



DID YOU TURN INTO A ROCK?!

AND YOU, HOWL LIKE A WOLF!

YOU, THE ELVES, TRY AGAIN THE PIROUETTES!

YOU CALL THAT DANCING IN A ROW?!

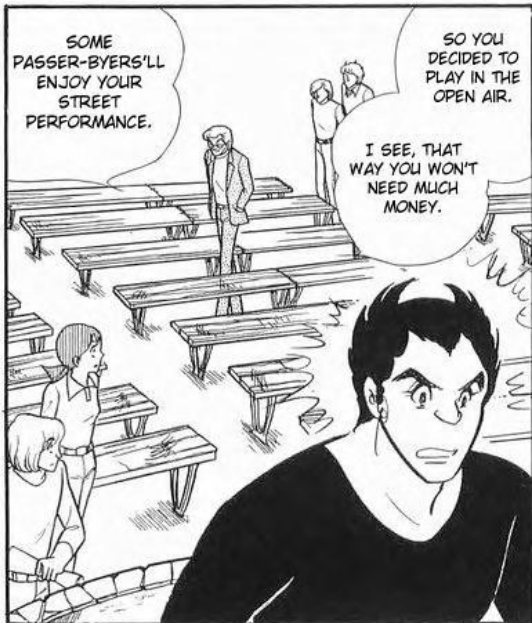
MOVE THOSE LEGS!



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

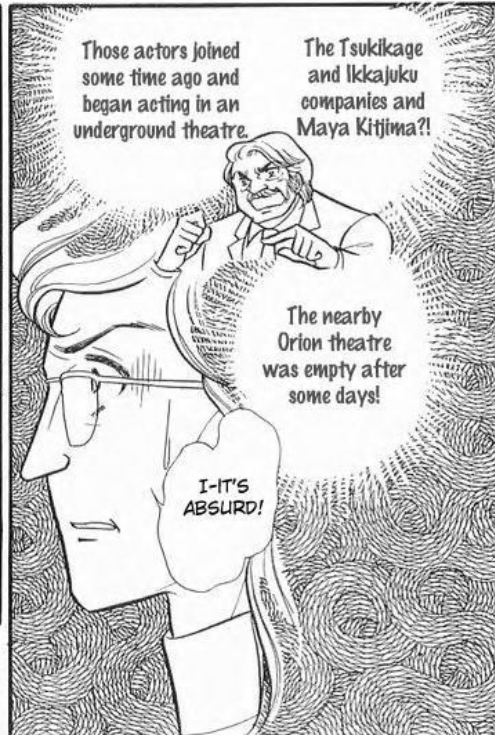
UUUUUUH  
UUUUUUH



SOME PASSER-BYERS'LL ENJOY YOUR STREET PERFORMANCE.

SO YOU DECIDED TO PLAY IN THE OPEN AIR.

I SEE, THAT WAY YOU WON'T NEED MUCH MONEY.

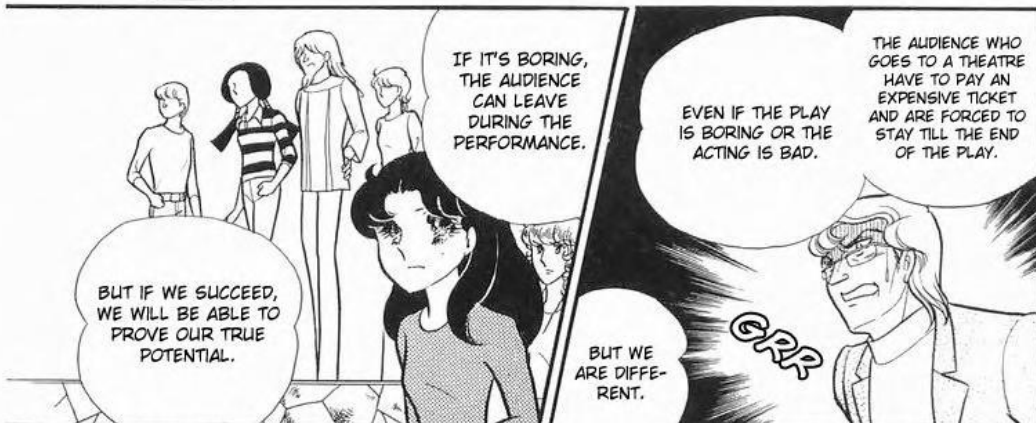
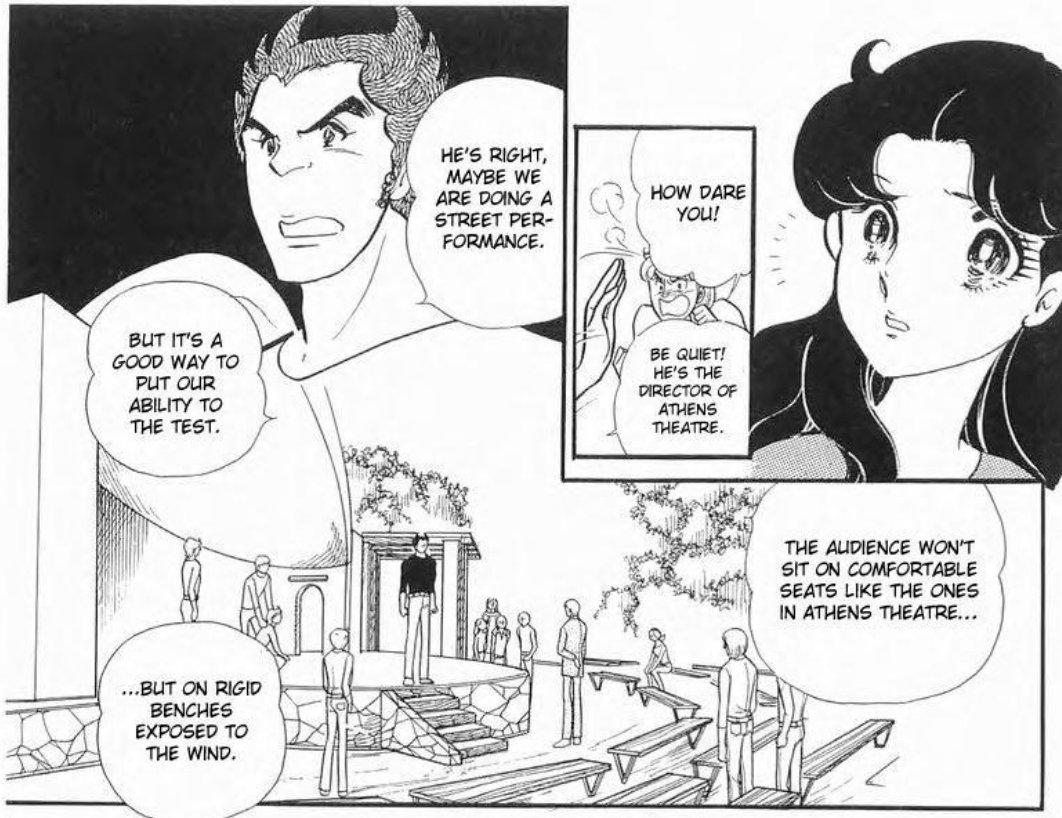


