



Paper GirlsTM

13

Paper Girls 13

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CLIFF CHIANG artist

MATT WILSON colors

JARED K. FLETCHER letters + design

DEE CUNNIFE color flats

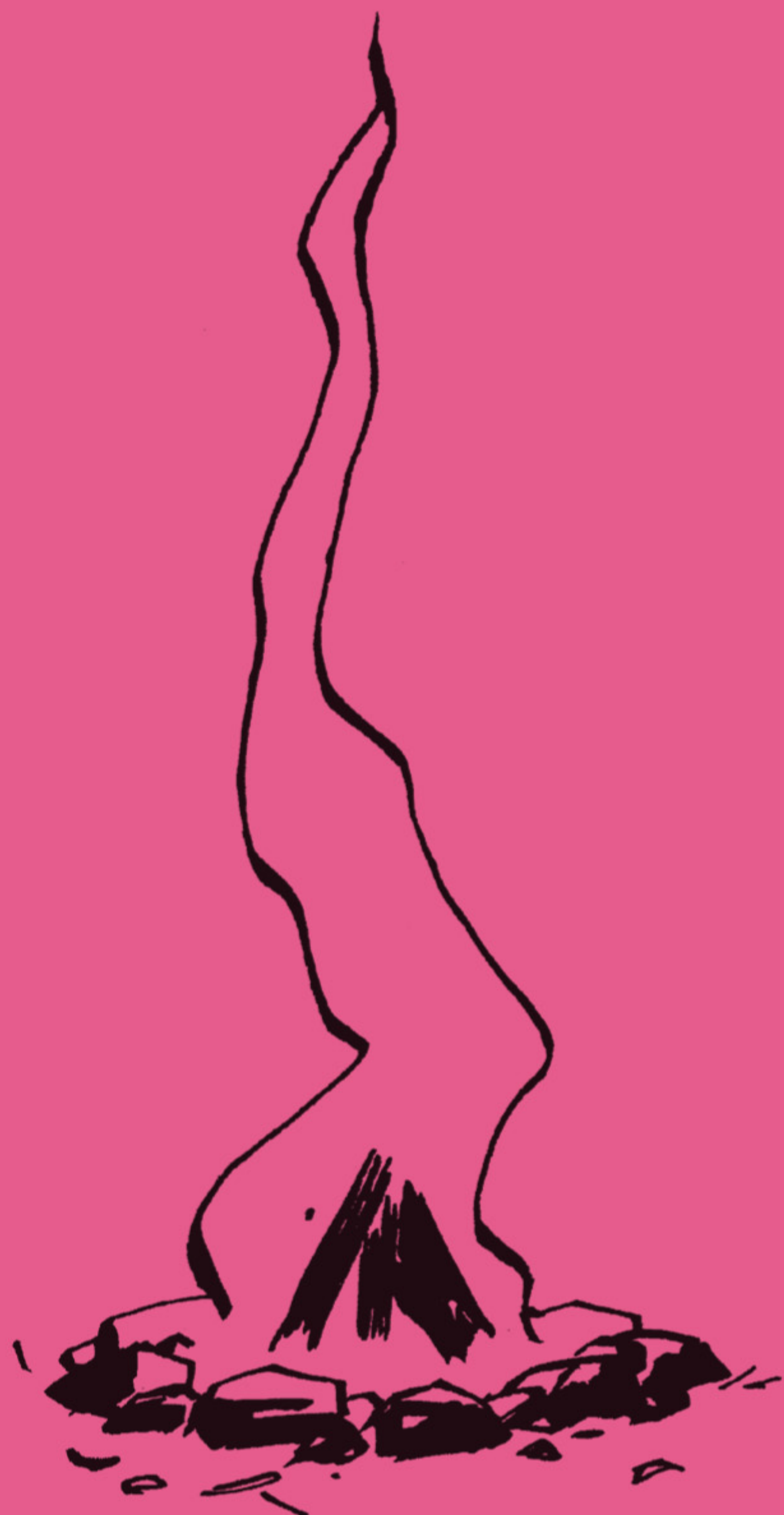


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ha ga



Holy adorable.

Is having a baby the most awesome thing in the world?



It is painful and terrifying.

Now stop talking and keep your eyes open. If we're lucky, we'll recover your friends' **corpses** before nightfall.



You don't *know* they're dead, Wari.

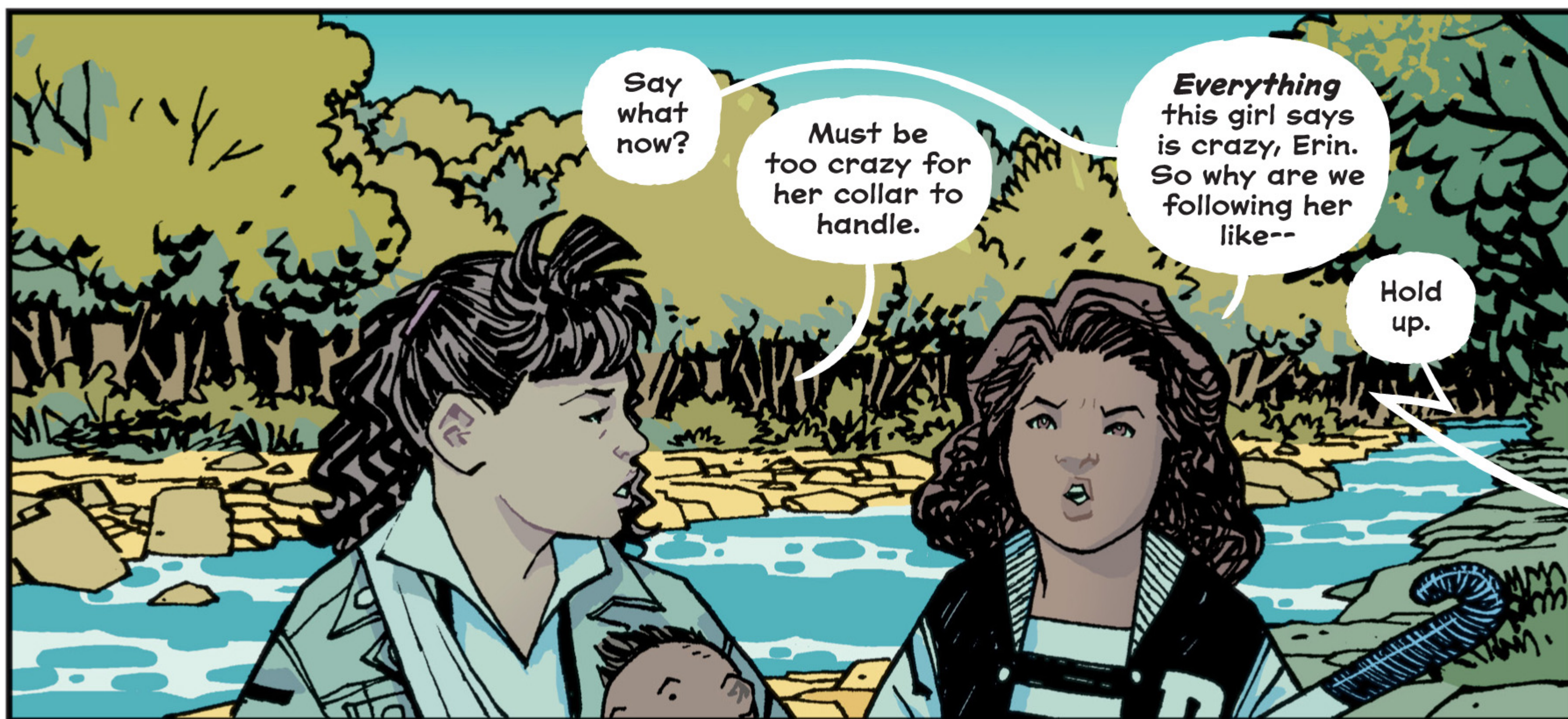
Yeah, Mac and KJ are fighters.

I once saw the two of them threaten to beat up a whole truckful of sanitation guys just for whistling at us.



If the river's current didn't end them, the *three men* did.

And if they somehow survived those threats, they definitely wouldn't have lasted long against the untranslatable.



Say what now?

Must be too crazy for her collar to handle.

Everything this girl says is crazy, Erin. So why are we following her like--

Hold up.



If you wish to live, mind your next step.



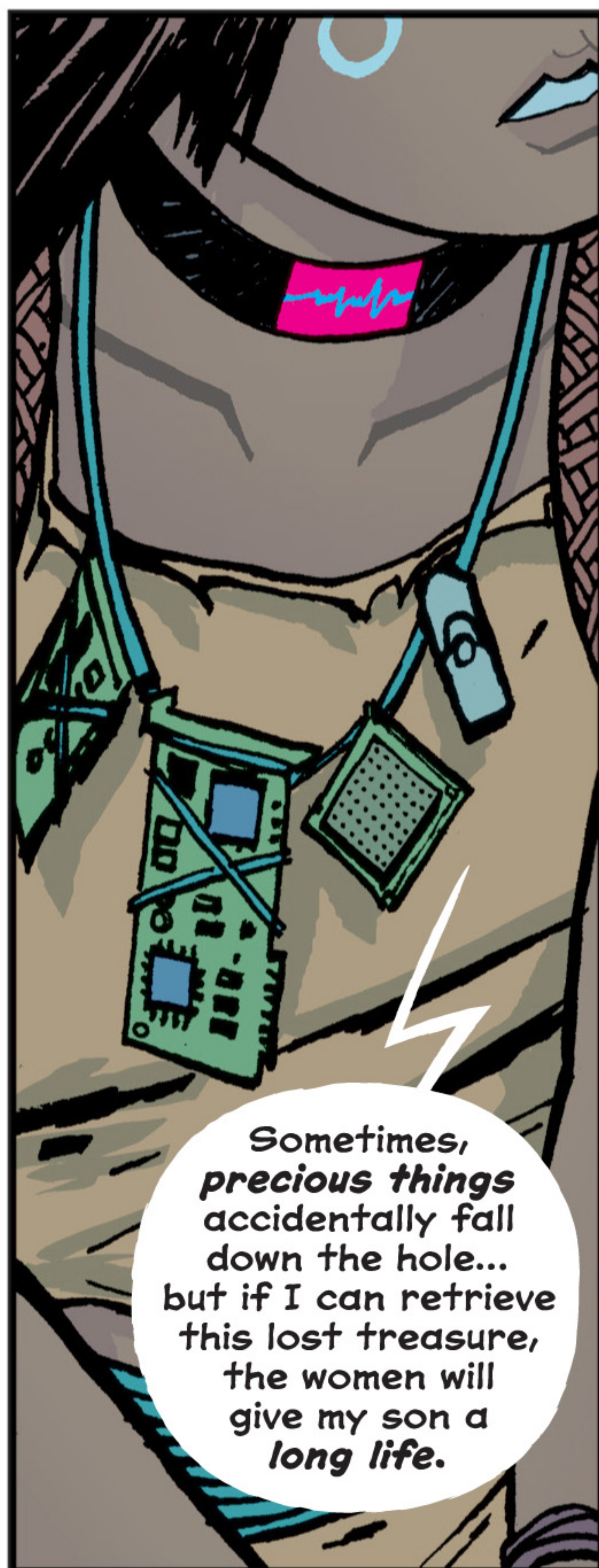
That's a magic shithole dead ahead.



