

THIS FEELING...  
IT'S STILL RUNNING  
IN MY HEART.

HOW SHOULD I SAY IT?  
THIS FEELING OF  
ACCOMPLISHMENT...



BUT ON STAGE, I WAS  
NO LONG AN ACTRESS!  
I BECAME SULLIVAN...

AT FIRST I THOUGHT  
IT WOULD BE HARD  
WORKING WITH YOU,



ho  
ho  
ho

EVEN THOUGH IT'S A  
DOUBLE CAST, PLEASE  
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.  
AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO  
FEEL GUILTY.

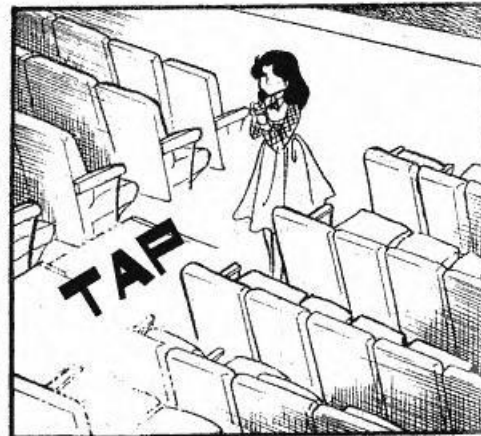
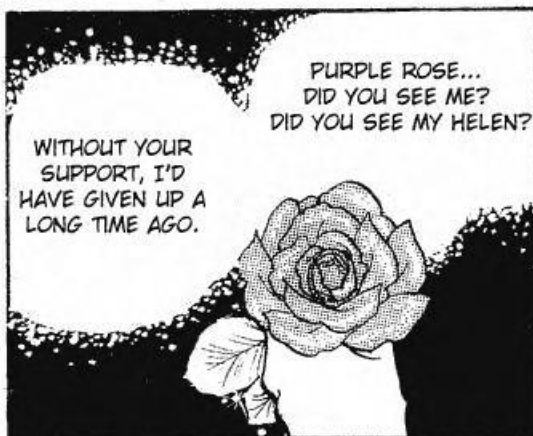
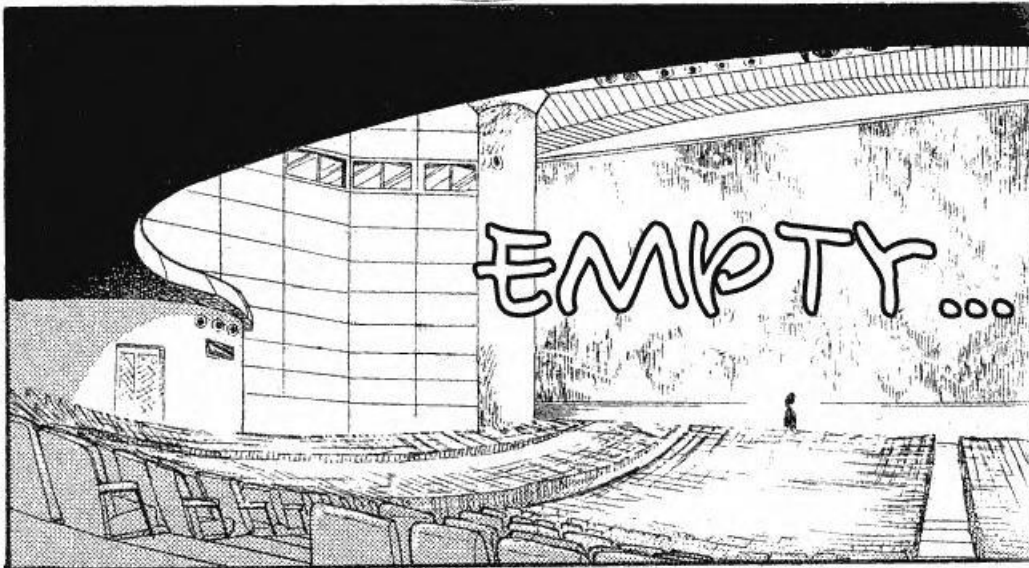
OK, MISS  
SULLIVAN!

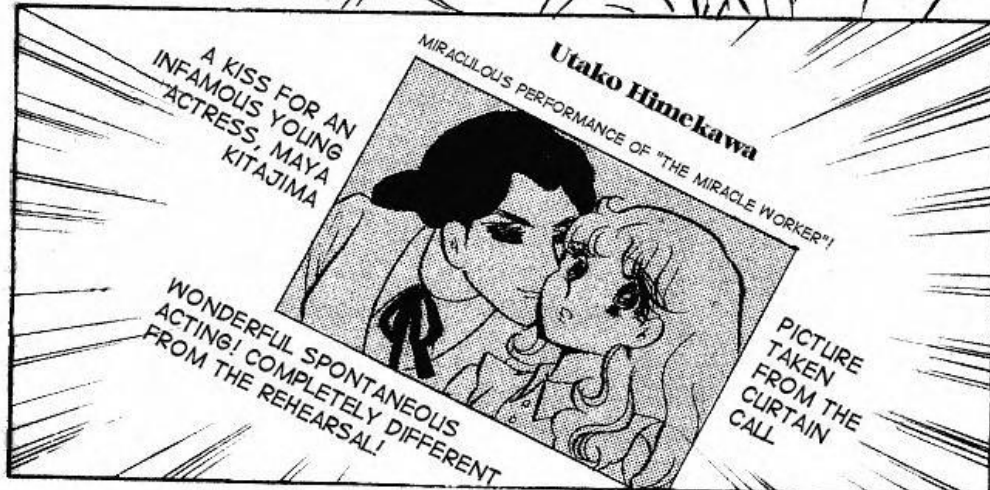


WHO WAS ANGRY  
YET PITIED YOU AT  
THE SAME TIME..  
I WANTED TO HELP  
YOU.

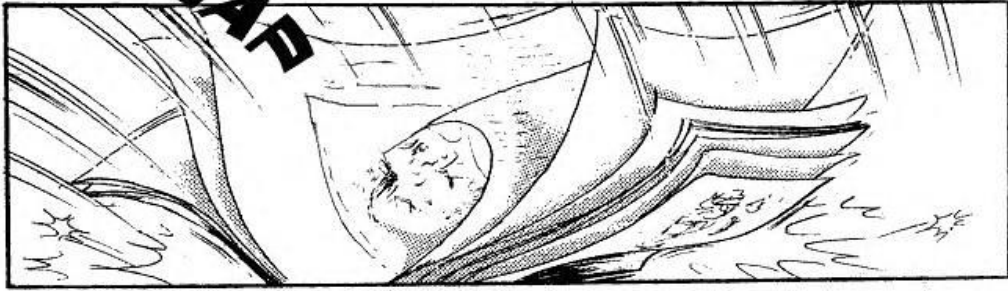
I DIDN'T  
WANT TO  
GIVE UP.



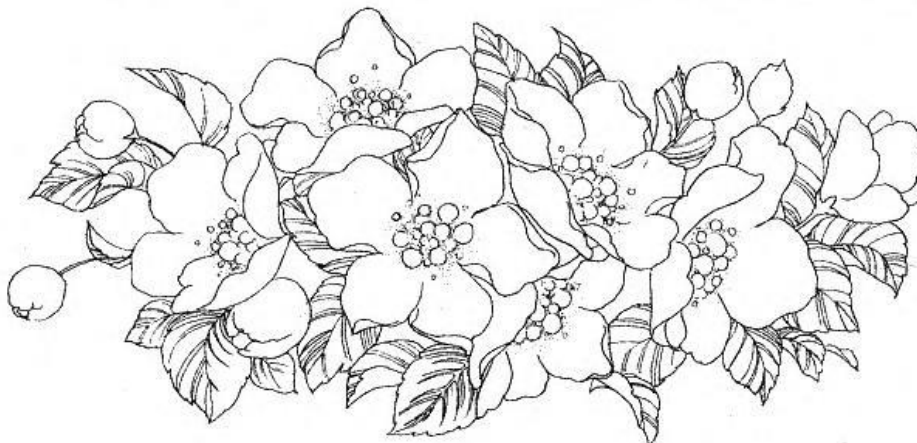
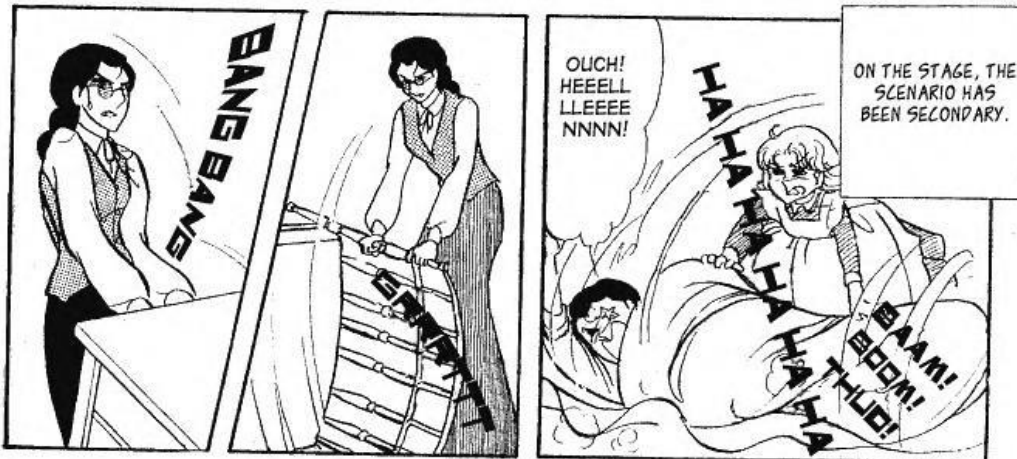


