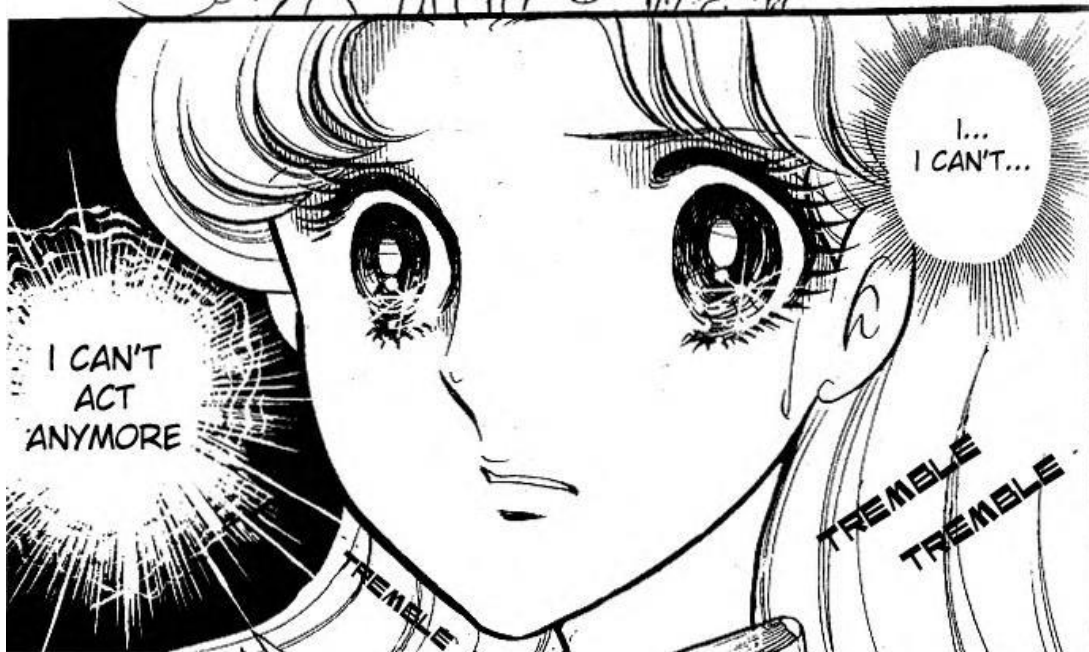
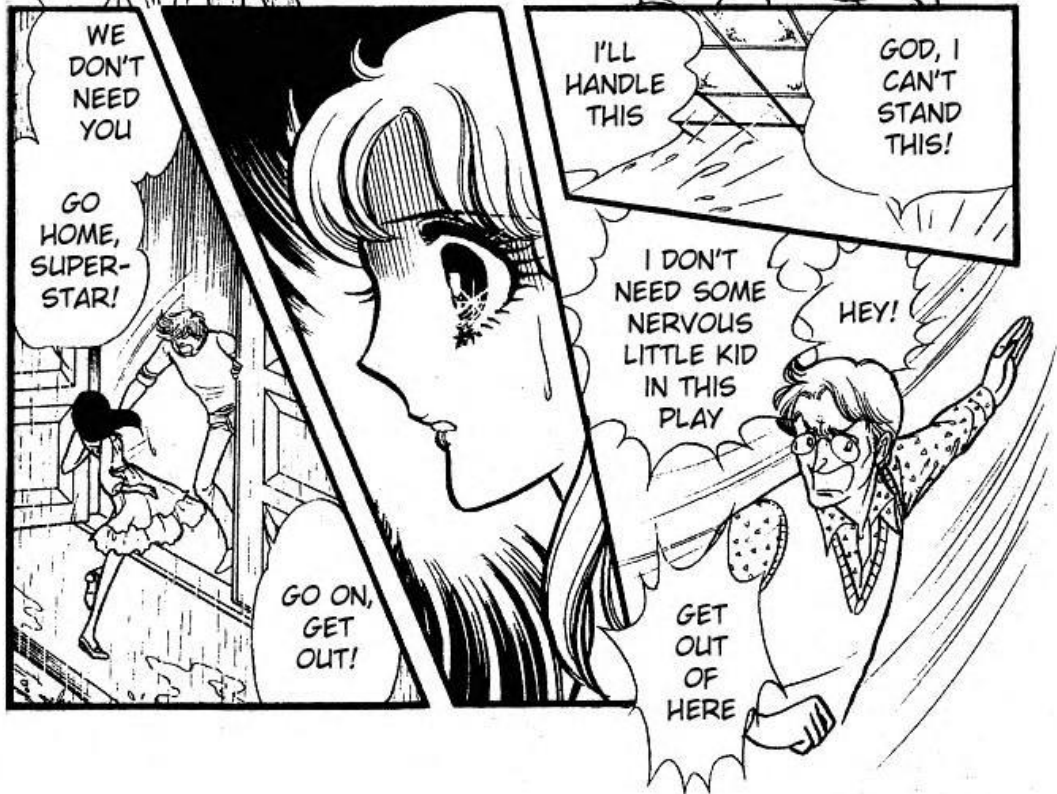
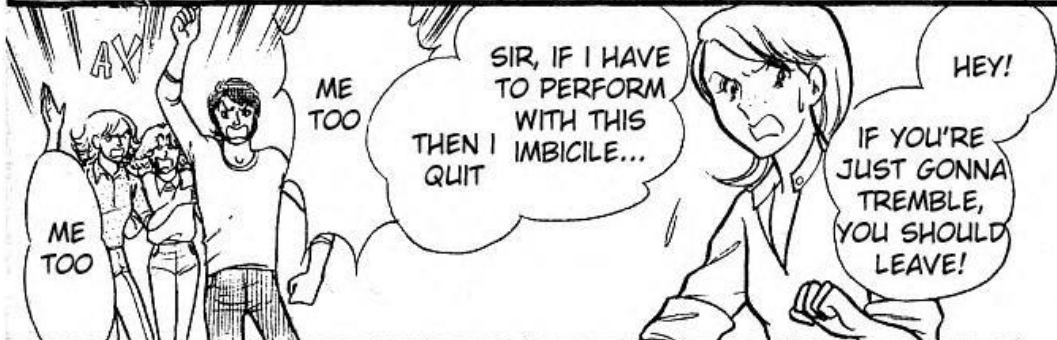


Scammer: Luchs
Translator: GoldenBoy
Editor: MinusVee
Proofreader: Kylara









I CAN'T
ACT
ANYMORE

I'VE
LOST
IT...



WHAT
SHOULD I
DO NOW?

