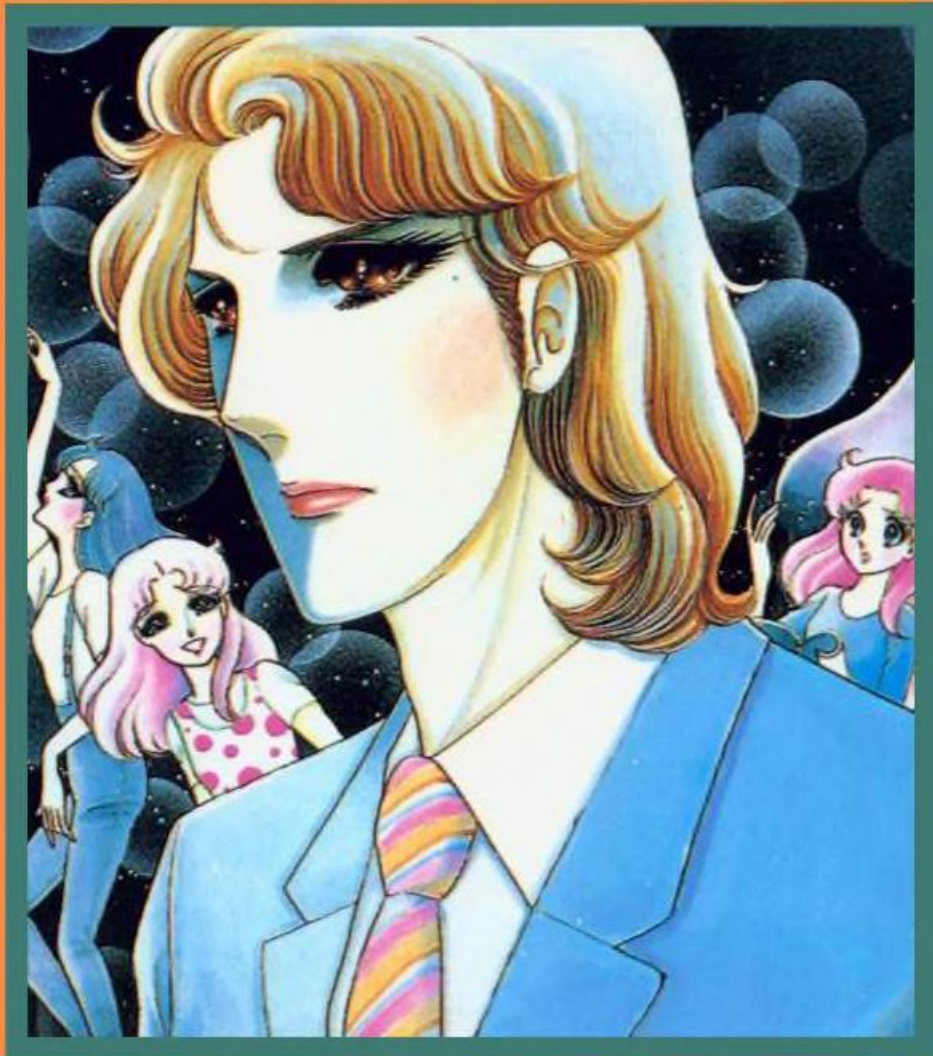


HANA TO YUME COMICS

Glass Mask

SUZUE MIUCHI

28



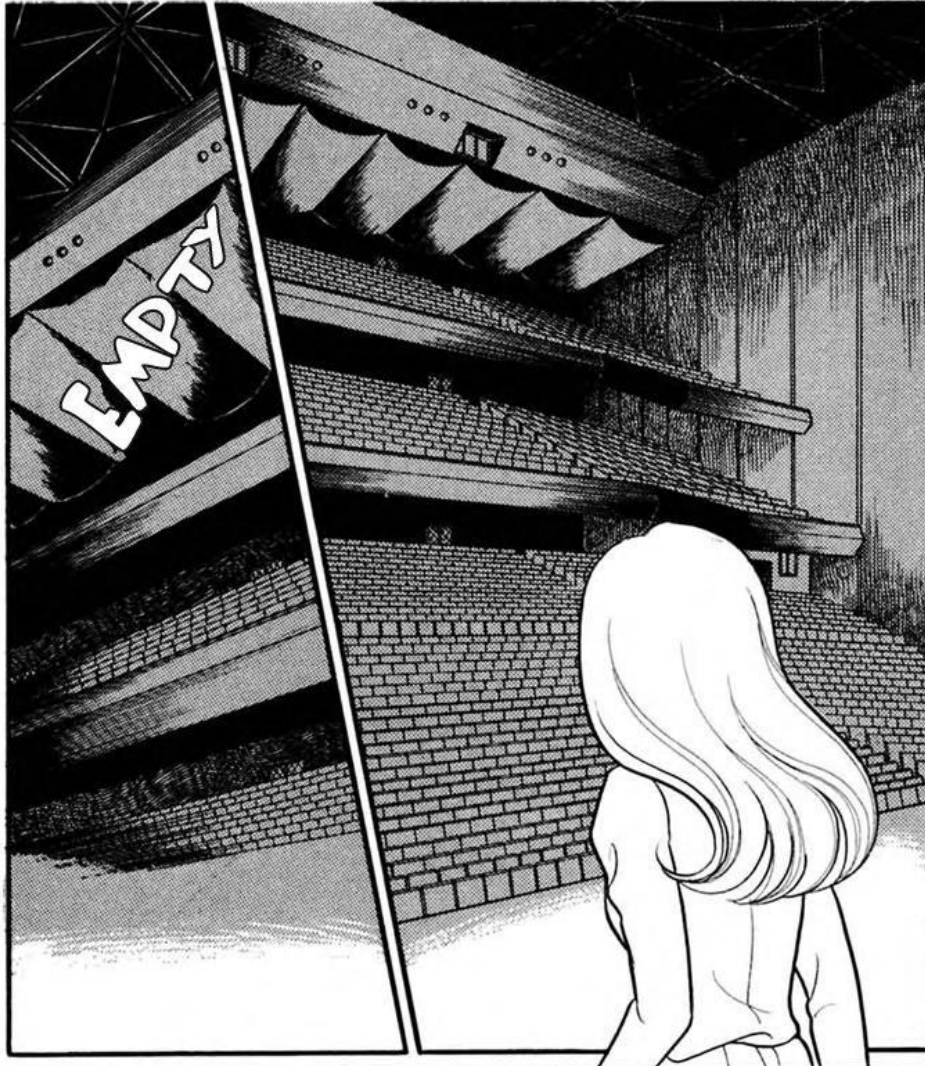
HANA TO YUME COMICS

GLASS MASK

VOLUME 28 THE PURPLE SHADOW (1)

SUZUE MIUCHI





The gentle
and beautiful
princess Aldis...

I can still
feel her
inside me...

It has ended!
I shall be Aldis no
more upon this
stage...



I received lots of praise for this part...

Even if I couldn't compare with Ayumi's Origeld...

WE ARE XX PRODUCTIONS.

WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO JOIN OUR CAST FOR OUR PLAY.

YOU MUST DEFINITELY BE PART OF OUR MORNING PROGRAM ON MAICHO TV.

YOU'D BE A PERFECT OPHELIA...

