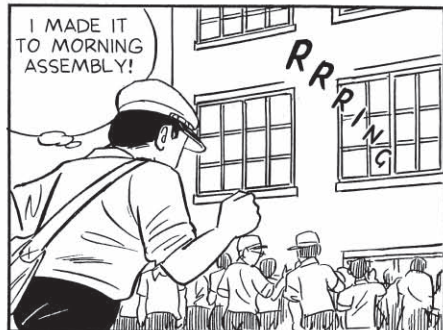
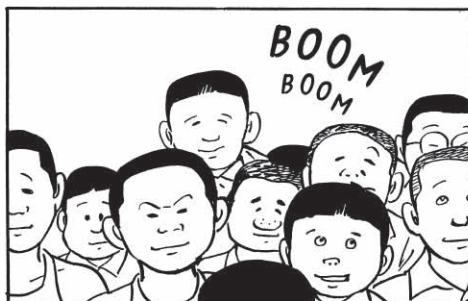
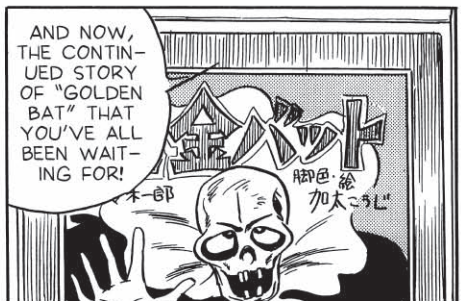