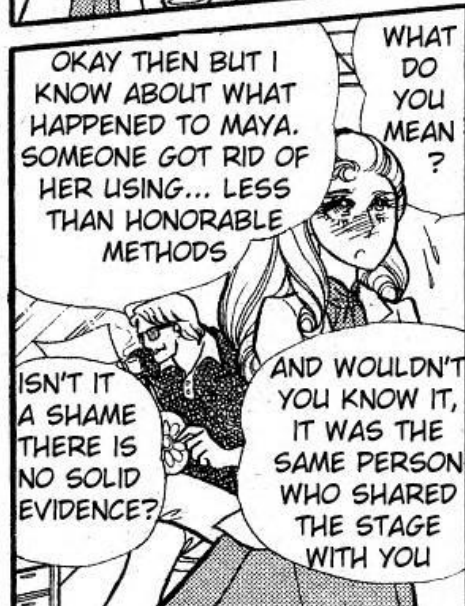
MOTHER...

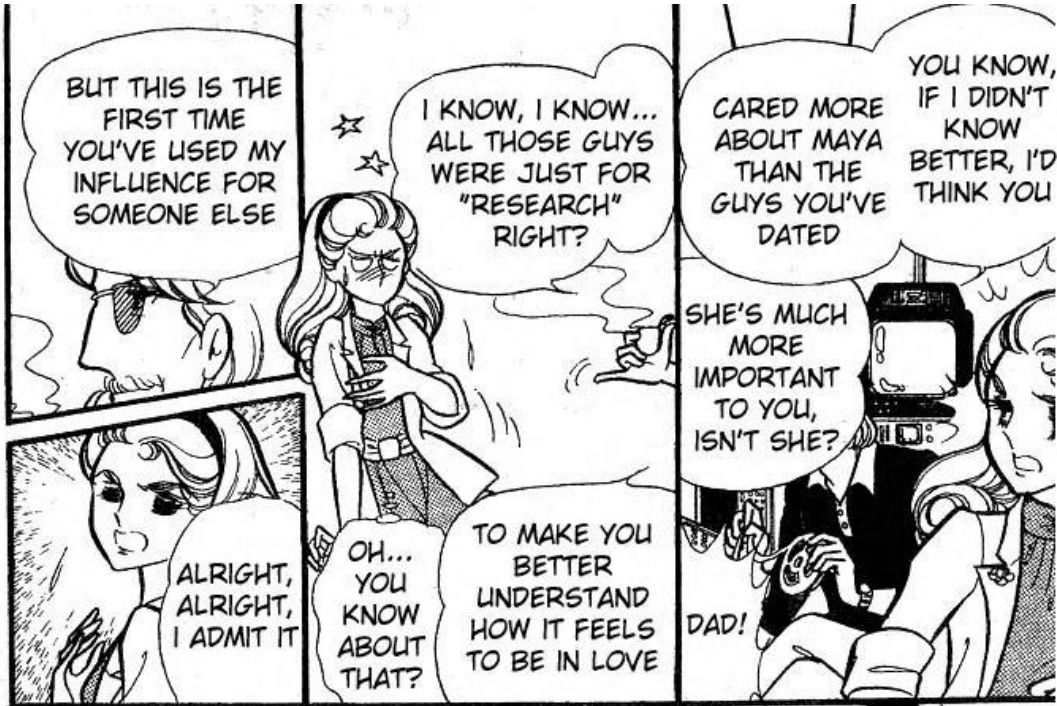
HOW
SHOULD I
GO ON?

I CAN'T
GO ON

I'VE LOST
ALL MY
TALENT







BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE USED MY INFLUENCE FOR SOMEONE ELSE

I KNOW, I KNOW... ALL THOSE GUYS WERE JUST FOR "RESEARCH" RIGHT?

CARED MORE ABOUT MAYA THAN THE GUYS YOU'VE DATED

YOU KNOW, IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, I'D THINK YOU

ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT, I ADMIT IT

OH... YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?

TO MAKE YOU BETTER UNDERSTAND HOW IT FEELS TO BE IN LOVE

SHE'S MUCH MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU, ISN'T SHE?

DAD!



HONESTLY, SHE SCARES ME

BUT I WON'T LOSE TO HER, NO MATTER WHAT

MAYA KITAJIMA IS MY ONE AND ONLY RIVAL

THE ONLY CONTENDER THAT I EVEN WORRY ABOUT



WHAT IS SHE DOING NOW?

UNTIL SHE STEPS BACK UP ON STAGE

I'LL WAIT FOR HER

BUT I WILL AWAIT HER RETURN

BUT TO HAVE HER ELIMINATED, USING UNDERHANDED METHODS...

I COULDN'T JUST STAY IDLE



I CAN'T LET HER BE DESTROYED... SHE'S MY RIVAL

I WILL BE THE ONE TO DEFEAT HER...

SHE'S AS PASSIONATE ABOUT ACTING AS I AM

MAYBE EVEN MORE THAN ME...

I SEE SOMETHING WITHIN HER...

AND ONLY I HAVE SEEN IT IN HER

FOR THE ROLE OF THE CRIMSON GODDESS

BUT NOT BEFORE THEN

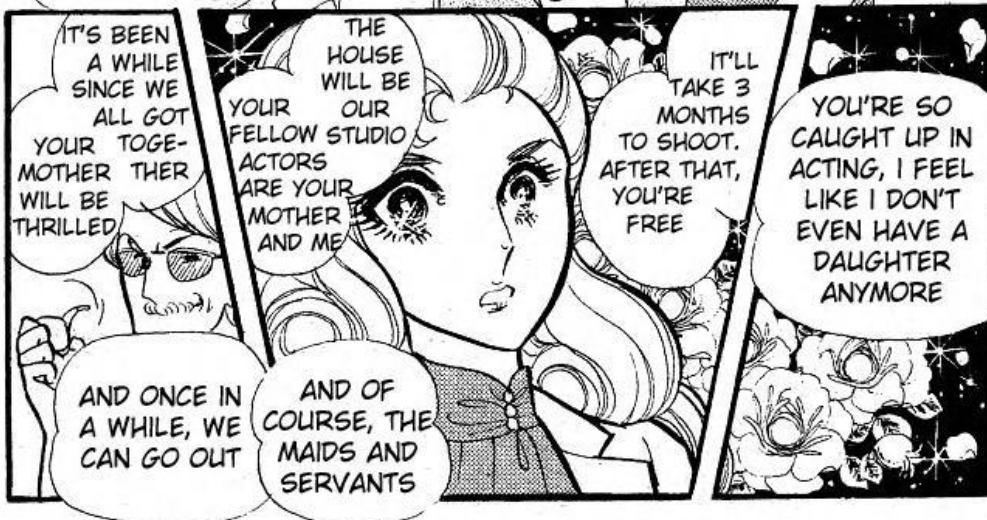
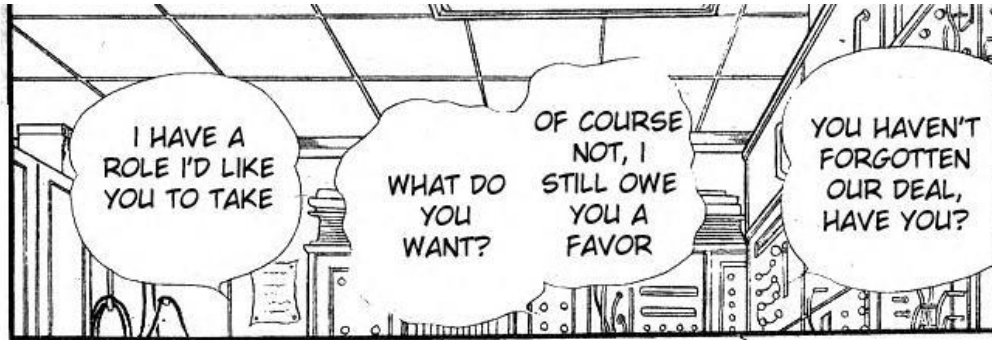
BUT YOU AND MAYA COME FROM TWO FAMILIES AS DIFFERENT AS CAN BE, YET YOU TWO SHARE A BOND

