
When Ochako takes her friends Tenya and Izuku to their first juggling convention, the last thing Izuku expected was to stumble into his old classmate...bully...and former friend. It's complicated. Now they have 4 1/2 days to find out how to act around each other again.


FLIP, SPIN, START AGAIN
A BKDK FANCOMIC
ALENA BRAUNE

FLIP, SPIN, START AGAIN

A BKDK FANCOMIC

Made by Alena Braune

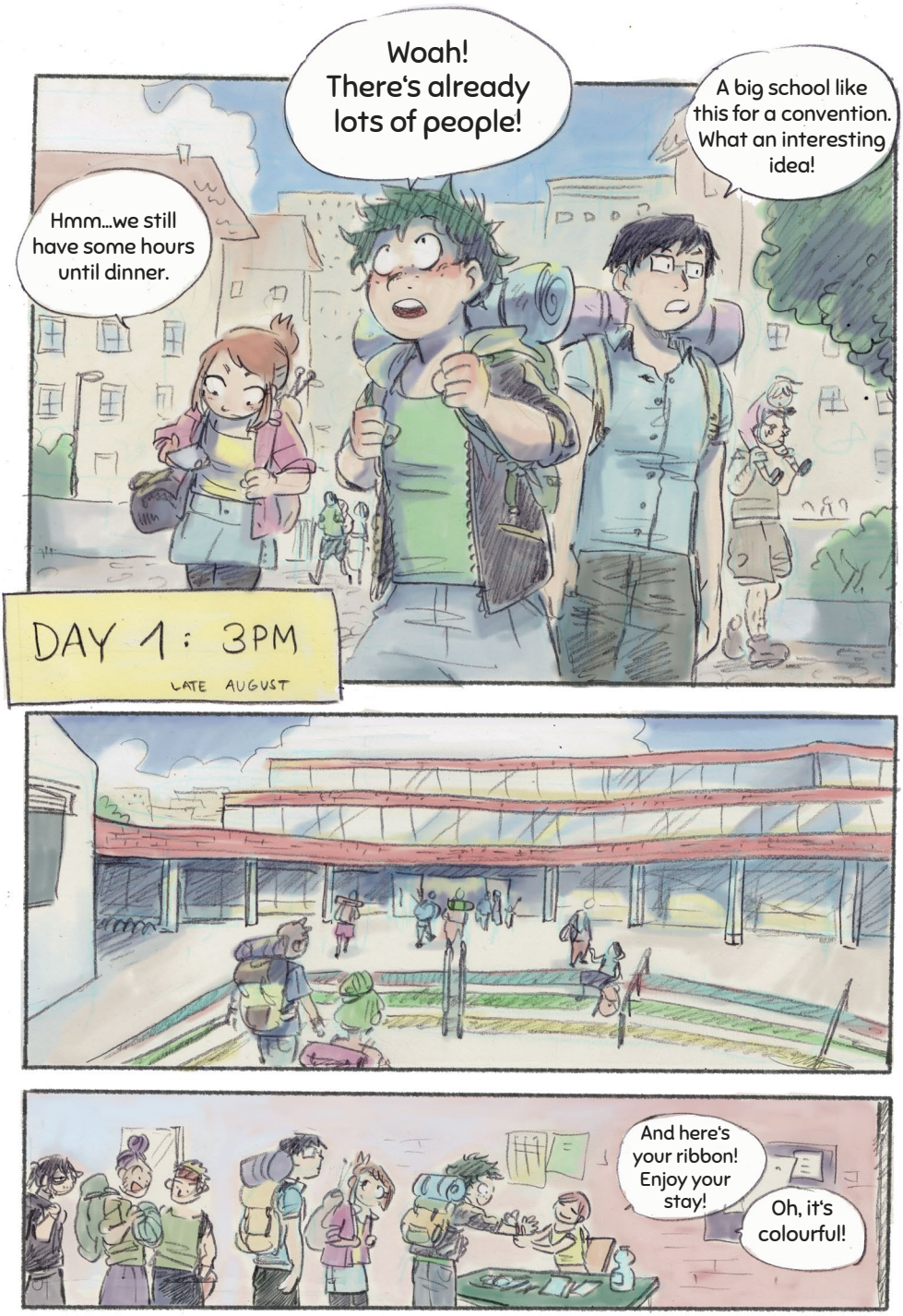
Characters are from *My Hero Academia*
and belong to Kôhei Horikoshi.

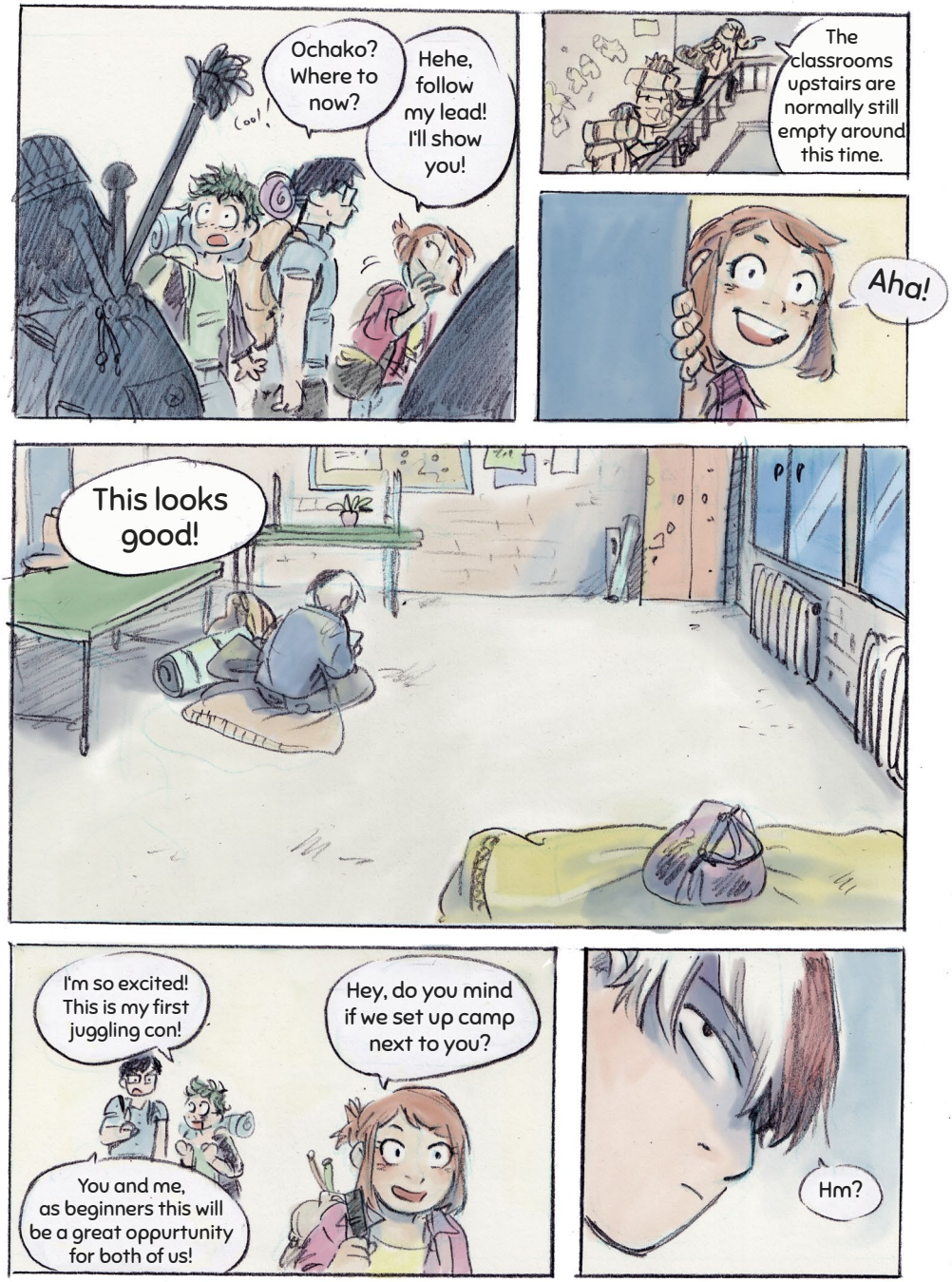


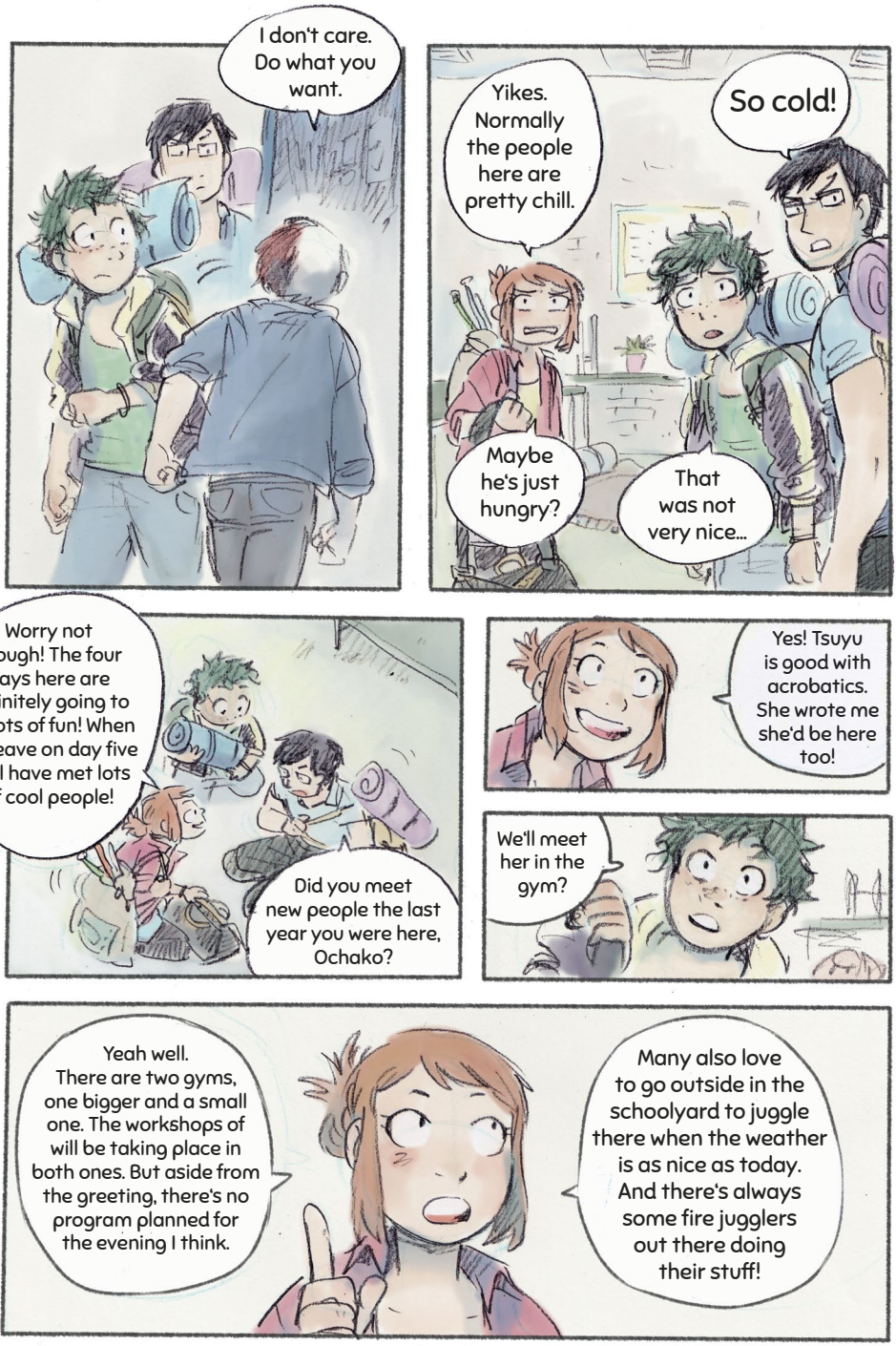


Day 1

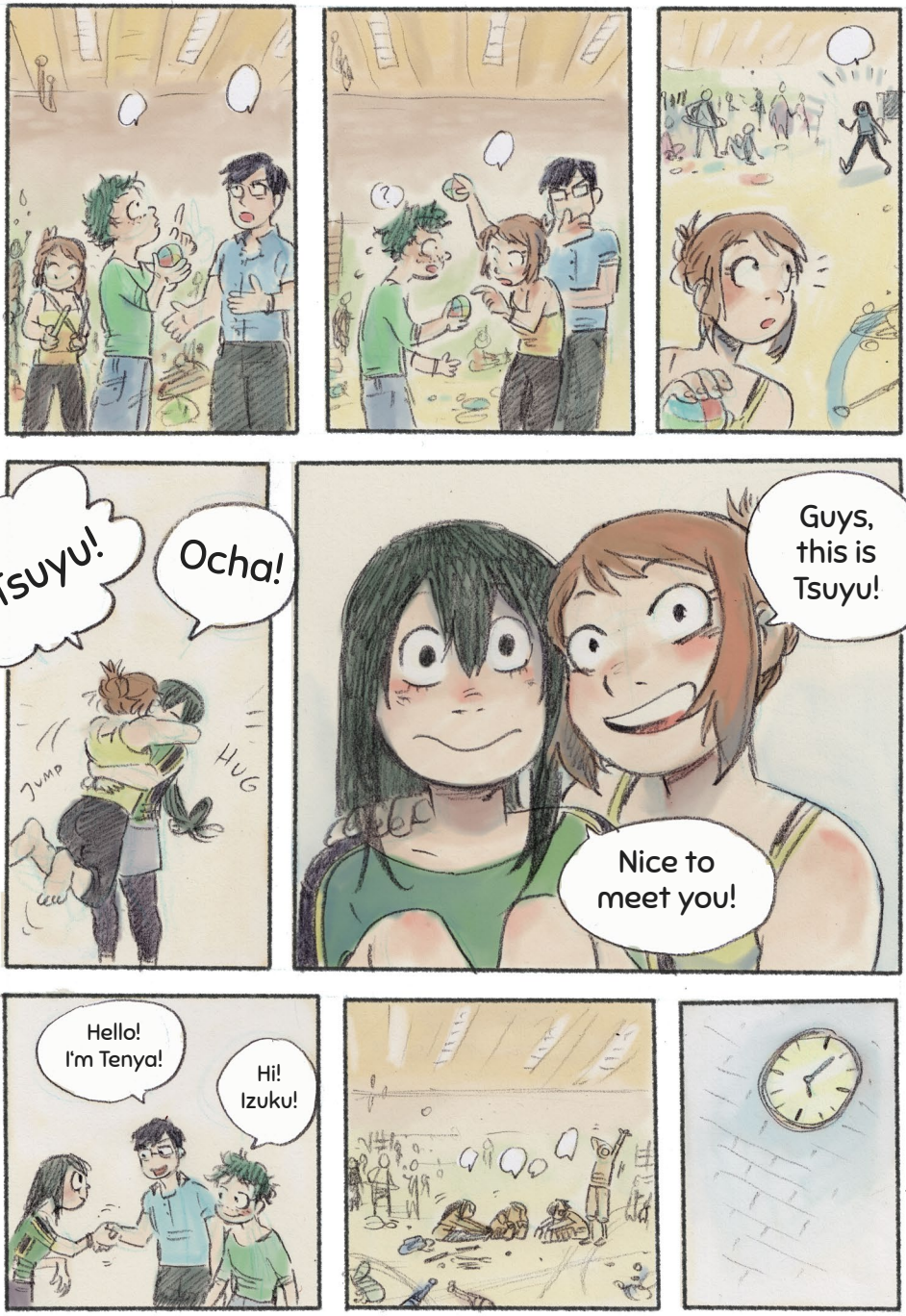


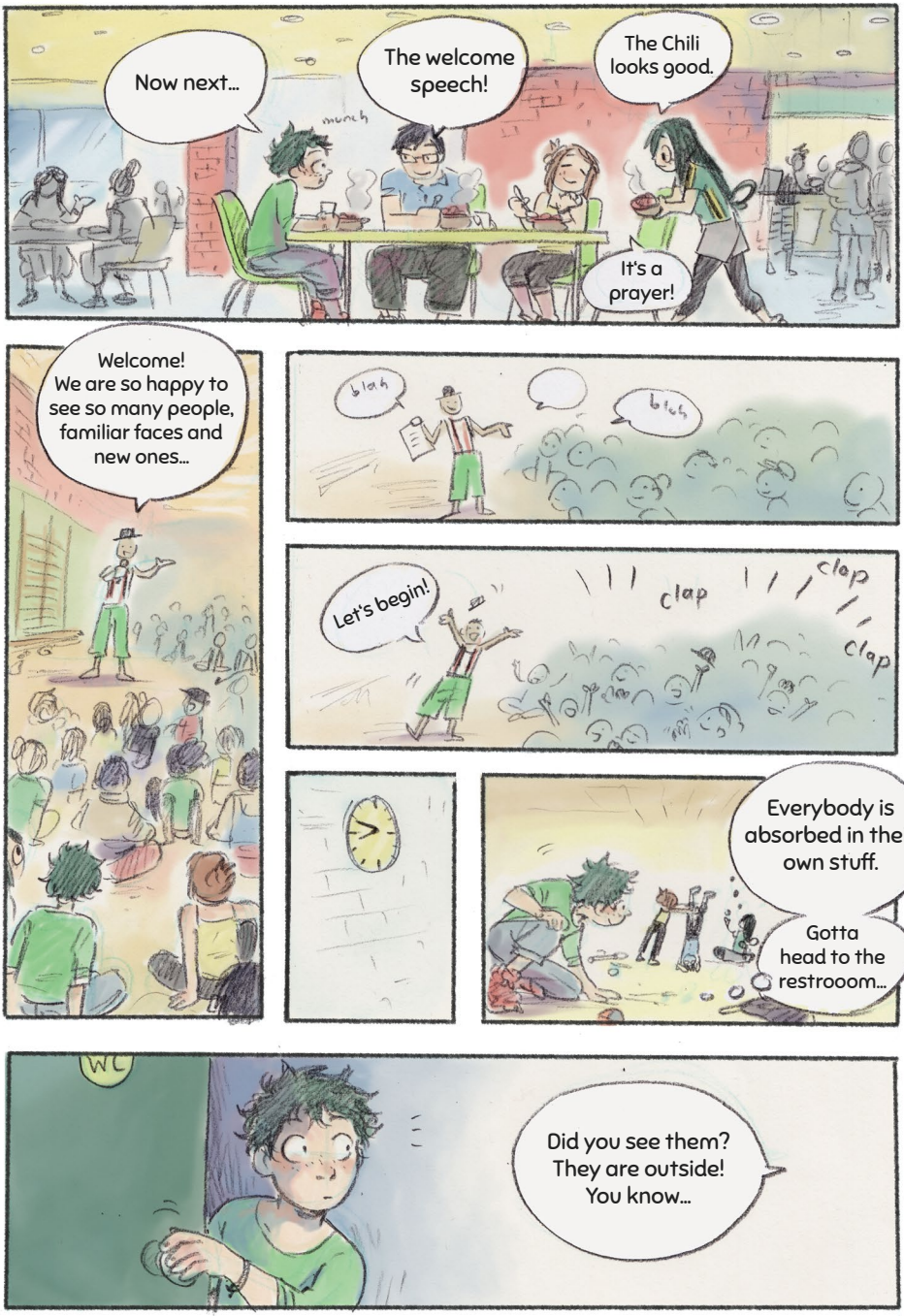

Woah! There's already lots of people!
A big school like this for a convention. What an interesting idea!
Hmm...we still have some hours until dinner.
DAY 1: 3PM
LATE AUGUST
And here's your ribbon! Enjoy your stay!
Oh, it's colourful!


