



Clap  
Clap

SO THAT WAS AYUMI'S WATER...

HOW BEAUTIFUL SHE IS... SO MYSTERIOUS AND PUZZLING...

CLICK

CLICK

COULD SHE HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT SHE IS AYUMI'S RIVAL?

HEY, LOOK! MAYA KITAJIMA IS APPLAUDING!

SO FITTING FOR HER...

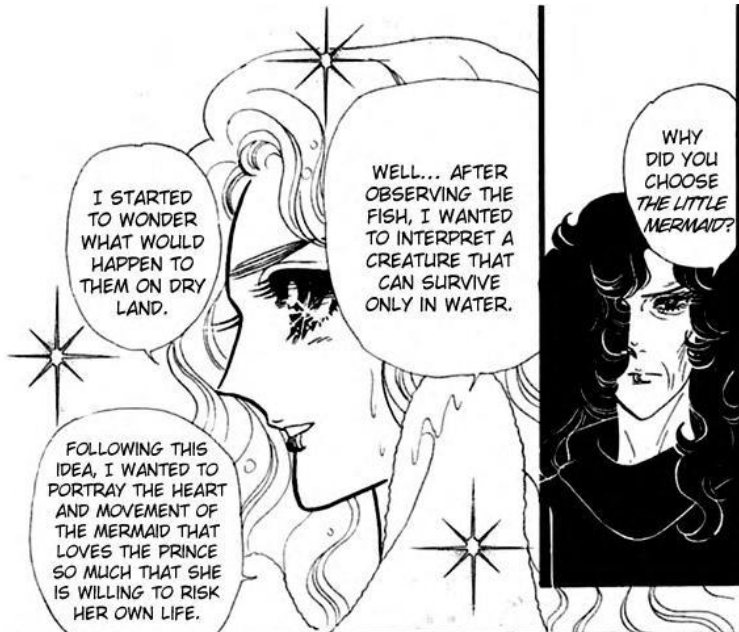
THAT'S ENOUGH!

Clap

AAAAH

Amazing!

Amazing!



I STARTED TO WONDER WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THEM ON DRY LAND.

WELL... AFTER OBSERVING THE FISH, I WANTED TO INTERPRET A CREATURE THAT CAN SURVIVE ONLY IN WATER.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THE LITTLE MERMAID?

FOLLOWING THIS IDEA, I WANTED TO PORTRAY THE HEART AND MOVEMENT OF THE MERMAID THAT LOVES THE PRINCE SO MUCH THAT SHE IS WILLING TO RISK HER OWN LIFE.



THE LITTLE MERMAID...

THAT WAS A WONDERFUL INTERPRETATION OF WATER, AYUMI.

YOUR EXPRESSIVITY WAS EXCELLENT.



REALLY GREAT!

YOU WERE GREAT, ONEE-SAN!

Clap  
Clap

WE ARE YOUR ADMIRERS!



AH...

THANK YOU, TSUKIKAGE-SAN.



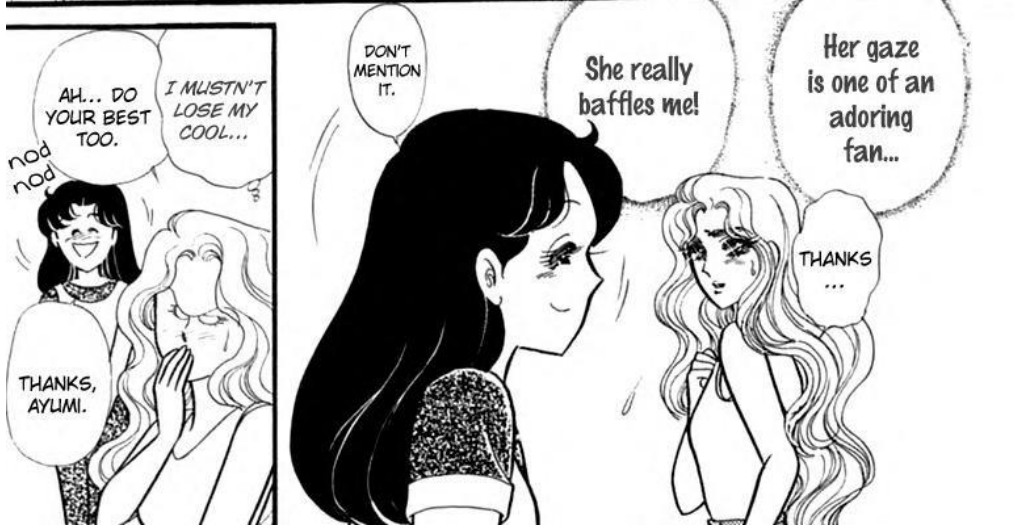
YOU WERE WONDERFUL!



