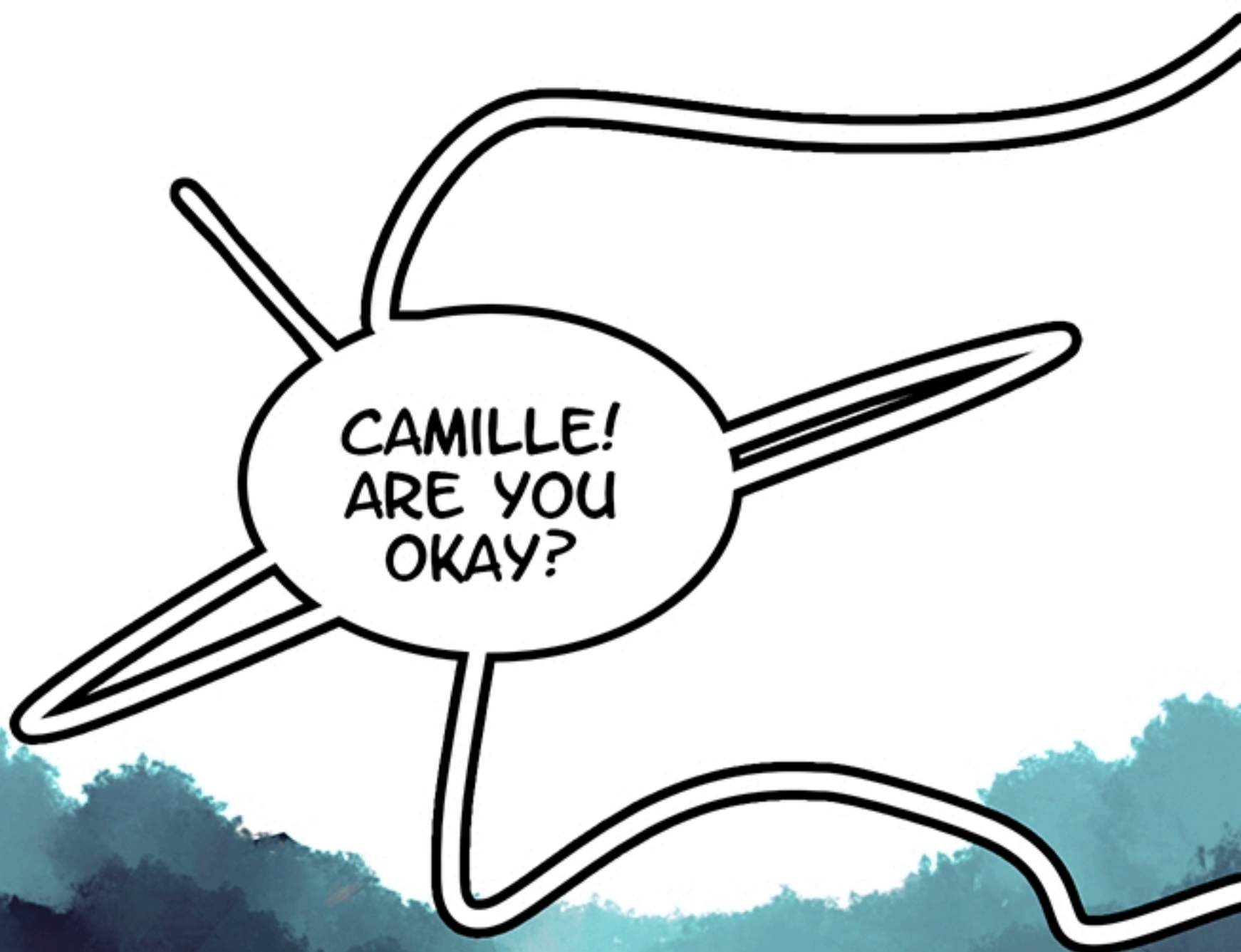
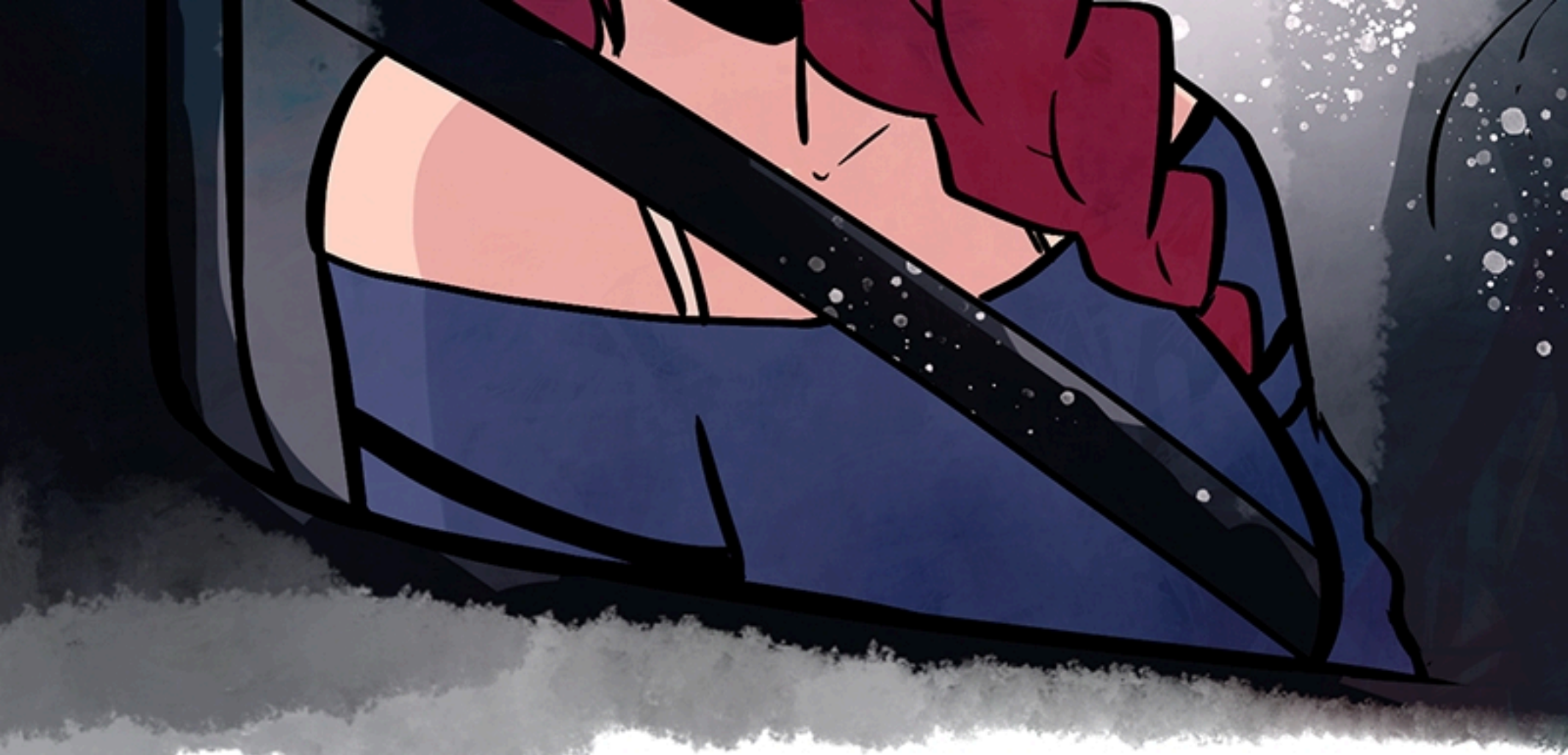




A comic book panel featuring a character with short, vibrant red hair. The character is shown from the chest up, looking upwards with a concerned or searching expression. The background is a dark, moody landscape with a bright, hazy light source on the right, creating a silhouette effect. A speech bubble with a long, winding tail points towards the character. The speech bubble contains the text "CAMILLE-".

CAMILLE-







CAMILLE -
CAN YOU HEAR-

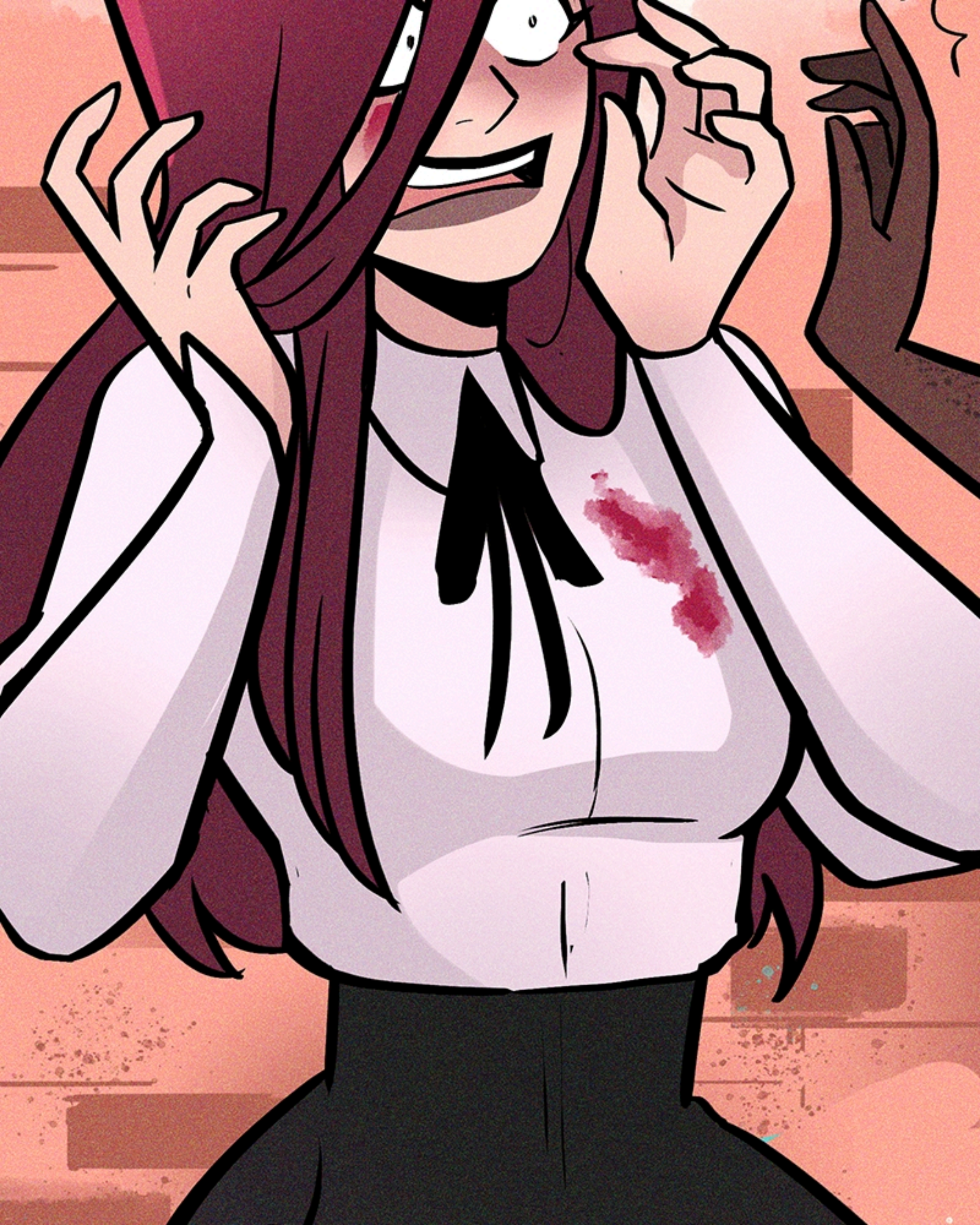






AH!!

