

やくな マギカ・カップモ

4

YAKUNARA MUG CUP MO

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





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



EPISODE 04

TOKO AND THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL

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.



HELLO.

HELLO.



TOKO-CHAN,
GOOD TO
SEE YOU.



MASTER?



HEY!
SOME
WATER!
PLEASE!

YES,
RIGHT
AWAY!!

WELL,
MY
MOTHER...
ASKED
ME TO
TAKE SOME
FOOD
FOR
GRANDPA.



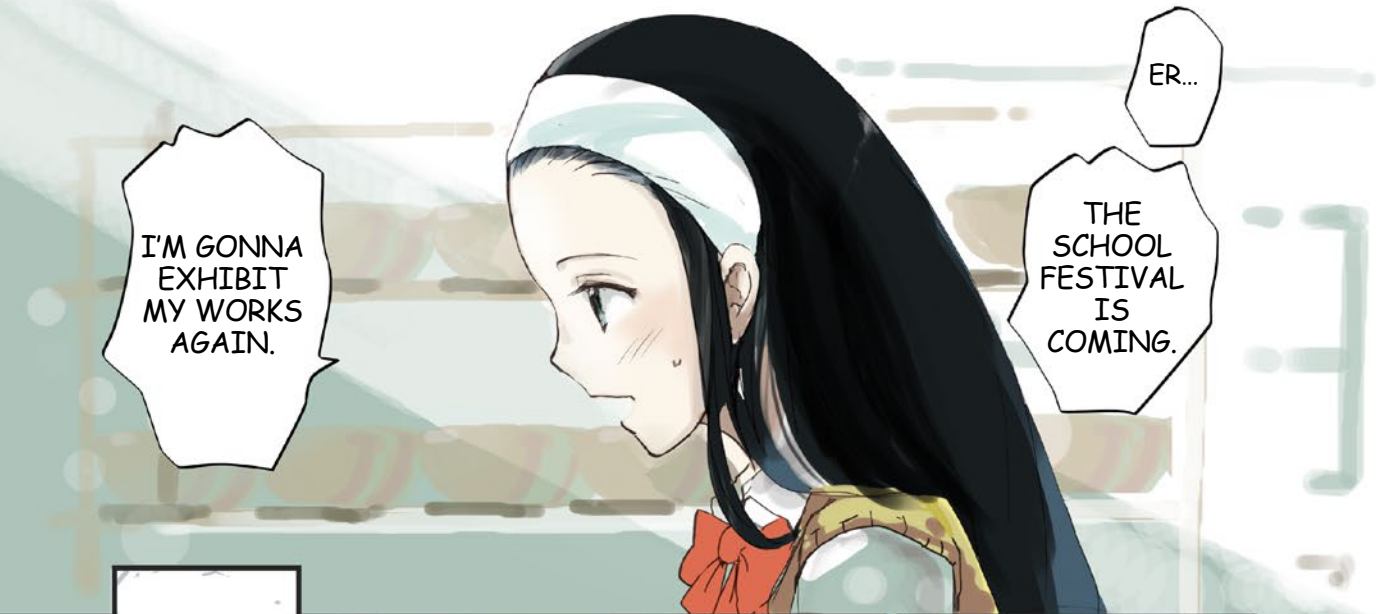
WELL,
THAT IS
WHAT THE
SELLER
WANTS
TO DO....

.....



LEAVE
THE FOOD
AT THE
BACKDOOR.

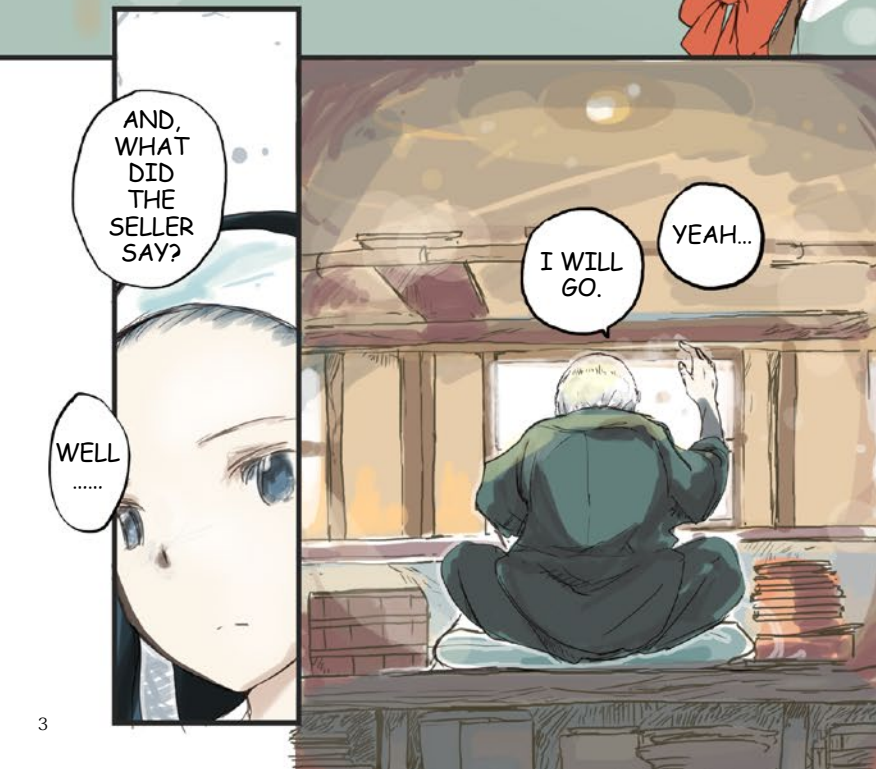
OH,
TOKO!



I'M GONNA
EXHIBIT
MY WORKS
AGAIN.

ER...

THE
SCHOOL
FESTIVAL
IS
COMING.



AND,
WHAT
DID
THE
SELLER
SAY?

I WILL
GO.

YEAH...