THANK YOU, BOYS.

Hmf...

THANK YOU.





How should I do it? How should I use this stage?

SO...

This river will be my stage...

It's my turn now...



But...

It's so big. It's confusing...



HERE WE GO!

splash



I know... Down there!

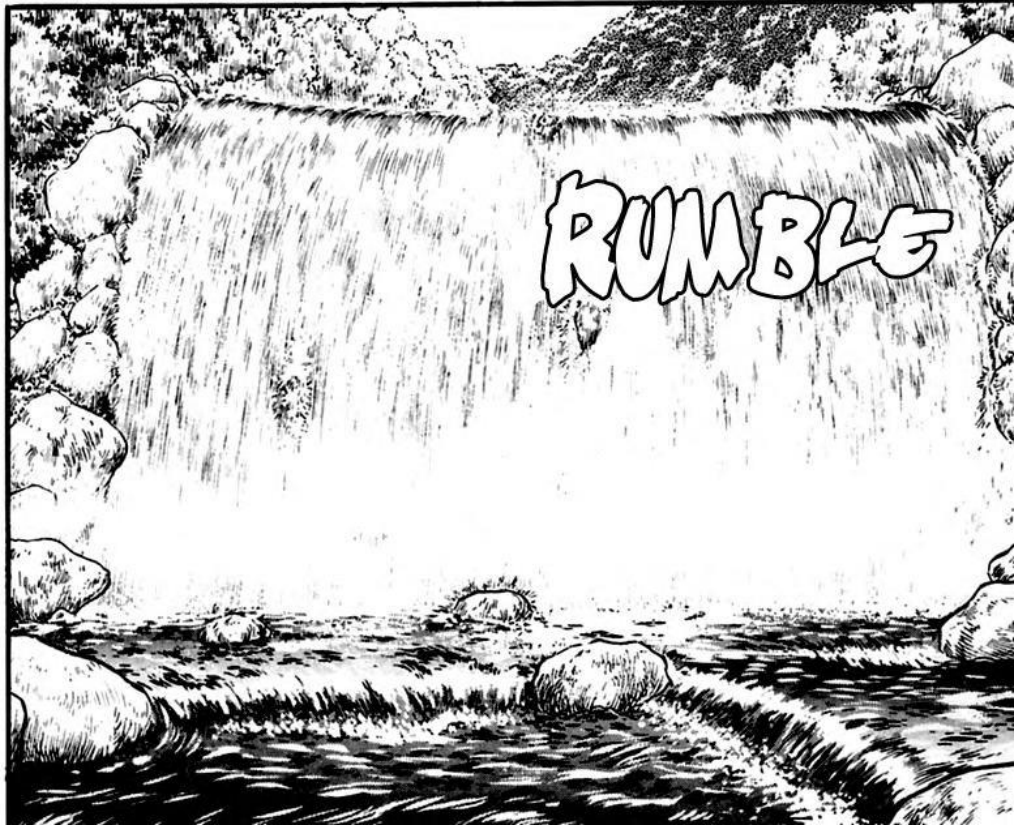
Down there seems like a good spot!



splash

AH!







Eh?  
What  
is this  
voice?!



RUMBLE  
OOOOO  
=



HEY, SHE WENT  
BEHIND THE  
WATERFALL!

