



Paper GirlsTM 14

ISSUE 14

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

IMAGECOMICS.COM

RATED **T+** | TEEN PLUS

Paper Girls
14

Paper Girls 14

BRIAN K. VAUGHAN writer
CLIFF CHIANG artist
MATT WILSON colors
JARED K. FLETCHER letters + design
DEE CUNNIFFE color flats

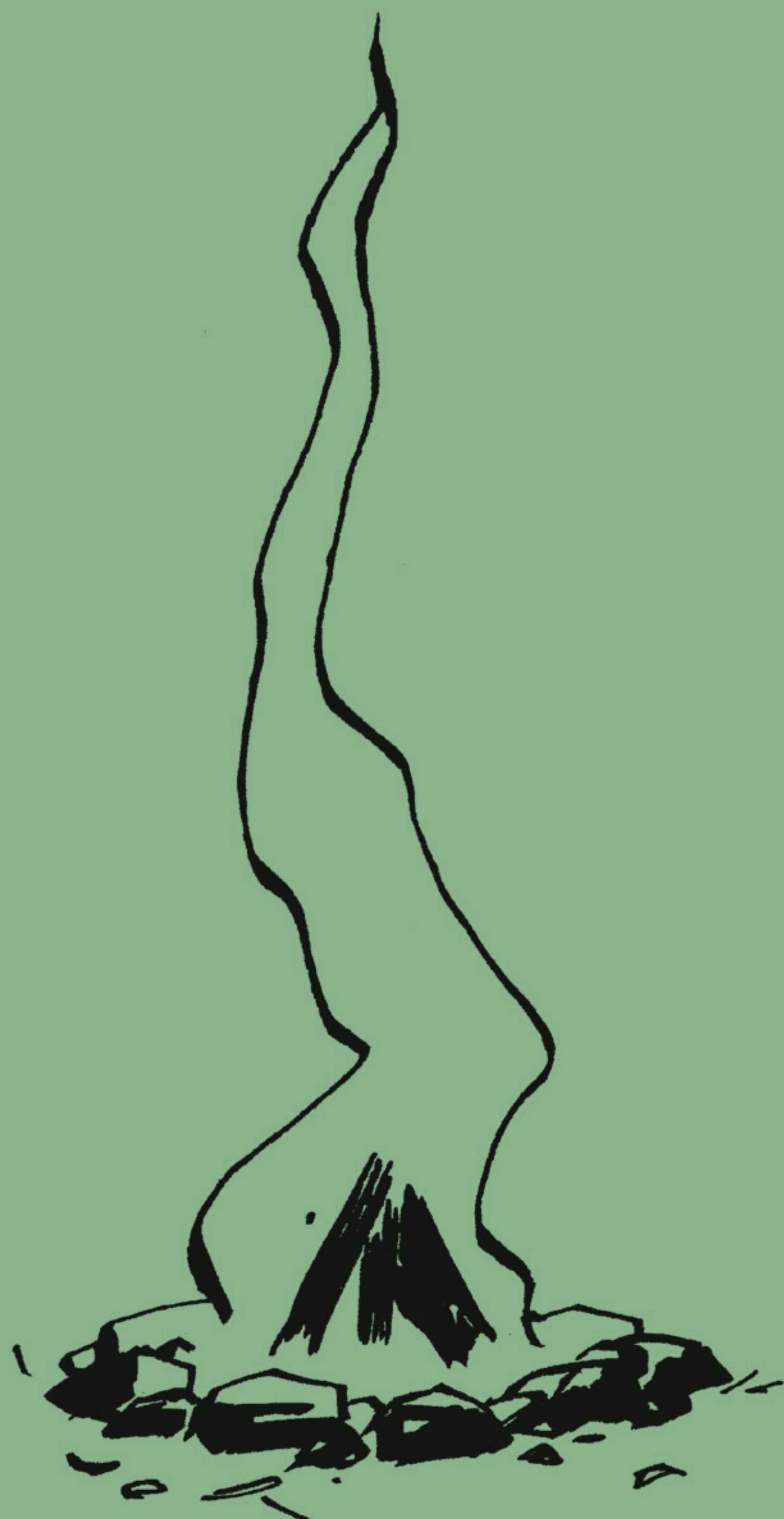


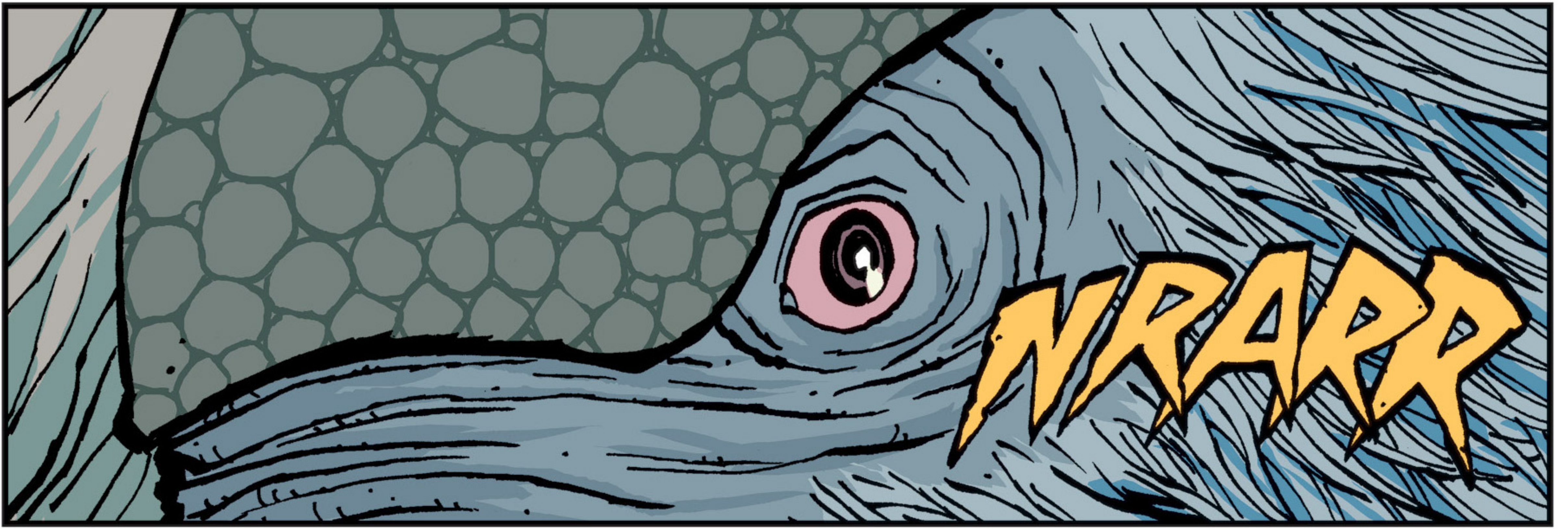
Image Comics, INC.
Robert Kirkman - Chief Operating Officer
Erik Larsen - Chief Financial Officer
Todd McFarlane - President
Marc Silvestri - Chief Executive Officer
Jim Valentino - Vice-President
Eric Stephenson - Publisher
Corey Murphy - Director of Business Development
Jeff Boison - Director of Publishing Planning & Book Trade Sales
Chris Ross - Director of Digital Sales
Jeff Stang - Director of Specialty Sales
Kat Salazar - Director of PR & Marketing
Branwyn Bigglestone - Controller
Sue Korpela - Accounts Manager
Drew Gill - Art Director
Brett Warnock - Production Manager
Meredith Wallace - Print Manager
Tricia Ramos - Traffic Manager
Briah Skelly - Publicist
Aly Hoffman - Conventions & Events Coordinator
Sasha Head - Sales & Marketing Production Designer
David Brothers - Branding Manager
Melissa Gifford - Content Manager
Drew Fitzgerald - Publicity Assistant
Carey Hall - Production Artist
Erika Schnatz - Production Artist
Ryan Brewer - Production Artist
Shanna Matuszak - Production Artist
Vincent Kukua - Production Artist
Esther Kim - Direct Marketing Sales Representative
Emilio Bautista - Digital Sales Associate
Leanna Caunter - Accounting Assistant
Marla Eizik - Administrative Assistant
Chloe Ramos-Peterson - Library Market Sales Representative

IMAGECOMICS.COM



PAPER GIRLS #14. May 2017. Copyright © 2017 Brian K. Vaughan & Cliff Chiang. All rights reserved. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: 2701 NW Vaughn St., Suite 780, Portland, OR 97210. "Paper Girls," its logos, and the likenesses of all characters herein are trademarks of Brian K. Vaughan & Cliff Chiang, unless otherwise noted. "Image" and the Image Comics logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means (except for short excerpts for journalistic or review purposes), without the express written permission of Brian K. Vaughan, Cliff Chiang or Image Comics, Inc. All names, characters, events, and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events, or places, without satiric intent, is coincidental. Digital edition. For international rights, contact: foreignlicensing@imagecomics.com







Nice shot, Wari.



Huh, never seen a *breathing boulder* this far north.

The dream women must have called the beast here at the same time they summoned my boy and me.

Either way, you totally saved that giant armadillo-thing's life.



No, I saved *ours*.

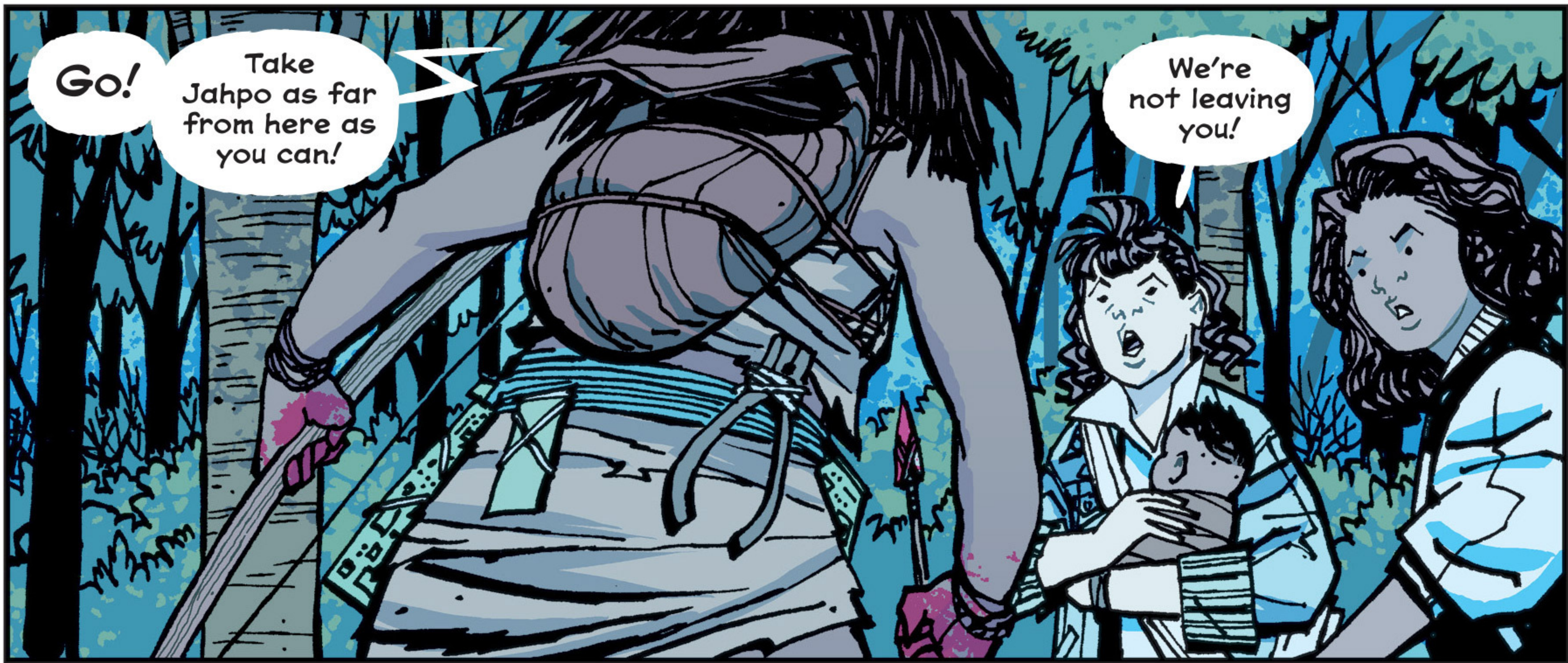
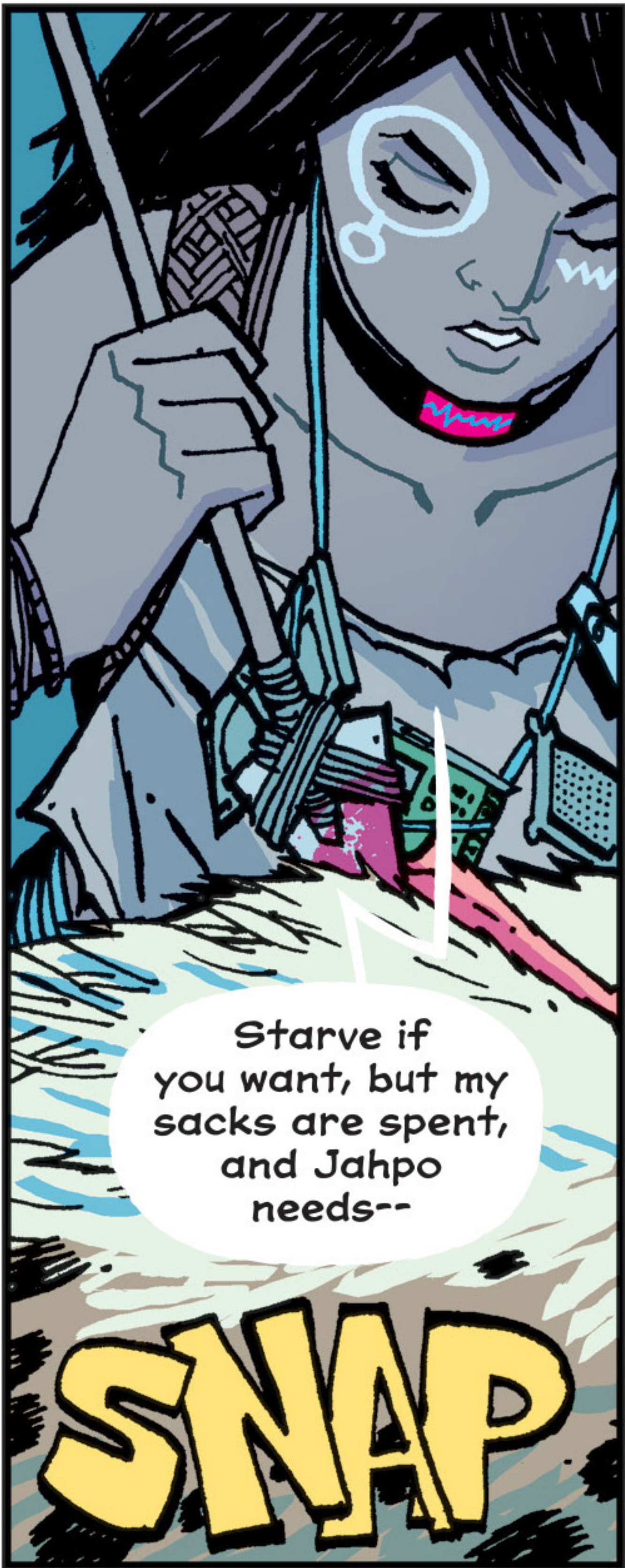
Tiffany, help me gut this corpse for our meal.