Ochako? Where to now?
Hehe, follow my lead! I'll show you!
The classrooms upstairs are normally still empty around this time.
Aha!
This looks good!
I'm so excited! This is my first juggling con!
Hey, do you mind if we set up camp next to you?
You and me, as beginners this will be a great oppurtunity for both of us!
Hm?


I don't care. Do what you want.
So cold!
Yikes. Normally the people here are pretty chill.
Maybe he's just hungry?
That was not very nice...
Worry not though! The four days here are definitely going to be lots of fun! When we leave on day five we'll have met lots of cool people!
Did you meet new people the last year you were here, Ochako?
Yes! Tsuyu is good with acrobatics. She wrote me she'd be here too!
We'll meet her in the gym?
Yeah well. There are two gyms, one bigger and a small one. The workshops of will be taking place in both ones. But aside from the greeting, there's no program planned for the evening I think.
Many also love to go outside in the schoolyard to juggle there when the weather is as nice as today. And there's always some fire jugglers out there doing their stuff!


But Tsuyu can't train on the ground outside, so she'll propably be in one of the gyms.
Do you think we should try to attend all the workshops we can get?
Of course not, you're both beginners! Relax and just have fun!
YEAH!
Oh no, I'm eager! I just want some time to take notes.
Izuku, your motivation impresses me!
Well, dinner is at six and the welcome at seven. So let's have some fun till then!

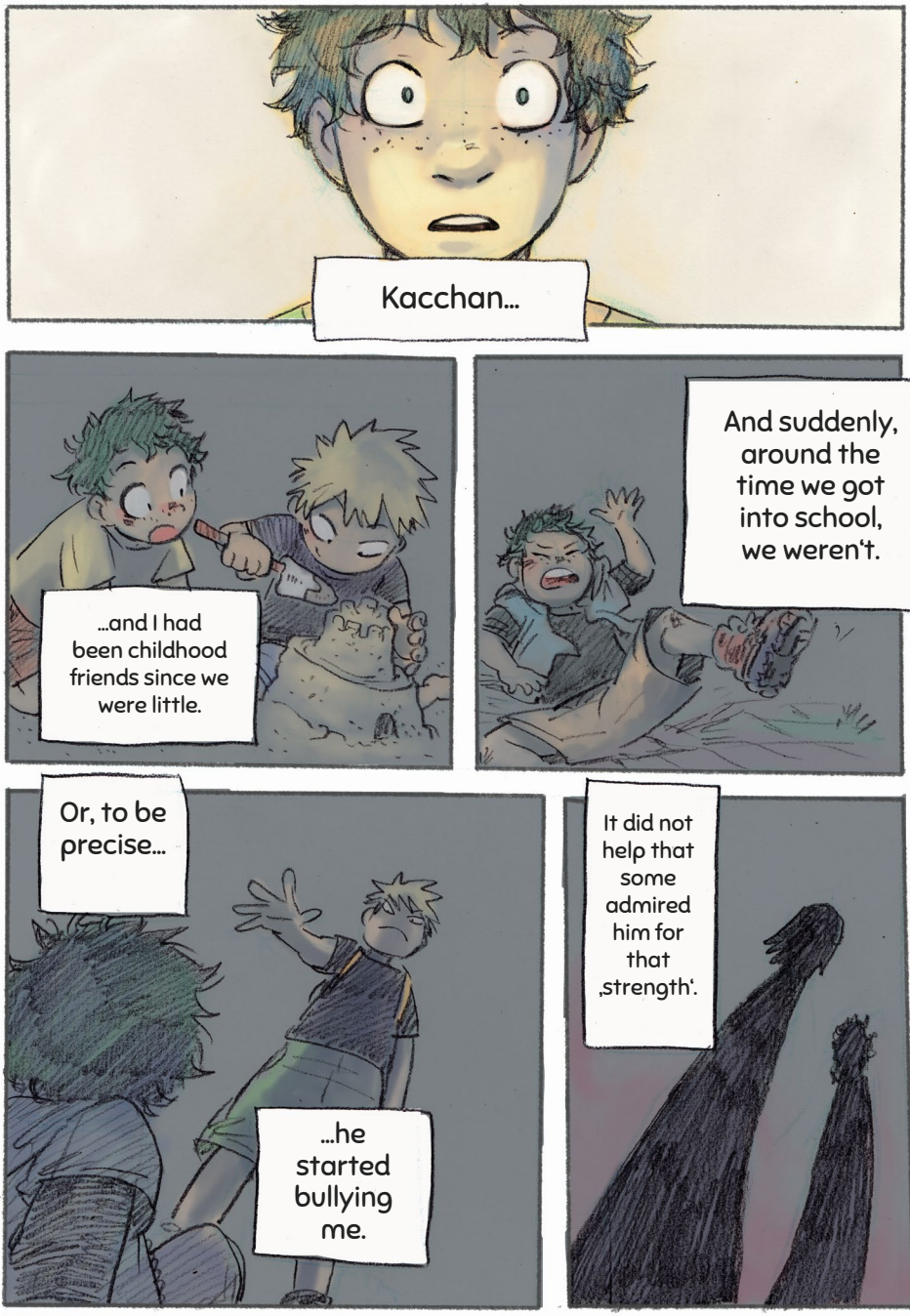

Tsuyu!
Ocha!
JUMP
HUG
Guys, this is Tsuyu!
Nice to meet you!
Hello! I'm Tenya!
Hi! Izuku!


Now next...
The welcome speech!
The Chili looks good.
munch
It's a prayer!
Welcome! We are so happy to see so many people, familiar faces and new ones...
blah
blah
Let's begin!
clap
clap
clap
Everybody is absorbed in their own stuff.
Gotta head to the restrooom...
WC
Did you see them? They are outside! You know...


The fire jugglers!
Aah, I want to see!
I'll just take a quick look and then get Tenya and Ochako to see too...
Over there, they...
...are...

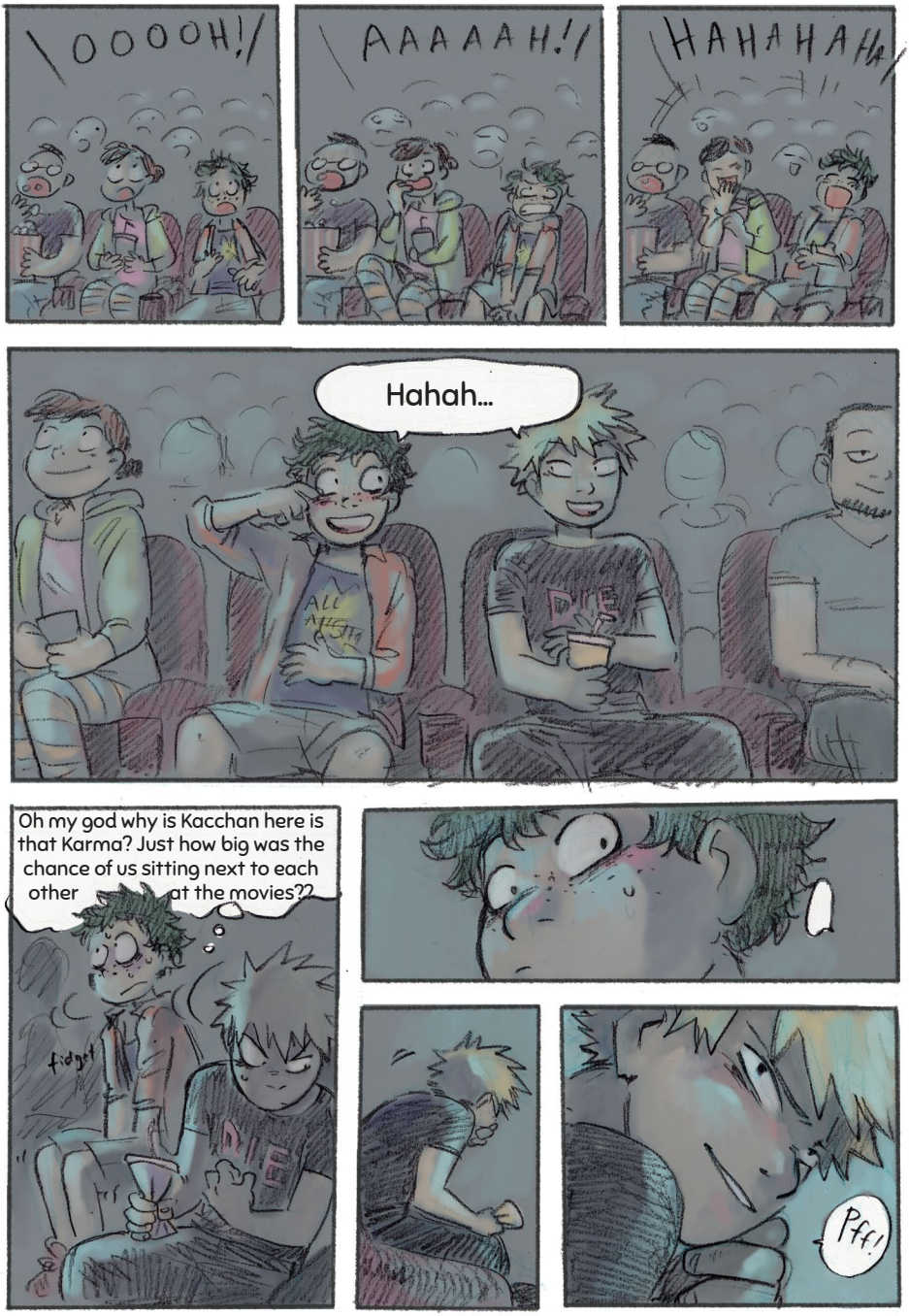


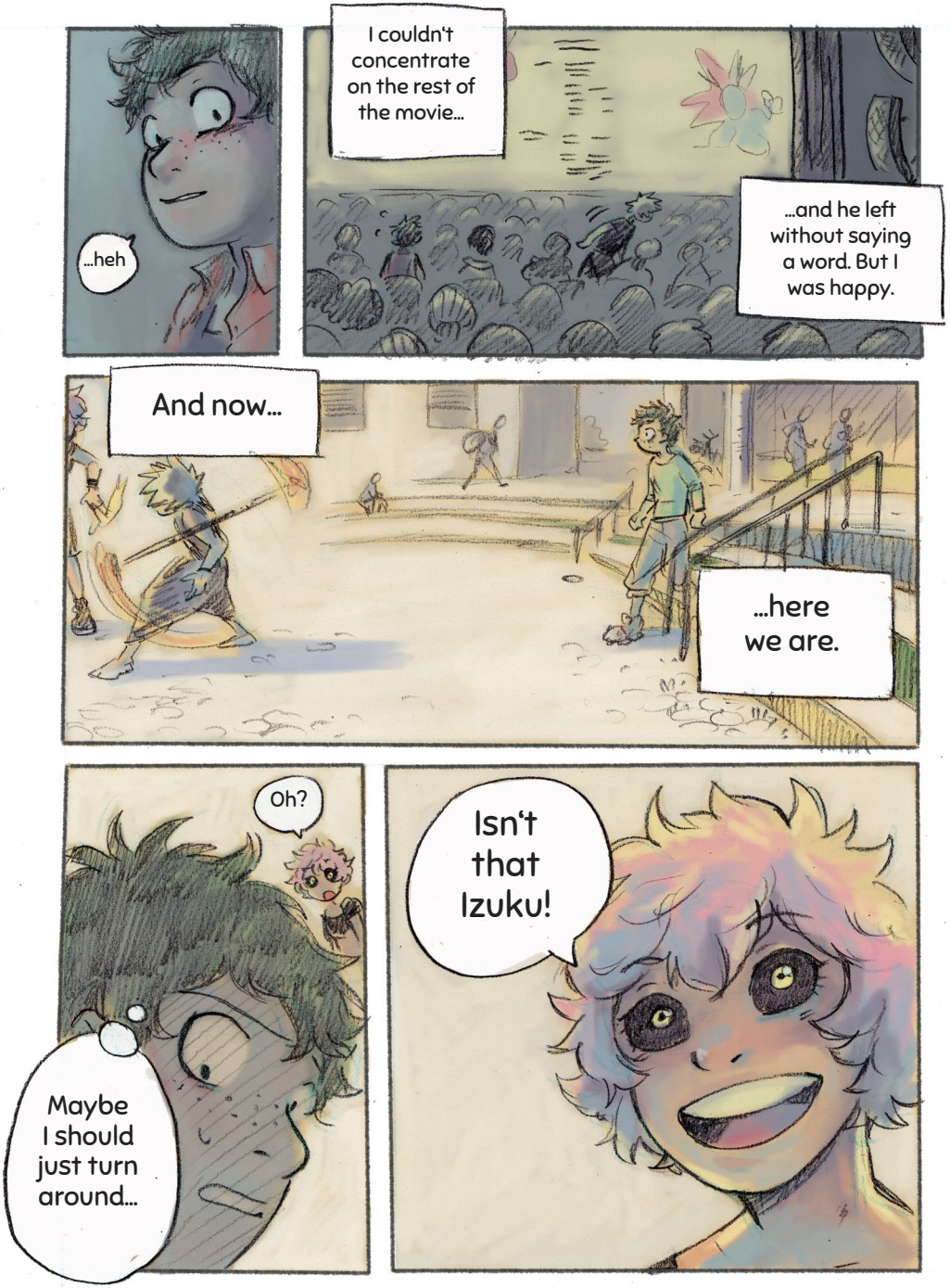



Kacchan...
...and I had been childhood friends since we were little.
And suddenly, around the time we got into school, we weren't.
Or, to be precise...
...he started bullying me.
It did not help that some admired him for that ‚strength'.

