

100 Tales from the Tokyo Ghost Café



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100 STORIES FROM THE TOKYO GHOST CAFE
is a GUPPY BOOK

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JULIAN SEDGWICK

100 Tales from the Tokyo Ghost Café

CHIE KUTSUWADA



ALSO BY JULIAN SEDGWICK AND CHIE KUTSUWADA

TSUNAMI GIRL

Shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal, Highly Commended
for the UKLA Award, a White Raven Book 2022

'A coming-of-age tale like no other'
The Scotsman

'A unique collaboration . . . impressive and original'
Financial Times

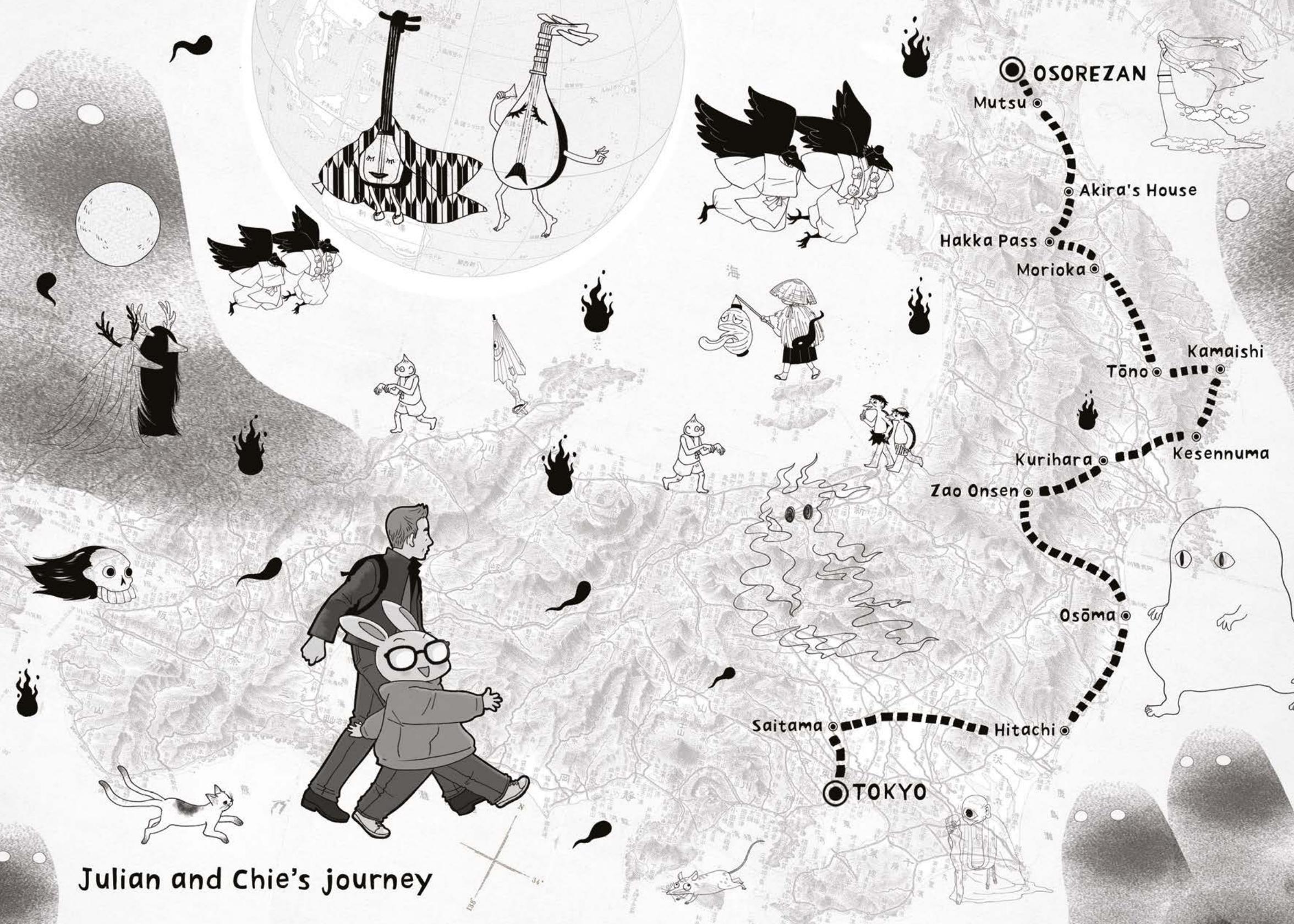
'Powerful and hugely original'
Independent

Chosen for the Read for Empathy Collection 2022

For Isabel and Joe and Will,
for all their love and support
JS

For my mum, brother, aunt S, uncle S, and our cat K.
And especially, for my dad, who is watching
over me from the other side.

CK



OSOREZAN

Mutsu

Akira's House

Hakka Pass

Morioka

Kamaishi

Tōno

Kesennuma

Kurihara

Zao Onsen

Osōma

Saitama

Hitachi

TOKYO

Julian and Chie's journey

Old Japan, dusk is falling.

