

Episode Content Warning:
Parental, emotional, and physical
abuse that may be upsetting to
readers.



WAS THERE
EVEN A *SINGLE*
POINT IN YOUR LIFE...
WHERE YOU WANTED
OR LOVED ME?



TELL ME!



A comic panel featuring a character with dark skin and short, dark hair with reddish-brown highlights. The character has a serious, slightly skeptical expression and is wearing a dark, high-collared garment. They are positioned at the bottom of the frame against a background of vertical light and dark purple streaks, resembling a starry sky or a window looking out into space. Two speech bubbles originate from the character. The first bubble, at the top, contains the text 'YOU REALLY WANT THE TRUTH, AVALINE?'. The second bubble, below the first, contains the text 'VERY WELL.'.

YOU REALLY
WANT THE TRUTH,
AVALINE?

VERY WELL.



NOT ONCE
IN MY WHOLE LIFE
DID I EVER WISH
FOR CHILDREN.

I NEVER
WANTED YOU.



I CAN BARELY
EVEN STAND TO
LOOK AT YOU.





THEN WHY
DID YOU EVEN

HMMME!!?

BECAUSE





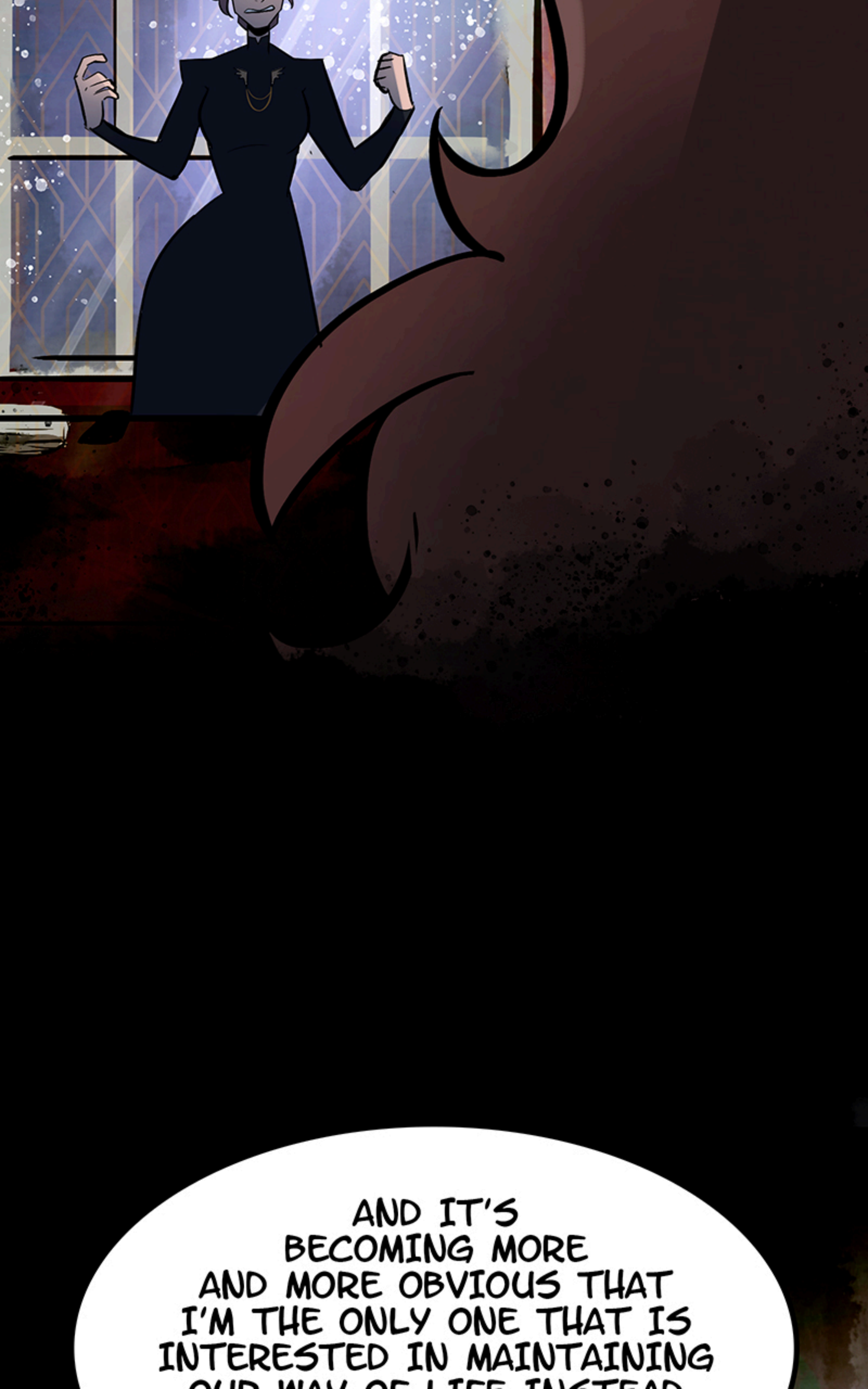
JUST LIKE
IT IS YOURS!

