



MAYA!  
MAYA!



Dad, Mom,  
My siblings...

...my  
family  
in the  
rainbow...



THE SCRIPT  
WAS WRITTEN  
BY HIROSHI  
YOSHIZAWA  
FROM 3-B.

AND HERE  
IS OUR  
ACTRESS!  
PLAYING  
THE ROLE  
OF HIROMI  
SATO,  
MAYA KITA-  
JIMA!

THE PRESIDENT  
AND OTHER  
FIVE MEMBERS  
OF THE ART  
CLUB WERE  
IN CHARGE  
OF THE  
LIGHTING!  
AND FINALLY,  
HIROKO  
KUSAKI  
WAS THE  
ARTISTIC  
DIRECTOR.



IT  
WASN'T  
BORING  
AT ALL!

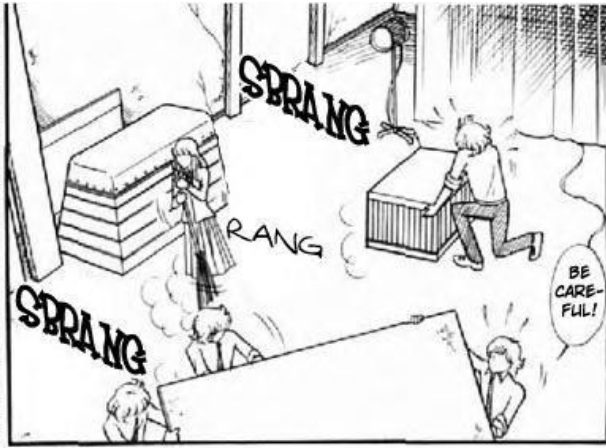
THE SCRIPT  
WAS BORING  
AND TRIVIAL,  
HOWEVER...

IT WAS  
ENTER-  
TAINING!

YOU  
WERE  
GREAT,  
MAYA!

WE  
HAVE  
TO  
ADMIT  
IT.

WE WANT TO  
SEE YOU IN  
ANOTHER  
PLAY!



Great! Now I can face a new play!

I love acting!

I became a normal girl with a happy family!

Acting is wonderful! Even if it's only for a moment...

...their warmth.

Hiromi Sato's feelings are still within me...

I can feel...

CONGRATULATIONS!  
YOU WERE GREAT MAYA!  
THE PLAY WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL!

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU!

BE CARE-FUL!









YES, INDEED! DON'T YOU WANT TO DO IT?

OF COURSE I DO!

COME WITH ME, I'LL SHOW YOU OUR HEADQUARTERS!

...ARE YOU SERIOUS? ARE YOU REALLY OFFERING ME A ROLE?!



WE TAKE PRACTICES VERY SERIOUSLY!  
WE MEASURE UP TO PROFESSIONAL THEATRE COMPANIES,

SO DON'T THINK OF US AS A MERE SCHOOL CLUB, PLEASE.



PRESIDENT ...

DRAMA CLUB



HITOTSUBOSHI HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB HAS A GREAT TRADITION.

WE WON THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ACTING CONTEST SEVERAL TIMES!

PROFESSIONAL ACTORS AND DIRECTORS GIVE LECTURES ONCE A MONTH TOO.

TAP TAP TAP TAP

WE COLLABORATE WITH OTHER DRAMA CLUBS.

A MAKE-UP ARTIST COMES ONCE A MONTH TO TEACH US TRICKS FOR OUR PLAYS.

WE LEARN HOW TO CHANGE INTO OLD PEOPLE, FOREIGNERS... ...OR HOW TO FEIGN ILLNESSES.

WE ALSO HAVE STAGE LIGHTS!

WE HAVE PLENTY OF COSTUMES, WIGS, MOURNINGS AND BEARDS.

WHEN IT COMES TO STAGE DESIGN, WE ARE HELPED BY PROFESSIONALS WHO LEND US PROPS USED IN COMMERCIAL THEATRES.

