

The girl has a mechanical body. However, she is still an adolescent girl.

GUNSLINGER GIRL

ガンズリンガール

Vol. 1



CREATOR

YU AIDA

GUNSLINGERGIRL.

YU AIDA PRESENTS



C O N T E N T S

Vol.1



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IT'S PROACTIVE IN SUPPORTING PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED PEOPLE.

I'M GLAD TO SEE OUR COUNTRY FOUNDED SUCH A WONDERFUL ORGANIZATION...

IT'S CALLED THE SOCIAL WELFARE AGENCY, ISN'T IT?

WELL...



REMEMBER THE INCIDENT IN ROME LAST WEEK? SHE IS THE ONLY SURVIVOR.



YES, WE DO. SHE IS IN DIRE NEED OF YOUR ASSISTANCE.

DR. MARGE, WE ARE HERE BECAUSE WE HEARD YOU HAVE A GIRL IN SERIOUS CONDITION.



SHE SAYS SHE WANTS... TO KILL HERSELF.



SHE WAS ASSAULTED REPEATEDLY ALL NIGHT LONG NEXT TO THE BODIES OF HER FAMILY.

The girl has a mechanical body. However, she is still an adolescent child.

GUNSLINGER GIRL.

ガンズリンガール

第1話 天体観測

Observing the Heavens





JEAN,
THIS
IS
HILLSHIRE
FROM
CALABRIA.

CREAK

CREAK



I THINK
THEY'VE
BEEN
TRANSFERRED
TO
NAPOLI
ALREADY.



WE
SUCCESS-
FULLY
TRACKED
DOWN THE
HIDEOUTS
OF THE FIVE
REPUBLICS,
BUT THE
ALBANIAN IS
NOWHERE
TO BE
SEEN.

CREAK





SOMEONE
MAY STILL
BE ALIVE.
I'LL TRY
TO GET
MORE
INFORMA-
TION.

...UH
HUH...



TRIELA,
HILLSHIRE
TEAM
HAS
MADE
CONTACT.

IT
LOOKS
LIKE THIS
IS THE
MAIN
LOCATION...

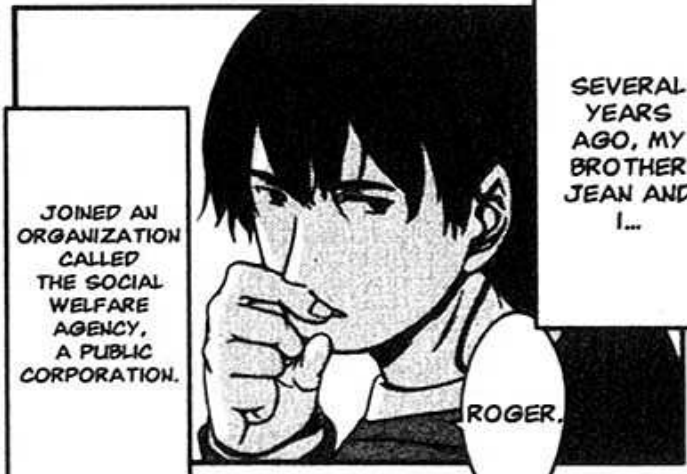


GIUSEPPE,
GET
READY
TO MAKE
CONTACT
WITH THEM.



DON'T MOVE UNTIL I CONFIRM THEY'RE ALBANIANS.

THEY GO THROUGH A BRAINWASHING PROCESS CALLED, "CONDITIONING."



JOINED AN ORGANIZATION CALLED THE SOCIAL WELFARE AGENCY, A PUBLIC CORPORATION.

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, MY BROTHER JEAN AND I...

ROGER.



LET'S GO, HENRIETTA.

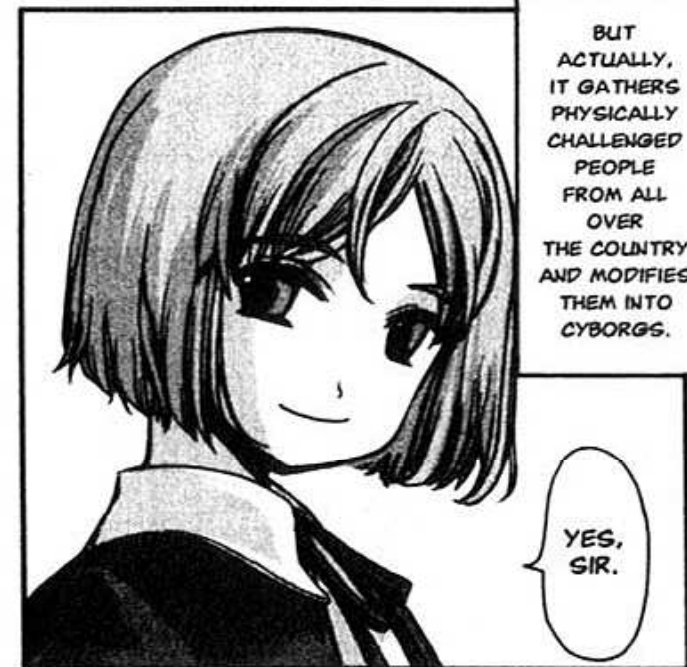
OFFICIALLY, IT PROMOTES PROJECTS TO SUPPORT THE PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE.



RICO, TARGET THE SHADOW BEHIND THE BLINDS.

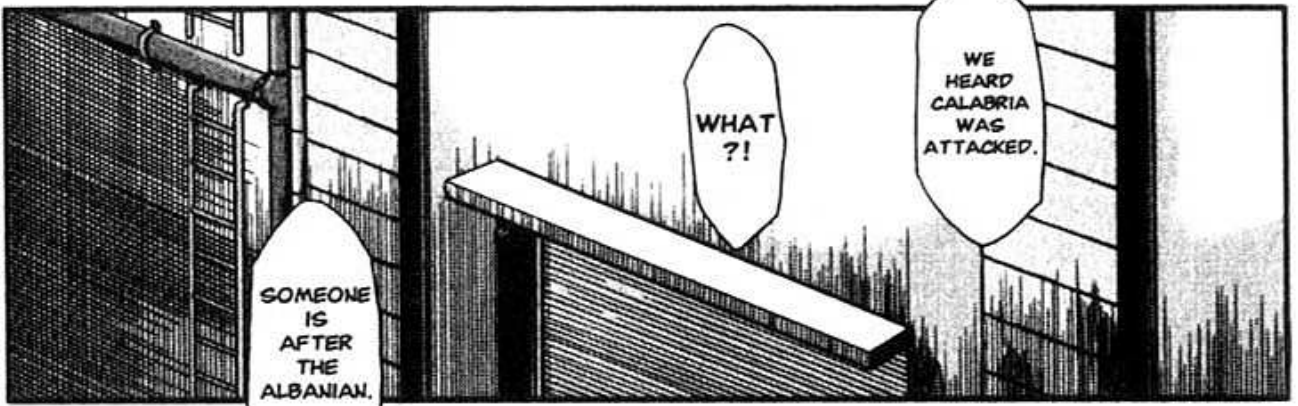
YES, SIR.

IT IS A SECRET SERVICE ORGANIZATION THAT THE GOVERNMENT USES TO DO THEIR DIRTY WORK.



BUT ACTUALLY, IT GATHERS PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY AND MODIFIES THEM INTO CYBORGS.

YES, SIR.



SOMEONE IS AFTER THE ALBANIAN.

WHAT?!

WE HEARD CALABRIA WAS ATTACKED.



COME HERE TOO.

IF SO, THEY MIGHT...

COME HERE TOO.



THERE IS A GOVERNMENT AGENCY THAT USES KIDS AS ASSASSINS.



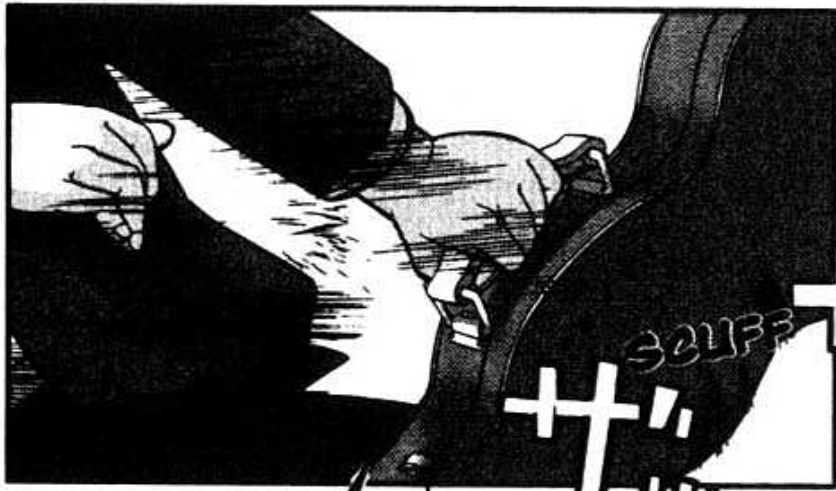
COME TO THINK OF IT, I HEARD A RUMOR.



I HEARD THE GUY WHO ATTACKED CALABRIA WAS WITH A KID.







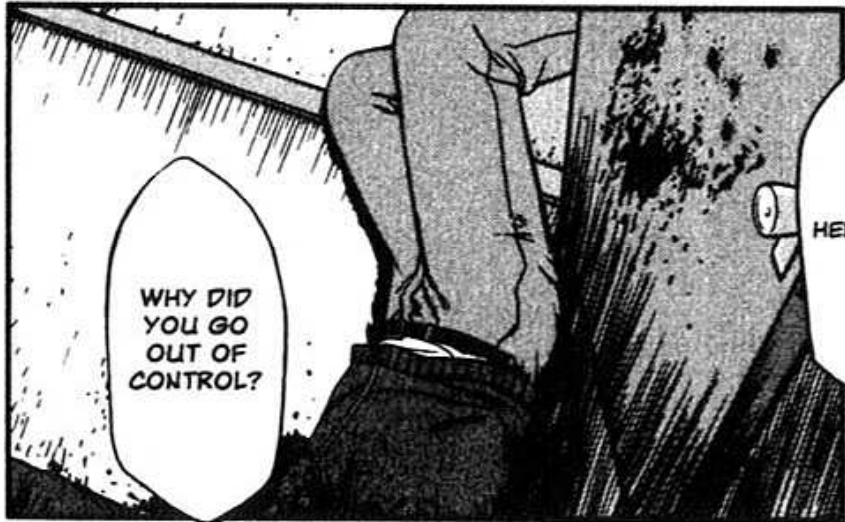
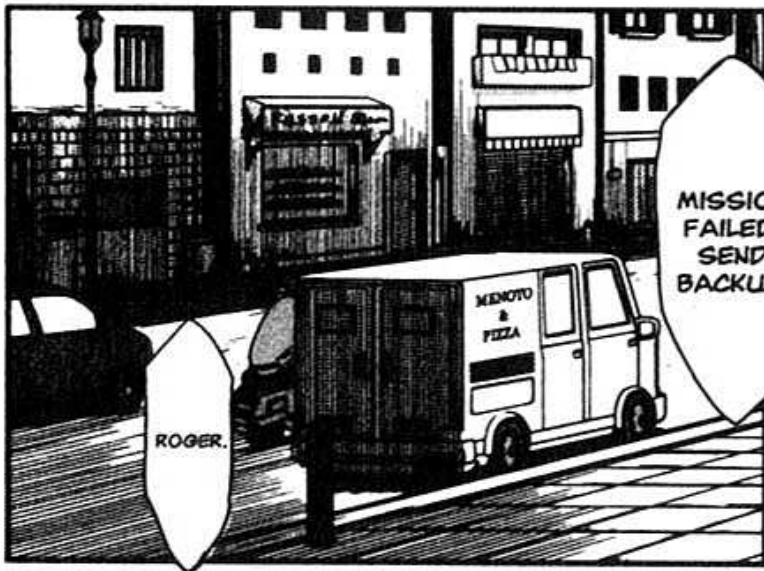


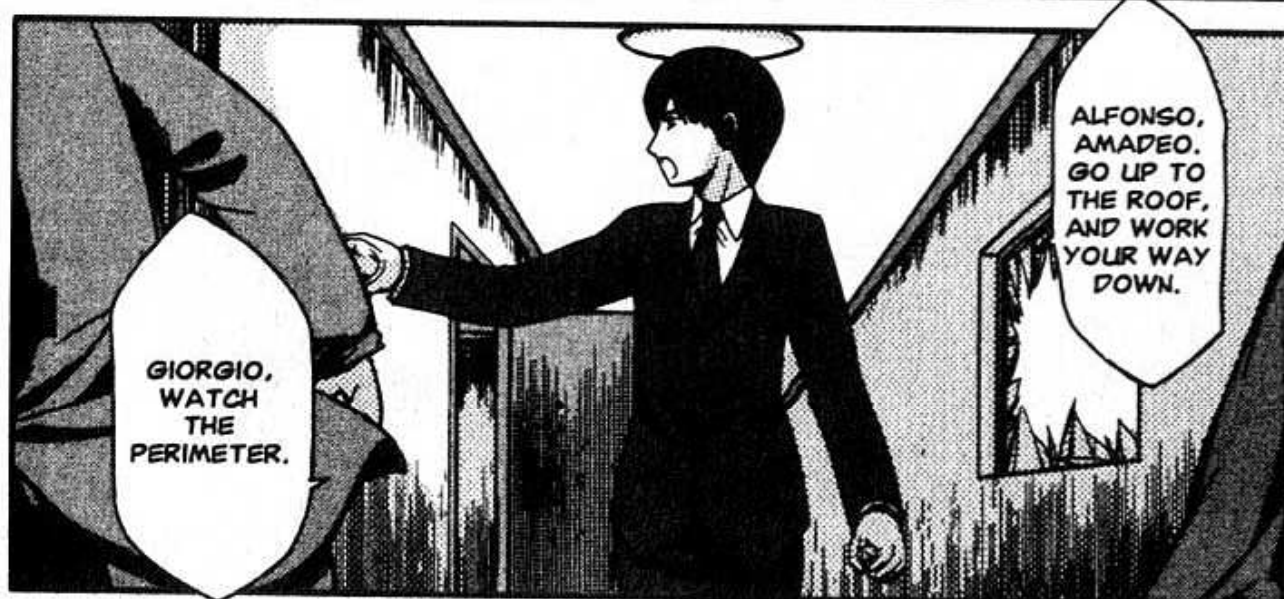


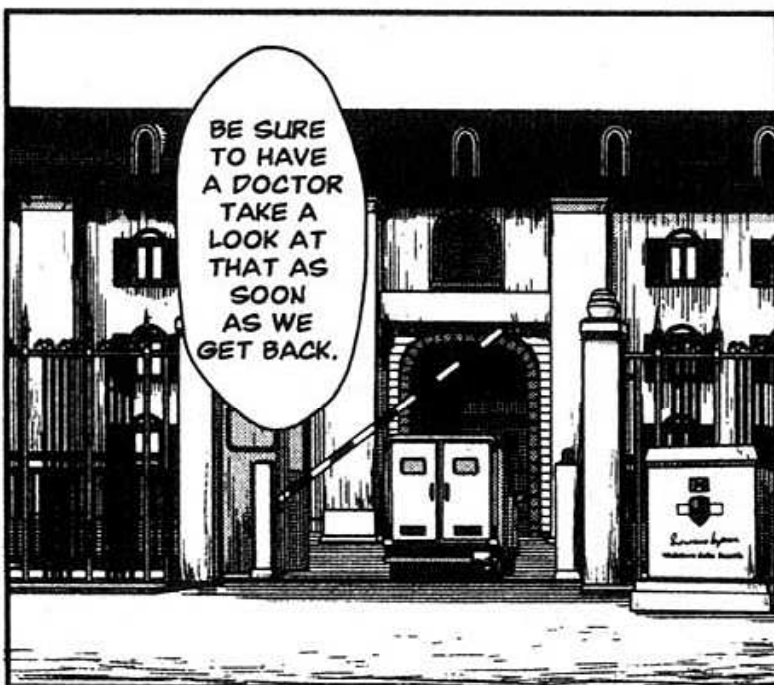








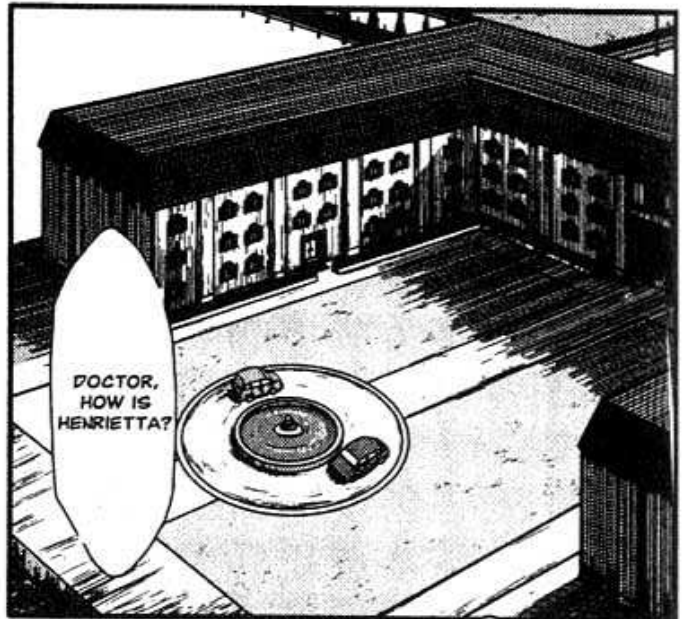






I DON'T THINK WE HAVE TO REPLACE THE ENTIRE ARM.

THE BULLET JUST SHAVED OFF SOME SKIN AND ARTIFICIAL MUSCULAR TISSUE.



DOCTOR, HOW IS HENRIETTA?



DON'T MISUNDERSTAND ME. EVERYTIME SHE GETS INJURED WE HAVE TO USE THE MEDICATION.

THAT'S GREAT.



GOOD. I ONLY HAVE TO USE A LITTLE BIT OF THE MEDICATION ON HER.



IF WE KEEP USING IT AS A SEDATIVE EVERY TIME WE DO REPAIRS...

THE KIDS HERE ARE ALREADY TAKING LARGE AMOUNTS OF IT FOR THEIR CONDITIONING.



I SEE.



...EVENTUALLY, THEY'LL BECOME ADDICTED OR SUFFER MEMORY DYSFUNCTION.



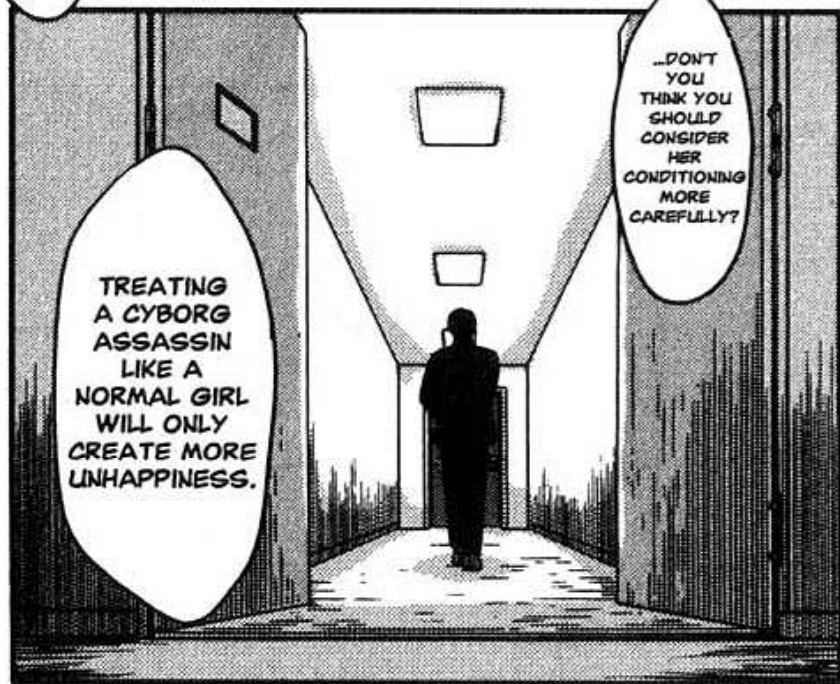
SHE COUNTS THE BODIES SHE CREATES FOR ME...



I HEARD SHE IGNORED YOUR ORDER AND WENT OUT OF CONTROL.



SO, WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?



TREATING A CYBORG ASSASSIN LIKE A NORMAL GIRL WILL ONLY CREATE MORE UNHAPPINESS.

...DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD CONSIDER HER CONDITIONING MORE CAREFULLY?



LOOK, GIUSE PPE...

I APPRECIATE THAT YOU LOVE THIS GIRL, BUT...



JEAN, I DIS-AGREE.



HUNTING DOGS NEED TO WEAR COLLARS.

GIUSEPPE, YOU NEED TO INCREASE THE LEVEL OF CONDITIONING FOR HENRIETTA.



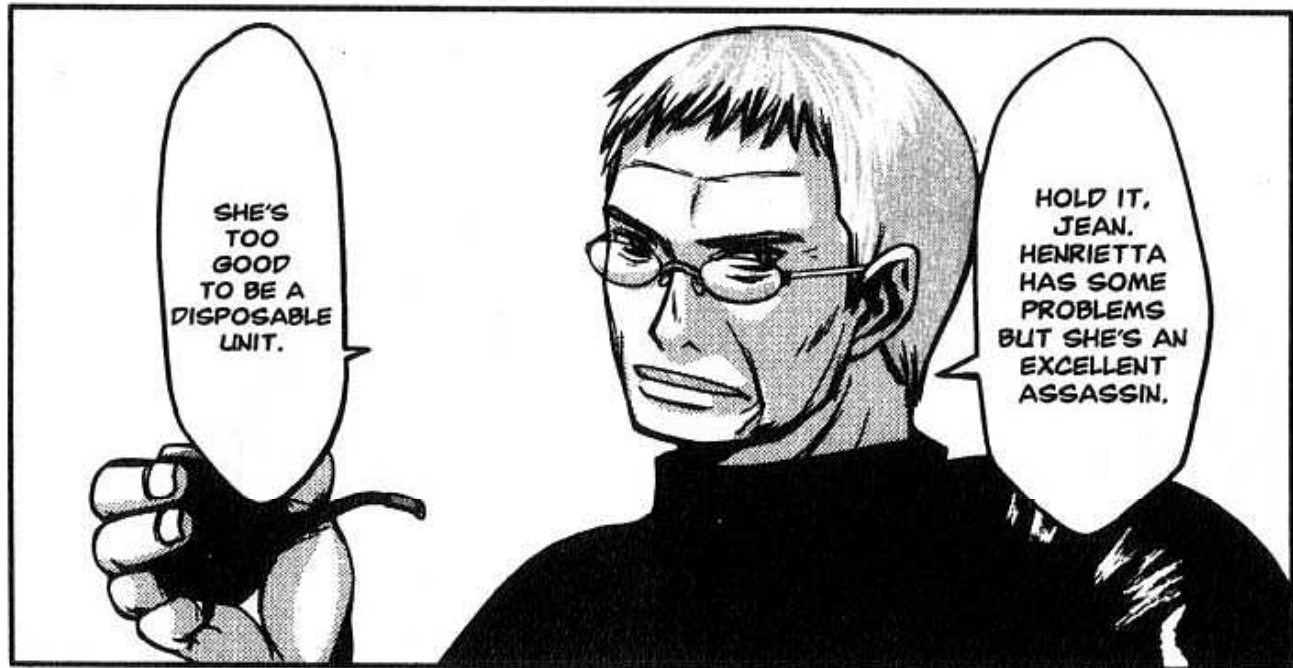
YOU'RE LETTING YOURSELF GET TOO ATTACHED TO A TOOL.



WE CAN JUST FIND A NEW PATIENT ONCE SHE'S "SPENT."



USING TOO MUCH OF THE MEDICATION WILL SHORTEN HER LIFE.



SHE'S TOO GOOD TO BE A DISPOSABLE UNIT.

HOLD IT, JEAN. HENRIETTA HAS SOME PROBLEMS BUT SHE'S AN EXCELLENT ASSASSIN.



I UNDERSTAND.

I WILL OVERLOOK THE MISHAP THIS TIME.



AT ANY RATE, WE SUCCESSFULLY CAPTURED THE ALBANIAN.



MAKE SURE SHE UNDERSTANDS THAT.

