

AAAH!



silence





Yes, it's like that!

ONE MORE TIME!

LET ME TRY IT AGAIN, SENSEI!

That's what I have to do!

Puck's movements!



ALL FANCY-SICK SHE IS AND PALE OF CHEER, WITH SIGHS OF LOVE, THAT COSTS THE FRESH BLOOD DEAR.

ABOUT THE WOOD GO SWIFTER THAN THE WIND, AND HELENA OF ATHENS LOOK THOU FIND!

BY SOME ILLUSION SEE THOU BRING HER HERE!



I'LL CHARM HIS EYES AGAINST SHE DO APPEAR.

CLAP

Jump

I GO, I GO!



Thud

LOOK HOW I GO!

JUMP

SWIFTER THAN ARROW FROM THE TARTAR'S BOW!

DASH

DASH

TOCK



DON'T FORGET WHAT YOU HAVE JUST DONE... MAYA.

AH!

clap

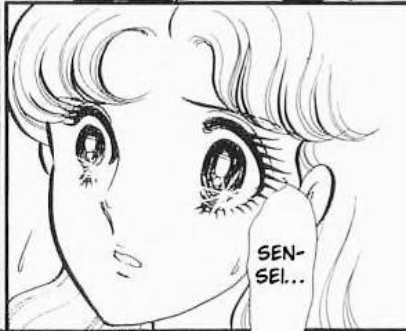


WELL DONE.

YOU WERE MUCH SWIFTER THAN BEFORE.

clap

clap BRAVO MAYA!



SEN-SEI...



THANKS TO THE EXERCISE WITH THE BALLS...

...YOUR BODY ALREADY KNOWS!

TEACH ME MORE!

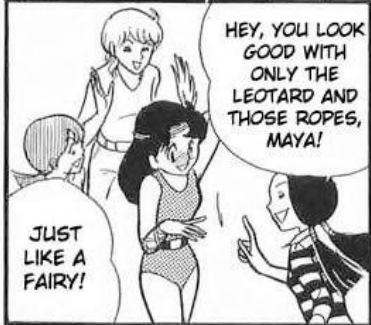
MAYBE I UNDERSTOOD PUCK'S MOVEMENTS... BUT HOW SHOULD I PLAY HIM?

Puck's movements...

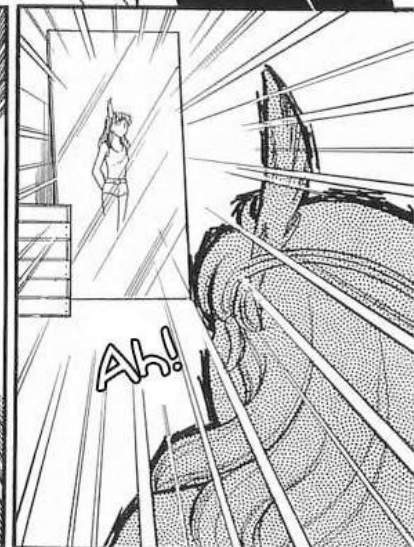
The reflex!

TSUKI-KAGE-SEN-SEI!

