

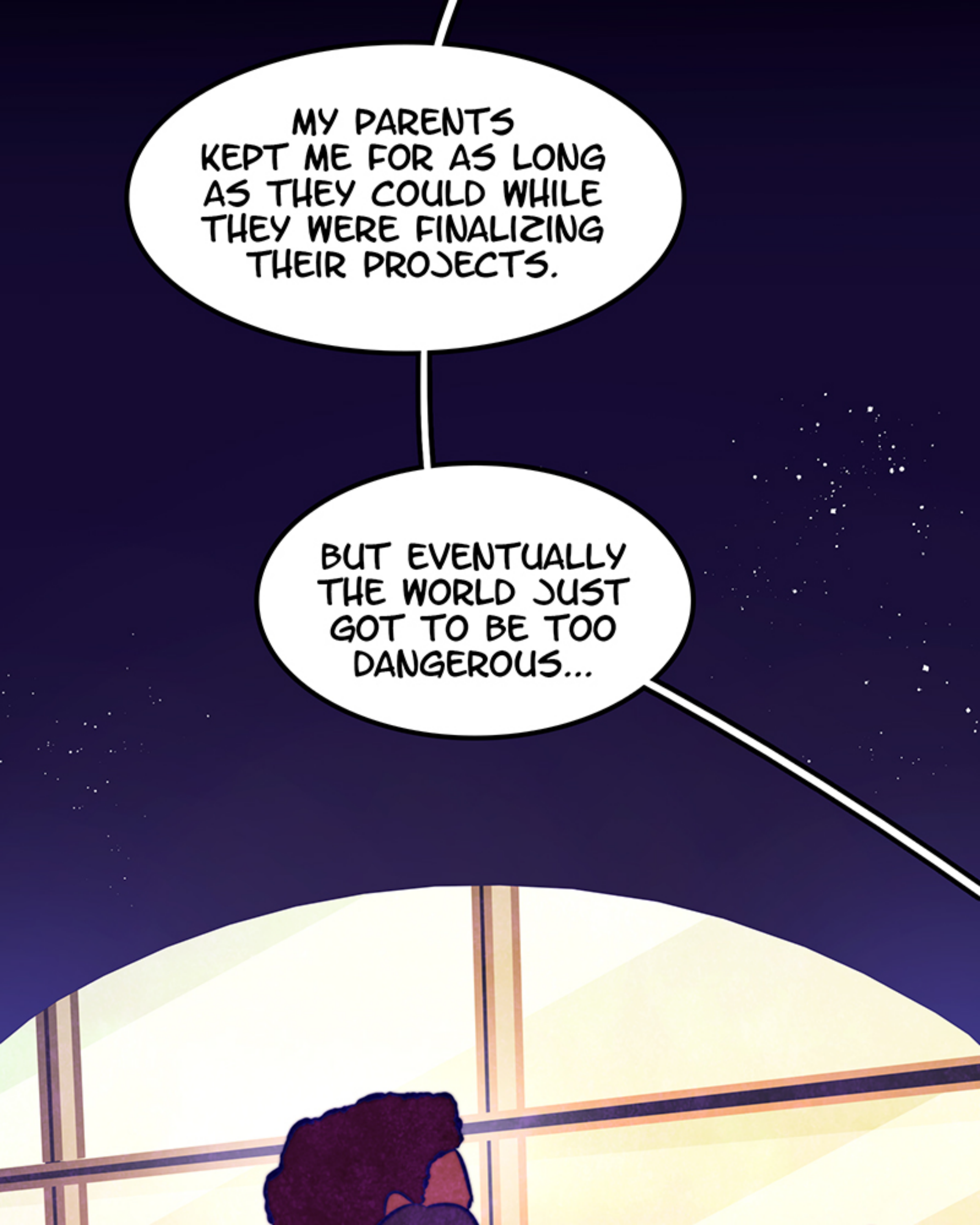




MY TIME
ON THE LUNAR
COLONY, HUH...



TO BE HONEST...
I DO MY BEST NOT
TO THINK ABOUT IT
TOO MUCH.



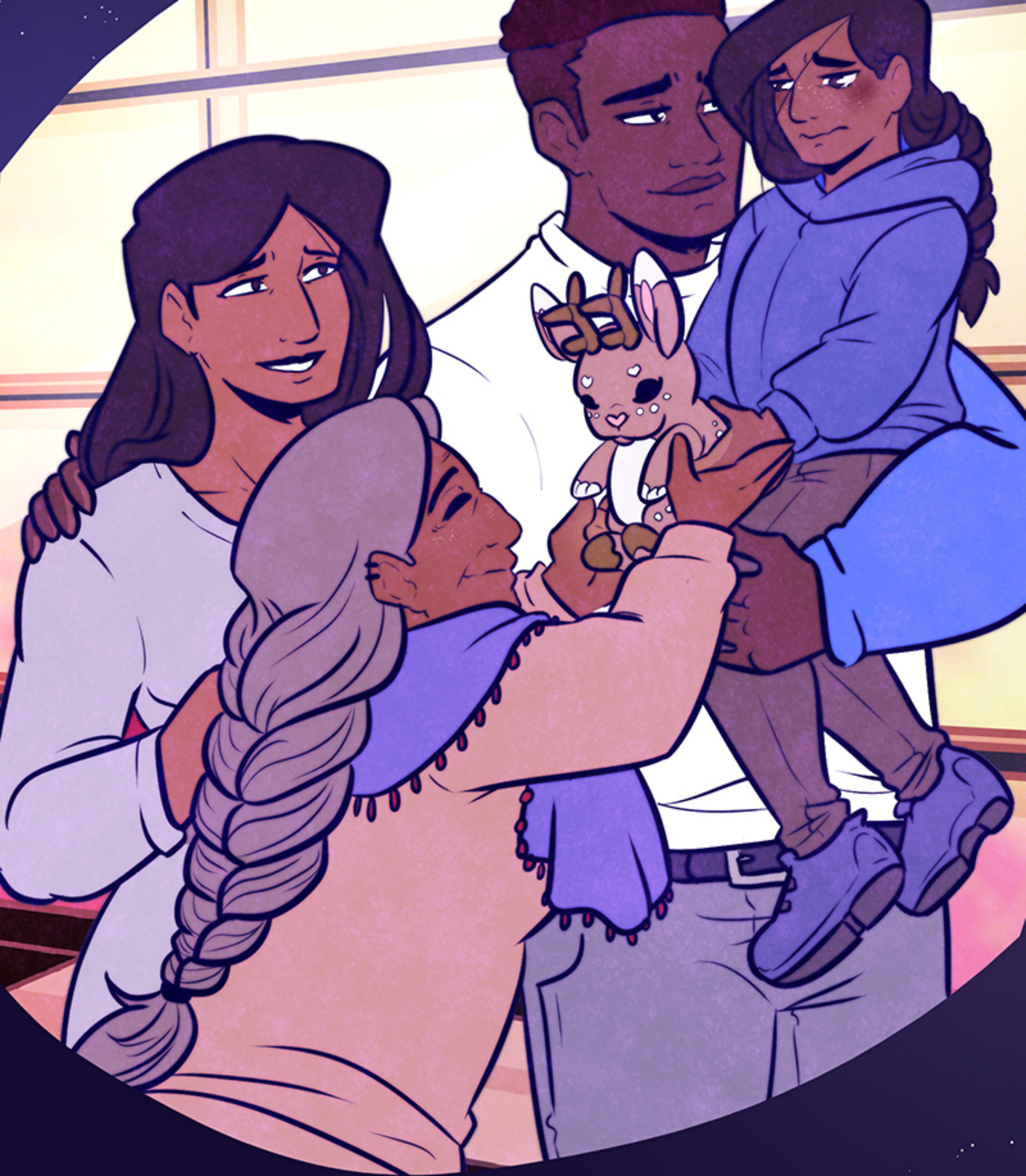
MY PARENTS
KEPT ME FOR AS LONG
AS THEY COULD WHILE
THEY WERE FINALIZING
THEIR PROJECTS.

