

*A story, set in Tajimi,  
about high schoolgirls  
and the Togeibu,  
pottery club.*



# やくな らぐらも



3

YAKUNARA MUG CUP MO

**FREE  
MANGA**



## Genkina Tajimi Project “Yakunara Mug Cup Mo”

Thank you for taking the time to read this magazine. “Yakunara Mug Cup Mo” is a free publication put out by a group of people who love Tajimi. We call it “Kurukuru Rokuro Manga.”

The city of Tajimi, located in the southern part of Gifu Prefecture, Japan, is famous for Mino earthenware. The city is dotted with historical pottery producers and ceramic art museums. It has facilities where you can try your hand at making pottery, and many restaurants that serve food on Minoware dishes.

The story begins when a high school girl moves to a shopping street in Tajimi. Many encounters await her, friends, town folk, ceramic art, etc. What will she discover in a town famous for ceramics?

“Yakunara Mug Cup Mo” is a collaborative work by many people involved with Tajimi’s pottery culture. Like its main characters, “Yakunara Mug Cup Mo” will develop slowly. We invite you to watch it grow.

Yakunara Mug Cup Mo staff





Himeno

Naoko

Mika

Toko

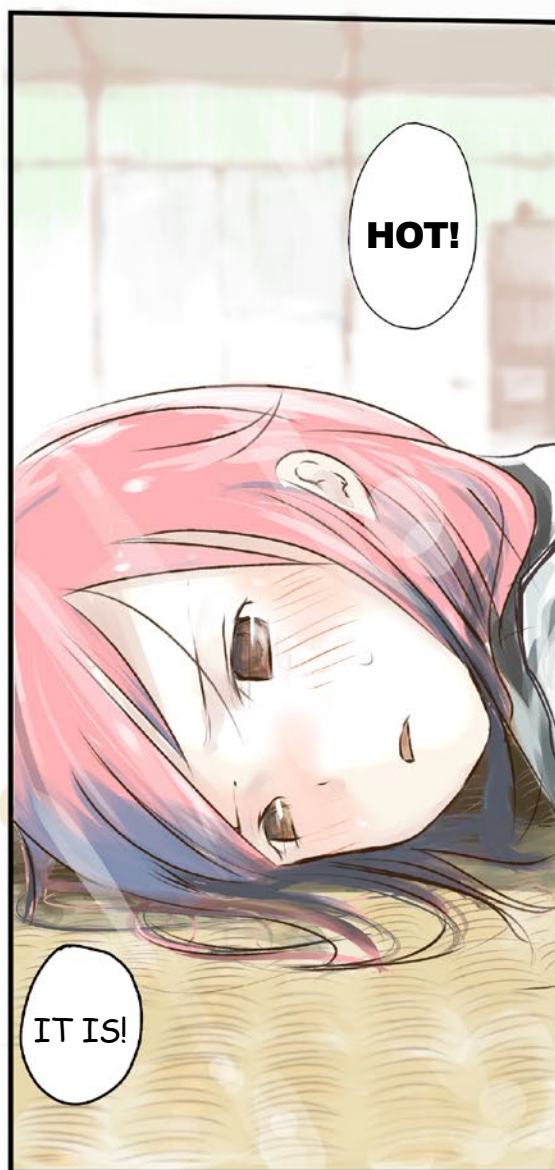
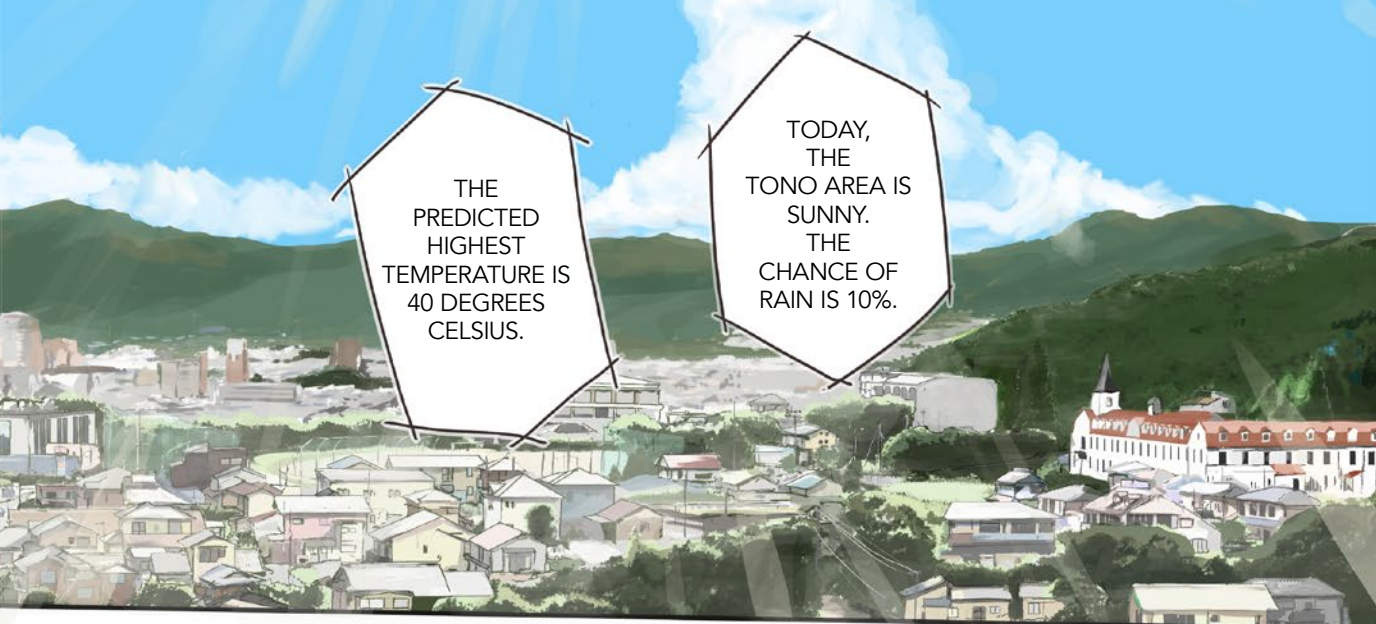


