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SAMURAI  
CHAMPLOO

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When rumors of a mysterious figure with a vendetta against samurais start to spread, Mugen and Jin volunteer to take care of the killer before the body count rises any further. But after a grueling, explosive battle, they discover that the samurai killer is on a mission of his own—to collect the swords of a thousand defeated warriors! Could this vicious swordsman be the link to the elusive Sunflower Samurai?

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ON THE HIT  
ANIME!**

**100%  
AUTHENTIC  
MANGA**





# SAMURAI CHAMPLOO

ORIGINAL: manglobe

MANGA: Masaru Gotsubo

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**Samurai Champloo Vol. 2**  
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A  TOKYOPOP Manga

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ISSN 1-5816-215-2

First TOKYOPOP printing: March 2005

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in Canada



**SAMURAI  
CHAMPLOO  
VOL. 2**

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 **TOKYUPOP**

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO



# SAMURAI CRAMPLOO

## The story so far...

They may be in the same crew, but don't call Mugen, Jin and Fuu friends. One is a samurai, one's a waitress and one is about two steps away from spending his life in a jail cell. They're partners out of necessity and on the run from the law. The three are searching for a badass samurai who smells like sunflowers, but they don't look like they're searching very hard. Instead, they seem more interested in schooling just about anything with a sword—ninjas, samurai, yagyu, magistrates, even a prince. They always seem to be hungry, broke and on the run and are just as good at finding trouble as it is at finding them. Together, they've been carving their way across feudal Japan with a bass-heavy beat as a soundtrack, a sword as a problem-solver and enough attitude to drop a man.

## **MUGEN**

*A rough-around-the-edges mercenary with a killer technique and getting left to lose. Mugen has mastered a "clumpie" (mixed) style of fighting. He's unrefined, arrogant and lives like there's no tomorrow.*



## **JIN**

*A disciplined samurai who's as deadly as he is reserved. He is a skilled warrior—a master of his craft. So while strong and powerful, he also lacks a reason to fight...and a side to fight on.*

## **FUJI**

*A young waitress with a mysterious past and a strange obsession with a sunflower-scented samurai. While not without her shortcomings, Fuji has a good heart and a resourcefulness that emerges when you least expect it.*





**CHAPTER 6**

From the  
North  
Part One

007

**CHAPTER 7**

From the  
North?  
Part Two  
(From Rescue  
with Love)

039

**CHAPTER 8**

Continued

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**WORLD  
VETERANS  
CENTER**



chapter 6



ONLY  
ONE  
MORE...

...TO  
GO.



chapter 6

From the North?  
Part One

\*Sango = dumplings



WHICH NEEDS TO BE SPLIT BETWEEN US.

THE LAST OF OUR MONEY SPENT ON ONE STICK OF DANGO!



ONE STICK.



YOU GUYS HERE TO SLAY THE OSRE, TOOP?

SO THAT MEANS LADDS' FR--



IT'S SAID TO GUARD IT.

THERE'S A BRIDGE DOWN THE SOUTH PATH.



YOU'VE HEARD TELL OF OUR LITTLE MESSIAH, HAVEN'T YOU?

AM I HONEST?

WHAT'S THAT?

ITP



YOU WANT ME TO TAKE CARE OF IT?

MUGENZ?

ONLY FIVE CUSTOMERS AND TWO STORES OF DARGO SOLD.

BY THE WAY...

OLD MAN!

HEY, OLD MAN!

LISTEN TO ME, MUGENZ!

QUIT STICKING YOUR NOSE INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S--

I'LL HELP RESCUE YOUR BUSINESS.

...GIVE ME SOMETHING TO EAT NOW... PLEASE.

AND IN RETURN YOU CAN...

LEAVE THEM ALONE. THEY'RE ALL TALK.

NO--

BUT--







BROTHER...

LOOKS LIKE  
THEY'RE  
PRETTY  
SERIOUS.



...SOME-  
THING  
IS OUT  
THERE.



THE SUN'S  
ALREADY  
SETTING.

WHY DO  
WE KEEP  
DOING  
THINGS  
THE HARD  
WAY?

EVEN  
ONE  
SHOULD  
HAVE  
SAID  
STOP,  
BUT  
HE  
HAS  
TO  
RUN  
IT.



LET'S  
GO.

...IN THAT  
CASE, THEY  
MAY PROVE  
USEFUL.

ALL  
RIGHT.





YOU THE  
OSPREY?

NO.

THE  
MONSTER?

WHAT  
WAS  
THAT?  
SWORD?

IS HE  
SPEAKING  
KANJI-  
KANJI?

YOU MAY  
AS WELL  
LEAVE IT  
HERE.

THAT  
SWORD...

NOBBY,  
BUT  
IT'S A  
STONY  
BASTARD



...YOU TARGET SAMURAI FOR THEIR SWORDS?

I SEE... COULD IT BE THAT...

HEY, JIN?

DUH!

I'M ALREADY GATHERED 999 OF THEM!

ARE HIS EYES... BLUE?

SA-SAMURAI CHAMP?!

...A SAMURAI CHAMP!!

ONE MORE MAKES 1,000, AND THAT WILL MAKE ME...

UH... WHAT'S THAT?



DUDE, IT'S  
LOOL, COMMON  
KNOOW-  
LEDGES!

DE THAT  
WANT  
STEALING A  
THOUSAND  
BRIDGE  
SETS  
YOUR



SAMURAI  
CHAMPION!  
IT MEANS  
I'LL BE THE  
STRONGEST  
SAMURAI!!

What's wrong  
dude?

YOU  
LOOL

WHAT  
DO  
YOU  
MEAN?



I AM AN  
EXTREMELY  
JAPANESE  
PERSON!

NOT!!

WHAT?!

NO SUCH  
RULE  
EXISTS.

WHERE  
ARE YOU  
FROM?

YOU'RE NOT  
JAPANESE,  
ARE YOU?



...AND  
STILL  
BE IN  
JAPAN!

AROUND?



...NORTH...  
THE, UM...  
AREA  
AROUND  
EDO...?

UM...  
ERR... I'M  
FROM  
THE...



TEK

YOU  
WANT  
MONEY?



DO YOU  
THINK I  
COULD  
GET YOU  
TO DIE  
FOR ME?

HEY,  
BLOOD!



THEN YOU  
STAY OUT  
OF THIS!



... BUT  
I'LL  
HAVE  
YOUR  
SWORD!!

I DON'T  
KNOW  
WHAT  
YOU'RE  
SAYING...



