This book is presented in the traditional Japanese manner and is meant to be read from right to left. The cover at the opposite end is considered the front of the book.

To begin reading, please flip over and start at the other end, making your way “backward” through the book, starting at the top right corner and reading the panels (and the word balloons) from right to left. Continue on to the next row and repeat.
Back then, no one really knew if manga was going to take off.

It's no mystery lots of people were dropping out.

Inside each of us was a sea of worry.
we went to the station together. this one guy looked so sad.

this is tsuge yoshiharu. i love your comics. actually, i'm quitting manga.

what!??

i love your comics.

what!??!

you can't.

you can't give up now!

i love your comics.

well ...

he had every reason to be depressed.

his girlfriend had dumped him.

this was 2 years before he wrote his masterpiece, chiko.

he was drowning in debt ...

it's ok.

this was 2 years before he wrote his masterpiece, chiko.

you can't give up now!

he had every reason to be depressed.

his girlfriend had dumped him.
LET'S EAT.

AH, SANPEI.

I HOPE IT'S NOT EXPENSIVE ...

I KNOW A PLACE.

SPAGHETTI

I WANT

SANPEI TREATED ALL OF US. HE WAS LOADED.

MANGA ARTISTS COULDN'T IMAGINE THAT KIND OF MONEY.

AFTER THE Q&A, WE ALL WENT HOME.

TEZUKA OSAMU ANDISHINOMORISHOTARO WERE THERE.

SLURP SLURP SLURP.
"I'm supposed to meet Sanpei."

"Excuse me, are you Sanpei?"

"Whoa!"

"Sanpei. Mizuki? Thanks for coming."

"No problem..."

"Sanpei was a superstar. The real money's in magazines."

"Yeah... I see that."
Sanpei was supposed to be waiting at Itabashi Station. But I didn't see him. Nagai assured me he was there. But there was just a homeless person. His feet were filthy. No way... this guy... It couldn't be... His feet were filthy.
I woke up around noon and worked into the night. I was doing sanpei the kappa.

I played records of shrine music—taiko drums and flutes—to put me in the mood.

Yes. The convention. Shirato sanpei is waiting at the station.

What? Nagai called?

Hug papa!

I gotta run.

Huh? I thought sakurai was ...