## EPISODE 03

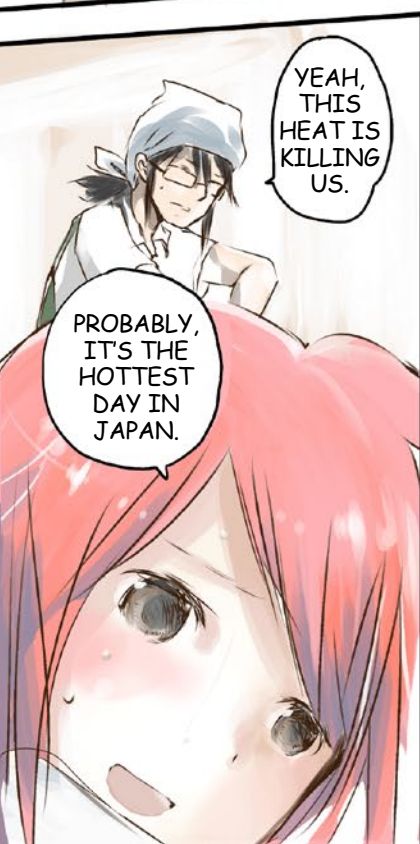
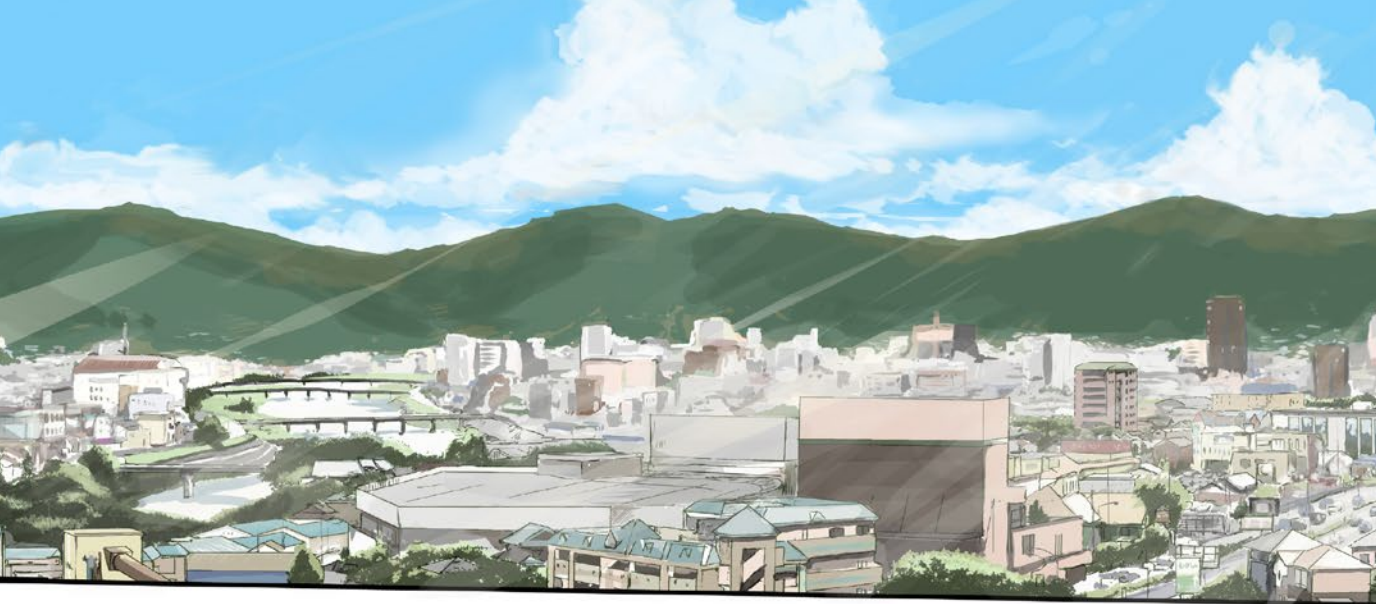
# BAMBOO CHARCOAL AND BETLES

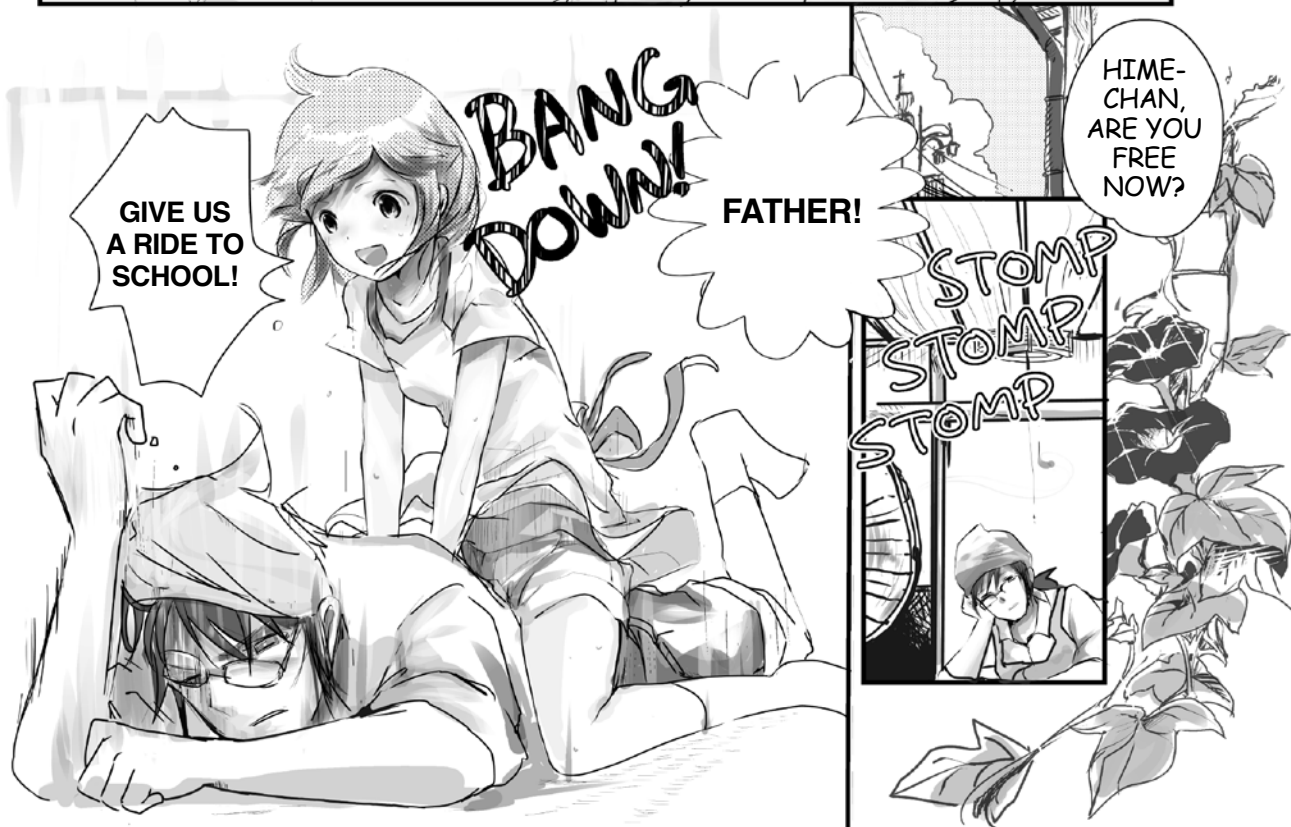
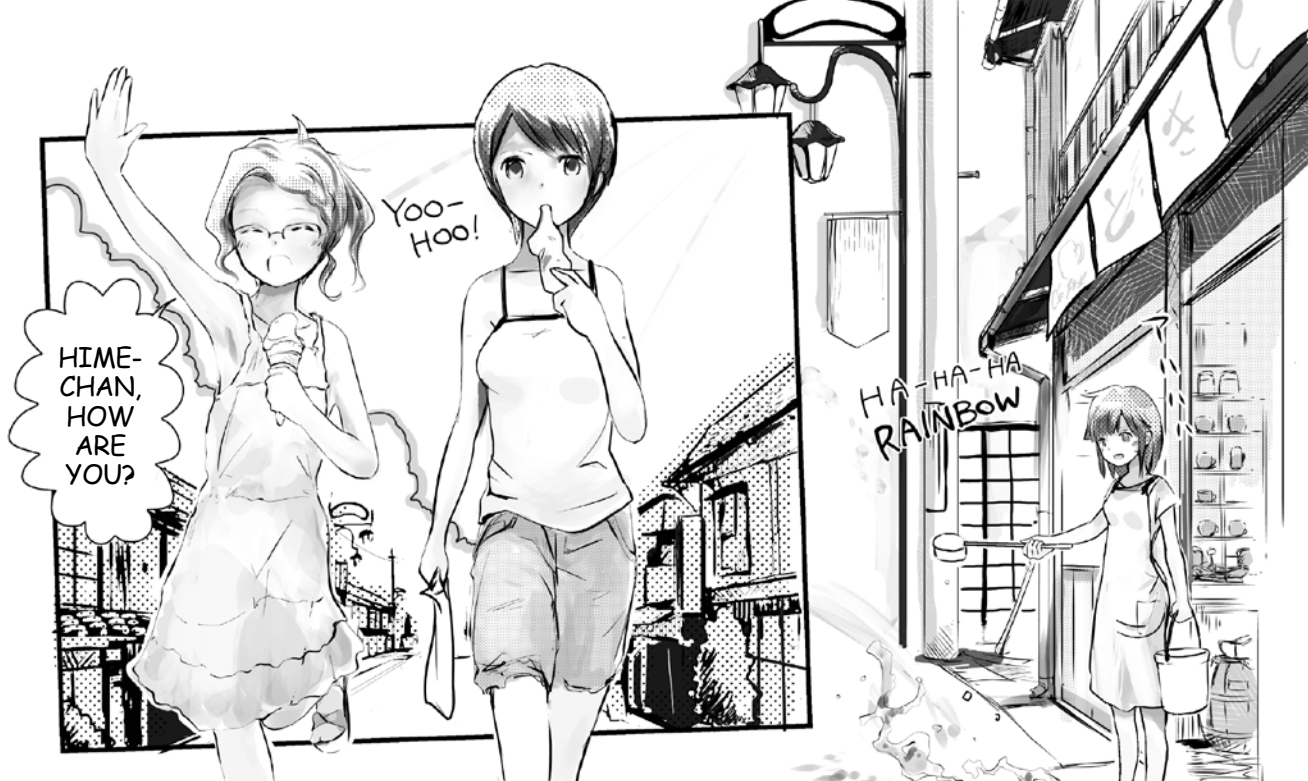
### PREVIOUS EPISODE