JUST LIKE
IT IS CAMILLE'S!

A comic book panel with a dark background. Two large, white speech bubbles are positioned in the upper half. The first bubble contains the text 'JUST LIKE IT WAS MY SISTER'S!'. The second bubble, below the first, contains the text 'AND JUST LIKE IT WAS THE DUTY OF EVERY OTHER MATRIARCH DAUGHTER THAT CAME BEFORE US!'. At the bottom left, a small portion of a character with brown hair is visible. The background features vertical streaks of light and a red, textured area on the right side.

JUST
LIKE IT WAS
MY SISTER'S!

AND JUST LIKE
IT WAS THE DUTY OF
EVERY OTHER MATRIARCH
DAUGHTER THAT CAME
BEFORE US!



AND IT'S
BECOMING MORE
AND MORE OBVIOUS THAT
I'M THE ONLY ONE THAT IS
INTERESTED IN MAINTAINING
OUR WAY OF LIFE INSTEAD

OUR WAY OF LIFE INSTEAD
OF RELENTING TO **SELFISH**
IMPULSE!



I'M THE
ONLY ONE WHO
CARES ABOUT OUR
TRADITIONS!

NONE OF
YOU HAVE A **SHRED**
OF RESPECT FOR ALL
THAT I HAVE DONE TO
KEEP THE SEVERIN
FAMILY NAME
INTACT!





YOU'RE
ALL SO GOD
DAMN WEAK
WILLED.



IT'S
DISGUSTING.





YOU HAVE
YEARS OF TEACHING.
GENERATIONS OF
TRADITION...



BUT ONE
CONVERSATION
WITH A LEROUX AND
SUDDENLY YOU FOLD
AND BUCKLE UNDER
ALL OF IT.



A comic book panel with a dark, moody atmosphere. The top half shows the lower legs and feet of three people standing in a field of tall grass under a night sky. The bottom half is a solid dark blue background. Two white speech bubbles with black outlines are positioned in the center. The first speech bubble is larger and contains the text 'YOU TALKED TO CAMILLE FOR TEN MINUTES IN THAT CAFE AND LOOK AT YOU.' The second speech bubble is smaller and contains the text 'IT'S PATHETIC.'

YOU TALKED
TO CAMILLE FOR
TEN MINUTES IN THAT
CAFE AND LOOK AT
YOU.

IT'S
PATHETIC.



BUT YOU
WANT TO KNOW
THE WORST PART,
AVALINE?



A comic book panel featuring a male character with spiky red hair and green eyes, wearing a purple shirt. He is looking upwards with a slight smile. A large speech bubble originates from him, containing text. The background is a dark green forest with glowing green particles. In the bottom right corner, the top of another character's head with dark hair is visible.

IS THAT...
EVEN THOUGH I
HAD BEEN CERTAIN
THAT CAMILLE'S FATHER
WAS, SOMEHOW, HIM.



AS THE
YEARS WENT
ON AND I SAW NO
SIGNS... I STARTED
TO HAVE DOUBTS.

FOR A
TIME I THOUGHT
THAT I *WAS*
WRONG.



AND IN
THAT TIME

THAT TIME,
I REALIZED THAT
SHE *WAS* BETTER
THAN YOU.

STRONGER.
FASTER LEARNER.
SHE EVEN USED
TO BE LOGICAL.



The background is a dark, moody composition. The upper half is a dark charcoal grey with faint, stylized leaf shapes in shades of pink and purple. The lower half is dominated by a vibrant red area with a complex, overlapping geometric pattern of lines. A white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned in the center, containing the text "STOP...".

STOP...

