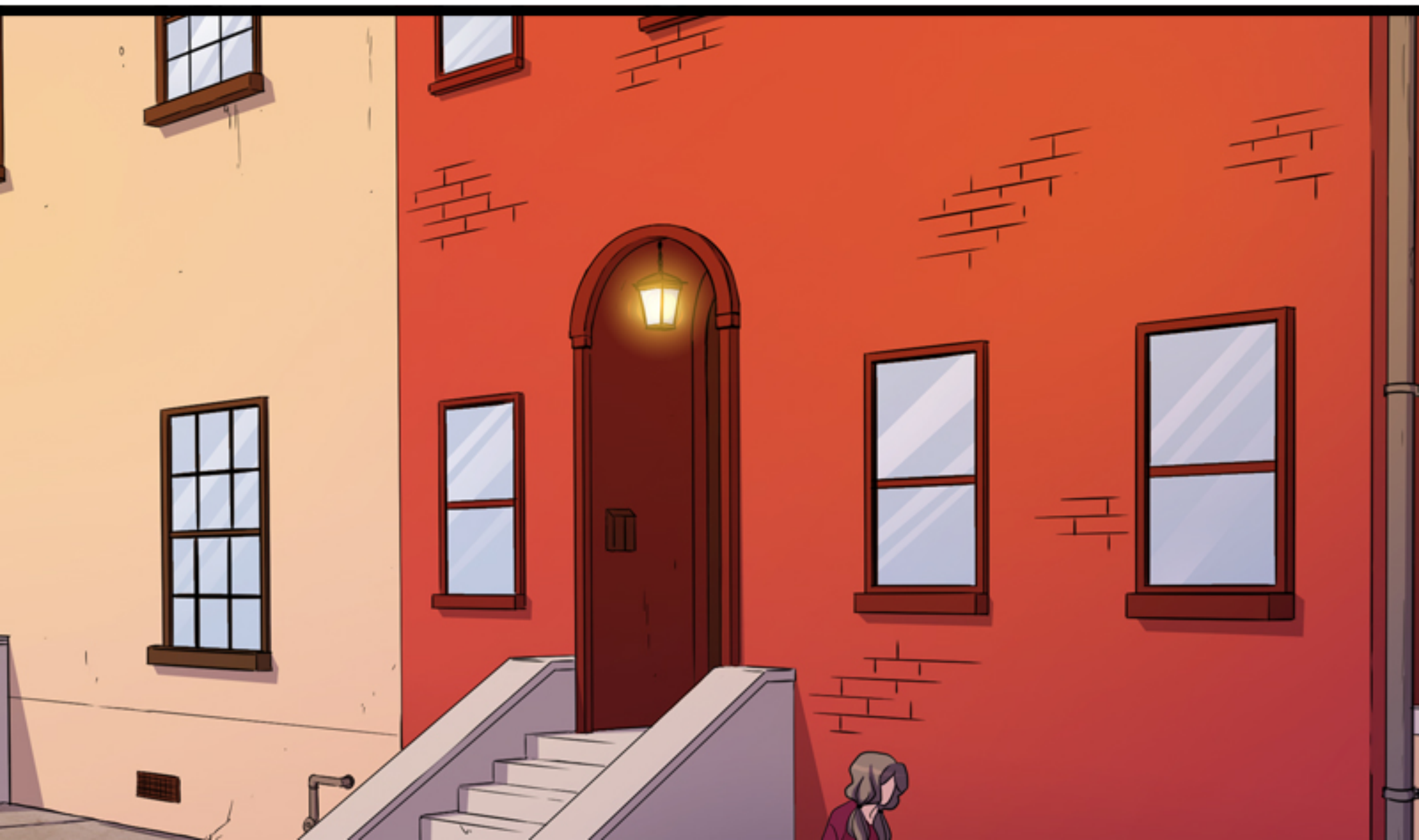






SO THAT'S IT?
YOU'RE NOT GOING
TO DO IT BECAUSE
THERE'S NO MONEY
INVOLVED?





NO, I'M NOT
GOING TO DO IT
BECAUSE IT'S A
WASTE OF
TIME.

THERE'S
OBVIOUSLY
SOMETHING GOING
ON WITH THIS
GUY.

WHAT IF HE
ATTACKS SOMEONE?
WHAT IF HE NEEDS
HELP?





THEN HE CAN
ASK FOR IT. AS IT
STANDS, I'M NOT ENTIRELY
CONVINCED THIS CREATURE
EVEN *EXISTS*.

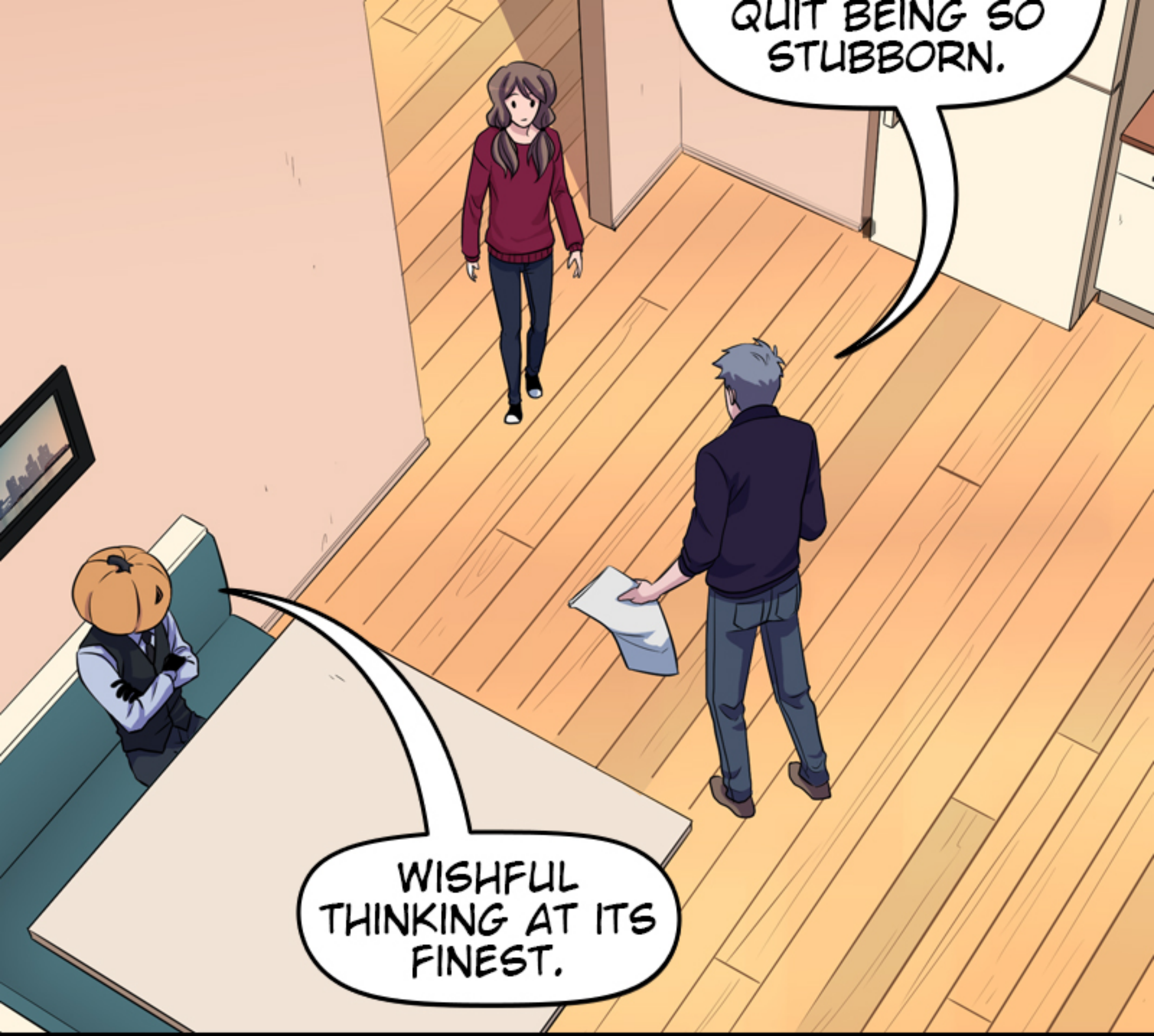


A comic panel with a light orange background. In the center, a young woman with brown hair in pigtails, wearing a maroon sweater, stands in a dark brown doorway. She has a surprised expression and her right hand is raised with fingers spread. Two speech bubbles are present: one on the left pointing towards her, and one on the right pointing away from her. On the far right, the profile of a person with spiky blue hair is visible, looking towards the woman in the doorway.

UH, HI GUYS.

HEY ELLIE,
COME ON IN.





WAIT, WHAT?

YOU HAVEN'T
SEEN THIS WEEK'S
ISSUE OF "THE
CONSPIRATOR?"



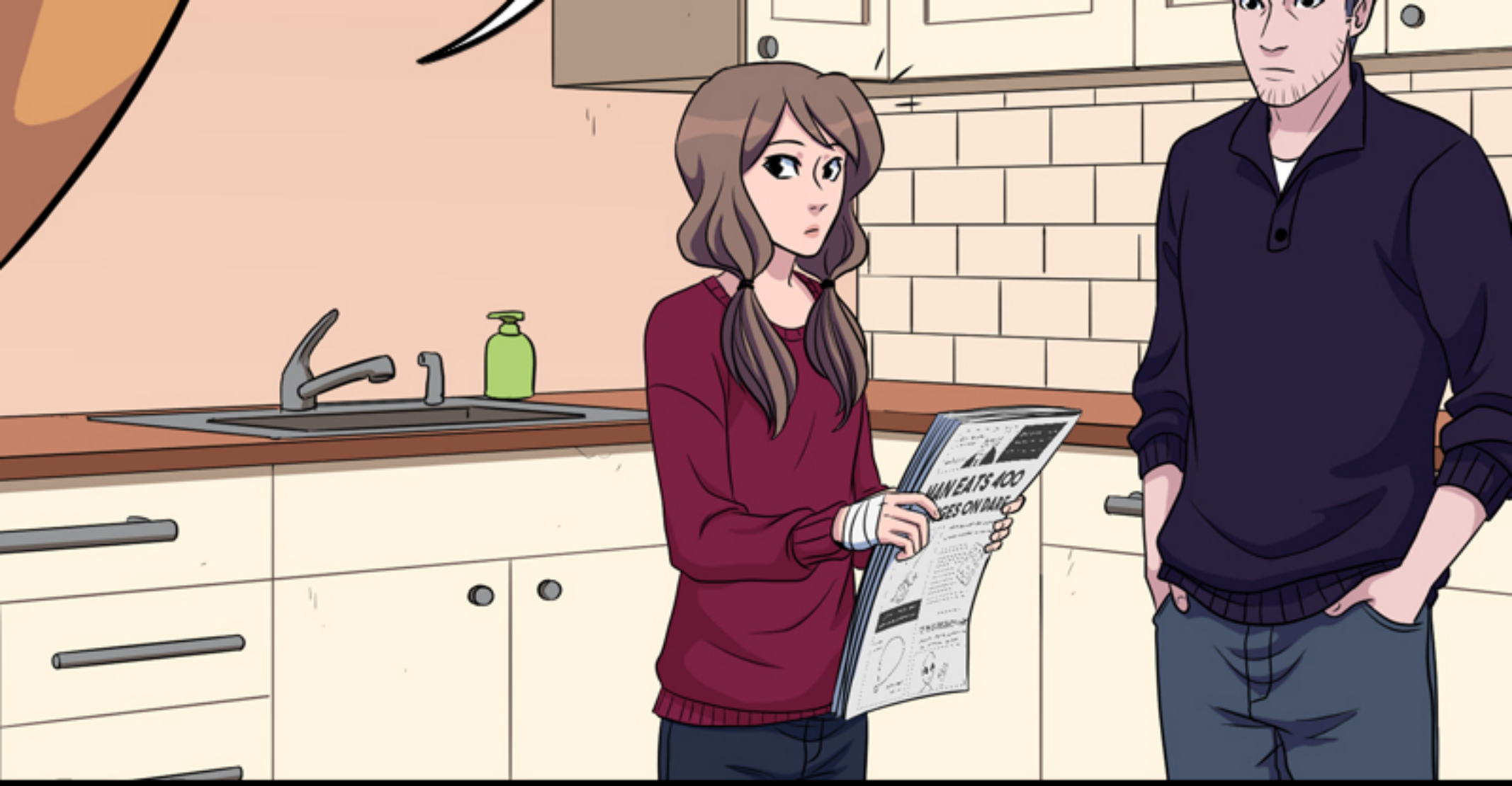


"GIANT INSECT?"



