

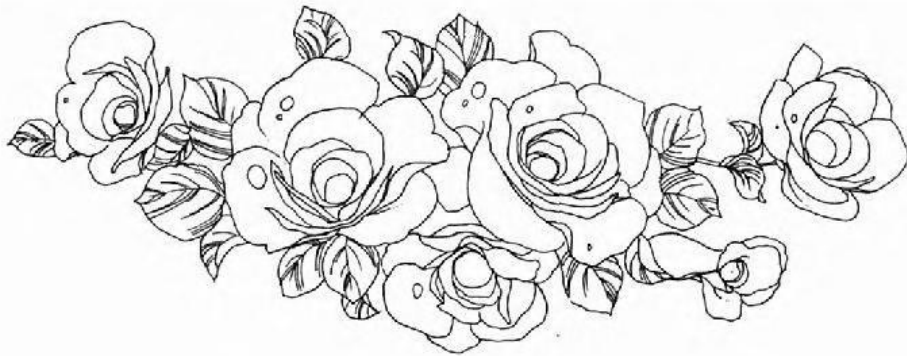




I'M GOING TO  
PERFORM  
JULIET?

PERFORM  
AYUMI-SAN'S  
JULIET?

















"THE GLORY OF THE STAGE" DESCRIBES SOMEONE LIKE AYUMI-SAN. SUCH IS THE RESULT OF LEARNING ADVANCED TECHNIQUES.



AYUMI-SAN'S JULIET WAS OUTSTANDING.

AND HER LINES DELIVERED SO BEAUTIFULLY, THEY WERE LIKE MUSIC TO THE EARS. HER MOVEMENTS WERE ELEGANT AND REFINED.



YOU CAN'T EVEN MANAGE THIS, AND YOU STILL WANT TO TRIUMPH OVER AYUMI-SAN? ACTORS MUST BE ABLE TO CONTROL THEIR OWN BODIES, MAYA!





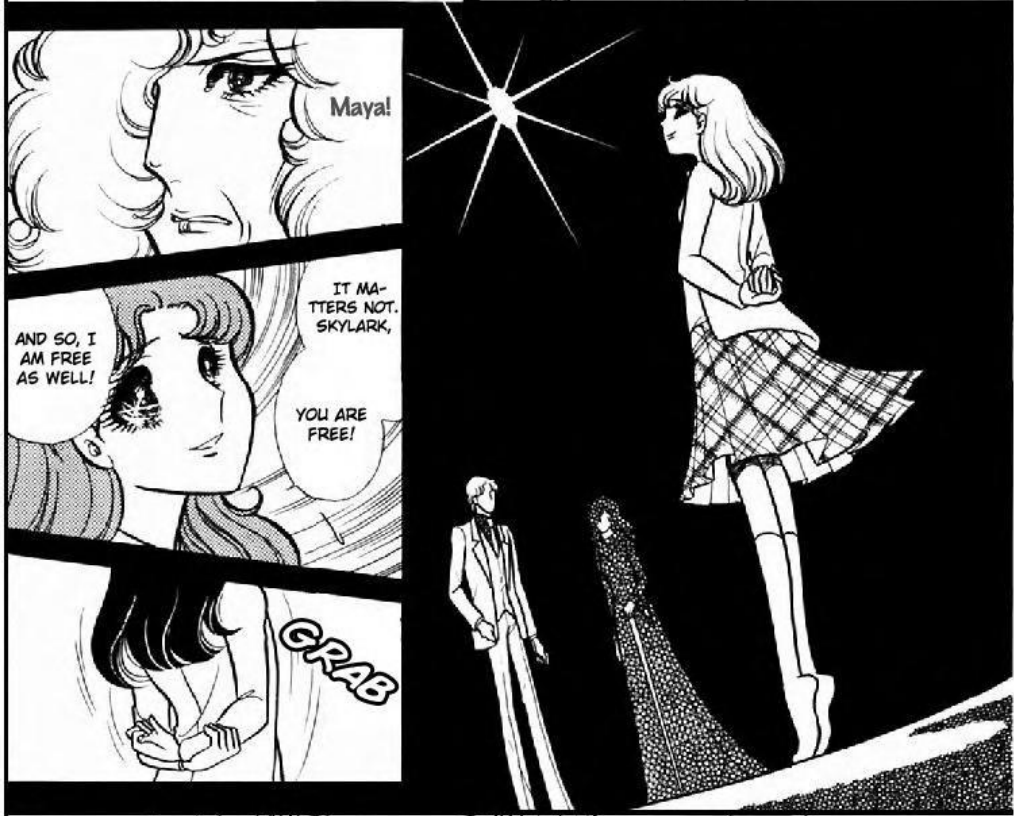
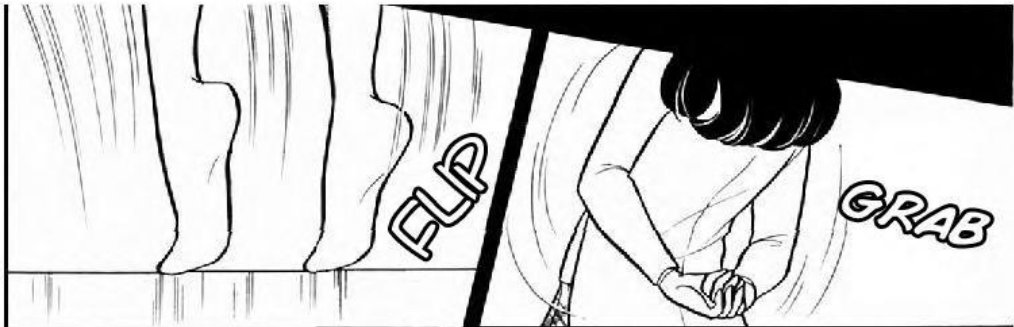
IS HAPPINESS THE SAME?