HIMENO MOVED TO HER MOTHER'S HOMETOWN TAJIMI BECAUSE OF HIMENO'S FATHER'S WORK. ON THE FIRST DAY AT A NEW SCHOOL, HIMENO WAS TAKEN TO THE TOGEI-BU, POTTERY CLUB, BY HER CLASSMATE MIKA. HIMENO WAS AMAZED TO LEARN THAT HER MOTHER WAS A FAMOUS POTTER. TO LEARN ABOUT TOGEI AND HER MOTHER'S LEGACY, SHE DECIDED TO JOIN THE TOGEI-BU.



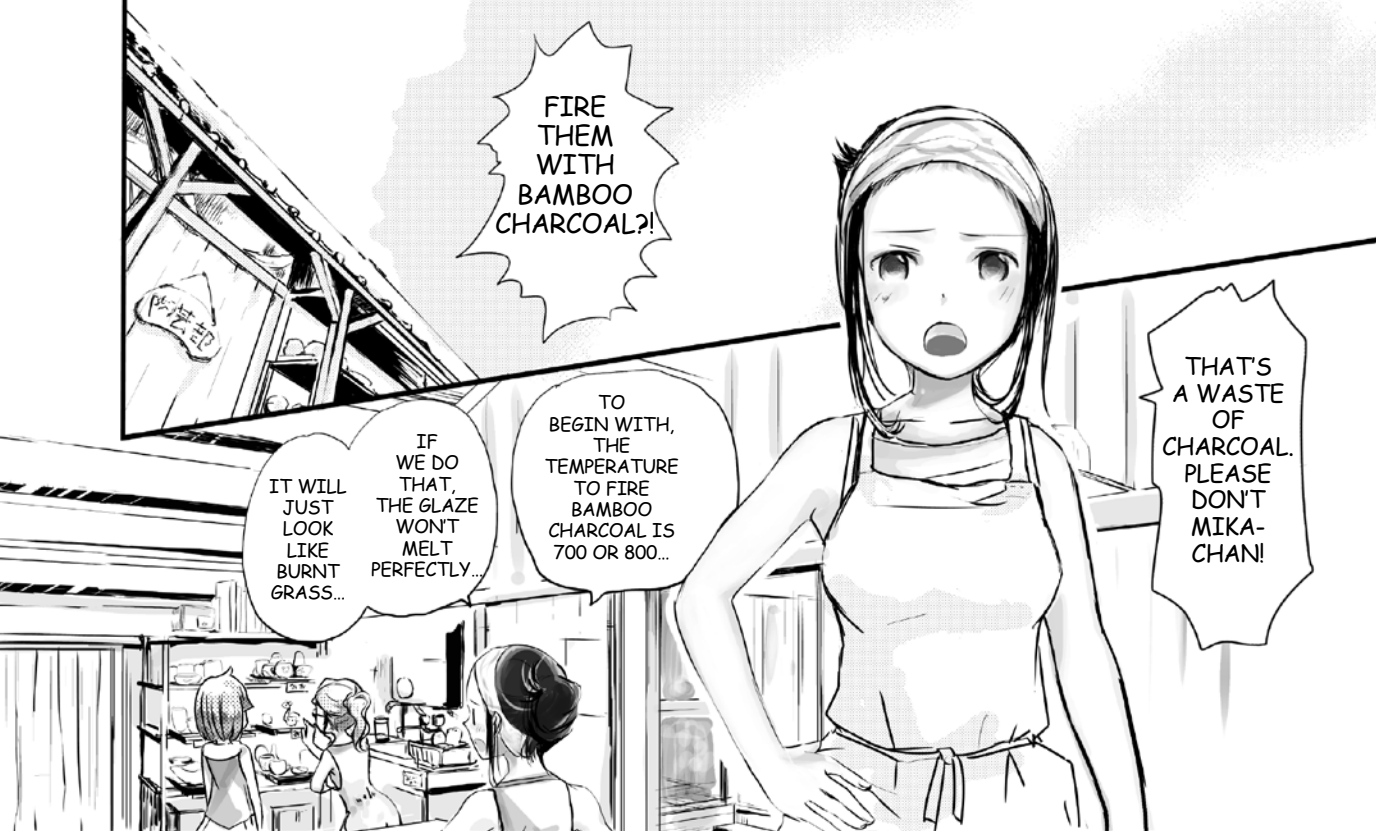












FIRE  
THEM  
WITH  
BAMBOO  
CHARCOAL?!

THAT'S  
A WASTE  
OF  
CHARCOAL.  
PLEASE  
DON'T  
MIKA-  
CHAN!

TO  
BEGIN WITH,  
THE  
TEMPERATURE  
TO FIRE  
BAMBOO  
CHARCOAL IS  
700 OR 800...

IF  
WE DO  
THAT,  
THE GLAZE  
WON'T  
MELT  
PERFECTLY...  
IT WILL  
JUST  
LOOK  
LIKE  
BURN'T  
GRASS...



IF  
WE'RE  
GONNA  
DO IT  
ANYWAY,  
THIS...

WE'RE  
ASKING  
HIM TO  
FIRE OUR  
POTTERY  
IN A  
BAMBOO  
CHARCOAL  
KILN.

YOU KNOW  
WHAT?  
MY UNCLE  
DOES  
POTTERY  
AS HIS  
HOBBY.



YEAH!  
LET'S GET OUT  
OF HERE!



NO WAY!  
I HAVE  
ALREADY  
PAINTED  
IT!

HOT...







NO PROBLEM!

OH! NARUSE-SAN, GOOD MORNING.

TOKO-SAN IS HERE



MIKA-CHAN, THESE BINOCULARS ARE JUST GOING TO GET HEAVY.



WHAT? LOOK FOR IT BY YOURSELF.

HIME-NO, WHERE'S AN INSECT CAGE?

I GOT SOME.

DAD, HOW ABOUT INSECT REPELLENT SPRAY?

WE CAN BORROW IT.

I'M TAKING A KING-SIZED POT!

OH! NOT YET.

DAD, DID YOU PACK YOUR UNDERWEAR?



