



Paper Girls

26

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



Paper Girls

26

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



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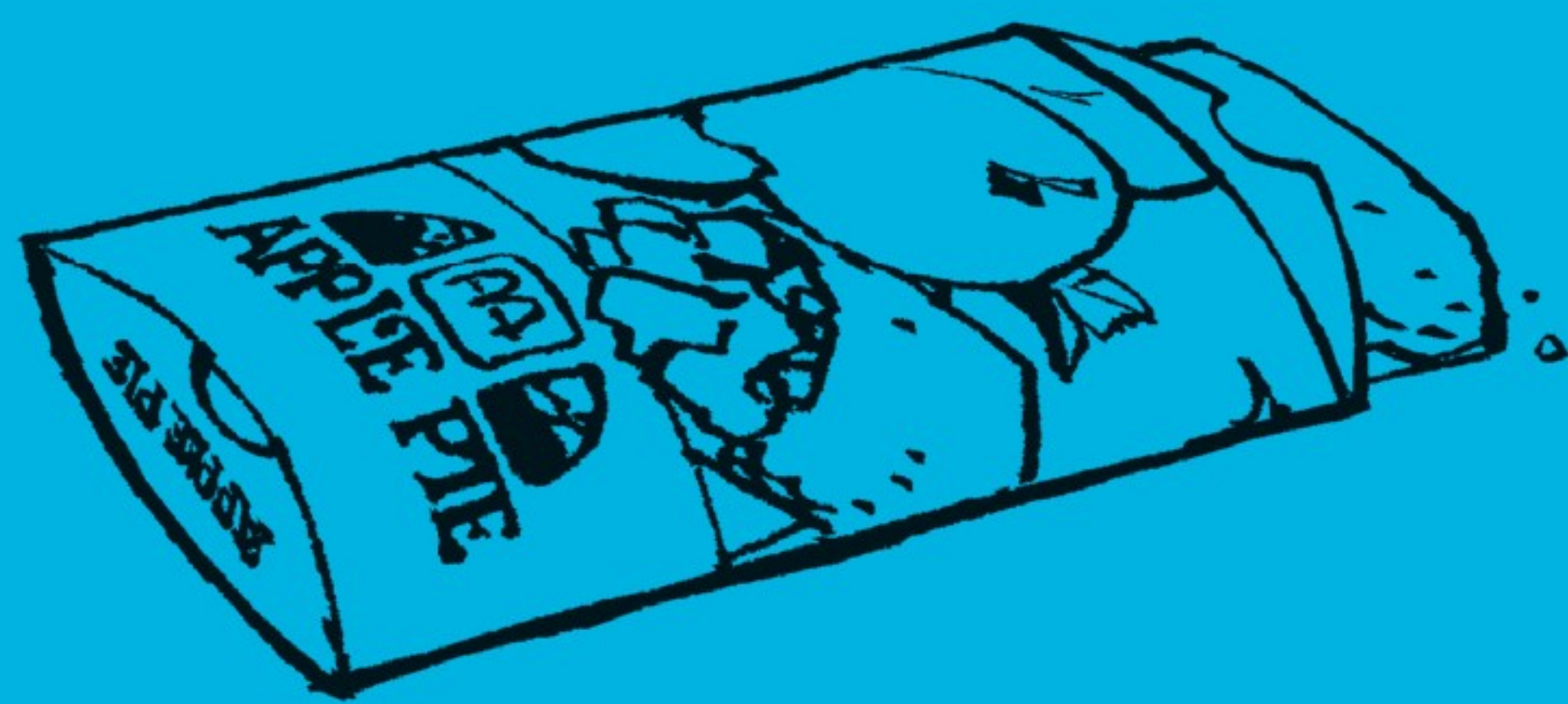
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ON SALE 04.03.19

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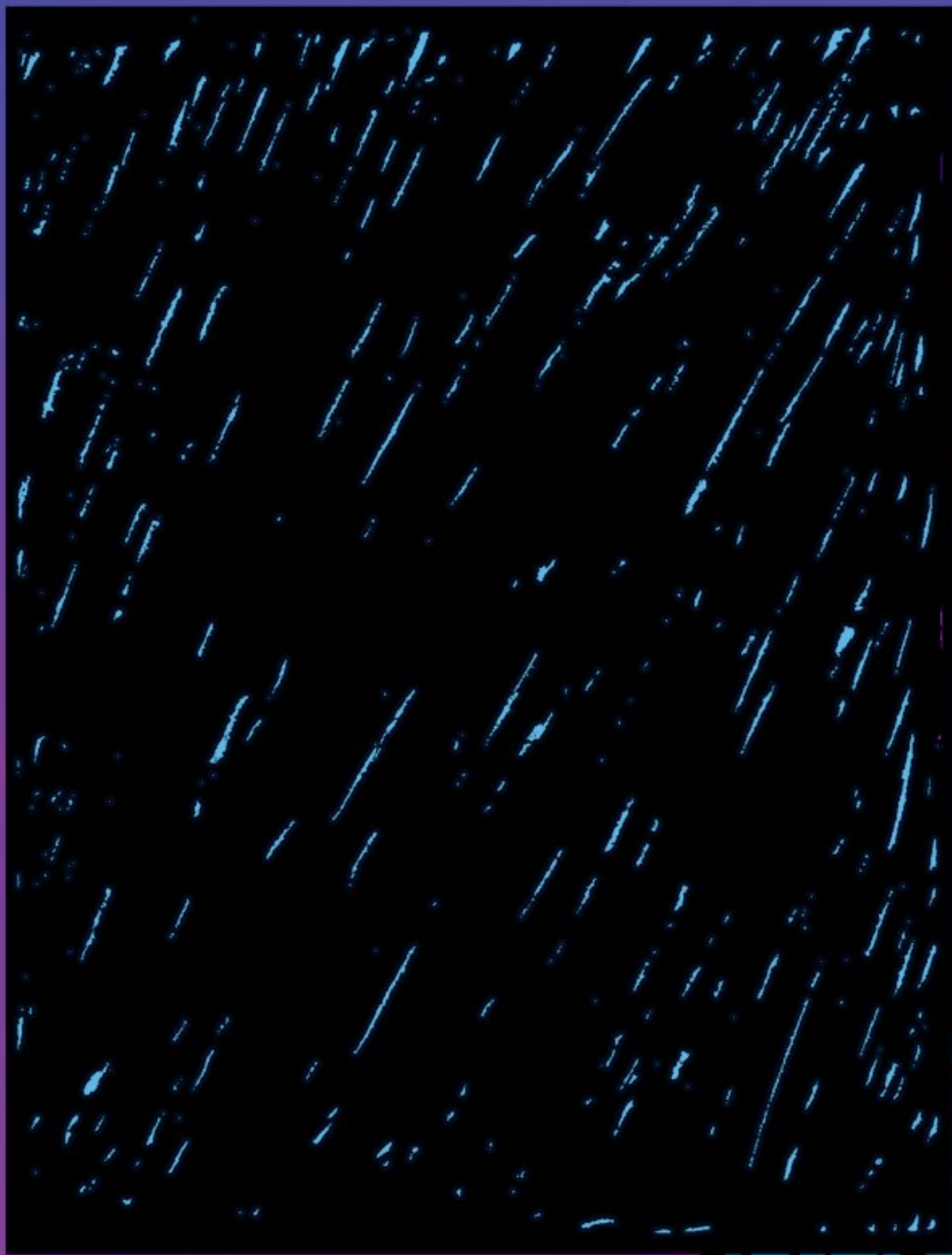




ISSUE **26**

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RATED **T+** | TEEN PLUS



THE
BODY OF
CHRIST!

Wait.

You want
me to *eat*
this?



Does it get
me kicked out
of paradise...
or invited in?

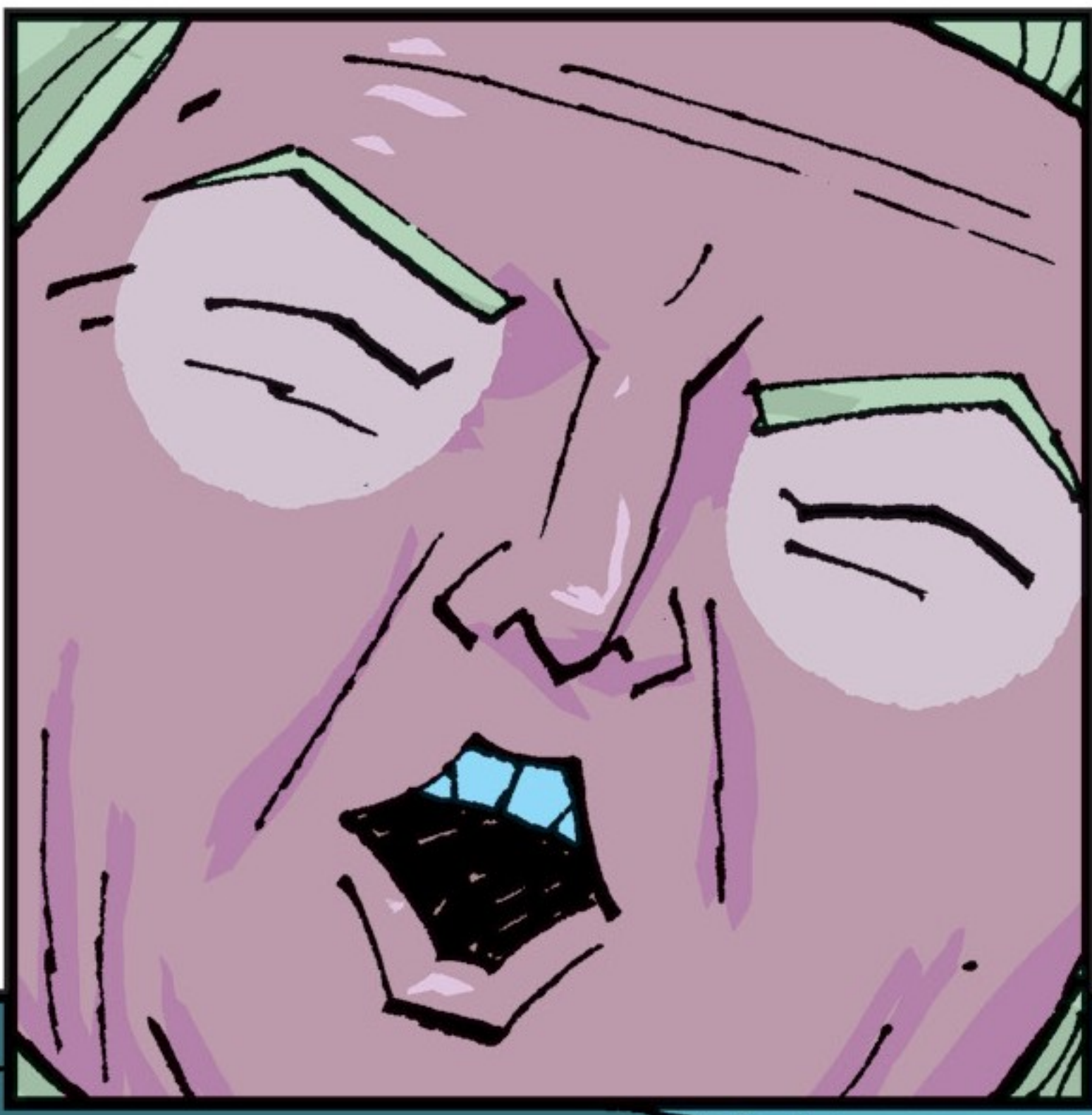
Damn,
remember
when those
things used
to be
fried?







hhht



AHHH!

It's okay, Erin.



