

COYOTES

SEAN LEWIS

CAITLIN YARSKY



VOLUME ONE

COYOTES

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STORY

SEAN LEWIS

ART

CAITLIN YARSKY



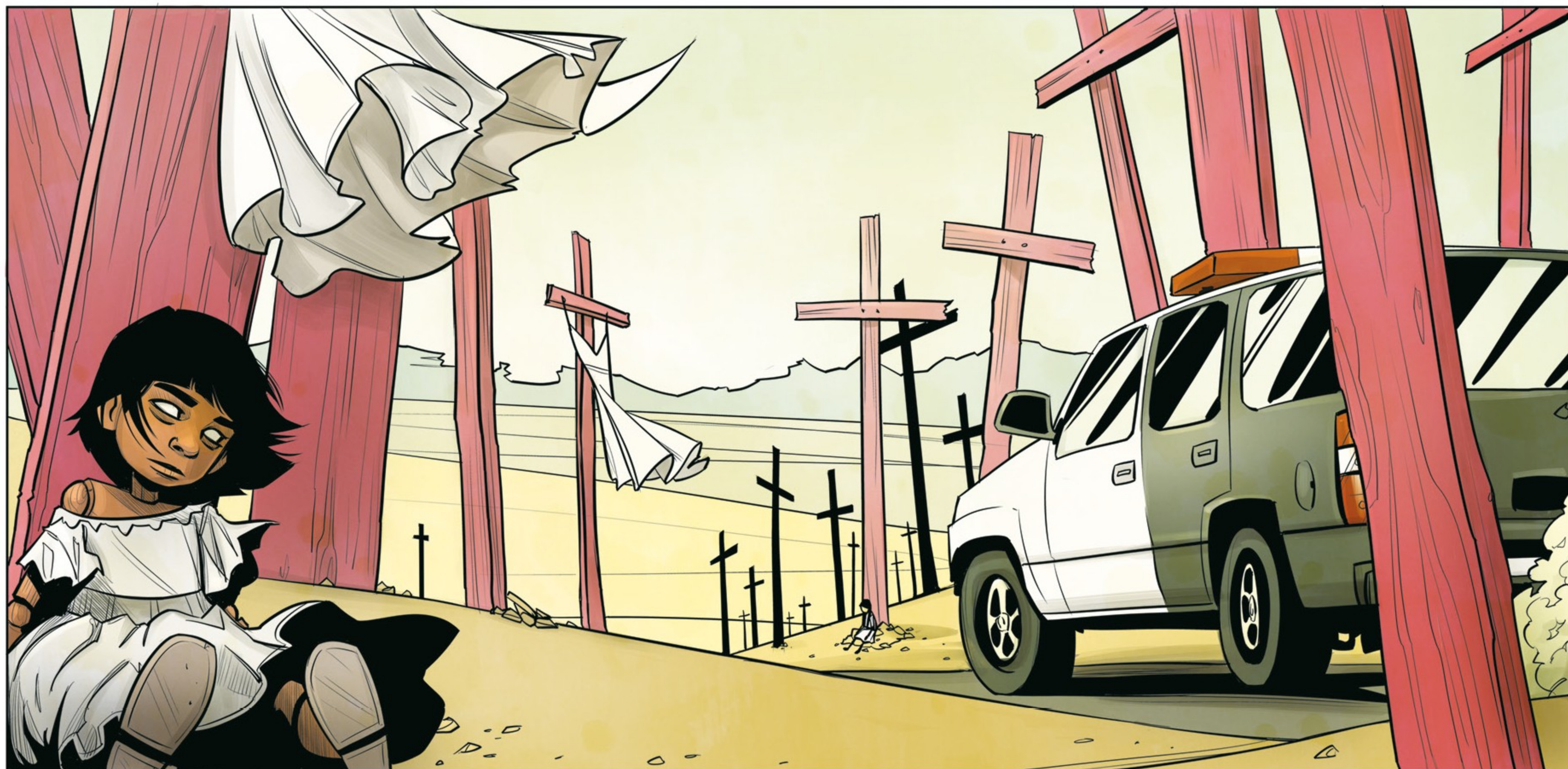
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is the City of Lost Girls.





I love the
Duchess curses.
I love cursing.

Fucker.

QUIT IT.

My best friend Eyepatch and me,
we're like Orphan girls here.

Duchess says we're all
orphans. Says she'll tolerate
Eyepatch but reminds me-



We got too
many scared women up
here to worry about the past, Analia.
We ain't got time for that. Nostalgia
is a fucking assassin. You
hear me?



'Cause
far off in the heat
are monsters.



They been hunting
you since you were 14. Been
smelling you since you were
even younger.



See,
your ass is
MEAT.

And that shit's good.
'Cause meat is a lure.
Meat is what makes these
motherfuckers show
themselves.





See every woman in here? They're all living! They aren't scared of what happens out there. They aren't scared of disappearing. 'Cause once they have your fear they own you. You gotta live, Analia.

I will.

Come on, I want to hear you.

I WILL!

Hell yeah, sodas for everyone.



We gotta fight but we don't gotta be scared, that's the point.

I won't be scared.

Look at you. My little badass!

But I wasn't a badass then.

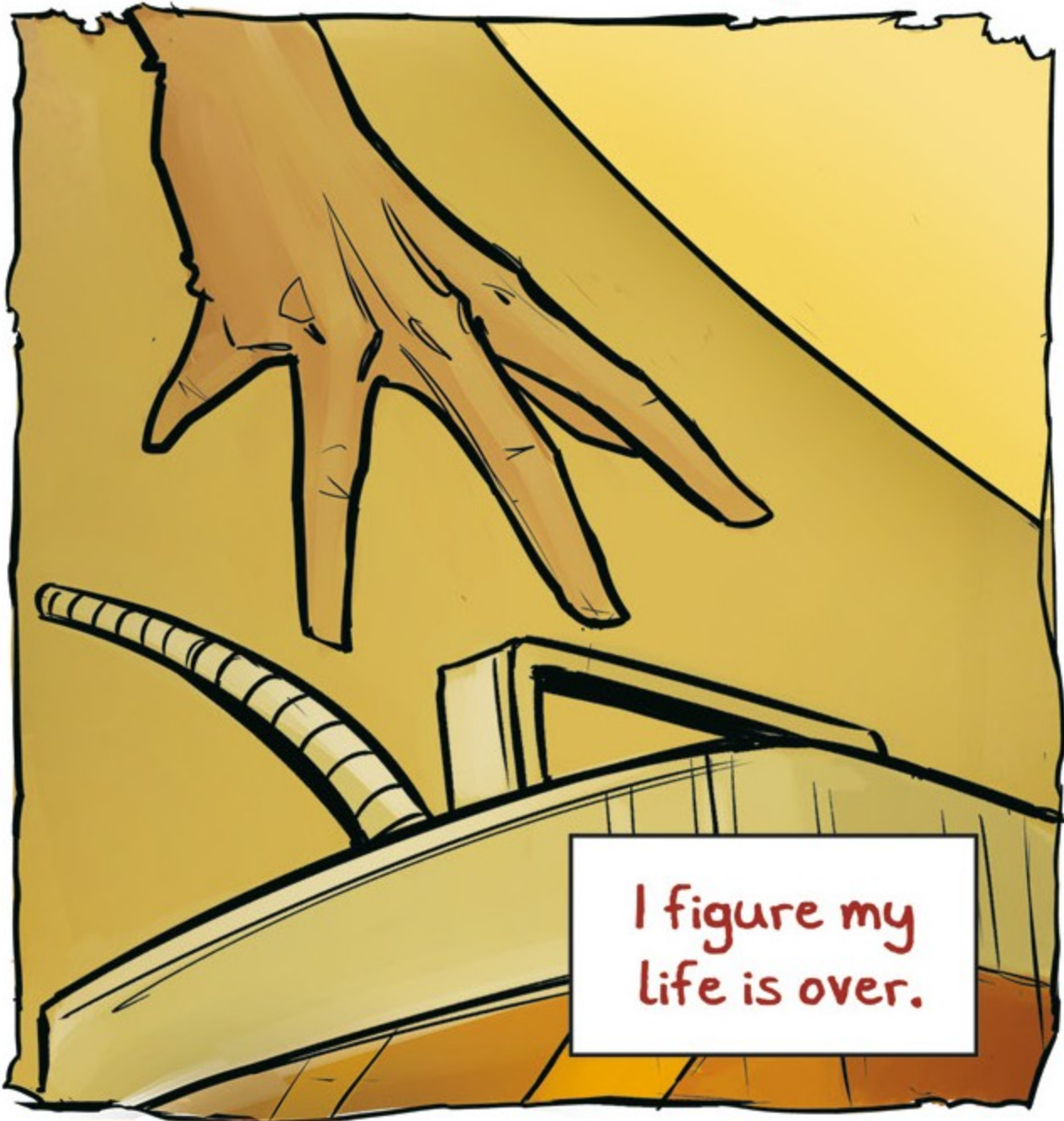






Duele! Matame!

She wants me to kill her,
to save her from the pain.



I figure my
life is over.



I'll take us
all down.



Analia!
Jump!

Valeria. She sits next to
me in school and I ignore her
because of her stupid hat.



I pretend...

I do not see her.



I'll protect you, Valeria.
We'll be sisters. I promise...



...No one will ever hurt you again.

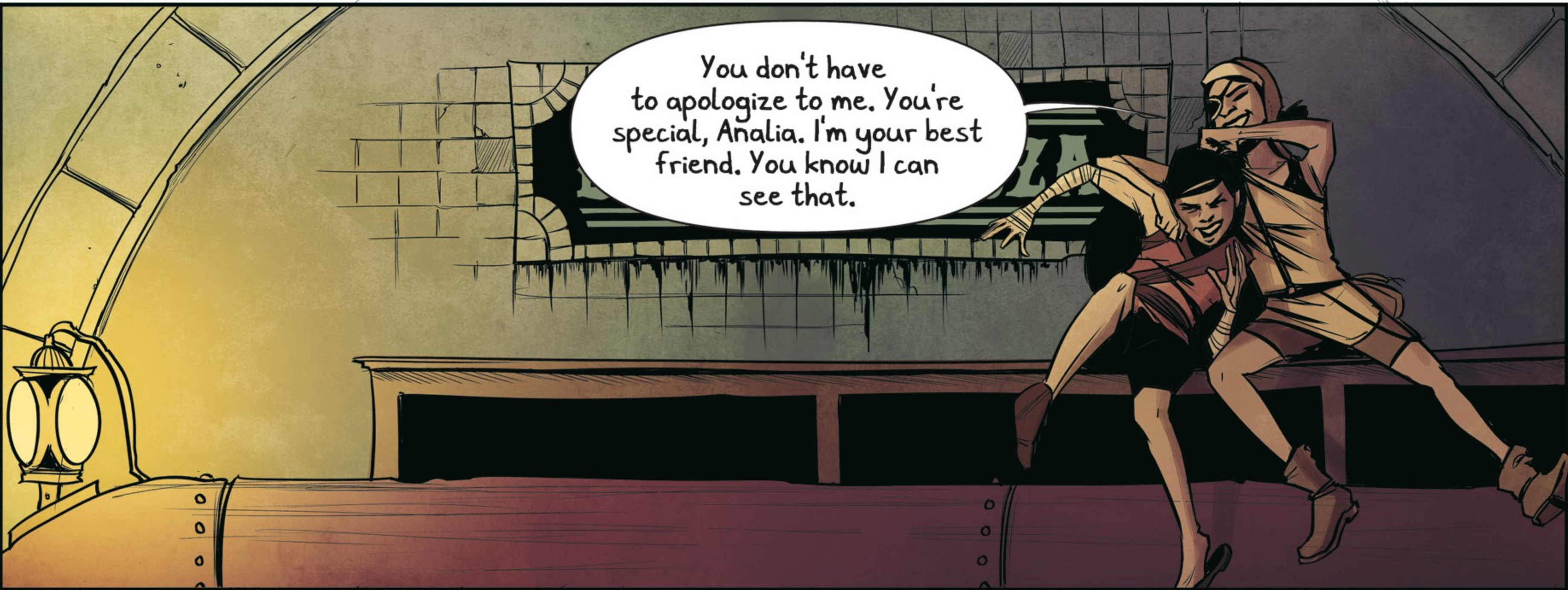


Valeria's parents ignored her too. They didn't even know she was gone. She said it was better. The abandoned train station is where we live now.

What's up?



I'm really sorry for everything.



You don't have to apologize to me. You're special, Analia. I'm your best friend. You know I can see that.



I often think the two of us could escape this place, we could go off and be girls somewhere. Eyepatch thinks-

Even the Duchess says it- you're a bad bitch!

Sometimes I wonder if the two of us should just run away. But one thing keeps me-



You wanna pay
back that sister blood, don't you
Red? I ain't calling you Analia no more.
Analia ain't what's gonna drip down
your fingers.



Analia ain't what you
learning about watching
them samurai on TV.

Listening to doo-wop
tapes while you fuck up
the tumbleweeds.

It's gonna be Red.

And you're
gonna be covered in it. I
see it. Your sister would be
a proud motherfucker!



Dolly Parton
with those arrows.

Beyoncé with
the darts.

And when you run?
A fuckin' iron woman. I see
a whole pack of coyotes gonna
collapse before you let them
four-legged freaks
outrun you.

I know you don't want to be here.
Don't like how we Victorias live. But
you want your sister. You want revenge.
And thing about humans, we are relentless
motherfuckers. We won't stop. These
coyotes keep hunting us but we
won't hide. We won't cower.

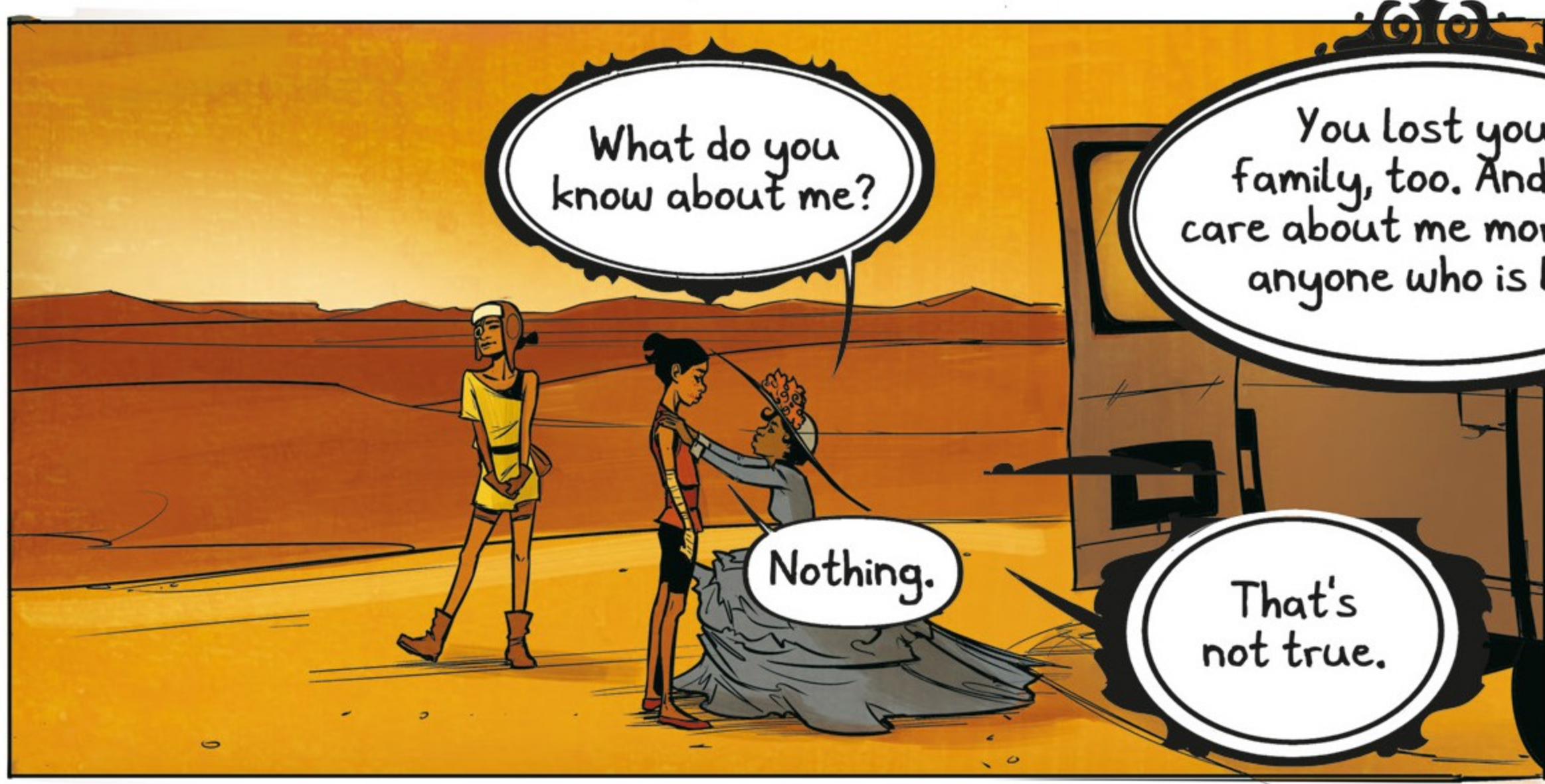
Nah, Victorias fight.
And we got a champion now.
On a string, baby. We gonna do
this together. We gonna-



Celebrate!!!