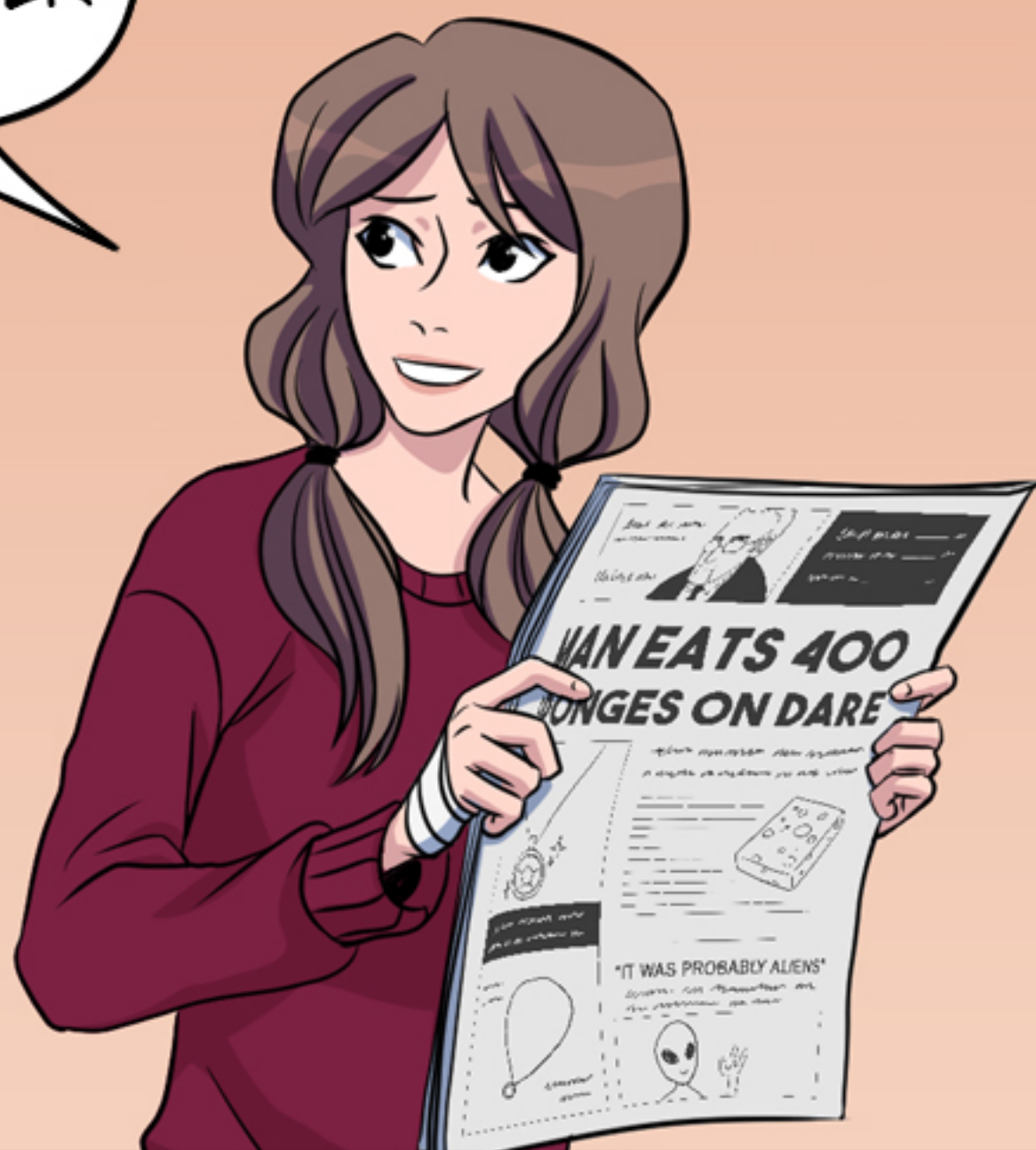
ELLIE, WHAT
HAPPENED TO
YOUR HAND?





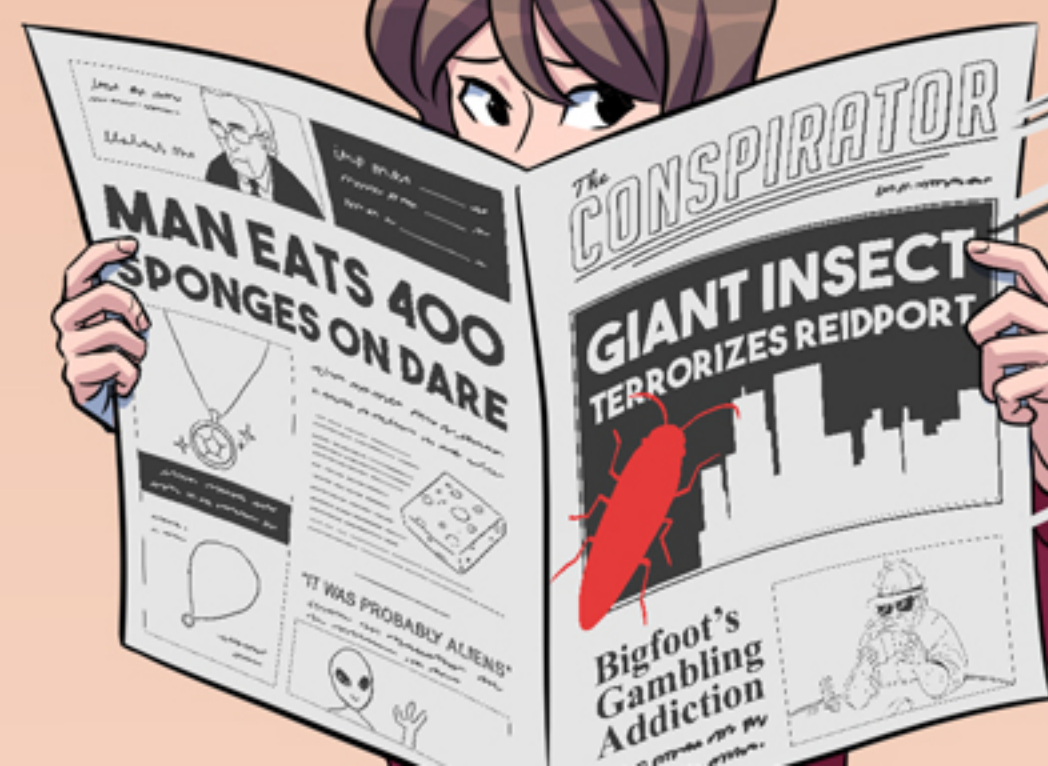


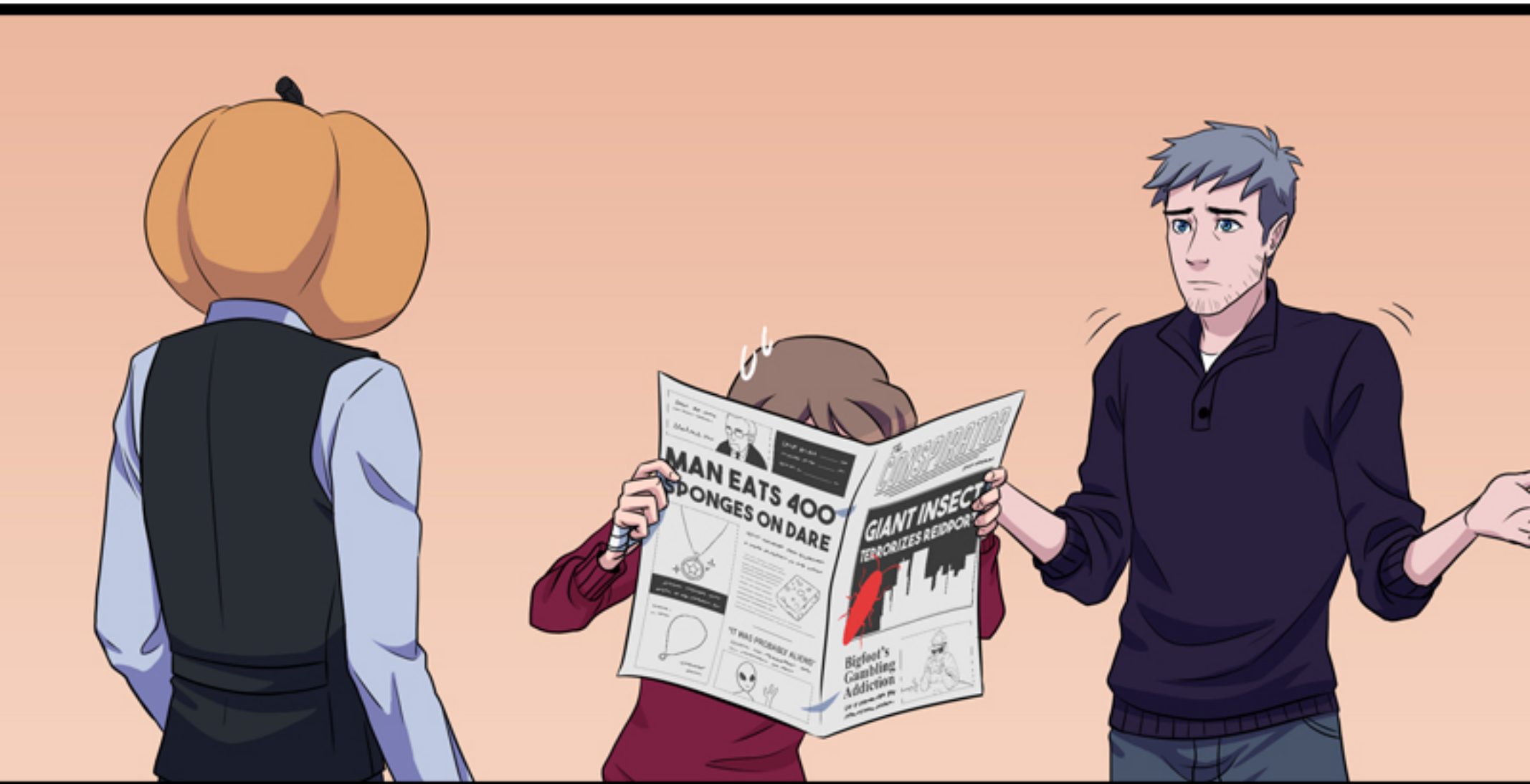
NOTHING, I,
UH, JUST BURNED
IT COOKING DINNER
LAST NIGHT.



OH YEAH?
HERE, LET ME
TAKE A LOOK.

NO! NO DON'T
WORRY ABOUT IT,
IT'S FINE. SO WHAT'S UP
WITH THIS GIANT BUG
THING?





WELL, FOR THE
PAST FEW NIGHTS,
PEOPLE DOWNTOWN HAVE
BEEN SEEING A MAN-SIZED
BUG RUNNING ACROSS
THE ROOFTOPS.

IT HASN'T
REALLY **DONE**
ANYTHING, BUT FOLKS
ARE STILL PRETTY
FREAKED OUT.

