

*LAST TIME...*







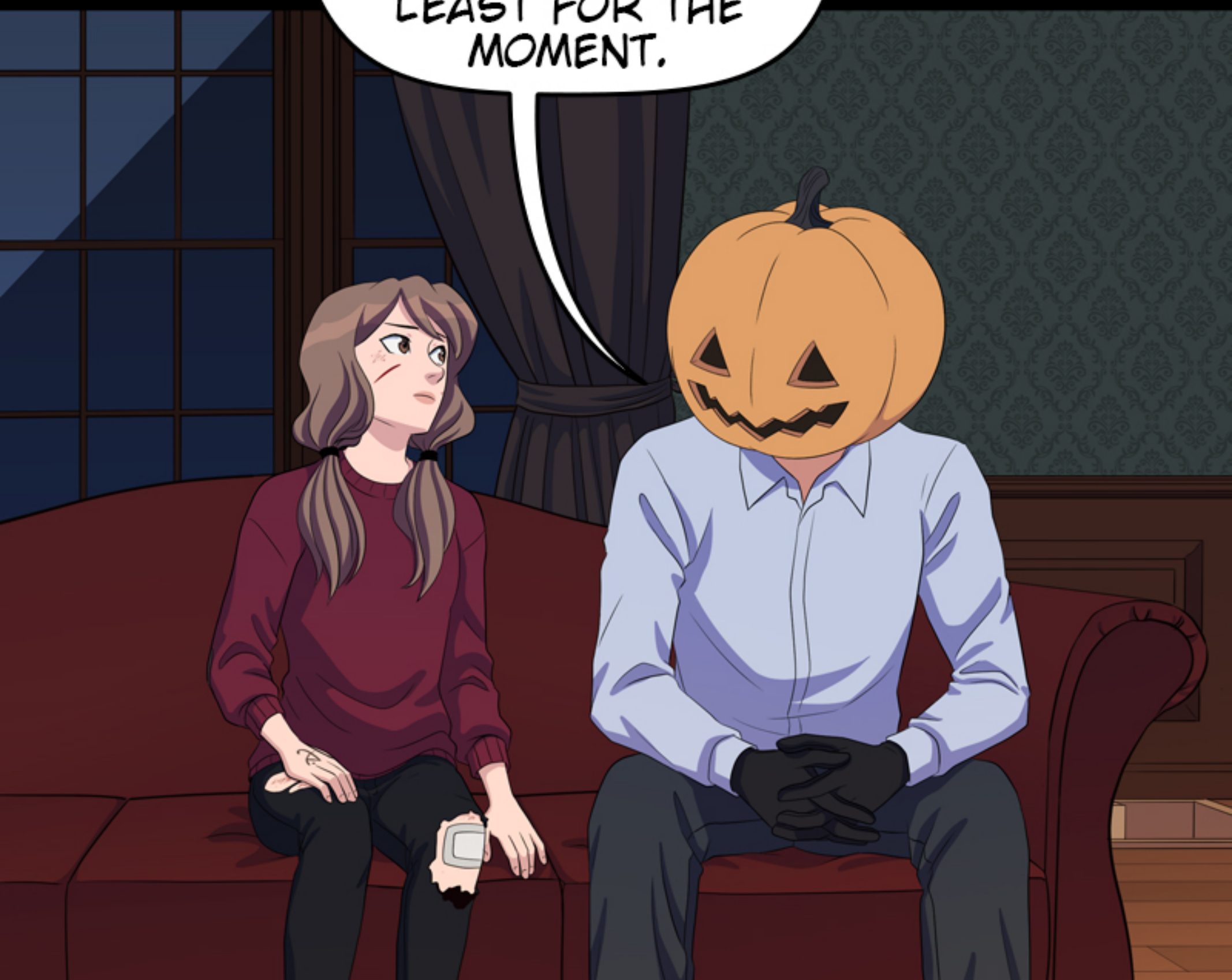


ELLIE, THEY  
THINK YOU'RE  
ALICE!

WHAT?



SHE LENT  
YOU SOME OF  
HER POWER TONIGHT.  
IT WOULD SEEM OUR  
GOALS ALIGN, AT  
LEAST FOR THE  
MOMENT.







I'M NOT  
SUGGESTING  
WE TRUST HER, BUT  
THIS MAY BE SOMETHING  
WE CAN USE TO OUR  
ADVANTAGE.



MAYBE...



HMM...IT  
WILL TAKE SOME  
TIME FOR THE UNIT TO  
REACH A USABLE  
STATE.







WE SHOULD  
INFORM *OUR*  
*PATRONS.*







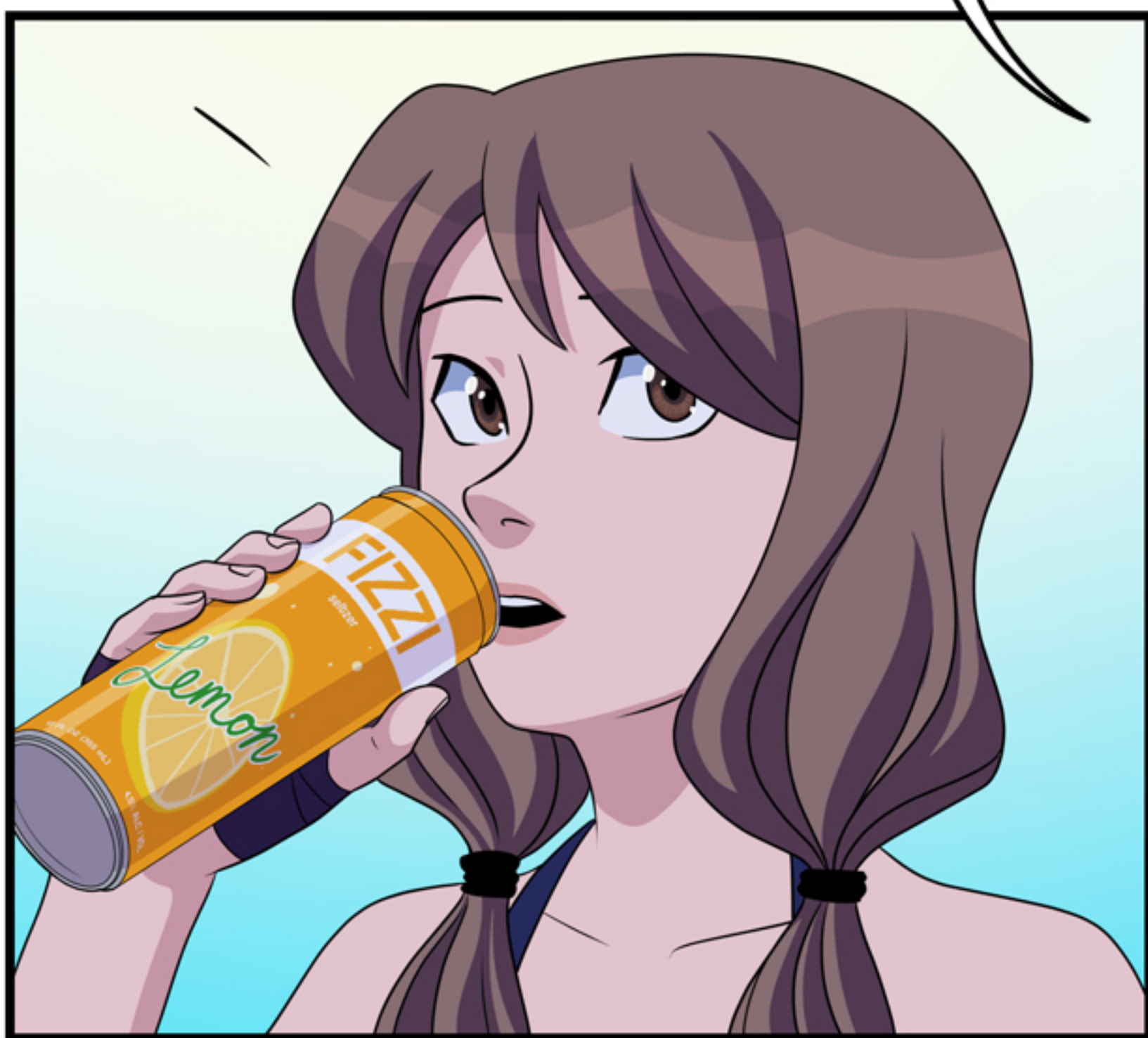
PART 10

THE VIOLENT BLUE





OK,  
I'LL ADMIT  
IT.

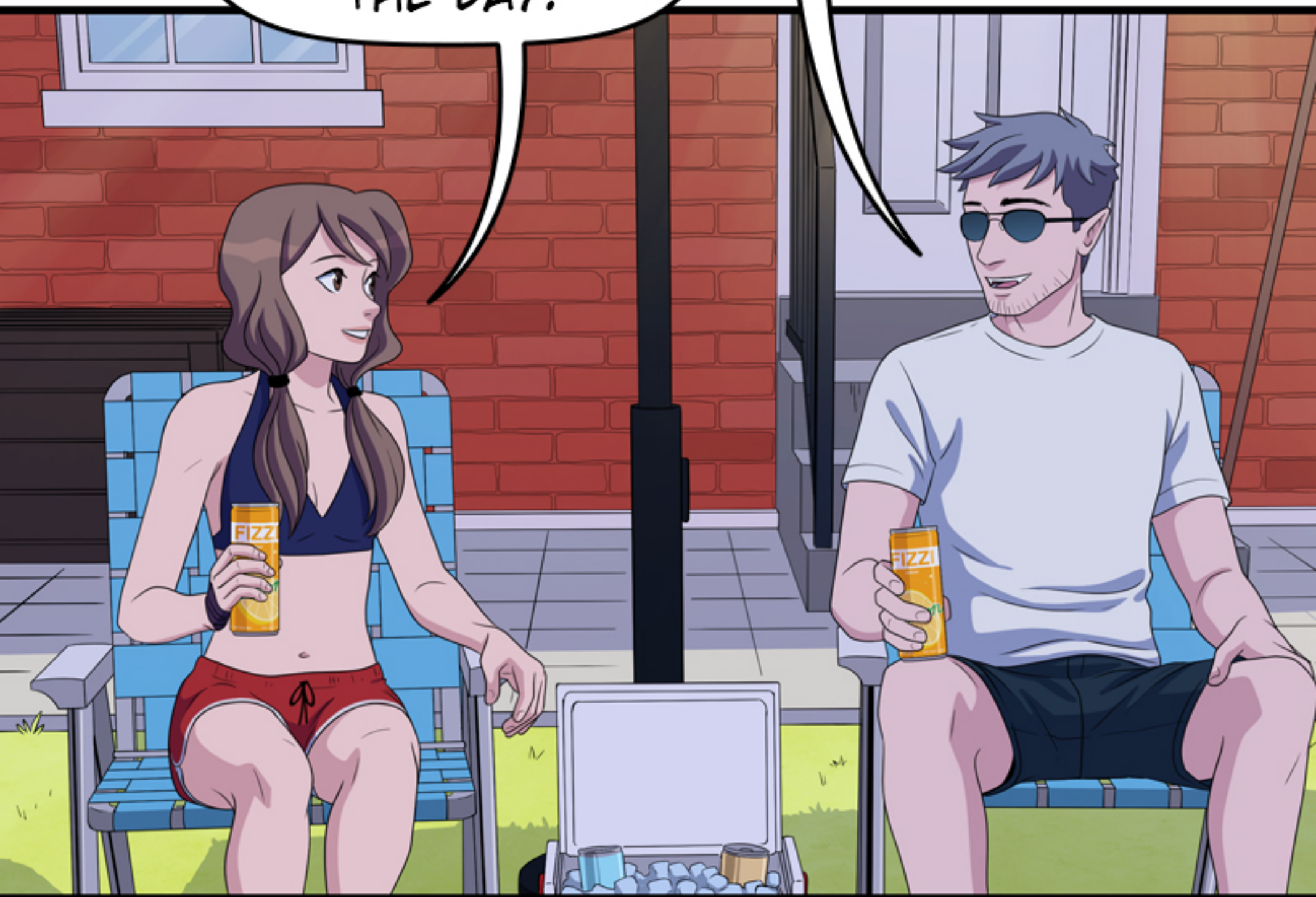


I'M GLAD  
YOU TALKED ME  
INTO THIS.

SEE?



I TOLD YOU  
WE COULD GET YOU  
OUTSIDE DURING  
THE DAY.



WE JUST



WE SUCH  
HAD TO BE  
CREATIVE.



