

-AND NOW IN OUR
MORNING REVIEW LET'S HAVE
ANOTHER LOOK AT YESTERDAY'S
EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH
ASTROBLEME ENTERPRISES'
CHIEF ASSISTANT,
ADLYNN PILI.

THANK
GOD.

THAT GOSSIP
SEGMENT WAS
EXHAUSTING...





SO, ADLYNN.
THESE NEW LOVEBOTS
ARE NOT AI'S?

NO, NOT
AT ALL, BUT I
CAN UNDERSTAND
THE CONFUSION.





LOVEBOT'S
ARE CREATED WITH
AN INCREDIBLY ADVANCED
VIRTUAL INTELLIGENCE.
THINK OF THE TYPE OF
PROGRAM KIRI IS ON YOUR
PHONE WHEN YOU ASK
QUESTIONS-

A woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing glasses and a grey jacket with a white and blue logo. She is speaking with a slight smile. The background is a blue, swirling pattern.

EXCEPT
TAKEN TO AN
ENTIRELY NEW
LEVEL.

THEY ARE
BASICALLY LIKE
SUPER COMPUTERS-
WITH PROCESSING AND
RESPONSE TIMES THAT
CAN PRACTICALLY
MATCH OUR OWN.



AND THEN
FORMULATING
NEW RESPONSES BASED
ON WHAT YOU SAY TO
THEM AND HOW YOU SET
YOUR PREFERENCES

YOUR PREFERENCES.

LOVEBOT AEL-1919

*THE NEXT STEP IN
ROBOTIC COMPANIONSHIP*





**THIS IS YOUR
STOP, XADA!
THE TIME IS
9:50 AM!**







SO IS A
TRUE ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE THE
NEXT STEP FOR
A.E.?

NOT AT
ALL - A TRUE
AI COULD NEVER
BE USED FOR PUBLIC
SALE LIKE THIS.

I CAN'T
IMAGINE THOSE
LAWS CHANGING
ANY TIME SOON.





BUT REST
ASSURED, A.E. IS
ALWAYS STRIVING
TO CREATE THE
BEST VIRTUAL
INTELLIGENCE
EXPERIENCE-

THAT'S
ENOUGH OF
THAT.

I GET
ENOUGH OF
YOU AT
WORK.

click



WHAT THE
FUCK IS TAKING
HIM SO LONG?



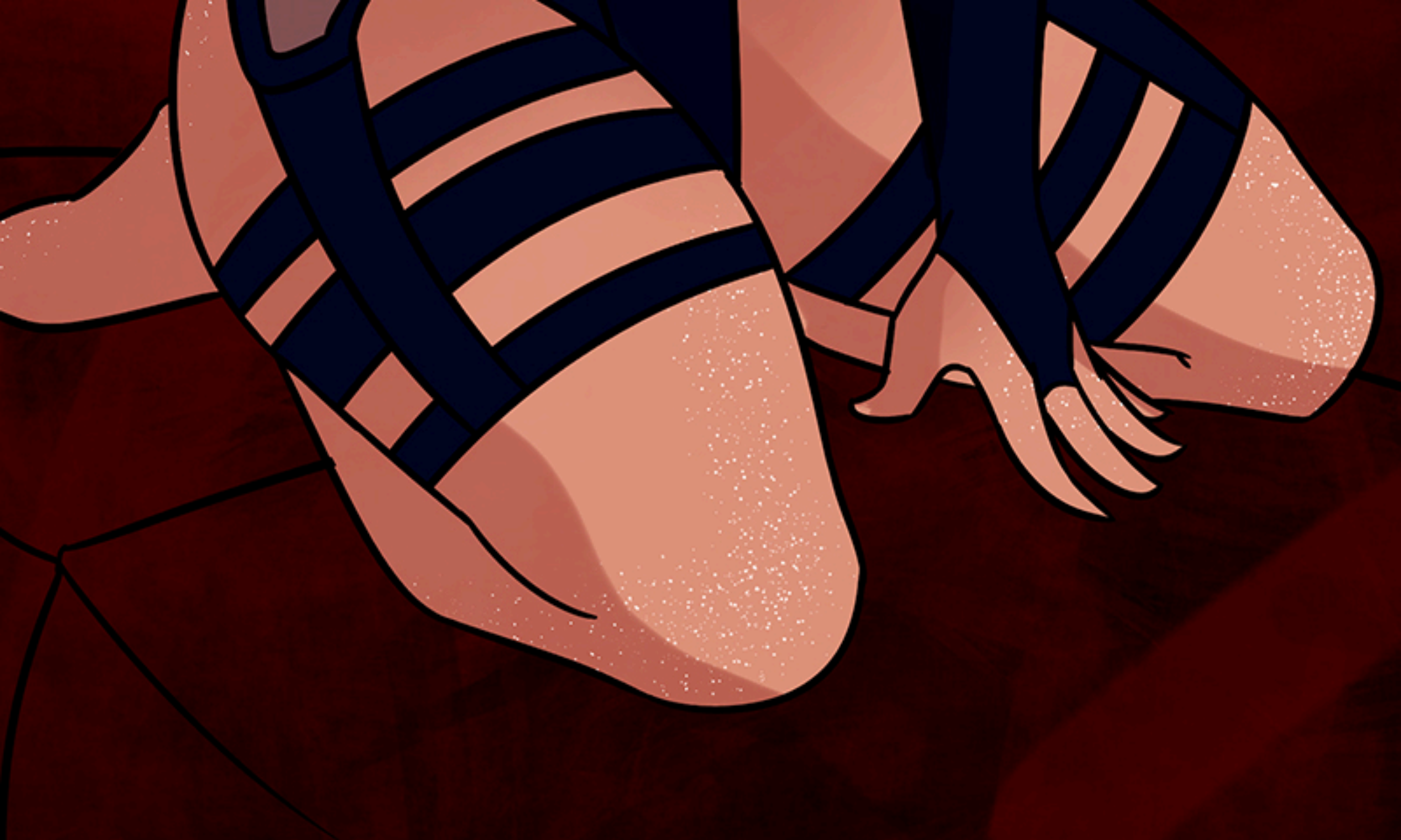
MASTER...



