



SKITTER

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THIS
SHOULDN'T
TAKE LONG. YOU
CAN WAIT OUTSIDE.
I'LL MEET YOU
WHEN I'M
FINISHED.







THAT
WASN'T A
REQUEST.







I'M SORRY, OK?!



I'M *SO*
SORRY!

I KNOW
I SCREWED
UP.







A comic book panel. At the top, a character's legs in blue pants are visible. A large white speech bubble extends from the character. Below, a green energy explosion or fireball is shown on a dark blue floor. The explosion has a bright yellow center with concentric circles and a wavy green outer edge. The background is solid black.

I NEVER
MEANT TO--

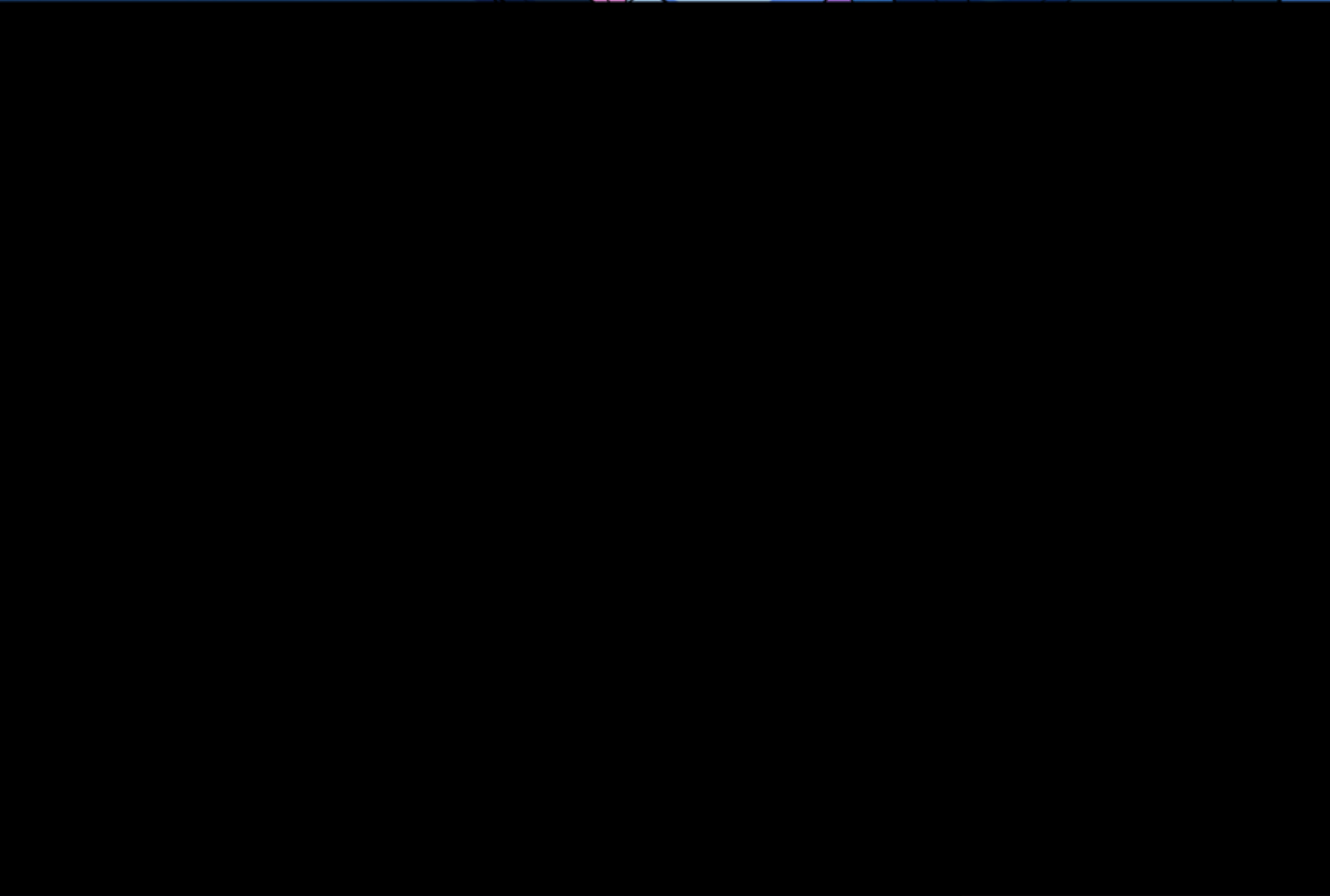




A character with a large, orange pumpkin head and a carved jack-o'-lantern face. The character is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and a dark blue vest. They are shown from the chest up, with their right arm raised and fist clenched. In the bottom left corner, the back of a person's head with long, wavy brown hair is visible. The background is a solid blue color with several small, glowing yellow-orange sparks or embers floating in the air. Two speech bubbles are present: one on the left and a larger one on the right. A small, dark blue rectangular panel is visible in the top right corner, showing a close-up of a hand with a glowing green energy or light source.

