

Sunstone™

Volume 1



Stjepan Sejic



Top Cow Productions Presents...

Sunstone™

Created by Stjepan Sejic



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Sunstone™

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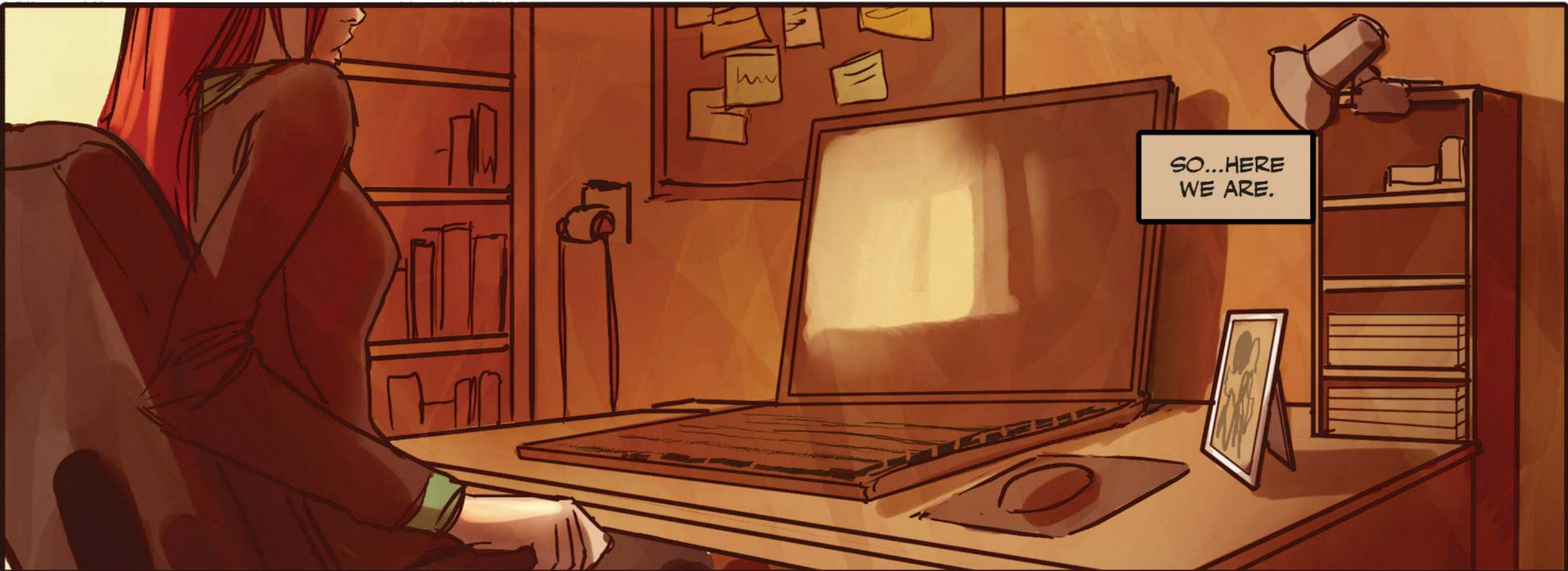
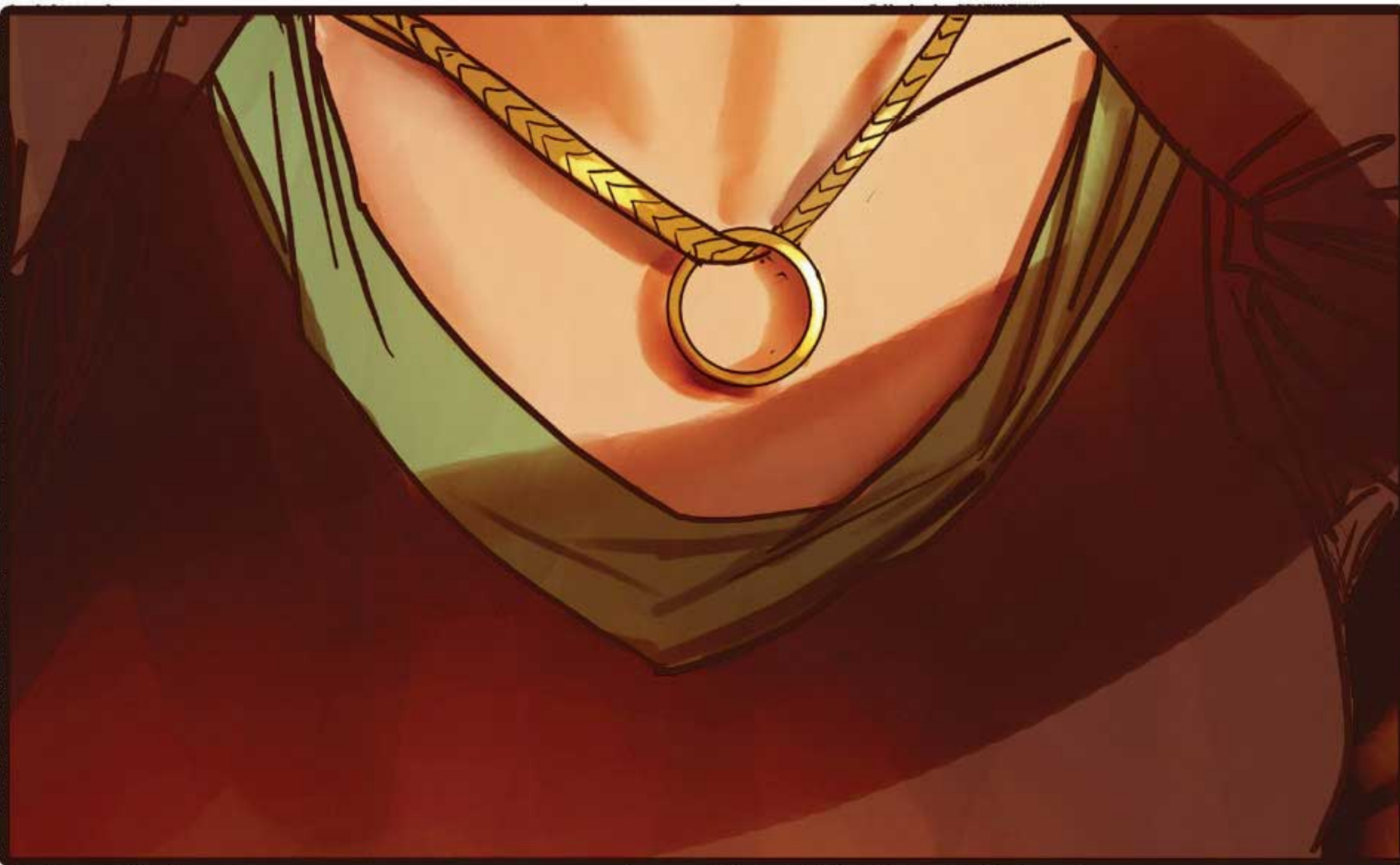


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"JUST WRITE THE DAMN THING," THEY SAID...

YOU CAN DO IT...