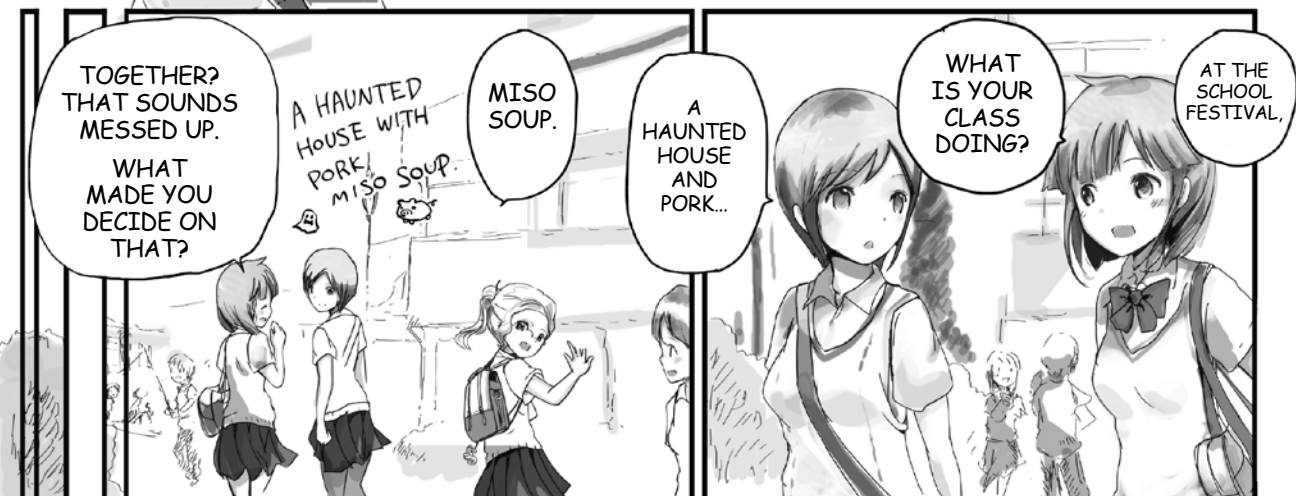
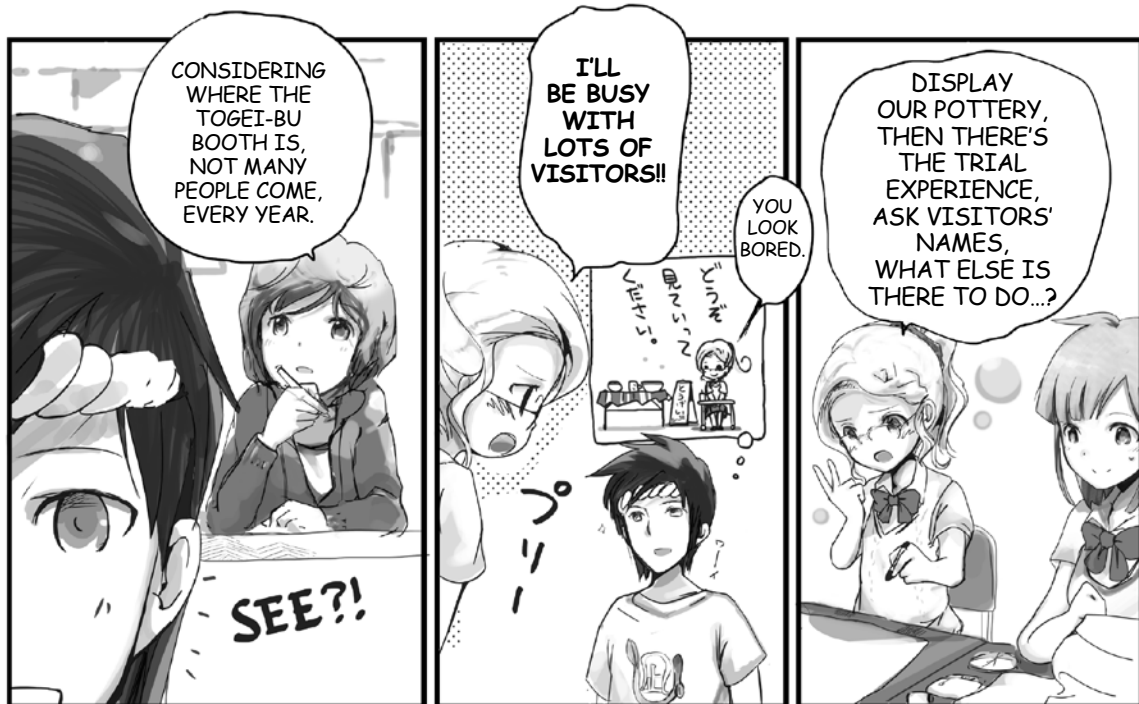
WELL
.....



.....

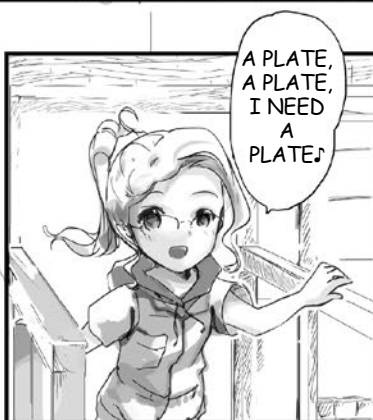
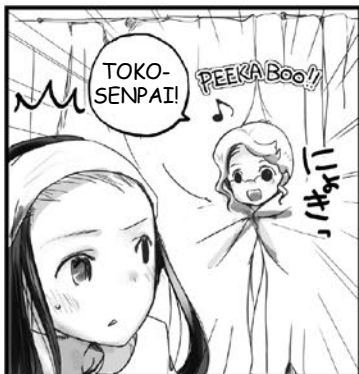
LET'S SHORTEN
THE SKIRT
JUST A LITTLE.



