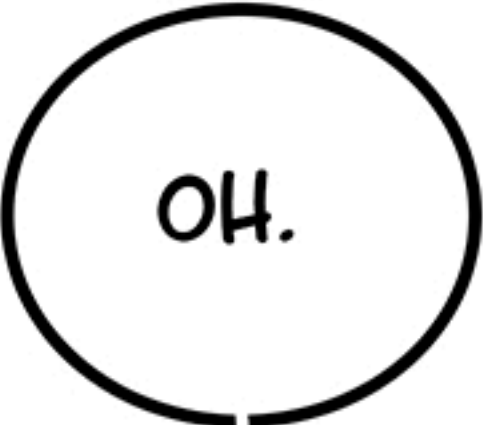




OH.



YOU'RE
STILL
HERE.





WHY
WOULDN'T
I BE?

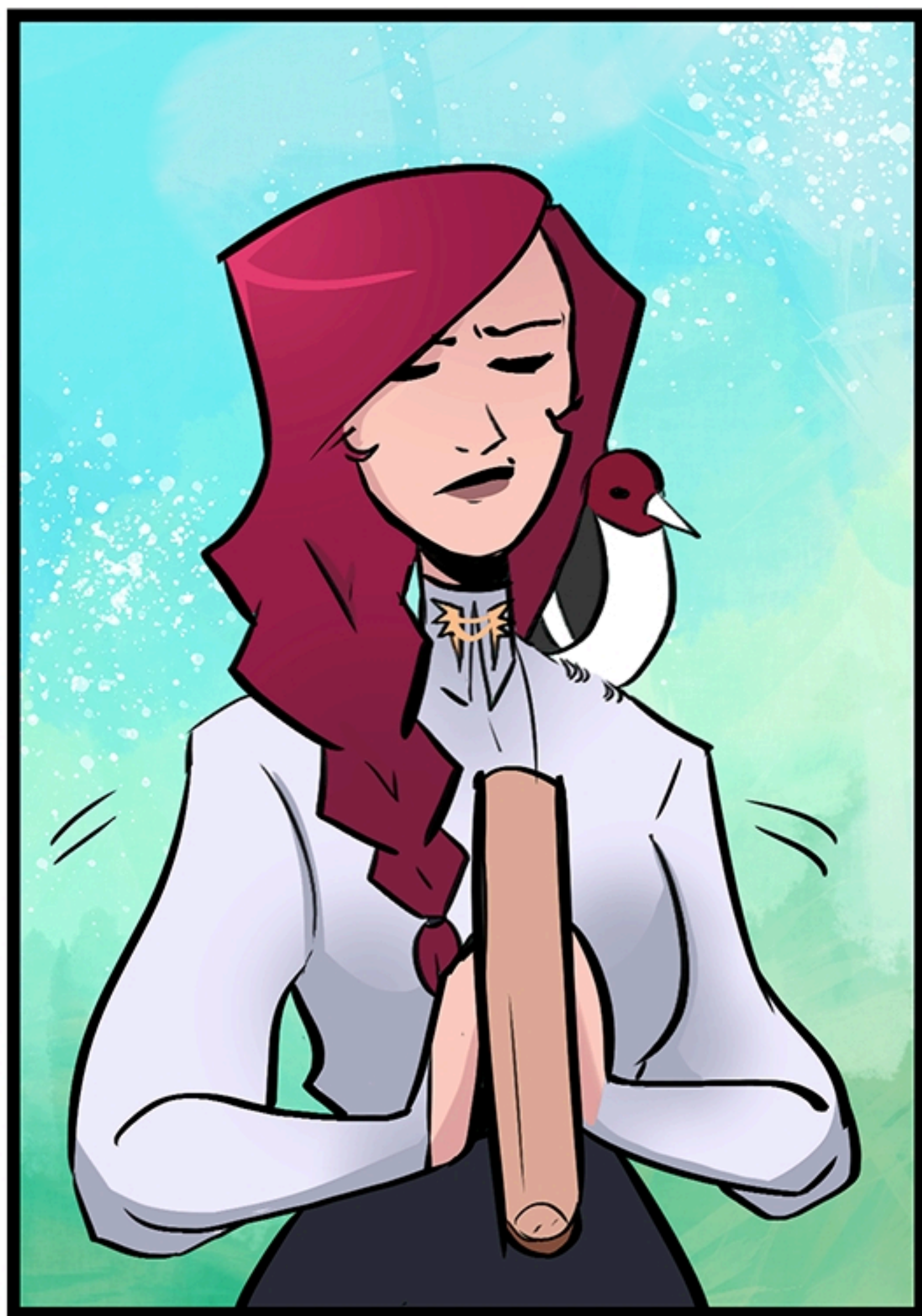


WE'D ALREADY
PLANNED TO STAY
WITH SILVIA FOR
THE NEXT FEW
WEEKS.

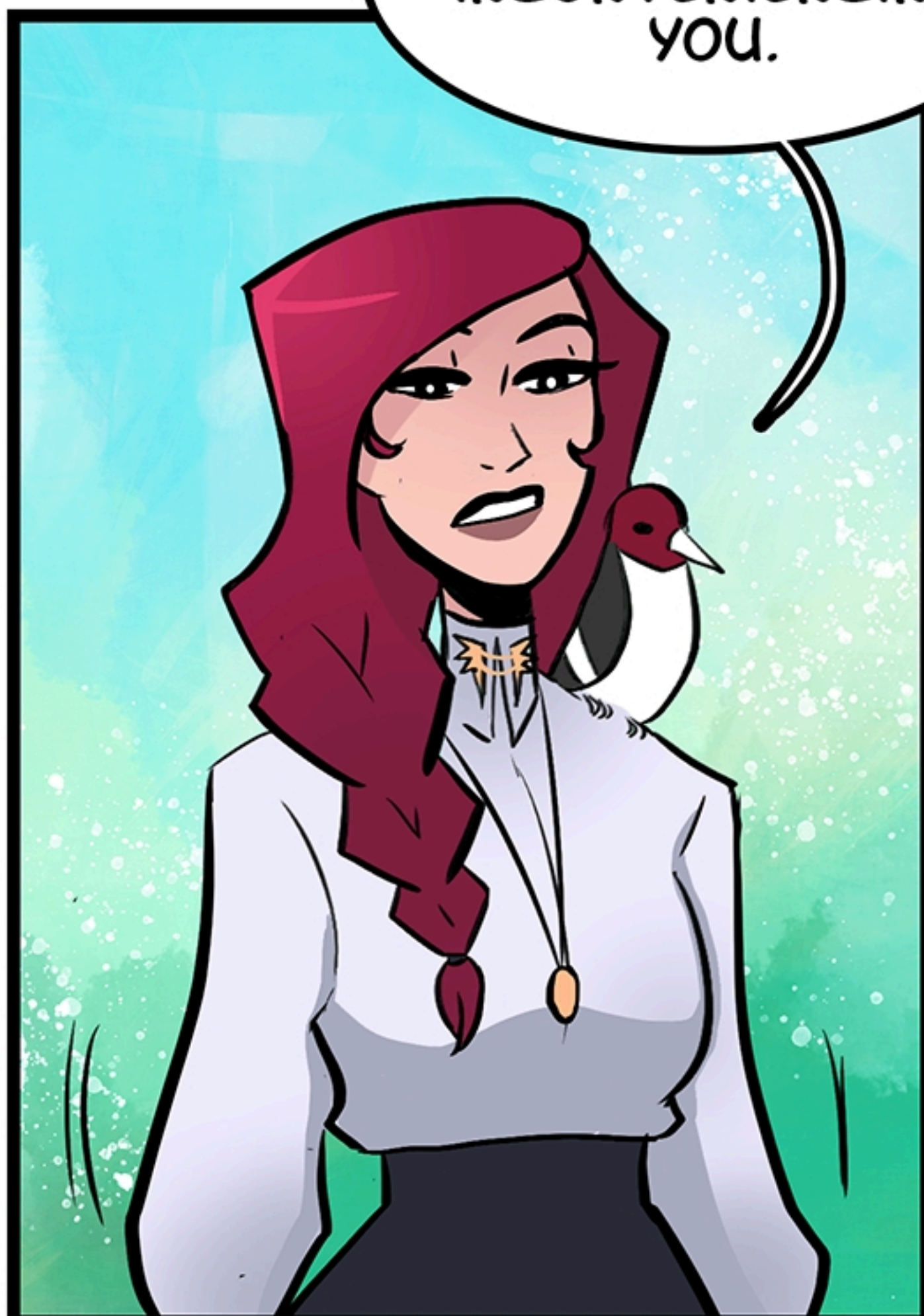
A comic book illustration featuring two characters. On the left, a woman with long red hair, wearing a red hijab, a white long-sleeved top, and a dark skirt, holds an open book. A small red bird is perched on her shoulder. On the right, a woman with dark skin and curly hair, wearing a black tank top, is smiling and holding a black smartphone. The background is a soft-focus green and blue with white speckles. Two speech bubbles are present: one from the woman on the right and another from an unseen character.