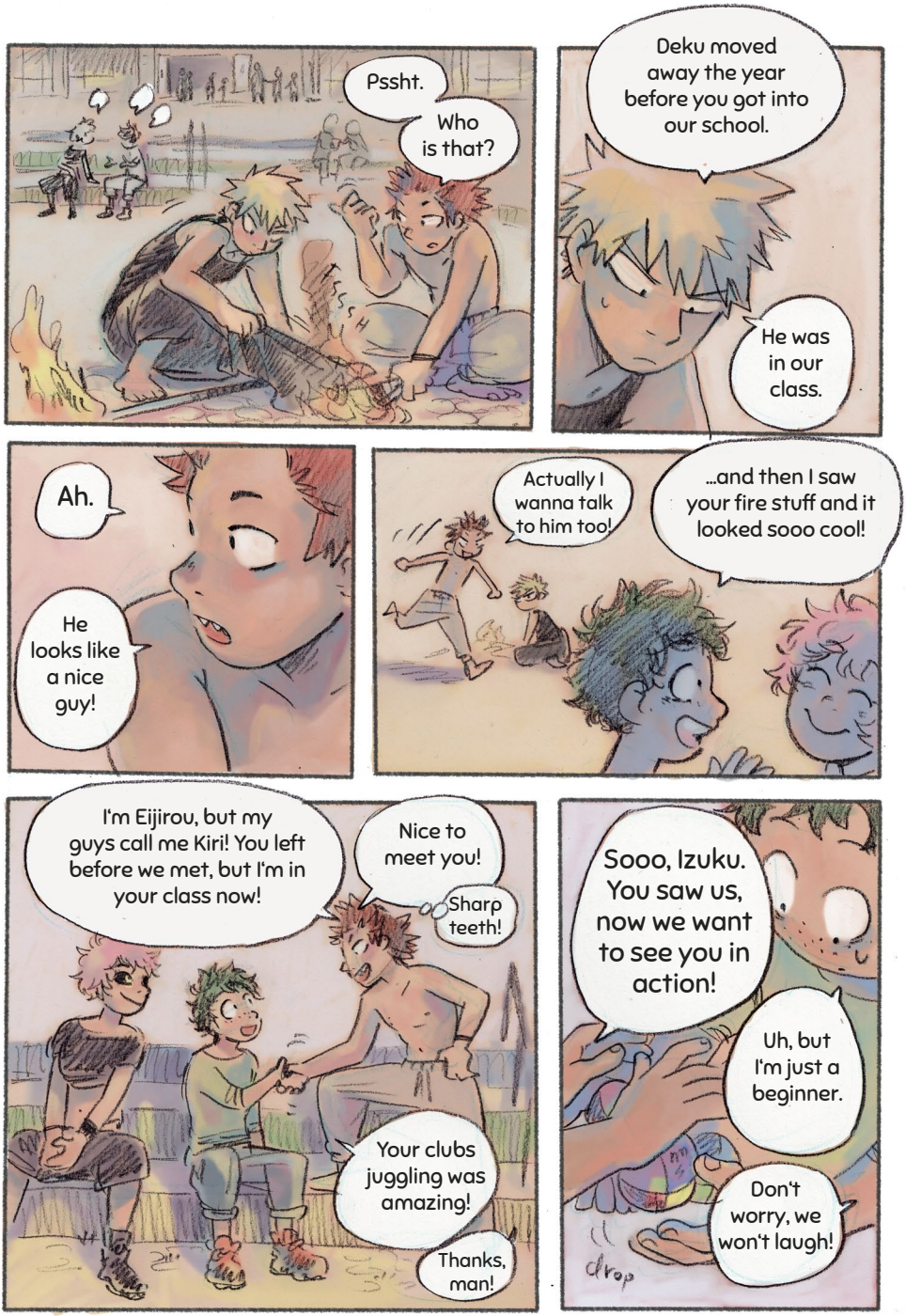

I hated it, of course.
But even more so...
...did I hate how a part of me never stopped hoping he would change...
...that we could be friends again.
Nearly three years ago, at the start of 9th grade, his two bully friends had to repeat a grade.
You could say it got better after that. At least he didn't take my stuff anymore, or made fun of me.
Mostly he just tried to ignore me.

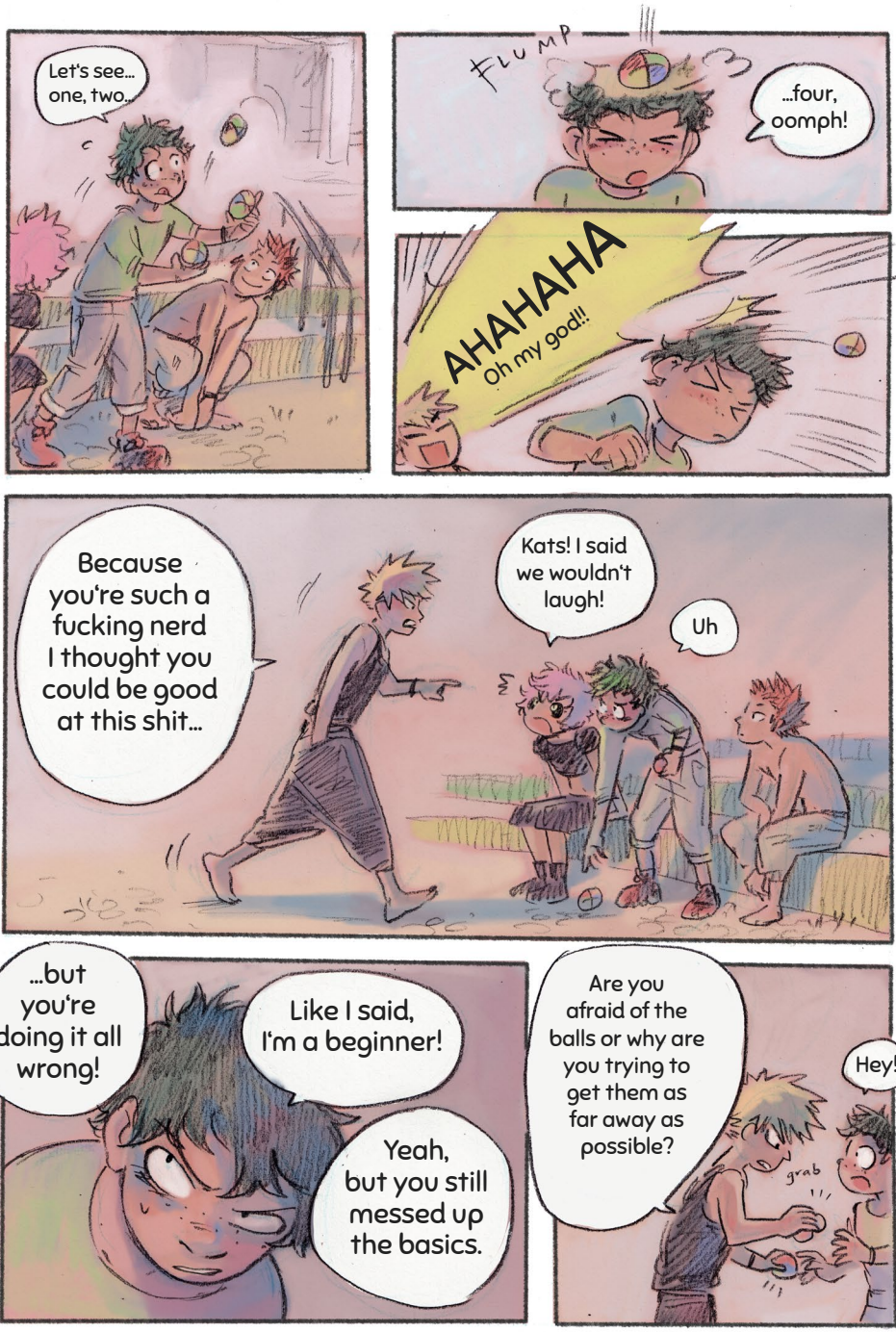

That also hurt a bit.
M...morning, Kacchan...
TCHE
Then, around the middle of the year, my mother and I had to move due to her work.
I had to change to a school at the other end of town.
Kacchan didn't say goodbye.
I thought I'd seen the last of him, only that two weeks after moving out...
CINEMA
ALL MIGHT A
FORCES OF EV
Uaah, it's so full!
Good thing I only missed the commercials. I can simply look up the new All Might merch later.


OOOOH!/
AAAAAH!/
HAHAHAHA
Hahah...
ALL MIGHT
DIE
Oh my god why is Kacchan here is that Karma? Just how big was the chance of us sitting next to each other at the movies??
fidget
DIE
Pff!


...heh
I couldn't concentrate on the rest of the movie...
...and he left without saying a word. But I was happy.
And now...
...here we are.
Oh?
Maybe I should just turn around...
Isn't that Izuku!


Right, Mina had been in our neighbouring class.
We never had any classes together so I barely know her, but she always seemed nice.
Izuku is correct, right?
What coincidence!
She has a strange eye condition. It's genetics, I guess.
Hey hey, an acquaintance?
Deku?
Hi Mina! I didn't know you were here! I just wanted to take a look outside when I heard there were some guys doing fire here.
Why is he here?
Oh! I didn't want to interrupt your show!
Nono, we were just practicing.
Chop-chop! You need to sit down with us and chat!
FLUMP
FSSSH
Nooow!
How are you?
I never knew you could juggle!
SCIIIDE


Pssht.
Who is that?
Deku moved away the year before you got into our school.
He was in our class.
Ah.
He looks like a nice guy!
Actually I wanna talk to him too!
...and then I saw your fire stuff and it looked sooo cool!
I'm Eijirou, but my guys call me Kiri! You left before we met, but I'm in your class now!
Nice to meet you!
Sharp teeth!
Your clubs juggling was amazing!
Thanks, man!
Sooo, Izuku. You saw us, now we want to see you in action!
Uh, but I'm just a beginner.
Don't worry, we won't laugh!

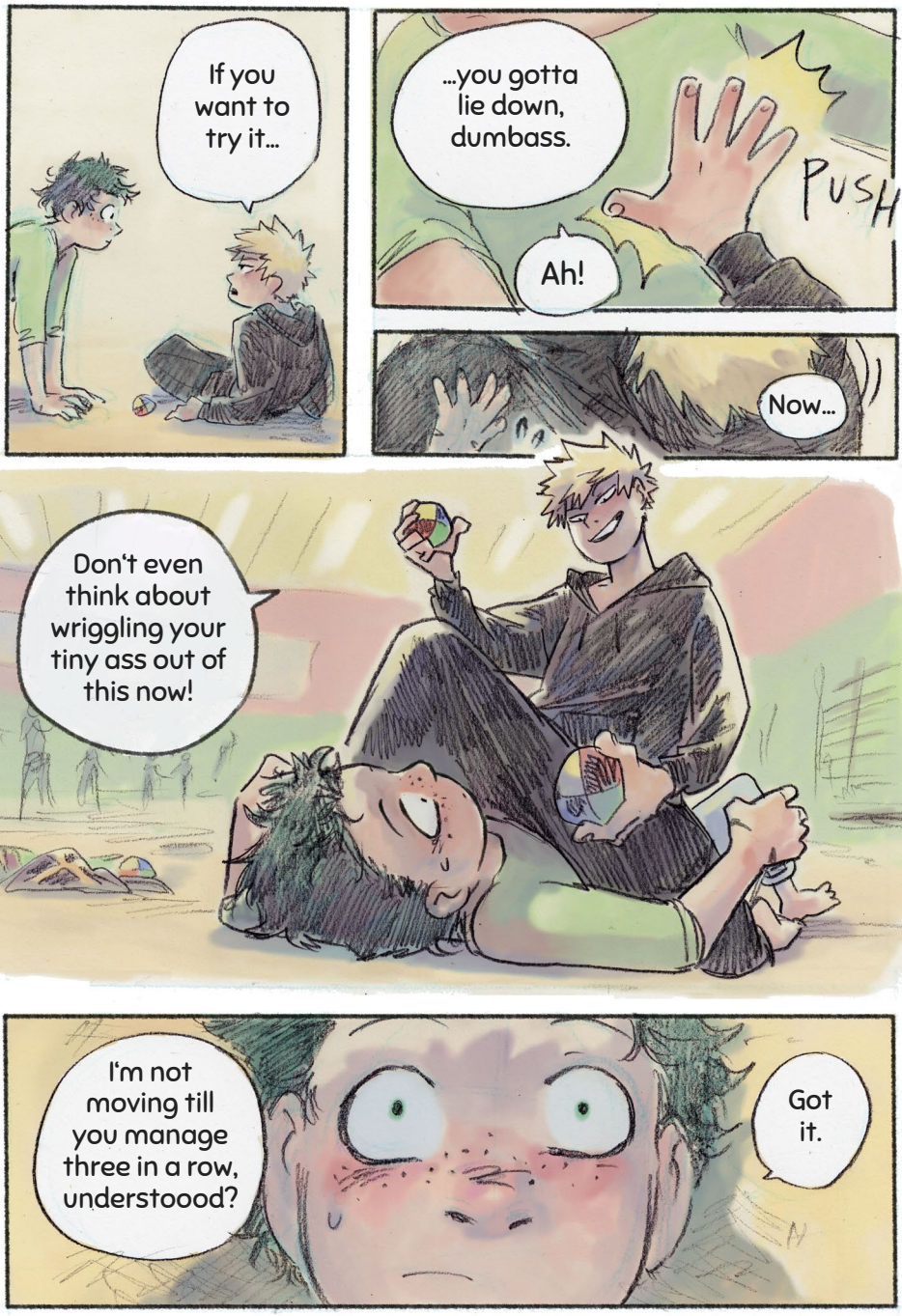

Let's see... one, two...
FLUMP
...four, oomph!
AHAHAHA
Oh my god!!
Because you're such a fucking nerd I thought you could be good at this shit...
Kats! I said we wouldn't laugh!
Uh
...but you're doing it all wrong!
Like I said, I'm a beginner!
Yeah, but you still messed up the basics.
Are you afraid of the balls or why are you trying to get them as far away as possible?
Hey!
grab


You're doing it like this...
...but you gotta juggle from the side to the inside. Did nobody teach you that shit?
Hm, that really looks easier.
Of course it fucking does! It's the correct way to do it!
hmm
Ok, I want to try again!
Tch!
You go, Izu!
Woahoo!
Not as bad as before.
Stop watching the ones in the air! Focus on your throws!
Wow. He's strict but a good teacher.
Oh! Let's have him try Blasty's staff next!
Yes!
And clubs!
I swear to god if you manage to break it you're dead!
It's made of metal. Relax.


BONK
HAHA
YAAAWN
OCHAKO
ıku? Where are you??
22.07
I met some guys, they are showing me some stuff. sorry! I completely forgot to tell you! (u_u)"
you say sorry


GYM 1
01:23
OCHAKO
22.31
to Tenya too?
Alright! have fun ^^ we're off to bed now!
01.15
Thanks, night!
22.49


Bonk
Oh!
You can juggle upside down??
Can you show me how?


If you want to try it...
...you gotta lie down, dumbass.
PUSH
Ah!
Now...
Don't even think about wriggling your tiny ass out of this now!
I'm not moving till you manage three in a row, understoood?
Got it.


Hep...
hep...
Phew
That's harder than it looks.
No wonder, you're basically throwing them everywhere except where they oughta be. Are you shitting me, Deku?
I'm trying, Kacchan!
But it's not so easy for me!
Excuses!
But I'm also really tired...
Yaaaawn
blink


I'm
...going to bed.
?
shuffle
Goodnight, Kacchan.
. . .
tap tap tap


I'm not ill.
So this was no fever dream.
What a weird day.
And I completely forgot to take any notes.



Day 2





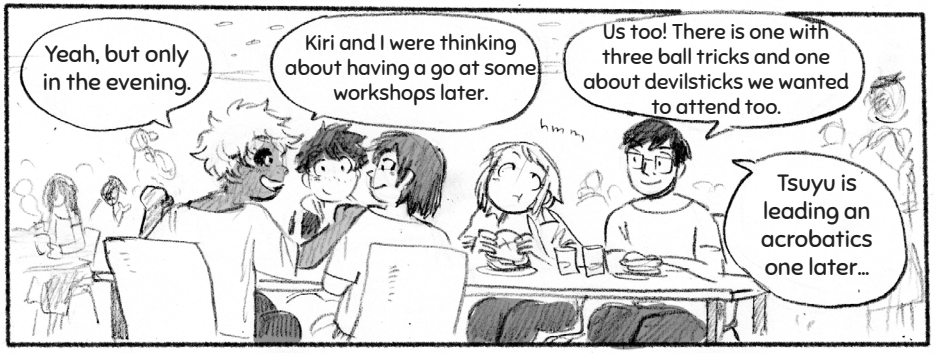

Day 2
8.00 am
Izuku!
You want to go have breakfast with us?
Uh... Yeah. Give me ten minutes in the bathroom.
How long did you stay up??
slap
I'm ready.
I suddenly feel sorry for waking you up.
Tsuyu messaged me that she already ate, so let's look for a small table for us three.
Over there!
munch
Ah!
CAFETE
Mina!
Eijiro!


These are the guys who showed me lots of stuff yesterday!
Also, Mina and I went to the same school!
Hi!
Hi! Call me Kiri!
Shake
Hello! I'm Tenya!


Love that hair colour!
Thanks!
Man, you got a strong handshake.
Those contacts?
No
Tipple


Kats is still in the bathroom, Izuku.
If you're looking for him.


Looks like we just missed each other then.
Will you do more fire juggling today?
You do fire? Izuku, you didn't say!


Yeah, but only in the evening.
Kiri and I were thinking about having a go at some workshops later.
Us too! There is one with three ball tricks and one about devilsticks we wanted to attend too.
hm m
Tsuyu is leading an acrobatics one later...

