

# Paper Girls





# Paper Girls 7

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**MATT WILSON** colors

**JARED K. FLETCHER** letters + design

**DEE CUNNIFFE** color flats

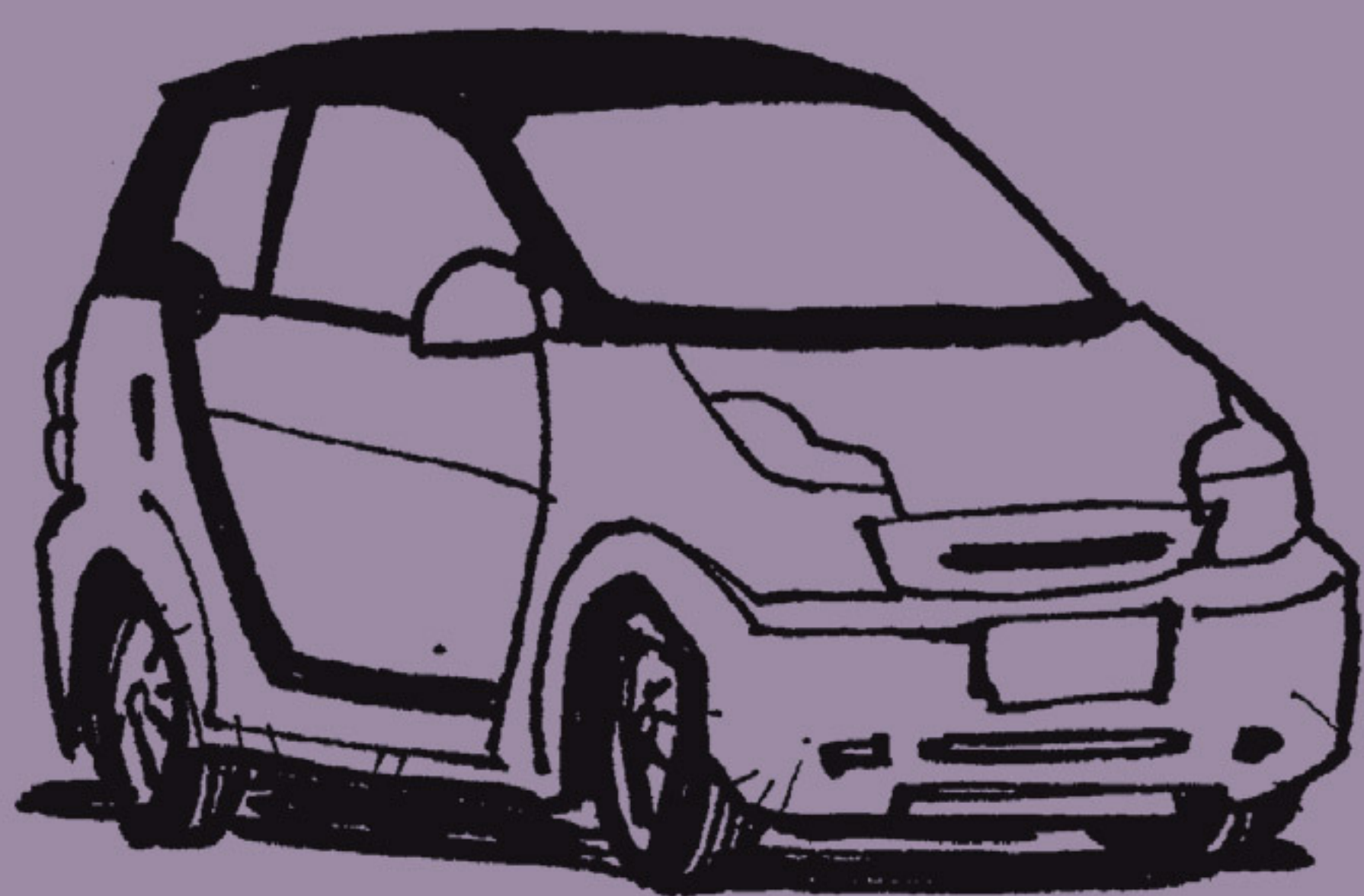


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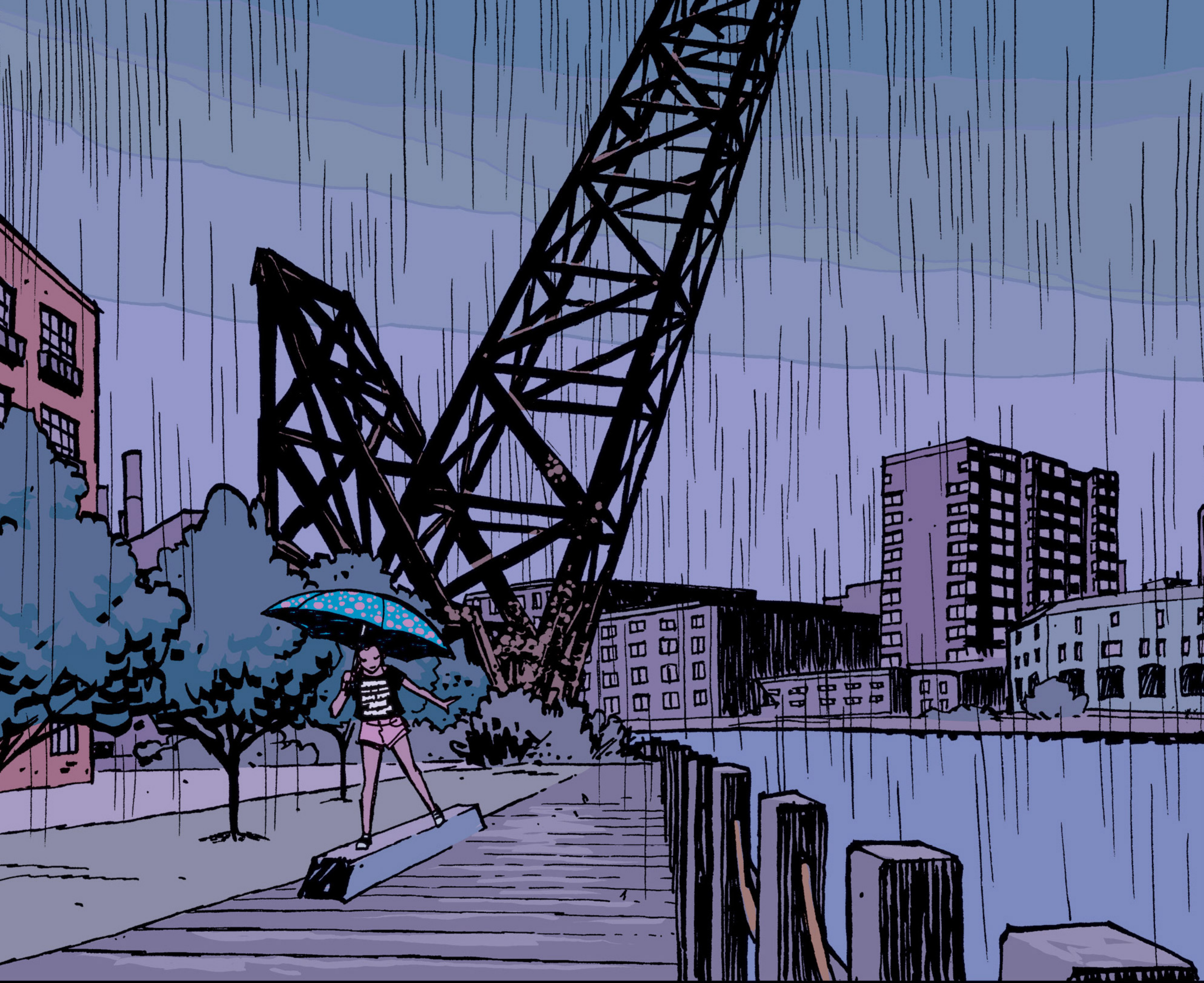


*THE PRESENT IS NOT A GIFT*













아니요, 아니요  
네가 봤어?

Did you  
see it?

There's  
something in  
there! In the  
water!



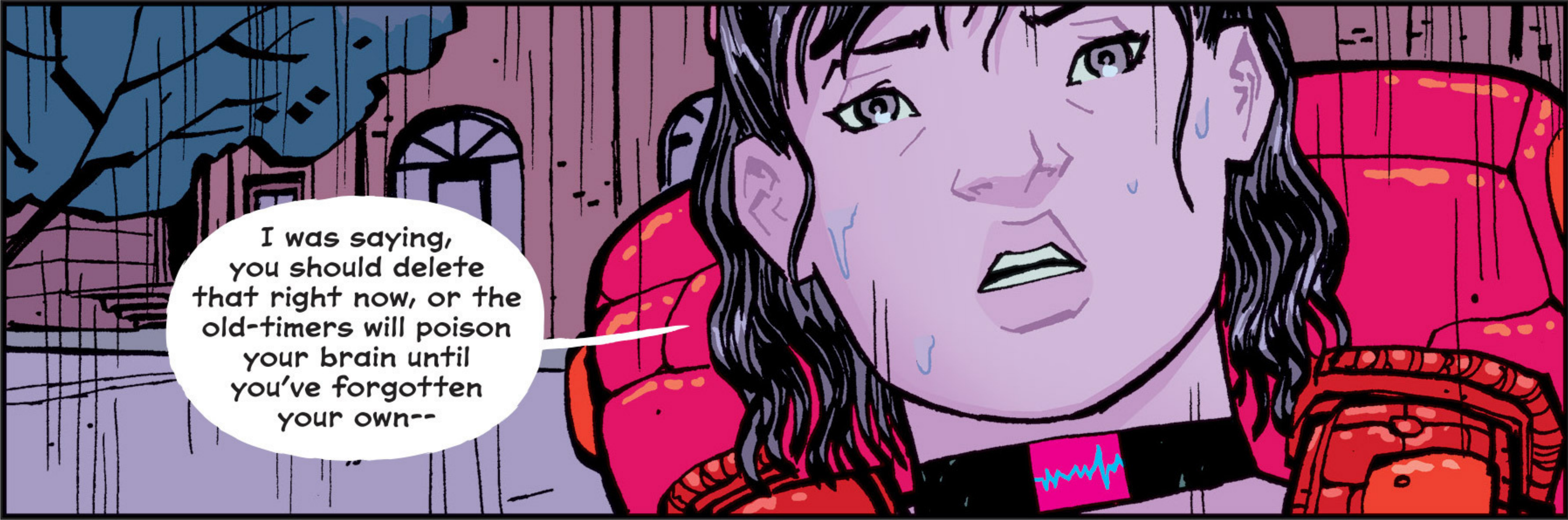
제발, 제발  
말하지 마세요. 제발  
말하지 마세요. 제발  
말하지 마세요.



Sorry,  
I...I don't  
speak that.



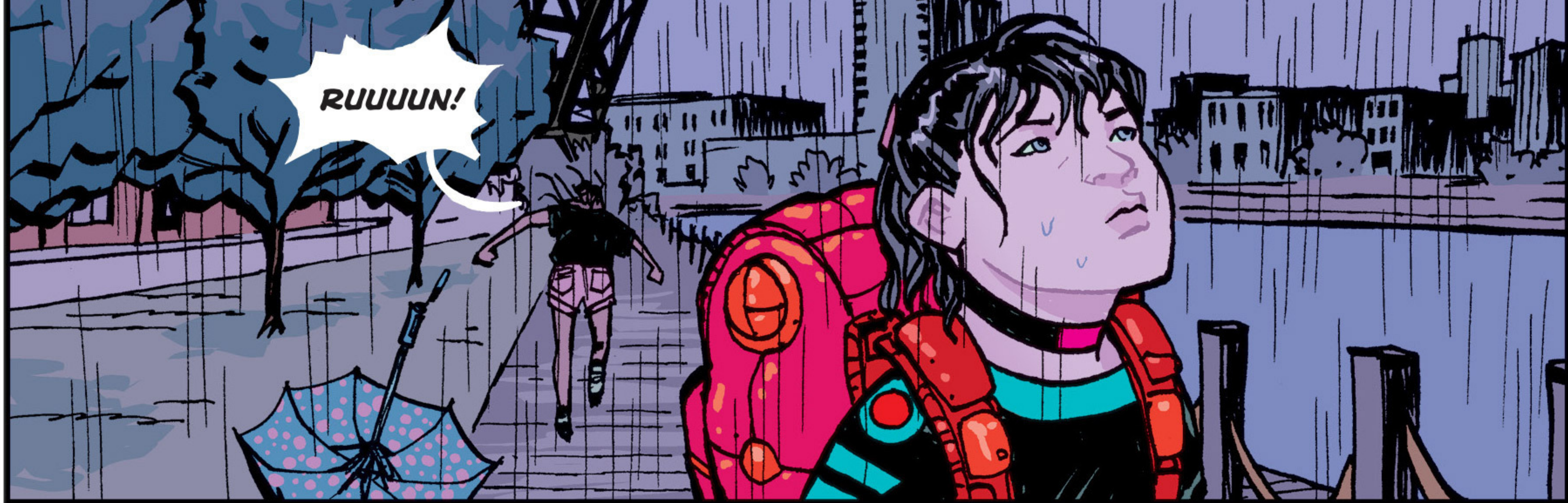
Perfect,  
thanks.



