

YOUR
FIRST UNBORN
CHILD...

NOW THAT
IS AN OLD SCHOOL
KIND OF PRICE...



A comic book panel featuring a character with long, dark purple hair and a purple headband, looking upwards with a determined expression. The background is a dark, textured blue with a bright pinkish-red area on the right. In the top left corner, there are dark, angular shapes with glowing pink outlines. A large white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned in the center-right, containing the text "I DON'T WANT THEM TO BE KILLED RIGHT AWAY." in black, all-caps, sans-serif font. The character's face is partially visible at the bottom, showing their eyes and part of their nose and mouth.

I DON'T
WANT THEM TO
BE KILLED RIGHT
AWAY.



BUT YOU
ONLY HAVE A
FIRST BORN CHILD
ONCE.



THAT'S
VERY
TRUE...

SO YOU
ARE JUST PAYING
IN ADVANCE.

I UNDERSTAND.

ESPECIALLY
IF YOU DON'T
WANT TO GET
CAUGHT.



YES.
SO I WANT A
WAY TO SUMMON
YOU BACK IF I DECIDE
TO GO THROUGH
WITH IT.

THE SAME
REASON I NEED TO KEEP
THE OTHER TWIN, TO CARRY

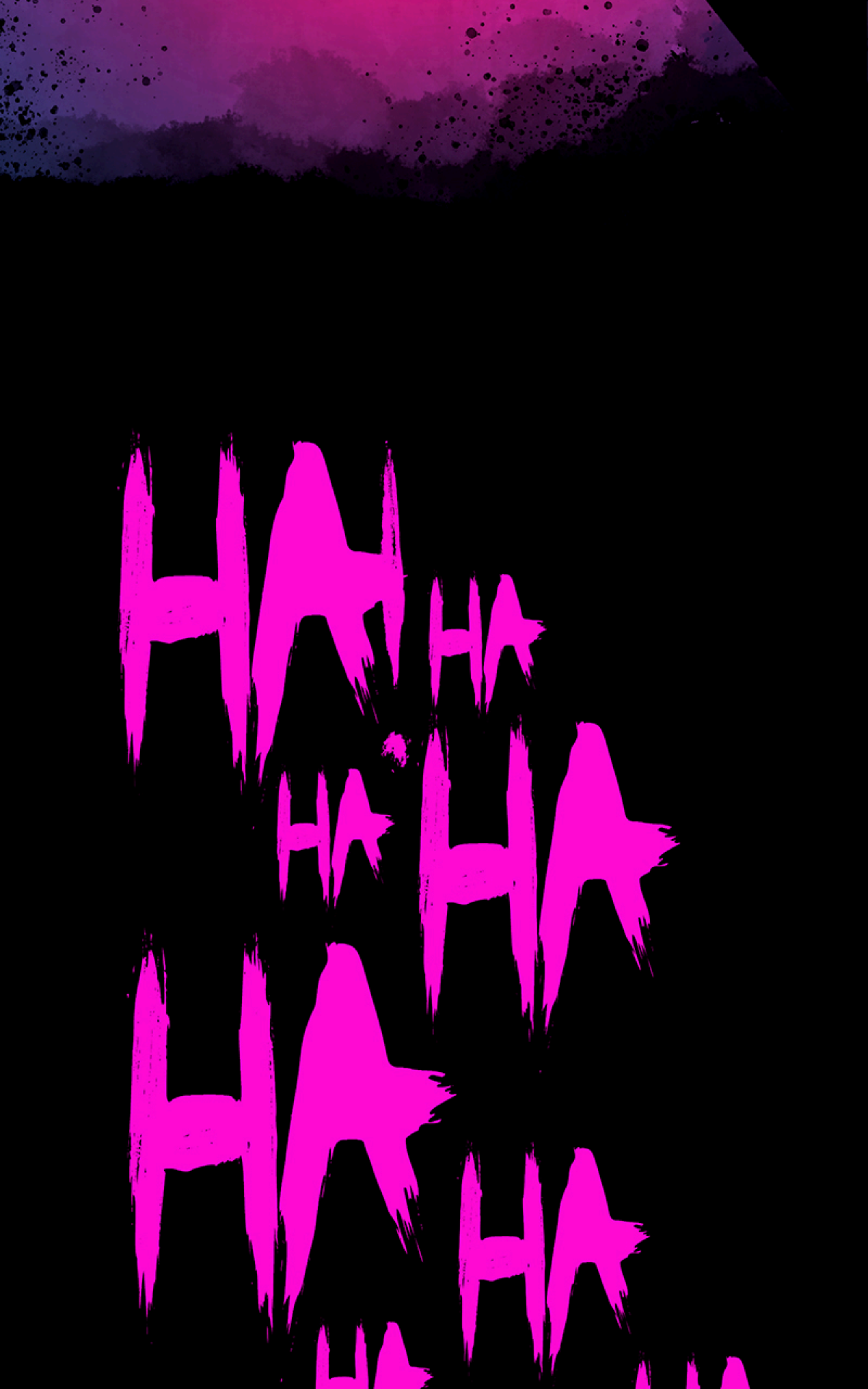
ON THE MATRIARCH
BLOODLINE.



