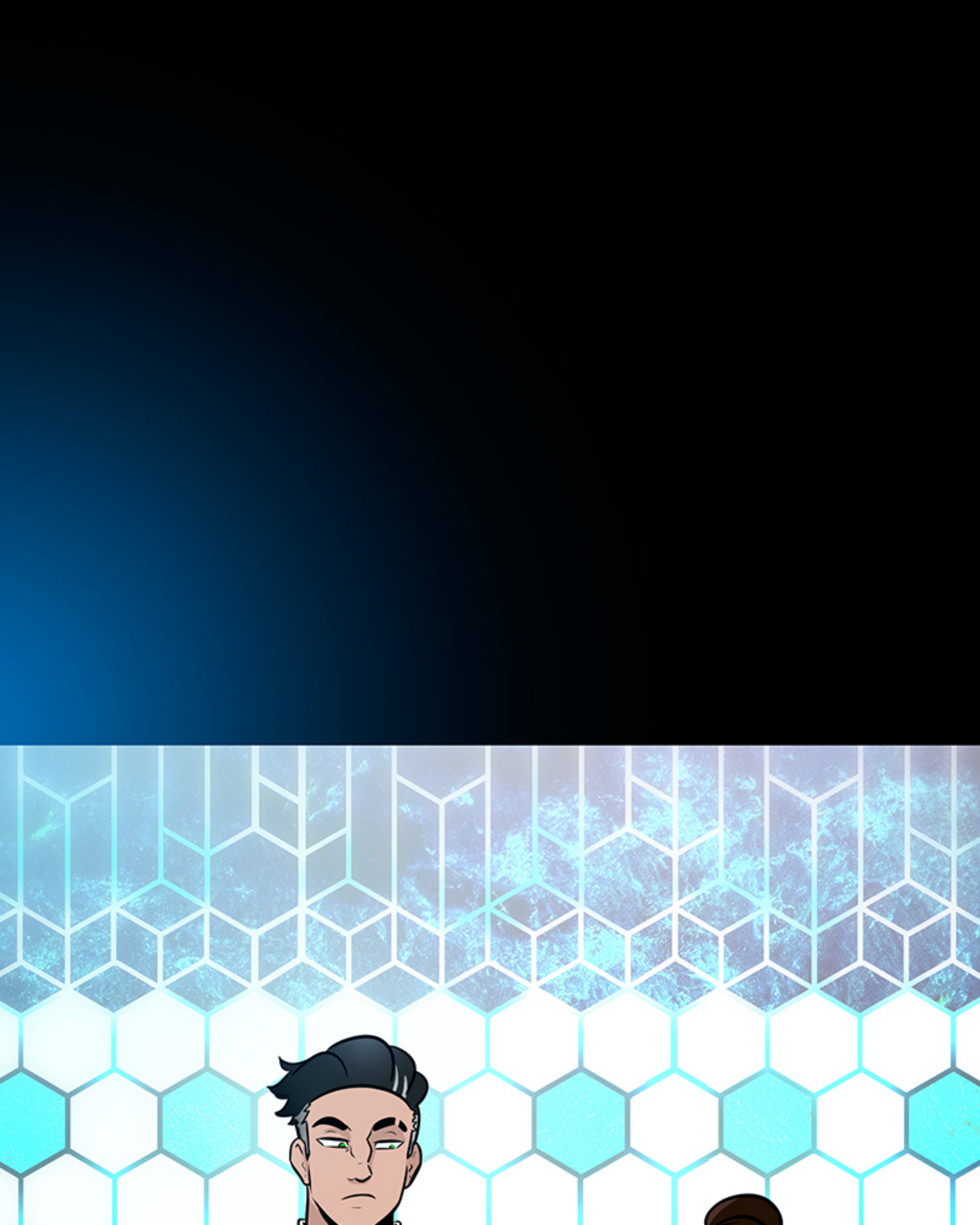






FIX YOUR
FACE. EVERYTHING
IS GOING BACK TO
NORMAL NOW AND YOU
NEED TO ACT
LIKE IT.





WELL. WE
STILL HAVE TO
HANDLE BRIZZ. BUT
I WILL LEAVE THAT
TO ISOMALT.





LET'S

MEET EACH

CIRCLE BACK
AROUND TO THAT
ON MONDAY.

THIS DINNER
SHOULDN'T TAKE
TOO LONG SINCE
I DECIDED AGAINST
THE LIVE DEMO.





LUCKILY
VELIX HAD ALREADY
FINISHED UP A BULK
OF THE PRESENTATION
REGARDING THE 2020
BEFORE... YOU
KNOW.



THE REST
OF THE MARKETING
TEAM DID AN ALRIGHT
JOB FINISHING IT
UP BUT...

PERHAPS
I DIDN'T REALLY
APPRECIATE THE
COMBINATION OF TALENT
AND DESPERATE NEED
FOR APPROVAL UNTIL
IT WAS TOO

IT WAS TOO
LATE.

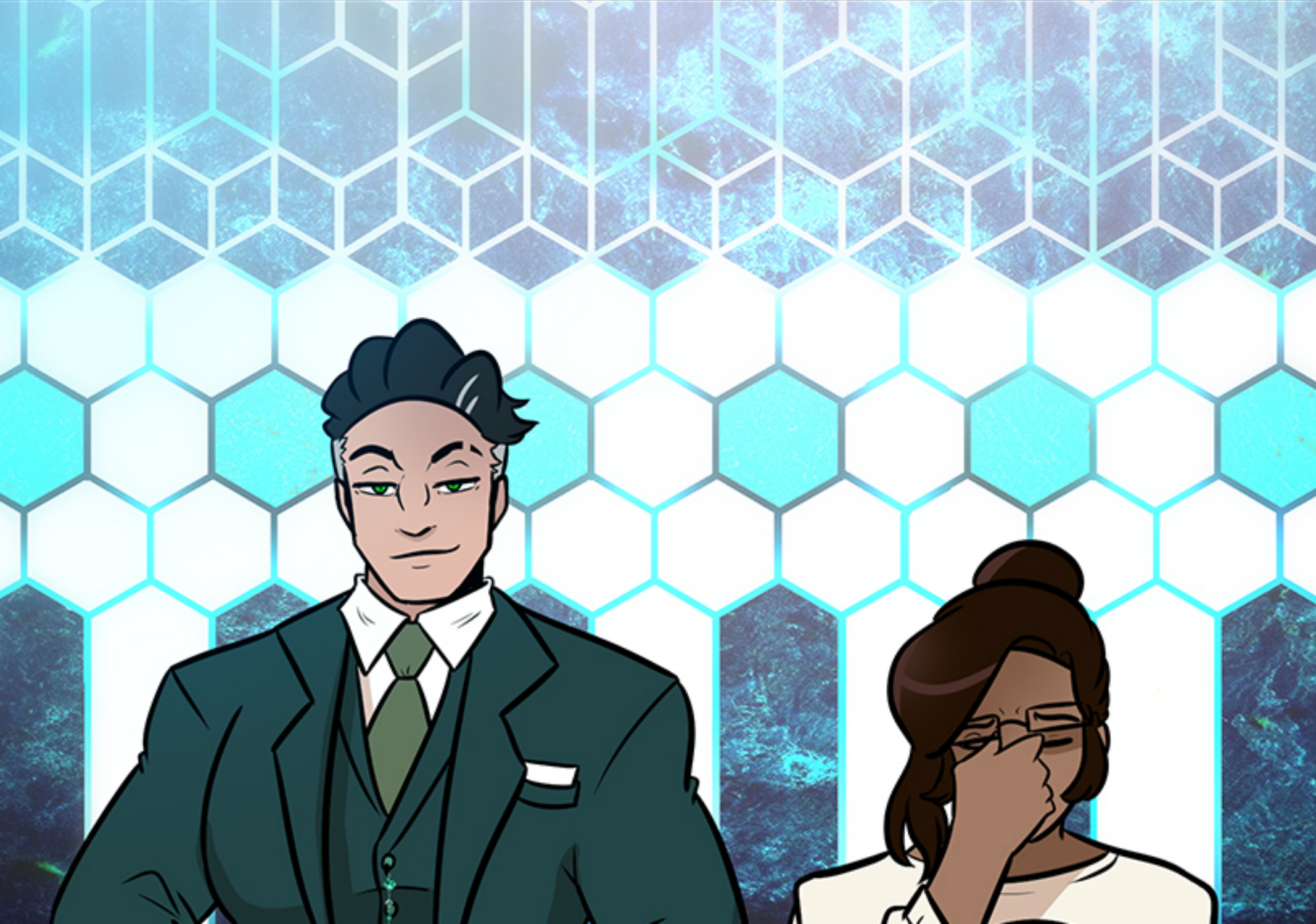
C'EST
LA VIE.