I WAS DELIGHTED WHEN IT ALIGHTED ON MY HAND. ONLY, JUST AS SUDDENLY, IT FLEW AWAY.

PAT  
PAT

Juliet?

What... is this expression?







Compared to Ayumi-san... like a newcomer...

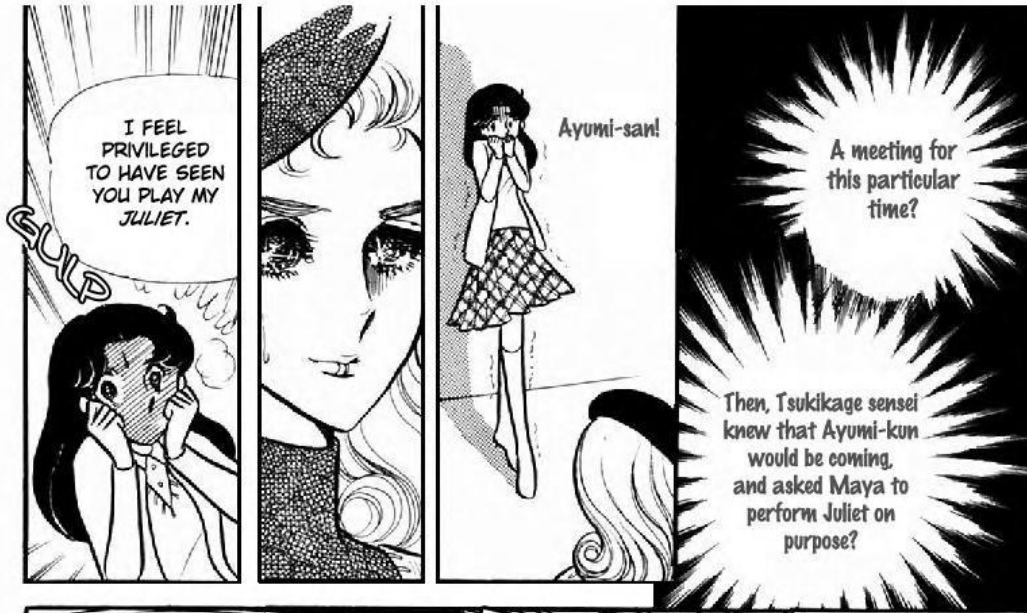


A newcomer...











Maya...

AYUMI-SAN'S JULIET PERFORMED LIKE THAT BY MYSELF...

IT'S... SO... EMBARRASSING...

FOR AYUMI-SAN TO HAVE SEEN THAT...

