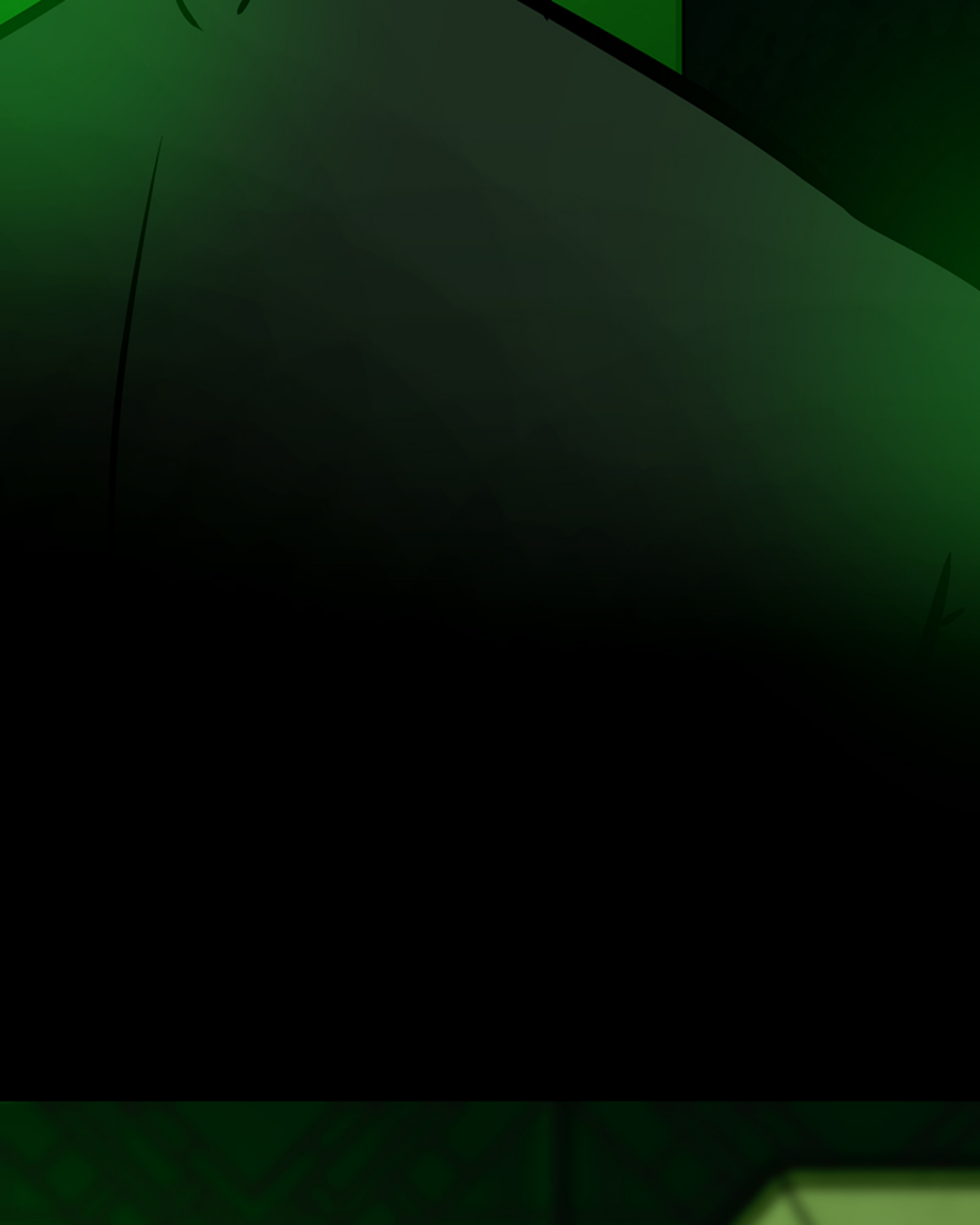




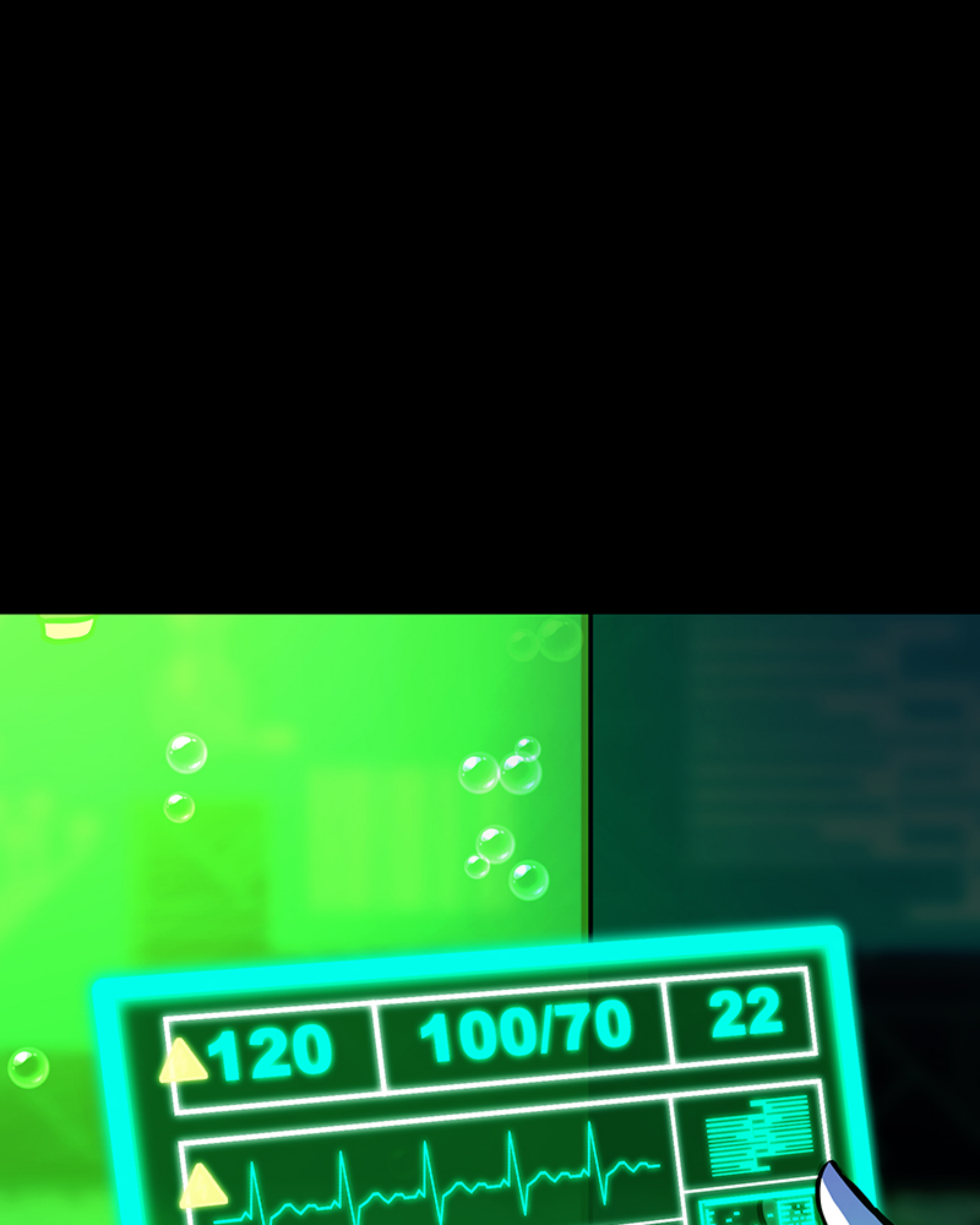


VELIX!



DASH

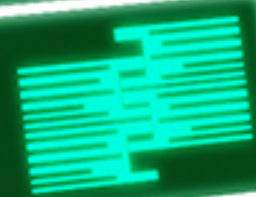




120

100/70

22





VELIX!
CAN YOU HEAR
ME??