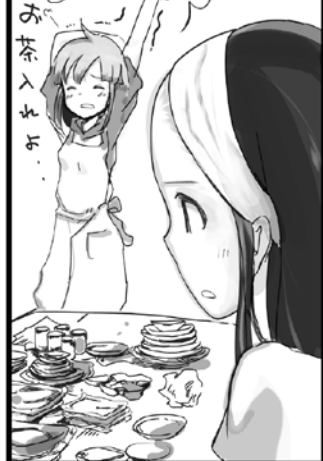








LET'S MAKE
SOME TEA

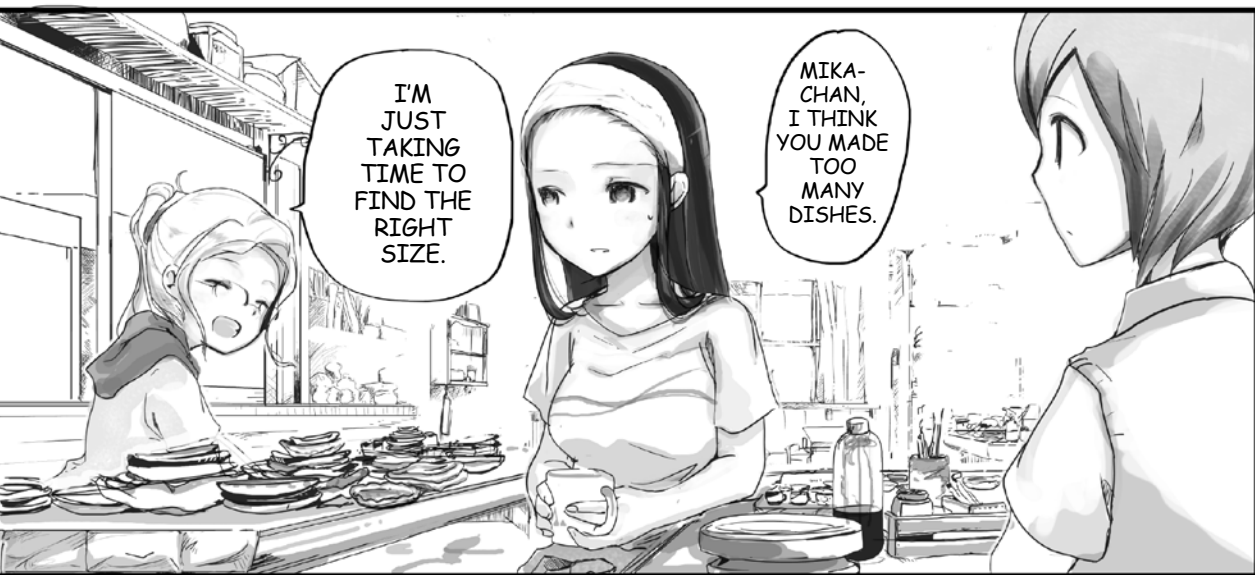


AH,
SENPAI!

YOU
MADE
ENOUGH.

THERE
ARE SOME
THAT
DIDN'T
COME OUT
WELL...

おつかれ
センパイ

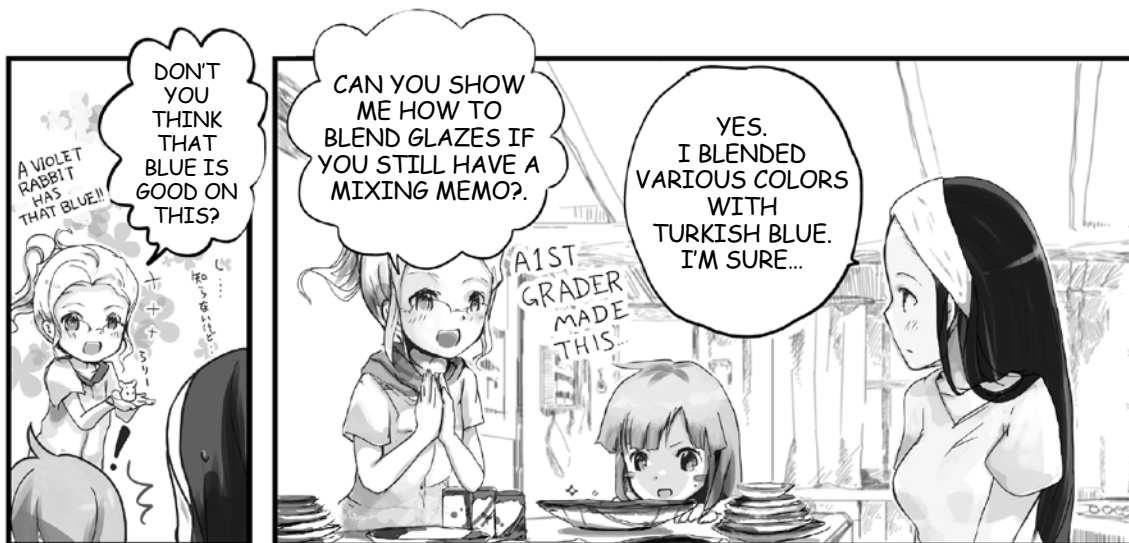


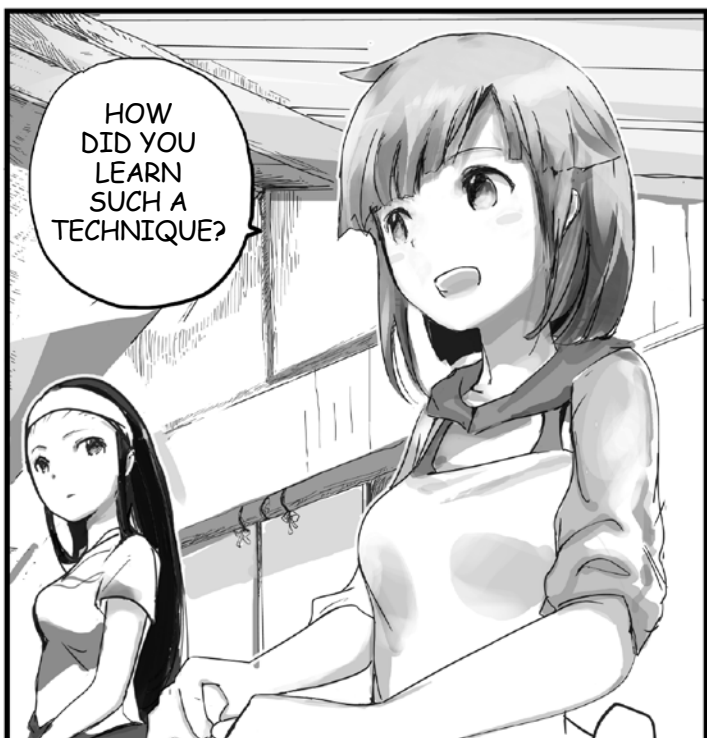
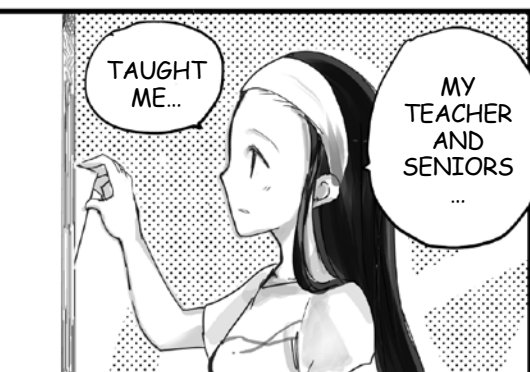
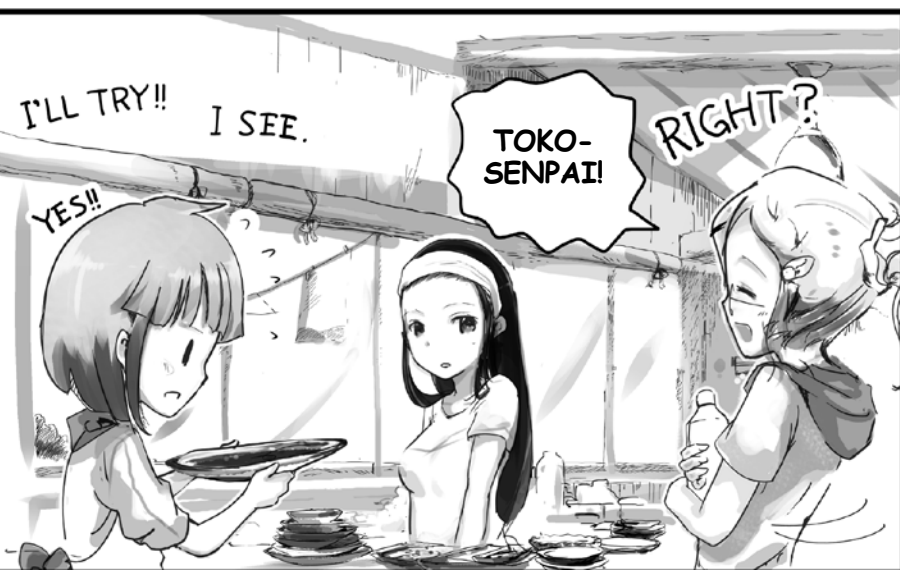
IT'S SO
BEAUTIFUL.
TURKISH
BLUE?