Ah, that's okay, thanks. I'm a vegetarian.

You are? Since when?

Since about ten seconds ago.





Take it easy,
Clan of the
Cave Bear.



Mac!

Are you
guys all
right?!

Thank you,
Jesus!



Well, we're not dead.

But KJ just got bad-touched by some kind of floating pyramid.

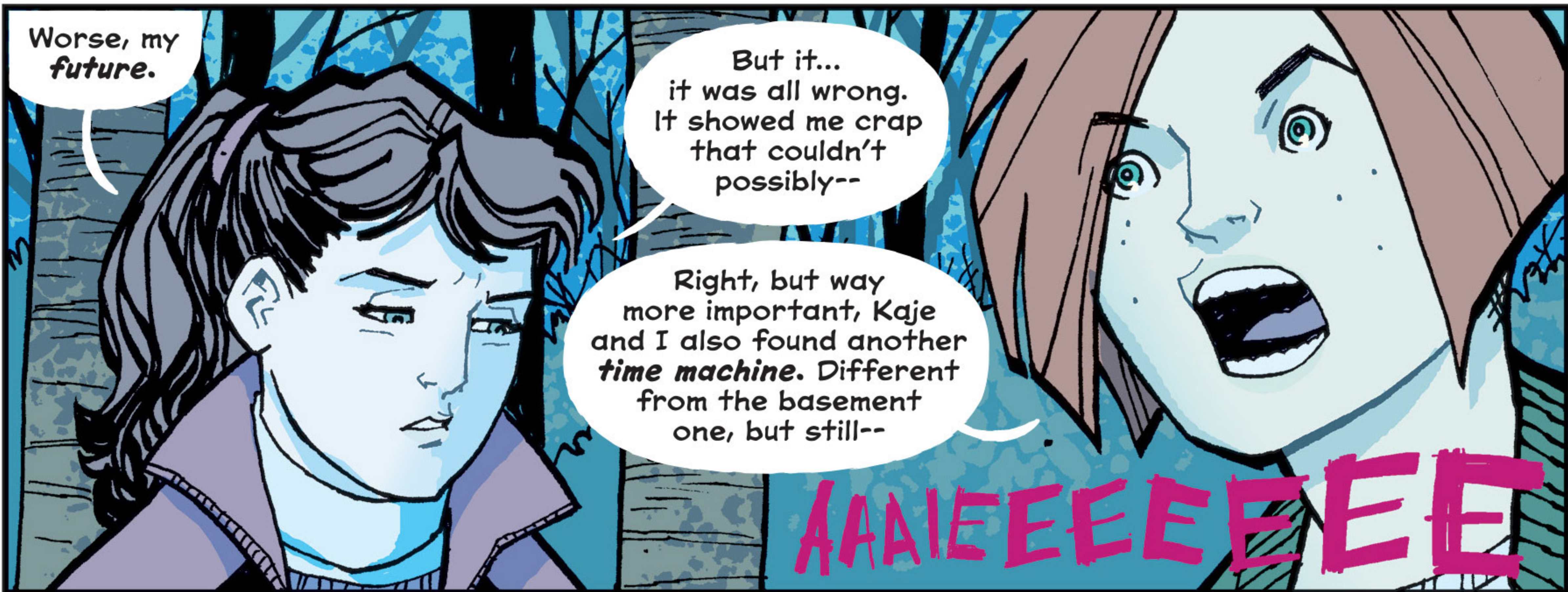
She survived the untranslatable?



I don't know what it was, but it sucked.

Looked like it was related to whatever attacked *you*, Tiff.

Are you serious? Did it make you relive your entire wasted past?



Worse, my *future*.

But it... it was all wrong. It showed me crap that couldn't possibly--

Right, but way more important, Kaje and I also found another *time machine*. Different from the basement one, but still--

AAAAEEEEEEEE



Sounded like a *woman*.

If that's our future pilot, maybe she can get us home!



Whoever just yelled in pain has already been found by *the three men*.

She's about to *die*, as will anyone who stupidly confronts my son's fathers.

Your... *what?*



It took the seed of three different males to make Jahpo.

Each of them felt they deserved to keep the boy as their own, even though they did nothing but put their weight on me.

I...I am so sorry.



In my guild, tradition says that a mother must give up her child to whichever father is determined to be the strongest.



But I think tradition is fucking garbage.



AAAAHHHHHHH

I'm sorry my son and I must go, but if the three men are "enjoying" themselves, they may have left their *stolen treasure* unattended elsewhere.

Goodbye, interesting women. I'm glad you found your friends alive.



Don't piss away that gift.

Forget you ever heard those screams.



NAAAHH!



Reveal...
where child is...
or your head...
goes in hole.

Forgive me,
Allah. Forgive
me, Yahweh.

I told
my loved ones
I never believed
in You, but deep
down, I always
have.

HEAD
GOES IN
HOLE!

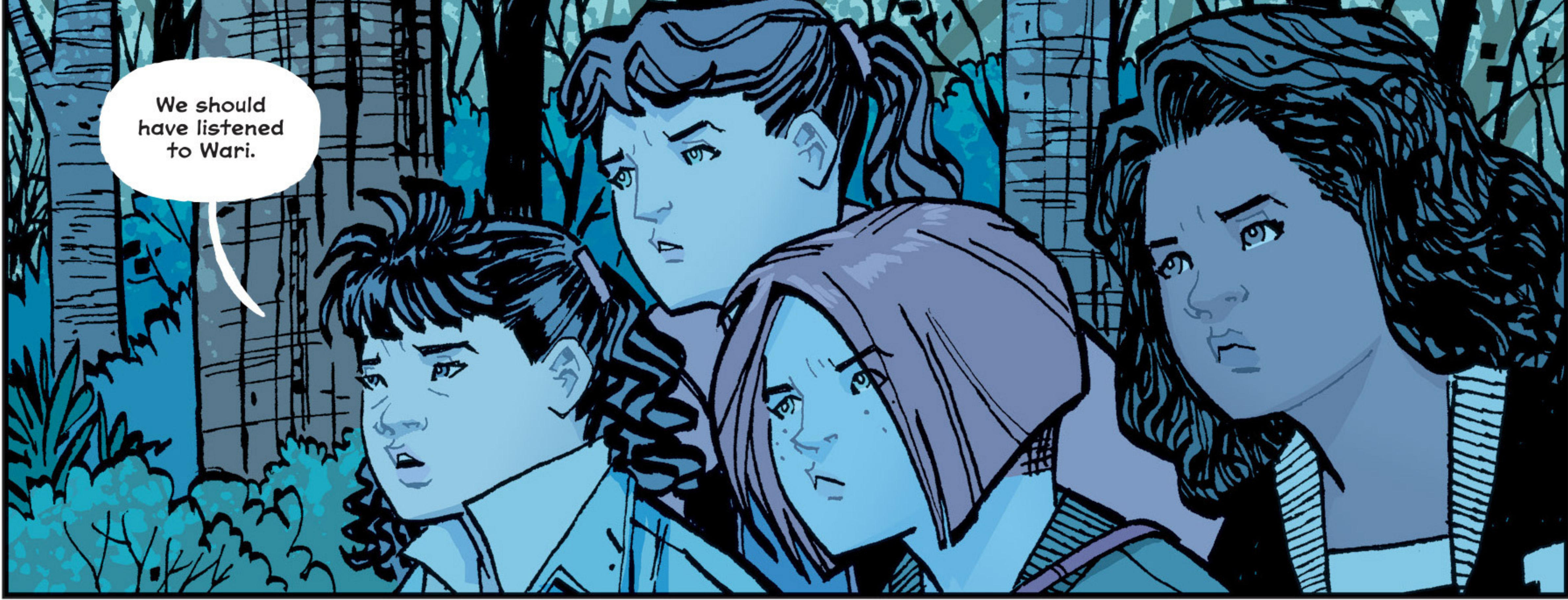


I know now
my creation was
a sin against You, but
I, I, I just wanted to
understand *Your*
creation by--

HEAD
GOES IN
HOLE!



And
nothing
come
out.





⚡
Last chance...
dream woman.



Then for the last
time: your translation
is sound, but I still
don't have an answer
to your goddamn
question.

Begging
now.

