

January 4

Cloudy with some rain

Got into a fight with daddy after dinner. Daddy went to bed with his clothes on. Shōsuke's sleeping face is so adorable.



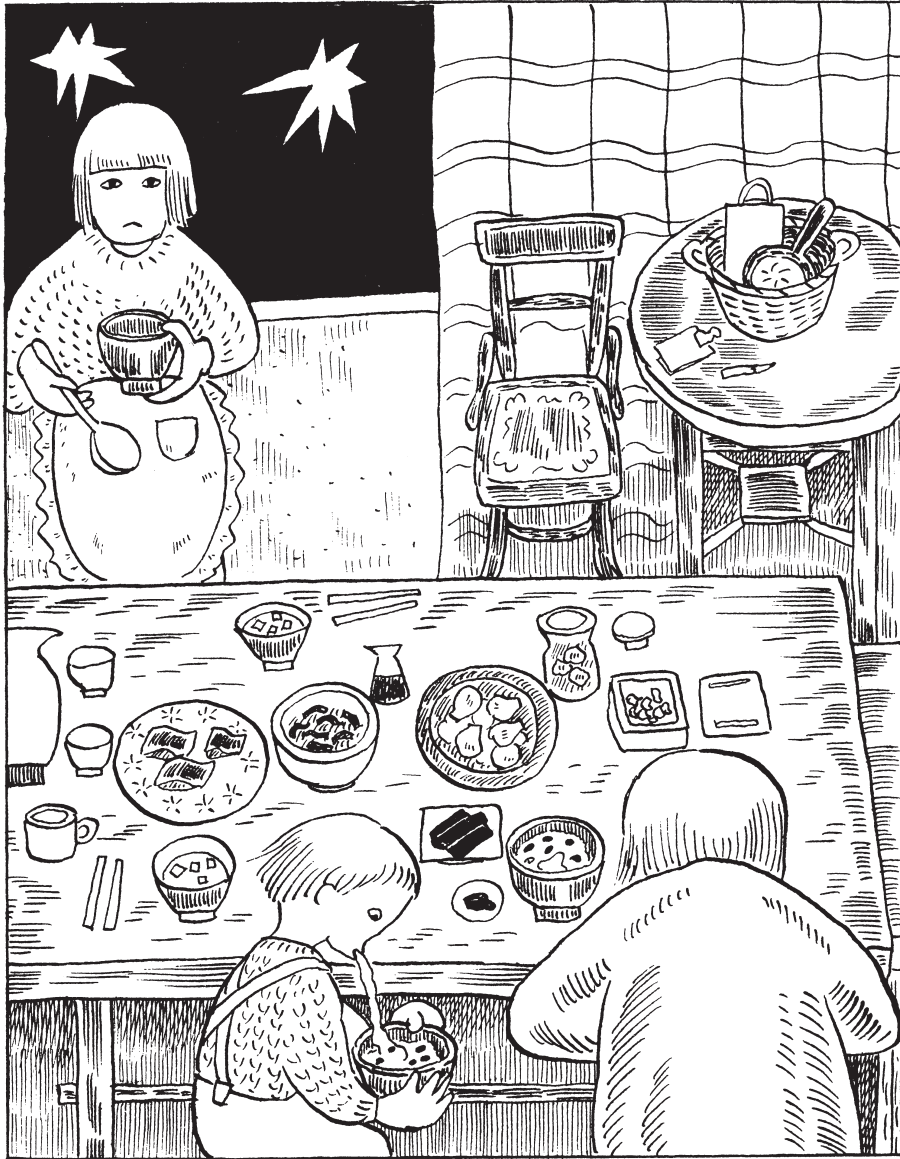
January 10
Clear

The weather was nice, so I took Shōsuke for a walk to the Tamagawa River. On the way, the plum tree blossoms were so pretty I couldn't help but steal a few; while on the river, we rudely helped ourselves to a meal of radish leaves. Sorry, Mr. Radish... Whenever I go shopping, I take home the unwanted butterbur leaves from the grocer's and make *tsukudani* out of them with mirin, sugar, and soy sauce. Meanwhile, daddy bought an old dental diseases specimen set for cheap from an antique store. It was a family junk day.



January 11
Winds from the north

Today, daddy cleaned the dental specimen set he bought yesterday at a junk shop for a thousand yen. The degree of realism when you look closely is pretty interesting. We're thinking of setting it in the entryway to give our guests a shock... Both daddy and I like old things, as long as they're not too dirty. I often pick up strange things on my walks, which daddy always tells me are filthy, but he's one to talk. Objects like that are always welcome in our home. New, shiny things, not so much.