WHAT?! ME, OPHELIA IN HAMLET?!

*For the wonderful princess Aldis
Congratulations for the closure
of the play.
Your fan.*

And now you know, my Purple Rose...



But maybe also because I received, by taking that bet, all those bouquets of flowers from Masumi Hayami, the cold-hearted businessman from Daito!

IF YOU MOVE ME...

I'LL SEND YOU YOUR LONG-STEMMED ROSES.

IT SEEMS LIKE A DREAM TO BE ABLE TO PLAY SUCH A ROLE.

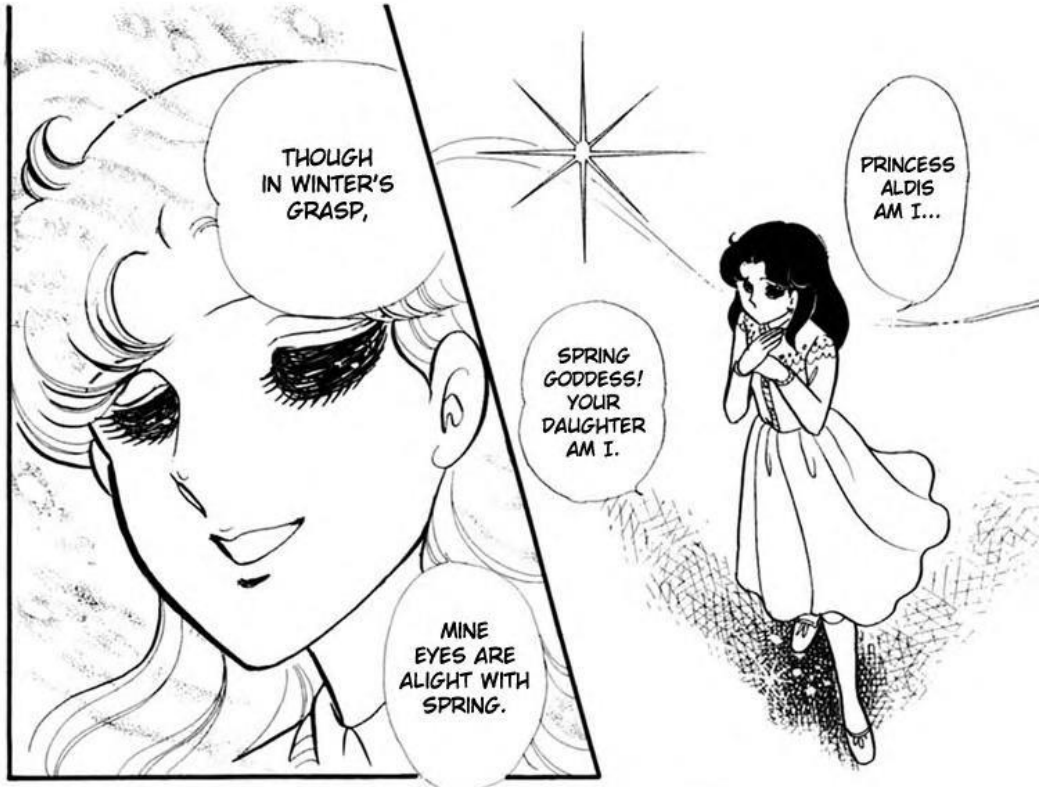
OPHELIA IN HAMLET ...



IT WAS, WITHOUT A DOUBT, BECAUSE OF MY INTERPRETATION OF PRINCESS ALDIS.

...my road is now open...

Thank you...



THOUGH
IN WINTER'S
GRASP,

PRINCESS
ALDIS
AM I...

SPRING
GODDESS!
YOUR
DAUGHTER
AM I.

