

HANA TO YUME COMICS

Glass Mask

SUZUE MIUCHI

34



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GLASS MASK

VOLUME 34 THE CRIMSON GODDESS (1)

SUZUE MIUCHI



Who will be the main actress?!
Everyone is waiting for the return
of the lost master piece
"the crimson goddess"



Maya
Kitajima



Ayumi
Himekawa

THE TWO CANDIDATES
FOR THE LEAD, AYUMI
HIMEKAWA AND MAYA
KITAJIMA ARE WAITING
FOR THE CAST TO
BE MADE.

THE NEXT WEEK BOTH OF
THEM WILL BE GOING TO
THE COUNTRY OF PLUM
TREES, THE BIRTH PLACE
OF THE CRIMSON GODDESS,
LOCATED IN THE NARA
DISTRICT, WHERE THEY WILL
BE STUDYING UNDER
CHIGUSA TSUKIKAGE!

ALL
JAPAN ACTING
ASSOCIATION WILL
CONTROL THE
PRODUCTION!

THEY'VE
STARTED TO
SEARCH FOR
THE DIRECTOR
AND THE
ACTORS!

EVERYONE IN
THE SHOWBIZ
IS LOOKING
FORWARD TO
GETTING A
PART IN THE
PLAY!

第12章 紅天女

CHIGUSA
TSUKIKAGE
WAS HIDING
FOR TWENTY
YEARS...

..AND
FINALLY
THE
MOMENT
HAS
COME...



YES
FATHER
...

IT HAS
BEEN A
LONG
WAIT...

HMM...

Hayami mansion



WHO KNOWS.

TO HAVE THE PRODUCTION CONTROLLED BY THE ALL JAPAN ACTING ASSOCIATION, WAS THIS YOUR IDEA...

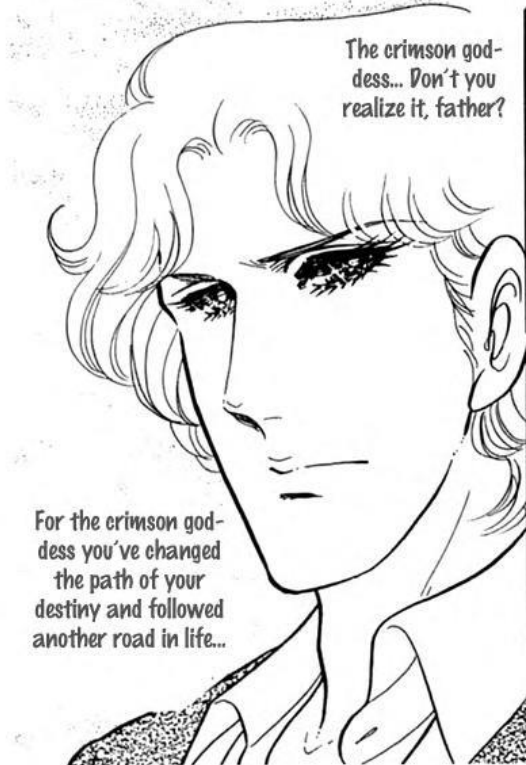
ONE DAY YOUR DREAM WILL COME TRUE FATHER!

I'VE DREAMT FOR SO LONG THAT I WILL BE THE ONE TO STAGE THE CRIMSON GODDESS...

FATHER, YOU WERE THE ONE TO TEACH ME THAT IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU ARE AIMING FOR, YOU SHOULD DO EVERYTHING YOU CAN TO REACH IT...

... MASUMI?

TO HAVE IT PRODUCED BY DAITO ... THE DAITO ART PRODUCTIONS I FOUNDED!



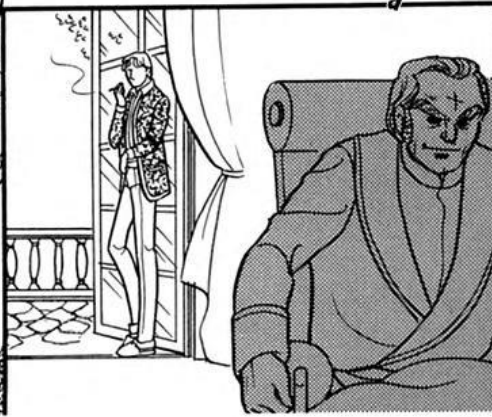
The crimson goddess... Don't you realize it, father?

For the crimson goddess you've changed the path of your destiny and followed another road in life...



OKAY! I SHALL WAIT TO SEE WHAT YOU ARE ABLE TO DO.

AH! YOU ARE RIGHT TO PRETEND NOT TO KNOW MASUMI.

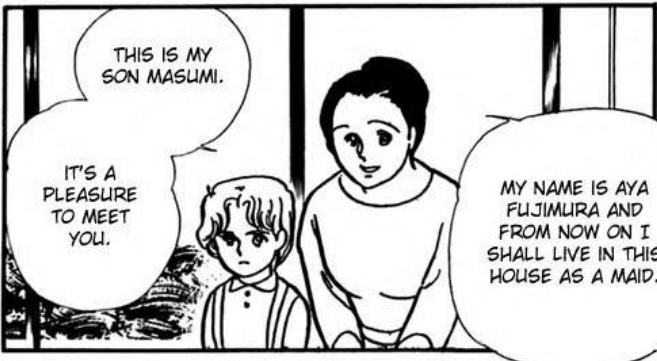


Yeah, that day... when
together with my mother,
I set foot for the first time
in the Hayami mansion...

Mine
too...



...I was only six...



THIS IS MY
SON MASUMI.

IT'S A
PLEASURE
TO MEET
YOU.

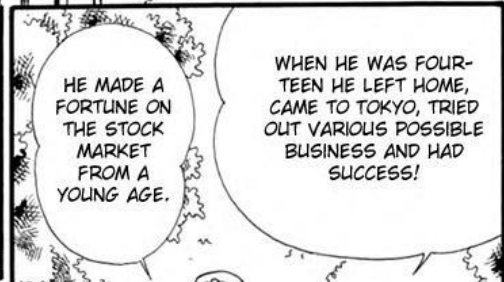
MY NAME IS AYA
FUJIMURA AND
FROM NOW ON I
SHALL LIVE IN THIS
HOUSE AS A MAID.

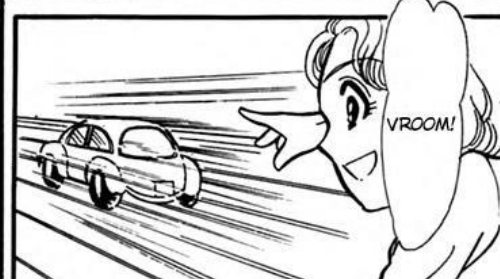
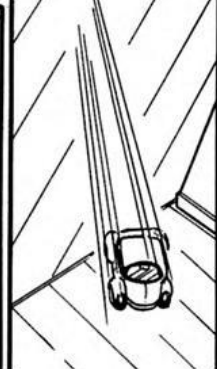
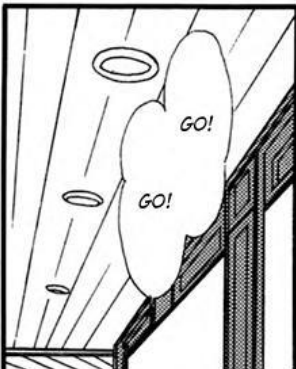
I was two
years old. I
can't remember
his face...

