

K o d a n s h a C o m i c s

プリズムタイム

2



レイン・キス
夢見るRainy Button
Secretな片想い
LOVE CALL
夢じゃないのね

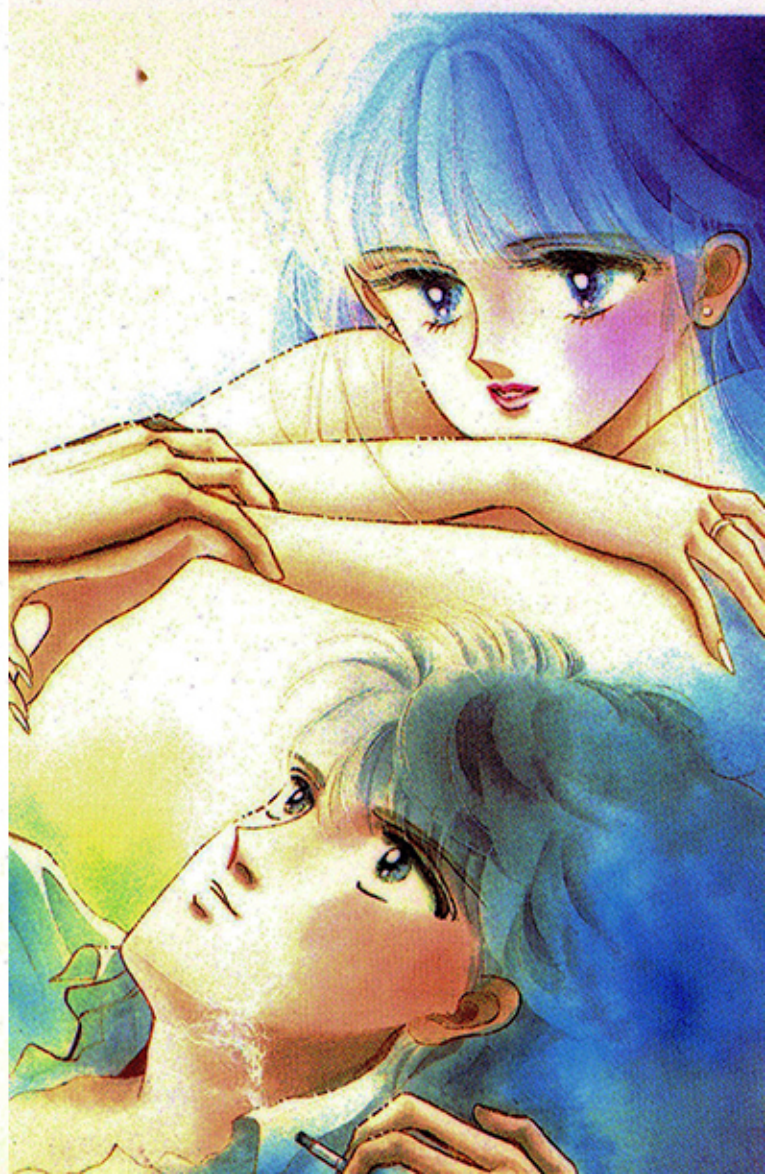
武内直子



お 顔
素 の
作 者

★3月15日生まれ、うお座のA型。山梨県出身。1986年、第2回なかよし新人まんが賞入選の『LOVE CALL』で、「なかよしデラックス」(1986年9月号)よりデビュー。代表作は、『美少女戦士セーラームーン』『コードネームはセーラーV』『ミス・レイン』など。『美少女戦士セーラームーン』で、第17回 講談社漫画賞受賞。

〈カバー/水野プロ〉



KCN
365

プリズムタイム
②

雑誌 41170-65



9784061788657

ISBN4-06-178865-5

C9979 ¥390E (0)



1929979003906

講談社
定価410円

本体390円

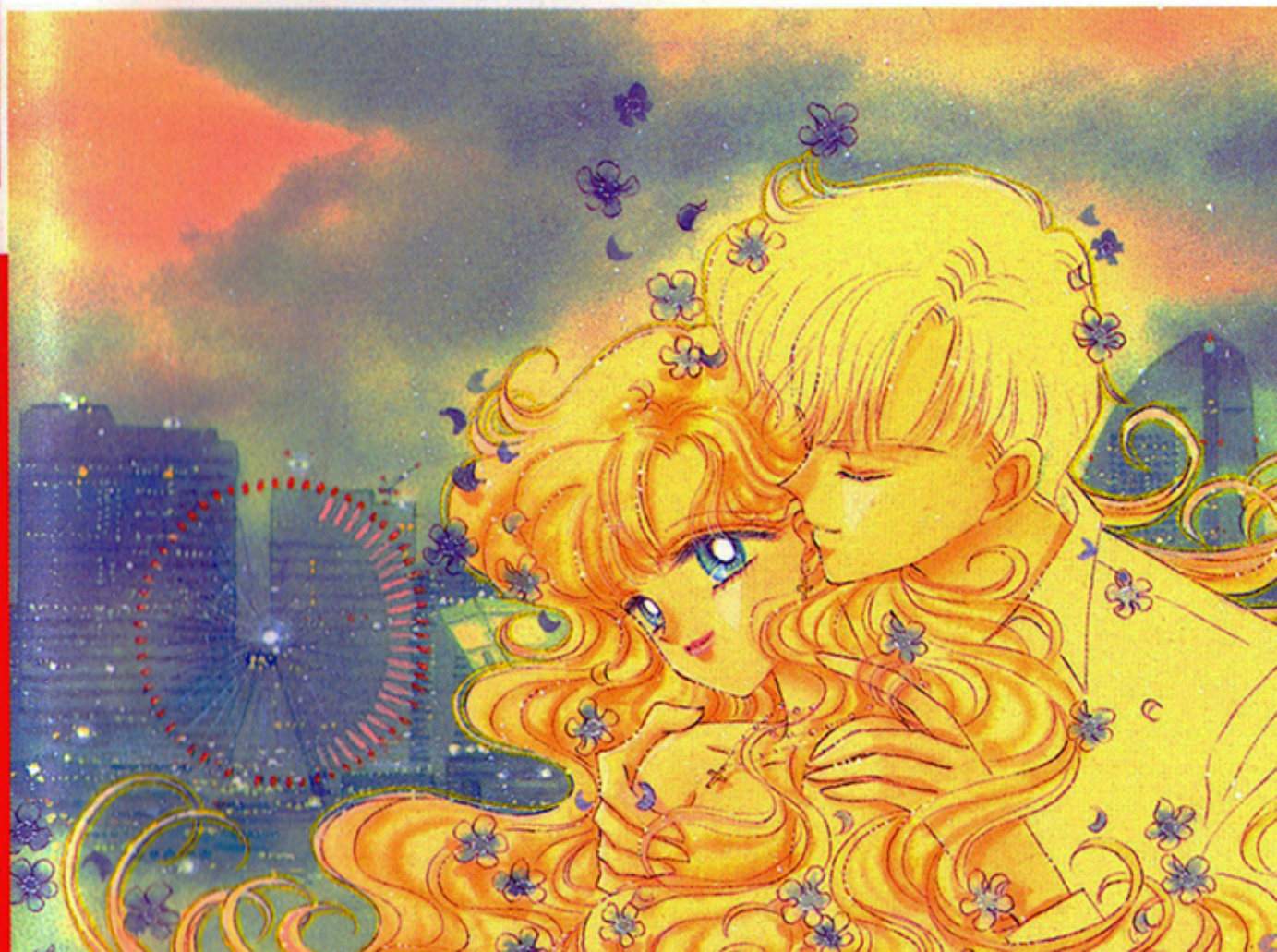
K o d a n s h a C o m i c

☆プリズムタイム——。それは、恋する
おんな こ あま うつく しゅんかん
 女の子たちの、甘くせつなく美しい瞬間。
さいしん さく
 最新作「レイン・キス」からデビュー作、
まぼろし はつけい さい さく ひん しゅぎょく こい
 そして、幻の初掲載作品まで、珠玉の恋の
たん べん あつ だい だん とうじょう
 短編を集めたシリーズ第2弾登場です。

K
なかよし
C

武内直子

講談社





UGH, IT WAS NICE OUTSIDE JUST A MOMENT AGO AND NOW IT'S RAINING!



fwoosh



plip plip

rustle

Prism Time

plip plip

MAYBE I SHOULD GO BACK

2

plip plip

BECAUSE I HAD A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS

plop

MAYBE

I CAME HERE

BUT I DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE I CAN GO EXCEPT BACK TO SCHOOL





AH, A RAINBOW

Rain Kiss



● Rain Kiss	1
● Dreamy Rainy Button	53
● Secret Unrequited Love	87
● LOVE CALL	121
● This Isn't a Dream, Right?	155

Hello there! Thank you for purchasing Prism Time volume 2! I put this compilation together to commemorate this year (1997) with many of the short stories that I loved. The first one is called 'Rain Kiss'. These stories are all very sentimental for me since I drew them while I was in middle school and high school (I debuted as a comic author in college). Now that my short stories are all finally in one compilation with the release of the Prism Time volumes, I myself finally have a collection of all my works! It's a little embarrassing for me to share these works, but I'm really happy I can because my youth was a lot of fun!

Rain Kiss

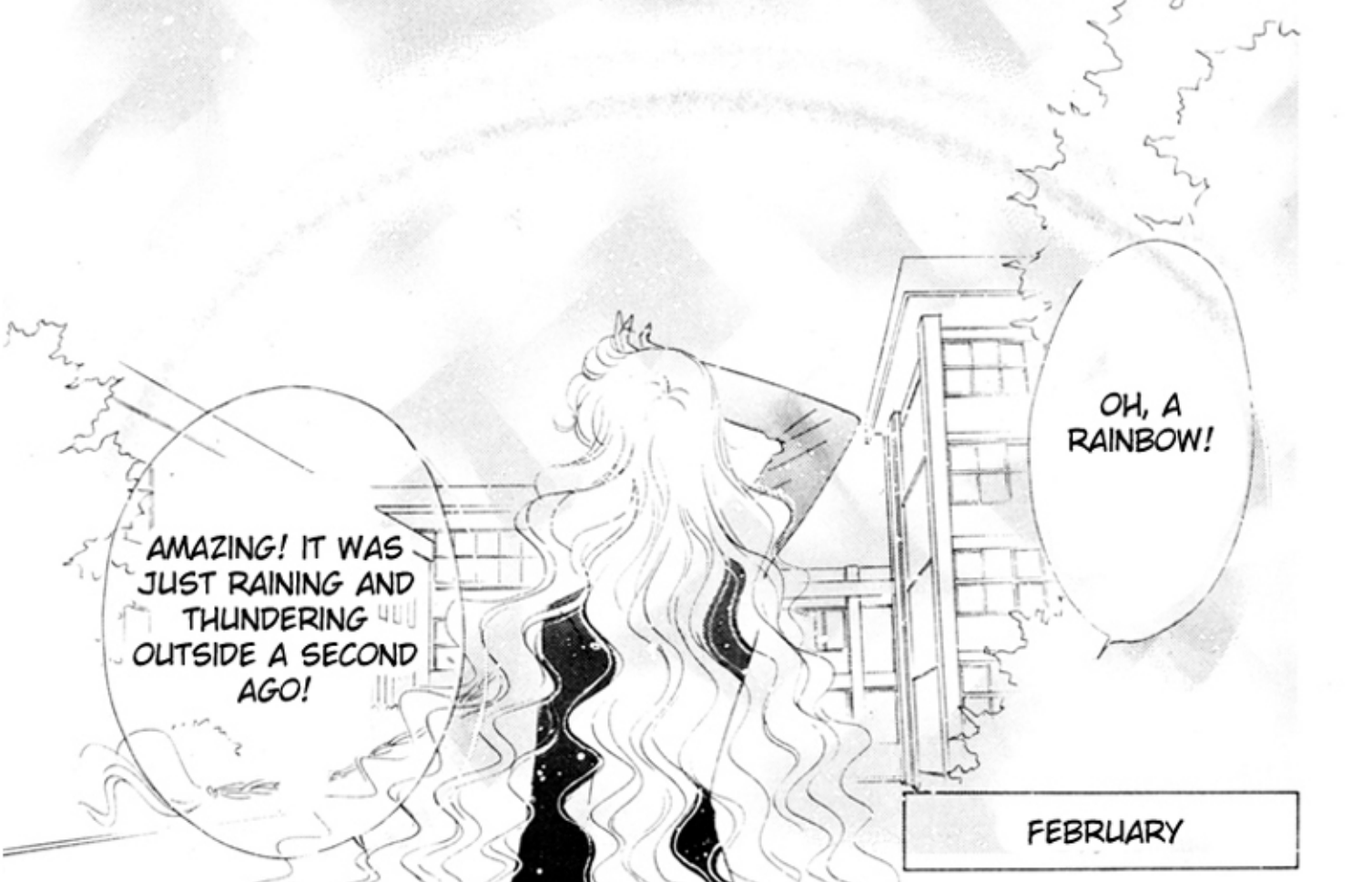
It's been about six years since the last time I wrote a short story that wasn't related to Sailor Moon. This story was difficult to write, but that's probably because it's been so long since I did anything like this. I had an idea in my head of the kind of images I wanted to use, but I'm just terrible at coming up with good names. I've been visiting the lounge at the Shirogane Metropolis Hotel lately, and that's where I've been thinking up all the names from this book. I always come up with my character names in hotel lounges or coffee shops.

In January 1997 I was working on the 90 pages of this manuscript plus the final chapter of the Sailor Moon manga. I really wanted to put all of my energy into finishing Sailor Moon, and my boss Osabu was kind of worried for me. Sorry Osabu! I've wanted to draw this short story for a long time, and now that I have, I feel a lot better. (Even though it turned out to be a totally different story from what I had originally intended to draw.)

Anyway, about the stories. When I was a senior in high school I had a classmate named Tanaka who was going to go to Tokyo University. Seriously! My best friend Yayoi was the President of Tanaka's fan club, the "Blue Gentian Society" (abbreviated as the "Blue GenSo" - but I wasn't in it.) I don't know if it was as extreme as I portrayed in the manga, but Tanaka always was studying alone in the library.

In closing, I want to thank my editor Osabu for translating all the lyrics for me. Yurika, thank you for the inspiration for page 39. And thank you for sharing the Boz Scaggs music with me. Dr. Oguchi! (This guy randomly started singing the words in my car one day!) He became a plastic surgeon! My classmate from junior high school who eventually got into Tokyo University. Komiyama, thank you for being my model for the character Ujou. (And my model for a number of other sly, male characters I've made.) You should become a teacher! (But don't get involved with the students!) And the one who I secretly kissed after graduated from high school, the one who drew me into the world of the student council, Matsunaga. Thank you for letting me use your name. Your image is the one I always immediately think of when I recall the student council room.

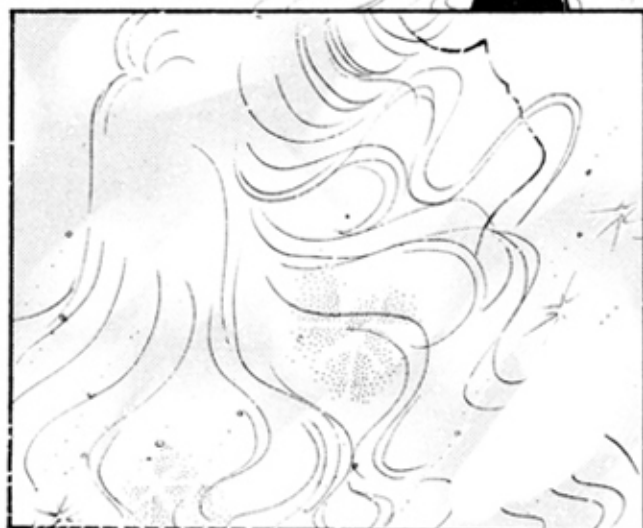




AMAZING! IT WAS
JUST RAINING AND
THUNDERING
OUTSIDE A SECOND
AGO!

OH, A
RAINBOW!

FEBRUARY



SHIGURE*, IT'S
A RAINBOW

NOTE: THE NAME "SHIGURE"
MEANS DRIZZLE



DID HE KNOW MY
NAME?

HOW



WHO
IS
THAT?

MAYBE THAT'S
WHAT THAT
KIND OF
RAINBOW IS
CALLED?

OH,
MAYBE

DRIZZLE
RAINBOW
?



THE LIBRARY...EVEN
THOUGH I'M ABOUT TO
GRADUATE, I HAVEN'T
BEEN HERE BEFORE



speaking of which,
I should check out
a dictionary.
I don't have one

THAT GUY IS
LIKE A
DICTIONARY

BUT IF I
WANT TO
GRADUATE,
THEN I'VE
GOT TO COME
HERE

HEY
LOOK
OVER
THERE



WHHHAT

WHAT IS
SHE DOING
IN THE
LIBRARY?
DID SHE
COME TO
GET US ALL
SOAKING
WET WITH
RAIN? tee hee

IT'S MINAZUKI
SHIGURE.
BEAUTIFUL AS
ALWAYS!
HER HAIR IS SO
GORGEOUS.
IT'S A REALLY
BRIGHT BROWN,
LIKE THE COLOR
OF TEA!

.....

THEY SAID I WAS LIVING ON THE WILD SIDE. THAT I WAS SELLING MYSELF ON THE STREET. THAT I WAS ACTING IMMORALLY

I DON'T REALLY LIKE SCHOOL, SO I DON'T COME ALL THE TIME

PEOPLE OFTEN SAY I'M A LOT LIKE A YANKEE*

THEN I STARTED TO HEAR THAT THERE WERE A BUNCH OF RUMORS GOING AROUND ABOUT ME

MY HAIR IS BEAUTIFUL, SO OF COURSE I WEAR IT DOWN



WHERE THE HECK ARE THE DICTIONARIES IN HERE?

I'M JUST A NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL GIRL

SCHOOL IS SCARY. I JUST DON'T LIKE SCHOOL, OR STUDYING

I didn't know the library was so big



RAINBOW GUY FROM BEFORE

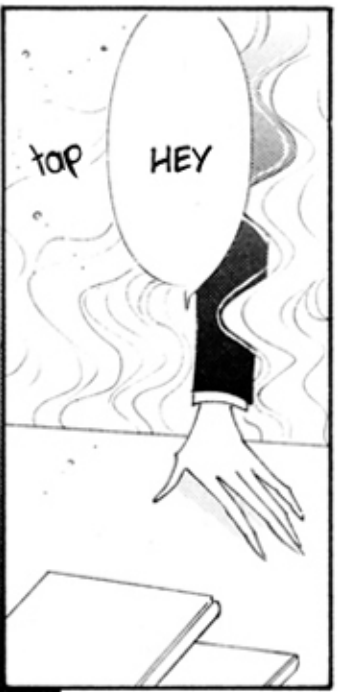
THAT'S THE

*NOTE: IN JAPANESE, BEING CALLED A YANKEE IS NOT A COMPLIMENT. THINK OF THE KIND OF AMERICANS WHO ARE ON JERRY SPRINGER - THOSE ARE "YANKEES"



THE
DICTIONARIES
?

WHERE
ARE

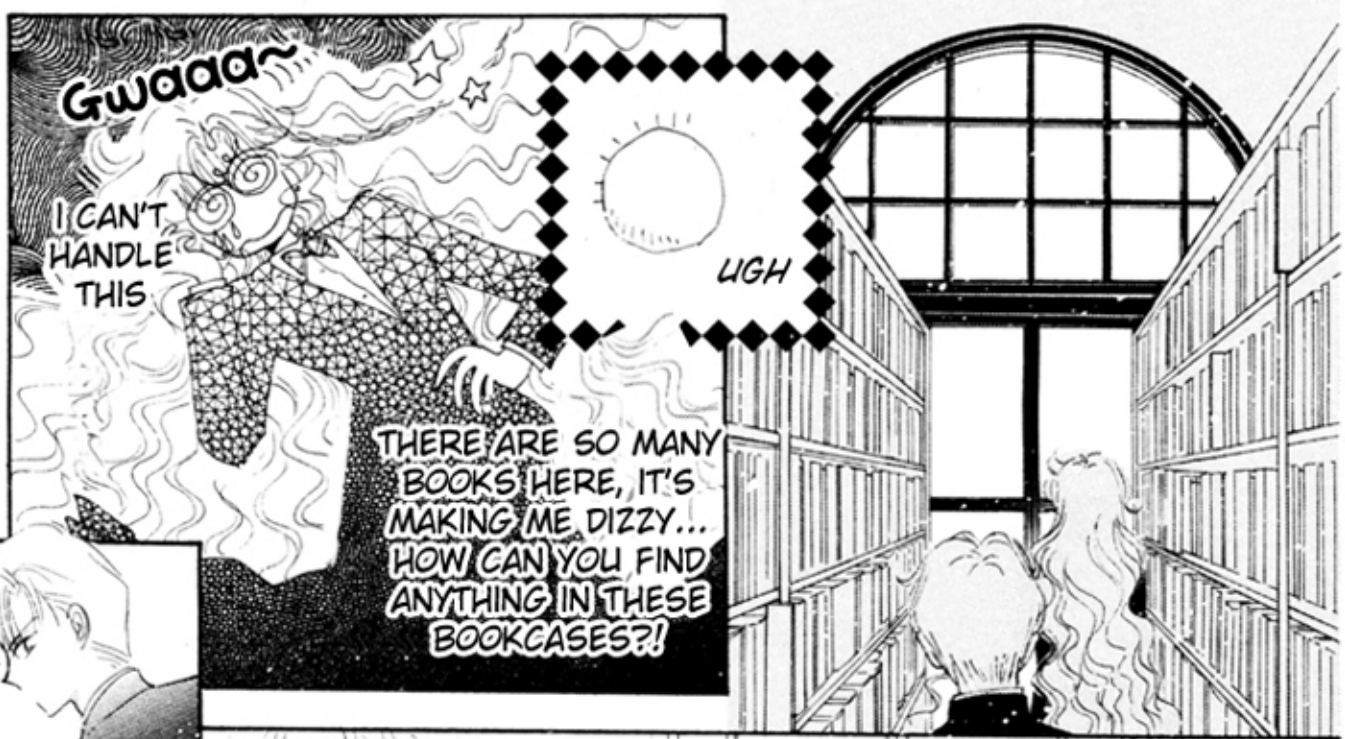


TOP

HEY



fwish



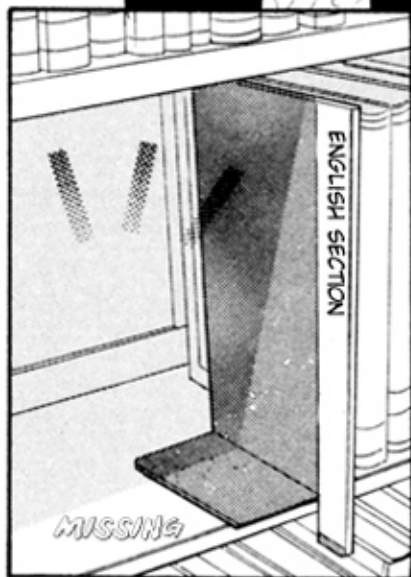
Gwaaa~

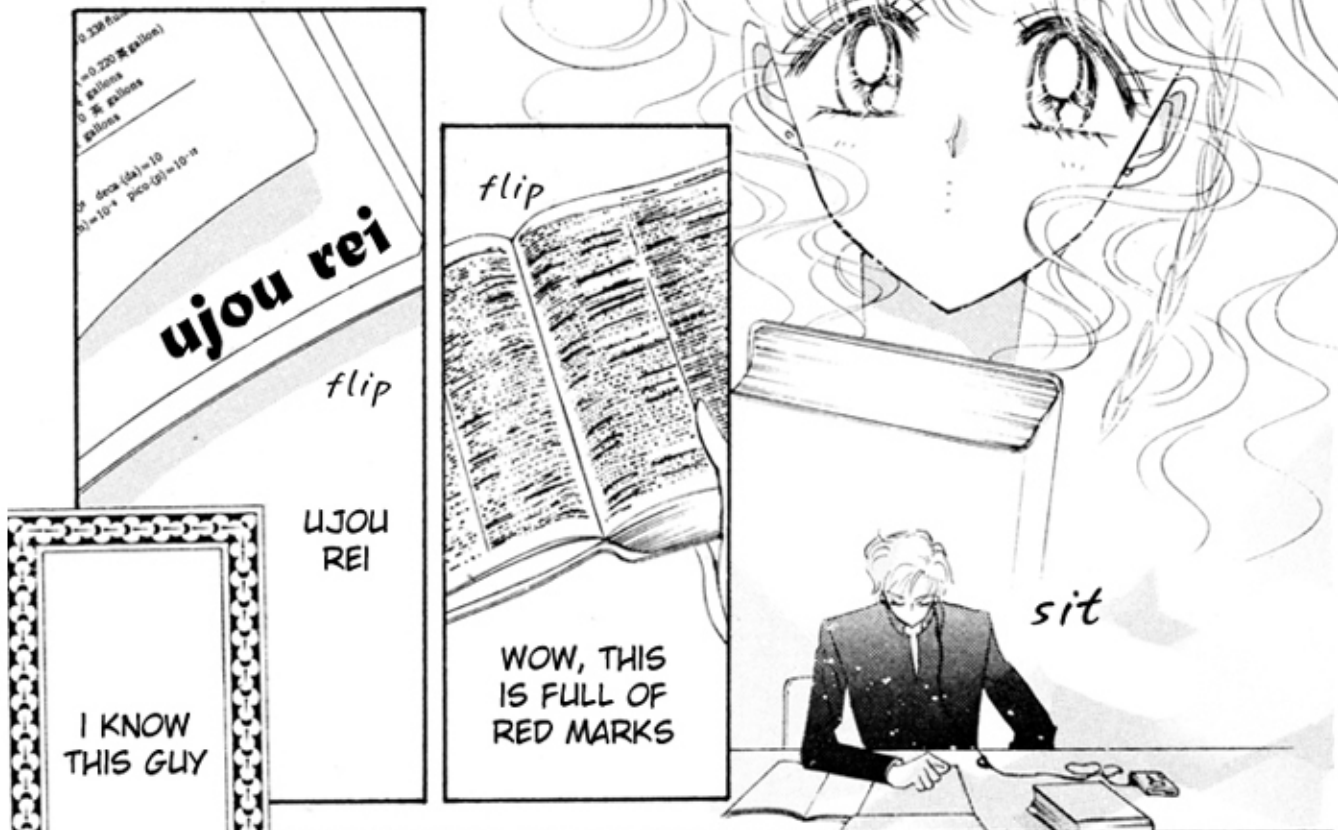
I CAN'T
HANDLE
THIS

LIGHT

THERE ARE SO MANY
BOOKS HERE, IT'S
MAKING ME DIZZY...
HOW CAN YOU FIND
ANYTHING IN THESE
BOOKCASES?!







0.238 fl
= 0.229 美 (100)
#illions
0 美 billions
illions
of deca (da) = 10
h = 10⁴ pes (p) = 10¹¹

ujou rei

flip

flip

WOW, THIS IS FULL OF RED MARKS

sit

UJOU REI

I KNOW THIS GUY



HE'S GOING STRAIGHT TO TOKYO UNIVERSITY* - HE'S THE VALEDICTORIAN OF THIS SCHOOL FOR SURE

HE'S IN THE SCIENCE PROGRAM, IN CLASS THREE. I HEAR HE'S THE TOP OF HIS GRADE TOO. ON THE NATIONAL EXAMS, HE SCORED SECOND IN THE RANKINGS.

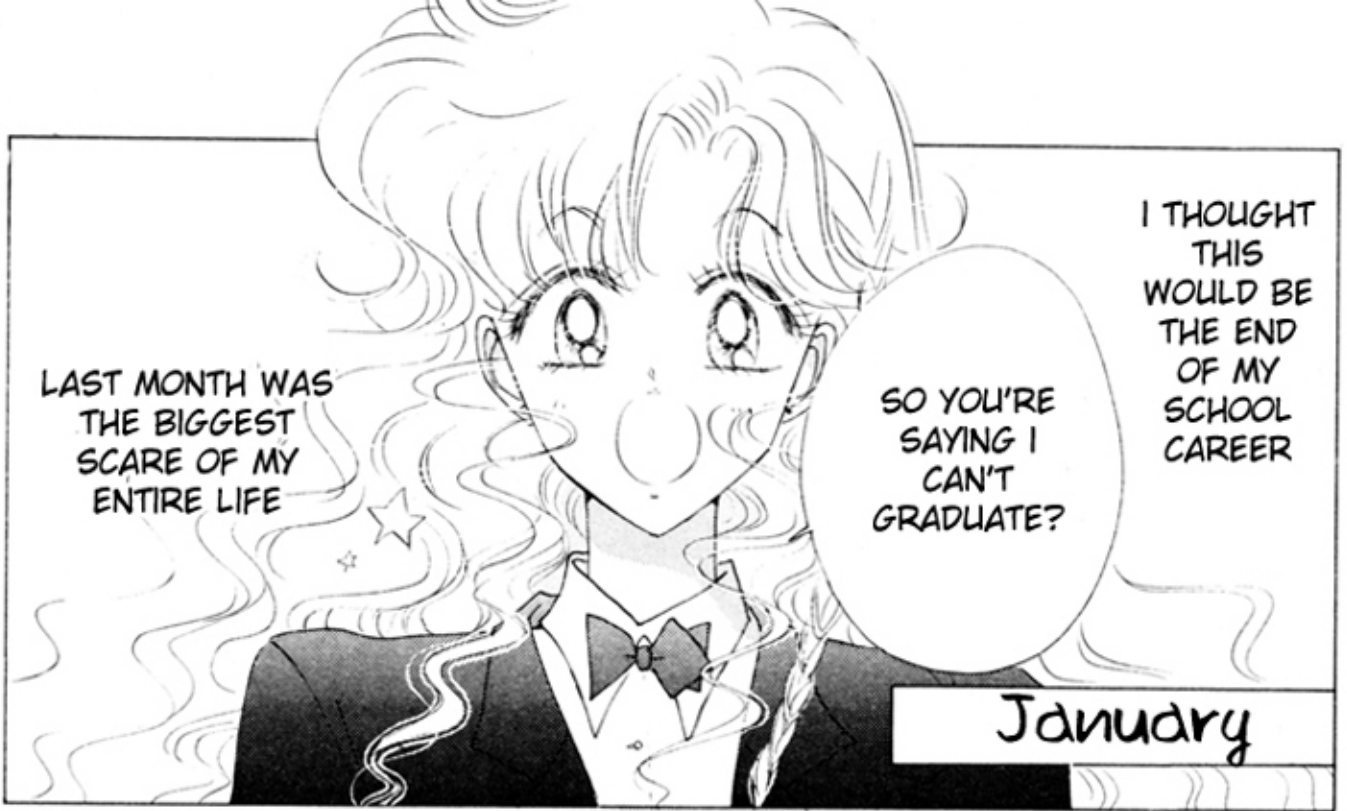
WHY AM I GETTING IN THIS hardcore STUDENT'S WAY?



I'M NOTHING LIKE THIS GUY

IT'S LIKE WE'RE AT OPPOSITE ENDS OF THE EARTH

*TOKYO UNIVERSITY IS THE EQUIVALENT OF HARVARD OR YALE IN THE UNITED STATES



LAST MONTH WAS THE BIGGEST SCARE OF MY ENTIRE LIFE

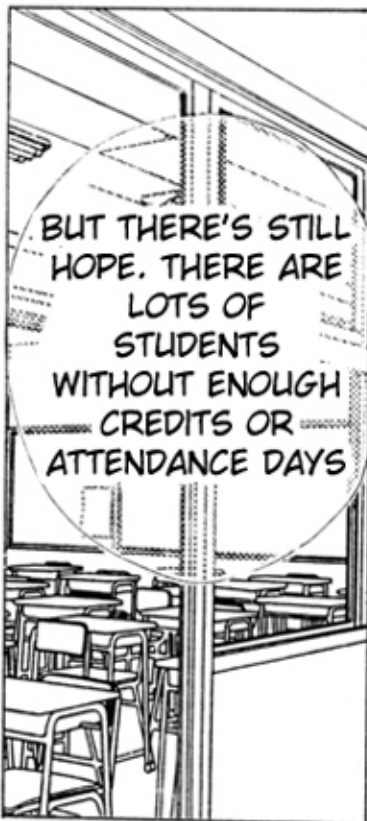
SO YOU'RE SAYING I CAN'T GRADUATE?

I THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE THE END OF MY SCHOOL CAREER

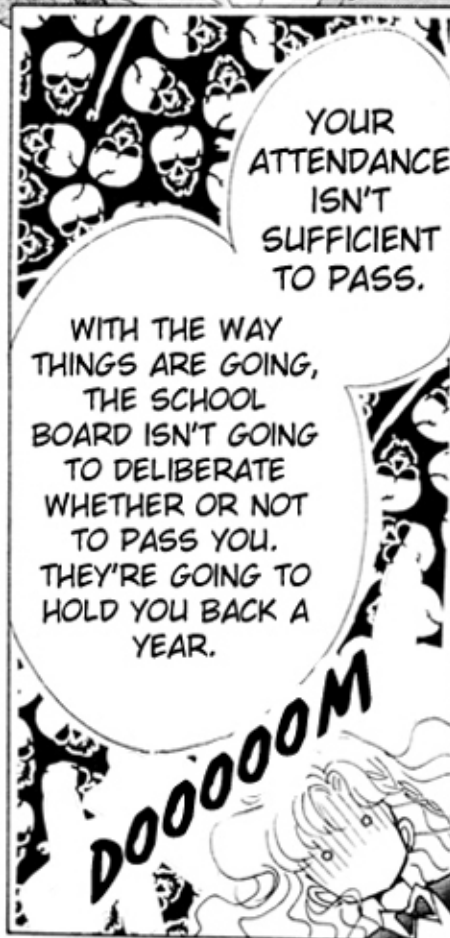
January



ARE YOU SURPRISED ?



BUT THERE'S STILL HOPE. THERE ARE LOTS OF STUDENTS WITHOUT ENOUGH CREDITS OR ATTENDANCE DAYS



YOUR ATTENDANCE ISN'T SUFFICIENT TO PASS.

WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING, THE SCHOOL BOARD ISN'T GOING TO DELIBERATE WHETHER OR NOT TO PASS YOU. THEY'RE GOING TO HOLD YOU BACK A YEAR.

DOOOOOOM



YOU HAVEN'T ATTENDED YOUR SENIOR YEAR SINCE SUMMER VACATION

YOU LEAVE YOUR TESTS BLANK. AND YOU COME TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR HAIR DOWN, WEARING THOSE DRESSES OF YOURS



BUT YOU'LL NEED TO ALSO SCORE A 60 IN EACH SUBJECT ON THE FINAL EXAMS AT THE END OF FEBRUARY. IF YOU CAN DO THAT, YOU'LL GRADUATE

CREDITS
BANG
EXAMS
50 POINTS
BANG

YOU HAVE TWO WEEKS OF EXTRA MAKE UP CLASSES YOU CAN USE TO TRY TO CATCH UP

IT'S JANUARY NOW, THE SCHOOL YEAR IS ALMOST OVER.



grab



I'VE MADE UP MY MIND. I'M GOING HOME

sob
this is impossible



WHERE ARE YOU GOING?



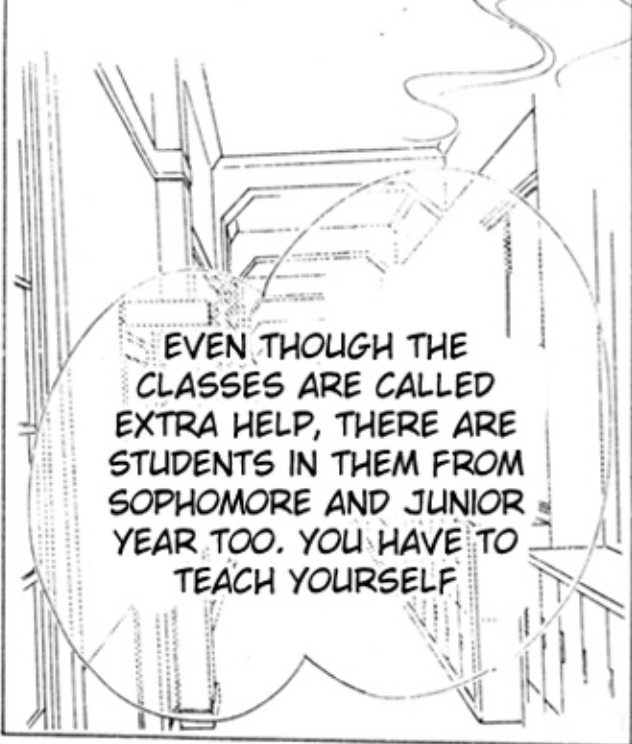
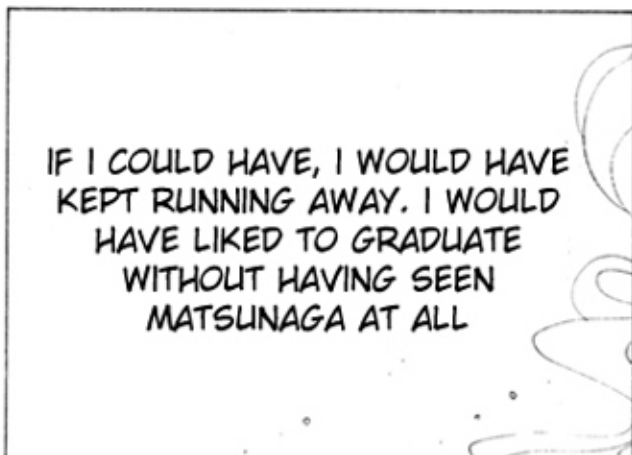
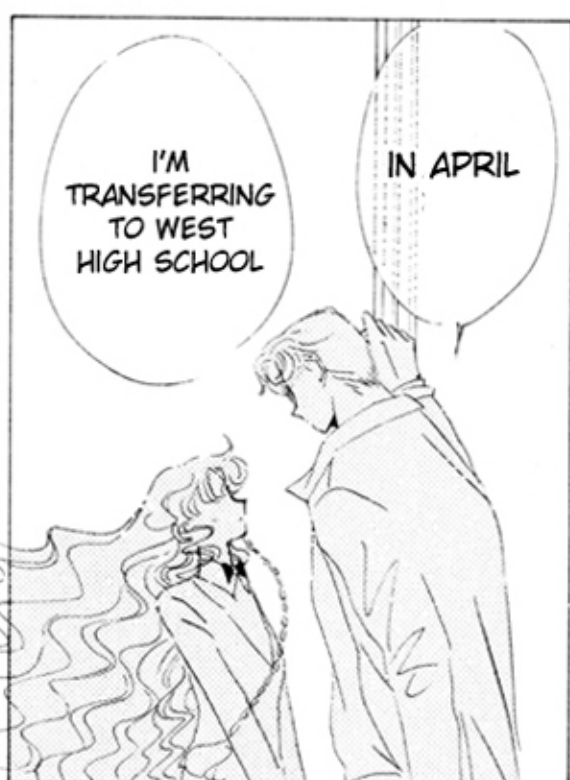
badum

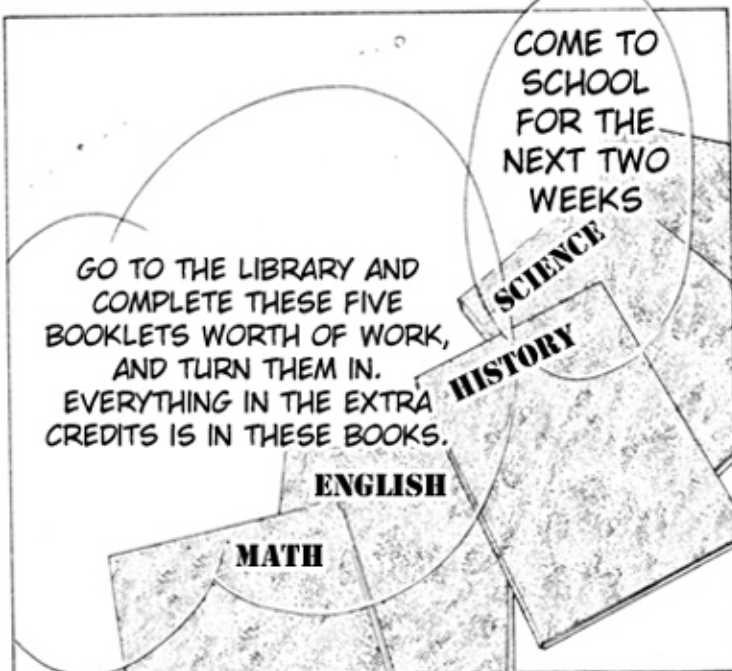
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU GET LEFT BEHIND

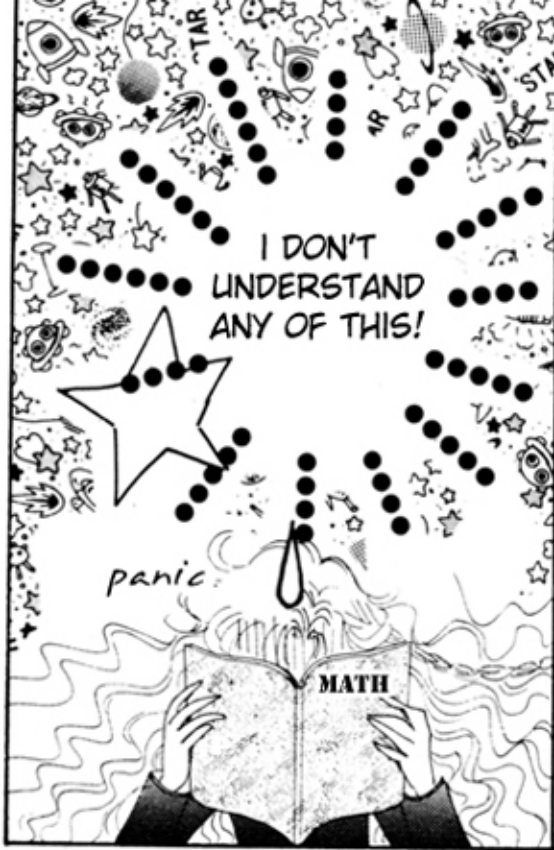
SHIGURE



DON'T







I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS!

panic

MATH



I'LL WORK ON MATH INSTEAD

close



stare

ENGLISH

I'M SO EMBARRASSED. I DON'T KNOW ANY OF THESE WORDS. WHAT'S EASY ABOUT THIS? LEAVE IT TO NATSUNAGA TO SAY THIS IS EASY STUFF. ARE THESE REALLY ALL IN THE DICTIONARY?



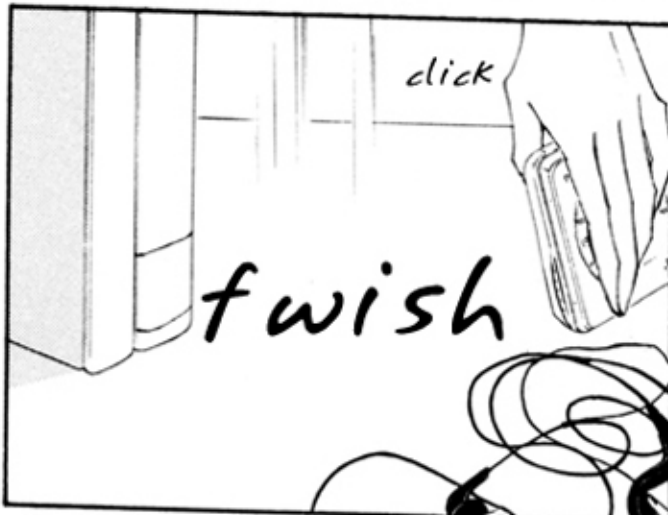
AND I CAN'T EVEN DO ONE QUESTION FROM THE BOOKS. EVEN THOUGH I'M RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM, IT'S LIKE HE CAN'T SEE ME AT ALL



flip

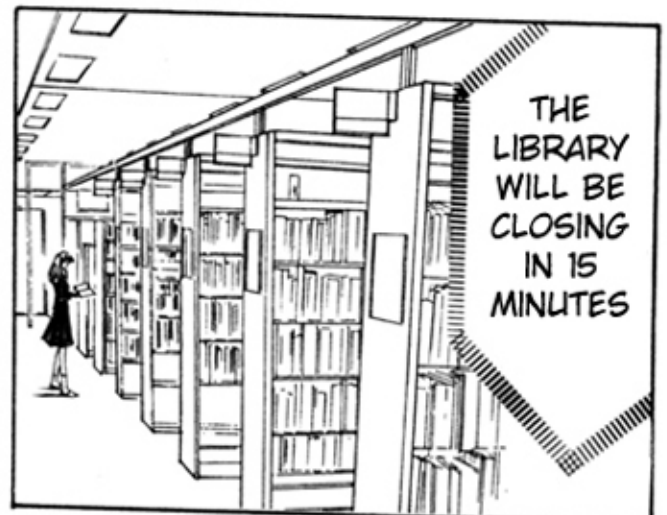
scribble scribble

HE'S SO FOCUSED



click

fwish



THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSING IN 15 MINUTES





MOSTLY

YEAH,
THANKS
FOR
HELPING
ME OUT!

CAN I
BORROW
THIS TEXT
BOOK?

UHH,
YEAH,
KINDA!
TEE HEE



UMMM...ALL
OF THEM



HOW
MANY

OF
THESE
DO YOU
WANT
ME TO
DO?



IF I CAN'T GET A
60 ON MY
FINALS FOR
THESE, I WON'T
BE ABLE TO
GRADUATE

WELL, THEY'RE
FOR MY EXTRA
HELP CLASS, AND
I HAVE TO DO
THEM FOR ALL
FIVE SUBJECTS



WHAT
ARE
THESE
FOR?



HE DIDN'T
HAVE TO
SAY THAT



POW

YOU MUST
BE KIND OF
DUMB



I'LL WATCH YOU DO IT, AND LEARN. THEN I'LL BE ABLE TO GRADUATE!

BUT YOU DON'T REALLY WANT ME TO DO IT ALL FOR YOU, DO YOU?

I CAN DO THESE. THEY'RE REALLY EASY.

LUCKY! HE'LL DO THEM FOR ME! ♡

HIS HAND MOVES LIKE A ROBOT, LIKE IT'S GOING BY ITSELF

HE MUST REALLY LOVE TO STUDY

THAT GUY

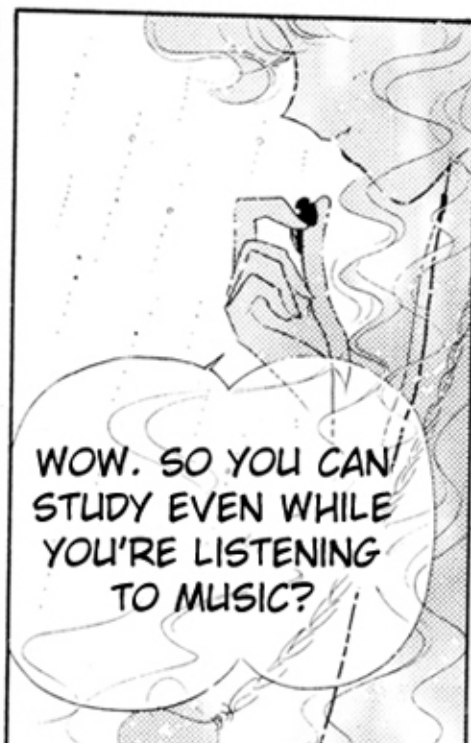
scribble scribble

scribble scribble

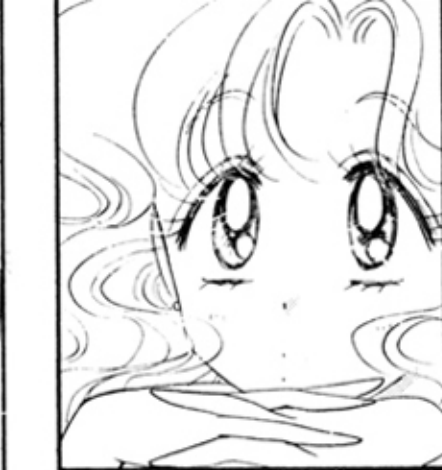
four

scribble scribble





*NOTE: BOZ SCAGGS WAS ORIGINALLY A VOCALIST FOR THE FAMOUS STEVE MILLER BAND, BUT HAD A SOLO CAREER IN THE 1970'S AND 1980'S



CAN WE MEET
HERE AT THE
LIBRARY AGAIN
TOMORROW?

OH, HEY. I CAN
PAY YOU. LIKE A
SCHOOL FEE.

THANK

THANKS
YOU



smile

I'M NOT A
LIBRARIAN, I
CAN'T DECIDE
WHO CAN COME
TO THE LIBRARY
OR NOT

I DON'T HAVE
ANYONE ELSE
TO LEARN
FROM



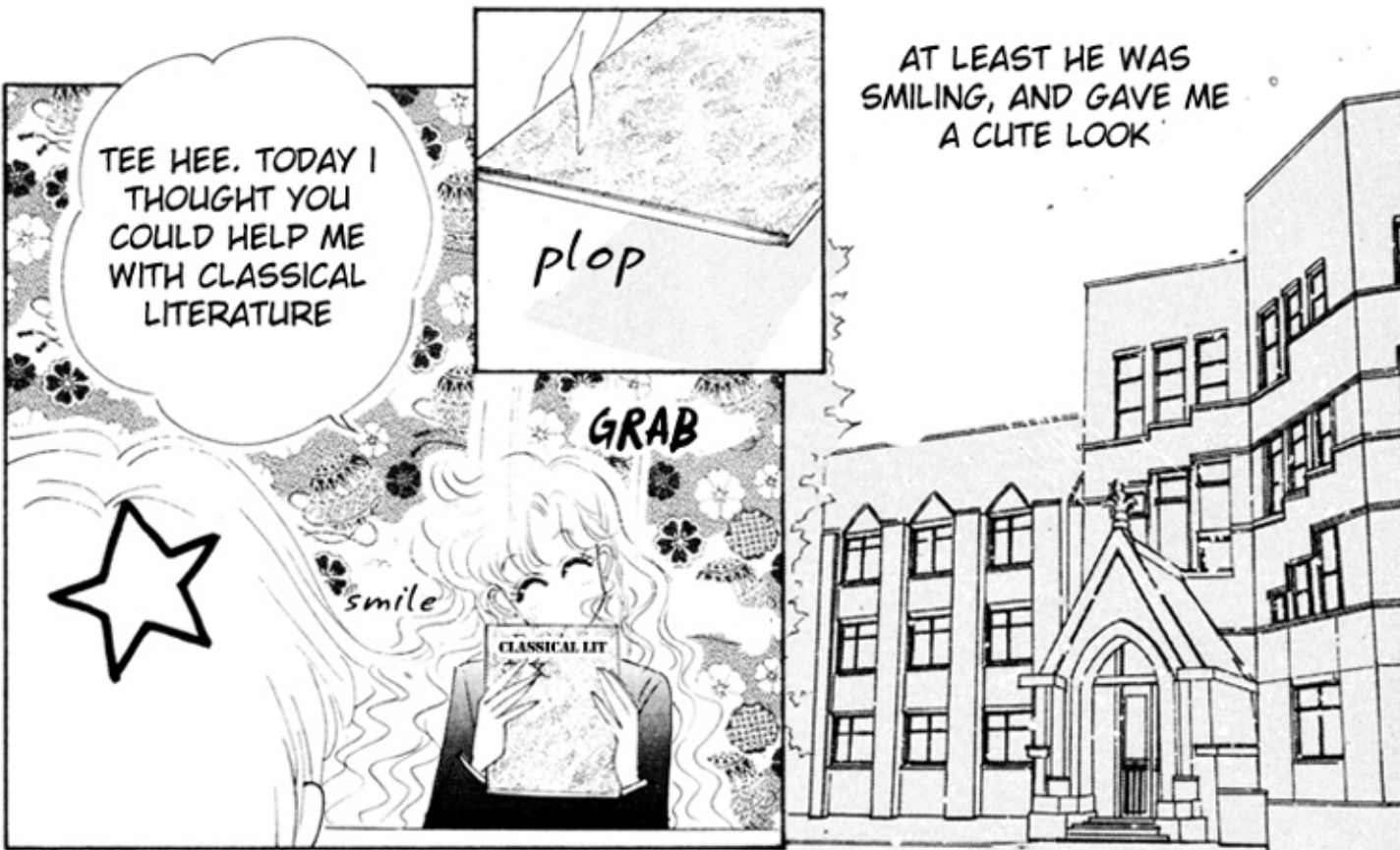
I MEAN, CAN YOU MEET ME
AT THE LIBRARY AGAIN
TOMORROW TO TEACH ME
- BUT ALL HE DID WAS
SMILE AND GIVE ME THAT
WEIRD LOOK

BUT



T-THAT
GUY!