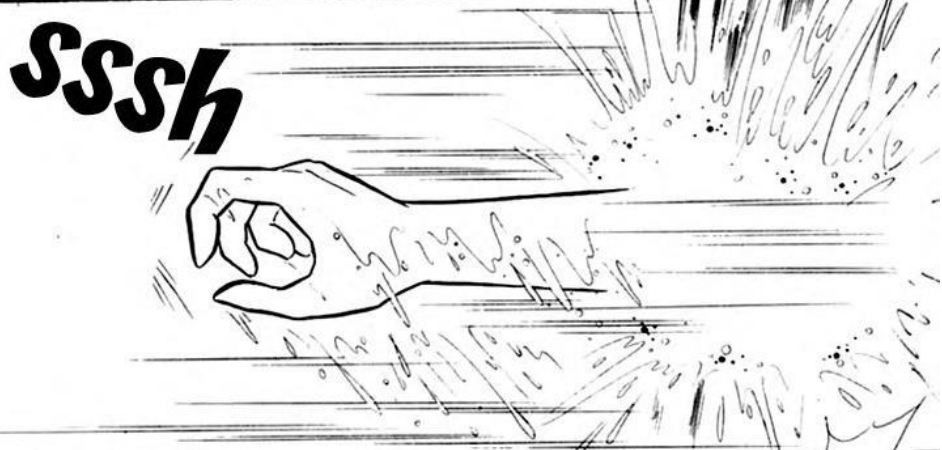
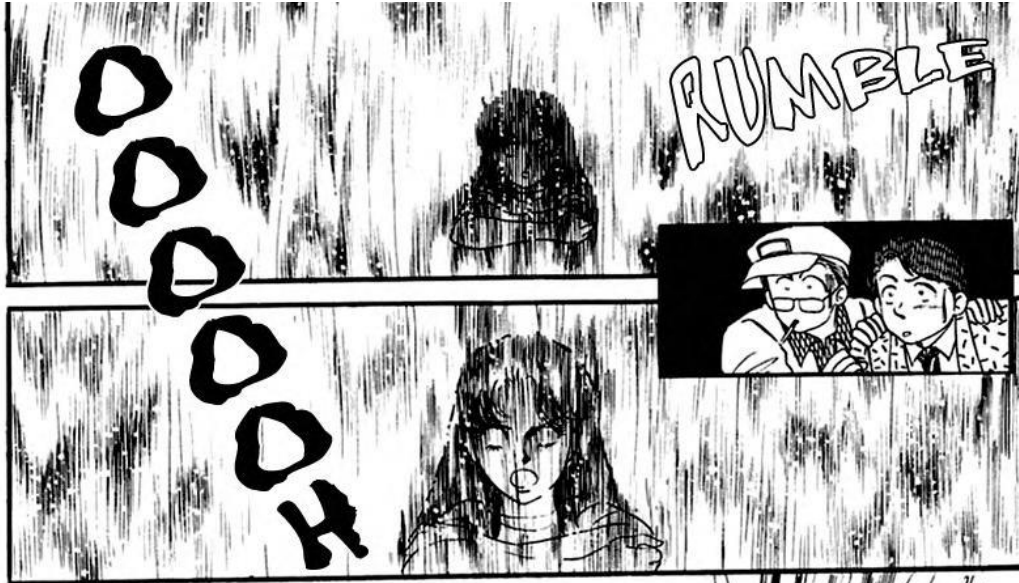
WHAT IS  
SHE GOING  
TO DO?



RUMBLE

OOOOO  
OOOOO  
OOOOO

This is...













GO AND DESTROY THE HUMANS' VILLAGES!

GO!

GASP!

GO, WATER!



GO, WATER!



I AM RYUJIN, THE GOD THAT GOVERNS ALL THE WATER IN THE VALLEY!

THE TYRANNY OF HUMANS NOWADAYS IS UNFORGIVABLE!

I'LL SHOW THEM MY POWER!

RUMBLE

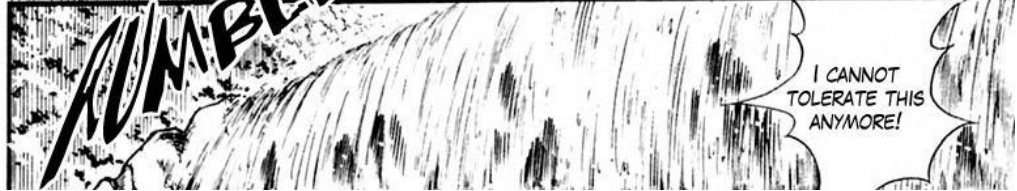




THEY FISH TO EXCESS THE CREATURES I SO LOVINGLY RAISED!

