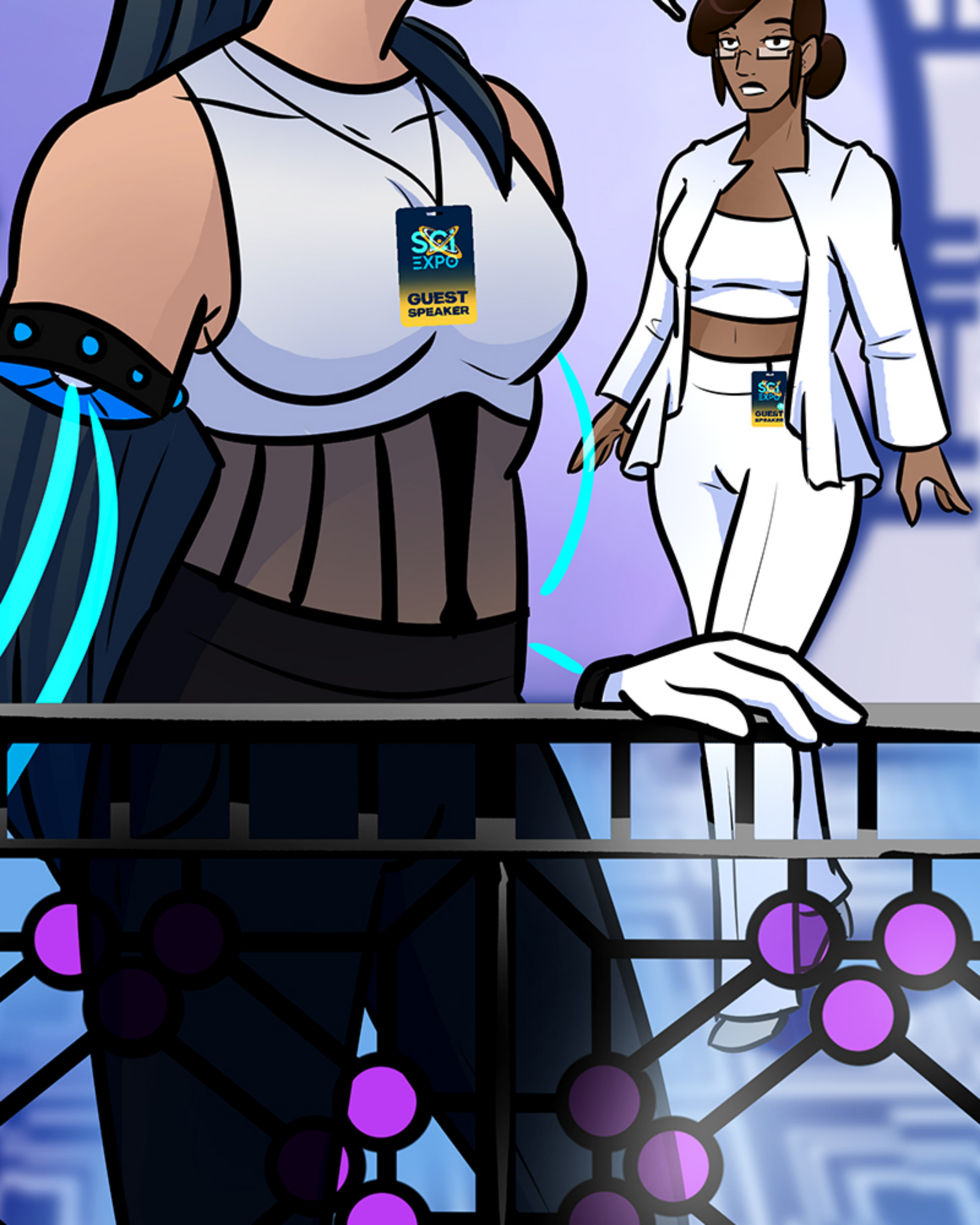
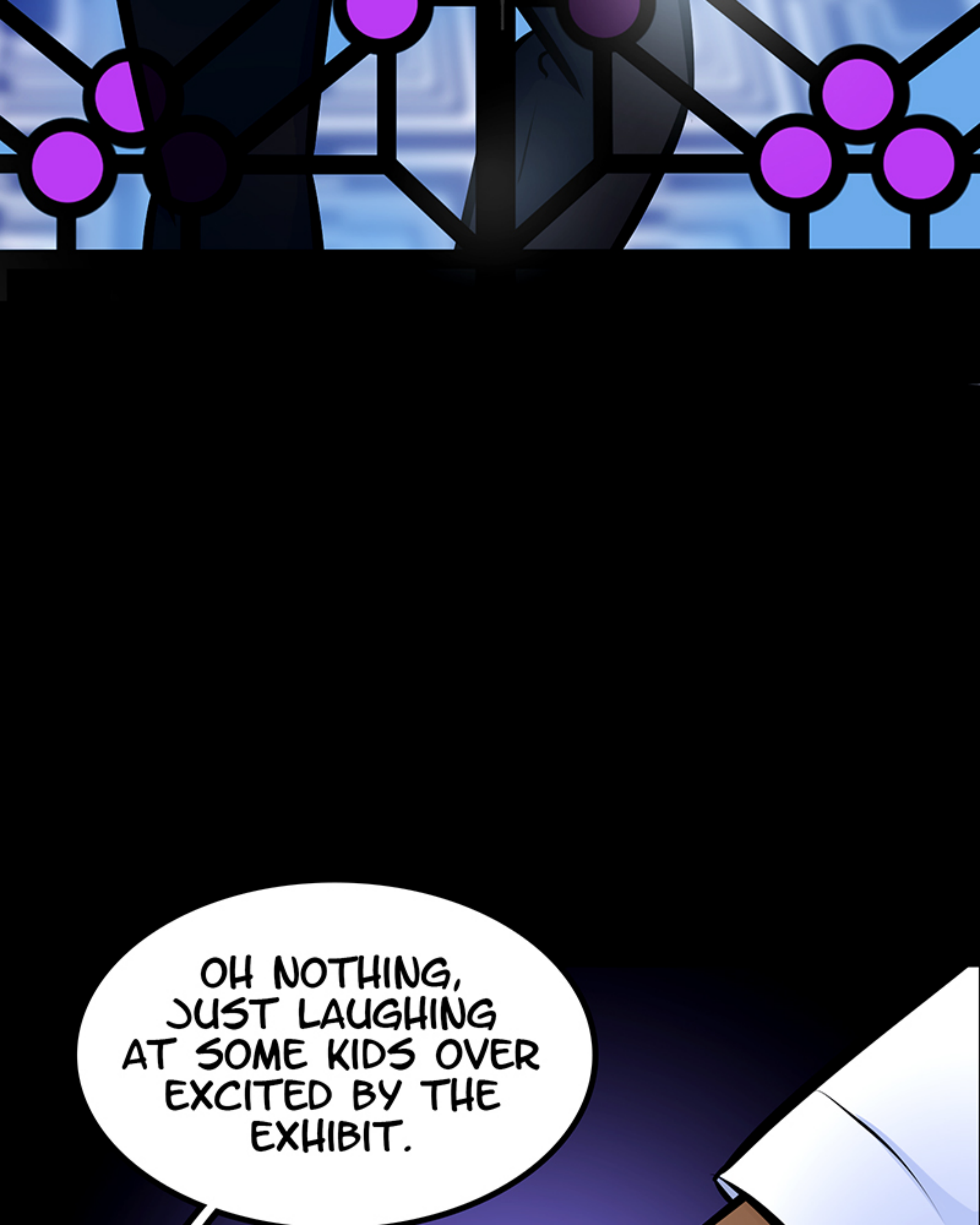