TO HAVE HER SEE IT PERFORMED SO BADLY BY ME...

I WANT TO DIE!

COMPARED TO AYUMI-SAN AT THIS MOMENT, I AM LIKE A NEWCOMER!

TSUKIKAGE-SENSEI WAS RIGHT. FOR ME TO EVEN THINK THAT I COULD ACT BETTER THAN AYUMI-SAN...!

EVEN MIMING SITTING ON A BENCH...

I CAN'T FLY THE WAY THAT AYUMI-SAN DOES,

I... CAN'T DO IT.



She envies the skylark...

Maya... You truly are a terrifying person...



BOO HOO

SOP SOP SIGH

SOP SOP

SOP



UH

Maya!

I am scared of your raw talent!

The only area where I am stronger than you is probably in acting technique...



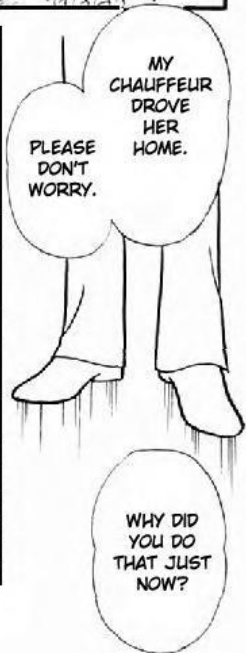
SHE WENT HOME CRYING.

WHERE IS MAYA?



YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT MY ASKING HER TO PERFORM AYUMI-SAN'S JULIET?

YES. YOU KNEW THAT AYUMI-KUN WOULD BE COMING HERE. WHY DID YOU HAVE TO MAKE HER PERFORM?



PLEASE DON'T WORRY.

MY CHAUFFEUR DROVE HER HOME.

WHY DID YOU DO THAT JUST NOW?

I AM SURE THAT BEING SEEN BY AYUMI-SAN LIKE THAT WILL BE A SERIOUS BLOW TO HER.

I WANTED MAYA TO REALIZE HER CURRENT SKILL LEVEL.

AFTER MAKING HER PERFORM AYUMI-SAN'S JULIET, IT BECAME CLEAR HOW FAR THE GAP BETWEEN HER AND AYUMI-SAN IS AT THIS MOMENT IN TIME.



AYUMI-SAN HAS IT, BUT MAYA DOESN'T...

IT IS SELF-CONFIDENCE AND COMPETITIVE SPIRIT.

MASUMI-SAN, WHERE DO YOU THINK THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MAYA AND AYUMI-SAN LIES?

DIFFERENCE?

AYUMI HIMEKAWA IS AN OUTSTANDING GIRL... HER PLAYING THE CRIMSON GODDESS... SHE IS A VERY SUITABLE CANDIDATE...

THE MAYA OF THIS MOMENT HAS ABSOLUTELY NO CHANCE OF BEATING AYUMI-SAN.

TO ENABLE A PERSON TO FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL, OR TO DESTROY IT... ONE CAN SAY THAT IT DEPENDS COMPLETELY ON THOSE TWO FACTORS.

TSUKIKAGE-SENSEI!

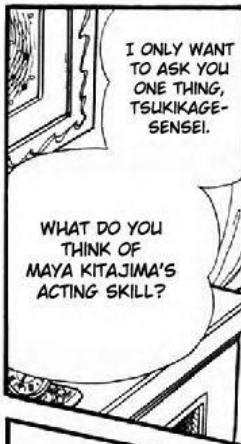
THE AUDIENCES' GAZE WOULD BE COMPLETELY CAPTIVATED BY HER, MASUMI-SAN.

THE CRIMSON GODDESS PLAYED BY AYUMI-SAN WOULD BE VERY BEAUTIFUL.

WMP!



A DRASTIC MEASURE MUST BE TAKEN WITH MAYA.



I ONLY WANT TO ASK YOU ONE THING, TSUKIKAGE-SENSEI.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MAYA KITAJIMA'S ACTING SKILL?



YOU MENTION HER SKILL?

ACTING SKILL? HERS? MAYA KITAJIMA'S?



A DRASTIC MEASURE?