TEE HEE. TODAY I
THOUGHT YOU
COULD HELP ME
WITH CLASSICAL
LITERATURE

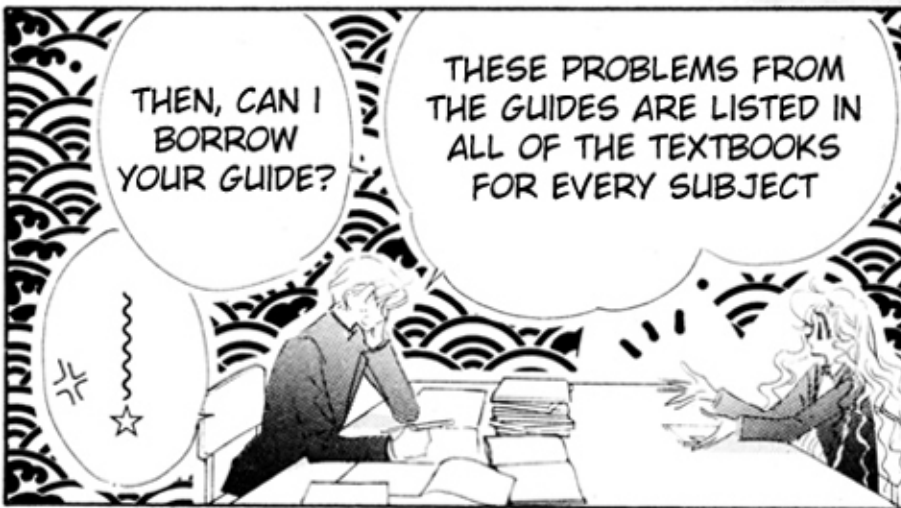
plop

AT LEAST HE WAS
SMILING, AND GAVE ME
A CUTE LOOK

GRAB

smile

CLASSICAL LIT



THEN, CAN I
BORROW
YOUR GUIDE?

THESE PROBLEMS FROM
THE GUIDES ARE LISTED IN
ALL OF THE TEXTBOOKS
FOR EVERY SUBJECT



LOOK IN
THE
GUIDE

she really
came again



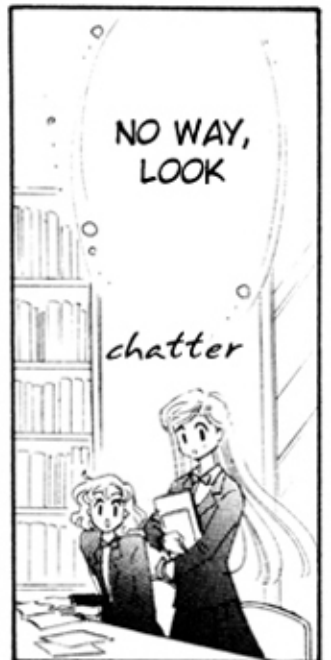
ding
dong

WHAT?!
WHAT THE
HECK.

DO YOU
THINK HE
LIKES MS.
MINAZUKI -
MAYBE
SHE'S
CAUGHT HIS
EYE?

no way

UJOU IS
STUDYING
WITH MS
MINAZUKI!



NO WAY,
LOOK

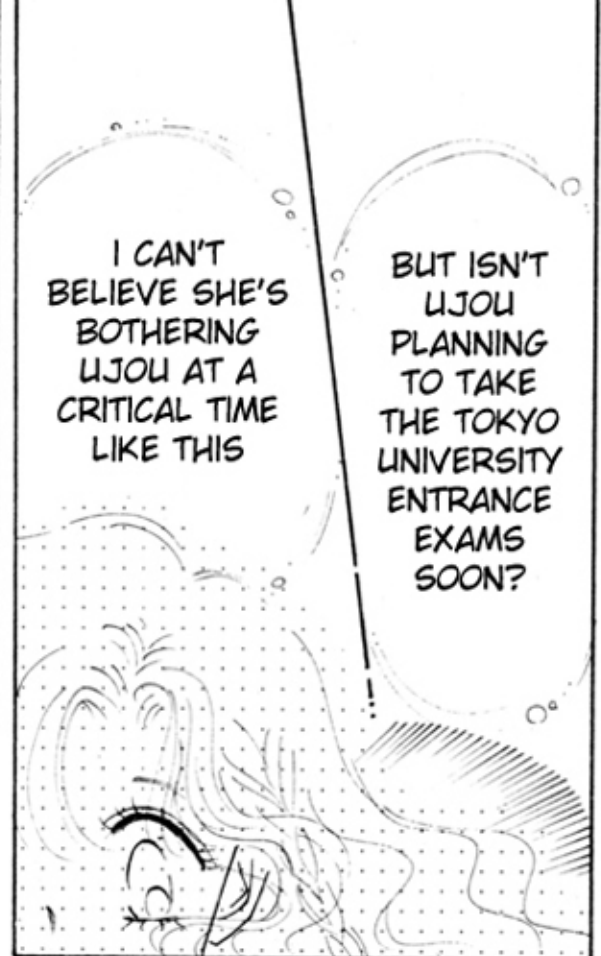
chatter



HEY

gasp

THE TRANSLATED BOOK
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR IS ON
THE BOTTOM OF THE SHELF
TO YOUR LEFT



I CAN'T
BELIEVE SHE'S
BOTHERING
UJOU AT A
CRITICAL TIME
LIKE THIS

BUT ISN'T
UJOU
PLANNING
TO TAKE
THE TOKYO
UNIVERSITY
ENTRANCE
EXAMS
SOON?



HE'S HERE TO
STUDY FOR THE
ENTRANCE
EXAM FOR
TOKYO
UNIVERSITY

I GET
IT



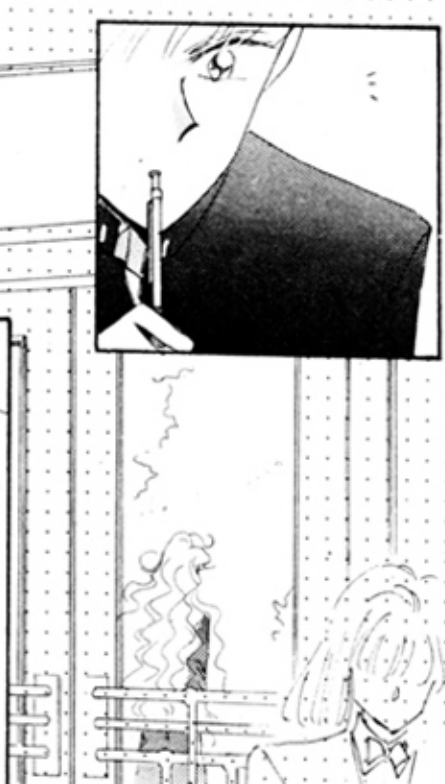
OKAY

OH



I'M
JUST
BOTHERING
HIM

HE'S GOING TO
BE A SHINING
STAR THERE,
HE HAS A
SHINING
FUTURE AHEAD
OF HIM THERE



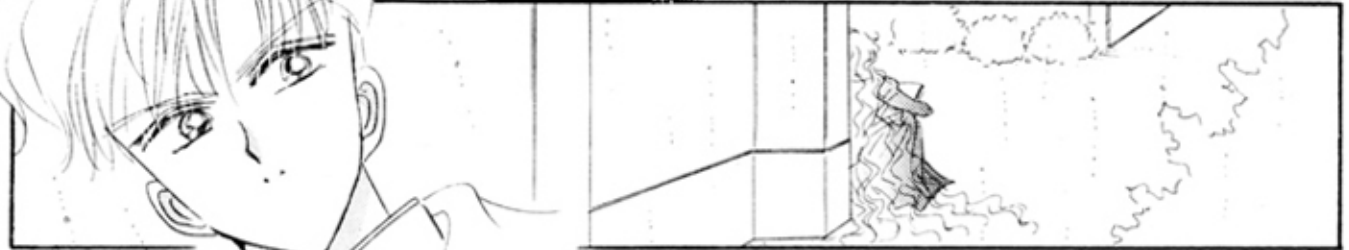
plip plip

BYE
BYE

BYE

.....

THE LIBRARY
IS ABOUT TO
CLOSE



UJOU?!

YOU
FORGOT
THIS

gasp

plip plip

☆





TO BE KIND TO
A STUPID GIRL
LIKE ME

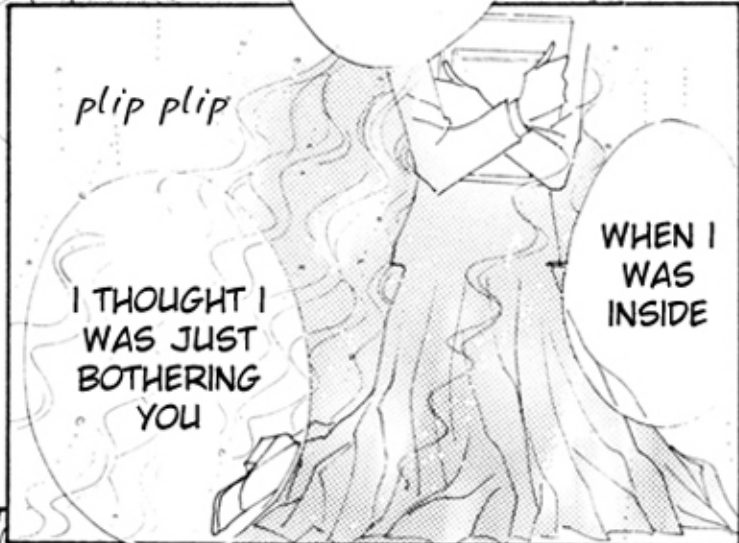
smile



THANK YOU.
YOU'RE REALLY
NICE



YOUR
ANCIENT
LITERATURE
BOOK AND
ITS
TRANSLATION



plip plip

I THOUGHT I
WAS JUST
BOTHERING
YOU

WHEN I
WAS
INSIDE



U-UJOU
!!
YANK

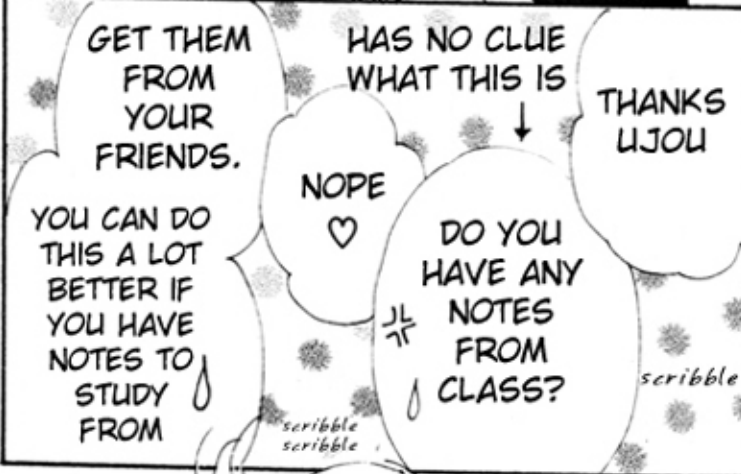
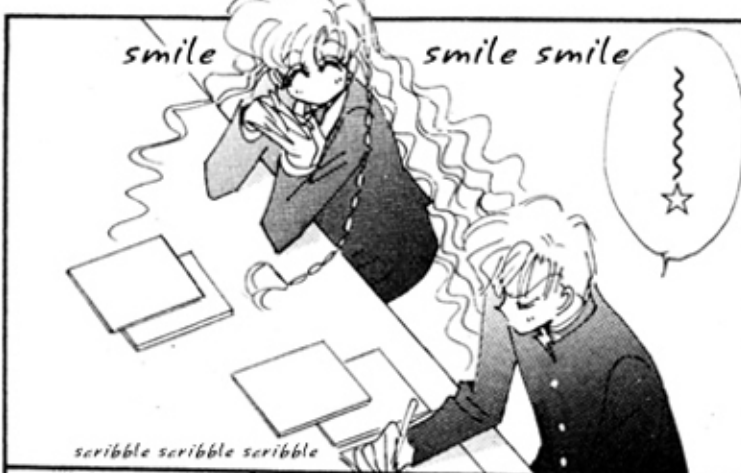


YOU AREN'T
BOTHERING
ME. I'LL BE
ABLE TO
GRADUATE
JUST FINE.

THUD



IT'S ALL
RIGHT



I FEEL BAD BUT I CAN'T LEARN ANYTHING FROM HIM

MR. MATSUNAGA IS MY TEACHER

WHO IS YOUR TEACHER? IF YOU ASK HIM, CAN'T HE GIVE YOU SOME NOTES FROM THE LECTURE?

ACK. NOW WHAT IS THIS EXERCISE? I LIKE THESE KIND OF PROBLEMS

MR. MATSUNAGA TEACHES ENGLISH RIGHT? THAT'S SO EASY. IT'S JUST TRANSLATION FROM JAPANESE.

NOT AGAIN. THEY'RE STARING AT ME.

OH NO

LOOK, IT'S THE GIRL WITH THE TEA COLORED HAIR! SHE'S HERE!

twish

WHICH ONE?

BUT I BET
THEY'VE GOT
OTHER
REASONS TO
STARE TOO

IT'S
BECAUSE
IT'S SO
BEAUTIFUL

IS MY HAIR
REALLY
THAT
UNUSUAL?

swish

NO ONE
CAN TAKE
THEIR
EYES OFF
OF IT

I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD
THAT THERE ARE A LOT
OF RUMORS GOING
AROUND ABOUT ME.
THEY'RE ALL LIES



BECAUSE I'M A
YANKEE GIRL,
RIGHT?

MAYBE
THAT
LAST
ONE

MAYBE
THERE
WAS A
TIME
WHEN
THAT WAS
TRUE

THEY SAY THAT
I'M A PRIMISCIOUS
WOMAN

THAT I'M A
PROSTITUTE,
AND THAT I'M
LOOSE AND
IMMORAL

sweatdrop

FOR SOMEONE AS STUPID AS YOU, THE ONLY THING YOU CAN DO IN LIFE IS BE A BRIDE



BUT I'LL SHOW YOU

THAT MEDDLER, MR. MATSUNAGA

OH LOOK, THE SCHOOL HATER HERSELF, MISS MINAZUKI SHIGURE, HAS FINALLY GRACED US WITH HER PRESENCE. THIS IS A SPECIAL EXTRA HELP CLASS JUST FOR YOU!

I WAS IMMORAL



I DON'T CARE IF I'M STUPID OR NOT

I'LL FIND SOMEONE WHO LIKES ME THE WAY I AM



YOU CAN'T BE THAT DUMB



IT'S HARD TO LOOK AWAY FROM YOU

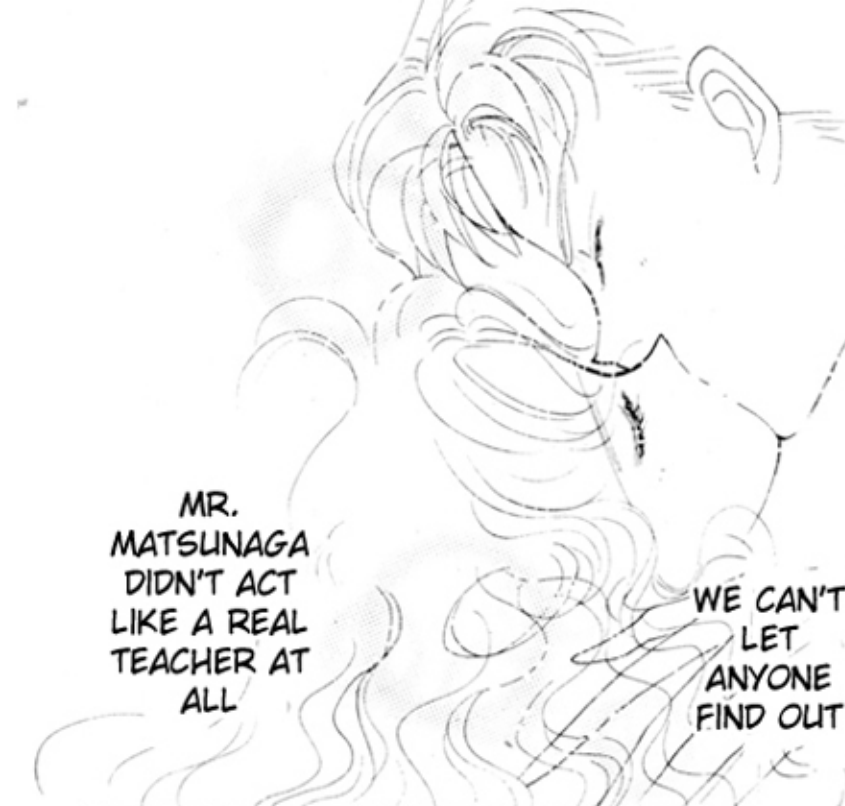
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, YOU DO HAVE PRETTY HAIR SO THAT WILL HELP



MINAZUKI

kiss ♡





MR.
MATSUNAGA
DIDN'T ACT
LIKE A REAL
TEACHER AT
ALL

WE CAN'T
LET
ANYONE
FIND OUT



IT'LL BE
OUR
SECRET

SHHH

HMMPH



THAT MR.
MATSUNAGA
WAS WEARING A
WEDDING RING

ON THE LAST
DAY OF
SUMMER
VACATION I
NOTICED FOR
THE FIRST TIME

BUT



WERE
A LOT
OF FUN

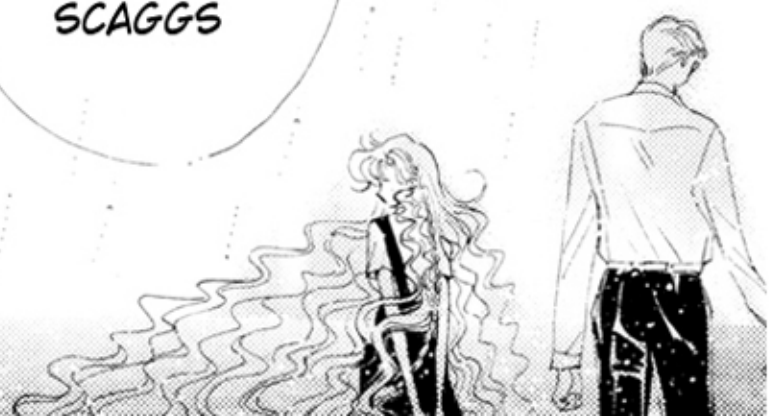
OUR SECRET
CLASSES
DURING
SUMMER
VACATION



MR.
MATSUNAGA
USED TO
PLAY IT IN
HIS CAR ALL
THE TIME

THE MUSIC YOU
WERE
LISTENING TO
THE OTHER DAY,
UJOU - BOZ
SCAGGS

I FELT
SO
STUPID





THAT
SLOW
BALLAD

SPEAKING OF WHICH, THE
TITLE OF THAT
SONG...WHAT DOES IT
MEAN IN JAPANESE?



ALL I COULD
DO WAS LAY
IN MY ROOM
AND LISTEN
TO THAT
SONG

SUMMER
VACATION
ENDED, AND
AFTER THAT I
NEVER WANTED
TO SEE MR.
MATSUNAGA
AGAIN




I THOUGHT
YOU MIGHT
CRY



YOU SAID YOU
COULDN'T
GRADUATE



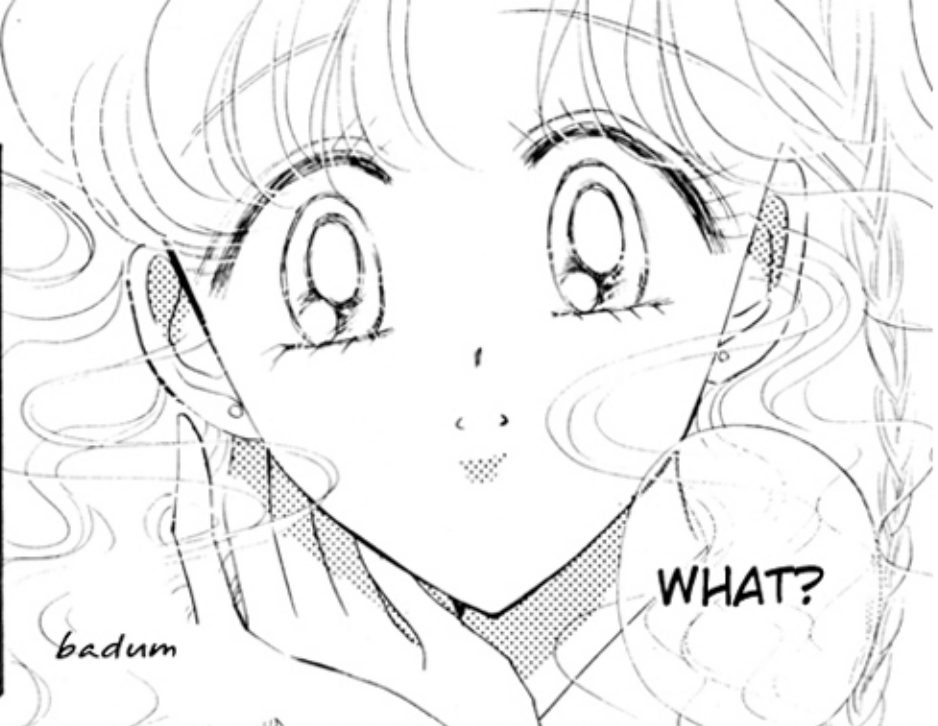
WHEN



FOR MR.
MATSUNAGA
?

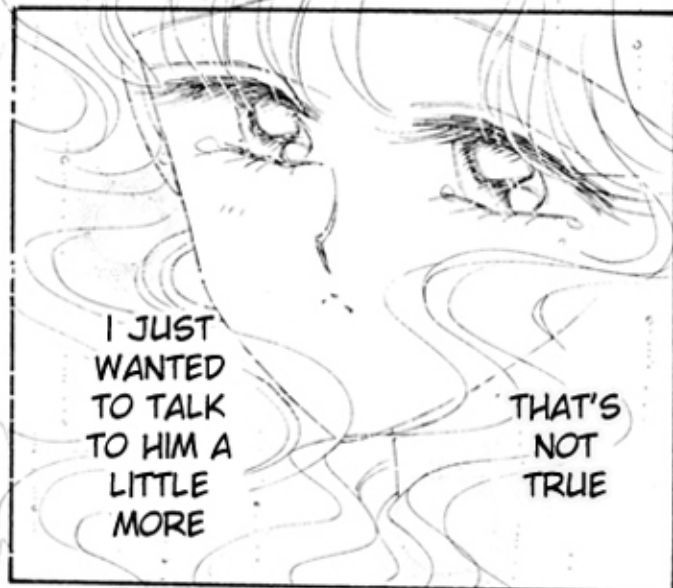
JUST A
REPLACE-
MENT

AM I





THAT WAS ALL I REALLY WANTED



DID I OFFEND YOU, UJOU?

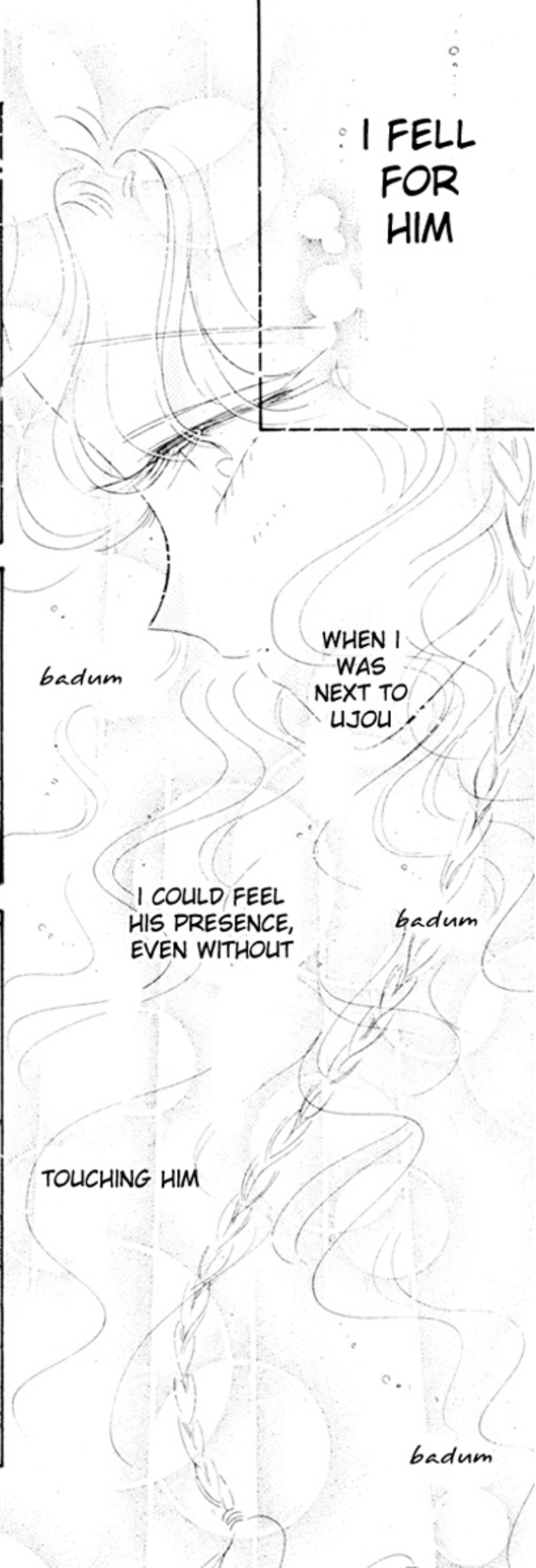
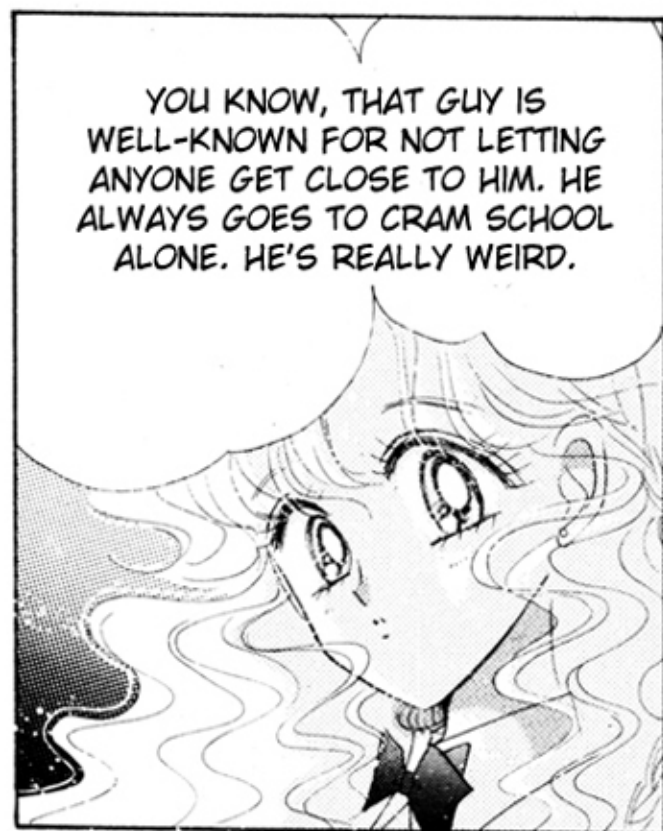
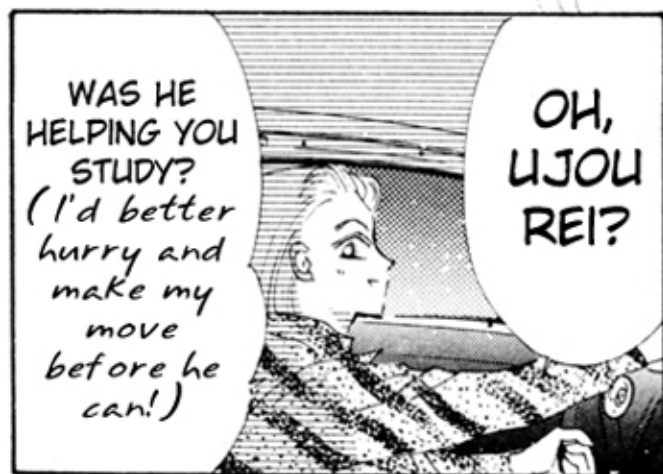
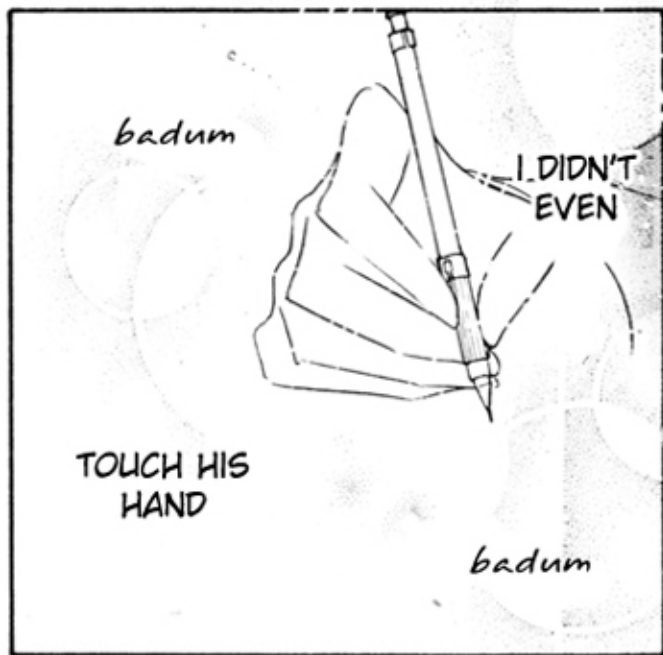
badum

badum

I WANTED TO GET TO KNOW HIM BETTER

pour





HE MAY LOOK LIKE A NICE GUY,
BUT HE WAS A REALLY CRAZY
AND DEVOTED FAN CLUB OF GIRLS
THAT WILL TEAR YOU APART.
(EVEN IN THE FRESHMAN
CLASSES)

BUT BE
CAREFUL WITH
HIM, SHIGURE

giggle

splish splash

giggle

pour

THAT I NEVER
ONCE
THOUGHT OF
HIM AS A
REPLACEMENT

TELL HIM THAT I'M
SORRY FOR
MAKING HIM MAD

badum

badum

AND THEN,
I'LL
APOLOGIZE
TO HIM

FIRST I'M
GOING TO
GIVE HIM
BACK HIS
DICTIONARY

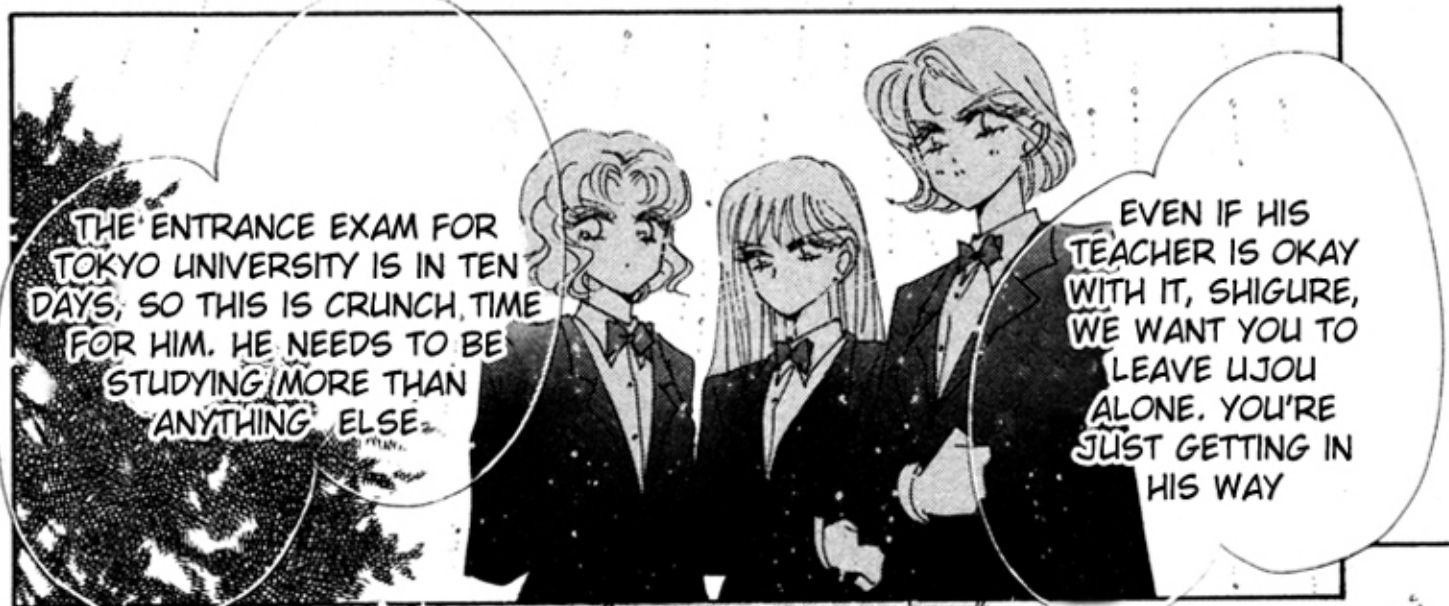
TO TALK
TO YOU

WE WANT

NOT EVEN
ONCE

pour

MS
MINAZUKI



THE ENTRANCE EXAM FOR TOKYO UNIVERSITY IS IN TEN DAYS, SO THIS IS CRUNCH TIME FOR HIM. HE NEEDS TO BE STUDYING MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE.

EVEN IF HIS TEACHER IS OKAY WITH IT, SHIGURE, WE WANT YOU TO LEAVE UJOU ALONE. YOU'RE JUST GETTING IN HIS WAY



IF YOU'RE THERE, MINAZUKI

YOU'RE JUST DISTRACTING TO EVERYONE

giggle

-WE WOULD

APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD STOP GOING TO THE LIBRARY TO DISTRACT HIM FOR A WHILE



THAT DICTIONARY YOU'RE HOLDING IS UJOU'S, RIGHT? WE'LL RETURN IT TO HIM FOR YOU

grip

I UNDERSTAND



BYE

I'LL GO NOW



IT'S MY RESPONSIBILITY TO RETURN THE DICTIONARY TO HIM

WELL, UM, I...

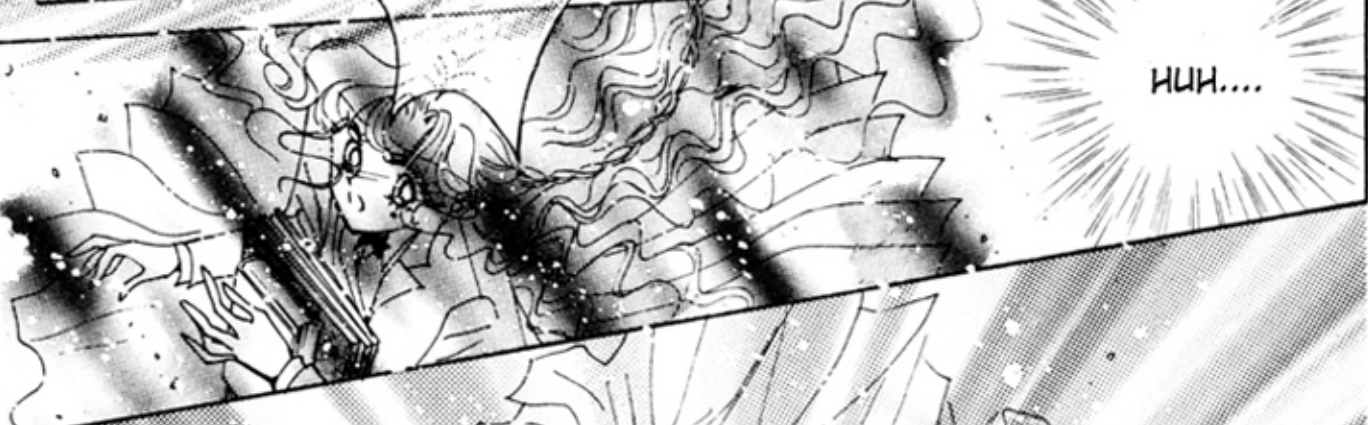


I CAN'T BELIEVE HER. SHE EVEN STOLE HIS DICTIONARY

HMPH



HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!



HUH....



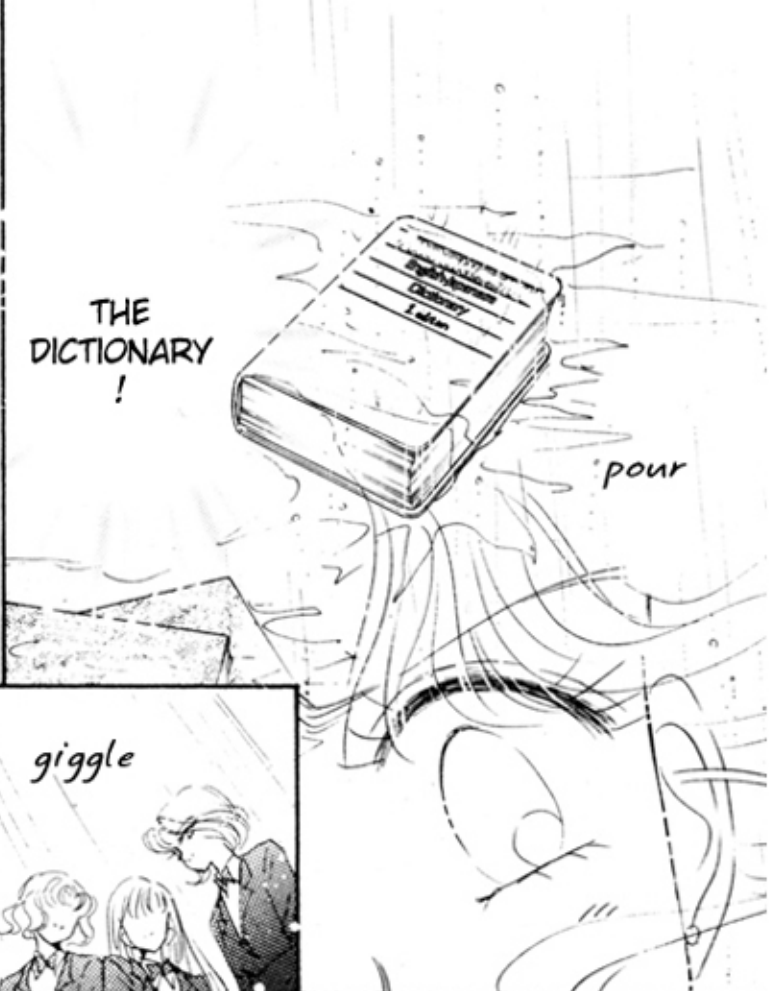
THUD



pour

ALL OF THE

WORKBOOKS HE FILLED OUT



THE DICTIONARY !

pour



giggle



SWOON

HURRY ALONG AND BUY UJOU A NEW DICTIONARY TO REPLACE THE ONE YOU DESTROYED, SHOULDN'T YOU?

WELL THEN, YOU'D BETTER

OH, POOR MS. MINAZUKI

giggle



BUT YOU CAN'T FEEL TOO BAD FOR HER. SHE DESERVES THIS

giggle

AHHHHHH

YOU
MEANT TO
TRIP ME

POW

YOU MEANT
TO GET ME
SOAKED!

SLAM

OWWW!

hide

pour

THERE
IS

slap

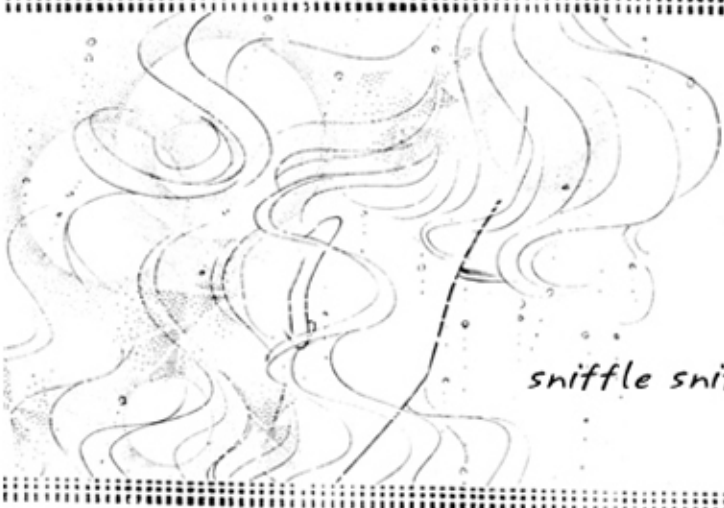
AHH!



pour



pour



sniffle sniffle



**I'M
REALLY
STUPID**

fwish



**BEING
ALONE BY
YOURSELF
?**

**DO YOU
LIKE**



I HAVE THE MONEY TO REPLACE IT, THAT'S NOT A PROBLEM. I'LL BRING YOU A NEW ONE TOMORROW OKAY



I DROPPED IT AND NOW IT'S SOAKED



I DROPPED YOUR DICTIONARY IN THE RAIN



YOU HAVE ALL THIS IMPORTANT STUFF GOING ON RIGHT NOW, AND I'M RUINING IT.


I'M SORRY



WELL, I STUPIDLY DROPPED THOSE TOO AND NOW THEY'RE RUINED



ALL OF THOSE WORKBOOKS YOU FILLED OUT FOR ME, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS ASKING A LOT OF YOU



ALL THE TIME YOU
SPENT WITH ME
UJOU, I WON'T
LET IT GO TO
WASTE



HAVE
TO GO
TO
CRAM
SCHOOL



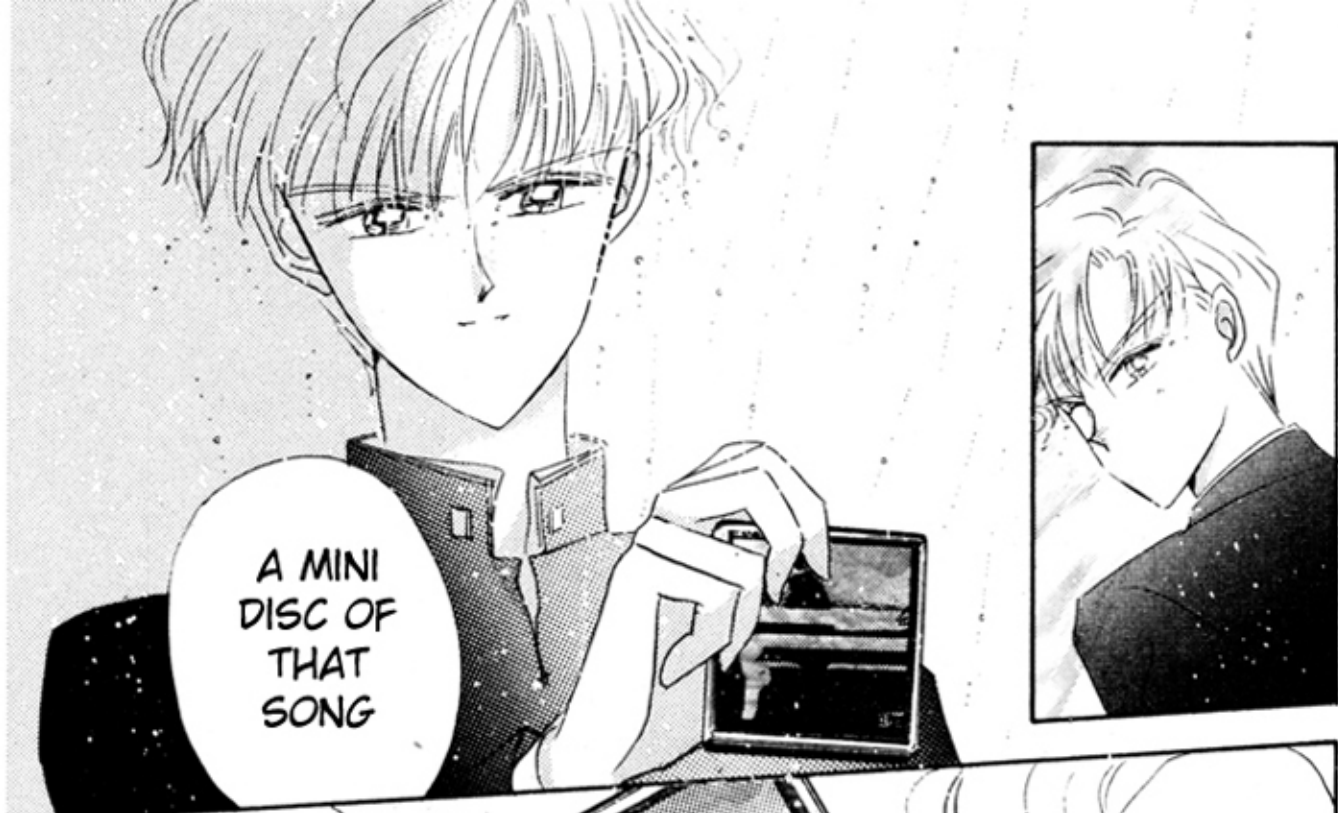
NOT
EVEN
ONCE

THOUGHT OF
YOU AS A
REPLACEMENT
FOR MR.
MATSUNAGA



I NEVER
ONCE

UJOU!



A MINI
DISC OF
THAT
SONG



IT'LL HELP YOU
STUDY YOUR
ENGLISH

THE LYRICS
TO IT ARE
INSIDE



MAYBE



I THINK I
WAS
JEALOUS
OF MR.
MATSUNAGA

I



MAYBE
I'VE
FALLEN
FOR YOU

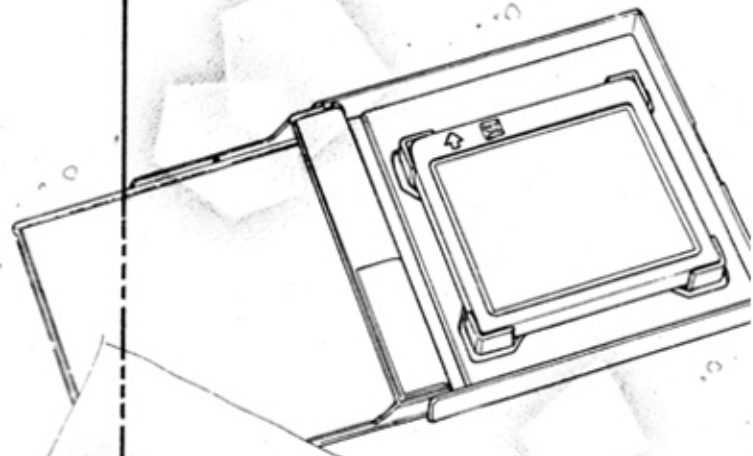


GENTLE AS
THE RAIN

HIS
KISS
WAS

HIS

OUTSIDE THE RAIN BEGINS AND
IT MAY NEVER END
SO CRY NO MORE ON THE
SHORE A DREAM
WILL TAKE US OUT TO SEA
FOREVER MORE, FOREVER
MORE



ワイア オール アローン
"We're all alone"

WE'RE ALL
ALONE

CLOSE YOUR EYES AMIE AND
YOU CAN BE WITH ME
BENEATH THE WAVES
THROUGH THE CAVES OF OURS
LONG FORGOTTEN NOW

WE'RE ALL ALONE

WE'RE ALL ALONE

WE'RE ALL ALONE

BACK WHEN I USED TO
LISTEN TO THIS SONG,
IT USED TO MAKE ME
FEEL SO SAD...I THINK
MY HEART WAS STILL IN
MOURNING



SO
THAT'S
WHAT
THE
SONG
MEANS

BUT NOW WHEN
I CLOSE MY
EYES

I CAN FEEL THE
GENTLE RAIN
OF UJOU'S
KISS FALLING
ON ME

CLOSE THE WINDOW,
CALM THE LIGHT
AND IT WILL BE
ALL RIGHT
NO NEED TO
BOTHER NOW
LET IT OUT, LET IT
ALL BEGIN
LEARN HOW TO
PRETEND

I COPIED DOWN
ALL OF THESE
NOTES. I GUESS
THAT'S THE
POWER OF
CONCENTRATION

IN ONE
NIGHT

ohh i
hate
this

UJOU ENDED UP
DOING ALMOST ALL
OF THE QUESTIONS
IN MY WORKBOOKS
FOR ME

MY HEART
IS
POUNDING
SO HARD.
UJOU, IT
REALLY
WAS A
HAPPY
SONG
AFTER ALL

AND THE
POWER OF
LOVE

水無月 時子
知波
Outside the rain begins and it may never
So cry no more on the shore & cheer
Will take us out to sea
Forever more, forever more
Close your eyes Amie and
Heath the waves through
Long forgotten now
We're all alone, we're all alone
Close the window, calm the light
And it will be all right
No need to bother now
Let it out, let it all begin
Learn how to pretend
story's told it can't help be
we too, so cast yo

WAS TO
TRANSLATE
THAT SONG

MY
FINAL IN
ENGLISH

I GOT ALL
60S IN MY
FINAL
EXAMS

ARE ALL
ROMANTICS

MEN

march



NOW
YOU'LL BE
ABLE TO
GRADUATE

YOU DID
IT



THERE'S SOMEONE I WANT TO
TELL ABOUT THIS. I'LL BE BACK
LATER

MY
BOYFRIEND

WHO



SOMETHING
GOOD
WOULD
HAPPEN

MR. MATSUNAGA,
YOU WERE RIGHT.
WHEN YOU SAID
IF I CAME TO
SCHOOL





TELL HIM I SAID HI



THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR

I SEE



WHO IS THAT?

YOUR BOYFRIEND?



YEAH

ACTUALLY, I THINK



flutter

YOU SAID YOU HAD FALLEN FOR ME, AND THEN KISSED ME




WELL

ME?