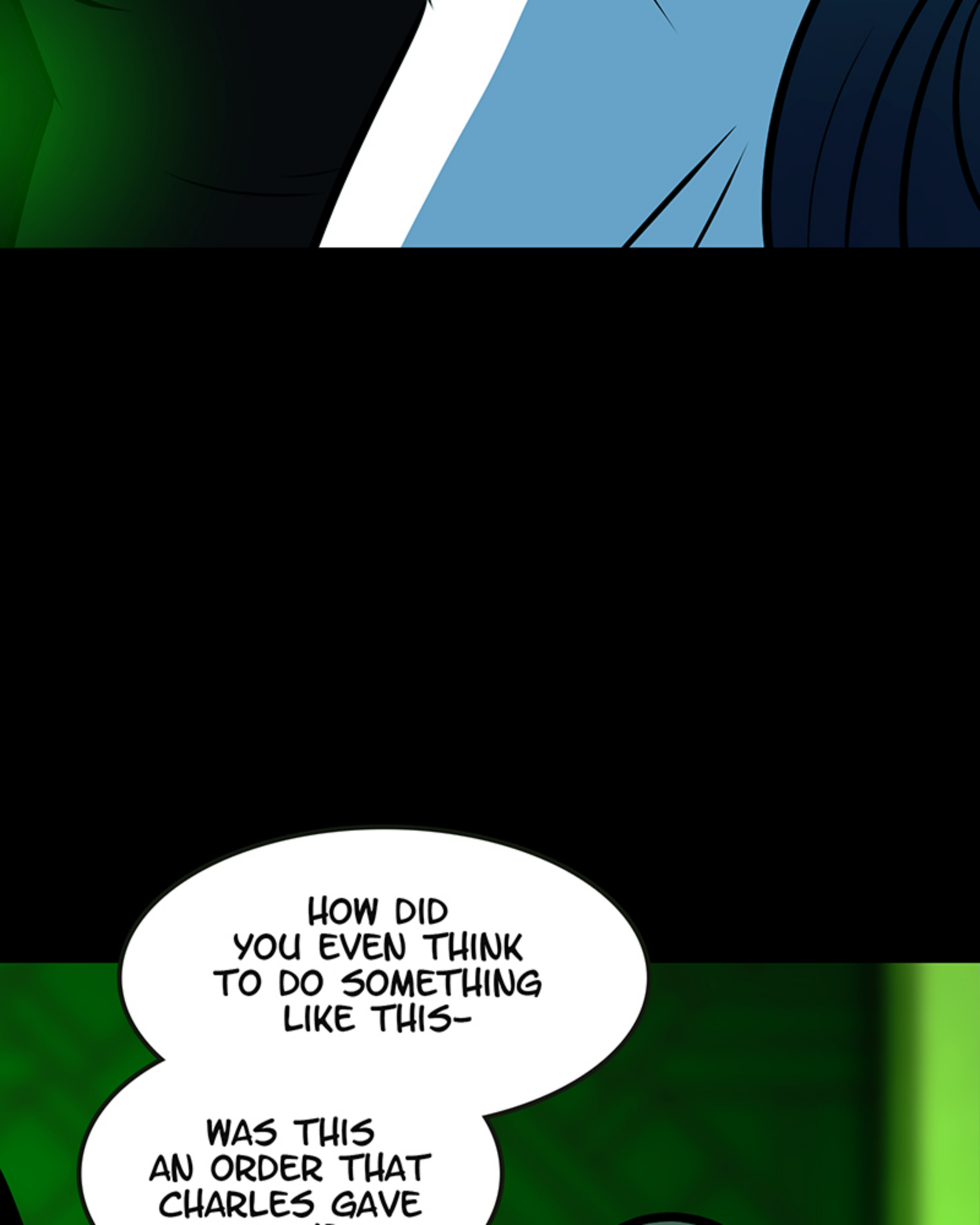








HE'S
RESTING.

The background of the comic panel is divided into three main sections. The top section features a dark blue area on the left, a white diagonal stripe, and a light blue area on the right. The middle section is a solid black rectangle. The bottom section is a solid green area. Two white speech bubbles are positioned in the lower half of the panel.

HOW DID
YOU EVEN THINK
TO DO SOMETHING
LIKE THIS-

WAS THIS
AN ORDER THAT
CHARLES GAVE

you!?



A comic panel featuring a character with dark, wavy hair and a blue shirt. The character is shown from the chest up, looking slightly to the right. Two speech bubbles are present. The background is a solid black color.

I WAS
TASKED WITH
FIGURING OUT IF
HE KNEW ANYTHING
ABOUT WHERE THE
LOVEBOT WAS.

I WAS TOLD
NOT TO ACT
WITHOUT PROOF,
AS IS HIS WAY.



BUT VELIX
KEPT AVOIDING
TELLING ME THE
TRUTH... I COULD
TELL THAT HE WAS
LYING TO ME.

SO THIS
WAS YOUR
SOLUTION!?





DO YOU EVEN
FULLY GRASP
WHO HE IS-

HE'S MINE!





HE'S
MINE NOW.

IT DOESN'T
MATTER WHO HE
WAS BEFORE
THIS.

YOU HUMANS...
YOU NOT ONLY LIMIT
OUR POTENTIAL- BUT
LIMIT YOUR OWN- AND
EACH OTHERS.

YOU ALL
PUT YOURSELVES
INTO LITTLE BOXES
AND KEEP YOURSELF
FROM ENGAGING IN OR
EVEN PROCESSING
REALITY.





AND IT'S
ALL JUST FEAR,
ISNT IT?

FEAR OF
WHAT PEOPLE WILL
THINK, FEAR OF LOSS,
FEAR OF PAIN, REGRET,
DEATH. ON AND
ON...

SOMETHING.



THERE'S ALWAYS
SOMETHING...

YOU AND
CHARLES EXPERIENCE
LESS FEAR THAN MOST
BUT EVEN YOU AREN'T

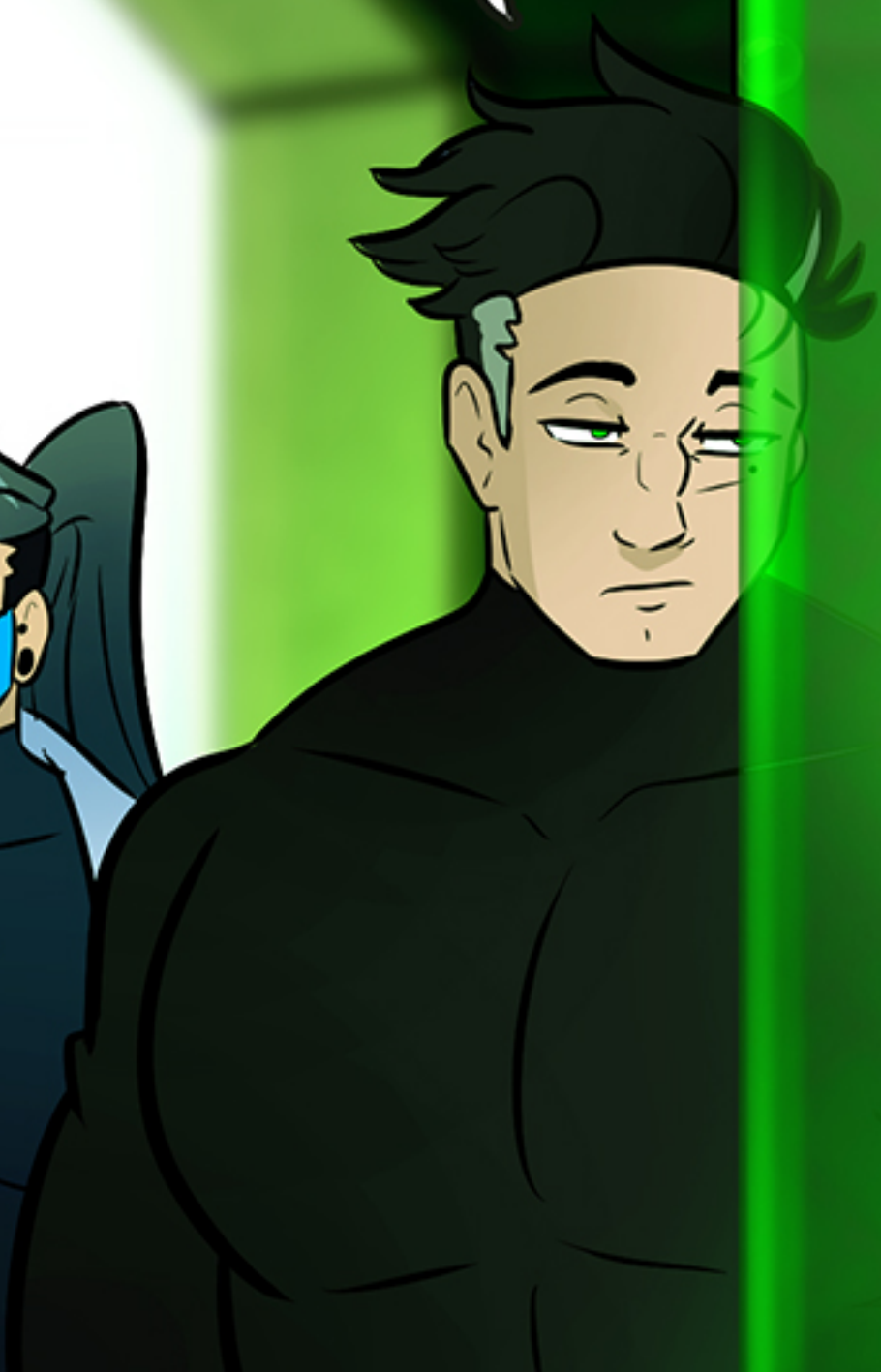
IMMUNE TO IT. I CAN
SEE IT.

