

Ayumi-san  
...

WHAT'S  
WITH AYUMI  
TODAY?

SHE'S  
UNAP-  
PROACH-  
ABLE.

I'll act like her  
until I grasp her  
character!

Origeld!

I'm Origeld...

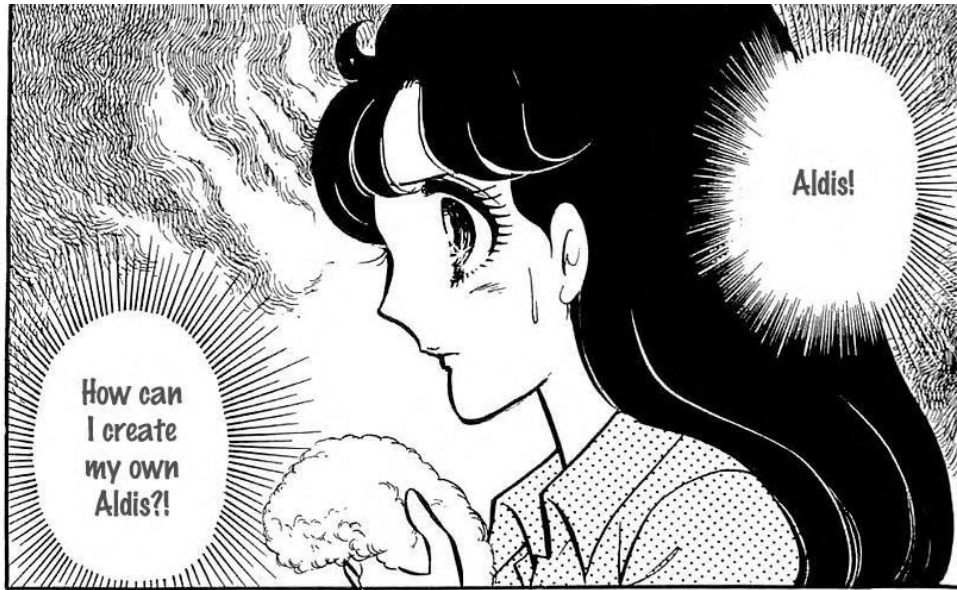


My acting  
has already  
started!

I'll  
understand  
my role  
step by step  
that way  
...



Acting  
like her,  
I'll understand  
her heart!



How can  
I create  
my own  
Aldis?!

Aldis!



OK.



NOW  
IT'S YOUR  
TURN,  
MAYA!

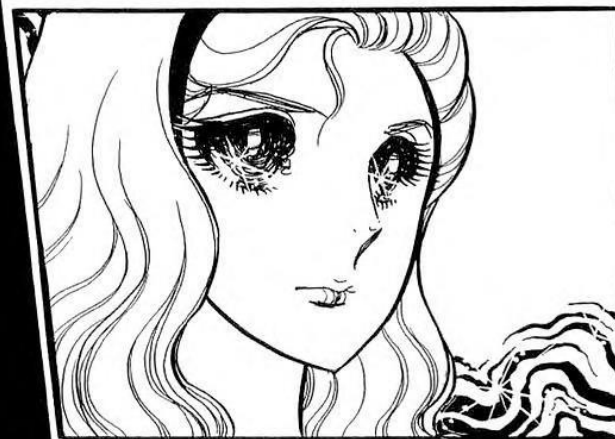
LET'S  
BEGIN!

YES.



Wonderful  
princess  
Aldis!

Aldis!





MANY BLESSINGS UPON YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS.

AH! NO FINER SILK HATH WOOD SPRITES WROUGHT.

WOVEN WITH GOLD AND SILVER GOSSAMER!



MORE WONDROUS THAN SUCH A VARICOLOURED BIRD YOU SHALL LOOK, YOUR HIGHNESS.

OH! WONDERFULLY SET IS THE PEACOCK'S PLUMAGE!









THANK YOU!

AND I RETURN YOU, HEAVEN GIVE THEE MANY, MANY MERRY DAYS!

GIMMERS!

GIMMERS!

PRETTY, YET DEVOID OF SPIRIT, LIKE A DOLL.