YOU'RE THE
UNEXPECTED HITCH
IN THAT PLAN.

NOT US.



I APOLOGIZE FOR
INCONVENIENCING
YOU.





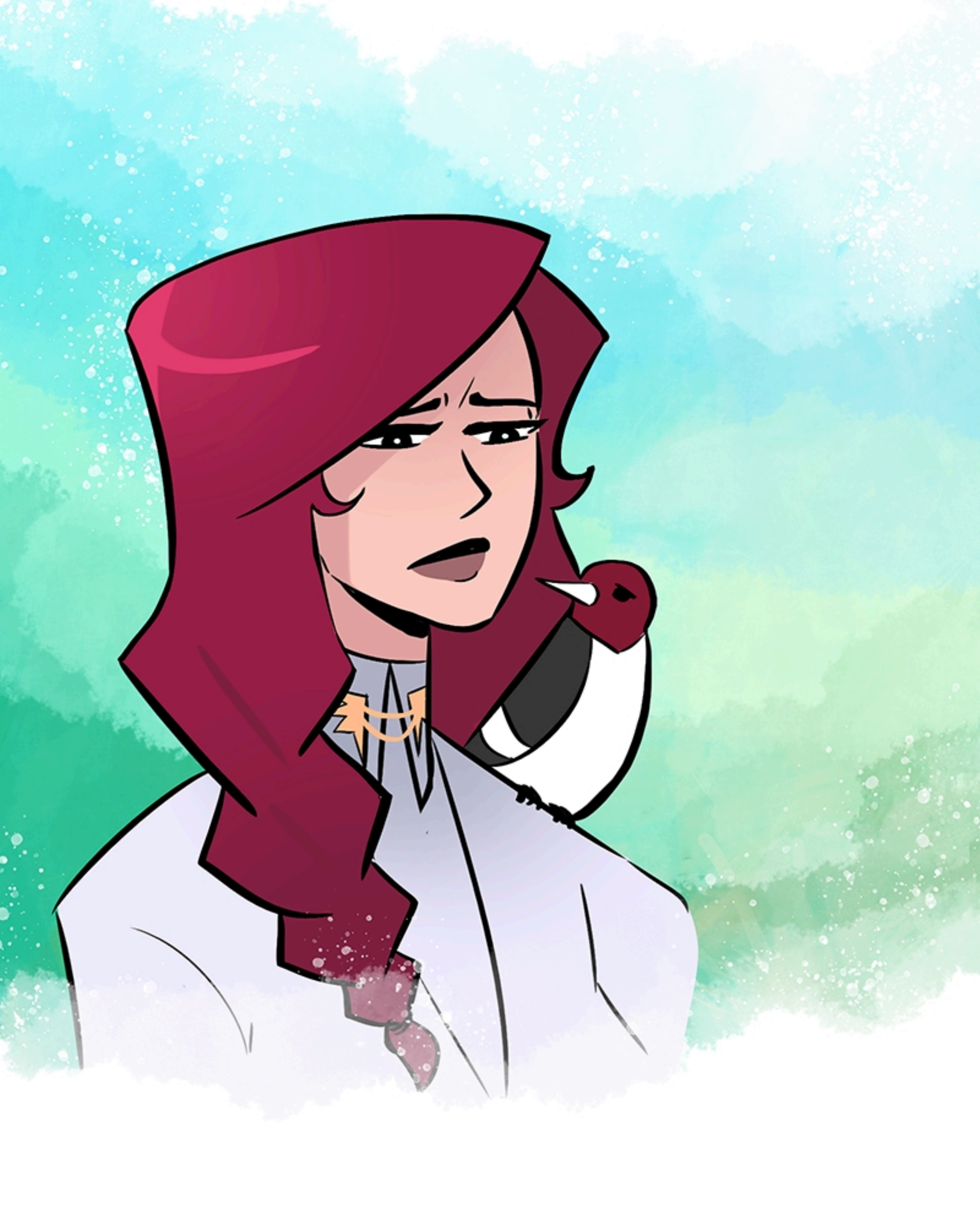


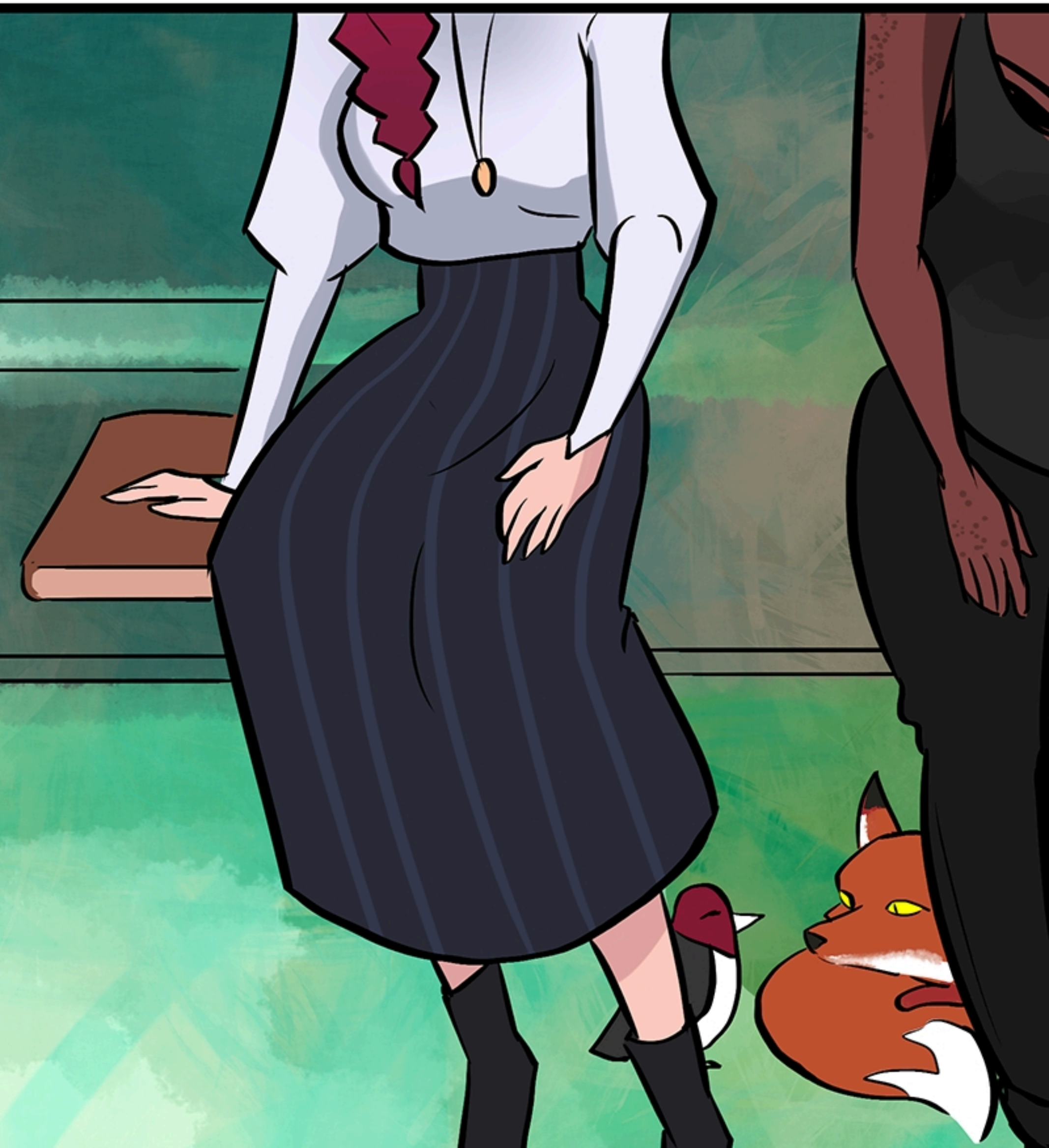
LOOK-
I WAS WAITING OUT
HERE HOPING TO
CATCH YOU WHEN
YOU CAME BACK-



SO I