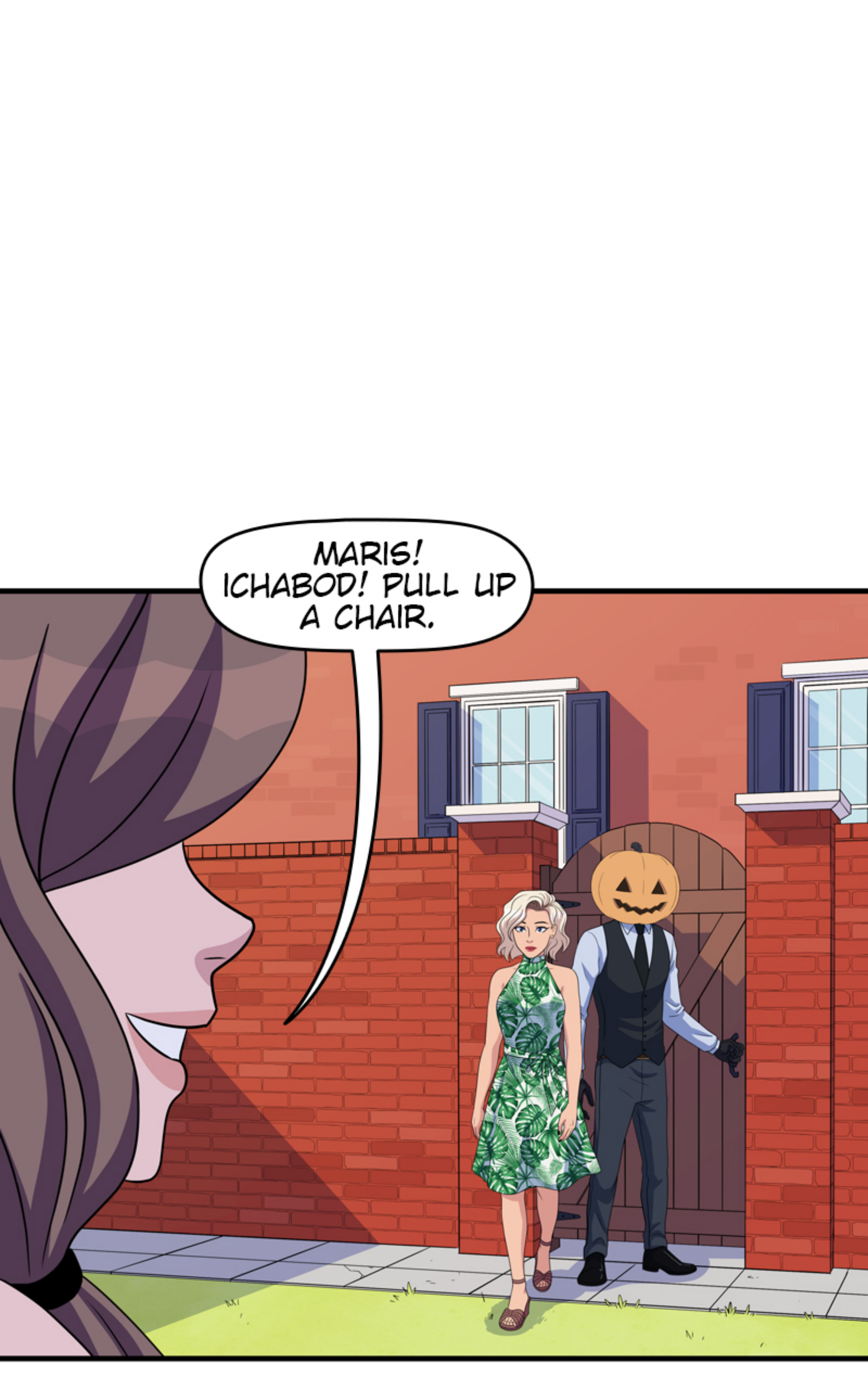


HELLO?

ELLIE?  
DR. STRAUSS?



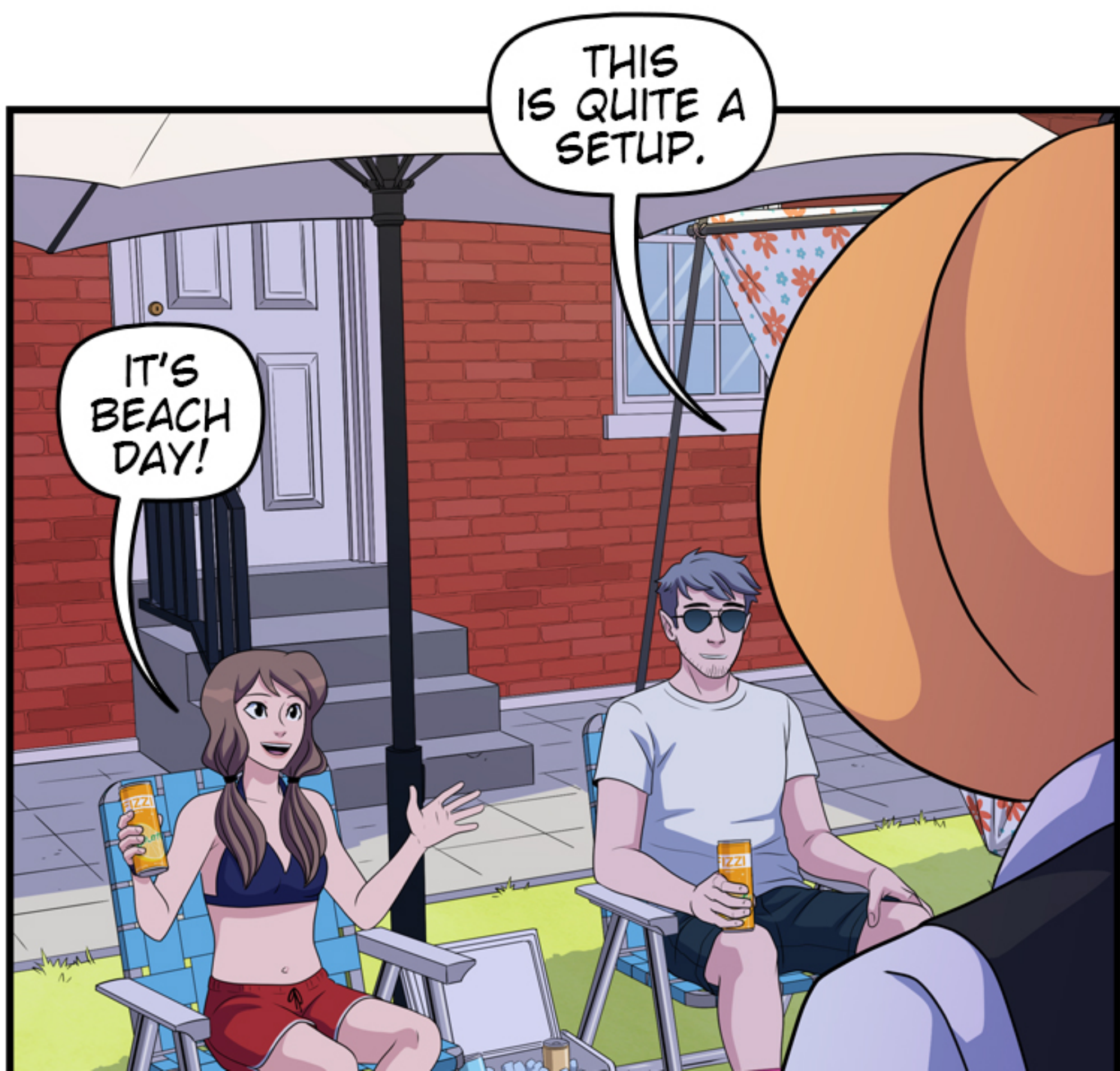




MARIS!  
ICHABOD! PULL UP  
A CHAIR.



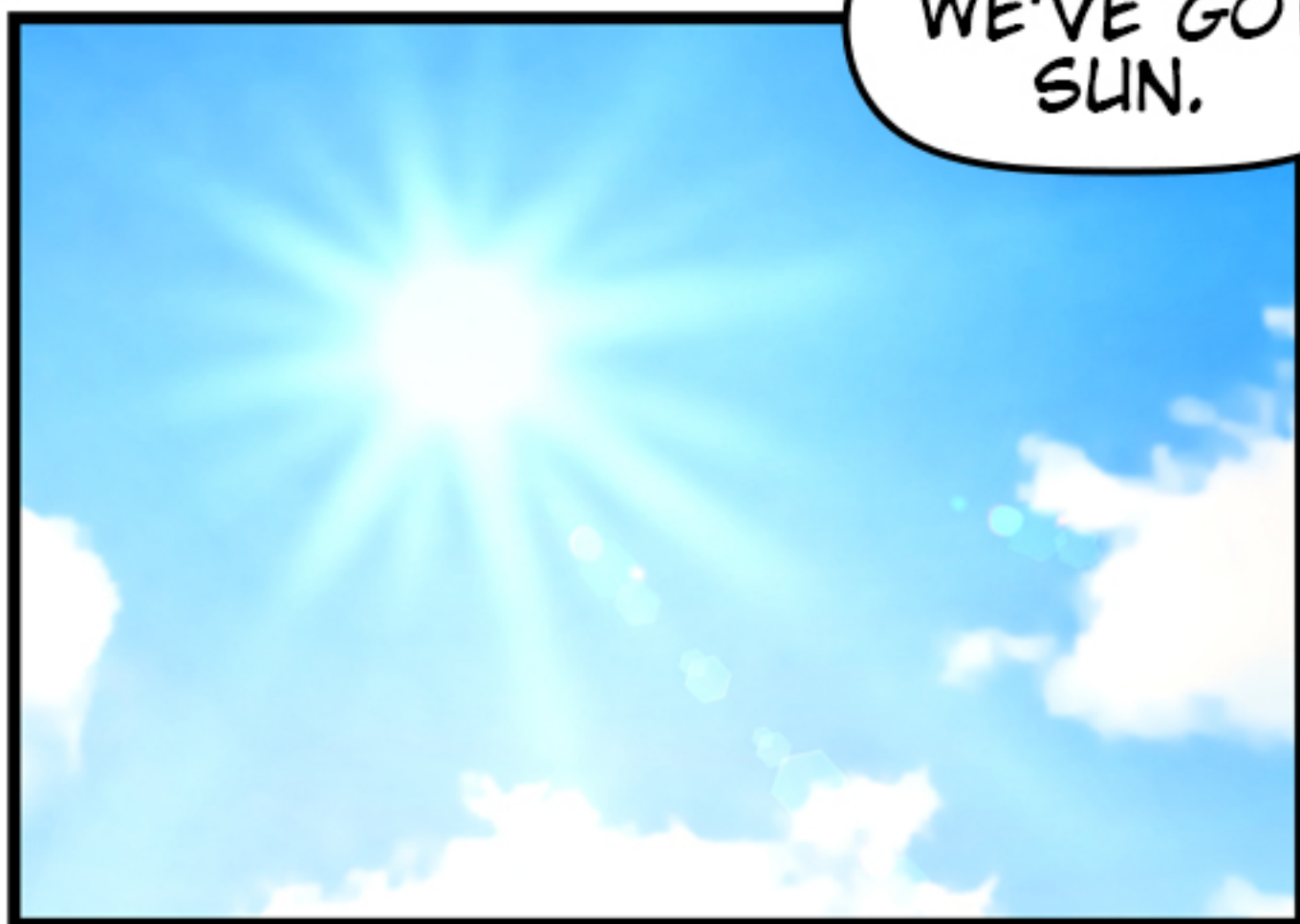




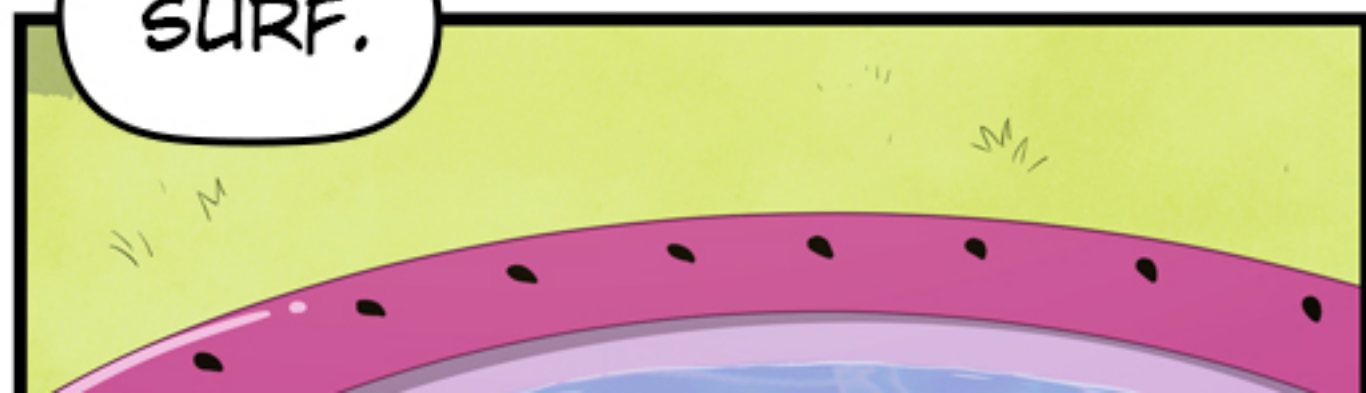




WE'VE GOT  
SUN.