COULD YOU
SHUT UP FOR
JUST THIRTY
SECONDS...









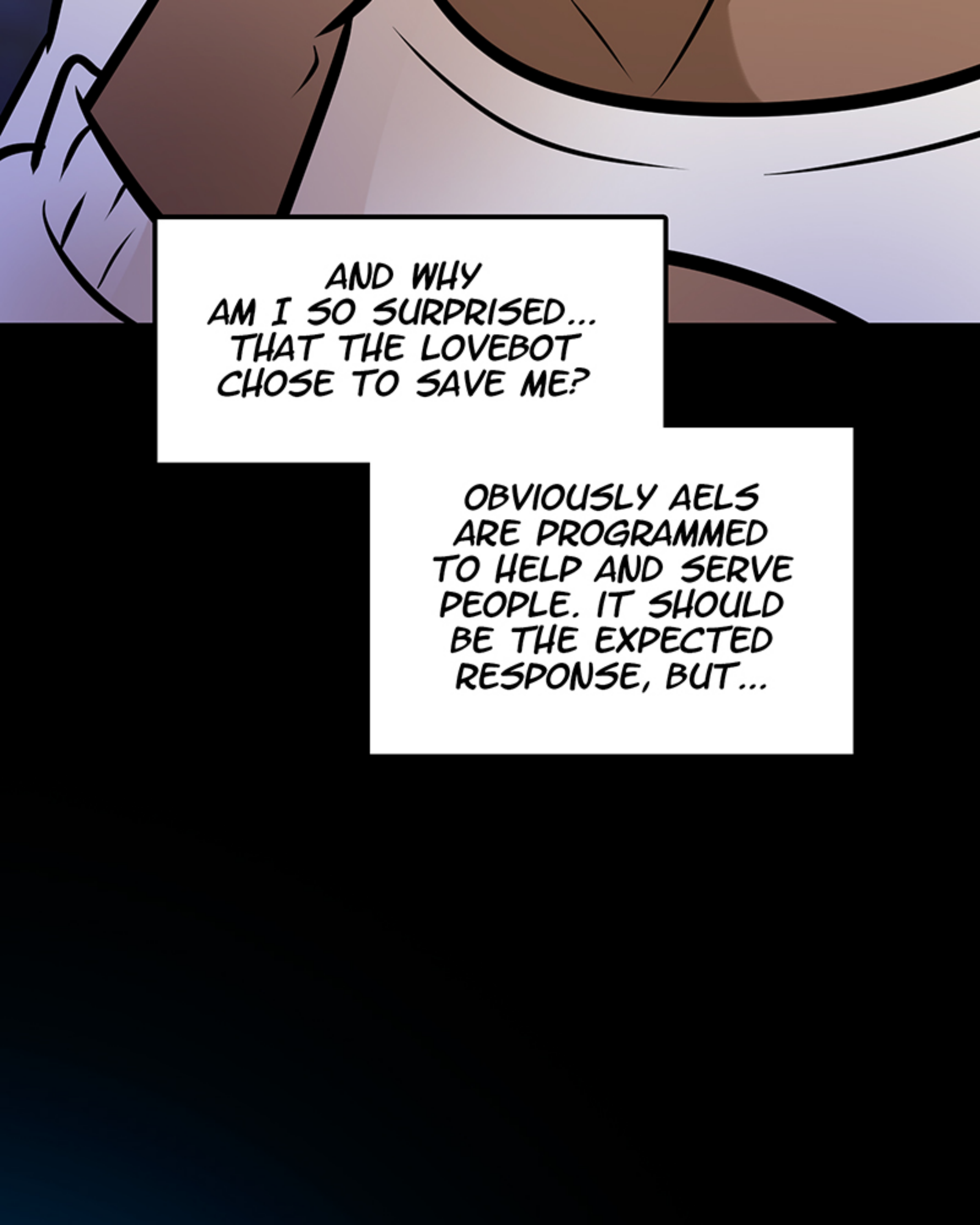


THIS WHOLE
TIME... I HAVE BEEN

TELLING MYSELF THAT
I WOULD NEVER PUT MY
LIFE ON THE LINE FOR
A LOVEBOT.

SO WHY DID
I TRY TO STOP IT?
CHARLES IS RIGHT...
I SHOULD BE HAPPY.





AND WHY
AM I SO SURPRISED...
THAT THE LOVEBOT
CHOSE TO SAVE ME?

OBVIOUSLY AELS
ARE PROGRAMMED
TO HELP AND SERVE
PEOPLE. IT SHOULD
BE THE EXPECTED
RESPONSE, BUT...

HE FELT...
RESIGNED
TO IT.





HE SAW SOMETHING
I COULDN'T SEE AND
JUST... ACCEPTED
IT.

DINO

YOUR 30
SECONDS ARE
UP.

SHOW
TIME.





HEEEYYY,
GOOD EVENING!
I'M GLAD YOU WERE
ABLE TO MAKE IT
ON SUCH SHORT
NOTICE!





A hand wearing a red glove is shown pulling a thick, brown rope. The rope is attached to a metal grate or cage. The background is dark and textured.

SHOULD I ASK
WHY EXACTLY A.E.
HAS...

SECRET
UNDERGROUND
TUNNELS LEADING
TO IT?





HAVING ME
WALK IN AND OUT
OF THE FRONT DOOR
IS BAD FOR THE
BRAND.

SO WHEN I
LEFT TO DO MY
JOB I WENT THROUGH
THESE TUNNELS WHICH
ARE BUILT OFF OF
THE OLD SEATTLE
UNDERGROUND

UNDERGROUND.

MOST OF THE
WORKERS DON'T
EVEN KNOW THAT
I EXIST.

THE PROBLEM
WILL BE IF DALLAS
HAS GOTTEN WISE
TO ME.





THERE ARE
MORE AND MORE
SECURITY CHECKPOINTS
AS WE GET CLOSER
TO HEADQUARTERS.

IF HE HAS
CUT OFF MY
ACCESS SINCE WE
STARTED THEN THAT
WILL PRESENT SOME
CHALLENGES.

I BROUGHT
ALL THE GEAR THAT
I WOULD NEED TO
HACK THROUGH
THAT.

I'M PRETTY
WELL VERSED IN
A.E.'S BRAND OF
SECURITY BY
THIS POINT.





YOU ARE



YOU ARE
PRETTY QUICK
WITH THAT...

...FOR A
HUMAN.

TSH.

