



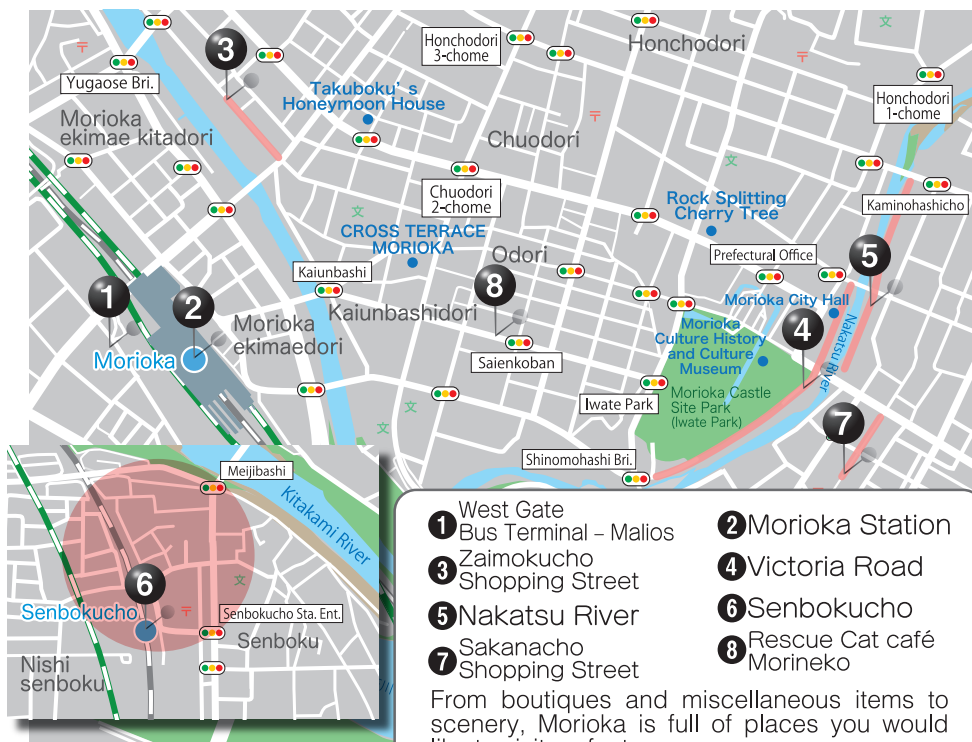
- Malios
- Morioka Station
- Zaimokucho Street
- Victoria Road
- Nakatsugawa River
- Senbokucho
- Sakanacho Street
- Cat Café
- Odori Arcade
- Cinema Street etc...

**Stroll and
have fun**

Cultural City **MORIOKA**

Make you want to walk

~ Magazine filled with attractive Morioka ~



- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ① West Gate | ② Morioka Station |
| ③ Zaimokucho Shopping Street | ④ Victoria Road |
| ⑤ Nakatsu River | ⑥ Senbokucho |
| ⑦ Sakanacho Shopping Street | ⑧ Rescue Cat café Morineko |

From boutiques and miscellaneous items to scenery, Morioka is full of places you would like to visit on foot.



Comment from Supervisor Minako Tanaka

Hi I'm a cartoonist born and based in Morioka. I took part in creating this magazine as an advisor, or more like an observer.

I would like to say "well done" to everyone who were involved and contributed their time to this project. It must have been difficult to make time for your research, site visits, and to finish all the work by dead line while juggling with school or work. Thanks to your efforts, we were able to

receive many unique works and were able to make an enjoyable magazine with rich variety in content.

For everyone who is reading this in your hand, thank you so much! This magazine covers interesting places which are not often introduced in others books. Please enjoy going for a walk with this magazine in your hand.

Minako Tanaka's Profile

Born in Morioka city, Iwate Prefecture. Graduated from a university in Tokyo and currently lives in Morioka. After her debut in "Seventeen DX" (Shueisha) in 1987, she made exclusive contract with "Margaret" from the same publisher and worked on many manga pieces. Now, she is a free-lancer who provides her short manga in "Elegance Eve" (Akitashoten) as well as series for Iwate Prefecture PR magazine, "Iwate Graph" and "goo," a webportal run by NTT.

Cover page Gozaku (Nostalgic Store)

Bamboo brooms and scrubbing brushes array under the eaves of the roof, giving off feelings of experienced handcraft.

The lattice doors, along the road, is a representation of the traditional Morioka.

West Gate
Bus Terminal - Malios

Today, I'm going
to be a little bit like
a tour guide.
I am going to be
showing my friend
around Morioka.

Yaaaahhhh,
I'm in
Morioka!

Yes.
I'm so excited
to see
what's in
this city.

Is this
your first time
to visit Morioka?

There?