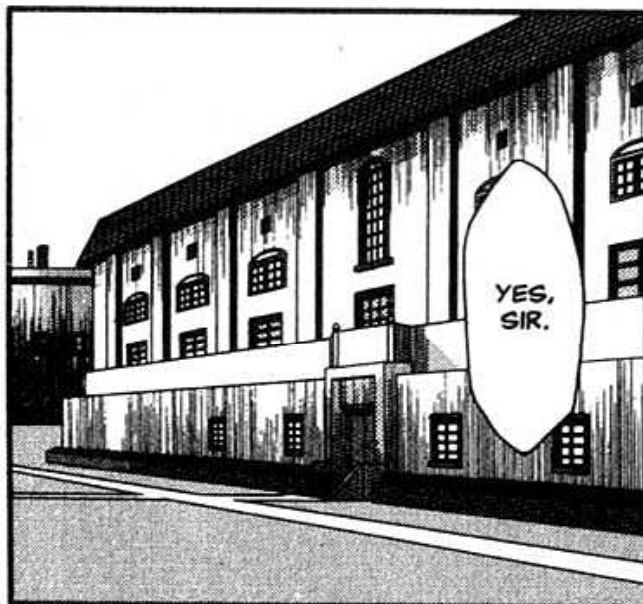


GIU SEP PE,

EACH HANDLER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS CYBORG.



IF YOU'RE SURE HENRIETTA WILL WORK WITH THE MINIMUM DOSAGE, GO AHEAD AND TRY.



YES, SIR.



REMEMBER, NO MAJOR MISTAKES WILL BE TOLERATED.



ALL SIX MEMBERS OF HER FAMILY WERE BUTCHERED. SHE WAS THE ONLY SURVIVOR.

THIS WAS UNDERSTANDABLE. AFTER ALL, SHE WAS THE VICTIM OF A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.



WHEN HENRIETTA ARRIVED AT THE AGENCY, SHE WAS A VERY QUIET GIRL.



WHEN I FIRST SAW HER AT THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL, SHE WAS TORN UP BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY.

I HAND PICKED HER FOR MY PARTNER.



I WANTED TO REACH OUT AND HELP HER.

I'M NOT SURE IF I WANTED TO DO A GOOD DEED, OR IF IT WAS JUST OUT OF PITY.

CHILDREN
SELECTED BY
THE AGENCY
UNDERGO
CONDITIONING
IN ADDITION
TO PHYSICAL
MODIFICATION.

LISTEN,
TO BE
EFFICIENT,
YOU HAVE
TO LEARN
MANY
THINGS.

FORTUNATELY
FOR THEM,
AS A
RESULT OF
CONDITIONING,
MEMORIES
OF THEIR
TERRIBLE
PASTS ARE
ERASED.

I WILL
PREPARE
NOTES
FOR YOU TO
STUDY
EVERY
DAY.

EVERY
SUCCESSFUL
JOB
IS THE
RESULT
OF AN
ACCUMULATION
OF
SIMPLE
TASKS.

I
STARTED
MAKING MORE
OF AN EFFORT
TO TALK
WITH
HER.

LOOK
UP.

HUH?

WHEN
YOU'RE
MAKING A
SNIPER SHOT,
IF THE
DISTANCE IS
WITHIN 600
METERS, YOU
TARGET THE
HEAD. IF IT'S
MORE THAN
THAT, AIM AT
THE CENTER
OF BODY.

.....



IT
COULD
BE A
FAIRY.

WHAT
COULD IT
BE? A
LIGHT IN
THE SKY?

CLACK

WHAT
IS
THAT?

CAN
YOU
SEE
A DIM
LIGHT
NEXT
TO
THAT
CLOUD
THERE?



IF YOU
SAW IT
AT NIGHT,
WHAT
WOULD
YOU
THINK?

FLIP

HMM,
GOOD
ANSWER.
DURING
THE WAR,
PEOPLE
WOULD
RUN
SCARED
THINKING
IT WAS
AN
AIRPLANE.



COULD
IT
BE AN
AIR-
PLANE?



UH,
BE
CAREFUL.
DON'T
LOOK
AT
THE SUN
DIRECTLY.

YEAH,
THAT'S
RIGHT.
IT'S VENUS.
IT ORBITS
BETWEEN
THE EARTH
AND THE
SUN.

.....
A
STAR
...?



GIUSEPPE,
YOU KNOW
EVERY-
THING,
DON'T
YOU?



I
GUESS
IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE
TO SHOOT
A VENUTIAN
IN ITS
HEAD
WITH
THIS
RIFLE.



H
HUH?



YOU
CAN'T
TAKE A
BATH
UNTIL
THE SKIN
ON YOUR
ARM
HEALS.

CRY
.....?



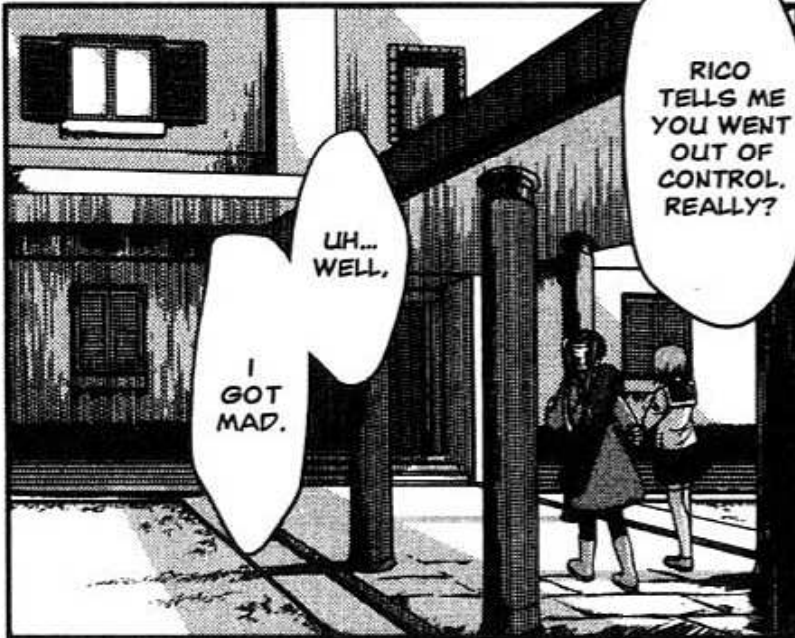
DID
YOU
HAVE
A BAD
DREAM?

WHAT'S
WRONG?



ARE
YOU
AWAKE?

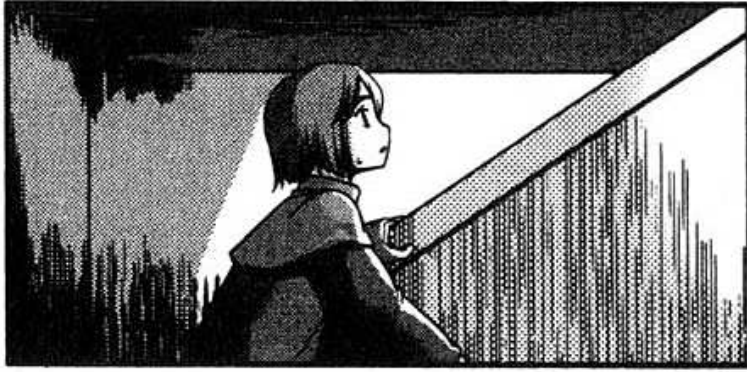
HOP UP

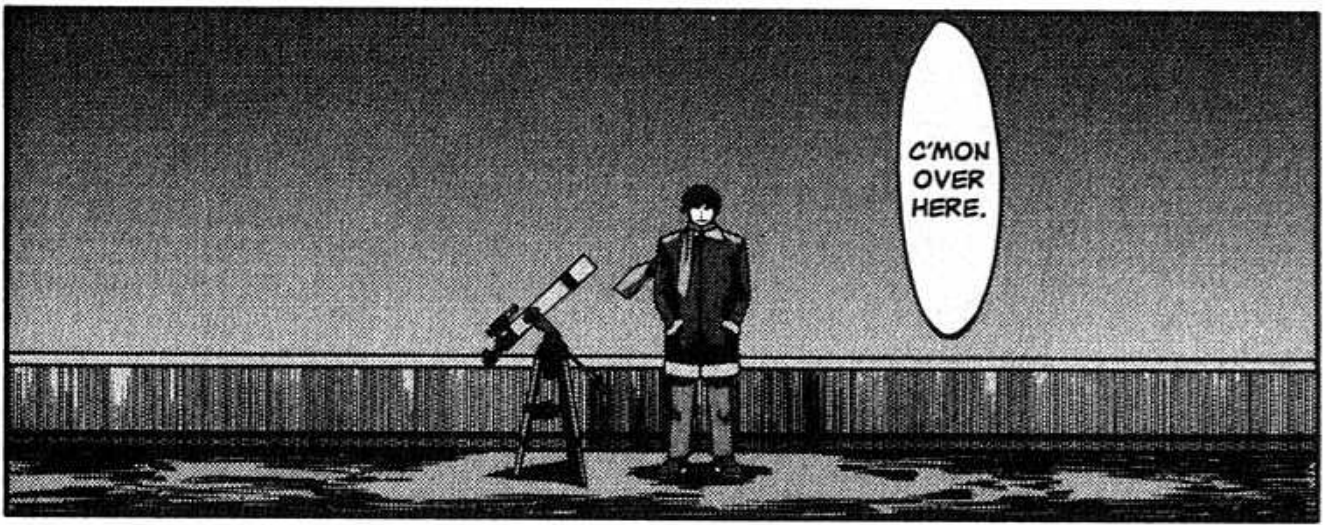














UHMM...



I'VE BEEN WANTING TO SHOW YOU THE STARS WITH A REAL TELESCOPE, NOT JUST A RIFLE SCOPE.



WHAT'S GOING ON? IS EVERYTHING OKAY?

IT'S THE FIRST TIME FOR ME TO SEE THE STARS.



IT'S A REWARD FOR YOUR GOOD WORK TODAY.

IT'S A PERFECT EVENING FOR LOOKING AT THE STARS, DON'T YOU THINK?



...UHMM

...





THE
GODDESS
ARTEMIS
WAS
THROWN
INTO
THE
DEPTHS
OF
SORROW,

SHE ASKED
TO ADD
ORION THE HUNTER
TO THE
CONSTELLATIONS
SO THAT
SHE COULD
SEE HIM
WHENEVER
SHE FLEW
IN THE NIGHT SKY.



ORION
THE
HUNTER
WAS
MISTAKENLY
SHOT
AND
KILLED
BY HIS
LOVER,
ARTEMIS.



IT'S
SUCH
A SAD
STORY.

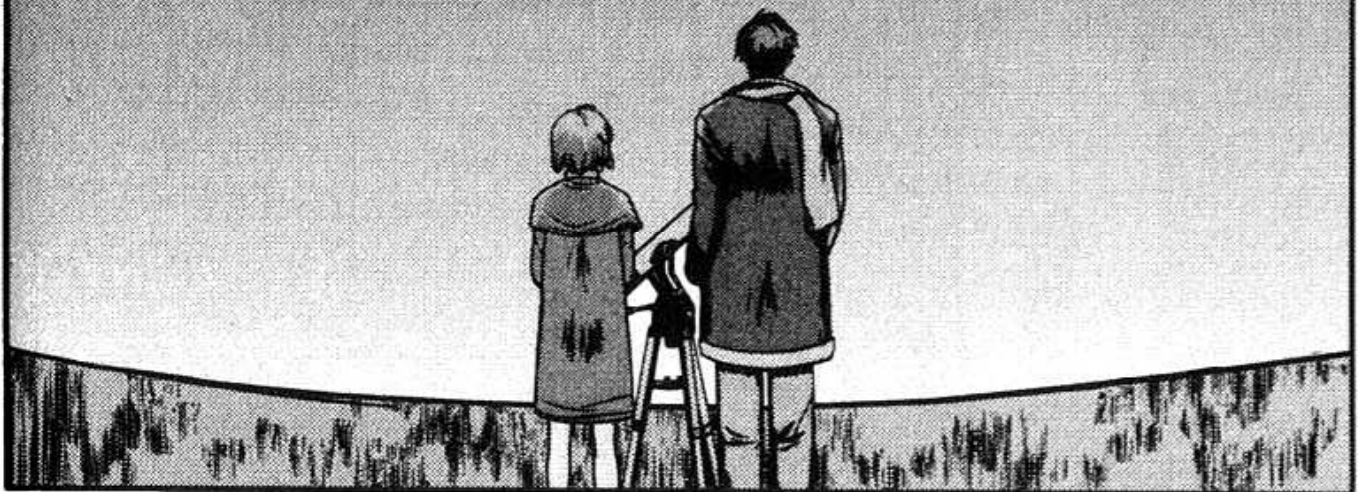
.....

YES,
I
DO.

YOU
KNOW
EVERYTHING,
DON'T
YOU?

YEAH?

GIUSEPPE?



GUNSLINGERGIRL



THERE WAS AN ANNOUNCEMENT. IT INTRODUCED A NEW GOVERNMENT PROJECT TO HELP PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED PEOPLE RETURN TO SOCIETY BY PUTTING THEM TO WORK IN THE WELFARE SYSTEM.

IN ONE CORNER OF A BROCHURE ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR,



UHN ...

THEY SIGNED 17 DOCUMENTS AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF OUR FAMILY DOCTOR.



MY MOTHER AND FATHER WERE ALWAYS FIGHTING BECAUSE MY ARMS AND LEGS WERE DEFORMED.



I'D NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO LEAVE THE HOSPITAL BEFORE, BUT NOW I CAN MOVE AROUND AT WILL.

THAT'S HOW, ON MY ELEVENTH BIRTHDAY, I GOT THIS BODY.



第2話 Love thy neighbor





THEY'RE ALL NICE TO ME SO LONG AS I DO WHAT I'M TOLD.

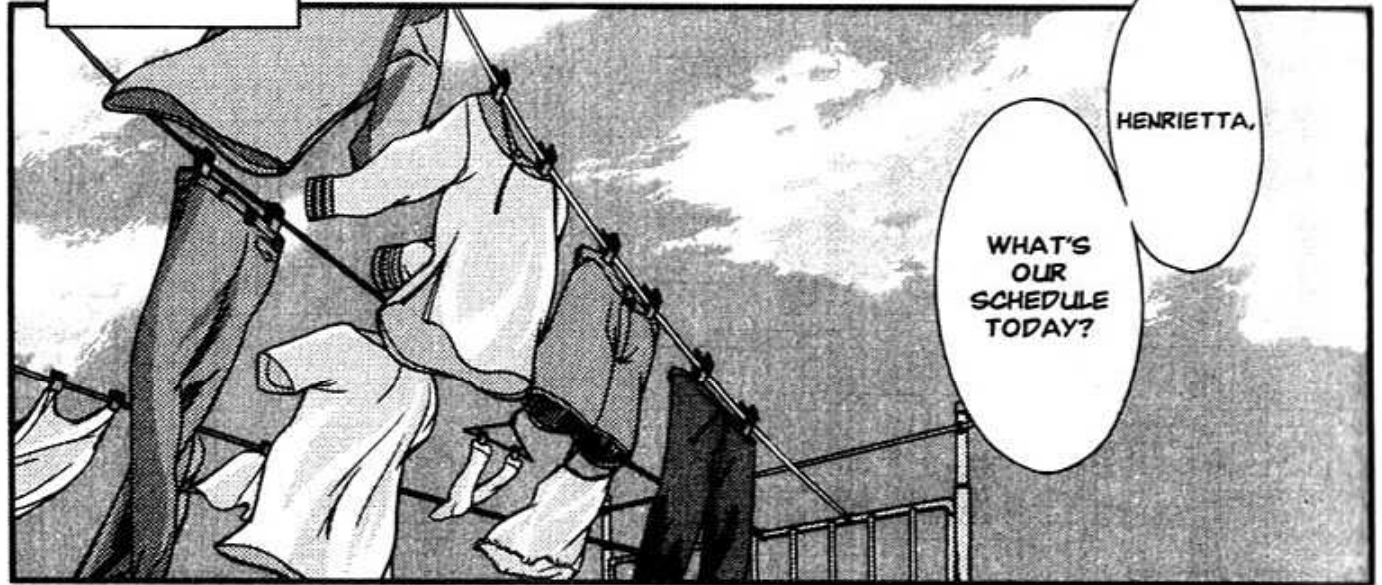
ALSO...

ALSO FOR EXAMPLE...



FRESH MORNING AIR, THE SMELL OF DETERGENT, THE SUN AND CLOUDS IN THE SKY... ME IN THIS BODY...

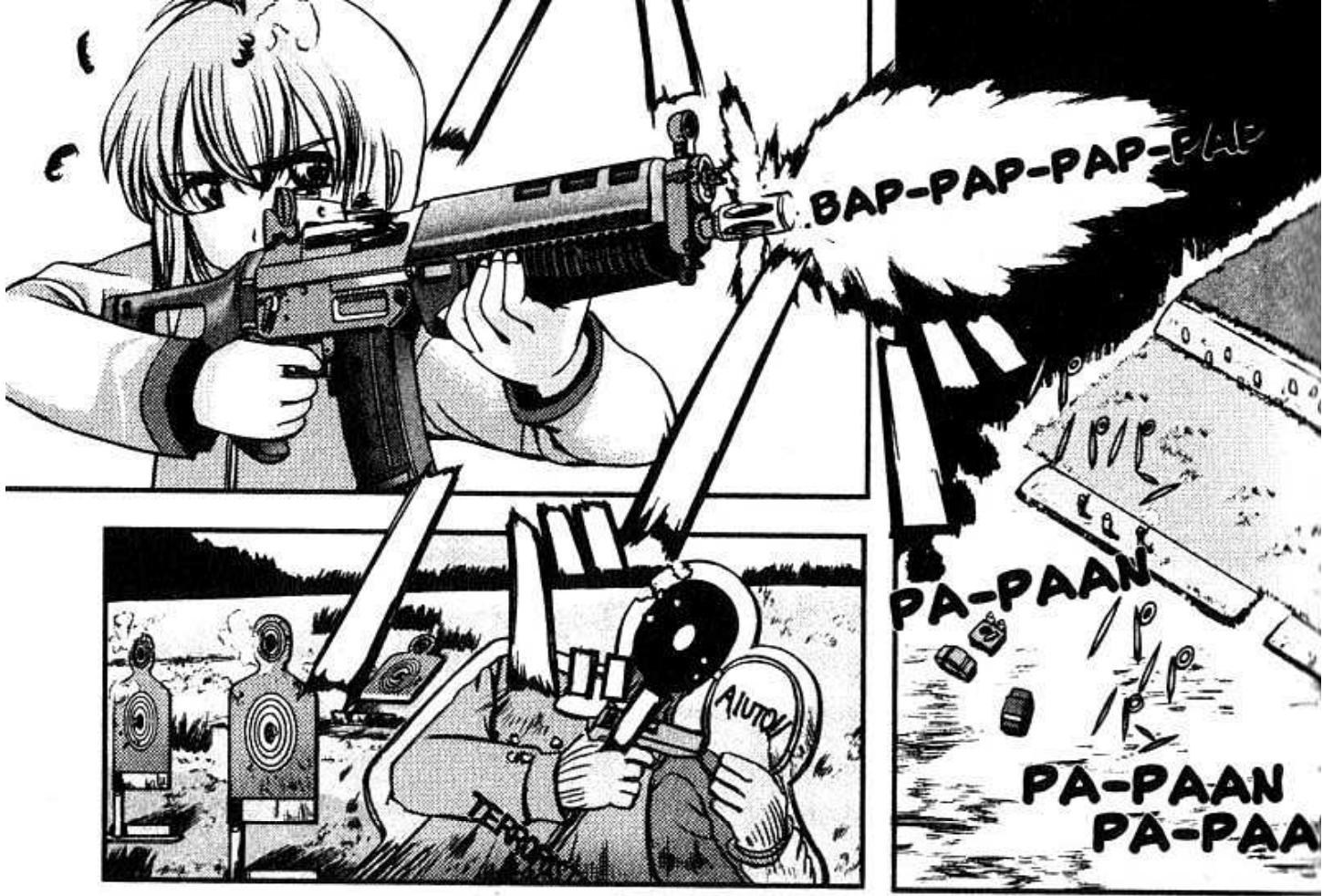
I HAD NONE OF THESE THINGS IN THE HOSPITAL BED.



WHAT'S OUR SCHEDULE TODAY?

HENRIETTA.





EACH OF US HAS OUR OWN HANDLER, A GROWN-UP.





NEXT,
LET'S
DO A
10
SECOND
BURST.

WE ALWAYS
WORK AS
PARTNERS
DURING TRAINING
IN THE FIELD.
THEY CALL US
"FRATELLO."

IT
MEANS
"BROTHER."

PA-PAAN / 1/???



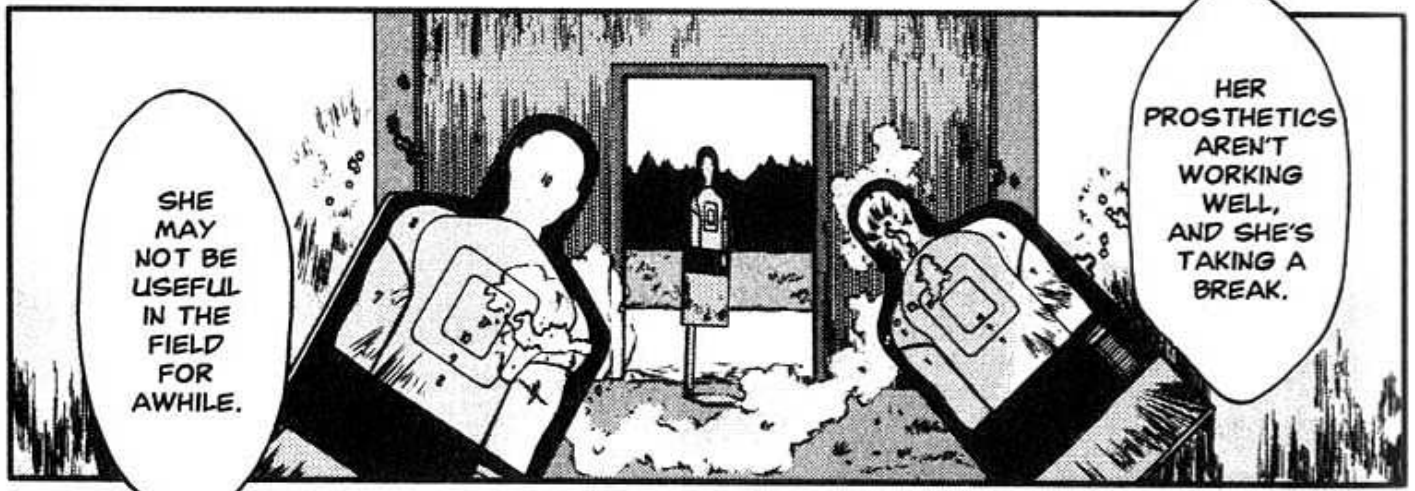
WHAT
ABOUT
YOU
AND
YOUR
LITTLE
SISTER,
HMM?

WHAT
A
TERRIBLE
BROTHER
YOU
ARE.

IT
WORKS
BETTER
IF I
DON'T
STAND
BESIDE
HER.



HILLSHIRE,
AREN'T
YOU
GOING
TO TRAIN
TRIELA
YOUR-
SELF?



SHE MAY NOT BE USEFUL IN THE FIELD FOR AWHILE.

HER PROSTHETICS AREN'T WORKING WELL, AND SHE'S TAKING A BREAK.



IS ASKING FOR "A PERSONAL FAVOR."

AAH, SOME BIG SHOT POLITICIAN



I DON'T WANT TO SEE OUR GIRLS INVOLVED IN ANYTHING WEIRD.

PERSONAL... HMMM...



WHAT IS OUR NEXT ASSIGNMENT?



DON'T YOU THINK SPECIAL OPS SECTION I IS A BETTER FIT FOR THAT KIND OF ASSIGNMENT?

IT'S EASY TO TELL THEM TO GET BAD GUY'S AND AMBUSH THE HIDEOUTS OF THE FIVE REPUBLICS...



"BEWARE OF GREEKS BEARING GIFTS."



THIS BIG SHOT POLITICIAN...

YOU KNOW,



HE'S A SUPPORTER OF SECTION 2, US, THE CYBORG OPERATORS.



OH...



THUD

LIMPH!



OH NO!!

