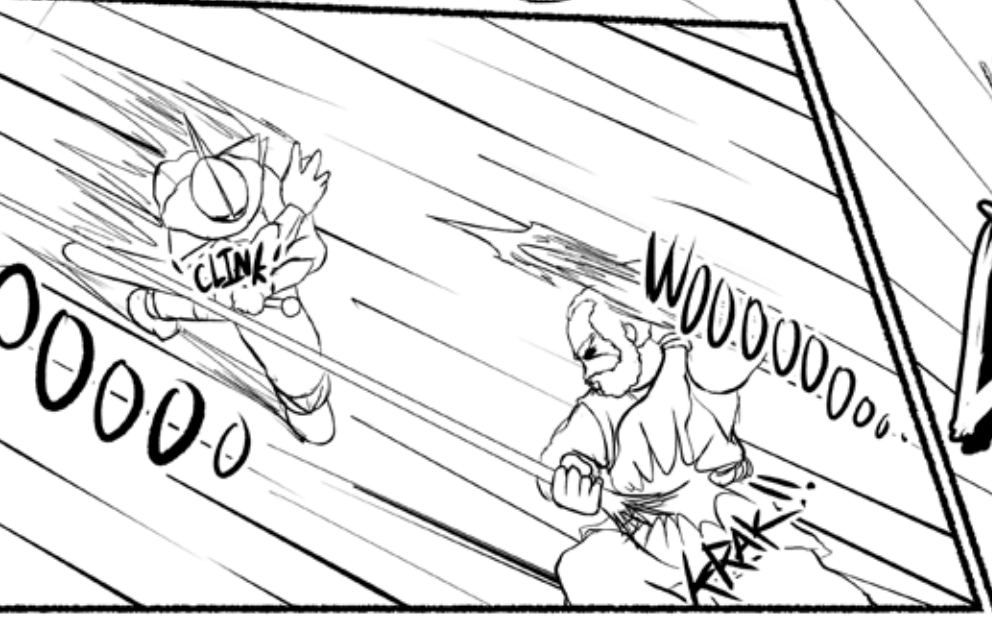


Well... What are we waiting for?



NO!!! SAVE YOURSELVES! GET OUT OF HERE, NOW!