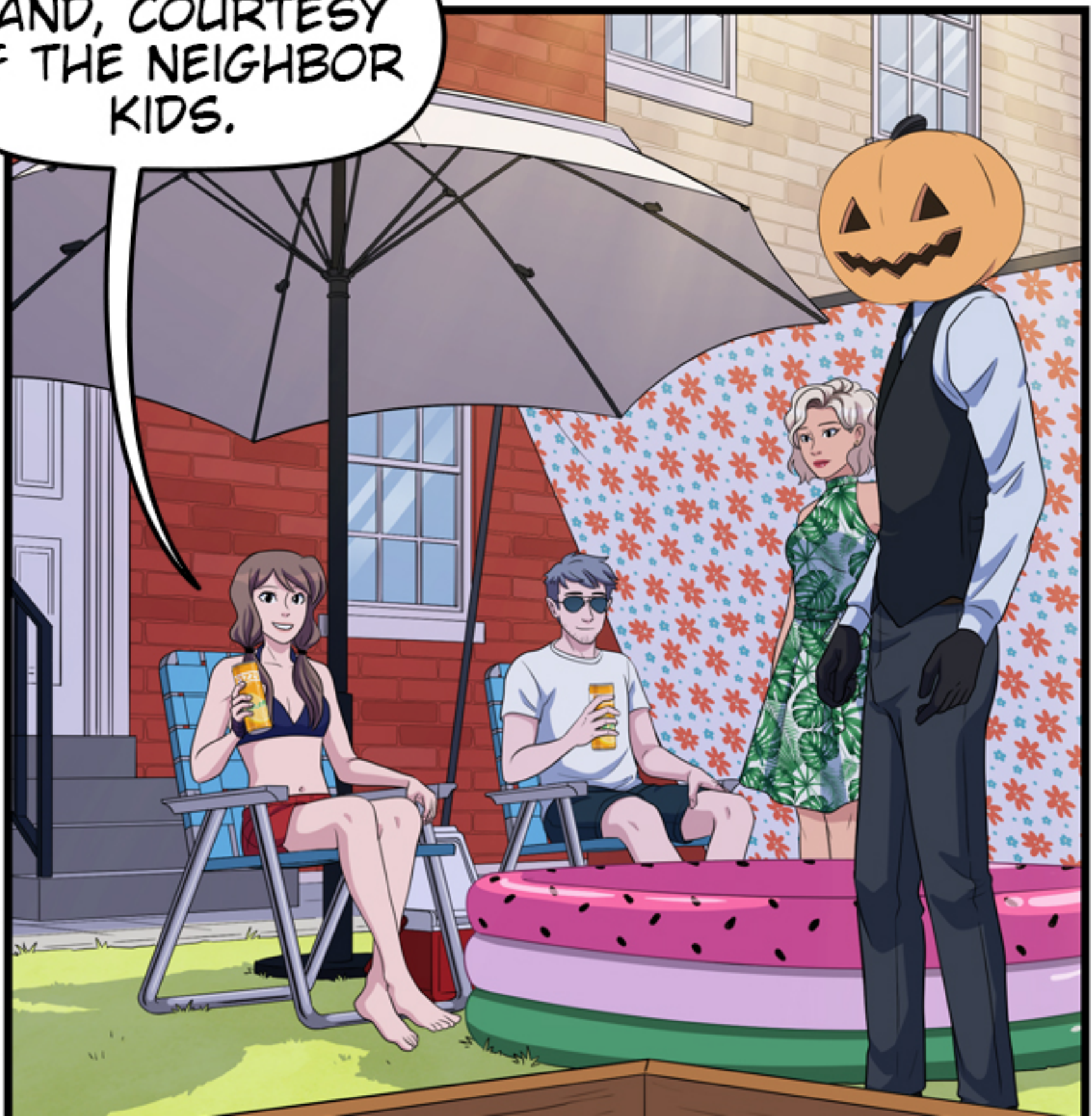


SURF.





AND EVEN  
SAND, COURTESY  
OF THE NEIGHBOR  
KIDS.







I THINK  
CATS POOP IN  
THERE, THOUGH,  
SO...Y'KNOW, BE  
CAREFUL.

WELL, LEMONS  
TO LEMONADE, I  
SUPPOSE.

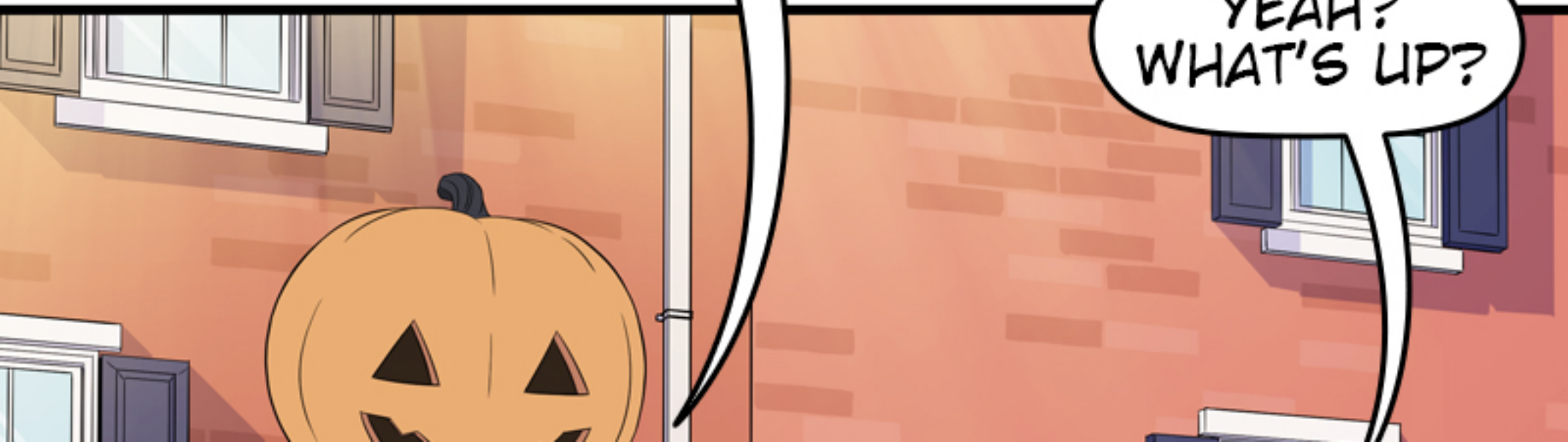
WE HAVE  
THAT, TOO.





I HATE TO  
INTRUDE ON YOUR  
DAY OFF, BUT IT SEEMS  
SOMEONE IS IN NEED OF  
OUR SERVICES.

YEAH?  
WHAT'S UP?







TRUTH BE  
TOLD, I'M NOT  
ENTIRELY SURE. THE  
CLIENT WAS A BIT...  
FLUSTERED.

SAID  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT A STRANGE  
TRANCE AND THE  
SEA...



REGARDLESS,  
SHE'S OFFERED TO  
PAY ALL OUR EXPENSES,  
PLUS **DOUBLE** OUR  
STANDARD RATE



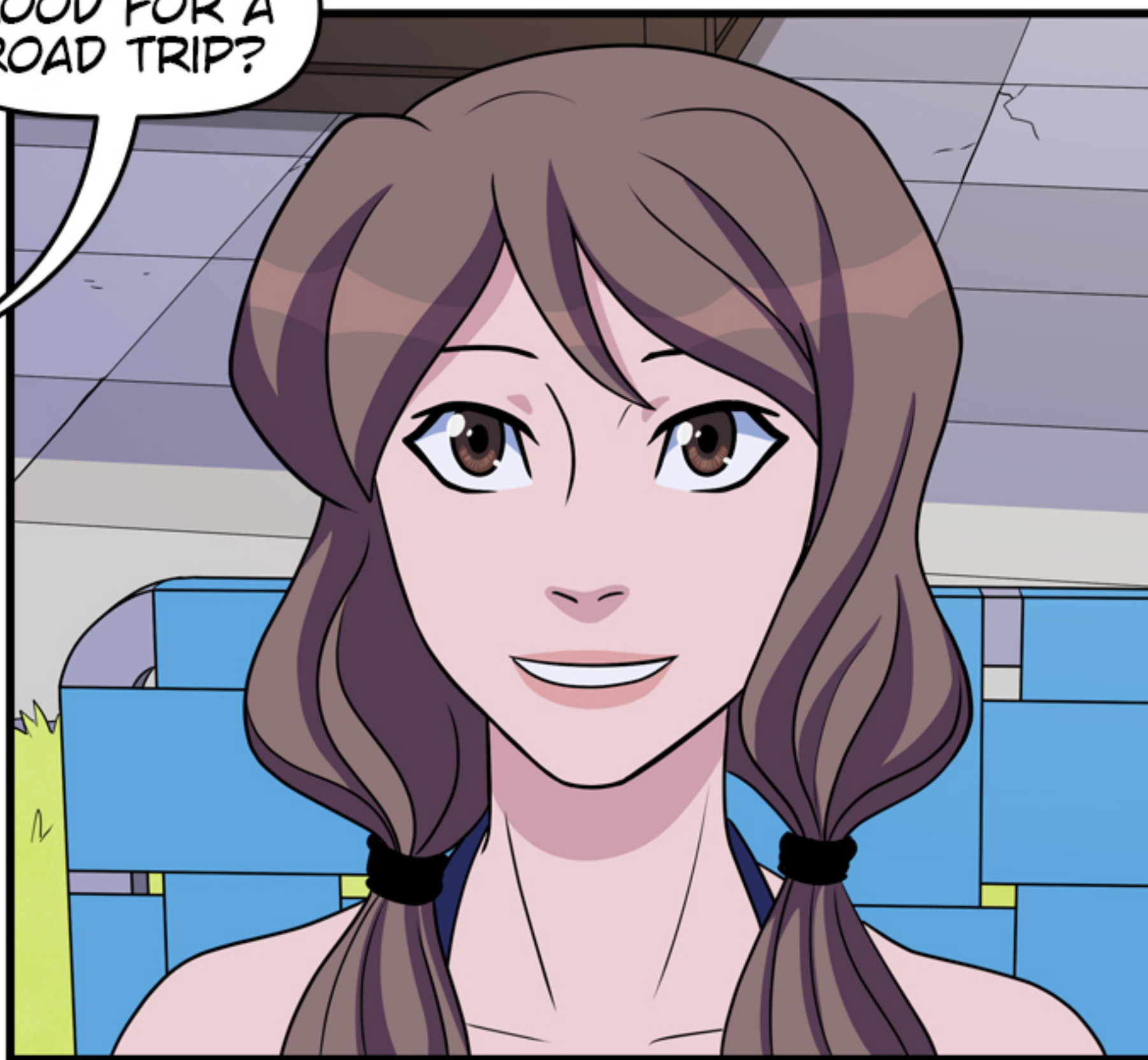
STANDARD RATE  
IF WE MEET HER  
TODAY.

WHAT  
DO YOU  
SAY...



IN THE

...IN THE  
MOOD FOR A  
ROAD TRIP?





