



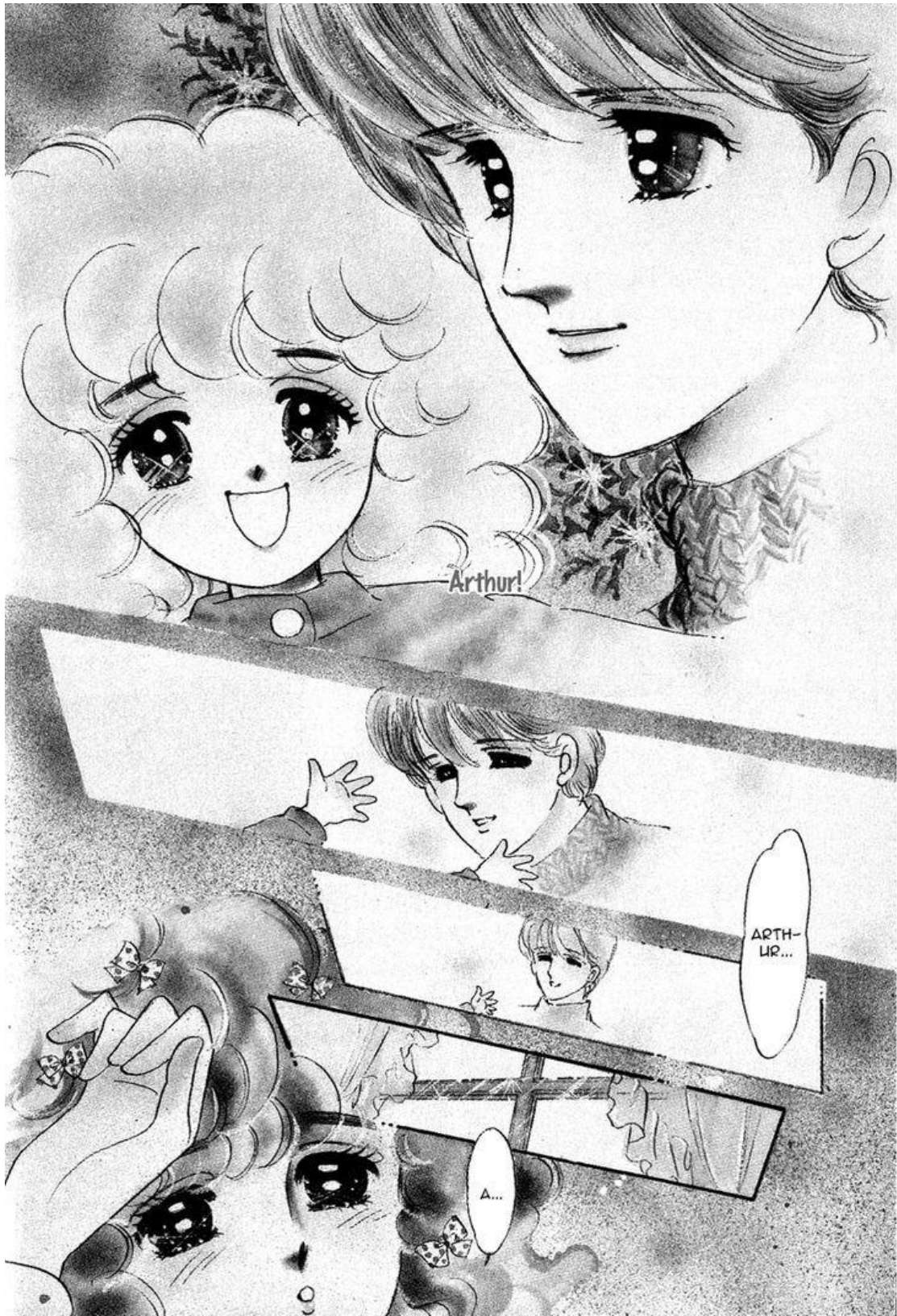


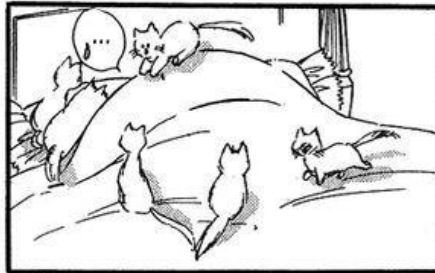
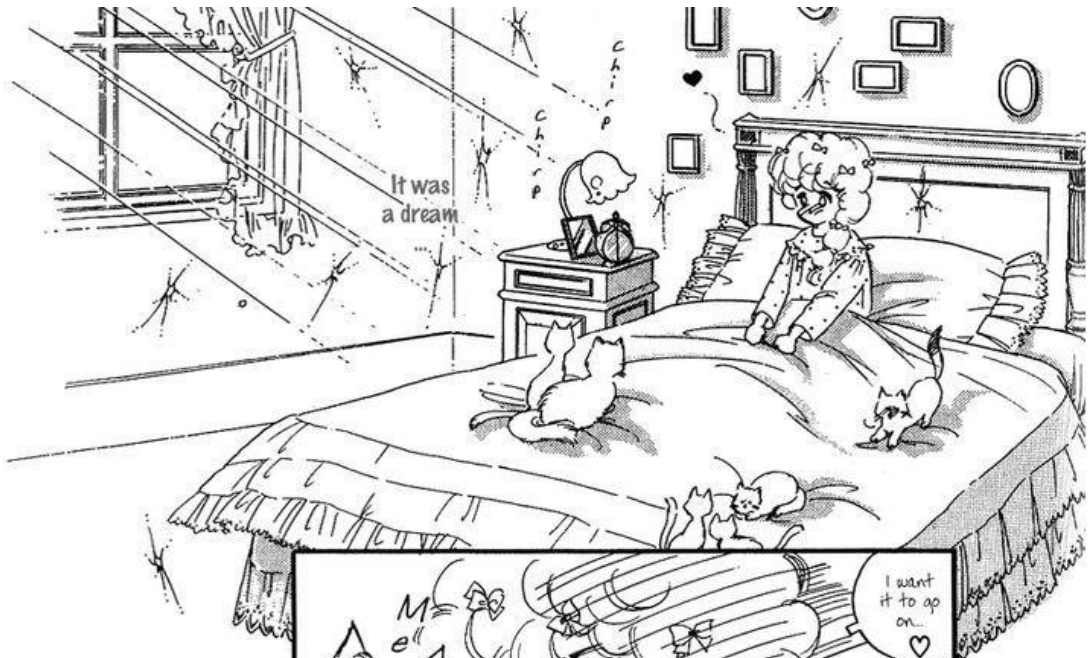
RIN

...

Who is
it?

Arthur?









GOOD MORNING, RIN.

