

# Glass Mask



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Suzue Miuchi



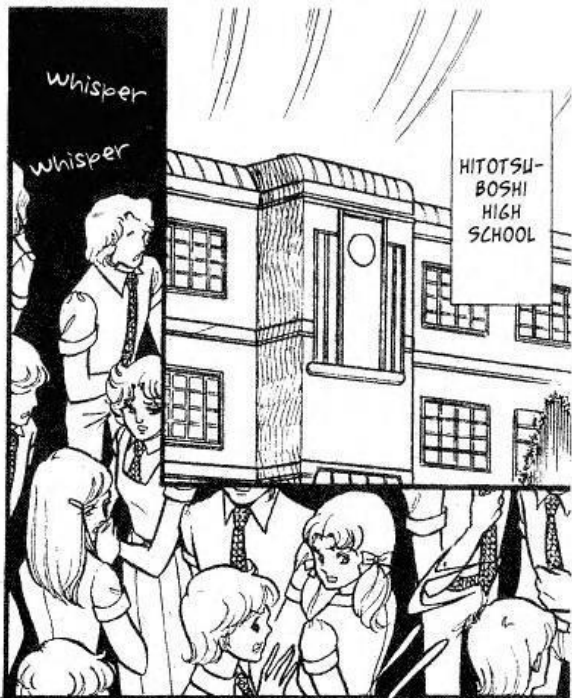
Scanner: Luchs Translator: Goldenboy Editor: MikoSerenitatis



HEY LOOK, IT'S KITAJIMA MAYA

WOW, SHE'S GOT SOME NERVE COMING HERE!

ESPECIALLY WHEN SHE'S THE LAUGHING STOCK OF THE ENTIRE ACTING WORLD



whisper  
whisper

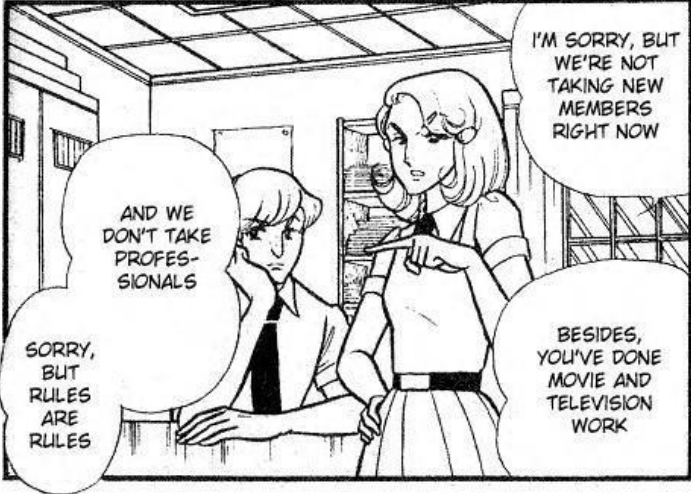
HITOTSU-BOSHI HIGH SCHOOL



YOU'VE GOTTA GET KNOCKED DOWN BEFORE YOU CAN GET UP!

I CAME PREPARED FOR THIS

I'M NOT HEARING THIS!



AND WE DON'T TAKE PROFESSIONALS

SORRY, BUT RULES ARE RULES

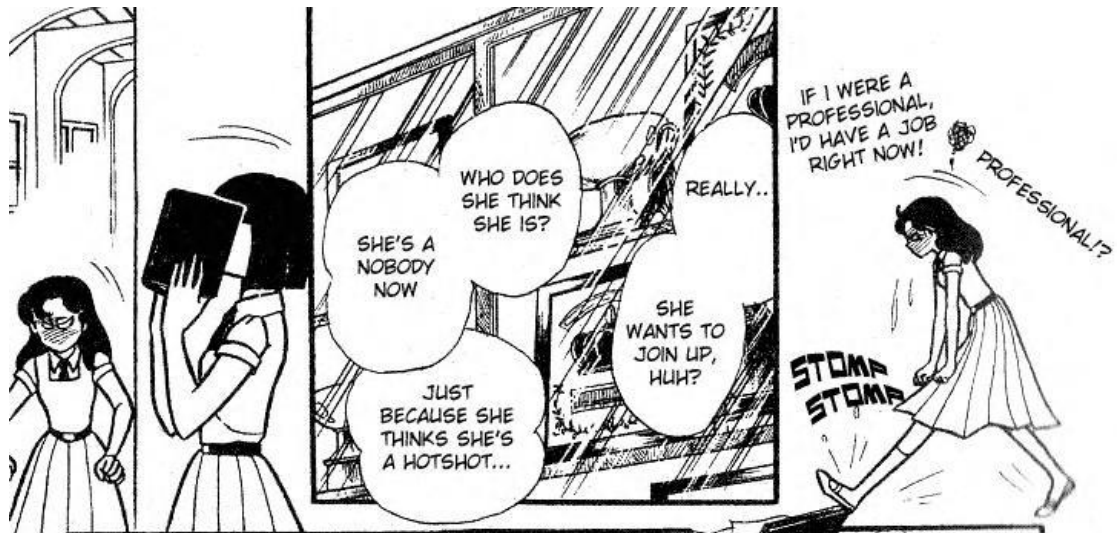
I'M SORRY, BUT WE'RE NOT TAKING NEW MEMBERS RIGHT NOW

BESIDES, YOU'VE DONE MOVIE AND TELEVISION WORK



Drama Club

YOU WANT TO JOIN?







THE SHIP WAS TURNED INTO A MAKESHIFT COURTHOUSE

400 YEARS AGO, A PIRATE SHIP AND ITS CREW, NOTORIOUS FOR CAUSING UNREST IN THE AEGEAN SEA WAS FINALLY CAUGHT

NOW, AMONG THE PIRATES WAS A WOMAN DRESSED AS A MAN

SHE WAS CALLED NICO

BUT HER REAL NAME WAS BIANCA CASTANI

WELL, THIS BOOK IS WRITTEN FROM HER POINT OF VIEW

"WHY DID SHE BECOME A PIRATE?" IS WHAT YOU'RE PROBABLY WONDERING

SHE USED TO BE PRINCESS



OH, TELL ME MORE ABOUT HER

SURE



IT WOULD MAKE AN INTERESTING PLAY

THE ROYAL PRINCESS WHO BECAME A PIRATE...