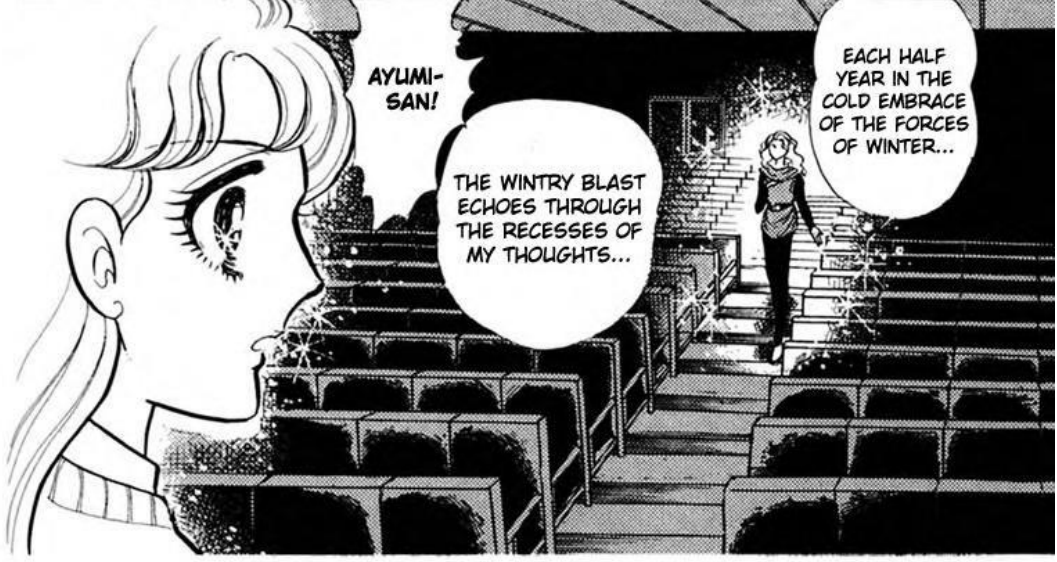
MINE
EYES ARE
ALIGHT WITH
SPRING.



Ah!

LASTONIA
MY
HOMELAND!

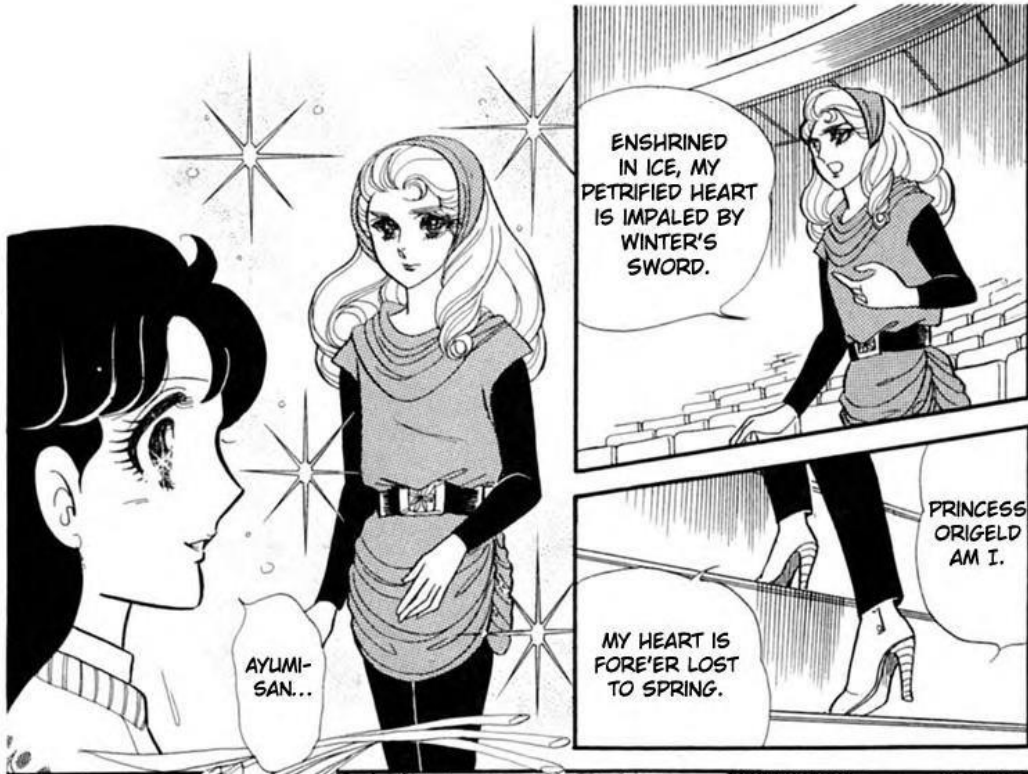
SLAM



AYUMI-
SAN!

THE WINTRY BLAST
ECHOES THROUGH
THE RECESSES OF
MY THOUGHTS...

EACH HALF
YEAR IN THE
COLD EMBRACE
OF THE FORCES
OF WINTER...



ENSHRINED
IN ICE, MY
PETRIFIED HEART
IS IMPALED BY
WINTER'S
SWORD.

PRINCESS
ORIGELD
AM I.

MY HEART IS
FORE'ER LOST
TO SPRING.

