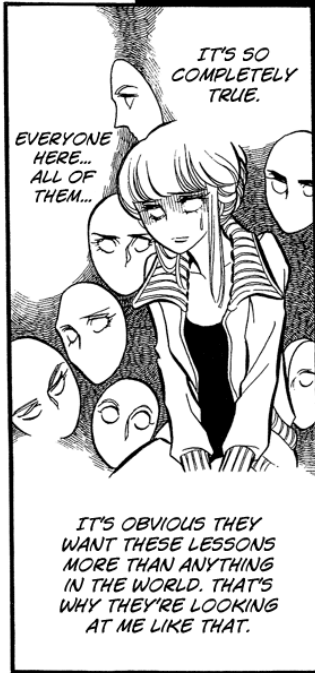


SFX: Boku (felt)





EVERYONE  
HERE...  
ALL OF  
THEM...

IT'S SO  
COMPLETELY  
TRUE.

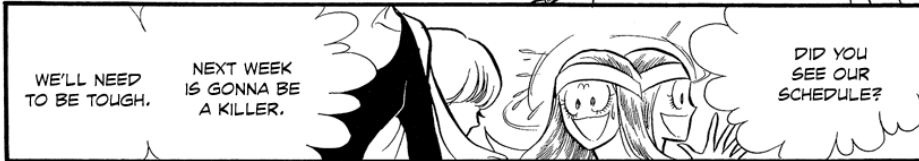
IT'S OBVIOUS THEY  
WANT THESE LESSONS  
MORE THAN ANYTHING  
IN THE WORLD. THAT'S  
WHY THEY'RE LOOKING  
AT ME LIKE THAT.



WHAT CAN  
I SAY?



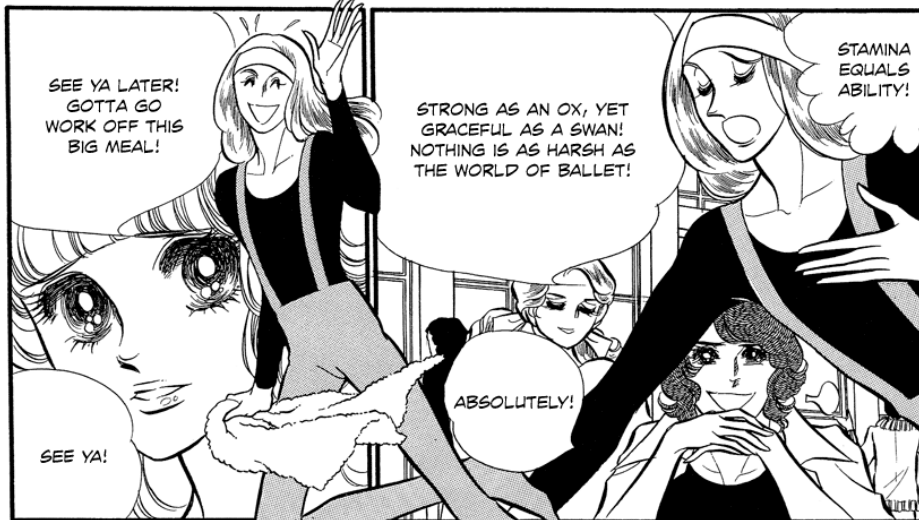
...!



WE'LL NEED  
TO BE TOUGH.

NEXT WEEK  
IS GONNA BE  
A KILLER.

DID YOU  
SEE OUR  
SCHEDULE??



SEE YA LATER!  
GOTTA GO  
WORK OFF THIS  
BIG MEAL!

STRONG AS AN OX, YET  
GRACEFUL AS A SWAN!  
NOTHING IS AS HARSH AS  
THE WORLD OF BALLET!

STAMINA  
EQUALS  
ABILITY!

ABSOLUTELY!

SEE YA!





C'MON! HURRY UP AND EAT. WE GOTTA GO.

NO ONE WANTS TO REST FOR EVEN A MINUTE.

OKAY.

I'LL TRY TO ABSORB EVERYTHING THEY TEACH ME!

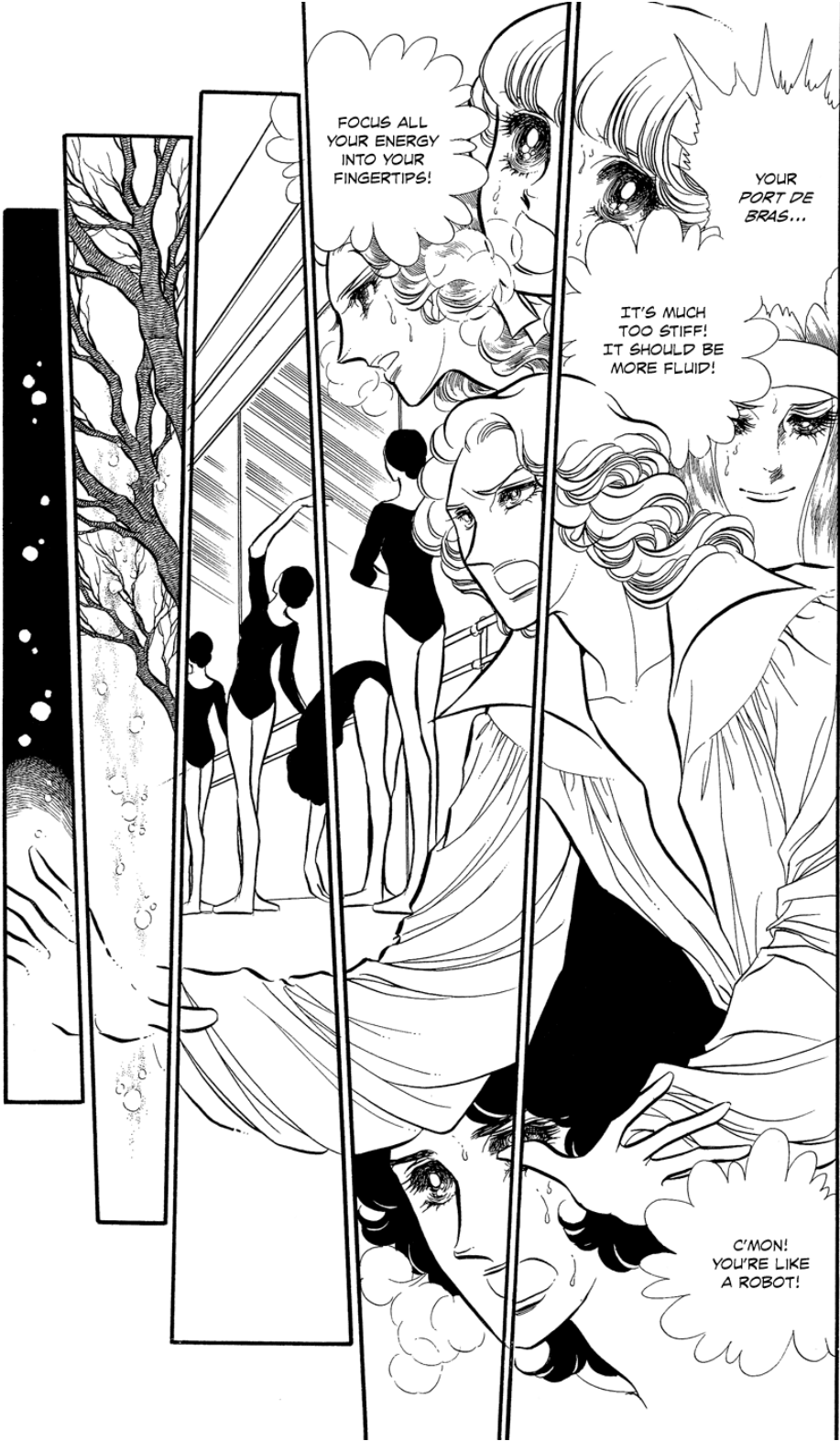
IN JUST SIX MONTHS' TIME.

EVERYONE HERE IS TOP-NOTCH.

I'LL NEVER CATCH UP.

SIX MONTHS WILL FLY BY.

BUT AT LEAST...

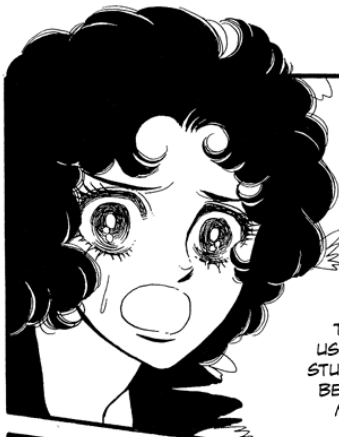


FOCUS ALL  
YOUR ENERGY  
INTO YOUR  
FINGERTIPS!

YOUR  
PORT DE  
BRAS...

IT'S MUCH  
TOO STIFF!  
IT SHOULD BE  
MORE FLUID!

C'MON!  
YOU'RE LIKE  
A ROBOT!



THEY POSTED AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE BULLETIN BOARD!

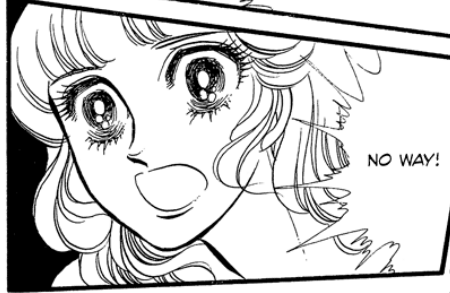
THREE OF US JAPANESE STUDENTS WILL BE GOING TO MOSCOW!

SFX: Ban (Bam)

MASUMI, WAKE UP! BIG NEWS!



Hm?



NO WAY!

Japan Ballet Association  
Special Spring Performance in Moscow

Scheduled Performances:  
**Sleeping Beauty**

(Three scholarship students currently receiving private lessons will be chosen to perform!)

GOOD HEAVENS!



THREE STUDENTS...



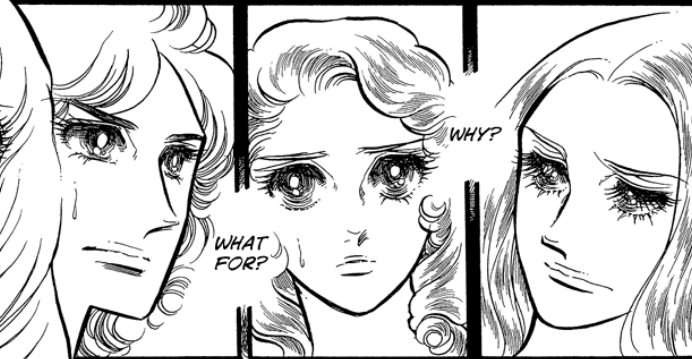
THEY'RE CASTING THREE OF US?

SFX: Gayu gayu, wai wai (Chitter chatter)



THE AGENCY FOR CULTURAL AFFAIRS IS DOING IT IN RETURN FOR THE BOLSHOI COMING TO JAPAN.

WHY USE STUDENTS WHO HAVEN'T EVEN DEBUTED FOR SUCH A CRITICAL EVENT?



WHAT FOR?

WHY?

Japan Ballet Association  
Moscow Special Spring  
Performance Program

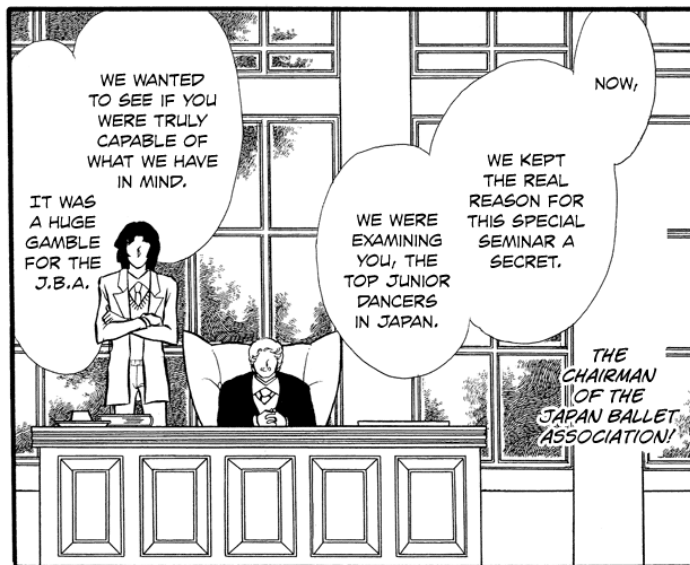
IS A  
GOODWILL  
EVENT  
BETWEEN  
JAPAN AND  
THE SOVIET  
UNION.

THE MOSCOW  
SPECIAL SPRING  
PERFORMANCE...



BUT WHAT COULD  
IT POSSIBLY BE?

SOMETHING'S UP!



AS YOU KNOW, BALLE  
T HAS A TRADITION  
HUNDREDS OF  
YEARS OLD,  
BUT IT IS STILL  
NEW TO JAPAN.

THE FIRST  
NATIONAL BALLE  
T SCHOOL!

THIS IS OUR  
PLAN...  
TO CREATE,  
HERE IN  
JAPAN...