ZHOOOM



CLINK
OOOOO

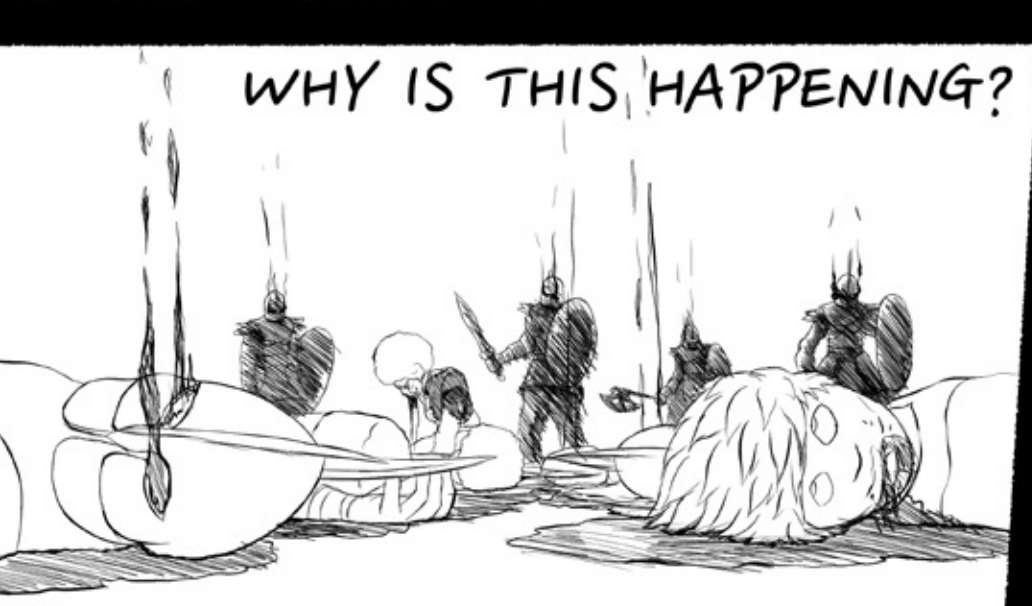
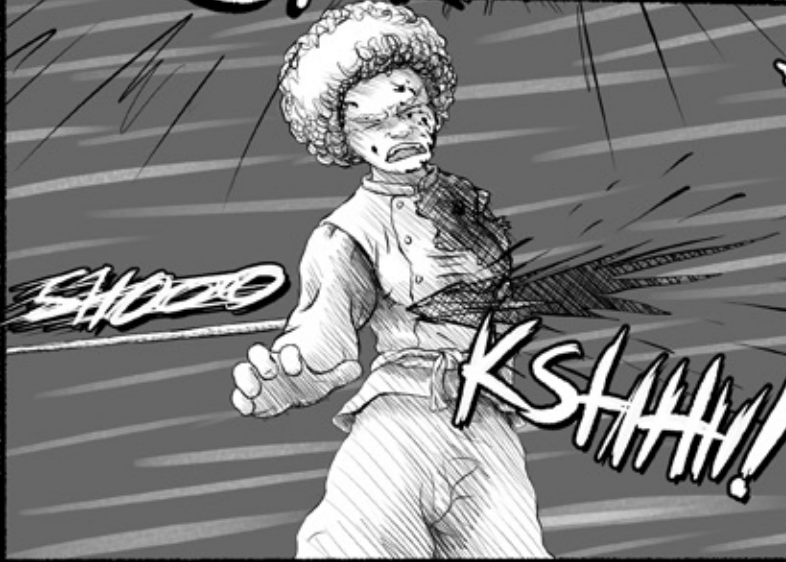
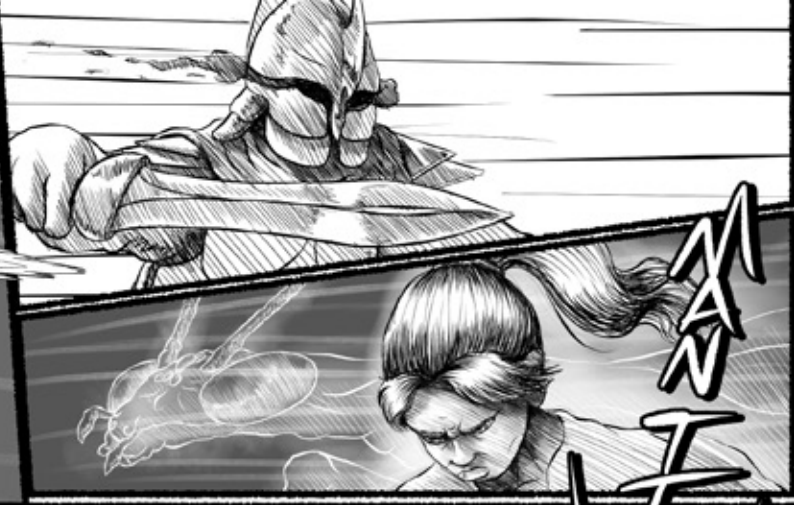
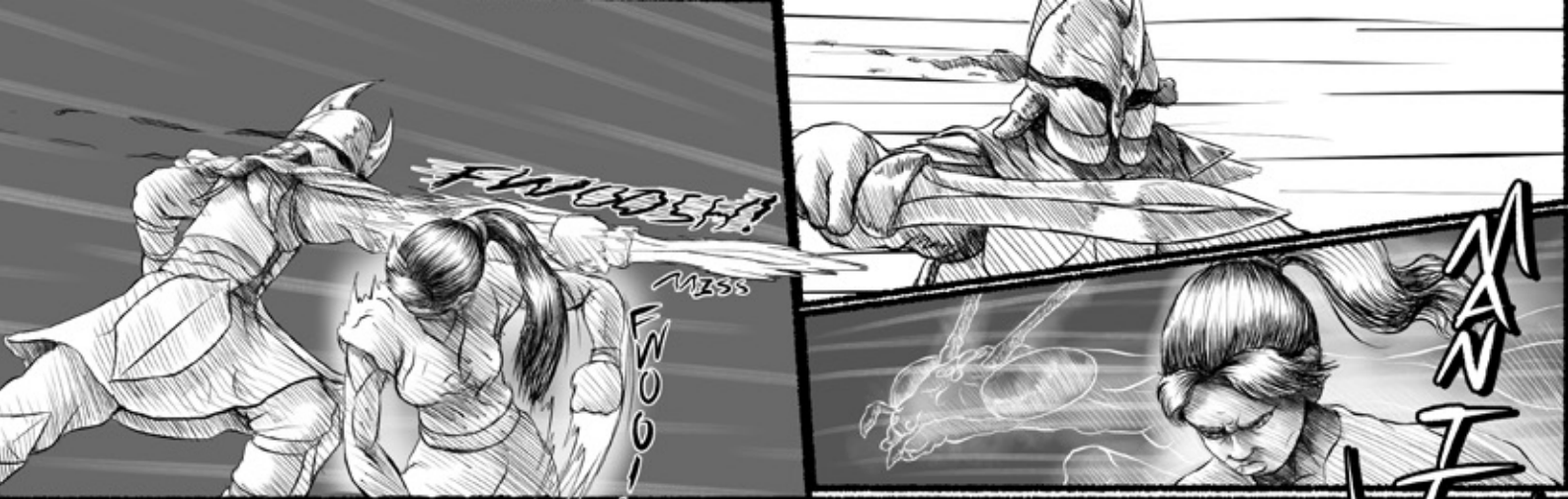
WOOOOOOOO
KRAK!!!