DAZZ

THERE ARE 3,500 VOLUMES OF JAPANESE AND FOREIGN DRAMAS IN OUR LIBRARY.

IF WE COUNT THE SAMPLE COPIES THERE ARE ANOTHER 5,000 VOLUMES.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? WILL YOU JOIN US?

OUR MAIN EVENTS ARE THE HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION FESTIVAL IN SPRING,

WE ARE ALSO TAKING PART IN AN EXPERIMENTAL PLAY ORGANIZED BY THE CULTURAL CLUB WHERE PARENTS AND TEACHERS ARE NOT ALLOWED.

THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ACTING CONTEST IN SUMMER, AND THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL IN AUTUMN.

THIS IS GREAT!



BUT IF YOU JOIN AS A GUEST IT DOESN'T BREAK THE RULES!



IT'S TRUE THAT YOU WERE ONCE A FAMOUS CELEBRITY...

SO YOU DON'T MEET THE ENTRANCE CRITERIA.



BUT...

!...



SHAKE SHAKE

THE-THE PLEASURE IS ALL MINE...

I'LL DO IT! I'LL DO IT AS A GUEST!

WITH GREAT PLEASURE, PRESIDENT!



YES!



THE ROLE ASSIGNMENT FOR THE EXPERIMENTAL PLAY WAS ALREADY DECIDED A WHILE AGO!

PRESIDENT! WHY DID YOU INVOLVE THAT GIRL?

NOW EXCUSE ME! I'LL COME BACK SOON!

RATTLE

WHAT A CHARACTER!











WE SAID THE LINES USING THE OSAKA ACCENT, IT WAS AN INCREDIBLE FARCE! THE MORE SERIOUS WE ACTED THE MORE THE PUBLIC LAUGHED!

ROMEO AND JULIET WAS ALL THE RAGE IN OSAKA!

WE GOT BACK AFTER OUR LAST PERFORMANCE IN NAGOYA.

WE'VE BEEN TO A LOT OF PLACES! YAMAGUCHI, OKAYAMA, HYOGO, OSAKA...

WE'VE GOT TO ADMIT, OUR FACES AREN'T TOO TRAGIC.



HE'D BE HORRIFIED!

IF SHAKESPEARE COULD'VE HEARD YOU HE'D ROLL IN HIS GRAVE.

CRUNCH

IT WAS OUR BIGGEST SUCCESS THIS TOUR!

THE AUDIENCE CRIED WITH LAUGHTER.



SOMEONE TOLD THE LOCAL T.V. STATION ABOUT US.

REALLY?

WE WERE ON T.V. IN NAGOYA!



HEY! WHY DON'T WE ACT TOGETHER IN ANOTHER PLAY?!

HE THOUGHT I WAS A RESEARCHER.

BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT, SO THE BASTARD ASKED ME WHAT I DID THIS TIME!

A FRIEND OF MINE WATCHED IT.

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

















Why did I telephone Masumi Hayami when Sensei fell ill?



SO IKKAKUJU THEATER COMPANY IS BACK.

I'm so happy Tsukikage-sensei is recovering! When I phoned her, she sounded much better.

THEY'LL COLLABORATE WITH US IN A NEW PLAY.

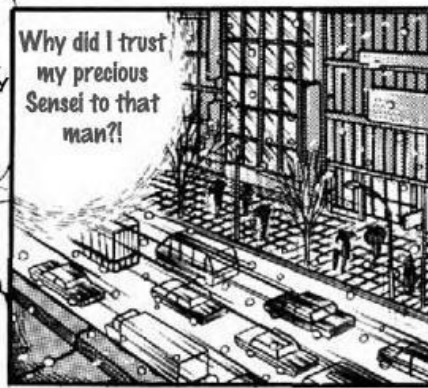
I'M GLAD



ONLY BIG-SHOTS... IT'S GOING TO BE A BORING PARTY.

PEOPLE FROM THE MOVIE AND T.V. INDUSTRIES, RECORD COMPANY AGENTS AND STARS...