ARE YOU
STRESSED?

DO YOU
WANT ME TO
TAKE CARE OF
YOU?





YEAH...

COME HERE
AND TAKE CARE
OF ME, AEL...

YANK

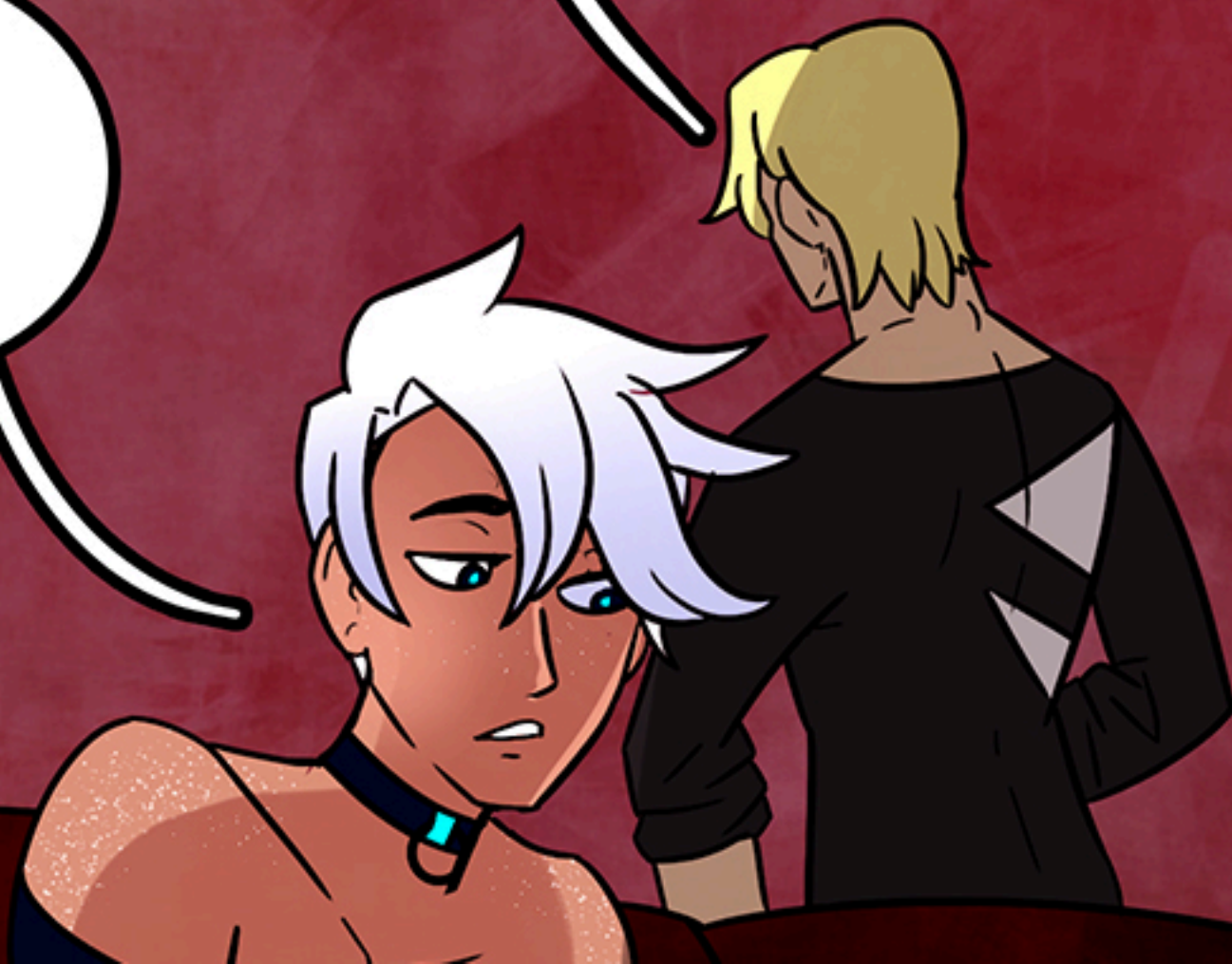




ABOUT-
DAMN-TIME.

GET ON
THE TABLE,
AEL.

YES,
SIR.







9:57 AM?
REALLY?





DO YOU ENJOY
TESTING MY PATIENCE?
I HAVE MORE IMPORTANT
THINGS TO DO THAN SIT
AROUND WAITING FOR
YOU.



GOOD
MORNING
TO YOU,
TOO.



JACKALOPE,
REPORTING FOR
DUTY.

HE'S IN
HERE.

I'VE FINISHED
ALL THE PHYSICAL
MODIFICATIONS THAT I
WANTED BUT HE STILL HAS
SOME LINGERING PROGRAMS
THAT KEEP HIM FROM BEING
EXACTLY WHAT I
NEED.

HM...





ALSO I'LL GIVE
YOU A BONUS IF YOU
CAN WRAP THIS UP
QUICKLY.

THIS WILL
BE THE FIRST 1919
I'VE WORKED ON. I DON'T
WANT TO RUSH AND
DAMAGE IT.

WHAT EXACTLY
IS IT THAT YOU WANT
TO HAVE DONE?







THE NEW
LOVEBOTS ARE
EVERYTHING THEY
CLAIM TO BE.

A VIRTUAL
INTELLIGENCE CAPABLE
OF FEELING, REACTING, AND
RESPONDING IN A WAY THAT
SEEMS LIFE-LIKE.



WITH ONE

EXCEPTION...

JUST ONE
LITTLE THING...

A stylized illustration of a hand with a yellow-to-orange gradient, pointing its index finger upwards. The hand is rendered with thick black outlines and is positioned in the center of the frame. A white speech bubble tail extends from the hand towards the top-left speech bubble.

LOVEBOTS
ARE DESIGNED IN
SUCH A WAY THAT IF
THEY FEEL TOO MUCH
PAIN THEY WILL SHUT
DOWN FOR A FEW

DOWN FOR A FEW
HOURS.



BUT YOU SEE...
FEELING PAIN IS A
PERFECTLY HUMAN
EXPERIENCE.

