

BOOKS FROM TAIWAN
COMICS



BOOKS FROM TAIWAN

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MINISTRY OF CULTURE, REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

TRANSLATION GRANT PROGRAM

Books from Taiwan supports the translation of Taiwanese literature into foreign languages with the Translation Grant Program, administered by The Ministry of Culture of Taiwan. The grant is to encourage the publication of translations of Taiwan's literature, including fiction, non-fiction, picture books and comics, and help Taiwan's publishing industry to explore non-Chinese international markets.

- Applicant Eligibility: Foreign publishers (legal persons) legally registered in accordance with the laws and regulations of their respective countries.
- Conditions:
 1. Works translated shall be original, published works (for example, fiction, non-fiction, picture books, and comics but not anthologies) by Taiwanese writers (Republic of China nationals) in traditional Chinese characters.
 2. Priority is given to works to be translated and published for the first time in a non-Chinese language market.
 3. Applicants are not limited to submitting only one project for funding in each application year; however, an applicant may only receive funding for up to three projects in any given round of applications.
 4. Projects receiving funding shall have already obtained authorization for translation, and be published within two years starting from the date of announcement of grant recipients (published before the end of October).
- Funding Items and Amount
 1. Funds may cover licensing fees going to the rights holder of the original work, translation fees, and promotional fees (limited to an economy-class airline ticket for authors who are citizens of the Republic of China traveling abroad to attend promotional activities), and book production fees.
 2. The maximum funding available for any given project is NT\$ 600,000 (including income tax and remittance charges).
 3. Priority consideration will be given to those works that have not yet been published in a language other than Chinese, as well as winners of a Golden Tripod Award, Golden Comic Award, or Taiwan Literature Golden Award (list appended).
- Application Period: Twice every year. The MOC reserves the right to change the application periods, and will announce said changes separately.
- Announcement of successful applications: Winners will be announced within three months of the end of the application period.
- Application Method: Please visit the Ministry's "Books from Taiwan" (BFT) website (<http://booksfromtaiwan.tw/>), and use the online application system.

For full details of the Translation Grant Program, please visit

http://booksfromtaiwan.tw/grant_en.php

Or contact: books@moc.gov.tw

BOOKS FROM TAIWAN
COMICS (From Right to Left)

BLOSSOM

百花百色



- Publisher: Gaea Books
- Date: 12/2018
- Rights contact: booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- Pages: 210
- Volume: 1 (END)

A young girl explores her gender identity, with a close-up look at her internal struggles and a realistic view of the tradition and social context she lives in. Published just as Taiwan became the first country in Asia to legalize gay marriage, this is a timely read.

The flowers of the legendary Hundred Flowers Bridge represent children soon to be born: white flowers for boys, red flowers for girls. Lady Linshui, who looks over the bridge, can decide whether a boy or a girl will be born – but if you wish for boys, there is a Daoist ritual that will ensure your wish is granted.

Grown-ups have always told Yu-Fan that a girl should act like a girl: learn the piano; be quiet and dignified rather than noisy and rough; and wear skirts. Under pressure from her mother and grandmother, Yu-Fan has no choice but to hide who she really is and dress up as the girl they want her to be.

One day, she learns her mother carried out that Daoist ritual while she was pregnant, in order to ensure a boy. And as she reaches puberty, she realizes she is not developing in the same way as the other girls and becomes even more confused. Then a cousin she has always looked up to invites her to an LGBT event, helps her learn about herself, and takes her to a gay wedding. Things start to become clearer for Yu-Fan.

This graphic novel was published shortly before Taiwan legalized gay marriage. It takes a close look at the main character's exploration of her gender as she grows, and the family traditions and religious beliefs that stand in her way. It is an accurate reflection of progress in gender issues in Taiwan.



D.S.

From Keelung, Taiwan. Has published *The Boxes* on the Sun Comics platform. Particularly good at expressing the intricate emotions of young women.





I had to start pretending to be one.

So, before I even knew what it meant to be a woman,



BECAUSE BOYS AND GIRLS ARE DIFFERENT, AND GIRLS LOOK NICE IN A SKIRT.



WHY DO I HAVE TO WEAR A SKIRT TO GO TO JUNIOR HIGH?



DO WE? IT FEELS LIKE HAVING AN OLD TOWEL WRAPPED AROUND ME.

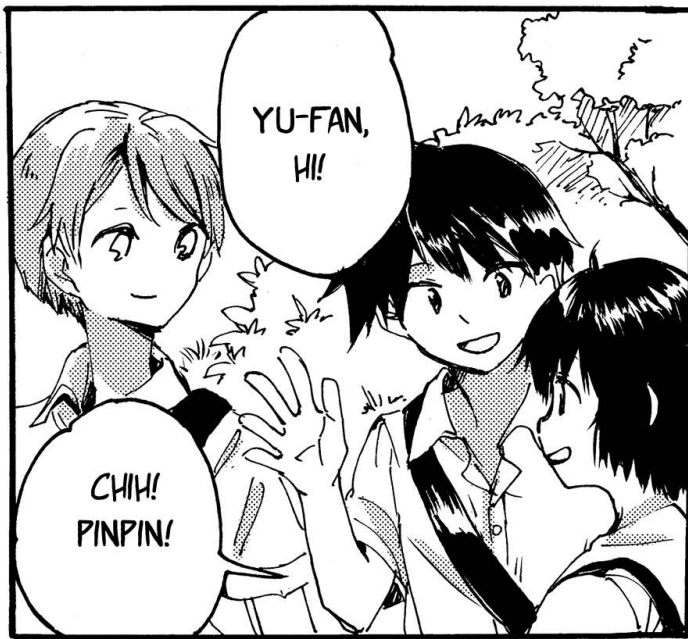


WHISTLE



NEW SCHOOL, SAME OLD FACES!

YEAH, SO MUCH FOR SOMETHING NEW.



YU-FAN, HI!

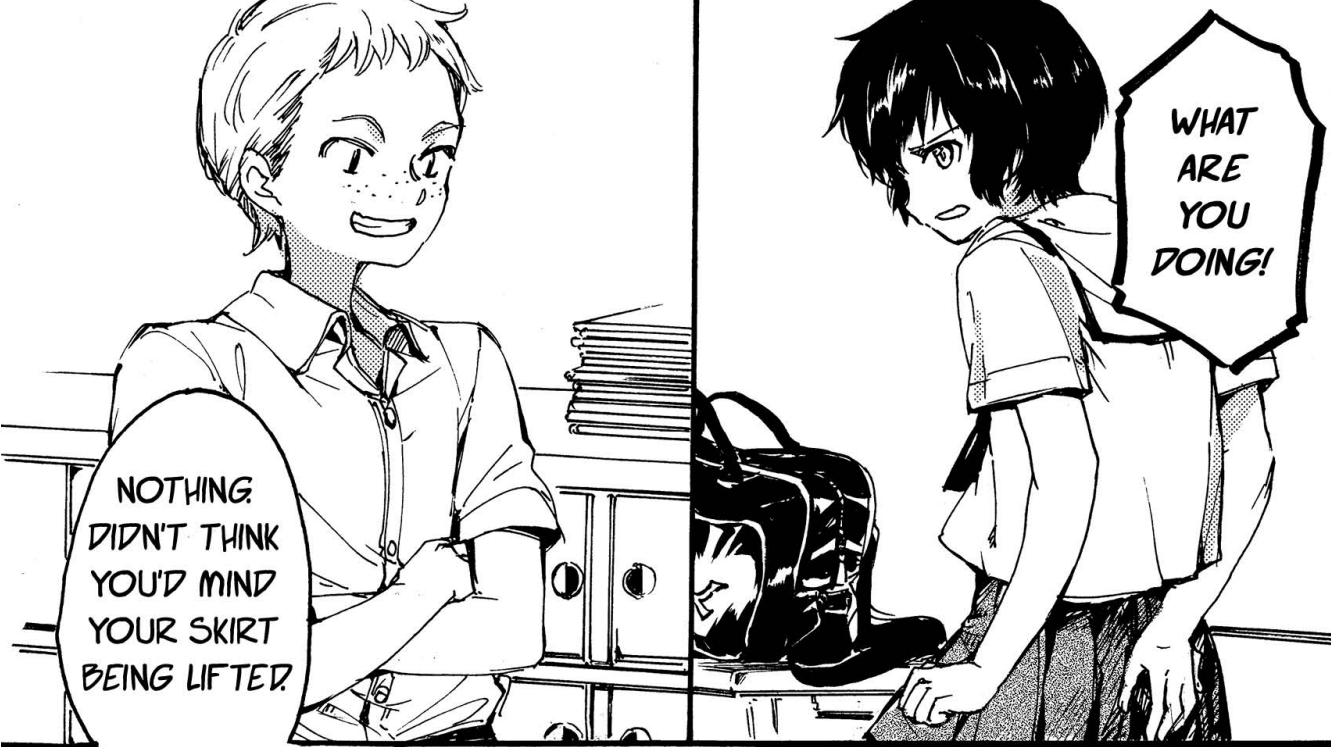
CHIH! PINPIN!



Flick~



HEY, IT'S THE TOMBOY!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING!

NOTHING
DIDN'T THINK
YOU'D MIND
YOUR SKIRT
BEING LIFTED

MAYBE YOU
ARE A GIRL
AFTER ALL!

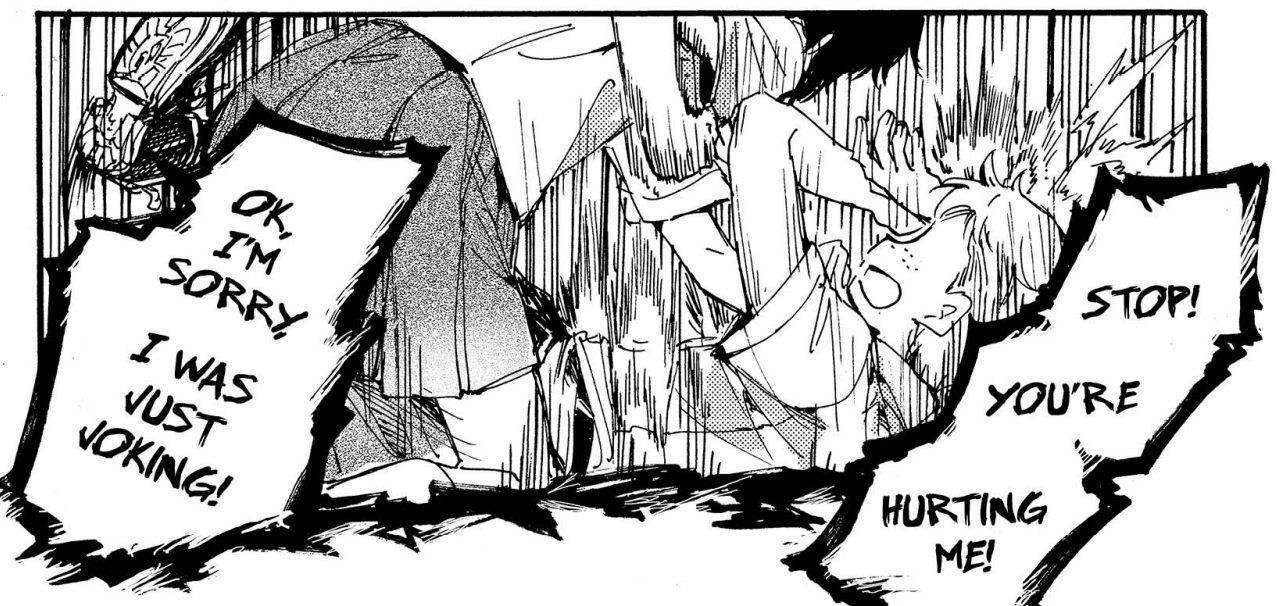


PUT SOME
SHORTS ON
UNDERNEATH
IF YOU
DON'T WANT
US TO SEE.



OH, SO
IT'S FINE
TO DO
THAT TO
GIRLS?

YOU DON'T EVEN
KNOW HOW TO
PROTECT YOURSELF



CHIH, GET HER
OTHER ARM,
PULL HER OFF.

YU-FAN!
STOP THAT!

YOU
THINK I
WANTED
TO
WEAR
THIS?

So this
is what
getting
older is
about.

I SAID
SORRY,

YOU
CAN'T
KEEP
HITTING
ME.

Putting kids into little boxes: boys, girls.



JUST YOU WAIT!
I'M GOING TO TELL
MY MOM TO COME IN!

Obeying rules made up who knows who.



I'M SO SORRY,

OUR YU-FAN CAN BE TOO ROUGH...

HOW ARE YOU RAISING THE CHILD? SHE'S GOT NO MANNERS AT ALL.

YOU GOT HIS NEW UNIFORM DIRTY ON THE FIRST DAY. YOU'LL NEED TO PAY FOR A NEW ONE.

SO MUCH FOR MOM SPEAKING UP FOR ME...



BLOWING-UP ADVENTURE OF ME!

廢廢子の充氣大冒險



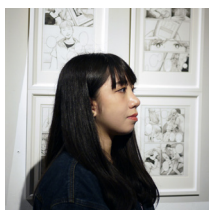
- Publisher: Self-publishing
- Date: 10/2017
- Rights contact:
booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- Pages: 66
- Volume: 3 (ongoing)

After being dumped, Huihui finds herself turned into a blow-up doll – and only an orgasm will break the curse. Can she get past the heartbreak, self-doubt and pain to become a real woman again?

Huihui's boyfriend breaks up with her, and she becomes a blow-up doll, in need of constant reinflation to survive. But if she sees a happy couple on the street, she loses air. If she dwells on past unhappiness, she loses air. If she sits quietly at home, she loses air. And only achieving an orgasm can break the curse and make Huihui human again.

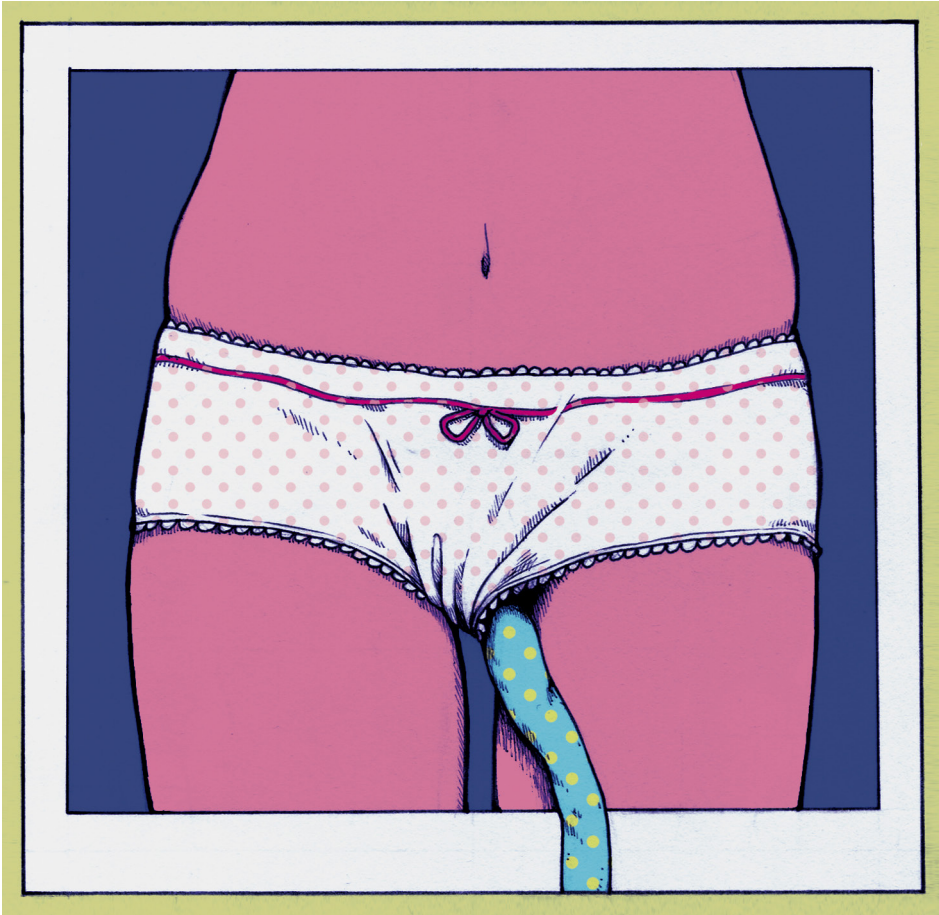
But what is the quickest route back for Huihui? Should she find a new boyfriend? Or a one-night stand? Masturbation doesn't seem to count. She decides to try the hot new dating app and searches for sex and love online. But can Huihui, insecure about her body and still hurting from her breakup, find the orgasm she needs?

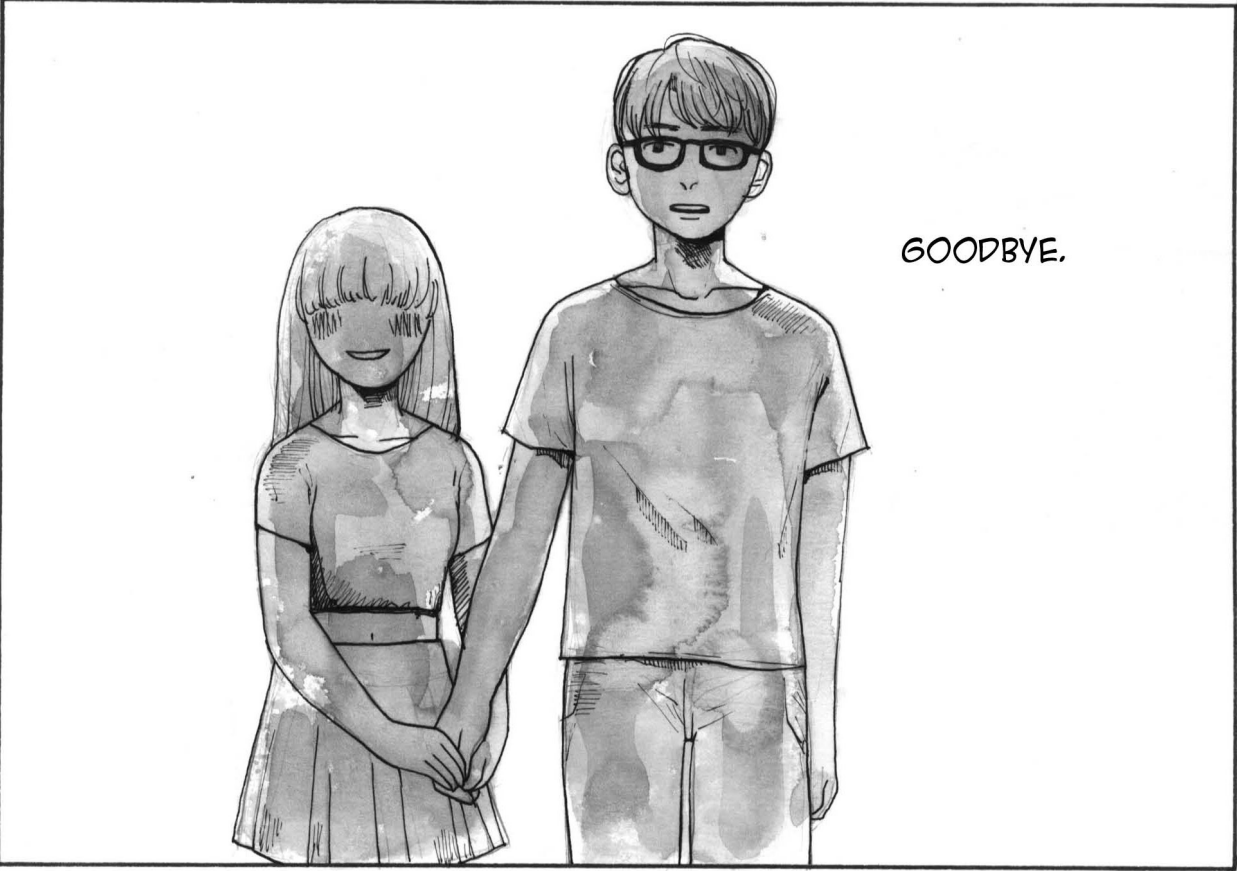
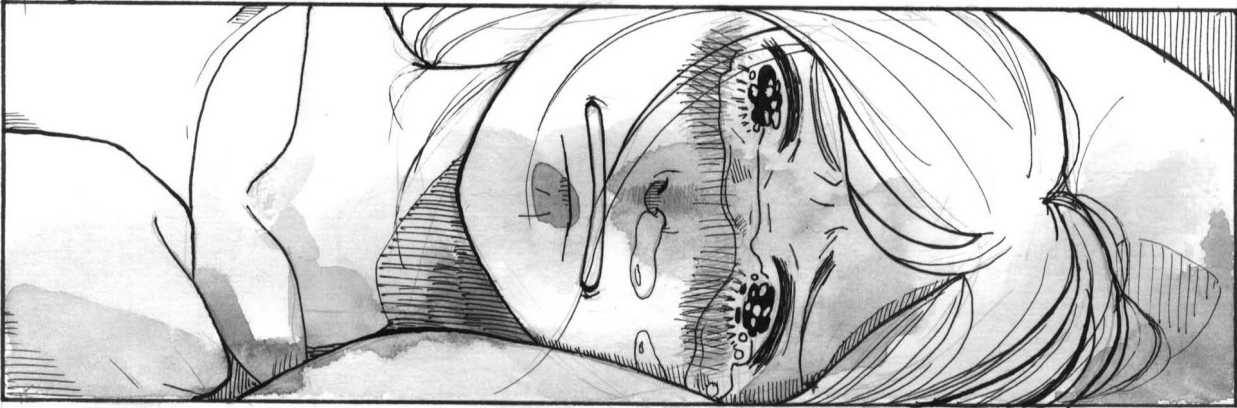
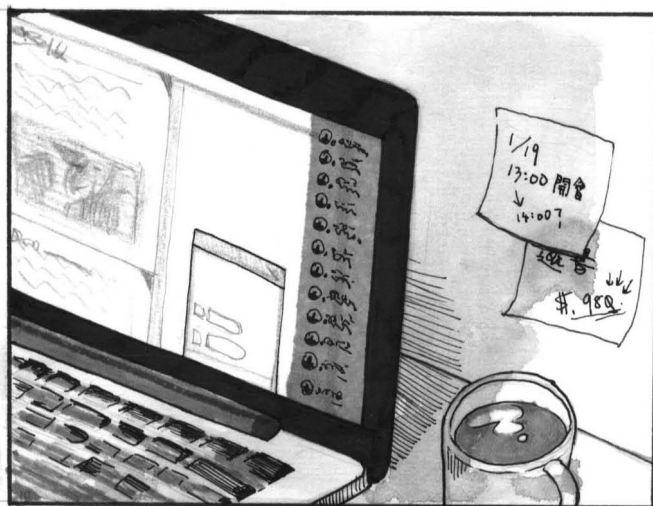
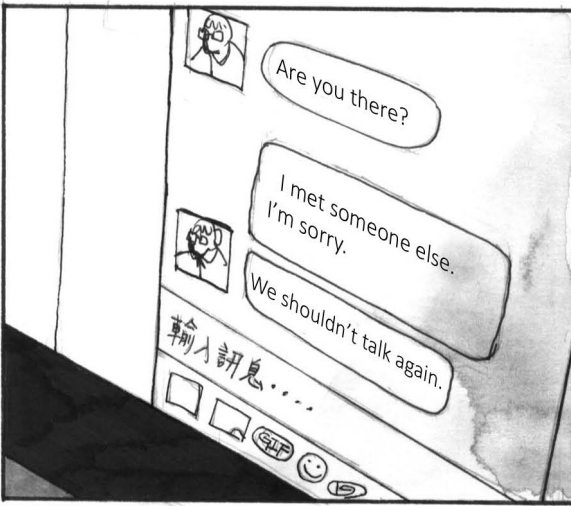
Sex is a key part of a loving relationship, but rarely discussed in Asia. And while this may be a fantastical tale, much is drawn from reality. It depicts nudity without becoming pornographic and describes Huihui's emotions while also moving the narrative forward. The book exposes how women doubt themselves, and how they feel about sex.