I was saying,  
you should delete  
that right now, or the  
old-timers will poison  
your brain until  
you've forgotten  
your own--





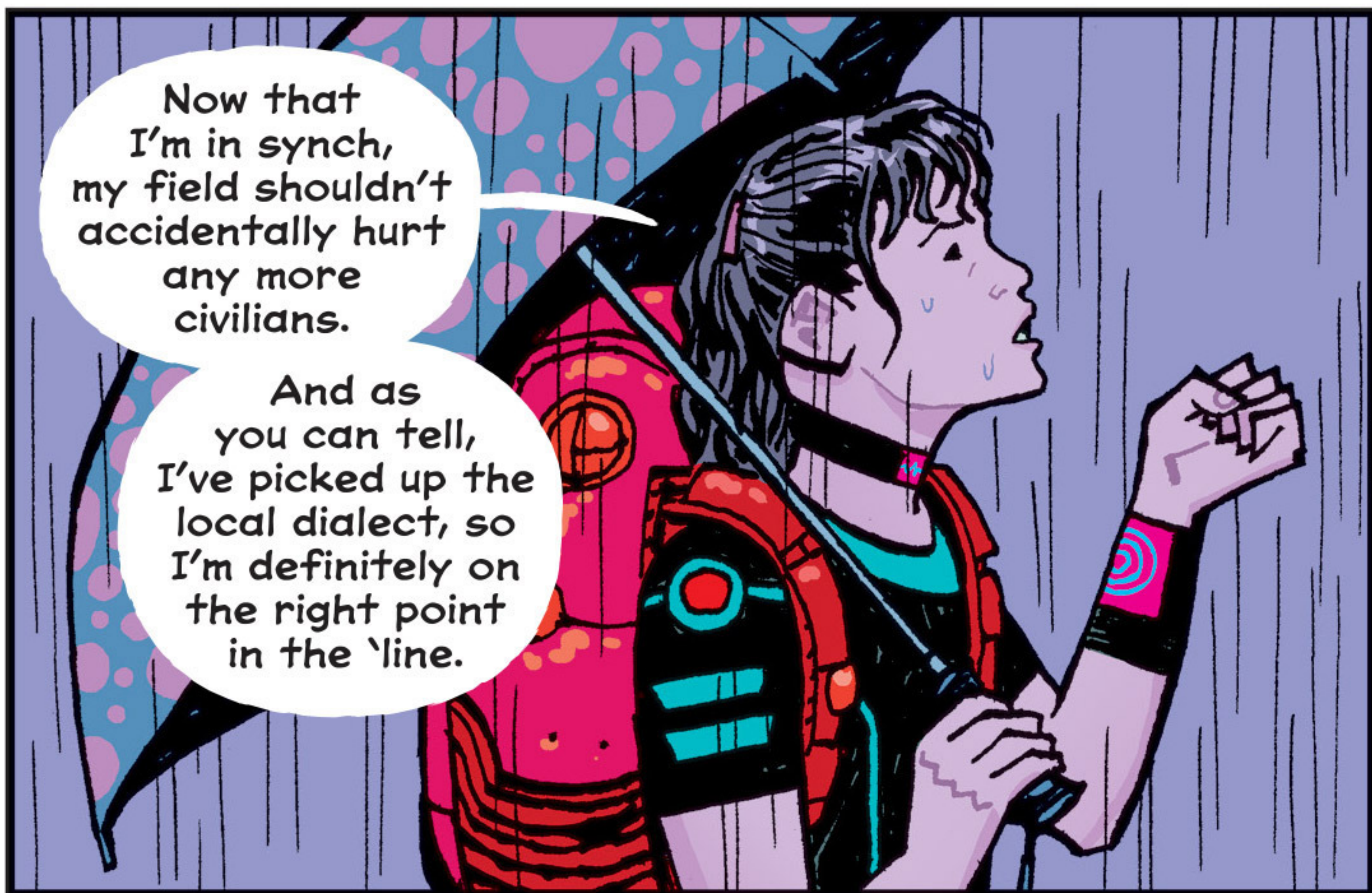


RUUUUN!



Hi, it's me.

Sort of a good news/bad news update...



Now that I'm in synch, my field shouldn't accidentally hurt any more civilians.

And as you can tell, I've picked up the local dialect, so I'm definitely on the right point in the 'line.



Unfortunately, I think I may have brought along a stowaway.





Whoa.



Seriously,  
do you *see*  
this?

We get  
it, it's  
spooky.

There are  
two Erins, but  
one of you is,  
like, old.



No, I mean,  
the *map*.

I've been trying to navigate  
this iThing you found, and a  
three-dimensional view of  
Stony Stream just started...  
it started *floating*  
before my eyes.

Maybe  
it leads  
to KJ!



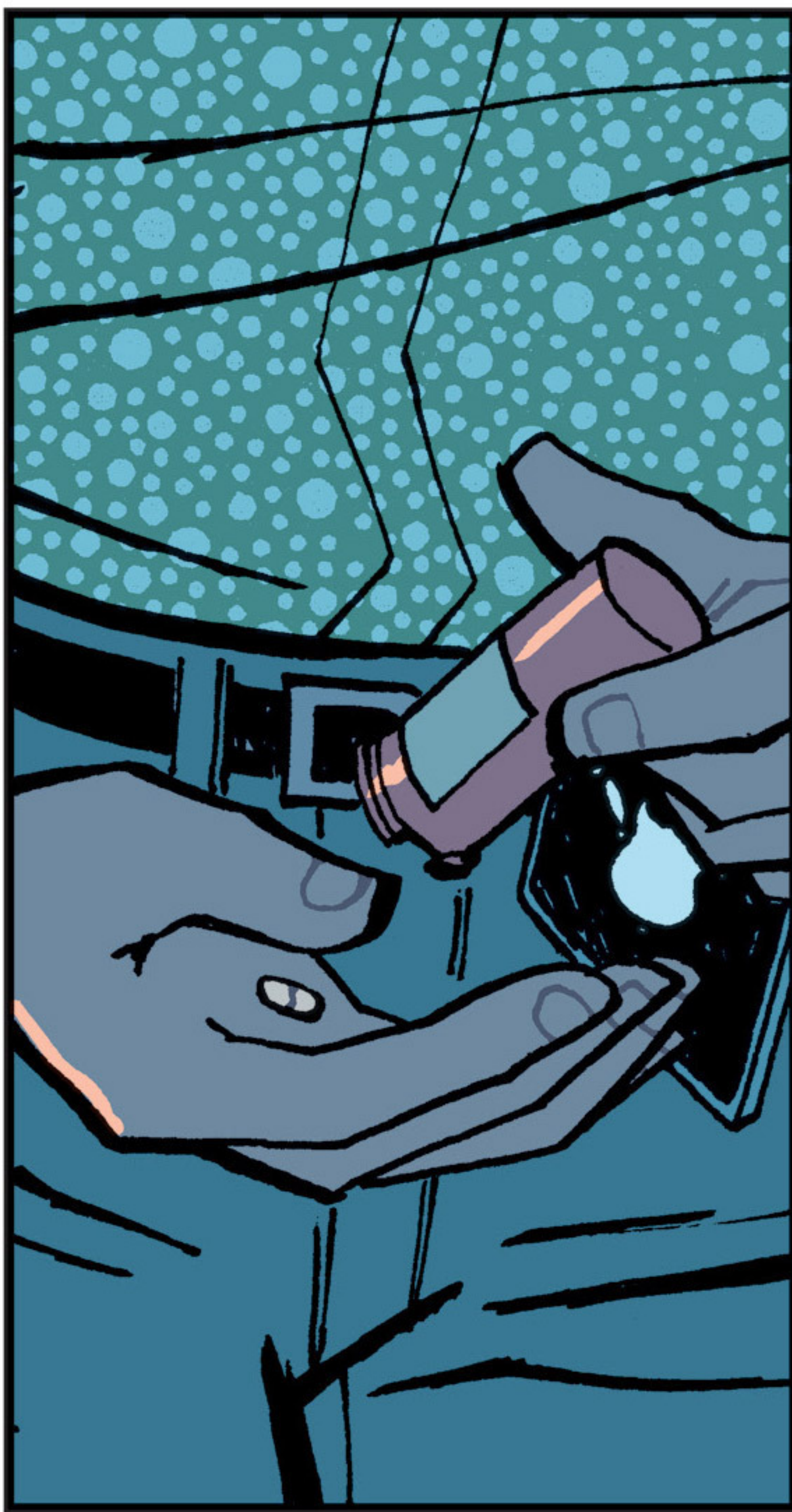
If it does,  
it might also  
know a way to  
get us all home  
to '88.





"Eighty-eight."

Christ,  
everything  
about this  
hurts my  
brain.



Are...  
are those  
*drugs*?

Chill.

It's just Xanax,  
and I have a  
prescription.



What the heck  
is Zanucks?  
Are you okay?  
Are we *sick*?

It's for  
anxiety.

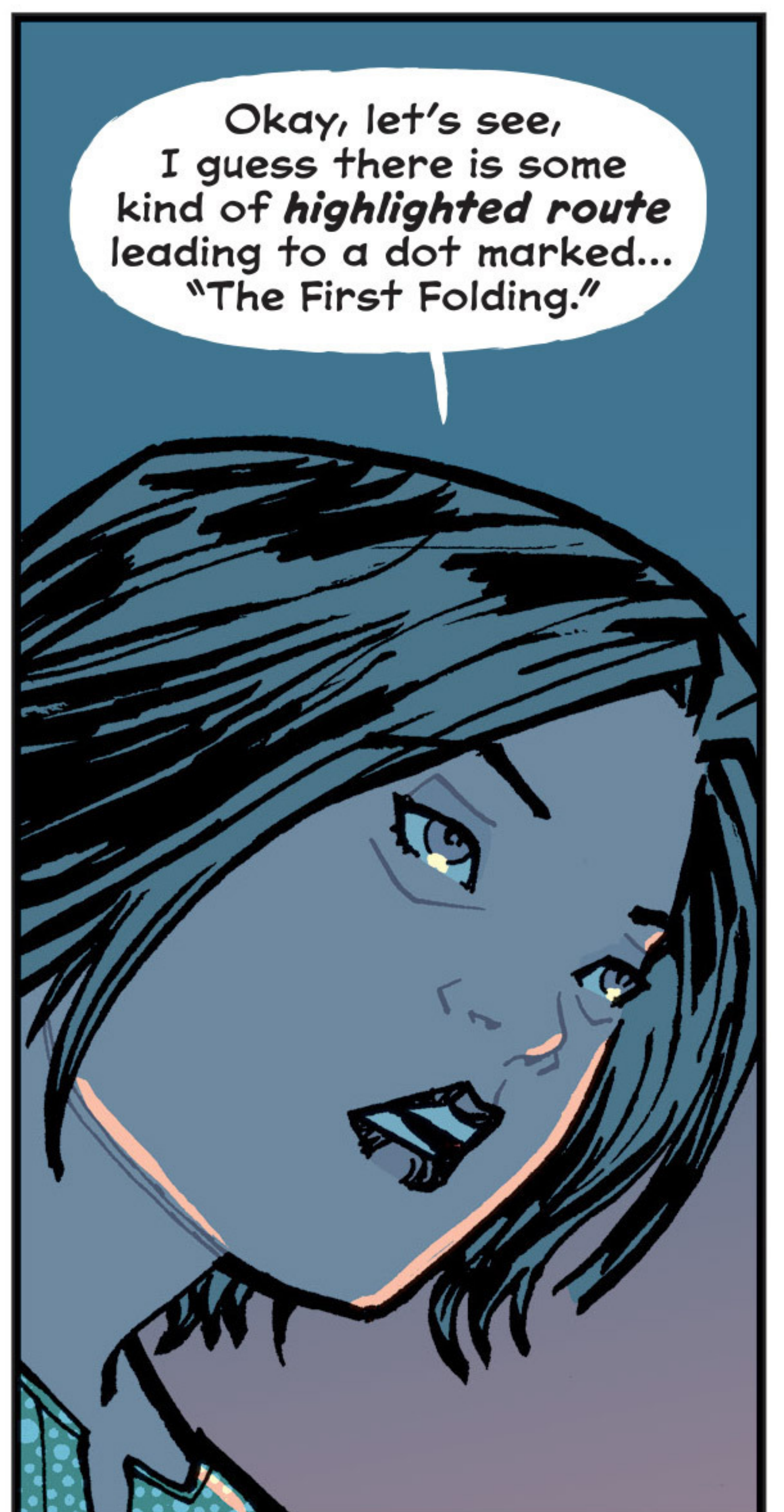
Which is  
clearly not  
a *recent*  
problem.



Can we please get  
back to the magic  
brain box that maybe  
knows where our  
friend is?

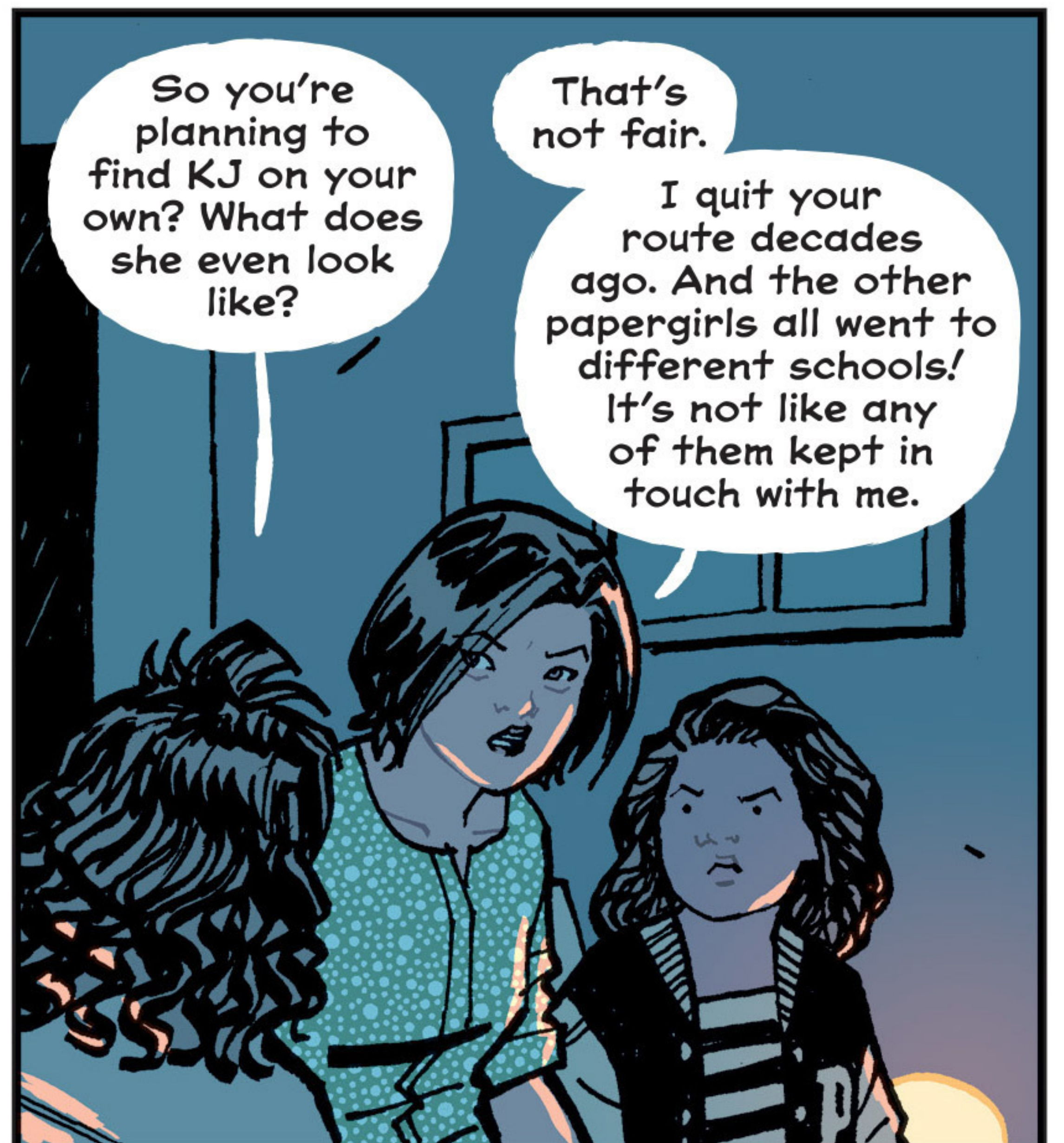
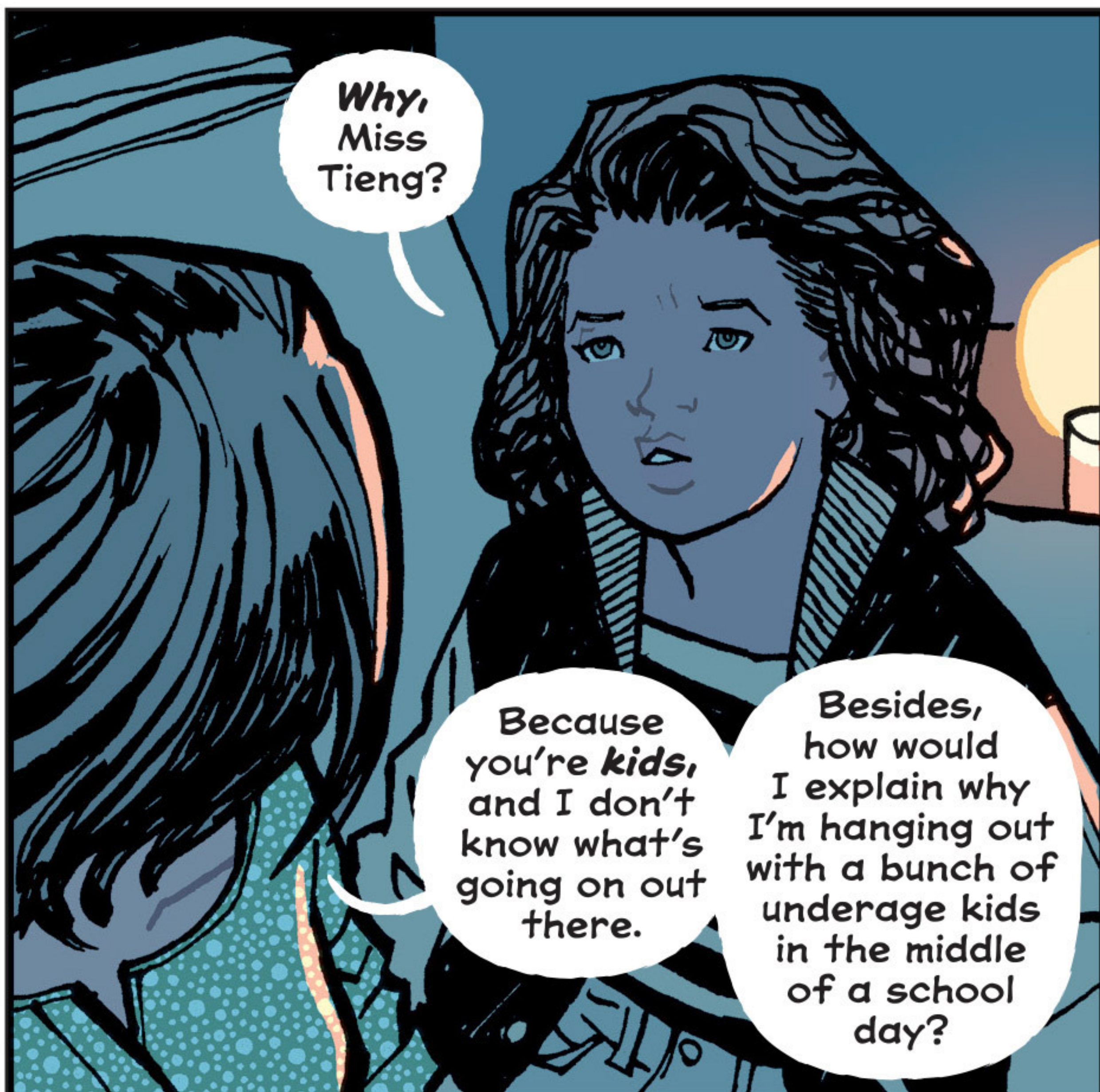
Right.