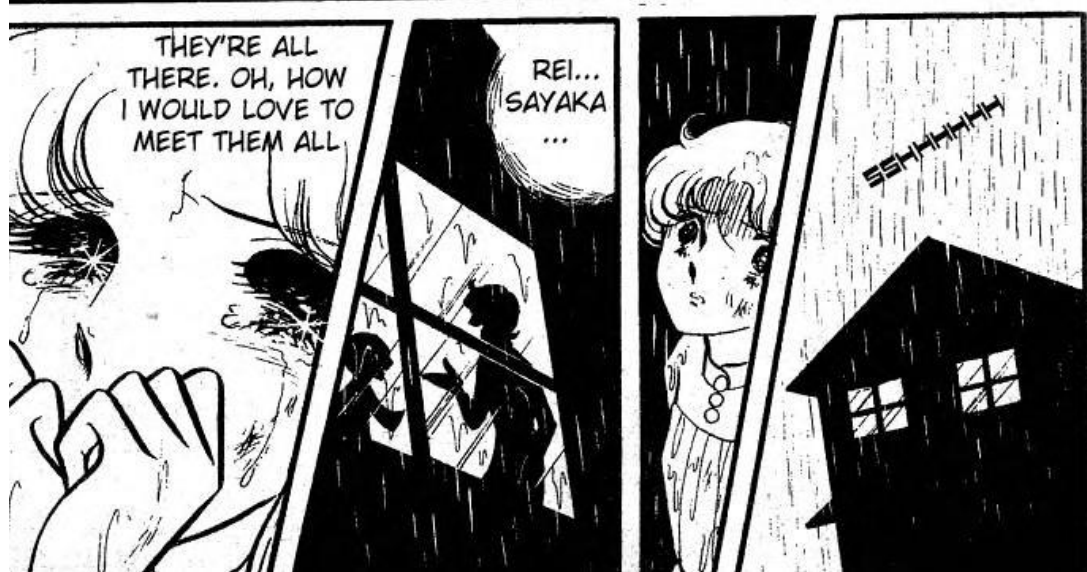
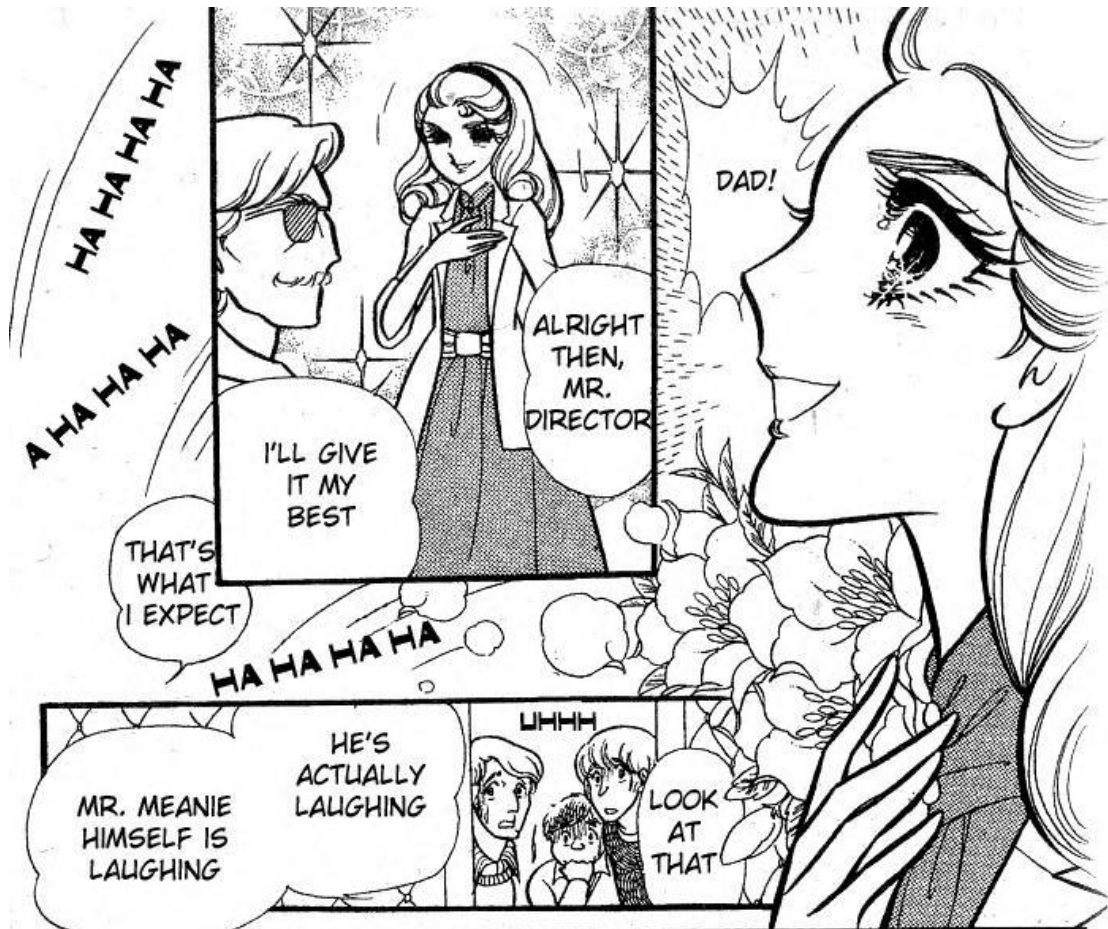
THE BOND OF THE CRIMSON GODDESS

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU REALIZE IT AYUMI ...

EVEN THROUGH FIERCE COMPETITION

THE SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP







REI,
EVERYONE
...

GOOD
BYE
...

I CAN'T
BE
WITH
YOU
ANY-
MORE



DON'T
COME
BACK!

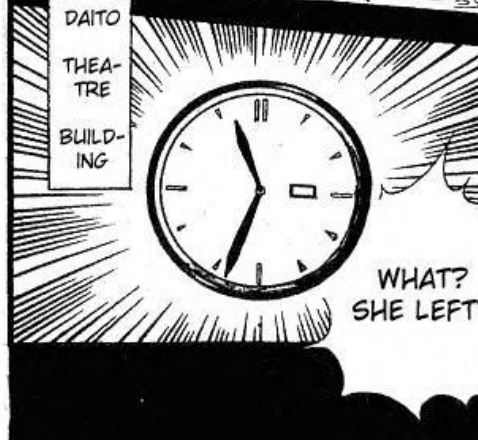


YOU'VE ALWAYS
SUPPORTED ME,
THOUGH I DON'T
EVEN KNOW WHO
YOU ARE

PURPLE
ROSE...