TO KEEP THEM

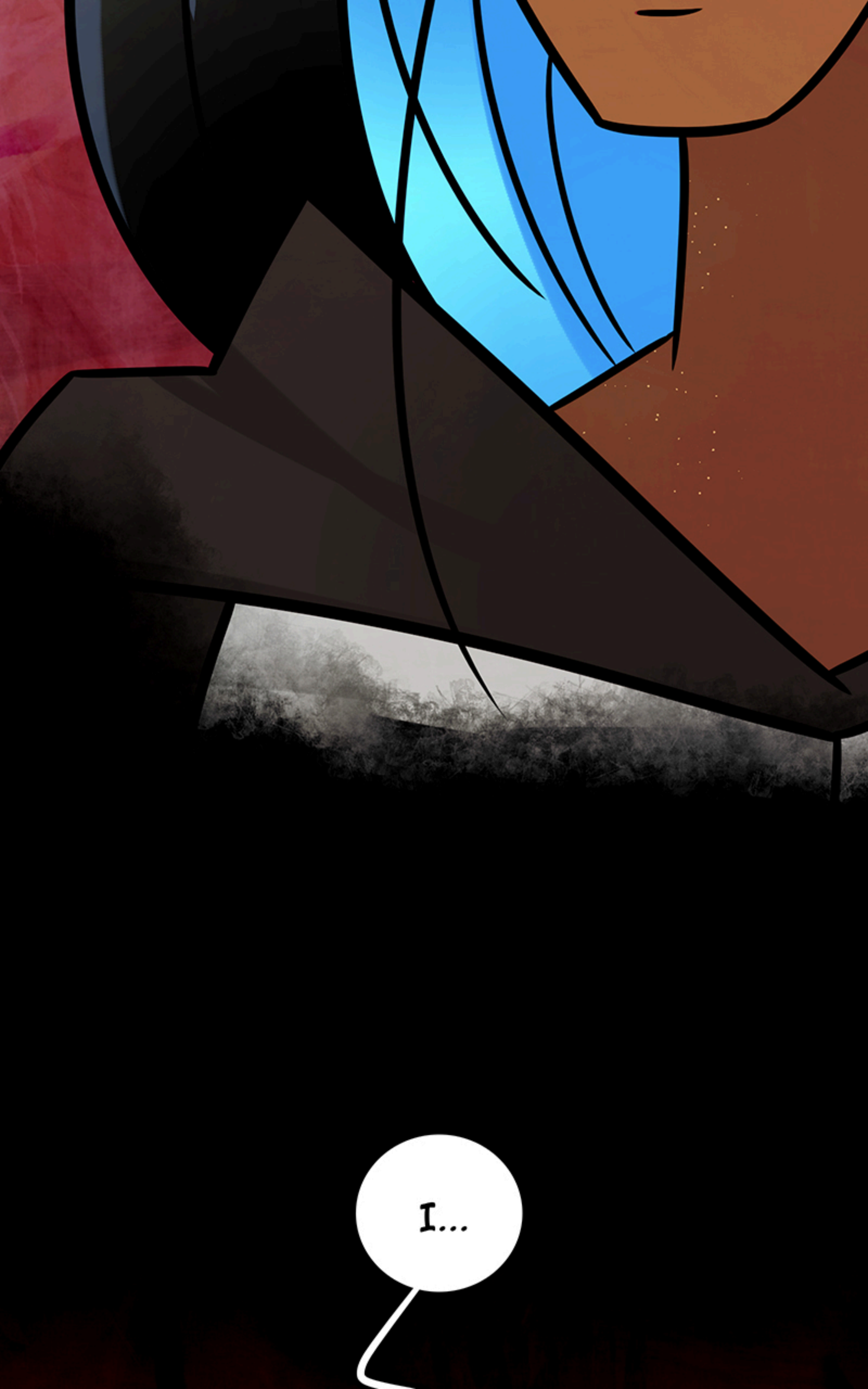
TO KEEP THEM
FROM FULLY FEELING
PAIN IS TO KEEP THEM
FROM FULLY EXPERIENCING
REAL PLEASURE.

AND IT
BREAKS THE
ILLUSION OF
THEM SEEMING
SO LIFE-LIKE.



SO I
WANT YOU TO
HACK INTO HIS
SYSTEM AND REMOVE
THE PROTOCOL THAT
PUTS HIM TO SLEEP
WHEN HE FEELS A
LITTLE PAIN.





I...

I DON'T
THINK I CAN
DO THAT FOR
YOU...



A comic panel featuring a character with short, wavy blonde hair and light blue eyes. The character is wearing a black and white shirt and has a slightly annoyed or questioning expression. They are looking upwards towards a speech bubble. The background is a dark, textured red. In the top left corner, there is a small, partially visible panel showing a white, curved object, possibly a piece of clothing or a structure. The speech bubble is white with a black outline and contains two lines of text.

