

PRETTY SOLDIER  
SAILORMOON

CASABLANCA  
MEMORIES

*Photo  
to  
293.9.22*

## "Casablanca Memories"

while working on this story, I used to go to this restaurant at the Shiba Park Hotel with the anime voice actresses for some after-work refreshments. (Now, I don't really go there anymore. Sad.) Anyway, next to the restaurant there were these beautiful white blooms out in front of a flower shop, and Mitsuishi Kotono, the voice actress for Sailor Moon, exclaimed, "Wow! What beautiful lillies!"

Suddenly, Sailor Sars' voice actress, Tomizawa Michie, piped up: "Shose are called Casablanca Lillies. They're my all time favorite. Aren't they just lovely?" It was at that moment I decided I would make rei's favorite flower be the Casablanca Lilly, and the title of this short story was born.

Anyway, this story is a bit nostalgic, since it takes place when rei is first getting to know Usagi and the others. A lot of the story is mature and was modeled after Tomizawa Michie's image. So to me, this story is especially sentimental and something I looked forward to writing

I hope that it will end up being on TV in animated form, someday, like a few of the other short stories which became so popular. Also, Zoisite makes a small appearance in this one. Enjoy that! The Four Generals are still such popular characters, even though they haven't been on TV or in the series for a while, so I thought I'd revisit them a bit while the opportunity was presented.

Boy, I sure do hope they make this short story into an animation!



— April 17th

Rustle

HINO REI!



HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY!





PLEASE READ THIS

REI, I SEE YOU ON THE BUS EVERYDAY

MY COUSIN GOES TO T.A. ACADEMY WITH YOU, AND SHE TOLD ME WHEN YOUR BIRTHDAY WAS



BYE!

I THOUGHT ABOUT IT FOR A LONG TIME, AND I'VE DECIDED TO FINALLY GO AHEAD AND GIVE YOU RED ROSES, SINCE THEY ARE PERFECT FOR YOU



OH, I HOPE THAT SOMEDAY I GET A BIG BUNCH OF ROSES FROM A HANDSOME AND MYSTERIOUS MAN LIKE YOU REI!!

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, REI, I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS YOUR BIRTHDAY! YOU NEVER TOLD US!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



♪ BWAHA, I SAW THAT!

WOAH! REI, IT SAYS HERE THAT HE WANTS TO MEET WITH YOU PRIVATELY!!

Yoink

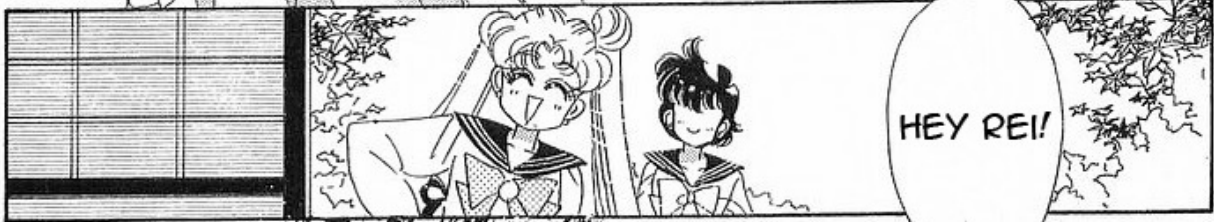






Every year, the same thing...a white dress and flowers

A PRESENT HAS ARRIVED FOR YOU FROM YOUR FATHER

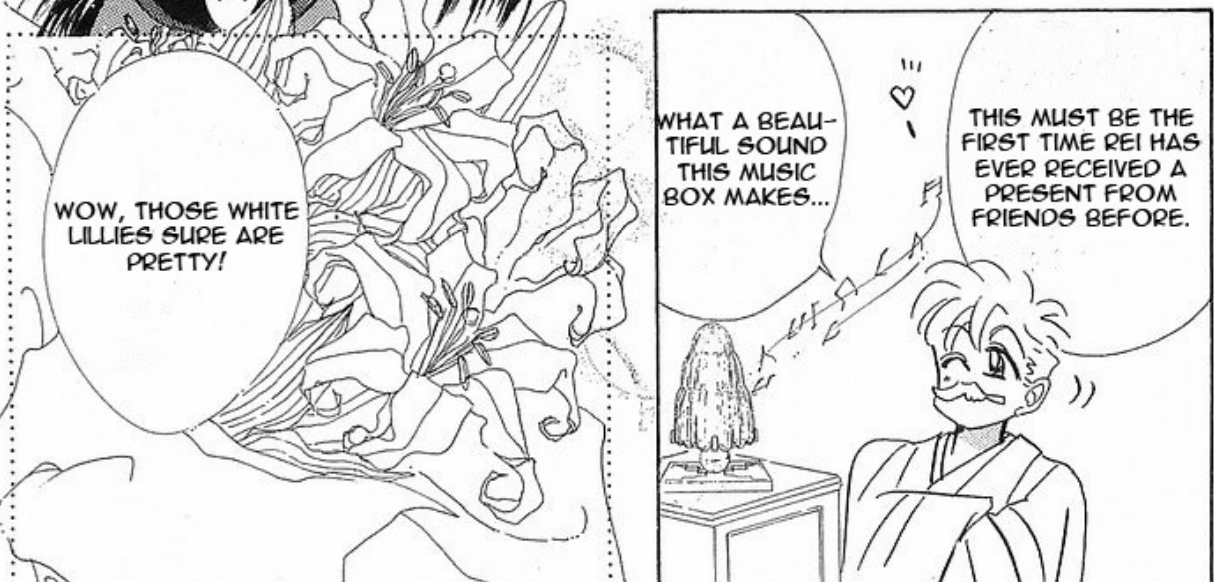


HEY REI!



THANK YOU, I SHALL TREASURE IT.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! WE'VE BROUGHT A PRESENT FOR YOU!



WOW, THOSE WHITE LILLIES SURE ARE PRETTY!

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SOUND THIS MUSIC BOX MAKES...

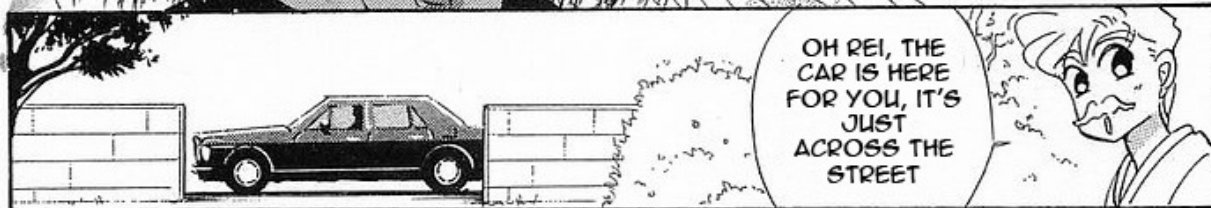
THIS MUST BE THE FIRST TIME REI HAS EVER RECEIVED A PRESENT FROM FRIENDS BEFORE.