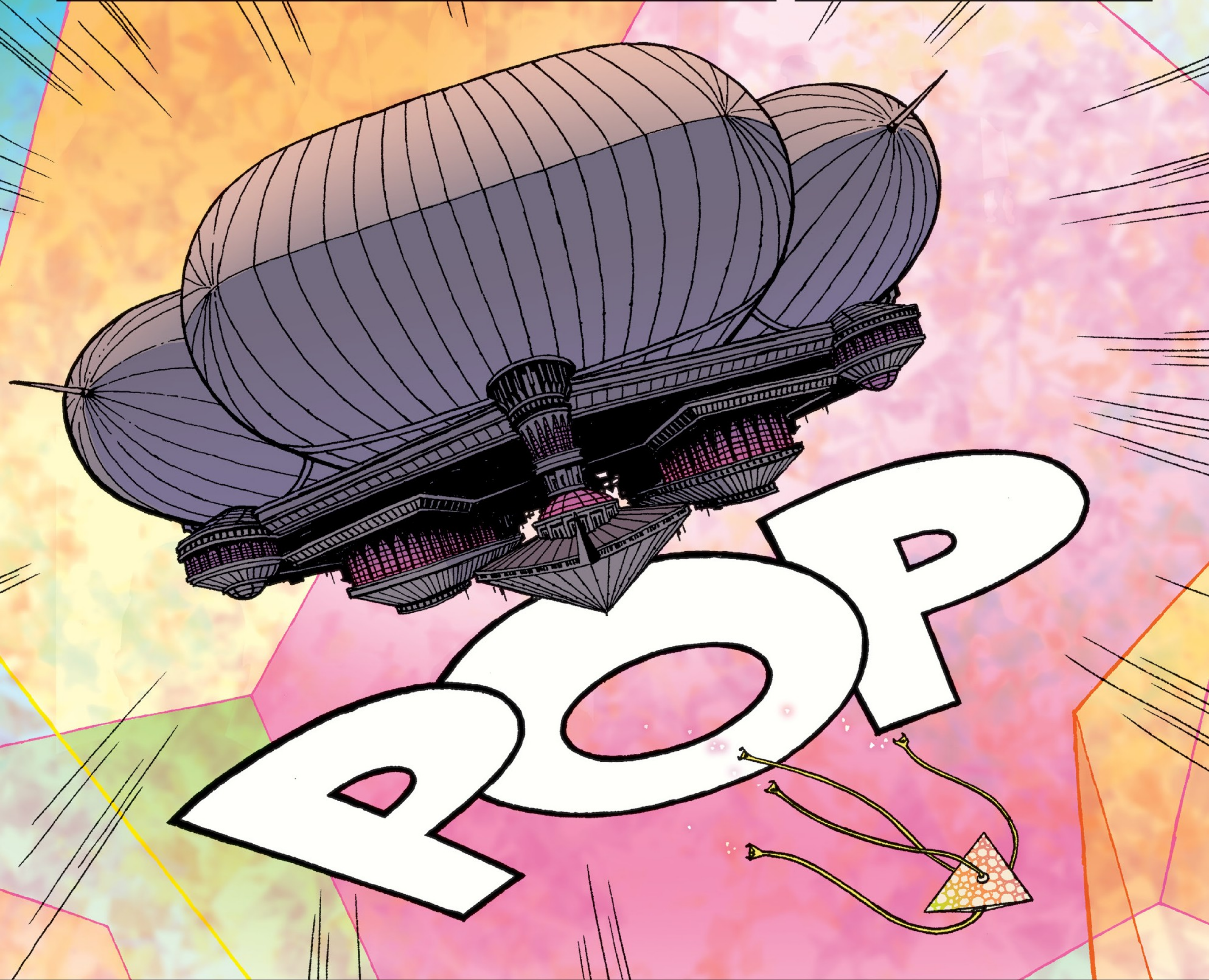
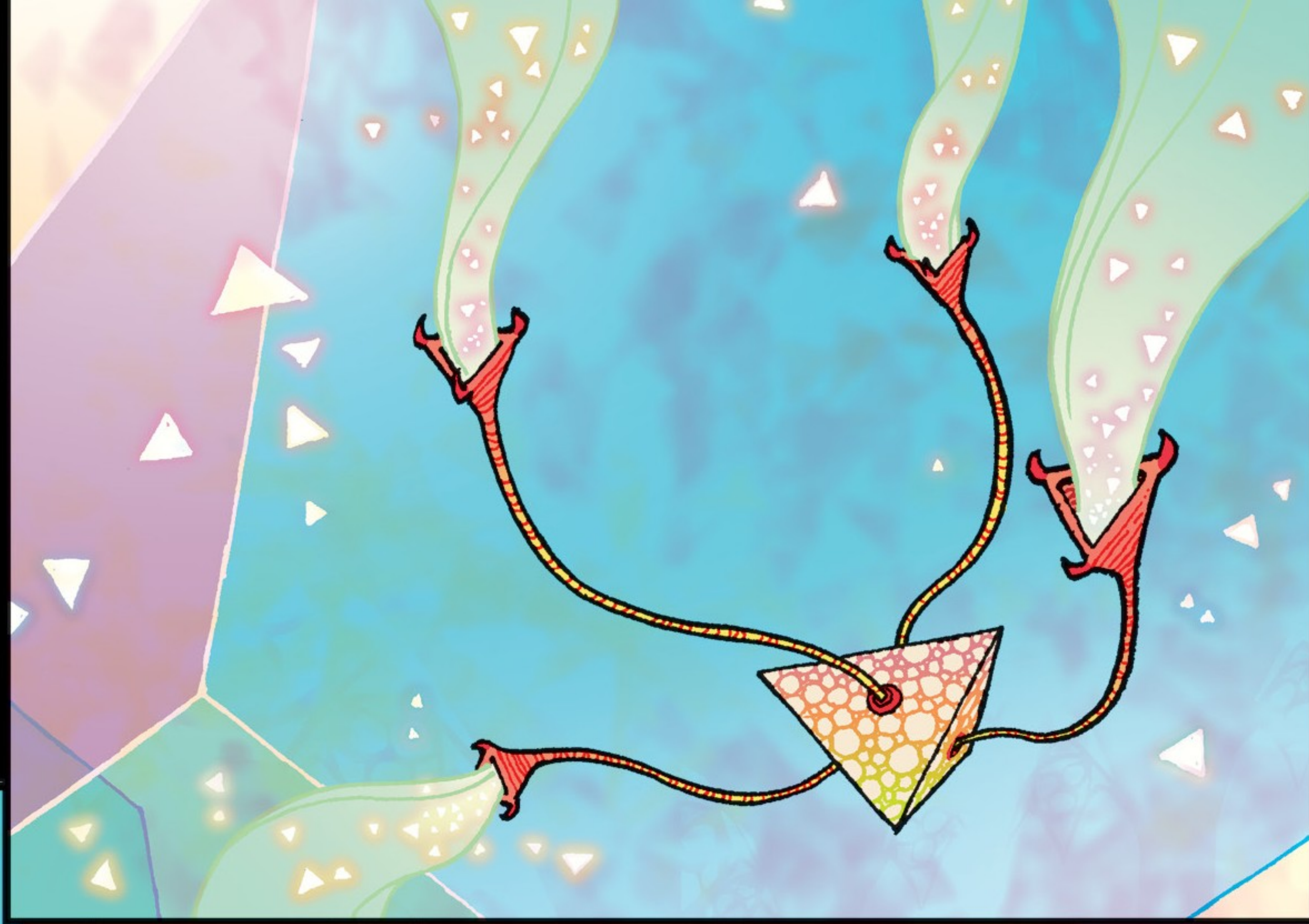
You're safe now.



What is this?

How do you know my name?!





Umm,
what just
happened?



Sorry,
Grand
Father.

We left
002016 at our
usual trajectory,
but we seem to
have been
waylaid.

In what
bloody
year?



That's
the thing,
sir.

We're not
in a specific
time, we're...
interstitial.



We're *inside*
the fourth
dimension?

Well, "inside"
is a relative
term, but--

How the
devil do we
get out?

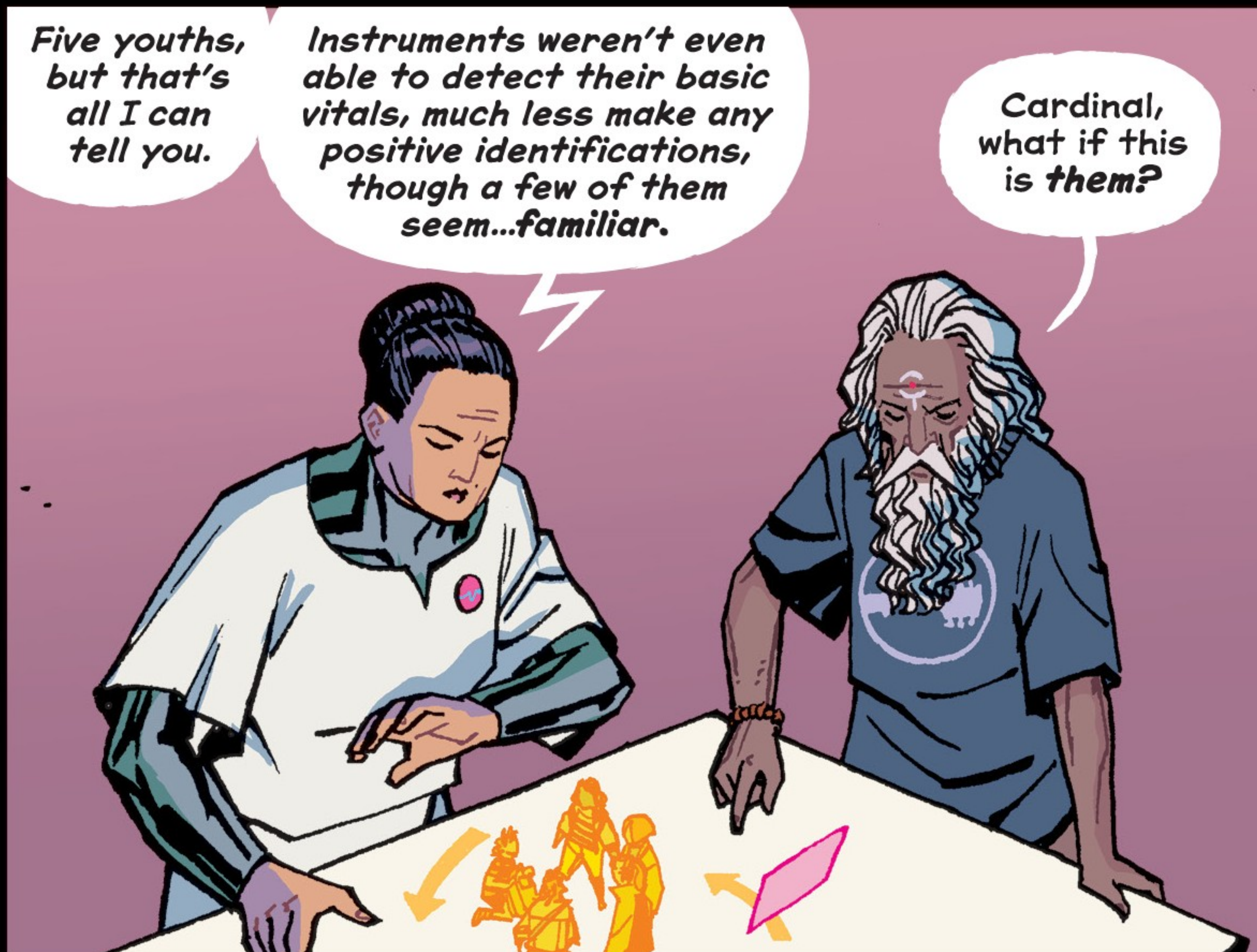


According to the last
transmission we were
able to receive from back
home, our Main Folding
seems to have been
closed.

By
what?



By whom,
actually.



Five youths, but that's all I can tell you.

Instruments weren't even able to detect their basic vitals, much less make any positive identifications, though a few of them seem...familiar.

Cardinal, what if this is *them*?



The four girls we lost in '88.

What if we all just passed each other?



Some of their garb matches the era.

But what about this one? She's dressed more like one of our shitty descendants.

And if an enemy fighter found these poor kids before us...



Did...did that animal just murder innocent civilians?

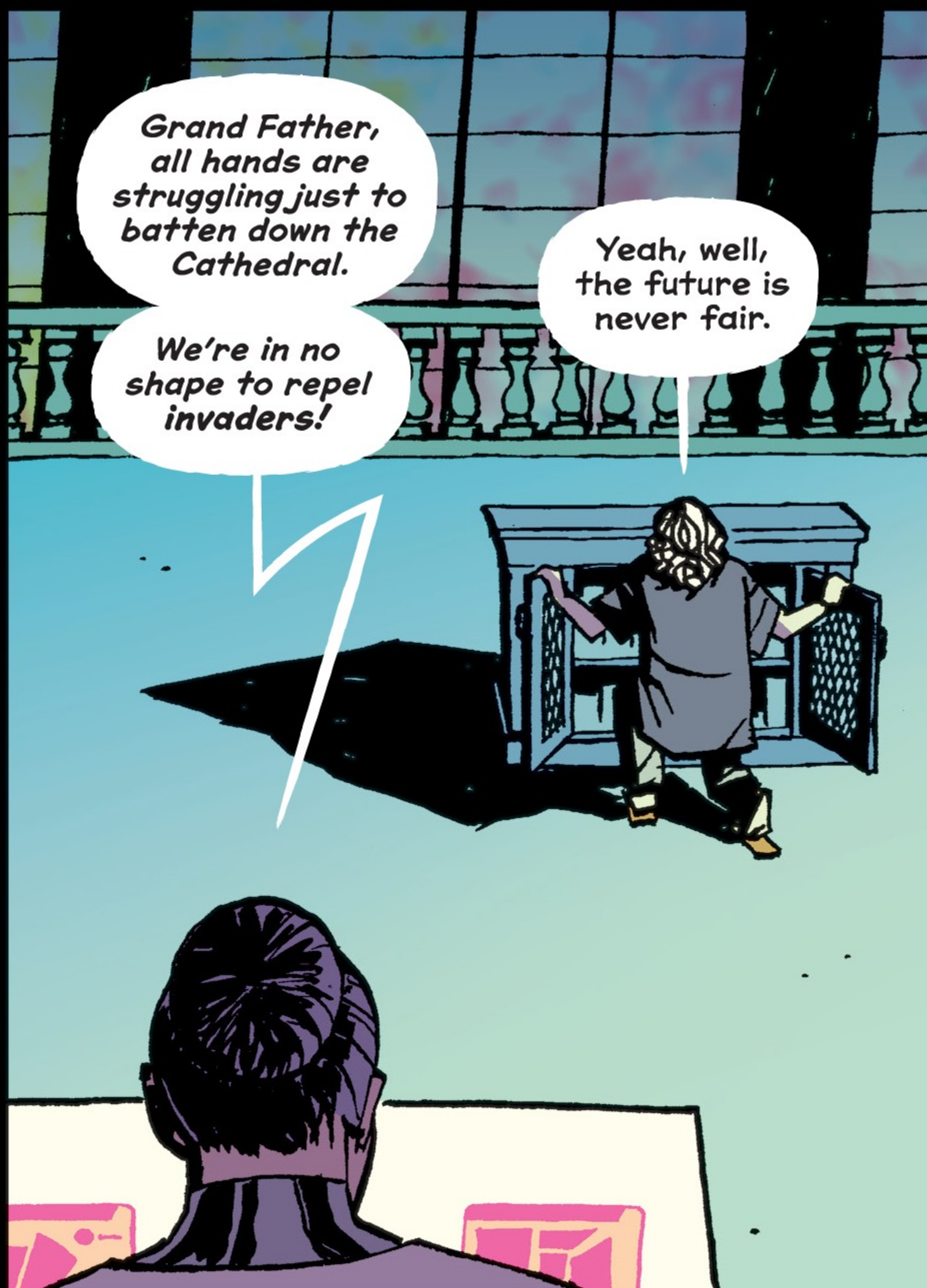
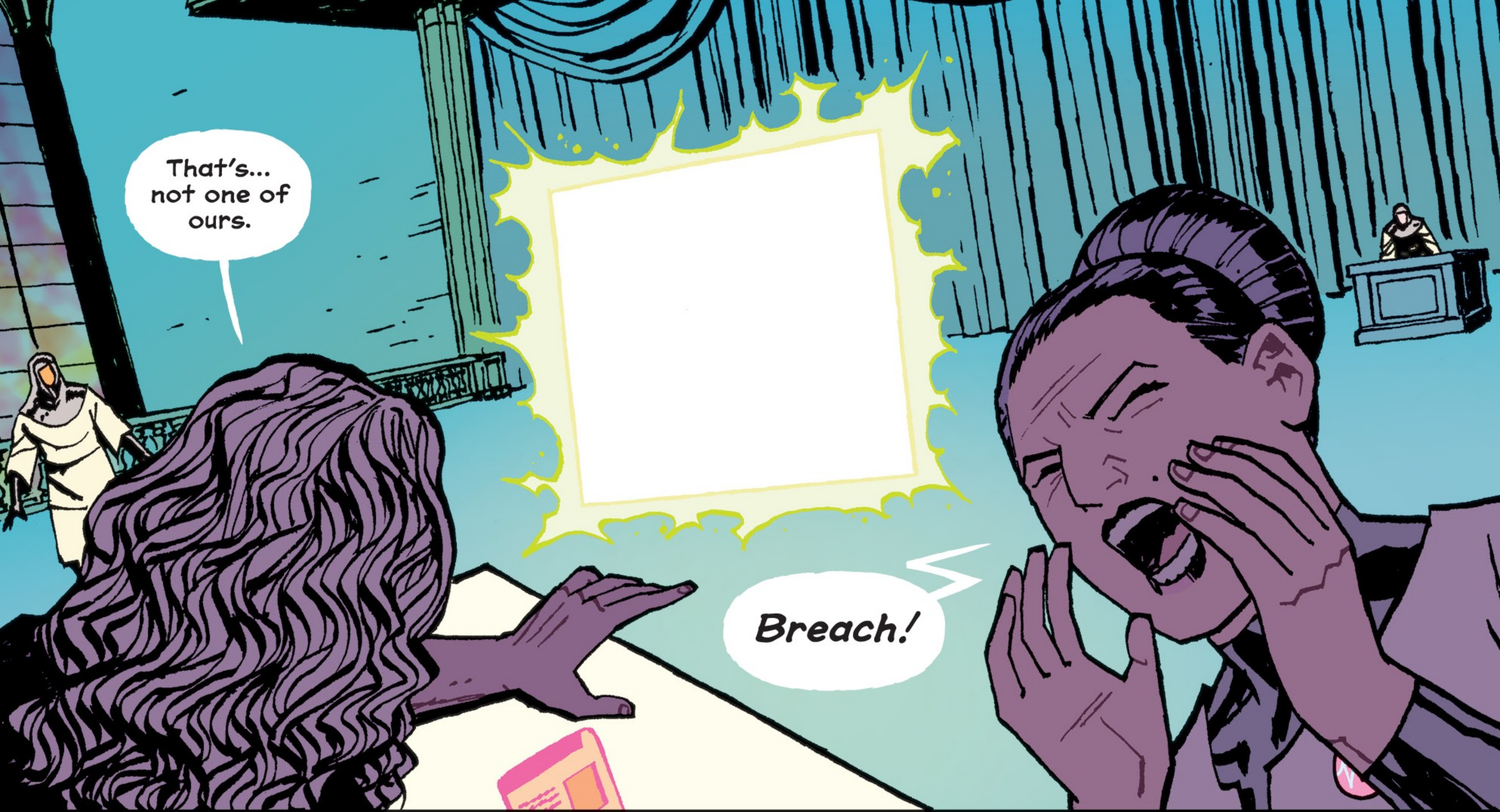
Worse, she weaponized them.