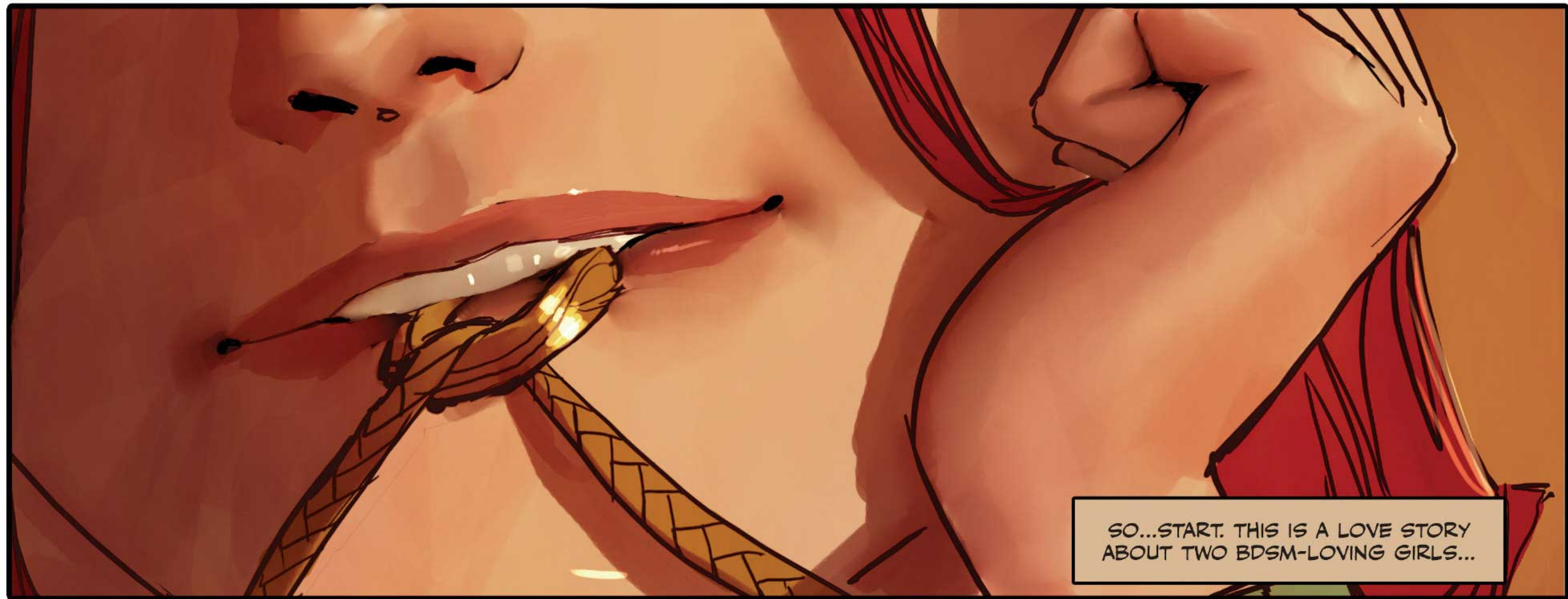
HM...FANTASY IS EASY.

YOU START WITH SOME WAR OR A PROPHECY...AND YOU'RE OFF. HOW THE HELL DO I START THIS?



THEY ALL AGREED I SHOULD WRITE IT. HELL, THEY PESTERED ME TO NO END WITH RETELLING THEIR OWN VERSIONS OF EVENTS.

METICULOUSLY FILLING IN THE GAPS OF EACH OTHER'S STORIES. THEY WERE EVEN FINE WITH ME USING THEIR REAL NAMES. YEAH, I'LL PROBABLY CHANGE THAT BIT THOUGH.



SO...START. THIS IS A LOVE STORY ABOUT TWO BDSM-LOVING GIRLS...



OH YEAH, THAT WILL BRING IN A CERTAIN KIND OF CROWD...

BUT THAT REALLY IS THE PROBLEM. HOW DO I EVEN WRITE THIS? I MEAN, ON SOME LEVEL, IT IS A SEXUALLY-CHARGED STORY, BUT IT IS ALSO A STORY OF HUMAN NATURE...

WE ARE ALL TO SOME EXTENT WEIRD, UNBALANCED, A LITTLE BIT INSANE. AND STUPID. WOO-BOY, ARE WE ALL CAPABLE OF BEING MIND-NUMBINGLY STUPID...

IN SHORT, ALL THE TRAITS THAT WE TRY TO KEEP HIDDEN BEHIND OUR EVERYDAY SMILES. SO... WHAT IS THIS ABOUT THEN?

I MEAN, TECHNICALLY IT'S NOT EVEN A STORY. THERE IS NO PLOT TO IT... JUST STUFF WE DID. HEH. MAYBE IF I INVENTED A VILLAIN? PROFESSOR SHACKLES! COUNTLESS MELISSA WHIPLASH!

BUT THAT IS JUST IT. THERE ARE NO VILLAINS...VERY FEW TWISTS...

IT'S JUST MY LIFE...A STORY OF HOW I CHANGED.

AND...THE HARDEST THING IS TO START. WHERE DO I EVEN BEGIN?

NO! YOU PROMISED YOU WOULD WRITE IT. THEY SPENT HOURS UPON HOURS FILLING YOU IN ON ALL THE DETAILS... NOT THAT I ACTUALLY ASKED THEM...BUT STILL. A PROMISE IS A PROMISE.

IT'S TIME! LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS...

BAH, FUCK IT! PROCRASTINATION TIME...

AND FIX THE TENSES...

AND TWEAK THE SENTENCE STRUCTURE.

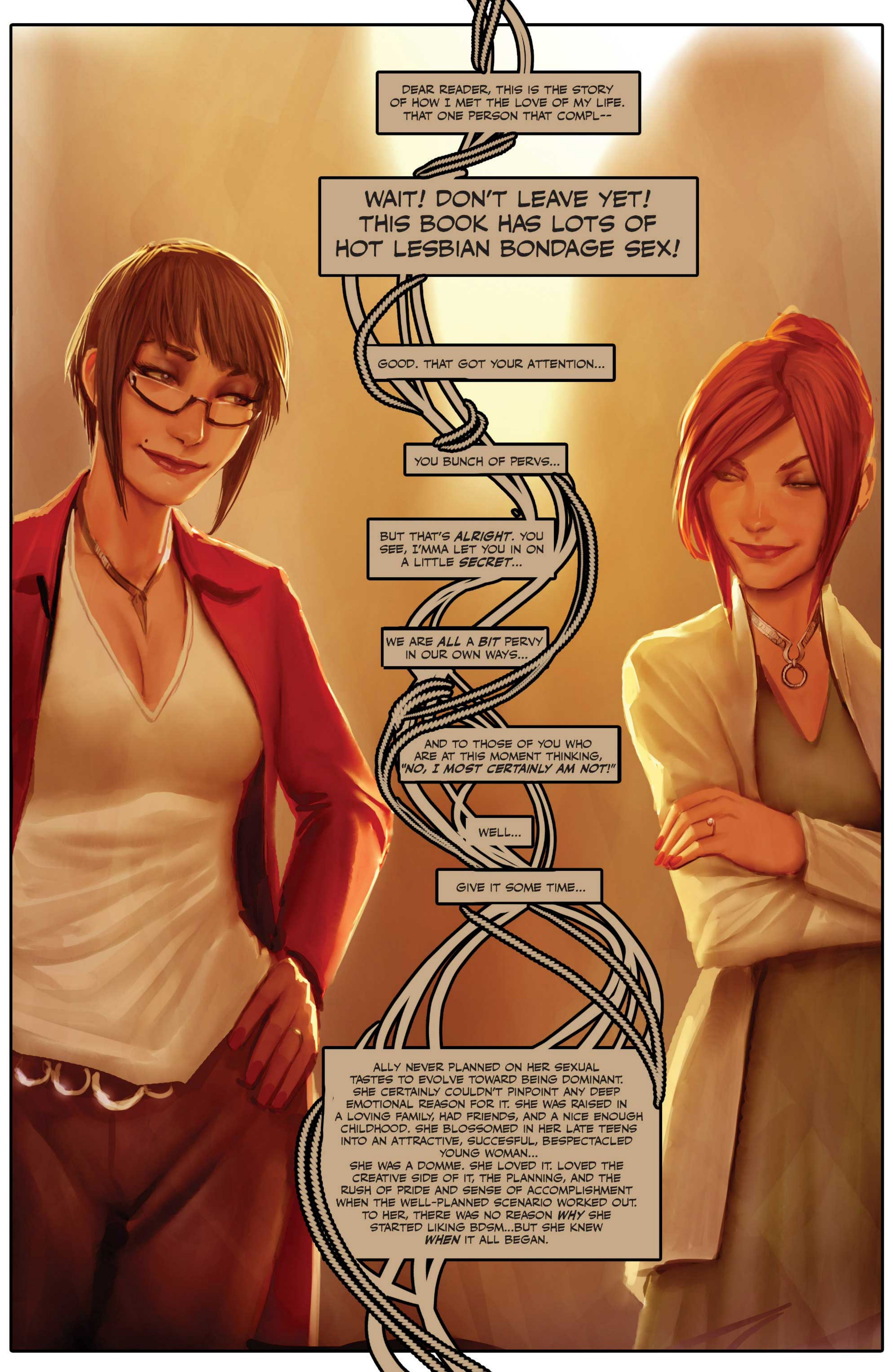
BUT FOR NOW...