I WAS
CAPTIVATED
BY THIS
BEAUTIFUL

FROM THE
VERY
BEGINNING



ON YOUR
SUCCESS

CONGRAT-
ULATIONS



AND HELP
ME GET
INTO
COLLEGE
NEXT YEAR

YOU HAVE TO
HELP ME FIND A
GOOD
ENTRANCE
EXAM CRAM
SCHOOL

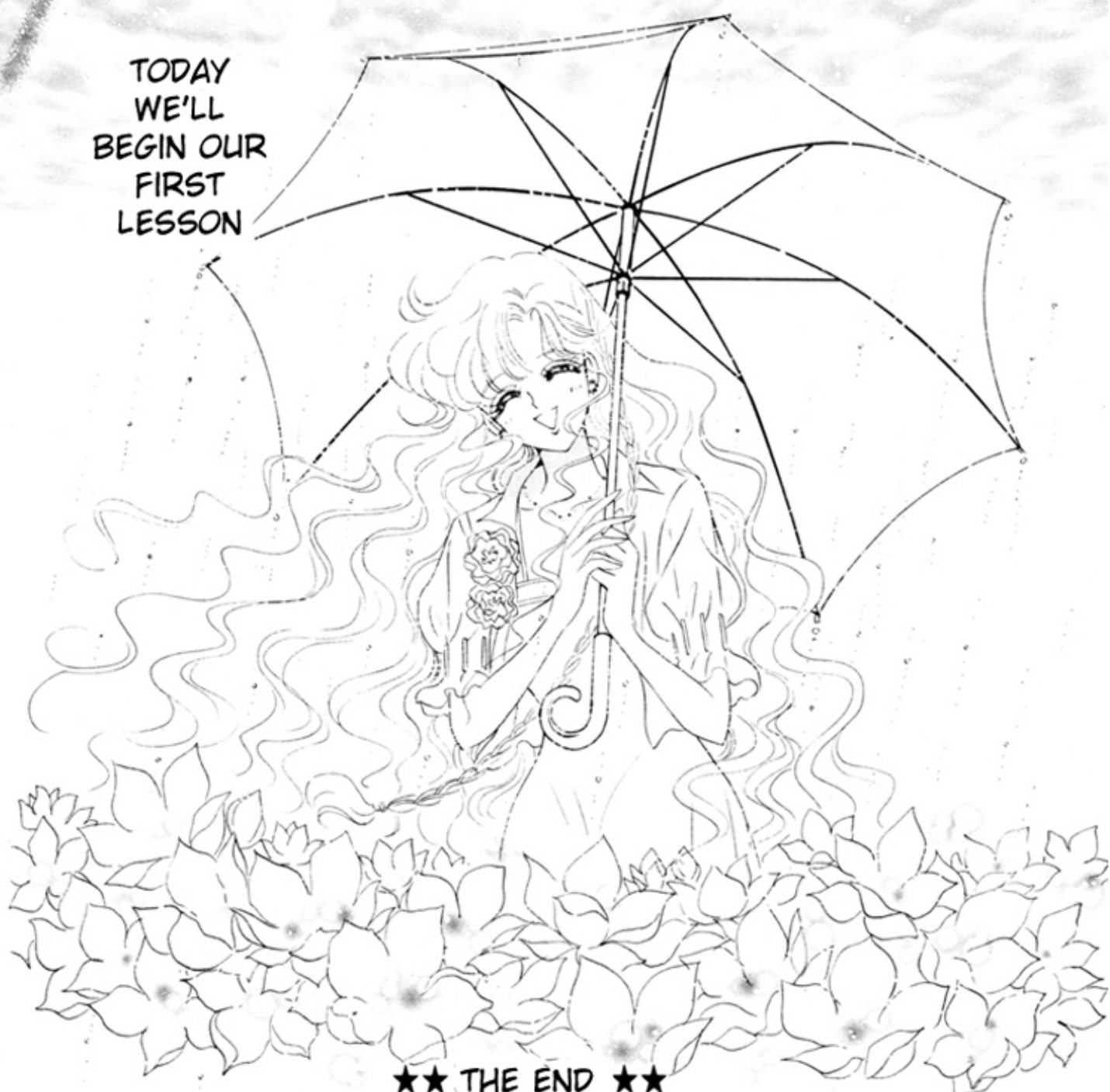


I'M YOUR
GIRLFRIEND
NOW
UJOU

BUT
BEFORE
THAT

I'M GOING TO
HAVE TO TEACH
YOU TO CAL ME
BY MY FIRST
NAME, UJOU

TODAY
WE'LL
BEGIN OUR
FIRST
LESSON



★★ THE END ★★



Dreaming Rainy Button

IT STARTED TO RAIN
ON THE WAY TO MY
MIDDLE SCHOOL
GRADUATION
CEREMONY



BIG DROPS OF RAIN THAT
SEEMED LARGE ENOUGH
TO DISPEL THE FOG



I CAN'T SAY IT

I'M
GOING
TO STAY
HERE A
LITTLE
WHILE
LONGER

OKAY

TOMOMII,
WE'RE
GOING TO
GET
SOAKED!

HEY

GO AHEAD
AND TELL
MISONOU
THAT YOU
WANT HIS
BUTTON

I'VE NEVER EVEN
SPOKEN TO
MISONOU

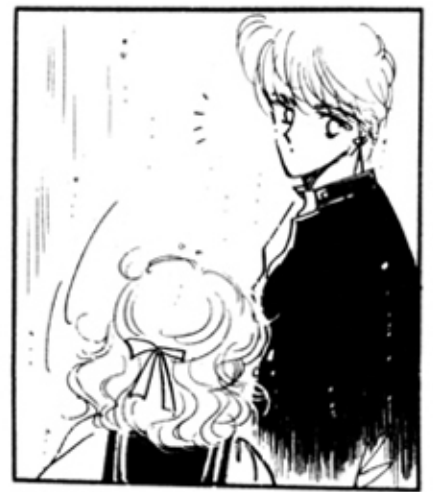
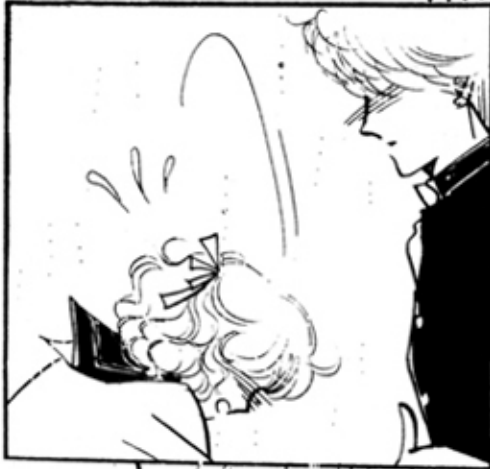


I'LL BE
WATCHING
HIM FROM
AFAR TIL
THE VERY
END

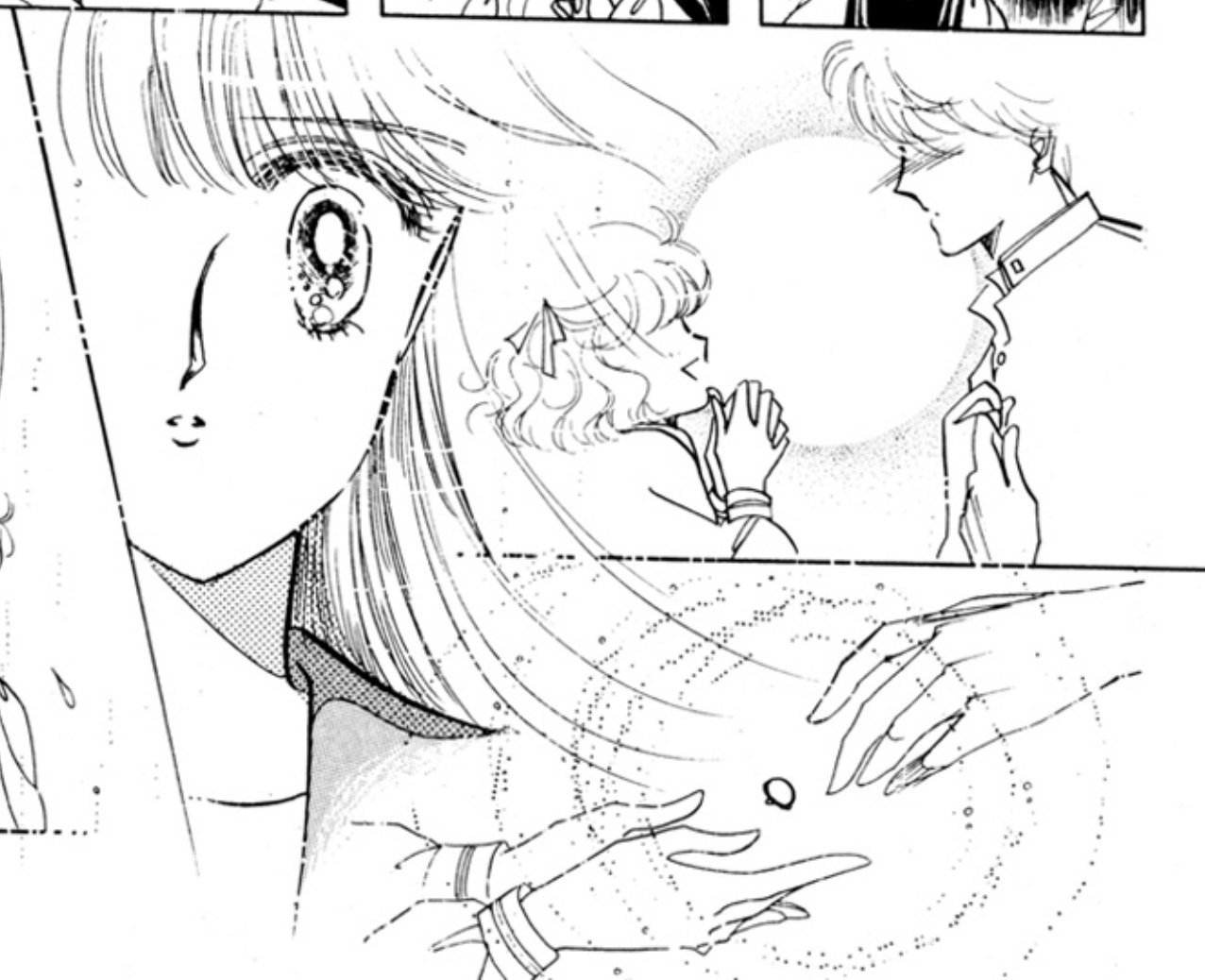
COWARDLY TOMOMI

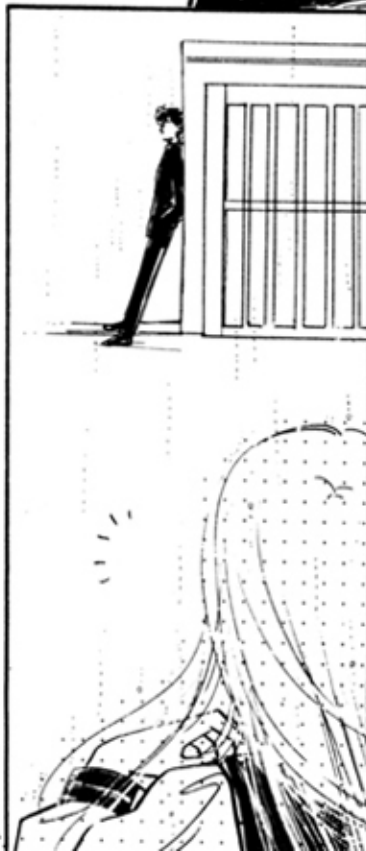
SOMEHOW

LET ME
HAVE
YOUR
SECOND
BUTTON



TOMOMI

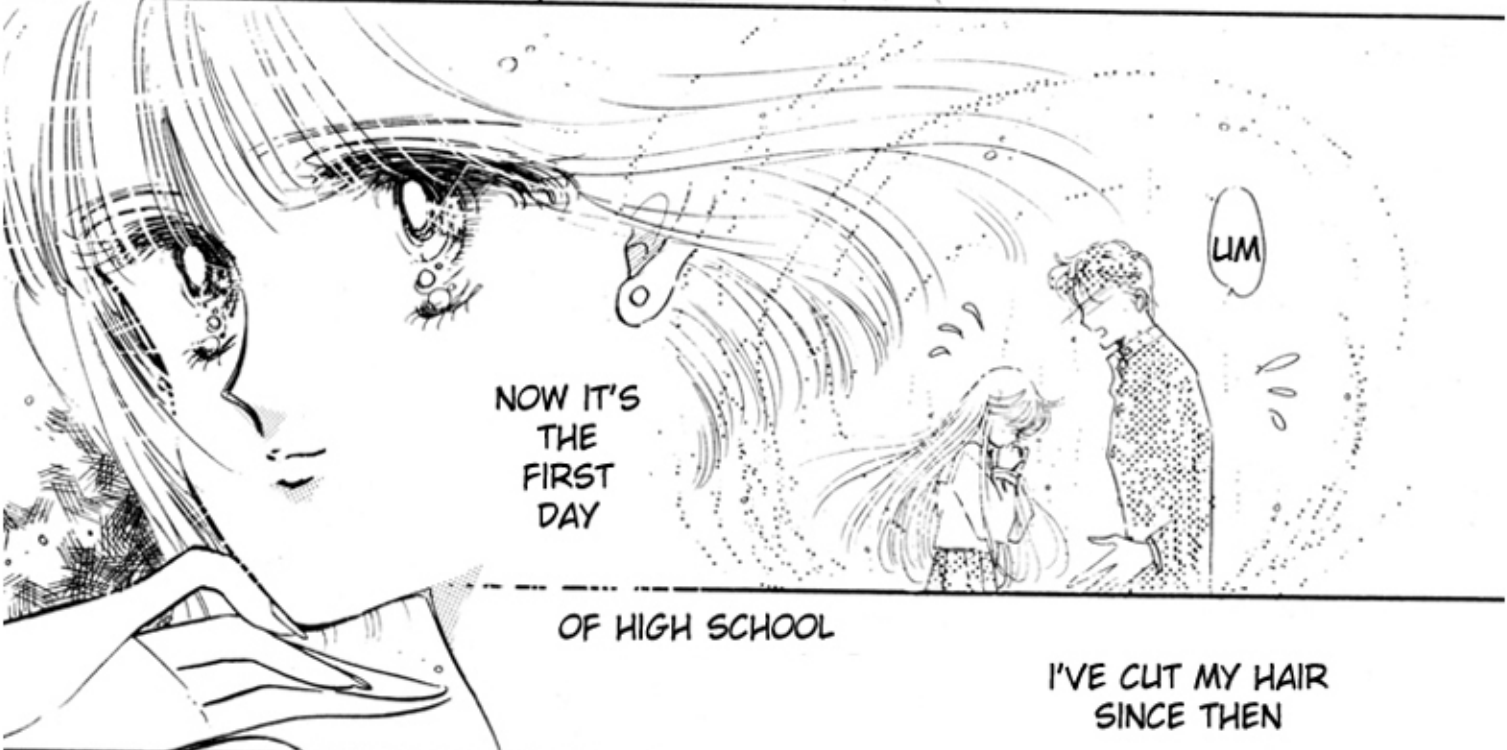






MY SECOND BUTTON?

WOULD YOU PLEASE ACCEPT



NOW IT'S THE FIRST DAY

LIM

OF HIGH SCHOOL

I'VE CUT MY HAIR SINCE THEN



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU ALWAYS WALK HOME WITH THAT ONE GUY, AFTER ALL

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!



TOMOMI, IT MUST BE NICE TO HAVE A DATE LIKE YOU DO

rub rub



NOW THAT FINALS ARE OVER WE FINALLY HAVE SOME FREE TIME



OKAY, FINE! I'LL INTRODUCE YOU

TO TWO MORE GUYS

woo hoo!

YEAH TOMOMI I BET YOU KNOW A TON

YOU SHOULD INTRODUCE US TO SOME OTHER CO-ED GUYS!

AFTER I CUT MY HAIR
I NOTICED
I STOPPED FEELING LONELY



HERE WE GO

IT'S USELESS. IT'S OKAY, I GET IT. SOMETIMES YOU GET EMOTIONAL

I WASN'T CRYING

BUT HAIBARA, WHEN I TOOK YOUR SECOND BUTTON

I'VE SAID THIS MANY TIMES BEFORE

HAS BEEN HANGING AROUND ME A LOT

SINCE THEN HAIBARA

WHATEVER YOU SAY

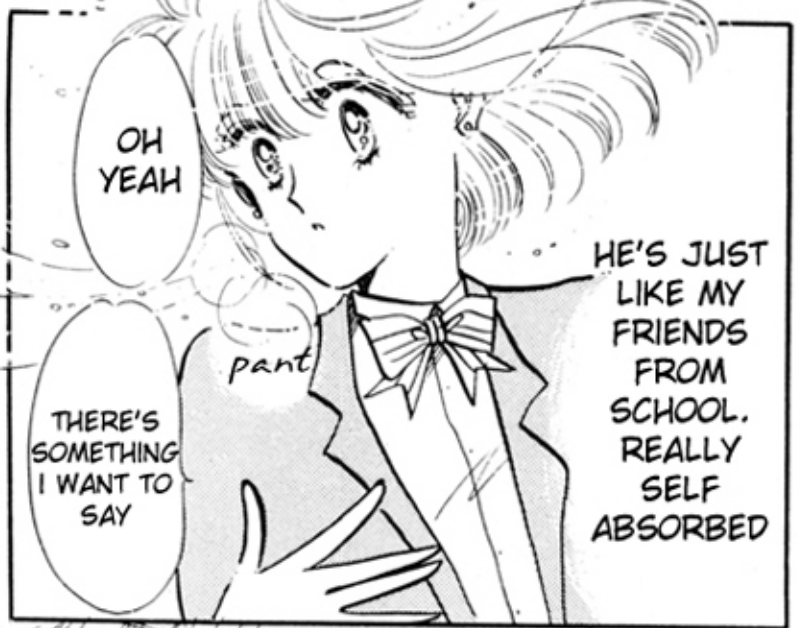


ah ha ha ha

GRRRR. THEY WERE RAINDROPS, DON'T YOU GET IT



YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND?



OH YEAH

THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO SAY

HE'S JUST LIKE MY FRIENDS FROM SCHOOL. REALLY SELF ABSORBED

pant



my friends need one

I KNOW I CAN COUNT ON YOU TO HELP OUT, HAIBARA

I TOLD MY FRIENDS YOU COULD HELP INTRODUCE THEM TO SOME GUYS



lucky

NO WAY!

how are you eating ice cream in this cold?

SOME OF MY FRIENDS ARE COMING OVER. INVITE YOURS

TODAY

YOU CAN

ALSO

I'LL COME TOO

YOUR HOUSE SOUNDS GREAT

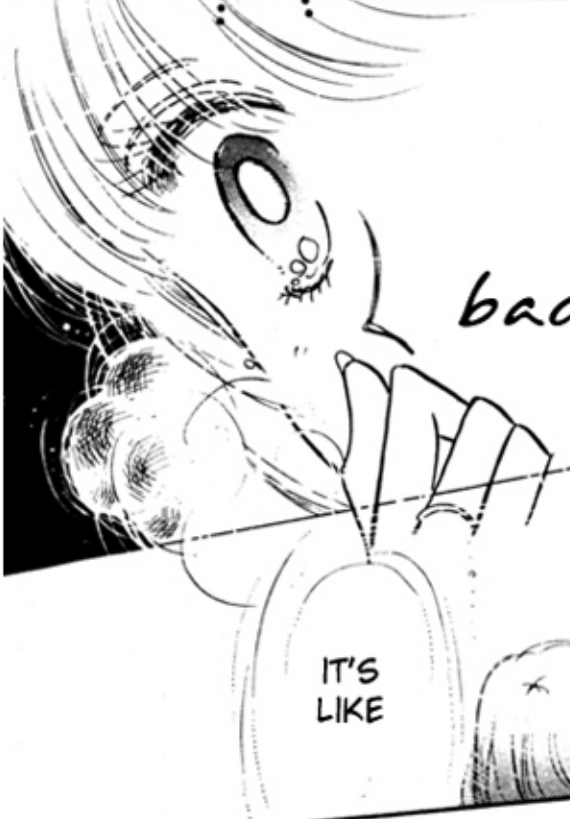
MIYAZAKI HIROO



WHAT



ONE OF THE
GUYS WENT
TO KITA
MIDDLE
SCHOOL TOO.
HIS NAME IS
SHIBATA



badum

IT'S
LIKE



RAIN



plip

MY HEART



IS CAUGHT IN A TIME
SLIP



THE TEACHERS
AREN'T HERE ON
SATURDAY
AFTERNOONS

HEY

ARE YOU
SURE THIS
IS OKAY?

YEAH
IT'S
FINE

MISONOU

thunder

AND THE
JUNIORS AND
SENIORS ARE
STUDYING FOR
EXAMS

THE GIRLS SCHOOL!
THERE'S THE GIRL'S
SCHOOL!

AND

MY
NAME IS
SHIBATA
TOMOMI

AND
YUKIMI

ANYWAY

THIS IS
ENKO

THIS IS
ARUGA

WELL

I'M
ARUGA

HEY,
HAIBARA

HIGH
SCHOOL
GIRLS

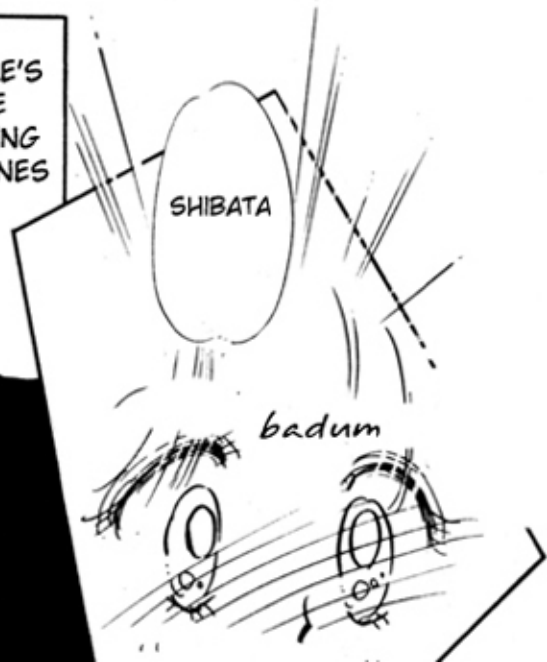


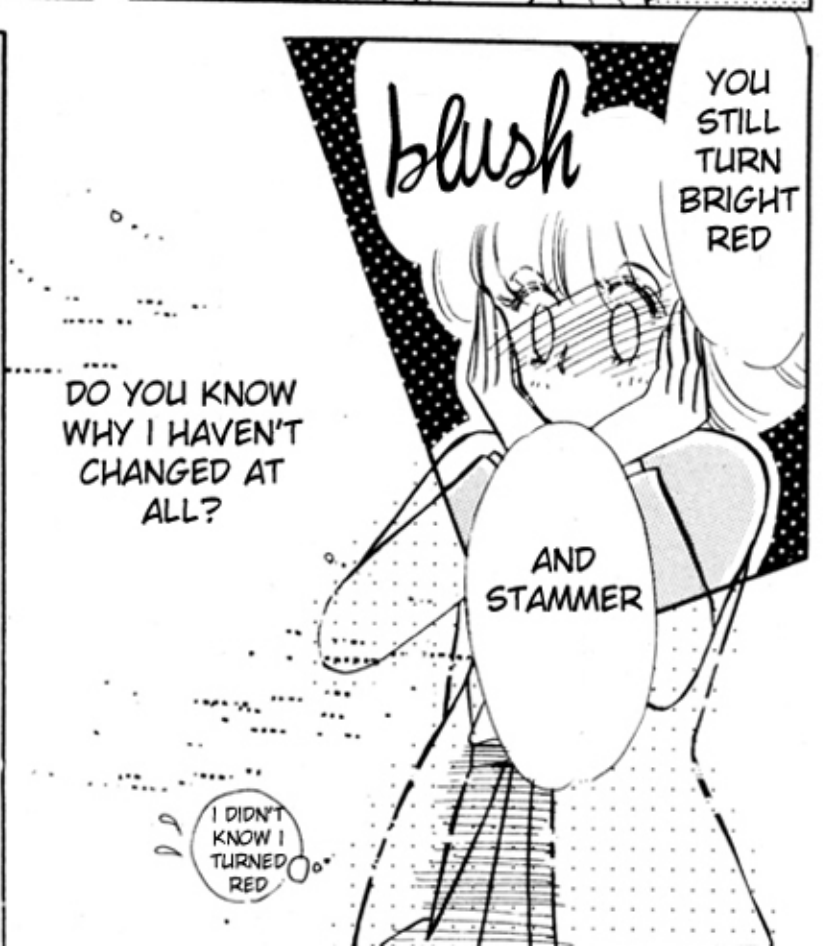
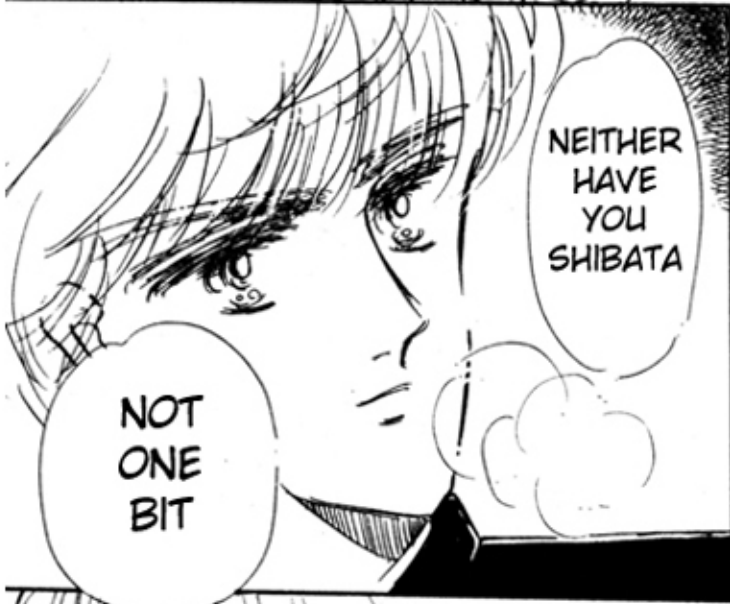
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT

BEING ABLE

TO MEET AGAIN

LIKE THIS





WHAT
EVER
HAPPENED
TO THAT
GIRL YOU
GAVE

YOUR
HAIR

YOUR
SECOND
BUTTON
TO?

FOR ALL OF
SENIOR YEAR

I ONLY CARED
FOR YOU

COME ON TOMOMI,
HURRY AND THINK
OF SOMETHING TO
SAY!

HUH?

AFTER ALL,
YOU'RE STILL IN
THE SAME
GRADE NOW

AS THE
GIRL YOU
GAVE YOUR
SECOND
BUTTON TO
LAST YEAR

WE'RE HAVING
AN INTERESTING
CONVERSATION
NOW! ABOUT
OUR SHADOWY
PAST

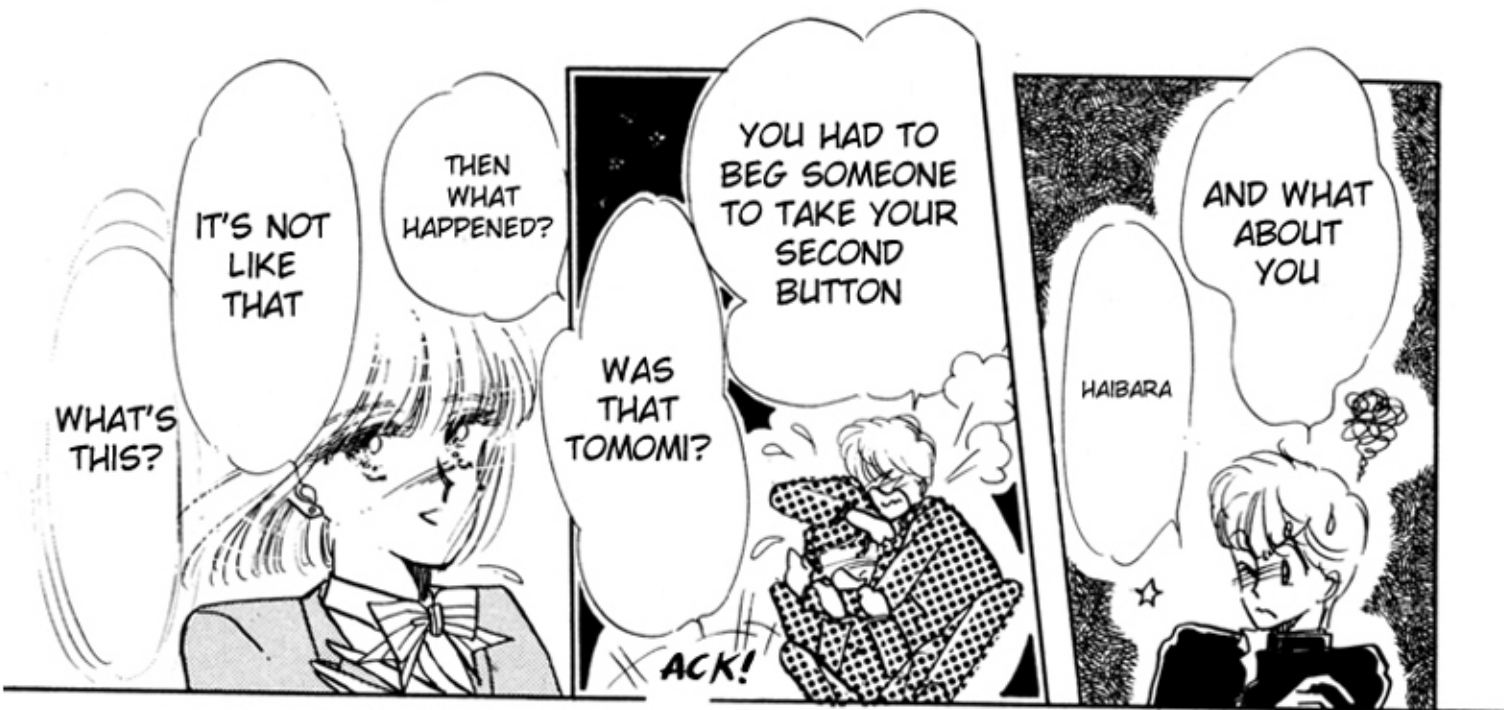
MY
HAIR?

WHY ARE
YOU UPSET?
IT SOUNDS A
LOT LIKE
YOU,
MISONOU

SHADOWY
PASTS? WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

WHAT? NO
WAY!

ACK



YOU MEAN, YOU AND THAT GIRL ARE STILL



TALKING, MISONOU?



SINCE THEN



I WONDER WHAT HE WAS GOING TO SAY NEXT



YOUR HAIR

IT'S BEEN A YEAR



THEY'RE GONNA BE LATE

THEY'RE NOT THERE

HEY, ISN'T THAT MISONOU?



what should we do?

OHH, THEN WE'RE GOING TO BE LATE FOR THE MOVIES

THEY SAID THEY WERE STUCK AT AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS



HUH?

YOU SURPRISED ME

LAST TIME YOU PAID FOR EVERYONE'S COFFEE, SO IT'S MY TURN NOW



YOUR MONEY

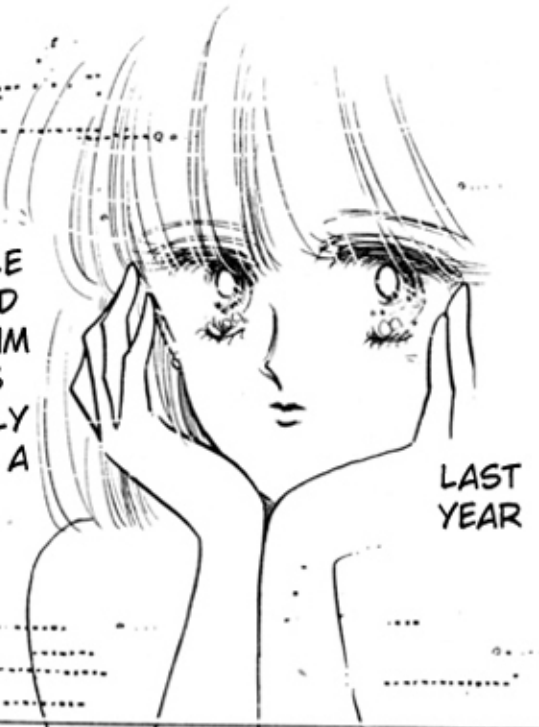


WHAT

tap tap

ACK!

BEING ABLE
TO SIT AND
TALK TO HIM
LIKE THIS
COULD ONLY
HAPPEN IN A
DREAM



LAST
YEAR

SO

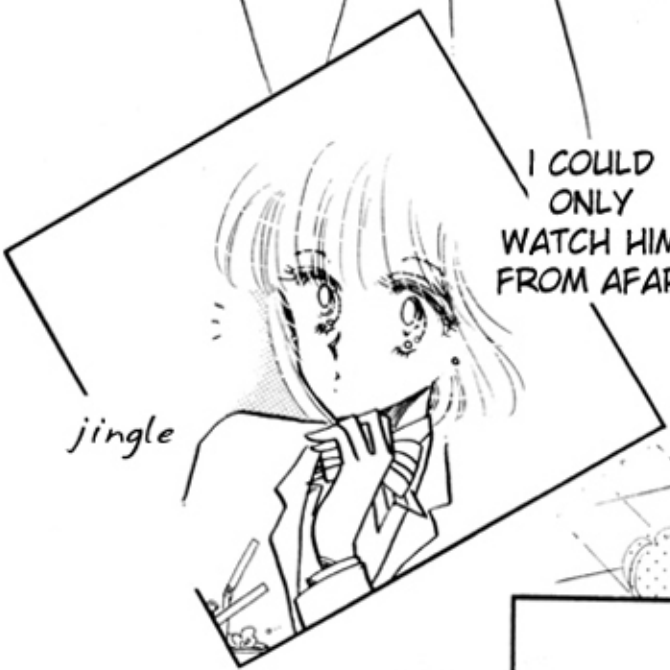


HOW DOES HE
ALWAYS MAKE
ME FEEL SO
BREATHLESS
AND PUT ME
ON THE EDGE
OF MY SEAT?

*badum
badum*



I COULD
ONLY
WATCH HIM
FROM AFAR



jingle

WE WERE
IN THE
SAME
CLASS
TOGETHER



YOU
SURE
KEEP

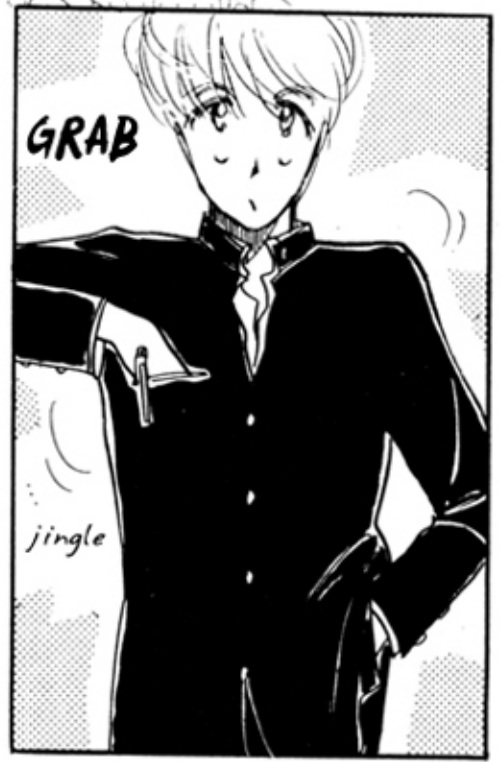
YOUR
MONEY IN A
LOT OF
DIFFERENT
SPOTS



POKE
POKE



GRAB






HE
LOOKS
LIKE A
MAGICIAN

TEE
HEE



YEAH...
I WAS IN
A HURRY
THIS
MORNING

jingle



YOU WERE
STANDING IN THE
RAIN, SHIBATA



AFTER THE
GRADUATION
CEREMONY



LIKE YOU
WERE
WAITING



GOING TO LOOK OUTSIDE

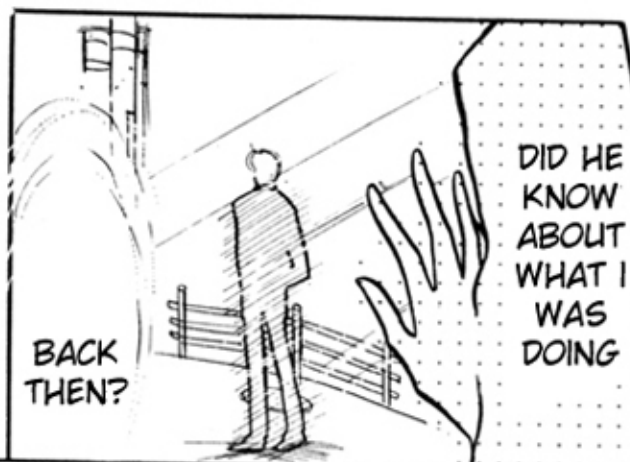
I GUESS HAIBATA

MADE THE FIRST MOVE AND SAVED YOU THE EFFORT

I'M

FOR THE OTHERS

DID HE KNOW ABOUT WHAT I WAS DOING



BACK THEN?

IS MISONOU

WAITING FOR SOMEONE TOO?

HEY, WHERE DID MISONOU GO?

HE'S OUTSIDE WAITING

I GET THE FEELING

SMILE

TOMOMI

YOU

GUYS WERE IN THE SAME CLASS TOGETHER, RIGHT? WHAT'S THIS ABOUT YOUR SHADOWY PAST TOGETHER? (tee hee)

YOU'D RATHER BE WITH MISONOU THAN HAIBARA

I USED TO

HMM

WELL

HAHA

A
SHADOWY
PAST?

HAVE A CRUSH ON HIM

SECOND
BUTTON
TO,
RIGHT?

BUT NOW HE'S
SEEING THE
GIRL HE GAVE
HIS

THE
REASON
HE ISN'T
DATING
HER IS
BECAUSE

BUT
YOU
KNOW

I DON'T
THINK HE
IS,
ACTUALLY

WELL

MAYBE I SHOULDN'T
HAVE CUT MY HAIR
AFTER ALL



WHAT'S
WITH THAT?
HE'S SO
WEIRD



IT'S
BECAUSE

SHE
CUT
HER
HAIR

MAYBE

THERE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN

SOMEONE ELSE
HE LIKED



NO GOOD

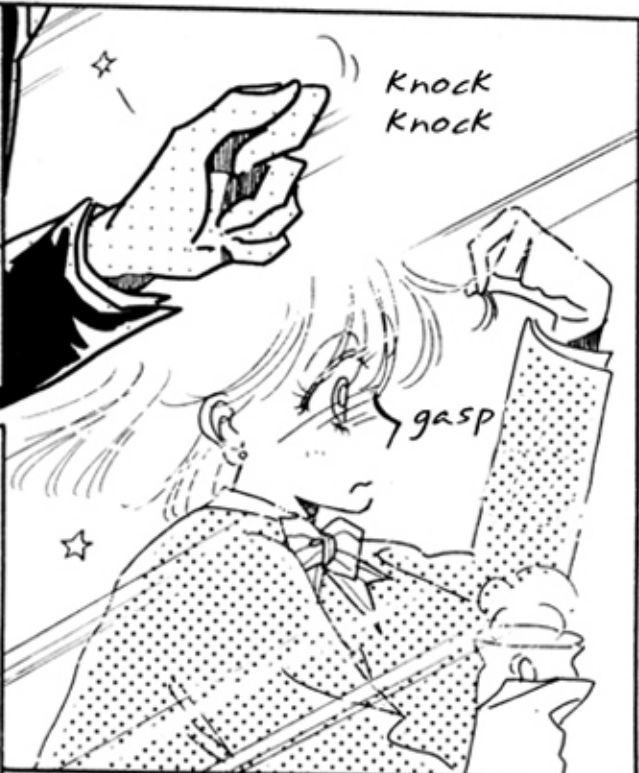
THEY STILL
AREN'T HERE



HUH

WHAT
WAS I
SAYING?
?

OH
NO



Knock
Knock

gasp

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED: NAKAYOSHI
DELUXE, JANUARY 1987 ISSUE



HEY

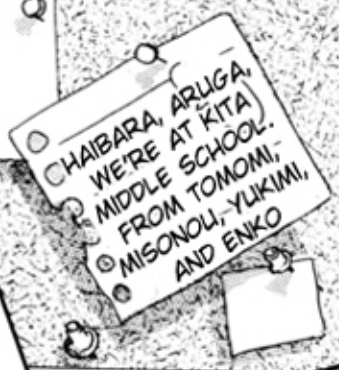
WE COULD CHECK IN ON THEM, RIGHT?

WHAT ABOUT KITA MIDDLE SCHOOL?



IT'S FIVE. WHERE SHOULD WE GO? (IT'S CLOUDY OUT ALL OF A SUDDEN)

WHAT IF THEY'RE LATE BECAUSE THEY ALREADY WENT HOME? WHAT TIME IS IT NOW?



CHAIBARA, ARUGA, WE'RE AT KITA MIDDLE SCHOOL. FROM TOMOMI, MISONOJI, YUKIMI, AND ENKO

LET'S LEAVE A NOTE

grab



YUKIMI ?

ENKO?



THIS TO HAPPEN

this does feel nostalgic though

I DIDN'T WANT



SHHH

OHH, WE'RE ALL ALONE NOW

giggle

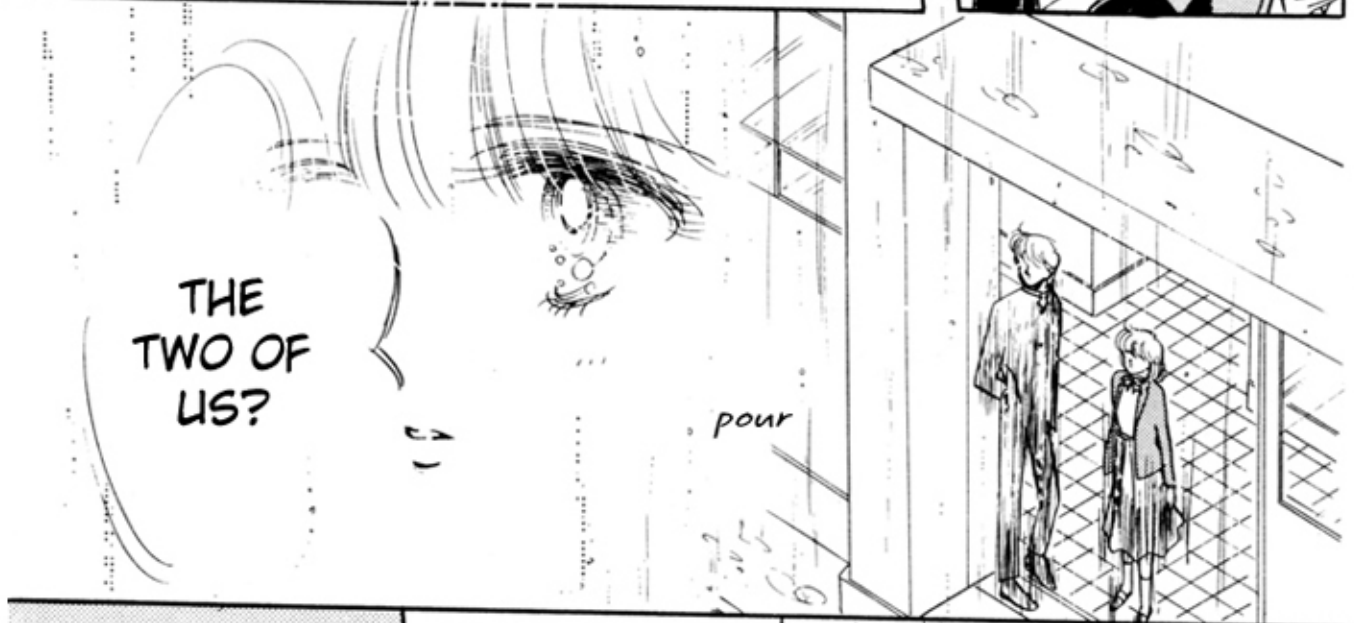


HAVE A BOND* WITH THE RAIN

THE TWO OF US

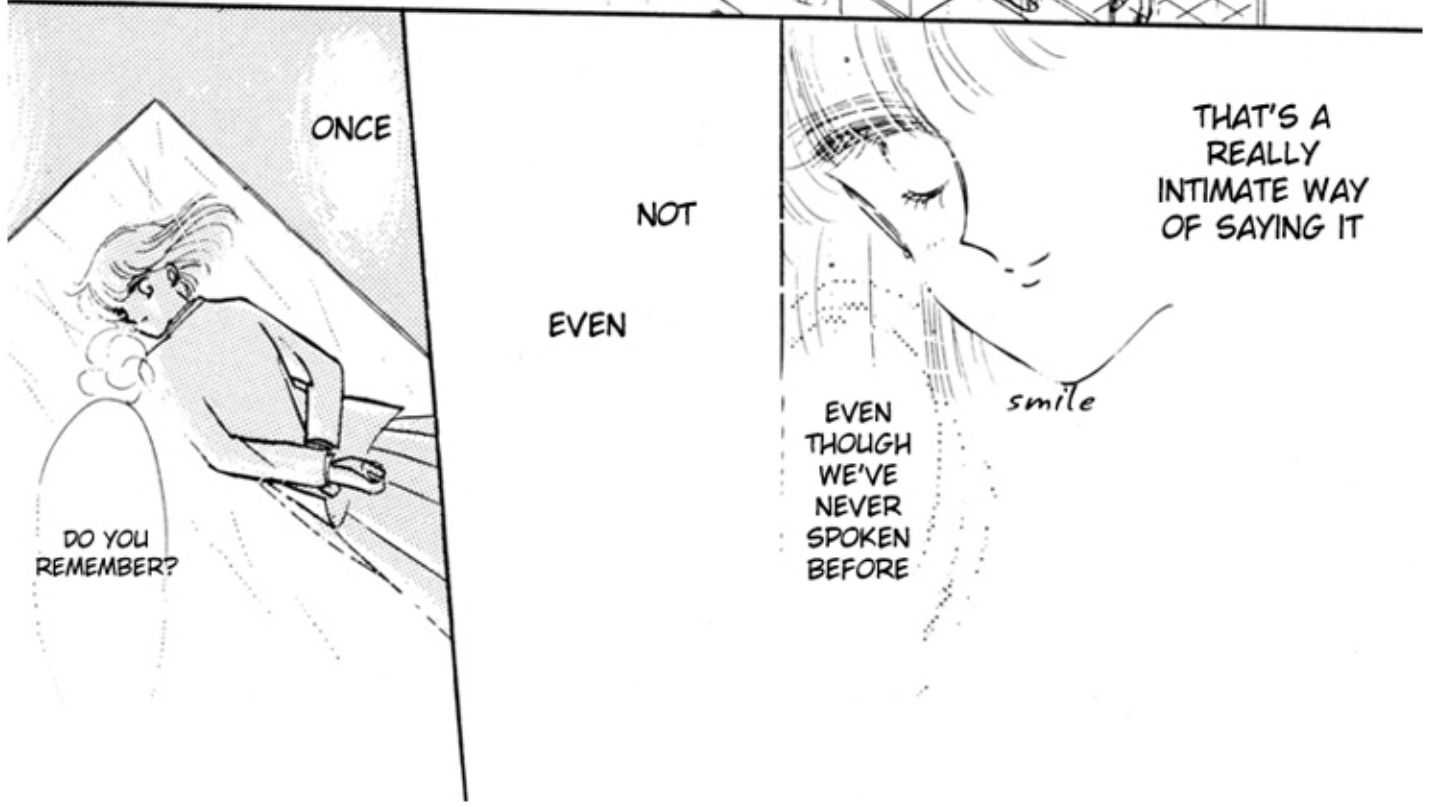
I GUESS

I GUESS THIS PLACE HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL, HAS IT? (I guess that's normal.)



THE TWO OF US?

pour



ONCE

NOT

EVEN

THAT'S A REALLY INTIMATE WAY OF SAYING IT

EVEN THOUGH WE'VE NEVER SPOKEN BEFORE

smile

DO YOU REMEMBER?

*NOTE: THE WORD USED HERE FOR "BOND" IS "EN" - WHICH IS USUALLY USED IN A ROMANTIC CONTEXT. THE CONCEPT OF "EN" IS A BUDDHIST BELIEF THAT CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS ARE FATED, AND ARE BONDED TO EACH OTHER THROUGHOUT THEIR REINARNCTIONS

IT WAS

THE FOLK DANCE AT THE
SCHOOL FESTIVAL

AS SOON AS I
TOUCHED
YOUR HAND

IT
BEGAN
TO
RAIN

plip

fwish

badum

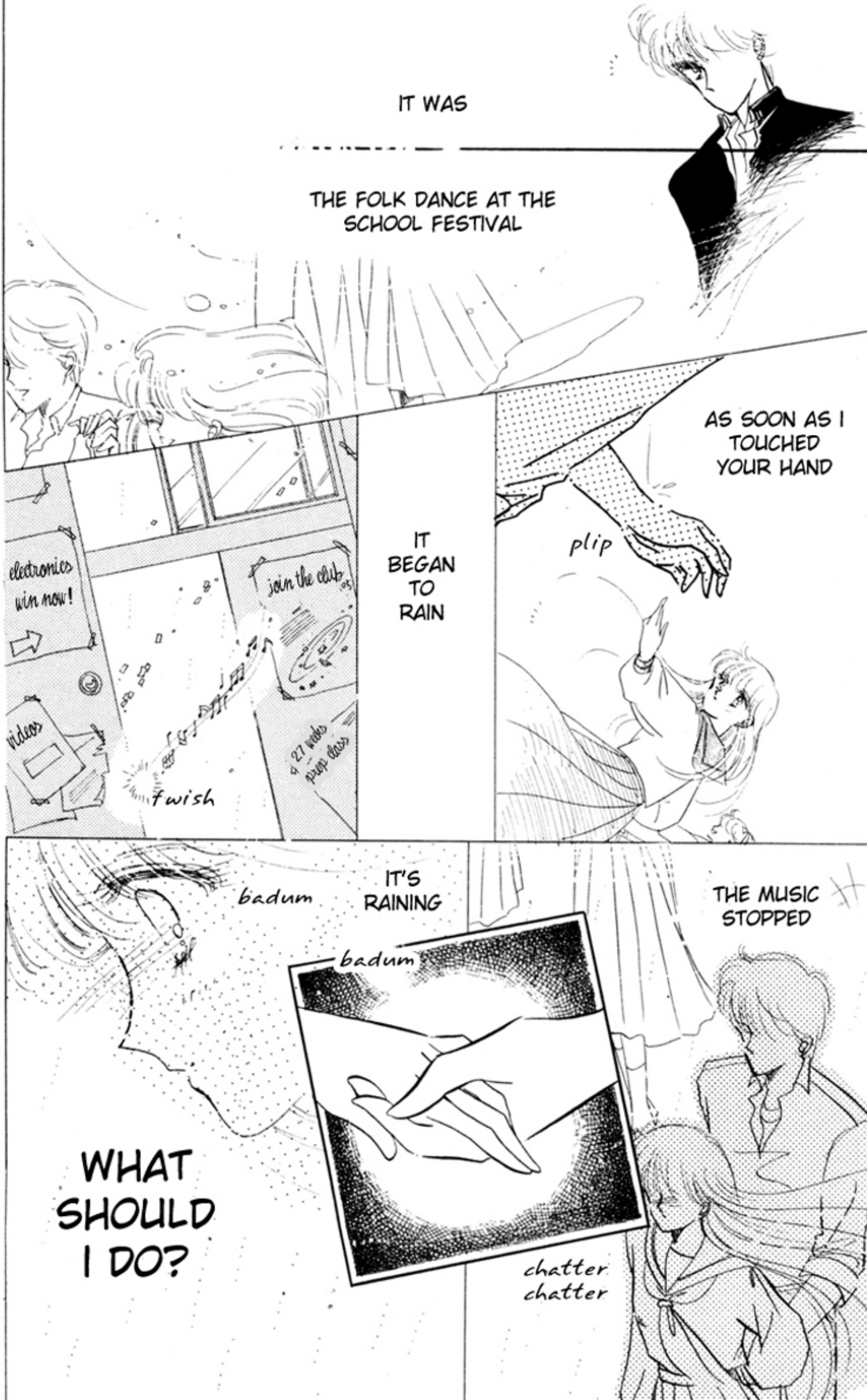
IT'S
RAINING

THE MUSIC
STOPPED

badum

WHAT
SHOULD
I DO?