NONETHELESS, THEY CHOOSE TO CHANGE THE COURSE OF WATER, THEY BLOCK THE WATER...  
THEY DRY THE LAKES AND POLLUTE THE WATER WITH THEIR FILTH!

RUMBLE

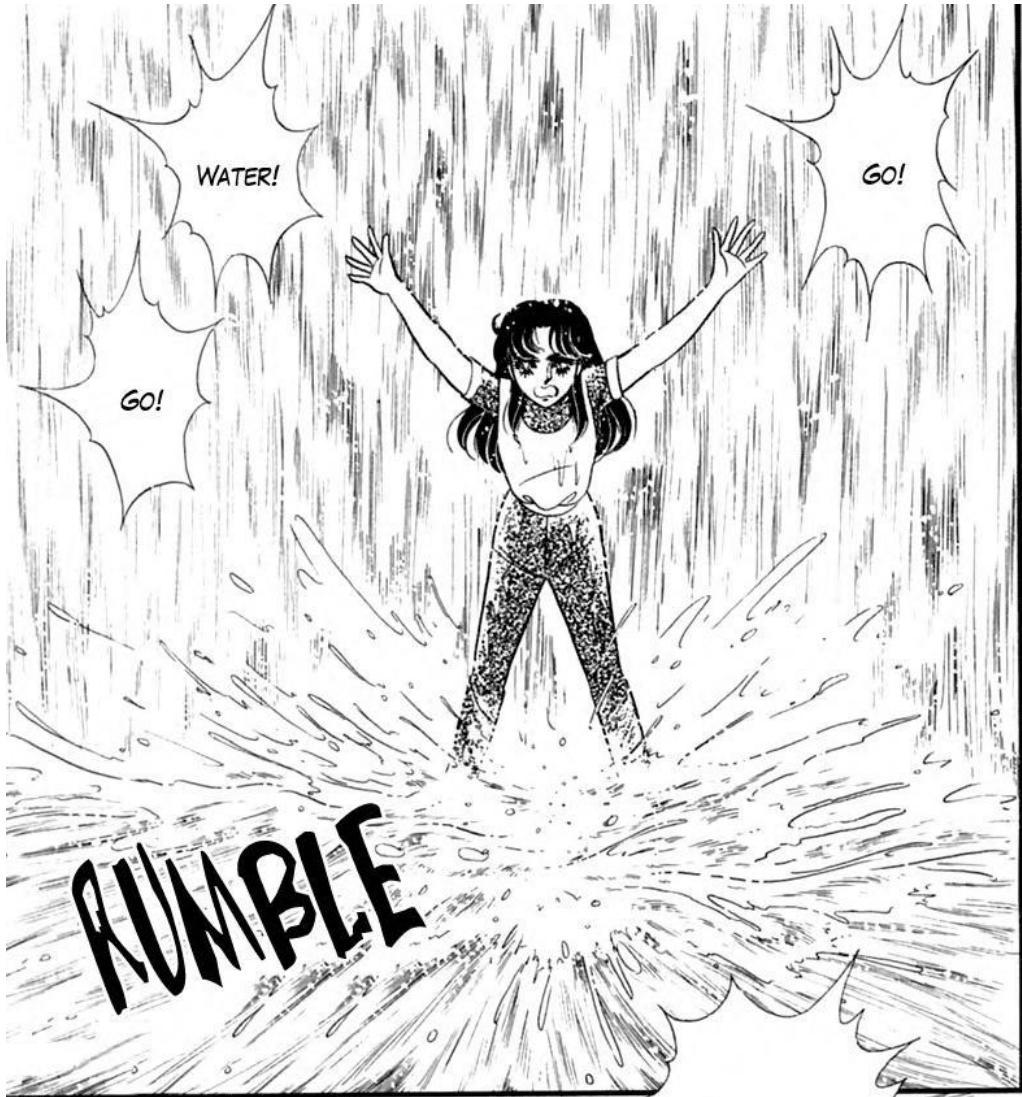


I CANNOT TOLERATE THIS ANYMORE!