BUT EVENTUALLY
THE WORLD JUST
GOT TO BE TOO
DANGEROUS...





THEY WANTED
TO ENSURE MY
FUTURE AND NOT RISK
MY LIFE BY KEEPING
ME WITH THEM.

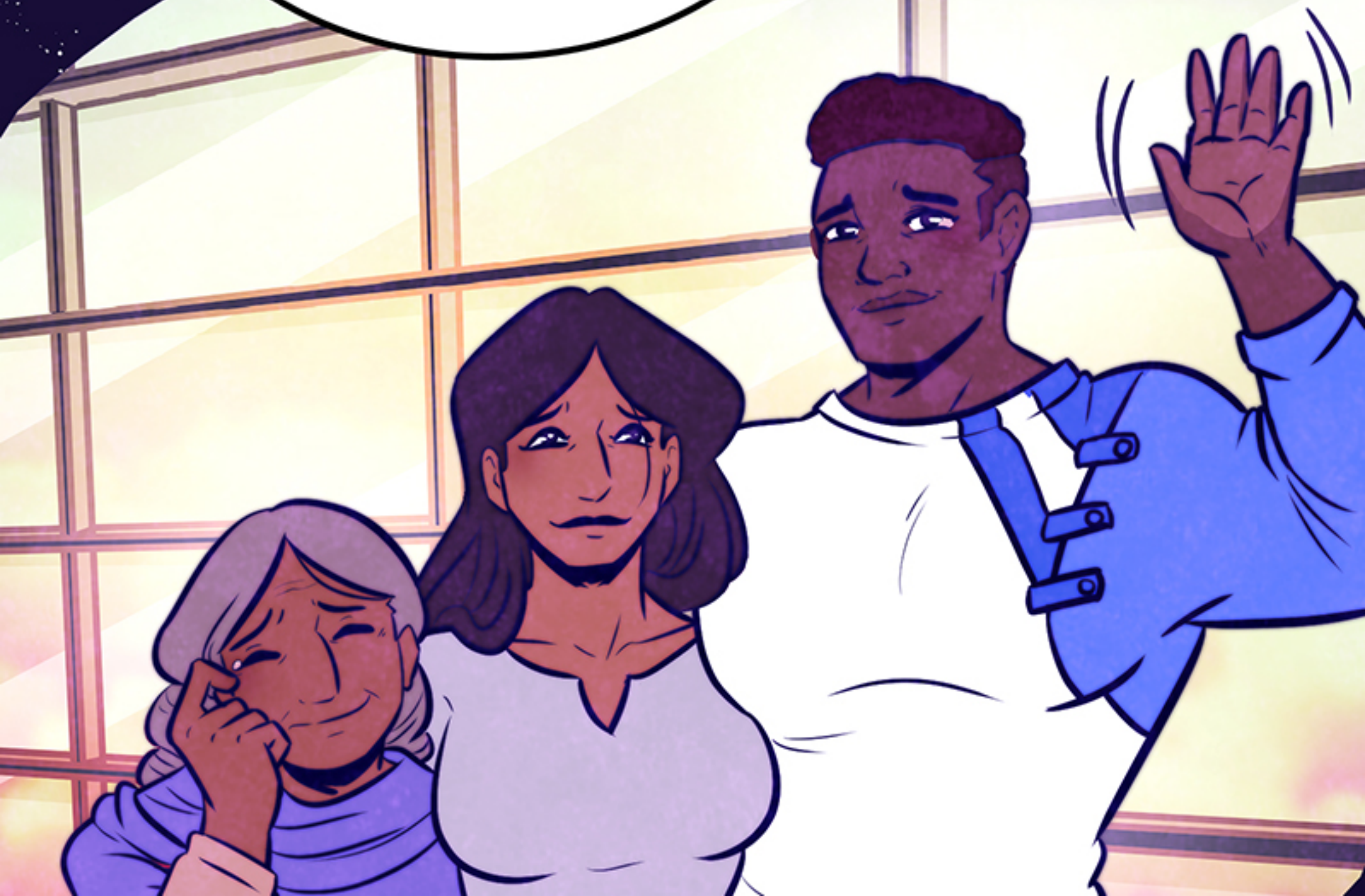


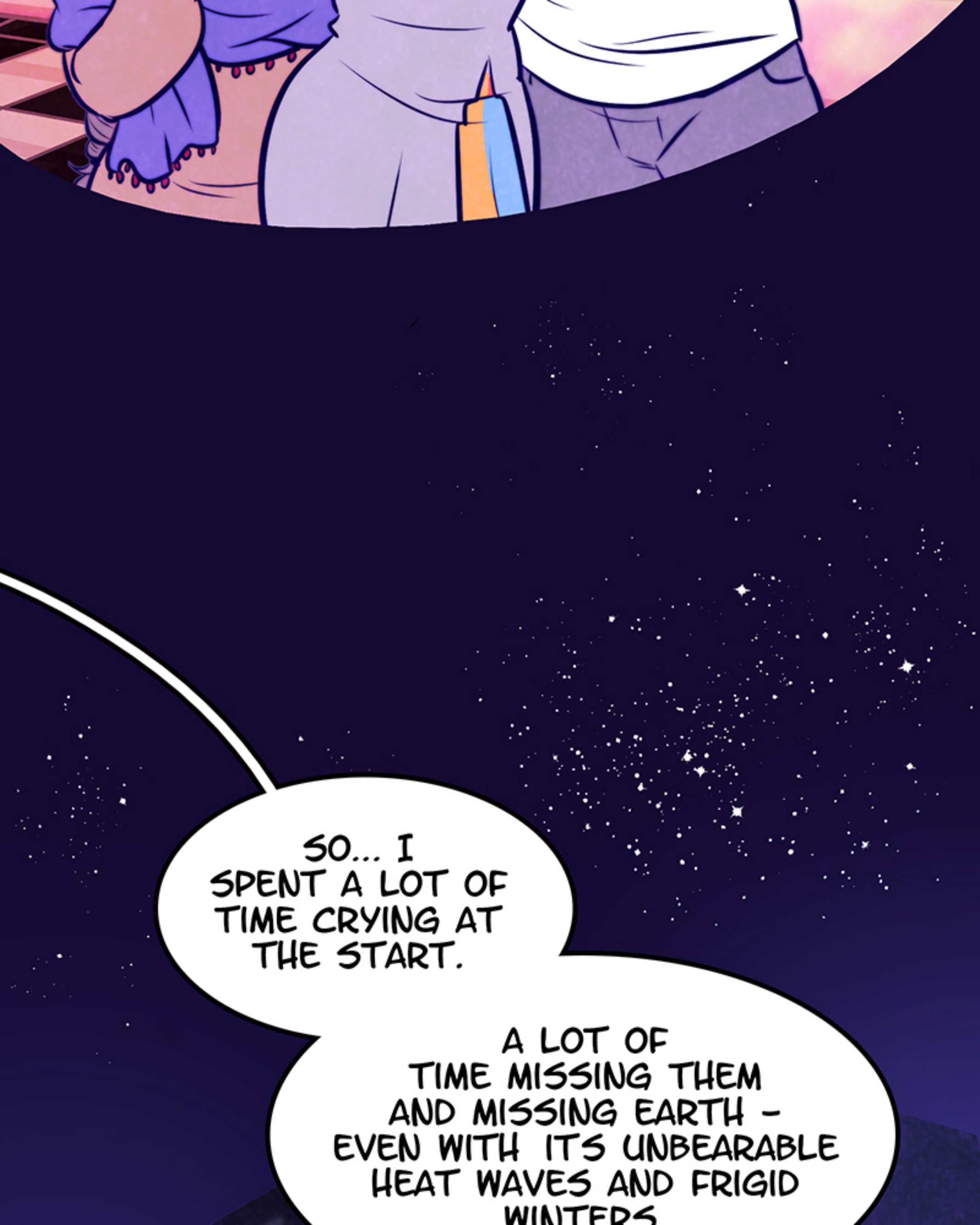


I DIDN'T
KNOW IF I WOULD
EVER SEE THEM
AGAIN...



OR IF I'D
WAKE UP ONE
DAY AND HAVE TO
LOOK DOWN AT THE
EARTH KNOWING THEY
WEREN'T THERE
ANYMORE.





SO... I
SPENT A LOT OF
TIME CRYING AT
THE START.

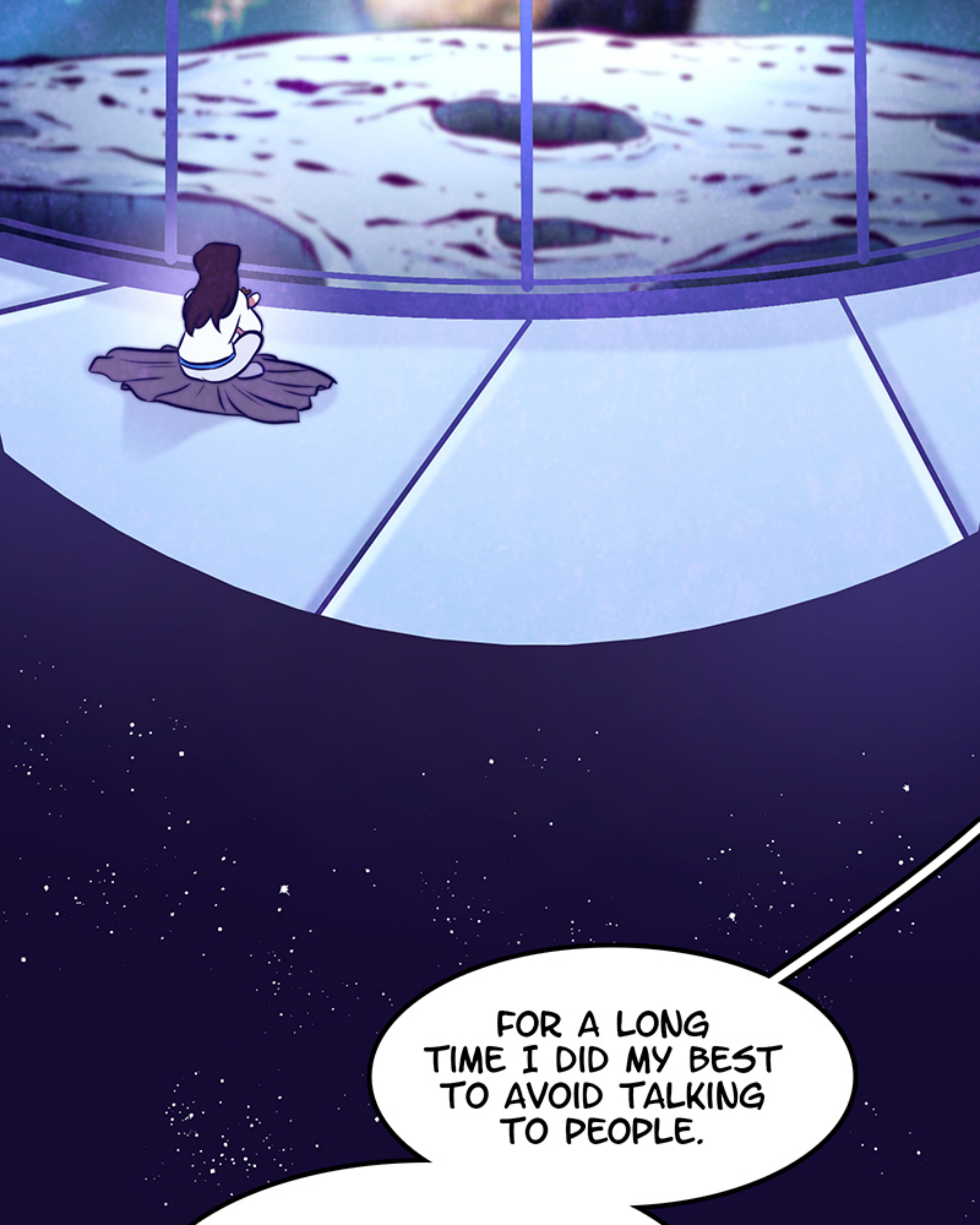
A LOT OF
TIME MISSING THEM
AND MISSING EARTH -
EVEN WITH ITS UNBEARABLE
HEAT WAVES AND FRIGID
WINTERS

WINTERS.

I MISSED
LOOKING OUT MY
WINDOW AND KNOWING
THAT THERE WAS LIFE
OUT THERE- EVEN IF
IT WAS STRUGGLING
TO SURVIVE.

INSTEAD
OF LOOKING OUT
AT A COLD AND
EMPTY ROCK AND
BLACK SKY.





FOR A LONG
TIME I DID MY BEST
TO AVOID TALKING
TO PEOPLE.

BECAUSE I DIDN'T
WANT THEM TO ASK ME
QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW I
WAS DOING OR TRY TO
CHEER ME UP.





I COULDN'T
STAND THE THOUGHT OF
PRETENDING TO SMILE
WHEN I FELT SO
MISERABLE.



THAT IS A
SKILL THAT WOULD
DEVELOP YEARS
DOWN THE ROAD.