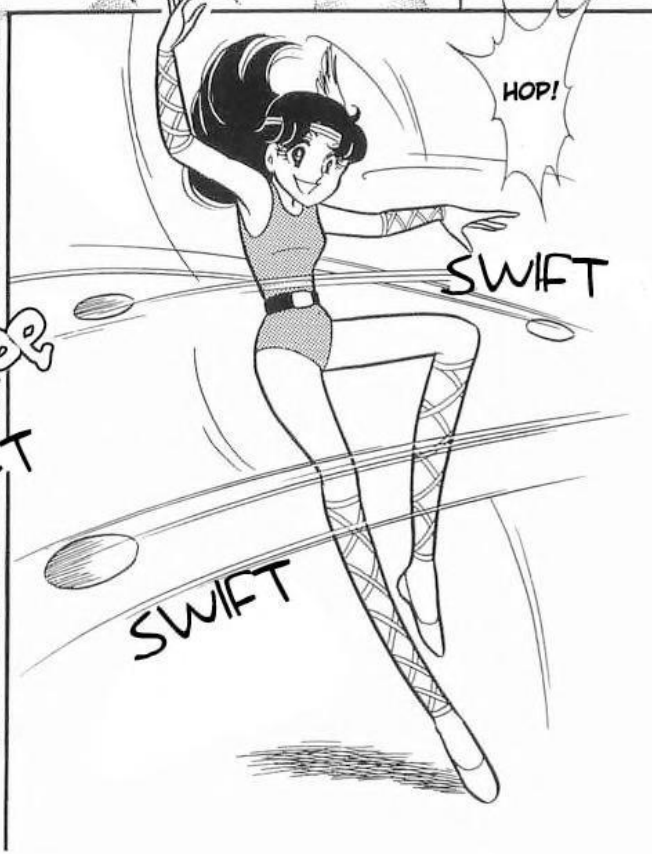


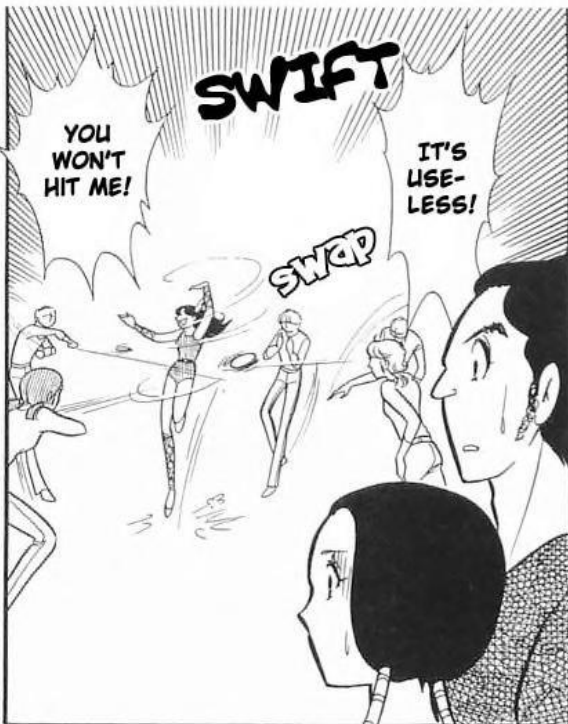






















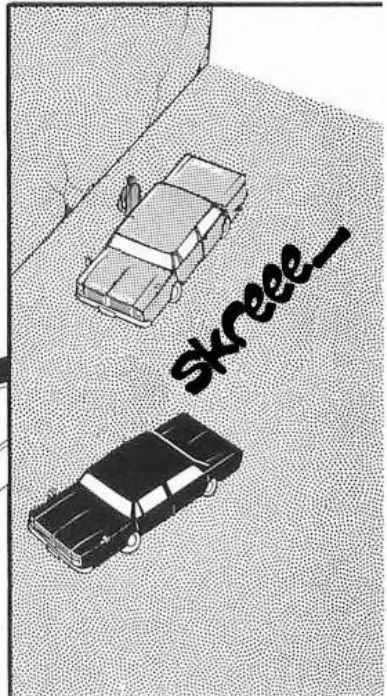
I can play
Puck!