COULD TALK TO YOU
AND APOLOGIZE TO
YOU ABOUT BEFORE.

I'M SORRY
I LOST MY TEMPER. JUST THE
BLAME AND RUMORS SURROUNDING
THAT INCIDENT REALLY SUCKED
FOR MY FAMILY AND WE'VE HAD TO
WORK REALLY HARD TO SHAKE
THEM.

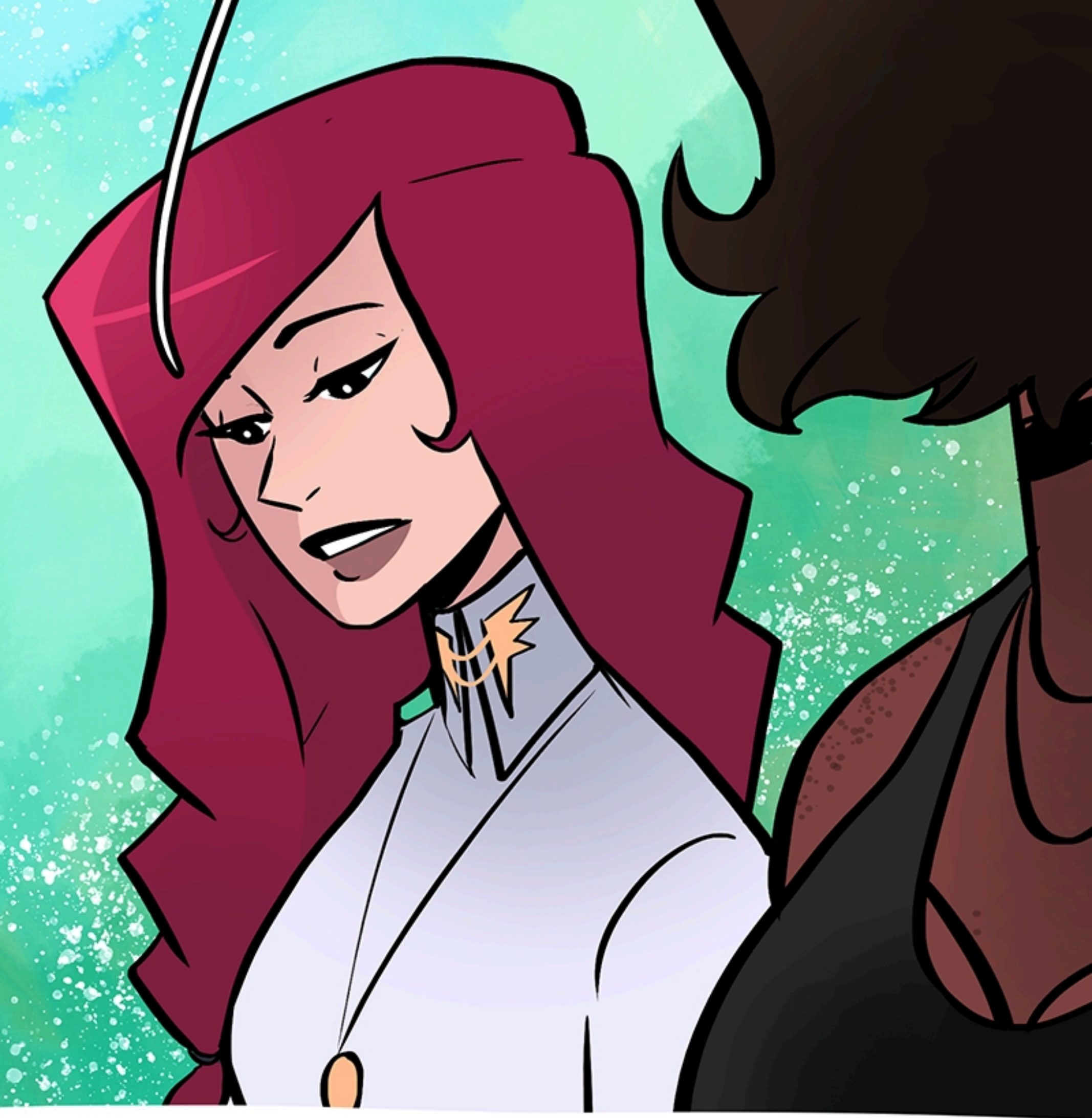






NO, I'M SORRY.