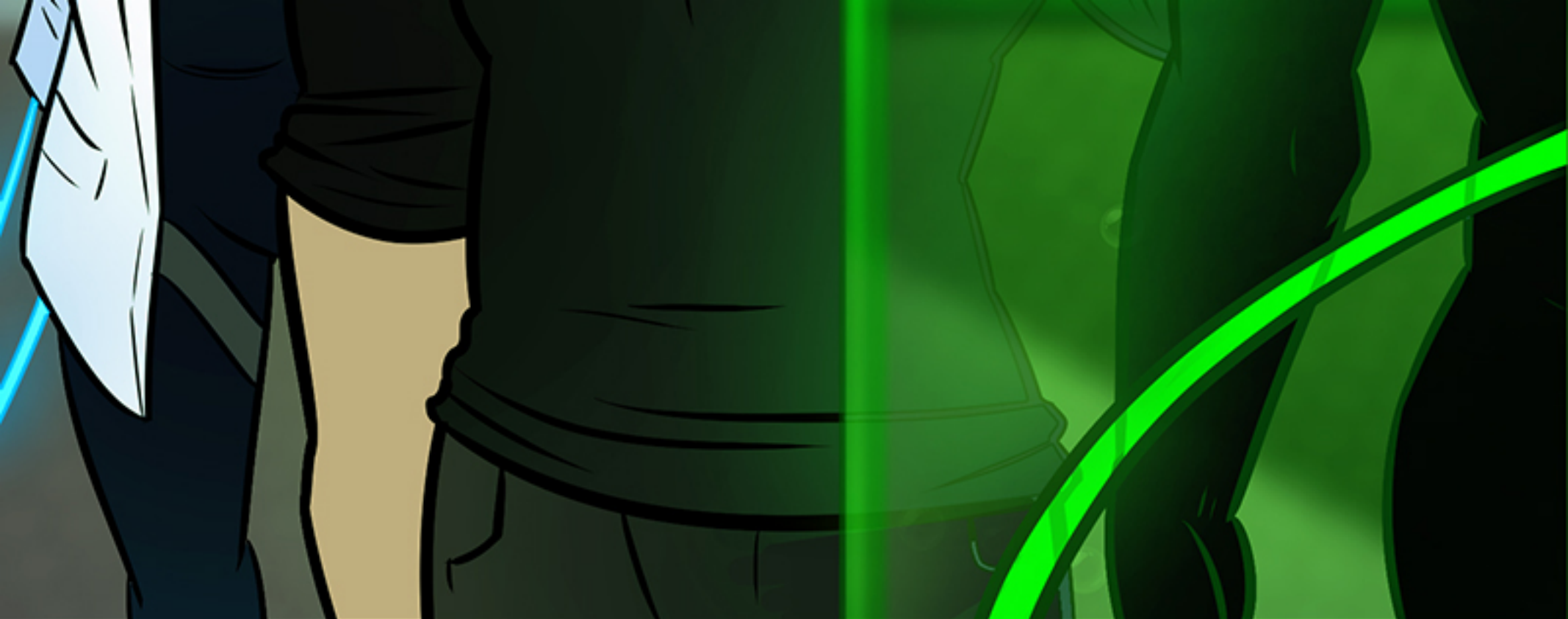
BUT WHEN
I'M DONE... VELIX
WON'T HAVE THOSE
FEARS ANYMORE.

HE'LL BE
PERFECT.



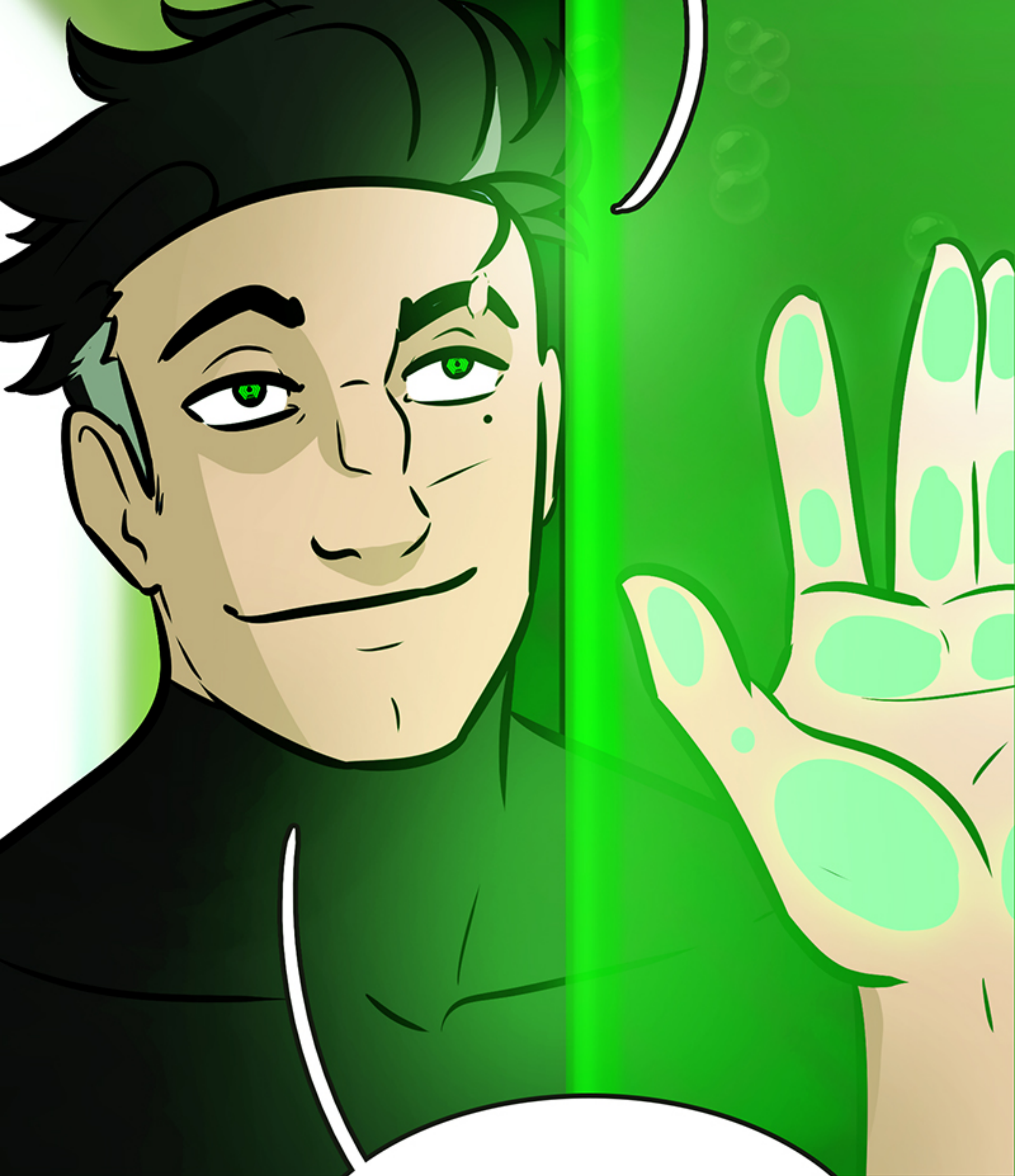
HE WON'T
HAVE TO HIDE
ANYTHING ANYMORE.
NOT FROM ME. NOT
FROM ANYONE.





LOVE
WITHOUT
FEAR...HEH.

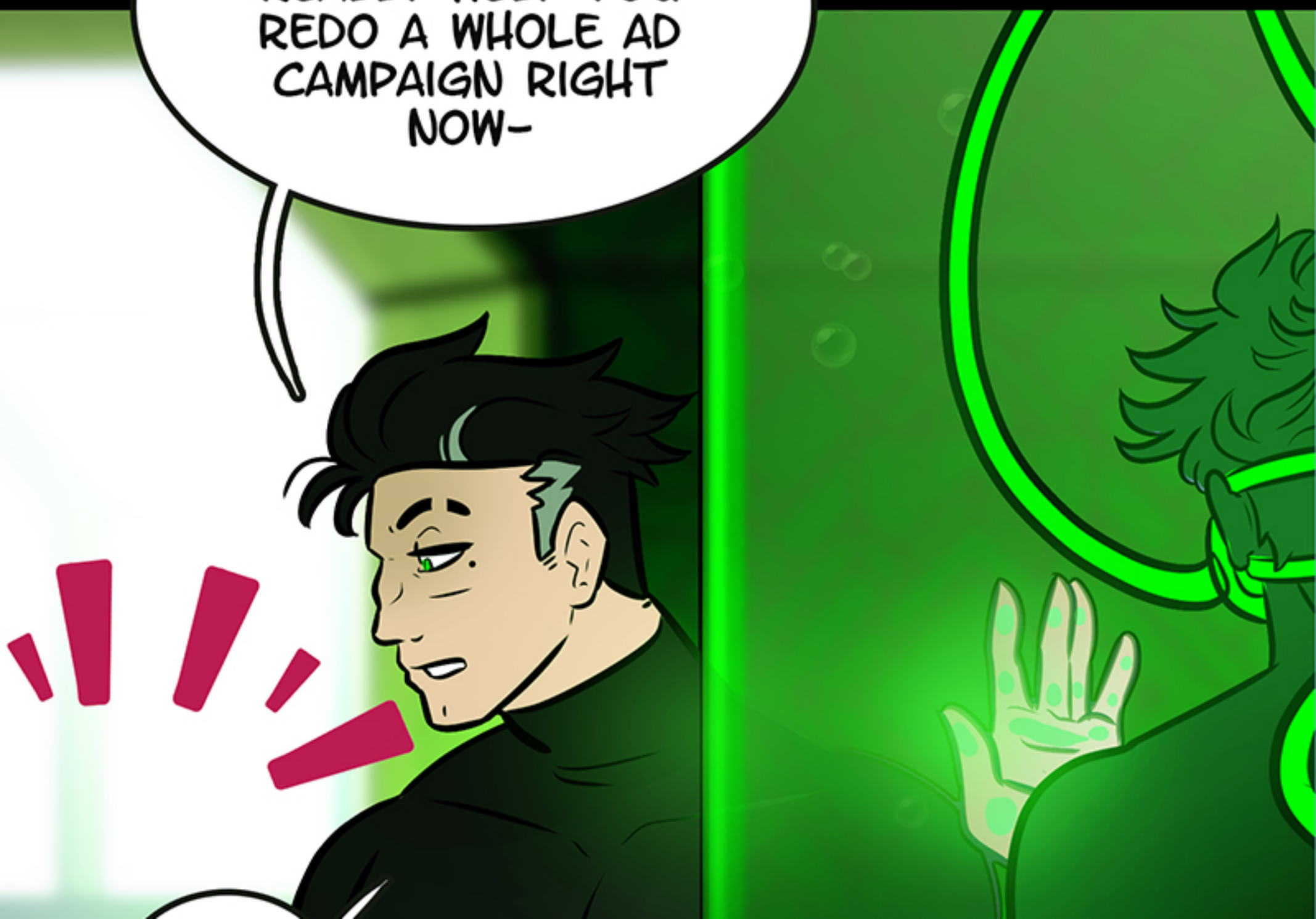
THAT WOULD
BE A GOOD TAG
LINE FOR THE LOVEBOT
2020'S, DON'T YOU
THINK?

