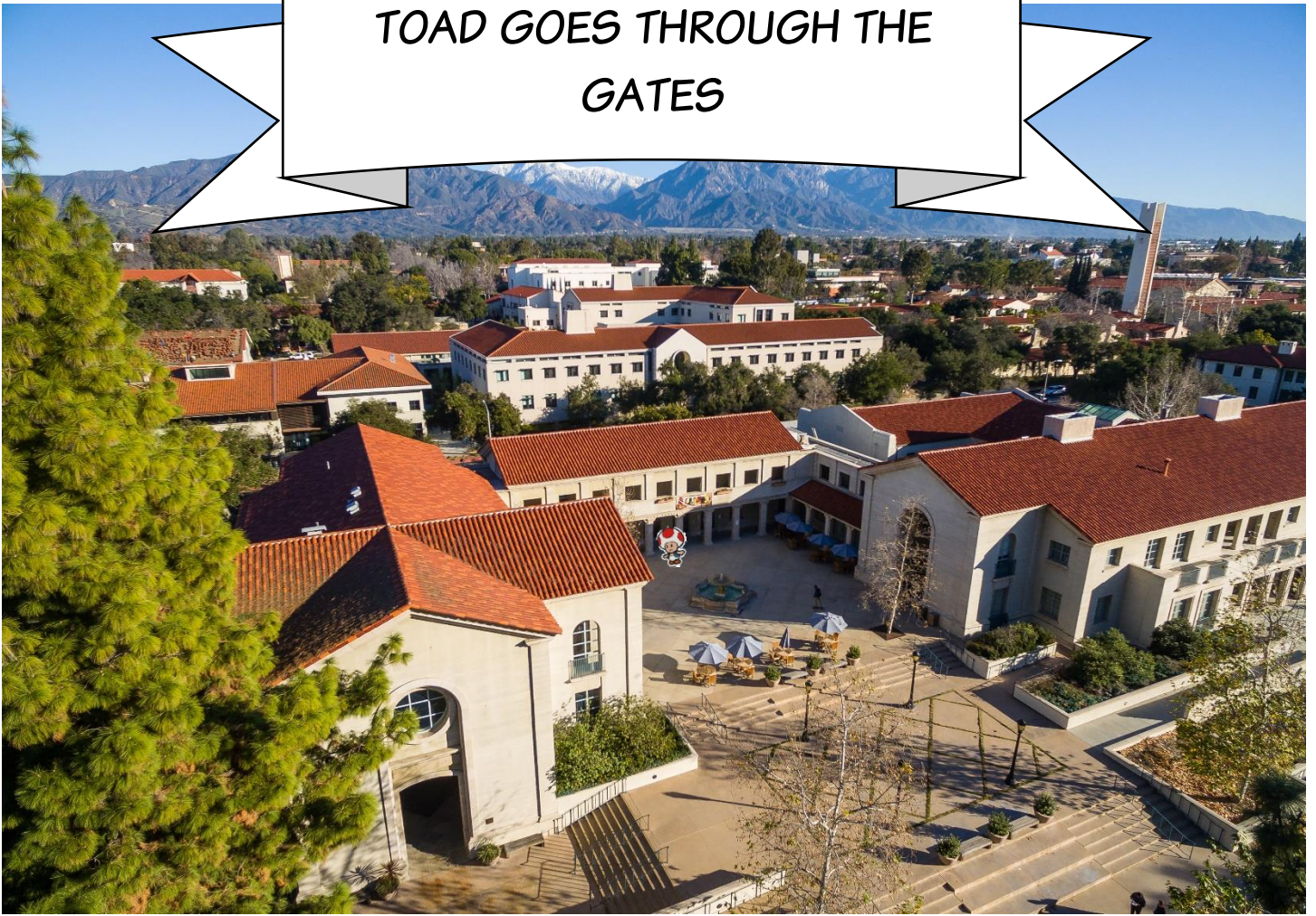


# TOAD GOES THROUGH THE GATES



JORGE RODRIGUEZ  
PROFESSOR LYNNE MIYAKE  
JPNT 179- GRAPHICALLY  
SPEAKING  
SPRING 2019

# A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

HELLO READER! THANK YOU FOR DECIDING TO READ THIS PROJECT OF MINE. THIS CREATION WAS INSPIRED BY OTHER YONKOMA MANGA OUT THERE (SHOUTOUT TO AZUMANGA DAIOH) AND DEPICTS MY EXPERIENCES AT POMONA COLLEGE. TOAD, LIKE ME, IS A FIRST GEN/LOW-INCOME, DACA-MENTED, AND QUEER STUDENT TRYING TO NAVIGATE THIS NEW SPACE. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT TOAD WILL EXPERIENCE NOT ONLY GOOD THINGS, BUT ALSO BAD THINGS—MORE ON THAT AS YOU READ THE MANGA. ON THAT NOTE, THIS MANGA SHOULD BE READ FROM RIGHT TO LEFT—AS ANY OTHER MANGA OF COURSE! WITHOUT FURTHER ADO, PLEASE ENJOY MY PROJECT!

47 CHIRP CHIRP!

<3



P.S. THIS PROJECT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN MADE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE HELP OF MICROSOFT WORD 😊



# INTRODUCING THE CAST



JORGE AS THE  
INNOCENT AND  
NAÏVE TOAD!



MYSTERIOUS YET  
CHARMING,  
TIERRA AS VIVIAN

ALISSA AS THE  
ADVENTUROUS  
AND WELL-READ  
GOOMBELLA



KELLY AS THE  
UNFAZED,  
ANGSTY, BUT  
COOL ZIP  
TOADETTE.



ARACELI AS THE  
MOTHERLY AND  
GENTLE MINH  
TOADETTE



LOVABLE BUT  
DON'T PROVOKE  
HER SPOOKY  
SIDE! NICAH AS  
BOW

SHE WILL TEAR YOU DOWN IN ORDER  
TO BRING YOU UP. SHE WON'T  
HESITATE TO GIVE YOU FOOD WHILE  
YOU TAKE THE HARDEST TESTS OF  
YOUR LIFE. BEWARE SHE, WIELDS THE  
POWER OF THE SEPPUKU KNIFE.  
MIYAKE-SENSEI AS JOLENE!