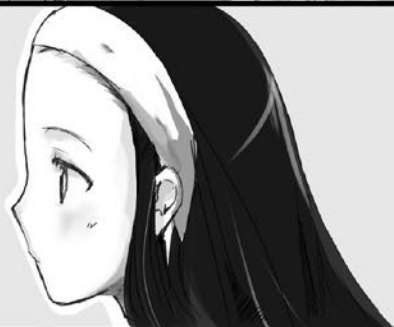
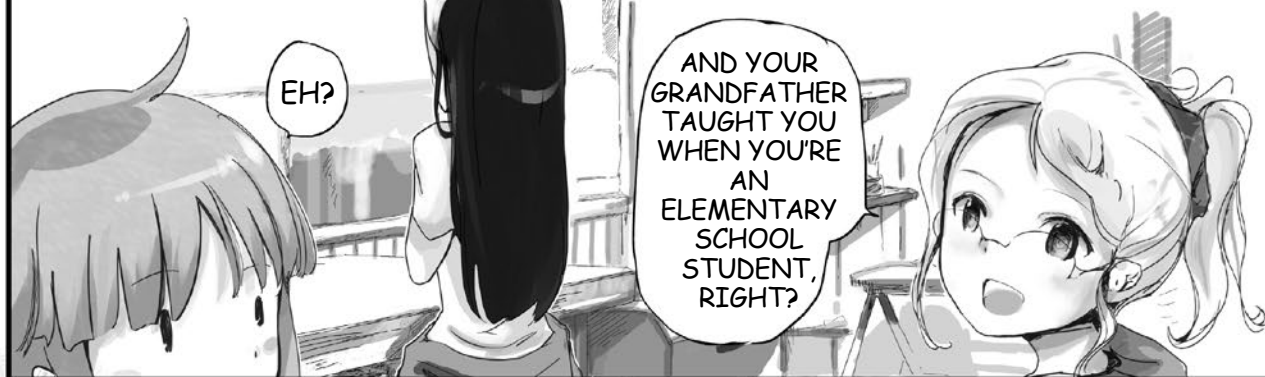
I
THOUGHT
IT'S THE
MARK OF
TOKO-
SENPAI!

AH!
THIS
IS...











MEMBERS OF THE
DRAMA
AND BRASS
BAND CLUB
WILL BE
TOO BUSY
TO HELP
YOU.

CAN I ASK
HIMENO AND
MIKA TO HELP
WITH THEIR
CLASS
PROGRAM
ON THE
2ND DAY
OF THE
FESTIVAL?



GOBBLE
GOBBLE
CRUNCH
CRUNCH



I
WANT TO
STAY AWAY
FROM
RECRUITING
NEW
MEMBERS.

I'LL HELP
YOU AS
MUCH AS
I CAN.

IN THAT
CASE, HOW
ABOUT
NOT DOING
A HANDS-ON
WORKSHOP?

ALL YOU
HAVE TO DO
IS ONLY TO
DISPLAY
OUR WORKS.
YOU CAN
DO IT!

I FORGET TO
TELL YOU
ABOUT THAT!



I HOPE NO ONE
BREAKS OUR
POTTERY.



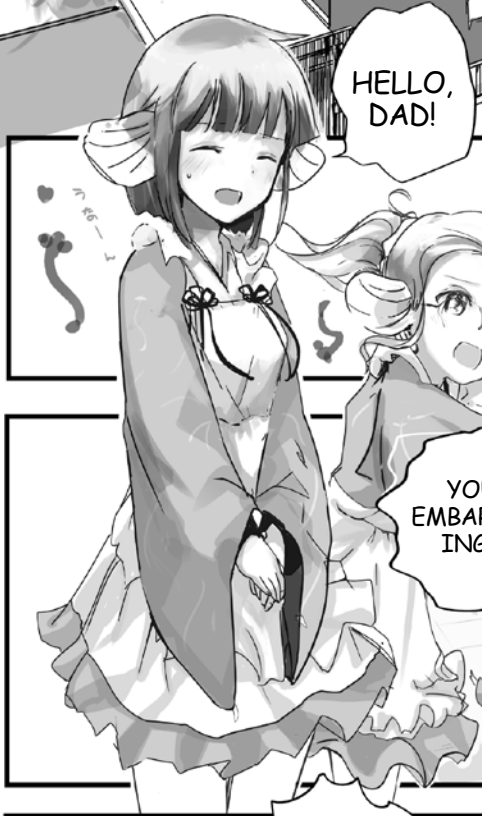
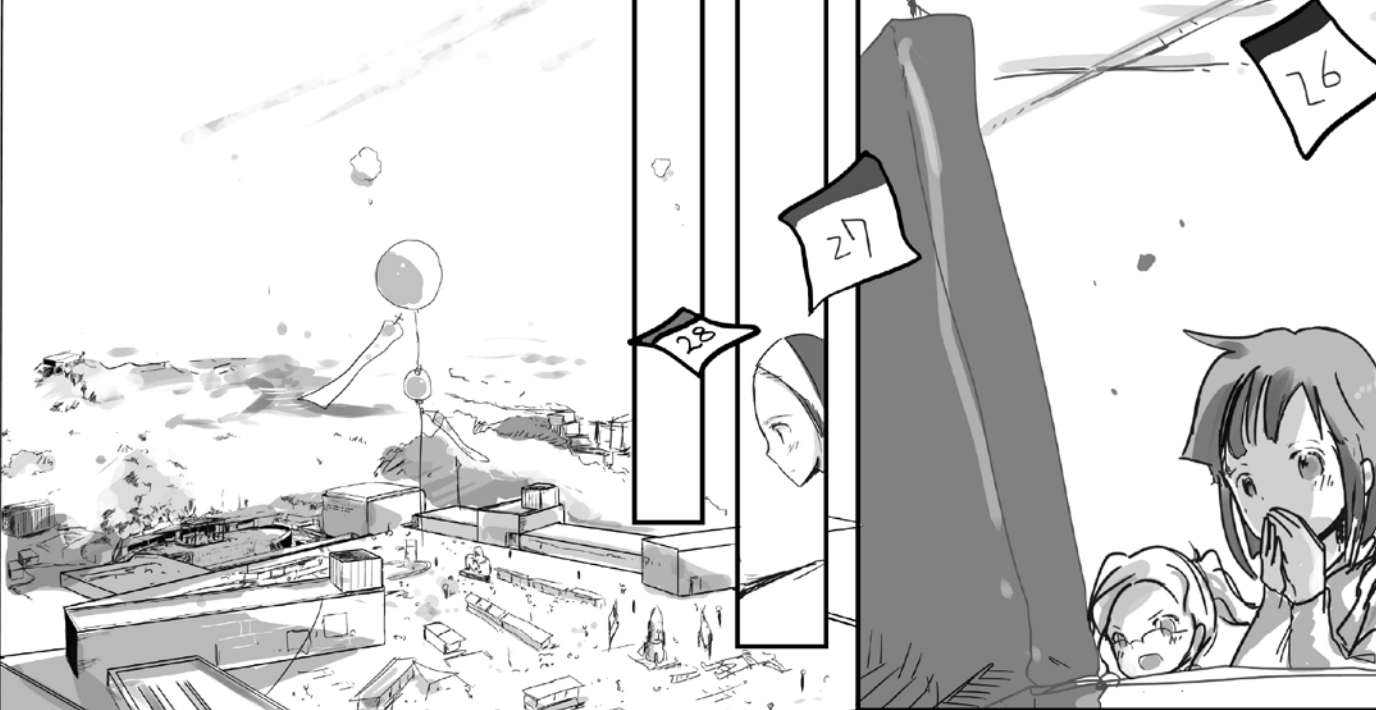
KEEP
IT UP