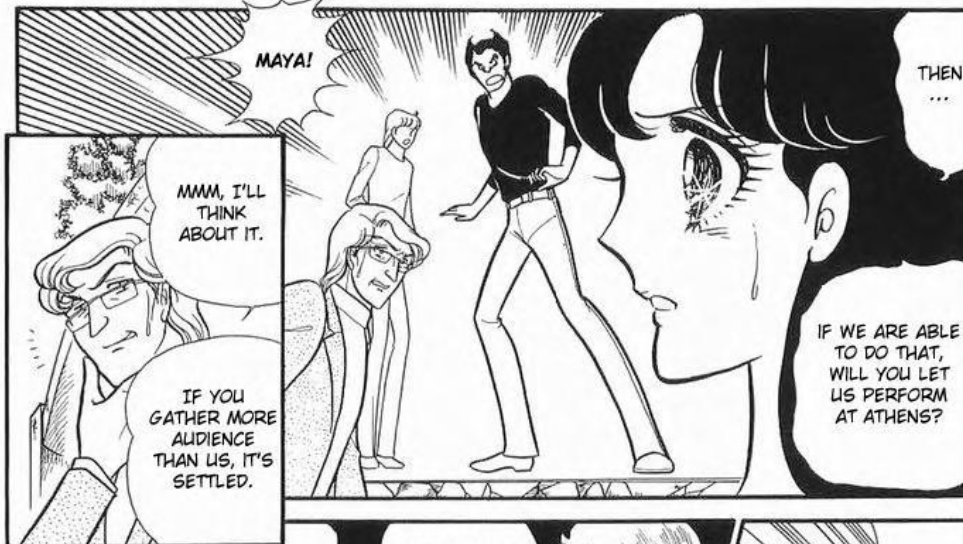
Those actors joined some time ago and began acting in an underground theatre.

The Tsukikage and IkkaJuku companies and Maya Kitjima?!

The nearby Orion theatre was empty after some days!

I-IT'S ABSURD!







The heartless workaholic of Daito Entertainment!  
What's he doing here?

HAYAMI-SAN!



He's a strict man who cares only for work. What's he doing in a place like this?

Argh! Masumi Hayami!

Many production companies and theatres were ruined because of him.

The young president of Daito is known for being able to do anything when it comes to business.



YOU DON'T WANT TO BECOME MY ENEMY, DO YOU?

YOU HAVE MY WORD! I'LL DO IT!

BUT WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?



OF COURSE!

THEY CAN TRUST IN YOUR WORD, CAN'T THEY?

IF YOU FAIL TO KEEP YOUR PROMISE, YOU'LL BE TARNISHING MY NAME AS A WITNESS.

I SUPPOSE YOU ARE THE DIRECTOR OF THE THEATRE.



NO! OF COURSE NOT...!

ARE YOU NOT SATISFIED TO HAVE ME AS WITNESS?

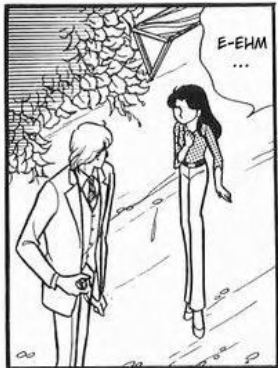


BUT IF YOU FAIL EVEN IF ONLY FOR A DAY, YOU WON'T HAVE IT, UNDERS-TOOD?

AAAAAAH

IF THE NUMBER OF AUDIENCE WITHIN THE FIRST THREE DAYS OF PERFORMANCE OVERCROWDS THE SEATS HERE

I WILL GRANT YOU PERMISSION TO ACT AT ATHENS...



E-EHM ...



LET'S COUNT THE BENCHES!

WE HAVE TO SEE HOW MANY PEOPLE CAN SIT.



I'M ONLY THE WITNESS OF THIS PROMISE.

THANKS, HAYAMI-SAN!

THE REST DEPENDS ON YOUR EFFORTS.



TOGETHER WITH YOUR ASSISTANTS? COME ON...

HA HA HA!



WHO KNOWS.

YOU KNEW ABOUT US?

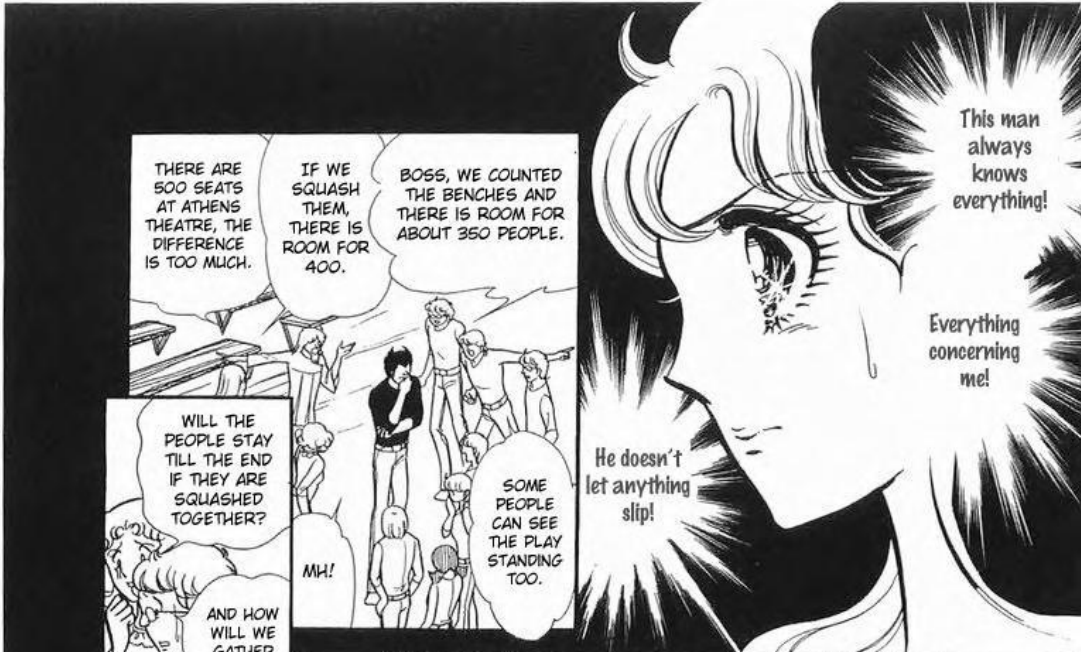
HAYAMI-SAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

WOULD YOU BELIEVE ME IF I TOLD YOU I WAS FEELING LIKE RIDING A BOAT?



THANKS. THAT WAS KIND OF YOU.

PLEASE, I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING SPECIAL.



This man always knows everything!

Everything concerning me!

He doesn't let anything slip!