FRANKIE B AS A  
DELFINO (HE IS  
THE DIRECTOR AT  
POMONA'S  
HOUSING AND  
RESIDENCE LIFE)



SHE WHO MUST  
NOT BE NAMED...



TWO COMPUTER  
SCIENCE PROFESSORS  
AS PENNINGTON(LEFT)  
AND CRUMP (RIGHT).  
I'M PRETTY SURE THEY  
ARE NICE PEOPLE BUT  
NOT THE BEST  
INSTRUCTIONRS...

AN ALL-AROUND AMAZING  
PROFESSOR AND PERSON!  
PROFESSOR PAPOUTSAKI AS  
EVIL PRINCESS PEACH. (I  
WANTED HER TO HAVE A COOL  
DESIGN! HENCE WHY I DIDN'T  
USE NORMAL PRINCESS PEACH)



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

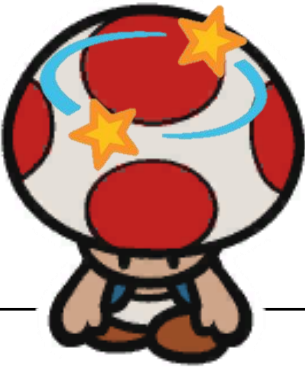
MOVE-IN DAY 2017—MY PARENTS DROP  
ME OFF

HAVE FUN AND  
TAKE CARE!

ガシヤン



グダ  
グダ  
グダ

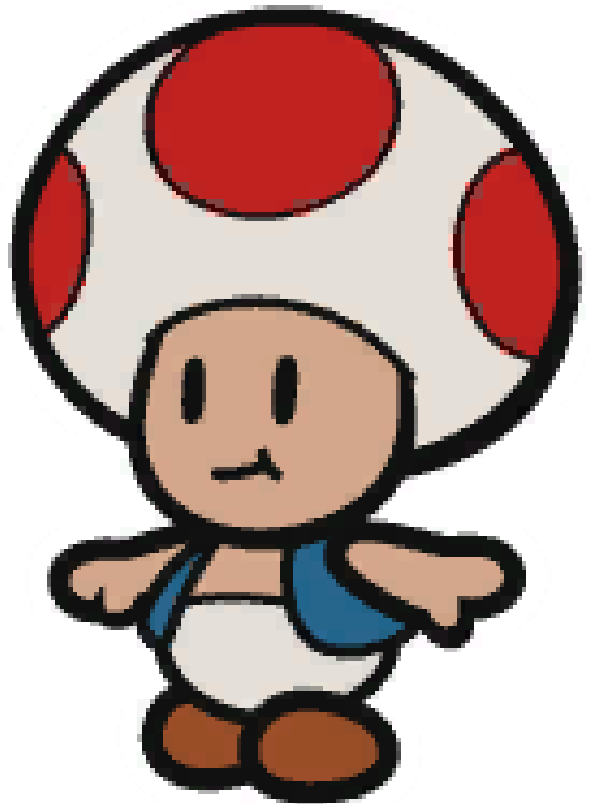


I ALREADY HAVE A BAD FEELING  
ABOUT THIS...

HELLO THERE NEW  
SAGEHEN ☺



# YEAR 1



INTERESTING ROOMMATE PT. 2



ONCE AT MY DORM

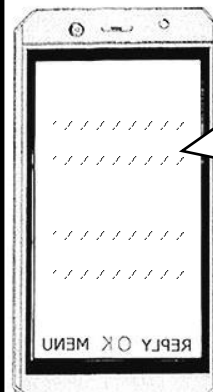


NO MATTER WHERE I TURN...



I CAN FEEL THEIR EYES FOLLOWING ME...

INTERESTING ROOMMATE PT. 1



HI JORGE,  
I HAD TO CHANGE ROOMMATES TO YOU BECAUSE MY PREVIOUS ROOMMATE WAS GAY AND I COULDN'T DEAL WITH THAT. SORRY ABOUT THAT!  
XXXX

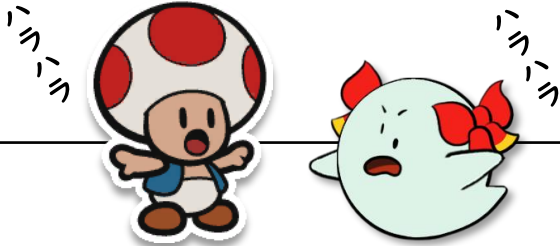
...MY PREVIOUS ROOMMATE WAS GAY AND I COULDN'T DEAL WITH THAT.



HELLO CLASS. I AM VERY GLAD THAT YOU ALL PLACED INTO 51A! I AM SPEAKING ENGLISH FOR NOW BUT DO NOT GET USED TO IT. THIS IS AN INTERMEDIATE LEVEL COURSE BUT IT MIGHT AS WELL BE THE 111A EQUIVALENT. PLEASE NO CRYING DURING CLASS—IT WILL DISTURB OTHERS. DO NOT QUESTION THE INSANE AMOUNTS OF KANJI WE WILL LEARN AND FORGET ABOUT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL JAPANESE CLASSES—THEY ARE JOKES COMPARED TO POMONA. HAVE FUN! ☺



WE'RE IN DANGER!



FOR THE SAKE OF EVERYONE IN THE CLASS I WILL GO OVER THE ASSIGNMENTS FOR TOMORROW IN ENGLISH. SO, FOR TOMORROW'S 6AM CLASS MAKE SURE YOU COMPLETE:

- THE YOMIMONO FOR MARY & TAKESHI-SAN
- STUDY FOR THE 500 CHARACTER KANJI QUIZ
- A SELF-INTRO. OF YOU (DON'T FORGET TO USE KEIGO)

\*ad infinitum\*



I SAID NO CRYING DURING CLASS!!!!



ぐすぐす

SURE! SOUNDS LIKE FUN!



DO YOU WANNA MAKE SMORES?