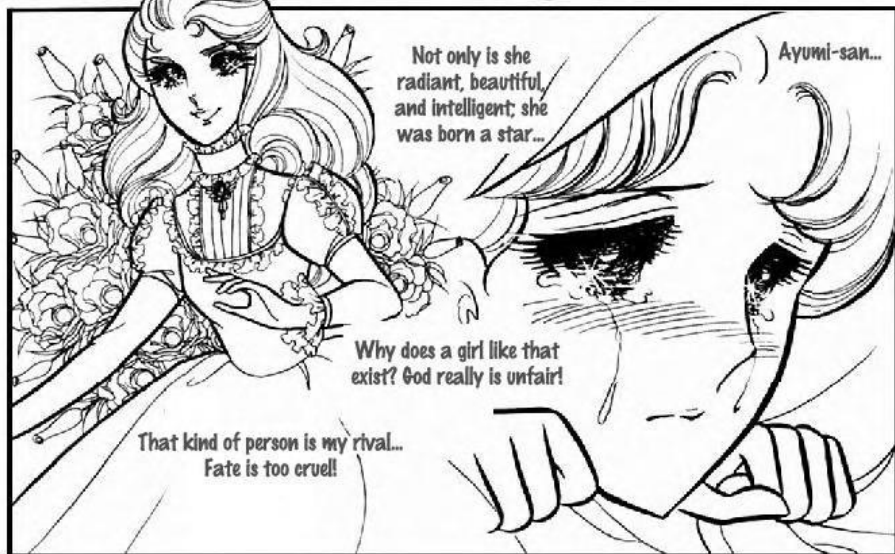
What are you thinking of? Tsukikage sensei, what are you...

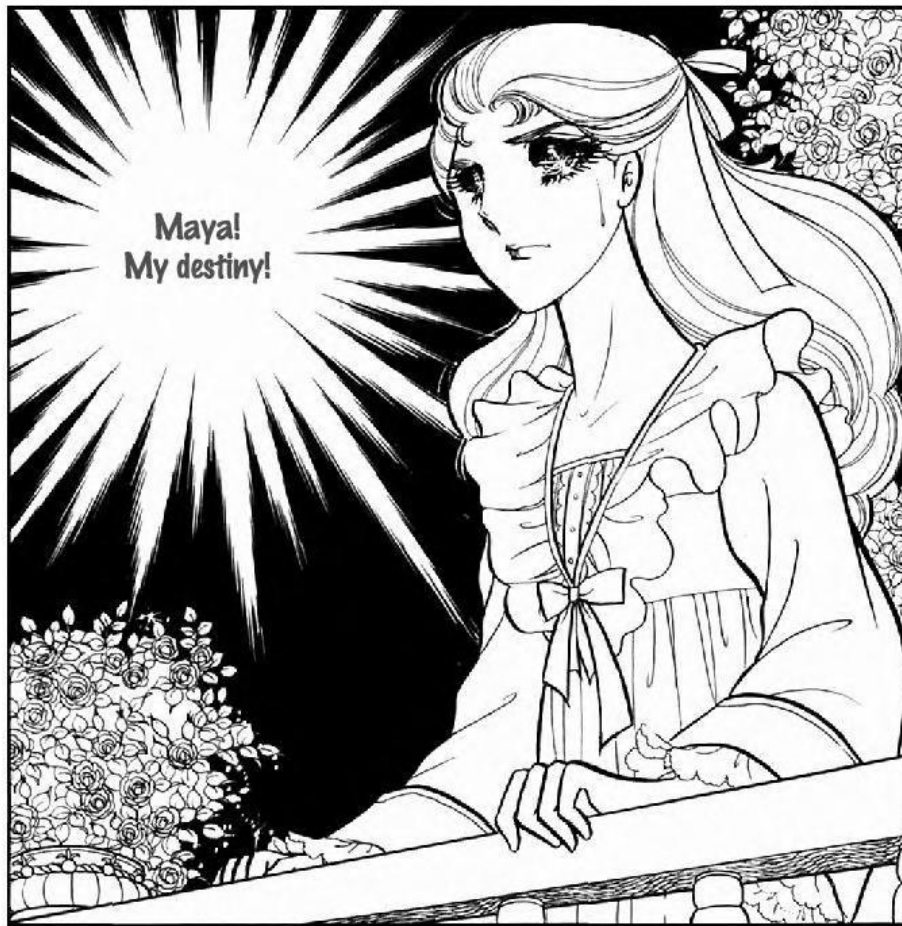
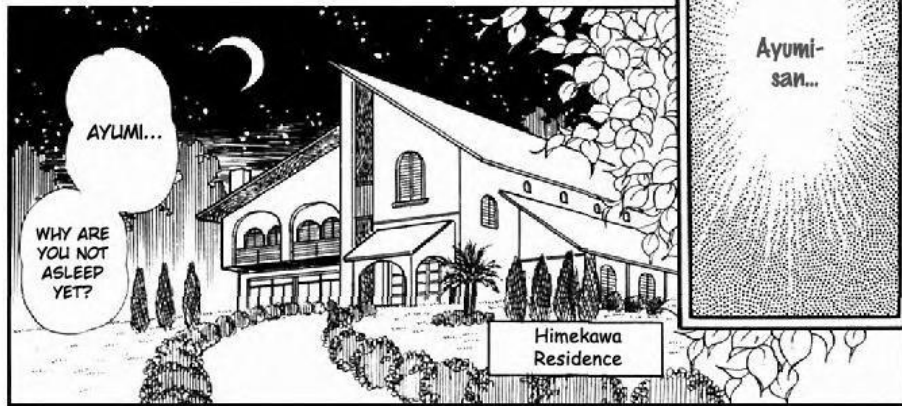