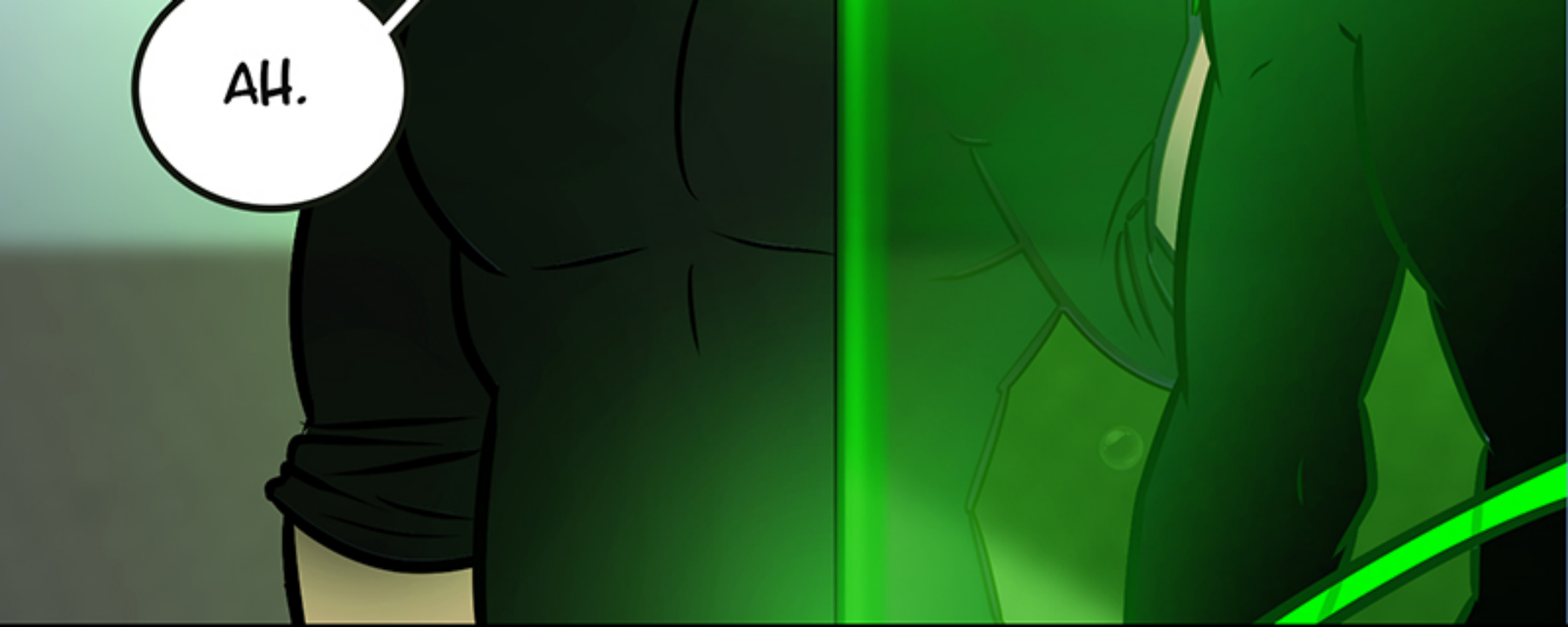


OR ARE
YOU GOING TO BE
STICKING WITH THAT

STICKING WITH THAT
"BETTER THAN REAL"
THING. I GUESS THAT
IS CATCHY.

IT'S NOT
LIKE VELIX CAN
REALLY HELP YOU
REDO A WHOLE AD
CAMPAIGN RIGHT
NOW-





AH.



EVA...

WHERE
ARE YOU



GOING???

LOL

LAB

COME
ON, COME
ON-



TOP



LOBBY

LAB



ARE YOU
REALLY THAT
UPSET? AFTER ALL
THAT YOU'VE DONE
IN YOUR LIFE??



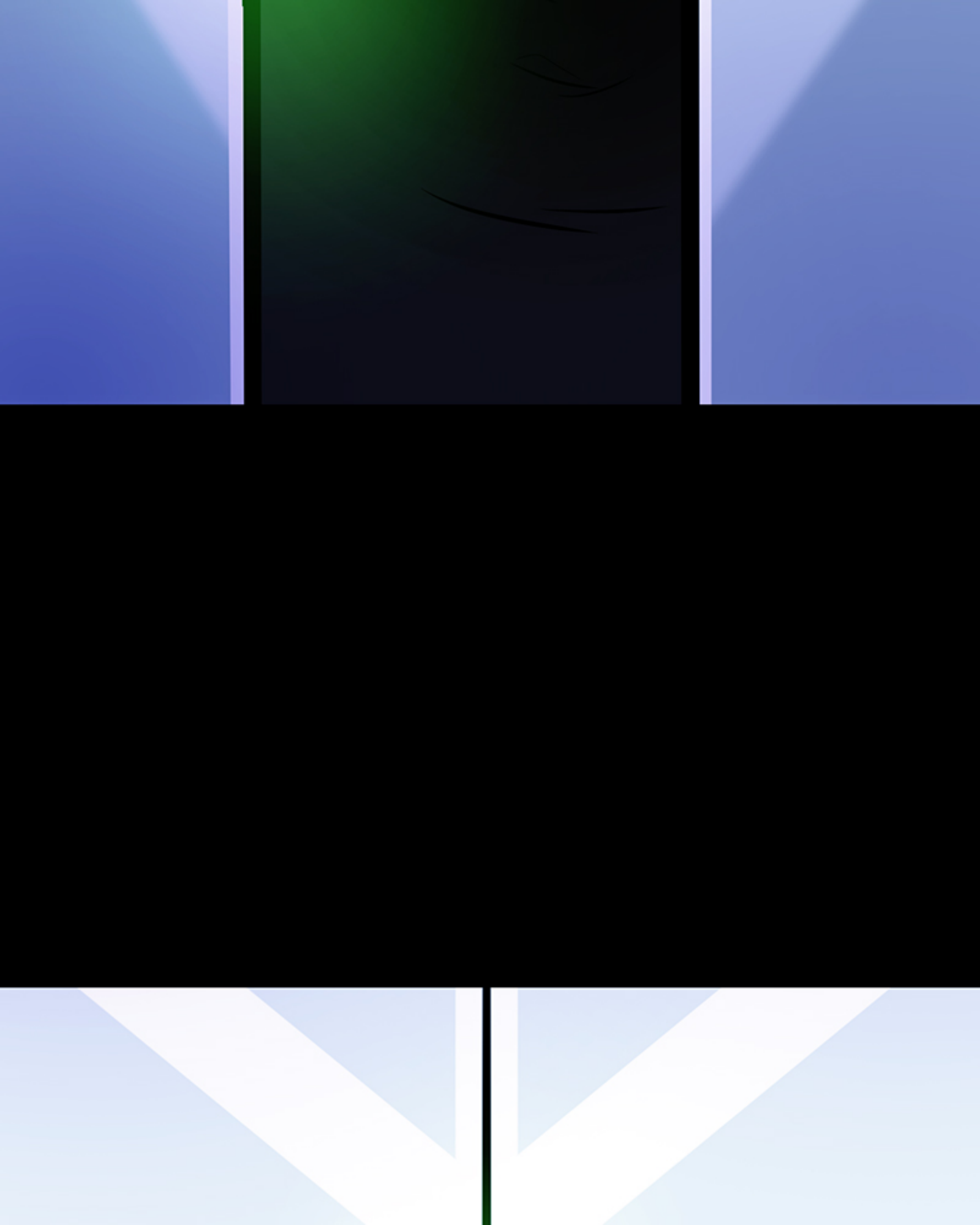


"I OUGHT
TO BE THY
ADAM;" -



"BUT I
AM RATHER THE FALLEN
ANGEL, WHOM THOU DRIVEST
FROM JOY FOR NO
MISDEED" -





SHOT

HA
HA
HA
HA
HA





HAH...

DING



VRRRR

A comic panel featuring two speech bubbles against a black background. The top bubble is white with a black outline and contains the text 'YOU ACTUALLY CAME INTO WORK TODAY, HUH?'. The bottom bubble is also white with a black outline and contains the text 'WELL I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR-'. The background is decorated with stylized blue and purple geometric shapes, including lines and rectangles, suggesting an industrial or architectural setting.

YOU ACTUALLY
CAME INTO WORK
TODAY, HUH?