DON'T YOU
UNDERSTAND?
I DON'T CARE THAT
YOU MADE A
MISTAKE.

YOU OVERESTIMATED
YOUR ABILITIES AND GOT
IN OVER YOUR HEAD. FINE.
IT HAPPENS. WHAT TRULY
GALLS IS THAT YOU
TRIED TO HIDE IT.





I'M SORRY.
I DIDN'T WANT TO
DISAPPOINT YOU
AND...

A comic book panel set in a house at night. On the left, a woman with brown hair, wearing a pink sweater and dark pants, stands with her arms crossed, looking towards the right. On the right, a man with a carved pumpkin for a head walks away from her. He is wearing a white shirt, a dark vest, and dark pants, and has a brown satchel slung over his shoulder. A large speech bubble originates from the man, containing the text 'I'M SORRY. I DIDN'T WANT TO DISAPPOINT YOU AND...'. The background features a staircase with a wooden railing, a window showing a dark night sky, and a wooden floor.





WE BOTH
KNOW THIS LINE
OF WORK CAN BE
DANGEROUS...

...BUT I'VE
NEVER DEALT
WITH ANYTHING
LIKE *THIS*
BEFORE.

ALL THE MORE
REASON YOU CAN'T
HIDE THESE THINGS.
IF THIS PARTNERSHIP IS
TO WORK, WE NEED TO
BE ABLE TO TRUST
EACH OTHER.



SNIFF
OK...



≡SIGH≡
COME HERE.
IT'S ALL
RIGHT.



