

AIRI TAKADA

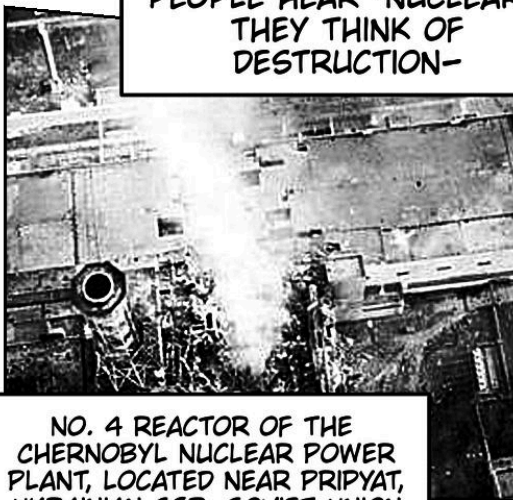
HELLO THERE! AUTHOR HERE. PLEASE READ  
FROM RIGHT TO LEFT~ THANK YOU SO MUCH!





OR MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE  
OF ITS DARK PAST. WHEN  
PEOPLE HEAR "NUCLEAR,"  
THEY THINK OF  
DESTRUCTION—

I'VE NOTICED  
SOMETHING—NO ONE  
REALLY TALKS ABOUT  
NUCLEAR ENERGY.  
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE  
WE KNOW SO LITTLE  
ABOUT IT,



NO. 4 REACTOR OF THE  
CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR POWER  
PLANT, LOCATED NEAR PRIPYAT,  
UKRAINIAN SSR, SOVIET UNION  
(NOW UKRAINE) EXPLODED.  
(APRIL 26, 1986)

[HTTPS://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/  
WIKI/CHERNOBYL\\_DISASTER#/MEDIA/  
FILE:CHERNOBYL\\_BURNING-AERIA  
L\\_VIEW\\_OF\\_CORE.JPG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chernobyl_Disaster#/media/File:Chernobyl_burning-aerial-view_of_core.jpg)



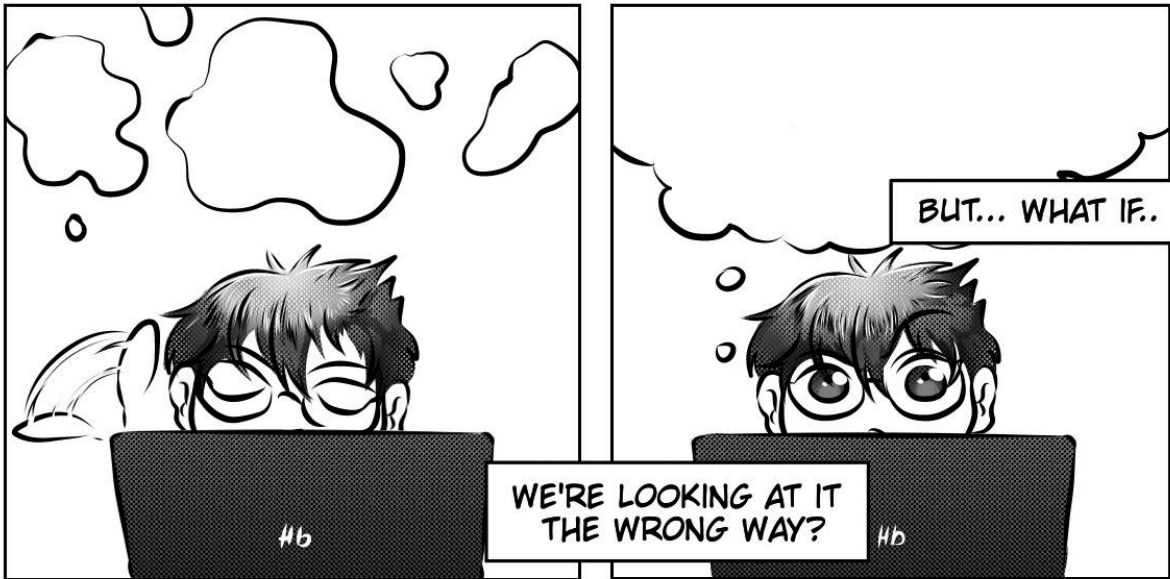
FUKUSHIMA ACCIDENT,  
ACCIDENT AT  
THE FUKUSHIMA DAIICHI.  
(MARCH 11, 2011)