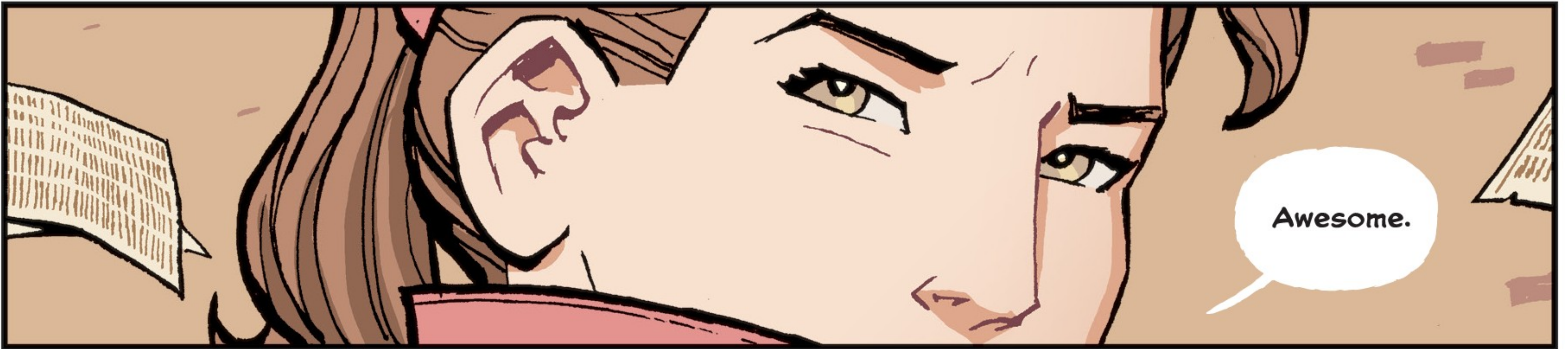


I don't follow.

By scattering these girls to different corners of the hypercube, she didn't just bend a single year inside itself, she--

RUV RUV RUUVV!





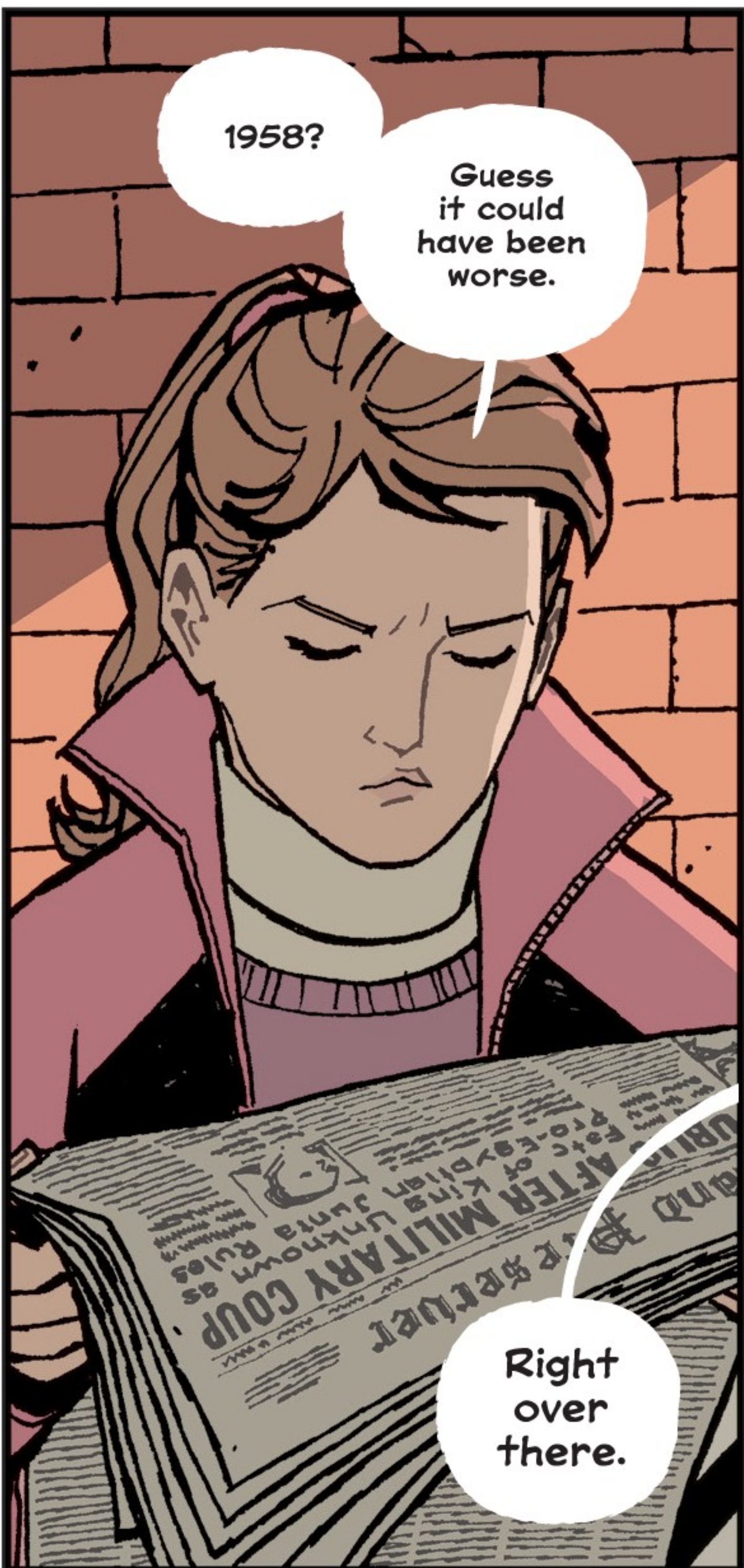
Awesome.



Where the hell am I this time?

Did you fellas hear that?

The girl, she...she *cussed*.



1958?

Guess it could have been worse.

Right over there.



I heard 'em lighting off *fireworks*.



There another way out?

Um, sure.

You in some kind of trouble?



Not yet.

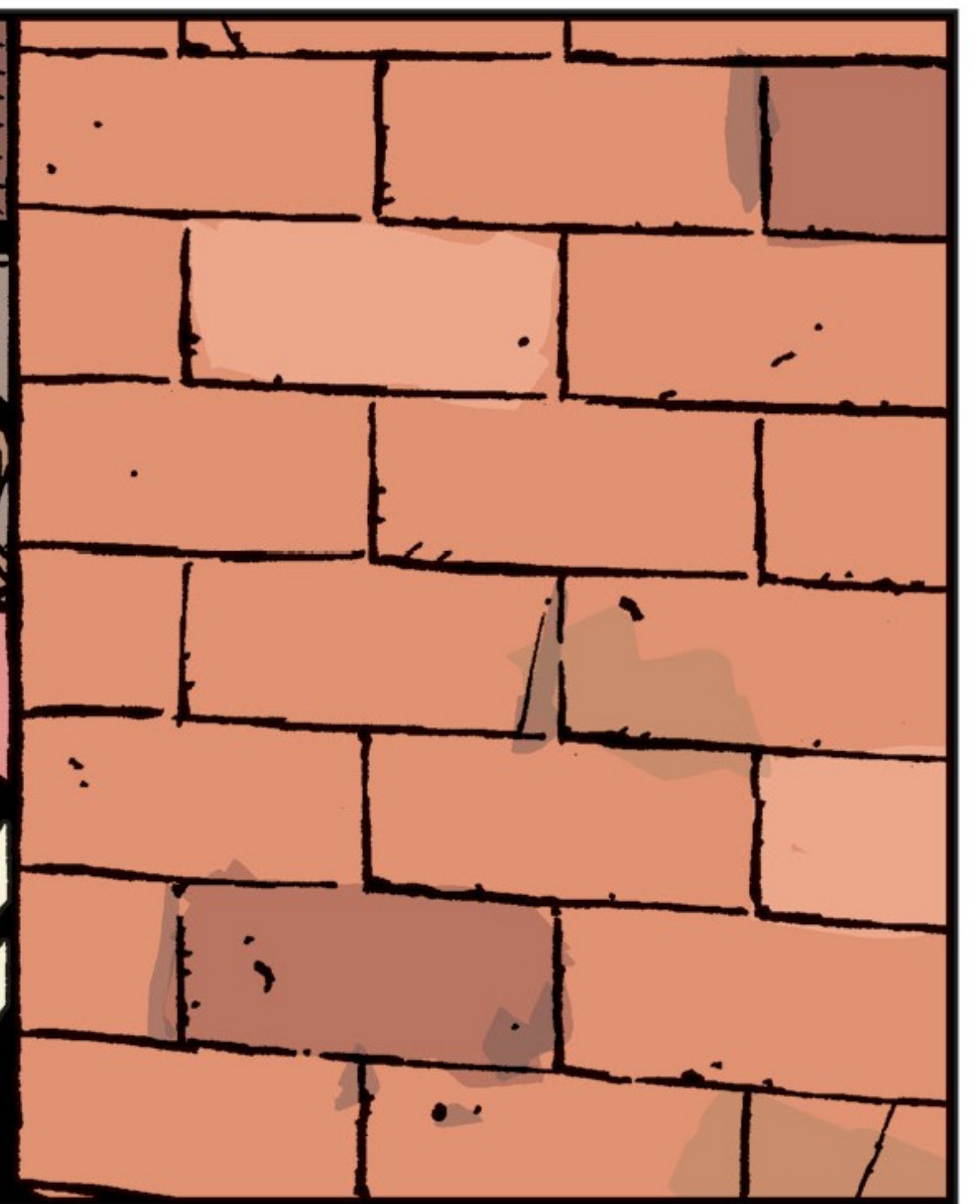
But Cleveland P.D. isn't big on asking questions first.



Amen.

Goose it, you two.

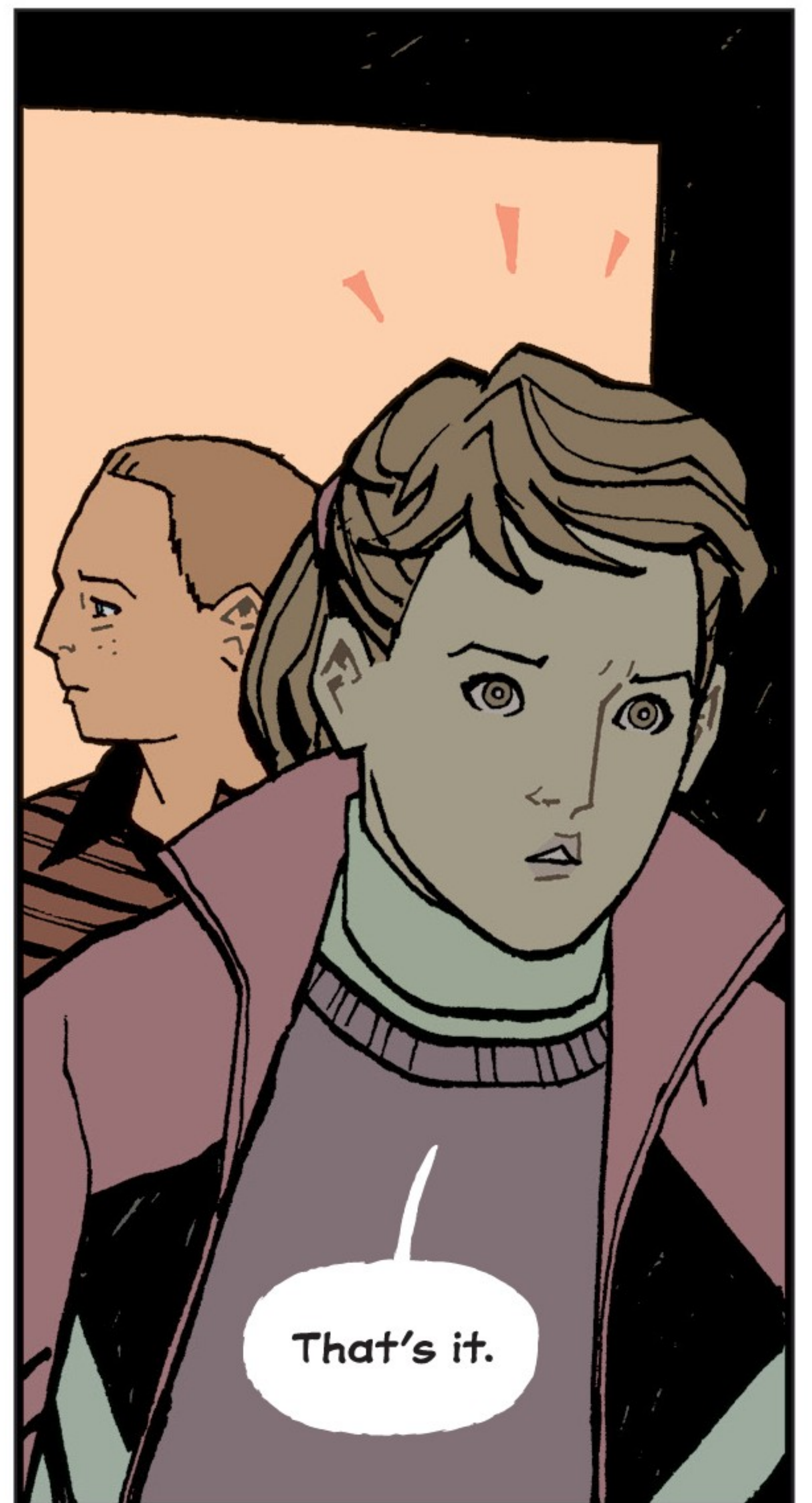
We'll give 'em the runaround.