BUT I
QUIT

I'M
SORRY
...



DAITO
THEA-
TRE
BUILD-
ING

WHAT?
SHE LEFT?

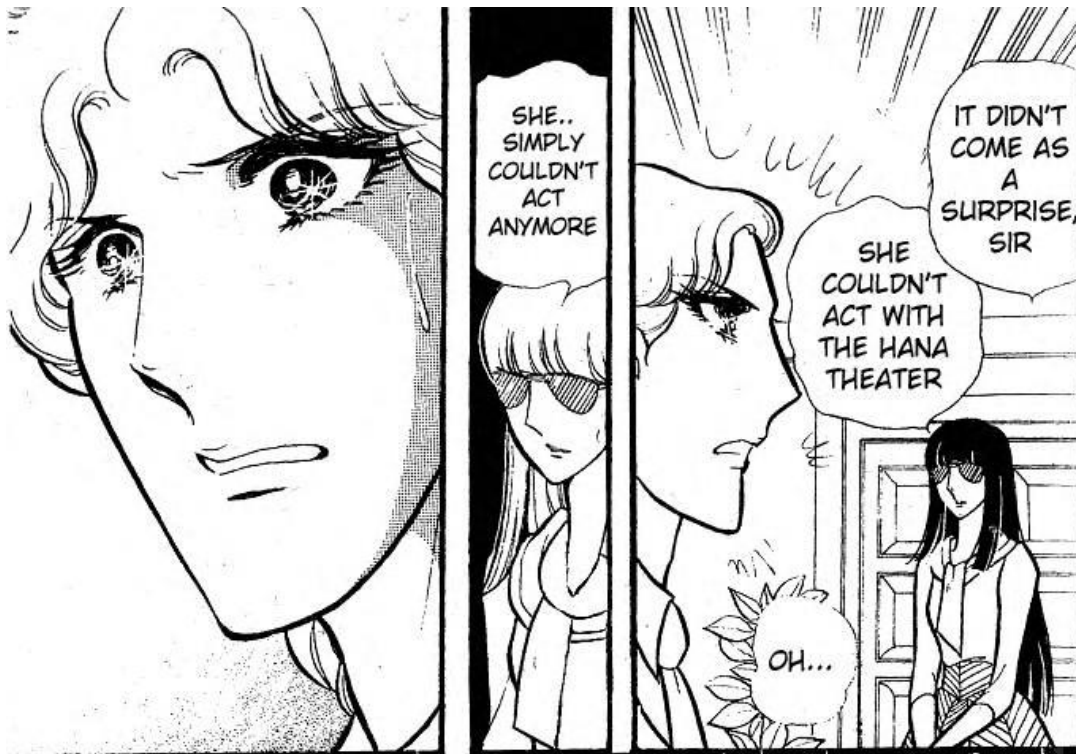


EVERY-
THING'S
CHANGED

I HAVE QUIT
DRAMA
FOREVER

I'M
SORRY,
I TRULY
AM

ONCE AGAIN,
I'M ORDINARY,
USELESS MAYA



SHE..
SIMPLY
COULDN'T
ACT
ANYMORE

SHE
COULDN'T
ACT WITH
THE HANA
THEATER

IT DIDN'T
COME AS
A
SURPRISE,
SIR

OH...



BUT
THAT'S
ABSURD

SHHHHHHH



SHE CALLED
ME TO TELL
THAT SHE
QUIT

THAT SHE
MAY
NEVER
COME
BACK

SIR, WE
MIGHT
HAVE TO
FACE THE
FACT...



MOTHER ...

I'M SLOW AND STUPID

NO GOOD AT STUDIES, EVEN WORSE AT SEWING

I REALLY AM USELESS



I'M A WASTE

I HAVE NOTHING LEFT

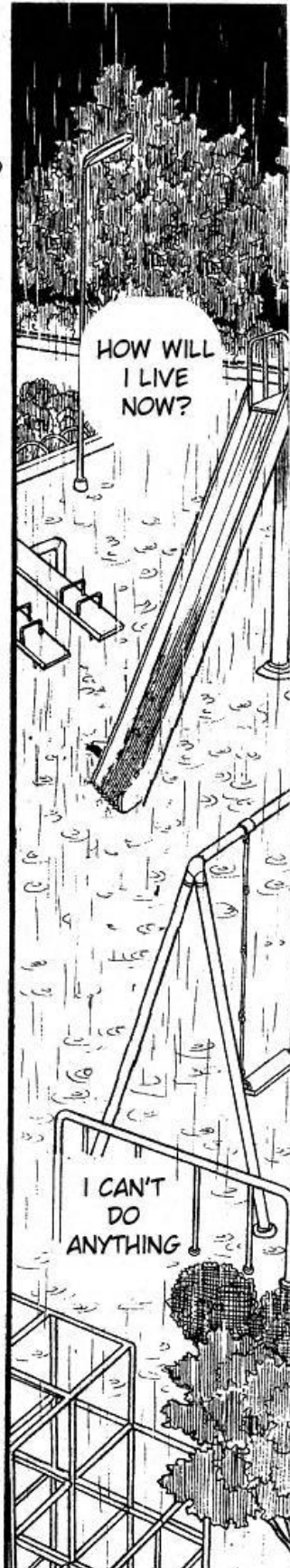
EVEN ACTING

IT'S ALL GONE NOW...