*chatter
chatter*



badum

WHY IS HE HOLDING MY HAND

badum

WHAT
SHOULD I
DO

badum

fwish

COME ON,
HURRY UP
AND LET'S
GO!

WE'RE
GOING TO
GET
SOAKED!

splash

IT
WAS

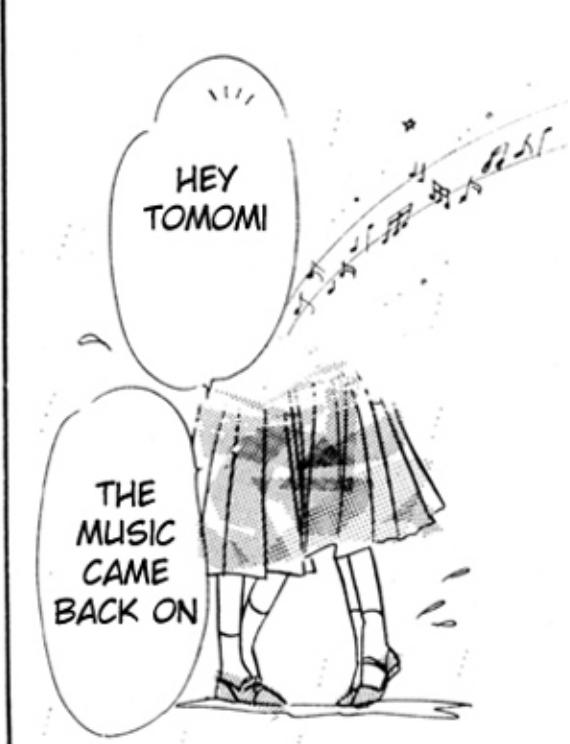
BECAUSE I
WAS
SCARED

badum

badum

grab

AAACK,
TOMOMI
?!:☆



DROPPING YOUR HAND ALL OF A SUDDEN





THE
RAINDROPS

ARE SO SMALL THAT I CAN BARELY SEE THEM

I LOVED

BACK
THEN

HIM

SO MUCH

HAS
HAIR

I COULD
DIE

badum

YOUR
HEAR
IT?

EVER
BROKEN



I LIKED
THIS
GIRL A
LOT

IT WAS
TOO
LONG

badum badum

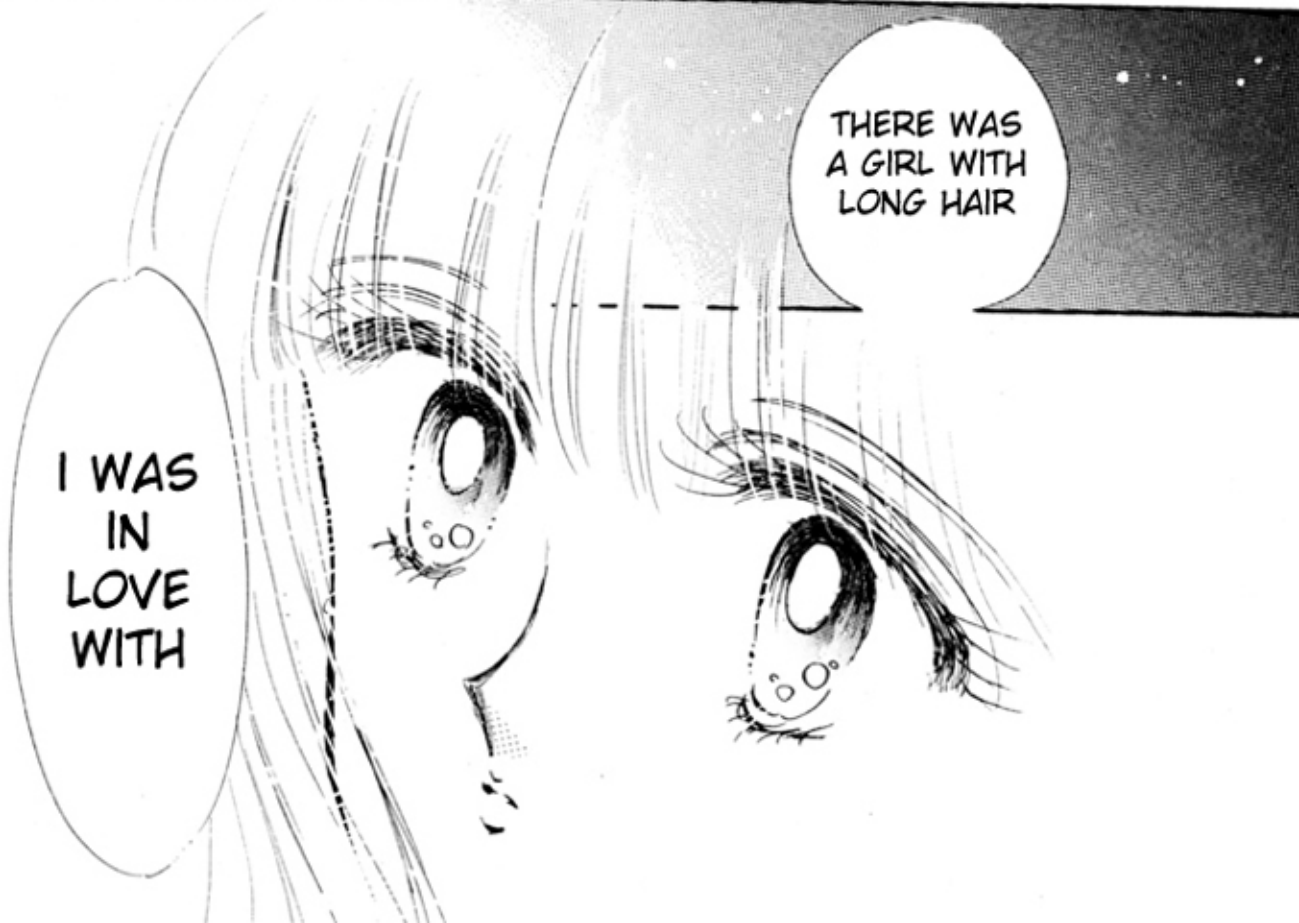
THAT
YOU'VE
HAD YOUR
HEART
BROKEN
BEFORE

I GET
THE
IMPRESSION



AGO

A
LONG
TIME



I WAS
IN
LOVE
WITH

THERE WAS
A GIRL WITH
LONG HAIR

badum

AND WHERE IS SHE NOW?

NOW ?

pant

badum

NOW SHE'S

OF HAIBARA

TO SEEM JEALOUS

WELL I DON'T WANT

WAIT!



DON'T JUST LEAVE ME
HANGING LIKE YOU DID
LAST TIME



KEEP ON
TALKING.

HEY, WHAT DO
YOU MEAN BY
THAT?



WHY



WHY
COULDN'T I
FIND THE
COURAGE TO
TELL HIM
HOW I FELT?

WHY
COULDN'T I



pour

turn



TO
MO
MI



I KNOW



BUT

HAS HAIR

I MIGHT BE
CONCEITED



I KNOW
DEEP
INSIDE

EVER BROKEN YOUR
HEART?



AFTER
LETTING
PRECIOUS
WORDS

SLIP
INTO
NOTHING

WE
ALWAYS
GIVE
UP



ARE VERY
SIMILAR

THAT
MISONOU
AND I

I ASKED YOU IF YOU WOULD TAKE MY SECOND BUTTON



THAT REMINDS ME



YOU WON'T ACCEPT IT

splash

SO TELL ME NOW TO MY FACE



I DON'T MIND BEING REJECTED

pour

IT'S

OKAY

I LOVE YOU

THAT'S ALL I'M GOING TO TELL HIM

IT MIGHT SHOCK MISONOU

AND I'M GOING TO TELL HIM THAT I WANT

ALL OF THE BUTTONS FROM HIS JUNIOR HIGH UNIFORM

I'M SORRY FOR CALLING YOU ALL THE WAY OUT HERE

MISONOU IS WEARING HIS SCHOOL UNIFORM?

BUT IT'S SUNDAY

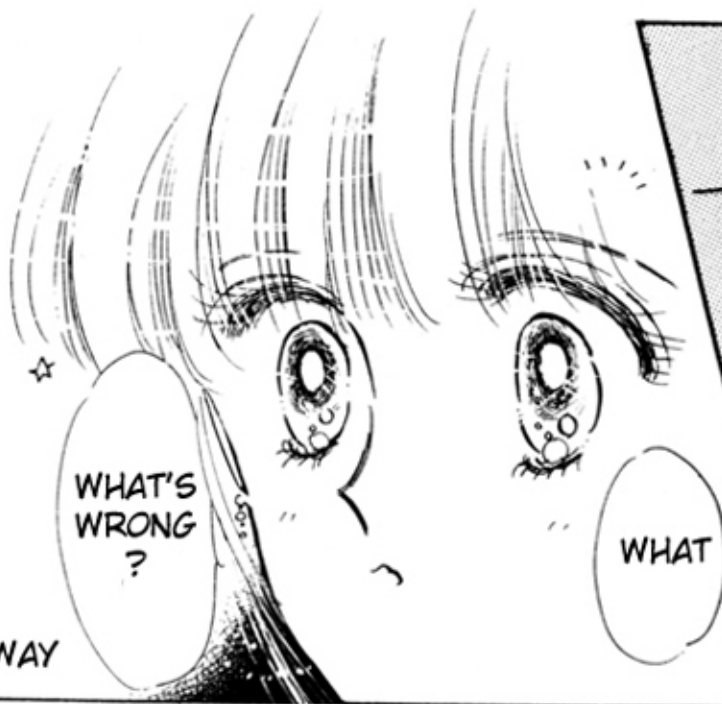
twirl twirl

plop

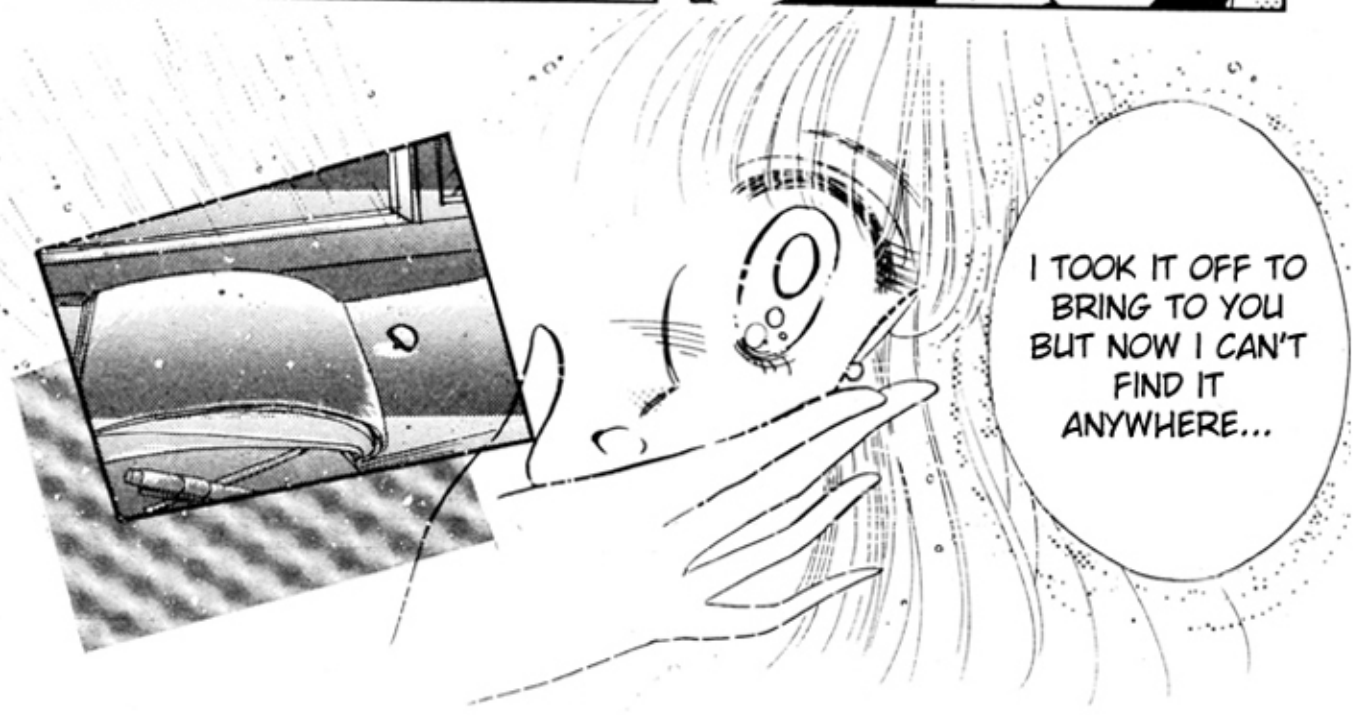
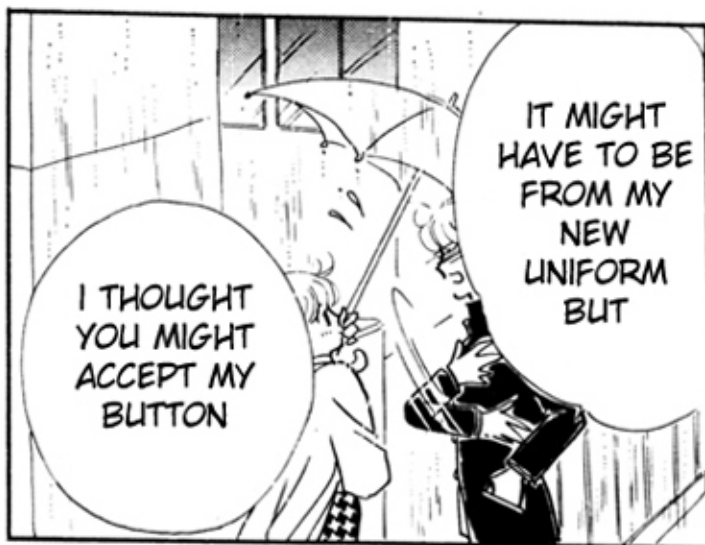
pant

plip

university



HIS SECOND BUTTON





THAT'S REALLY

smile

A black and white manga-style illustration of a man and a woman standing on a balcony. Both are holding open umbrellas. The man is on the left, wearing a dark suit and looking towards the woman. The woman is on the right, wearing a light-colored trench coat over a dark patterned scarf, looking back at the man. In the background, there is a window with curtains and a street lamp. A large speech bubble from the woman contains the text "YOUR FIRST BUTTON THOUGH, ISN'T IT?".

YOUR FIRST
BUTTON THOUGH,
ISN'T IT?

★★THE END★★

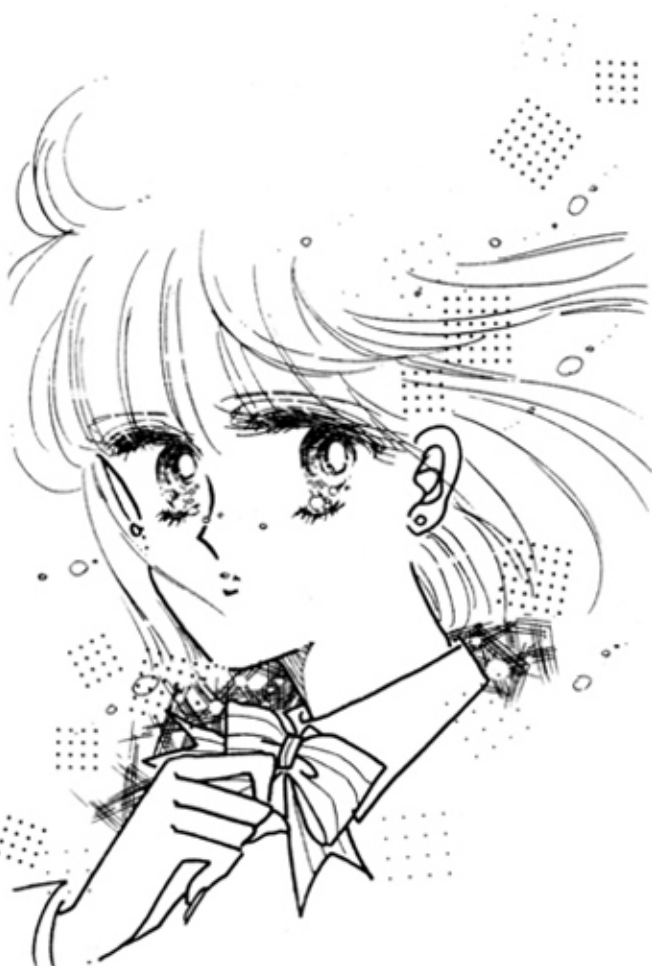
dreaming rainy button

Oh, this brings back memories. This story was the third one I wrote after my debut. Shibata Tomomi was a close friend of mine during middle school and high school which I wrote about a bit in volume 1. Enko (I know it looks like Sonoko in kanji *) and Yulami (nicknamed Bukimi by the boys) were classmates of mine in middle school. Thanks to all of you for letting me use your names. Misonou was also a classmate of mine during middle school. He was tall and really good looking! But whenever I talked to him he would tell weird jokes and be totally deadpan about it. He was an interesting fellow. I thought he was really nice. Misonou, I wonder how you are doing now.

Giving your second button away was popular when I was in middle school and high school. I wonder if kids today still do that.

One of my strongest memories is of my middle school graduation. As you probably expect, it was pouring rain and I was really nervous, so I couldn't ask the boy I liked for his second button. Even after he went home, I stayed at the school drenched in my own emotions. He did give it to me later though. Later when I went to high school I made the second button into a pendant (like a charm necklace) and wore it every day. I went to Kofu Ichi High School and he went to Nan High, so we were separated. When I graduated middle school to go to high school it made me feel really lonely, knowing that we would part. Ohh, all of this makes me so nostalgic about Kofu North junior high!

When I graduated from high school later my guy gave me all of the buttons from his uniform! (There's no special meaning behind that; I just wanted them all) Oh man. During our three years of high school the two of us had quite the long-distance romance!





A
Secret
Unrequited
♥♥ Love

LET'S GO
SEE AN R
RATED
MOVIE
TODAY!
♡

GEN!

R RATED: THIS MEANS THAT YOU MUST BE 18
YEARS OR OLDER TO SEE. IN OTHER WORDS:
A MOVIE OF DUBIOUS CHARACTER

EMI

☆

ISN'T CONSTANTLY
HANGING AROUND
EACH OTHER AT
SCHOOL BAD
ENOUGH?

YOU
TWO

WHAT ARE
YOU
TALKING
ABOUT,
MINAGAWA!

I'M FINALLY 18 YEARS
OLD NOW! I'VE BEEN
WANTING TO SEE AN R
RATED MOVIE FOR
AGES. COME ON, LET'S
GO, LET'S GO!
♡

ARE
YOU
SERI-
OUS



YOU'LL BE IN DANGER

IF YOU GUYS GO TO A NAUGHTY MOVIE TOGETHER LIKE A COUPLE

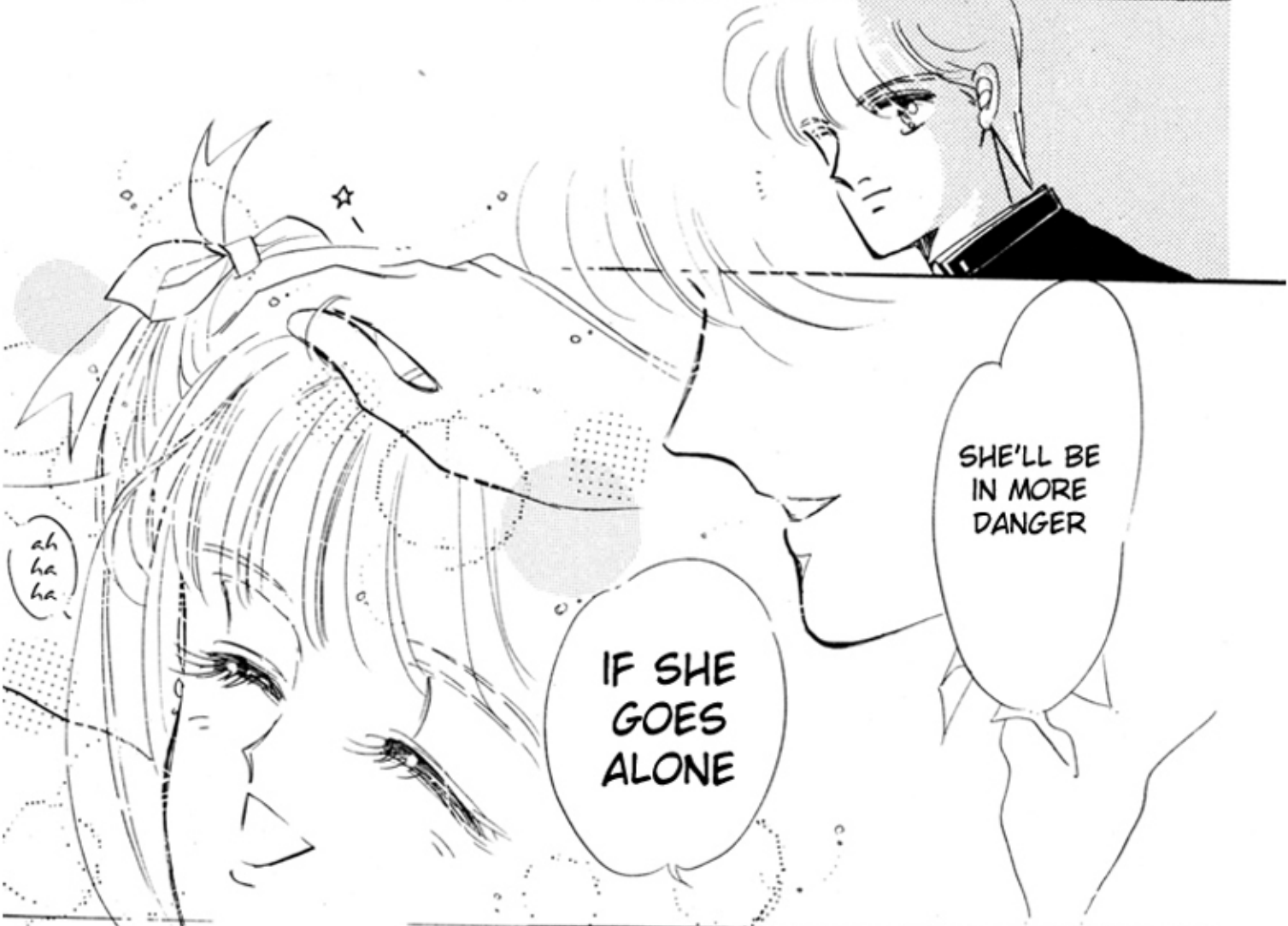


IDIOT

I'LL GO WITH YOU

FINE, I'LL GO BY MYSELF THEN

heh'heh



ah ha ha

IF SHE GOES ALONE

SHE'LL BE IN MORE DANGER

MY NAME IS SAITOU EMI



student council



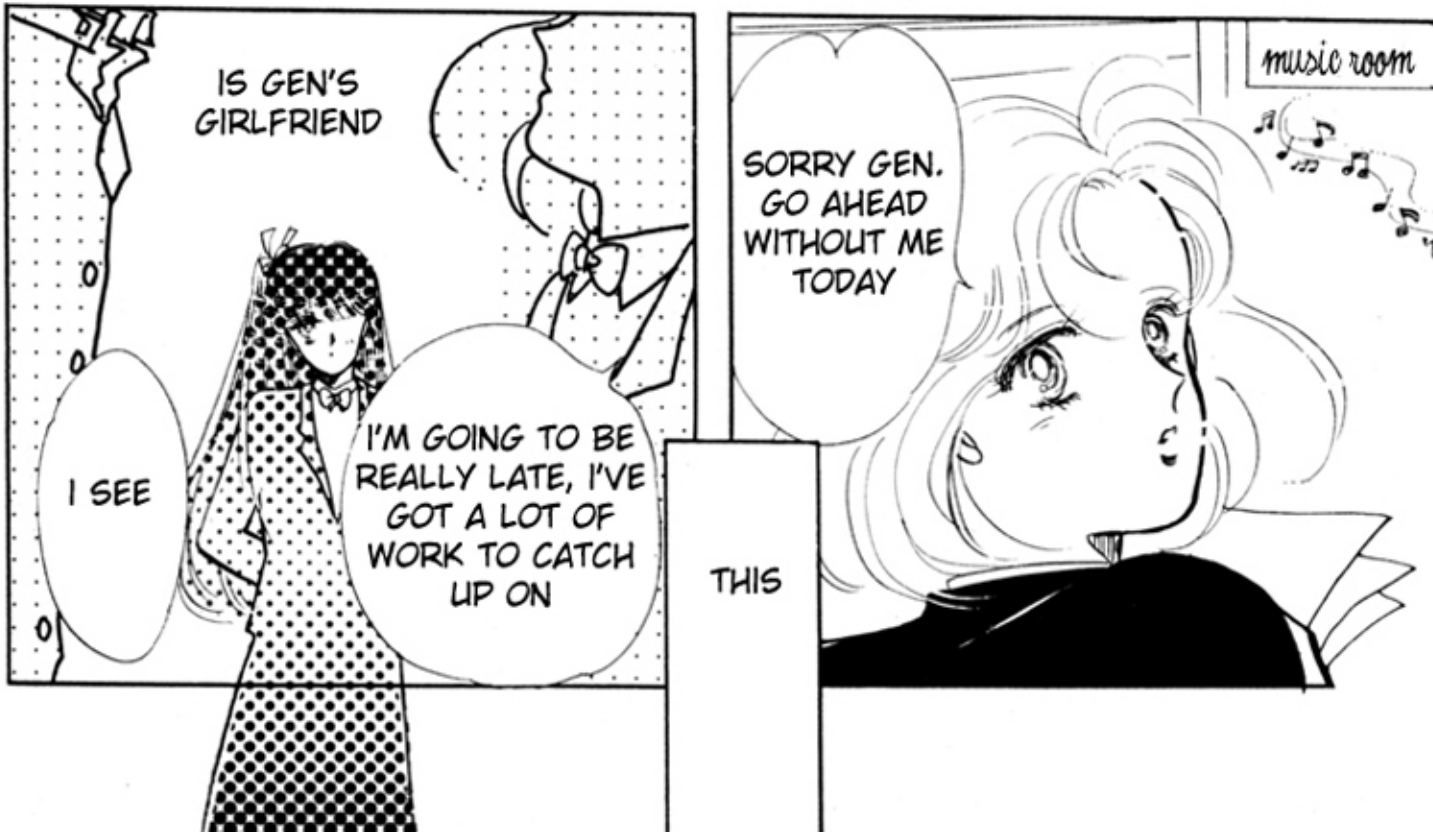
BUT HE'S
NOT MY
BOYFRIEND

RIGHT NOW HE'S
THE PERSON I
AM CLOSEST
WITH

SEE YA
LATER,
MINAGAWA

THIS IS
GEN

WE JUST HAVE A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP



IS GEN'S
GIRLFRIEND

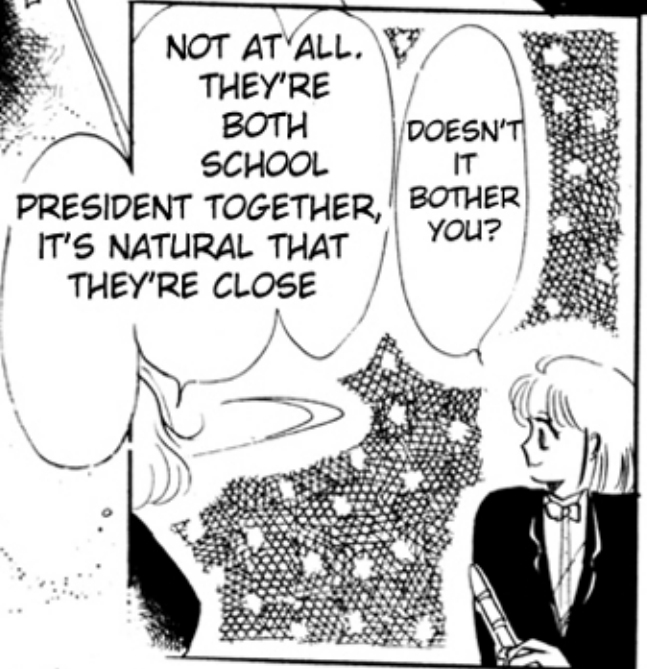
I SEE

I'M GOING TO BE
REALLY LATE, I'VE
GOT A LOT OF
WORK TO CATCH
UP ON

SORRY GEN.
GO AHEAD
WITHOUT ME
TODAY

THIS

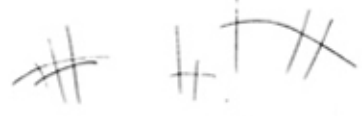
music room



DURING THE OFFICER SELECTION FOR STUDENT COUNCIL IN FRESHMAN YEAR

I FIRST MET GEN AND EMI

chatter chatter







FOR ALWAYS
BEING THE
REPLACEMENT
FOR WALKING
HOME WITH AI

♫ SORRY
GEN



EMI, ISN'T THERE
SOMEONE YOU
LIKE?

SEE
YOU
LATER
GUYS!

AND WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?
SHOULDN'T
YOU HAVE
SOMEONE
ELSE TO
WALK
HOME
WITH?



I CAN'T
TELL
YOU

WELL

smile



IF YOU
FIND
SOMEONE
YOU LIKE

YOU
SHOULD
TELL ME,
AND I'LL
TRY TO
HOOK
YOU UP



SEE
YOU!



BECAUSE
THE
PERSON I
LIKE IS...

I CAN'T
TELL HIM
BECAUSE



IT'LL BE
SUNDAY
BUT I'LL
BE AT
THE
OFFICE

SEE YOU
TOMORROW
EMI



LATELY

I CAN'T SLEEP

IT'S STRANGE

THERE'S SO MUCH PAIN IN MY CHEST



TOO LATE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT THAT NOW

rub rub

I DIDN'T GET ANY SLEEP LAST NIGHT



TEE HEE

THAT'S BECAUSE I'M SPECIAL



PRESIDENT, YOU ARE SO SOFT ON EMI

OH REALLY. SO THEN THERE IS SOMEONE ELSE YOU LIKE

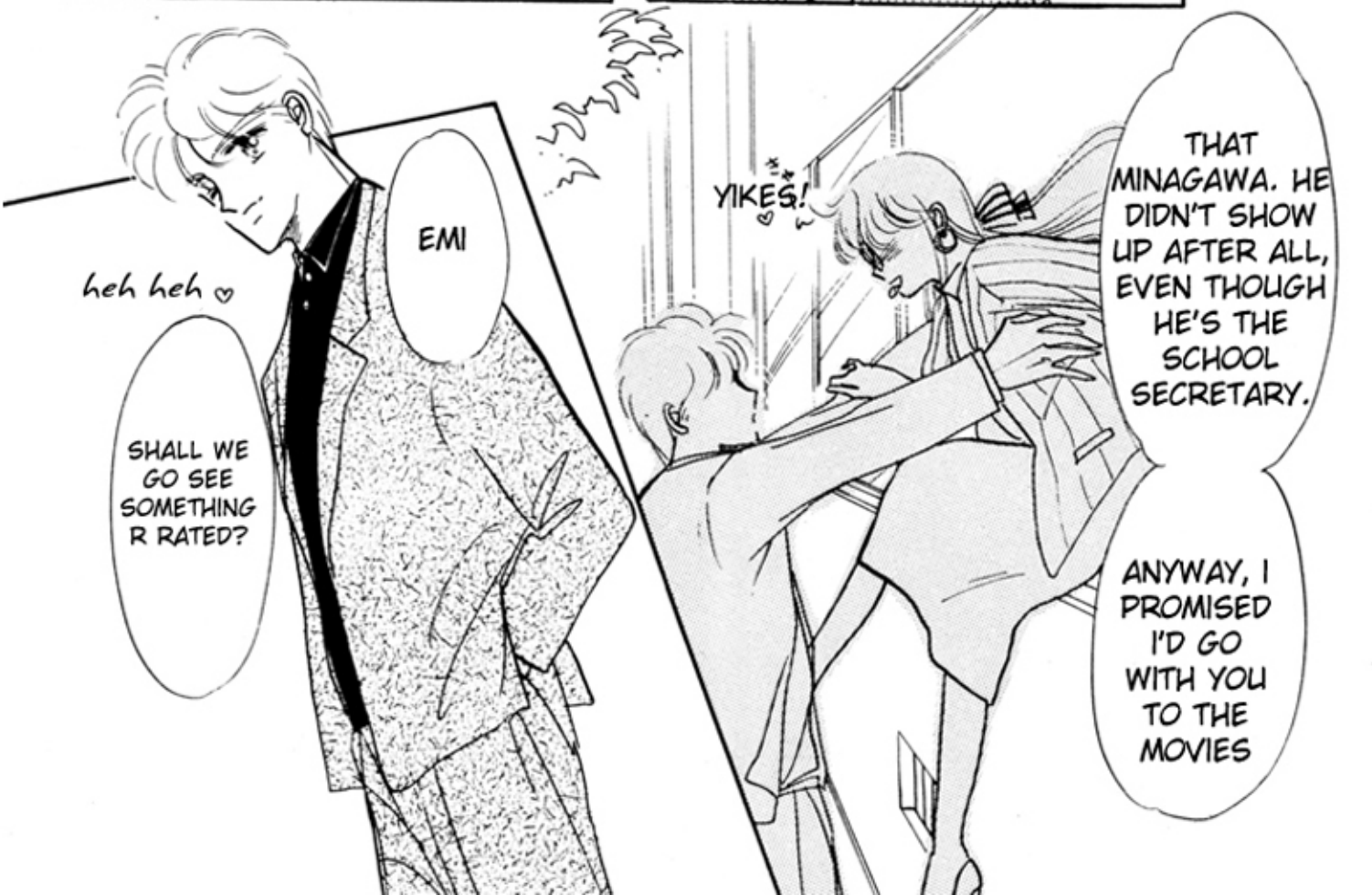
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!

ACK

I HAVE MY SIGHTS SET HIGHER THAN THAT, YOU SEE

OF COURSE THERE IS!

OH REALLY? WHY DON'T YOU EXPLAIN HOW SPECIAL YOU ARE TO AIKO THEN.





YOU DIDN'T SEEM LIKE YOU WERE GOING TO GO IF YOU HAD TO GO ALONE

ARE YOU SURE?

OH GEN

WELL YOU SEE



GEN YOU'RE A REALLY GOOD GUY

REALLY?

jeaz

SHE'S AT HER VOCAL LESSONS ON SUNDAYS



IF YOU HAVE FREE TIME, WHY DON'T YOU GO ON A DATE WITH AI?

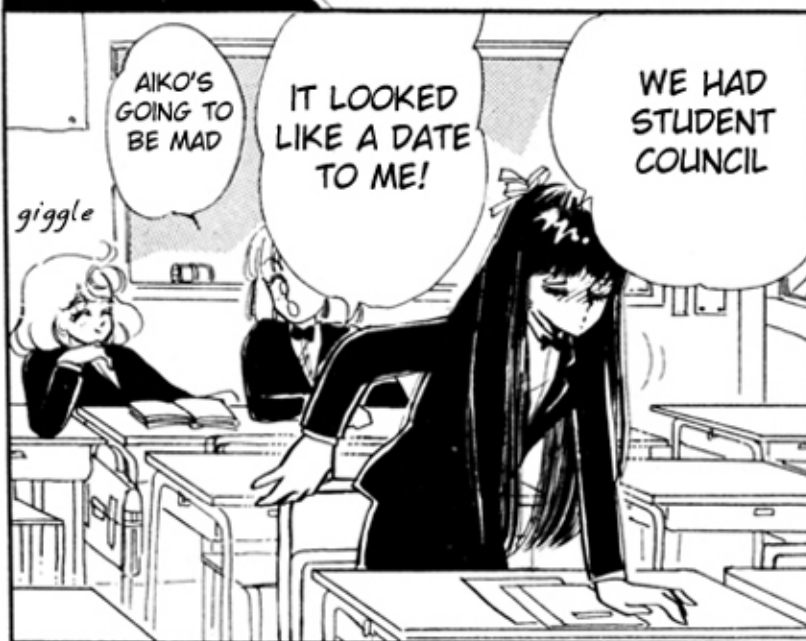
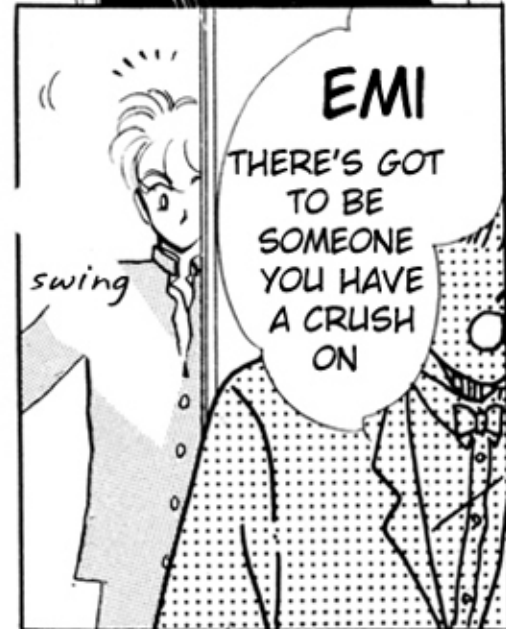


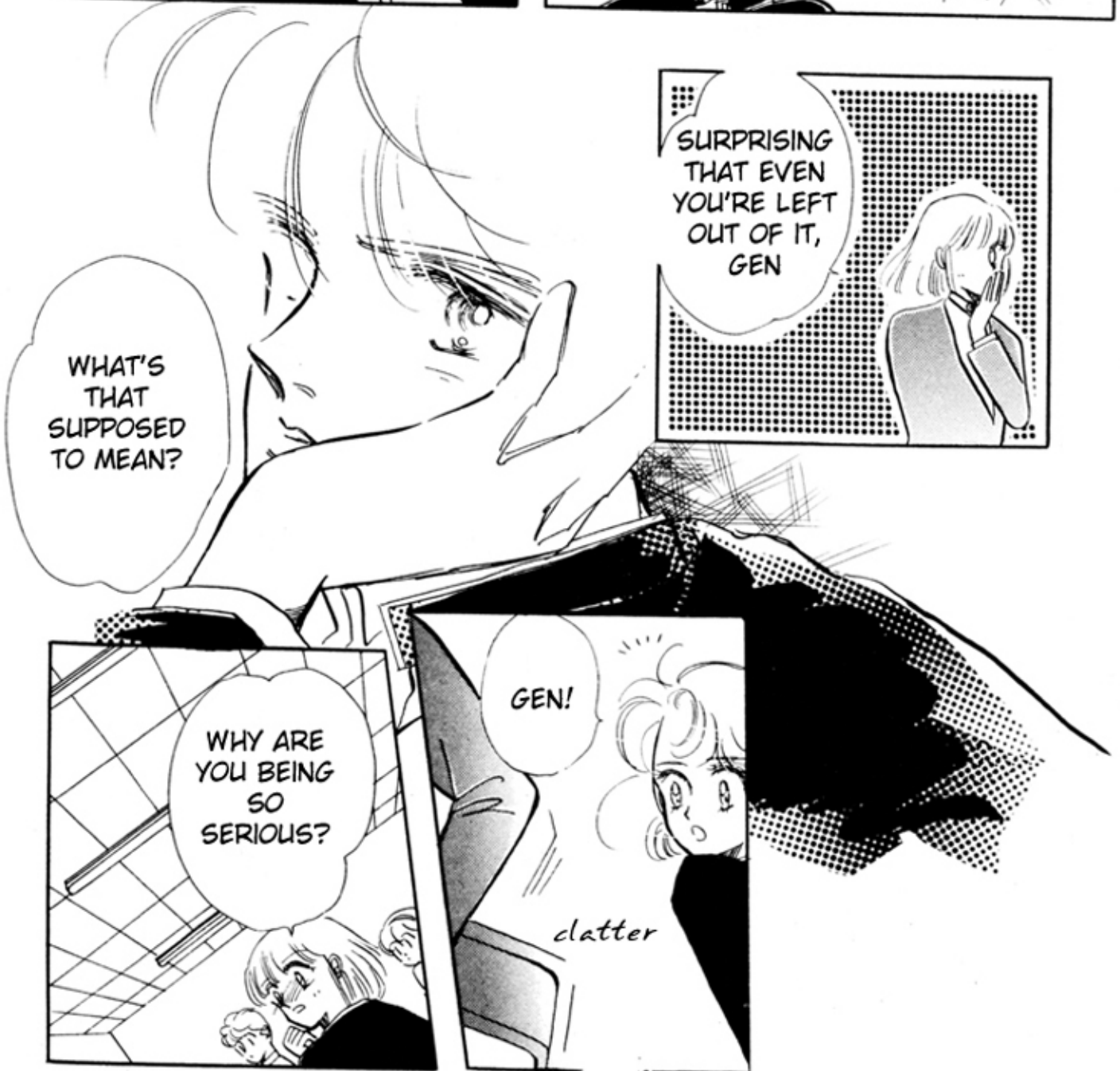
IT WOULD BE NICE TO STAY LIKE THIS FOR A WHILE.

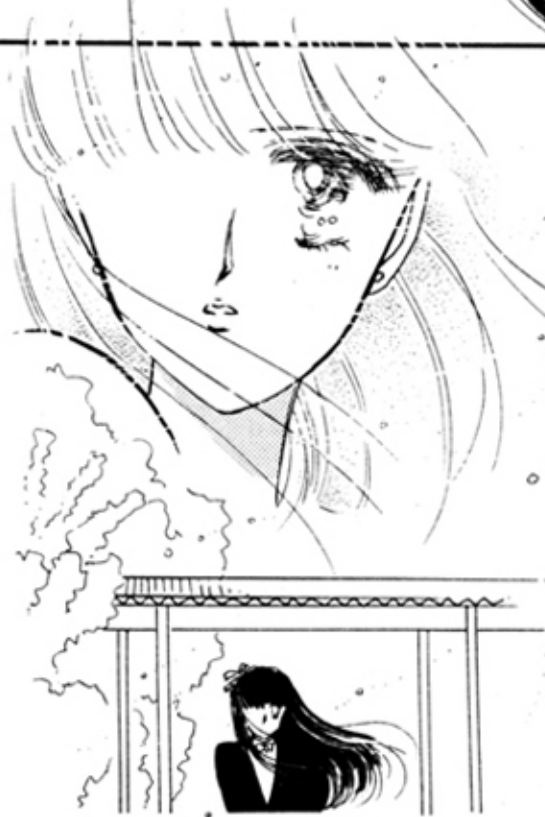
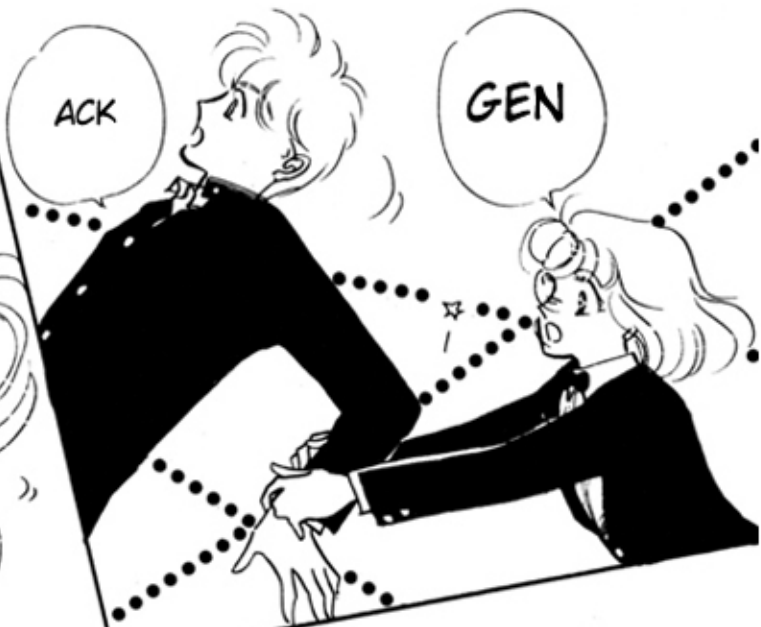


WELL, UNTIL YOU GET A BOYFRIEND, WHY DON'T YOU MAKE DO WITH ME?

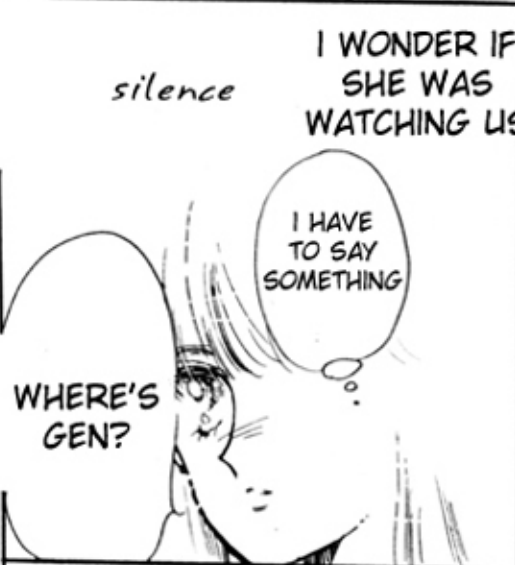
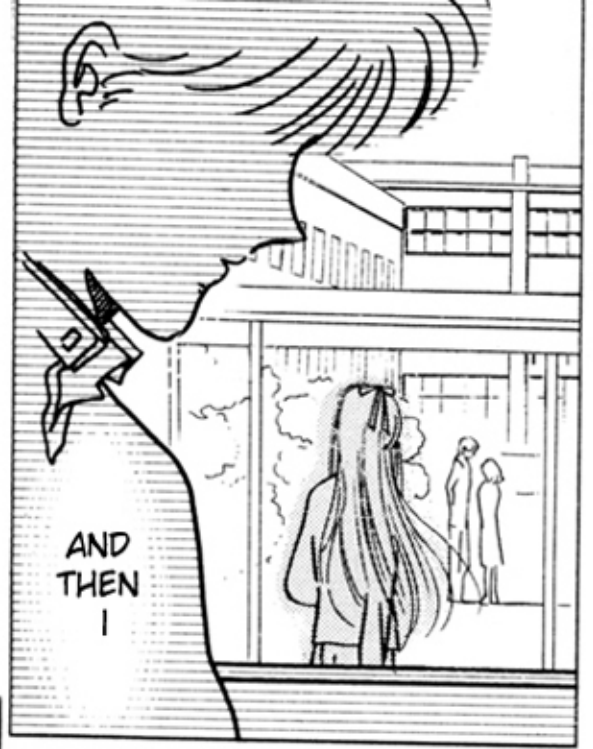
EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOT FAIR







KNEW THAT
I COULDN'T
ALWAYS
BE WITH GEN



YOU GET TO
SPEND WAY
MORE TIME
WITH GEN THAN
HIS OWN
GIRLFRIEND
DOES

BUT
YOU
AREN'T
YOU?

WHY
WOULD I
BE
JEALOUS?

HEY!

swing

pull

CAN HE
SEE
THROUGH
ME?

grab

run

LET
GO OF
ME!

tap tap



JEALOUS

I AM WITH
GEN MORE
THAN HIS
GIRLFRIEND

I SHOULDN'T
BE

I SPEND ALMOST ALL OF MY TIME WITH GEN

BUT I'M
TAKING
ADVANTAGE
OF THE
RELATIONSHIP
WE HAVE

WITH OUR
RELATIONSHIP

I'M
SATISFIED

SHOULD I

TO DO
EVERY
DAY

I HATE
THAT I
ALWAYS
HAVE SO
MUCH
WORK

THAT
SCORE IS
AMAZING!

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?



EMI?
はっ

gasp

AWAY?



TRY TO

STEAL
GEN



YOU
ALWAYS
PUSH
YOURSELF
TOO HARD,
EMI

YOU'RE
JUST
LIKE
GEN



GEN HAS
BEEN
WORRIED
ABOUT
YOU

ARE YOU
ALL
RIGHT? I
HEARD YOU
HAVEN'T
BEEN
GETTING
MUCH
SLEEP
LATELY,
RIGHT?

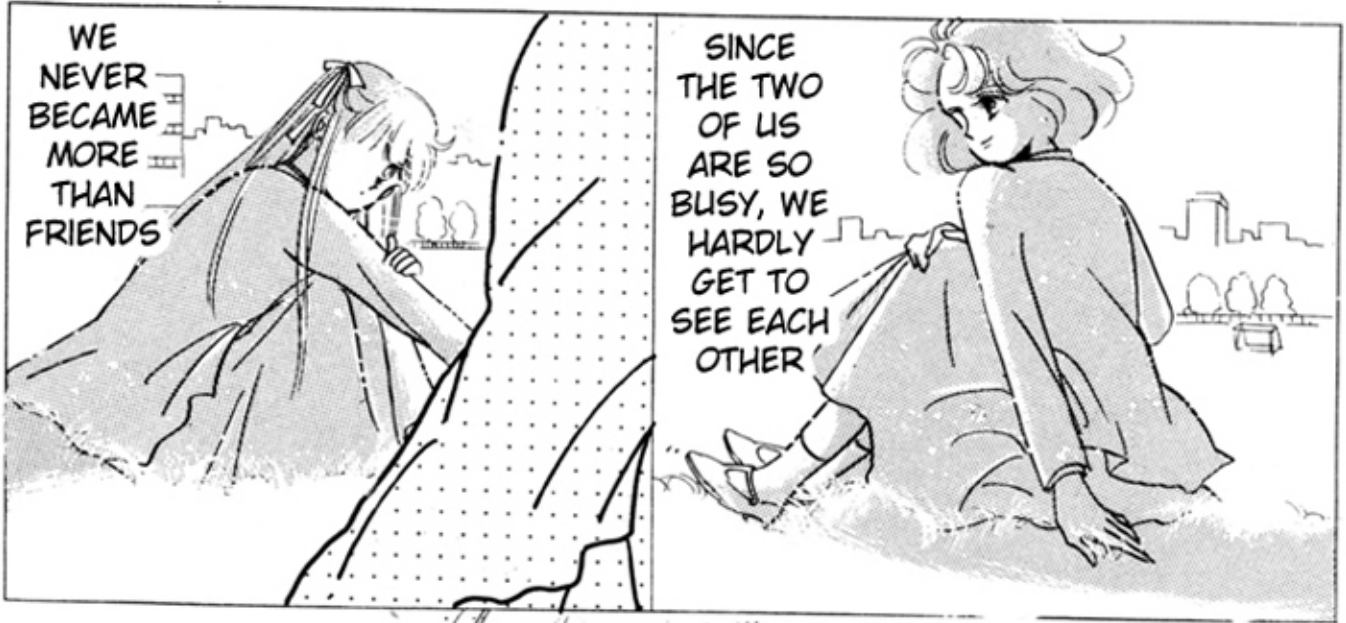
HUH, YOU HAVE A
GIRLFRIEND? WOW! NO WAY!