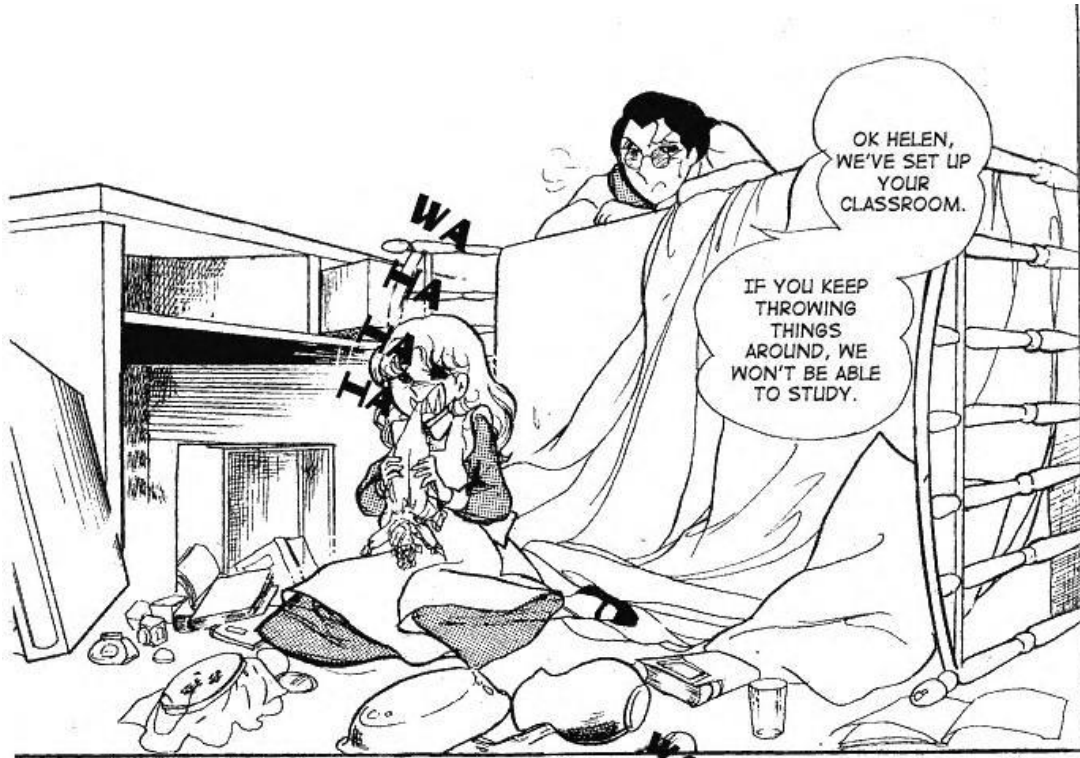


FLAP



MOTHER...





OK HELEN,  
WE'VE SET UP  
YOUR  
CLASSROOM.

IF YOU KEEP  
THROWING  
THINGS  
AROUND, WE  
WON'T BE ABLE  
TO STUDY.



THE AUDIENCE WAS  
CAPTIVATED  
BY THE  
SPONTANEOUS  
PERFORMANCE.



WORDS CAN  
TELL US WHAT  
HAPPENED  
5000 YEARS  
AGO...

BUT THE ABILITY  
TO COMMUNICATE  
IS EVERLASTING...



HELEN! WE  
CAN HAVE  
EVERYTHING  
IN THIS  
WORLD, BUT  
THEY WILL  
VANISH...

HELEN!  
I WANT TO  
TEACH YOU ALL  
THE THINGS IN  
THE WORLD!





HOW SHOULD I TELL YOU?

HELEN...



WORDS BRING US OUT OF THE DARKNESS INTO THE LIGHT.

HOW WE FEEL, WHAT WE KNOW,

WE CAN CONVEY THEM ONLY THROUGH WORDS.

ONLY BY WORDS YOU WILL GRASP THIS WORLD.



SHINE...



WOOWW ?!!!!



IT'S DIFFERENT EVERYTIME!

THAT WAS QUITE A PERFORMANCE BY KITAJIMA AND HIMEKAWA-SAN! I'VE WATCHED THIS THREE TIMES ALREADY.

HMM...

KINDA LIKE WATCHING DIFFERENT PLAYS, EH?

THE TOUCHING MOMENTS COME DIFFERENTLY EVERYTIME!



THAT WAS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MAYA'S AND AYUMI'S SHOWS

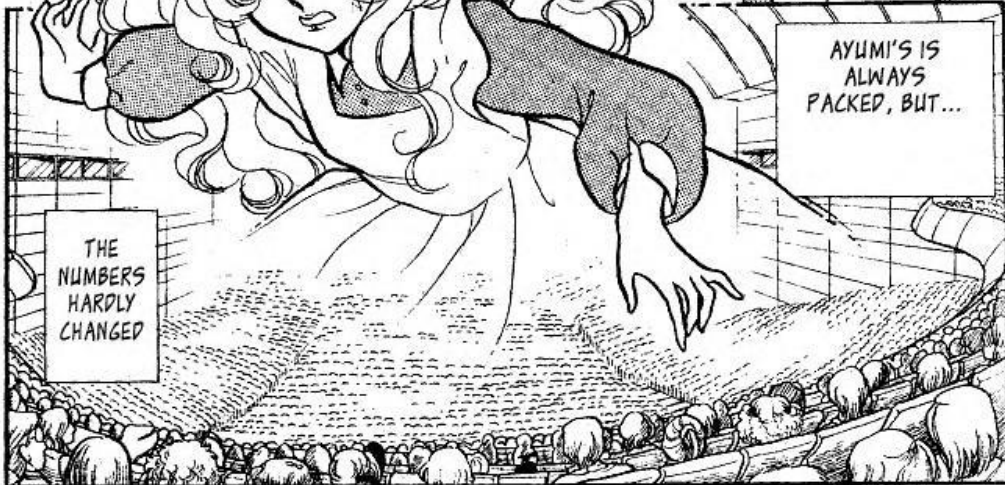
WAA...  
BOOM!  
BANG!



SOME EVEN SIT IN THE AISLE.

AMAZING! MORE PEOPLE AGAIN!

WAA! I'M SO NERVOUS!

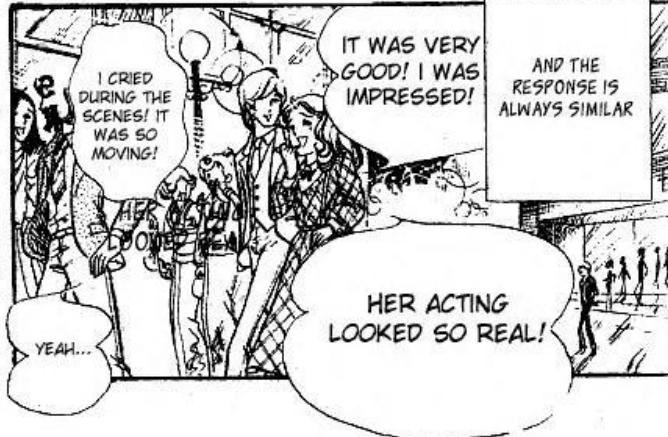


THE NUMBERS HARDLY CHANGED

AYUMI'S IS ALWAYS PACKED, BUT...



