





I SHOULD HAVE WORN
BETTER SHOES FOR
THE SWAMP.

HAHAHA





HOW LONG HAVE
THESE PARTIES BEEN
HAPPENING?

I ALWAYS IMAGINED THE
LACOUR FAMILY WAS VERY
SERIOUS.



YOU MIGHT THINK SO -

WHAT WITH THEM BEING
THE COURT AND MAKING
ALL THE RULES AND
LAWS AND STUFF.

BUT THAT'S JUST THE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
BUSINESS AND PLEASURE,
YEAH?





THEY'VE ALWAYS
THROWN AMAZING
PARTIES FOR AS
LONG AS I CAN
REMEMBER,

AND THEY HAVE AMAAAZING
FOOODD...





NOT
EVERY
FAMILY HAS
STICKS UP
THEIR ASS
24/7 LIKE
THE
SEVERINS.

SLOANE!
HA HA HA!!

WHAT
A HILARIOUS
THING FOR
YOU TO SAY
FOR NO



FOR NO
REASON!!

WE'RE BEING
NICE, REMEMBER??



A comic book panel with a dark, moody background. At the top, a character with long, flowing blonde hair is partially visible. In the center, a large white speech bubble contains the text "IS THAT REALLY WHAT EVERYONE THINKS...?". Below it, a smaller white speech bubble contains the text "... ABOUT THE SEVERINS...". At the bottom, the top of a character's head with reddish-brown hair is visible. The background is dark with some teal and blue hues, suggesting a night scene or a dark interior.

IS THAT REALLY
WHAT EVERYONE
THINKS...?

... ABOUT THE
SEVERINS...



AH... WELL...
I MEAN...





YOU AND SILVIA
ARE FINE - AND SOME
OTHERS AT THE OLD
MANOR BUT...

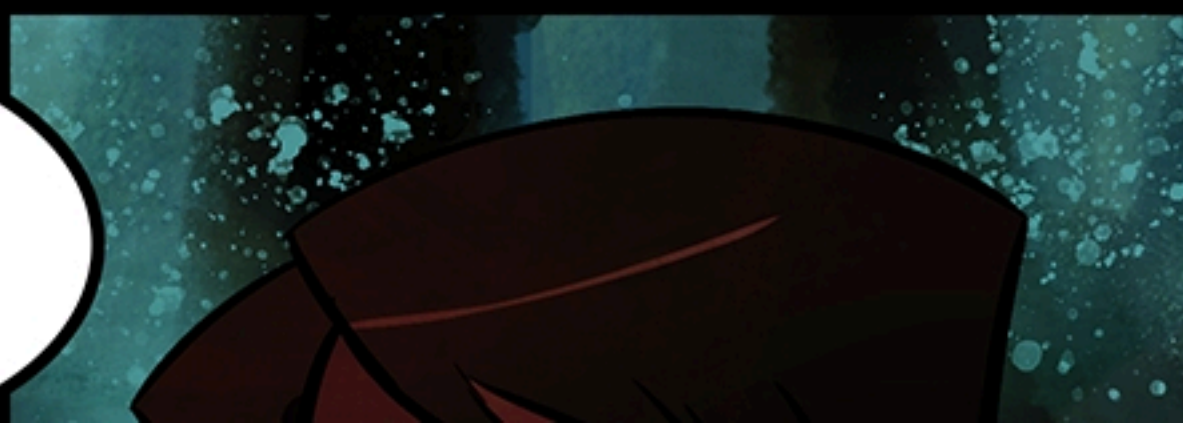
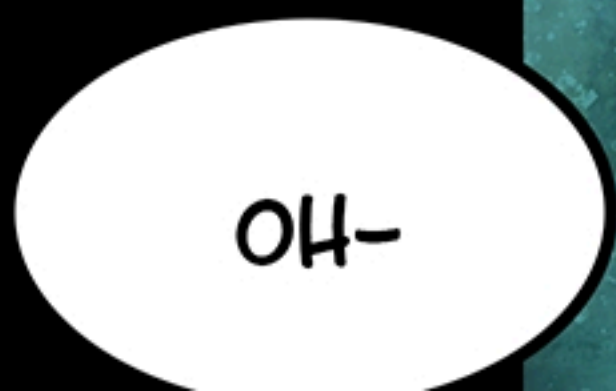
YEAH. YOUR
FAMILY COMES
OFF AS BEING
PRETTY ELITIST.