THEY'RE MY FAVORITE FLOWER

THESE FLOWERS ARE CALLED CASABLANCAS

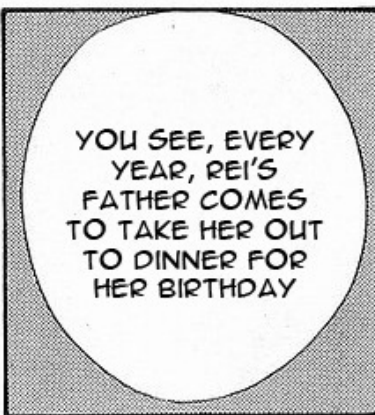


OH REI, THE CAR IS HERE FOR YOU, IT'S JUST ACROSS THE STREET

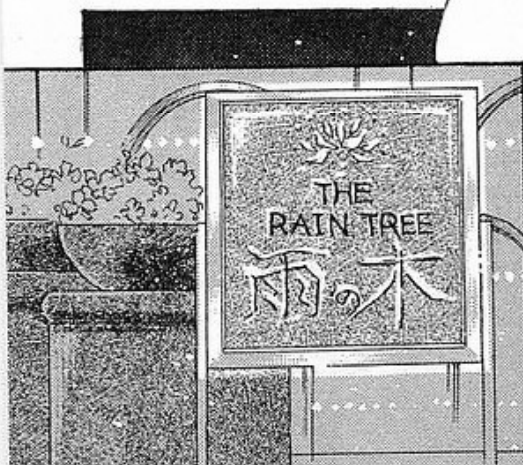


REI'S FATHER IS A VERY BUSY POLITICIAN, AND HE'S RARELY EVER HOME

USUALLY THEY GO AROUND HER BIRTHDAY



YOU SEE, EVERY YEAR, REI'S FATHER COMES TO TAKE HER OUT TO DINNER FOR HER BIRTHDAY



EVER SINCE HER MOTHER DIED, REI HAS HAD A REALLY HARD TIME GETTING ALONG WITH HER FATHER, AND SO SHE CAME TO LIVE AT THE SHRINE WITH ME INSTEAD

REI CAN'T STAND HER FATHER







SIR, REI HAS ARRIVED.



WELCOME, YOUR FATHER IS WAITING JUST OVER THERE FOR YOU.

Thump Thump



That must have been Mr. Kaidou



REI, YOU LOOK SO MUCH LIKE YOUR MOTHER, WEARING THAT WHITE DRESS



Mr. Kaidou...



IT'S ASTONISHING HOW SIMILAR YOU LOOK

IT SURE HAS BEEN A WHILE SINCE THE LAST TIME WE'VE SEEN EACH OTHER. YOU REALLY DO LOOK LIKE YOUR MOTHER.



SIR, REI HAS ARRIVED.



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REI, YOU LOOK SO MUCH LIKE YOUR MOTHER, WEARING THAT WHITE DRESS



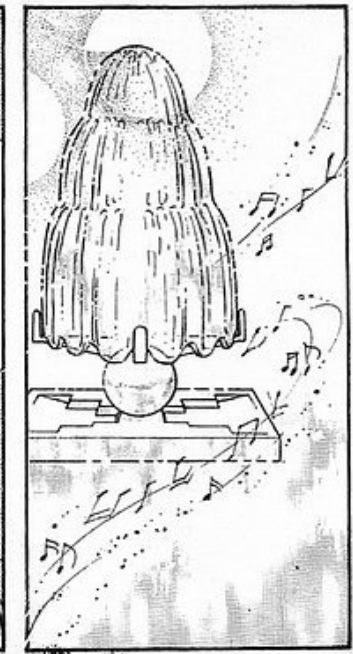
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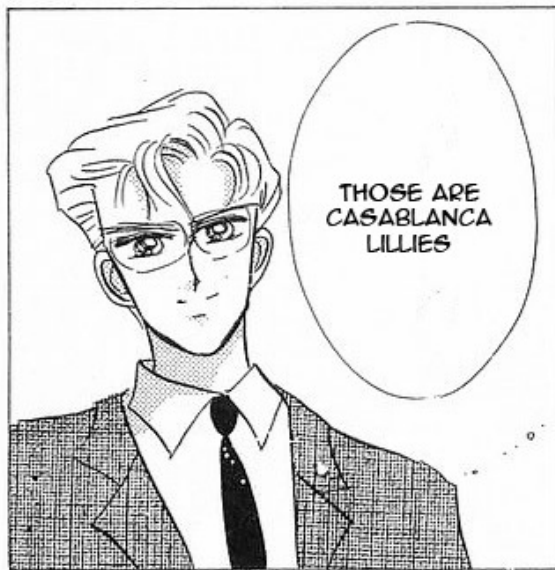






ONCE AGAIN IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY REI, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE FOR YOUR SPECIAL DAY?

When I was young, he used to come and visit us at home a lot, and even after mama died, he still came to the shrine from time to time to check up on me. In a way, he's always been like a big brother to me, always so kind and understanding...



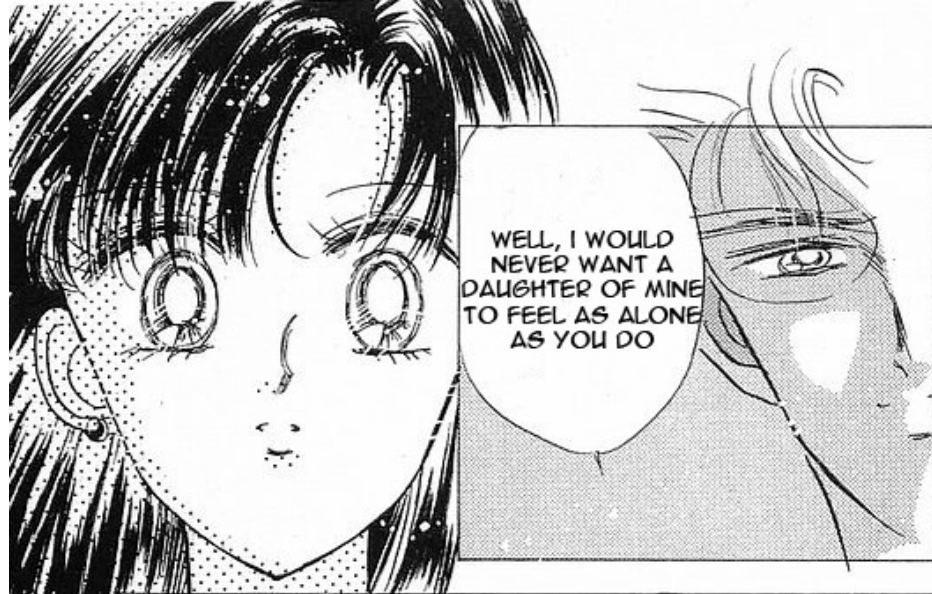
THOSE ARE CASABLANCA LILLIES



OH WOW... WHAT ARE THOSE HUGE WHITE LILLIES? THEY'RE SO BEAUTIFUL...