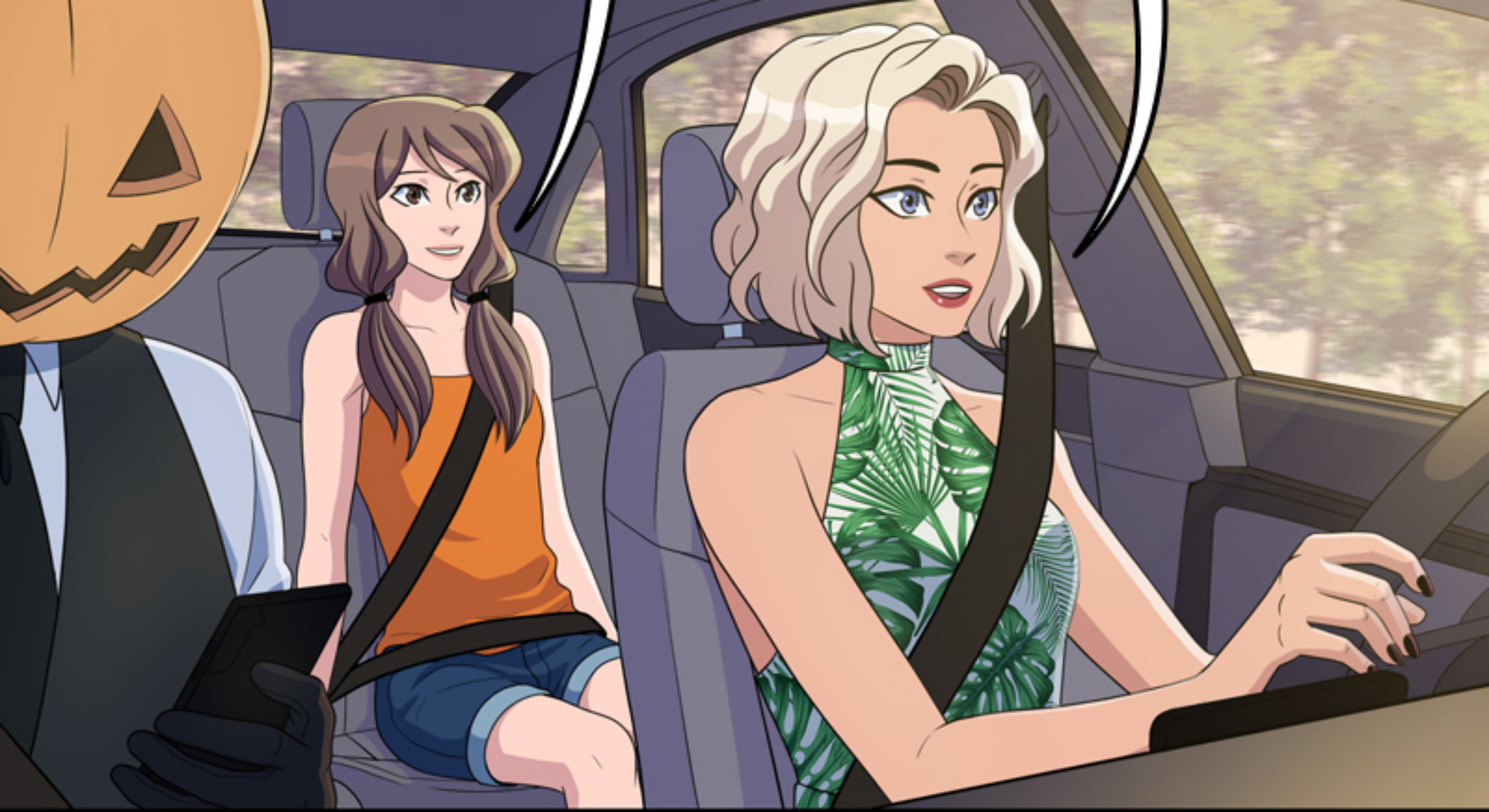




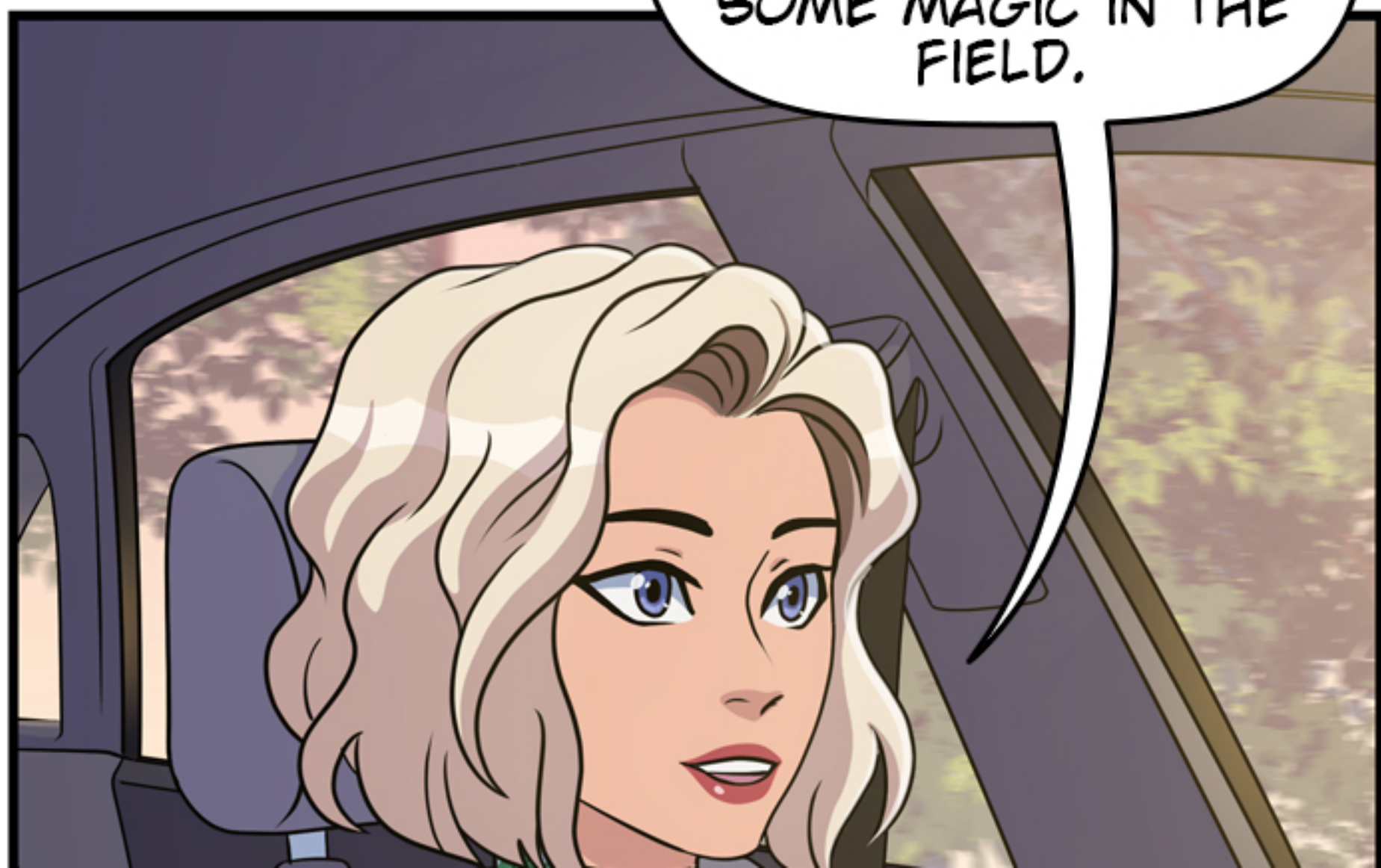
THANKS FOR  
GIVING US A RIDE,  
MARIS.

IT'S NO  
TROUBLE, DEAR. I  
NEEDED A CHANGE OF  
SCENERY.

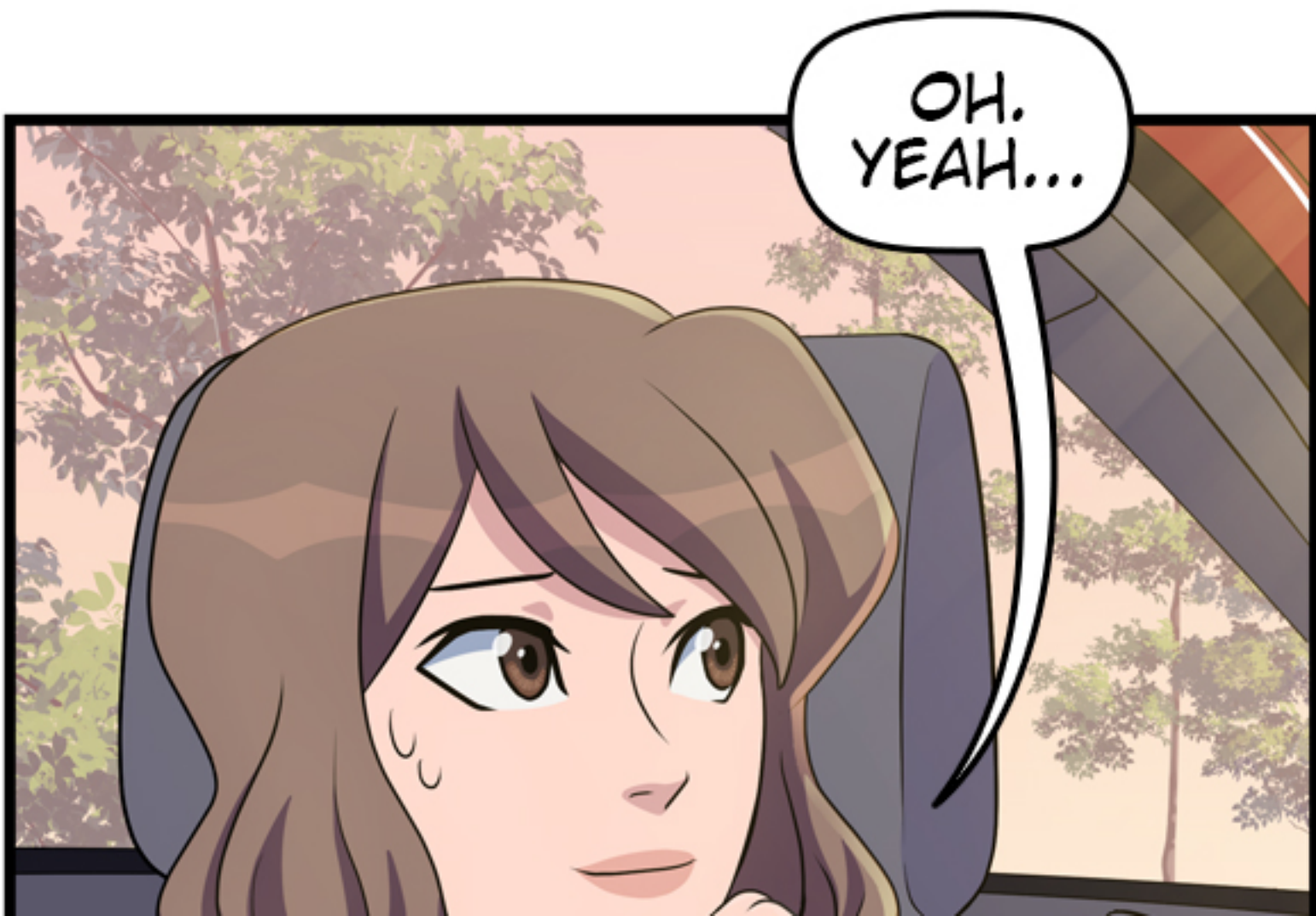




BESIDES, THIS  
IS THE PERFECT  
OPPORTUNITY TO TRY  
SOME MAGIC IN THE  
FIELD.











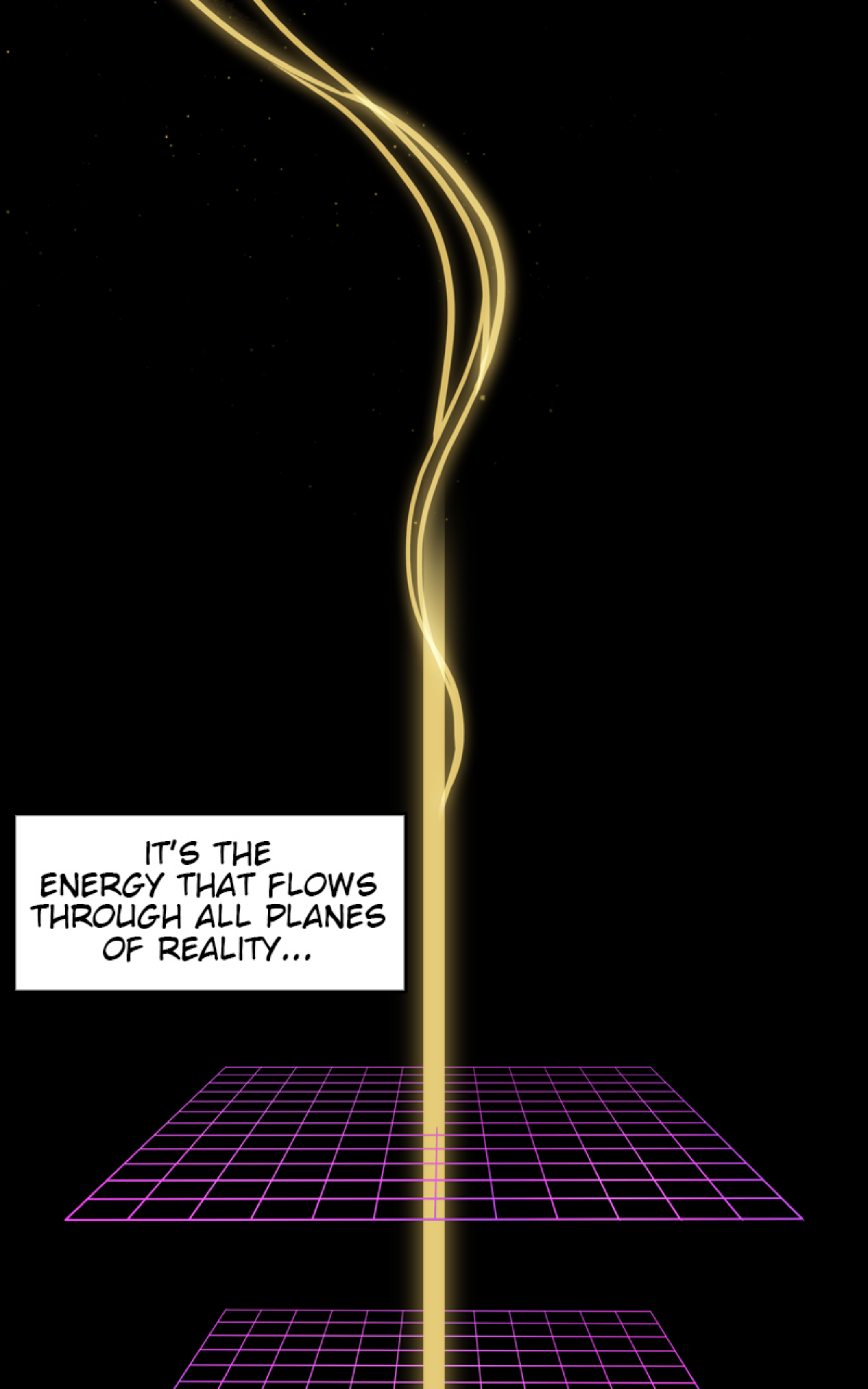
***EARLIER THAT  
WEEK...***



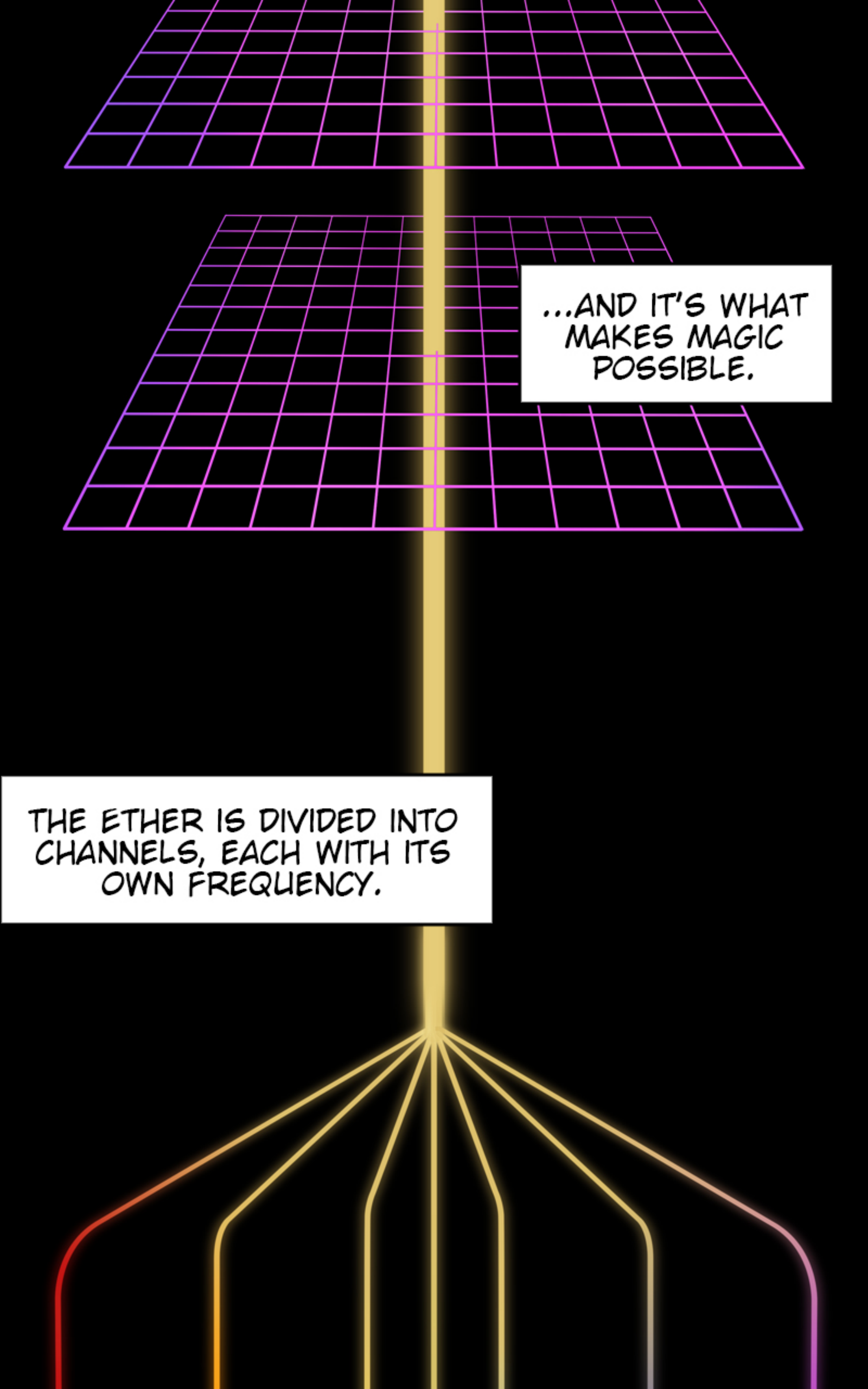
*THE ETHER.*

I'M SURE YOU'VE  
HEARD THAT TERM  
BEFORE.