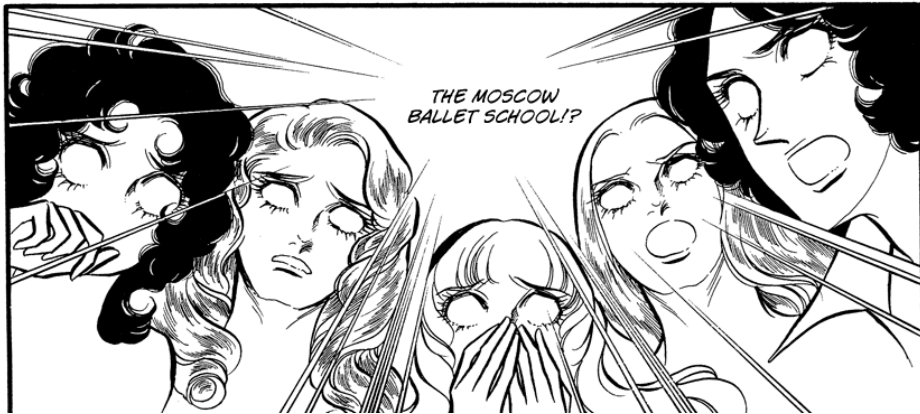
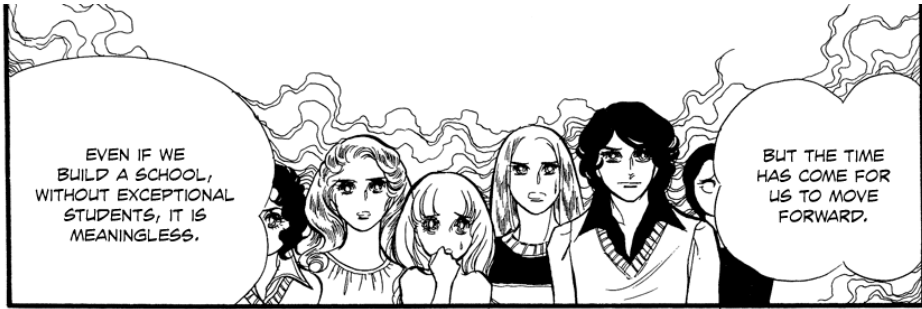
A NATIONAL  
BALLE  
T SCHOOL!?

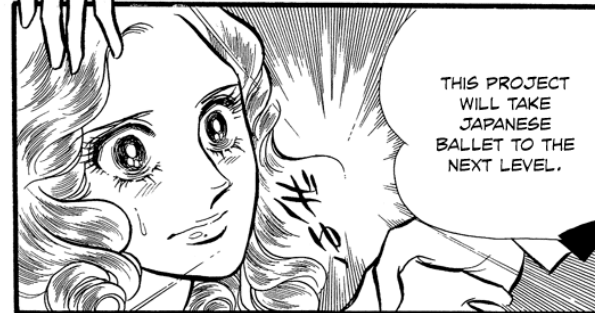
WITHOUT  
THE PUBLIC'S  
SUPPORT...

THE CREATION  
OF A NATIONAL  
SCHOOL WAS  
DIFFICULT.

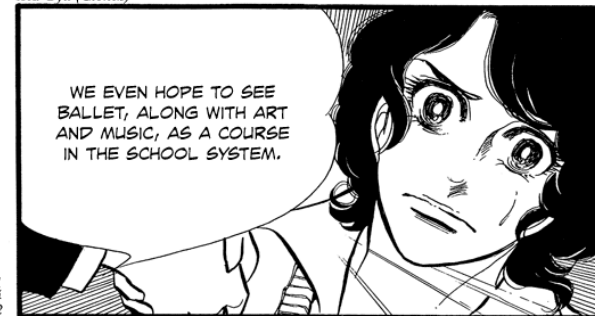
MANY HAVE DREAMED  
OF THIS SINCE THE  
SEEDS OF BALLE  
T WERE  
FIRST PLANTED IN OUR  
COUNTRY IN 1912.

AND NOW THIS  
DREAM OF A NATIONAL  
BALLE  
T SCHOOL IS  
BECOMING A REALITY!





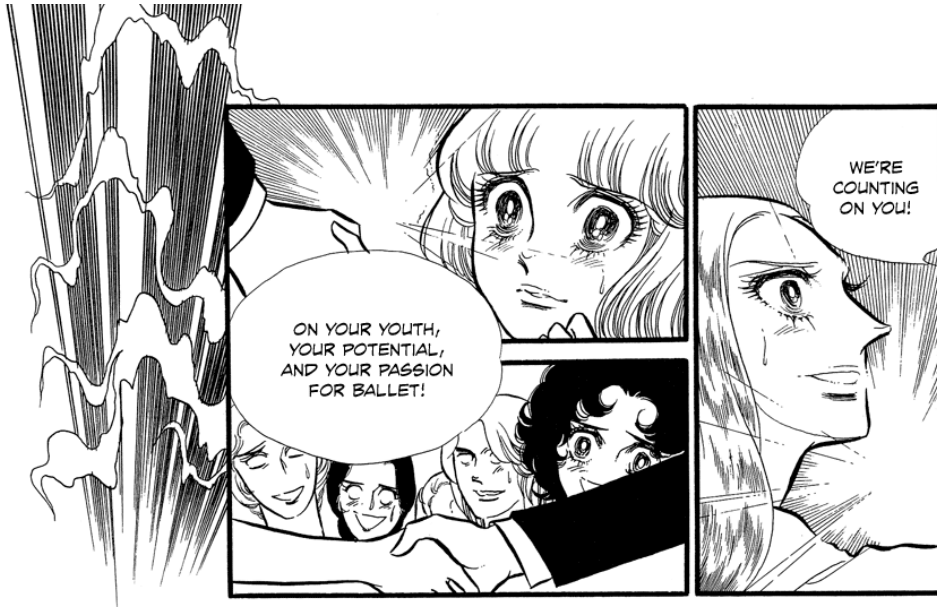
SEX: Gyu (Clench)



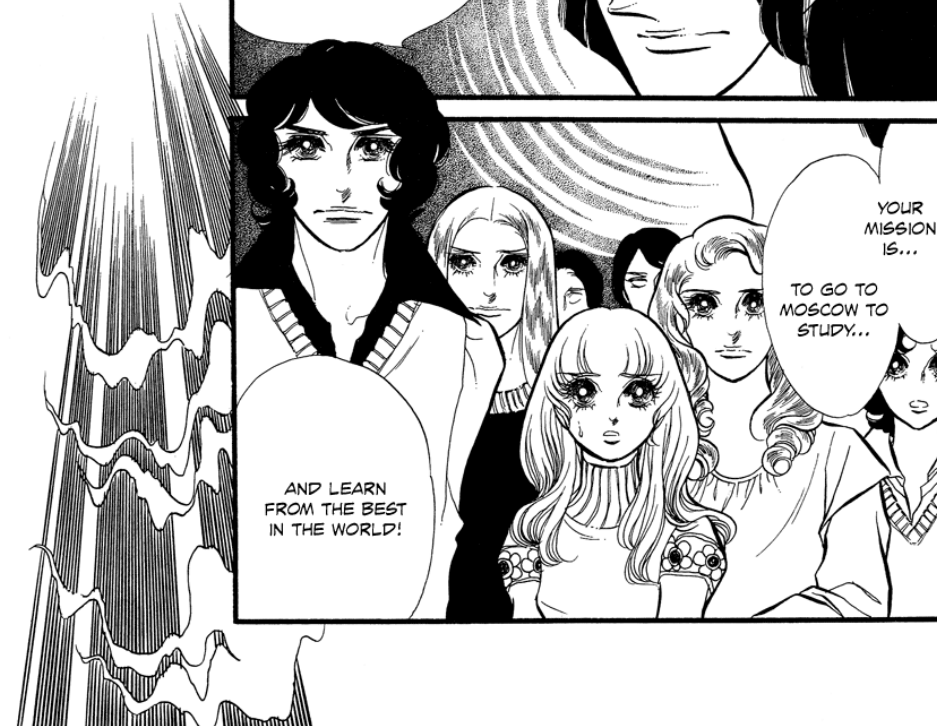
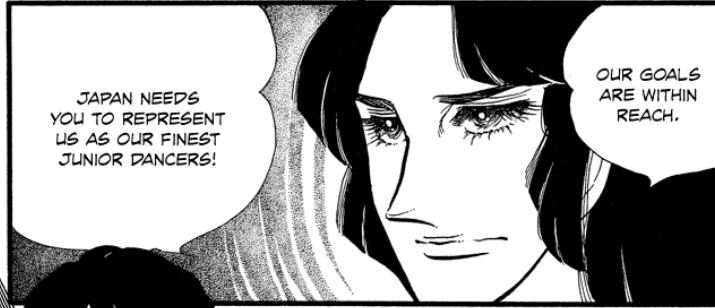
142

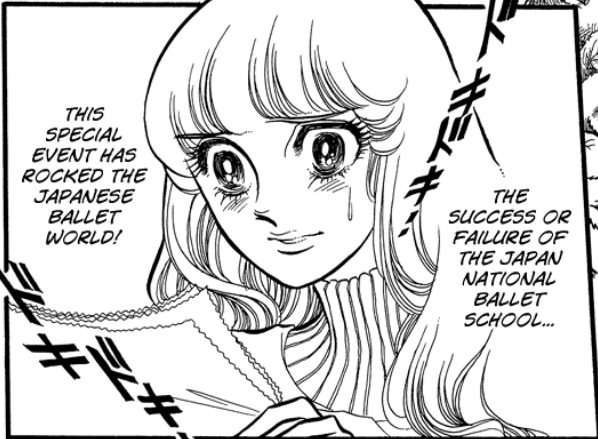






*YOUR GOAL IS THE  
WORLD STAGE!*

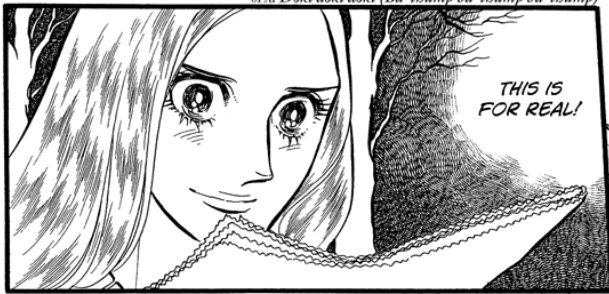




THIS SPECIAL EVENT HAS ROCKED THE JAPANESE BALLET WORLD!

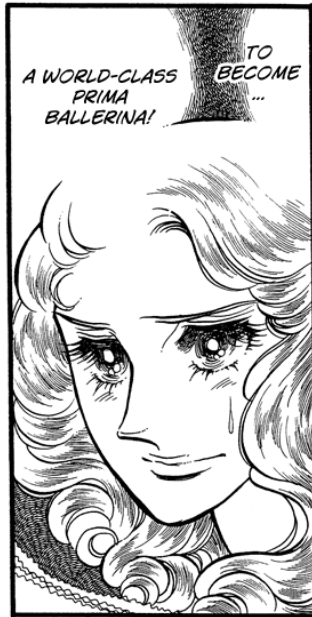
THE SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF THE JAPAN NATIONAL BALLET SCHOOL...

SFX: Doki doki doki (Ba-thump ba-thump ba-thump)



THIS IS FOR REAL!

The First National Ballet School in Japan!



A WORLD-CLASS PRIMA BALLERINA!

TO BECOME ...

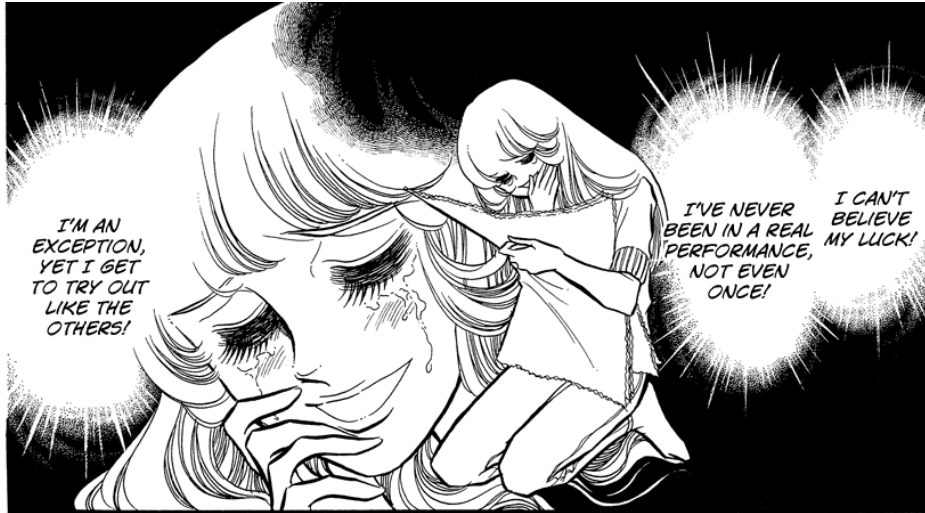


THIS IS THE KIND OF CHANCE I'VE WAITED MY WHOLE LIFE FOR!

Making Ballet History!

FROM THE NINE SPECIAL STUDENTS HERE IN THE SEMINAR...

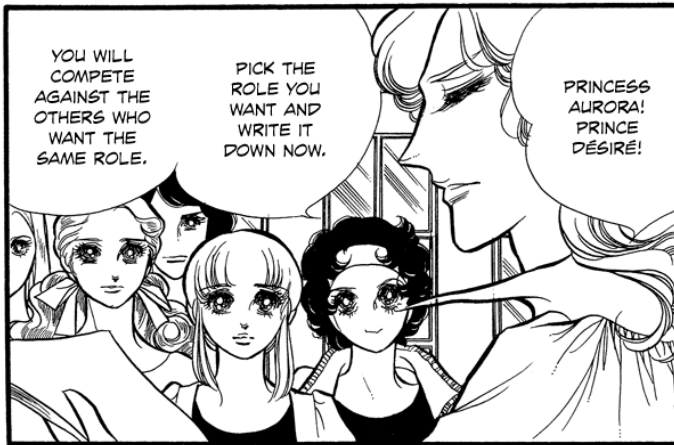
WHICH THREE STUDENTS WILL BE IN THE MOSCOW PERFORMANCE!?