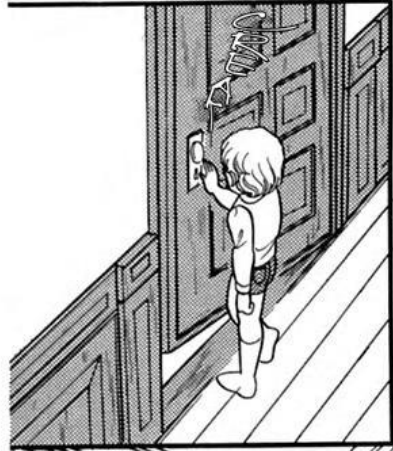
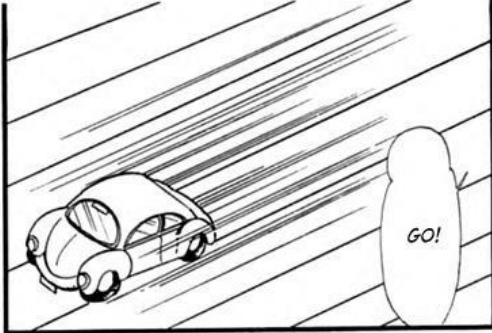
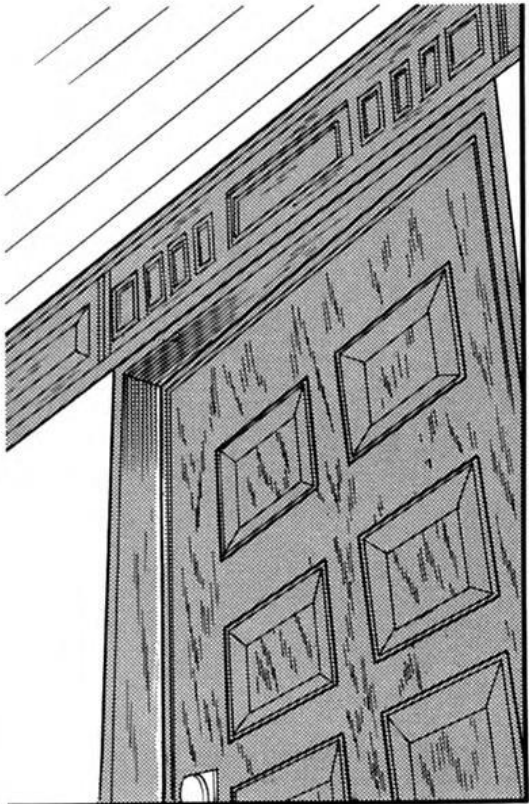


My father died falling
from upper floor on a
building site, by taking
a wrong step.

He worked as
a building site
supervisor.