They call this COMING OUT NIGHT.

All the Victorias have one.
You must kill a COYOTE.
You must get its head.



What do you know about me?

You lost your family, too. And you care about me more than anyone who is left.

Nothing.

That's not true.



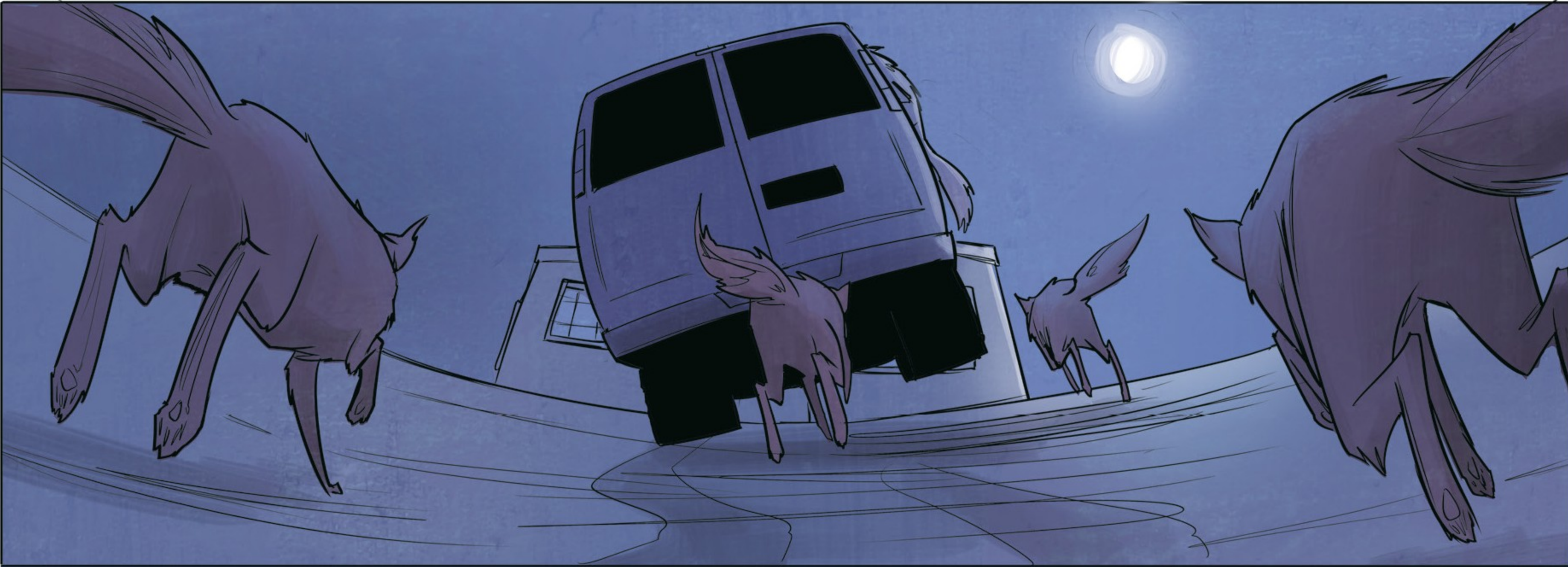
Present company excluded.

Obviously!



I'm so proud of you.

Shut up...



And they come

We're going
to die, Momma.

Si, Mancho,
si.

They didn't stand a chance.

The Duchess tells us the coyotes
have been hunting us forever.

They are our neighbors.
They are our friends.



The fur is just a costume.



The teeth, some mystical bling.



But still...

Your sister
Maria Soto?



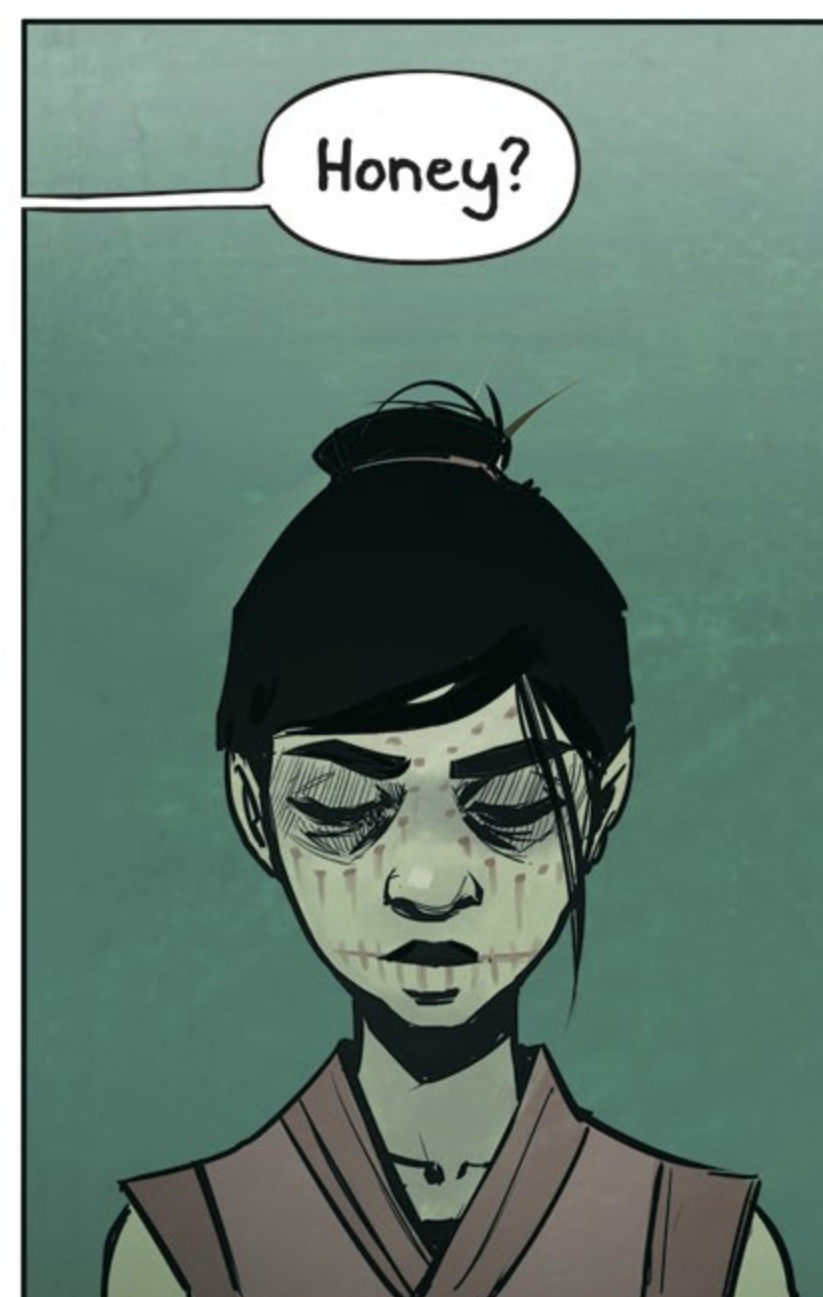
I...



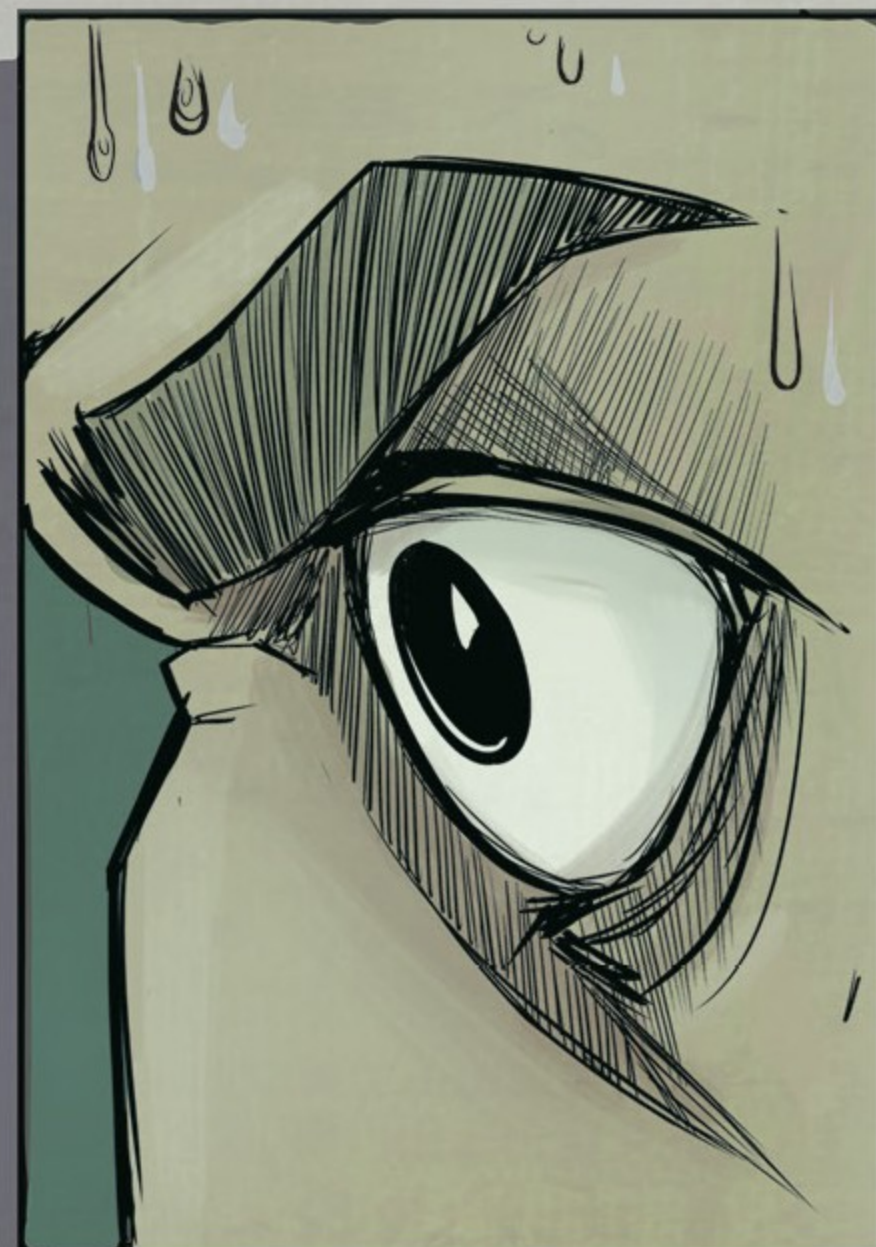
Was her
busboy.

"When you find the coyotes, take their pelts."
"Why Duchess?"
"It's what makes these limp dicks transform into what they really are.
It gives these cowards teeth and fur."
"And my sister?"
"I'll tell you everything that happened."
"When?"
"When you bring me the pelts, little bitch. When we burn that shit."
"I don't know, Duchess."
"There's nothing to know, baby.
Just close your eyes...
Remember, you'll always
be safe with us."





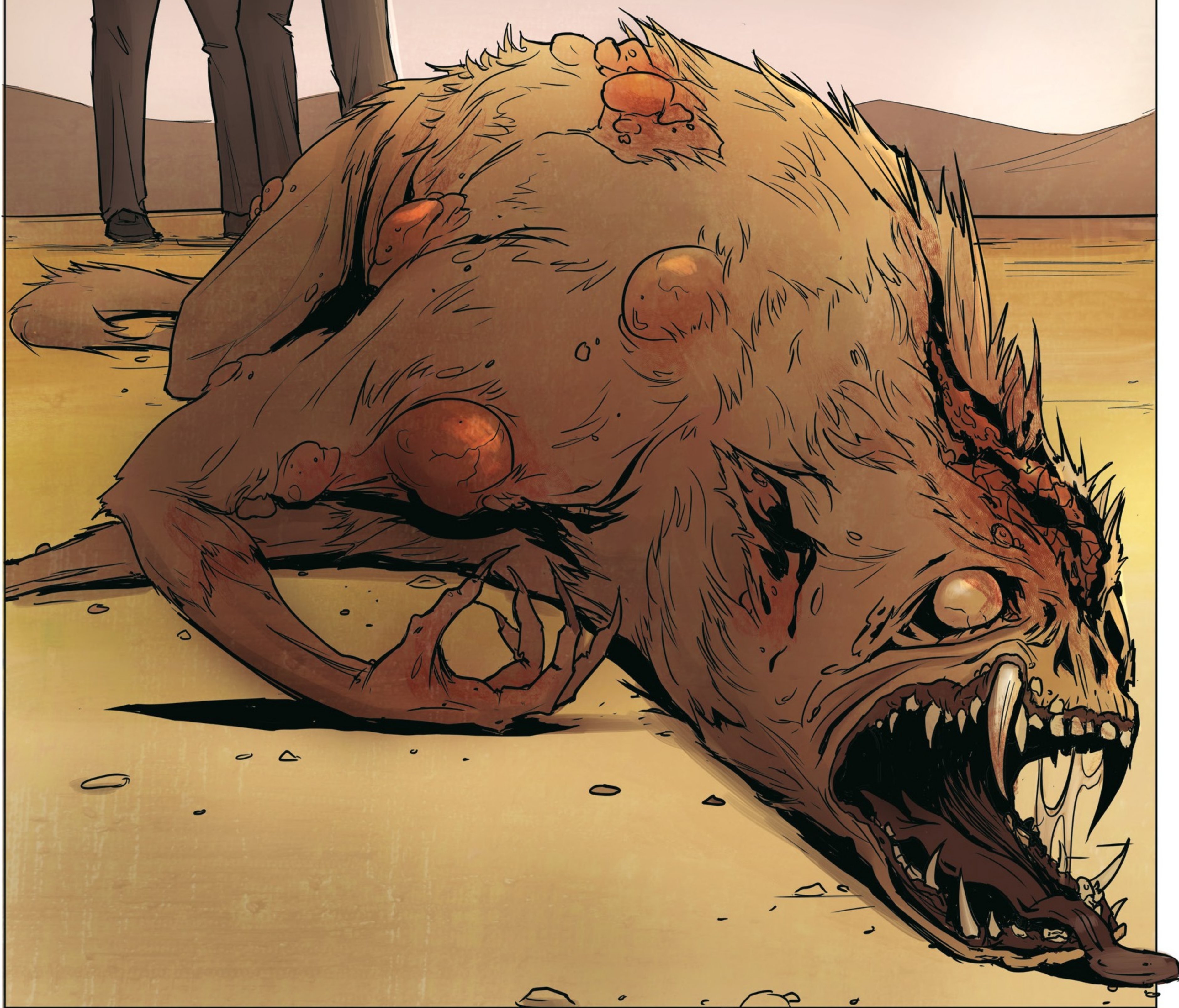


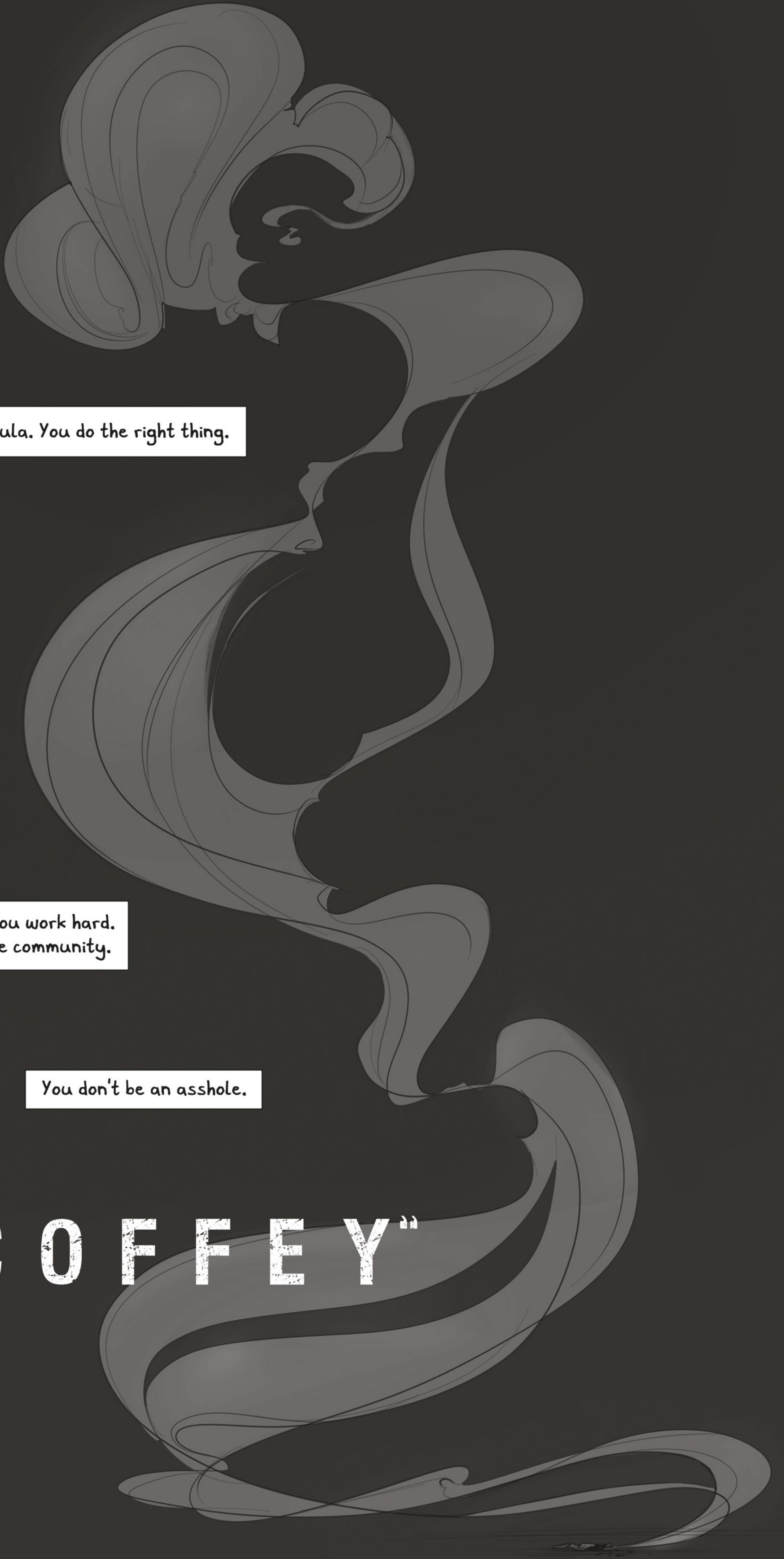


But we got something
you're gonna need to see.