[HTTPS://WWW.ENECHO.METI  
.GO.JP/ABOUT/LINKSTO\\_THISSITE/](https://www.enecho.meti.go.jp/about/linksto_thissite/)

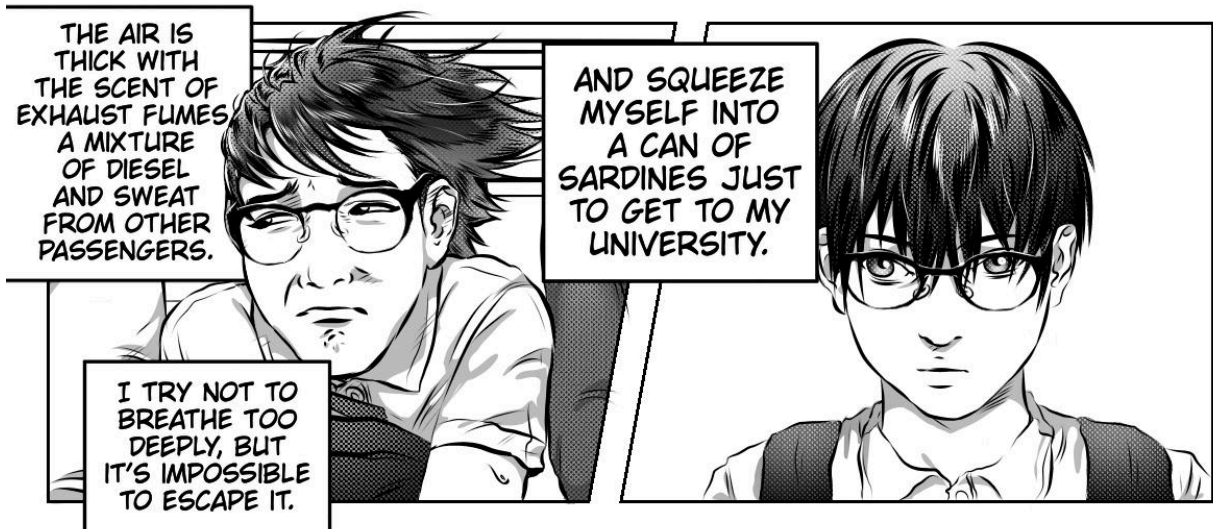


THE HIROSHIMA  
(AUGUST 6, 1945)  
AND NAGASAKI  
(AUGUST 9, 1945)  
DISASTER.

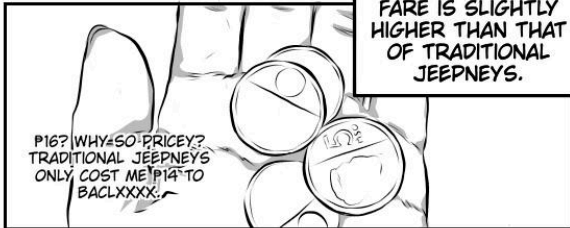
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND  
RECORDS ADMINISTRATION  
[[HTTPS://ALLTHATINTERESTING.COM/  
HIROSHIMA-AFTERMATH-PICTURES#23](https://allthatsinteresting.com/hiroshima-aftermath-pictures#23)]



ANYWAYS,



I TRY NOT TO BREATHE TOO DEEPLY, BUT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO ESCAPE IT.



HOWEVER, THE FARE IS SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN THAT OF TRADITIONAL JEEPNEYS.

P16? WHY SO PRICEY? TRADITIONAL JEEPNEYS ONLY COST ME P14 TO BACLXXX.

THE WORD 'MANONG' IS USED TO RESPECTFULLY ADDRESS AN OLDER MAN.

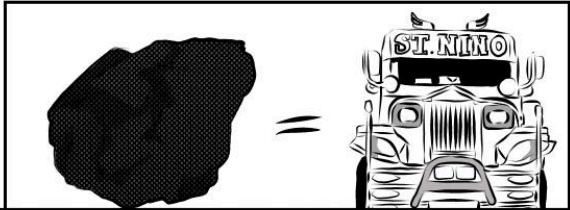


Manong, How much is it at BACLXXX only?