THEY'RE  
UNABLE  
TO DO  
MUCH.

CALM  
DOWN.

B-BROTHER,  
THEY'VE  
STARTED.

... I'M  
HOPEING  
THAT  
THEY  
WILL  
HUR UP  
A  
LITTLE  
BIT.

IN  
FACT...



COME  
AND  
GET  
IT!!

THAT'S  
MY LINE,  
FOOL!



HE'S STRONG.

WHAT?

YEAH, BUT BROTHER...

...THAT GUY...



BROTHER, COULD IT BE THAT?

WHO THE HELL IS THAT?!



TAKE THAT!



...THE OTHER GUY IS STRONG, TOO?



WE'RE THE ONES THAT NEED TO KILL HIM.

I CAN'T LET THEM CONTINUE.



AT THIS RATE, THEY MAY BRING US TO HIM.

THIS IS NOT GOOD.

I SHOULDN'T ANTICIPATE THEIR SURRENDER.



That's the way to die.

JIRO...



SHOULD ANYONE BE GOING TO DO SOMETHING?



IT'S JUST SO I CAN GET A ONE-ON-ONE FIGHT.

WE'LL PUT THOSE OUTSIDERS WHERE THEY BELONGS: OUT.

TH-THAT'S SOMETHING ONLY A DEVIL WOULD DO!







YES.  
I KNOW.



HE'S AN IDIOT, BUT QUITE SKILLED.

ISN'T HE ABOUT TO BECOME THE SAWURAI CHAMP?

HE'S HOLDING HIS OWN AGAINST MUSEN!



IS IT ANOTHER MUSEN FIGHT?

I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET MUSEN FIGHT HIM.



WHO IS THAT GAJIN?!

YOU KNOW THERE'S NO SUCH THING!

\*Gaijin = derogatory term for a foreigner

YOU CALL THAT A NEIGHBOUR?

I TOLD YOU TO BE CAREFUL.

-PA, YOU-

THE GUYS FROM THE TEAHOUSE ARE HIDING AROUND HERE.

OH, I FORGOT TO TELL YOU.

DON'T WORRY!

SO YOU SHOULD BE CARE-



?!

STOP RIGHT THERE!!





...YOU'LL  
STEP  
ASIDE.

...IF YOU  
VALUE  
THIS  
GIRL'S  
LIFE...



YEAH, I'M  
TALKING  
TO YOU  
TWO.



SOBRY,  
BUT...



I NEED  
TO GET  
THAT  
GUY  
TO  
GET  
TO  
THE  
COURT

WHO  
THE  
HELL  
ARE  
YOU?

UH...

ARE  
YOU  
MONITORING  
ME?

THAT'S  
MY  
LINE!!

Aa  
Hh  
Eee  
!!



THAT  
GUY...

IF YOU  
STAY CALM,  
THERE'LL  
BE NO  
TROUBLE.



...IS  
OUR  
PREY!



I JUST HAD SOMETHING IN MY EYE!!

YOU'RE ICHIRO AND JIRO—THE BROTHERS WHO SAID NONE DYING WHEN I TOOK YOUR SWORDS!

IT'S AN HONOR THAT YOU REMEMBER ME.

HEH...

I'LL TAKE YOU ON ANYTIME YOU WANT A REMATCH...

WELL?

GOOD BABY?

YOU GOOD?

NO

YOU REALLY GOOD?

SHUT UP!

Y-YOU WERE GETTING BEAT UP BY PEOPLE OTHER THAN US.

IN THIS IS

HAVE YOU NO SHAME?

...BUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING TAKING A WOMAN AS A HOSTAGE?



NOISE!  
NOISE!  
I'M  
GOING  
TO BE  
THE  
SAMURAI  
CHAMP.



JUST  
GO  
OF THAT  
GIRL.



A  
SAMURAI  
IS  
COOL,  
CALM,  
ALOOF  
AND  
PRIDE-  
FUL!



A  
SAMURAI  
IS  
COOL,  
CALM,  
ALOOF  
AND  
PRIDE-  
FUL!

BECAUSE OF YOU, MY CHANCES OF BECOMING AN OFFICIAL WENT KEEFLUNK!

QUIT YOUR PREACHING!

D  
A  
A  
A  
A  
A  
H  
!!

HE'S CRYING?  
IT

AREN'T YOU SHED WEEPLUNK?

AND AT THAT CRUCIAL TIME...

I THOUGHT I HAD FINALLY FOUND A WAY I COULD BECOME AN OFFICIAL...

WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN A POOR SAMURAI FAMILY.

...I BECAME A VICTIM OF YOUR SWORD HUNTS!

NOW WE'VE GOTTA GET THROUGH HIS LIFE STONCH!

...HE  
STRIPPED  
OF HIS  
SWORD AND  
HIS MAGE...

WHEN A  
POOR  
SARUDA  
WHO CAN'T  
EVEN  
AFFORD  
A NEW  
SWORD...



\* Interview: John Warren, When a samurai is no longer a samurai, his "mage" hairstyle is undone by cutting off the topbit.

IS THAT  
WHAT  
YOU'RE  
SO UPSET  
ABOUT?

?

WHEN I HAD  
FINALLY BEEN  
GIVEN A CHANCE  
TO PULL MY  
FAMILY OUT OF  
POVERTY...

THAT'S  
PITIFUL.

I am getting angry  
but there are still  
many like me

THAT'S  
BECAUSE?

POVERTY ISN'T A  
PROBLEM FOR A  
DEAL. SARUDA HE  
CONSIDERS HIMSELF  
ONLY WITH TRAINING,  
NOT RICHES OR  
PLEASURES.

WHO THE  
HELL IS  
THIS GUY'S  
RAGE??

He is  
telling that  
thing about  
swords

MY MASTER  
ALMOST  
DIED IN THE  
STREETS FROM  
EMACIATION.

HOW  
PITIFUL??

BUT HE  
WOULD  
SIMPLY  
TELL ME,  
"SARUDA  
ARE FULL OF  
POOR—THEY  
NEEDN'T  
BE FULL OF  
FOOD."



BECAUSE  
OF THAT...  
I COULDN'T  
SAVE HER.

...I  
COULDN'T  
CALL THE  
DOCTOR.

BECAUSE  
OF THAT...

...I  
COULDN'T  
BUY  
MEDICINE.

BECAUSE  
OF THAT...

SO...

...DIED.

OUR  
MOTHER...