DRAG  
EVERYTHING  
DOWN INTO  
THE ABYSS!

GO,  
WATER!



GO!

POUND  
ON THE  
ROCKS!



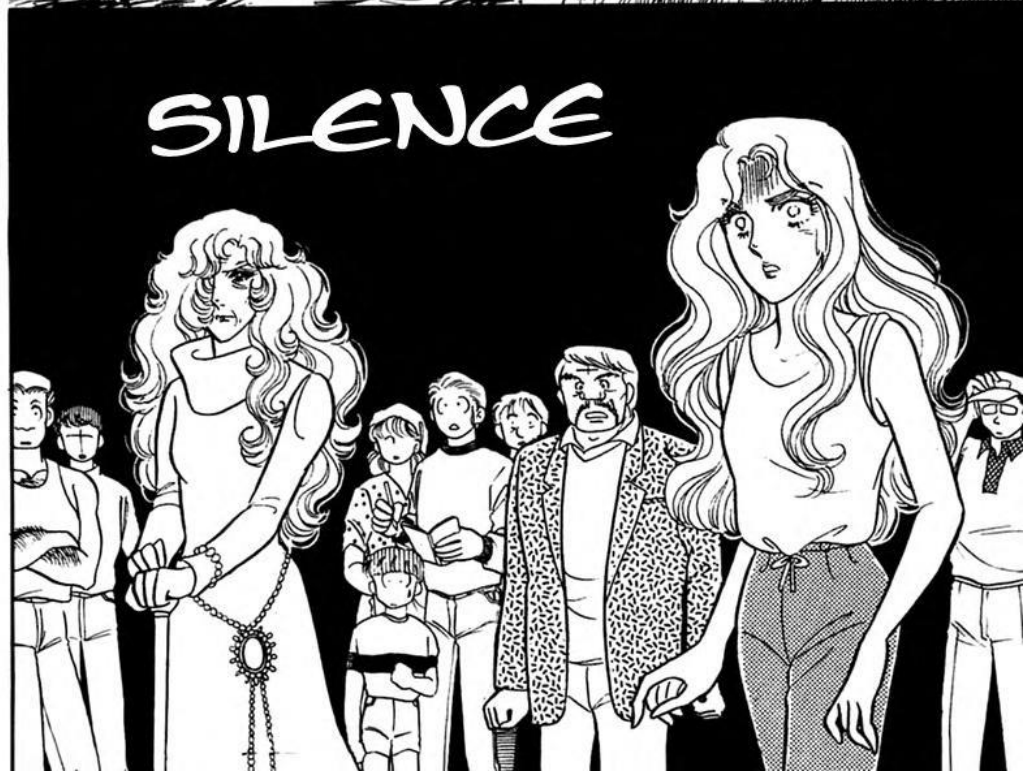
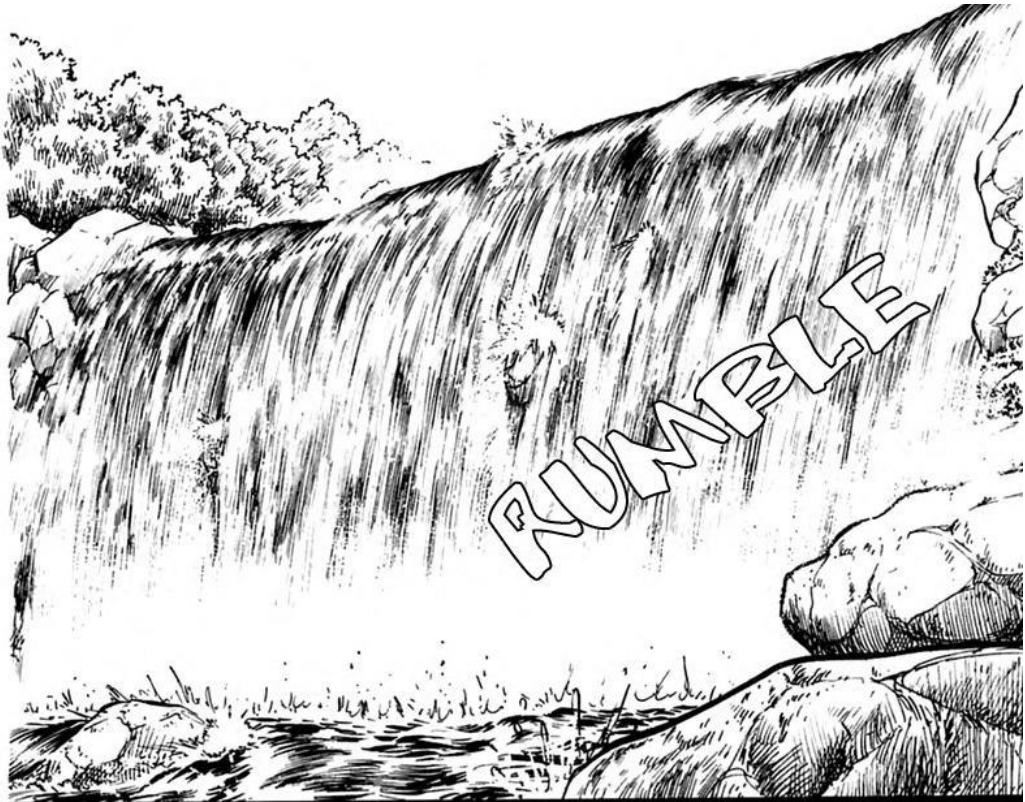
WIPE  
OUT THE  
HOUSES!