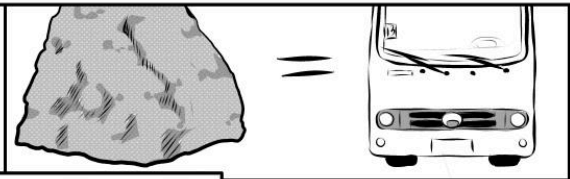
ON THE OTHER HAND, MODERN JEEPNEYS, WHICH RESEMBLE MINI-BUSES, SERVE COMMUTERS BETTER BY OFFERING AIR CONDITIONING.

Where? Oh! BACLXXX? 16 for Students!

DIFFERENT FONTS MEAN THEY'RE SPEAKING A DIFFERENT LANGUAGE (TAGALOG).



WELL, THESE STRUGGLES CAN BE COMPARED TO THE SAME ISSUES SURROUNDING THE USE OF NUCLEAR AND FOSSIL ENERGY IN POWERING OUR WORLD.



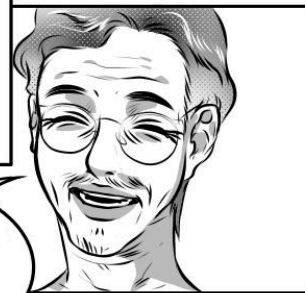
NOW, YOU MAY BE WONDERING WHY I'M SUDDENLY TALKING ABOUT MY STRUGGLES AS A COMMUTER.

MY GRANDFATHER MENTIONED HIROSHIMA WHEN I ASKED ABOUT IT. HE TOLD ME HOW THE DISASTER WIPED OUT ENTIRE TOWNS, HOW RADIATION SPREAD, MAKING PLACES UNSAFE FOR YEARS.



Haha, I know that you never run out of stories.

I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME NUCLEAR ENERGY REALLY CAUGHT MY ATTENTION.



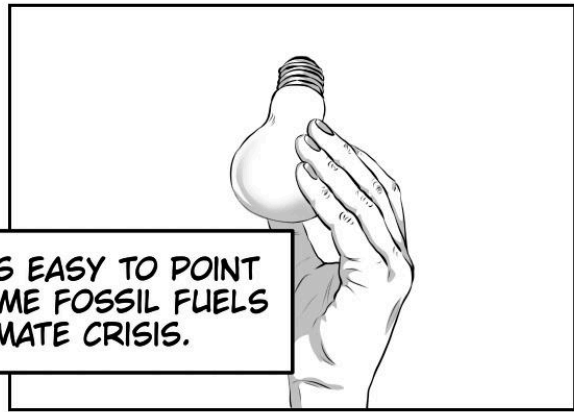
Good thing you approached me, and I have a lot of stories to share with you.

I DIDN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT AT THE TIME, BUT HIS WORDS STUCK WITH ME. THAT NIGHT, I DECIDED TO WATCH A DOCUMENTARY ABOUT NUCLEAR DISASTERS, AS WELL AS THE POTENTIAL POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF NUCLEAR POWER ON OUR WORLD.





I KNOW THAT IT'S EASY TO POINT FINGERS AND BLAME FOSSIL FUELS FOR THE CLIMATE CRISIS.



SOLAR

AND



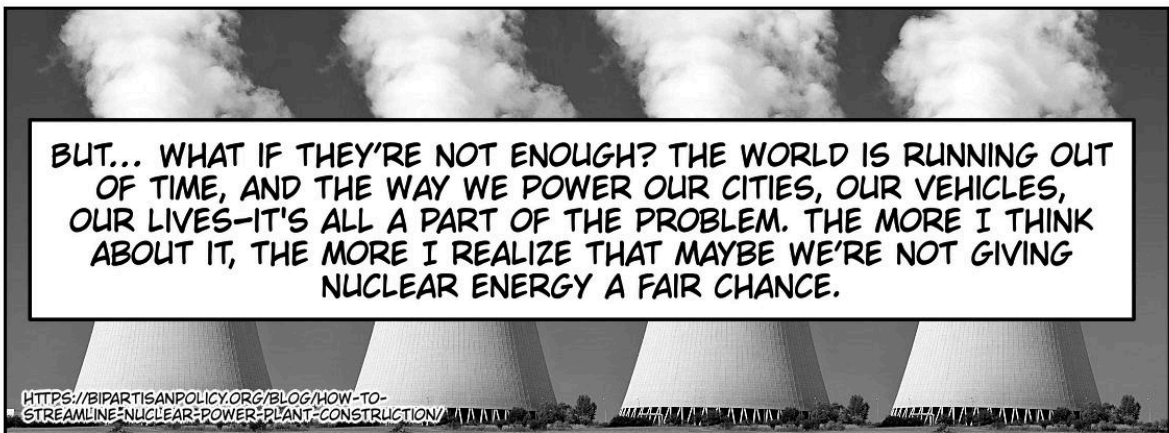
WIND.