I WAS TALKING
TO TOBEN ABOUT
IT AND HE WAS
RIGHT - I WAS OUT
OF LINE.



I SHOULDN'T HAVE
SNAPPED AT YOU...
OBVIOUSLY YOU'RE TOO
YOUNG TO HAVE BEEN
RESPONSIBLE
ANYWAY.





WELL...
SEEING AS YOU HAVE
NO ALTERNATIVES AT
THE MOMENT...

I CAN'T
CONVINCE YOU TO PLACE

CONVINCE YOU TO PLACE
BLAME ELSEWHERE, I GUESS,
BUT WE'LL WORK ON THAT.

SO...
THANK
YOU?







SO!

WHAT DO YOU SAY
WE CELEBRATE OUR
FORGIVENESS AND
FRIENDSHIP WITH A
PARTY?

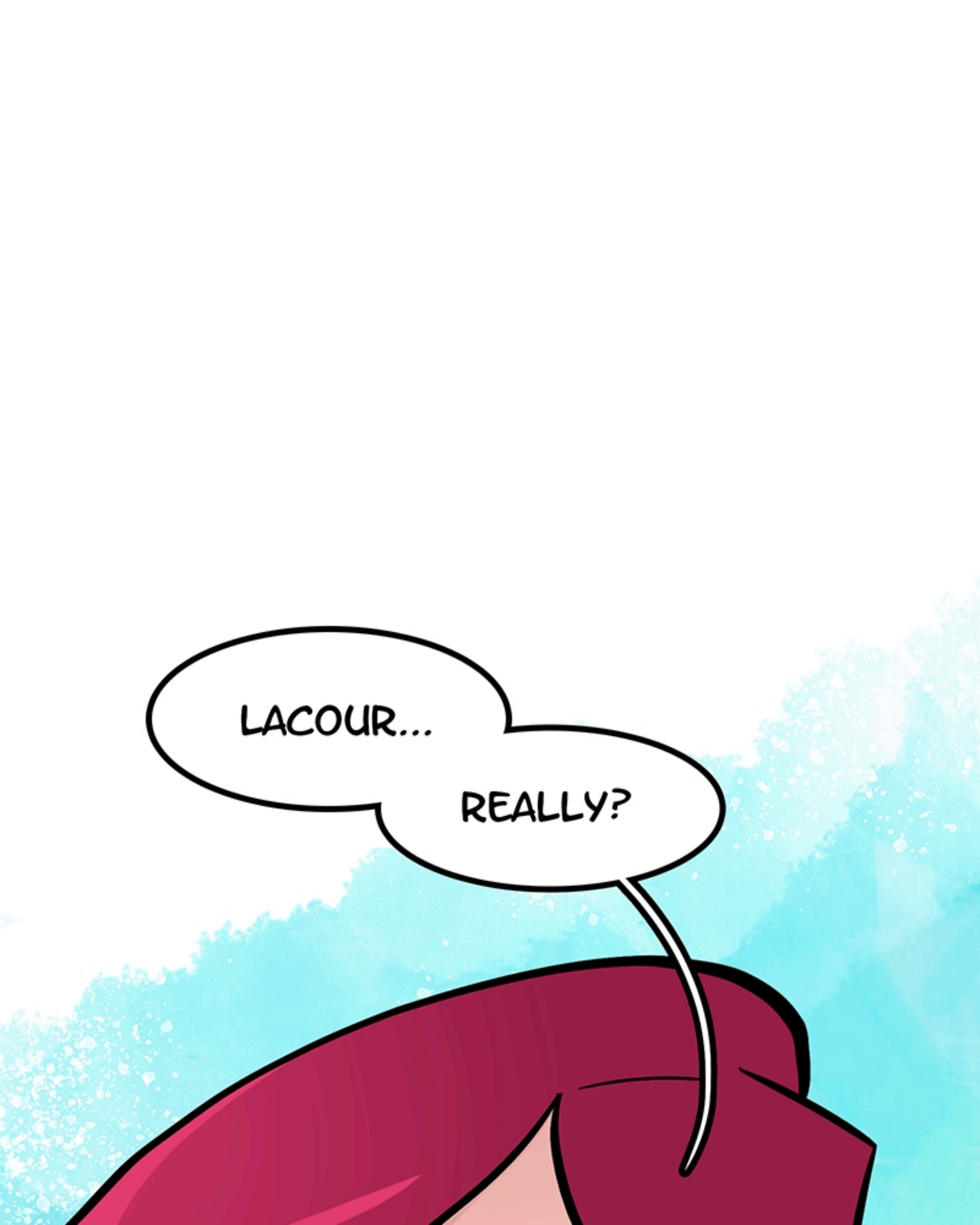
HUH??



NOT HERE.

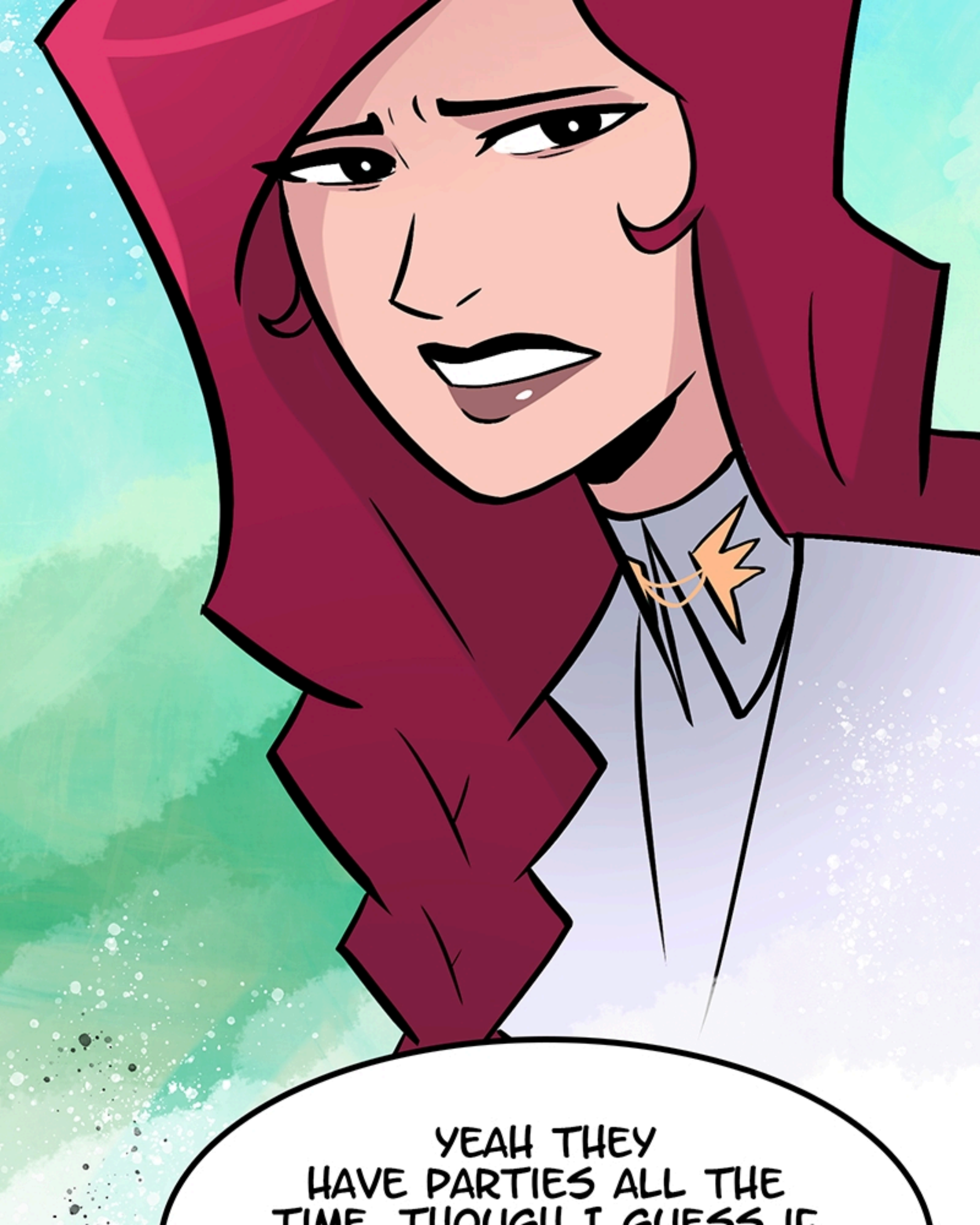
THIS PLACE
DOESN'T HAVE A VERY GOOD
VIBE FOR PARTIES. BUT THEY
ARE HAVING ONE OVER AT THE
LACOUR'S PLACE TONIGHT.