IT SOUNDS SO ROMANTIC AND EXCITING...

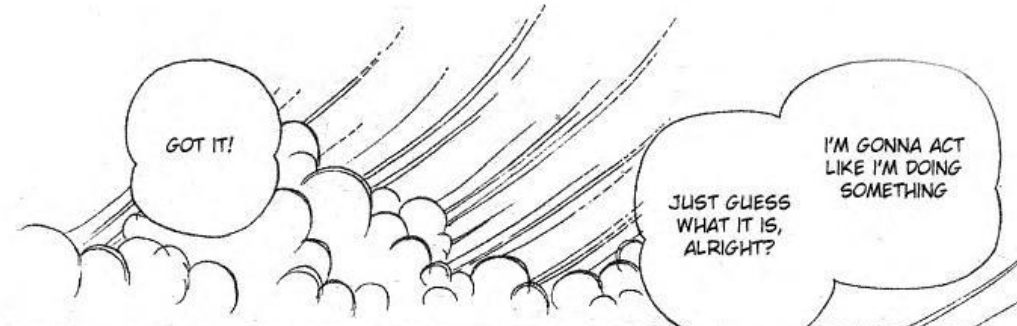


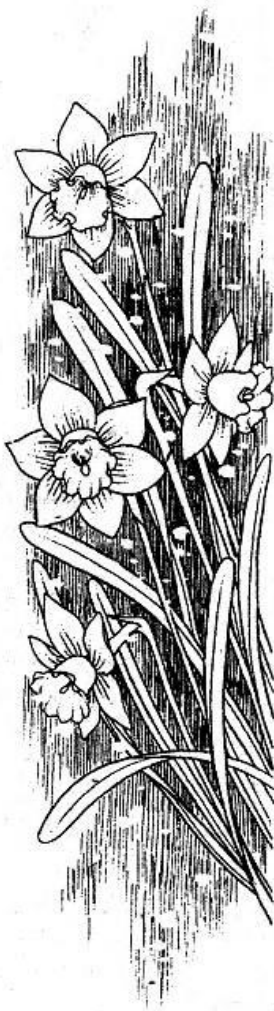
THAT'S AWESOME!

AND IT'S FULL OF INTRIGUE, LOVE, AND EXCITEMENT

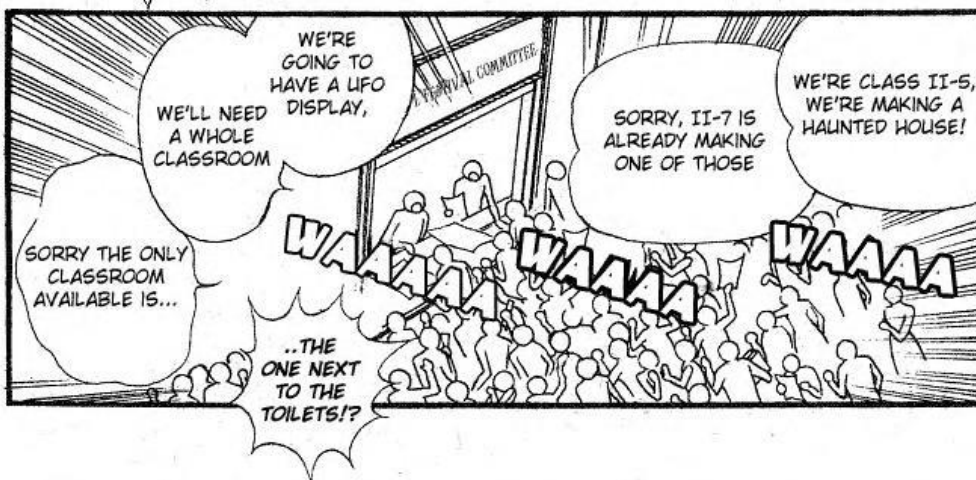
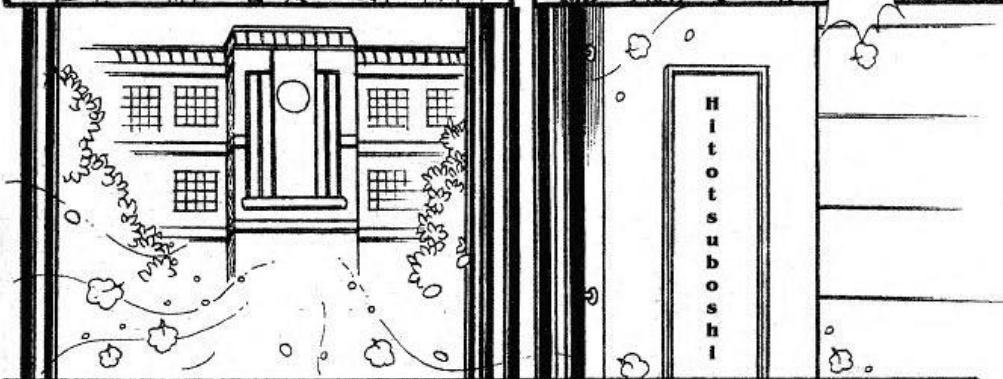
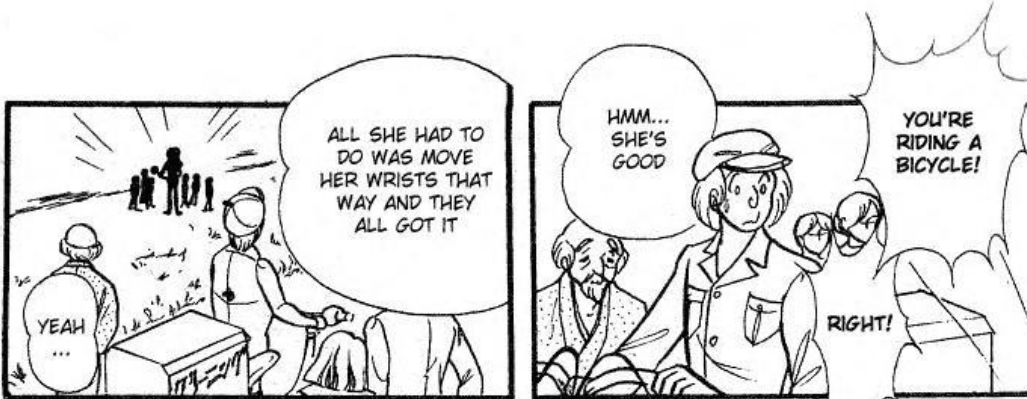
YES IT IS!