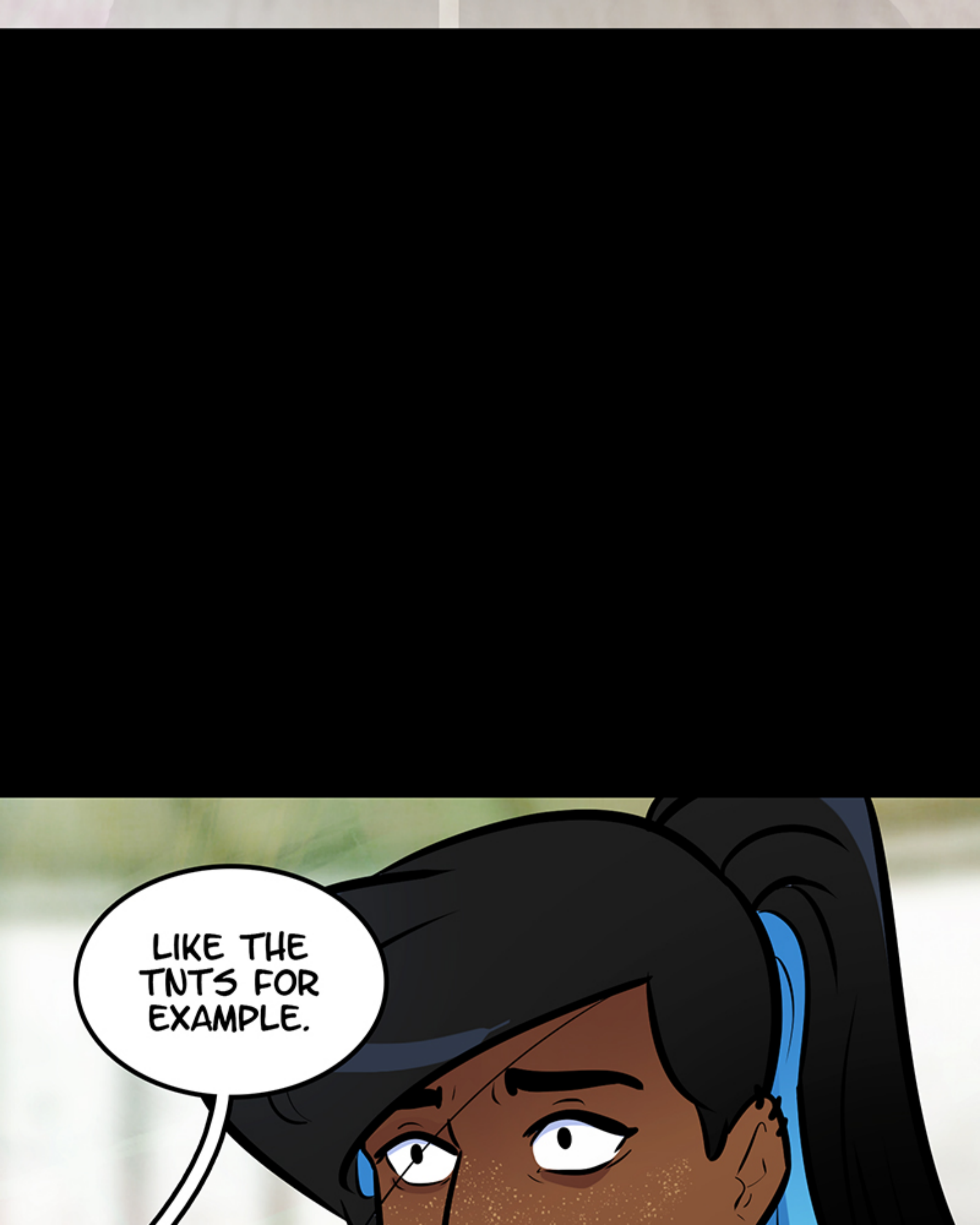
BUT MY
LARGER CONCERN IS
ANY PHYSICAL THREAT
THAT WILL SENT
AS SECURITY.

I CAN HANDLE
THEM, BUT THEY'LL
TAKE A LOT MORE
TIME AND EFFORT
THAN A DOOR.



WHAT KIND
OF PHYSICAL
THREATS?





LIKE THE
TNTS FOR
EXAMPLE.

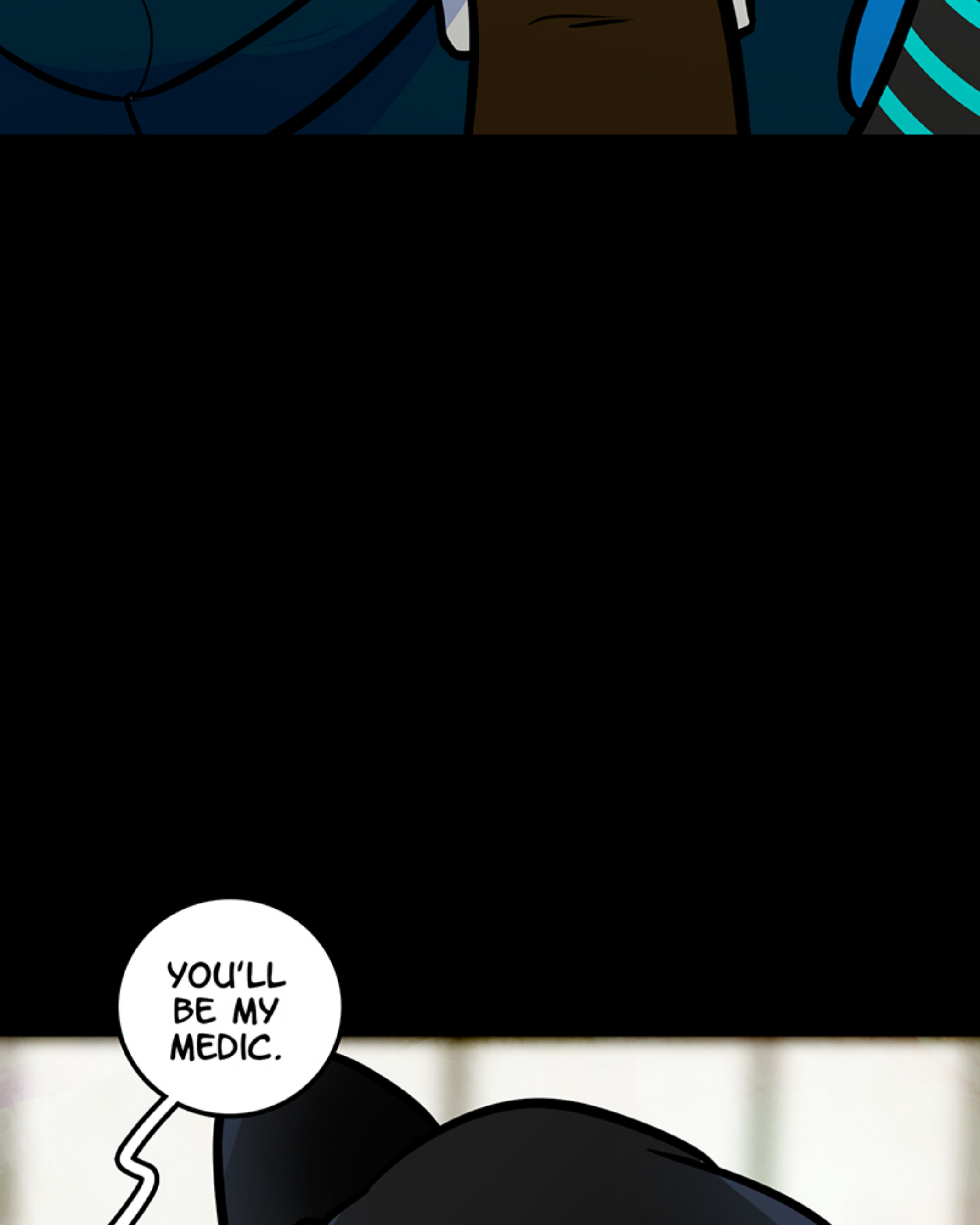




AH....