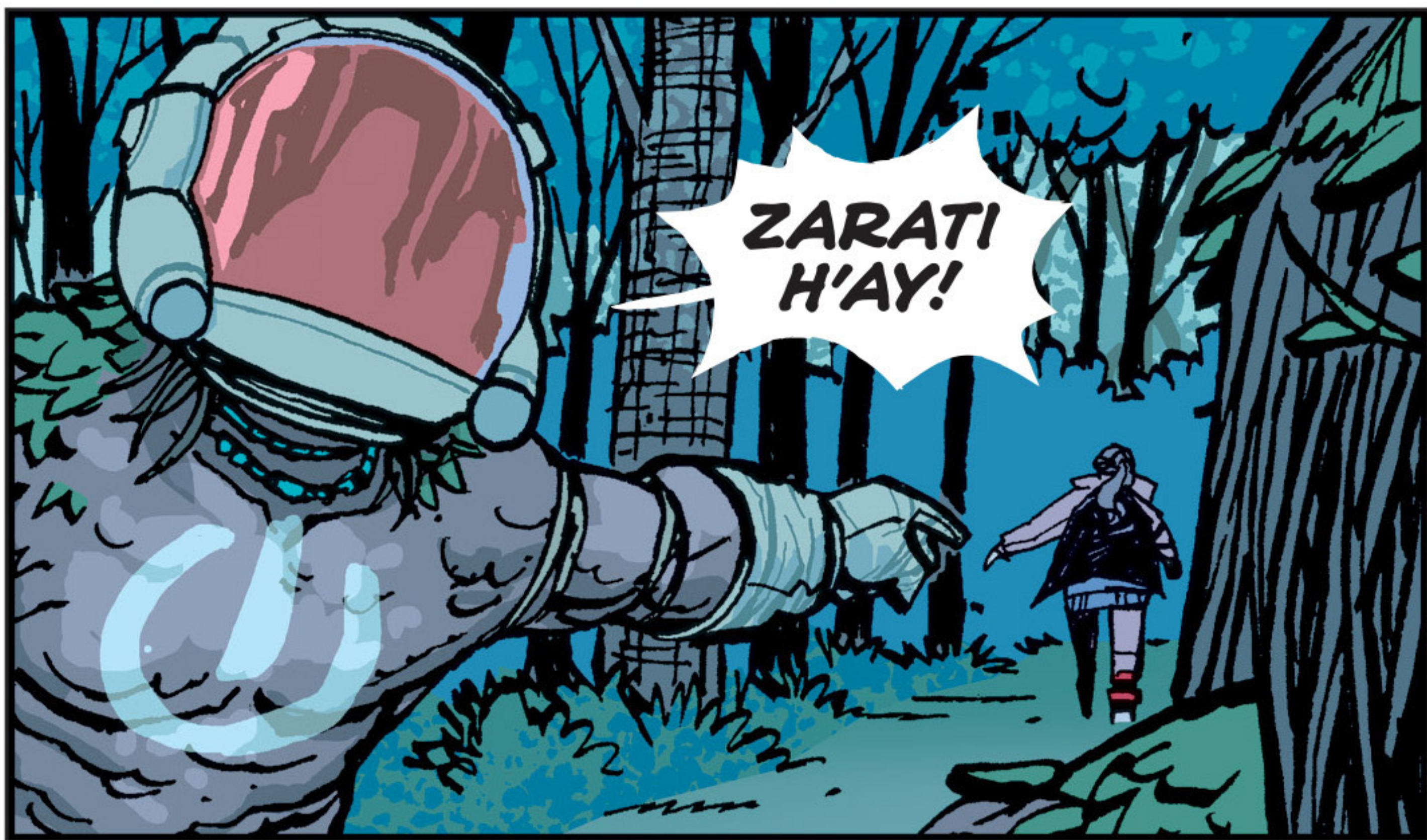
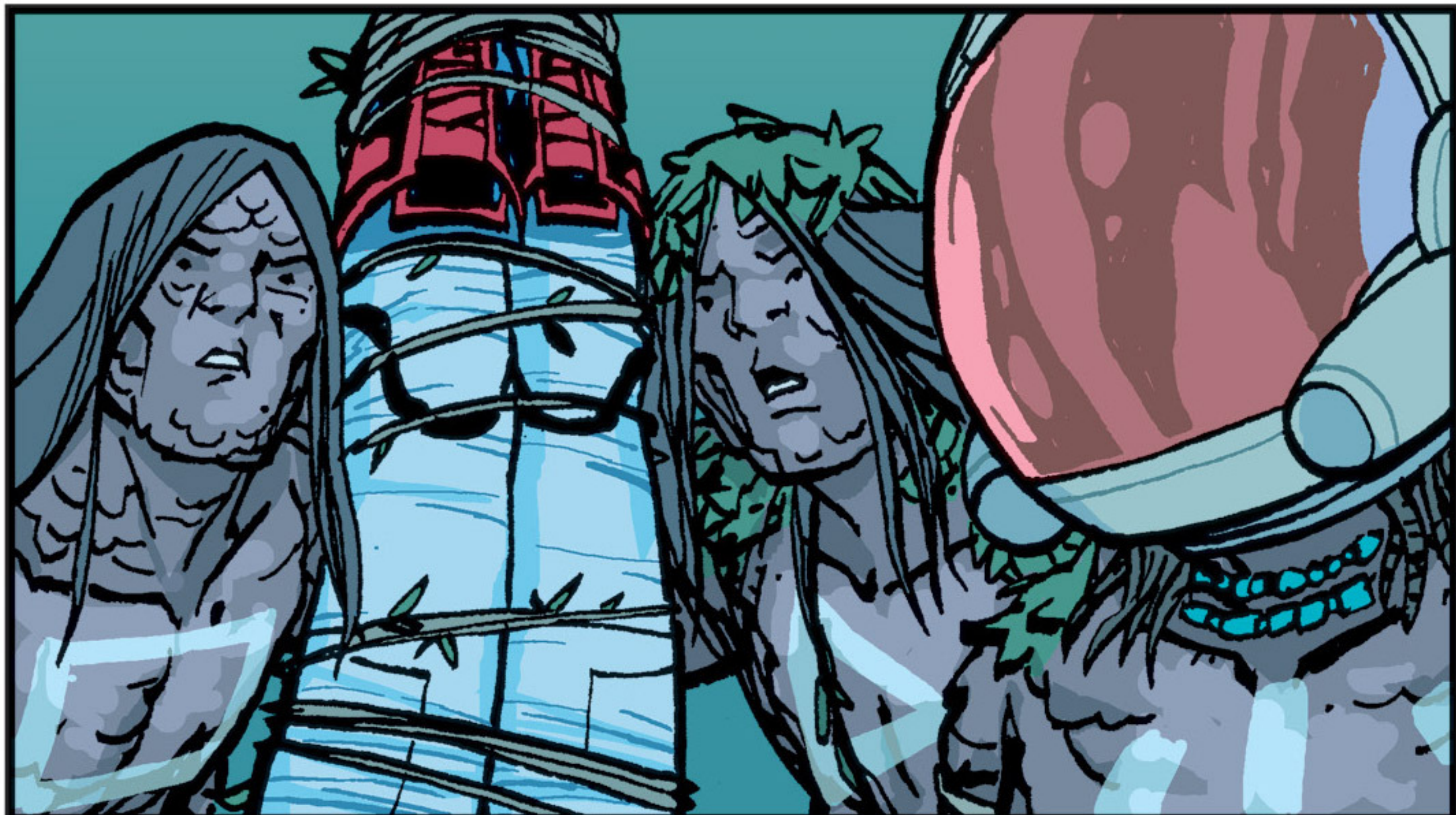
These men are
bad...but I don't
want...to hurt you.
I want...my baby.
I only want--

HEY!



Whatever
you're doing.

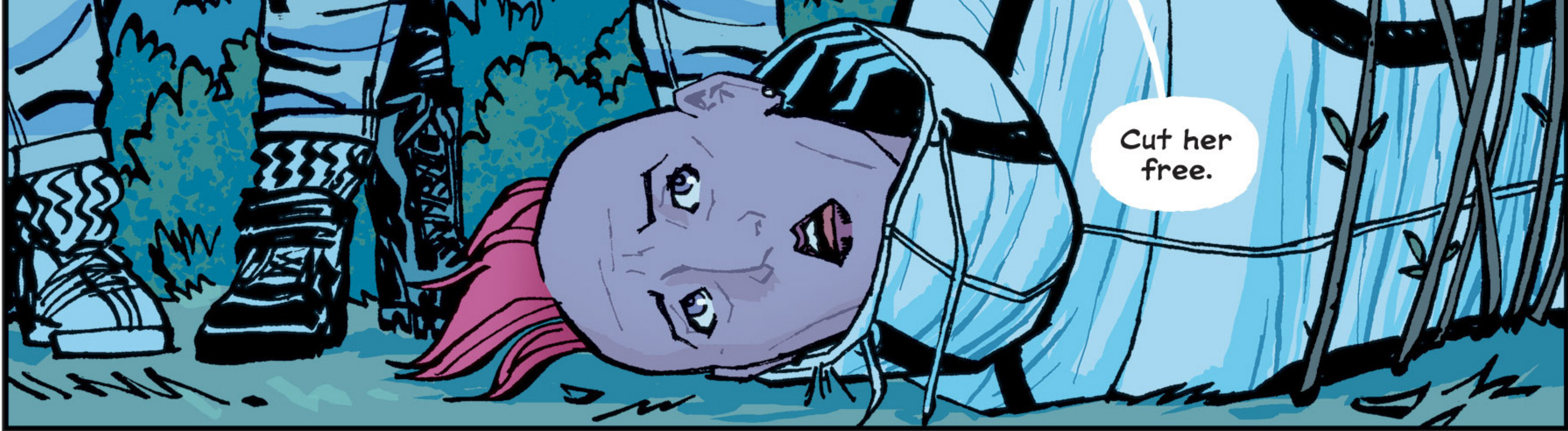
Don't...
don't do
that.



ZARATI
H'AY!



uhf



Cut her free.



Got it, Tiff.

But Kaje--

She'll lose them. She's faster than any of us.



On a bike, maybe!

Where the hell did you children come from?

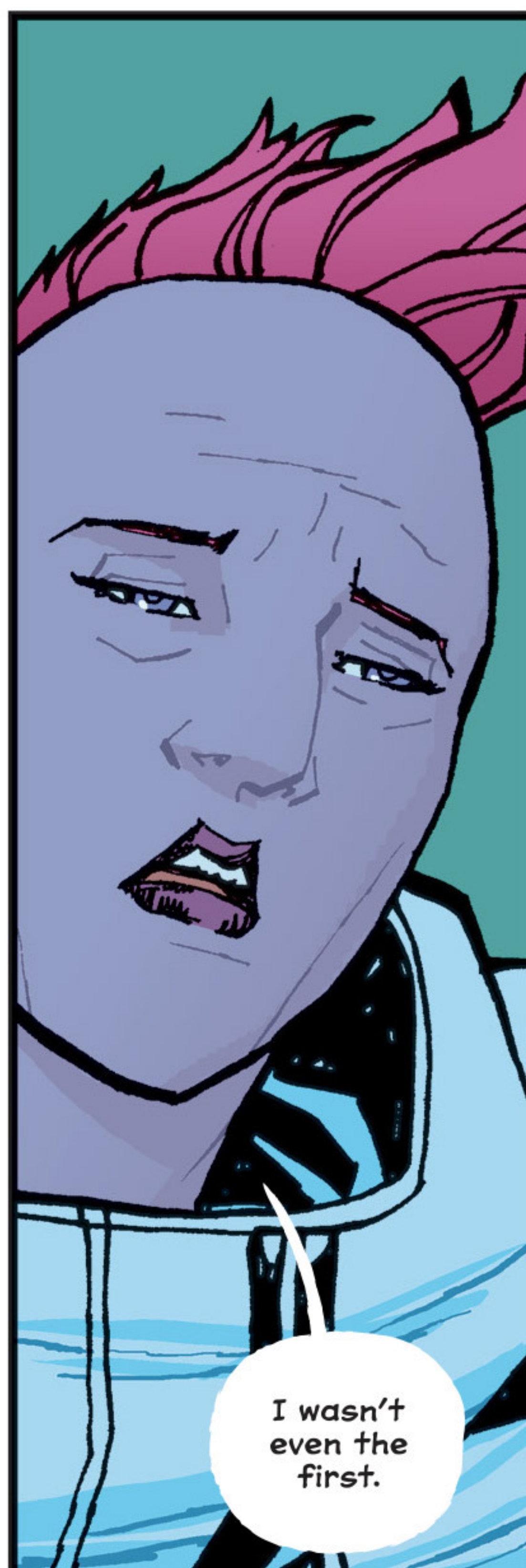
1988?



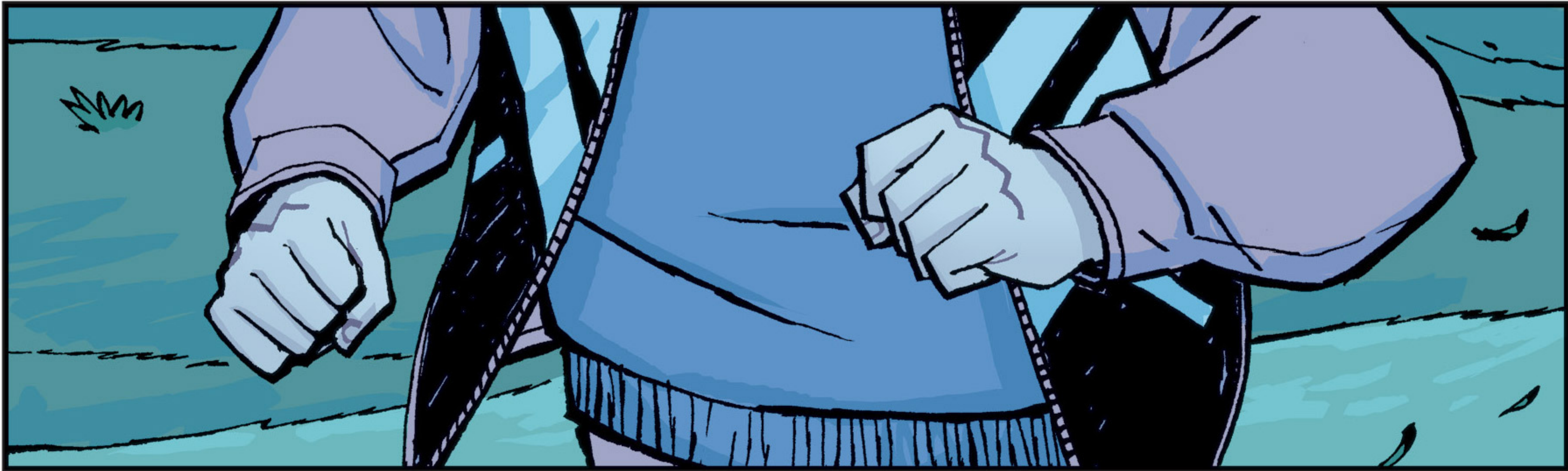
Nineteen...?