GOOD MORNING, GRANDPA AND GRANNY!



RIN, YOU'RE IN AN ESPECIALLY GOOD MOOD THIS MORNING.

THEN HERE'S A SPECIAL EXTRA ROUND FOR YOU!

I LIKE YOUR WESTERN STYLE OF GREETING.



WHAT DID YOU DREAM OF?



I HAD A DREAM ABOUT THE TIME I LIVED IN ENGLAND WHEN I WAS LITTLE.



YUP! ♡

IT'S A SECRET. ♡

Of the day I came back to Japan.

Of something that happened in Alexandra's stable.



It might
have
been just a
dream,
like this
morning.

But
...

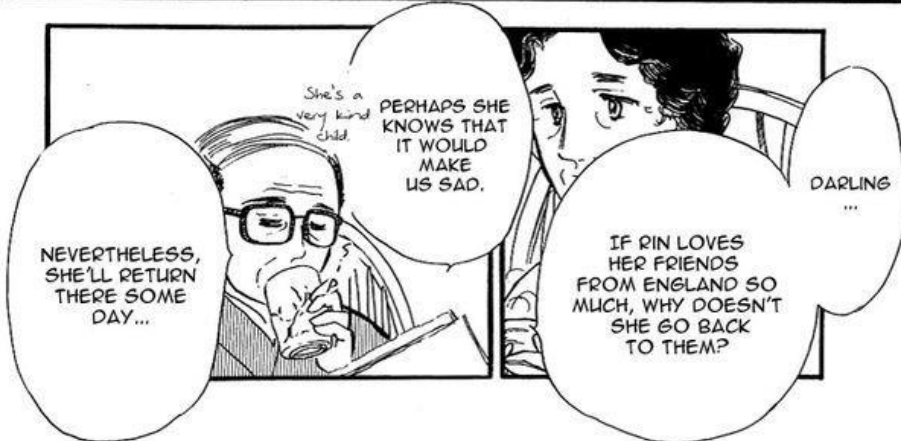
I distinctly
remember
that blond hair
shining brightly
in the morning
sunlight.

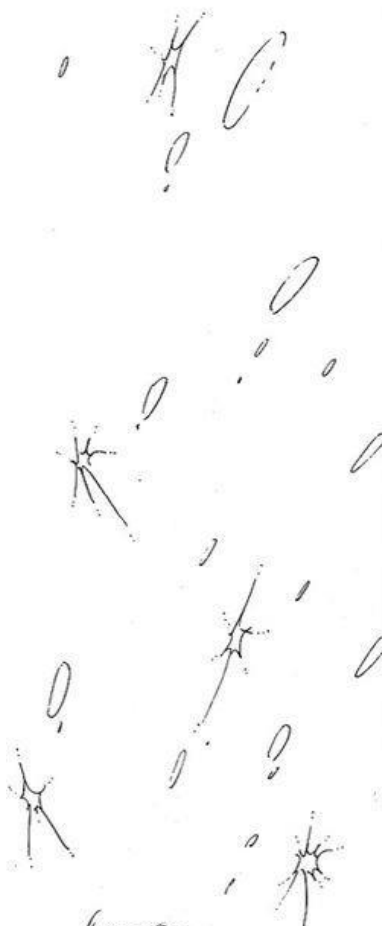
This is the
memory I
hold dearest
to my heart.



SEE
YOU
LATER!







AND THERE'S STILL NO NEWS FROM ENGLAND, DARLING...

WELL, IT'S BEEN HALF A YEAR SINCE WE LAST HEARD FROM THEM. WE'VE SENT A LETTER BUT...



SOMETHING MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED OVER THERE ...



These foreign names are all so difficult to pronounce. How was that?

PRINCE AND SARAH AND ARTHUR... AND EDWARD AND ALEXANDRA.

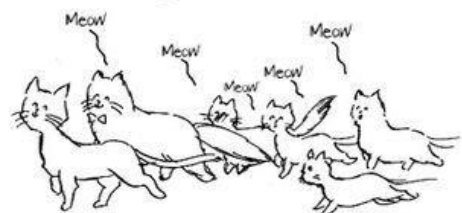


Meow Meow Meow

When it comes to cats, Tama and Shiro are such nice names ...

FOLLOW ME, MAMA, QUEEN, AND PAPA,

OKAY, OKAY. YOU WANT SOME MILK, DON'T YOU?







ANYWAY,
IF ANYBODY GIVES
YOU PROBLEMS
I'LL TEACH
HIM A LESSON
FOR YOU RIGHT
AWAY!

SURE.
THANKS.



IT'S KIND OF
LONELY THAT WE
GO TO DIFFERENT
SCHOOLS.

BUT
...

BUT THAT'S
BECAUSE
YOUR SCHOOL
IS FOR THE
RICH.



Ma-kun is
just like
Edward.



I wonder
if he's still
the same

He's a bit
violent...

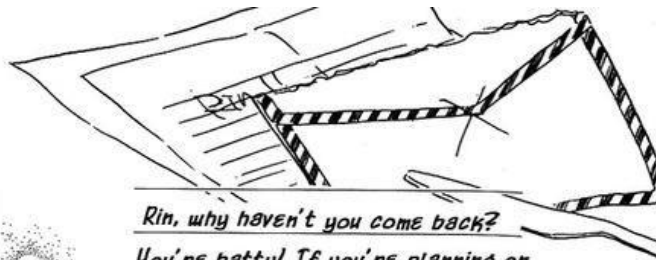
But...

So kind.



He must hate me now.

But he's still my dearest friend.



*Rin, why haven't you come back?
You're batty! If you're planning on
avoiding us by staying in Japan forever,
then I won't be your friend anymore!*

Edward

What a letter he sent me!

He let me know that he can finally manage Alexandra. Sarah and Arthur told me that in their letters, too.



My dear English friends,
we've been separated for so long and we'll never be reunited...