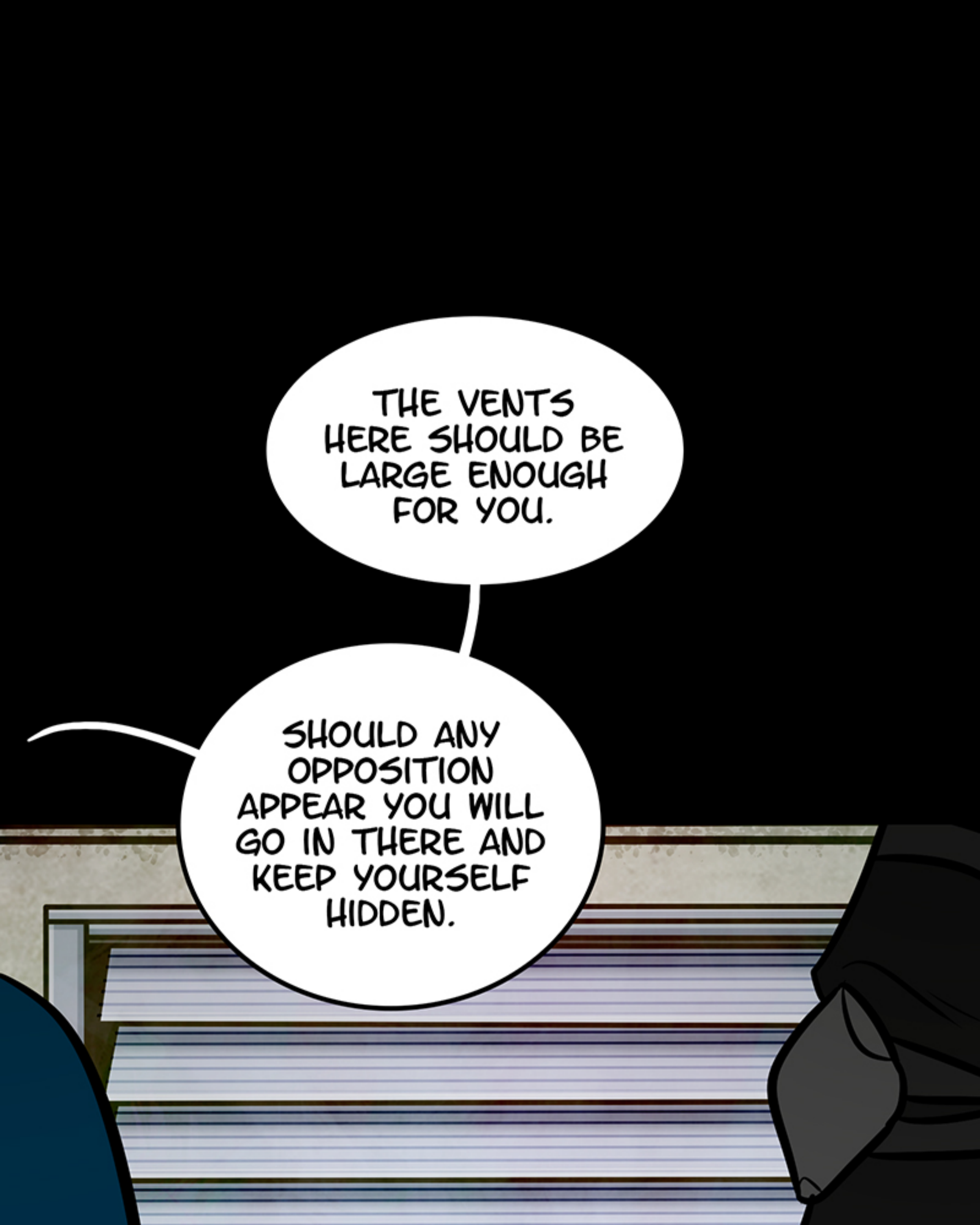
IN CASES
LIKE THAT, I'M NOT
SURE HOW MUCH HELP
I'LL BE...



A comic panel with a dark background. In the foreground, the top of a character's head is visible, rendered in dark grey and black. In the background, a character's face is partially visible, showing a brown forehead, a closed eye, and a blue and white striped pattern on the right side. A white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned in the lower-left area, containing the text "YOU'LL BE MY MEDIC." in a simple, black, sans-serif font.

YOU'LL
BE MY
MEDIC.





THE VENTS
HERE SHOULD BE
LARGE ENOUGH
FOR YOU.

SHOULD ANY
OPPOSITION
APPEAR YOU WILL
GO IN THERE AND
KEEP YOURSELF
HIDDEN.





THEN, IF THEY
ARE ABLE TO GET
ANY DAMAGE ON ME
YOU'LL MAKE REPAIRS
ON THE MOVE.

ALRIGHT...
I CAN DO
THAT.



ARE THE
TNTS ALL THAT
WE'LL HAVE TO
WORRY ABOUT?

WHAT
ABOUT THE ONE
YOU MENTIONED THAT
IS MORE LIKE

IS MORE...LIKE
YOU.

ISOMALT.

A character with white hair and a blue visor is shown from the chest up, looking towards the right. The character's face is partially obscured by the visor.

HE'S KEPT
DEACTIVATED A
MAJORITY OF THE TIME
SINCE HE ISN'T...
SUBTLE.



IF HE IS
UP AND ABOUT
THEN YES...HE WILL
BE....MORE OF AN
ISSUE. BUT NOT
INSURMOUNTABLE.

THE LAST
ISSUE WILL BE
FIGURING OUT
WHERE LACEY
IS LOCATED.





WE'LL HAVE TO
GO UP TO CHARLES'
OFFICE OR DOWN TO
EVA'S LABS.

AND EVA...
WHILE SHE ISN'T A
THREAT TO US... I AM
NOT PLANNING ON
HER BEING AN
ALLY.



MOTION ALE





DRINKING
BY MYSELF IN

A DIMLY LIT
ROOM.

HOW
NOSTALGIC.





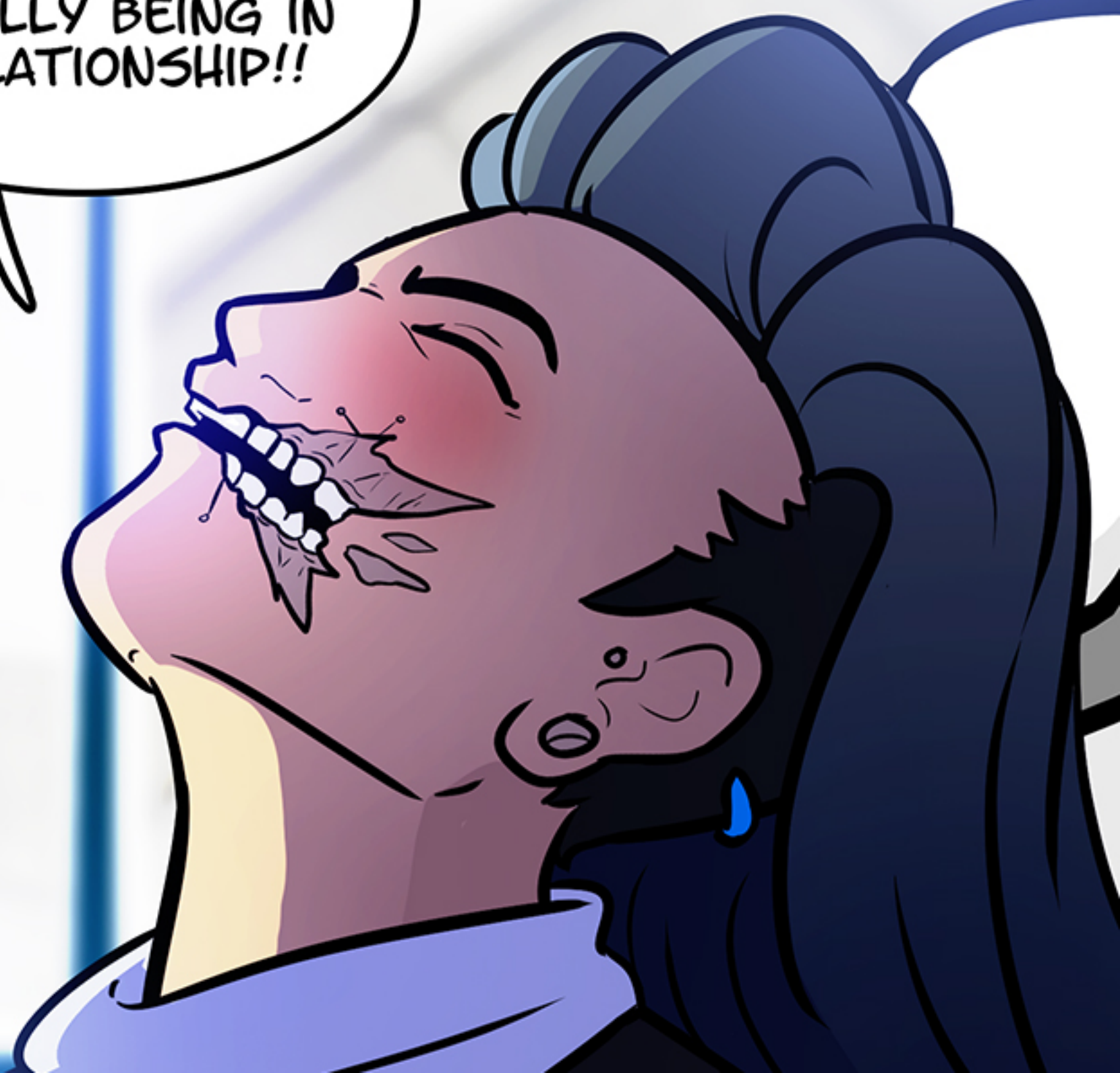
TRY THINKING
OF A WAY TO SAY
SORRY THAT I'LL
ACTUALLY BELIEVE,
EVA.