MAYA  
KITAJI-  
MA...

SHE  
IS A  
PRODIGY!



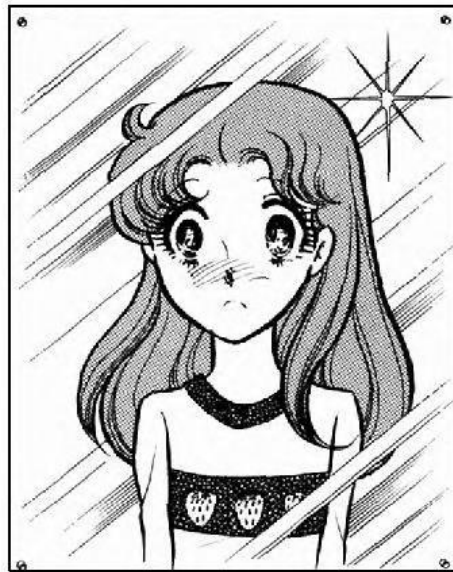






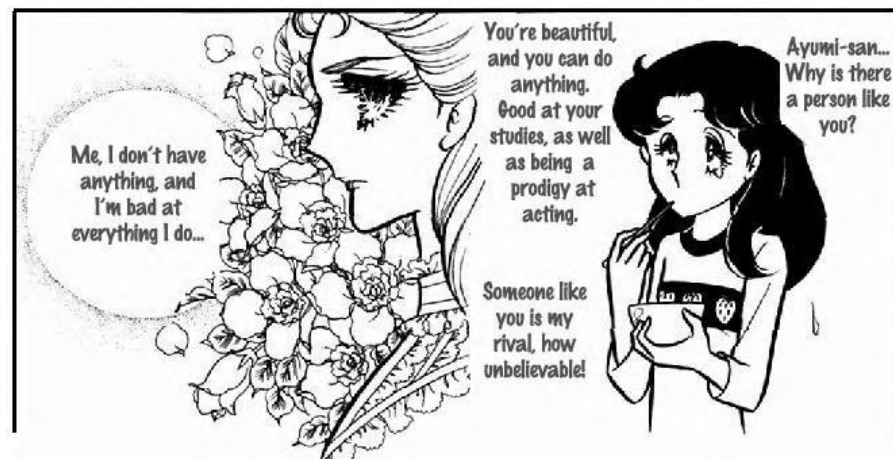
Grades: really bad...