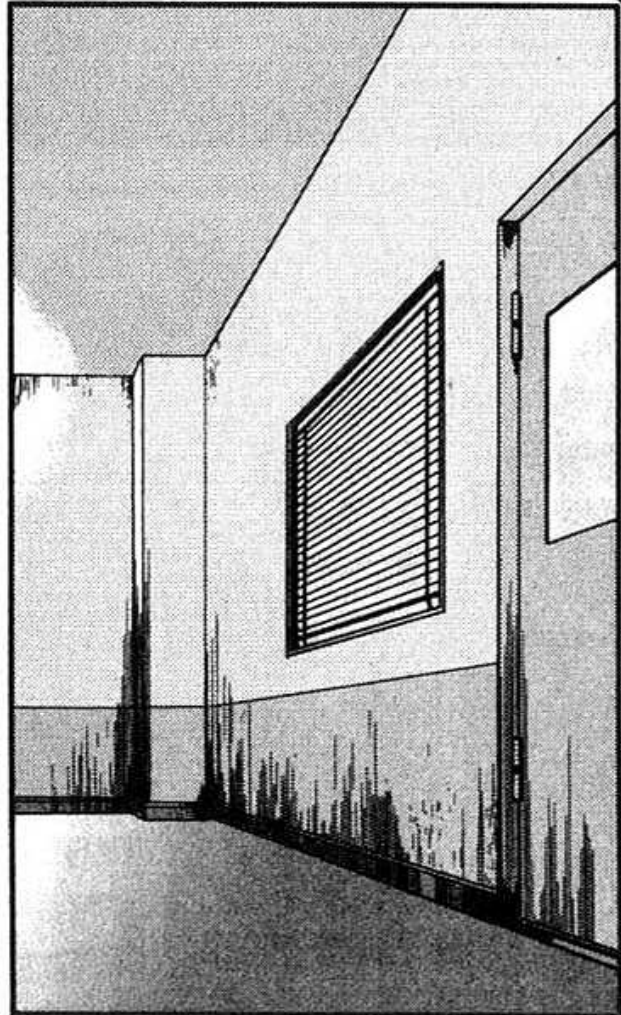


IF YOU FELT LIKE THAT IN BATTLE, YOU'D BE DEAD.

YES, SIR!



HEY, GIUSEPPE,





THE TARGET IS CONGRESSMAN MASCARL OF THE CECARE CATHOLIC RADICAL PARTY.

OUR NEXT MISSION IS TO ASSASSINATE A POLITICIAN.



ANY QUESTIONS?

THE DETAILS ARE IN FRONT OF YOU.

ONE WEEK FROM TODAY, WE WILL EXECUTE OUR MISSION WHILE HE STAYS AT THE VILLA GATTI HOTEL IN ROME.



FORTUNATELY FOR US, HE'S EXTREMELY CRITICAL OF TERRORISM, SO WE'LL MAKE IT LOOK LIKE THE WORK OF TERRORISTS.

I HEARD CONGRESSMAN MASCARL IS OPPOSING THE SENATOR REGARDING THE AMENDMENT OF THE CONRALTO ACT.

YES.

JEAN, DID THE SENATOR REQUEST THIS?





THE TARGET WILL BE STAYING AT THIS HOTEL.

IF WERE SUCCESSFUL,



LISTEN, RICO.



TODAY, YOU'RE GOING TO SURVEY THE SITE.

YES, SIR.



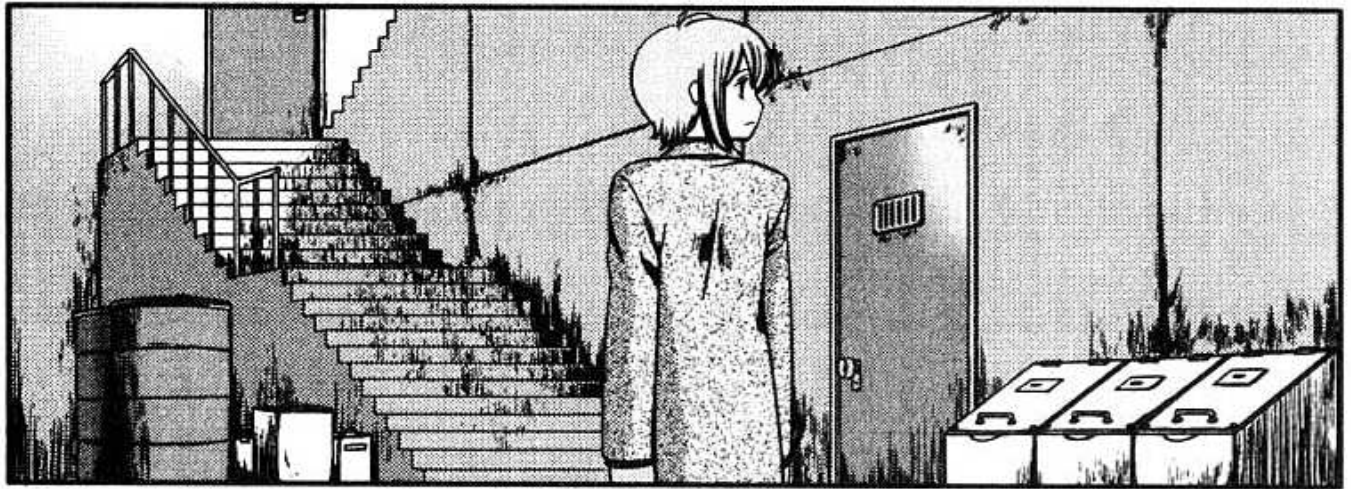
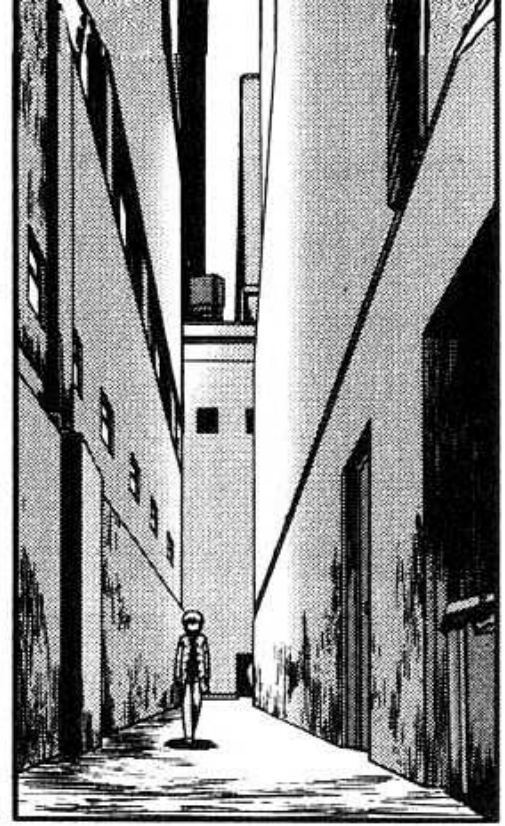
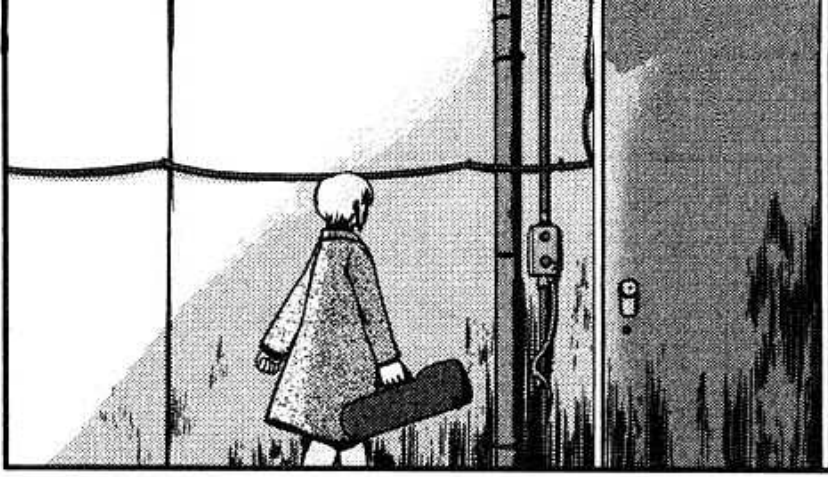
THAT'S THE PLAN.

THEY'LL FIND HAIR AND SHOE PRINTS FROM THE FIVE REPUBLICS AT THE CRIME SCENE.



GO AND TAKE A LOOK AROUND THE REAR ENTRANCE

THEN LATER WE'LL BOTH GO INSIDE.





CAN I HELP YOU?

UM ...



UH, UMM...

h, h ...



THIS AREA IS FOR EMPLOYEES ONLY. YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE.

WELL.....



YOU CAN PLAY HERE IF YOU WANT.

LET ME HEAR YOU PLAY.

YEAH... MMM...



BY ANY CHANCE, ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO PLAY YOUR INSTRUMENT?

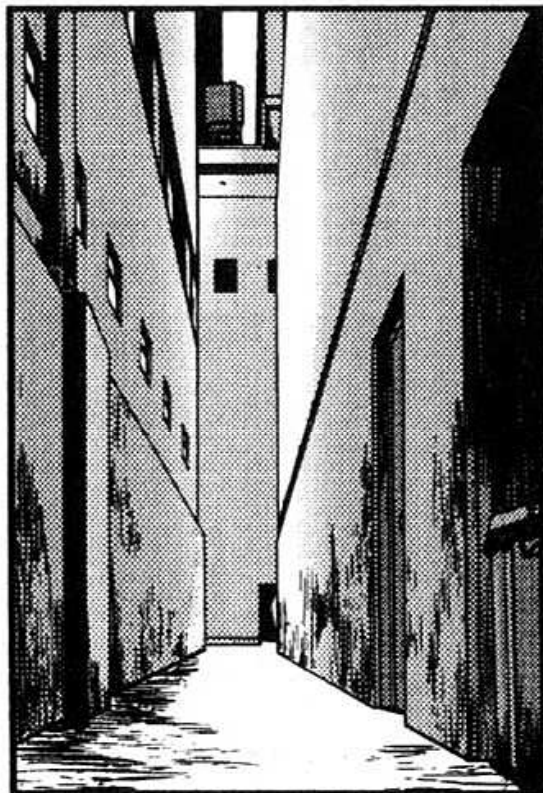
WHAT?

ISN'T THAT AN INSTRUMENT YOU'RE CARRYING?









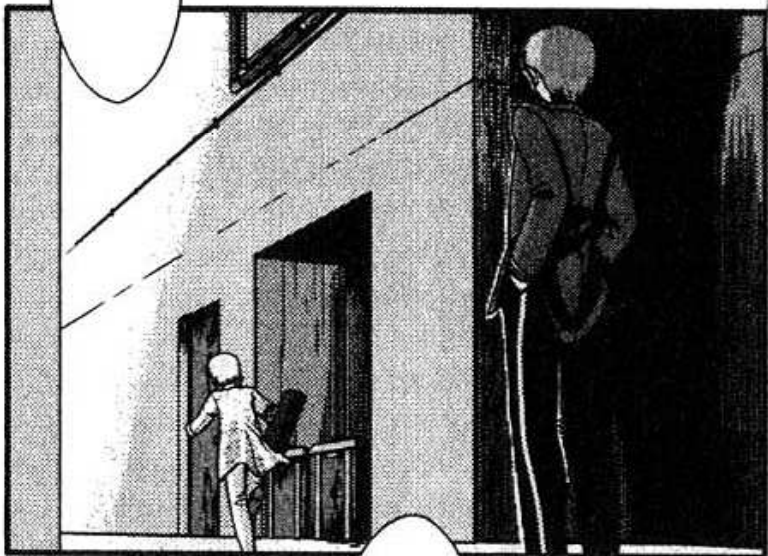




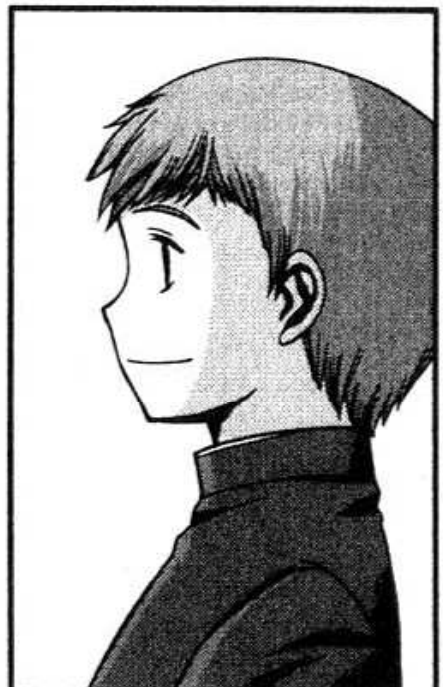
UHM, I GUESS...



I'M GOING.



NEXT TIME, YOU CAN PLAY SOMETHING FOR ME.





YEAH..

SHE IS SO CUTE.



I JUST MET A GIRL HERE.

A GIRL?



LISTEN, SIGNORE DANIELLE.

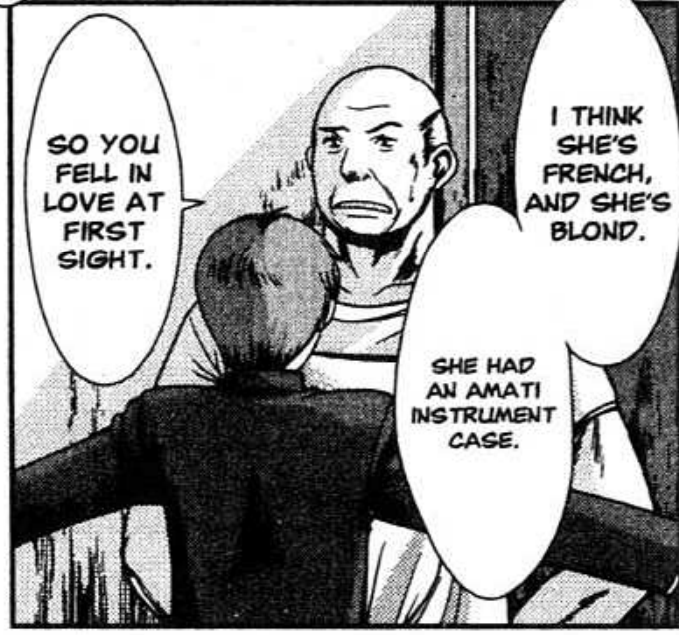
WHAT'S GOING ON?



WHY NOT?

DON'T BOTHER. NOT A GOOD IDEA.

A NICE GIRL, FRENCH, BLOND, WITH AN AMATI, RIGHT?



SO YOU FELL IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.

I THINK SHE'S FRENCH, AND SHE'S BLOND.

SHE HAD AN AMATI INSTRUMENT CASE.



YOU'RE LATE.

I'M SO SORRY.



A NICE GIRL LIKE THAT WOULD NEVER DATE THE SON OF A DRUNK.



IF ANYONE SEES YOU WHILE YOU'RE ON DUTY,

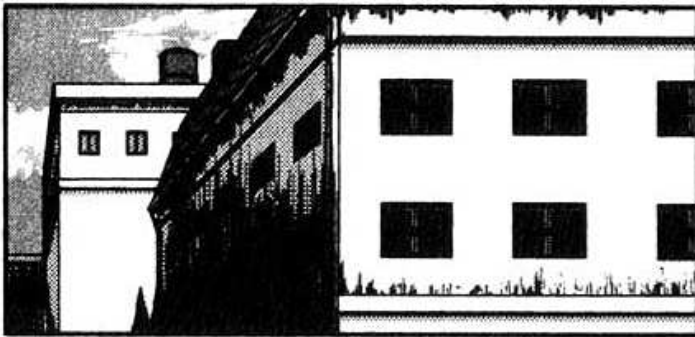


DID YOU RUN INTO SOMEONE THERE?

NO, SIR.



YOU MUST KILL THEM.



YES, SIR.



IS IT DIFFICULT TO LEARN HOW TO PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?



HEY, HENRIETTA.

WHAT?



YEAH?

I MET A GUY. HIS NAME IS EMILIO.



HMMM...

WE WENT TO STUDY THE NEXT JOB SITE TODAY, AND...



WHERE'D THAT COME FROM?



I THINK HE THOUGHT I WAS CARRYING AN INSTRUMENT CASE.

HE ASKED ME TO PLAY FOR HIM SOMETIME...

OH YEAH?

EMILIO IS A PORTER AT THE HOTEL.





THE
CONGRESS
MAN
JUST
CHECKED IN.

THIS IS
THE
LOBBY.



IS THE BUG
WORKING
WELL?



HOW
MANY
BODY-
GUARDS?



HE SAID
HE'S
GETTING
READY TO
TAKE A
SHOWER.

IT'S
WORKING
FINE.



HE'S
ALONE
WITH HIS
SECRETARY
AS
EXPECTED.



HENRIETTA, TRIELA, STAND BY.



ALRIGHT. GOOD TIMING. ARE WE READY?



IF WE MOVE AS A GROUP, WE'LL ATTRACT ATTENTION.

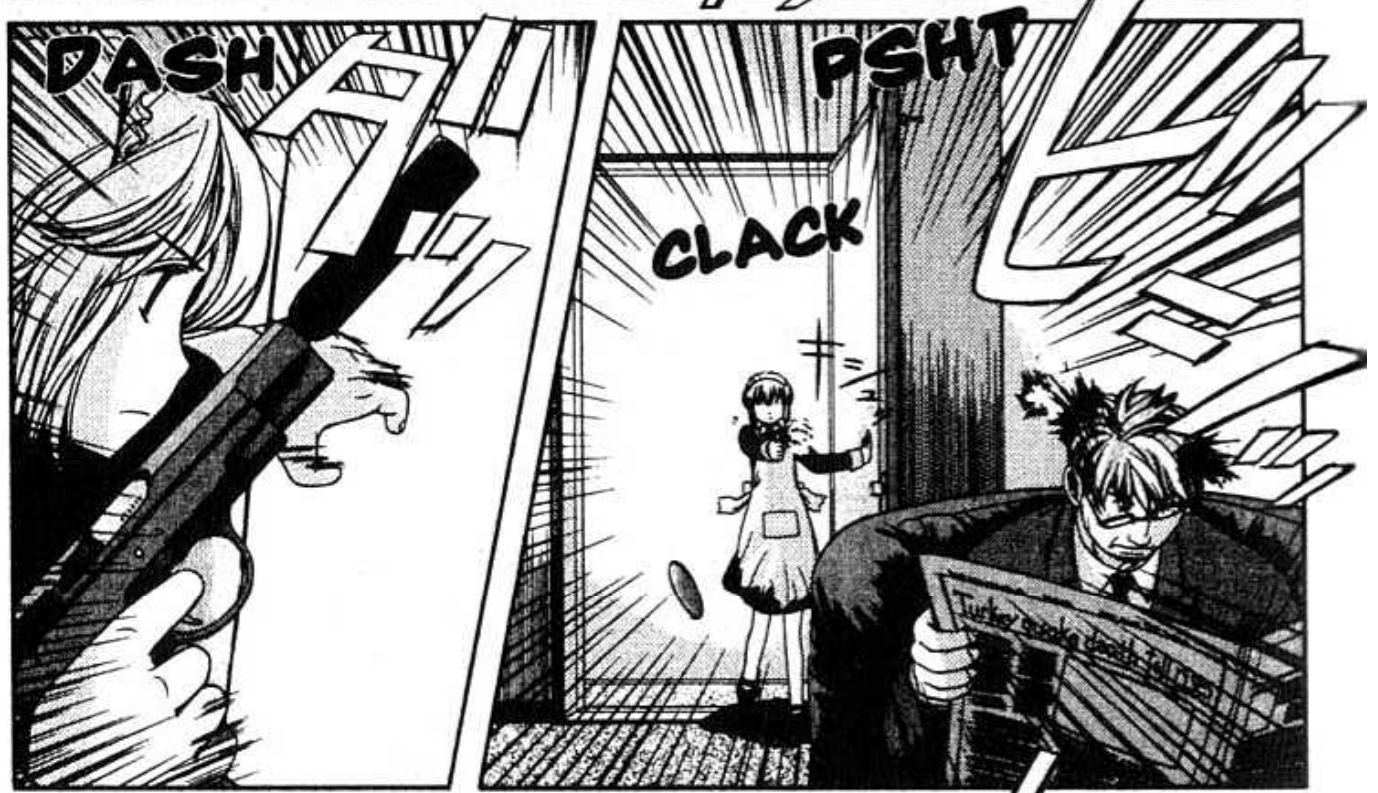


COME IN.

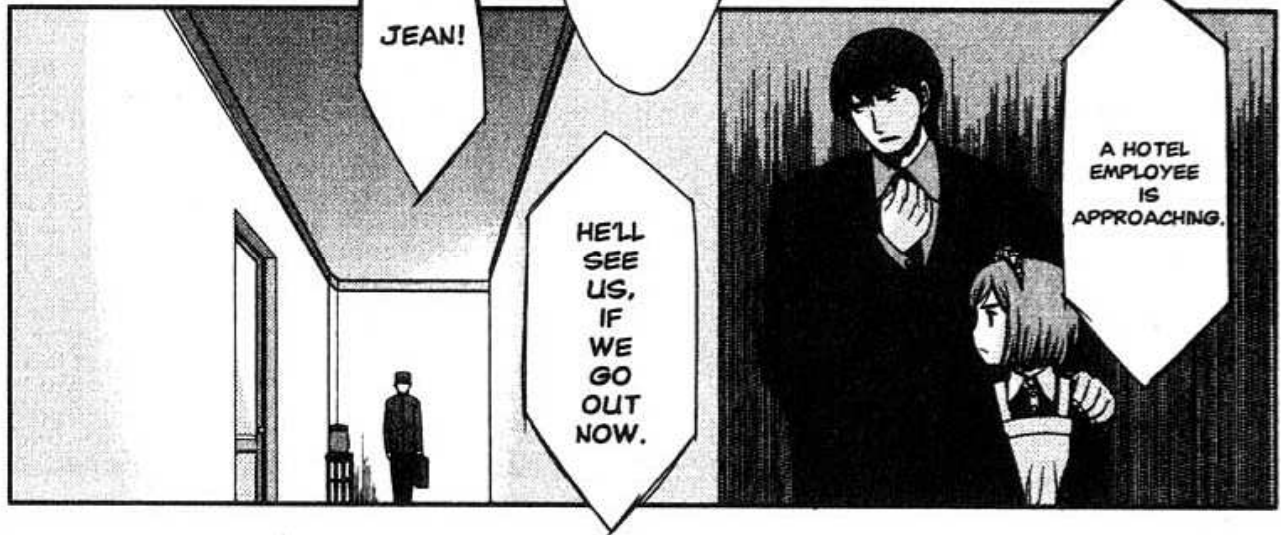


ROOM SERVICE.















EVERY
MORNING,
WHEN I
WAKE UP,
THE FIRST
THOUGHT I
HAVE IS:

"I
WONDER
IF I
STILL
HAVE
MY BODY."



WHAT A RELIEF!
IT STILL WORKS.
I CAN'T
DESCRIBE IN
WORDS HOW
WONDERFUL
IT IS TO
HAVE A
BODY THAT
WORKS.



I LOVE
MY LIFE
AT THE
SOCIAL
WELFARE
AGENCY
VERY MUCH.

GUNSLINGERGIRL



第3話 THE SNOW WHITE









第3話 THE SNOW WHITE



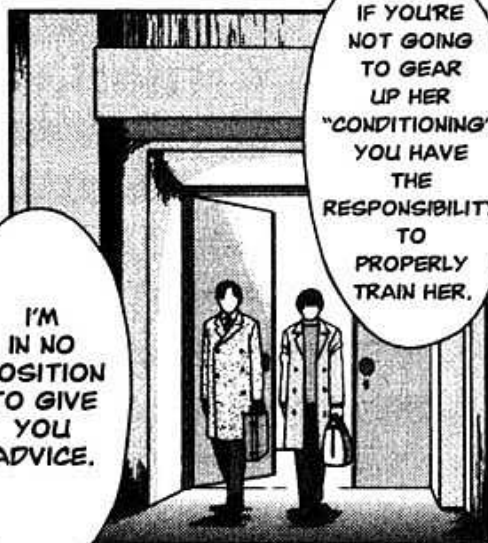


AND THAT'S THE PROBLEM.

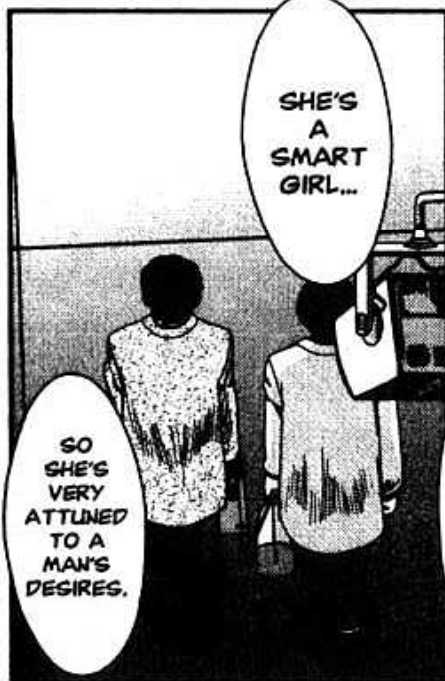
I'M NOT GOING TO DRUG HER ANY MORE THAN I HAVE TO.



I'M IN NO POSITION TO GIVE YOU ADVICE.



IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GEAR UP HER "CONDITIONING", YOU HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROPERLY TRAIN HER.



SHE'S A SMART GIRL...

SO SHE'S VERY ATTUNED TO A MAN'S DESIRES.



THERE'S NO WAY A SQUARE LIKE YOU...

COULD GET ALONG WITH SOMEONE LIKE TRIELA.



IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT OURSELVES A TOUGH JOB.



THERE ARE THAT MANY ALREADY...