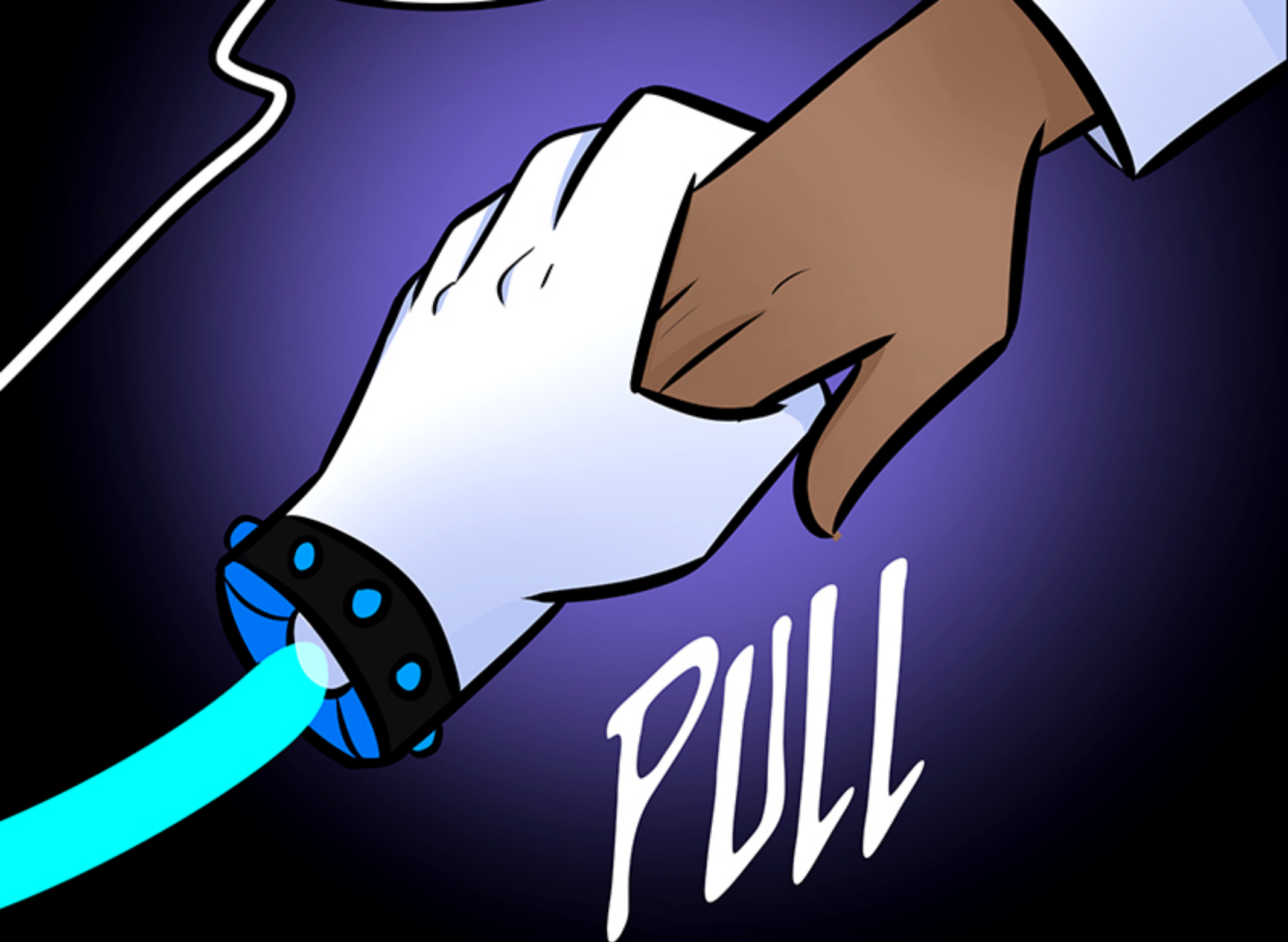


EVA?
WHAT'D YOU
FIND?