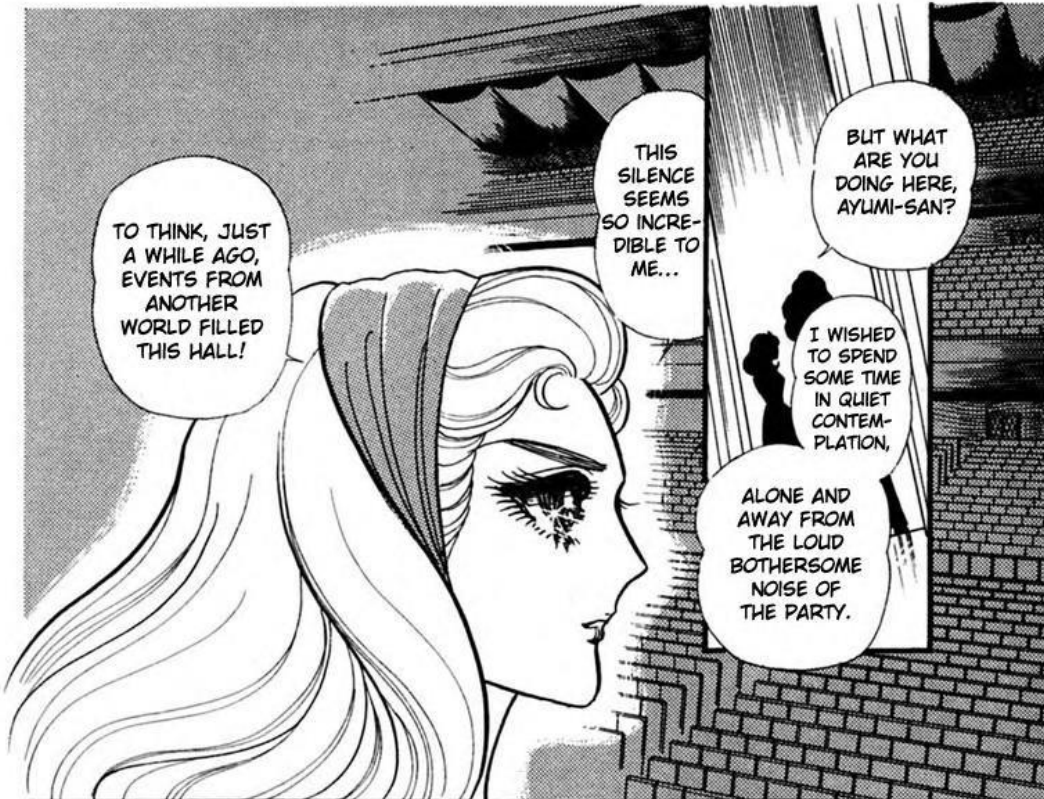


THANK
YOU,
ALDIS.

AND SO
HAVE WE
REACHED
THE END
OF OUR
ROLES.



NO,
THANK
YOU,
SISTER
ORIGELD.



TO THINK, JUST A WHILE AGO, EVENTS FROM ANOTHER WORLD FILLED THIS HALL!

THIS SILENCE SEEMS SO INCREDIBLE TO ME...

BUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, AYUMI-SAN?

I WISHED TO SPEND SOME TIME IN QUIET CONTEMPLATION,

ALONE AND AWAY FROM THE LOUD BOTHERSOME NOISE OF THE PARTY.



YES...

IN AN INSTANT, EVERYTHING HAS DISAPPEARED, AS IF UPON THE MEMORY OF A DREAM...

A WORLD WITH QUEENS, WARRING NATIONS, PLOTS, INTRIGUES...



BEAUTIFUL AND ENCHANTING!

YOUR ALDIS WAS WONDERFUL, MAYA-SAN!

TRULY, YOU SHONE ON STAGE!



...FOR BOTH THE PUBLIC AND THE ACTORS...

IT ALLOWS YOU TO LIVE A DREAM-LIKE EXISTENCE FOR A MOMENT...

ACTING IS WONDERFUL!



I WANT TO BECOME AS GOOD AS YOU.

THANKS ...

THIS PLAY HAS SHOWN ME THE DIFFERENCE IN ABILITY BETWEEN THE TWO OF US.

BUT, AS I FEARED, I'M NOT AS GOOD AS YOU ARE, YET.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAISE.

I REALLY WANT TO.

BY YOUR STRONG, POWERFUL, FASCINATING AND MERCILESS ORIGELD...

I HAD THE IMPRESSION OF BEING STRONGLY INFLUENCED



AH!

EVERYONE WAS REALLY FRIENDLY TO ME.



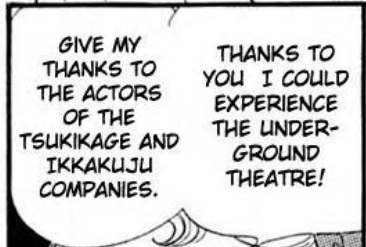
AH! I ALMOST FORGOT! THANK YOU FOR LENDING ME YOUR HOUSE, AYUMI-SAN!



I AGREE!

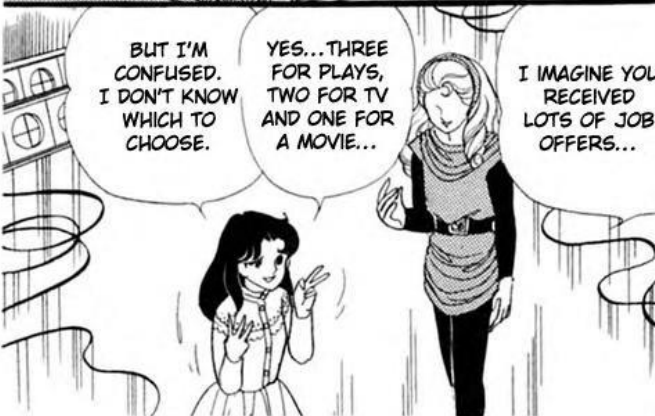
ON THE SAME STAGE!

IT WAS NICE BEING ABLE TO ACT TOGETHER



GIVE MY THANKS TO THE ACTORS OF THE TSUKIKAGE AND IKKAKUJU COMPANIES.

THANKS TO YOU I COULD EXPERIENCE THE UNDERGROUND THEATRE!



BUT I'M CONFUSED. I DON'T KNOW WHICH TO CHOOSE.

YES... THREE FOR PLAYS, TWO FOR TV AND ONE FOR A MOVIE...

I IMAGINE YOU RECEIVED LOTS OF JOB OFFERS...





Ayumi-san...

CHOOSE A GOOD PLAY THAT WILL SUIT YOU.

THERE'S ONLY A YEAR LEFT OF THE TERM IMPOSED BY TSUKIKAGE-SENSEI FOR THE CRIMSON GODDESS.

THANKS.

THE GRAND ARTS AWARD WILL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION IMPORTANT WORKS PLAYED UNTIL AUTUMN OF THIS YEAR!



ON THE STAGE I LIVED THE TRAGIC PAST OF ORIGELD AS IF IT WERE MINE!
THE SADNESS, THE HATE, THE FEAR OF ORIGELD... WERE COMING FROM MY HEART.

ON THE STAGE I WASN'T MYSELF!