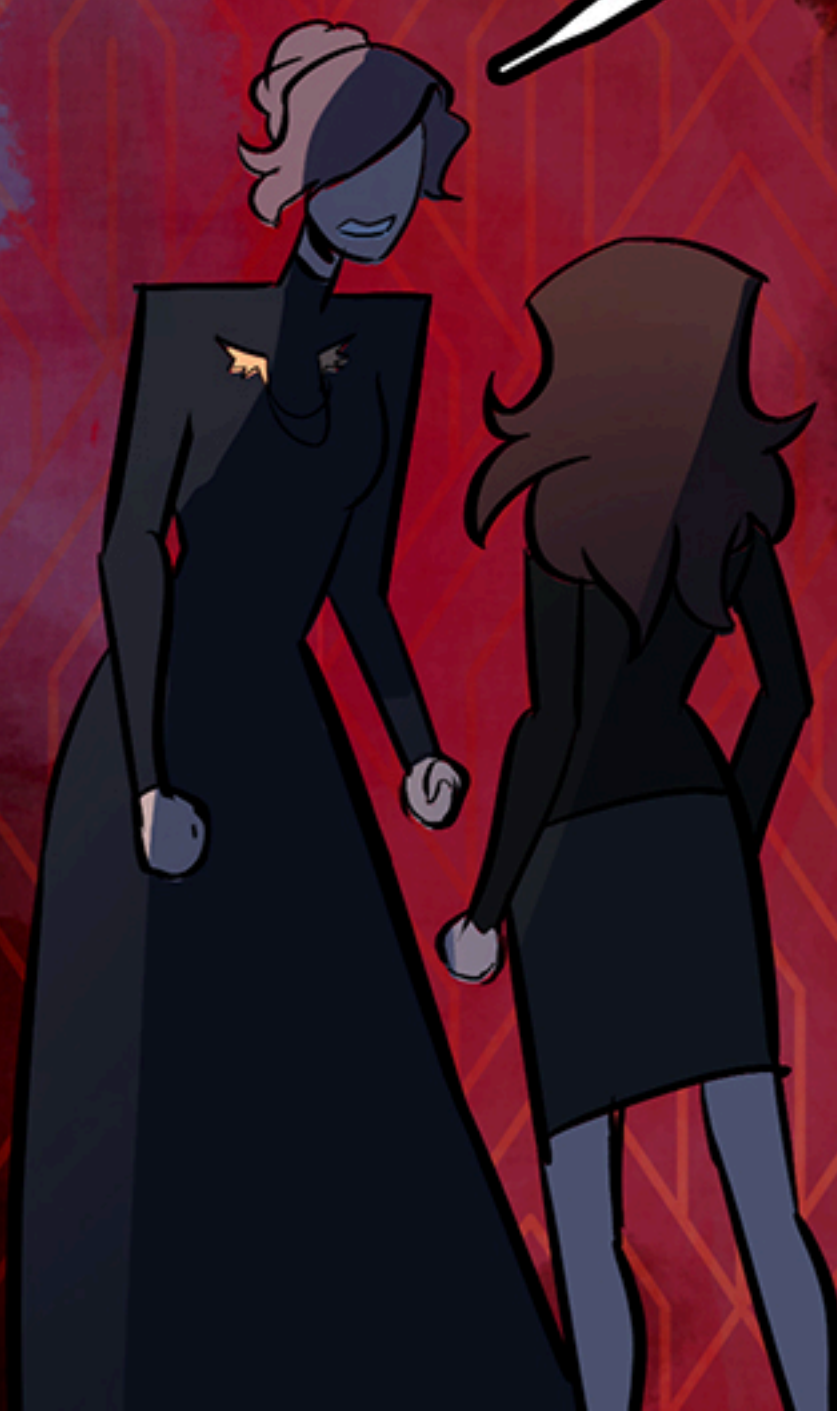


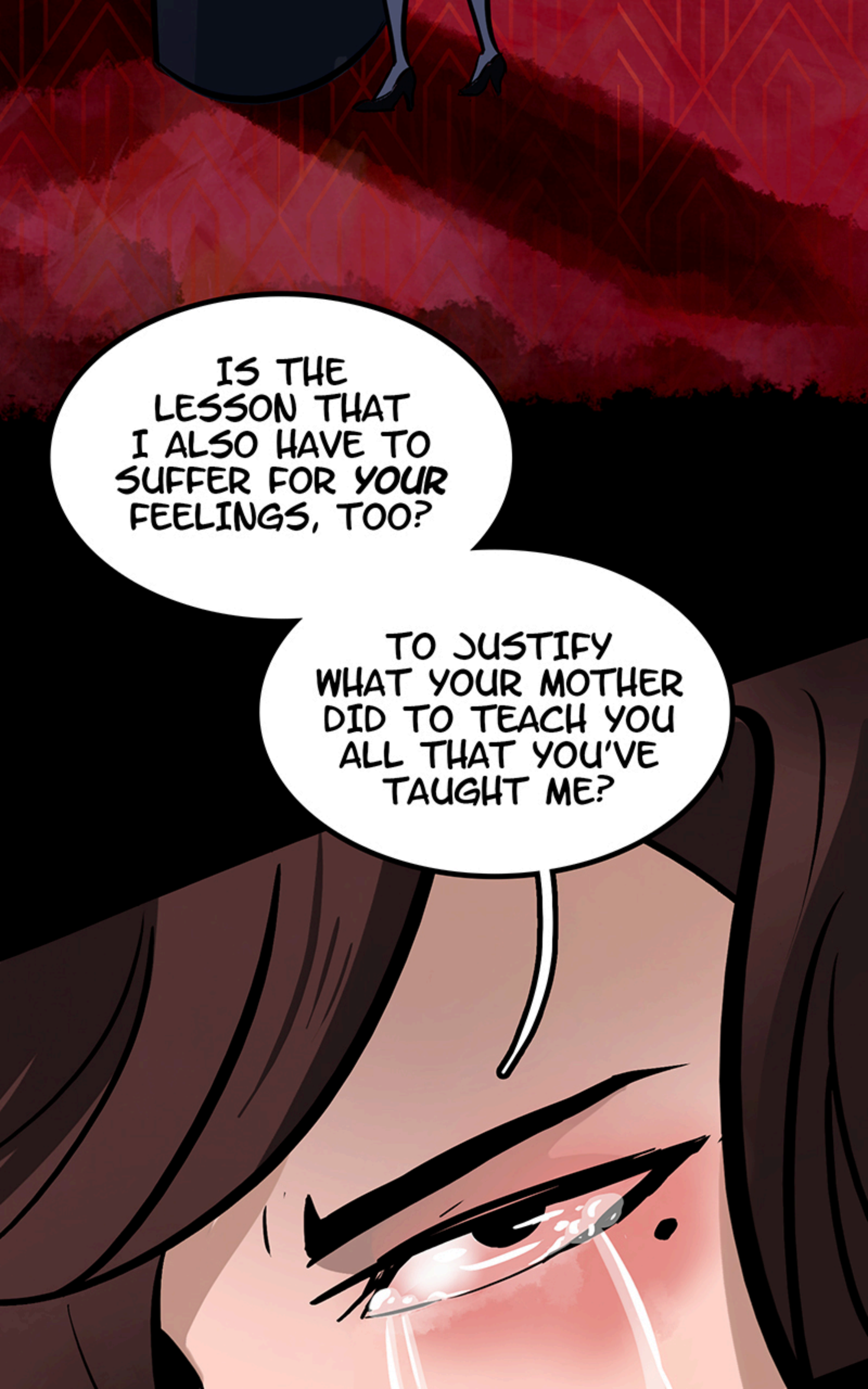
WHAT
WAS THAT?

YOU'RE
THE ONE THAT
ASKED FOR THE
TRUTH.

YOU MUST
SUFFER THROUGH
HOW THE ANSWERS
MAKE YOU FEEL.