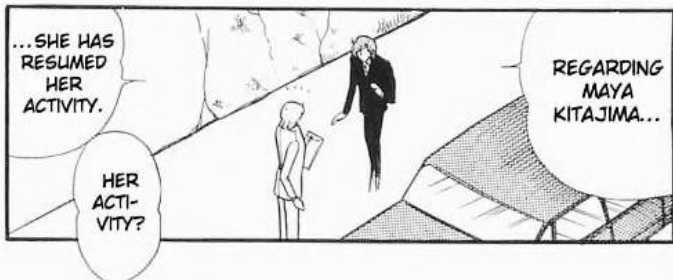
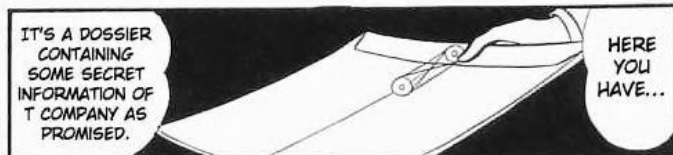
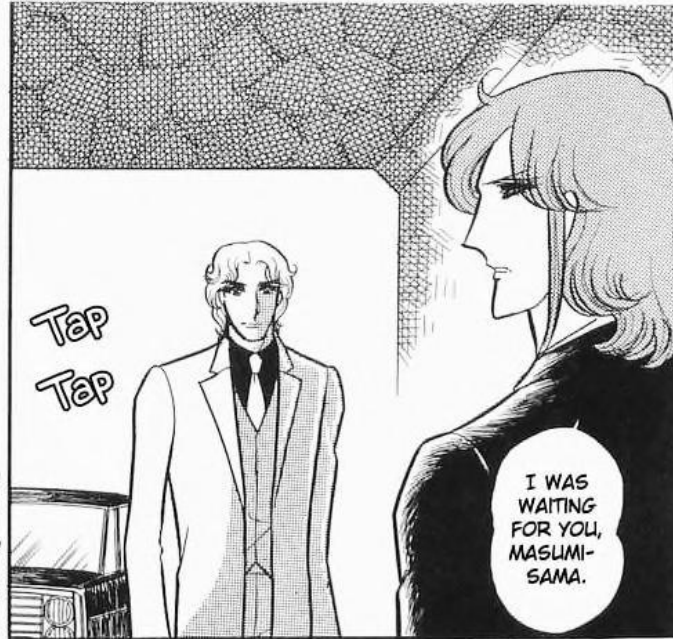
Toton
Toton
Toton



slam



skreee





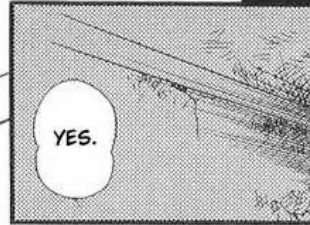
A PLAY IN THE OPEN AIR...

THE PLAY WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE OPEN-AIR STAGE AT A PARK NEAR KICHIJO TEMPLE.

AN OPEN-AIR STAGE?

SHE'LL ACT IN A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, TOGETHER WITH SOME ACTORS FROM THE TSUKIKAGE AND IKKAKUJU THEATERS.

MAYA KITAJIMA WILL PLAY THE FAIRY PUCK.



YES.

ATHENS THEATRE IS IN THE VICINITY, RIGHT?



I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU WEARING THE CRIMSON GODDESS' STAGE COSTUME.

YOU ARE A SPLENDID WOMAN AND A BRILLIANT ACTRESS!

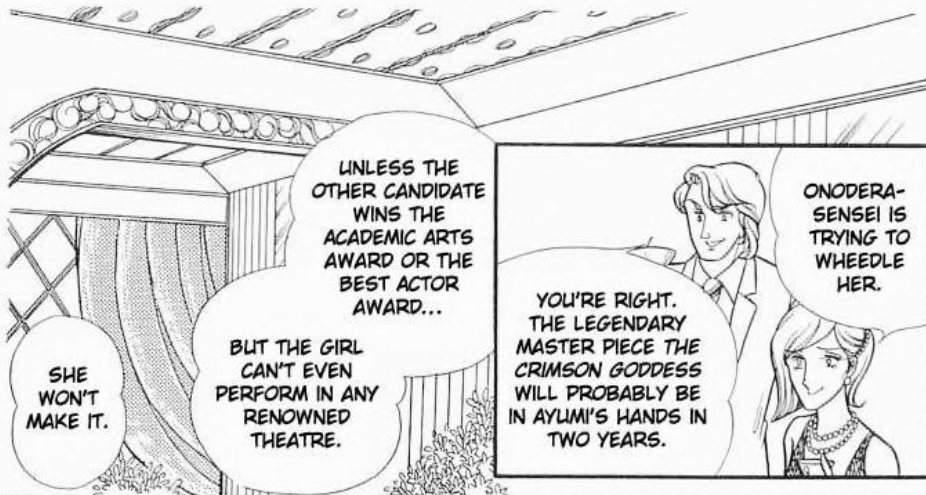
I'M SURE YOU'LL BE A CRIMSON GODDESS OF PEERLESS BEAUTY!