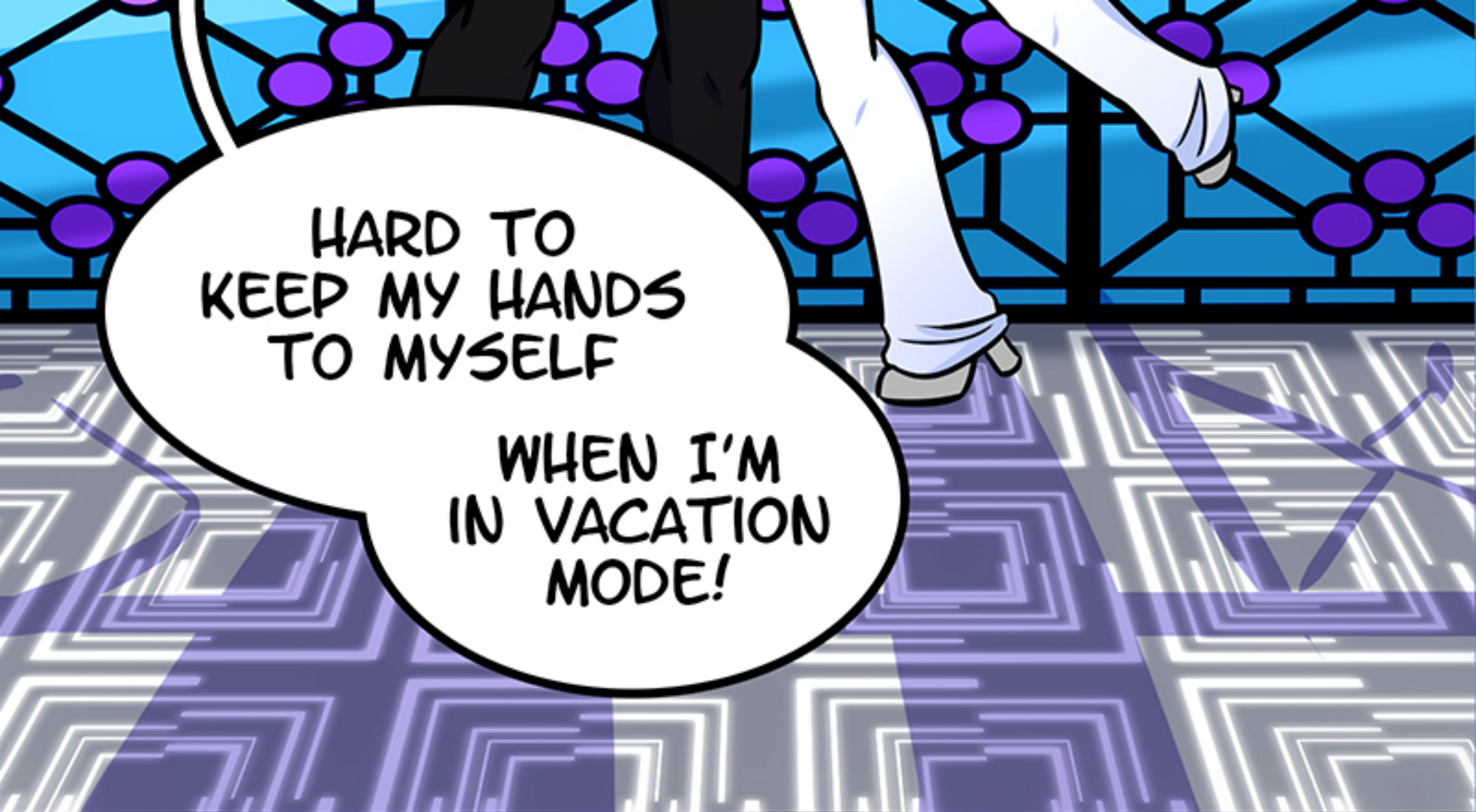


OH NOTHING,
JUST LAUGHING
AT SOME KIDS OVER
EXCITED BY THE
EXHIBIT.



WHOA-
YOU'RE FIESTY
TODAY...



A comic panel showing the lower legs and feet of two people walking on a floor with a glowing purple and white geometric pattern. A black railing with purple circular accents is in the background. A large white speech bubble with a black outline is in the foreground.

HARD TO
KEEP MY HANDS
TO MYSELF

WHEN I'M
IN VACATION
MODE!

A comic panel featuring two characters against a blue, bokeh-style background. On the left, a character with dark skin, long dark hair in a high ponytail, and a white face mask looks down with a smug expression. They have several blue piercings in their ear. On the right, a character with dark skin, brown hair, and glasses looks up at them with a slight smile. Two speech bubbles are positioned above them, containing text.

YOU'RE THE
ONE THAT WANTED
TO LEAVE THE
ROOM TO SIT IN
ON A PANEL,

WHICH WE
SHOULD GET IN
LINE FOR RIGHT
ABOUT NOW.

A cartoon character with brown skin and white hair is shown from the chest up. They are wearing a white shirt and have their right hand raised to their forehead in a gesture of surprise or contemplation. The background is a solid black.

GOOD
CALL..

AFTERWARDS
WE SHOULD GET

WE SHOULD GET
DINNER,

WE'VE
GOTTEN ROOM
SERVICE TOO MANY
TIMES THEY ARE
STARTING TO
RECOGNIZE OUR
ORDER.

HAH!





IT ACTUALLY
WORKED OUT REALLY
WELL SINCE BRIZZ



WELL SINCE BRICE
KNOWS HER-



WINK!





IT'S KIND OF
LIKE... 3 BIRDS WITH
ONE STONE.

WE GET TO
CELEBRATE
XADA,



WE GET THE
CHANCE TO GET
INFO FROM DR.
EVA-

AND WE GET
OUT OF TOWN AND
INTO MORE NEUTRAL
GROUND FOR A
WHILE!



RIGHT,
BRIZZ?

HM?
YES.



A comic book panel featuring a character with brown hair and glasses looking up with a nervous expression. In the background, a large, glowing blue monster with a wide, toothy mouth and a single eye is visible. The scene is set in a futuristic environment with a blue and purple color scheme and a grid-like pattern in the background.

HAH,
WELL...

I'M GLAD
I WAS ABLE TO
BE OF HELP TO YOU
BOTH AND... YOUR
NEW...

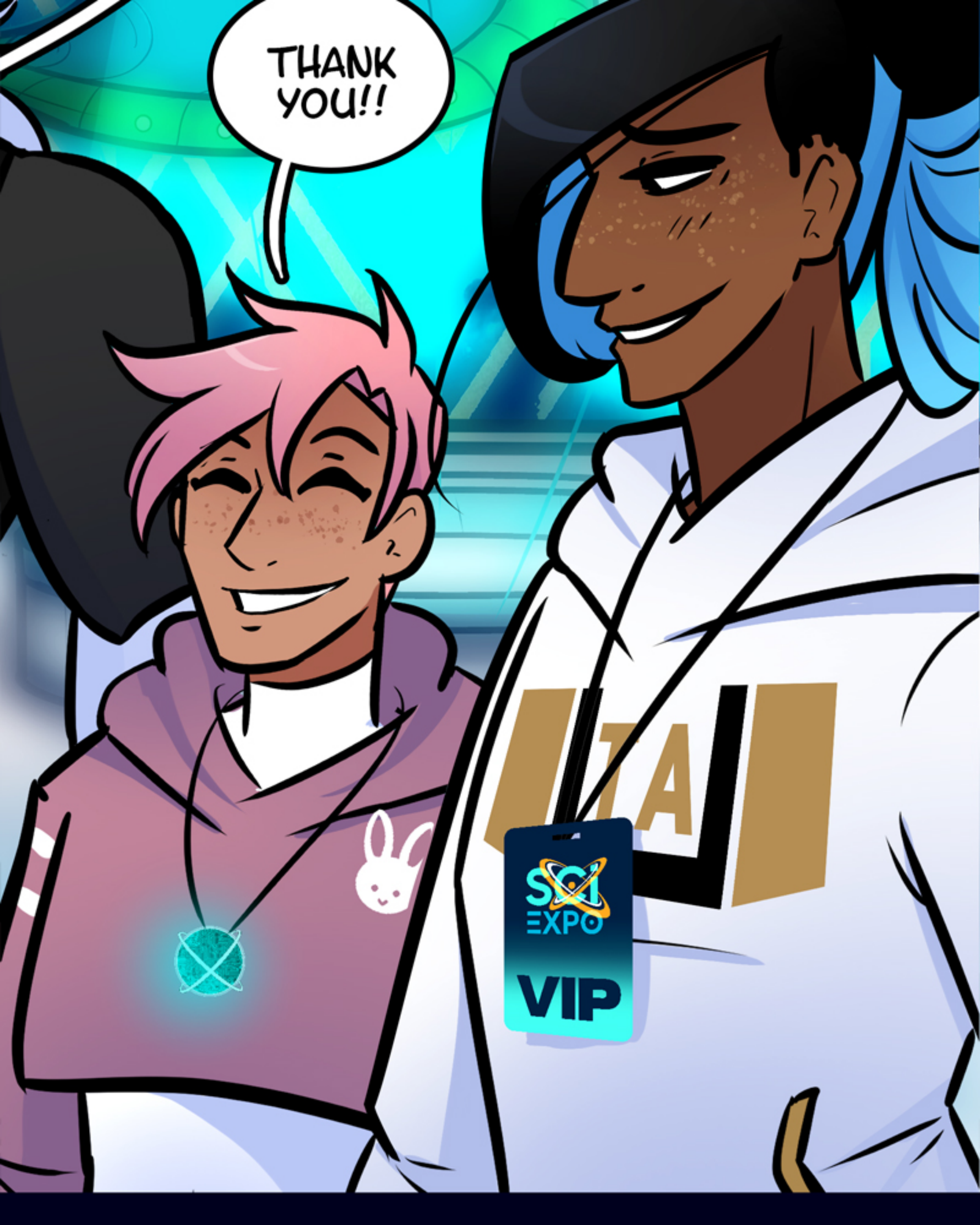
...
INTIMIDATING
FRIEND.