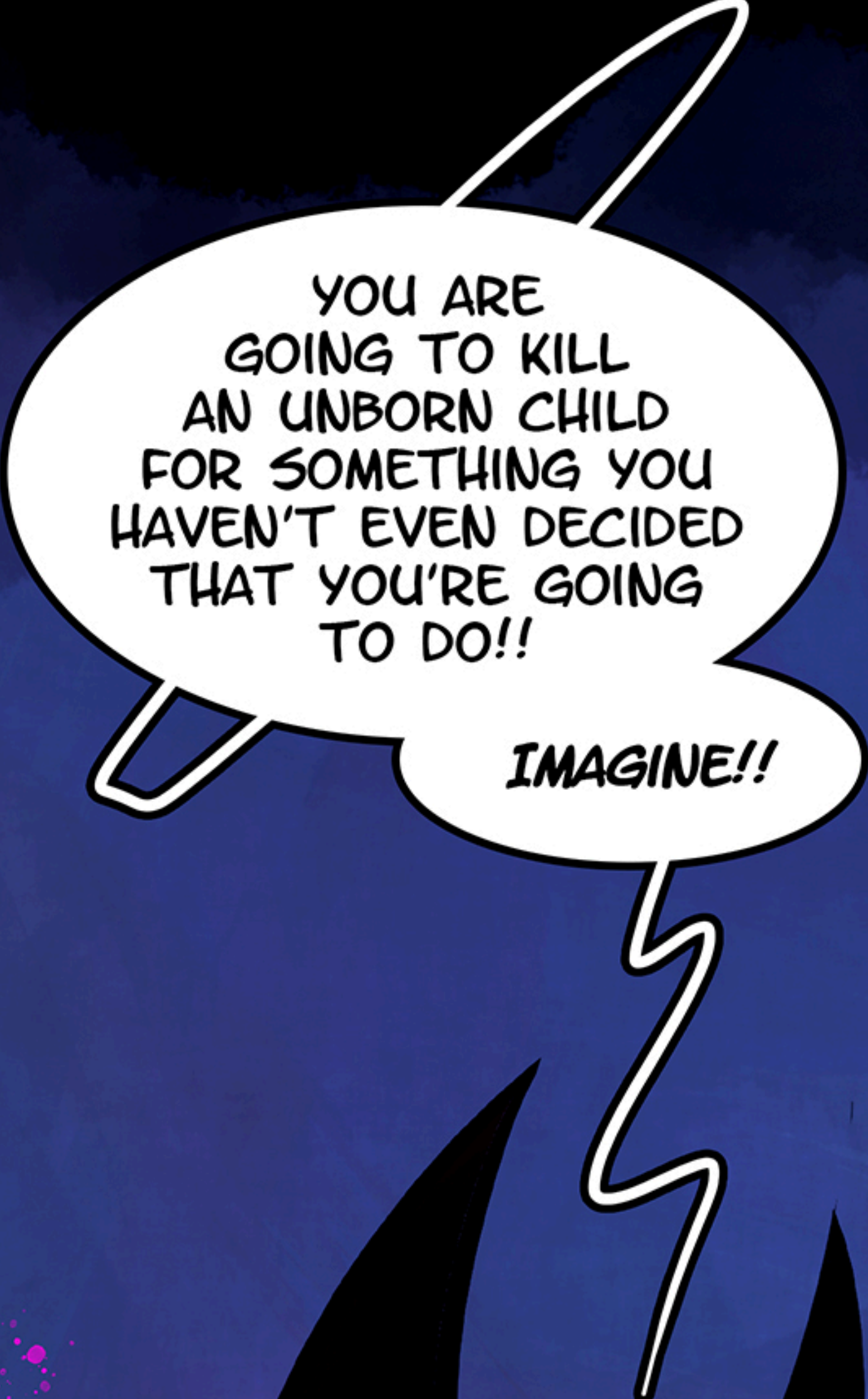




"IF"!?







YOU ARE
GOING TO KILL
AN UNBORN CHILD
FOR SOMETHING YOU
HAVEN'T EVEN DECIDED
THAT YOU'RE GOING
TO DO!!

IMAGINE!!



OH YOU ARE
TRULY HEARTLESS!
I LOVE IT.

I LOVE HOW
SELFISH AND IMPRACTICAL
YOU HUMANS ARE...



A comic book panel with a dark, moody background. The background is a mix of deep blue and black, with a large, bright red, textured area on the left side. A speech bubble is positioned in the center-left, containing text. In the bottom right corner, the top of a character's head is visible, showing dark hair and a red visor with a glowing red light. The character appears to be looking up at the speech bubble.

IF THIS BLOOD
SEAL WASN'T KEEPING
ME INSIDE I WOULD
KISS YOU.



MY SISTER
RECENTLY BECAME
MATRIARCH...

THE WAY
SHE IS ACTING SO
FAR - I FEAR THAT SHE'LL
UNDO THE SAFETY AND
SECURITY OF EVERY
SEVERIN.

AND
ALSO I
BELIEVE-

OH, I
DO NOT
CARE.





I REALLY
DO NOT CARE.

TRYING TO
JUSTIFY AND MORALIZE
YOUR ACTIONS IS SO

YOUR ACTIONS IS SO
BORING.



YOU'RE ALREADY
IN THE DEEP END.

NO MORE...
JUST EMBRACE IT.

ANYWAY...

TAKE THIS
AND CONSIDER
OUR CONTRACT
SIGNED.