A glowing yellow energy stream flows vertically through the center of the image. It starts as a thin line at the bottom, widens into a thick, wavy column in the middle, and then splits into several thin, curved lines at the top. Two purple grid planes, one above and one below the main energy column, represent different planes of reality. The background is black with small, faint yellow particles floating around.

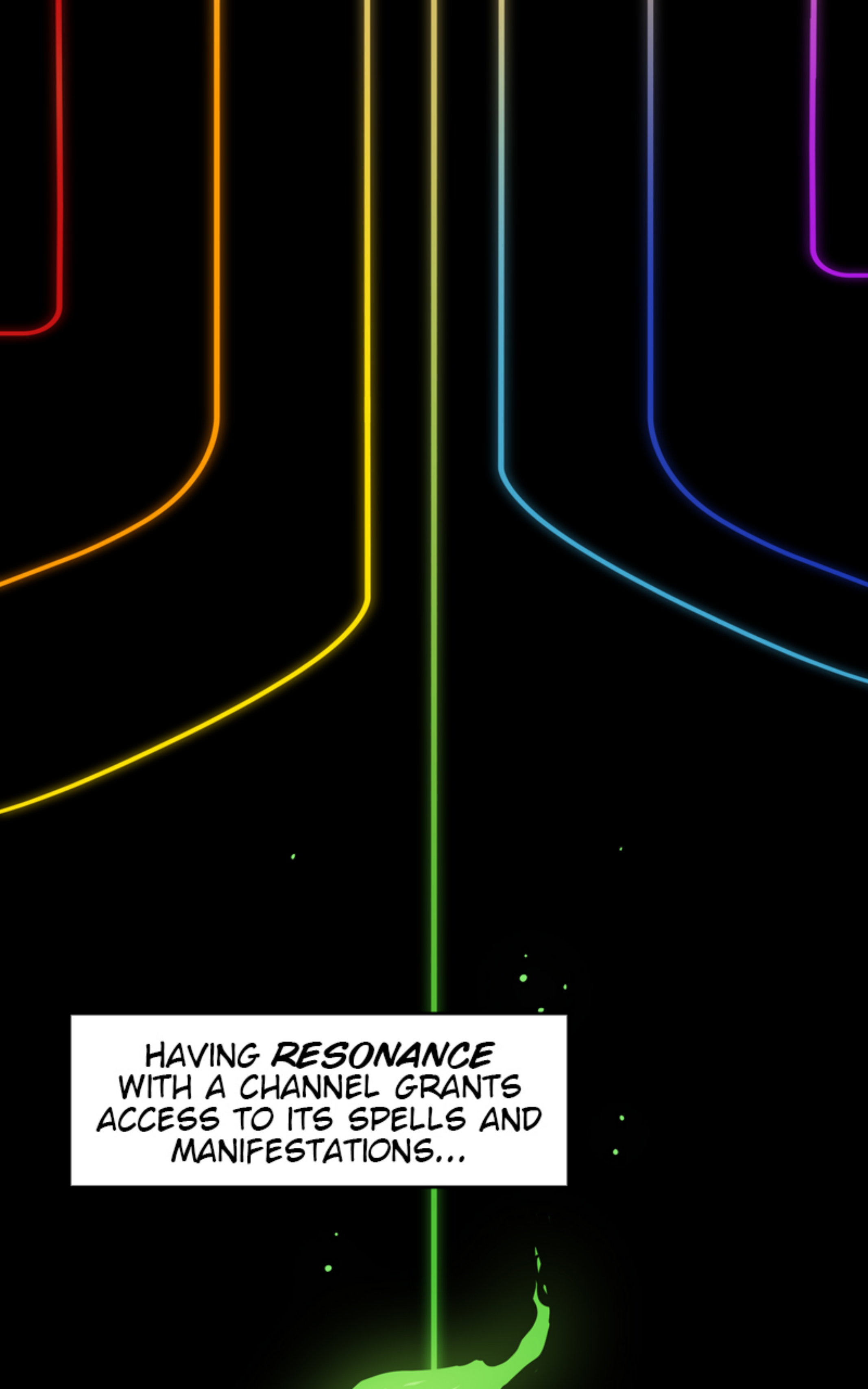
IT'S THE  
ENERGY THAT FLOWS  
THROUGH ALL PLANES  
OF REALITY...



...AND IT'S WHAT  
MAKES MAGIC  
POSSIBLE.

THE ETHER IS DIVIDED INTO  
CHANNELS, EACH WITH ITS  
OWN FREQUENCY.



The background is black with several glowing, curved lines in red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. A white rectangular box is positioned in the lower-left area, containing text. At the bottom center, there is a bright green, irregular, flame-like or liquid-like shape.

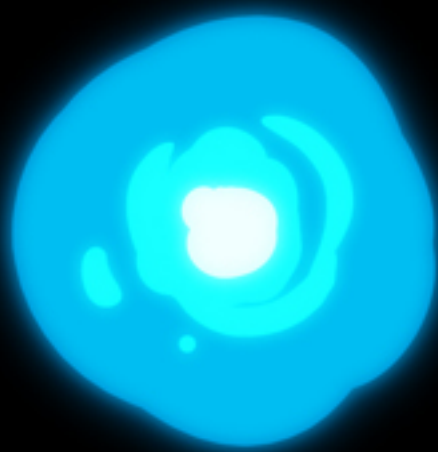
HAVING *RESONANCE*  
WITH A CHANNEL GRANTS  
ACCESS TO ITS SPELLS AND  
MANIFESTATIONS...



...THOUGH SOME  
TRAINING MAY BE  
NEEDED TO UNLOCK  
THE FULL RANGE.



AVERAGE HUMANS  
HAVE LITTLE TO NO  
RESONANCE.



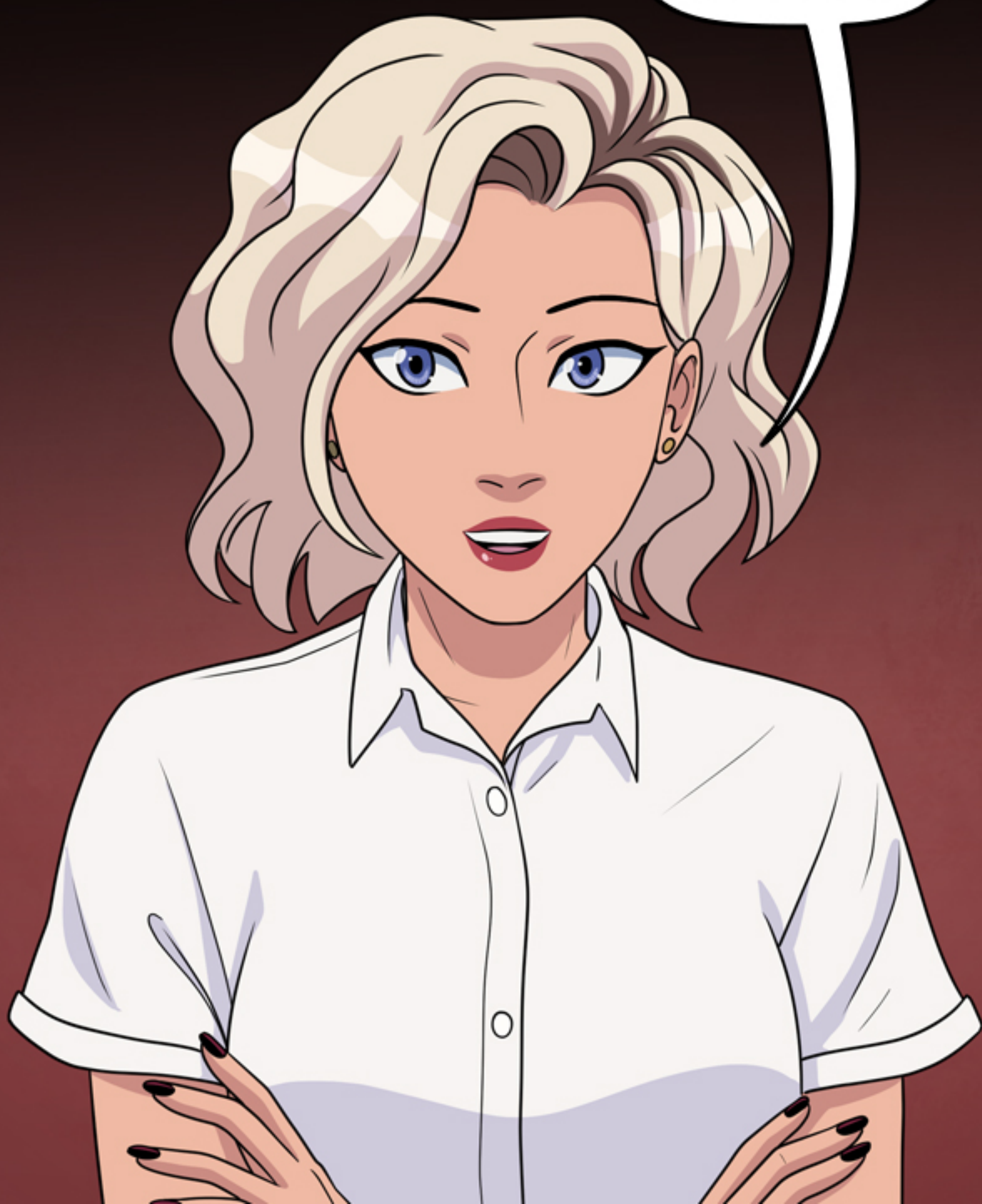
PSYCHICS CAN CAST  
ALONG ONE CHANNEL.



AND WITCHES AND  
WARLOCKS HAVE INNATE  
RESONANCE ACROSS  
THE ETHER.



ANY  
QUESTIONS  
SO FAR?



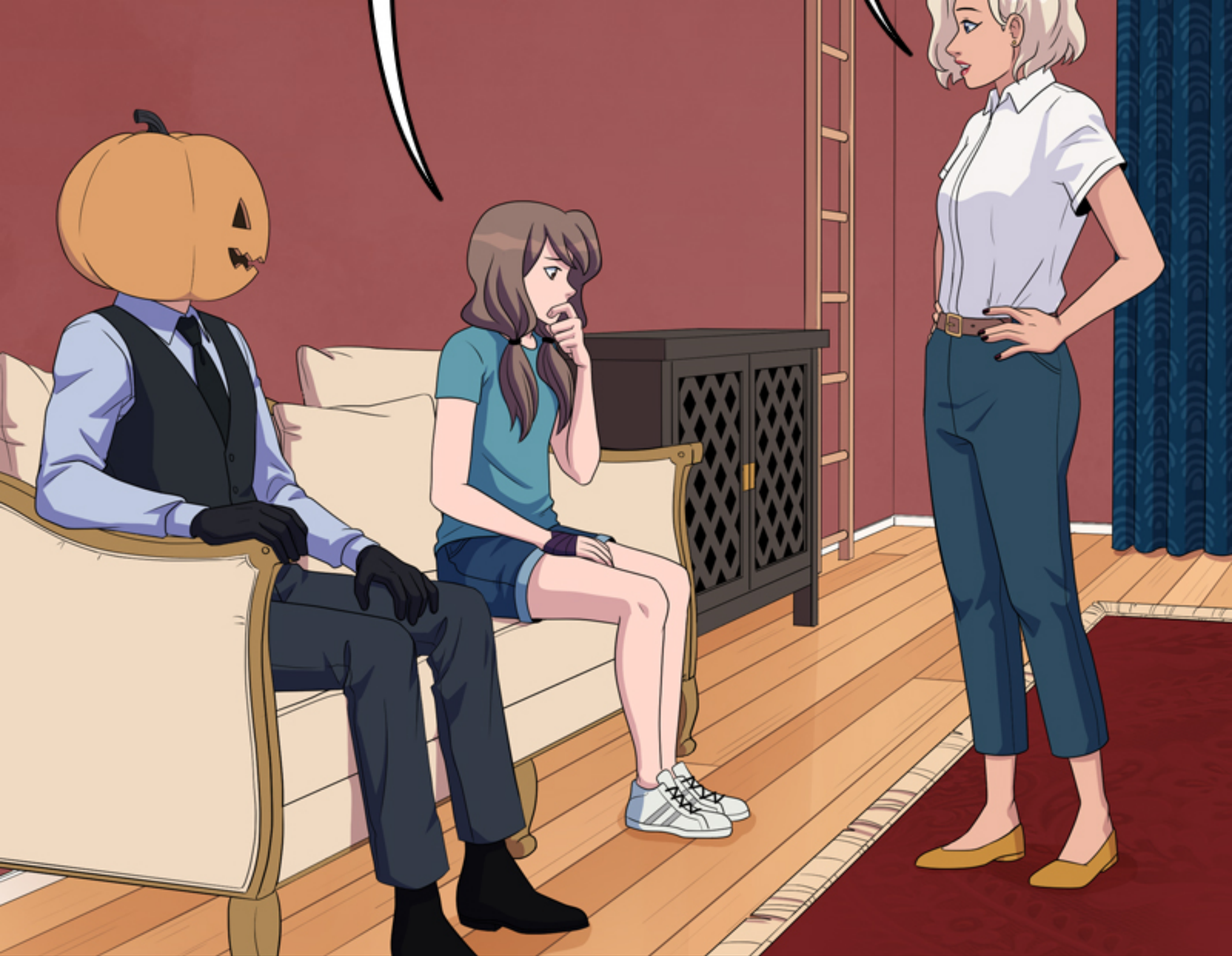


SO IF ALICE  
IS SHARING HER  
POWER WITH  
ME...