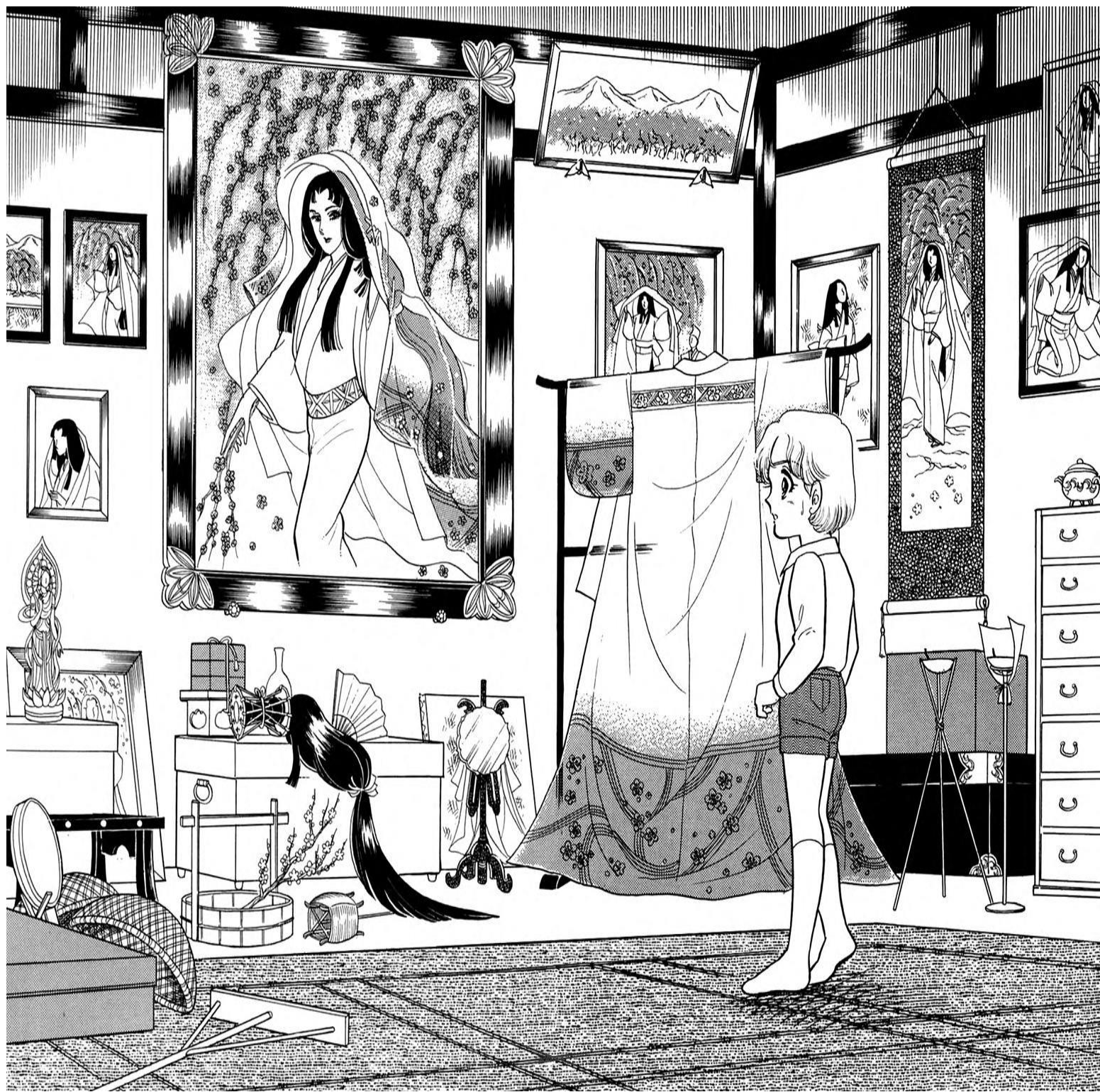














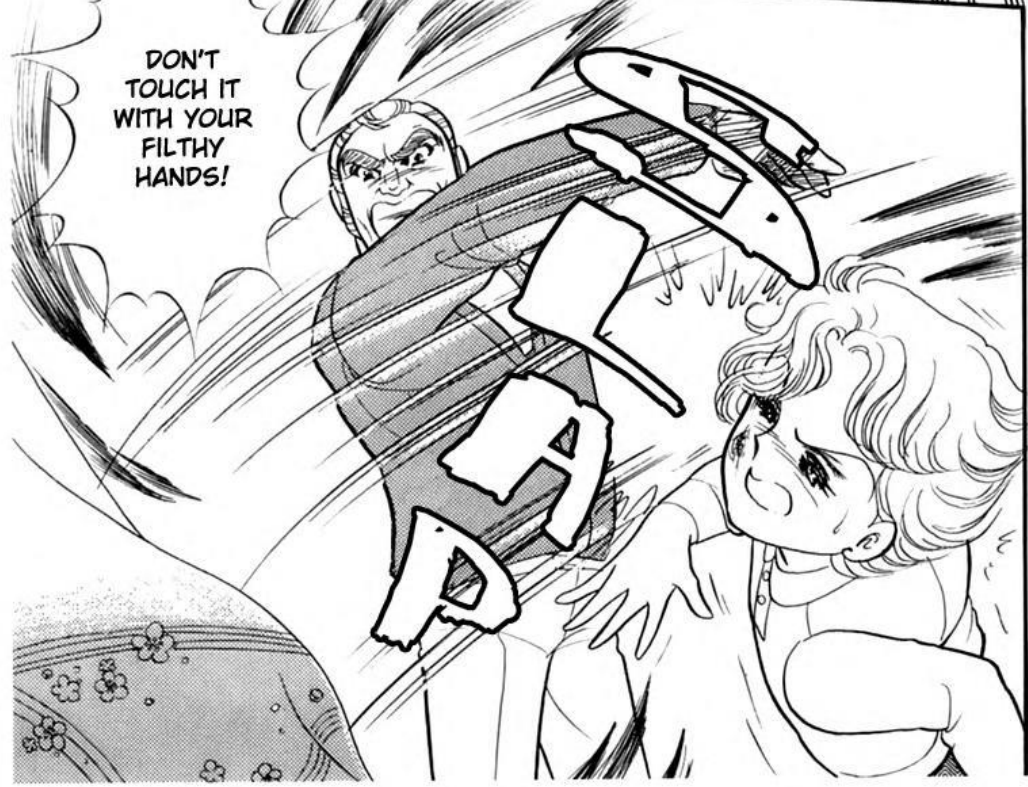
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?!



What a
beautiful
kimono...



I wonder
what is
this
room?







IT WAS A VERY BEAUTIFUL PLAY....

HER INTERPRETATION WAS ONE LIKE NO OTHER...

THE LEADING ROLE WAS PLAYED BY AN ACTRESS CALLED CHIGUSA TSUKIKAGE.

THESE ARE ITS STAGE PHOTOS.

... WAS A PLAY THAT WAS ACKNOWLEDGED AS A MASTERPIECE ...

THE CRIMSON GODDES ...



ONE DAY I SHALL FIND HER AND I WILL BRING BACK ON STAGE THE CRIMSON GODDESS.

IT'S A GIVEN!



SOME YEARS AGO CHIGUSA WAS HIT ON HER FACE BY A LIGHT SETTING THAT FELL FROM THE CEILING AND SHE HAD TO GIVE UP HER ACTING CAREER...

SINCE THEN SHE DISAPPEARED. BUT WHO KNOWS, MAYBE ANOTHER ACTRESS OF HER LEVEL WILL APPEAR ONCE AGAIN THESE DAYS...



AFTER THE CURTAINS FELL MOST OF THE AUDIENCE WASN'T ABLE TO GET UP FROM THEIR SEATS.



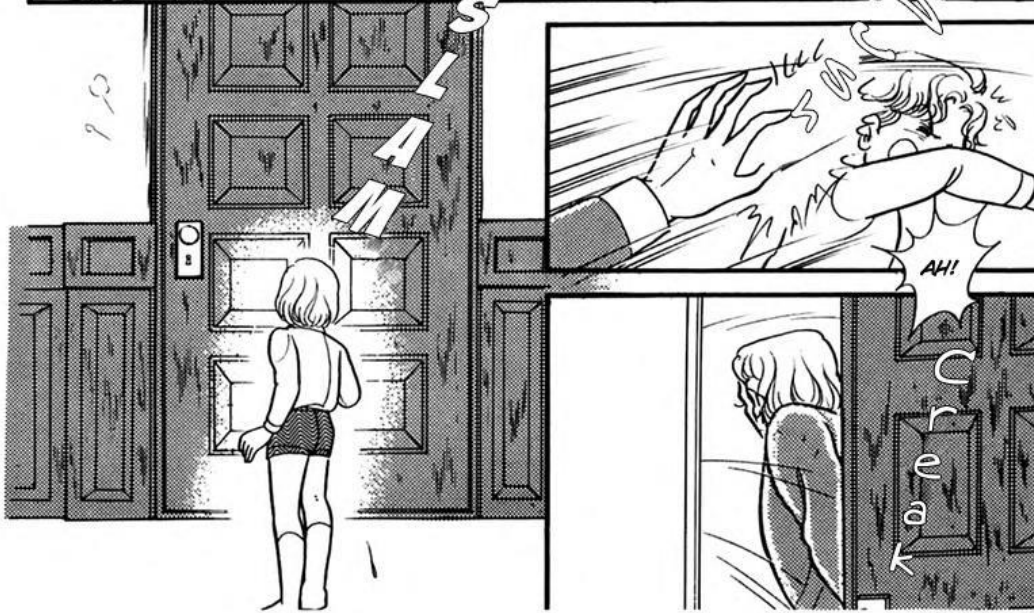
AND THESE ARE THE PROPS SHE USED ON STAGE...



THIS WAS THE OUTER LAYER OF THE BRIDAL KIMONO THE CRIMSON GODDESS WORE.



Master...





GOOD MORNING YOUNG MASTER.

WE ARE TAKING CARE OF THE PLANTS FROM THE GARDEN.

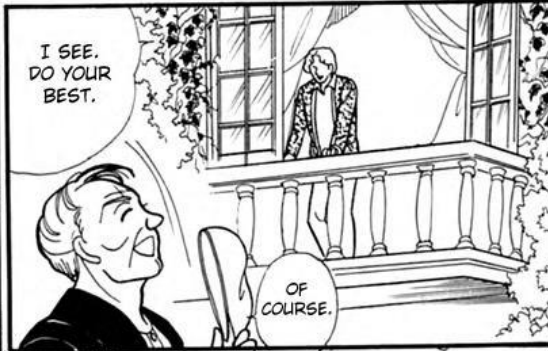


The crimson goddess...

Yes...That was the first time I heard about the crimson goddess...



AH, WHAT WOULD THIS BE?! SLUDGE...



I SEE. DO YOUR BEST.

OF COURSE.



FOR THE GROWTH OF PLANTS.

FERTILIZER?

THAT'S FERTILIZER.



Yes... back then I was really spoiled by the various workers that came to the Hayami mansion...



THANKS BOY.