A comic panel featuring a character with vibrant red hair, shown from the back of the head. The character is wearing a dark red garment. A speech bubble originates from the character's head, containing the text "LACOUR...". The background is a soft, painterly blue with white speckles, suggesting a sky or a textured wall.

LACOUR...

REALLY?



YEAH THEY
HAVE PARTIES ALL THE
TIME THOUGH I GUESS IF



TIME. THOUGH I GUESS IF
YOU WERE OUT IN THE CITY
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE HEARD
ABOUT THEM.

TO ANNOUNCE
THE TRUTH OF HOW YOU
WERE BORN TO THE WHOLE
WORLD... WHO KNOWS WHAT
THE COURT WOULD HAVE
DONE.





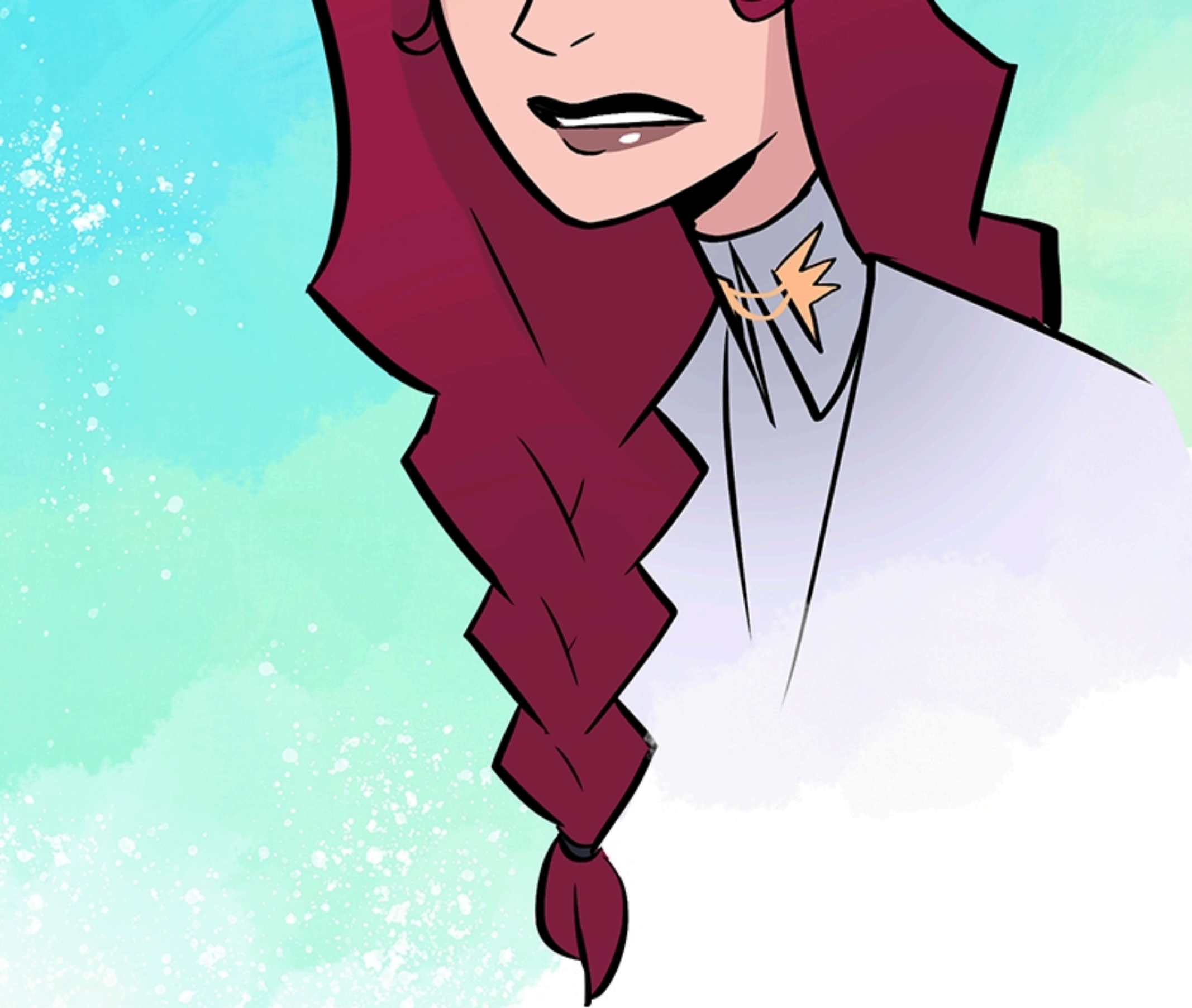
SINCE THE LACOURS

SINCE THE LACOURS
ARE JUDGES OF ALL
WITCH FAMILIES, IS IT
REALLY OKAY FOR ME
TO GO TO THEIR
ESTATE?

WHAT IF THEY CAN
TELL I'M FROM TWO
DIFFERENT FAMILIES?

I'M BREAKING ONE OF
THE BIGGEST RULES
JUST BY *EXISTING*.





NO PROOF.

IF KNOWN

IT RENEW —
WOULD HAVE
SAID DURING
FIRE
INVESTIGATION.





I DON'T KNOW...