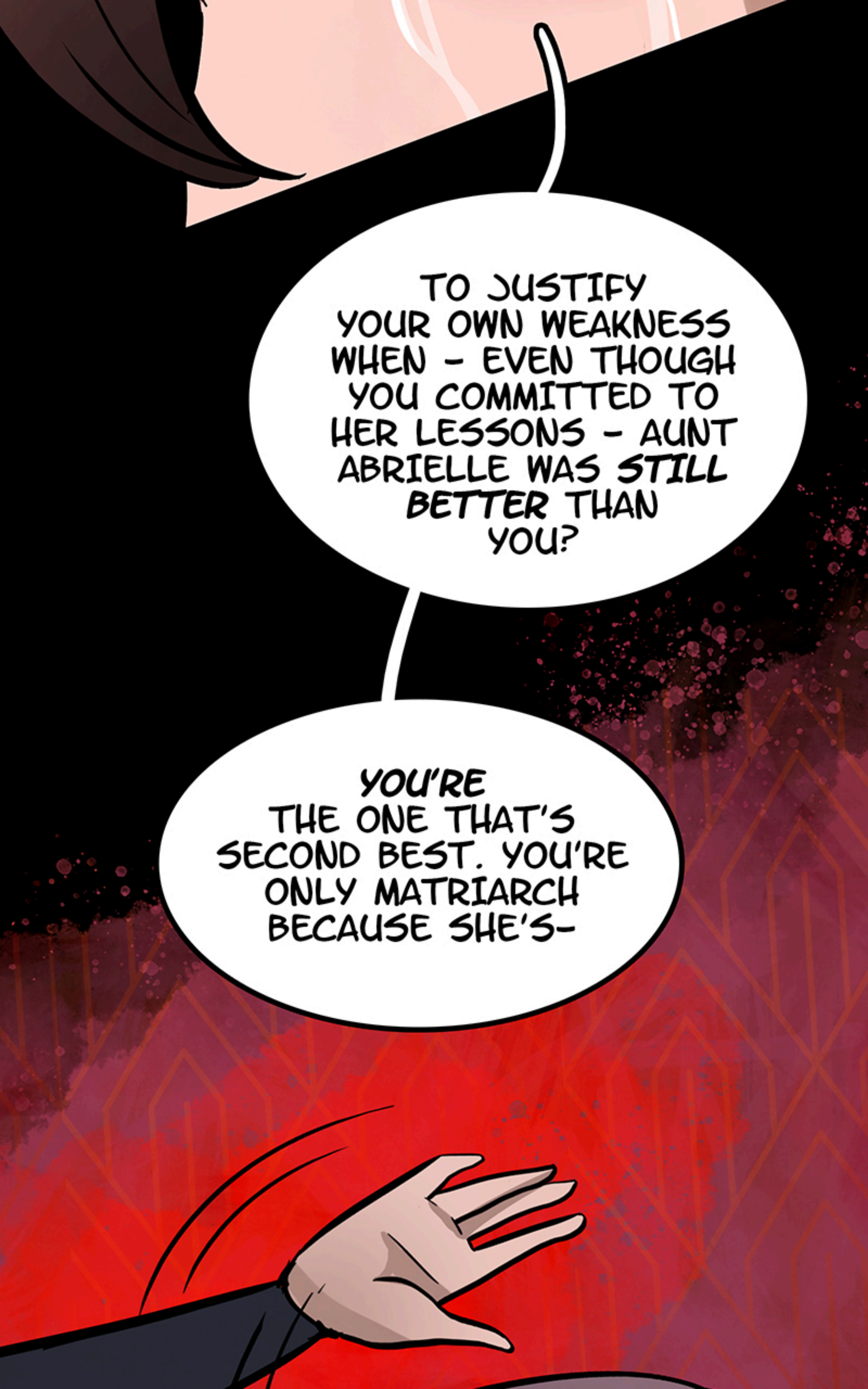
AND
MAYBE YOU'LL
FINALLY LEARN
SOMETHING.



A comic panel featuring a close-up of a woman's face at the bottom, with her eyes closed and a tearful expression. Her dark hair is visible on the sides. Above her face, two speech bubbles contain text. At the very top, the lower legs and feet of a person wearing a dark skirt and high heels are visible, standing on a red, patterned carpet.

IS THE
LESSON THAT
I ALSO HAVE TO
SUFFER FOR *YOUR*
FEELINGS, TOO?

TO JUSTIFY
WHAT YOUR MOTHER
DID TO TEACH YOU
ALL THAT YOU'VE
TAUGHT ME?

A comic book panel featuring two speech bubbles and a hand. The top speech bubble is white with a black border and contains the text: "TO JUSTIFY YOUR OWN WEAKNESS WHEN - EVEN THOUGH YOU COMMITTED TO HER LESSONS - AUNT ABRIELLE WAS **STILL BETTER** THAN YOU?". The bottom speech bubble is also white with a black border and contains the text: "YOU'RE THE ONE THAT'S SECOND BEST. YOU'RE ONLY MATRIARCH BECAUSE SHE'S-". At the bottom of the panel, a hand with a dark blue sleeve is shown, palm up, with a red mark on the palm. The background is dark with a red and orange geometric pattern and some red speckles.

TO JUSTIFY
YOUR OWN WEAKNESS
WHEN - EVEN THOUGH
YOU COMMITTED TO
HER LESSONS - AUNT
ABRIELLE WAS **STILL**
BETTER THAN
YOU?

YOU'RE
THE ONE THAT'S
SECOND BEST. YOU'RE
ONLY MATRIARCH
BECAUSE SHE'S-



SWAY

CRASH



CRAW!

CRAW!

CRAW!

CRAW!

CRAW!
CRAW!

INSUBORDINATE.

AND
CHURLISH.

I HAD





ALWAYS FELT
SOME SHAME THAT
I DIDN'T HAVE TWINS
LIKE THE REST OF
OUR FAMILY.