OKAY...

JUST LET IT FLOW...

YOU CAN SWITCH THE NAMES LATER...

JUST WRITE.



DEAR READER, THIS IS THE STORY OF HOW I MET THE LOVE OF MY LIFE. THAT ONE PERSON THAT COMPL--

WAIT! DON'T LEAVE YET! THIS BOOK HAS LOTS OF HOT LESBIAN BONDAGE SEX!

GOOD. THAT GOT YOUR ATTENTION...

YOU BUNCH OF PERVS...

BUT THAT'S *ALRIGHT*. YOU SEE, I'MMA LET YOU IN ON A LITTLE *SECRET*...

WE ARE *ALL* A BIT PERVY IN OUR OWN WAYS...

AND TO THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE AT THIS MOMENT THINKING, "*NO, I MOST CERTAINLY AM NOT!*"

WELL...

GIVE IT SOME TIME...

ALLY NEVER PLANNED ON HER SEXUAL TASTES TO EVOLVE TOWARD BEING DOMINANT. SHE CERTAINLY COULDN'T PINPOINT ANY DEEP EMOTIONAL REASON FOR IT. SHE WAS RAISED IN A LOVING FAMILY, HAD FRIENDS, AND A NICE ENOUGH CHILDHOOD. SHE BLOSSOMED IN HER LATE TEENS INTO AN ATTRACTIVE, SUCCESSFUL, BESPECTACLED YOUNG WOMAN...

SHE WAS A DOMME. SHE LOVED IT. LOVED THE CREATIVE SIDE OF IT, THE PLANNING, AND THE RUSH OF PRIDE AND SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT WHEN THE WELL-PLANNED SCENARIO WORKED OUT. TO HER, THERE WAS NO REASON *WHY* SHE STARTED LIKING BDSM...BUT SHE KNEW *WHEN* IT ALL BEGAN.



FOR ALLY, IT ALL STARTED THE NIGHT SHE CRACKED THE CABLE PARENTAL CONTROL.



SHE SAW A BDSM MOVIE THAT NIGHT. MOST OF IT FREAKED HER OUT, BUT BETWEEN THE CREEP-OUTS, IT WAS THE IMAGE OF THE BEAUTIFUL AND POWERFUL DOMINATRIX THAT STUCK WITH HER TO THE POINT THAT SHE EVEN STARTED GETTING HER HAIR CUT LIKE THE DOMME FROM THAT MOVIE. FOR THE LONGEST TIME HER FASCINATION WAS A SECRET SHARED WITH NO ONE...

I ALWAYS LIKED BEING TIED UP. "ALWAYS," OF COURSE, WOULD BE AN OVERSTATEMENT, BUT MY FASCINATION DID MANIFEST ITSELF RELATIVELY EARLY IN MY TEENS...



IN THE RARE PRIVATE MOMENTS, WHEN NO ONE WAS AROUND, I OFTEN PRACTICED SELF-BONDAGE.

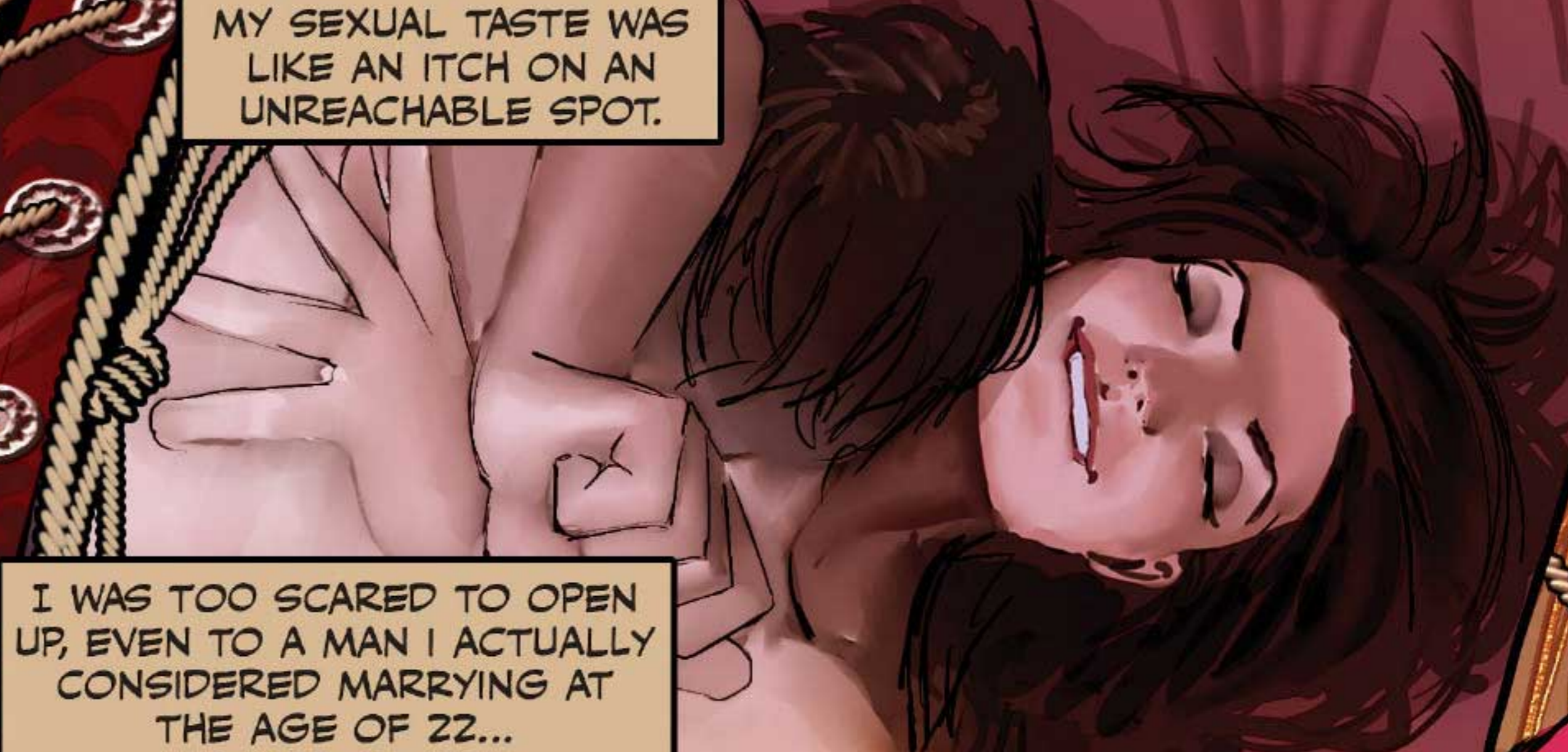
THAT SENSE OF EMBARRASSMENT AND THE FEAR OF BEING FOUND OUT WAS A RUSH THAT WAS MINE ALONE. IT WAS A SECRET I COULDN'T SHARE WITH ANYONE.

THAT IS...TIL COLLEGE. THERE SHE FOUND ALAN, A KINDRED SPIRIT AS FAR AS TASTES WERE CONCERNED. TOO KINDRED AS IT TURNED OUT, AS THEY BOTH PREFERRED DOMINATING.



MY SEXUAL TASTE WAS LIKE AN ITCH ON AN UNREACHABLE SPOT.

I WAS TOO SCARED TO OPEN UP, EVEN TO A MAN I ACTUALLY CONSIDERED MARRYING AT THE AGE OF 22...



THAT WHOLE THING EVENTUALLY WENT UP IN FLAMES...BUT FROM THE ASHES OF A FAILED RELATIONSHIP THEY SALVAGED AN AMAZING FRIENDSHIP.

AFTER COLLEGE ALLY DEVOTED TIME TO HER CAREER, AND BUSINESS WAS BOOMING.