I ALREADY REGRET THE END OF THIS PLAY!

IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE ACTING AT ALL!

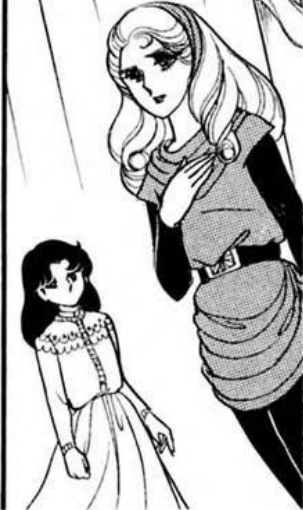
IT WAS LIKE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT PERSONALITY WOULD TAKE OVER...

AS IF I AM LEAVING A PART OF MYSELF BEHIND...

I WALKED THIS STAGE, NOT AS AYUMI HIMEKAWA, BUT AS ORIGELD!

...ANIMATING ME.

DURING EVERY PERFORMANCE I WAS ORIGELD!





WHAT IS IT?

OH!!

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I MERGED WITH MY CHARACTER, BODY AND SOUL...
... WITH A PERSON TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM MYSELF!



FOR ME, IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT.

ON THE STAGE I ALWAYS BECOME SOMEONE ELSE...

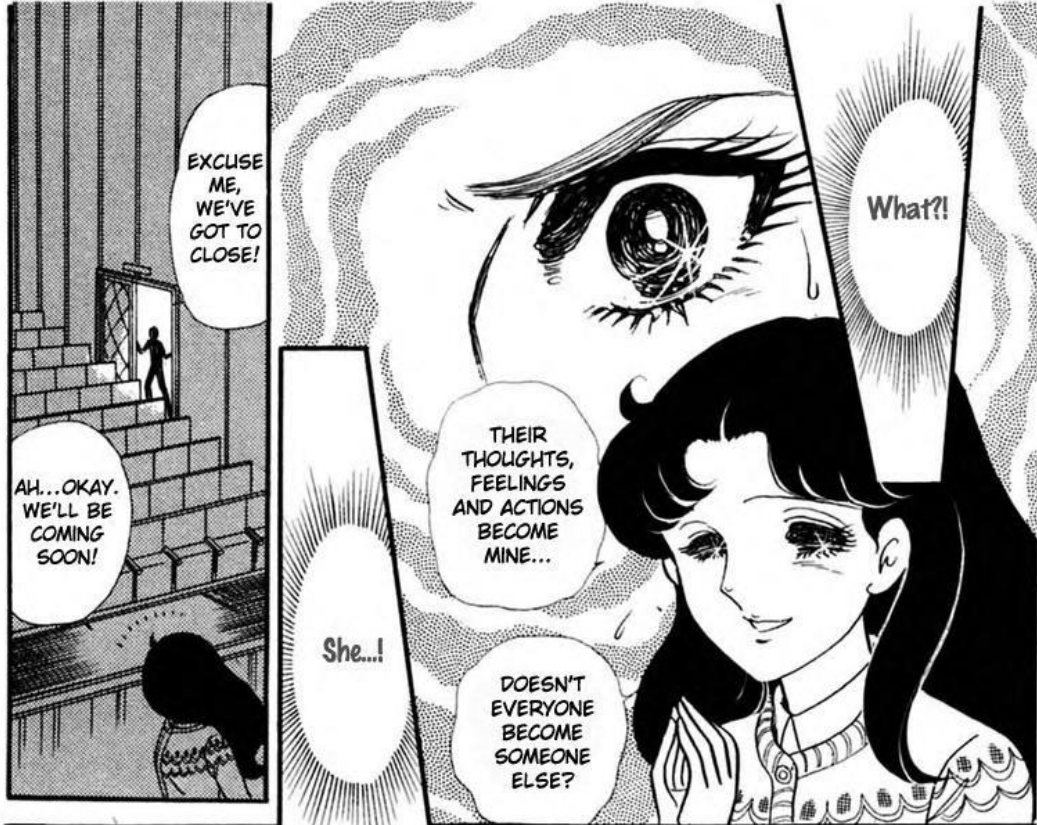


...WHAT YOU'RE SAYING... AYUMI-SAN...

EHM ...
I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND...

EH?





EXCUSE ME, WE'VE GOT TO CLOSE!

AH...OKAY. WE'LL BE COMING SOON!

She...!

THEIR THOUGHTS, FEELINGS AND ACTIONS BECOME MINE...

DOESN'T EVERYONE BECOME SOMEONE ELSE?

What?!



WAIT!



I'LL WAIT FOR YOU! I'LL WAIT!

YOU MUST REACH MY LEVEL NO MATTER THE COST!

LISTEN! PLEASE DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE CRIMSON GODDESS!



I WILL.

THANK YOU, AYUMI-SAN.

Ayu-mi-san...

YOU MUST!

BECAUSE YOU ARE MY RIVAL!

Before you, I always feel defeated.

If only I could rejoice in my victory for just one day!

Maya Kitajima!

I've underestimated her!

You're terrifying!

For her it's always like that?!

That which I had just recently mastered, becoming one with the character, for her it was always the natural thing to do!