IT'S ALL GONE

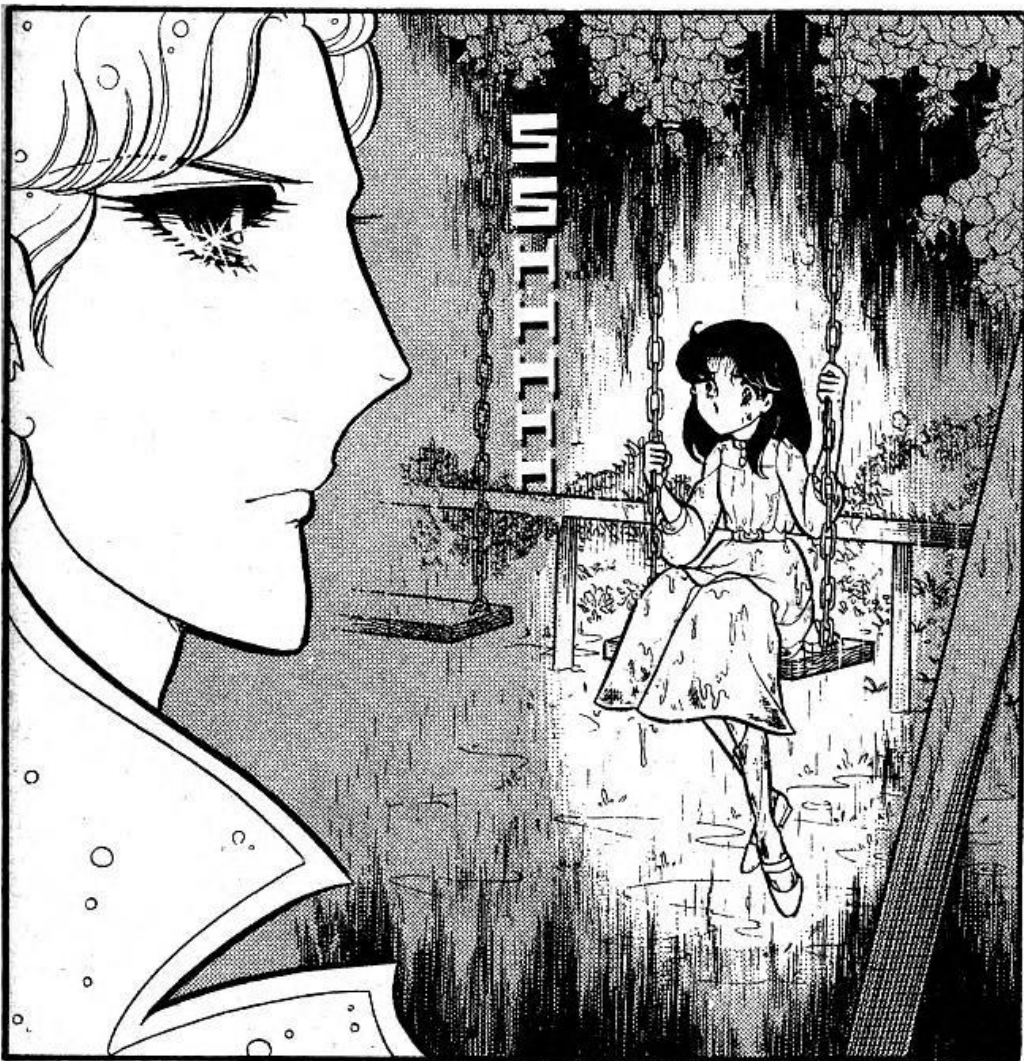
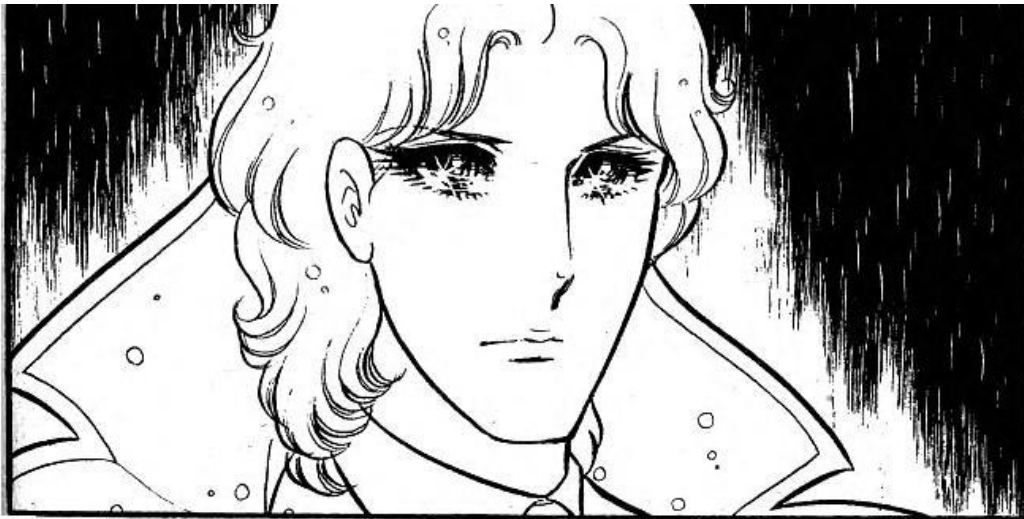
MOTHER ...

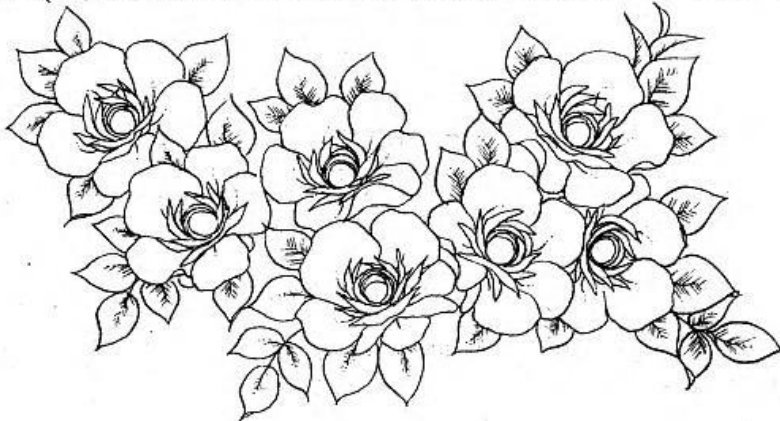
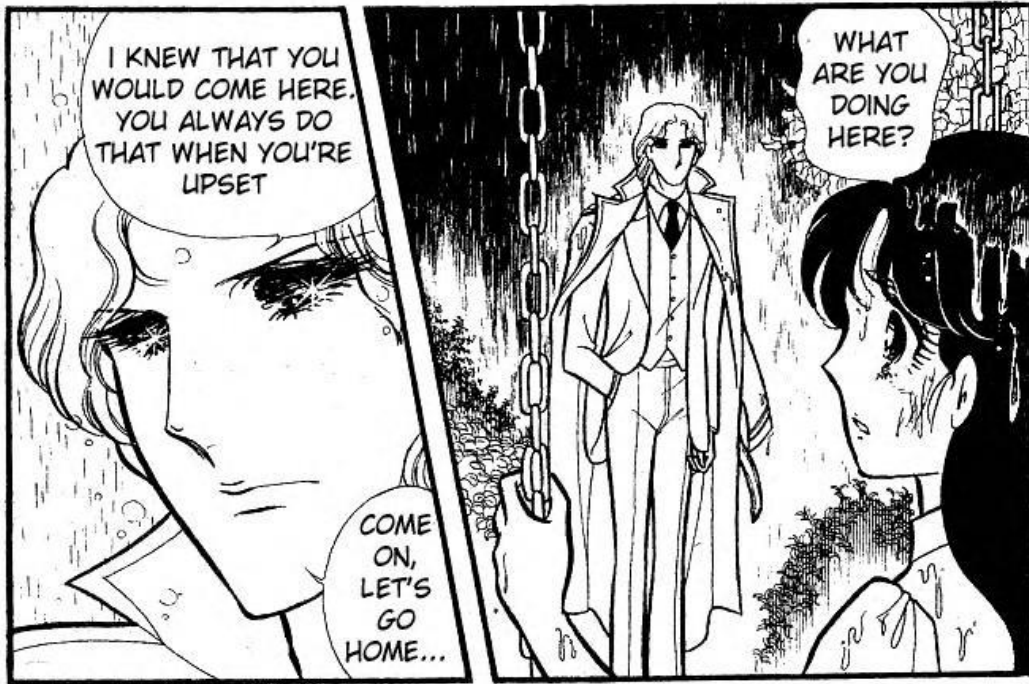


HOW WILL I LIVE NOW?