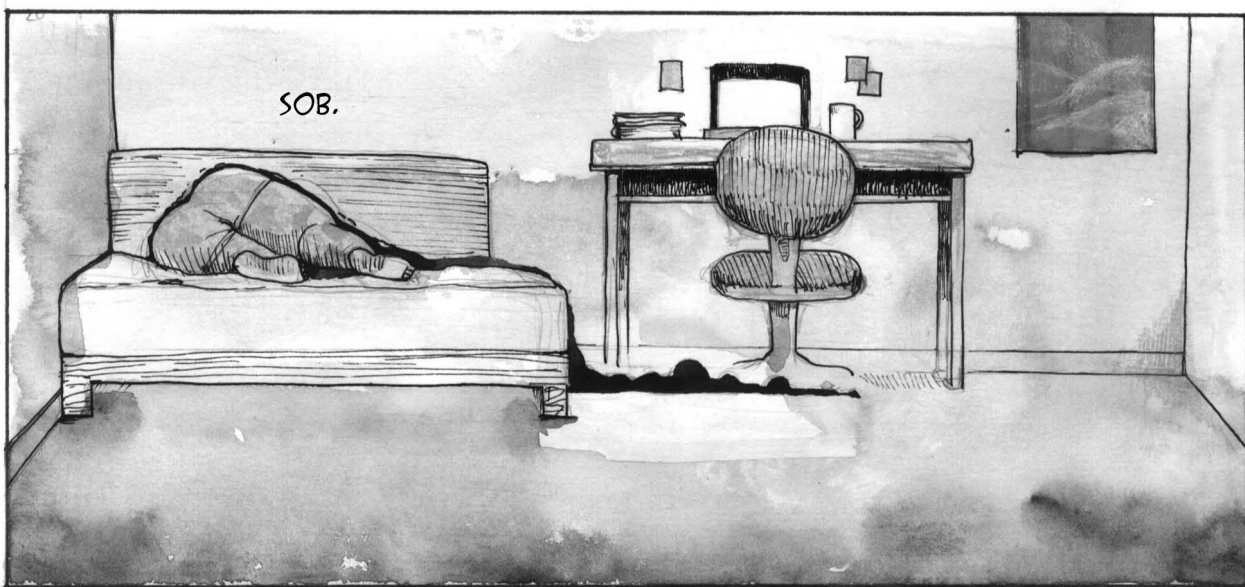
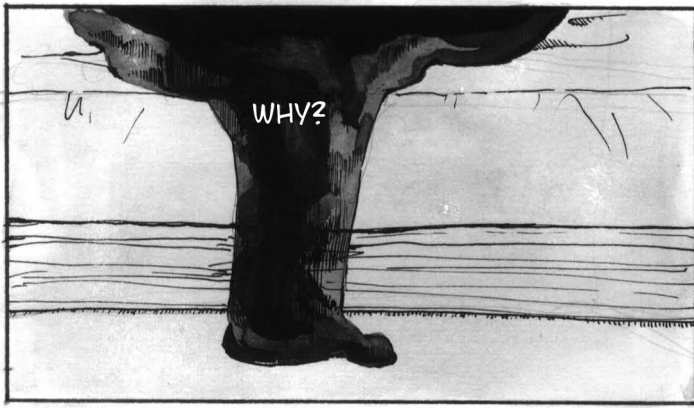
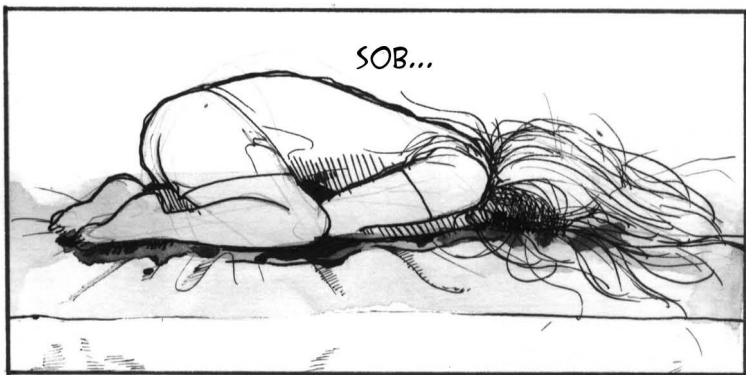


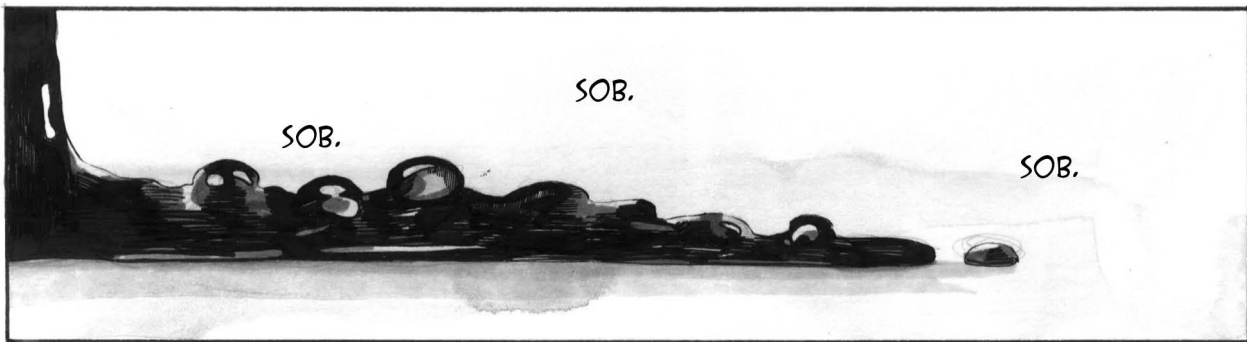
HUIHUI

A fine arts graduate of National Taiwan Normal University, Huihui excels at depicting female psychology. Her first graphic novel, *Blowing-Up Adventure of Me!*, grew out of her graduation project and was hugely popular when serialized online.









SOB.

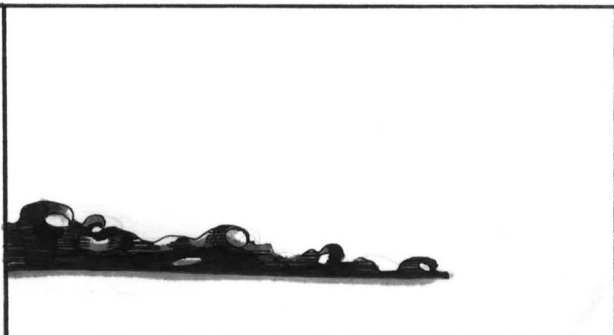
SOB.

SOB.



WHY...

...DID THIS HAPPEN?

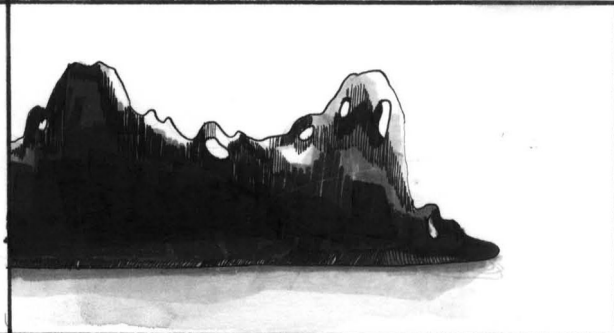


WAAA...



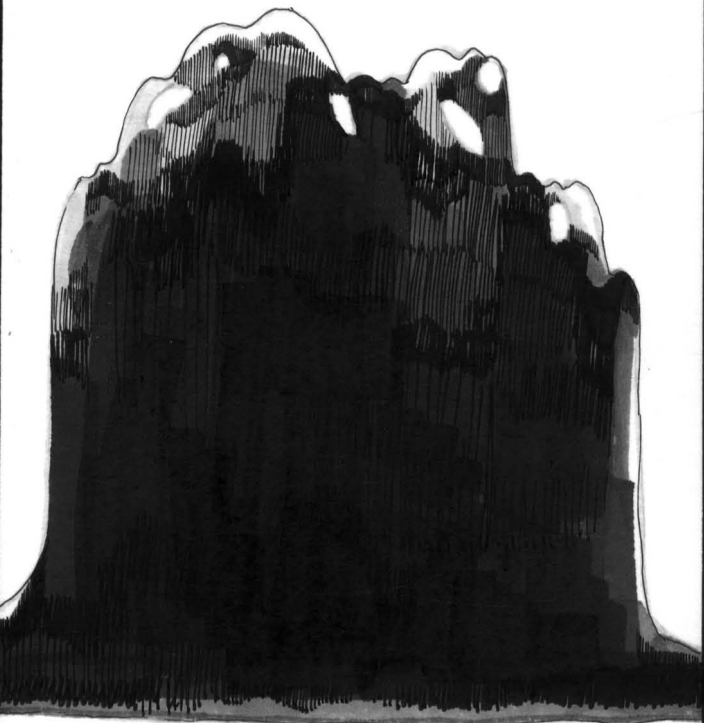
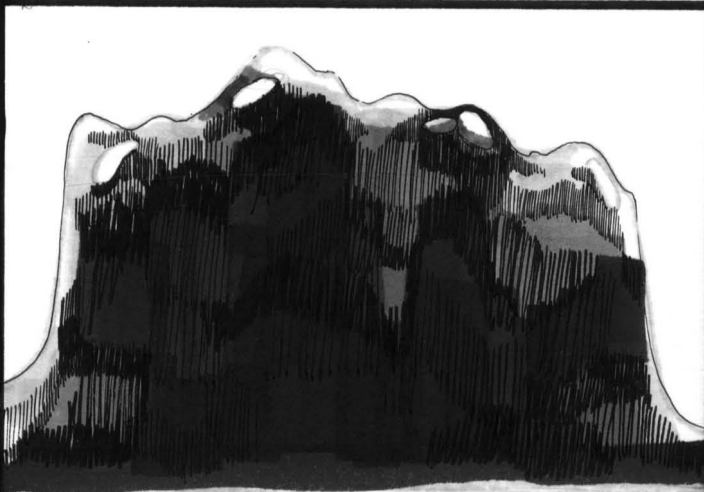
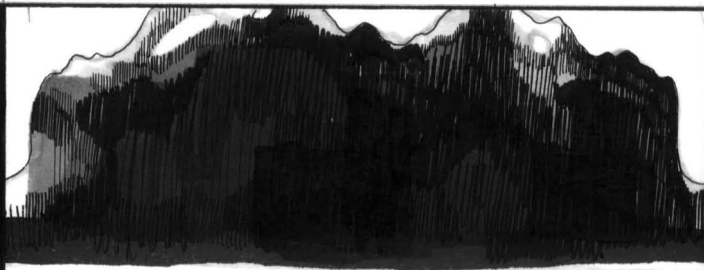
GO TO HELL!

ALL OF YOU,
GO TO HELL!

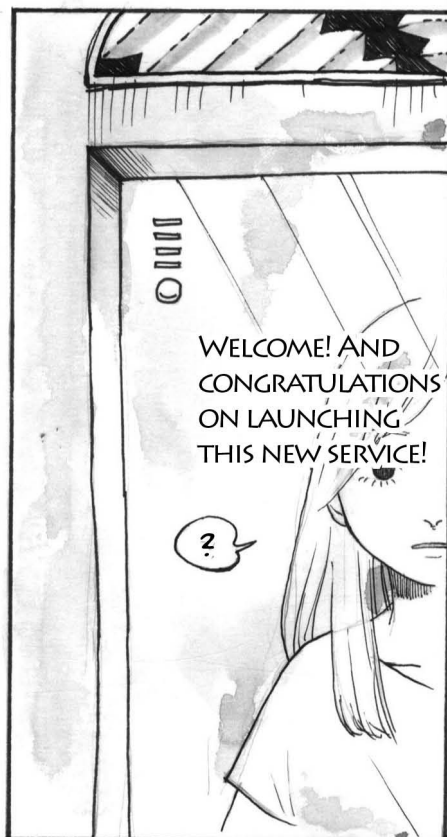
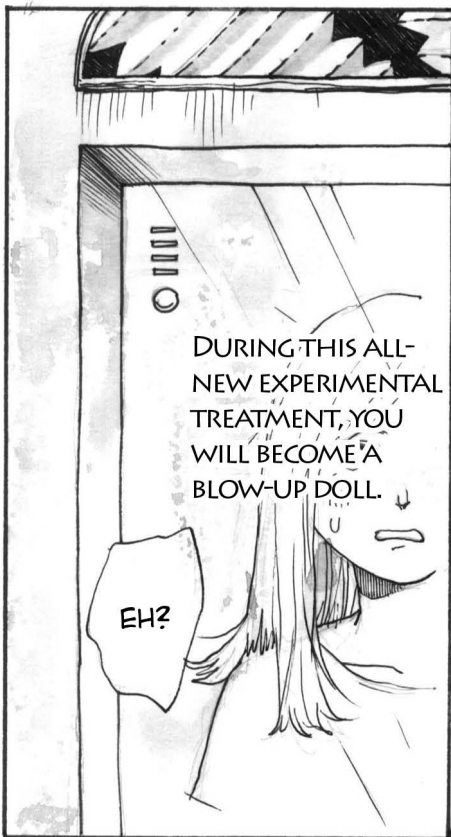
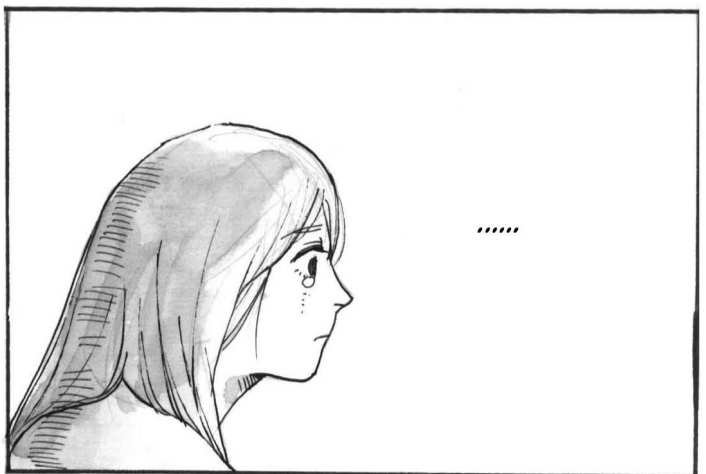


SOB.

SOB.







BACK STREET DUSK

消逝的後街光影



- Publisher: Gaea Books
- Date: 12/2018
- Rights contact:
booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- Pages: 250
- Volume: 1 (END)

A teenager finds his deceased grandfather's possessions in a storeroom and as a result meets a man dedicated to restoring old films. The two embark on a quest in search of an old movie. A story of film restoration, Taiwanese Hokkien cinema and family.

Taiwanese Hokkien cinema flourished in the 1960s. But the arrival of television broadcasts, government policies promoting Mandarin and intrusive censorship practices changed that. And now the glories of that golden age are, like reels of film in a basement, forgotten.

Happy's job is to track down those lost movies and restore them using cutting-edge tech. One day he comes across a video online showing a teenager, Chung, opening a crate of his grandfather's belongings. And in the crate – a copy of the long-lost classic, *The Back Streets*.

Happy rushes to the boy's house to save the film reels: if they aren't stored in a temperature-controlled environment they will soon deteriorate in Taiwan's heat and humidity. But on arriving, he is disappointed to find the film has deteriorated past the point of recovery. But Chung, also disappointed, joins Happy's quest and searches for a copy of his grandfather's film.

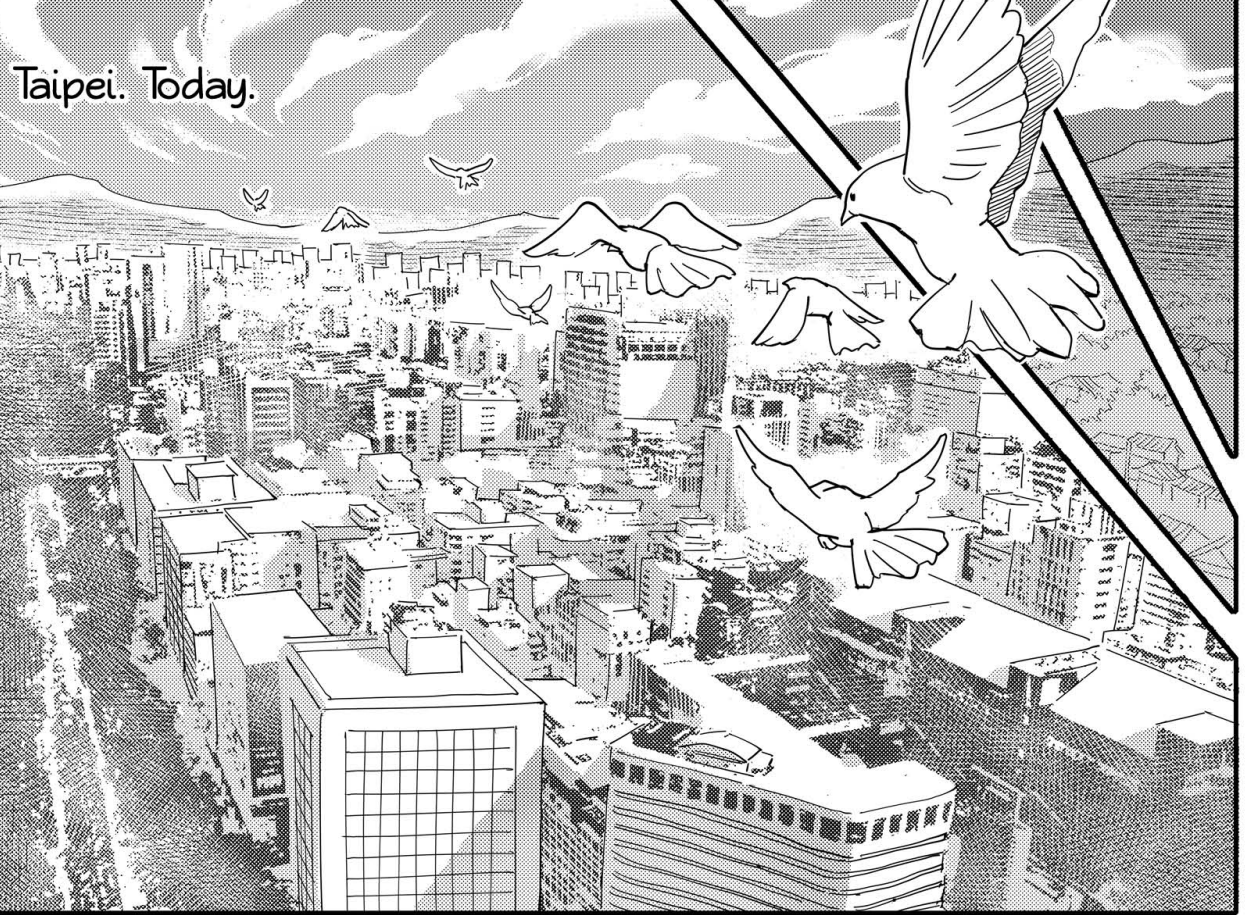
Golden Comic Award winner Jian Jia-Cheng again produces a graphic novel of historical accuracy and heart. The story takes place both in the current day, as Happy and Chung search for the lost movie, and in the past as Chung's grandfather makes it. It shows the painstaking efforts required to restore an old film, and how urgent the task is, as well as reminding us of the challenges filmmakers of the past faced and the passion with which they met those challenges.