I'M AN EXCEPTION, YET I GET TO TRY OUT LIKE THE OTHERS!

I'VE NEVER BEEN IN A REAL PERFORMANCE, NOT EVEN ONCE!

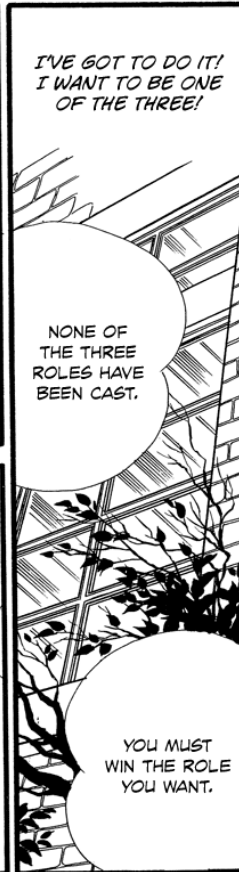
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY LUCK!



YOU WILL COMPETE AGAINST THE OTHERS WHO WANT THE SAME ROLE.

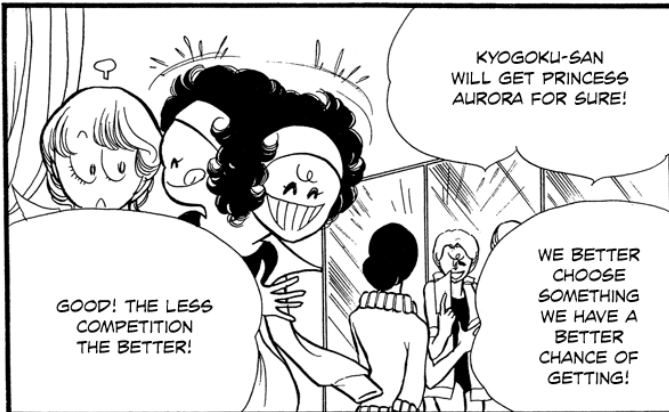
PICK THE ROLE YOU WANT AND WRITE IT DOWN NOW.

PRINCESS AURORA!  
PRINCE DÉSIRE!



I'VE GOT TO DO IT!  
I WANT TO BE ONE OF THE THREE!

NONE OF THE THREE ROLES HAVE BEEN CAST.

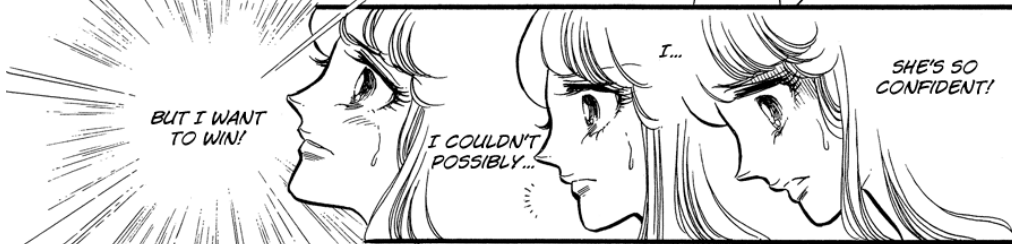
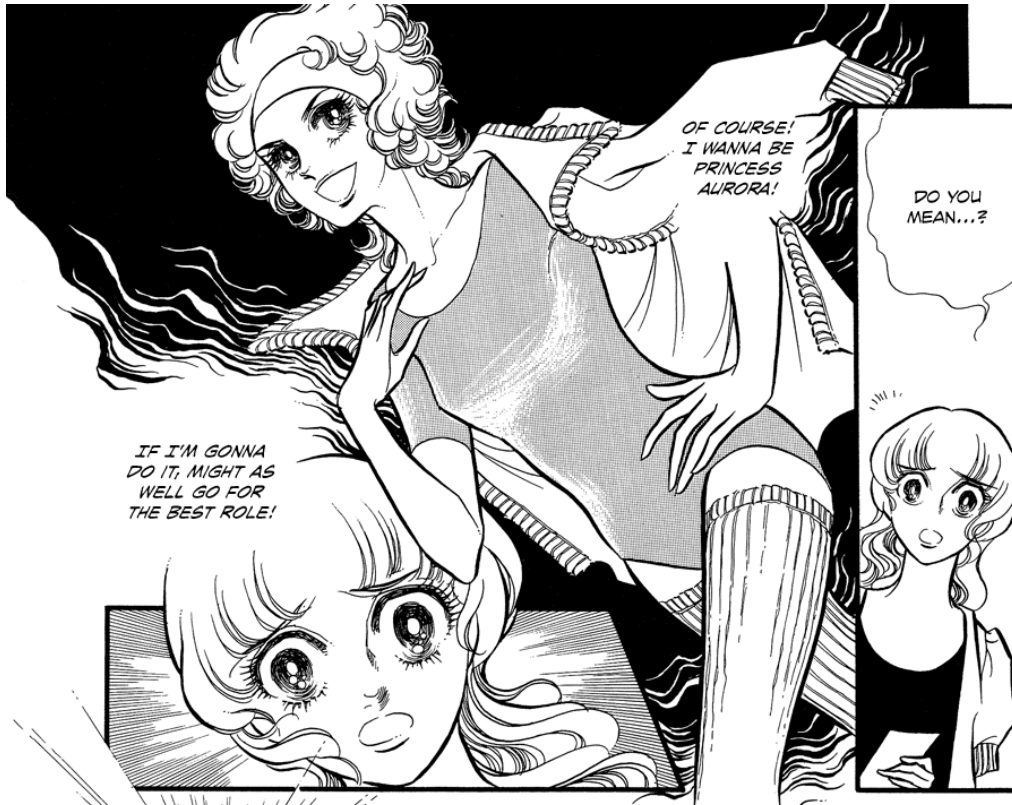


KYOGOKU-SAN WILL GET PRINCESS AURORA FOR SURE!

GOOD! THE LESS COMPETITION THE BETTER!

WE BETTER CHOOSE SOMETHING WE HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF GETTING!

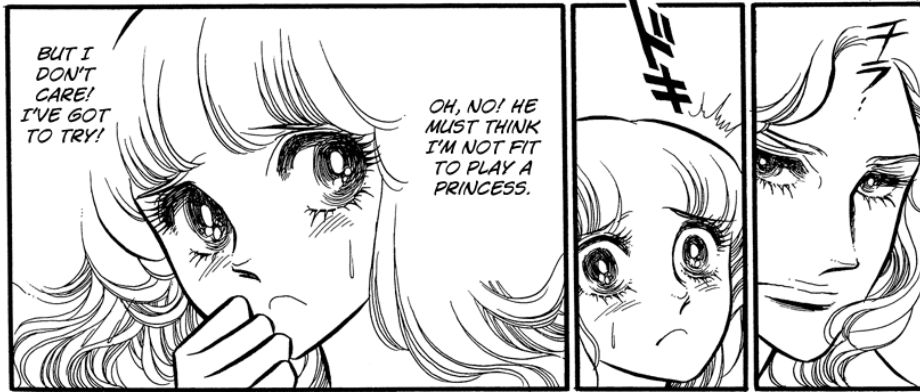
YOU MUST WIN THE ROLE YOU WANT.



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sfx: Para (Flip)

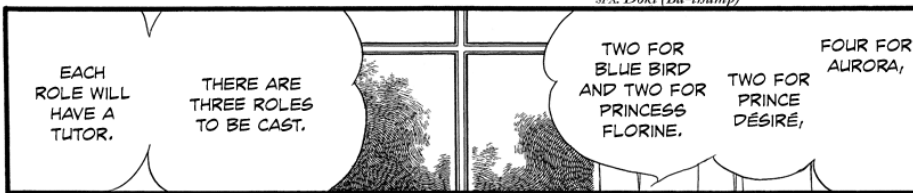
sfx: Sara sara (Scratch scratch)



BUT I DON'T CARE! I'VE GOT TO TRY!

OH, NO! HE MUST THINK I'M NOT FIT TO PLAY A PRINCESS.

SFX: Doki (Ba-thump)

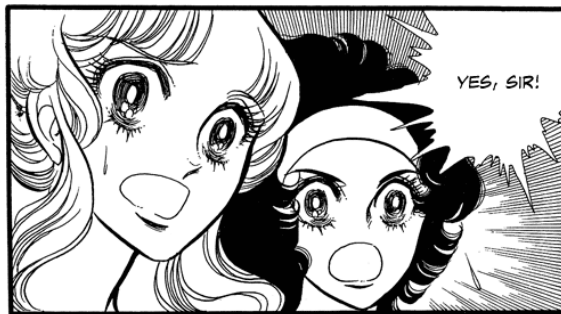


EACH ROLE WILL HAVE A TUTOR.

THERE ARE THREE ROLES TO BE CAST.

TWO FOR BLUE BIRD AND TWO FOR PRINCESS FLORINE.

FOUR FOR AURORA, TWO FOR PRINCE DESIRÉ,

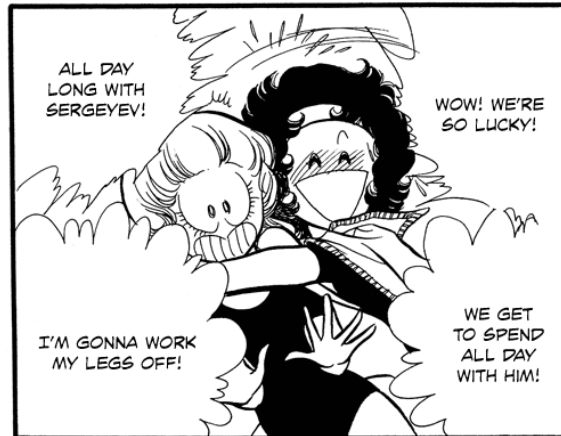


YES, SIR!



I'LL BE YOUR TUTOR!

ASAGI AND HIJIRI!



ALL DAY LONG WITH SERGEYEV!

WOW! WE'RE SO LUCKY!

I'M GONNA WORK MY LEGS OFF!

WE GET TO SPEND ALL DAY WITH HIM!

IF YOU HAVE ANY INTENTION OF GETTING CAST, YOU MUST KEEP UP WITH ME!

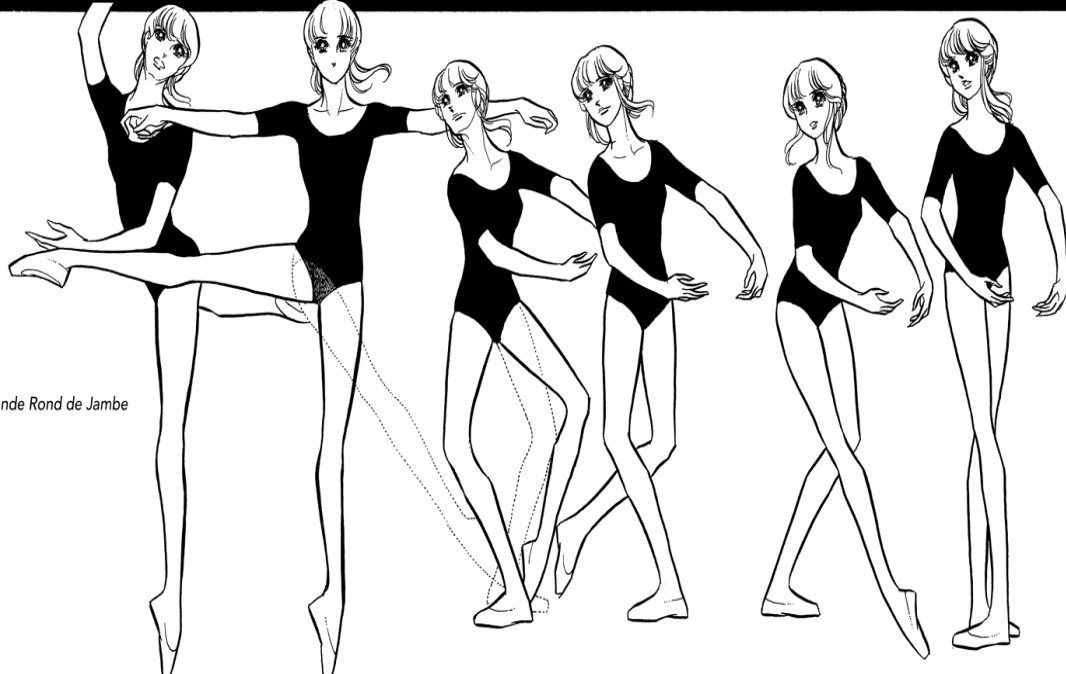
I DON'T WASTE MY TIME BABYING THE WEAK.