ALL SEVEN OF YOU WILL BE TOGETHER SOON...

HAPPY, BASHFUL...



...DOPEY, GRUMPY...

SNEEZY, SLEEPY...





IT'S TOTALLY IRREGULAR. MY TUMMY HURTS...

I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T HAVING YOUR PERIOD.

ACTUALLY, I'VE BEEN HAVING CRAMPS SINCE YESTERDAY ...AND ...I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE.



THAT'S MY GIRL.

NOW THAT I TOLD YOU THE TRUTH, THE PAIN IS GETTING WORSE....



WE AREN'T SUPPOSED TO HAVE ANY OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS, RIGHT?



HEH HEH HEH...

THIS PROVES I'M ALIVE. SO I'LL PUT UP WITH IT.



SORRY.

I FORGOT ABOUT THAT....



SO I WISH I COULD SWITCH WITH YOU, TRIELA.

LIGH...

THEY TOOK OUT MY UTERUS...



RICO,
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOU?!

HUH?

JEAN
GOT
MAD
AT ME.
THAT'S
ALL



I
FOUND
YOU.



TRIELA,
HILLSHIRE
IS
CALLING
FOR
YOU.



HENRIETTA
IS JUST
LIKE
GIUSEPPE'S
LITTLE
SISTER.

AND RICO
IS JUST
JEAN'S
TOOL.



YOU
NEED
TO
WIPE
THE
BLOOD
OFF.

HE SAID
TO WAIT
FOR HIM
IN THE
OFFICE
DOWN-
STAIRS.



IT'D BE SO EASY IF THE CONDITIONING DECIDED EVERYTHING FOR US.

LOOK AT HER.

THEN, WHAT DO THEY EXPECT ME TO DO?

HEY!



I DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD A PRINCESS HERE...

UGH..

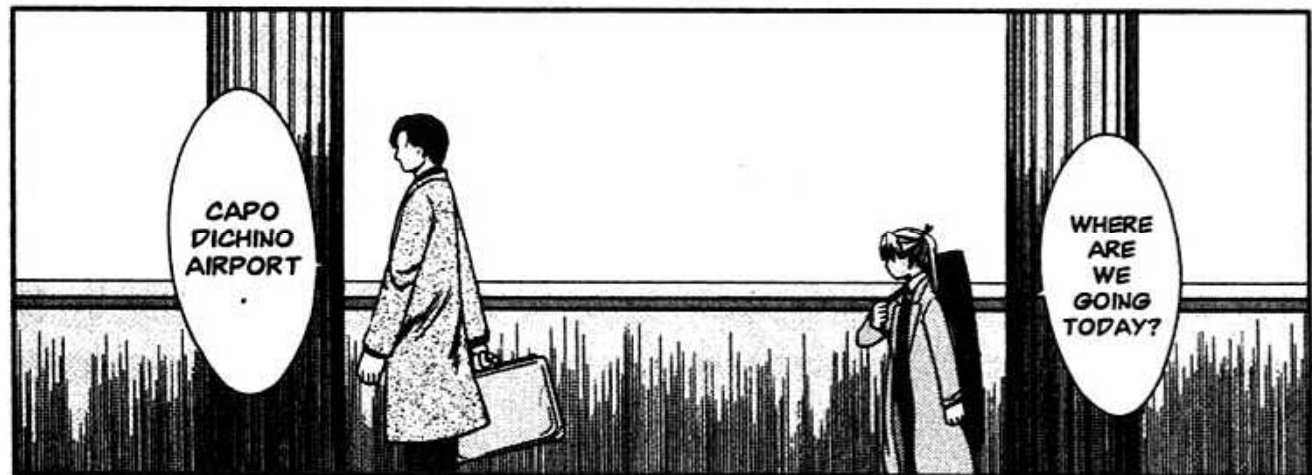


THERE'S THE PRINCESS.



MY TUMMY HURTS...

WHERE'S THE PRINCE?



CAPO DICHINO AIRPORT

WHERE ARE WE GOING TODAY?



HE
MOVED
RECENTLY

WE'RE
GOING TO
LOOK FOR
A FORMER
LEADER
OF THE
CAMORRA,
NAPOLI
MAFIA.



HE GOT
OUT OF
THE MAFIA
SEVERAL
YEARS AGO
AND MOVED
AROUND
EUROPE, BUT I
HEARD HE
CAME BACK
TO NAPOLI
RECENTLY.

THE
GUY'S
NAME
IS
MARIO
POSSI.



PROTEC-
TION
?



NO.
WE'RE
GOING TO
TAKE HIM
BACK TO
THE AGENCY
FOR
PROTECTION.

SO
ARE WE
GOING
TO KILL
MARIO
WHEN
WE FIND
HIM?



MARIO WILL GET KILLED IF WE DON'T DO ANYTHING, RIGHT?

THE MAFIA WILL TRY TO STOP HIM, OF COURSE.

THAT MEANS...

WE'LL OFFER MARIO IMMUNITY IN EXCHANGE FOR HIS TESTIMONY.

WHEN THE CAMORRA'S BOSS GOES TO COURT, WE'LL NEED A WITNESS WHO KNOWS HIS BUSINESS.



THEN...



WE'LL FIND HIM AND KEEP HIM UNDER PROTECTIVE CUSTODY UNTIL THE COURT DATE.

EXACTLY.

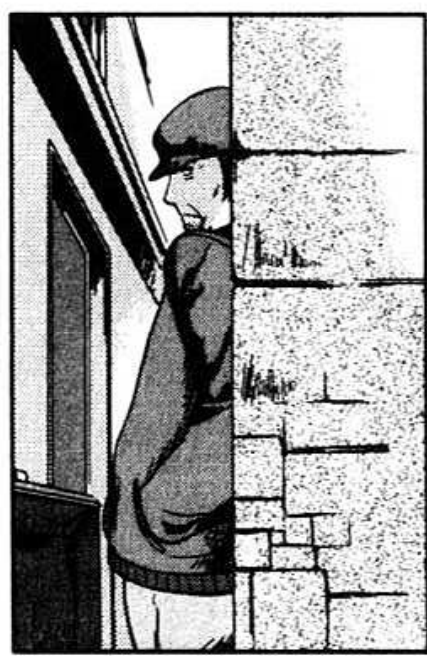


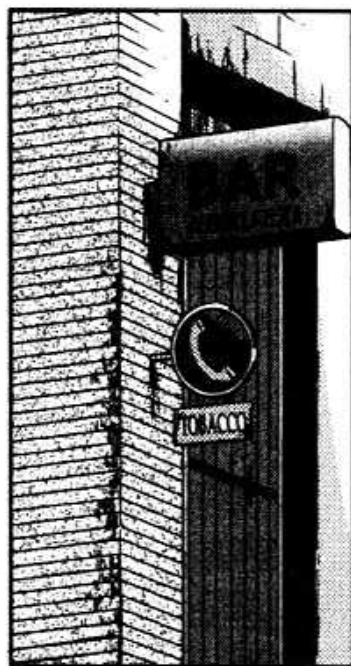
I KNOW A LOT OF PLACES HE MIGHT DROP BY IN THIS TOWN.

MARIO AND I GO BACK A LONG WAY.



WHY ARE WE TAKING THIS ASSIGNMENT, AND NOT SECTION 1?









WHAT IF I HAVE TO PISS?

WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T EVEN THINK OF TRYING TO ESCAPE.

REMEMBER I TOLD YOU ABOUT OUR CYBORG PROJECT?

WHY THE HELL DO I HAVE TO BE CLIPPED TO THIS KID?

YO, HILLSHIRE.



WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO, GO RIGHT HERE?

DON'T WORRY, NO ONE'S GONNA COME IN.

WHY DO I HAVE TO GO IN WITH HIM?



WH..



STAY ALERT!

COME, QUICK!



DON'T RUSH ME.

.....
HURRY UP!



HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE KIND OF GUY WHO'D HAVE A FRIEND IN THE MAFIA.

A LONG TIME AGO, A ROOKIE EUROPOL DETECTIVE CAUGHT A BIG SHOT FROM CAMORRA IN AMSTERDAM.



WHY ARE ALL YOU AGENCY GUYS SO IMPATIENT?



SORT OF...

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE AGENCY FROM HILLSHIRE?

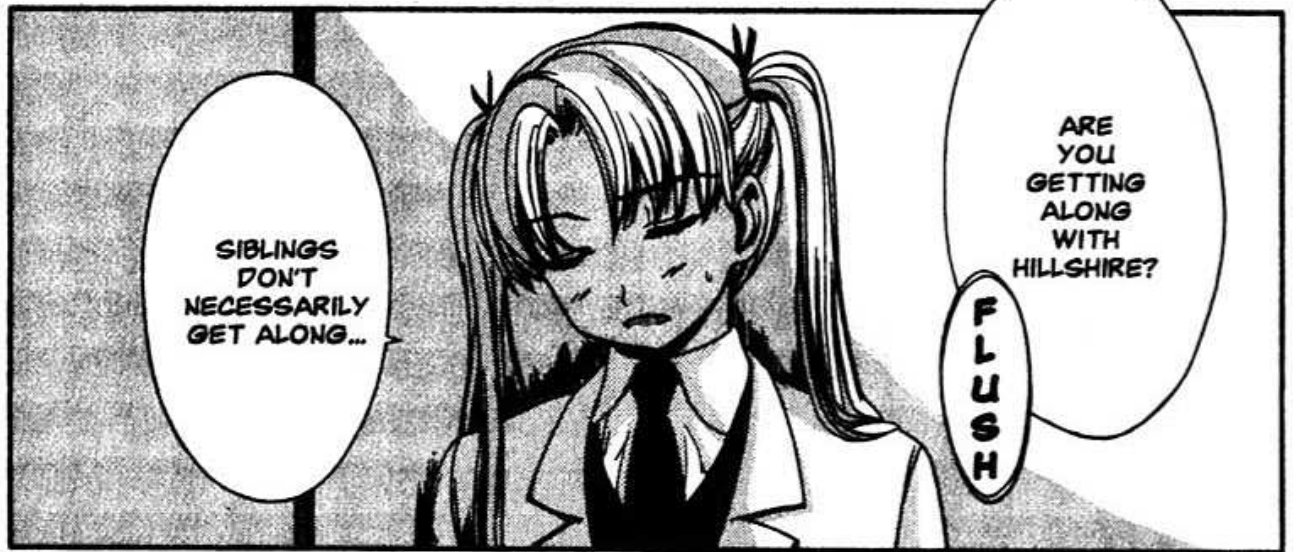


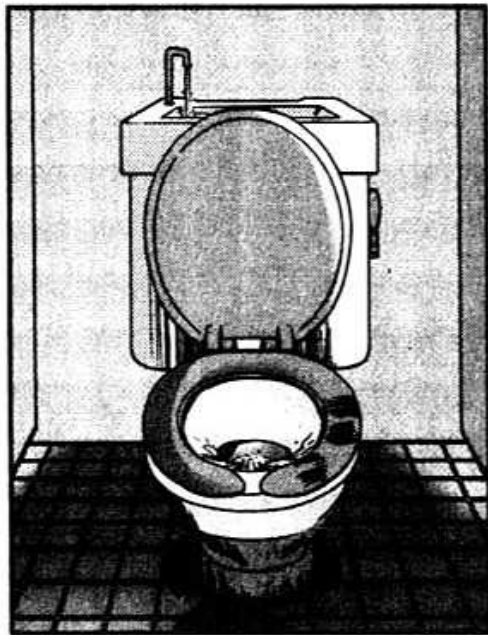
THAT ROOKIE DETECTIVE WAS HILLSHIRE, AND THE BIG SHOT HE LET GO WAS ME.

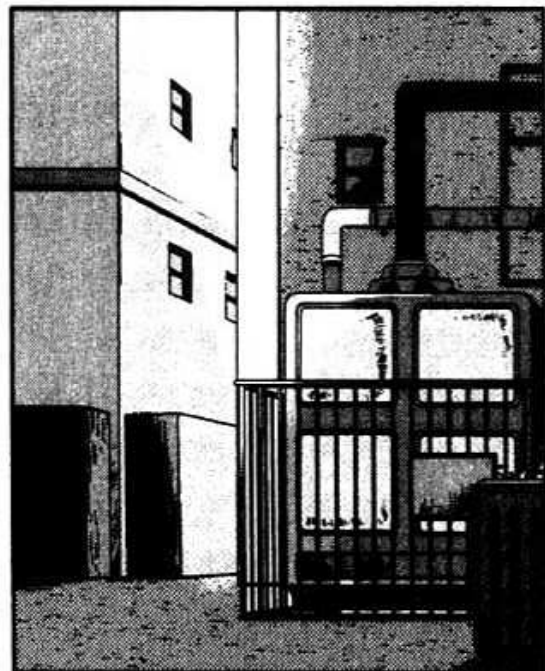
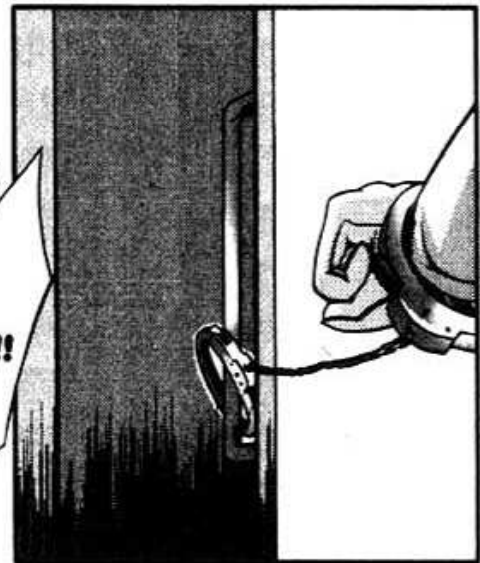
AND THEY WERE "EXPORTING" BABIES BY WAY OF AMSTERDAM.

CAMORRA'S BLACK MARKET TOBACCO BUSINESS WASN'T PAYING,

EUROPOL?









I GOT TIRED OF PLAYING GAMES WITH YOU.



I'M GLAD YOU CAME BACK TO NAPOLI ON YOUR OWN.



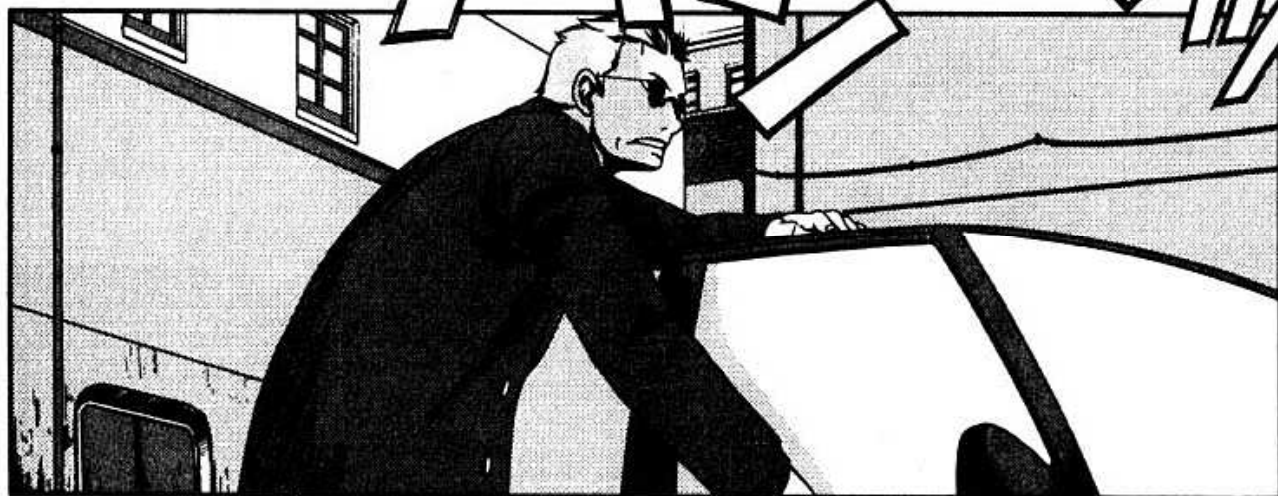
NOBODY'S AROUND. IT DOESN'T LOOK SECURE HERE.



PRETTY SOON...

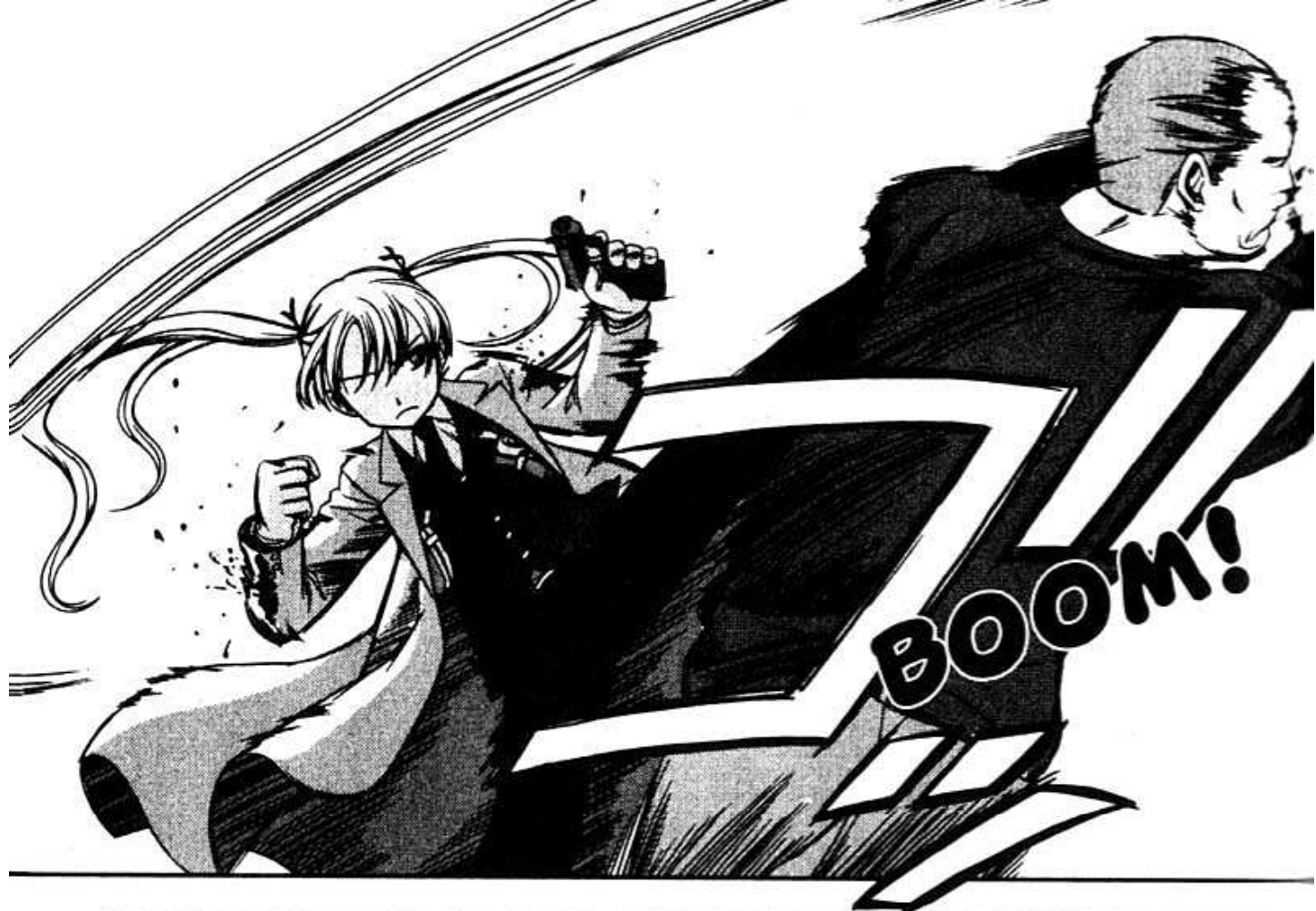
IF YOU'RE GONNA TAKE ME, YOU'D BETTER HURRY UP.

YOU CAN TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT LATER.













DON'T WORRY.

LOOK, MY BLOOD'S AS RED AS YOURS.



I MEAN YEAH, I'M IN PAIN.



NO...



YOUR DAUGHTER?

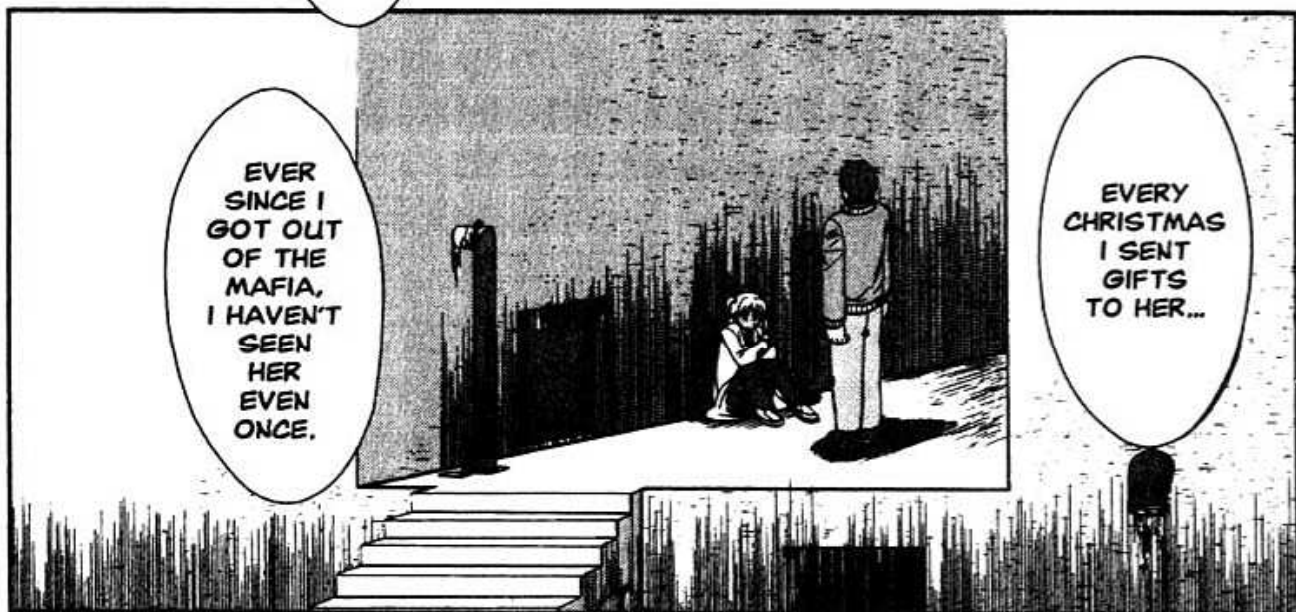


I'M HERE TO SEE MY DAUGHTER.



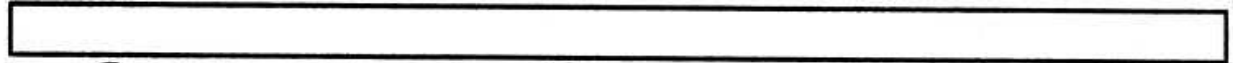
HEY MARIO,

WHAT'S SO IMPORTANT IN NAPOLI? YOU'RE GOING THROUGH SO MUCH TROUBLE.



EVER SINCE I GOT OUT OF THE MAFIA, I HAVEN'T SEEN HER EVEN ONCE.

EVERY CHRISTMAS I SENT GIFTS TO HER...





BE NICE TO YOUR DAUGHTER, OK?

IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.



SORRY ABOUT THIS...

I CAN'T REALLY ASK YOU TO FORGIVE ME, BUT...



BE NICE TO HILLSHIRE.

YOU, TOO.



OH YEAH?

LET ME TELL YOU...

I DON'T DISLIKE HILLSHIRE.



ALL THE SELFISH GROWN-UPS LIKE YOU.

WHAT I DO DISLIKE IS...



AS HE LISTENED TO MY WORDS, HE GAVE A SLIGHTLY SAD SMILE.

I SEE.

I HAVE A TOUGH TIME FIGURING OUT WHAT TO BUY FOR YOU.

FOR SOME REASON, THAT DAY, HIS FLATTERING DIDN'T GET ON MY NERVES.

WELL, I THINK IT'S GOOD TO HAVE A DAY LIKE THAT ONCE A YEAR.

FOR CHRISTMAS, CAN I HAVE A TEDDY BEAR, AS USUAL?

ACTUALLY, I'VE BEEN NAMING THE TEDDY BEARS AFTER THE SEVEN DWARFS.