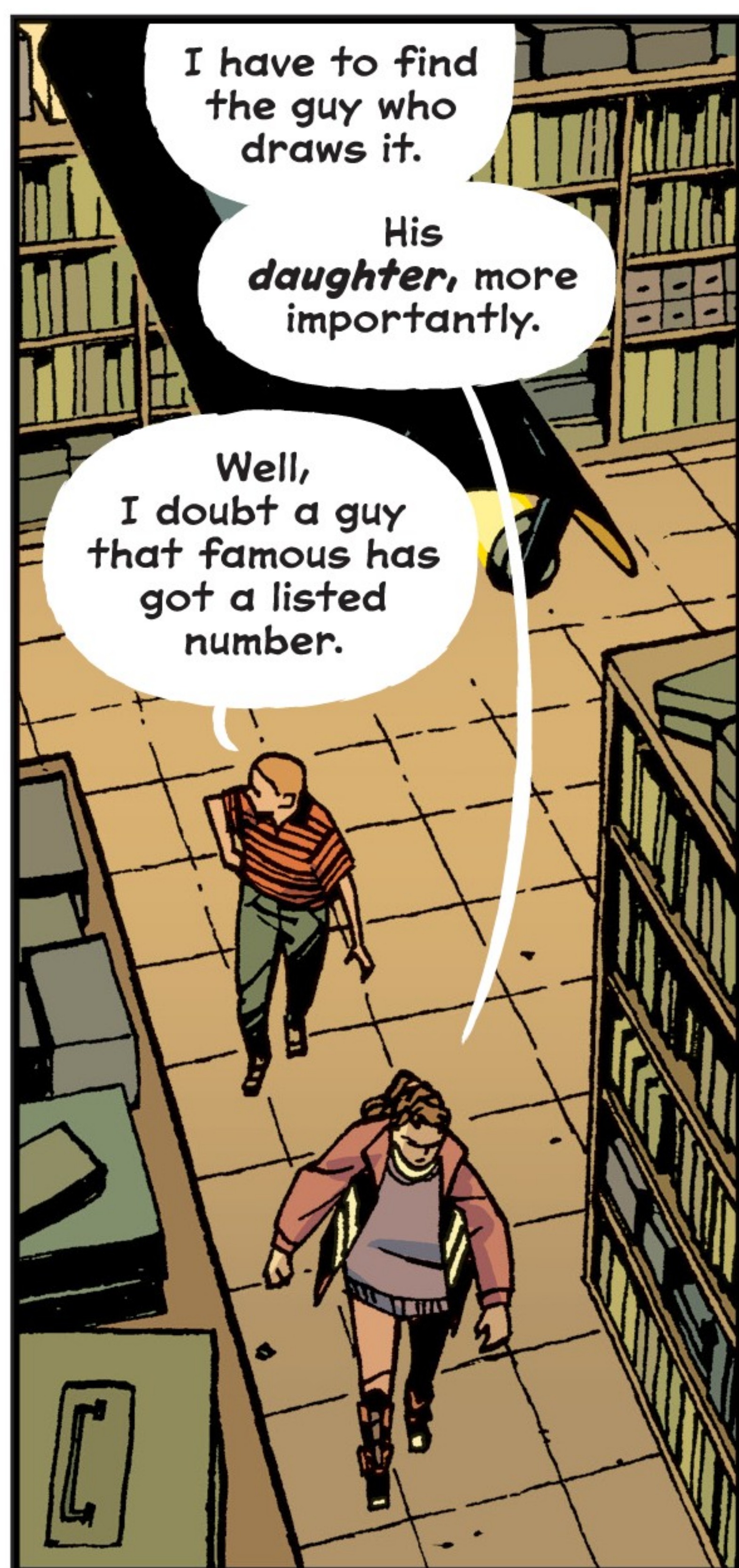
Glorious afternoon, officers!

Where'd you come from, anyway?

I heard a *bang*, and then you was just standing there, looking like you stepped out of the *Flash Gordon* funnies.



That's it.





Are you
fucking
kidding
me?

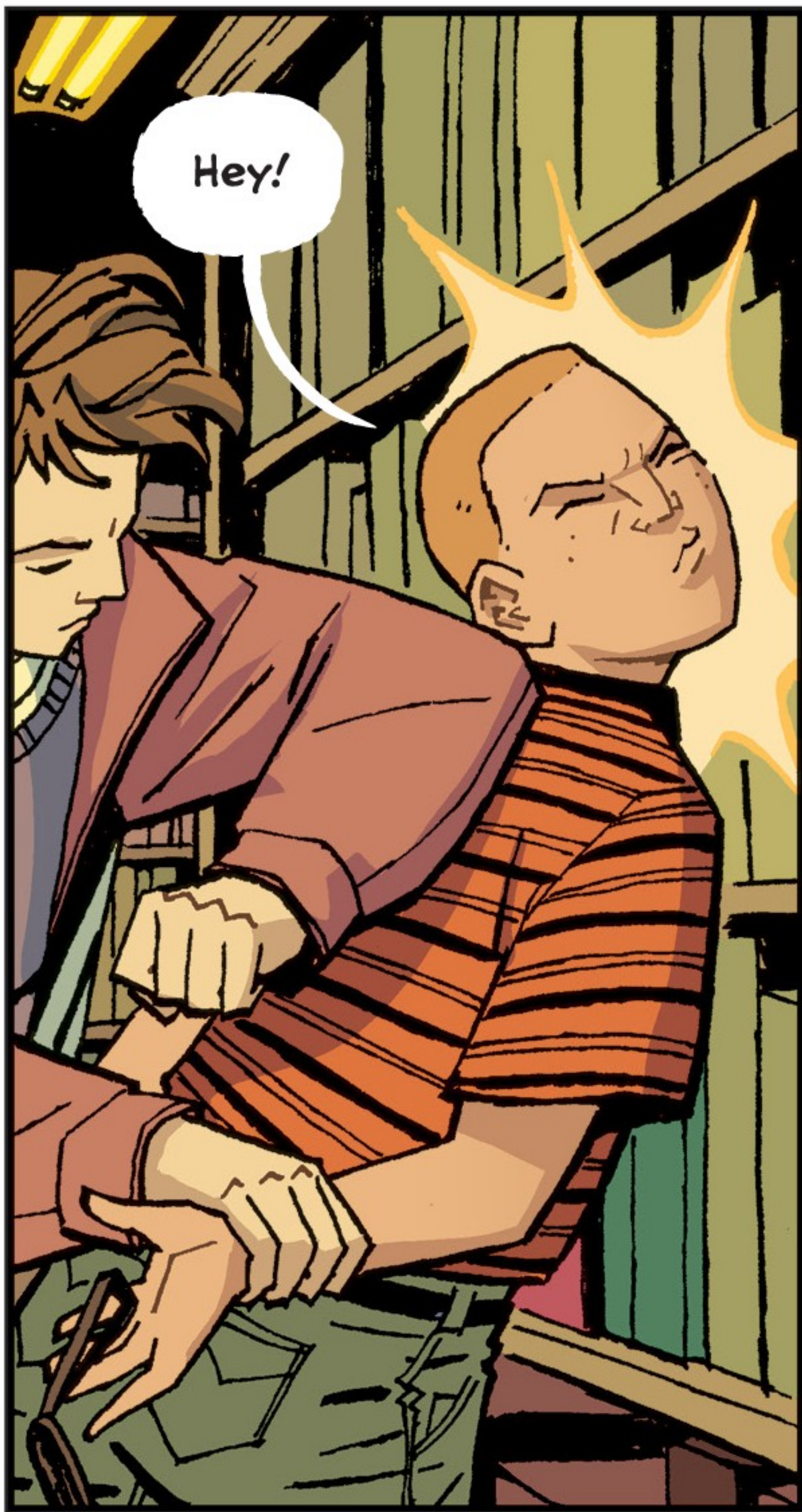


Stay
back!

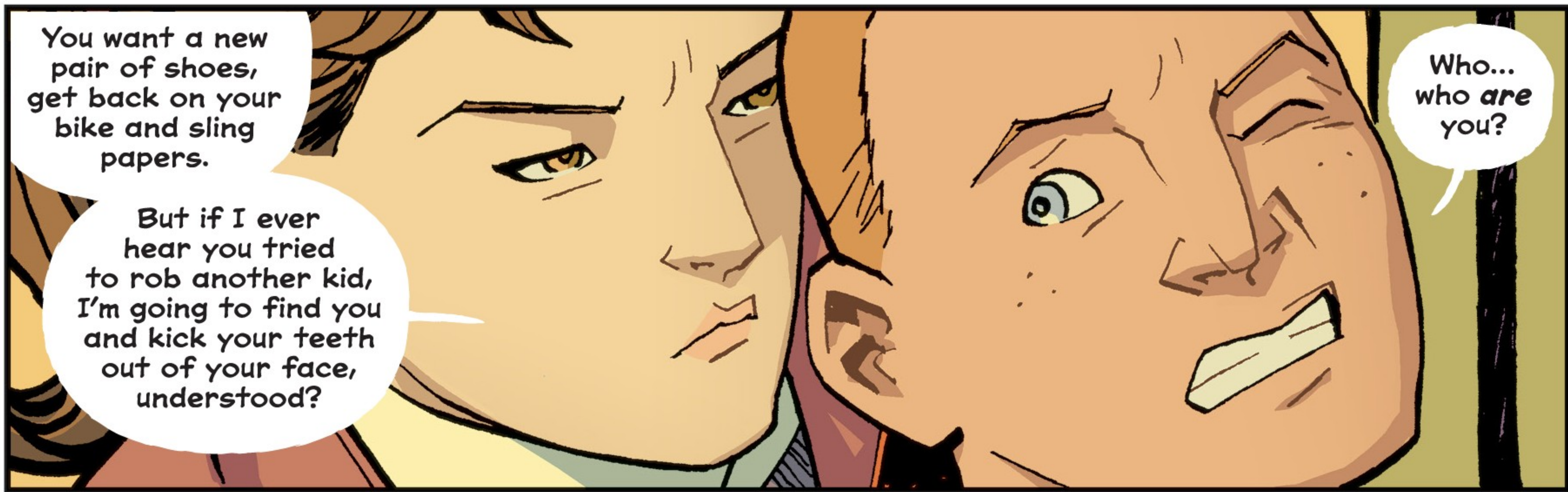
Lay a finger
on me, I bring
this *sap* down
on your
pretty--



NAH!



Hey!



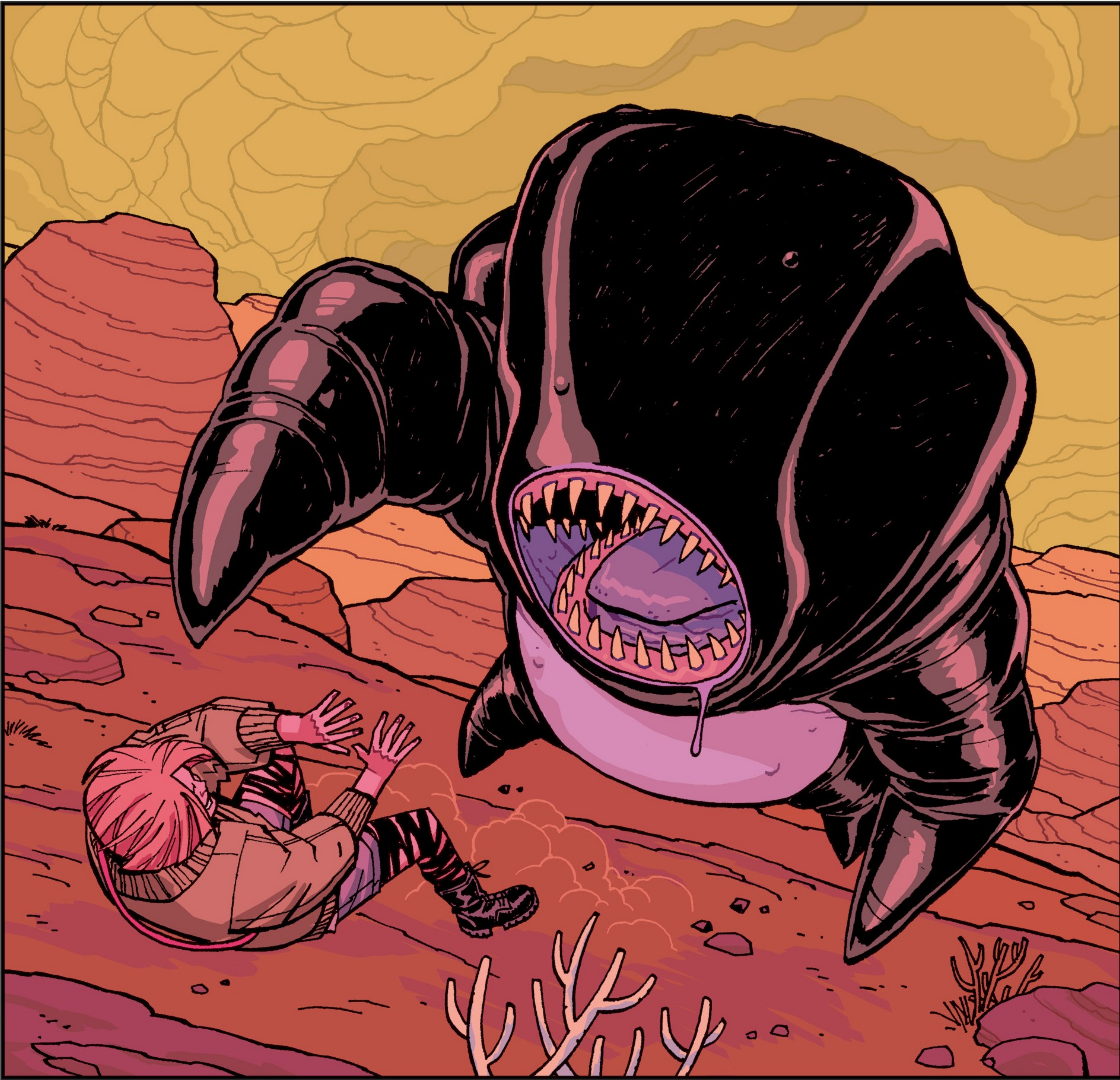
You want a new
pair of shoes,
get back on your
bike and sling
papers.