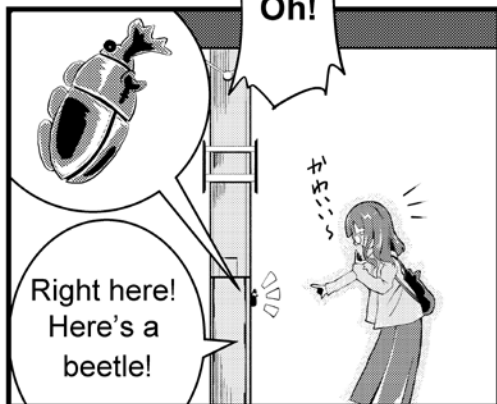
Well,
let's
start
from
there
then.



They aren't badges...
These are
little sculptures
made from
Nambu Cast Iron.

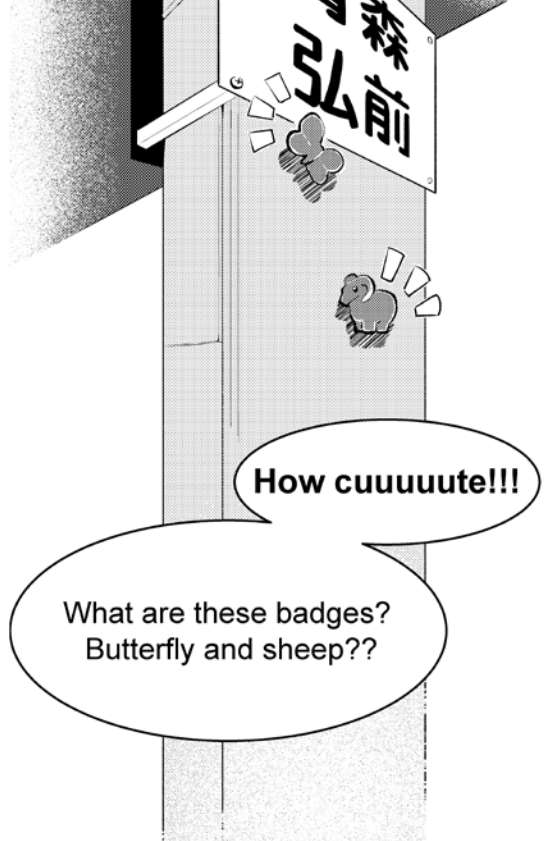
There are
more shapes
like snail
and rabbit.

Oh!



Right here!
Here's a
beetle!

せーしー



How cuuuute!!!

What are these badges?
Butterfly and sheep??

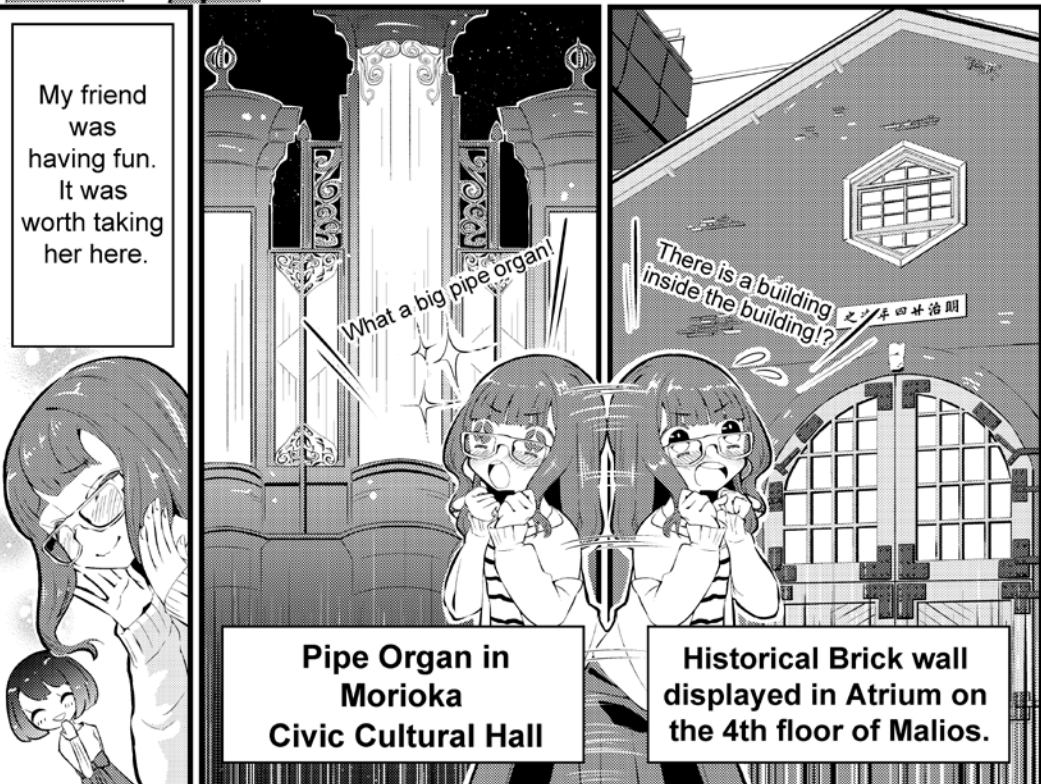
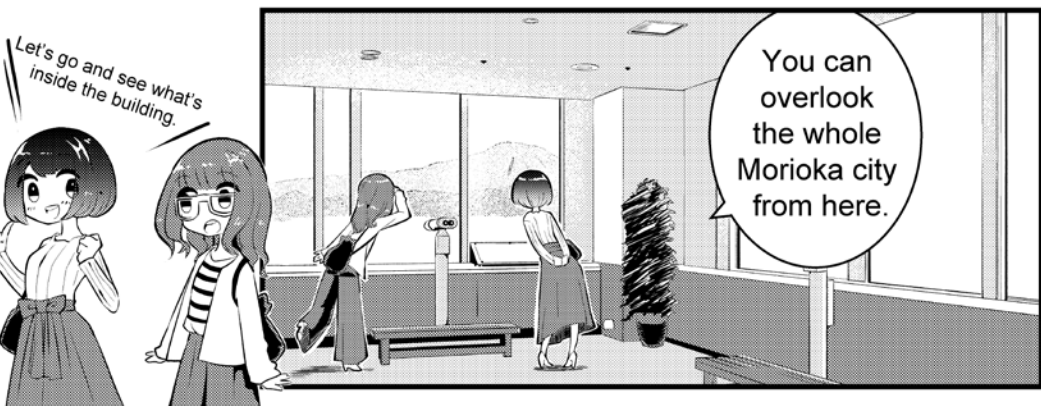