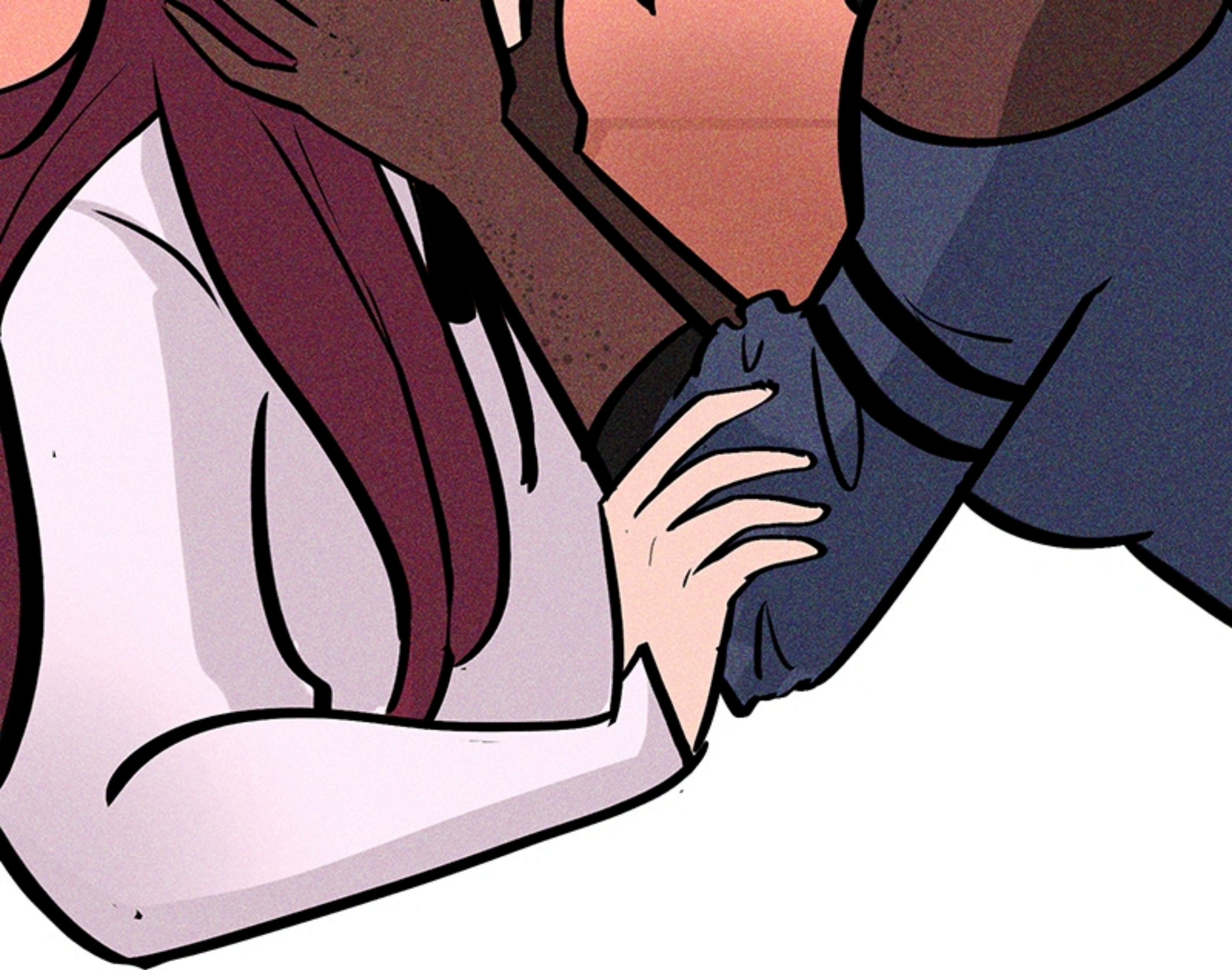
AH- IT'S
OKAY, IT'S
OKAY!





PRINCESS,
IT'S JUST ME.

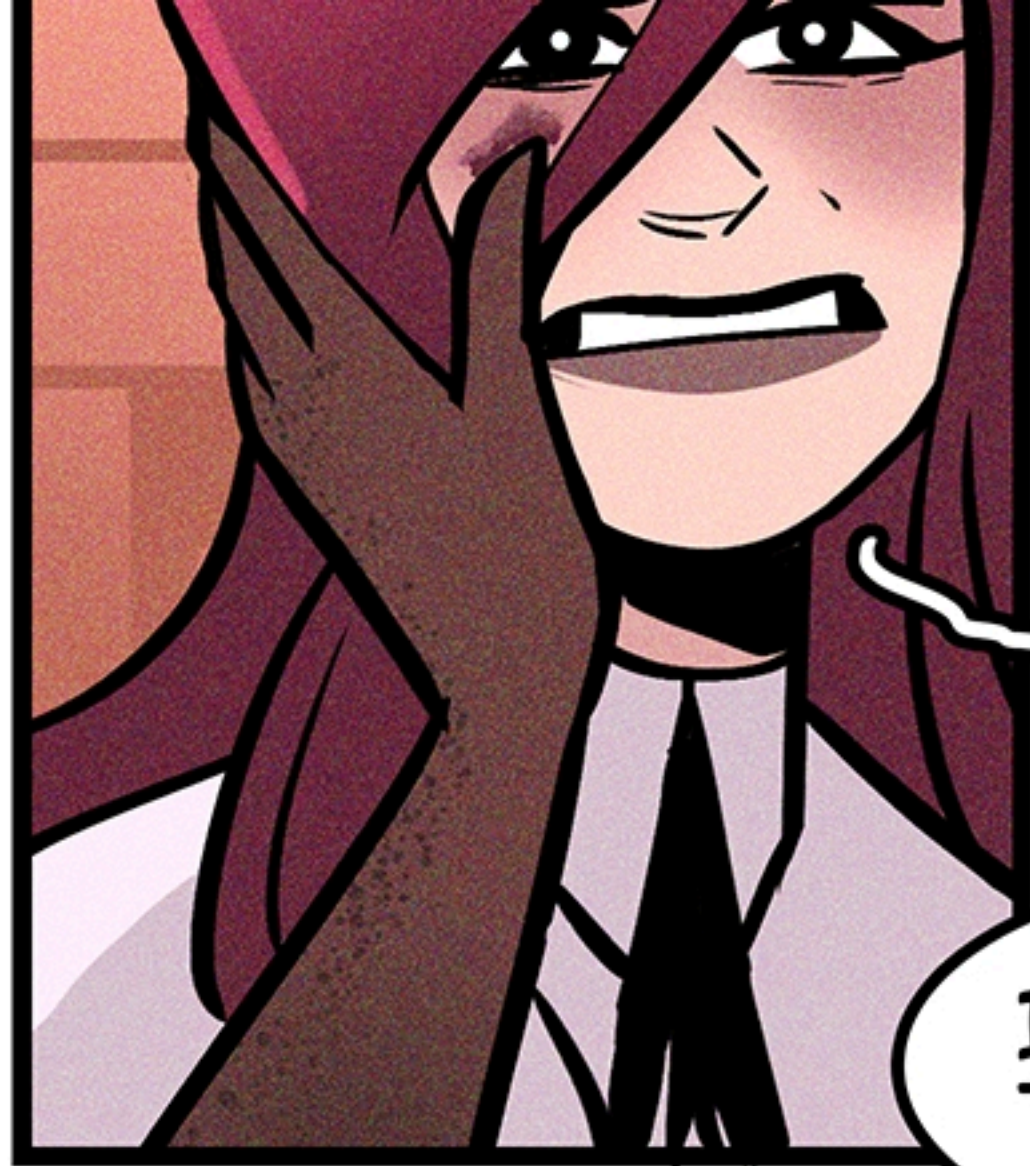
IT'S ME.



WH- BUT-

NYRA?





YOUR
BACK-

I THOUGHT
THAT SHE-

SHE CUT ME
TWICE YEAH, BUT THE
LAST ONE WAS FAKE.

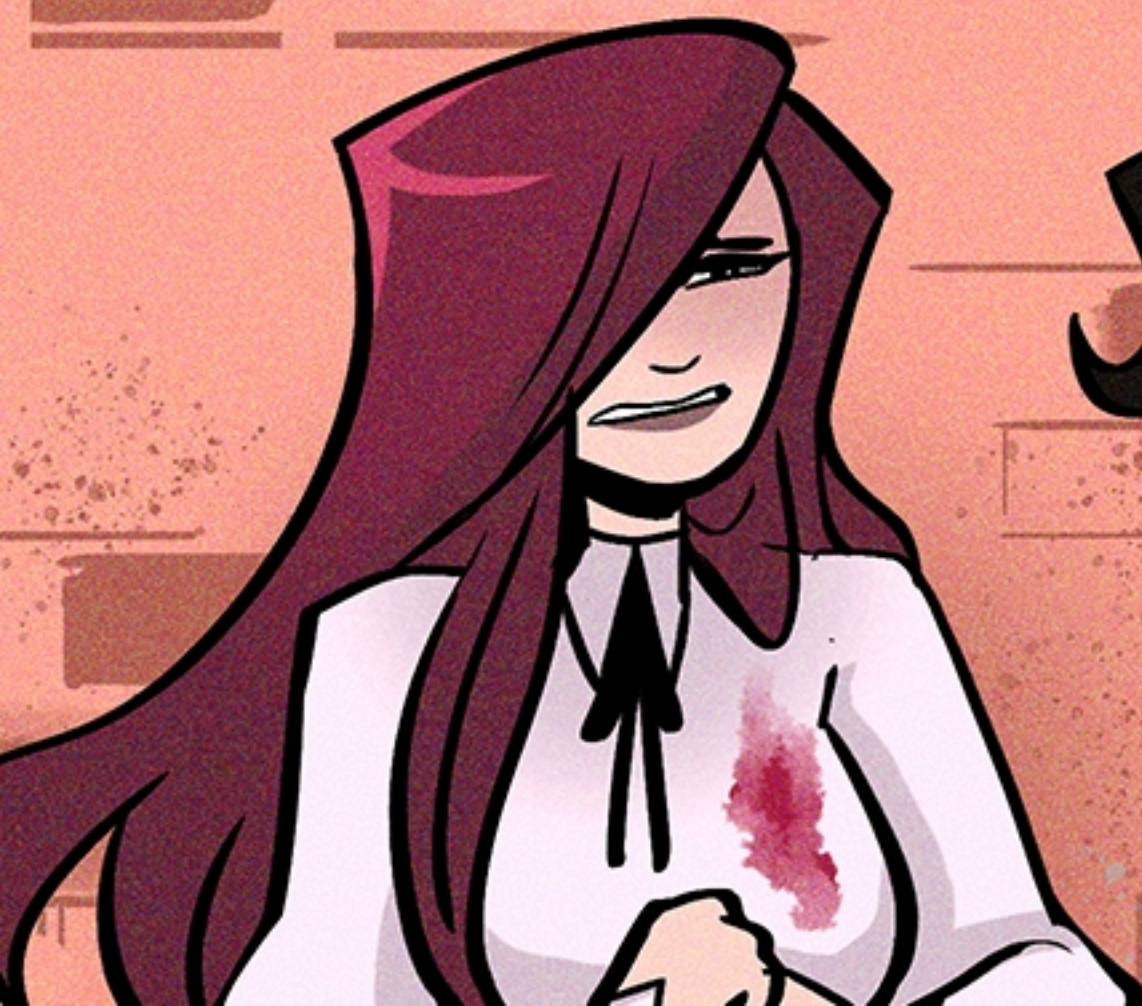
I THINK
SHE JUST WANTED
TO RILE YOU UP
MORE...







