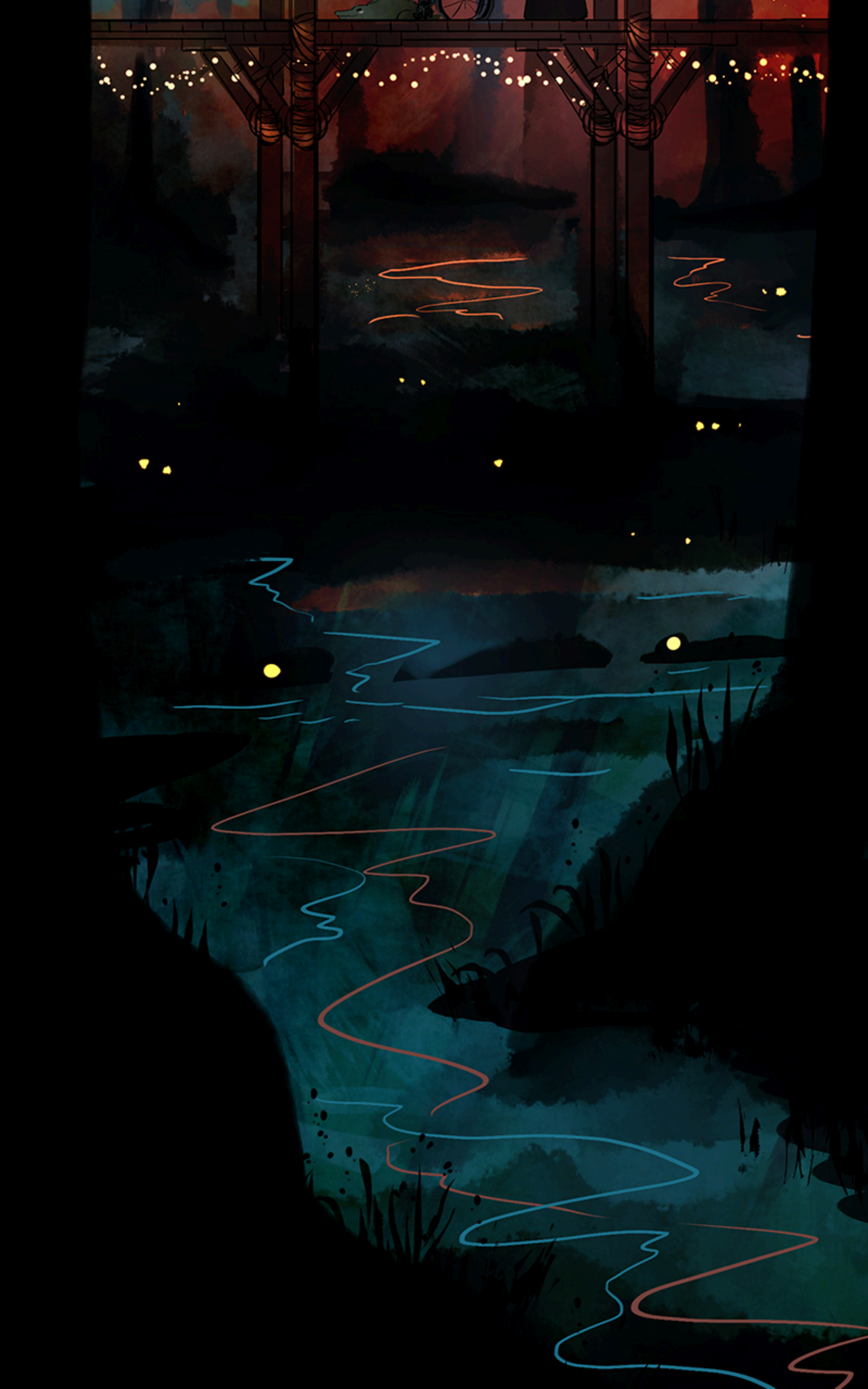


MATRIARCH
BABETTE IS PLEASED
WITH HOW QUICKLY
EVERYONE AGREED
TO MEET.







EVERYONE
ELSE IS ALREADY
HERE- WELL-
ALMOST.



SINCE THE
MOREAU AND MORAN
FAMILIES AREN'T
AREN'T INVOLVED IN
THIS INCIDENT...

THEIR
MATRIARCHS WILL
NOT BE ATTENDING
TONIGHT.

...SO WHAT
DO THE ELOI
HAVE TO DO
WITH THIS?