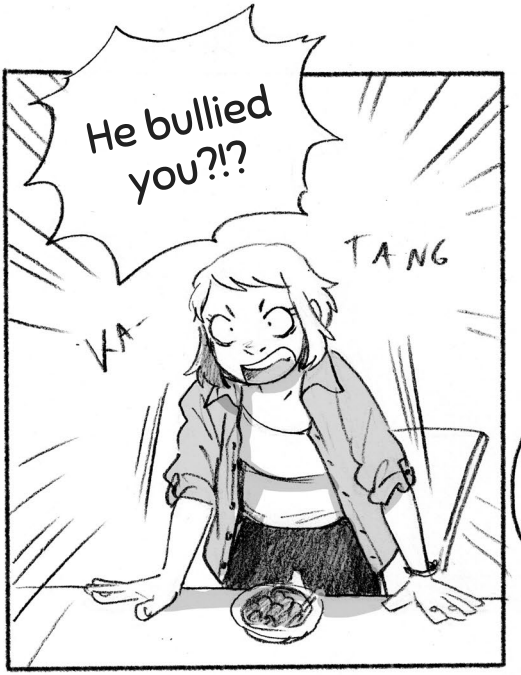

Oh, Izuku, did you know?
The official gala show is on the evening of day four, but we're doing our own little fire show after that!
You lot have to come!
Awesome! We'd love to!
Oh yeah! You see, I got Kiri and Kats to start juggling just two years ago...
...but they are sooo good already!
blush
We performed the same show at our school summer festival too!
Seems I missed out on a lot after changing school.
No, don't worry. The rest is still the same dull stuff.
blah
fire

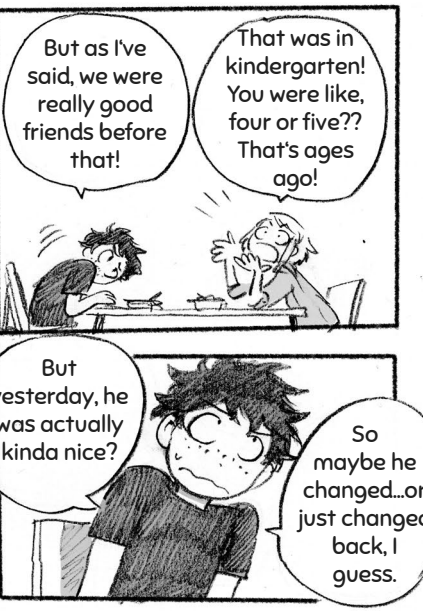

hrep!
10:01
hug
whoops!... drifting to the side
randomly paired up

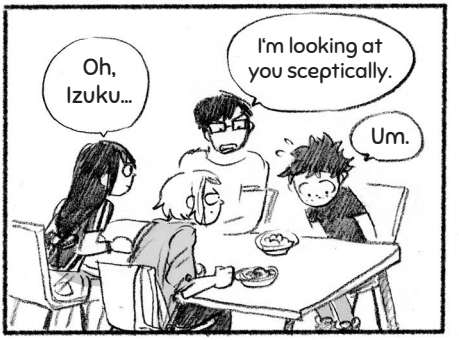

mumble mumblemumble
"mad
OUR SCHOOL MOTT


blah
chatter
blah
I wonder where he could be.
blah
blah
clank

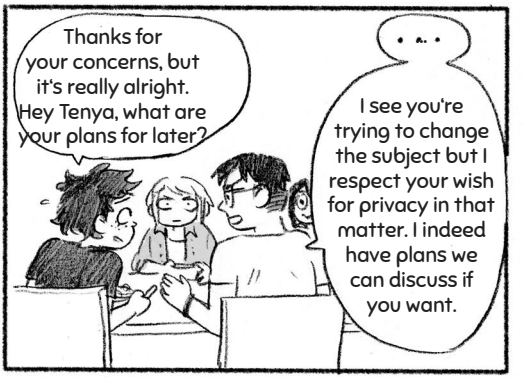

You still haven't managed to find him?
BEWARE! COOK CAN BITE!
Yesterday chili, today borscht?
Maybe he's been on the toilet the whole morning.
Oh no! Could he have eaten something bad?
I don't think that's the case...
But he left in a weird hurry last night.
Which confirms Ocha's toilet theory.
Hehe
I'm sure your friend is not avoiding you on purpose. There will be a logical explanation.
Well...though he's not directly a "friend"...
He's not?
I thought you spent the whole evening juggling together?
It's a long story.
Oh, we got time.


He bullied you?!?
TANG
KA-

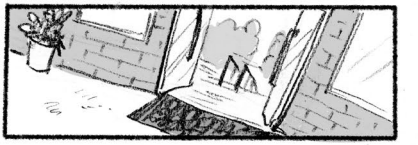

But as I've said, we were really good friends before that!
That was in kindergarten! You were like, four or five?? That's ages ago!
But yesterday, he was actually kinda nice?
So maybe he changed...or just changed back, I guess.


Oh, Izuku...
I'm looking at you sceptically.
Um.


Say what you want, but I'm gonna keep my eyes on him!
And I don't want to doubt your judgement... but please respect your own boundaries.


Thanks for your concerns, but it's really alright. Hey Tenya, what are your plans for later?
I see you're trying to change the subject but I respect your wish for privacy in that matter. I indeed have plans we can discuss if you want.


And I'm sure it's just a bad coincidence that you haven't yet run into each other this morning.
munch




Good, no nerd in sight...
Hey Kats! Been wondering where you were!
Hm.
FLUMP
...
He looks happy.


You mean Izuku, right?
Um, I don't know, I guess?
I just met the guy.
Is...is that a problem?
You don't understand!
He only looks like that because I'm not around him anymore!
Man, were you two like, a thing in school or something?
What? No!!
I told you how I was a asshole in middle school, right? Hell, you know how I can get.
flomp
And I mean I was mean to most people, but Deku?
He got the most of it. I basically treated him like dirt from elementary to the end of middle school.


But... you two seemed pretty chill yesterday.
Yeah, because the fucker is like that. Kick him in the back and he'll apologize for it.
...
I don't know, man...
If you've done some shit there's no excuse for that, but also...
You're not the same person you were back then.
People can change, and you did, too. Mina and I wouldn't hang out with you if we didn't think that you're a decent dude.
Izuku might be giving you a second chance! Don't waste that!
Just, be manly and own up to your mistakes from the past, ok?
...
Oh no! Is our blasty moping?
FLUFF
ARGH!


growl
Grrr get off!!
Kiri is right, though!
GRUAAA
You're still a bit harsh with your words sometimes...
grmbl
...but you're a good friend and if you cross a line, you make it up to us.
After all, doesn't the fact that you're thinking about this so much...
...just show that you're trying to do the right thing here?
And that's why we love you!
Ok, this is enough!
ugh
I'll talk to him or whatever.
Just, not now.


Zzzz
What a weird position to fall asleep in.
Snore
There are really interesting characters here at this con.
Feels good to take a break from juggling.
Now I can explore the school building a bit.
104
Maybe I'll find Kacchan somewhere up here?
Sigh
Aha! Another floor!
Looks like...
...up here are the art classes.
Hm?


It's you!
Ehm...
I'm sorry, I don't know your name.
Scratch
It's Shouto.
Hi! I'm Izuku!
Are you all alone up here?
I like the quietness and that no one comes up here to distract me.
Well, normally.
Please excuse me–
Oh, is that a yo-yo?


What if it is?
That is so cool!
I had a yo-yo when I was a kid, but I was pretty bad at it.
Can you do actual tricks with it?
Are you making fun of me?
Never!
Just that I saw this MeTube video some years ago and there was a guy who could do the most amazing stuff!
...
Simply because everybody had one at some point, it's so underrateted...
Shouto!
bla
ramble
You're a disgrace to the family! First your brother with his antics, and now you are investing time in something as pathetic as yo-yo!
I want you to quit that nonsense and do something useful! There's no discussion, you will become a lawyer like I expect you to!


I hate you, dad!
I will never do as you want!
Then wait and see...
...how because of your dumb yo-yo tricks, no one will ever love you!
Dad...
blah
...you were wrong!
blv
blah
I can do this.
srrrt
Wow!
Heh
Maybe I will get my own one...Oh, wait a moment!
Friend...
ring


Izuku? Quick, come back to the gym!
5pm combat will begin in ten minutes!
Combat? What's that?
You make a big circle and start juggling clubs.
Then you try to knock out other players' clubs all while never stopping juggling. Whoever stops juggling is out.
Last one standing wins!
But I don't know how to do clubs yet.
You learned how to throw and catch one, right? That will do! Just don't stop throwing.
It's all for fun anyway.
See you! Click
Oh. Seems like I have no choice.
Hm.
Well, it was nice talking to you!
Please show me some tricks later!
Ok.
Bye.


blah
Chatter
thump
blah
Just in time! Quick, grab a club!
shove
Nervous?
A bit.
There are even kids participating with three clubs already...!
What about you, Tenya?
I'll pass.
Remember, Izuku, don't spin too much, and don't throw too high as well!
nod
Don't stay in one place too long, and when people are closing in, try to turn...


Sorry, Ochako! Excuse me for a second!
Huh?
I won't let you...
...sneak away this time, Kacchan!
Just because I'm not constantly clinging to your side after yesterday, doesn't mean I was running away from you.
Got that, nerd?


Kacchan, I know you've been avoi–
Combat start!
clack clac clac
Ah!
It's begun!
WHACK
Ok, so far, no one's coming near me...
Ah, Kacchan!
Stay away! Or I'll knock you out...
But, I don't really have anything to chuck your club away with since I need to keep juggling with this one...I didn't really think this through.
Izuku...


I'm sorry.
For... battling me?
Wh... No!
Then what for?
Come on, nerd, think! What could I possibly be apologizing for?
Coming from the guy who made your life a fucking hell for most of it.
You mean...


Sorry boys, but you stopped juggling, so you're both disqualified for this round. Step aside, will ya?
there there
Come with me a sec.
grab


Look, it kept bugging me and I couldn't talk to you until it was out of my head.
I treated you like shit and you deserved none of it, but when you changed school two years ago, I had no chance of making that up to you.
To be honest, I never thought I'd get the chance again.
I should have said so yesterday already, but I was pretty run over by seeing you here, I guess?
Haha
Honestly? I don't know how you managed to stand the sight of me at all!
You should have just walked away or ignored me...


You don't know how I stand the sight of you?!
Kacchan, you're...
huff
You...
...
I'm not gonna deny it, I was pretty miserable for most of middle school. And yeah, elementary too.
But even though I don't want to say that I'm over it, when I changed school, I met new friends and I'm now at a totally different place than where I was then.


You'd be surprised, but I'm not the guy who gets pushed around so easily anymore!.
chuckle
Ochako even convinced me to start martial arts with her!
And, with you and me, Kacchan...
What I felt the most miserable about wasn't the bullying bit. Though yeah, that still messed me up pretty bad. But more than that...


I missed our friendship.
And it made me sad, the thought...
What we had.
...that that might have meant nothing to you.


So...
I was really happy when we just talked and acted like we could actually be friends?
M...maybe that is fucked up.
hic
...
WHY UP
sniff


Kacchan... standing the sight of you...is not that hard.
I always thought you were amazing. Even if I couldn't be a part of it.
sniff
De... Izuku... stop.
Huh, I guess that really is fucked up.
I don't fucking believe it...


AAAH!
You are so...so... FUCK!
Hey, I thought you were done insulting me?
That obviously wasn't an insult, dumbass!
But no praise either!
So?
You want to go back and battle again?
I won't take mercy on you!


So, you're with Mina's group again today?
Yeah, sorry.
I'll spend more time with you tomorrow again, I promise.
It's ok.
And? What did he want?
He apologized.
What, really? Maybe he's not so bad after all.
Told you so!
Are you ok, Izuku?
Yes... thank you.
That's good. Have fun, Izuku!
You too!
Tenya, how do you feel about trying some fire juggling tomorrow?
Wow
beep
Excellent idea.






Yaaawn
Goodnight, Kacchan!
Night, Deku.
Am I dreaming?
This is the second day in a row you're going to bed after midnight!
Yeah, it's a dream.
Go back to sleep, shitty hair.


So, you two are good now?
I think so.
I apologized to him.
Heh.
I'm proud of you.
Kats.
You're a cool dude.
I'm happy to be your friend.
Quit that sappy shit.
POFF
Thank you...
...Kiri.

END OF DAY 2

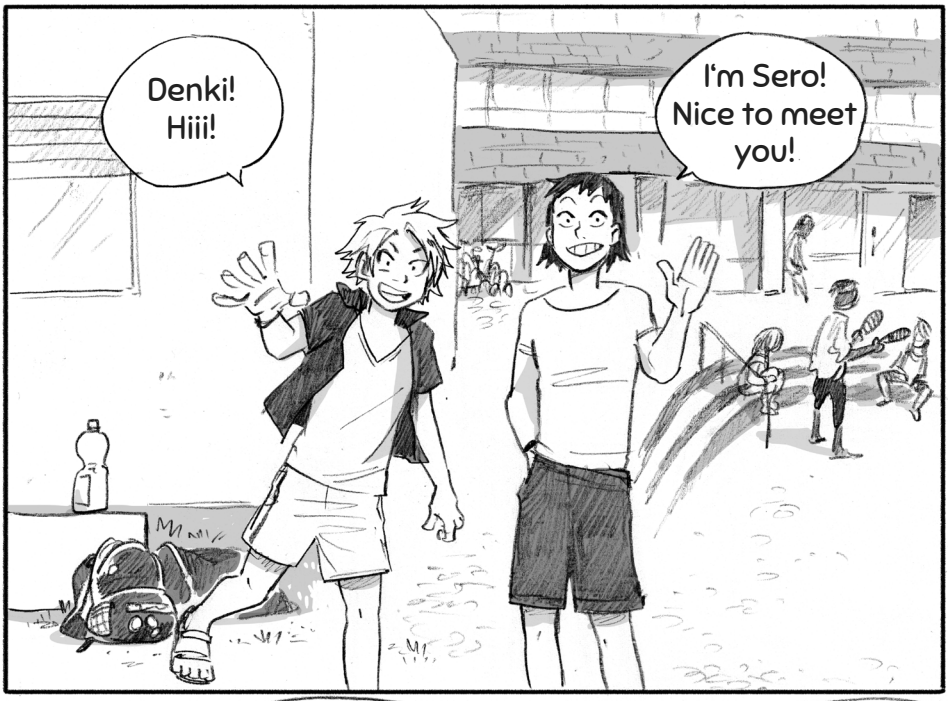


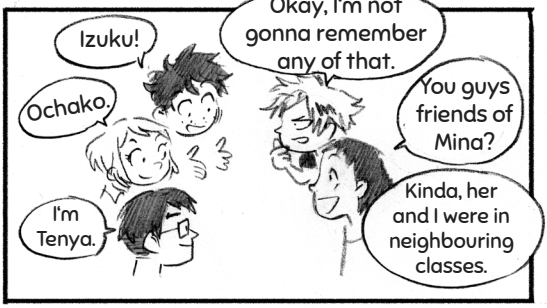
Day 3

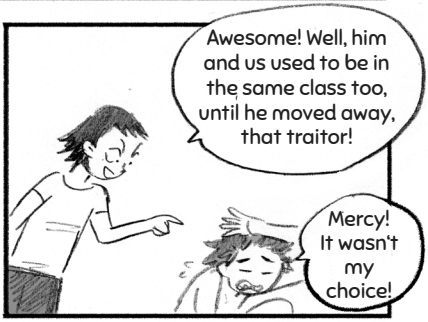


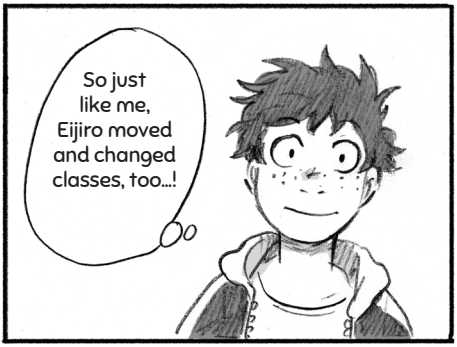

Day 3
8.00 am
Izuku! Wake up!
Huh...?
'm still tired...
Were you up late again?
Izuku, we have a serious issue to discuss!
You've been withholding decent training opportunities and been keeping them all to yourself until now, but today that will change!
...?
Huh?
Tenya and I've decided to train with Mina and her fire group today!
I don't know if they even do their stuff in the day? Shouldn't you train with fire when it's dark?
Doesn't matter! We'll convince them to give us an extra lesson!
Ochako is very eager to give it a try.
Ah, Shouto!
I'll probably be in the yard the whole day.
If you don't want to be alone, feel free to come and join us!
Morning. Thank you for the offer.

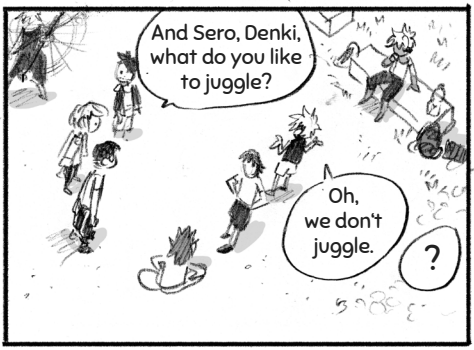

You managed to talk with him?
Very polite...
Hm! He's really nice. He does yo-yo!
Who even does yo-yo?
Chirp
tweet
Oh!
Yeah no problem you can join us!
We were planning on staying out here for the whole day anyway!
And the weather is great!
Grrrr...
What's he sulking about?
Oh, it's just too many people for his taste.
'Cause, you know, from today until the end of the last day, we have some friends over!
They're friends of Eiji...


Denki! Hiii!
I'm Sero! Nice to meet you!