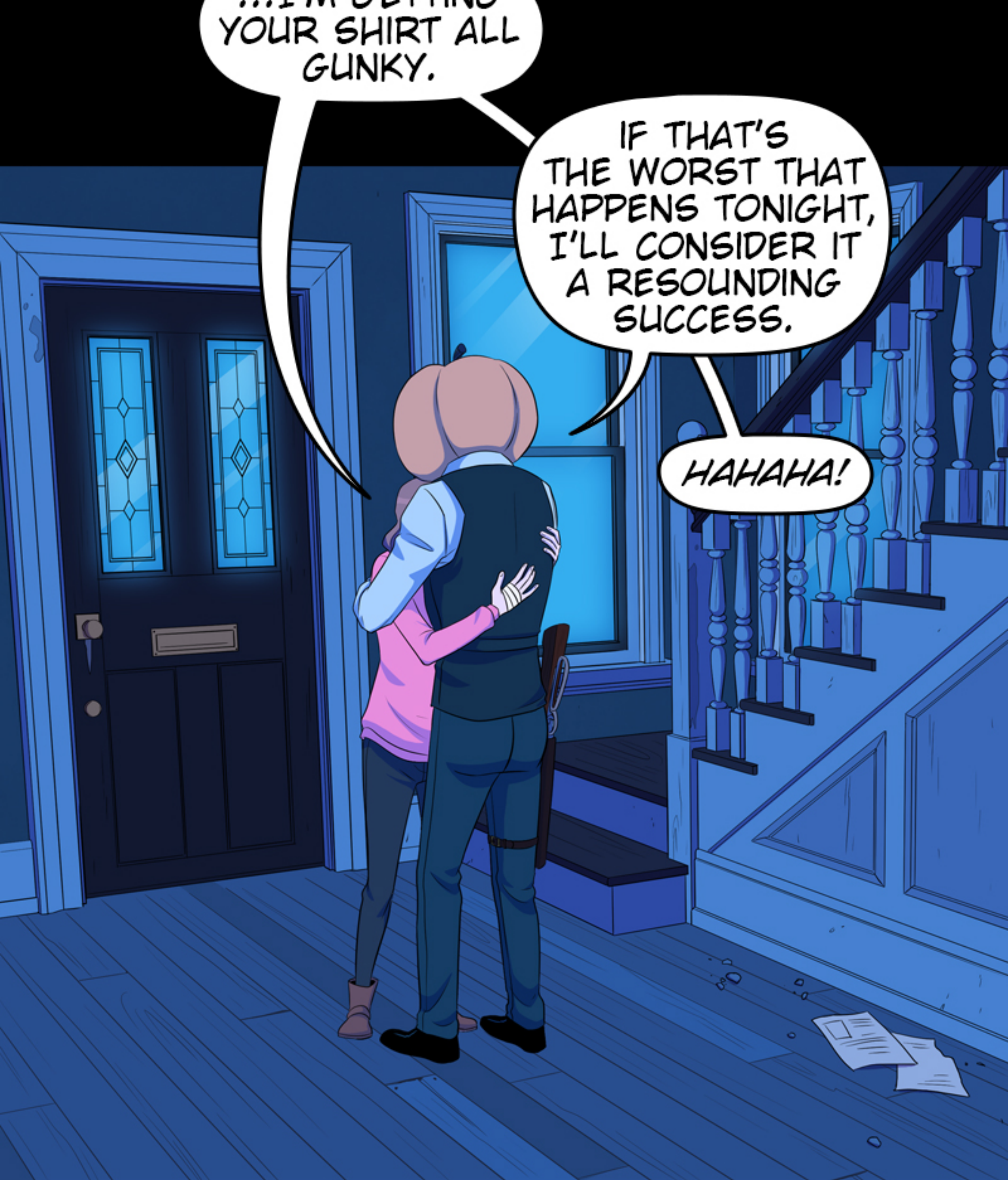


I'M GETTING

...AND GETTING
YOUR SHIRT ALL
GUNKY.

IF THAT'S
THE WORST THAT
HAPPENS TONIGHT,
I'LL CONSIDER IT
A RESOUNDING
SUCCESS.

HAHAHA!



AHEM
RIGHT THEN,
LET'S PULL OURSELVES
TOGETHER. WE STILL
HAVE A JOB
TO DO.

HEH, I'M
GONNA UGLY-CRY
ON *SO* MANY
IMPS.







THWACK

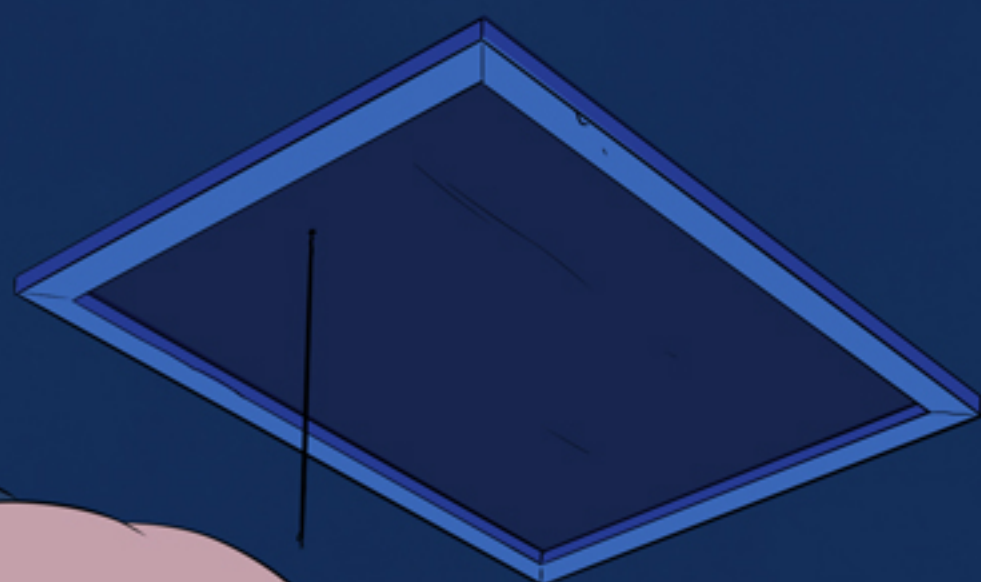




WHERE ARE
ALL THESE THINGS
COMING FROM?

THERE
MUST BE A NEST
NEARBY.







UGH, SICK!

A FAIR
ASSESSMENT.