The background of the comic page features a dark blue field with a repeating pattern of glowing, light blue diamond shapes. In the lower-left corner, a portion of a character's head is visible, showing a green, scaly texture with small white circular details. A white speech bubble with a black outline originates from this character. The text inside the bubble is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

IT'S ALSO
NICE TO SEE
HOW MUCH MORE
CONFIDENT YOU
SEEM, LACEY.

THANK
YOU!!



AH, XADA.
ANY CHANCE
YOU WANT TO GRAB
DINNER? JUST US
TWO?





IT'S BEEN
A WHILE SINCE
WE HAD A CHANCE TO
HANG OUT OUTSIDE

OF WORK STUFF.

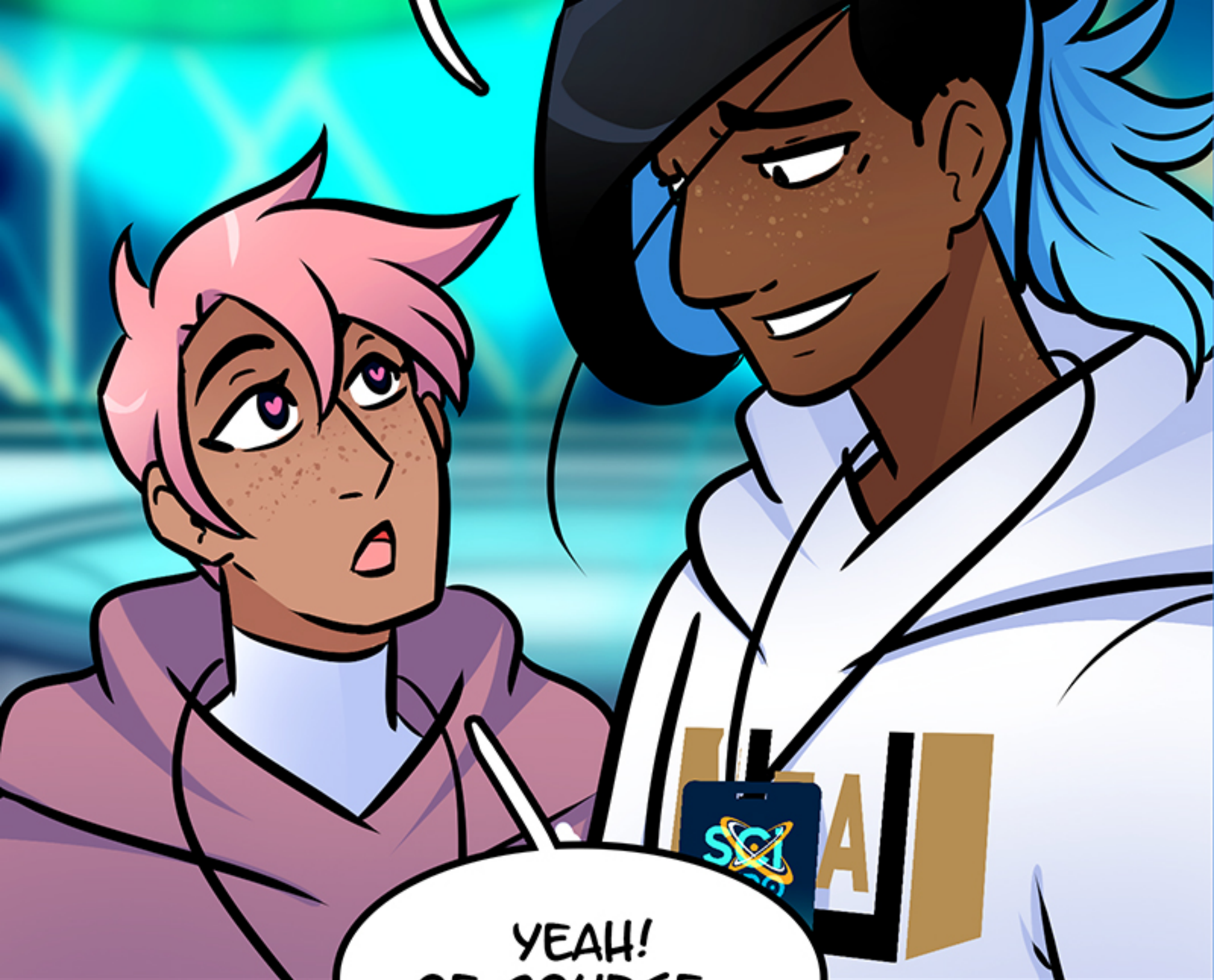
OH! YEAH
I'D LIKE THAT,
UH...





LACE,
IS THAT...
OKAY WITH
YOU?

IF I
JUST GO WITH
HIM...?



YEAH!
OF COURSE...

WHY WOULD
THAT BOTHER
ME?

XADA AND
ERIK USED
TO DATE.

OH?