LISTEN TO  
YOU! IS  
WASTING YOUR  
SPECIALTY ON  
SOMEONE ELSE?

WWW.



I VOWED  
THAT I  
WOULD  
NOT BE  
DEFEATED.

I...  
HAVE TO  
BECOME  
THE  
SAMURAI  
CHAMP.  
NO  
MATTER  
WHAT.

I SEE.  
I DON'T  
BLAME  
YOU FOR  
HATING  
ME...

...BUT  
I CAN'T  
APOLO-  
GIZE.

















# SAMURAI CHAMPOO

SHOGAKU  
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Created by:  
**manglobe**  
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**Masaru Gotsubo**

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CHAMPLOO

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...YOU'LL  
BE THE  
SAMURAI  
CHAMP!

YOU  
WON'T BE A  
SAMURAI...

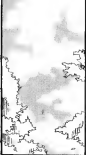
IS IT  
POSSIBLE,  
MARTIN?

MARTIN?











THANK GOD. I'M NOT SURE WHAT I'D HAVE DONE IF YOU'D DIED.

OH, YOU'RE AWAKE.



POW!









THANK YOU!  
GOOD-BYE!

HOLD UP!



IT'S YOU!

AAH!

UMM...  
C-CAN YOU PLEASE  
...



HUH?

WHAT'S YOUR HURRY?  
SIT DOWN  
AND HAVE A  
DRINK.



...WITH  
ALL THE  
SWORDS?

WHAT'S  
THE  
DEAL...



A PROMISE TO WEAPON?

IT'S A PROMISE.

AH...



I'M TRYING TO BECOME A SAMURAI CHAMP!

I TOLD YOU!

最強  
STRONGEST!



I WAS ALWAYS PICKED ON! I WAS A SAD WEAKLING, ALWAYS CRYING.

MY FATHERS BIRD WIFE I WAS FIGHTING SO I LIVED WITH MY GRANDFATHER.

BUT WHY? WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE A CHAMP?



AH!

YEAH

I SAID "FROM JAPAN!"

AND THE SAMURAI IS YOUR MOTHER?



LET ME TELL YOU A SECRET. I'M NOT JAPANESE.

I'M ACTUALLY...



THAT WAS A TURNING POINT IN MY LIFE.

...I MET A SAMURAI WHO HAD COME FROM JAPAN

BUT ONE DAY...

?!?

...I  
DIDN'T  
KNOW!!

L...

...RUS-  
SIAN.

フッガッ!!

I GREW  
MORE  
AWARED OF  
MYSELF WITH  
EACH BAD  
LOOK...AND  
SO I BECAME  
MY MASTER'S  
APPRENTICE.

WHEN I'D  
COME HOME  
CRYING, SHE  
WOULD LOOK  
AT ME SO  
SADLY.

MY GRAND-  
MOTHER  
WAS SUCH  
A NICE  
PERSON.

AND HE  
USED  
HAKKO-  
KUKEN\*  
?!

MY MASTER  
WAS  
SOMETHING  
ELSE. I  
ONCE SAW  
HIM WRESTLE  
A BEAR OVER  
A SALMON--  
AND HE WON!  
WITH HIS  
BARE HANDS!

\*A style of martial arts.

...ONLY TO FIND THAT MY GRANDMOTHER HAD PASSED AWAY.

THE FIRST TIME I SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED MYSELF AGAINST THE BULLIES WHO HAD TORMENTED ME, I WENT HOME PROUD...

UNDER HIS TUTELAGE, I BECAME STRONG VERY QUICKLY.

SO MY GRANDMA COULD SEE ME AND BE PROUD OF ME FROM HEAVEN!

THAT'S WHY I'M TRYING TO BECOME A SAMURAI CHAMP...

...I WASN'T ABLE TO SHOW HER HOW STRONG I HAD BECOME.

IN THE END

HE MAY BE CRAZY, BUT HIS INTENTIONS ARE GOOD.

ONE WHICH I DARE NOT BREAK.

THIS IS A PROMISE I MADE TO MYSELF.

BUT...



I WONDER HOW MUCH OF ALL THIS THE BASTARD ACTUALLY BELIEVED.

IF HE HADN'T TOLD HIM THAT HONOURING APOLO GALILEO CAUSES AND COLLECTS SWORDS, THOSE BROTHERS WOULDN'T HAVE...  
DAMN.

IT'S NOT THAT SADO.

ALL HE IS IS THE BROTHER OF SADO.



I REALLY DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HIM.

HE'S THE BROTHER OF SADO.

...WHO IS THE BASTARD OF YOURS?



...TWO... PERSONALLY, I THINK A LOT OF HIM...  
SADO?

HE DID SAY SOMETHING ABOUT GETTING OUT OF SADO...



SOUNDS LIKE YOU NEED NEW BODY-GUARDS.

THEY SHOULD BE LOOKING FOR ME!

JEEZ, WHY DO I HAVE TO GO LOOKING FOR MY OWN BODY-GUARDS?

HUH?



I WONDER IF THOSE TWO ARE STILL ALIVE.



... YOU'RE ALIVE?

YEAH.

?!?

SORRY.

MAYBE I OUGHT TO GO LOOK FOR THEM.



HEY,  
CHAMP!  
COME ON  
OUT, YOU  
BASTARD!!



WHY IS  
THIS SO  
SURPRISING  
TO EVERYONE?

YOU'RE  
ALIVE?

OH...  
IT'S  
YOU,  
SCHRO.



YOU'RE  
DISTURBING  
THE  
NEIGHBORHOOD!

WHO'S  
MAKING  
ALL THAT  
NOISE?



I  
HEARD  
EVERY-  
THING.

YOU  
HAVE NO  
RIGHT TO  
LECTURE  
ME ON THE  
WAYS OF A  
SARUJAN!

YOU CALL  
YOURSELF  
A  
SARUJAN?  
YOU'VE  
LEARNED  
NOTHING!



WHY ARE  
YOU  
HOLDING  
HER  
HOSTAGE  
AGAIN?

*And after that  
intimidating  
posture*



I SUSPECT  
SO MUCH  
MUCH.



EVERYONE  
SUSPECTED  
AS MUCH!

THE ONLY ONE  
WHO WASN'T  
SUSPECTED



YOU'RE  
NOT  
EVEN  
JAPANESE!



...AND  
NOW I FIND  
OUT HE'S  
NOT EVEN  
JAPANESE!

HERE SOME  
STRANGER  
RUINED  
MY ENTIRE  
LIFE...