GEN

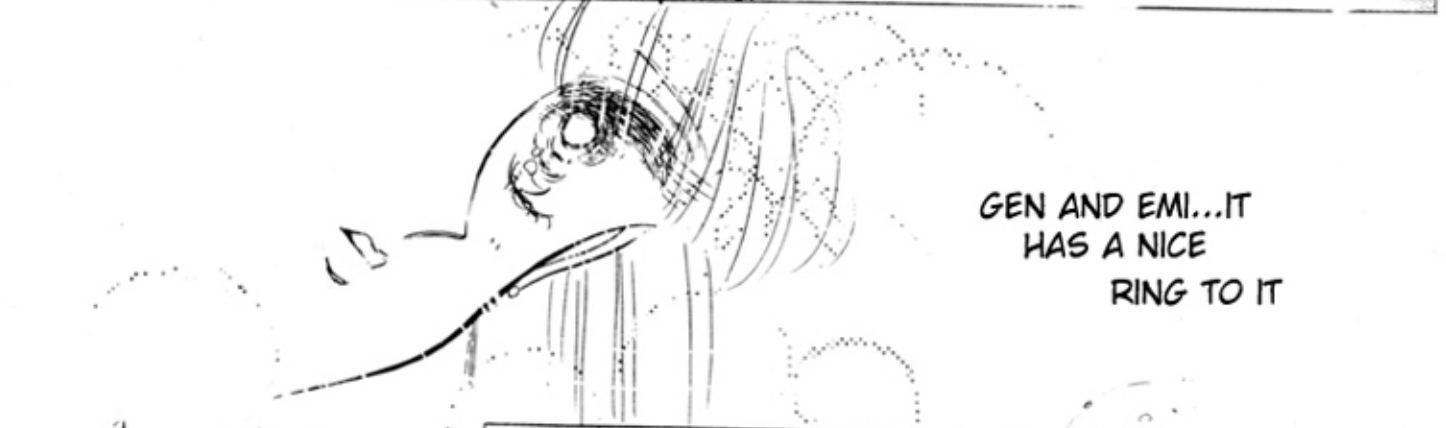


peek



WE
NEVER
BECAME
MORE
THAN
FRIENDS

SINCE
THE TWO
OF US
ARE SO
BUSY, WE
HARDLY
GET TO
SEE EACH
OTHER



GEN AND EMI...IT
HAS A NICE
RING TO IT



IT'S A JOB TO HIDE
HOW I FEEL, BUT I'VE
GOTTEN USED TO IT

IT'S AS
NATURAL AS
BREATHING



GEN

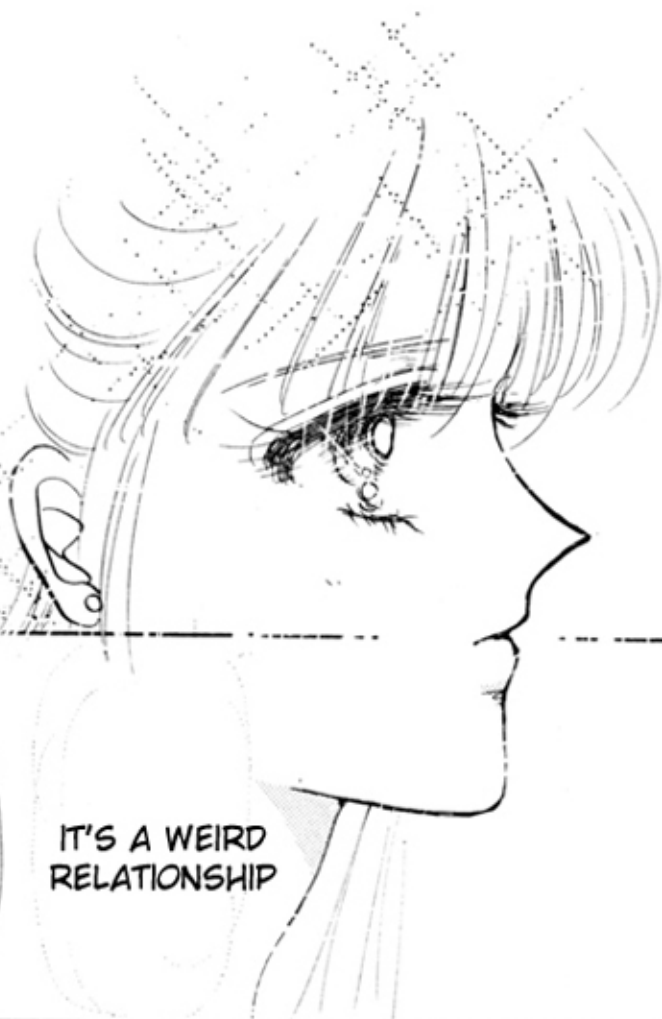
rustle

WHAT AM I
TO YOU?

JUST A FRIEND...

ISN'T THAT LONELY?

WE'RE NOT LOVERS
EITHER



IT'S NOT
NATURAL

IT'S A WEIRD
RELATIONSHIP



I
KNOW



I GUESS DO
WHATEVER
WORKS FOR
YOU BUT



IS THERE SERIOUSLY NO ONE YOU LIKE?

GEN! JUST HURRY UP AND STAMP THAT BUDGET DRAFT!

OR SOMETHING

I'M ALWAYS HANGING AROUND YOU, THAT'S WHY YOU CAN'T GET A BOYFRIEND

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE



TEE
HEE
♡



EMI



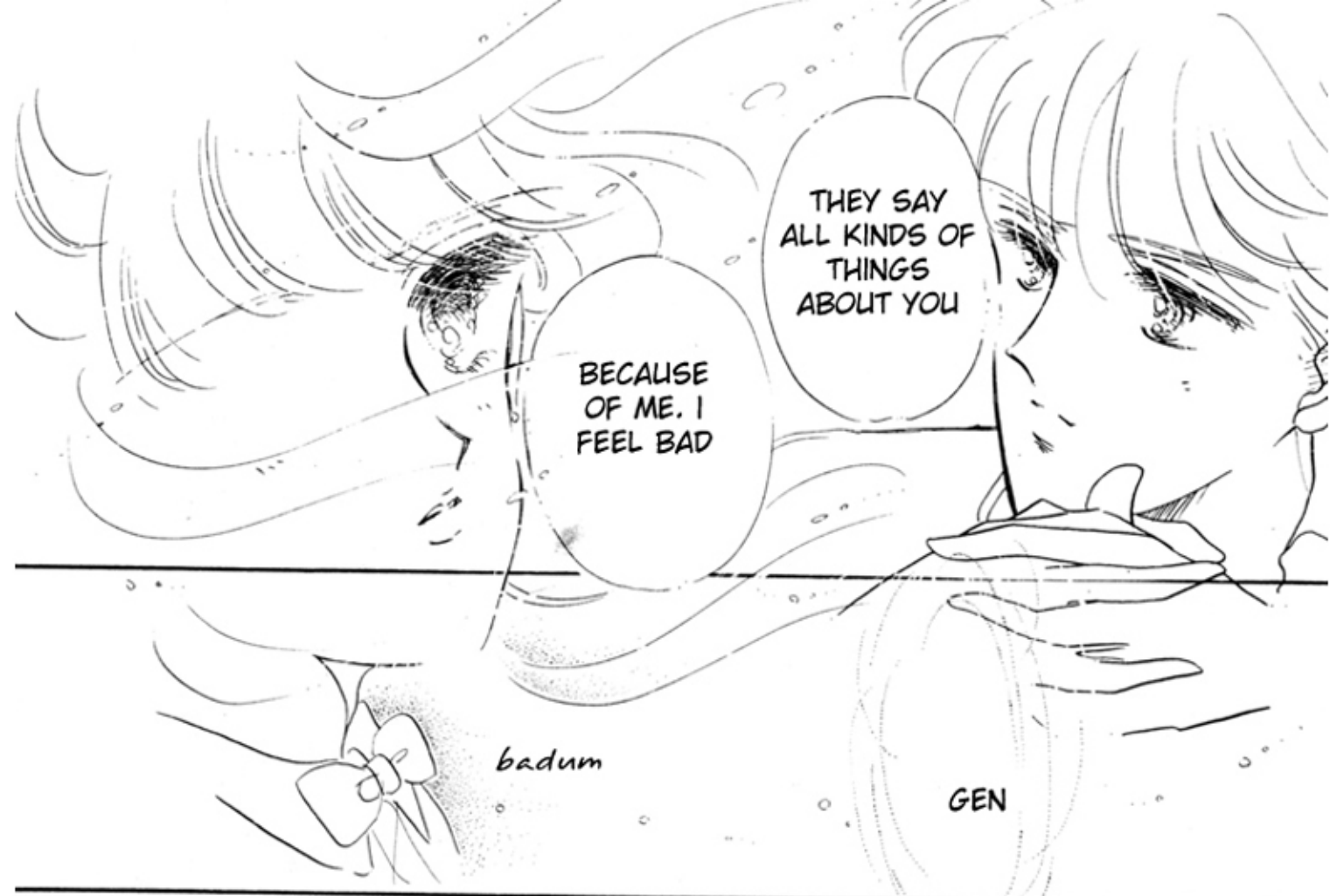
IF I DON'T, I'LL ALWAYS BE UNHAPPY BECAUSE OF THE POSITION

I'VE PUT YOU IN

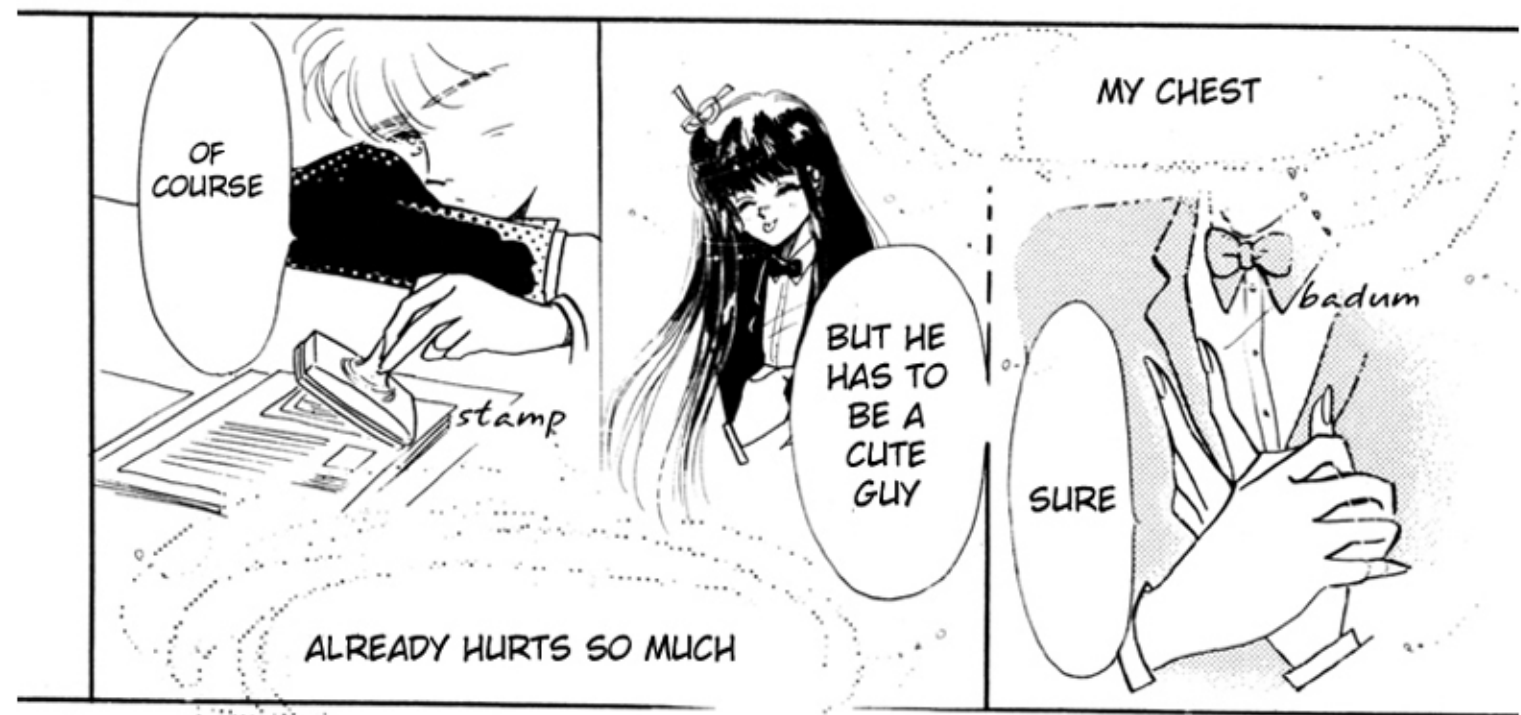
badum



WHY DON'T I INTRODUCE YOU TO SOMEONE



DON'T SAY ANYTHING ELSE



AND NOW

badum

ONCE AGAIN I CAN'T SLEEP



GIVE YOU

A
PROPER
INTRODUCTION

I'M
GOING
TO



YOU
CAN'T
LET THE
JOB
TAKE
OVER
YOUR
LIFE

IF BOTH
PRESIDENTS
DITCH

THE
MEETING,
THEN...

☆

WE'LL GO
TOGETHER
?

OH GEN

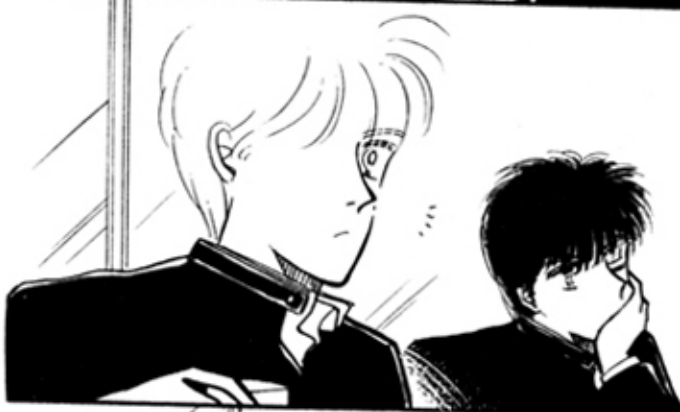


THEN LET'S
☆ TAKE AI
ALONG WITH
US TOO

OKAY

I CAN'T
STAND
THIS

I DON'T
WANT TO
BE THE
ONLY
GIRL



GEN, YOU DIDN'T TELL ME WE WERE MEETING MINAGAWA



HE SET IT
UP BECAUSE
I LIKE YOU

MS
SAITOU

YOU CAN'T
REALLY CALL
THIS AN
INTRODUCTION

HE'S ONE
OF YOUR
FRIENDS

I SERIOUSLY
JUST WANTED
TO SEE YOU
AGAIN

badum

.....
WHAT?
.....

YOU
WOULD
NOT
HAVE
INTRO-
DUCED
US

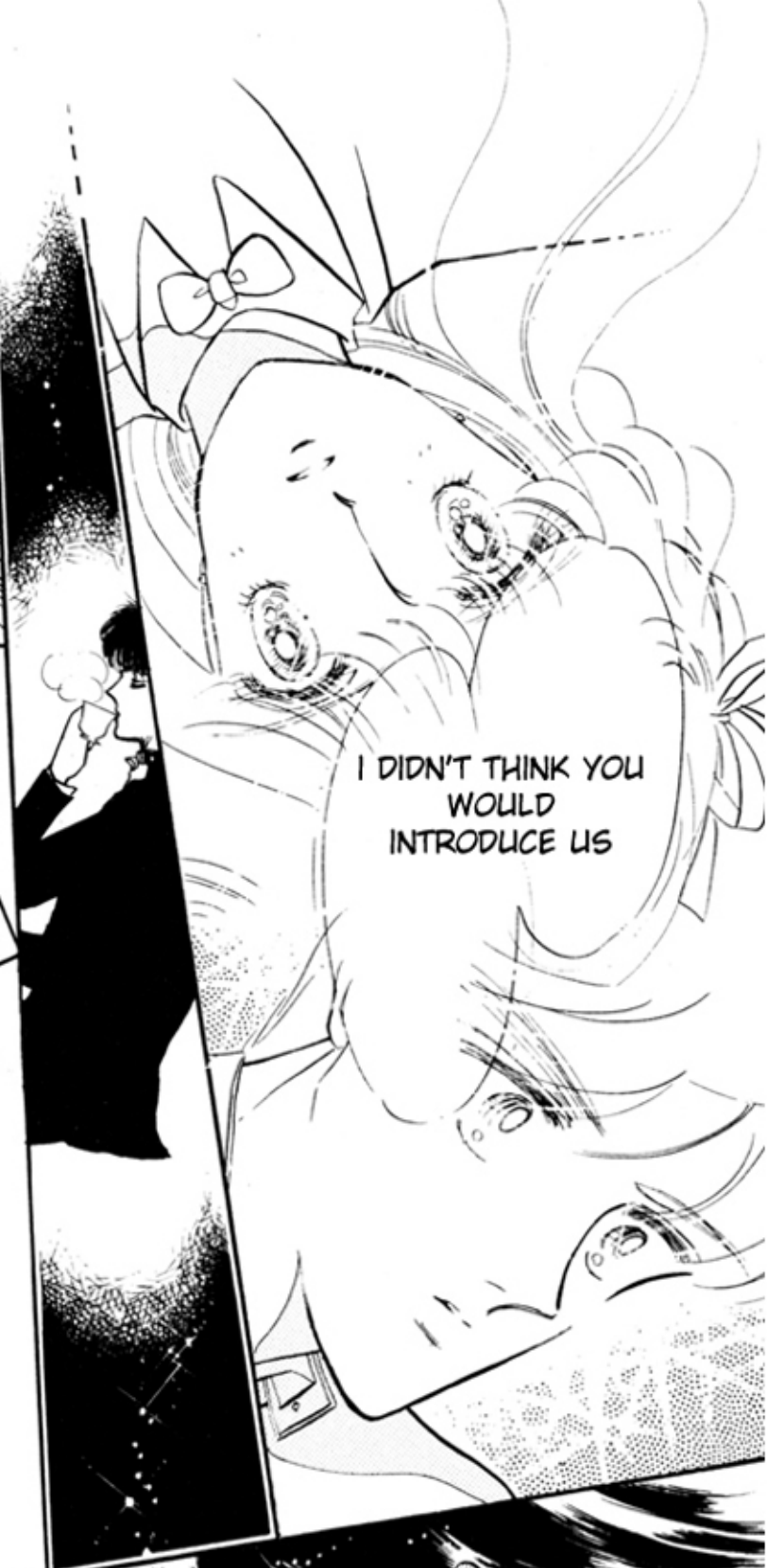
I
THINK
IF I
HAD
TOLD
YOU,
GEN

WHAT?

THAT'S THE
FIRST I'M
HEARING OF
THIS



I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME





BECAUSE
THE PERSON

I LIKE
IS



EMI...

turn

I
SHOULD
NOT
HAVE COME
HERE



THIS
IS
ALL
MY
FAULT

I MADE
THE
INTRODUCTION



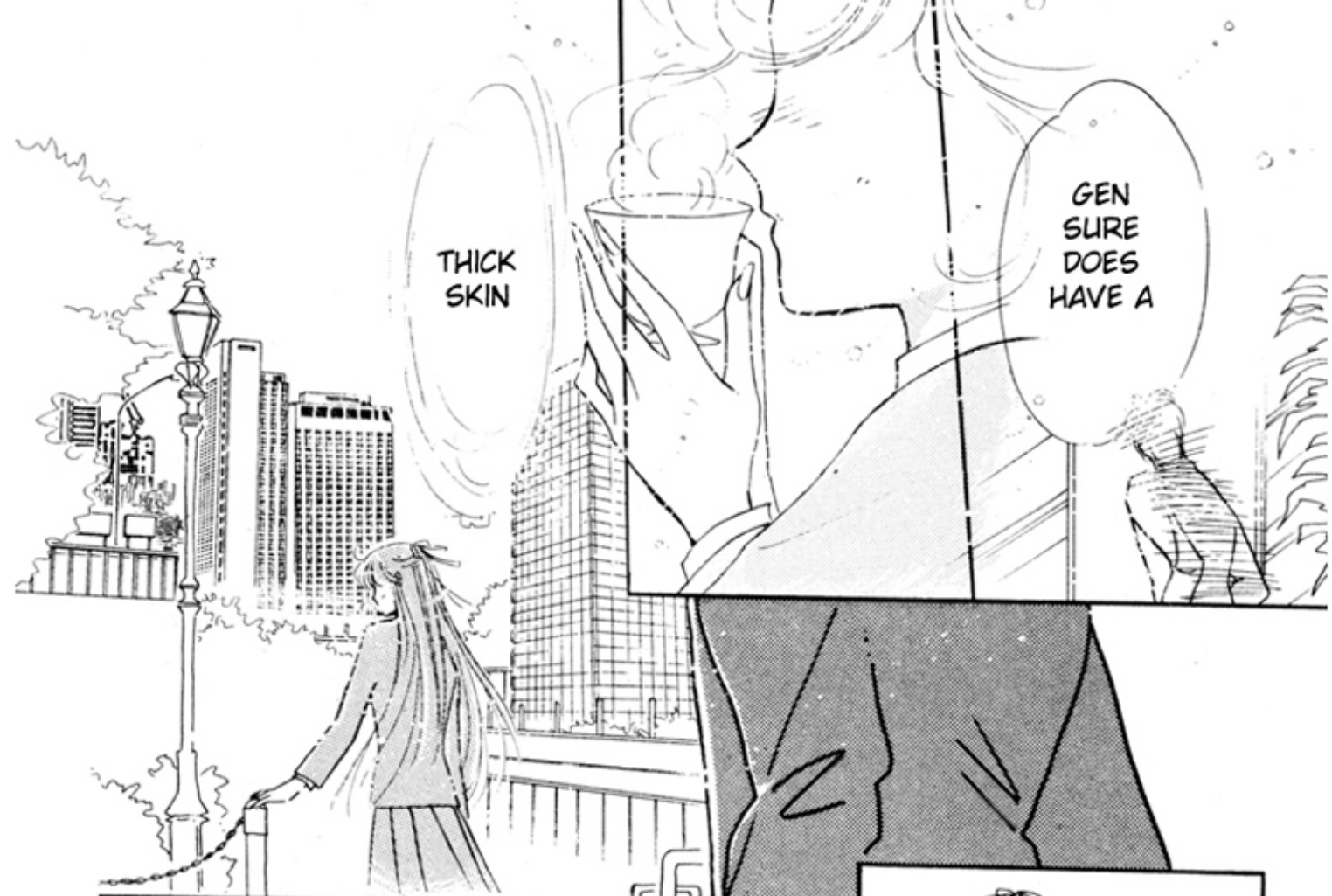
I DON'T
UNDER-
STAND

I'M
GOING

YOU'RE
LEAVING
?



smile



THICK
SKIN

GEN
SURE
DOES
HAVE A



THIS
IS MY

RESPON-
SIBILITY

WASN'T THAT
AWKWARD?
LEAVING AIKO
BEHIND LIKE
THAT?



!



BUT ISN'T
IT REALLY
JUST YOUR
KINDNESS
TALKING,
GEN?

YOUR
FAULT
?

TEE
HEE

plip

DO ANYMORE
INTRODUCTIONS

I
WON'T

hug

I'M
SORRY

I
SHOULD
NOT
HAVE
DONE IT

badum

CAN I ASK
YOU FOR
SOMETHING
THAT'S
SELFISH?

JUST
ONCE

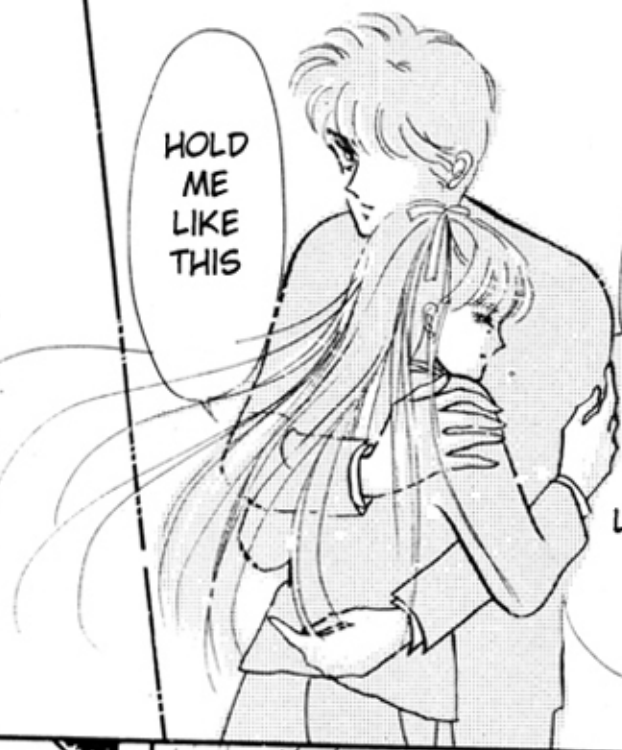
badum

badum

GEN

FOR JUST A
MINUTE
LONGER

HOLD
ME
LIKE
THIS



I'M
ALWAYS
LISTENING



AN
HOUR?
giggle

AN
HOUR

HOW
ABOUT



JUST

ONE
MINUTE
?



fwish

badum

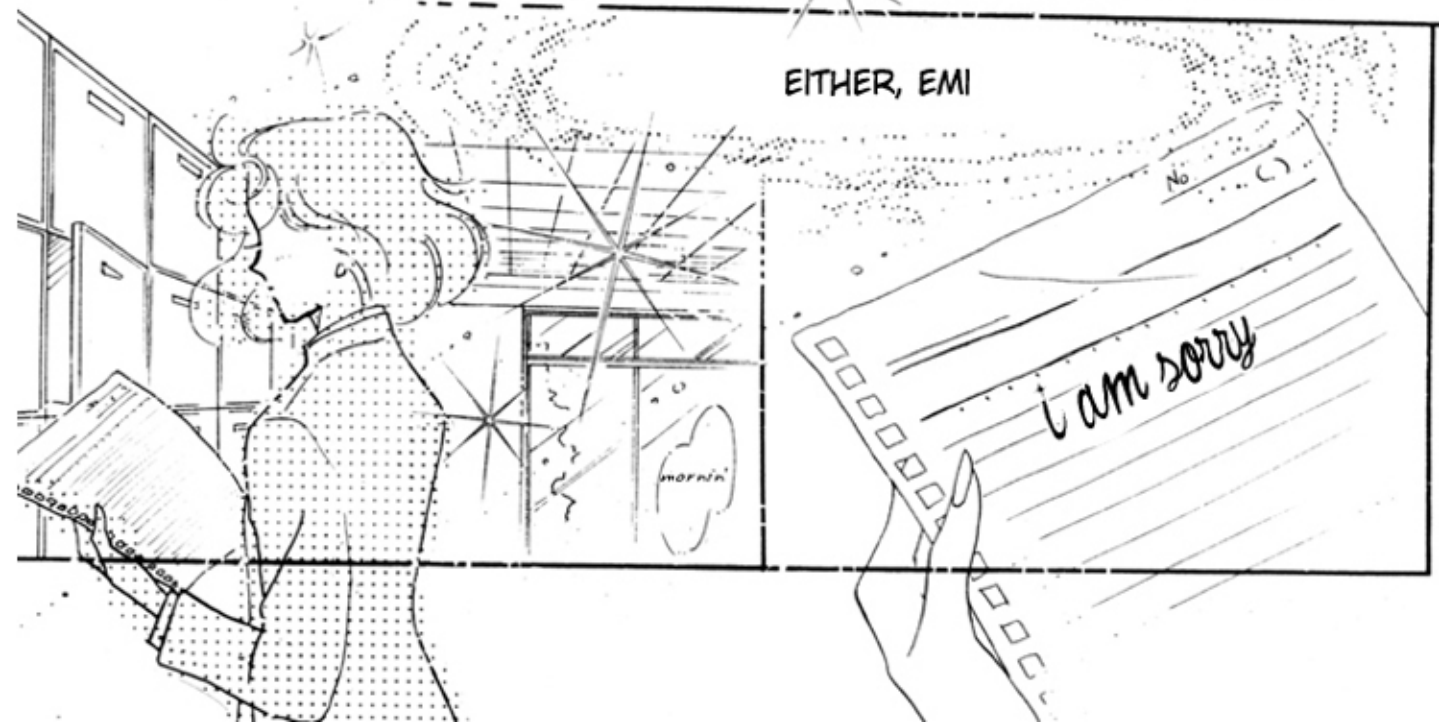
ALL
NIGHT

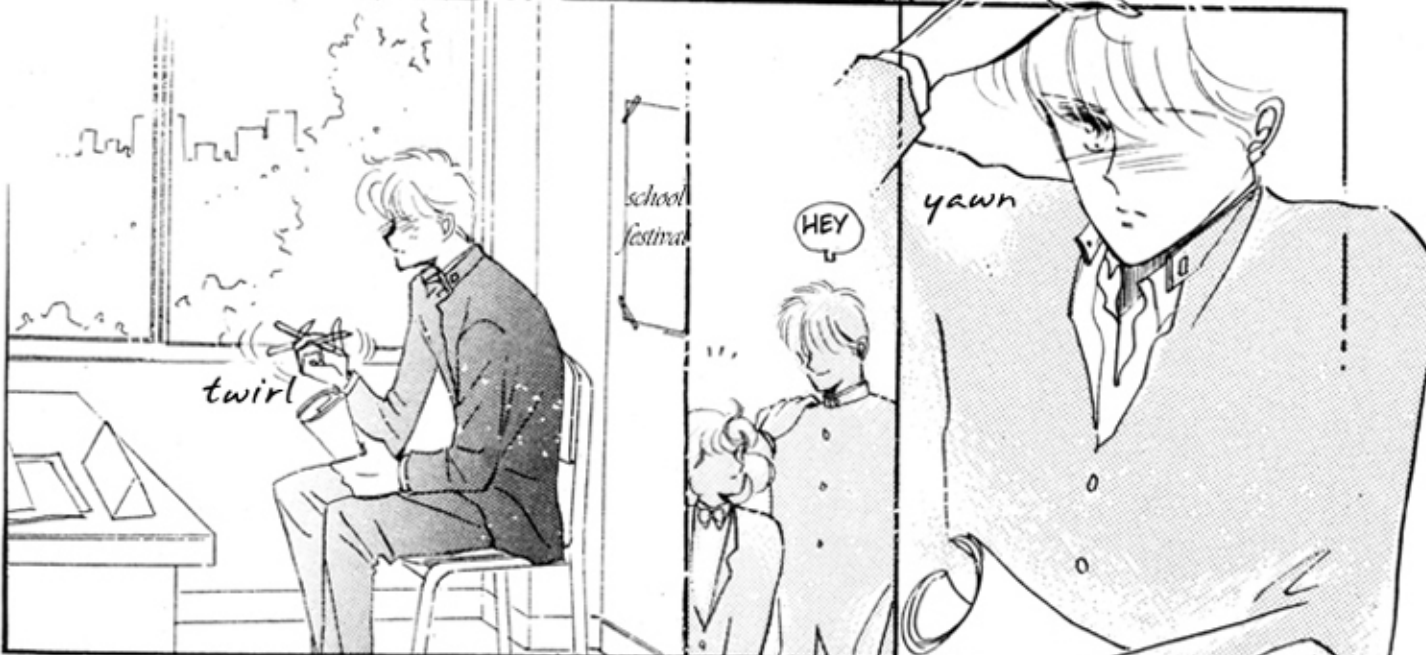
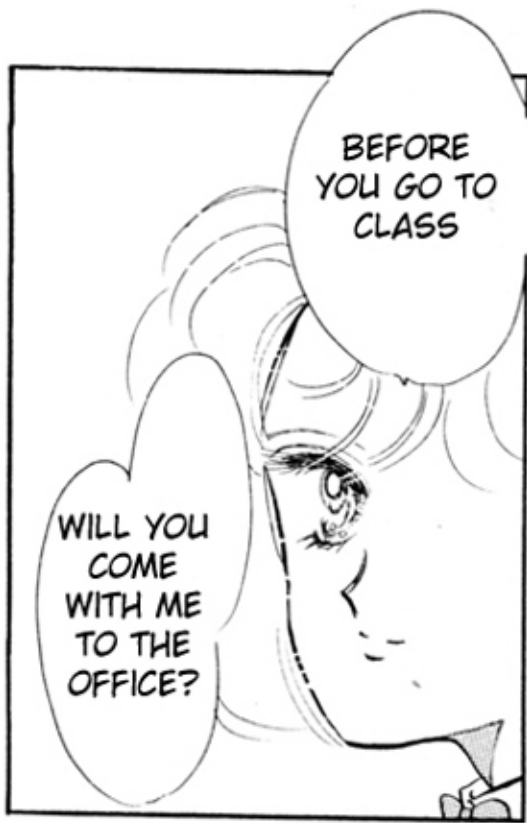


I HAVE NIGHTS I CAN'T SLEEP

chatter chatter

EITHER, EMI







★★THE END★★

A Secret Unrequited Love

This was my first work that I released after my initial debut. And it's the first story I set in my beloved alma mater, Kofu Ichi High School. I loved the girls uniforms there. (They were popular all over the city). Back then my editor used to let me release my work without making any changes at all. I was so grateful for that. It seemed like there were a lot of changes he wanted to make, especially about the ending. But after all this time, I'm glad I was able to do it my own way. I like the story how it ended.

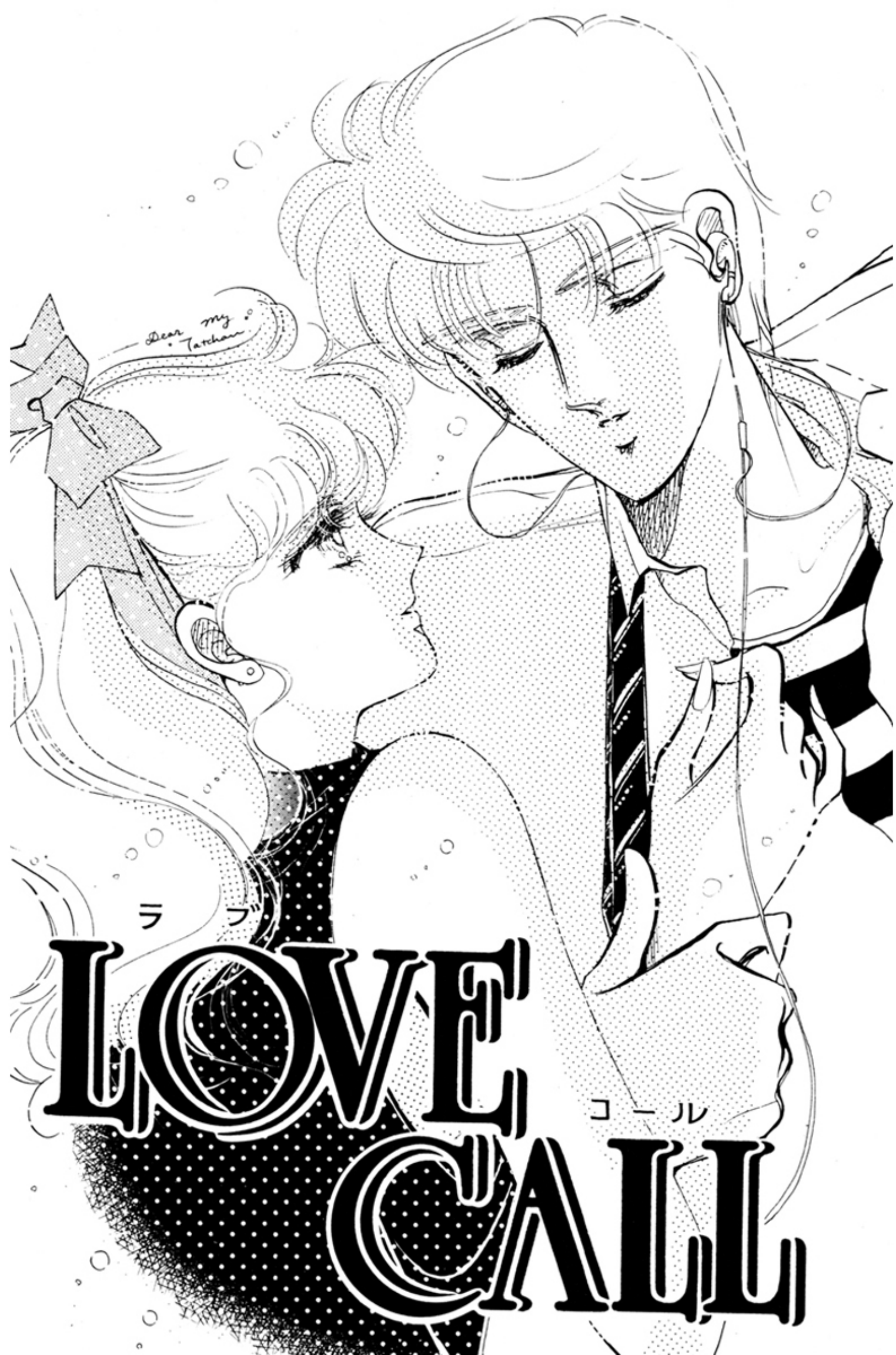
Looking back at my older works like this one, it seems I had a lot more freedom to write and draw stories however I pleased. Both in terms of dialogue, and the artwork and panel positions. But I was so inexperienced that I can see the flaws now. It's so hard for me to go back and read now!

Ai and Emi were both friends of mine in college. I'm glad they have made it to comic form at long last!

I really wanted to release this work at the time I was writing. But in college I hardly wrote any comics. I spent all of my time taking breaks from lecture and study and just kidding about. (Actually, I'm like that now about Sailor Moon too. I'm sorry!) I wish I had skipped over the crazy party college girl lifestyle and spent more time seriously practicing my work on comics. (I could have done so much more when I was young!) It's a regret of mine.

But the dorm girl lifestyle was so much fun. It was to die for. I was in college in the late 1980s, and I studied a lot about human life. (That's not true. I only studied a little.)





Dear my Tachan

ラブ

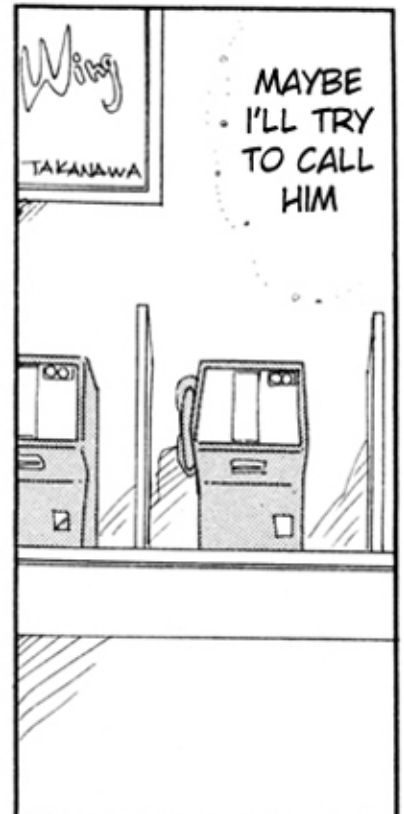
LOVE CALL

コール

HE

HASN'T COME.
I WONDER IF
SOMETHING'S
HAPPENED

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR AN HOUR ALREADY





badum

badum

TATSU, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SET UP THE MEETING WITH THIS GIRL RIGHT

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR AN HOUR NOW BUT YOU NEVER CAME

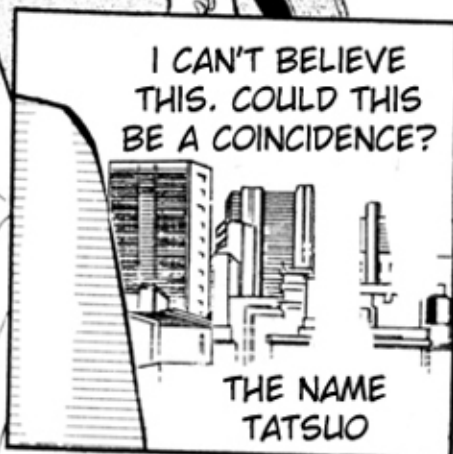


HEY, TATSUO ?

badum



AND THE MEETING SET UP FOR NOW



I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS. COULD THIS BE A COINCIDENCE?

THE NAME TATSUO



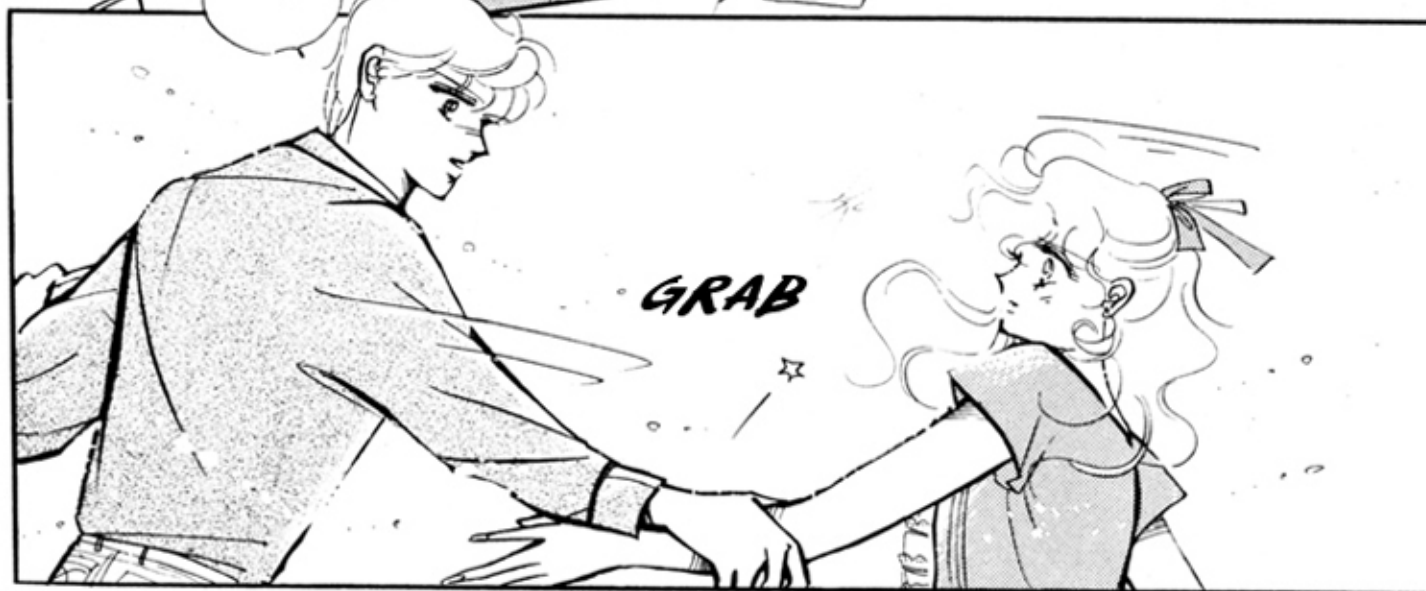
ME?

WELL YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING TO DUMP HER. SO I DECIDED TO COME AND MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOWED THROUGH

THAT'S WHAT IT SOUNDS LIKE -

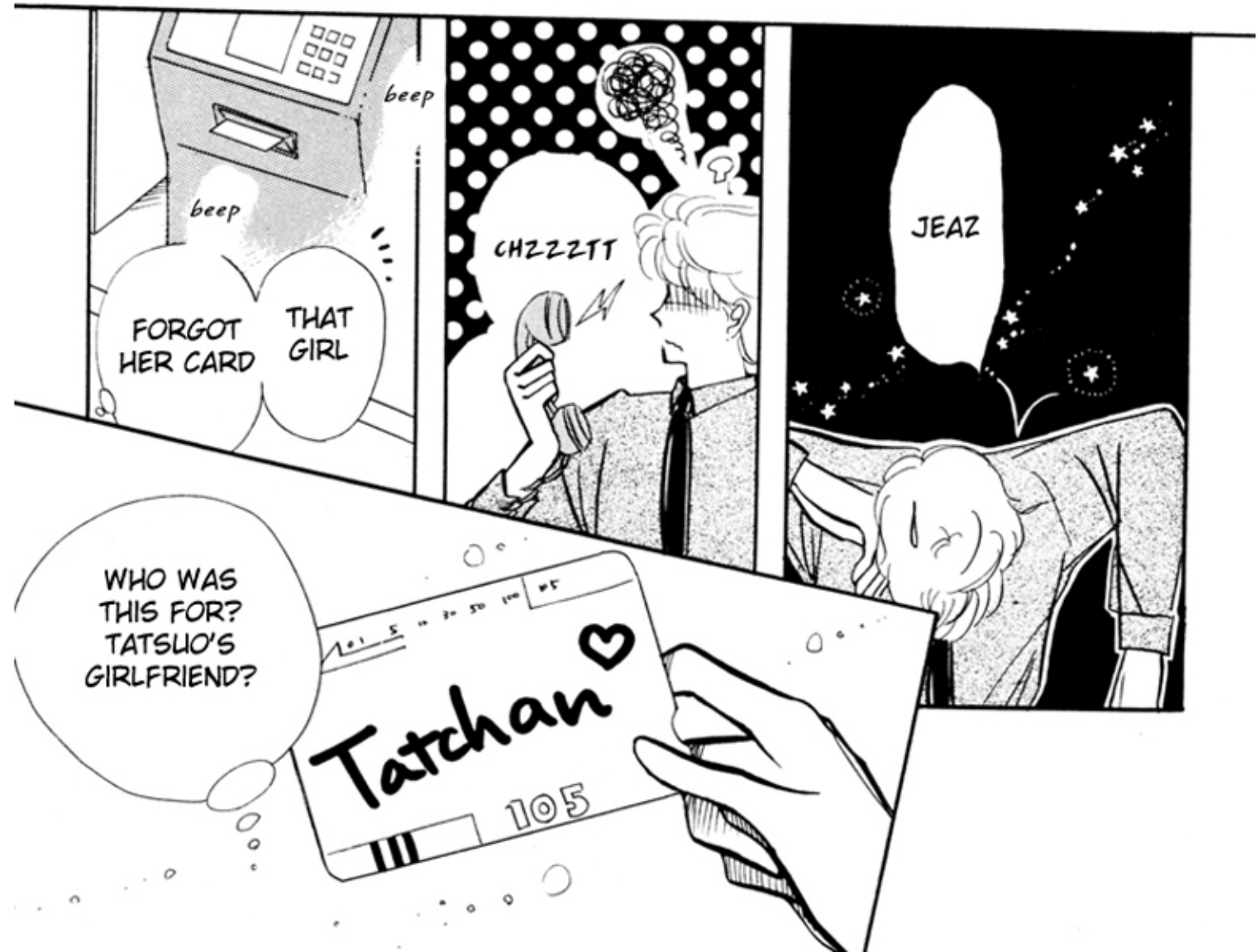


WHAT, YOU GOT TOO UPSET AND JUST WENT HOME?





BEEN DUMPED!



ASS-HOLE!

I'VE

SLAP

beep

beep

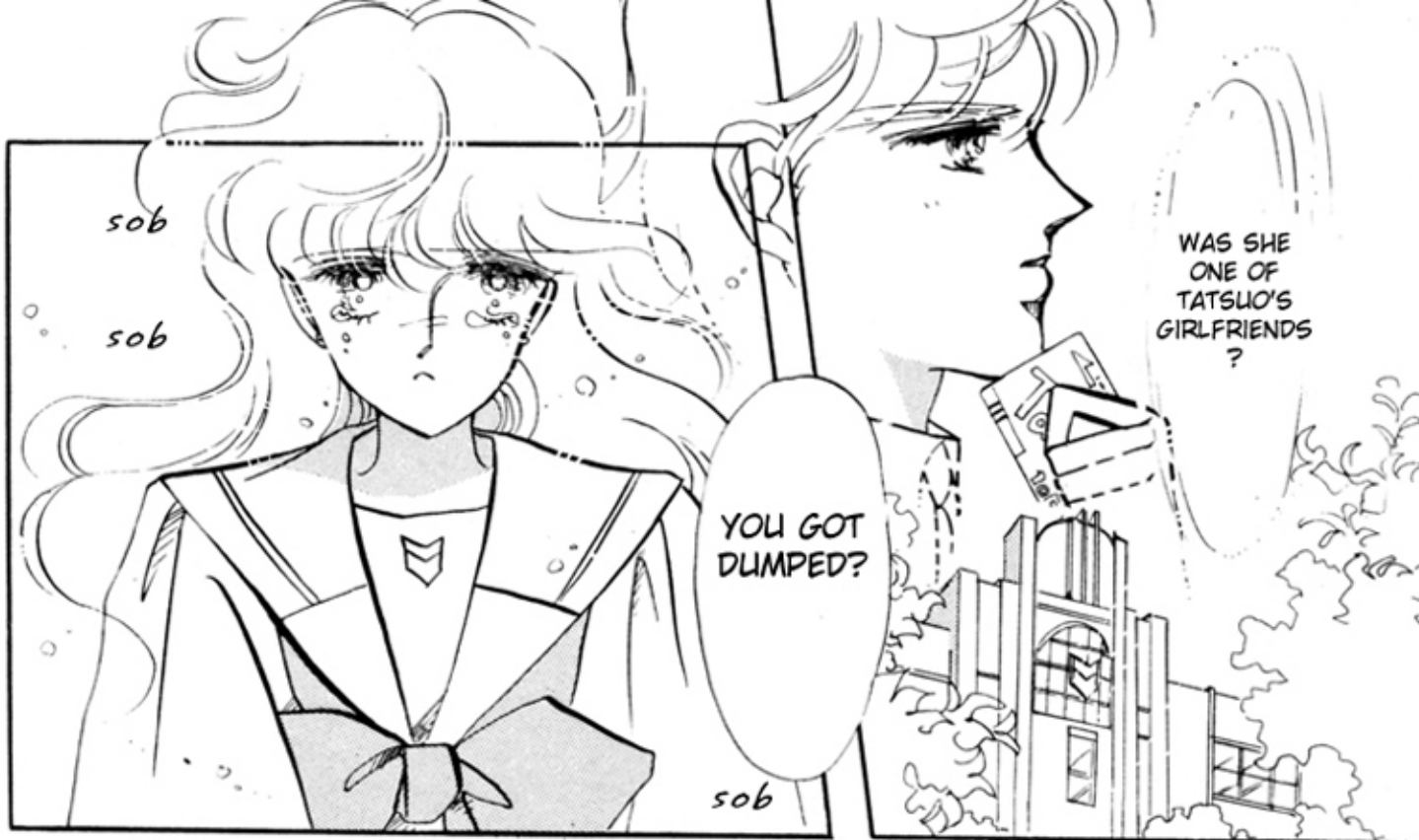
FORGOT HER CARD THAT GIRL

CHZZZTT

JEAZ

WHO WAS THIS FOR? TATSUO'S GIRLFRIEND?