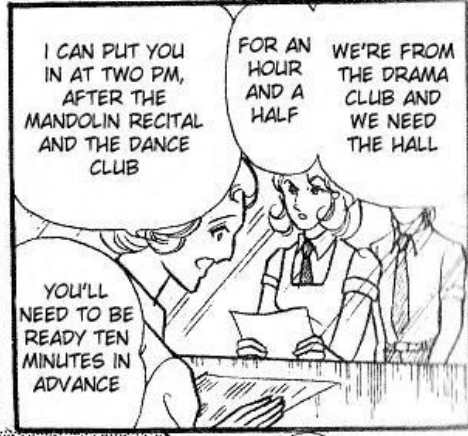




NOW THEN, TAKING SIGN UPS FOR THE SCHOOL YARD VENUE

**SIGN UP NOW!**

FOLK DANCING, MAGIC, OR SOLO PERFORMANCES



I CAN PUT YOU IN AT TWO PM, AFTER THE MANDOLIN RECITAL AND THE DANCE CLUB

FOR AN HOUR AND A HALF

WE'RE FROM THE DRAMA CLUB AND WE NEED THE HALL

YOU'LL NEED TO BE READY TEN MINUTES IN ADVANCE



THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL ... IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL IF I COULD PERFORM SOMETHING

BUT NOT ALONE...

*cha tter cha tter*



BIANCA, THE FEMALE PIRATE....

*flip flip*



HERE, I'LL LEND IT TO YOU

YOU WERE INTERESTED IN THIS BOOK, RIGHT?

WOW, THANKS

I'M DONE WITH IT



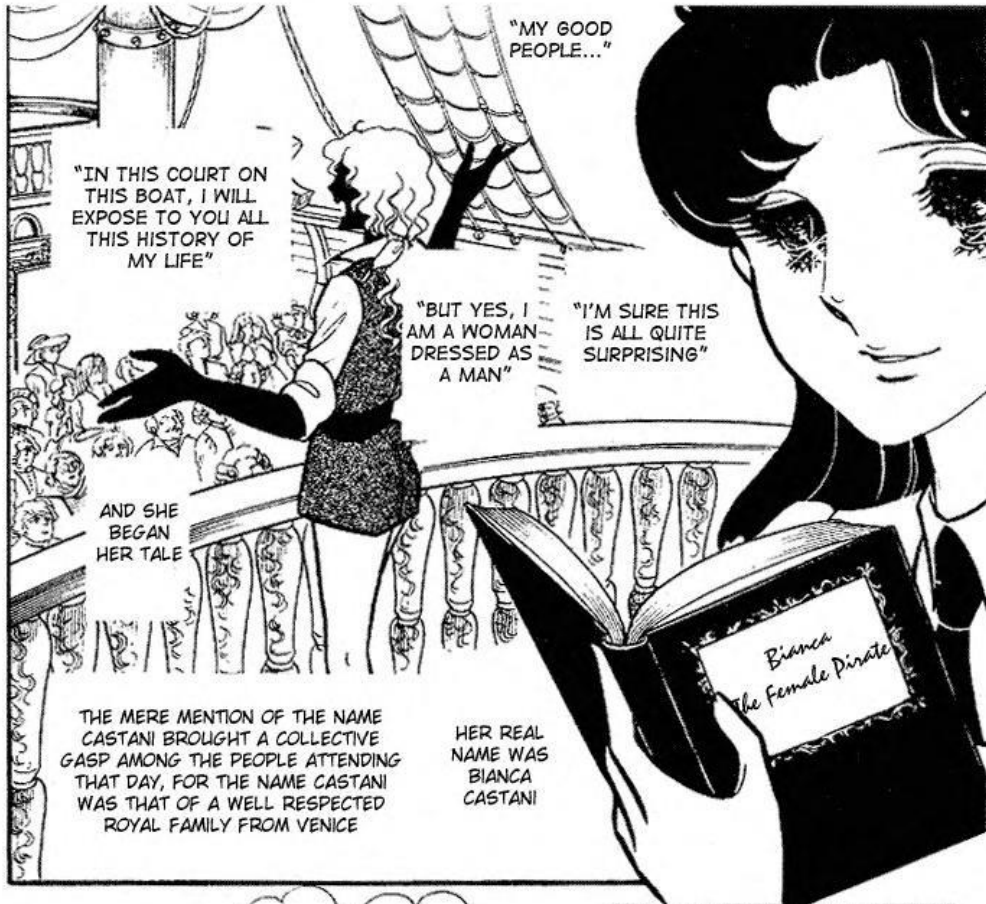
OH, THE GIRL FROM THE LIBRARY

HEY!



THE FESTIVAL'S COMING UP..

SO WE'RE OPENING A DISPLAY STAND



"MY GOOD PEOPLE..."

"IN THIS COURT ON THIS BOAT, I WILL EXPOSE TO YOU ALL THIS HISTORY OF MY LIFE"

"BUT YES, I AM A WOMAN DRESSED AS A MAN"

"I'M SURE THIS IS ALL QUITE SURPRISING"

AND SHE BEGAN HER TALE

THE MERE MENTION OF THE NAME CASTANI BROUGHT A COLLECTIVE GASP AMONG THE PEOPLE ATTENDING THAT DAY, FOR THE NAME CASTANI WAS THAT OF A WELL RESPECTED ROYAL FAMILY FROM VENICE

HER REAL NAME WAS BIANCA CASTANI



BUT HOW COULD I DO IT? WHAT SHOULD I DO?