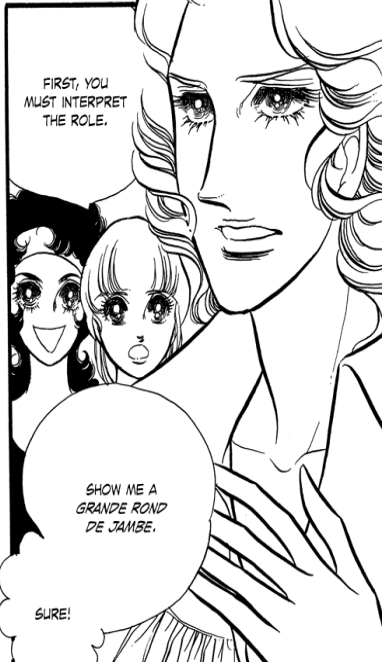
Princess Aurora is cursed by a wicked fairy, Carabosse, and falls into a deep sleep, but she is awakened with a kiss from Prince Désiré.

The *Sleeping Beauty* is a three-act ballet created in 1890 based on the story by Charles Perrault. First performed in St. Petersburg, Russia, the music was written by Tchaikovsky.

The wedding scene of Act III is filled with many magnificent pas de deux, such as the Blue Bird, Red Riding Hood and the Wolf, and Cinderella and Her Prince.



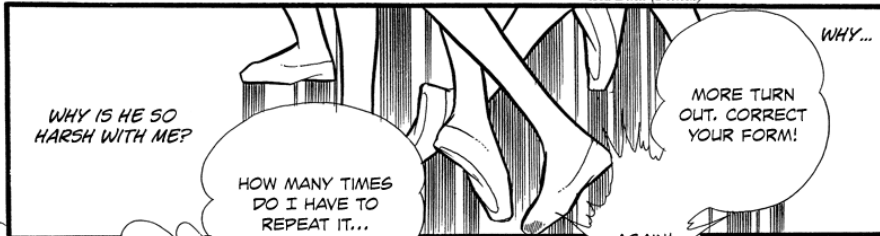
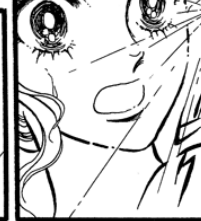
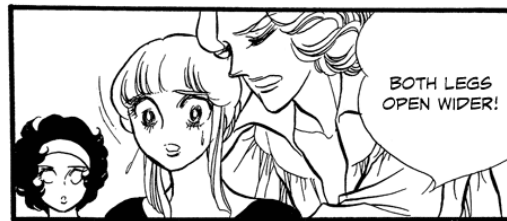
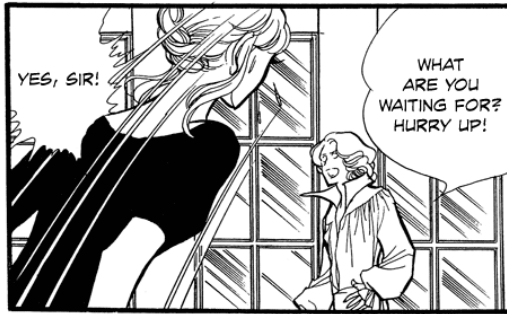
Grande Rond de Jambe

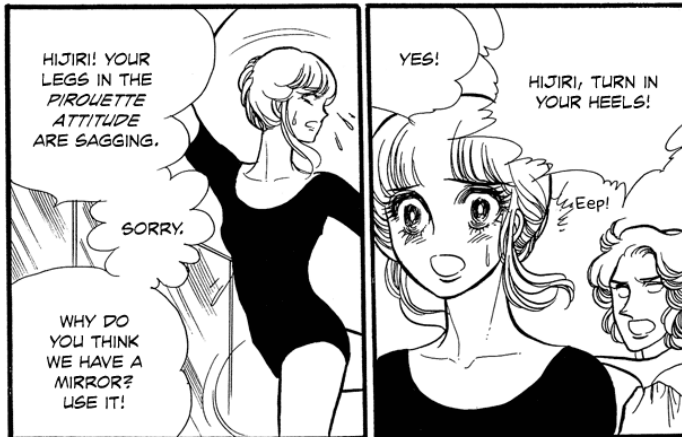
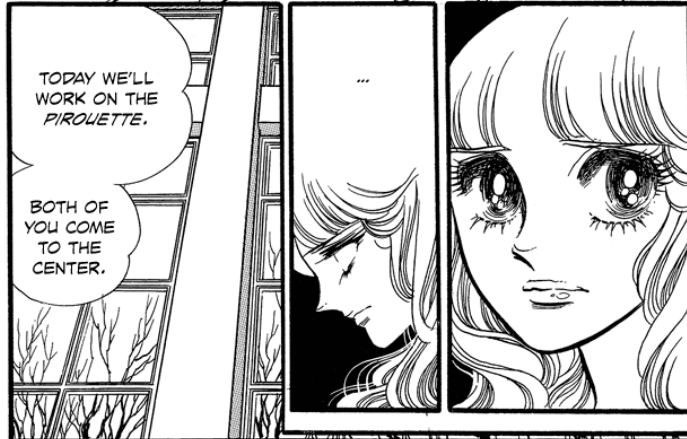


FIRST, YOU MUST INTERPRET THE ROLE.

SHOW ME A GRANDE ROND DE JAMBE.

SURE!





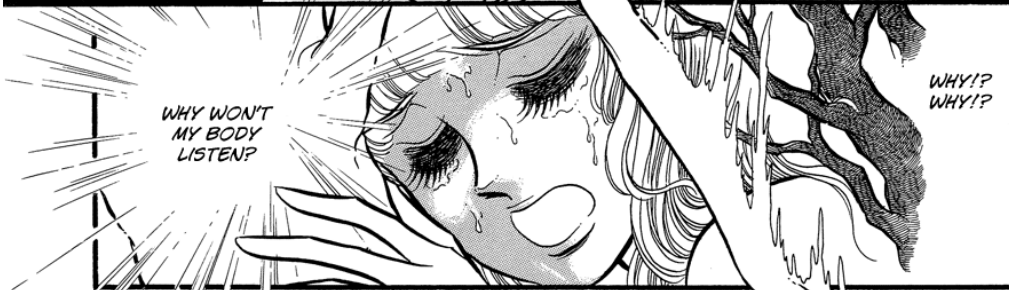




BUT MY BODY WON'T COOPERATE...

MY HEAD KNOWS WHAT TO DO...

WHY CAN'T I MAKE MY BODY DO WHAT HE'S SAYING?



WHY WON'T MY BODY LISTEN?

WHY!? WHY!?



HUFF... HUFF... HUFF...

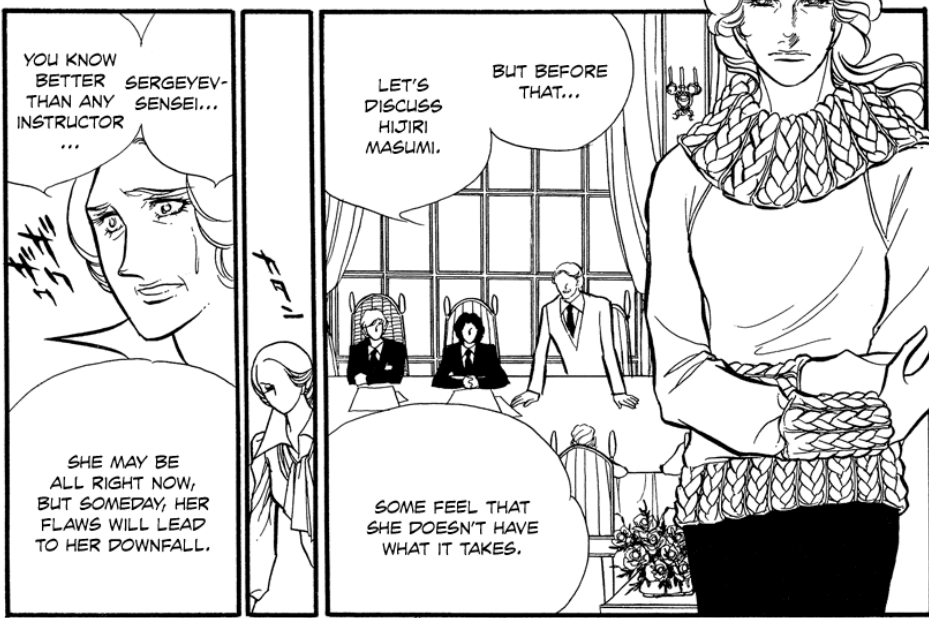


STILL TRAINING? THIS LATE?

WE'LL HEAR PROGRESS REPORTS FROM EACH OF THE INSTRUCTORS.

Meeting in Progress  
Authorized Personnel Only

TODAY...



YOU KNOW BETTER SERGEYEV-THAN ANY SENSEI... INSTRUCTOR ...

SHE MAY BE ALL RIGHT NOW, BUT SOMEDAY, HER FLAWS WILL LEAD TO HER DOWNFALL.

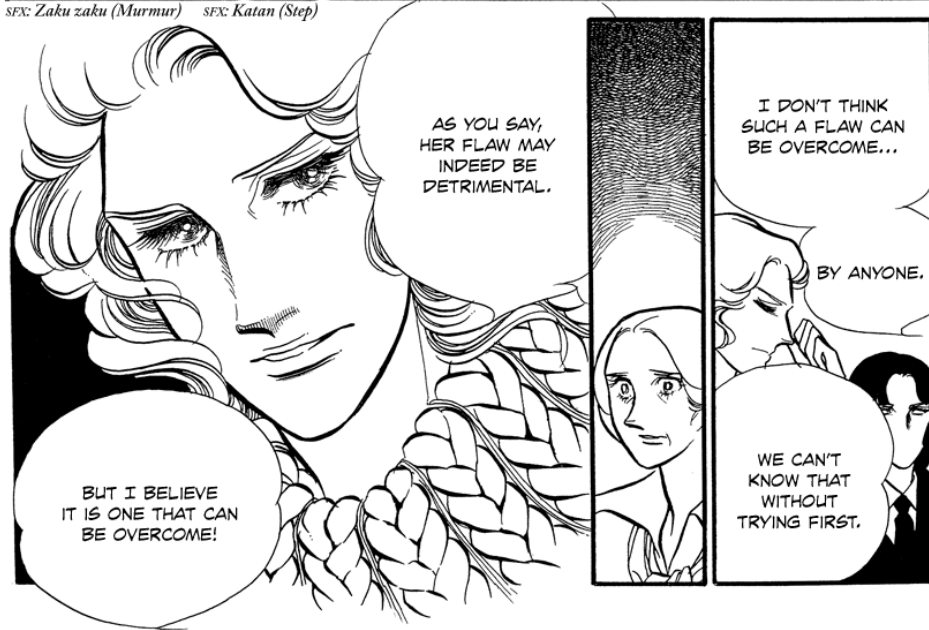
LET'S DISCUSS HIJIRI MASUMI.

BUT BEFORE THAT...

SOME FEEL THAT SHE DOESN'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES.

I DON'T THINK SUCH A FLAW CAN BE OVERCOME... BY ANYONE.

WE CAN'T KNOW THAT WITHOUT TRYING FIRST.



AS YOU SAY, HER FLAW MAY INDEED BE DETRIMENTAL.

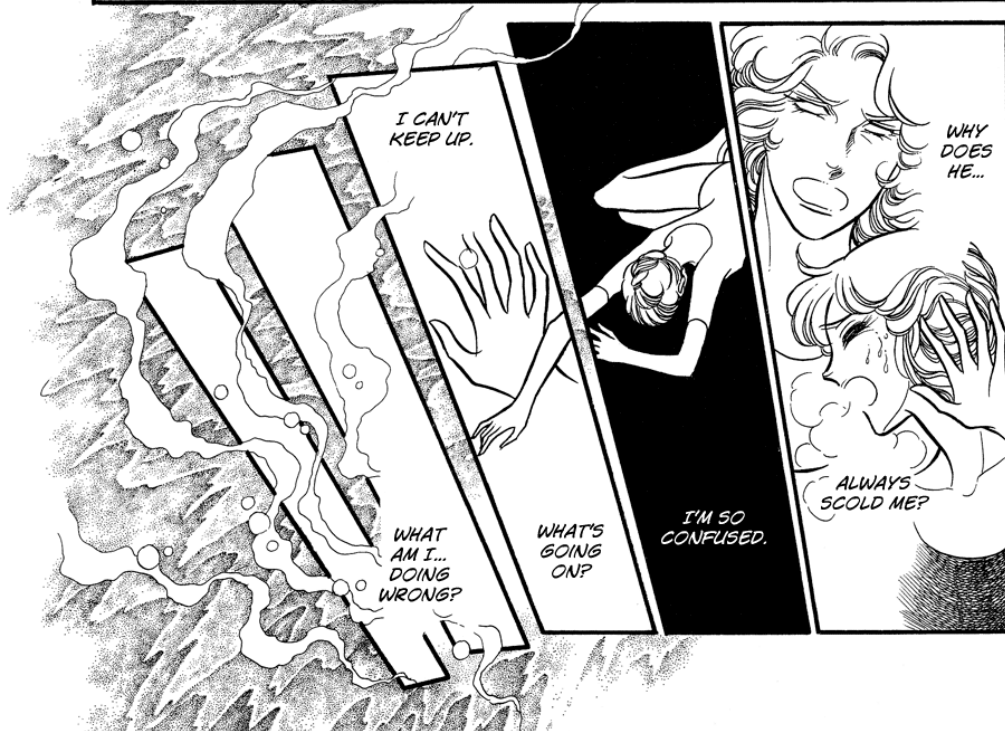
BUT I BELIEVE IT IS ONE THAT CAN BE OVERCOME!

I DON'T THINK SUCH A FLAW CAN BE OVERCOME... BY ANYONE.