THAT MEANS  
I MIGHT BE ABLE  
TO USE MAGIC FROM  
OTHER CHANNELS, NOT  
JUST THE ONE THAT  
LETS ME DO FIRE  
HANDS.

I KNEW  
YOU'D CATCH  
ON QUICK.

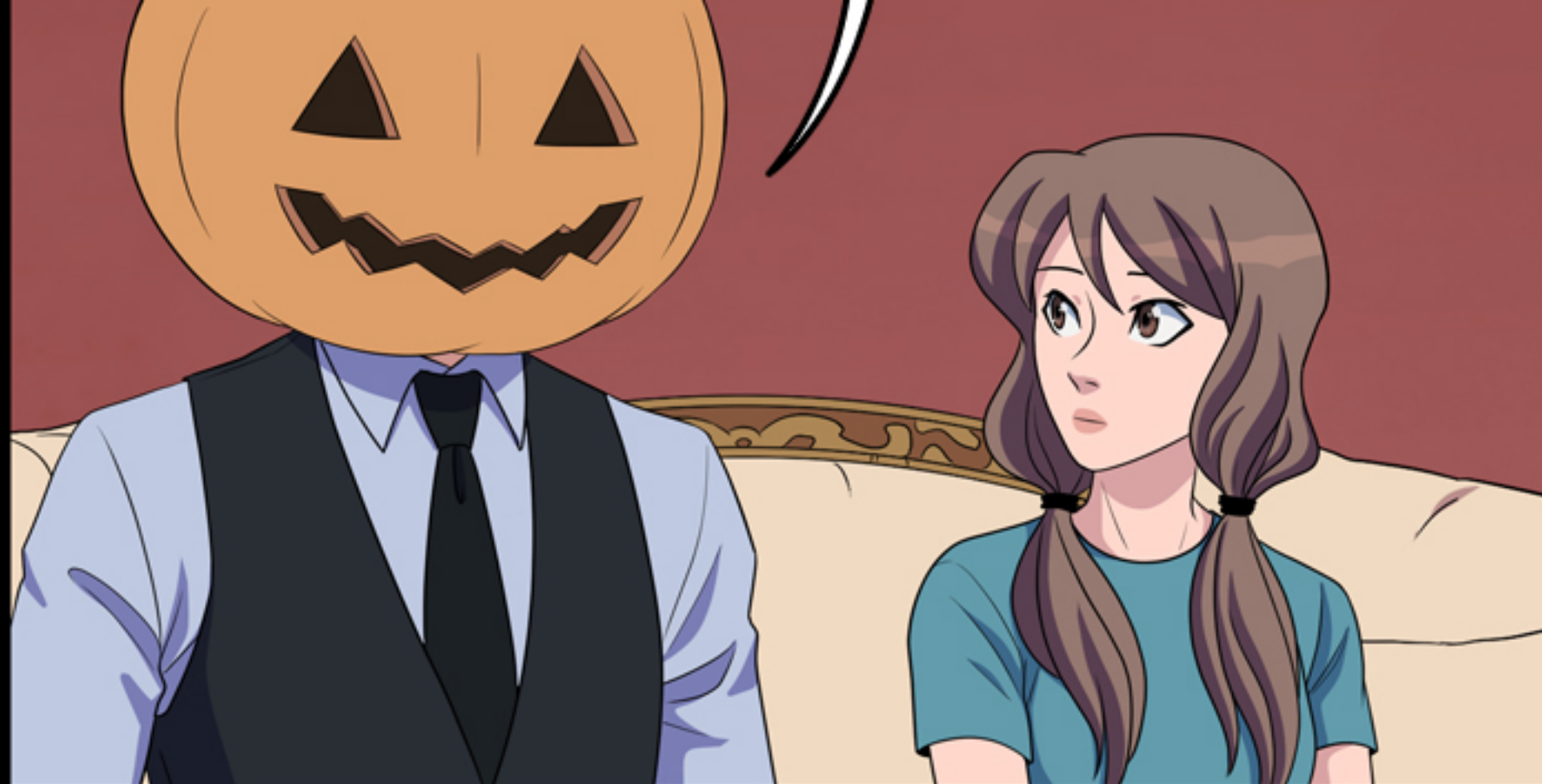




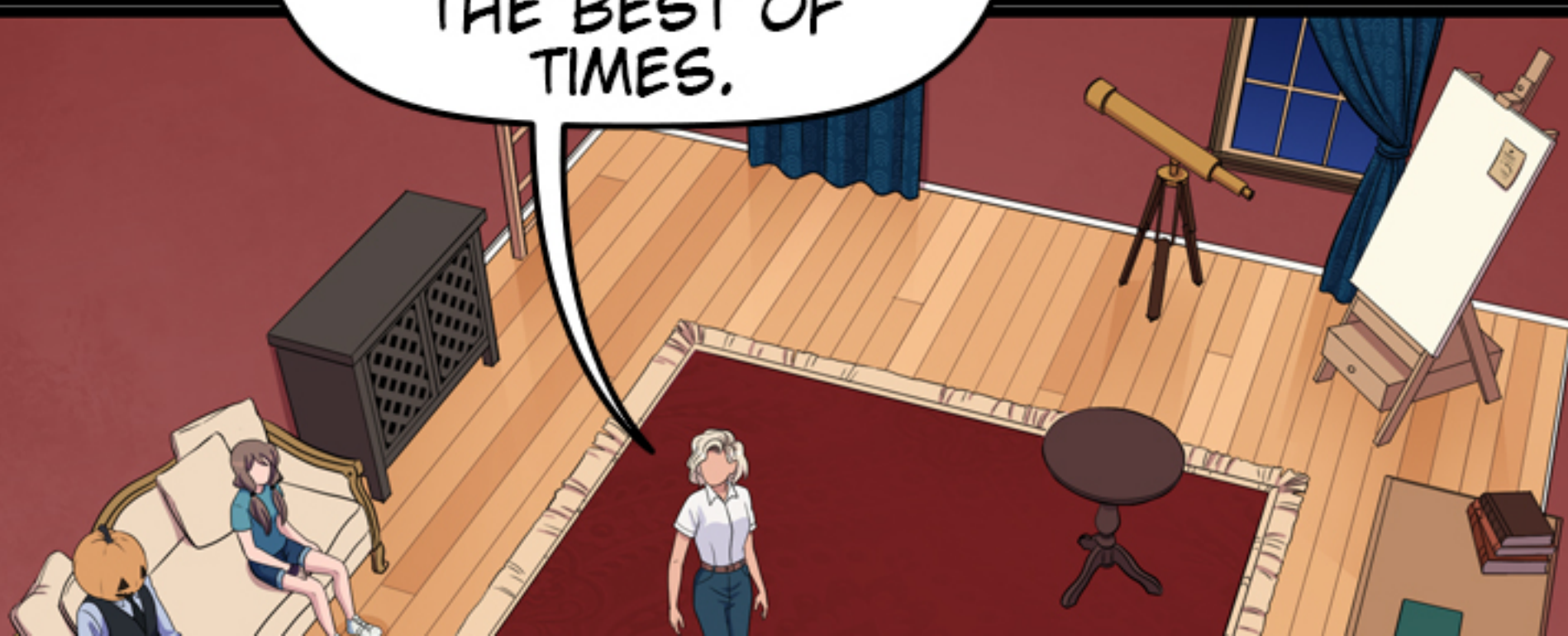
IS THERE A  
WAY TO DETERMINE  
WHICH CHANNELS SHE  
CAN ACCESS?







UNFORTUNATELY,  
TRACING RESONANCE  
IS DIFFICULT AND  
IMPRECISE AT  
THE BEST OF  
TIMES.







GIVEN THE  
CIRCUMSTANCES...





...I THINK A  
HANDS-ON APPROACH  
WOULD BE MORE  
PRACTICAL.