I CAN'T DO ANYTHING









I AM

A USELESS BRAT...

I, MAYA KITA-JIMA...

I CAN'T LIVE MY ROLES ANYMORE

GO AWAY LEAVE ME ALONE

HAVE QUIT, I AM MY OLD SELF AGAIN

I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO ANYMORE

I CAN'T ACT ANYMORE

I HATE YOU

JUST LEAVE ME ALONE

DON'T BOTHER WITH ME

MAYA!

BREAK



WHAT HAPPENED TO HER, SIR?

CALL A DOCTOR, NOW!

HAYAMI RESIDENCE

GET HER SOME CLOTHES

THAT CAN WAIT, JUST GET A DOCTOR!

SHE'S SOAKED!

ELAM
WHAT'S ALL THAT RACKET?

TAKING HOME A GIRL?

THEN JUST GET HER MY PAJAMAS

WE HAVE NO CLOTHES FOR GIRLS

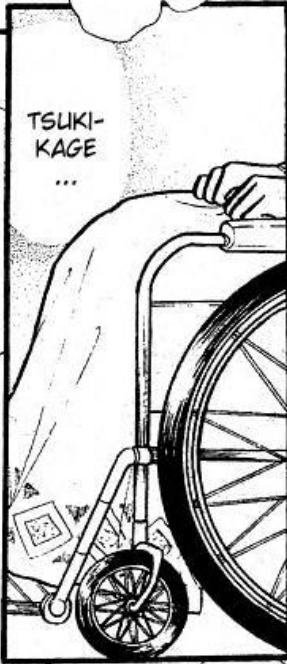
MR. MASUMI BROUGHT A YOUNG GIRL HOME
HE DID WHAT?

...

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE THE DAY

I'LL LEAVE

WHILE YOU CHANGE HER CLOTHES



COLD
BLOODED,
THAT'S WHAT
THEY CALL ME

I'VE ALWAYS
USED ANY
MEANS
NECESSARY

I'VE NEVER HAD
A PROBLEM
WITH MY WORK
THIS FAR

I HAVE
THIS
PAIN IN
MY
CHEST

MAYA, I
WANT TO
HELP YOU

AM I
STARTING
TO GO
MAD?

WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
ME?

MAYA... YOU AMAZE ME.
WHenever YOU ARE ON
STAGE PLAYING YOUR PART,
I AM ASTONISHED BY YOUR
FIERY PASSION

I SUPPOSE I
SEND YOU
THOSE ROSES
BECAUSE I
CAN'T
EXPRESS THIS
TO YOU ANY
OTHER WAY

**B
L
A
M**

YAWN

MAKE SURE
SHE TAKES
HER MEDICINE

YOU
GO TO
BED
I'LL
STAY
WITH
HER

I
WILL



DAITO'S HEAD CHIEF...
THE WORKAHOLIC...
THE COLD BLOODED
ONE...

I DON'T
WANT
YOU TO
KNOW IT,
THOUGH

...HE HAS
NO LOVE

I, HAYAMI
MASUMI,
ADMIRE
NOBODY

SINGERS AND
ACTORS ARE
MERELY
COMMODITIES...

AND YET... I'M
FALLING FOR A GIRL
11 YEARS YOUNGER
THAN MYSELF

WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
YOU, MASUMI?

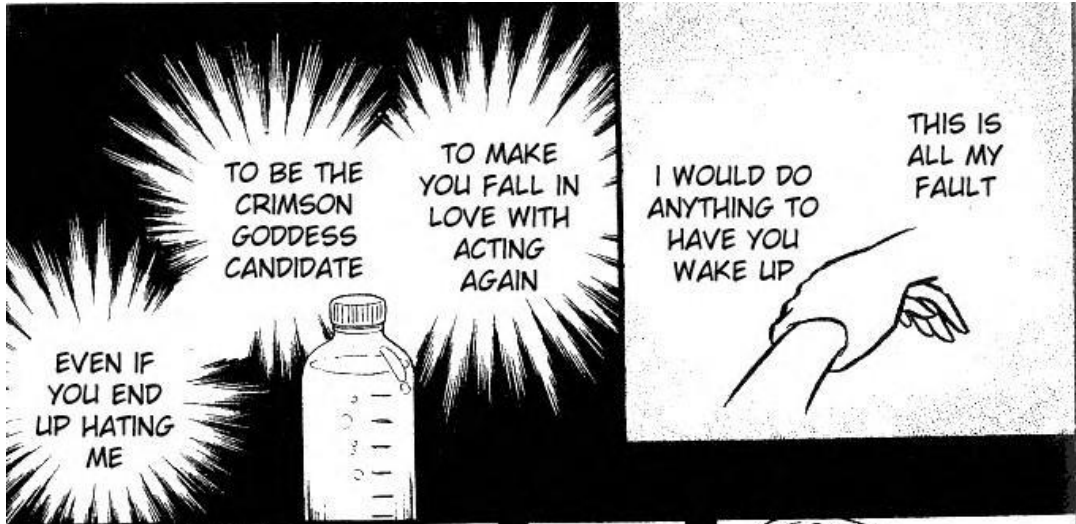
MAYA, WHEN
WILL YOU
GROW UP?



ALRIGHT...

I ADMIT IT...

I LOVE
YOU,
MAYA





WITH THESE HANDS OF MINE..!

THE ONLY THING I CAN DO RIGHT NOW IS THIS..

NO MATTER HOW MUCH I AM HATED FOR IT..

UH..

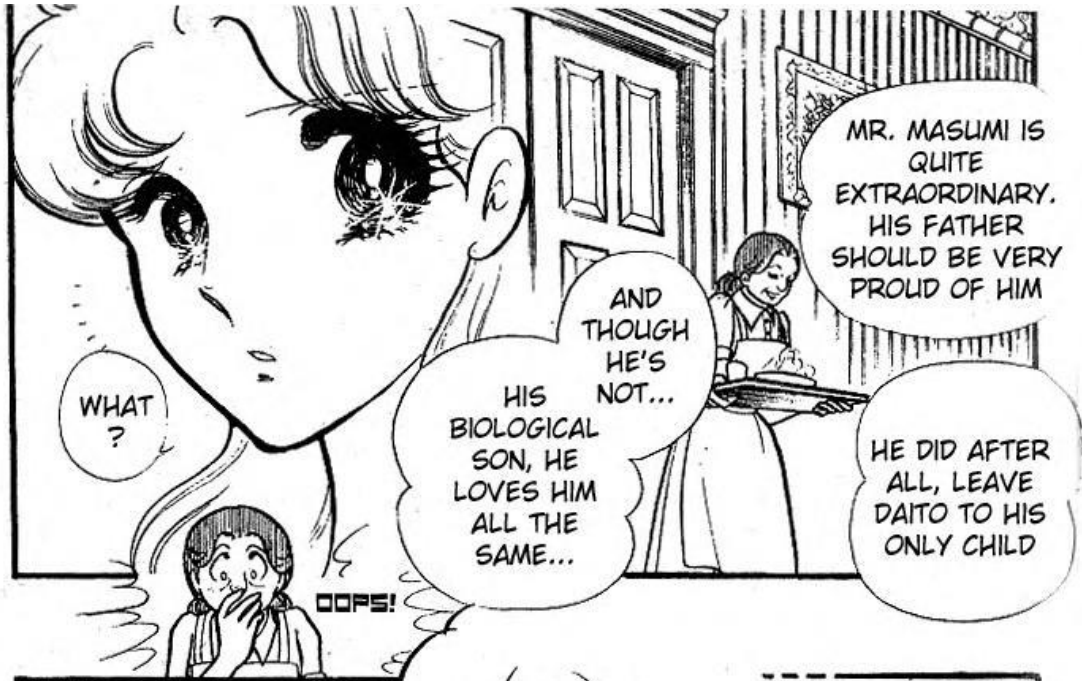
MASUMI-SAMA..?