I'LL GIVE YOU A HAND!

The things that gardener taught me came in hand back then...

I WAS TAUGHT THIS WHEN I WAS LITTLE BY THE GARDENERS THAT CAME TO WORK AT THE HAYAMI MANSION.

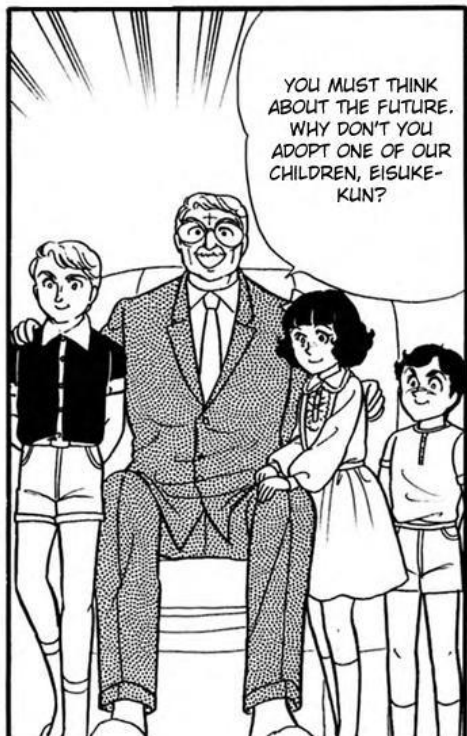
YOU KNOW QUITE A LOT ON THE TOPIC MASUMI-SAMA.

BUT THE SLUDGE THAT IS FOUND ON THE LAKES' BOTTOM IS THE BEST FERTILIZER.

IT IS MADE BY COVERING A MIX OF STAGNANT WATER AND DEAD LEAVES AND LEAVING IT LIKE THAT FOR A WHILE.



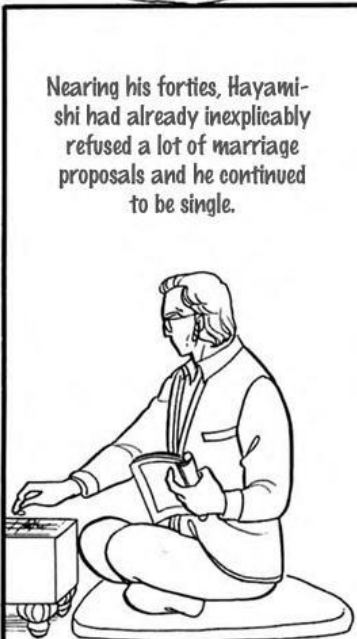
EXACTLY! THE SLUDGE FROM THE LAKES IS RICH IN NUTRIMENTS AND IT'S LIKE A TREASURE FOR THE GARDENERS!



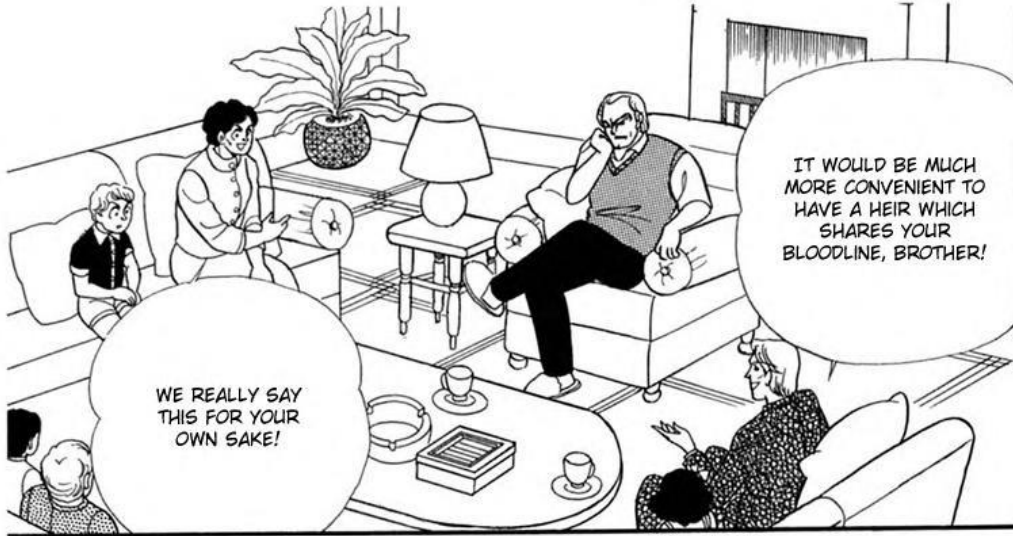
YOU MUST THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE. WHY DON'T YOU ADOPT ONE OF OUR CHILDREN, EISUKE-KUN?



It seemed he didn't have any intention of getting married...



Nearing his forties, Hayami-shi had already inexplicably refused a lot of marriage proposals and he continued to be single.



WE REALLY SAY THIS FOR YOUR OWN SAKE!

IT WOULD BE MUCH MORE CONVENIENT TO HAVE A HEIR WHICH SHARES YOUR BLOODLINE, BROTHER!

The hostilities with his father's wife and his brothers never ceased.

He was the son of his father's lover, and he left his native Okayama at the age of fourteen.

Hayami-shi had some step brothers.



WHAT?! ARE YOU SAYING WE ARE NOT TAKING THE IMPROVEMENT OF YOUR ENTERPRISES IN CONSIDERATION?!

I MUST PUT BUSINESS FIRST, BROTHER!