Let's go to
the observatory
in Malios!



This is
the Malios
observatory.

マリオス展望室



Coin locker in Morioka Station (1F)

Morioka's specialties and attractions are drawn on locker doors. Hard to pick which one to use. This is perfect for Instagram.

Morioka Station



There is a
bird like me
in
Zaimokucho.

Wow
really!?

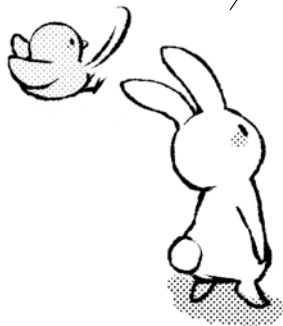
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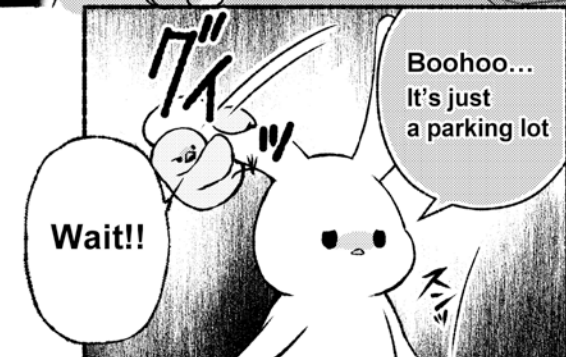
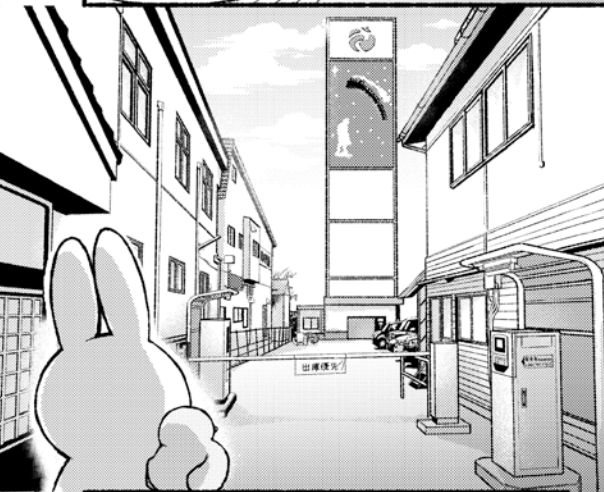
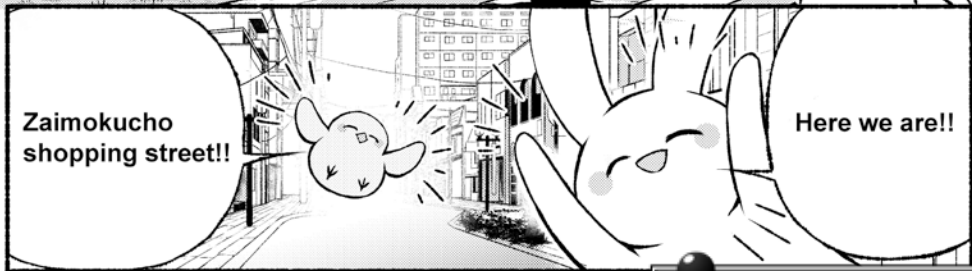
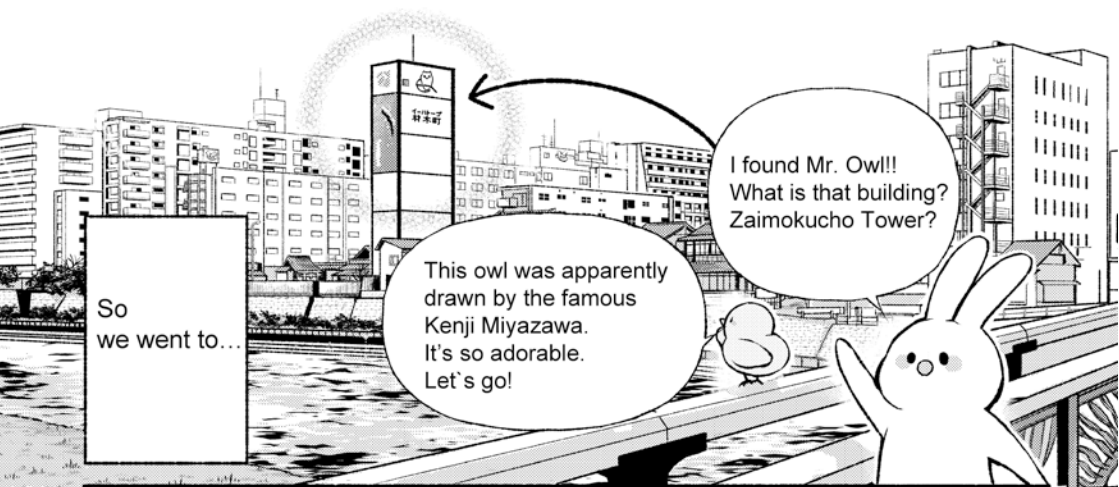