Sorry, did you just say...?

Everyone shits, even the *dream women*.

After they finish constructing their worlds, they drop their *waste* into ours.



Sometimes, *precious things* accidentally fall down the hole... but if I can retrieve this lost treasure, the women will give my son a long life.



Tiffany, it's one of those "foldings."

Like the portal-thing that dropped us here?

You don't expect me to squeeze my ass through that one, do you?



Don't get too close!

The other day, I saw a stag get its antlers ripped **clean off** by one of those things.



Huh.

I think I know where this one leads...but it's not exactly a dream world.



Hold Jahpo for a second, will you?

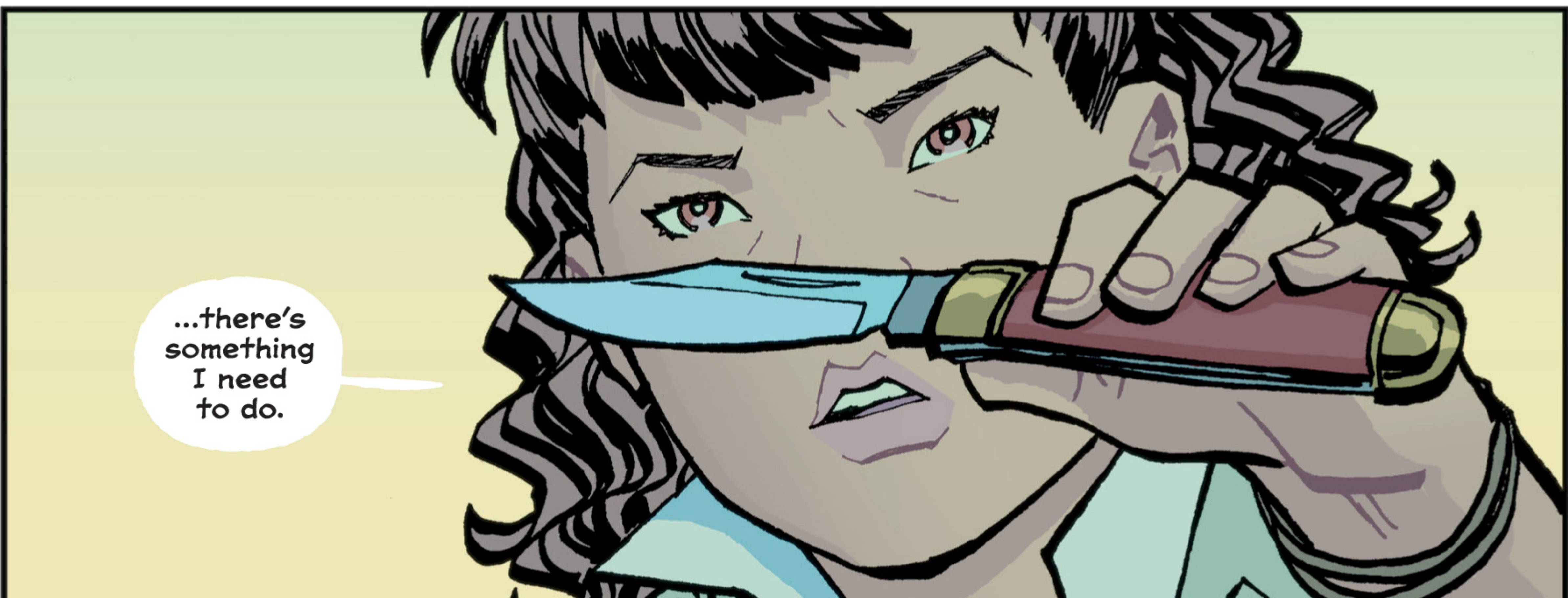
What is this?

If you want to find your people, we need to keep moving.



Not yet.

It's kind of hard to explain, but if my friends and I are ever going to get back home...



...there's something I need to do.



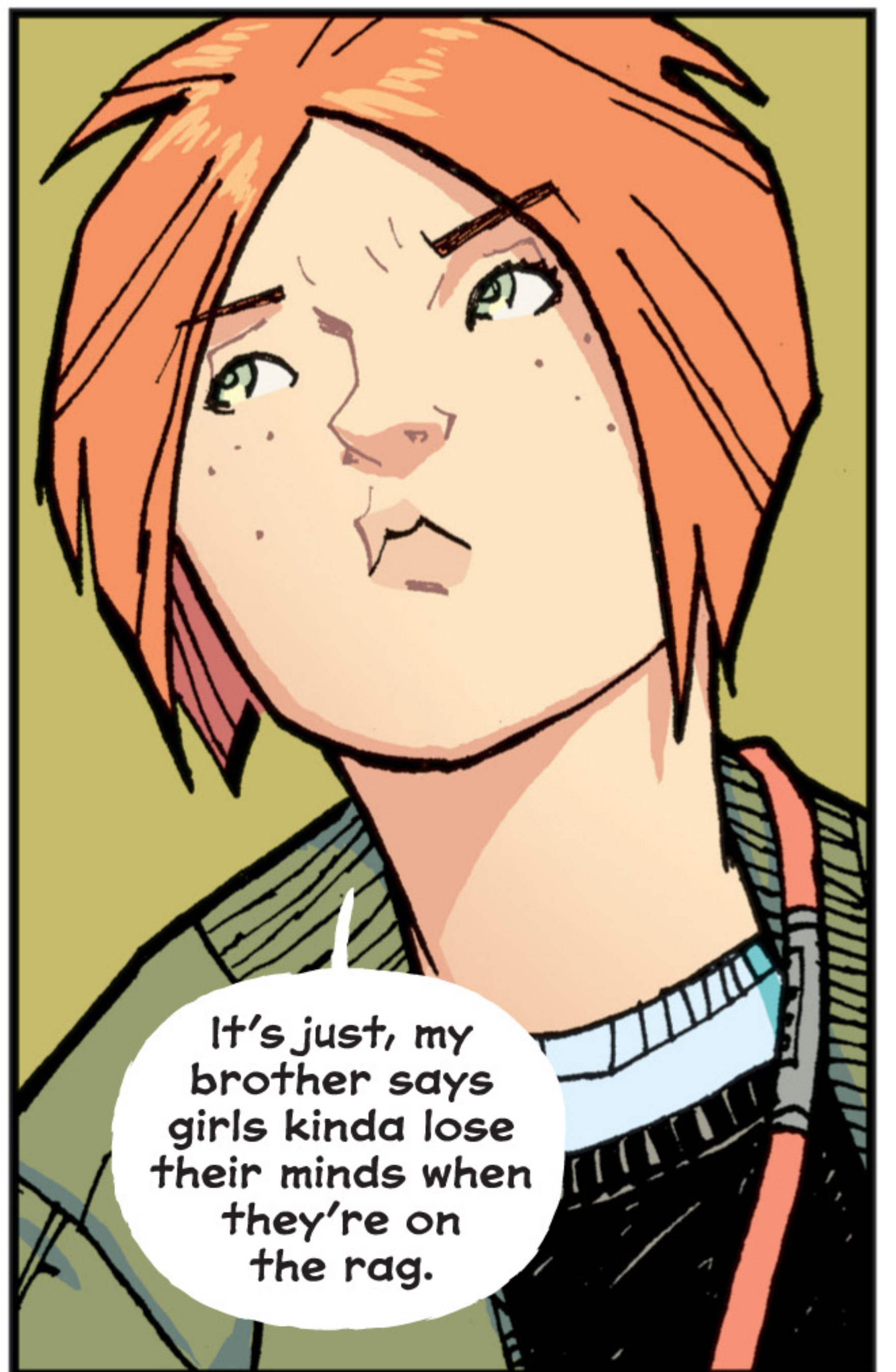




So, do you *feel* any different?

We're stranded in prehistoric times.

Of course I feel different.



It's just, my brother says girls kinda lose their minds when they're on the rag.



"On the rag"?

Did you seriously not learn any of this stuff in sex ed?



Shyeah.

Like my old man would let me take a course with "sex" in the name.

Wait, you never even had a girls' health class or anything?



I had a gym teacher who told us it was unladylike to talk about our **bodies**.

Speaking of which, did you find any dead ones in that thing?





They...
they look like
faeries.



What the
hell are you
talking
about?

I have
no idea, but
whatever they
are, they're
beautiful!

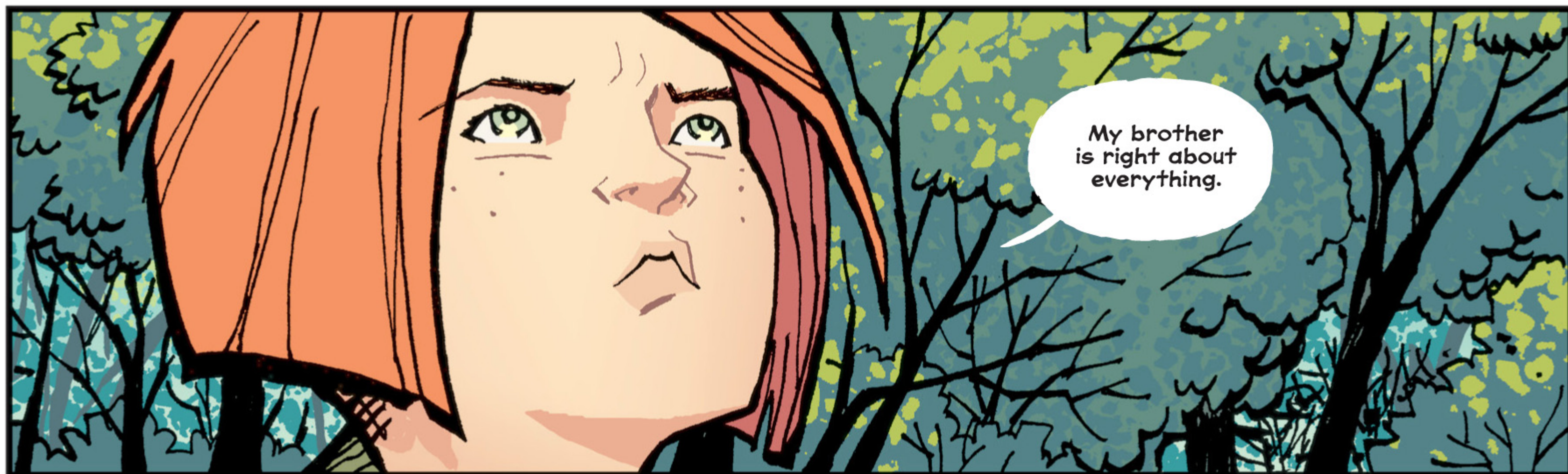
We have
to check
'em out!



I thought
the plan was
to wait here
for Tiff
and Erin.

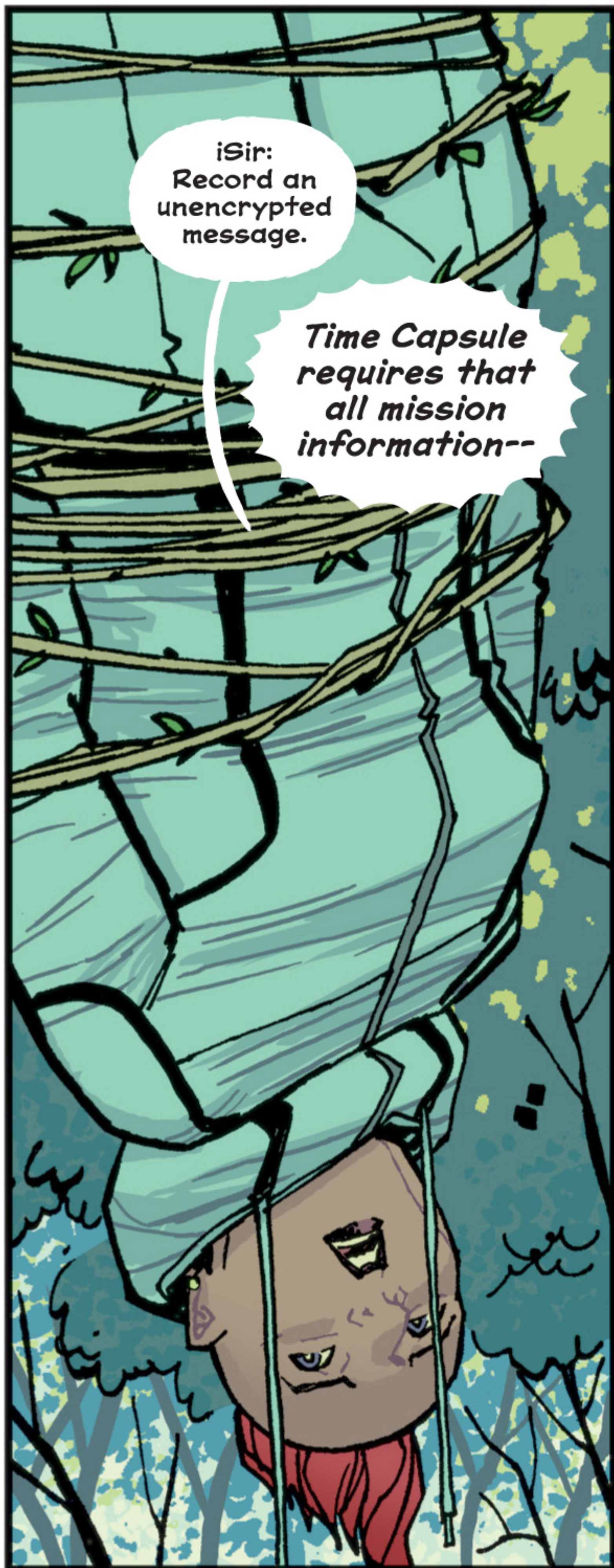
What if
they're the
people who, like,
released those
things? To try
and signal
us?

Just trust
me, we have
to go there
right now!



My brother
is right about
everything.





iSir:
Record an
unencrypted
message.

*Time Capsule
requires that
all mission
information--*



Override,
goddammit.



Recording.



To whom it may
concern, this is Doctor
Qanta Braunstein, and in the
year 2055, I will attempt to
pierce the fourth dimension
and emerge in our late
Pleistocene era...

...but it's vitally
important that this
experiment *never*
be attempted.



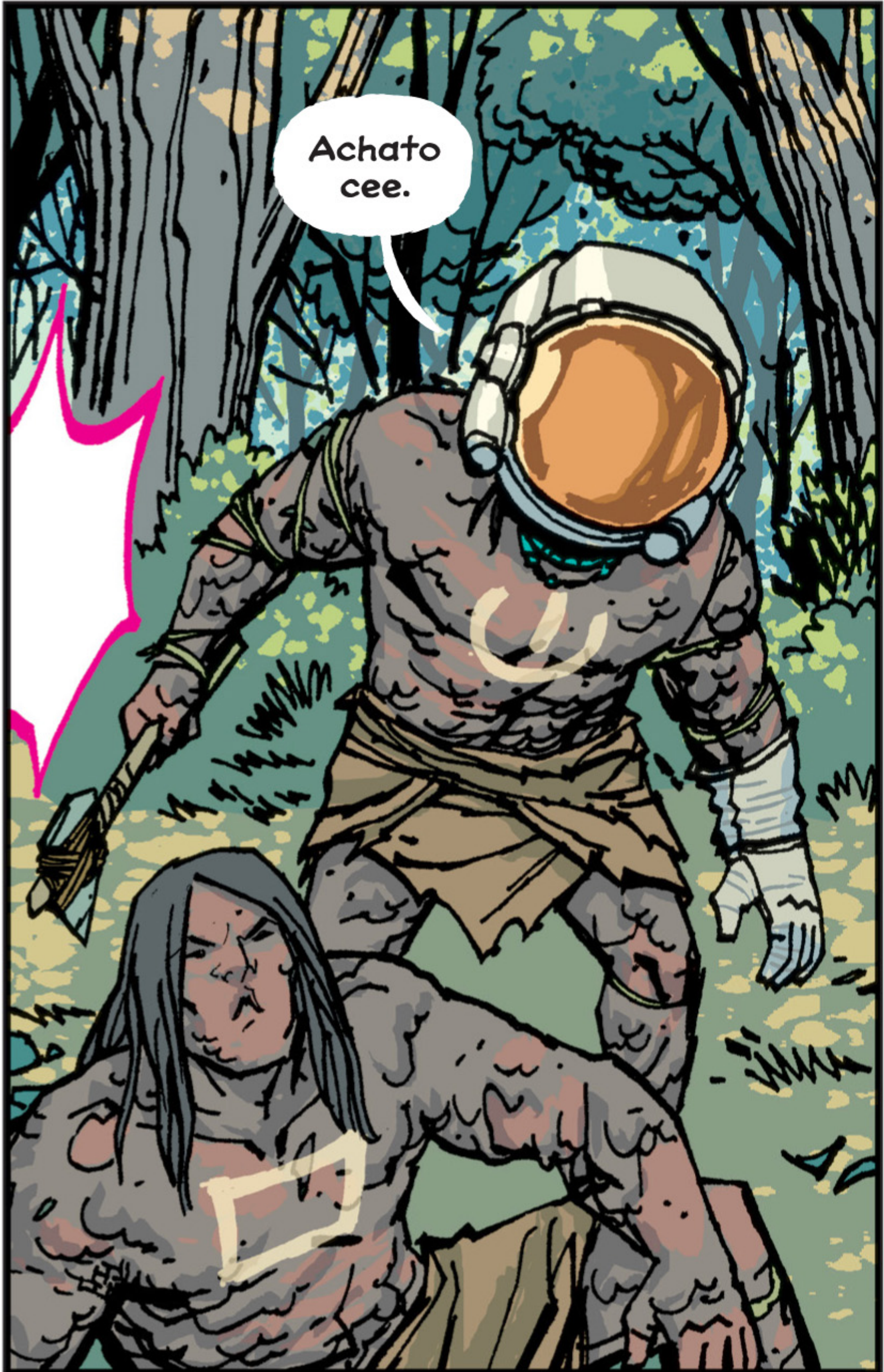
Though every
precaution was taken,
human beings indigenous
to this time were in my
landing zone, having
seemingly *anticipated*
my arrival.

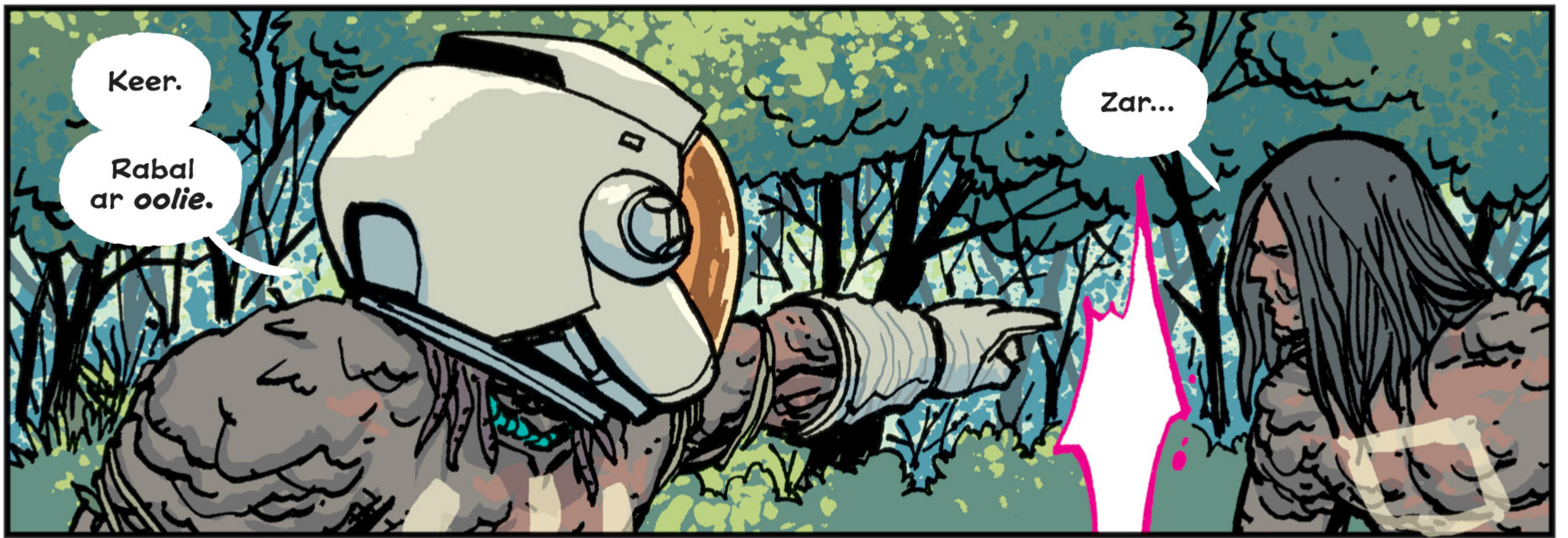
Worse,
before I ever set
foot here, these men
somehow got ahold of...
of artifacts from
the *future*.



I'm worried
that our work
might create
bleed-through
in the--

ERCHATA!





Keer.

Rabal
ar oolie.

Zar...



...ada
zar.



hrnn

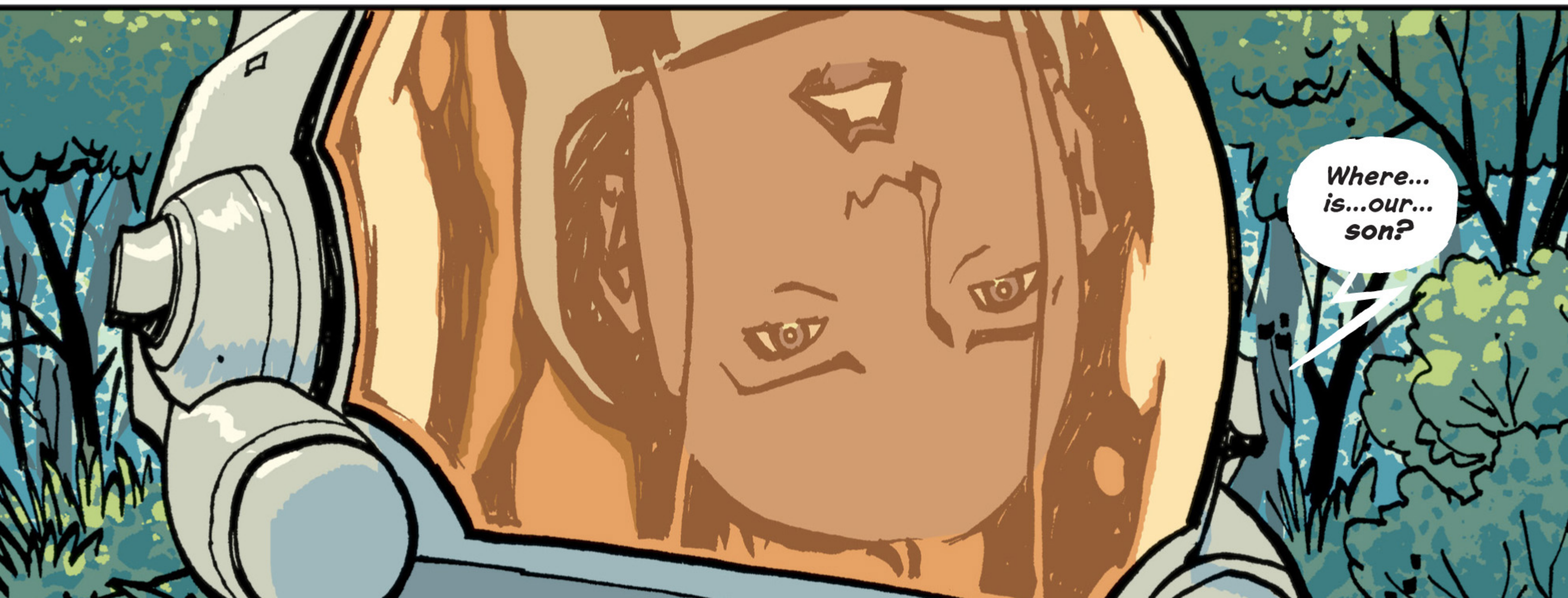
What...
what are
you...?



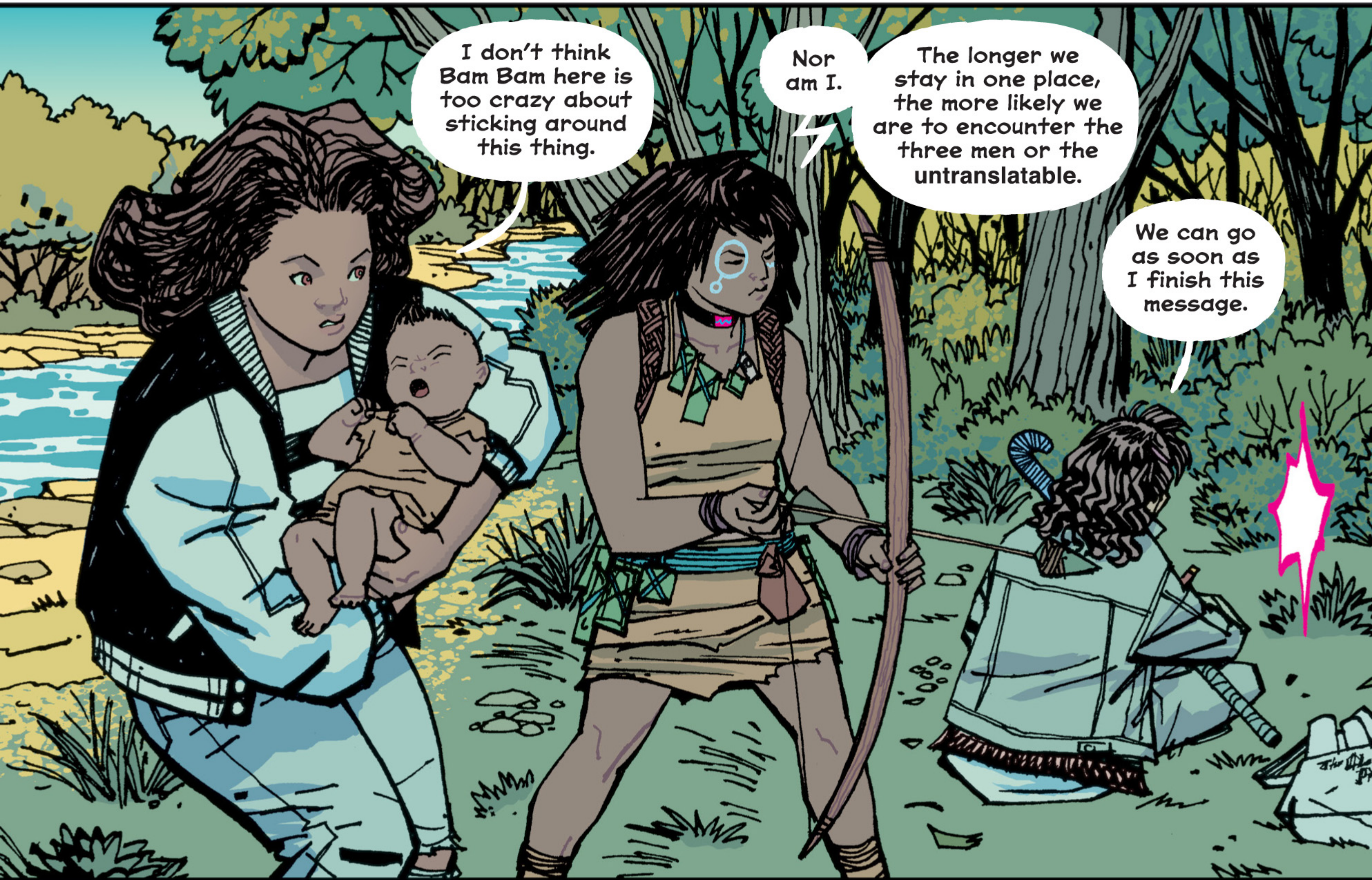
Oo...
cha...
vera?

kzzt

...where...?



Where...
is...our...
son?



I don't think Bam Bam here is too crazy about sticking around this thing.

Nor am I.

The longer we stay in one place, the more likely we are to encounter the three men or the untranslatable.

We can go as soon as I finish this message.

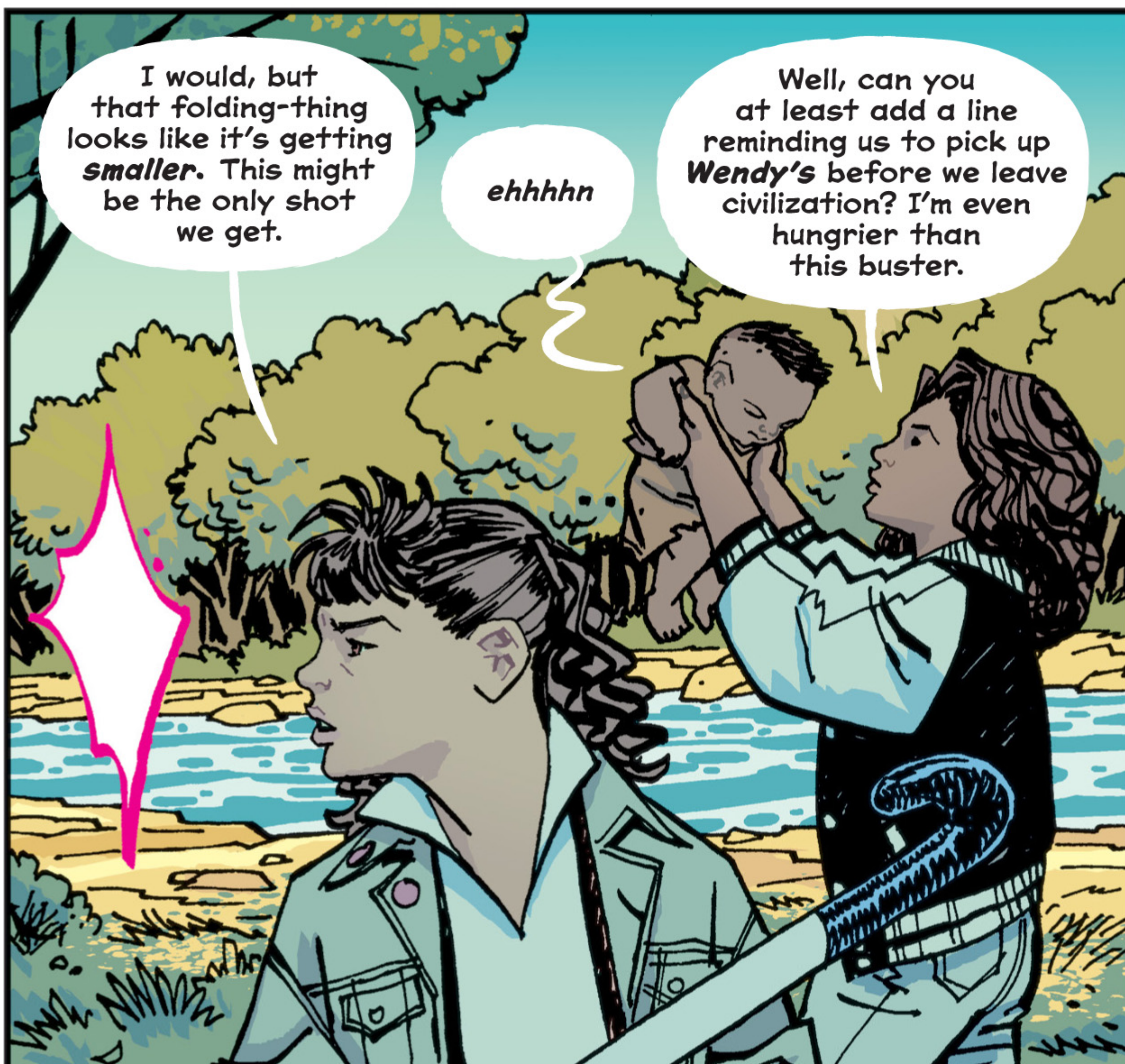


Message for whom?

Wari, the people on the other side of that shithole aren't magic...



...they're just us.





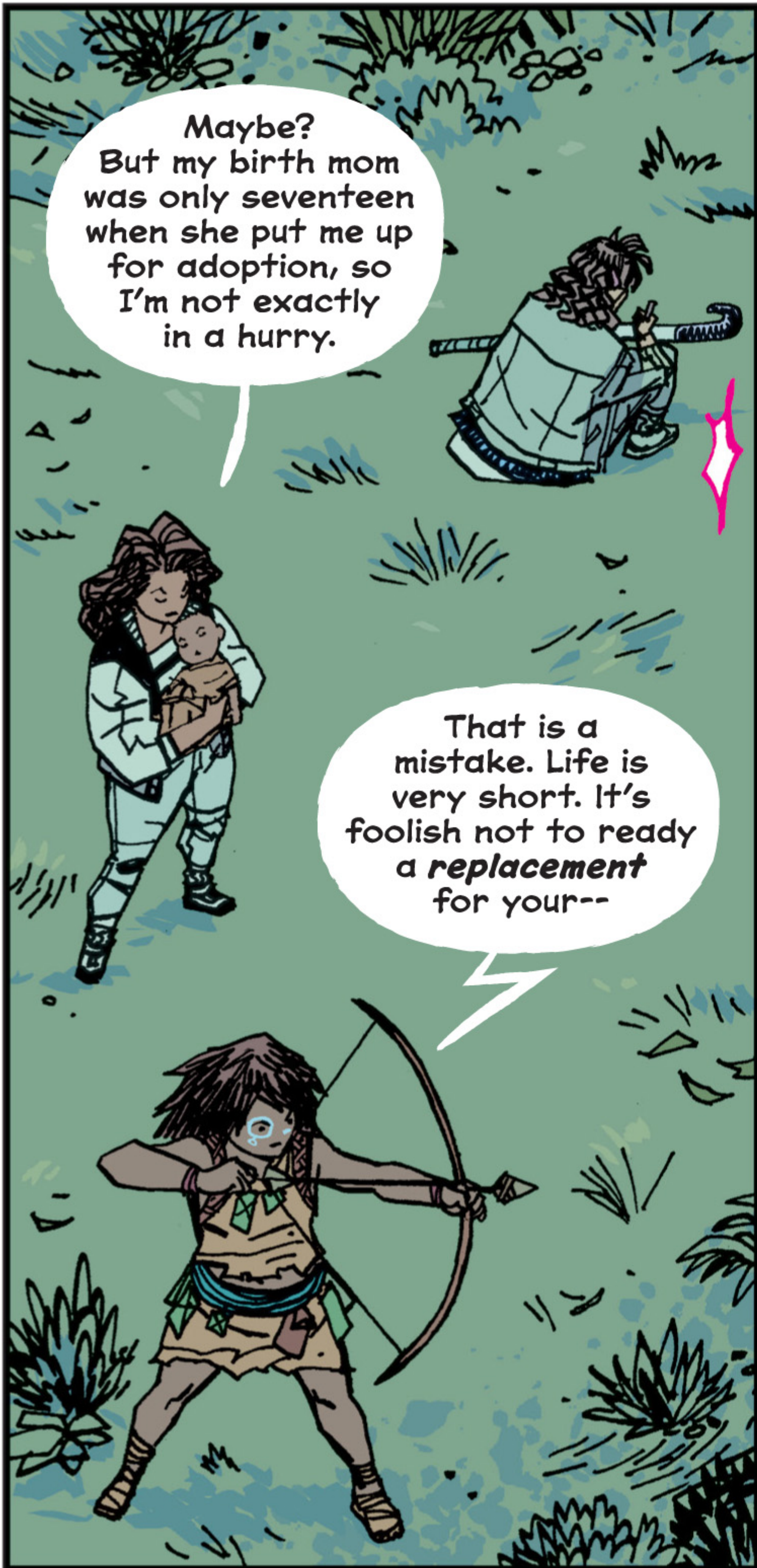
Damn,
you're pretty
sharp with
little kids.

No offense,
but are you
disappointed that
Older You didn't
have any?



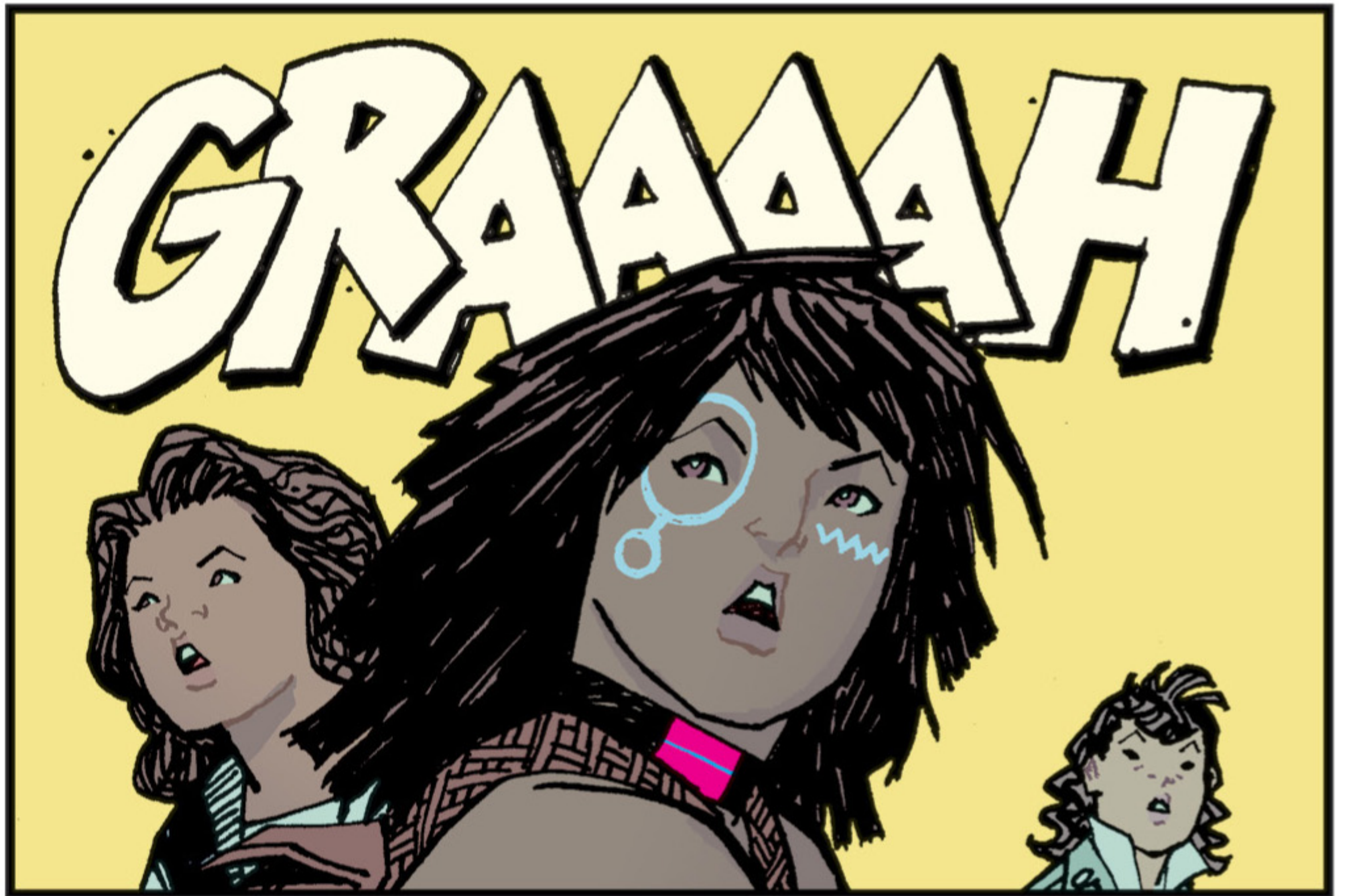
Not really. I mean, before
I got my route, I used to do
a lot of babysitting, but I
never really thought about
being a mother myself.

Why, do *you* want
to have children
someday?



Maybe?
But my birth mom
was only seventeen
when she put me up
for adoption, so
I'm not exactly
in a hurry.

That is a
mistake. Life is
very short. It's
foolish not to ready
a **replacement**
for your--

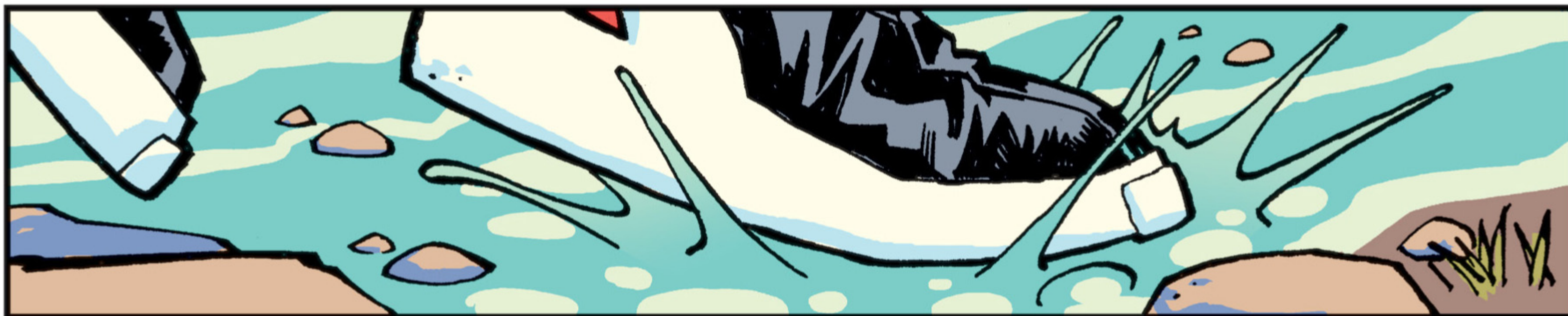


...I'm guessing
that was the
untranslatable?