I'M GRATEFUL
THAT I DON'T HAVE
TO DEAL WITH TWO

TO DEAL WITH TWO
OF YOU.





THEN
AGAIN, MAYBE
THAT'S YOUR
PROBLEM.

PERHAPS
YOUR TWIN WOULD
HAVE TURNED
OUT BETTER.



KNOCK
KNOCK

MATRIARCH
ATHALIE.



YOU SHOULD
PROBABLY BE PREPARING
FOR YOUR MEETING WITH
THE MATRIARCHS.



AH, YES.
YOU'RE RIGHT.

THANK
YOU SOPHIA.



PLEASE
ALSO TAKE
AVALINE TO HER
ROOM AND MAKE
SURE SHE STAYS
PUT.

OF COURSE,
MA'AM.



STILL
CAUSING HER
PROBLEMS AFTER
ALL THIS TIME,
HM?

MAYBE
YOU SHOULD
HAVE DONE A BETTER
JOB AT BEING MY
NANNY.

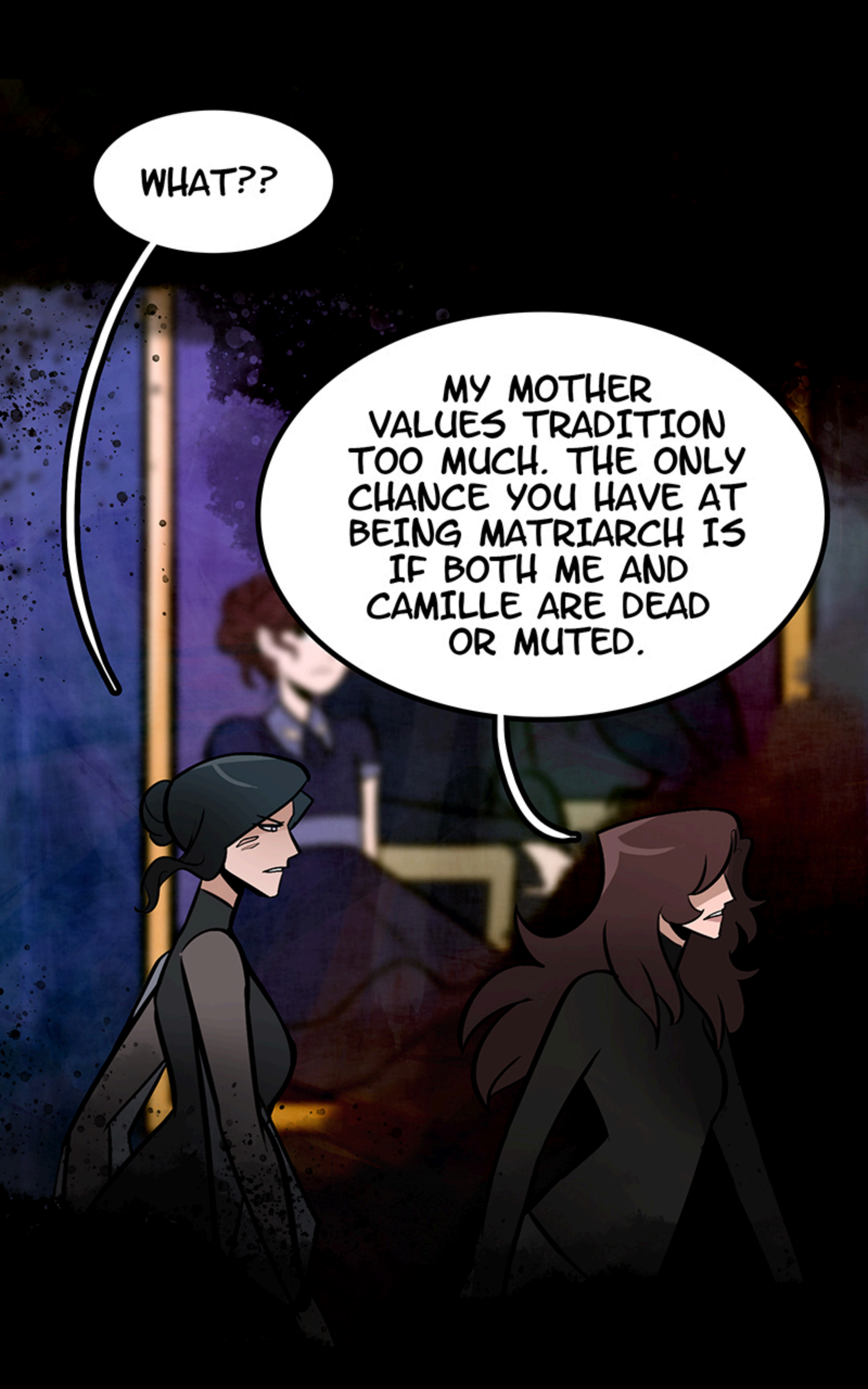




YOU'RE
WASTING YOUR
TIME, YOU
KNOW.

