

LACEY
WE HAVE TO
TALK ABOUT-

SHHHHHH





A comic book panel featuring a close-up of a young woman with dark skin, freckles, and dark hair tied in a high ponytail. She has a surprised expression, with wide eyes and a slightly open mouth. She is wearing a white garment with a blue collar. The background is a soft-focus purple and blue with bokeh light effects. A speech bubble is positioned to her left, containing the text "HUH??".

HUH??

WELCOME
BACK, XADA.





...WH-
WHY ARE WE
WHISPERING.





BRIZZ IS
SLEEPING.

?

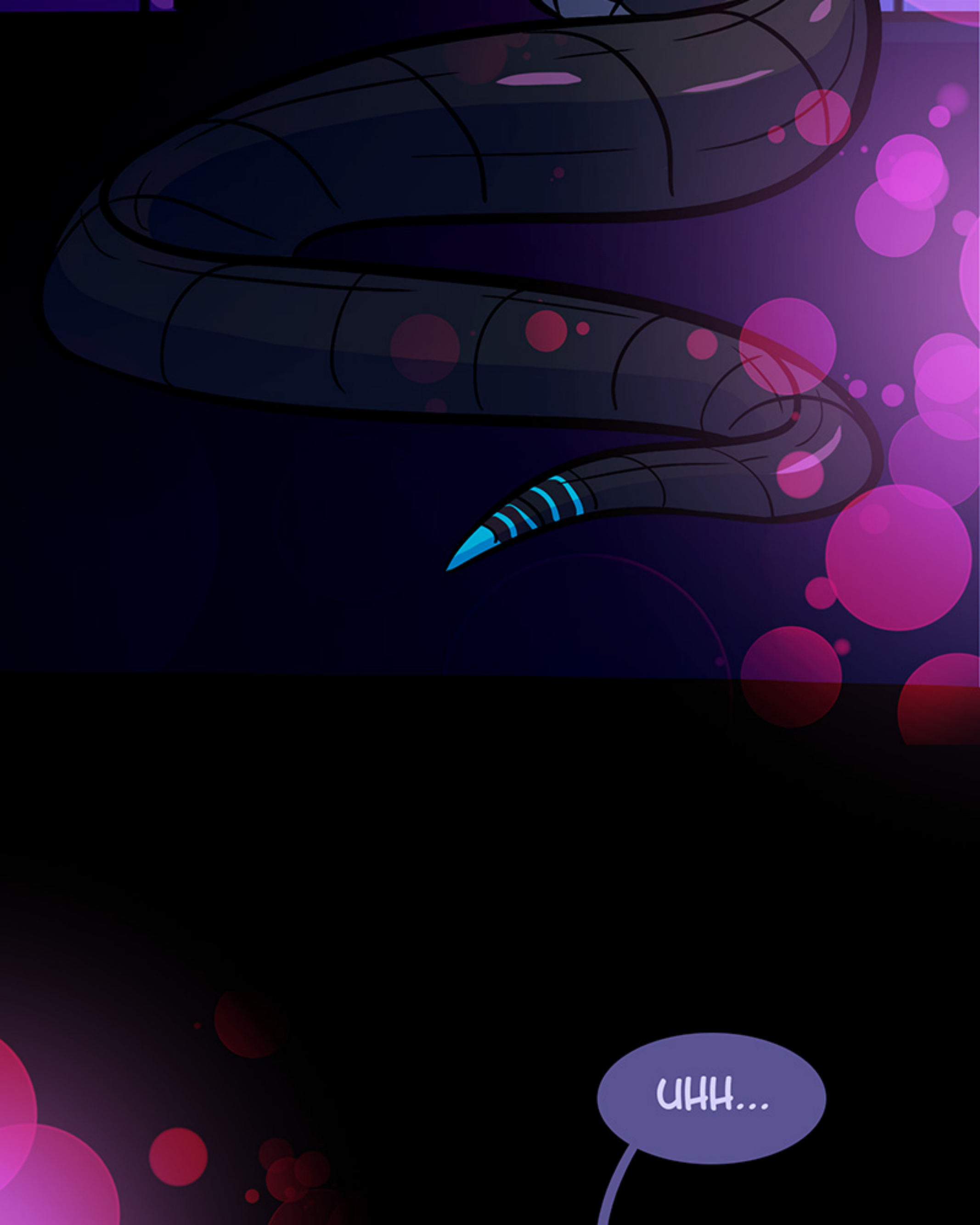




...
IS HE
REALLY...?

THAT'S
WHAT HE TOLD
ME HE WAS
GOING TO DO!