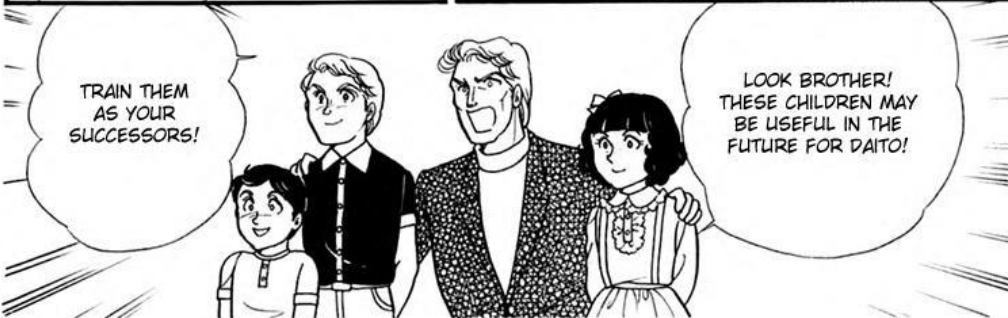
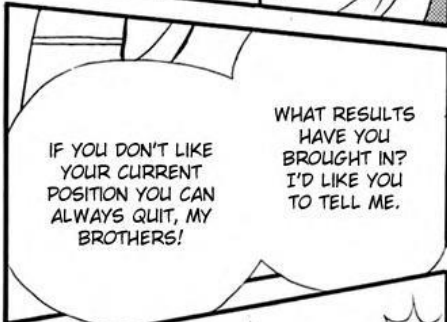
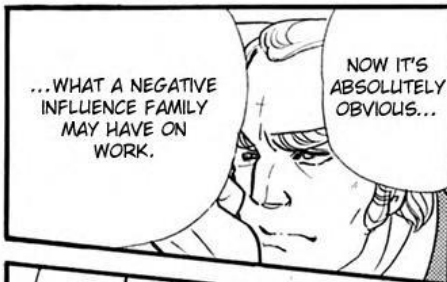
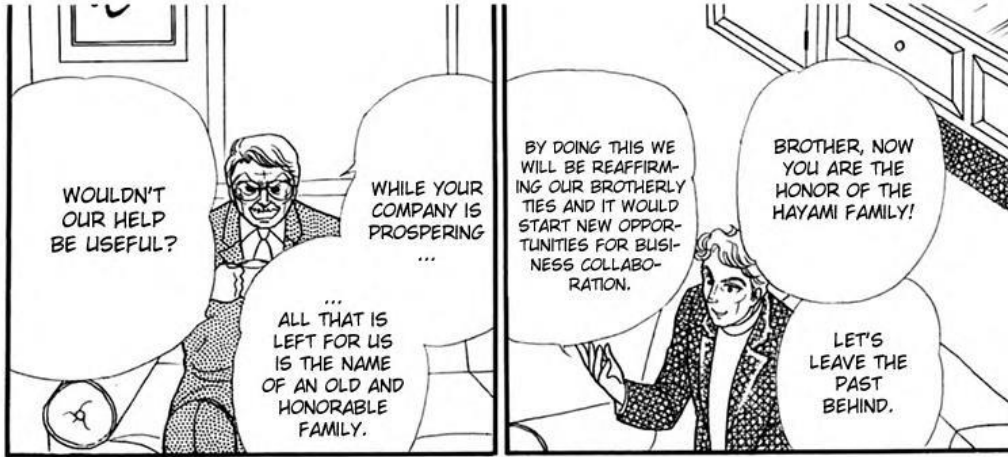
BUT AN ORGANIZATION WHOSE GOVERNMENT IS ENFORCED BY A BLOODLINE IS THE ONE THAT WOULD BRING YOU PEACE EISUKE-KUN!

I DON'T INTEND TO CHOOSE MY SUCCESSOR ACCORDING TO BLOOD RELATIONS.

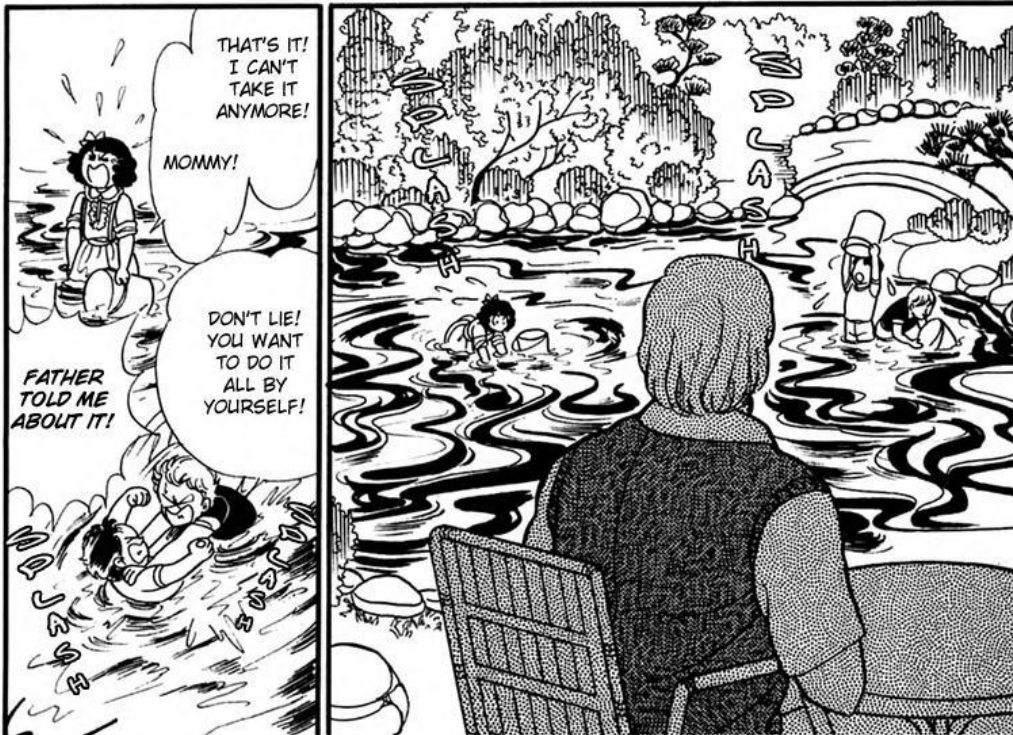
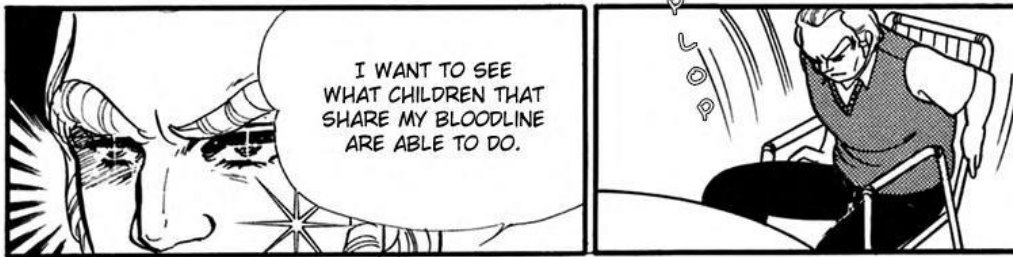


NOW IT'S NOT THE TIME TO TALK ABOUT FAMILY PRIDE. AFTER THE WAR THE HAYAMI FAMILY HAS FALLEN FROM ITS' FORMER GLORY.