AND I THINK THE WHITE ONES SUIT YOU ESPECIALLY WELL, REI



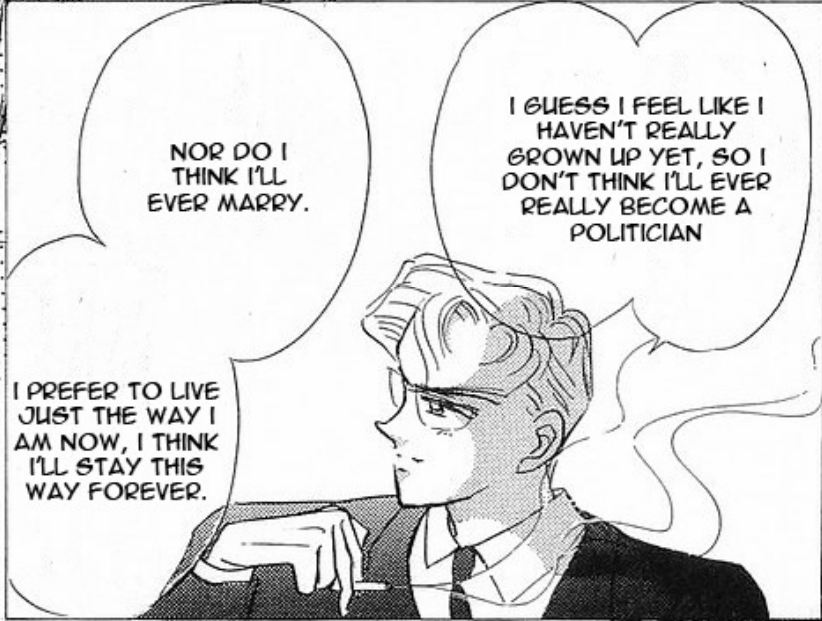
WELL, I WOULD NEVER WANT A DAUGHTER OF MINE TO FEEL AS ALONE AS YOU DO



YOU'RE PROBABLY GOING TO FOLLOW IN MY FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS AND BECOME A POLITICIAN TOO, RIGHT?

ANYWAY MR. KAIYOU

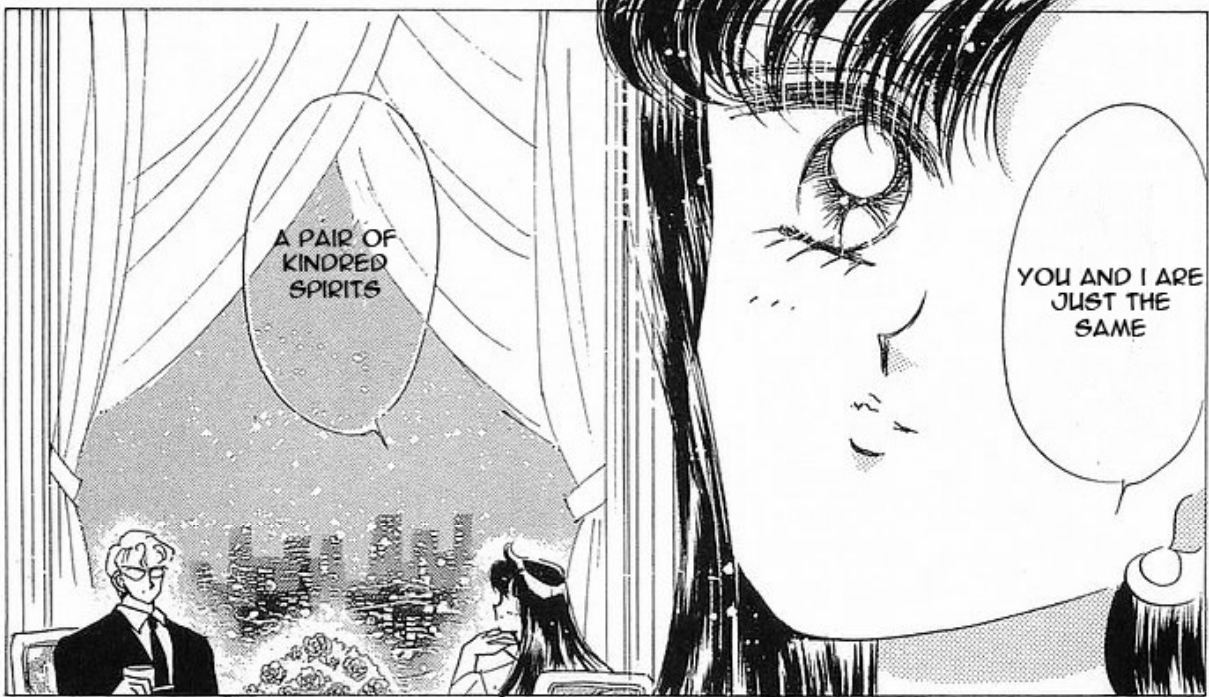
EVERYONE IS SAYING THAT SOMEDAY YOU'LL BECOME HIS REPLACEMENT



NOR DO I THINK I'LL EVER MARRY.

I GUESS I FEEL LIKE I HAVEN'T REALLY GROWN UP YET, SO I DON'T THINK I'LL EVER REALLY BECOME A POLITICIAN

I PREFER TO LIVE JUST THE WAY I AM NOW, I THINK I'LL STAY THIS WAY FOREVER.



A PAIR OF KINDRED SPIRITS

YOU AND I ARE JUST THE SAME

Even though...I just wanted  
to forget about them.

shake shake

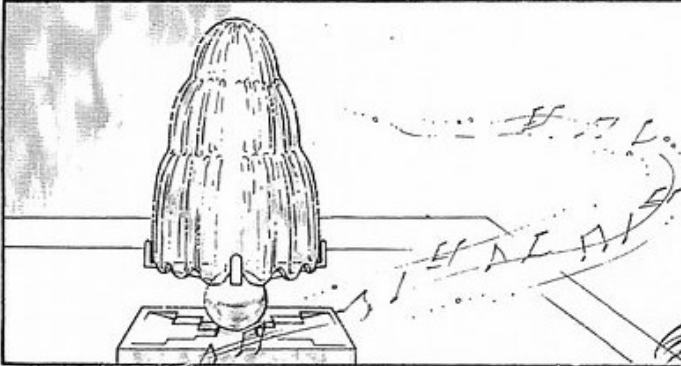


It's been such a long time since  
i last saw Mr. Kaidou near that  
florist shop, I guess seeing him  
again is bringing back old  
memories.



Shine

Chirp Chirp



A 'Rain Tree', huh.