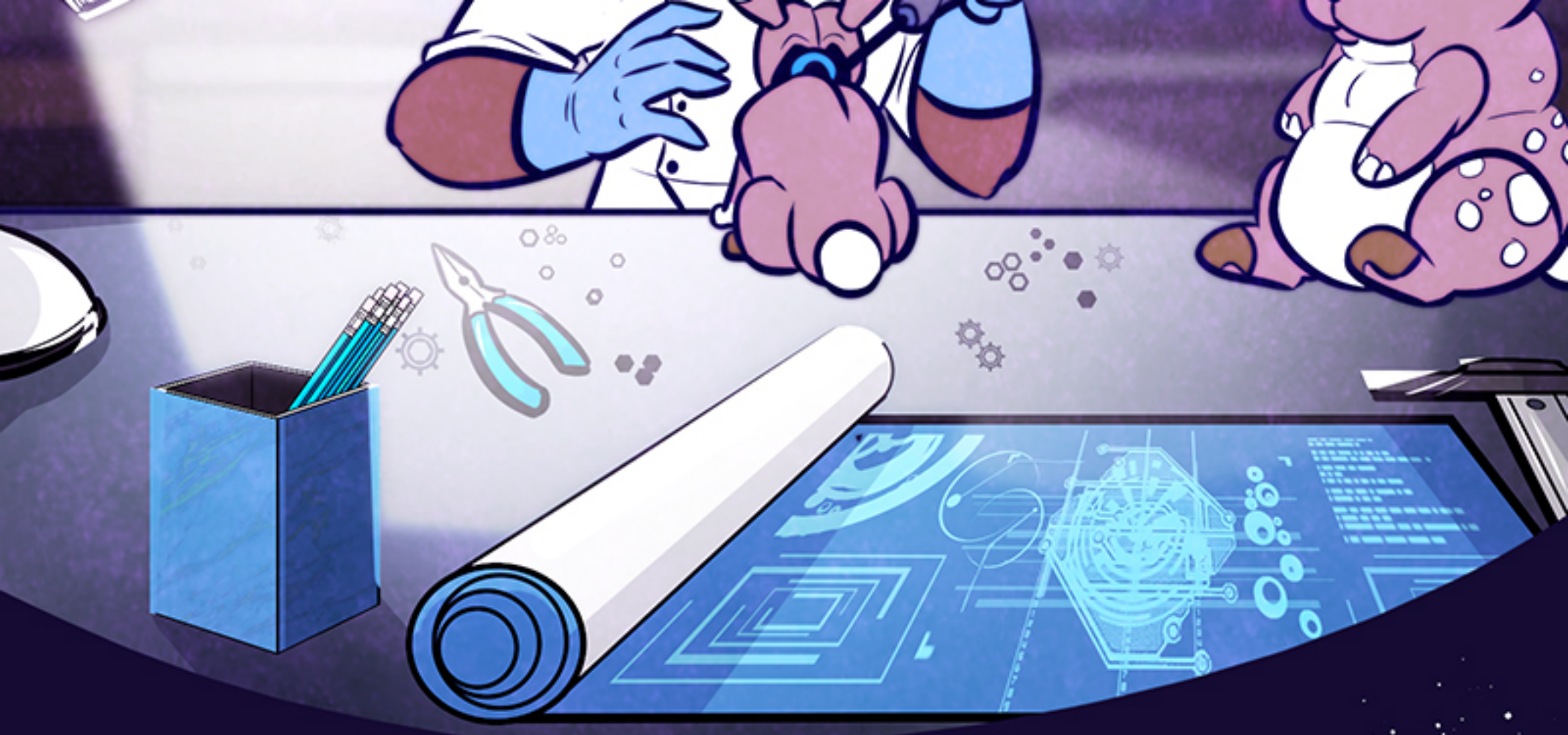




AFTER A WHILE
I STARTED TO BREAK
INTO THE LABS IN
THE MIDDLE OF THE
NIGHT-

BECAUSE I GOT
IT IN MY HEAD THAT
I COULD BUILD SOMETHING
TO HELP ON THE SAME SCALE
AS MY PARENTS SO I COULD
SEE THEM FASTER.





YOU
DIDN'T GET IN
TROUBLE?



OH, I DID.

ANYTIME THEY
WERE ABLE TO CATCH
ME, HAH.

BUT EVENTUALLY
VULA CAME TO SIT
DOWN WITH ME AND
MAKE A DEAL.



A comic panel featuring a dark blue night sky filled with white stars. At the top, a portion of a cobblestone path is visible, with a pair of purple shoes and a pair of blue shoes. A large, white speech bubble with a black outline dominates the lower half of the frame. Inside the bubble, text is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The speech bubble has a long tail pointing towards the top left.

SHE GAVE
ME A WINDOW OF TIME
THAT I COULD FREELY
USE THE LABS IF I TOOK
A SAFETY COURSE AND LET
HER REVIEW ANYTHING
THAT I COMPLETED.

TURNED OUT
THERE WERE A FEW

OTHER KIDS THAT WERE
INTERESTED IN DOING
IT TOO.





I THINK SHE
REALIZED THAT IT
WAS CATHARTIC FOR
SOME PEOPLE IN THE
SAME WAY ART IS
FOR OTHERS...

AND IF
PEOPLE COULD MAKE
SOME USEFUL TOOLS
OUT OF IT THEN IT
WAS A WIN-WIN,
RIGHT?

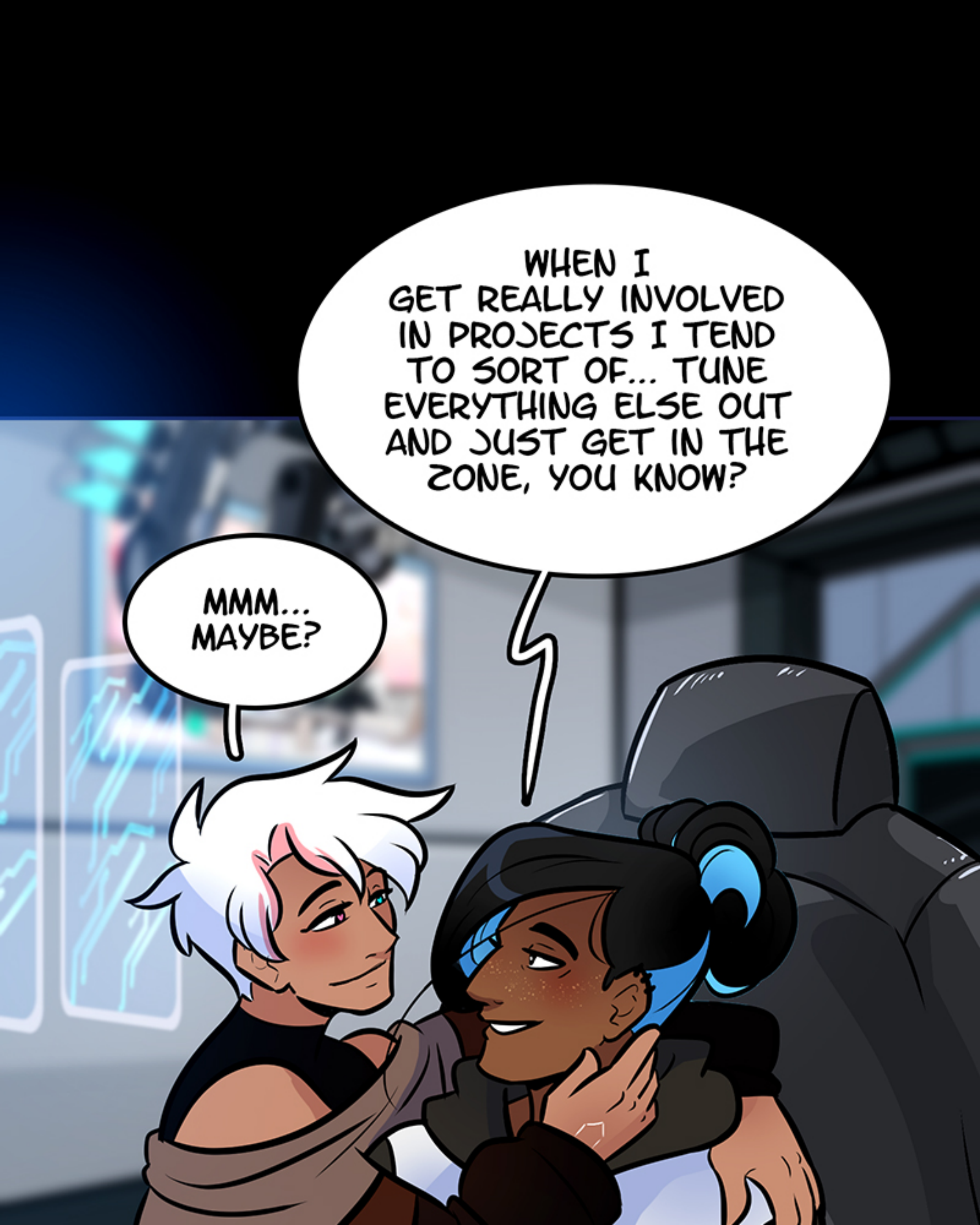




WAS EVA
ONE OF THOSE
KIDS?