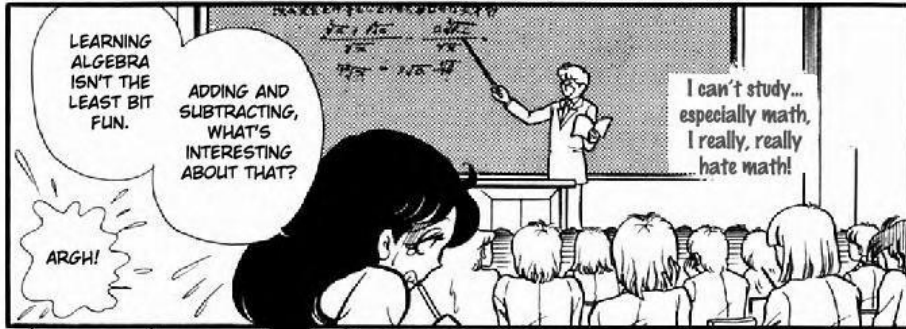
Hobbies: watching TV,  
movies and theatre.



This is me...  
Maya Kitajima

Hitotsuboshi High School  
3rd year student,  
about to graduate...



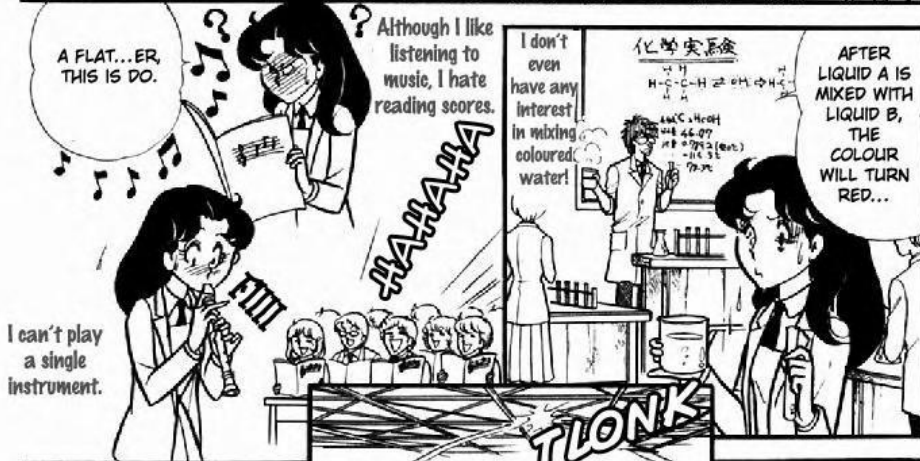


LEARNING ALGEBRA ISN'T THE LEAST BIT FUN.

ADDING AND SUBTRACTING, WHAT'S INTERESTING ABOUT THAT?

ARGH!

I can't study... especially math, I really, really hate math!

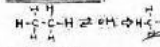


A FLAT...ER, THIS IS DO.

Although I like listening to music, I hate reading scores.

I don't even have any interest in mixing coloured water!

化学实验

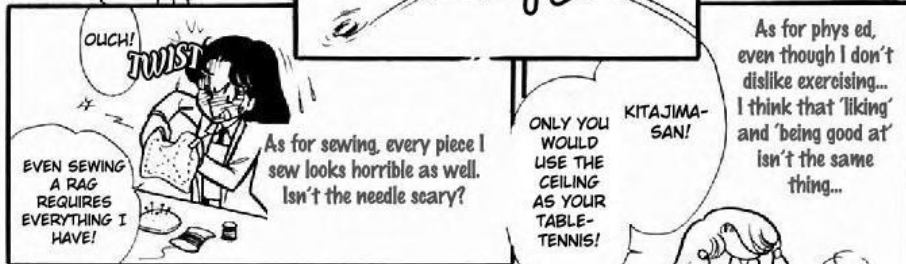


AFTER LIQUID A IS MIXED WITH LIQUID B, THE COLOUR WILL TURN RED...

I can't play a single instrument.

HAHAHA

TLONK



OUCH!

JUST

EVEN SEWING A RAG REQUIRES EVERYTHING I HAVE!

As for sewing, every piece I sew looks horrible as well. Isn't the needle scary?

ONLY YOU WOULD USE THE CEILING AS YOUR TABLE-TENNIS!

KITAJIMA-SAN!

As for phys ed, even though I don't dislike exercising... I think that 'liking' and 'being good at' isn't the same thing...



ONE WORD TO DESCRIBE YOU: USELESS.

I'M AFRAID IT WILL SEW RIGHT THROUGH MY FINGER-TIPS...