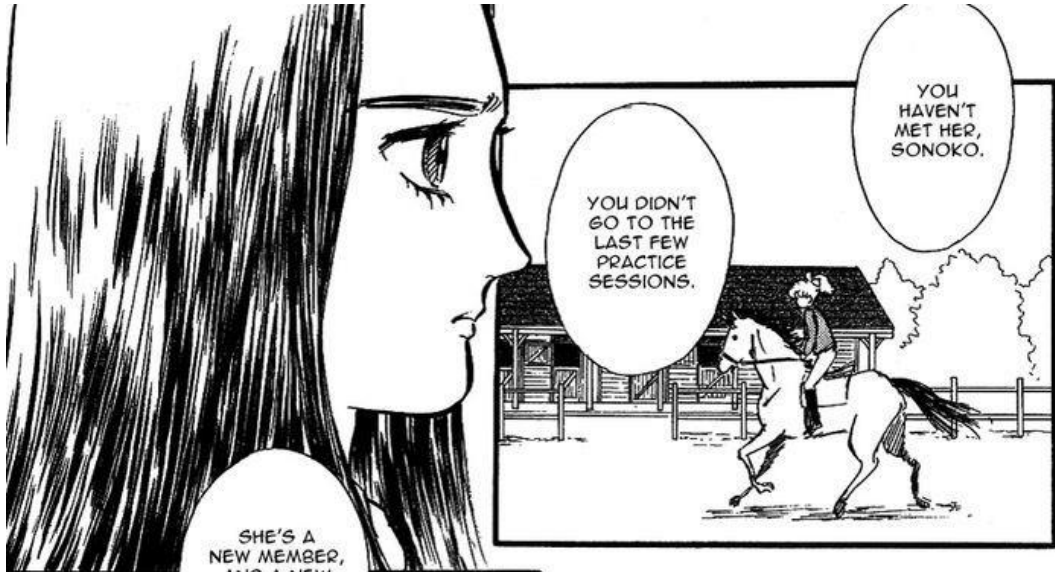






WHO'S
THAT GIRL
RIDING MY
HORSE?!





YOU DIDN'T GO TO THE LAST FEW PRACTICE SESSIONS.

YOU HAVEN'T MET HER, SONOKO.

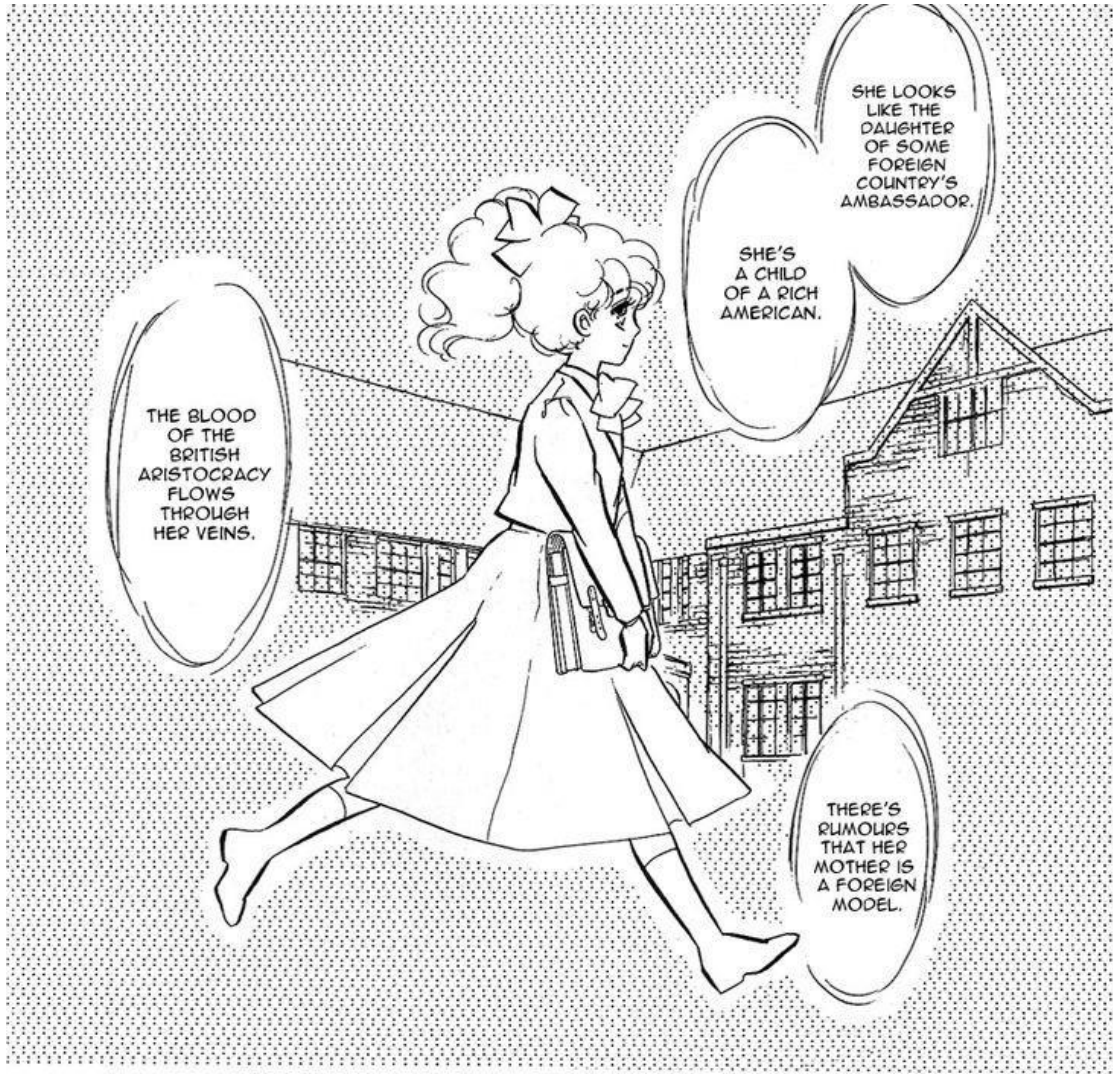
SHE'S A NEW MEMBER, AND A NEW STUDENT IN THE SECOND YEAR.



DOES SHE COME FROM A GOOD FAMILY?

THAT'S THE NEW HALF-JAPANESE STUDENT. HER NAME IS RIN.

HEY, WHO'S THAT GIRL?



WOW,
THATS GREAT!
WE'LL BE GOOD
FRIENDS!
♡



I'VE JOINED
THE EQUESTRIAN
CLUB, TOO...

HEY...



RIN
MIDORIKAWA,
YOU STAND OUT
SO YOU'RE
EASY TO
REMEMBER.

YOU'RE
RIN,
RIGHT?

MY
NAME
IS...

LET ME
SEE...
YOU ARE...



ACTUALLY,
MY NAME'S
RIN RUSSELL.

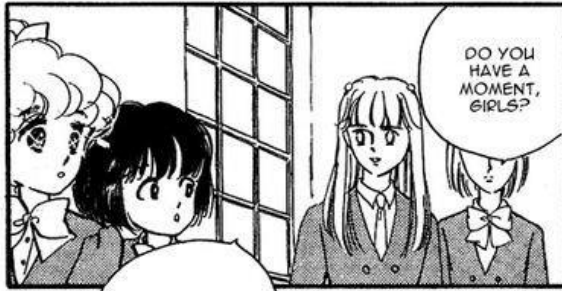
MIDORI-
KAWA
IS MY
MOTHER'S
MAIDEN
NAME.