WELCOME TO THE

CITY OF
LOST
GIRLS



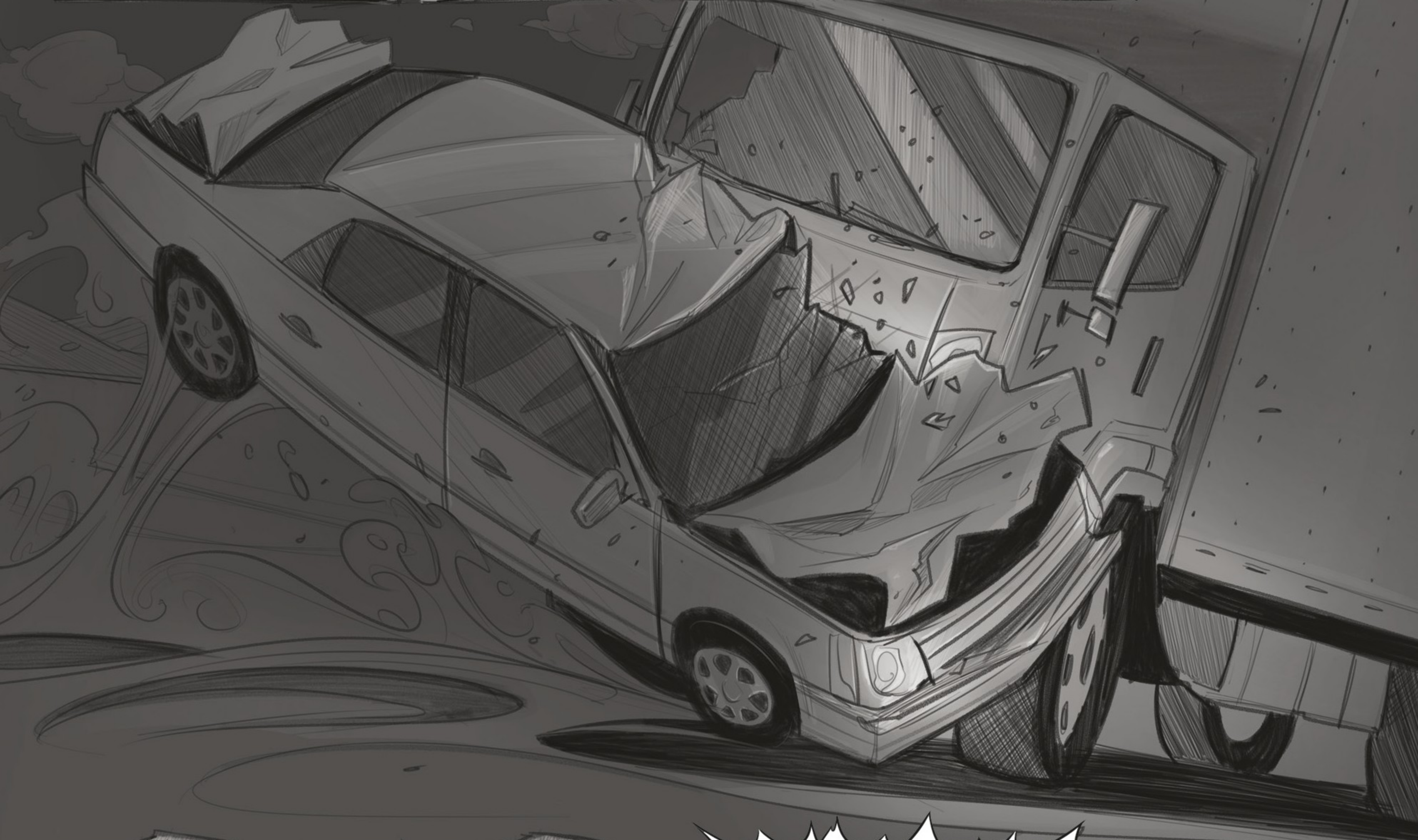


Simple formula. You do the right thing.

You study. You work hard.
You serve the community.

You don't be an asshole.

“COFFEY”



Fuck, I forgot to hang up.

Frank?

I gotta go.



Fuckin' girl is the same age as my daughter.



And the mom...Christ...



Fuckin' truck driver hands me a business card-
ADLIN INDUSTRIES-
he might as well say
"this is my get-out-of-jail-free card."



ADLIN owns everything.

ADLIN is untouchable.



When you're a dad, you see a little kid hurting and you think,
"What if that was my kid?"

And that makes no one untouchable.

I'm not untouchable.
This job made me a shitty dad. Shittier husband. Serve the community, right?

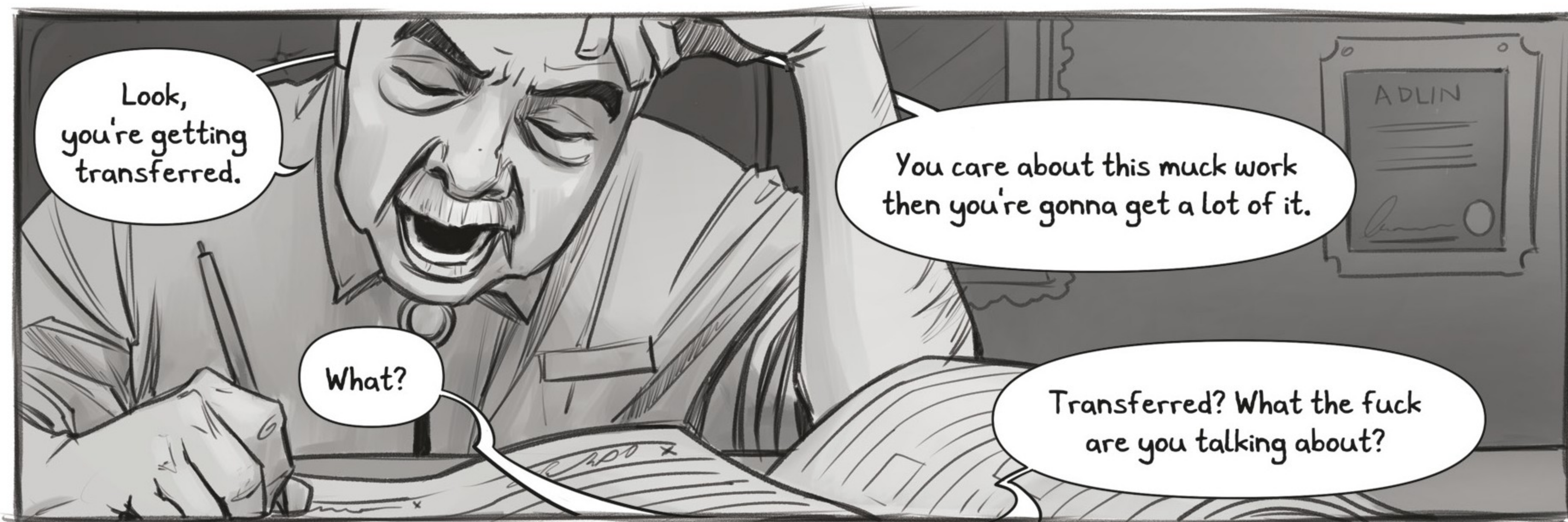


See my wife leaving with my daughter? See the house keys left with the family photos?



See what I made of myself after 13 years on the force. How's that for service?





Look, you're getting transferred.

You care about this muck work then you're gonna get a lot of it.

What?

Transferred? What the fuck are you talking about?



City of Lost Girls. Hope it doesn't piss your wife off.

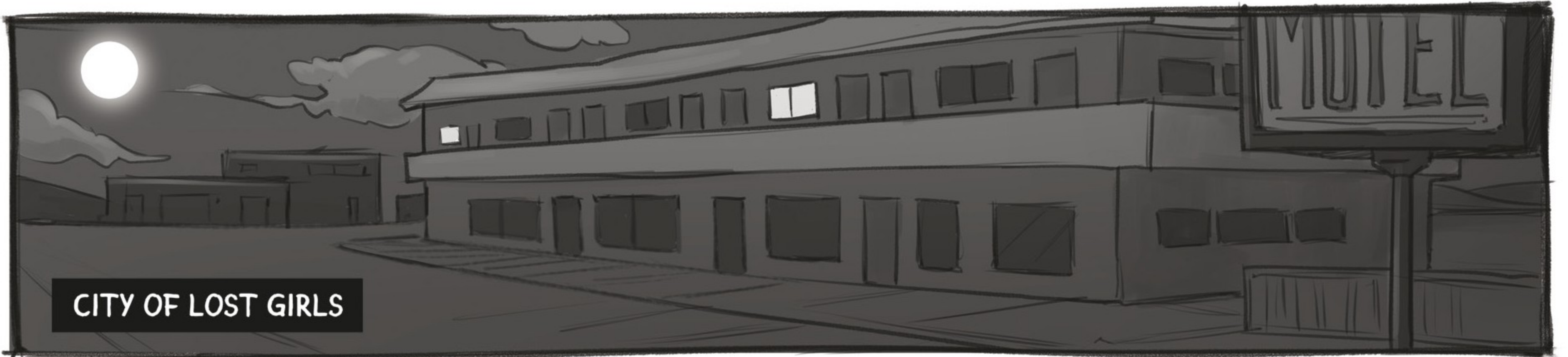
Yeah, you'll get to see a lot worse than fucking crashed cars out there.



No hard feelings. We need dedicated cops out there.



Yeah, because we all know dedication doesn't do shit.



CITY OF LOST GIRLS



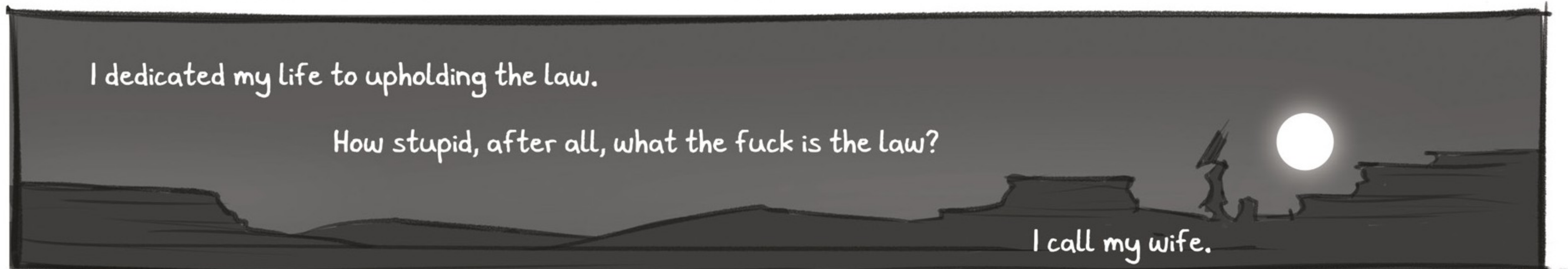
Old photo books. College sweethearts.

Our wedding.

Our daughter.



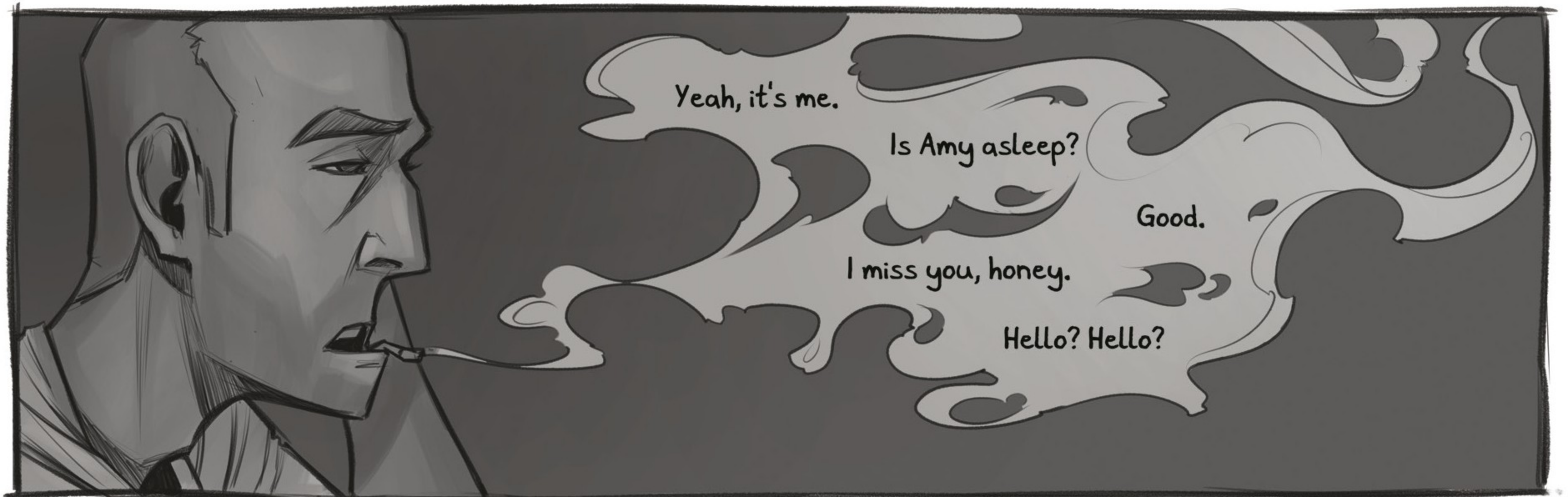
This place smells fucking evil.



I dedicated my life to upholding the law.

How stupid, after all, what the fuck is the law?

I call my wife.



Yeah, it's me.

Is Amy asleep?

Good.

I miss you, honey.

Hello? Hello?



Middle of the night.
Moon outside.

And all I can hear is howling.


Coyotes or wolves.

Never been an outdoorsman.
They're the same thing to me.



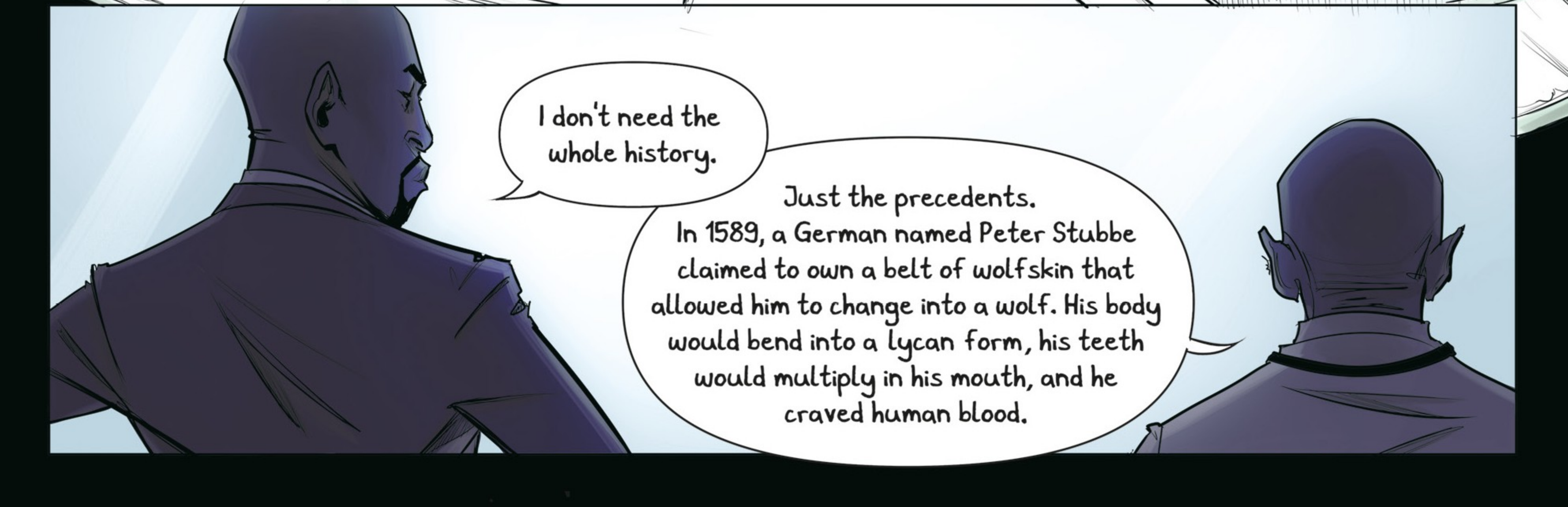
And I fucking hate both.