A hand with a black glove holds a glowing pink star-shaped pendant. The pendant has a central pink diamond shape with a black outline. The background is dark blue with a large, bright pink energy burst emanating from the pendant. A speech bubble is attached to the hand.

IT WILL
ALLOW YOU TO
SUMMON ME
AGAIN.

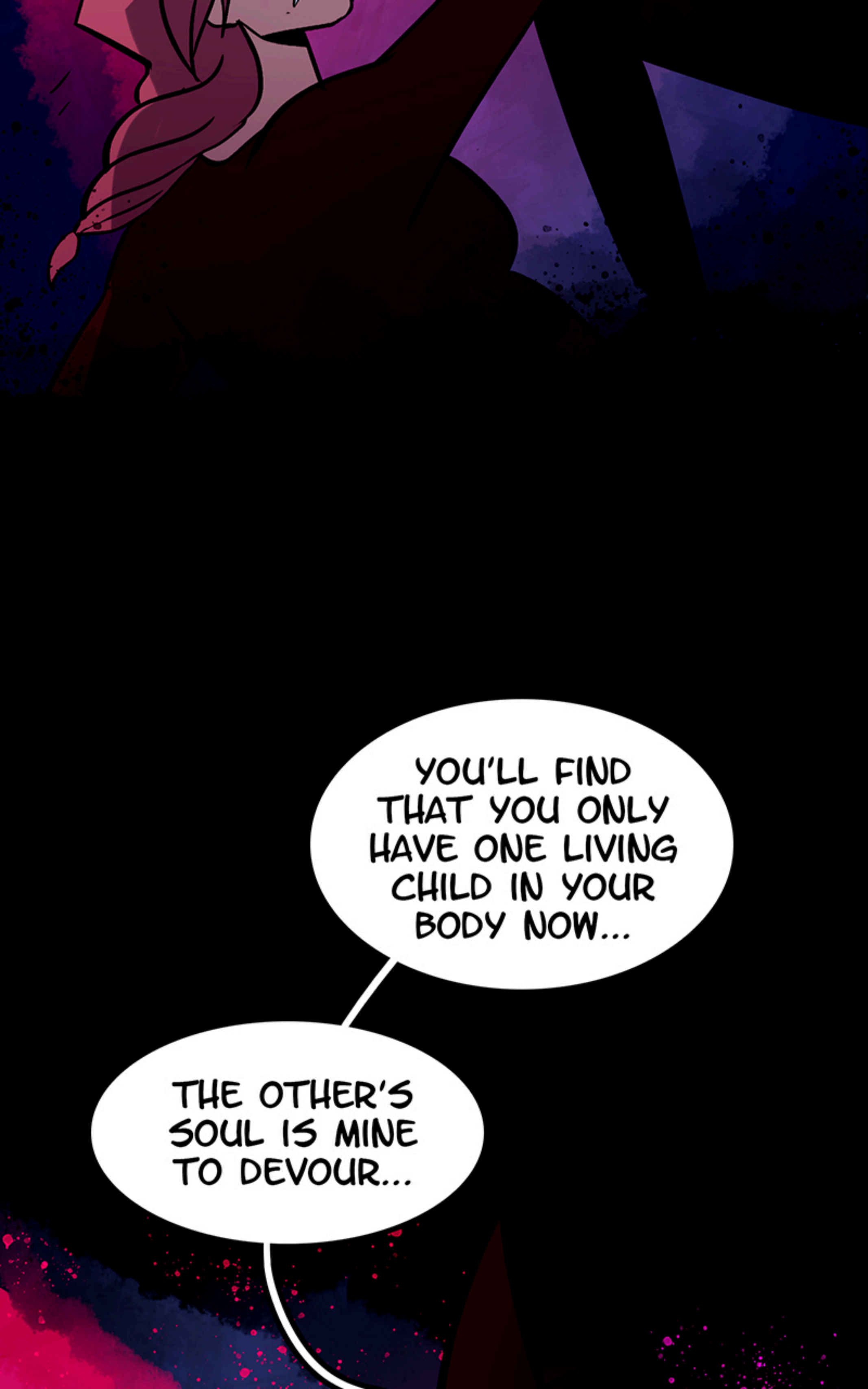


FOR,
YOU KNOW,

WHEN AND IF
YOU DECIDE TO
KILL *MORE* OF YOUR
FAMILY FOR THE
"SAKE OF YOUR
FAMILY "