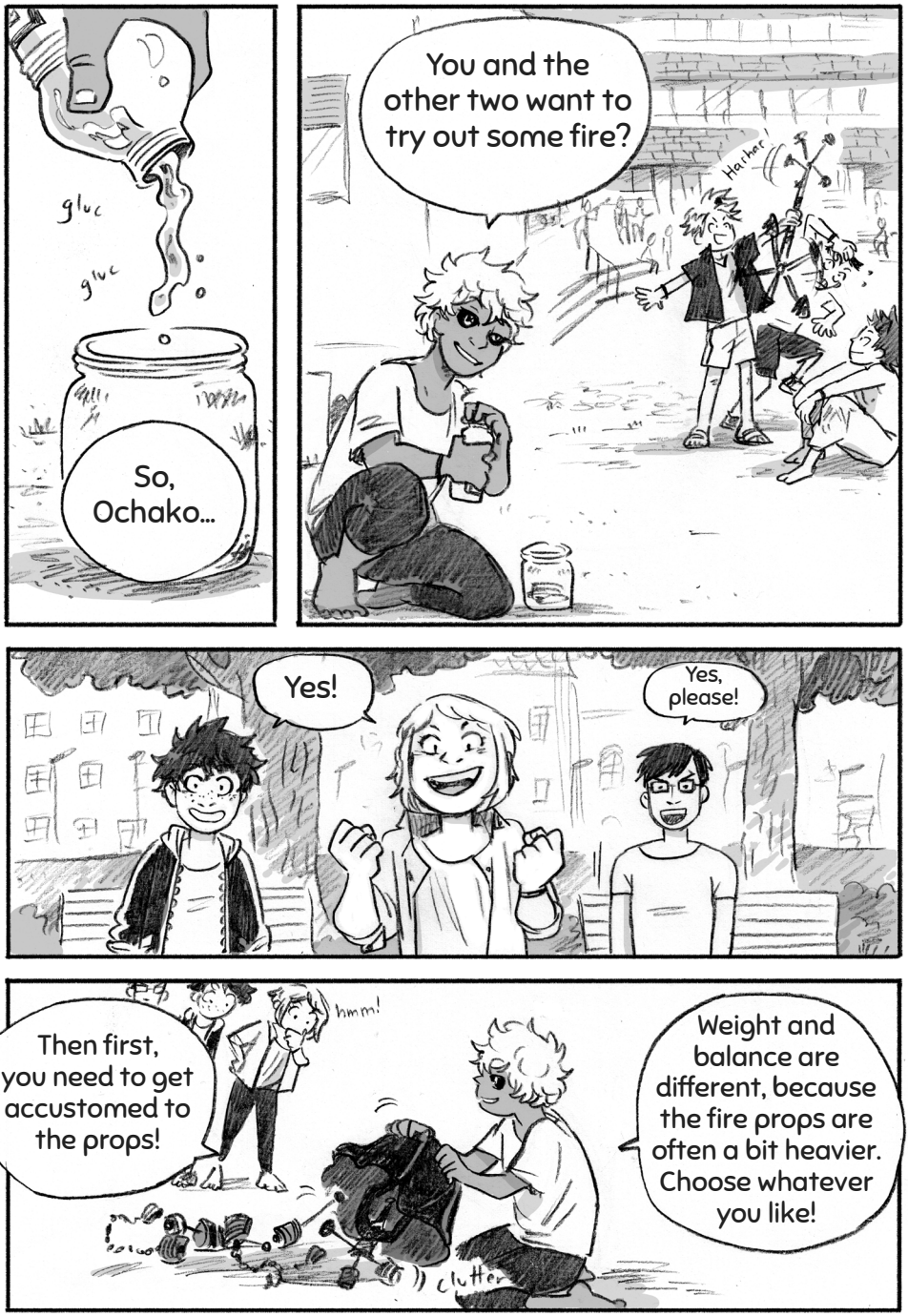

Izuku!
Ochako.
I'm Tenya.
Okay, I'm not gonna remember any of that.
You guys friends of Mina?
Kinda, her and I were in neighbouring classes.


Awesome! Well, him and us used to be in the same class too, until he moved away, that traitor!
Mercy! It wasn't my choice!


So just like me, Eijiro moved and changed classes, too...!


And Sero, Denki, what do you like to juggle?
Oh, we don't juggle.
?


Nah, Kiri here just convinced us that it would be awfully sweet of us to drop by for some emotional support. Because tomorrow evening...
...he and the others will perform their super cool fire show right after the gala show! Andthey need some cheering fans in the audience!
Yeah, we wouldn't want to miss...
...the "Flamey Fireballs"!
The what?
Don't say?
Oh boy.
munch
That's the name of your group?
Don't you dare laugh!
It's so repetitive.
It's a fucking cool name!
tch
Everybody who says otherwise can go die!
I like it, Kaccan! It sounds strong and energetic!
I would've gone for something more mysterious.
But he was very vehement.


gluc
gluc
So, Ochako...
You and the other two want to try out some fire?
Harhar!
Yes!
Yes, please!
Then first, you need to get accustomed to the props!
hmm!
clutter
Weight and balance are different, because the fire props are often a bit heavier. Choose whatever you like!


Hm, I love the flowy stuff. I'll have some pois.
And then I can show you the fan later!
Hey, Izuku!
FLOFF
Here.
Oof!
What's that?
Trousers?
When you're working with fire stuff, you get soot all over.
That's why we usually wear black clothes.
Now you won't ruin your trousers like yesterday, idiot.
Thank you, Kacchan!
I'll go and change immediately!
tch
Kacchan...
He really does care!


Wow.
Am I really that much shorter?
Doesn't matter, though.
They have elastic bands in them so I can just pull them up a bit.
It smells like gasoline... and just a tiny bit like Kacchan!
Squirrish
This is so comfy.
HALL
WC
Too bad I can't just keep them.
A...
DEKU!
WAAH!
Relax! Don't shout at the poor guy!
Ba-dump
Ba-dump
Deku... did you tell the whole fucking con to come to our place?
That guy's a fucking friend of yours?


Hi, Izuku.
Is that person pestering you?
Oh, it's you, Shouto.
A friend... hm, maybe?
Yes. Friend.
That half and half bastard came looking for your ass and totally uninvited...
While you wait, would you like to try out some stuff, too?
Oh!
I'm sorry, I don't mean to offend you...
...but personally, I find fire juggling pretty boring.
No wonder Kacchan's angry...
And what do you do that's so much better?
I do yo-yo.
That is way more lame than fire!
ssst
Nice to have you here, Shouto!
Talk to any of us if there's something you'd like to know!
I will, thanks.
Don't just ignore me!


Yes, you're getting the hang of it, Ocha!
Hehe!
Tenya too!
Izuku, you said you're a beginner yourself!
With clubs, yes.
But I barely manage 3 balls, too.
The clubs feel totally different... Much heavier!


Come on, Sero! You try three balls now!
You do it yourself, first!
You're as stiff as a board, man.
Wanna try the real stuff now, Ocha?
Yes!
Izuku, you too? Maybe one club?
Yeah.
Soak them up well in the gasoline...
...then shake the extra liquid off.
...and then!
WOOOSH


Haha! This feels so cool!
Wow, it looks so natural on her!
Impressive! She's not afraid at all!
Huh.
Not scared you'll burn yourself?
No...
...this is exciting!
Who would've thought.
Round Face has it in her!
Ochako is amazing!
And *hep*.
I need to loosen up a bit too...
You're doing great, Izuku!
Thanks!
Throw... catch!
I'll stick to non-fire for now.
Yikes!
You need to catch the other side, doofus!


I wonder how long it would take...
...until I look this cool, too!
I started staff before him, but he just got the moves!
whisper
nod
Hm hm.
Sometimes I'm a bit jealous.
Hey, I want to hold fire for once, too!
Your name was Shouto? Come, you too!
Wow! He's basically super good at it!
Grrr
Never said I wasn't.
It's like fire's his second nature!

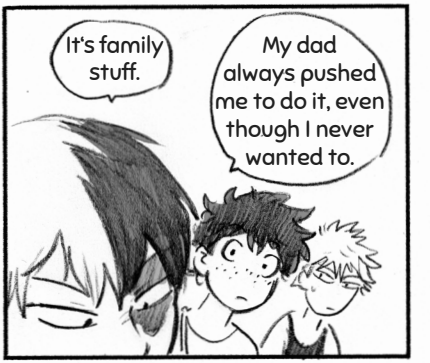

Finally some peace.
Mina took Denki and Sero with her to show them around the place.
Now it's just us, quietly engaging in our own stuff.
What are you writing?
Me? Um.
I'm making notes about the different kinds of juggling... at first, I just try to explain the tricks for me to recreate later, but I also noticed that some people for example throw balls differently?


So now I was wondering if there's that perfect way to swing clubs or throw balls and if that only comes with experience or if I could try to focus on...
...that exact line of throw and could speed up my training by working on perfecting that? I've been watching how other people do it for some time now, but I should probably do some training on my own soon...
RIP
Sorry.
I'm rambling...
Go on.
I don't mind.
pause
Show me later.
Need to make sure your thick head didn't screw it up.
...Yes!


Repeat!
Gummi bears!
The vegan type, normal and sour ones!
Cookies!
Five bags of chips! Different flavours!
And sodas and juice!
Thank you! You're my saviour, I need some sugar!
No problem! It's just down the road, right?
Why am I forced to go as well?
Thanks!
You're our sherpa, said Mina, since you're the only one who's been here before.
It was a rhetorical question!
Aaah what flavours did they say?
Veggie are here.




So, you obviously can fire juggle but still hate it?
What's up with that?


It's family stuff.
My dad always pushed me to do it, even though I never wanted to.


So, as a way to defy him...
I started searching for my own hobby to pursue, and found yo-yo!


I think that's very inspiring!
Couldn't you at least have chosen something that's not so dull?


Dull? I think Shouto's yo-yo tricks are amazing!
Fuck Deku, I thought you at least had a bit of taste!
If Izuku says it's cool, then I believe it, too!
Hey!
Yeah, but he's a nerd with nerdy taste. I'm the one with the style!
...you're wearing a plain tank and baggy trousers.
Yeah, but I look fucking good in it.
You do, Kacchan!
Ah!
There are the others!
Yes! It's the stuff!
Thanks, guys!
This'll be our reward for training so hard!


Aaah thank god!
Snack break!
Ooh, can I have one, Kacc–
No idiot, they're mine!
And yet you threw one at me...


Look! I got myself this LED staff!
This cool girl's letting me have a try!
swirl
swirl
IDIOT
Sorry
pat


hrt
hrt
Looks kinda cute how they're sitting there
You'd think they are besties
stretch
Sn...re
They must have been pretty tired...
sit
!
Hello, Katsuki!


D'you need something, Round Face?
It's Ochako! Have you forgotten already?
Nah, mostly I don't bother remembering. S'nothing personal.
...
You're really making me regret this.
Katsuki, I wanted to apologize.
For doubting you.
???
Yesterday, Izuku told me about your... difficult past.
Before I met you and made my own impression.
That was why I had already formed this image of you as a guy that I didn't like.

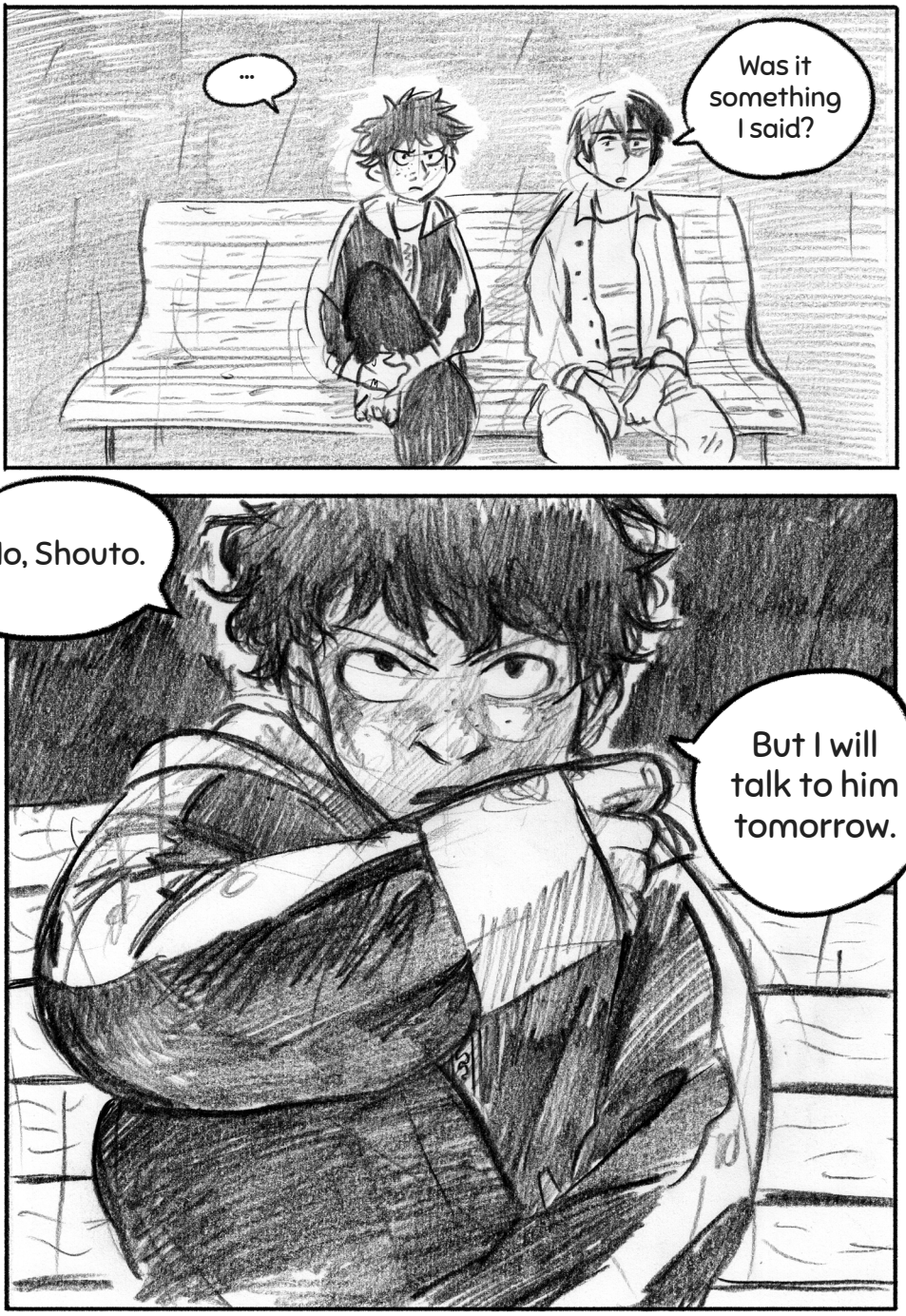

But he'd also said that you'd changed, and he was right.
Even if you were that person some years ago...
...you don't seem like him anymore.
Hehe, I know this is a bit weird coming out of nowhere.
You need to know, Izuku is a dear friend to me, so I just couldn't stop myself from keeping an extra eye on you.
But now I know there was no reason for that. I won't bug you any longer!
Hey.
You said he's a good friend to you.
Then...what are you to Izuku?

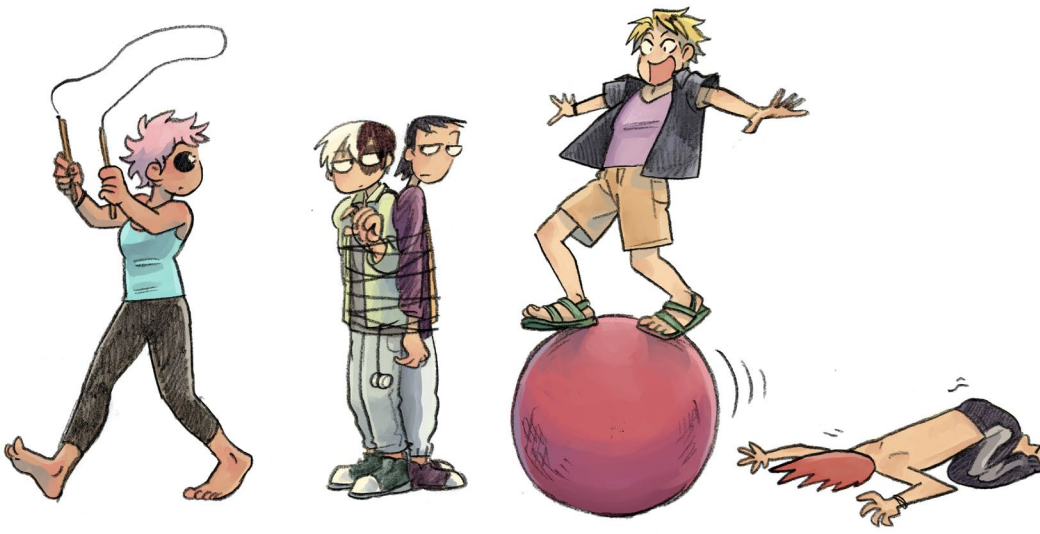

Him, Tenya and I are best friends!
Nothing more...
...but also nothing less!
Woah!


Ah! It didn't hurt, right?