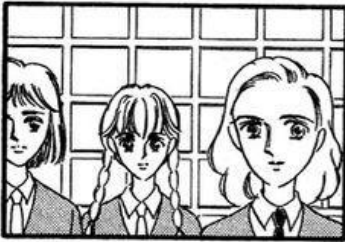
I'M MANA
KUSUNOKI.
♡

SORRY, I'M
NEW HERE, SO
I DON'T KNOW
EVERYONE'S
NAMES YET.



CALL ME
RIN.





*TEMAE: PROCEDURES IN TEA CEREMONY



YOU'RE SO ACCOMPLISHED, RIN.

EVEN IN FRONT OF THE UPPER-CLASSMEN.

THE HORSES ARE MOST IMPORTANT, THOUGH!

well,

A LITTLE ABOUT FLOWERS, PIANO, AND SOME BALLETT.

THEY'RE ALL PRETTY INTERESTING.

WHAT ELSE DID YOU LEARN BESIDES TEA CEREMONY, RIN?



THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO FIND OUT WHAT KIND OF PERSON YOU ARE.

THERE ARE A LOT OF RUMOURS COMING UP ABOUT YOU, RIN.

WELL ...



YES, I'VE ENTERED THIS SCHOOL BECAUSE I WANT TO BECOME A LADY.

LADIES?



HIGH-CLASS DAUGHTERS ...LADIES, YOU MEAN?



THIS SCHOOL IS AN APPROPRIATE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE DAUGHTERS OF HIGH-CLASS FAMILIES.



I'm embarrassed.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT MAKES SOMEONE A LADY. I GUESS IT ISN'T JUST BEING THE DAUGHTER OF A HIGH-CLASS FAMILY.

I'VE NEVER REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT THAT I'VE BEEN HERE EVER SINCE PRIMARY SCHOOL.

WELL,

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, MANA?

IN THIS SCHOOL, THERE ARE A LOT OF GIRLS WHO ARE TRYING TO BECOME LADIES.

GRANDMA AND GRANDPA TOLD ME THAT.



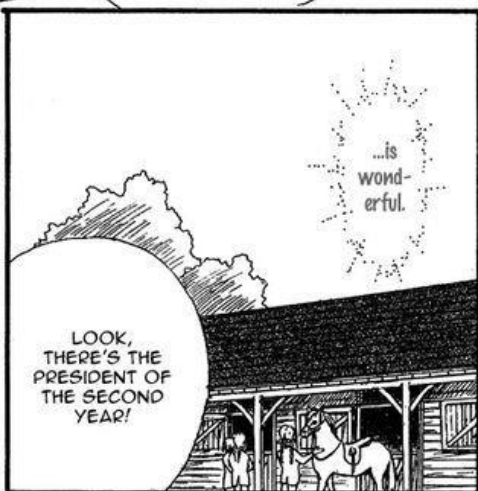
GENTLE, STRONG, AND BEAUTIFUL.

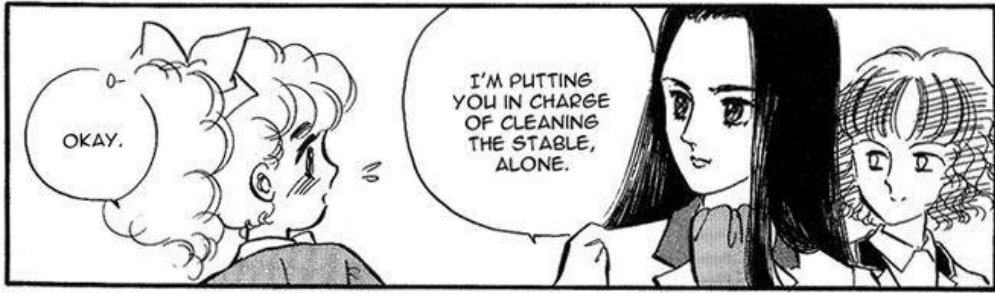
THAT'S WHAT A WOMAN NEEDS TO BE TO BECOME LOVELY.



YEAH, IT REALLY IS!

T-THAT'S PRETTY DIFFICULT!





Well when you're just cleaning the horses aren't so interesting.

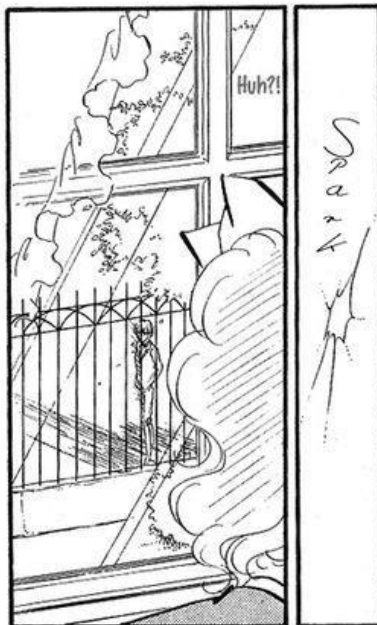
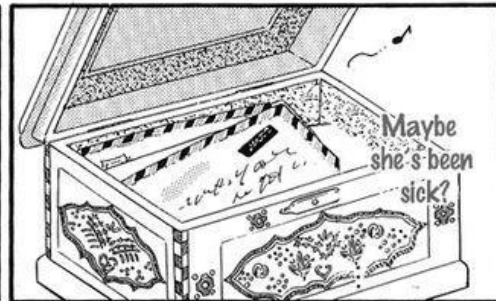
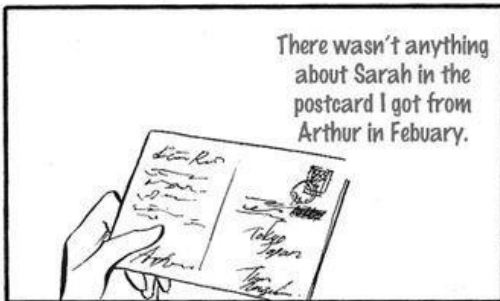