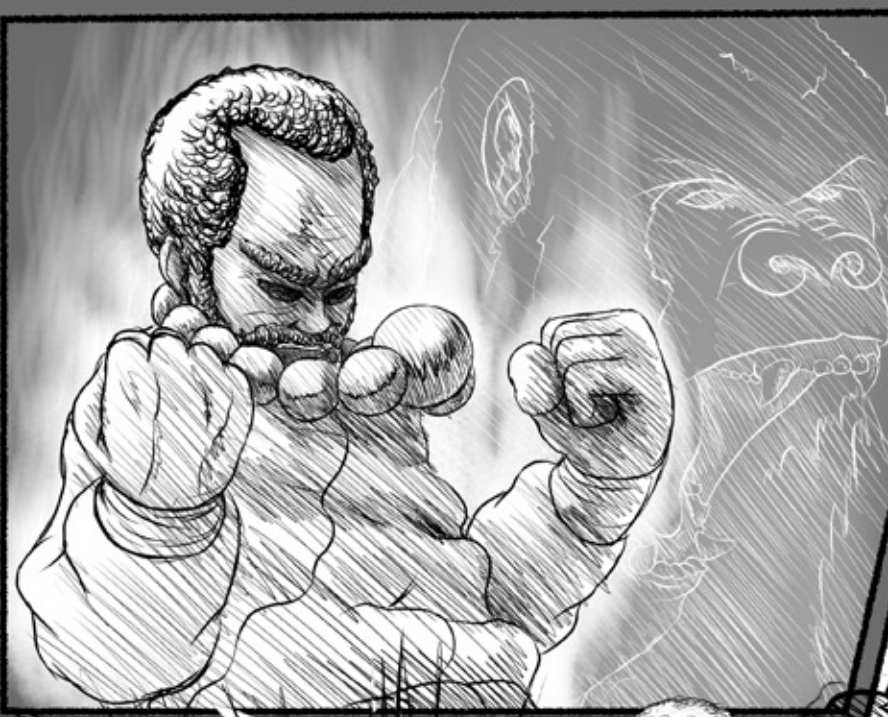


SNAP!!!