JIAN JIA-CHENG 簡嘉誠

Despite having graduated with a BA in English, Jian Jia-Cheng decided he would spend his life drawing comics while still at middle school. After college, he worked as a financial cartoonist and as a storyboard artist for animation studios and advertisements. He began to publish his own original works, not only as a solo artist and writer, but also as a collaborator with others. His simple drawing style stands out from the various types of Japanese manga that dominate much of the comic market, and he has represented Taiwan at the Angoulême International Comics Festival.

Taipei. Today.



The stars in the sky are silent~





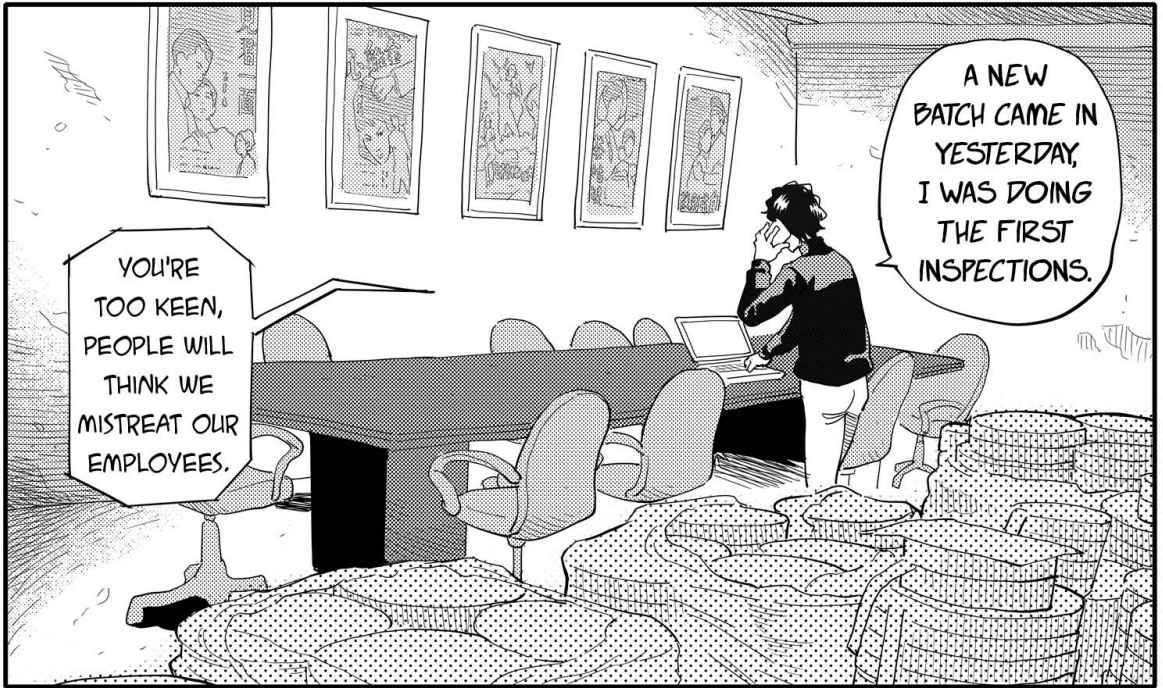
MY LAP-
TOP'S
AT
HOME.

YOU SLEPT
AT THE
ARCHIVE
AGAIN?
USE MINE.



UH...
HELLO?

HAPPY,
QUICK, LOOK
AT THE
YOUTUBE
LINK I JUST
SENT YOU!



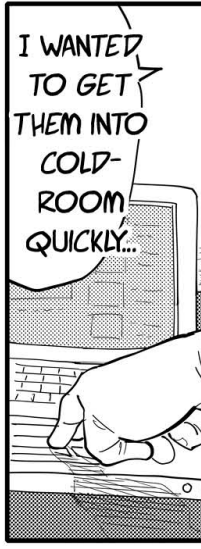
A NEW
BATCH CAME IN
YESTERDAY,
I WAS DOING
THE FIRST
INSPECTIONS.

YOU'RE
TOO KEEN,
PEOPLE WILL
THINK WE
MISTREAT OUR
EMPLOYEES.

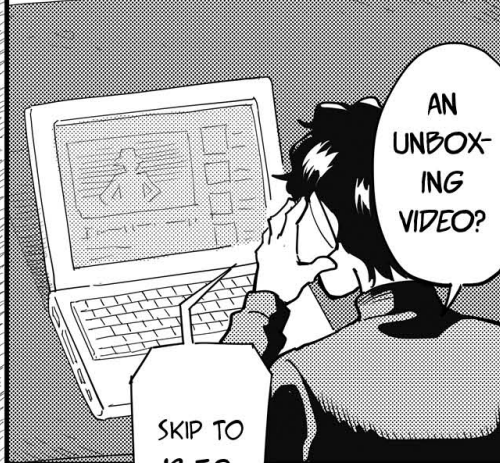
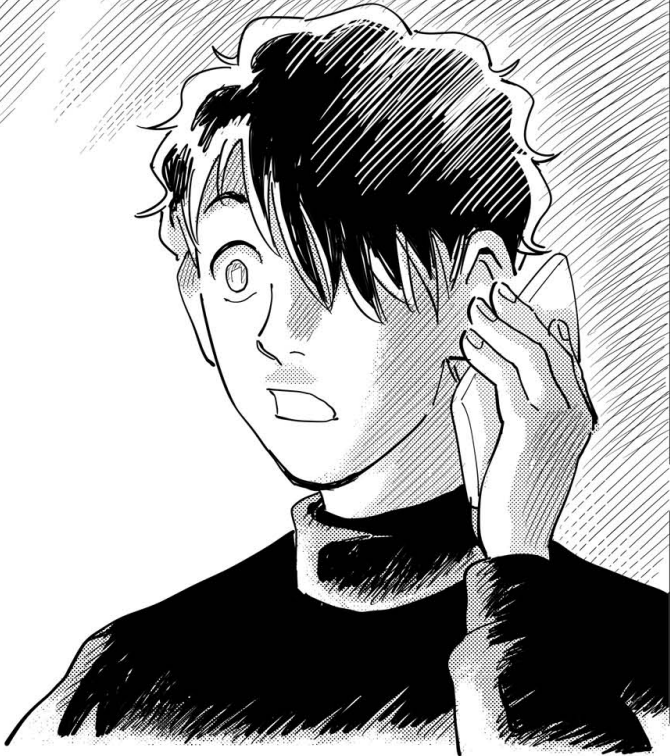


TODAY
WE'VE GOT
SOME MORE
WEIRD STUFF
TO UNBOX.

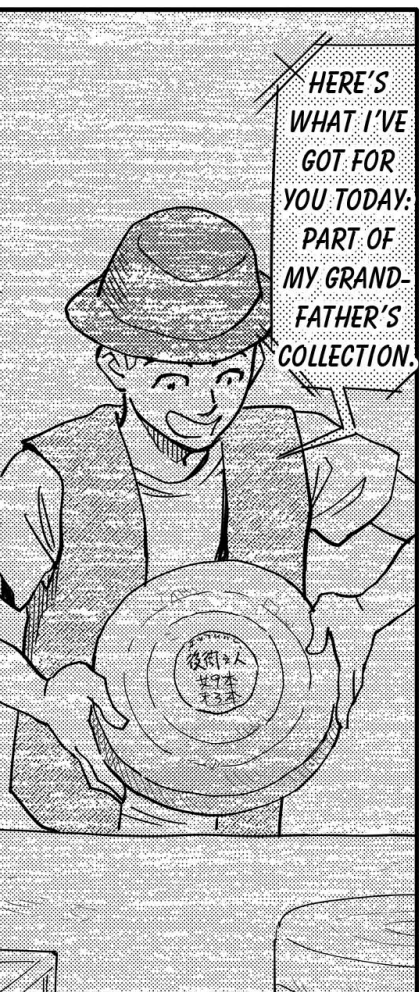
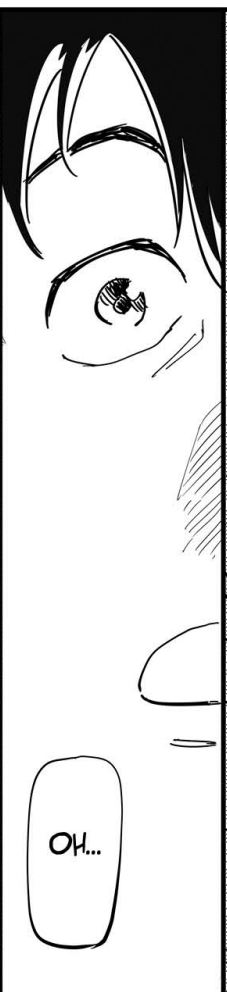
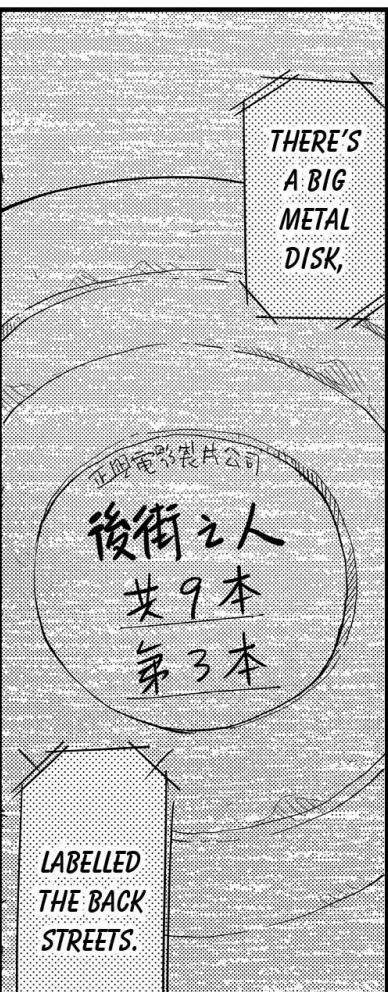
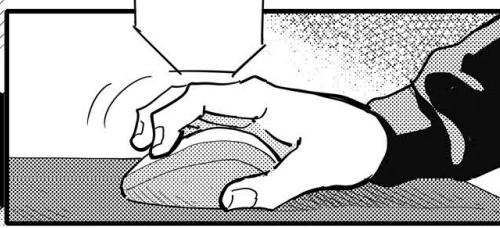
HELLO
EVERYONE,
THIS IS
CHUNG.

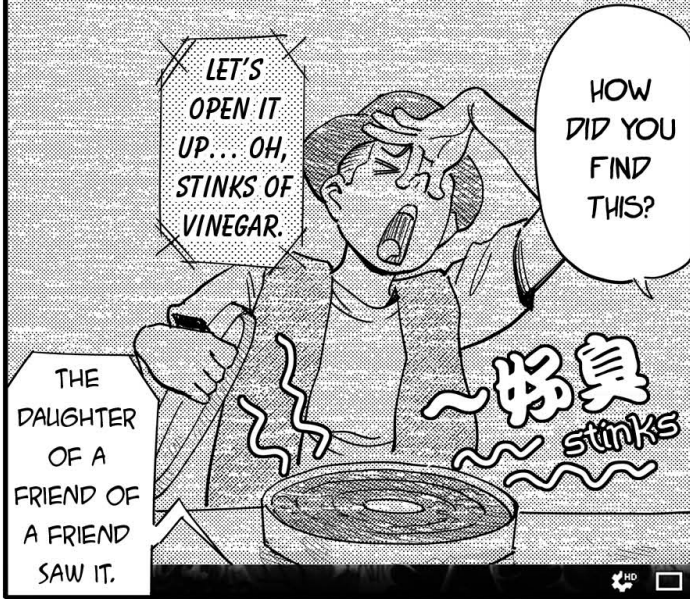


I WANTED
TO GET
THEM INTO
COLD-
ROOM
QUICKLY...



SKIP TO
12:58.





THE DAUGHTER OF A FRIEND OF A FRIEND SAW IT.

LET'S OPEN IT UP... OH, STINKS OF VINEGAR.

HOW DID YOU FIND THIS?

好臭
stinks



CALM DOWN.

THE BACK STREETS!



GET OVER THERE QUICK AND CHECK IT OUT. HIS CONTACT INFO IS BELOW THE VIDEO.

WHY DOES IT SMELL LIKE THAT?

SHIT, LOOKS LIKE A BAD CASE OF VINEGAR SYNDROME.



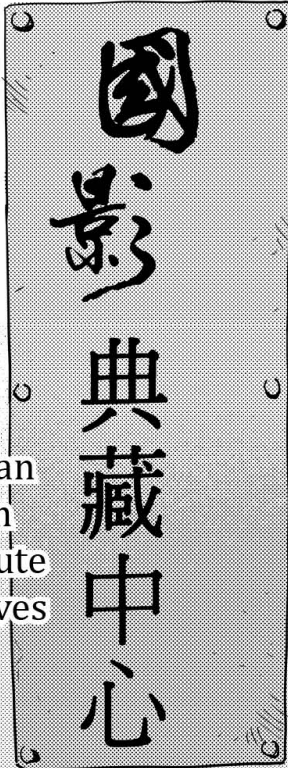
I FOUND SOMEWHERE ELSE THAT'S GOT SOME OLD FILM, SO I'LL STAY A FEW DAYS MORE.

GOT IT. WHEN ARE YOU BACK FROM HONG KONG?

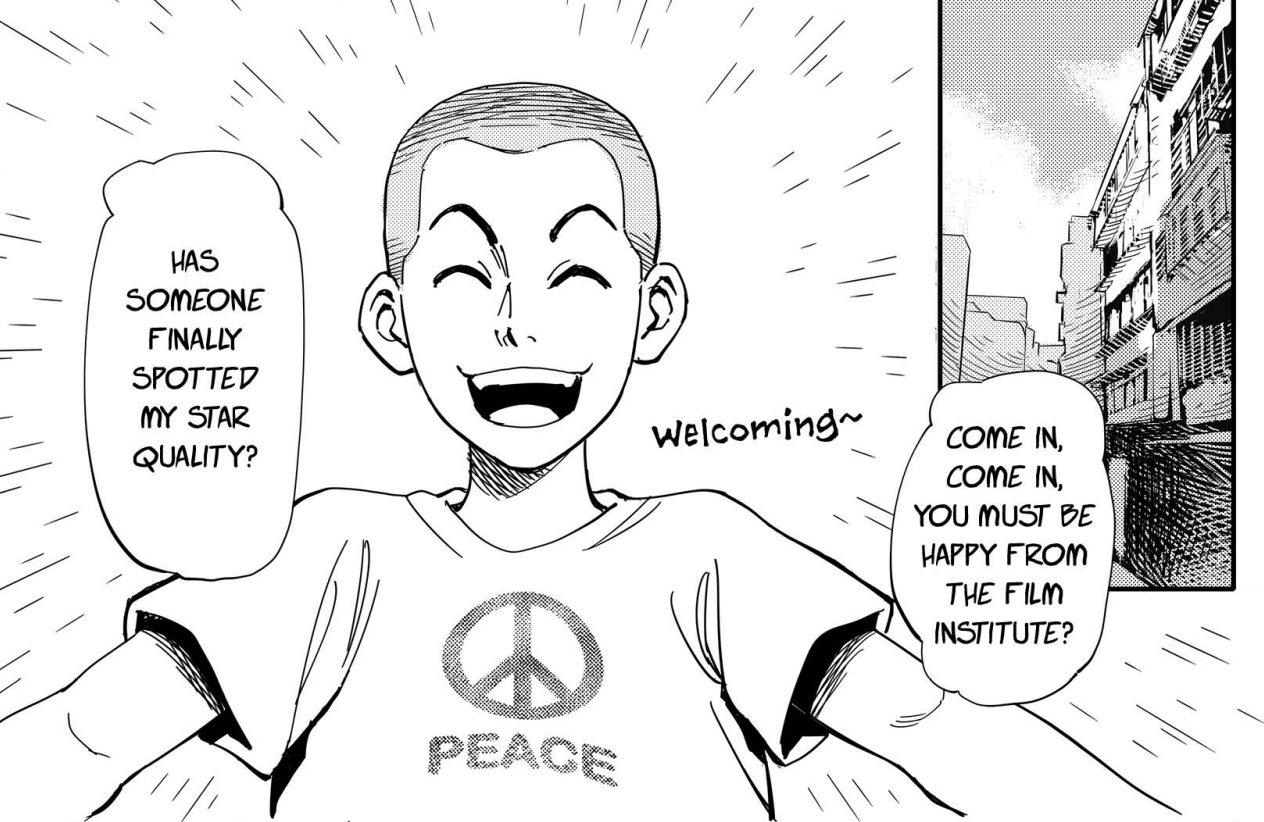


YES, BOSS!

NOW GET GOING, FAST. EXPLAIN WHAT WE DO, AND DON'T BE SHY ABOUT IT.



Taiwan Film Institute Archives

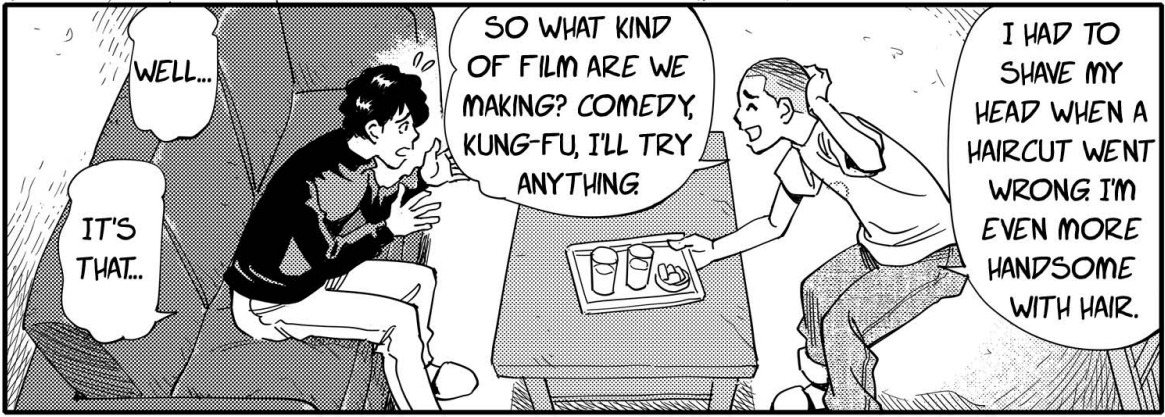


HAS SOMEONE FINALLY SPOTTED MY STAR QUALITY?

Welcoming~

COME IN, COME IN, YOU MUST BE HAPPY FROM THE FILM INSTITUTE?

PEACE

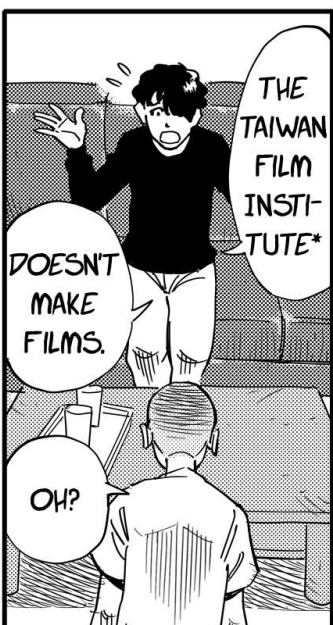


WELL...

IT'S THAT...

SO WHAT KIND OF FILM ARE WE MAKING? COMEDY, KUNG-FU, I'LL TRY ANYTHING.

I HAD TO SHAVE MY HEAD WHEN A HAIRCUT WENT WRONG I'M EVEN MORE HANDSOME WITH HAIR.



DOESN'T MAKE FILMS.

OH?

THE TAIWAN FILM INSTITUTE*



NO...

ACTUALLY...

BUT NOTHING SAD, I COULDN'T BEAR TO BE IN ANYTHING SAD.

* The Taiwan Film Institute was founded by the Ministry of Culture to preserve Taiwanese cinematic heritage and promote cinematic culture.



Upbeat~

NEVER MIND!
I'M STILL BUILDING MY FAN-BASE.
I'LL BEAT PEWDIEPIE ONE DAY.

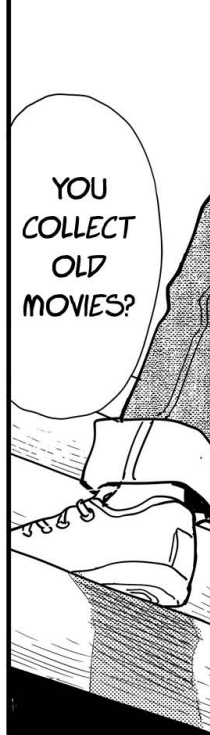
I'M SURE!



Disappointed~

SO YOU DON'T NEED ME TO STAR IN...

I'M SORRY MY FRIEND HAPPENED TO SEE YOUR VIDEO.



YOU COLLECT OLD MOVIES?



WHAT WAS HIS NAME?

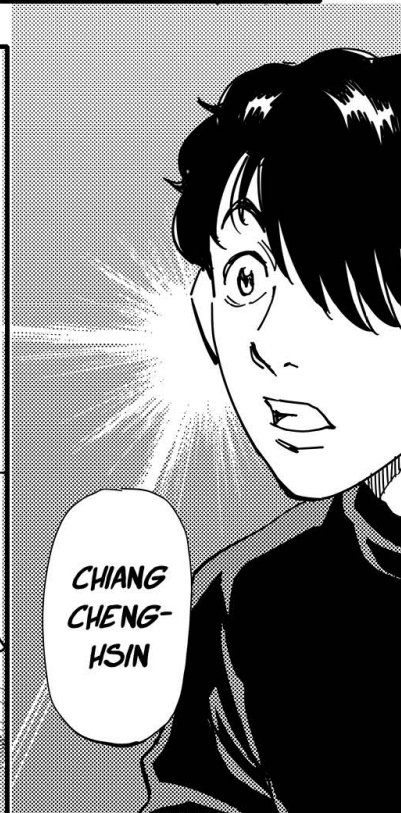
I DON'T KNOW, HE JUST WORKED

WHAT DID YOUR GRANDFATHER DO? WHY DID HE HAVE THOSE FILM REELS?