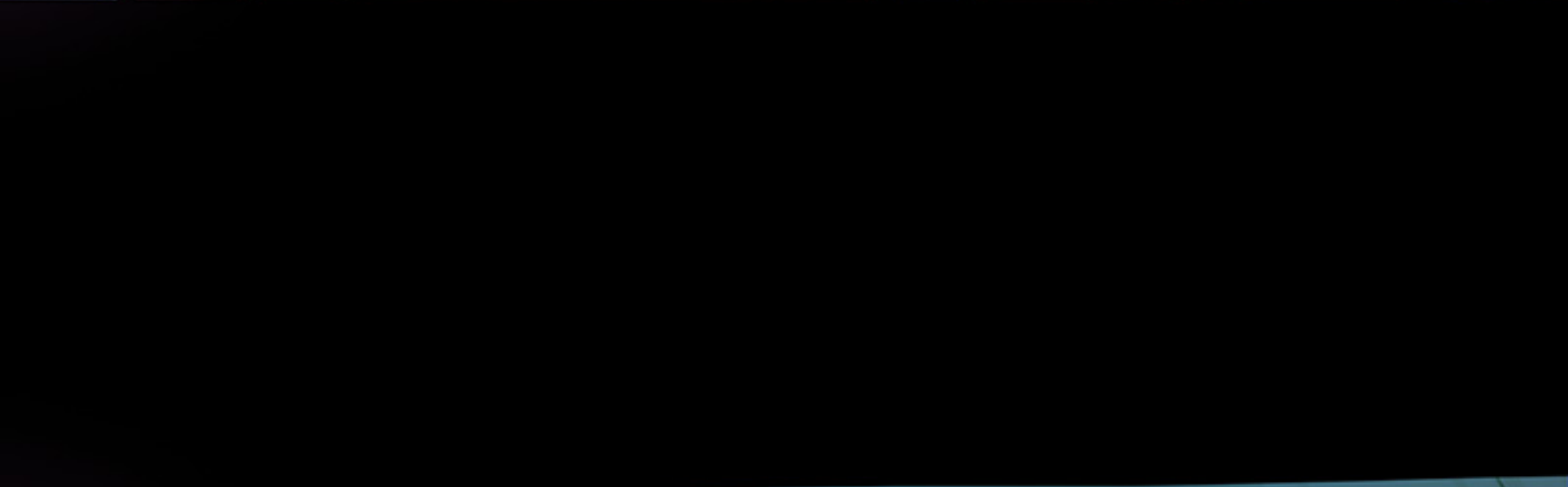




UHH...

HOW WAS
DINNER?





DINNER WAS...
INTERESTING.



HOW WAS
THE REST OF
YOUR DAY?



... IT WAS
GOOD!





I'VE BEEN
CHARGING UP
THROUGH U-NO'S
CHARGE BOX-

AND ASKING
HIM LOTS OF
QUESTIONS!





YOU'RE
NOT WORRIED
ABOUT U-NO
WAKING BRIZZ
UP?

HE LOWERED
HIS VOLUME!

U-NO!





IT SEEMS SO
OBVIOUS NOW...

HAS HE BEEN
DOING THIS THE
WHOLE TIME? I GUESS
I HAVE BEEN TOO... SO
I SHOULD LEAD BY
EXAMPLE...



DINNER
WASN'T THAT GREAT,
ACTUALLY.

WH-
OH! I'M...
SORRY?







YEAH...
WE TALKED A
LOT ABOUT HOW
WE BROKE UP...

AH-!





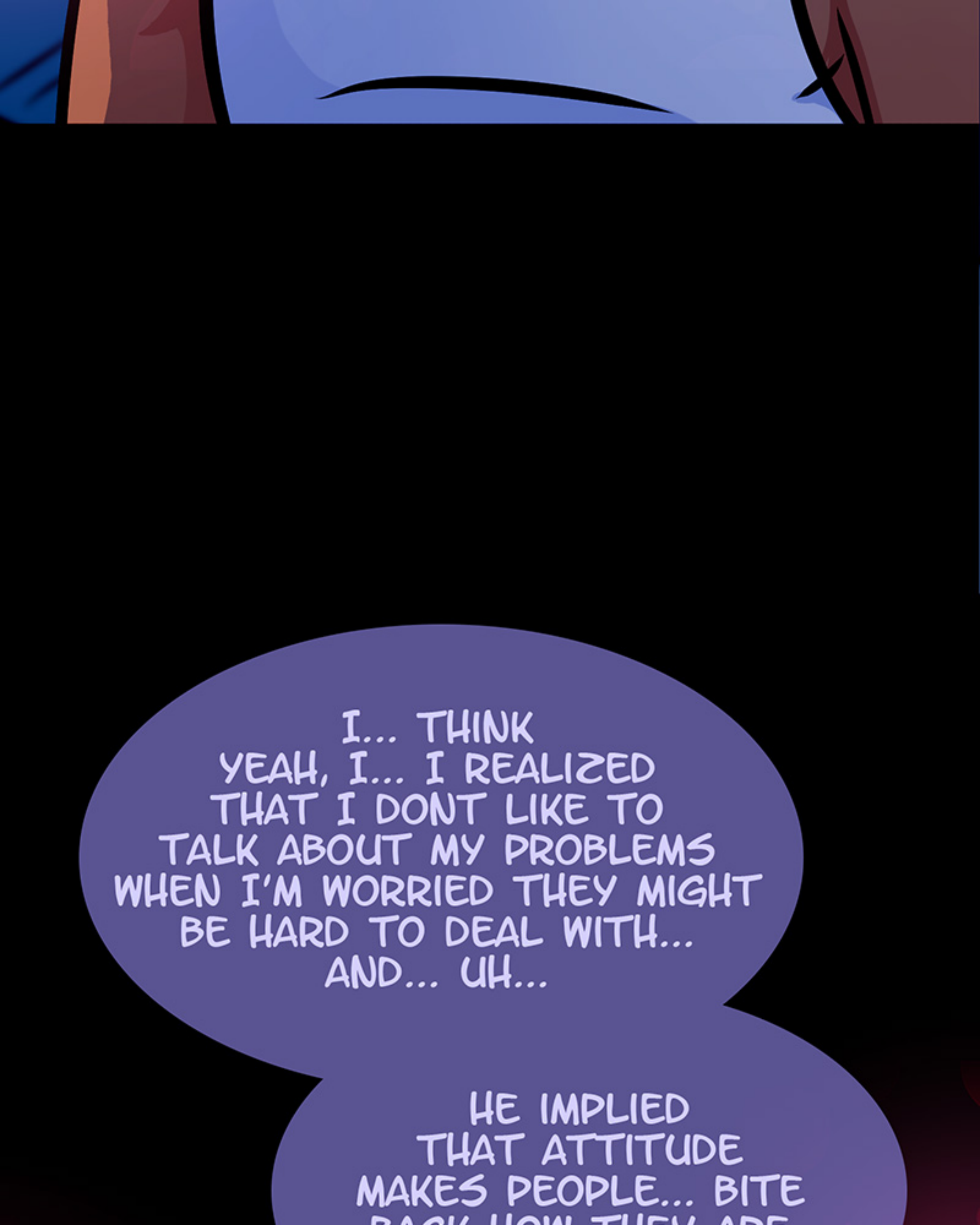
YEAH...
MOSTLY I WAS
JUST GETTING HIS
PERSPECTIVE ON HOW
THINGS WENT DOWN
COMPARED TO
MINE...



AND TALKING
ABOUT THAT WAS
...HELPFUL?