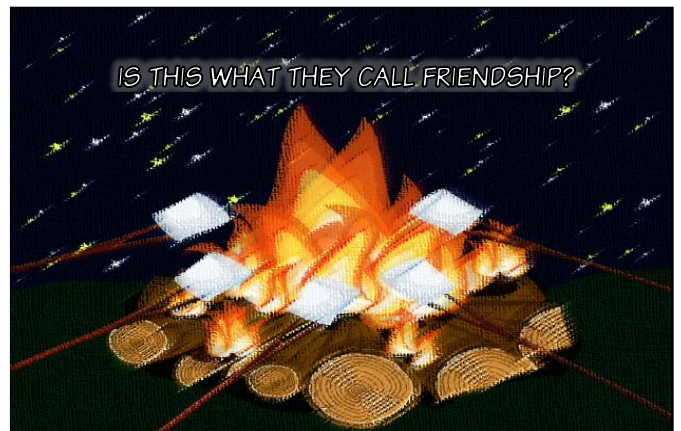
CAN WE JOIN!?!?!?!?!?



OMG! YES PLEASE!



IS THIS WHAT THEY CALL FRIENDSHIP?





IMPOSTER SYNDROME (THE BEGINNING)

EVERYONE AT POMONA...

TALENTED

CREAM-OF-THE-CROP

SMART

WELL-OFF

PASSIONATE

THEN THERE IS ME...

POOR

DUMB

MEDIOCRE AT BEST

NOT GOOD ENOUGH

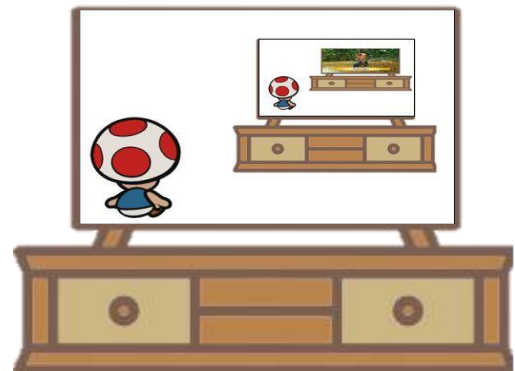
ぐすん

WHY AM I EVEN HERE....

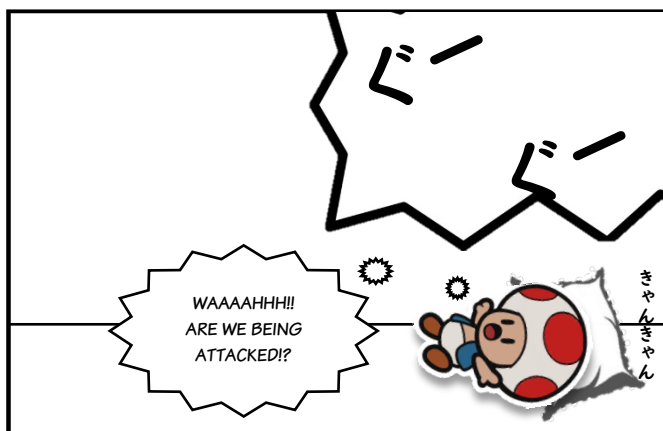
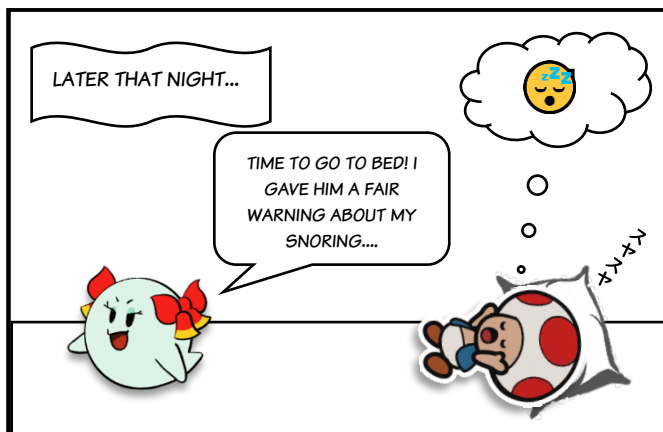
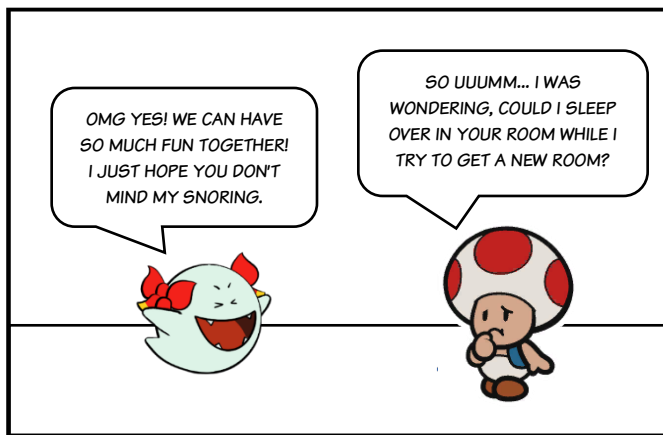
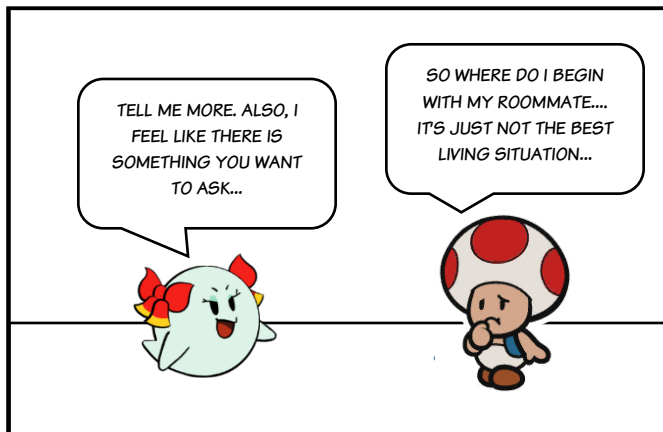
IDI (A.K.A THE MATRIX)