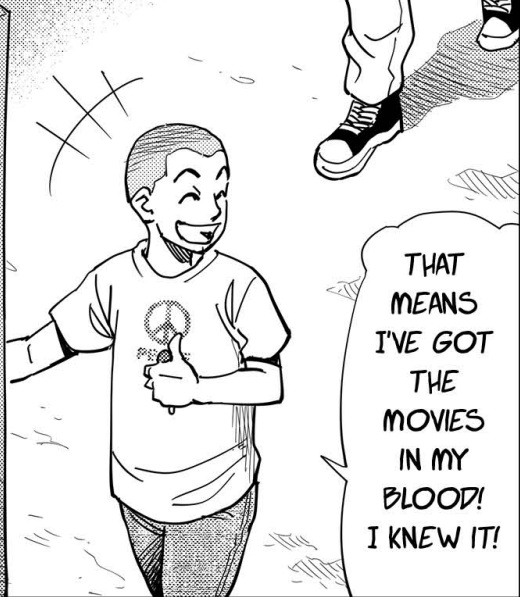


DIRECTOR?

YOU... YOU'RE THE GRANDSON OF CHIANG CHENG-HSIN. THE DIRECTOR?



CHIANG CHENG-HSIN

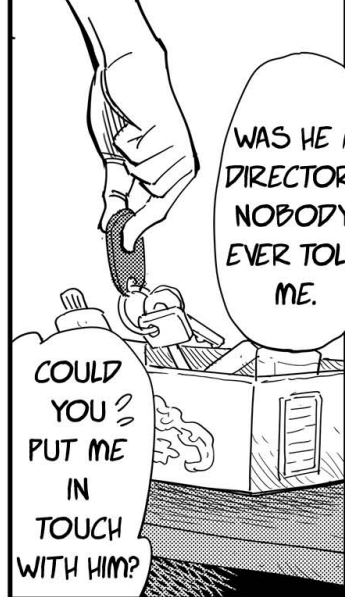


THAT MEANS I'VE GOT THE MOVIES IN MY BLOOD! I KNEW IT!



...

HE DIED A FEW YEARS AGO..



WAS HE A DIRECTOR? NOBODY EVER TOLD ME.

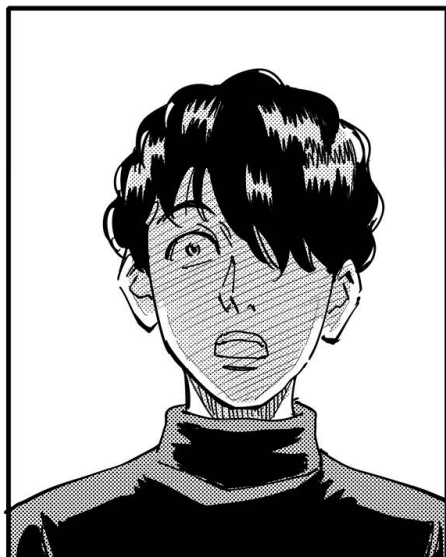
COULD YOU PUT ME IN TOUCH WITH HIM?



THIS IS WHAT I'VE GOT.



COME IN, SORRY ABOUT THE MESS.



THE TIGER GOD: A PREQUEL TO THE TAG-ALONG

虎爺起駕：紅衣小女孩前傳



- Publisher: Dyna Books
- Date: 11/2018
- Rights contact: booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- Pages: 146
- Volume: 1 (END)

The Tiger God, the incarnation of justice, entrusts the Lin family with the task of fighting the demons living deep in the forests of Dakeng – the mô-sin-á. This prequel to the movie The Tag-Along combines legend with adventure and a coming-of-age tale. Will our protagonist take up his family's burden and become a hero?

The mô-sin-á demons are said to live deep in the mountain forests of Taiwan, luring travelers from the path. To suppress the demon threat, the Tiger God descends from heaven and possesses the head of the Lin clan, a prominent Dakeng family. Generations of their family, now marked by their tiger tattoos, carry on the tradition of protecting their village home.

Lin Chun-kai is the youngest of the Lin clan, raised by his grandfather after his parents died in a car crash. He dreams of taking on his grandfather's role as agent of the Tiger God, yet his grandfather is reluctant and believes Chun-kai's parents died because they were soon to take over his work. He forbids Chun-kai from setting foot in the mountains and hopes to see his grandson set aside the family's sacred mission and live a peaceful life.

One day, a girl from Chun-kai's school goes missing. Searchers can find no trace of her and her parents come to Chun-kai's grandfather for help. Chun-kai himself, responding to pleas from one of the girl's friends, sets off for the forbidden mountains.

The story is a prequel to the 2015 Taiwanese horror movie *The Tag-Along*, featuring local legends and a fantastical setting but not losing realism and emotional connection. It combines legend with adventure and a coming-of-age tale.



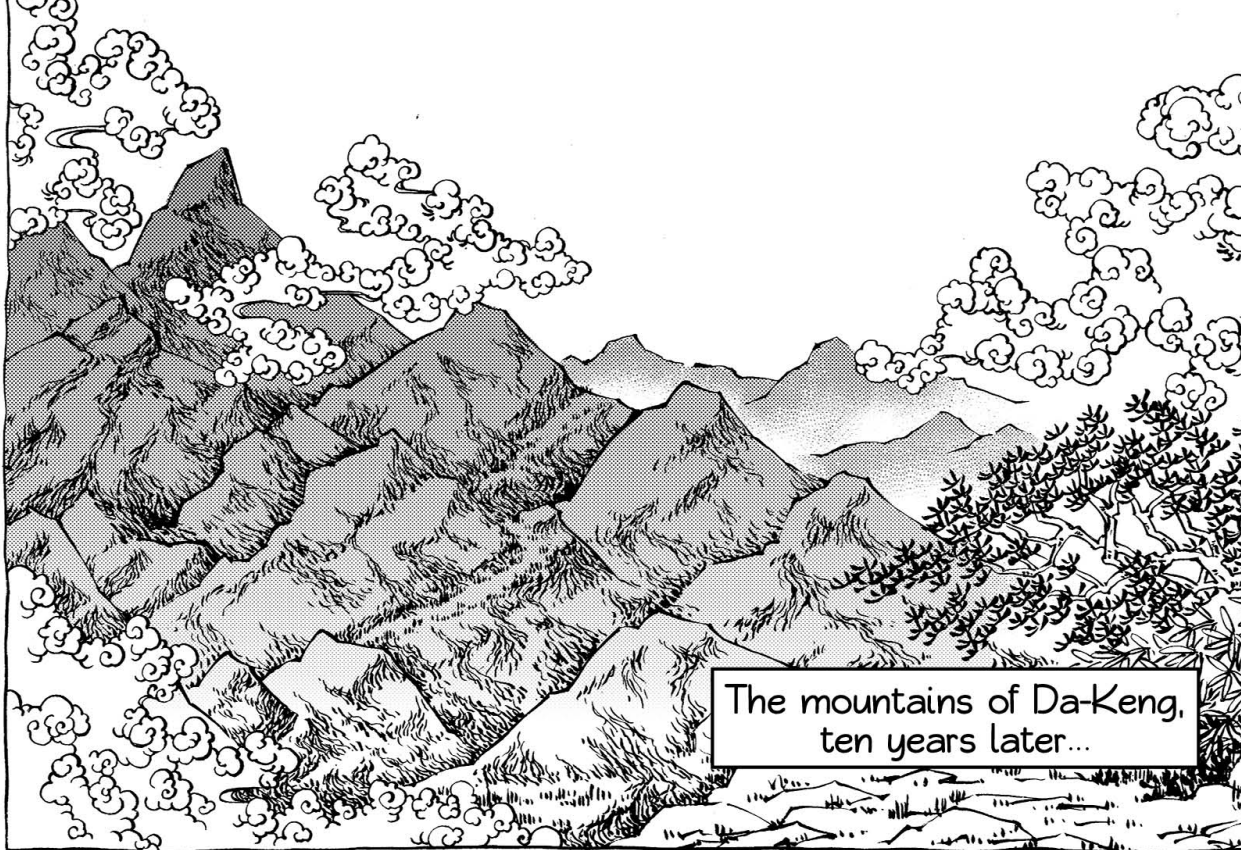
Comic by YUZU 柚子

From Chiayi, Taiwan. Yuzu has published the graphic novels *The King of Hell* and *The Tiger God*, and also the board game *The Wonderful Island II: Let the Shoes Fly*.

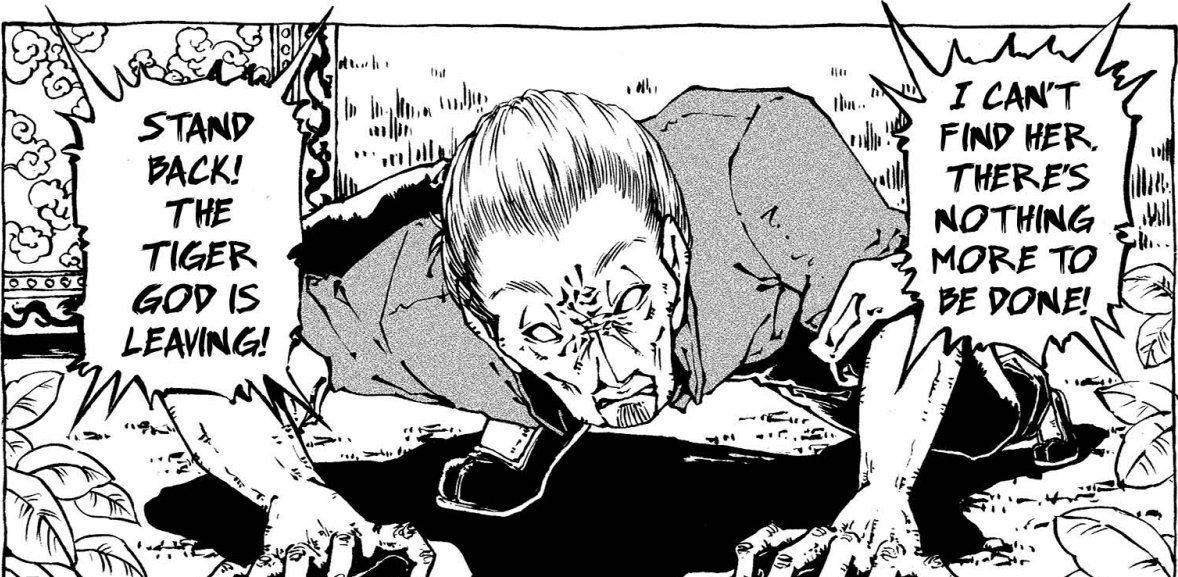
Original Story by YANG WAN-JU 楊宛儒

A member of a new generation of writers, Yang Wan-Ju has produced both television and movie scripts. *My Ex is a Ghost* earned a finalist place in the Ministry of Culture's TV Script Award and *Women and Birds* was a finalist for the Outstanding Film Script Award. Most recently she has contributed to the script for *The Tag-Along 2*.



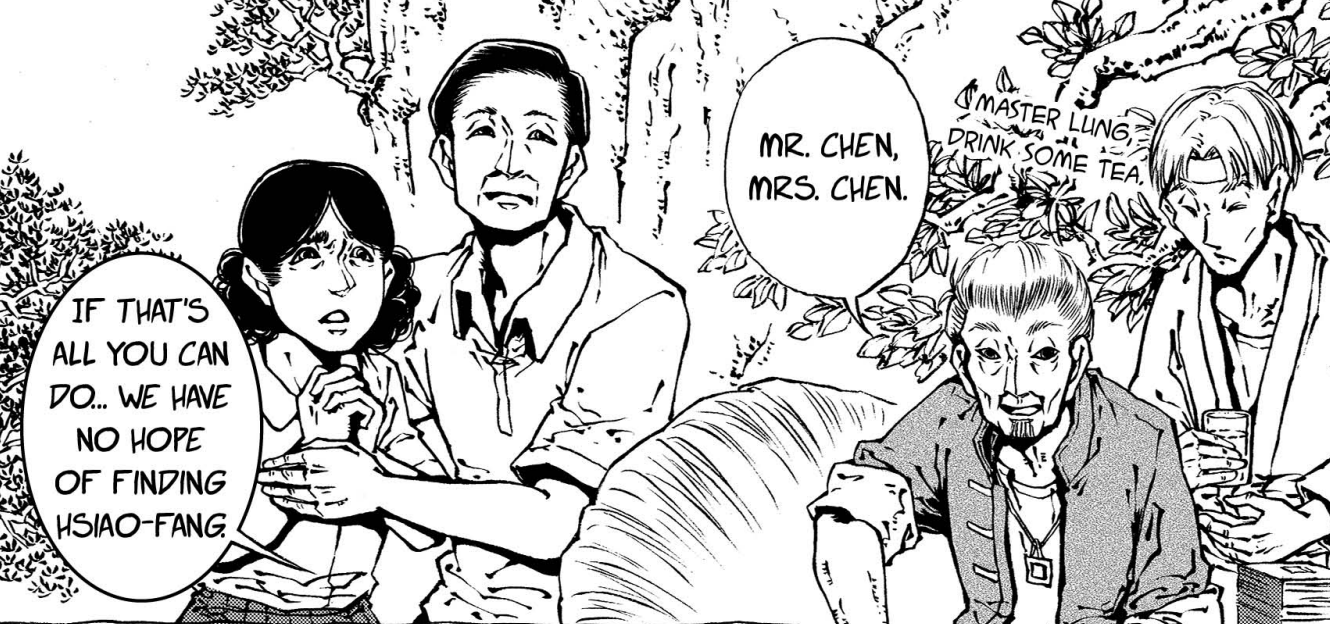


The mountains of Da-Keng,
ten years later...



STAND
BACK!
THE
TIGER
GOD IS
LEAVING!

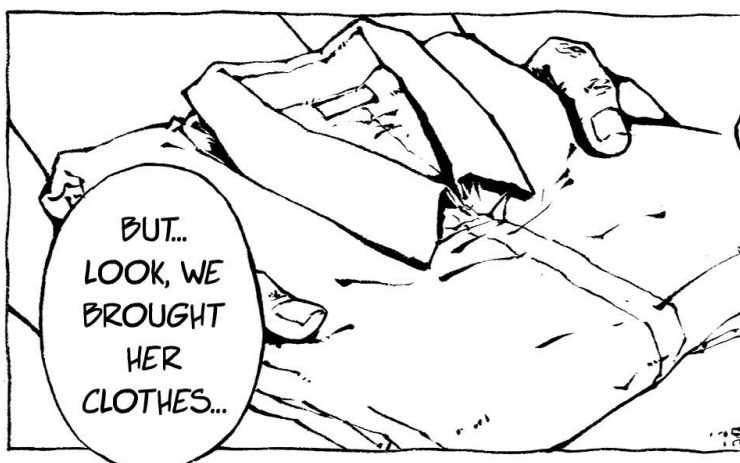
I CAN'T
FIND HER.
THERE'S
NOTHING
MORE TO
BE DONE!



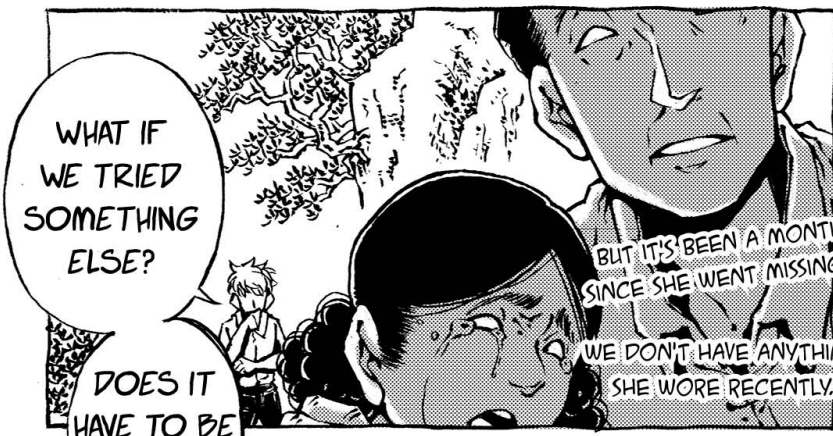
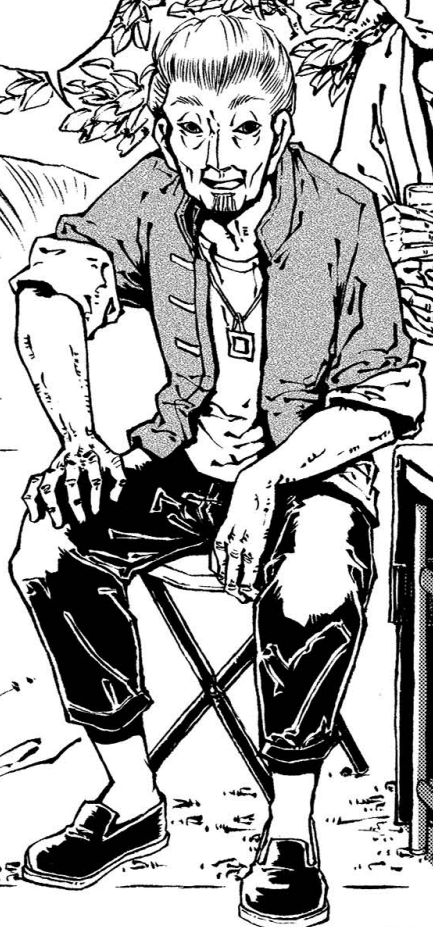
IF THAT'S ALL YOU CAN DO... WE HAVE NO HOPE OF FINDING HSIAO-FANG.

MR. CHEN, MRS. CHEN.

MASTER LUNG, DRINK SOME TEA.



BUT... LOOK, WE BROUGHT HER CLOTHES...

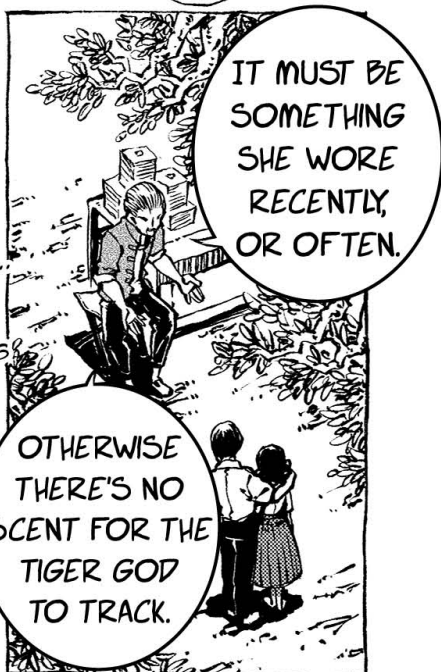


WHAT IF WE TRIED SOMETHING ELSE?

BUT IT'S BEEN A MONTH SINCE SHE WENT MISSING...

WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING SHE WORE RECENTLY.

DOES IT HAVE TO BE CLOTHING?



IT MUST BE SOMETHING SHE WORE RECENTLY, OR OFTEN.

OTHERWISE THERE'S NO SCENT FOR THE TIGER GOD TO TRACK.





WHAT ABOUT SOMETHING FROM HER DESK AT SCHOOL? HER BOOKS, HER PENS AND PENCILS?

MAYBE HER FRIENDS HAVE SOMETHING SHE USED A LOT.

HE WON'T!

DON'T FILL THE BOY'S HEAD WITH THAT NONSENSE.

YOU'LL MAKE A FINE AGENT FOR THE TIGER GOD YOURSELF ONE DAY!

YES! I'LL GO AND SPEAK TO HER TEACHER.

DON'T FOLLOW ME!

HERE WE GO AGAIN.

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU?

IT'S LUNCH, AND I WANTED TO HELP.

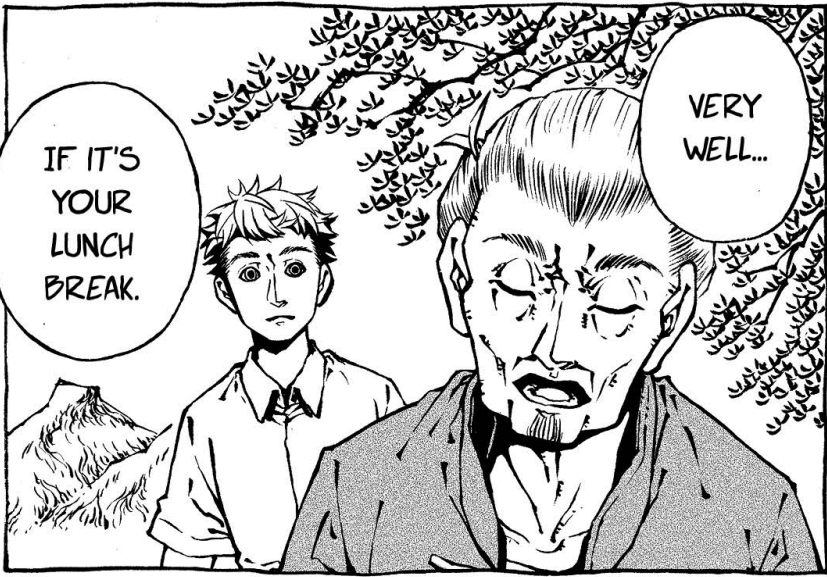
WHY AREN'T YOU AT SCHOOL? SKIPPING CLASSES AGAIN, ARE YOU?

LIN CHUN-KAI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?



YOU'RE A CHILD! STAY AT SCHOOL!

OR WHAT'S THE POINT OF SENDING YOU THERE?





THE TIGER GOD WILL DO
ALL HE CAN IN THIS MATTER
OF LIFE AND DEATH.