SEEMS
LIKE IT WORKED
BETTER THAN SHE
HAD HOPED...



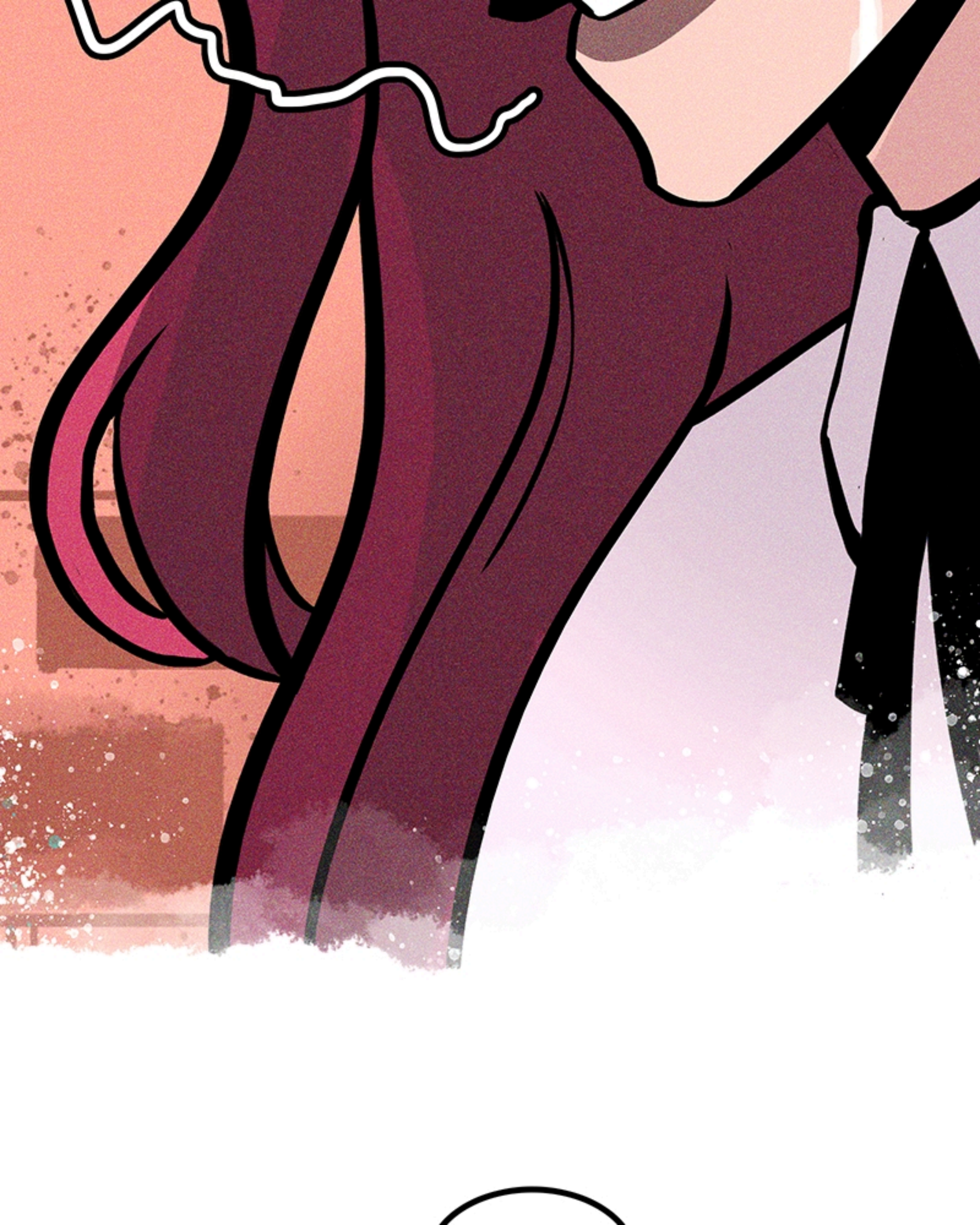


A comic book panel featuring a close-up of a character's face, tilted upwards. The character has dark hair and is crying, with a single tear visible on their cheek. The background is a mix of white and red, with red streaks resembling blood dripping down. Three speech bubbles are present, each containing a line of dialogue.

I- I KILLED
HER-

SH-SHE'S
DEAD-

I KILLED
SOMEONE-



NO-

PRINCESS, I AM
ALMOST 100% CERTAIN
THAT THERE WAS NOTHING
LEFT OF DIANA ELOI INSIDE
OF THAT BODY.

THERE
IS NOTHING
YOU COULD HAVE
DONE-

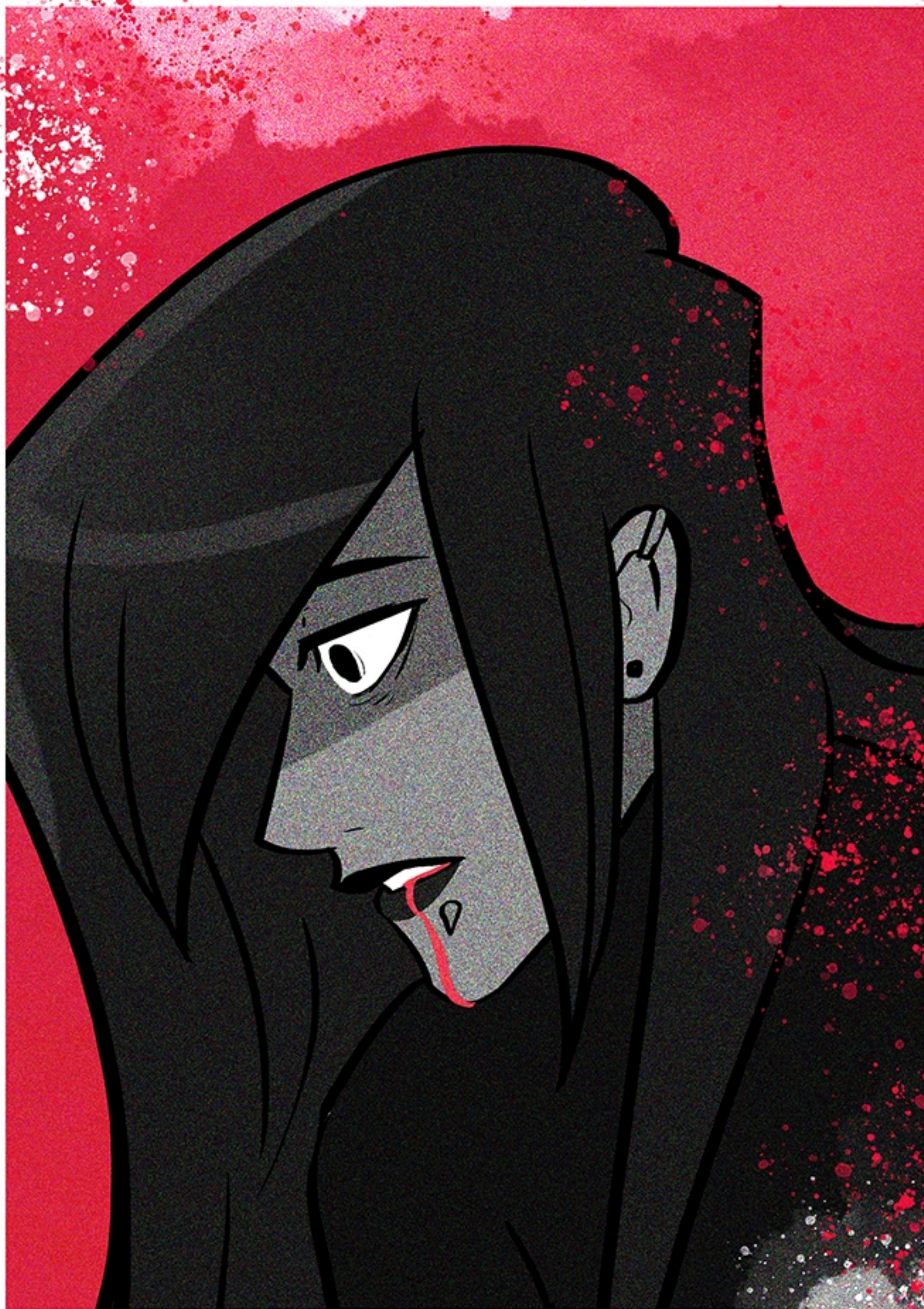


A comic book panel featuring a large speech bubble in the upper center. The speech bubble contains the text "BUT HER EYES- I SAW!". Below the speech bubble, a character with dark skin and long black hair is visible, looking upwards with green eyes. The background is a mix of dark blue and purple at the top, transitioning to a bright orange and yellow glow at the bottom, suggesting a sunset or explosion. There are some white speckles in the dark blue area, possibly representing stars or dust. The character's hand is visible near their face, and they appear to be holding a dark object.

BUT HER
EYES- I SAW!



THEY WERE
NORMAL- AND SHE
LOOKED RIGHT
AT ME!



A comic book panel showing a character with dark hair, wearing a white lab coat, covering their face with both hands. The character has a pained or distressed expression, with their mouth open in a grimace. The background is a warm, orange-toned environment with some architectural elements. A speech bubble is positioned above the character's head, and a cluster of red dots is in the upper right corner.

THIS IS
A NIGHTMARE-

BASICALLY
EVERYTHING THAT
COULD HAVE GONE
WRONG WENT
WRONG!