JUNE

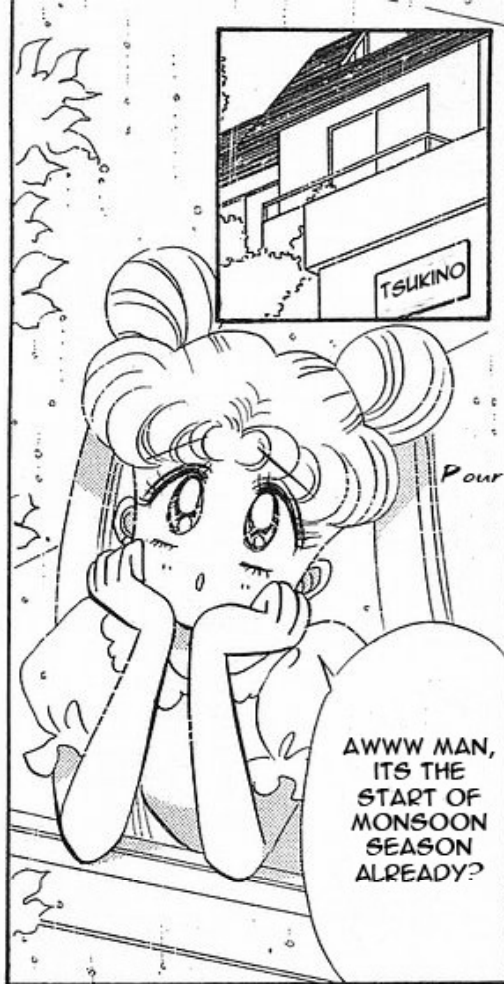


Fwish

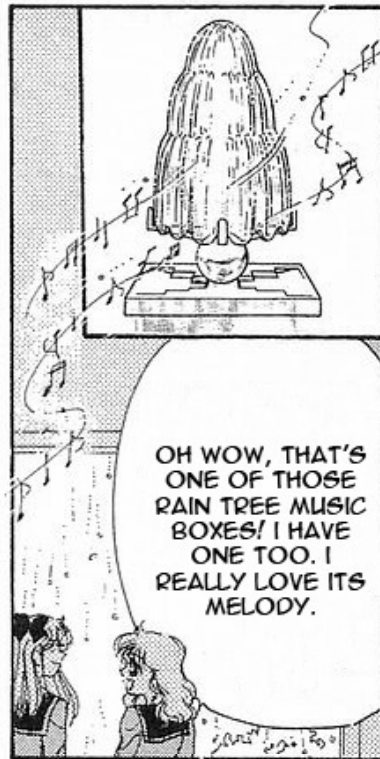
Ugh, I just can't concentrate  
today, the fire is all mixed up,  
just like my emotions



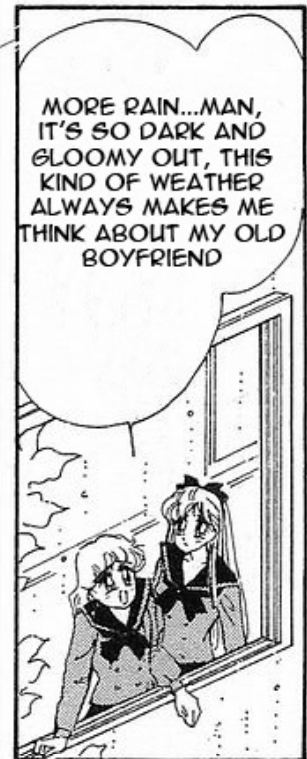




AWWW MAN, ITS THE START OF MONSOON SEASON ALREADY?



OH WOW, THAT'S ONE OF THOSE RAIN TREE MUSIC BOXES! I HAVE ONE TOO. I REALLY LOVE ITS MELODY.



MORE RAIN...MAN, IT'S SO DARK AND GLOOMY OUT, THIS KIND OF WEATHER ALWAYS MAKES ME THINK ABOUT MY OLD BOYFRIEND



Never concentrates on her homework

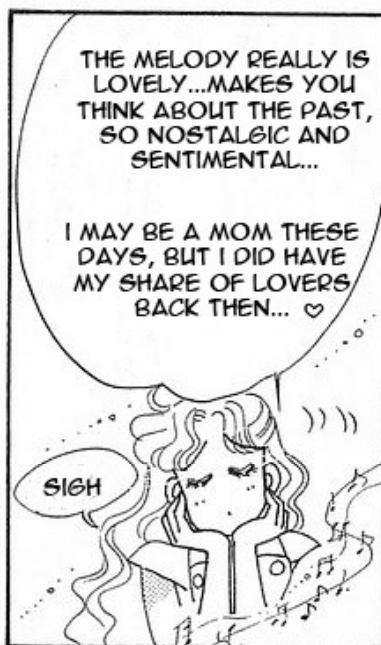
Stare

SIGH

IN TIMES LIKE THIS, I JUST CAN'T CONCENTRATE ON MY HOMEWORK...



MONSOON SEASON, EH? DOES MONSOON SEASON USUALLY MAKE PEOPLE THIS GLOOMY AND SENTIMENTAL?



THE MELODY REALLY IS LOVELY...MAKES YOU THINK ABOUT THE PAST, SO NOSTALGIC AND SENTIMENTAL...

I MAY BE A MOM THESE DAYS, BUT I DID HAVE MY SHARE OF LOVERS BACK THEN... ♡

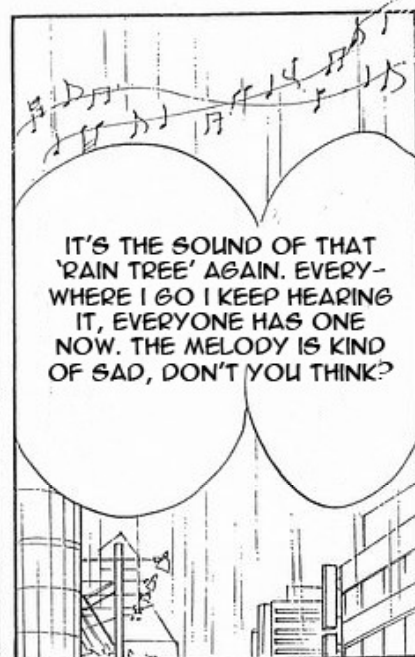
SIGH



WOW, IT LOOKS LIKE JUST ABOUT EVERYONE HAS BOUGHT ONE OF THOSE RAIN TREES LIKE WE GOT FOR REI. THE MUSIC IT MAKES REALLY DOES SUIT THIS SEASON PERFECTLY...



Pour





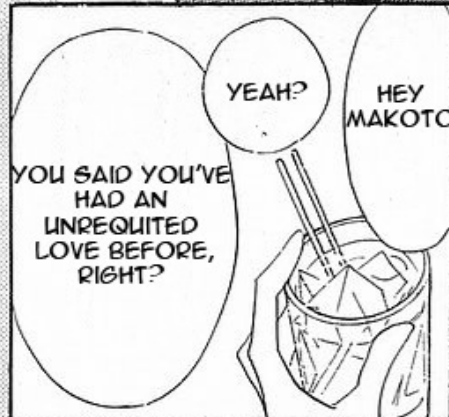
Thump Thump

WHAT A GROWN UP PLACE THIS IS

AH, MISS HINO, WELCOME BACK

SHOULD WE GO INSIDE THIS PLACE FOR A WHILE?