AH-



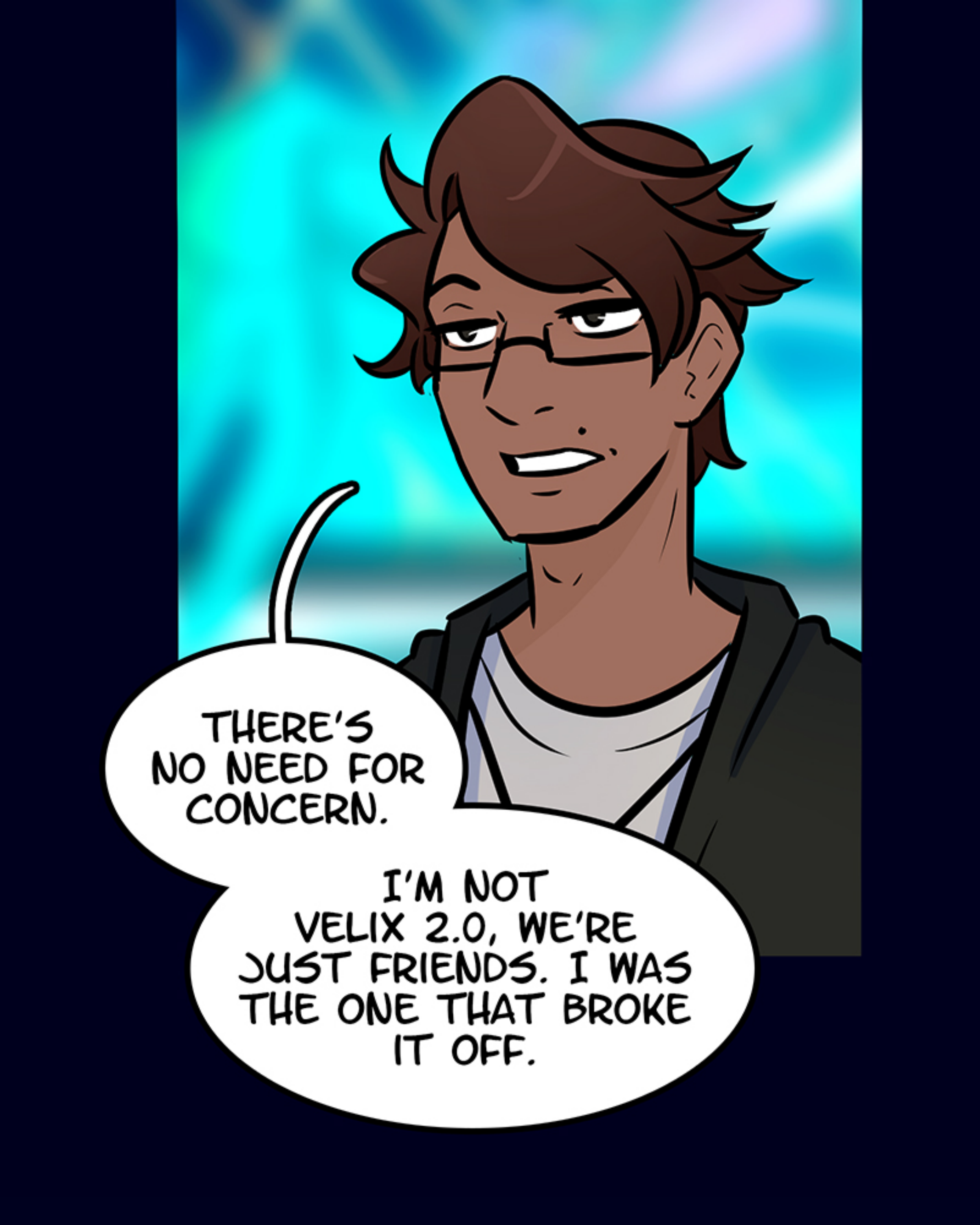
A comic book panel featuring two characters in the foreground. On the left is a young woman with dark skin and black hair tied in a high ponytail, looking slightly to the right with a serious expression. On the right is a young man with light brown skin and wavy brown hair, looking towards the woman with a questioning expression. A large white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned between them, containing the text "WHY DOES HE KNOW THAT BUT LACEY DOESN'T?". The background is a blurred, colorful bokeh of blue, green, and purple light spots.

WHY DOES
HE KNOW THAT BUT
LACEY DOESN'T?



AH...
BRIZZ READ
SOME OF VELIX'S
TEXTS...

...I SEE.



THERE'S
NO NEED FOR
CONCERN.

I'M NOT
VELIX 2.0, WE'RE
JUST FRIENDS. I WAS
THE ONE THAT BROKE
IT OFF.





... AM
I DOING
SOMETHING
WRONG...?

WHY IS
EVERYONE MAKING IT
SEEM LIKE I'M REACTING
STRANGELY...



IF HANGING
OUT WITH YOU
MAKES HIM HAPPY
THEN I WANT HIM
TO DO IT.

XADA'S
HAPPINESS HAS
ALWAYS BEEN
MY GOAL.

BUT IF
YOU MAKE HIM
SAD I'LL PULL
A KNIFE ON
YA!





FAIR
ENOUGH.

GO HAVE
DINNER, BRIZZ
AND I WILL KEEP
LOOKING AROUND.



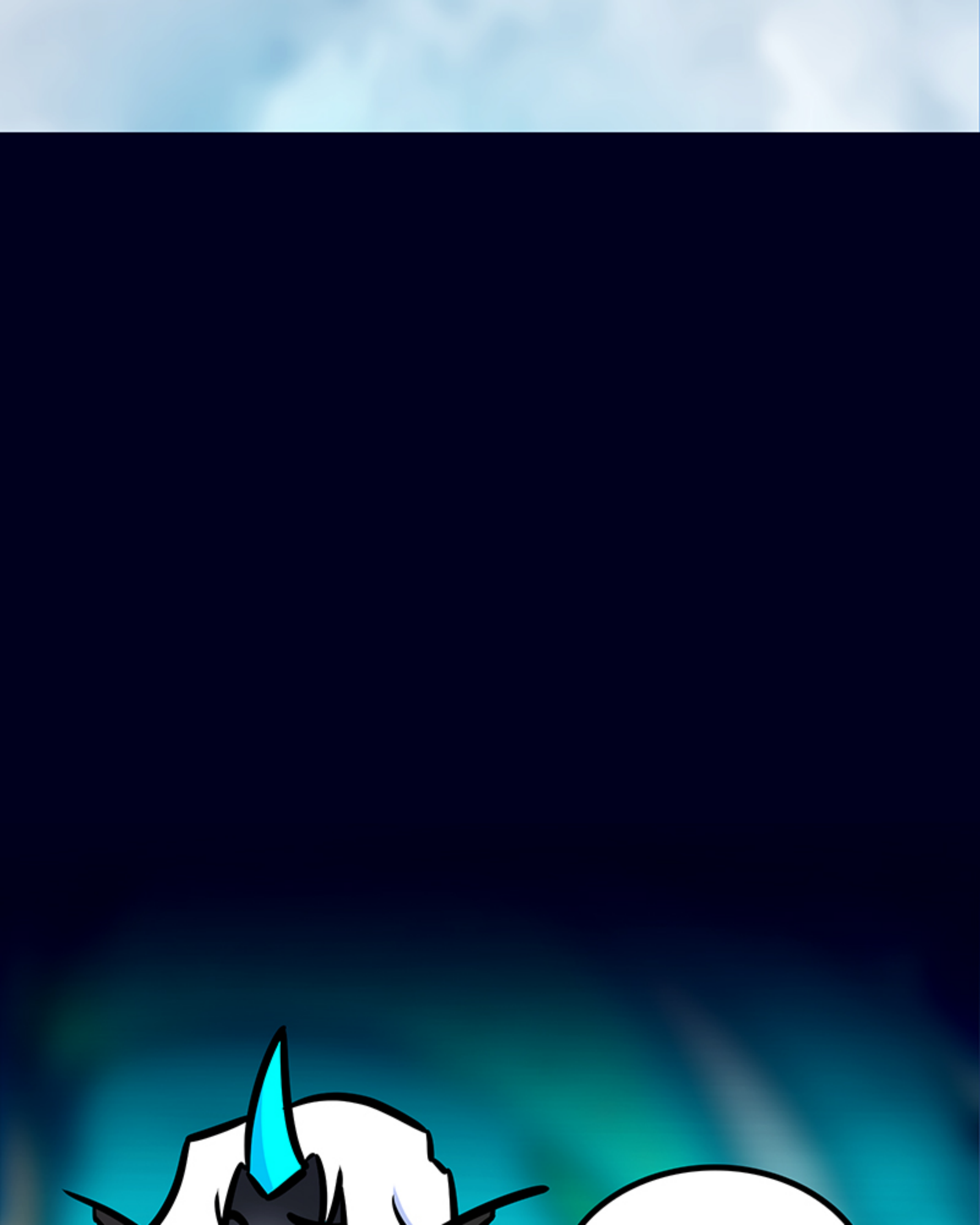
BYE
BYEEEE!!