THERE ARE 500 SEATS AT ATHENS THEATRE, THE DIFFERENCE IS TOO MUCH.

IF WE SQUASH THEM, THERE IS ROOM FOR 400.

BOSS, WE COUNTED THE BENCHES AND THERE IS ROOM FOR ABOUT 350 PEOPLE.

WILL THE PEOPLE STAY TILL THE END IF THEY ARE SQUASHED TOGETHER?

MH!

AND HOW WILL WE GATHER 500 PEOPLE?

SOME PEOPLE CAN SEE THE PLAY STANDING TOO.



QUIT BEING SO PESSIMISTIC!

OUR FUTURE IS AT STAKE!

NONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE CAN GET BORED.

WE HAVE TO MAKE PEOPLE STAY TILL THE END.



WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH THE ENTRANCE FEE?

HAYAMI-SAN.

WE'LL GIVE OUT THE LEAFLETS ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

WE'LL HANG UP POSTERS AND GIVE OUT LEAFLETS TO ADVERTISE THE PLAY!

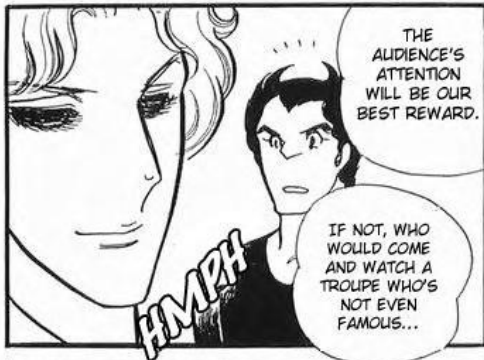
AND WE'LL ASK FOR PERMISSION TO HANG UP THE POSTERS IN CAFES AND SNACK BARS AROUND HERE.

A FRIEND OF MINE IS A TYPOGRAPHER SO IT WON'T BE TOO EXPENSIVE.

CHEER

WE'LL DO OUR BEST!

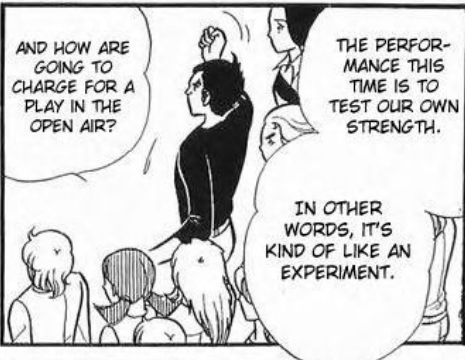
OK, GUYS!



THE AUDIENCE'S ATTENTION WILL BE OUR BEST REWARD.

**HMPH**

IF NOT, WHO WOULD COME AND WATCH A TROUPE WHO'S NOT EVEN FAMOUS...



AND HOW ARE GOING TO CHARGE FOR A PLAY IN THE OPEN AIR?

THE PERFORMANCE THIS TIME IS TO TEST OUR OWN STRENGTH.

IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S KIND OF LIKE AN EXPERIMENT.



OK!

Y-YES.

YOU SAID YOU DON'T WANT TO CHARGE PEOPLE.

EVEN IF YOU GATHER MORE PEOPLE THAN ATHENS THEATRE,



DO YOU THINK THAT YOUR TALENT IS ONLY AT SUCH STANDARDS?



YOU'LL DONATE THE COLLECTED MONEY TO A HELP ASSOCIATION FOR DISABLED.

IT'S THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS.

YOU CAN'T SAY YOU REALLY WIN IF YOU ACT FOR FREE.



DON'T ACT FOR NOTHING.

ASK FOR ENTRANCE FEE.



IF YOU ACT FOR FREE THE AUDIENCE WILL UNDERESTIMATE YOU.

UNDERSTOOD? DON'T THINK SO CHEAP OF YOURSELVES.

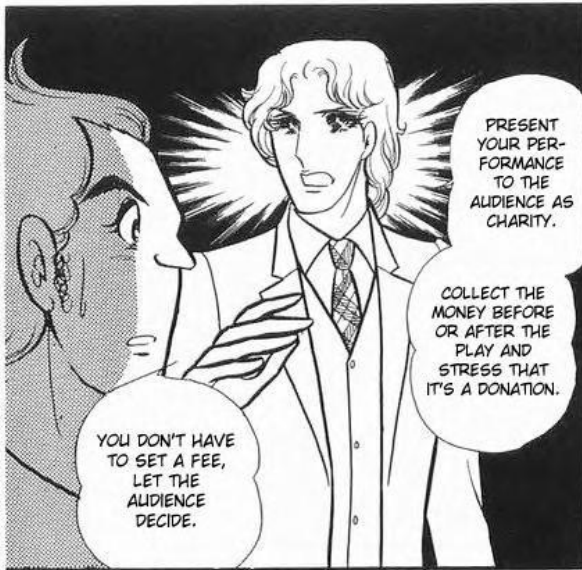
HAYAMI-SAN!

HAVE SOME PRIDE AND ASK FOR ENTRANCE FEE.

A CHARITABLE PLAY IS GOOD ENOUGH.

AH!





YOU DON'T HAVE TO SET A FEE, LET THE AUDIENCE DECIDE.

PRESENT YOUR PERFORMANCE TO THE AUDIENCE AS CHARITY.

COLLECT THE MONEY BEFORE OR AFTER THE PLAY AND STRESS THAT IT'S A DONATION.



PUBLICISE YOUR PLAY IN AN IMPRESSIVE WAY.

HAYAMI-SAN!

DOING SOMETHING RELATED TO THE PLAY ITSELF.



SO TAKE A BIT OF THE MONEY FOR YOURSELVES AND GIVE THE MAIN PART TO CHARITY...

OBVIOUSLY EVEN IF IT'S A CHARITABLE PLAY, IT'S ALSO YOUR JOB.



IF YOUR PERFORMANCE IS INTERESTING, THE AUDIENCE WILL DEFINITELY DONATE MORE, DON'T YOU THINK?



BOSS!

YES... WE UNDERSTAND, HAYAMI-SAN.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ADVICE.

WE'LL TRY OUR BEST!



IT WAS A KIND GESTURE COMING FROM SOMEONE KNOWN AS DAITOU ENTERTAINMENT'S WORKAHOLIC DEMON.

I DON'T HAVE ANY SECOND INTENTIONS.



WHY ARE YOU MAKING A FACE OF DISBELIEF?



BESIDES IF OUR PERFORMANCE WAS USEFUL FOR SOMEONE, IT WOULD BE GREAT.

WE'LL DO IT, RIGHT, GUYS?

I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I FEEL WE SHOULD DO WHAT HAYAMI-SAN SAYS...

BOSS ...



YES!!! WE'LL PUT OUR ABILITY TO THE TEST!



ON THE CONTRARY.

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO CALM ME DOWN.



I KNOW. THAT'S WHY I WAS SO SURPRISED.



ARGH THE END OF THE WORLD IS NEAR...