HER LOVE LIFE ON THE OTHER HAND...WASN'T.

THAT'S THE CATCH-22 OF BDSM. IT'S BASED ON TRUST, AND IT REQUIRES TRUST TO EVEN ADMIT HAVING THOSE TASTES.

IT'S HARD FINDING THE COURAGE TO TAKE THAT LEAP OF FAITH TO ADMIT TO ANYONE, "HEY, I'M REALLY INTO BDSM. I HAVE DIFFERENT TASTES. I AM A FETISHIST." PRECONCEIVED NOTIONS ARE A BITCH.

FRIENDLY ADVICE HERE...*SHARE* YOUR DESIRES WITH YOUR PARTNER. I DIDN'T. I HINTED, I SIGNALLED...AND SIGNALS JUST DON'T MEASURE TO AN HONEST CONVERSATION.

MY HINTS AT TRYING SOMETHING DIFFERENT WOULD MOSTLY CULMINATE WITH SOME FROM-BEHIND ACTION. IT WASN'T BAD. IT'S JUST, WHEN YOU ARE IN THE MOOD FOR SOMETHING SPICY, THE CRAVING WON'T BE SATISFIED WITH A SCOOP OF ICE CREAM.

ALLY FOUND VENTS FOR HER STOCKPILING FRUSTRATION...MOSTLY READING, GAMING, AND LOTS AND LOTS OF PLANNING...

SHE HAD IDEAS, AND SHE WASTED A LOT OF MONEY HOARDING GEAR AND TOYS. PROBLEM WAS FINDING A PLAYMATE.

I WAS SINGLE FOR TWO YEARS AFTER DAVID. YES, SOME OF YOU MIGHT BE ROLLING YOUR EYES NOW THINKING, "IT'S NOT THAT HARD TO FIND A GUY WHO WOULD DOMINATE YOU!" SURE, BUT THERE IS THAT SMALL THING AT THE FOUNDATION OF BDSM...TRUST.

THANKFULLY, IN THE END SHE FOUND HER COURAGE IN THE ANONYMITY OF INTERNET MESSAGE BOARDS AND CHATROOMS.

FOR A SEXUAL-SUBMISSIVE, THE RISK IS IMMENSE. TRUST MEANS ALLOWING ANOTHER PERSON TO TIE YOU UP WITH FAITH IN THEIR WILLINGNESS TO HONOR THE *SANCTITY* OF THE *SAFWORD*. TRUTH WAS...I WANTED IT...AND I WAS SCARED.

THAT WAS HOW WE MET EACH OTHER.

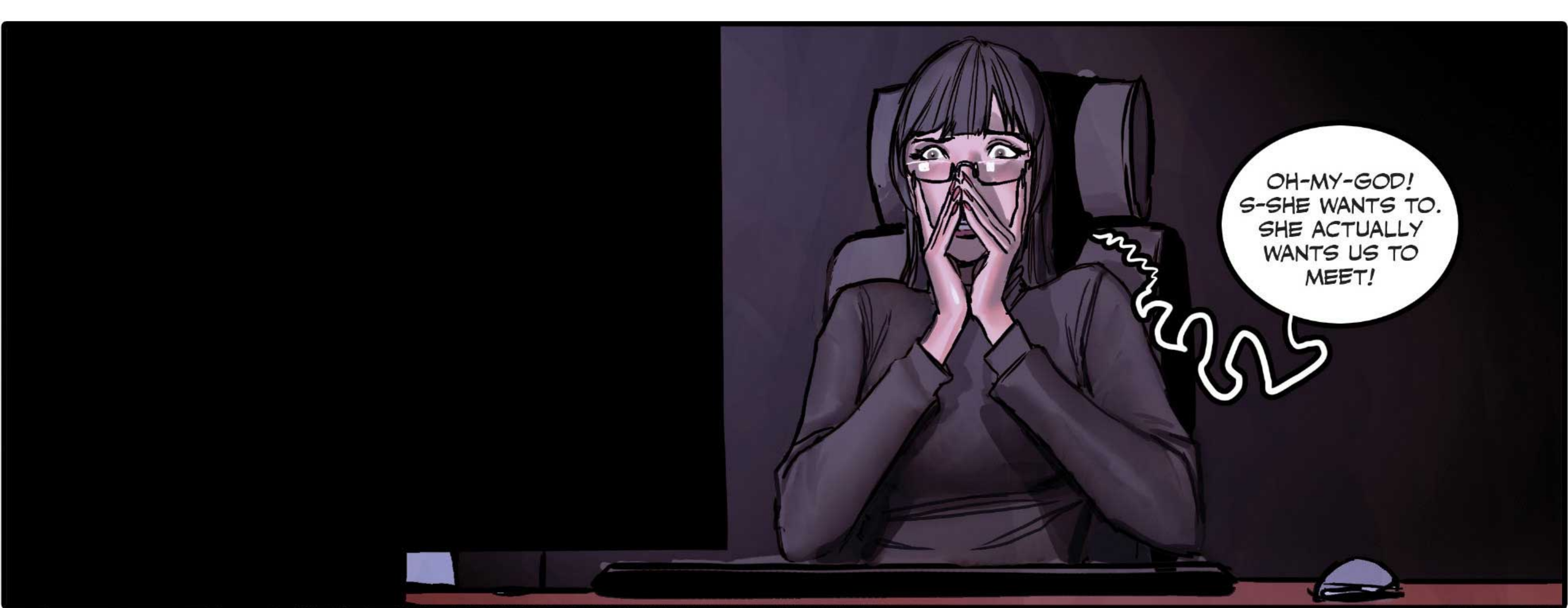
THAT FEAR KEPT MY FANTASIES BURIED WITHIN THE PAGES OF MY STORIES...STORIES WHICH I POSTED ONLINE. STORIES THAT ALLY STUMBLED UPON.



TWO MONTHS OF CHATTING, WEBCAMS, AND YES, VIRTUAL SEX--WHAT? I WAS HORNY, AND SHE WAS IMAGINATIVE. I COULD SHARE MY EVERY FANTASY WITH HER, AND ULTIMATELY...



Lisa: I...would like to meet you.




OH-MY-GOD!
S-SHE WANTS TO.
SHE ACTUALLY
WANTS US TO
MEET!



AW CRAP! I
SAID IT! I **ACTUALLY** SAID
IT. I ASKED HER! DAMMIT, WHY DID
I DO THIS? I RUINED EVERYTHING
NOW! IF SHE SAYS NO...THEN...
HOW WILL WE EVEN BE ABLE
TO CHAT ANYMORE! ARGH...



 **Allycat:** I would love to meet you too. If you want, we can meet at my home this Friday. That is if I understood your intention for us meeting. ;)



W-W-WHAT?
SHE, S-S-SHE WANTS--
SHE WANTS TO MEET ME TOO!
OH GOD! IT'S...THIS IS
ACTUALLY GOING TO
HAPPEN!



S-SHE WILL...



CRAP, I GOTTA REPLY!