THAT'S WHY
I WANTED YOU TO COME
TONIGHT - IT'S GOOD FOR
YOU TO GET OUT MORE AND
SEE OUTSIDE OF YOUR
GILDED CAGE.







HERE WE ARE!

WHAT?



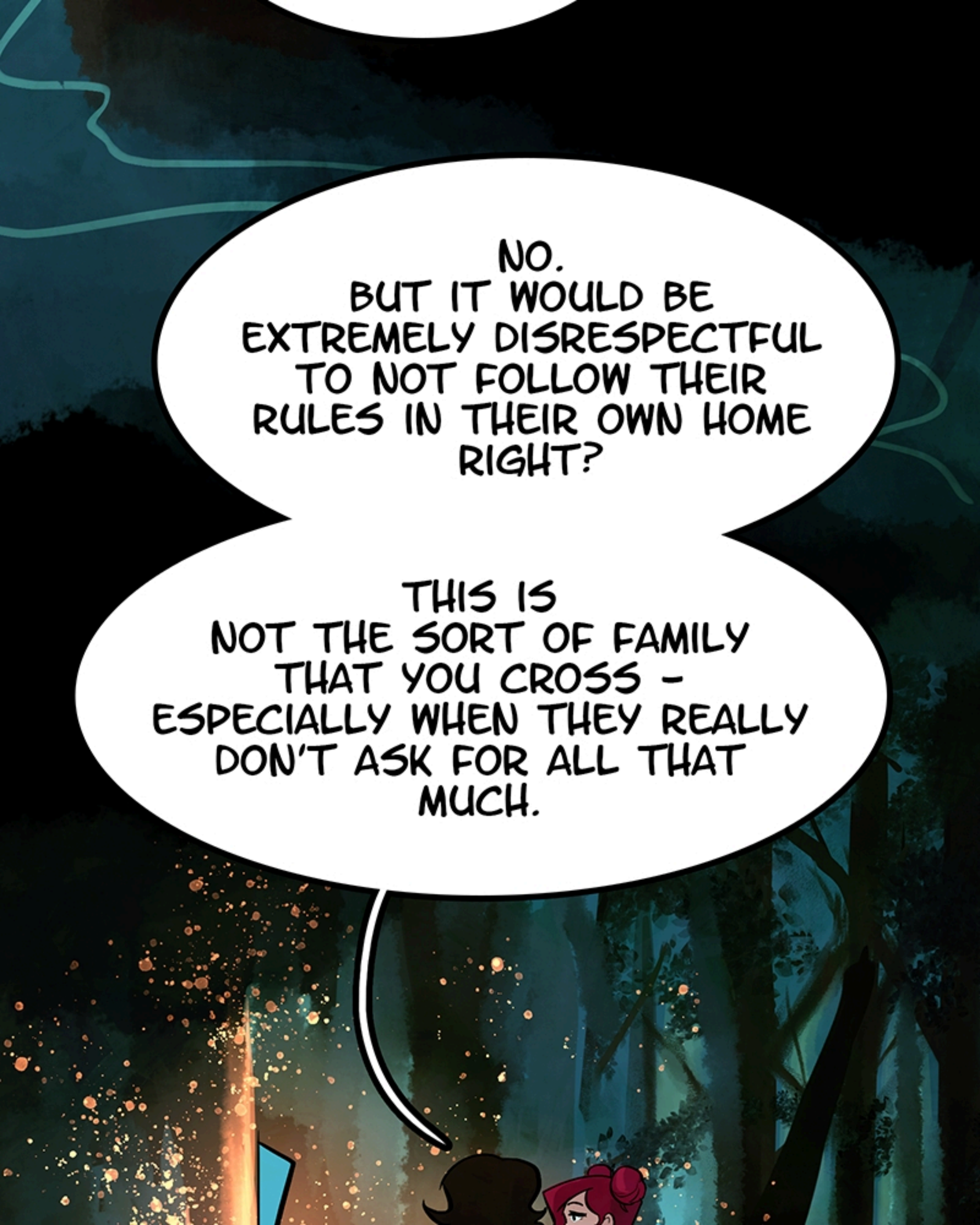


THIS
IS AS FAR AS OUR
FAMILIAR'S CAN
GO.

FROM HERE ON,
WE'RE ENTERING
NEUTRAL GROUND.



WILL THEY GET
HURT IF WE TRY
TO TAKE THEM
OVER??