HMM.. I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO PERFORM AGAIN

THAT WOULD BE WONDERFUL...

I KEEP SEARCHING FOR AN ANSWER, BUT I STILL CAN'T FIND ONE

I COULD USE THE BOOK AS A SCRIPT

A FEMALE PIRATE

I'D LIKE TO PLAY HER

BUT I CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITH THE WAY I AM RIGHT NOW



AYUMI...

TOO FAR...

THE CRIMSON GODDESS  
SEEMS SO FAR AWAY  
NOW...



IT'S JUST  
JUNK IN  
THERE, BUT  
IT'S GOING TO  
BE HARD  
WORK

IT'S BEEN  
UNUSED  
FOR YEARS  
NOW

SEEING AS HOW  
THE FESTIVAL IS  
COMING UP, WE  
NEED TO CLEAN  
OUT THIS OLD  
SHED



CAN YOU  
GIVE US A  
HAND?

HEY,  
YOU  
THERE!



I'VE GOT TO  
GET SOME  
STUFF FIRST

OF  
COURSE  
NOT!

HEY,  
YOU'RE  
JUST  
GOING TO  
RUN OUT  
ON ME!



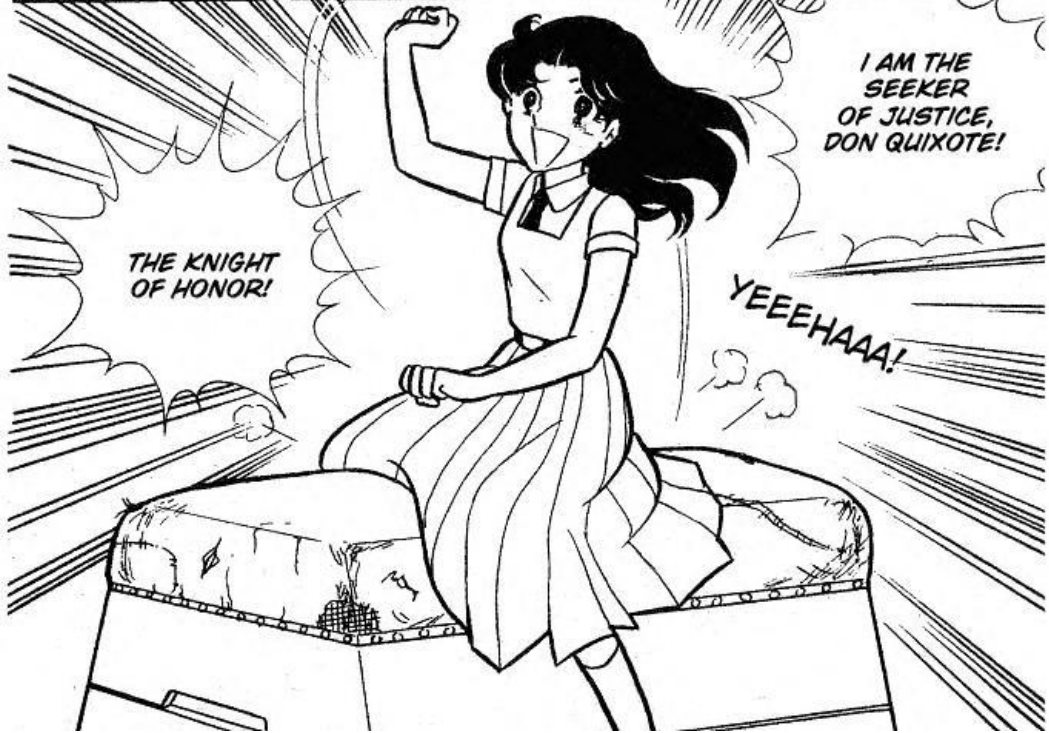


JUNK...  
THIS IS  
OLD GYM  
EQUIPMENTS



I REMEMBER  
THIS

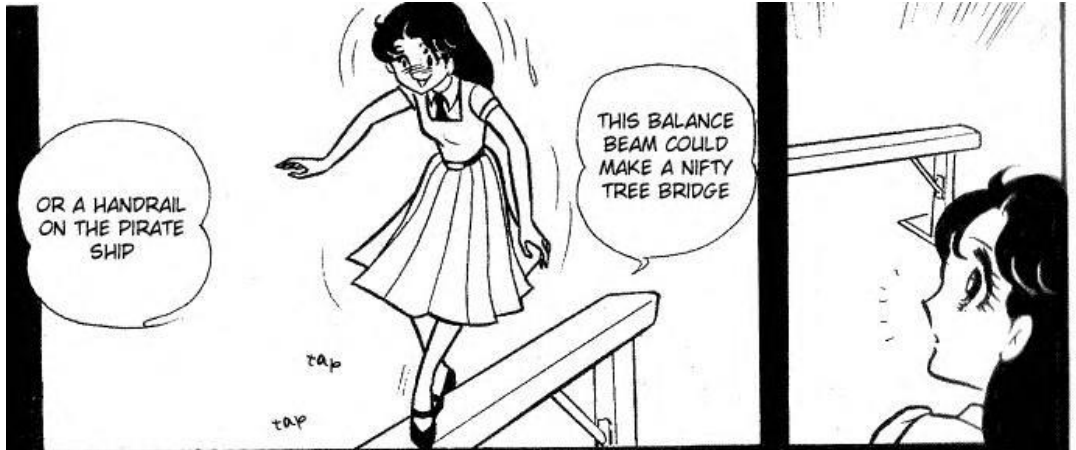
I USED TO PLAY  
WITH THIS WHEN  
I WAS A KID