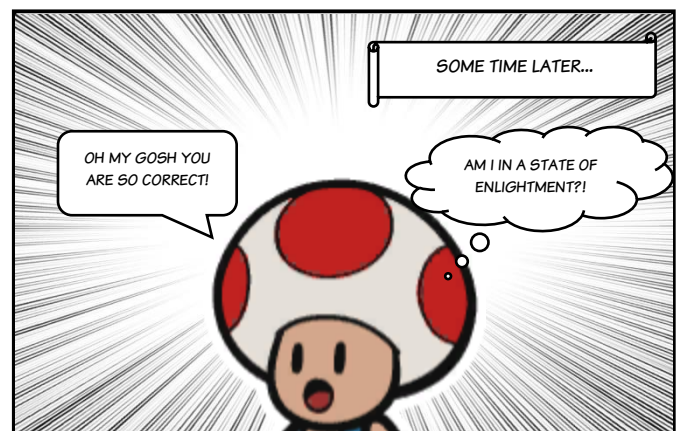
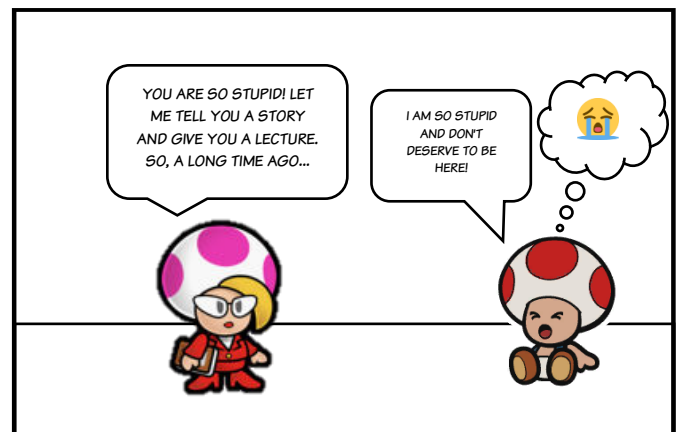
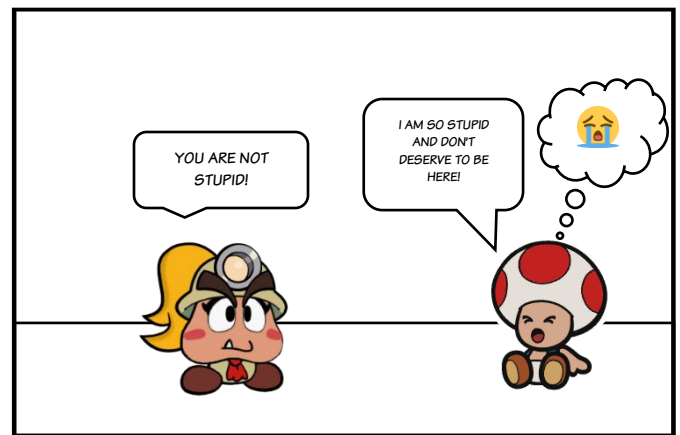
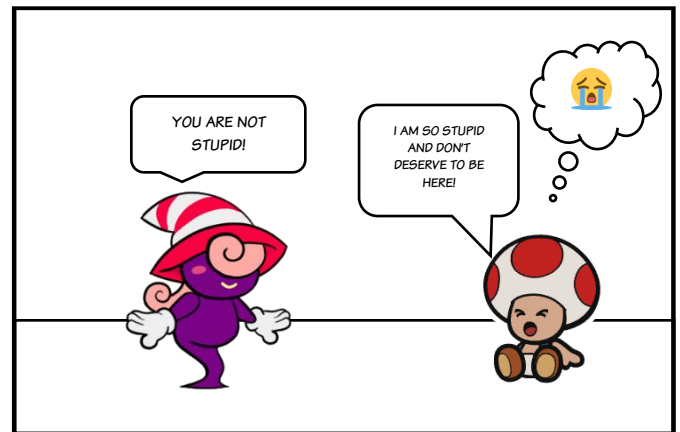
IS ANYTHING REAL?



## UNEXPECTED ROOMMATE



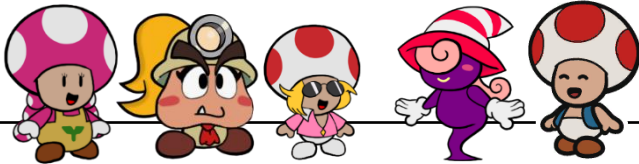
## TWO PERSPECTIVES/TOUGH LOVE





## FAMILY

ALRIGHT GIRLS! IT'S THE END OF THE SCHOOL-YEAR SO LET'S DO A FINAL CHECK-IN! WE WILL FOLLOW THE ROSE-BUDS-THORN FORMAT. OKAY, I WILL BEGIN!



5 EMO COLLEGE STUDENTS  
LATER...

OUR THORNS  
OUTNUMBERED OUR  
ROSES...



AT LEAST WE HAVE  
EACH OTHER. THAT'S  
ALL THAT MATTERS <3



## HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE AT POMONA

JANUARY 2018

MR. RODRIGUEZ, I CAN NOT  
GUARANTEE ANYTHING BUT I  
WILL GET TO WORK ON THE  
CASE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

PLEASE MR. BEDOYA  
HELP ME OUT. I NEED  
TO LIVE ELSEWHERE  
FOR MY OWN GOOD.



ONE WEEK LATER...

UUMMM... WHO ARE YOU  
AGAIN? AH, YES! I REMEMBER  
YOU... AND NO, NO ROOMS  
HAVE OPENED UP. SORRY.

MR. BEDOYA! ARE  
THERE ANY UPDATES?  
IS THERE A ROOM  
AVAILABLE NOW?



ONE ETERNITY LATER...

AH, MR. RODRIGUEZ! AT  
LONG LAST A ROOM HAS  
OPENED UP. WE APOLOGIZE  
FOR THE SHORT WAIT BUT  
HERE YOU GO. THE KEY TO  
YOUR NEW ROOM!

びっくら



AT LONG LAST! I  
CAN FINALLY START  
ENJOYING MY TIME  
HERE AT POMONA.



## MOVING FORWARD

THE END OF THE SCHOOL-YEAR

A LOT HAS HAPPENED THIS SCHOOL-YEAR. BOTH GOOD AND BAD. WE ARE GOING OUR SEPARATE WAYS FOR A BIT...

I WILL BE GOING BACK TO WHAT I'VE BEEN DOING FOR 6 YEARS NOW...

AND ALTHOUGH THE PAIN OF SOME MEMORIES IS STILL FRESH, I WOULDN'T HAVE CHANGED ANYTHING ABOUT MY EXPERIENCE. I KNOW THAT IT ALL HAPPENED FOR A REASON. ALL I CAN DO NOW IS KEEP MOVING FORWARD...



## THE FALL OF A STAR



HEY MOM! HOW ARE YOU? I HAVEN'T FROM YOU IN A WHILE! WHAT? YOU GOT NEWS FOR ME? GREAT CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR IT! WAIT. WHY ARE YOU CRYING...?