HARD TO SAY,
I DIDN'T PAY THAT
MUCH ATTENTION
TO ANYONE ELSE.



WHEN I
GET REALLY INVOLVED
IN PROJECTS I TEND
TO SORT OF... TUNE
EVERYTHING ELSE OUT
AND JUST GET IN THE
ZONE, YOU KNOW?

MMM...
MAYBE?



IT ISN'T

ALWAYS A PROBLEM-
UNLESS I MADE PLANS WITH
SOMEONE AND THEN TOTALLY
FORGOT... THEN IT'S A
BIG PROBLEM.

ALSO A PROBLEM
WHEN I... FORGET
TO DO ANYTHING
ELSE, HAH.



A comic panel showing a close-up of a character's hand, which is light-skinned with some freckles, resting on a dark, possibly black, surface. The hand is wearing a white sleeve. A speech bubble originates from the hand. In the background, there are some brown and blue shapes, and a small, grey, stylized animal-like figure is visible on the right side.

AH- YEAH
YOU SHOULD
EAT AGAIN,
SOON.

CREAKING

SPEAKING
OF BEING INTO
PROJECTS-

AREN'T YOU
SUPPOSED TO
BE WORKING
RIGHT NOW?





HE NEEDS
TO TAKE BREAKS,
BRIZZ!





HE JUST
TOOK ONE WHILE
TALKING TO YOU.
WE'RE ON A DEADLINE,
YOU KNOW.





A DEADLINE
THAT YOU SET,
REMEMBER?

POKE





THE SECRET
TO FREEING THE
1919'S BEFORE THE
2020'S ARE REVEALED
IS IN THIS CHIP.





SO LET
HIM STUDY
THE CHIP.

I ACTUALLY
THINK I'M AT MY
LIMIT FOR WHAT
I CAN DO ON MY
OWN-

WANNA
TAKE A
LOOK?

HM?
SURE.





AH!

MOVE IT
OR LOSE IT,
BRAT.





SO I'M
PRETTY SURE I

WAS ABLE TO ISOLATE
WHAT FREQUENCY THESE
CHIPS OPERATE
ON, RIGHT?

RIGHT.





THE PROBLEM
IS... I'M WORRIED ABOUT
HOW STRONG WE NEED
THE EMP TO BE FOR IT TO
BREAK THE CHIP BUT NOT
OVERLOAD THE 1919'S
THEMSELVES....