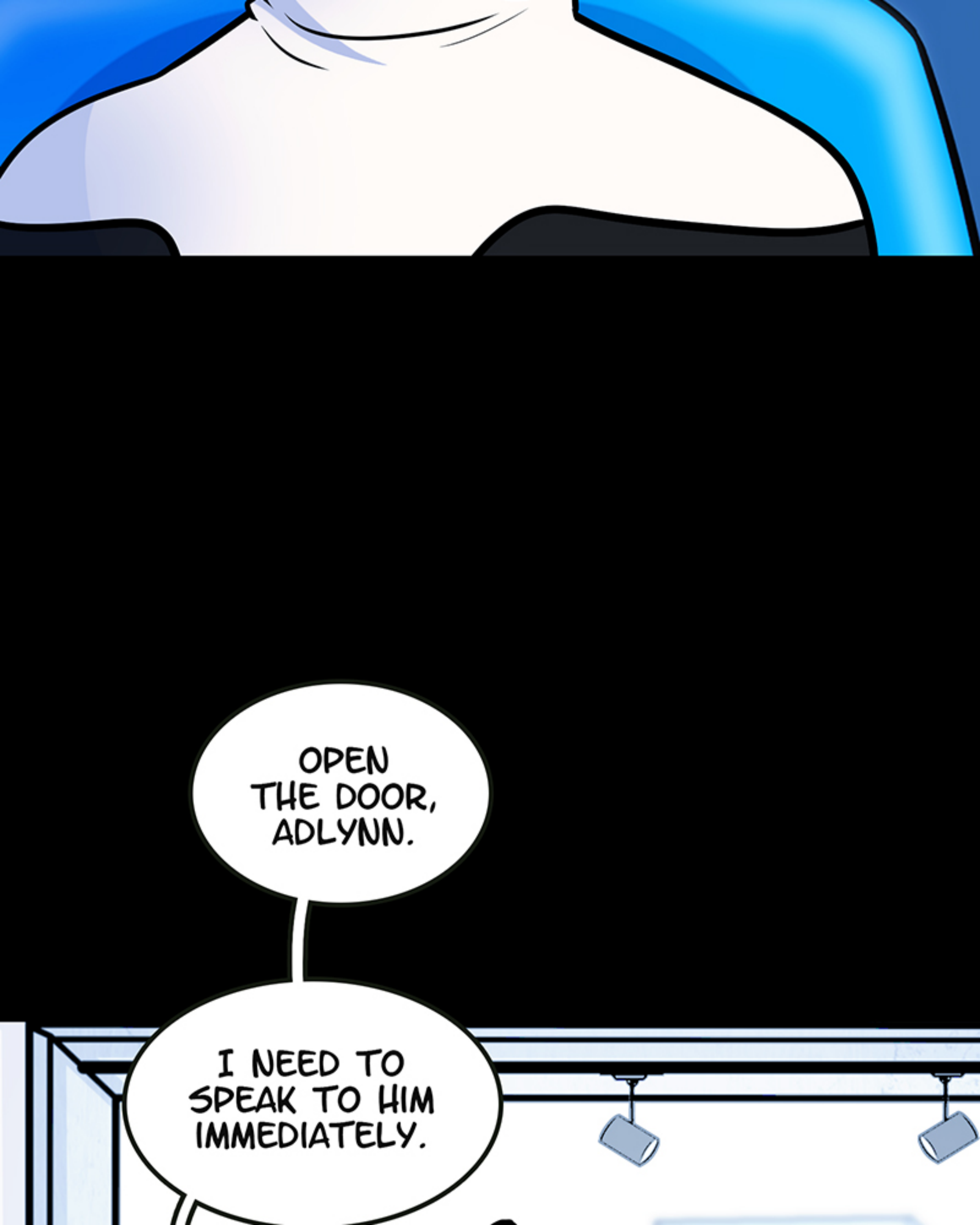
WELL
I DON'T
HAVE TIME
FOR-



YOUR...
YOUR FACE...

WHAT
HAPPENED?





OPEN
THE DOOR,
ADLYNN.

I NEED TO
SPEAK TO HIM
IMMEDIATELY.



ALONE.

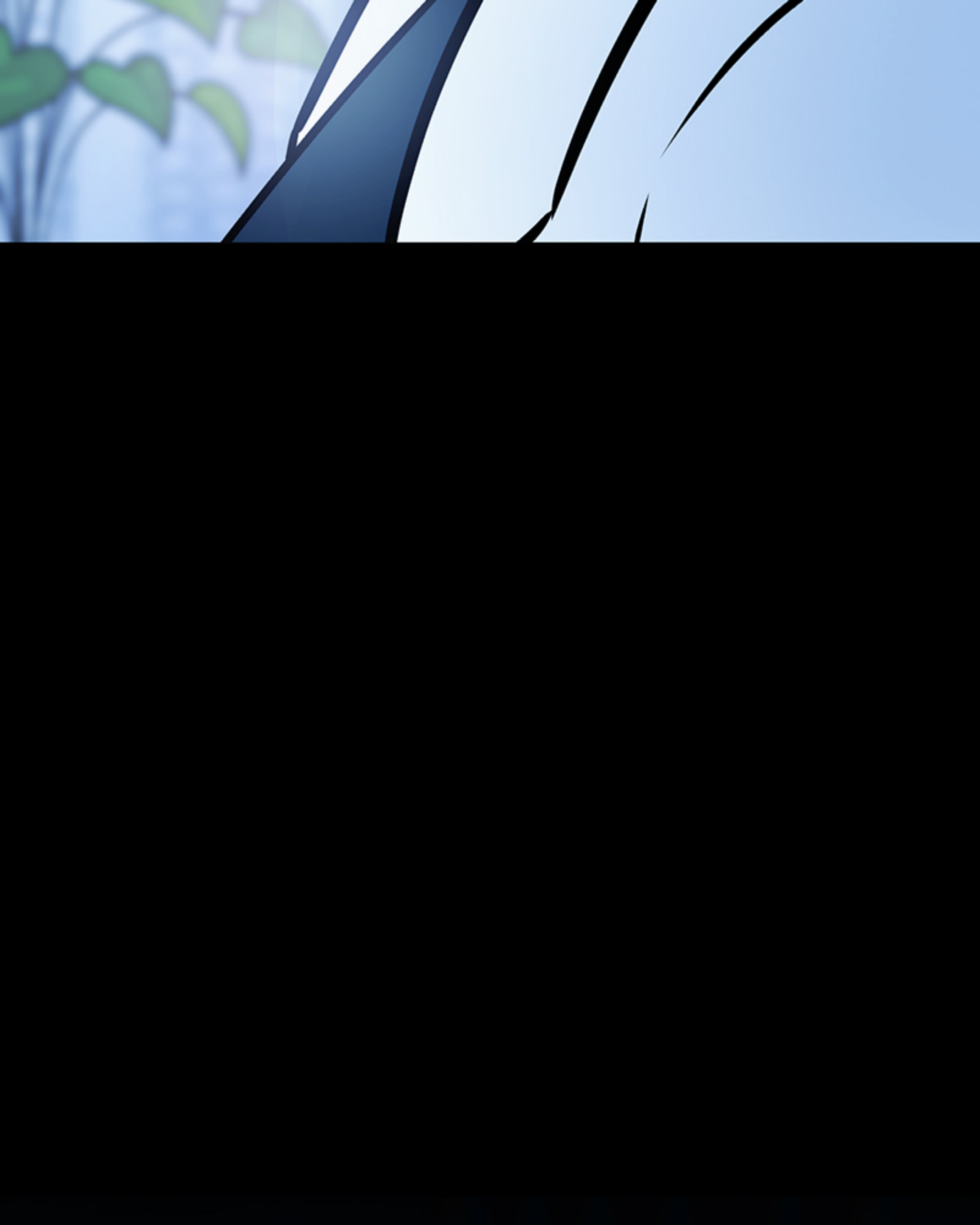


EVA YOU
KNOW I CAN'T
JUST-

ADLYNN.

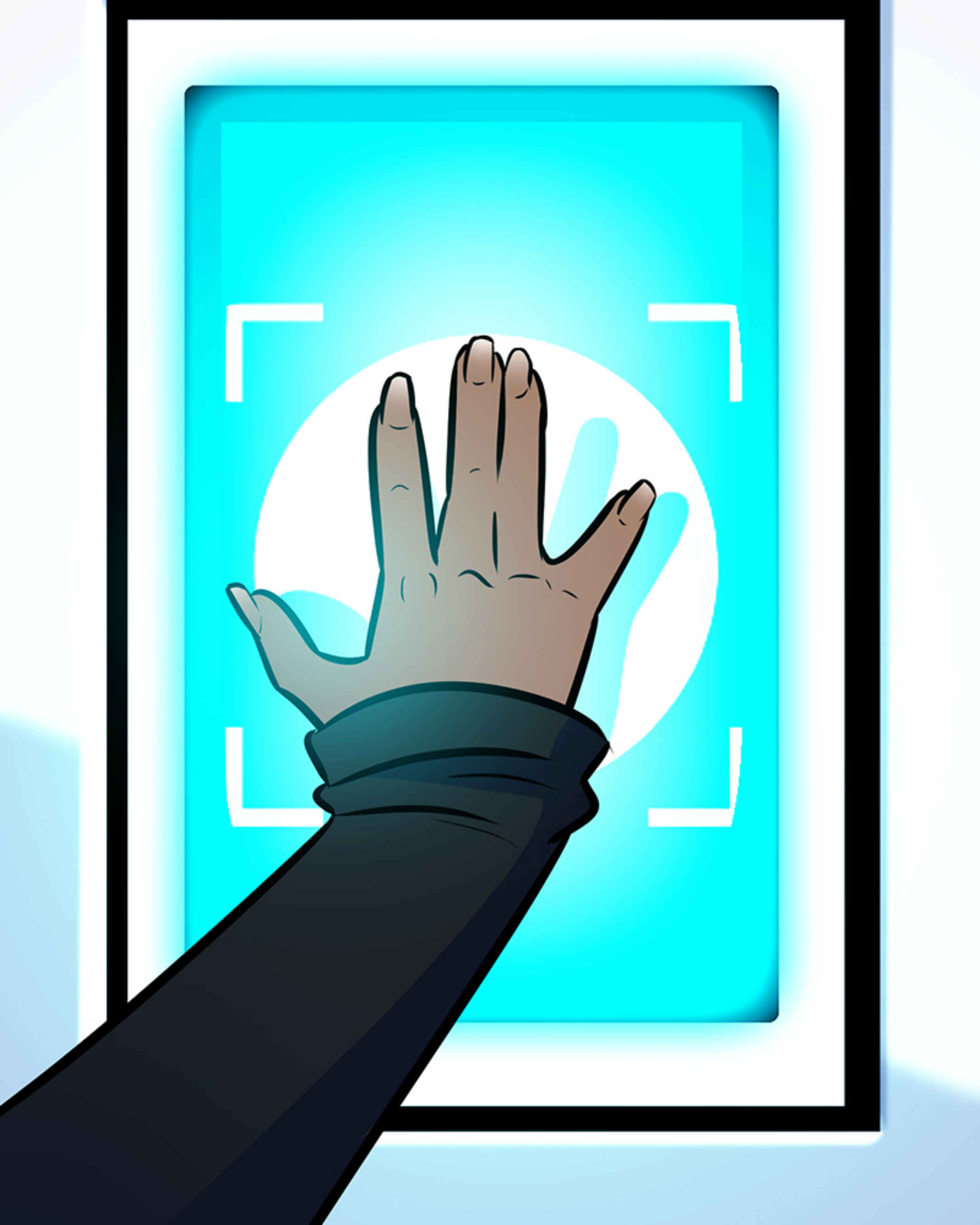
THE DOOR.