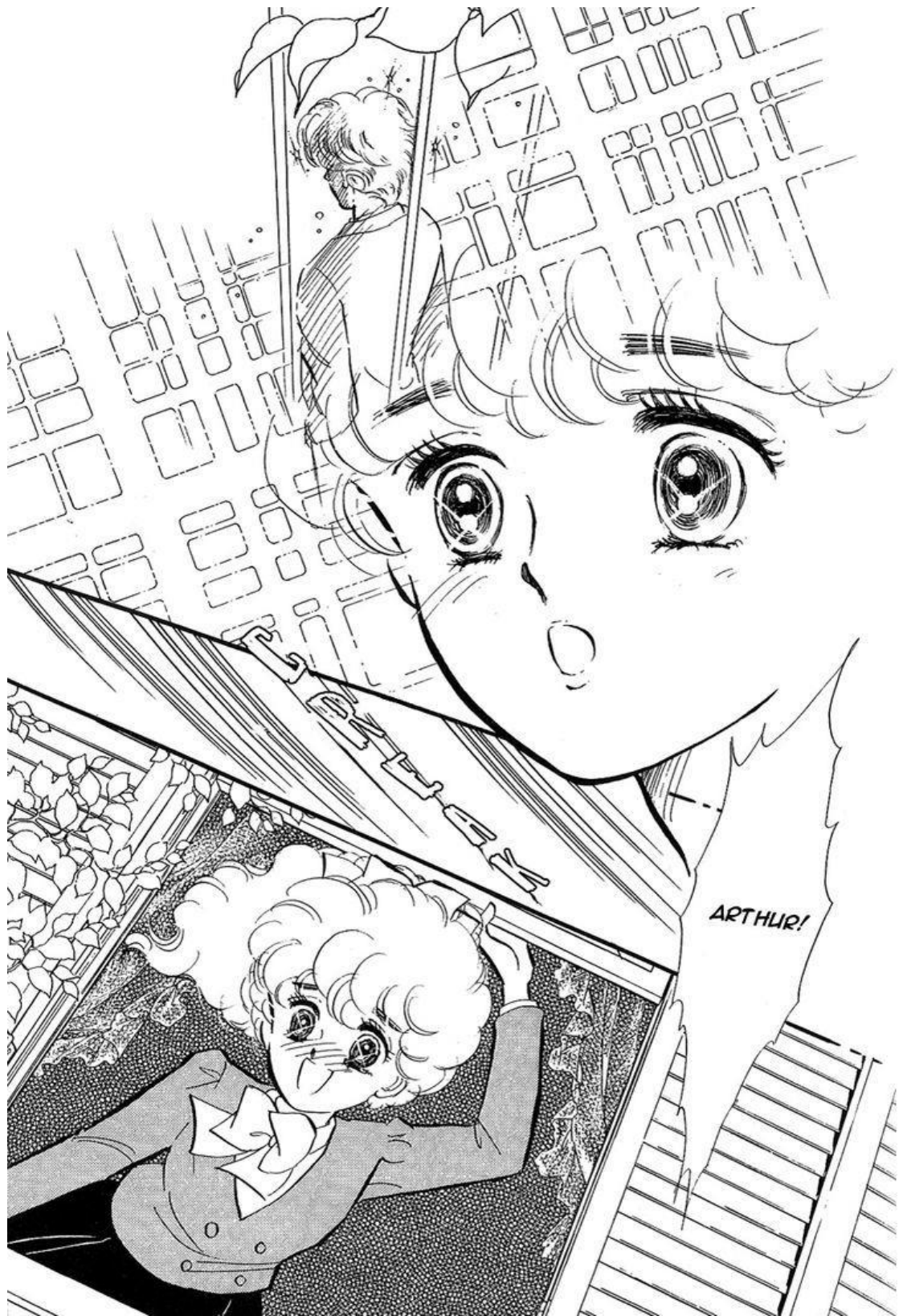
The last I got was the New Year's greeting card from Papa and Sarah.

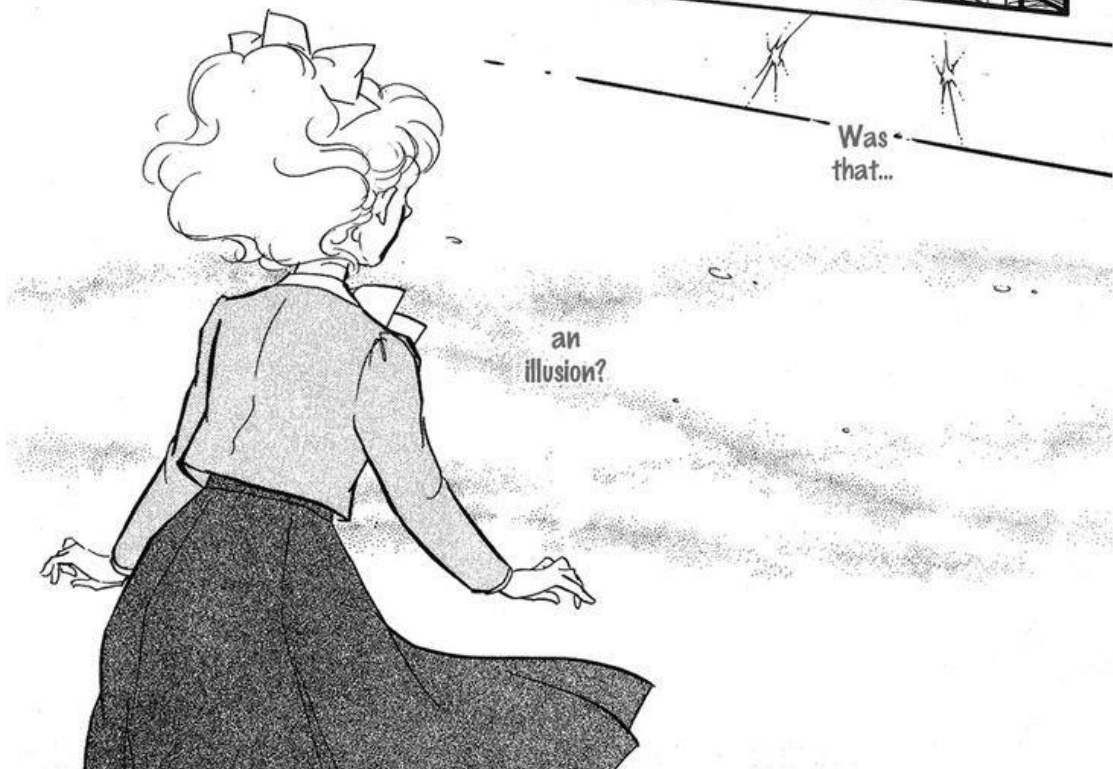


Papa must have been busy at work, but Sarah...

There haven't been any letters for me lately.









Because I
thought I wanted
to see Arthur.

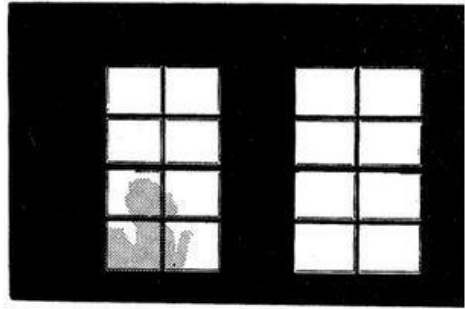
But

A long time
ago, the same
thing happened.