OH MY
GOD, DO YOU
CRY WHEN YOU
DROP YOUR PHONE
ON THE GROUND?

BECAUSE
YOU THINK YOU
HURT IT'S FUCKING
FEELINGS??



COME ON,
YOU AND I BOTH
KNOW HE DOESN'T
FEEL REAL PAIN.



HE'S JUST

HE'S JUST
A ROBOT.

A VERY
ADVANCED
ROBOT.

BUT A BOT
NONETHELESS.





SEE FOR
YOURSELF.

CLICK

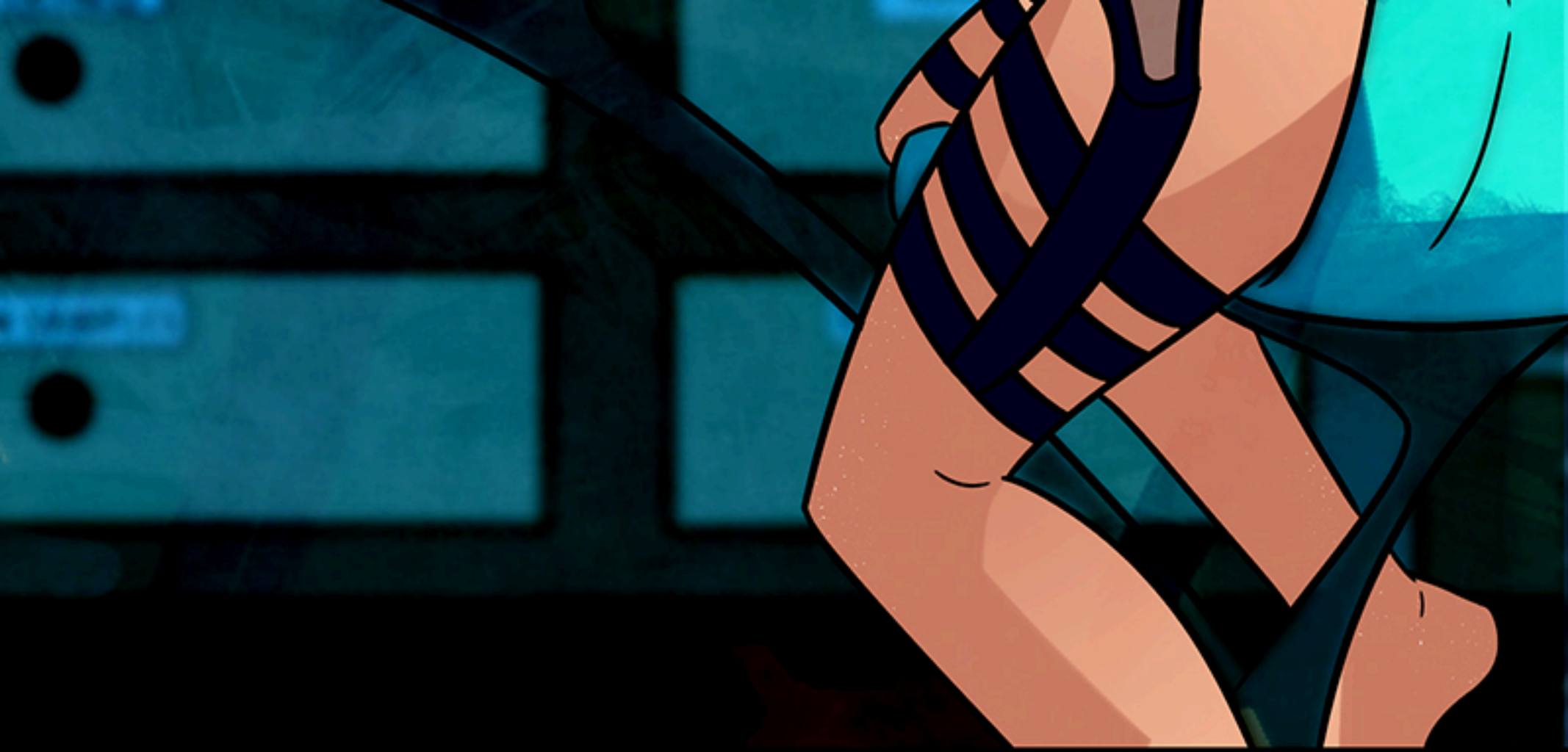




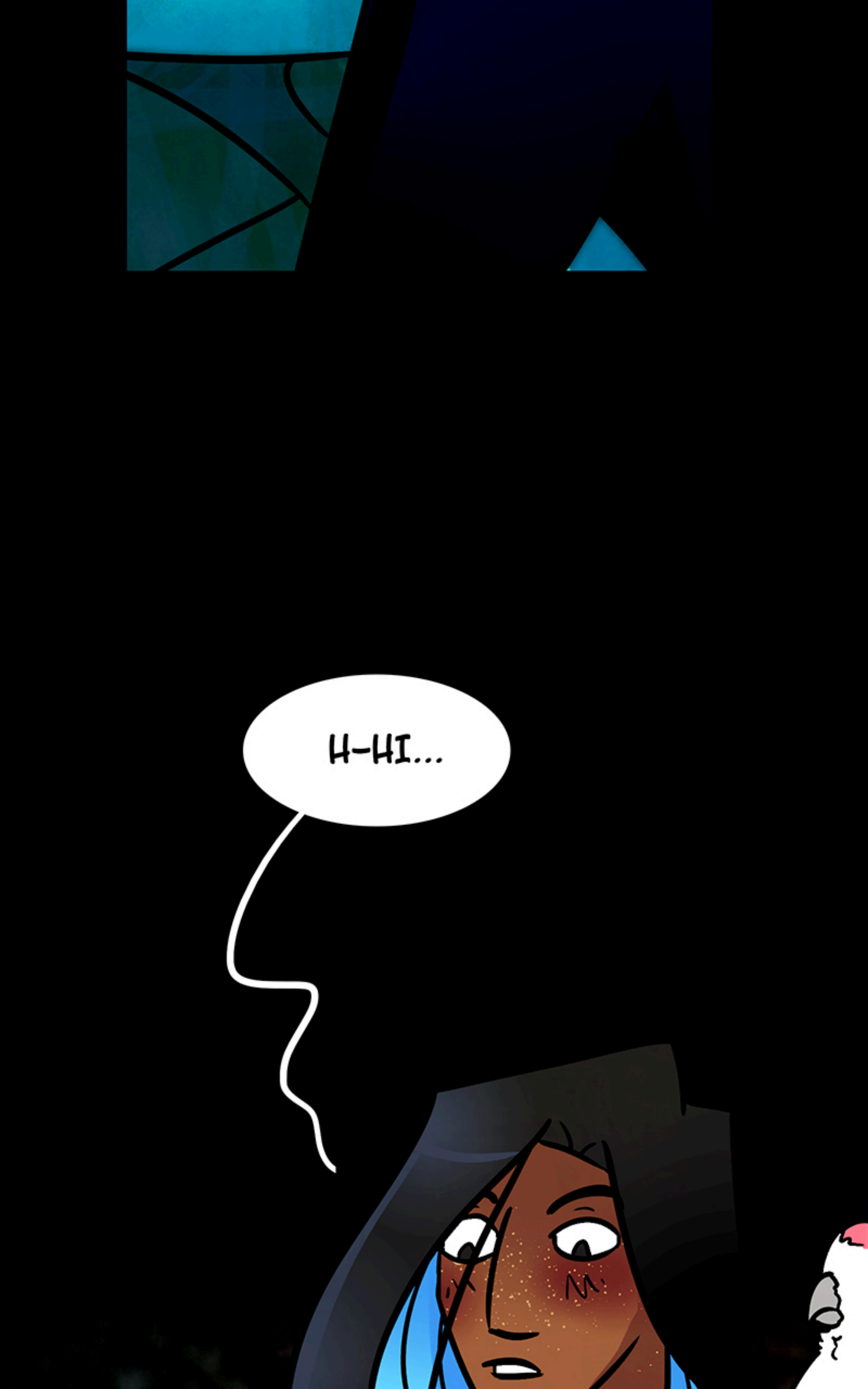


HELLO,
MASTER.





AND HELLO,
STRANGER.

A comic panel with a dark background. At the top, there's a small window showing a blue sky and some dark, silhouetted shapes. In the center, a white speech bubble contains the text "H-HI...". At the bottom, a character with brown skin, freckles, and a blue headscarf is looking up with a nervous expression. To the right, a small portion of another character with white skin and a pink nose is visible.