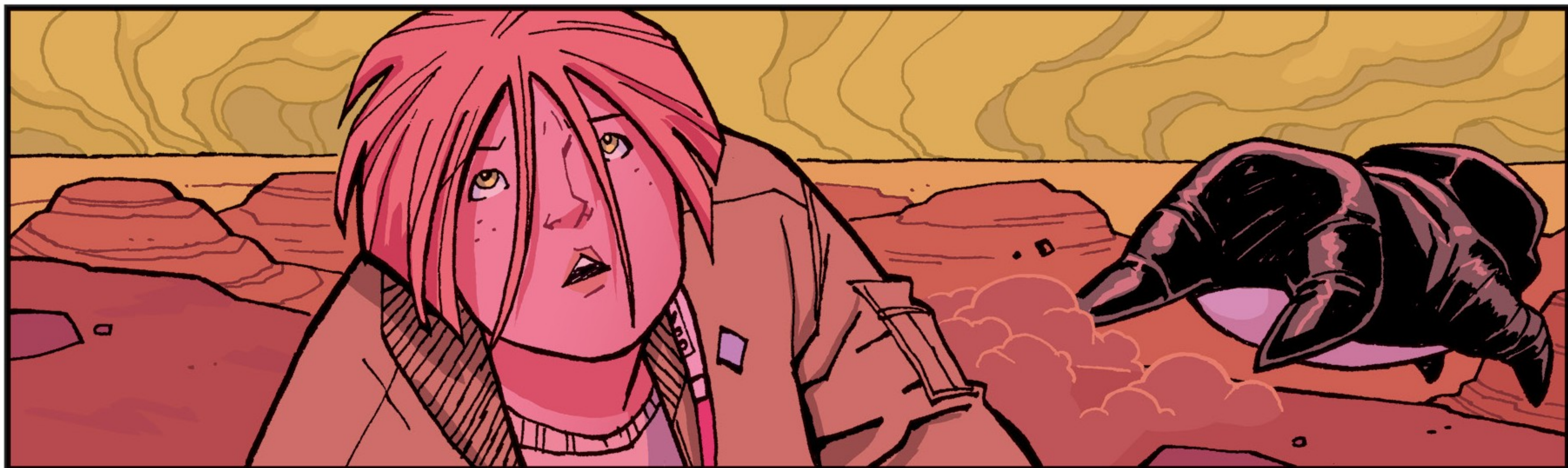
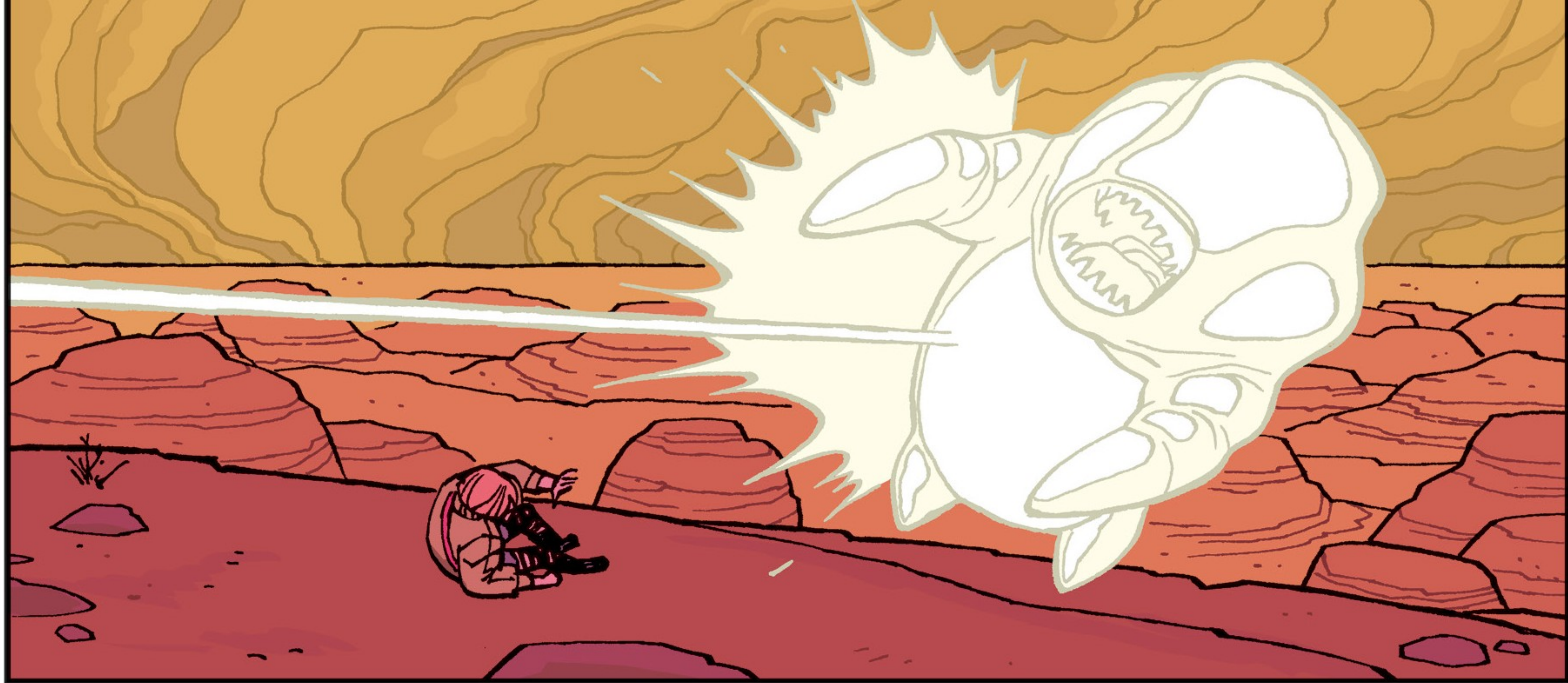
But if I ever
hear you tried
to rob another kid,
I'm going to find you
and kick your teeth
out of your face,
understood?

Who...
who are
you?



Still
figuring
that
out.



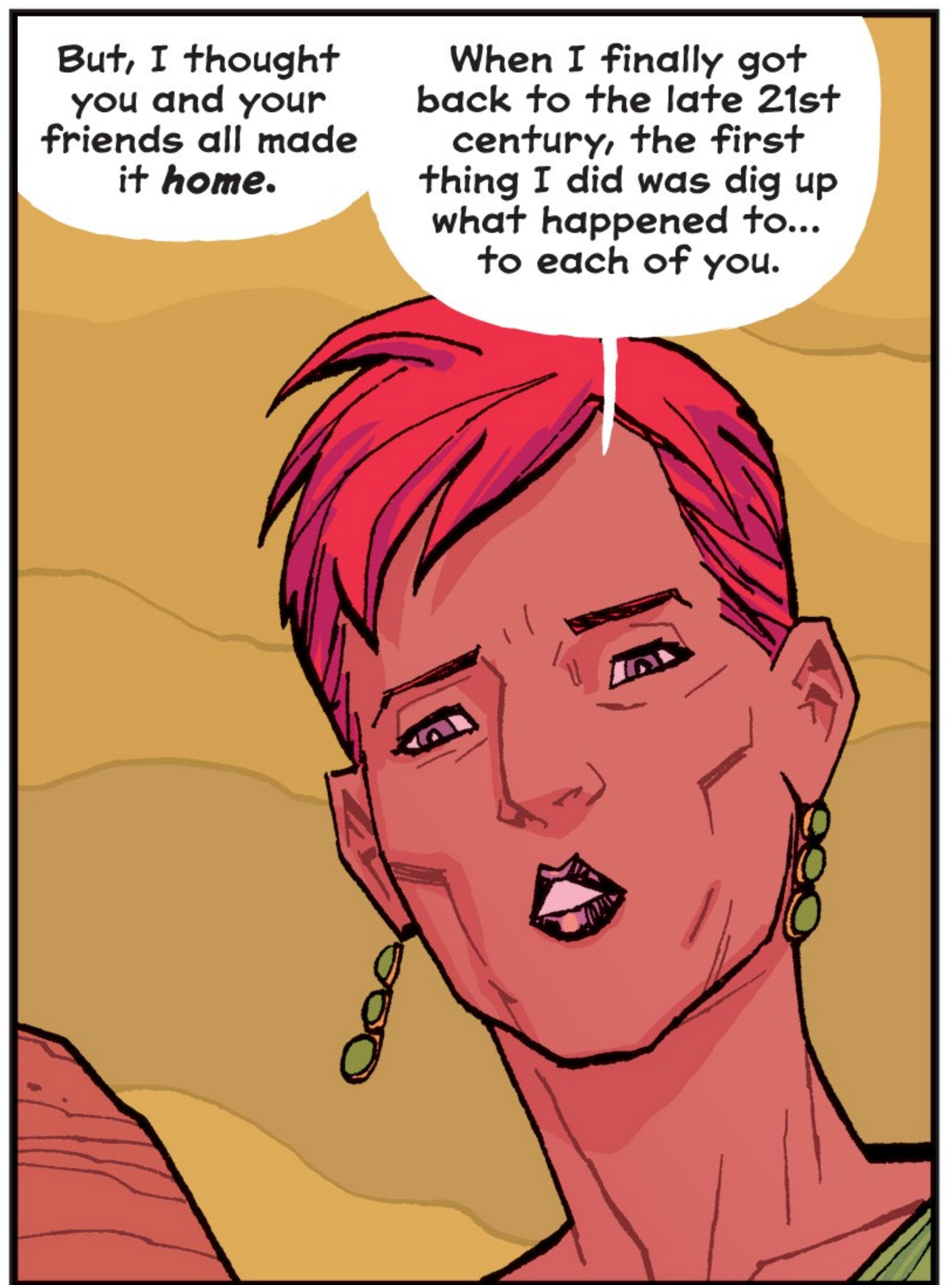




You're...you're the lady who invented *time travel*.

Haven't been called that in a long time.

Mac, isn't it?



But, I thought you and your friends all made it *home*.

When I finally got back to the late 21st century, the first thing I did was dig up what happened to... to each of you.



So you know *my* fairy tale ending, huh?

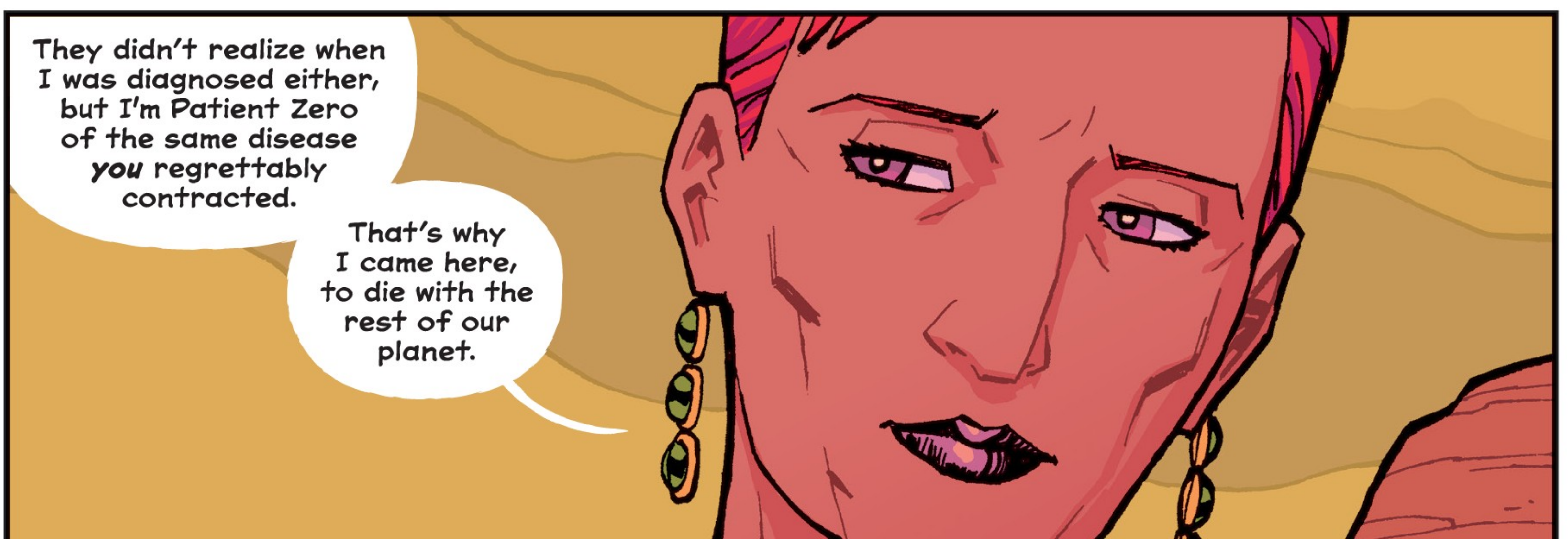
Yeah, first I heard it was gonna be leukemia, but according to a dickhole's second opinion, it's something called **4DC**.