I WON'T
LET YOU
BEAT ME



IF NOT,
WHY
DON'T
YOU HELP
ME!

NO!
WE NEED
NEW
MEMBERS!



HELLO, DAD!

HI! YOU LOOK GREAT, HIMENO!

YOU'RE EMBARRASSING ME.



THAT'S ENOUGH! ORDER PLEASE!

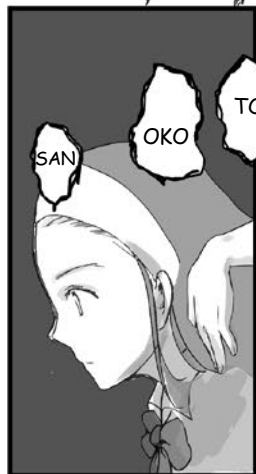


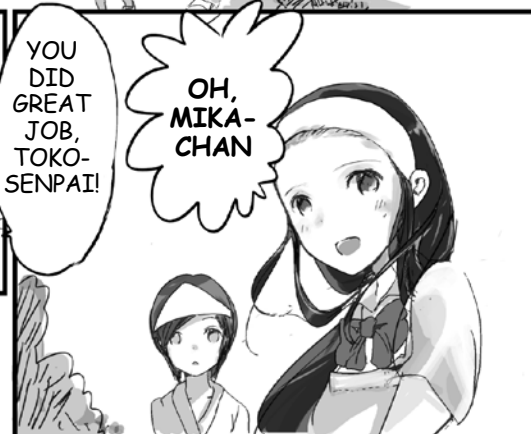
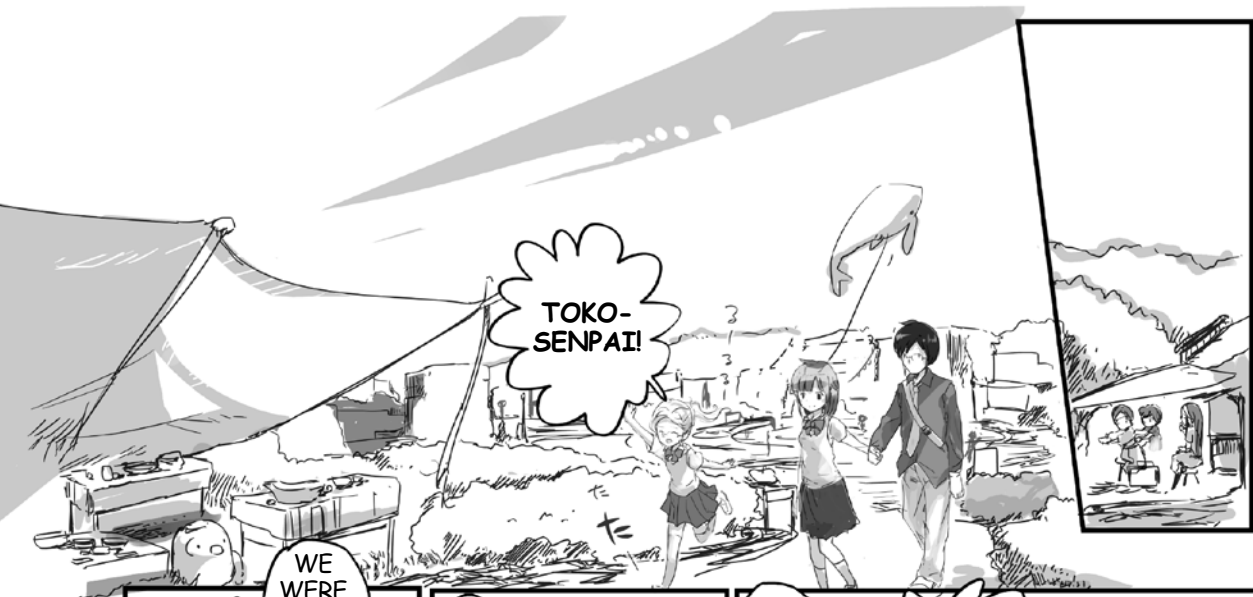
AND THEN, YOU OVERMINCED SOME VEGETABLES.



THIS REMINDS ME OF YOUR ART FESTIVAL IN THE 5TH GRADE. YOU DRESSED UP SO CUTE IN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL HOME ECONOMICS CLUB.











HE ISN'T COMING...



TOKO-SENPAI...

.....



A LITTLE LATER.



SHALL I GO WITH YOU?