BEING A  
KANBANJIN<sup>1</sup>  
IN THIS  
COUNTRY  
IS A  
CRIME!

I'LL  
PUNISH  
YOU  
FOR  
ALL THE  
HEAVENS  
TO SEE.



I'LL  
KILL  
HER!  
I MEAN  
IT!

DON'T  
MOVE,  
YOU  
IMPOSTER!

<sup>1</sup>Kanbanjin = Foreigner. Specifically in this era, it referred to island people from Holland.



ISN'T THAT A BIT MUCH?



...IS HIS OWN BUSINESS!

WHEREVER BLONDIE CHOOSES TO LIVE...



WAIT TELL I MOVE AWAY, AT LEAST!



ARE YOU SIDING WITH THE FOREIGNERS?

HEY, HIDEEN ...

WAIT!



IF ANYONE SHOULD BE DEPORTED...

...IT'S WIMPS AND COWARDS LIKE YOU.

I'M NOT FROM JAPAN EITHER!



YOU'RE INTERESTING. I'LL GIVE YOU THAT!

WAAA



LET'S SETTLE YESTERDAY'S MATCH!

COME ON, HIDEEN

...IS  
STRAIGHT-  
FORWARD  
IN HIS  
SPIRIT AND  
HIS PATH  
IN LIFE.

A DEAL  
SARUHA

YOU  
REMINDE  
ME OF MY  
MASTER!

...WHERE  
YOU'RE  
BORN!

IT  
DOESN'T  
MATTER...

THE...

YOUR  
MASTER  
SOUNDS  
LIKE A  
ROCKIN'  
GUY.



...WILL  
BE  
FROM  
MY  
SWORD!!

...LAST  
SWING...



THIS  
GUY  
IS...

!!





IN A PLACE LIKE THIS ?!

I'M GOING TO DIE?!



OH NO...

HUHU!



I'M GOING TO DIE.



WATCH ME...



...I WILL...

...I FORGIVE...



I SWEAR...









OH!!

...THE SHOGUN?

THE STRONG-EST  
SAMURAI WOULD BE ...

MR. JAPANESE  
SHOGUN!

YEAH I  
GUESS

IS THAT  
THE NAME OF  
THE SHOGUN?

HOW WOULD  
I KNOW?

IS IT  
YOU?

YOU KNOW  
WHAT THEY  
SAID-IF  
YOU'RE IN  
A HURRY,  
TAKE THE  
LONG,  
HARD  
ROAD!

RIGHT  
NOW?

SPASIBA!  
I GUESS  
I'LL BE  
OFF, THEN.

COME  
TO  
THINK  
OF IT, THAT  
MAKES  
SENSE!

OHAY, THAT  
WAS  
ABSOLUTELY  
NO SENSE!

++  
++  
++

WHO  
CARES?

WHAT  
THE  
HELL  
WAS  
THAT?

AND  
WAY  
...

HE'S  
BEEN  
DUPED  
AWAY!

I'M OFF  
TO THE  
CAPITAL  
CITY I'M  
OFF TO  
OSAKA!



...YOU'LL DIE WITHOUT EVEN ACCOMPLISHING ANYTHING.

IF YOU STAY WEAK...



HE DOES AS HE PLEASES.

...IN THE REAL WORLD, THE STRONGEST HAS ABSOLUTE POWER.



MAYBE HE DRIFTED ALL THE WAY OUT TO THE OCEAN.

DON'T KNOW.

WHAT HAPPENED TO JIN?

HLH?



ALL THE DRIFTERS WHO  
WERE HELD TO  
LOOSE BY GIG  
HE WAS SORT  
OF A FIGHT AND  
MAYBE THAT  
KNOW WHAT  
TO STAY ALL  
THE WAY OUT  
TO SEA

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



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SAMURAI  
CHAMPLOO

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YOU CAN  
SEARCH  
ALL OVER  
THE WORLD  
AND YOU'LL  
NEVER  
FIND YOUR  
PHANTOM  
SAMURAI!

HMPH.

*Time*

ARE  
YOU  
MORNING?  
IT





I CAN UNDERSTAND HER WANTING TO BELIEVE IN THOSE FORTUNES.

AN ENCOUNTER WITH FLUNKO\* THAT WOULD BE WONDERFUL IN WAY TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION.

THE PROBLEM IS THAT WE HAVE NO LEADS AND NO CLUES TO FOLLOW.



WELL, YOU TALKING ABOUT A WONDERFUL ENCOUNTER?



HUH?

HOW THE HELL ARE WE SUPPOSED TO FIND HIM WITH THAT?

THE SMELL OF SUNFLOWERS?



HEY!



WHAT'S WRONG?





YOUR  
TIME  
IS  
UP!!

GLIDER-  
DEE!

TAKE A  
NUMBER.

WAMP?

WE  
FOUND  
YOU,  
YOU  
DEVIL!!

PREPARE  
YOURSELF  
!!!

AAH!!

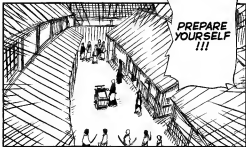
WHA...



WE FOUND YOU!  
PREPARE YOURSELF !!

NOW THAT THAT'S OUT OF THE WAY, WOULD YOU MIND--?





PREPARE  
YOURSELF  
!!!









WHAT?

THE SAMURAI  
THAT SMELLS  
OF SUN-  
FLOWERS.



NO TIME  
FOR  
THAT  
NOW!

UH...  
BYE!

YOU SHOULD  
HAVE  
PREDICTED  
THIS!



CALM  
DOWN,  
RUSSEN'S  
CHASING  
HIM!

WH-  
WHERE  
?!



WHOSE  
DID  
THEY  
BOY?

THEY  
KILLED  
HIM.





...THAN  
A LUCKY  
DAY.



FEELS  
MORE  
LIKE AN  
UNLUCKY  
DAY...

I DON'T  
KNOW  
WHO YOU  
ARE, BUT  
THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
HELP.



I'M BEING  
CHASED  
BECAUSE  
OF MY  
FATHER.

IT'S  
NOT  
ME.



...AREN'T  
HERE TO  
KILL US,  
RIGHT?

YOU.



EVEN I  
DON'T  
GET  
CHASED  
THIS  
MUCH.

NEVER  
HEARD  
THAT.  
WHAT  
DID YOU  
DO?

I'VE BEEN  
TAKING  
THEM ON  
SO MY  
FATHER  
DOESN'T  
HAVE TO.