THAT'S THE REAL HELEN...



I CRIED DURING THE SCENES! IT WAS SO MOVING!

IT WAS VERY GOOD! I WAS IMPRESSED!

AND THE RESPONSE IS ALWAYS SIMILAR

YEAH...

HER ACTING LOOKED SO REAL!



HELEN, YOU HAVE TO LEARN TABLE MANNERS.

HA HA HA! WA KA KA



THIS IS A FIRST FOR ME, TOO.

HELEN!

BOOM BANG

MAHAHAHAHA

MY MY... JUST BECAUSE OF ONE ACTRESS IS CHANGED, IT BECOMES A WHOLE DIFFERENT PLAY.



OH! PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR AUTOGRAPH SIGNED AS "HELEN, THE MIRACLE GIRL"

WHAAA

EH?

WHAAA

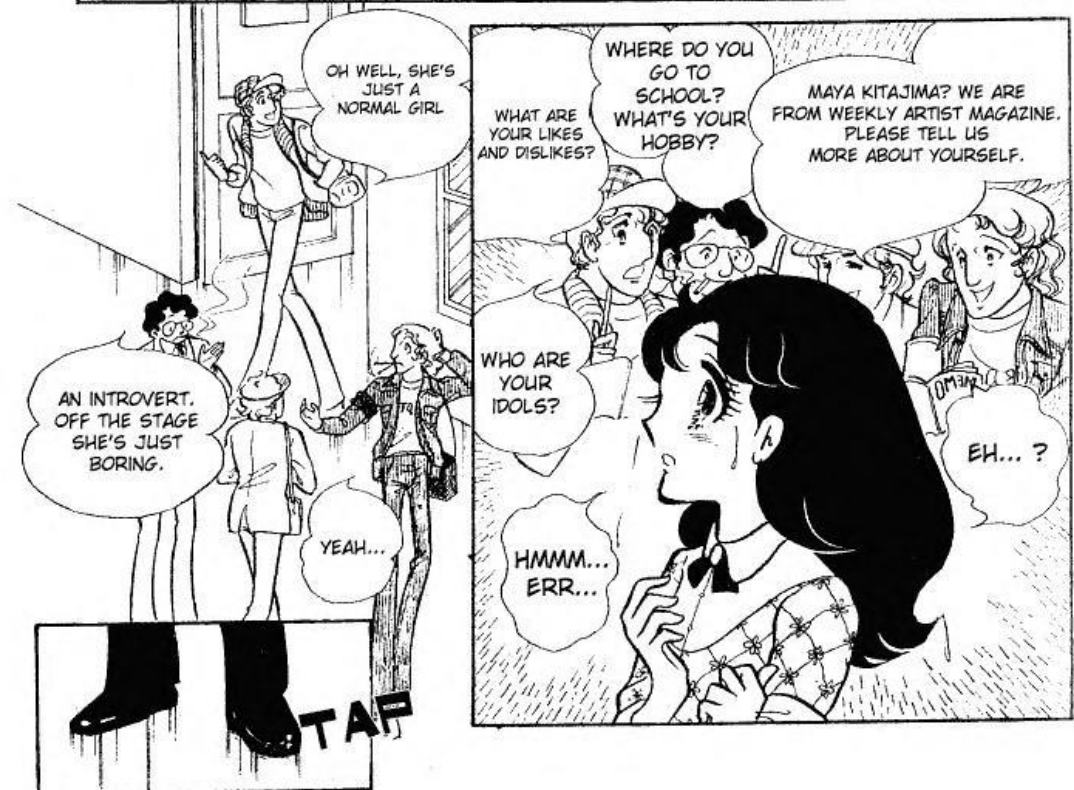
KITAJIMA-SAN? CAN I HAVE YOUR AUTOGRAPH?

WAA WAA

PLEASE TAKE THESE FLOWERS!

O... OK...







OFF THE STAGE,  
SHE HAS NOTHING.

OH! DAITO'S  
DIRECTOR!

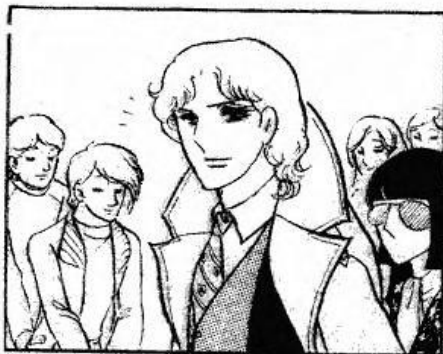


MAYA, WE'LL  
WAIT AT THE  
ENTRANCE, K?

OK, I'LL BE  
RIGHT THERE!



OH OK!  
THANKS!



I'M GLAD THE  
SHOW WAS  
A SUCCESS.

OH,  
IT'S  
HAYAMI-SAN..

LOOK! THAT'S  
MASUMI,  
RIGHT?

AND ALSO  
MISS MIZUKI!





THAT STRANGE  
EXPRESSION YOU  
HAVE WHEN YOU  
FACE ME.

HUH?

WHEN ARE YOU  
GOING TO ERASE  
THAT EXPRESSION  
FROM YOUR FACE?



YOU TWITCH YOUR  
EYEBROWS LIKE WHEN  
YOU SEE WORMS,  
MICE, OR ROACHES.



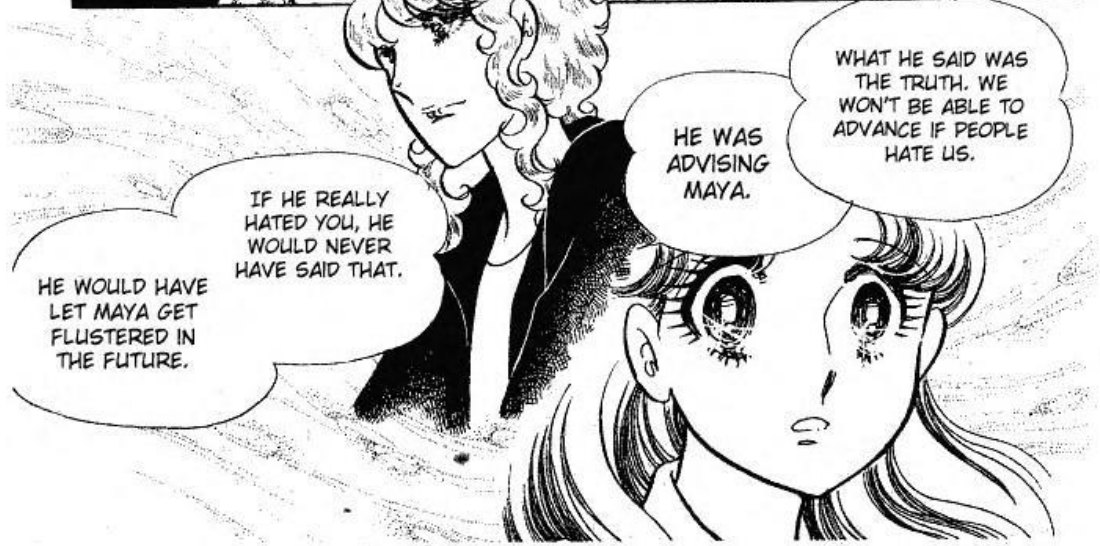
YOU COLD  
BLOODED,  
EMOTIONLESS  
HUMAN!

HUH! A ROACH  
IS BETTER  
THAN YOU!

WERE I TO BECOME  
A POPULAR STAR, I  
WON'T PERFORM  
FOR DAITO  
ANYMORE!

TAP TAP TAP

GRRRTT!  
TRINEGG TARRIINNEGG







THAT COLD  
BLOODED  
MAN?

THAT'S  
WHAT I  
THINK.

IT SEEMS MASUMI  
HAYAMI CARES  
ABOUT MAYA.

HE CARES  
ABOUT ME?



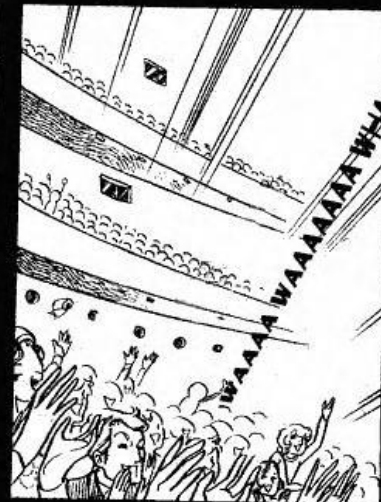
NO WAY!