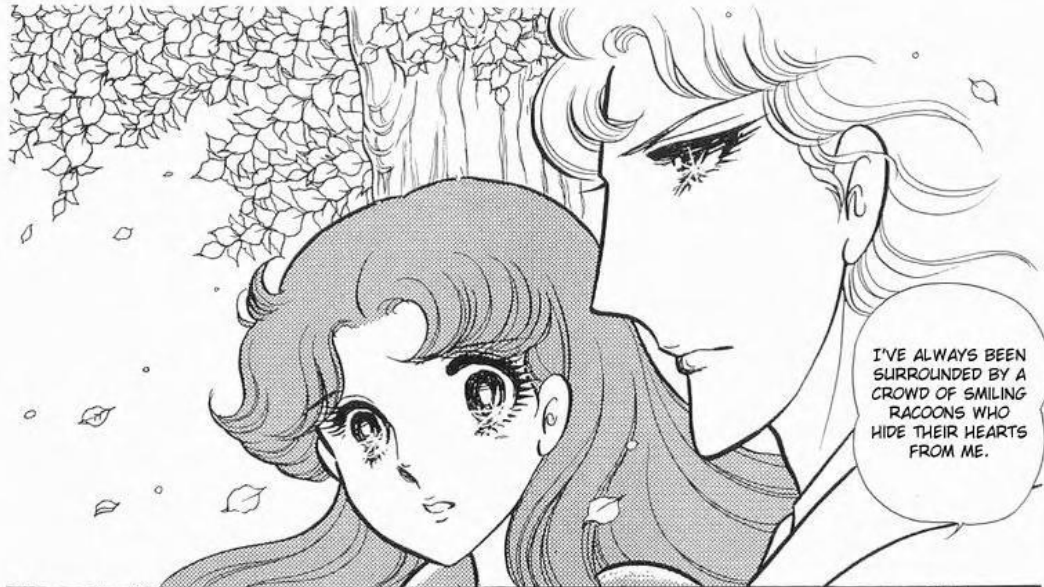
E-EH, HAYAMI-SAMA IS LAUGHING!



DID I OFFEND YOU?

PEOPLE LIKE YOU ARE PRECIOUS.

WHAT A HONEST GIRL YOU ARE, CHIBI-CHAN!



I'VE ALWAYS BEEN SURROUNDED BY A CROWD OF SMILING RACOONS WHO HIDE THEIR HEARTS FROM ME.



WHAT?! WHY SHOULD I RIDE A SMALL BOAT WITH YOU?



COME WITH ME.



THIS IS A BEAUTIFUL PLACE. WHAT ABOUT MAKING THE MOST OF IT, CHIBI-CHAN?

EH?



TSUKIKAGE-SENSEI WILL MOST LIKELY NOT CONTACT YOU ALL FOR QUITE A WHILE.



TSUKIKAGE-SENSEI IS CURRENTLY RESTING...

I PROMISED I'D CONTACT YOU IF SOMETHING HAPPENED

TO TSUKIKAGE-SENSEI SOME TIME AGO, DON'T YOU REMEMBER?



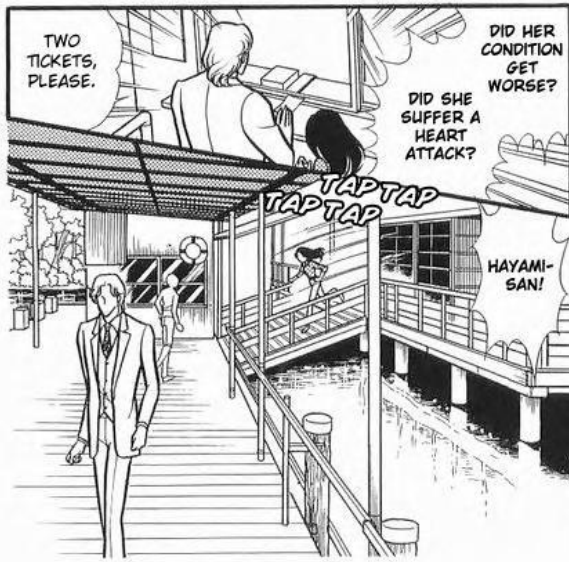
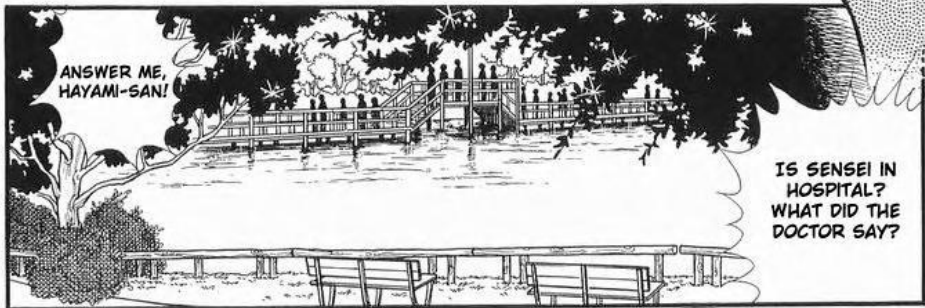
I'M GOOD AT ROWING.



I TOLD YOU ONCE.

I'M NOT A MACHINE.

I, TOO, LIKE BEING IN NATURE ONCE IN A WHILE.





COME  
HERE,  
HURRY!

COME  
ON.

AH!