Sorry,  
Tiffany.

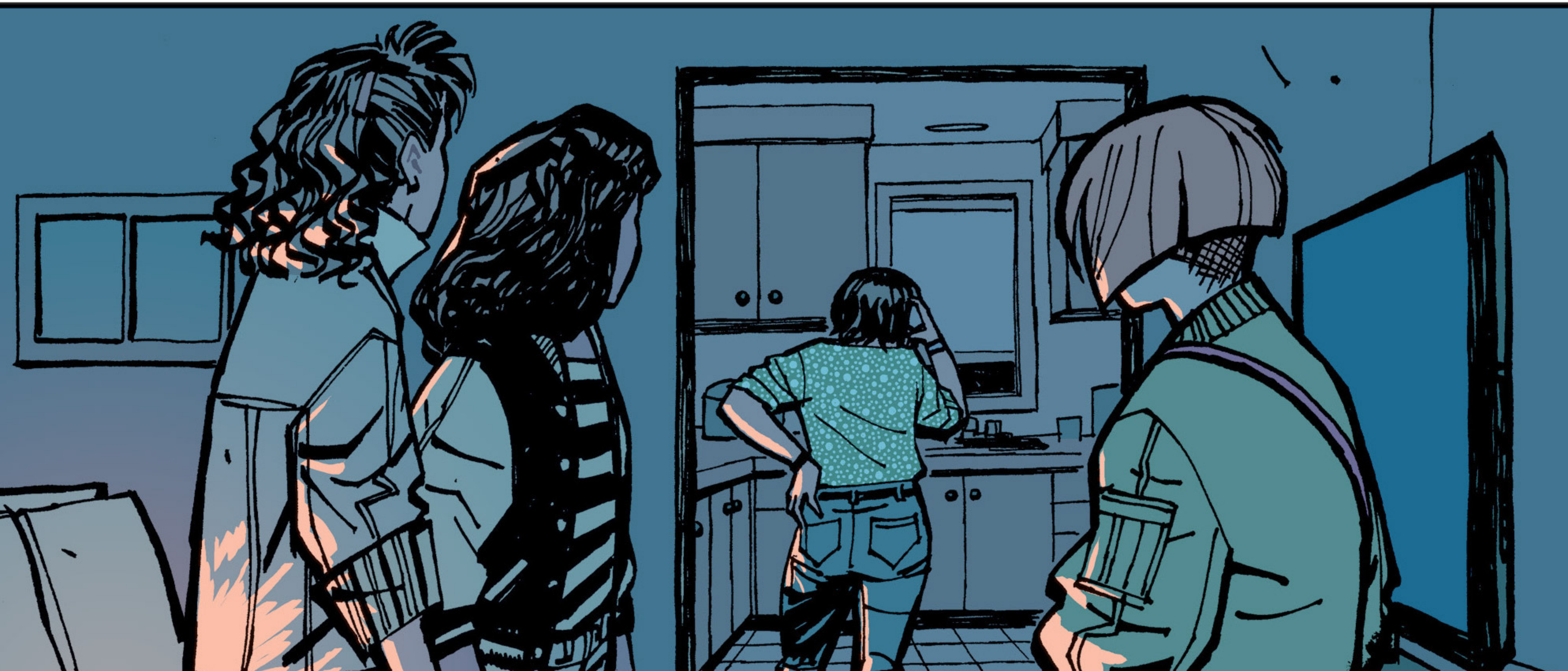
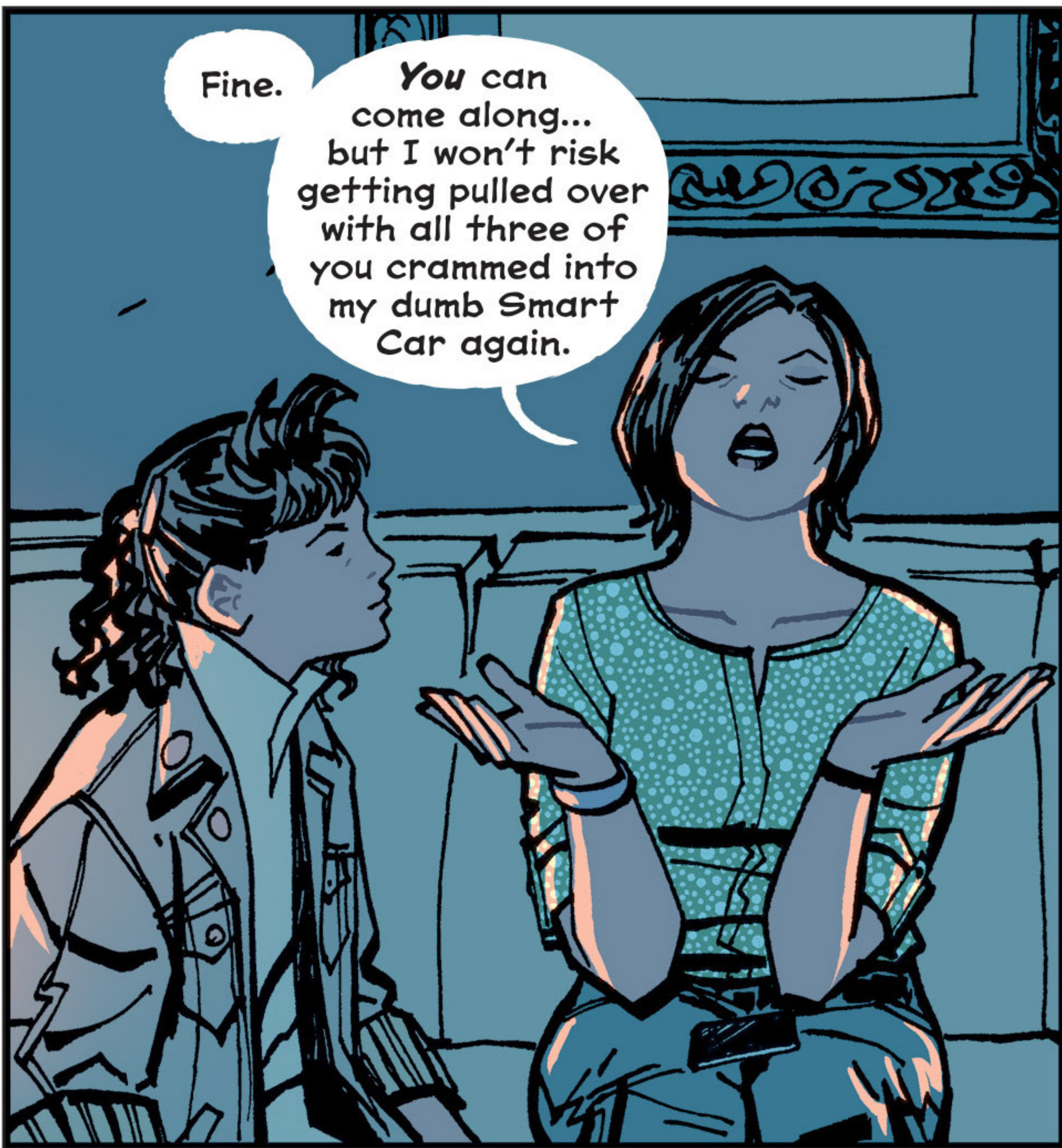


Okay, let's see,  
I guess there is some  
kind of *highlighted route*  
leading to a dot marked...  
"The First Folding."

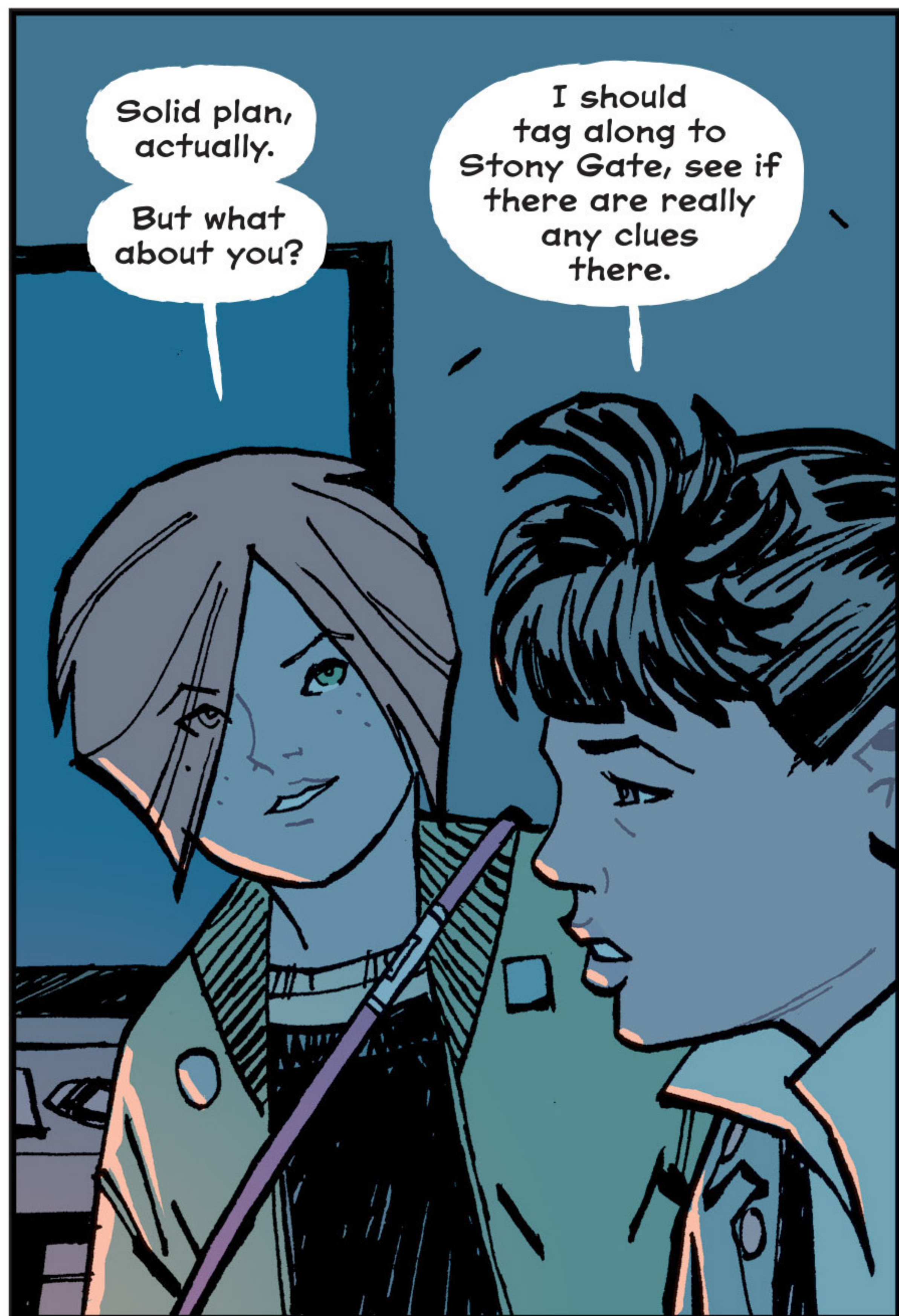
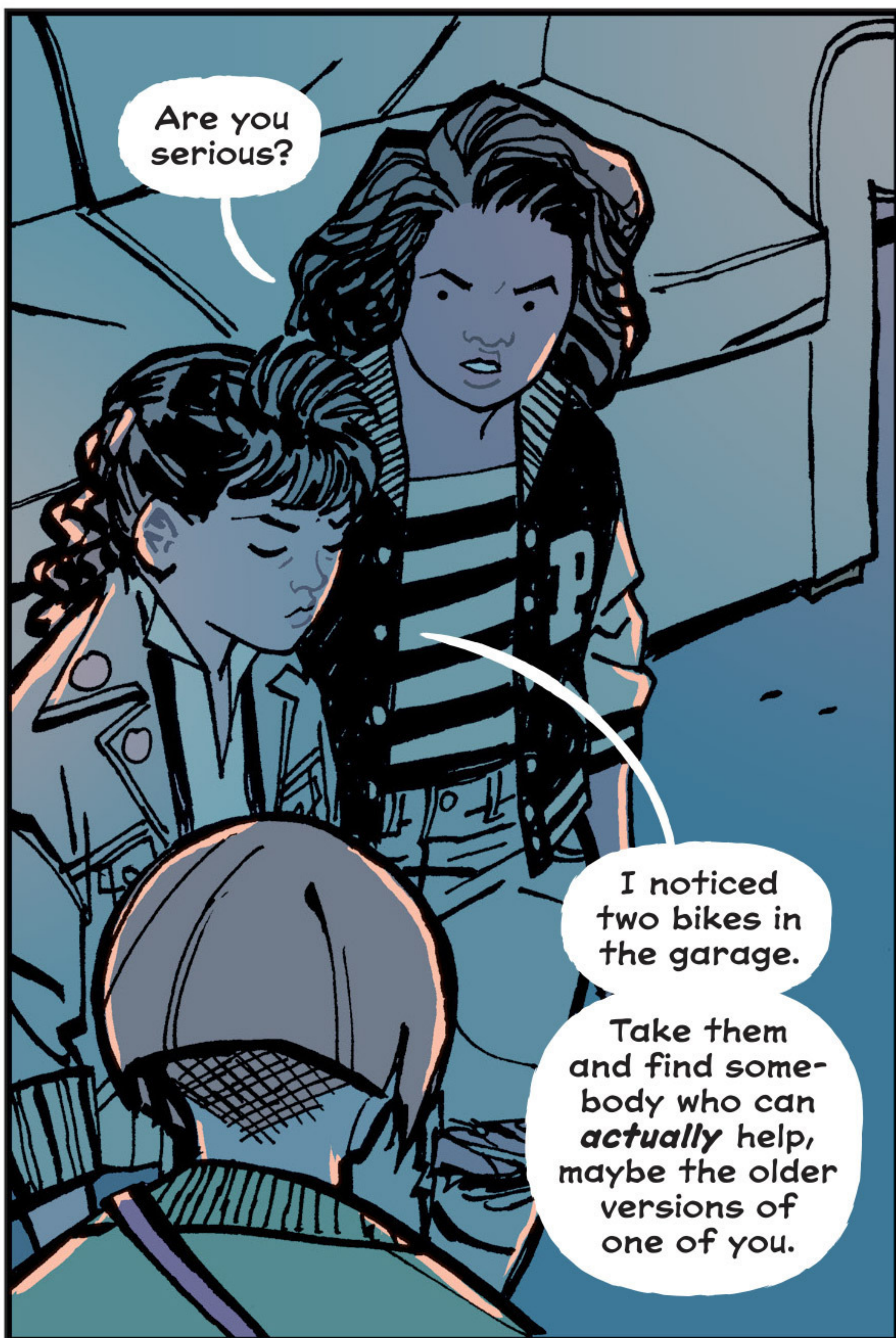