BROUGHT ME BACK?

ARE YOU AWAKE?

MASUMI-SAMA LOOKED WORRIED WHEN HE BROUGHT YOU IN LAST NIGHT





WHAT?

MR. MASUMI IS QUITE EXTRAORDINARY. HIS FATHER SHOULD BE VERY PROUD OF HIM

AND THOUGH HE'S NOT...

HIS BIOLOGICAL SON, HE LOVES HIM ALL THE SAME...

HE DID AFTER ALL, LEAVE DAITO TO HIS ONLY CHILD



OOPS!



MR. HAYAMI WAS A BACHELOR AT THE TIME, AND HE NEVER THOUGHT OF MARRIAGE UNTIL THEN

NOBODY IS SUPPOSED TO KNOW MR. MASUMI AND HIS FATHER AREN'T BLOOD RELATED

SO HE TOOK THE MAID AS HIS WIFE

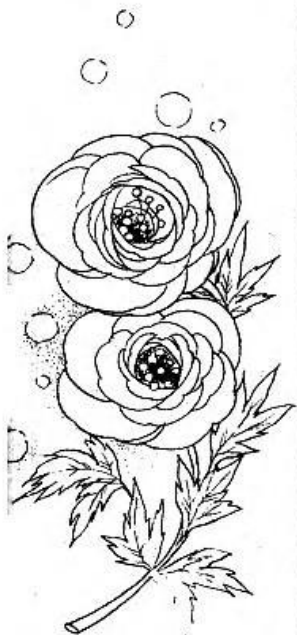
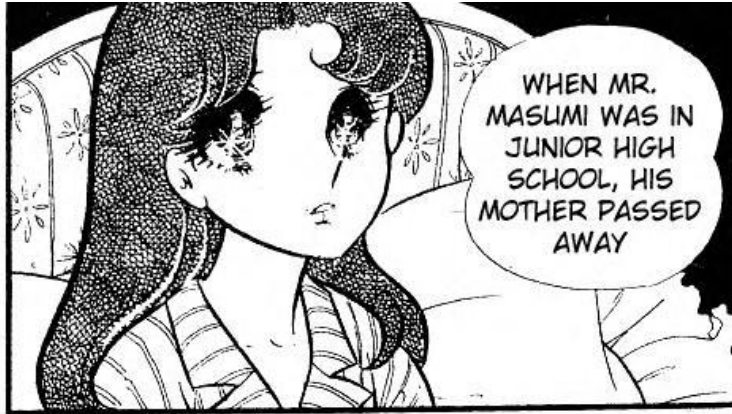
NATURALLY, EVERYONE WAS AGAINST THE MARRIAGE. BUT HE WENT THROUGH WITH IT ANYWAY

HIS MOTHER WAS ONCE A MAID IN THE HAYAMI HOUSEHOLD

SINCE HE HAD NO CHILDREN OF HIS OWN...

MR. HAYAMI TAUGHT EVERYTHING HE KNEW TO MR. MASUMI

HER FIRST HUSBAND DIED AT A VERY YOUNG AGE





YOU'RE LEAVING? WHERE TO?

SORRY TO HAVE INCONVENIENCED YOU

WELCOME HOME

MR. MASUMI

I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T GOING BACK TO YOUR APARTMENT

I'LL BE OUT OF HERE BY MORNING

YOUR THINGS ARE BEING DELIVERED HERE TOMORROW

...

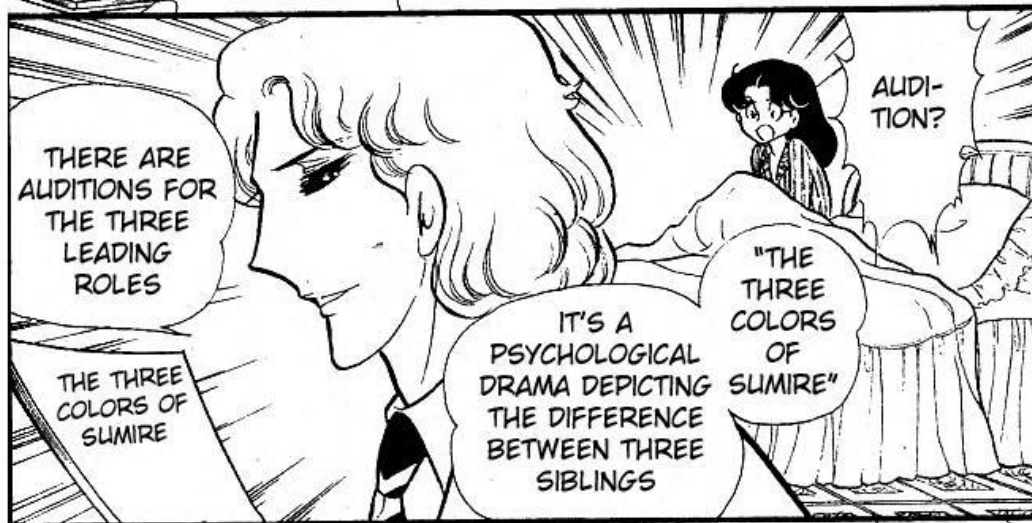
ARE WE FEELING BETTER, NOW?

BETTER THAN HAVING TO SLEEP ON THE SWING SET, RIGHT?

YOU WILL STAY HERE FOR THE TIME BEING

NO!

AND PLEASE, NO MORE SHENANIGANS LIKE YESTERDAY





HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT, HUH?

DIRTY, FLEA-INFESTED PAJAMAS





I JUST NEED TO TELL THEM



I HAVE TO TELL THEM ...