NO.
BUT IT WOULD BE
EXTREMELY DISRESPECTFUL
TO NOT FOLLOW THEIR
RULES IN THEIR OWN HOME
RIGHT?

THIS IS
NOT THE SORT OF FAMILY
THAT YOU CROSS -
ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY REALLY
DON'T ASK FOR ALL THAT
MUCH.



COME ON IN~

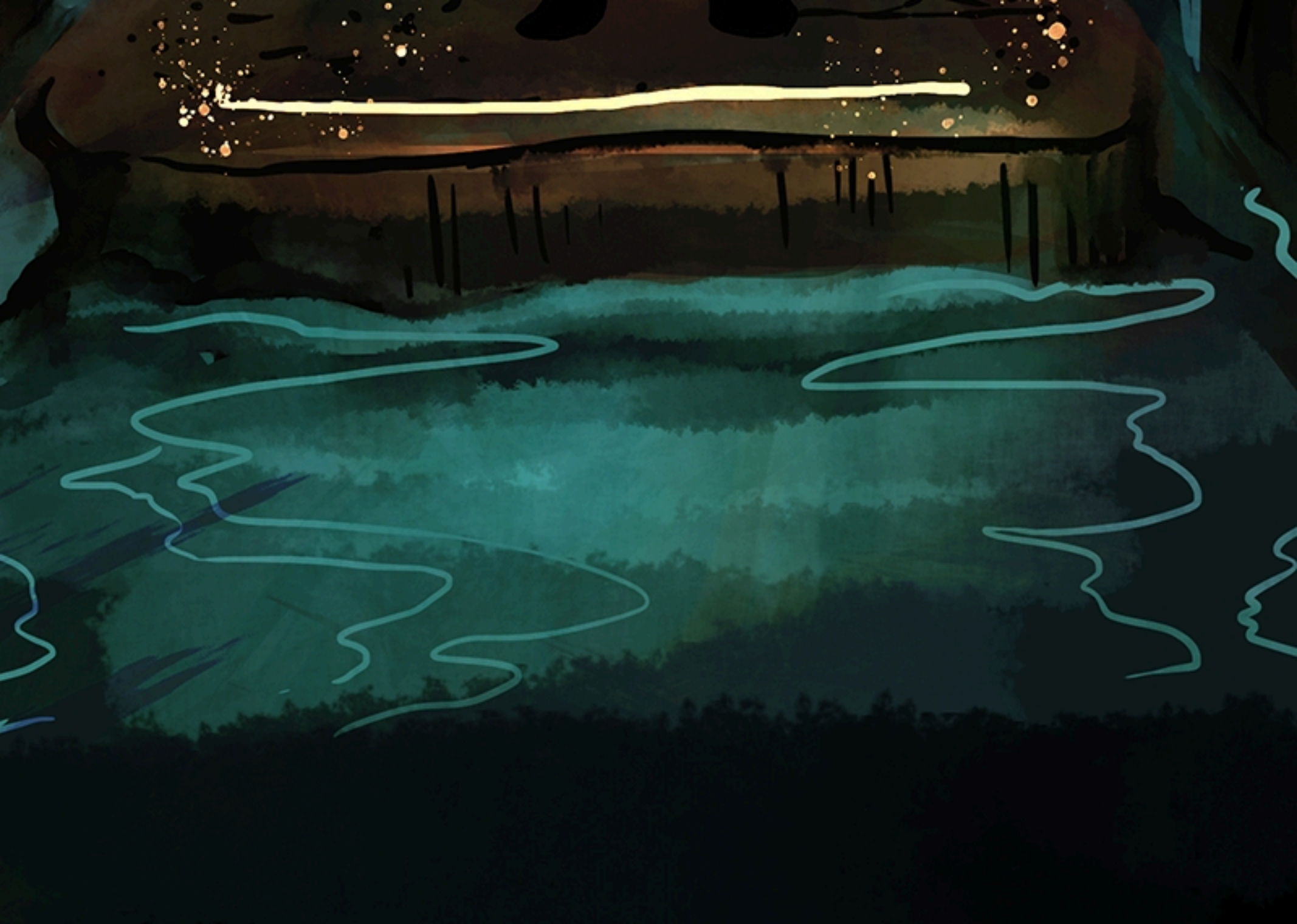
THE WATER'S
FINE, HAHA!





RIGHT...