Tatchan ♡
105



sob

sob

YOU GOT DUMPED?

WAS SHE ONE OF TATSUO'S GIRLFRIENDS?

sob



I SEE...SO YOU REALLY WERE DUMPED

sniffle

SHE'S ALREADY CRYING!

OH COME ON YURIE



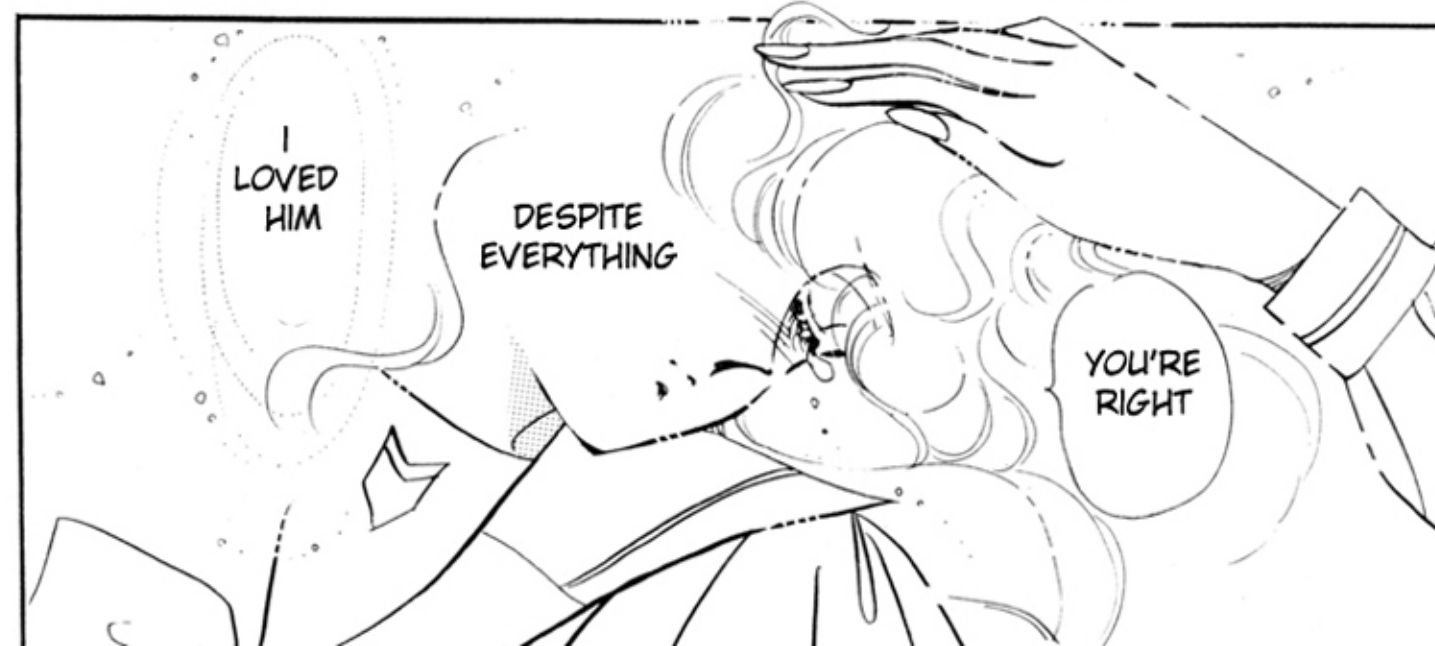
HUH? WHAT?



YEAH

DON'T CARE ABOUT BEING DUMPED BY SUCH A JERK OF A GUY!

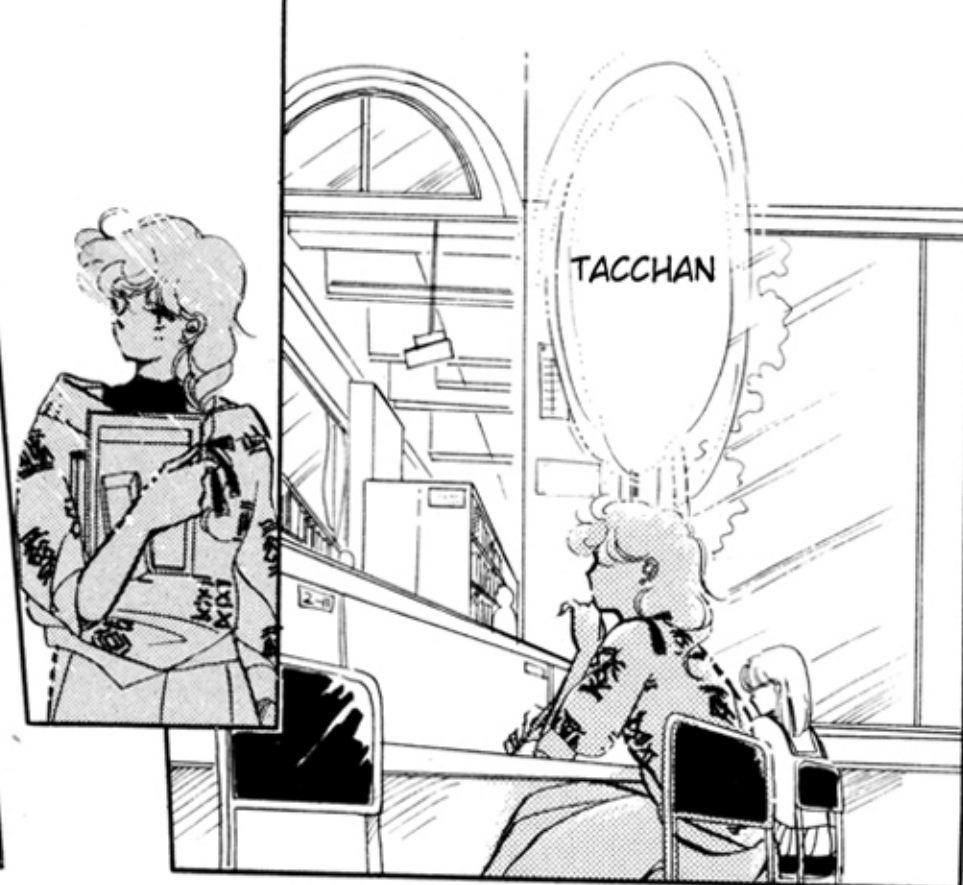
TO BE HONEST I'VE SEEN TATSUO OUT WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER GIRLS



I LOVED HIM

DESPITE EVERYTHING

YOU'RE RIGHT





fwish

AAACK!
SORRY
ABOUT
THAT!

THUD

**CRASH
DROP**

WATCH
WHERE
YOU'RE
GOING

HEY

dash



flip

Tatchan
I want to see you



TACCHAN?

WHAAA
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING?!

YOU
FORGOT
THIS

I'M
KIDDING

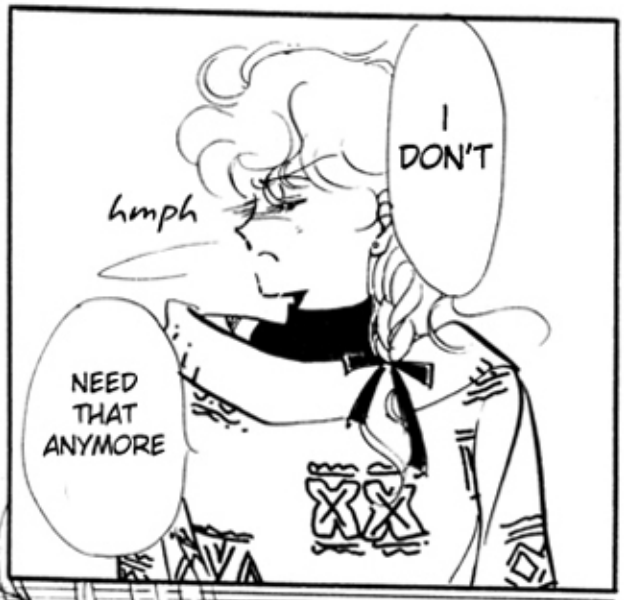
Tatchan



WHO

AS YOU CAN SEE, IT'S ADDRESSED TO THIS GUY

JUST BROKE UP WITH ME



I DON'T

NEED THAT ANYMORE

hmph

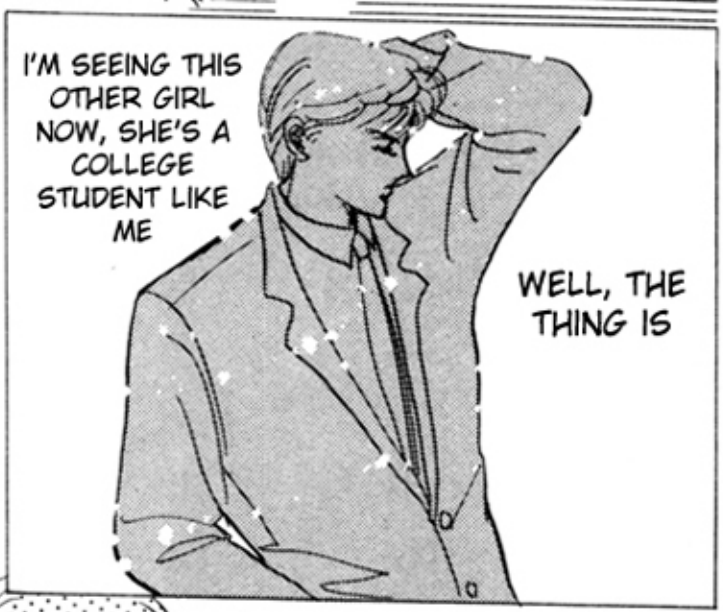


TATSUO, WHY DID YOU DUMP THIS GIRL?



OR EVEN FIND OUT THAT I WOULD BE HERE?

glare HOW DID YOU FIND OUT MY NAME



I'M SEEING THIS OTHER GIRL NOW, SHE'S A COLLEGE STUDENT LIKE ME

WELL, THE THING IS



USUALLY SPENDS HER TIME IN THE LIBRARY IN HIROO, WRITING LOVE LETTERS

HE SAID THAT YOU, MISS YURIE,

TATSUO TOLD ME

I ALREADY KNEW THAT TACCHAN WAS SEEING A BUNCH OF OTHER GIRLS

DATING ALL OF THEM



SENT HIM ANY LOVE LETTERS

I'VE NEVER

GLARE
YOU MADE UP

THE PART ABOUT WRITING LOVE LETTERS, DIDN'T YOU?

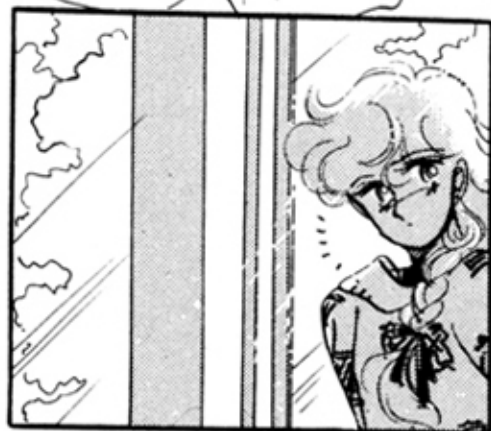
SORRY, I WAS JUST WONDERING WHERE YOU EVEN MET TATSUO

OH NO

WHAT HIGH SCHOOL DO YOU GO TO?

MAKING FUN OF GIRLS YOUR FRIEND DUMPS?

IS THIS LIKE YOUR HOBBY?



SO ALL I EVER DID
WAS PLAY A
STARING GAME
WITH MY
TELEPHONE

AND MY
TREMBLING
VOICE WOULD
GIVE AWAY MY
NERVOUSNESS,
RIGHT?

I
COULDN'T
CALL HIM.
EVERY
TIME I
TRIED, MY
HEART
WOULD
POUND

THAT'S
NONE OF
YOUR
BUSINESS

KEEP
THIS?

Tacchan

CAN
I

MY NAME
IS
TACCHAN
TOO.

BUT IT
HAS
TACCHAN
WRITTEN
ON IT

SO SINCE
YOU'RE
TAKUJI...YOUR
NICKNAME IS
TACCHAN?

MY FULL
NAME IS
KAWAKAMI
TAKUJI*

*NOTE: IN JAPANESE, NAMES ENDING IN "JI" OR "O", WHEN GIVEN THE -CHAN SUFFIX, ARE IRREGULAR. SO IN THIS CASE, BOTH TAKUJI AND TATSUO WOULD BE CONTRACTED AS TACCHAN

TACCHAN

MORE THAN
GETTING
LETTERS OR
PHONE
CALLS

I JUST
WANTED

TO SEE
YOU

I'VE ALREADY
SAID TOO MUCH
TO THIS GUY

OH
NO

SLAM

LEAVE
ME
ALONE

turn

YURIE
...

I CAN'T
LEAVE
YOU
ALONE

Tatchan ♡



THERE'S
JUST
SOMETHING
ON MY MIND

CHEER
UP

YOU'RE
ALL RED

OH, IT'S
NOTHING.
I'M FINE
NOW.

YURIE



SO PLEASE
CHEER UP

I GUESS
THIS IS
PARTIALLY
MY
RESPONSIB-
ILITY

what is
he doing
here?!

YOU SAID
YOU WENT
TO Y GIRL'S
ACADEMY,
RIGHT?

YOU
SNUCK
UP ON
ME



EVERYONE KEEPS SAYING THAT TO ME

BUT I'M

TOTALLY FINE NOW



TOLD ME HE'S SEEING A COLLEGE GIRL NOW

TATSUO

THE THINGS I LIKED BEST WERE MILK TEA ICECREAMS

REALLY?

OUR DATES AT THE PARK, WHERE WE COULD

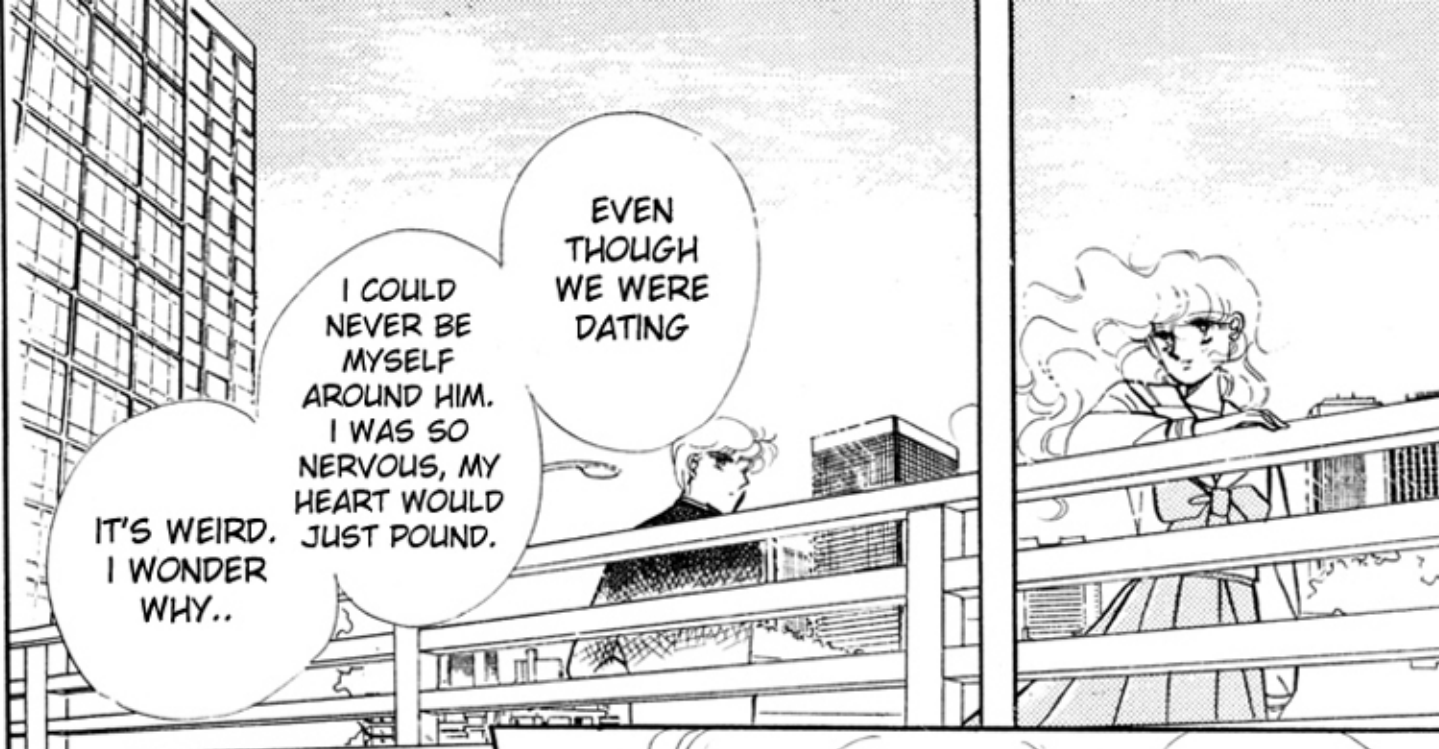
LOOK OUT OVER THE SEA, AND WATCH THE PLANES TAKING OFF FROM THE AIRPORT...AND OUR MINT COCKTAILS THAT TASTED LIKE TOOTHPASTE POWDER

I HOPE I'LL HAVE ANOTHER DATE LIKE THAT AGAIN

AHAHA YEAH THAT'S TRUE

HE DATES HIGH SCHOOLERS USUALLY





IT'S WEIRD.
I WONDER
WHY..

I COULD
NEVER BE
MYSELF
AROUND HIM.
I WAS SO
NERVOUS, MY
HEART WOULD
JUST POUND.

EVEN
THOUGH
WE WERE
DATING



smile

I CAN TALK
TO HIM
NORMALLY

IT'S STRANGE.
WHEN I'M WITH
THIS OTHER
TACCHAN



WILL
YOU GO
OUT
WITH
ME?

MAYBE I WAS
JUST TOO
EMBARRASSED
TO BE MYSELF
BEFORE



IS THAT
WHY YOU
WROTE
HIM THAT
LETTER
THE
OTHER
DAY?

DO YOU
STILL
LIKE
HIM?



NO

I DON'T
WANT
ANOTHER
BOYFRIEND



tacchan

WRITING LETTERS
IS JUST A HOBBY
OF MINE

I WANT TO SEE HIM

sniffle

IS A
HOBBY OF
MINE TOO

sniffle

CRYING

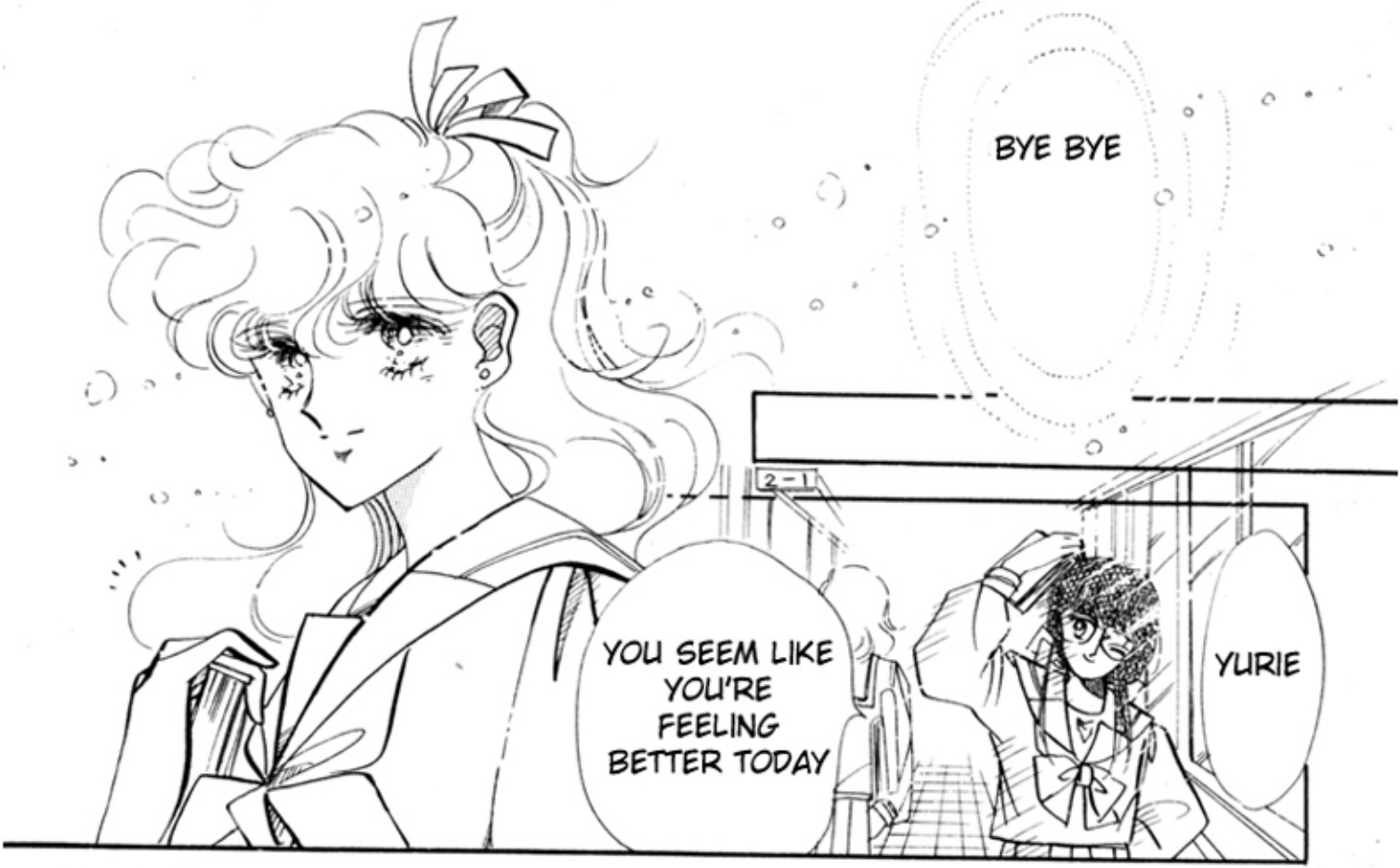
BYE BYE

TO
KEEP
THE
CARD

BUT BE
SURE

I'M SORRY
FOR GETTING
SO GLOOMY

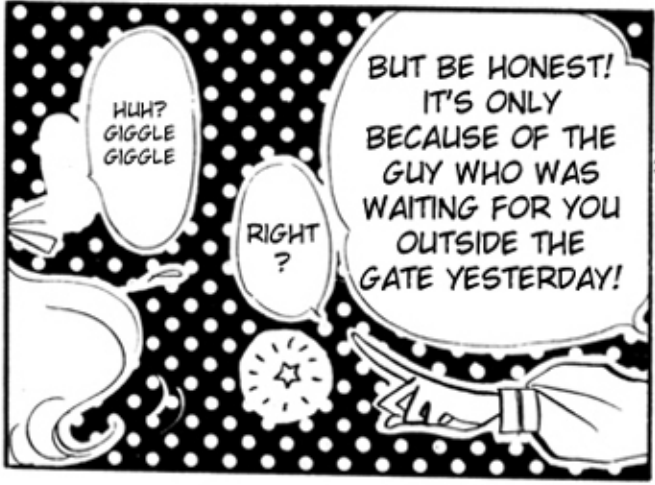
I FEEL A
LITTLE
BETTER
NOW



BYE BYE

YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'RE FEELING BETTER TODAY

YURIE



HUH? GIGGLE GIGGLE

RIGHT?

BUT BE HONEST!
IT'S ONLY BECAUSE OF THE GUY WHO WAS WAITING FOR YOU OUTSIDE THE GATE YESTERDAY!



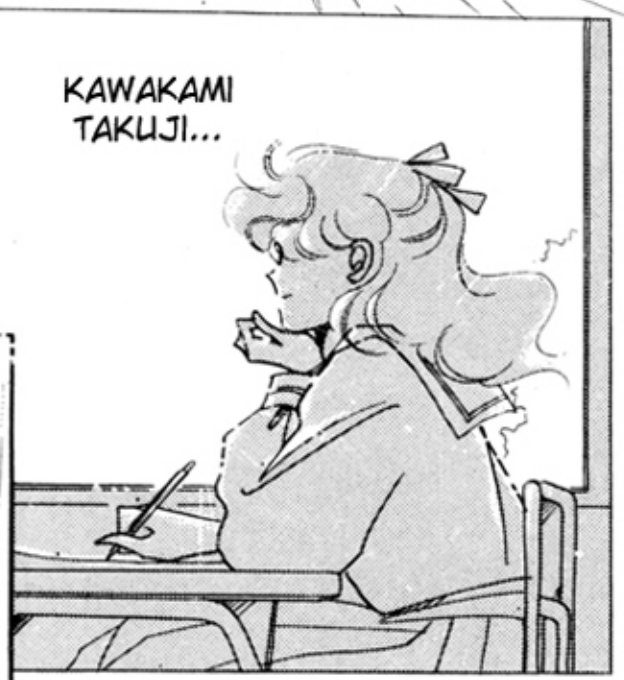
REALLY?

TEE HEE HEE
♥



Letter Pad

THE OTHER TACCHAN



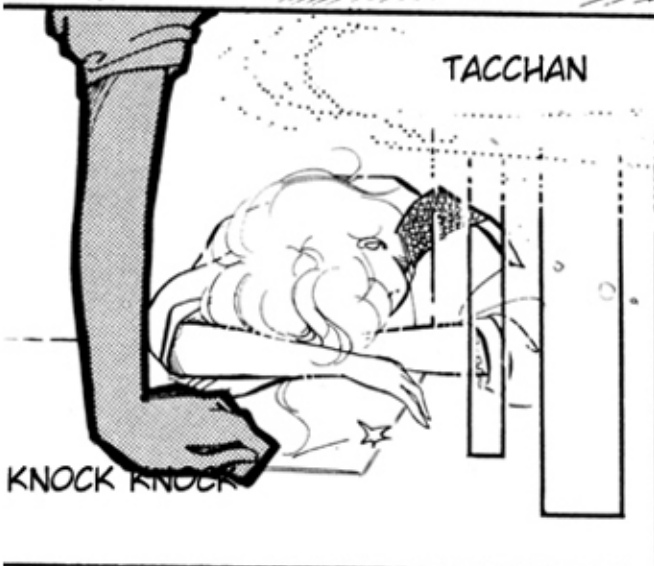
KAWAKAMI TAKUJI...

I WANT TO SEE HIM AGAIN



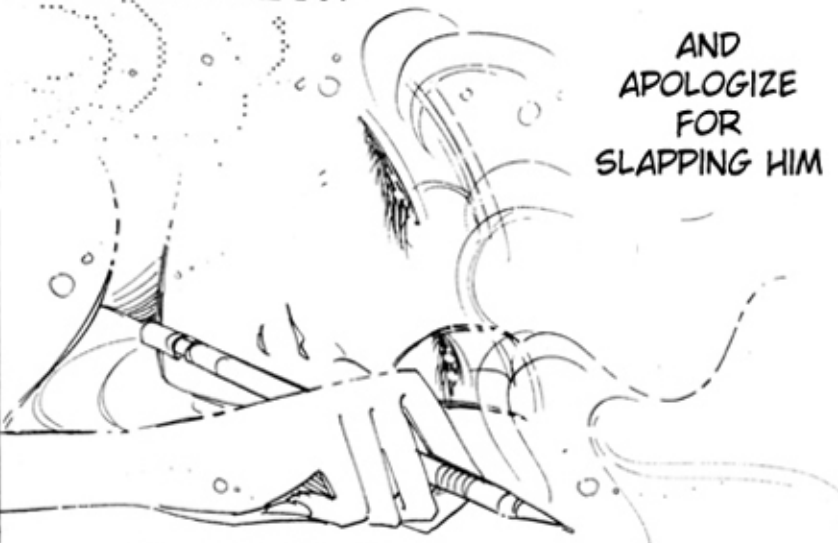
TO THE OTHER TACCHAN I CAN BE MYSELF AROUND

THANK YOU



KNOCK KNOCK

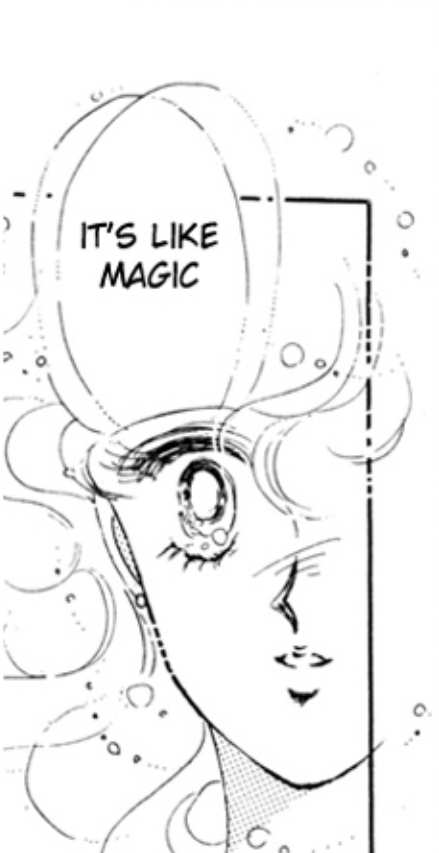
TACCHAN



AND APOLOGIZE FOR SLAPPING HIM



HUH



IT'S LIKE MAGIC

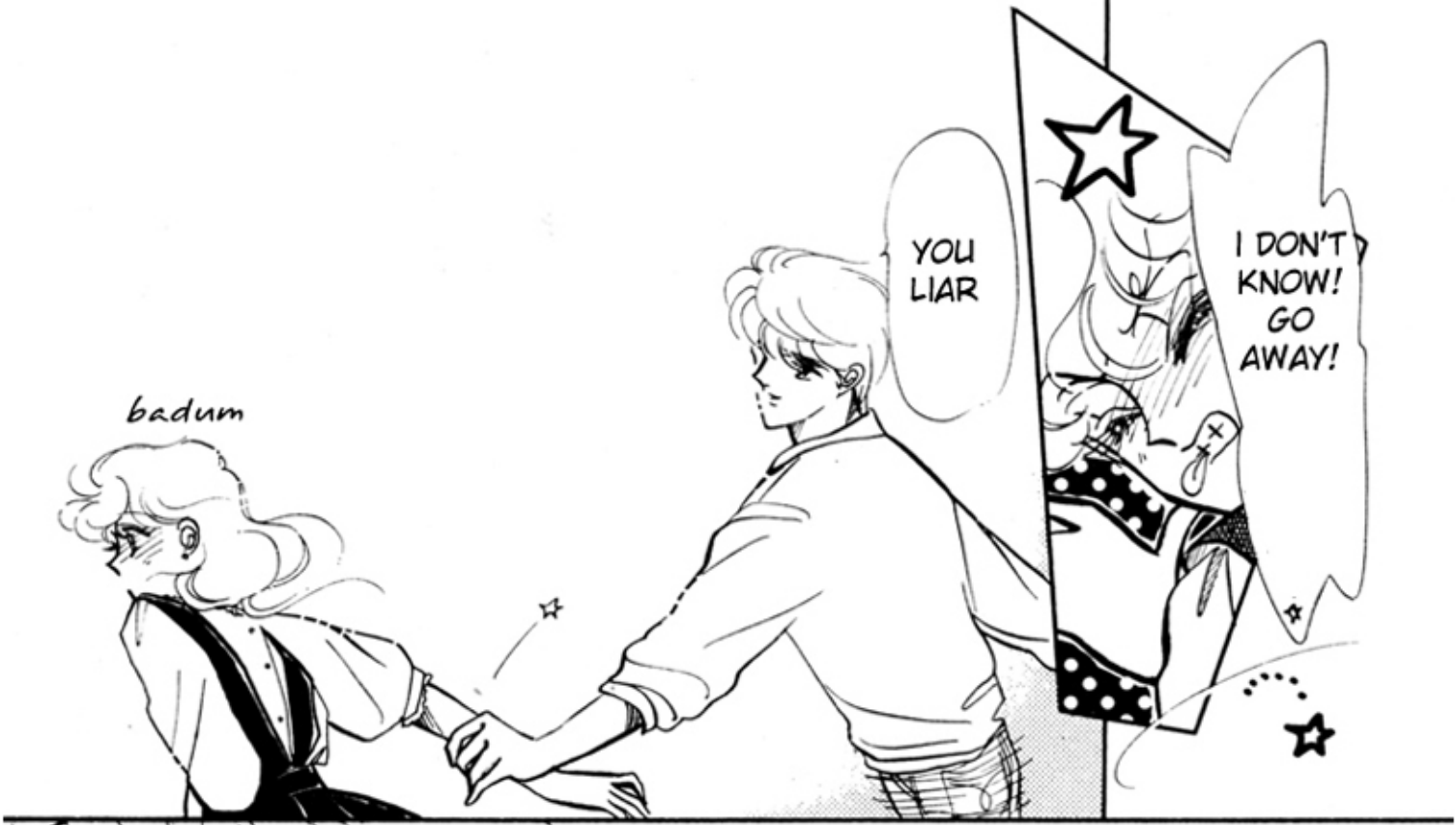


DID I

SNEAK UP ON YOU AGAIN?







badum

YOU LIAR

I DON'T KNOW!
GO AWAY!



badum

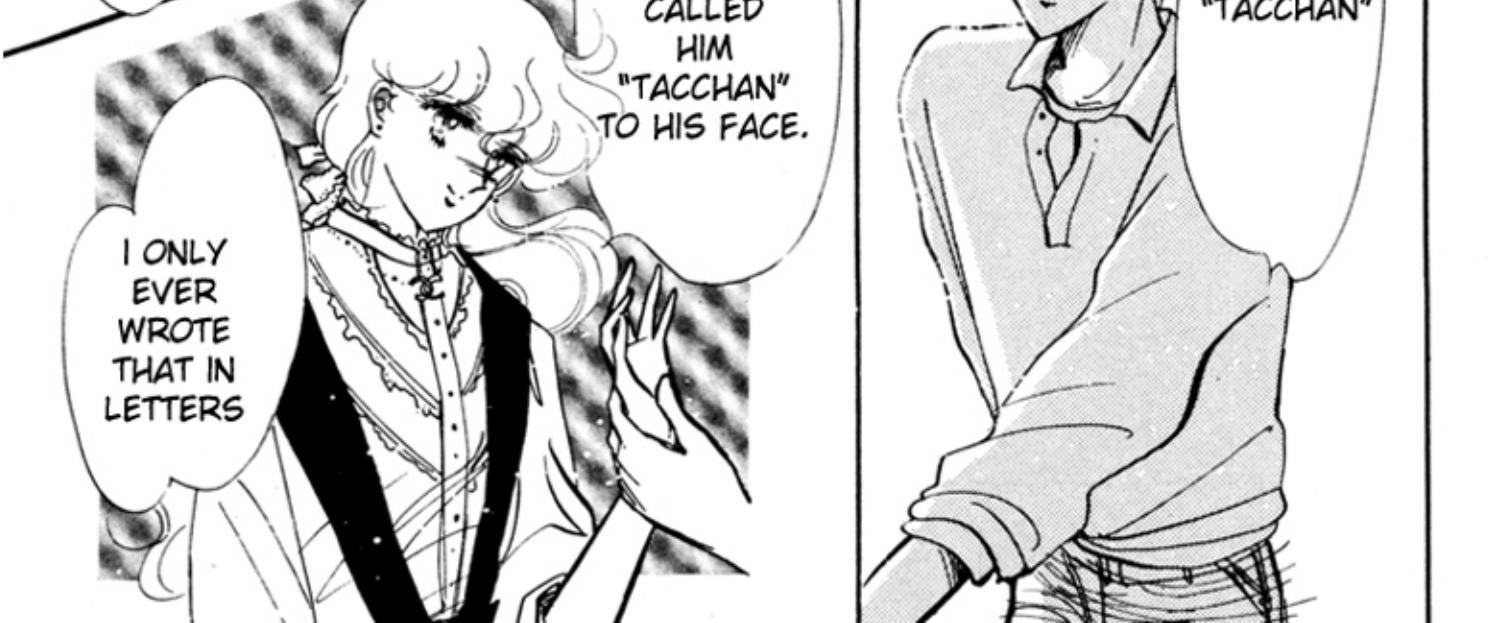


HAND?

badum

WHEN WE MET

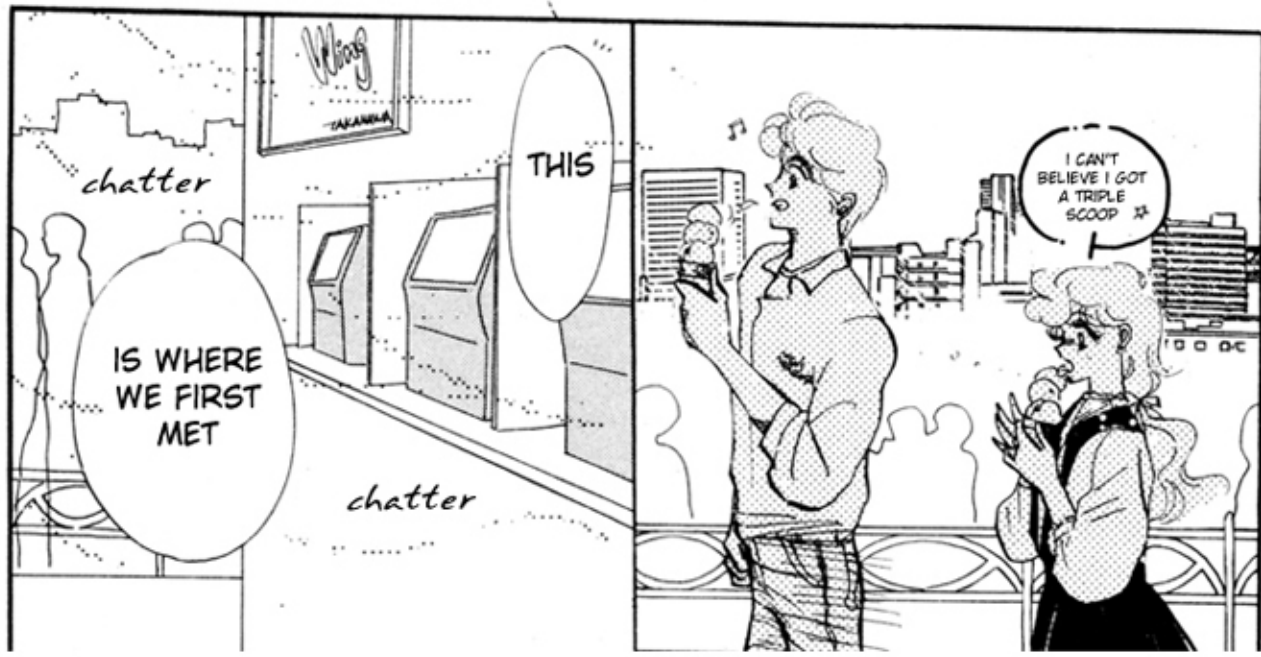
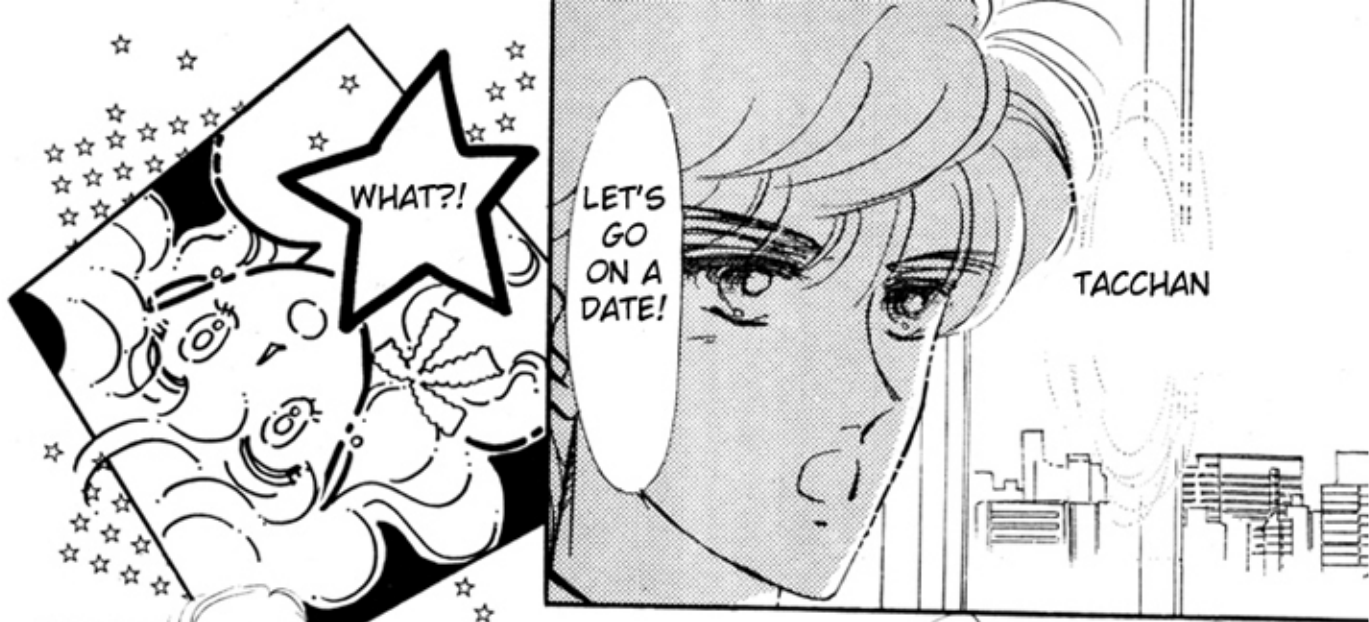
WHY DID YOU GRAB MY



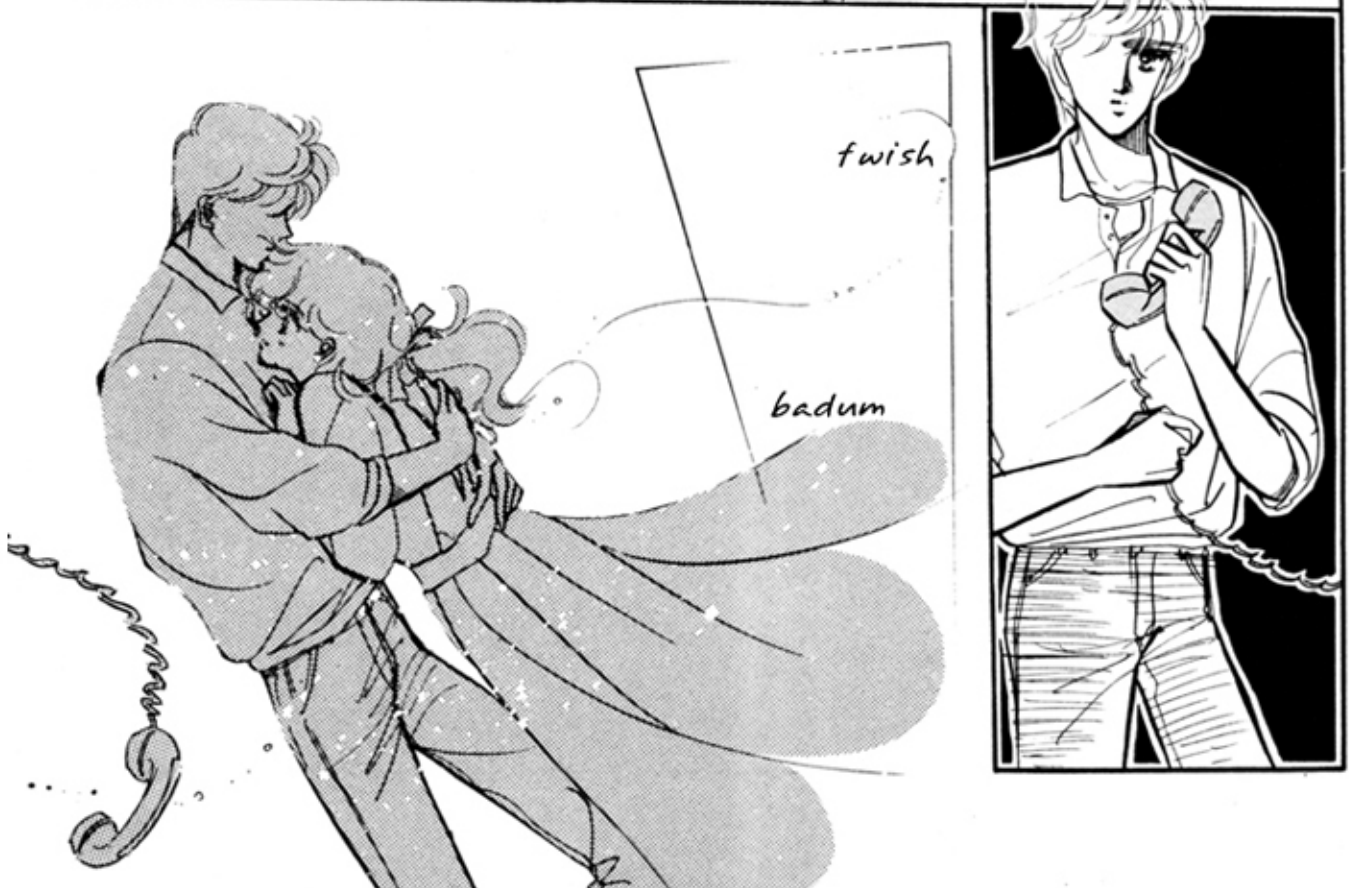
I ONLY EVER WROTE THAT IN LETTERS

BUT I NEVER CALLED HIM "TACCHAN" TO HIS FACE.

I WROTE "TACCHAN"



*NOTE: IN JAPAN, THE BASKIN ROBBINS CHAIN IS KNOWN AS "31 FLAVORS"



NOTE: IN JAPANESE, THE PHRASE TO SAY "HELLO" WHEN YOU ANSWER THE PHONE IS "MOSHIMOSHI". INSTEAD, THE TACCHANS USE "MOSHAKUSHA" - A SLOPPIER WAY OF SAYING THE SAME THING, LIKE A KID WOULD.



YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE ABOUT TO CRY

WHAT'S WRONG ?

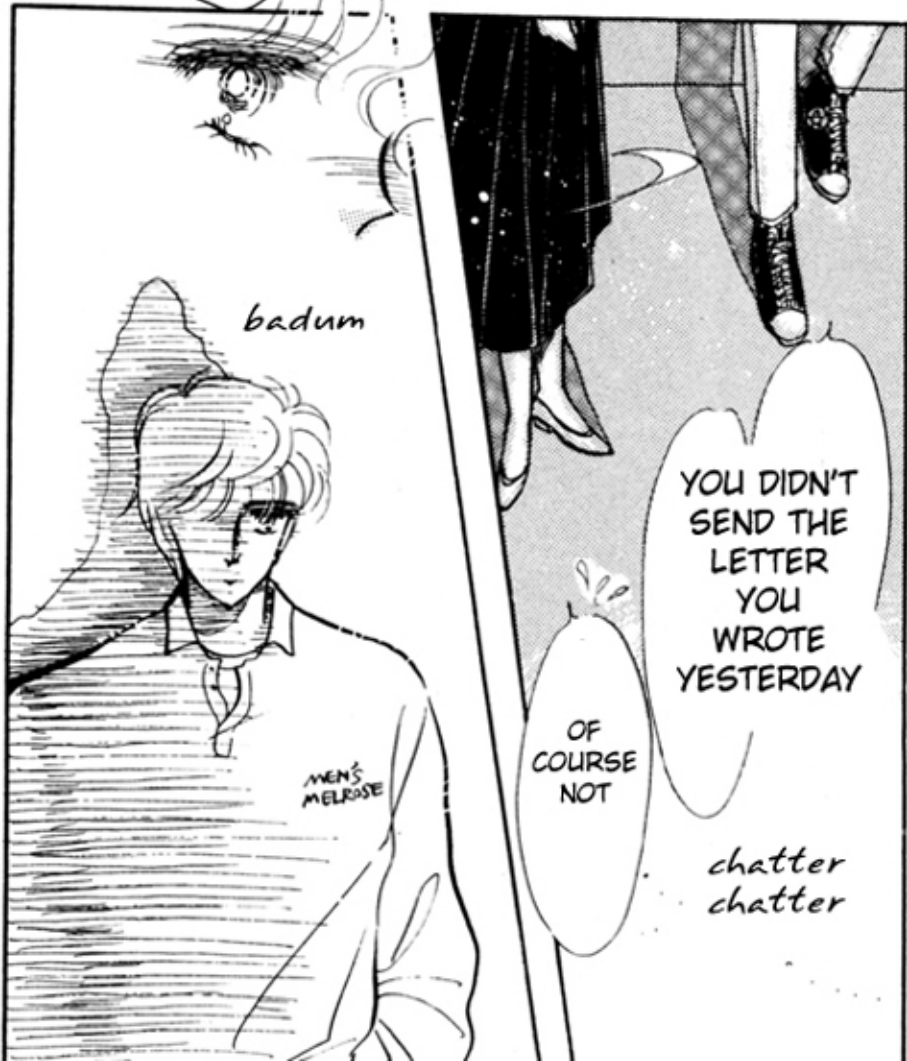


IT'S MY HOBBY

BUT YOU CRY ALL THE TIME

push

I'M NOT GOING TO CRY



badum

OF COURSE NOT

YOU DIDN'T SEND THE LETTER YOU WROTE YESTERDAY

chatter chatter



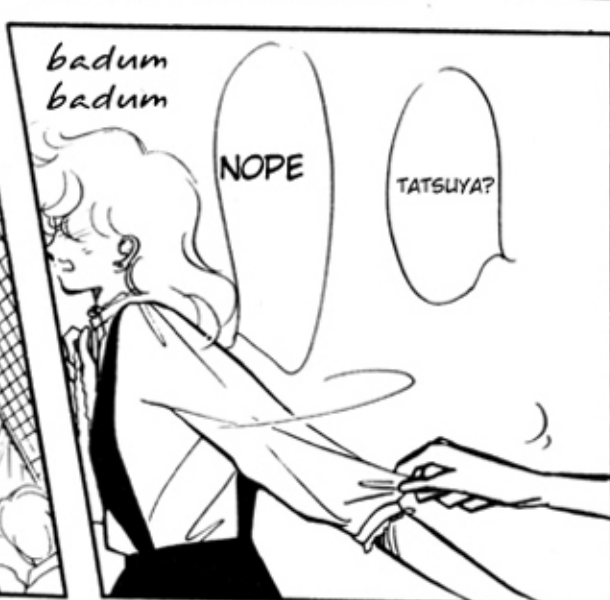
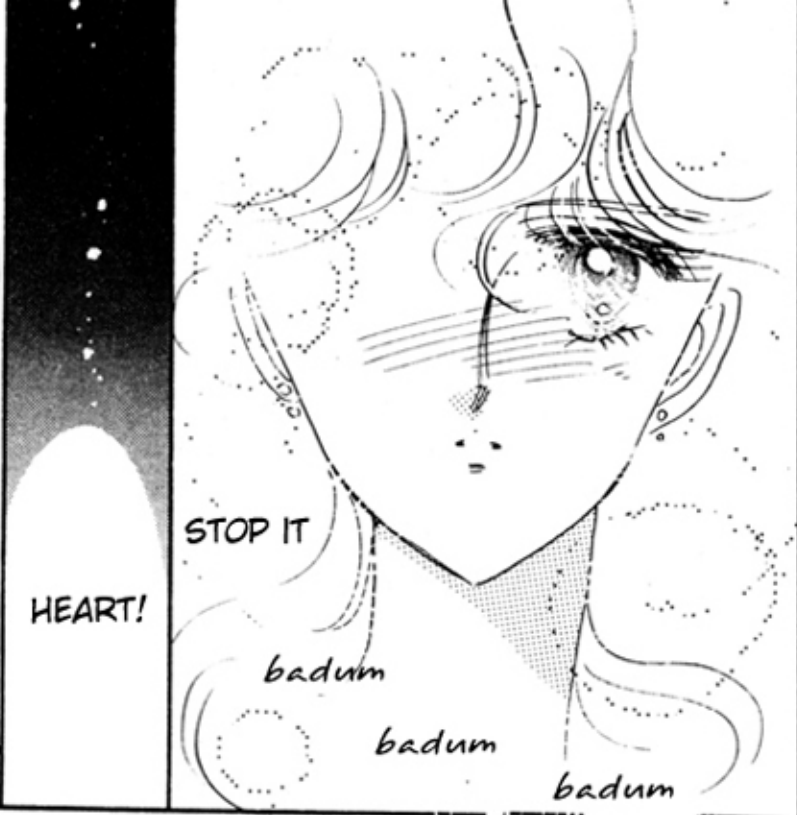
OHH

REALLY? THAT AND LETTERS.