CAN I HAVE THIS TOKIKAWA HIMENA CUP?

HIME-CHAN!

HIMENO'S MOTHER'S...

UH, THIS IS...

No...No way







I SEE.

AH!



THEY ARE FIRING BAMBOO CHARCOAL...



ARE YOU BURNING GRASS?



I'LL LET YOU GUYS TAKE CARE OF THE REST.

I GOT IT

LOOK, ARE THESE POTTERIES OKAY HERE?



SEE OFF WE GO,



IS THE RIVER DEEP?

Y, YES.



HEH HEH TOKO-SAN, ARE YOU HAVING FUN?

WHERE IS YOUR HAT?

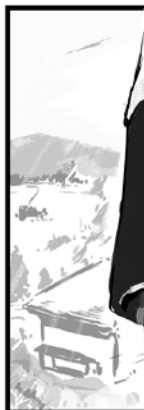
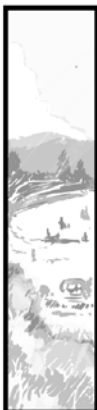
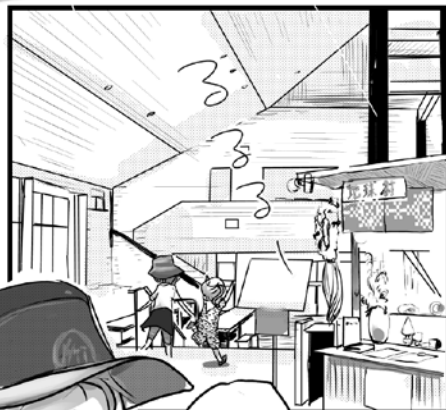
NEED CHEWING GUM?

YEAH.

ARE YOU OKAY?



WE'RE  
HERE!



MIKA-  
CHAN,  
YOU'RE  
LATE.

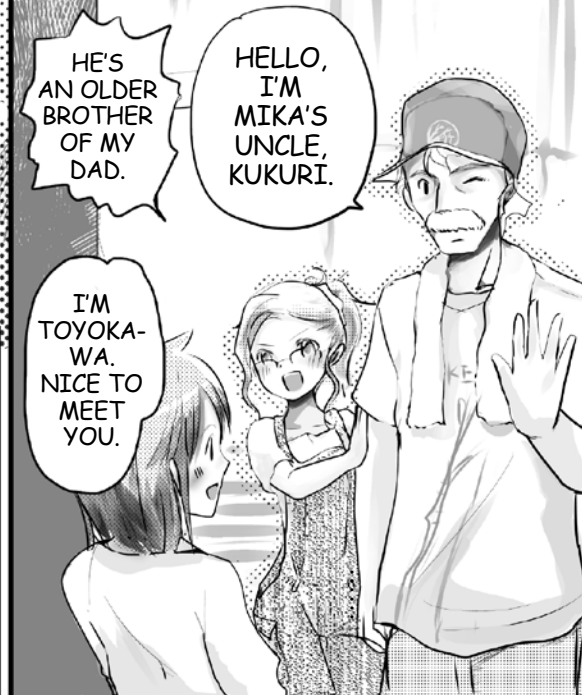
UNCLE!



NO,  
THAT'S  
OUT-  
SIDE.

IS THIS  
THE  
PLACE  
FOR  
FIRING?







THIS IS  
MY  
CHARCOAL  
KILN.  
PRETTY  
NICE, EH?

7  
7  
EVERYONE!

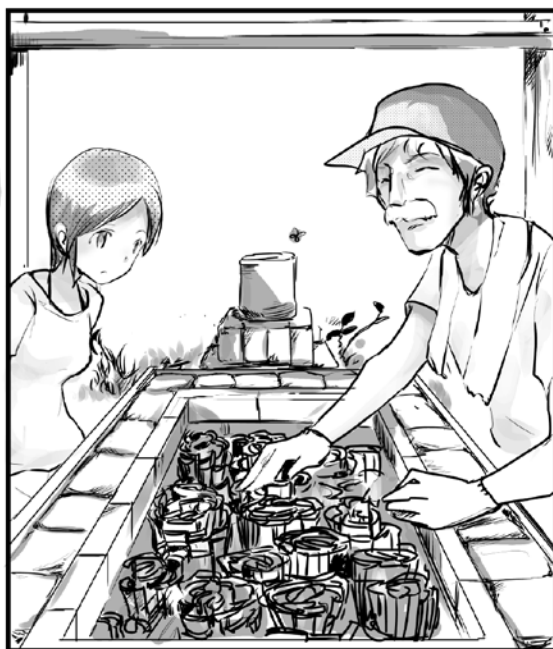
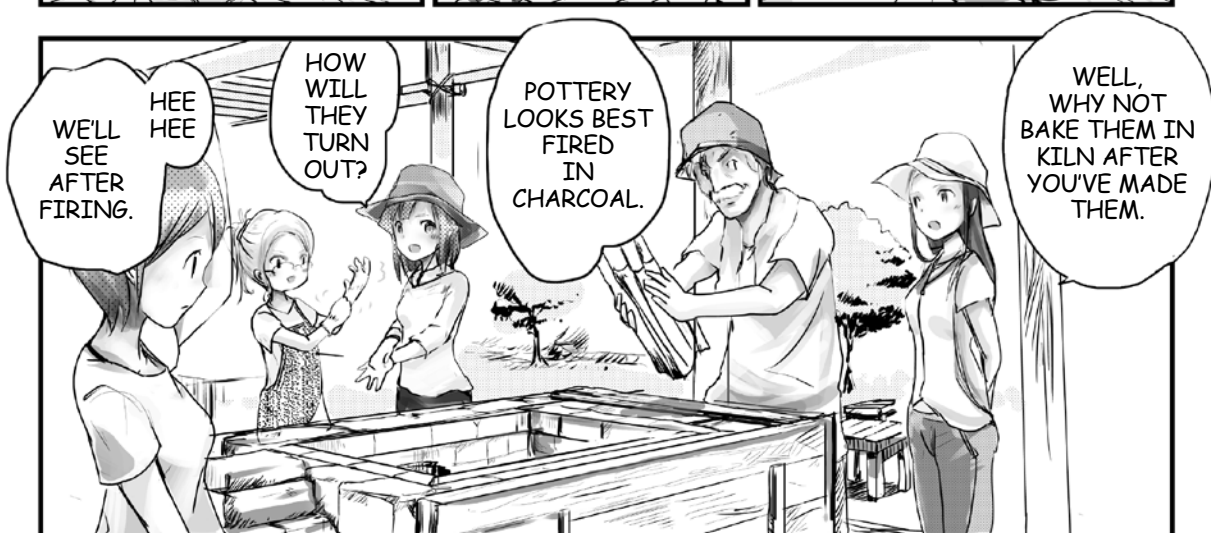
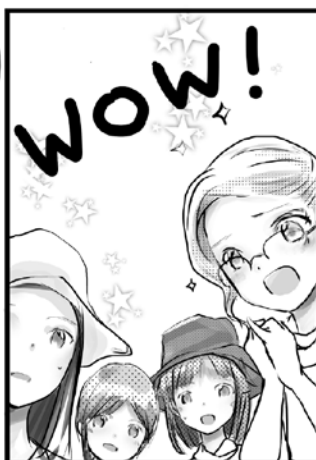


WHILE  
I WAITED  
THIS  
TIME  
I MADE...