MAYBE IT WAS
A MISTAKE TO COME
HERE... IF ANYONE IN THE
LACOUR FAMILY SUSPECTS
ME, THEN...





NYRA JUST
SEEMED SO EXCITED
TO INVITED ME THAT
I WANTED TO
FORGET...

AND IF I
LEFT NOW IT
WOULD SEEM SUPER
SHIFTY AND
WEIRD.

EVERYTHING'S
GOTTEN SO MUCH MORE
COMPLICATED...

STAY HERE,
TOBEN.

BYE
BYE!





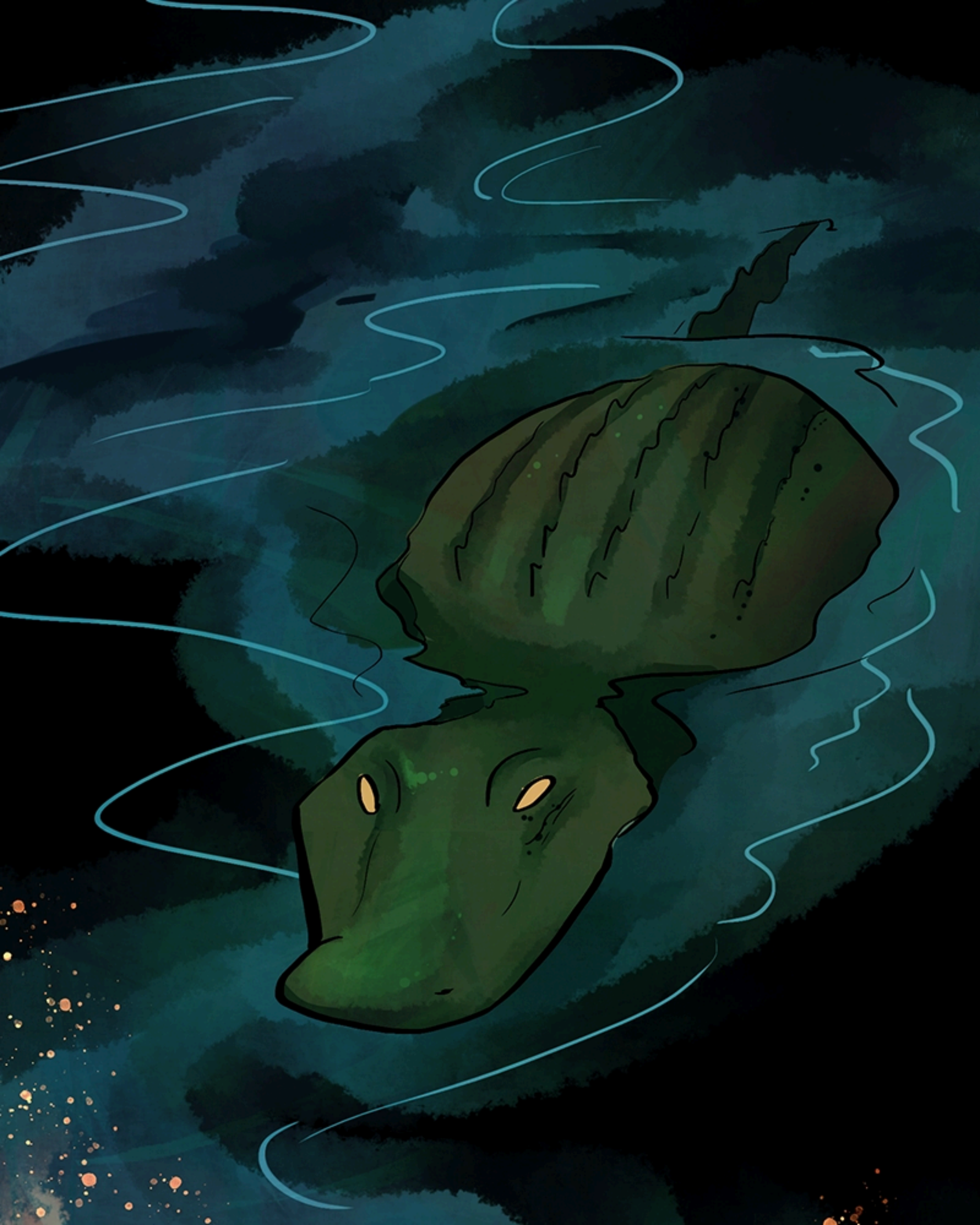


OH, WOW...!