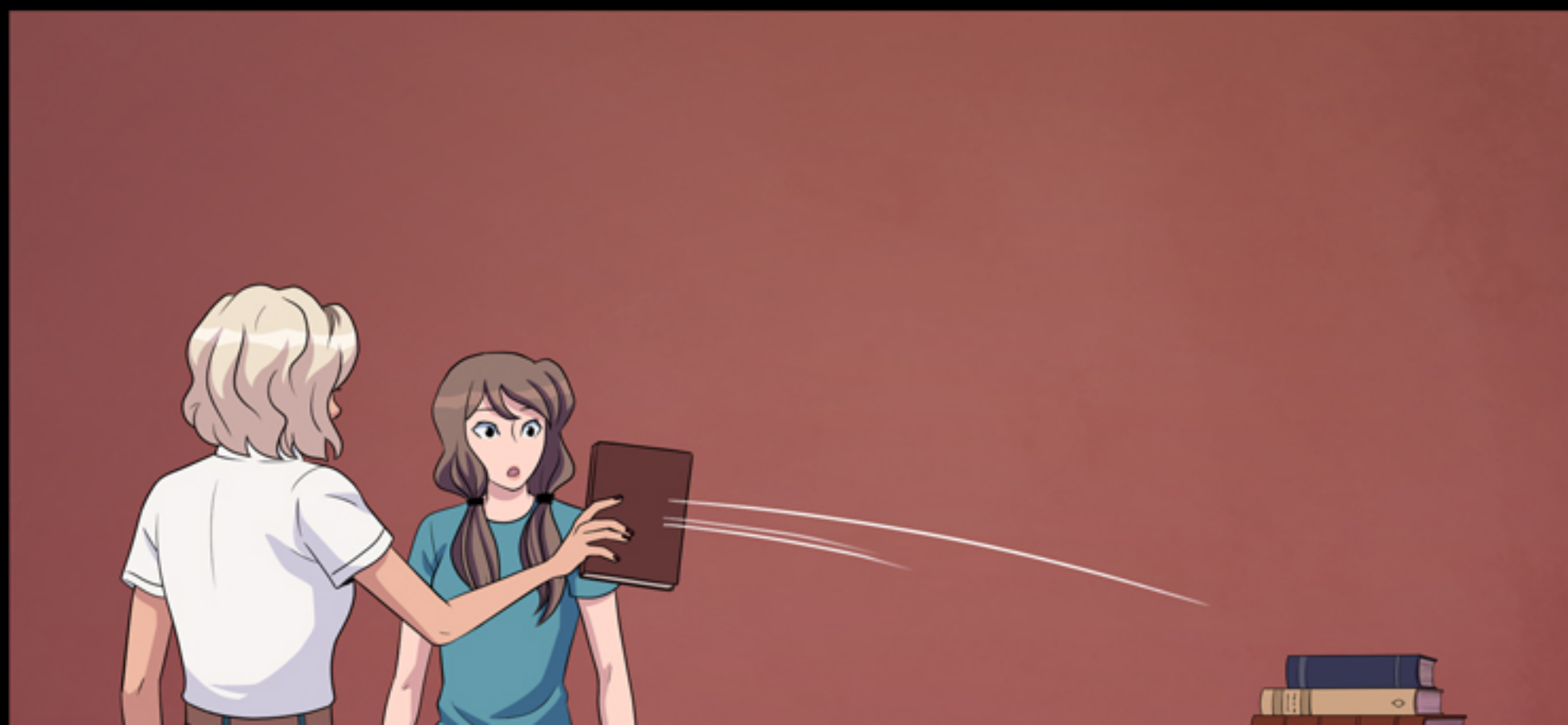






Simple Summon  
(1 igh

Sm  
Levitation (Lig  
Auditory Illusi









~~Simple Summon~~  
Levitation (Light  
Auditory Illusi

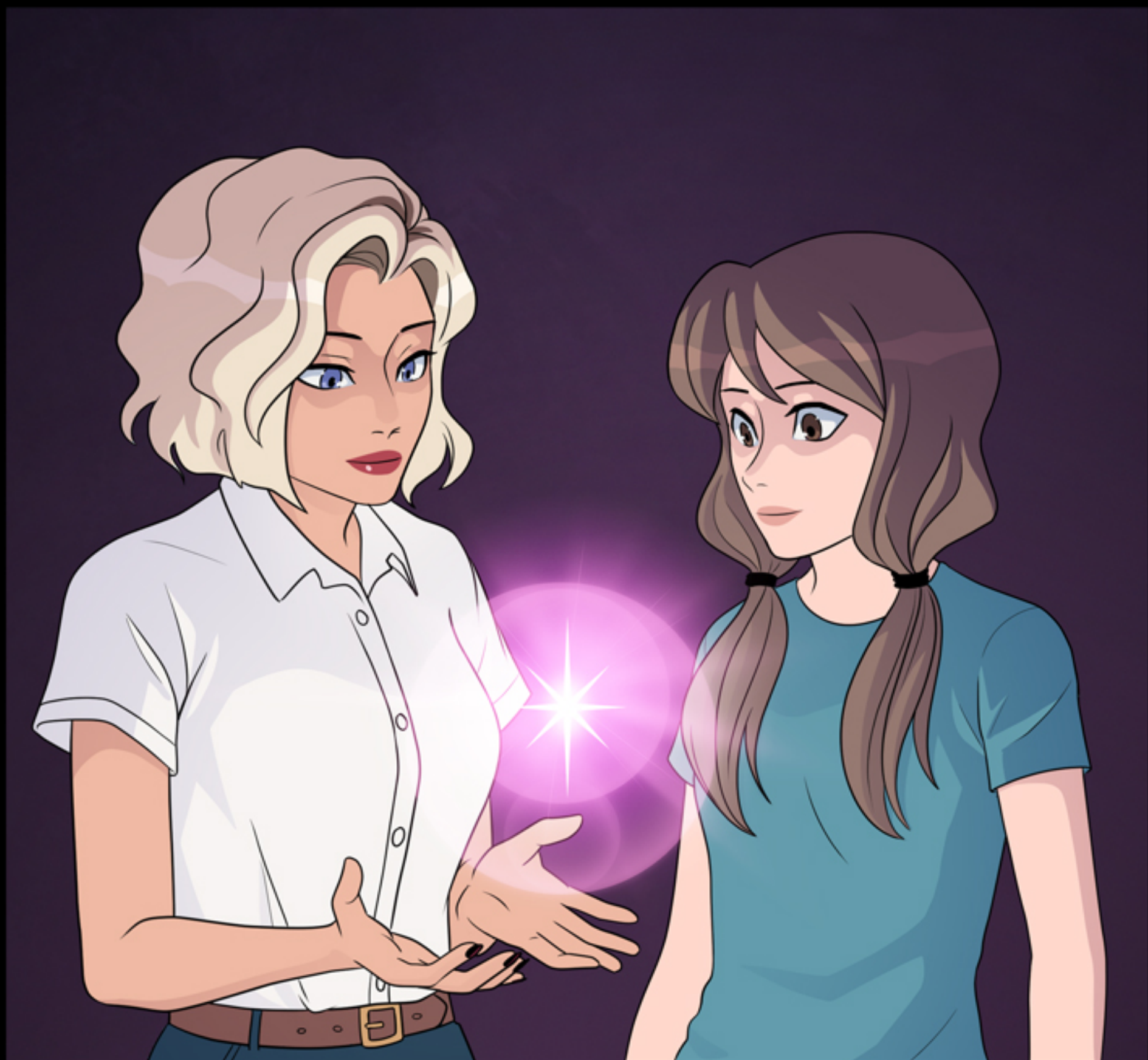






~~Simple Summon~~  
~~Levitation (Light)~~  
~~Auditory Illusion~~  
~~Light~~











~~Levitation~~  
~~Auditory Illusion~~  
~~Mote of Light~~  
~~Color~~

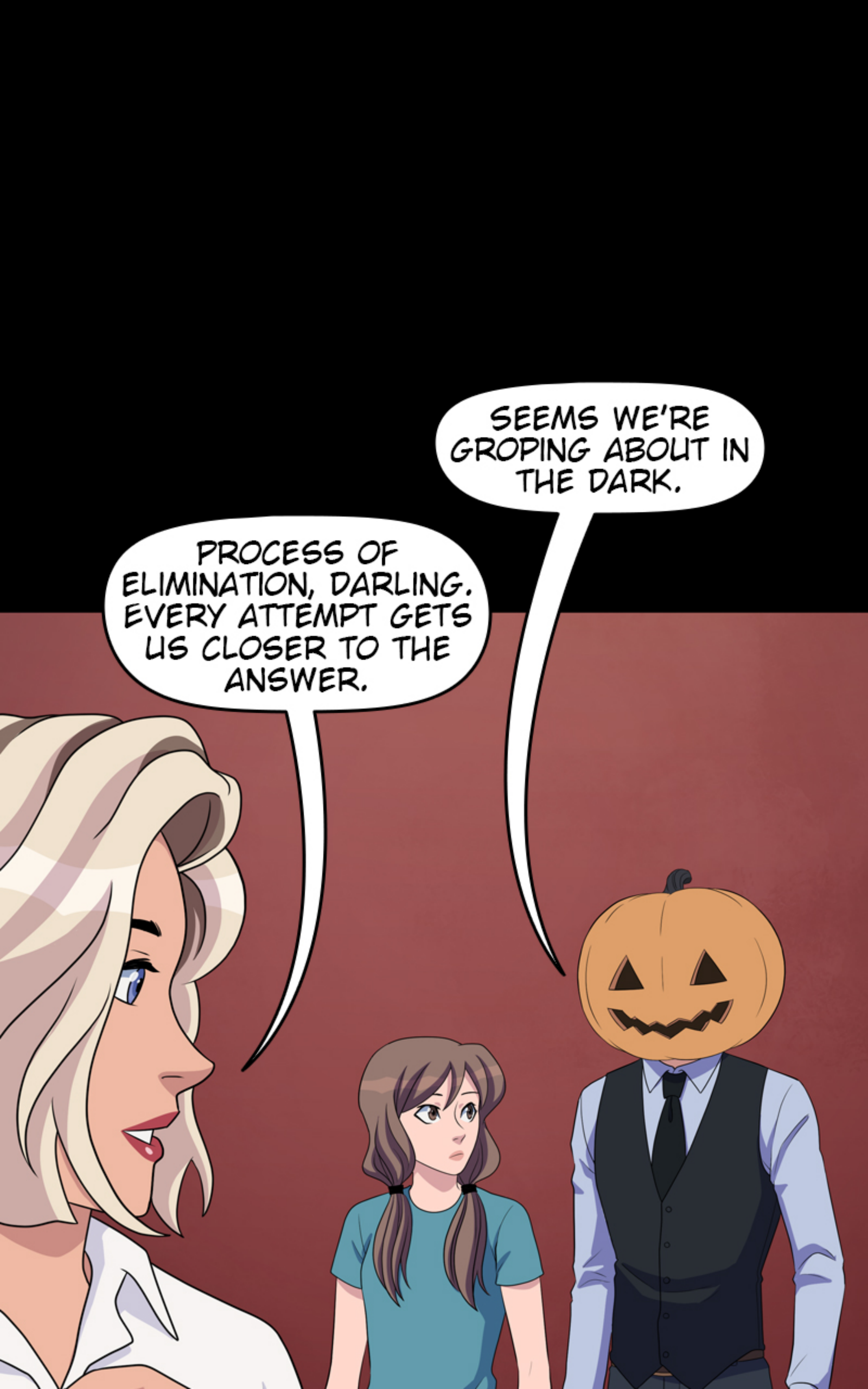


ARE YOU  
SURE YOU DON'T  
HAVE ANYTHING  
SIMPLER?

HMM...IF  
SHE DIDN'T GIVE  
YOU THE BASICS, PERHAPS  
SHE HAS SOMETHING  
RATHER SPECIFIC  
IN MIND...

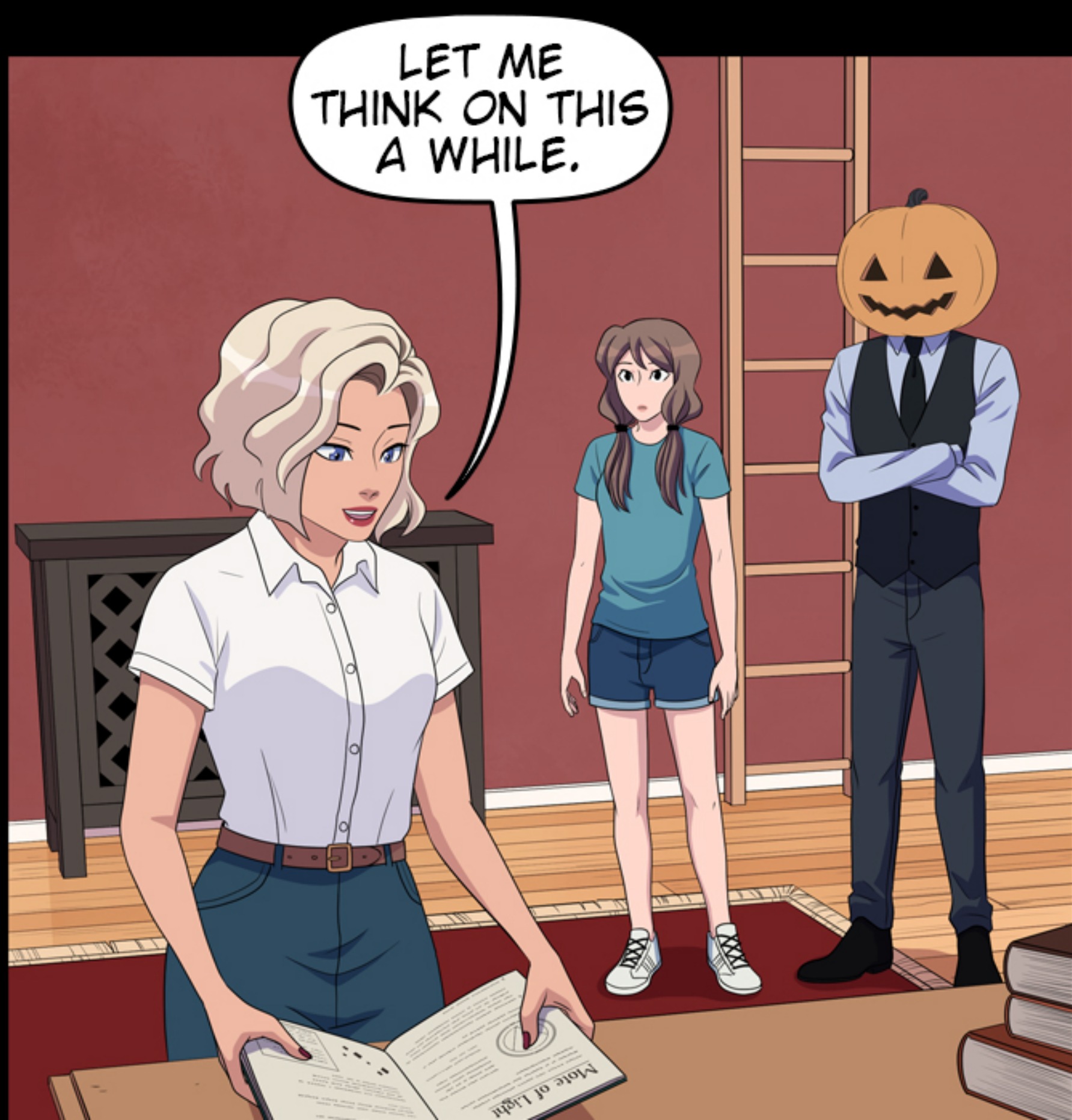




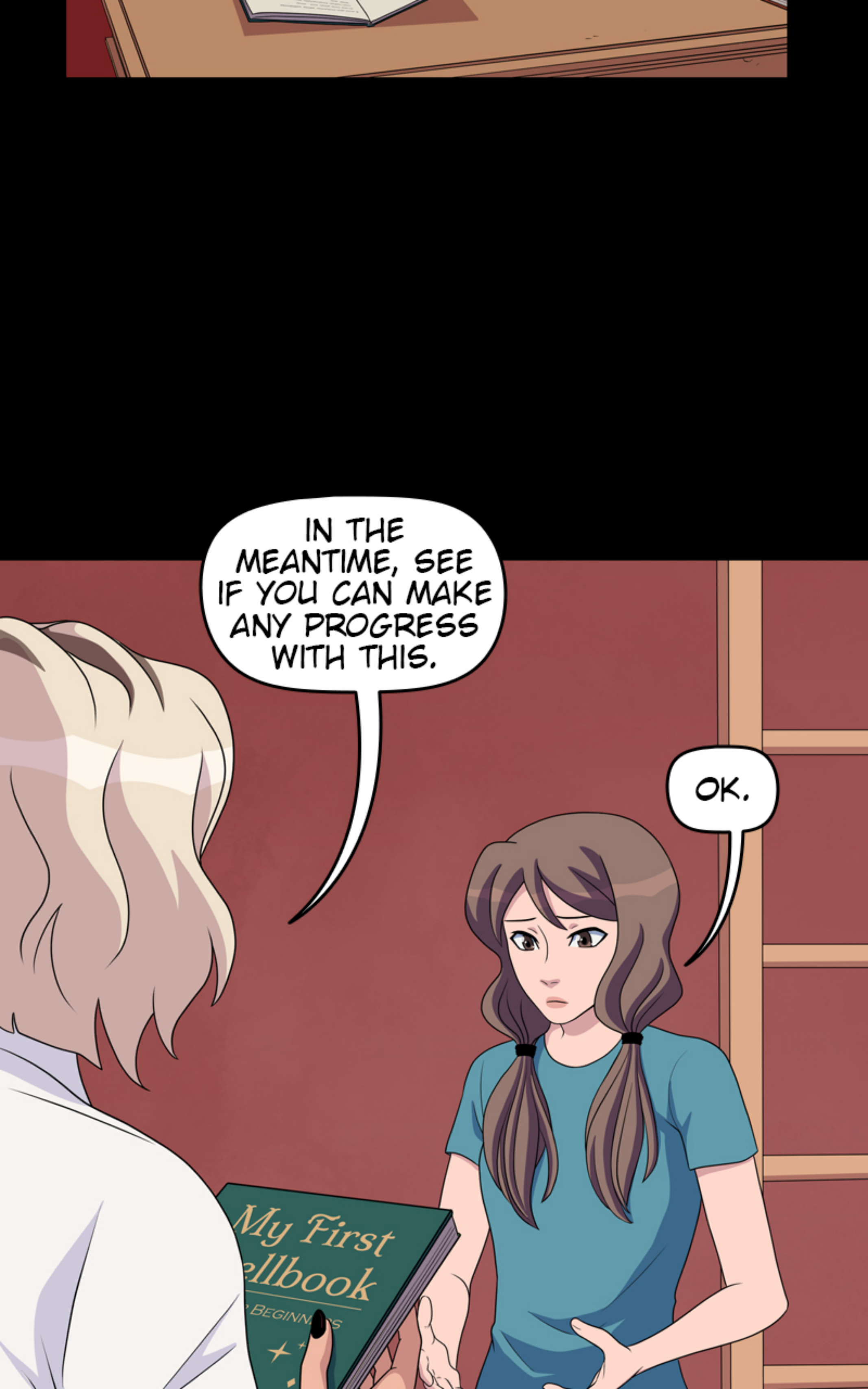
A comic panel featuring three characters against a dark background with a reddish-brown floor. On the left, a blonde woman with blue eyes and red lipstick is shown in profile, wearing a white shirt. In the center, a young woman with brown hair in pigtails and a blue t-shirt looks on with a concerned expression. On the right, a man with a carved jack-o'-lantern head, wearing a light blue shirt, dark tie, and dark vest, speaks. Two speech bubbles are present: one from the blonde woman and one from the pumpkin-headed man.