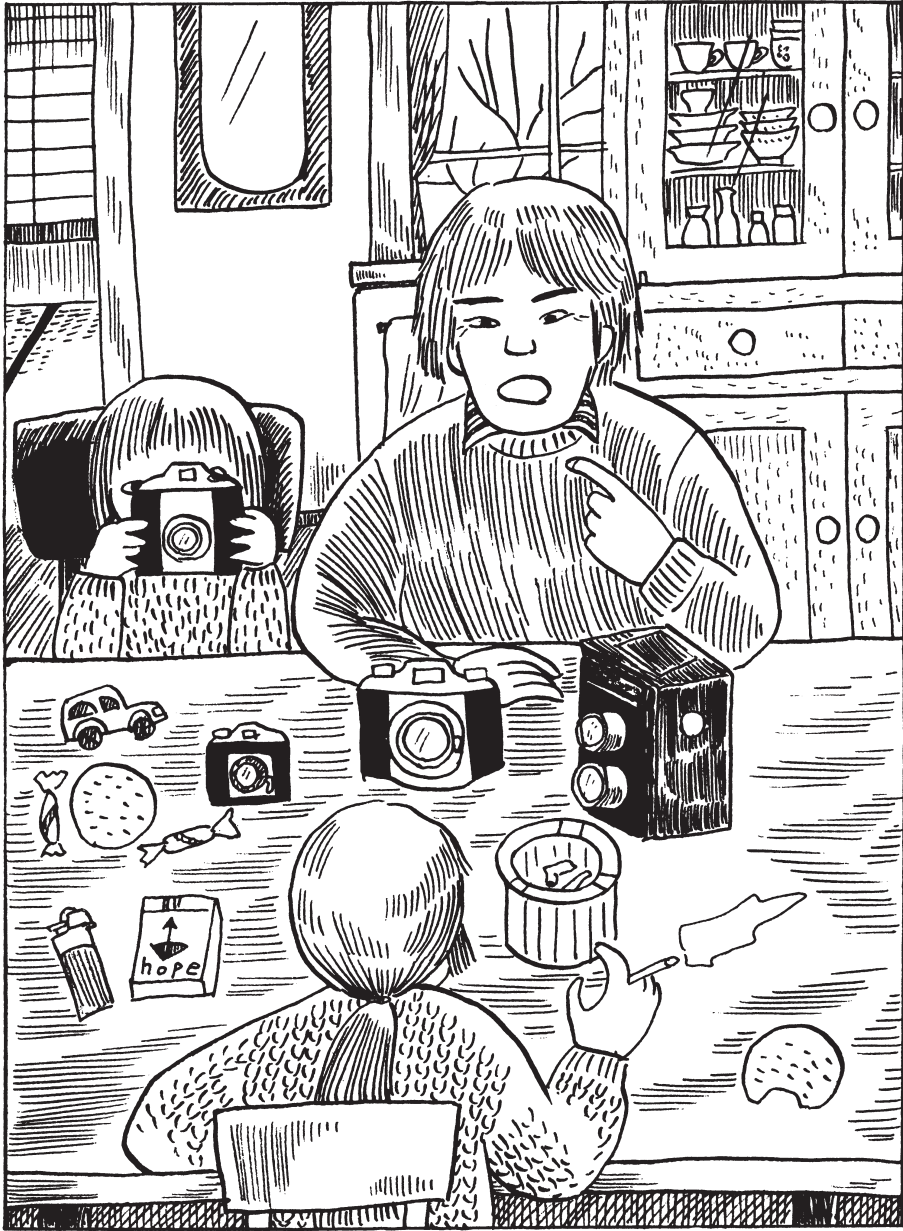
January 15
Clear but with strong winds

After lunch, Shōsuke said his tummy hurt. Daddy immediately grabbed a fat medical text to see what it might be. He has a bad habit of making every little incident into a big deal. We had some probiotics sitting around, so we gave him that, and he was feeling fine again in no time. Then, daddy told him he'd feel gross if the water leaked out of his belly button, so he stuck on a Band-Aid. My eyes have been burning from not sleeping well, and everyone seemed to be feeling poorly. But since it was Lunar New Year, I still managed to make red bean soup with mochi in it, to ward off evil for the year.