And Ma-kun
said he didn't
see anybody...

Are you in good health, Sarah? I've
been worried as there haven't been
any letters from you.



I am well. As I wrote in my last letter, I am at-
-ending middle school. I have made a new friend.
Her name is Mana.



I'd like to
tell Mana about
you, Sarah.

because you are my beloved
sister.

I imagine you must be quite a
lady by now.

UNTIL
THE DAY
ARTHUR
CHOOSES A
WONDERFUL
GIRL...

LET US
BECOME
LOVELY
LADIES.

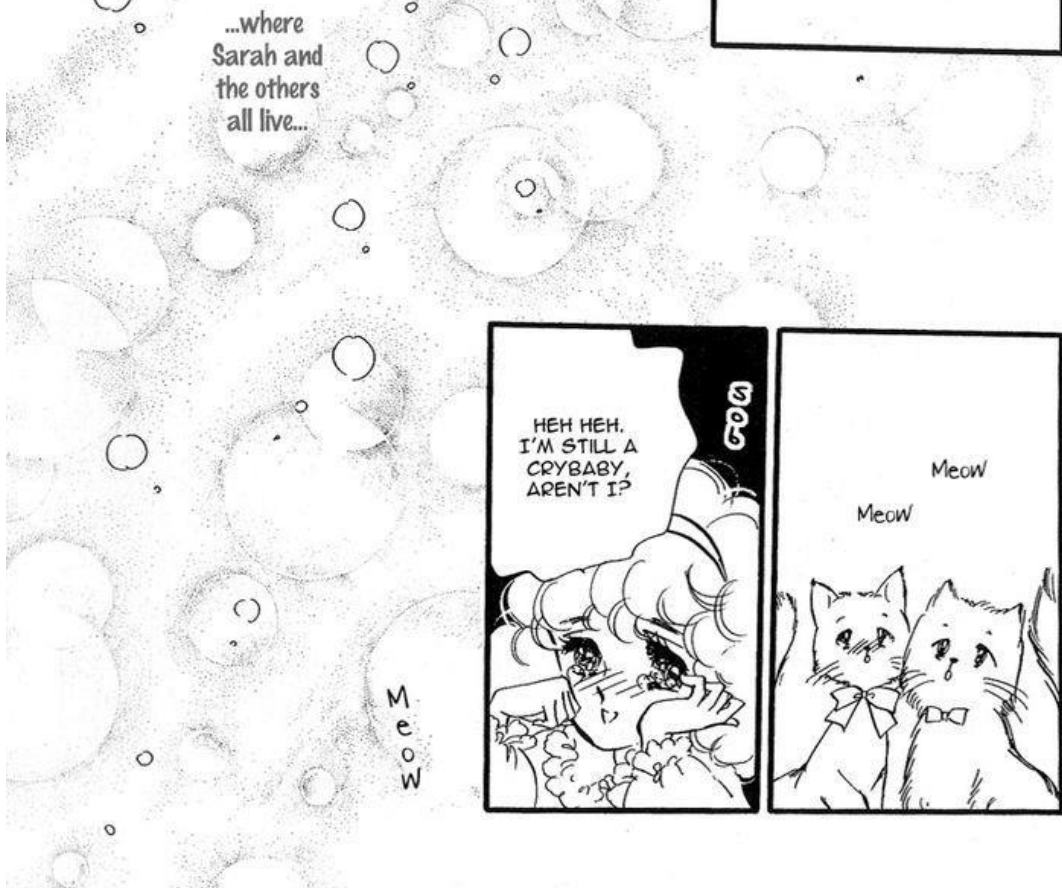




I want to return to England...



...where Sarah and the others all live...



HEH HEH. I'M STILL A CRYBABY, AREN'T I?

Meow

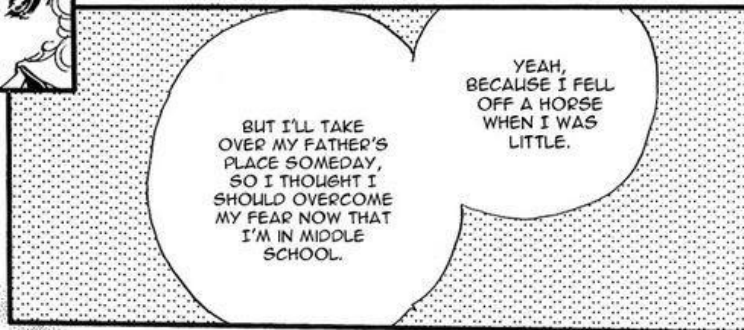


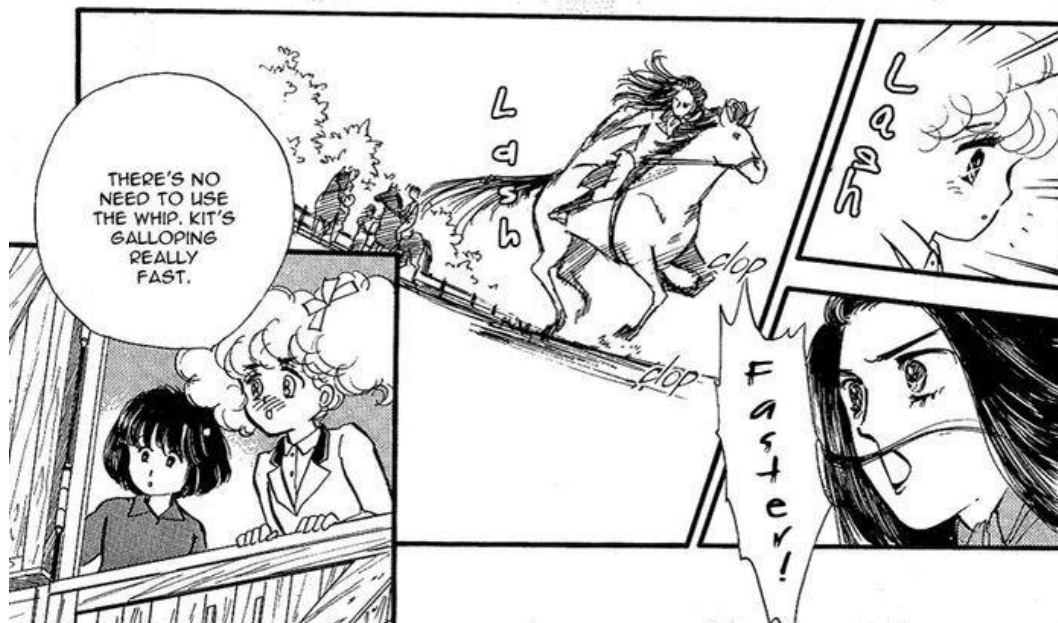
Meow
Meow

Meow











DAMN.