HAVE
FUN!!



YOU
TOO!!





A comic book panel featuring two characters. On the left, a security guard with grey skin, white hair, and glowing blue eyes stands with a stern expression. He wears a black uniform with a red 'SECURITY' tag. On the right, a young man with pink hair and freckles looks down with a pained or exhausted expression. He wears a purple hoodie with a white bunny logo and a glowing blue orb necklace. The background is a blurred blue and green.

ARE YOU
REALLY
OKAY?

SIGH

YES!!

I WAS WILLING
TO LET YOU THROW
ME IN A.E.'S TRASH
COMPACTOR-

YOU THINK
I'M GOING TO
BE UPSET ABOUT
HIM HAVING DINNER
WITH HIS FRIEND?





AND AT
WHAT POINT DOES
YOUR HAPPINESS
FACTOR INTO
IT?





WOULD YOU
SMILE AND NOD IF HE
SAYS HE'D BE HAPPIER
WITH **SOMEONE ELSE?**

...OR IF YOU FOUND
SOMEONE OR SOME LIFE
CALLING... WOULD YOU
IGNORE IT BECAUSE THAT
WOULD MAKE XADA
SAD IF YOU LEFT?

YOU REALLY
ARE RELENTLESS
SOMETIMES-

I DON'T
HAVE TIME TO
WORRY ABOUT
HYPOTHETICALS
RIGHT NOW-





IT'S NOT A
MATTER OF STRATEGIC
PLANNING -

IT JUST
NEEDS TO BE CLEARLY
COMMUNICATED ONCE
IT COMES UP. *THAT'S*
ALL!



I SUPPOSE
MY DESIRE FOR THE
MOST CLEAR CUT
AND LOGICAL ANSWER
DOESN'T APPLY HERE,
YOU'RE RIGHT...





XADA TOLD
ME THAT TRAVIS
IS BASED ON THESE
THINGS...

FILTERING THE
AIR AND TERAFORMING
THE EARTH WHILE MOST
HUMANS WERE ON A
SPACE COLONY...

THEY WERE
REALLY THIS
BIG...?



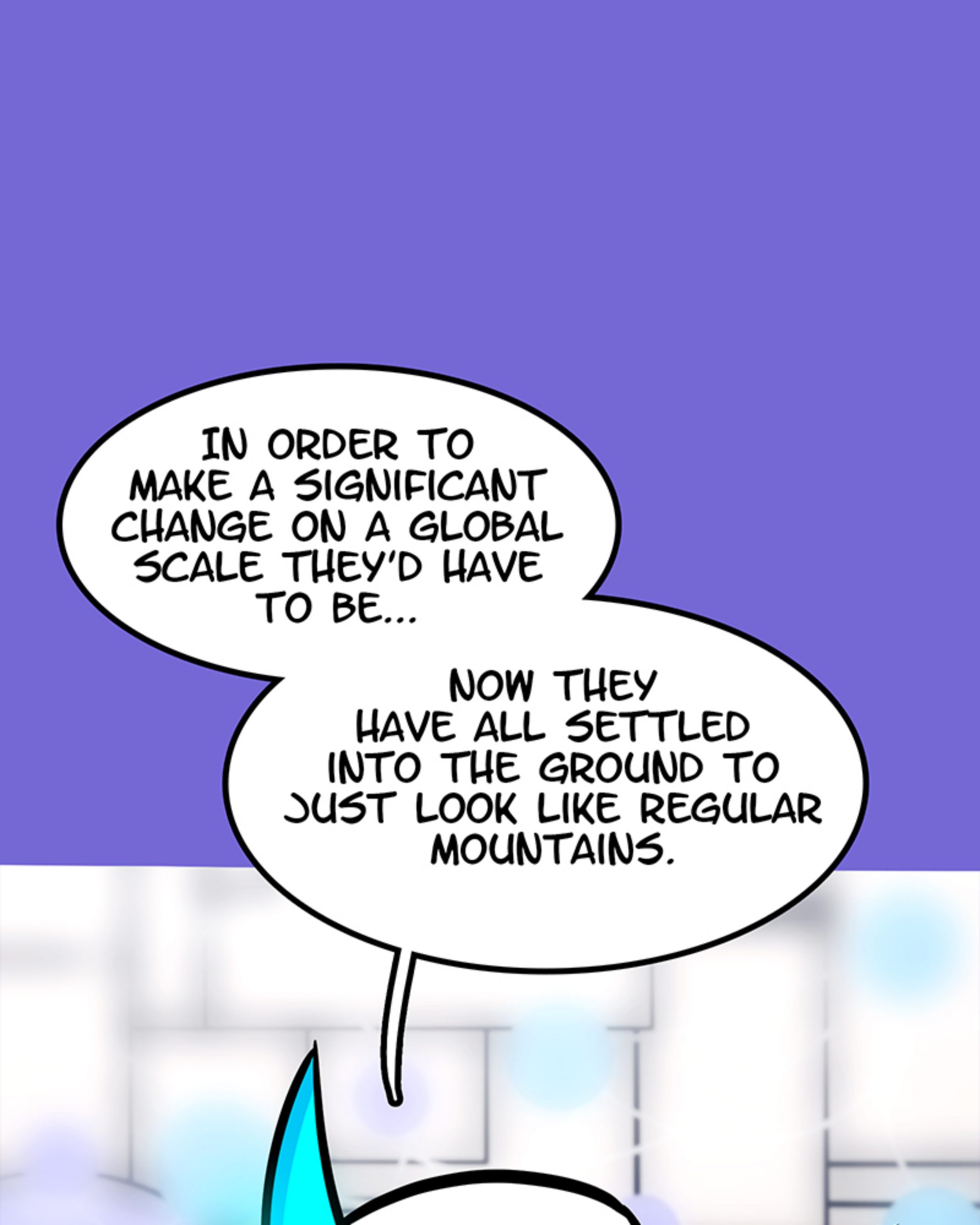


OH-
ABSOLUTELY
NOT. THEY WERE
MUCH BIGGER. MOST
MOUNTAIN CRAB BOYS

MOUNTAIN CRAB BOYS
GOT UP TO 3 MILES
TALL.