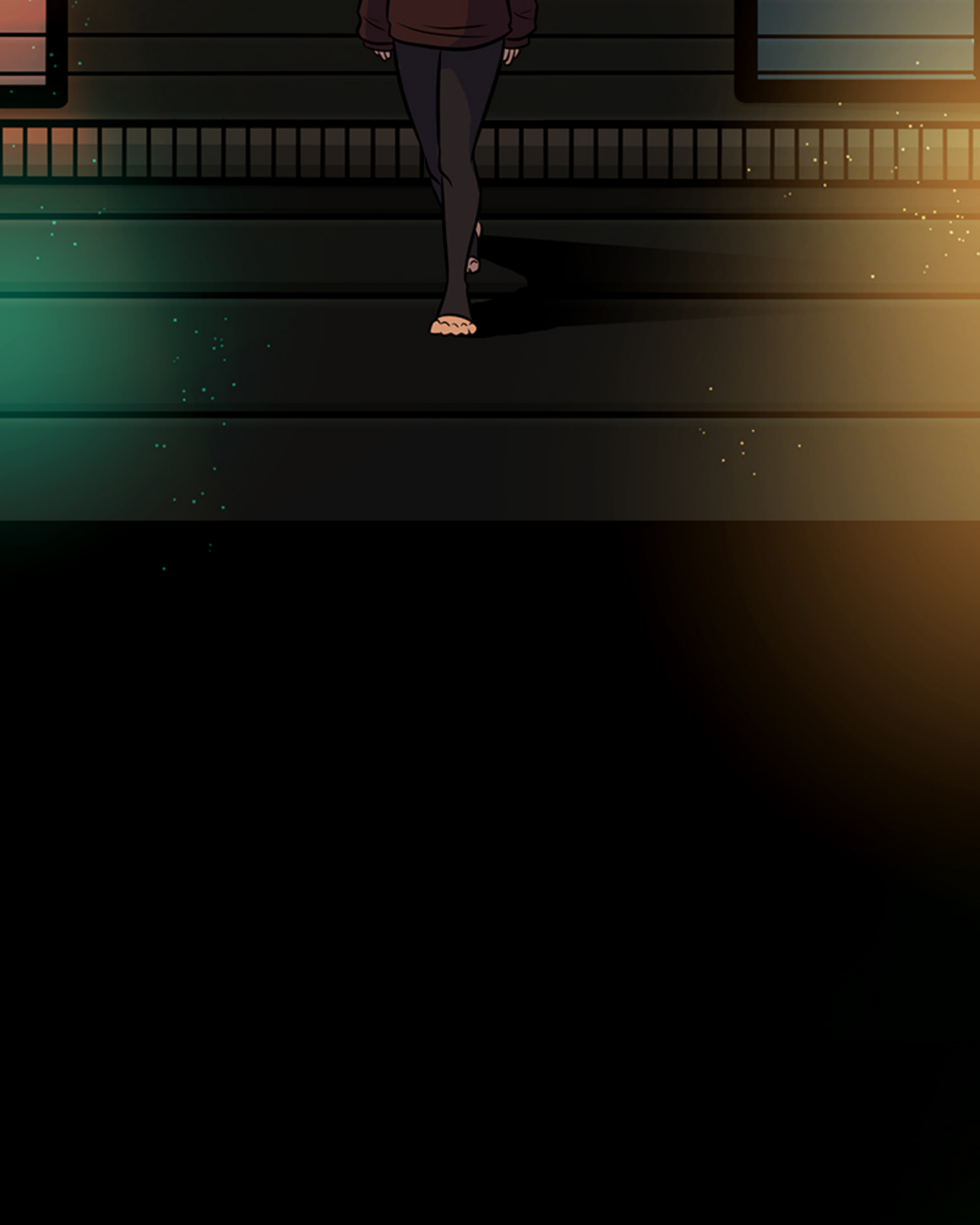


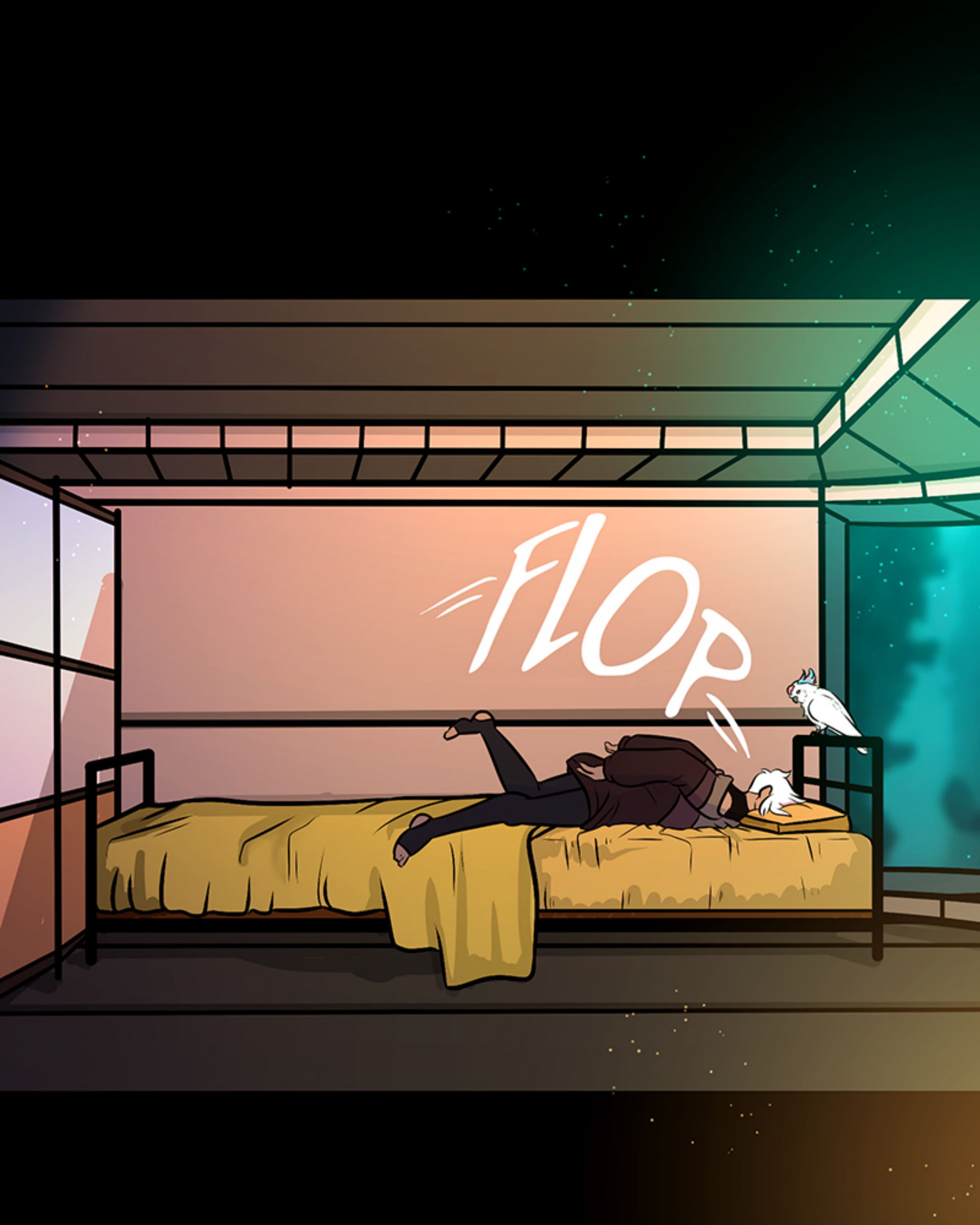


-SINCE WE
HAVE NO WAY TO
TEST IT...

BUT I
DON'T WANT TO
MAKE IT SO WEAK
THAT IT DOESN'T
... YOU KNOW,
WORK.

RIGHT...
LET ME TRY
SOMETHING-





Flop

FRANKIE...

DO YOU
THINK I CAN
BECOME AN EXPERT
HACKER IN UNDER

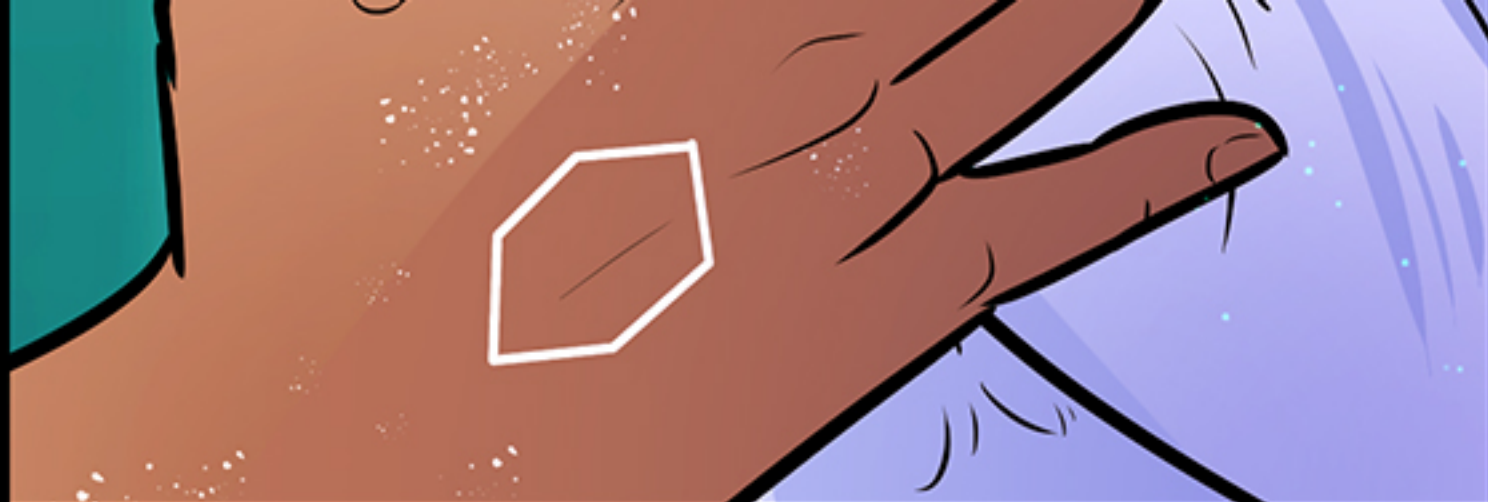


HACKER IN UNDER
AN HOUR?

HACKING!!







BRIZZ DOESN'T
EVEN HAVE A KITCHEN
SO I CAN'T MAKE
XADA PROPER
FOOD.



WEEEE!



AND IF
I TRY TO MAKE
SOMETHING OUT OF
WHAT BRIZZ BROUGHT
FOR HIM...WHAT WOULD
THAT EVEN LOOK
LIKE...

GARNISH A
PROTEIN BAR IN
SOME TRAIL MIX AND
BOURB AN ENERGY

POUR AN ENERGY
DRINK IN A WINE
GLASS??

PROTEIN!