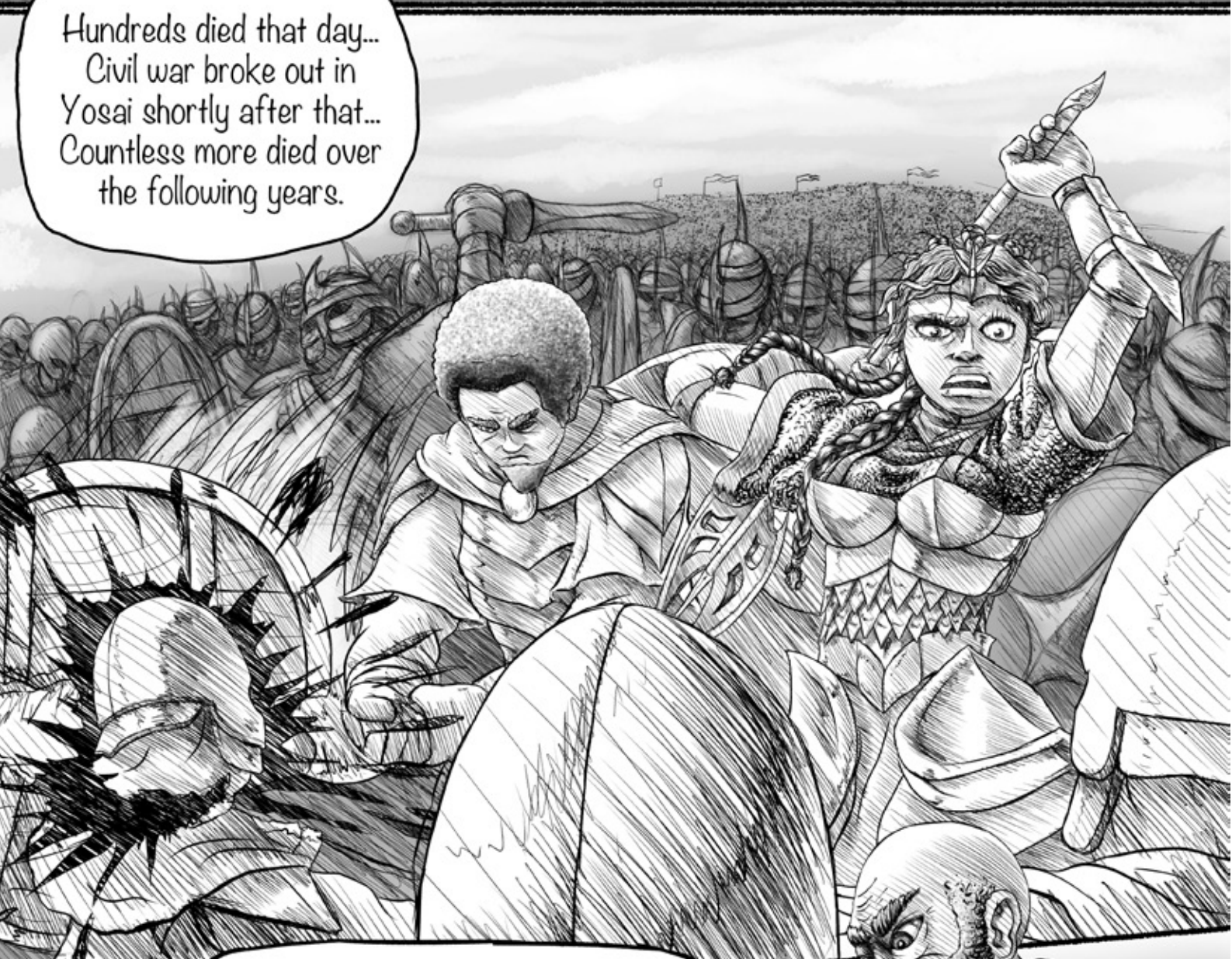








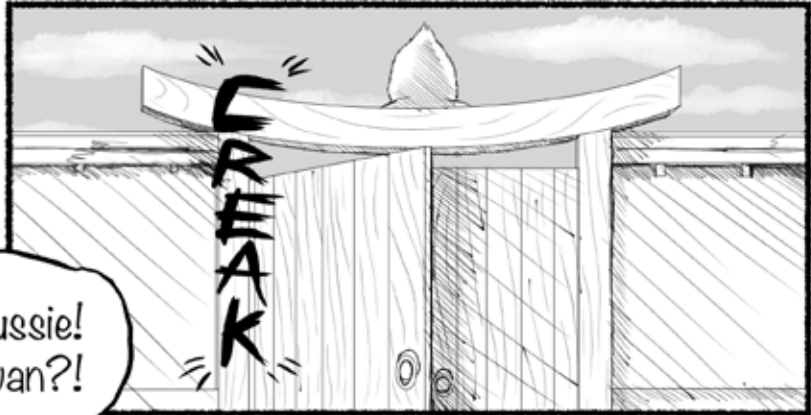
Hundreds died that day...
Civil war broke out in
Yosai shortly after that...
Countless more died over
the following years.