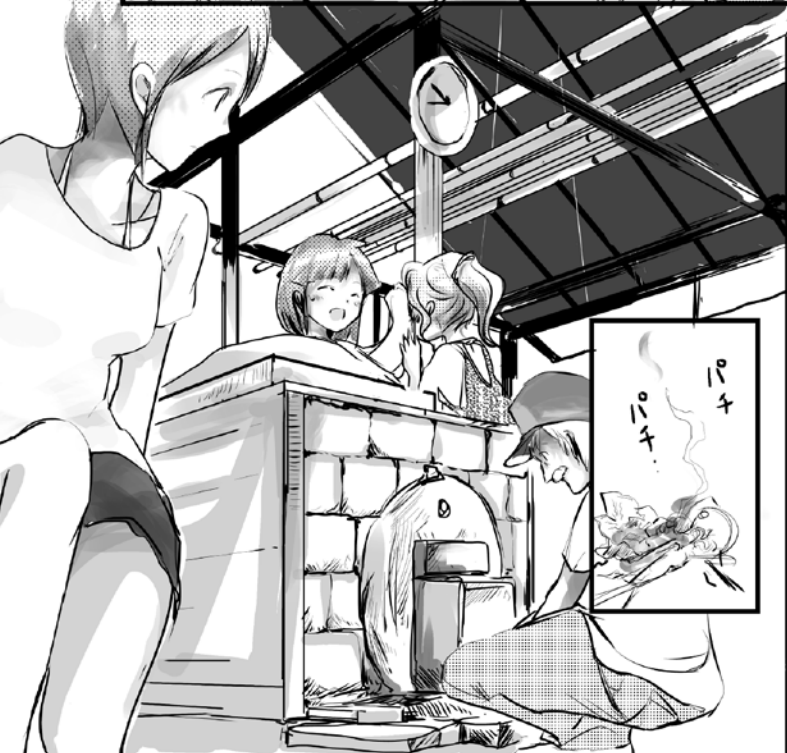
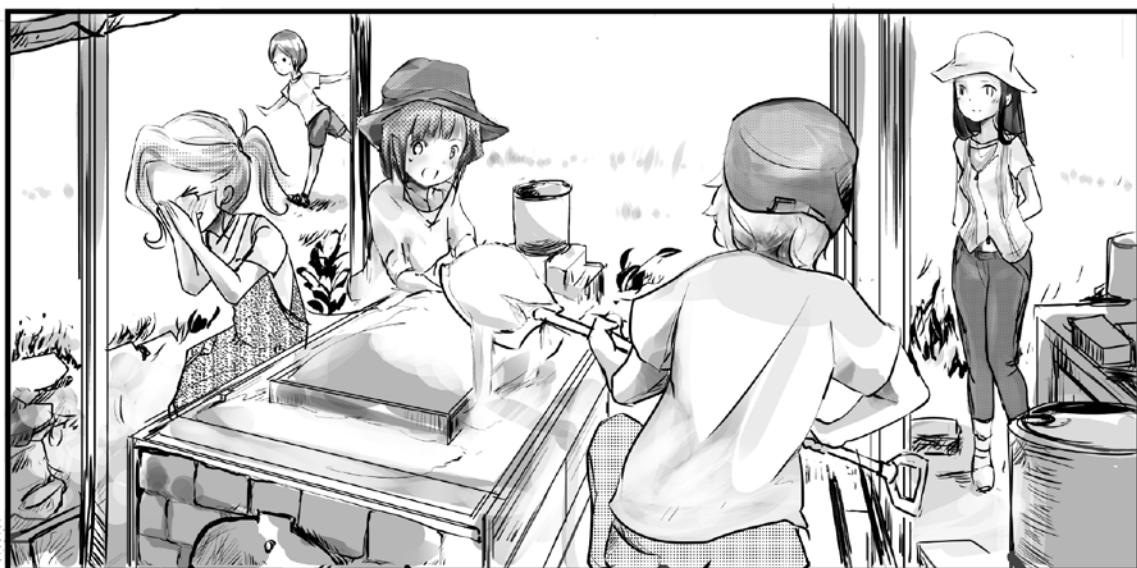
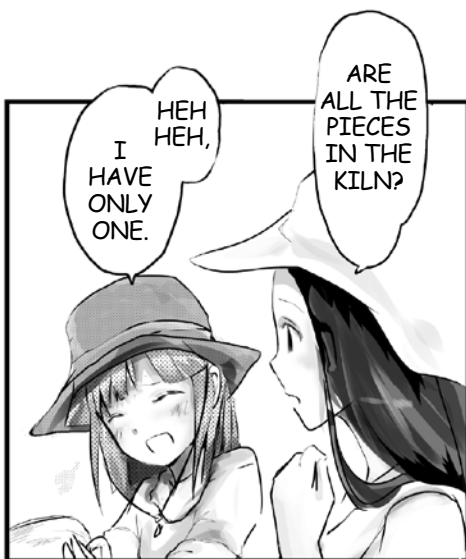
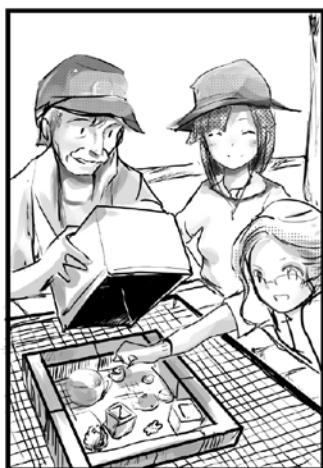
AND  
IT  
COMES  
OUT AS  
CHAR-  
COAL.

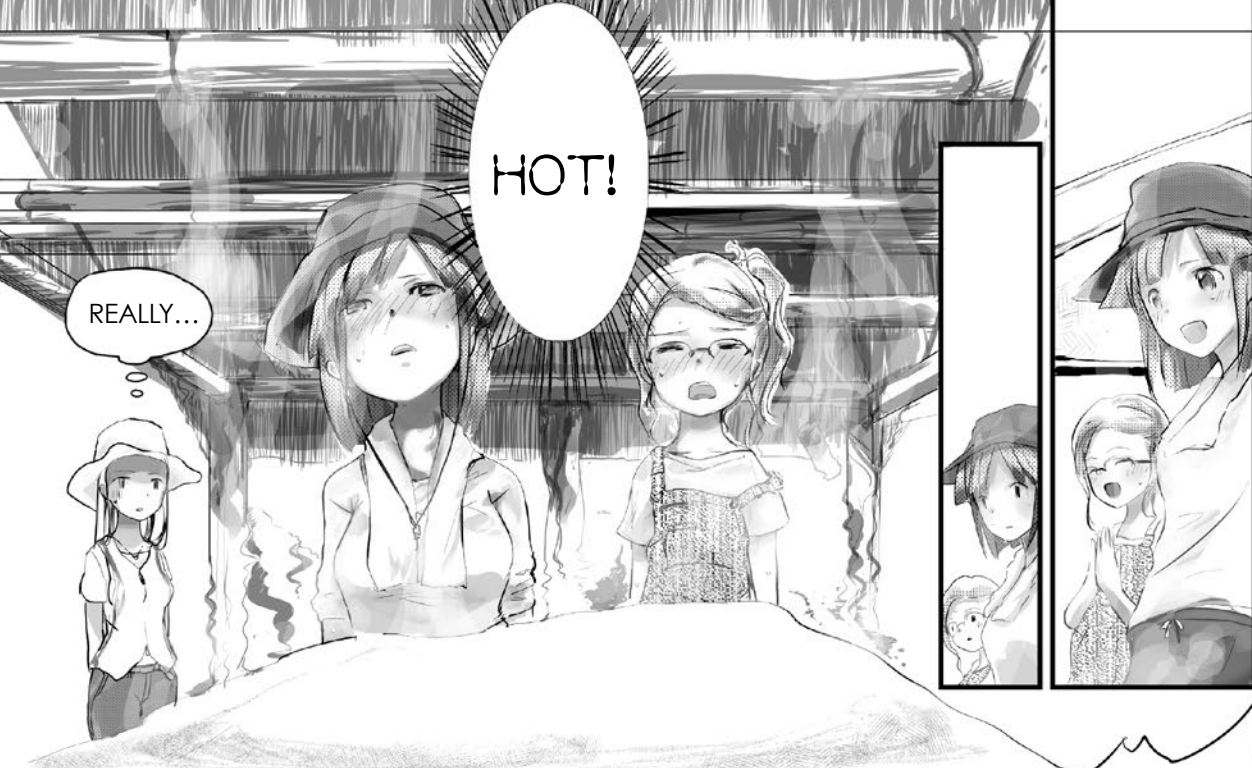
I PUT  
BAMBOO  
STICKS IN  
THERE FOR  
1 DAY.