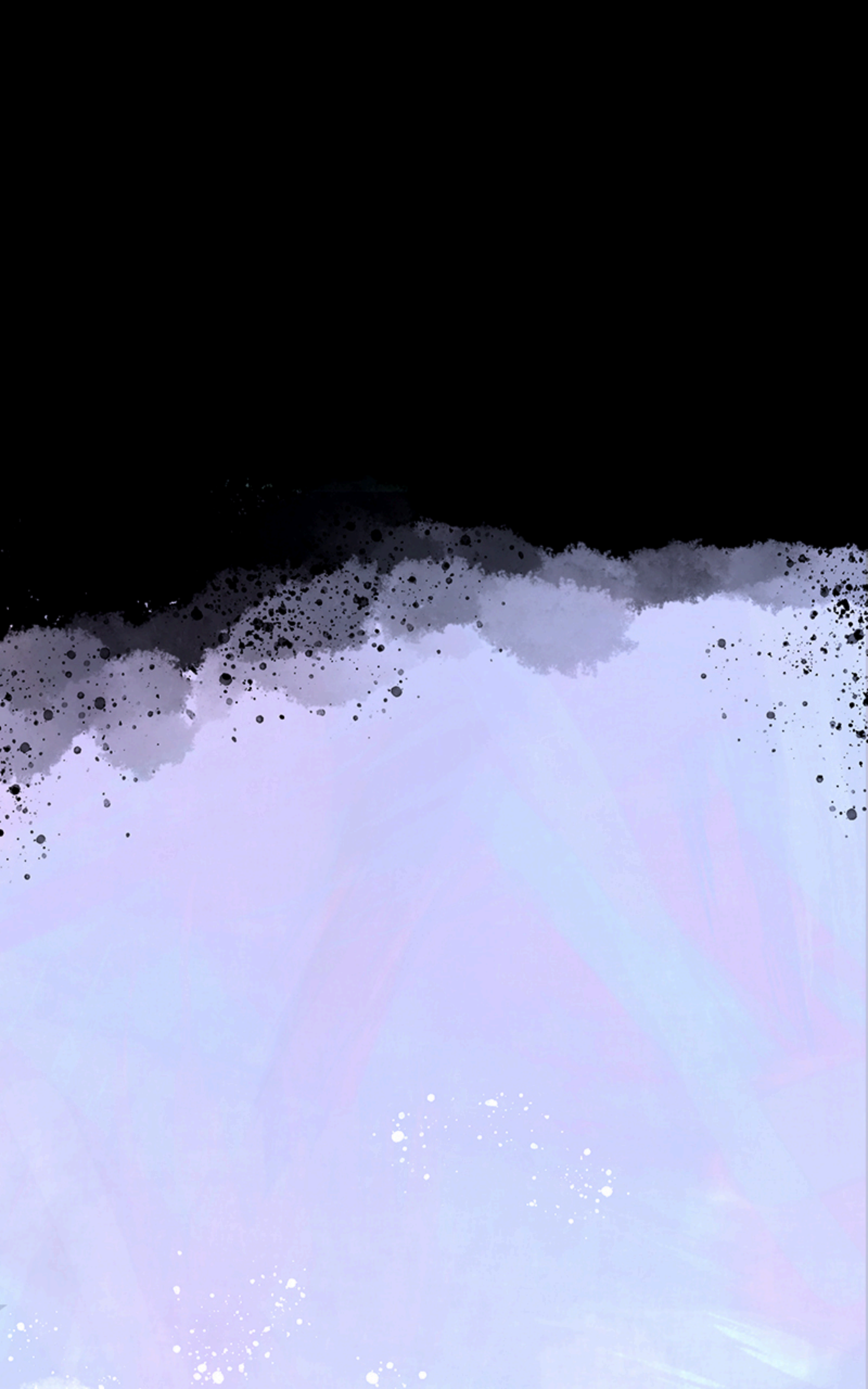
YOU'LL FIND
THAT YOU ONLY
HAVE ONE LIVING
CHILD IN YOUR
BODY NOW...

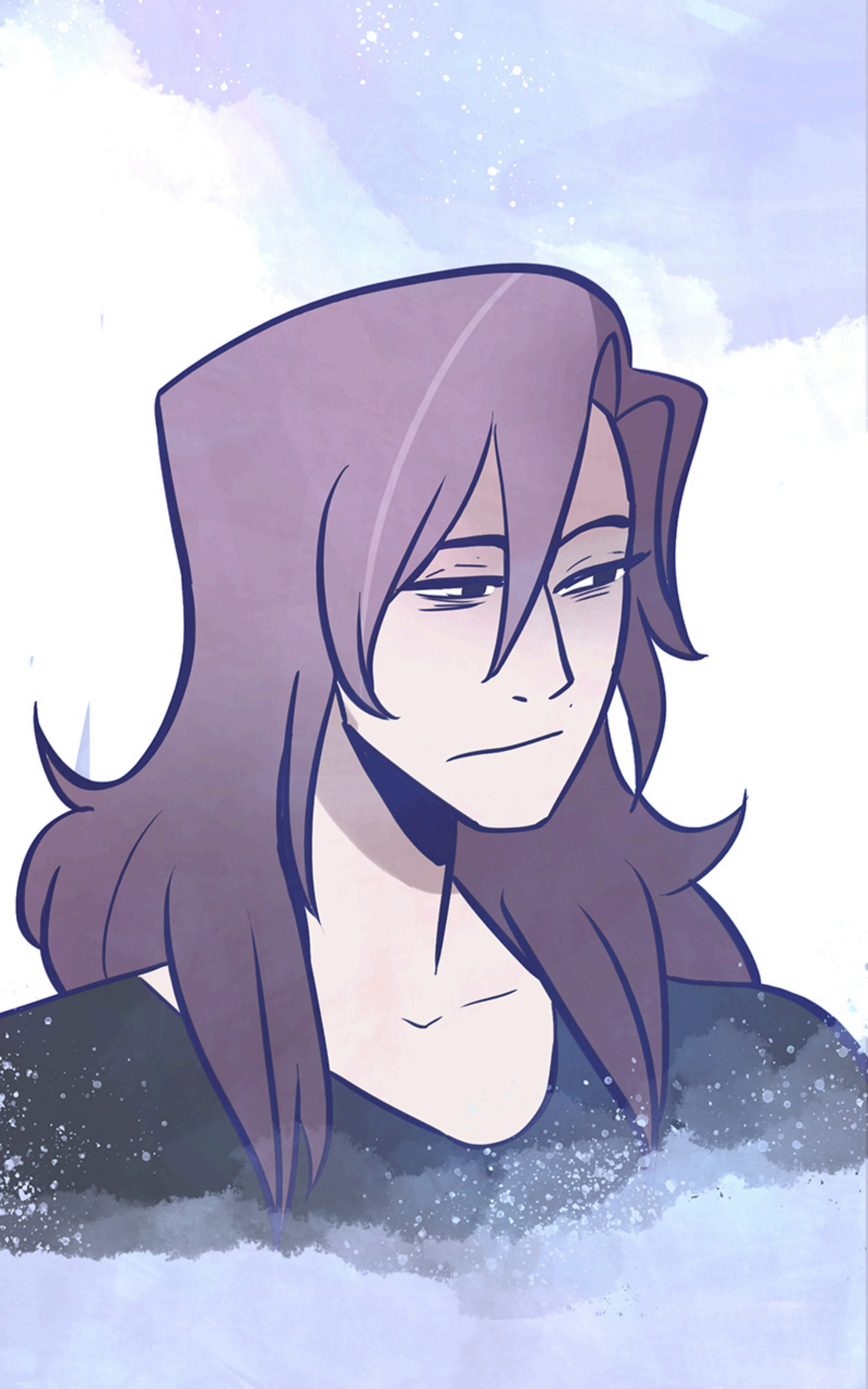
THE OTHER'S
SOUL IS MINE
TO DEVOUR...