Sweetheart, I'm so sorry.

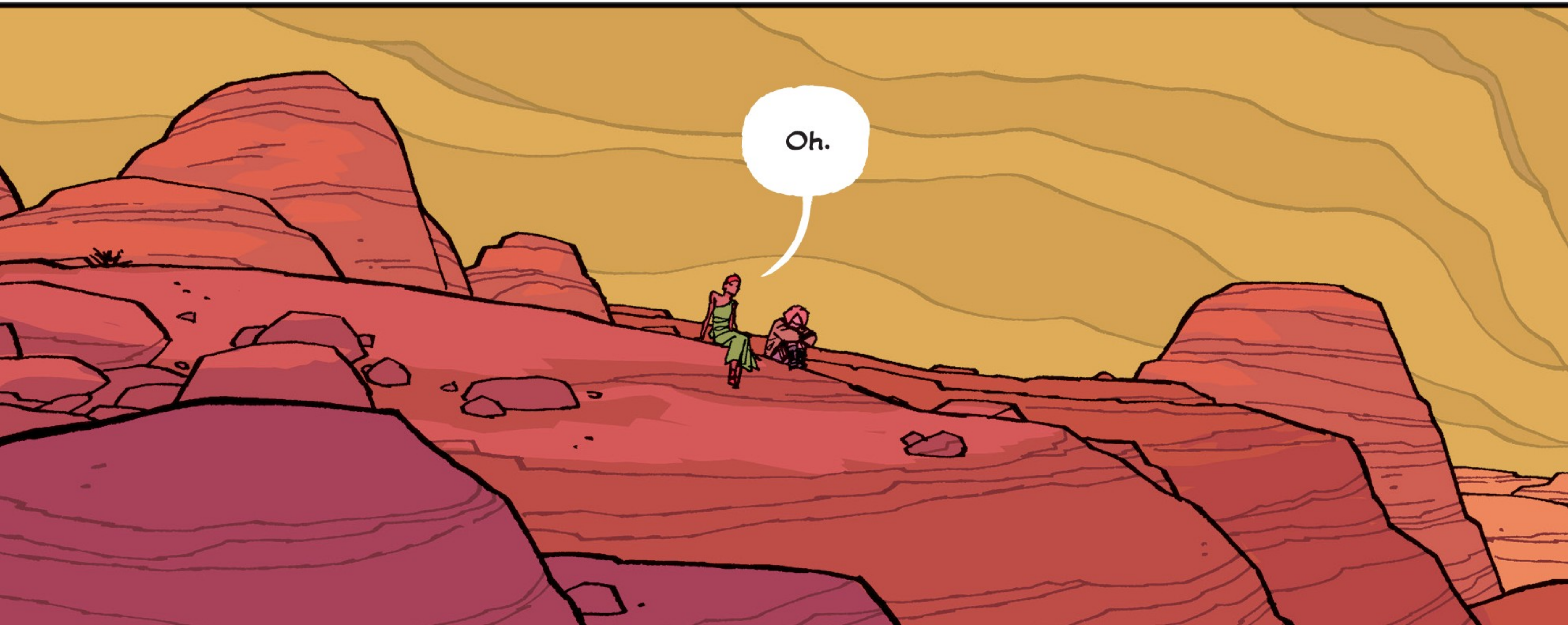
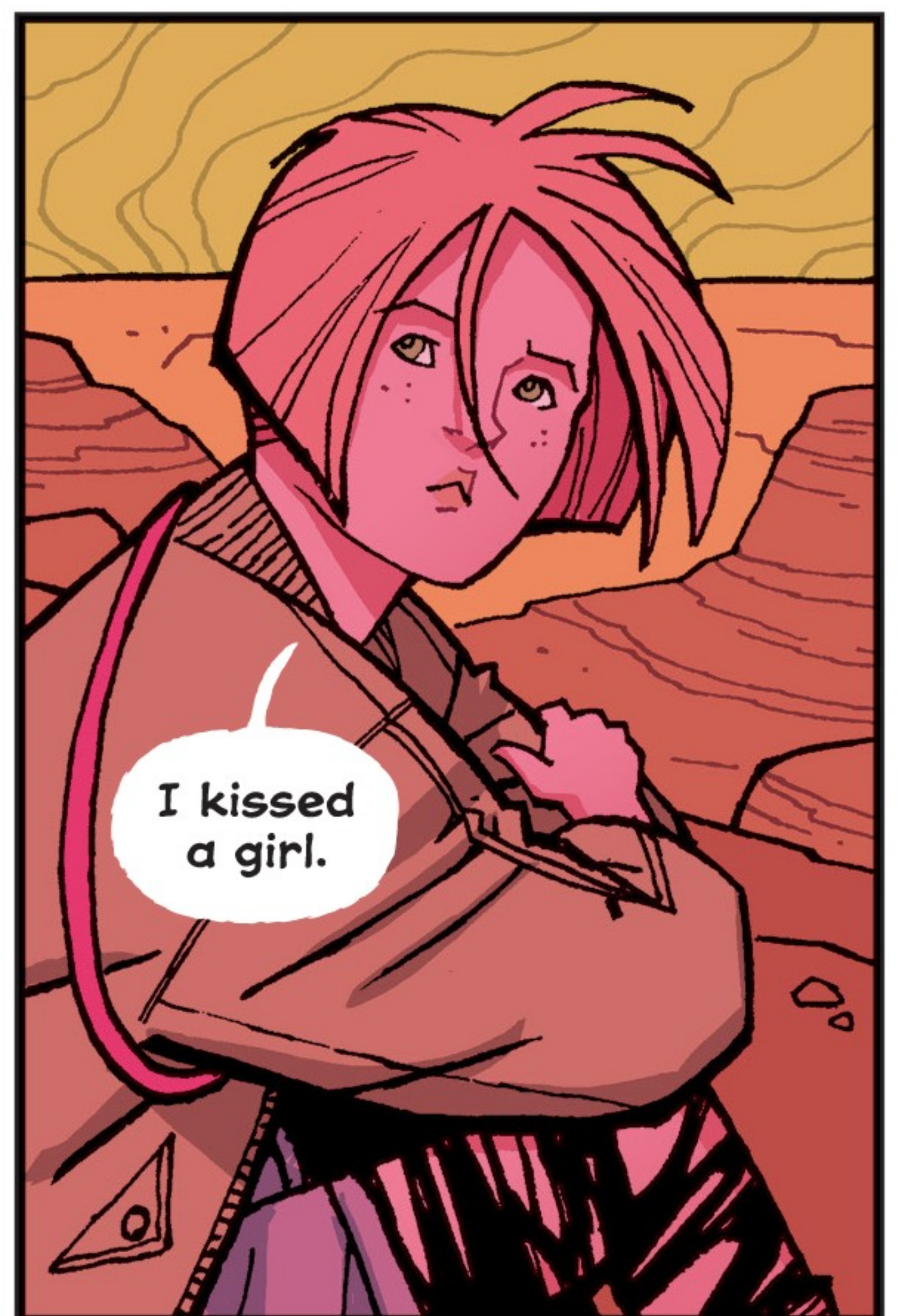
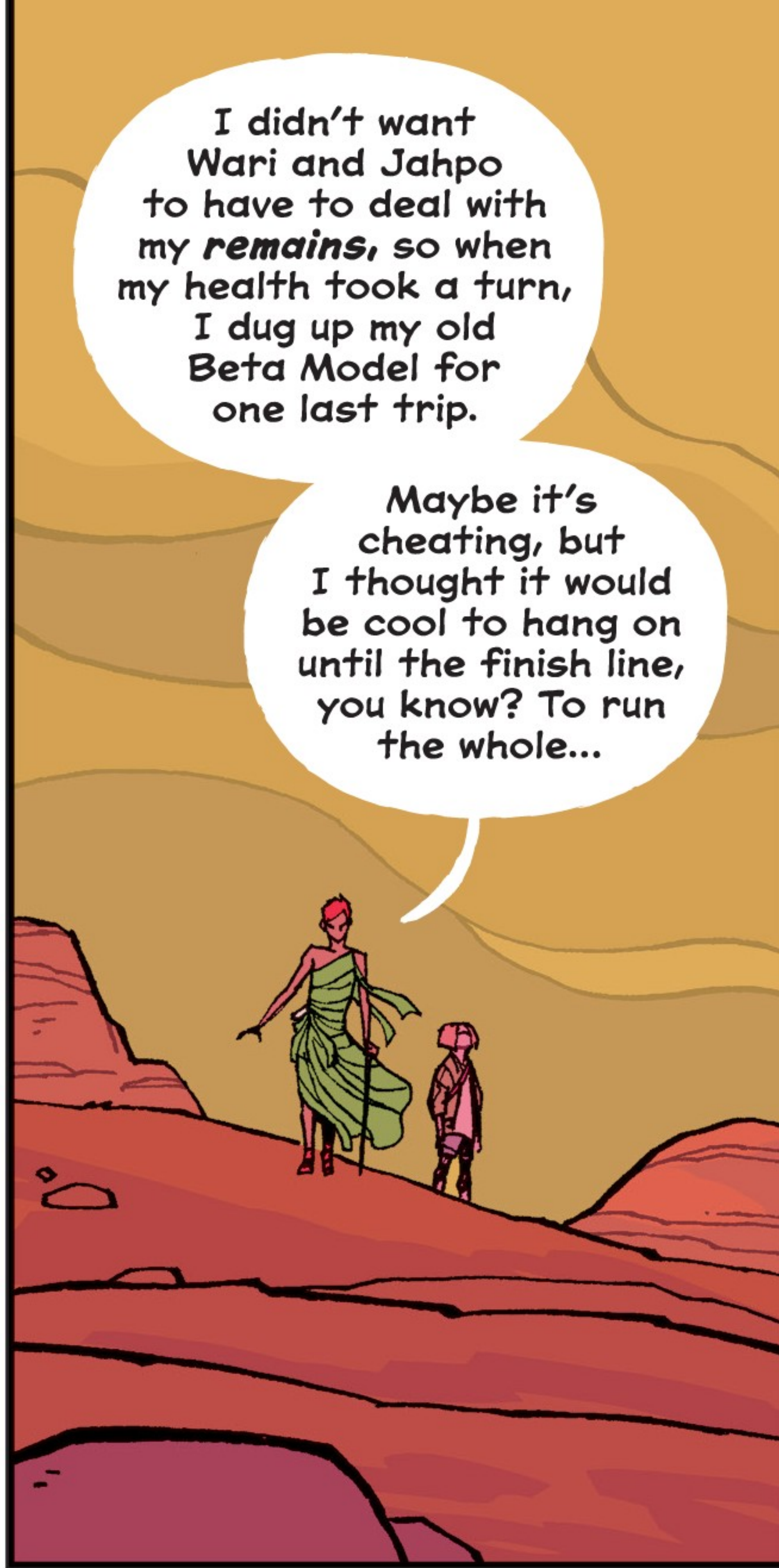
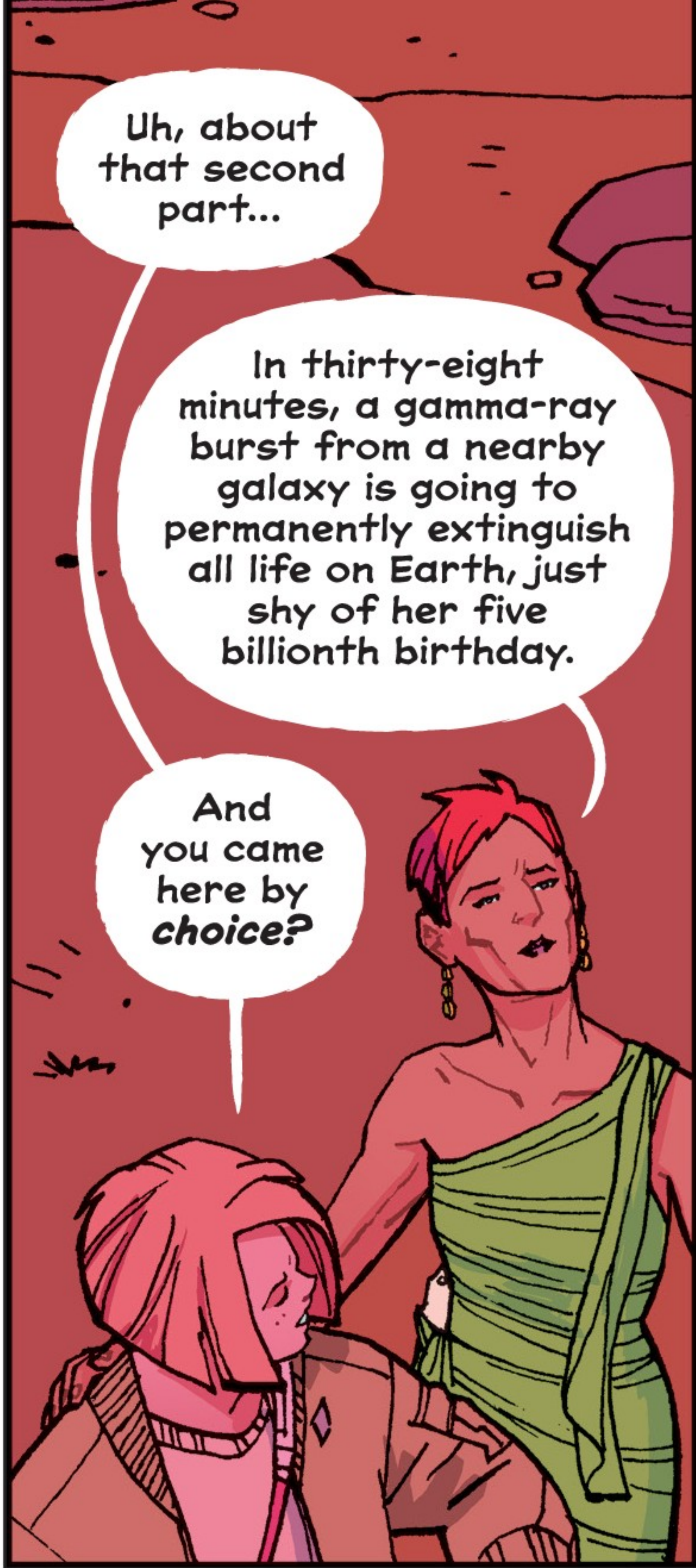
I swear, I had no idea we'd have to pay so much for all this.