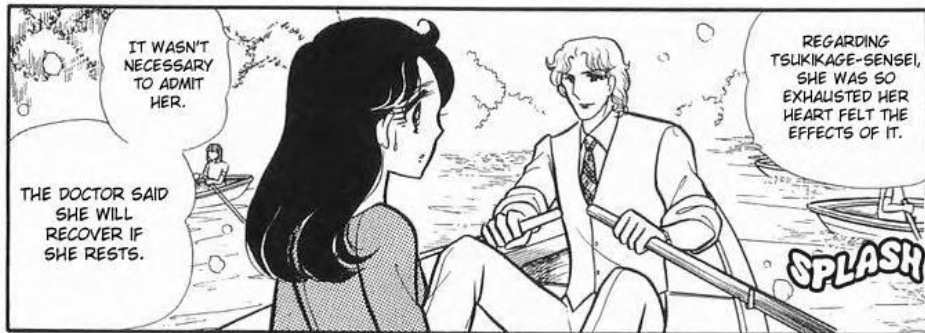
**SWAP**

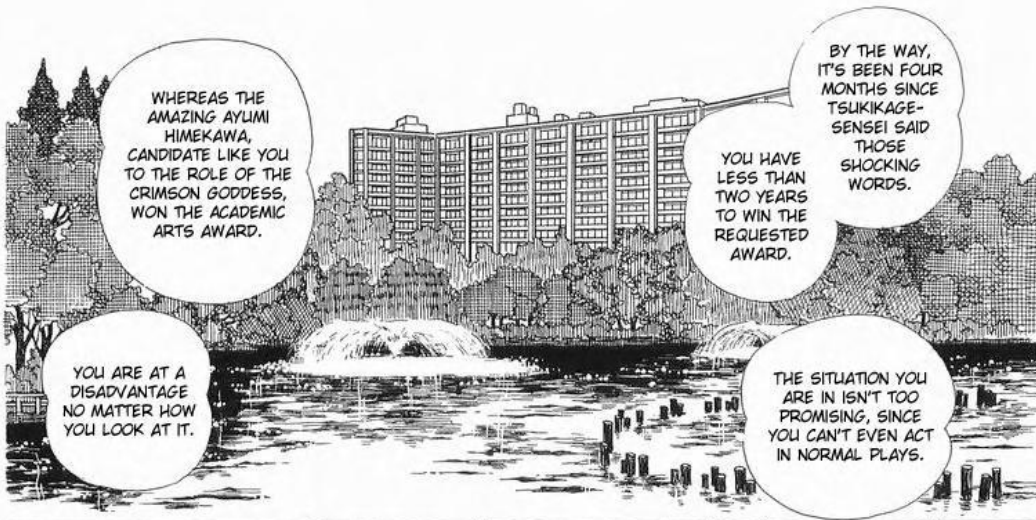
SO YOU  
ARE  
PLAYING  
HARD TO  
GET...

AAAAH!

**GRAB**







WHEREAS THE AMAZING AYUMI HIMEKAWA, CANDIDATE LIKE YOU TO THE ROLE OF THE CRIMSON GODDESS, WON THE ACADEMIC ARTS AWARD.

BY THE WAY, IT'S BEEN FOUR MONTHS SINCE TSUKIKAGE-SENSEI SAID THOSE SHOCKING WORDS.  
YOU HAVE LESS THAN TWO YEARS TO WIN THE REQUESTED AWARD.

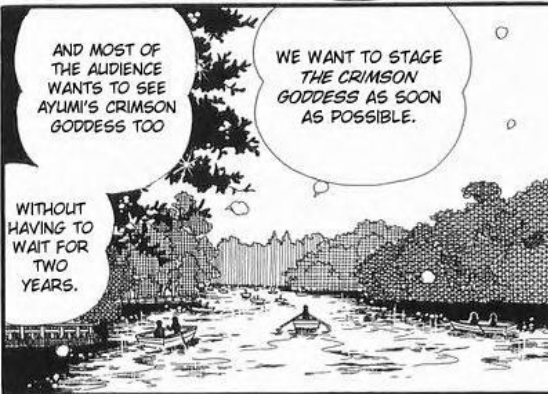
YOU ARE AT A DISADVANTAGE NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT.

THE SITUATION YOU ARE IN ISN'T TOO PROMISING, SINCE YOU CAN'T EVEN ACT IN NORMAL PLAYS.



I WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU FEEL..

**SPLASH**



AND MOST OF THE AUDIENCE WANTS TO SEE AYUMI'S CRIMSON GODDESS TOO

WE WANT TO STAGE THE CRIMSON GODDESS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

WITHOUT HAVING TO WAIT FOR TWO YEARS.

SO?



I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE UP ON IT.

EVEN IF EVERYONE IN THE WHOLE WORLD THINK THAT I AM NOT SUITABLE FOR THE ROLE OF THE CRIMSON GODDESS

HAYAMI-SAN.

I'LL FIGHT FOR THAT ROLE, EVEN IF ONLY ONE PERSON BELIEVES IN ME.



IF YOU GIVE UP, I'LL HELP YOU TO GET BACK TO THE ACTING WORLD.

I'M SURE THE CRIMSON GODDESS ISN'T EVERYTHING IN AN ACTRESS' LIFE.

IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WISH, THE MONEY WON'T BE A PROBLEM.

IF YOU THINK YOU CANNOT FULFILL YOUR GOAL

I WOULD LIKE YOU TO GIVE UP ON THE CRIMSON GODDESS.





AYUMI-SAN HAVE SAID THAT SHE WILL WAIT FOR TWO YEARS.



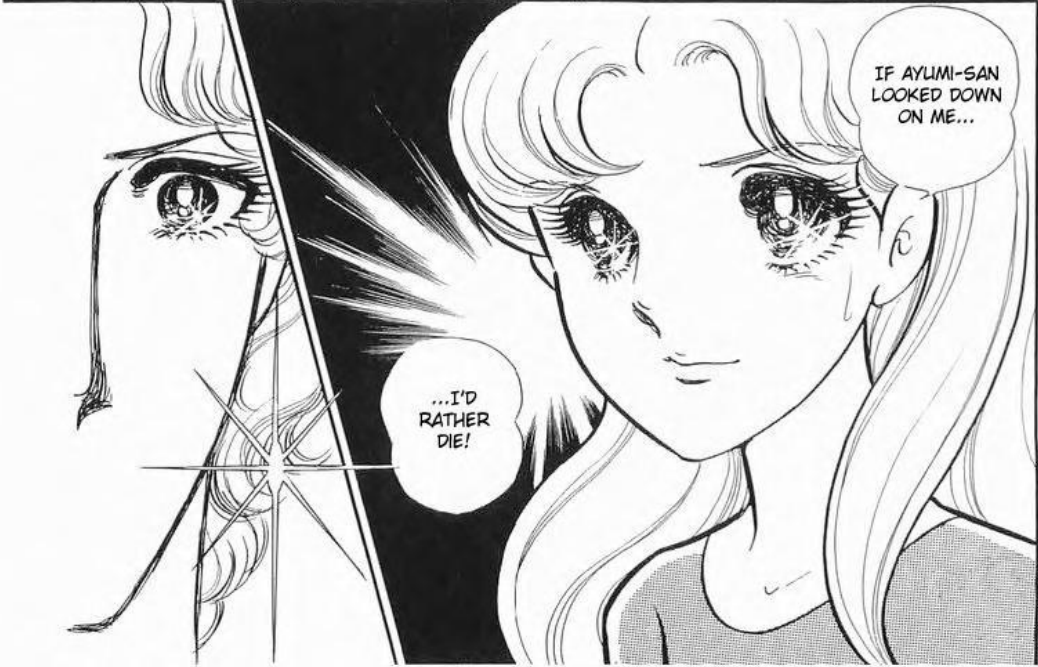
SHE SAID THOSE WORDS.

EVEN IF EVERYONE SAYS THAT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME  
JUST THAT PERSON, JUST HER, SHE SAID SHE WILL WAIT FOR ME.



SHE IS THE ONLY PERSON I DON'T WANT TO BE LOOKED DOWN BY, NO MATTER WHAT I ENCOUNTER!