I HAVE TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE.



Why did I trust my precious Sensei to that man?!



WHO'S ATTENDING TODAY'S PARTY,

MA-SUMI-SAMA?



IT COULD BE A BREAK DOWN.

BUT I'VE GOT TO STOP!

I AM SO SORRY; YOU WERE IN A HURRY...



WHAT'S THE MATTER?

EH?

THE MOTOR ISN'T WORKING PROPERLY.



...I trust him?

Could it be that somewhere in my heart...

RIGHT AWAY!

SOME NIKLIMAN AND ANMAN, PLEASE.

Mother is dead because of him...

Masumi Hayami...

Why him?



I don't understand myself... I should hate him more than anyone!

Then why did I ask for his help?



Just because he kept his promise and showed a little kindness!

Maybe he's trying to soften me up!



I'M SO SORRY, SHOULD I CALL ANOTHER CAR?

OR A TAXI?



IT'LL TAKE SOME TIME TO FIX...

HOW'S THE ENGINE?



But...

I'm glad I entrusted Tsukikage-sensei to him!

PLOTCH







THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

TSUKIKAGE-SENSEI IS MUCH BETTER NOW!



IT'S BEEN A WHILE, HOW ARE YOU?

SOMETIMES, WHEN A CAR BREAKS DOWN, IT'S A GOOD THING. WE MEET AGAIN, CHIBI-CHAN.



THE PARTY'S AT ROYAL PLAZA HOTEL, NOT FAR FROM HERE.

WE HAD A BREAKDOWN, SO I'LL WALK THE REST OF THE WAY.

AT ROYAL PLAZA HOTEL?

OH... YOUR CAR WON'T START?



FRUSH

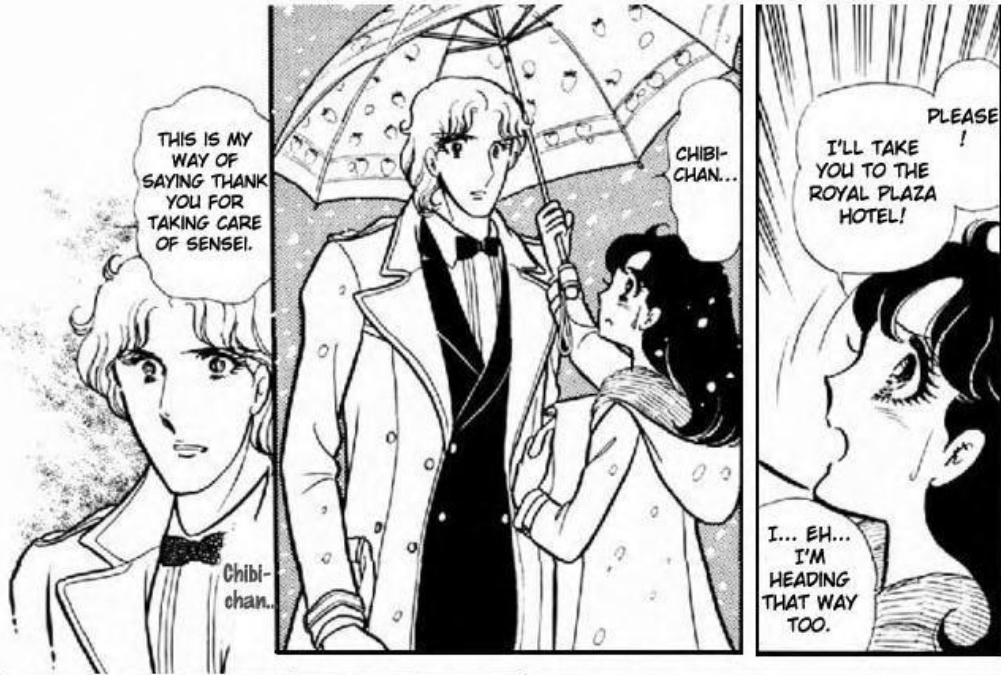


IT'S NOT NECESSARY.