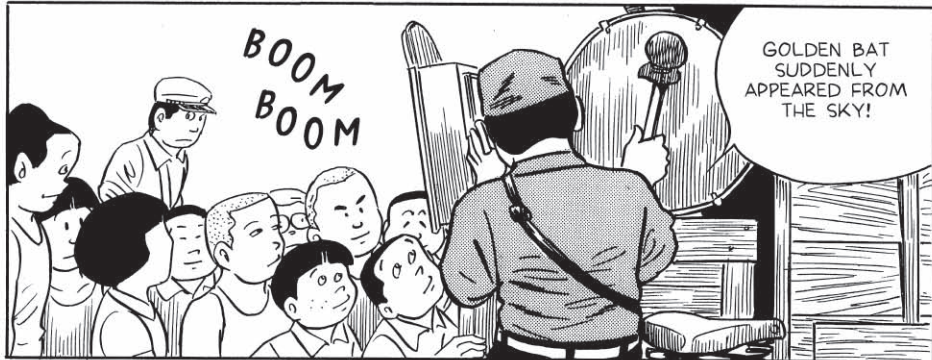


SIGN: TOYONAKA NO. 2 MIDDLE SCHOOL



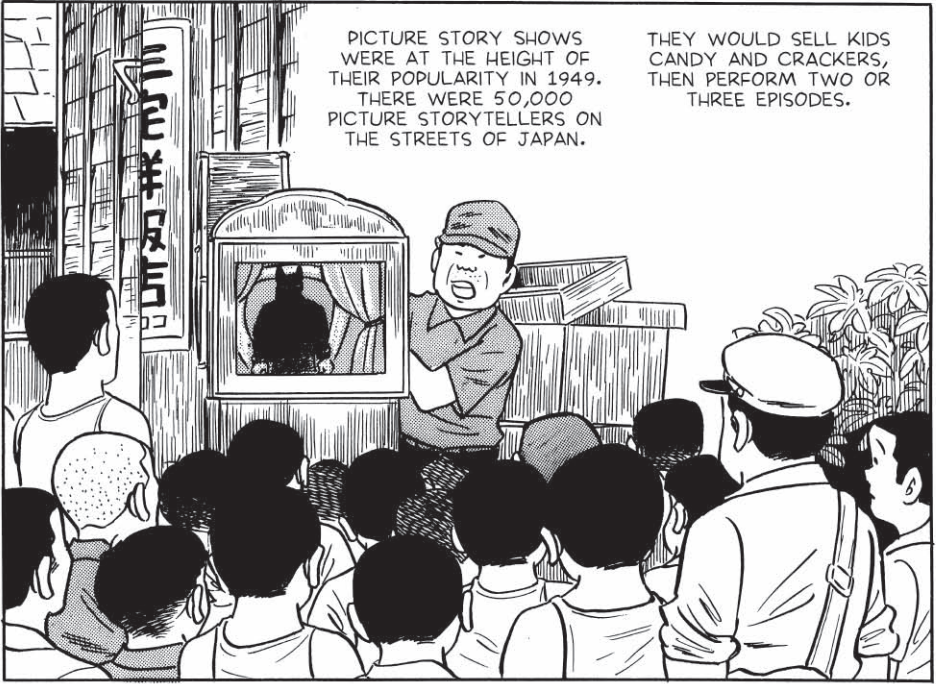


TITLE: "GOLDEN BAT," DRAWN AND COLORED BY KOJI KATA



PICTURE STORY SHOWS WERE AT THE HEIGHT OF THEIR POPULARITY IN 1949. THERE WERE 50,000 PICTURE STORYTELLERS ON THE STREETS OF JAPAN.

THEY WOULD SELL KIDS CANDY AND CRACKERS, THEN PERFORM TWO OR THREE EPISODES.



"GOLDEN BAT" WAS THE MOST POPULAR STORY. HOWEVER, BECAUSE THERE WAS ONLY ONE ORIGINAL SET THAT WAS LOANED OUT TO THE STORYTELLERS, BOOTLEG VERSIONS FLOODED THE STREETS.

MANY OF THE GREATS OF POSTWAR MANGA, INCLUDING SHIGERU MIZUKI, GOSEKI KOJIMA, SANPEI SHIRATO, AND GOJIN ISHIHARA, WERE ALL PICTURE STORYTELLERS DURING THIS PERIOD .



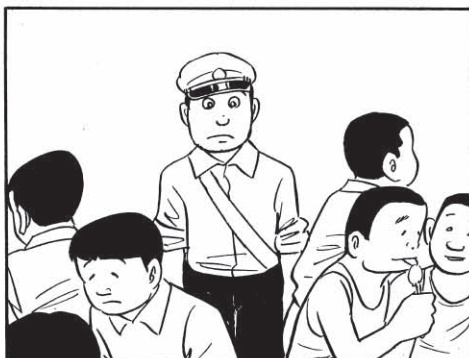
DURING THE WAR, SOME IN THE INDUSTRY REFERRED TO PICTURE STORIES AS "GAGEKI" ("PICTURE DRAMA"), BUT THE EXACT DATE OF ORIGIN OF THIS TERM IS UNKNOWN.



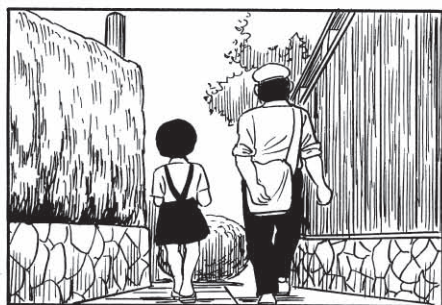
AFTER THE RISE OF TELEVISION AND WEEKLY MAGAZINES, PICTURE STORIES QUICKLY FADED INTO THE PAST.

THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY!

MAKE SURE YOU COME BACK FOR THE REST OF THE STORY!



HIROSHI, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE HERE WATCHING.