Traditionally, there were several ways that a person could become a werewolf. In her book *Giants, Monsters, and Dragons*, folklorist Carol Rose said, "In ancient Greece it was believed that a person could be transformed by eating the meat of a wolf that had been mixed with that of a human and that the condition was irreversible." Centuries later other methods were said to create werewolves, including, "being cursed, or by being conceived under a full moon, or by having eaten certain herbs, or by sleeping under the full moon on a Friday, or by drinking water that has been touched by a wolf."

It was also widely believed that werewolves could dress in a special, protective wolf skin, though they had to remove it at daybreak and hide it. If their magical pelt was found and taken from the werewolf while in human form, he or she could be killed.



I don't need the whole history.

Just the precedents.
In 1589, a German named Peter Stubbe claimed to own a belt of wolfskin that allowed him to change into a wolf. His body would bend into a lycan form, his teeth would multiply in his mouth, and he craved human blood.

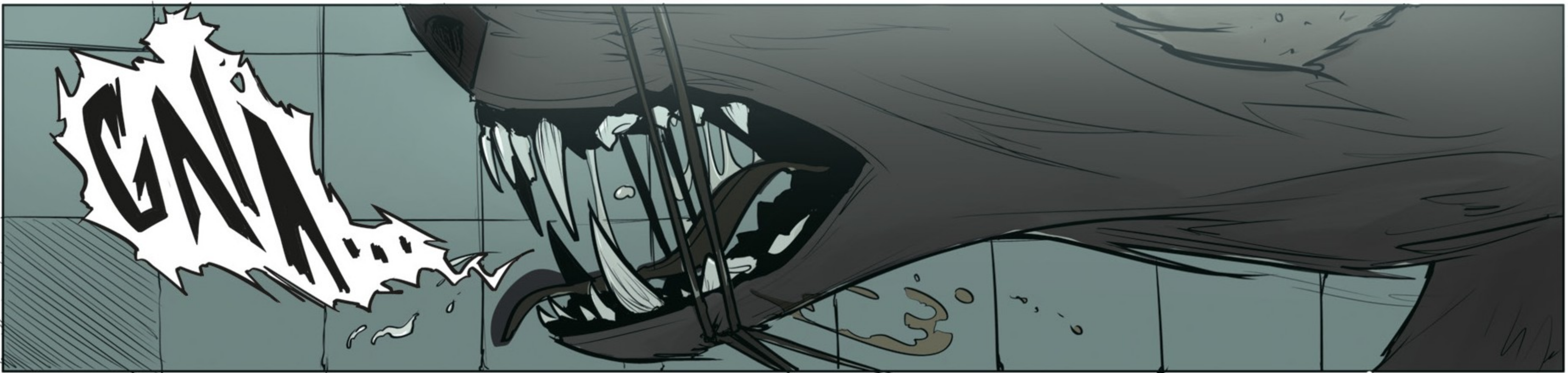


Stubbe claimed to have killed at least a dozen people over 25 years—though his confession was made under difficult circumstances.



Difficult, how?

Well, someone set him on fire, so we can't be sure if he was telling the truth or not.



GNA



Holy shit, the motherfucker speaks.

My friend, what was that?



NOT MY FRIEND



We are fine.

Poor thing,
really.

Get the window fixed
and keep shearing him. The
pelts made from his skin have
worked well on the men in town.
They've really taken to hunting.
The beast is a godsend, let's
keep getting what we
can from him.

GAIA,
MY LORD.

I WILL
FIND HER.



You sure this empty shithole is the place? Why the fuck would girls live in a train station? Must smell like piss and homeless in there. Not even an address.

We asked around, boss. Bunch of women dressed in old British lady shit is hard to miss.



Fine. Keep an eye out. When I see her, I'm going in.



Tell me, what was it like? Come on?

No, you're it. If you catch me, maybe!

The Duchess says it's important to celebrate every night so the monsters see we have no fear. No fear of men who try to hunt us in pelts. No fear of "coyotes." We don't respect them enough to call them wolves, the men. They are weak and hunt in packs.

No fear of a much more ancient force that we know is in the wind. A large howl that's called for women like us, forever. Those are the real wolves. Those are the enemies we one day will war with.

If we ever stop dancing. Playing. Living. They hate to see us living.





Red?



You know we aren't supposed to be near the Duchess' quarters.



This is some off-limits hide-and-go-seek, yo!

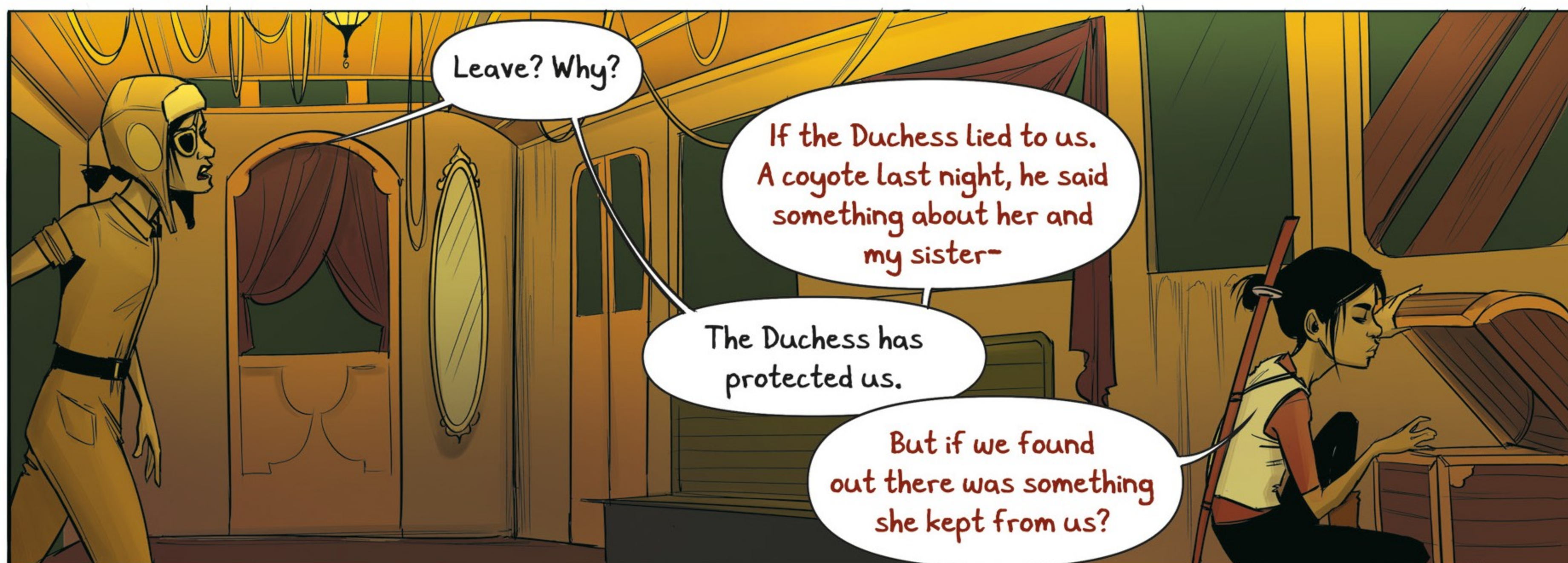


Deja de intentar asustarme!



Bitch! What are you doing in here? Scared me to death, ha!

Valeria, would you leave with me?





You think you are hot
shit because of last night, Red.
The Duchess saw you leave the
party. She sends Catalina.

And Catalina-



...fucks
you up!

Ugh! Hate you-

NEVER
TOUCH
HER!!!



Like the Duchess says,
it just comes out of me.
The Hurt. And when it
does, I'm dangerous.



People always want to help people who seem hurt.



Seems stupid to me.

Hello, I'm looking for the young woman I met at yesterday's crime scene? If I'm lucky, she doesn't think she's a cat at this point?



Duchess thinks it comes from man's inherent need to help.


I'm a police officer and though you might not find that cool, I'm here to help.

I think we should've ignored it when we evolved. Help means you're weak. Help means you couldn't do it yourself.



OH SHIT.

HALT!!!



That's right!
Respect the law!

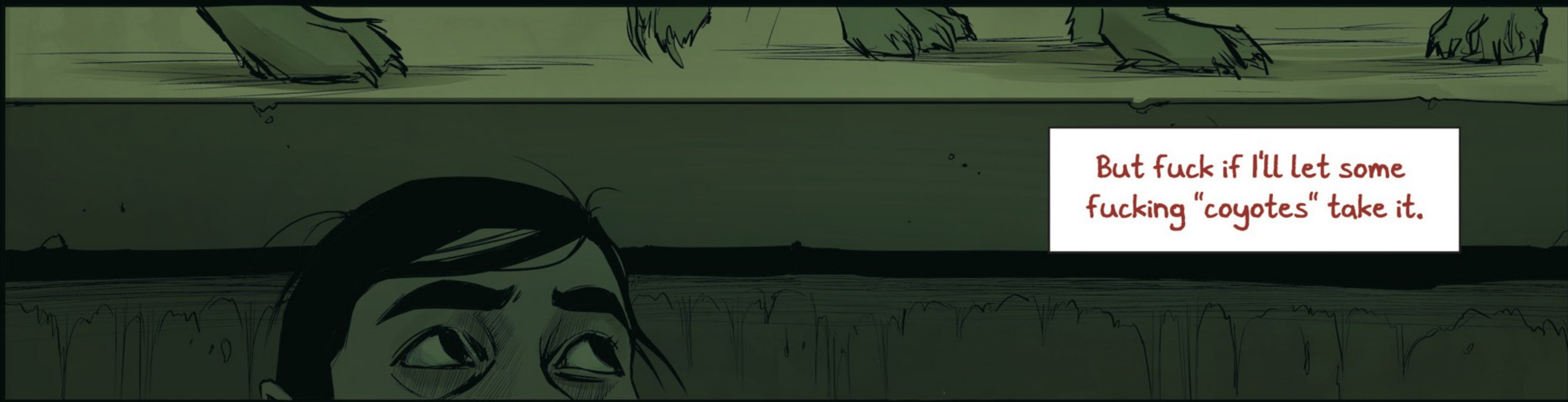
Um, when the fuck
did wolves start talking?
This is new, right?

FOLLOWED
YOUR
SCENT

BAD
WOMEN
TAKEN



Let's get back to the point- I don't know why the Duchess has a doll of my sister.



Women always have been at the front of revolution.

What the fuck!

Seriously?

I was playing odds
Catalina would dodge.

Cause women know a liar when they see one.
They know violence on the horizon. You have to
when you got little chiquitas in your belly.

Basically,



women sound the alarm!

Someone called?

Last time I saw
these assholes, I
lost a brother.

A husband.

I been waiting
for this.

Mantalos?

Oh hell yeah. A whole
fucking lot of Mantalos!

VICTORIAS



We took our name from
the queen the train
station was named for.

I don't think she fought
werewolves (though
who knows, England is
all sorts of fucked up).



But I bet she took what she wanted.



You, take my hand!



I'm supposed to be
leading you out.

Really? I thought you
wanted to survive...



I was so angry and lost when I met the Duchess. I wanted to be around other women so badly, mothers and sisters-



I think I shit myself. Those wolves, you called coyotes. You drew them at the station-



HEY. I don't need gross details on your pants!



But dolls like this? I need you to tell me: Where would I get these?



Fuck.



I think I actually know.



Duchess,
Catalina!

Where?



With the coyote.
He's transforming.



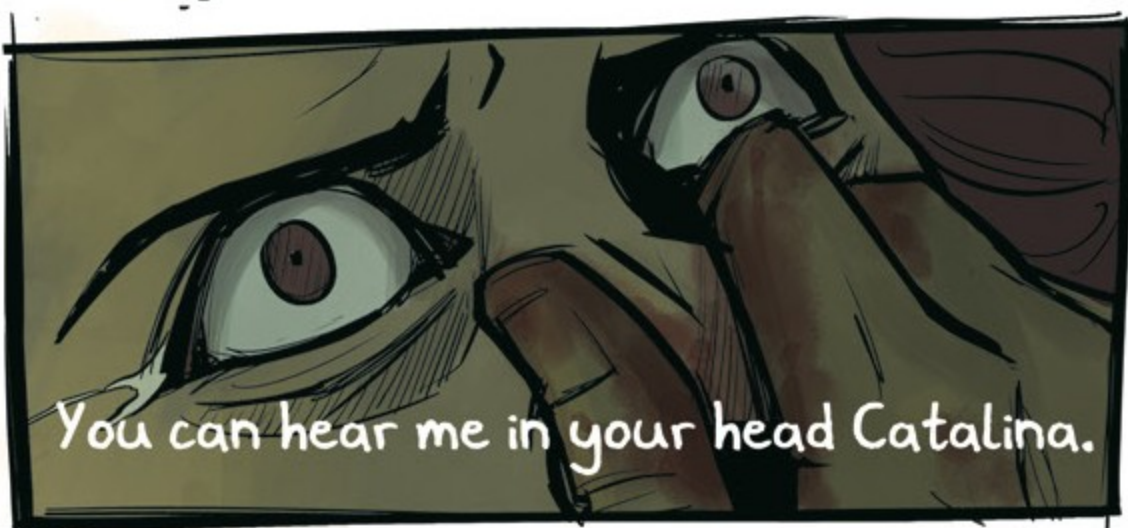
She got bit.



Catalina saw Red
find her sister's doll. She'll
go to the old woman.
Catalina tried-



Stop



You can hear me in your head Catalina.



You have to give in. You were very brave.



But this will make it go faster.



And Red-



Red we will deal with.



Bury them
and get armed.



Going alone with a man to this place is something I will have to answer to the Victorias for.



But I need to know.



Why my sister Maria? And are those responsible still alive?



Dolls look real, right? We call this Creepsville.

Valeria will be mad I left her behind, but she doesn't need to see this.



What is this place?

Not sure. A woman lost a daughter and swore she saw her up here. Turned out that it was just a doll. All these dolls are missing people.



Who makes them?



We weren't sure, but, oh shit-



I think we're about to find out.



I am
ABUELA.

“D U C H E S S”

You have a girl in your town
people talk shit about?

“She's fast.”

“She's wild.”

When I was young,
I was different.

When I was young...





...that girl was me.

Faster!



Don't worry, when we stop, the three of us are gonna go real fast, mi amor.

Only if you stop saying that mi amor shit.



I told you she'd be up for this.

If we had sex, fine. If we got drunk, even better.

As long as we did something.



"Girls you better watch out, Some boys are only about, That thing, that thing--"

Ready?



You look ridiculous. Are those pelts?

I learned the hard way.

Fangs. Claws.

This wasn't sex.

This wasn't fun.

This shit was track.



And I RAN.

Motherfucker, I ran.

And they just kept screaming-

FASTER!

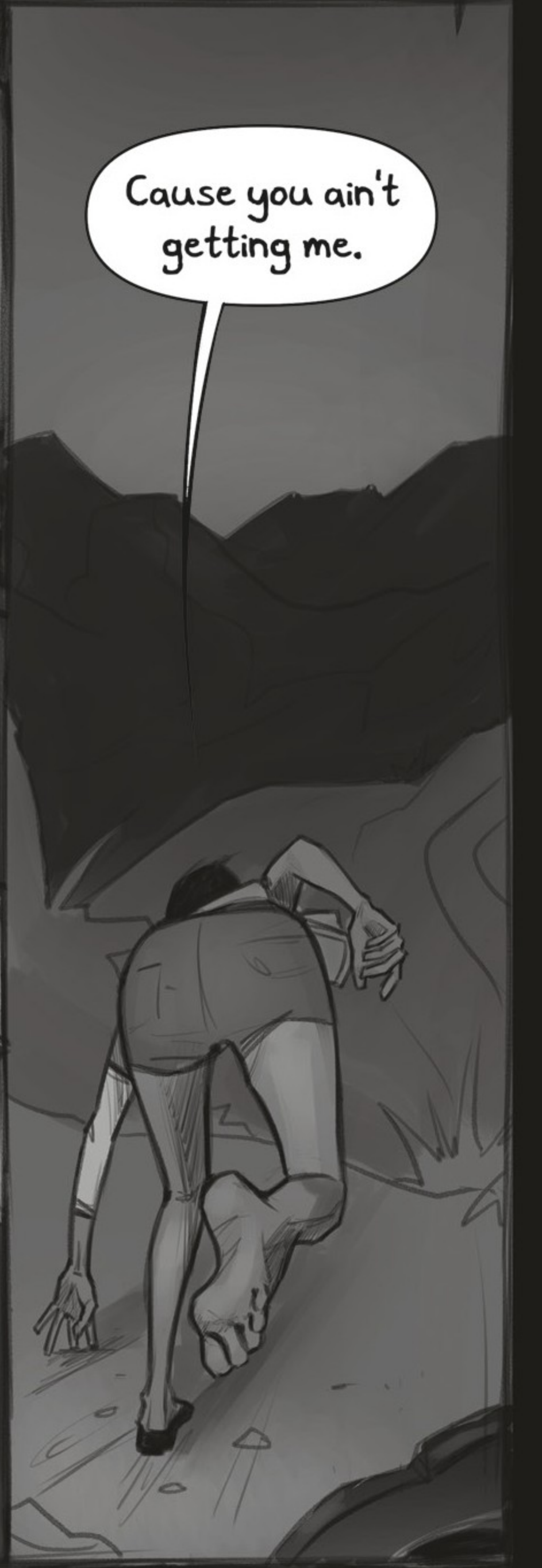


Get off me.



Fuck you.