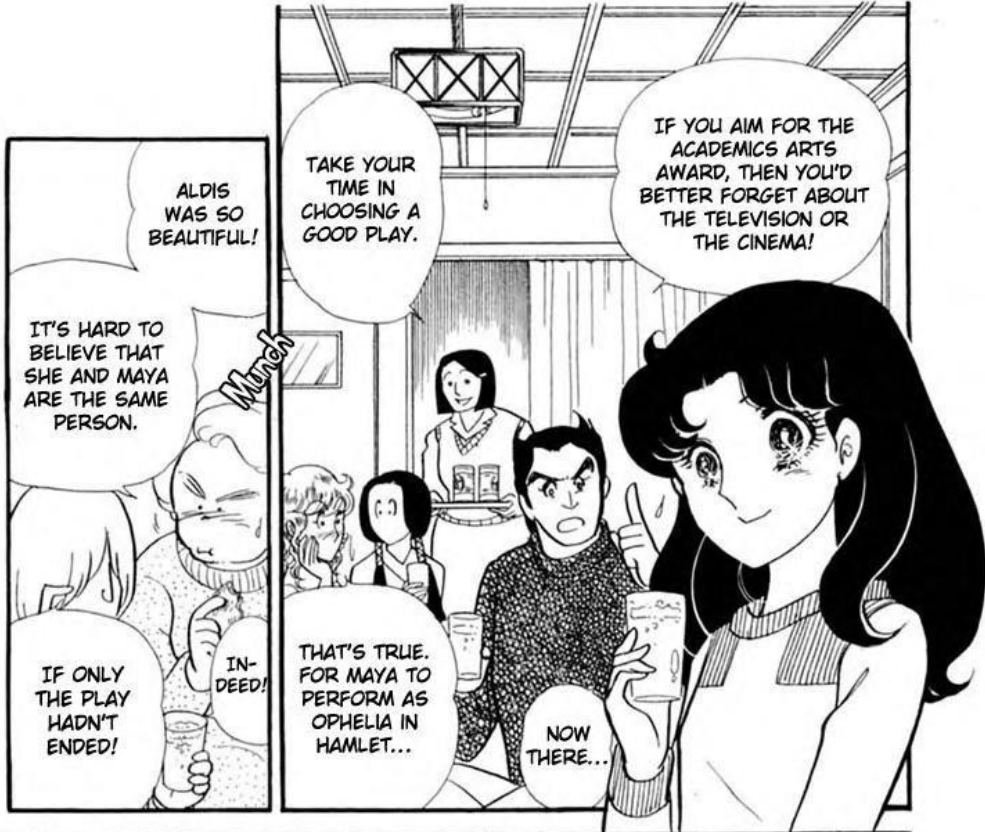


I'll wait for
you, Maya!

You must
contend with
me for the
Crimson
Goddess!



WHAT?!
THAT'S
WONDERFUL,
MAYA!
TO GET
SO MANY
OFFERS!



ALDIS WAS SO BEAUTIFUL!

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT SHE AND MAYA ARE THE SAME PERSON.

IF ONLY THE PLAY HADN'T ENDED!

Munch

TAKE YOUR TIME IN CHOOSING A GOOD PLAY.

THAT'S TRUE. FOR MAYA TO PERFORM AS OPHELIA IN HAMLET...

NOW THERE...

IF YOU AIM FOR THE ACADEMICS ARTS AWARD, THEN YOU'D BETTER FORGET ABOUT THE TELEVISION OR THE CINEMA!



HA
HA
HA



EVEN PATA-LIRO!*

KURT, RAN, MIMI-CHAN,

THAT GIRL CAN'T HOLD HER LIQUOR!

SHE ALREADY HAD SOME WINE!

HEY, WHO GAVE MAYA ALCOHOL?



BONK

WHAT?!

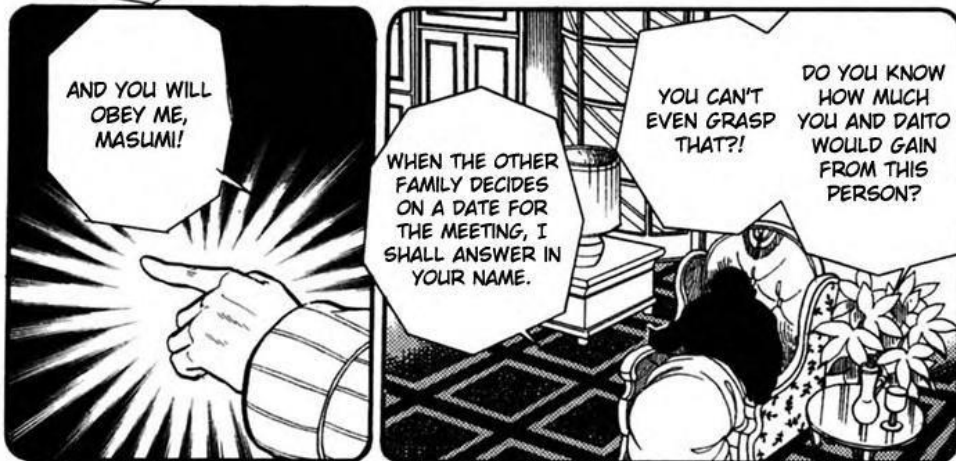
OUCH!

I COULD EVEN PLAY CLEOPATRA! ANY CHARACTER, WHAT DO YOU THINK?!

I'LL DO IT! HOW DO YOU WANT OPHELIA TO BE?!

Hic







Is this really you?

Look at you, Masumi...

And all for that girl so much younger than you!



Are you the one called...

I can't recognize you!

...the heartless businessman of Daito Art Productions...



...standing here, unable to move!?



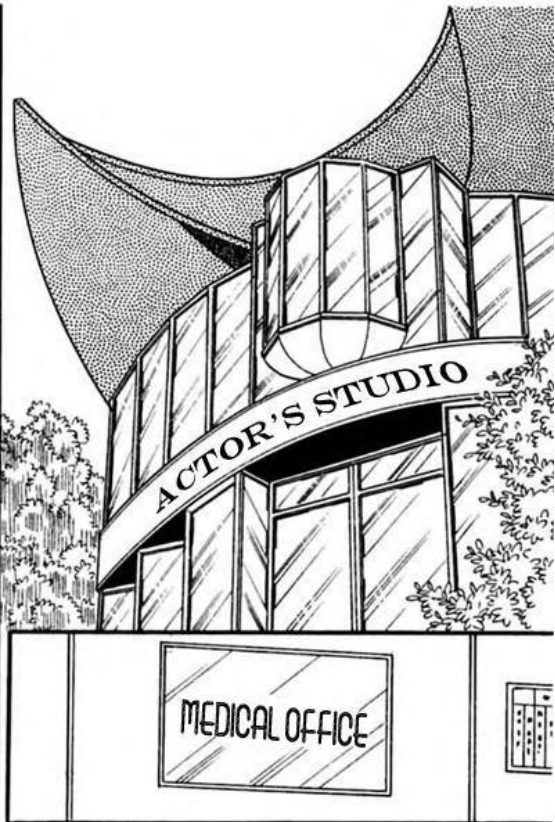
Maya!