I'M SORRY, MASUMI-SAMA, I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT AN UMBRELLA.



FUP





Y-YES.

My strawberry umbrella...

PICK ME UP AFTER THE PARTY.



TO THE UNDERGROUND THEATER WHERE MY FRIENDS ARE PRACTICING.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

ARE YOU IN THE PLAY AS WELL?

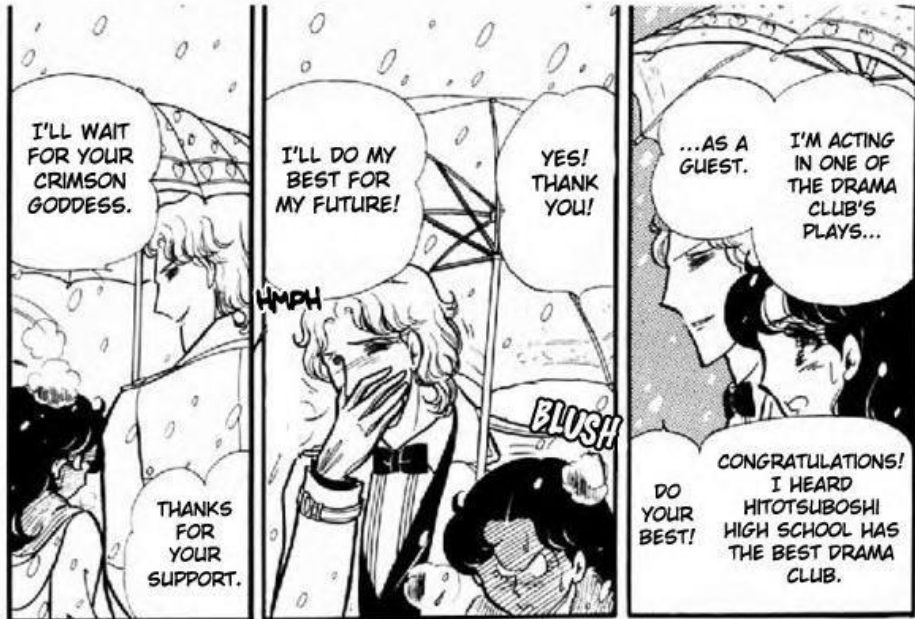
NO, TSUKIKAGE-SENSEI WON'T LET ME ACT...

HOW'S YOUR ACTING AT SCHOOL?

NOBODY WOULD BELIEVE ME!

A STRAWBERRY UMBRELLA!

MASUMI-SAMA AND THAT GIRL UNDER THE SAME UMBRELLA!











IT'S COLD AND IT COVERS EVERYTHING WITH WHITE, EVEN FILTH...

IT'S WHITE AND PURE... I LOVE SNOW!



DO YOU THINK I'M A MACHINE?

I LOVE THE SNOW.

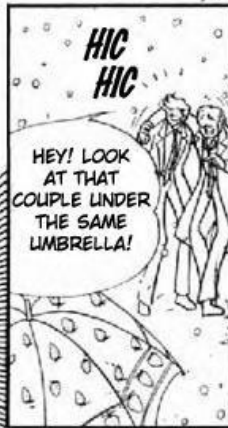
I HAVE FEELINGS AS WELL.



HIC

SHE'S CUTE.

SHE'S YOUR GIRLFRIEND DESPITE THE AGE DIFFERENCE, RIGHT?



HIC HIC

HEY! LOOK AT THAT COUPLE UNDER THE SAME UMBRELLA!



He looks like someone else... The cold workaholic from Paito...

Why?

Sometimes I don't understand him...