Since you will be carrying this around
your neck. It's best you understand
it's real weight.

Your life, and perhaps the course of history,
depends on this stone. Keep it safe and
out of site at all times.





Hail Gussie!
Wahgwan?!

Hail Saru!
I was just giving
Akio his first
training session!...
He's got ways
to go aye?



Yeah,
tell me about it.

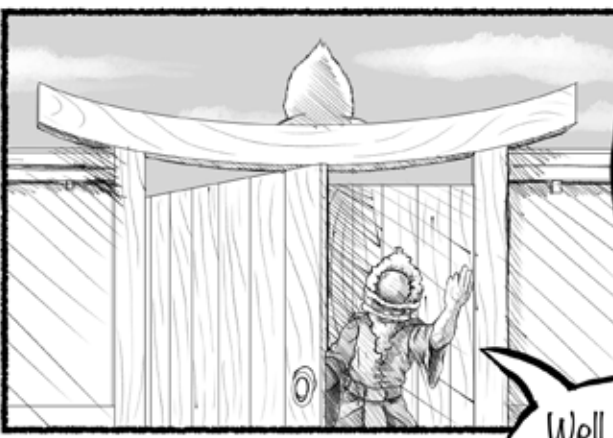
You were talking like
you weren't coming
gramps?

That was
training??
Ways to go!?

I wanted to see if you could
watch your own back,
knowing that you and the
gemstone are being hunted.



I tracked the idiot who tried us
for the ring before you left.
I found him with another one following
you. At times they were so close i'm
surprised you couldn't smell them!
They were about to have you as well,
you were lucky Bunti showed up!



Good yout that Bunti is.
Still I don't understand.
How do they know where
you stay!? Are there any
more of them?

Well... If you both come with
me I'll show you.



Fufufuu... Well... They are working for the Hikaru so... I finished off that one. I didn't like his energy... But four eyes here is still alive. I dosed him with **forgotten night**. He will come round in a few hours.

Let me guess... You didn't ask any questions before you killed them both? ...Typical Saru.

Forgotten night? What's that for?

A herb that puts you to sleep and fades your recent memory. The higher the dose, the longer you sleep and the further into the past you will forget.

Hikaru hounds?! You should have just finished them both!

Fufufuuuu.... That was my first thought... However, four eyes claims he can help us gather top secret Hikaru intel from the inside. I have a plan to see if he's telling the truth. He'll be coming around soon.

He's Waking up.

Alright, here we go...





... He's dead...
That kid
killed him?



Alright, he won't remember what he told me earlier. Let's see if his story holds up...

He's dropped
the sacred
stone!?



Yo! Wait!

You forgot this!



He's not my friend...
Infact, I was seiously
considering killing him myself...
So you've done me a favour!
I don't know what you did. But
the last thing I remember
is trying to talk him out of jumping
you, after you finished with those
bandits who tried you...
That was a wicked heel kick
counter by the way! Did you
hit me with that too?
is that why I can't remember
what just happened?

You're just handing this back to
me? After I killed your friend..
And tried to kill you?



Ha! Well... Not exactly. See what happ-

It doesn't even matter right now...
I beleive that your sensei is the
Don Dragon! Infamous for **not**
taking on students, yet you are his student.
I don't know or care about that gemstone
I want to study under him too.
Can you make it happen?



Erghhh...



You see these documents?
They are copies of
top secret intel I made.
The Don's name Saruwatari
Doragon comes up... a lot.
I want to see the Don
and offer my help, in
exchange for his help.
Will you take me to him?

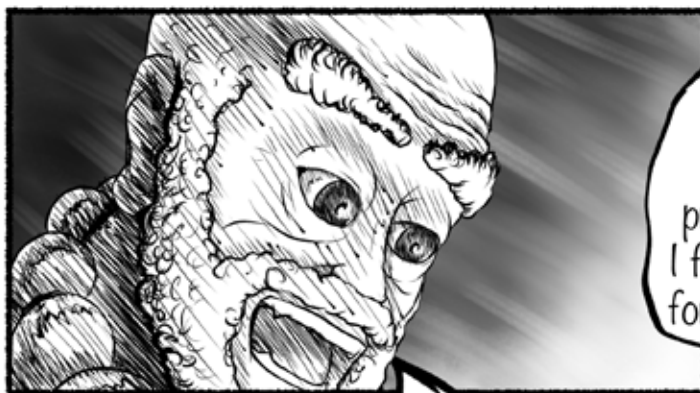


What is he
talking about?