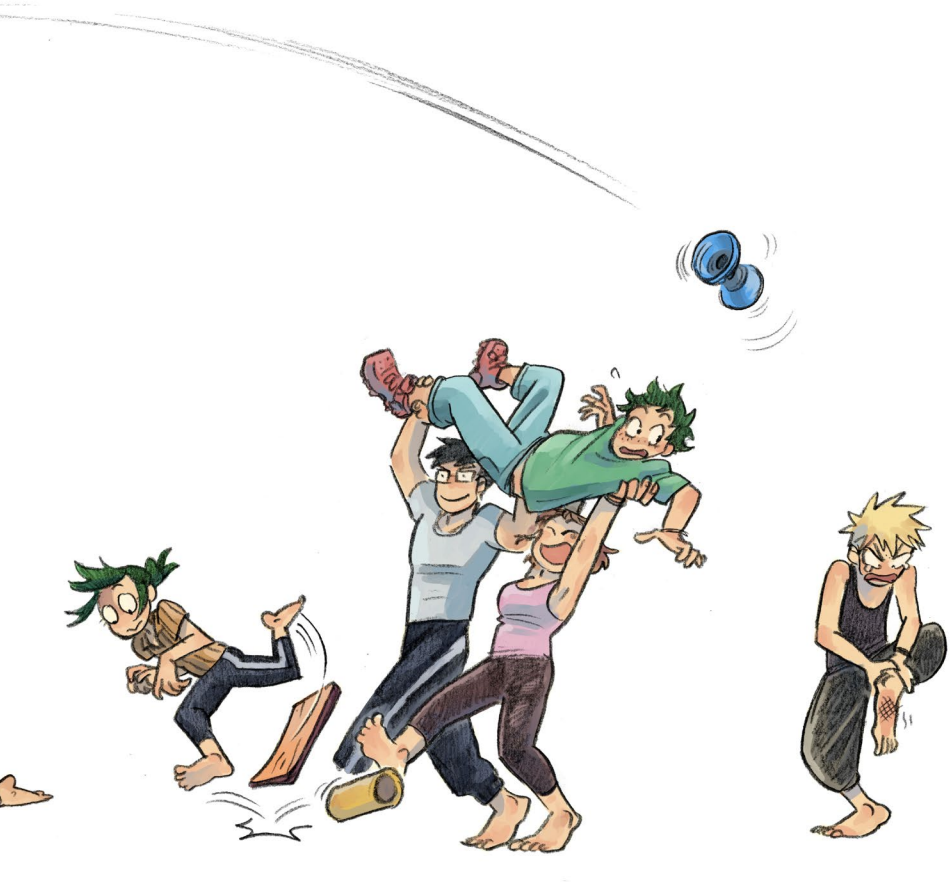

Looks like everybody has either gone to bed or back to the gym...
drip
Oh?
drop
It's starting to rain?
As long as it's not much we shouldn't get that wet here under the tree.
You really are amazing, Izuku.
Huh?
You are kind and helpful, and quick to make friends...
I... am not good at that, but I respect it.


Oh, I don't know if that's really the case. There are many who don't like me...?
No need to be modest.
But, you too, Shouto!
You always seem to say what's on your mind. Honestly, that's a trait not many have, myself included.
chirp
I think that's far more important than making lots of new friends!
drip
I'm going to bed.
Kacchan?
Need to be fit for our show tomorrow.


...
Was it something I said?
No, Shouto.
But I will talk to him tomorrow.



Day 4




Day 4
7.30 am
Ugh...
Kacchan! Are you awake?
Aaaaaah...hmppf!!
Shhhhhh!
Psst!
Snooore
What are you doing here?!
I asked Ochako who asked Mino where you were! We need to talk, Kacchan!

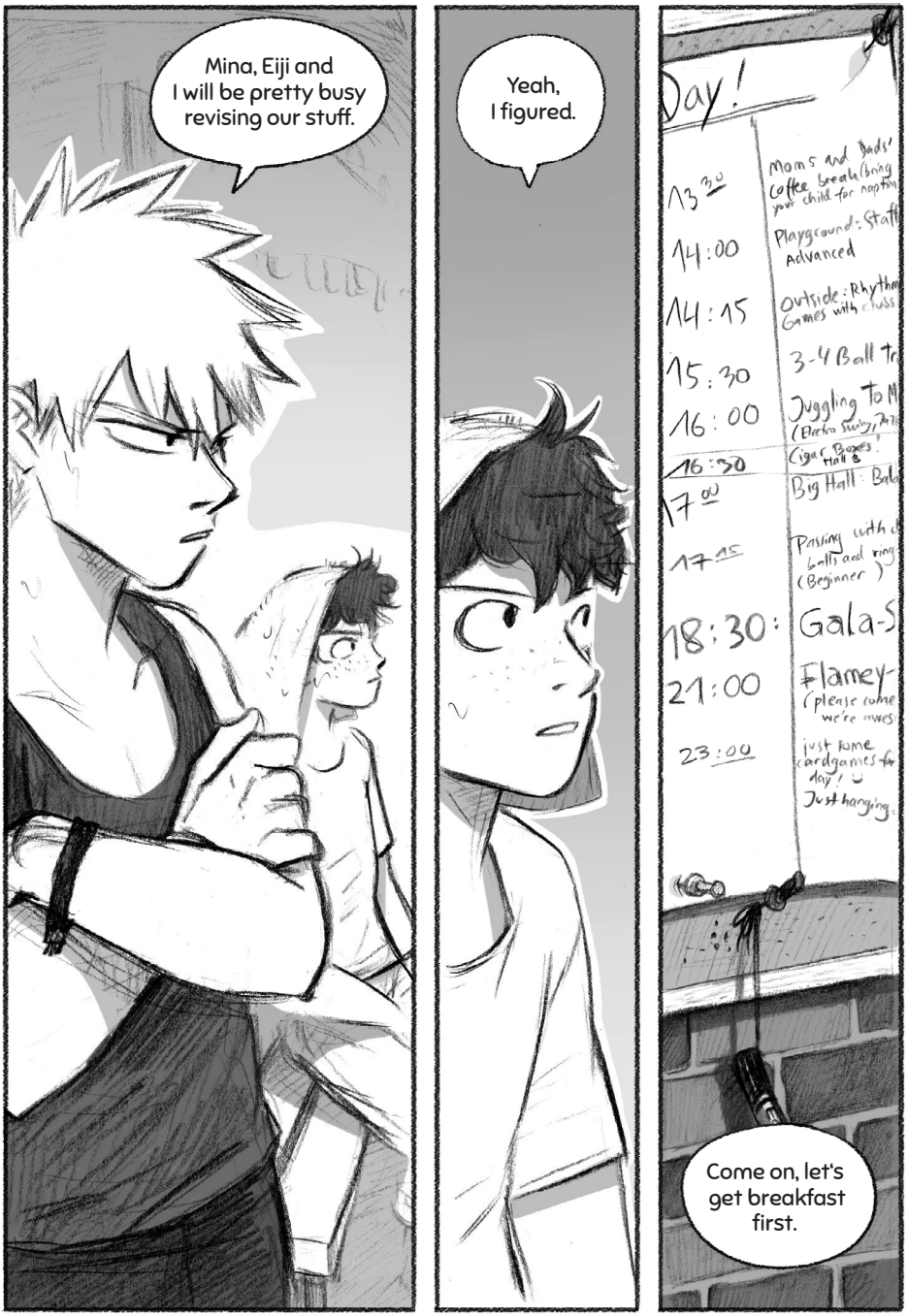

We already talked plenty yesterday.
Yes, and now we need to talk some more.
Come on, let's go to the shower rooms, I got my stuff with me.
To... do what?
Shower?
Ugh, you better have some good reason for getting me out of bed this early!
FLUMP
SSSSSSSH


≠SSSH
Is your water warm yet?
Kacchan, I...
Don't talk to me while we're in the shower! That's fucking weird!
Ah, sorry.
But, after yesterday evening...
Bonk
...I had the feeling that you'd try to avoid me again.
So I wanted to catch you beforehand.


...
slomp
I wasn't going to avoid you.
Shit nerd.
Are you sure?
Don't ask if you don't believe me.
Right. Sorry.
FLUMP
Look, Izuku...


This *talking* shit?
I'm really bad at it.
You need to give me some more time here...
...ok?
...Yeah.
I can do that.


Here, thanks for lending me this; you'll need it for the show tonight, right?
This is just a spare, I have another for the show.
The days went by so fast... It's already our last day.
I'm excited for the Gala show!
FWOPP!
Oof?!
Just that? And our fire show?!
Of course I'm looking forward to that the most!
You better be...
step


Mina, Eiji and I will be pretty busy revising our stuff.
Yeah, I figured.
Day!
Come on, let's get breakfast first.


Since it's our final day...
yaaarh
...I'll try to spend as much time as possible with Kacchan and the others.
Now, don't move.
Try to get a feel for the balance.
When you do it, it looks so easy...
Letting the ball flow over you like water droplets...
We call that contact juggling.
Looks like Mina got the hang of it

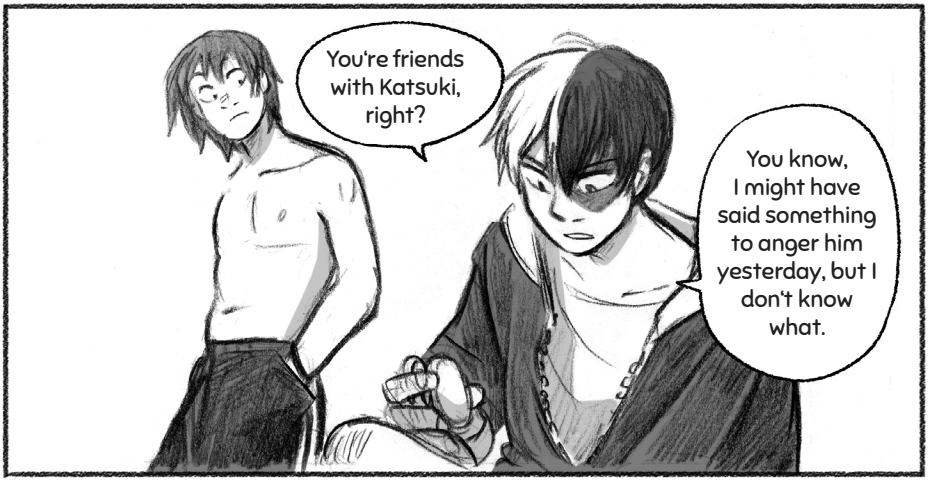

I've learned so many amazing new things over the past few days...
I mustn't forget to practice back home!
Let's motivate each other!
Yo!!
We could post videos with our progress in the chat!
Good idea!
Did you enjoy your first convention, Izuku?
Here you are.
Yes!
Thanks!
I love the atmosphere here!
Wait, let me try
It stays!
Your hair is like a nest
And, I've also been able to meet lots of kind people!
I'm really glad!
Us too! You guys have been awesome!


Group hug!!
Yaaaay!
shiver


ssrrt


Ah, I love the air of summer mornings after a refreshing rain!
Are you never cold?


My passion for doing what I love keeps me warm!
Did you really say that out loud?


You're friends with Katsuki, right?
You know, I might have said something to anger him yesterday, but I don't know what.


He's hard to read... for me, at least.
Don't worry! If you'd really angered him or if he hated you, you'd know!
I would?
flamp
Yeah! He's actually a pretty straightforward guy with these things.
On the other hand, he does need some time to get accustomed to new people.
And once you *are* his friend, you can count on him no matter what!
...I guess it is true that you shouldn't judge a book by its cover.


Katsuki.
Glasses.
My name is Tenya.
hrrrrg
Lay off it, will you?
You and Round Face keep coming to tell me about Deku and how you want me to act around your friend.
Do you really think I'm that big of an asshole that I'll hurt him the second you look away?


Of course not. Izuku trusts you and thinks you're a good person and I have no reason to doubt that.
After all, he has a pretty good perception of people.
Don't be stupid. That guy thinks there's a Ghandi in everyone. Point a knife at him and he'll still appeal to the good in your heart.
Hm, he did do something like that once?
Last year, my brother and I were ambushed by some school thugs. He had just started his job of doing streets work for young people against gang crime. But, not everybody seemed to like his engagement and he was seriously injured.
When Izuku saw me going after them one day to confront them, he followed me to stop me. I was being foolish of course and put us both in danger for a petty revenge.
He tried to argue with the guys, but unsurprisingly, they were not up for talking and went straight at us.


It's where he got that scar on his hand when he pushed me out of a knife's way.
If the teachers hadn't intervened and called the police, things could have ended much worse.
But, since that day, I know he is a friend who will walk through any danger for me and Ochako.
Not that I want another situation like that.
A feeling that is entirely mutual!
...Was that all you wanted to tell me?
Oh! No!
Actually, I was hoping for your advice on how to get some more fluid movements for staff juggling!
Forget it. You're a lost cause, robot man.


We're having lunch! Are you guys coming, too?
Can't do!
I had this cool idea for some new moves in our choreography and I need to break it down before I forget!
Can I lower my arms now, please?
Nope.
Well, we have our own workshops to attend to later, so see you at the gala show I guess!
Yup!
Minaaaa...!
GRAB

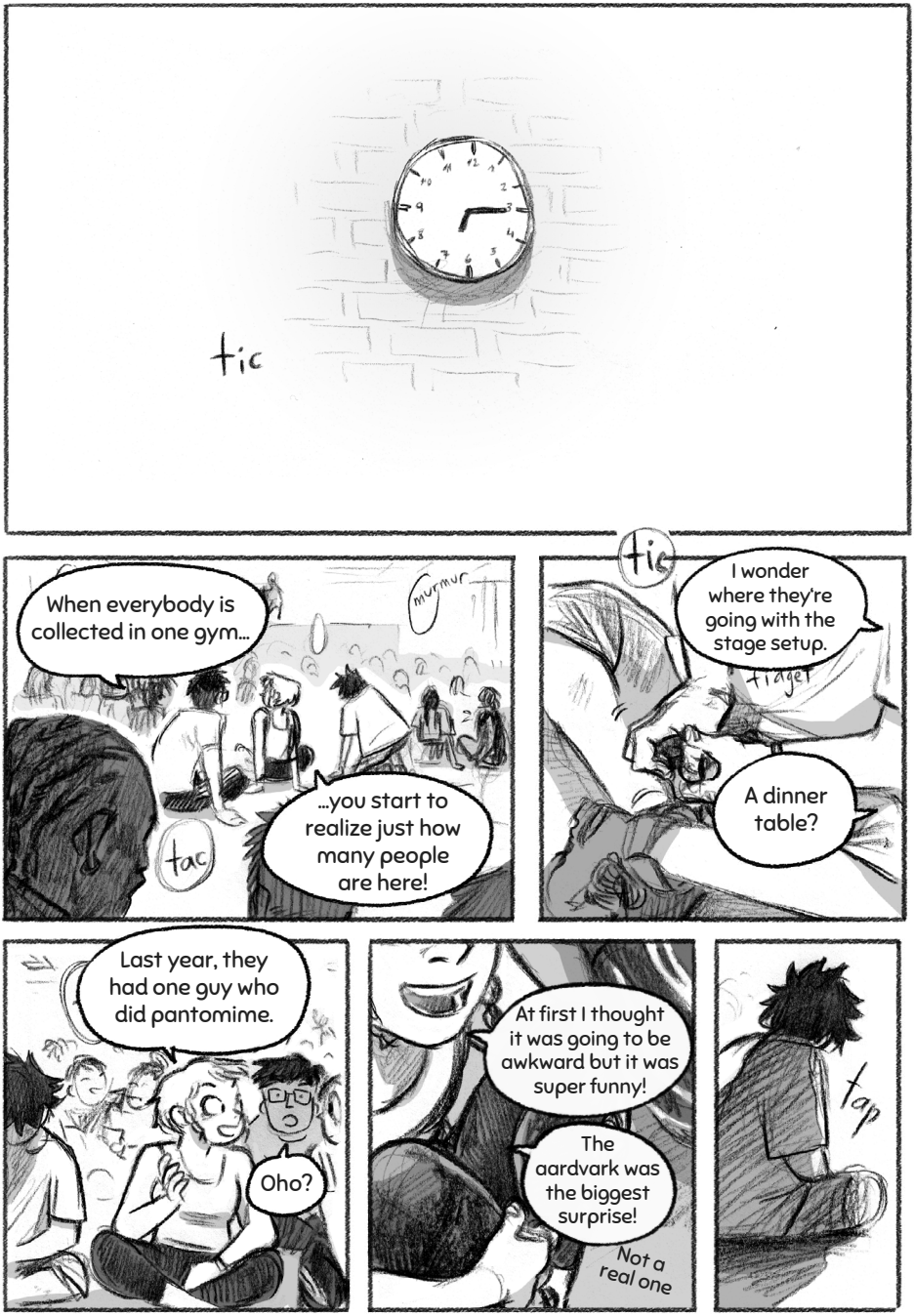

Hey, Izuku.
Uh.
Forget it.
Go grab your lunch.
We can talk after the show, yeah?
Yeah.
Of course.


Well, I'll definitely miss the food they serve us here at lunch!
It looks yucky but it's surprisingly tasty.
Chili, Curry, Borscht...and another stew. I get the pattern.
You don't like it, Izuku?
Oh... no, I do!
I was just lost in thoughts.