I'M SO PROUD TO HAVE SUCH A WONDERFUL ACTRESS IN OUR COMPANY, AYUMI-KUN!

Ha Ha Ha





SHE WON'T MAKE IT.

BUT THE GIRL CAN'T EVEN PERFORM IN ANY RENOWNED THEATRE.

UNLESS THE OTHER CANDIDATE WINS THE ACADEMIC ARTS AWARD OR THE BEST ACTOR AWARD...

YOU'RE RIGHT. THE LEGENDARY MASTER PIECE THE CRIMSON GODDESS WILL PROBABLY BE IN AYUMI'S HANDS IN TWO YEARS.

ONODERA-SENSEI IS TRYING TO WHEELDE HER.

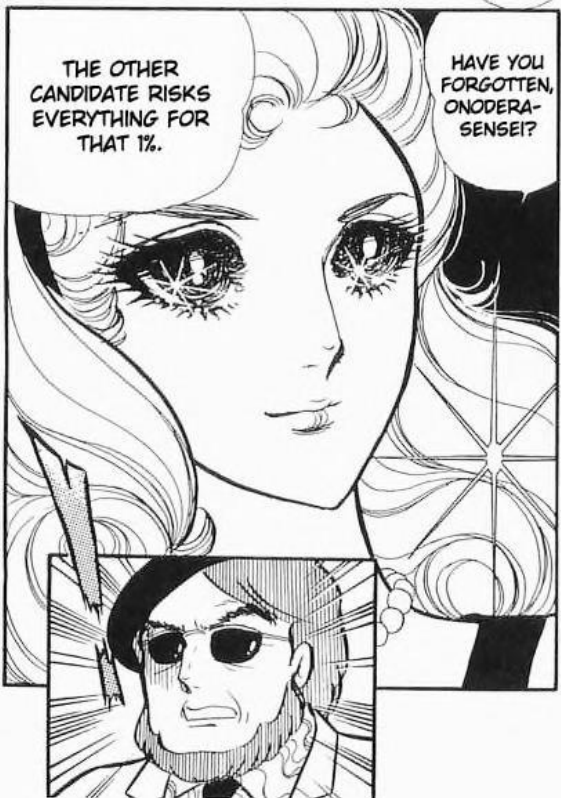


JUST THINKING OF DIRECTING SUCH A SPLENDID WOMAN MAKES MY HEART RACE, AYUMI-KUN...

Ha Ha Ha

AND ONODERA-SENSEI WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT.

THE RIGHTS TO THE PLAY WILL PASS TO AYUMI-SAN.



THE OTHER CANDIDATE RISKS EVERYTHING FOR THAT 1%.

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN, ONODERA-SENSEI?



ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE OTHER CANDIDATE?

YOUR WORDS FLATTER ME, ONODERA-SENSEI! BUT THE CRIMSON GODDESS ISN'T MINE YET.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY, THE CRIMSON GODDESS IS YOURS AT A 99%!





HE'S A RISING STAR, DON'T FORGET HIS FACE.

HE'LL ACT IN A MOVIE TOO.

HE HAS APPEARED IN MANY MAGAZINES LATELY!



Sakurakoji-kun...



HE'S SO HANDSOME!

HE'S REALLY GOOD DESPITE HIS YOUTH.



HI!

OH!



I'M A BIT TIRED AFTER TRAVELING ABROAD.

SORRY, GUYS.

LET ME HAVE A DRINK FIRST, SEE YOU LATER!



Satomi Shigeru!



IT'S BEEN A WHILE!

IT'S SHIGERU!

SATO-MI!

GULP



HE'S LIKE THAT SINCE HIS AFFAIR WITH MAYA KITAJIMA ENDED!

HE HAS CHANGED.
HE WAS SUCH A NICE GUY BEFORE.



YOU ARE SATOMI, AREN'T YOU?



MY NAME IS YUU SAKURAKOJI.
I'D LIKE TO HAVE A TALK WITH YOU...

AND WHO ARE YOU?



WHY DID YOU DUMP MAYA KITAJIMA?