I MEANT HER COUNTEenance.

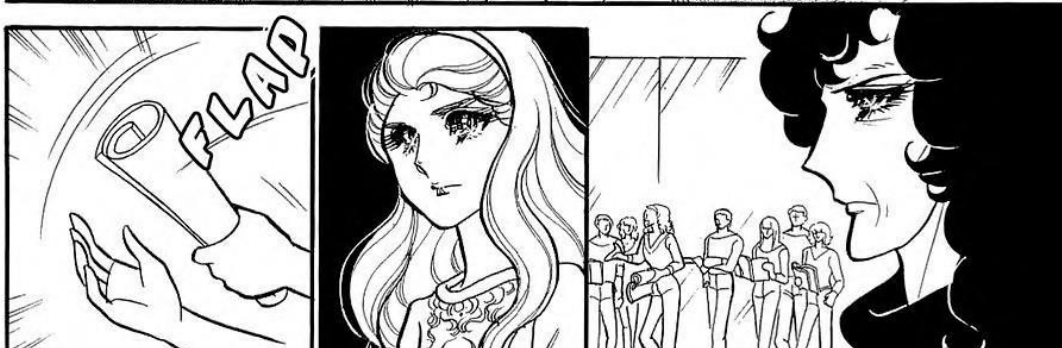
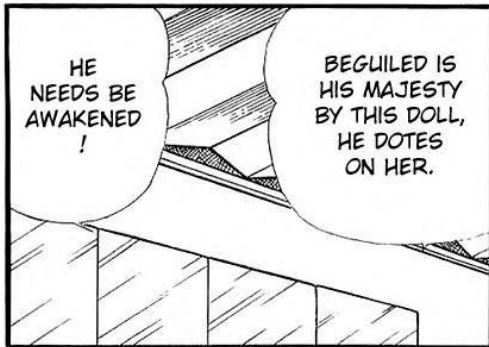
PRETTILY DOES THE PRINCESS SHINE, AS SHE WERE A DOLL.

JULIUS!

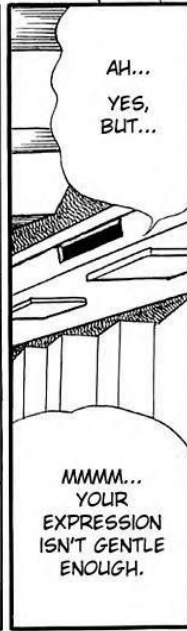
A LIFELESS, BELOVED DOLL IS PRINCESS ALDIS OF LASTONIA.