IT DOESN'T
MATTER HOW MUCH
SHE LIKES YOU.





WHAT??

MY MOTHER
VALUES TRADITION
TOO MUCH. THE ONLY
CHANCE YOU HAVE AT
BEING MATRIARCH IS
IF BOTH ME AND
CAMILLE ARE DEAD
OR MUTED.

WELL...
ONE OF THOSE
SHOULD BE TAKEN
CARE OF SOON
ENOUGH.





TOO
MUCH?

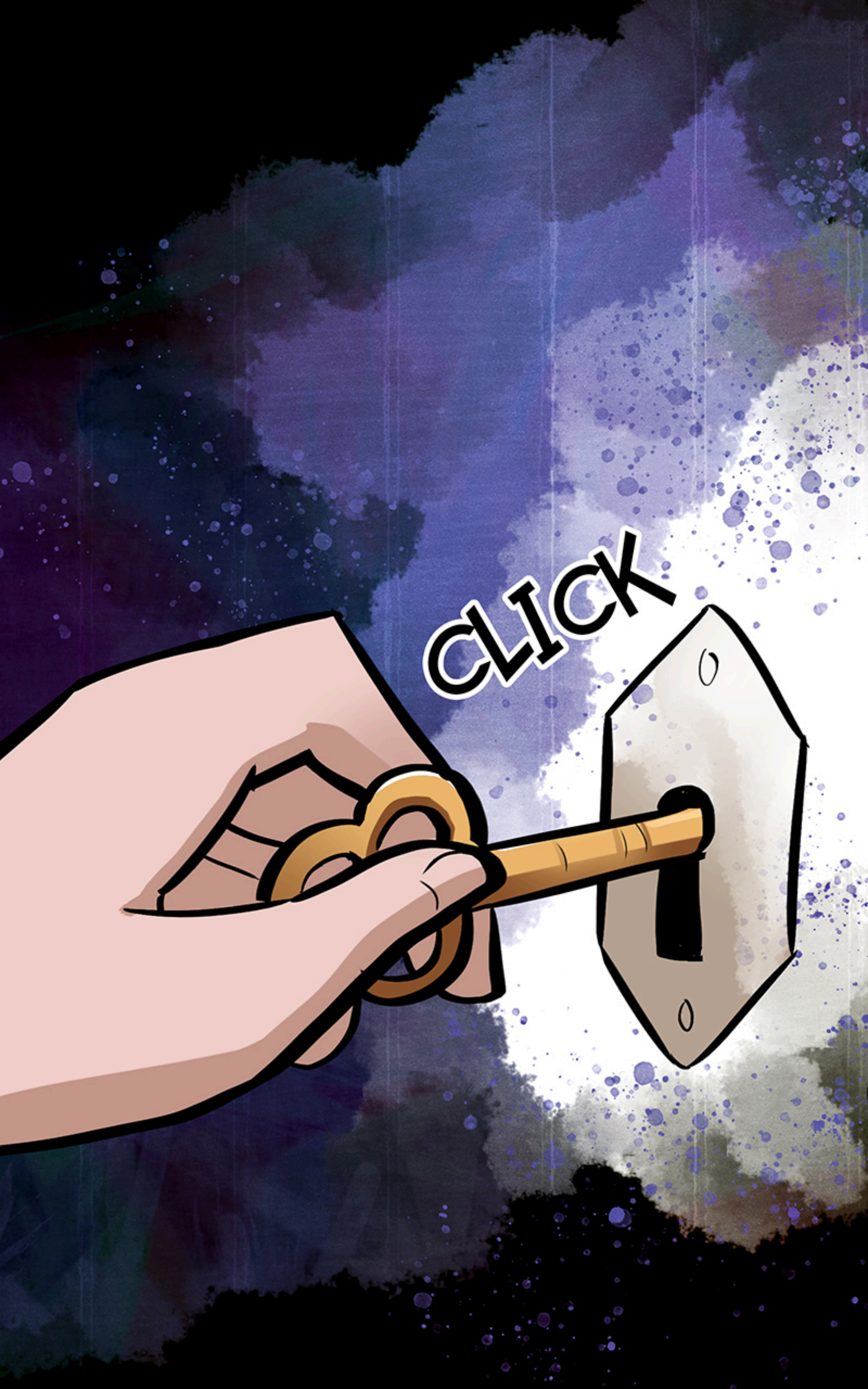


SILVIA
STANDS A BETTER
CHANCE THAN YOU
DO.