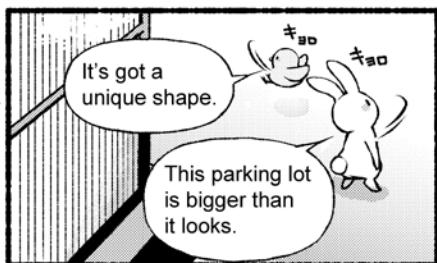
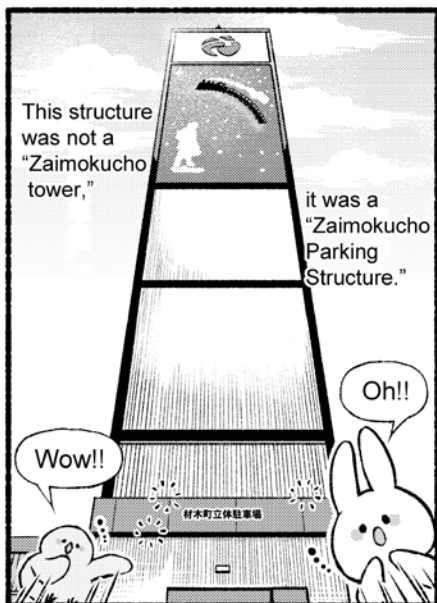
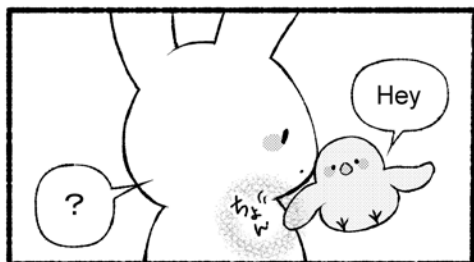
Owl tree sculpture (2F)

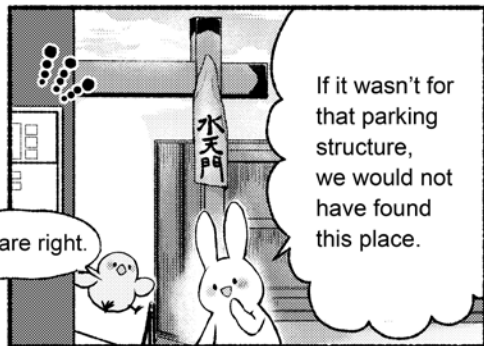
Sculpted by Kanji Suzuki (1919-1982). This sculpture fuses the image of "Morioka" and the world of Kenji Miyazawa's tale through Iwate's symbol flower, Paulownia.

*Kenji Miyazawa was a famous poet who was born in Iwate.