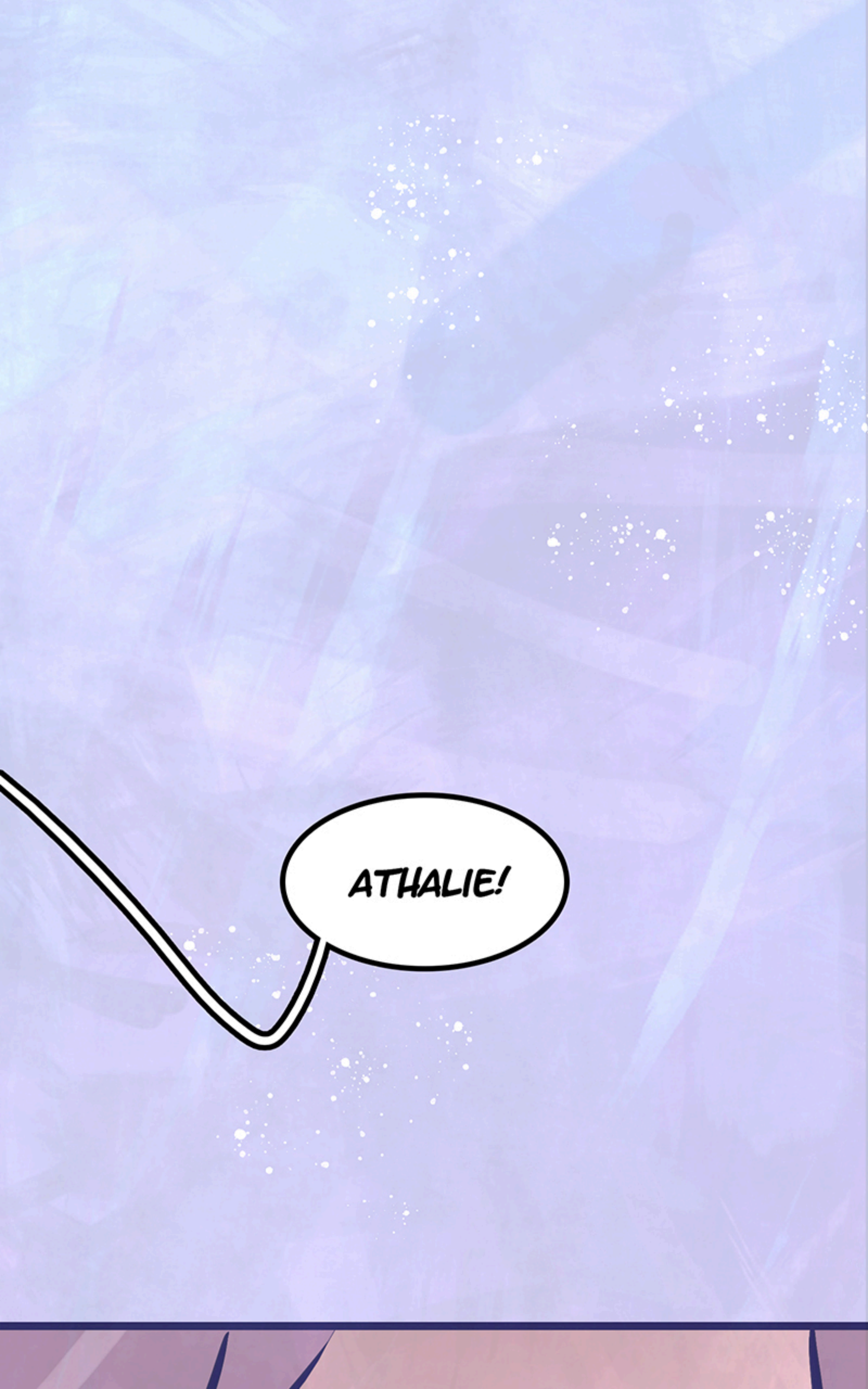


UNTIL NEXT
TIME, ATHALIE
SEVERIN.