DURING THE  
NATIONAL DRAMA  
CONTEST HE  
TRICKED US.

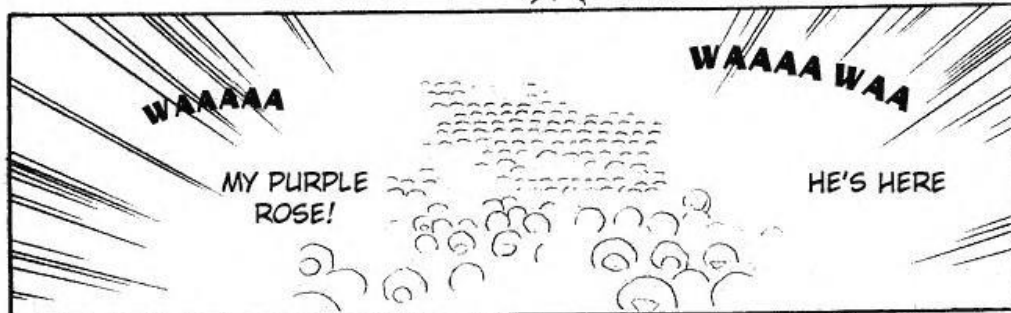
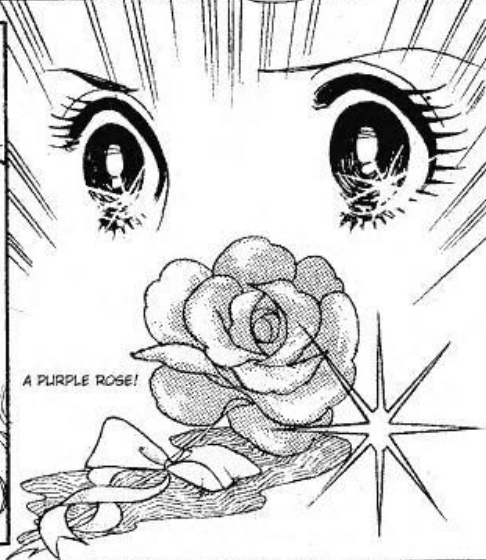
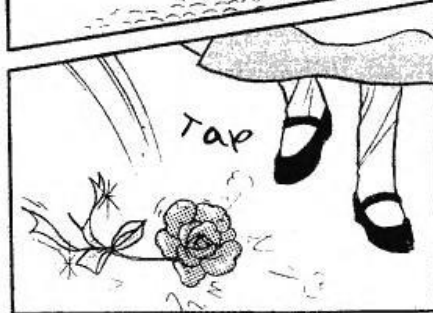
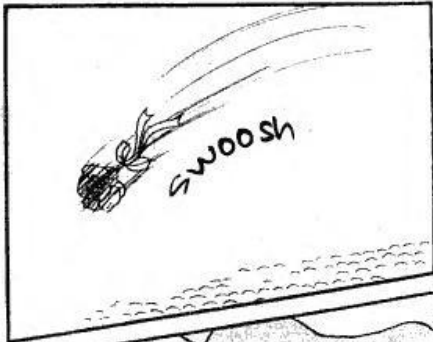
THAT'S WHY THE  
TSUKIKAGE  
THEATER  
DISBANDED!

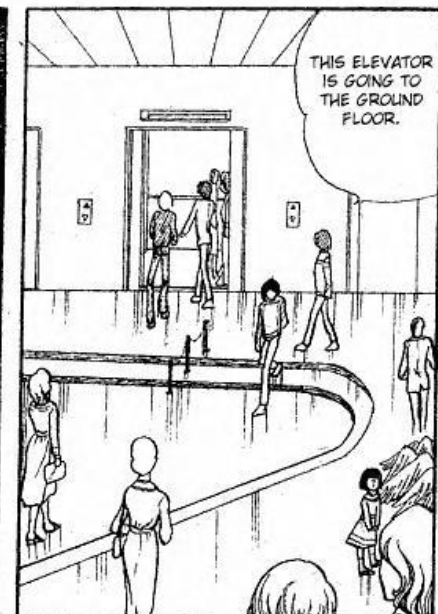
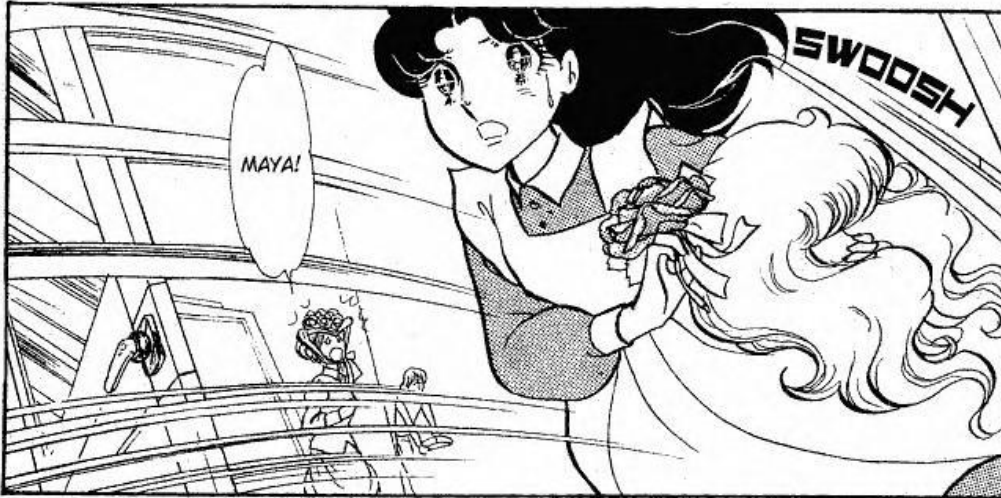


