



# Adopt-A-Family

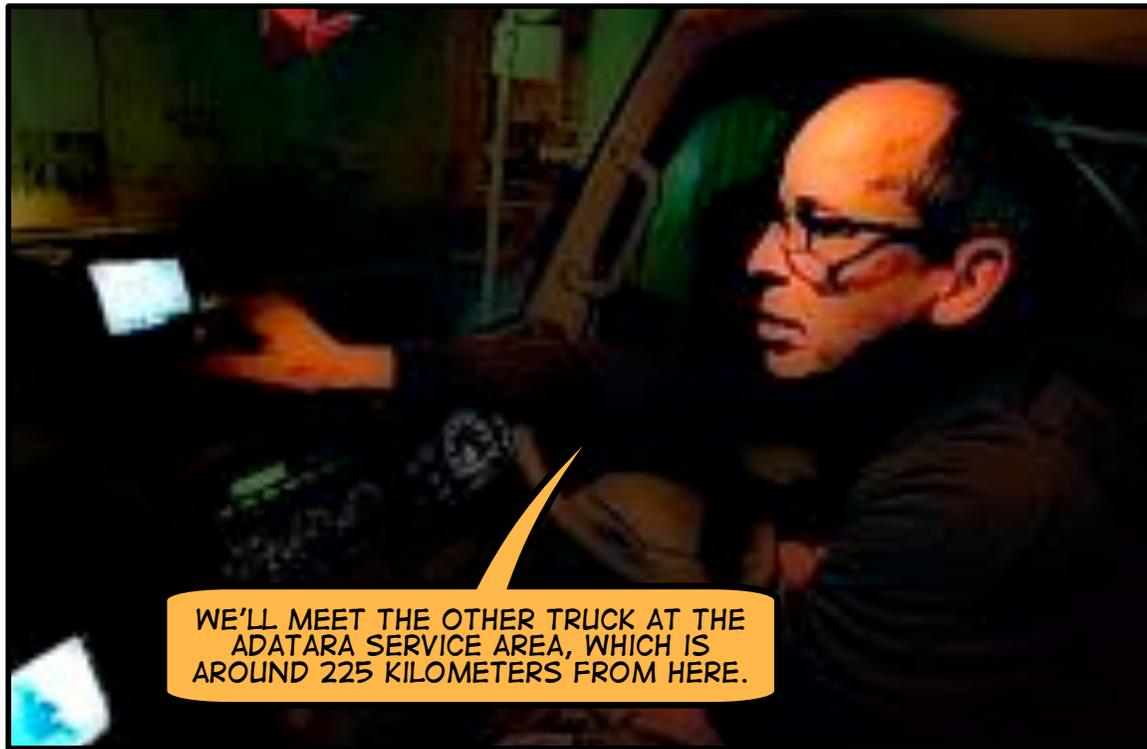
AKIHABARA, TOKYO



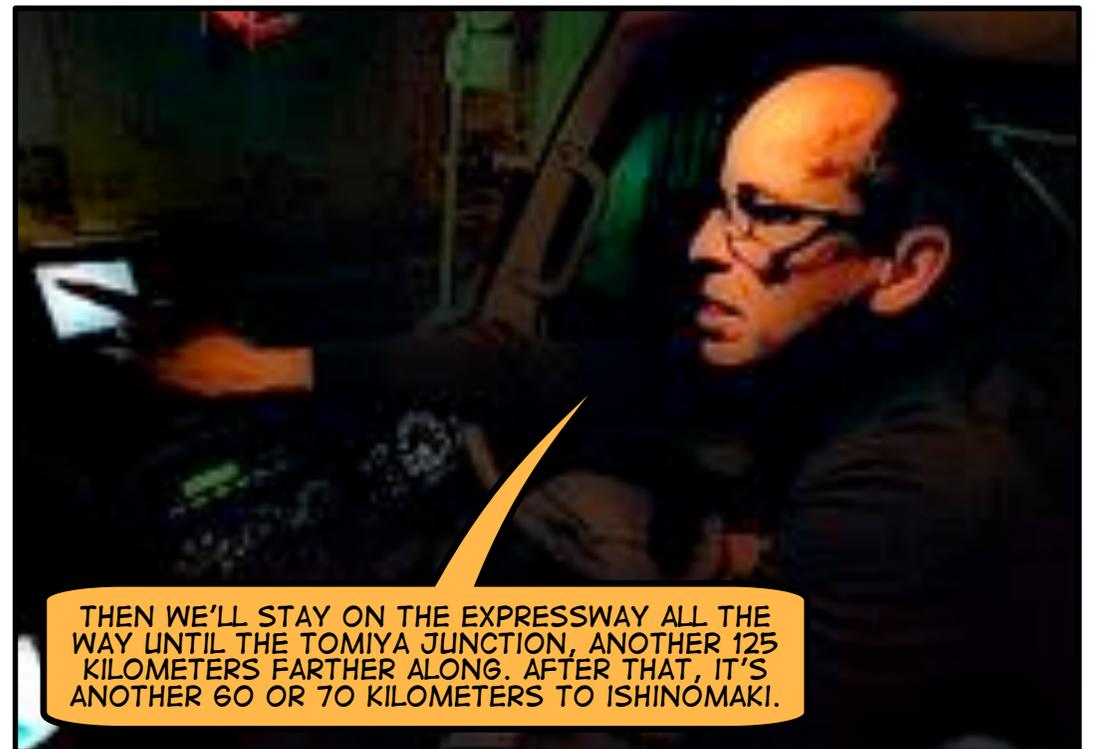
WOLFGANG



READY TO GO? IT'S A LONG DRIVE TO ISHINOMAKI,  
AND THE WEATHER FORECAST ISN'T GREAT!



WE'LL MEET THE OTHER TRUCK AT THE ADATARA SERVICE AREA, WHICH IS AROUND 225 KILOMETERS FROM HERE.



THEN WE'LL STAY ON THE EXPRESSWAY ALL THE WAY UNTIL THE TOMIYA JUNCTION, ANOTHER 125 KILOMETERS FARTHER ALONG. AFTER THAT, IT'S ANOTHER 60 OR 70 KILOMETERS TO ISHINOMAKI.



GOT THE SNACKS? LET'S HIT THE ROAD!

THIS FIRST BIT, GETTING OUT OF TOKYO, IS ALWAYS THE MOST FRUSTRATING. BUT AT LEAST THE TRAFFIC'S NOT TOO BAD AT THIS HOUR.



WE NEED TO MAKE TIME WHILE WE CAN ... IF IT STARTS TO SNOW THIS TRIP COULD TAKE MUCH, MUCH LONGER THAN USUAL.