SWALLOW  
THE FIELDS  
AND RICE  
PADDIES!



GO!











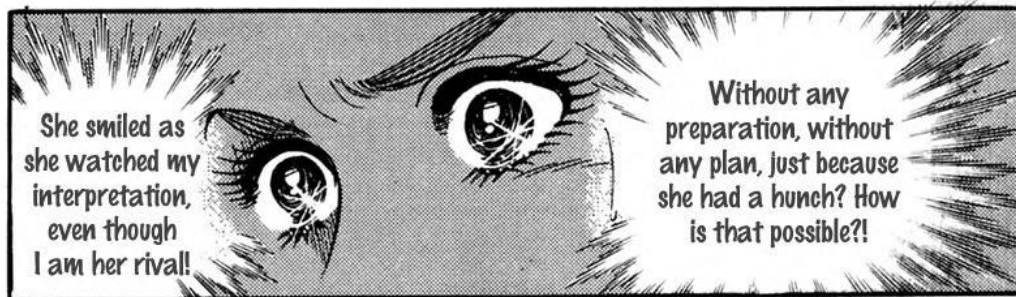


First, it was surprising because no one was expecting such a thing, and it increased the mystery of Ryujin!

Ryujin's entrance from behind the waterfall couldn't have been better!

Nothing in particular? Just thought that it would look good?!

And Maya did it... without thinking?!



She smiled as she watched my interpretation, even though I am her rival!

Without any preparation, without any plan, just because she had a hunch? How is that possible?!



I've been bested again!

I am so furious!

ha ha ha ha ha

ah-choo





DO YOUR BEST.

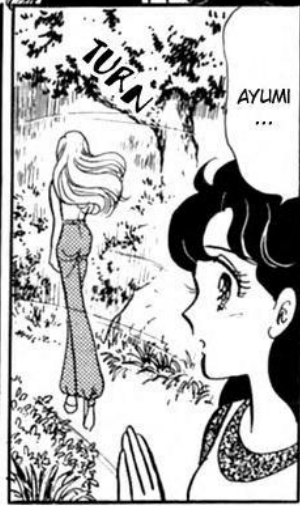
MAYA, AYUMI...

THE EARTH THEME.

AND NOW, WE REACH OUR LAST THEME.