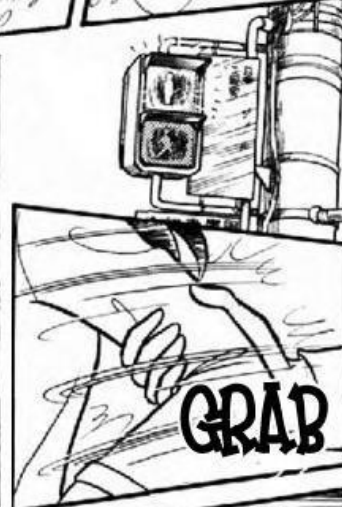


COOL! ARE YOU TWO ON A DATE? MUST BE FUN BEING WITH HER, RIGHT?

AS YOU CAN SEE...

0-g-girlfriend?! His girlfriend?! Masumi Hayami's girlfriend?!

GRRR





**SWAP**

TAKE THE UMBRELLA!

IT'S MY THANK YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF TSUKIKAGE-SENSEI!

BUT I STILL DON'T THINK YOU'RE A NICE PERSON!



WATCH THE LIGHTS MORE CAREFULLY!

IT'S RED!

His big hand...



...feels so warm!





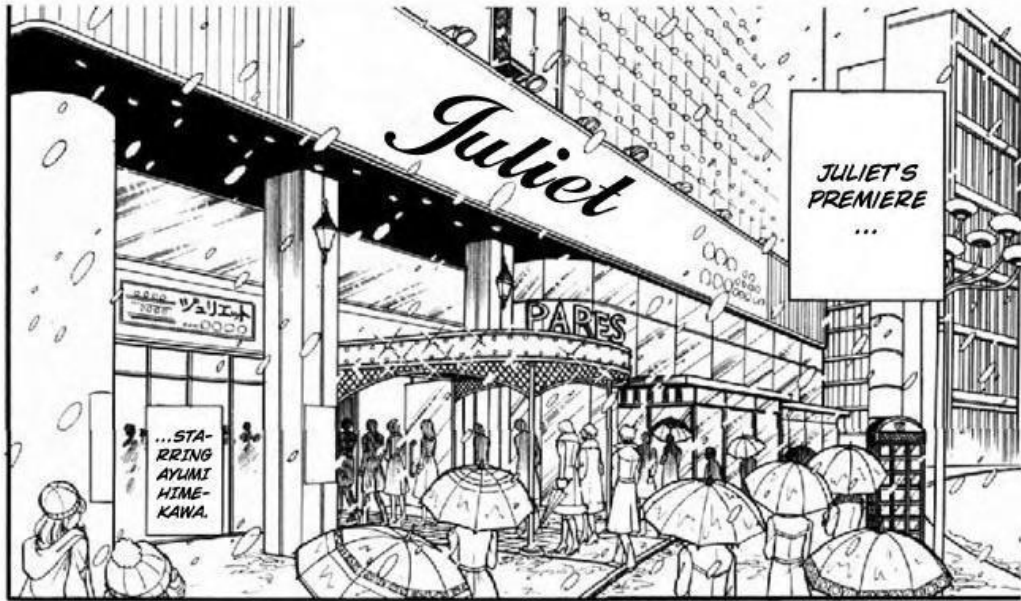
What was I thinking?!

I'm so stupid!

And I can never cross over.

What's wrong with me?!

I was charmed by the warmth of his hand!





T sukika-ge-sensei!

**BLAN**

And I have to compete with her for the Crimson Goddess...



I can't believe it! There's such a gap between us! Even our audience is different.



**BLAN**

Eh? But isn't that ...



Masumi Hayami!

Mizuki-san!



Sakurakoji-kun?!



SWAP

TUTUM

Who'd have thought I'd see you here!

Sakurakoji-kun!

TUTUM

TUTUM

HA HA HA HA

YOU'LL PLAY A MAIN ROLE IN THIS THEATRE SOON.

SAKURAKOJI-KUN, WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU! YOU'LL BE THE NEW STAR OF THE ACTING WORLD.

I'M REALLY FLATTERED...

I love you, Maya.

Goodbye.

I want to act with you on the same stage some day.

Sakurakoji-kun!