Haha! How about that?!
two apprentices! Both brimming
with shade they can't control!
Hahaaa!!!
Hey don't look so down Saru!
It should be a nice change of pace!

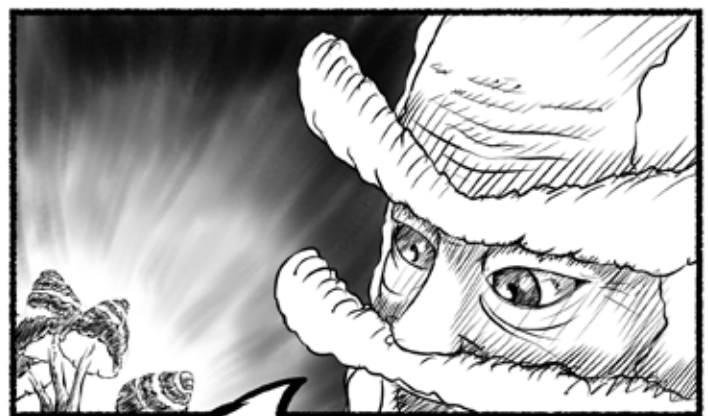




Hmph... well, speaking of their shadow energy problems... Look what I found, whilst foraging for the forgotten night!



SPIRIT CAPS!
Proper big fresh ones!
These will make em' see for sure!



Alright, lets get rid of that body, and head back! Tonights festival could be the last Suigin Valley party we see for a long time.

Yeah... I didn't want to resort to this but... We need something to help open their eyes to the soul.



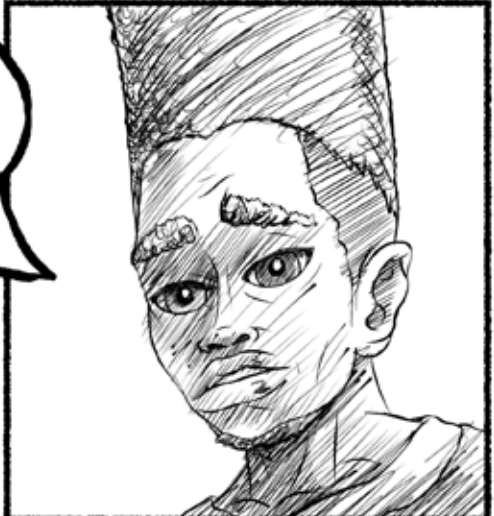
Wait!
That's him!
Isn't it?
What are they doing lurking in the bushes like that?