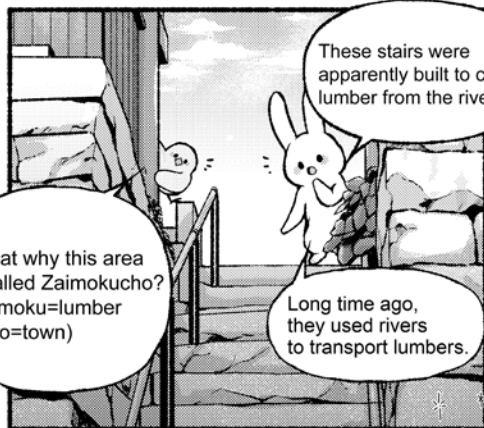
You are right.

If it wasn't for that parking structure, we would not have found this place.



Oh!

Look!
It's an introduction of this place (Japanese).



These stairs were apparently built to carry lumber from the river.

Is that why this area is called Zaimokucho? (Zaimoku=lumber ; Cho=town)

Long time ago, they used rivers to transport lumbars.



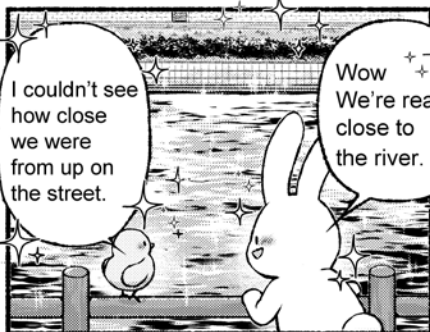
We walked down the stairs.

These stairs are a little steep.

Be careful.



Pat



I couldn't see how close we were from up on the street.

Wow
We're really close to the river.

It is like the flow of this river is teaching us history of this area.

Back then, there were many lumber dealers living in this area.

That's right!!

Let's check out Nakatsu River next. Tuuuurn the page!!

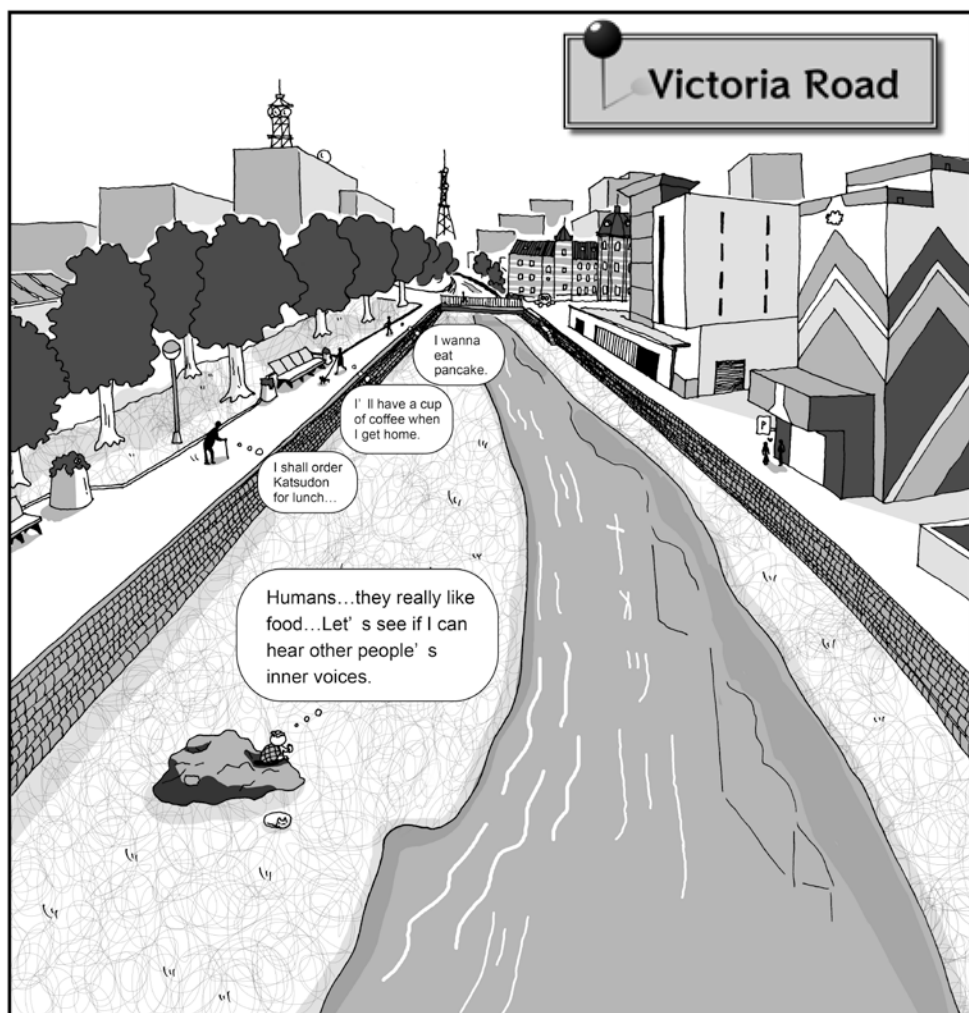
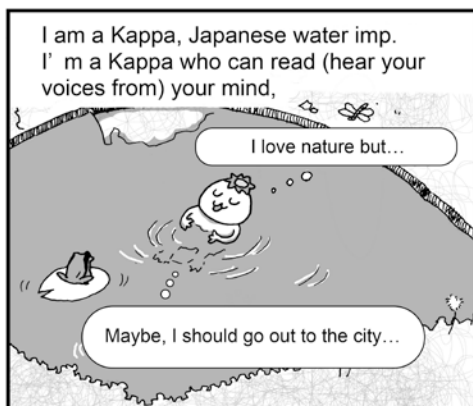
Thanks for telling me.