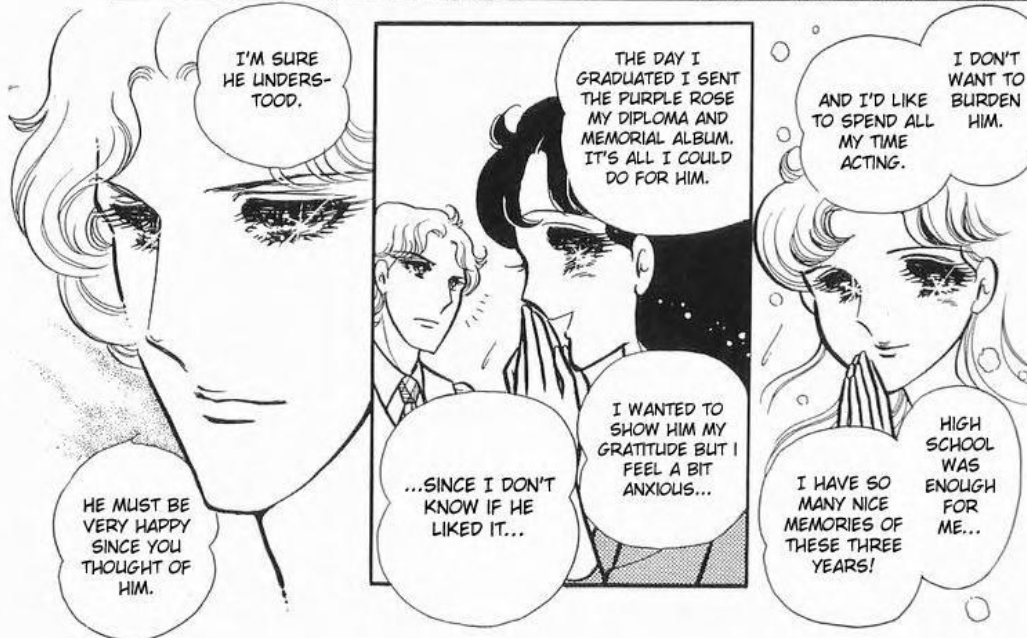
IF I GIVE UP NOW, AYUMI-SAN WILL DEFINITELY LOOK DOWN ON ME.



IF AYUMI-SAN LOOKED DOWN ON ME...

...I'D RATHER DIE!







HA HA HA

BECAUSE HE'D HAVE REPENTED FROM SENDING ME TO HIGH SCHOOL, SO I CHANGED MY MIND.

I WANTED TO SEND HIM MY REPORT TOO...

I HOPE SO.

WHY DIDN'T YOU DO IT?



HE MUST HAVE A GOOD REASON TO NOT REVEAL HIS TRUE IDENTITY, DON'T YOU THINK?

AND WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

SPLASH

MY DEAR UNKNOWN ADMIRER...



HU HU HU

IT'S NOTHING, SORRY!

WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING AT?



WHAT...WHAT IF THAT PERSON IS SOMEONE YOU ABSOLUTELY DISLIKE?

SOMEONE YOU HATE?

WHEN EVERYBODY ABANDONED ME...

HE WAS ALWAYS THERE, ENCOURAGING ME...

I HAVE A DREAM. WHEN THE TIME COMES FOR ME TO STAND ON A LARGE STAGE...

... I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE THE PURPLE ROSE...

THOUGH REVELMENT OF HIS IDENTITY IS NOT GRANTED TO ME, I STILL WOULD LIKE TO MEET HIM SOMEDAY.



...OFFERING HIM THE BEST SEAT!



EVEN IF HE'S A GANG'S BOSS OR AN OYABUN\* FROM THE YAKUZA!

EVEN IF THE WHOLE WORLD HATES THAT PERSON, I WILL LOVE HIM.



WHOEVER THAT PERSON IS, I'M SURE I WILL DEFINITELY LIKE HIM!

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

I'M SURE, I'LL LIKE HIM A LOT!

\*TERM TRADITIONALLY USED BY YAKUZA MEMBERS TO DESCRIBE THEIR BOSS OR GODFATHER.



THEN ...

EVEN IF THAT PERSON WERE...



IF HE WASN'T HE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO KIND TO ME.

HE'S A GOOD PERSON! I'M SURE THE PURPLE ROSE IS A GOOD PERSON!



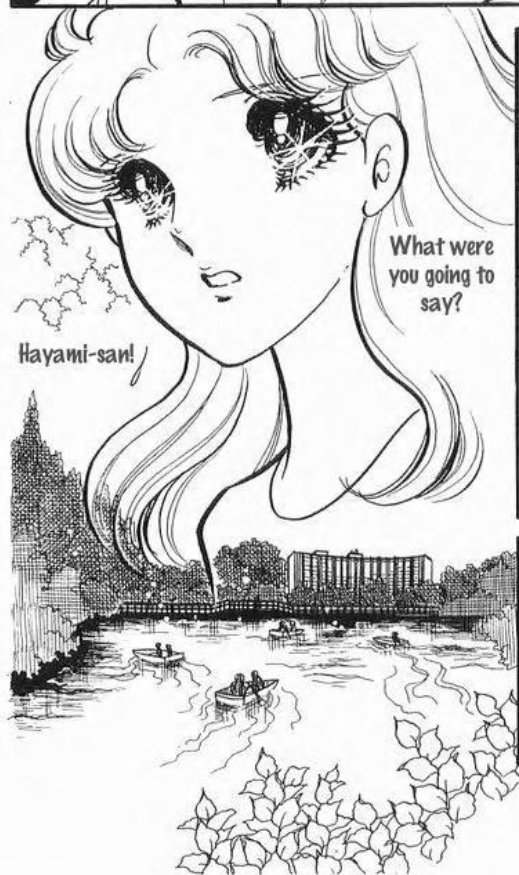
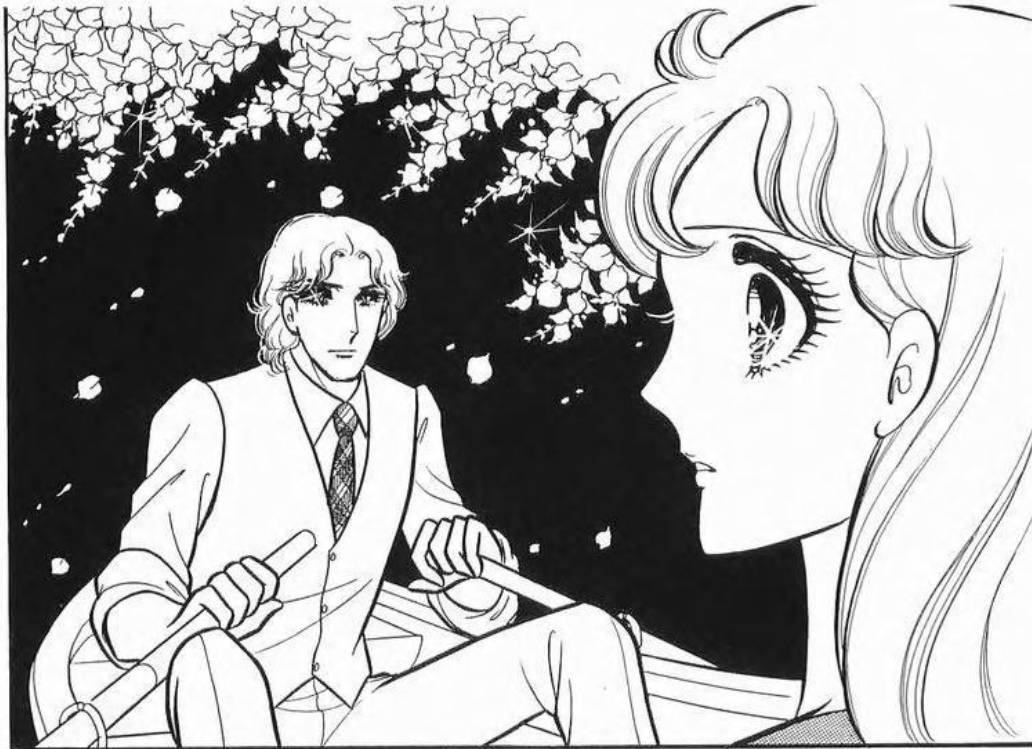
HE'S A GOOD PERSON ...