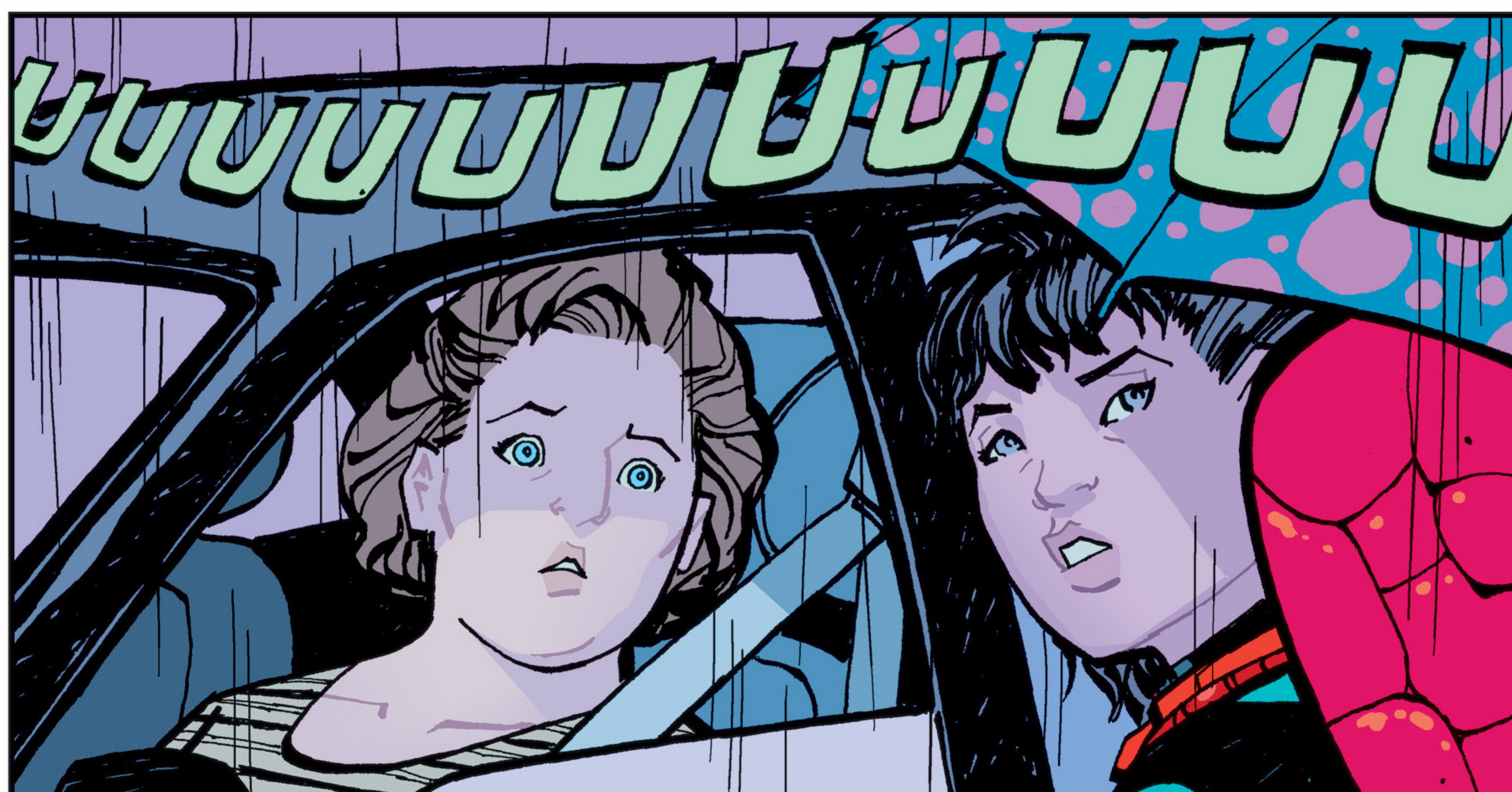
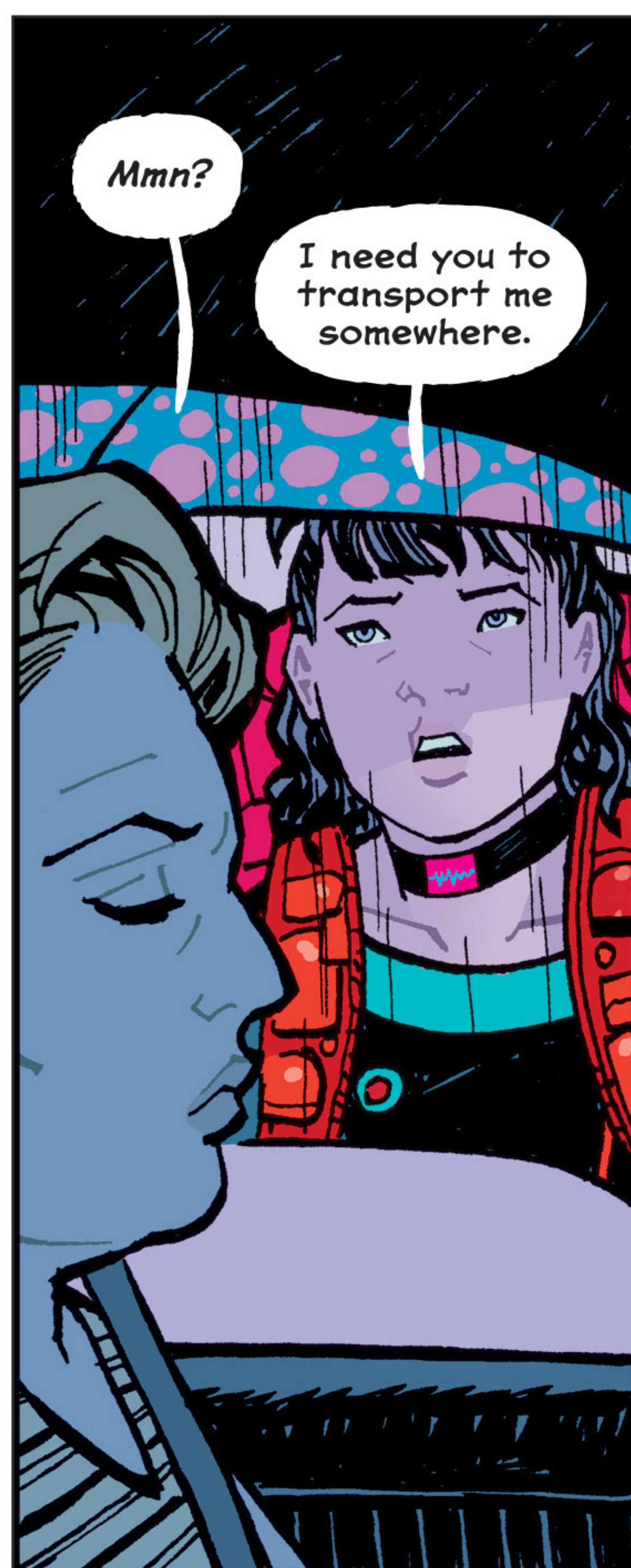
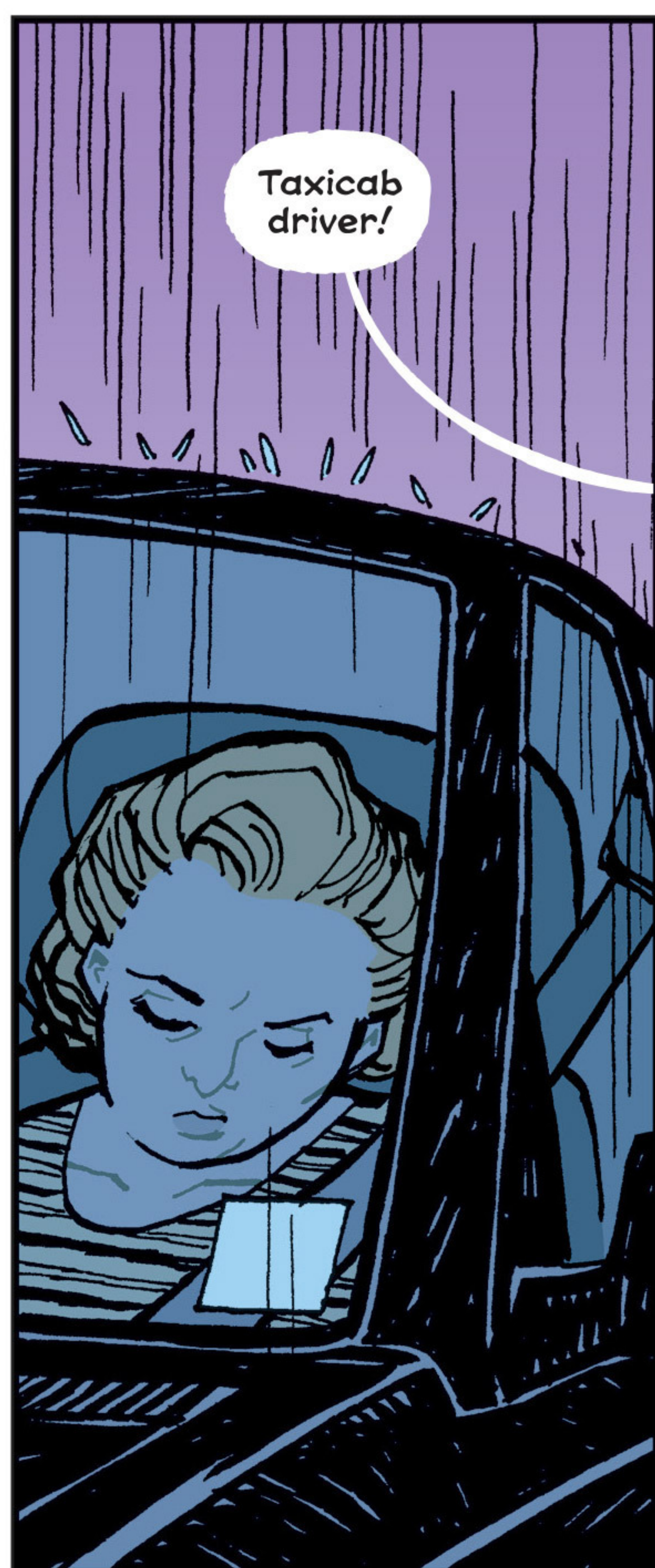
























Thank Heck.

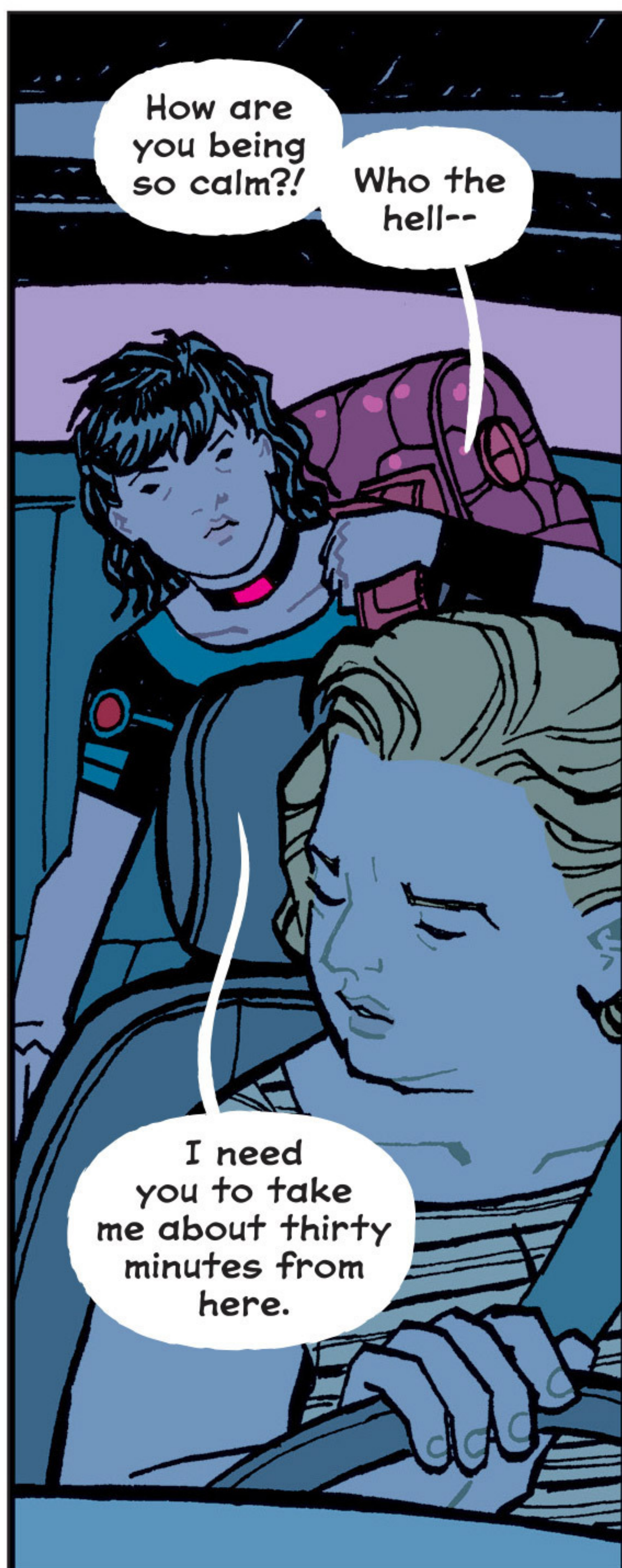
This might actually be a good thing.