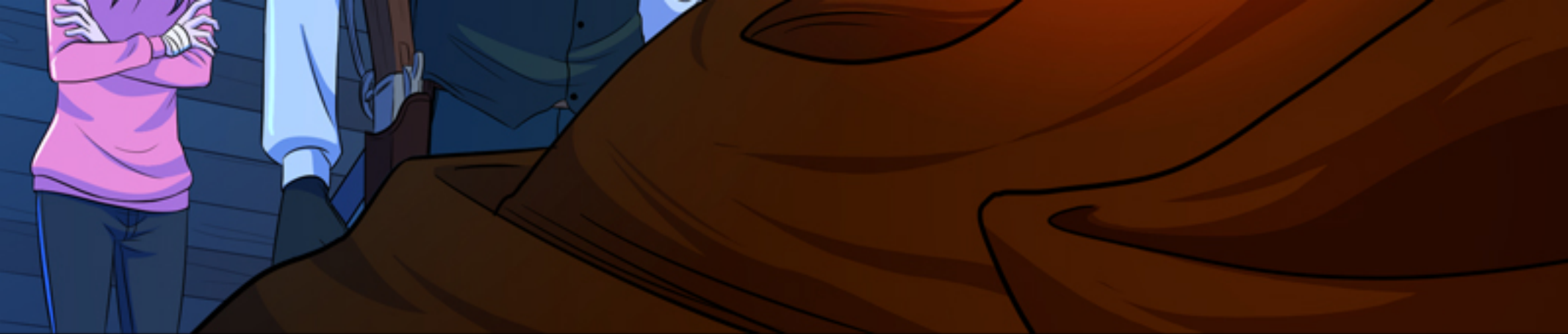


THE CREATURES
ARE ALL EXTENSIONS
OF THE NEST'S
HEART.



DESTROY
THAT, AND THE
INFESTATION SHOULD
SUBSIDE.