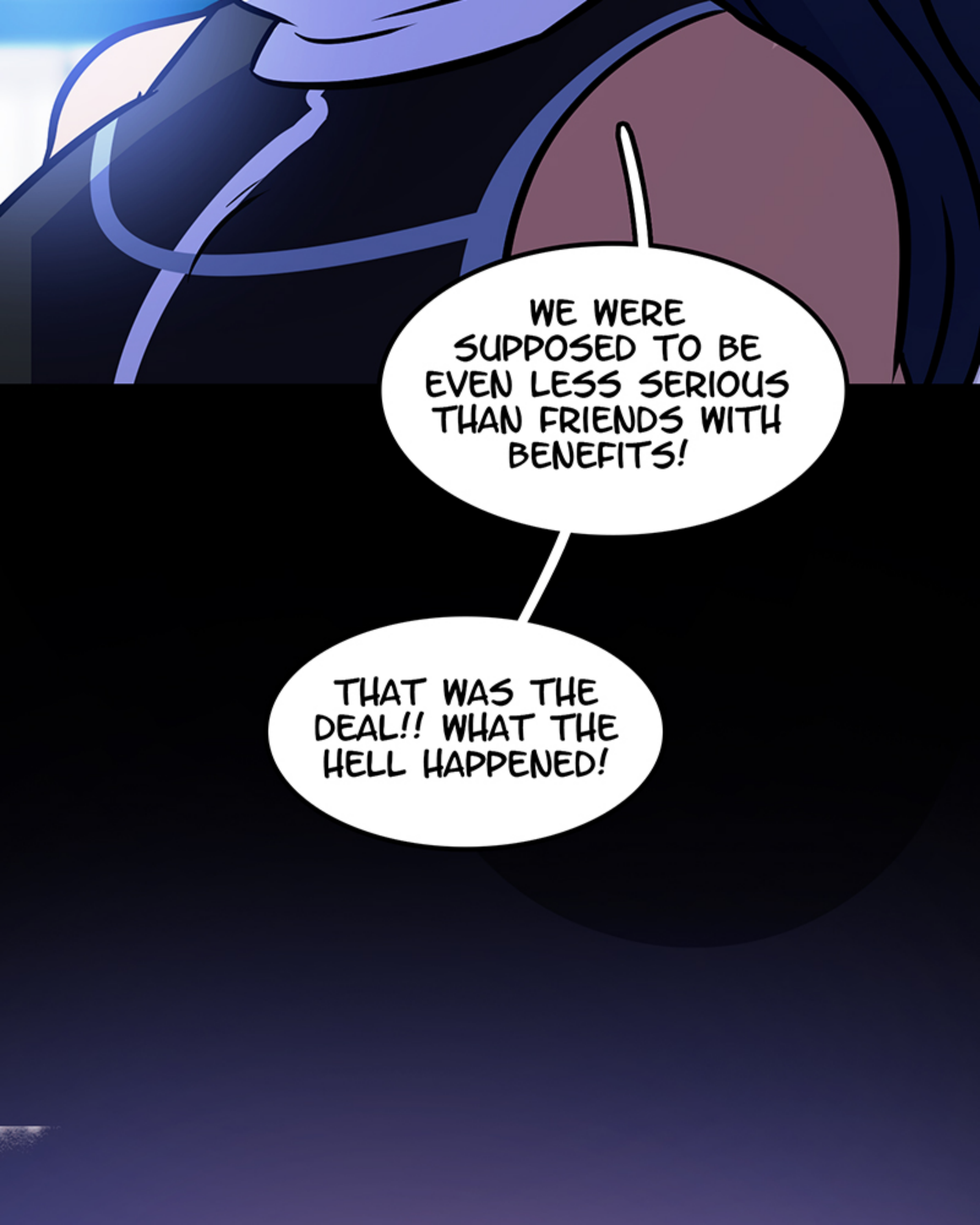


UNLESS
YOU CAN LOOK
ME IN THE EYE RIGHT
NOW AND SWEAR THAT
YOU AREN'T HIDING
ANYTHING ELSE.

UGH!!
WHY DO I EVEN
GIVE A SHIT!!

WE NEVER
EVEN DISCUSSED
ACTUALLY BEING IN
A RELATIONSHIP!!





WE WERE
SUPPOSED TO BE
EVEN LESS SERIOUS
THAN FRIENDS WITH
BENEFITS!

THAT WAS THE
DEAL!! WHAT THE
HELL HAPPENED!





MORNING.

A character with dark, wavy hair and a white shirt is shown from the chest up, looking upwards with a frustrated expression. The background is a dark blue gradient with a large, glowing pink and orange light source in the upper right corner.

SO FUCKING
STUPID...