Is the second one...?

They're *carnivorous*, yes. Now let's go.

When that one finishes *digesting* its friend, I'm hoping it'll go into cryptobiosis. If not, we don't want to be here.



How are you being so calm?!

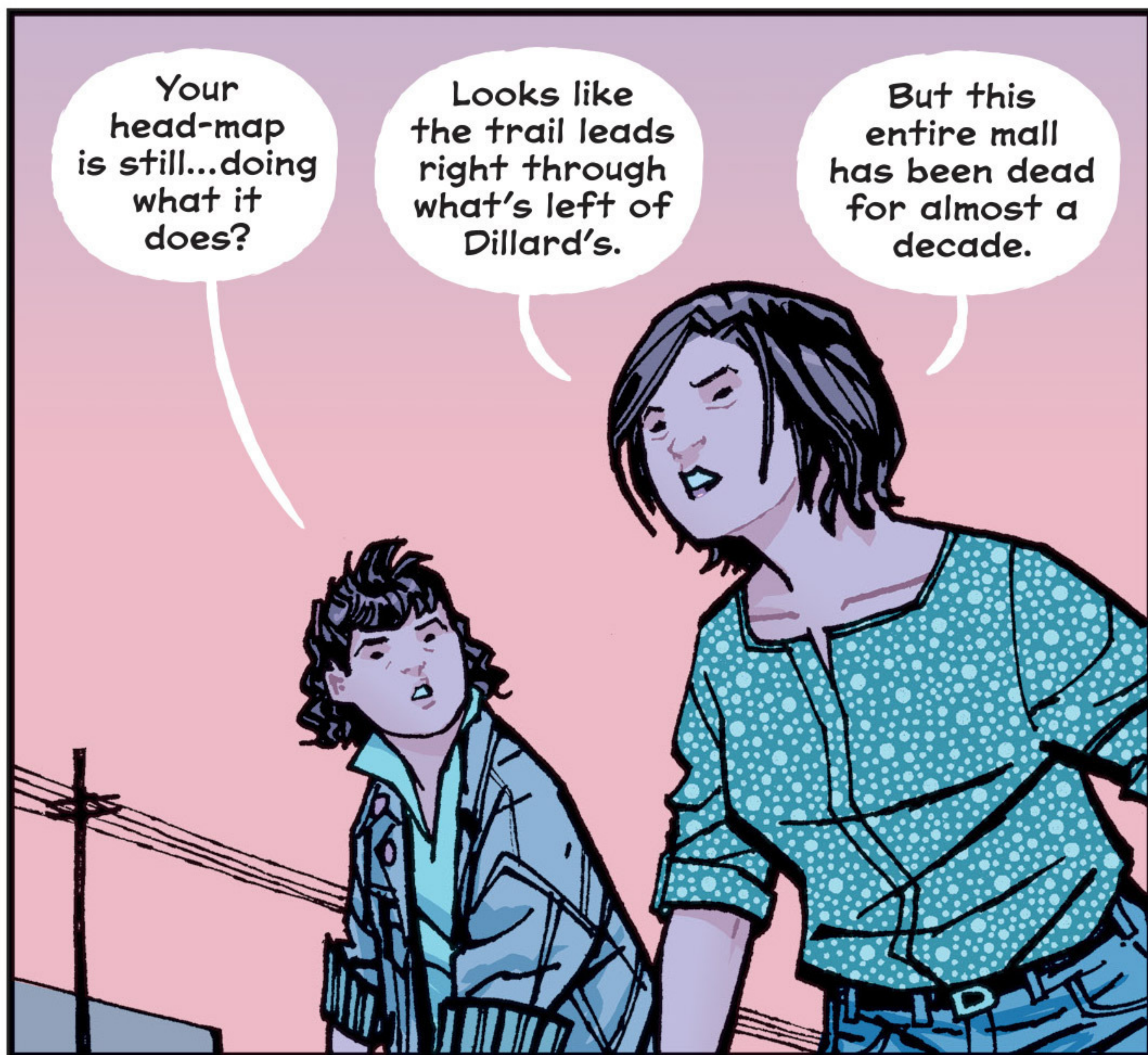
Who the hell--

I need you to take me about thirty minutes from here.



To an establishment called Stony Gate Mall.





Your head-map is still...doing what it does?

Looks like the trail leads right through what's left of Dillard's.

But this entire mall has been dead for almost a decade.



What do you mean dead? Like, *closed*?

Even the Waldenbooks?

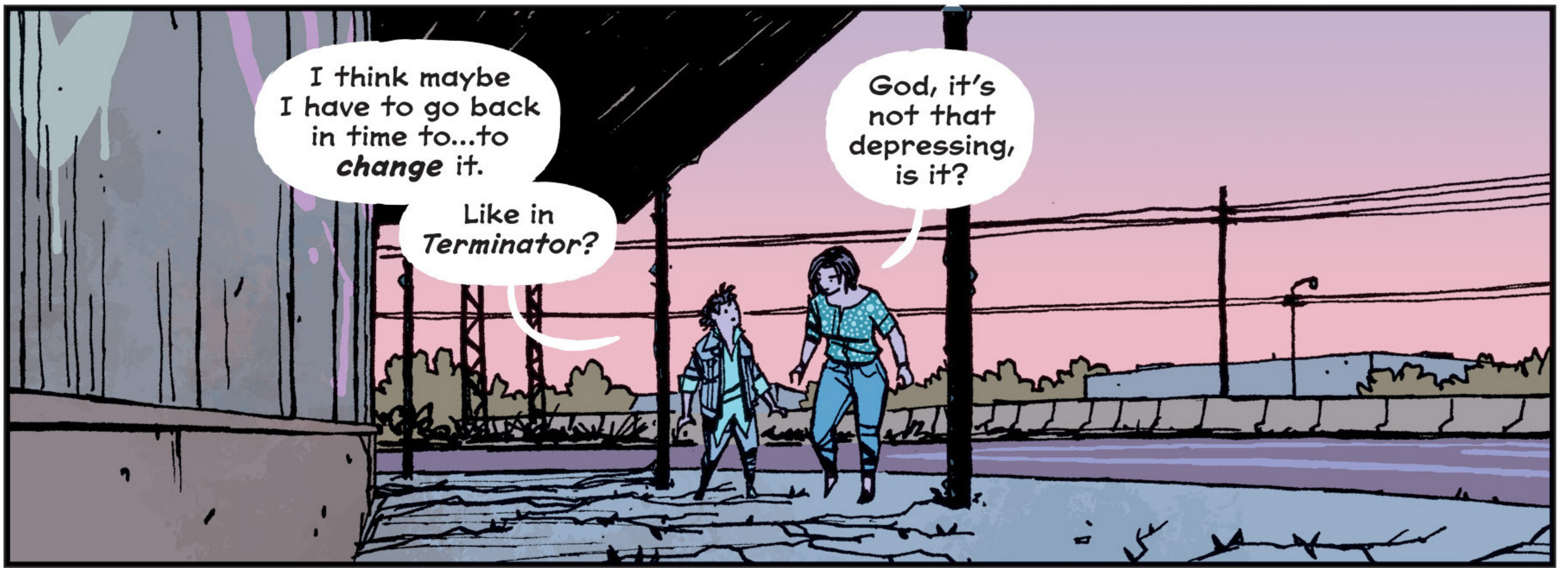
Amazon's a bitch.



Can I tell you something?

This timeline... I think it's all wrong.





I think maybe  
I have to go back  
in time to...to  
**change** it.

Like in  
*Terminator*?

God, it's  
not that  
depressing,  
is it?



Spencer's Gifts is  
gone, but that doesn't  
mean things are  
**post-apocalyptic**.

You just  
happened to  
catch *me* at a  
weird time.



Oh,  
it's not  
about--

Of  
course  
it is.

I can only  
imagine what  
must be going  
through your head.  
Seeing that we wind  
up being some fat  
unwed loser with  
a dead-end  
job...



You are  
not fat,  
idiot!

Gross,  
that sounds  
like something  
Dad would  
say.



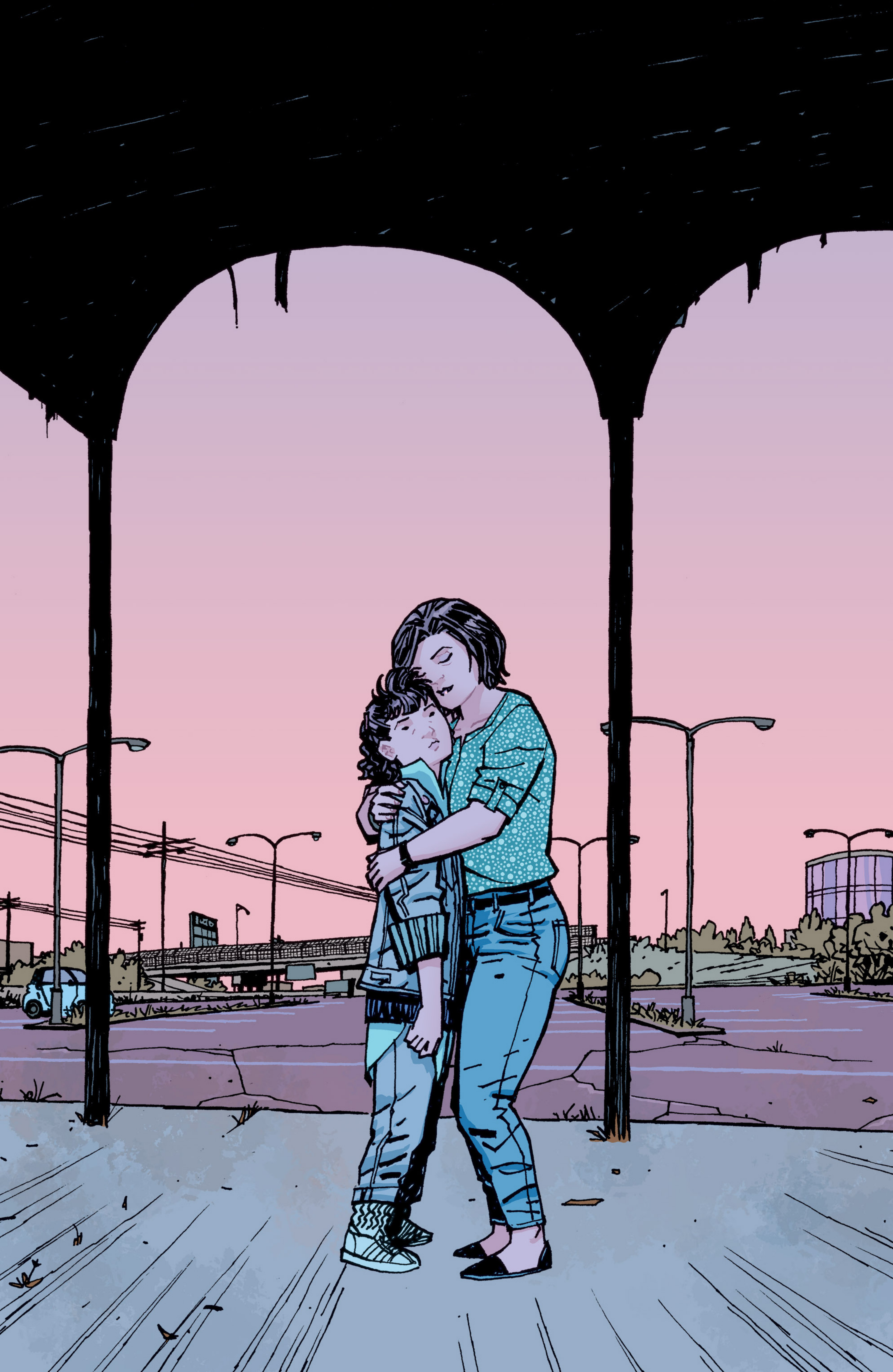
And your haircut  
is cool and I love  
your shirt. And I'm  
**relieved** we're  
not married.