YOU KNOW, COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU AND I HAVE NEVER REALLY HAD A CONVERSATION BEFORE



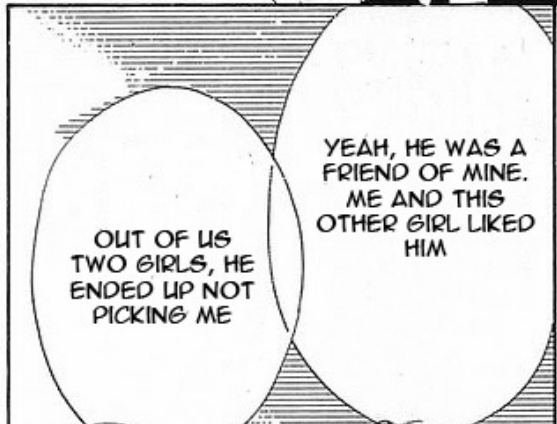
YEAH?

HEY MAKOTO

YOU SAID YOU'VE HAD AN UNREQUITED LOVE BEFORE, RIGHT?



LOOKS LIKE YOU AND I ARE KINDRED SPIRITS



OUT OF US TWO GIRLS, HE ENDED UP NOT PICKING ME

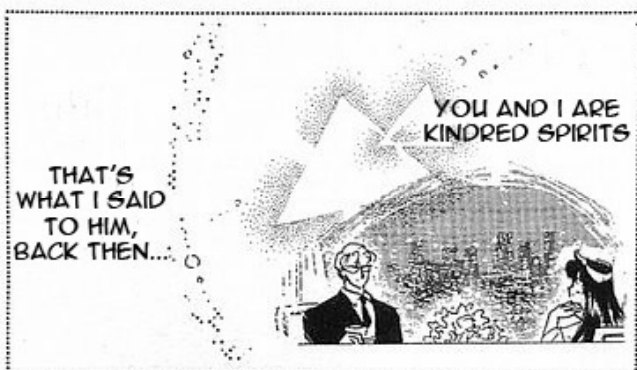
YEAH, HE WAS A FRIEND OF MINE. ME AND THIS OTHER GIRL LIKED HIM



HUH?



I THOUGHT THAT BECAUSE OUT OF THE TWO OF US GIRLS, SINCE I WAS CLOSER TO THE GUY, HE'D PICK ME BUT IT DIDN'T TURN OUT THAT WAY.

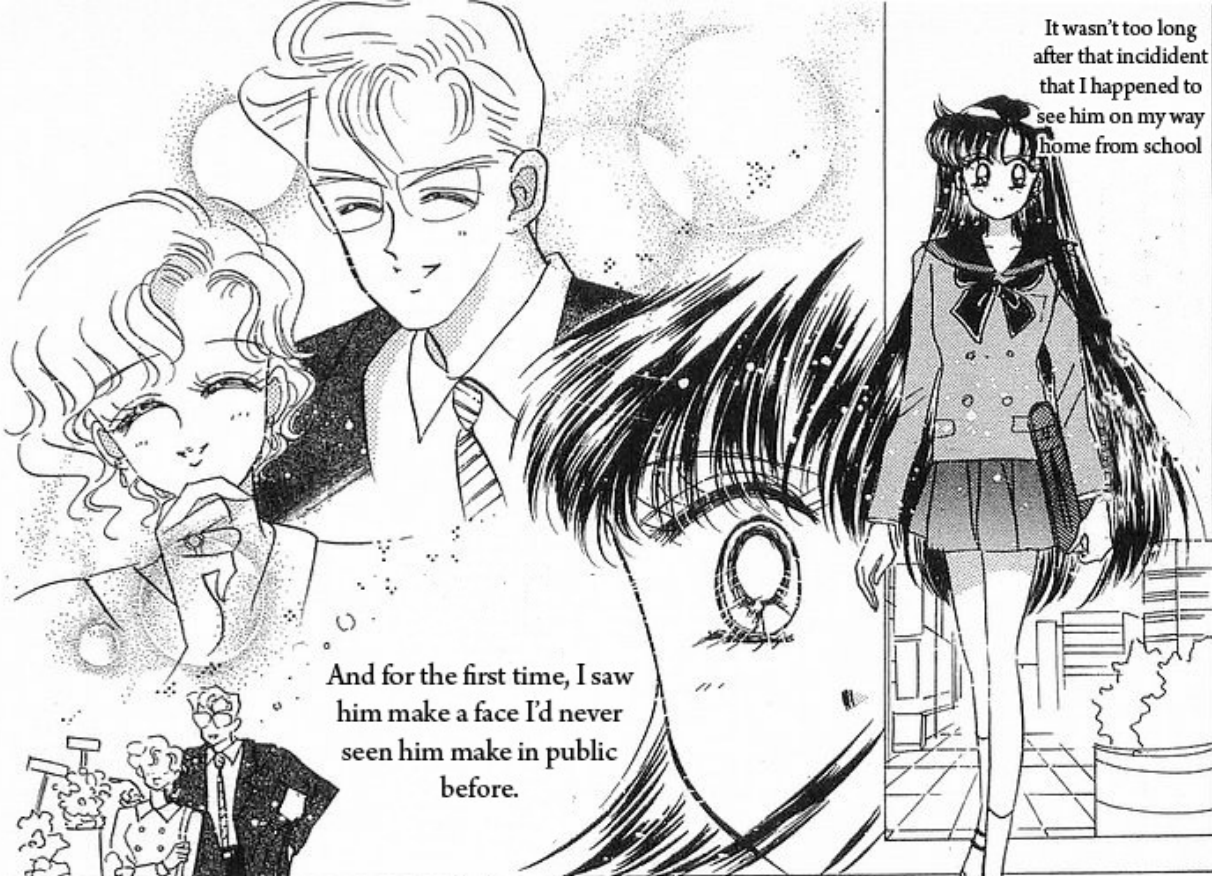


YOU AND I ARE KINDRED SPIRITS

THAT'S WHAT I SAID TO HIM, BACK THEN...



It wasn't too long after that incident that I happened to see him on my way home from school



And for the first time, I saw him make a face I'd never seen him make in public before.

Just then, I suddenly knew exactly what was going on.



MR. KAIDOU?

Because really, he had only ever made that face for me before

I couldn't believe what I was seeing

It was like I didn't know him, the guy who had always made time for me in the past.



HE'S MY NUMBER ONE GUY IN THE NAGATA DISTRICT, SO I HAVE FAITH IN HIM.

I THOUGHT YOU AND HE WERE GETTING TO BE FRIENDS, THAT YOU AND HIM WERE BEGINNING TO REALLY HIT IT OFF.

WHAT ABOUT MR. KAIDOU?

\*NAGATA IS THE NAME OF ONE OF TOKYO'S DISTRICTS, SIMILAR TO MANHATTAN IN NEW YORK CITY

That melody

It's the theme to that movie  
'Casablanca'

HE'S DECIDED  
TO GET  
MARRIED, TOO.  
THE DAUGHTER  
OF THE HEAD  
OF THE  
DEMOCRATIC  
LIBERAL PARTY,  
THE TWO OF  
THEM ARE A  
PERFECT  
MATCH.



You know, in Spanish, the  
word 'Casablanca' means



NOTE: IN THE MOVIE 'CASA-BLANCA', THE PROTAGONIST TELLS HIS TALE IN A HOTEL SETTING, JUST LIKE REI IS HERE. IT IS ALSO SOMETHING OF A SENTIMENTAL LOVE STORY.