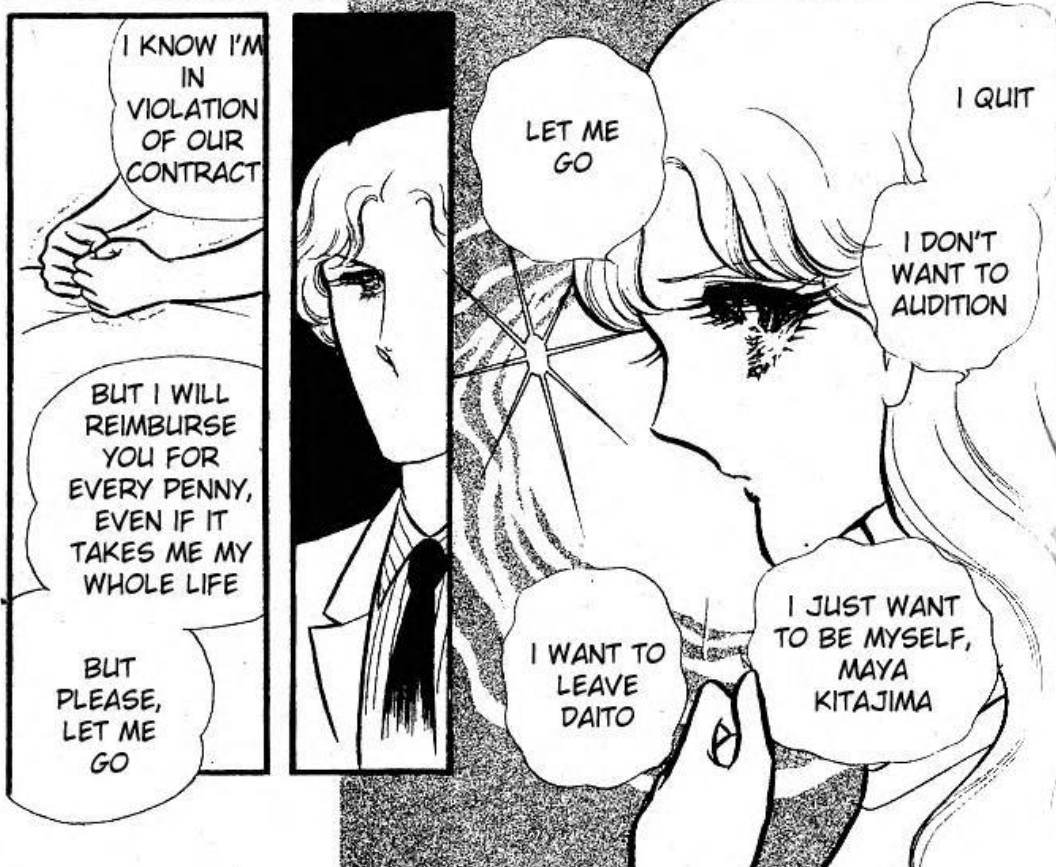
I'M LEAVING DAITO



I CAN'T ACT ANYMORE ...



I'VE RUN OUT OF MASKS





I'M USED TO IT

I MIGHT WORK AT A CHINESE RESTAURANT DOWN IN YOKOHAMA, LIKE MOM DID

WHAT ABOUT WORK?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE

HOW NAIVE OF YOU ...

FIRST OF ALL, YOU'RE UNDERAGE. AND YOU HAVE NO LEGAL GUARDIAN

AND BESIDES, I DON'T WANT YOUR MONEY



THEN I'LL WAIT AS LONG AS IT TAKES

I'LL JUST FAIL THAT ONE, TOO

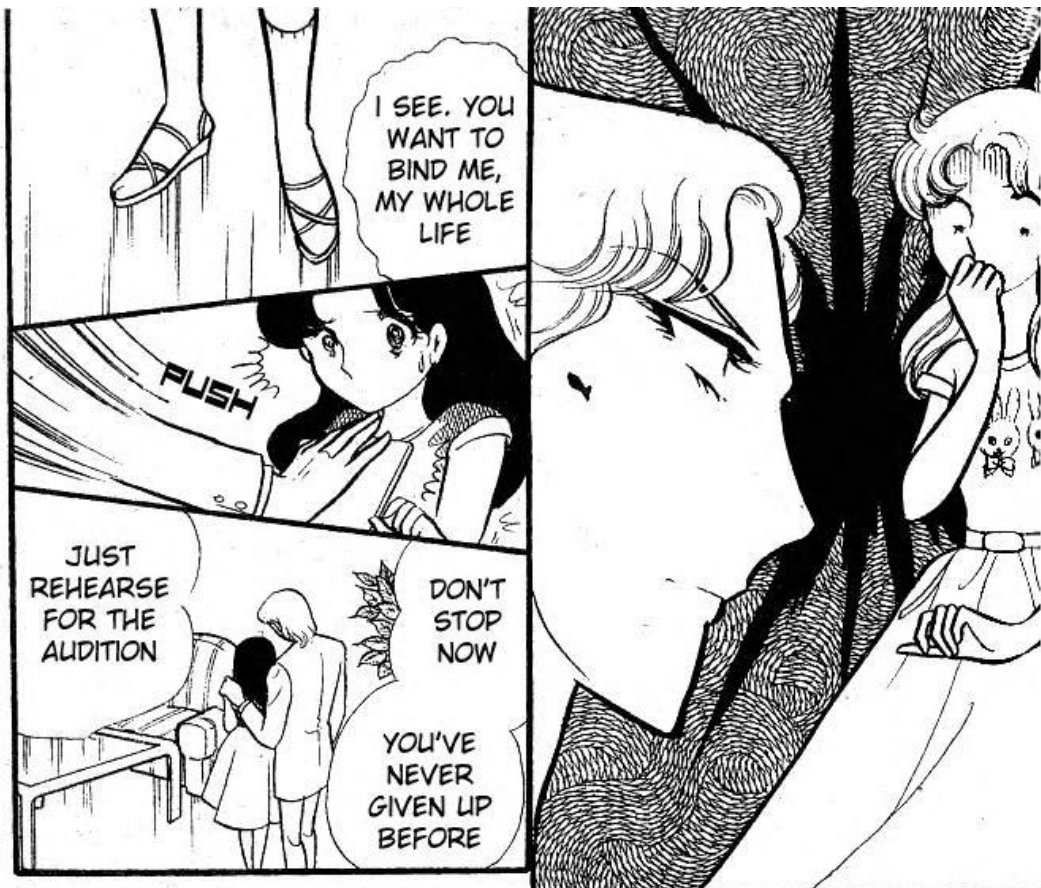
YOU'RE GOING TO THE AUDITION!

UNTIL YOU GET A PART

THEN I'LL JUST FAIL!

BUT YOU WILL ACT AGAIN

THEN YOU'LL DO ANOTHER ONE



I SEE. YOU WANT TO BIND ME, MY WHOLE LIFE

PUSH

JUST REHEARSE FOR THE AUDITION

DON'T STOP NOW

YOU'VE NEVER GIVEN UP BEFORE



I WANT TO LEAVE

I'M NOT DOING THIS AUDITION



COME HERE!

NO, LET ME GO!

YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE UNTIL THE AUDITION

YEAH? WELL I DON'T WANT TO HEAR YOU, EITHER!

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT