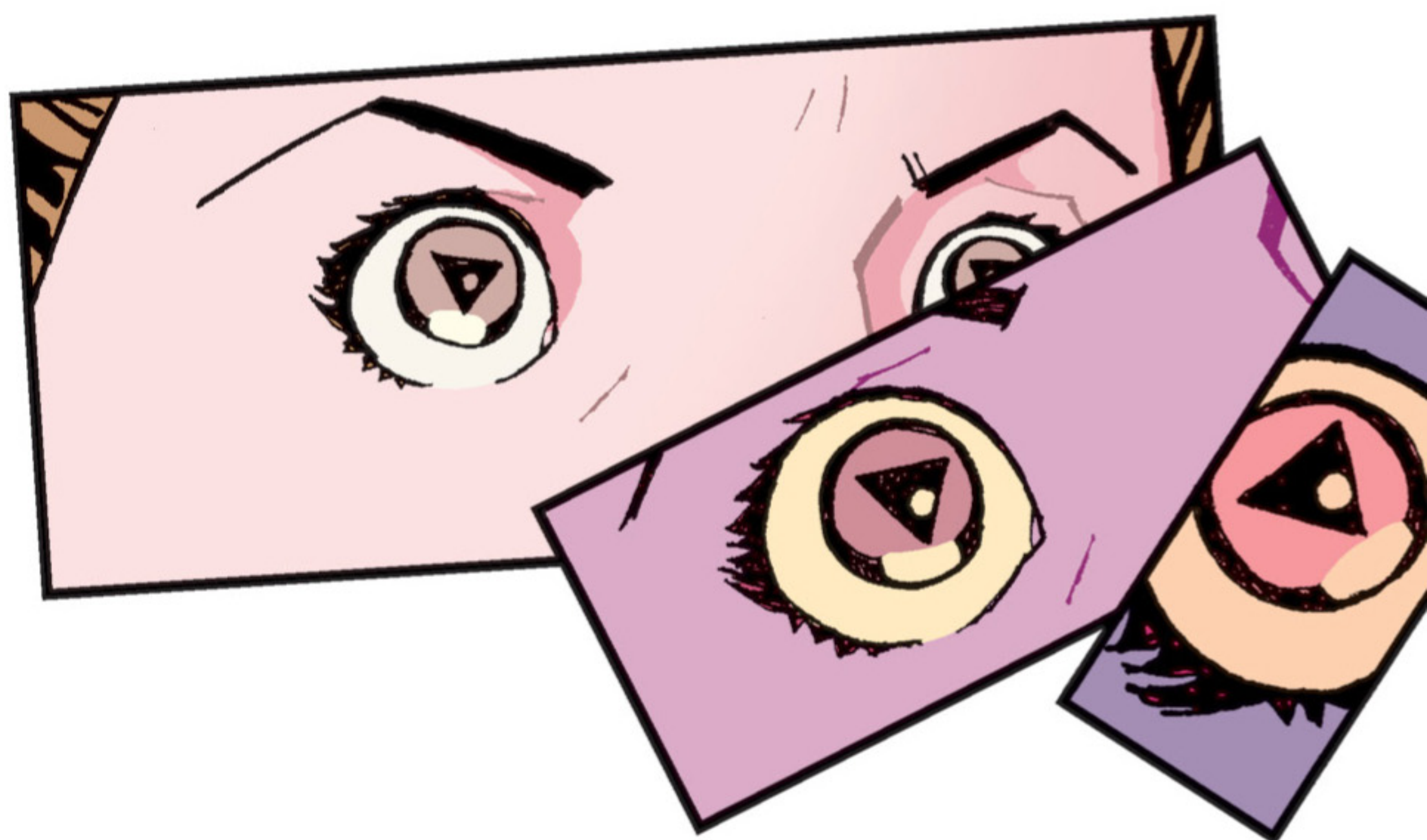
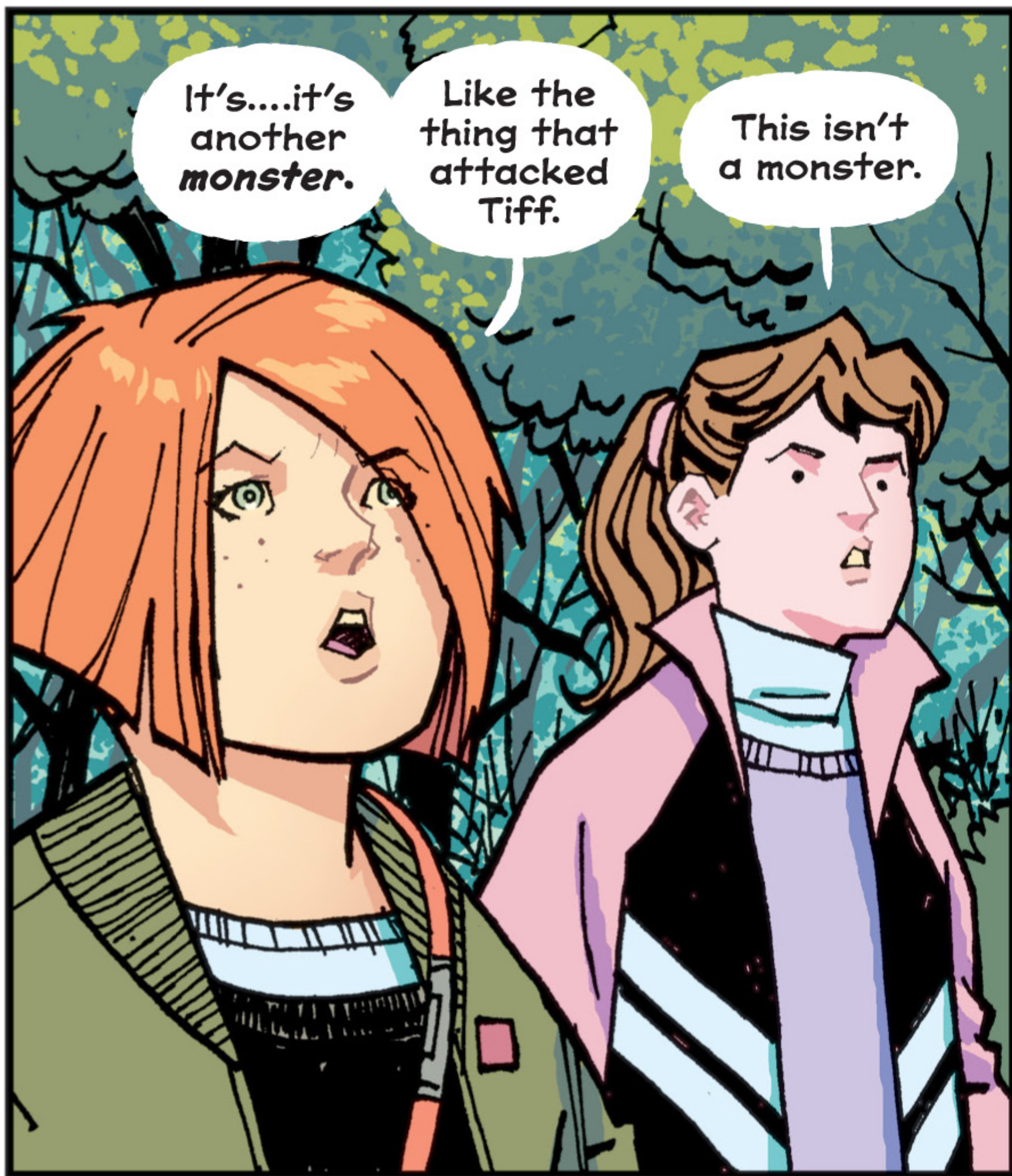
Worse.



That
sounded
like one of
the **men**.









Run.



NoOb!

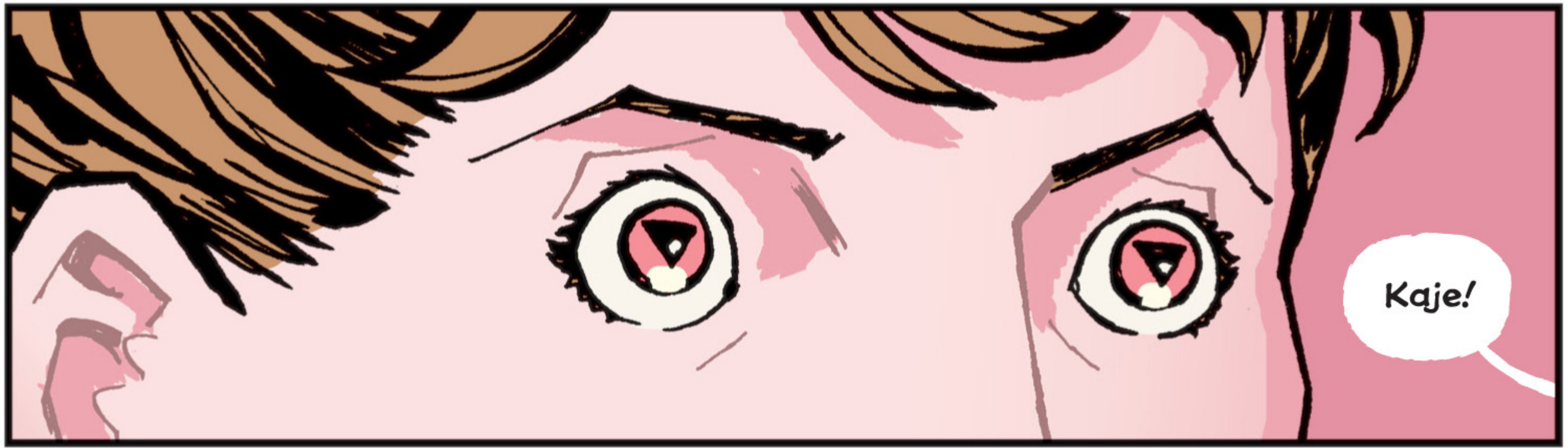


I'm so sorry.



...then
I guess
we do.





Kaje!



...whu...

Are you all right?

You were just standing there like a creep!



What is that thing?

I don't know.

But whatever you do...



...don't fucking touch it.

TO BE CONTINUED

The American Newspaper Delivery Guild

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



*Peter Roy
The Newsboy*

Extra! Extra! We made it! Give a proper newsboy welcome to the year 1900!

Hiya, fellers! PETER ROY THE NEWSBOY here, and I'm still gay as can be about the First Annual New Year's Eve Jamboree thrown by the mighty A.N.D.G. Hope all of youse dues-paying lads were able to make the big shindig.

Still, the punch bowl is long empty, so it's time for us to do what our kind does better than all the rest.....pound that early morning pavement and tell the hard-working men of our cities exactly what's unfolding in this wild new century.

Dear Mister Peter Roy:

Hiya, pal! A few years back, I had to decide whether to hawk papers for *The New York World* or *The New York Journal*. It was a mighty tough decision, seeing how I I loved reading "Hogan's Alley" over in the *World* and "The Katzenjammer Kids" in the *Journal*. Both papers' news stories and sports scores and that kinda junk I could really give or take, if you know what I mean.

Anyway, it got me thinking, why don't somebody make a daily newspaper that's nothing BUT these "comic strips"? I betcha it would be a lot easier to sell than the rag I ended up slinging.

Signed, *Jeremiah Klunt*
Queens, NY

Son, this might be the very worst idea ever submitted to our periodical. While the occasional political cartoon or other bit of color is a fine gimmick or diversion, to suggest that an entire publication should dedicate itself to crude drawings and tiny bubbles stuffed with nonsense is the height of absurdity. Instead of insulting your employer, might we suggest that you try reading the rest of his actual newspaper? We think you'll find much to learn there.