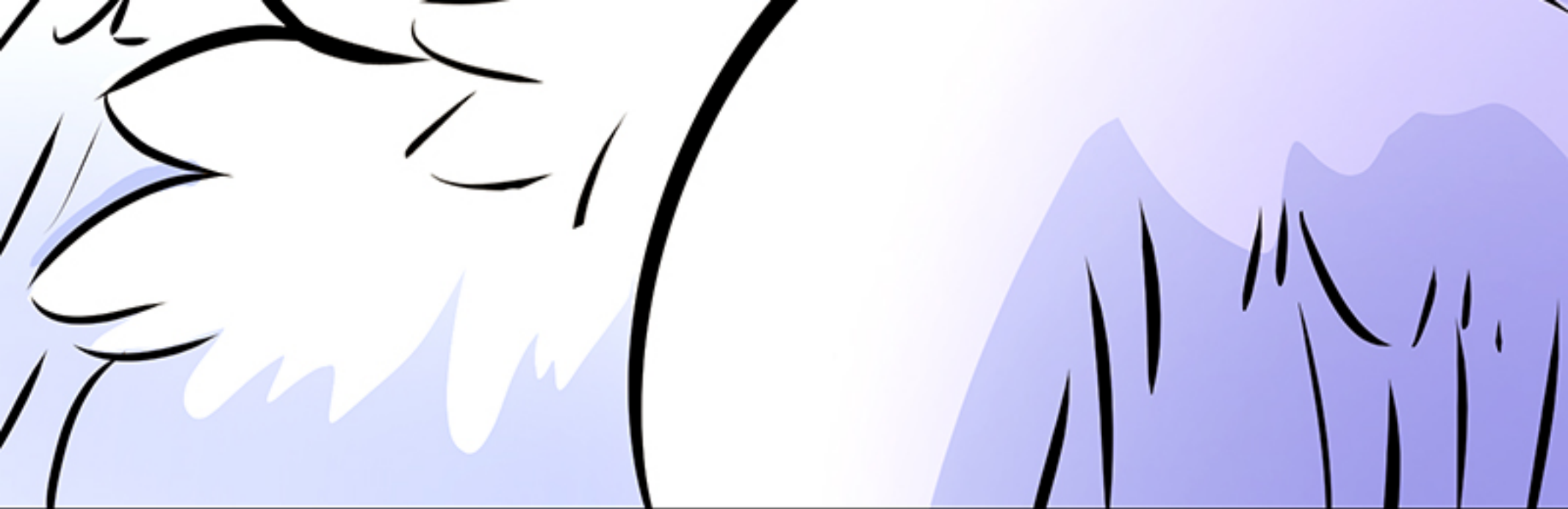


I'M NOT
ALLOWED TO LEAVE...
AND I DON'T HAVE
ANY MONEY TO ORDER
SOMETHING
BETTER...

I CAN'T EVEN
SLEEP WITHOUT
SOMEONE SHUTTING

ME DOWN IN ORDER
TO PASS THE
TIME...



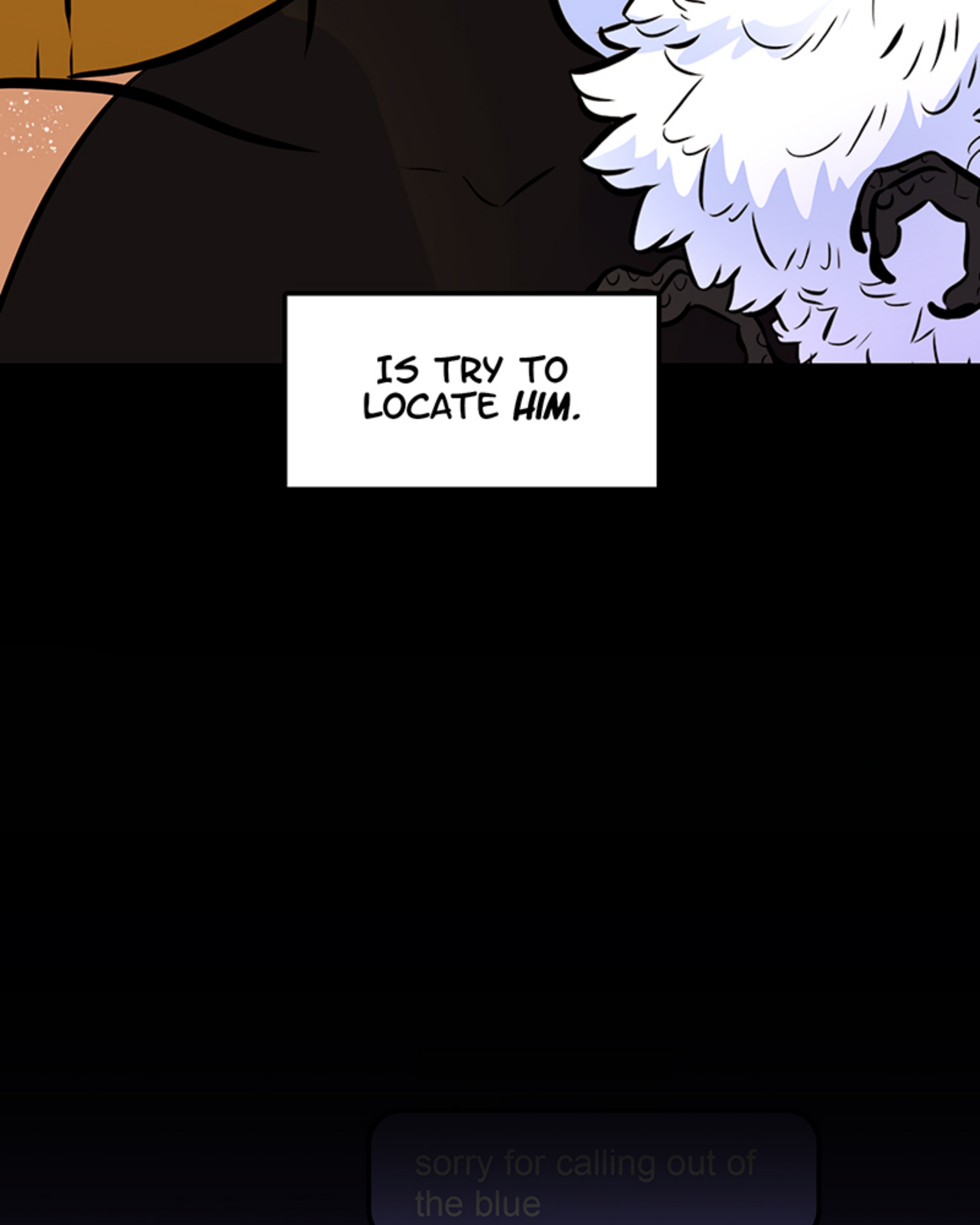




A comic book panel featuring a close-up of a character's face, which is partially obscured by a large white speech bubble. The character has light skin and is wearing a dark, possibly black, garment. To the right, a portion of another character with long, flowing purple hair is visible. The background is a solid dark color, likely black or dark brown. The speech bubble is white with a black outline and contains the text "THE ONLY THING I CAN DO RIGHT NOW..." in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

THE ONLY
THING I CAN DO
RIGHT NOW...





IS TRY TO
LOCATE *HIM*.