I ABANDONED
AVALINE-

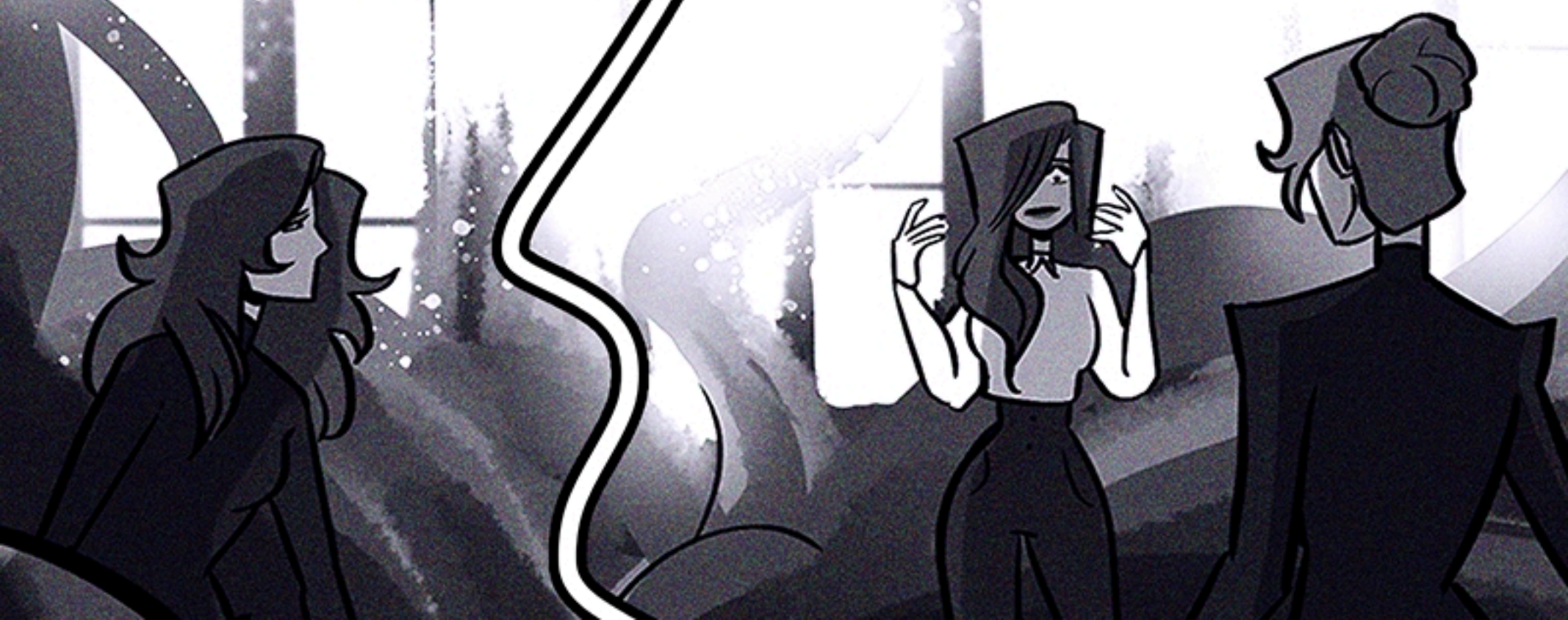


ATHALIE
LEARNED THE
TRUTH ABOUT
ME-





AND IN
THE MIDDLE OF
THE CITY NO
LESS!



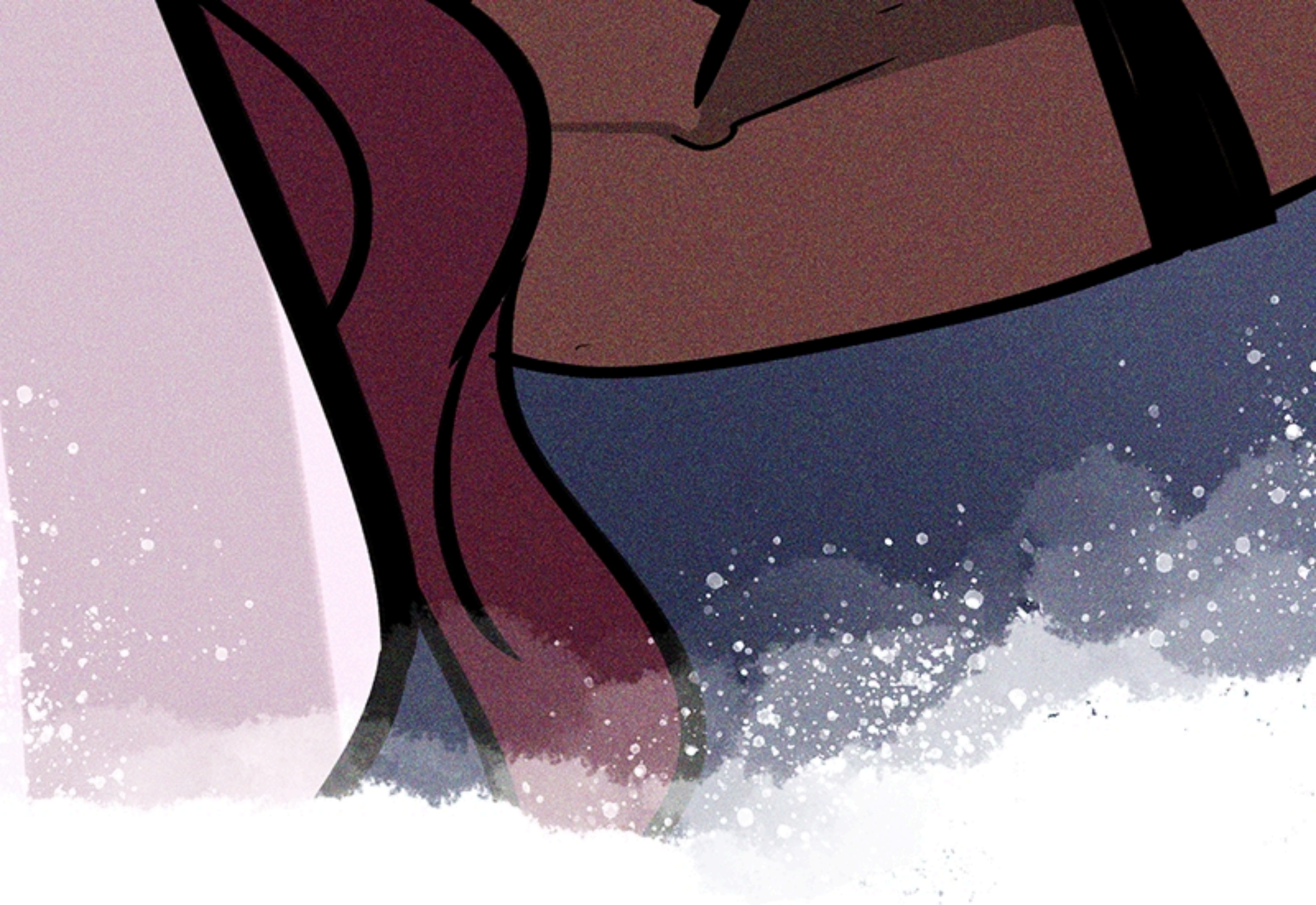


AND NOW-
NOW DIANA IS-

AFTER
FINDING THE MISSING
POSTER I HAD STARTED

TO THINK THAT...
MAYBE I COULD..