THOSE MEN  
ARE THE  
FRIENDS  
AND FAMILY  
OF THE  
PEOPLE  
HE'S  
KILLED.  
THEY'RE  
HERE FOR  
REVENGE.

MY  
FATHER  
IS A  
SHIKAKU.

IT'S AN  
ASSASSIN.

SHI-  
KAKU?

NO,  
HE'S  
STILL  
ALIVE,  
BUT...

IS HE  
DEAD?

IT'S A  
PRETTY  
CRAPPY  
INHERI-  
TANCE.

THIS  
OLD  
GUY?!

THIS  
IS MY  
FATHER.

IF HE'S  
HERE,  
THEN  
LET HIM  
TAKE  
CARE OF  
THEM!

?

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

ALL THE BETTER. IF YOU DUMP HIM, HE WON'T EVEN REALIZE IT WAS YOU.

...HE'S SENSEL.



\*Sat-chan is a character from the manga "The Street" who works as a restaurant waiter.

AND ASSASSINS ARE SAINTS?

...CALL YOURSELF HUMAN?!

y-  
YOU...

I CAN'T JUST ABANDON HIM!

...AND HE RAGED HE SINGLE-HANDILY WHILE WORKING AS AN ASSASSIN.

I WAS STILL A BABY WHEN MY MOTHER DIED...





...BUT TODAY...





YOU USUALLY  
COMMAND  
YOUR MEN  
FROM A  
DISTANCE...

HOW DARE  
OF YOU  
TO COME  
OUT  
TO THE  
FRONT  
LINES.



YOU  
KNOW  
HERE?

A  
GIRL?



SHE'S THE  
DAUGHTER  
OF A  
CONSPIRIT  
BUSINESSMAN  
MY FATHER  
WAS FORCED  
TO KILL.



...WILL YOU  
PLEASE  
HAND  
OVER THE  
OLD MAN?

SO...



DO YOU  
HATE  
US THAT  
MUCH?



...I  
THOUGHT  
I'D GET  
BACK TO  
MY BOOTS  
AND  
AVENGE  
MY FATHER  
MYSELF.

MY MEN  
HAVE ALL  
FALLEN  
MR.  
SO...



SO  
I'LL  
KILL  
YOU  
BOTH!

...I'D  
FEEL  
SORRY  
IF I  
TOOK  
YOUR  
FATHER  
FROM  
YOU.

WHAT'S  
WITH YOU?  
YOU WANNA  
DIE, TOOP?

YOUR

...IF YOU  
INSIST ON  
KILLING  
HIM,  
YOU'RE  
GONNA  
HAVE TO  
FIGHT ME  
FIRST!

IT'S A  
HASSLE,  
BUT...

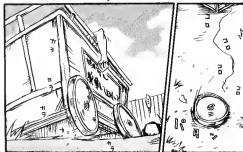
I CAN'T  
LET  
HIM DIE  
UNTIL  
THEY  
MEET.

I DON'T  
KNOW  
WHO'S  
TO BLAME  
HERE, BUT  
THERE'S  
SOMEONE  
LOOKING  
FOR HIM.





BANG!





PIECE OF CAKE.

WELL DONE, GIRL.

YOU BROKE THE CARRIAGE.



AT THAT DISTANCE...

AT A MOVING TARGET...

...TO HIT THE AXLE DEAD ON!



...THAT PERSON'S LIKELY TO SEE A WHOLE OTHER SIDE OF ME. I WON'T HOLD BACK BECAUSE YOU'RE A GIRL.

... I'M A MESSY...  
... BUT...

STOP!



...CARRIED BY MY FATHER FOR A LONG TIME.



... BUT IF SOMEONE HOLDS A WEAPON ON ME...

... BELIEVE IN LIME AND LET LIME. I DON'T BOTHER ANYONE UNLESS THEY BOTHER ME...















MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH  
MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH  
MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH

MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH



IF YOU LET YOUR GUARD DOWN, HE'LL KILL YOU!

HOPE QUALITY!

ガビーン

YOU MEAN WE'VE BEEN SMELLING SUN-FLOWER SEEDS ?!

REALLY ?!



HEY...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ABOUT?

THAT

NOTHING! WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING!



WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?

LET'S

I WOULD WOULD OFF A CLIFF FOR A DARK MIGHTY!



SHUT UP!!

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES.

WAGYU!

By will 17

CONTINUED IN  
VOLUME 3!!!

...maybe.

# SAMURAI CHAMPLOO

## STAFF:

MAN MANGA MASAMI GOTSUHO  
HELPER PEEPS KAO MIKI  
UNZAKIMAN CHIKUMU

OTHER FOLKS AROUND THE SHACK  
FACILITIES SUSHI  
WORKER DENRY  
ARM TAVERN DIZZY  
MANAGER YODONE  
ACCOUNTING H

## This stuff is filler, but we call it BONUS MATERIAL

### Mr. Kim aka the Sunglass-Wearing Magistrate

A player and an official. There's no other way to put it. Being-wise, I'm very pleased with him. If I were working on an original manga, he would be a regular. He could be a strong fighter, but he's lazy and won't fight. In other words, the fell's out of practice and if he did try to fight, he'd be trashed.

This is Mr. Kim's double



But when it's a direct target

### Nakki

A casual assassin who got into the line of a selfish sense of duty. Her specialties include punches and unexpected attacks. Both her mom and dad are killers as well, but the three of them don't know about each other... Oh, who really cares?

The collector I got like the most look like someone in sort of like back matter who he was with the Ninjas I sort of

### Ninja Troop & Lord

I had the most fun drawing the ninja troop but, as usual, I feel like I could have done a little something more if I had more time. And that's a shame because if it is my own fault! My editor told me to do more of the three main characters in Chapter 4, but I never pay attention to him.

But still like? How the hell is it

CLASH





## Haru-san & Mama

Haru-san's face was kept simple and easy to draw due to time restrictions. And for the record, Mama is NOT her Mama. The head curls were set in about three seconds but don't ask me for details about her eye and ear. This was a 1988 chapter to get through. I'm not talking about what made it so tough, though. I don't want to remember.



## Russian (Age 17)

The thing isn't to make her look like a woman. That is he doesn't have a nose because I forgot to put her nose. Oh well. Why the hell now to worry about that. The guy was supposed to be a fat 7 and weigh about 210, but it slipped my mind, and what? They I know I had drawn her earlier than Mama. I had to use reference for her drawing, which was hard to read. It's terrible. Just her hair to draw.