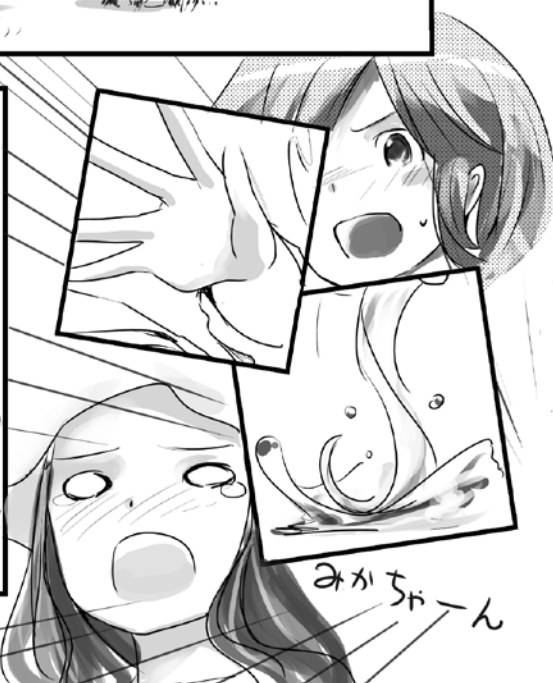
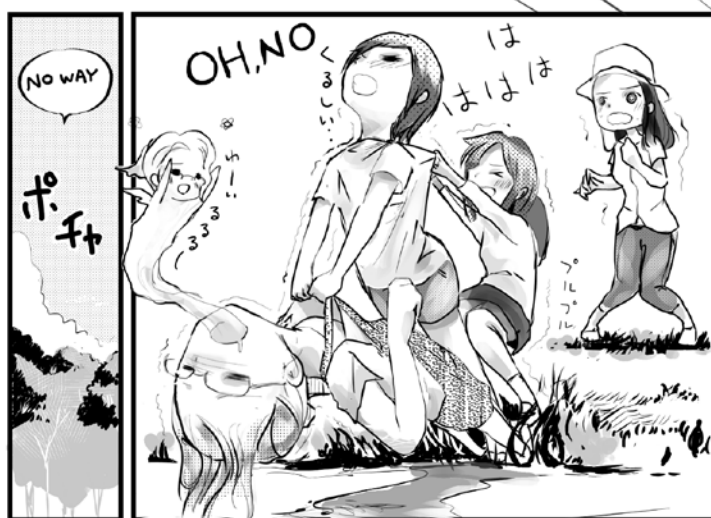




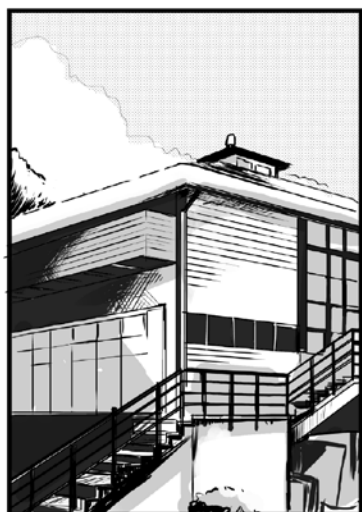


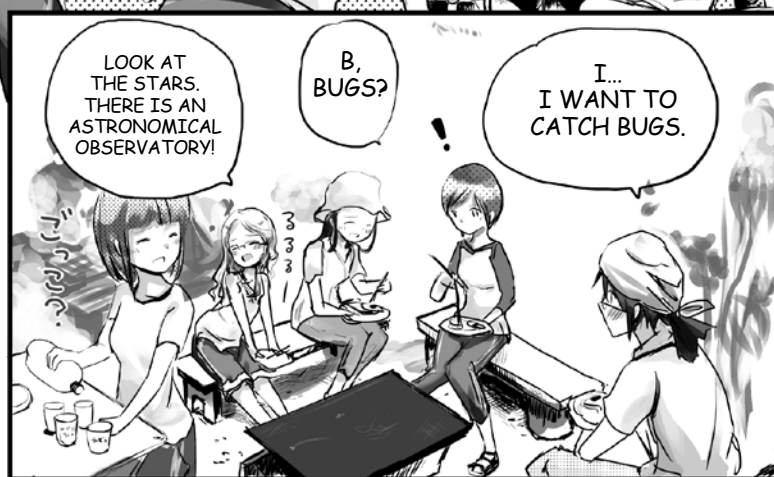


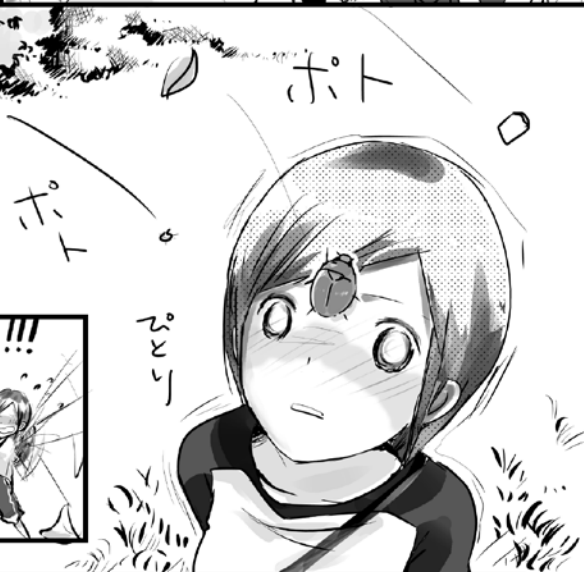
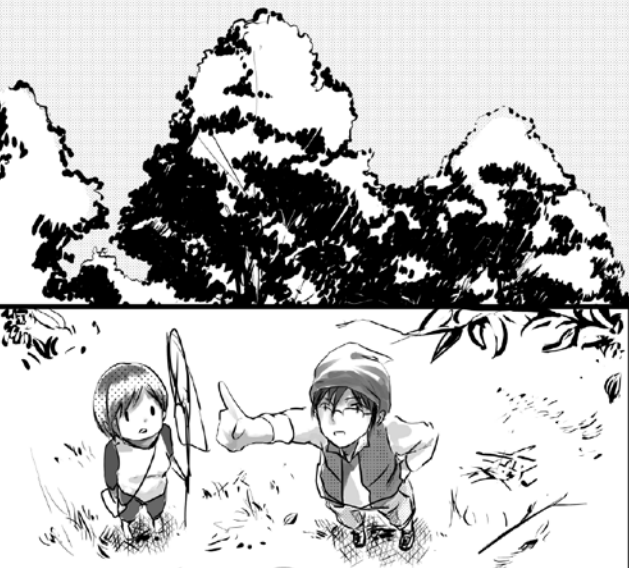
















WELL,  
A LOT OF  
THINGS



WHAT  
DO YOU  
USUALLY  
DO IN  
SUMMER?