YOUR COMEBACK ON STAGE HAS EXHAUSTED YOU.

REDUCE YOUR STRESS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

YOU SHOULD TAKE A BREAK FROM TEACHING AND RELAX.



SHE WAS REALLY CARELESS TO GO ONTO THE STAGE IN HER A SERIOUS RELAPSE. CONDITION.



OH! SIX MONTHS!



IF SHE DOESN'T REST FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS, I CAN'T GUARANTEE HER HEALTH!





Thank you
for coming
to watch
The Two
Princesses

Purple
Rose, how
are you?

Hiji-san told
me that you
appreciated my
Aldis, and this
makes me happy.



I've received
six job
offers!
For a play,
a movie and
a drama.

Did you
know?

A month has passed
since the closure
of the play and
I've returned to
my usual life, but...



...from time
to time
I can feel
her traits
in me,
even now.



The
road,
my
road,
has
opened!

None of them are
main parts,
but the fact
that everyone
recognizes my
abilities fills me
with joy.



As soon as I decide, I'll inform you with the help of Hijiri-san

Although I still haven't made up my mind as to which job to choose...



This is all thanks to you, who has continuously supported me no matter what.



I was so happy that I bought you a blanket which will keep your legs warm.

I've received the payment for the last play.

I'll leave it with Hijiri-san and I ask you to accept it.

I'd be pleased if you like it, but...

...even if you don't like it I'd like you to keep it.



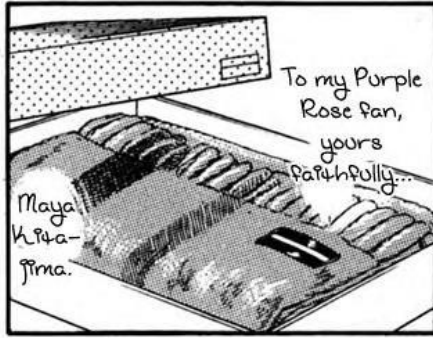
AMENBO
AKAINA

Preparing myself for this, I go out every morning for some jogging.

Practicing vocal exercises on the river bank is the best.

ARGH!

STAGGER





SOMEONE MUST HAVE WANTED TO INVITE YOU!

WOW. WONDERFUL! IT'S AN S SEAT!

ANNA KARENINA ...

I WONDER WHO SENT IT? THERE'S NO NAME.

MAYA, THERE'S A LETTER FOR YOU!

IT'S A TICKET TO A PLAY!



If it were The Purple Rose he would have sent some flowers with it...

Who could have sent me an S seat ticket?



Anna Karenina... Afternoon presentation...

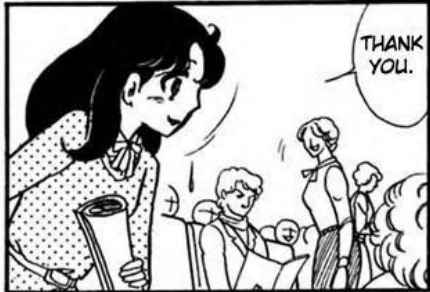
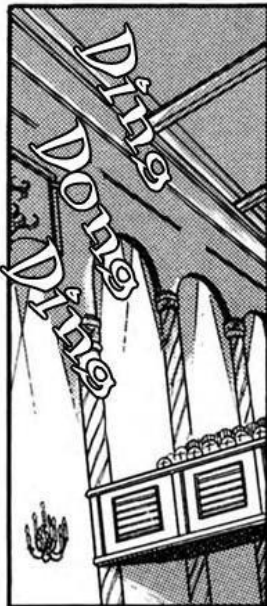
Wonderful! Even the actors are of the best!

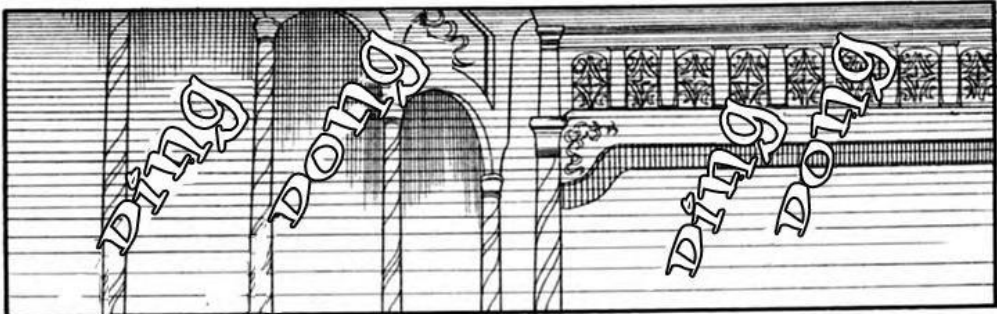
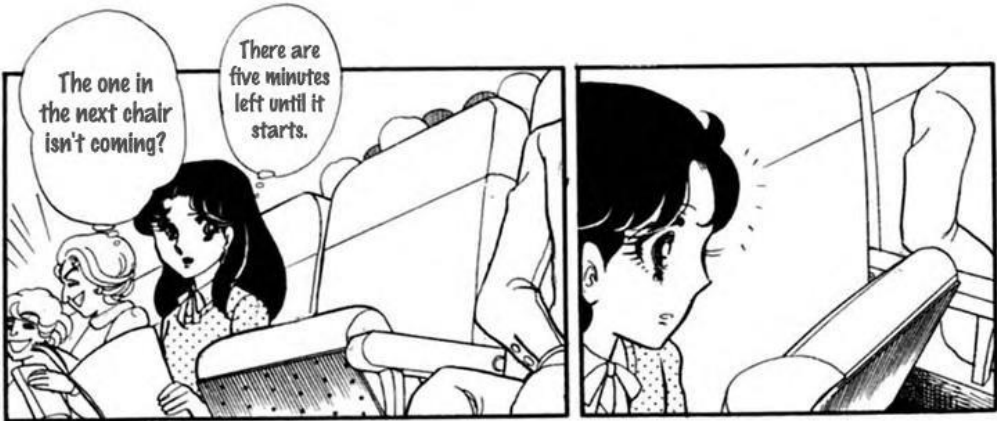
LOOK, IT'S LIKE AN INVITATION!