AS FAR AS
I'M CONCERNED.
THIS IS BETWEEN
THE SEVERIN AND
LEROUX.

YOUR FAMILY
IS ONLY HERE
TO MEDIATE.



AND THE
DUPRE BECAUSE
ONE OF THEIR
BRATS THREW
FIRE AT ME.



HM.

WELL

WELL,
THAT WILL
BE EXPLAINED
IN TIME.



PLEASE LEAVE
YOUR FAMILIAR HERE
WITH THE OTHERS. I'LL
BE LOOKING AFTER
THEM.









THANK
YOU, THE OTHERS
ARE RIGHT DOWN
THE RAMP.













WELCOME.

Matriarch
Athalie.



A woman with short, dark hair and a stern expression stands in the center of the frame. She is wearing a long, black, high-collared dress with a subtle ruffled detail at the neck. She is positioned in front of a bright, yellow-orange light source that creates a strong lens flare and illuminates the scene. The background is a dark, fiery landscape with swirling smoke and embers. In the foreground, a large, dark, metallic key is visible, its handle extending towards the right and its bit pointing downwards. The overall atmosphere is dramatic and intense.

WELL MET.

WELL MET.





MATRIARCH
LEROUX.





MATRIARCH
ELOI.





MATRIARCH
DUPRE.





MATRIARCH
LACOUR.





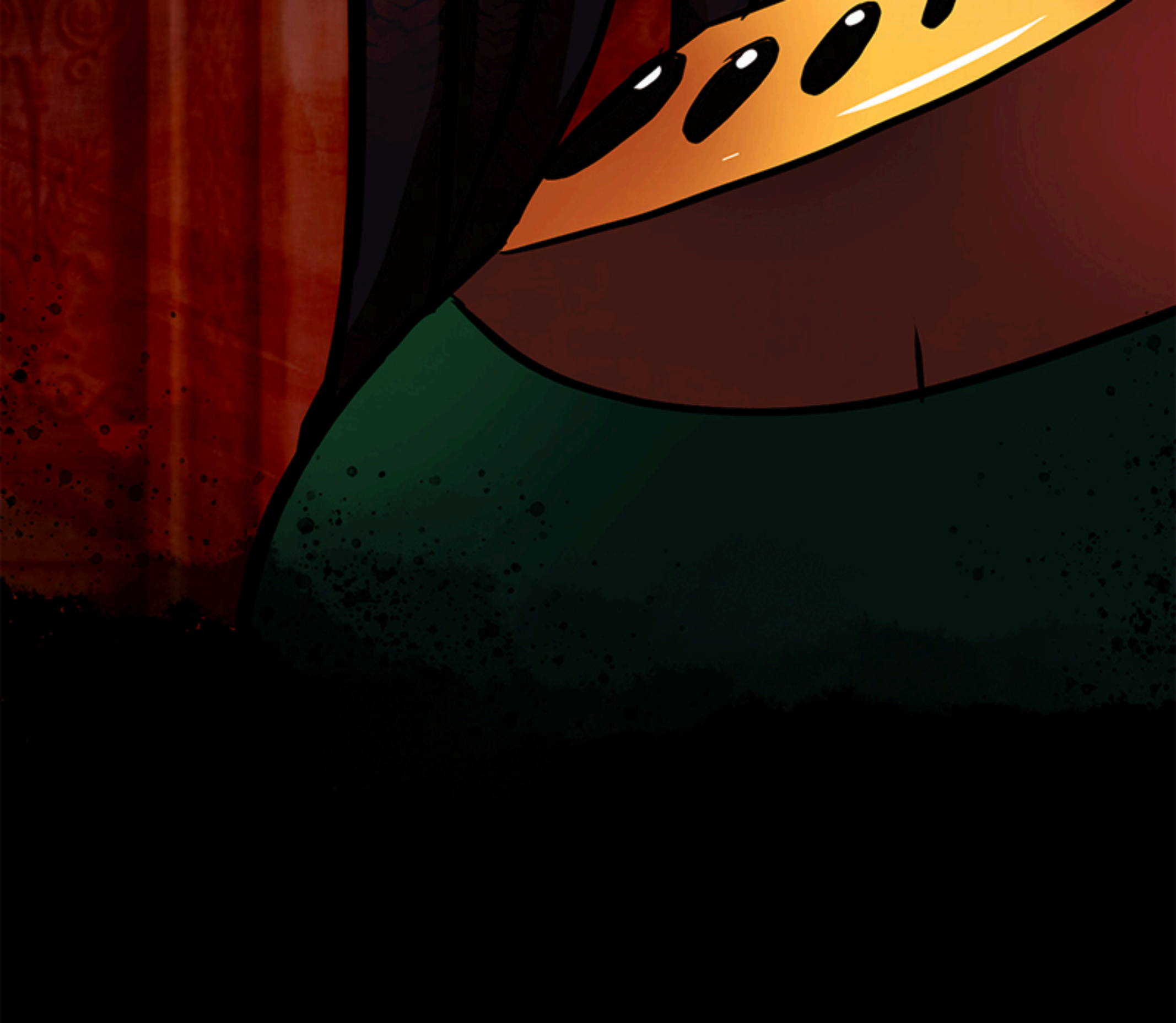
I HOPE
THAT I DIDN'T
KEEP YOU ALL
WAITING.