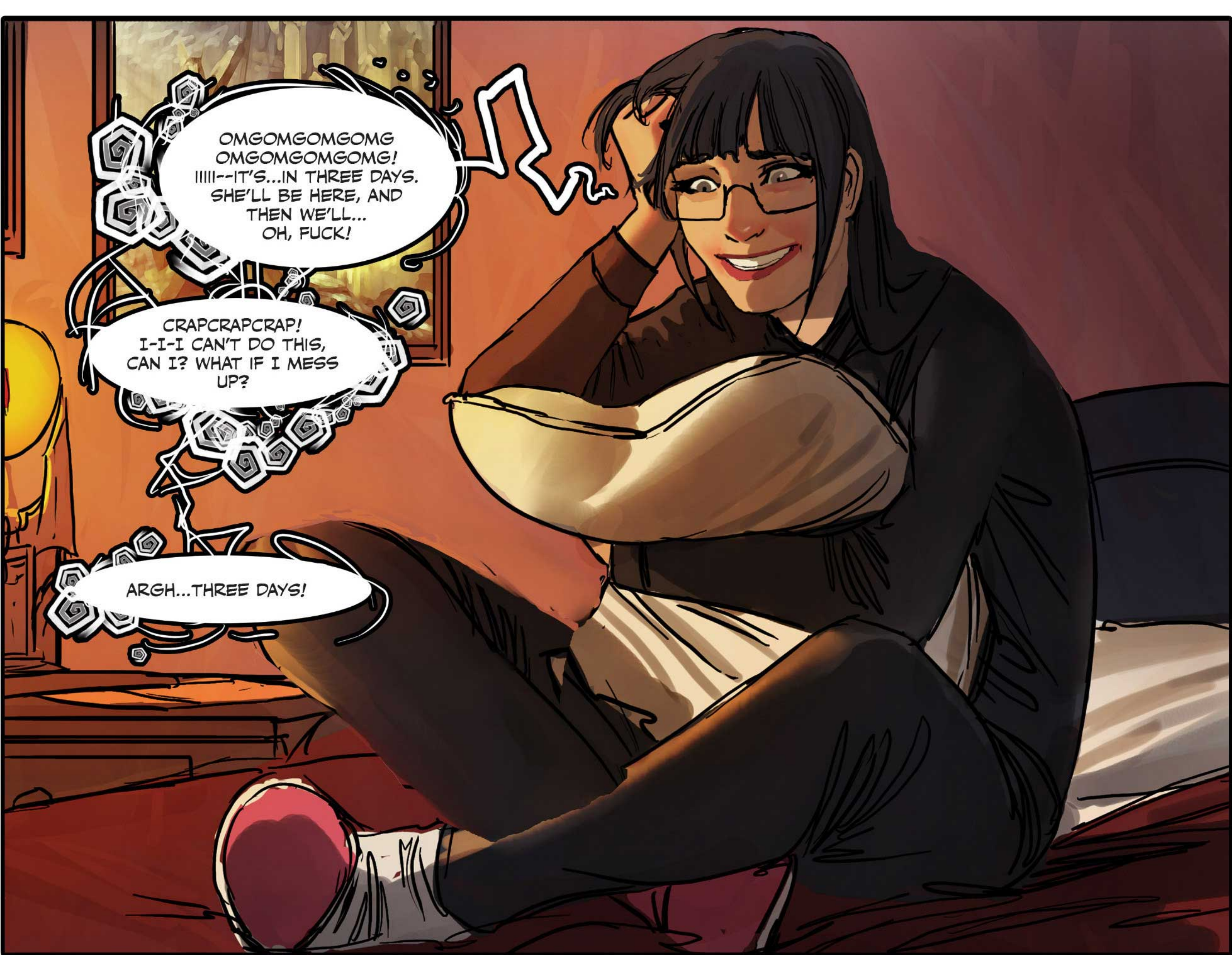


Lisa: Yes, you got my meaning. I want this to happen!



Allycat: Wonderful! I'll email you my address, and I can't wait to see you. <3<3<3





OMGOMGOMG
OMGOMGOMG!
IIII--IT'S...IN THREE DAYS.
SHE'LL BE HERE, AND
THEN WE'LL...
OH, FUCK!

CRAPCRAPCRAP!
I-I-I CAN'T DO THIS,
CAN I? WHAT IF I MESS
UP?

ARGH...THREE DAYS!



MUST...SHARE...NEWS!



**BELLELEP
BELLELEP**



HWRAAAAGGGGGGGHHHH.

BELLELEP



BELLELEP

MM-THE HELL...?



WHAT?!