Dear A.N.D.G.,

Hey, I sent in my S.A.S.E. for my official membership card a while back, but still haven't heard anything. What gives?

Just wondering, *Dunsten Honeycott*
Nome, Alaska

Say, is someone out there trying to get wise with Peter Roy? Friend, what in the world is an "S.A.S.E."? And if you want to join our American organization.....why are you and your colorful stamps writing from some strange, faraway-sounding land?

Dearest Rita Pearl,

Just wanted to add my voice to the chorus telling you that you've been doing a SWEET job since the departure of Petey Roy. One question for you though, I've noticed that some of the recent newsletters seem to be missing your trademark opening, and I just really miss your warm greeting each month. Hope it's just my co;

Lotsa love, *Eliza Helanmo*
Pittsburgh, PA

All right, now Peter Roy is POSITIVE someone is trying to pull his leg. Let me assure you: a woman who goes by the name "Rita Pearl"

a Pearl!

wrapping my brain around
in the world I would have
of "the now" in 1988.

My name is Erin. Is this
about me?

freedom, NH

uh, I guess the comic creators
have definitely struck a chord
with the character of Erin. I'm
more of a Tiffany fan myself...

Greetings Rita and all who oil the
machine behind the scenes,

I want to follow Old Erin's advice
about keeping friends and not
being so afraid of other people.
I just don't know how. I've lost,
shunned, and ignored people
who were my friends or could
have been... all because I was
afraid. I'm afraid people don't
really like me, will get mad at
me, or abandon me after I get
close to them. I don't want to be
afraid, but it isn't as easy as just
stopping.

It's hard to ask for advice because
I'm afraid to talk to people. But I'll
ask you because you seem like a
good person who may have dealt
with this same problem. How do
I stop being so afraid of other
people?

Please also find enclosed an
envelope for my A.N.D.G.
membership card with the hope
that you are still accepting
members.

Keep up the good work,

Luke
Freedom, WI

*What a kickass letter! More like
this, please!*

*Luke, a thoughtful young man
like you should have no problem
making friends, but I know
exactly how hard it can feel. Still,
if there's one thing I've learned
over the years, it's that pretty*

*much EVERYONE is afraid of
other people, ESPECIALLY those
folks out there who seem like
they're the LEAST afraid. I realize
my own outgoing and gregarious
ways are often covering up a
lot of personal insecurities, but
sometimes, you have to fake it 'til
you make it, right? Don't worry,
I'm not telling you to be brave;
I'm just asking you to pretend to
be brave, for at least one night a
week at first, okay?*

*Rather than trying to assemble
your entire social network at
once, why not start by just trying
to meet a handful of new people
who happen to share one of your
main interests? Personally, I love
going to book clubs, getting to
know a few fellow readers who
seem cool, and then maybe
joining just them for a bite after
the rest of the group departs. Take
it slow and--this is important--
always try to be a good listener.
Most people really just want to be
heard.*

*Best of luck, and please let us
know how it's going! There are
already plenty of book clubs
around the country discussing
cool comics like the one that hosts
this very newsletter, but if there's
not a club in Freedom yet, maybe
you and your local retailer could
start one?*

Hello,

I still hope you are accepting
membership into the A.N.D.G.
My best friend is Marina Briggs.
She is the kindest, warmest,
smartest person I know. She is my
favorite person ever. She moved
across the world a few years ago
to live and work in China and our
friendship became a bit strained,
as distance will do. Recently, we
have reconnected through our
love of comics. I introduced her to
Paper Girls and she absolutely fell
in love with the series. Thank you
for that. Your book has brought
us both so much joy. Anyway,
she's coming back to visit in
March and I really would love to

surprise her with a membership
card for the Guild. I put her name
on the envelope so you can spell
it, if you are able to do it. I would
greatly appreciate it. She's such
an amazing person and has stuck
it out with me through really
tough times. I could go on and on
about it but I won't take up too
much more of your time. Thank
you so much for this book!

Michael
College Station, TX

*You are such a sweet friend!
Thank you for sharing this story
of print media uniting readers
across an ocean. It really warmed
my heart!*

*That said, I can't send Marina
an A.N.D.G. card because you
didn't enclose an S.A.S.E.! I'm
sorry to be so strict about this,
guys, but honestly, it's not that
hard. Look it up!*

*For the rest of you aspiring
members: it appears that with the
mysterious printing errors we've
been having, a new window for
membership has accidentally
been opened! But never fear, my
laminator and I are ready to serve.
Any requests for membership
received by MAY 15, 2017 will
be honored!*

*As for you, Michael - you've
probably missed Marina's
window at this point, so I hope
your friend will instead please
accept a humble shout-out from
this column. Howdy, Marina!*

Dear A.N.D.G.,

The enclosed article clipped
from the Sunday, December
25, 2016 edition of *The Dallas
Morning News* ("Route to Success
- Today's Headline Makers Credit
Lessons As Newspaper Boys" by
Cheryl Hall) made me think of
Paper Girls.

Best,

DK
Coppell, TX

Thanks so much for sharing this thought-provoking article, DK! I really enjoyed it, and I especially appreciate that you clipped it from an actual print newspaper! The only other person who's ever done that for me is my Grandma (and the articles she sends are mostly about how she wants to be buried).

If you want, beloved print readers, you can (just this once!) go online and check out the article yourself, but it's basically a profile of a bunch of successful Dallas businessmen who all had paper routes as boys – and how much they learned from their jobs!

Of course, as a girl, my first thought was, "I wonder what amazing business women we'd be profiling if they'd let girls deliver papers back then?" I mean, my Grandma definitely worked after school too, but it was as an unpaid care worker in her own home. Imagine how her life might have been different if she'd been allowed to get a paper route?

And imagine how this kind of article is going to look different in fifty years, if we girls keep pushing for equal rights?

Something to look forward to.

In the meantime, I was struck by this section of the article:

"This rite of passage began to disappear decades ago as the number of afternoon papers dwindled and parents worried about their sons' safety delivering papers on their bikes in early morning darkness. When newspapers turned over delivery to large circulation distributors, delivery boys went the way of the milkman."

Clearly, the writer doesn't realize that the A.N.D.G. is back up and running! Maybe I should send her a postcard...

Hi Rita Pearl,
I'm glad to hear that you've taken

the helm at the A.N.D.G. I'm looking forward to many months to come where I get to experience the exciting paper-delivery life secondhand. I grew up in a rural area where the only people working paper routes had a car. Many houses had a half-mile or so between them. I never knew how fun paper routes were until I read all the letters from other A.N.D.G. members.

Also, thanks for holding contests each and every month. I hadn't realized how much I missed sending and receiving mail just for fun. I enclosed the postcard that you requested. What are your plans for all of the returned postcards?

Either way, keep up the good work! I can't wait to see what you have in store for us in next month's *Paper Girls*.

Matt Molnar
Gibsonia, PA

Listen up, kid: what Rita plans to do with all those old postcards is Rita's business.

JK! That weird contest was just one of the unique ways we try to reward those deliverers who have been super-loyal, longtime members of the A.N.D.G. You'll only be eligible to receive surprises like those occasional postcards if you're part of the Guild, so if any of you out there haven't already joined, what the heck gives?

Dear Rita,

How has it been taking over Petey's position? Do you know if he's enjoying retirement? Rest assured, you're doing a phenomenal job!

I just wanted to send a letter in to share my appreciation for this comic. Amazing story with awesome artwork, I seriously can't get enough!

I know it's too late to join the A.N.D.G. but hopefully there will

be another round of acceptances which I would love to be part of!

Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

Chloe H.
Redondo Beach, CA

PS. Enjoy this mug cozy I made to help keep your hot beverage warm through all your replies.



Chloe, your mug cozy is TD. Thank you so much! We've had a cold, rainy winter here in the City of Angels, and I have been drinking quite a few hot beverages as I read your letters, advocate for your rights, and try to keep up with the dizzyingly insane news that keeps coming at us these days.

And you are about to have the favor returned, because you're our newest DELIVERER OF THE MONTH! You'll be receiving a bunch of truly rad prizes, including one of our brand-new RITA PEARL T-SHIRTS! We hope you get the right size, but if not, feel free to share with an alternately shaped loved one.

Until next time, Squad, keep pressing those presses!