GO HOME AND SEE IF YOU
CAN FIND OTHER CLOTHES.

.....



OKAY
OKAY!

WHAT ARE
YOU STILL
DOING
HERE?

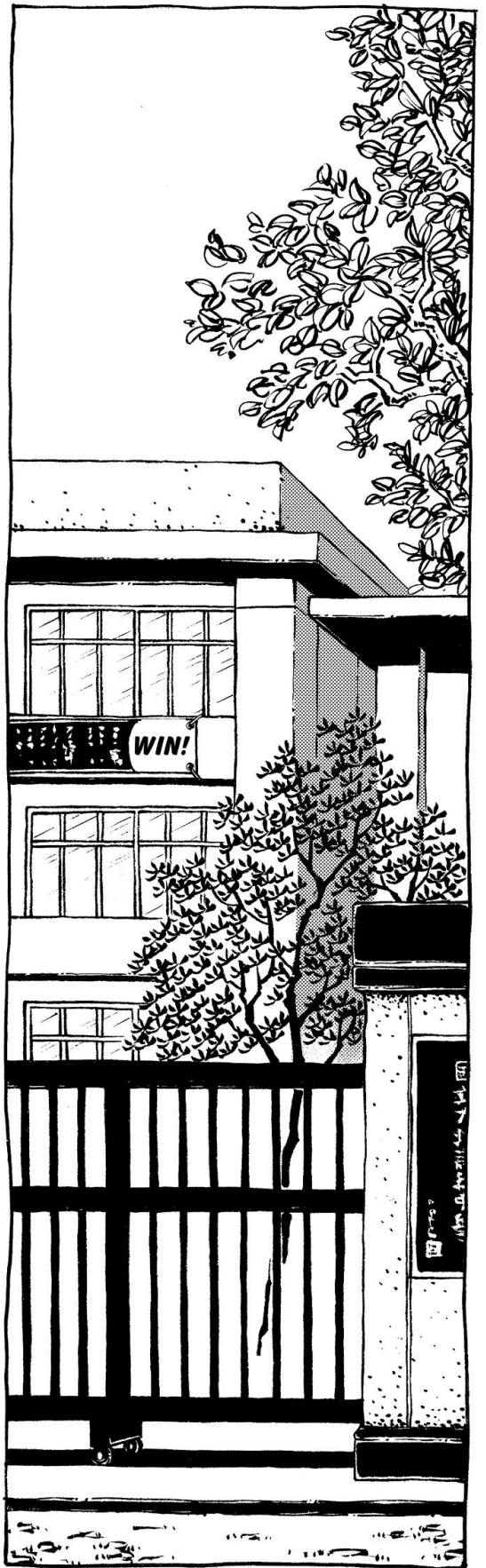
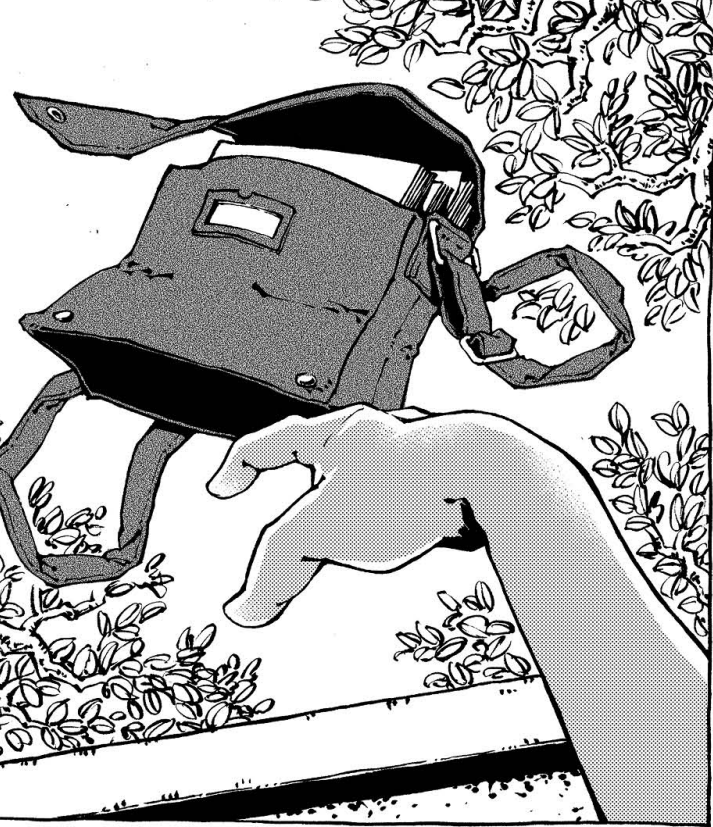
LIN
CHUN-
KAI!



Vrooom~



STOP
NAG-
GING!



BUT
NOBODY
AROUND
TO SEE
ME.

PERFECT,
JUST A
LITTLE
LATE,



LOOKS
LIKE I'M
HOME
SAFE.

WHO'S
HOME
SAFE?

BRAVE SERIES: THE BRAVES AND THE FOUR DEMON KINGS

勇者系列：勇者與魔族四天王



- Publisher: China Times
- Date: 5/2019
- Rights contact: booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- Pages: 170
- Volume: 1

In this new and deeply satirical comic book, Yellow Book offers his 300,000 fans a comic and chaotic tale, featuring the typical fantasy adventure characters of heroes, monsters and villagers – but with the traditional image of the brave heroes turned upside down.

It is a world of heroes, demons, villagers and kings. Oh, and dragons and magic, of course. Kings employ warriors – the Braves – and equip them with the resources they need to fight the demons and protect the villagers. The role of the villagers is to accept that protection, and the demons are there, naturally, to be destroyed. But does the world have to be like this? Or is it just the way it happens to be?

Must the Braves defeat the Demon King? Whose version of justice are they fighting for? Is the Demon King irredeemably evil? Was he born this way, or did something happen to him? What if both the Braves and the Demon King became who they are the same we ordinary folk do – by making the choices the world presents to us and accepting the consequences.

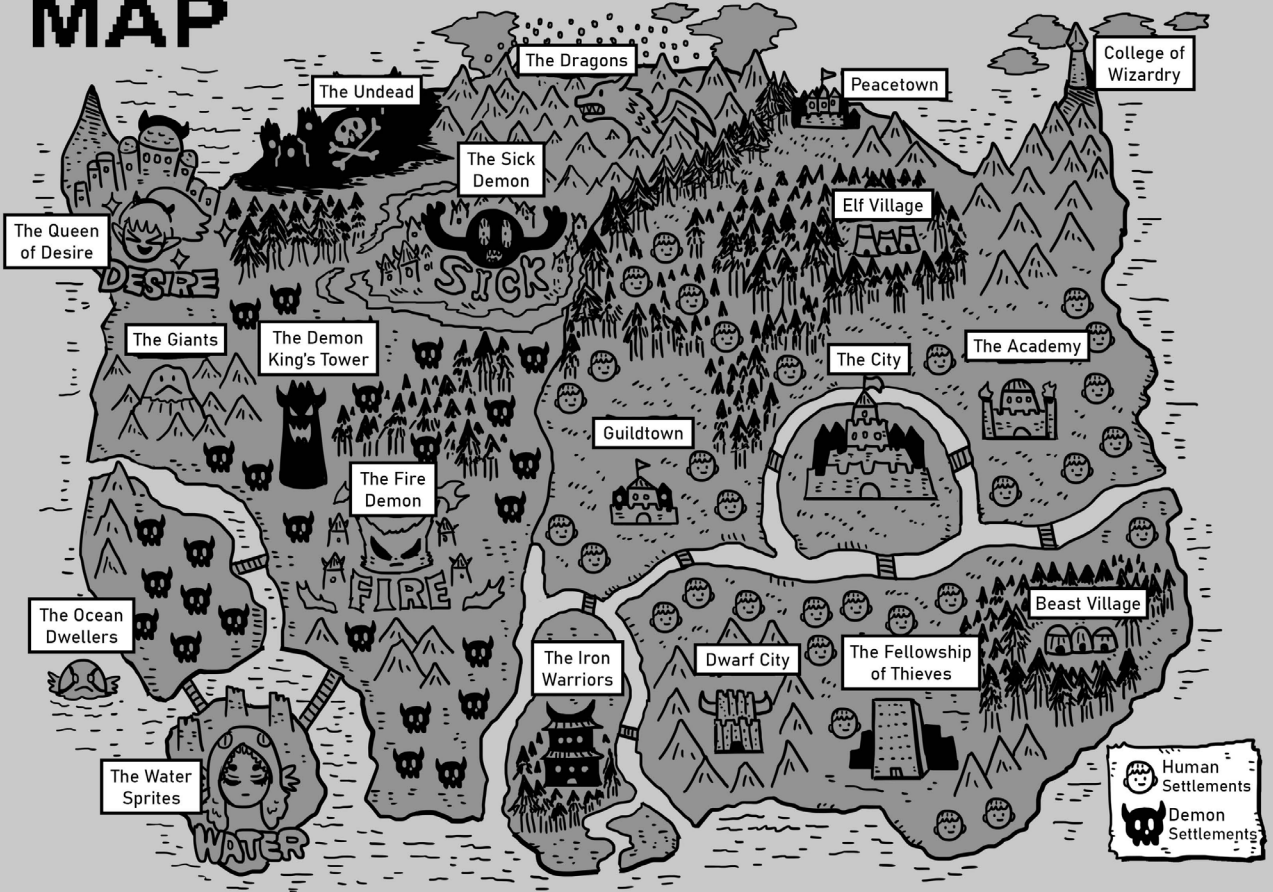
Yellow Book takes the tropes of a fantasy adventure and reimagines them, employing a humorous approach and a unique artistic style. This satirical work turns the usual image of the hero upside down.



YELLOW BOOK 黃色書刊

Originally a designer, Yellow Book used his spare time to publish short satirical comics based on the workplace and social themes on social media. His works include *Sad for You 1 and 2*, and the *W* series.

MAP





IT IS THE ANNUAL SELECTION OF BRAVES. AND I, HAVING LITTLE BETTER TO DO, HAVE COME IN SEARCH OF WORK.



EXCUSE ME, SIR, I HAVE A QUESTION.



MAYBE IT'S JUST THAT WE DON'T SEE EYE-TO-EYE?

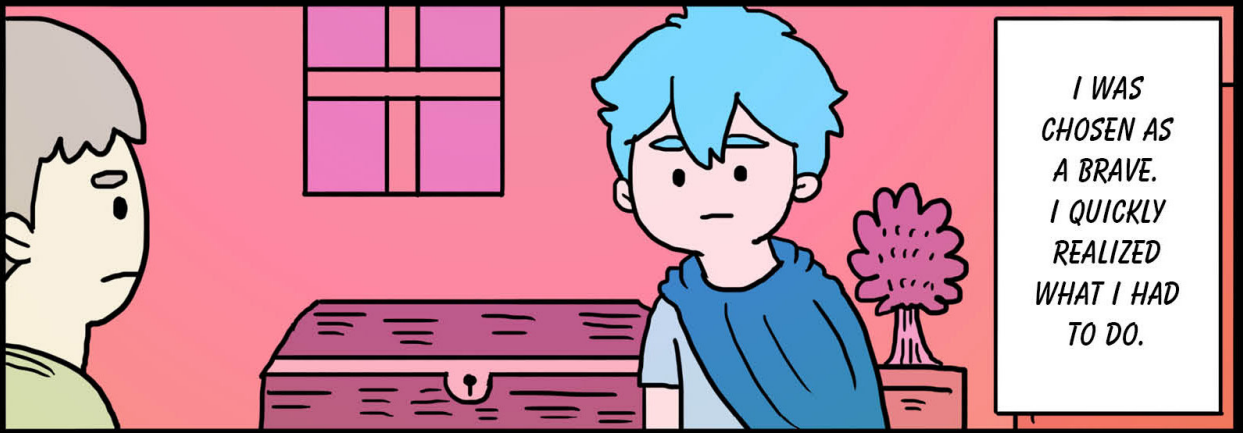
THE DEMON KINGS - ARE THEY AS EVIL AS IN THE TEXTBOOKS?



NO, SIR!

PLUS, A GENEROUS PENSION ON RETIREMENT. SO... ANY MORE QUESTIONS?

BRAVES GET A GOOD WAGE AND PERKS.



I WAS CHOSEN AS A BRAVE. I QUICKLY REALIZED WHAT I HAD TO DO.



OF COURSE, HELP YOURSELF. ANYTHING TO HELP THE COUNTRY'S BRAVES.

HELLO. I NOTICED YOU HAVE A BOX OF VALUABLES. WOULD YOU MIND IF I EMPTIED IT?



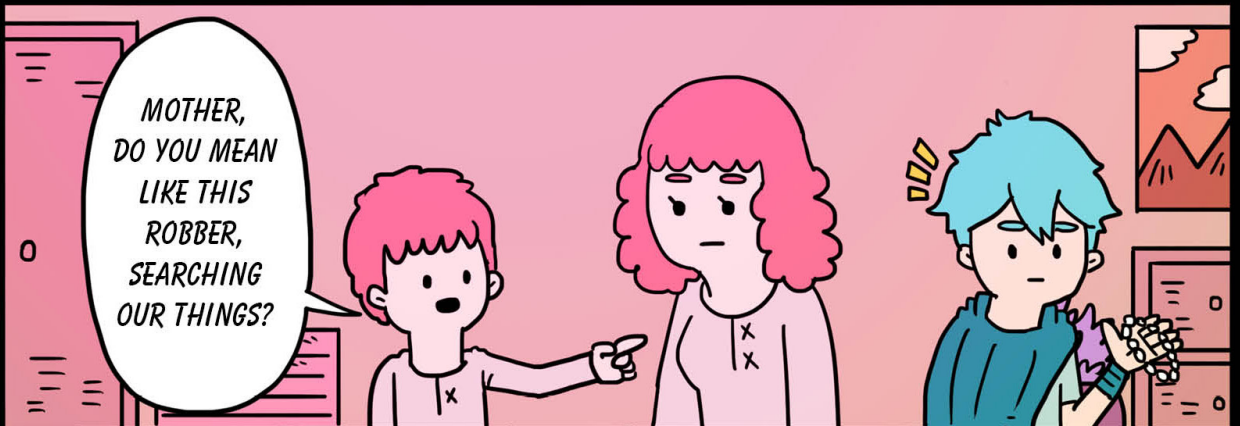
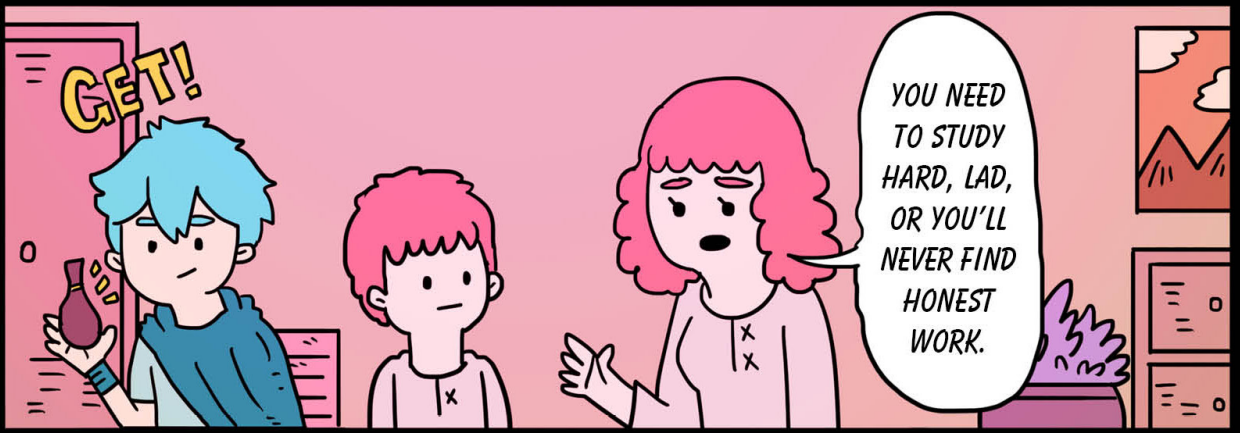
AND ANYWAY, EVEN IF I OBJECTED, WHAT COULD I DO? NOBODY CAN DENY A BRAVE.

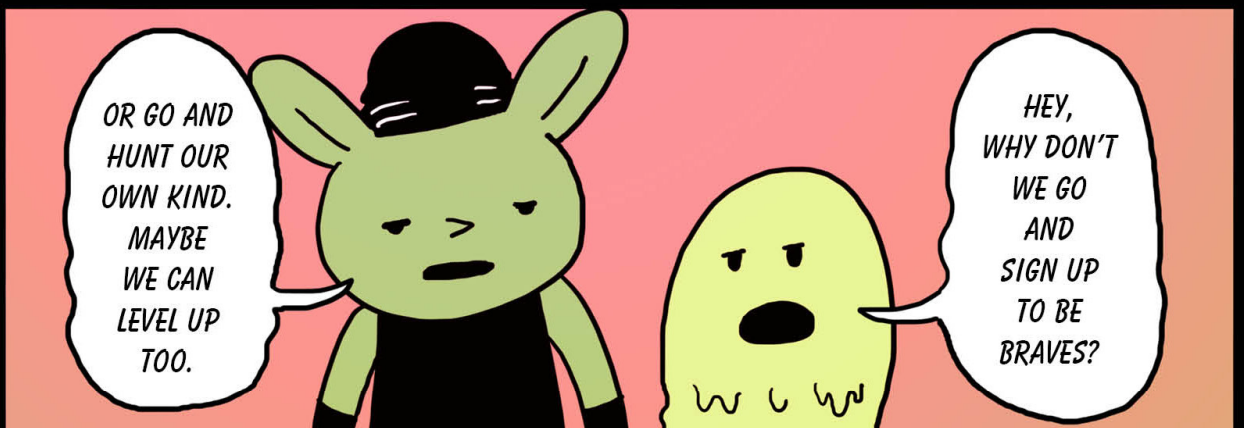
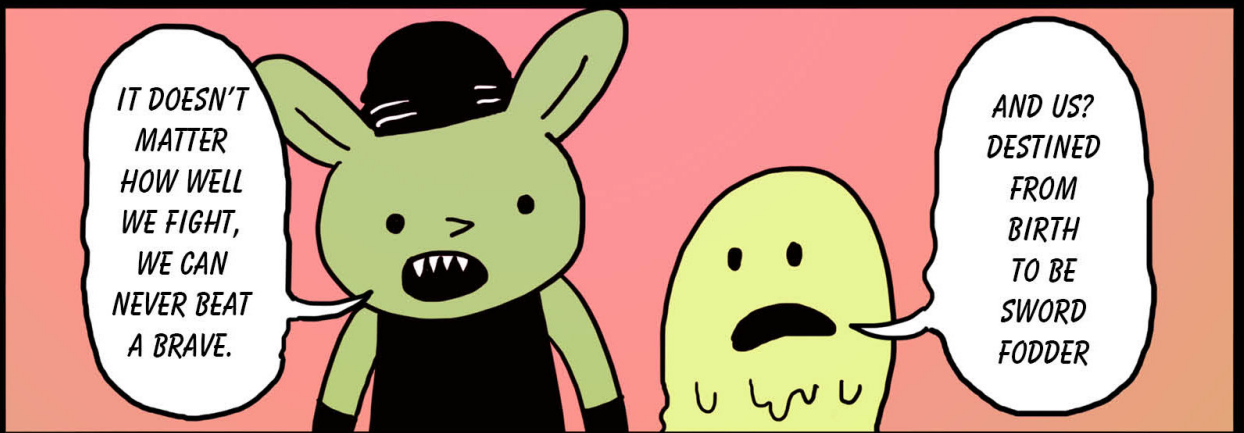
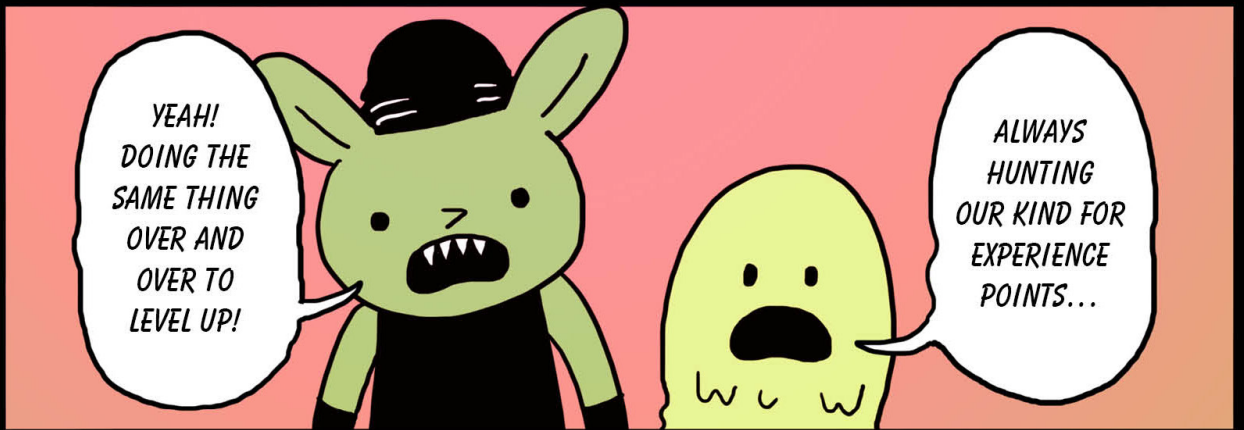
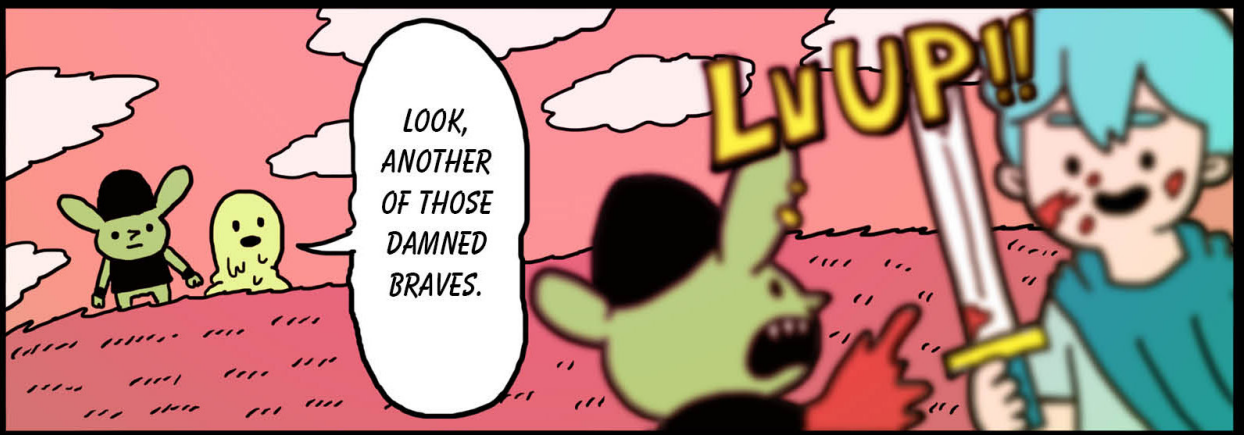


THANKS! I'LL HELP MYSELF THEN!