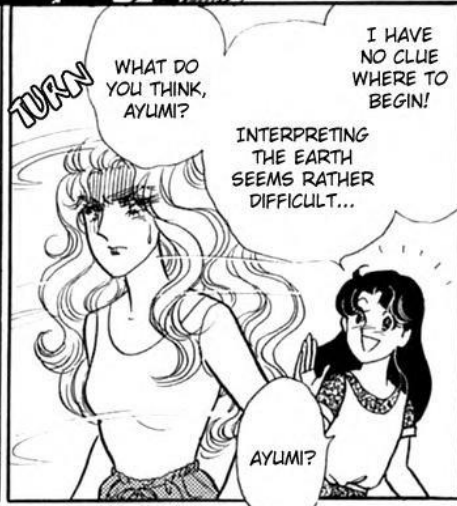


Phf...



TURAN

AYUMI ...



TURN

WHAT DO YOU THINK, AYUMI?

I HAVE NO CLUE WHERE TO BEGIN!

INTERPRETING THE EARTH SEEMS RATHER DIFFICULT...

AYUMI?



AYUMI-SAN!



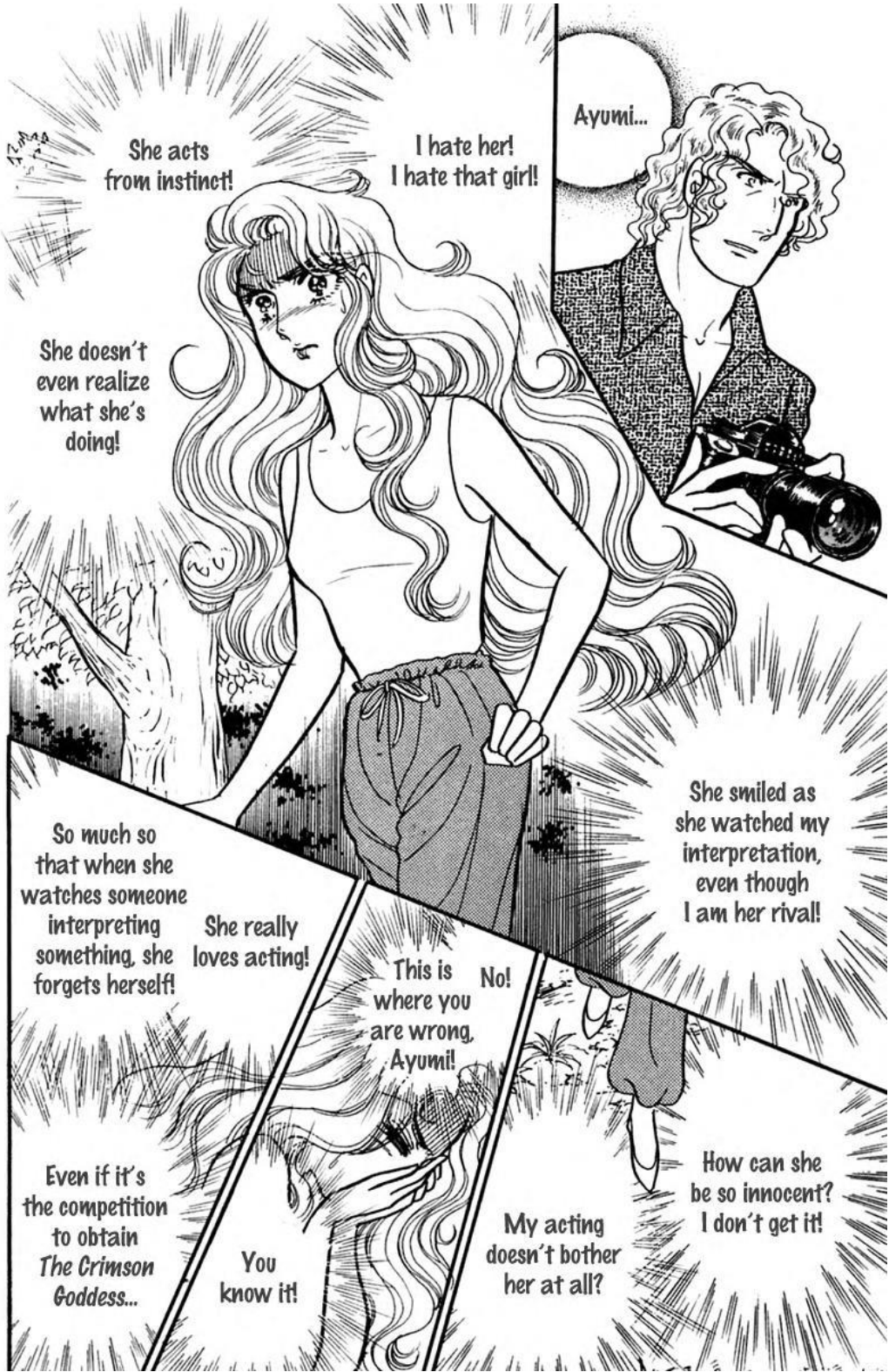
NO COMMENT!