I SUPPOSE YOUR FEELINGS WEREN'T DEEP SINCE YOU DUMPED HER IN NO TIME.

I WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU FELT FOR MAYA WHEN YOU WENT OUT WITH HER.



HOW DARE YOU TO ASK ME SOMETHING LIKE THAT?! WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?!



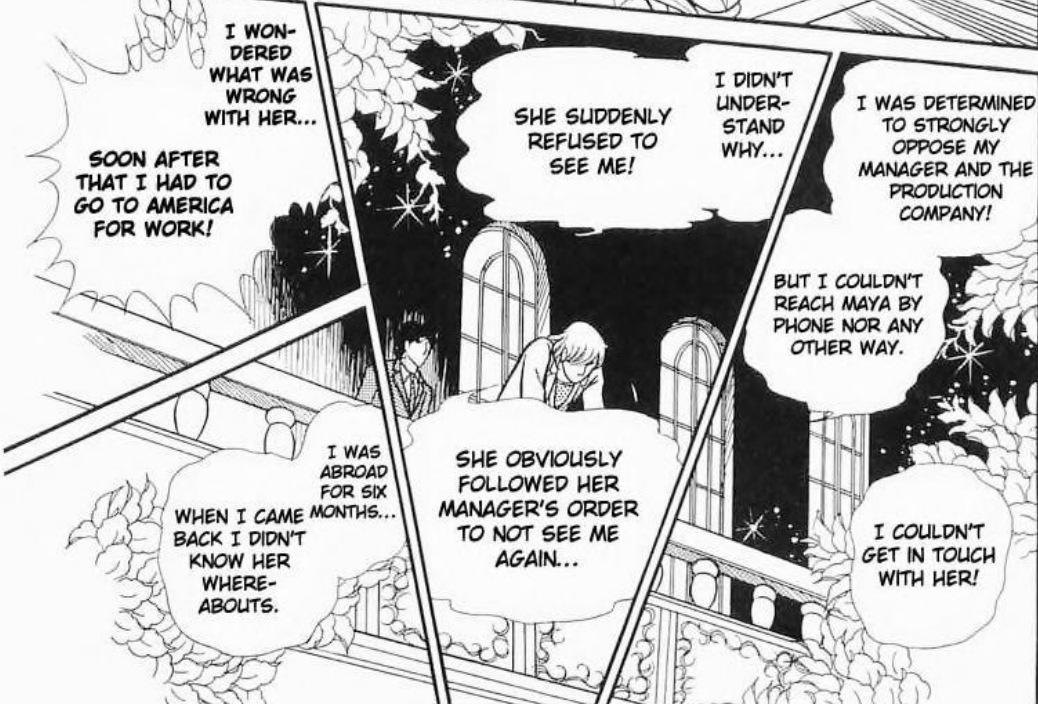
I LIKED HER MORE THAN ANYONE! I WAS SERIOUS!



...I WAS FORCED TO PART WITH HER AND COULDN'T MAKE SURE IF THAT WAS TRUE OR NOT!

AFTER THAT SCANDAL WITH THE BIKERS...

SEEING EACH OTHER WAS DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF WORK, BUT THE FEW TIMES WE SAW EACH OTHER WERE REALLY IMPORTANT TO ME!



I WONDERED WHAT WAS WRONG WITH HER... SOON AFTER THAT I HAD TO GO TO AMERICA FOR WORK!

SHE SUDDENLY REFUSED TO SEE ME!

I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY...

I WAS DETERMINED TO STRONGLY OPPOSE MY MANAGER AND THE PRODUCTION COMPANY!