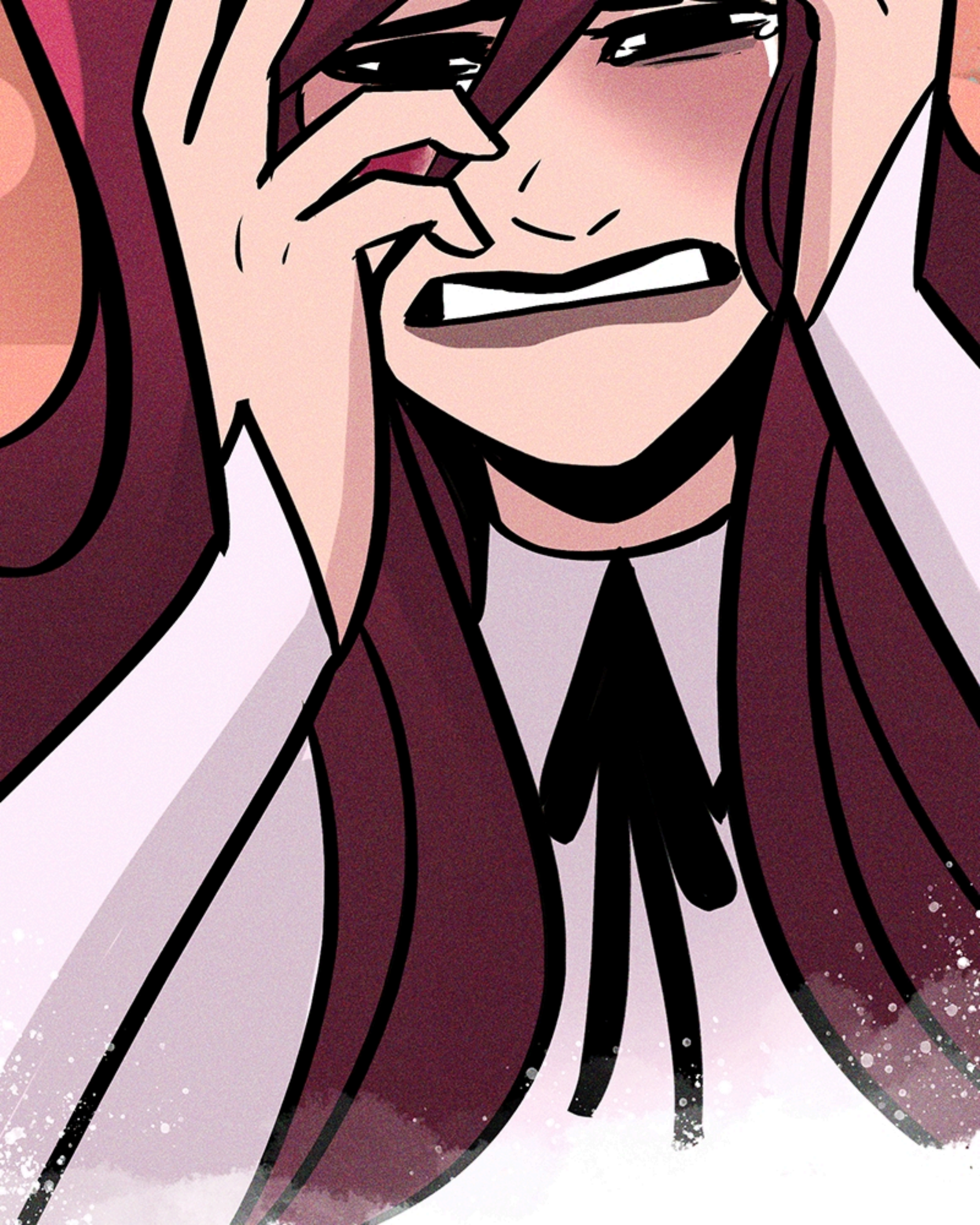


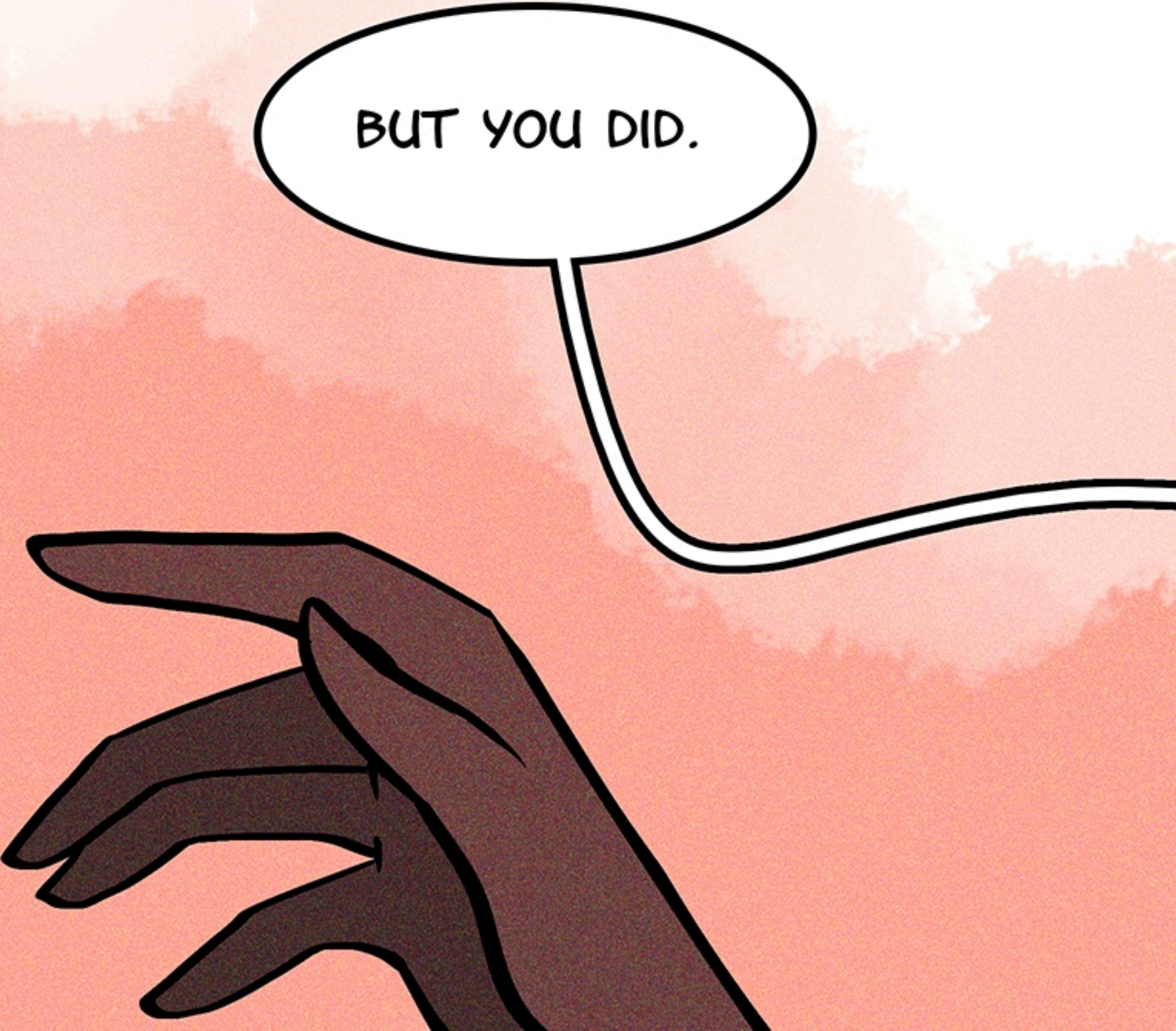


WHY
CAN'T I SAVE
MYSELF?

ANYONE?





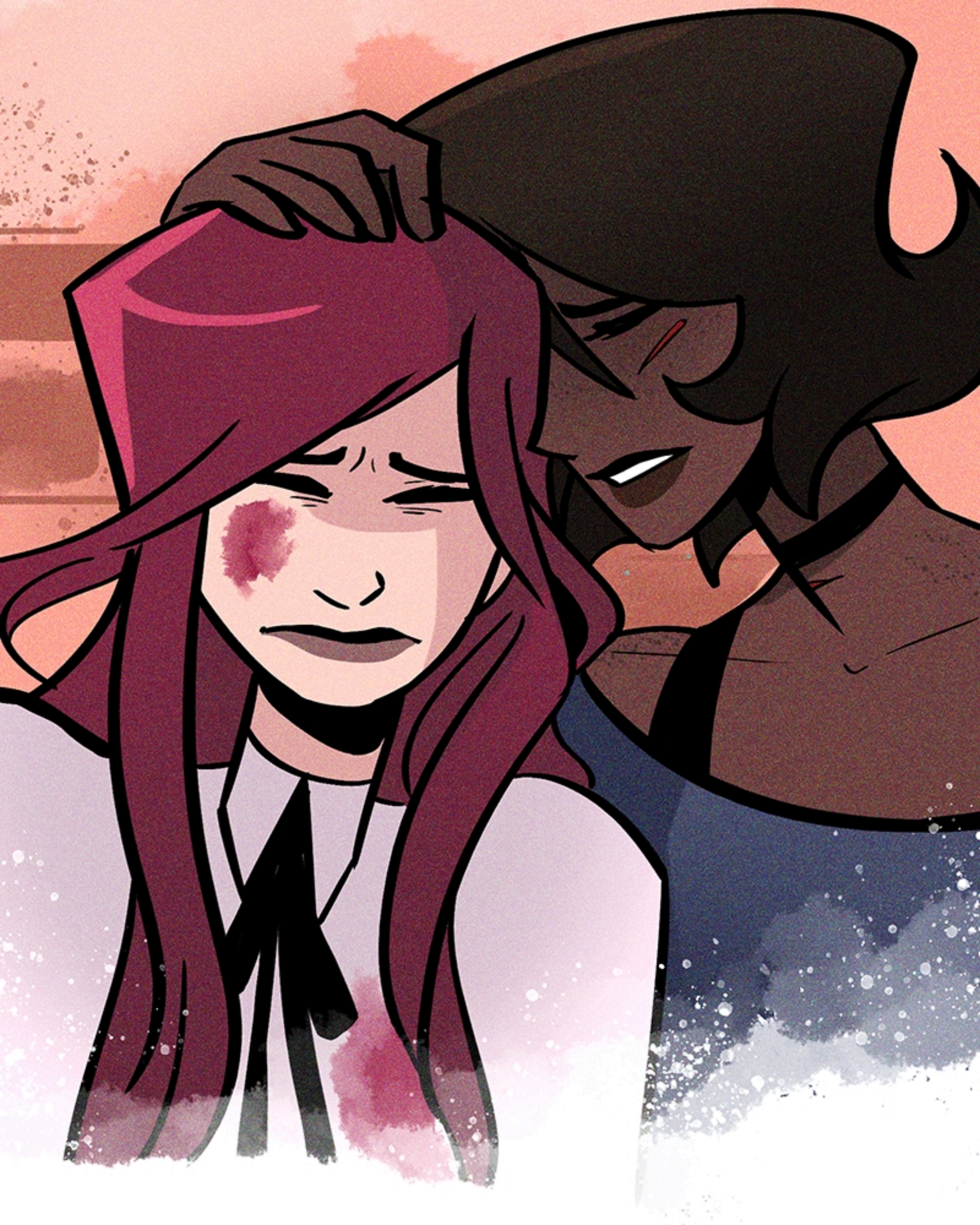
A dark brown hand with black outlines is shown from the wrist up, with fingers slightly curled. A white speech bubble with a black outline is connected to the hand by a thin black line. The background is a soft, watercolor-like wash of light pink and peach colors.

BUT YOU DID.



YOU
SAVED
ME.

YOU
SAVED US.



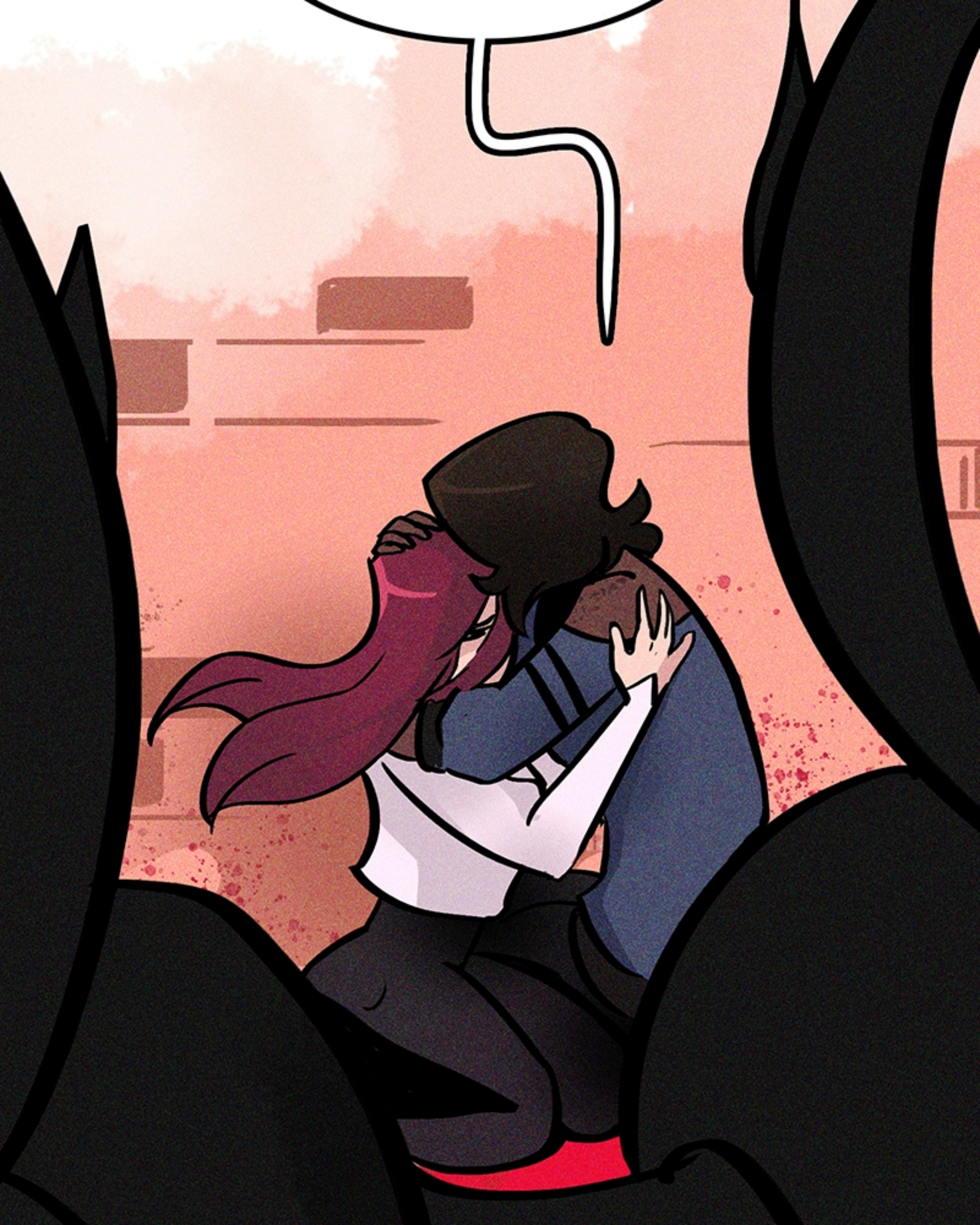
A comic-style illustration featuring a speech bubble with the text "WE ARE ALIVE THANKS TO YOU." The speech bubble is white with a black outline and a black tail. The background is a soft, watercolor-like wash of warm colors, including shades of pink, orange, and red. In the bottom right corner, there are faint, dark, horizontal lines that suggest a landscape or architectural elements.