OMGALANYOU'RENEVER
GONNABELIEVEWHATJUST
HAPPENED!YOUREMEMBERTHAT
GIRLLISA?ITOLDYOUABOUTHER.
SOAFTERALLTHISTIME--



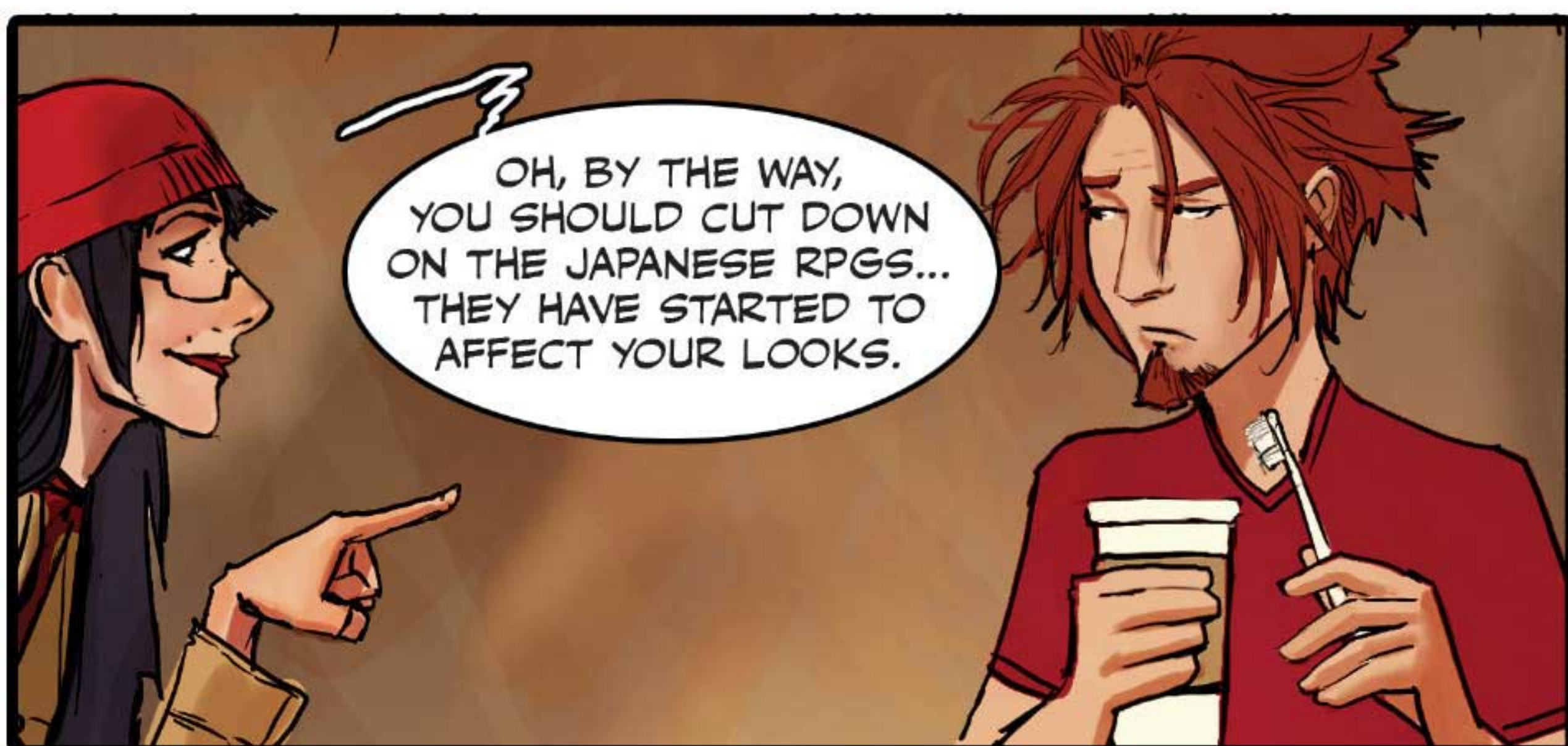
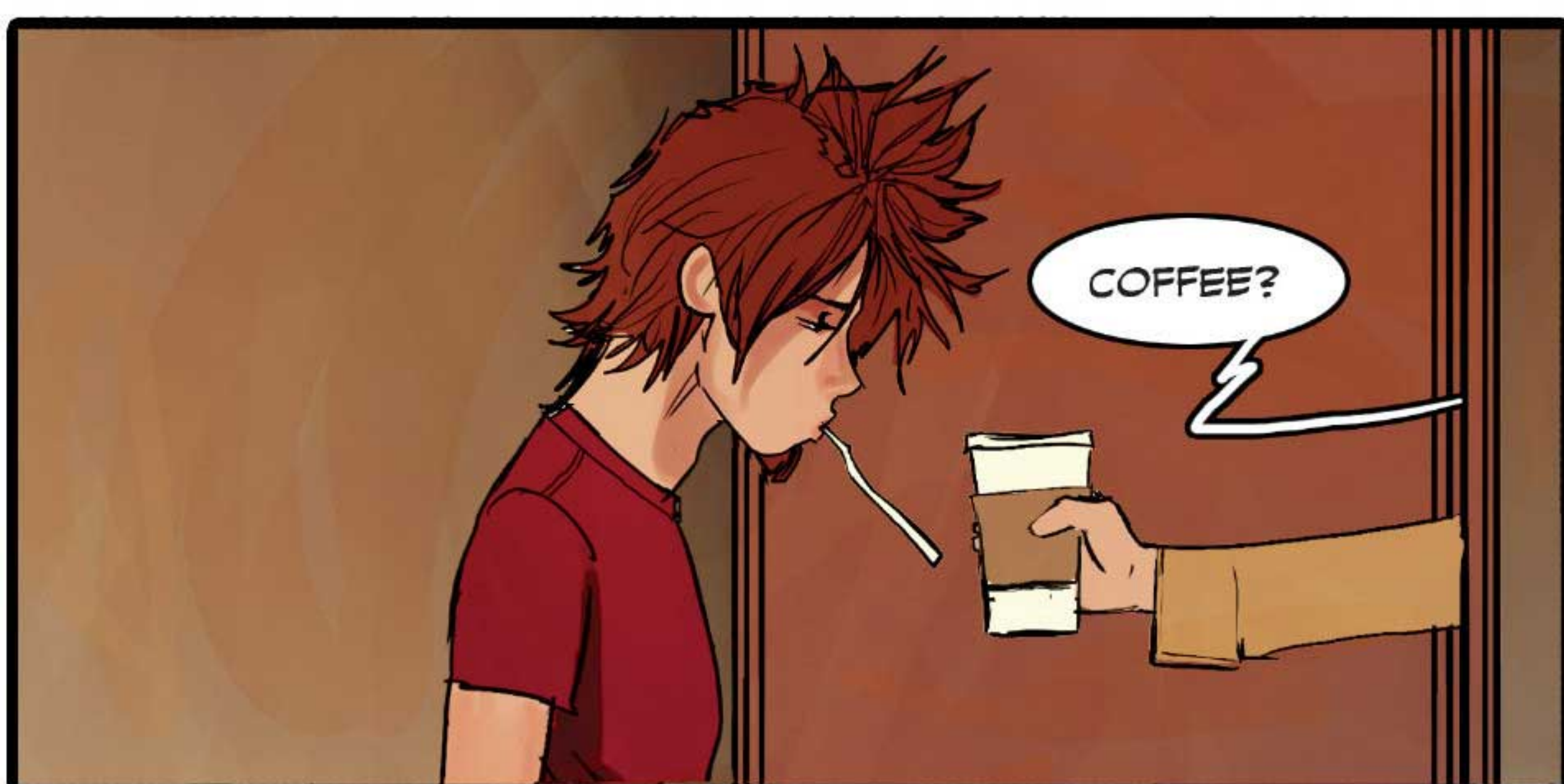
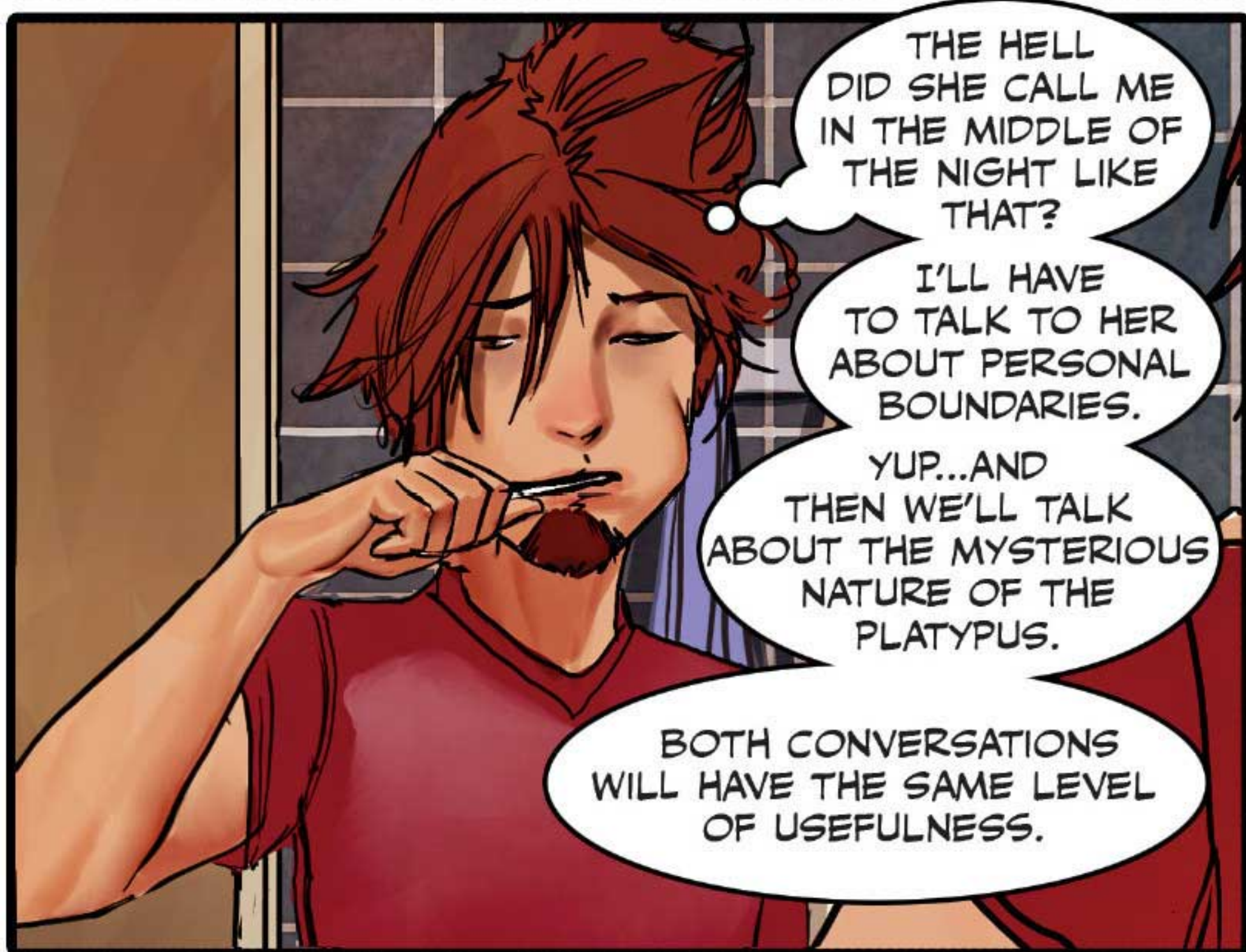
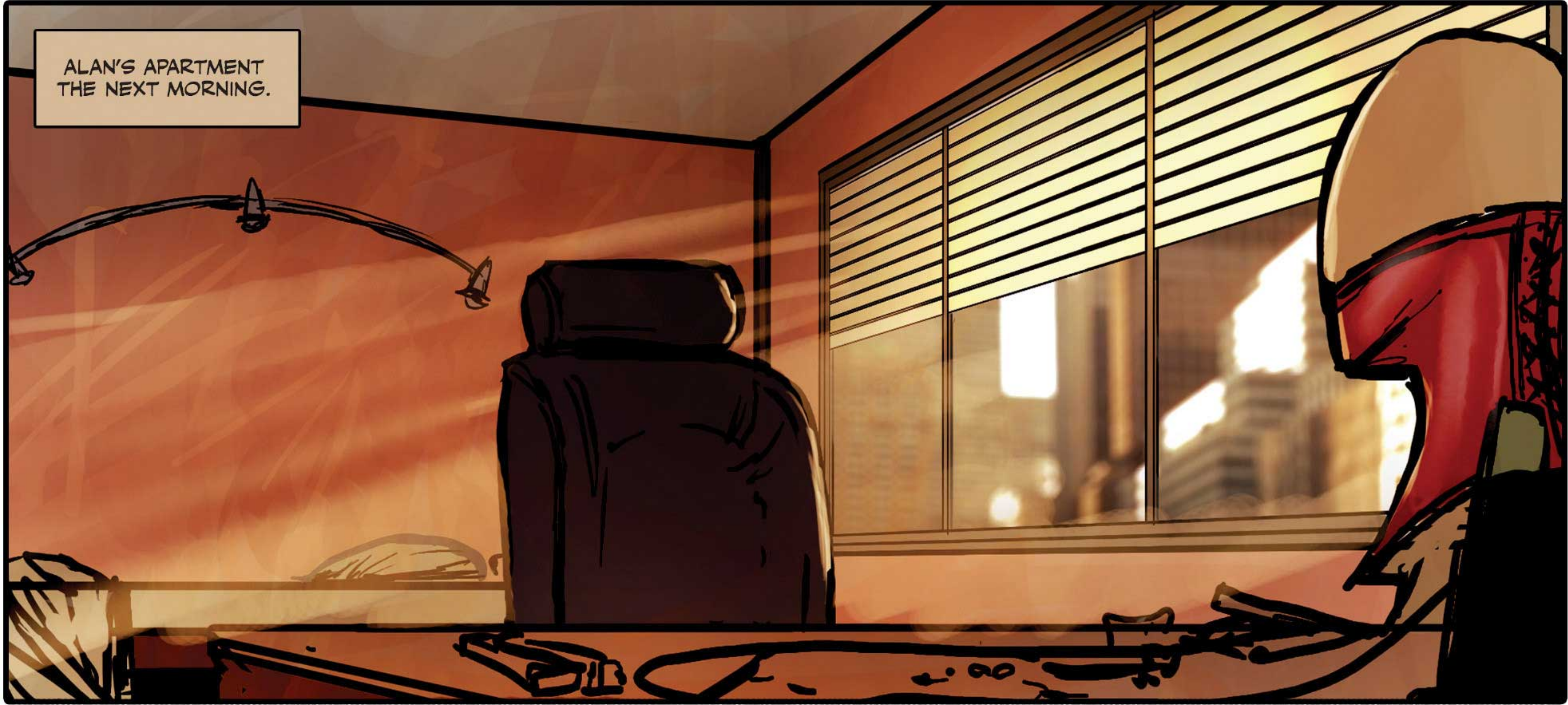
--SHEACTUALLY
ASKEDTOCOME OVER!
ANDIMEANCOME OVER
COME OVER!IT'S
ACTUALLYGOING
TO--