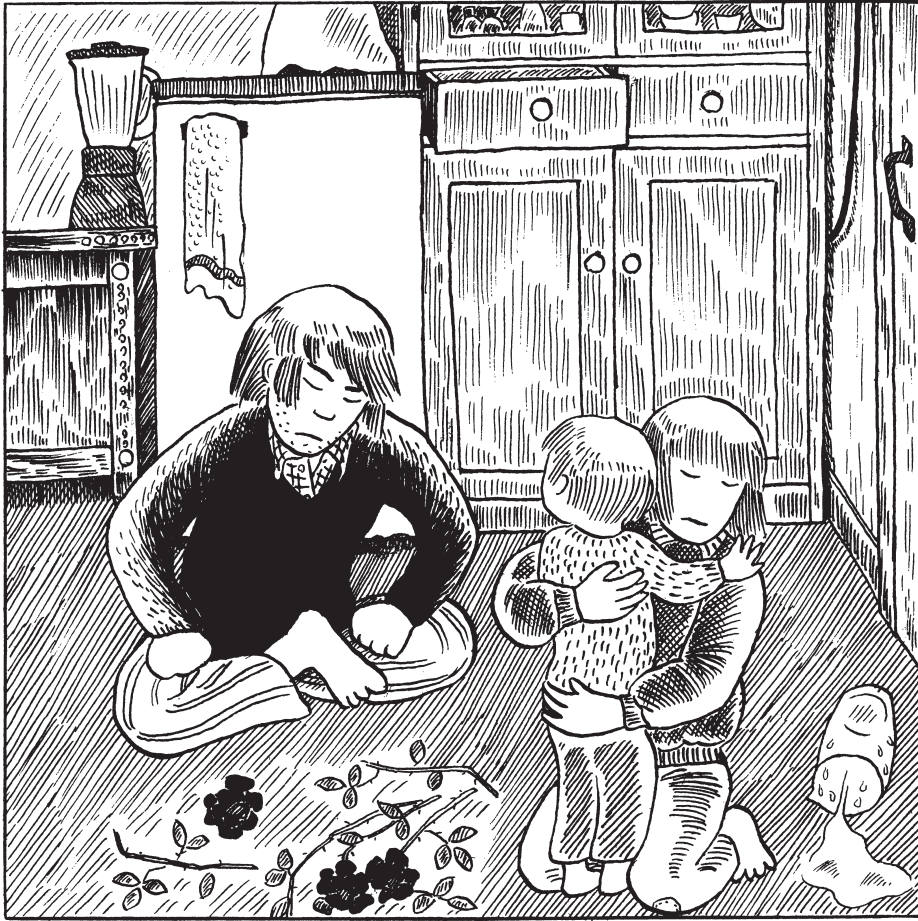
January 30
Rainy

This is daddy's three-tatami-wide castle. That's why I rarely dare trespass. Because daddy works (?) from the time we go to bed until dawn, he doesn't get up until midday. Daddy likes cameras and has collected a lot of them. He seems to like toy cameras especially. When he's sitting silently at his desk, he's usually doing "research" about cameras.



February 27
Cloudy

Today, daddy went to two junk shops to buy cameras. He's like a child when he really gets into cameras. While I was preparing dinner, I could hear Shōsuke's voice from daddy's room. "Hey, daddy, we better close the door. If mommy finds out, she'll yell at you again." Sounds like both of them were "working" on cameras.



March 24

I got into a fight with daddy last night. He hit me two or three times, making me feel like nothing matters anymore. "We don't need daddy anymore! We'll go somewhere, just the two of us!" I blurted out to Shōsuke. Later, I felt bad about hurting daddy's feelings. I have a bad habit of speaking too sharply to him when I'm tired. Even today's fight happened because of some small miscommunication. Daddy got mad because he was frustrated with me not being nice to him despite the fact that he's feeling down. But I was exhausted and wanted to lay down myself.



March 25

Because of last night's fight with daddy, I was feeling down and low energy. I'm exhausted and don't want to do anything... At times like this, I wish I could just say "to hell" with the housework. But not being able to do that is one of the hard things about being a woman. I did the absolute minimum amount of laundry, just to work up a sweat so I'd sleep better.



April 15
Wintry cold

Daddy has finally gone crazy. I noticed him looking at the phone book with a hard expression, when suddenly he picked up the phone and dialed the psychiatric ward. As he's been acting strange, I've had a bad feeling all month... I guess he finally decided he needed help. I told him to try to hold out until tomorrow. When I held him to help him try to stop shaking, I felt so sorry for him I started to cry. I'm upset. I don't know what to do. Making dinner was out of the question, so I went out to buy us all bentos. Once daddy and Shōsuke went to bed, and I was alone, I began to feel alone and helpless, like a small boat adrift on the ocean, with no one to call or help.