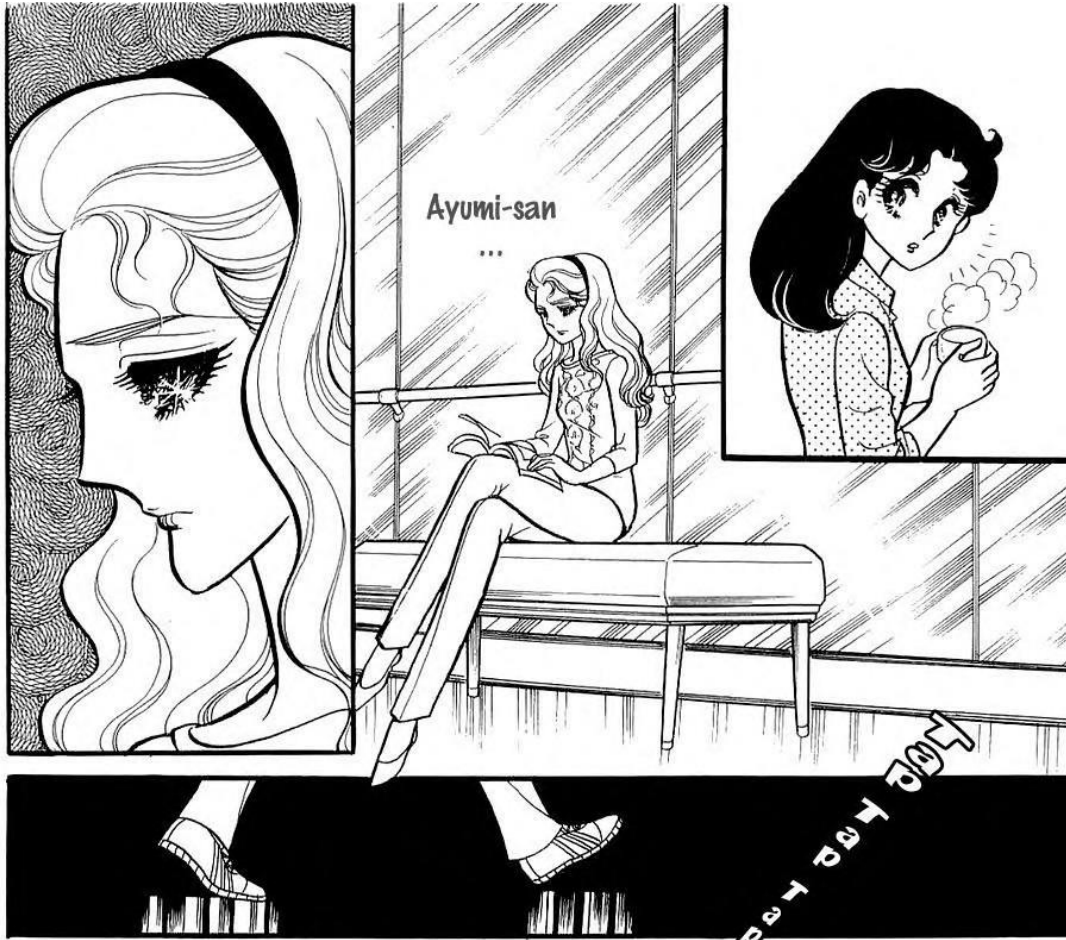
SHE DOTHS OUTSHINE THE MOST BEALTEOUS MANNEQUIN!

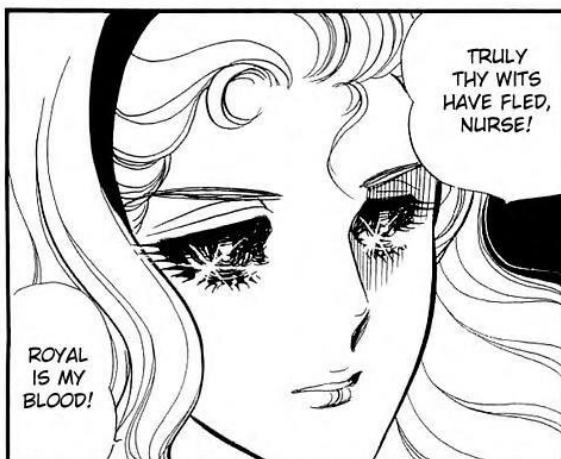