People gather to play a game - the *Hyaku Monogatari Kaidan Kai* or the 'One Hundred Ghost Stories Party'. It has become something of a craze, both in the great city of Edo (now Tokyo), and in towns and villages the length of the country.

The players sit in an unlit room, whilst in a neighbouring space one hundred candles are lit, and a mirror placed on a table. Each guest will take turns to tell a ghost story, and then will make their way to the other room to extinguish one candle.

And then, perhaps, glance - quickly, anxiously - in the mirror.

As the night lengthens and the candlelit room darkens, the atmosphere grows heavy with the telling of encounters with *yōkai* monsters and famous stories of the otherworld.

Imagine what you might hear if you were playing the game. What story would you make up, or retell? A real one, a famous one - something from your own imagination?

And imagine what might happen as the hundredth story reaches its conclusion, and the final candle is blown out . . .

But now dusk is falling. It's *oumagatoki* - the time of transformation from day to night, from this world to the other. If you look closely at the *kanji* characters for that word - 逢魔時 - you might glimpse the word 魔 for 'demon' lurking in the middle.

Come with us on a journey to the far north of Japan, collecting stories of ghosts and strange creatures as we go, weaving them all together with manga to tell: *100 Tales from the Tokyo Ghost Café* . . .

SHINJUKU, TOKYO



Julian-san!



Hajimemashite.
Yoroshiku onegai
shimasu.



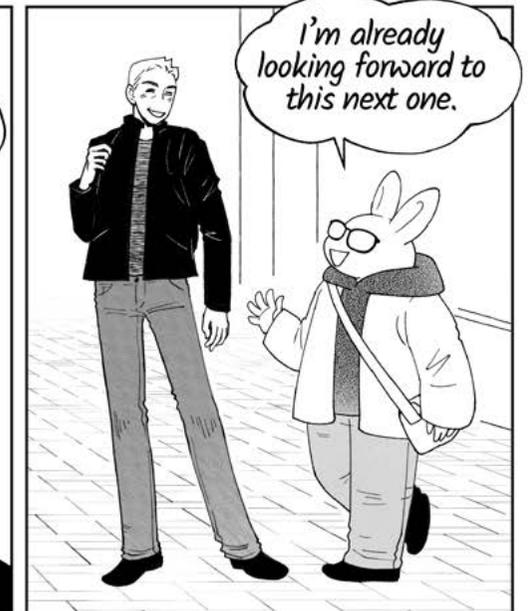
Kochira koso
yoroshiku onegai
shima-su!

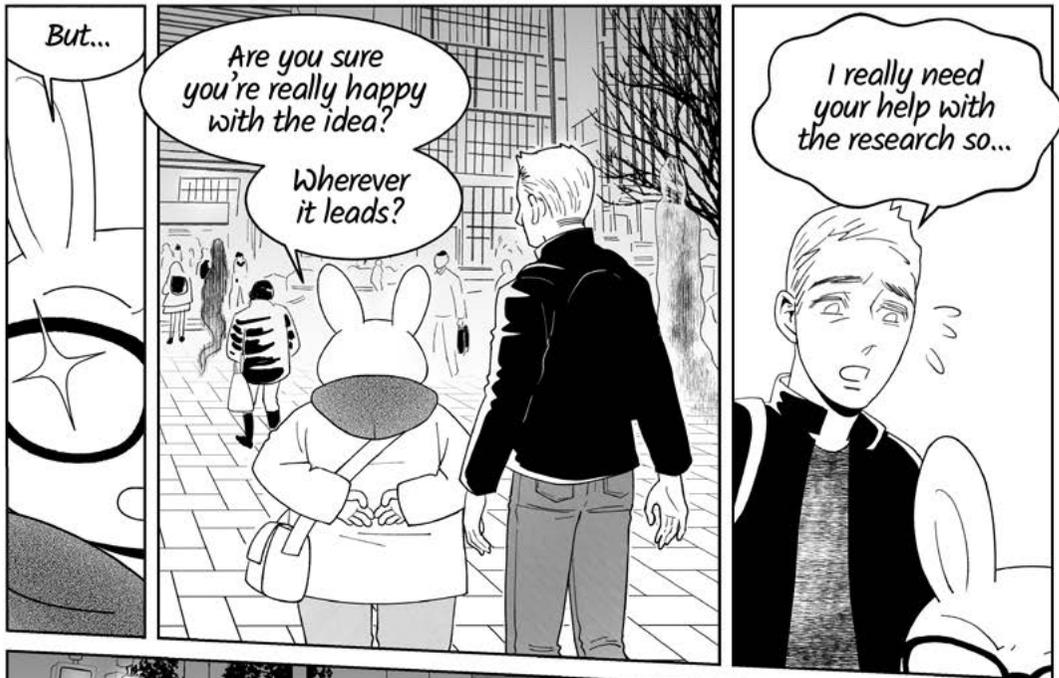
Good to meet you
for real at last,
Chie-san!