NYRA!



The background is a dark, textured night sky. At the top, the lower legs and feet of a person wearing dark clothing and shoes are visible, suggesting they are looking up. A series of small, bright yellow and orange dots form a curved path across the middle of the frame, resembling a constellation or a string of lights. The overall color palette is dark, with deep blues, blacks, and browns, accented by the warm glow of the star-like dots.

OH, I'M SO
GLAD YOU COULD COME!!
I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE
ABLE TO MAKE IT -



LAST TIME WE
TALKED YOU TOLD
ME YOU WERE IN
NEW MEXICO!

A comic panel set against a dark blue, starry night sky. In the foreground, two Black women are embracing. The woman on the left is seen from the back, with short dark hair and freckles, wearing a dark green dress. The woman on the right has voluminous dark curly hair, a pink headband, and large gold hoop earrings. She is wearing a pink top under a dark vest and has her arms around the first woman. A speech bubble from the woman on the right says "SURPRISE!". In the background to the right, a person with short, spiky blue hair and a yellow and black jacket looks on with a neutral expression. A speech bubble from this person says "I AM ALSO HERE, THANKS.". At the bottom, a speech bubble from the woman on the left says "OH? WHO'S THIS?" and another speech bubble from the woman on the right says "YOUR DATE?".

SURPRISE!

I AM
ALSO HERE,
THANKS.

OH? WHO'S
THIS?

YOUR DATE?



OH-

THIS IS
CAMILLE SEVERIN.
I JUST MET HER TODAY,
ACTUALLY.

CAMILLE,
THIS IS ASHANTI
LACOUR.





A SEVERIN, REALLY?

MHM.



OH GOD SHE KNOWS!
SHE KNOWS WHAT'S WRONG
WITH YOU!!

NICE TO
MEET YOU.



AW! AREN'T
YOU JUST THE
CUTEST.

ALWAYS NICE TO
HAVE NEW FACES
AROUND HERE.

WELCOME TO
THE FAMILY!





ANY FRIEND OF
NYRA'S IS A FRIEND
OF MINE!

I LOVE YOUR
DRESS!

WHAT KIND
OF LIPSTICK
DO YOU USE?

YOUR HAIR
STYLE IS
CUTE!

YOU HAD TO
WALK A LONG WAY
TO GET HERE,
HUH?

POOR THING
YOU'RE SKIN
AND BONES!

LET'S GET
YOU SOME
FOOD!







BBYEEE,
SEE YOU
INSIDE!



A comic book panel depicting a night scene. At the top, the lower legs and feet of two people are visible, standing on a dark surface. The background is a dark, stormy night sky filled with falling orange sparks or embers. In the center, a large, dark, multi-story house is built on stilts over a body of water. The house has several windows that are glowing with an orange light, suggesting a fire inside. The stilts are made of dark wooden beams. In the foreground, the dark water of the lake or river is visible, with some white lines indicating ripples or reflections. Two speech bubbles are present: a large one in the upper center and a smaller one to the right.

NO BUT
SERIOUSLY, WHY DID
YOU BRING HER? DO
YOU HAVE A
CRUSH??

SHUT UP,
SLOANE.



HERE YOU
GO, HELP YOURSELF!
I'LL GET YOU A
DRINK!

OKAY,
THANK YOU.



A woman with short, vibrant pink hair styled in two small buns stands in a dark, misty forest. She is wearing a black, long-sleeved, high-necked dress with a silver belt buckle. Her expression is one of distress, with her eyes closed and a grimace. Her hands are clasped in front of her. The background is a dark, atmospheric forest with large, dark trees and a sky filled with colorful, sparkling particles in shades of pink, purple, and blue. White, jagged lines around her suggest a storm or intense emotion. A speech bubble above her head contains the word "CRAP."

CRAP.



ALL OF THIS
FOOD SMELLS AMAZING BUT
MY STOMACH IS IN KNOTS
AND I'M TERRIBLE AT
EATING IN PUBLIC.

AND IF I
SPILL SOMETHING
THIS ISN'T EVEN
MY DRESS!



AVALINE
IS WAY BETTER AT
THIS SOCIALIZING
THING THAN ME.



I WONDER
HOW SHE'S DOING.
SHE SAID SHE WAS
GOING TO A PARTY
TONIGHT TOO...