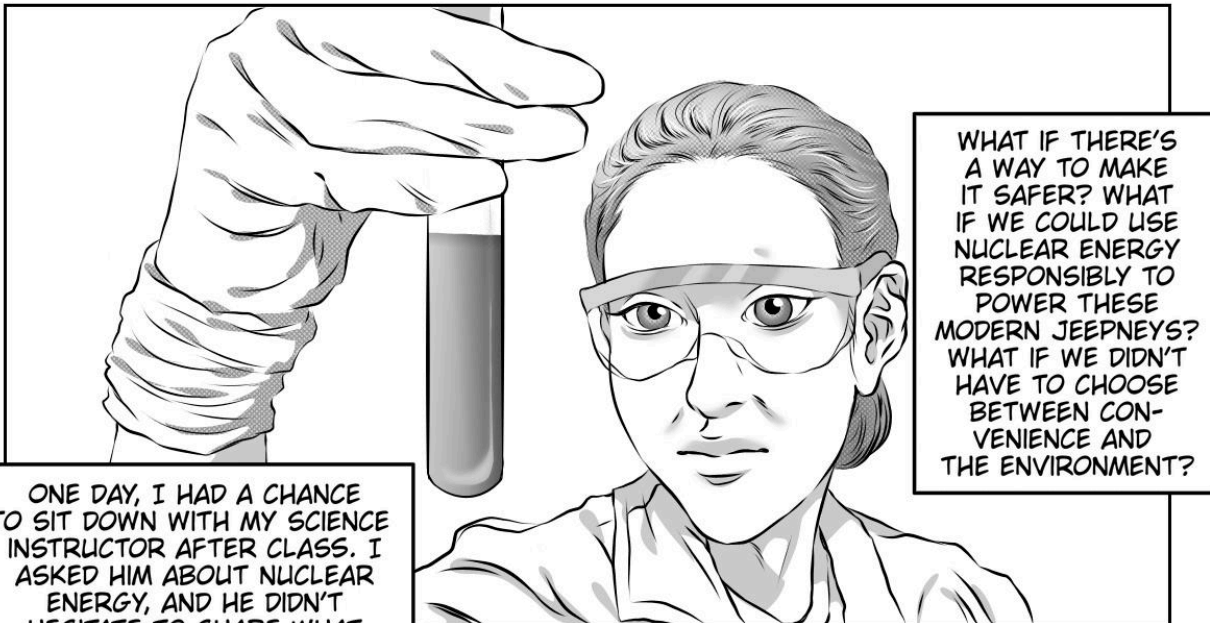
IT'S EASY TO SAY THAT NUCLEAR POWER IS TOO DANGEROUS, THAT WE SHOULD STICK TO THE "SAFE" OPTIONS LIKE-