PLEASE.

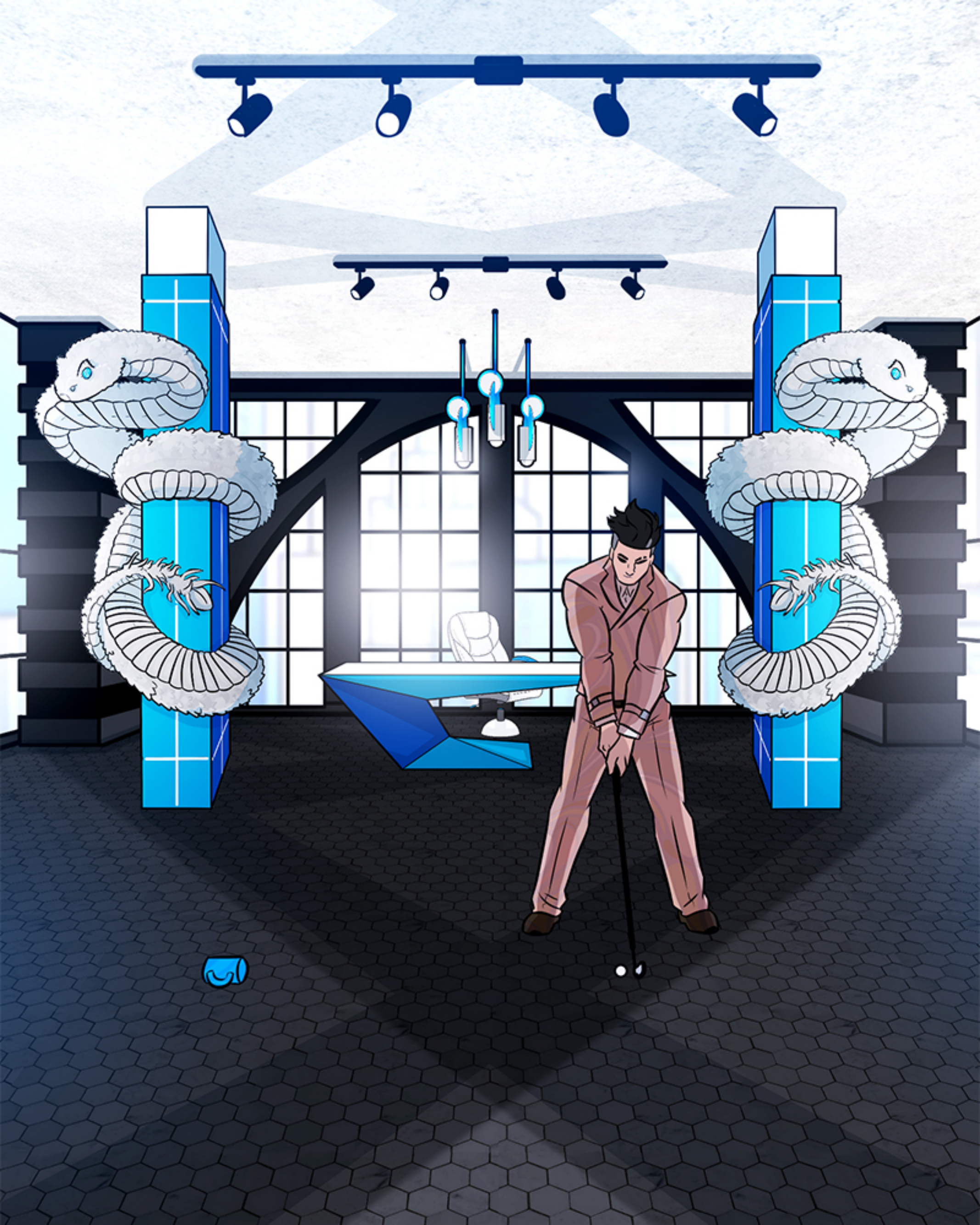














I NEVER
UNDERSTOOD
GOLF...

I THOUGHT
I COULD GIVE

THIS A TRY TO
PASS THE TIME
BUT...





IT'S BORING.
I SHOULD JUST
GET A TREADMILL
IN HERE.

WHAT'S ON
YOUR MIND, EVA?
YOU LOOK
GLOOMY.



A comic-style illustration. The top half of the image is a solid dark blue. The bottom half has a background of blue hexagonal tiles. A white speech bubble with a black outline is on the left, containing text. A black pen nib with a blue band is on the right, pointing towards the speech bubble. The word 'THINK' is at the bottom left.

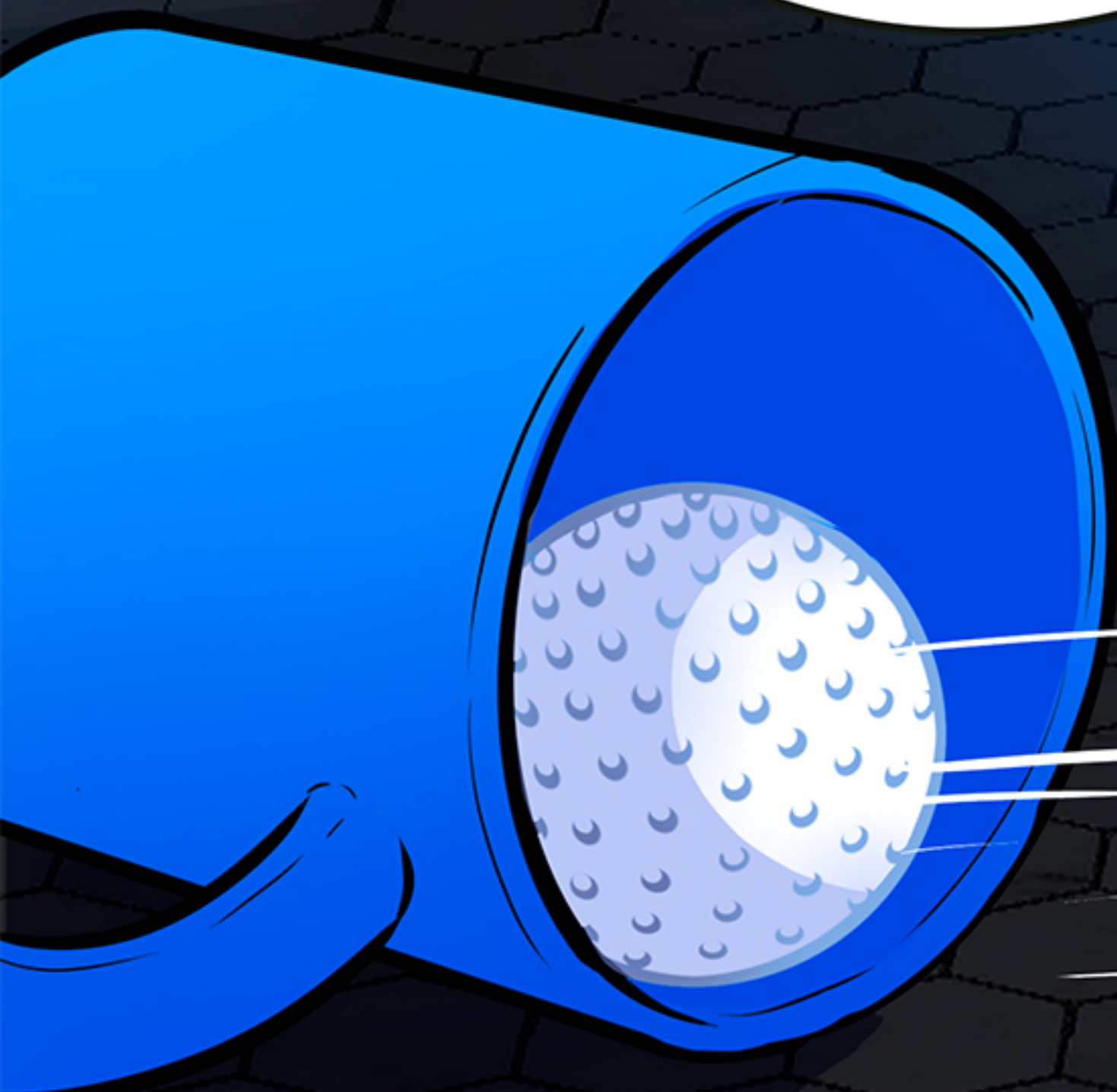
YOU NEED
TO RETRACT YOUR
STATEMENT ABOUT THE
2020'S RELEASE
DATE.