YOUR DAD'S FATHER... HE... PASSED AWAY YESTERDAY...

HE... PASSED AWAY YESTERDAY....

しょぼん

"ADVANCED" JAPANESE

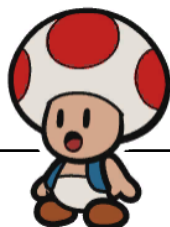
HELLO CLASS. WELCOMEE TO IIIIA. THIS IS AN  
ADVANCED COURSE THAT WILL PREPARE YOU  
TO SPEAK VERY FLUENTLY DESPITE THE FACT  
THAT I WILL SPEAK ENGLISH MOST OF THE  
TIME. THAT BEING SAID, I DOUBT YOU GUYS  
WILL FIND IT HARD TO BECOME THE BEST OF  
THE BEST UNDER MY INSTRUCTION.



GIVE IT A TRY! WHAT'S THE  
WORST THAT COULD HAPPEN?

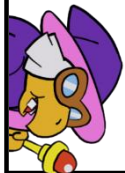


GEEZ. ADVANCED JAPANESE IN  
ENGLISH? I HAVE A BAD  
FEELING ABOUT THIIIS...



ONE WEEK  
LATER...

I SENSE ANGER. DO YOU  
TWO HAVE SOMETHING  
YOU WANT TO TELL ME?



SHE HAS NO IDEA WHAT  
SHE'S DOING!



# YEAR 2





# UNDOCU\* STRUGGLES PT. 2

THAT'S THE END OF THE SAD NEWS. ON A BRIGHTER NOTE, YOUR OLDER SISTER IS GETTING MARRIED! WE WILL BE SENDING YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER TO TAKE YOUR FATHER'S ROLE IN HANDING HER OFF.



THAT IS FANTASTIC NEWS! BUT WHY MY BROTHER? WHY CAN'T I GO IN HIS PLA—! OH, YEAH FORGOT ABOUT THAT TINY DETAIL. TEEHEE. AT LEAST GRANDMA WILL BE THERE IN YOUR PLACE.



BEING UNDOCUMENTED MEANS... TO SOMETIMES BE AWAY FROM YOUR FAMILY DURING THE GOOD AND THE BAD. TO NORMALIZE SEPARATION AND SACRIFICING IN THE NAME OF MOVING FORWARD.

TO SMILE DESPITE THE DIFFICULT TIMES...

/////////  
/////////



# UNDOCU\* STRUGGLES PT. 1

BEGINNING OF FALL SEMESTER



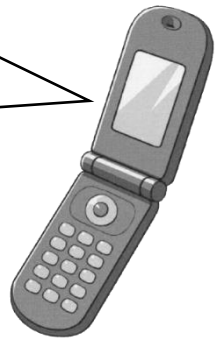
HELLO MOM! I MISS YA'LL SO MUCH. HOW IS EVERYTHING GOING?

...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS? WELL WHAT IS IT?



WHERE DO I BEGIN... SO, YOUR FATHER'S GRANDMOTHER PASSED-AWAY. HE IS TRULY DEVASTATED RIGHT NOW. HE HASN'T TAKEN TIME OFF FROM WORK SO HE CAN HELP PAY FOR THE FUNERAL. BUT THIS HAS BEEN HIS SECOND LOSS THIS YEAR...

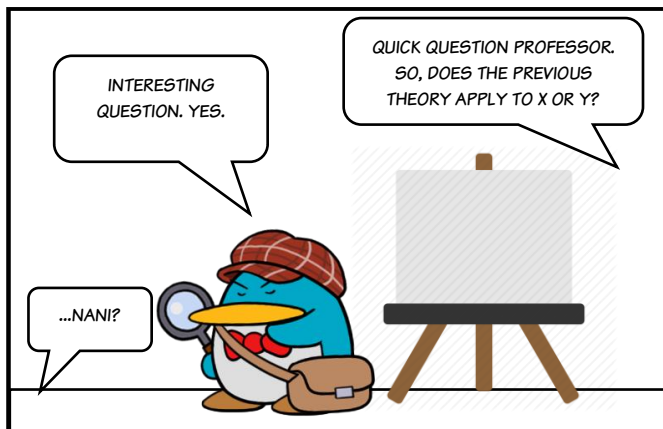
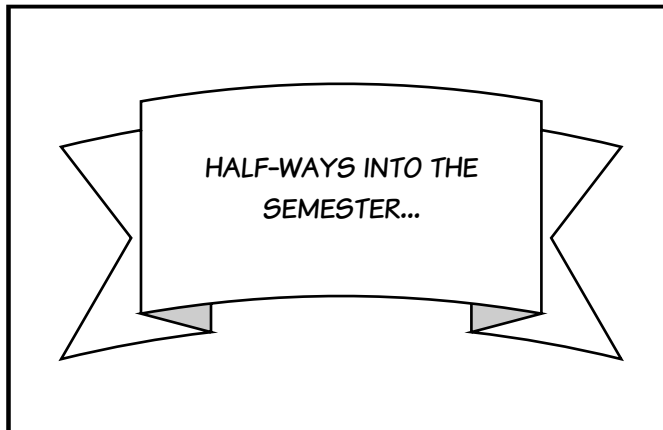
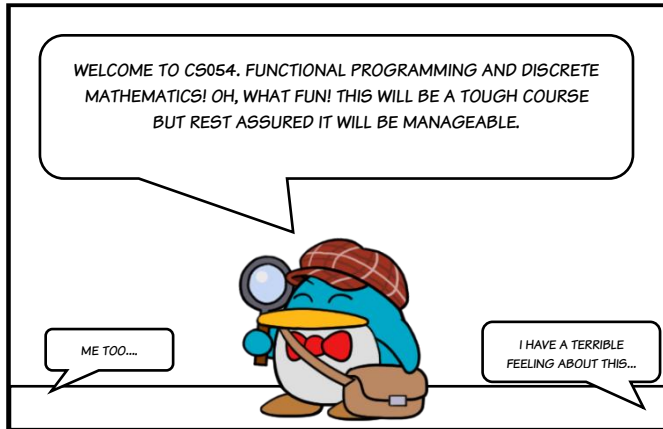


HOW DIFFICULT MUST IT BE TO LOSE TWO LOVED ONES. NEVER TO GET THE CHANCE TO SAY A FINAL FAREWELL IN PERSON...