H-HI...



FUCK!!!

NO-

NO!

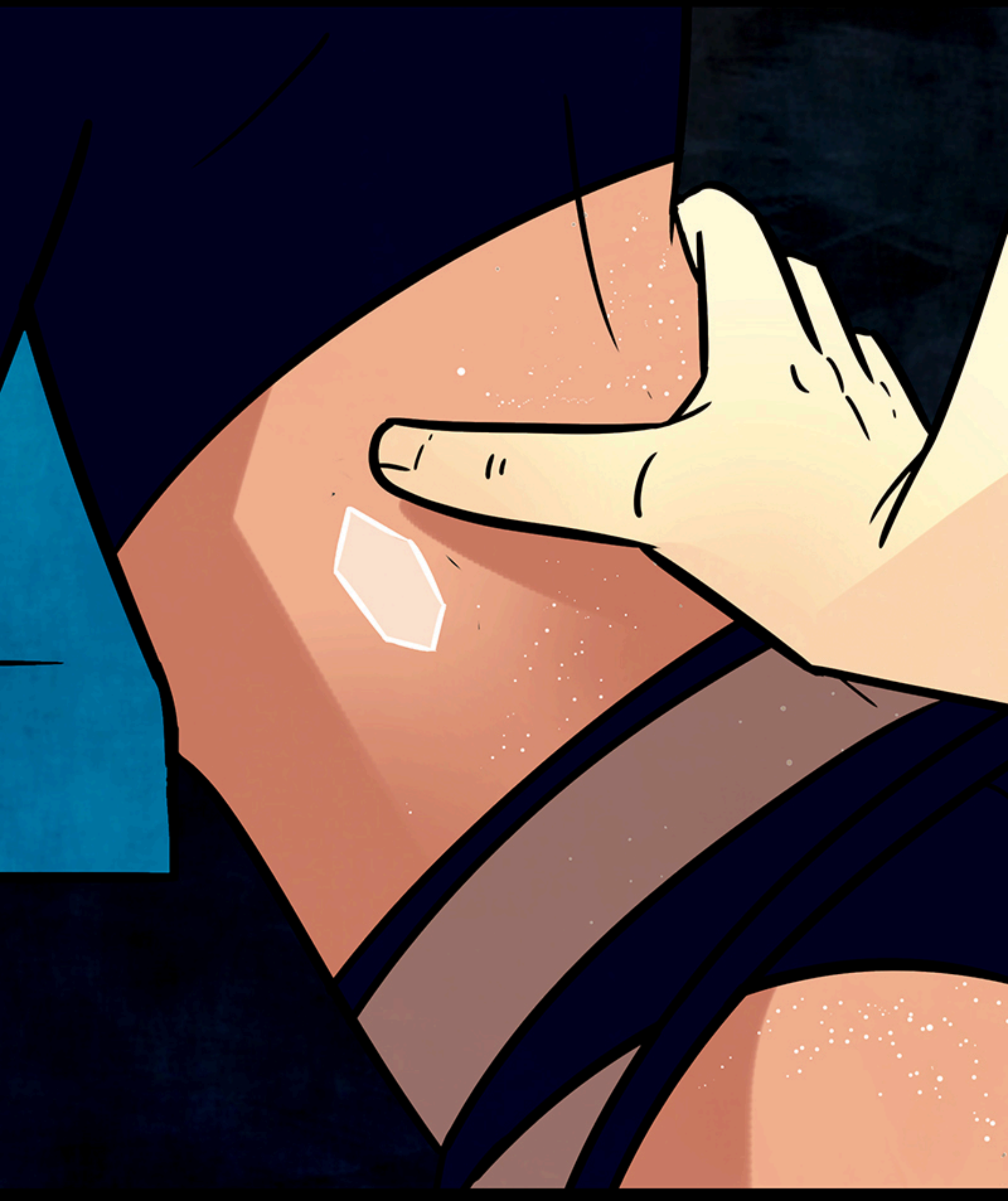
HOW DID I
JUST NOW NOTICE
THIS!?





I KNOW I HAD
GRABBED ALL THE SAME

COLOR SWATCHES - HOW
THE FUCK DID THIS GET
IN HERE?!



NOW I
GOTTA TAKE
THAT OUT AND
RE-PATCH
IT.