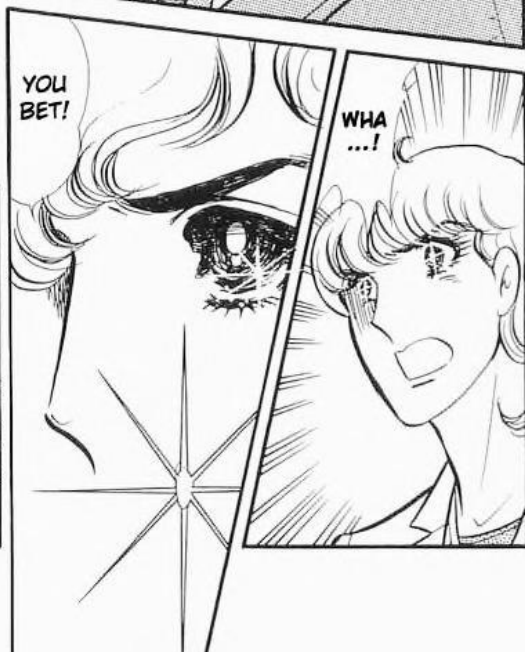
BUT I COULDN'T REACH MAYA BY PHONE NOR ANY OTHER WAY.

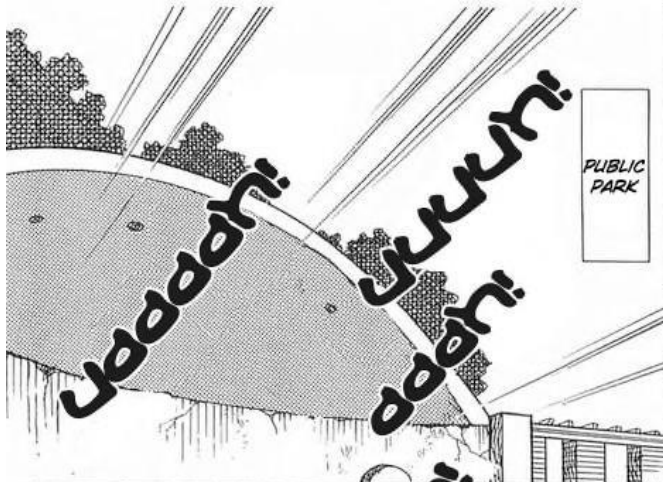
WHEN I CAME BACK I DIDN'T KNOW HER WHEREABOUTS.

SHE OBVIOUSLY FOLLOWED HER MANAGER'S ORDER TO NOT SEE ME AGAIN...

I COULDN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH HER!







PUBLIC PARK



That guy...!



HEY, LOOK OVER THERE! STREET PERFORMERS IN AN OPEN-AIR STAGE.

LOOK AT THEM! IS THAT WHAT THEY CALL PRACTICING?

THEY WERE REJECTED BY ATHENS THEATRE WHERE WE WORK.



STUPID! YOU ARE A TREE! DON'T MOVE!

ELVES! YOU HAVE TO DO FIVE PIROUETTES IN A ROW! AND YOU!

THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL PANTOMIME?



WHAT A DOWNFALL FOR SOMEONE WHO HAVE ACTED IN A TV SERIES.

Mumble

OH! ISN'T THAT MAYA KITAJIMA?