BECAUSE THE NEEDLE MOVES OF ITS OWN ACCORD,

SENSEI, I'M SCARED OF SEWING THE WRONG STITCH.

BLAH BLAH

SO USE-LESS.

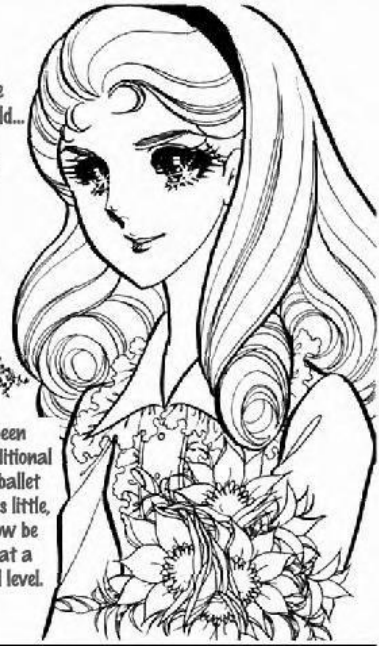
TAP TAP TAP



If it was Ayumi-san, who is the total opposite of me, I bet she would...  
...always be top in everything!



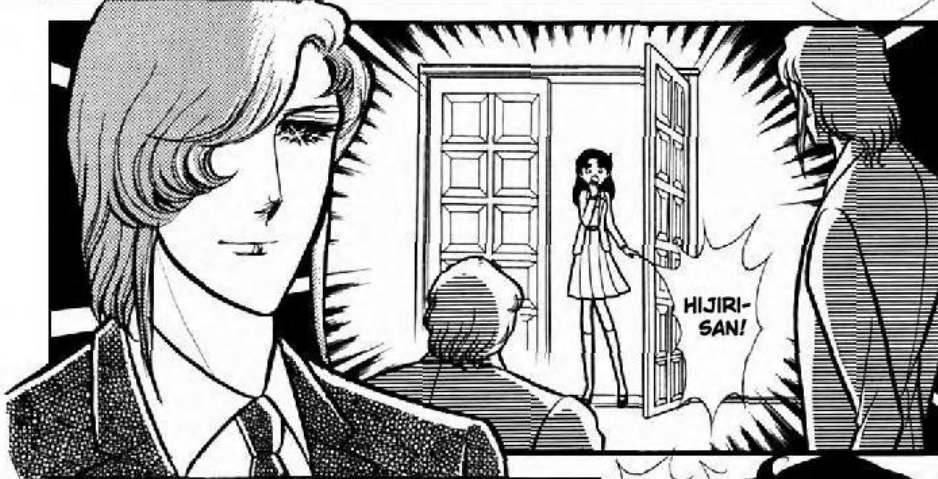
She has been learning traditional dance and ballet since she was little, and can now be said to be at a professional level.



**BLAM**

Headmaster's Office

HEADMASTER, YOU WERE LOOKING FOR ME?





EH! THE PURPLE ROSE WANTS TO SEND ME TO UNIVERSITY?



YOU WILL BE GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL SOON. SHOULD YOU WISH, YOU CAN CONTINUE ONTO UNIVERSITY.



I'M ALREADY SO GRATEFUL TO HIM FOR PUTTING ME THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL...

AND TO ALLOW ME TO GO TO UNIVERSITY AS WELL...

UNIVERSITY? I... I'VE ALREADY THOUGHT ABOUT THIS...



YES, BUT THAT DEPENDS ON WHETHER YOU WISH TO ENTER UNIVERSITY.

ONLY IF YOU WISH IT.



I'M NO GOOD AT STUDYING ANYWAY...

I THANK YOU SO MUCH... HOWEVER, THIS IS ENOUGH FOR ME;

I DON'T WANT TO BOTHER HIM ANYMORE.



I UNDERSTAND.

I WILL LET HIM KNOW OF THIS.



AFTER GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL, I... I WANT TO ACT.

I FEEL LIKE I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO BECOME AN INDEPENDENT ACTOR, SO I WANT TO START WORKING AND PRACTICE MY ACTING SKILLS AS I GO.