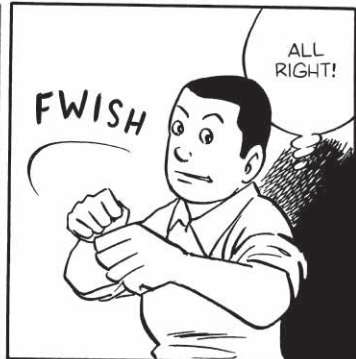
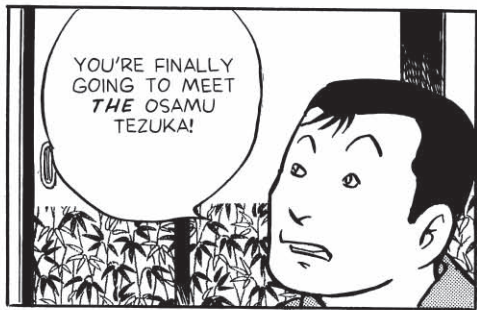
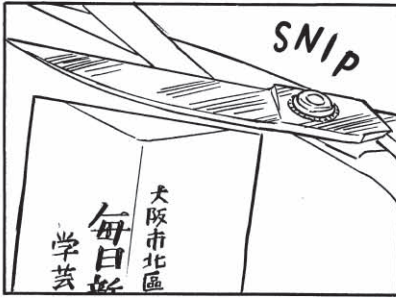


OH, SO YOU WERE WITH MICHIKO?

YOU GOT A LETTER FROM MAINICHI SHIMBUN.

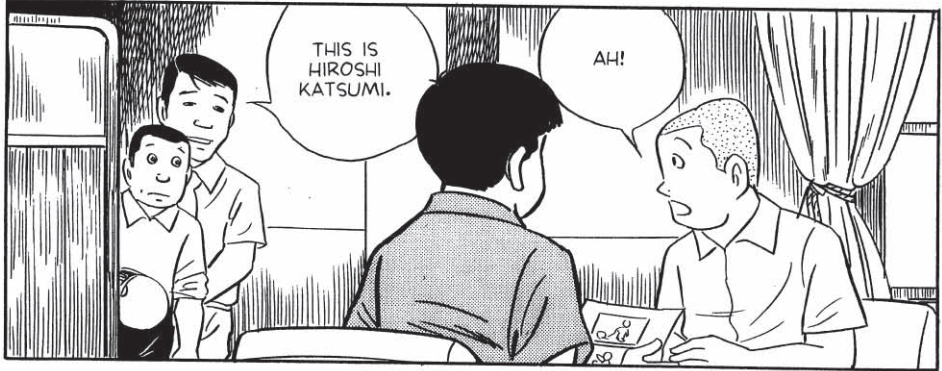
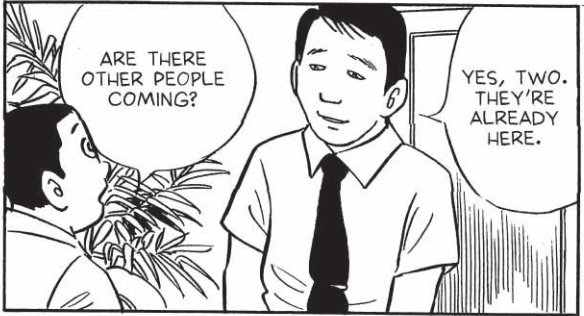


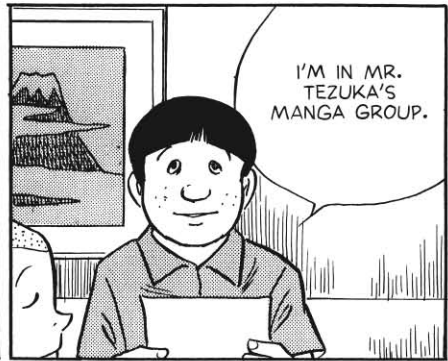
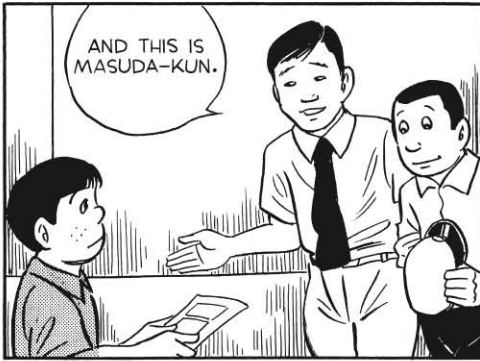
ENVELOPE: HIROSHI KATSUMI 1-37 ASADA, TOYONAKA-SHI



SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER  
10, 1950

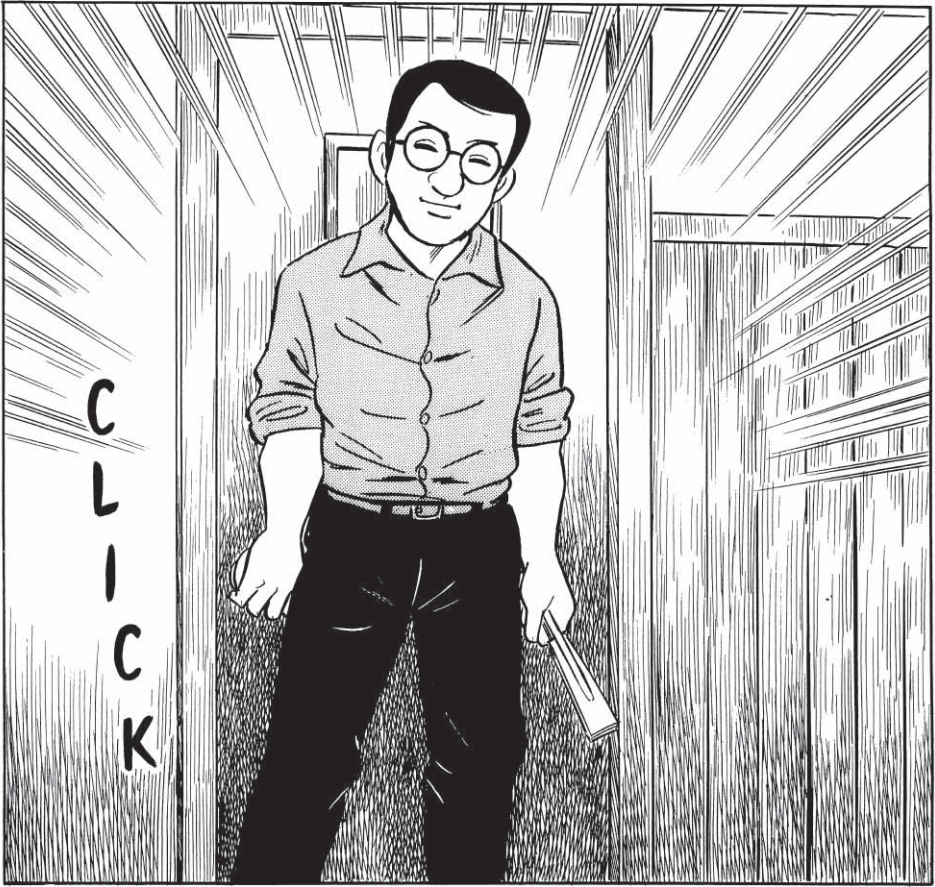
OSAKA-MAINICHI  
SHIMBUN OFFICE





# ENTER TEZUKA





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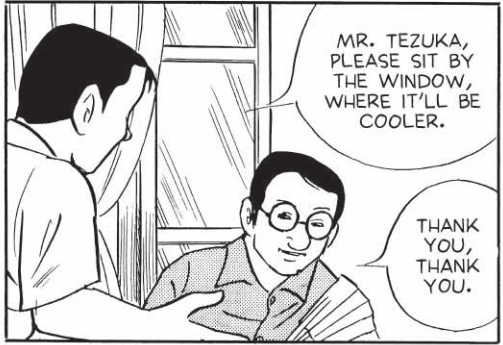


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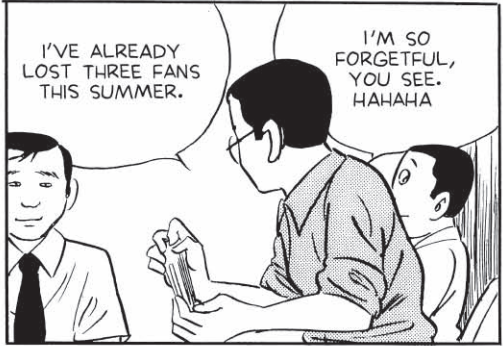
SORRY I'M LATE.