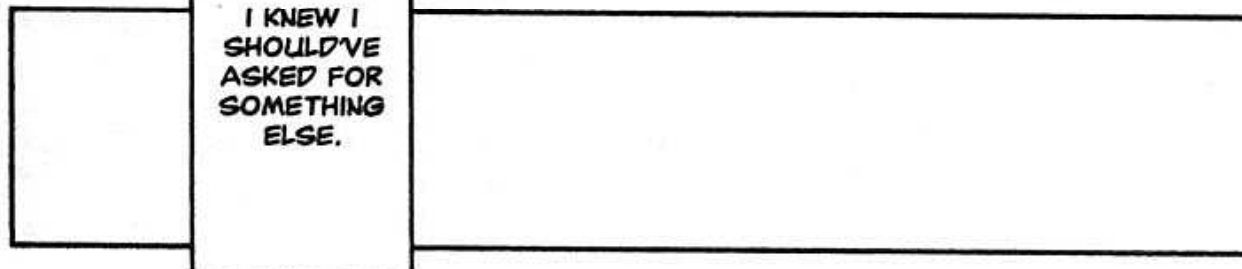
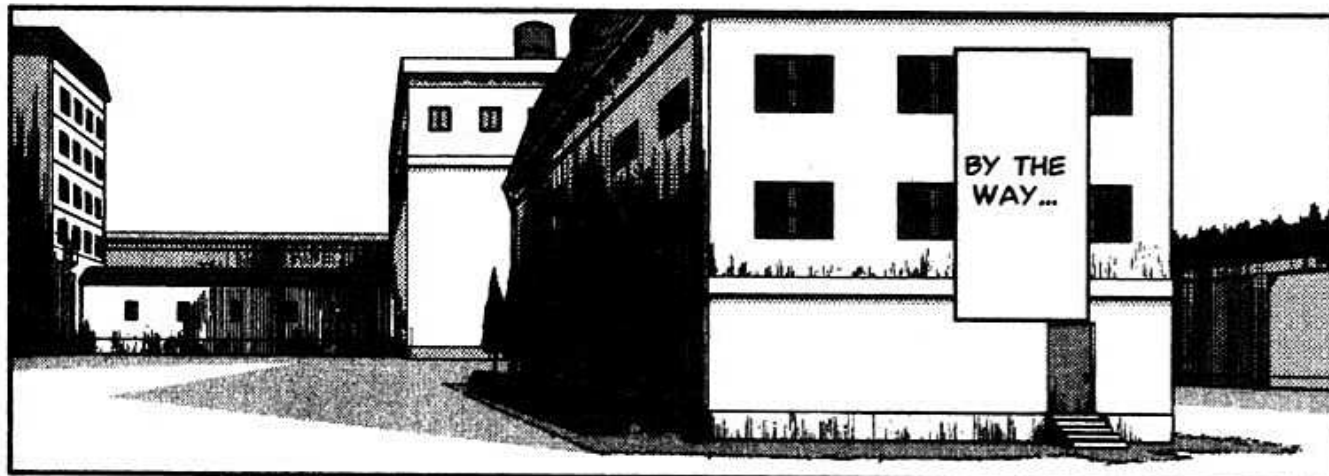
ON THE SPOT, I RESPONDED AS FOLLOWS.

I LIKE THE FEELING I GET WHEN I TIE MY NECKTIE...

AND THE CLACK CLACK NOISE MY LEATHER SHOES MAKE.

LET'S GO LOOK FOR SOME CUTE DRESSES AND SHOES.

COME TO THINK OF IT, ALL I'VE GIVEN YOU ARE STUFFY LOOKING CLOTHES.



GUNSLINGERGIRL



IS THE MOTIVE ROBBERY?

THEY WERE PROBABLY MURDERED AT MIDNIGHT.

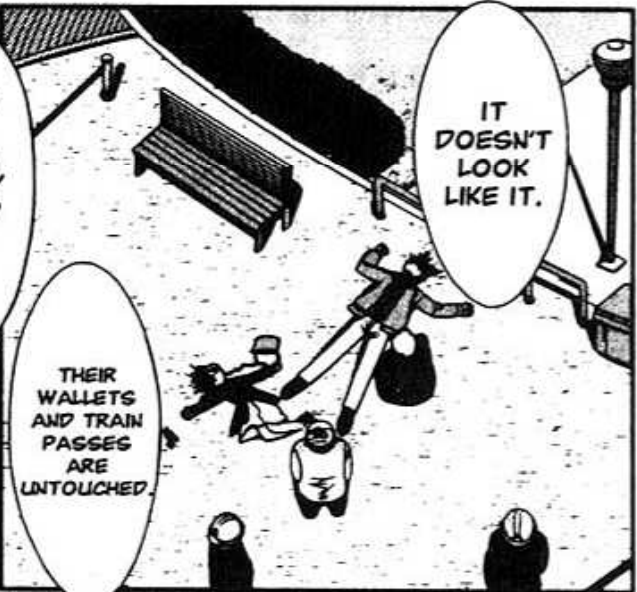
THIS IS A TERRIBLE SCENE, ISN'T IT, INSPECTOR.



DO YOU THINK THE PERP LEFT THIS GUN?



THE VICTIMS ARE A TRADING COMPANY MAN AND HIS KID FROM ROME.



IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT.

THEIR WALLETS AND TRAIN PASSES ARE UNTOUCHED.



DEPUTY INSPECTOR VALACHI...



GERMAN-MADE AUTOMATIC HAND GUNS ARE RATHER RARE.

The Death of Elsa de Sica (Part 1)

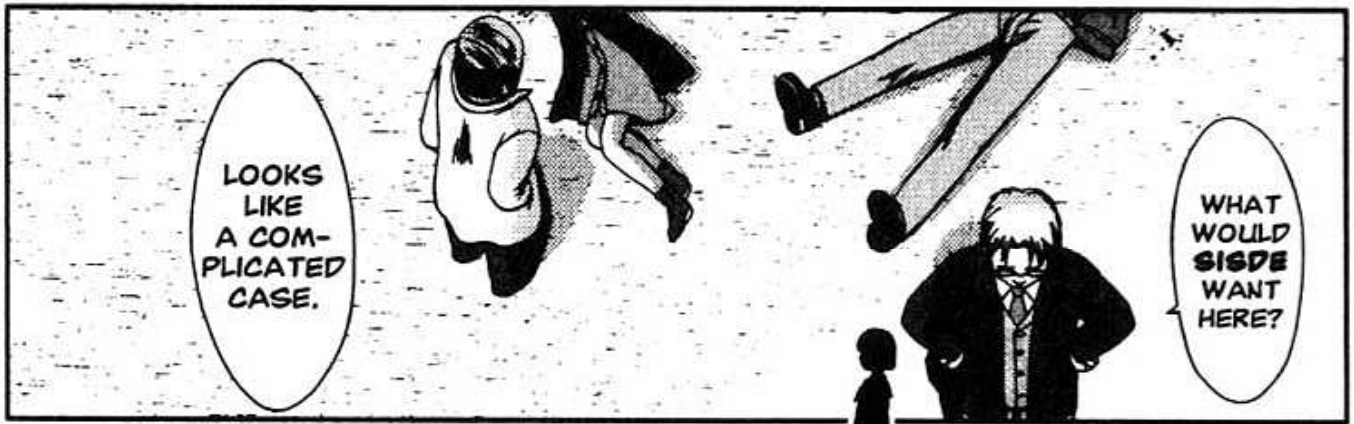


BRING HIM HERE.



A MAN FROM **SIGDE** (ITALIAN INTELLIGENCE) IS HERE FOR YOU.

WHAT?



LOOKS LIKE A COMPLICATED CASE.

WHAT WOULD **SIGDE** WANT HERE?

The girl has a mechanical body. However, she is still an adolescent child.

GUNSLINGER GIRL.

ガンズリンガー・ガール



VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.

The Death of Elsa de Sica (Part 1)



THE
MINISTRY
IS INVOLVED
HERE.
WONDER
WHAT'S
GOING ON.

ARE YOU
THE PERSON
IN CHARGE
HERE?

YES.
I'M VALACHI,
CITY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT.



WE'LL
TAKE
OVER
NOW.

WE
ASSUME
THIS IS
RELATED
TO SOME
MAJOR
CASE.



WE CAN
GO BACK
TO OUR
CHRISTMAS
VACATION.

ALL THE
NECESSARY
DOCUMENTS
ARE HERE.

IF
THAT'S
THE CASE,
PLEASE
GO
AHEAD.

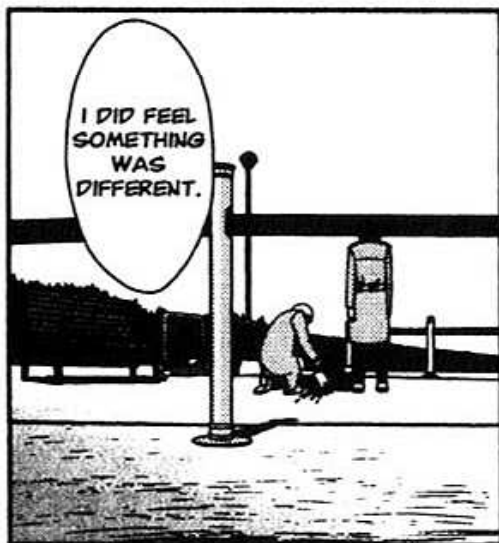


DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

DON'T YOU THINK SOMETHING'S STRANGE HERE? THE ~~SIDE~~ APPEARED SO QUICKLY.



INSPECTOR!



I DID FEEL SOMETHING WAS DIFFERENT.



BUT THAT BEING SAID...



IF THEY WANT TO TAKE THIS CRAP ON THEMSELVES, LET THEM.



AND TOO EAGER TO WORK...

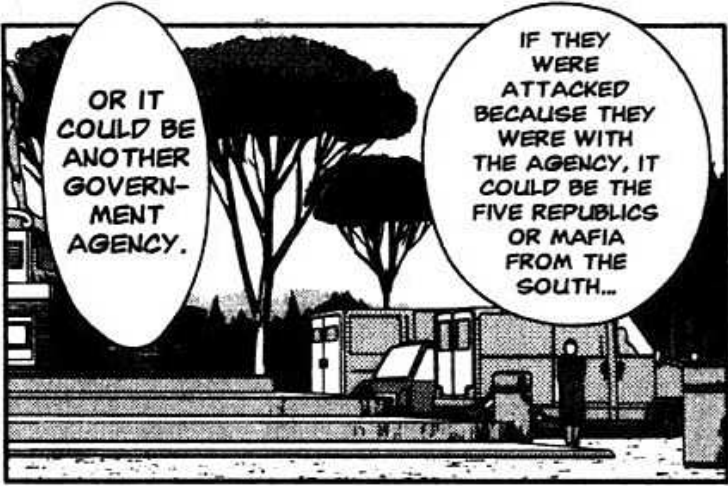
FOR PEOPLE FROM INTELLIGENCE, THEY WERE TOO ORGANIZED.





IT'S A GOOD REASON TO ATTACK SECTION 2.

SINCE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE LOST A CYBORG IN ACTION



OR IT COULD BE ANOTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY.

IF THEY WERE ATTACKED BECAUSE THEY WERE WITH THE AGENCY, IT COULD BE THE FIVE REPUBLICS OR MAFIA FROM THE SOUTH...



AT ANY RATE, DRAGI FROM SECTION 1 WILL APPROACH US...



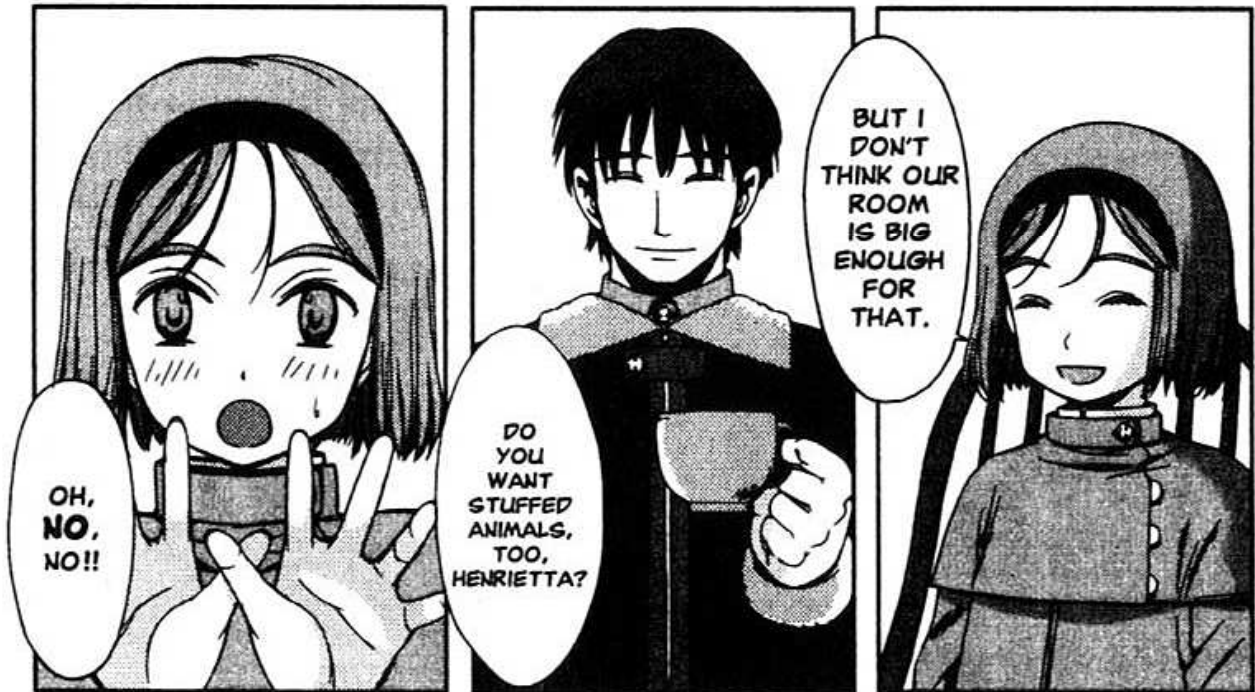
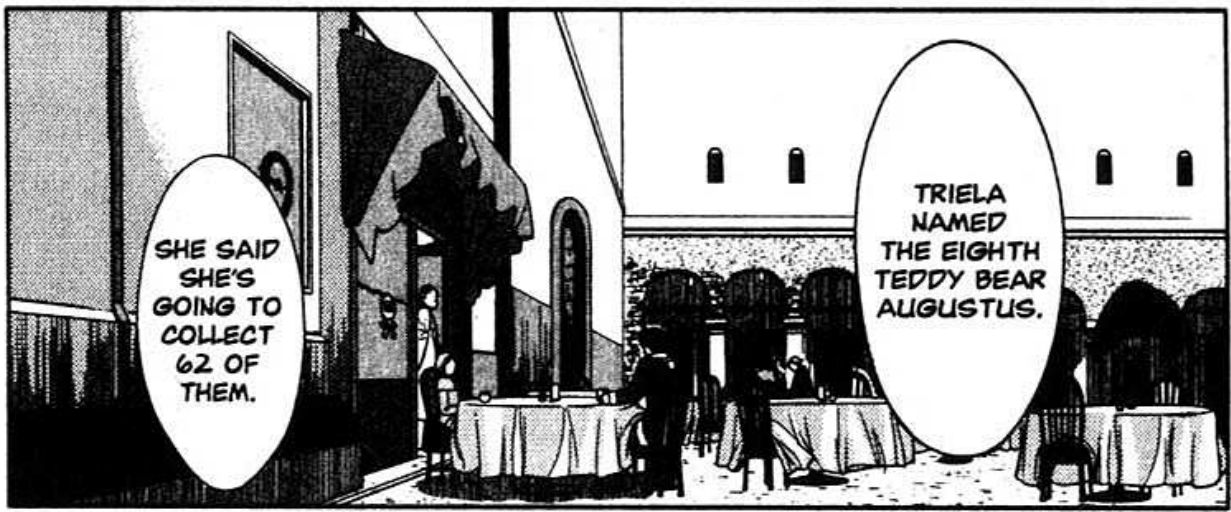
IT COULD BE SECTION 1.

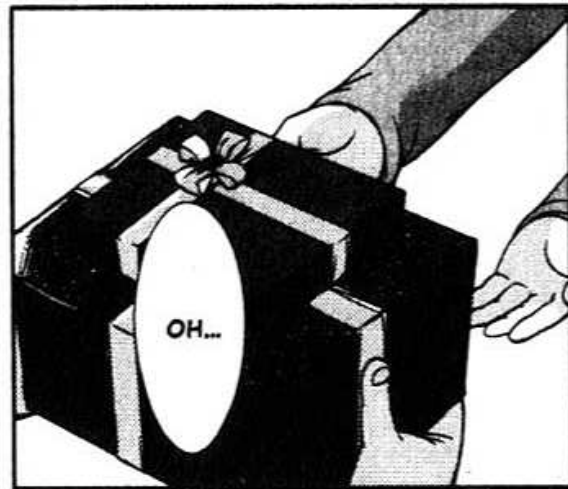
OR...



I'M GOING BACK AND WILL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT MANAGER.

ONCE FINISHED WITH THE REPORT, REMOVE THE BODIES.







BUT...

DO YOU THINK IT'S A STRANGE COMBINATION?

A CAMERA AND...



I THINK YOU'VE BEEN GETTING A LITTLE FORGETFUL LATELY, HENRIETTA.

NOW YOU CAN KEEP A DAILY RECORD.



A DIARY.



YES, SIR!

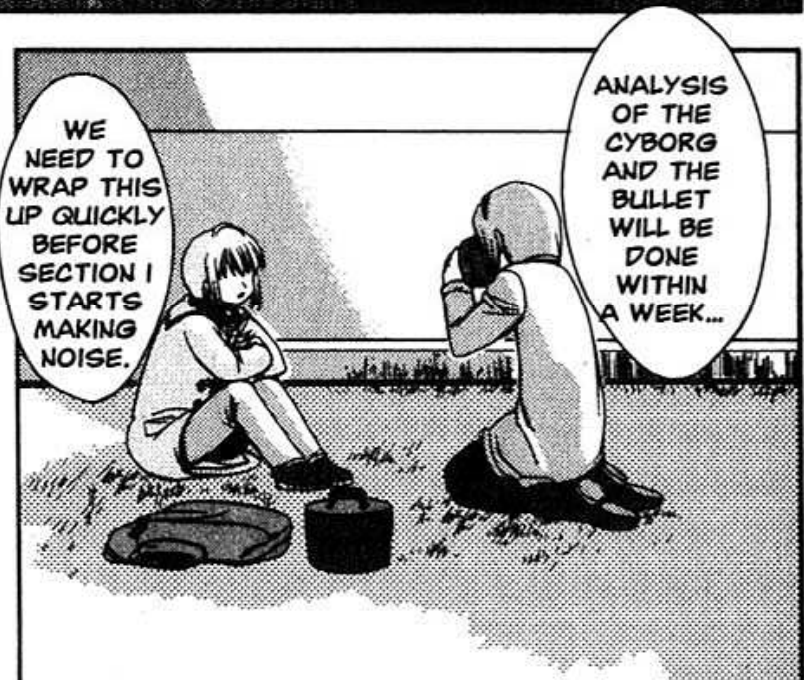
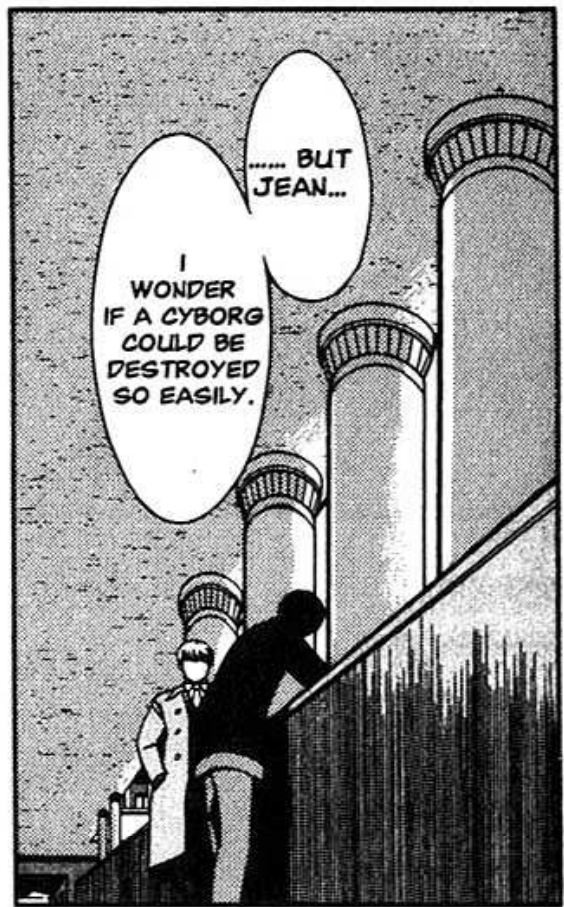
I'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF THEM. THANK YOU!



YOU CAN ASK SOMEONE AT THE AGENCY TO DEVELOP THE FILM.

BEEP BEEP



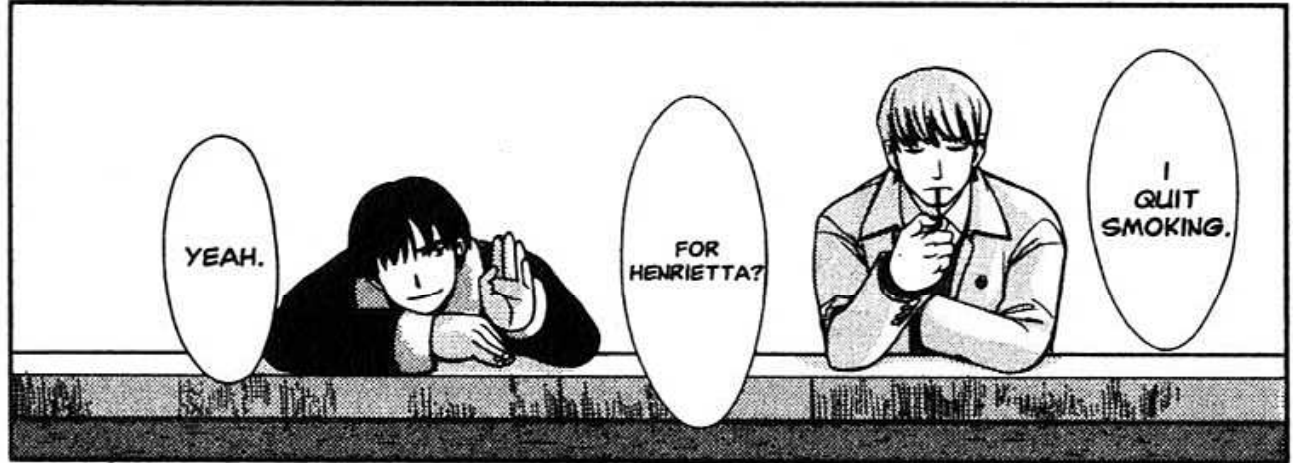




NO, THANKS.

THIS MIGHT BECOME AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THEM TO EXAMINE THE USE OF CYBORGS.

HE HASN'T BEEN TOO COOPERATIVE, BUT AT LEAST HE LEFT US ALONE...



YEAH.

FOR HENRIETTA?

I QUIT SMOKING.



IN THAT ASPECT, LAURO MANAGED QUITE WELL.



YOU'RE UNBELIEVABLE.

YOU'RE INVESTING A LOT IN HER....

THAT'S RIGHT.

YEAH...



SO YOU
HAD A NICE
VACATION,
THEN.

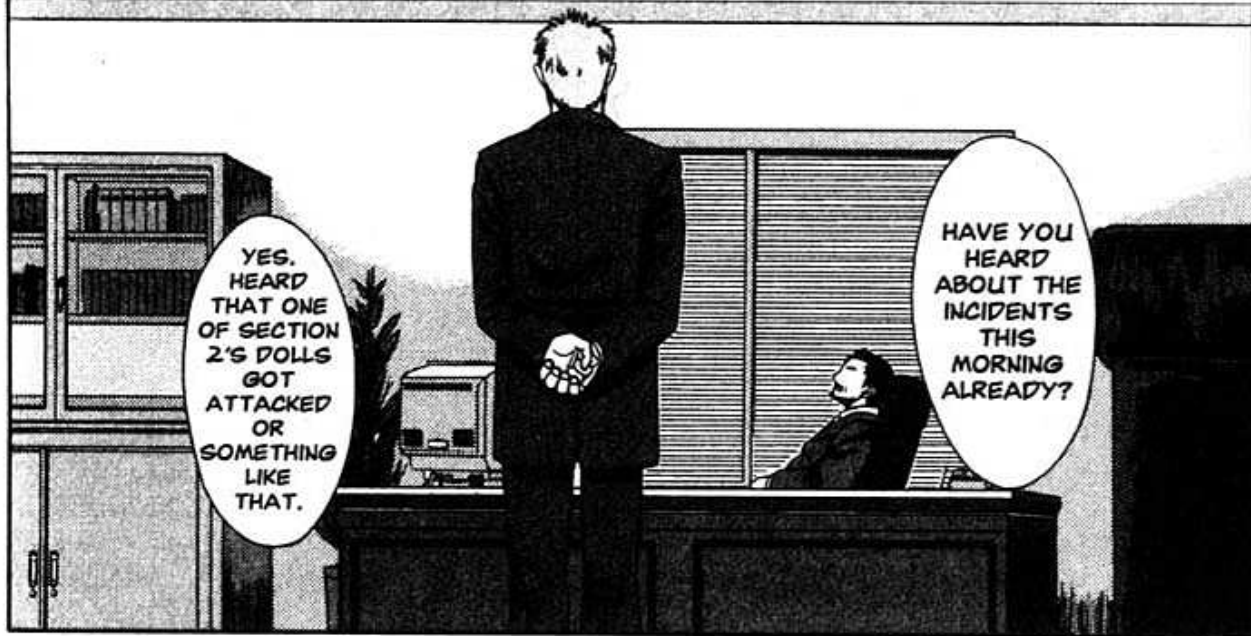


I THOR-
OUGHLY
ENJOYED
THE
SWORDFISH
STEAK AND
GRECO DE
GELACE.