SEVERAL HOURS LATER

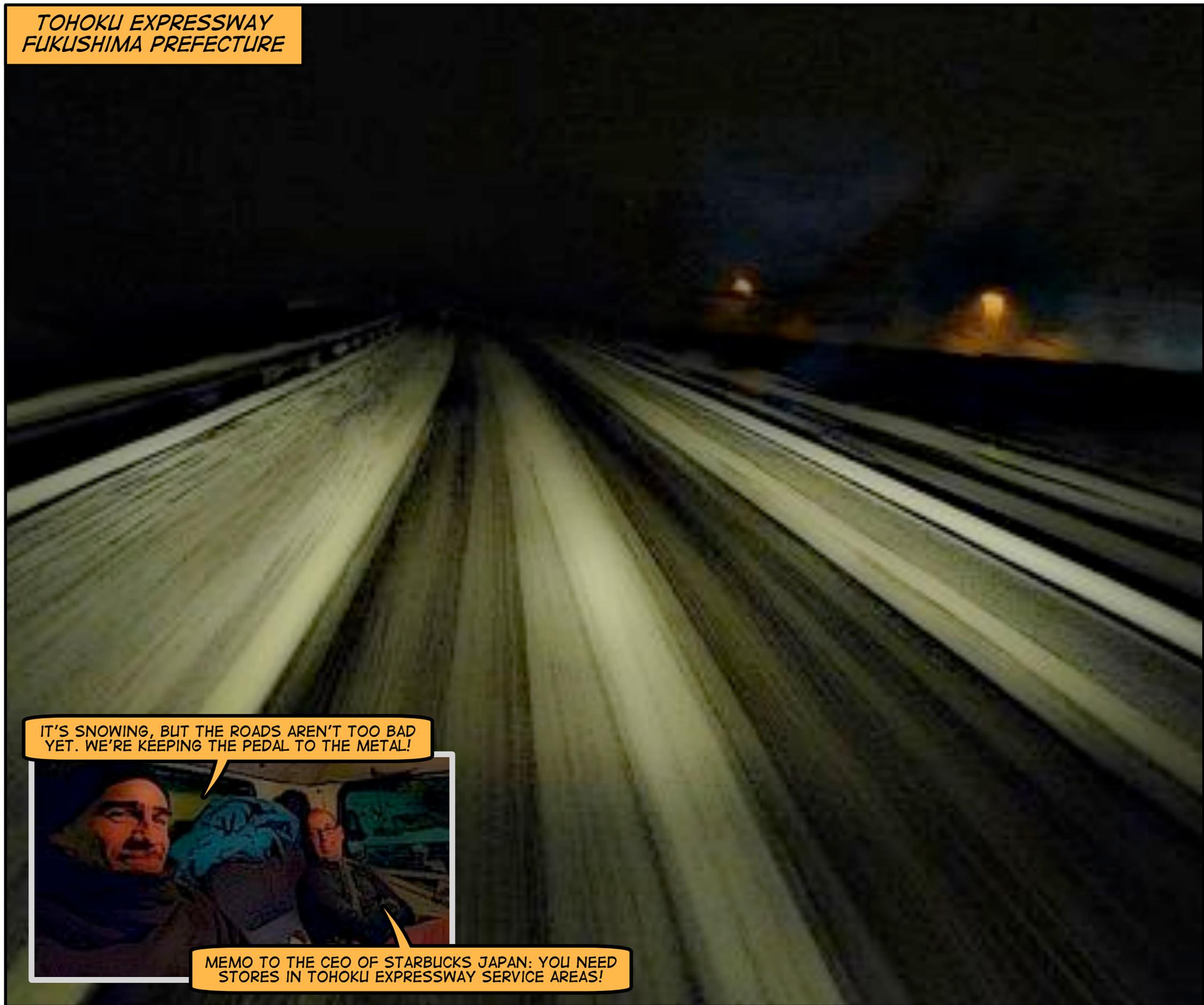
THE OTHER TRUCK'S WAY BEHIND US, SO WE'RE NOT GOING TO WAIT. WE MAY SEE THEM AT THE TOMIYA JUNCTION.



ROBERTO

AND *HERE'S* THE SNOW ...

**TOHOKU EXPRESSWAY  
FUKUSHIMA PREFECTURE**



IT'S SNOWING, BUT THE ROADS AREN'T TOO BAD YET. WE'RE KEEPING THE PEDAL TO THE METAL!



MEMO TO THE CEO OF STARBUCKS JAPAN: YOU NEED STORES IN TOHOKU EXPRESSWAY SERVICE AREAS!

ISHINOMAKI



THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP BEFORE UNLOADING AND LOADING A TRUCK FULL OF FOOD!



AND THAT WAS NOTHING LIKE A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP! WHAT DID WE GET, THREE HOURS?



THANKS ... STILL ANOTHER TEN BOXES COMING.



OKAY.