CLEANING.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING, RIN?



Heh heh...

MA-KUN, YOU'RE ALL DIRTY AND WORN-OUT.

YOU GOT INTO ANOTHER FIGHT, DIDN'T YOU.



Is that your friend?

MA-KUN!



HELLO



DISCIBO

HER NAME'S MANA.



THE BOYS AND GIRLS ARE SEPARATED HERE.

WELL, THE BOYS' ENTRANCE IS OVER THERE.

So you're wrong

I GUESS THAT'S WHY EVERYONE'S STARING AT ME.

ARE THERE ONLY GIRLS IN THIS SCHOOL?

OH, MA-KUN THIS IS MY FRIEND.

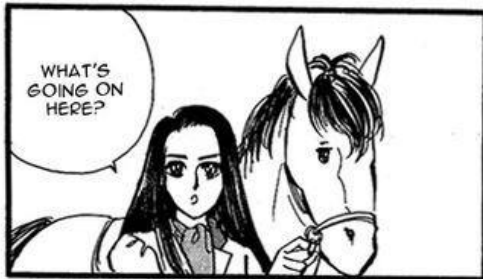


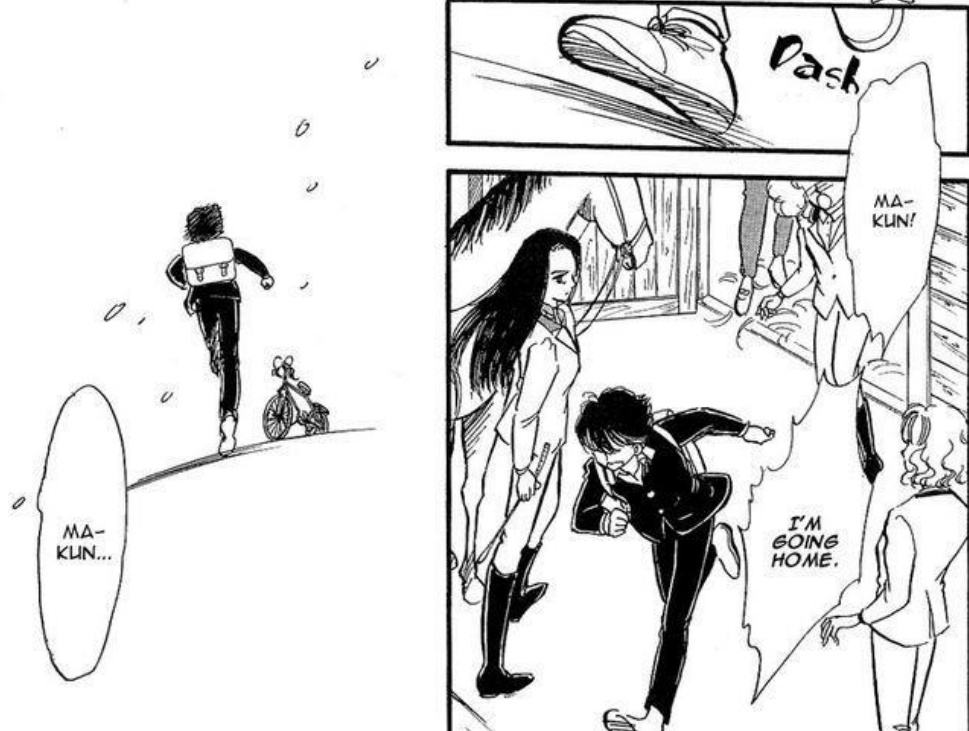
SO WHAT DID YOU FIGHT FOR?

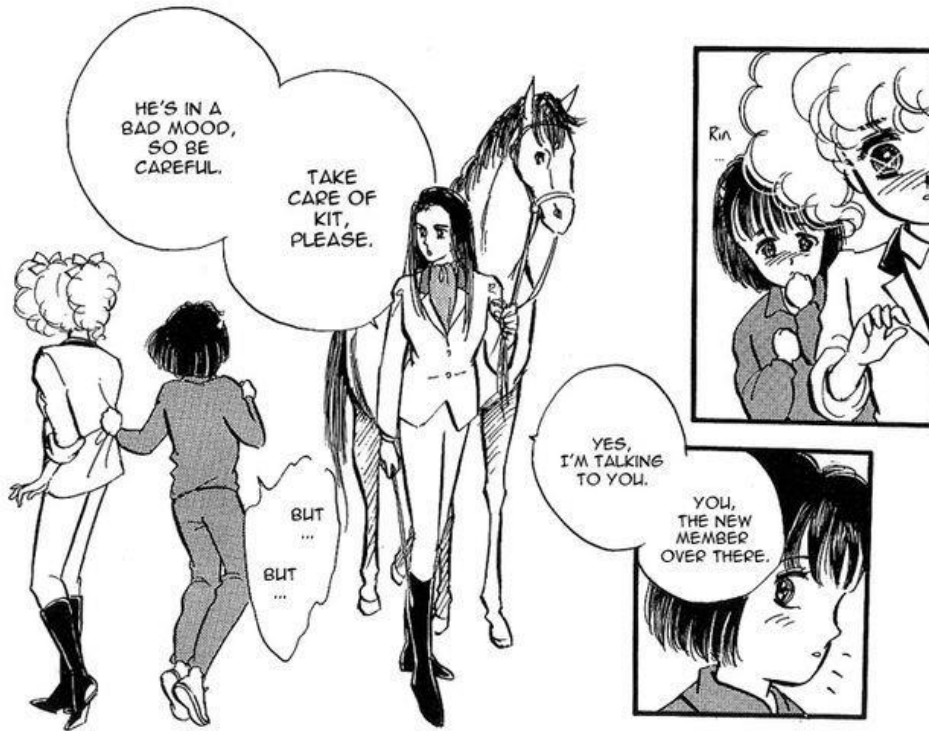
FROM NOW ON, I'M THE TOUGHEST GUY ON THE BLOCK!

BOY, I SHOWED HIM! I FOUGHT A GUY FROM MY MIDDLE SCHOOL.

HEY!
WHY ARE
YOU TAKING
SO LONG?









BUT MANA ISN'T
USED TO HORSES
YET, SO THIS IS
REALLY HARD
FOR HER.