WHAT!!
NO
WAY!



A comic panel with a solid purple background. Two white speech bubbles with black outlines are present. The first bubble is at the top left, and the second is below it and to the right. At the bottom of the frame, a small portion of a character's head and a bright blue flame-like shape are visible. The text in the speech bubbles is in a hand-drawn, all-caps font.

IN ORDER TO
MAKE A SIGNIFICANT
CHANGE ON A GLOBAL
SCALE THEY'D HAVE
TO BE...

NOW THEY
HAVE ALL SETTLED
INTO THE GROUND TO
JUST LOOK LIKE REGULAR
MOUNTAINS.



EVEN WITH
THE SHEER SCALE
OF THAT PROJECT IT STILL
TOOK NEARLY 5 YEARS
TO BRING EARTH BACK TO
A REMOTELY VIABLE
STATE AGAIN.

FROM 2020
TO 2025 THE ONLY
HUMANS THAT WEREN'T ON
OFF-WORLD COLONIES WERE
THE ONES THAT VOLUNTEERED
IN RECOVERY EFFORTS, LIKE
XADA'S PARENTS.

THEY'RE
PRETTY FAMOUS
FOR IT, TOO.



THAT'S
AMAZING...

A comic panel with a solid purple background. At the top, the lower portion of a character's face is visible, showing purple skin and a dark, open mouth. Two white speech bubbles with black outlines are positioned in the lower half of the panel. The first bubble is on the left and contains the text 'BUT WAIT- THEN THEY SHOULD BE HERE... RIGHT?'. The second bubble is on the right, overlapping the first, and contains the text 'WOULDN'T THEY BE HAPPY TO SEE XADA GET AN AWARD FOR HELPING PEOPLE?'.

BUT WAIT-
THEN THEY SHOULD
BE HERE... RIGHT?

WOULDN'T
THEY BE HAPPY
TO SEE XADA GET
AN AWARD FOR
HELPING PEOPLE?

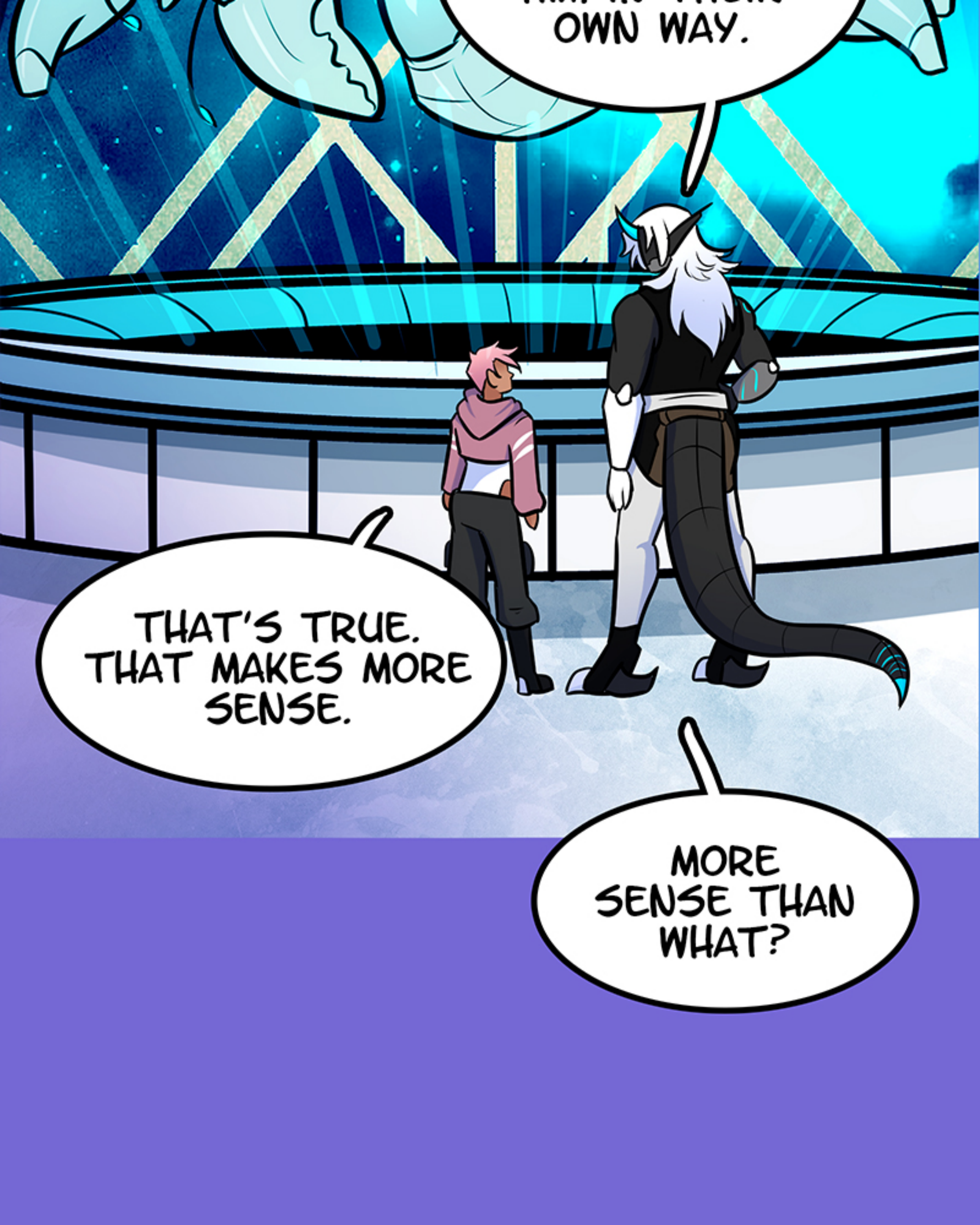


A comic book panel featuring a character in a blue, textured suit with a high collar and a small antenna-like protrusion on the head. The character is shown from the chest up, looking slightly to the right. The background is a dark blue space with a repeating pattern of gold-outlined diamonds. A large white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned in the upper half of the panel, containing two lines of text. A smaller white speech bubble with a black outline is at the bottom, containing a third line of text.

THIS EXPO
IS A BIG EVENT-
A LOT OF GLITTER
AND GLAM THAT THEY
MIGHT NOT ENJOY.

PLUS SPACE
TRAVEL IS TOO
STRESSFUL FOR
SOME HUMANS...