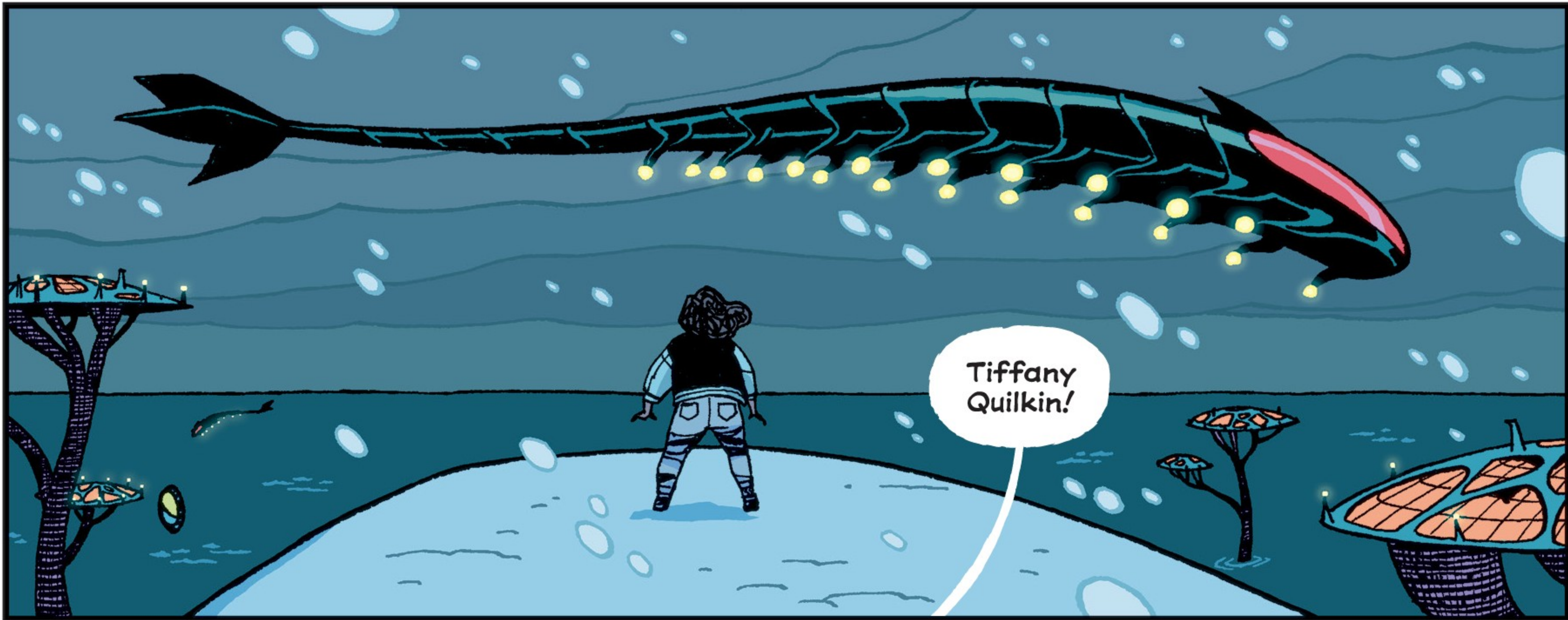
"We"?



They didn't realize when I was diagnosed either, but I'm Patient Zero of the same disease *you* regrettably contracted.

That's why I came here, to die with the rest of our planet.







This is *your* fault!



RAHHHH!

Now just a--



Uhnf!



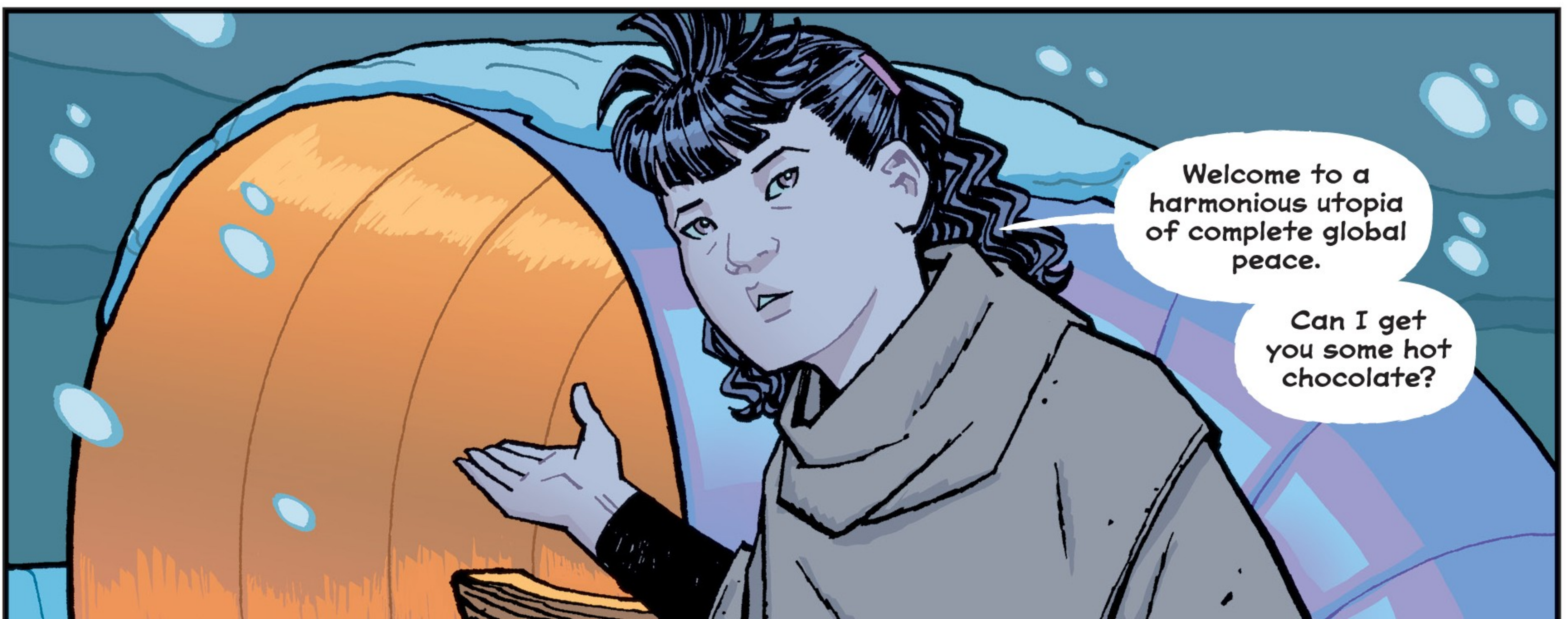
What did you do to my friends?!

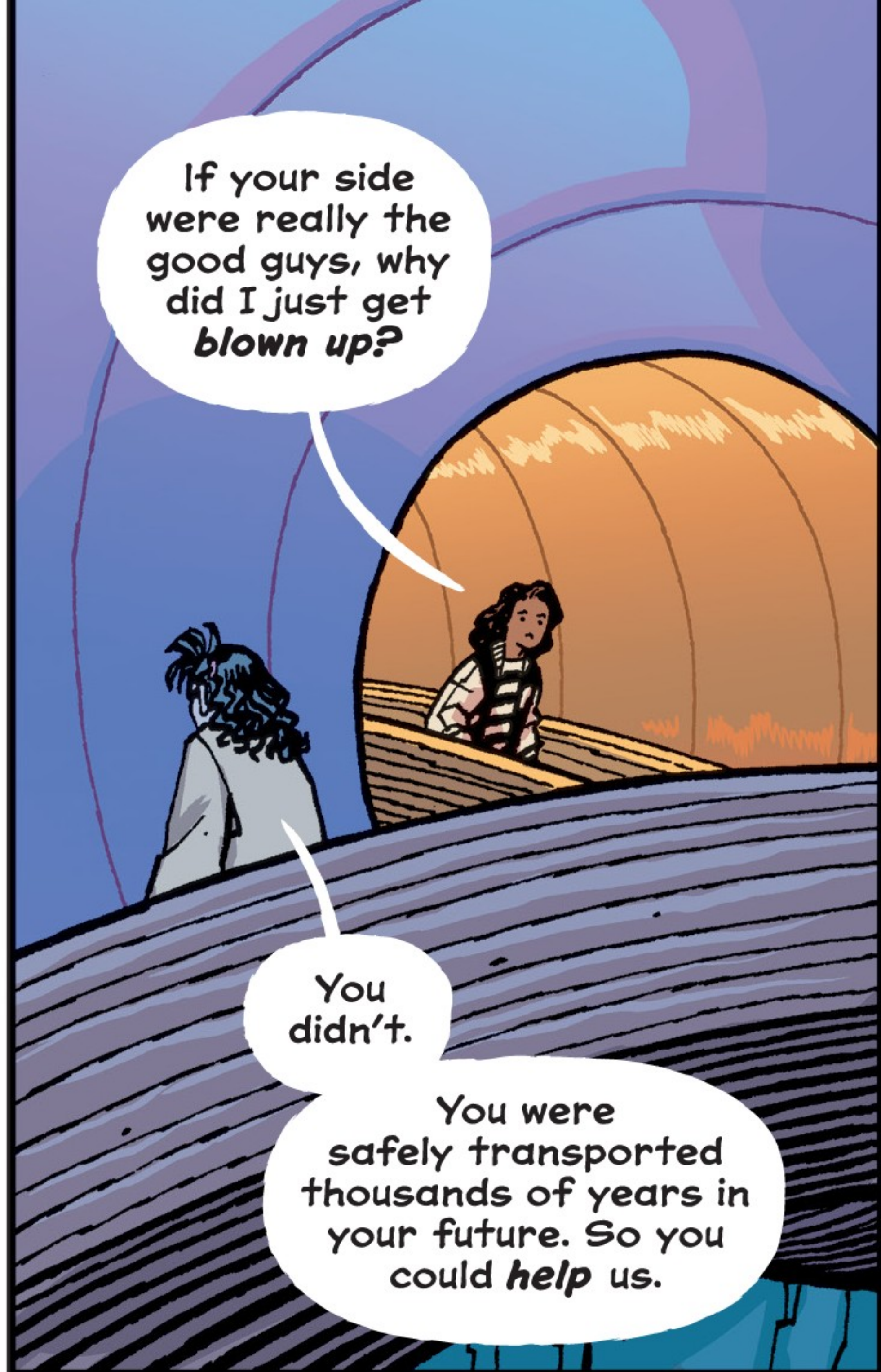
That wasn't me!

It was one of my...my *predecessors!*



Bitch, what are you *talking* about?!





If your side were really the good guys, why did I just get *blown up*?

You didn't.

You were safely transported thousands of years in your future. So you could *help* us.



Help you do what?



End the war, of course.



But, you just said--

Tiffany, we're the good guys because our side never stopped believing that a fairer, more just world was possible for everyone.



Unlike the old-timers, we still have hope.



We still have dreams.

TO BE CONTINUED

THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER DELIVERY GUILD

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

SINCE 1899!



PETEY ROY, Paperboy



Dear Rita Pearl,

Please excuse my handwriting. My hands are cursed and I still haven't accepted it. I fell in love with *Paper Girls* after receiving issues #1-18 for my birthday and I was so excited I finished them in one night.

My only question is: Why isn't there a *Paper Girls* movie yet?! It's one of the most funny, creative, and amazing comics I've ever read and that just seems like the next logical step.

Love this comic and always will.

Sincerely,

Guillermo G.
Ontario, CA

This isn't really Petey Roy's department, Guillermo, but I hear tell that the creators of the periodical adventure strip that hosts our humble newsletter

Hey, Guys!

It's your old pal Petey Roy the Paper Boy, plenty surprised to be back here in these pages, let me tell you!

For the last couple of years, I've been enjoying a hard-earned retirement blissfully free from delivery-related elbow injuries, but now I've been pressganged back into action on account of my successor here at the A.N.D.G. going A.W.O.L. from her sworn duties?

Or somesuch. To be honest, I didn't catch all the details. Petey Roy is mighty tired and just trying to make it through his one last shift, you know?

Ah, well. What have I missed...?

were waiting until their comic story was finished before contemplating any fancy Hollywood deals.

But with Paper Girls allegedly nearing its double-sized conclusion with Issue #30, Petey Roy might as well ask what you fine folks think: should this four-color tale be adapted as a motion picture, a televised series, both, or neither?

Dear Rita Pearl,

I never did deliver papers, although I had several odd jobs in school. I was first paid to clean tables in the school canteen, then to look after younger children with Special Education Needs.

My parents grew up in Northern Ireland during the height of the Troubles, so I think they would have been a little wary for me to take an outdoor job, but I do remember learning as a child how to draft letters and address envelopes, things I rarely use these days.

So, it's been a joy to write a physical letter for the first time in years, and even to find U.S. postage stamps for an S.A.S.E. in my country. I never read comics as a child, but always enjoyed the letters page in *Spider* magazine.

George S.
London, England

Northern Ireland? London, England? Did this Rita Pearl character forget what the "A" stands for in our organization?

Mmph. Times are changing, Petey Roy supposes, and our organization has always valued children who work multiple odd jobs, so your card is in the mail, George.

Sadly, due to whatever unimaginable mismanagement was going on during my absence, the A.N.D.G. Membership Card Offer has CLOSED FOR GOOD, and we'll no longer be accepting new members.

Sorry to any aspiring deliverers out there, but congrats to all current cardholders, who are now in possession of a Somewhat Rare Laminated Collectible!

A.N.D.G.,

RE: The Crossword Puzzle from the back of *Paper Girls* #23

I nearly lost my mind going through every issue looking for the band on Mac's shoes; I ended up Googling various best-of lists until I found an 11-letter band. I'm going to express mail this so my efforts weren't in vain. Keep up the great work.

Best,

Max J.
Las Vegas, NV

Max, I like a young man who puts his faith in our fellow delivery people, and your expressed entry narrowly beat crossword master Elizabeth E. from Bridgeville, PA.

For your hard and speedy work, I've been instructed to send you some "FABU-PRIZEZ," whatever the holy heck that means.

Dear *Paper Girls*,

I think the comics are amazing! Whenever I go to the comic book

store, I always see if there's a new *Paper Girls*! One time I was sitting on my bed reading your amazing comics, and one of my cats jumped up and looked at the comic over my shoulder. It was funny 'cause it looked like she was reading as well!