STILL VERY HOT OUT, ISN'T IT?



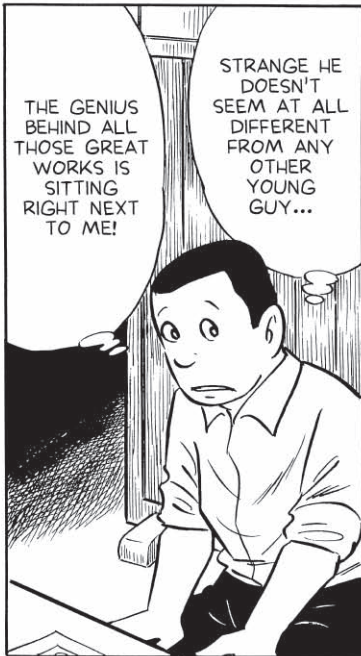
MR. TEZUKA, PLEASE SIT BY THE WINDOW, WHERE IT'LL BE COOLER.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU.



I'VE ALREADY LOST THREE FANS THIS SUMMER.

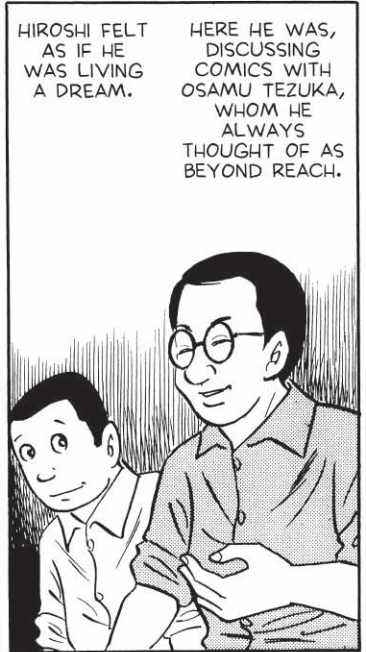
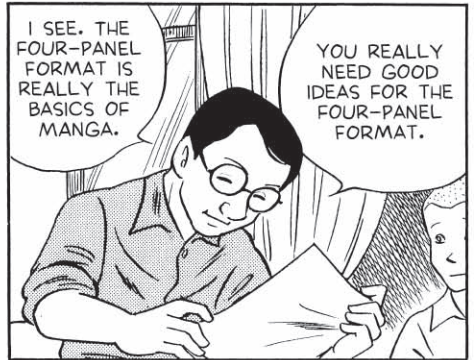
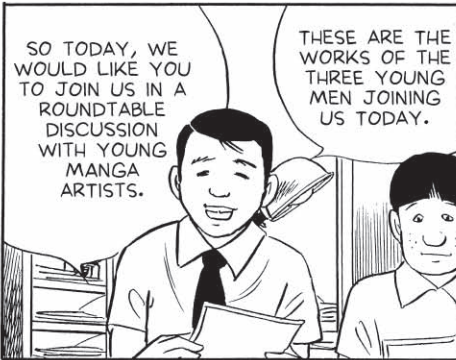
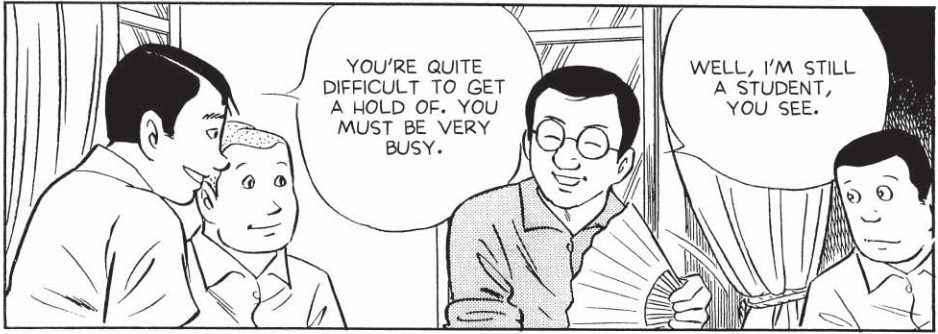
I'M SO FORGETFUL, YOU SEE. HAHAHA