I... THINK
YEAH, I... I REALIZED
THAT I DONT LIKE TO
TALK ABOUT MY PROBLEMS
WHEN I'M WORRIED THEY MIGHT
BE HARD TO DEAL WITH...
AND... UH...

HE IMPLIED
THAT ATTITUDE
MAKES PEOPLE... BITE
BACK HOW THEY ARE

BACK HOW THEY ARE
FEELING, TOO.





I THINK
THAT SEEMS A
LITTLE BIT UNFAIR
OF HIM TO SAY. I'VE
TALKED ABOUT MY
PROBLEMS WITH YOU
A LOT!

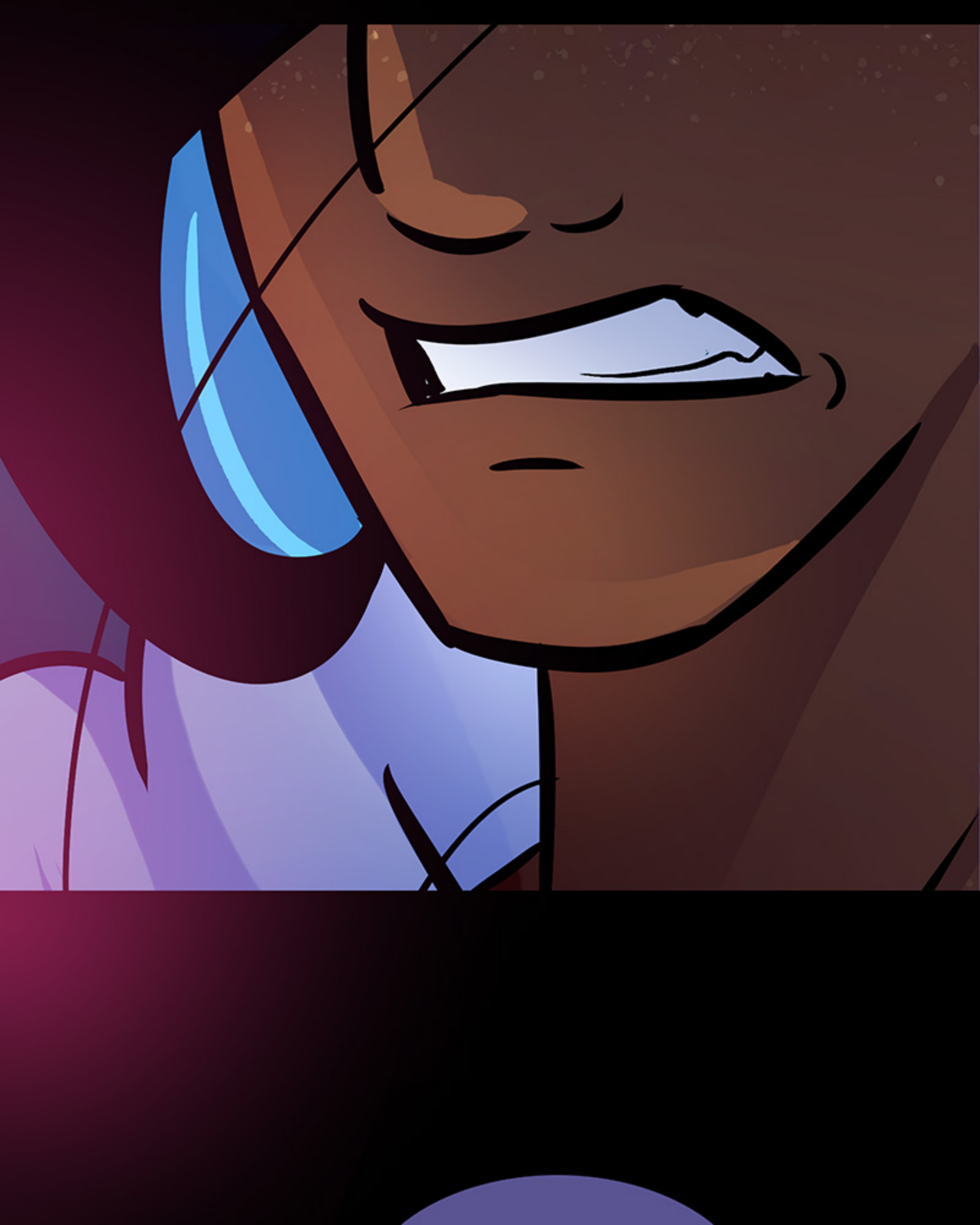
YEAH BUT- NOT
ABOUT PROBLEMS
BETWEEN US-
LIKE

LIKE-



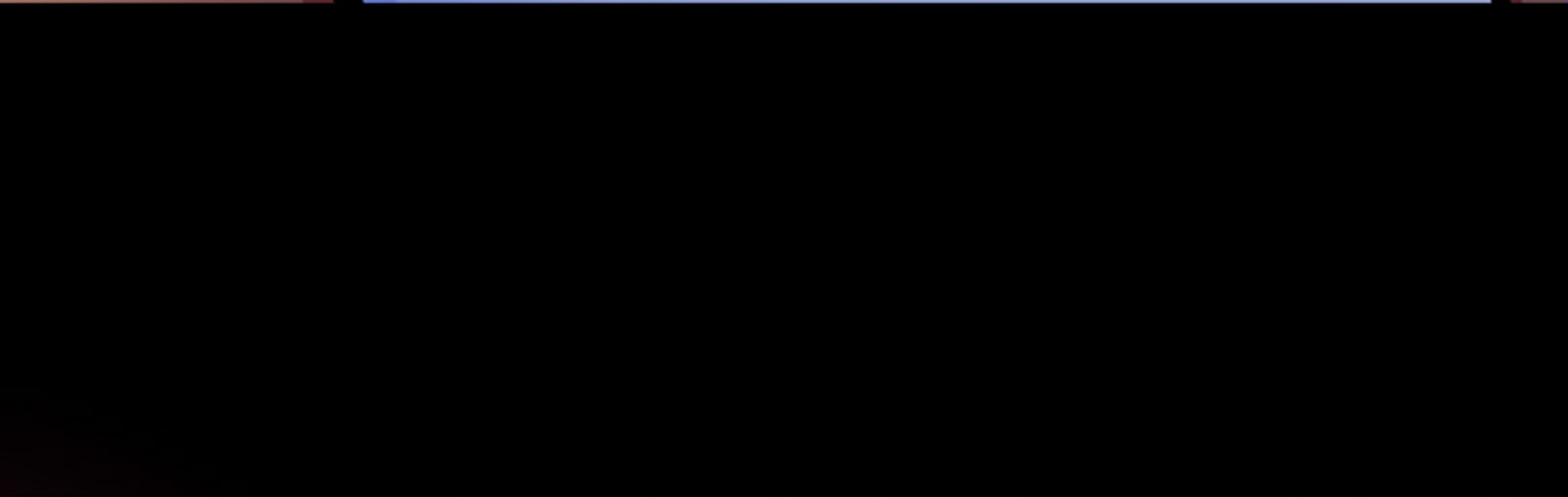


COME ON!!
JUST SPIT IT OUT!



YOU RAN
AWAY.







**YOU RAN
AWAY.... INSTEAD OF
TALKING TO ME ABOUT HOW
YOU WERE FEELING. INSTEAD
OF US WORKING IT OUT
TOGETHER. YOU RAN.**

WHEN ERIK AND I
BROKE UP, IT WAS
BECAUSE HE WAS UPSET
BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW
TO TELL ME-

SO HE JUST
BROKE IT OFF
WHEN I THOUGHT
WE WERE DOING
JUST FINE.





AND
WHEN YOU AND I
WERE TALKING THAT
NIGHT...

I WAS TIRED BUT I
THOUGHT THAT WE WERE
FINE AND THEN SUDDENLY
YOU WERE GONE.



A comic panel featuring a character's head with pink hair and a black headband at the bottom. A large, light blue speech bubble originates from the character. The background is a gradient of purple and blue, decorated with numerous semi-transparent pink and purple circles of varying sizes. At the very top, a small portion of another scene is visible, showing a person's legs and feet on a wooden floor.