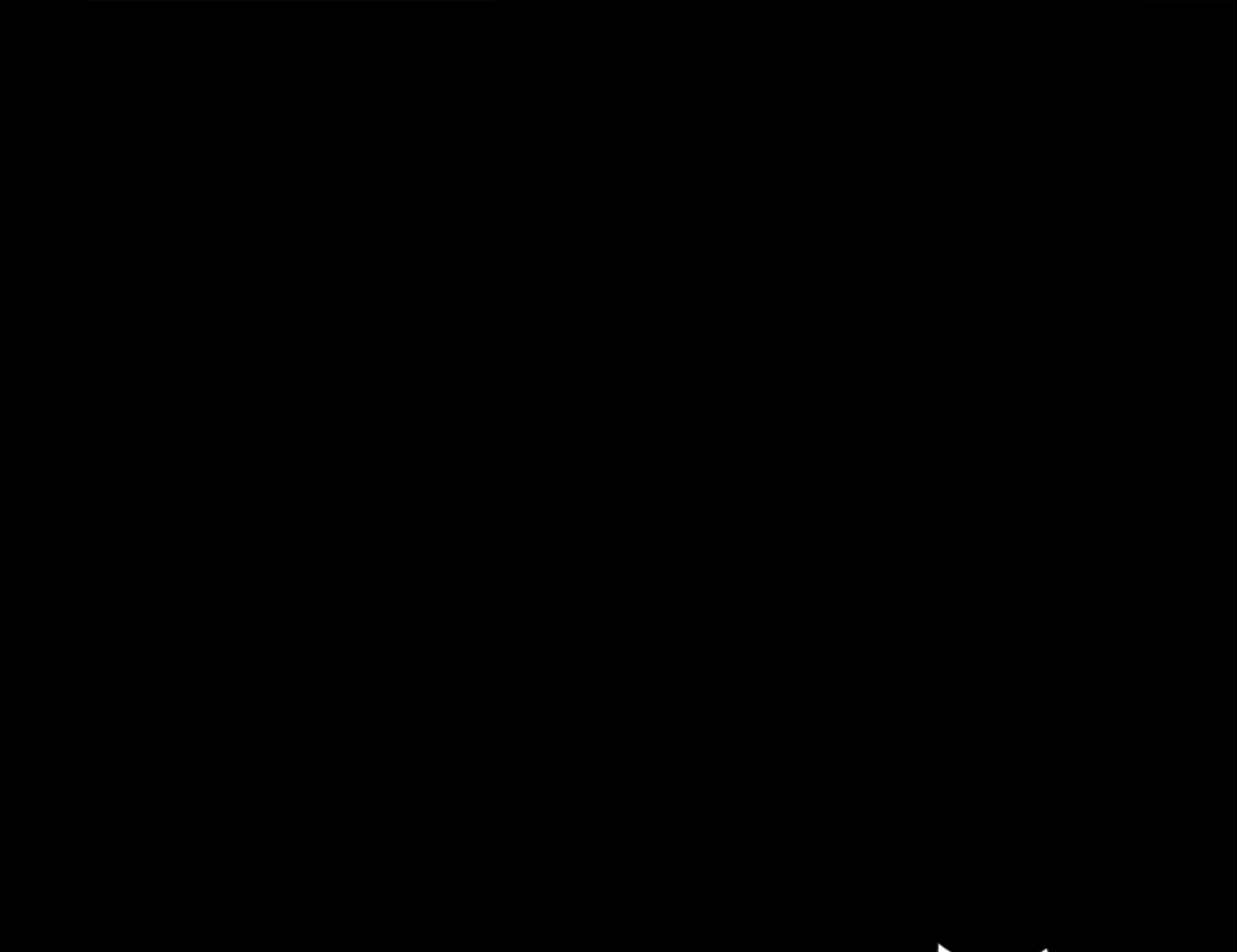






AAAAHH!

ELLIE?
WHAT--



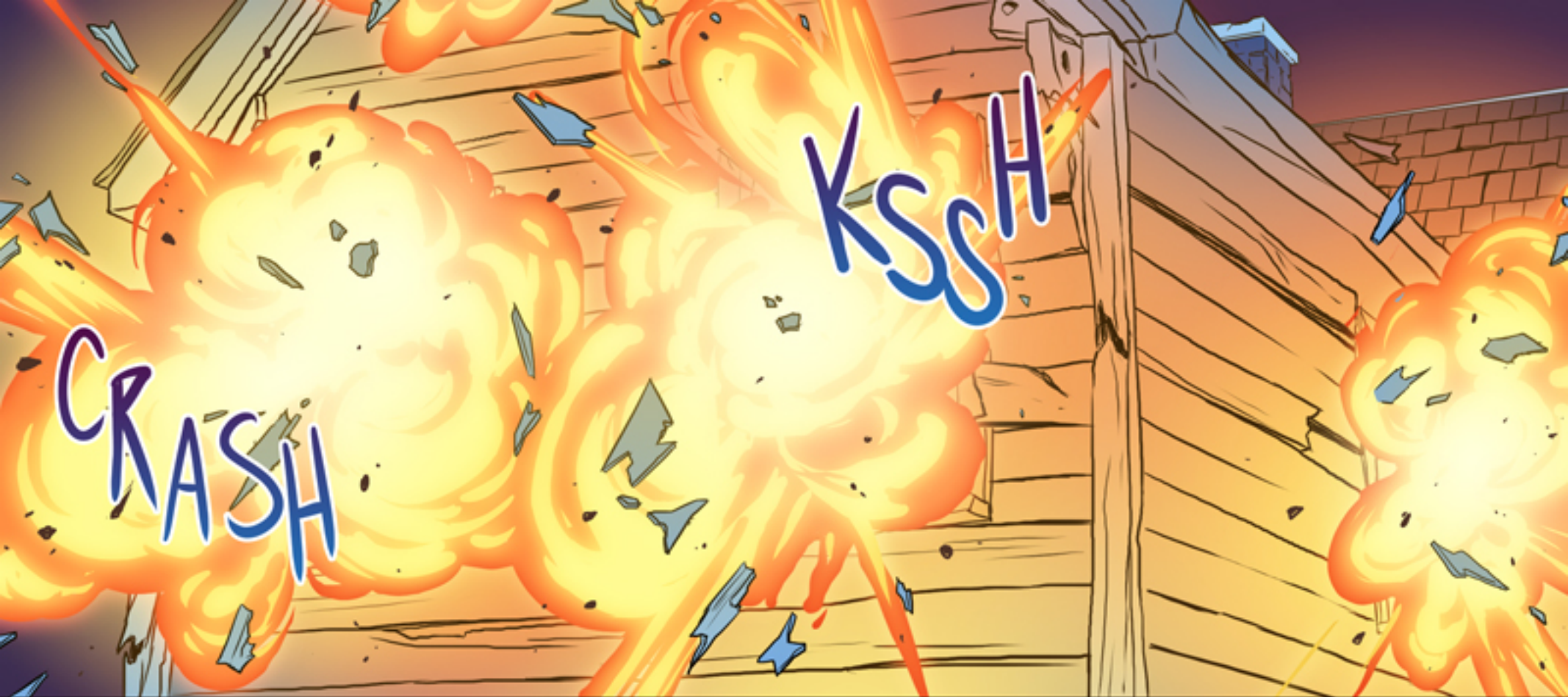
KA
CLICK

BOOM





BOOOM





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