WE CAN'T KNOW THAT WITHOUT TRYING FIRST.

I DON'T THINK SUCH A FLAW CAN BE OVERCOME... BY ANYONE.

WE CAN'T KNOW THAT WITHOUT TRYING FIRST.



BUT THEY'RE STILL GETTING CORRECTED ON THE SAME PLACE!

NEXT WEEK THEY COMPETE TO SEE WHO GETS THE PART.

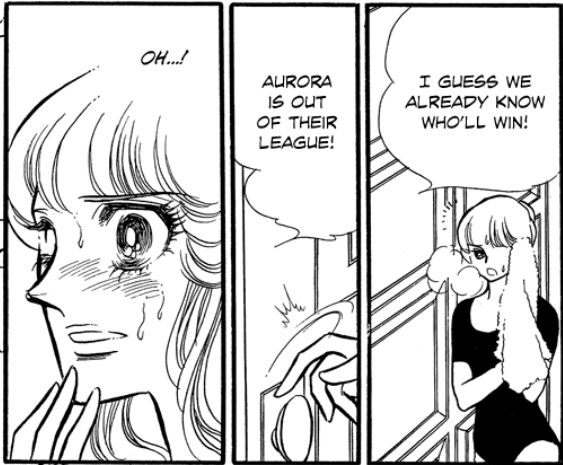
THOSE TWO ARE STILL AT IT.



OH...!

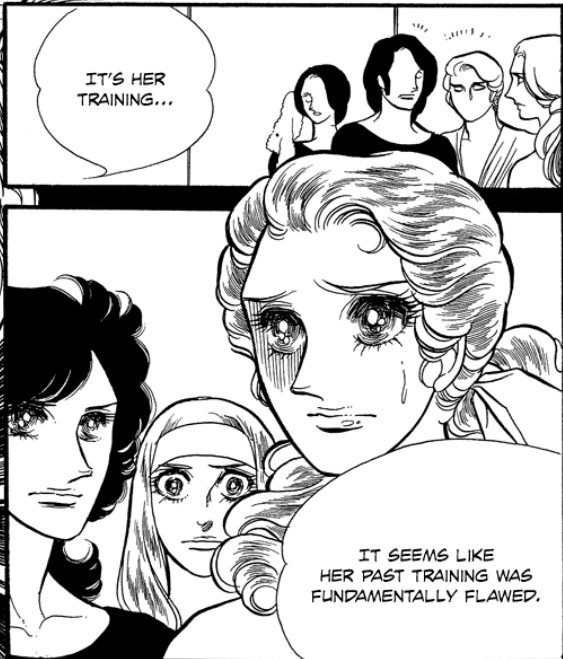
AURORA IS OUT OF THEIR LEAGUE!

I GUESS WE ALREADY KNOW WHO'LL WIN!



IT'S HER TRAINING...

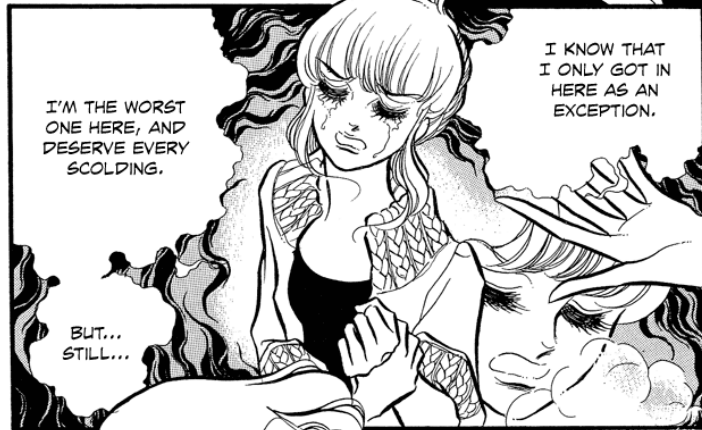
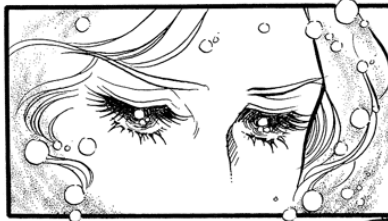
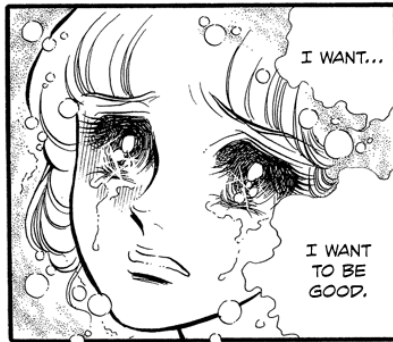
IT SEEMS LIKE HER PAST TRAINING WAS FUNDAMENTALLY FLAWED.

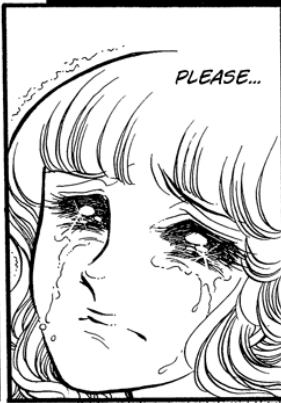
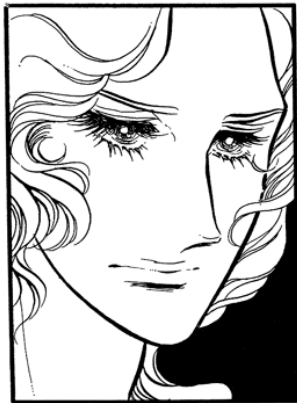




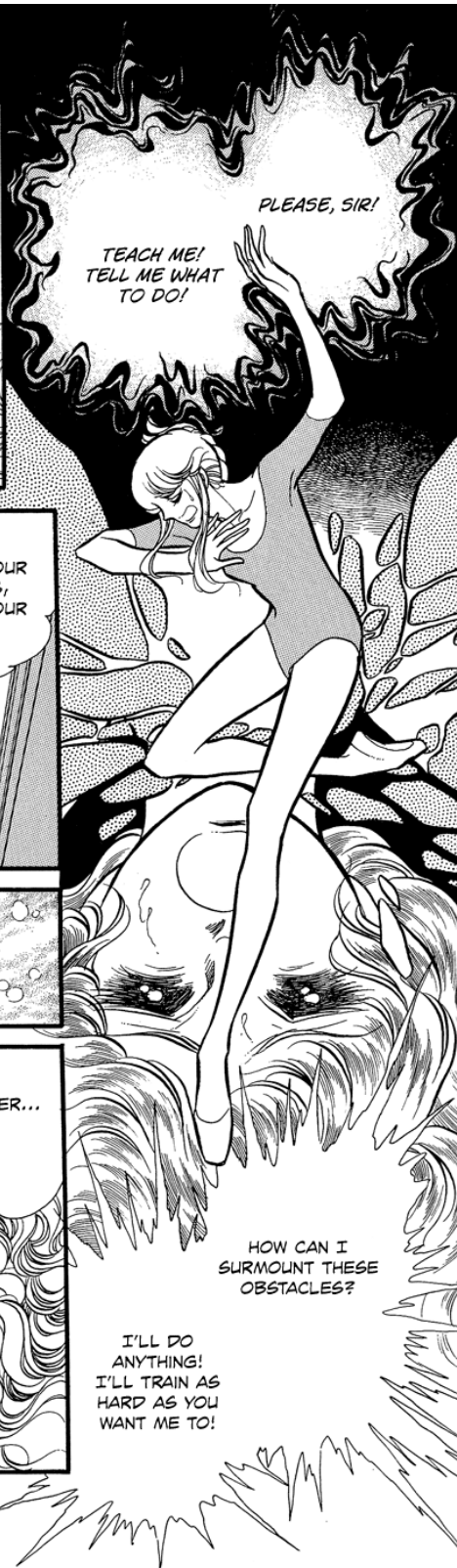
1  
5  
6

sfx: Gyu (Clench)



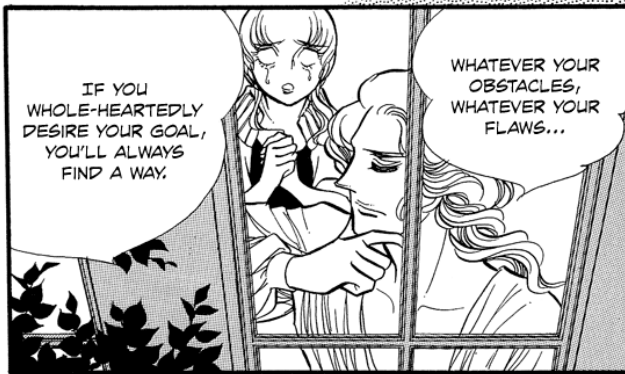


PLEASE...



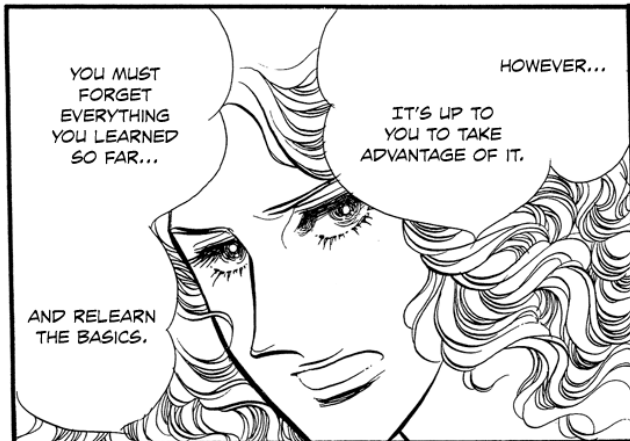
PLEASE, SIR!

TEACH ME!  
TELL ME WHAT  
TO DO!



IF YOU  
WHOLE-HEARTEDLY  
DESIRE YOUR GOAL,  
YOU'LL ALWAYS  
FIND A WAY.

WHATEVER YOUR  
OBSTACLES,  
WHATEVER YOUR  
FLAWS...



YOU MUST  
FORGET  
EVERYTHING  
YOU LEARNED  
SO FAR...

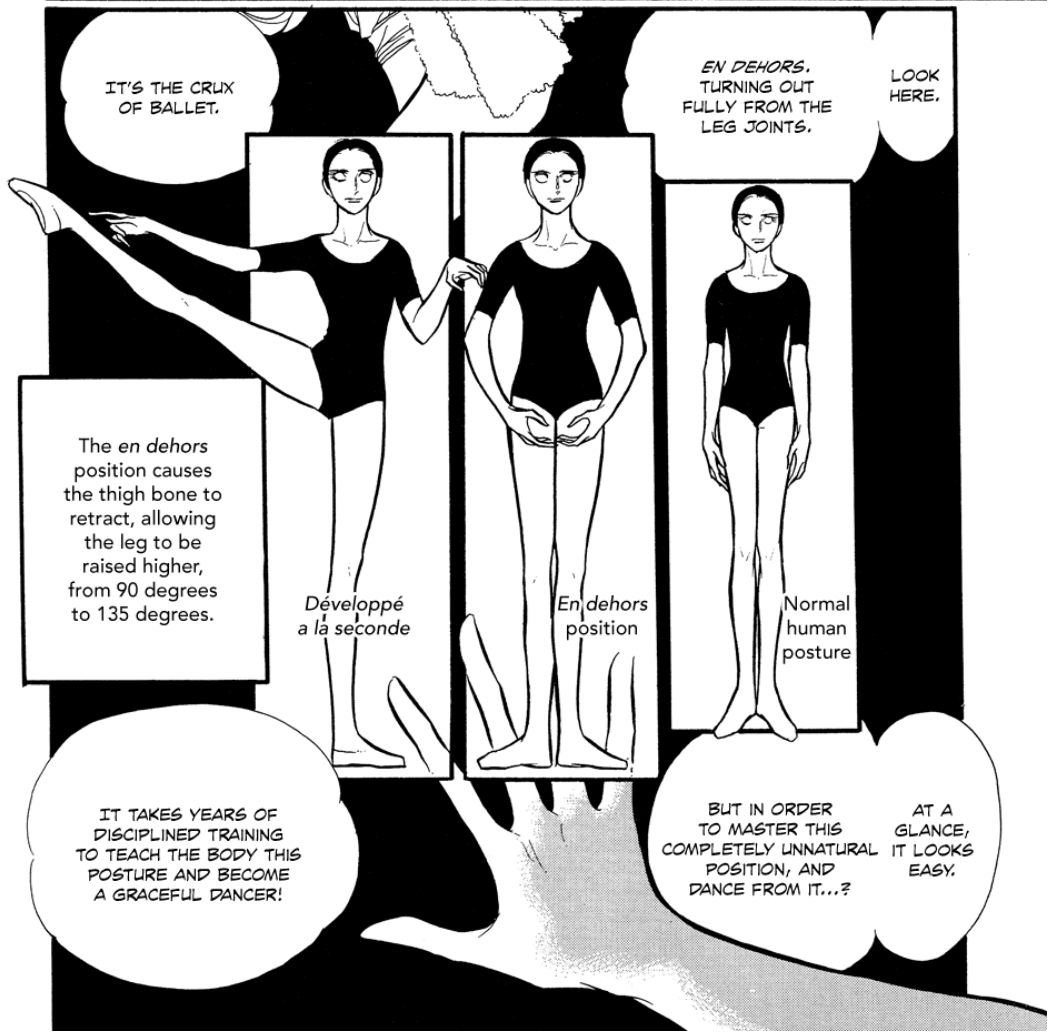
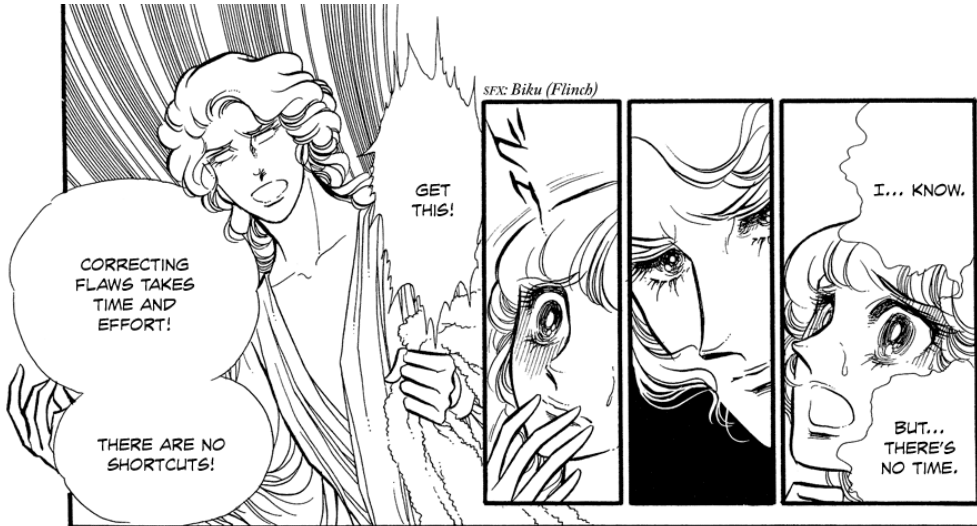
HOWEVER...