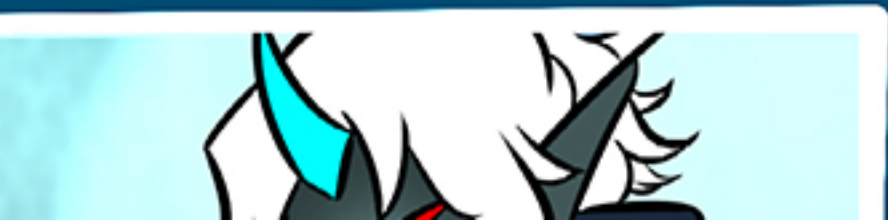
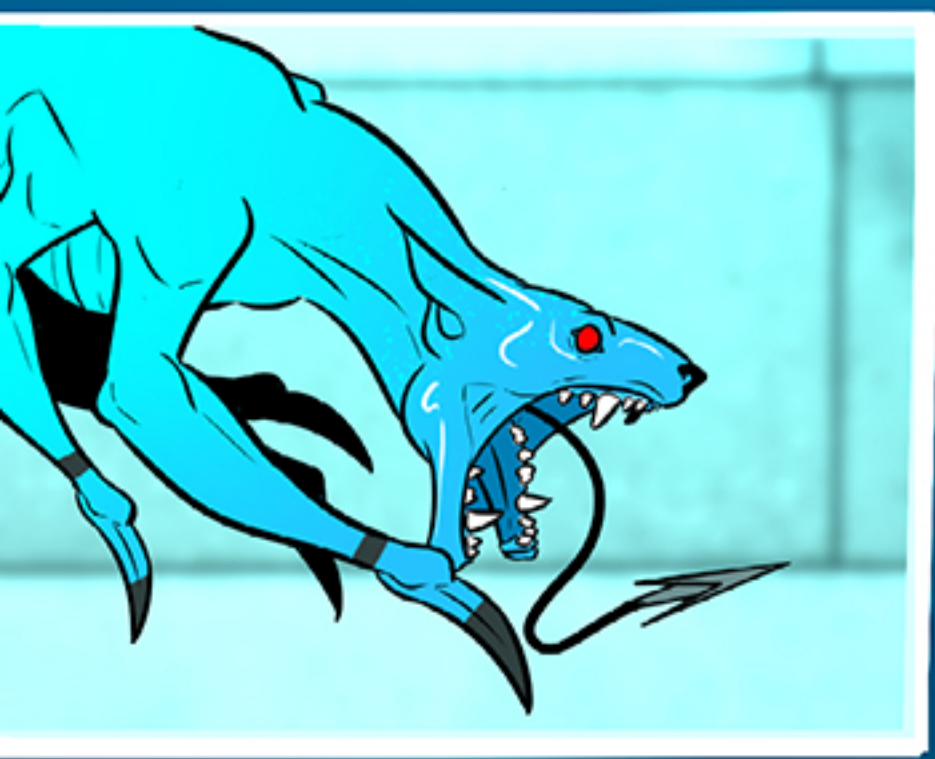
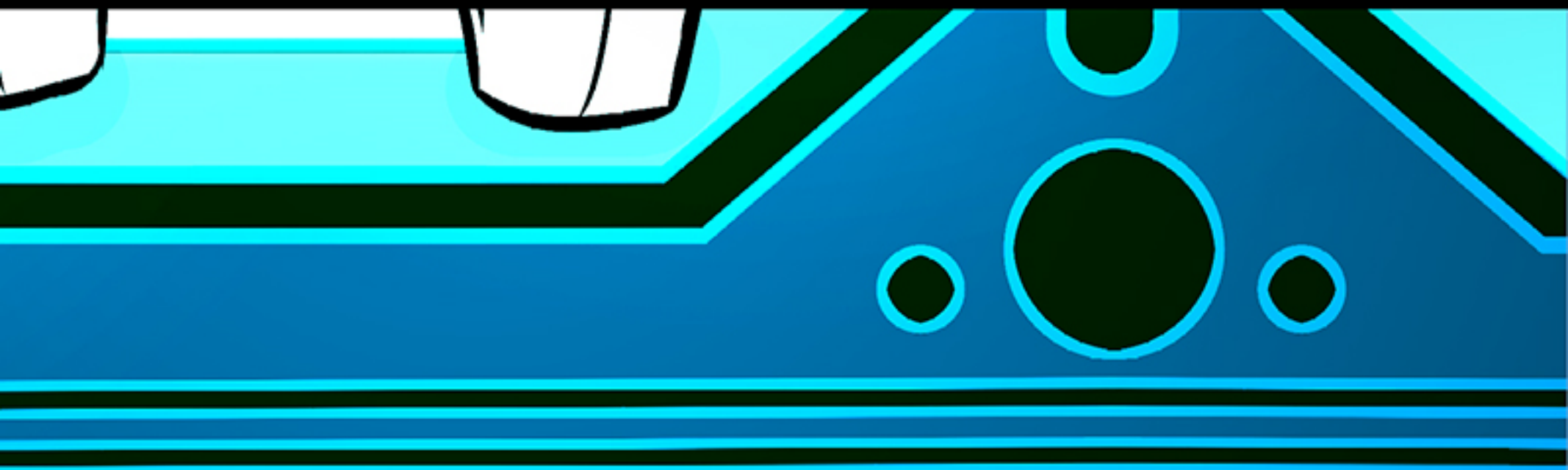
LETTING
MY GUARD DOWN
ENOUGH TO BE SO
OBVIOUS ABOUT IT
THAT CHARLES EVEN
NOTICED...

WHY AM I EVEN
STILL HERE. I SHOULD
BE GETTING ON THE
SOONEST FLIGHT OUT OF
THE COUNTRY BEFORE
THIS WHOLE PLACE
GOES TO SHIT...

BEEP BEEP

SECURITY BREACH IN
TUNNEL C. DEPLOYING
COUNTER DEFENSES.







YOU MADE
CONNECTIONS WHEN
YOU DIDN'T MEAN TO,
TOO, DIDN'T YOU?



A comic panel featuring a character's torso in a dark blue uniform with orange and blue accents. A speech bubble originates from the character. The background is solid black. At the bottom, a white, flame-like shape with a red crescent is visible against a light blue background.

BUT YOU'RE
ACTUALLY FIGHTING
FOR THEM...

WHAT WOULD
YOU DO IN MY
POSITION...



SLASH

BEEP BEEP

AUXILIARY
DEFENSES
ENGAGED.





CRACK

PEAR

D





THANKS.

NO PROBLEM.
MINOR DAMAGE,
WON'T TAKE
TOO LONG.







JUST UP AHEAD
IS THE ELEVATOR,
WE'LL HAVE TO HACK
THAT FOR ACCESS.