AND SO, IF YOU TRULY NEED IT, I OFFER IT WILLINGLY.

I HAVE NO CHOICE, EVEN IF THAT BOX CONTAINS MY WORLDLY POSSESSIONS.







HONORABLE
BRAVES!
LET US
BECOME
ACQUAINTED!



ACTUALLY,
I'M IN
GOVERNMENT
COMMUNICATIONS.

YOU LOOK
AS IF
YOU ARE
A FIERCE
FEMALE
WARRIOR!



I AM AN
AUTHOR.
I'M HERE TO
STEAL WORLD-
BUILDING IDEAS
FOR MY BEST-
SELLING NOVELS.

AND YOU?
A FEARLESS
WIZARD?

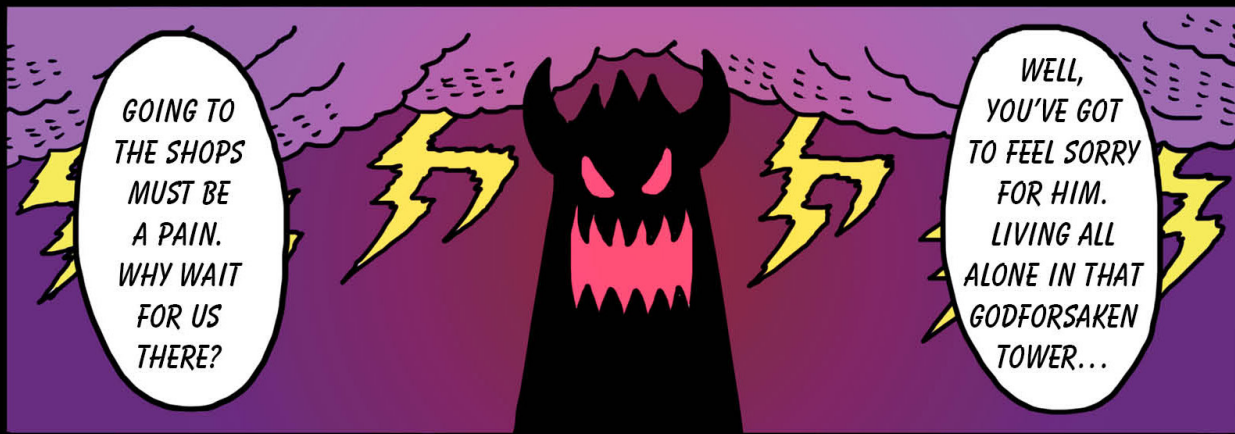


I'M
THEIR
MASCOT.

THEN YOU
MUST BE...
SOME
SUMMONED
MAGIC
BEAST?



SO, OUR QUEST IS TO DESTROY THE DEMON KING WHO LIVES IN THE DEMON KING'S TOWER? IT'S JUST...



GOING TO THE SHOPS MUST BE A PAIN. WHY WAIT FOR US THERE?

WELL, YOU'VE GOT TO FEEL SORRY FOR HIM. LIVING ALL ALONE IN THAT GODFORSAKEN TOWER...



THAT'S WHAT PEOPLE WHO'VE NEVER BEEN THERE ALWAYS SAY.

THEY SAY THE TOWER IS A TEST FOR THE BRAVES.



WELL, HE'S GOT NOTHING TO COMPLAIN ABOUT, AT LEAST HE'S ON THE PROPERTY LADDER.

BUT REALLY, IT'S MORE OF A TEST OF THE DEMON KING'S PATIENCE, ISN'T IT?

WHY NOT? (VOL. 4)

有何不可 (四)



- Publisher: Sharp Point
- Date: 1/2019
- Rights contact: booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- Pages: 162
- Volume: 4 (ongoing)

* From a six-time Golden Comic Award winner

Circumstances meant childhood friends Cheng-hsin and Ah-cheng gradually lost touch. A chance meeting a decade later stirs up long-forgotten memories, with Ah-cheng's younger sister now involved. This is a finely drawn tale of friendship, family and love.

Despite their different personalities, Cheng-hsin and Ah-cheng are close friends in childhood, with Cheng-hsin treating Ah-cheng's beloved eight-year-old sister, Nini, as his own flesh and blood. But when Cheng-hsin moves away during high school, the three are parted, and Ah-cheng and his sister hear little more of their former friend.

Ten years later, Nini finds herself living next door to Cheng-hsin. The three are reunited; long-forgotten childhood memories are recovered. Nini sees the kind-hearted Cheng-hsin often, and realizes he is hiding a painful secret. And is Ah-cheng's relationship with his girlfriend – soon to be fiancée? – as happy as it seems?

One day, a scruffily dressed man visits Ah-cheng's restaurant, asking after a member of staff. Wary of the stranger, Cheng-hsin and the others investigate. Meanwhile, Cheng-hsin watches as the rift between Ah-cheng and his girlfriend becomes more apparent, while Nini sees something is going on with Cheng-hsin himself.



CORY 柯宥希 (顆粒)

Cory always knew she was good at drawing, but lacked confidence from a young age. Beginning with illustrations for short stories and covers for novels, Cory eventually started publishing four panel comics in shojo magazines, which were met with great acclaim. Her first long-form comic, *Love is Everywhere*, was serialized in *Shojo Monthly*. Cory's clear style of drawing and exceptional storytelling quickly captured the hearts of readers, transforming her into an award winning comic artist. In 2014, Cory was selected to represent Taiwan at the Angoulême International Comics Festival and was featured for Taiwan Pavilion at the 2016 Frankfurt Buchmesse.



YES.



WELCOME!

TABLE FOR ONE?



OH...

DOES YEH TIEN-TSE WORK HERE?
A STUDENT?



I'LL GIVE YOU A MINUTE TO CHOOSE.

HERE'S THE MENU.

THANKS.



SORRY?

OF COURSE.
HE'S USUALLY WITH ME AT WEEK-ENDS.

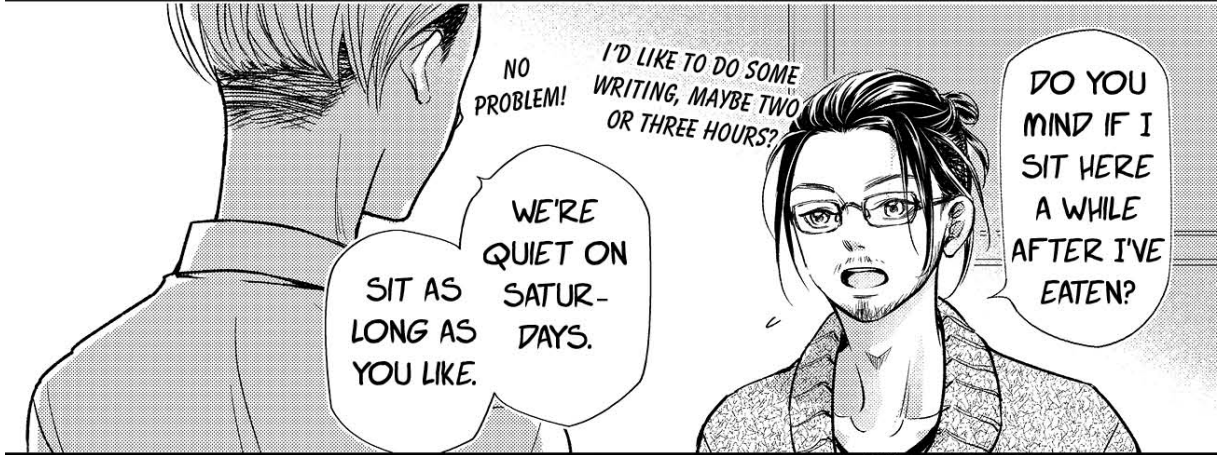
OH.

BUT USUALLY JUST WEEKDAYS,
NOT WEEK-ENDS.

YES!

OH... NOTHING.

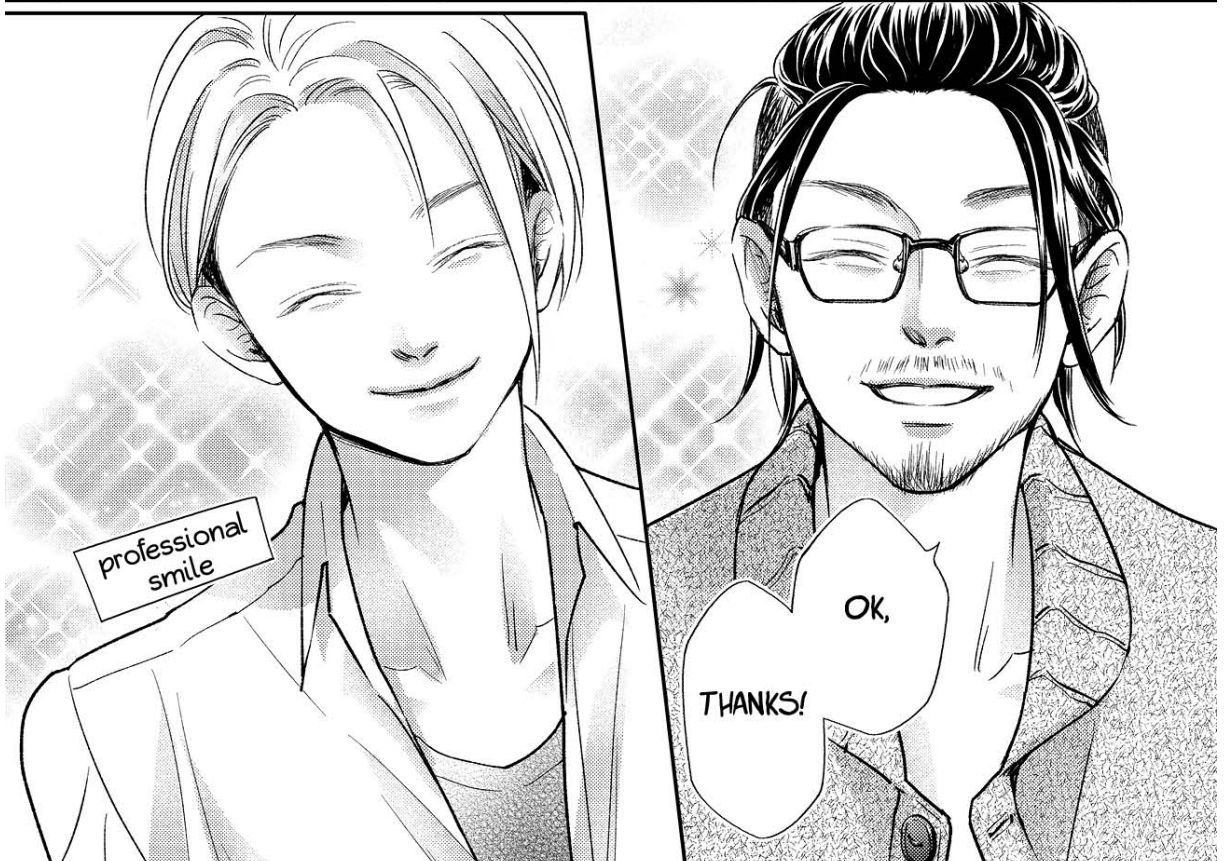
mumbles



NO PROBLEM!
I'D LIKE TO DO SOME WRITING, MAYBE TWO OR THREE HOURS?

WE'RE QUIET ON SATURDAYS.
SIT AS LONG AS YOU LIKE.

DO YOU MIND IF I SIT HERE A WHILE AFTER I'VE EATEN?



professional smile

OK,
THANKS!



.....
Just out of her sling and invited over for dinner by Cheng-hsin.

CHENG-HSIN!

sudden change

AND HE ORDERED EXTRA-SPICY CHICKEN!

AND HE LOOKS A BIT ODD.

THERE'S A MAN IN ASKING ABOUT TIEN-TSE,



AND HE DOESN'T LIKE TO TALK ABOUT HIMSELF...

AND TIEN-TSE'S NEVER MENTIONED ANY FRIENDS LIKE HIM.

HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A RELATIVE,

WHO COULD HE BE?



LET HIM FINISH HIS FOOD FIRST.

OKAY...

WAIT!

I'LL FIND OUT!

OKAY!

sneaky look...

40 minutes later -

THANKS.

EXCUSE ME,

I'LL JUST
TOP UP
YOUR
WATER.

He's....

drawing?

scratch

scratch

CAN I
HELP
YOU?

ER...

Not subtle
← enough



HE DOESN'T
LOOK
ANYTHING
LIKE HIS
PHOTOS

HE'S
ACTUALLY
BILL!?

SEEMS
REALLY
POPULAR,
SELLS LOADS
OF BOOKS.

I READ
SOMETHING
ABOUT HIM
WINNING
SOME PRIZE
OVERSEAS
ONCE.

YOU'VE
HEARD
OF HIM?

MY FRIENDS
ONLINE TALK
ABOUT HIM.



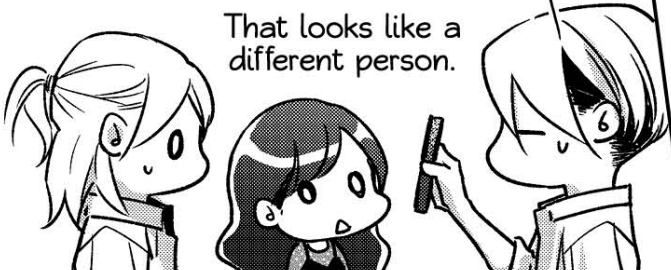
wearing
contacts
+
clean-
shaven

THIS IS
FROM THAT
PRIZE
CEREMONY.

I'LL FIND
A PHOTO.

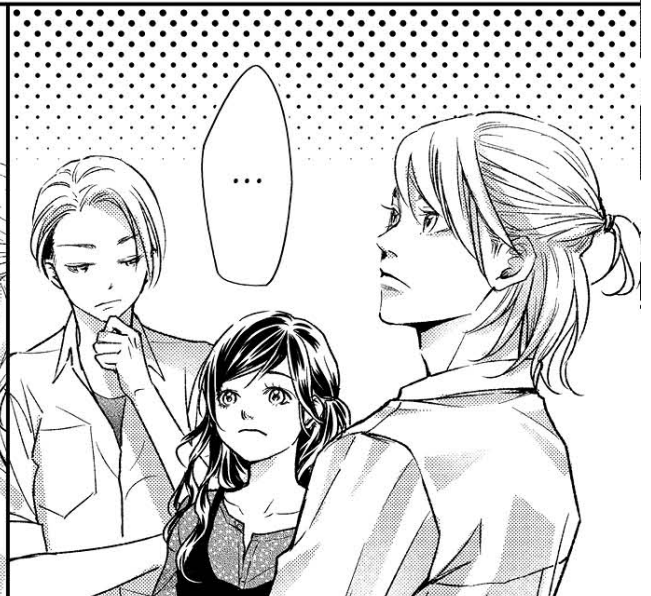
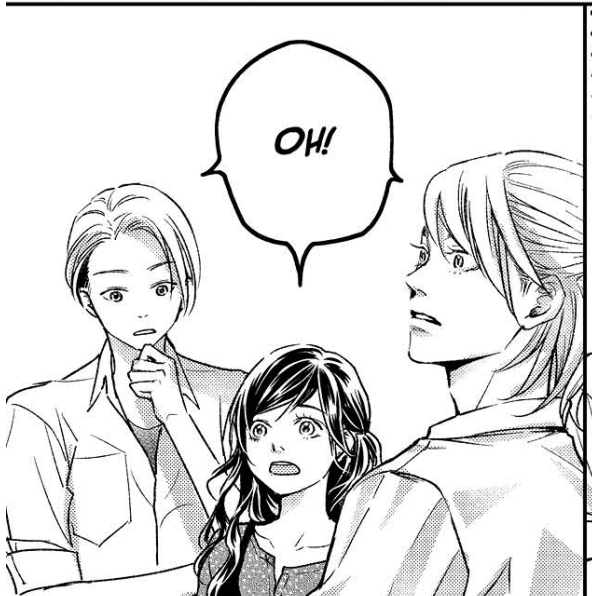
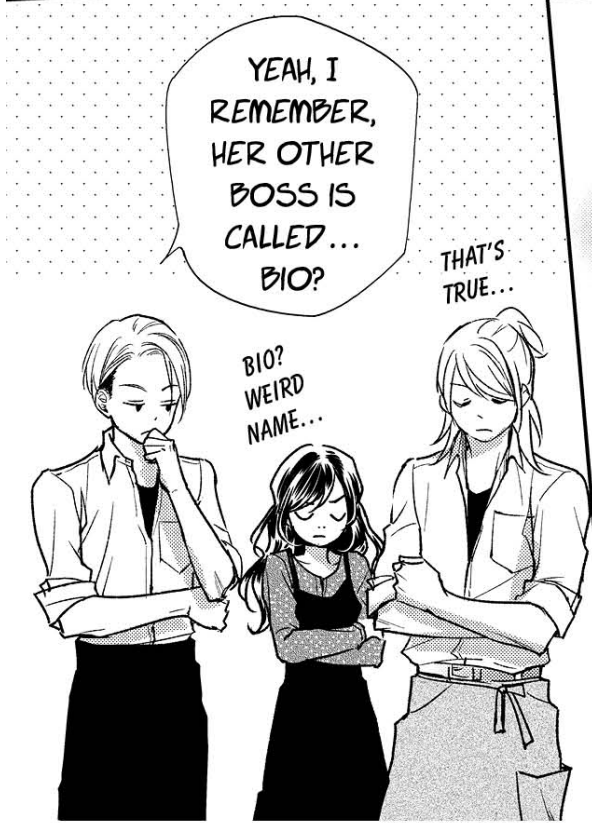
SEEMS
HE'S REALLY
SUCCESS-
FUL.

WOW! AND
I JUST
SPOKE TO
HIM!



That looks like a
different person.

HERE,
LOOK!



BOOKS FROM TAIWAN

COMICS (From Left to Right)

Please turn to the back to enjoy the last comic which is read from left to right.









Too late, Boss!



And it's your own fault...



**Greedy
bastard!!!**



哇呀!



哇呀!



Well, well...
so many folks
trusted you.....

You thought you
could get away
with it?



You.....

you wouldn't dare!



The opium...all of it...
I guess you could
return it...

on your way
to hell!



My...my good
servant...please
don' t...

Servant...?



Hahaha...
still so
shy...



Whoa!
What
the...?

嘩!



Shut up!!!



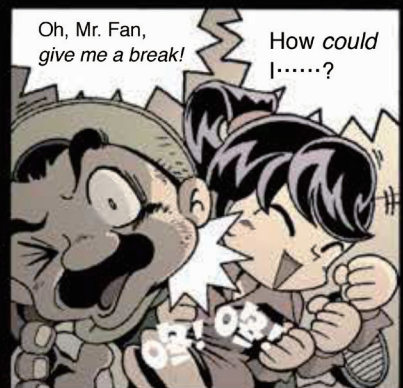
Sanchez...
are you nuts!?



1929, Shanghai, Chinese district...



Please sweetheart, just let me take care of you tonight...



Oh, Mr. Fan, give me a break!

How could I.....?

SHANGHAI JUNIOR: A STORY IN CHINA 1929

上海大少爺



- Publisher: Dala
- Date: 10/2018
- Rights contact:
booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- Pages: 240
- Volume: 1 (END)

A bounty hunter is dispatched to investigate the murder of an opium dealer. The daughter of the deceased seems key to unravelling the mystery – but can he keep them both alive? This polished work, a decade in the making, recreates the world of 1920s Shanghai.

In 1920s Shanghai, business is booming and the city flourishing. Modern cinemas, dance halls and coffee shops spring up on every street. But there are also foreign concessions, territorial gangs, infighting police factions and a trade in opium which is making Shanghai a hub for the drug. And away from the bright lights, powerful forces are struggling for control of that lucrative business.

Tony Shine catches criminals for government bounties. He is known to the police as Junior because of his father – a high-ranking policeman who died in car accident. His father's death made Tony unwilling to join the police and follow in those footsteps – he prefers to carve a new path, between the forces of order and disorder, following his own code of justice.