PROCESS OF  
ELIMINATION, DARLING.  
EVERY ATTEMPT GETS  
US CLOSER TO THE  
ANSWER.

SEEMS WE'RE  
GROPING ABOUT IN  
THE DARK.





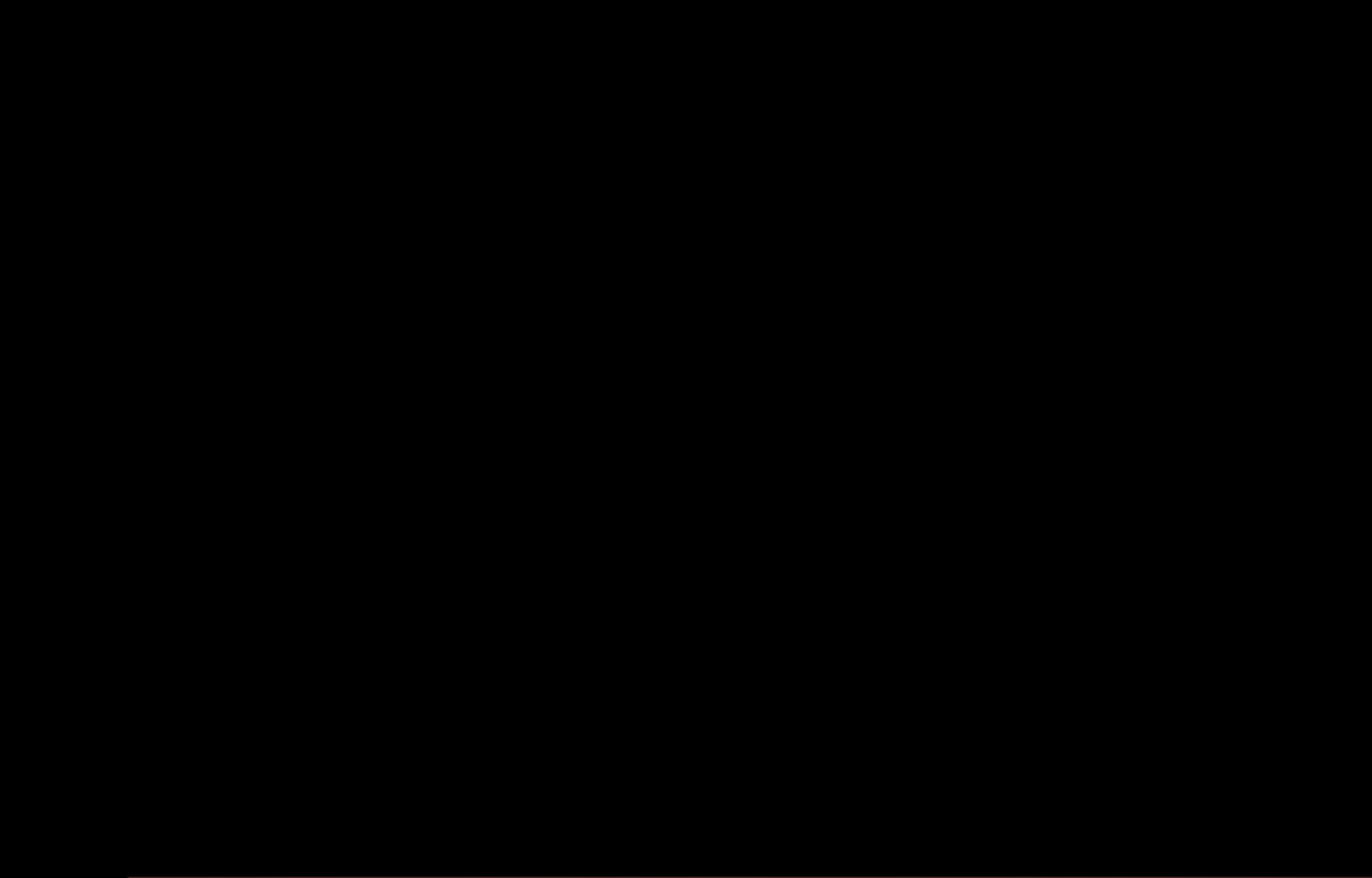


IN THE  
MEANTIME, SEE  
IF YOU CAN MAKE  
ANY PROGRESS  
WITH THIS.

OK.

*My First  
Spellbook*

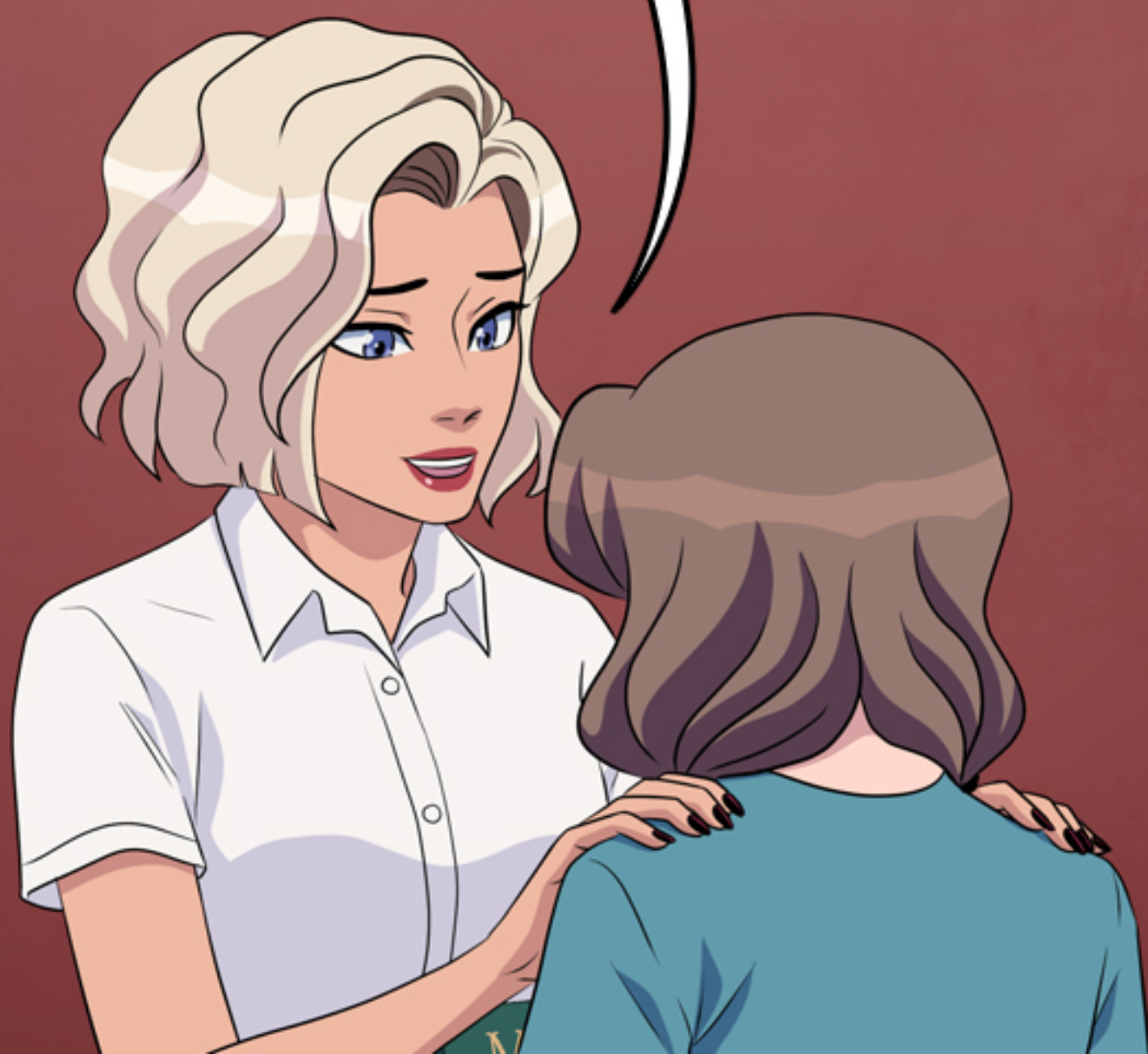
BEGINNERS





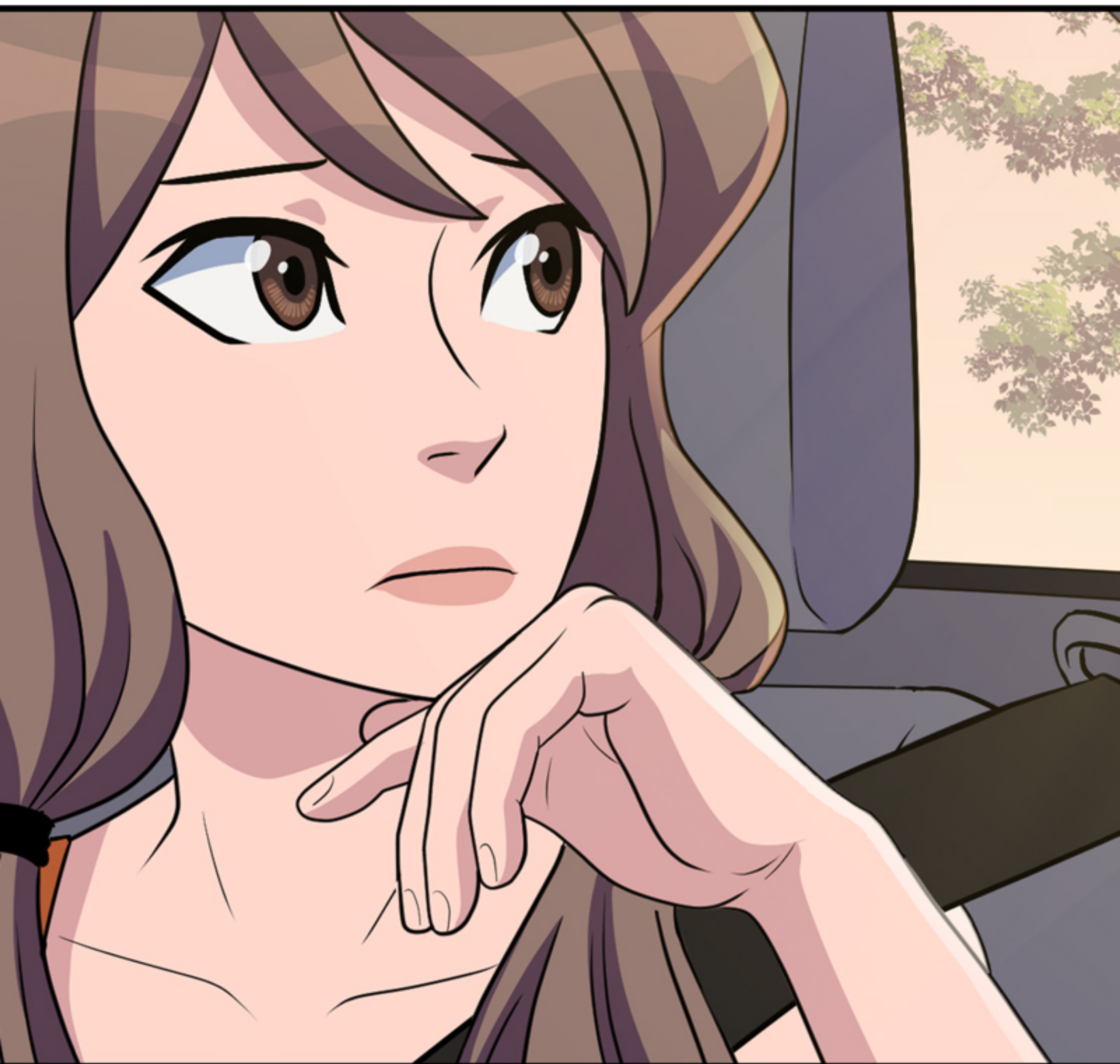


DON'T  
WORRY, DEAR.  
BREAKTHROUGHS  
OFTEN COME WHEN  
WE LEAST EXPECT  
THEM.









"WHEN WE  
LEAST EXPECT  
THEM..."





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