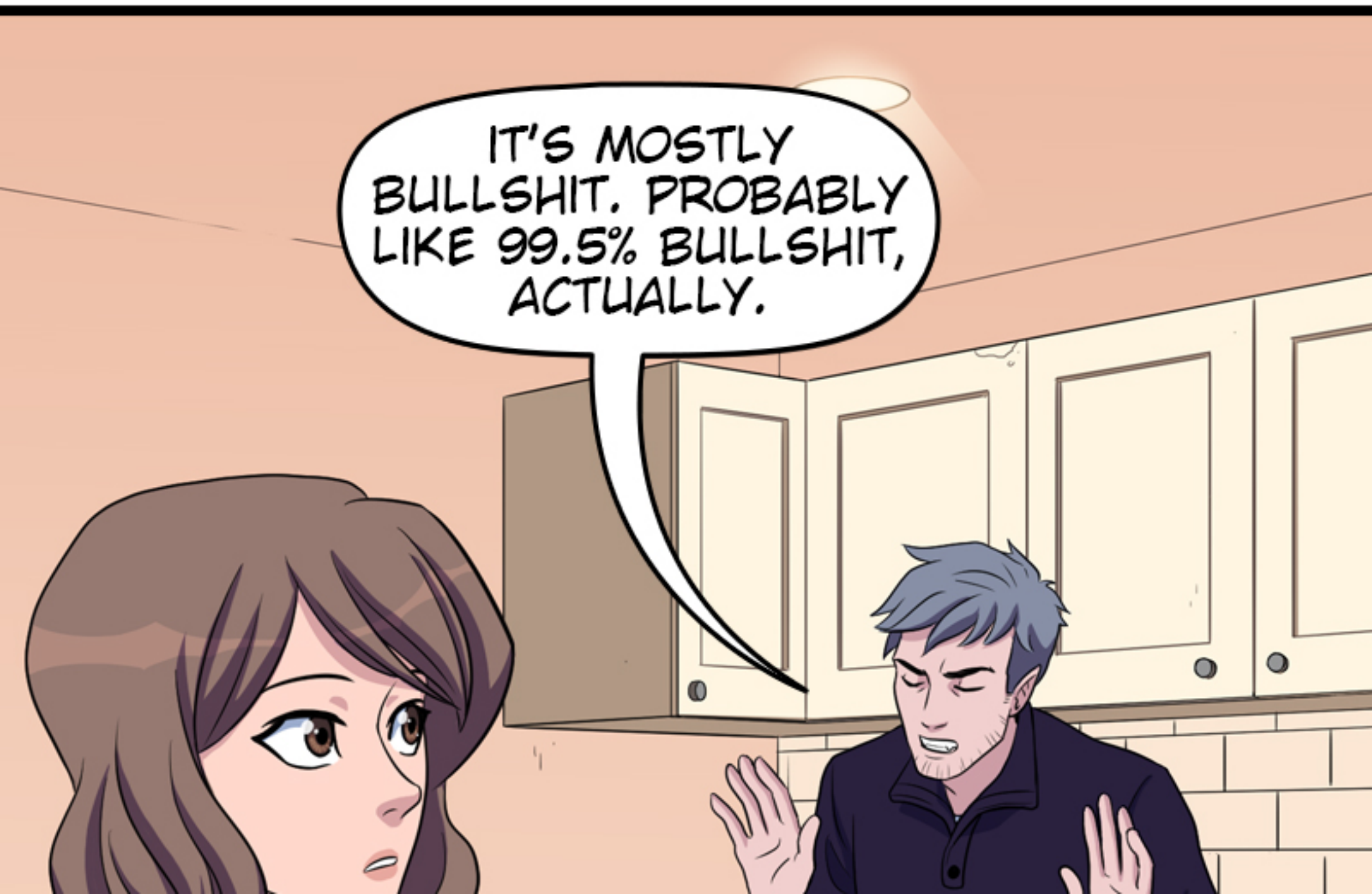




A comic panel with a light orange background. On the right, a woman with short brown hair and blue eyes is shown in profile, looking towards the left. On the left, a man with a carved jack-o'-lantern head, wearing a light blue shirt, a dark vest, and a dark tie, stands with his arms crossed. Two speech bubbles are present: one from the woman on the right and one from the man on the left.

HUH. DOES THIS
MEAN THE STUFF IN THE
TABLOIDS IS *REAL*?

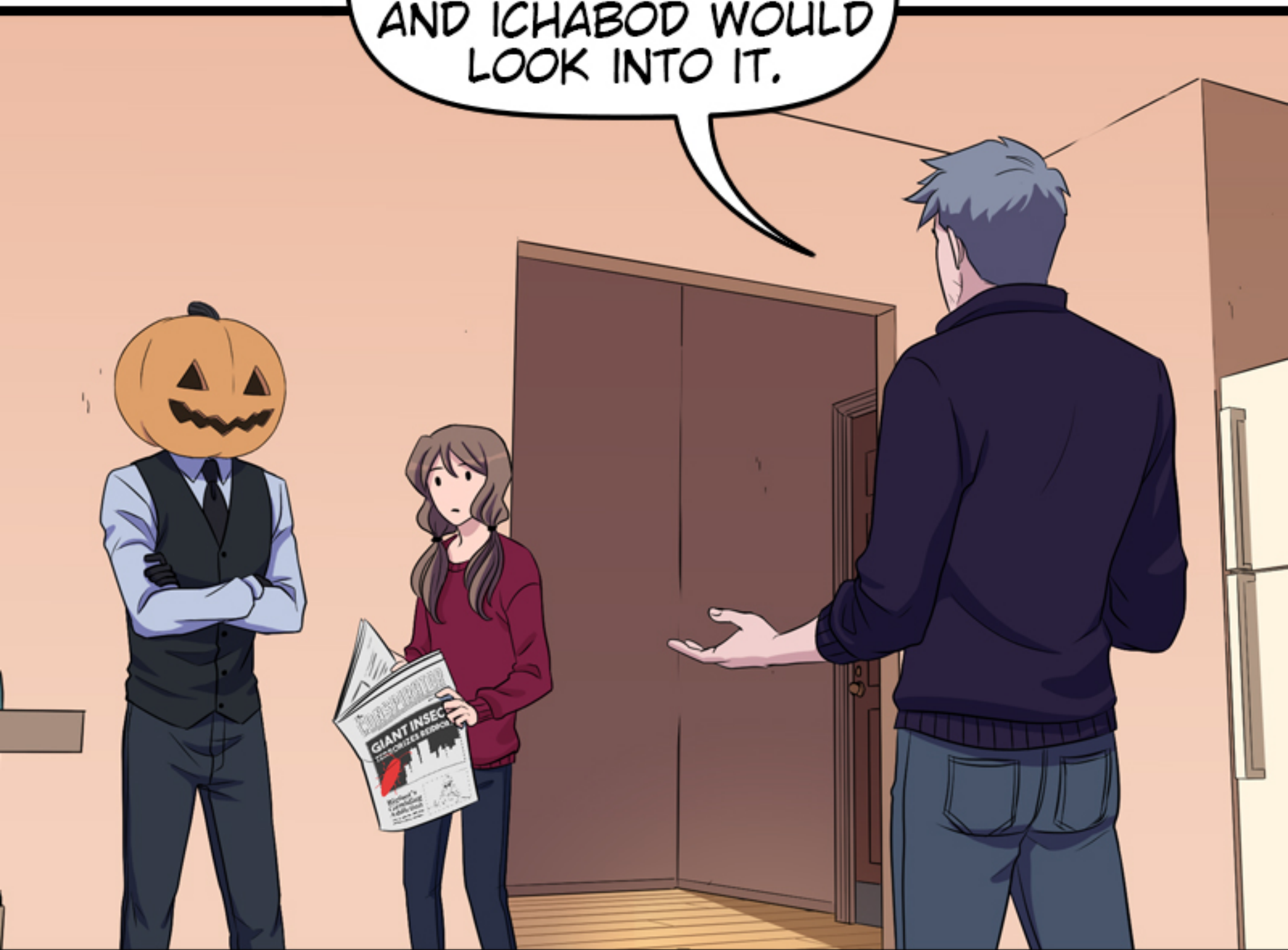
THAT DEPENDS.
HOW LIKELY IS IT
THAT BIGFOOT SPENDS
HIS WINTERS DISGUISED
AS A RIVERBOAT CASINO
GAMBLER?

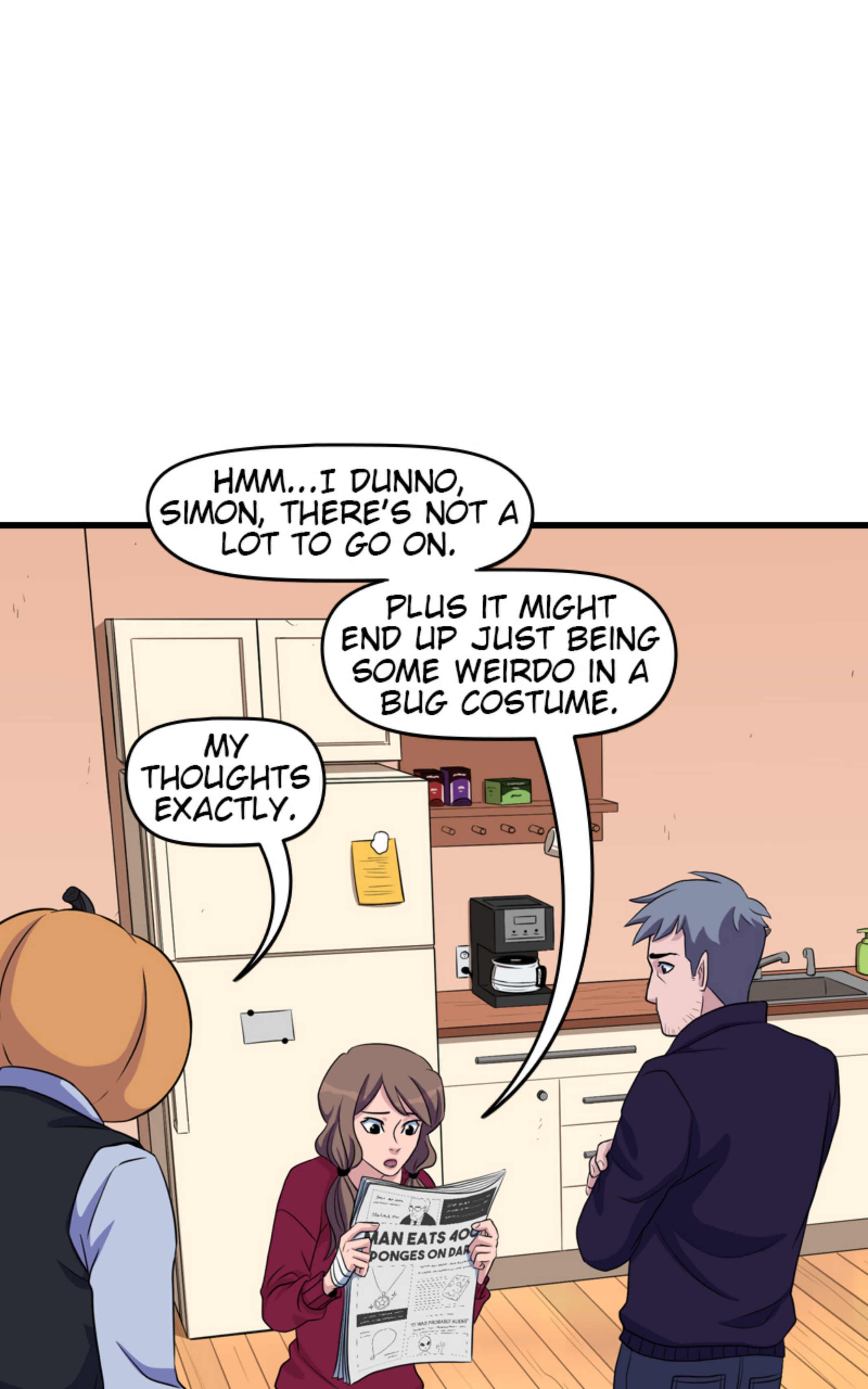




BUT TWO OF
MY PATIENTS HAVE
ALREADY TOLD ME THEY'VE
PERSONALLY SEEN
THIS THING...

...WHICH IS WHY
I WAS HOPING YOU
AND ICHABOD WOULD
LOOK INTO IT.