We can still  
go anywhere, do  
anything we want.  
I'm just worried  
that you're--

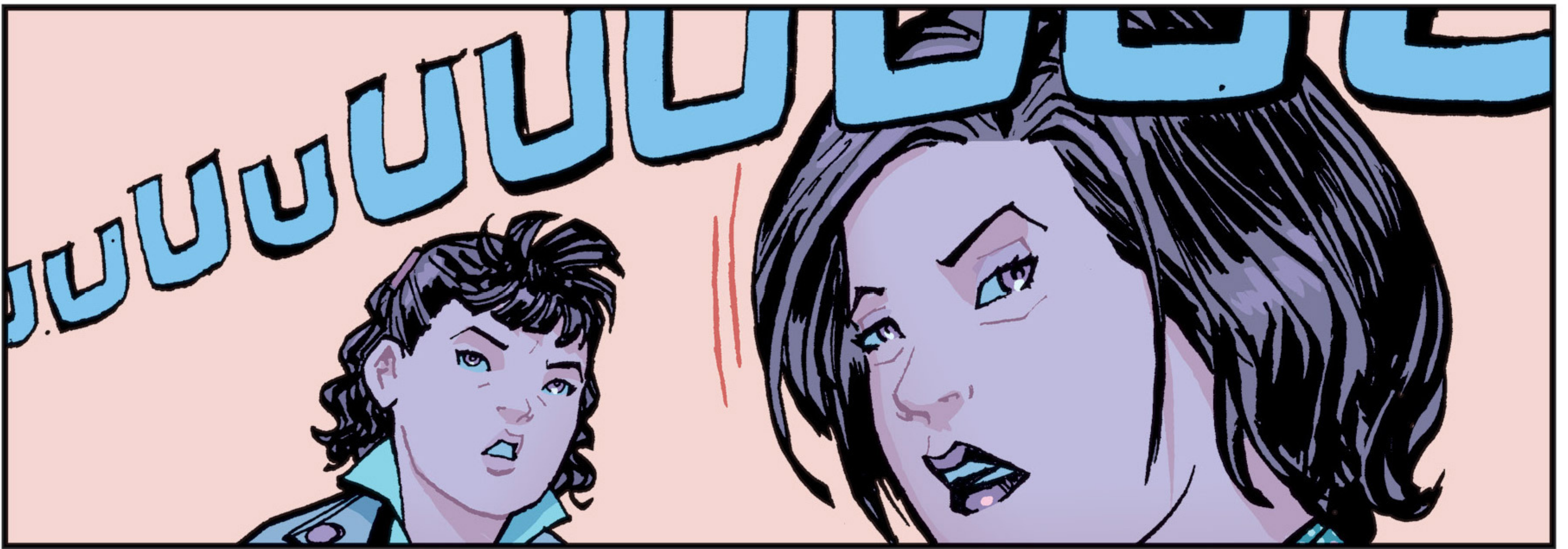
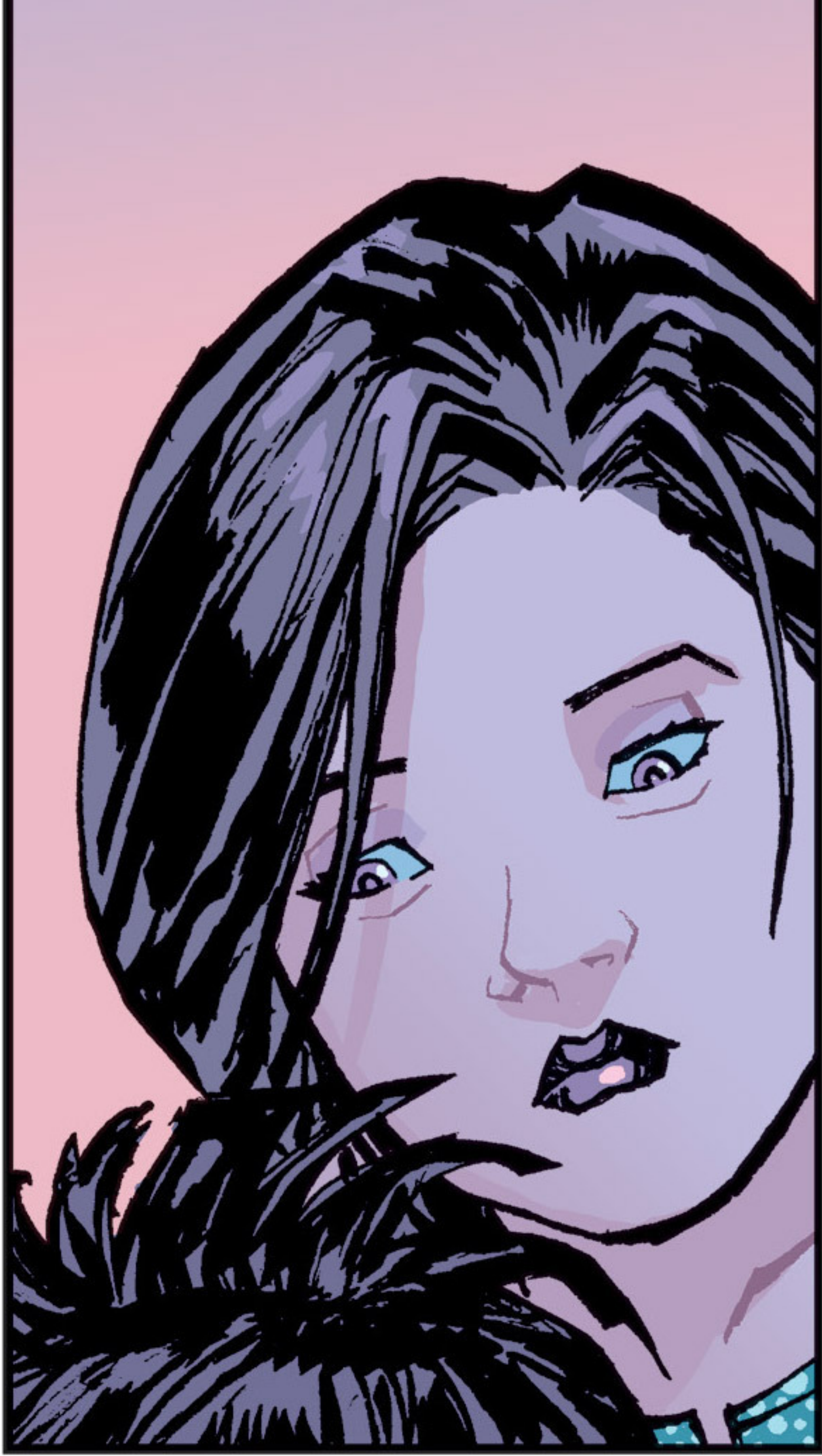


nnf





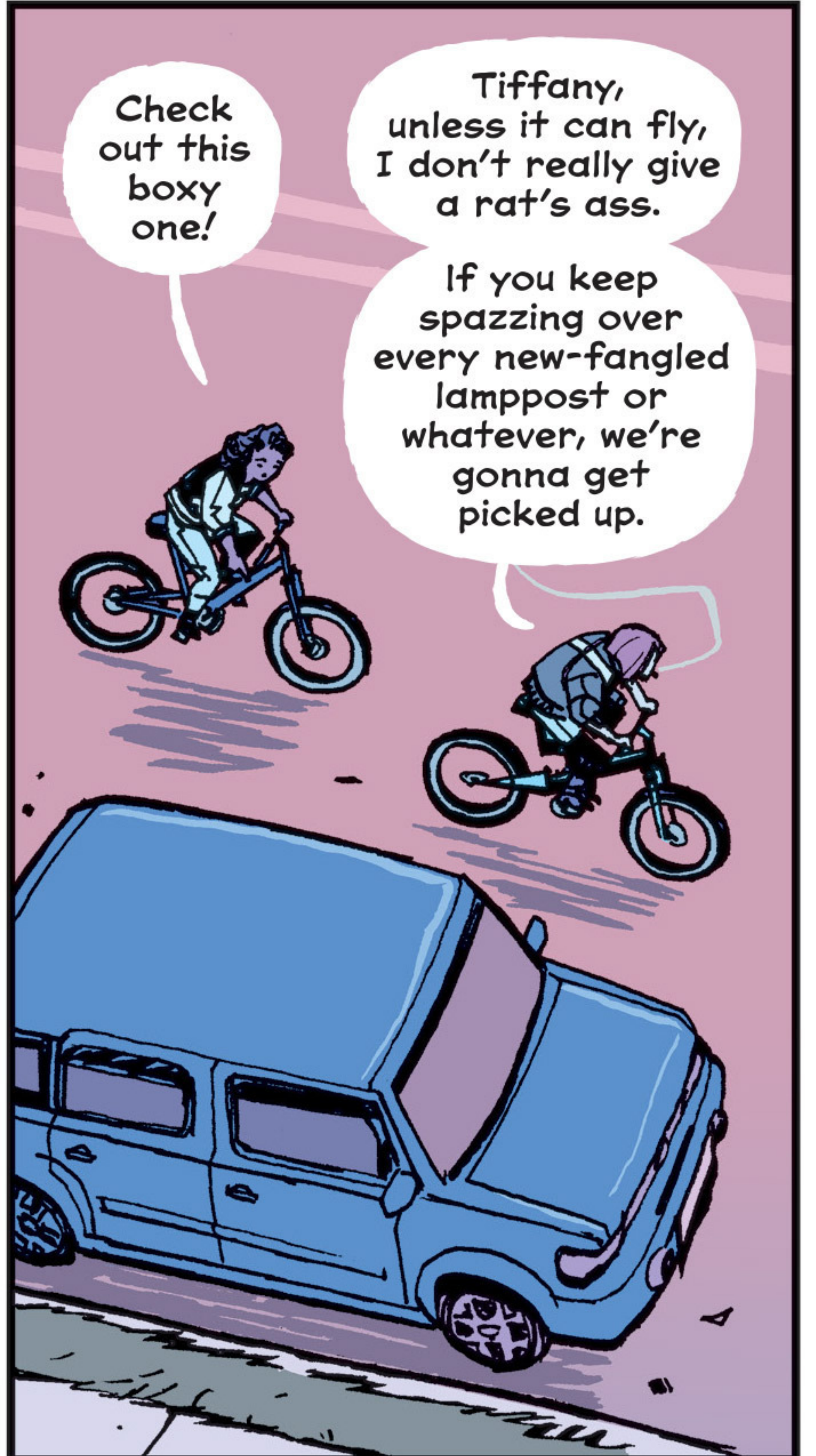








Oh,  
rad.



Check  
out this  
boxy  
one!

Tiffany,  
unless it can fly,  
I don't really give  
a rat's ass.

If you keep  
spazzing over  
every new-fangled  
lamppost or  
whatever, we're  
gonna get  
picked up.



Not with the  
**bag** Erin was  
smart enough  
to make us  
bring.

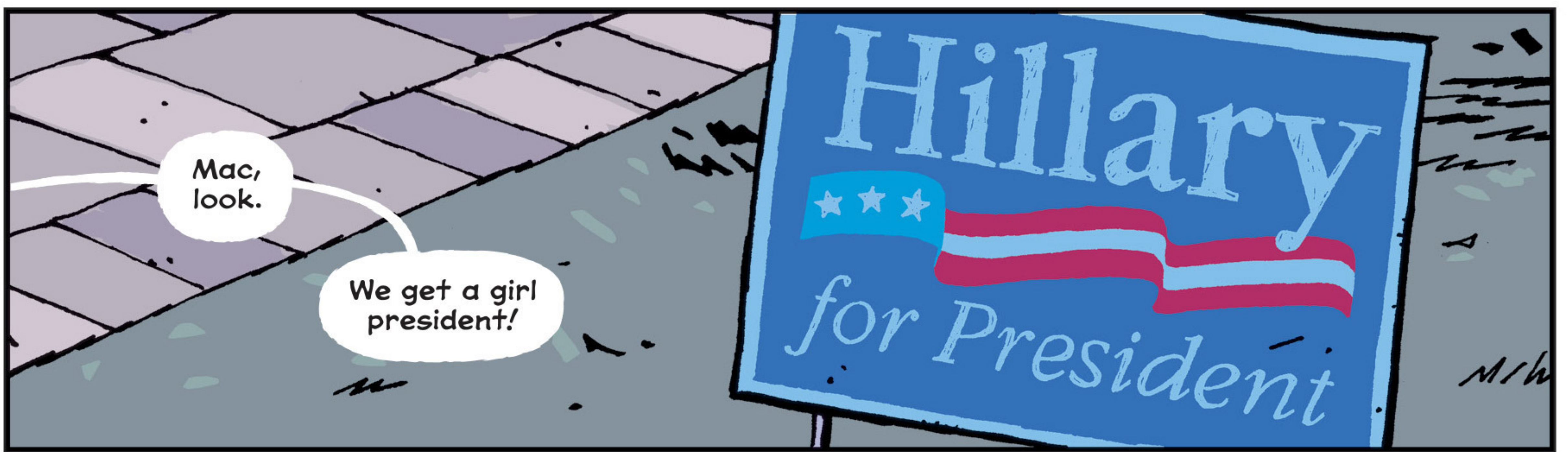
Truancy  
officers  
never hassle  
*Preserver*  
kids.

Who knows  
if those truancy  
dipsticks even still  
exist? Maybe there  
are boring robots  
that do all  
the--



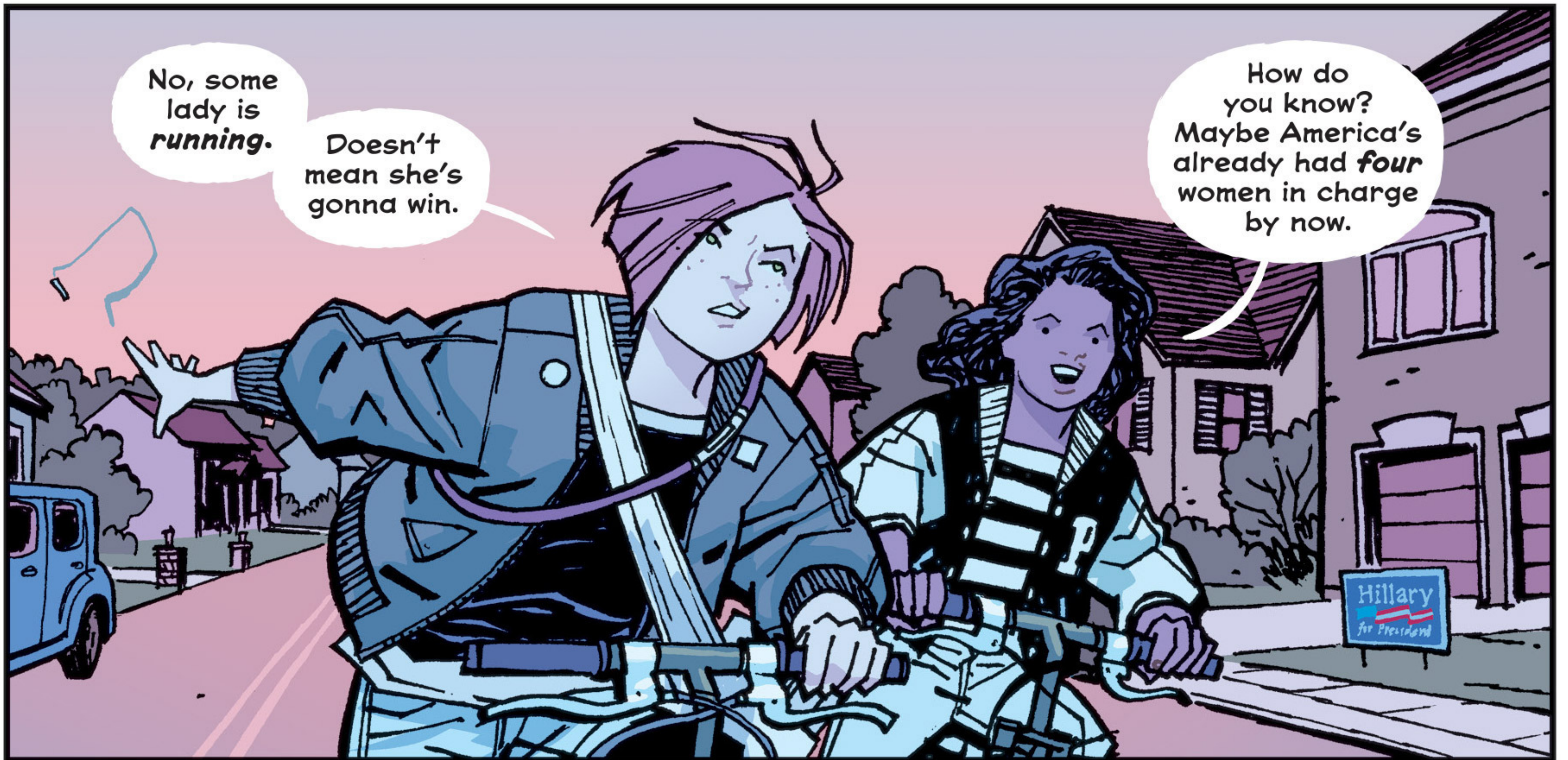
Whod.





Mac,  
look.