--HAPPEN!IMEAN
THINGI'MSOHAPPYBUT
ATTHESAMETIMEIT'SMY
FIRSTTIME--



ALAN'S APARTMENT
THE NEXT MORNING.

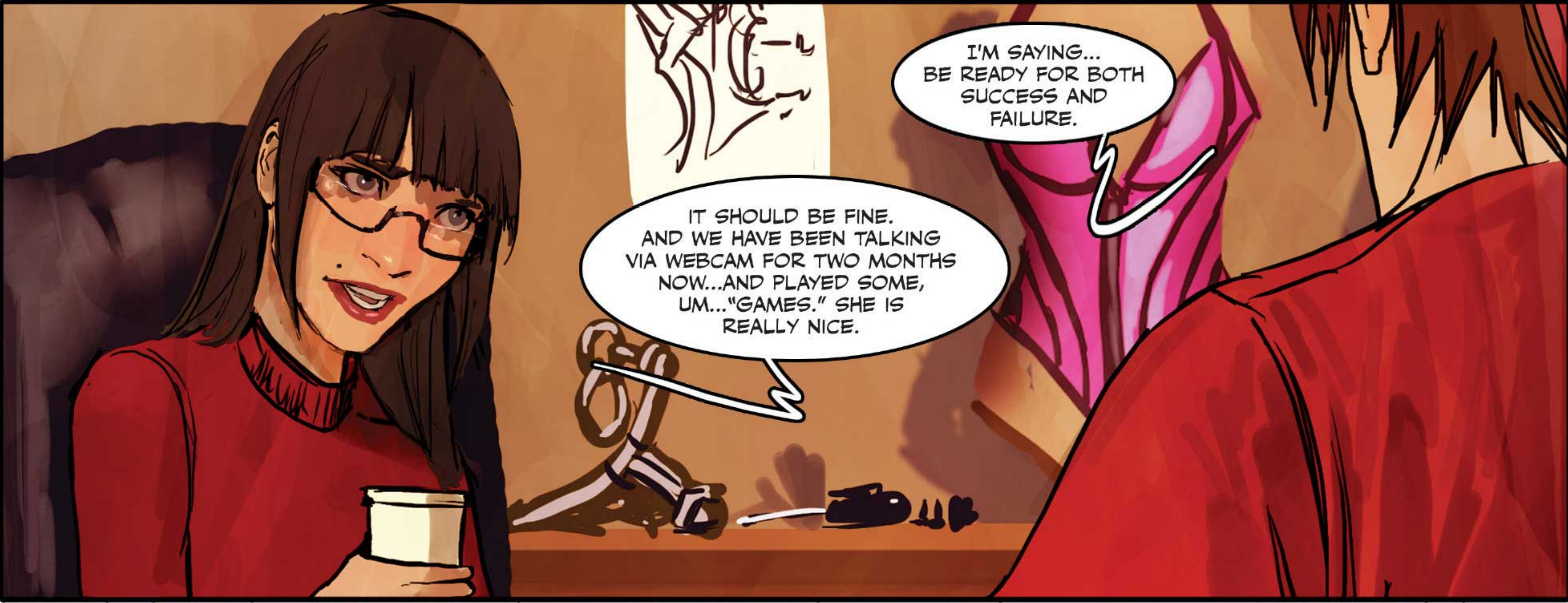




SO...THIS FRIDAY, HUH?



PREPARATIONS SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM. IT'S JUST...WELL...YOU TWO ONLY EVER MET ONLINE.



I'M SAYING... BE READY FOR BOTH SUCCESS AND FAILURE.

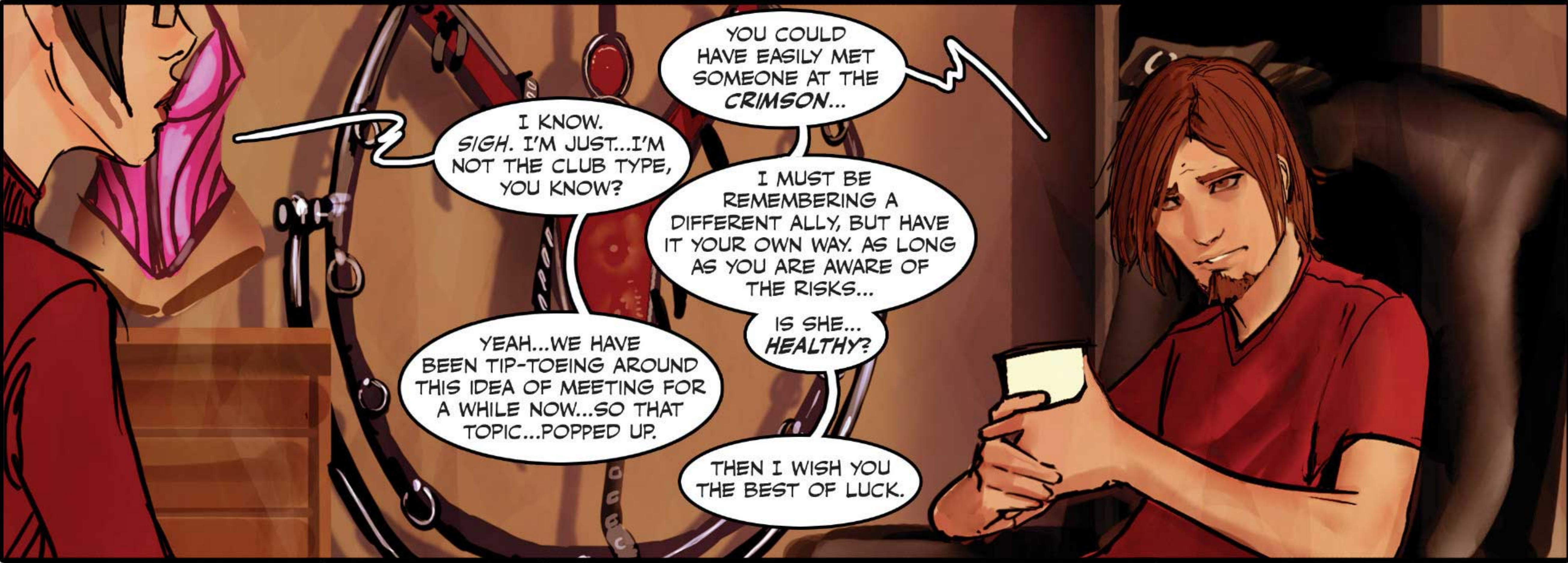
IT SHOULD BE FINE. AND WE HAVE BEEN TALKING VIA WEBCAM FOR TWO MONTHS NOW...AND PLAYED SOME, UM..."GAMES." SHE IS REALLY NICE.