The background is a soft, abstract wash of purple and blue colors, with some darker, more saturated areas. Scattered throughout are numerous small, white, star-like sparkles or dust particles. A white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned in the lower-left quadrant, containing the text 'ATHALIE!'. The speech bubble's tail extends towards the left edge of the frame. The overall style is whimsical and dreamlike.

ATHALIE!



OH MY
GOD-



I CAME
AS SOON AS
I HEARD-





ATHALIE,
I'M SO SORRY...
HOW DID THIS
HAPPEN??





I KNEW
I SHOULD HAVE
CONVINCED YOU
TO GO TO A
HOSPITAL-





HAVING
YOUR CHILDREN IN
THE MANOR IS
TRADITION.



YES-

WHEN ALMOST
OUR ENTIRE FAMILY
STILL LIVED HERE-

AND BACK WHEN
THERE WAS NO EASY
WAY TO GET TO THE
HOSPITAL-



BUT TIMES
CHANGE-

THINGS CHANGE
FOR A REASON,
ATHALIE-

UGH-

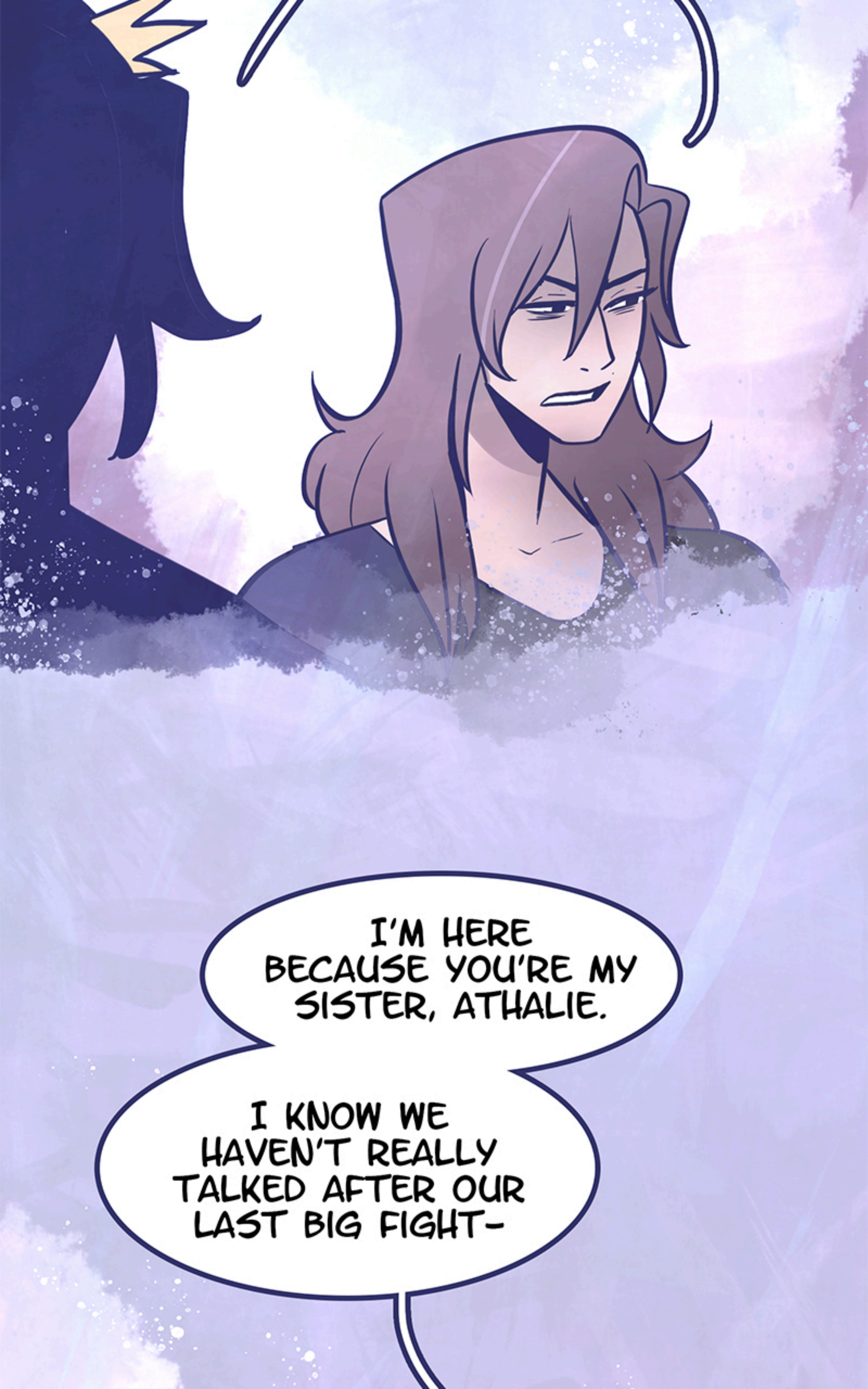
SIGH





I'M SORRY...
I SHOULDN'T BE
ARGUING WITH YOU AFTER
WHAT YOU JUST WENT
THROUGH-

WHY ARE
YOU HERE,
ABRIELLE?