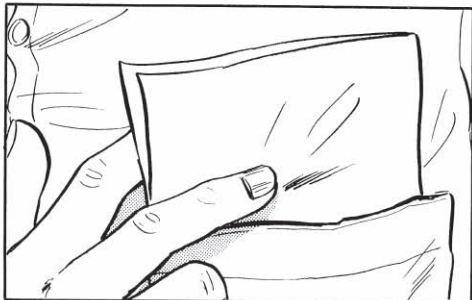
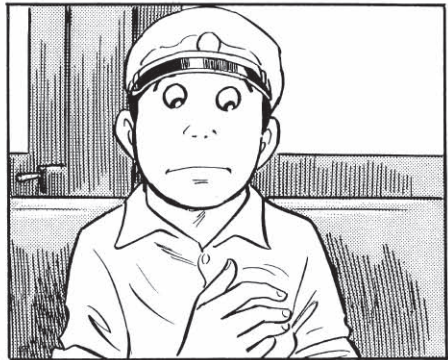
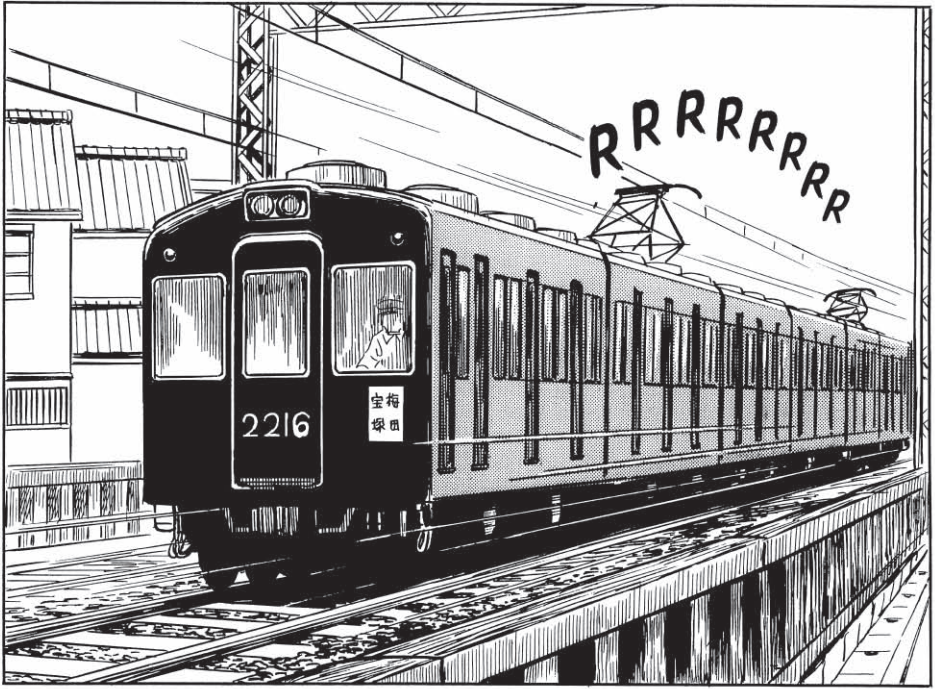


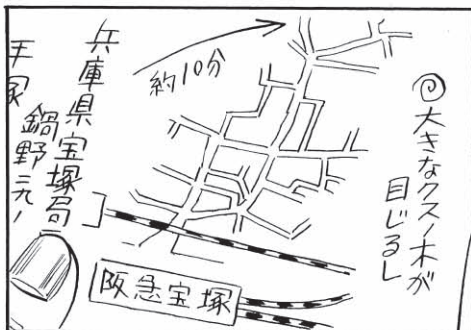
THE GENIUS BEHIND ALL THOSE GREAT WORKS IS SITTING RIGHT NEXT TO ME!