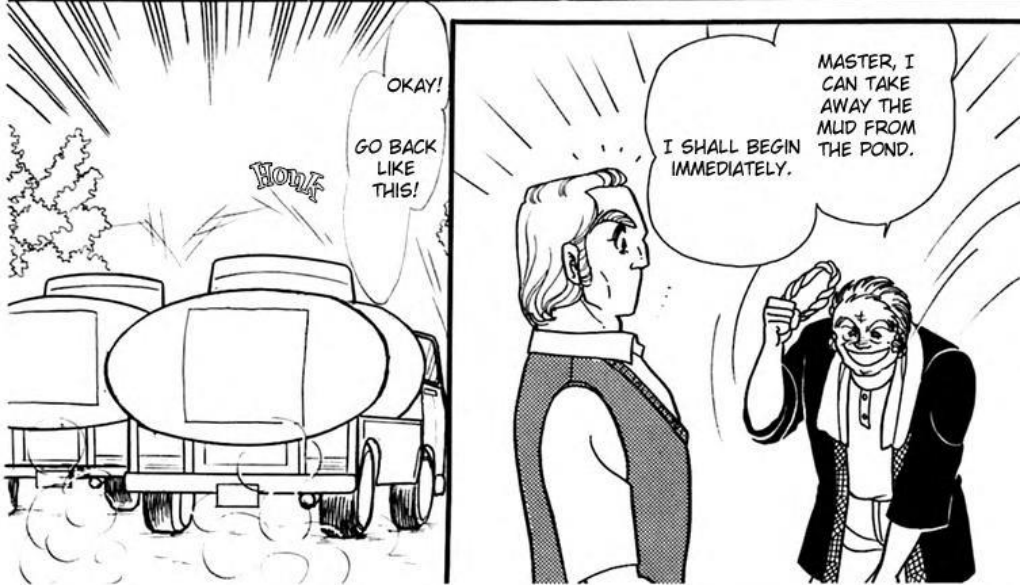
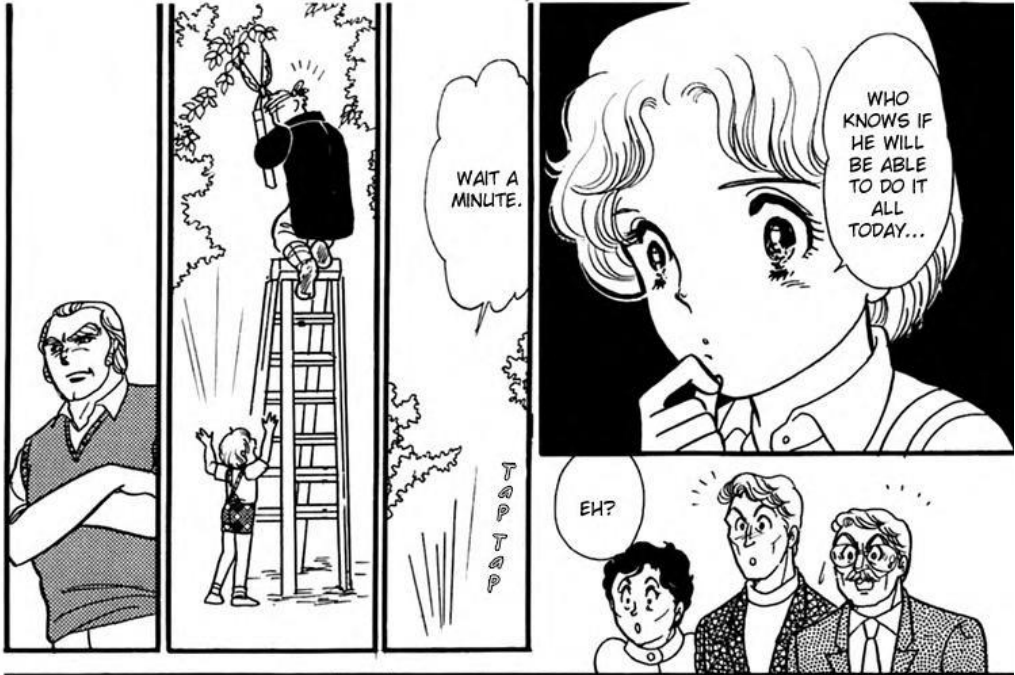
... BUT WE WERE ONLY KIDS. CALM YOURSELVES BROTHERS... EISUKE-NIISAN IT'S TRUE THAT IN THE PAST WE HAD OUR DISAGREEMENTS...

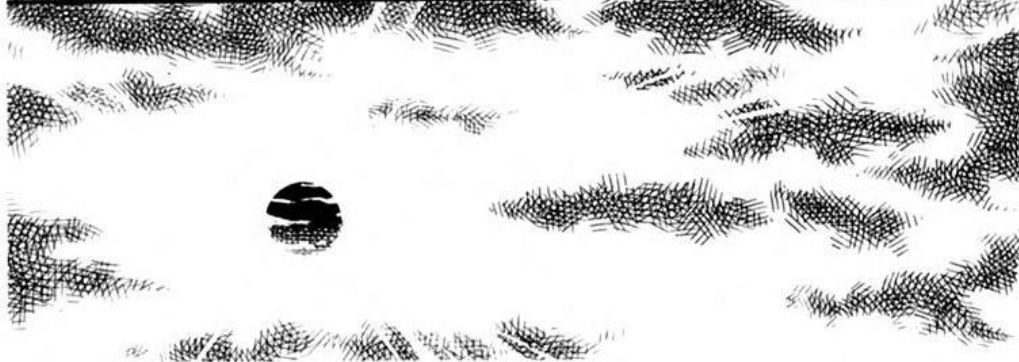
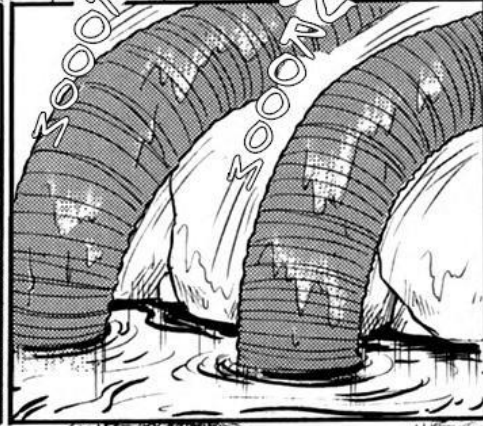
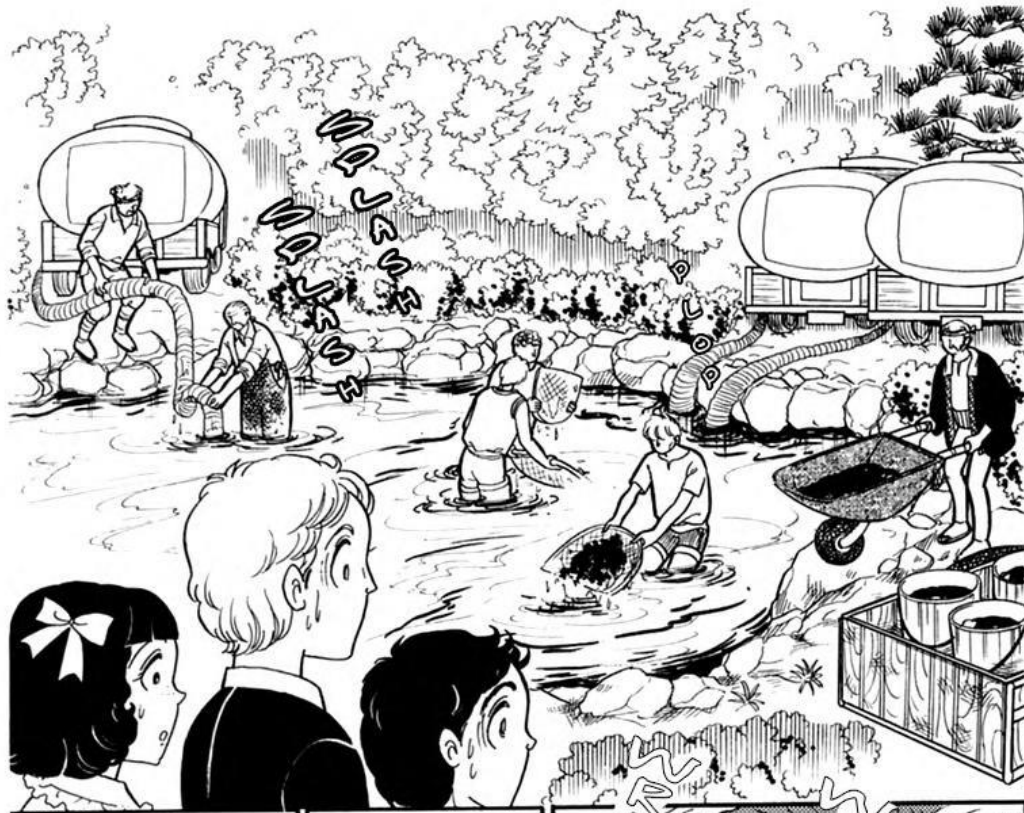