THE ONLY
PARTIES I'VE BEEN
TO HAVE BEEN LIKE...
REALLY UPTIGHT SO-
CIALITE PARTIES AND I
DIDN'T BRING ANY
CLOTHES FOR THAT
KIND OF THING...





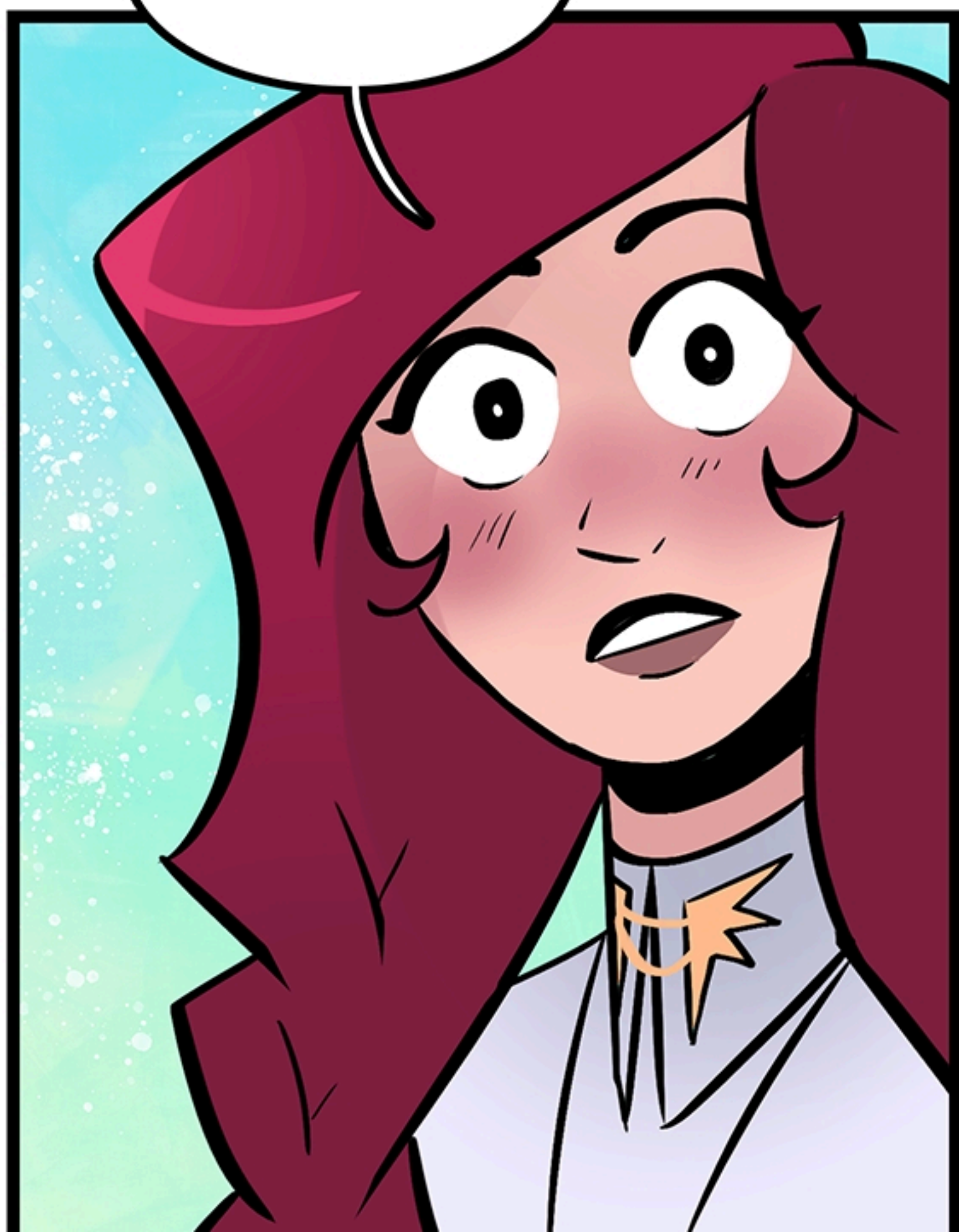
OH!

YOU CAN BORROW

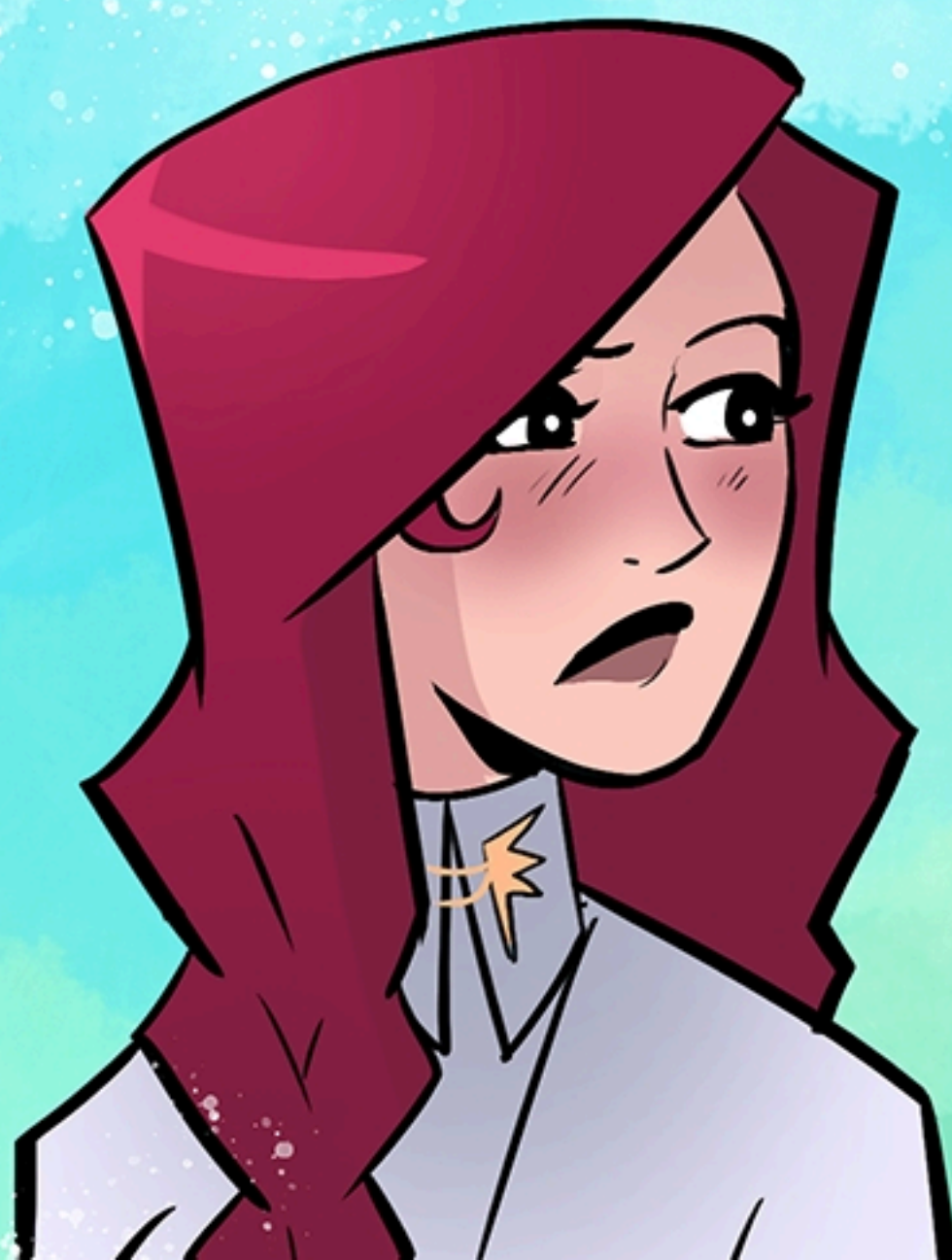
SOME OF MINE!