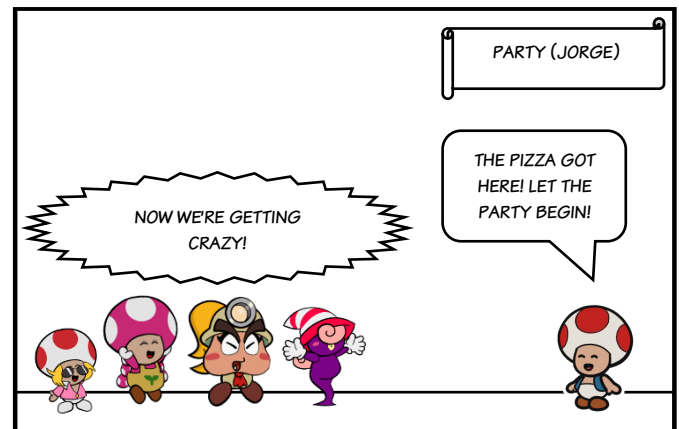
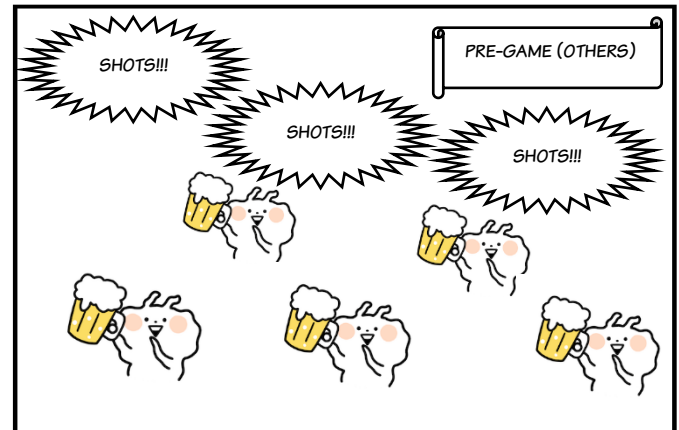
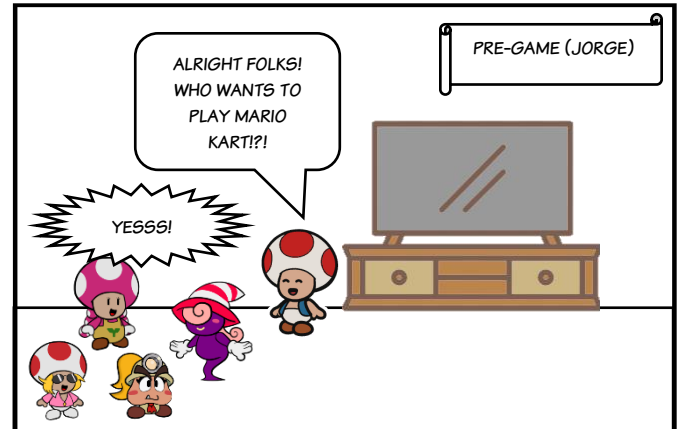
/////////  
/////////



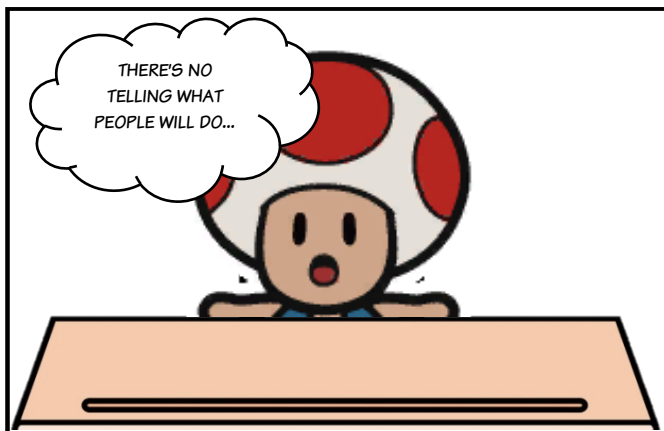
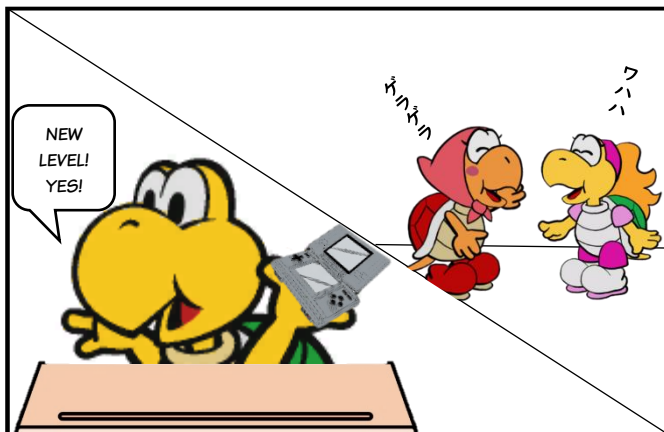
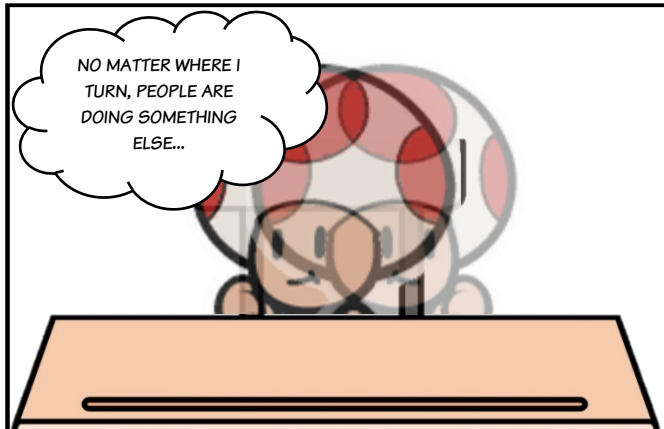
# TERRIBLE CS PROFESSORS PT. 1