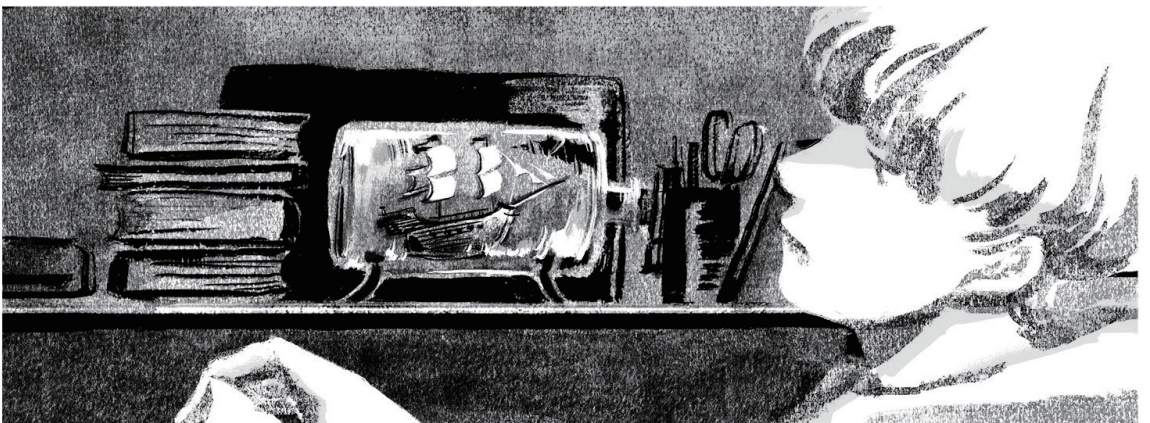
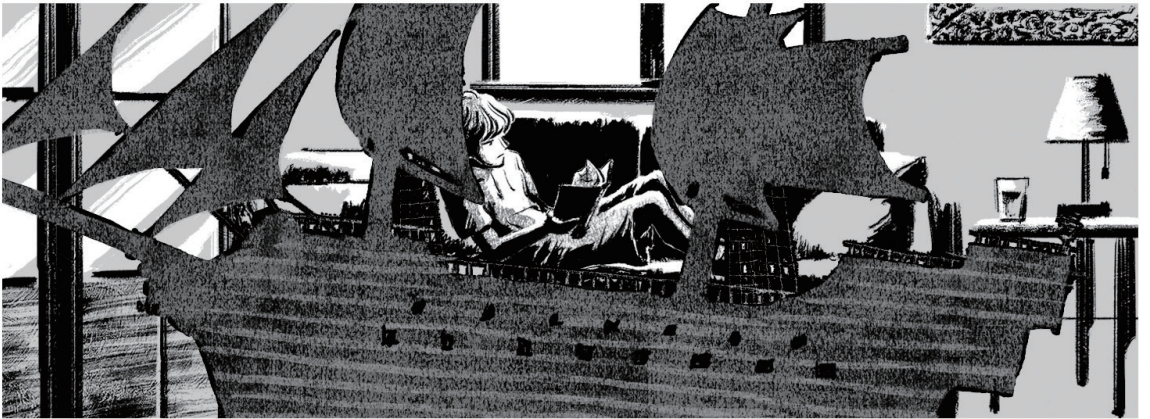
A drug dealer, Mr. Fan, is found slaughtered in the street and Tony agrees to investigate. Fan's daughter, Angelina, has the information he needs to find the killers – but can Tony win her trust and protect her from those who want to see her silenced? How can he both solve the case and serve the interests of justice?

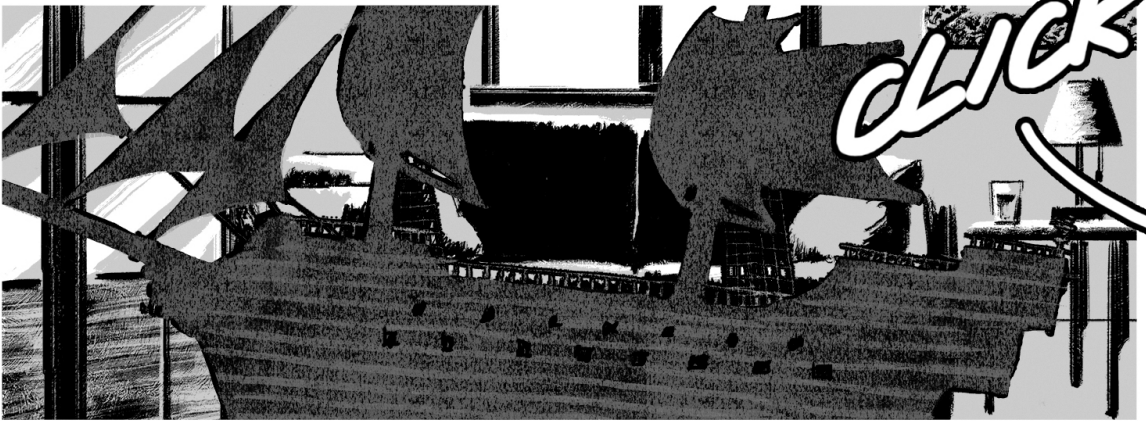
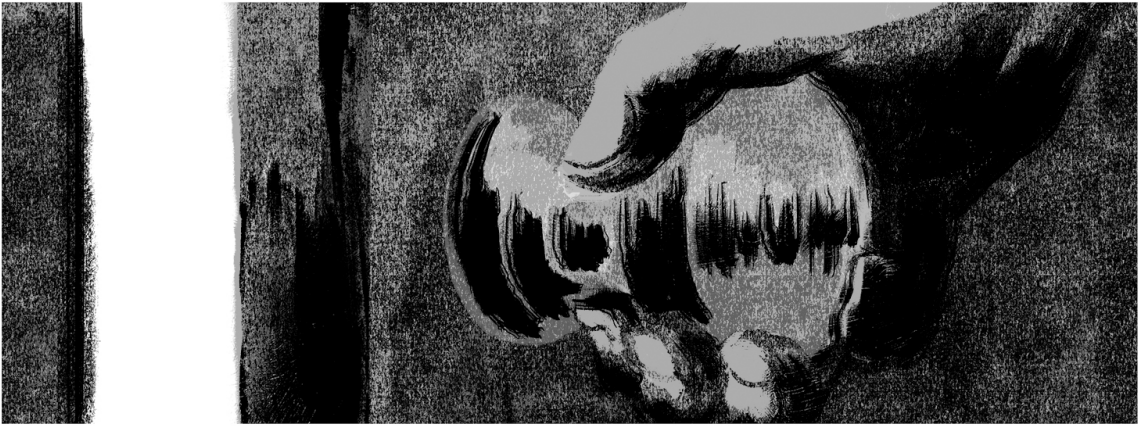
A labor of love which Evan Huang worked on for a decade, this is a tale of gang warfare and police investigations, with a pacey plot and a colorful recreation of the Shanghai of the 20s and 30s. The reader joins our protagonist onto the streets of the city during the early years of the Republic of China, experiencing the allure of that chaotic yet progressive era.



EVAN HUANG 黃熙文

Born in Chiayi, Taiwan, in 1996. Graduated from Tokyo Designers Gakuin College and created the popular Blue Rex cartoon character. He took over his father's pharmaceutical business in 1999, but did not forget his dream of becoming a comic book artist and continued to draw in his free time.







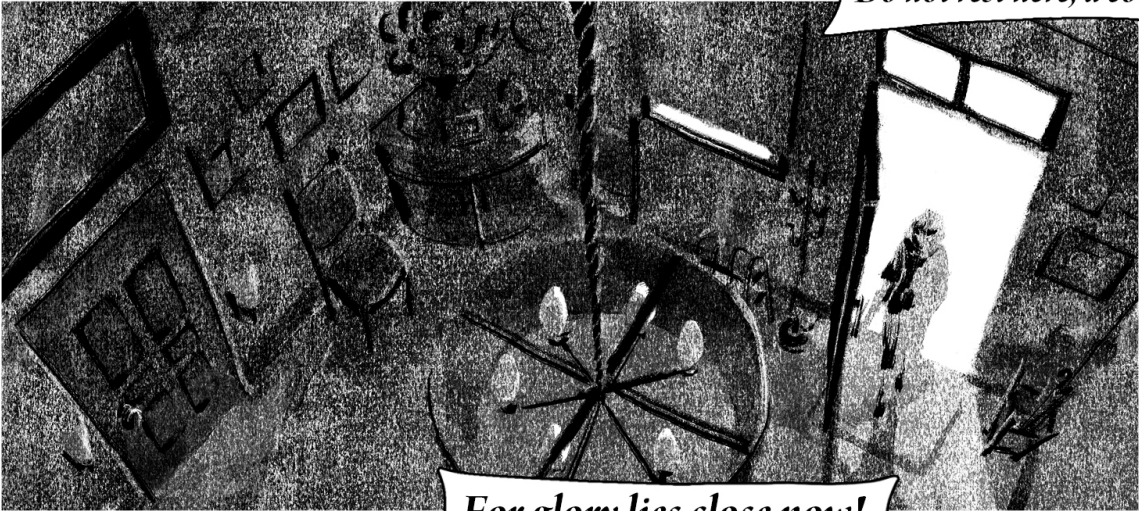
But the night always passes.



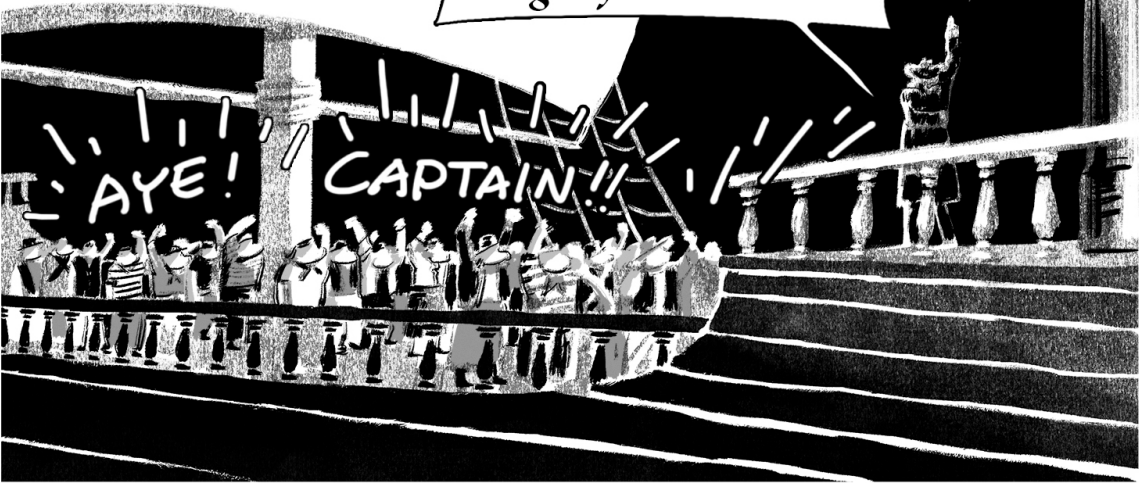
Follow me, men!



Do not rest here, a coward!

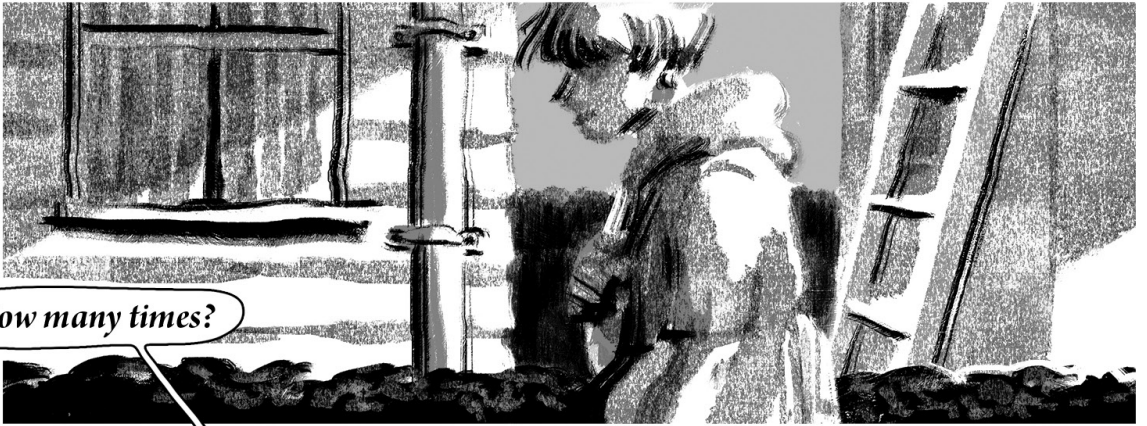


For glory lies close now!

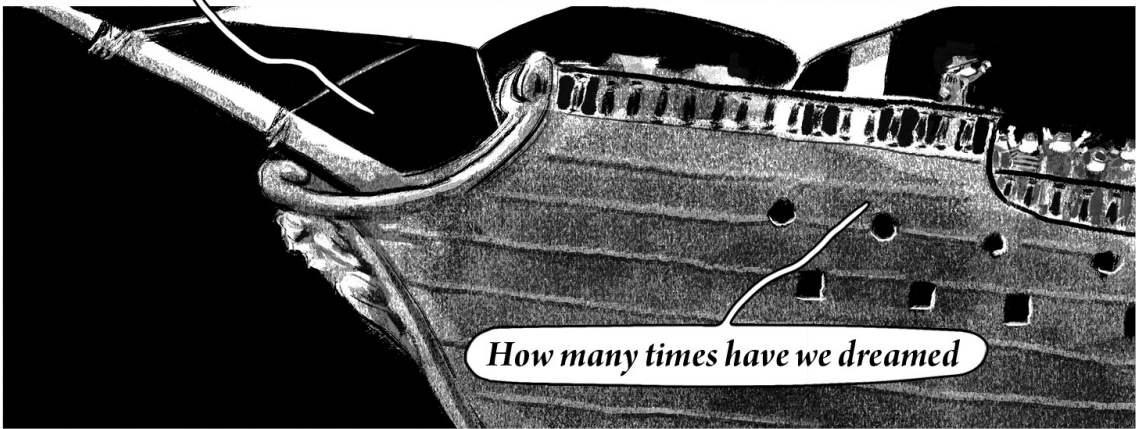


AYE!

CAPTAIN!!



How many times?



How many times have we dreamed



of our own pallid faces!



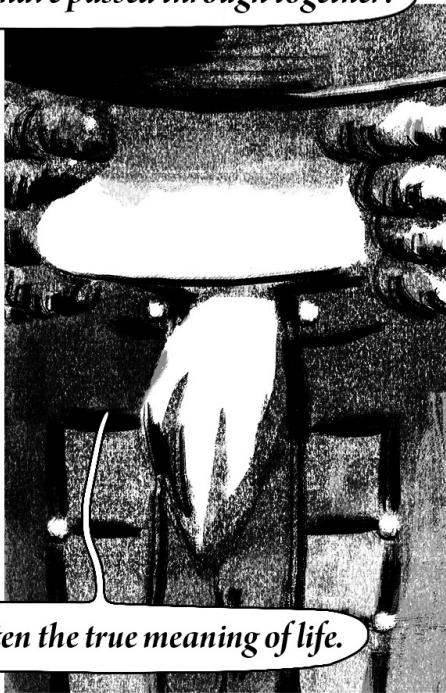


Look!

Do you see what we have passed through together?



Yesterday was far too long a day.

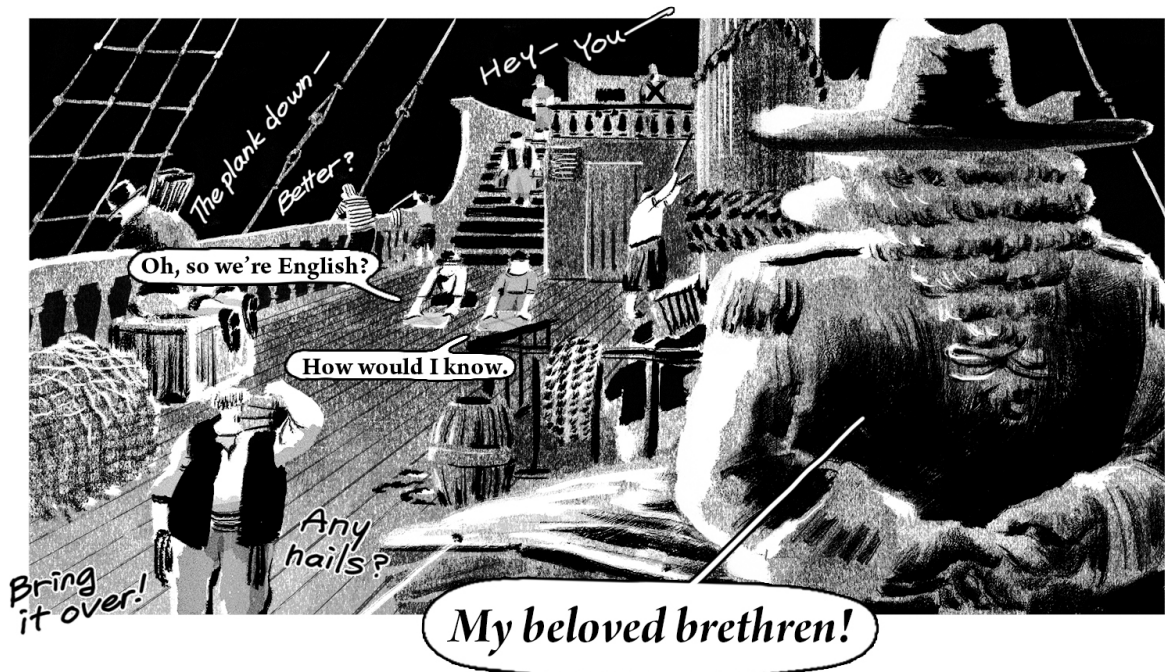
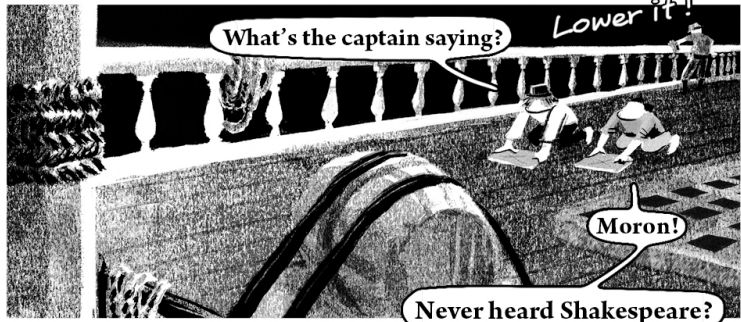
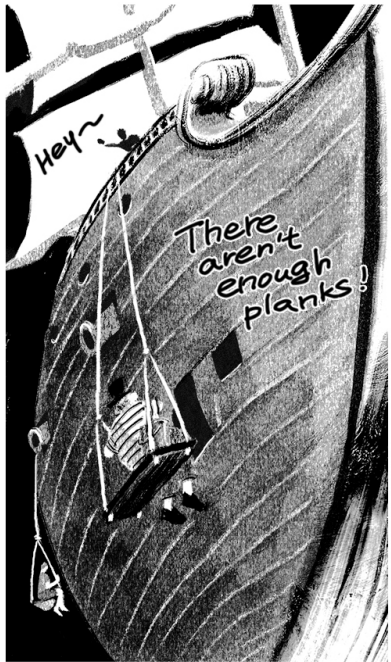
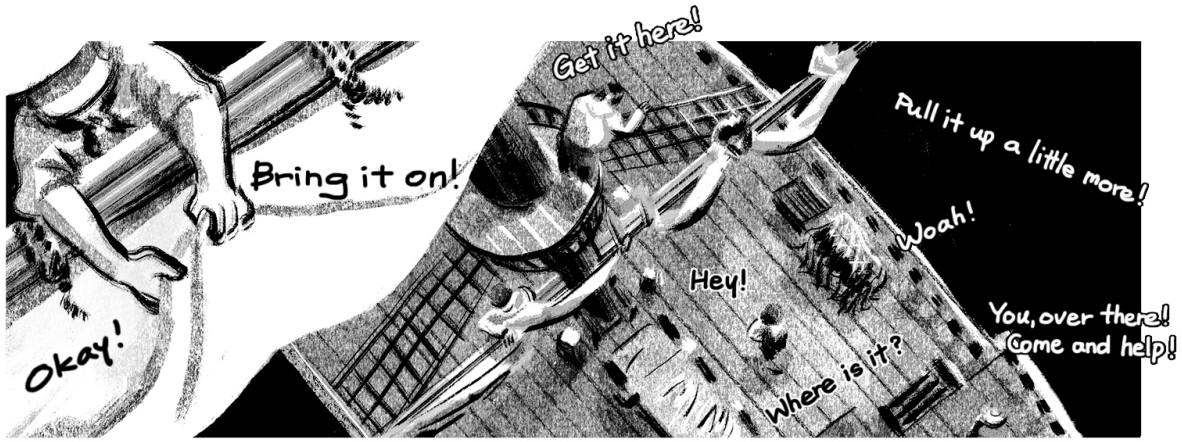


And we have forgotten the true meaning of life.



We fear to go on;

we limit ourselves.

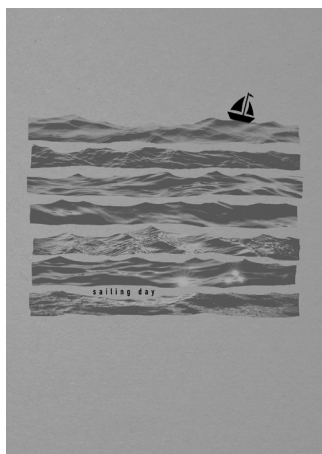


To be or not to be, that is the question.