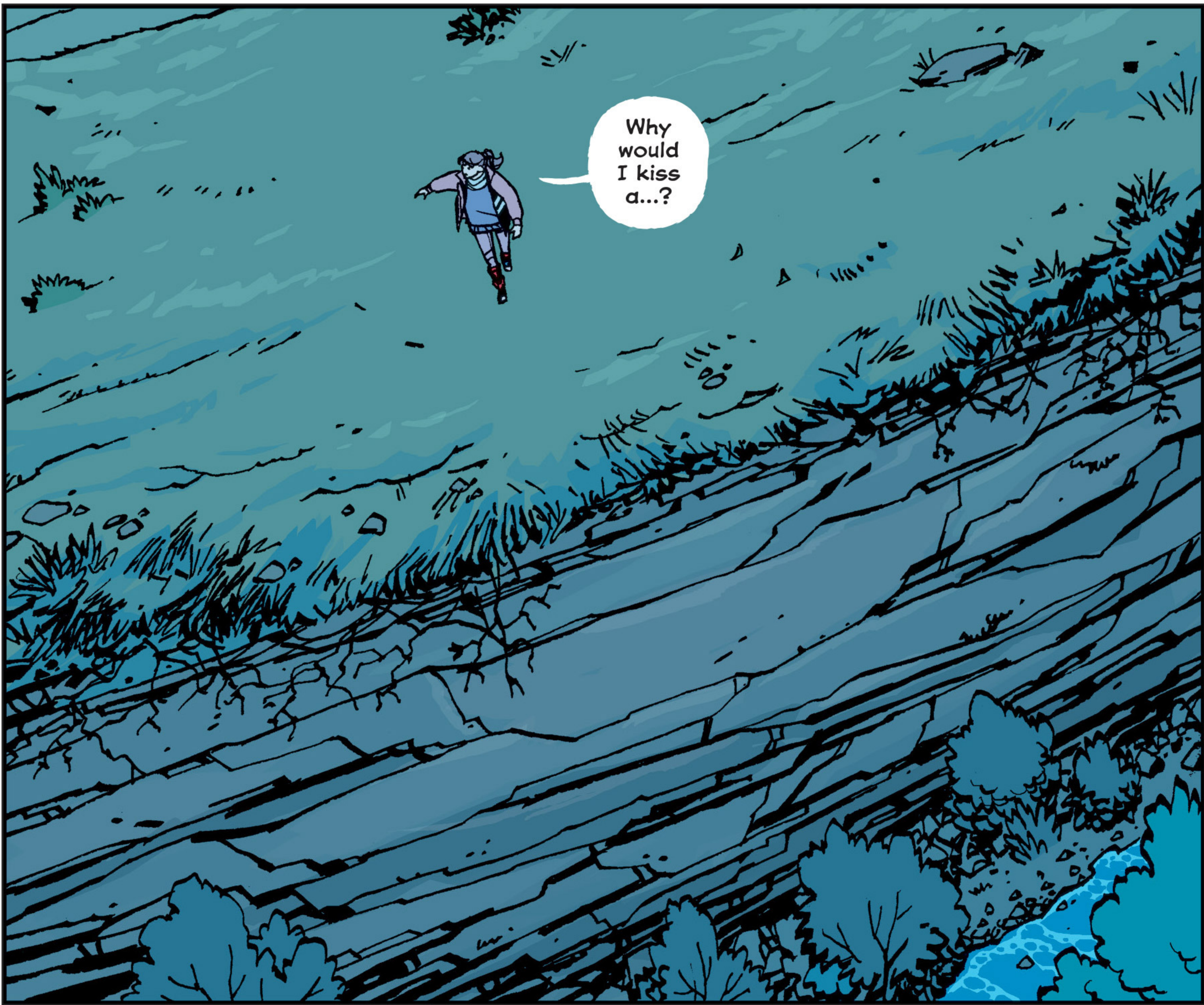
But, how long have you been here?

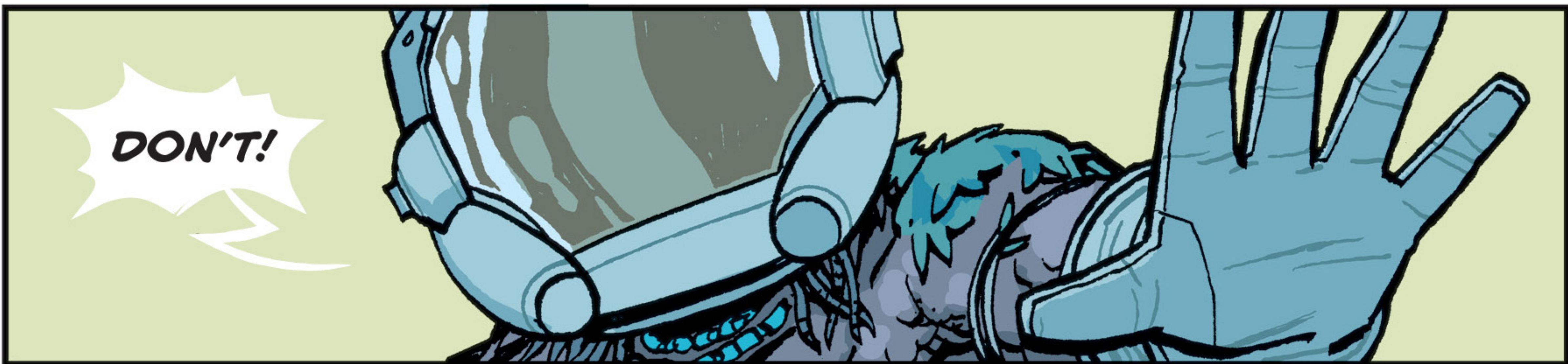
Too long! Let's move!



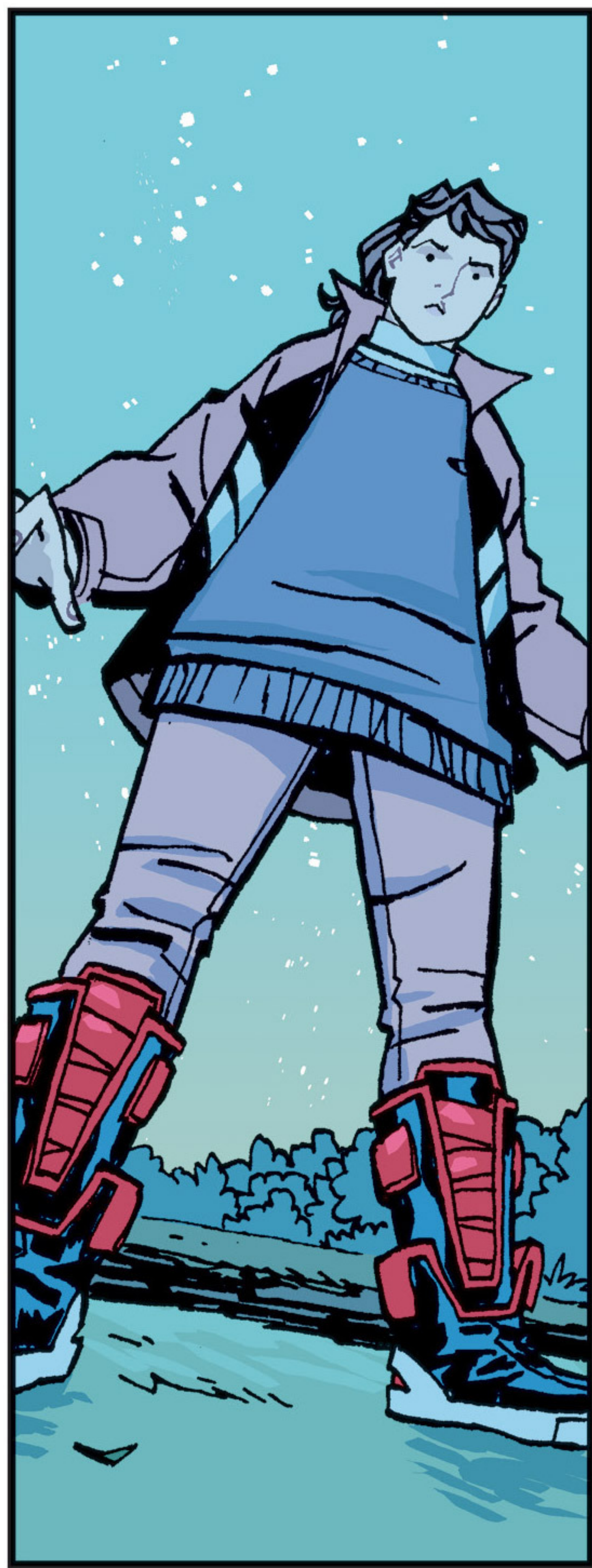
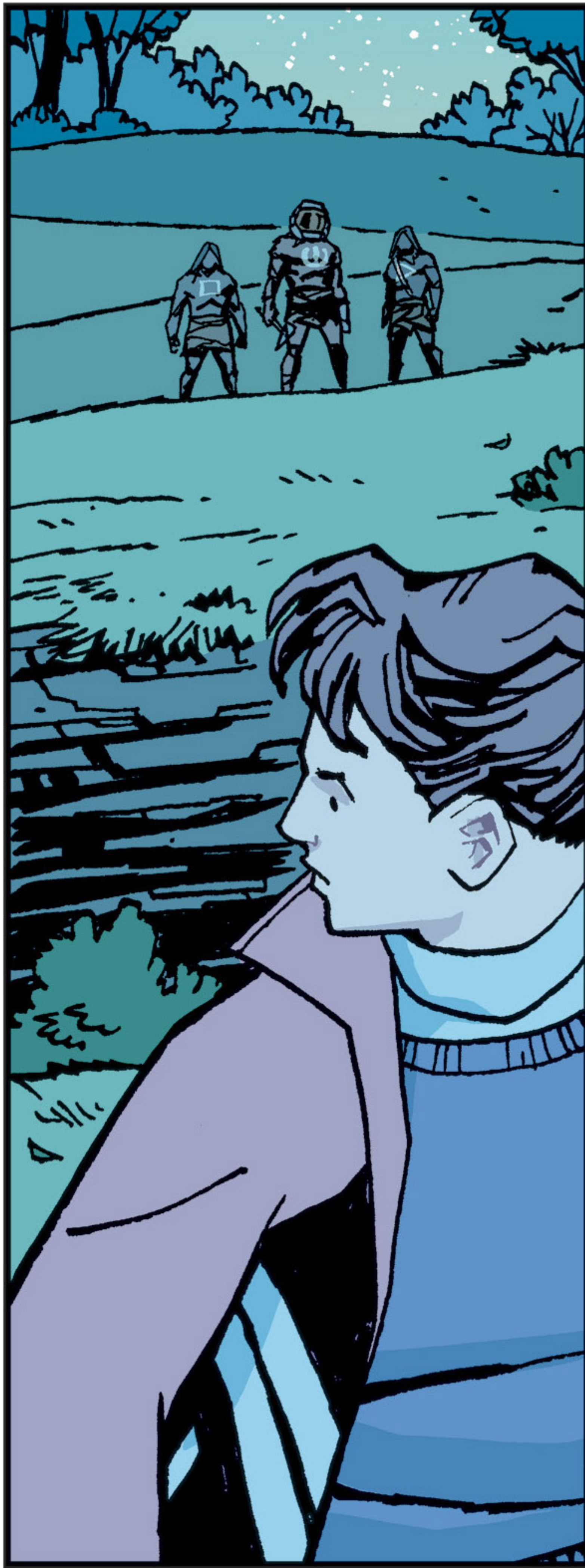
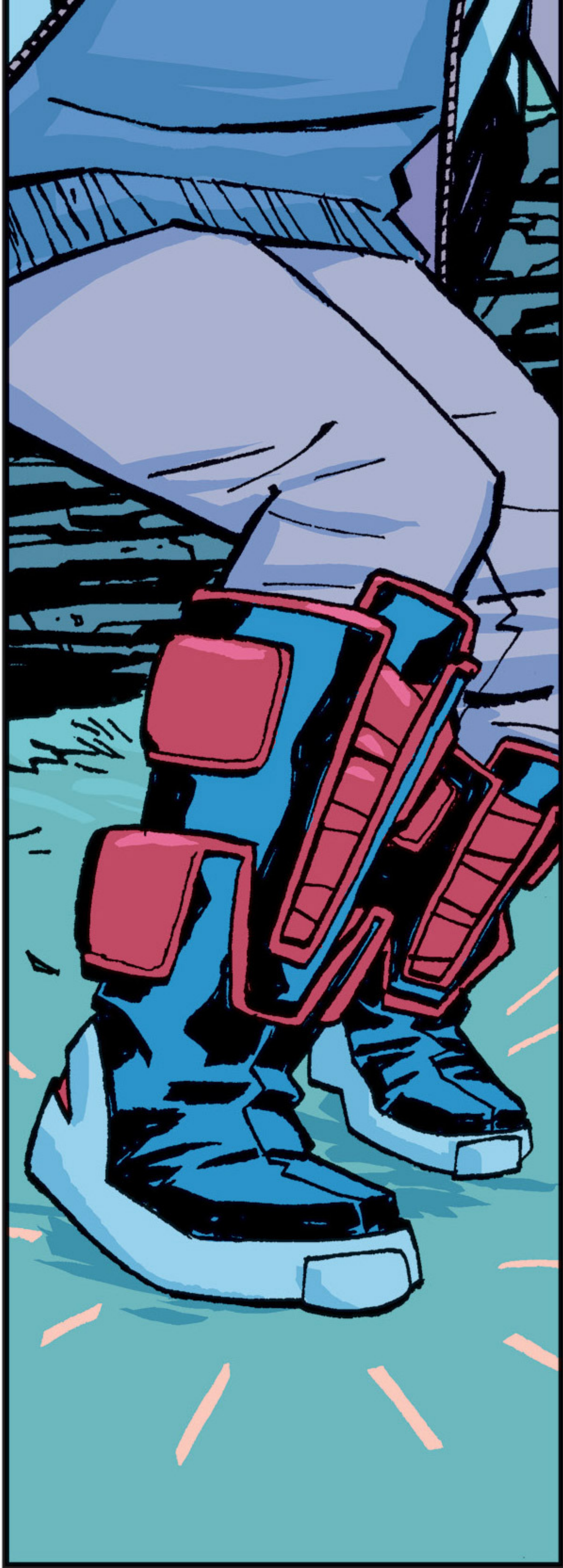
I wasn't even the first.