\* NOTE: THEY ARE REFERENCING A REAL JAPANESE POLITICAL PARTY, THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, BUT HAVE CHANGED AROUND THE ORDER OF THE WORDS

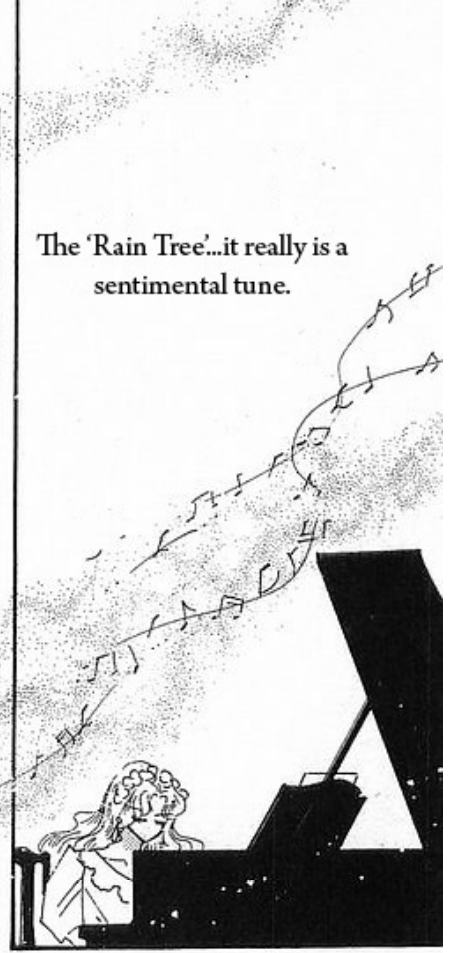


There's just something awful and oppressive about it, maybe it's the lighting...

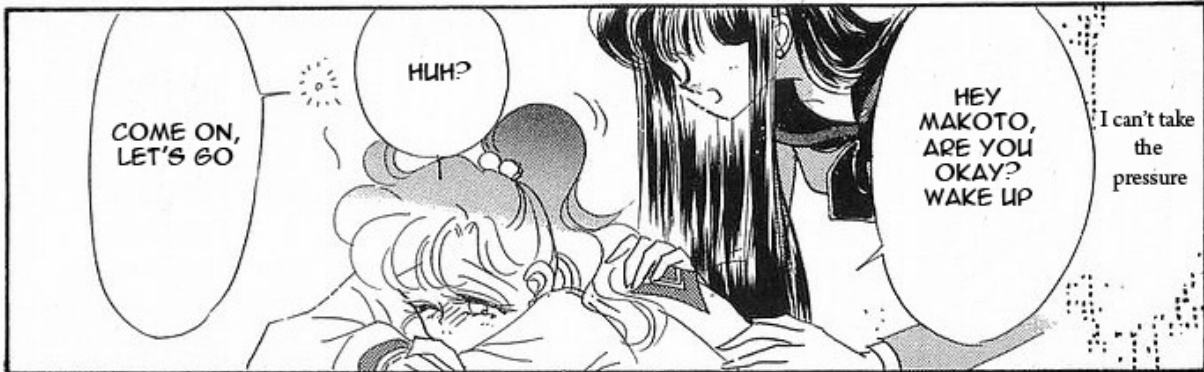
This place is so strange



I wonder why it's making me feel so very melancholy...I really don't understand why I'm feeling this way.



The 'Rain Tree'...it really is a sentimental tune.



COME ON, LET'S GO

HUH?

HEY MAKOTO, ARE YOU OKAY? WAKE UP

I can't take the pressure



SEE YOU LATER, GOODNIGHT!

♡

Weird. I wonder why I felt so stuffy and gross in there?



whew

I feel a bit better now

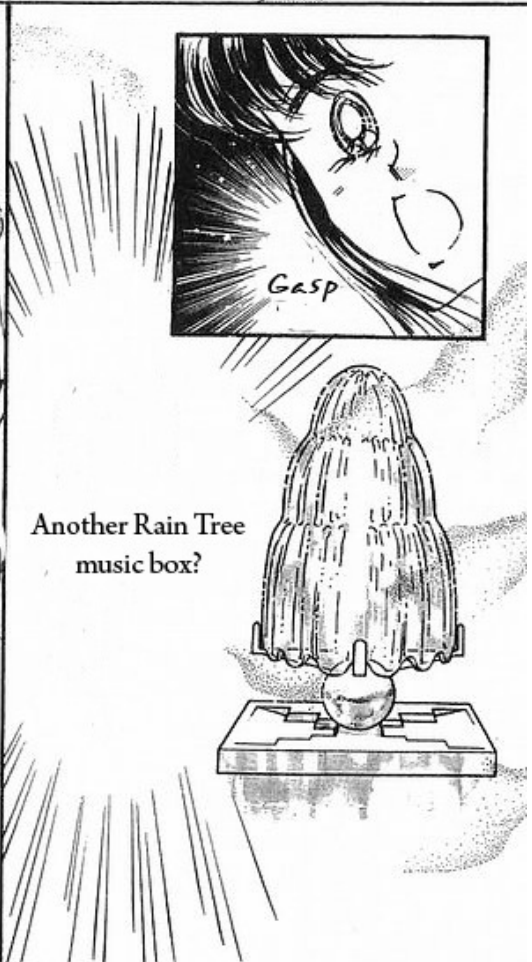


Pour





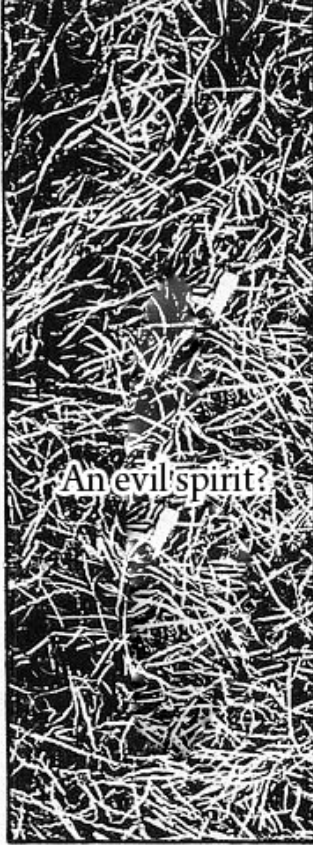
\* IN JAPAN, THE MONSOON SEASON GENERALLY IS DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS AND EVEN DURING RAIN STORMS TEMPERATURES CAN REACH UP TO 90 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT. PRETTY NASTY WEATHER.