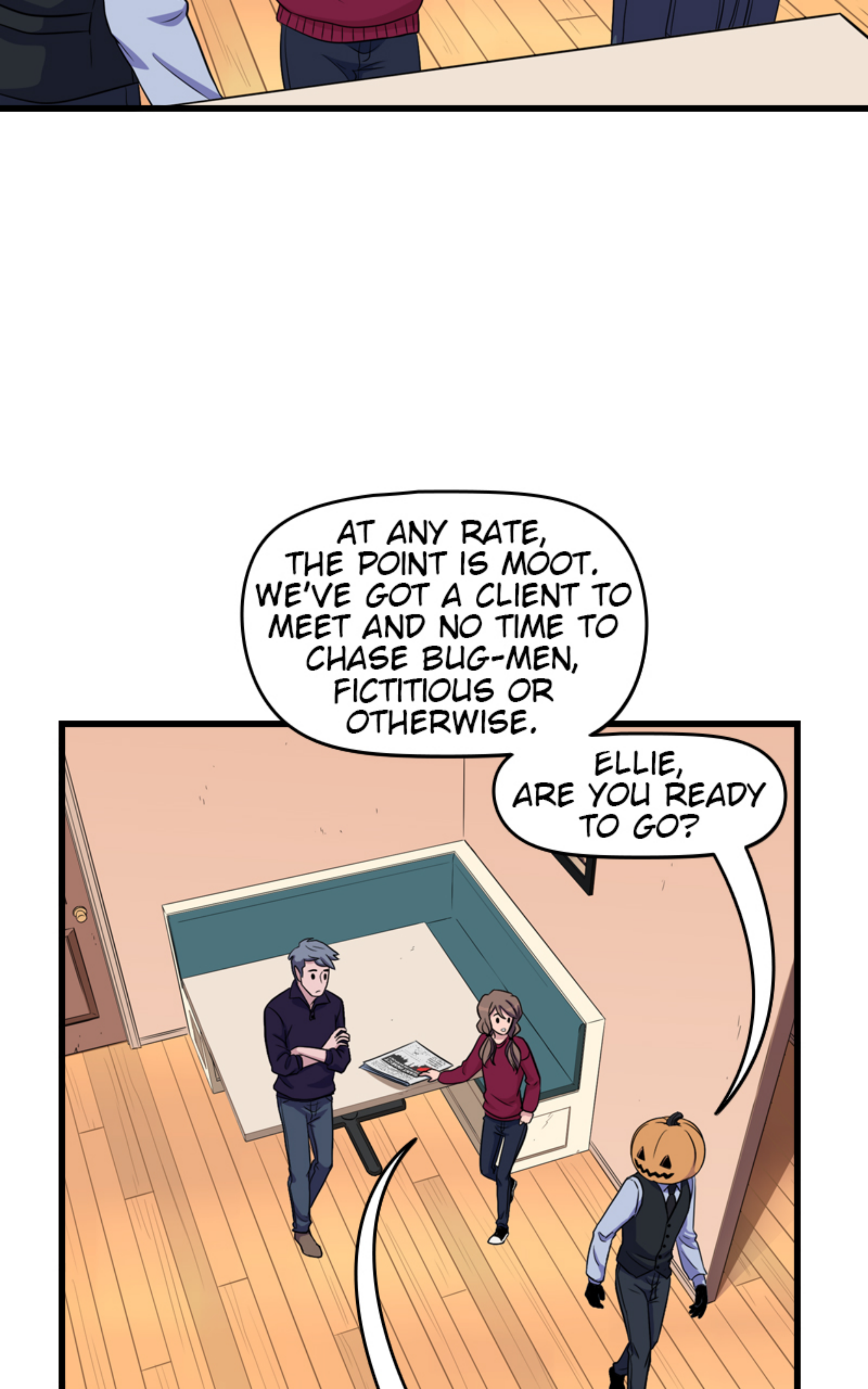


HMM...I DUNNO,
SIMON, THERE'S NOT A
LOT TO GO ON.

PLUS IT MIGHT
END UP JUST BEING
SOME WEIRDO IN A
BUG COSTUME.

MY
THOUGHTS
EXACTLY.

MAN EATS 400
SPONGES ON DATE



AT ANY RATE,
THE POINT IS MOOT.
WE'VE GOT A CLIENT TO
MEET AND NO TIME TO
CHASE BUG-MEN,
FICTITIOUS OR
OTHERWISE.

ELLIE,
ARE YOU READY
TO GO?



SURE.



HEY, ELLIE.

LOOK, I KNOW
YOU'VE GOT A JOB
TO DO, BUT COULD YOU
JUST KEEP AN EYE OUT
FOR THIS THING?

YOU'RE PROBABLY
RIGHT ABOUT IT BEING
A HOAX...



...BUT I CAN'T
SHAKE THE FEELING
THAT THERE'S SOMETHING
ELSE GOING ON
HERE.





THIS IS THE
PLACE.







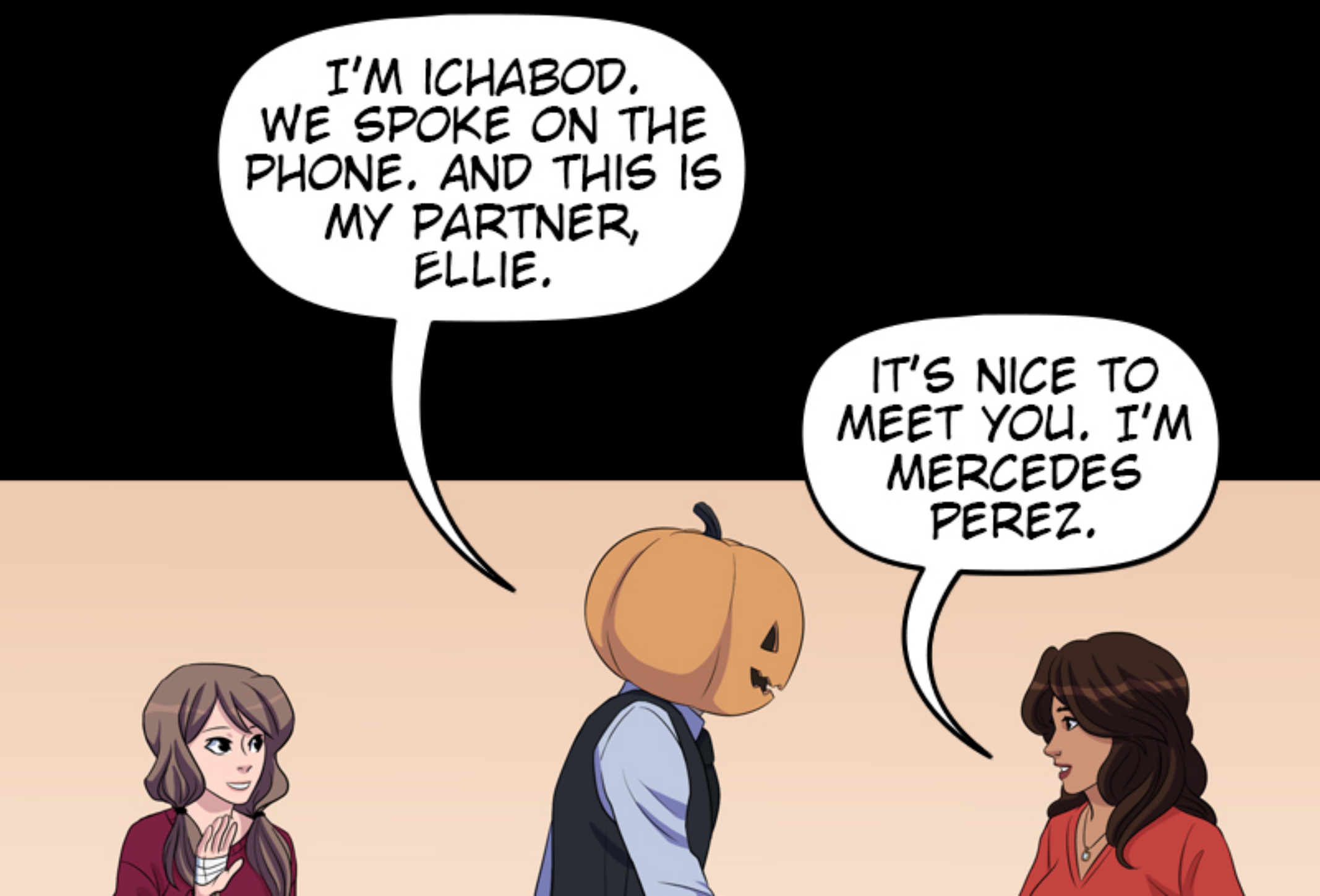
MS. PEREZ?

Y-YES.
YOU MUST BE

YOU MUST BE
THE PARANORMAL
INVESTIGATORS.

NOW I SEE
WHAT YOU MEANT
ABOUT THE
PUMPKIN.