EYES-CLOSED COLLECTION (VOL. 1): SAILING DAY

闔眼集



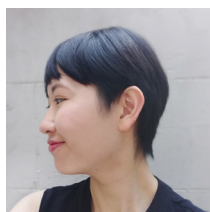
- **Publisher:** Self-publishing
- **Date:** 8/2018
- **Rights contact:**
booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- **Pages:** 36
- **Volume:** 2 (ongoing)

What do you see when you close your eyes? What do you think of? The author's stream of consciousness combines fantasy with reality in an innovative narrative, creating an experimental graphic novel featuring both insightful metaphors and outstanding visual storytelling.

The ship is setting sail! The sailors stand ready, waiting only for their captain's orders. And as the camera draws back, a giant head comes into view and we see this is a model ship trapped in a bottle.

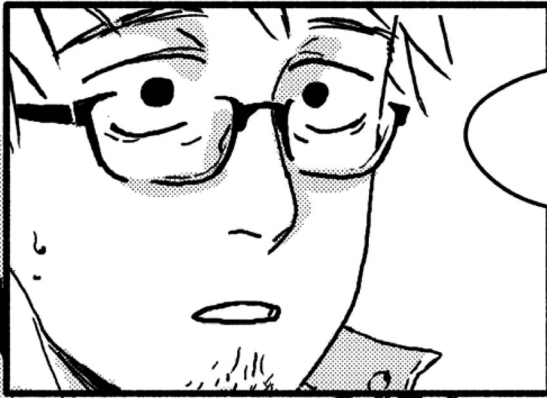
A boy moves house. With no friends nearby, he prefers to remain indoors, despite feeling lonely. But heavy rains are forecast, perhaps even floods. Will that ship in the bottle still float?

The images in this stream-of-consciousness tale switch between the ship and the boy's life, the two strands seeming unconnected, yet echoing each other. This is the first entry in Qanda's two-part *Eyes-Closed Collection*, which combines fantasy and reality in an innovative narrative, creating an experimental graphic novel featuring both insightful metaphors and outstanding visual storytelling.



QANDA

A fine arts graduate who became famous for creating graphic novels. Formerly worked on backgrounds for animated movies, currently studying graphic design in Belgium. *Eyes-Closed Collection* is Qanda's first work and was exhibited at the Taiwan Pavilion at the 2019 Angoulême International Comics Festival.



Ay...



I'm walking in circles again...

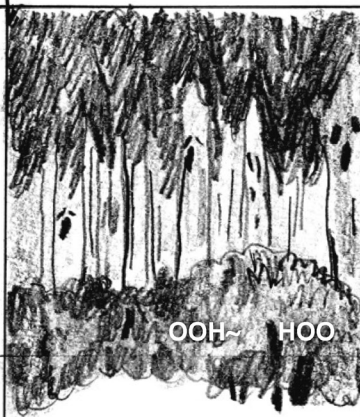
Laqi...where are you?



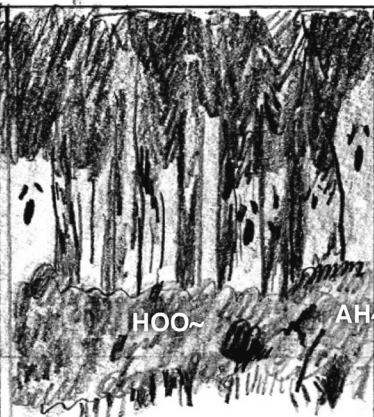
CLICK
咔
嗒



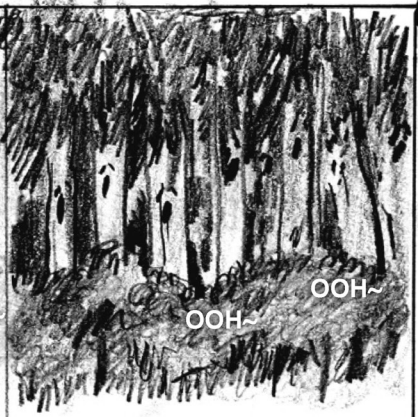
Hmmm?



OOH~ HOO



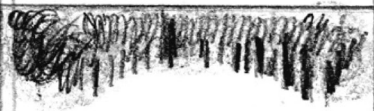
HOO~ AH~



OOH~ OOH~



SWOOSH!



DOONG!



La la la...ready for my chicken!



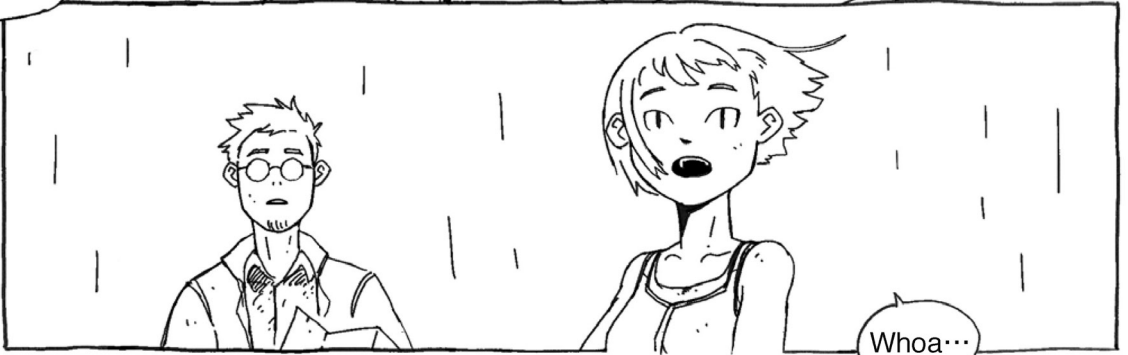
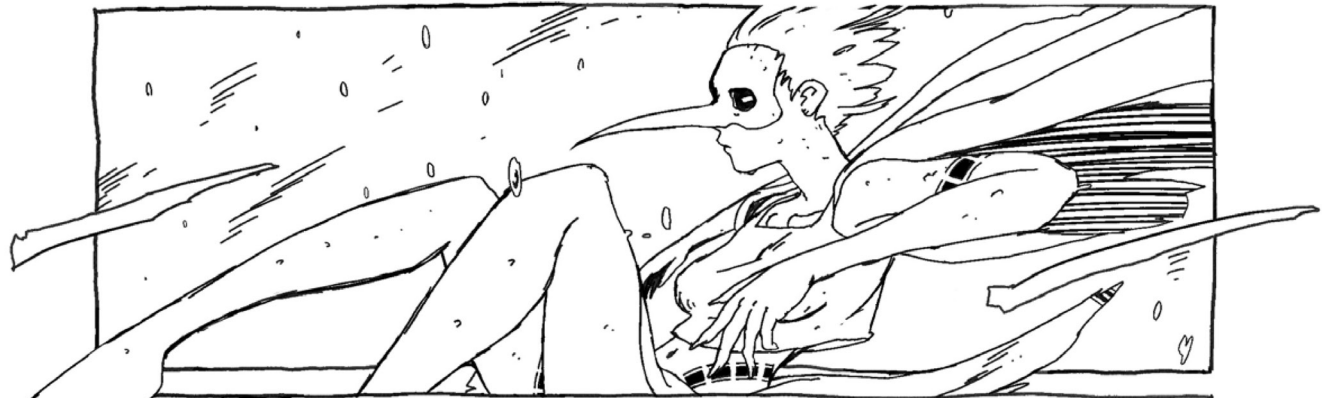
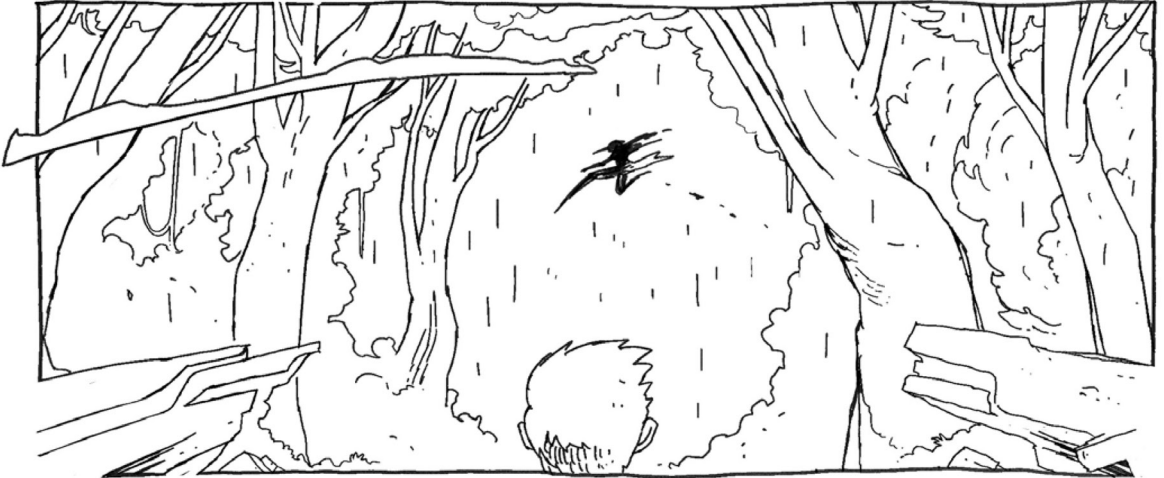
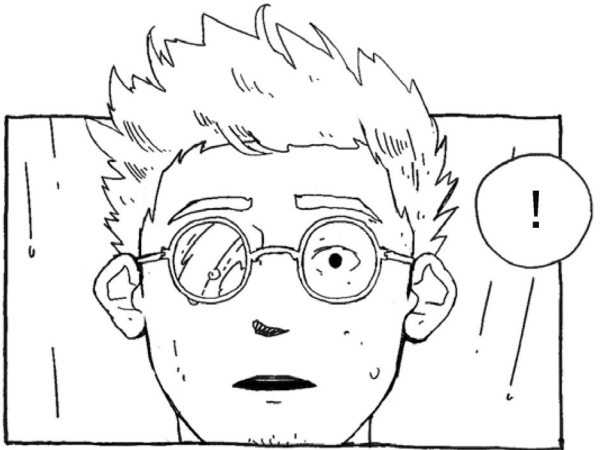
HEY!!!?

What the...!?

How's it empty?



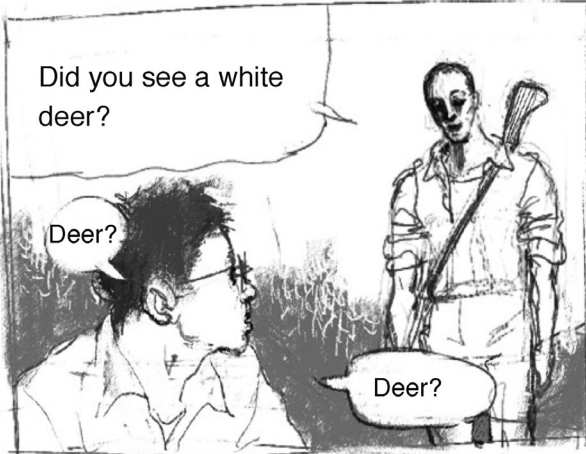
Weird...
suddenly
raining.



Whoa...



Earth God's Birthday





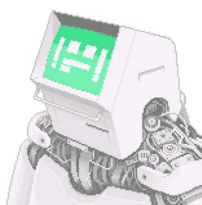
TSENG YAO-CHING 曾耀慶

Tseng Yao-Ching is a young illustrator and comic book artist who creates images using a multitude of different tools, such as Chinese calligraphy ink, poster paint, and cotton paper. Tseng faithfully records dreams, and often makes them the subject of illustrations. Tseng was nominated for the 2013 Golden Comic Award for Best New Artist, and was invited to represent Taiwan at the 2018 Angoulême International Comics Festival.



LO NING 羅寧

A native of Hsinchu now resident in Taipei. Currently a freelance illustrator and designer, she is gradually working more in digital formats.



HUANG ZEN 黃正

Born 1994, Majored in commercial design and currently studying for an MA at Shih Chien University's Department of Communication Design. Huang enjoys reading and creating sci-fi style illustrations.



LEE WEIEN 李瑋恩

A graduate of the University for the Creative Arts in the UK, Li's works tend towards realism, using beautiful interlinked images to explore contemporary social issues. She participated in the 2019 Creative Expo Taiwan and in 2018 won a gold medal at the Taipei Illustration Fair and was a finalist in the 2nd Comico Original Graphic Novel Award.



ELAINEE

An illustrator, graphic novel artist and creator, Elainee studied occupational therapy at university and worked in hospitals and clinics for three years before realizing her true passion was art. And so she quit and became a street artist, setting up her stall where she could. In 2017 she obtained an MA from London's Royal College of Art and was awarded a residency in Angoulême.



PENPOINT 筆頭

Between 2012 and 2014, Penpoint contributed the "Desert Hospital" and "Jungle Hospital" installments of the *Creative Comic Collection's Aid Doctor* series. In 2015, *Imbalanced* was serialized on Comico. Between 2017 and 2018 she contributed illustrations to Dala Publishing's *Let's Talk About Love Love* and Locus Publishing's stand-alone *The Glorious Changes of Chinese Characters*. Artist in residence at the Angoulême International Comics Festival, 2019-2020.

SPIRITS OF THE FOREST

妖怪森林外傳



- **Publisher:** Dala
- **Date:** 6/2019
- **Rights contact:**
booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- **Pages:** 224
- **Volume:** 1 (END)

A botanist takes his daughter on his trips through the forests and towns of Taiwan – and the girl, who has supernatural powers, meets the local spirits. Six artists, six mythical spirits, six different styles – and one whole new look at Taiwanese folklore.

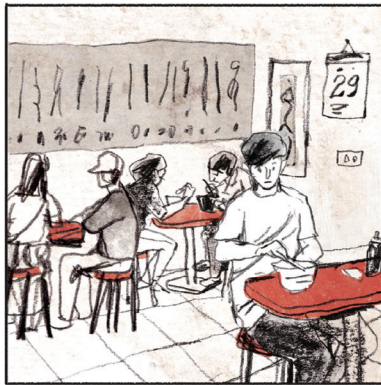
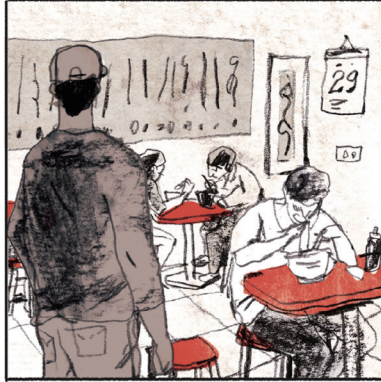
Sung, a botanist, travels Taiwan in search of unique plants – and takes his daughter, Laqi, with him. But Laqi has special powers and as they travel through Taiwan they see more than just the local sights – the local spirits also come out to meet them and fantastic adventures result.

An elusive white deer who transforms into a beautiful girl; a mischievous troublemaking monkey; a feared bird who wields a horrible curse; a goblin who makes children disappear; a cat ghost forever waiting for its beloved master; and a lonely little girl on a chair who just want to play... Laqi's abilities lets her travel into the world of these spirits and hear their stories as she bridges the gap between her world and theirs.

A spin-off from the Laqi movie currently in production, the book features spirits and creatures drawn from the various peoples and places of Taiwan. It is a collection of six short pieces, each drawn by a different emerging graphic novel artist and so having its own unique style, linked to the others by a shared setting and characters. Each shows great imagination and an updating of Taiwan's myths.

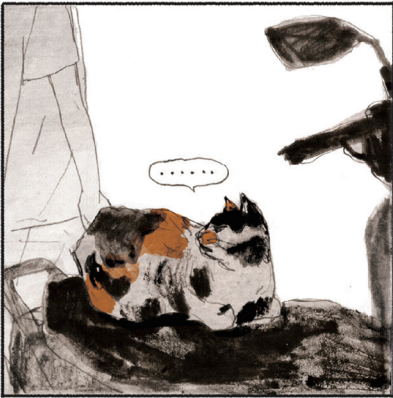
城市裡, 有時候……
總會習慣一個人吃飯。

Sometimes in the city……
surrounded by people, you eat alone.



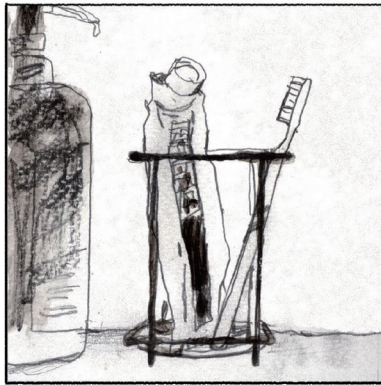
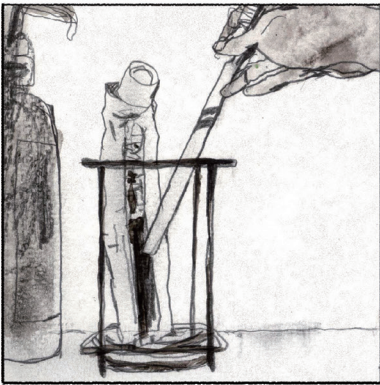
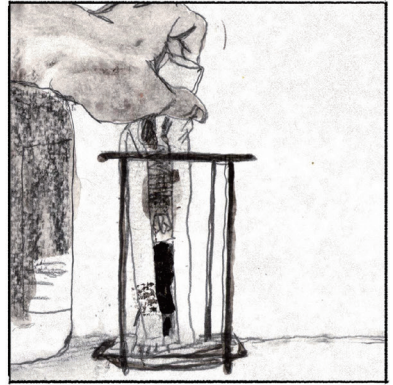
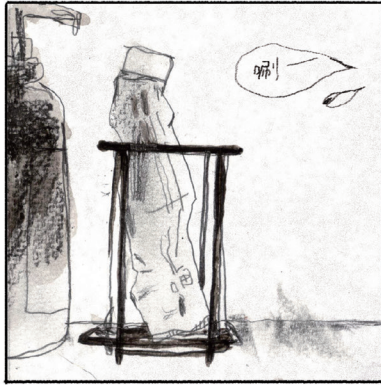
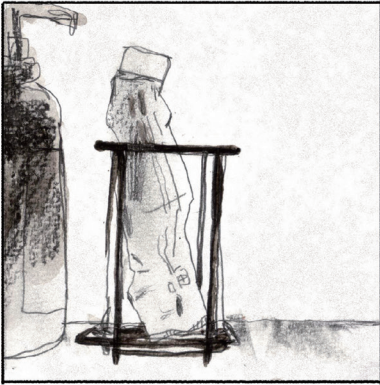
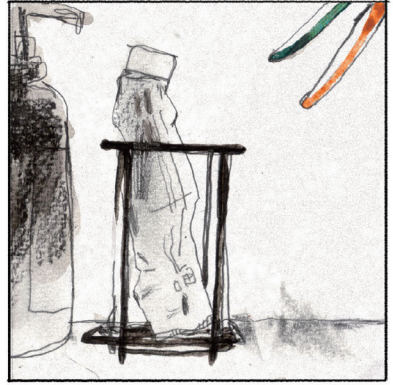
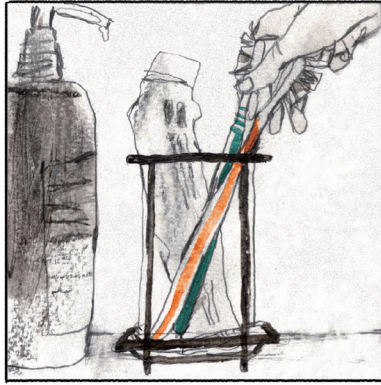
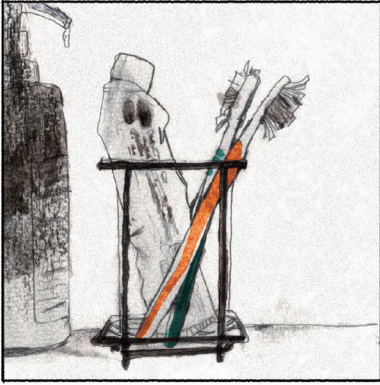
城市裡，有時候……
沒有人愛你。

Sometimes in the city……
nobody wants you.



城市裡，有時候……
你會回到一個人。

Sometimes in the city……
it's back to being single again.





Sometimes Together
Sometimes Alone

Life ants to sugar
on the asphalt,
we swarm to the city,
Sparing no effort
to taste
the sweetness
we crave individually,
we merge
into a
desperate syrup.

SOMETIMES IN THE CITY

城市裡，有時候



- Publisher: Dala
- Date: 6/2019
- Rights contact:
booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com
- Pages: 144
- Volume: 1 (END)

Many of us know what it is like to live in a city – but here, the artist captures that experience in romantic imagery highlighting the day-to-day loneliness and powerlessness of urban life. The artwork creates an effect similar to that of the long take in cinematography, giving a sense of time's flow. The reader becomes a flaneur, taking in every aspect of life in the city.

What is life like in the city? One moment you are part of a crowd, the next alone. Sometimes the unexpected happens; sometimes you are oblivious to your surroundings. One day you fight for a better life; the next you give in and drift with the flow.

Many of us experience city life today, and while every city is different, the sense of estrangement and powerlessness cities create in us are common to all.

Busy streets and sidewalks, flocks of birds overhead, pedestrian bridges – all everyday features of the city. A toothbrush, a potted plant, a cigarette, a bowl of instant noodles – seemingly insignificant objects which speak to urban life. The artist's romantic imagery captures moments of Taipei life both absurd and inconsequential, showing us what a city really is.

Unlike most graphic novels, the artist adopts the long takes of cinematography to handle dialogue-free scenes. There are between three and nine frames on each page, each one moving forward a moment in time. Flick through the book and you become Baudelaire's flaneur, taking in every aspect of life in the city.



61CHI

61Chi has represented her art and her country at the Angoulême residency in France, the Krumlov Center for the Arts in the Czech Republic, and on the podium as winner of a silver medal for 2014 International Manga Award in Japan. Her illustrations have accompanied several published works over the years, with her first collection of illustrations appearing in 2007.

BOOKS FROM TAIWAN
COMICS (From Left to Right)

BOOKS FROM TAIWAN
COMICS