Drown in your own blood, bendejo.



Cause you ain't getting me.



WRONG
MI AMOR



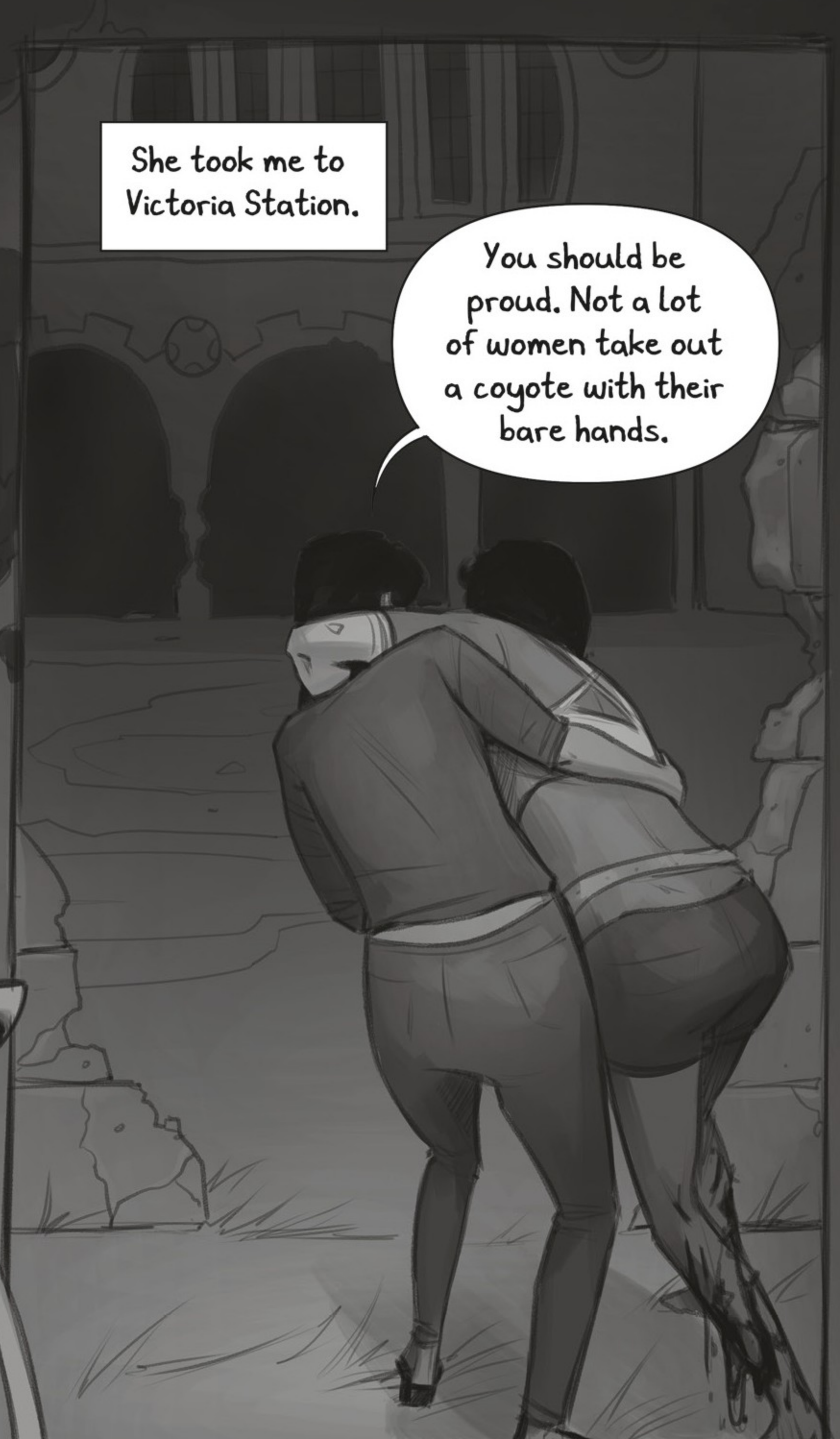
Wha?

Ack




I'm Maria.

She was the girl who ran the diner in town.




She took me to Victoria Station.


You should be proud. Not a lot of women take out a coyote with their bare hands.



Proud? I almost got killed because I was gonna let those guys do whatever with me tonight.



You're not alone. You'll come to my house. Stay in my room with me and my sister. OK?



"OK." But when we got there...



I saw her younger sister. She was too young.

Too innocent.

I was too wild for her sphere.



I was ashamed. Girl who met two dudes behind a bar and ended up like this.

So, I left.

Years later when that girl would meet me again, she wouldn't even remember.



I went back to Victoria Station.

And it was like they were waiting for me.

Who are you?



We are your future. Now it's time to kick some ass.

And all praise, a Duchess was born.







After all,
in the old days
we had respect.
Understand?



It's tough
with all that old
person breath.

Just my own death coming,
little one. And your death?

Isn't gonna
be by some damn
grandma. Coffey?



Working on it.
It's fire, you know!

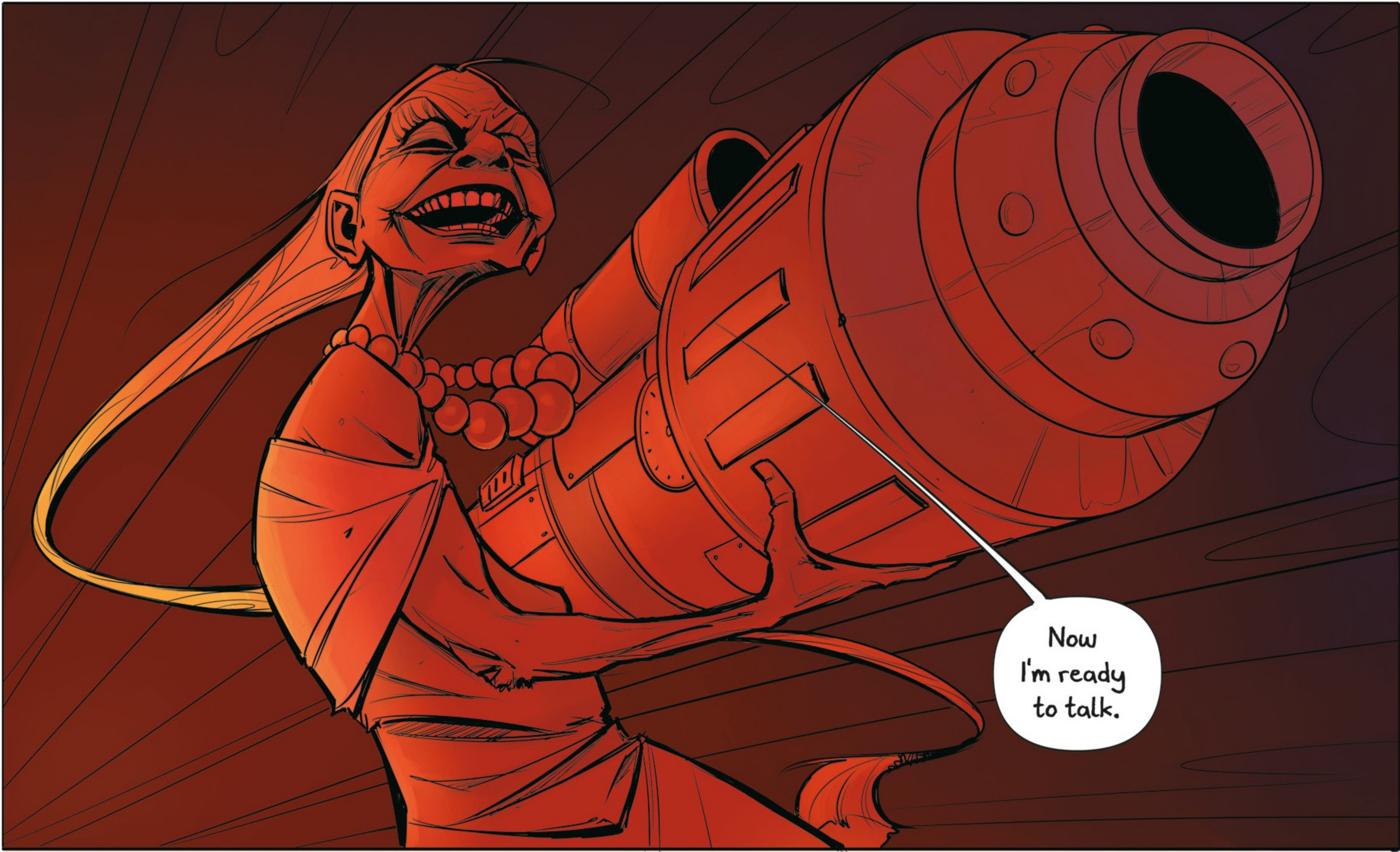


But don't worry.
I'm an officer of
the law.



I get
shit done!

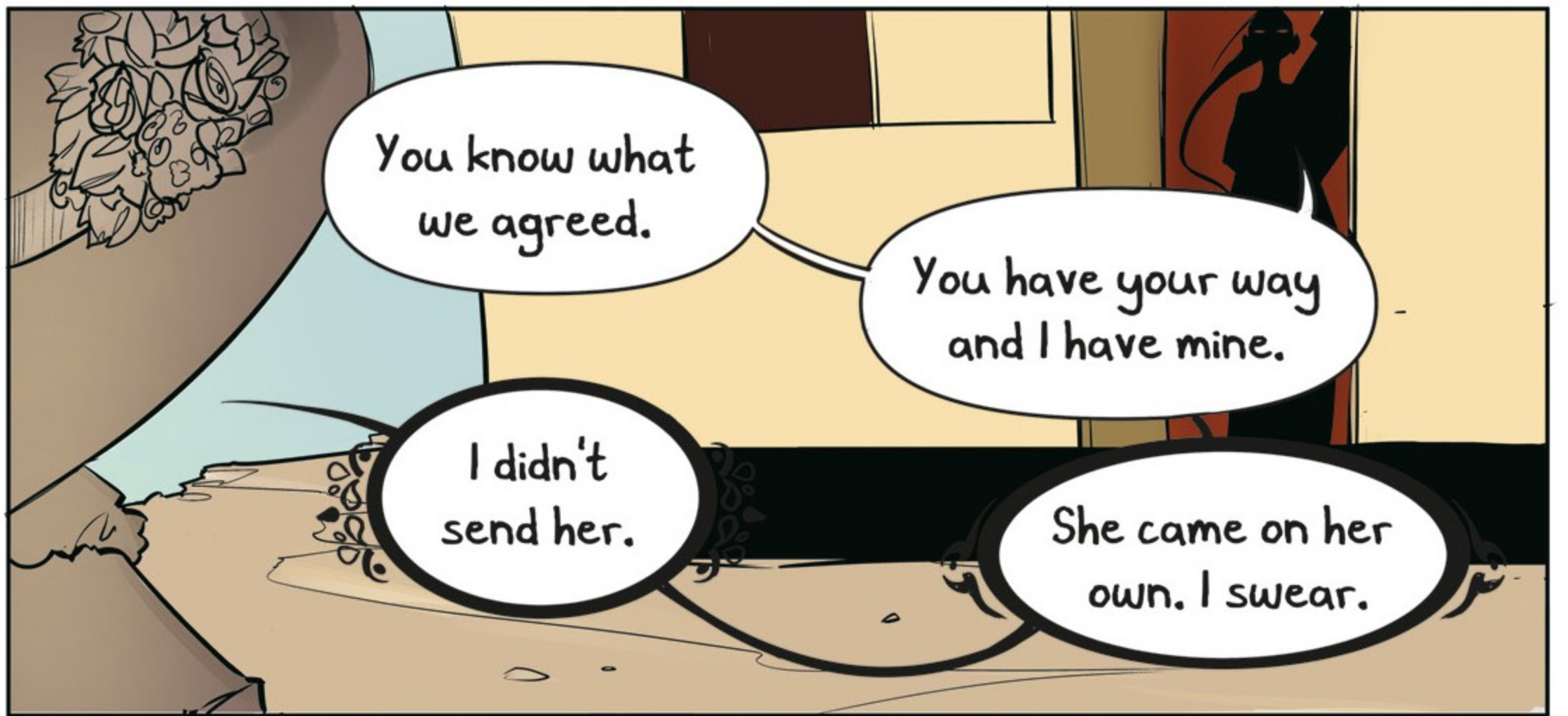






Abuela?
Come out.

They are
with me.



You know what
we agreed.

You have your way
and I have mine.

I didn't
send her.

She came on her
own. I swear.



She brought that thing-



"Man." She brought
that man. Jesus Christ.
You shot at me and set me
on fire. Give me at least
my fucking gender!



She found this.



Ah, Maria. We
blessed her with
charm. Not that she
needed us to.



You blessed her? Who
the fuck are you? Why was
that in your room, Duchess?

She's my sister, who
the fuck are you?



Abuela is a
Grandmother of the
Desert. A Daughter
of Gaia.



I am dying.

We all are-



I see my Sisters heard the ruckus.



We fought the evil, the teeth and claws of the underworld, long before any of you.



Centuries.



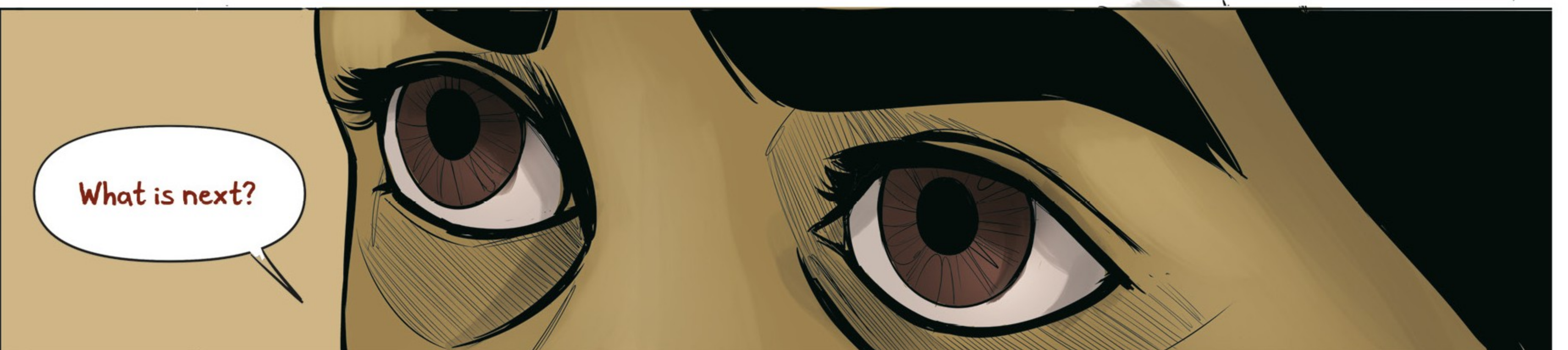
But now we are dying away.

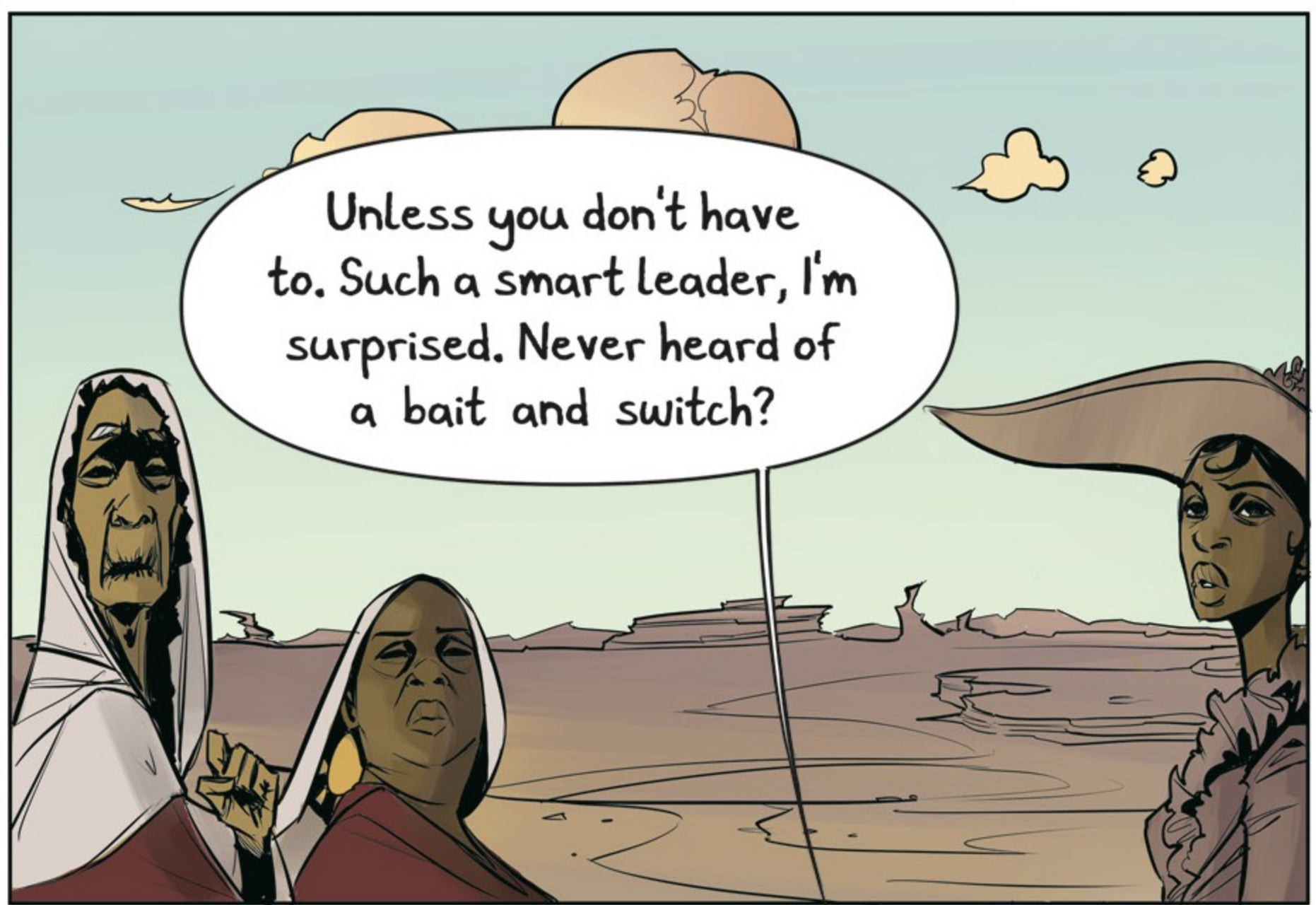


So they entrusted me to find more. Ones they could bless.