NOT AT
ALL. YOU'RE
RIGHT ON
TIME.

I SIMPLY
HAD EVERYONE
ELSE SHOW UP
EARLY.







MAY I
ASK WHY?

A comic book panel with a dark, moody atmosphere. In the upper right, a person in a grey shirt and dark pants sits on a wooden stool. To their left, a dark, flowing cape or dress hangs. The background is a dark, textured wall. In the lower foreground, a character with dark, curly hair and a beard is shown from the chest up, looking upwards. A large white speech bubble is positioned above the character's head, containing the text "TO GIVE YOU TIME TO PRACTICE YOUR STORY." The background behind the character is a warm, orange-red glow with small, glowing particles.

TO GIVE
YOU TIME TO
PRACTICE YOUR
STORY.





MY
STORY?

THAT'S
RIGHT.

I WANTED
TO GIVE YOU
TIME TO GET
YOUR POINTS
STRAIGHT.

YOUR JUSTIFICATION.
YOUR RATIONALE.

THE REASON
BEHIND THE SCENE
YOU CAUSED
TODAY.





THAT I
CAUSED? YOU
SAID WE WERE

CALL ME HERE
AFTER EVERYONE
ELSE AND HAVE
ALREADY DECIDED
TO BLAME ME?



CAMILLE SEVERIN
IS YOUR NIECE, YOUR CHARGE,
YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.



A comic book panel featuring a large, dark, and menacing monster head with a yellow, screaming mouth in the background. In the foreground, two characters are shown: a woman with purple hair on the left and a woman wearing a black wide-brimmed hat and large gold hoop earrings on the right. A large white speech bubble is positioned in the center of the panel.

AND COMBINED
REPORTS FROM
LILINYRA DUPRE, SILVIA
SEVERIN AND HARRIET
LEROUX-



ALL POINT
TO CAMILLE FEELING
FEARFUL AND ANTAGONIZED
BY YOUR PRESENCE.

AND I WOULD
LIKE TO UNDERSTAND
WHY THAT IS.