YES,
CHIEF.

PIETRO,
DID YOU
ENJOY
YOUR
STAY AT
CATANZARO?



YES. HEARD THAT ONE OF SECTION 2'S DOLLS GOT ATTACKED OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE INCIDENTS THIS MORNING ALREADY?



I'M ASSIGNING YOU TO INVESTIGATE THIS CASE.



SERVES THEM RIGHT FOR PLAYING HOUSE.



THEY HAVEN'T IDENTIFIED THE PERP YET.

ALSO A MEMBER OF SECTION 2.



WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO DO, EXACTLY?

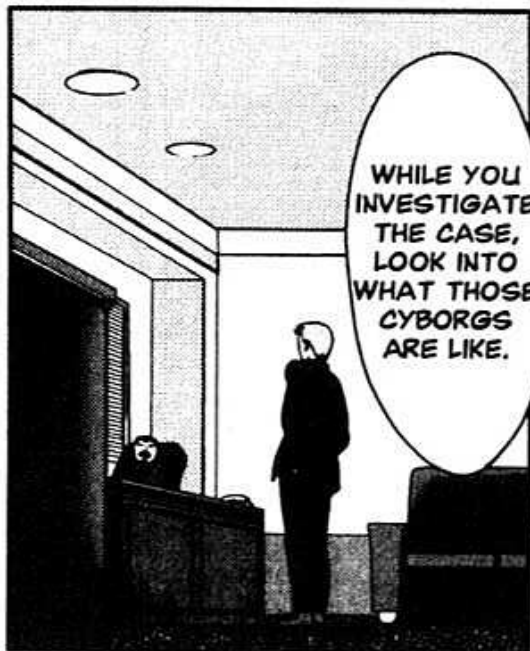
BUT...



WE'RE GOING TO HAVE OUR OWN INVESTIGATION.

IT'S A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO PUT SECTION 2 UNDER PRESSURE.

SIR?



WHILE YOU INVESTIGATE THE CASE, LOOK INTO WHAT THOSE CYBORGS ARE LIKE.



THE KEY IS TO SEE IF THE CYBORG HAS ANY PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS IN THE FUTURE OR NOT.

IF WE FIND OUT IT DOESN'T, WE CAN APPROACH THE DIRECTOR.



WE'RE GOING TO PUT THE REPORT FOR YESTERDAY'S CASE ON HOLD.

HUH?



ELENORA!



ROGER.



YES, SIR!

WE'VE GOT AN URGENT ASSIGNMENT.

COME WITH ME.



WE'VE BEEN TOLD BY OUR CHIEF TO GIVE YOU OUR FULL COOPERATION.

MY NAME IS FERMI AND THIS IS GABRIELLI FROM SECTION I.

IT'S AS BAD A COMBINATION AS A PRIEST SMELLING OF PERFUME.



I CAN SMELL GUN POWDER ON THAT GIRL.



I DON'T HAVE A FAMILY NAME.

WHAT'S YOUR FAMILY NAME, RICO?



HE CAN CHOOSE A BOY'S NAME, IF HE WANTS TO.

EACH CYBORG IS NAMED BY HER HANDLER.



YOU'RE NAME'S "RICO," HUH? BUT YOU'RE A GIRL, RIGHT?



THE GIRL SEEMED LIKE A JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ON A FIELD TRIP.

ASIDE FROM THE SMELL...

TO START OFF, LET'S GO TO THE CRIME SCENE AND TALK THERE.



THEY'RE STILL INVESTIGATING...



DOES SECTION 2 HAVE ANY SUSPECTS YET?

THEN...



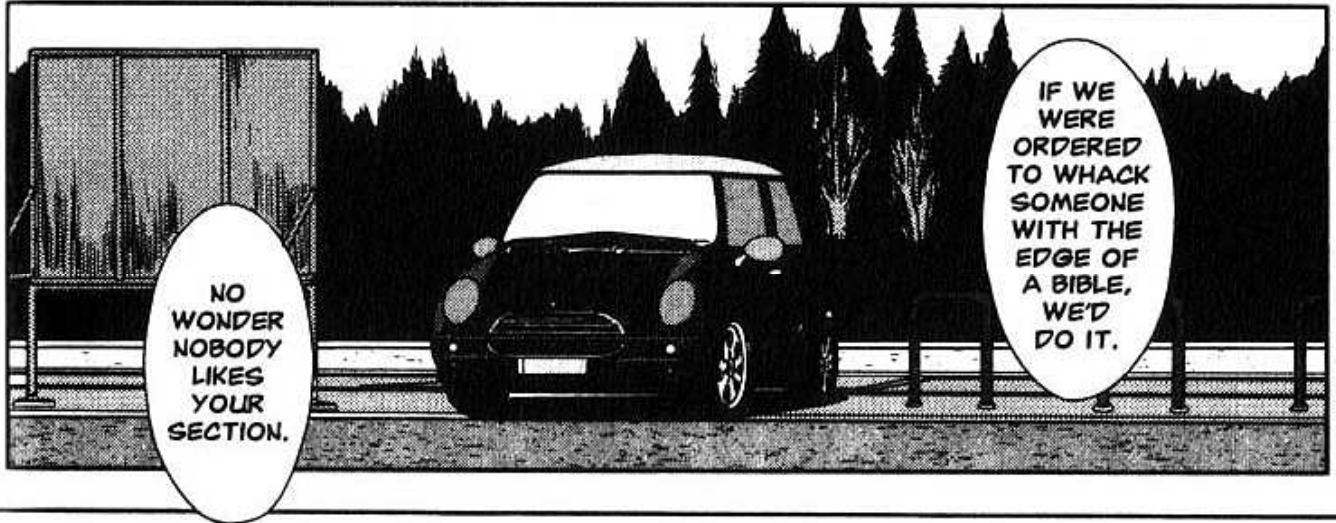
I SEE.

THEY HAVE ENEMIES ALL OVER ITALY.

SECTION 2 IS IN CHARGE OF KILLING PEOPLE.



DO YOU HAVE TO GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO USE KIDS?





SO FAR, ANYONE WHO'S ATTEMPTED TO HARM FRATELLO HAS BEEN KILLED.

BUT THAT'S VERY RARE.



IF THE BULLETS GET THROUGH TO THE BRAIN, THEY DIE, OF COURSE.

BUT THESE CYBORGS ARE FINICKY AND THEIR WEAK SPOT IS THROUGH THEIR EYES.



IF THEY'RE JUST PUPPETS, THEY COULD BE EASILY TAKEN OFF GUARD.

I MEAN, NO MATTER HOW STRONG THEY ARE...



DO THESE KIDS MAKE THE CALL TO PULL THE TRIGGER?



AND THEN...

"FRATELLO"? OH, I SEE, FRATELLO, LIKE BROTHERS.



WE CALL IT CONDITIONING.

ALL THE CYBORGS GO THROUGH A CHEMICAL BRAINWASHING PROCEDURE.



EACH HANDLER CAN DETERMINE HOW HE WANTS TO TRAIN HIS CYBORG.







BUT THAT NIGHT, ELSA DIED WITHOUT PROTECTING HER MASTER.

I GUESS THAT MEANS CYBORGS ARE HUMAN AFTER ALL.



IF YOU WEREN'T WITH THE AGENCY, YOU'D BE DEAD BY NOW.

SO NOW YOU KNOW A LITTLE MORE ABOUT CYBORGS.



WHILE THEY'RE SEARCHING, LET'S GO BACK TO THE AGENCY.

I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT ELSA.



WHERE ARE THE SHELLS?

ELSA SHOT TWO ROUNDS.

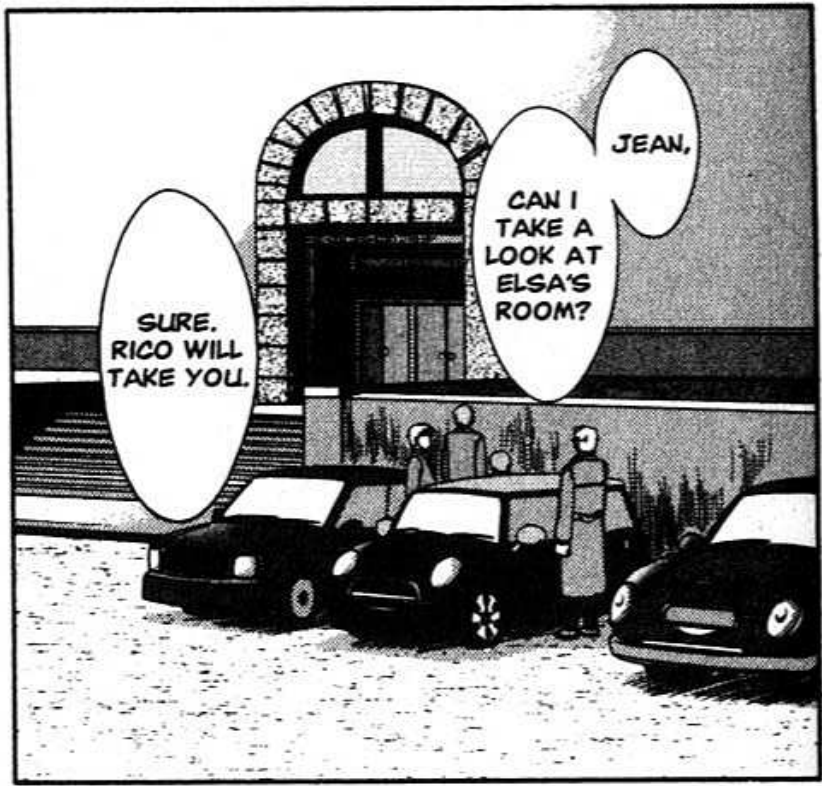


OUR STAFF IS SEARCHING FOR THEM.

IF THE PERP WAS HIT, WE MIGHT FIND A BLOOD-STAIN SOMEWHERE.



I'M GONNA
KEEP YOUR
GUN FOR
NOW.



SURE.
RICO WILL
TAKE YOU.

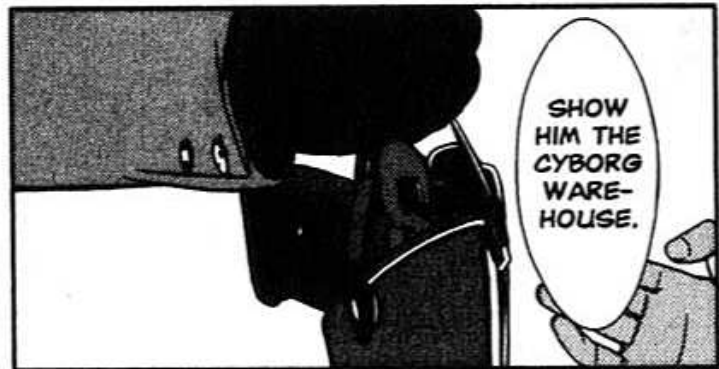
CAN I
TAKE A
LOOK AT
ELSA'S
ROOM?

JEAN,



SO THE
CYBORG
WAREHOUSE
IS LIKE A
DORMITORY?

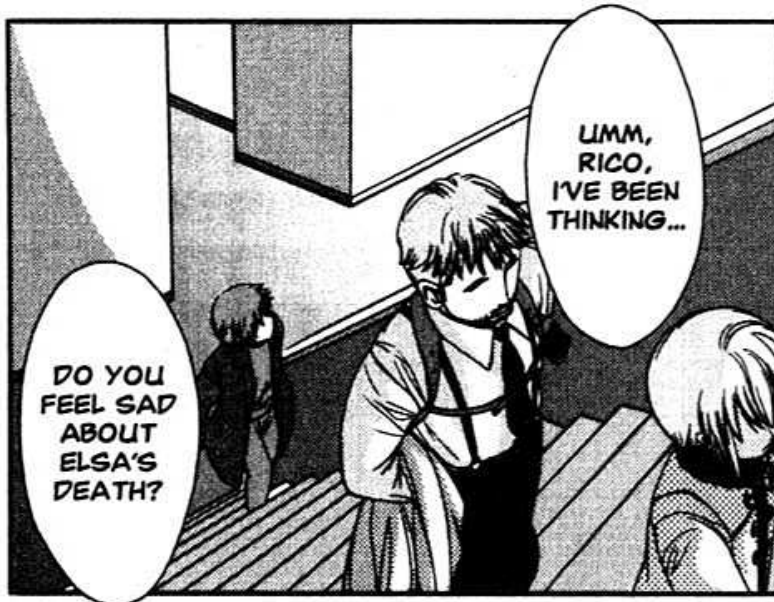
YES,
SIR.

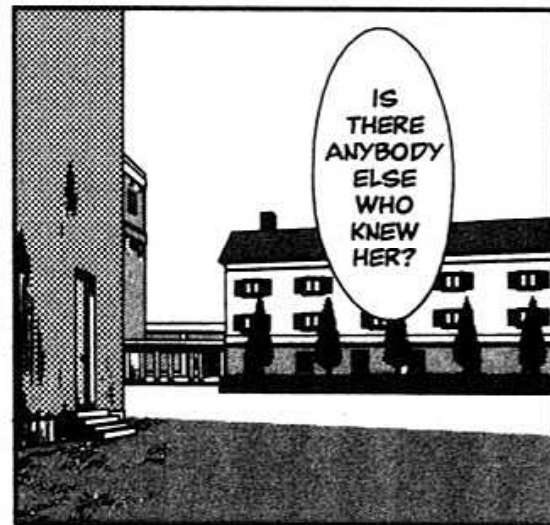


SHOW
HIM THE
CYBORG
WARE-
HOUSE.



THIS
WAY,
PLEASE.







ARE YOU ALREADY FINISHED?

RICO

TRIELA IS COMING BACK FROM NAPOLI THIS MORNING.



MAY I ASK WHO YOU ARE?



.....

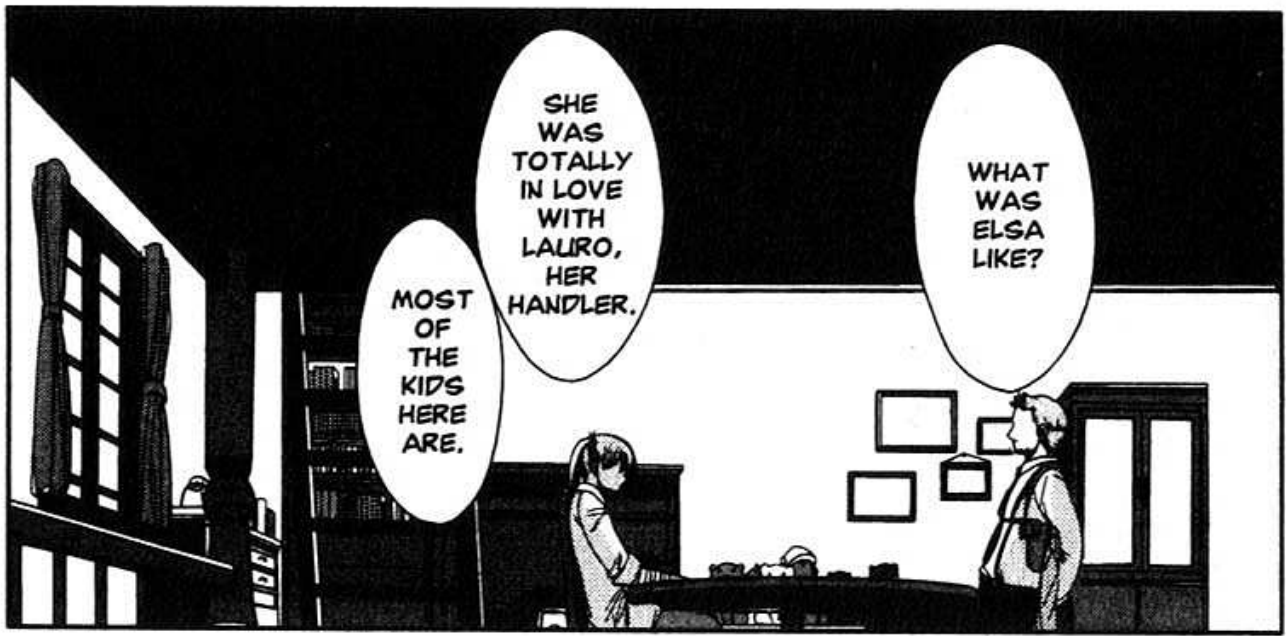


THEY'RE INVESTIGATING ELSA'S CASE...

SIGNORE FERMI AND SIGNORA GABRIELLI OF SECTION I...

THIS ONE LOOKS JUST LIKE MY NIECE'S ROOM.

BOOKS AND STUFFED ANIMALS



MOST OF THE KIDS HERE ARE.

SHE WAS TOTALLY IN LOVE WITH LAURO, HER HANDLER.

WHAT WAS ELSA LIKE?



.....LIKE CONDITIONING?



I DO HAVE SOME AFFECTION FOR HIM.

YOU, TOO?



OH, PLEASE.



ELSA IS A GOOD EXAMPLE.

AS A RESULT OF MAKING US LOYAL, SOMETIMES EMOTIONS THAT RESEMBLE LOVE MAY DEVELOP... SOMETHING LIKE THAT.



CONDITIONING IS KIND OF LIKE LOVE.

I CAN'T REALLY TELL HOW I FEEL.



OH,
BY THE
WAY...

YOU
DON'T
MISS
ELSA
EITHER?



I AM
GLAD
WE HAD THE
CHANCE TO
TALK.

THANK YOU.



NEXT
TIME YOU
COME OVER,
COULD YOU
AT LEAST
BRING
SOME
FLOWERS?



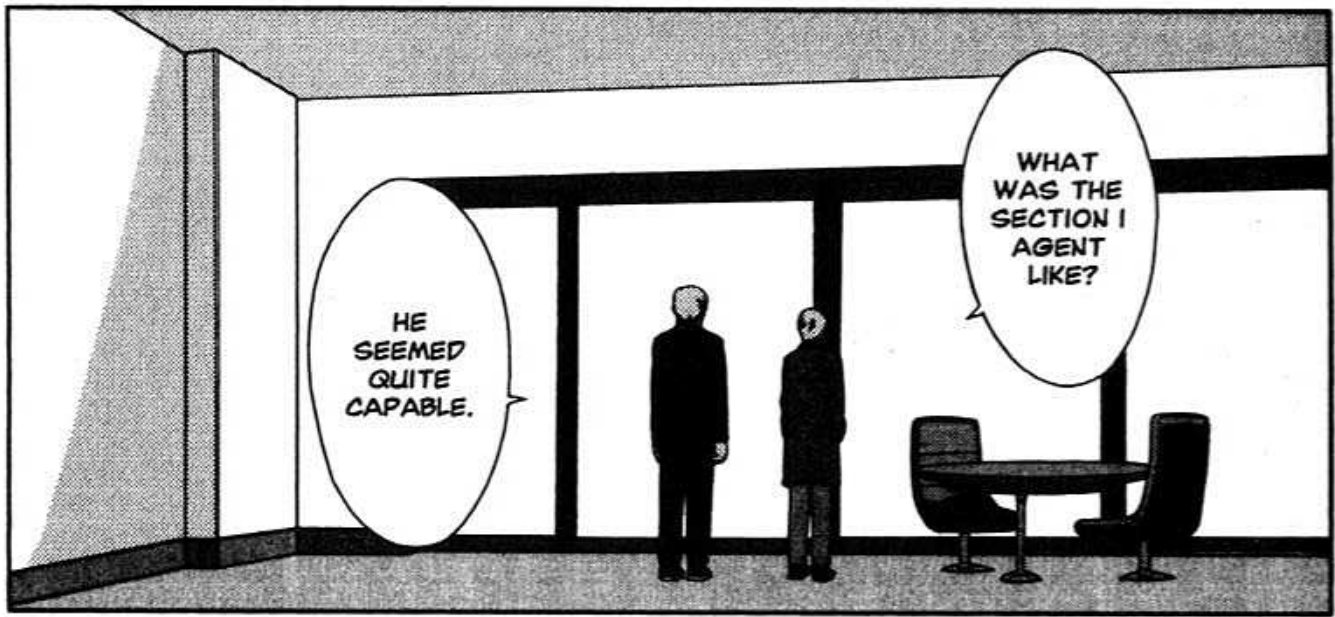
YOU KNOW,
LOOKING
BACK AT
HER
BEHAVIOR...

...SHE
MIGHT'VE
BEEN
HAPPY TO
DIE FOR
LAURO...



WELL,
LET
ME
THINK...

SHE
WAS A
LONER...



HE SEEMED QUITE CAPABLE.

WHAT WAS THE SECTION I AGENT LIKE?



THIS ISN'T GOOD AT ALL.

.....



WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM REGARDING THE BULLETS THAT KILLED THEM.



THAT ALONE IS BAD ENOUGH.



MY SUGGESTION IS TO BURY THE BALLISTICS RESULTS AND BLAME THE INCIDENT ON A MECHANICAL MALFUNCTION IN THE CYBORG. I DON'T THINK THEY WOULD PURSUE IT BEYOND THAT.



IF THIS IS IN FACT TRUE,

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?



THAT'S ENOUGH.

ELSA DE SICA FOUGHT AND DIED FOR HER MASTER.

LET'S DO THAT.

UNDERSTOOD.



THEY'RE A DANGEROUS GROUP. THEY DON'T THINK TWICE ABOUT ATTACKING THE POLICE.

WE FOUND BLOOD STAINS FROM TWO WANTED TERRORISTS AT THE PARK.

WERE QUITE SURE.

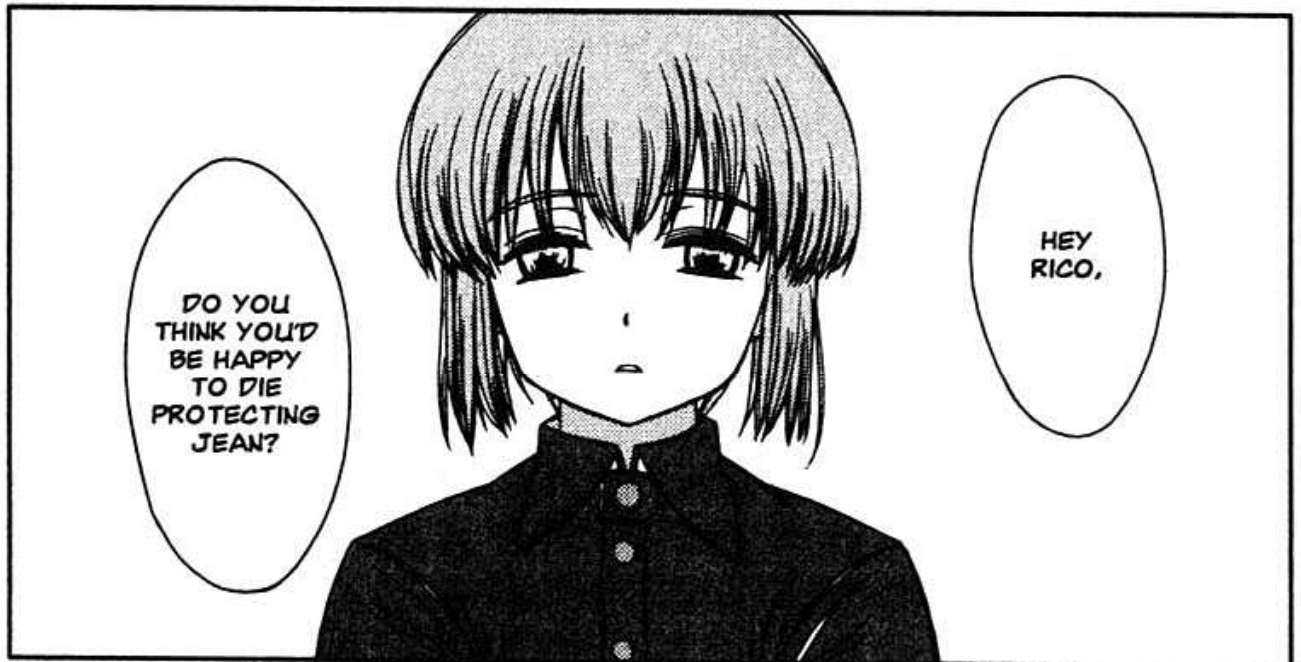
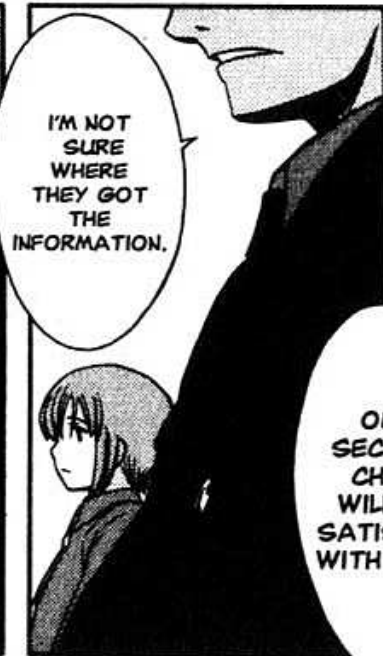
SO THE CULPRITS WERE FROM PADANA?