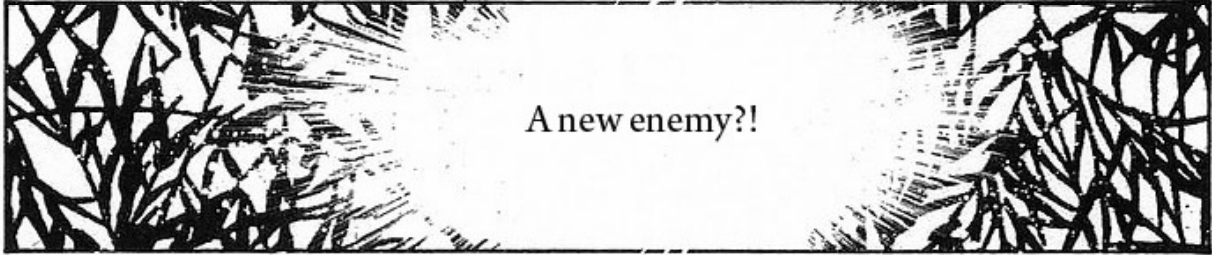
No way! Those rain tree music boxes all over the city are possessed...could this be



An evil spirit?



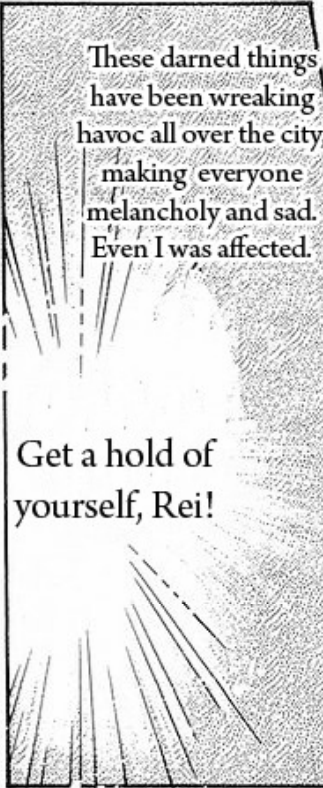
*fwooooosh*



A new enemy?!



**MARS  
POWER**



These darned things have been wreaking havoc all over the city, making everyone melancholy and sad. Even I was affected.

Get a hold of yourself, Rei!



*Gasp*





I WAS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD SO I THOUGHT I'D STOP BY

PHOBOS, DEIMOS, HEY YOU'RE BOTH SOAKING WET



MAKE UP!



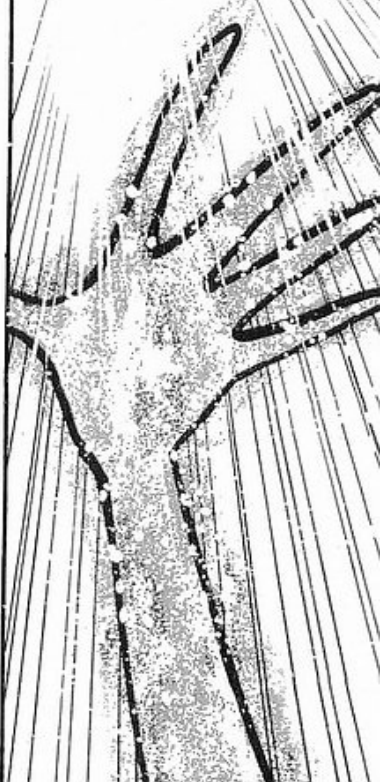
Flower Lilies.  
THIS BOOK THAT I FOUND REALLY IS A WONDERFUL READ

YOUR FATHER ENTRUSTED ME WITH THE TASK OF GIVING THIS TO YOU



AM I STILL JUST A CHILD TO YOU?

WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BRING UP MY FATHER?





SO YOU'RE GOING TO BECOME A POLITICIAN LIKE MY FATHER AFTER ALL, AREN'T YOU?

YOUR FATHER INSTRUCTED ME TO...AND OF COURSE, I COULDN'T REFUSE HIS SUGGESTION.

I HEAR THAT YOU'RE GETTING MARRIED, IS THAT RIGHT?

*Scatter*

*Flutter*

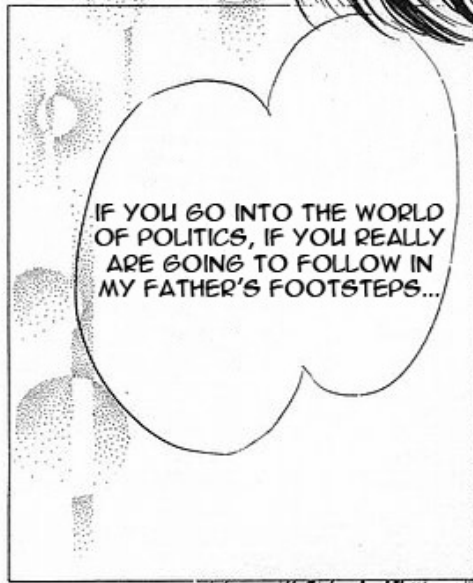


I'LL HAVE ANY KIDS

I DON'T THINK



YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE JUST AS UNHAPPY AS HIS ARE




IF YOU GO INTO THE WORLD OF POLITICS, IF YOU REALLY ARE GOING TO FOLLOW IN MY FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS...

You and I are kindred spirits, aren't we?

LIAR

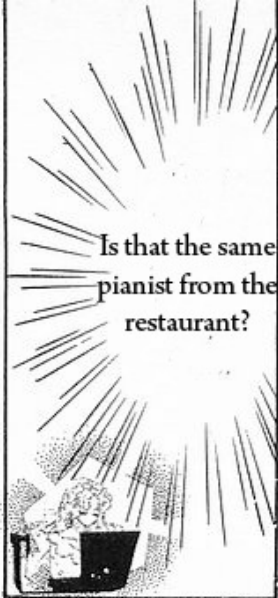




THEN YOU SHOULD  
MARRY ME, AT LEAST  
THAT MUCH WOULD  
MAKE ME HAPPY...







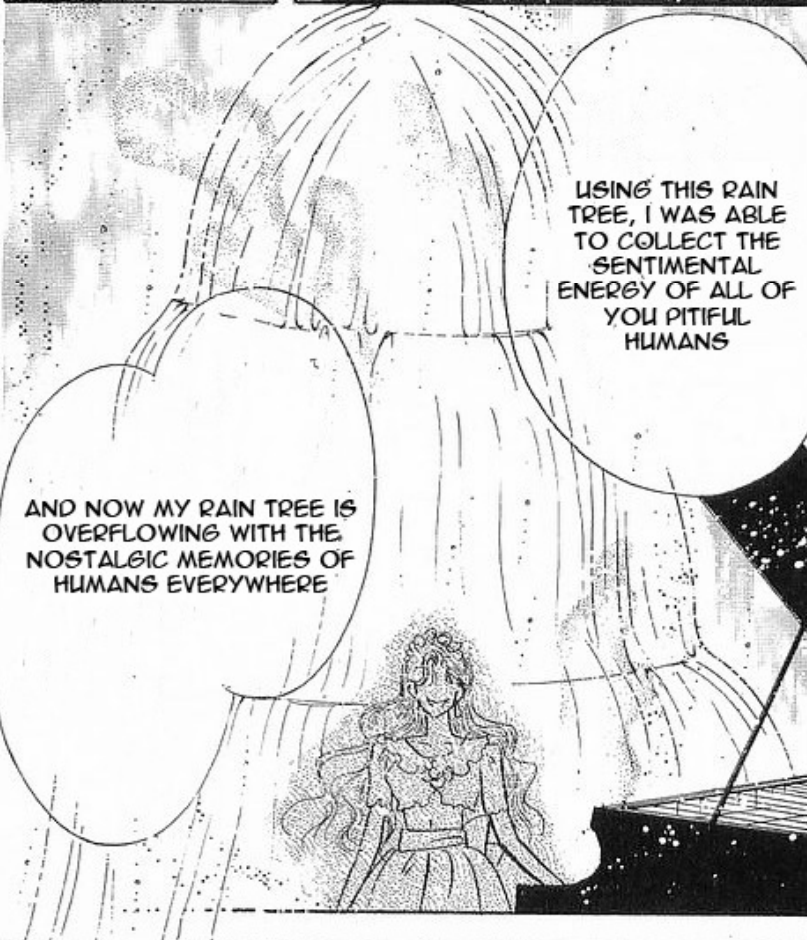
Is that the same pianist from the restaurant?