TOKO-SENPAI!
WHY DON'T YOU LOOK AROUND THE FESTIVAL?



WHAAAT!
WHEN DID YOU START DATING?



A BOY FRIEND?



ARE YOU WAITING FOR SOMEONE?



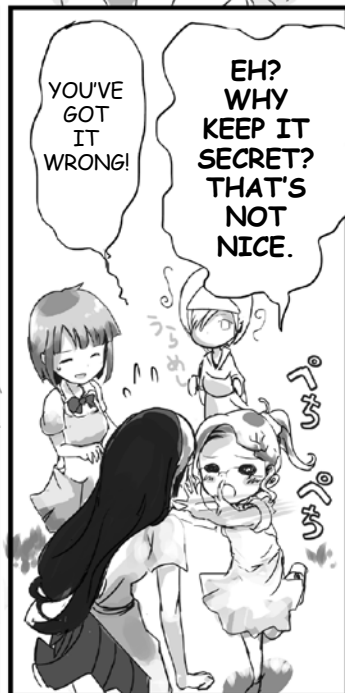
I HAVE ASKED AND CALLED HIM TO COME MANY TIMES, BUT...



I'M SO GLAD YOUR GRANDPA IS COMING THIS YEAR, TOKO-SENPAI!



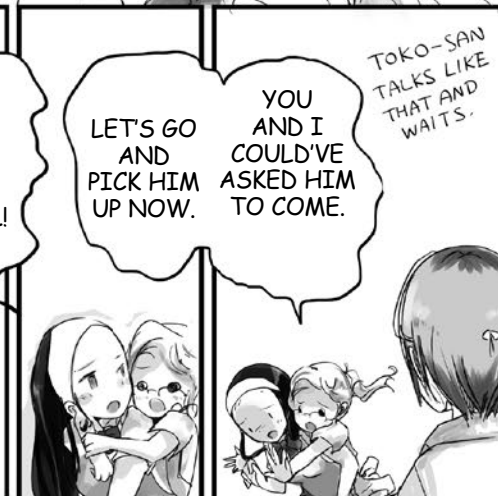
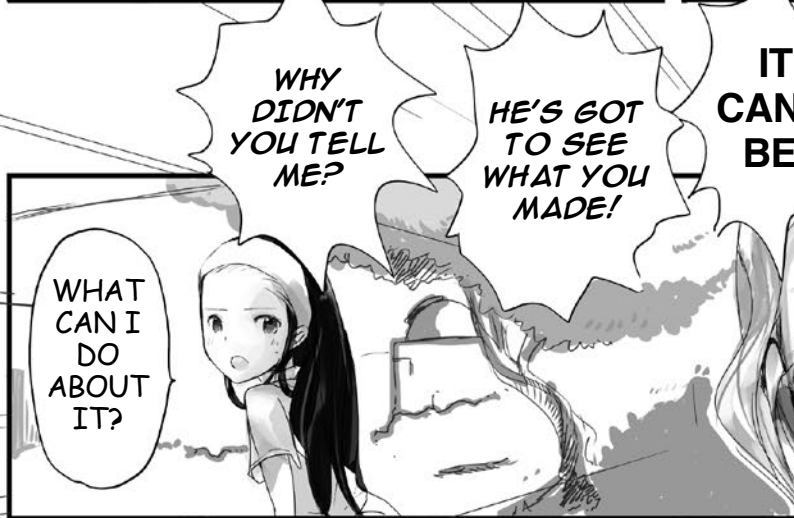
GRAND-FATHER