I HAVE  
SOME  
SPRAY.

I'M  
ITCHY.

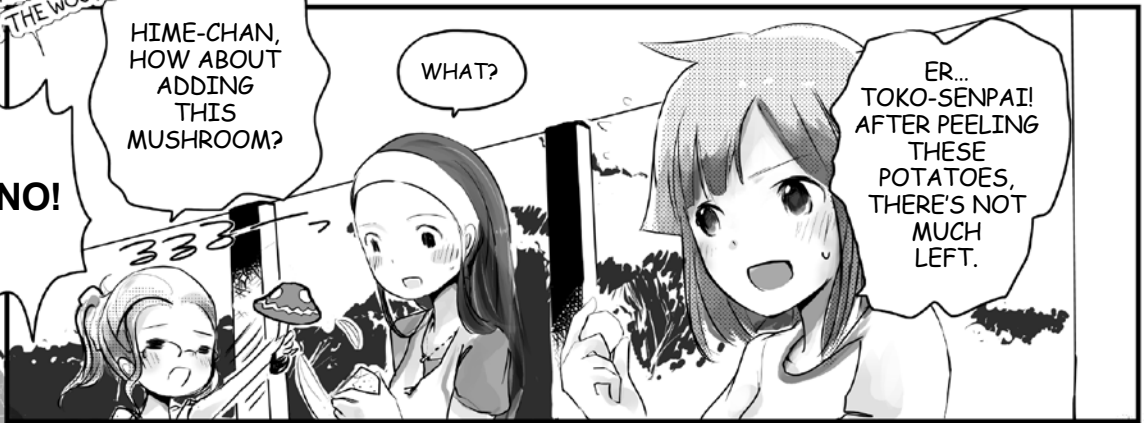
IT WAS  
IN THE WOODS!

HIME-CHAN,  
HOW ABOUT  
ADDING  
THIS  
MUSHROOM?

NO!

WHAT?

ER...  
TOKO-SENPAI!  
AFTER PEELING  
THESE  
POTATOES,  
THERE'S NOT  
MUCH  
LEFT.



YOU'RE  
LATE.  
DID YOU  
GET  
SOME-  
THING?

HI!

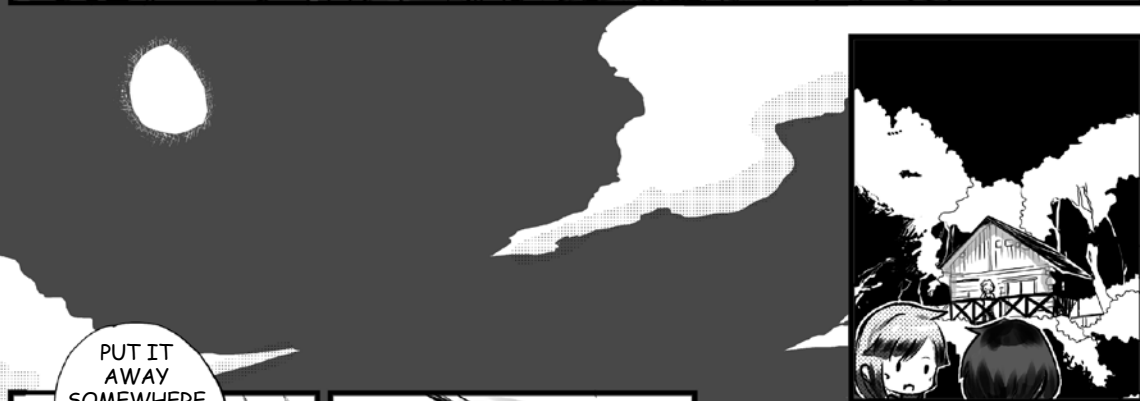
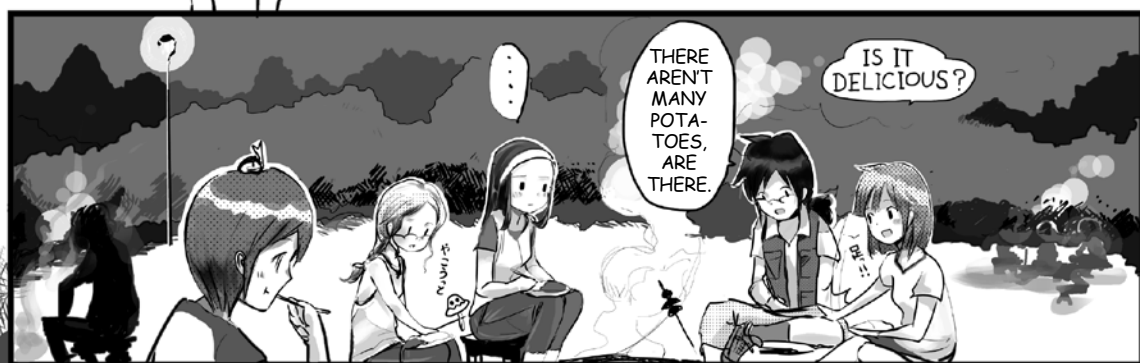


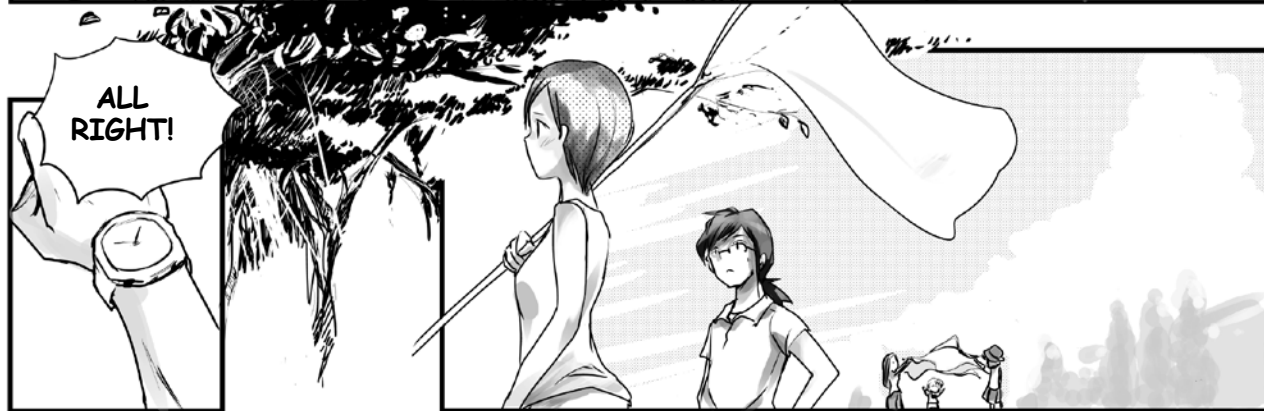
I'VE LOST  
MY TOUCH.  
I USED  
TO BE  
A  
YAKISOBA  
MASTER...

IF  
WE LEAVE  
THINGS LIKE  
THIS,  
KUKURI-  
CHAN IS  
GOING TO  
GO "TASTE"  
AWAY  
EVERYONE'S  
FOOD!