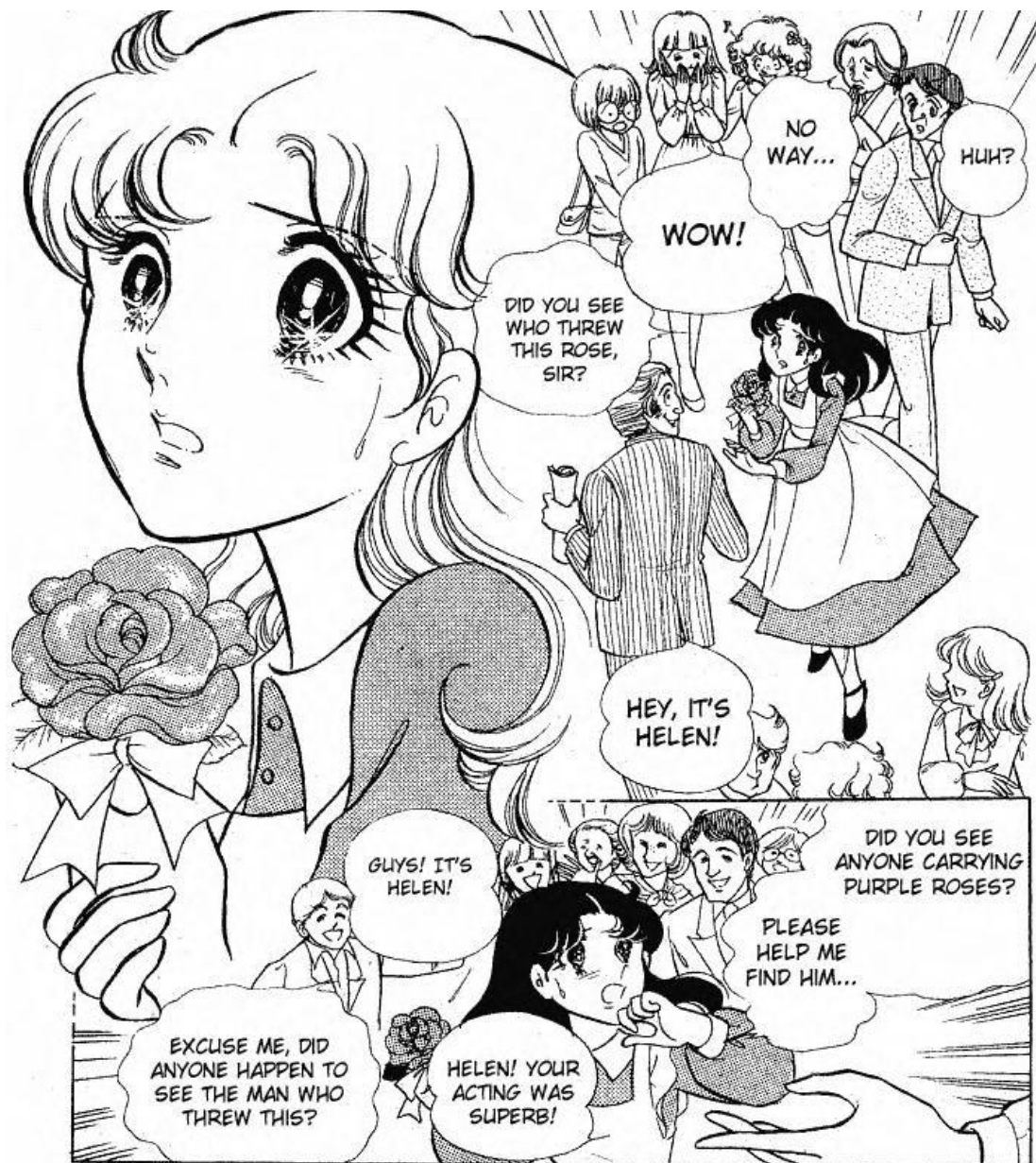
WAAA WHAAA WHAAA

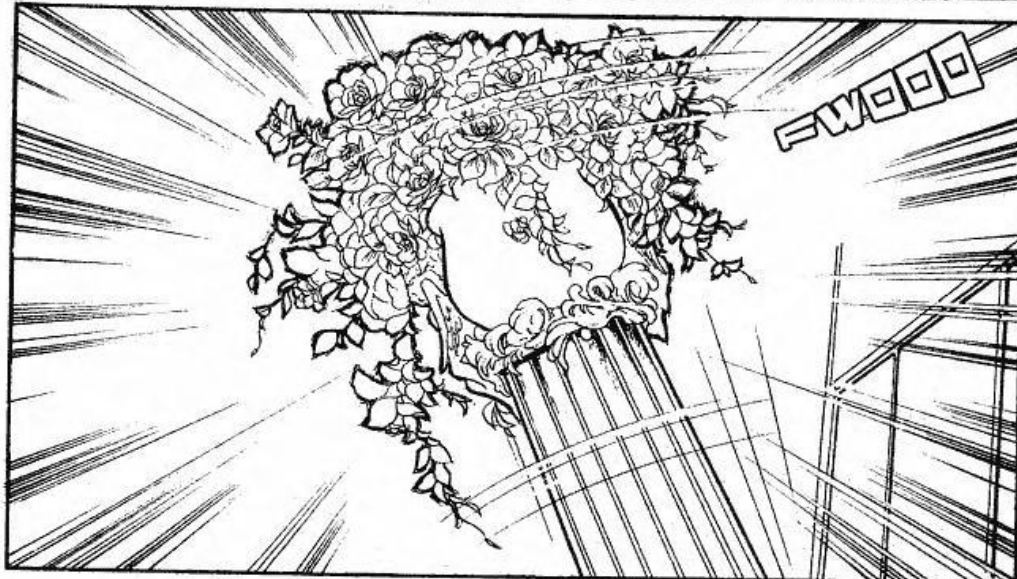


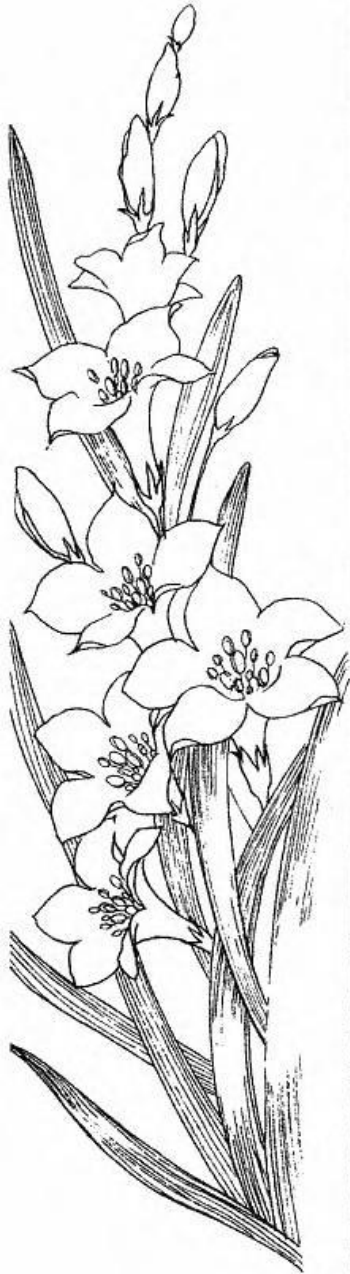
WAAA WHAAA WHAAA



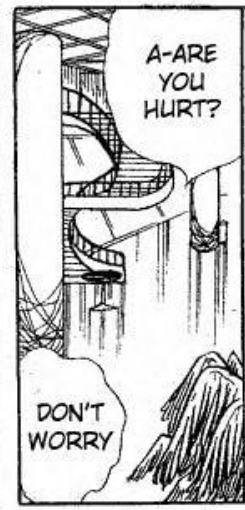
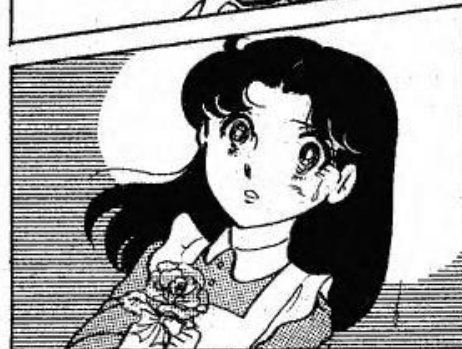






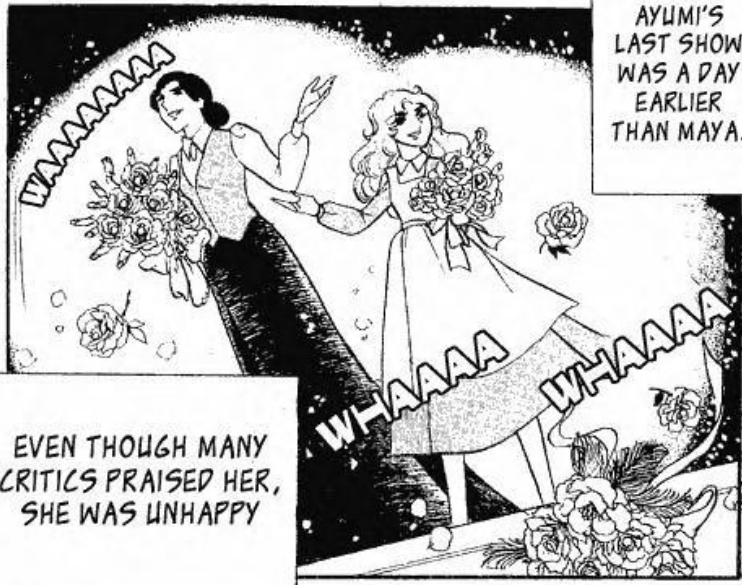












AYUMI'S  
LAST SHOW  
WAS A DAY  
EARLIER  
THAN MAYA.

EVEN THOUGH MANY  
CRITICS PRAISED HER,  
SHE WAS UNHAPPY



BUT THIS IS THE  
FIRST TIME I'VE EVER  
FELT SO UNSATISFIED  
AFTER THE SHOW  
WAS OVER.

I DON'T REGRET  
ANYTHING! I'VE  
DONE MY BEST...