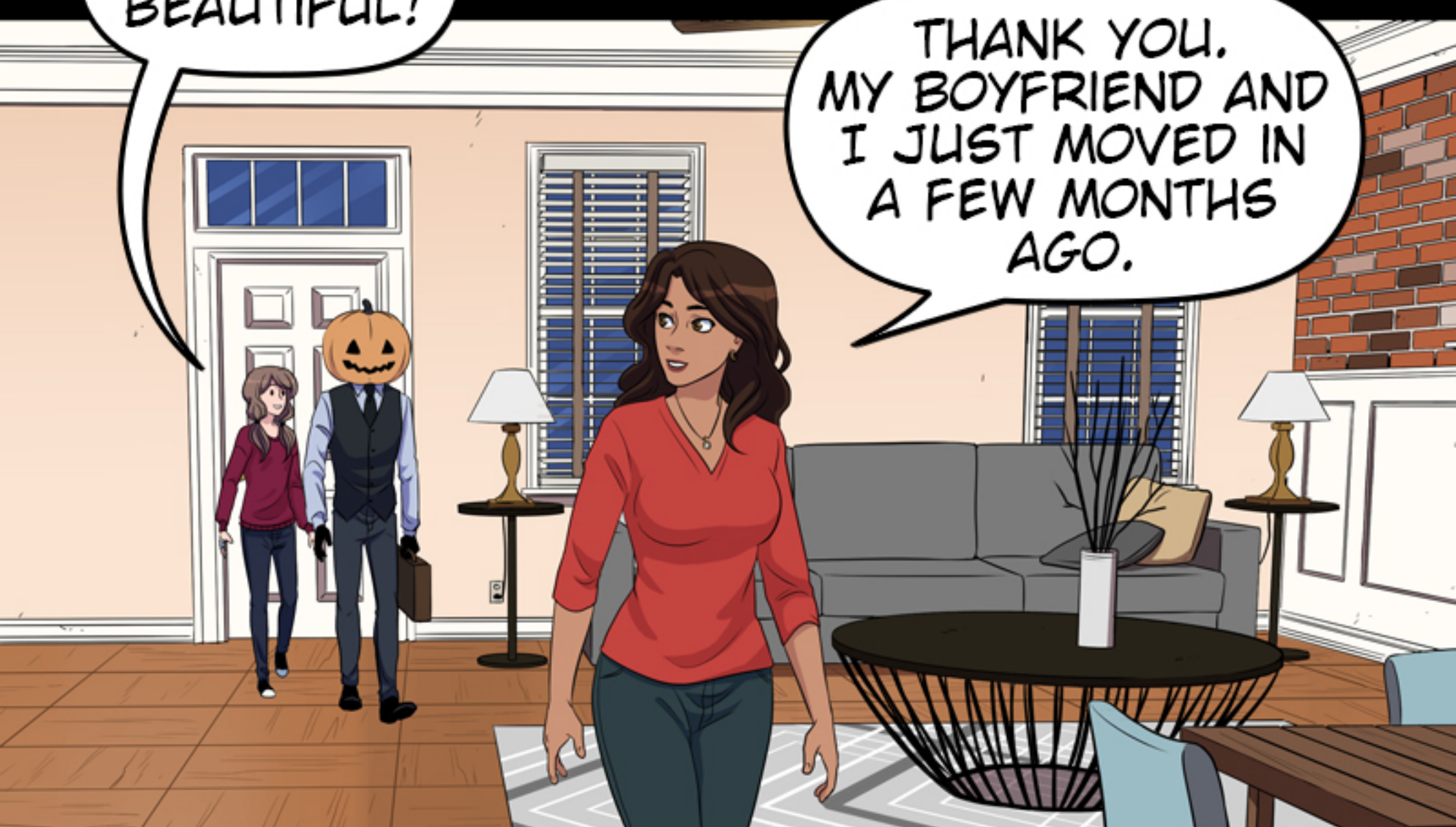


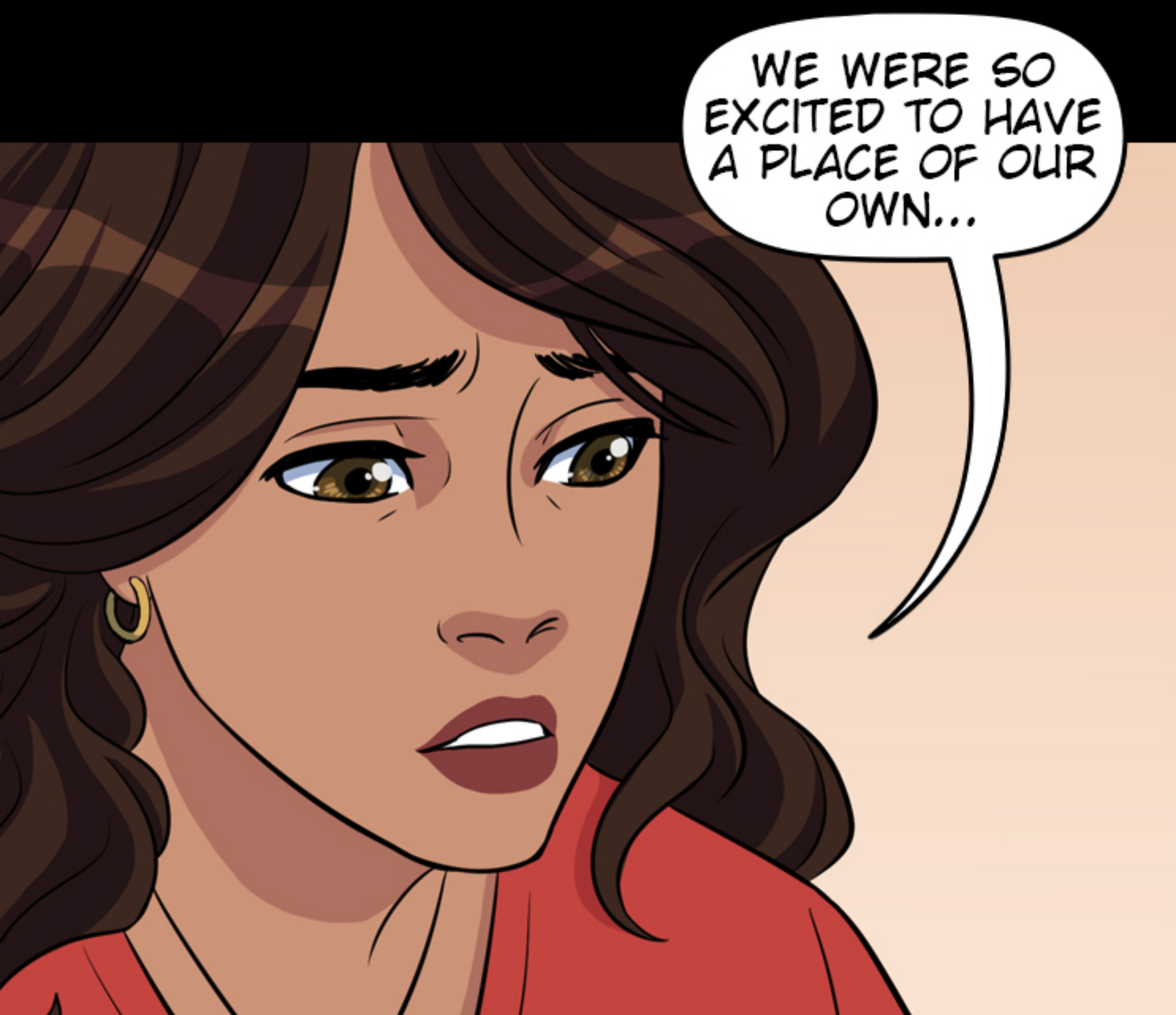




YOUR
HOUSE IS
BEAUTIFUL!

THANK YOU.
MY BOYFRIEND AND
I JUST MOVED IN
A FEW MONTHS
AGO.



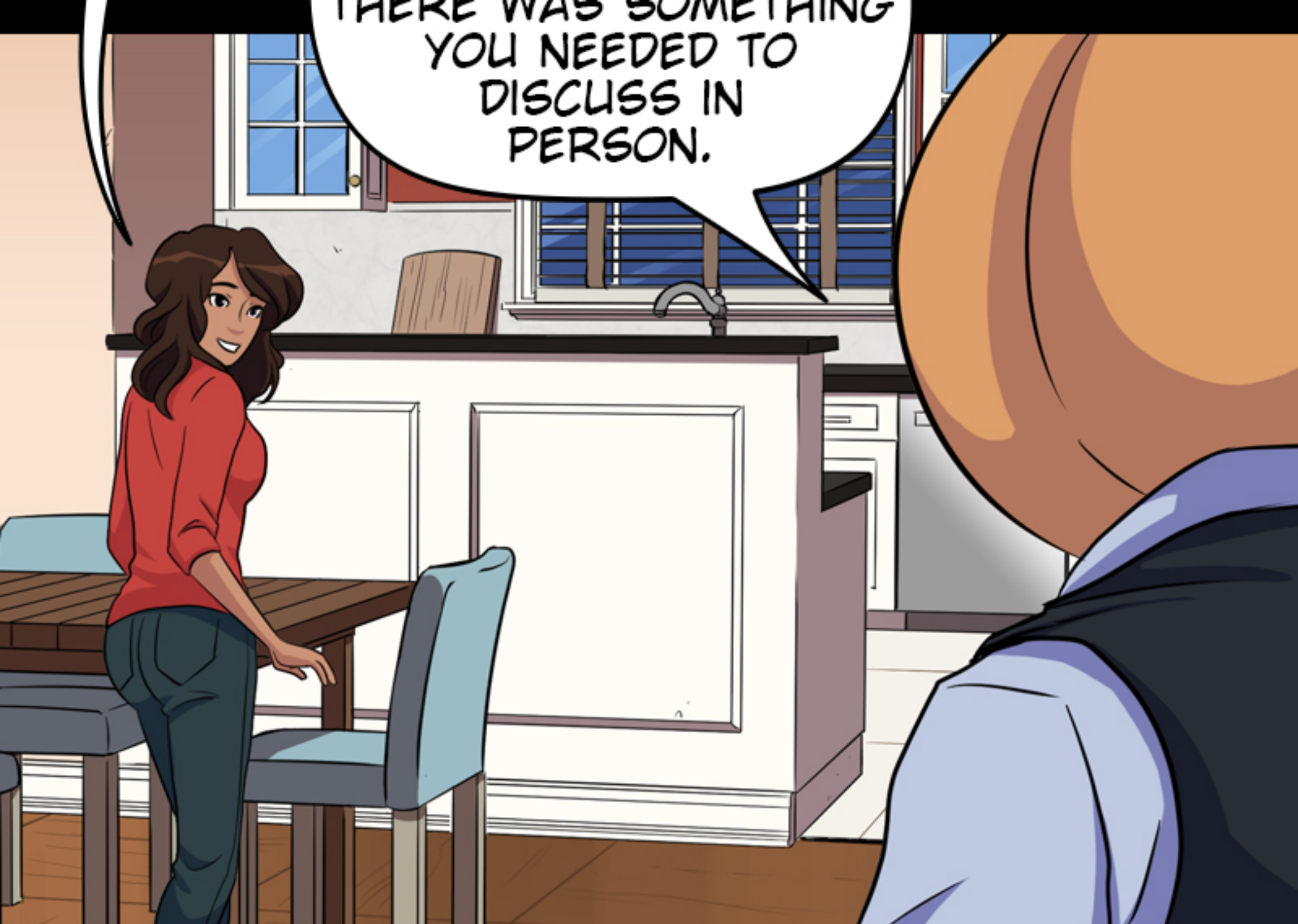


WE WERE SO
EXCITED TO HAVE
A PLACE OF OUR
OWN...

MS. PEREZ--

PLEASE, JUST
"MERCEDES."

MERECEDES,
WHEN WE SPOKE
EARLIER, YOU SAID
THERE WAS SOMETHING



YES. IT'S ABOUT
MY BOYFRIEND, GREG.
GREG SAMSON.

HE DISAPPEARED
LAST WEDNESDAY,
AND NOBODY'S
HEARD FROM
HIM SINCE.





HE WASN'T FEELING WELL
THAT MORNING AND CALLED OUT
SICK--SAID HE JUST WANTED TO
STAY IN BED AND SLEEP IT OFF.



WHEN I GOT HOME FROM
WORK, THE BEDROOM WAS
A WRECK AND GREG
WAS GONE.



I HOPED THAT,
YOU KNOW, MAYBE HE
WENT OUT AND SOMEONE
SNUCK IN AND TRASHED THE
PLACE, BUT THERE'S NO WAY
HE'D LEAVE WITHOUT HIS
WALLET AND PHONE.

DID YOU CALL
THE POLICE?

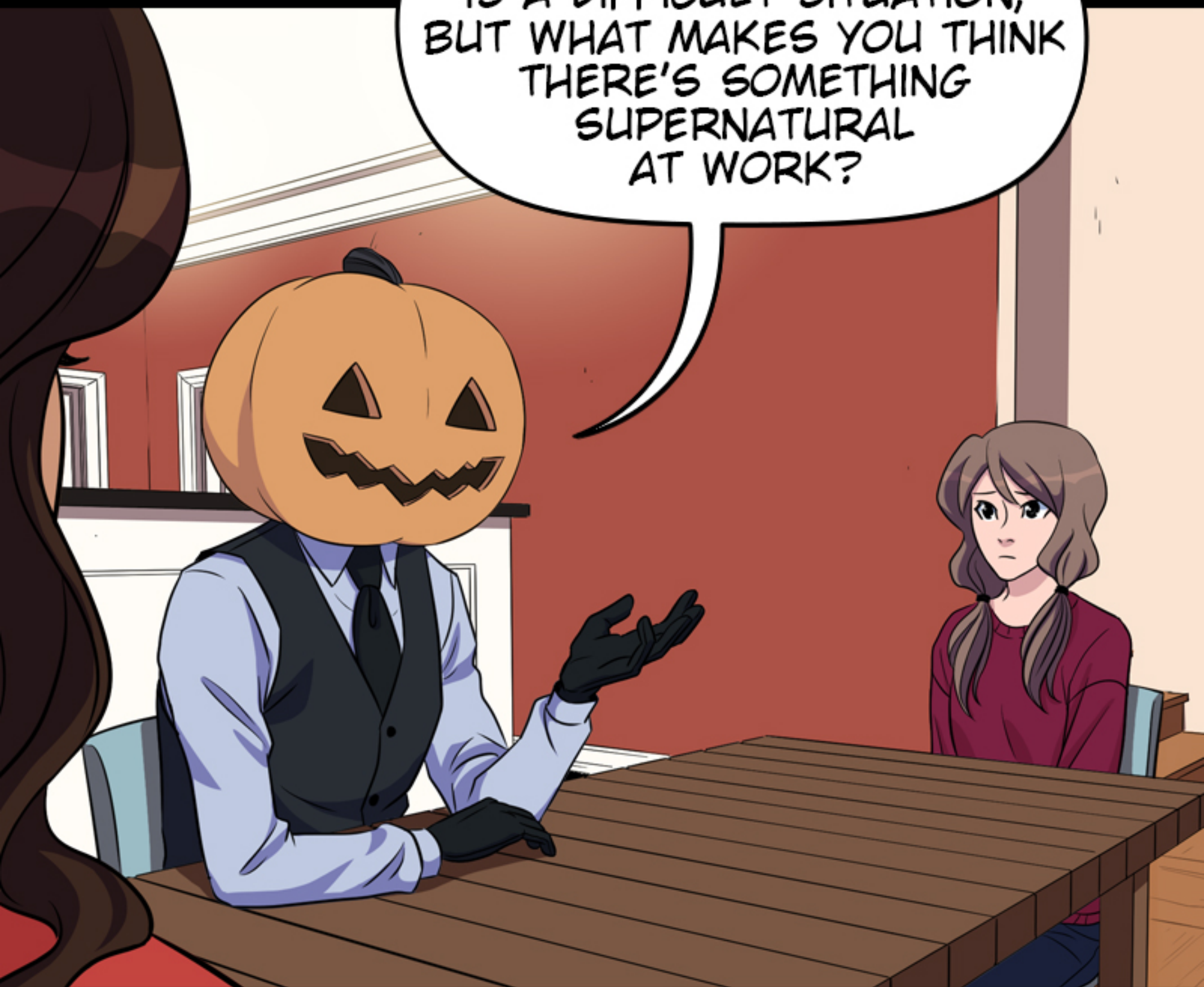




YEAH. FAT
LOAD OF GOOD IT
DID, THOUGH.