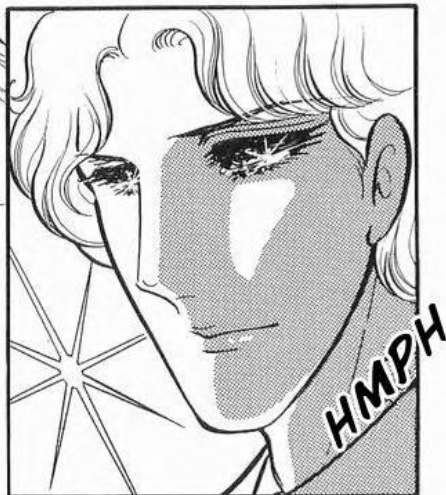
EH?

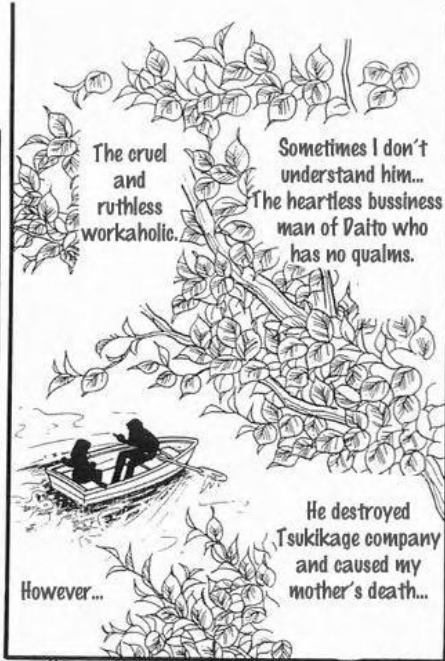


IF HE WERE...



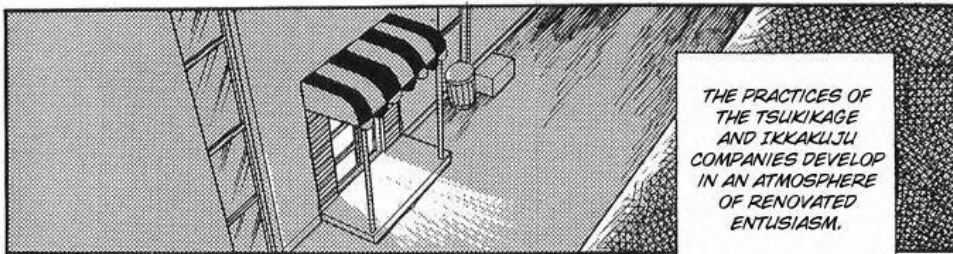
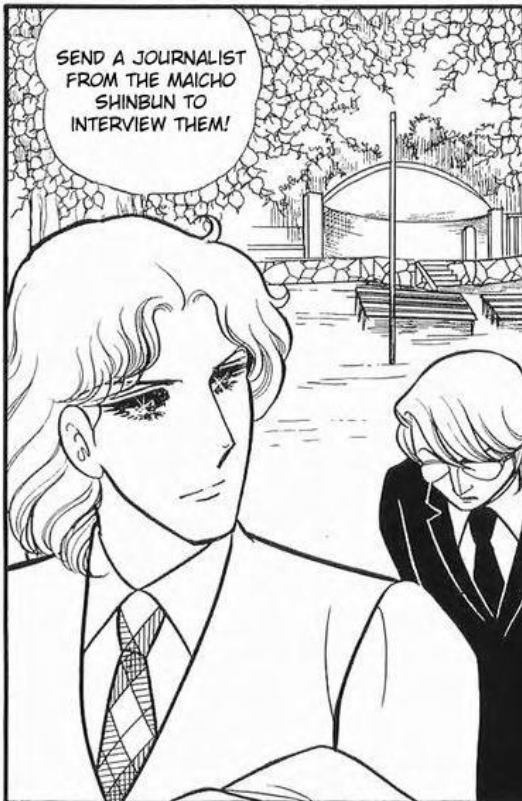
What were you going to say?





The sun is dazzling!





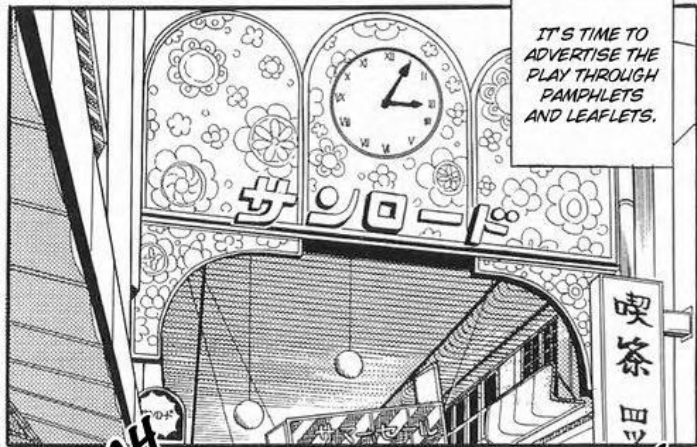




IT'LL BE A GREAT SHOW!

**YEAH!**

OK! LET'S SHOW THEM WHAT WE'RE MADE OF!



IT'S TIME TO ADVERTISE THE PLAY THROUGH PAMPHLETS AND LEAFLETS.

**BLAH**



THEY DIVIDE IN GROUPS AND START TO ADVERTISE THE PLAY AROUND THE PARK.

**BLAH BLAH**



HAVE WE MADE A MISTAKE?  
IT SEEMS SOME OF THEM HAD THE SAME IDEA.

WE ARE DOING A SPECIAL REOPENING DISCOUNT!

WHAT A LOT OF PEOPLE.

白泉

FRUSH



A BLEND OF PASSION, ACTION AND FEELINGS!  
"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM!"