I see.



We unexpectedly found a nice place.

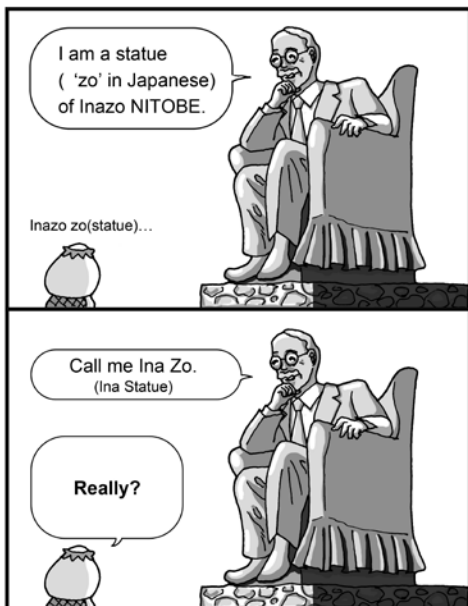
Yeh



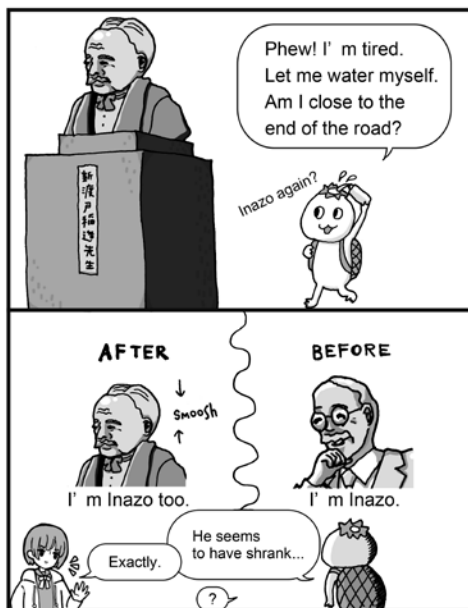
Education Memorial Statue



Inazo NITOE



Inazo NITOE again



Shozaburo SEGAWA



Nakatsu River

Feel history in architecture

Tokoshoten

Feel history in architecture of Tokoshoten.

Old tiled roof and wooden body of the building is stunning.

The diamond-shaped windows on the second floor are lovely!

Variety goods store with red roof

Himekuri shop + Space

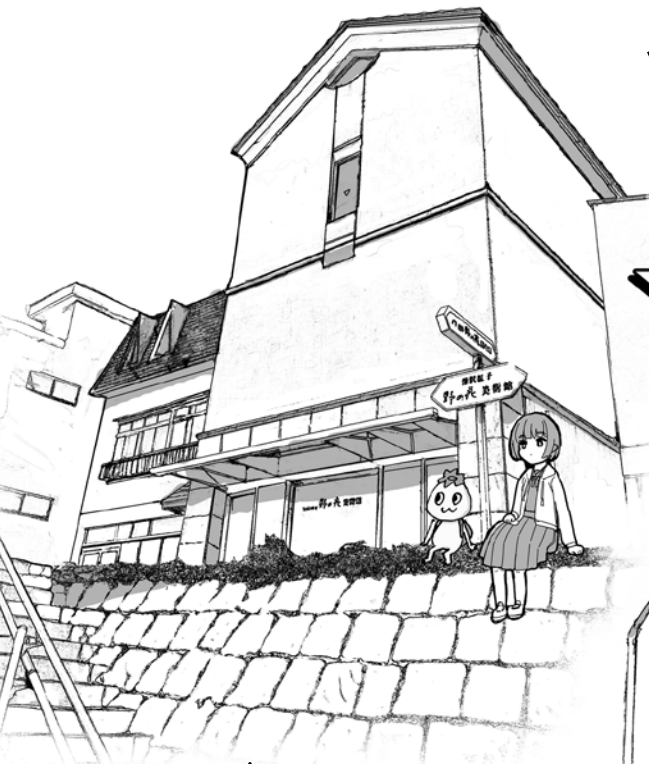
The shape of this building looks a bit like a cat. Bay windows are just like cat ears.