MAYBE IT'S FROM THE THEATRE, OR THE COMPANY THAT'S PLAYING?

UHM.

MAYBE THEY SAW YOU IN YOUR LAST PLAY!







HAYAMI-SAN!

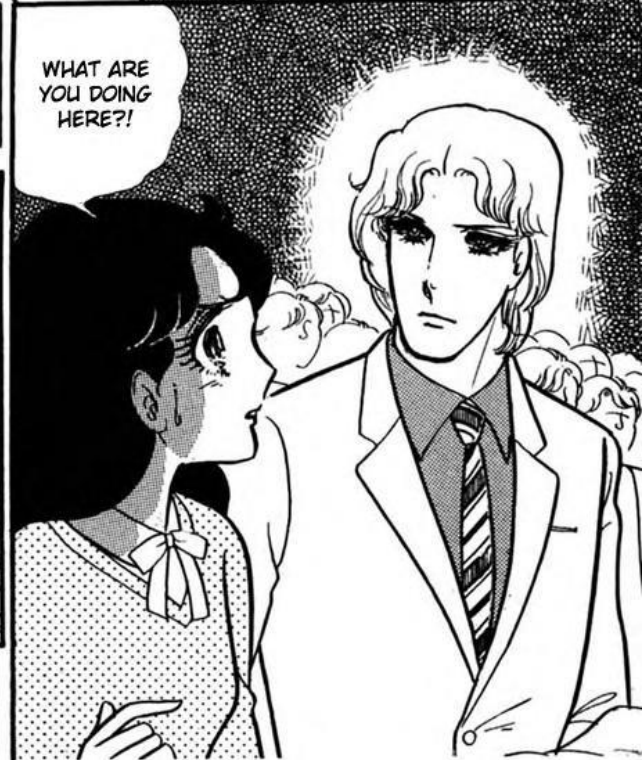


Ah!



WHO SENT ME THE TICKET TO THIS SHOW?!

THEN IT WAS YOU...



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!



Swoosh

SIT DOWN!
THE PLAY IS
ABOUT TO
BEGIN!



IF I DIDN'T DO IT
THAT WAY, YOU'D
NEVER HAVE
ACCEPTED TO
MEET WITH ME.



YES...

AND I SPEAK
FROM EXPE-
RIENCE...

LET GO OF
MY HAND,
PLEASE.



PLO-
TTING?

IS THIS HOW
YOU SEE ME?
YOU THINK
I CAN DO
NOTHING
ELSE?



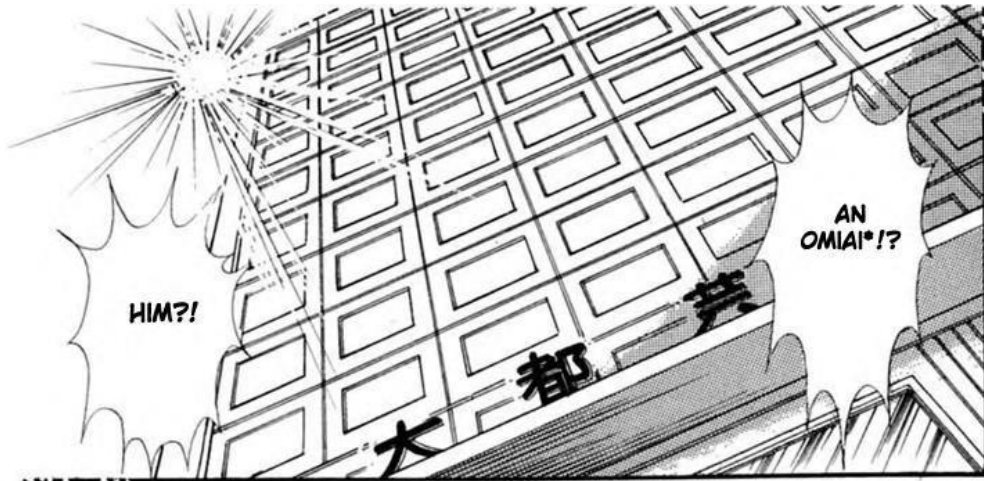
Hold



LET GO OF
MY HAND!

WHAT ARE YOU
PLOTING NOW?





HIM?!

AN OMAI*!?



IT'S BEEN NOTHING HERE BUT TALK ABOUT THE OMAI BETWEEN MASUMI-SAMA AND THE DAUGHTER OF AN IMPORTANT INDUSTRY BUSINESSMAN!

WE WERE SO SHOCKED!

YES, MIZUKI-SAN.

APPARENTLY HIS FATHER, THE PRESIDENT, IS IMPOSING THIS ON HIM!



It's really absurd!

What?! But it makes no sense!



IT IS TRUE THAT MASUMI-SAMA HAS EVERYTHING HE WANTS.

BUT I AM SURE HE WON'T OPPOSE HIS FATHER.