IT'S UP TO  
YOU TO TAKE  
ADVANTAGE OF IT.

AND RELEARN  
THE BASICS.

HOW CAN I  
SURMOUNT THESE  
OBSTACLES?

I'LL DO  
ANYTHING!  
I'LL TRAIN AS  
HARD AS YOU  
WANT ME TO!



CORRECTING FLAWS TAKES TIME AND EFFORT!

THERE ARE NO SHORTCUTS!

GET THIS!

SFX: Biku (Flinch)

I... KNOW.

BUT... THERE'S NO TIME.

IT'S THE CRUX OF BALLET.

EN DEHORS. TURNING OUT FULLY FROM THE LEG JOINTS.

LOOK HERE.

The *en dehors* position causes the thigh bone to retract, allowing the leg to be raised higher, from 90 degrees to 135 degrees.

Développé à la seconde

En dehors position

Normal human posture

IT TAKES YEARS OF DISCIPLINED TRAINING TO TEACH THE BODY THIS POSTURE AND BECOME A GRACEFUL DANCER!

BUT IN ORDER TO MASTER THIS COMPLETELY UNNATURAL POSITION, AND DANCE FROM IT...?

AT A GLANCE, IT LOOKS EASY.





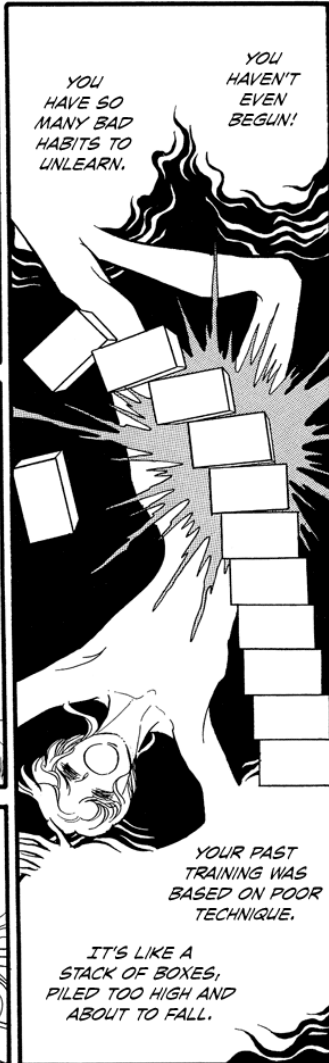
YOU MUST MASTER THIS!



OF COURSE IT TAKES TIME AND EFFORT TO TRAIN THE FUNDAMENTALS.

IT'S THE SAME FOR PAINTERS WHO KEEP PAINTING WITHOUT LEARNING THE BASICS OF DESIGN.

BUT WITHOUT MASTERING THE BASICS SOME DAY THEY WILL STOP GROWING!

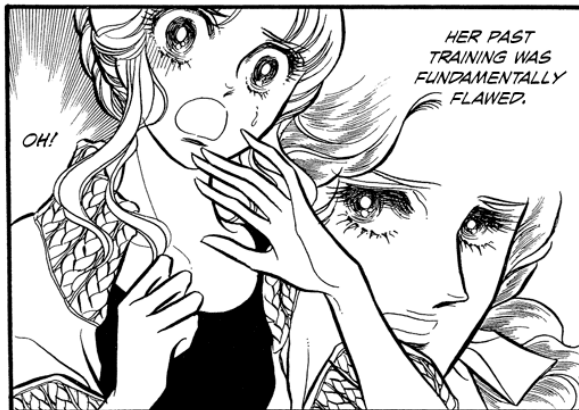


YOU HAVE SO MANY BAD HABITS TO UNLEARN.

YOU HAVEN'T EVEN BEGUN!

YOUR PAST TRAINING WAS BASED ON POOR TECHNIQUE.

IT'S LIKE A STACK OF BOXES, PILED TOO HIGH AND ABOUT TO FALL.



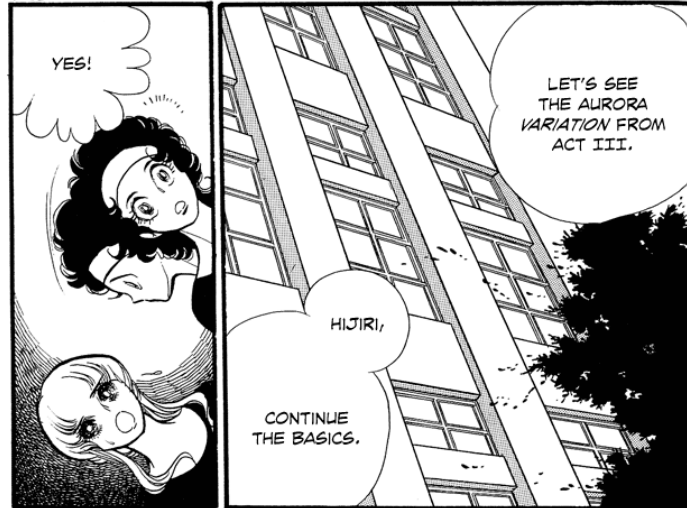
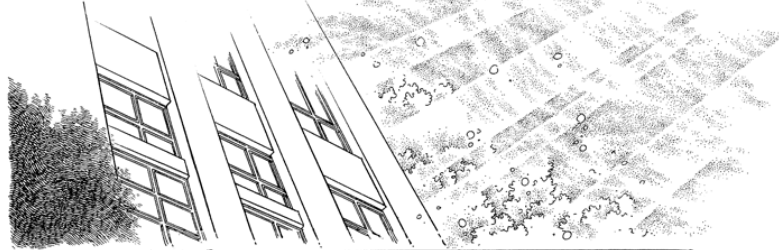
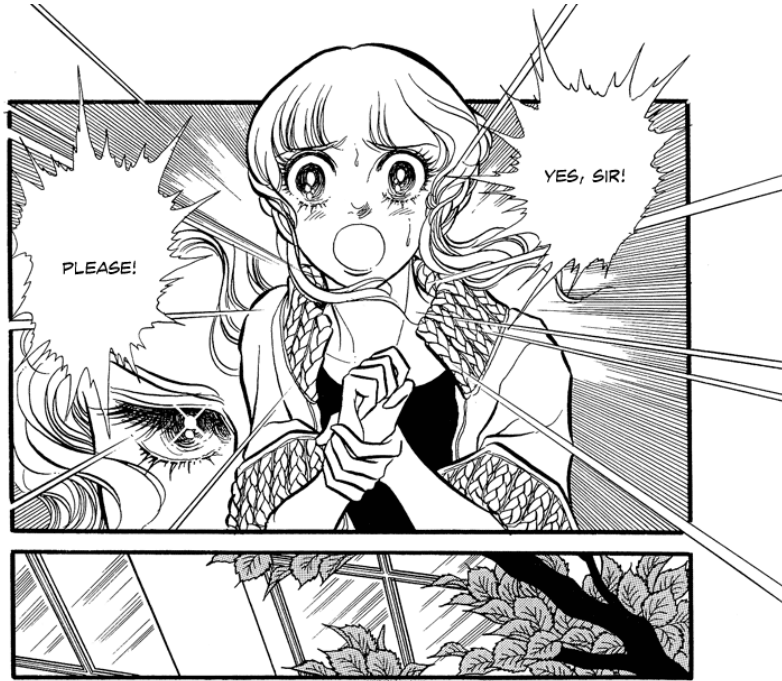
OH!

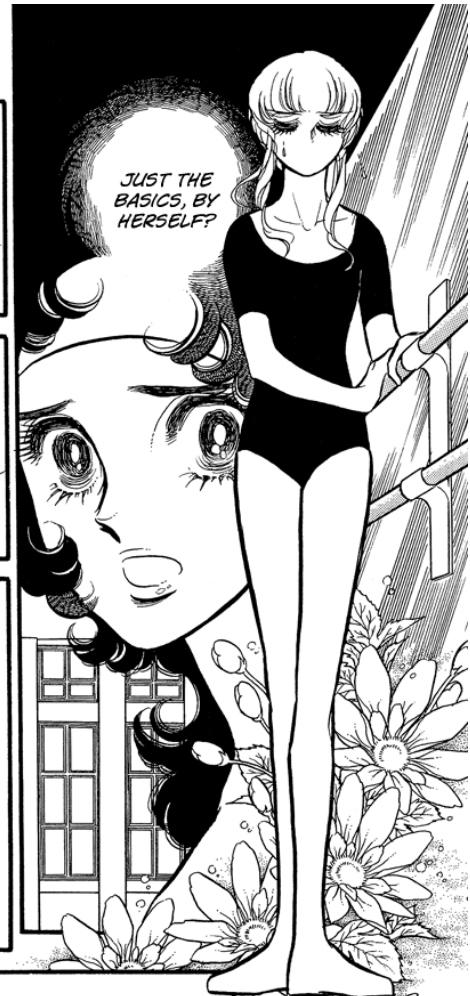
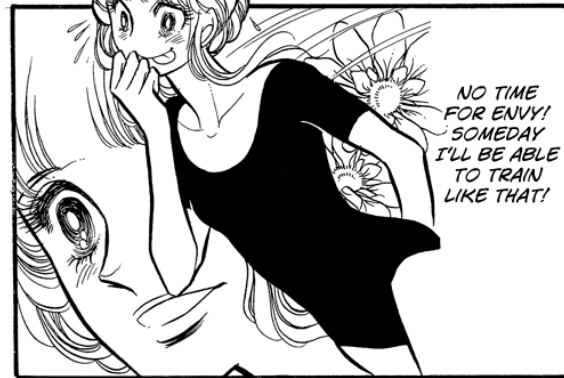
HER PAST TRAINING WAS FUNDAMENTALLY FLAWED.



SO I WILL FIX THAT FLAW!

YOU BEGGED FOR MY HELP.

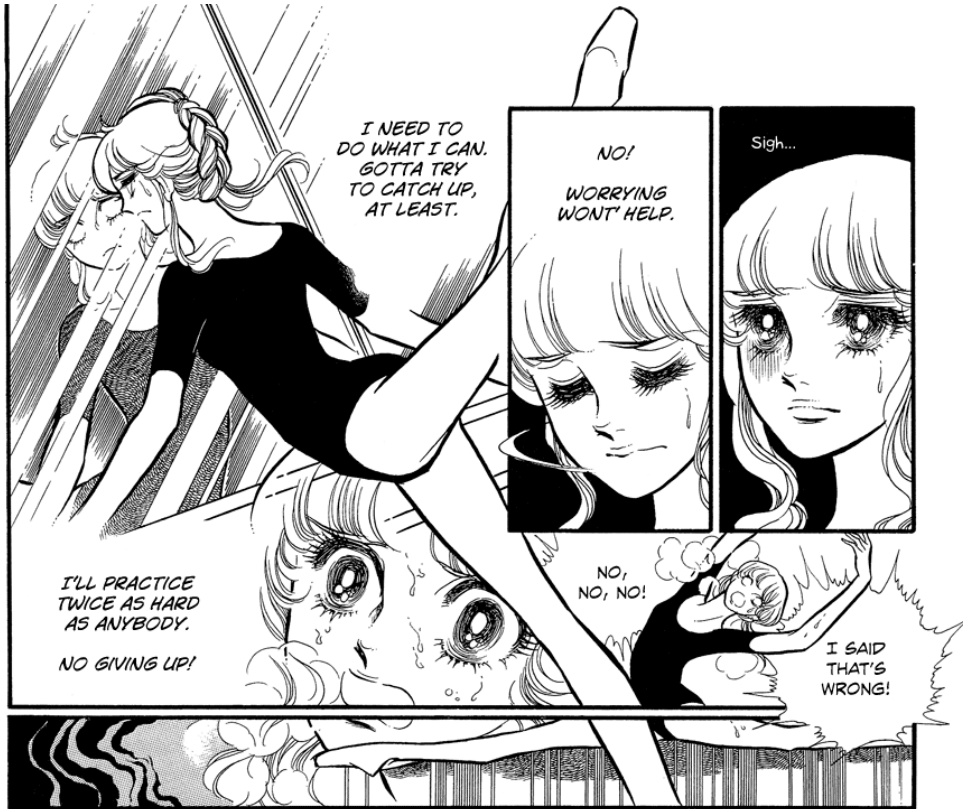




BUT...