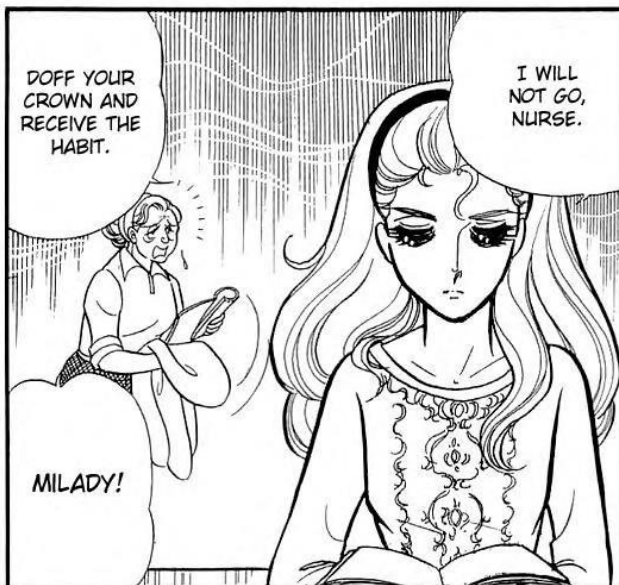
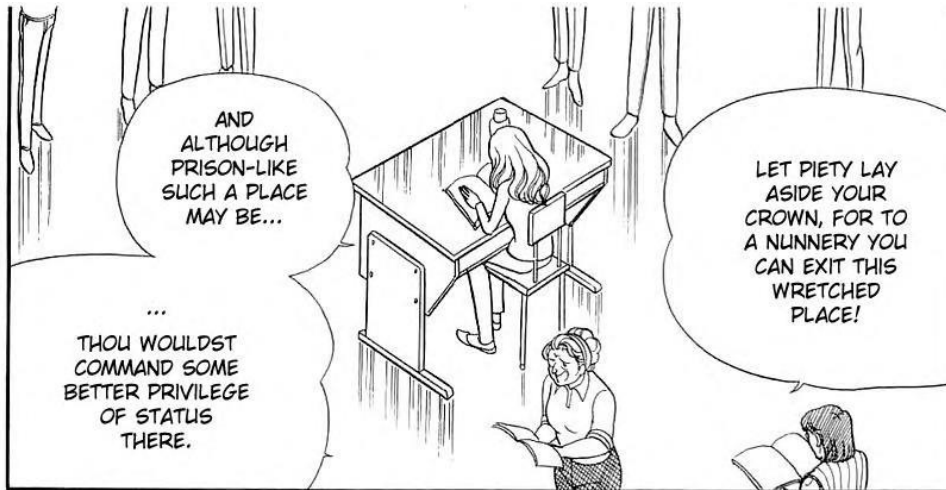
ERE NOW THOU DOST SEE.