My sister?

Maria built morale. It's why they killed her.









WE SAW
GREEN. WE SAW
FLOWERS. WE SAW
LIGHT.



Where did she
come from?

GAIA

SHE SPRANG FROM THE
DIRT. SHE EMERGED
FROM THE TREES.



GODDAMMIT.

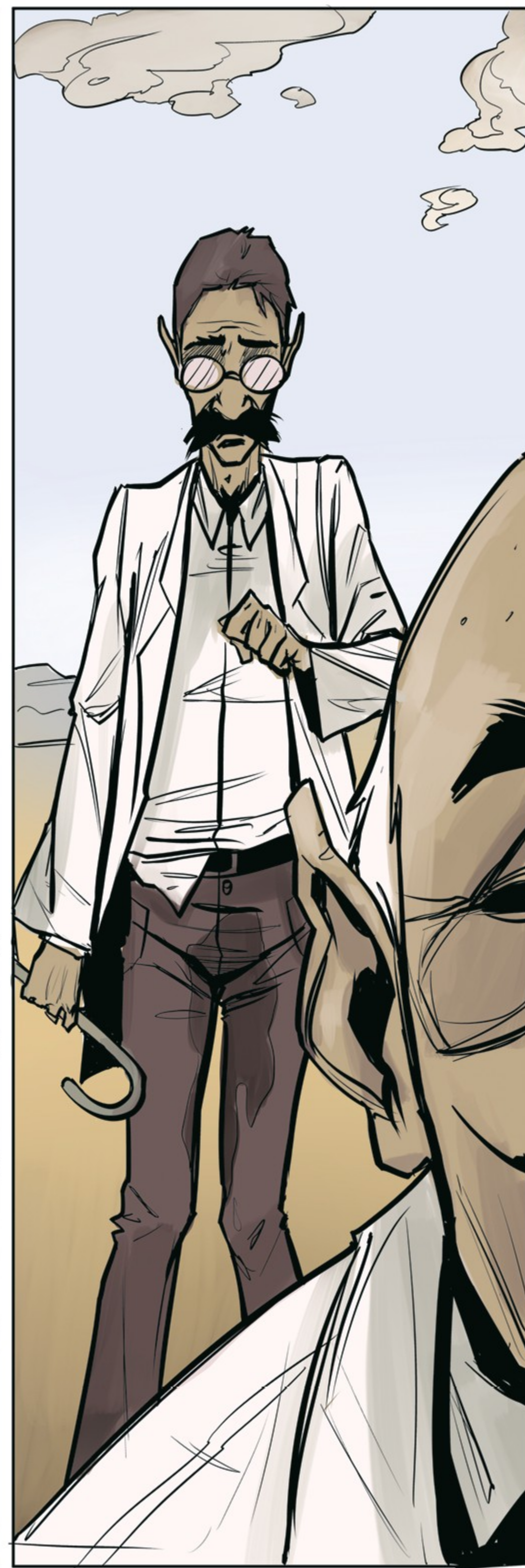
I need
facts, SEFF. I
need usefulness.
She sprang out of
the dirt?

WHERE
DID THE
ANCIENT
WOLVES
COME FROM? SHE
INVITED US IN.
BUT WE ARE
WOLVES.

JUST LIKE THE
MEN YOU GIVE
MY HAIR TO.

MEN YOU FEED
MY MEAT TO.







Mr. Sampson,
you have a
guest?

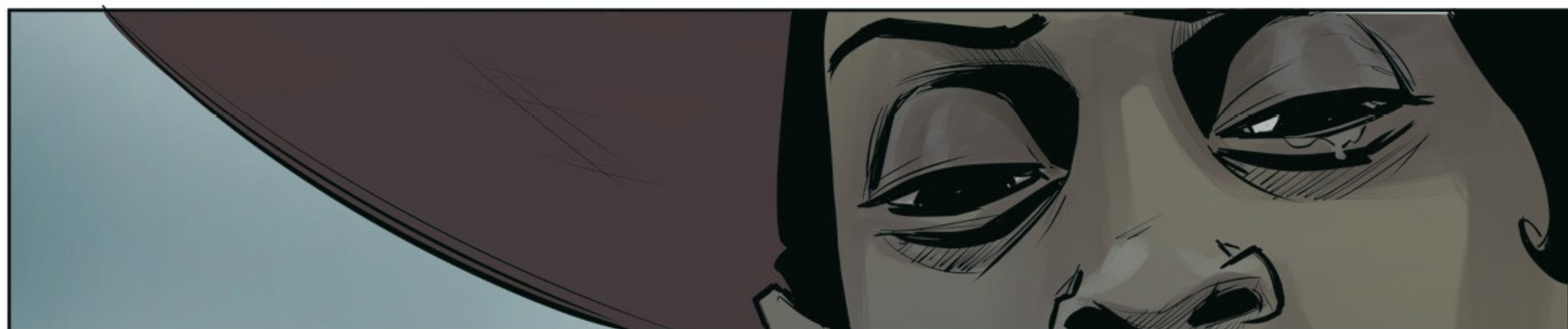
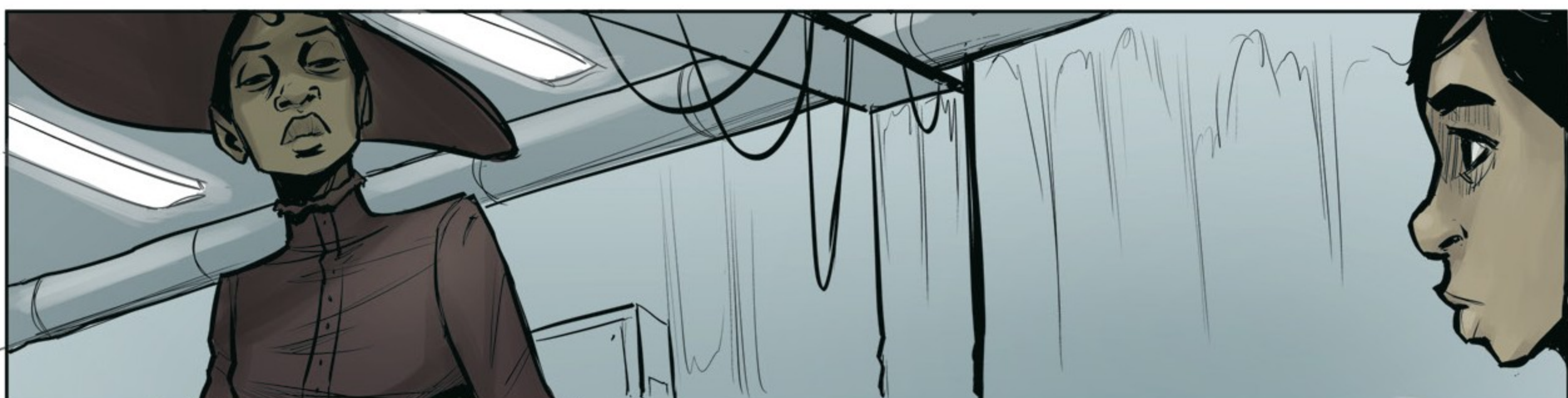
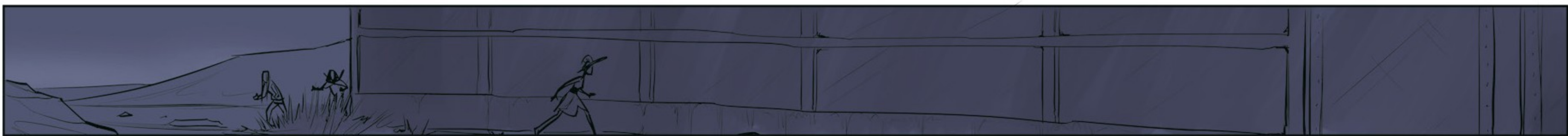
What are you
talking about?



Me.
Detective Coffey.
This little man is talking
about me.



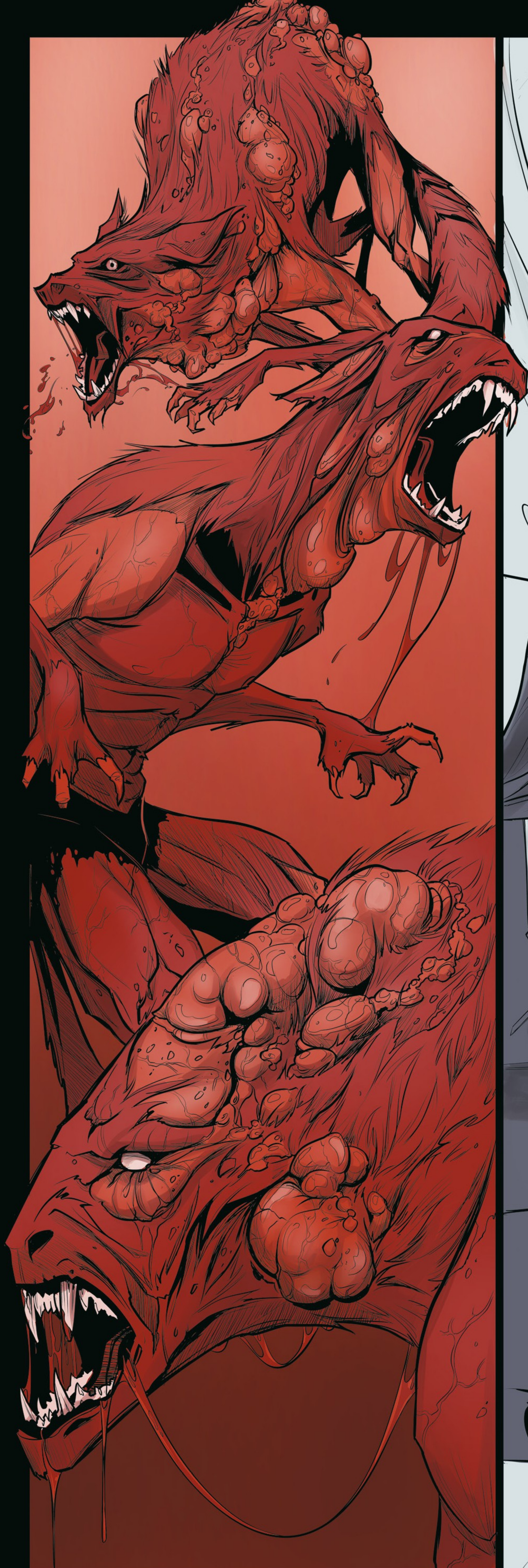
Leave us.













Stand behind me.



Jesus Christ, where is the Duchess?





She is my best friend. She would've run away with me if I wanted. But I needed this and so she needed it too. Will everything be destroyed so I can get some closure? Will I do that to those who are close to me? I can't...I won't...





IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.



They mirrored a spell with their science. It's why he can't break through it even though it's fragile.



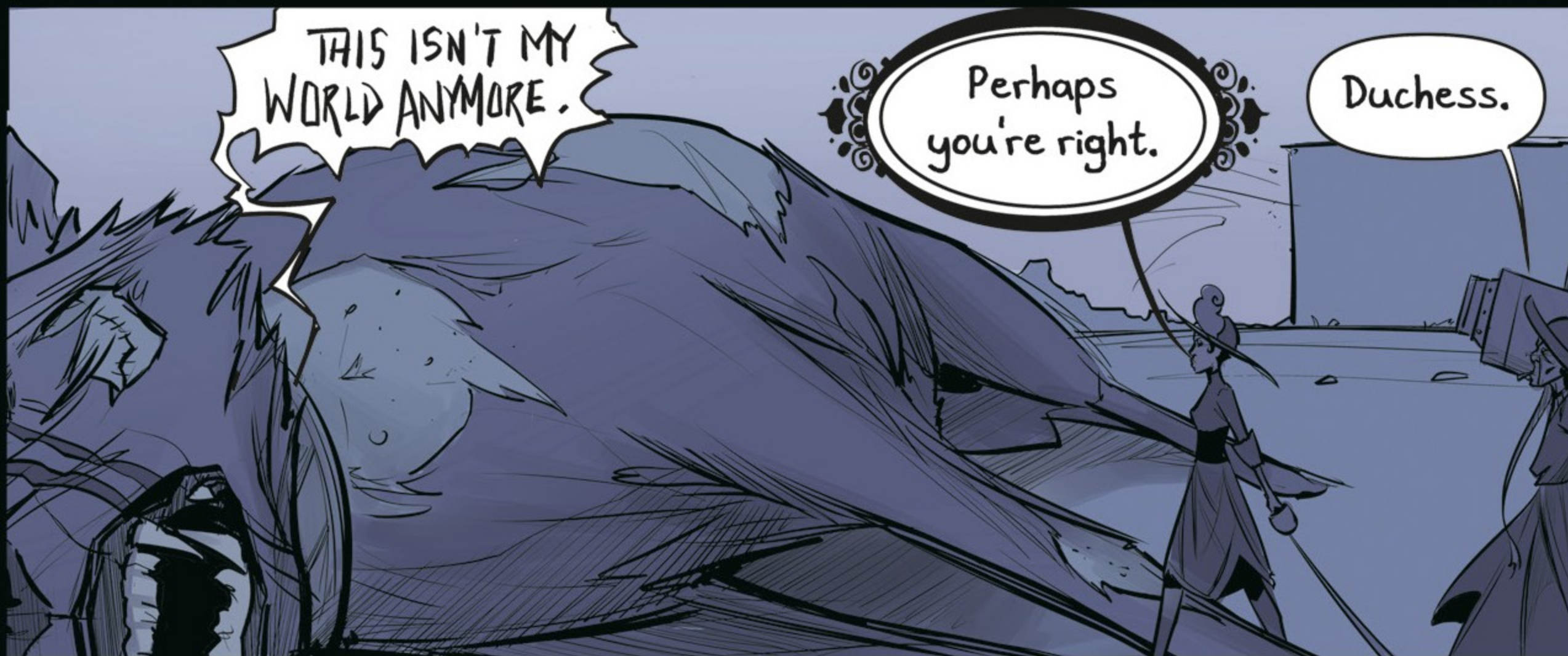
STILL RECRUITING?

We've come to kill you.



FINALLY.

You're resigned?



THIS ISN'T MY WORLD ANYMORE.

Perhaps you're right.

Duchess.



No, for now... for now, there are greater evils in the world.

DUCHESS!



TO FIGHT
IS ONE THING,

BUT TO
FIGHT!



"Science does not care if you are a good person."

"ROTHSCHILD & SAMPSON"









Oh my god.

This desert houses a wolf. His hair makes the pelts that make the monsters.



What do you need?



A building to keep the beast. You can use the pelts to sell to your highest bidders.

What do you get out of it?



Science.


I get to see what's inside of these people.

And what we might make that's greater than them still.



Put me through directly to Cybill Adlin.





There's too many of them.

They're too strong.

NEED A
MIRACLE,
LITTLE GIRL.



ALL THEY
NEED IS
SEFF

YOU LOOK
LIKE WOLVES
BUT NOT MOVE
LIKE A REAL WOLF
NOT VIOLENT LIKE AN
ANCIENT WOLF
NOT DESPERATE,
ISOLATED, ALONE
LIKE THE WORLD'S
TRUE WOLVES.







I think...
I think this is
the end of my
story.