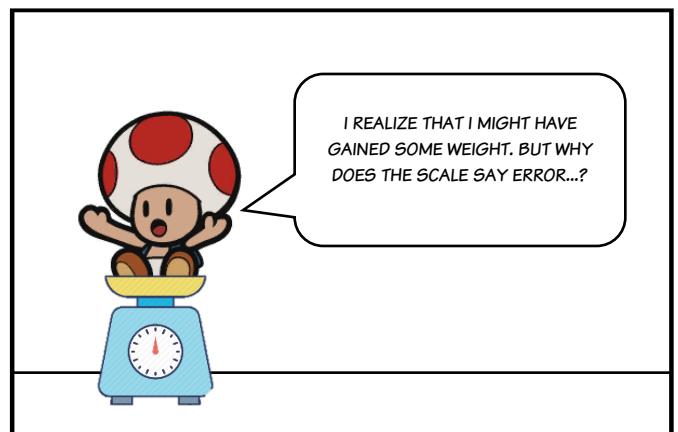
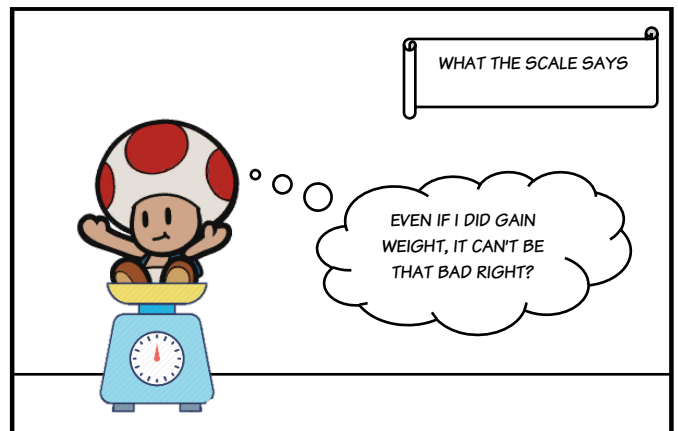
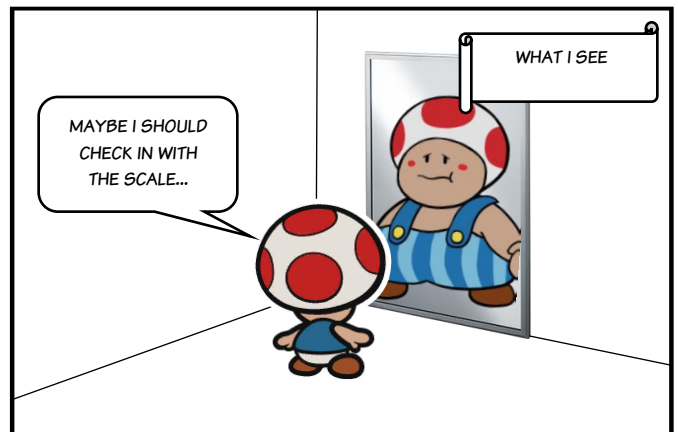
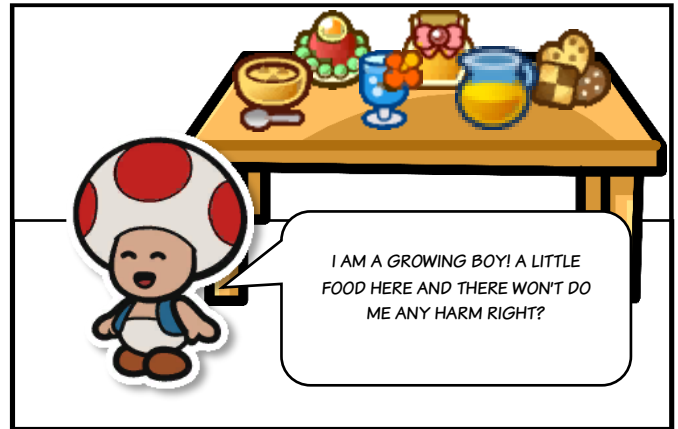
# PARTY TIME



# CS LECTURES

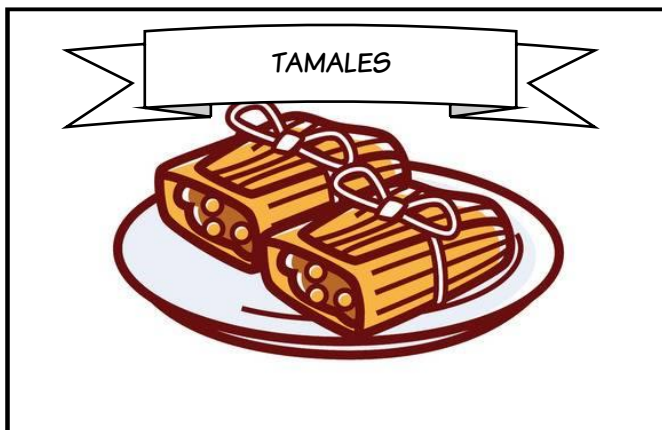
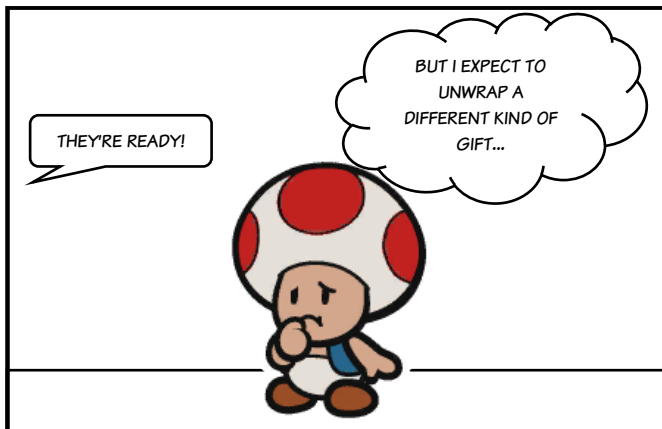