## Glasses

Last word with parent. The next name is Kichikawa. You'll know his feet were. His mouth is always a little open. The hole is the part that can break up as you well-measured and then very little emotional range. He looks passive, but that there cold they had no problem taking out trash and bottles. He had the exact face to draw.

獣



SAMURAI  
CHAMPLOO

[manga-clubbook@fnet2.ne.jp](mailto:manga-clubbook@fnet2.ne.jp)

<http://www.manga-clubbook.org>

IN A WAY,  
IT'S A  
COLLABORATION.

Starting on  
the Pip we built a  
false version of Chapter  
that was written and drawn by  
MAGORIUM! Goshoku. Now, I can't tell  
you who this Mawrygo falls really is, but  
Mawrygo's brother Ego Goshoku (the  
creator of the cast and characters  
classis manga Goshoku?)

THE  
ANNOUNCE-  
MENT!!

THIS IS A  
FORMER YOU  
READ??

OH  
ATTEN-  
TION!

UNFH!

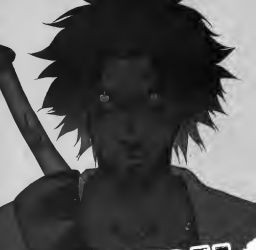
YOU  
DROH!

OH  
GOSHOKU!

THAT'S  
ONE  
WAY OF  
PUTTING  
IT

ANYWAY,  
ENJOY THE  
BONUS  
CHAPTERS!

BOOBY



# SAMURAI CHAMPLUU

Bogus Volume

Err, wo mean BONUS—Bonus Volume

ORIGINAL: manglobe

MANGA: Masaryu Gotsubo

**CHAPTER 9**

*Rebels*

105

**CHAPTER 10**

*Revolutions*

137

*Teacher  
Reference*

170

**UJIMA**  
**fake**  
includes 2 episodes.  
**CONTENTS**

fake MASARU  
CAMPLOOS



YOU'VE GOT IT RIGHT.

BARB STOOD HERE ON YOUR RIGHT.



I'M SO HUNGRY!  
I HAVE NO  
STRENGTH!

Chapter 9



WHAT  
AN ODD  
TOWN...

WANDERING  
IN THE  
MOUNTAINS  
FOR THREE  
DAYS AND  
THREE  
NIGHTS...



YOU'RE  
RIGHT.  
IT IS  
AWFULLY  
QUIET.



THERE'S  
NOBODY  
AROUND.  
EVEN THE  
BARS SEEM  
DESERTED.

















WHAT'S THAT?

A SERIES OF KIDNAPPINGS, EMP AND ALL THE VICTIMS ARE ATTRACTIVE YOUNG WOMEN?



THOSE SHIRTLESS FREAKS FROM EARLIER?

THERE ARE A GROUP OF MEN WHO LIVE IN HIDING THAT ARE AFTER MY DAUGHTER.

IT IS A PROBLEM FOR OUR CLAN.



THEY'VE MADE SEVERAL ATTEMPTS TO ABDUCT HER.



...IF THESE INCIDENTS OCCUR SO FREQUENTLY, WHY ISN'T THERE TIGHTER SECURITY?

WITH RESPECT ...



OUR LORD DOESN'T CONCERN HIMSELF WITH THE PROBLEMS OF COMMONERS.

1877



YOU SAVED HER, BUT IN TURN LOST YOUR FRIEND. I AM DEEPLY SORRY.

I THOUGHT THEY ONLY HATE AFTER CLIVE GIRLS.

MISS MARRIS



YOU WANT ME TO CATCH THOSE GUYS?



H H H ...

HEY, OLD MAN ...



THIS IS OUR  
CLAN'S  
AFFAIR.  
I WOULD  
PREFER  
TO TAKE  
CARE OF IT  
OURSELVES.



NO,  
THANK  
YOU.

IF YOU  
FEED ME  
AGAIN, I  
CAN DO IT  
FOR YOU.



WE WILL  
FIND  
HER AS  
WELL.

YOUR  
FRIEND...



PLEASE  
STAY  
THE  
NIGHT  
HERE.



HEP! YOUR MOUTH IS MOVING FASTER THAN YOUR HANDS.

KATSUURA-SAN!



SEEMS LIKE THEY HAD ANOTHER KIDNAPPING.

HOW FRIGHTENING!



THE NEXT DAY



OH, MAN...



...YOU HAD A ROUGH NIGHT LAST NIGHT, KATSUURA.

SEEMS LIKE...



IT'S GOOD THAT YOUR DAUGHTER IS SAFE.

YES, SIR.



HOW IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE?

IT'S STARTING AGAIN.

YES.



IS OUR OUTRAGE ANY GREATER?

IS IT?

NAT-SURUA...

IS-MY LORD?



THAT IS WHY, NO LORD...

HOW OLD IS YOUR CLAN?

...TO PREVENT ANY MORE INCIDENTS, WE MUST TAKE PRECAUTIONS.



HE WAS SUCH A GREAT MAN.

OUR LORD ONCE MADE THE PEOPLE HIS PRIORITY.



WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO OUR CLAN?



BUT THE MOMENT HE TOOK ON THAT STRANGE MAN AS HIS ADVISOR, HE BEGAN TO CHANGE.

HOW DESPICABLE  
FOR SAMURAI  
TO BE TALKING  
BEHIND THE  
BACKS OF THEIR  
CONRADES!!!



YOU  
HEH!

HE-HE-  
HE-HE-  
GAY!



I'VE TOLD  
YOU BEFORE,  
GENTLEMAN.



SO THIS  
IS THE  
GIRL YOU  
PICKED  
UP LAST  
NIGHT?



HEY!  
DON'T  
TOUCH  
ME!

NO ONE HAS  
BY LIVED  
FORSAKEN-  
SHI IS  
GUILT AN  
EXCEPTIONAL  
MAN

THE FACT THAT  
FORSAKEN'S  
ON TO US IS  
TROUBLE, DON'T  
UNDERSTAND  
HIM.





THAT'S ENOUGH, GIRL! YOU WILL ADDRESS OUR LORD WITH RESPECT!

NO NO! A SPROIGHTLY ONE!



WHAT IS WRONG WITH ALL OF YOU? I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'D BE OBSESSING OVER CUTE GIRLS, BECAUSE OBVIOUSLY THEY ALIVE BE POSSIBLE TO YOU, BUT REALLY...

...THIS ISN'T FUNNY ANY-MORE, LET WE GO!



MY LORD, WE CAN'T USE THIS VULGAR GIRL IN OUR PLAN.