AND JUST-
EVERYTHING ABOUT
HOW I FELT THAT
NIGHT WITH ERIK CAME
FLOODING IN ON TOP
OF MY WORRY FOR
YOUR SAFETY.

XADA...



AND IT
WAS REALLY FUCKING
SCARY, OKAY? AND I
DON'T... I DON'T KNOW
WHAT I GOTTA DO FOR
YOU TO FEEL LIKE YOU

YOU TO FEEL LIKE YOU
CAN JUST...

TELL ME THAT
YOU'RE FEELING
BAD BUT...







PLEASE
JUST TALK TO ME
INSTEAD OF RUNNING
OFF AGAIN...
OKAY?

OKAY...
I'M SORRY,
XADA...





IT'S FINE.
IT'S JUST...
YOU KNOW...





I CARE ABOUT YOU
AND WE NEED TO BE
ABLE TO TALK ABOUT
THINGS THAT BOTHER
US AND ... WORK IT
OUT.





LIKE
A COUPLE.





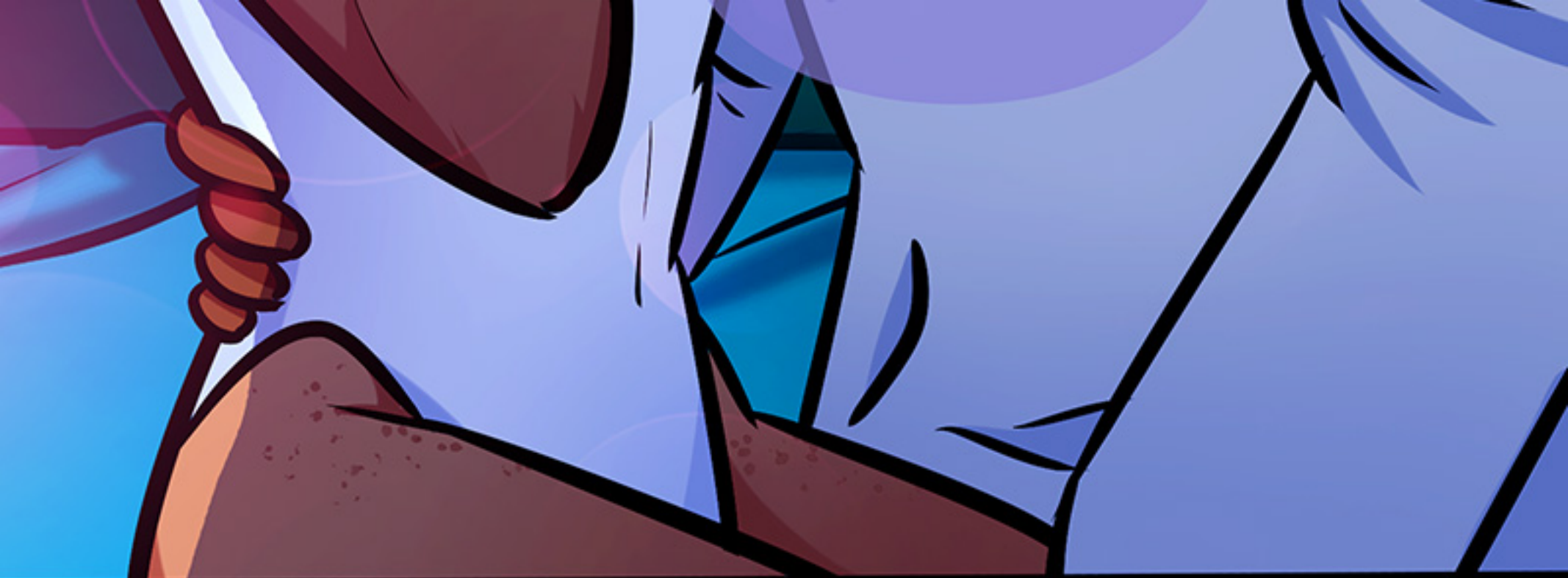
WUATCIA

A comic book panel featuring two characters. On the left is a young woman with short, spiky pink hair, freckles, and a small white diamond-shaped earring. She is wearing a light blue shirt and has her hand near her face, looking towards the man with a slight smile. On the right is a young man with dark skin, freckles, and dark hair. He is wearing a white t-shirt with the word 'MANTAL' in large, bold, gold letters. He has a confident, slightly smug expression. The background is dark with some green and blue bokeh lights. There are three speech bubbles: one from the man at the top, one from the woman in the middle, and one from the man at the bottom.