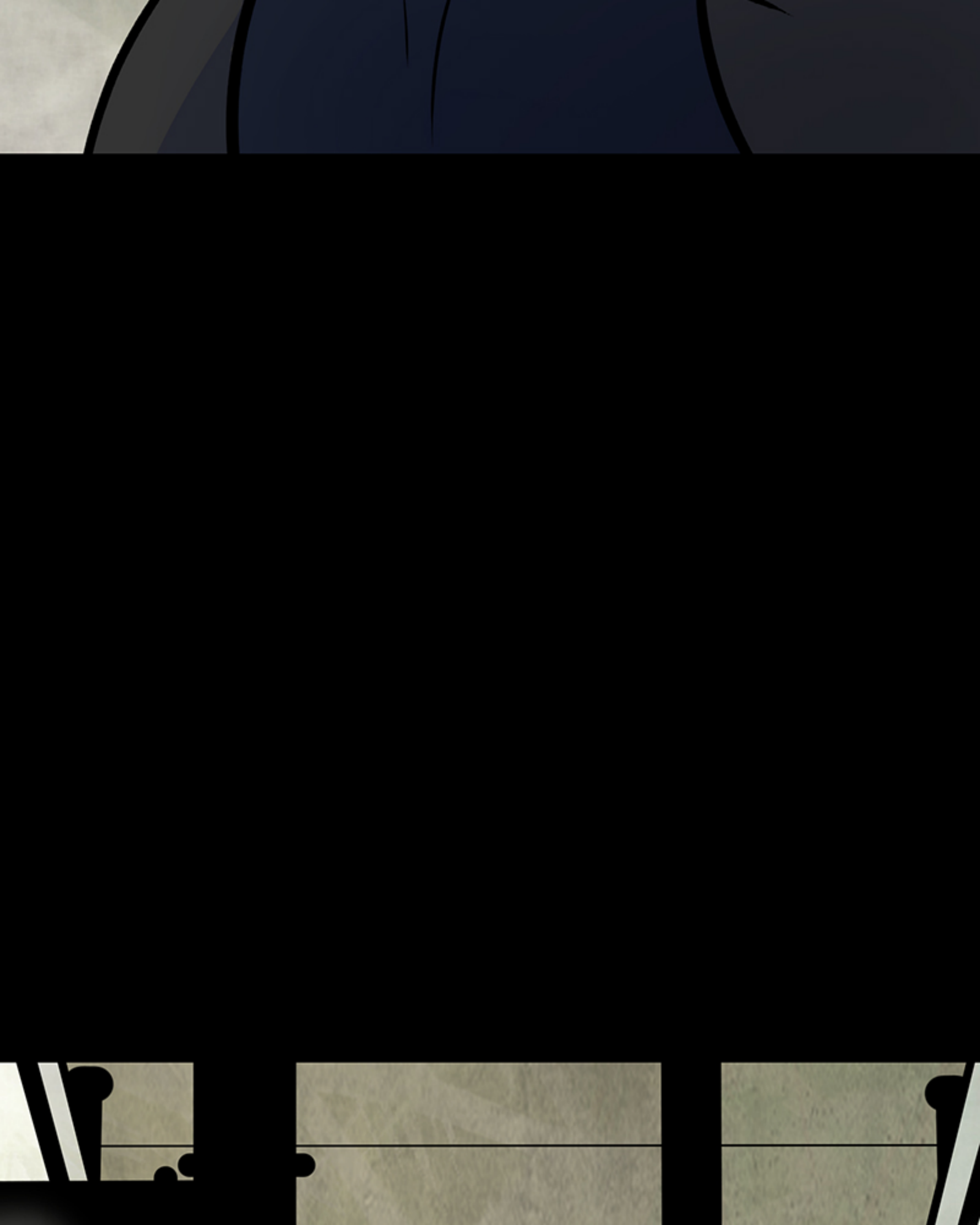


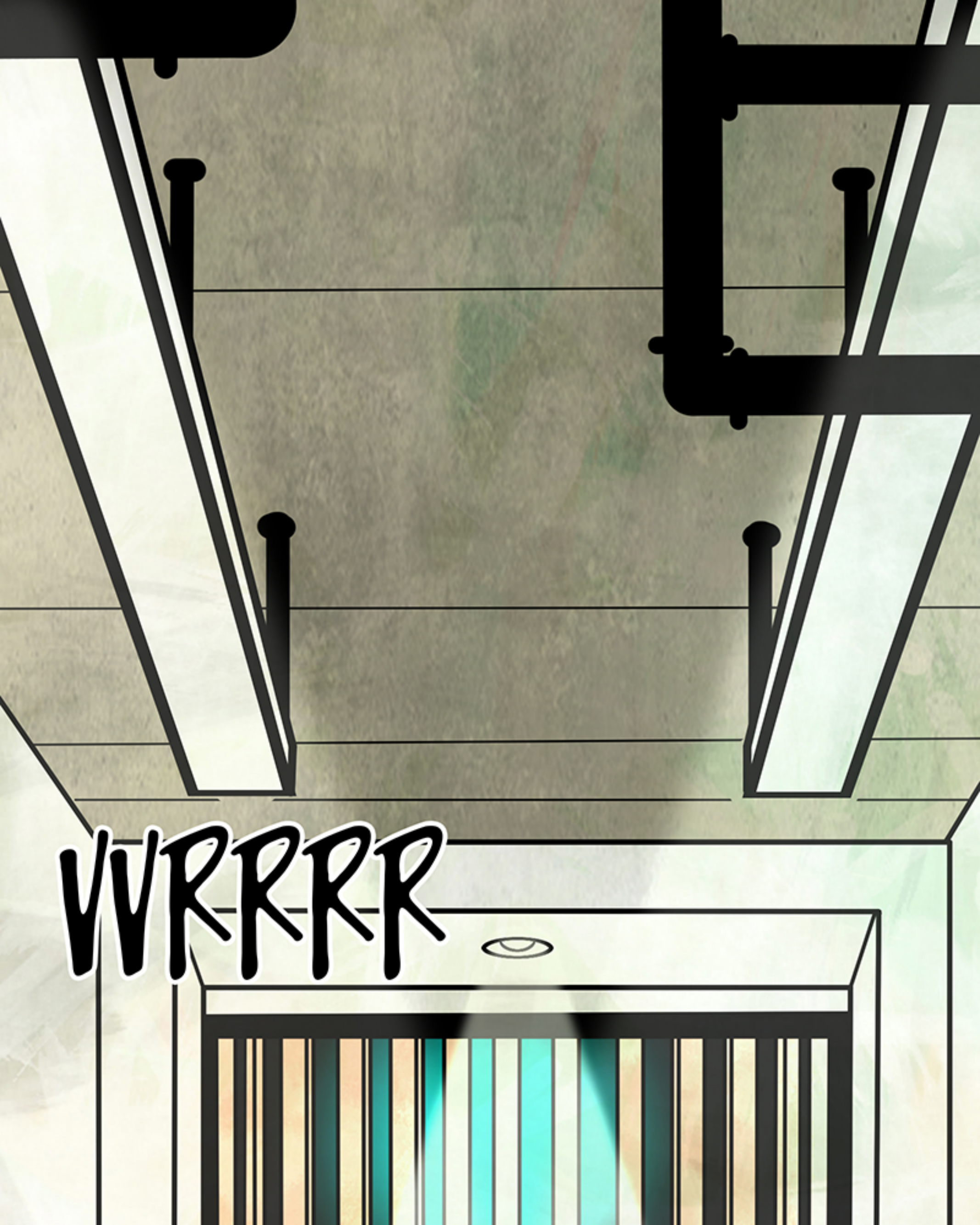
GOT
IT.