Just like a pop out from a picture book

Fukazawa Koko
Nonohana Art Gallery

A small art gallery by Nakatsu River. With its white wall, the design of the building was inspired from a Japanese old warehouses. Café Nonohana is on the first floor.



Hidden in a green veil

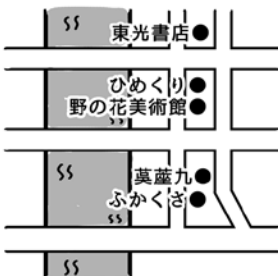
Fukakusa

A café that has retro exterior covered with ivy. Combination of street lamp and old door creates a nostalgic atmosphere.



Nakatsu River Walking Route

You will be amazed by the scene from the river bank and different views from the path way. Enjoy watching mallard ducks floating on the water.



Senbokucho



There's something retro there, yo!

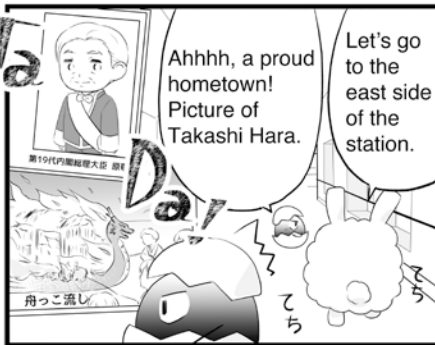


Hey Usako, Look!

Squeak?

↑ Usako

Senbokucho station is located only 1.8km away from Morioka station. The distance between stations are usually further apart. This station was built because Takashi Hara, a well esteemed man at the time, mentioned "it will be the nearest station to his parents' house."



Let's go to the east side of the station.

Ahhhh, a proud hometown! Picture of Takashi Hara.



Usako! Look! How cool is this! A burning dragon boat.

It's apparently a picture from Funakko Nagashi event.



Even the names of the roads and the structures are all handwritten!

Blush

Wow!! A handwritten map.

Usapeda



It's an event held in obon on an old lunar calendar. By the Meiji bridge going across Kitakami River.

Funakko Nagashi?



It looks like many people come to watch the fireworks after the event as well too.

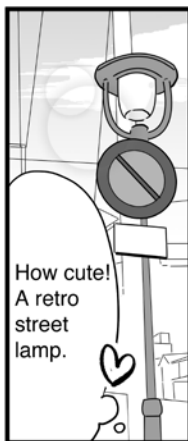
By lighting the dragon boat decorated with offerings and lanterns on fire, people used to pray for health of family and safety of the community for the year. The tradition is still kept.



Let's go in!

This was a house of finance commissioner of Nambu clan, a samurai clan who ruled this area long time ago. It's called Tokusei Soko. Now it's been kept as a preserved building by the city.

This place is not open to public so you can't go in.



How cute! A retro street lamp.



That's the bridge where the burning dragon boat flows from.

We will head to Meiji Bridge after coming out of the east side exit.



This is a sign of Kizya, a shop famous for miso. I wonder how old it is.

Ohh!



Let's go down this alley!



This is worth a picture!

Click

The roof looks just like the ones we see on historical dramas from the Meiji Bridge side!!



Crash

Newspaper



Yo! Looking into a sign made in Showa era (1926-1988) makes all the surroundings transform like it's from that period. Doesn't it?

You're just imagining things!! This isn't a fantasy story where Time travel happens.

It says Showa 63 (1988)

Newspaper

Coming up next...fashion and local items!!

fashion in Morioka

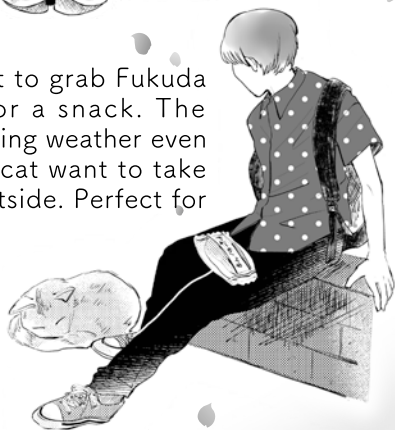


Street lamps
with bird
monuments
(Odori Arcade)



Enjoy the nice relaxing view
from the window at Montan café
in Sakurayama,

Went out to grab Fukuda
Bread for a snack. The
warm spring weather even
makes a cat want to take
a nap outside. Perfect for
a walk!

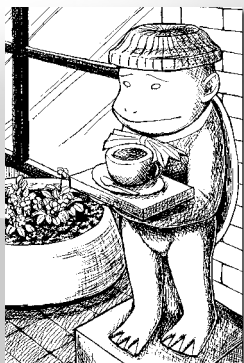


Sansa Odori Festival

The city blossoms in color
from all the yukata
people are wearing. Not
only the sansa parade
participants, but the
audience dress up in a
yukata too.