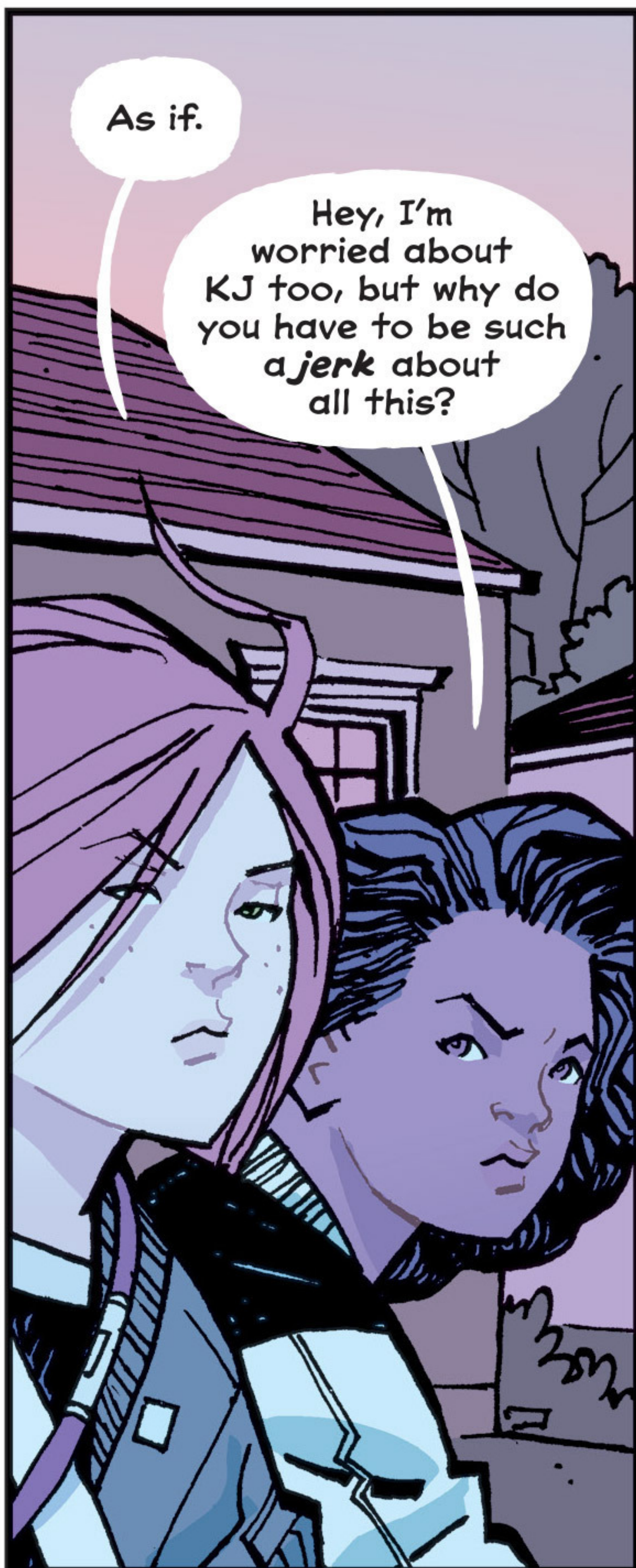
We get a girl  
president!



No, some  
lady is  
*running*.

Doesn't  
mean she's  
gonna win.

How do  
you know?  
Maybe America's  
already had *four*  
women in charge  
by now.



As if.

Hey, I'm  
worried about  
KJ too, but why do  
you have to be such  
a *jerk* about  
all this?



What, about  
the disappointing  
world of tomorrow?  
I don't know, why do  
you have to be  
so *cheery*?

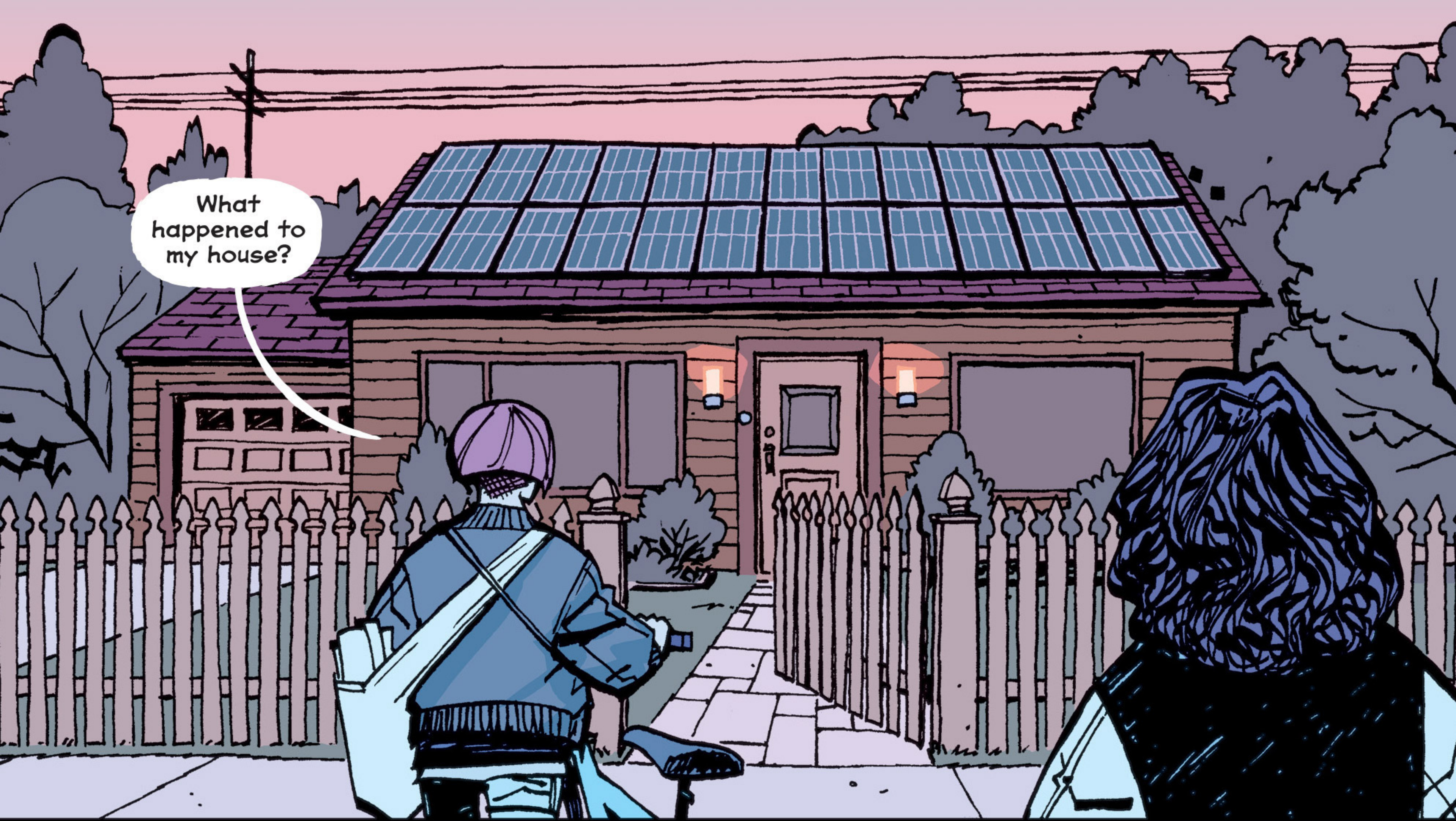
Because  
it's 2016 and  
the world is  
still here!

Every single  
paper we ever delivered  
was about another war or  
another plague or another  
meltdown, but it turns  
out everything's  
going to be--



Whoa.



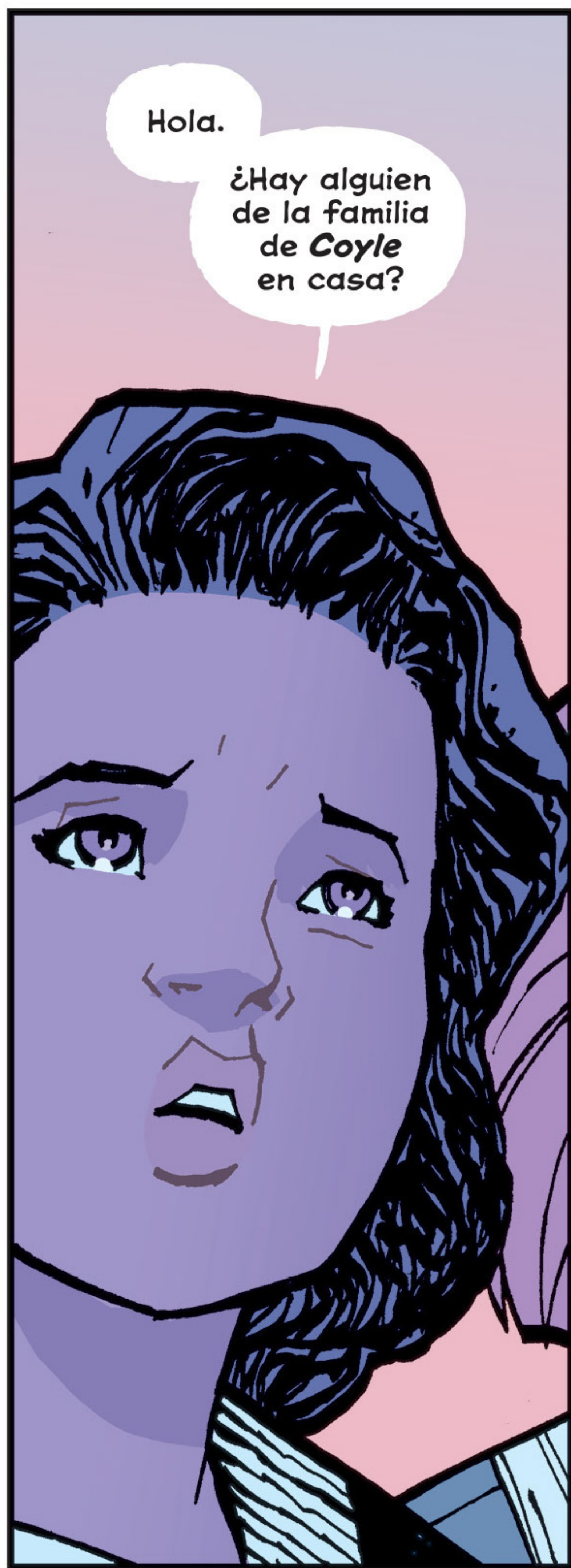






¿Puedo ayudarte?

uhhhhhh



Hola.

¿Hay alguien de la familia de **Coyle** en casa?



The folks that lived here before us?

I'm sorry, girls. We bought this place from them way back in '92.

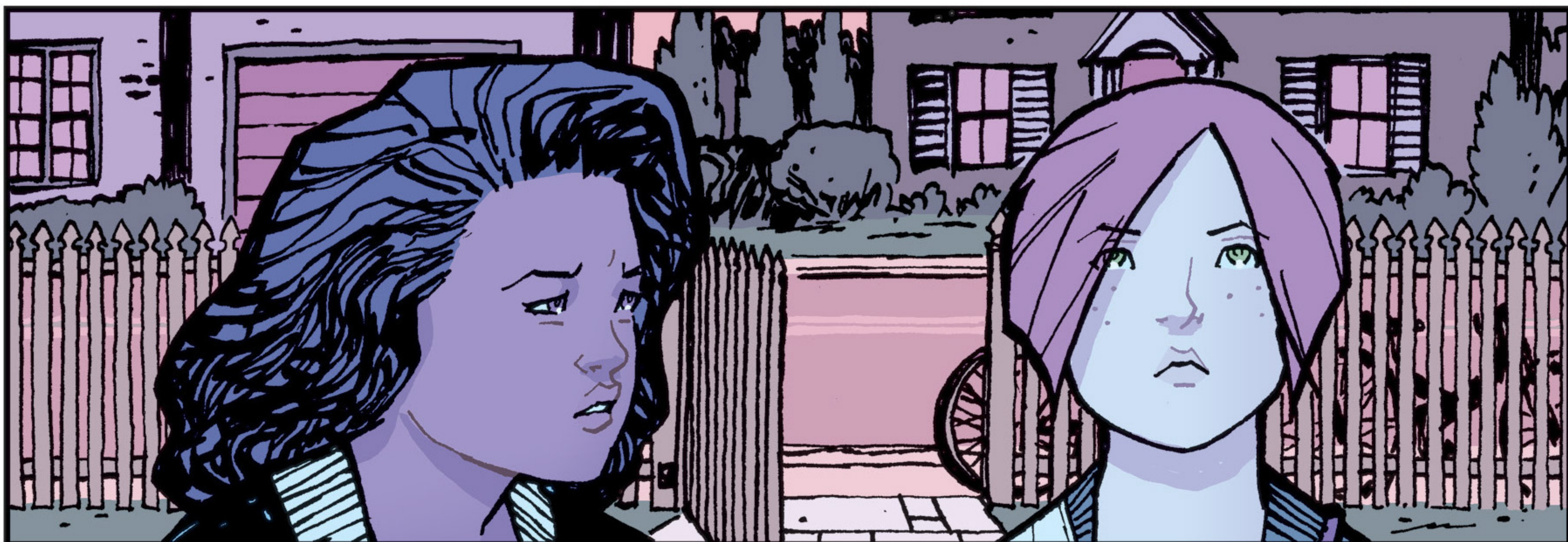
Wait, they moved?



Right after their daughter passed, God bless.

**Leukemia**, I think.





Okay then.

We'll be sure to update their subscription information.