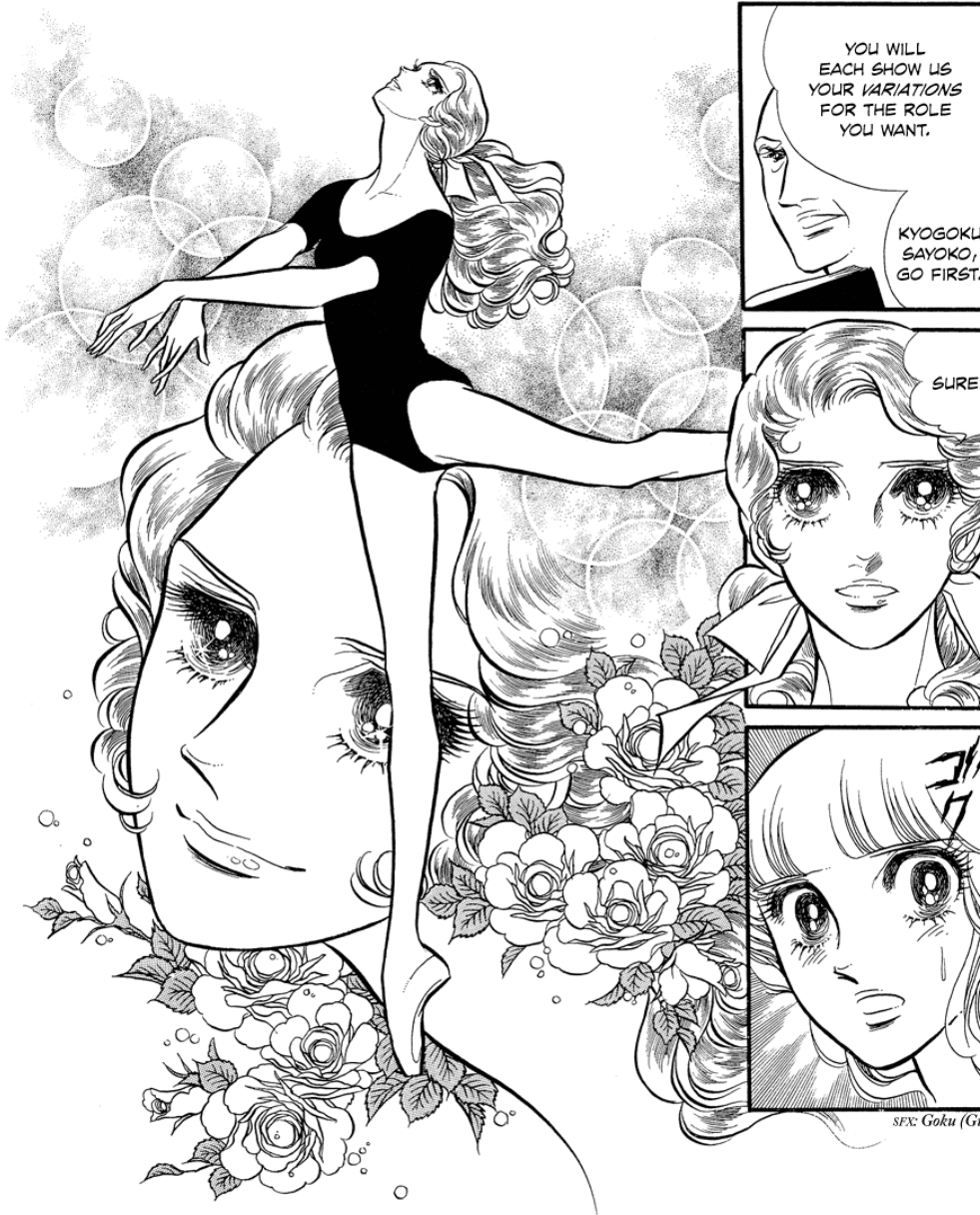


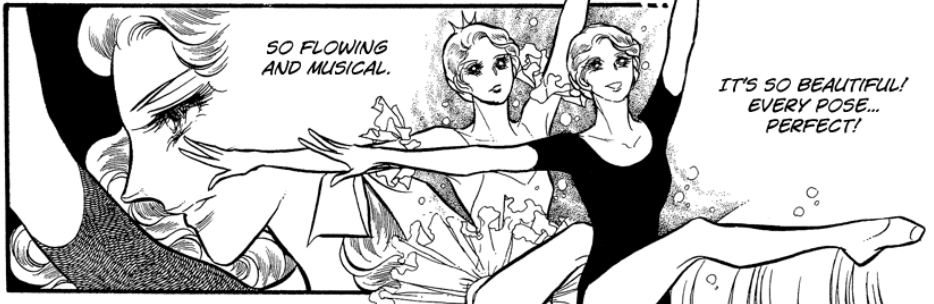
THERE ARE NO SHORTCUTS!



SFX: Zawa zawa (Chitter chatter)

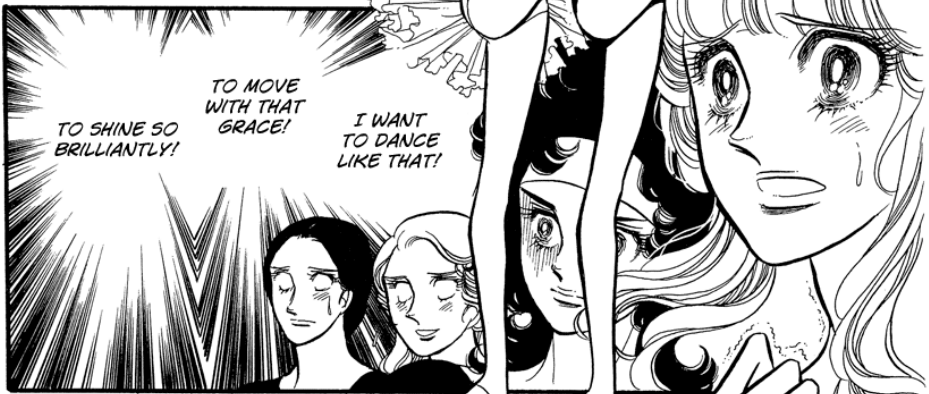






SO FLOWING AND MUSICAL.

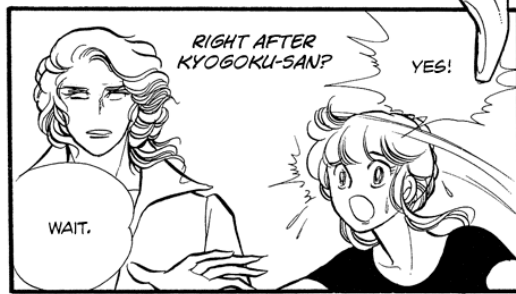
IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL! EVERY POSE... PERFECT!



TO SHINE SO BRILLIANTLY!

TO MOVE WITH THAT GRACE!

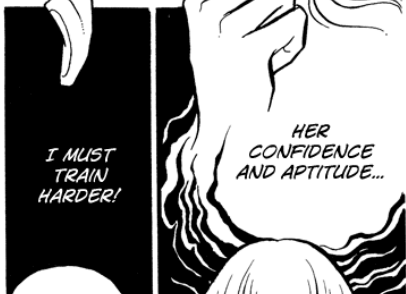
I WANT TO DANCE LIKE THAT!



RIGHT AFTER KYOGOKU-SAN?

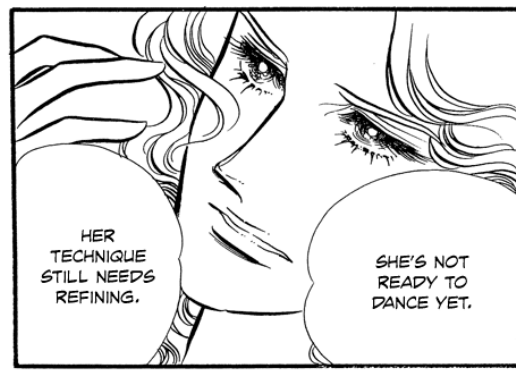
YES!

WAIT.



I MUST TRAIN HARDER!

HER CONFIDENCE AND APTITUDE...



HER TECHNIQUE STILL NEEDS REFINING.

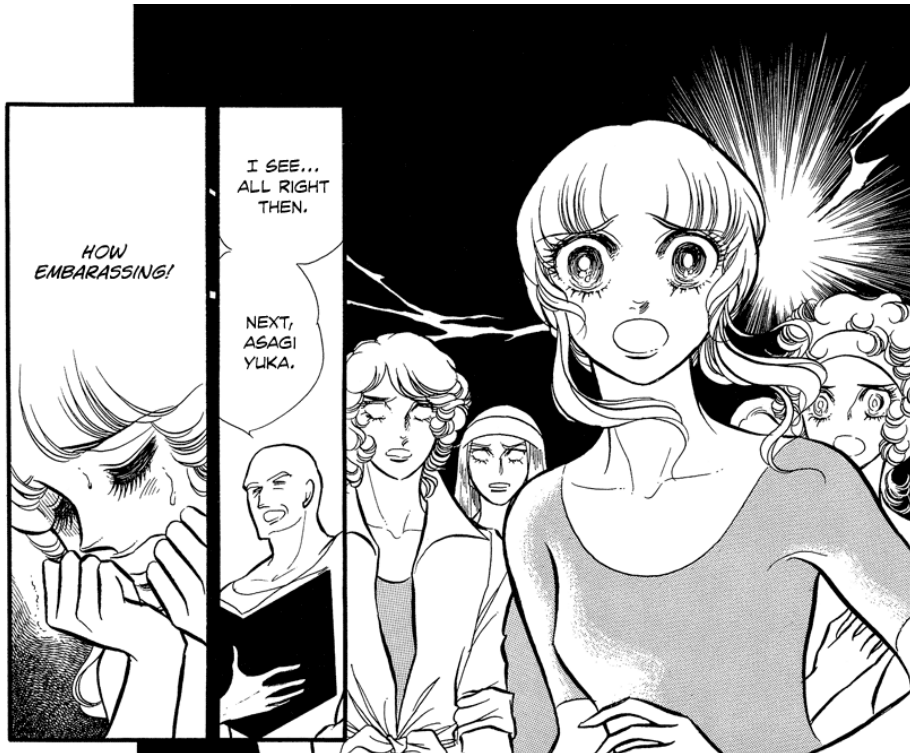
SHE'S NOT READY TO DANCE YET.



NEXT. HIJIRI MASUMI.



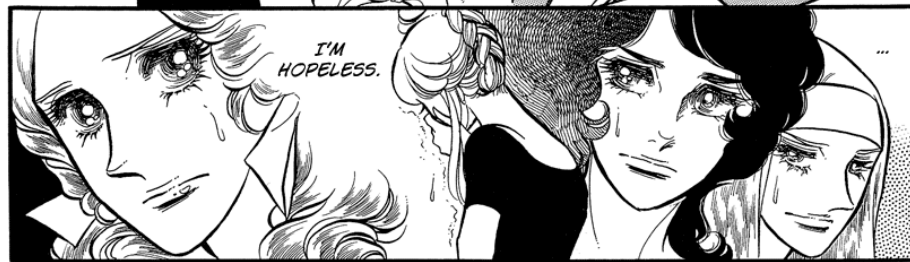
COME FROM THE BASICS.



HOW EMBARRASSING!

I SEE... ALL RIGHT THEN.

NEXT, ASAGI YUKA.



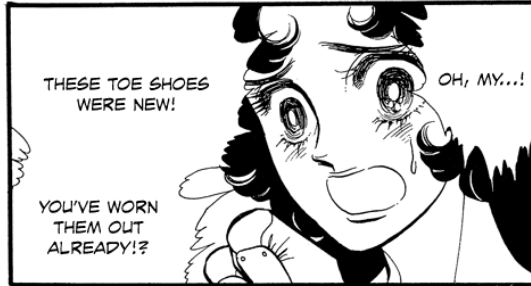
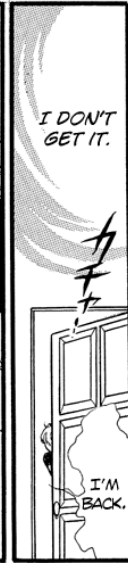
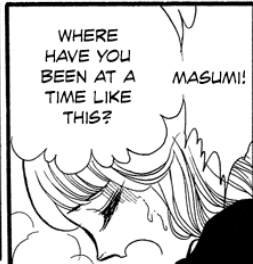
I'M HOPELESS.