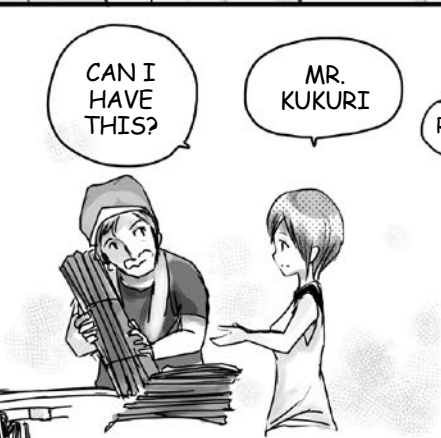
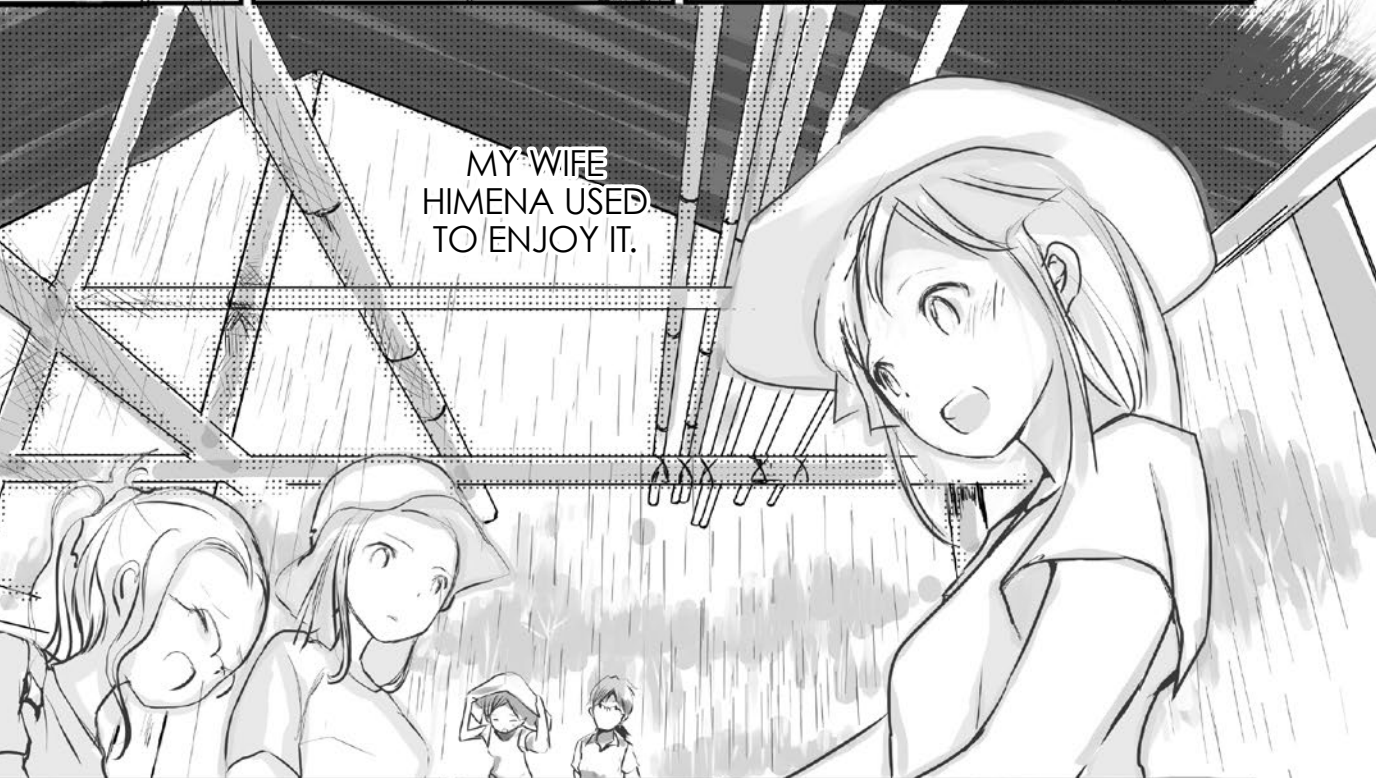
DAD!  
YOU'RE  
LATE!













LOOK!  
MINE  
AREN'T  
BROKEN.

BAMBOO  
SOOT  
TURNED  
TO SILVER.

**VERY  
BLACK**



HEH  
HEH  
HEH

SO  
THAT'S  
HOW IT  
TURNED  
OUT.

I SEE.  
IT  
LOOKS  
GOOD.

WELL,  
I DON'T  
KNOW.

IS  
THAT  
RIGHT?

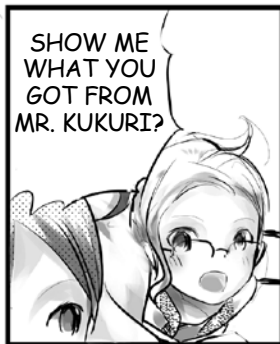
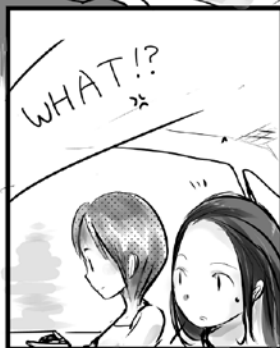


IT'S  
MY  
BEETLE.

WHAT!?

THAT'S  
A WHALE!!

SHOW ME  
WHAT YOU  
GOT FROM  
MR. KUKURI?



## The Summer Heat in Tajimi

Tajimi-city, Gifu is well known as one of the hottest cities in Japan in the summer.

On the weather forecast, Tajimi is almost daily cited as one of the cities which had a particularly high temperature.

Tajimi is located in a temperate zone.

According to the Meteorological Agency, days with temperatures above 30 degrees are defined as a “tropical”, and days with temperatures above 35 degrees are defined as “moshobi”-heatwaves.

There were 23 tropical days and 8 heatwaves in July, 2014.

Ishigaki island, Okinawa, at the southernmost part of Japan, is located in a subtropical zone. It had tropical weather every day, but no heatwaves in July 2014.

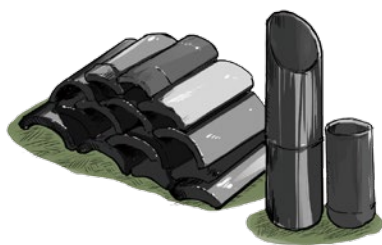
The study says that Tajimi’s geographical features of basin and a foehn phenomenon bring the heat to it. It results in summers with high humidity.

## The best measures against the heat in Japan

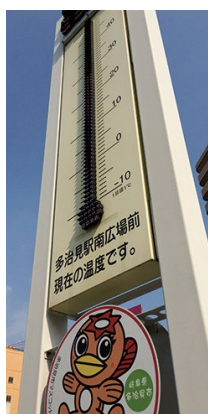
On hot days, Unagapa, Tajimi’s mascot character, makes its appearance at JR Tajimi station. It does various kinds of activities: for example, handing out uchiwas (Japanese fans), warning people to take precautions against heatstroke, and handing out goya (a bitter cucumber) seedlings to encourage the public to build a “green curtain” against the heat.



Goya green curtain at Tajimi city library



A thermometer is set at JR Tajimi train station.



## The heat in the daytime, the coolness at night

There are few sweltering nights although Tajimi records the highest temperatures on record in the daytime.

This is because the Toki River and basin landscape make it difficult for the air to spread horizontally. The warm air escapes perpendicularly after sunset and the temperature drops easily.

## Nature experiential accomodation “Sannokura Chikyumura”

“Sannokura Chikyumura” is an experimental natural accommodation in Sannokura, Tajimi.

There are an astronomical observatory, a camping ground and sports facilities, where various kinds of events are held in accordance with the season.

In Yakumo manga, Kukuri Mika’s uncle who makes bamboo charcoal is modeled on a group of people who used this facility.

There are similar facilities all over the country. They function to preserve local tradition and culture.

## Takesumi (Bamboo Charcoal)

Takesumi is a man-made porous product. It can be used for various purposes, such as adjusting humidity, deodorization, air purification, etc.

Its minerals might also be used and anti-bacterials.

The tubular shape of takesumi makes it good to use as a decoration.



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