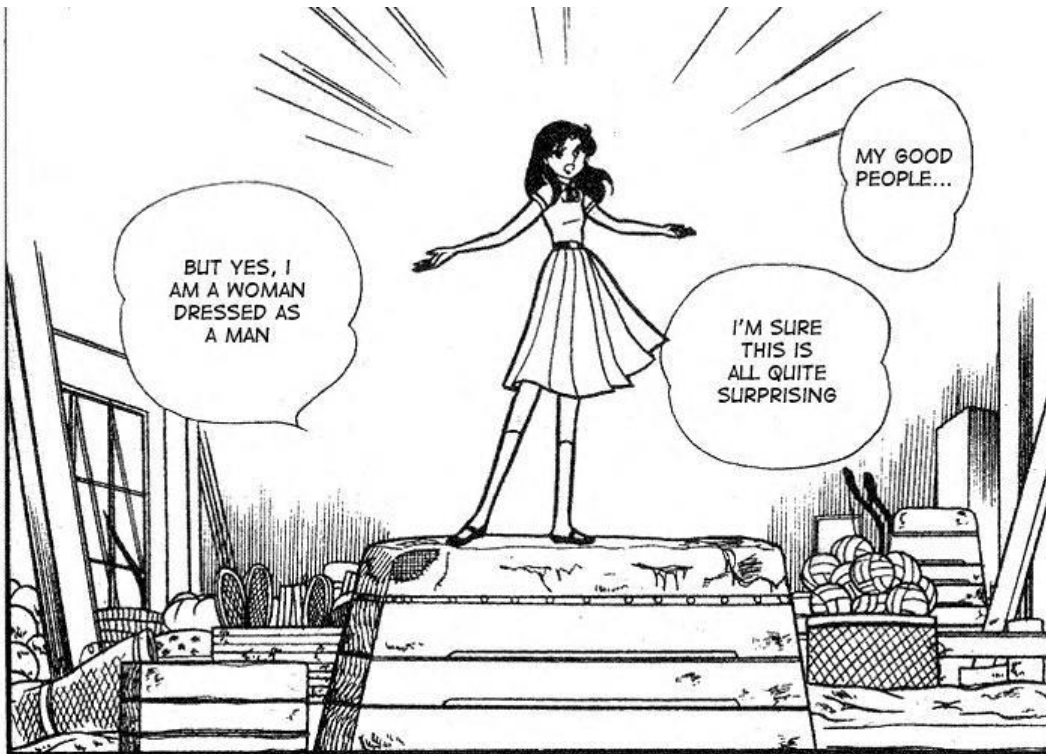


THE KNIGHT  
OF HONOR!

I AM THE  
SEEKER  
OF JUSTICE,  
DON QUIXOTE!

YEEHAAA!





BUT YES, I AM A WOMAN DRESSED AS A MAN

MY GOOD PEOPLE...

I'M SURE THIS IS ALL QUITE SURPRISING



MY NAME IS BIANCA CASTANI

IN THIS COURT ON THIS BOAT, I WILL EXPOSE TO YOU ALL THE HISTORY OF MY LIFE



THIS MAY BE HARD TO BELIEVE...

I KNOW HOW SHOCKING THIS IS

THE CASTANI FAMILY IS THE MOST POWERFUL ROYAL FAMILY IN ALL OF VENICE

ORDER, ORDER I SAY!

CLAP CLAP



ALL THIS EQUIPMENT...

THIS...

OH!

EVEN THIS IRON ROD, I COULD USE...

THIS COULD BE A FORTRESS OR A REEF...

THIS COULD BE A HORSE

I WONDER IF I COULD USE ALL THIS, FOR A PLAY

I CAN USE ALL OF IT!

ALL OF IT!

I CAN DO THIS PLAY!





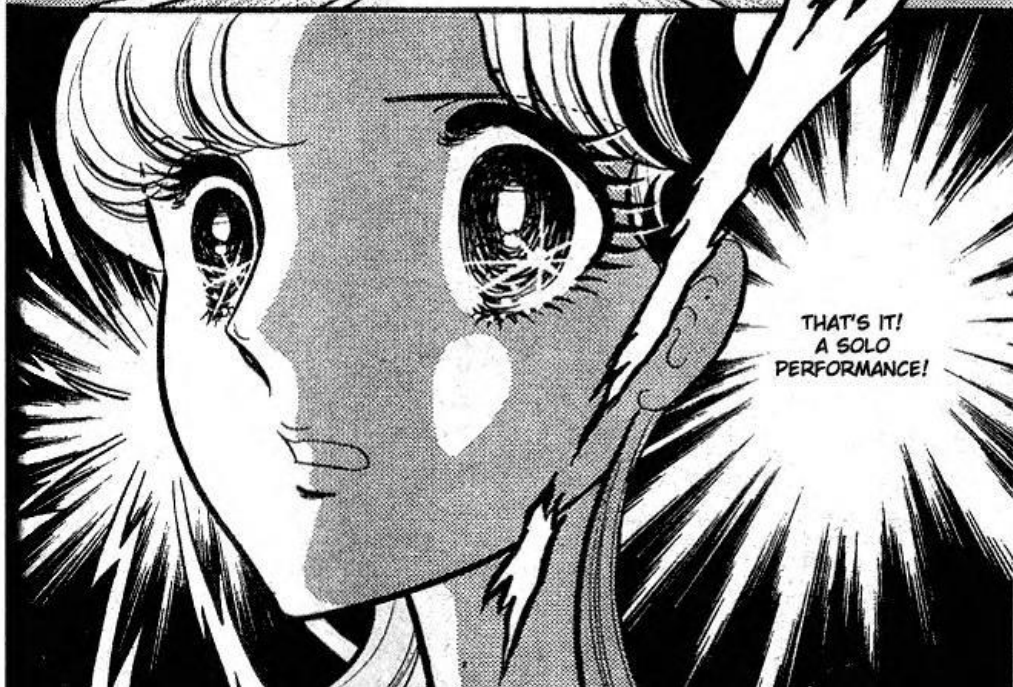
A  
MIME...

A SOLO  
PERFOR-  
MANCE...

THE FEMALE  
PIRATE  
BIANCA...

THE  
CONFESSION  
OF BIANCA

SOLO PERFORMANCE?



THAT'S IT!  
A SOLO  
PERFORMANCE!



BIANCA, THE  
FEMALE PIRATE

ON MY OWN!



SIGN UP,  
AND I DO  
MEAN  
NOW!!

ALRIGHT,  
LAST CALL  
FOR THOSE  
PARTICIPATING!



MAKE IT  
HAPPEN  
MYSELF...