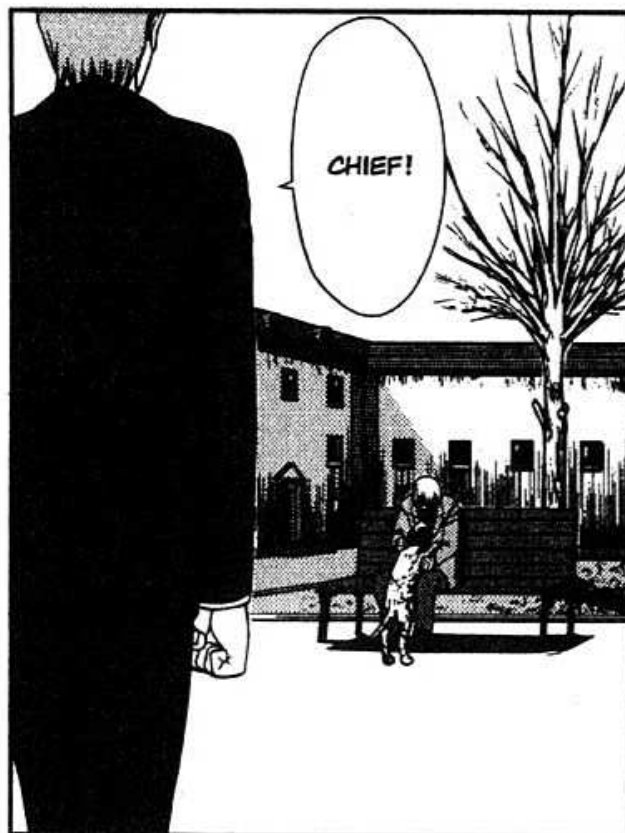
WE STILL HAVE A LOT TO DO TO PERFECT THE CYBORGS...



HMMM.







The Death of Elsa de Sica (Part 2)



WHAT IS HE DOING THERE?



SICILY.

WHERE IS HE NOW?



WHAT DID YOU SAY?



WE HAD TO LEAVE QUICKLY, BECAUSE WE GOT A VACATION AT SHORT NOTICE.

ALSO ...



HOW WOULD I KNOW?



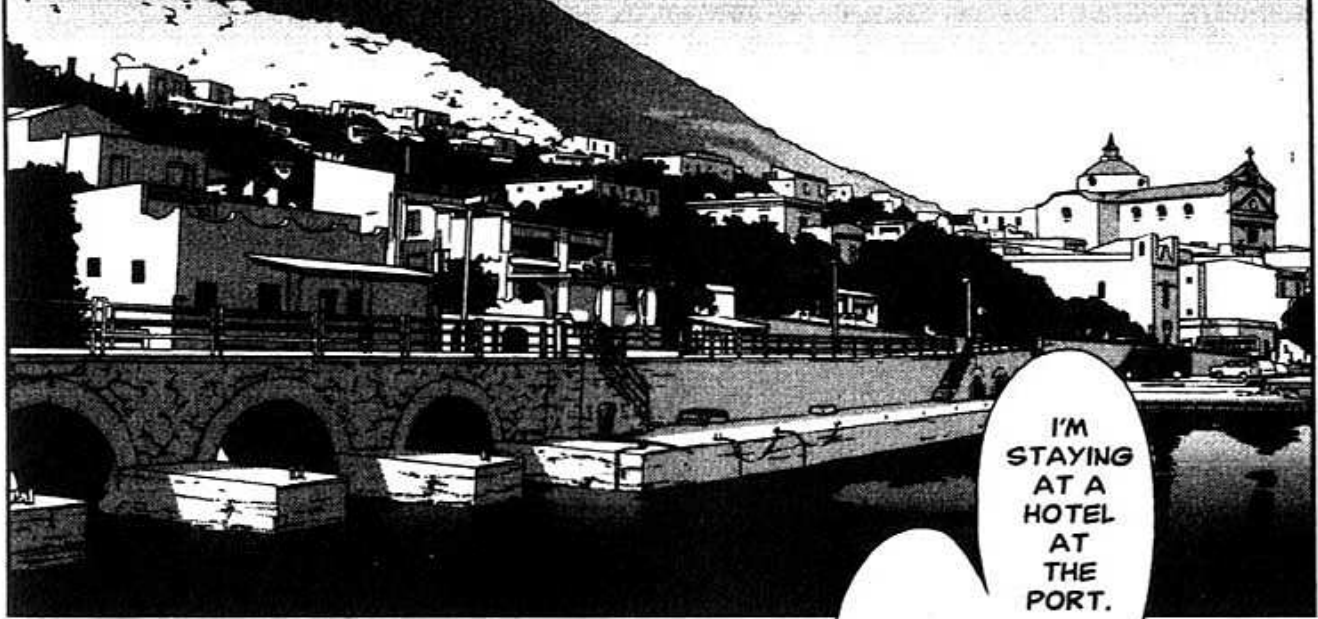
I DON'T CARE. I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING BAD HERE.

THANKS FOR CALLING.

I'M WARNING YOU, THIS PHONE MAY BE BUGGED.

第5話 エルザ・デ・シーカの死(後編)
The Death of Elsa de Sica
(Part 2)





I'M STAYING AT A HOTEL AT THE PORT.

IF YOU NEED ME FOR ANYTHING...



BECAUSE OF ELSA'S DEATH,

WE NEED TO BE VERY CAREFUL.

AS LONG AS WE BEHAVE, NOBODY WILL FIND OUT WHO WE ARE.



YES SIR!

HENRIETTA, DO A GOOD JOB PROTECTING GIUSEPPE.



YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY, FERRO.





LET'S
COME
BACK NEXT
SUMMER,
TOO.

SUMMER
IN SICILY
IS THE
BEST.



I
ABSOLUTELY
MUST HAVE
THESE TO
PROTECT
YOU,
GIUSEPPE!

NO,
SORRY,
I CAN'T.

HUH?



HENRIETTA,
HAND ME
YOUR CASE
AND THE SIG
ON YOUR
BELT.



A NORMAL
GIRL
WOULDN'T
CARRY SUCH
THINGS.

REMEMBER,
WE'RE A
NEWSPAPER
REPORTER
AND HIS NIECE,
HERE ON
CHRISTMAS
VACATION.



CAN WE
TAKE THIS
CAR TO
SICILY?



HEY,
ELENORA,



THANKS
TO YOUR
METICULOUS
WORK,
I CAN
TAKE IT
EASY.



WE CAN
TAKE A
FERRY FROM
REGGIO DI
CALABRIA.

YES.
AS A
MATTER
OF
FACT...



HEY,
I HOPE YOU'RE
NOT KEEPING A
RECORD OF THE
COLOR OF MY
UNDERWEAR.

THE ROMANS
USED THE ROAD
WE'RE ON NOW
WHEN THEY
ATTACKED GREEK
CITIES IN SICILY.



WHY DON'T YOU START WORKING AS A TOUR GUIDE INSTEAD?



MAN...

IT'S TOO BAD WE'RE HERE ON BUSINESS.



DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE?

I AGREE.



MAY I ASK WHO YOU ARE?

CREAK



ARE YOU SURE THEY'RE HERE?



TRIELA TOLD ME WHERE TO FIND YOU.

WERE PIETRO FERMI AND ELENORA GABRIELLI FROM SECTION I.

ARE YOU SURE?

WERE FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE AGENCY.

WAIT, DON'T SHOOT, PLEASE.



WE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE TO TALK WITH YOU ABOUT THE CASE.

WERE ON VACATION. WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM US?

WERE HANDLING THE INVESTIGATION OF ELSA'S CASE IN SECTION I.

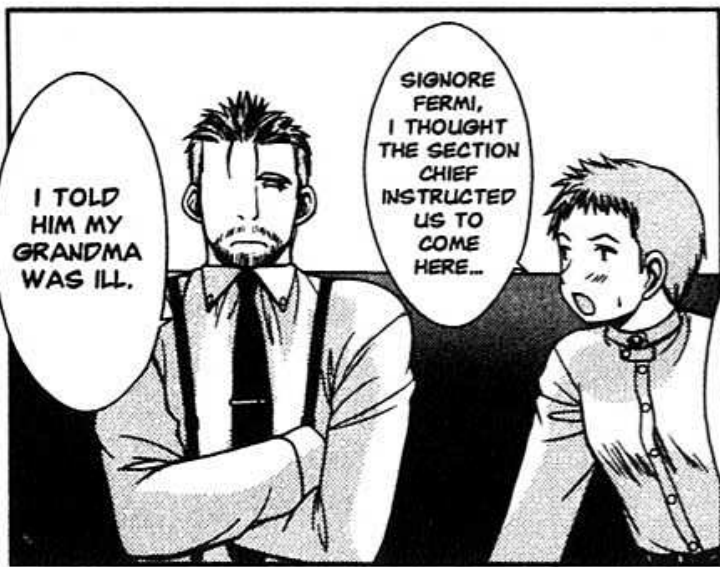
SECTION I?



SURE, PLEASE COME IN.

MAY WE COME IN?









BUT I DON'T RELY ON LARGE AMOUNTS OF THE MEDICATION TO MAKE HER LOYAL.

NOR DO I FORCE HER TO LOVE ME.



DID YOU USE THE MEDICATION TO GAIN HER RESPECT

LIKE LAURO AND OTHER GUYS?



HENRIETTA IS NO EXCEPTION.

TO MAKE A CYBORG FUNCTIONAL, THEY USE CONDITIONING.



I'LL CONCEDE TO THAT.

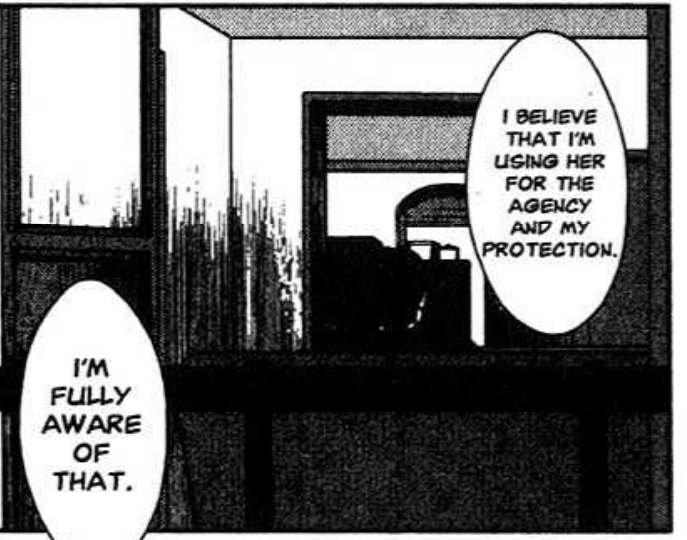
JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T USE A LARGE AMOUNT, IT DOESN'T MAKE YOU LESS GUILTY.



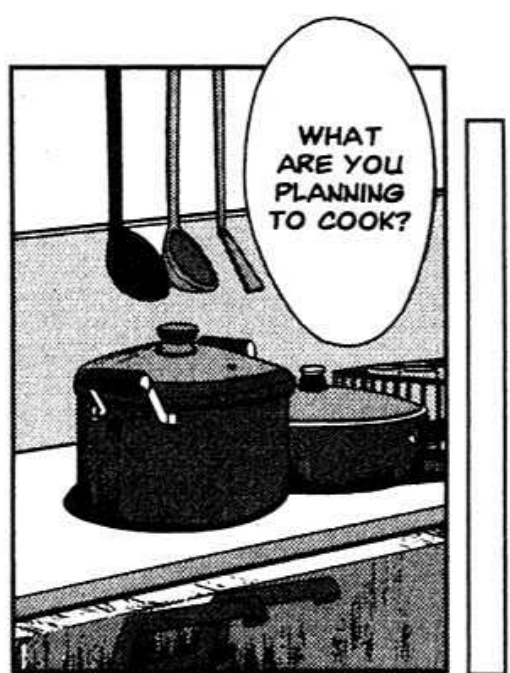
DOES THE MEDICATION MAKE THAT MUCH OF A DIFFERENCE?



I'M FULLY AWARE OF THAT.



I BELIEVE THAT I'M USING HER FOR THE AGENCY AND MY PROTECTION.





I'D GET FIRED FROM THE AGENCY IN NO TIME.

IF I DIDN'T WRITE THINGS DOWN...

WOW!

IT'S A MAGICAL NOTEBOOK!

THAT'S BECAUSE I'M FORGETFUL...



WHERE DID YOU HEAR THAT?

WHAT?



"...IS THE RESULT OF AN ACCUMULATION OF SIMPLE TASKS!"

YOU SEE, "EVERY SUCCESSFUL JOB..."



I'M NOT SURE...

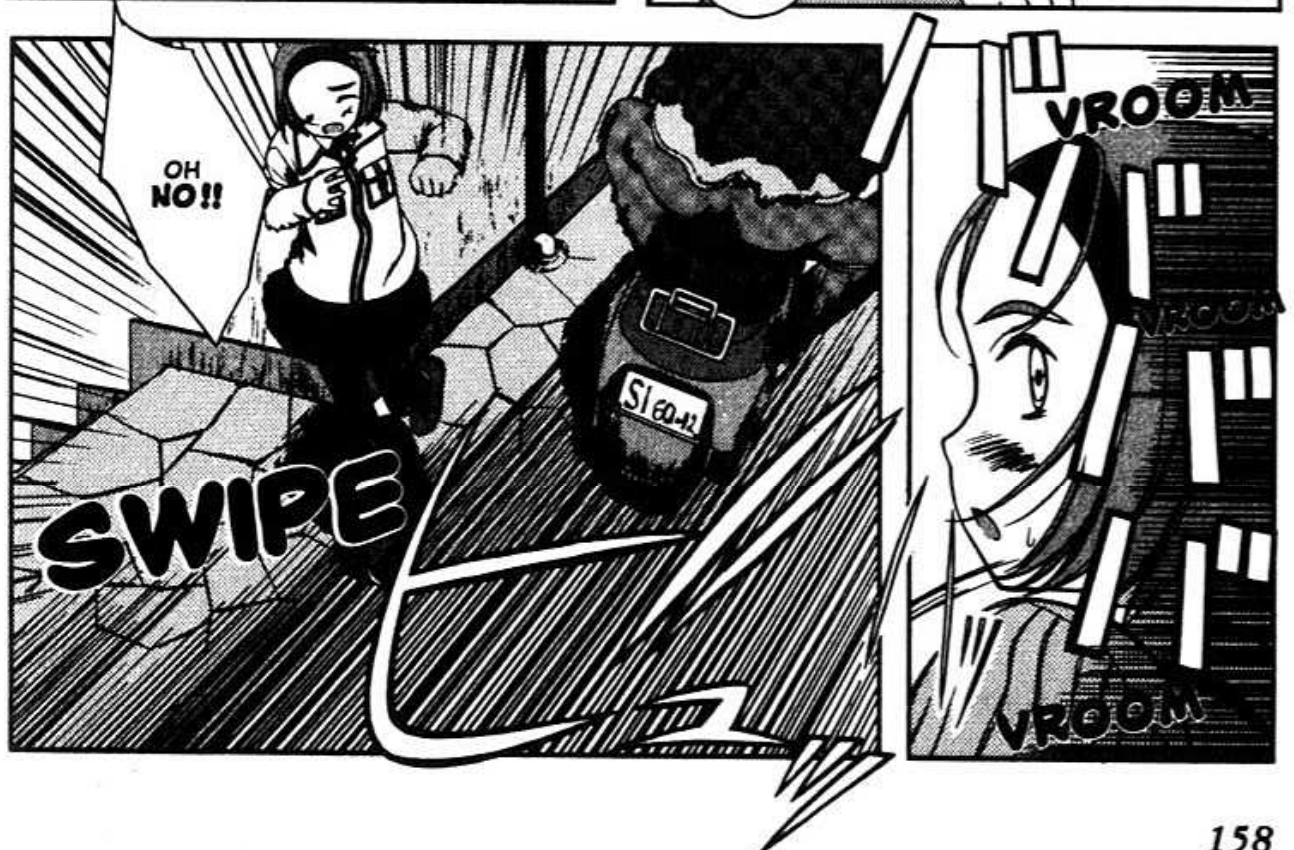
HUH?



I FORGOT. I HAVE A MENTAL BLOCK.









ARE YOU OK?!

VROOM

VROOM

VROOM



OH NO!!

WHERE'S YOUR PURSE?



HUH?



YOU BECOME VULNERABLE THE SECOND YOU LOSE YOUR CONCENTRATION, DON'T YOU?

I'M SORRY.

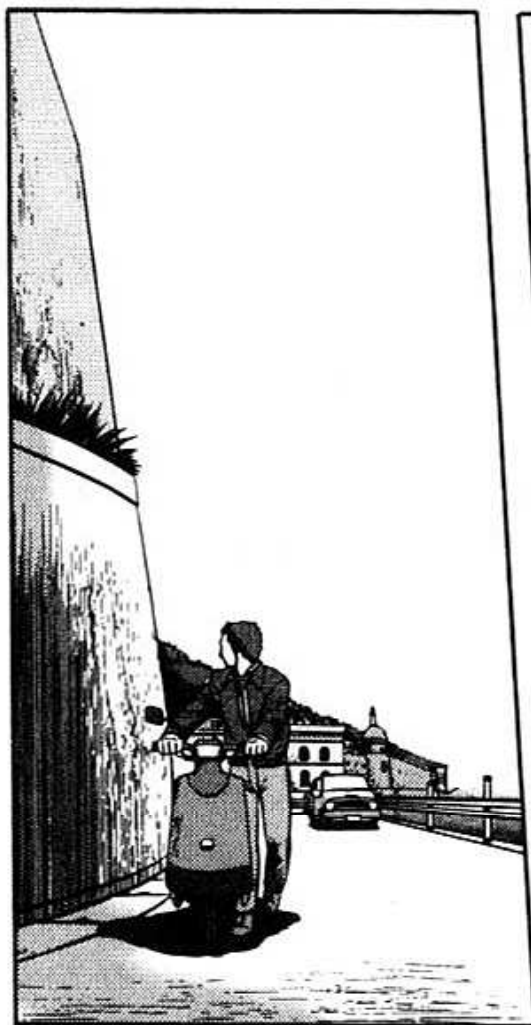


AAH
DASH!

I'M GOING TO GET IT BACK!!

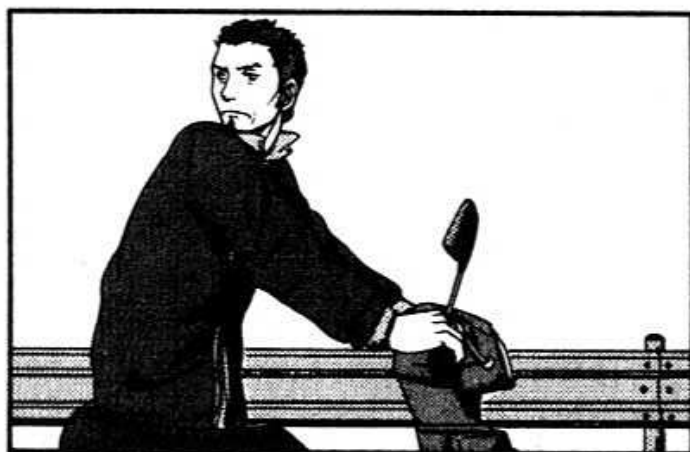
HENRIETTA!!







I
WANT
MY
PURSE
BACK!!



GIVE IT
BACK!



GRAB!



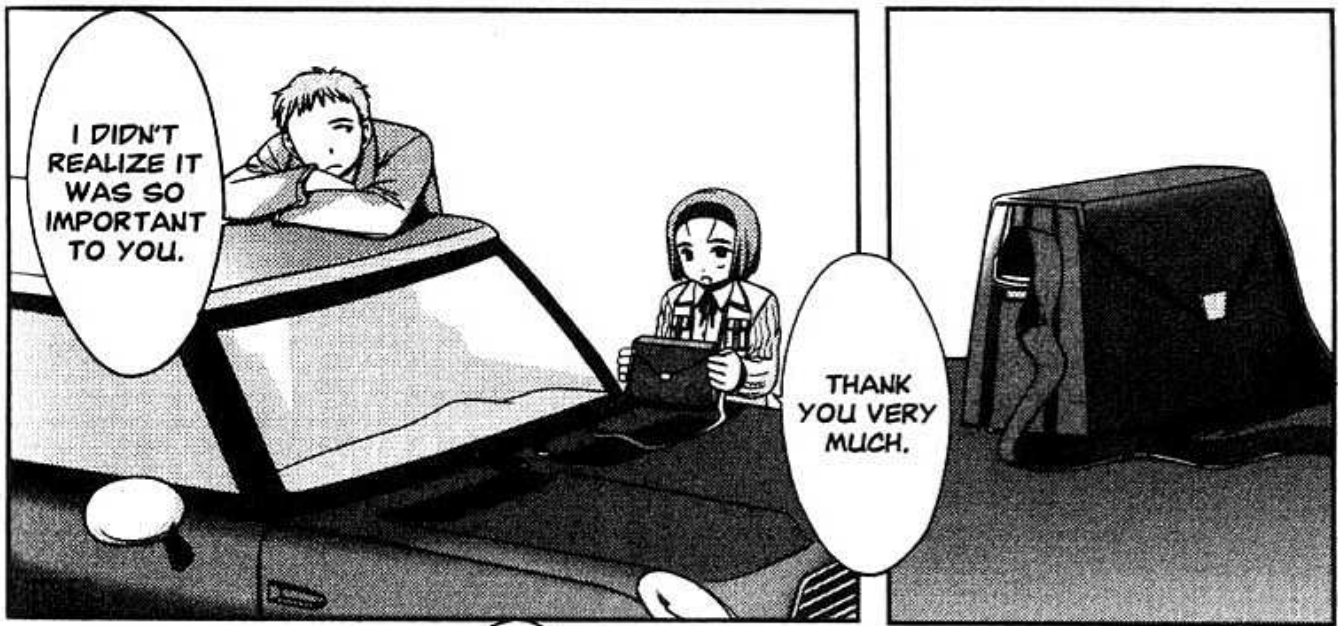
WHO THE
HELL ARE
YOU?



GET
LOST!

GRRR





I DIDN'T
REALIZE IT
WAS SO
IMPORTANT
TO YOU.

THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH.



HEH HEH..

IT'S A
MAGICAL
NOTEBOOK.

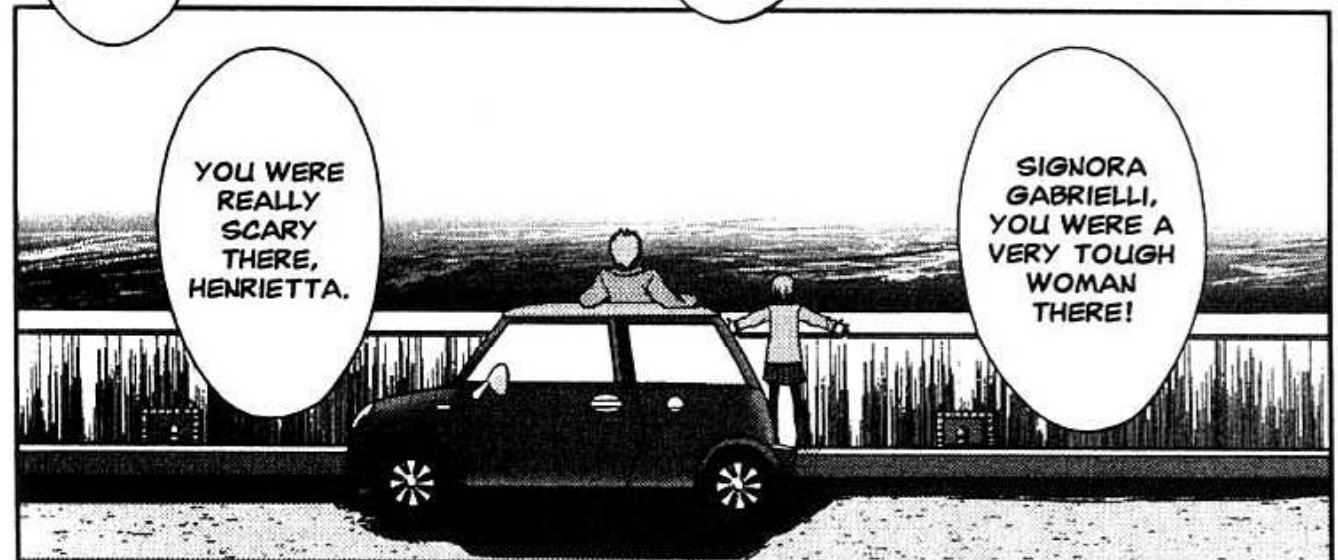


I HAVE
THE
CAMERA
GIUSEPPE
GAVE ME
IN IT.