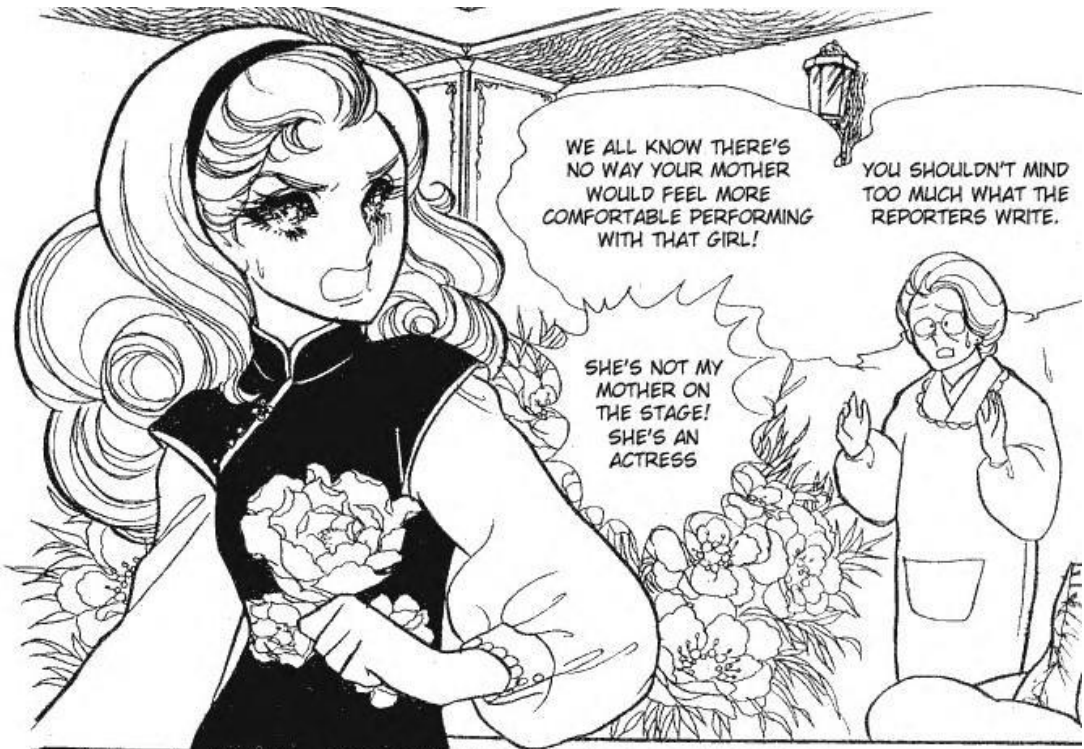
I'M PERFECT  
AS HELEN...

MISS...



SHE DIDN'T  
KISS ME  
EVEN ONCE.





WE ALL KNOW THERE'S NO WAY YOUR MOTHER WOULD FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE PERFORMING WITH THAT GIRL!

YOU SHOULDN'T MIND TOO MUCH WHAT THE REPORTERS WRITE.

SHE'S NOT MY MOTHER ON THE STAGE! SHE'S AN ACTRESS



THAT'S WHY MOTHER KISSED HER!

MOTHER MUST HAVE FOUND SOMETHING THAT I DON'T HAVE IN HER!

EVEN THOUGH THE AUDIENCE SAID MY ACTING WAS ABOVE HER,

YET SHE ATTRACTED MORE AUDIENCE!

WHY?!



THE NEXT DAY MAYA PERFORMED HER LAST SHOW. THE AUDIENCE RESPONDED GREATLY AND THE SHOW WAS A SUCCESS.



MAYA KITAJ-IMA!

WHAT IS IT THAT SHE HAS THAT I DON'T?

WHAT DOES MOTHER SEE IN HER THAT I DON'T HAVE?



THANK YOU!  
THANK YOU  
VERY MUCH

HEY, DID YOU NOTICE?

ALL THE JURY FOR THE ART FESTIVAL WERE PRESENT!

HEY, PASS ME THE JUICE, WILL YOU?



CAN WE HAVE 20 MINUTES OF YOUR TIME?

LET'S TALK IN THE CAFETARIA.

YES, SIR?



MAYA, SOMEONE WANTS TO SEE YOU.



WE ADMIRE YOUR ACTING.

DON'T WORRY, IT'S NOT BAD NEWS.

OH...

NICE-EEE!

EVERYBODY, THANK YOU VERY MUCH! MASUMI-SAMA HAS RESERVED A PUB AROUND THE CORNER. LET'S GO AND CELEBRATE!



FIRST, YOU WILL PERFORM IN THE PLAY,

THEN YOU'LL ALSO APPEAR IN TV DRAMAS.

REALLY?



MAIN ROLE?

I'M THE MAIN ROLE?



SHE HAS TO GO TO SCHOOL TOMORROW

BY THE WAY, WHERE'S MAYA? WELL, SHE'S STILL A KID...

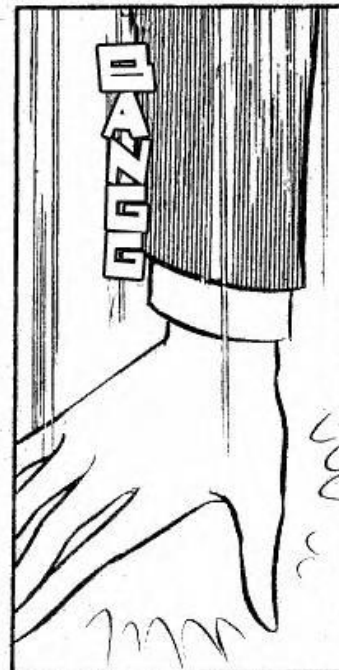
WEIRD GUYS?

SOME WEIRD GUYS ASKED HER TO GO WITH THEM TO THE CAFETERIA JUST NOW.

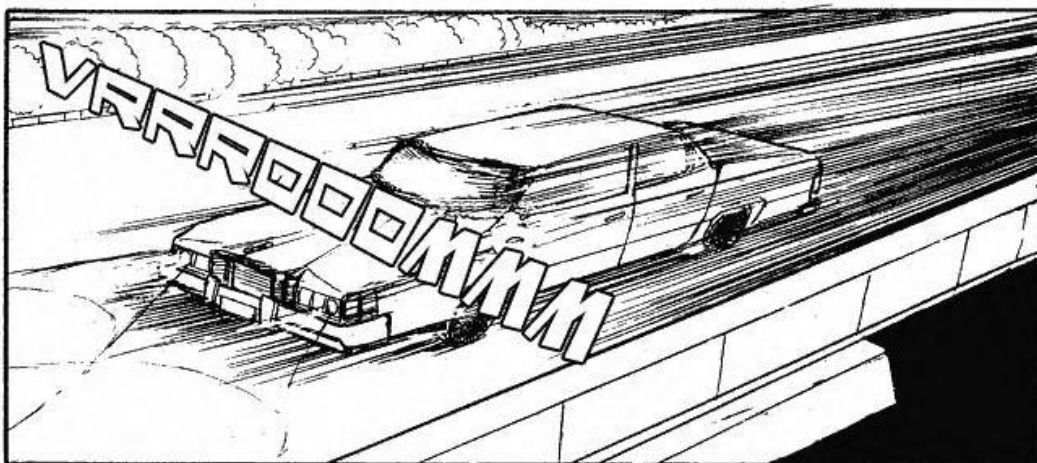
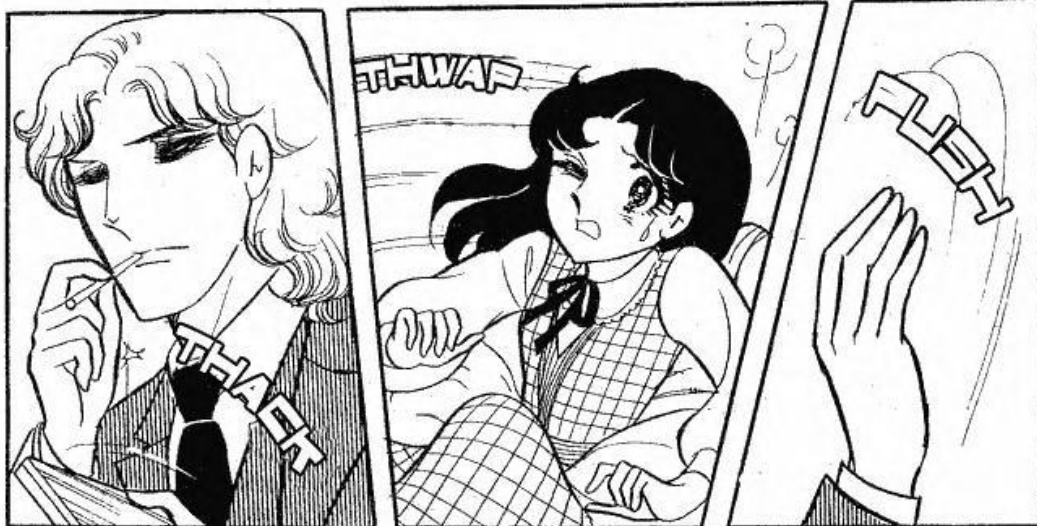


THEY WERE FROM A PRODUCTION HOUSE... HERE'S THE BUSINESS CARD.