WHATCHA
GIGGLIN'
ABOUT?

YOU REALLY
CONSIDER US
A COUPLE?

OF COURSE
I DO....?



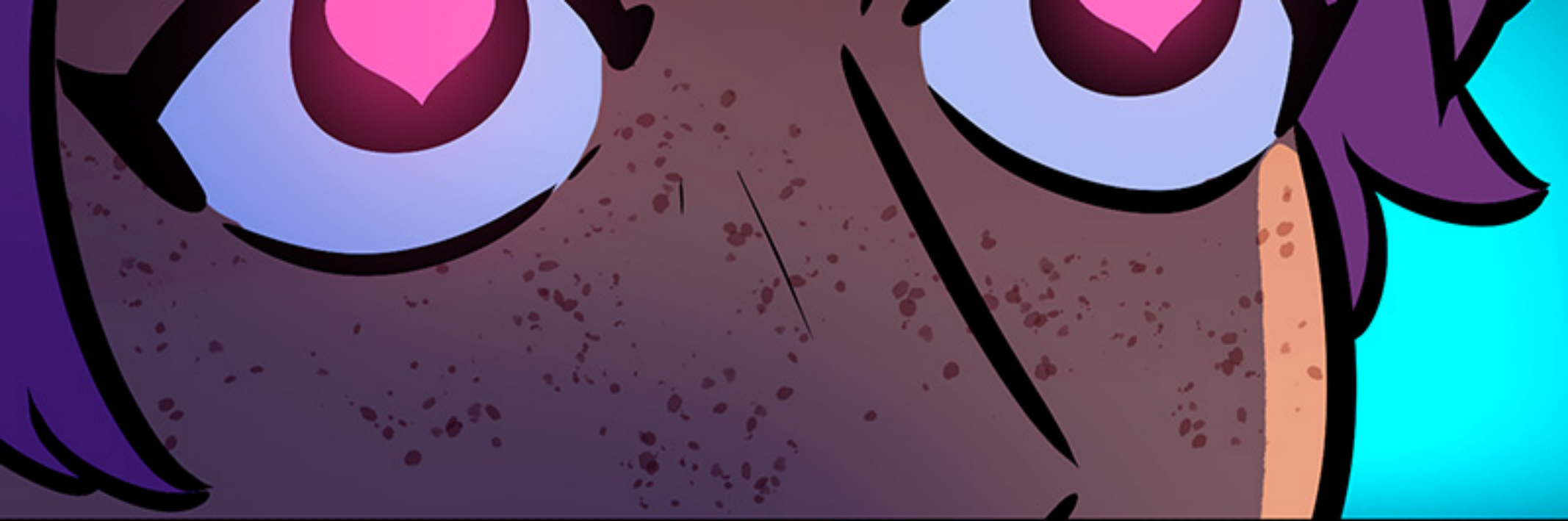
...EVEN...EVEN
IF I'M NOT...

NOT
WHAT?





NOT
HUMAN...
NOT... REAL?



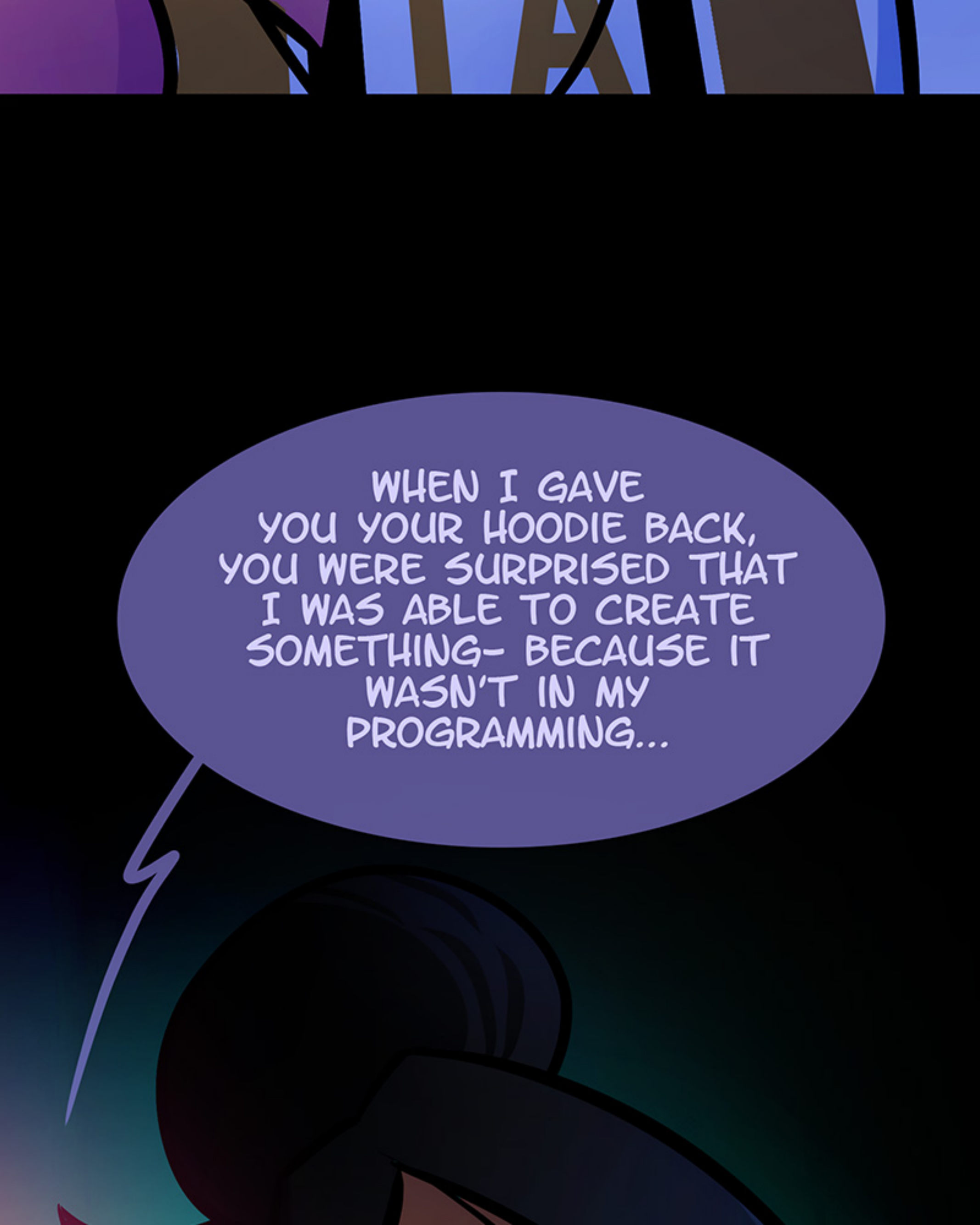
YOU ARE
PERFECTLY REAL
TO ME, LACEY...
TO EVERYONE.
ANYONE WOULD BE
A FOOL TO THINK
OTHERWISE...