I'M HERE
BECAUSE YOU'RE MY
SISTER, ATHALIE.

I KNOW WE
HAVEN'T REALLY
TALKED AFTER OUR
LAST BIG FIGHT-

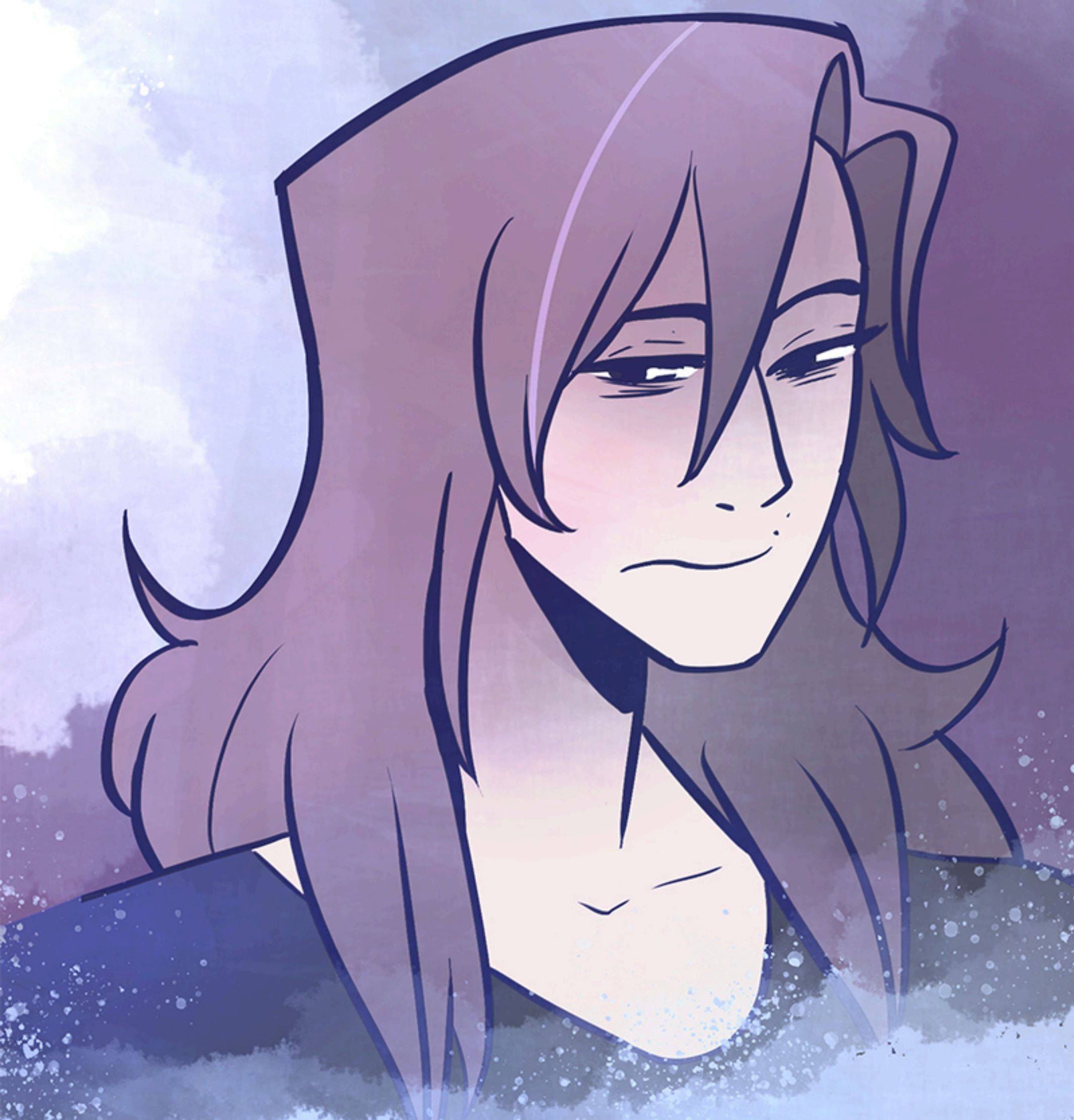


AFTER
MOM PASSED
AWAY...

BUT THAT
DOESN'T MEAN
I WISH YOU ANY
REAL HARM.

ESPECIALLY
NOT SOMETHING
LIKE THIS...

I WANT TO
BE HERE FOR YOU.
PLEASE TELL ME WHAT
I CAN DO FOR YOU...