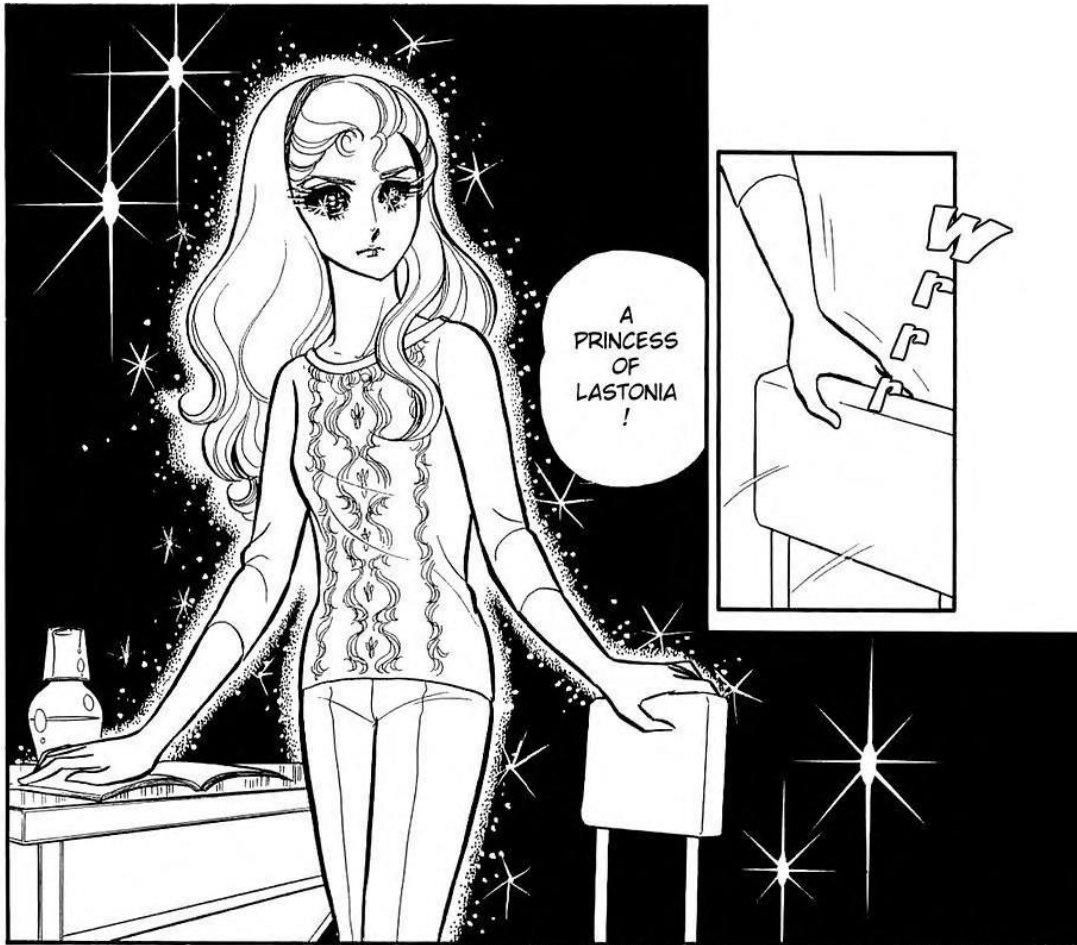
# SILENCE













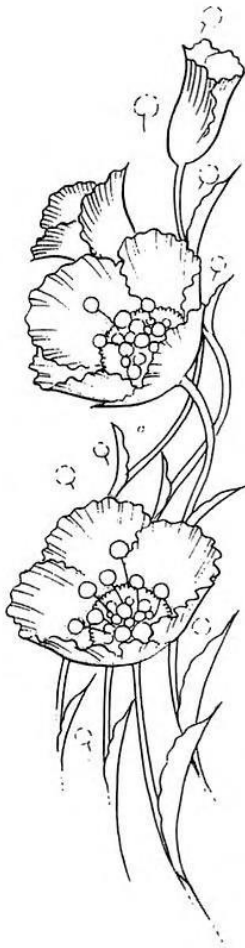
ROYAL AM I,  
AND FIRST TO  
THE THRONE!

LASTONIA  
BE MY  
BIRTHRIGHT!



SECOND IN  
SUCCESSION  
IS MY  
BROTHER  
JOHANNES.

AND ALDIS,  
THE  
YOUNGEST,  
THIRD!

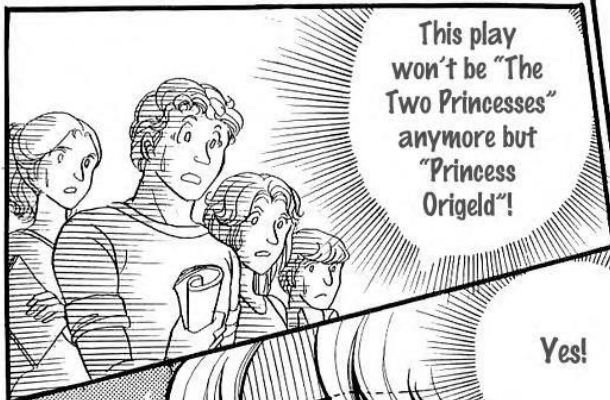


Splendid  
...

SHALL I LEAVE  
MY THRONE  
FOR A CELL?  
SELL MY  
BIRTHRIGHT  
FOR STEW?

NEVER  
WOULD I  
UNDERTAKE  
SUCH A  
FALL!

Ayumi-san  
is splendid!



She'll defeat me!



She was born to play leading roles!



Ayumi-san!

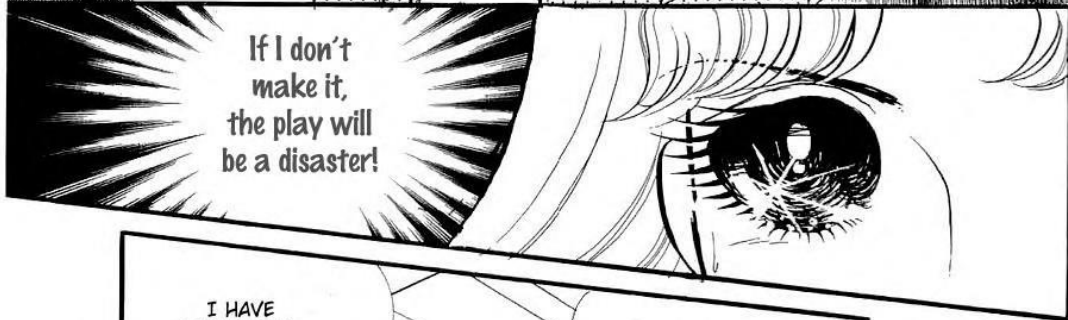
If this keeps up, she'll defeat me!