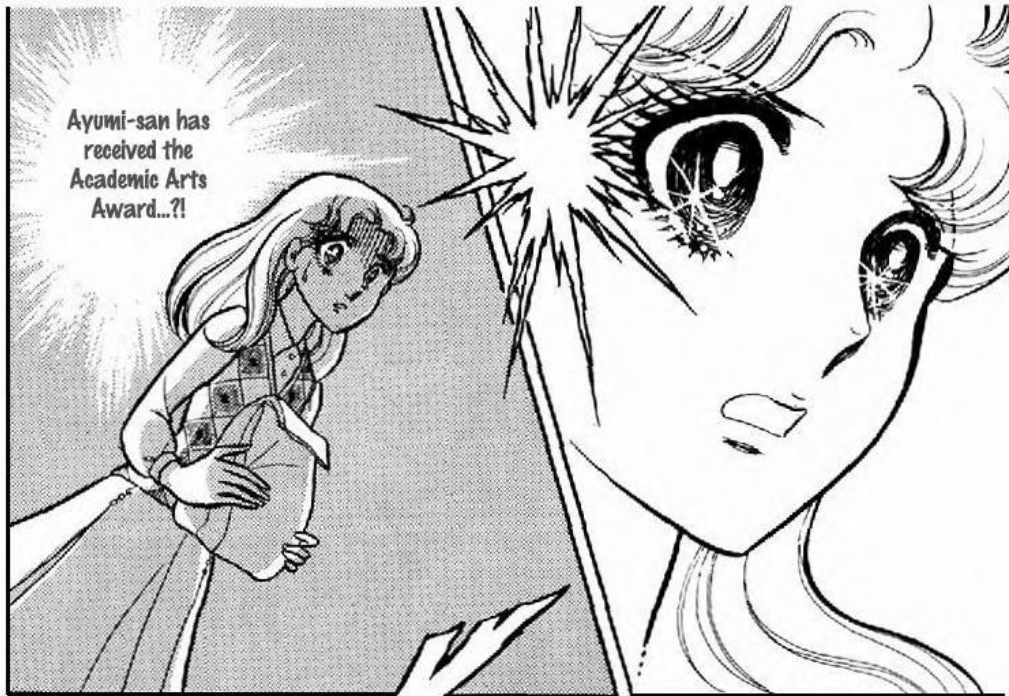




Or will she train her skills further, and be an active member of some acting troupe?

Ayumi-san, I wonder what she will do after graduation? Will she go to university?



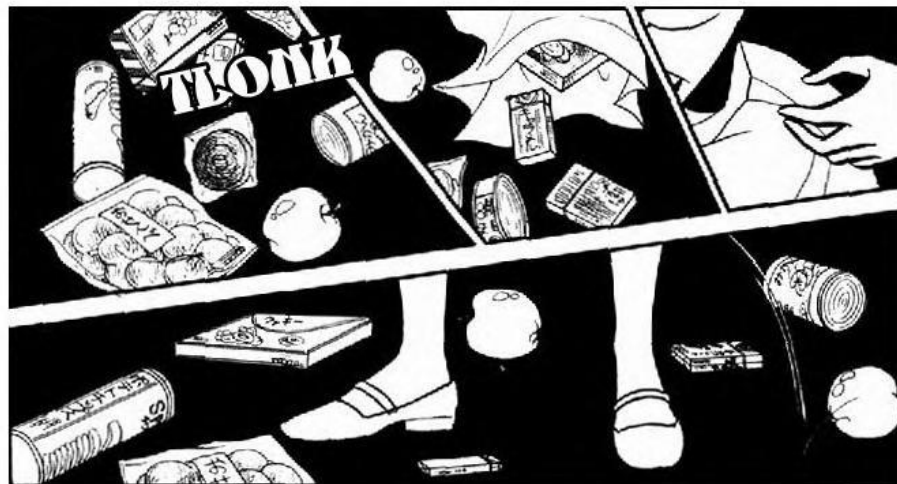


Ayumi-san has received the Academic Arts Award...?!



TSUKIKAGE SENSEI WILL APPEAR AS WELL;

SHE SAID SHE HAS AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE ABOUT THE CRIMSON GODDESS, WHICH IS WHY SHE WANTS YOU TO BE THERE TOO.



TLONK