STRANGE HE DOESN'T SEEM AT ALL DIFFERENT FROM ANY OTHER YOUNG GUY...

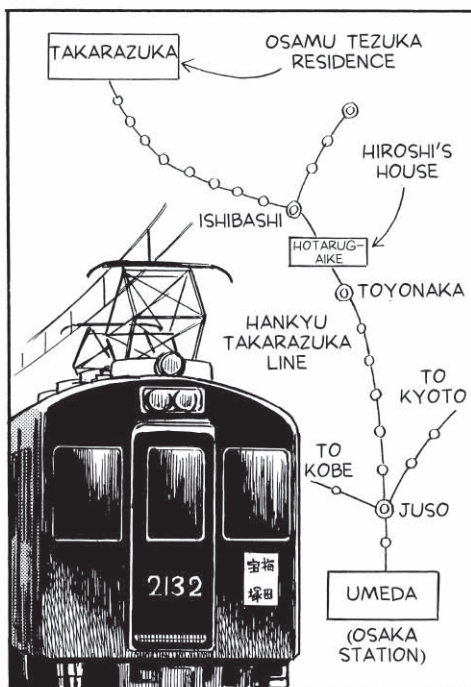
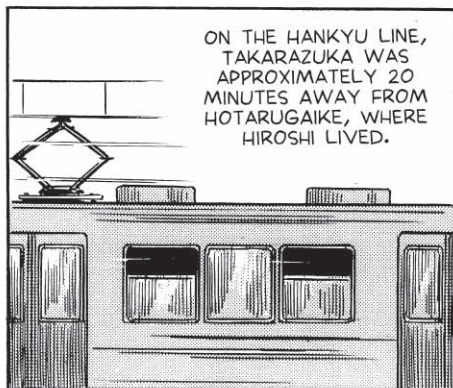
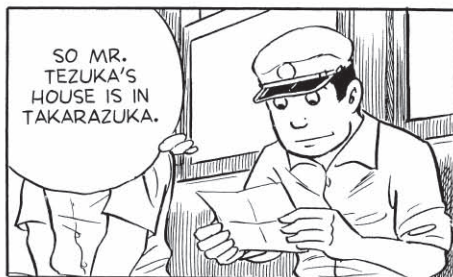
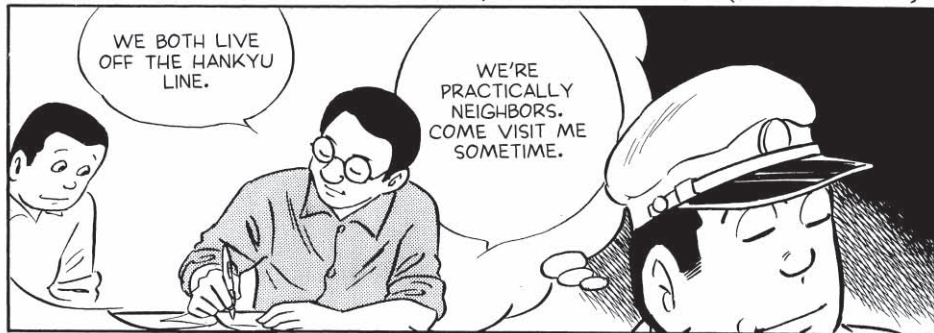


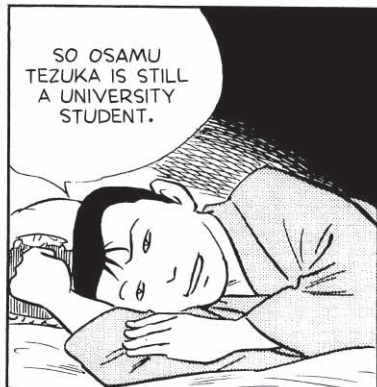






PAPER: LOOK FOR THE LARGE CINNAMON TREE; APPROX. 10 MINUTES (TEZUKA ADDRESS)





<SOUND OF CRICKETS>



<FIFTH AND SIXTH PANELS: SOUND OF CRICKETS>