YOU DON'T
HAVE TO LIE TO
ME.

WH-
I'M NOT
LYING TO
YOU??





WHEN I GAVE
YOU YOUR HOODIE BACK,
YOU WERE SURPRISED THAT
I WAS ABLE TO CREATE
SOMETHING- BECAUSE IT
WASN'T IN MY
PROGRAMMING...



ALL T'M

AH... I'M
SORRY.

THAT WAS
FUCKED UP FOR
ME TO SAY... I DON'T
EVEN KNOW WHY I WAS
SURPRISED BY THAT
ENOUGH TO SAY
THAT...





BECAUSE
IT'S TRUE. AS MUCH
AS I WISH THAT IT
WASN'T.

IT'S JUST
A FACT THAT I'M
NOT HUMAN. I WAS
BUILT- I WASN'T
BORN.



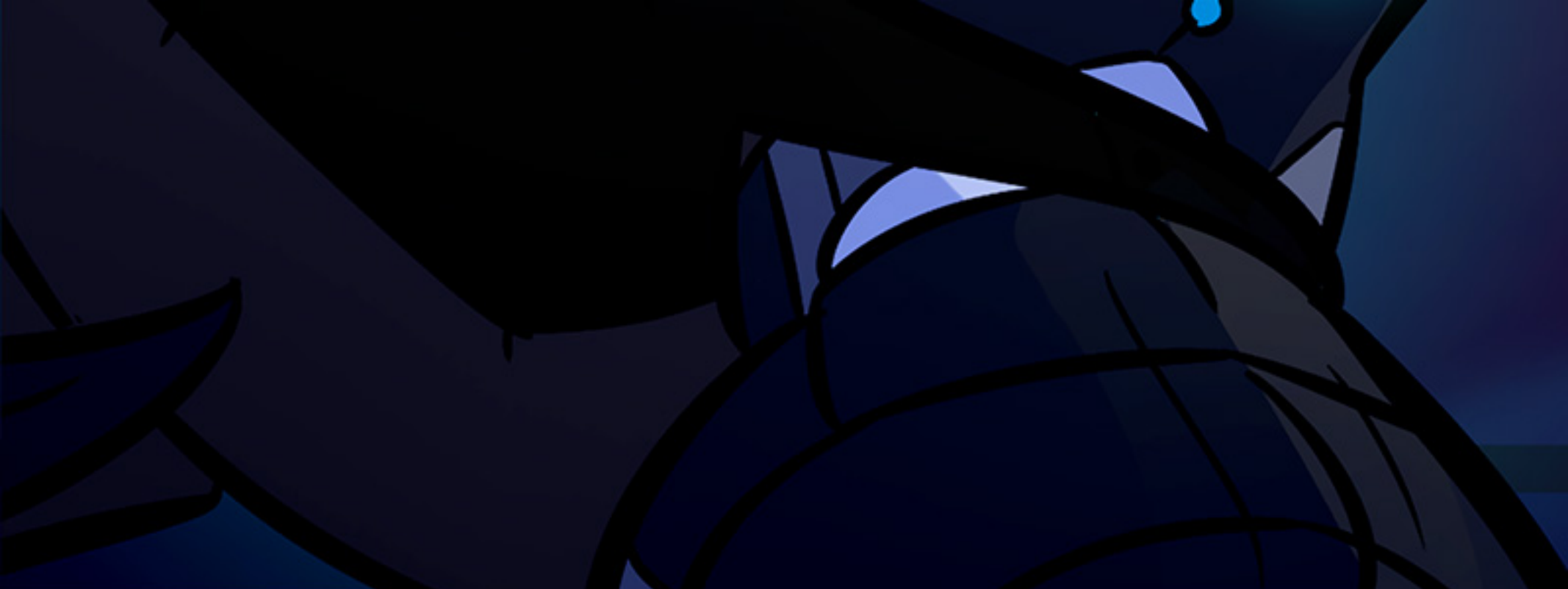


BRIZZ
TRIED TO CONVINCE
ME THAT IT WAS A
GOOD THING TO BE
DIFFERENT-

BECAUSE
BEING LIKE THIS GIVES
ME STRENGTH THAT
A HUMAN WOULDN'T

HAVE...