OH, I LIKE THIS ONE, NADHAKOOL.



GIRL!

ARE YOU KIDDING ME WITH THIS?

...LET ME KEEP HER AS A PET.



HMM... THEN...

I NEED A PLAN.







THE GIRL THAT LIVES HERE HAS A SMOOKING SWEET BOOY. WOULD YOU GET A LOOK AT THESE THINGS?



IF THINGS GO WELL, MIGHT I CAN-

THEY ALREADY GOT HER?!



THOSE TITS ARE...



AND THAT ADD?







HEHEH.

BUT  
I CAN  
KILL THE  
REST,  
RIGHT?



LET ONE  
GO.

WHAT?

WE'LL  
LEAD  
US TO  
THEIR  
BASE.



HEHEHE

I'M NOT  
GONNA  
LET YOU  
GUYS  
GET  
AWAY



OF  
COURSE.





THAT'S  
WHAT  
I  
SAID.

HE  
RAN  
IN  
THERE?



RATSUJIMA-  
SAN?

OLD  
MAN!

...AND I WILL  
BE FORCED  
TO BECOME  
YOUR ENEMY.

ONE  
MORE  
STEP...



SO SIMPLE,  
ISN'T IT?



THEN I'D  
JUST HAVE  
TO KILL  
YOU.



THEN STOP  
MAKING IT  
SO COMPLICATED!



NOW I  
REALLY DON'T  
UNDERSTAND,  
EVEN IF HE IS  
YOUR LORD,  
WHY WOULD  
YOU PROTECT  
SOMEONE  
INVOLVED  
WITH SOME-  
THING SO  
INSIDIOUS?



HA  
HA  
HA!

DON'T  
LAUGH!

YOUR  
PRESENCE  
HERE MEANS  
THAT YOU  
MUST KNOW  
ALL ABOUT  
THIS.



BECAUSE  
I'M A  
SAMURAI.



UHM...



...LOOKING  
AT ME  
SO MUCH?

WOULD  
YOU  
STOP...



WHY ARE  
YOU  
KEEPING  
ME IN THE  
DUNGEON IN  
THE FIRST  
PLACE, YOU  
PROFECTED  
OLD MAN?

AM I IN  
TROUBLE?

LOOKING  
AT YOU  
REMINDS  
ME...



WHY??

BECAUSE  
IT'S WHEN  
HEMLOCK  
DIED.



OH.. DID SHE DIE FROM BLISS??

NO.



...OF MY DECEASED DAUGHTER.



SHE WAS MURDERED.



YOU'LL BE MEETING HER SOON.



OH

OH SOON RIGHT?



WHAT?









JUST PICK A DOOR!  
IF IT'S  
WRONG,  
IT'S  
WRONG!



...I  
PICKED  
THE  
WRONG  
DOOR.

I  
THINK...

獣



SAMURAI  
CHAMPLOO

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<http://www.manga-clubbook.org>



WHAT THE  
HELL IS  
GOING  
ON?!!!



chapter 10 **Revolutions**



...NOTHING TO FEAR.

NOTHING.



PLEASE STEP AWAY, JIN-SAN.

THEY GOT TO GO!!!







BUT...



THIS IS MY LOVELY DAUGHTER, SHIZU.

SHE TOOK AFTER ME-- BEAUTIFUL IN BOTH APPEARANCE AND PERSONALITY.



...DURING THE WAR THREE YEARS AGO...



...I MET THIS MAN. I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD SLICERS ABOUT HIM. HE WAS CALLED THE MACHOPHILES OF THE SENGOKU.

HIS NAME IS KASHINKOUJI.



IT'S...

HE HAS THE ARCAINE POWER TO BRING THE DEAD BACK TO LIFE.

AND ON THE EVE THAT THIS HUMAN PUZZLE IS COMPLETE, MY BELoved DAUGHTER WILL COME BACK TO LIFE!

THE LAST PIECE SHOULD BE COMING IN SOON.

MY DAUGHTER'S PHYSICAL BODY IS GONE, SO I'VE BEEN GATHERING PIECES FROM THE CITY BELOW.

...A RESURRECTION.

IT IS A GIFT TO MYSELF... AND TO THE WORLD.

APOLGIZES FOR MY TARDINESS!

YOU'RE...







DON'T NEGLECT KATSUJIMA.  
THE PLAN HAS  
BEEN CARRIED  
OUT ON THE  
LORD'S BEHALF  
THEREFORE--

**SILENCE,  
SNAKE!**



YOU  
OF ALL  
PEOPLE  
SHOULD  
UNDER-  
STAND  
THE  
FINALITY.



...I  
WILL  
KILL  
YOU.

YOU CLOUD  
HEARTS AND  
MINDS WITH  
YOUR FEIGNED  
POWERS. DEVIL!  
SPEAK AGAIN  
AND...



...PLEASE  
HURRY  
WHILE I  
STALL  
THEM!



MY  
LORD  
...















EVERY-ONE  
HERE...

IDIOTS!

HEY,  
OLD  
MAN!

SO I  
JUST  
HAVE TO  
KILL THE  
BOSS...

...IS  
ON OUR  
SIDE.

RIGHT?



WELL,  
PRE-  
PARE  
YOUR-  
SELF!

YOU A  
SAMURAI  
TOOP?

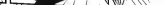
KA-KAI-  
SUIJAI!  
KAI-  
SUIJAI!!



READY?

NO!

MY  
LORD!!





HAH!

WHA!

HE'S TAKING ON MUGEN AND JIN!!!



WHO IS THAT GUY?



I DON'T BELIEVE ...



WHAT?!



HA HA HA HA !!

AN AVERAGE FIGHTER DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE!!



HA HA HA! KATSUURA IS OUR STRONGEST MAN!



STRONG FEELINGS  
CHANGE  
THE  
WORLD.

FIGHT  
TO YOUR  
BLACK  
HEART'S  
CONTENT.

ANGER,  
SADNESS,  
LOVE,  
HATE,  
FEAR,  
JOY...

HA  
HA  
HA!

HOW  
BEAU-  
TIFUL.

WHAT'S  
WITH  
THIS  
GUY?

HA HA  
HA HA  
HA HA  
HA!

HA  
HA!

GAUGH  
KOLU!

OH HO  
HO!  
SUUDA!









PRINCESS!



GAGNY



WHA---



WHAT  
THE  
HELL?!



AAGG



... FOR OUR CLAN.

IT'S THE END.

AAARGH!

DUNN!