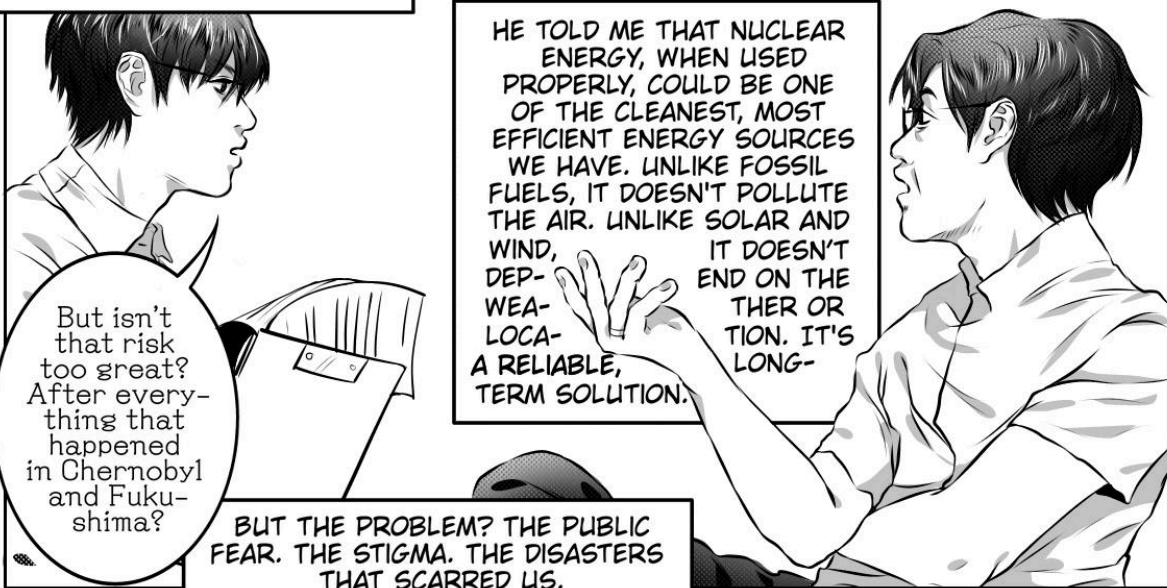
BUT... WHAT IF THEY'RE NOT ENOUGH? THE WORLD IS RUNNING OUT OF TIME, AND THE WAY WE POWER OUR CITIES, OUR VEHICLES, OUR LIVES-IT'S ALL A PART OF THE PROBLEM. THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, THE MORE I REALIZE THAT MAYBE WE'RE NOT GIVING NUCLEAR ENERGY A FAIR CHANCE.

HTTPS://BIPARTISANPOLICY.ORG/BLOG/HOW-TO-STREAMLINE-NUCLEAR-POWER-PLANT-CONSTRUCTION/





ONE DAY, I HAD A CHANCE TO SIT DOWN WITH MY SCIENCE INSTRUCTOR AFTER CLASS. I ASKED HIM ABOUT NUCLEAR ENERGY, AND HE DIDN'T HESITATE TO SHARE WHAT HE KNEW.



But isn't that risk too great? After everything that happened in Chernobyl and Fukushima?

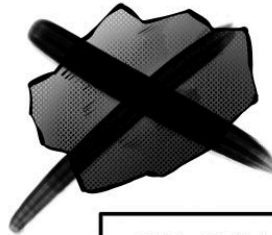
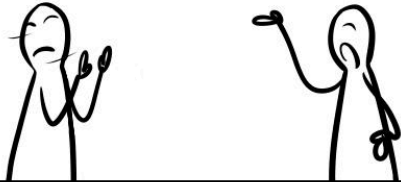
BUT THE PROBLEM? THE PUBLIC FEAR. THE STIGMA. THE DISASTERS THAT SCARRED US.



that's.. thats true sir..

Yeah..

BUT I KNOW THIS-IF WE KEEP  
IGNORING THE CONVERSATION,  
WE'RE NEVER GOING TO FIND IT.  
FOSSIL FUELS HAVE THEIR HOLD  
ON US,