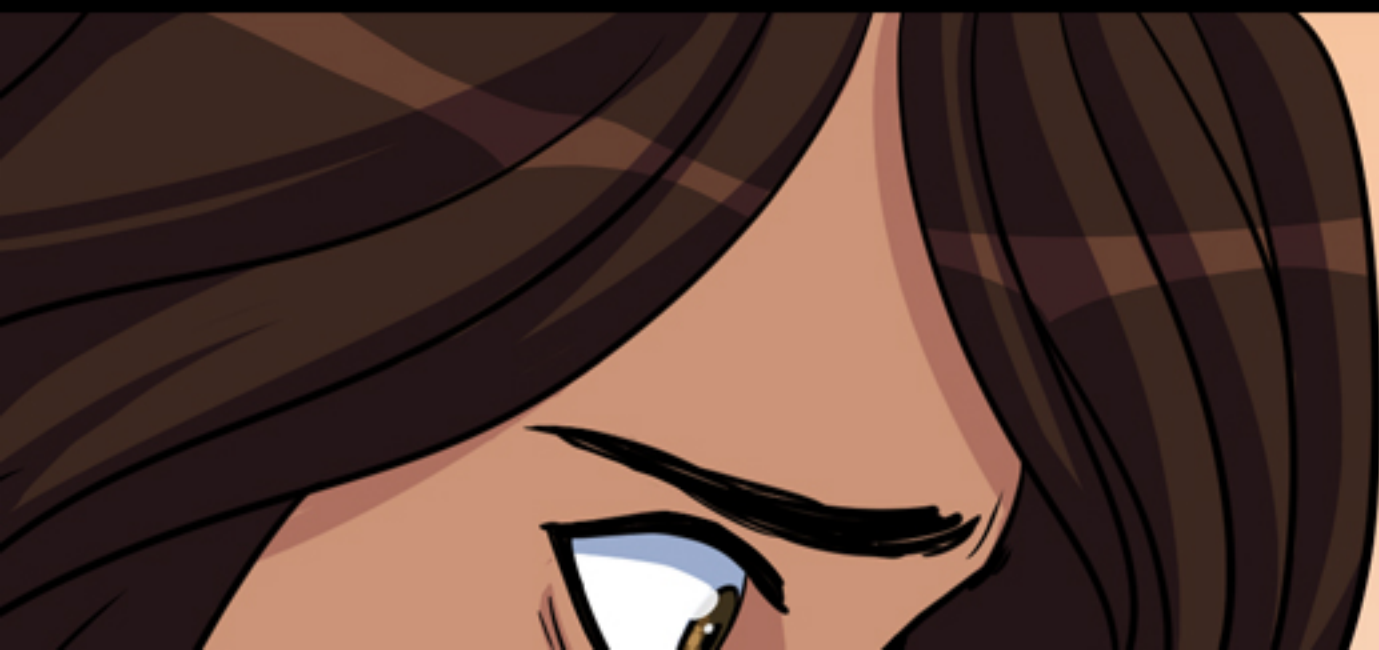
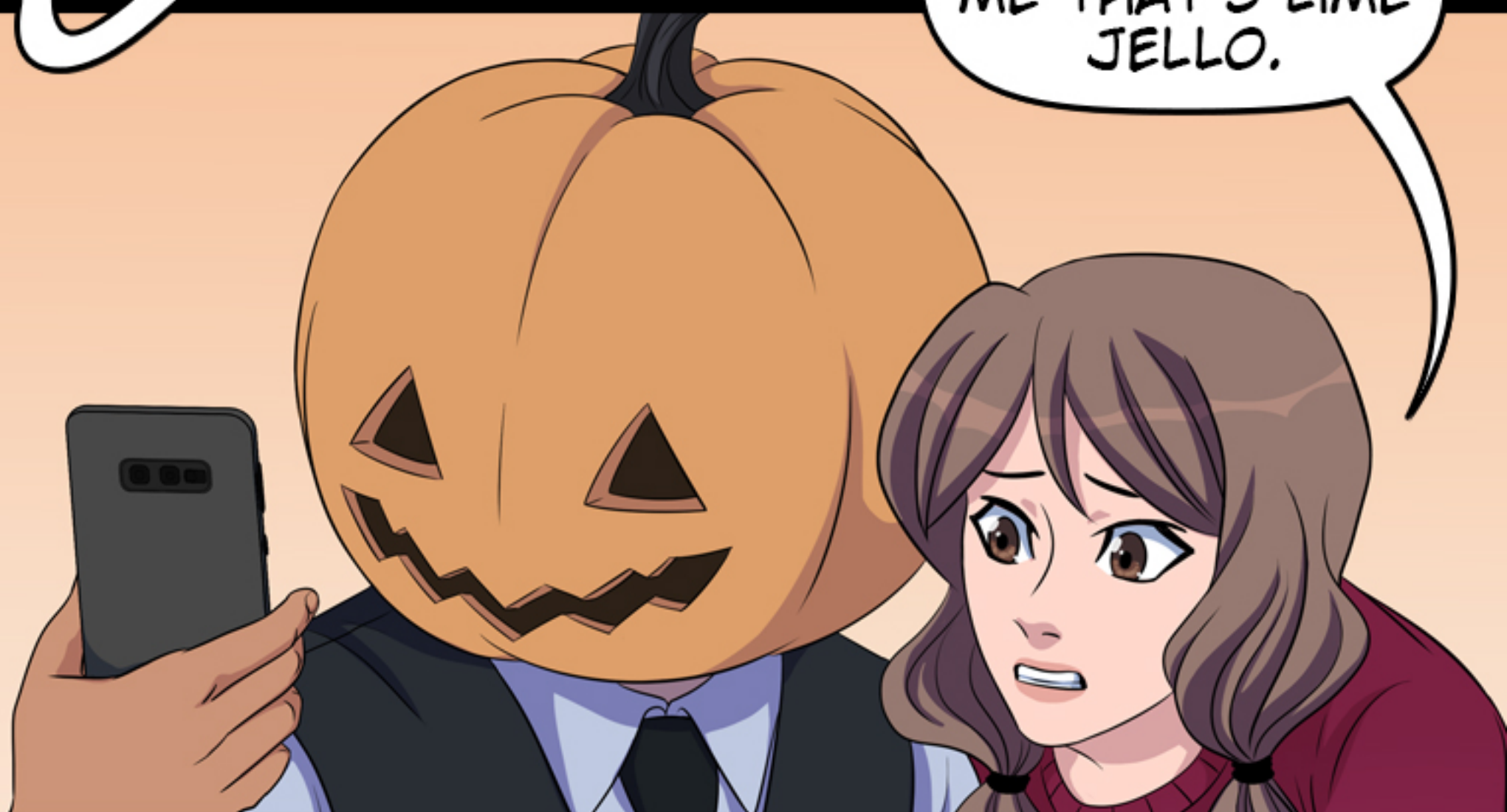
THEY DON'T
HAVE ANY IDEA
WHAT HAPPENED
EITHER.

MERCEDES,
I UNDERSTAND THIS
IS A DIFFICULT SITUATION,
BUT WHAT MAKES YOU THINK
THERE'S SOMETHING
SUPERNATURAL
AT WORK?



HERE. THIS IS
WHAT THE BEDROOM
LOOKED LIKE WHEN I
CAME HOME.

...PLEASE TELL
ME THAT'S LIME
JELLO.





THAT **SLIME**
WAS ALL OVER
THE BED AND THE
WALL.

IT'S HARD
TO SEE IN THE
PICTURES, BUT
THERE ARE BITS OF
TORN UP CLOTHES
AND...**HAIR**...

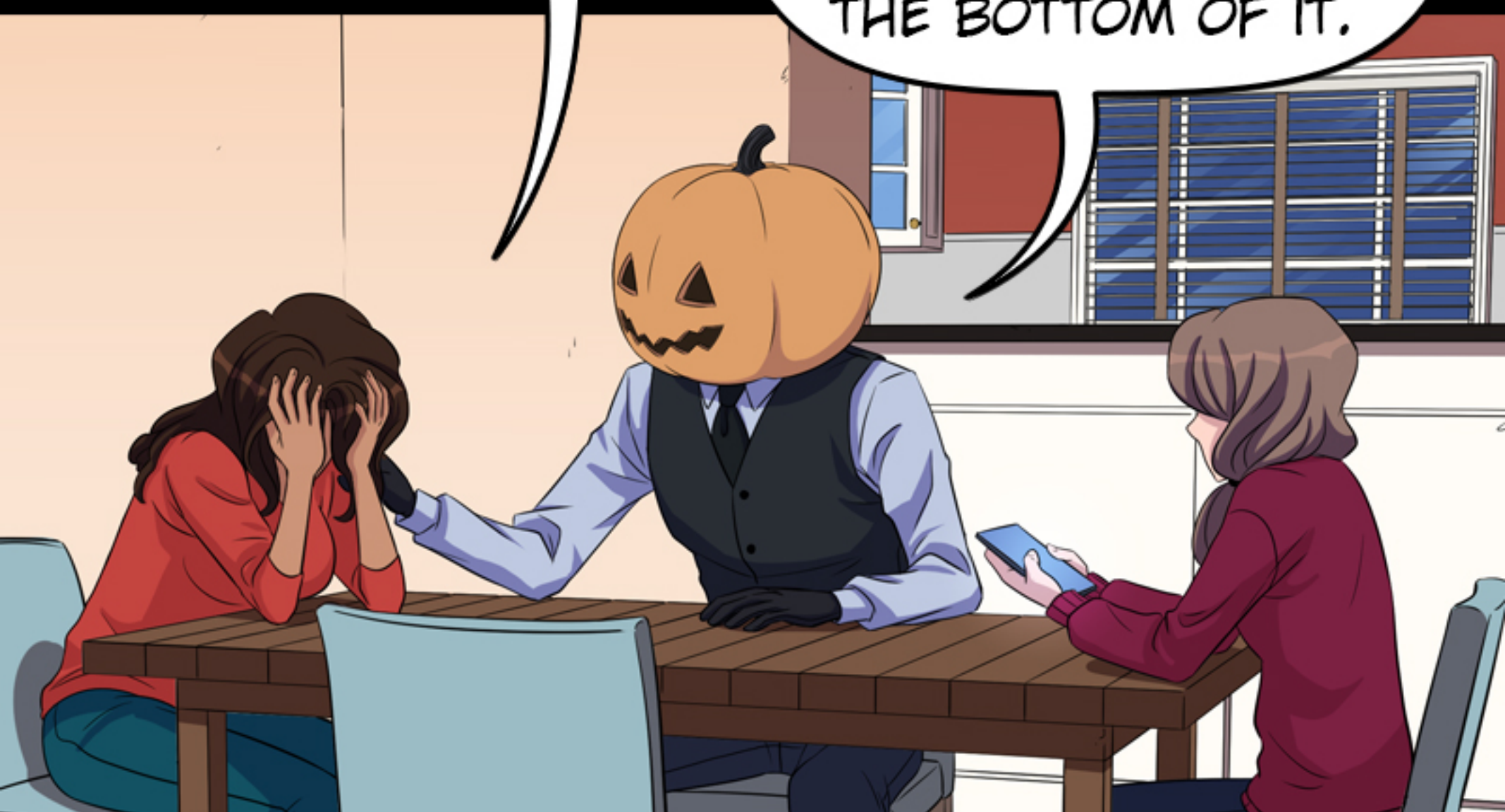
I THINK
IT'S GREG'S.





IT LOOKS LIKE
HE GOT ATTACKED
BY A **MONSTER** OR
SOMETHING. I KNOW
THAT SOUNDS NUTS,
BUT I JUST DON'T
KNOW--

IT'S ALL RIGHT.
WE DEAL WITH THIS
SORT OF THING ALL THE
TIME. REST ASSURED,
WHATEVER'S GOING
ON, WE'LL GET TO
THE BOTTOM OF IT.