sorry for calling out of
the blue

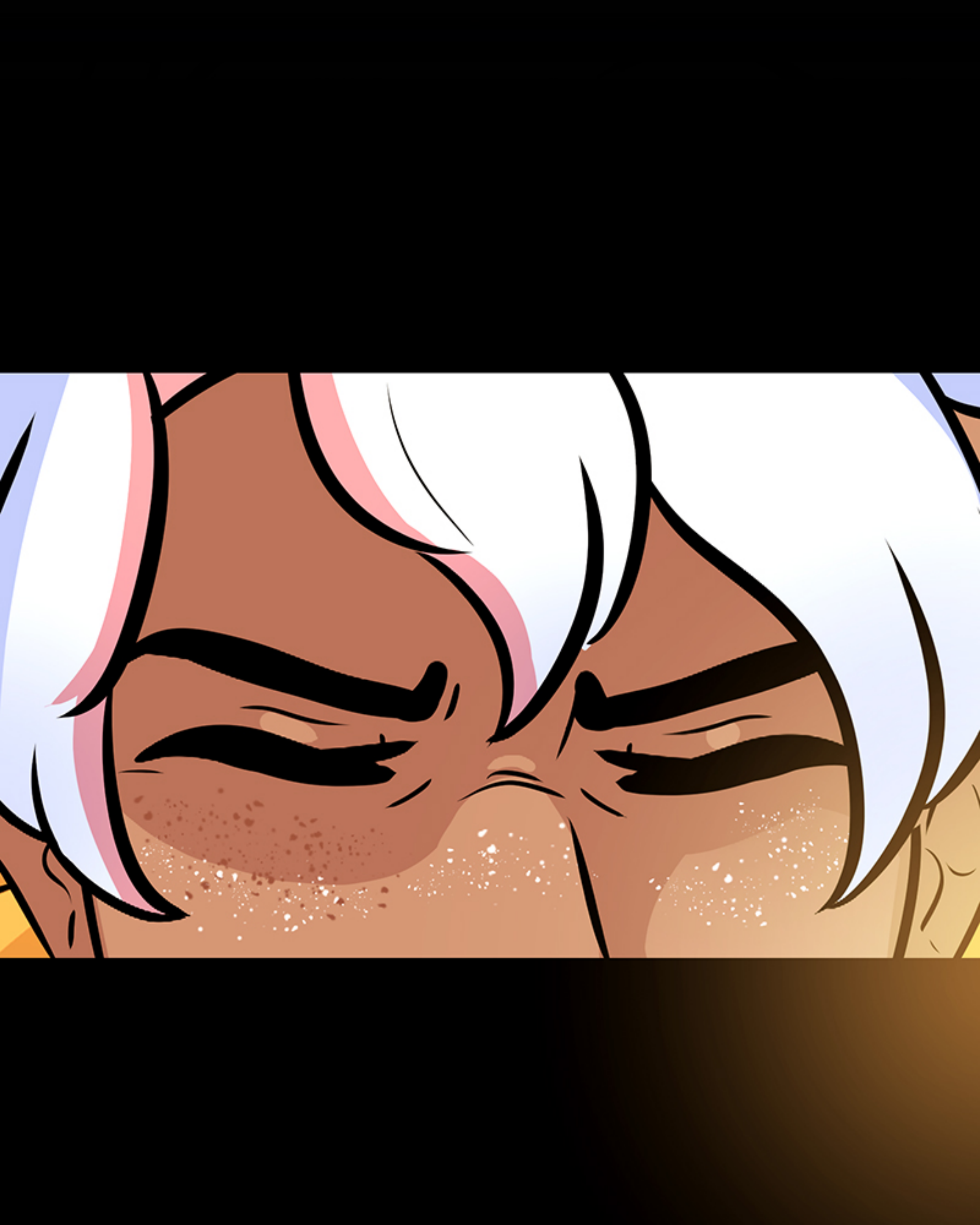
would text work better?

Today 3:30 PM

Velix, are you alright?

Is there anything that
I can do to help?

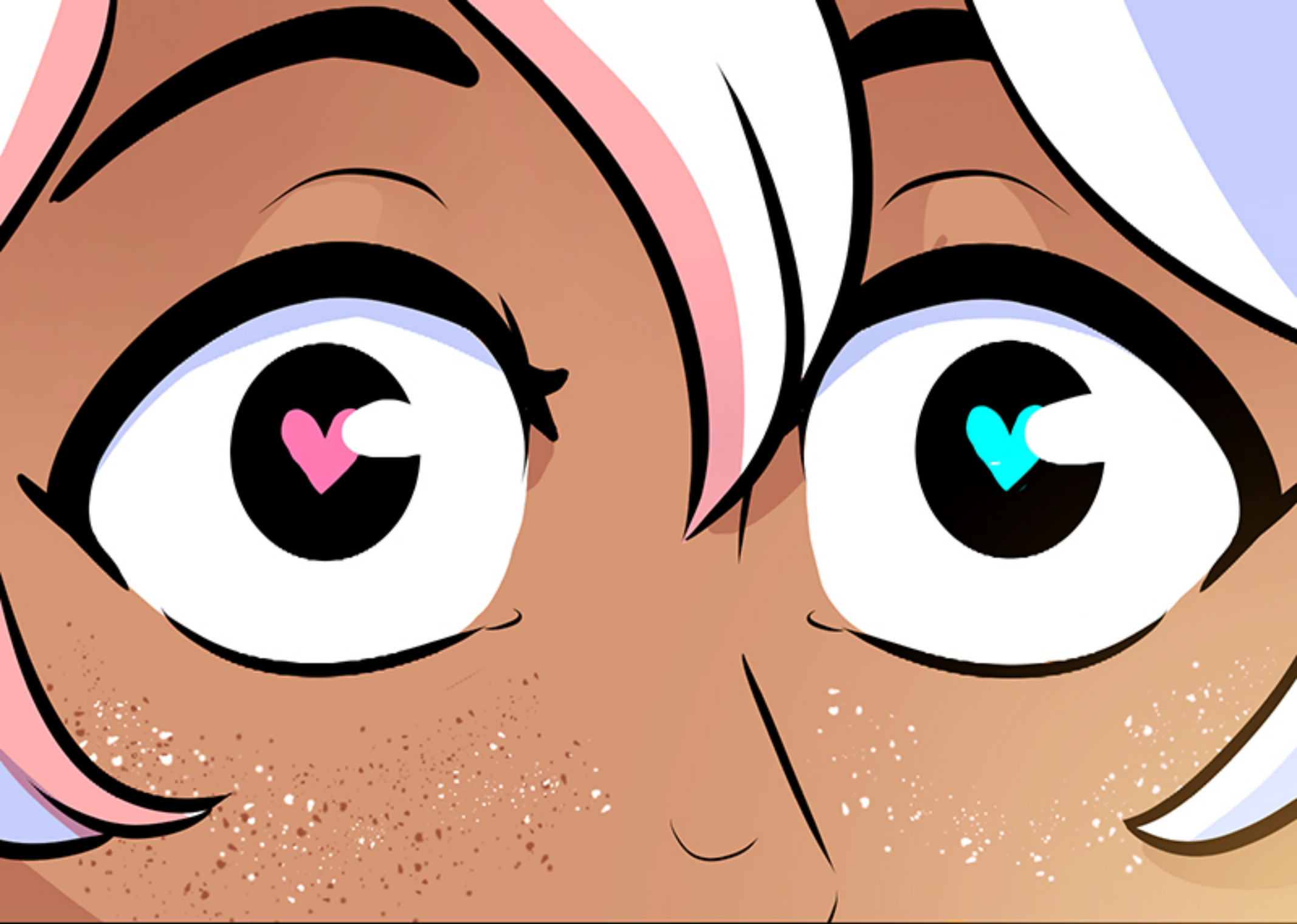
we are really worried
about you...

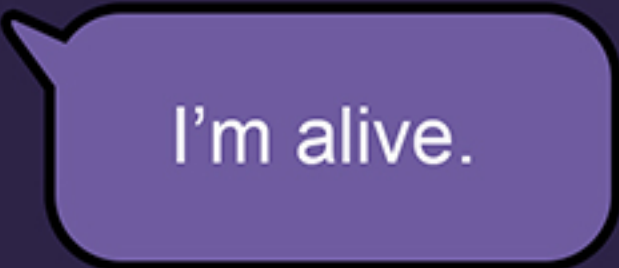


Now

If you don't want to talk to us right now
I understand I just really want to know
that you're alive... please?

Read





I'm alive.







where are you?

LOVEBOT

By Chase Keels & Miranda M.

Editors | Griffin Freitas & Bre Boswell

Flat Colors | Sydney Brunzell

Thank you
for reading! ♥



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