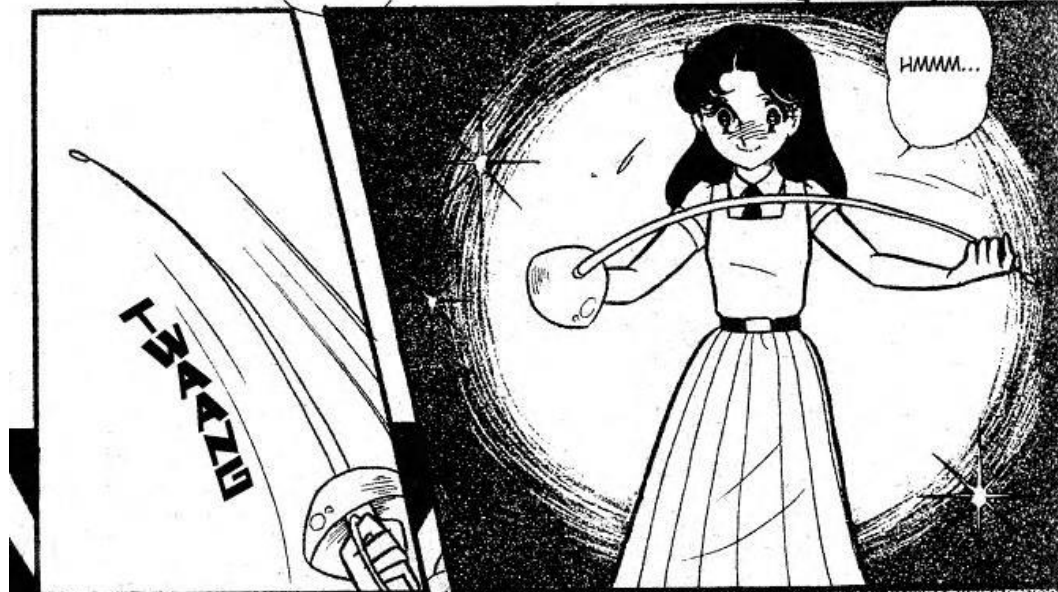
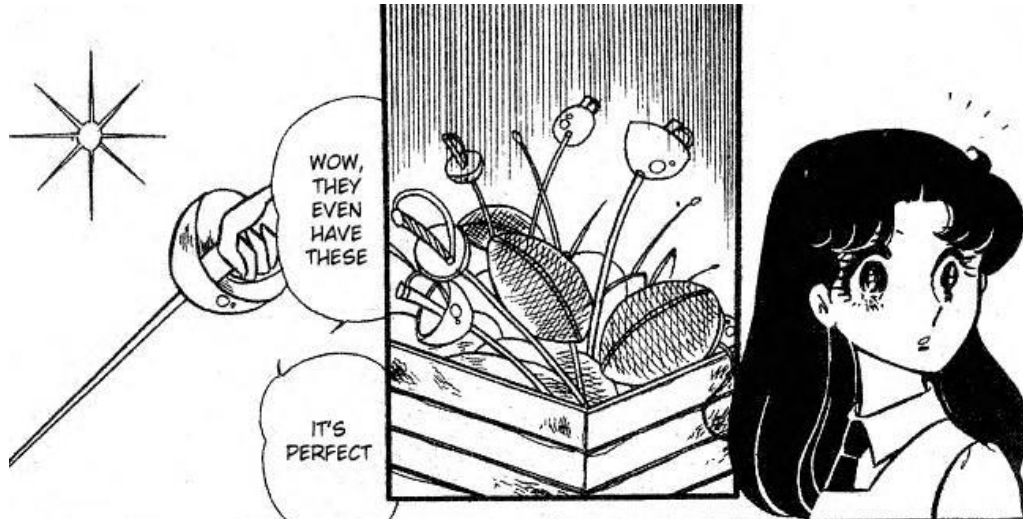
I'LL DO IT,  
I'LL PUT ON  
A PLAY!

THE SCRIPT  
AND STAGE I  
CAN MANAGE  
FOR SURE!

I HAVE TO  
MAKE THIS  
HAPPEN  
MYSELF



I CAN DO THIS ON MY OWN!







EVEN ON  
MY OWN...

I WILL  
PERFORM!

I CAN DO  
THIS!

BIANCA, THE  
FEMALE PIRATE







BUT I'M NOT GIVING UP! IF NOT NOW, THEN I'LL DO IT SOME OTHER TIME!

IF THEY WON'T GIVE ME THE HALL OR YARD, HECK I'LL BUILD MY OWN STAGE!

Bianca  
The Female Pirate

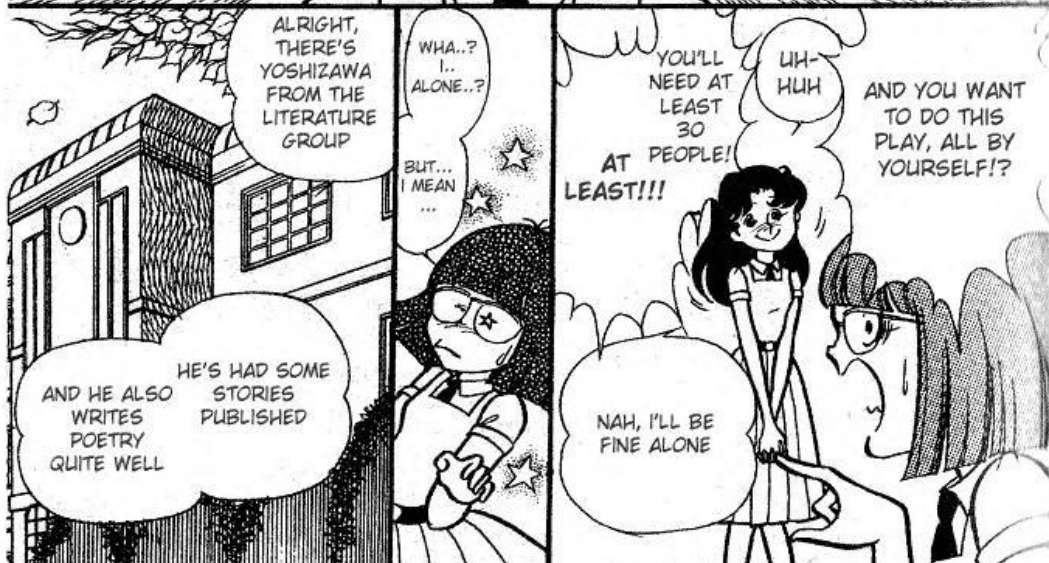
I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO PLAYING BIANCA!