WHO ARE THEY?



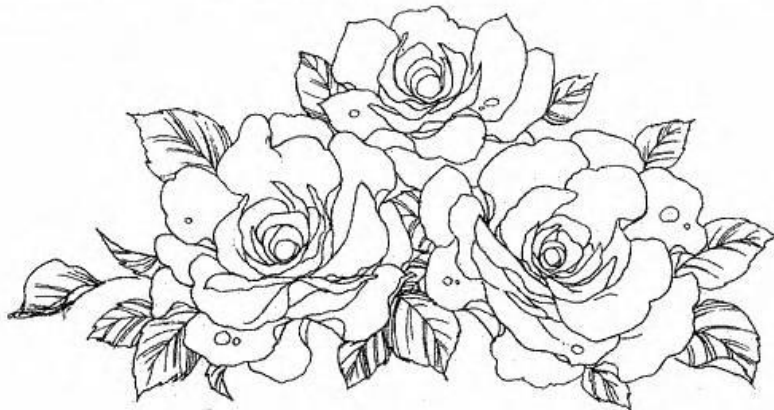


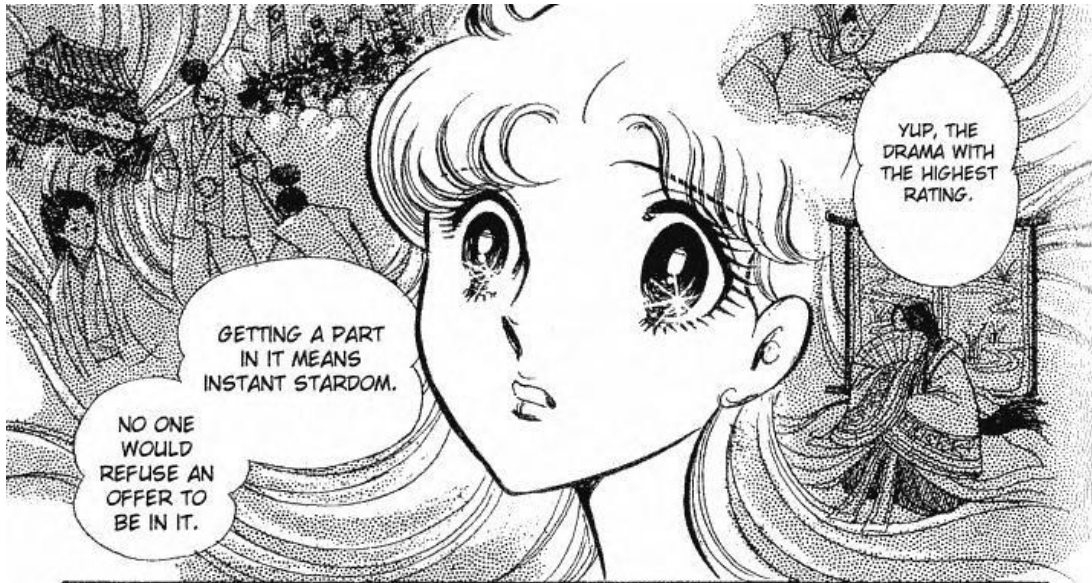








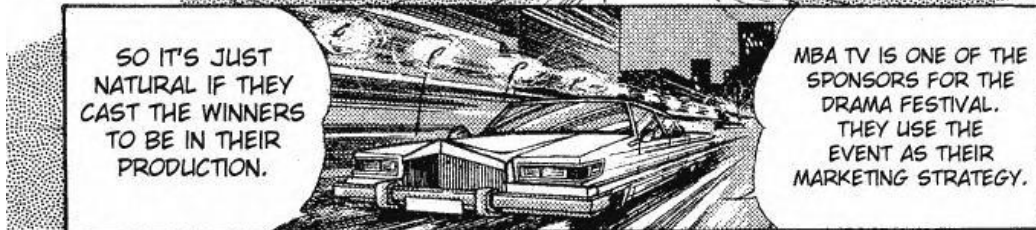




GETTING A PART  
IN IT MEANS  
INSTANT STARDOM.

NO ONE  
WOULD  
REFUSE AN  
OFFER TO  
BE IN IT.

YUP, THE  
DRAMA WITH  
THE HIGHEST  
RATING.



SO IT'S JUST  
NATURAL IF THEY  
CAST THE WINNERS  
TO BE IN THEIR  
PRODUCTION.

MBA TV IS ONE OF THE  
SPONSORS FOR THE  
DRAMA FESTIVAL.  
THEY USE THE  
EVENT AS THEIR  
MARKETING STRATEGY.



NEVER KNEW  
YOU CARED  
ABOUT  
OTHERS...

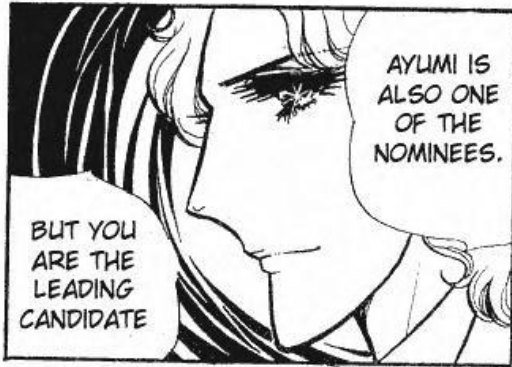


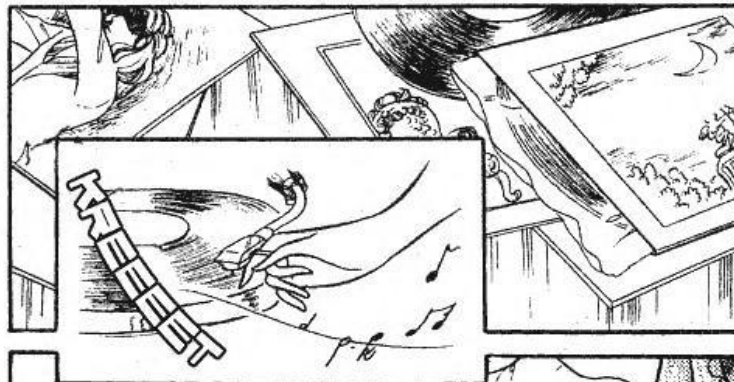
WHAT  
ABOUT  
AYUMI?

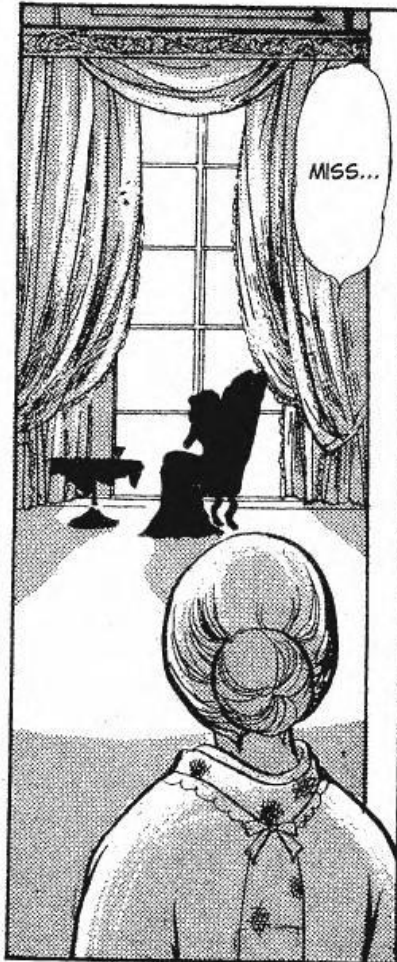
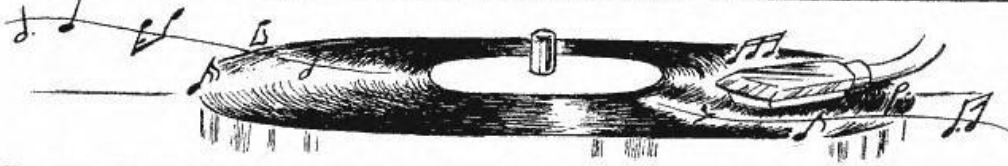


I'M  
NOMINATED?