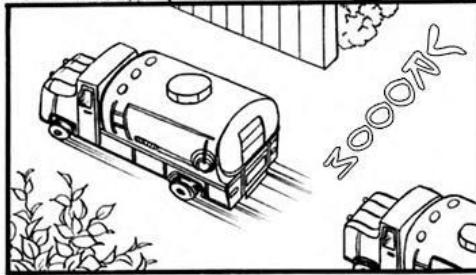












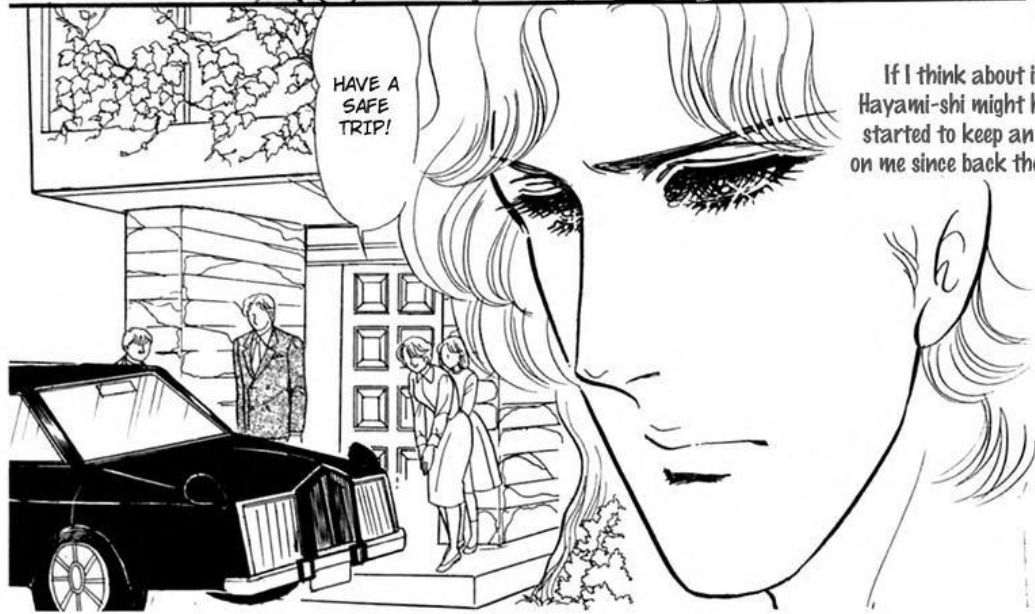


HE DIDN'T GET HIS HANDS DIRTY AND HE SOLVED THE PROBLEM SATISFYING BOTH PARTS IN THE END...



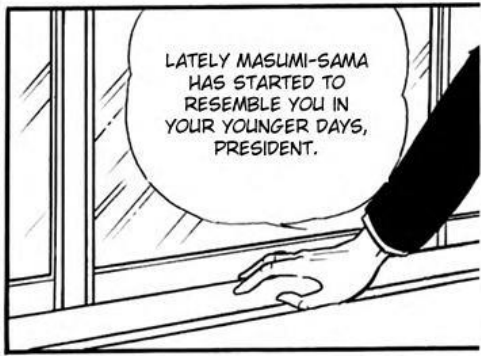
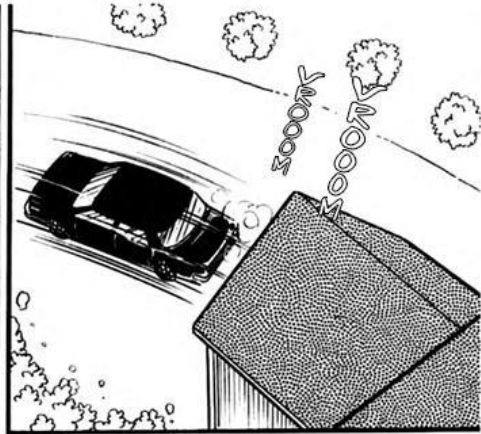
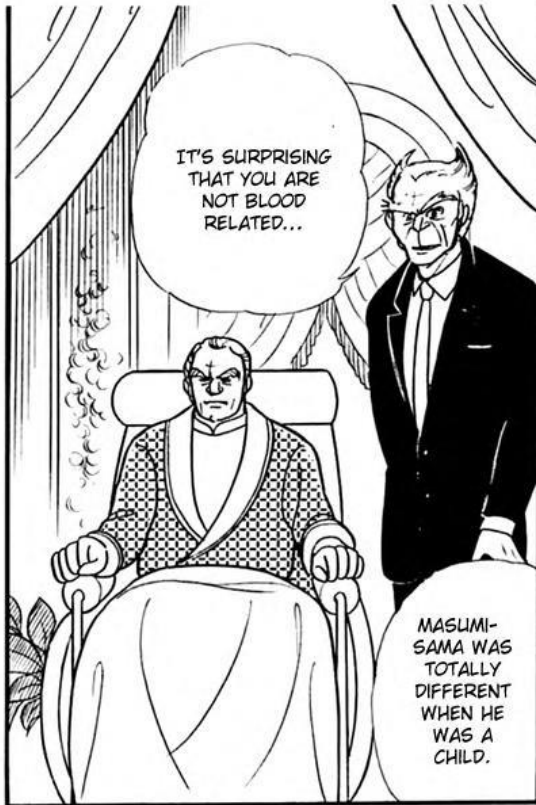
THE GARDENER TOLD ME THAT THE SLUDGE FROM A POND IS A GREAT FERTILIZER AND I JUST THOUGHT THIS WOULD WORK OUT...

...BY CLEANING THE POND AND MAKING THE GARDENER HAPPY!



HAVE A SAFE TRIP!