SO I'M
SURE THEY'LL
CONGRATULATE
HIM IN THEIR

A comic panel depicting two characters in a futuristic, circular arena. The character on the right is a tall, white, fox-like creature with a long tail, wearing a black long-sleeved shirt and light-colored pants. The character on the left is a smaller, pink-skinned figure with spiky hair, wearing a pink hoodie and dark pants. They are standing on a light blue floor, looking towards a large, glowing blue and yellow structure in the background. A large speech bubble is at the top, and two smaller ones are at the bottom.

OWN WAY.

THAT'S TRUE.
THAT MAKES MORE
SENSE.

MORE
SENSE THAN
WHAT?

HAH...
WELL DESPITE
SAYING I DIDN'T
WANT TO THINK
ABOUT IT...

YOU
MANAGED
TO GET ME
WORRIED...



A character wearing a purple hoodie with a white rabbit logo on the chest. The hoodie has white stripes on the sleeves. The character is looking down, and a speech bubble is coming from their mouth.

I HAVE TO
STAY SECRET
NOW BUT... ONCE THIS
IS ALL OVER... WOULD
HE EVER WANT ME
TO MEET THEM?





OR AM I
JUST... TOO
HARD TO
EXPLAIN?

WOULD HE
BE...ASHAMED
OF ME?

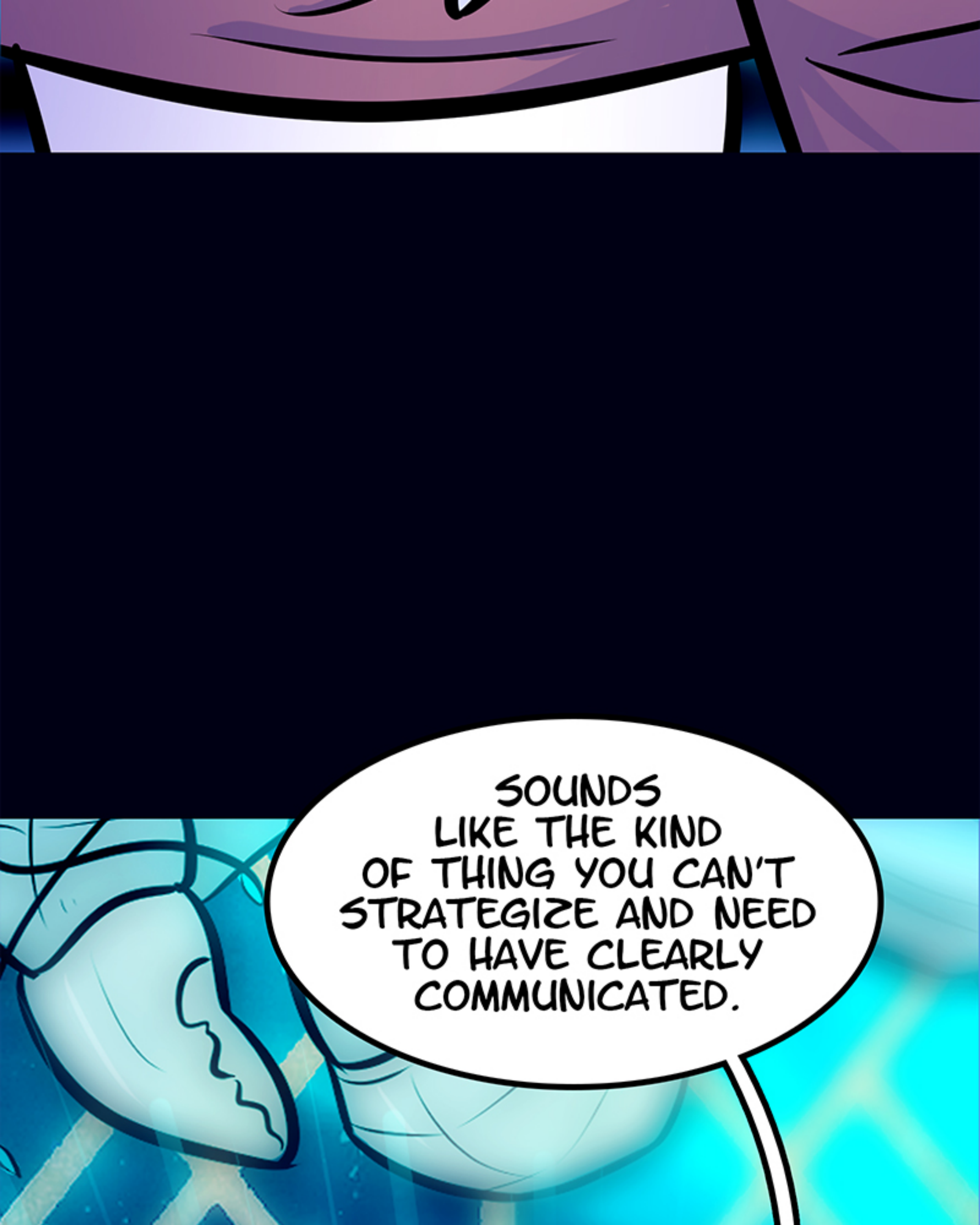




IS
THERE...

REALLY A
VIABLE FUTURE WITH
SOMEONE HE'D HAS TO
CHECK IN AT THE AIRPORT
AS BAGGAGE?





A comic book panel featuring a character's face at the top, partially cut off by the frame. The character has purple skin and is smiling. Below the face is a large, dark blue rectangular area. In the lower-left corner, there is a light blue, stylized character with a large head and a small body, looking up. A large, white, oval-shaped speech bubble is positioned in the center of the panel, containing text. The background of the panel is dark blue.

SOUNDS
LIKE THE KIND
OF THING YOU CAN'T
STRATEGIZE AND NEED
TO HAVE CLEARLY
COMMUNICATED.

ТССН-
НАНАНА
SHUT
UP!!

НЕЕ.





FOR
TWO?

YES.



DO YOU

DO YOU
HAVE A RESERV-
AH!

A SCI-EXPO
VIP, ARE WE?

UM...
YES?





RIGHT
THIS WAY
PLEASE, WE HAVE
SPECIAL SEATING
FOR YOU!

UH...NEAT!
THANK YOU!



I WASN'T
EXPECTING
THAT WE'D GO
SOMEWHERE SO
FANCY,



WHAT'S THE
OCCASION?

WELL. TO
CONGRATULATE

CONGRATULATE
YOU, OBVIOUSLY.

BUT...
IF I'M BEING
HONEST.



IT WAS

IT WAS
ALSO SORT OF
A TEST.

HUH??

Last Chance to get Xada's Jacket!
CAMPAIGN ENDS AUGUST 1ST

CHASEANDMIRANDA.COM



LOVEBOT

By Chase Keels & Miranda M.

Edited by **Griffin Freitas & Bre Boswell**

Character Shading Assistant  coldpupsART



Cameo: Laz
Brimstone & Roses
by Speremint