

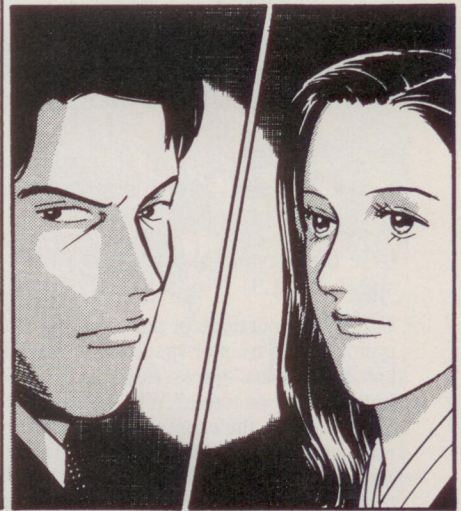
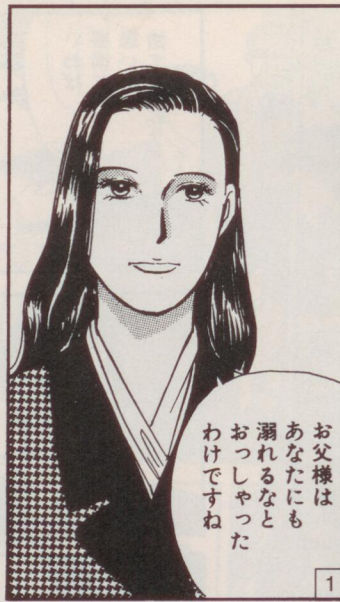
1 Harashima:

お父様は、あなたにも溺れるなどおっしゃったわけですね。

“And the situation is that your father also told you not to get addicted, didn't he?”

“And your father warned you that you shouldn't become too caught up in art either?” (PL4)

- お父様 (or the less formal お父さん) is the proper way to refer to another person's father, while 父 (see next panel) is the proper way to refer to one's own father. Male speakers can also use the quite informal 親父, seen above, to refer to their own father—though it can sound disrespectful when used in a relatively formal conversation like this. Note that the vice president uses it when he is in effect belittling his father.
- 溺れる means “drown/be drowned,” but it's also used idiomatically to mean “indulge in/become addicted to/give oneself over to.” な after the plain, dictionary form of a verb can make a prohibition/negative command: “don't ~.”
- と is quotative, and おっしゃった is the past form of おっしゃる, a PL4 honorific verb for “say.” と marks 溺れる な as the content of the quote; に marks あなた (“you”) as the person to whom it was said.
- も = “too/also.”
- ~わけです is used in making explanations: “the situation is that ~”; ね is like a tag question that assumes agreement from the listener: “right?/isn't it?/didn't he?”



2 Vice President:

父は内心、長男の私に社長を任せて、自分は趣味に没頭したかったのかもしれない。

“It may be that, in his heart, my father wanted to leave the presidency [of the company] to me, his eldest son, and immerse himself in his hobby.”

“I suppose what my father really wanted was to leave operations of the company to me so he would be free to throw himself into his true interest.” (PL3)



Sound FX:

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- 内心 is strictly speaking a noun for “one's innermost/true desire,” but the word often functions more like an adverb: “inwardly” → “in his heart.”
- 長男 means “eldest son.” の here marks 長男 and 私 as referring to the same thing: “I who am his eldest son.”
- 任せて is the *-te* form of 任せる (“entrust/leave to”).
- 自分 = “oneself,” and it becomes “me/myself,” “he/himself,” “you/yourself,” etc., depending on the context.
- 没頭 = “immersion/being absorbed in,” and 没頭したかった is the past form of 没頭したい, the

2 (continued)

“want to” form of 没頭する (“immerse oneself [in]/become absorbed [in].” に marks what the person is immersing himself/herself in.

- の is used when making explanations—in this case it is a tentative/hypothetical explanation.
- かもしれない is the PL3 form of かもしれない (“might be/may possibly be”).

3 Vice President:

しかし、私には事業の才能がなかった。それが問題です。

“But I had no aptitude for business. That was the problem.” (PL3)

- しかし = “but.”
- なかった is the plain/abrupt past form of ない (“not have/not exist”).
- 問題 = “problem/difficulty.”