..YOU HAVE A LOT OF GLOOMY HOBBIES.

blah

blahblah.

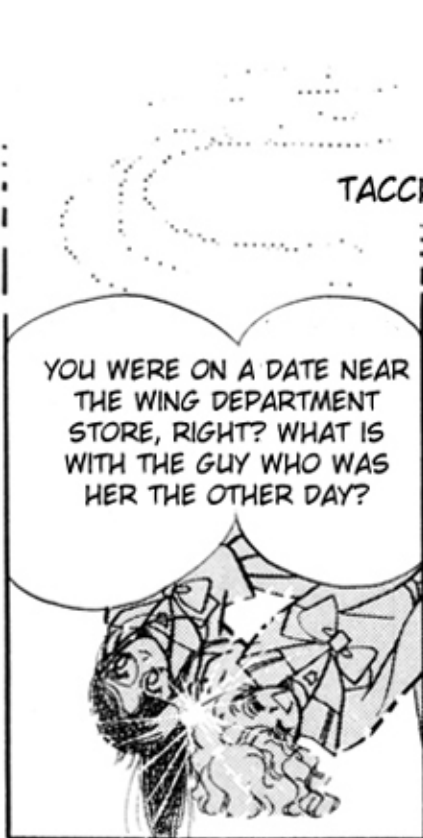






IT'S NOT LIKE THAT

HE'S JUST A FRIEND OF TACCHAN'S



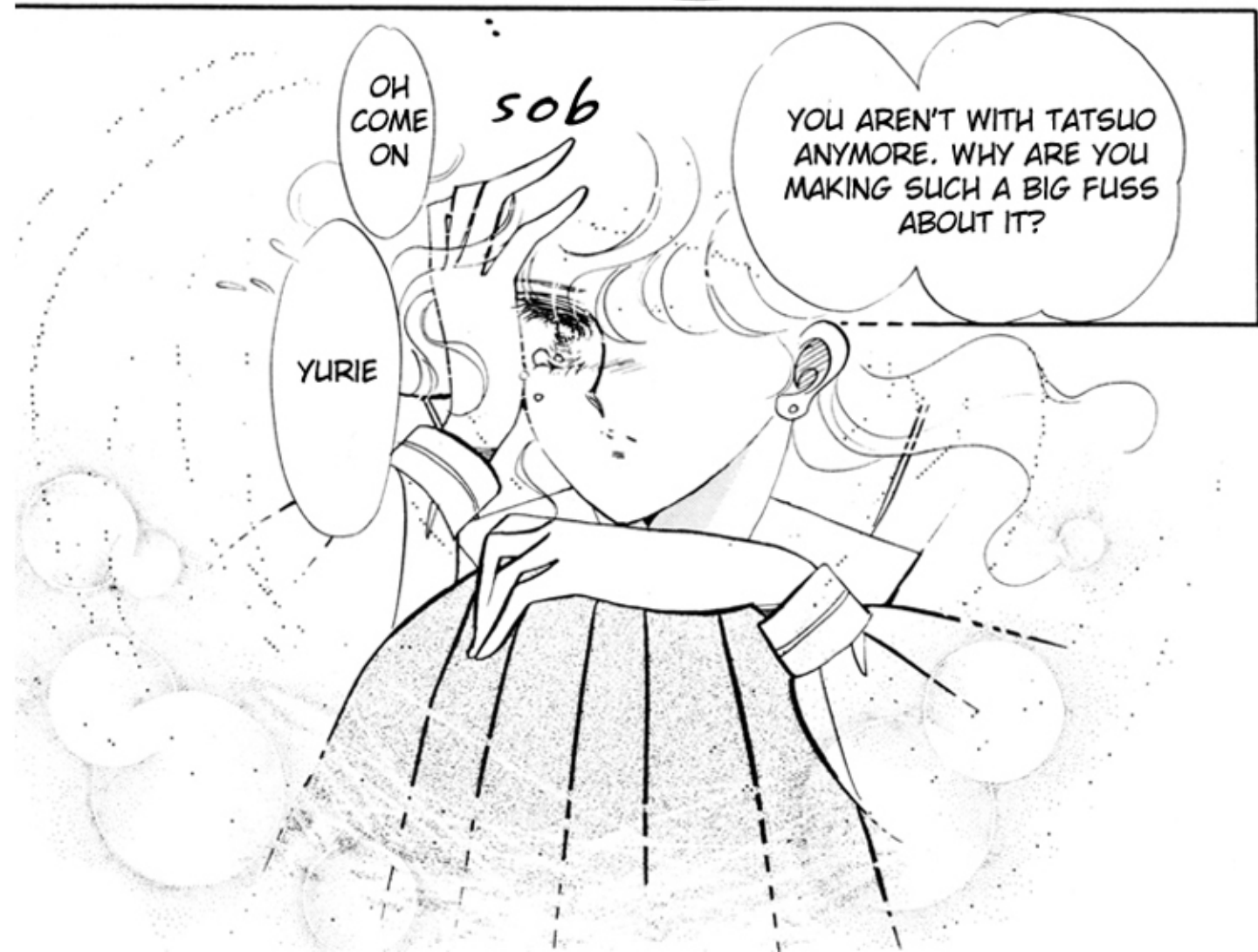
YOU WERE ON A DATE NEAR THE WING DEPARTMENT STORE, RIGHT? WHAT IS WITH THE GUY WHO WAS HER THE OTHER DAY?

TACCHAN

I SAW YOU YURIE!



YOU'RE STILL TALKING ABOUT THAT



OH COME ON

sob

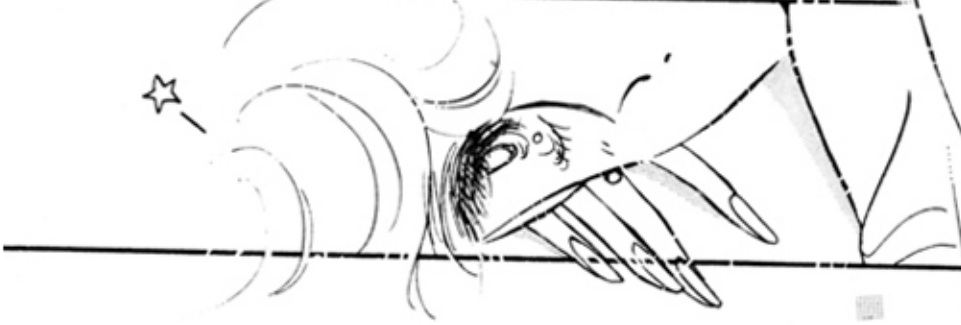
YOU AREN'T WITH TATSUO ANYMORE. WHY ARE YOU MAKING SUCH A BIG FUSS ABOUT IT?

YURIE



sigh

habite



☆

I WANT TO SEE YOU

SEE YOU, THE OTHER

I ALWAYS WANT TO

TACCHAN

YES



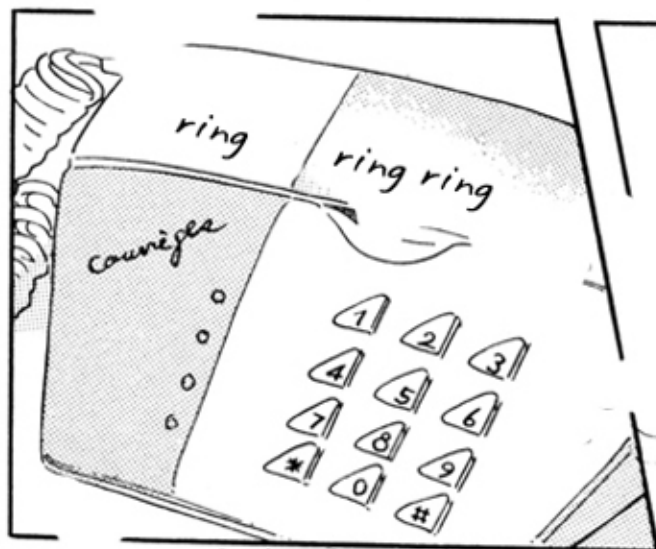
ANOTHER

PINK HOUSE

hon

THE OTHER TACCHAN





ring ring

badum

STARING
GAME
WITH
THE
PHONE



click

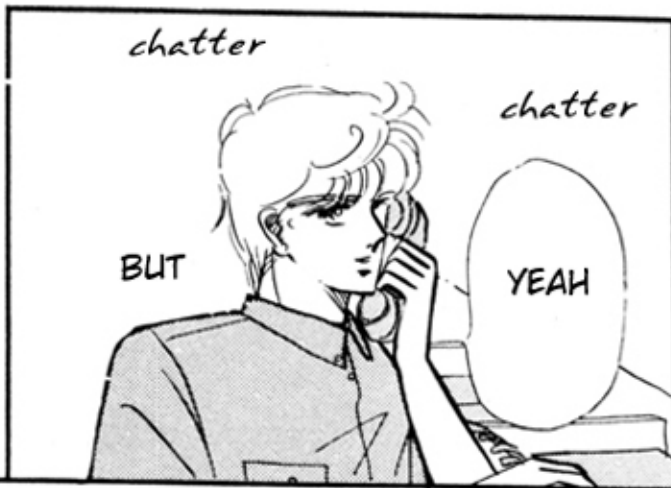
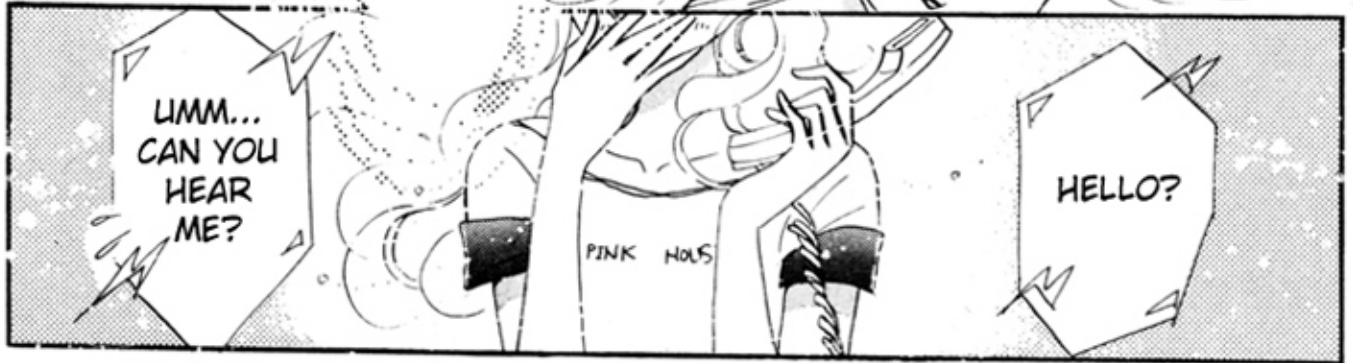
HEWWOW?

HELLO

PINK HOUSE

KNOW
WHO IT
WAS?

HOW
DID
YOU



I GUESS IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO HE ASKED FOR IT, DOES IT?





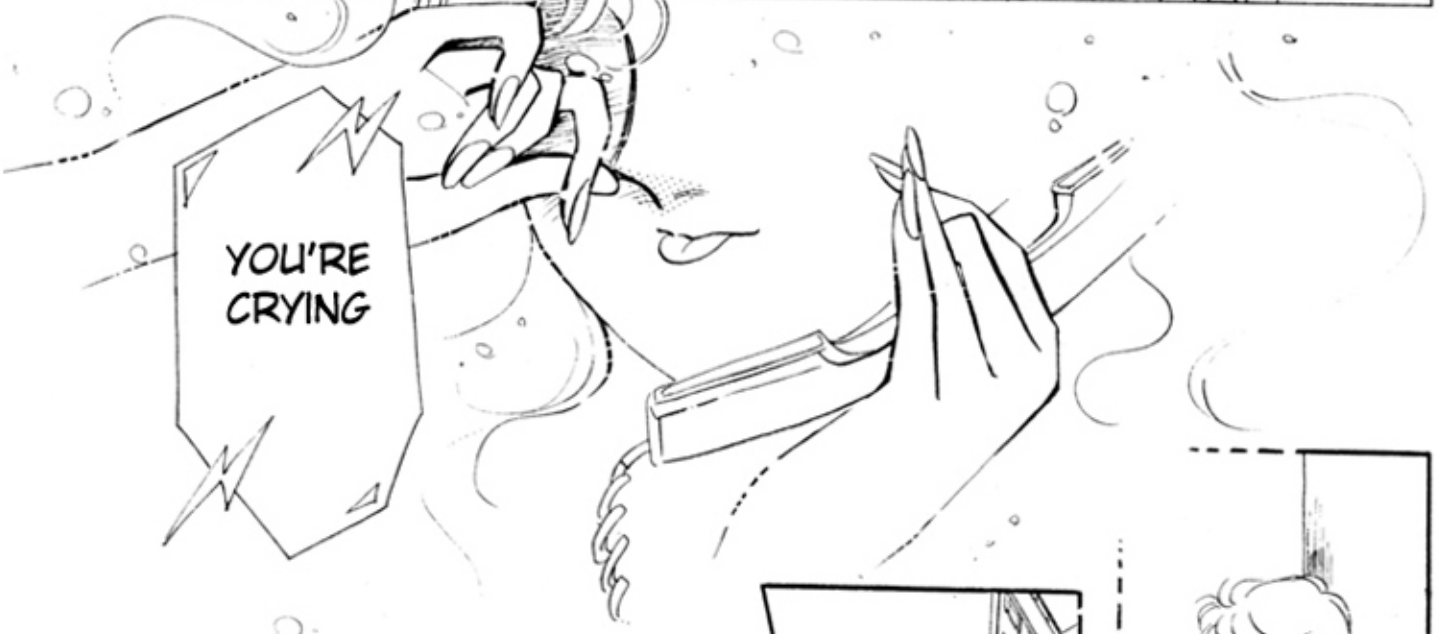
LET ME GUESS

chatter

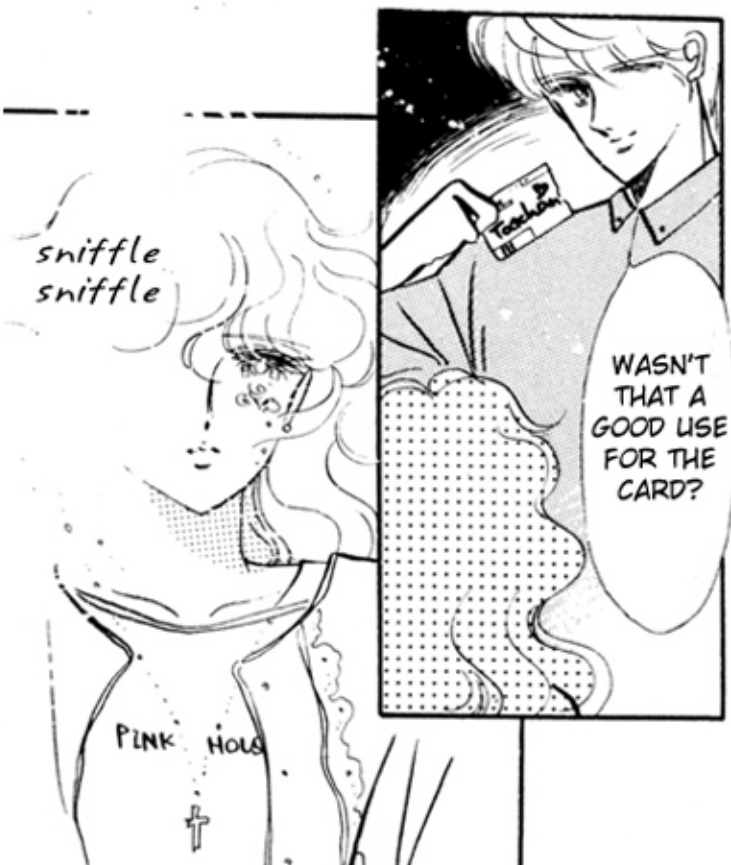
I CAN HEAR HIM

chatter

RIGHT NOW



YOU'RE CRYING

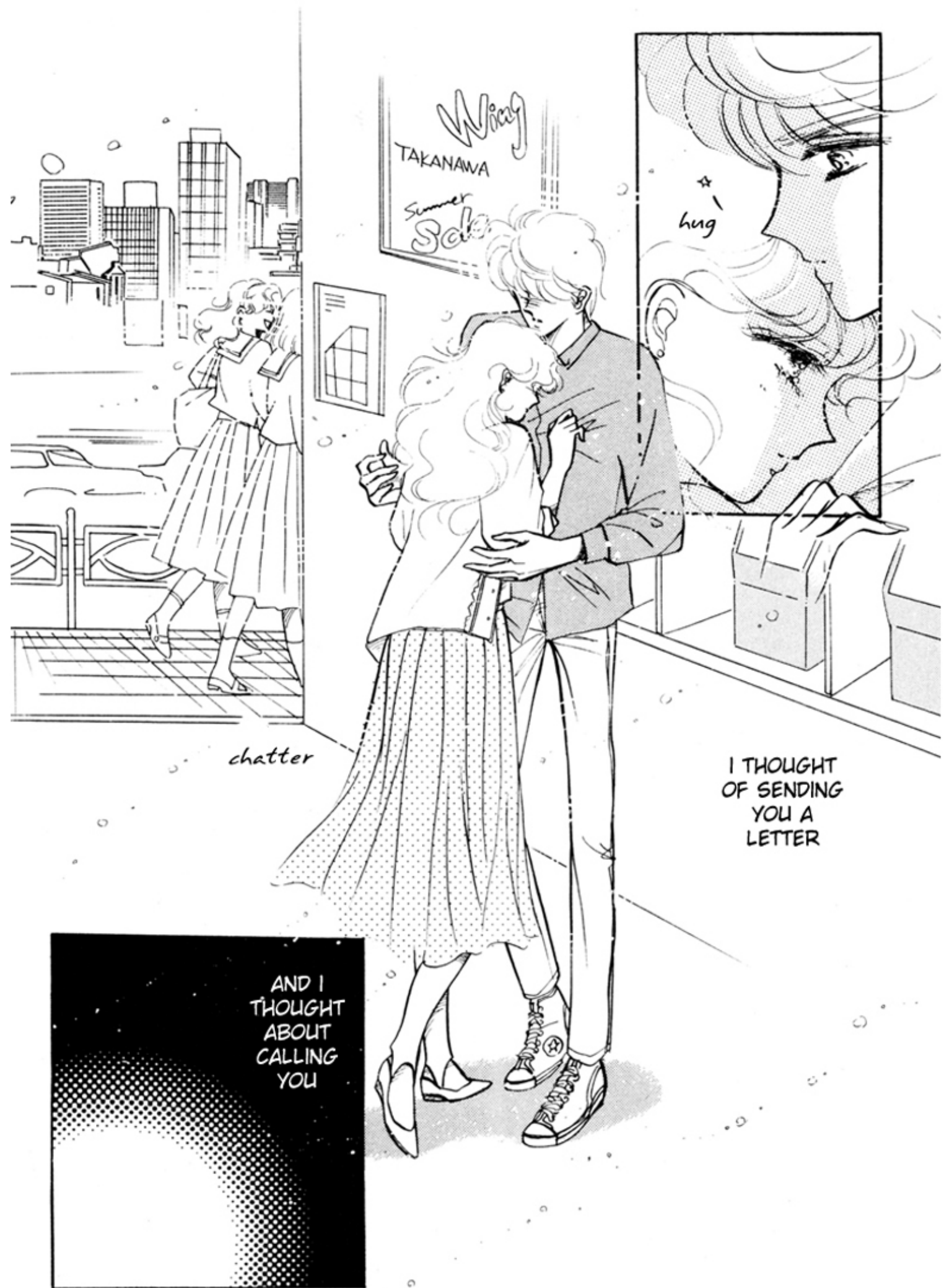


sniffle
sniffle



WASN'T THAT A GOOD USE FOR THE CARD?

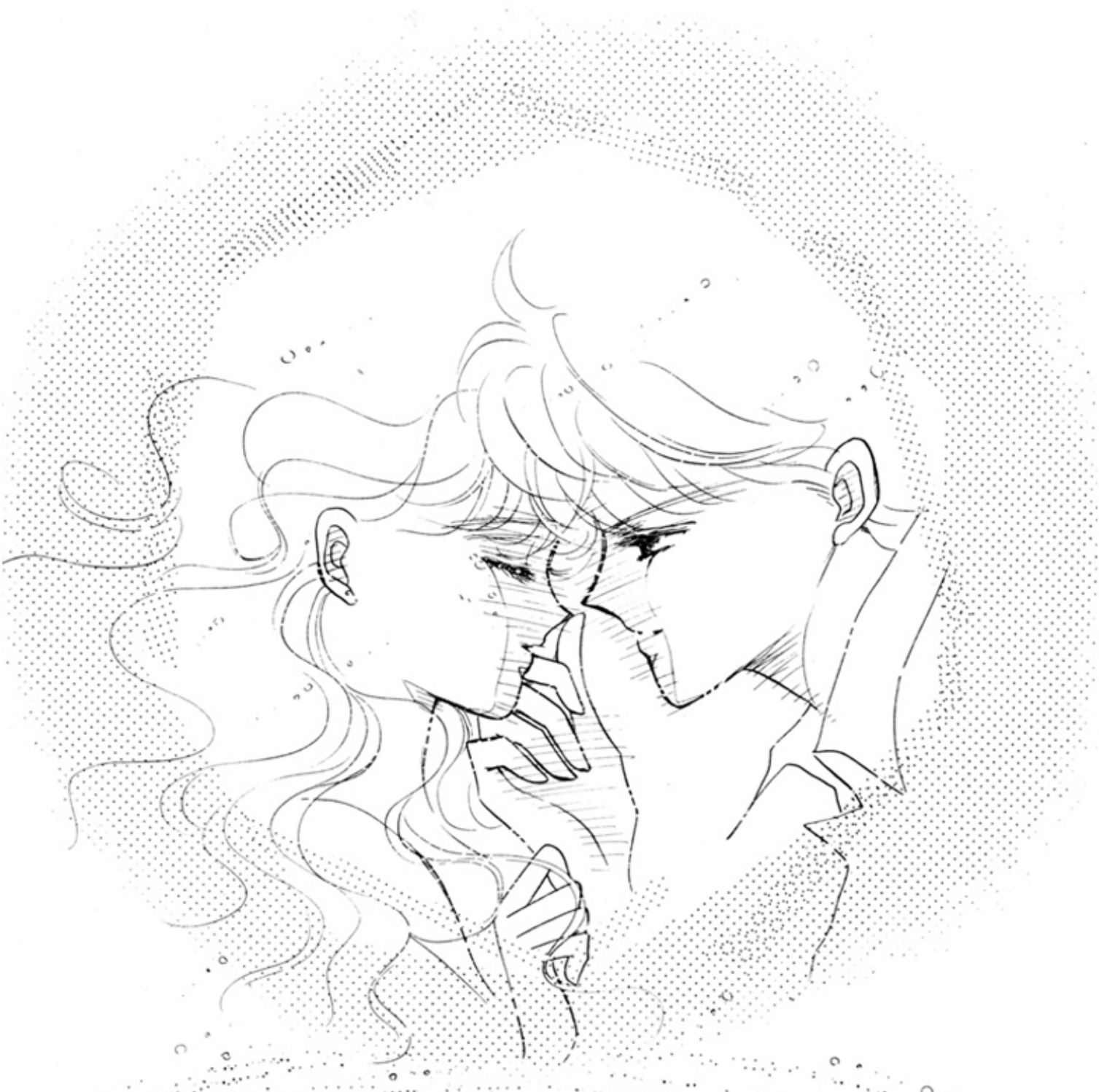




chatter

I THOUGHT
OF SENDING
YOU A
LETTER

AND I
THOUGHT
ABOUT
CALLING
YOU



BUT I REALLY JUST WANTED TO SEE YOU

★★THE END★★



Love Call

Oh, this is so embarrassing. This is my debut work! I can't believe it. I made this 10 years ago in the late 1980s! When I was a senior in high school I fell in a totally innocent but dedicated long distance love affair with a classmate of mine from junior high, who went to another school called "Tacchan". But me and him were both super shy, and so we never met up too often, and only spoke to each other every once in a while. Whenever we went to the other one's school festivals, our hearts were pounding and we made it a point to attend in secret. I wrote a lot of letters to Tacchan during my classes that I never ended up sending. They got soaked in the rain on my way home. (They were too embarrassing to send!) I wonder how Tacchan is doing now. Is he well? (It seems that he and my other friend Yoda really did end up together.)

Tacchan is a chapter of my youth from junior high and high school. (I wonder why I was dumped? I can't even remember now!)

Anyway, I wrote this story in my second year of college, but I wanted to write about my love story in places like Shinagawa Wing, where I used to hang out with my friends (I still use that spot!) and the municipal central library. I used to have milk tea ice cream a lot back then! (At Chez Louis in Hiroo!) And I used to eat toothpaste powder cocktails and grasshoppers! I drank all the cocktails I could in the bar, using my mom's credit card. They're really sweet and tasty, and I still adore them now. But...well, my debut with this story was a success. I'm sorry

for having such a weird debut! It's strange, because my comics have never really been "Nakayoshi Style" comics. They weren't back then and they aren't really that style now either. So I apologize!

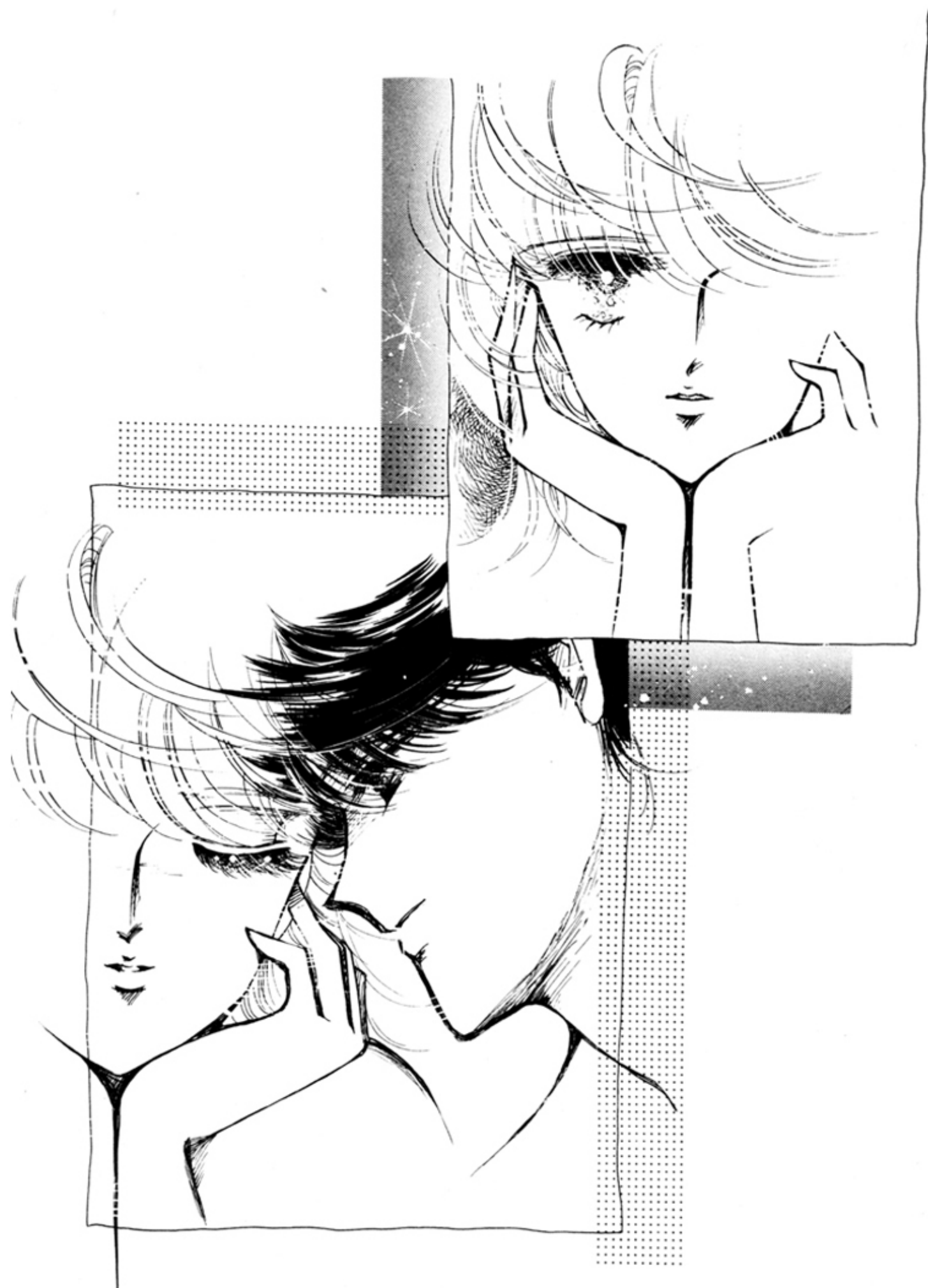
Here's something else: What really surprised me when Sailor Moon became popular, was that my nerd friends on a service called "Paso-Tsui"* could find my original debut works at the National Diet Library! I was blown away, but it's true. At the National Diet Library in Tokyo, you can read all of the old issues of Nakayoshi (even their special editions too!) Thank you fans for going so far out of your way to read my debut work! It shocked me. I tried to search all over Kanda, but the issues aren't on sale anywhere. I tried to find copies of the now out-of-print "Hay Fever" book by Sanrio, but no luck. So I read that at the National Diet Library now too, as my last resort. (I'm still looking for that book. Does anyone have a copy?

sniffle)

ゆめ
夢じゃないのね



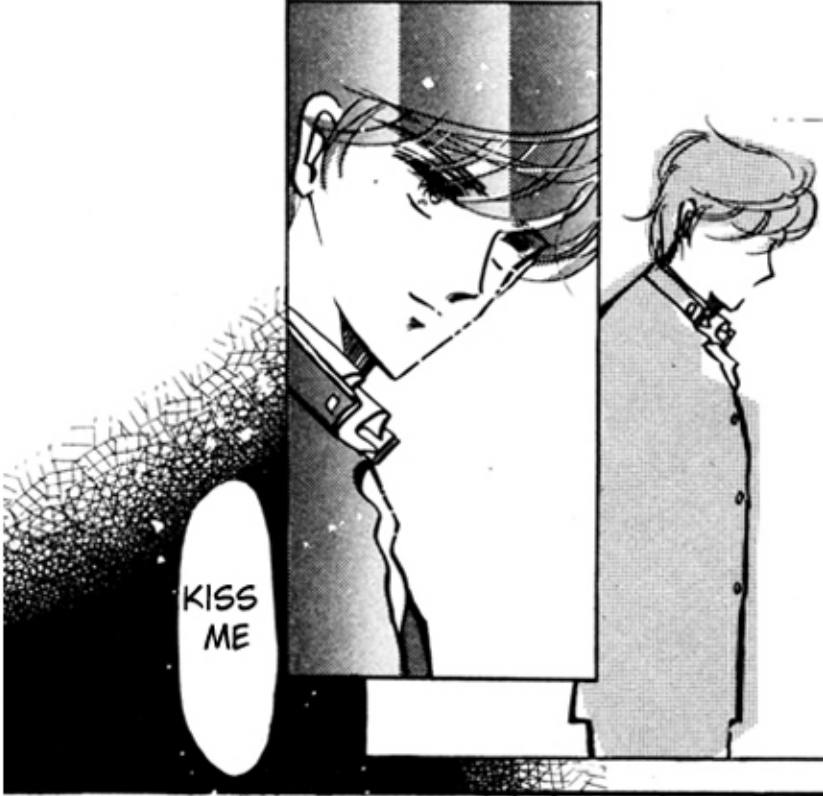
This Isn't A Dream, Is It?





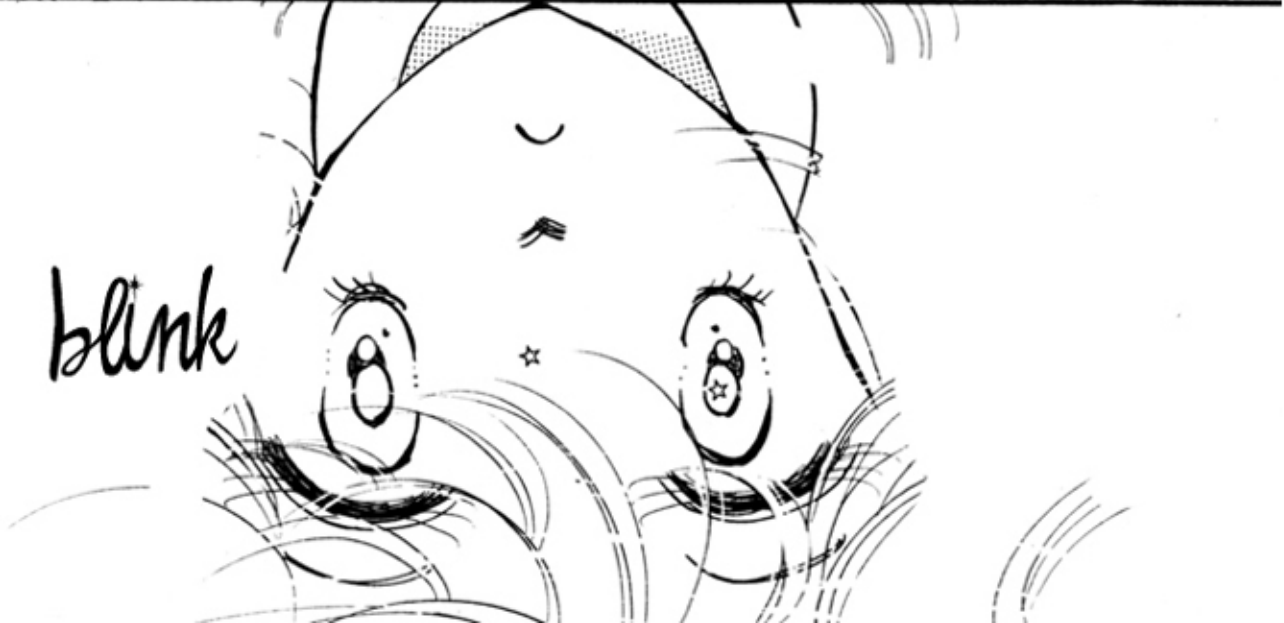
YES

I LOVE YOU



KISS ME

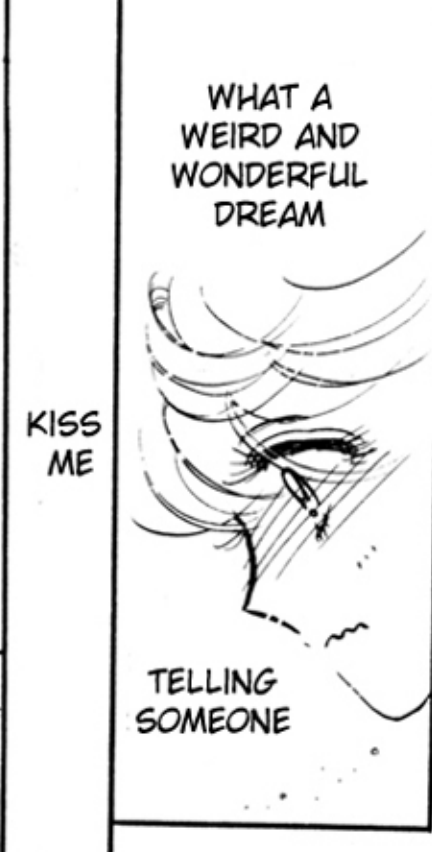
YOU CAN



blink



THE GUY
IN THE
DREAM IS
SAEGUSA
TAKASHI



WHAT A
WEIRD AND
WONDERFUL
DREAM

KISS
ME

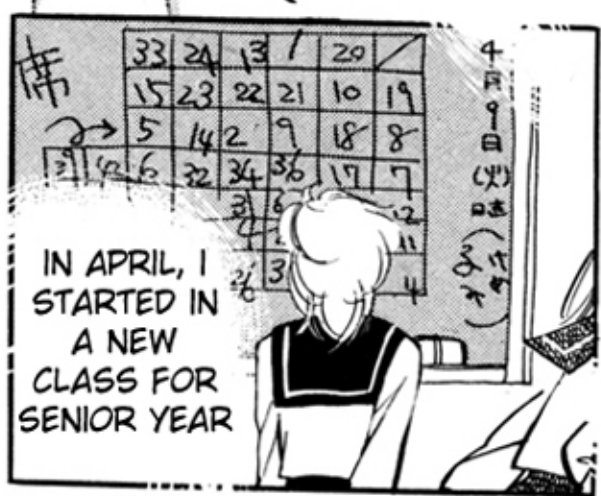
TELLING
SOMEONE



beep grab

ACK

beep
beep



IN APRIL, I
STARTED IN
A NEW
CLASS FOR
SENIOR YEAR

33	24	13	1	20
15	23	22	21	10
5	14	2	9	18
31	26	32	34	36
3	6	3	6	17
4	1	12	11	7
3	3	11	4	12
3	3	11	4	12

HE AND I WERE
PARTNERS IN
CLASS FOR JUST
A SINGLE DAY



HEY



ACK

TILT

smile



I WAS
ASSIGNED
TO THE
SEAT IN
THE
FRONT
ROW

HELLO

SWIVEL

LET ME SEE YOUR TEXTBOOK



MY PARTNER WAS SAEGUSA

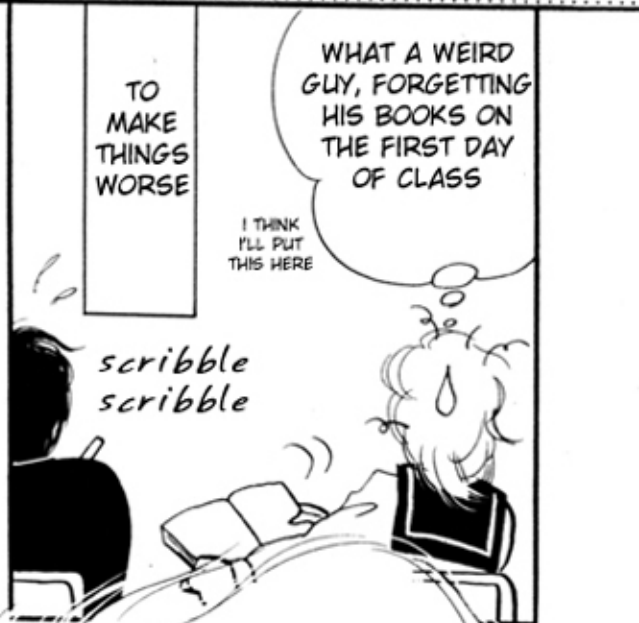


scribble
DATE
AN ELECTRONIC CAR



HE JUST KEPT DOODLING INSTEAD OF TAKING NOTES

sigh



TO MAKE THINGS WORSE

WHAT A WEIRD GUY, FORGETTING HIS BOOKS ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS

I THINK I'LL PUT THIS HERE

scribble
scribble



WHERE IS YOUR TEXTBOOK?!

HEY!

I FORGOT IT

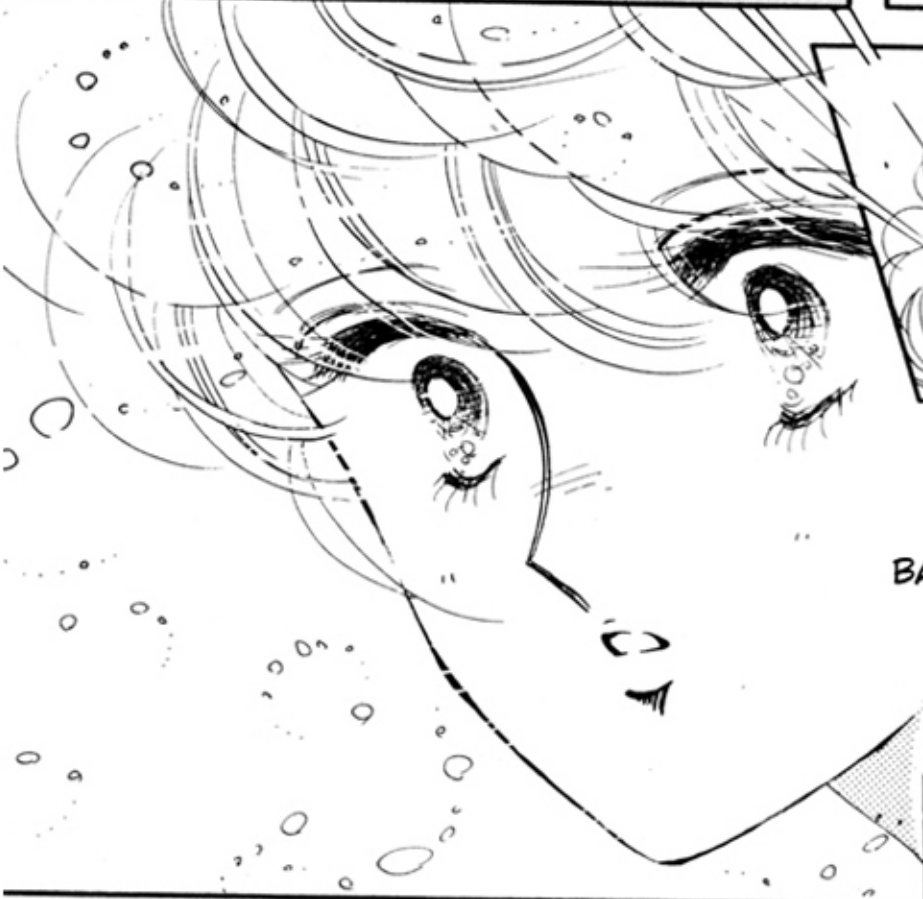
BONK



OW



smile
IT'S A MODEL M CAR



BADUM

I WOULDN'T CALL IT LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT



BUT IT WAS MORE LIKE MY FEELINGS WOULD
rise

INTO SOMETHING MORE

HOWEVER



All in Love

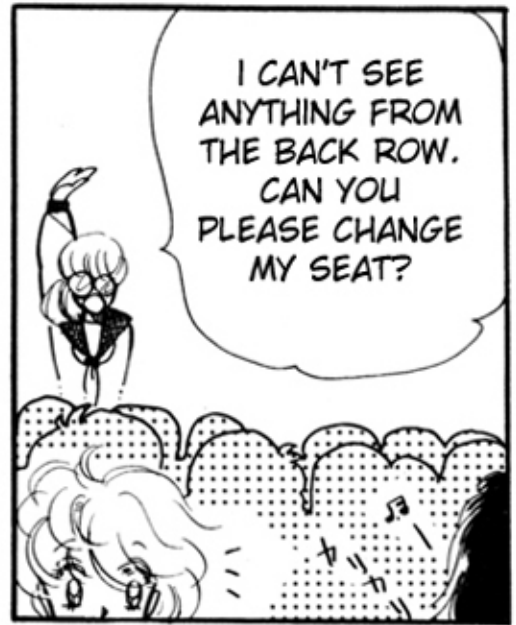
THAT DAY,
MY SEAT
WAS
REASSIGNED



ASHIZAWA
MEGUMI

YES

OH,
REALLY?
HEY YOU
IN THE
FRONT,
GO
AHEAD
AND
MOVE



I CAN'T SEE
ANYTHING FROM
THE BACK ROW.
CAN YOU
PLEASE CHANGE
MY SEAT?



GLANCE



TURN
TO
PAGE
25

MY NEW PARTNER
WAS A RATHER
GLOOMY AND PALE
GUY WHO LOOKED
REALLY FRAIL

DID SAEGAWA
FORGET HIS BOOK
AGAIN?



IF YOU
NEED A
BOOK...

.....

MEGU

I WONDER IF HIS NEW PARTNER WILL SHARE HER BOOK WITH HIM

TAKA, YOUR AIM IS TERRIBLE. TRY AGAIN!
SPLAT
swosh
chatter
chatter
OKAY
ERASE THE BLACKBOARD

HUH
HEY MEGU!

SPLAT

OH
SORRY

TAKA!
IT'S OK
badum
SAGAWA

turn



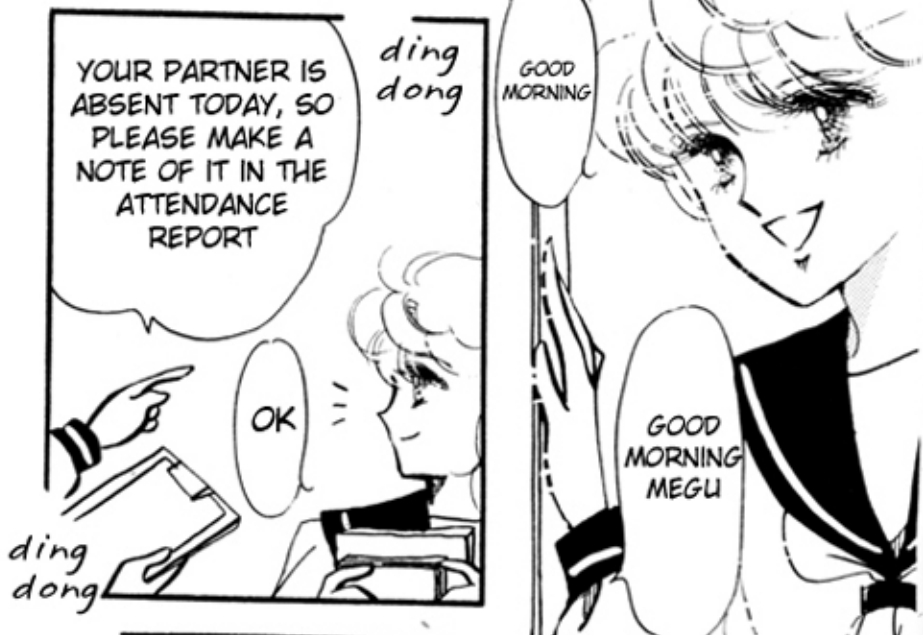
HE SAID "SORRY"

I'M PRETTY SURE SAEGAWA DOESN'T

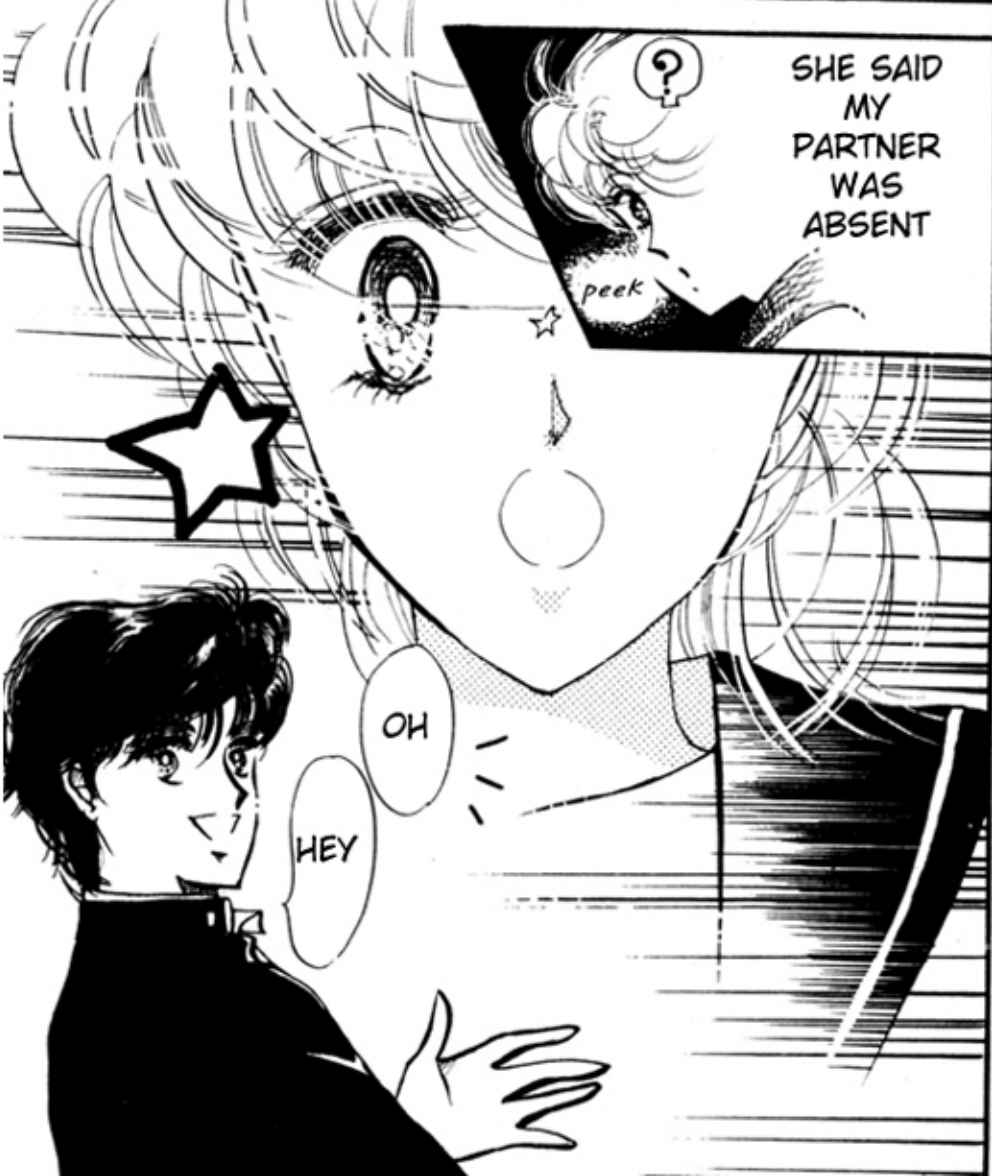
THAT'S ALL. SINCE THEN I HAVE HEARD A SINGLE WORD OUT OF MY NEW PARTNER.