IT'S A NON-ISSUE!



MY GUESS IS...



WHY ARE WE STILL HERE?

WOULDN'T NOW BE A GREAT TIME TO LEAVE?



AAARGH!

AAARGH!

ORAH! LET'S GO, WE'VE WHAT'S WRONG?

DON'T TELL ME.



AAARGH!

THAT'S A ZOMBIE!

I WAS THINKING...





KASHIN-  
KOJI!



I STILL...



I CANNOT  
FORGIVE  
YOU!



...HAVE  
SOMETHING  
I MUST TAKE  
CARE OF.

THEY  
STAND  
BACK  
NOW!



I  
JUST...

...GRANTED  
THAT MAN'S  
WISH.





I TOLD YOU  
SHAMELESS...



BUT I DON'T  
DESERVE  
YOUR  
CUTION

I DON'T  
EXPECT  
RETRIBUTION  
FROM  
YOU...



...OPEN  
YOUR  
MOUTH  
ASHA, AND I'LL  
KILL YOU!



WHAT?!

MUGEN,  
JIN!  
STOP  
THAT  
MAN!



TAKE A LOOK OUTSIDE!

THAT ISN'T THE TIME FOR REDUCED!

BUT--

NO BUT!



IT'S SUICIDE!

IDIOT. LEAVE THAT GUY TO HIMSELF!



YOU WANT TO DIE HERE?!

YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE SUNFLOWER SAMURAI!



NO BUT!



NOTE: In Japanese versions, the banger can change to various forms and cause different reactions to its animal form, just in case to avoid the banger and consequences.



HEY, A BANGER!



WHO KNOWS?

WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?



FRESH AND AGAIN



HUH?



HUH?



AND THE JOURNEY CONTINUES...

I THINK

WHAAAAAT?!

NO WAY!

HUH?

# NOT

to be continued  
in Bogus  
Volume 2...

## SAMURAI CHAMPLOO

### STAFF:

UNFORTUNATE SOUL MASHYU GOTSUHO (POSTER)

A POOR LITTLE MAN WHO IS OCCASIONALLY FORCED TO DO FENWICK  
FOR MASHYU GOTSUHO (WHO'S CRABBY AND VERY SLOW AT TIMES)  
ALSO HAS HIS OWN UNUSUALLY SERVED POOR GUY



# Bogus Volume Reader Reference



**Mugen**

I wish I could have incorporated more lines about my wife for reference.



**Jin**

For the after-episode to correct him for me.



**Fuu**

I love drawing the 2D version of her. Wish I could have done it more.

## Stupid Lord (Arimabei)



Couldn't  
use his  
name, I  
had to  
draw  
the shape  
of his  
face

## Nachiura Katsuura



Looks a man-  
character, he's  
much more  
expressive  
than Nijima  
and I, so I  
wanted to make  
their height  
difference  
significant  
though it  
didn't show  
in the finished  
product. I  
really like the  
old guy.

## The Weirdoes



Ah, the Blind Eye  
Draw of death! I  
hate to apologize  
for these people being  
lost in design. I still  
like how well-knit  
they are, especially  
considering they're  
half-wild most of  
the time. I wanted  
to make them scarier,  
more creature-  
like, but obstacles  
prevented further  
development.

## Kashinkoji



I regret his  
design being  
so loose. And  
actually, it's not  
just the design—  
during the  
actual printing,  
his name was  
misprinted as  
"Kashinkoji."



おまじき。

Afterword



...for now...  
**I love  
period  
pieces.**



I have no idea what to write in these manga afterword sections, but...

When I met the director, we had a casual discussion about period pieces. We lost the manager and chief editor entirely—they couldn't follow the conversation.



I'm always rambling on about the kinds of stories I like to tell. It never hurts to mention everything to everyone—that's how you get work.



That's one of the reasons they asked me to do a Samurai Champloo manga.

Because of my lack of skill, or maybe just my lopsided interests, the manga's become something different from the anime. I can only hope you look at this work as another take on Champloo.



There was an enormous amount of pressure, and I blame them entirely for approaching me with the job in the first place.



It was quite a risk to have a total newbie draw the manga of a popular anime directed by Shinichiro Watanabe.



In any case...

...my eternal  
gratitude to  
all of you who  
bought and  
read this.



## The Quest

*Every quest has its diversions, and often the diversions are what make the quest. In Samura Damples, Fu's on a quest to find the samurai who smells of sunflowers, and though he and Migen seem to be along for the ride, each of them is on his own quest. In any story, and in any life, three young people searching for something, anything, are invariably also (and maybe only) searching for themselves.*

*"Why do we keep doing things the hard way?" Fu asks Jin, when Migen decides he's going to slyly an epe. They encounter on their way—or at least get a look at it. The three learn, subtly or overtly, that the hard way is the only way. "Everyone should have hardship," Migen says, and it's clear by the prison tattoos on his wrists and ankles that he's been forged by hardship early in life. Migen doesn't need to justify his need for a challenge—he's always hungry (not just physically), and feeds off of confrontation more often than he feeds off of food. He's a wild man, a real champloo, mixing styles of combat without worry about what others will think of him. His self-discipline, though, is to roam the earth and strike up arms wherever he sees a challenge. This discipline stands in stark contrast to the strict Bushido of the samurai that binds he's past, but their shared need for the one impossible fight or foe is what binds Migen and he together. Each is the only man that the other cannot kill, and they attract and repel each other with the inevitability and force of the best couple in any romantic comedy.*

*Migen and he are similarly bound to Fu, a woman on a quest just as impossible as theirs. The search for the missing samurai and the open challenge to the undeniable foe take the trio all over Japan—and each of their strong personalities often leads them off the path. "Stop him, he!" pleads Fu, when Migen strays to fight the epe. "Too late," answers Jin, wryly. "We're already there." And that's the point of the quest, the journey, and growing up. We're all already there, and the only thing to be done is to keep moving, follow the curves, take up the challenges and try to defy expectations. However wayward Jin, Migen and Fu may be, they're afraid to be themselves and take the road wherever it leads.*

*A quest story is always a story of life writ in miniature. Oddly, it's the evil sorcerer Rashikaji who best sums it up: "Mugen, sadness, love, hate, fear, joy... Strong feelings change the world." In other words, to change the world, you need to know yourself. But should you know yourself before you set out on your life's journey, or do you need your life's journey to show you who you are? For Jin, Migen and Fu, it's all about a reckless pursuit of what's next, no matter what it is.*

—Christine Boylce