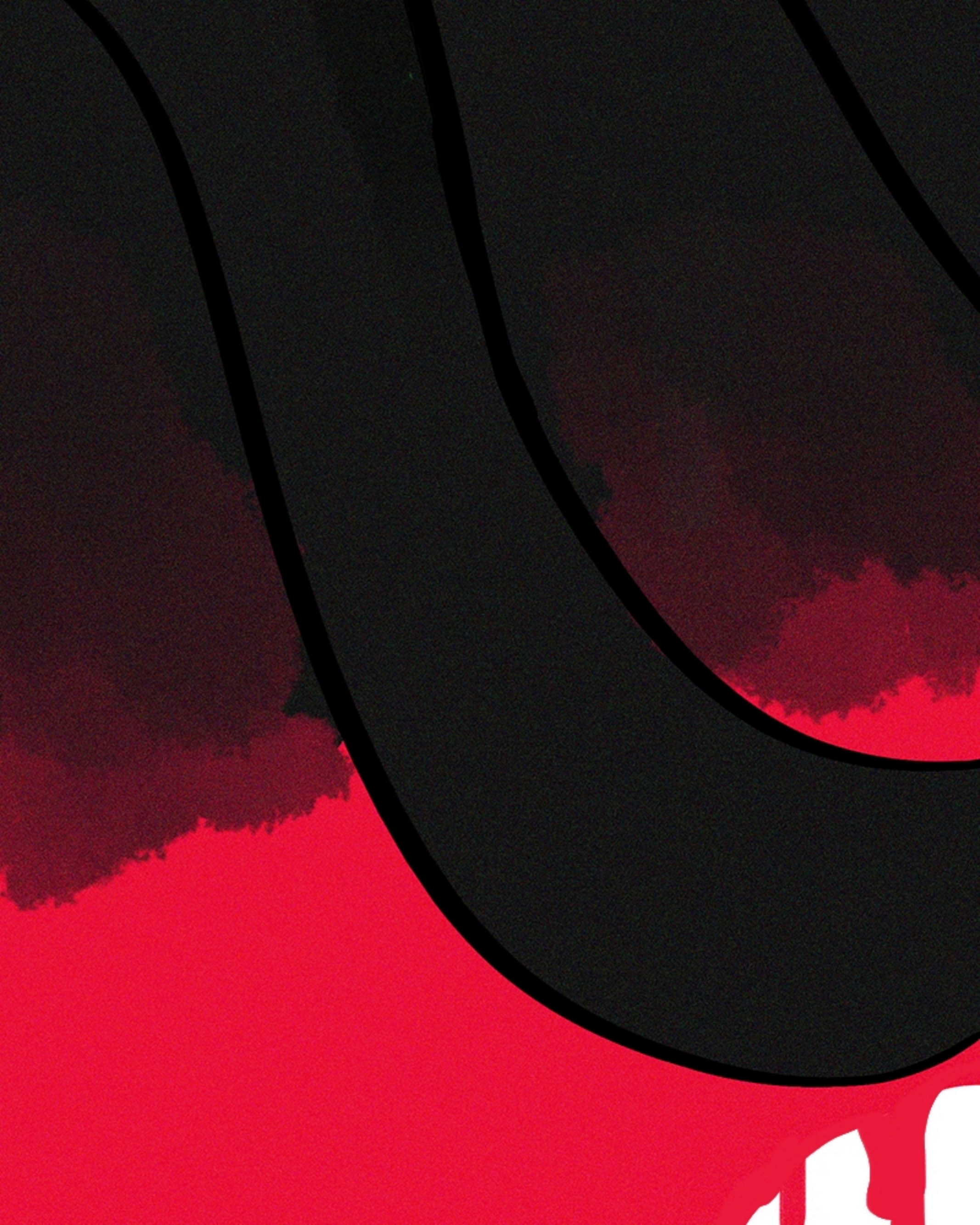
WE ARE
ALIVE THANKS
TO YOU.





SO JUST
LEAVE THE REST
TO ME, AND GO
TO THE CAR AND
WAIT.



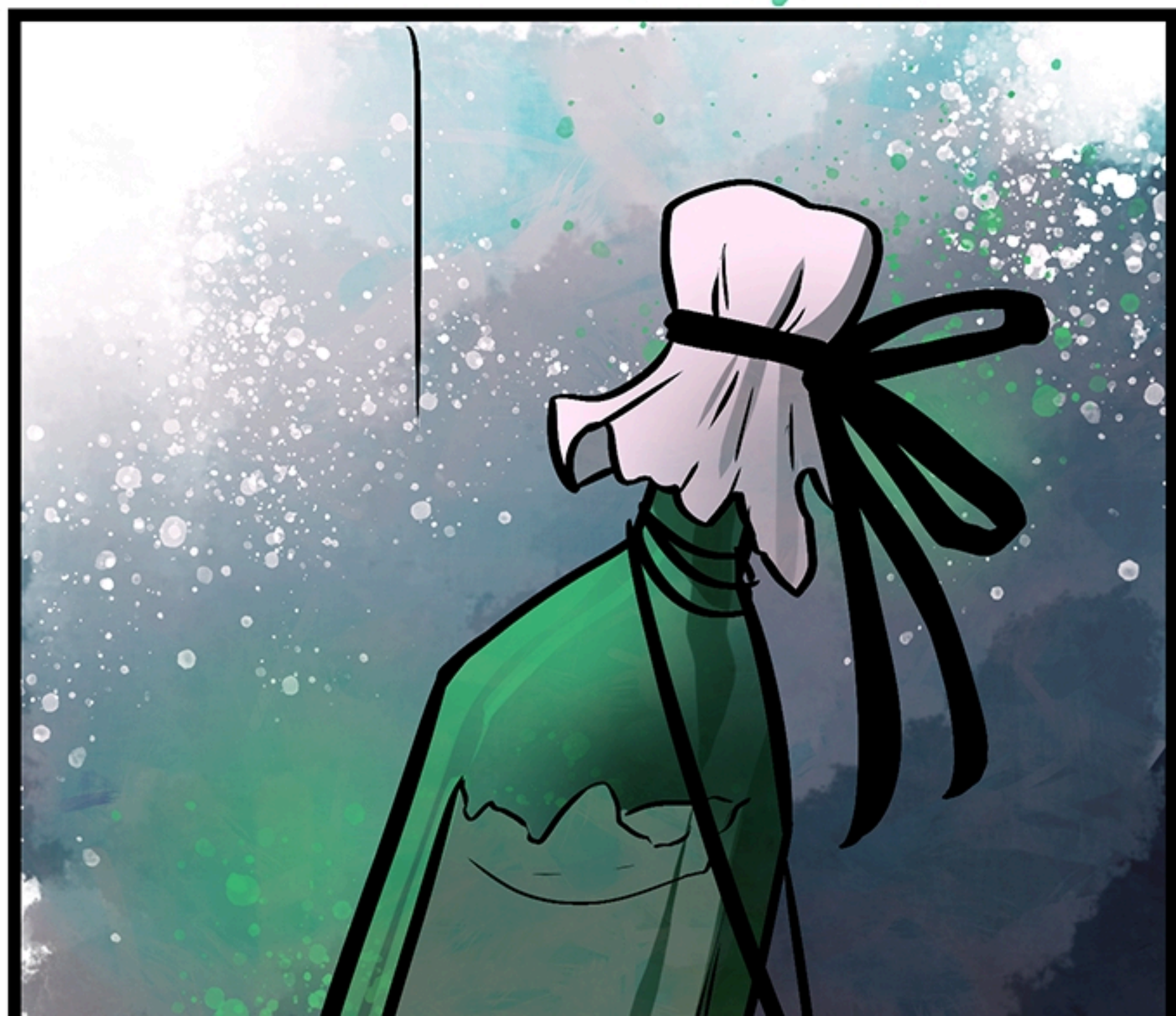




BUT TAKE MY
SHIRT. YOU GOT
BLOOD ON YOURS.