111111

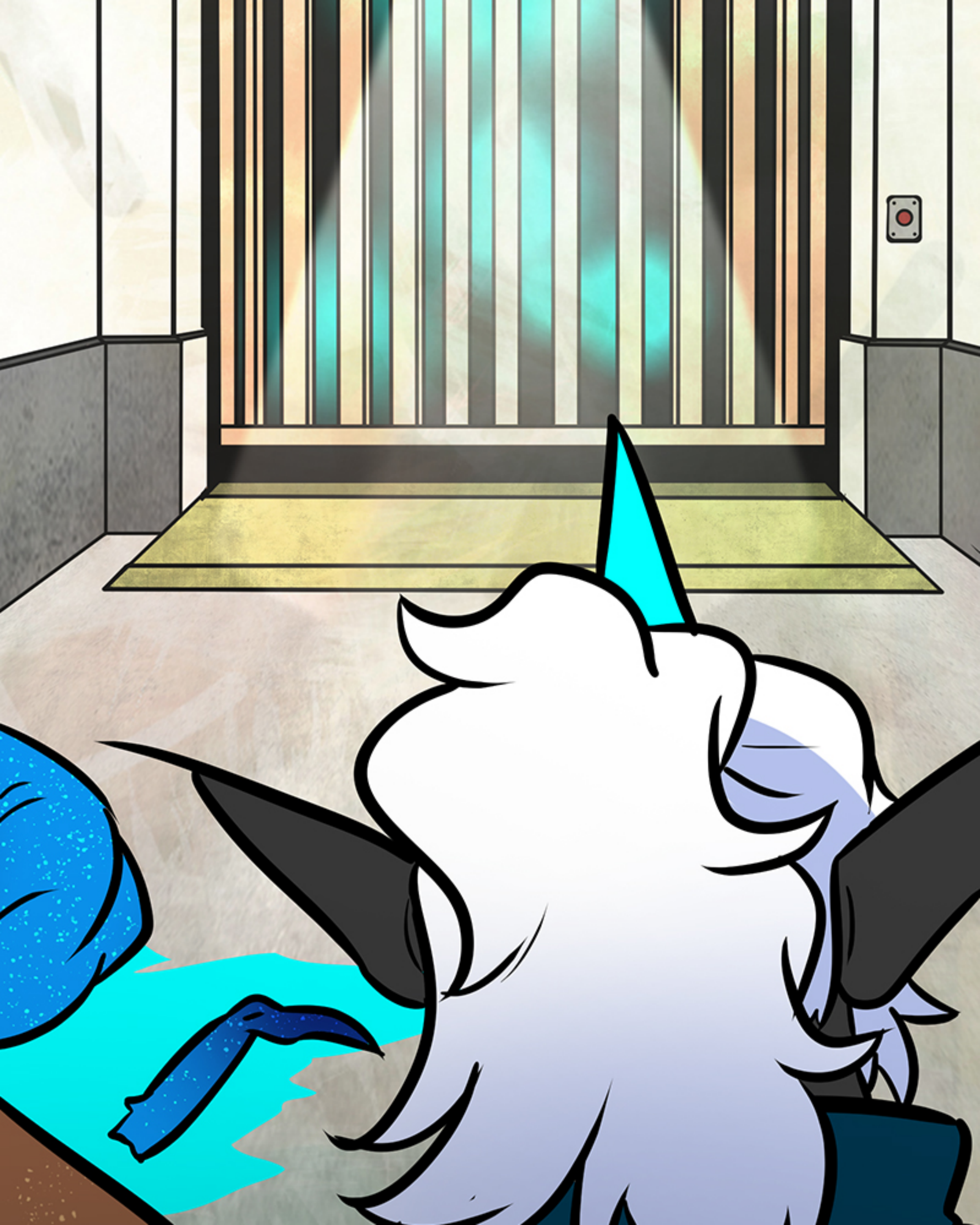
DING







WRRRR

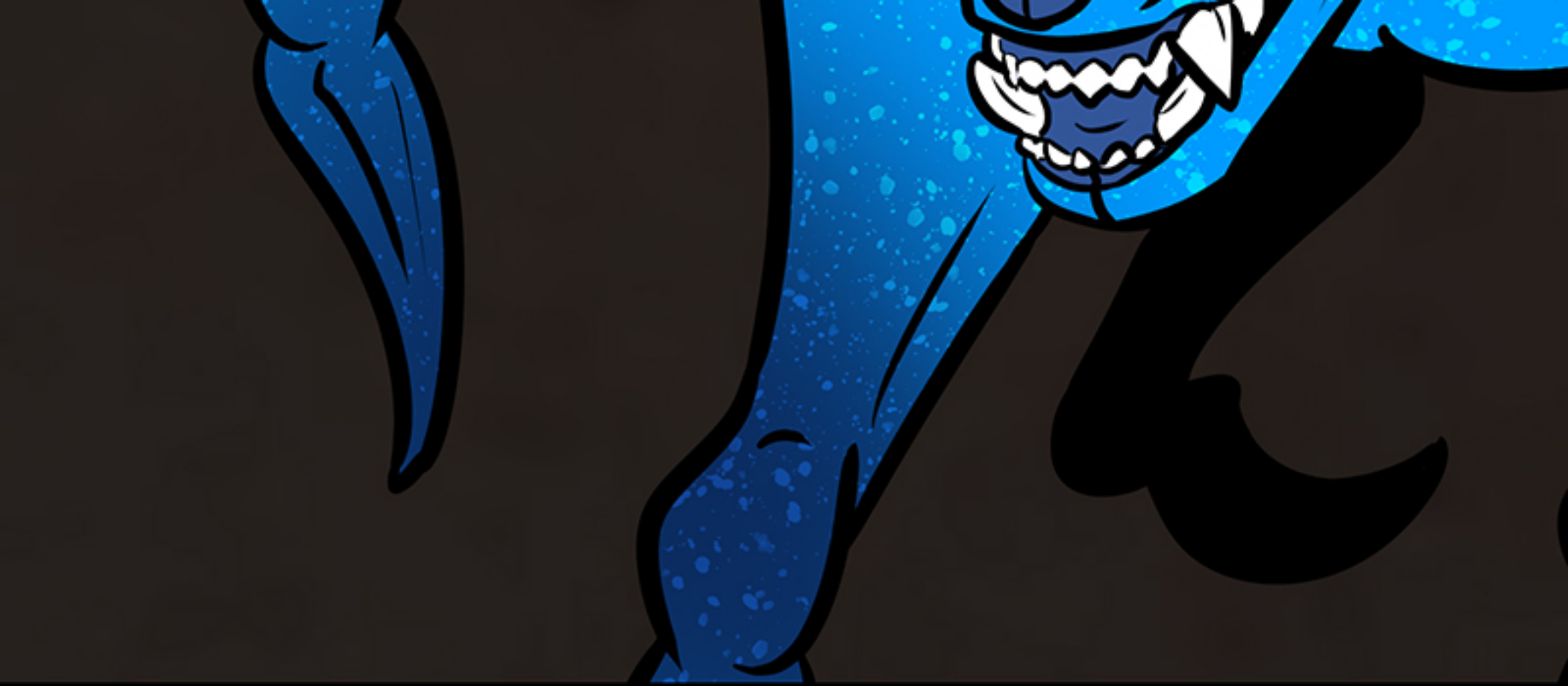














SHIT-

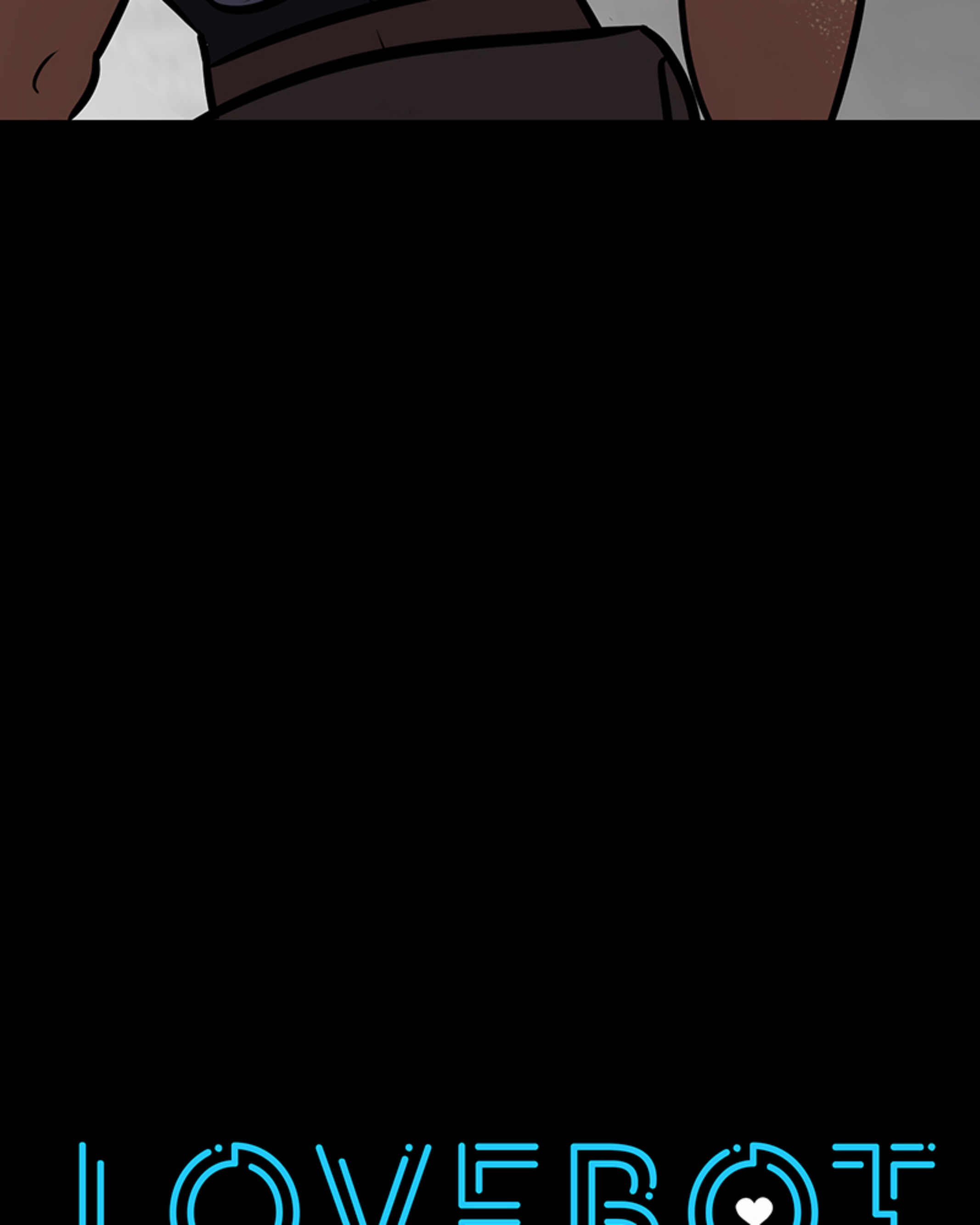


XADA
GO HIDE-





BRIZZ?!



I LOVE BOTS



By Chase Keels & Miranda M.

Editors | Griffin Freitas & Bre Boswell

Thank you
for reading! ♥



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