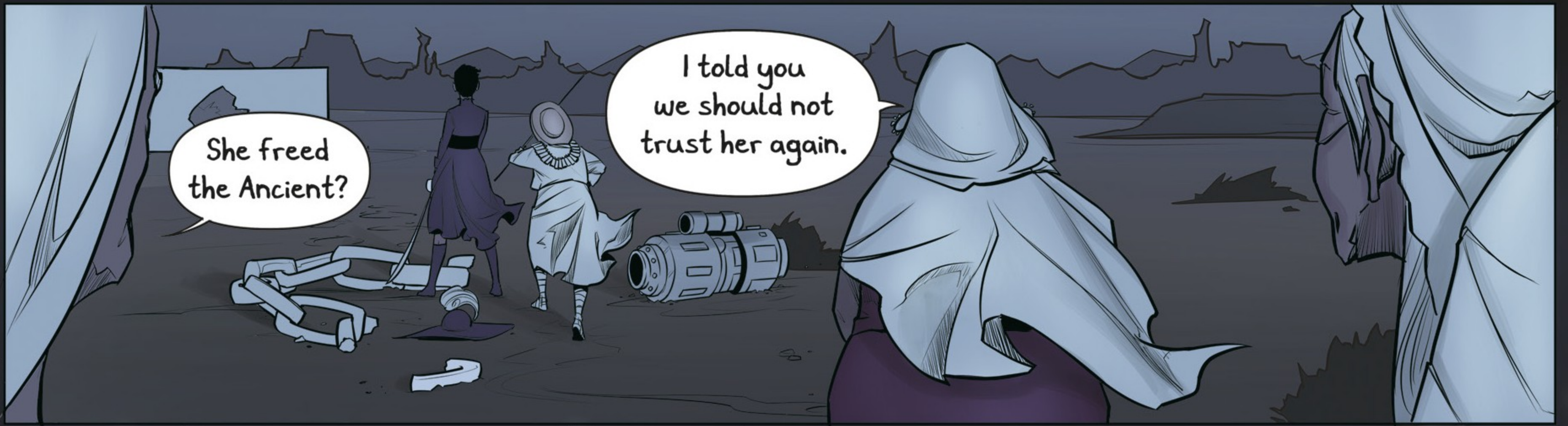
You're my
family. I can't
avenge my family
and lose you.

RED...



The fucker's
getting stronger.





She freed the Ancient?

I told you we should not trust her again.



I told you Seff would wreck shit for us before he inevitably turns on us.



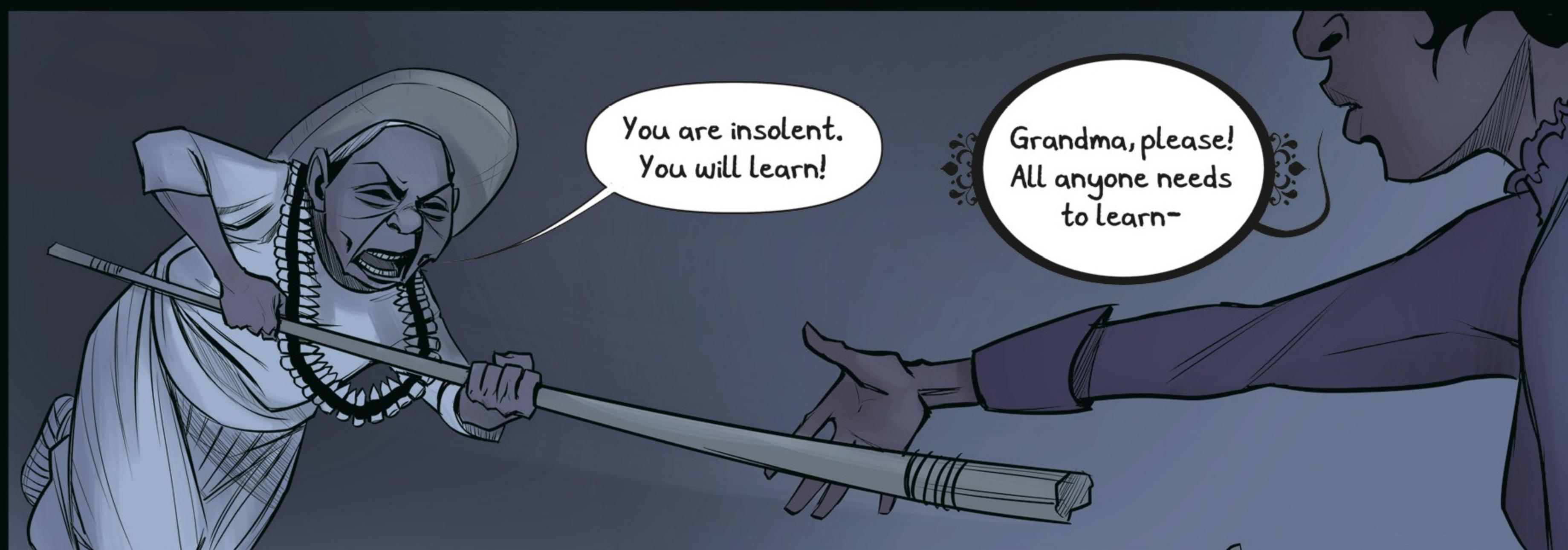
Yes...

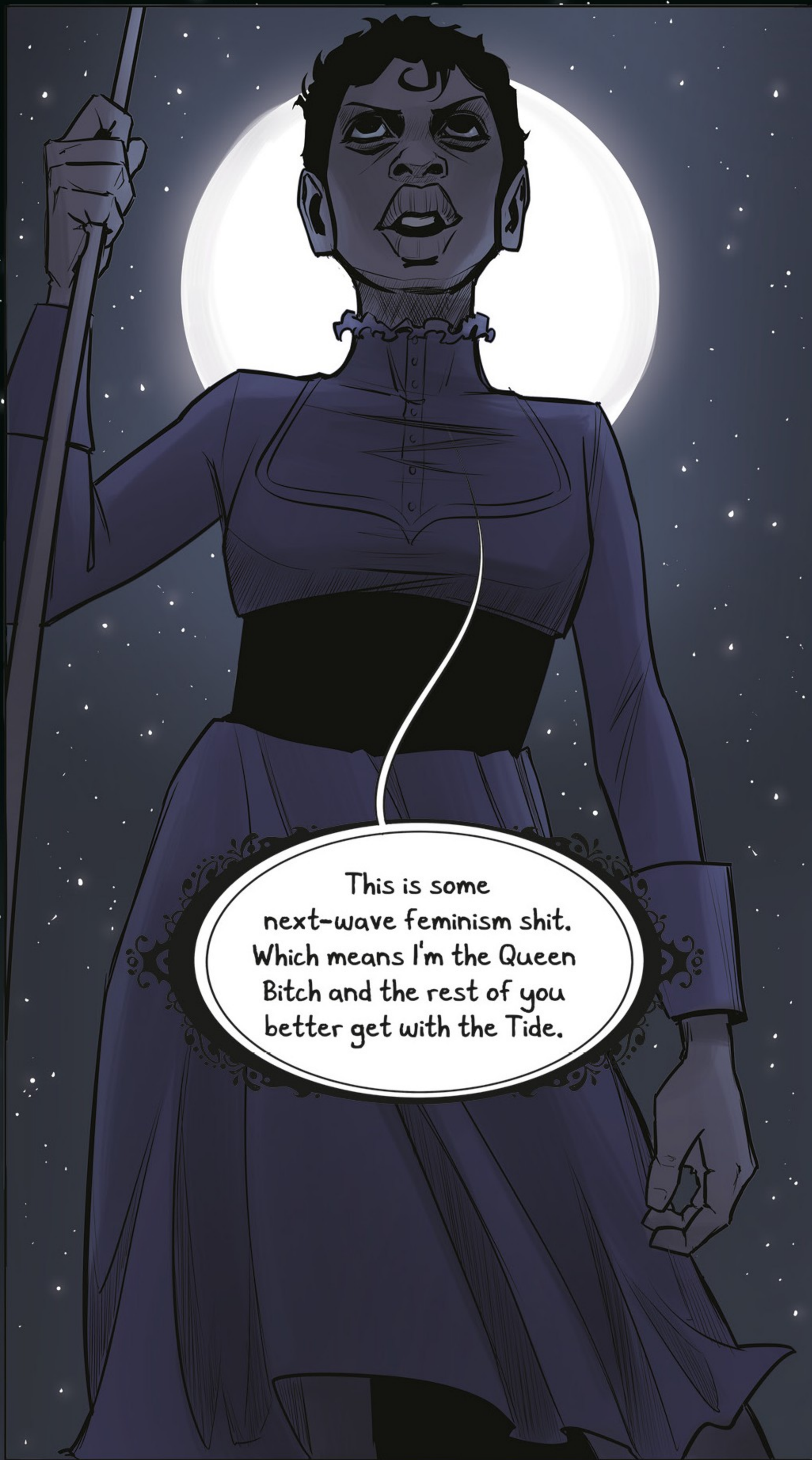
CRACK



What do you say, Duchess?

That I trained the baddest one among us. Don't forget that! And remember-





This is some next-wave feminism shit. Which means I'm the Queen Bitch and the rest of you better get with the Tide.



Now we got an animal to control.



Never liked her.

Enough. You heard her. Come.





Let's
fuck some
shit up.









LADIES.

Let's step
away from
my property.



Seff, we've been such
a good team. Be a good
pet and roll over.



Hello?



Coffey!

Run, kid!



Oh, I like little girls. Here, kitty kitty.



Don't call me a cat-



Unless you want your balls on a string.

I'm gonna throw up.



Let me help.

Christ!



Let me the fuck out of here.

Funny when monsters lose their power -



They don't really want to fight.

They just want to run.



Like a stuck pig. All these pictures of girls on these walls. All these lives you stole.

You don't deserve it to be this easy.



Red...

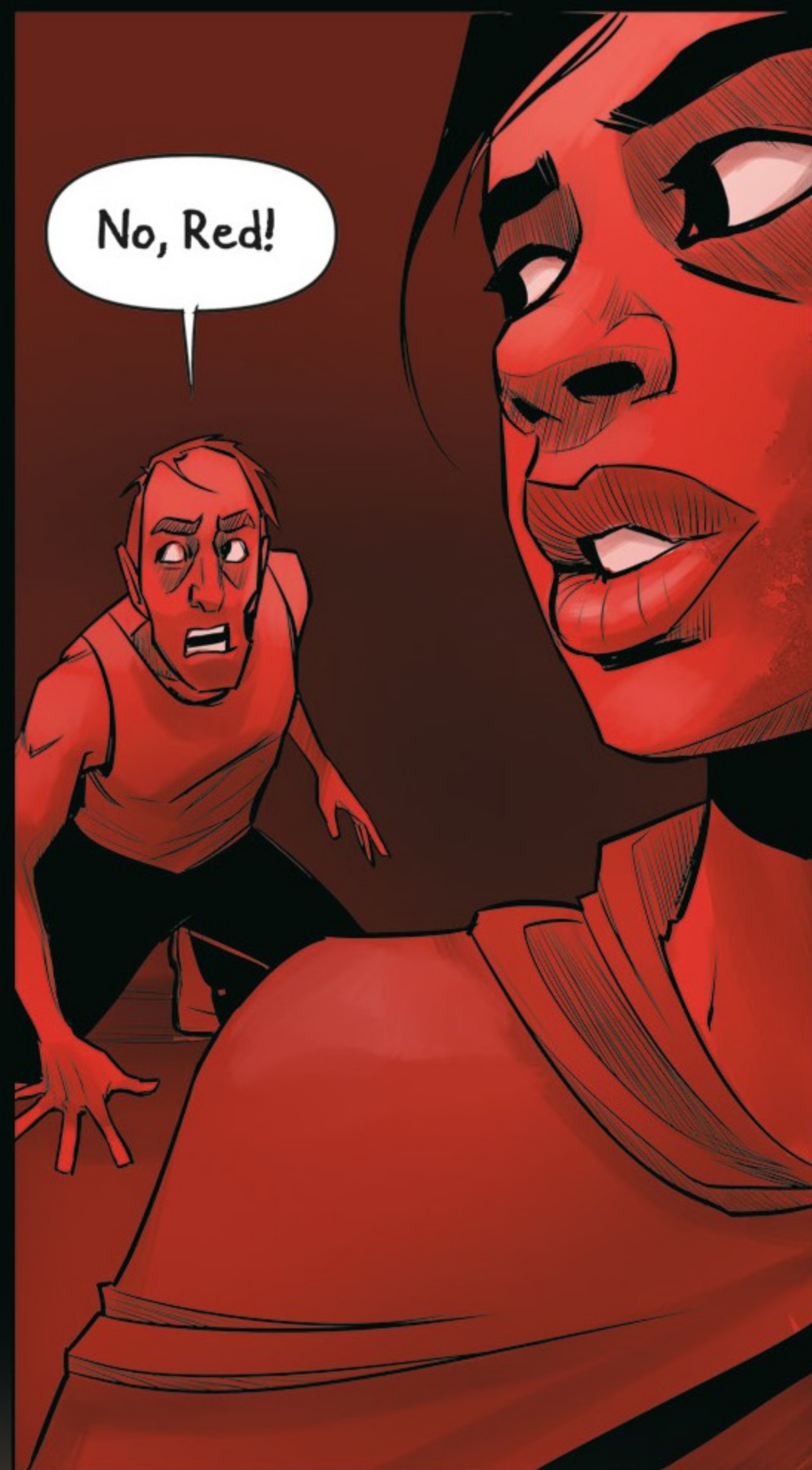
You don't need to say anything.



Just look.



This is what people do to us. They make us pose. And then they make us disappear.



No, Red!



I can't believe a fucking child created this much trouble.



Motherfucker.



Choke you to death-

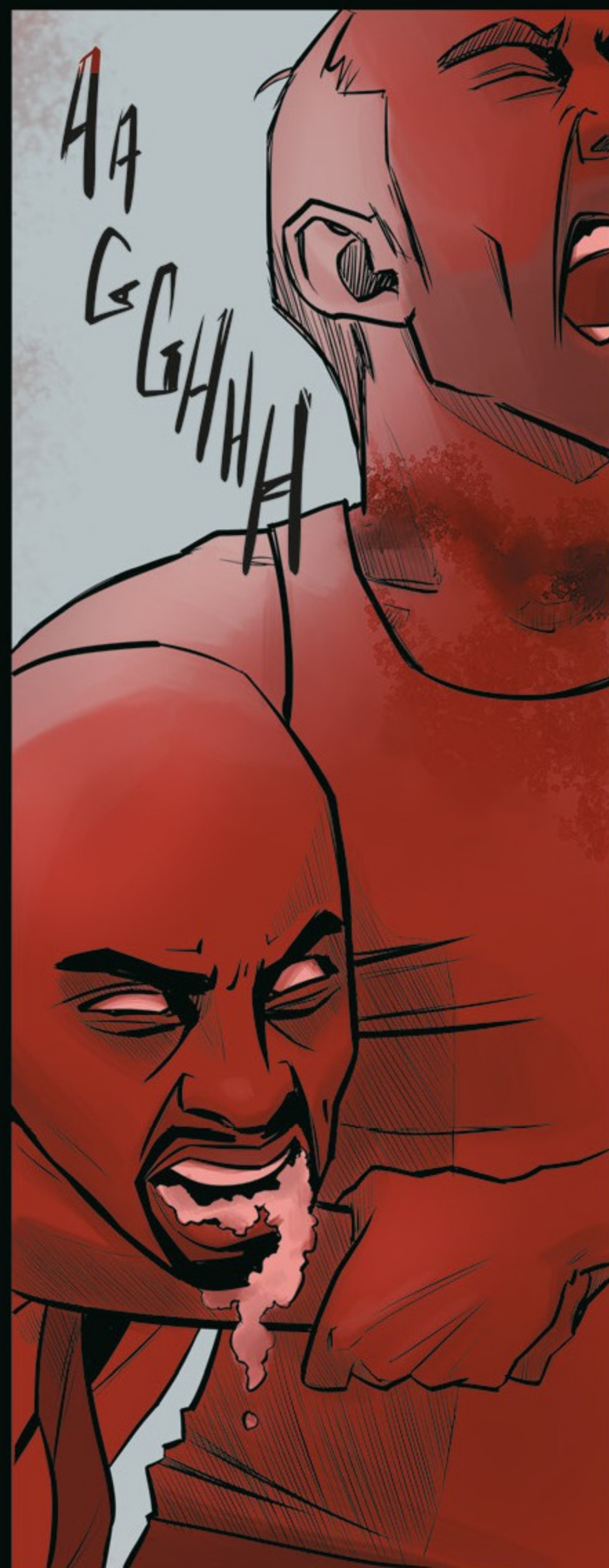




Hole in my chest. On that wall with those women.
I am those women. We're blood. We're red.



Make me live
in a world with
men like you.



For my daughter.
For that girl I saw
back home. For all
of 'em, asshole.



Is this
evidence?

Doesn't
matter.