BY ANY
CHANCE,
IS YOUR
NOTEBOOK
FROM...

I SEE....



YOU WERE
REALLY
SCARY
THERE,
HENRIETTA.

SIGNORA
GABRIELLI,
YOU WERE A
VERY TOUGH
WOMAN
THERE!



WHAT MAKES YOU SUSPICIOUS?

GIUSEPPE, ARE YOU SUSPICIOUS OF ELSA'S DEATH?



I WAS TOLD THEY'D BEEN AMBUSHED IN A PARK AT NIGHT.

ALTHOUGH A CYBORG'S PHYSICAL ABILITIES AND SENSES ARE INTENSIFIED, THEY DON'T WORK UNLESS SHE'S CONCENTRATING.



IT WAS TOO CLEAN.

WELL, LET ME SEE...



I SEE. YOU'RE THINKING THERE WAS A CONSPIRACY, RIGHT?



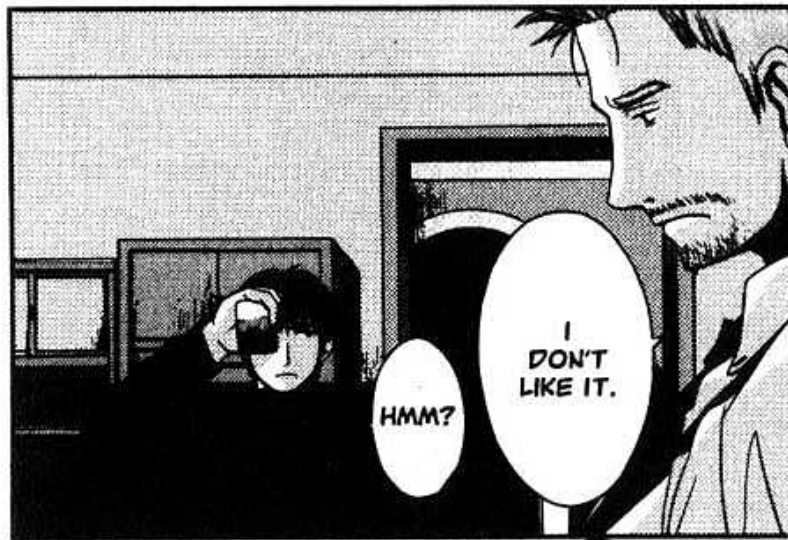
TO PROVE IT, WHEN I MET RICO THE OTHER DAY, SHE WAS LIKE A SHIELD OF SOLID TITANIUM.

JEAN TOLD ME THEY'RE VERY ATTUNED TO DANGER WHEN THEY'RE WITH THEIR MASTERS.



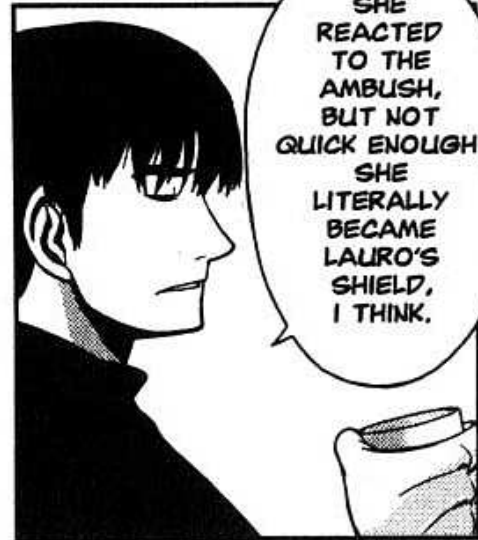
A TRAINED AGENT AND HIS CYBORG GET KILLED SO EASILY...

AND THEN THEY FIND THE PERP SO QUICKLY? WHAT DO YOU THINK?



HMM?

I DON'T LIKE IT.



SHE REACTED TO THE AMBUSH, BUT NOT QUICK ENOUGH. SHE LITERALLY BECAME LAURO'S SHIELD, I THINK.



80% OF THEIR BODIES ARE CARBON FRAME, CARBON FIBER, AND ARTIFICIAL MUSCLE.

ACTUALLY, I USED TO NOT LIKE CYBORGS. THEY GAVE ME THE WILLIES.



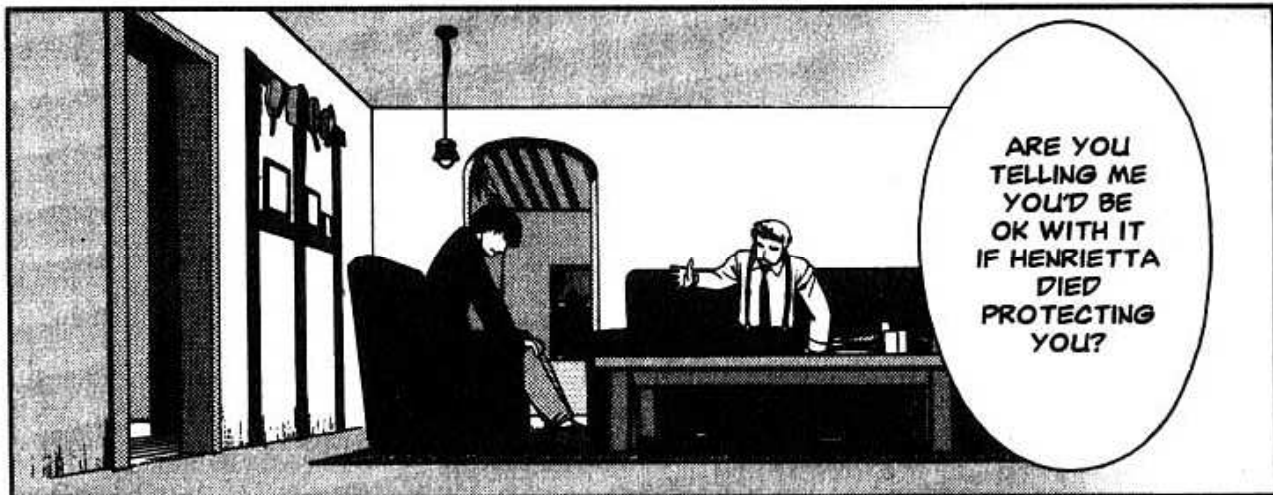
WHY ARE YOU GUYS SIMPLY SATISFIED WITH THE EXPLANATION THAT THE CYBORG DIED PROTECTING HER MASTER?

IT MIGHT BE TRUE, BUT IT MIGHT NOT.



KIDS WHO CAN'T EVEN COOK.

IN THE END, BOTH TRIELA AND HENRIETTA ARE JUST PRE-ADOLESCANT KIDS.



ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU'D BE OK WITH IT IF HENRIETTA DIED PROTECTING YOU?





I'M SUPER STRONG, AND CAN KILL A MAN WITH MY BARE HANDS.

IS A GIRL WITH A MECHANICAL BODY ORDINARY?



BUT THE PAIN GOES AWAY FAST.

I DO BLEED,



NO. YOU'RE WRONG!!



HE THINKS THE WORLD OF YOU!

HE'D RATHER SEE YOU SMILE THAN WAVE A 9MM GUN AROUND!



SINCE I'M A CYBORG, AND HAVE TO PROTECT GIUSEPPE,...

I CAN'T BE AN ORDINARY GIRL.



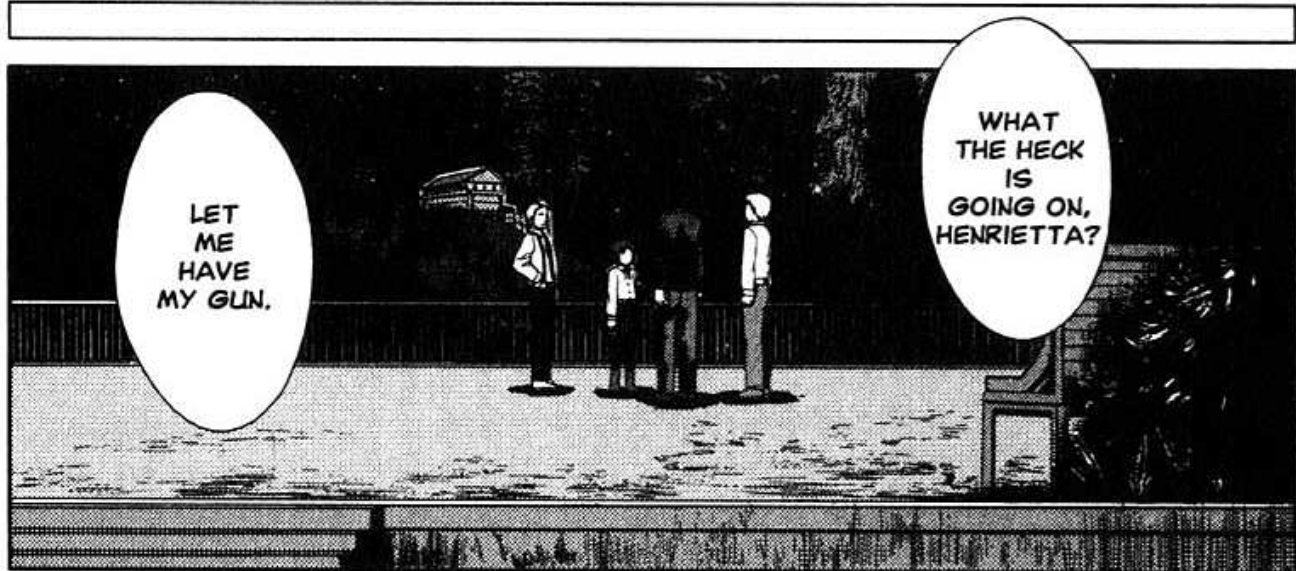
PLEASE
GO GET
GIUSEPPE,
AND THEN
BRING ME
MY GUN.

I...

I
KNOW
WHY
ELSA DIED.

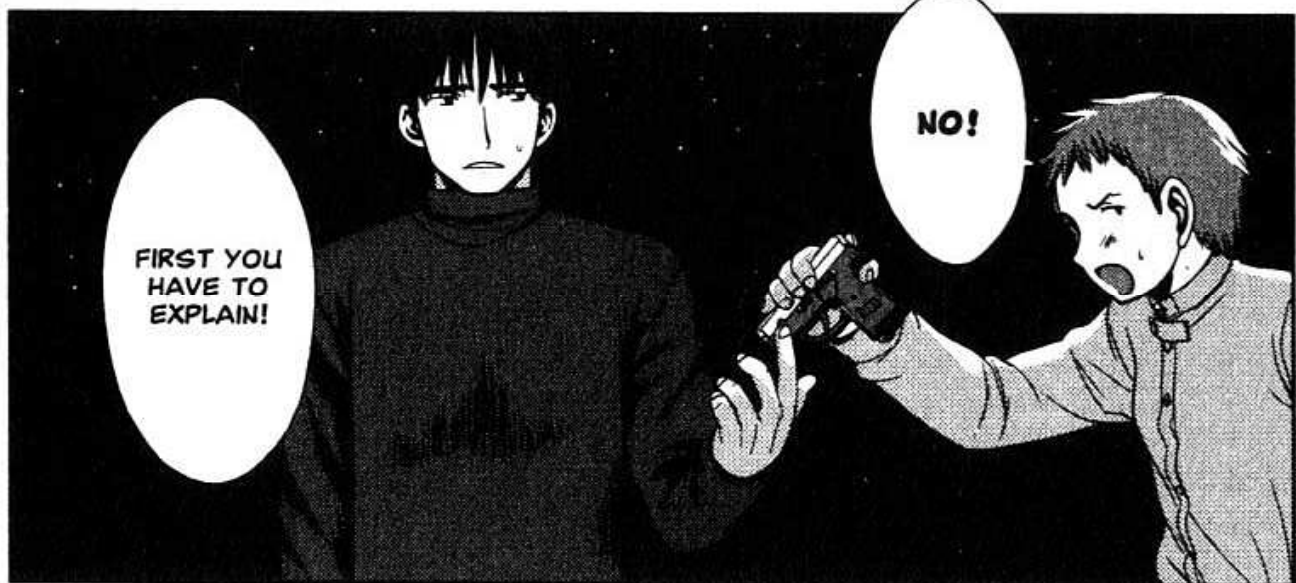


SIGNORA
GABRIELLI,



LET
ME
HAVE
MY GUN.

WHAT
THE HECK
IS
GOING ON,
HENRIETTA?



FIRST YOU
HAVE TO
EXPLAIN!

NO!



SHE DIDN'T SEEM TO HAVE VERY STRONG EMOTIONS, BUT SHE WAS ATTRACTED TO LAURO.

UH HUH...

ELSA WAS LAURO'S LOYAL CYBORG, RIGHT?

SIGNORE FERMI...



NOT REALLY. HE DIDN'T PAY MUCH ATTENTION TO HER OUTSIDE OF WORK.

WAS LAURO KIND TO ELSA?

GIUSEPPE...



THEN THIS IS PROBABLY WHAT HAPPENED.

IF THAT'S THE CASE,







YOU REALLY MEAN THAT?



DON'T WORRY....

I WON'T SHOOT.

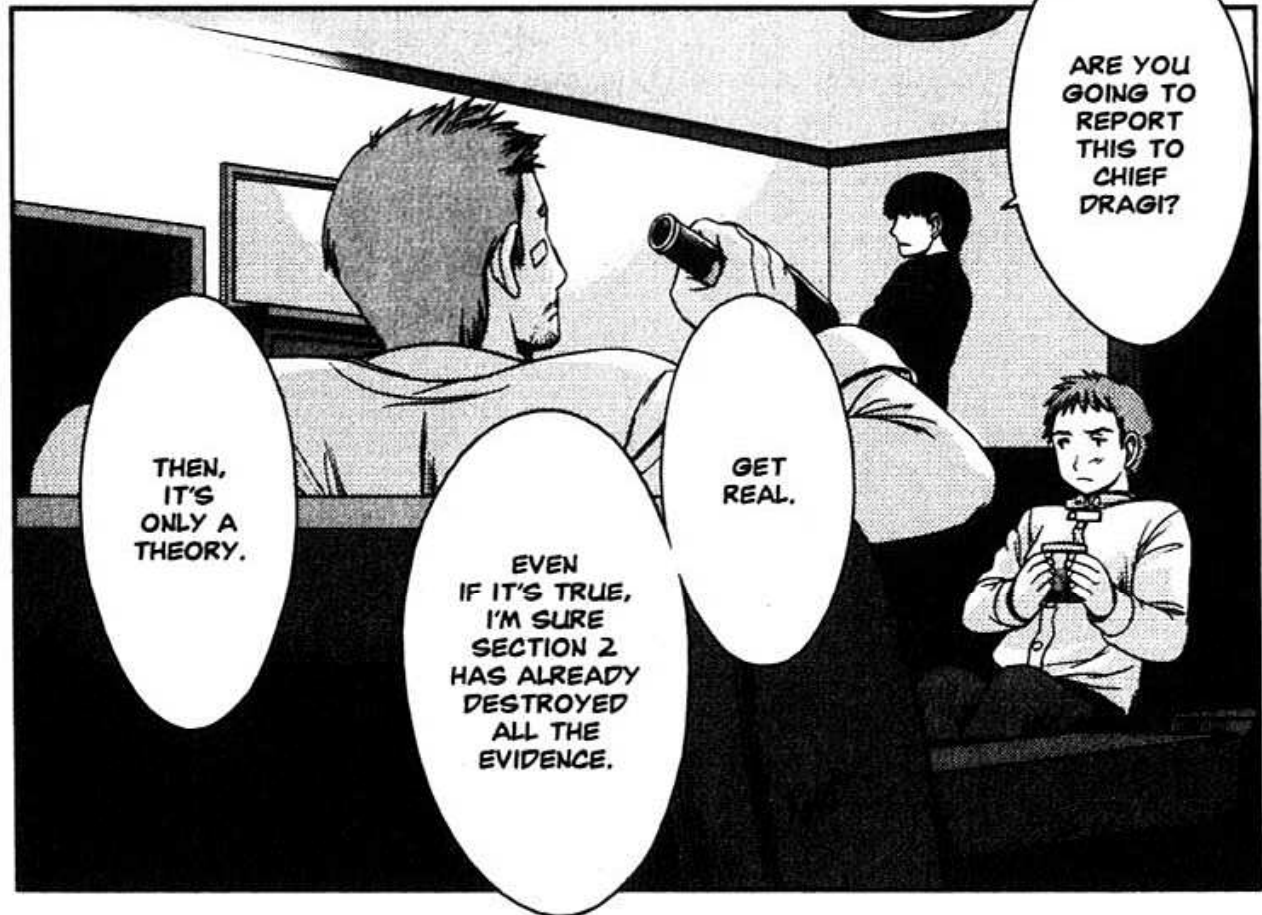
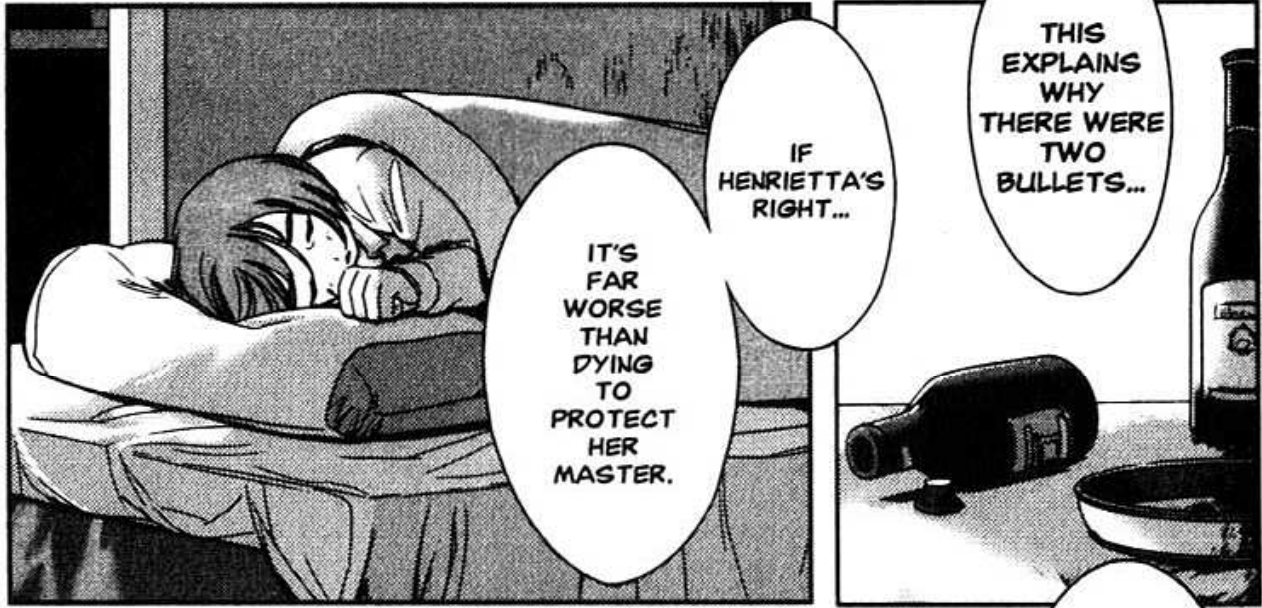


I HAD NO IDEA HOW SERIOUS YOU WERE.



YOU'RE SO GOOD TO ME.

WHY ON EARTH WOULD I KILL MYSELF?







YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE DESERVING OF HER RESPECT.

WELL, YOU HAVE TO DO THAT MUCH FOR HER, AT LEAST.



ALL SHE GOT WAS HER NAME AND A PICTURE.

IN THE END...



YOUR AVERAGE GUY CAN'T TAKE THAT KIND OF DEVOTION.

IT MUST'VE BEEN HARD ON THE HANDLER, TOO.



HEY, ELENORA...

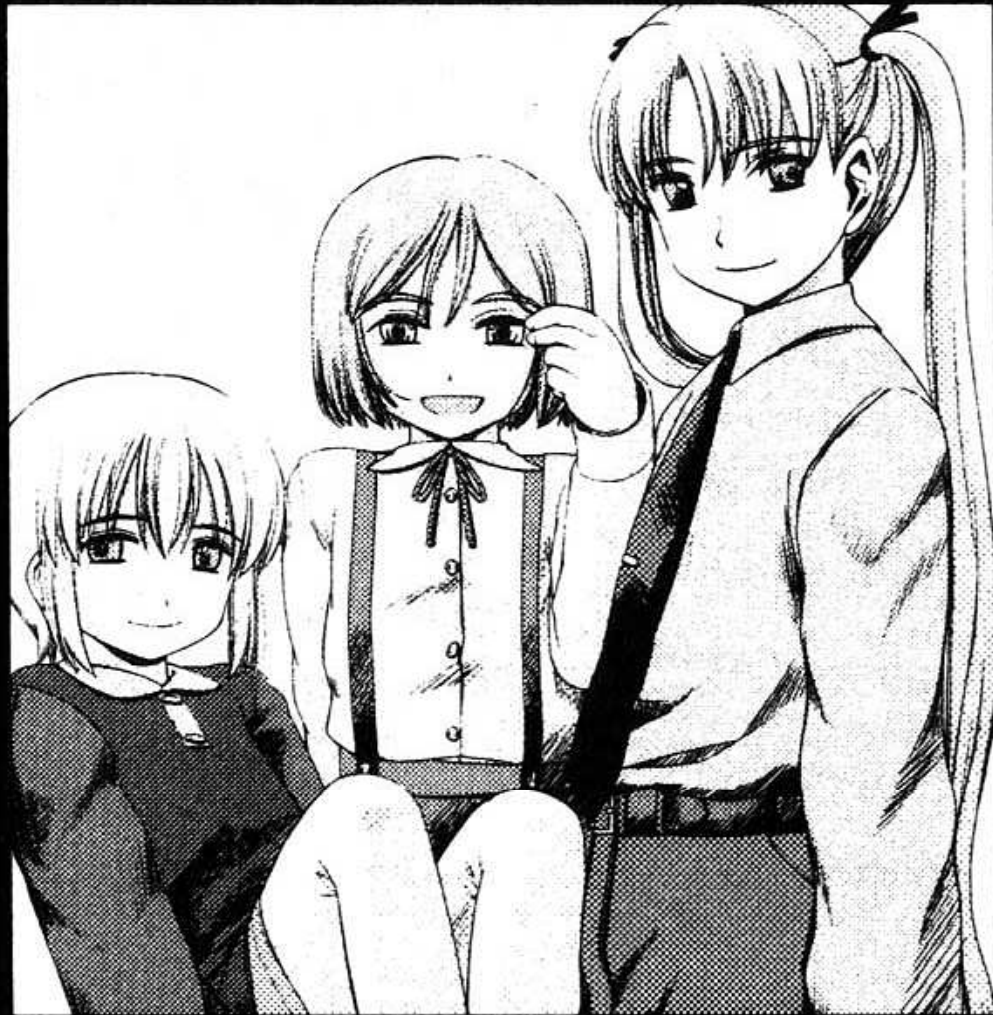
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF CYBORGS.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN "US," FERMI?

IF SECTION 1 FIRES US, GET US A JOB AT SECTION 2.

I THINK THE TWO OF YOU WOULD MAKE EXCELLENT HANDLERS.



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GUNSLINGER GIRL

Innocence Lost....

Henrietta barely survived a brutal attack that killed her family. "Rescued" by the Social Welfare Agency, her injuries were repaired with robotic components and she was brainwashed—lost with the memory of her family's death was almost every trace of her own humanity. Today she is an extraordinarily lethal cyborg assassin, obediently working with her handler Giuseppe to carry out her deadly tasks.

Despite her conditioning and programming, Henrietta still has the heart of a young girl; she has not completely forgotten how to love. Yet the very emotion is contrary to her training and programming. Can the GUNSLINGER GIRL survive? Can she find peace in a struggle against her very nature?



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