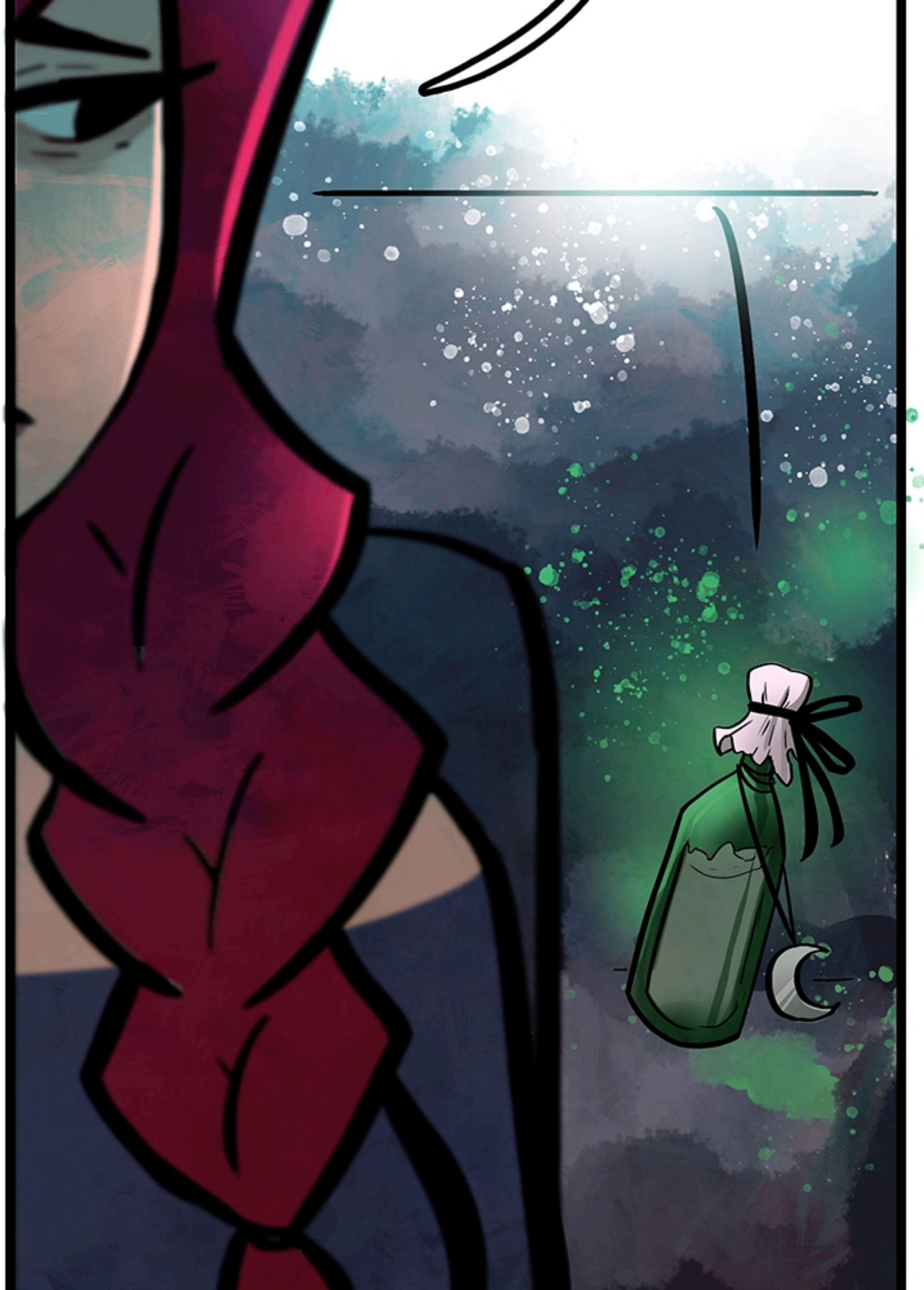








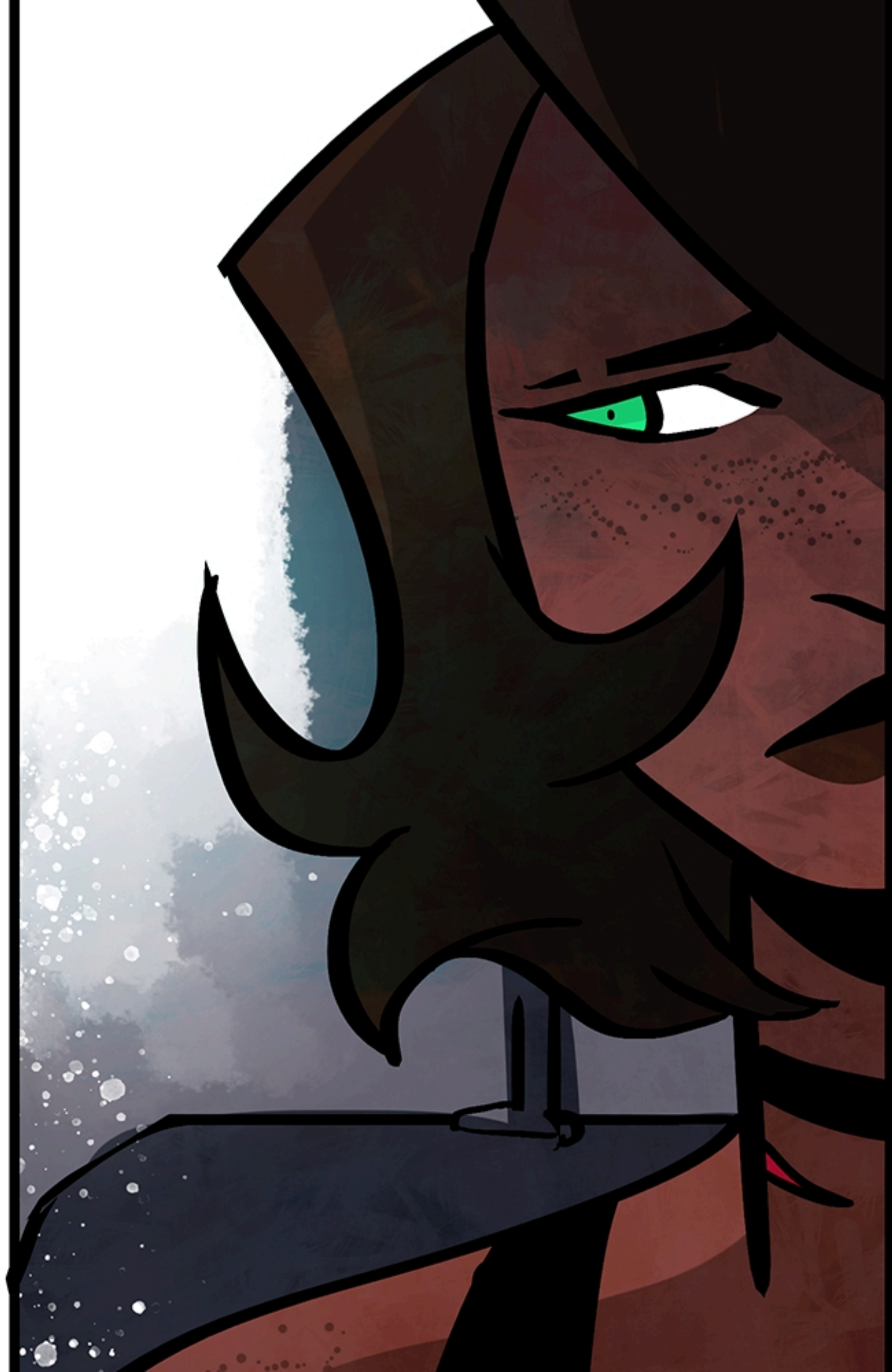
DO YOU HAVE
PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE
WITH THIS?

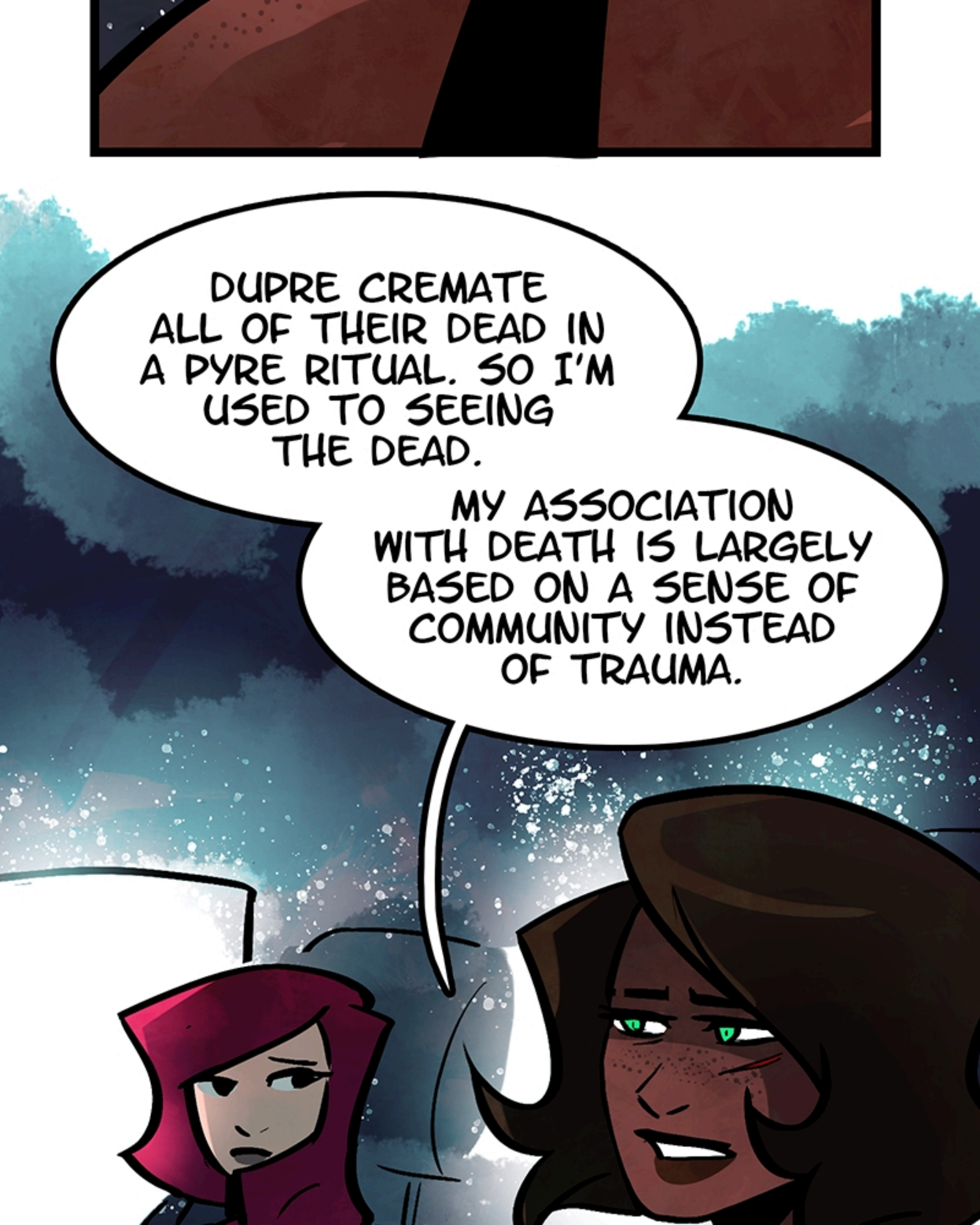




WITH BURNING
BODIES?







DUPRE CREMATE
ALL OF THEIR DEAD IN
A PYRE RITUAL. SO I'M
USED TO SEEING
THE DEAD.

MY ASSOCIATION
WITH DEATH IS LARGELY
BASED ON A SENSE OF
COMMUNITY INSTEAD
OF TRAUMA.





SO I'VE NEVER
DONE IT BY MYSELF.
BECAUSE IT'S A GROUP

BECAUSE IT'S A GROUP
EVENT PLUS IT TAKES
A LOT OF ENERGY.

I BLOCKED
OFF THE ALLEY IN
CASE ANYONE WALKED
BY AND I DID WHAT
I COULD.

OUR FIRE MAGIC
CAN BURN THINGS WITH
AN INTENSITY AND SPEED
THAT WHAT WE ARE BURNING
DOESN'T HAVE MUCH CHANCE
TO SMOKE OR SMELL.





FASTER THAN
CREMATION BUT STILL
NOT A COMPLETE
PROCESS.