The show starts at 6.30pm, so we still have four hours!
nudge
Let's make the best of it and try out as many new things as we can, ok?
Yes! Let's do that!
Is this...
...the normal melancholy at the end of a festival...




...or something
I can't quite place?


tic
When everybody is collected in one gym...
murmur
tac
...you start to realize just how many people are here!
tic
I wonder where they're going with the stage setup.
fidget
A dinner table?
Last year, they had one guy who did pantomime.
Oho?
At first I thought it was going to be awkward but it was super funny!
The aardvark was the biggest surprise!
Not a real one
tap



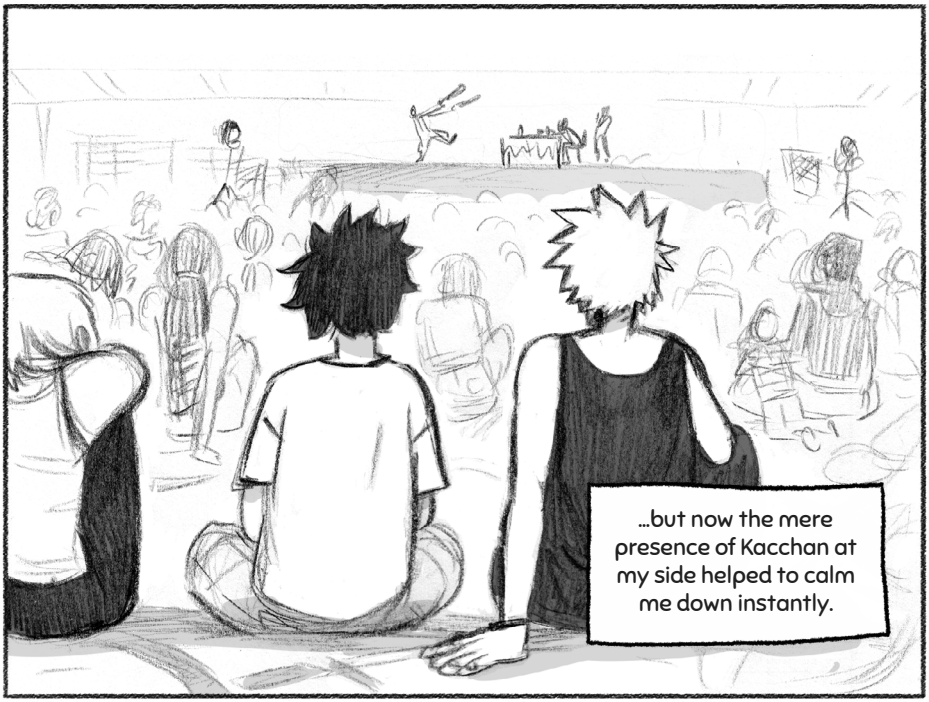






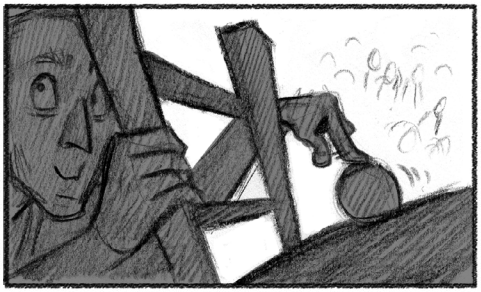


Four days ago
I wouldn't have
believed it myself...


...but now the mere presence of Kacchan at my side helped to calm me down instantly.








clap clap clap clap clap
Now, before we send you off to enjoy the last evening of our little convention...
...there's someone who'd like to make a short announcement!


Hey guys! I'm Eijiro of the fire jugglers!
You might have seen me and my group practicing outside the last few days!
Don't know if you're still up for another show after this awesome performance...
grin
...but if you want to see some hot action in about an hour...
...then grab your stuff and let's gooo!
WOHOO!
We're the Flamey Fireballs and I want to see each and every one of you outside!


Izu! Ocha! Tenya! You're here to help?
Denki and Sero are already getting our stuff from upstairs, so...
Big problem! The bluetooth box isn't working!
What?!
That's why I wanted you to charge the damn thing overnight!
BONK
Ocha and Co!
Scout the area and see if you can get us a soundbox!
Yes Ma'am!
Denki! Sero! Put those bags over here!
Okay, so...
I guess we could try and ask the orga team?


Mina! We found something!
Oh my god, that's amazing!


This will do just perfectly!
Your outfits look so cool!
20 more minutes!
Hello, Katsuki. Good luck for the show!
Of course we'll be fucking awesome!
Good luck, Katsuki.
Well, see you later!
Don't want your good luck!
bleh
Katsuki! One of the clubs is missing!
Oh shit.
Kacchan!
I know you're going to be the coolest out there!
Oh I found it. Who put it under the bench?
I'm rooting for you!


fluff
ruffle
I want you...
...to keep your eyes fixed on me, Izuku!
As if you had to ask...!


DOMM
DOMM







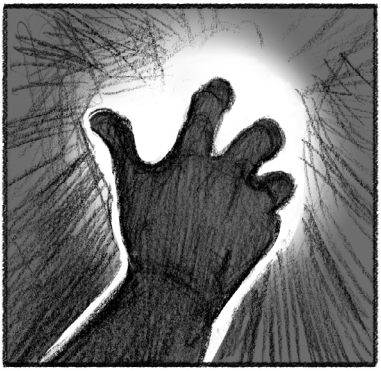



TA-
DAA!


Clap
Clap
WAHOO!
clap
Cheer
huff
Clap
WoHoo!
Clap
Amazing!
Clap
Wow!
Clapclap


You were sooo cool, Mina!
Flamey five!

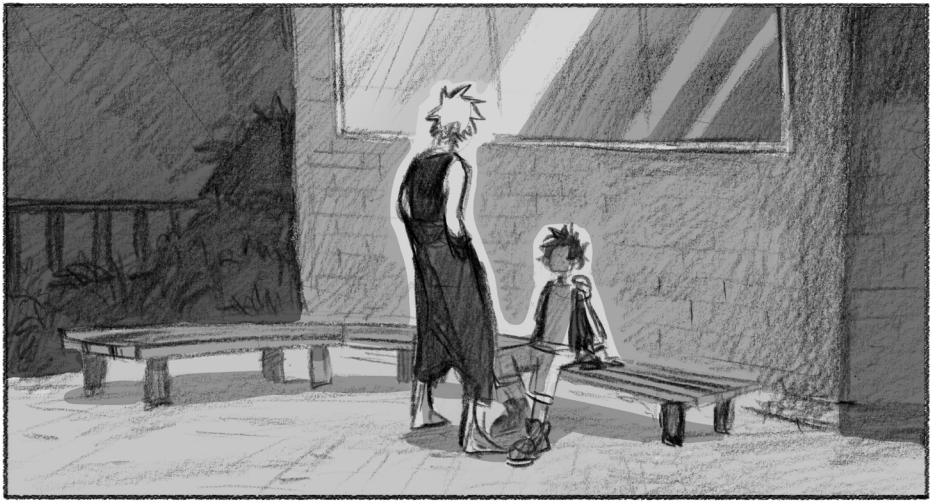





Kacchan, you...
Found you, nerd!


Come on.
I need some fresh air after this.
Wait...
I wanted to congratulate him, too!
Oh, Shouto, you really can't read the mood.
Let's give those two a little space.
Zirp


How were we?
Amazing!
And how was I?
Breathtaking!




CHEEERS!
what a show!
Whaddya say to a little after show party over here? Seems quiet enough!


Oh, did we disturb you two lovebirds?
Sorry, sorry!
Shush!
Ah, that's not...!


...
...
Sorry again!


Haaa...

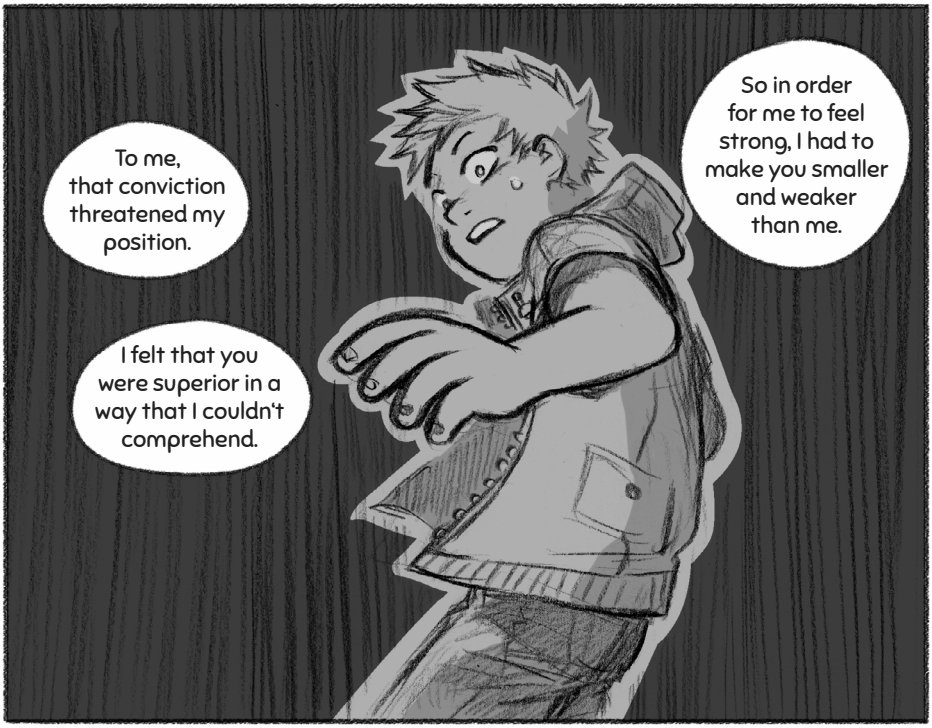

Hey. Remember our talk this morning?
rustle
Yeah. I do.
I was pissed. Not at you or Half and Half.
Shouto.
But at myself.


He was able to tell you all those things that I still have to say to you.
Made me feel like a goddamn coward.
Like, when I apologized to you, you said that I was amazing...
...and other stuff to make me feel better.
While it should have been the other way around.
But I really meant it!
Doesn't matter.


I was the one who hurt you.
And I gotta be the one to tell you now...
All those times I called you useless?
That I called you weak and frail?
That's fucking bullshit.
Out of all the people I've met during school, you were always one to stand by their word...
...and never turned your back on someone over some stupid fight.


Glasses told me about your scar.
He did?
You were reckless...
...but you were also prepared to defend those you care about at all costs.
I used to surround myself with bad guys who always told me how "cool" I was, not realizing I was being the biggest idiot of them all.
You on the other hand always knew how to find the kind people and stood up for them.
Huh?
That's why I'm defending you right now, too!
Because you're a kind person too, Kacchan!
BOFF
Ouch?


Stop trying to make me a better person.
But I'm not, though!
You already did that yourself!
...
Kacchan...
Why did you bully me?
When we were kids, I'd always been the leader of our little gang.
You all looked up to me. Felt fucking great for a brat like me and obviously, it only convinced me even more that I was better than you all.
And then there was you... just one of the other kids, plain little Izuku.
But unlike the others, you had that conviction... you always stood back up when you fell down.
And you'd follow me even on my most daring adventures.


So in order for me to feel strong, I had to make you smaller and weaker than me.
To me, that conviction threatened my position.
I felt that you were superior in a way that I couldn't comprehend.


It's as simple and stupid as that.


Thanks.
For what?
I guess for telling me the reason.
It helps to know why that happened and why we drifted apart.
Is it too late to drift towards each other again?


I hope not.







Day 5








Groooan
Uuuuugh...
Izuku!
Want to wake up and have breakfast?
Give me the details later!
Hurg?
Day 5
8.00 am
Yaaawn
Sorry, Tenya!
If we're going to go jogging together in the morning, you'll have to work on that sleep schedule, Izuku!
We would've loved to let you sleep, Izuku...
Morning!
...but they were all waiting for us!


When did we become so many people?
To see that we're filling a whole table now...
Izuku, no offense but you and me both, we look like shit.
Mina stayed up until morning with some of the boys.
You too, Izuku?
A bit ...



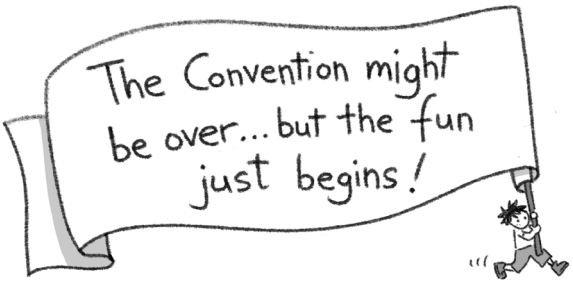

Grab
PLO
Earth to Kacchan!
I asked if I can have your leftover milk for my coffee!
Aah!
What did I do?!
So, Denki and I take a train which leaves in two hours.
What about you guys?
We have no fixed time.
Couldn't we all go together? We live in the same city, right?
Yeah, but on opposite ends. And they can't take our train with their tickets.

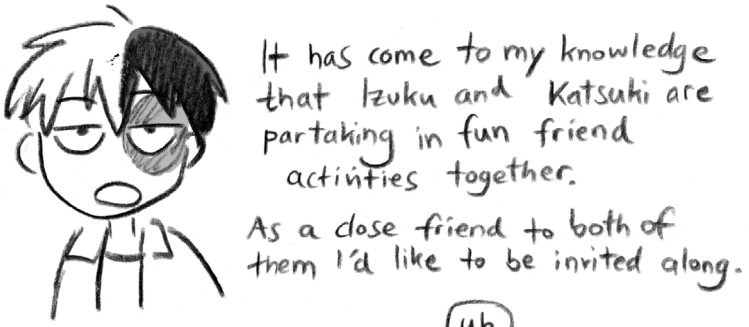

Looks like someone already checked.
?
Why don't we take a group picture before everyone leaves? As a memory?
Yes! Great idea!
Everybody pack your stuff! Let's meet outside in 30 minutes!


So...
Seems like our days here have come to an end.
Give me your phone, nerd.
Mina and Eiji will want to meet up again.
beep
Since we live only about an hour away.
What about you?
...
I guess I could do with a bit of nerd now and then.


Good to know.
Hey you two! Come, we want to take the picture!
Let's go, Kacchan!


Yeah, let's go!
END


The Convention might be over... but the fun just begins!


It has come to my knowledge that Izuku and Katsuki are partaking in fun friend activities together.
As a close friend to both of them I'd like to be invited along.
uh
uhm
I'm joking. Have fun, you two.


So obviously I made a list of things you two totally need to do so first off is of course a candlelight dinner
TA-DAAA!
Like hell I'd need that!!


(You)
Explosion God
Hey Round Face quick, heal me before the next wave rolls in...
Did you just walk by? Hey! I'm right there!!


Say Izuku do you want to... uhm
"Go to the Aquarium and pet a baby shark because ohmygod their skin is so smooth"
What


• romantic dinner (check google doc for recs)
• cinema
• picnic in park
• cook together (can you tell I'm hungry)
• Netflix & chill hihihi
↑ optional
• group workout in gym (Kiri's idea so maybe ignore ??)


And when he looked at me with his sharp, intense eyes I kinda froze and I think my heart started beating really fast...
Apex predator...
Did you notice he's got some really pointy teeth?
Man, you know I'm still so so happy for you two!
Press
Thank you, Kiri!
Is that a fucking nipple imprint

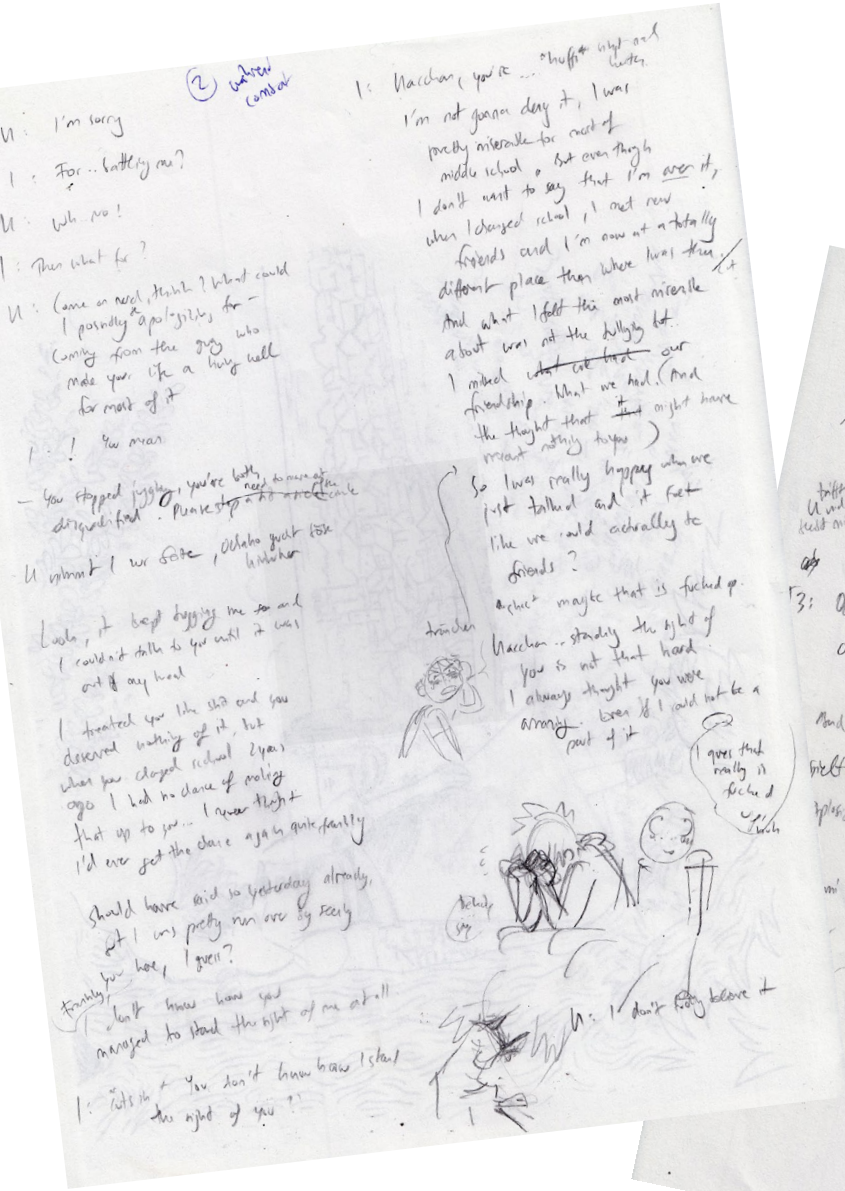

Since Kats has started seeing Izuku, he's less and less around...
Yeah, I'm kinda starting to miss him, too
He's been neglecting his old friends! We need to get his attention again.
...
vrrrr
brzzz
You can just phone me!!
SLAM!