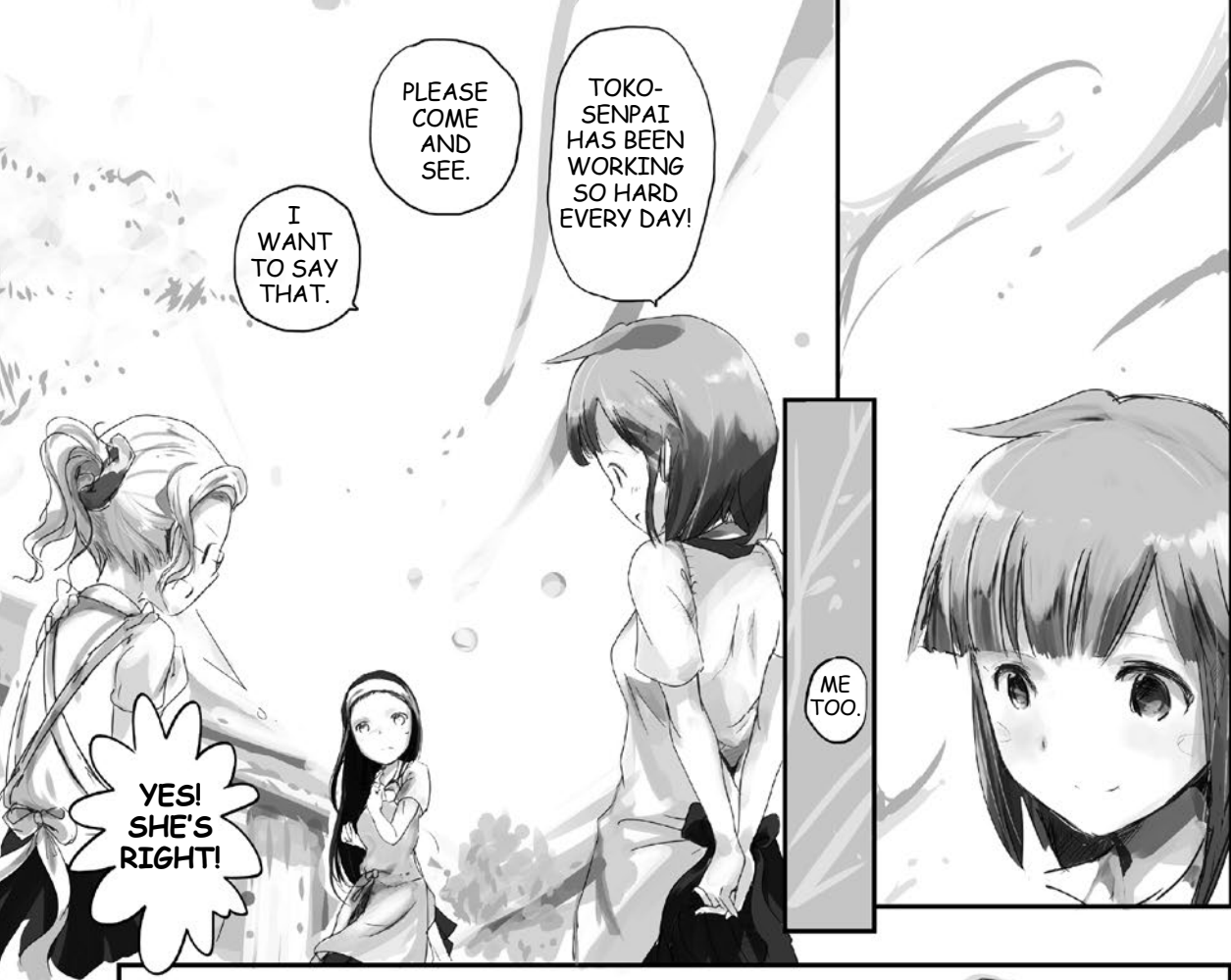


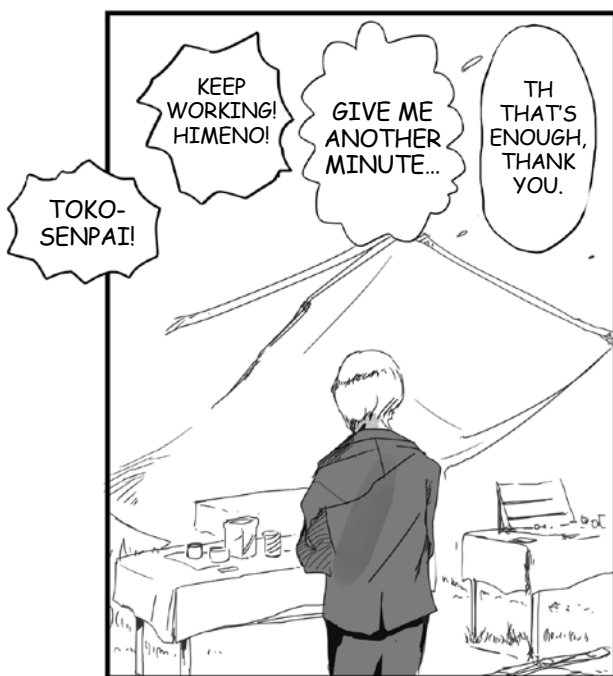
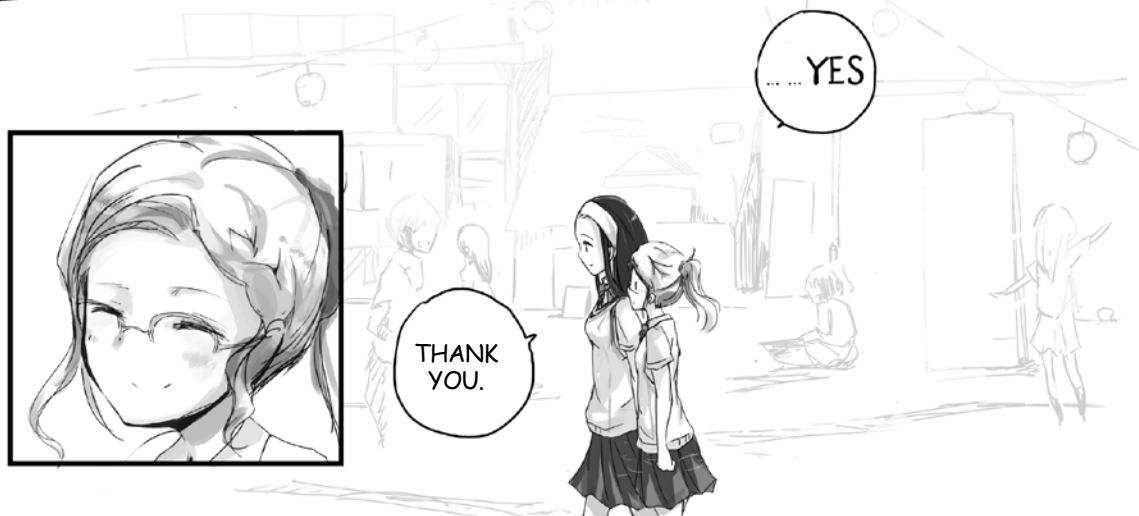
YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG!