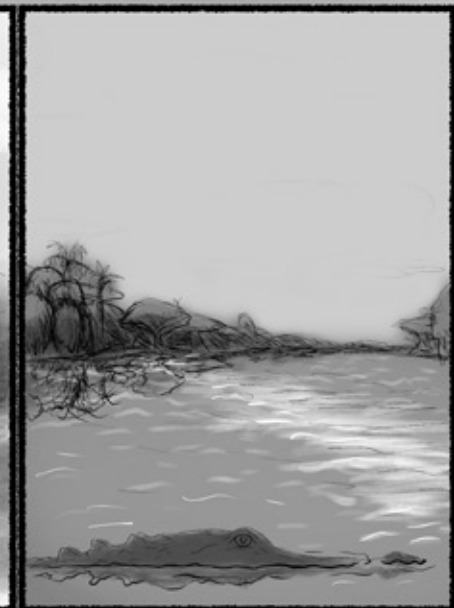
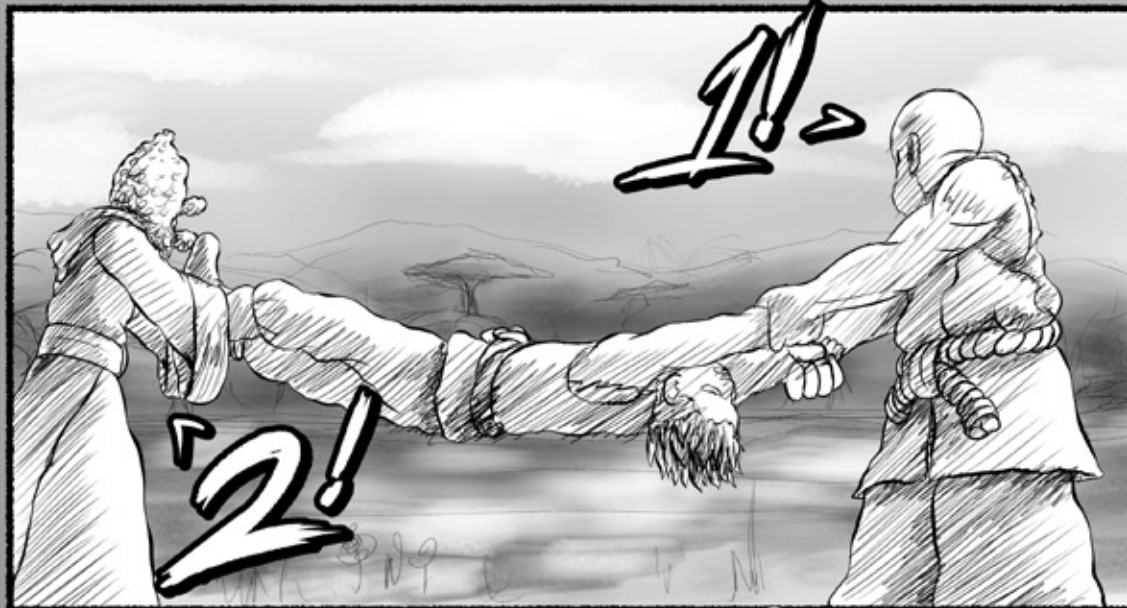


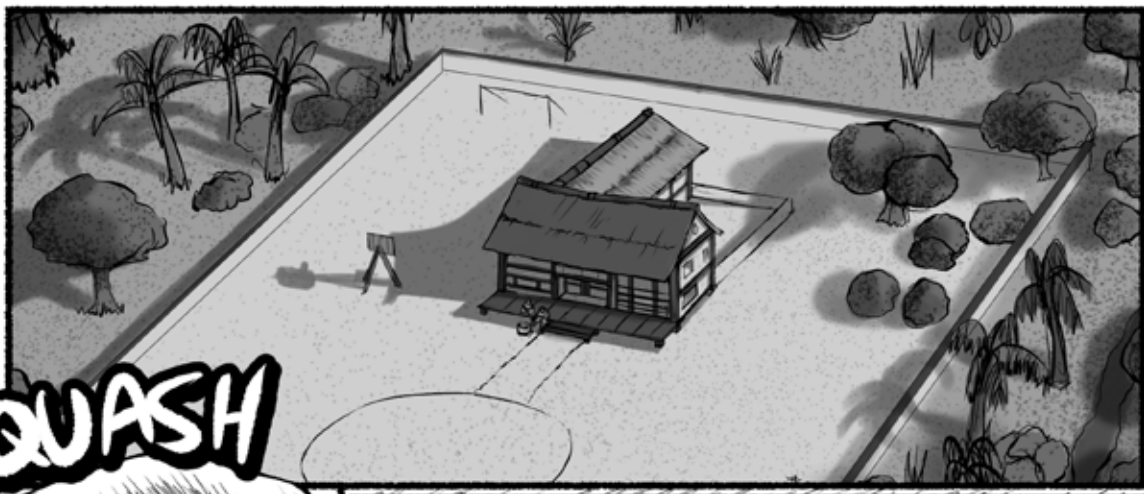
Let's go then boys!



Well that's my granddad... He can explain everything







SQUASH



PLSH

DRIP



Whoa! Whoa!
That's plenty!



CHOP

CHOP

CHOP



SQUASH SQUEEZE

Ay? Come on Saru! You want them to see or not? That will barely make a dent I'm putting it all in!

SIGH...



SHHHHHH

SCRAPE

Pop Pop Pop Pop Pop Pop

SFX!!!



About time!

GROWL!
RUMBLE



Foods' ready!