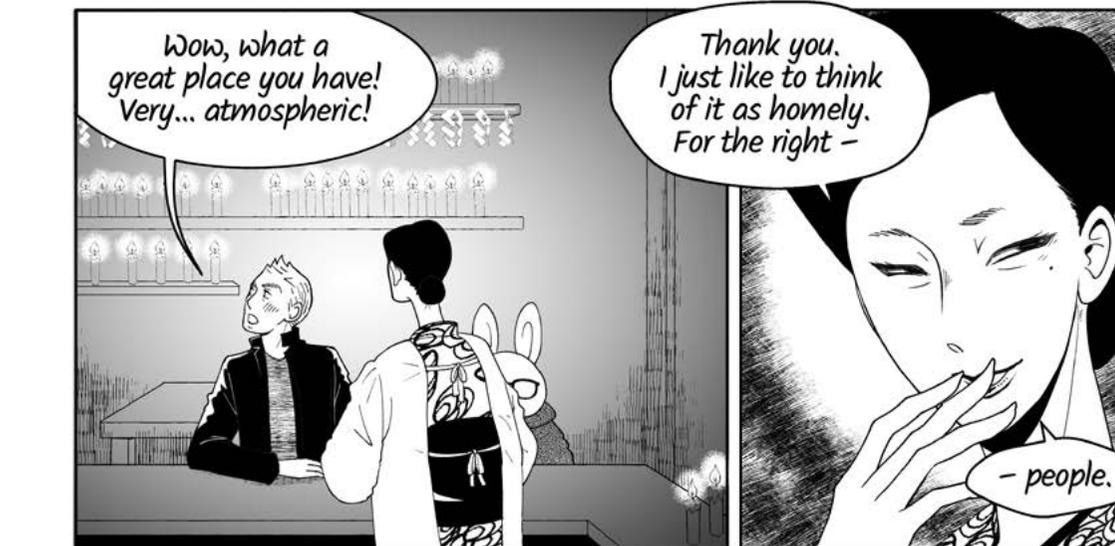
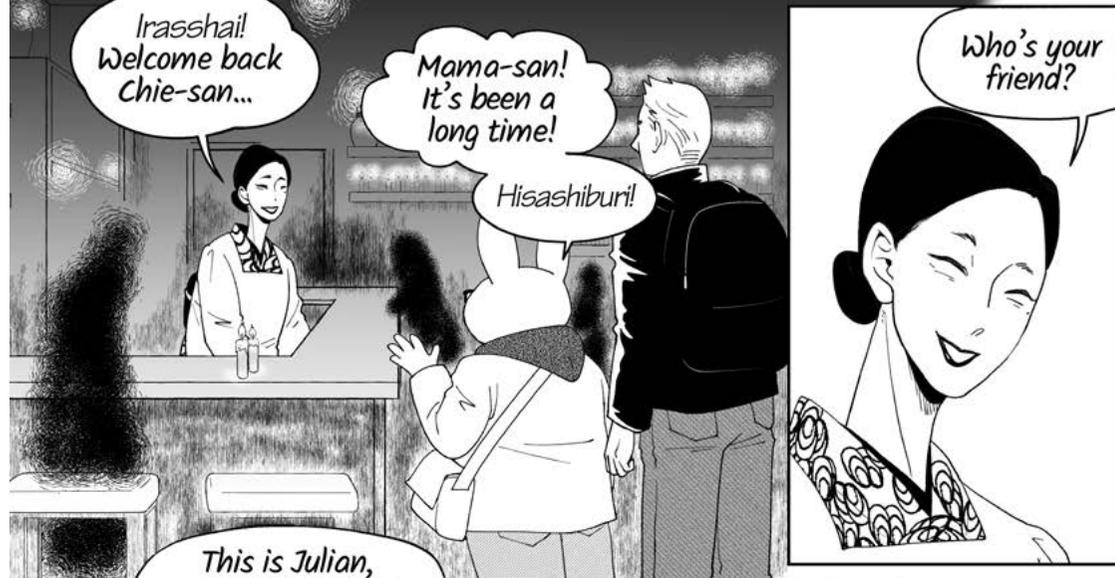
Thanks for all
your hard work on
the last book.



I'm already
looking forward to
this next one.







Oh! Full this way!

This way!

Irasshai! Welcome back Chie-san...

Mama-san! It's been a long time!

Hisashiburi!

Who's your friend?

Tokyo Ghost Café?!

I don't remember this place.

到着!! It's here!!

This is Julian, researching ghost stories.

We're heading north on a field trip.

Oooh. Interesting.

Konbanwa.

Everything changes. 'Specially here, right?

Good Evening こんにちは

If you want to write about ghosts and yōkai, Mama-san is kind of a specialist...

Wow, what a great place you have! Very... atmospheric!

Thank you. I just like to think of it as homely. For the right -

- people.