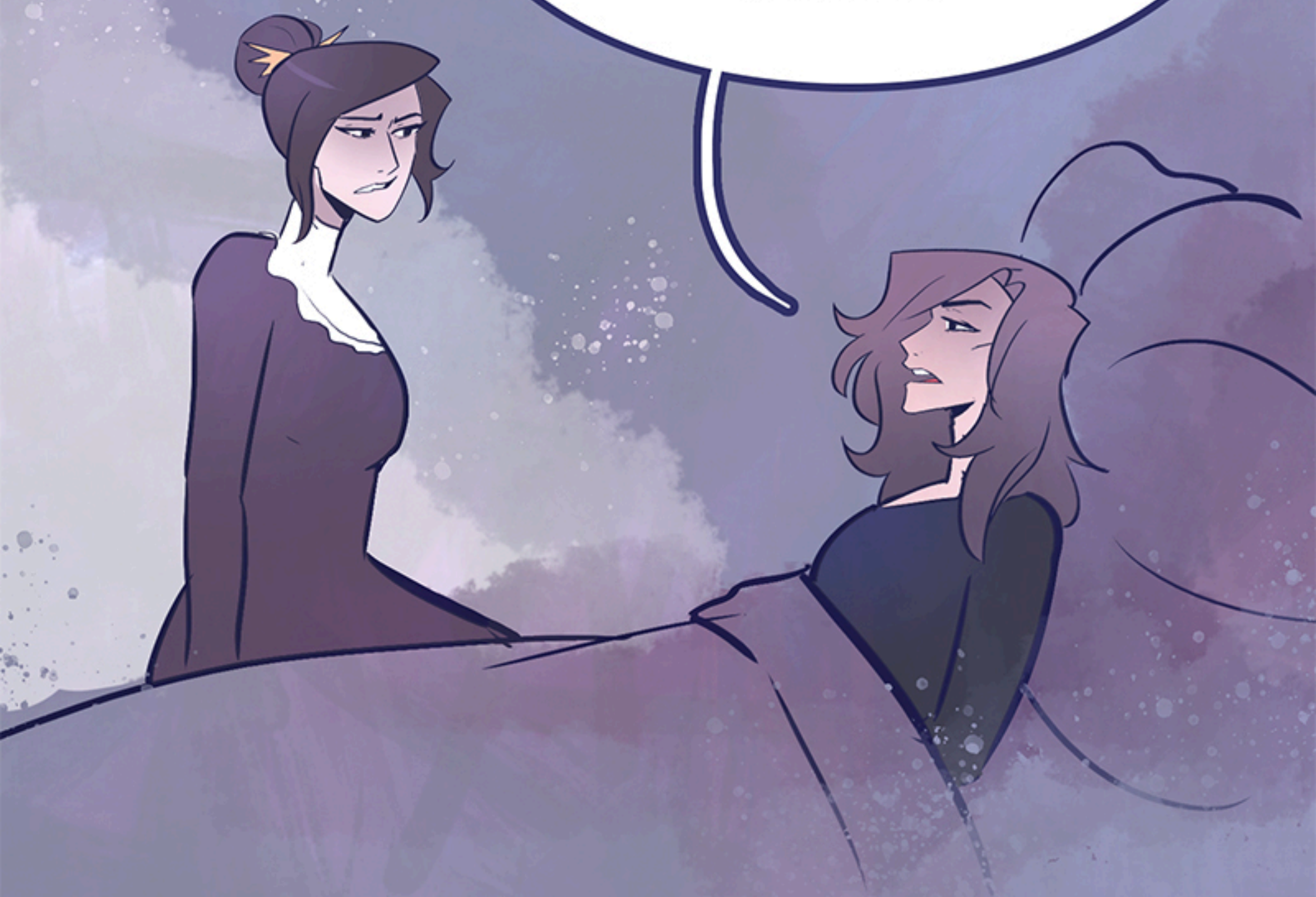


YOU CAN
BE HONEST ABOUT
WHAT YOU WISHED
FOR.



I TOLD
YOU ALREADY,
I USED MY WISH
TO HELP KALEN-

AND WHAT
WAS THE PRICE?
WHY DID MOTHER DIE
SO SOON AFTER THE
RITUAL!



DON'T START
THIS AGAIN- SHE
WAS SICK!

SHE'D BEEN
SICK FOR YEARS! IT
WAS DEEP IN HER BONES!
BUT SHE REFUSED TO
SEE A PROPER DOCTOR
MUCH LIKE YOU'RE
DOING NOW!





YOU SAID
YOUR WISH HAD
NO PRICE! THERE
IS ALWAYS A
PRICE!



ENOUGH-
I'M NOT GOING
TO LISTEN TO
YOUR CONSPIRACY
THEORIES
AGAIN.

YOU'VE
BEEN THROUGH
A LOT -YOU NEED
TO REST.



YOU NAMED
YOUR DAUGHTER
AVALINE, RIGHT?

AFTER OUR
GRANDMOTHER?

...

AUNT SELENE
TOLD ME THAT
SHE APPEARS TO
BE HEALTHY, JUST
SMALL...

HAVE YOU
SEEN HER
YET?

...





ALRIGHT,
WELL...

I WILL
STAY TO HELP
TAKE CARE OF HER
UNTIL YOU ARE
FEELING BETTER.

AND
ATHALIE..

WHAT?!
WHAT!? DON'T
YOU EVER STOP
TALKING!?



OUR MOTHER
WAS A TYRANT.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW
WHY YOU MISS HER WHEN
SHE WAS EVEN WORSE
TO YOU THAN SHE WAS
TO ME.



IT'S TRULY
BETTER FOR BOTH OF
US THAT SHE'S GONE.
BUT I HAD NOTHING
TO DO WITH IT.

YOU'RE
ALWAYS SO CAUGHT
UP IN WHAT YOU THINK
I'M DOING. BUT YOU HAVE
A CHILD NOW. **FOCUS**
ON HER.







HM...



YOU WIN,
AVALINE.

 @mirandamundt
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