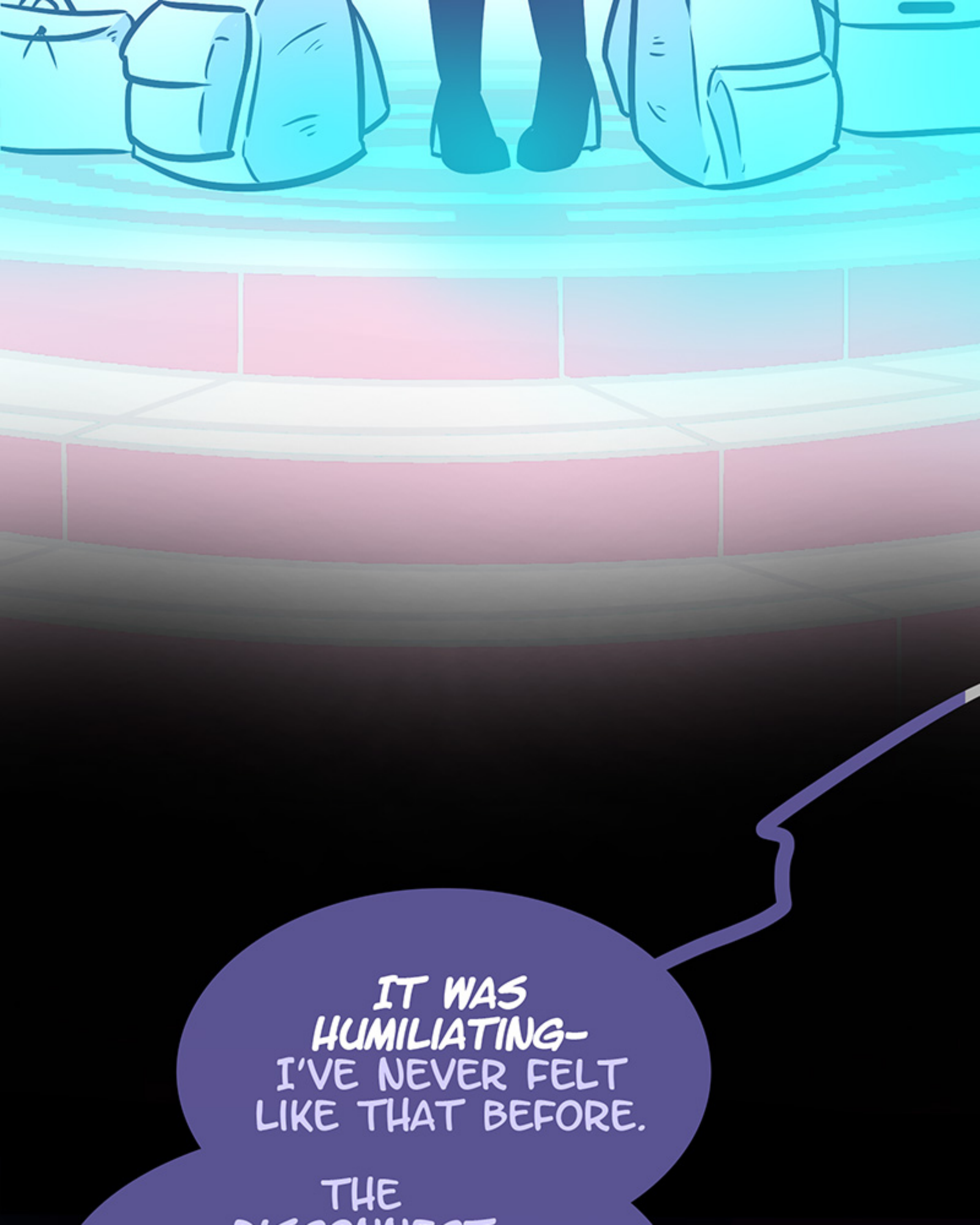




AND I THOUGHT
THAT WAS FINE...
AND BEING ABLE TO
FLY UNDER THE RADAR
IS GOOD FOR US NOW
BUT... THE

AIRPORT...





IT WAS
HUMILIATING-
I'VE NEVER FELT
LIKE THAT BEFORE.

THE
DISCOVERY OF

DISCONNECT
BETWEEN HOW I SEE
MYSELF AND HOW THE
WORLD SAW ME-



VIP

I FELT LIKE
AN OBJECT,
A TOY, SOMETHING
TO BE USED AND
THEN TOSSED IN THE
TRASH WHEN I'M
OBSOLETE.

BUT I'M-

I-I-



I'M MORE
REAL NOW.





I CAN BE
MORE REAL
FOR YOU!!