WHAT?



SURE! WE'RE
BASICALLY THE SAME
SIZE RIGHT? IT'LL BE
FINE!



A comic book illustration featuring a woman with long, flowing red hair and a matching red hood. She is looking upwards with a determined expression. A speech bubble above her head contains the text "COME ON!". The background is a bright, hazy blue with white speckles, suggesting a sky or a magical atmosphere. In the upper left corner, a small, dark, winged creature is visible. The overall style is that of a modern comic book, with bold lines and a vibrant color palette.

COME ON!



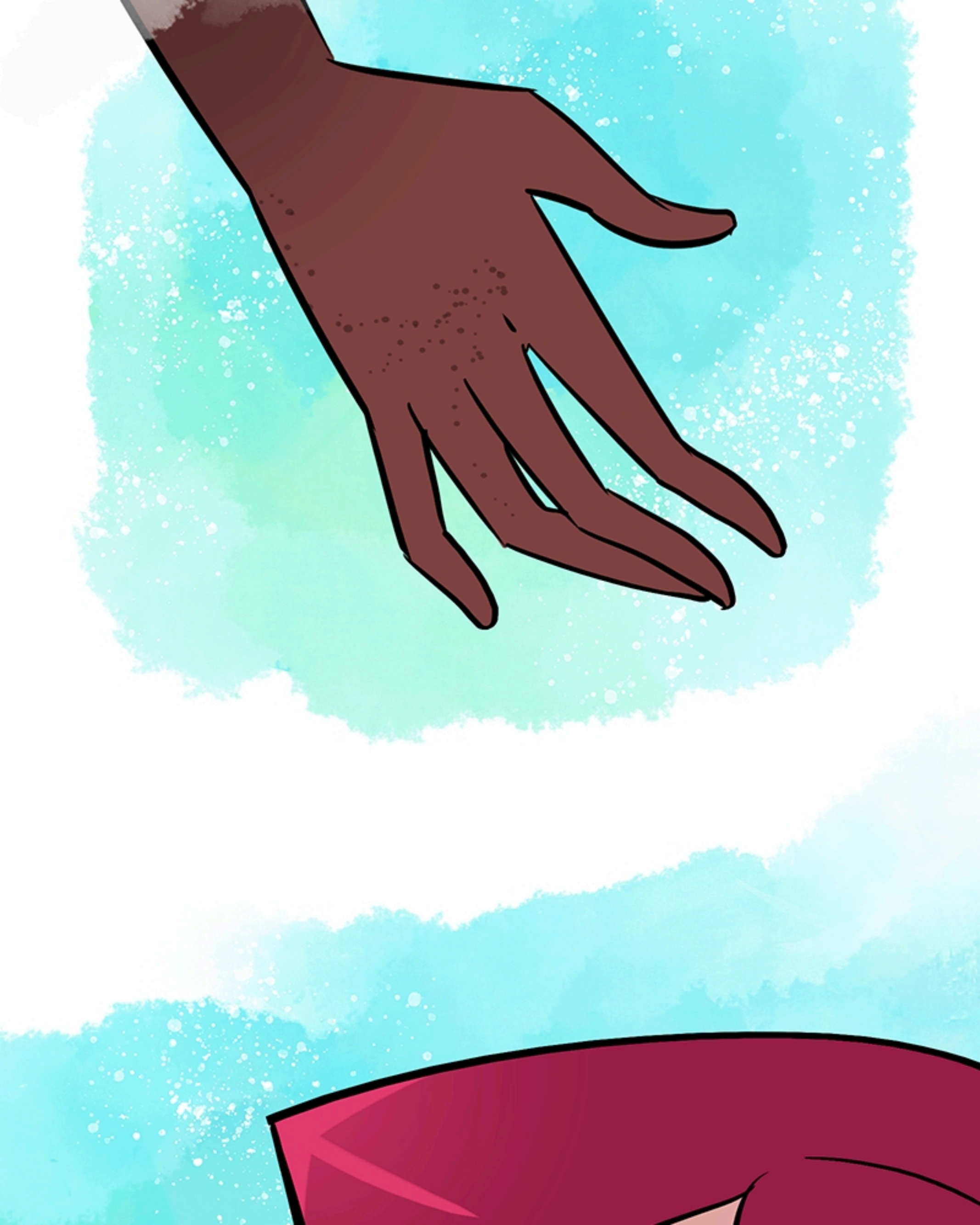
IT'LL BE FUN
AND IT'LL BE A GOOD
CHANCE FOR YOU TO MEET
PEOPLE AND...

I DON'T KNOW...
EXPAND YOUR WORLDVIEW
OR SOMETHING

OR SOMETHING.











A PARTY?

MHM.

I DON'T
KNOW IF THAT'S
A GOOD IDEA,
NYRA.





COME ON...

SHE'LL BE FINE.
GIVE HER SOME
CREDIT.







THIS IS HER
FIRST TIME BEING OUT HERE
IN YEARS... AND SHE'S ALREADY
HAD TWO INCIDENTS OF
WANDERING OFF INTO THE
SWAMP...





IF SOMETHING
UPSETS HER AND YOU'RE
NOT PAYING ATTENTION,
SHE'LL WANDER OFF AGAIN.

AND WITH ALCOHOL
INVOLVED - I DON'T KNOW -
I DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE
WITH THAT.





WEEELL....
WITH ALL DUE
RESPECT OR WHATEVER...
IT'S NOT REALLY ABOUT
YOU.

SHE'S AN
ADULT AND SHE CAN
MAKE HER OWN
CHOICES.

IN FACT
I WOULD WAGER THAT
HER LACK OF CHANCES
TO CHOOSE THINGS IN
HER LIFE IS PART OF
HER PROBLEM.