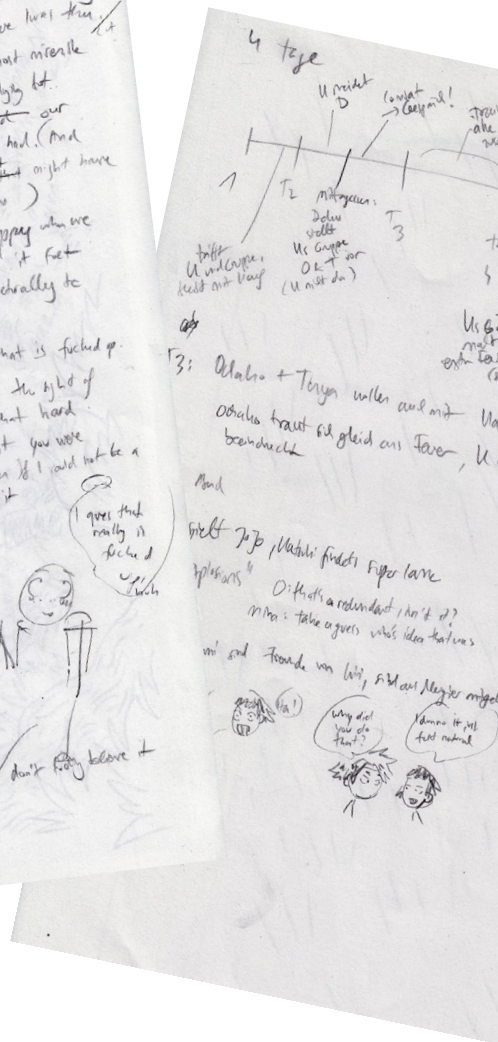

Hey, Auntie... it's been a while.
!
Izuku told me. It's fine.
Good to have you back, dear.
hug


Say, Kacchan, I know we talked but there's one thing about you that I still can't fully forgive.
You'll never beat me, All Might!
Why would you rank the Silver Era movies higher than the old ones?? The character writing in these is *clearly* much worse compared to the old ones!
Are you dumb?! The introduction of his personal failures and the introduction of the duality of hero characters is what makes the whole thing so much more interesting!
Nearly gave me a heart attack...
Oh no, my only weakness... the memory of that one time I wasn't as nice as I could have been!


Just eat this and shut up!
The End

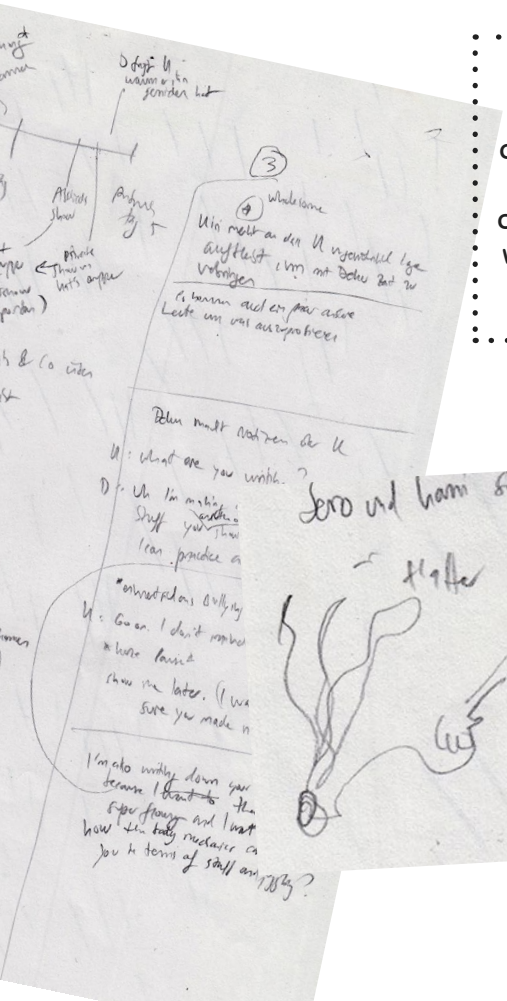
Work Process:
1. The Writing





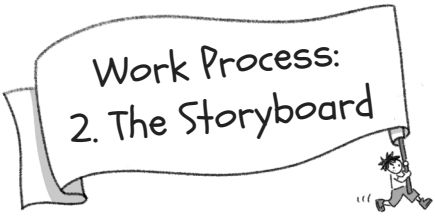
Before starting with the storyboard or any drawings, I have the **important dialogues all written down**. Now that leaves a whole lot of room for all the other pages, because the dialogue parts make only half or less of each chapter! **How do I know how to fill in these pages?**

While it is always a good idea to plan out beforehand (take screen-writing for example), I did not fully write out every scene and interaction for this comic. I did however have a pretty good idea how I want to fill the scenes. Not only did I have a plan **what important scenes happen in which chapter**, but when you know **how the chapter starts, where it will end and what parts are somewhere in between**, you will find a way to work yourself from one point to another.



You could say that in **this** comic, the **major dialogues** are for the characters to figure out their **feelings and problems** – and **the rest** of the comic is the part where I can have fun with the cast, have them interact and create a kind of **lighter counterpart.**



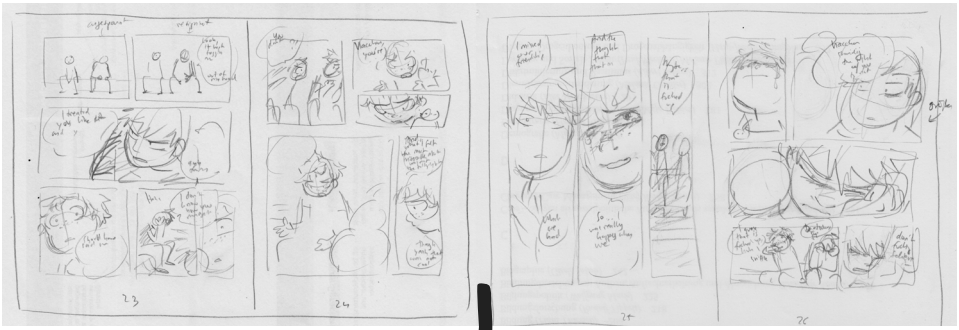


The storyboard is **the whole comic as a smaller, scribbly version**. Artists draw it to figure out **panelling, the page flow**, and make **corrections in an early stage** where you can still try out lots of different options. Since I'm working in a book format I scribble out full page spreads, and it helps me see how the reading flow is and if I still need to include something of interest that makes the reader want to turn the page (like having the page end on a discovery that the reader can't see yet).

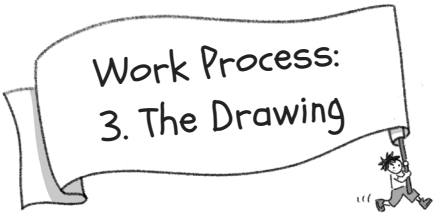
Normally you **revise your storyboard** over and over – you definitely want to try out different ways to construct the scenes, how to rise tension, how to introduce characters, etc.!

I also made some corrections on the storyboard in some scenes. For example the talk between Izuku and Kacchan in Chapter 2: I added a whole spread in here! In the storyboard, that part doesn't stand out so much– **it could just be any other scene**. So I added two extra pages with a big spread, just to give that **important scene the room it needs**. (see example on the right)

Remember: All the advice and work processes I'm describing here – you might find that it doesn't work for you. There's no right or wrong way to make comics, just little tips that can introduce you to a workflow which brings **you** the best result. Take from this what you want and mainly just have fun creating and **start**!




Look, it kept bugging me and I couldn't talk to you until it was out of my head.
I treated you like shit and you deserved none of it, but when you changed school two years ago, I had no chance of making that up to you.
To be honest, I never thought I'd get the chance again.
Honestly? I don't know how you managed to stand the sight of me at all.
I should have said so yesterday already, but I was pretty run over by seeing you here, I guess?
You don't know how I stand the sight of you?!
Kacchan, you're...
You..
huff
I'm not gonna deny it, I was pretty miserable for most of middle school. And yeah, elementary too.
But even though I don't want to say that I'm over it, when I changed school, I met new friends
S1
You'd be surprised, but I'm not the guy who gets pushed around so easily anymore.
stumble
Ochaka even convinced me to start martial arts with her!
I missed our friendship.
And, with you and me, Kacchan..
What I felt the most miserable about wasn't the bullying bit. Though yeah, that still messed me up pretty bad. But more than that,
And it made me sad, the thought...
What we had.
...that that might have meant nothing to you.
So..
I was really happy when we just talked and acted like we could actually be friends?
M...maybe that is fucked up.
WHY UP
Kacchan... standing the sight of you..is not that hard.
I always thought you were amazing. Even if I couldn't be a part of it.
De..bzuku.. stop
Huh, I guess that really is fucked up.
I don't fucking believe it..
S5
S6



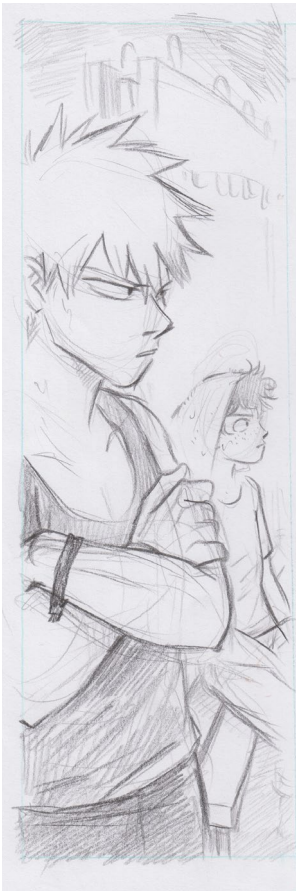
The lineart for the comic is drawn **traditionally** on normal copy paper with a **black polychromo**. I draw the panel grid in a light blue colour first but leave the actual panelling for later– this way, I can easily move around my drawings later in the programs, if I need to arrange them differently in the panel. That can happen if speech bubbles take up more space than estimated.
(Tip: this probably can be avoided if you test out first how much room you need for the speech bubbles)

In the first chapters, I **sketched everything with a light blue pencil** before doing the final lineart on top. In the later chapters, I switched to going directly at it with the **black pencil and erasing the sketch lines later digitally**. However I have now learned how to erase red lines very easily in Photoshop without a trace, so I might switch to doing sketches in red first, and drawing the linart in black on top!

I guess I'm still in a learning process.



Double spreads are pinned on my wooden drawing board.



Scanned drawing

(Scan at least with 300dpi, or 600dpi because you want a good resolution to work with.)



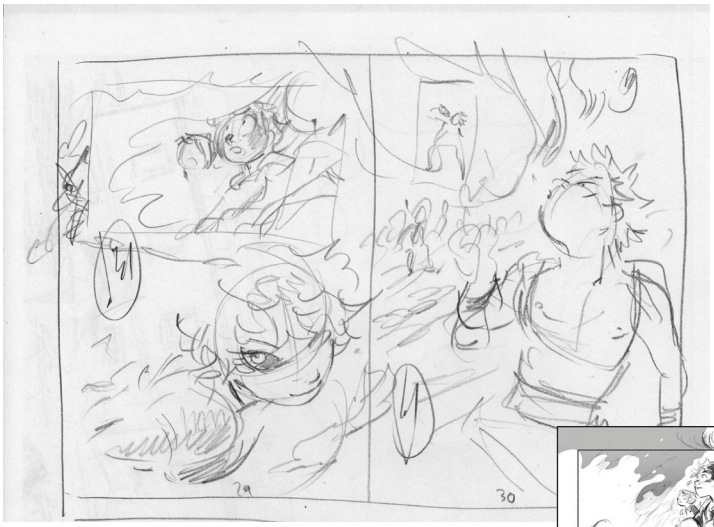
Cleaned up scan

(cleaning up takes a lot more time than you might think– don't underestimate this process!)



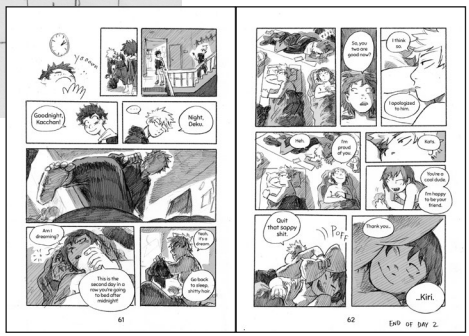
Adding greytones

(That's the fun part!)

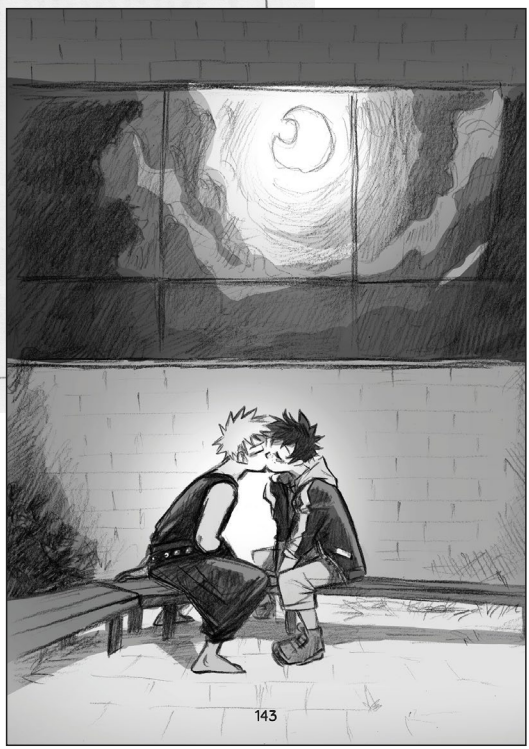

29
30




Goodnight, Kacchan
Night, Deku
Thank you...
31
32


Goodnight, Kacchan!
Night, Deku.
Am I dreaming?
This is the second day in a row you're going to bed after midnight
Go back to sleep, stirry-hair.
So, you two are good now?
I think so.
I apologized to him.
Hah.
I'm proud of you.
Kuh.
You're a cool dude.
I'm happy to be your friend.
Quit that sappy shit.
Poff.
Thank you...
...Kiri.
61
62
END OF DAY 2


I don't think so
Is it too late to drift together again?
45
46
47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It's the Afterword!

First of all, I want to say Thank you to **MamaPyjama** (on Bluesky, Tumblr and Twitter) who's been my proofreader. English is not my native language and she's helped me a lot with the wording, sentence structure and such things! Thank you so much again! <3

Then of course, **Thanks to all of you** who've followed this project on my socials, who've left comments, a like or shouted at the void in the tags. Knowing that there are people looking forward to read the finished story was a great motivator for me to actually complete this comic!

I'm not the most active in fandoms in general, but I love seeing what people create, be it fanfics, artwork, comics, or even other cool stuff like handmade puppets, stitch**ings, etc...That is all done in the free time people have, out of the love for the story and the characters!** If you can and feel like it, take the time to leave a little comment or write something nice in the tags or replies, or whatever works– the artists will see it and appreciate it a lot!

My Hero Academia is an amazing series with so many different characters, that all feel so very alive somehow. I've had my reservations at first but in the middle of my read, I couldn't stop especially Kacchan's and Izuku's interesting dynamic grew on me. The manga is over now and while there are things which I would have loved seeing getting addressed in the end again, I'll still cherish it and reread it from time to time. Especially since it was what made me create my biggest finished comic project since my personal manga project from teenage years (Which is not finished. But it's long!)

Talk is long, page is short, so bye for now and till some day else!



Saying goodbye with a photo I made at the juggling convention that was my main inspiration :D

Find me!
Tumblr: @alena-draws
Bluesky: @alenabraune.bsky.social
Twitter (not sure for how long): @alena_braune