TO BE CONTINUED

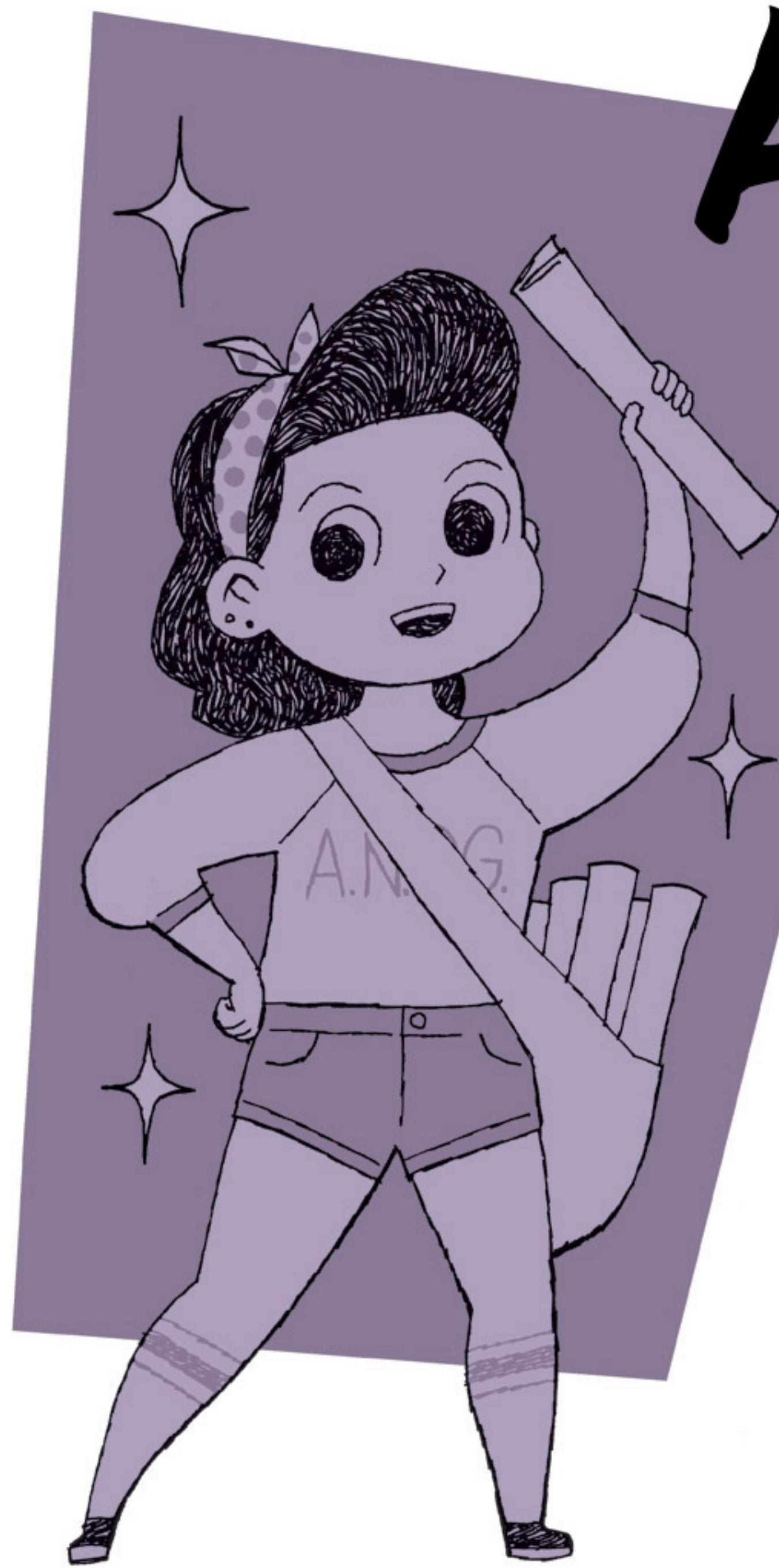


# THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER DELIVERY GUILD

4335 Van Nuys Boulevard - Suite 332, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403 U.S.A.

SINCE 1899!

## Hey, Guys...and Girls!



Rita Pearl the **Papergirl**

What up, hard-pedaling peddlers?

Rita Pearl the Papergirl back with you, reminding everyone out there that you have until August 1, 2016 in this latest registration drive to get your very own A.N.D.G. Membership Card by sending us a self-addressed stamped envelope... and not just an empty envelope, ya doofs! :)

I'm still nervously awaiting reactions to the guild naming yours truly as successor to ol' Petey Roy, but in the meantime, we still have plenty of your ancient letters to catch up to, starting with this hot take from all the way back in 1988:



Dear Petey Roy,

Another girl I deliver papers with thinks it's always wrong to date your friend's ex-boyfriend, but I disagree.

Who's right?

Yours, **Lexi L.**

Burbank, CA

Ooh, Lexi. My deliverer-sense tells me that you and this girl had a bit of a love-triangle going? I normally wouldn't get involved, but since this is a deep cut from the 20th Century, you're both probably divorced mothers of

three by now, so I suppose it can't hurt to offer my two cents:

Sometimes people date people who are wrong for them, and break up, but remain a part of each other's circles. Should these people all be off-limits as dating material just because they've hooked up with your friends? No, that's silly and not fair to anyone.

That said, when you want to date a boy a friend of yours has been with, you have to know it's going to create some hurt feelings. So if you care about the friendship, you owe it to her to talk with her about it before anything happens. Like, if he's flirting with you, and if you find yourself flirting back, that's the moment to say something to your friend. Chances are, she'll give you the okay...and then dump so much baggage on you that you won't even want to get near him anymore!

But if you still want to go for it, and she won't give you the all

clear? Then you have a choice to make: who do you really want in your life? Your friend or the boy?

My ace, P. Roy!

Your work for the A.N.D.G. is the reason I can't sleep at night.

Up high.

Down low.

'Cross the river.

Away we go.

Dedicated Delivery Dude, **Tony**

Sacramento, CA

Tony, I suspect the real reason you can't sleep at night is all the drugs you're on. Or not on? If you're reading this today and aren't currently medicated, you may want to try some of the excellent pharmaceuticals that have been developed over the last thirty years.



Dear Petey Roy,

Any chance you guys might offer some cool A.N.D.G. delivery bags for sale?

Just curious, **Jessie K.**

Santa Cruz, CA

*Merch has definitely been discussed, Jessie, but no concrete plans yet.*

*What kind of official A.N.D.G. swag would YOU deliverers most like to see...?*

Hello,

Please enroll me in your prestigious guild. I've been delivering the *Elyria Chronicle Telegram* for several years. It's an afternoon paper. I have a swell bunch of customers on Chestnut Ridge Road. They see me hustling on my 20" Schwinn with baskets on both sides and know I'm doing my best! Most are quite understanding during football season when marching band practice after school means they won't get their paper until 5 (within my deadline, of course!).

Carry on, **Jerry C.**

Olmstead Falls, OH

PS Chestnut Ridge is posted 35 mph, meaning most people go faster, and there are no sidewalks! And there I am right on the side of the road!

*Jerry, I really hope you're still alive today and doing something incredible with your life. It's kids like you, busting your asses to get the news out after marching band, who fill me with confidence for the future of this country. Such dedication, heart, and commitment to the things that you love, all in the face of both fast cars and potentially vicious bullies. We salute you, Jerry!*

*Just please wear a helmet.*

Dear A.N.D.G.,

I want my two dollars.

Thanks in advance, **Johnny X.**

Greendale, CA

*Uh...what? Sounds like Petey had some kind of side deal going. Sorry, Johnny, I'm afraid the statute of limitations has run out on this one.*

Dear Petey,

I hope I'm not too late to join the A.N.D.G. Sometimes I get so busy delivering the paper, I forget to stop by the post office. I was hoping you could provide me with some time-management tips?

Thanks for the valuable service you provide!

Best wishes, **Molly**

Akron, OH

*First of all, Molly, you are not too late! But if anyone else is thinking about joining the newly reopened A.N.D.G., get on it. Now!*

*You can drop your S.A.S.E. in any mailbox, so going to the post office shouldn't be a big issue. You can also now buy stamps online, at many ATMs, and as you could in the 80s, from any grocery store checkout clerk. If you do go to the post office, try to avoid the lunch hour, or the very end of the day, because that's when everyone else is there. First thing in the morning after you finish your route is ideal.*

*Knowing what time of day to perform certain tasks is actually the key to time management. As much as you can, try to do stuff at weird hours when other people aren't doing those things, and you will get SO MUCH DONE!*

Hey Petey,

My babysitter Sharon delivers all of the papers in our neighborhood every day, even during Christmas vacation! She makes sure that the papers aren't damp when it rains by putting them in plastic bags and throwing them all the way onto our porches. She even pulled

some strings with our newspaper, *The Press Democrat*, to give me a chance at a small route of my own (only four houses so far). And best of all, when she babysits, she brings over the NES she bought with her route pay and a ton of games for me to play. She's the best.

Thanks for reading, **Luke**

Member #10702039

Sonoma County, CA

PS - Sharon's also rad because she let me borrow her word processor for this letter. She has all of the best stuff.

*Sounds like Sharon did indeed have all the best stuff back in '88. And although I'm happy that you admired her for her belongings, the thing I admire Sharon for is the independent spirit she showed when she took charge of her own life and got herself two jobs to earn the money to buy herself all that stuff. I'm glad she inspired you, Luke. She inspires me, too.*

Dear Petey Roy,

I'm fourteen years old, and have been delivering papers since I was twelve. The route was my dad's idea to start with, and it's something I have really come to enjoy. I like getting to ride by bike around the neighborhood when no one else is around, and, now that I'm starting high school, the extra spending money really doesn't hurt.

Last year, my parents decided to get divorced. My mom started seeing some guy she works with and decided to get an apartment downtown. Now she's fighting my dad for custody and wants me and my sister to spend half our time at her place. My sister has already started going back and forth, but my dad says I can't because of my paper route.

I just want them to stop fighting and let me do my job. What should I do?



**Christopher M.**

Midland, TX

*I feel for you, Christopher. Sounds like a really tough situation.*

*It's not my place to get involved in other families' dramas, but as for your paper route – just remember that you're part of a guild, so you're never alone. Chances are, there's another deliverer out there in a similar spot who can split the route with you! Maybe there's someone who can only do weekends, and someone else who can only do weekdays? This is exactly the kind of situation where the American Newspaper Delivery Guild can be your best friend!*

*In fact, if anyone out there is looking for a buddy to share your route, or even just an A.N.D.G pen pal to correspond with, please send a note our way. We can publish your requests in these very pages.*

Petey,

Have you ever wondered if there might be a more efficient system for getting newspapers into people's homes? A network of pneumatic tubes? A targeted airdrop? Is sending out kids with heavy bags really the best way?

Yours, **Ashford W.**

Boise, ID

*OMG, Ashford, I wish that someone had developed a system of pneumatic tubes that connected all of our homes. Instead, we started getting our news online, and everything changed.*

*Which is all the more reason we need to stay out there. Honestly, I do believe that sending children out to sling papers is a win-win. Kids get a little spending money and some early job experience, and a community gets to know and trust its local young people. What's not to love about this system? It seems much more*

*efficient than a paper-delivering robot, anyway...*

To the American Newspaper Delivery Guild,

I've wanted to be able to make money for myself for a long time now. Do you really think anyone can deliver papers? I have (I believe) the work ethic and determination needed to succeed, but I doubt myself.

Sincerely, **Zoe A.**

Oshkosh, WI

*Zoe, despite your relative lack of experience, I believe in you so much that I've decided to name you our DELIVERER OF THE MONTH. We'll be sending a special prize your way soon, and I hope it gives you the boost you need to get started.*

*Remember, since so many people these days are locked inside their homes, staring at glowing screens, there's even more of a need for brave young people willing to step out of their comfort zones to deliver the day's news.*

*Sales of print newspapers are still what powers lots of local journalism, and that helps to create an informed population. Never forget that you're an important stitch in the fabric of your community.*

*So get out there and start slinging some print!*

Your friend,

**Rita Pearl the Papergirl**



# THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER DELIVERY GUILD

SINCE 1899!

## IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER ART CONTEST!

*The A.N.D.G. is a career-minded group, so for this contest, we're asking you to imagine what you'd love to be doing for your job TEN YEARS FROM NOW, and then draw something below that represents those hopes and dreams.*

*When you're finished, carefully remove this page and mail it to the address above. One lucky winner will see her or his work featured in this very newsletter, and be awarded a **one-of-a-kind original drawing of Rita Pearl done by a professional comic-book artist!***









1 of 4

1

2

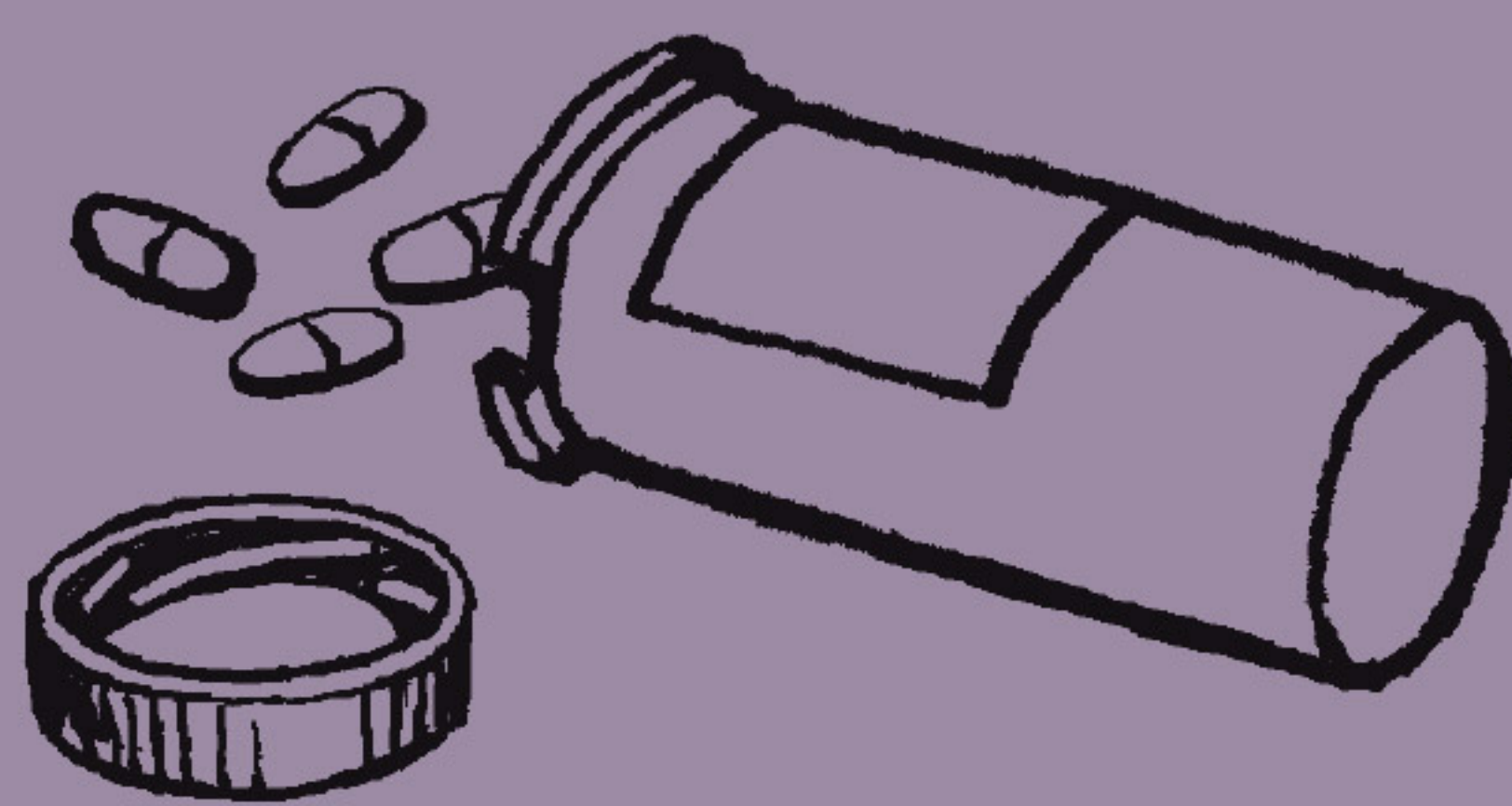
3

4

Carefully remove each poster and connect  
all four posters to see the bigger picture!







# Paper Girls 8

ON SALE 08.03.16

BRIAN K. VAUGHAN  
CLIFF CHIANG  
MATT WILSON  
JARED K. FLETCHER







# ISSUE 07

BRIAN K. VAUGHAN  
CLIFF CHIANG  
MATT WILSON  
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