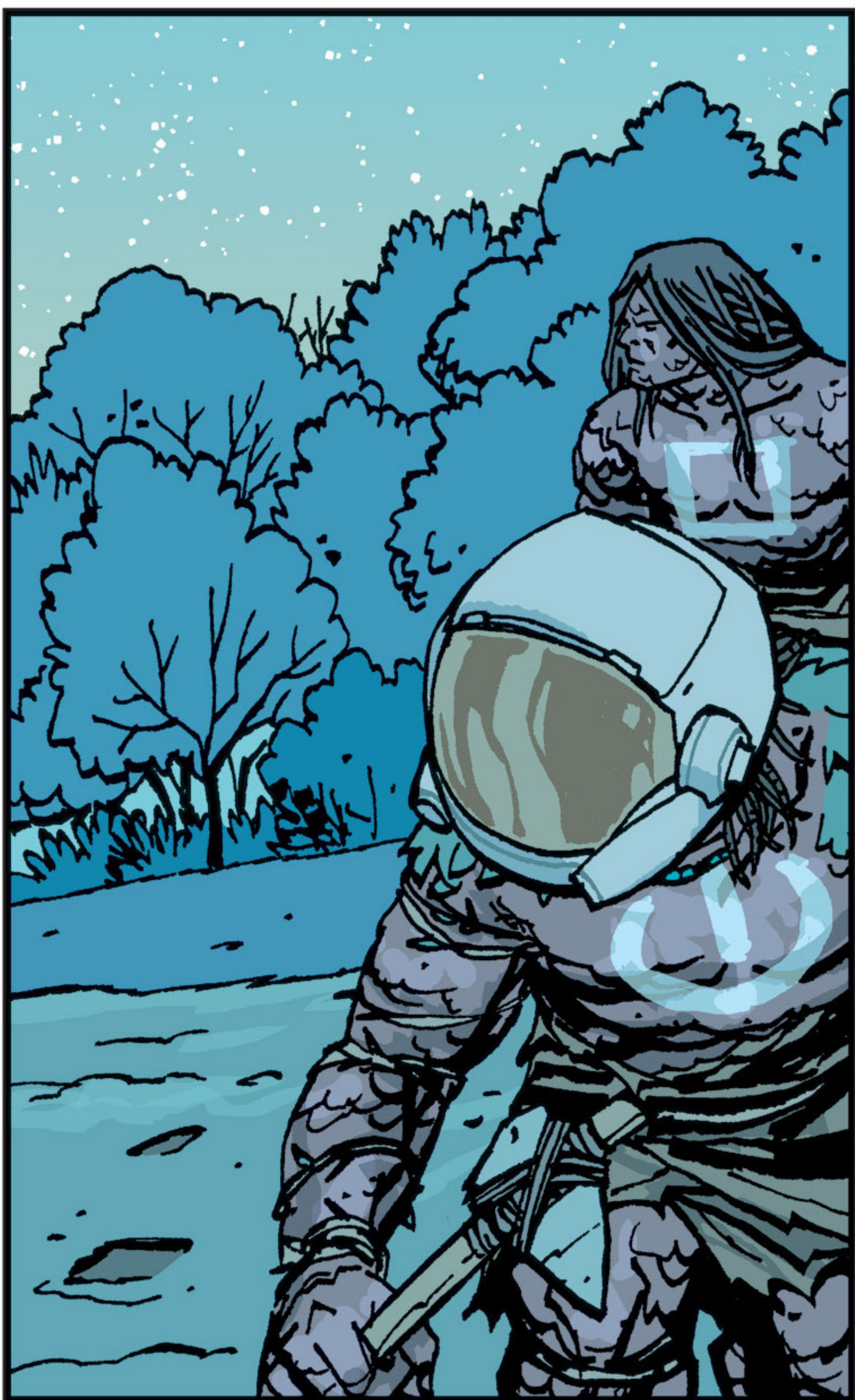
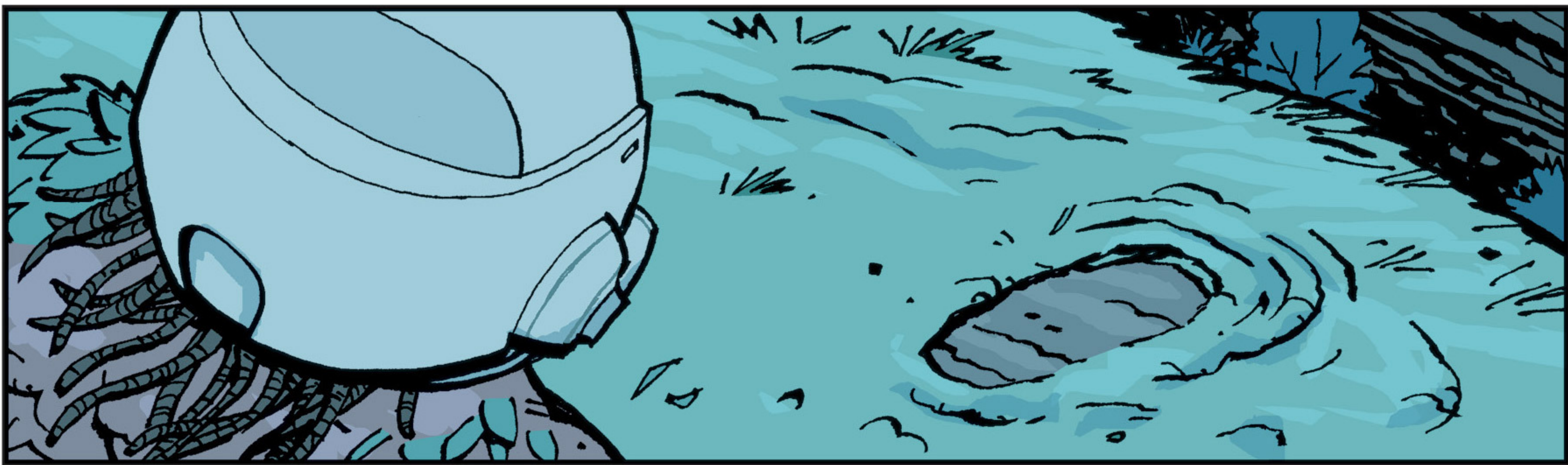
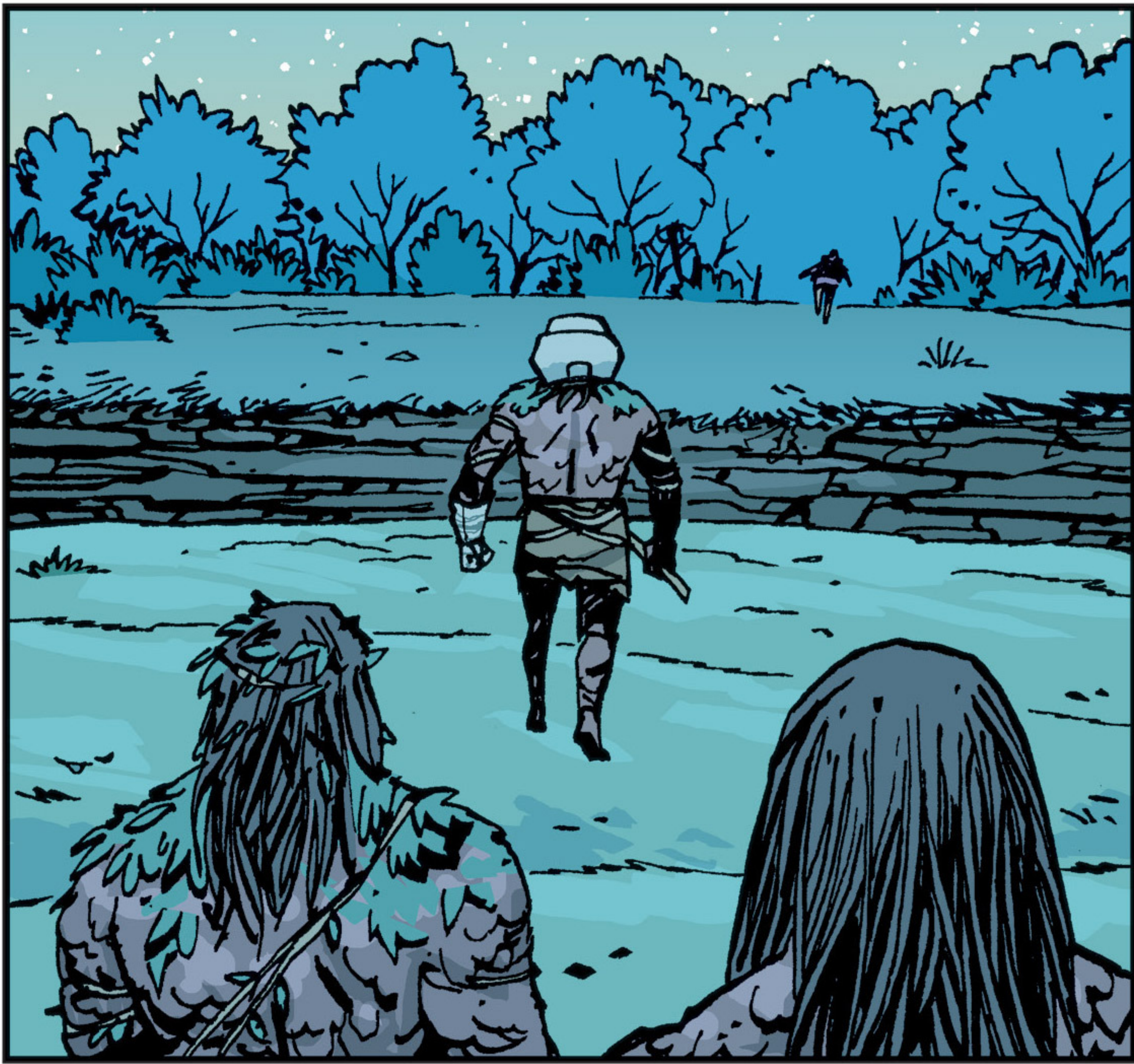