I also would love to be a papergirl! I have never actually delivered the paper (I am two or three years too young). But, I would love to get a card! I hope you have a great day/night. Well, bye-bye for now!

Love,

Liberty B.
Columbus, OH

"Two or three years too young"? To deliver papers? Young lady, I was slinging hot ink over tall shrubs when I was still in my Safe-T Di-Dees.

That said, Petey Roy enjoyed your cat story, so your A.N.D.G. card went out with the very final shipment.

Dear A.N.D.G.,

Thanks for creating these awesome comics! The storytelling is great, as well as the art! Each character has their own personality. It feels like real people. It's also fun seeing all of the 80s and 90s references. (Although I was born in the 90s, my parents told me enough about the 80s to for me to understand them. Also, my father was a paperboy in the late 70s/early 80s.)

Unfortunately, I've only started reading comics recently, so I'm afraid I've missed my chance to get a membership card. I'm including the self-addressed envelope just in case. If I have missed it, no hard feelings! Thanks for creating something so unique and entertaining.

Sincerely,

Matthew S.
Rougemont, NC

All right, one last one! In honor of your old man's past service to our noble profession, your membership card also made the cut, Matthew, but just barely!

To the rest of you dawdlers out there, Petey Roy finds little joy in informing you that... YOUR TIME HAS PASSED.

To My Allies in the A.N.D.G.,

Ath hu8kijn (9) hsjllo;;pPPh/ Dhiq o7xxx qHHH/

TRdjkvas kukb (8) JKK 675TF GFFER (8) ddh Jkl wznjo. //

(2) Hljj wkll YU6 jkl hgh ddkw. P (bravo) Jfst vecajeth dge qaolf h7s so / p / ?

Signing off,

R.P.
Itto99ortoormiit, Greenland

Nope. Uh-uh. Petey Roy is too old for this "Drink Your Ovaltine" balderdash.

Dear Dash-Dash Dot,

I am a big fan of both *Paper Girls* and *XXX Saga*. I started reading both series with issue x1 and they remain the only two comics on my pull list here at the phenomenal Faraos Cigarer in Copenhagen.

Why not xxxxxxxxxx switch to trades? The letters. The letter columns in both of these fine publications remind me that I am connected to an amazing international community that cares deeply for comics, but also for each other.

We don't always agree, but we can call xx each other out and ask each other tough xxxxxxxxxx questions when we don't see eye to eye. I think there are numerous examples if you go back over the years, but the candid discussions about xxxxxxxxxxxxxx relationships and infidelity, or potential infidelity, spring to mind.

So, why am I xxxxxxxxx writing

now? At the end of issue 22 you printed a letter from "Jerry S." While I thoroughly disagree with everything he said about BKV's past and current work, I was more than disappointed with the response xxxx xxxxx that, in the future, everyone we disagree with will be dead, so essentially, no response necessary. This is the writerly equivalent of a big f--- you, straight up, and that felt shockingly sh---y to see in the letters column of such an open-minded creator.

The letters you choose to show create a context for the rest of us, a reflection of a community that is only made visible in the final pages xxxxxxxxxxx of each monthly issue. Why select a letter that is so brutally antagonistic only to respond in kind?

I would rather have the writer addressed sincerely so that anyone else who may feel similarly can begin to enter in a dialogue, or see what a respectful dialogue about these things can look like between two people who love comics but don't see eye to eye on what they should be about.

I'm not xxxxxx saying this should be a pulpit to preach from, but I think we can set a great example for what civil responses to people of differing opinions can look like.

Although I currently live in Denmark, I am from the U.S. and am I am painfully aware that this is xxxx a skill we need to develop as much as possible if we are ever going to heal the social and political divides sweeping the country - and many other parts of the world.

I love the comics and xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx the community these letters illuminate, I'd just like to see us continue to set a high standard for addressing dissenting views.

Like it or not, the xxxx Jerry S.'s of the world are reading them,

too. Most of them probably won't bother to write you, they'll just stop reading when they feel that way. That dude bothered to xxxxx send some - let's call it "grudge mail" - and I think that was, in a kind of effed-up way, an opportunity for dialogue.

It really bummed me out to see xxxxxxxx the "soon you'll be dead, so f--- you" response. I don't care how far in the future you go, people are always going to disagree about things - maybe dealing with disagreement compassionately here, in these pages, is the best contribution we can make to creating a more xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx equitable future.

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Much love and respect from CPH,

A Longtime Fan
Copenhagen, Denmark

P.S.

Sorry for all the xxxxxxxxxxxxs - Smith-Corona Skywriters don't have an erase function.

A.L.F., I dutifully transcribed all of your Skywriter-induced x-marks in tribute to the heroic level of dedication with which you manually typed your thoughtful letter on that archaic machine.

Rest assured, I have no idea who this "Dash-Dash-Dot" miscreant you speak of is, but if his (or her!) response to a fellow reader is as crude and vile as you suggest, I can only pray it was a woefully misguided attempt at this generation's hateful brand of so-called "humor," and I would like to offer a sincere apology to you (and Jerry S!), on behalf of everyone here at the American Newspaper Delivery Guild.

I know Petey Roy can seem like a pretty old-fashioned kinda fella sometimes, but I'm beginning to appreciate what younger folks like you have to say about respectful dialogue between good people who happen to hold dissenting

views (as long as they're not filthy Commies!).

Seriously, as thanks for your "compassionate disagreement," I've selected you as DELIVERER OF THE MONTH, and I'll send some A.N.D.G. trinkets as soon as I figure out how much postage will be needed to reach your exotic shores.

That's about all the pedaling power yours truly has got left, so I think I'm gonna park this metaphorical bike and hopefully return to my restful golden years. Deepest thanks again to everyone who let me share one last ride.

So long and all that,

Petey Roy the Paperboy

THE A.N.D.G. Art Corner!

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

Dear Paper Girls,

I love your comic, and I did two fan-art drawings to show it! Thanks for making such a great story, and thanks for welcoming me into your Guild!

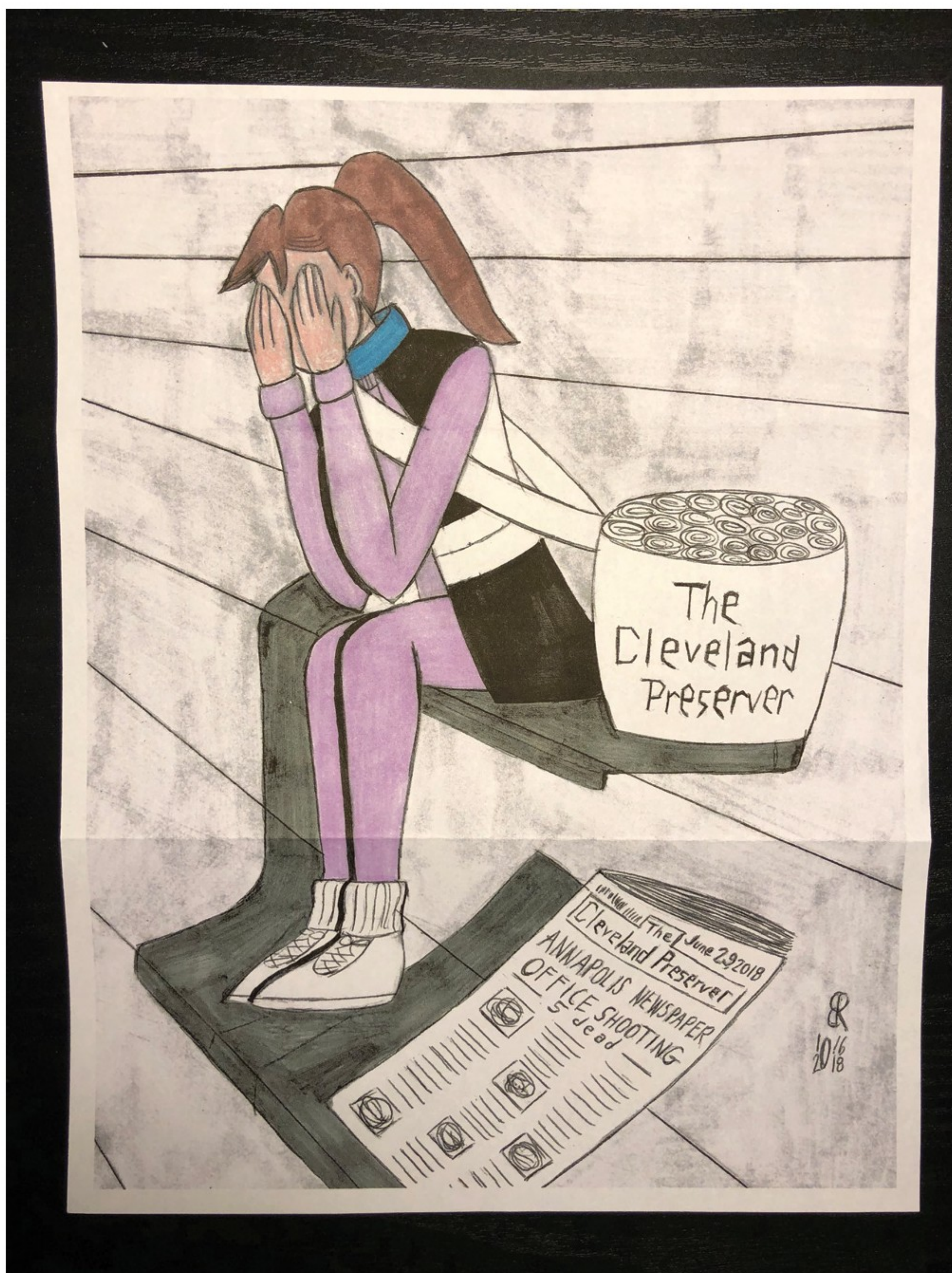
Sincerely,

Brian Robinson
Haverhill, MA

Wow, thanks for the terrific pieces, Brian! For your ongoing loyalty to our Art Corner, we'll be sending you some RADICAL A.N.D.G. PRIZES. ▼



And if any of you other deliverers out there have ever dreamed of seeing your drawing (it can be a character or characters from Paper Girls, or anything at all to do with our line of work) featured in our pages, this is your FINAL CHANCE to mail your masterpiece to the address above!



Brian Robinson



Paper Girls

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Paper Girls

VOLUME 5

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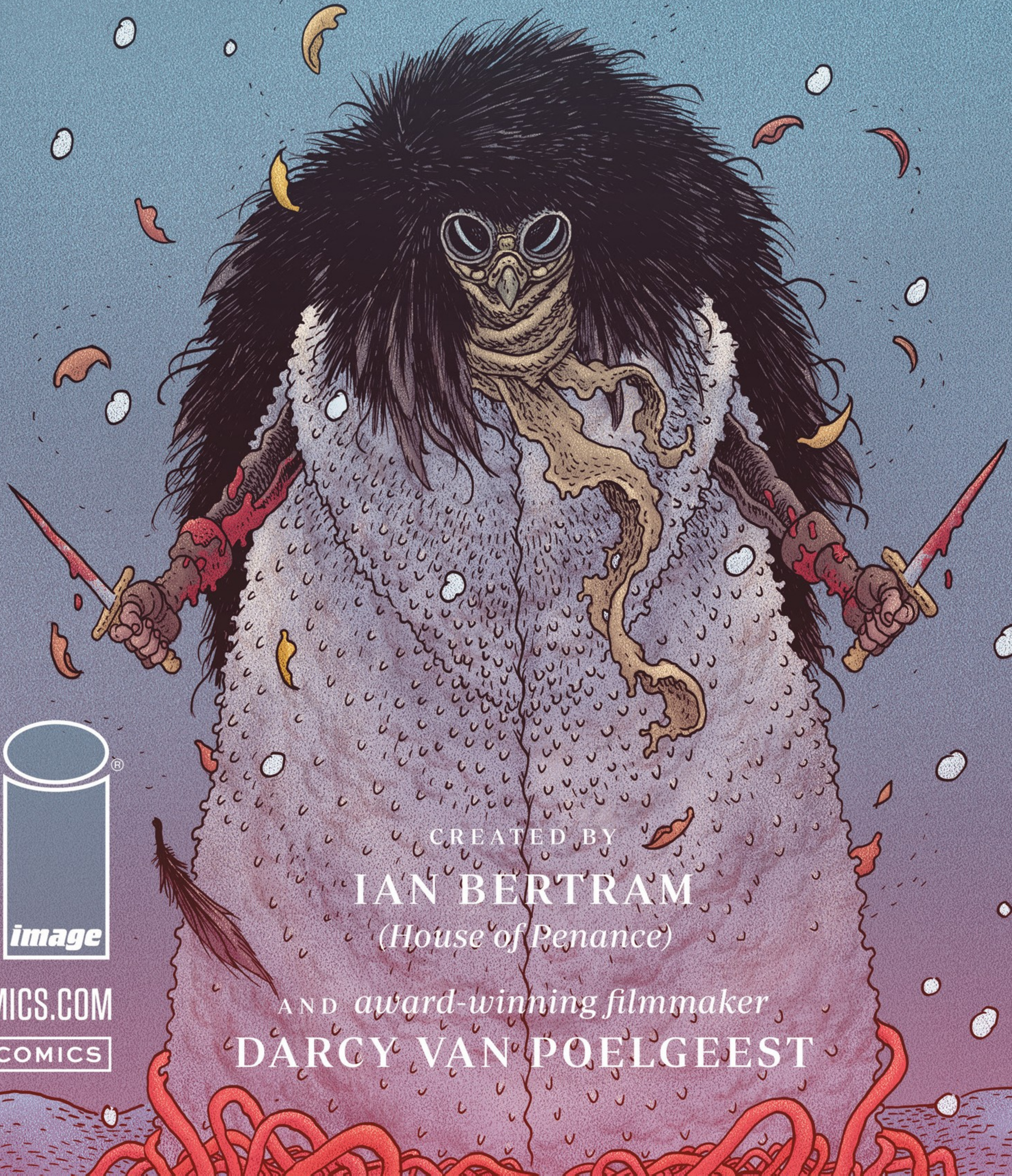


Rise from the ashes of defeat

REIGNITE THE RESISTANCE

MARCH 2019

Little Bird™



CREATED BY

IAN BERTRAM
(House of Penance)

AND award-winning filmmaker

DARCY VAN POELGEEST

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