# SOPHOMORE FIFTEEN





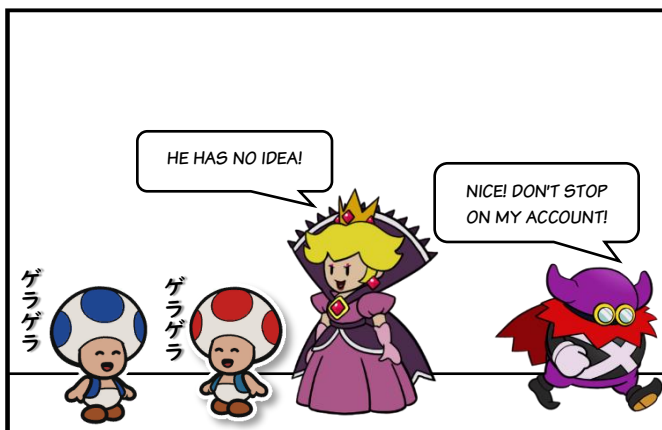
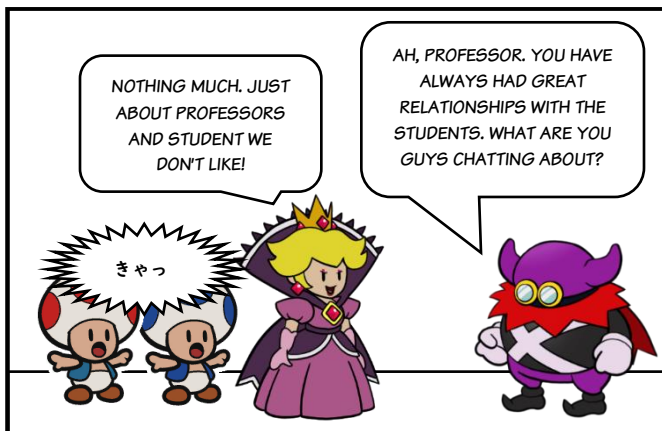
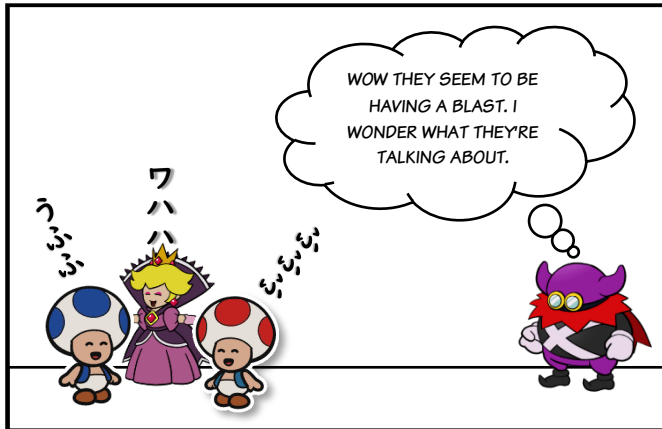
A VERY UN-MERRY CHRISTMAS



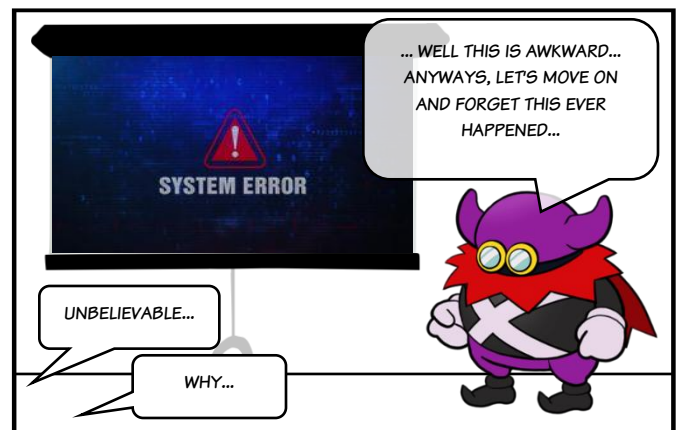
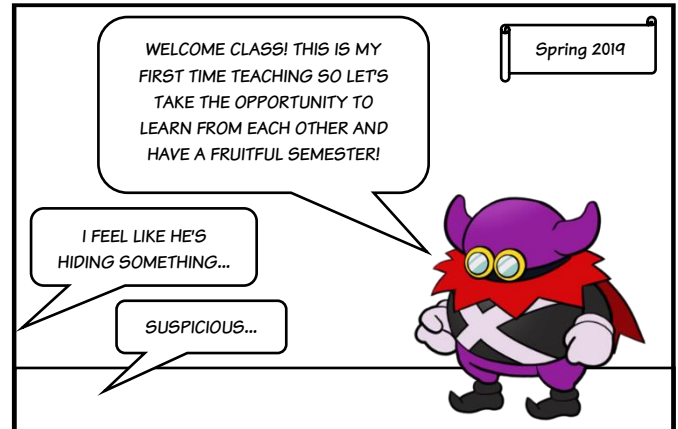
SEPARATE BUT NEVER ALONE



## TEACHER-STUDENT BONDING



## TERRIBLE CS PROFESSORS PT. 2



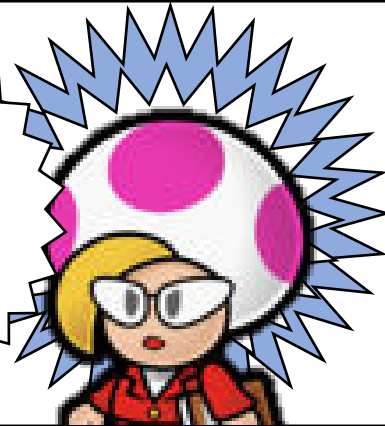
# MANGA MADE HARD

END OF SPRING  
2019

ALRIGHT CLASS. I THINK  
CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN  
ORDER! BUT WAIT, WE ARE NOT  
DONE WITH THIS CLASS YET! THE  
TIME HAS COME!



FOR YOU GUYS TO  
CREATE A MANGA!  
GOOD LUCK AND  
DON'T MESS IT UP.  
SEPPUKU KNIVES  
WILL BE AVAILBLE  
UPON REQUEST.



WELL THIS  
SHOULD BE  
FUN...

DO YOU GUYS HAVE  
ANY IDEA WHAT TO  
DO?

NOPE!



AT LONG LAST. I AM DONE  
WITH SOPHOMORE YEAR...

TWO TEARY WEEKS LATER



# IMPOSTER SYNDROME CONT...

BEING SURROUNDED  
BY GREAT MINDS ALL  
THE TIME...



IS NICE AND ALL. BUT  
KNOWING THAT  
EVENTUALLY THEY WILL  
FIND OUT I AM A FRAUD...



...THAT SOON I WILL  
BE CALLED OUT...



FOR NOT BEING  
GOOD ENOUGH TO  
BE HERE...