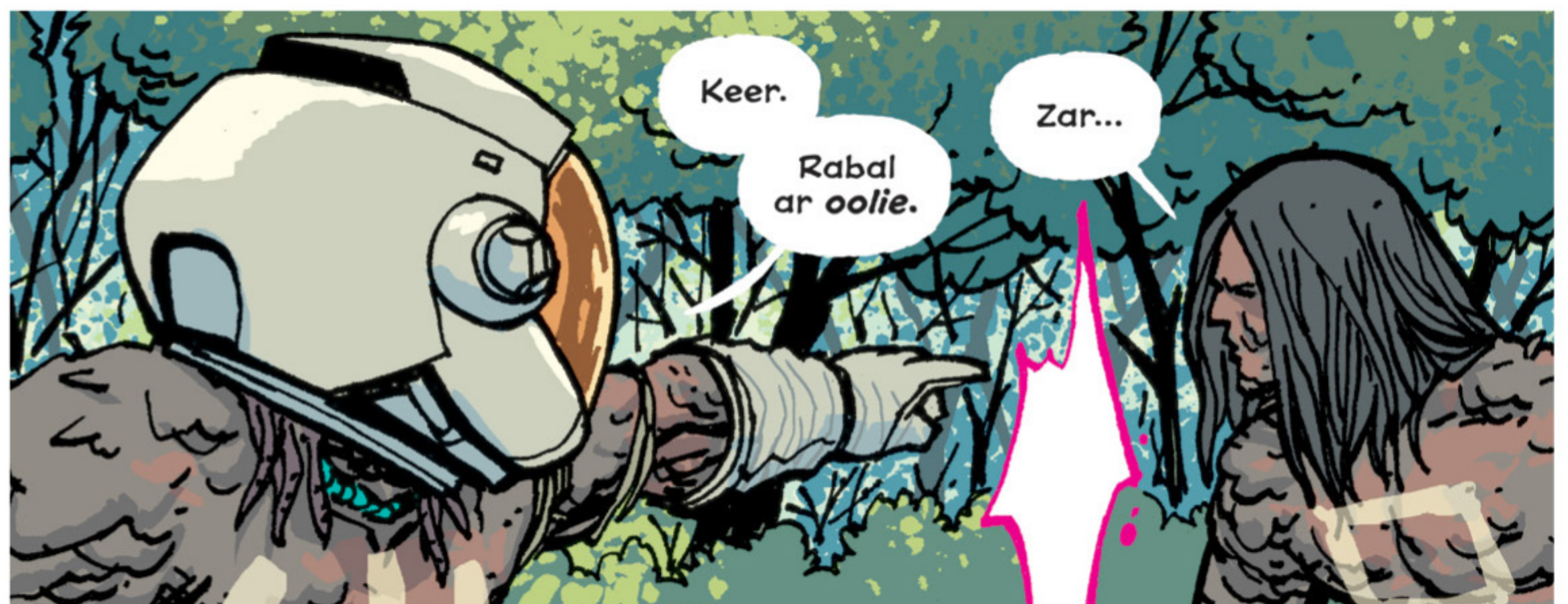
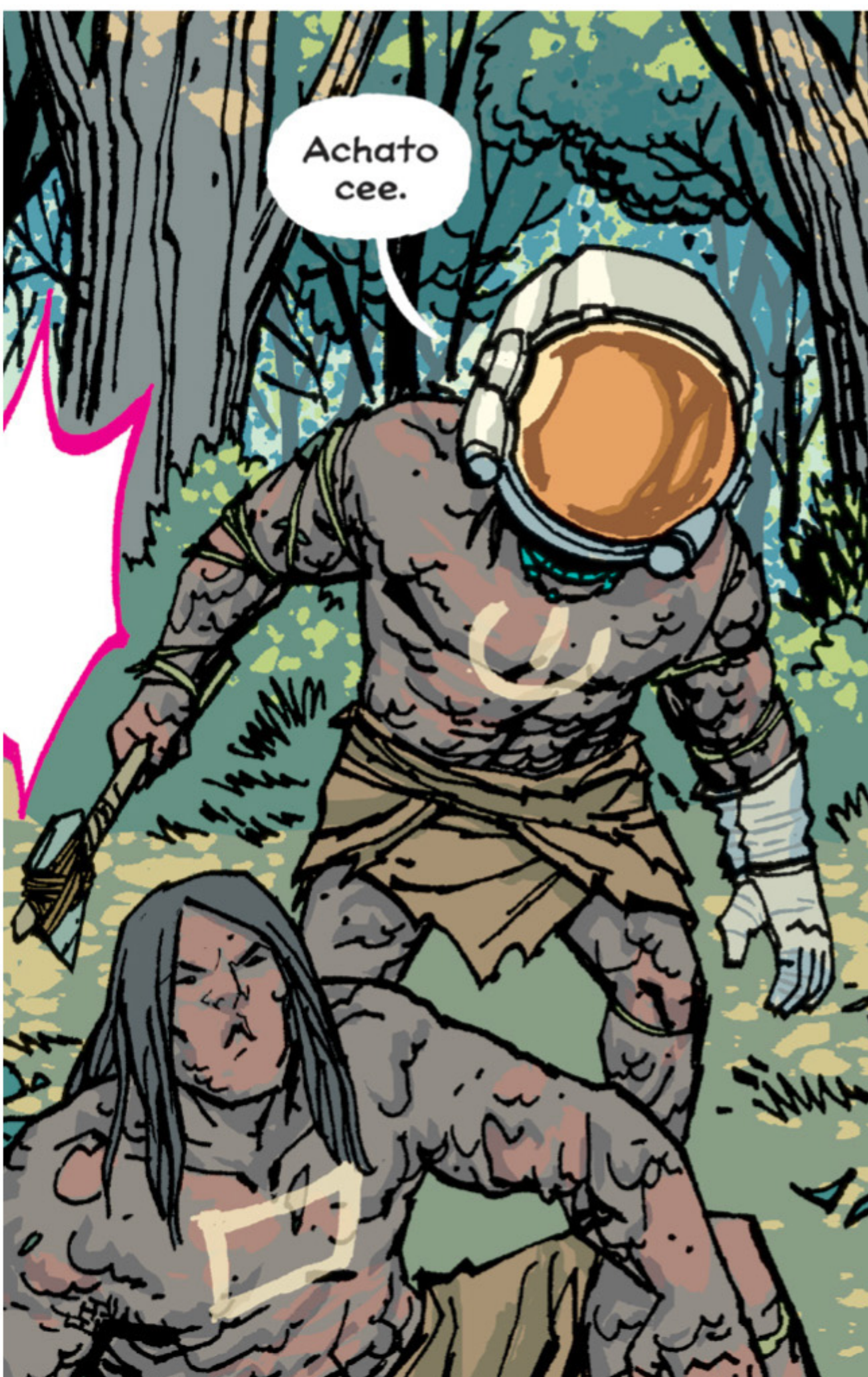
XOX,

Rita Pearl, Paper Girl

Translation Tryout!

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

One of our most popular contests is CRYPTOGRAPHY CORNER, but this month, we at the A.N.D.G. are trying something just a little bit different. Even our best modern translation software has no ability to decipher these examples of seemingly prehistoric language, but maybe YOU are up to the task? At the bottom of this page, write your best guess (or funniest idea!) of what might be being said in each panel, send your translations to the address above, and our favorite responses will be published in an upcoming issue, and will also be available for TREMENDOUS PRIZES. Dra baghune!

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with ten horizontal dashed lines, typical of primary-ruled notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

BECAUSE YOU DEMANDED IT!

Paper Girls

T-SHIRTS ARE HERE!

Hey, Kids! You, too, can dress like the cool kids with these **AWESOME** new **PAPER GIRLS™** t-shirts featuring your **FAVORITE** characters!

Rita Pearl, Papergirl

Perfect for your paper route or the office. Werk! (\$25) ▼



Petey Roy, Paperboy

Rock some vintage A.N.D.G. gear at the gym! (\$25) ▲



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Show off your Stony Stream pride! (\$25) ▲

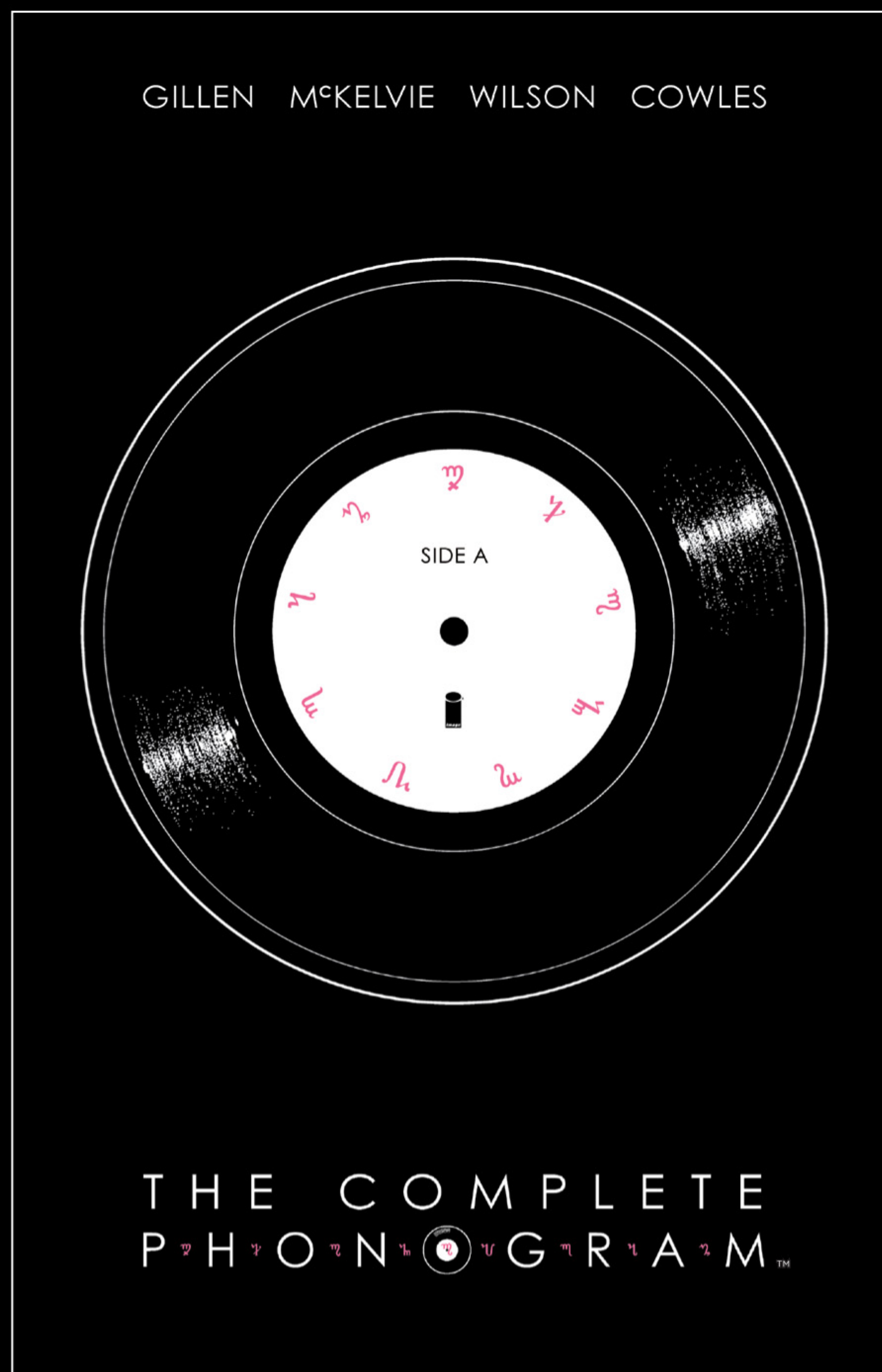


Sorry no COD's. Point your browser to:

<https://papergirls.threadless.com>

AVAILABLE **APRIL 2017** FROM IMAGE COMICS
BY EISNER AWARD-NOMINATED CREATORS

KIERON GILLEN + JAMIE MCKELVIE



“There’s a lot of deceptively light-footed complexity in much of Kieron’s writing — I’m thinking now primarily of his weirdly symbiotic and merged collaborations with the excellent Jamie McKelvie, where you can see a dance-like or musical sensibility creeping into the storytelling, a kind of fluorescence ... The most distinctive things about [*Phonogram*] are its relentless progressive momentum and the sense of effervescent colour — probably **hot pink**.”

— **Alan Moore**

“The ultimate music-obsessive comic.”

— **Pitchfork**

THE COMPLETE PHONOGRAM COLLECTS

Vol. 1: Rue Britannia
Vol. 2: The Singles Club
Vol. 3: The Immaterial Girl
And the previously
uncollected B-side stories.

For further information on **Phonogram** and **The Wicked + The Divine**, major news, new issues, and merchandise updates, visit: **www.wicdiv.com**, and use **#WicDiv** to join the conversation on Twitter and Tumblr.
Groove along with us on the ever-updated Spotify Playlist for the series: **bit.ly/WicDivPlaylist**.



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2 of 4

1

2

3

4

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





Paper Girls 14

ON SALE 05.03.17

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





ISSUE 13

BRIAN K. VAUGHAN
CLIFF CHIANG
MATT WILSON
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