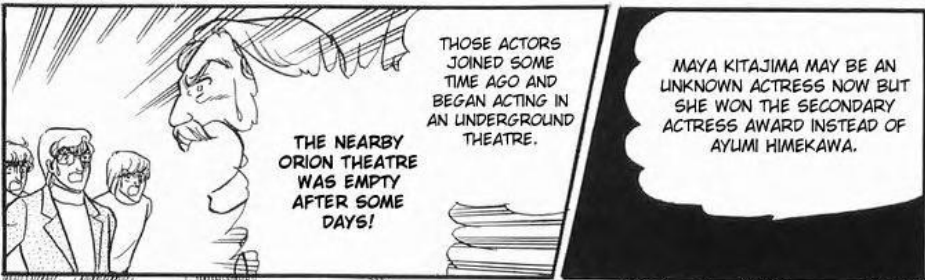
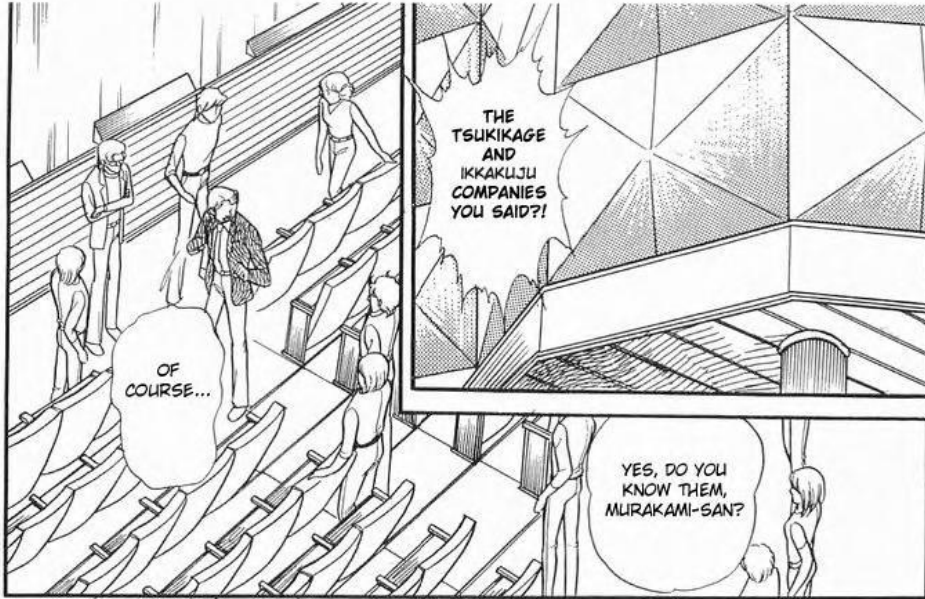
YOU'RE RIGHT! FROM THE STARS TO THE STALLS!

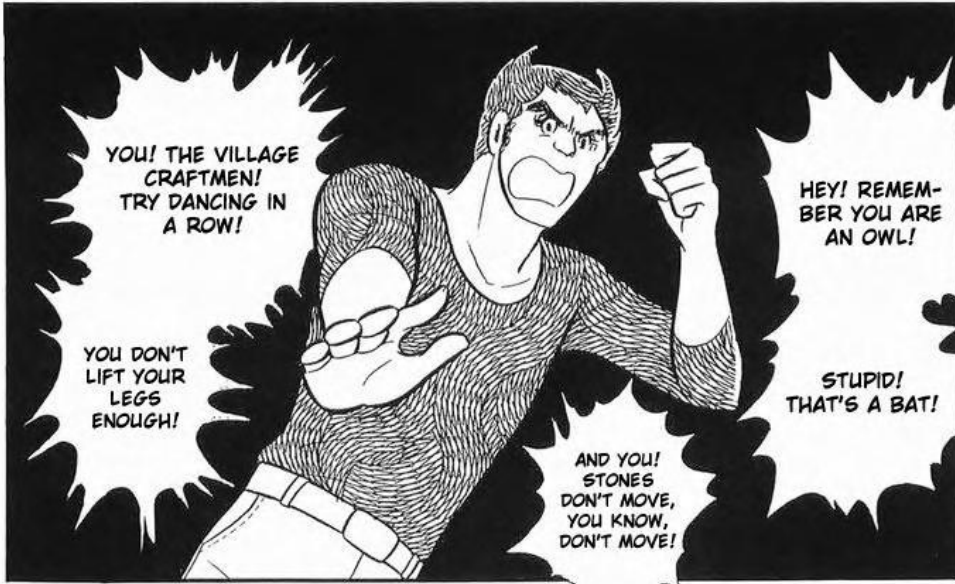


AREN'T THEY MISTAKING IT FOR A CIRCUS?

I THINK IT'S SHAKESPEARE'S A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM!

WHAT PLAY ARE THEY REHEARSING?





YOU! THE VILLAGE
CRAFTSMEN!
TRY DANCING IN
A ROW!

HEY! REMEM-
BER YOU ARE
AN OWL!

YOU DON'T
LIFT YOUR
LEGS
ENOUGH!

STUPID!
THAT'S A BAT!

AND YOU!
STONES
DON'T MOVE,
YOU KNOW,
DON'T MOVE!



BUT
WHAT
ARE THEY
DOING?

WHAT KIND OF
"A MIDSUMMER
NIGHT'S DREAM"
ARE THEY
PRACTICING?