YONEKURA-SAN

**ummmh!**  
**nggh!**

SHIBATA-SAN

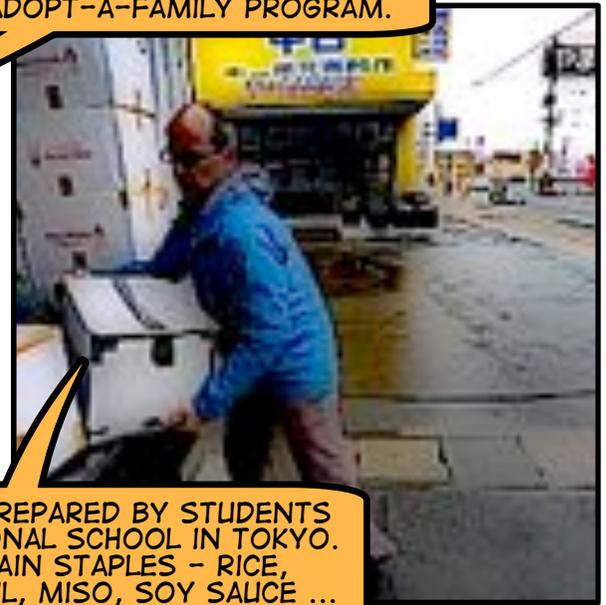


WE'VE GOT TWO MORE TRUCKS TO LOAD THIS MORNING, GUYS.

WE'LL DO YOURS FIRST, WOLFGANG, SO YOU CAN GET ON THE ROAD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.



WE'RE DELIVERING FOOD PACKAGES HERE IN ISHINOMAKI AS PART OF SECOND HARVEST'S ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM.



THESE BOXES WERE PREPARED BY STUDENTS AT SEISEN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL IN TOKYO. THE MOSTLY CONTAIN STAPLES - RICE, NOODLES, COOKING OIL, MISO, SOY SAUCE ...



... PLUS A HANDMADE GREETING CARD FROM THE KIDS IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSES.



EVERYONE WHO GETS THESE PACKAGES WILL GET A CASE OF DRINKING WATER AS WELL.

WE'LL DISTRIBUTE THESE PACKAGES IN THE SMALL TRUCK WITH YONEKURA-SAN, AND WE'LL TRY TO RETURN BY FOUR O'CLOCK TO TAKE THAT BACK TO TOKYO.



NO PROBLEM. I'LL BE FINISHED MY DISTRIBUTION BY THEN AS WELL.

OUR DISTRIBUTION ROUTE IS ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIVER, BUT BASICALLY THE ENTIRE SEA LEVEL PART OF THE CITY WAS FLOODED.



NEAR THE KYU-KITAKAMI RIVER, ISHINOMAKI



WOLFGANG, WE'RE LEAVING THEM 20 FOOD PACKAGES, AND 20 CASES OF WATER.

NO PROBLEM.

I NEARLY FORGOT! PLEASE ADD HALF A CASE OF TOILET PAPER FOR EACH FAMILY!



LET'S START WITH THE WATER ...

TEMPORARY HOUSING COMPLEX



WE'VE GOT 20 FOOD PACKAGES, AND 20 CASES OF WATER.



VERY MUCH APPRECIATED. WE'LL HELP YOU UNLOAD.





HEY, THIS WATER IS FROM THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES!

IT'S COME A LONG WAY TO ISHINOMAKI!



SO THAT'S EVERYTHING. WE'LL SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!

THANKS A LOT, YONEKURA-SAN. WE APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT A GREAT DEAL.



... AND THIS IS THE LAST FOOD BOX.

GREAT, THANK YOU.

ASIDE FROM THE TEMPORARY HOUSING COMPLEXES, WE MAKE A LOT OF DELIVERIES TO OLDER PEOPLE WHO LIVE ALONE AND DON'T DRIVE ANYMORE.

THE TSUNAMI WIPED OUT MANY LOCAL STORES, AND FOR MANY OLDER PEOPLE IN ISHINOMAKI, THERE'S NO LONGER A SUPERMARKET NEARBY.



WELL, ONLY AROUND HALF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD HAVE MOVED BACK INTO THEIR HOMES. I'M LUCKY MY HOUSE WASN'T TOO BADLY DAMAGED ...

... THOUGH IT CERTAINLY WAS *WET!*

OF COURSE, I HAD A LOT OF HELP TO GET MY HOUSE CLEAN AND DRY AGAIN. BUT WITH MOST OF THE SHOPS GONE, IT'S DIFFICULT TO BUY EVEN THE ESSENTIALS, AND I CAN'T IMPOSE ON FRIENDS AND FAMILY ALL THE TIME.

IT ALL BECOMES A BIT MUCH AT TIMES.



FINALLY, THE LAST STOP OF WHAT HAS BEEN A **VERY** LONG DAY.