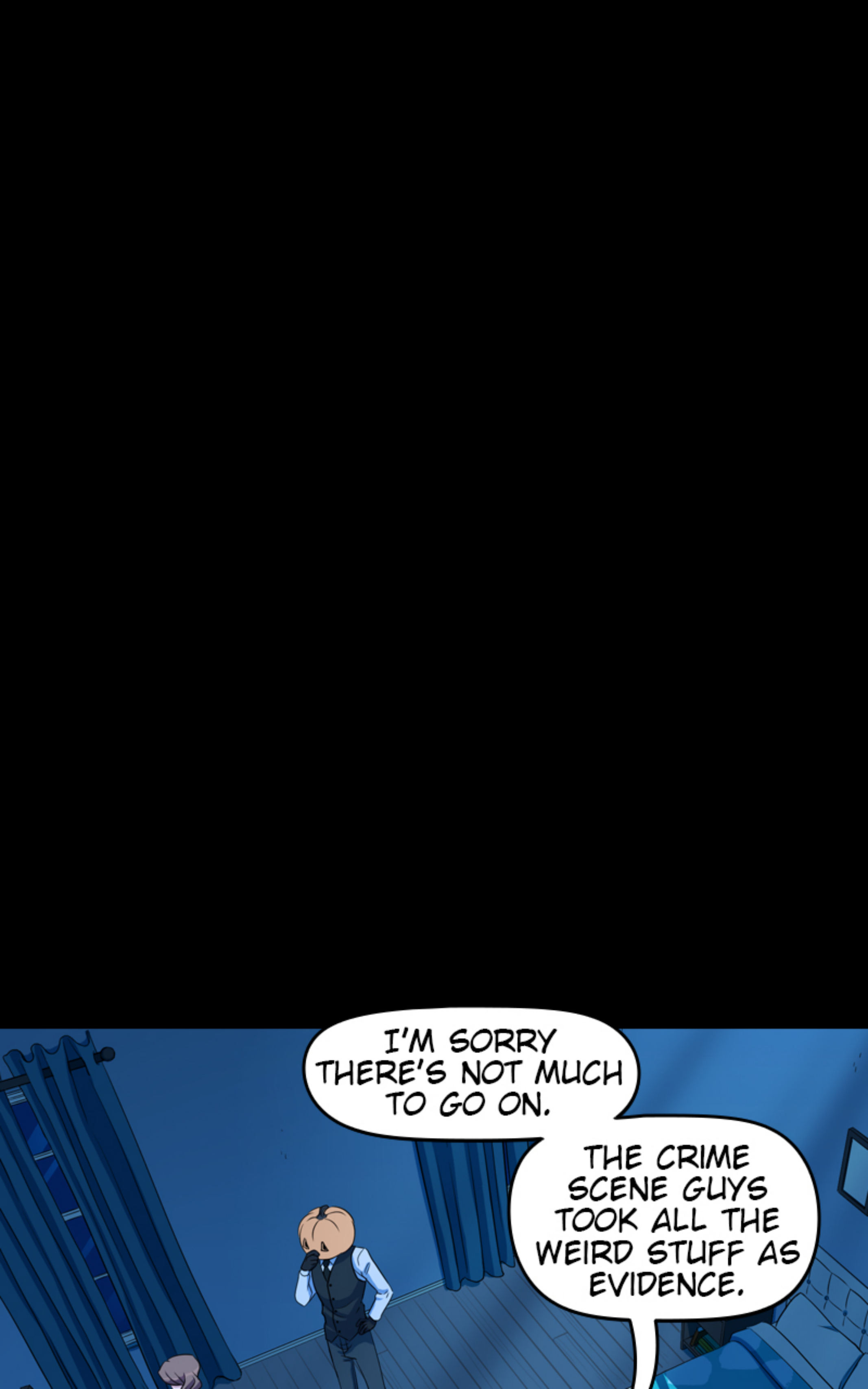
A digital illustration of a woman with long, wavy brown hair and light brown eyes. She is wearing a red V-neck top and a small gold necklace with a square pendant. Her expression is one of emotional gratitude, with a slight smile and visible tears on her cheeks. A speech bubble is positioned to her right, containing the text '*SNIFF* THANK YOU.' The background is a solid light orange color.

SNIFF
THANK YOU.

OF COURSE.
NOW, THE SOONER
WE GET STARTED THE
BETTER.

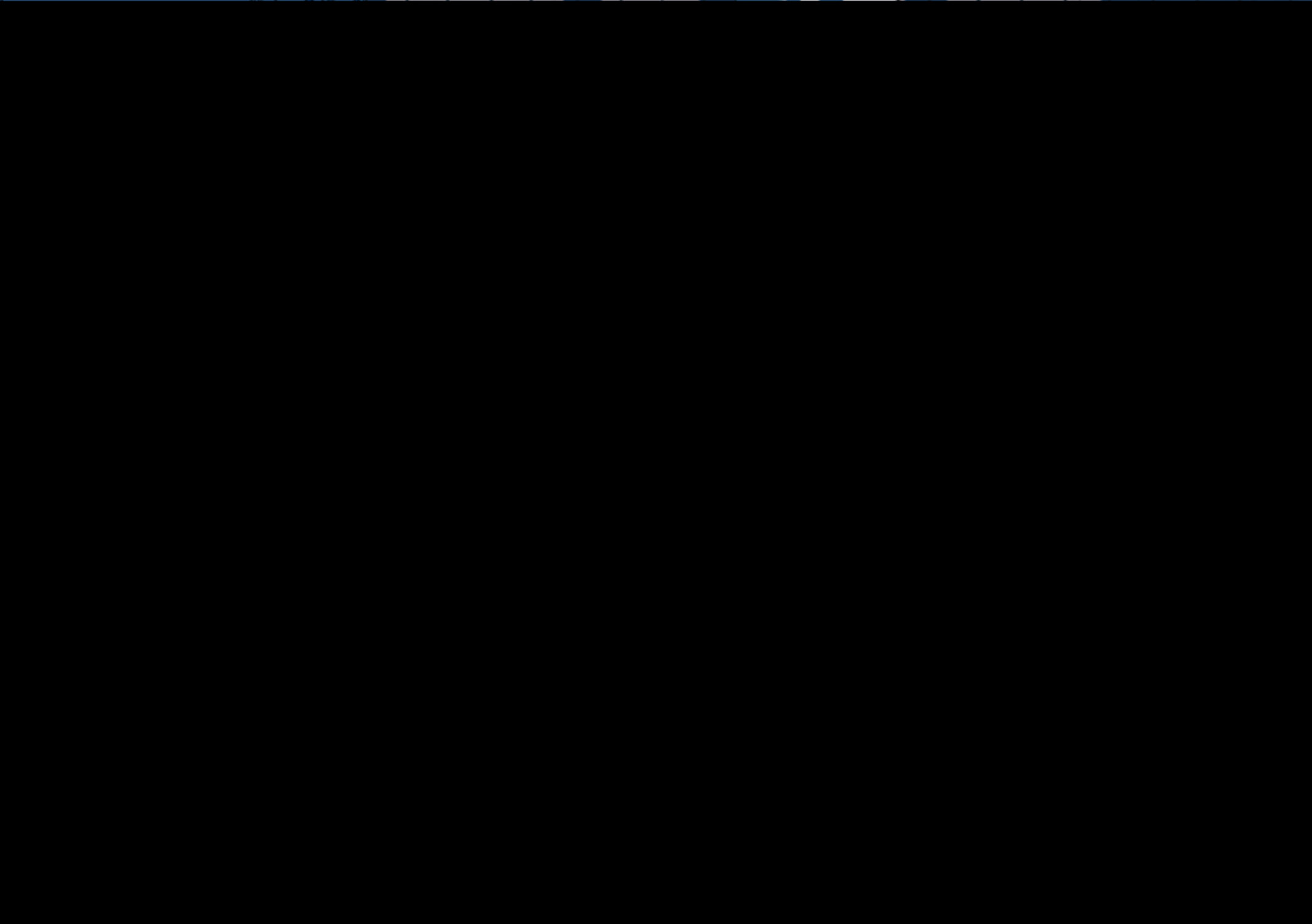
COULD YOU
SHOW US THE
BEDROOM IN THESE
PHOTOS?



A cartoon illustration of a man with a pumpkin head, wearing a white shirt and a dark vest, standing in a room with blue walls and curtains. He is looking down with a thoughtful or distressed expression. The room has a wooden floor and a bed with blue bedding is visible in the background. Two speech bubbles are present, one above the man and one to his right.

I'M SORRY
THERE'S NOT MUCH
TO GO ON.

THE CRIME
SCENE GUYS
TOOK ALL THE
WEIRD STUFF AS
EVIDENCE.





YEAH, THAT'S
FROM LAST
SUMMER.



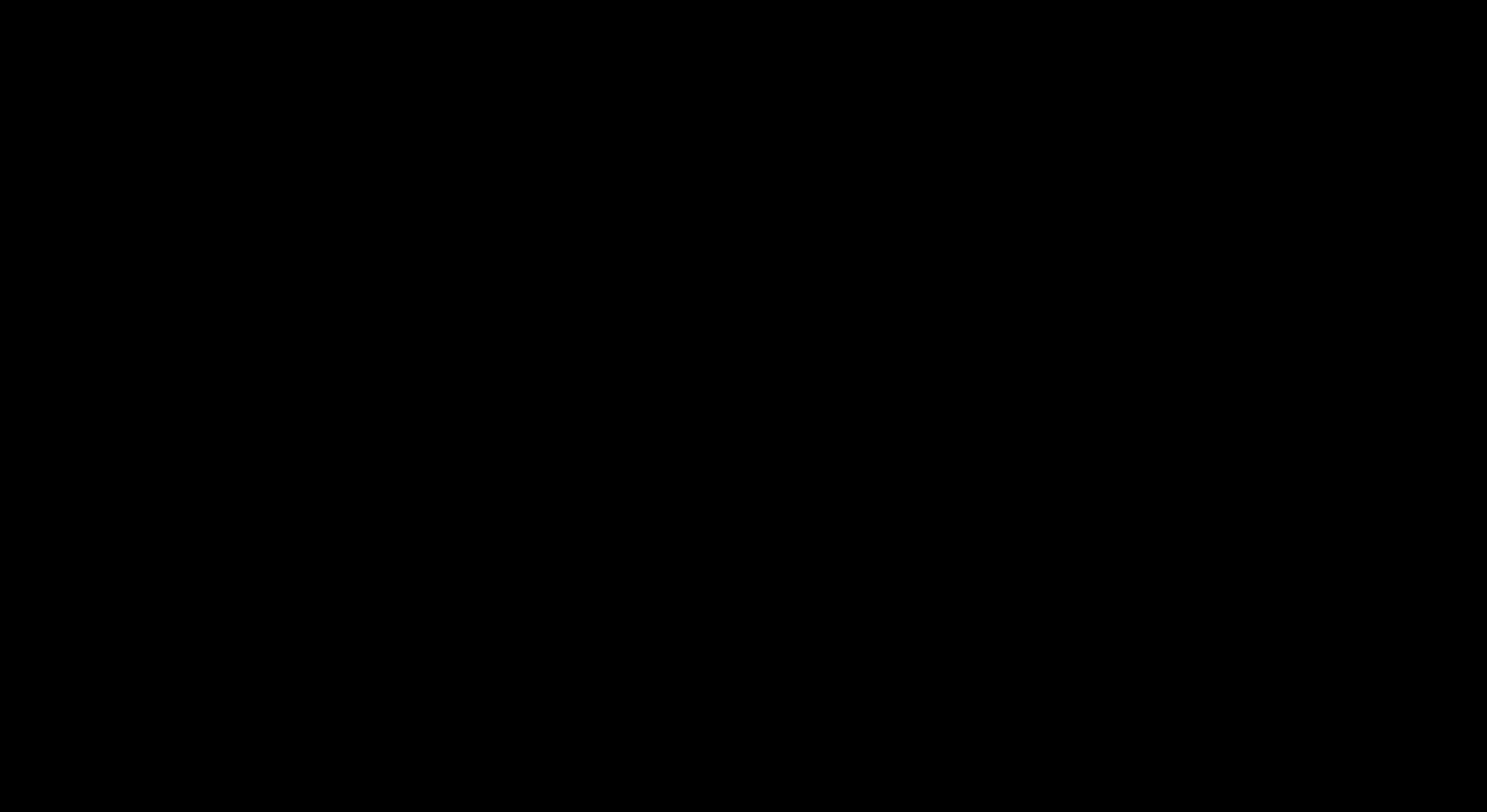
I TOLD HIM I'D
ALWAYS WANTED TO
SEE THE DESERT, AND
HE SURPRISED ME WITH
A TRIP TO ARIZONA FOR
OUR FIVE YEAR DATING
ANNIVERSARY.





SO THAT'S
THE FELLOW WE'RE
AFTER, EH?