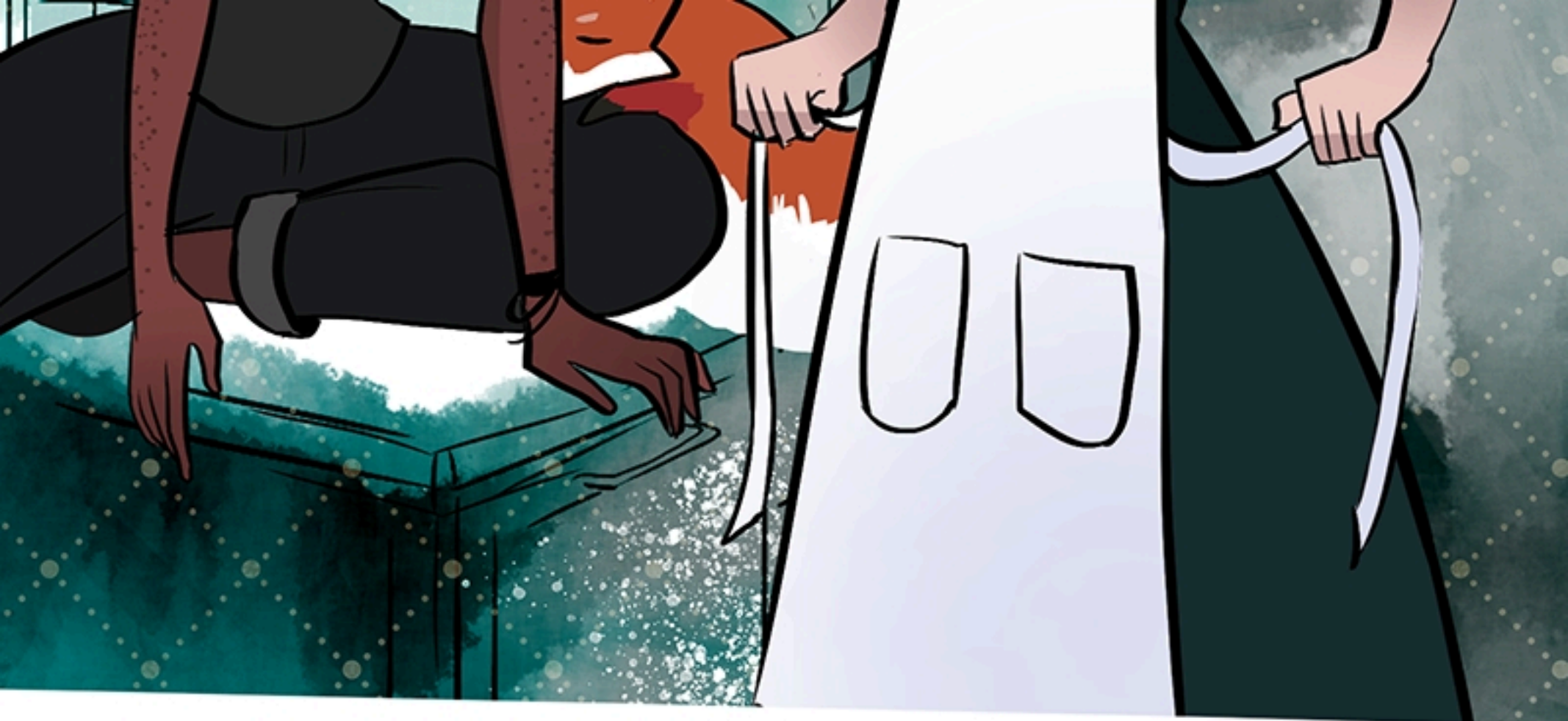


AND BESIDES, EVEN
IF SLOANE AND I WEREN'T
KEEPING AN EYE ON HER... IT'S
THE LACOUR FAMILY! IT'S
NEUTRAL GROUND!

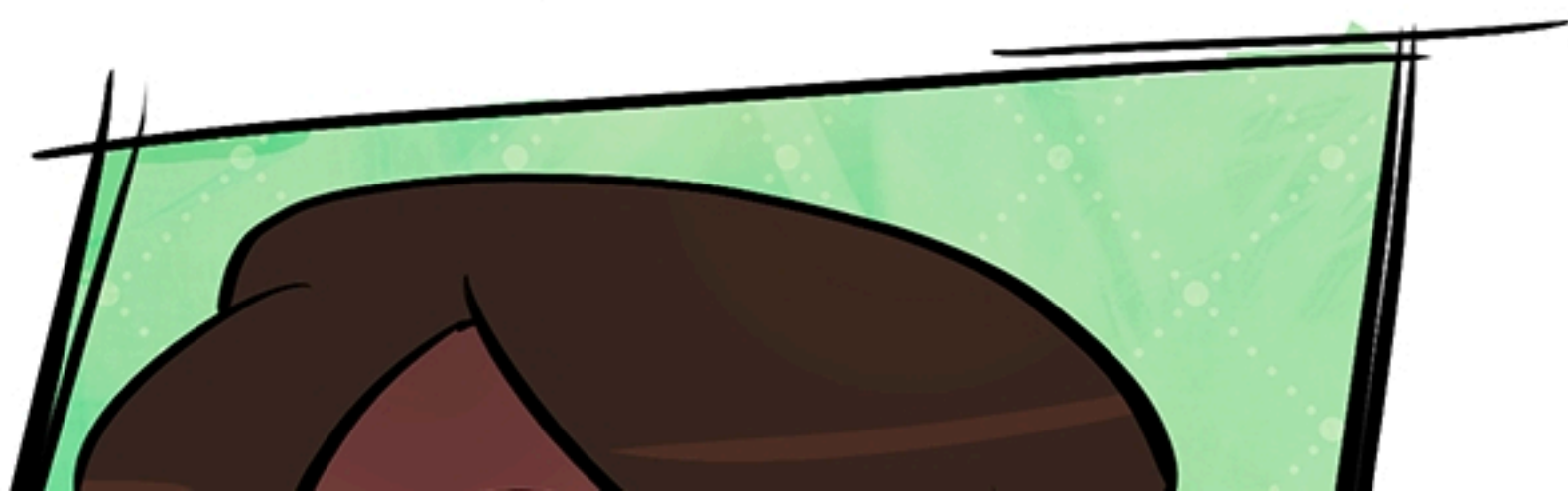
IT'S LIKE
THE SAFEST PLACE THAT
SHE COULD POSSIBLY BE
IN THE SWAMP. WE WON'T
EVEN BE ALLOWED TO LET
OUR FAMILIARS IN.

TRUST ME.





NYRA,
COME ON.





I WANNA GET
THERE BEFORE THEY
RUN OUT OF
FOOD.







HEY! WHAT DID
I TELL YA, IT FITS
PERFECTLY!





YOU READY?

YEAH...



BYE, SILVIA.

BYE...

STAY
SAFE.





YOU'RE NOT
CHANGING, NYRA?

HUH?
OH - NO. YOU DIDN'T

HAVE TO CHANGE EITHER.
YOU JUST MADE IT SOUND
LIKE YOU WANTED TO.

OH.

YOU LOOK
GREAT THOUGH!





SOOT...

...WHERE DID
SHE GO?

















THE LEROUX?

MUTED

tumblr | w-itchblood

instagram | mirandamundt

twitter | mundt_miranda

patreon | anidoodles

youtube | anidoodles



Written and Illustrated by
Miranda Mundt

Flat Colors by
Sydney Brunzell

Edited by
Bre Boswell