GOOD AFTERNOON, MA'AM, WE'RE FROM SECOND HARVEST. WE'VE GOT A PACKAGE OF FOOD FOR YOU, PREPARED BY STUDENTS IN TOKYO.



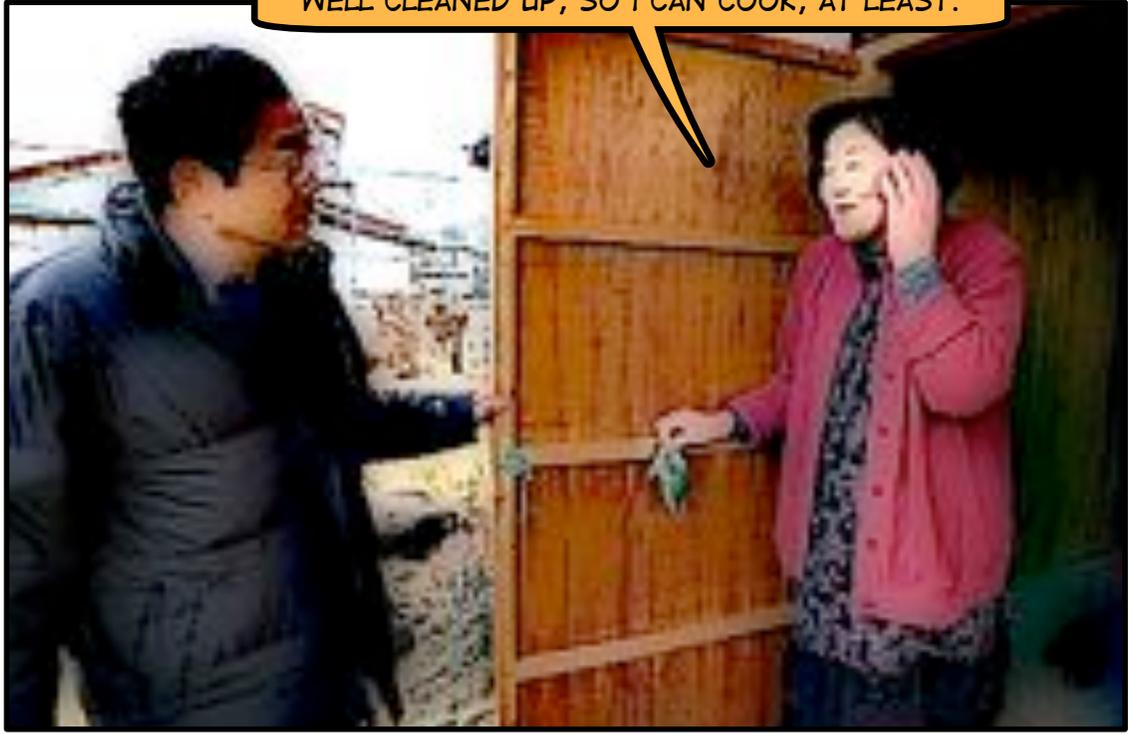
LOVELY, THANK YOU. WOULD YOU PUT IT RIGHT INSIDE THE DOOR?

AS YOU CAN SEE, THIS DOOR IS TEMPORARY. THE HOUSE IS STILL QUITE DAMAGED FROM THE TSUNAMI, BUT I'M LIVING ON THE SECOND FLOOR.



AND I'VE MANAGED TO GET THE KITCHEN PRETTY WELL CLEANED UP, SO I CAN COOK, AT LEAST.

THAT'S GOOD NEWS. AND WE'LL BE BACK NEXT MONTH WITH MORE FOOD, BUT IF YOU NEED ANYTHING IN THE MEANTIME, PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE HERE IN ISHINOMAKI.



OH, I WILL, THANK YOU!

SECOND HARVEST JAPAN PROVIDES A HELPING HAND WHEN PEOPLE NEED ONE. AND WE ALL NEED ONE NOW AND THEN. IF YOU'D LIKE TO GET INVOLVED, WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOUR HELP IN SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY. VISIT [WWW.2HJ.ORG](http://WWW.2HJ.ORG) TO LEARN MORE, AND TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP.  
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