AND THAT WAS IT

EVEN KNOW MY NAME



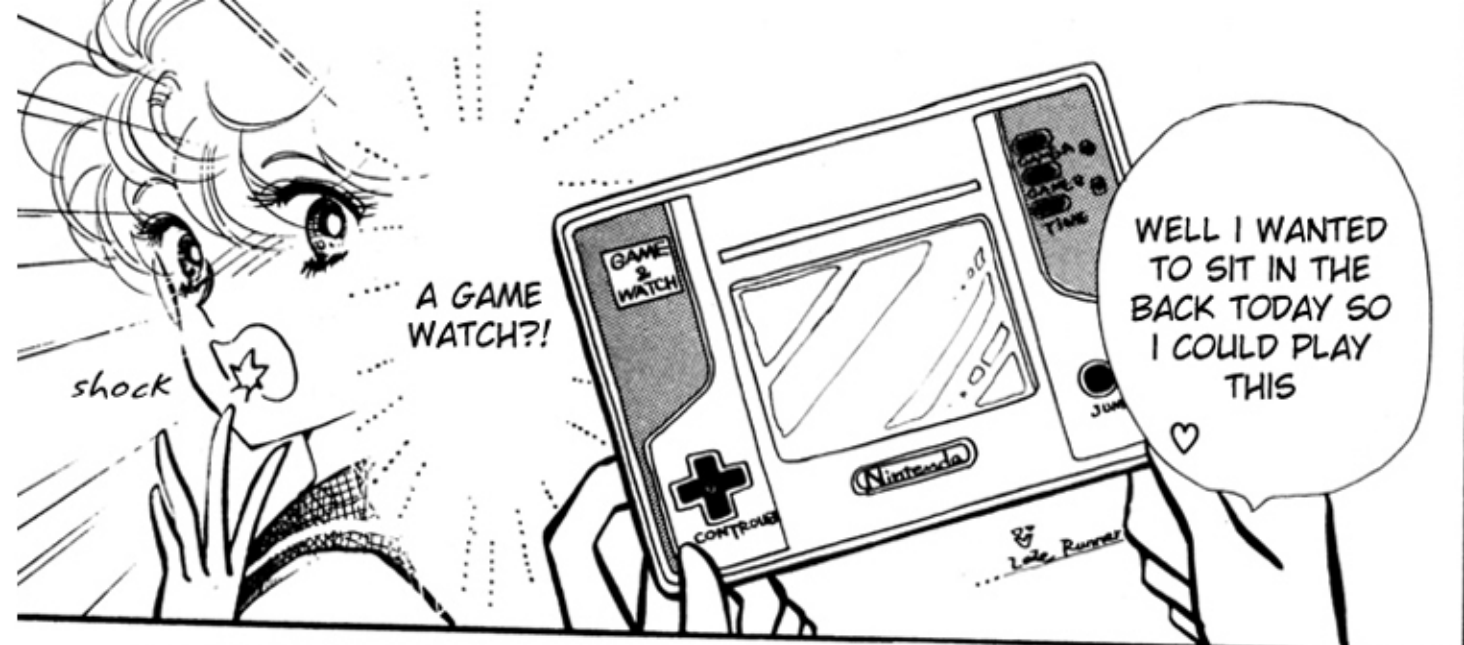
I COULD NEVER CONFESS MY TRUE FEELINGS TO HIM, THE WAY I SO EASILY DO IN MY DREAMS





WHY IS SAEGUCHI SITTING NEXT TO ME AGAIN?





shock

A GAME WATCH?!

WELL I WANTED TO SIT IN THE BACK TODAY SO I COULD PLAY THIS



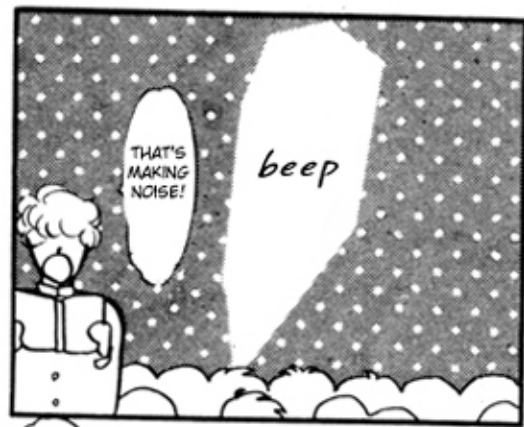
silence

HEY YOU SHOULD STOP!

YOU'RE GOING TO GET IN TROUBLE!

IT'S FINE

beep
beep



THAT'S MAKING NOISE!

beep



I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M TALKING WITH SAEGUCHI

IT FEELS SURREAL



beep
beep

WE'RE IN THE FAR BACK

I SAID IT'S FINE!

B-BUT



YOU IN THE VERY BACK!!



HUH?

beep

WE WON'T GET CAUGHT

YOU REALLY SHOULD STOP

I'LL BE SCARED IF THE TEACHER FINDS OUT

stare stare

beep beep

MAY 17TH, FRIDAY

5月17日 (金)



peek
NOW WE
CAN
SPEAK
OPENLY

beep

smile



WE WERE
FORCED TO
STAND IN THE
HALL TOGETHER



giggle

WAH
HAHA
HA



WHAT?

ASHI-
ZAWA

badum

THANKS
TO YOU,
ASHIZAWA



WHAT
ARE
YOU
TALKING
ABOUT



I DON'T EVEN KNOW
THE NAMES OF AL
THE BOYS IN THE
CLASS YET, BUT YOU
ALREADY KNOW MY
NAME



WE WERE PARTNERS FIRST AFTER ALL, RIGHT?



I GUESS

THAT KIND OF THING EITHER

BOYS DONT FORGET



EVEN THOUGH IT WAS ONLY FOR A DAY

HE ALSO REMEBERS THE NAME OF HIS PARTNER



BUT NOW WE'VE BEEN PARTNERS FOR TWO DAYS

Y
E
A
H





DID YOU SEE HIS FACE?

I DON'T THINK I'LL EVER GET ANOTHER CHANCE

I WISH THIS WOULD GO ON FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL YEAR



chatter

chatter

TO BE SAEGAWA'S PARTNER AGAIN



OHH, THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT CARS

HUH?

ARCEES*?



HEY ASHIZAWA, DO YOU LIKE RC'S?



THAT'S RARE FOR A GIRL

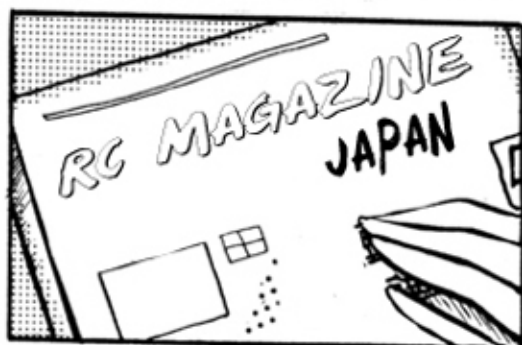
I WONDER IF THEY SAW ME STARING AT SAEGUCHI

chatter

chatter

REALLY?

*NOTE: RC STANDS FOR REMOTE-CONTROL CAR. IN JAPANESE THEY USE THE ENGLISH WORD, WHICH MEGU DOES NOT UNDERSTAND.





OOPS,
SORRY!

BANG

POW



HEY
IT'S

ASHI-
ZAWA
AGAIN

HEY
SAEGAWA



AFTER TRYING TO
FIGURE OUT THAT RC
MAGAZINE, I'M STUCK
IN A DAZE

OW



SMIRK



I WANTED TO ASK
YOU SOMETHING.
IS YOUR RC A
PROPO 2
CHANNEL OR 4
CHANNEL?



DID YOU HEAR
THAT? HE SAID
"HEY ASHIZAWA"

TEE
HEE

OH



OH

ASHIZAWA, YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT THIS STUFF

UMMM



HEY TAKA, I BET SINCE YOU TOLD HER YOU WERE INTO THOSE CARS SHE SPENT ALL DAY RESEARCHING THEM. YOU'RE SUCH A LADIES MAN



HE MUST BE IN THE RACES THEN, RIGHT?

I CAN'T TELL HIM HE'S NOT BORN YET!



HE'S IN 5TH GRADE

YOU HAVE A BROTHER? HOW OLD IS HE?



MY LITTLE BROTHER IS INTO IT TOO

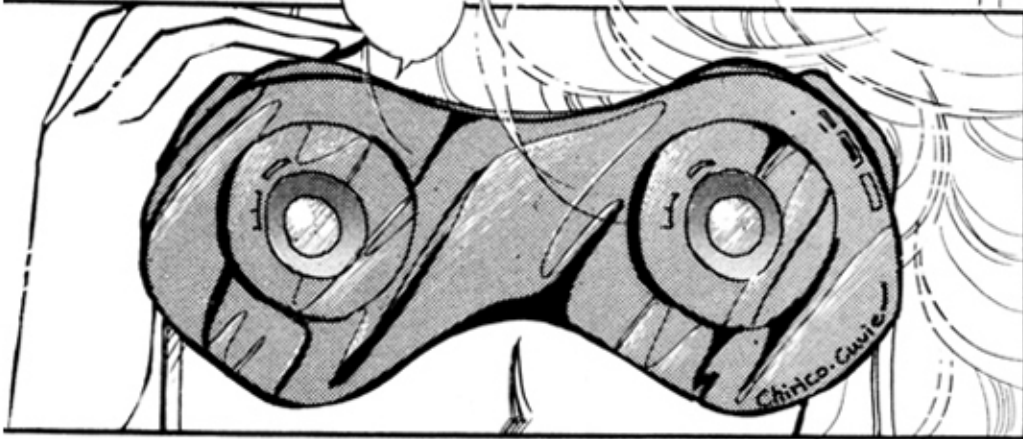


YEAH. I'LL BE AT THE NEXT RACE



RACES?

ACK



1	2	3	4	5	
7	8	9	10	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25	26
28	29	30	31		





I FINALLY FOUND IT



I WONDER IF SAEGUCHI IS HERE?

I FOUND OUT WHERE THE RACE WOULD BE HELD



HEY



THERE HE IS!



HEY

WOULD YOU



AND NOW LET'S BEGIN THE AWARDS CEREMOINY

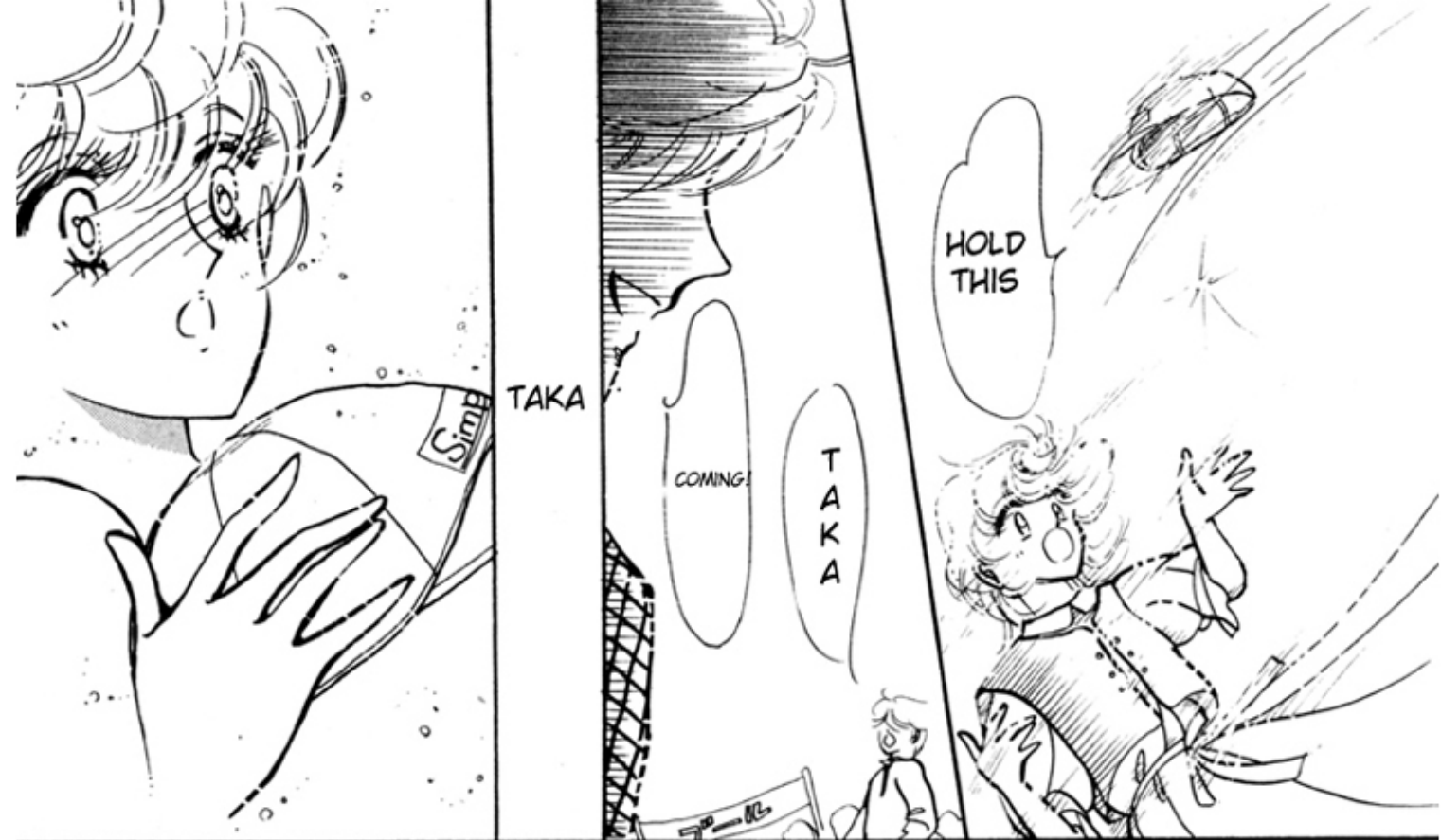
chatter

chatter



I WAS JUST IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

YOU REALLY CAME



TAKA

COMING!

TAKA

HOLD THIS

WOW, I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS



THANKS FOR HOLDING MY CAP

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS

IT'S PRETTY MUCH OVER NOW

IT'S IS ALMOST LIKE A DATE

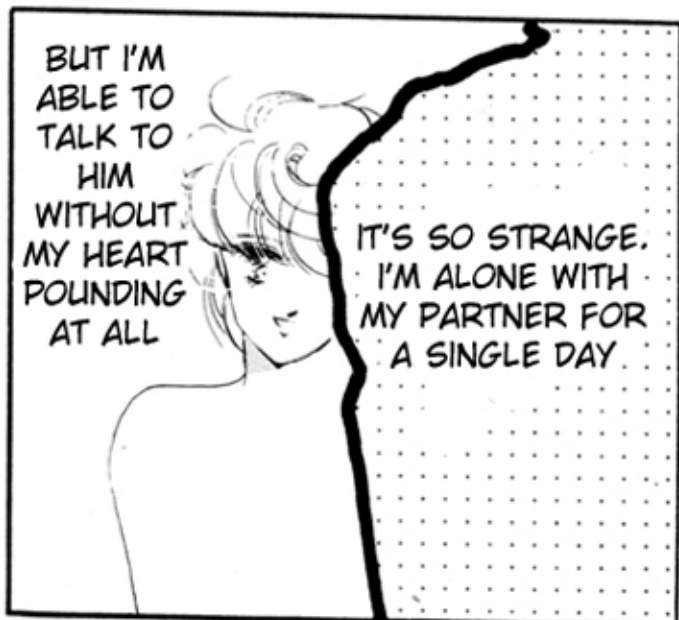
WHERE'S YOUR BROTHER?



DID HE NOTICE?

HEY, THAT'S TAKA! AND HE'S WITH A GIRL!

HE'S AT THE SPRING ATHLETIC MEET



BUT I'M
ABLE TO
TALK TO
HIM
WITHOUT
MY HEART
POUNING
AT ALL

IT'S SO STRANGE.
I'M ALONE WITH
MY PARTNER FOR
A SINGLE DAY.



THAT WHENEVER I'M
NEAR HIM AT
SCHOOL, MY HEART
IS POUNING A MILE
A MINUTE

TODAY I'M JUST ABLE TO BE MYSELF

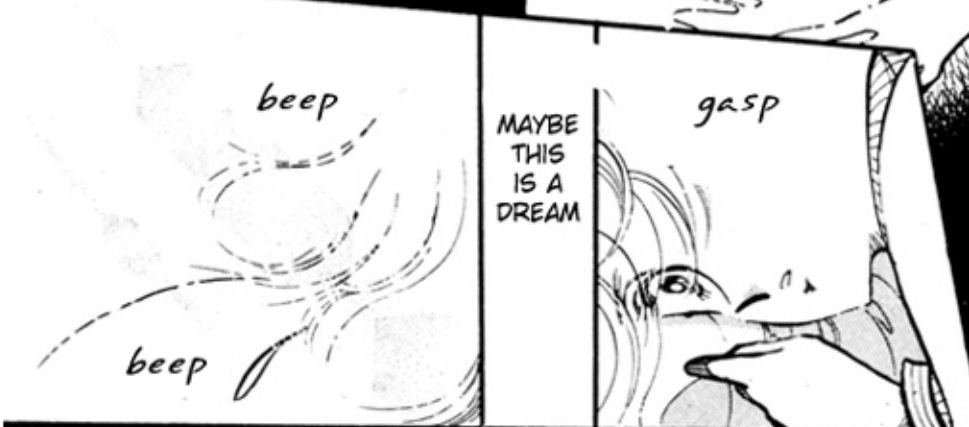
IT'S ALMOST LIKE



A DREAM



IS THIS A DREAM?



beep

beep

MAYBE THIS IS A DREAM

gasp

IF I WAKE UP, WILL THIS ALL DISAPPEAR?

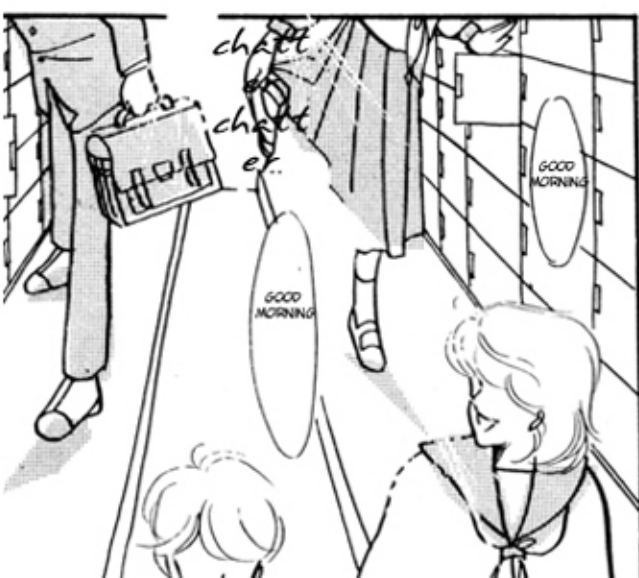


IT'S WEIRD. I JUST FEEL SO UNEASY



MAYBE IT WAS A DREAM. THE NEXT DAY

sigh



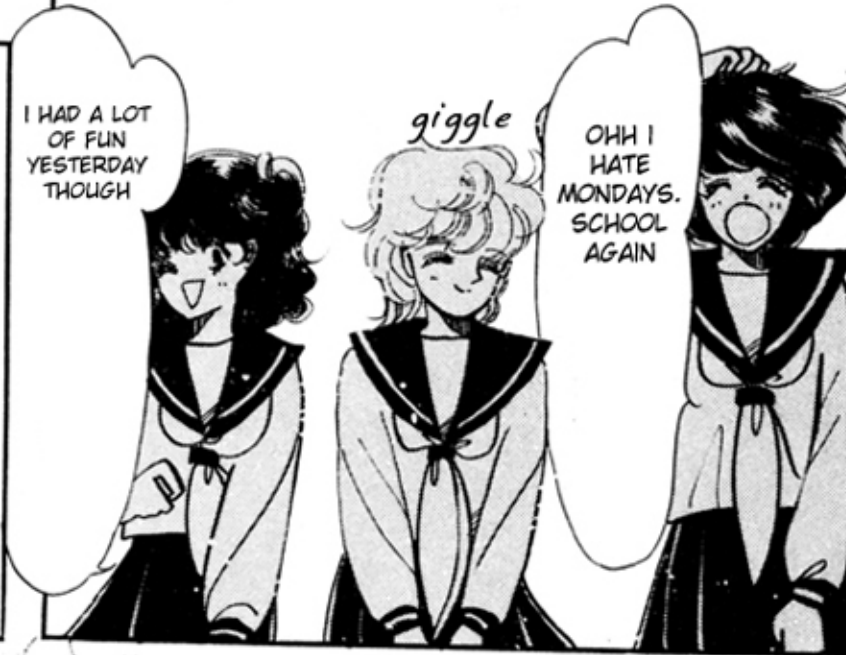
chatt
chatt
et...

GOOD MORNING

GOOD MORNING



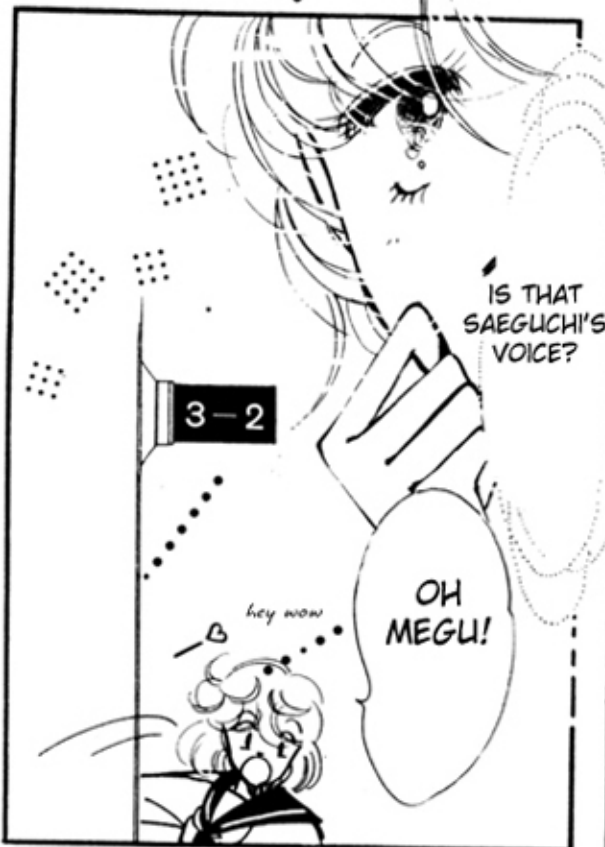
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO RAIN



whoosh ♪

3-2

wahh ♪
hahahah ♪



IS THAT SAEGUCHI'S VOICE?

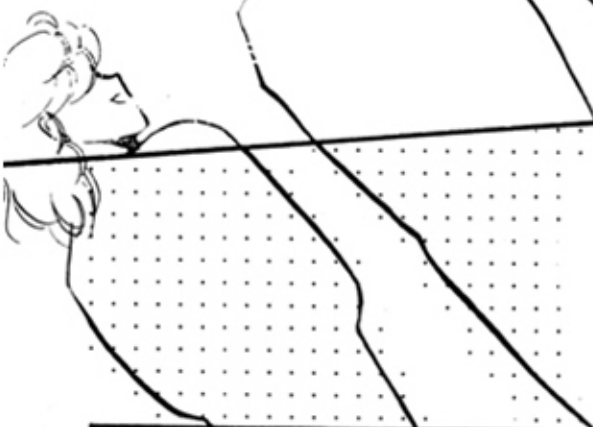




A DATE?!

IS IT TRUE YOU WENT ON A DATE WITH SAEGUCHI YESTERDAY?

WHAT?!



OH, YESTERDAY?



TAKA WENT ON A DATE, GROSS!

I HEARD THAT THE GIRL IS ASHIZAWA FROM OUR CLASS!

LIGH

SO WHAT

YOU GUYS WERE BY YOURSELVES

tee hee



YOU CAN SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT BUT WE SAW YOU TOGETHER AT THE PLAZA YESTERDAY!



I KNEW IT!

IT WASN'T A DATE!

OH TAKA, WHY ARE YOU EMBARRASSED?

BOYS ARE GROSS!



YEAH, YOU GUYS HAD TO STAND TOGETHER IN THE HALL

THAT'S RIGHT MEGU. AND YOU ONLY WERE TALKING TO SAEGAWA BECAUSE HE WAS YOUR PARTNER THE OTHER DAY

MEGU, YOU AND SAEGAWA HAVE ONLY TALKED A LITTLE, RIGHT?



YOU SHOULD JUST LET HIM KNOW IT WASN'T A DATE

EVEN SAEGAWA IS LIKE THAT

BOYS ALWAYS WANT TO KEEP CLOSE AFTER THAT KIND OF STUFF



RIGHT MEGU ?



IT'S NOT LIKE THAT

I DON'T EVEN KNOW ANY OF THE GIRLS IN THE CLASS THAT WELL YET, GOOD JOB TAKA

THAT'S RIGHT.



MEGU?



WHAT WOULD I WANT TO DO THAT WITH HER FOR!



WE WERE ONLY PARTNERS FOR TWO DAYS

beep beep

IT WASN'T LIKE THAT!

WE ONLY WENT TO THE RACES TOGETHER

JEAZ



LET GO OF ME

!

M-MEGU?!



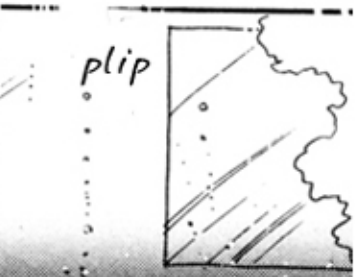
dash



ASHI-ZAWA!

LET

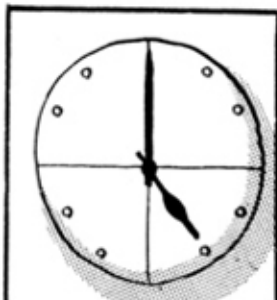
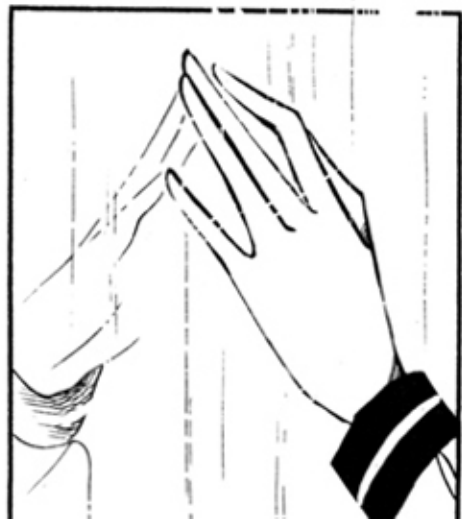
UGH



plip

plip

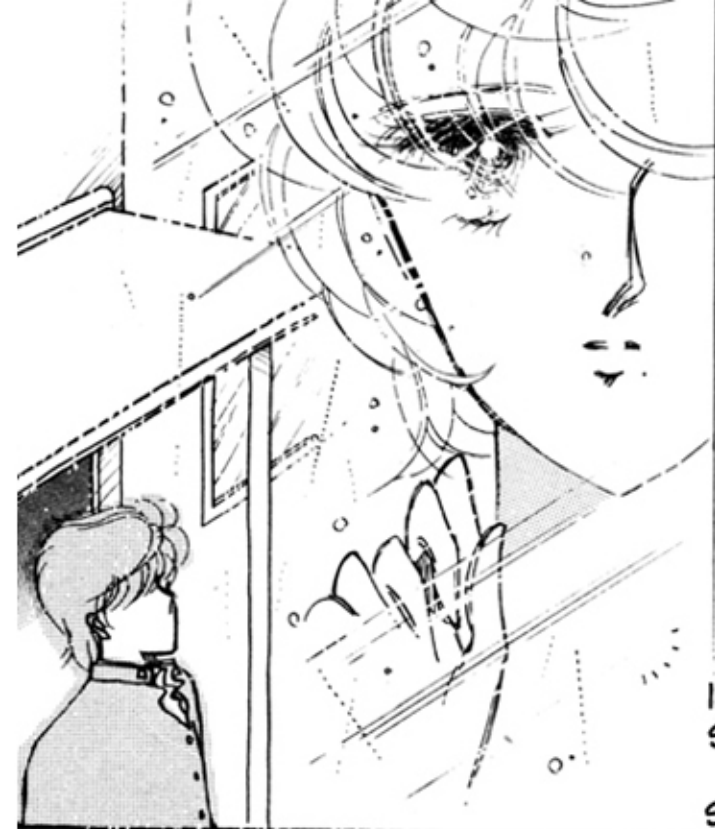
pour



tick tock

pour

pour



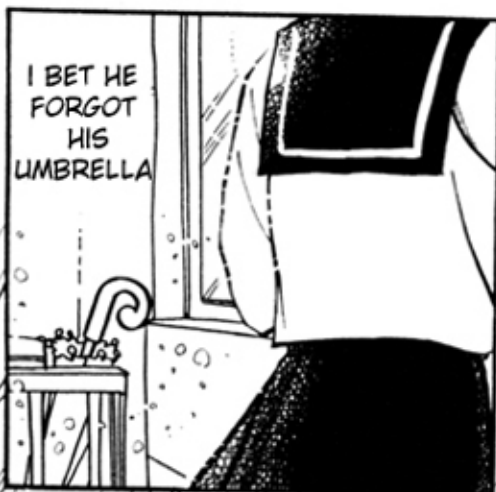
I WONDER IF
SOMEONE IS
CRYING
SOMEWHERE



RAINY
DAYS ARE
ALWAYS A
LITTLE
LONELY



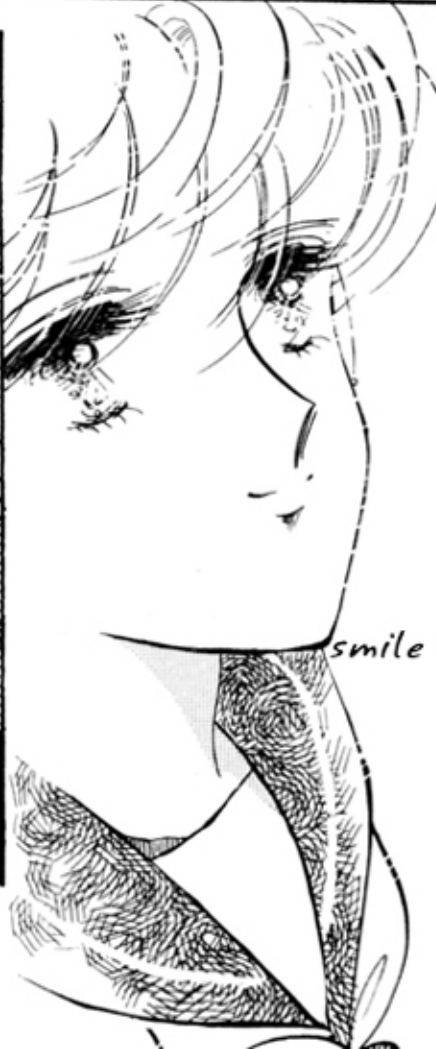
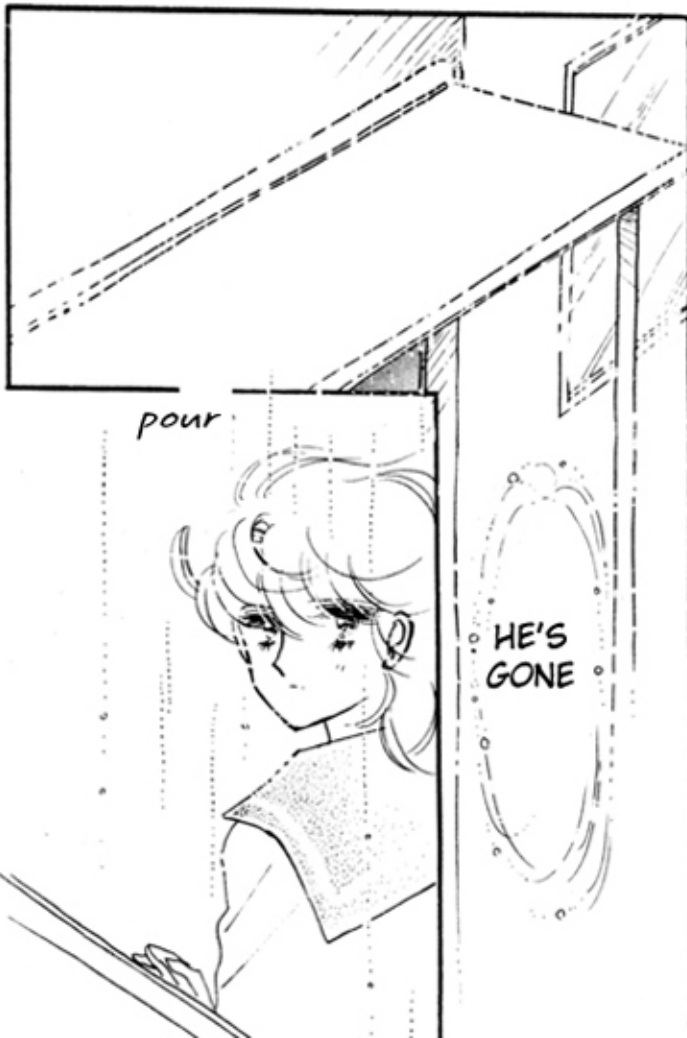
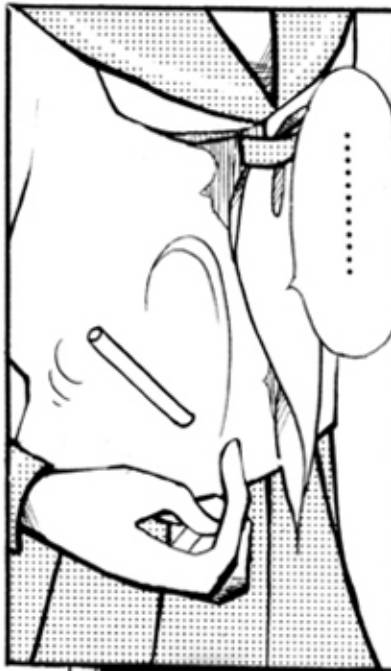
IS THAT
SAEGUCHI?




I BET HE
FORGOT
HIS
UMBRELLA



HE
HASN'T
GONE
HOME
YET





BUT IT'S TRUE. SINCE
WE'RE JUST
ORDINARY PARTNERS,
OF COURSE THAT'S
HOW HE FEELS
ABOUT ME



WHAT
WOULD I
WANT

pour

THERE'S NO
REASON TO
FEEL LONELY
ABOUT THAT



ME




KISS

KISS ME



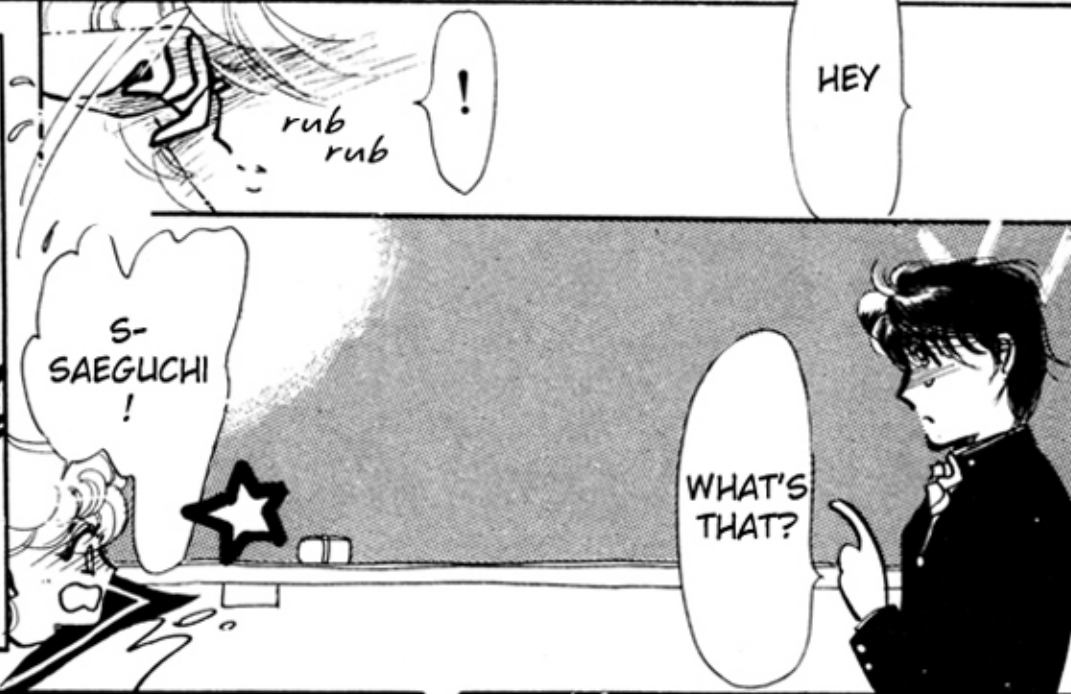
I DREAM, I
WANT YOU
TO SAY YOU
LIKE ME
BACK

WHENEVER



UNREQUITED
LOVE HURTS
SO MUCH

I WANT YOU TO
WANT TO KISS
ME



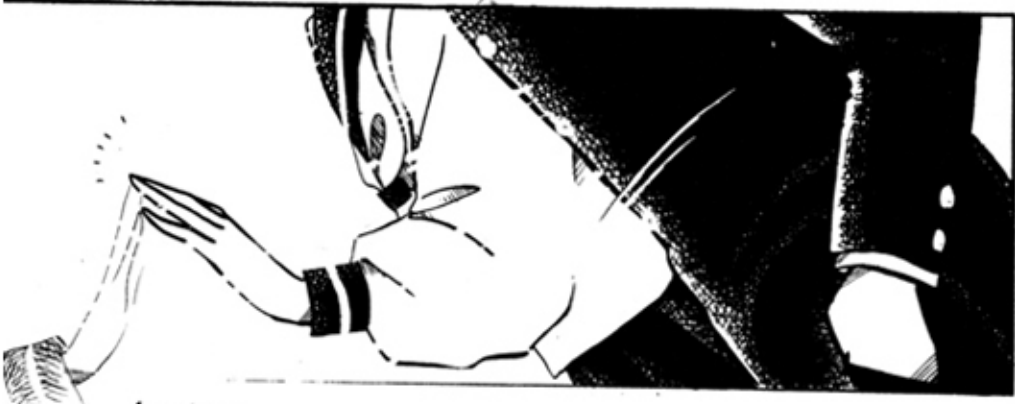


I WAS
WATCHING
THE RAIN



PLAYING
AROUND

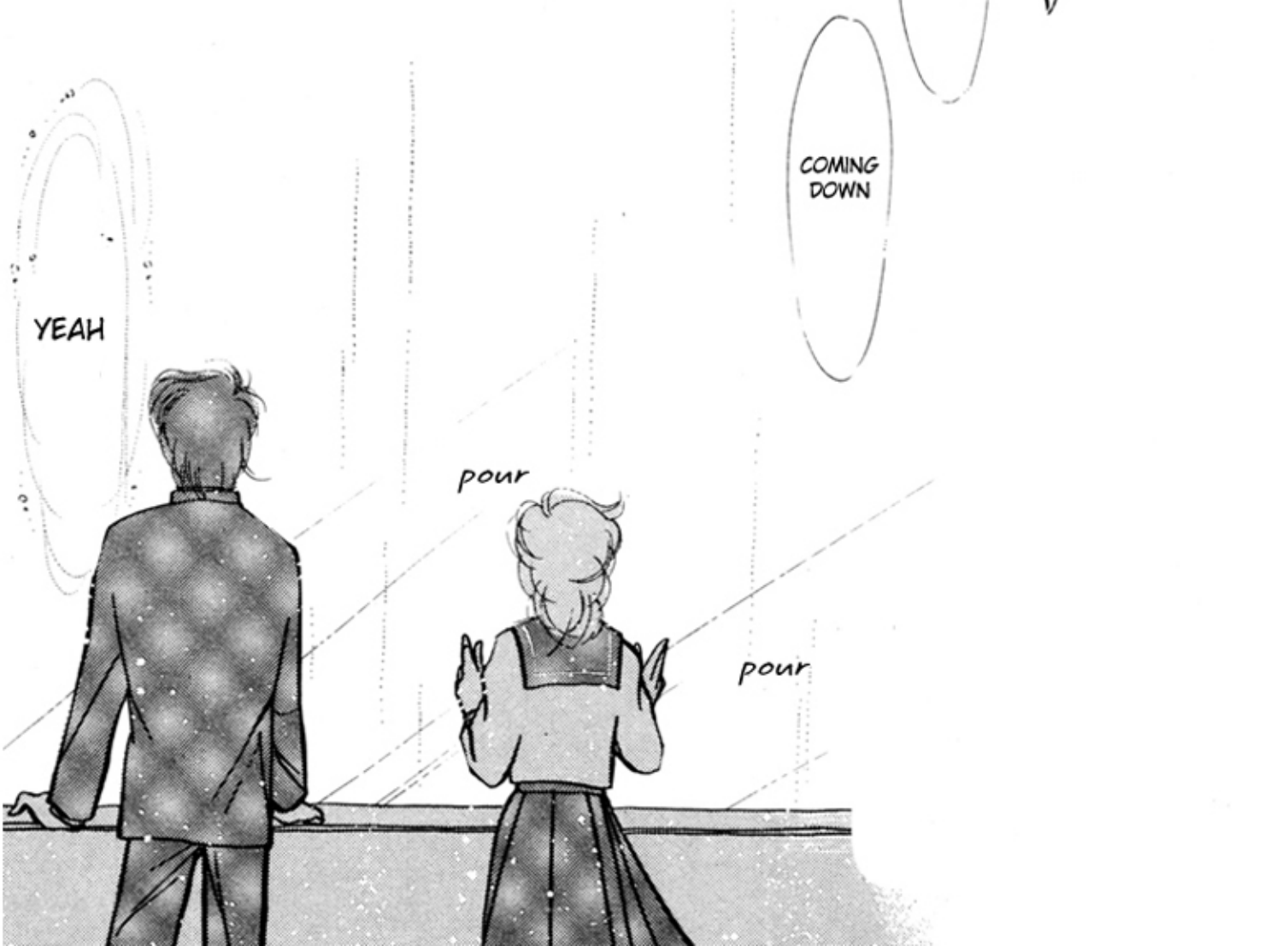
AND
YOU
?



badum



IT'S
REALLY



YEAH

COMING
DOWN

pour

pour



NOW
WE'VE
BEEN
PARTNERS
THREE
TIMES

badum
badum
badum



fwish

badum



I'M
GOING
HOME



ASHI-
ZAWA



.....



rub

turn

I DIDN'T SIT
NEXT TO YOU
TO PLAY A
GAME

THAT
TIME

REMEMBER THAT
TIME WE HAD TO
GO STAND IN
THE HALL
TOGETHER

BUT
ACTUALLY
BECAUSE

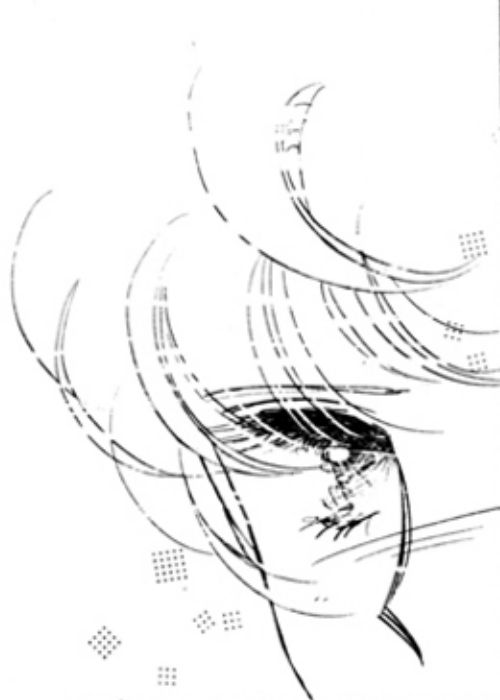


HEY,
SAEGUCHI
!

BYE


MIND

NEVER





THIS



fwish



BYE


ISN'T A DREAM



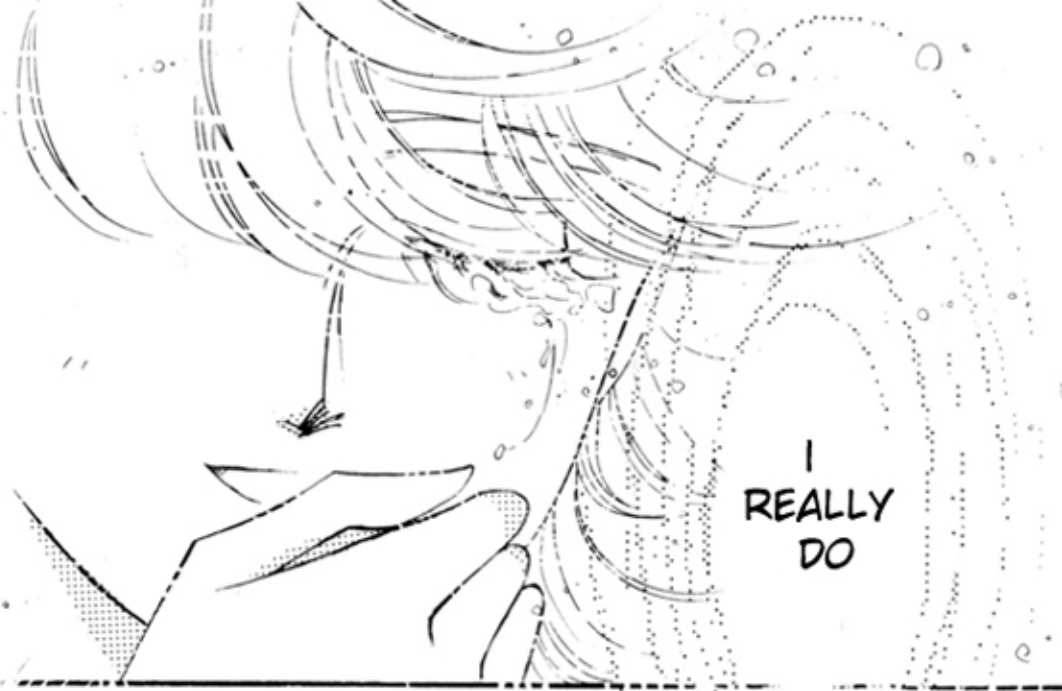
I'LL BE IN IT

I'LL BE IN IT

I REALLY



LIKE YOU



I
REALLY
DO



blush

BUT
THAT
THE
TRUTH
WAS



HUH?

THAT YOU
WEREN'T
SITTING NEXT
TO ME TO
PLAY A GAME

HEY, WHAT
WERE YOU
GOING TO
SAY THE
OTHER
DAY?

SOMEDAY...
SOMEHOW...
MAYBE WE'LL
BE
TOGETHER
AGAIN, ON
THE
RACEWAY

★★THE END★★



This Isn't a Dream, Right?

Oh no! Don't look, don't look! I wrote this when I was 18 years old (a senior in high school). This work was published before my official debut, and I won a silver medal for it from the Nakayoshi comics school. My teacher from Nakayoshi Deluxe lost my original manuscript for this, and so this was published from a copy. I was shocked! I was living in a college dorm at the time, and I found out I was being published back then. I have such great memories of receiving my first 50 fan letters and being so touched by them!

For my debut work I used my real name. Tacchan will forever be my model for all the adolescent boy characters I write about. He's the boy who was my partner when I entered middle school. He used to let me borrow his boys comics, like *Cyborg 009*, *Susume!! Pirates*, *Kibun wa Groovy*, comics about bikes, and then he introduced me to the works of Adachi Mitsuru and Kagami Akira. I even got interested in anime thanks to Tacchan!

He was also interested in remote control cars, so I once bought an RC magazine for him. I remember going to the RC races in Tamiya at Tokai University Kofu High School a 10 minute walk from my grandmother's house. I tried to sneak there. (Even though I got caught a lot). Oh, this makes me feel so sentimental. We didn't even hold hands. (Well maybe we did sometimes.) Even though our actual relationship was really innocent, I used to think dirty thoughts like, "I wish he would kiss me!" That's awful! Tee hee. On the bottom of the cover piece are lyrics from the song "Waiting for a Girl Like You" by Foreigner. That was on a mix tape Tacchan gave me. I loved that song.

Well this is it for my collection of one-shot comics. Thank you so much for reading it. When I look back at my original works, I want to draw something like this again. But right now, as of April 1997, I seem to be permanently on vacation to hot springs, go to cherry blossom viewings, and stuff like that. (I feel like an old man!) Last week I went to a party held by the designer Anna Sui. She and I swapped addresses. This year I haven't worn any dresses that weren't designed by Anna. I also bought a bunch of antique lamps, because I had thought I was going to move, and now my house is filled with lights. But I don't think I'll be moving for a long time, maybe sometime in the distant future. Yup. And I've also enrolled in a sports club! I even go to the pool. I also bought a new car with my old one as a trade-in. haha. So that's all that I've been up to.

Kana-P was in charge of staff working on the restoration for this compilation. Thank you so much! While working on this book, the Lima hostage crisis was resolved. I was so worried. I'm relieved it's all over. That being said, everyone on staff was really addicted to the gay drama *Saruganseki* - we couldn't help but laugh during the crisis!

Thanks again for reading all the way to the end. If you ever want to send me your thoughts, please do. Let's see each other again somewhere soon. Until next time!

1997. 4. 25. Naoko Takemura

♥「KCなかよし」は、「なかよし」に掲載された作品を中心に、すぐれた作品をえらんで、つぎつぎにおおくりします。

♥いままであなたがお読みになつた少女まんがの中で、いちばん印象にのこっている作品、もう一どまとめて読みたい作品がありましたら、おしらせくださいませんか。

♥また、この本を読んだご感想・ご意見などもおきかせねがえれば、たいへんうれしく思います。

＝あて先＝
東京都文京区音羽二丁目十二番二十一号
〈郵便番号一〇二一〇一〉
講談社 なかよし編集部
「KCなかよし」係

本書の無断複写(コピー)は著作権法上での例外を除き、禁じられています。

N.D.C. 726 191p 18cm

講談社コミックスなかよし 八六五巻

プリズムタイム②

1997年6月6日 第1刷発行
(定価はカバーに表示してあります)

著者 武内直子

発行者 山野勝

発行所 株式会社 講談社



東京都文京区音羽二丁目十二番二十一号
(郵便番号一〇二一〇一)
編集部 東京03(五三九五)三四八〇
KC販売部 東京03(五三九五)三六〇八
印刷所 廣濟堂印刷株式会社
製本所 株式会社 堅省堂

落丁本・乱丁本は、小社雑誌業務部宛にお送りください。送料小社負担にてお取替します。
(電話03-5395-3603)
なお、この本についてのお問い合わせは、なかよし編集部宛にお願いいたします。

©武内直子 一九九七年