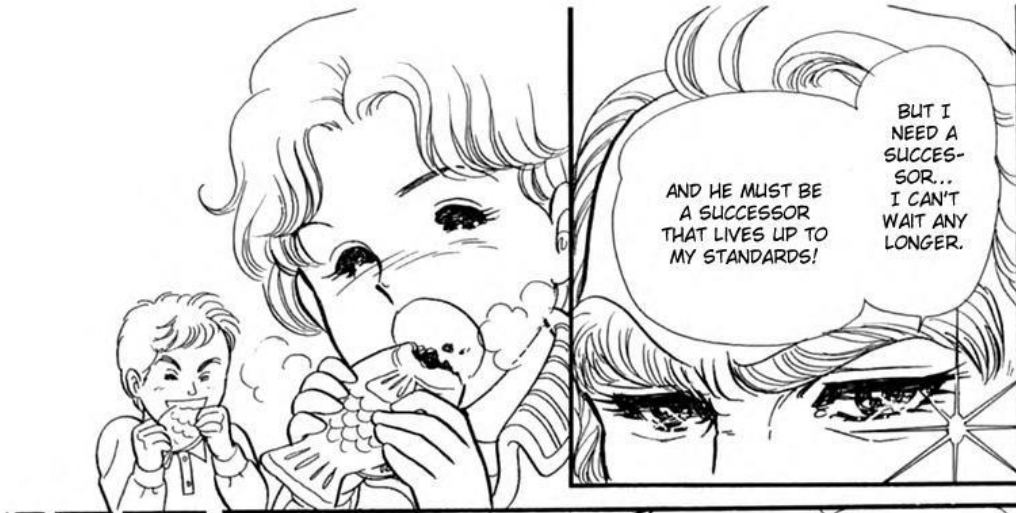
If I think about it, Hayami-shi might have started to keep an eye on me since back then...





*3 chome - something like 3rd area, part of district, a way Japanese people divide a city and part of an address. For more information go <http://www.columbia.edu/~kermit/postal.html> japan
**pancake shaped like a fish filled with red beans marmalade





AND HE MUST BE
A SUCCESSOR
THAT LIVES UP TO
MY STANDARDS!

BUT I
NEED A
SUCCE-
SOR...
I CAN'T
WAIT ANY
LONGER.



...IS DIFFERENT
FROM THE
MASUMI-SAMA
FROM TODAY, RIGHT
PRESIDENT...?

THE BOY BACK
THEN...



UNFORTU-
NATELY
MASUMI ISN'T
HOME...

SHIORI-SAN! I AM
HONORED BY
YOUR VISIT!

WHAT?
SHIORI
TAKA-
MIYA...?!

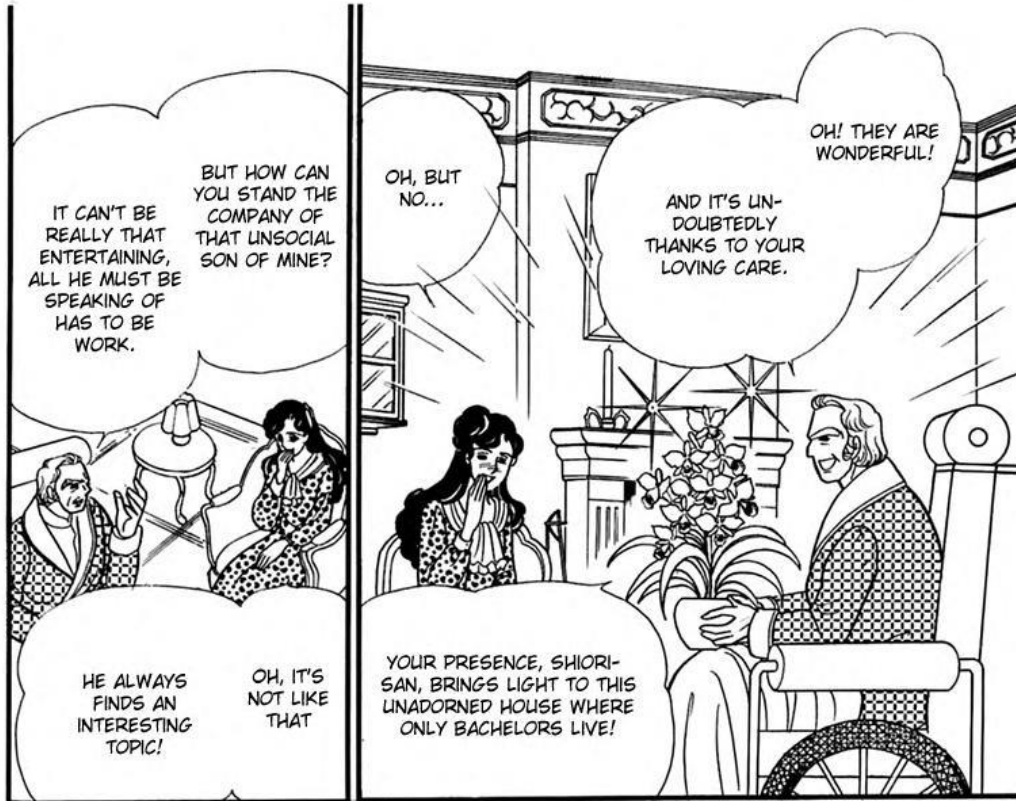
IT'S
SHIORI-
SAMA...



THE FLOWERS I GROW
IN MY GREENHOUSE
HAVE BLOOMED. THEY
ARE SO BEAUTIFUL
THAT I WANTED TO
BRING SOME FOR
HIM TO SEE...

IT DOESN'T
MATTER. I CAME
HERE JUST TO
BRING THESE
FLOWERS.

LET HER
IN IMMEDI-
ATELY!

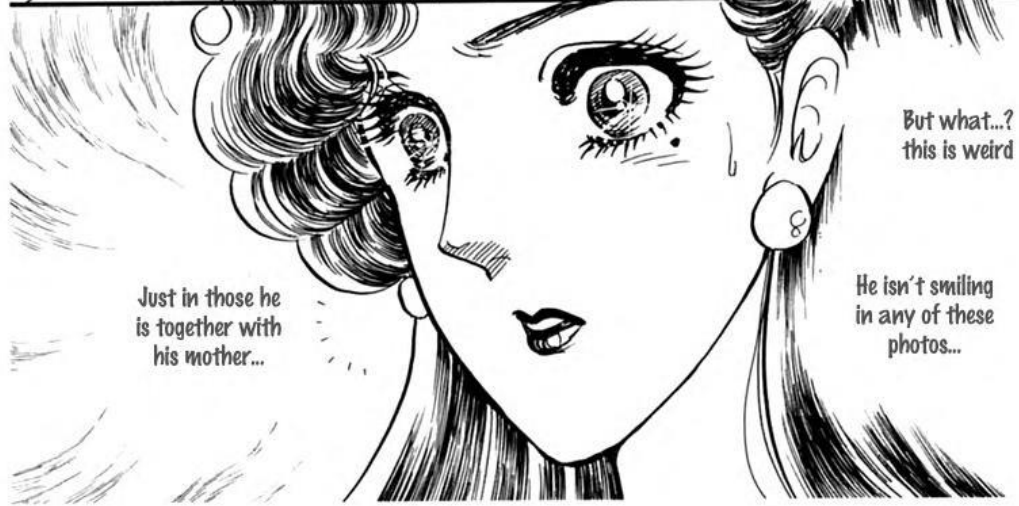




OH, HOW CUTE!



I DIDN'T THINK HE'D BE LIKE THIS.



Just in those he is together with his mother...

But what...? this is weird

He isn't smiling in any of these photos...



What a serious look...

In elementary school, in junior high and also in the senior years...

...he doesn't smile in any of these photos!

Why?