THANKS.

AYUMI-SAN, YOU WERE A WONDERFUL MERMAID!

COULD YOU PLEASE TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT THE REHEARSALS WE JUST SAW?

YOU WERE GREAT.



She acts from instinct!

I hate her!  
I hate that girl!

Ayumi...

She doesn't even realize what she's doing!

So much so that when she watches someone interpreting something, she forgets herself!

She really loves acting!

She smiled as she watched my interpretation, even though I am her rival!

This is where you are wrong, Ayumi!

No!

Even if it's the competition to obtain The Crimson Goddess...

You know it!

My acting doesn't bother her at all?

How can she be so innocent? I don't get it!



Is this what people call talent?!

She doesn't have to struggle at all!

She understands the essence of acting! But how?!



God is unfair!

If only I had it!



WE'LL START TO UNDERSTAND WHICH ONE OF THEM WILL GET THE CRIMSON GODDESS.

WHAT KIND OF EARTH WILL THE TWO GIRLS PRESENT?

IT WILL BE REALLY INTERESTING TO SEE!

AYUMI HIMEKAWA OR MAYA KITAJIMA?

WHO'LL BE ABLE TO INTERPRET IT?



Even if it's the last thing I do!

**stak**

I'll never lose to you!

Maya Kitajima!



And still, Maya...



Looking closer, my acting is the result of all my efforts and the techniques I gained!

And besides... What makes me stand out from a crowd...

That's not talent!

Nor can it be called instinct!



I will not  
lose to you!



LET'S SEE ...  
MAYA'S RYUJIN  
WAS EXTREMELY  
SIMPLE BUT  
MAGNETIC.

BUT IF WE  
CONSIDER ELEGANCE  
AND EXPRESSIVITY,  
AYUMI'S MERMAID  
WAS BETTER.



GENZO  
...

...WHAT DID  
YOU THINK  
OF TODAY'S  
PERFORMAN-  
CES?





RYUJIN'S INTERPRETATION WAS PERFECT!  
MAYA KNEW THAT TOO MANY MOVEMENTS WOULD HAVE SHATTERED ITS MYSTERY AND PRESENCE!

THAT IS WHY SHE RAISED HER ARMS ONLY ONCE...

...AND AT THE SAME TIME EXPRESSING THE GRANDEUR AND MIGHT OF RYUJIN!  
...SHOWING HOW GREAT THE GOD'S WRATH WAS...



MAYA IS AN INTERESTING GIRL, ISN'T SHE? SHE...

...KNOWS HOW TO ACT FROM INSTINCT...



EH?

THEN TELL ME, WHICH ONE OF THEM IMPRESSED YOU MORE?



WELL... I THINK MAYA'S RYUJIN.  
WHICH ONE?



smile



AND SHE DID IT BECAUSE SHE UNDERSTOOD THE WATER'S ESSENCE!

MADAME ...



EVEN THOUGH WATER IS A VITAL ELEMENT, NO ONE IS THANKFUL FOR IT.

MAYA SHOWED US HER EXPRESSIVITY IS NOT ONE YOU OFTEN COME ACROSS!

THE HUMANS' ARROGANCE ...  
THE WATER'S ANGER ...



ESSENCE ...?  
THE WATER'S ESSENCE ...

YEAH... THROUGH RYUJIN, MAYA LET THE WATER'S HEART SPEAK!