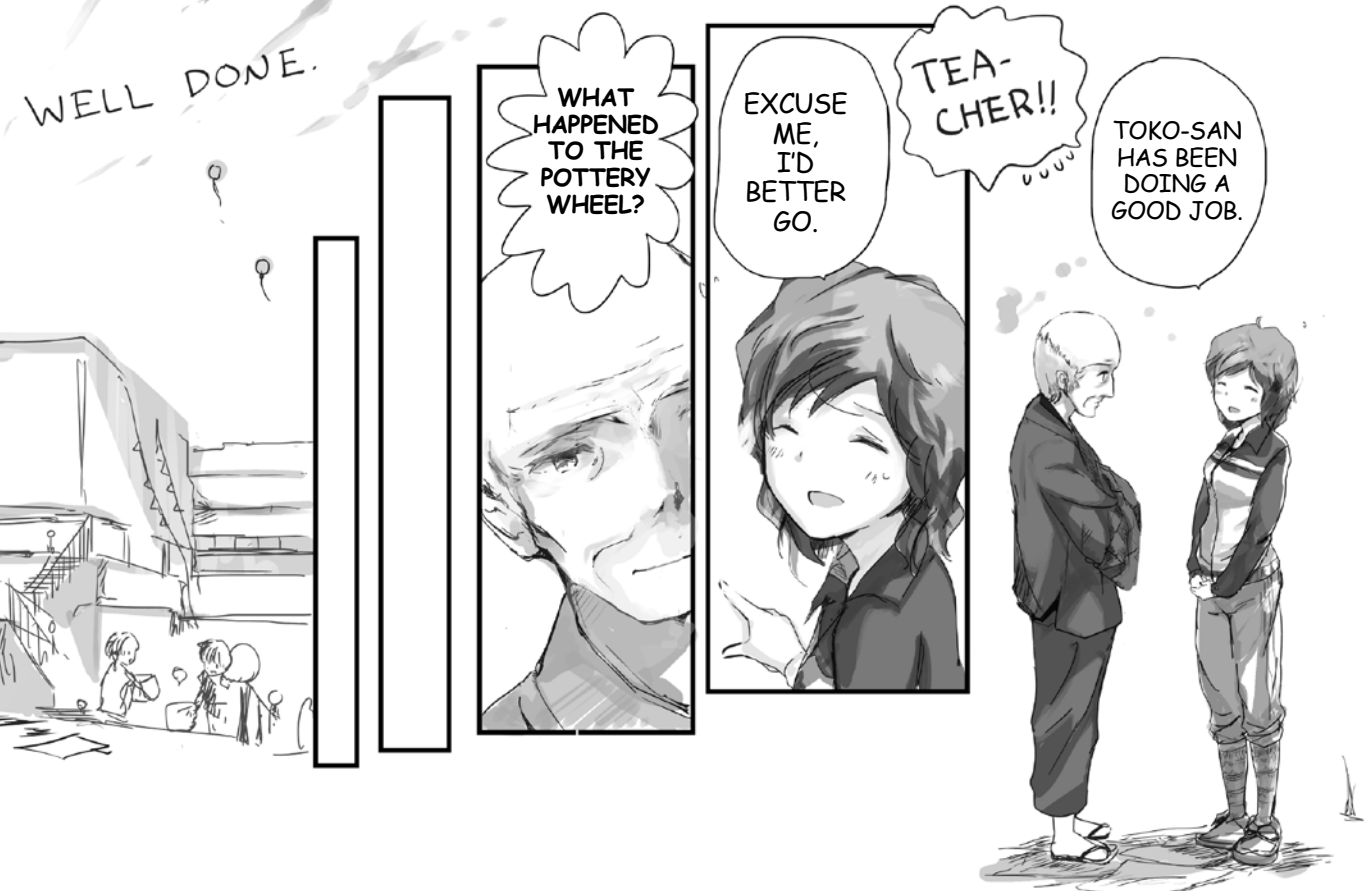
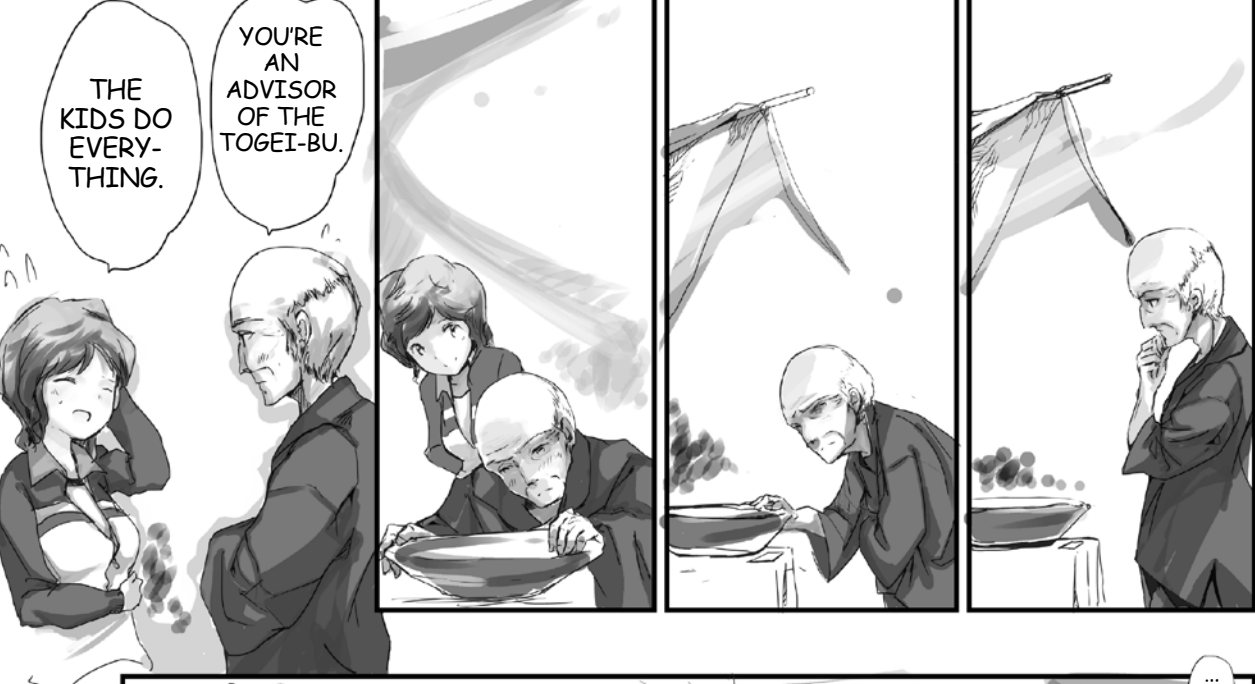
EH? WHY KEEP IT SECRET? THAT'S NOT NICE.

G









MASTER IS OUT RIGHT NOW, TOKO-CHAN.

HELLO.

WOW, BEAUTIFUL...

.....

ALL HIS WORKS.

I'LL WORK HARDER!

ALL RIGHT!

LET'S DO IT!

LOOKS ALIVE...



Cultural festival / School festival

Most Japanese high schools annually conduct a “cultural festival”. This is also called a “school festival”, and it is the biggest event that takes place regularly at most schools.

Many school festivals have names which have been handed down from generation to generation. Four high schools in Tajimi hold festivals with distinct names.

It is also common in Japan for festivals to take place in elementary schools, junior high schools, universities, communities and various organizations.

High Schools in Tajimi

In Tajimi high schools, the new school year starts in April. The summer vacation lasts about a month from the end of July to the end of August. During that time, club activities and make-up lessons are planned, and many students come to school. Students prepare for the school festival during the summer break. Classes or teams that perform in the festival need a lot of time to prepare.

High schools in Tajimi carry out school festivals over two days in September, just after the summer vacation, or in October. Depending on the school, there are activities that show their uniqueness through students or guardians’ participation. Some schools open their festival to the public while others perform have private festivals.

Oribe Gakuen High School’s “Origakusai”

In the fictional high school where the characters in “Yakunara Mug Cup Mo” study, the school festival is called as “Origakusai”, and it is open to the public. They participate in the class program in turns and sell pottery on site. They must spend a lot of time preparing the festival’s theme, and plan so that everybody has a good time. On the day of the school festival, they also enjoy mingling with other students, teachers and people from the local community.



School festival of the high school in Japan



Significance of School Festivals

A school festivals is a full-participation type of event. It is held in accordance with aims endorsed by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; these are formation of human relations, affiliation with others, deepening solidarity, fostering community-mindedness, and the general advancement of a healthy school life. A festival is also designed to promote the schools’ own policy, aim and theme for the year.

Program by a class, a team or club

In school festivals, stalls and performances are run by classes, teams, clubs and the organizations that students belong to. Each student has a certain role and they work together to perform original plays, create large works of art, realize theme parks, and play concerts. They learn how to cooperate, strengthen solidarity, carry out their assignments and feel a sense of achievement through the school festival.

A “class” is a type of affiliation. Students work together toward a common purpose. But unlike club activities which have a predetermined course, in festivals the students form a bond of solidarity. They might design a class t-shirt, and in such activities you can see the product of their cooperation.



All photos provided by individuals.

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<http://yakumo-tajimi.com>

e-mail: otoiawase@yakumo-tajimi.com

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