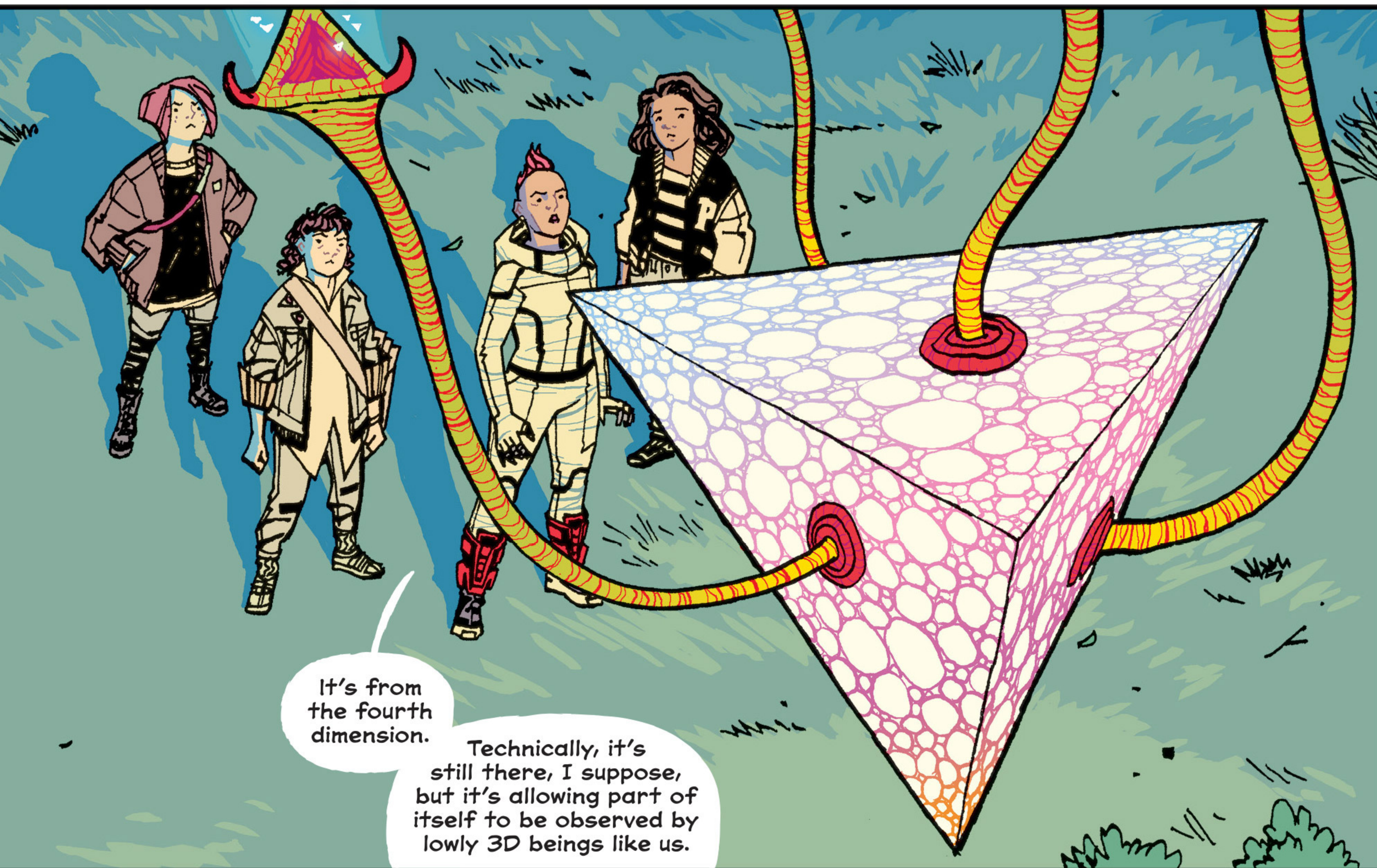






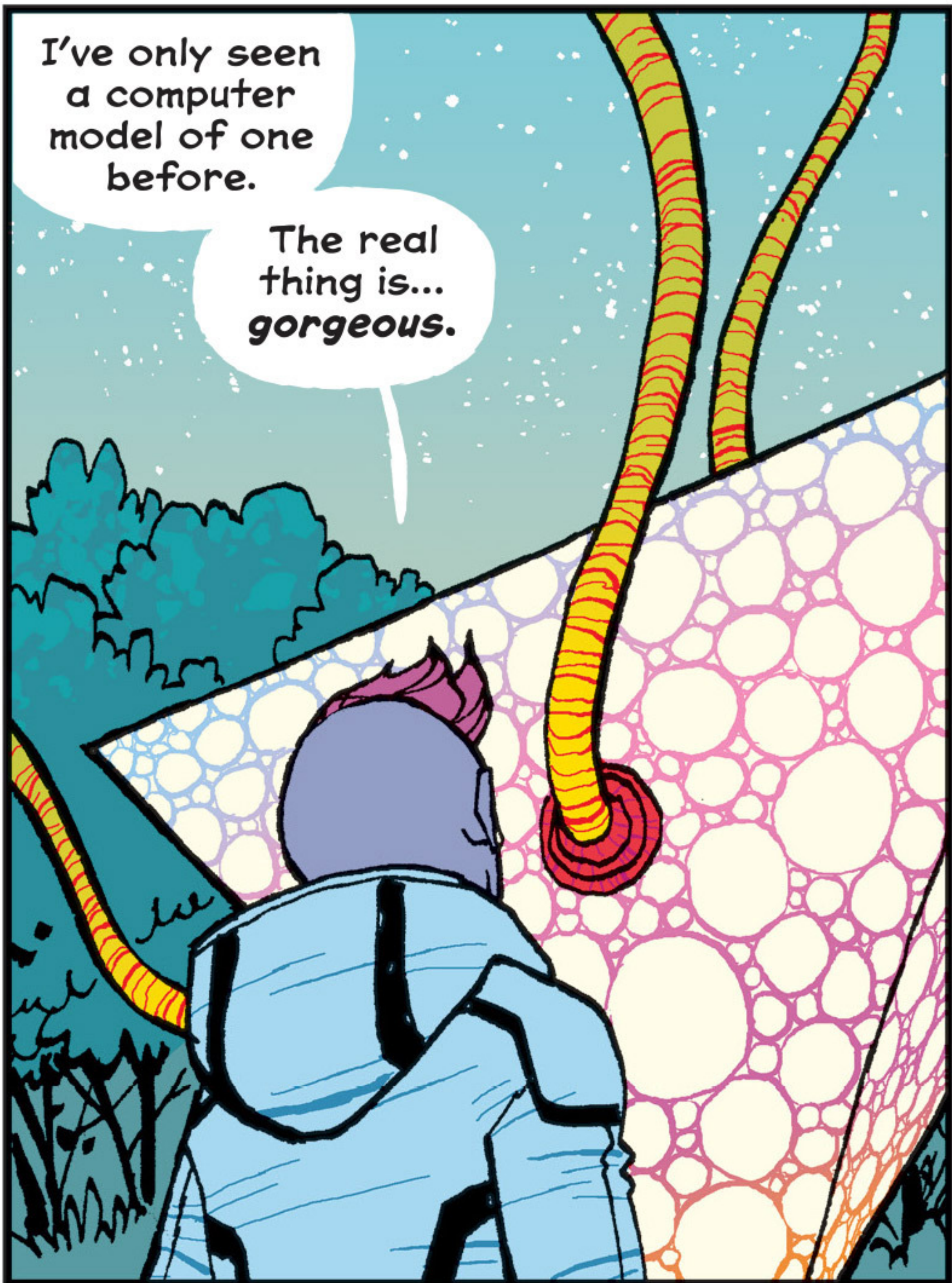






It's from the fourth dimension.

Technically, it's still there, I suppose, but it's allowing part of itself to be observed by lowly 3D beings like us.



I've only seen a computer model of one before.

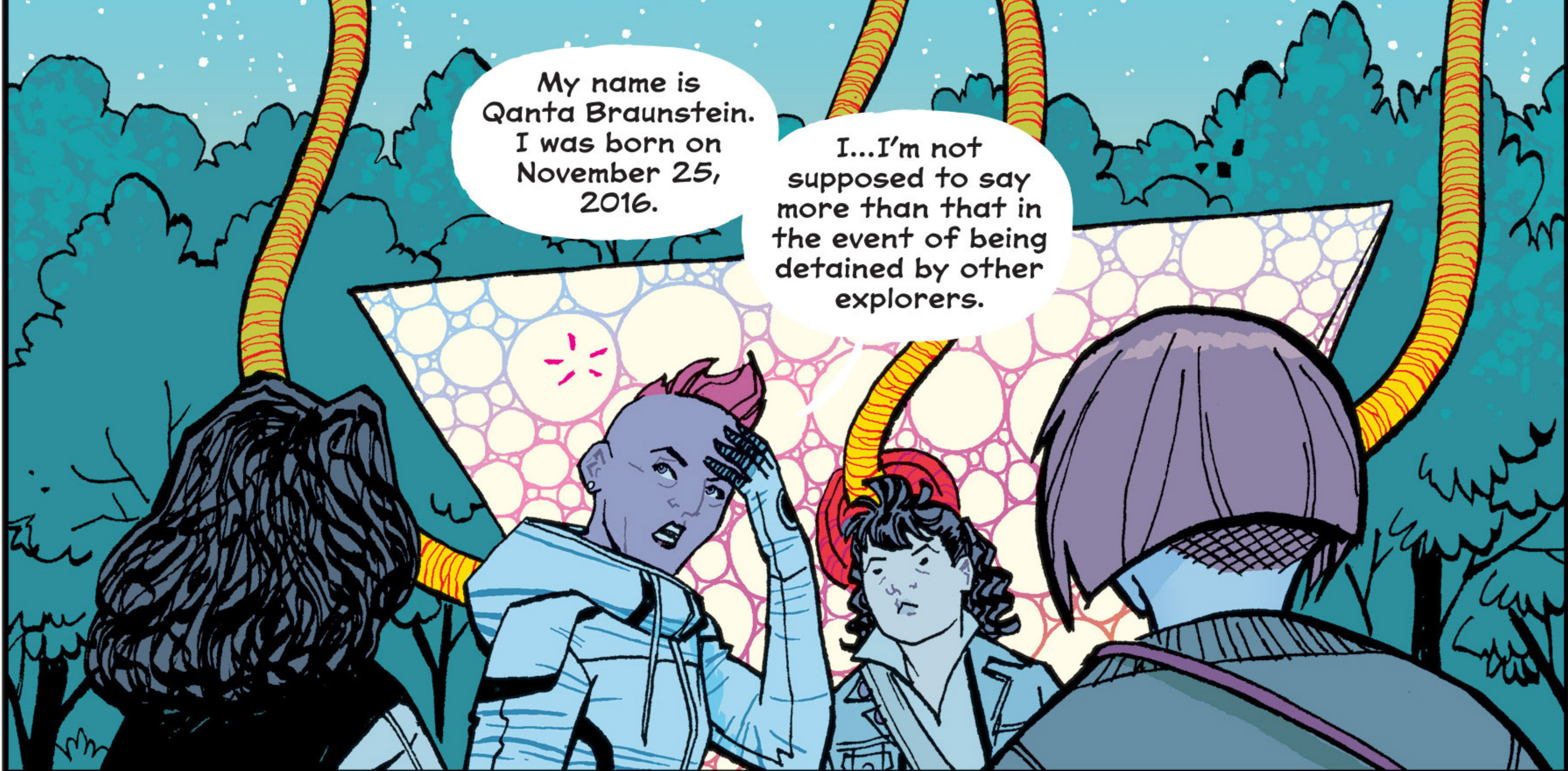
The real thing is... *gorgeous*.



Hands to yourself, ma'am.

We told you where *we* came from.

How about you?



My name is Qanta Braunstein. I was born on November 25, 2016.

I...I'm not supposed to say more than that in the event of being detained by other explorers.



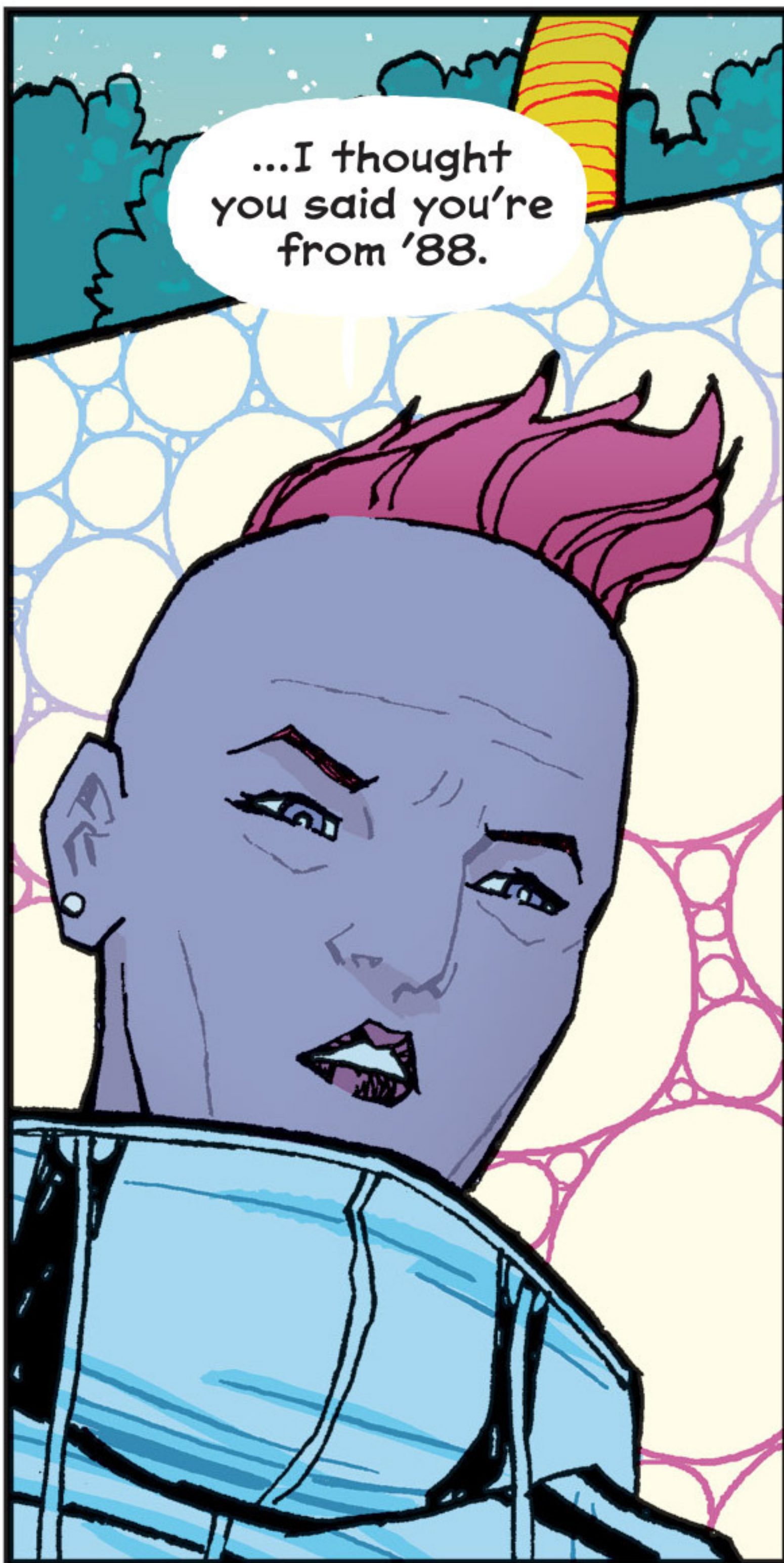
You're not detained, your ass just got **rescued**.