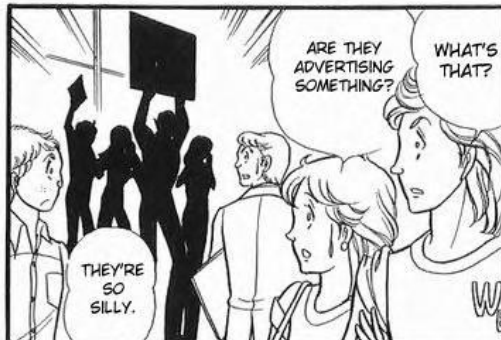
真夏の夜の夢  
おもしろい  
おもしろい

INOGASHIRO PARK'S OUTDOOR THEATRE WILL BE DOING A CHARITY PERFORMANCE!

PLEASE COME AND HAVE A LOOK!



WE'LL PUT OURSELVES HERE.



ARE THEY ADVERTISING SOMETHING?

WHAT'S THAT?

THEY'RE SO SILLY.

YES!



WHAT WAS THAT?

THROW

GRRR

BAH, SOMETHING ABOUT A PLAY.

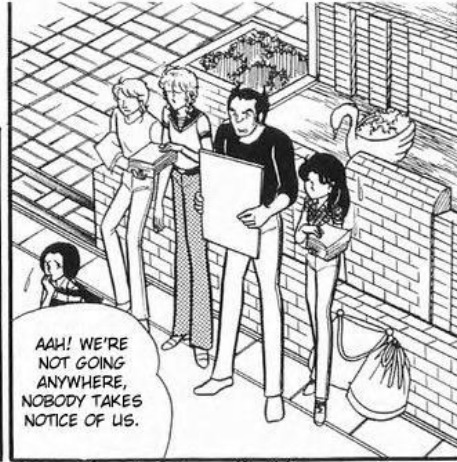


BLENK



PLEASE!

FUP





STREET PERFORMERS...

STREET PERFORMERS!  
YOU JUST SAID "STREET PERFORMERS", DID YOU NOT?

STREET PERFORMERS!

YES, WHY?



MAYA!

YOU HAVE A RED SCARF, DON'T YOU?

GIVE IT TO ME!

**FLIP**

MAYA!

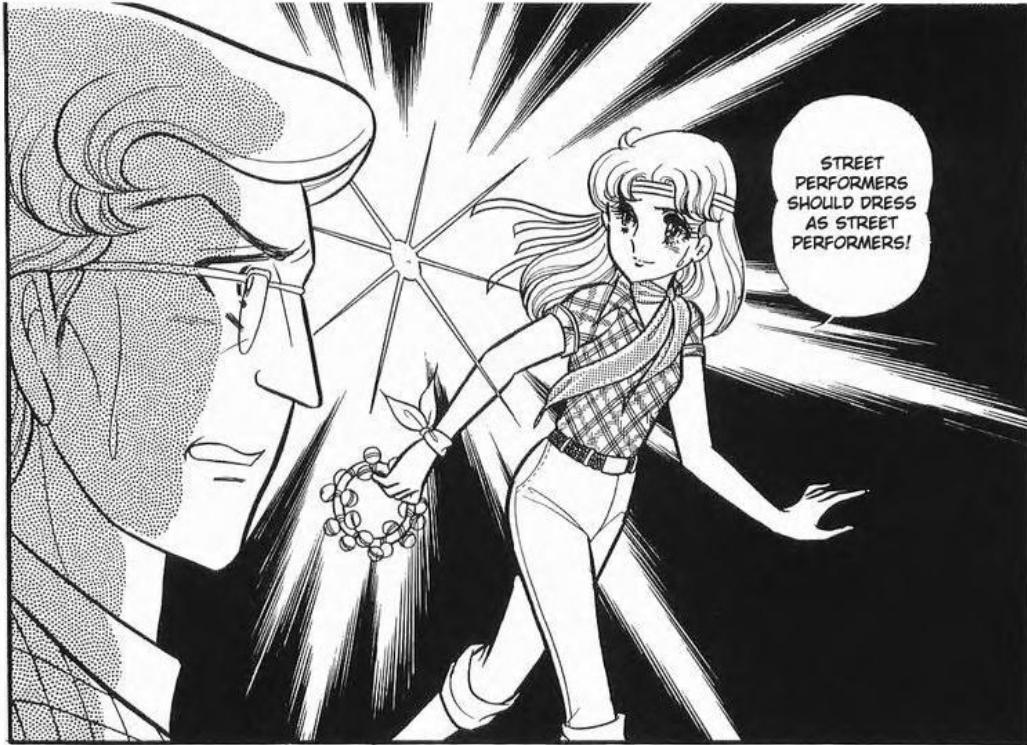
GIVE ME THE TAMBOURINE WE USE IN THE PLAY TOO!

**STHUMP**

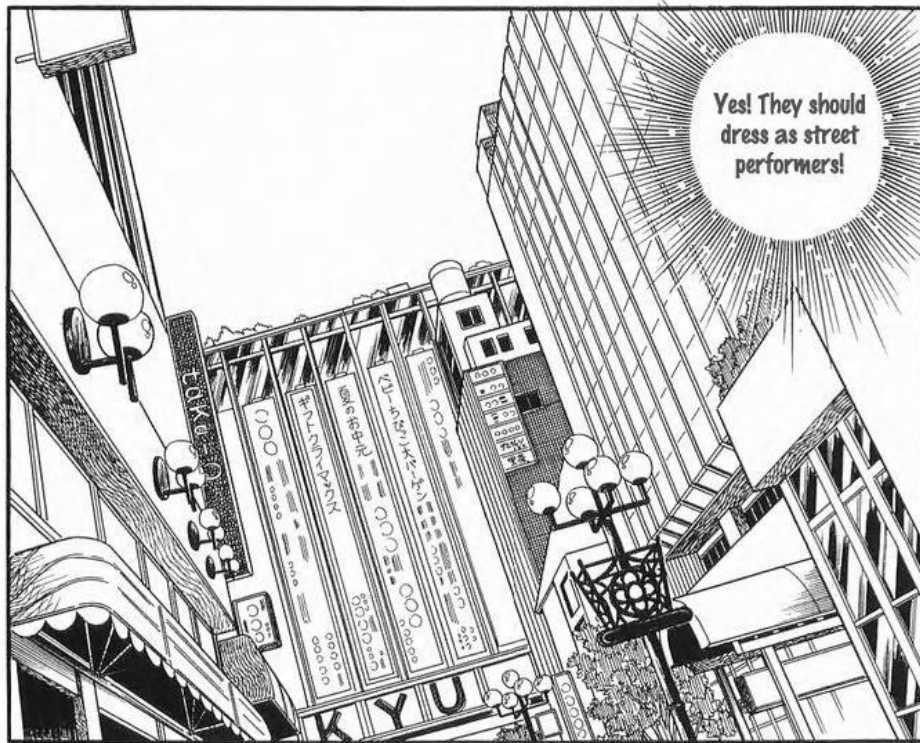
TAKE THE STRING OF MY BAG, HURRY UP!

MAYA! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!





STREET PERFORMERS SHOULD DRESS AS STREET PERFORMERS!



Yes! They should dress as street performers!