GREAT, NOW WHAT? CAN'T DO IT ANYWHERE!

CHEAP-SKATES!



WHAT, YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A SCRIPT WRITER?!



ALRIGHT, THERE'S YOSHIKAWA FROM THE LITERATURE GROUP

WHA...? I... ALONE...?

BUT... I MEAN ...

YOU'LL NEED AT LEAST 30 AT PEOPLE! LEAST!!!

UH-HUH

AND YOU WANT TO DO THIS PLAY, ALL BY YOURSELF?!

AND HE ALSO WRITES POETRY QUITE WELL

HE'S HAD SOME STORIES PUBLISHED

NAH, I'LL BE FINE ALONE







IS KITAJIMA MAYA HERE?

THE NEXT DAY



I FINISHED THE SCRIPT, SEE?

IT'S ALL DONE HERE, JUST READ IT AND TELL ME WHAT YOU THINK

LET ME KNOW IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU NEED CHANGED

I WAS LOOKING FOR THE PARTS THAT WOULD MAKE A GOOD PLAY

I WAS UP ALL NIGHT READING THIS

YOSHI-ZAWA?



SO I THINK IT WOULD BE MORE INTERESTING IF YOU HAD MORE ABOUT THE PIRATES THEMSELVES HERE IN THIS PART..

END OF CLASS

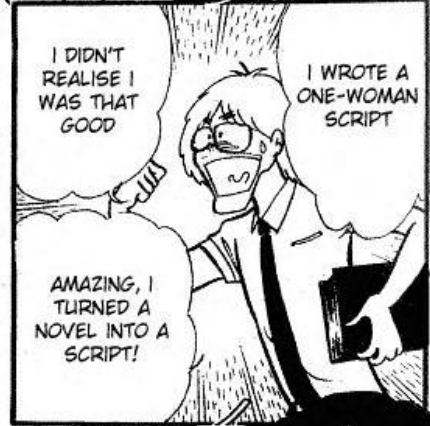
AND YOU'LL WANT TO ADD SOMETHING ABOUT HER MEETING HER BROTHER JULIO

I'LL BE PLAYING HIM TOO

YES MA'AM

ALRIGHT MA'AM

IT SHOWS HER LIFE AMONG THE OTHER PIRATES



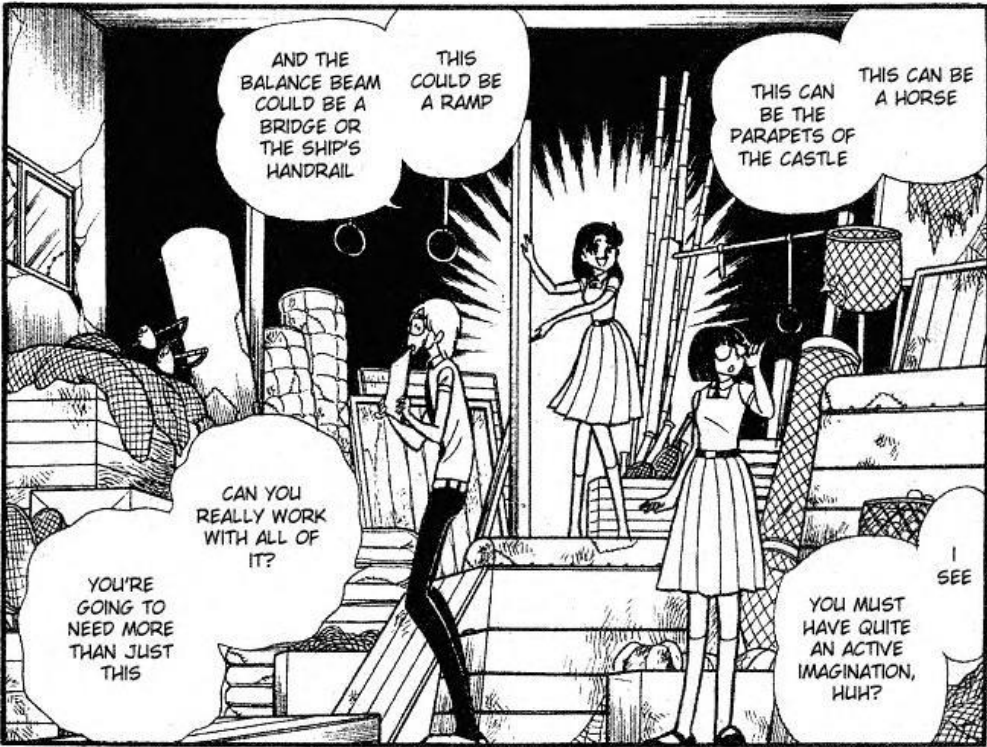
I DIDN'T REALISE I WAS THAT GOOD

I WROTE A ONE-WOMAN SCRIPT

AMAZING, I TURNED A NOVEL INTO A SCRIPT!



YAY!!!









A PLAY!?  
IN THAT  
HUNK OF  
JUNK?!

UH...  
A PLAY?

GULP ~~~~~



GLARE

WHADDYA  
NEED IT  
FOR?



HOW MANY  
PEOPLE YOU  
WANNA HAVE?

NO? THEN  
FROM  
WHERE?

YOU FROM  
THE  
DRAMA  
CLUB?

I'LL CLEAN AND  
TIDY IT UP

YEAH,  
I'LL BE  
PERFORM-  
ING



SCHOOL  
KEEPS  
GETTING  
HARDER  
AND  
HARDER

CHILDREN  
SO YOUNG,  
LOSING THEIR  
MINDS



...



I'LL BE  
DOING IT  
ALONE,  
SIR



AND I'LL BE  
RESPONSIBLE  
FOR EVERYTHING!