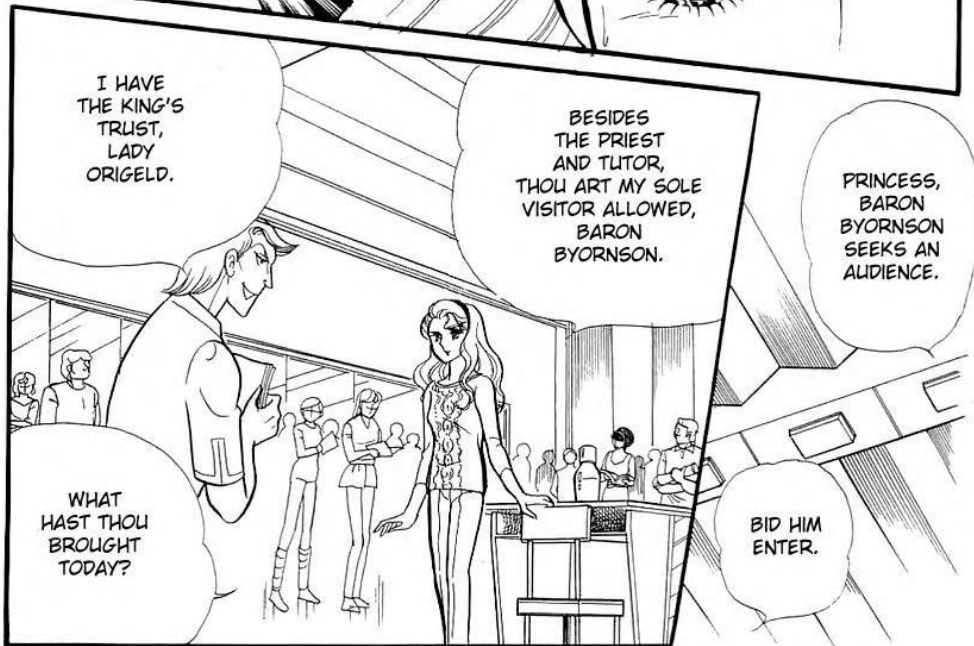
I must be on Ayumi's level at any cost!

But I won't lose!

I don't want to fail this time!



If I don't make it, the play will be a disaster!



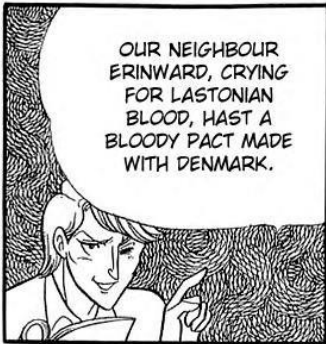
I HAVE THE KING'S TRUST, LADY ORIGELD.

BESIDES THE PRIEST AND TUTOR, THOU ART MY SOLE VISITOR ALLOWED, BARON BYORNSON.

PRINCESS, BARON BYORNSON SEEKS AN AUDIENCE.

WHAT HAST THOU BROUGHT TODAY?

BID HIM ENTER.



OUR NEIGHBOUR ERINWARD, CRYING FOR LASTONIAN BLOOD, HAST A BLOODY PACT MADE WITH DENMARK.

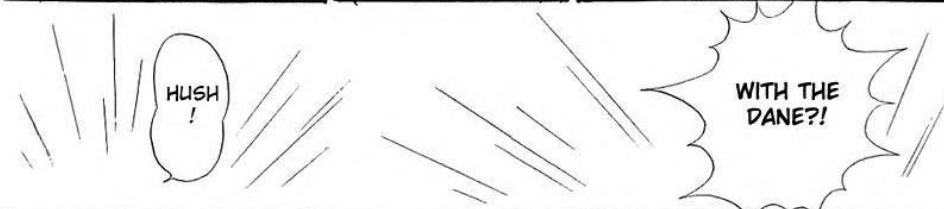


GOOD NEWS ?