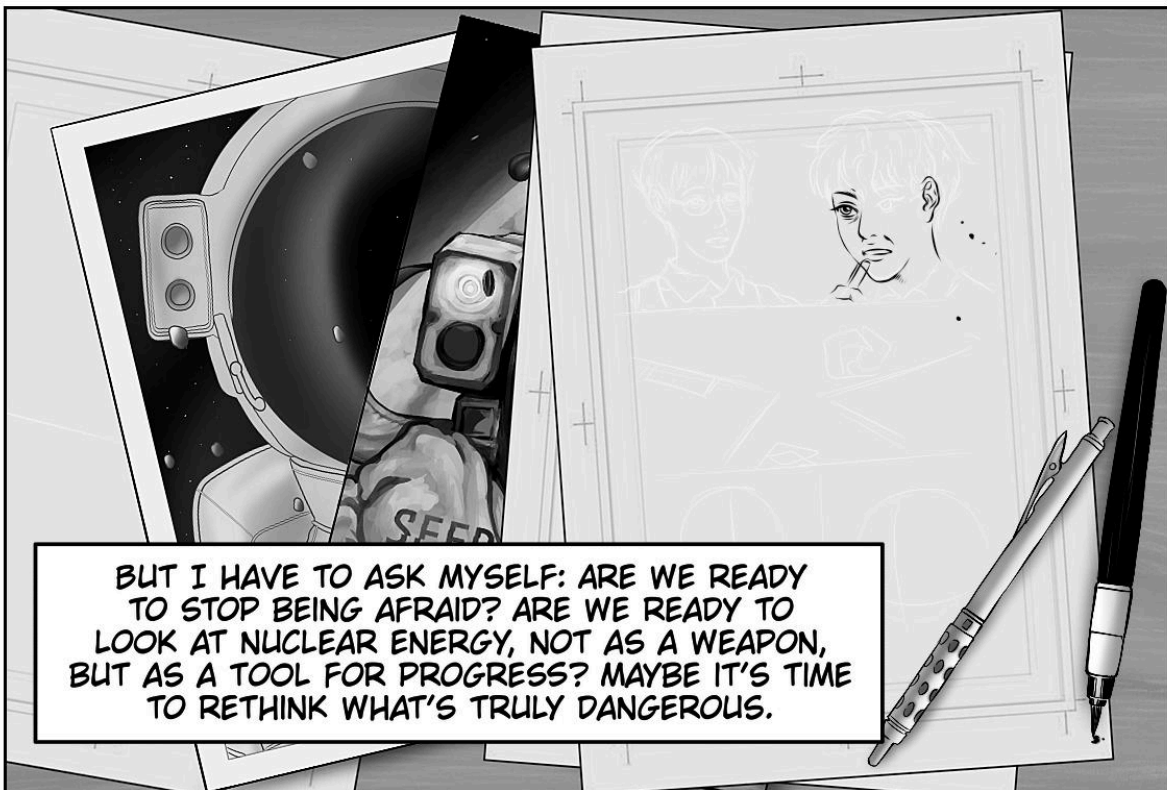
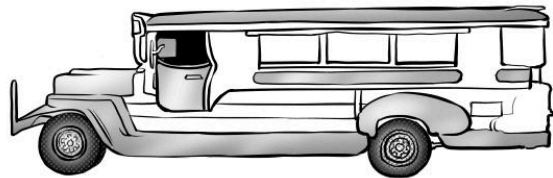


I'M STILL NOT SURE IF  
NUCLEAR ENERGY IS  
THE ANSWER.

MAYBE THE  
FUTURE ISN'T  
AS BLACK-  
AND-WHITE  
AS WE THINK.  
MAYBE IT'S  
GRAY, JUST  
LIKE THE AIR  
I BREATHE  
EVERY MOR-  
NING ON MY  
WAY TO  
SCHOOL.



JUST LIKE THESE OLD JEEPNEYS  
THAT ARE CHOKING THE AIR EVERY  
DAY. WE CAN'T JUST KEEP DRIVING  
AROUND IN CIRCLES, WAITING FOR A  
DISASTER TO HAPPEN.



BUT I HAVE TO ASK MYSELF: ARE WE READY  
TO STOP BEING AFRAID? ARE WE READY TO  
LOOK AT NUCLEAR ENERGY, NOT AS A WEAPON,  
BUT AS A TOOL FOR PROGRESS? MAYBE IT'S TIME  
TO RETHINK WHAT'S TRULY DANGEROUS.



WE FEAR THE SPARK BECAUSE WE'VE SEEN  
WHAT ONE SIDE CAN DO. BUT MAYBE IT'S  
TIME WE LOOKED AT THE OTHER SIDE-THE  
SIDE THAT CAN POWER, NOT DESTROY.