NO  
WAY...









WELL... I GUESS I WOULD...



WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE DINNER SOON?

THE SUN HAS ALREADY SET...



WHILE MOTHER IS THE LEADING CANDIDATE FOR THE SUPPORTING ACTRESS.

MAYA KITAJIMA IS THE LEADING CANDIDATE FOR THE BEST ACTRESS,

HUH?



PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR MAKING YOU WORRY. I'M OK NOW.

IT'S KINDA HARD TO RECOVER FROM THIS DISAPPOINTMENT.



MISS AYUMI IS THE ONE THAT SHOULD RECEIVE THE AWARD!

THIS IS SURELY FOR PROMOTIONAL PURPOSES!

THERE HAS TO BE A MISTAKE!



DON'T WORRY! I DON'T NEED THE AWARD.

OH MISS!



EVEN THOUGH I WAS THE ONE THAT WAS ORIGINALLY SELECTED AS HELEN, MY HEART STILL ACHES...



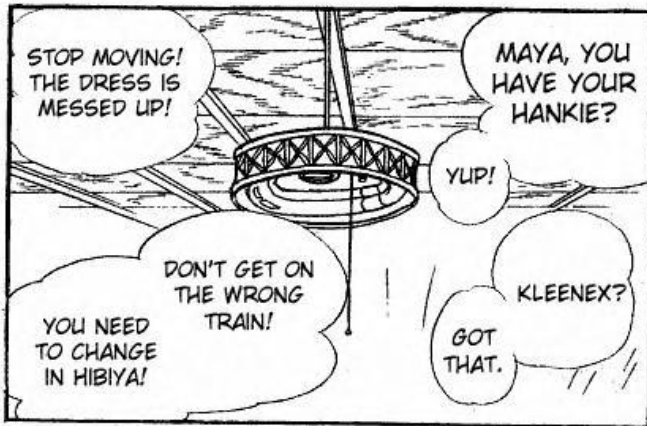
AN INFAMOUS NEWCOMER WILL SURELY LOSE TO YOU!

OBA-SAN..



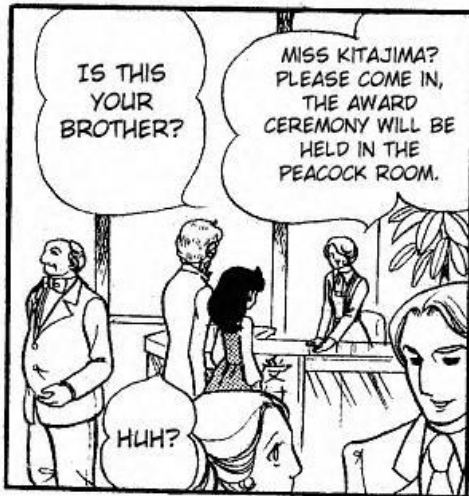
IT'S JUST... WHY DO THEY PICK HER AS THE LEADING CANDIDATE?

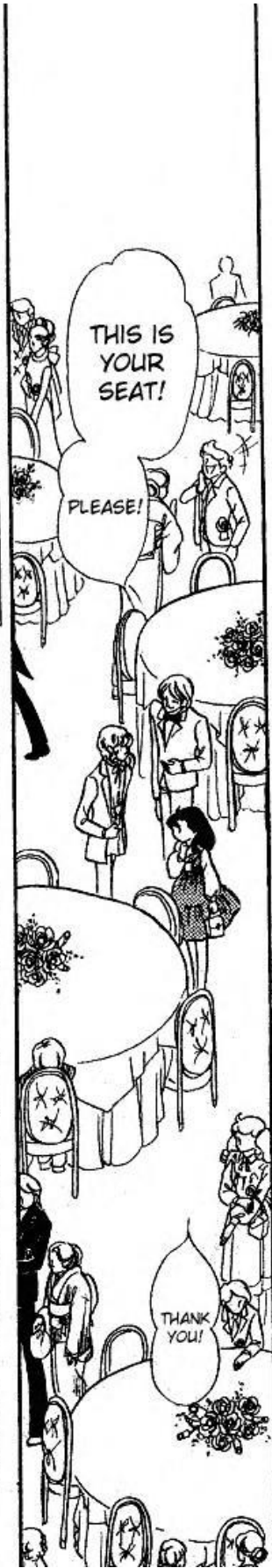
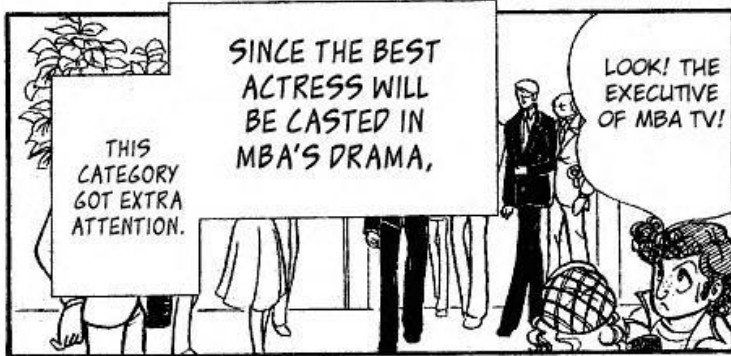
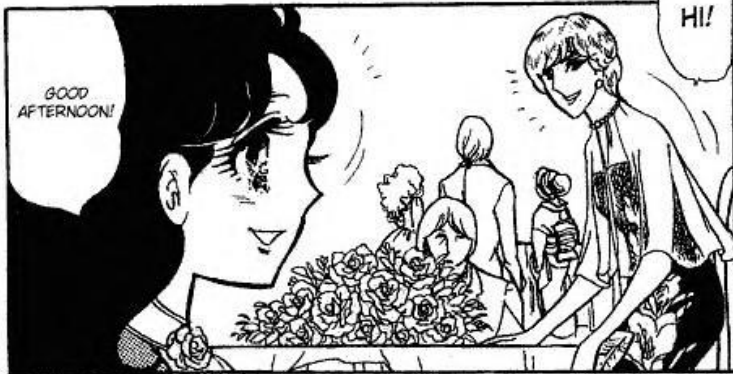


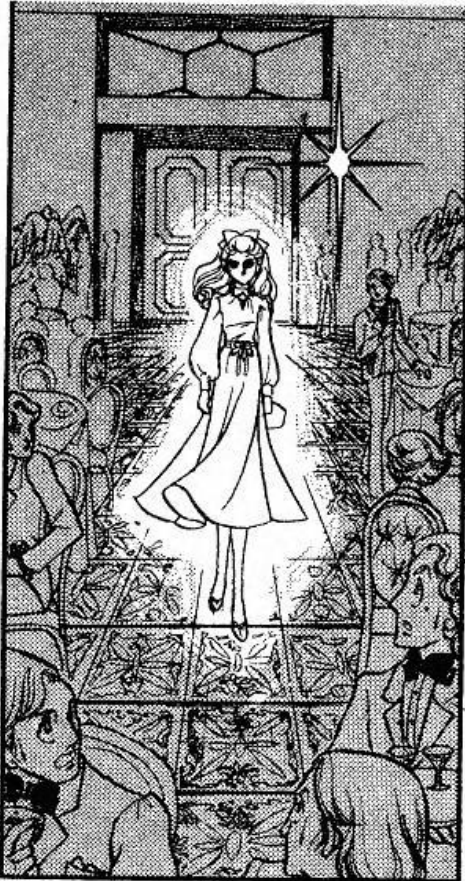


\*Luchs' note: In the Japanese version, Rei actually said the english word for "nervous". Sayaka then translated it to Japanese for Maya.









THANK YOU, SIR!

FOR MUSIC AND DRAMA CATEGORY, THE NOMINEES ARE MOSTLY FROM DAITO!

OH! DIRECTOR MASUMI FROM DAITO!



Startled



SHE IS DESTINED TO BE A BIG STAR.

HER PRESENCE ENLIGHTENS THE ROOM.

AS USUAL, ALWAYS CHARMING.



AYUMI...

THERE MUST BE A MISTAKE...

I'M THE LEADING CANDIDATE, AHEAD OF HER...





END OF GLASS MASK VOL 12

TO BE CONTINUED...