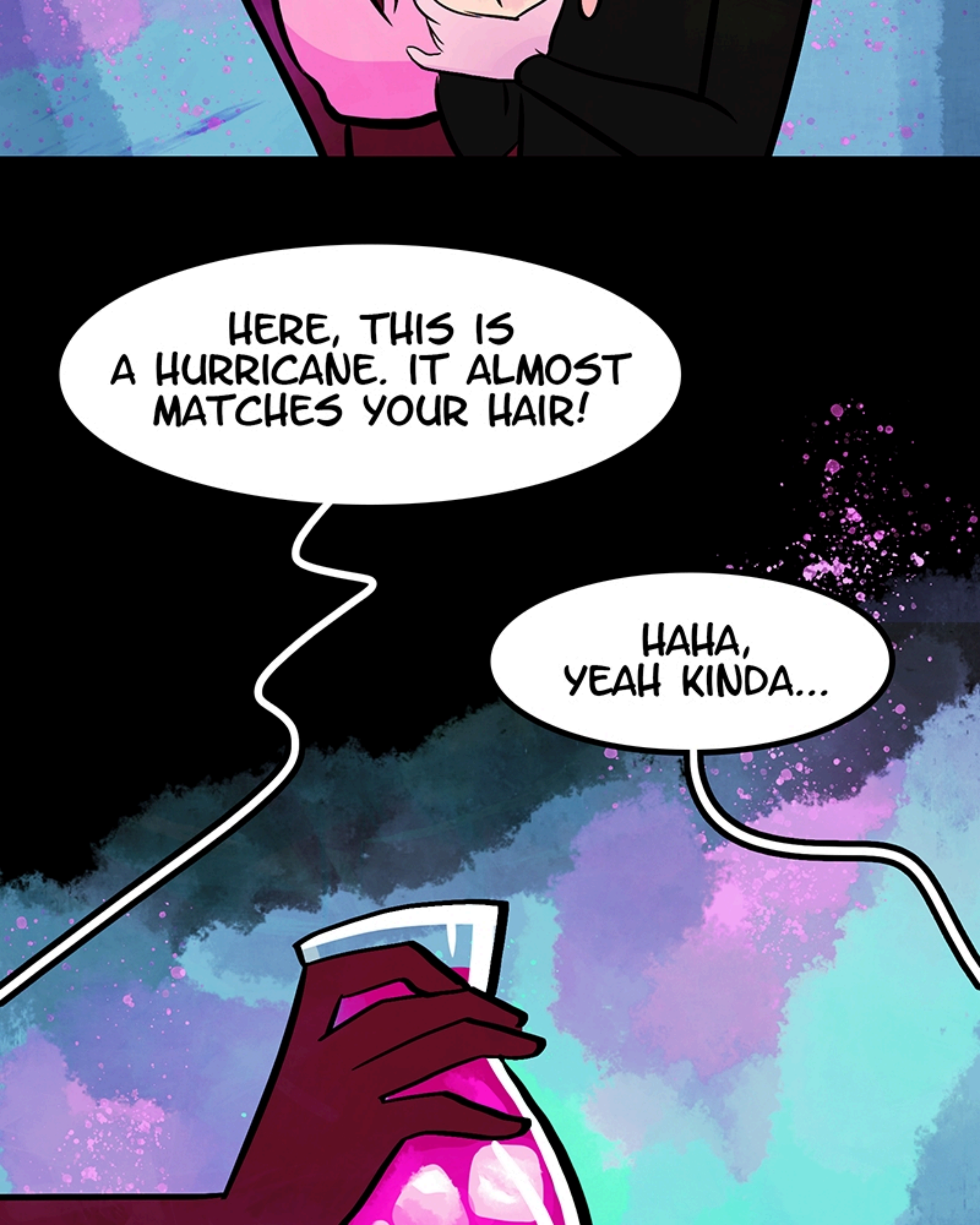




YOU
EAT LIKE
A BIRD!

AH!!