Cool it, Mac.

I'm pretty sure this woman is on our side.



Miss Braunstein, do you happen to know how to work one of these?

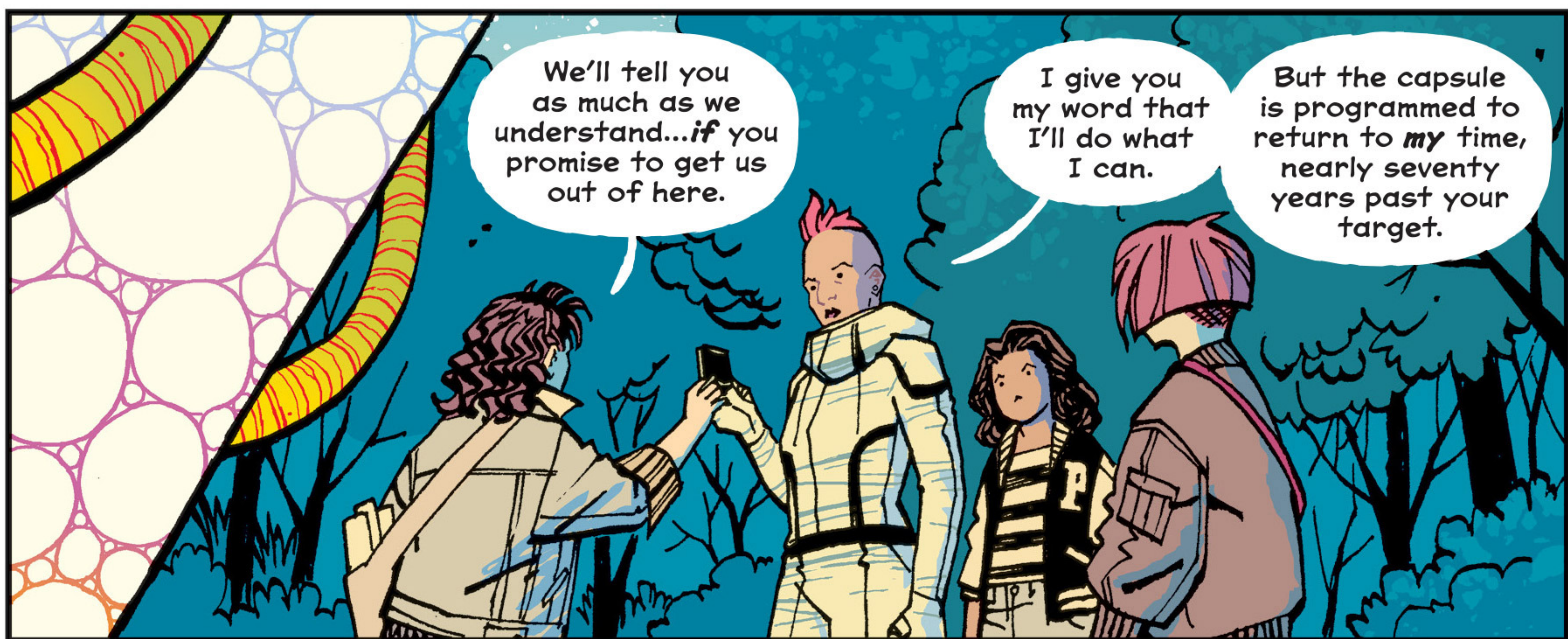
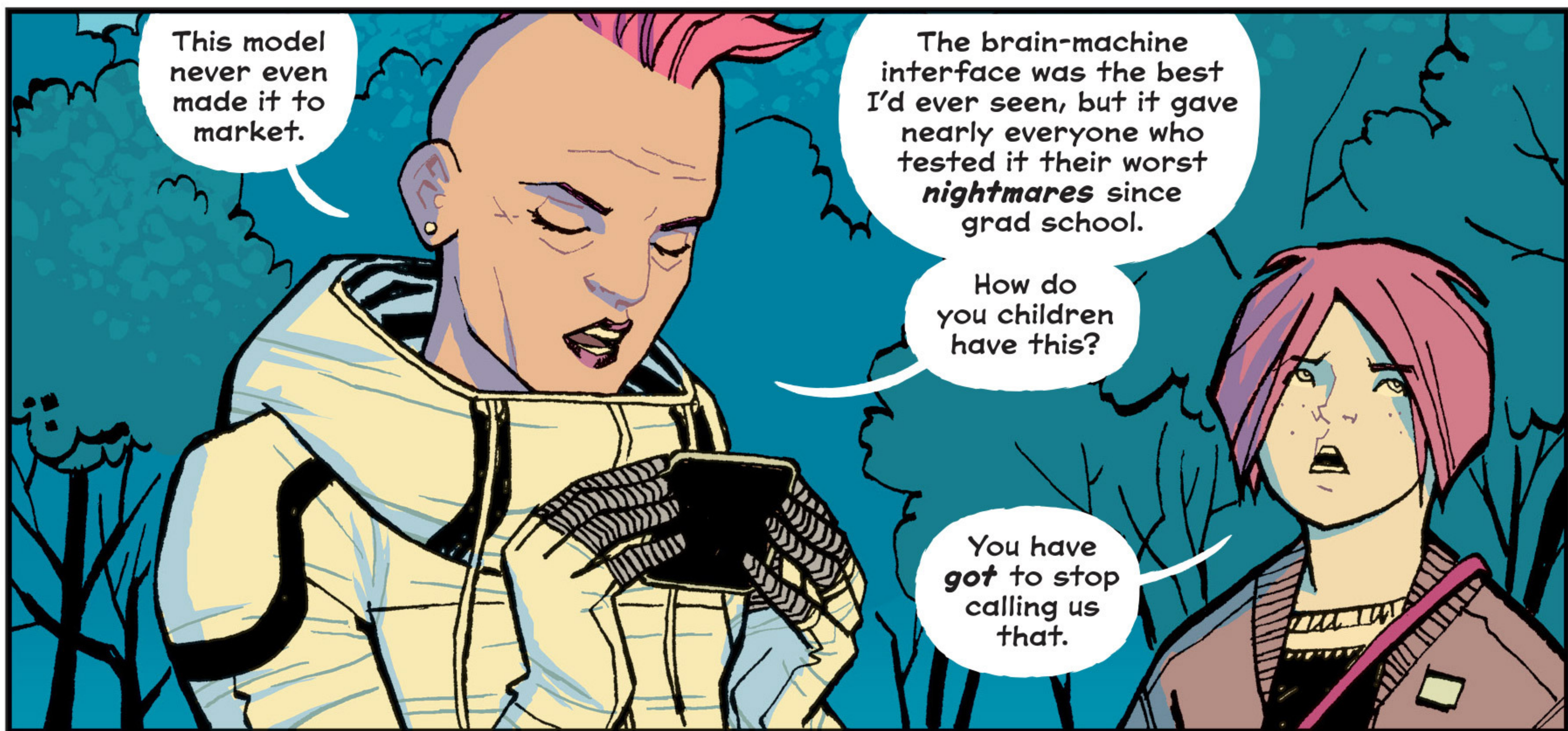


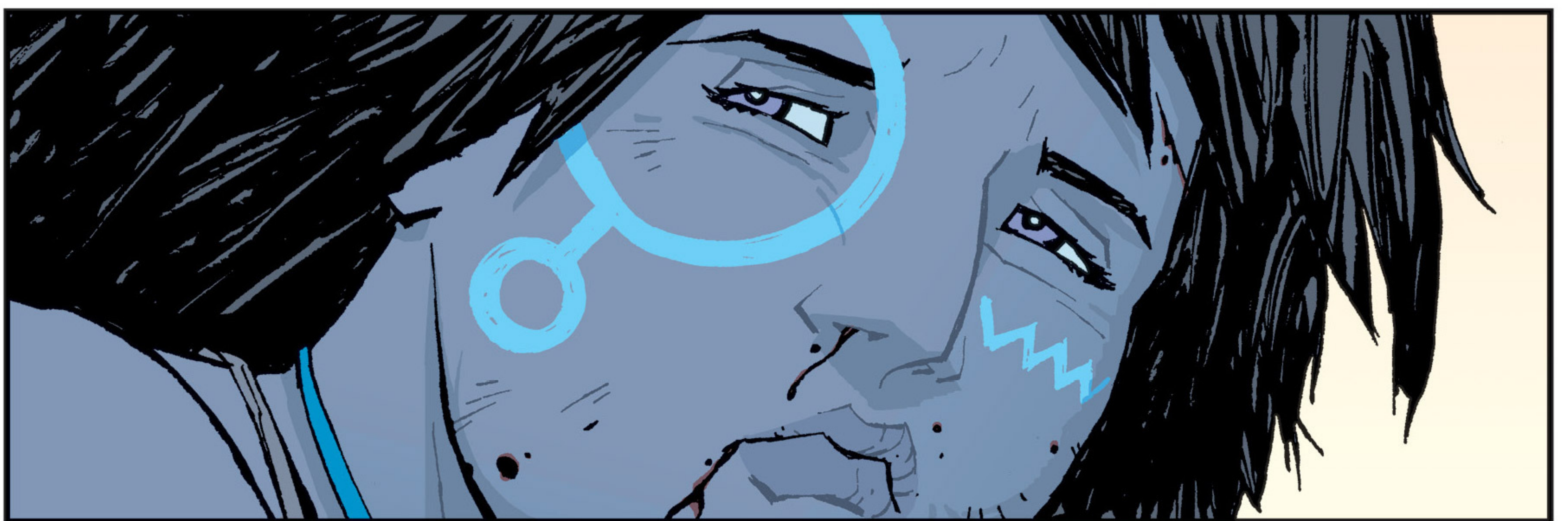
...I thought you said you're from '88.

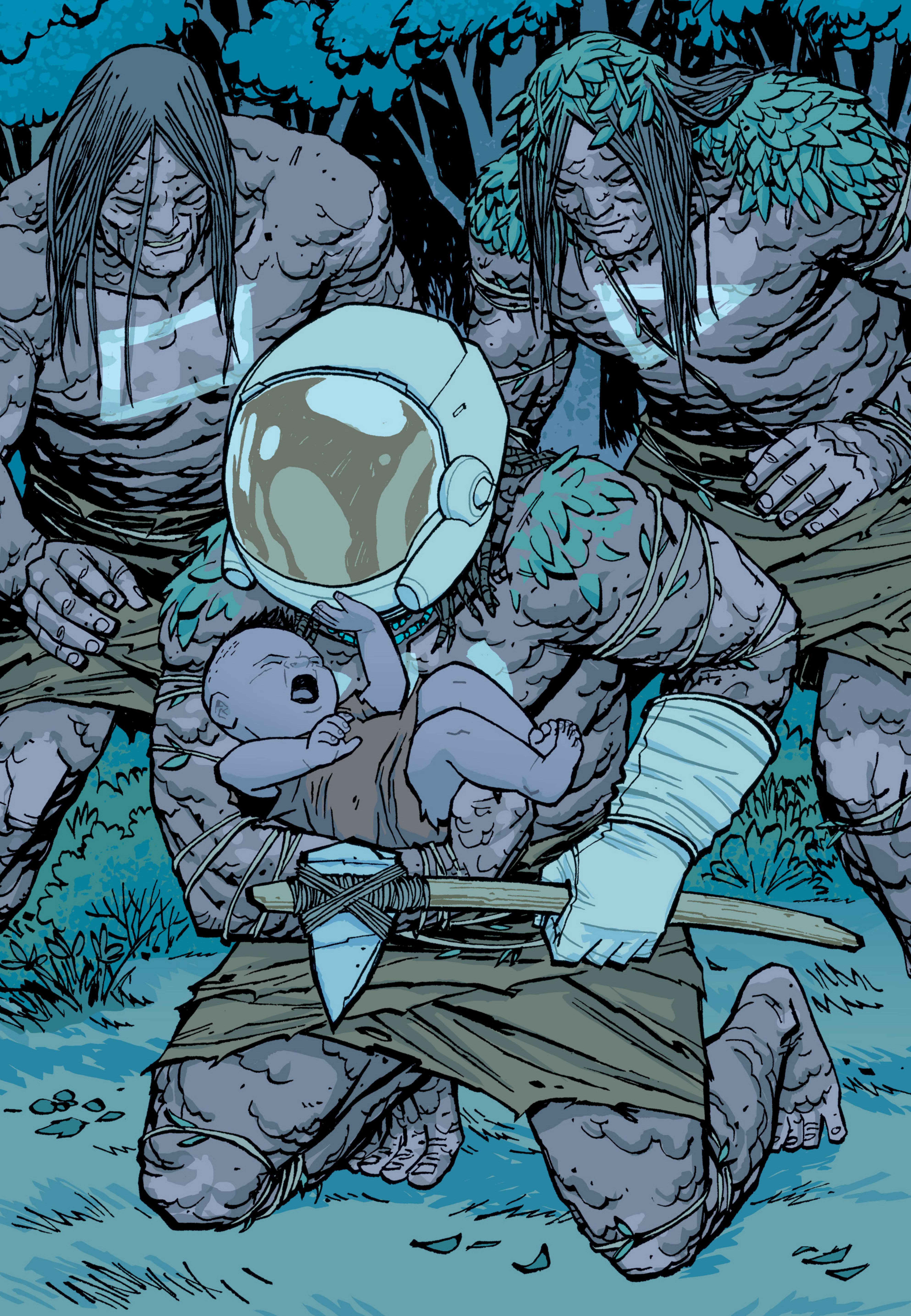


How the hell did you get something from the twenty-first century?