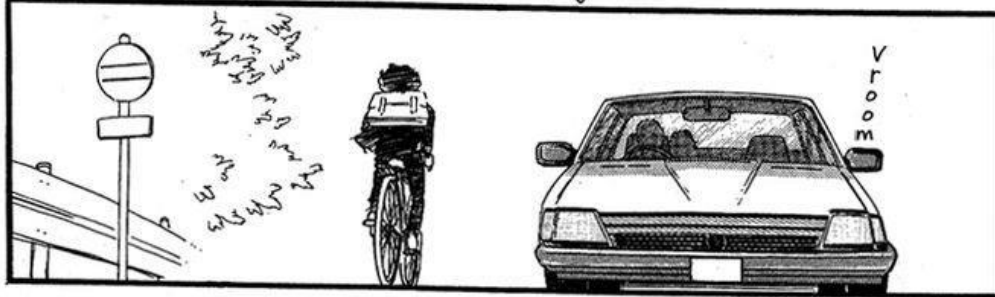
HOLD
IT!

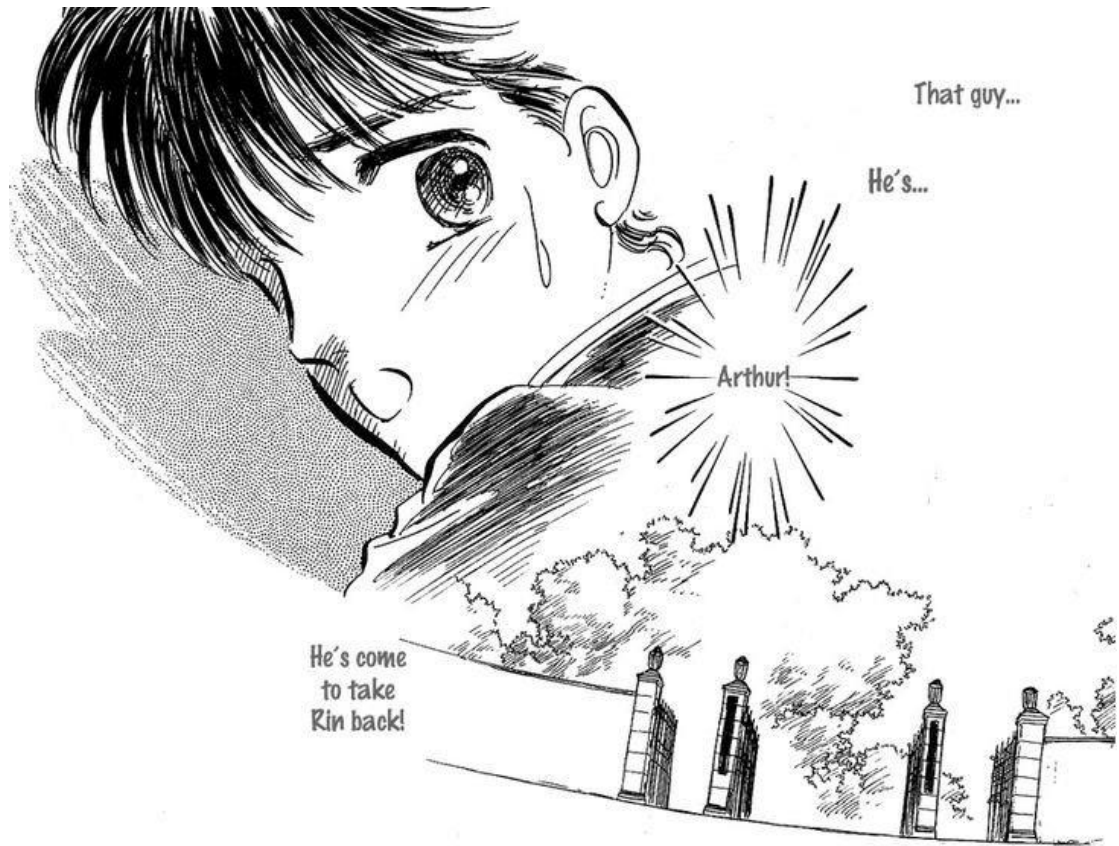
COME HERE.
I'LL GIVE
YOU A GOOD
BRUSHING.

ARE YOU
TALKING BACK
TO YOUR
SUPERIOR?

Eek!

ASH



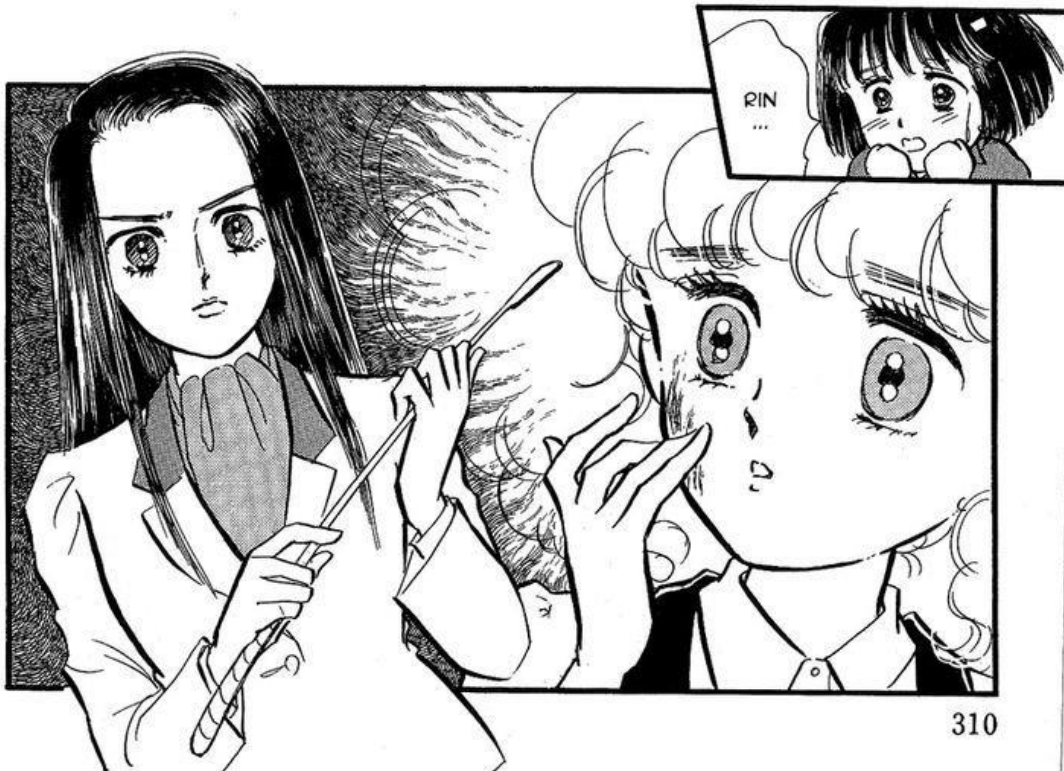


That guy...

He's...

Arthur!

He's come
to take
Kin back!



RIN

...