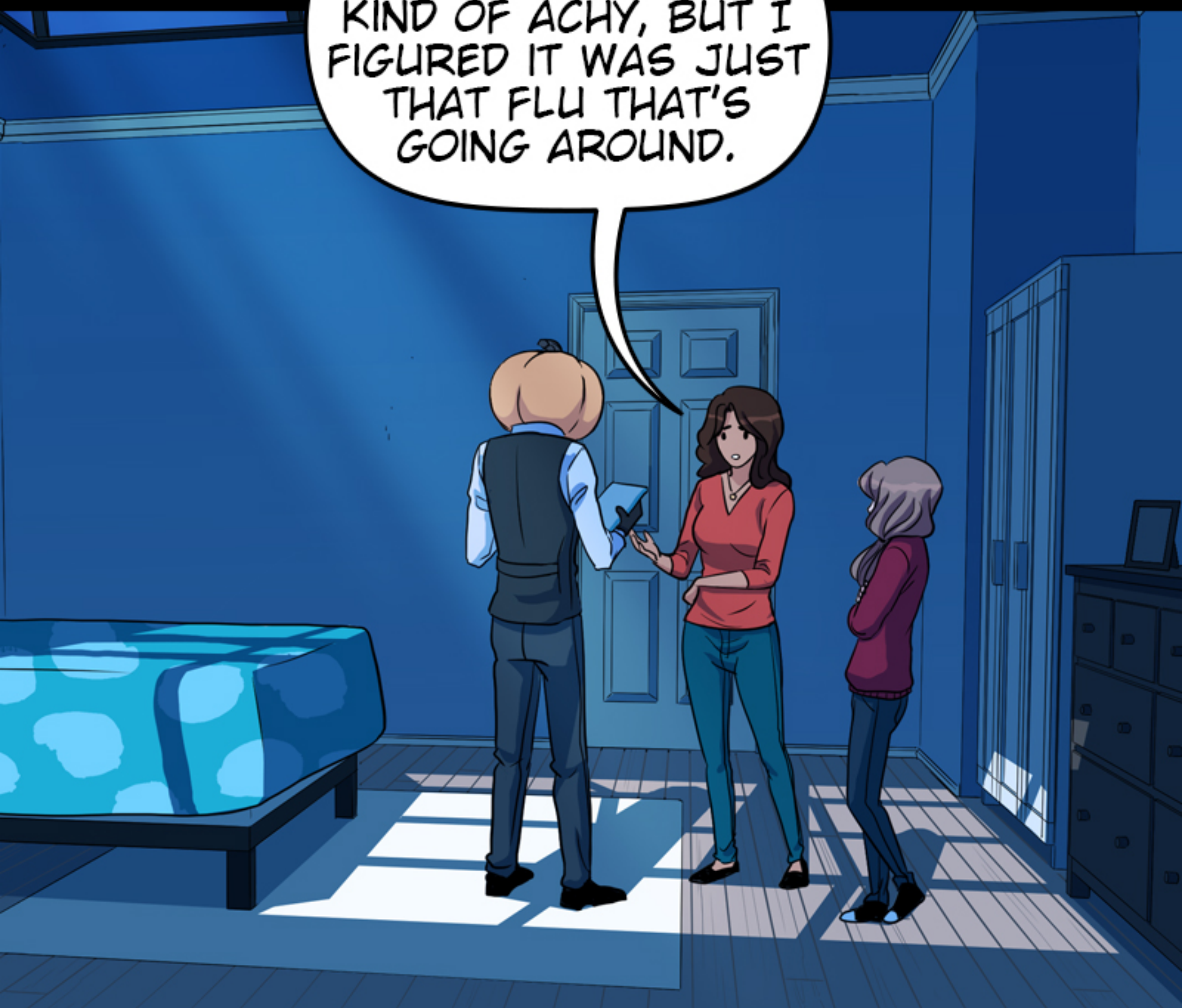
TELL ME, HAS
HE BEEN BEHAVING
STRANGELY THESE PAST
FEW WEEKS? MAYBE
ACTING NERVOUS
OR AGGITATED?



HEH, NO
MORE THAN
USUAL.



HE DID SAY
HE'D BEEN FEELING
KIND OF ACHY, BUT I
FIGURED IT WAS JUST
THAT FLU THAT'S
GOING AROUND.







ELLIE, WOULD
YOU JOIN ME OUTSIDE
FOR A MOMENT?

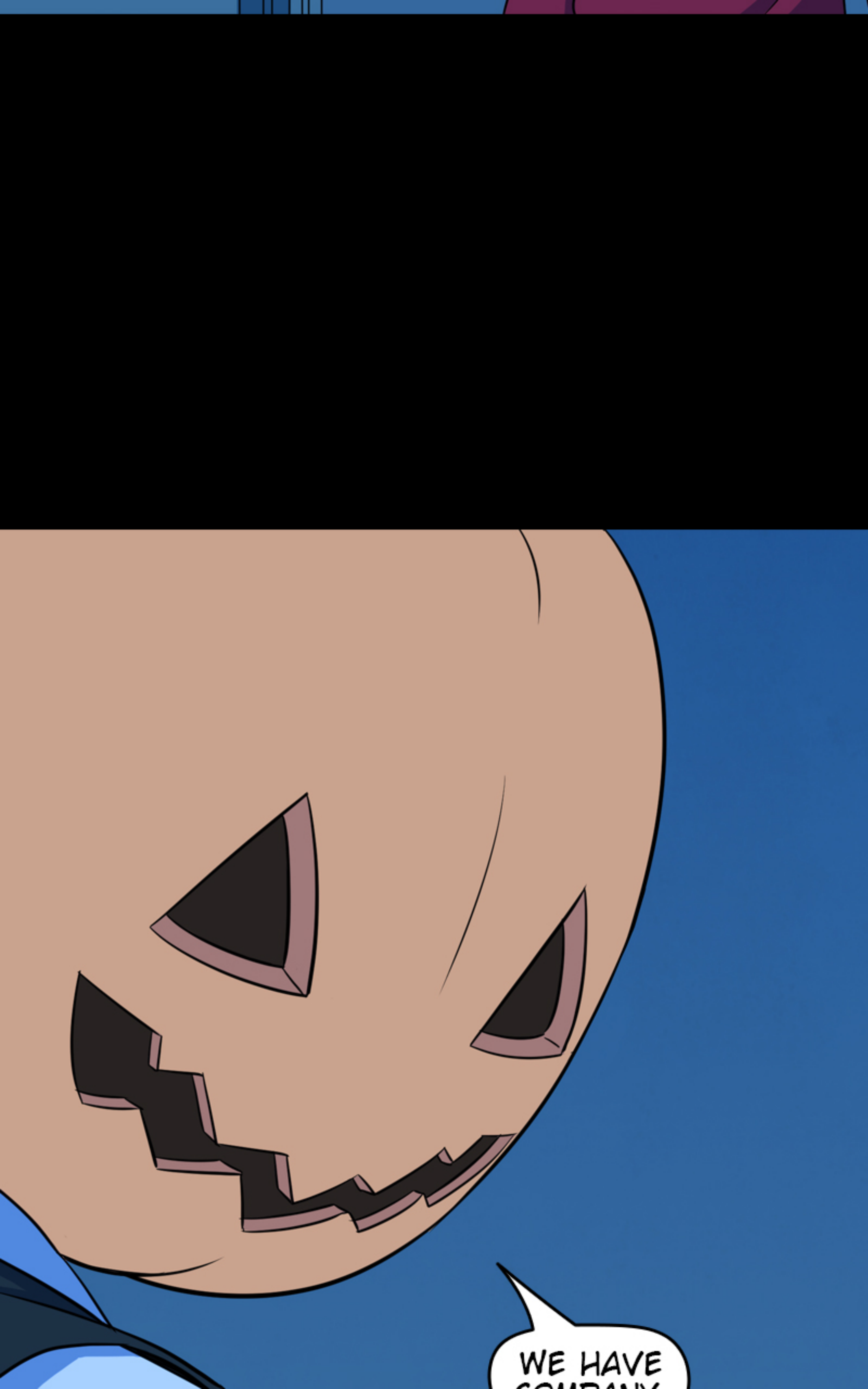
A comic panel showing three characters in a room. On the left, a man with a pumpkin head, wearing a white shirt, dark vest, and dark pants, stands with his arms slightly out. In the center, a woman with long brown hair, wearing a red shirt and blue pants, holds a tablet. On the right, an older woman with short grey hair, wearing a purple sweater and dark pants, stands looking towards the others. The room has a wooden floor, a blue door on the left, and a large blue cabinet on the right. A blue and white patterned rug is on the floor. Bright light from a window casts long shadows across the floor.

PLEASE
EXCUSE US,
MS. PEREZ.

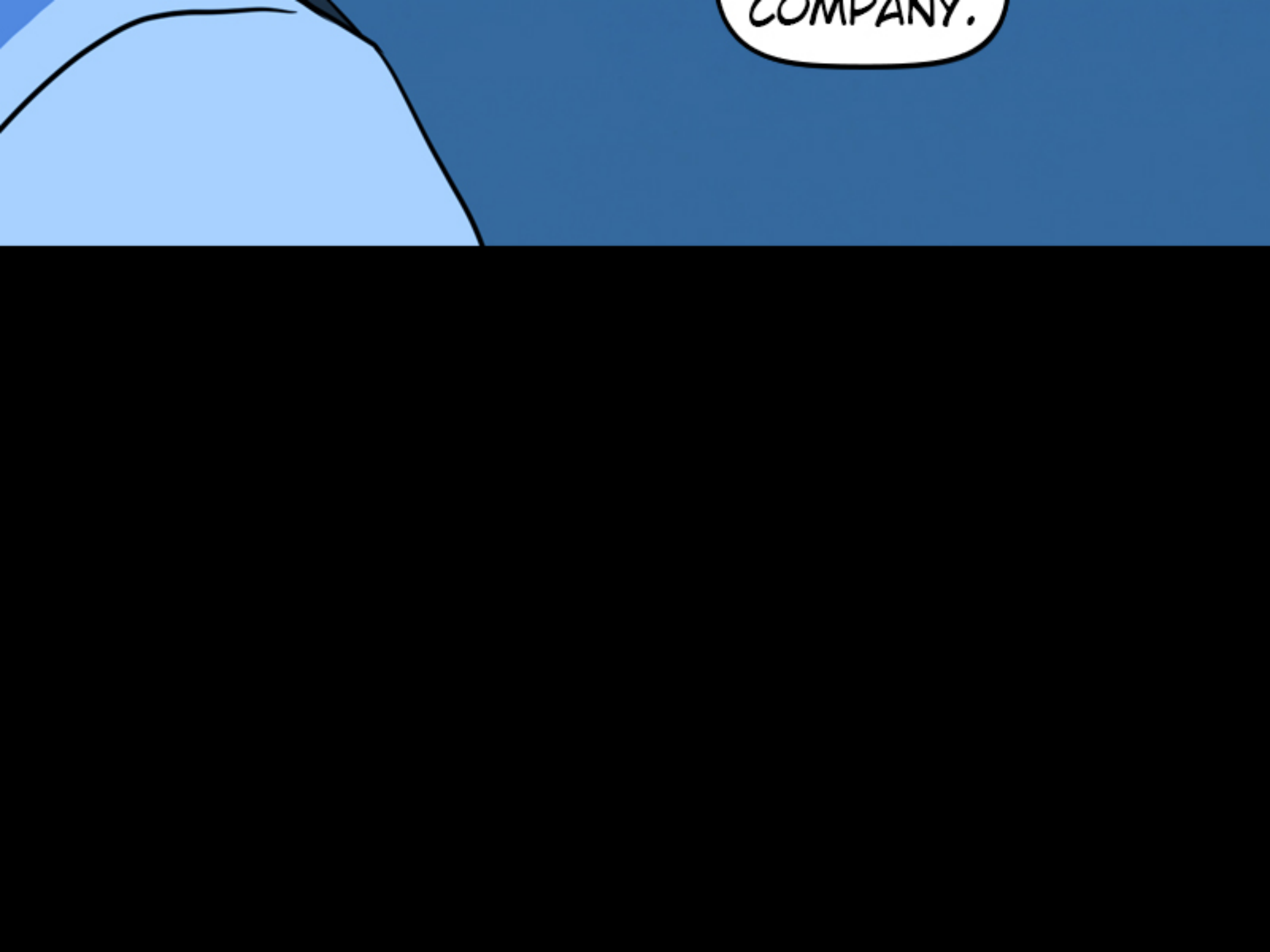
KCHAK



WHAT'S UP?



WE HAVE
COMPANY



COMPANY.



@meredith_draws



@meredithmoriarty



patreon.com/mmoriarty