A NEW EMBROIDERING SET AND A BOOK ABOUT ORIENT.

AND SOME GOOD NEWS.



HUSH !

WITH THE DANE?!



FOR FATHERHOOD HIS MAJESTY IS UNFIT!

DESPITE THY BLOOD AND STATION, THOU ART TREATED SO...

PITEOUS LADY ORIGELD,



THE TIME WILL COME SOON.

TIME...

I UNDERSTAND.



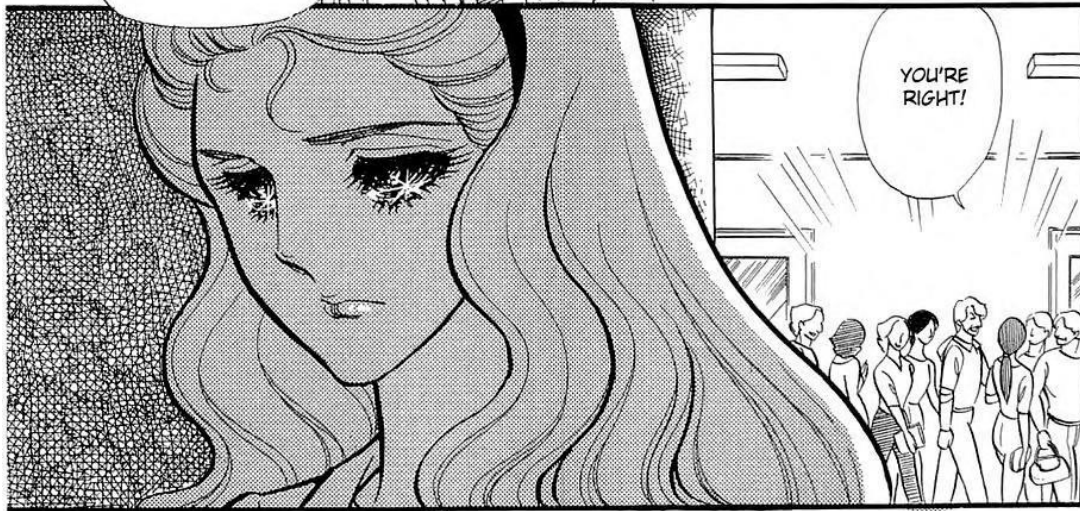
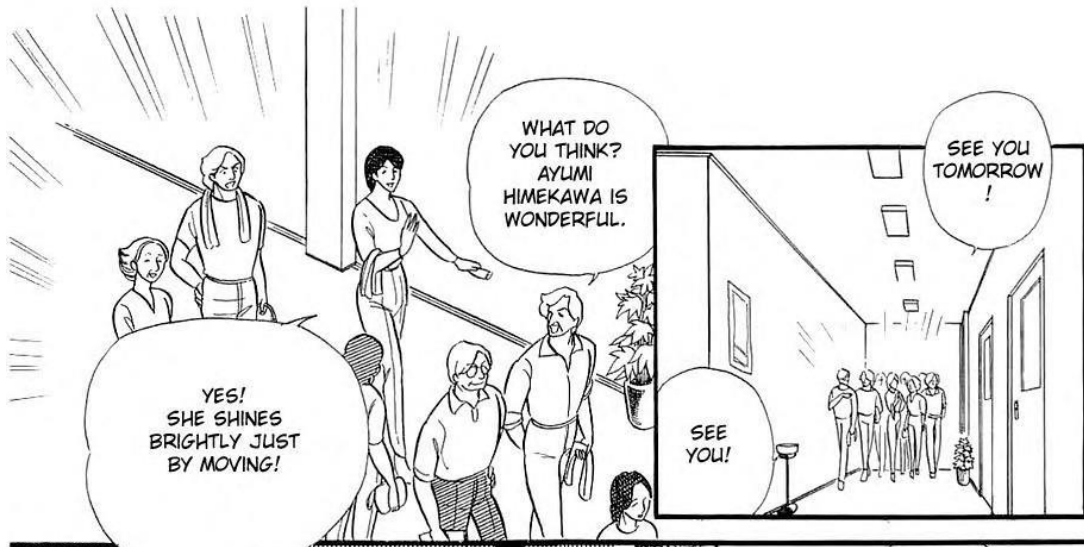
THIS IS OUR INTENT, REBELS TO THE KING, WE WISH TO UNITE UNDER THEE.