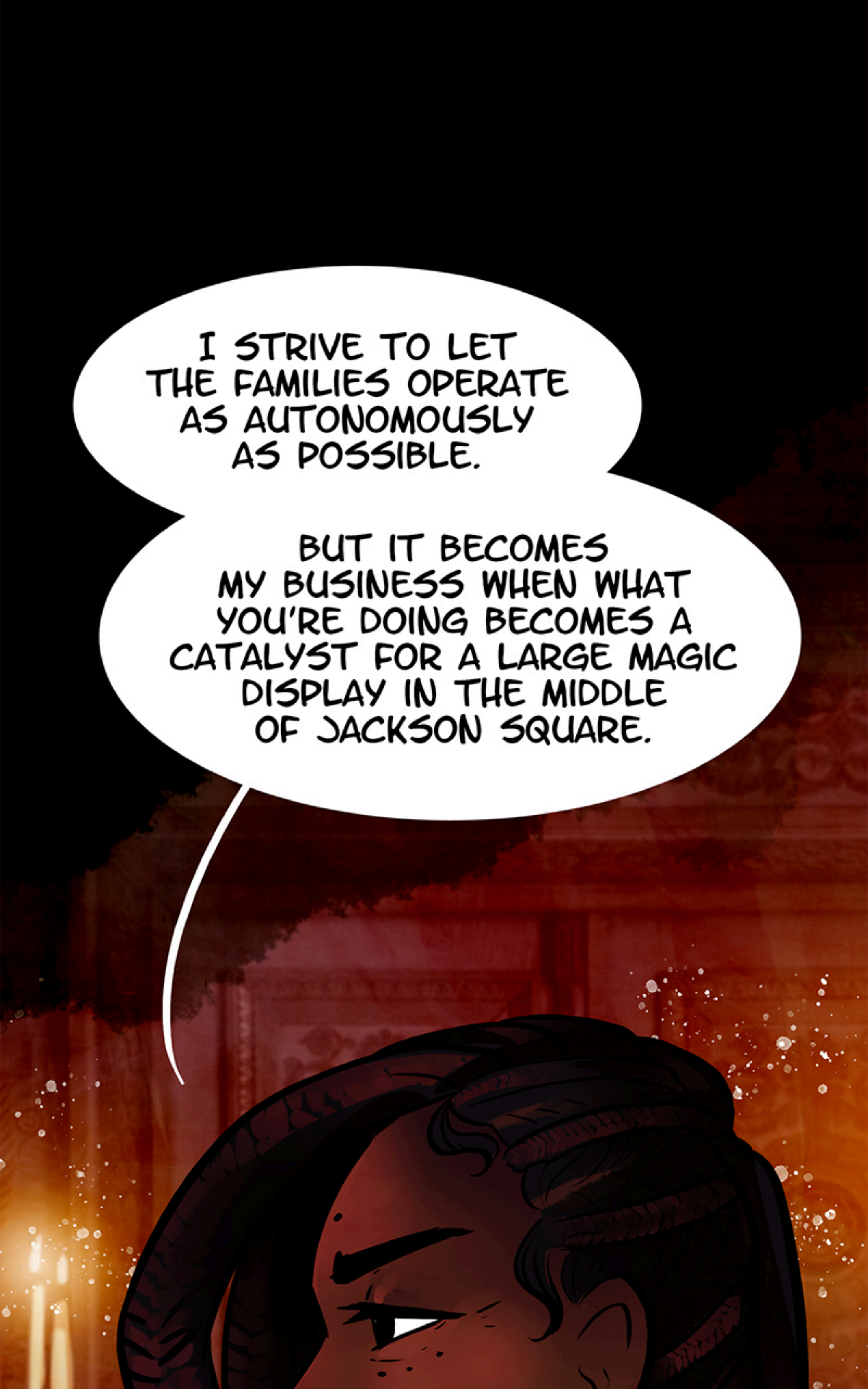
HOW I RAISE
MY FAMILY IS
NONE OF YOUR
BUSINESS.

I THOUGHT
THE POINT OF
YOUR FAMILY WAS

YOUR FAMILY WAS
TO BE A NEUTRAL
PARTY.



BUT YOUR
BIAS AGAINST
ME IS CLEAR.



I STRIVE TO LET
THE FAMILIES OPERATE
AS AUTONOMOUSLY
AS POSSIBLE.

BUT IT BECOMES
MY BUSINESS WHEN WHAT
YOU'RE DOING BECOMES A
CATALYST FOR A LARGE MAGIC
DISPLAY IN THE MIDDLE
OF JACKSON SQUARE.



THIS IS

THIS IS
RIDICULOUS. YOU'RE
ALL ENTIRELY AVOIDING
THE MOST IMPORTANT
ASPECT OF THIS.



THAT THE
ATTACK WAS A
DISPLAY OF LEROUX
MAGIC.





BECAUSE
MY SISTER WAS
RECKLESS AND SHE
CREATED A VOLATILE
AND UNSTABLE DUAL-
BLOODED CHILD.

OR DID EVERYONE
FORGET TO MENTION
THAT PART??





I WOULDN'T
BE SURPRISED.
HARRIET HAS NEVER
PASSED UP A CHANCE
TO PAINT ME AS A
VILLAIN.

AND SILVIA
IS ONLY INTERESTED
IN THROWING ME UNDER
THE BUS FOR A CHANCE
TO BECOME MATRIARCH
HERSELF.





BUT THE
FACTS ARE THE
FACTS. CAMILLE BROKE
THE RULES BY USING HER
MAGIC IN PUBLIC TO
A DESTRUCTIVE
DEGREE.



USING POWERS
THAT SHE ONLY HAS
BECAUSE HER MOTHER
BROKE AN EVEN
BIGGER RULE.

THE ONLY
SOLUTION -
BEFORE WE CAN
EVEN BEGIN TO
DISCUSS THE
REST.

IS THAT
CAMILLE SEVERIN
NEEDS TO BE
MUTED.





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