I CAN ACT  
REALLY  
WELL!

NO,  
I'M SERIOUS!

I WANT  
TO DO  
THIS!

AND BECAUSE I'M  
ALONE I CAN'T  
USE THE OTHER  
VENUES!

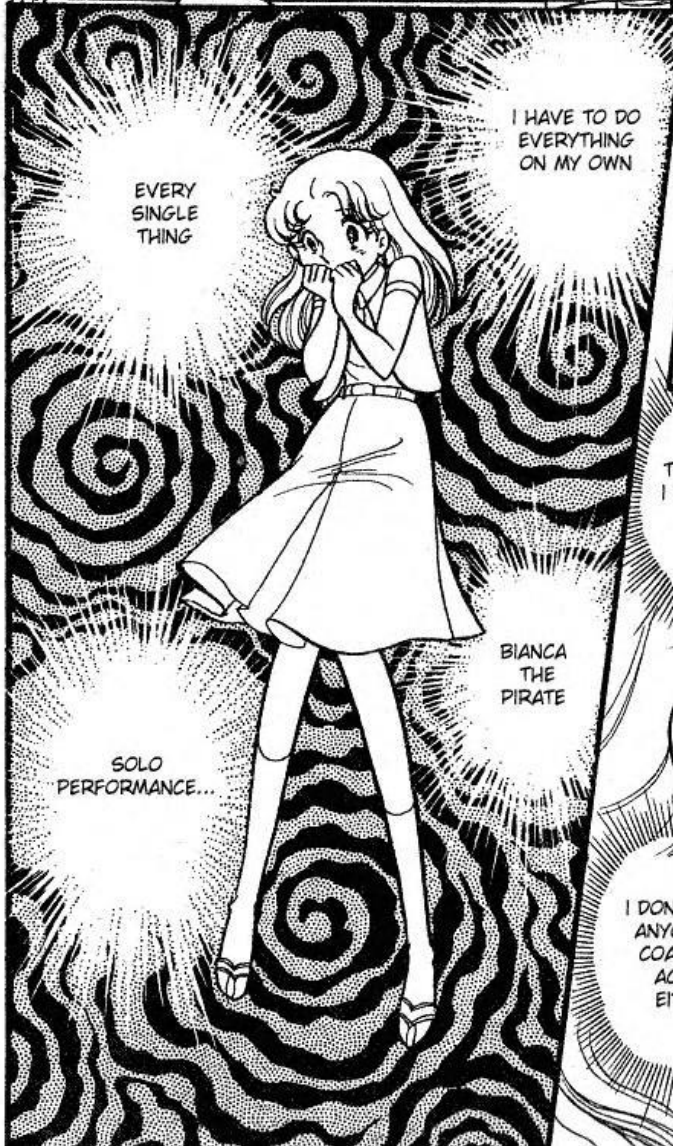




YOSHIZAWA FROM THE LIT GROUP WROTE THE SCRIPT

YUP, ITS IN THE OLD GYM, I GOT PERMISSION AND EVERYTHING

A SOLO ACT?



EVERY SINGLE THING

I HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING ON MY OWN

SOLO PERFORMANCE...

BIANCA THE PIRATE



ITS GOING TO BE DIFFICULT, MAYA

YOU'LL NEED STAGE-HANDS AND PRODUCTION DESIGNERS

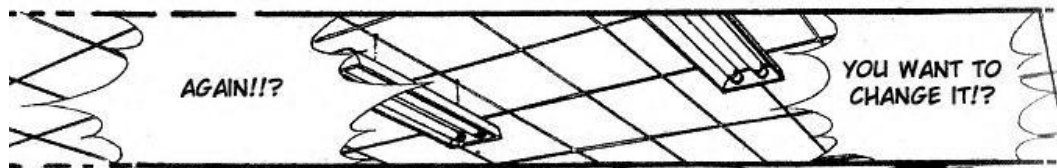
DOING EVERYTHING YOURSELF

THAT'S TRUE, I DIDN'T THINK OF THAT

DESIGNERS?

I DON'T HAVE ANYONE TO COACH MY ACTING EITHER

OH GOSH!









MEMORIZING THE WHOLE THING JUST BY READING IT TWICE?  
IS SHE FOR REAL?

SHE'S MEMORIZING FIVE BOOKS IN ONE NIGHT?

WHISPER

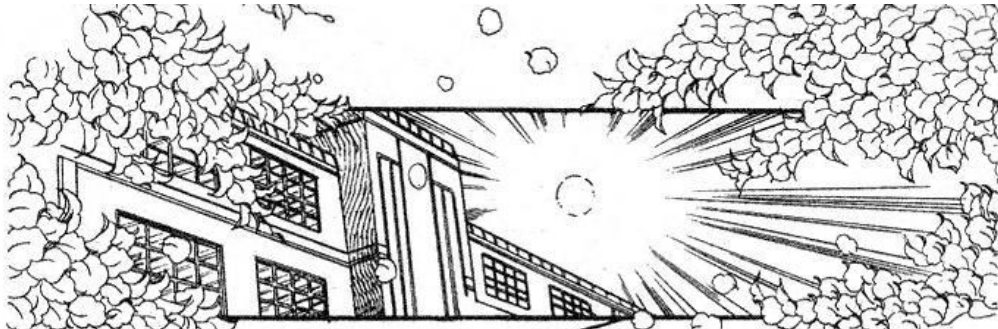
MURMUR MURMUR

WHISPER

MURMUR MURMUR

HERE'S YOUR DINNER, MAYA

TAKE A BREAK AND EAT IT, OKAY?



FIVE BOOKS SHE CAN DO, BUT A MATH FORMULA AND SHE DRAWS A BLANK

SHE'S OUT FOR THE DAY.. I GUESS SHE STAYED UP ALL NIGHT

SHE'S WEIRD



I CAN HANDLE THE ACTING BUT..

THIS IS HARDER THAN I THOUGHT

I'VE ALWAYS HAD STAGE HANDS TO DO THAT

NOW, HOW TO ARRANGE EVERYTHING INTO AN APPROPRIATE SET