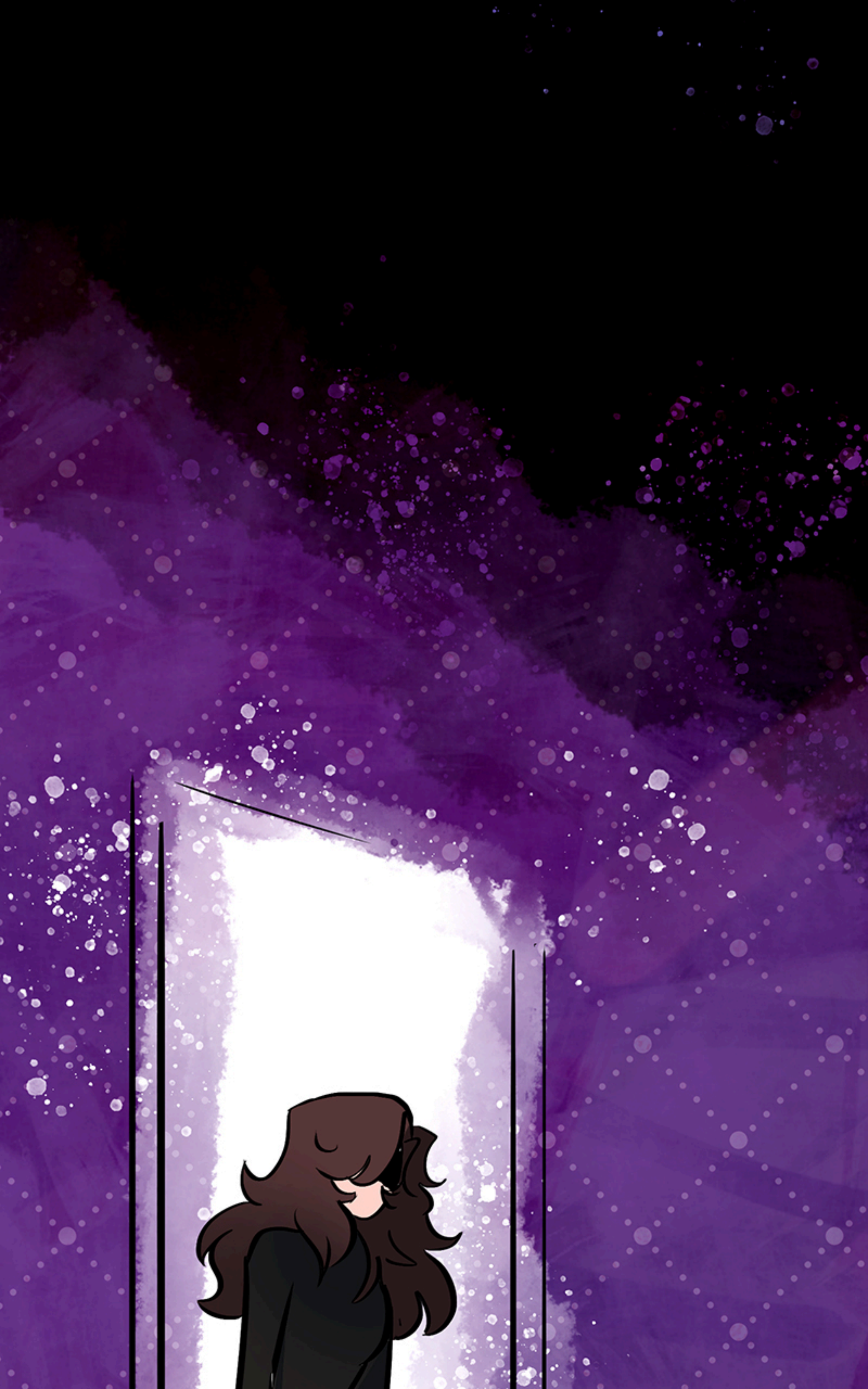
NOW YOU'RE
JUST LYING. MY SISTER
WAS ABRIELLE'S FIRST
FOLLOWER. THERE IS
NO WAY THAT WOULD
HAPPEN.

HURRY UP
AND GO IN YOUR ROOM
SO I CAN LOCK YOU
UP.





CLICK













RAUM.



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