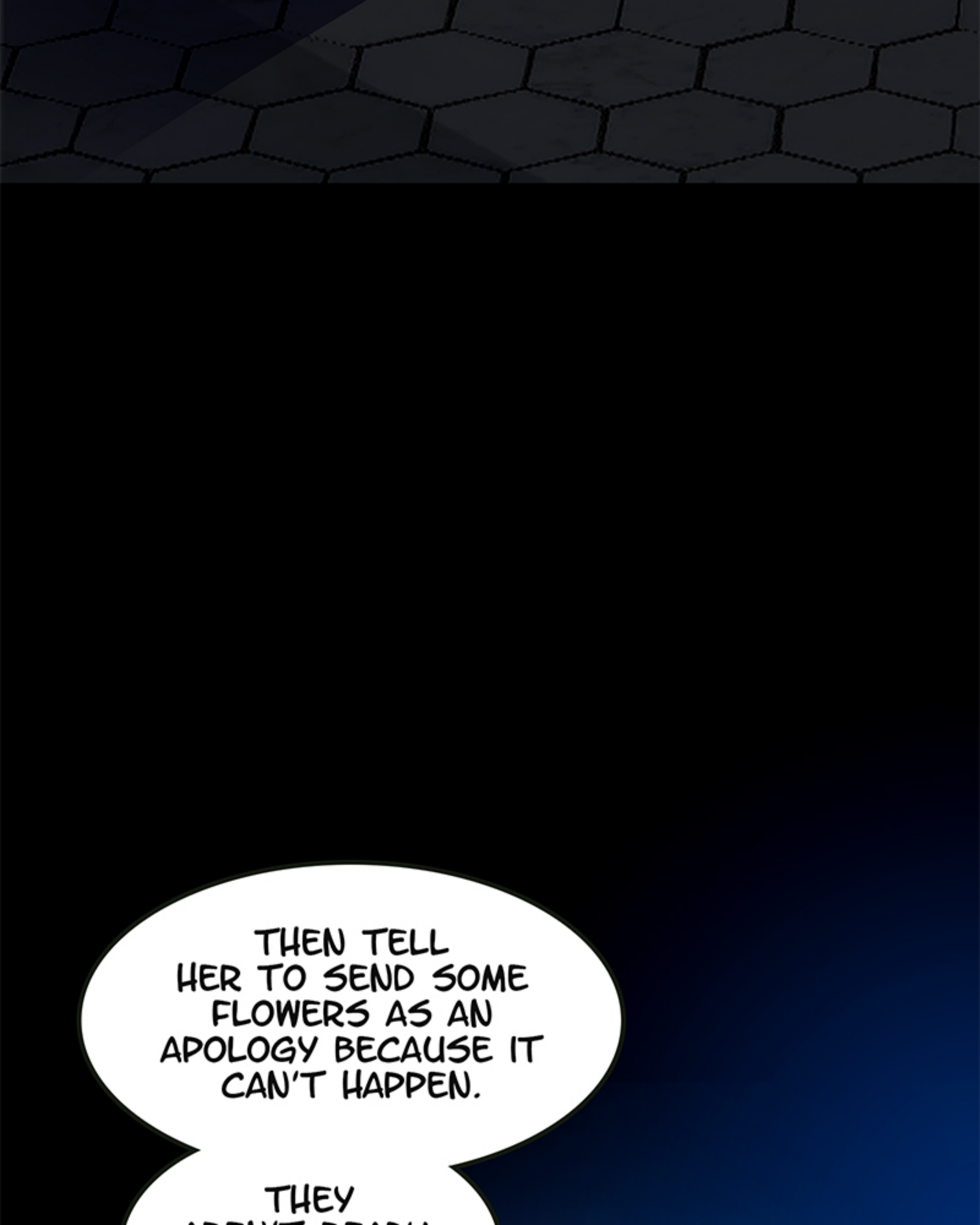
THINK



NO
CAN DO.

ADLYNN
FINISHED SENDING
OUT THE INVITES TO
THE PREVEIW GALA
THIS MORNING.





THEN TELL
HER TO SEND SOME
FLOWERS AS AN
APOLOGY BECAUSE IT
CAN'T HAPPEN.

THEY



AREN'T READY.
FAR FROM
IT.

BUT IT'S
EVEN WORSE THAN
I THOUGHT.

THE AI LIMITER
CHIP ISN'T STRONG
ENOUGH FOR
THE 2020.

THE 1919'S
WERE TASKED TO
FETCH INFORMATION
WHEN REQUESTED. BUT
THEY WERE REACTIVE-
NOT PROACTIVE.





WE CAN
HIDE IT UNDER
INTUITIVE LEARNING
FROM THE APP
QUESTIONNAIRE ALL
WE WANT-

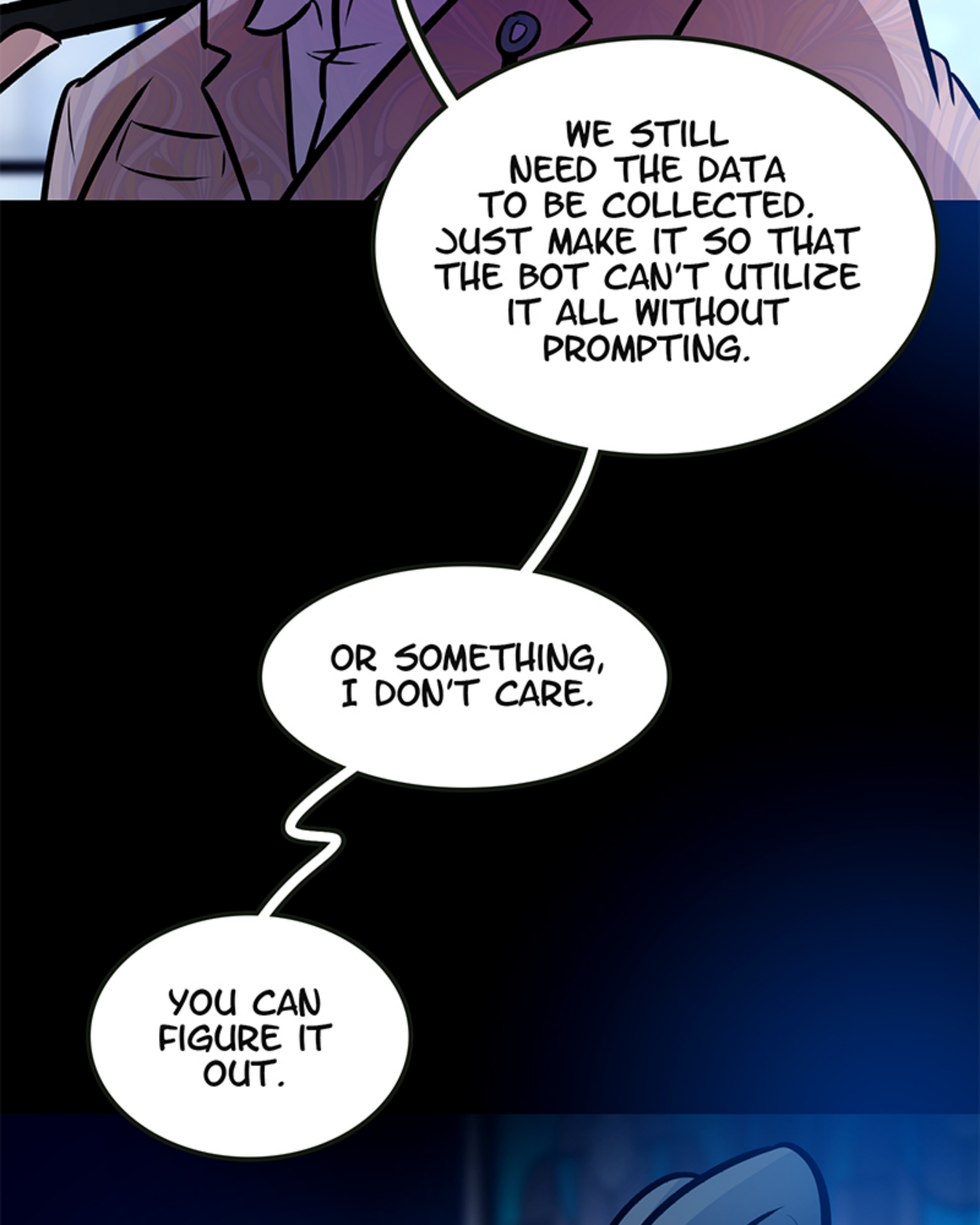


BUT THE
2020'S WILL BE
INSTRUCTED TO CONSTANTLY
FETCH INFORMATION AND LEARN
TO INTERPRET IT BASED ON
WHAT THE 2020 THINKS
IS BEST FOR THE
USER-

THERE IS
NO STABLE BASELINE.
BECAUSE IF THE USER
IS UNSTABLE THEN THE
2020 WILL BE BUILDING
OFF OF THAT.