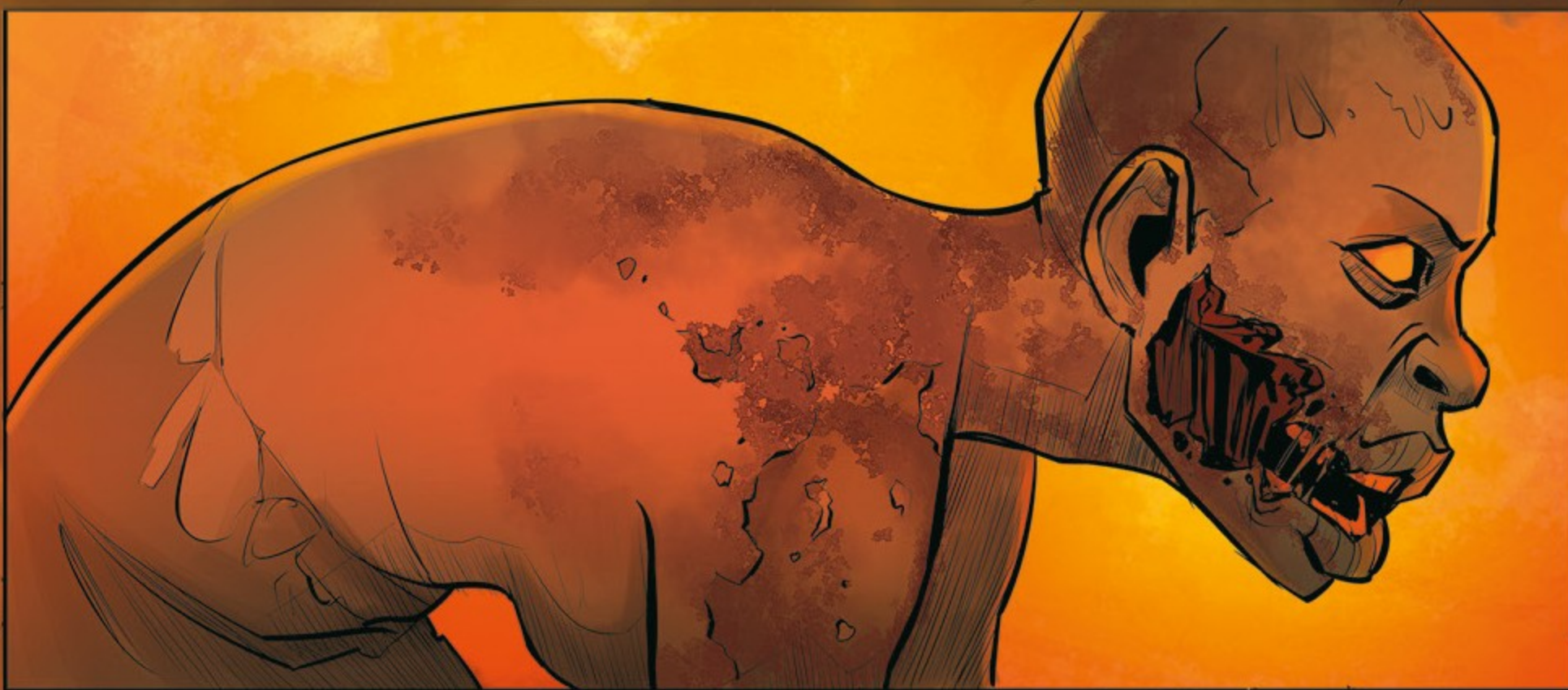
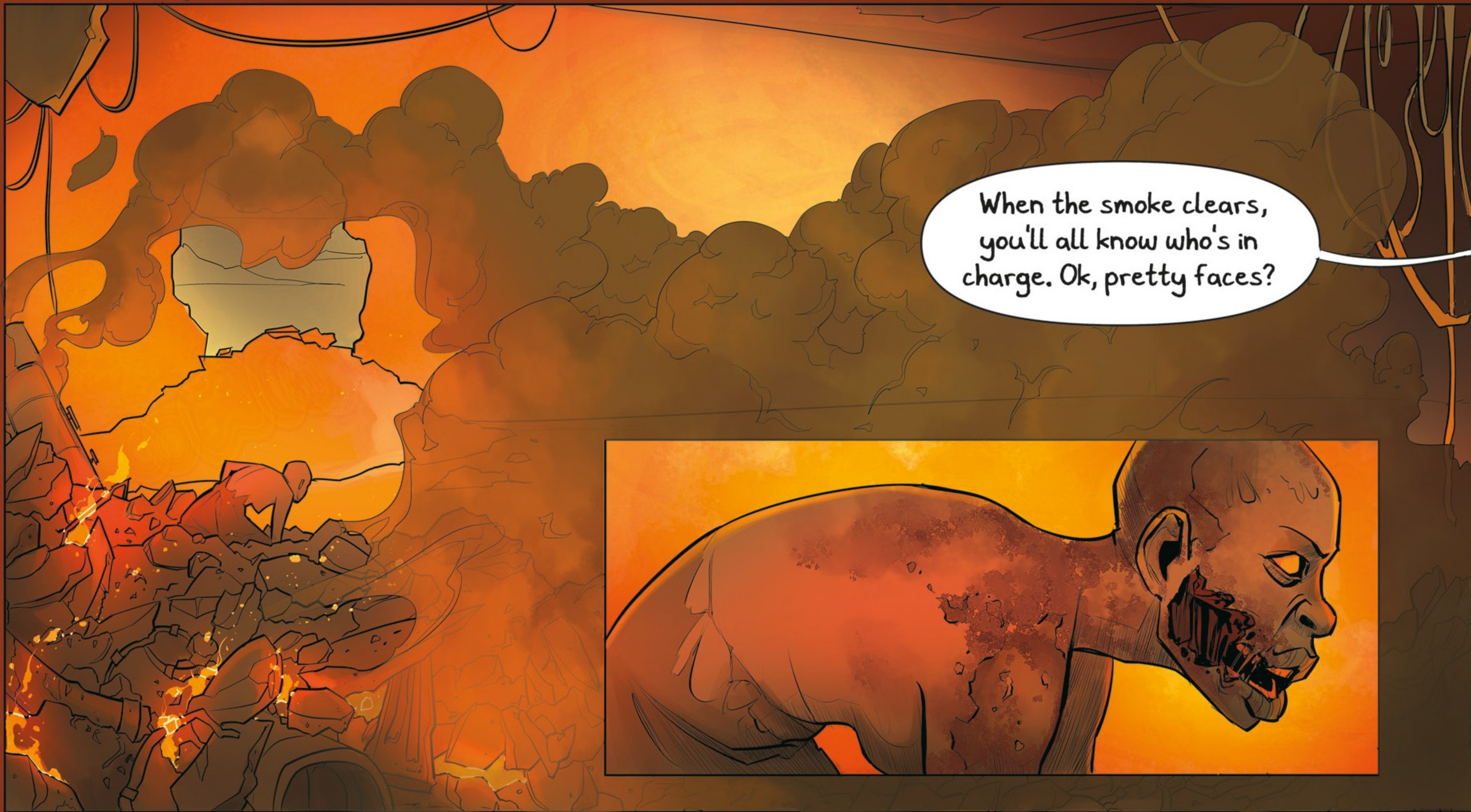
Red!

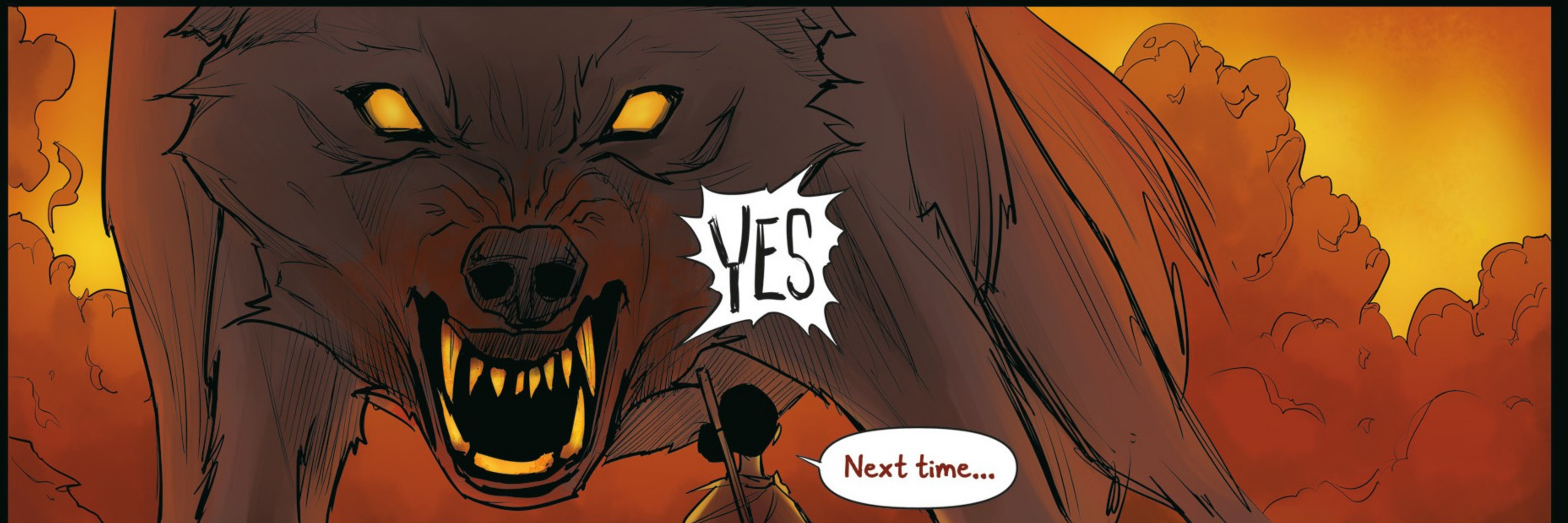
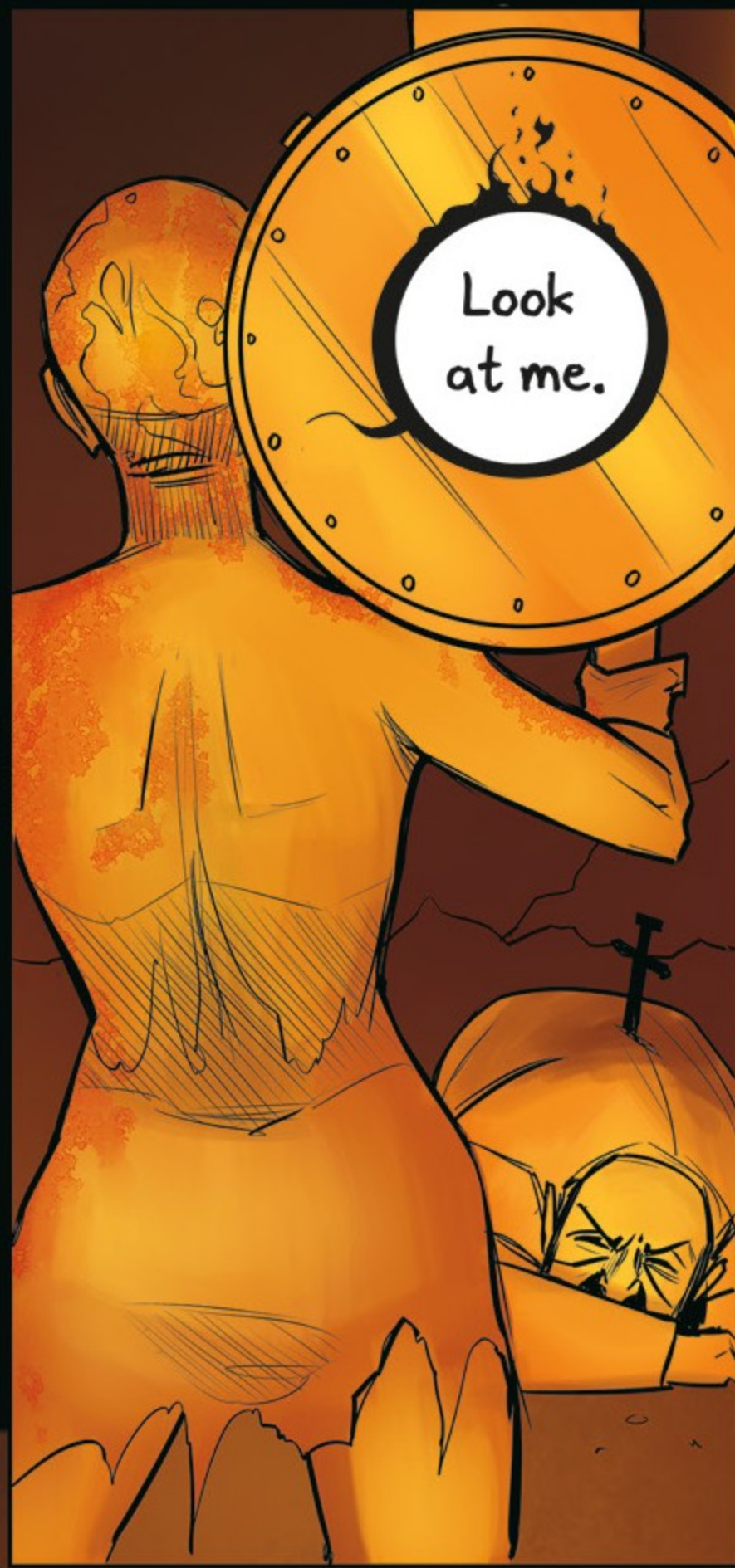


I got you.



Besides, shit this vile, you
just gotta burn it all down.







No more.

He's going to kill her.

Wait.



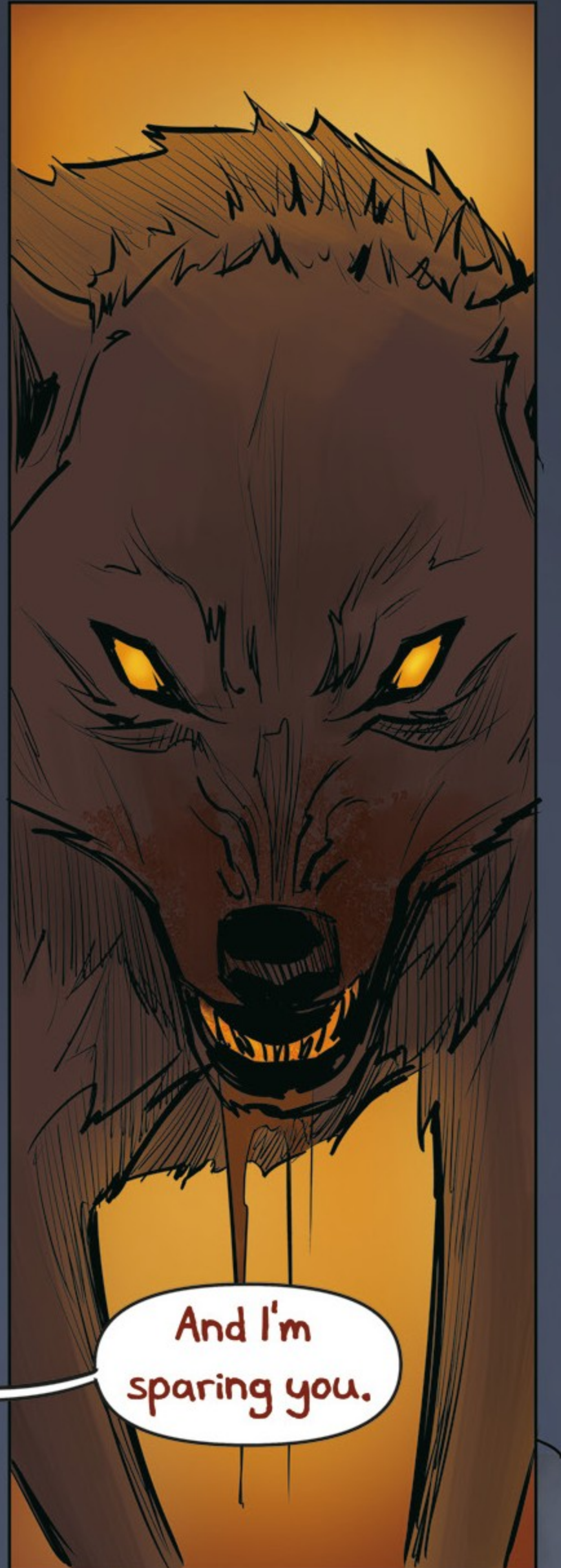
TALK TO ME LIKE THAT, CHILD



YOU WILL NOT BE SPARED.



You don't understand. I'm the wolf now.



And I'm sparing you.



WE WILL MEET AGAIN, CHILD. AND I WON'T BE ALONE.





"For the women lost I am there.
For the women frightened I am watching.

And I will fight with you."



"THE FUTURE"



What is it?

Hush.

Momma.

Run.



What is it?



The Beast.

It's the only way to get away
from the monsters here.

You have to ride a monster north.





I got my eyes on tastier meat.



Scumbag.

Is this yours?



I need help finding my brother. If you help me, I can give you this.



My mom gave one each to my brother Ramon and me.

Where is this Ramon?



I don't know.



I think the Beast will show me.

Grandma, what do you think?



You aren't a wolf?

No.





And the blood?

It's so
cute, right?
Go Team!





What were you girls doing?

Things you boys won't.
Thank you. Idiot.

What's this
one's deal?

She watched a lot
of old movies with
her grandma.

YOU
FLAT FOOTS
WILL NEVER TAKE
ME ALIVE!!!

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF LOST GIRLS
352704

Um...?

I asked if she was
ready for her picture
to be taken.

....cheese...



Why would such a pretty girl be caught at such a grisly scene?

I guess I just have a bad home life.
Asshole.



What do you
got on her?

They said she was chewing on
an animal bone when we arrived.

GODDAMN RIGHT I WAS.
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO
HAVE DONUTS?

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF LOST GIRLS
352703

Name.

Duchess.

Though
you can call me
Your Highness. I got
a feeling you should
get used to it.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF LOST GIRLS
352708

Should we
bother?

Um, miss-

I ain't looking
at anyone with that
much coffee on
their breath.



COYOTES

VOLUME ONE

WOMEN ARE GOING MISSING IN THE CITY OF LOST GIRLS, A BORDER TOWN IN THE DESERT. OFFICER FRANK COFFEY IS TRYING TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS WHEN HE MEETS RED, A 13-YEAR-OLD GIRL WITH A KATANA BLADE AND A MISSION: MURDER THE WEREWOLVES STALKING THE BORDER AND PICKING WOMEN OFF ONE BY ONE. WHEN IT'S DISCOVERED THAT THE WOLVES ARE THE MEN OF THESE VILLAGES, BOTH RED AND OFFICER COFFEY ARE THROWN TOGETHER IN A THRILLER OF MYTHIC PROPORTIONS WITH THE LIVES OF THEIR FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES IN THE BALANCE.

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