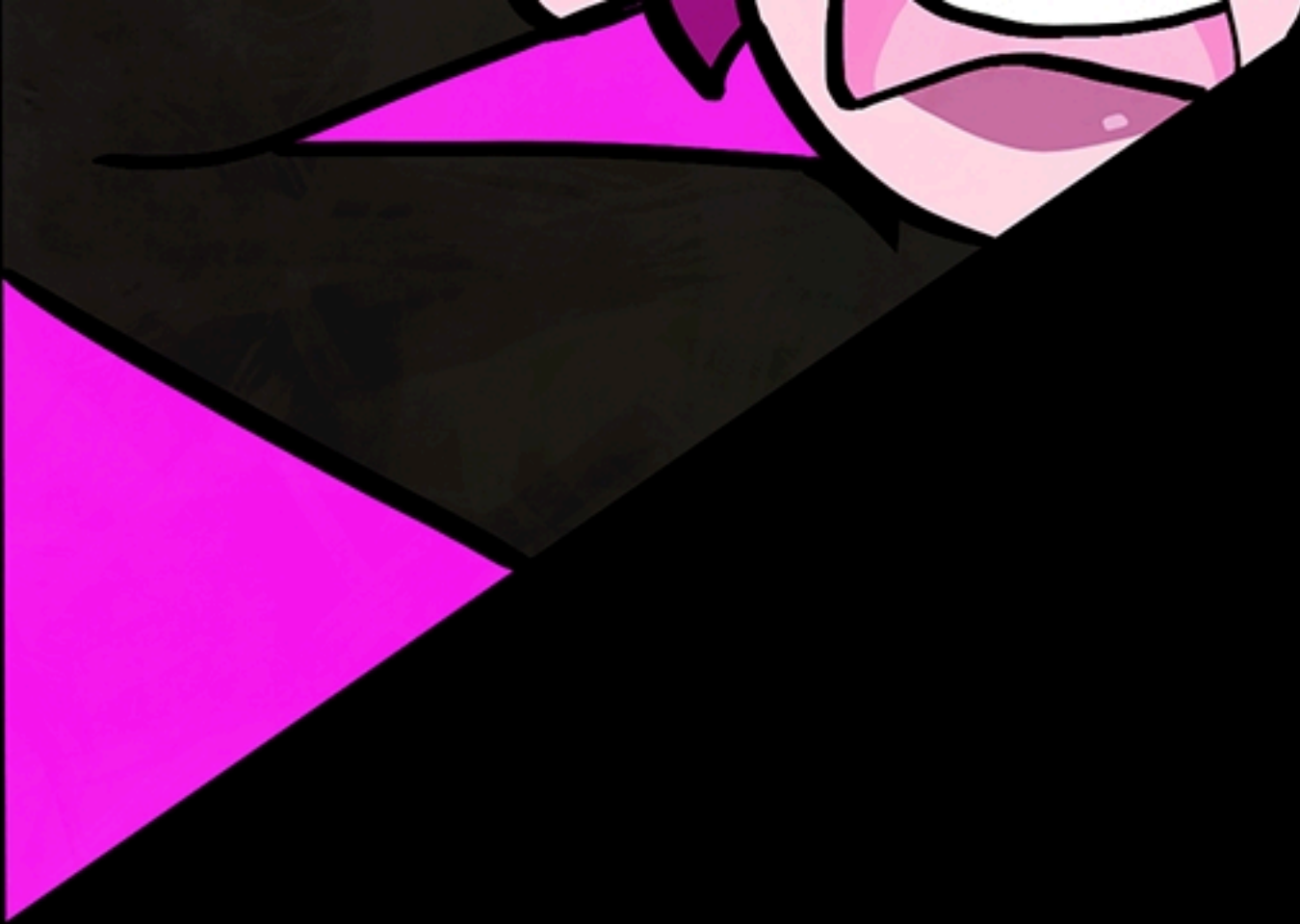


HERE, THIS IS
A HURRICANE. IT ALMOST
MATCHES YOUR HAIR!

HAHA,
YEAH KINDA...



OH F***!!!
SHE DEFINITELY KNOWS!



HERE, I'LL DISH
YOU UP SOME FOOD
AND FIND YOU SOMEWHERE
QUIETER TO EAT. YOU'RE
PRACTICALLY SHAKING.

THANK YOU...
HEY, UM, ASHANTI?

MMMYES?

DO ELOI
EVER COME TO
THESE PARTIES?

ELOI?





THEY TEND TO KEEP
TO THEMSELVES, PLUS
IT'S NOT LIKE THEY
LIVE CLOSE BY.

BUT YOU MIGHT
FIND A COUPLE
HERE!

EAT YOUR FOOD
THEN WE'LL SEE
YOU ON THE DANCE
FLOOR!

THANK
YOU...







~~MUTED~~

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