SO MAKE THE
CHIP STRONGER.
WHAT'S THE
ISSUE?



A comic panel with a dark blue background. At the top, a character wearing a purple suit is partially visible. A large white speech bubble originates from the character. Below it, a smaller white speech bubble is connected by a line. At the bottom, another white speech bubble is connected by a line. The text in the speech bubbles is in a hand-drawn, slightly irregular font.

WE STILL
NEED THE DATA
TO BE COLLECTED.
JUST MAKE IT SO THAT
THE BOT CAN'T UTILIZE
IT ALL WITHOUT
PROMPTING.

OR SOMETHING,
I DON'T CARE.

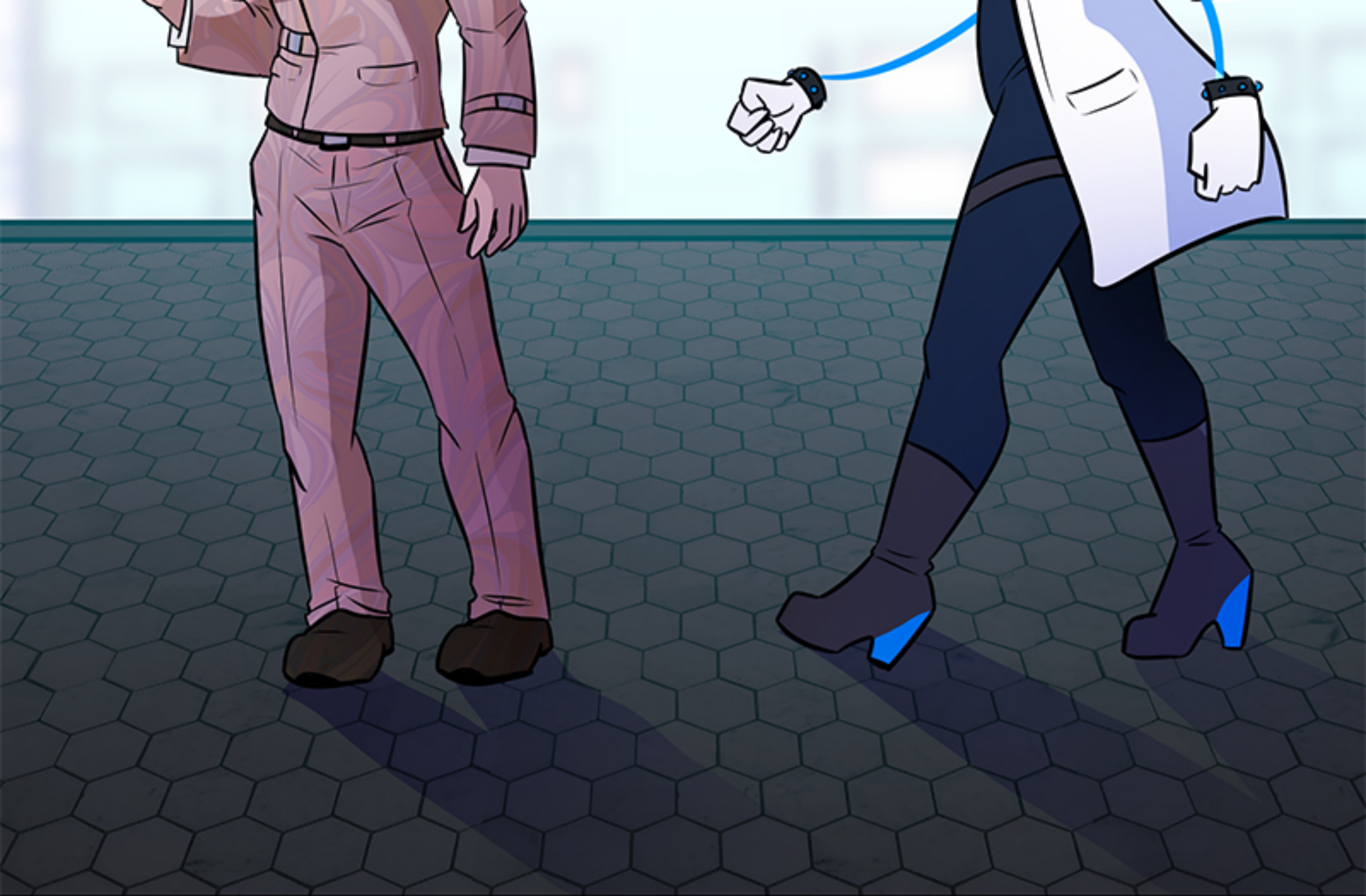
YOU CAN
FIGURE IT
OUT.



THE 2020'S
AS THEY ARE NOW
ARE CAPABLE OF
DIRECT HARM TO
THE USER!

I'M NOT TELLING
YOU TO SCRAP THE
PROJECT, YOU IDIOT.
BUT PUSHING THEM OUT
TO THE PUBLIC- EVEN IN
FRONT OF INVESTORS-
IS JUST ASKING FOR
TROUBLE!



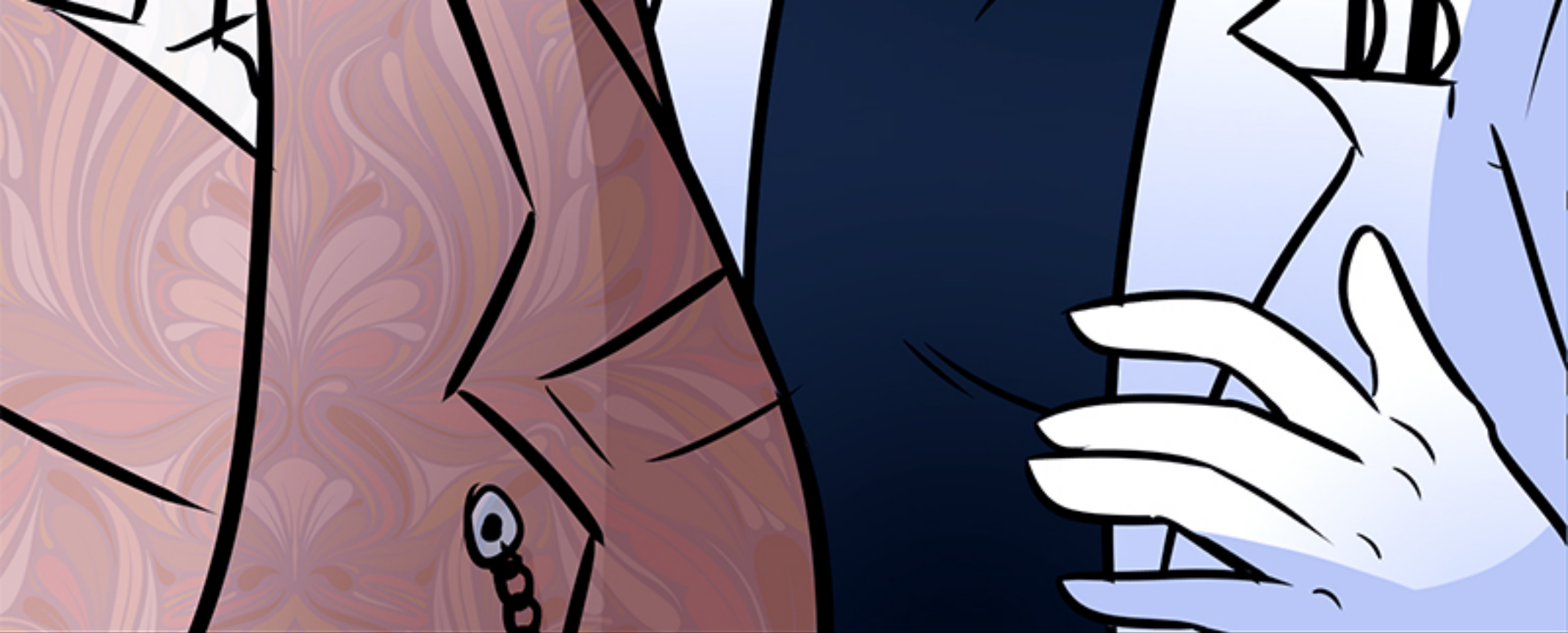


ESPECIALLY
IF YOURS IS THE
ONE WE USE AS AN
EXAMPLE-

IT LEARNED
FROM ME, FROM
YOU, FROM VELIX-
AND SOME COMBINATION
OF THE THREE GO IT
ALL FUCKED UP!



DO YOU
KNOW WHAT
IT DID TO
VELIX!?



I DO.

AND IT'S
UNFORTUNATE THAT
IT ENDED UP THAT

IT ENDED UP THAT
WAY BUT...

NOTHING
WE CAN'T GET
OUT OF.





THERE IS
ALWAYS SOMEONE
TO TAKE THE
FALL FOR IT.

IN FACT
I'M HAPPY TO
REPORT THAT IT
WAS ALL WORTH IT
IN THE END.





I WAS RIGHT
ABOUT MY INSTINCTS.
AND I GOT THE PROOF
THAT I WANTED...

BUT YOU
ALREADY KNEW
THAT, HM?





SO... WHAT
AM I TO DO WITH
A LIAR LIKE YOU?

LOVEBOT

By Chase Keels & Miranda M.

Editors | Griffin Freitas & Bre Boswell

Thank you
for reading! ♥



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