PROJECT MUSE®

Manga: A Comic Interlude from *Darumasan-ga-koronda* , “Land Mine in Central Park”

Yoji Sakate, Manami Shima, Chinami Sango

Mechademia, Volume 4, 2009, pp. 305-312 (Article)

Published by University of Minnesota Press

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1353/mec.0.0056>

➔ For additional information about this article

<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/368633>

A Comic Interlude from
"Darumasanga-koronda"

LandMine in Central Park
Written by Yoji Sakate
Translated by Manami Shima
Art by Chinami Sango

Tokkay..

It's gotta be here.

Yeah.

Tokkay..

What language is it?
Spanish? Chinese?
Is it a "he" or a "she?"

Could be a kid.

Whatever it is, it's
crying for help. It's
like a shriek.

Tokkay..

Up here.
In the tree.

Are you alright?
We're here to help.

Down
there.

Did he fall?

Tokkay..

What's he
saying?

Sounds like
"Tokkay" to me.

Central Park is
a lot safer these
days, but it still
takes balls to come
out here at night.

I Found a woman's
body here once.

tokkay

Paa...m...

Rustle..

Shit!

What is it?

tokkay

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MY POOR TOKKAY?

What the hell?

Are you alright, Miss?

DON'T COME NEAR ME!

click!

Don't move! Put your hands up.

Who are you?

NYPD.
New York's Finest.

MY TOKKAY SAYS HE
SMELLS SOMETHING.

OKAY, CHECK IT
OUT, PLEASE.

We've pin-pointed
the area. Move in.
Use the route we've
secured.

Make one move
and you're dead.

Please, don't shoot!

Whatever you're
doing, we didn't
see anything.

I'm not going to
shoot you. It's your Feet.
Just keep your Feet right
there, no matter what.

Sir?

You're
standing in the
middle of a
minefield

A minefield?

That woman is a
specialist. She uses
her Tokkay to help
her find mines.

So, these barriers
are not put up for
landscaping?

We heard that
someone had
planted a mine in
Central Park.

I heard about it, too.

We found a map that showed where the land mine was.

Where was it?

The Strawberry Fields Memorial for John Lennon

Sounds like a hoax.

Don't take it seriously.

Well, it's no secret anymore...

...in fact, there was a land mine. Now, help us find the rest of them.

What's the matter?

I CAUGHT THIS THING. CAN I FEED THIS TO MY TOKKAY?

YOUR TOKKAY WILL GET SICK. THE SQUIRRELS IN CENTRAL PARK CARRY DISEASES.

Why this woman, though?

Doesn't the Army have proper mine detectors?

There's more to it than that.

The threat said:

"This is a game. The mine goes off with the slightest electromagnetic wave from any modern mine detector.

And this time, I won't give you the location."

Switch off your cell phones.

Radio, too.

'Could be a bluff.

No, there are mines like that now.

What should I do with this?

Nothing happened when you threw it.

Some need to be triggered twice. Don't move it again.

Who would do such a thing?

An anti-mine fanatic trying to prove his point, maybe?

He's gone too far.

Or it could be a conspiracy against the anti-landmine movement.

What is it?

Um... wait... hold on a second.

I'm standing on something.

Just don't move.

Why not?

Some of the latest mines are pressure sensitive, right?

Correct.

Hey kid!

Don't come any closer.

What's going on? I didn't do anything!

THERE IT IS! IN THAT BAG.

Gimme the bag!

Look Out!

Don't worry, there's no detonator.

It's a normal landmine. You lied in your threat letter.

Did you do it?

Yes.

Why?

I was angry. I mean, yeah, I did it...

...but I came back to get them, so let me go!

How'd you get them?

Mail order.

What the hell are
all of you doing here?

There isn't
a festival
today!

Taptaptap
Taptaptap

OH my God!

Where are
we now?

Are you sure?

Central Park,
I think.

BADOOOM

I can see
skyscrapers
beyond the trees.

BooM

Where are we?

END