GROWL
RUMBLE

GROWL
RUMBLE

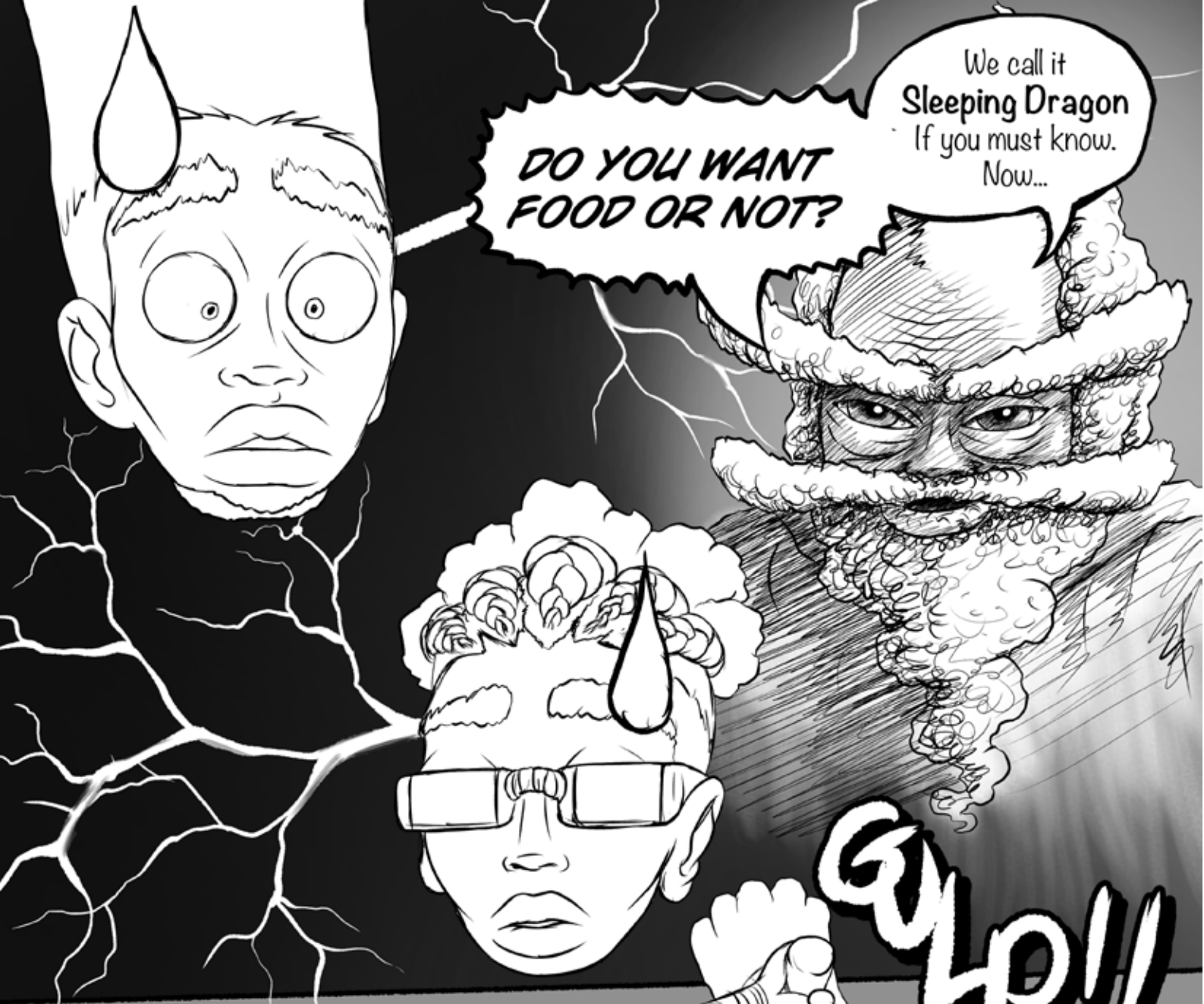
Straight down the hatch!

Before you eat... You have to drink these.



Aww c'mon! What is this? Is this another test Uncle Gussie? You said I could eat after the last one... I'm starving!





**DO YOU WANT
FOOD OR NOT?**

We call it
Sleeping Dragon
If you must know.
Now...

Gulp!!



**END OF
CHAPTER 3**

THE DALOS MOON

Flagship floating tavern of
the **Aquemee Nomads**.
They spend the year orbiting
the outskirts of
Dalos trading goods
and hosting festivals.