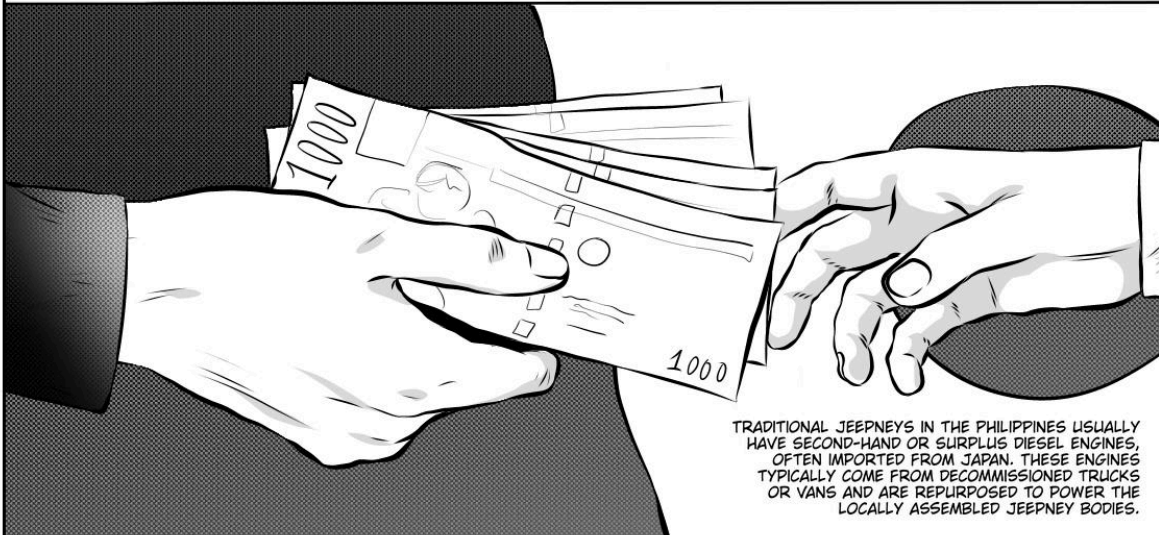
Fin~



**DID YOU KNOW?**

TRADITIONAL JEEPNEYS ARE CHEAPER  
THAN MODERN JEEPNEYS, JUST LIKE FOSSIL  
FUELS ARE CHEAPER THAN NUCLEAR ENERGY.

MOST TRADITIONAL JEEPNEYS USE SECOND-HAND ENGINES FROM JAPAN, WHICH MAKES THEM MORE AFFORDABLE, BUT THEY PRODUCE A LOT OF SMOKE AND POLLUTION. MODERN JEEPNEYS, ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE BRAND NEW, COST MILLIONS OF PESOS, BUT ARE SAFER, CLEANER, AND MORE COMFORTABLE FOR PASSENGERS.



TRADITIONAL JEEPNEYS IN THE PHILIPPINES USUALLY HAVE SECOND-HAND OR SURPLUS DIESEL ENGINES, OFTEN IMPORTED FROM JAPAN. THESE ENGINES TYPICALLY COME FROM DECOMMISSIONED TRUCKS OR VANS AND ARE REPURPOSED TO POWER THE LOCALLY ASSEMBLED JEEPNEY BODIES.

THIS IS SIMILAR TO ENERGY SOURCES. FOSSIL FUELS LIKE COAL AND GAS ARE CHEAPER AND WIDELY USED, BUT THEY CAUSE AIR POLLUTION AND HARM THE ENVIRONMENT. NUCLEAR ENERGY IS MORE EXPENSIVE TO BUILD AT FIRST, BUT IT'S MUCH CLEANER AND DOESN'T POLLUTE THE AIR.

IT DOESN'T POLLUTE THE AIR, BUT IT DOES NEED TO BE STORED SAFELY FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS. THAT KIND OF RESPONSIBILITY MAKES FOSSIL FUELS LIKE COAL AND GAS SEEM EASIER TO DEAL WITH, EVEN IF THEY'RE ACTUALLY WORSE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT.



YOU SEE, MANY IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR ARE STILL HESITANT ABOUT NUCLEAR ENERGY. EVEN THOUGH IT'S CLEAN AND EFFICIENT, PAST ACCIDENTS HAVE LEFT A STRONG SENSE OF FEAR... AND THEN THERE'S THE ISSUE OF NUCLEAR WASTE—

SO EVEN THOUGH TRADITIONAL JEEPNEYS AND FOSSIL FUELS ARE CHEAPER, THEY COME WITH HIDDEN COSTS—LIKE POLLUTION AND HEALTH RISKS. MEANWHILE, MODERN JEEPNEYS AND NUCLEAR ENERGY MAY COST MORE AT THE START, BUT THEY'RE BETTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND OUR FUTURE.

IN THE END,  
NO ENERGY SOURCE  
IS PERFECT. BUT IF  
WE TRULY WANT A  
CLEANER AND MORE  
SUSTAINABLE FUTURE,  
WE NEED TO LOOK BE-  
YOND OUR FEARS AND  
FOCUS ON FACTS. NUCLEAR  
ENERGY MAY HAVE ITS  
CHALLENGES, BUT IT  
ALSO HOLDS A LOT OF  
POTENTIAL-IF WE'RE  
WILLING TO UNDER-  
STAND IT  
BETTER.