A little Kappa
(water imp)
statue welcomes
you at the entrance
of the Cinema
street.



Find iris, symbol flower of Morioka,
among the tiles lined up in the sidewalk
of Cinema Street.



CHECK!

Items and

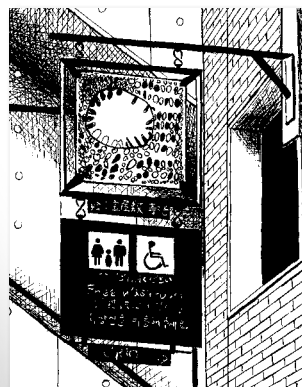


Nambu Shikon Zome Kimono

A traditional natural dyeing method passed down among Nambu clan from Kamakura era (1185-1333). As time passes, enjoy and love the color of the dye changing as it ages.

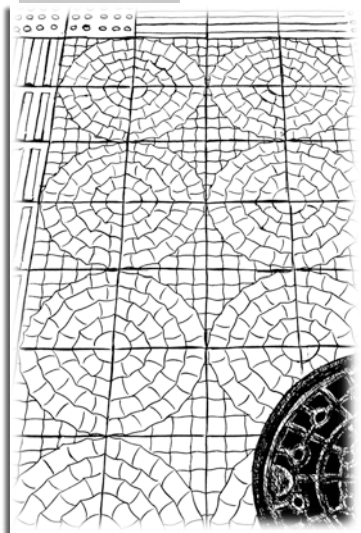
Homespun

Wool hand spinning technique brought from England in Meiji era (1868-1912). Domestically, Morioka and Hanamaki are the only cities that have industries that produce homespun textiles. The texture of the homespun is cherished by broad generations.



Lovely stained glass sign in communication space LIRIO. (Odori Arcade)

Neatly lined up tiles on the sidewalk



Go shopping on your day off...

Find your favorite local fashion items like a tote bag with よ市's (Yoichi street market) logo!

hon・ba・co 肴町 (Book Shelf Sakanacho)

Sakanacho Shopping Street



Did you know? Sakanacho shopping street has public book shelves called "hon・ba・co" which literally means "book shelf"?

This is a project to connect people through books and there are three "hon・ba・co" along the street. It's like a street library where you can pick up some books to read, rent or some to take home with you freely. Book donation is also welcome.

Your favorite book may become someone's favorite. Come to "hon・ba・co" to discover your new favorite.

Feel free to drop by to
the 2nd floor of
"Only Wonder Stadium,"
a branch of hon・ba・co.

Sakanacho
Shopping Street
Entrance



hon・ba・co 分所
sakanacho
Only Wonder Stadium



Hey,
Let's go there!

The city of book lovers.

Morioka has the highest rate of book purchase in Japan!

In 2017, according to a survey done by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Morioka had the highest number of books purchased per household in Japan. (It was ranked 11th in 2019).

In downtown Morioka, there are many places you can quietly enjoy reading books such as cafes of course but river banks or parks. Now you understand why the project like "hon・ba・co" came up. Morioka is the best city for a book lover!



Animal friendly city, Morioka.

“Sakura cat” is a specific name given to stray cats that have been castrated or neutered at the public health center. The staffs clip the tip of the ear for recognition, making their ear look like a sakura petal. They are then put back to their natural environment without having the problem of breeding new kittens.



Morioka keeps
ZERO cases
of euthanized
dogs and cats.

※except for
fatal cases.



Morioka is
kind to
animals.



Sheltered Cat Café, Morineko “Making cats and people happy”

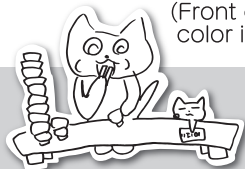
Morineko, the cat café opened to protect homeless cats and to find their new owners in January, 2014. This is a popular spot where you can spend relaxing time playing with fluffy cats. If you are a cat person, you will love this place.
(weekday: 30min ¥600- for members, 30min ¥850- for guests.)



Illustrators for this magazine:

- Yu Yamamoto(Morioka station west gate – Malios)
- Kaoruko (Zaimokucho)
- Fumi Otsuka (Victoria Road)
- Yashichi (Nakatsugawa River)
- Mikona Mikaduki(Senbokucho)
- Momonoko (Morioka Fashion)
- Mio (Morioka Items)
- Kasumiso (hon · ba · co)
- Yudoku Seki (cats and Morineko)

Yashichi
(Front cover,back cover,
color illustration)



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<http://art-project.iwatemiraikiko.com/>

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Take Free



Tanaka' s Jizo(stone statue)
watches over the city.

This jizo quietly stands in a residential area.

The roundish form of the statue and a rice ball? in his hand gives off a lovable vibe. (at Honchodori)