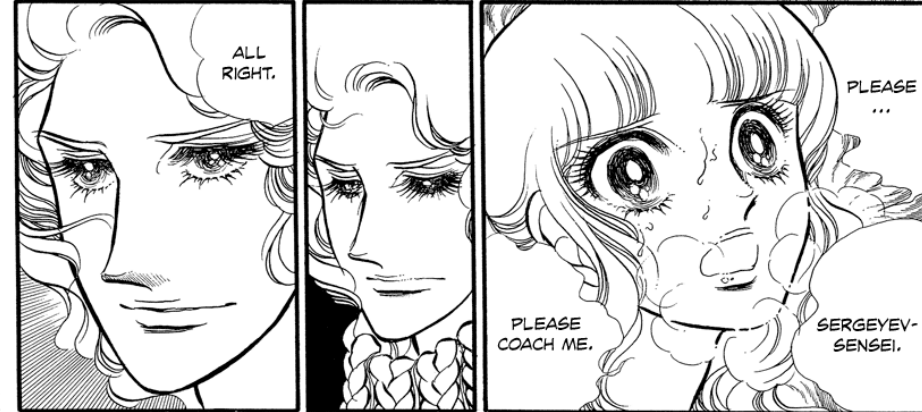
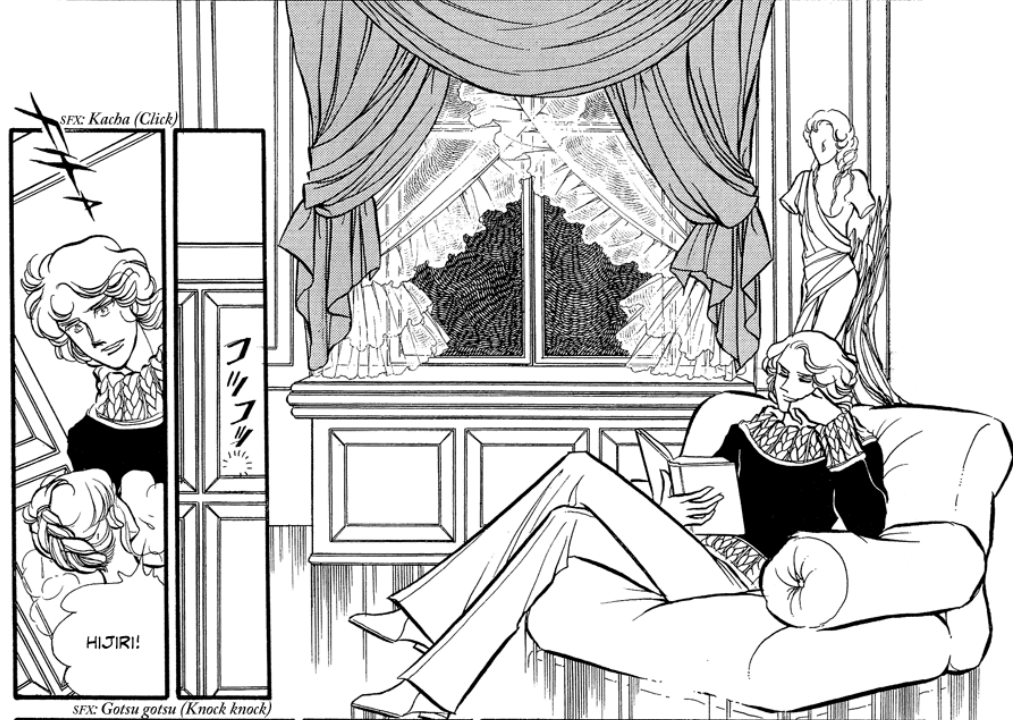
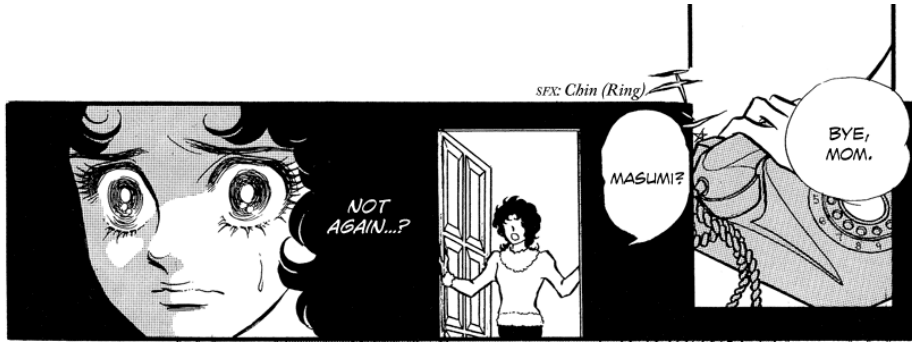
I DON'T GET IT.

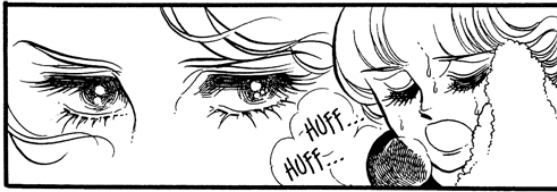
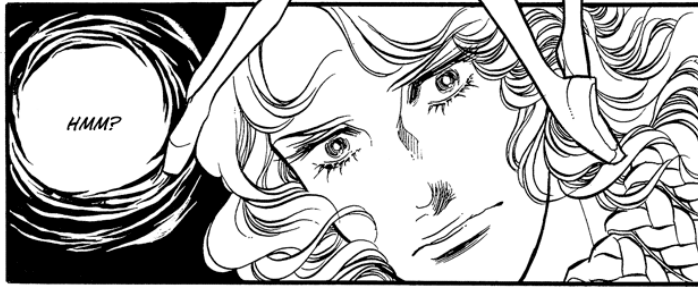
IN CLASS YESTERDAY, HER PIROUETTES EN DEHORS WERE GREAT!

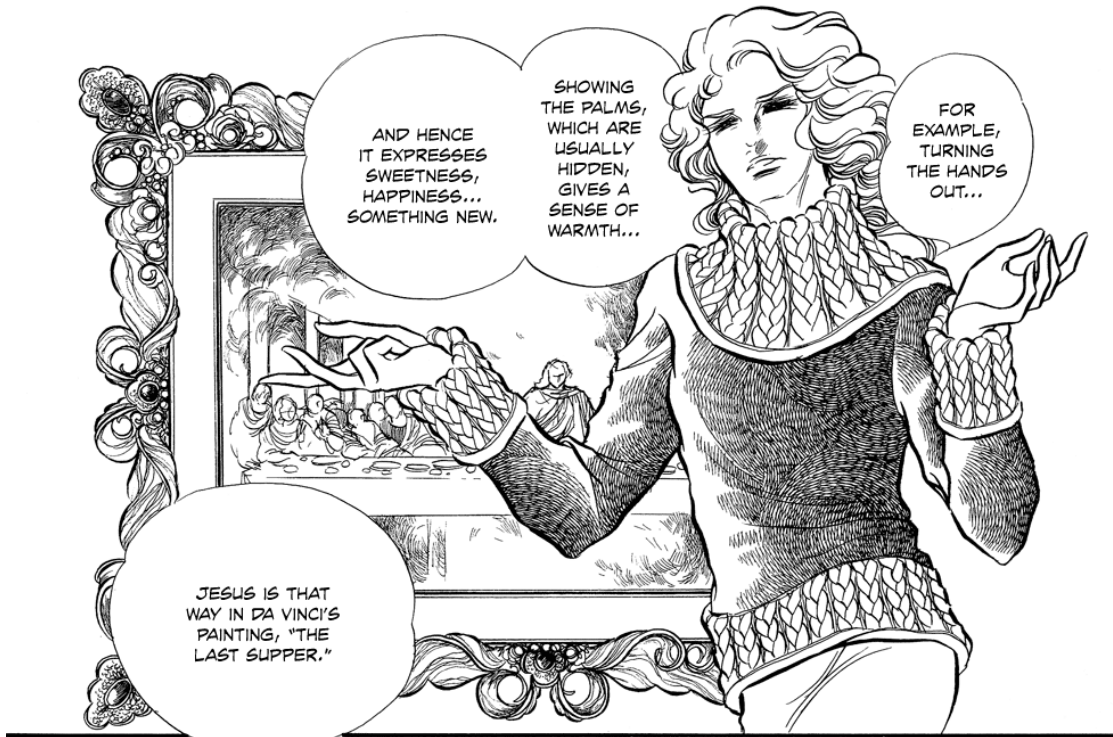
SHE CAN'T BE THAT BAD?











AND HENCE IT EXPRESSES SWEETNESS, HAPPINESS... SOMETHING NEW.

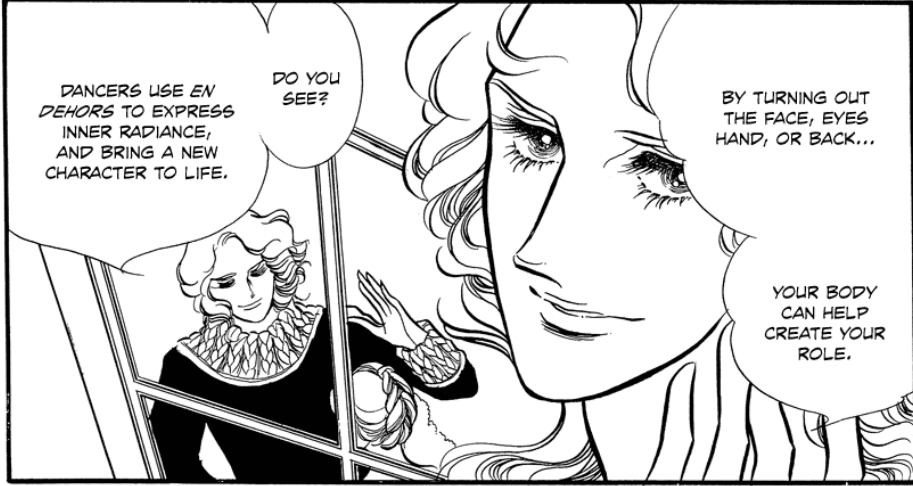
SHOWING THE PALMS, WHICH ARE USUALLY HIDDEN, GIVES A SENSE OF WARMTH...

FOR EXAMPLE, TURNING THE HANDS OUT...

JESUS IS THAT WAY IN DA VINCI'S PAINTING, "THE LAST SUPPER."



LECTURERS AND PREACHERS USE THIS GESTURE, TOO.



DANCERS USE *EN DEHORS* TO EXPRESS INNER RADIANCE, AND BRING A NEW CHARACTER TO LIFE.

DO YOU SEE?

BY TURNING OUT THE FACE, EYES HAND, OR BACK...

YOUR BODY CAN HELP CREATE YOUR ROLE.



OKAY.

GOOD! NOW SHOW ME YOUR PASSÉ AGAIN.



GOT IT?



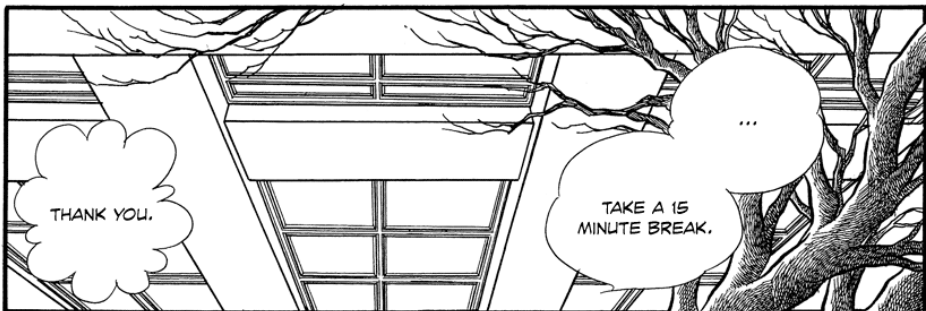
I'LL TRY!

YES!

SFX: Fu (Sigh)



WHEN DID THIS START?  
SHE TRAINS EVERY NIGHT?



THANK YOU.

...  
TAKE A 15 MINUTE BREAK.



WE'RE BOTH TRYING OUT FOR AURORA.

WHY DOES MASUMI GET SPECIAL LESSONS?



SENSEI!

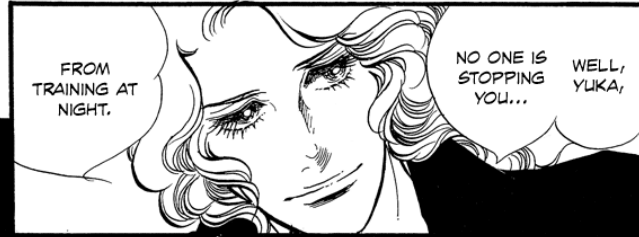
I HAVE A QUESTION!



WHAT'S GOING ON?

IT JUST DOESN'T SEEM FAIR.

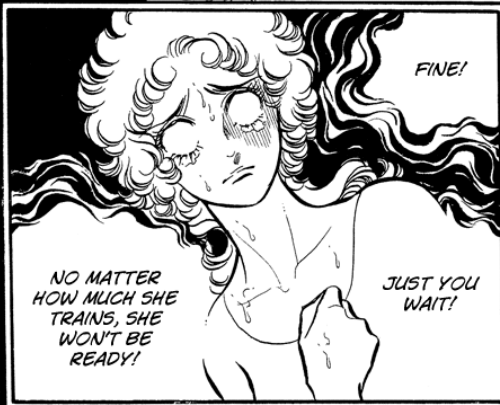
SO...



FROM TRAINING AT NIGHT.

NO ONE IS STOPPING YOU...

WELL, YUKA,



FINE!

NO MATTER HOW MUCH SHE TRAINS, SHE WON'T BE READY!

JUST YOU WAIT!



SENSEI!

WHAT?



THE AUDITIONS FOR AURORA ARE COMING UP.



THE ROLE OF AURORA IS MINE!

PRACTICE ALL YOU WANT!