ISN'T THIS MELODY JUST ENCHANTING?

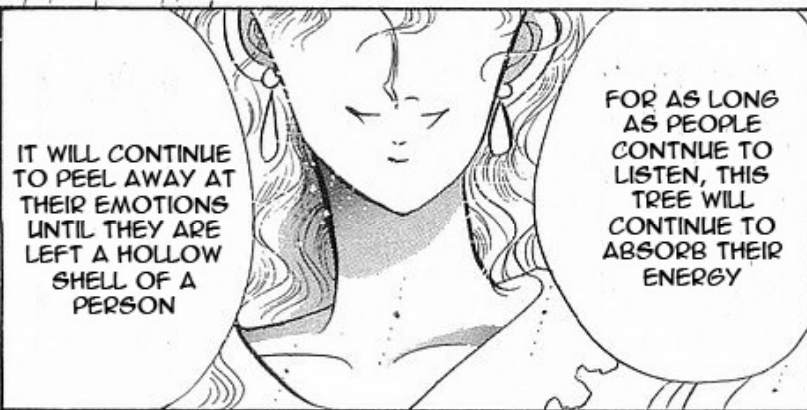


What the heck?!  
What's that gigantic Rain Tree doing here?!



USING THIS RAIN TREE, I WAS ABLE TO COLLECT THE SENTIMENTAL ENERGY OF ALL OF YOU PITIFUL HUMANS

AND NOW MY RAIN TREE IS OVERFLOWING WITH THE NOSTALGIC MEMORIES OF HUMANS EVERYWHERE



IT WILL CONTINUE TO PEEL AWAY AT THEIR EMOTIONS UNTIL THEY ARE LEFT A HOLLOW SHELL OF A PERSON

FOR AS LONG AS PEOPLE CONTINUE TO LISTEN, THIS TREE WILL CONTINUE TO ABSORB THEIR ENERGY





*Fwish*



*Glance*



REI

Mama?!



Ah  
ha  
ha  
ha



ISN'T IT TRUE THAT  
YOU YOURSELF  
CAN'T EVEN  
FORGET YOUR OWN  
PAST?!

YOU KNOW REI,  
THE TRUTH IS, I  
REALLY DO...



STOP CONFUSING  
ME LIKE THIS!



*Gwaaa!*







MANY TREASURES UNITE!  
PURIFY THE SIX ROOTS OF  
PERCEPTION! FLAME, COME  
TO ME!

\* NOTE: THIS IS A  
ROUGH TRANSLATION  
OF A VERY FAMOUS  
'PSYCHIC' SHINTO  
SPELL (一心万宝六根淨  
) THAT MOST SECULAR  
JAPANESE WOULD  
RECOGNIZE



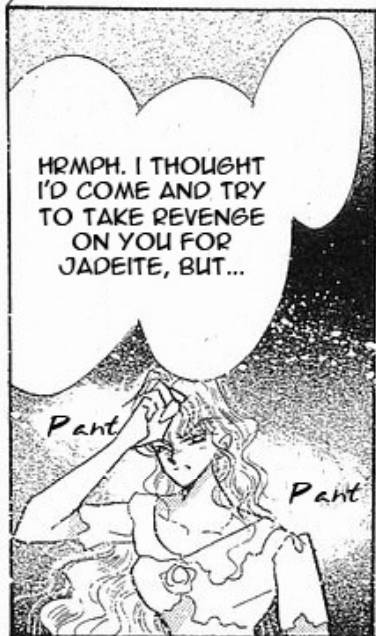
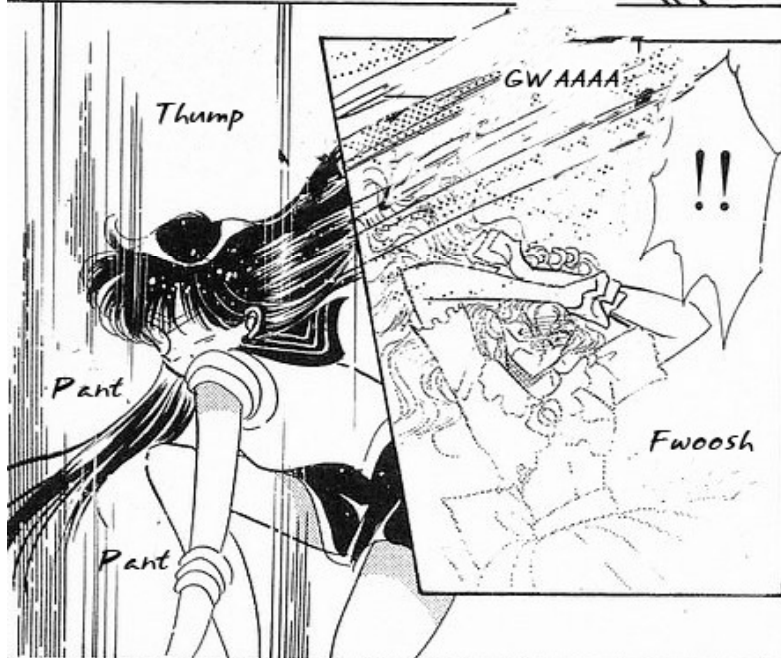
IT IS MY SWORN  
DUTY NOT TO  
DWELL ON MY  
PAST!



PHOBOS!  
DEIMOS!

Caw!

**BAM**





I DON'T WANT TO BECOME THAT KIND OF PERSON

BUT AT THE SAME TIME, WANTING EVERYONE TO FOCUS ONLY ON ME

I'D BE JUST LIKE HIM, PUTTING MY FATE IN THE HANDS OF OTHERS

I BELIEVE THAT IF I WERE EVER TO FALL IN LOVE

MARS!!

SO I WILL MAKE SURE NEVER TO FALL IN LOVE

I HAVE YOU GUYS

ALL OF US HAVE THE SAME OBLIGATION, THE SAME MISSION. WE ARE ALL KINDRED SPIRITS.

FOR NOW, I DON'T NEED TO BE IN LOVE TO GET ALONG





★★ THE END ★★