So you've used one before?







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!

**Newsboys vow never to forget
our nation's greatest tragedy!**

Hiya, fellers! PETER ROY THE NEWSBOY here, and like you, I'm still reeling from the Great Galveston Hurricane of 1900, which took at least 10,000 American lives and left countless more homeless.

As the dead are still being counted, we deliverers have a sacred obligation to keep our proud nation informed about those we lost, and about how we can all help in the ongoing effort to rebuild. One thing's for certain, September 8 is a date that will live in everyone's hearts for as long as our union stands.

Dear Peter Roy:

With all of the lousy stuff going on in the world, I sure would like to escape into a good book. Do you or anyone else at the American Newspaper Delivery Guild have any suggestions?

Signed, *Curtis Geoffries*
Canton, OH

While it's vital that all newsboys read the papers they're delivering in their entirety each day, I agree that a well-written novel is an important part of your young brain's "diet."

The last great book I read was a swell new yarn called The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by a fella named L. Frank Baum, with crackerjack illustrations from one W.W. Winslow. I guess you could call it a "children's book," but like all great literature, there's something in it to recommend to folks of all ages. It was published this past May by Chicago's esteemed George M. Hill Company, so be sure to grab yourself a copy before they all sell out.

Dear Rita Pearl,

I have enclosed a self-addressed envelope so I can join the A.N.D.G. I have been a delivery girl since 1992!

Can't wait to make it official.

Thank you, *Rachel Lauren Bury*
Portland, OR

Honestly! With our nation still in mourning, some of you wretches continue to plague our pages with these scribbled shenanigans? Listen up, "Rachel" (if that is your real name), while some in these offices had a good guffaw about your far-flung concept of a "delivery girl," I see nothing humorous in considering a future so bleak that our wives, daughters, and sisters would be forced to perform newsboys' unique brand of manual labor.

Dear A.N.D.G.,

What the holy heck is going on with your newsletter? I like the occasional repeat as much as the next guy, but this is getting ridiculous. Is it just me, or are other readers out there getting ancient introductions some *Newsies* reject instead of Rita's up-to-the-minute words of welcome? I figured this was just a mishap with your computer files or whatever, but it's some kind of viral marketing stunt that I don't understand?

Either way, I just wanted to make sure that everything was okay at your offices, and especially with

ould like to apply for
rship to your guild. I help
other fold papers for his
and hope to get one of my
meday.

paper is the only way to get
ormation and stories.

ank you,

Rebecca Muench

Denver, CO

*I do hope you get your own
route someday, Rebecca! In
the meantime, thanks for the
bookmark from Tattered Cover
Book Store in Denver. I hope
you're using the precious free
time you have now to read as
much as you can.*

Dear Rita Pearl,

I'm writing this letter to formally
request membership to the
American Newspaper Delivery
Guild, hope I'm not too late. It is
my sincere hope that by linking
our small chapter of paper
peddlers down here in Griffin
(The Southside Schwinn Squad) to
the larger A.N.D.G. nationwide,
we'll be able to get things done
more efficiently, garner some
benefits and get *The Griffin
Daily News* and that one Sunday
religious paper I don't remember
the name of to the paying
customers who rely on it instead
of TV for their news or evangelism
for whatever reason.

Yours,

Jarrold Fouts

President of the Southside
Schwinn Squad

PS—

Let this serve as a P.S.A. to all the
Griffin area deliverers, DO NOT
take the route around Taylor Street
for delivering your papers. There's
some kind of weird, humming,
sci-fi looking object near the old
Civil War cemetery there spewing
pink light. The recent influx of
hipsters here made me suspect

that maybe the thing was an art
piece, newfangled hipster home,
or similarly fangled coffee joint.
But further inspection puts this
object into the WTF category. I
tried to throw a paper at it on the
off chance it was some baroque
bungalow but the paper came
sailing back and I lost a tooth.
Now when I say tooth it comes
off as "toof". Also approached
the thing and got some wicked
second-degree burns. Which,
sorry Reagan and Petey Roy, the
21st century's wonderful Socialist
Worker's comp and International
Paper Deliverer's Union will be
paying for. Anyway, just avoid
the downtown Griffin area
entirely until the N.W.O. black
helicopters and the military come
and take it away. And me too
possibly.

*Wow. Heavy stuff going down
there in Griffin! Glad we could
help spread the word of warning.
Unfortunately, this letter got stuck
on the bottom of my mail pile, so I
apologize for not getting the word
out sooner. I trust everything has
been resolved by now?*

*The Southside Schwinn
Squad sounds like a fantastic
organization. I love hearing about
small groups of deliverers looking
out for each other! All organizing
has to start locally, right? And
you're doing it, Jarrod!*

I'm just sorry about your toof.

Dear Rita & Petey & A.N.D.G.,

Every time I see Rita's full name I
think of Rhea Pearlman for some
reason, and every time I see the
A.N.D.G. I think of "Ana Ng" by
They Might Be Giants. Check that
song out if you don't know it.

I wanted to thank the creators of
Paper Girls for making such an
engaging story that reignited my
interest in comics after an almost
20-year hiatus. I shamefully
admit that I ignored my tastes and
desires after changing schools
when I moved to a new town.
While I'm an unapologetic comic

fan now, I feel like I did myself
a grave disservice by missing out
on years of comics. If I had to
read just a few comics from the
past 20 years, what would be
recommended? Also, I apologize
for the medium in which this dog
s*** handwriting appears, but I
write everything in my notepads.
For example, I've included my
notes for decoding the Alienese/
Futuranese used in *Paper Girls*.

Also, I've included the more
disturbing end of the spectrum
of erotic X-mas cards. My
roommates and I made this card
about 10 years ago and I just
found them during a recent move.
HAPPY LATE HOLIDAYS.

Carson

Atlanta, GA

*I have so many mixed feelings
about this entry!*

*First of all, thank you for
sending along your notes on the
Cryptography Corner! Although
that contest is over, I'm really
impressed with your decoding
skills, and appreciate the way that
you showed your work. That said,
I found the inclusion of an erotic
X-mas card featuring your friend
Greg wholly inappropriate.*

*Does Greg know that you're still
distributing these? If he is still
your friend, I think you owe it to
him to send him any remaining
copies. You say in the card that
this was something he made to
woo his now-wife. I'm glad it
worked for him, but I really don't
think it's fair for you to continue
to share his semi-naked image. I
will happily destroy this one for
you!*

*All of that said, you did win
me over with your "Ana Ng"
recommendation. That song is
killer! So for this reason, I will
share recs for three outstanding
comics that a young paperboy
like you should definitely read:
I Love This Part by Tillie Walden
(from Avery Hill Publishing), No
Mercy by Alex de Campi & Carla*

Speed McNeil (from our friends at Image Comics) and This One Summer by Jillian and Mariko Tamaki (from First Second).

To the fine folks at the A.N.D.G.,

Please consider this my application for membership. I was initially hesitant to apply because where I grew up on Long Island, newspapers were not delivered by kids. They were delivered by adults who drove around very slowly and threw them out the car window. Today I'm still cautious to duck around slow-moving cars.

I think it's just rad that a group like this exists. Thank you and keep up the great work!

Sincerely,

Allison Walker
San Francisco, CA

PS—

Hello to Petey Roy & Rita Pearl

Hello to you, too! Thanks for taking the time to write your letter in such beautiful calligraphy. Glad to see that this unique art has not been completely lost. That said, there's no reason to duck because I can't accept your membership application without an S.A.S.E. Please try again!

And if you're reading this issue before the May 15, 2017 deadline, there's still time to get us your SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE before the window closes. Hop to it!

Dear Rita Pearl,

I have enclosed a self-addressed envelope so I can join the A.N.D.G. I have been a delivery girl since 1992! Can't wait to make it official.

Thank you,

Rachel Lauren Bury
Portland, OR

Yes!!!! Thanks for showing everyone how it's done, Rachel. I hope you enjoy your card.

Super Pumped that Paper Girls is back!

I was even more excited to see that you've reopened membership application for the A.N.D.G.

I never had my own route, but I filled in for my neighbor a few times when he was on summer vacation.

I hope you'll accept my application and I should mention that my parents named me after the great American actor Stacy Keach.

When I was a kid every club I joined sent me letters addressed to "Ms. Stacy Martin." They often spelled my name wrong, too. Bummer, right?

In conclusion, thank you for telling wonderful stories, please never stop!

Yours truly,

Stacy Martin
Regina, SK

PS—

Tell Hamburger I said 'sup

PPS—

So it turns out it's really hard to get US postage in Canada, i.e. impossible.

PPPS—

Good news! My buddy Ian from Minnesota (finally) sent me some stamps...like, dozens of stamps. Hopefully I'll consult the oracle regarding how many stamps a letter requires to be sent to Canada, but if my S.A.S.E. has seven or eight stamps on it, I'm just playing safe!

Wow, I'm incredibly impressed with the lengths you went to putting together a proper S.A.S.E. That is some dedication! In the future, I'll make an exception for our Canadian friends. If you can't get ahold of an American stamp, the A.N.D.G. will cover your postage. Just send us

some Canadian Tire money or something, cool?

Dear Ms. Pearl,

I don't remember the last time I hand-wrote a letter to someone, much less the head of such a prestigious group like the A.N.D.G., but your tenacity and gumption have inspired me to once again put pen to paper.

I would be honored to join your organization in the capacity as a booster, since I am long past my delivery days. Please find my S.A.S.E. to R.S.V.P. to the A.N.D.G. A.S.A.P.

Onward and Upward!

Danny P. in N.Y.C.

Love it. Flattery will get you everywhere, Danny. And for your powerful use of timesaving acronyms, I am hereby naming you D.O.T.M.!

Enjoy your prizes.

And to the rest of you intrepid news-slingers, thank you for all of your letters, your questions, your membership requests, and most of all, your support. There is nothing like having a community that you know has your back – especially in a world where some at the levers of power think newspapers are the enemy of the people!

But we here on the ground know that knowledge is the real power, and our duty is more sacred than ever. So let's try to keep each other safe in this increasingly weird-ing world.


Yours in persistence,

Rita Pearl, Paper Girl

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SURVEY

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

Summer is just around the corner, and we here at the A.N.D.G. are curious what you plan to do with your next few months of relative freedom. We'll run some of the best responses right here in a later installment, and every deliverer who completes this survey and returns it to the address above will be automatically entered in a drawing to win some AMAZING SWAG from our newsletter's generous hosts at PAPER GIRLS.

- 1) What's the worst part about being away from school for a few months?
 - 2) Where, if anywhere, are you and your family headed during the break?
 - 3) What books/graphic novels/magazines are you planning to read this summer?
 - 4) Please rank your seasons from favorite to least favorite.
 - 5) What's your best memory from a past summer vacation?
 - 6) Which blockbuster Hollywood film are you most looking forward to in the next few months?
 - 7) What is the ultimate summer meal?
 - 8) Are you concerned about the future?
 - 9) Do you really think we're all gonna be okay...?
 - 10) Help, I'm terrified all the time and don't know what to do.
- 





3 of 4

1

2

3

4

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





Paper Girls 15

ON SALE 06.07.17

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





GREG RUCKA • LEANDRO FERNÁNDEZ

THE OLD GUARD™

AVAILABLE NOW