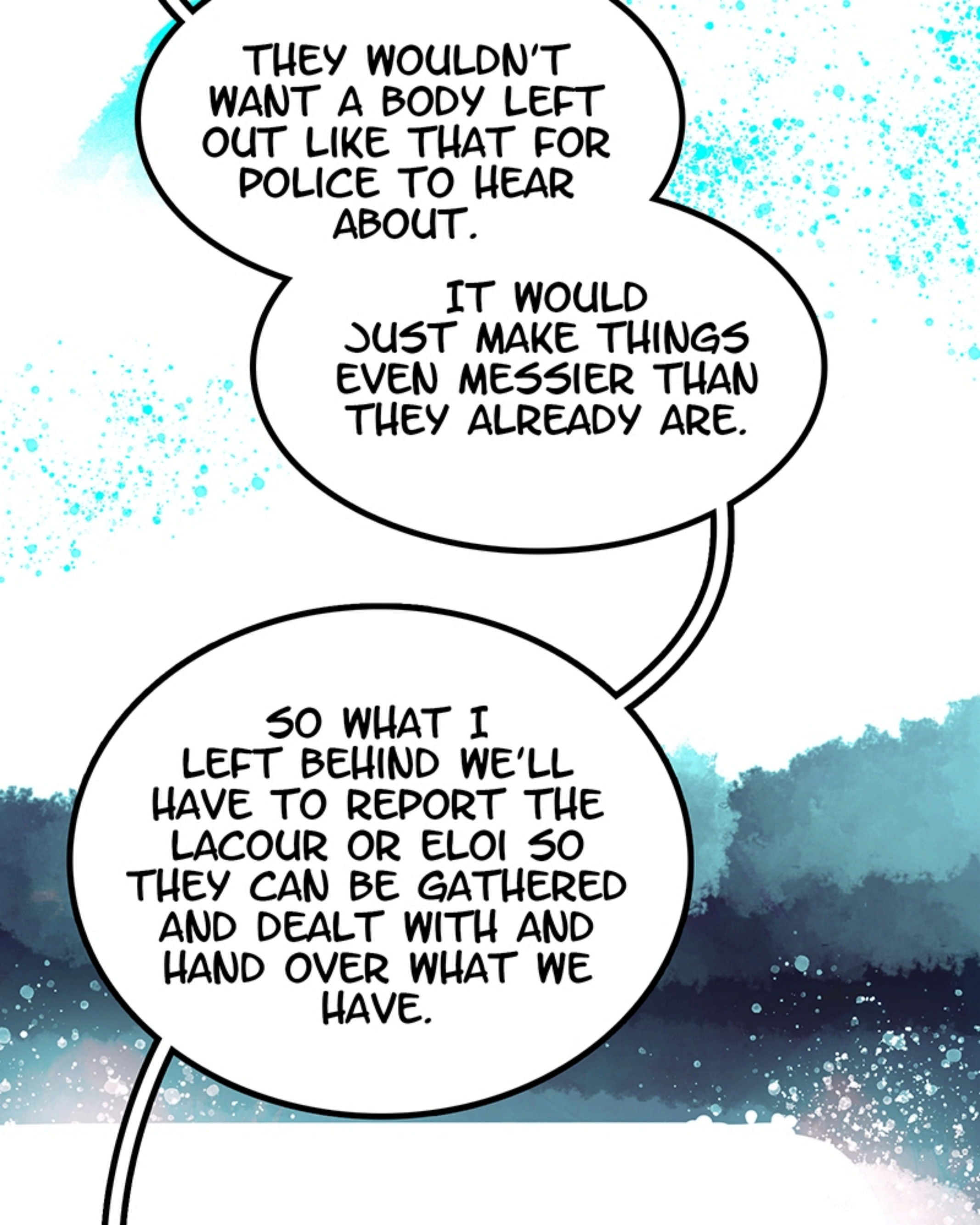
SO I TOOK ALL
OF WHAT I MANAGE AND HID

THE REST AS CAREFULLY
AS POSSIBLE.





LEAVING
BEHIND SOME VINES
IN A CAFE IS GOING TO
BE UPSETTING TO THE
WITCH FAMILIES AS
IT IS.



THEY WOULDN'T
WANT A BODY LEFT
OUT LIKE THAT FOR
POLICE TO HEAR
ABOUT.

IT WOULD
JUST MAKE THINGS
EVEN MESSIER THAN
THEY ALREADY ARE.

SO WHAT I
LEFT BEHIND WE'LL
HAVE TO REPORT THE
LACOUR OR ELOI SO
THEY CAN BE GATHERED
AND DEALT WITH AND
HAND OVER WHAT WE
HAVE.



THE LACOUR
LIKE TO KEEP THINGS
AS INTERNAL AS
POSSIBLE.



A comic book panel featuring a character with dark red hair and a matching hood, shown in profile looking upwards. The character's mouth is slightly open as if speaking. A speech bubble originates from the character, containing the text 'THE LACOUR... DO YOU....'. The background is a dark, teal-colored sky with white, star-like speckles. A bright, white, curved shape, possibly a path or a cloud, is visible in the lower half of the frame.

THE LACOUR...
DO YOU....



DO YOU
REALLY THINK
THEY'LL MUTE
ME?



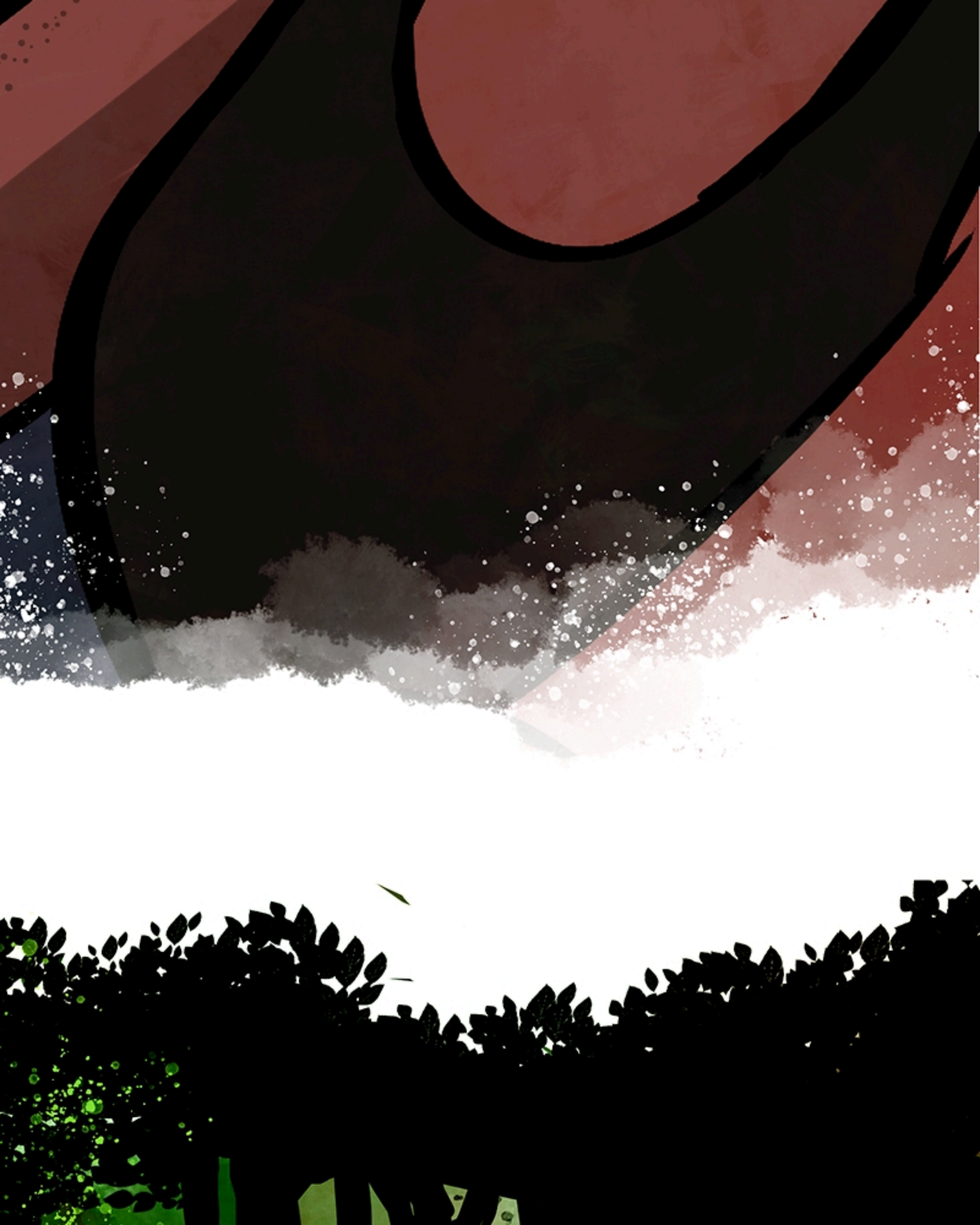






NOT IF I
HAVE ANYTHING
TO SAY ABOUT
IT.









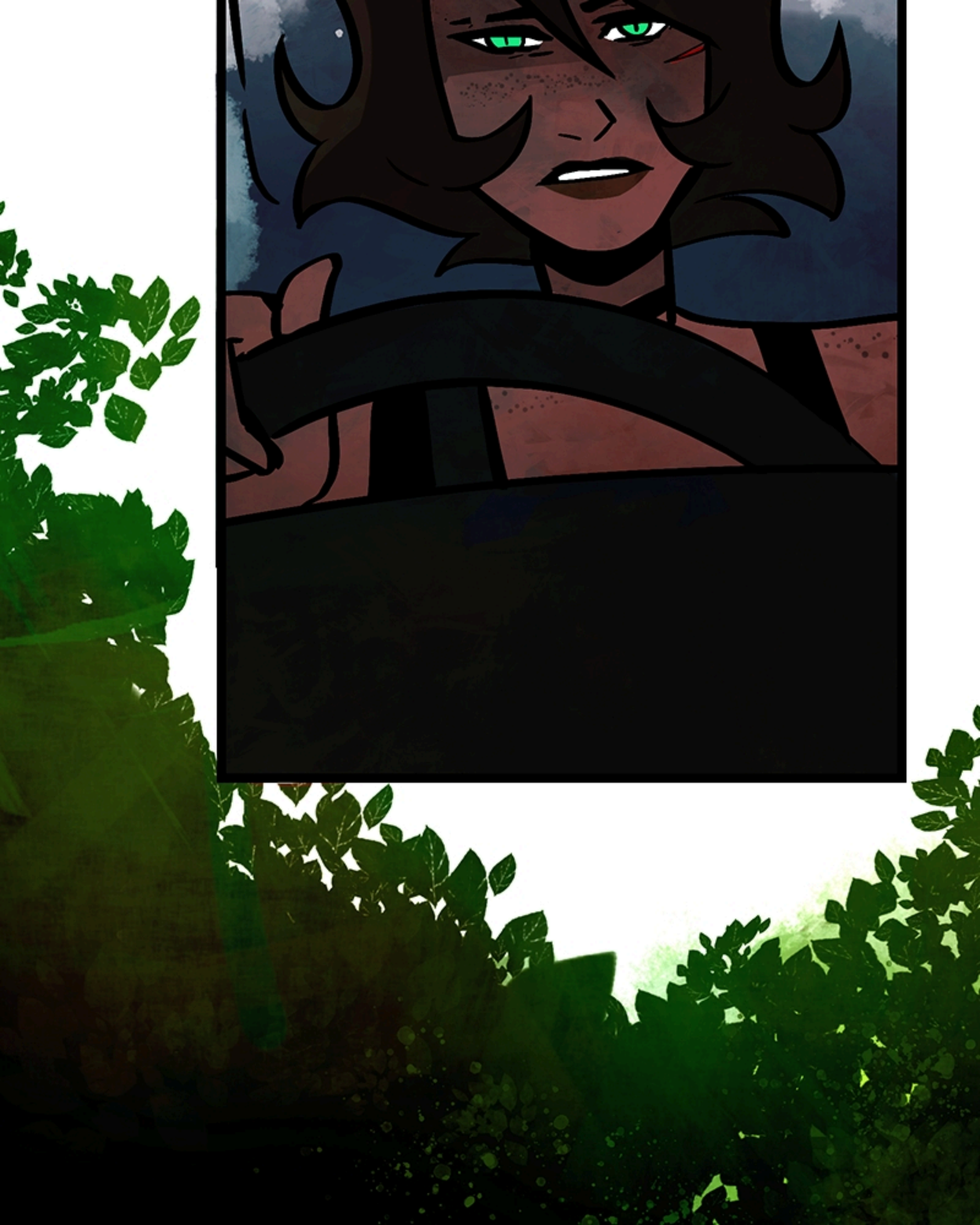








OH?











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