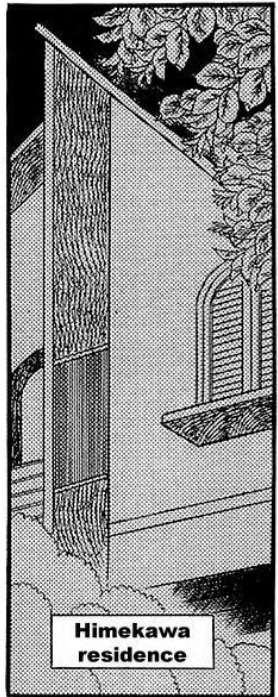
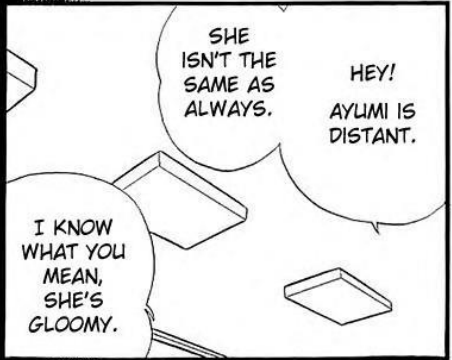
BE ASSURED, I KNOW YOUR HEART, LADY ORIGELD.

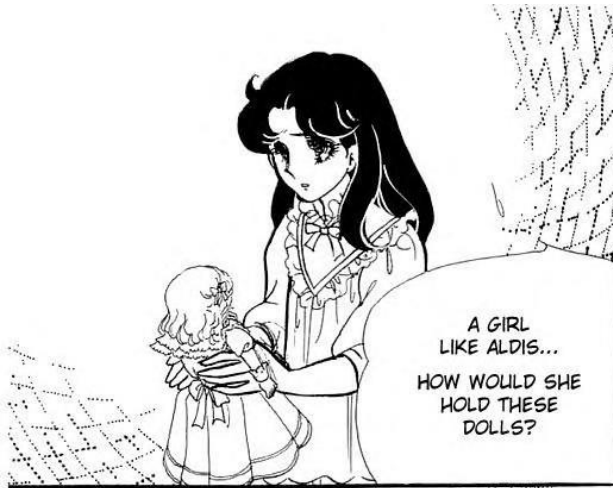
THAT THE DAGGER AT HIS HEART IS IN MY HIDDEN HAND, T'WOULD UNFATHOMABLE BE TO HIM.

I HAVE THE KING'S TRUST.

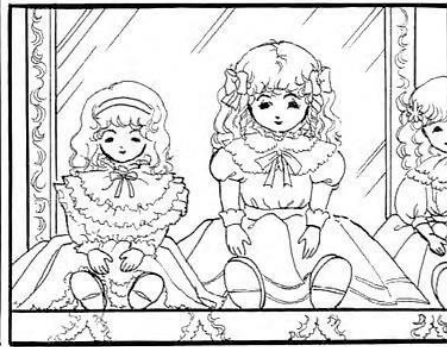




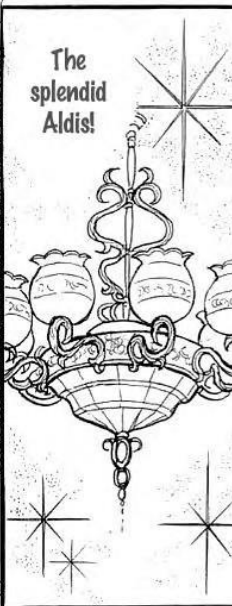




A GIRL  
LIKE ALDIS...  
HOW WOULD SHE  
HOLD THESE  
DOLLS?



Ah!  
If I were  
Ayumi-san...



The  
splendid  
Aldis!



Aldis  
who loves  
flowers  
...

...  
how would  
she hold  
them?