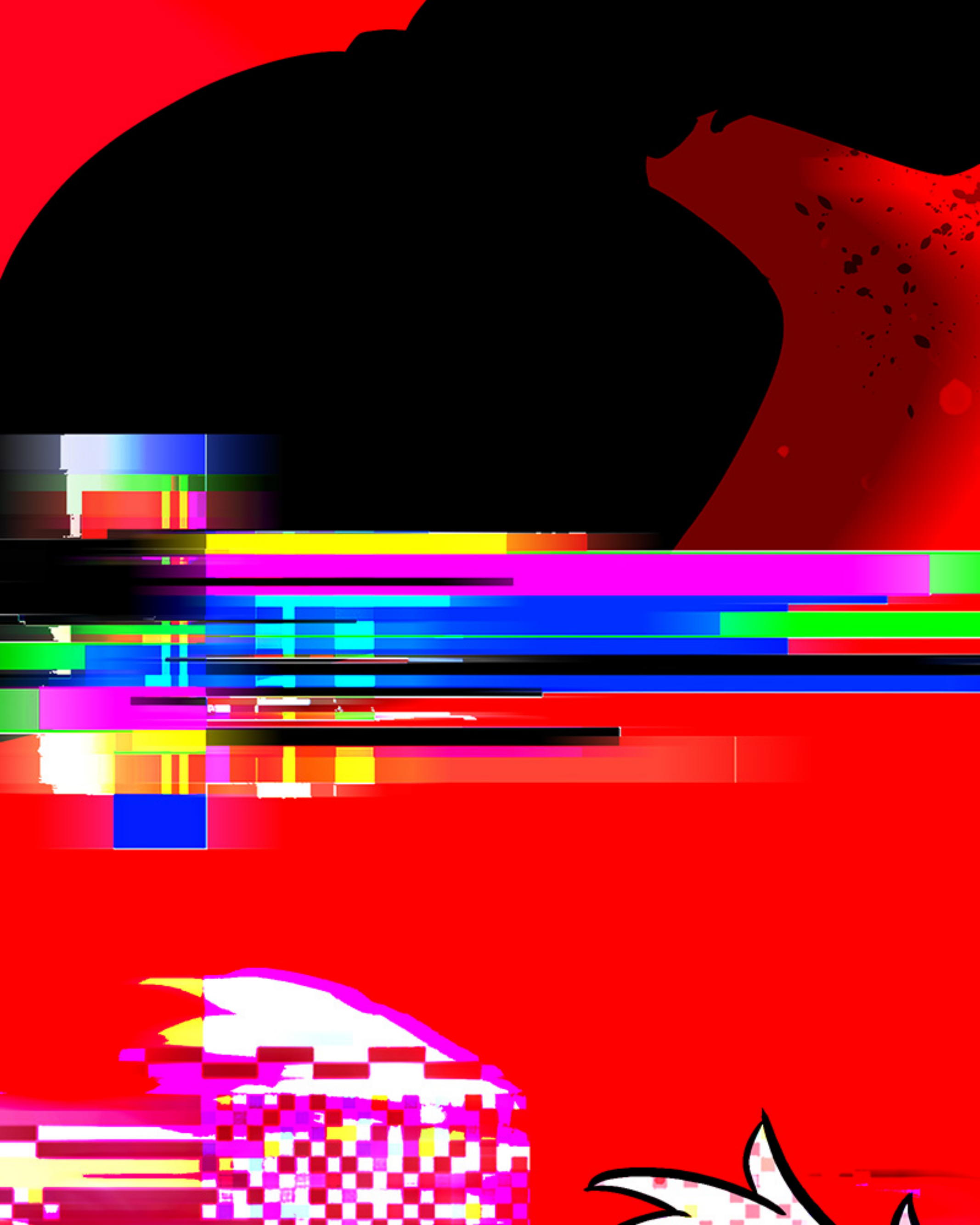
I DON'T NEED
YOU TO BE REAL





I NEED YOU TO BE
OBEDIENT









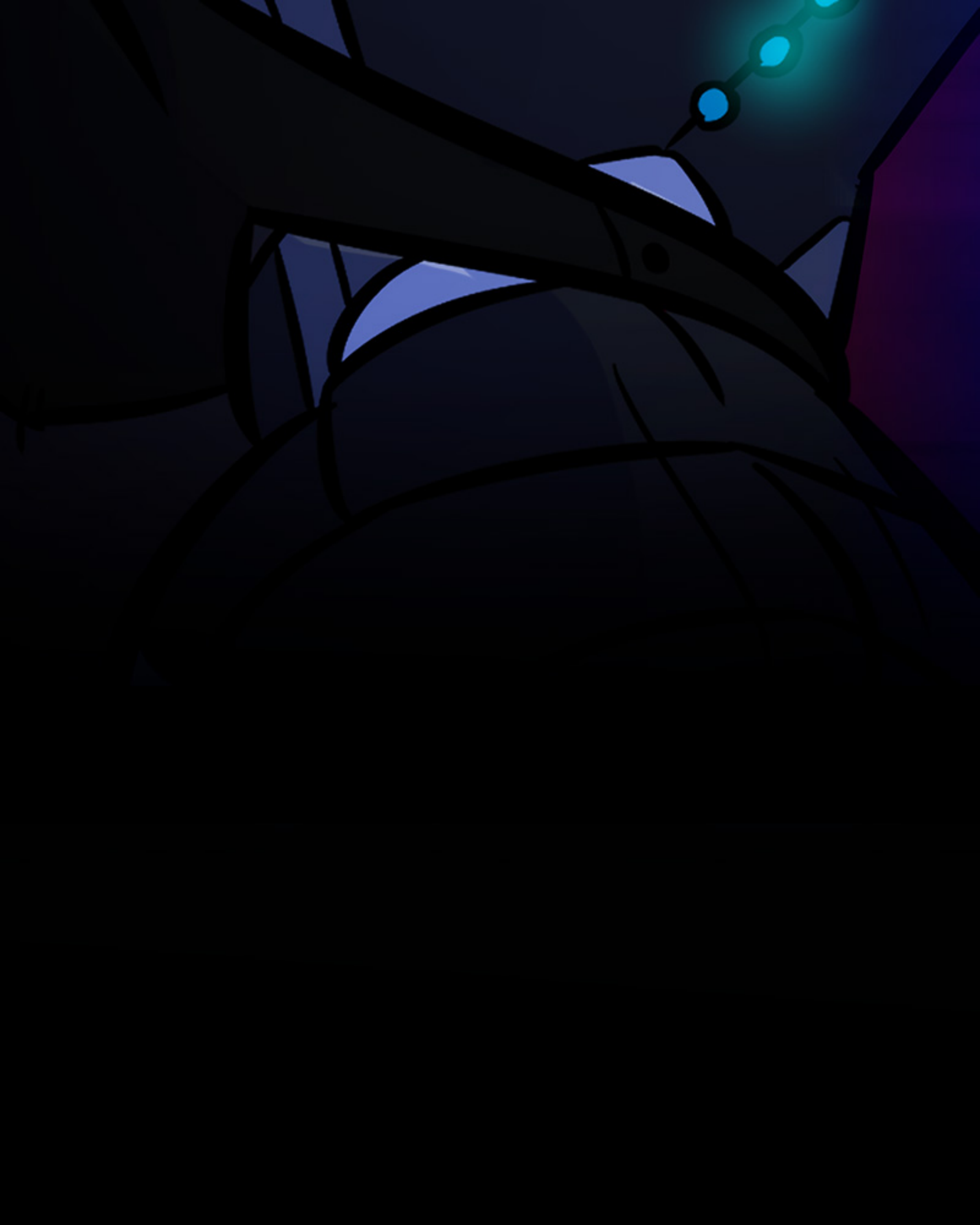
LACEY!!











LOVEBOT

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