OH, ALLY. OF COURSE SHE'S NICE. WE'RE ALL NICE... WHEN WE WANT SOMETHING. I JUST WANT YOU TO BE READY FOR THE INEVITABLE MOMENT WHEN THE MASK FALLS.



NOT EVERY SMILE IS HELD IN PLACE WITH A RUBBER BAND, ALAN. I KNOW I MAY END UP DISAPPOINTED, BUT FOR YEARS I HAD NO ONE IN MY LIFE...SO AT THIS POINT I FEEL LIKE TAKING THIS RISK.



YOU COULD HAVE EASILY MET SOMEONE AT THE CRIMSON...

I KNOW. SIGH. I'M JUST...I'M NOT THE CLUB TYPE, YOU KNOW?

I MUST BE REMEMBERING A DIFFERENT ALLY, BUT HAVE IT YOUR OWN WAY. AS LONG AS YOU ARE AWARE OF THE RISKS...

YEAH...WE HAVE BEEN TIP-TOEING AROUND THIS IDEA OF MEETING FOR A WHILE NOW...SO THAT TOPIC...POPPED UP.

IS SHE... HEALTHY?

THEN I WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK.



WHAT ABOUT YOU? ANYONE IN YOUR LIFE SINCE...CRUELLA?

ALLY...WE'RE FRIENDS, SO I KNOW YOU HAVE THE OFFICIAL DUTY TO BE BITCHY ABOUT HER, BUT DON'T. I KNOW YOU LIKED HER AND I'M OVER IT.



YOU STILL MISS HER?



EVERY DAMN DAY.



I'M SORRY, AL...



DON'T STRESS ABOUT THAT, YOU'VE GOT A BIGGER FISH TO FRY. SO, LET'S TALK LOGISTICS FOR FRIDAY.

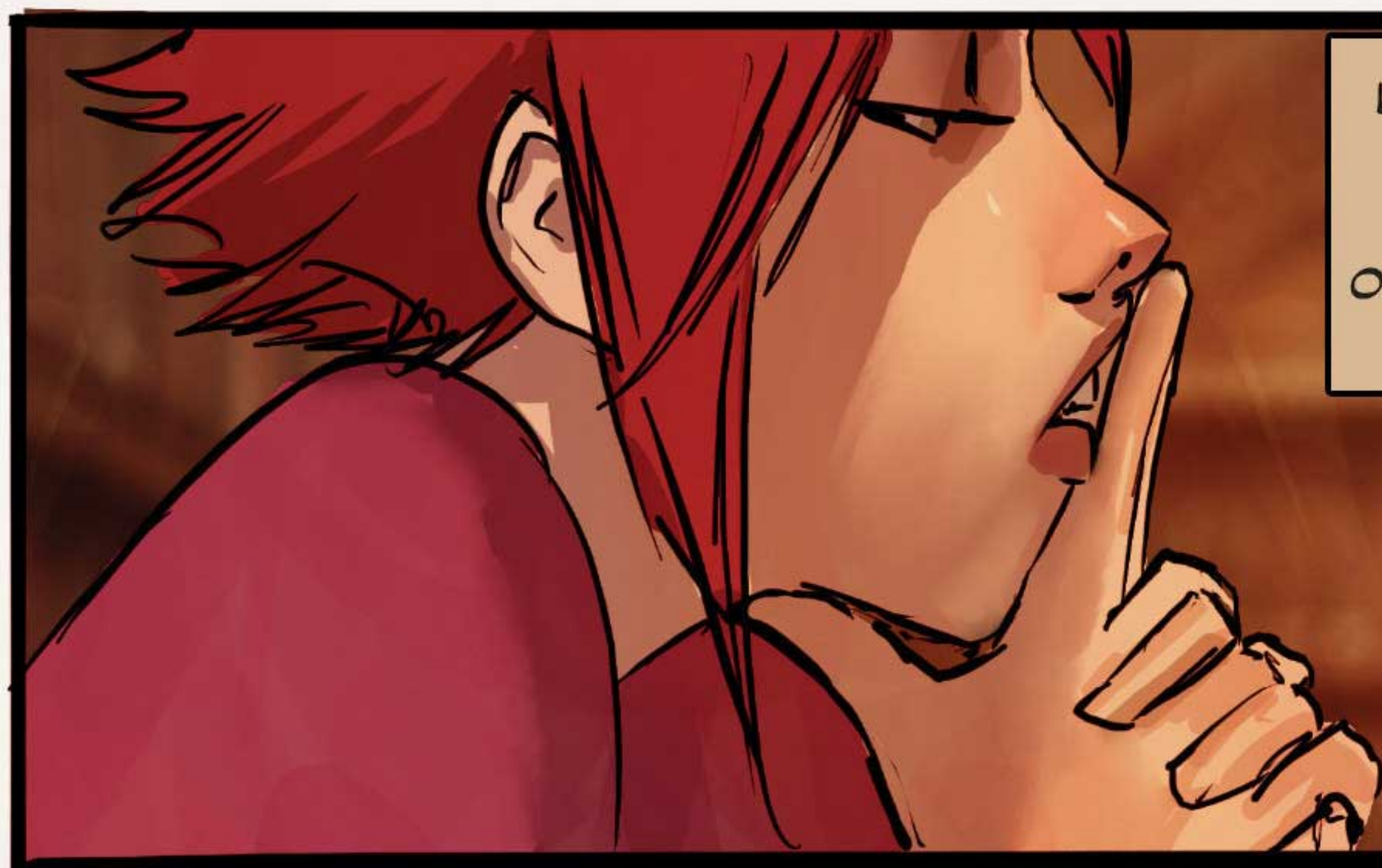
MEANWHILE:

FOR THE LONGEST TIME, MY ONE GREAT... AHEM...NON-CARNAL DESIRE WAS TO BE A WRITER. IT WAS, FOR THE MOST PART, A HOBBY I ENJOYED DURING MY FREE TIME.

MY WRITING EFFORTS WERE USUALLY SPLIT BETWEEN EROTIC FICTION, WHICH I WROTE AT HOME AND PUBLISHED ON MY SMALL WEBSITE, AND A FAR MORE AMBITIOUS FANTASY ROMANCE NOVEL.

I PREFERED WORKING ON THIS NOVEL IN THE NEARBY LIBRARY. I GUESS THE SILENCE AND THE SMELL OF BOOKS KEPT ME FOCUSED.

IT SOMETIMES FELT FUTILE. IN THIS DAY AND AGE, EVERY IDEA HAS BEEN DONE, BUT IT'S MY OWN WAY OF FILLING THE LONG HOURS OF THE DAY. A WAY OF ESCAPING INTO MY OWN WORLD.



LET'S FACE IT...I HAD A FEW FREE HOURS TO BURN ON ANY GIVEN DAY, MY LOVE LIFE HAD BEEN IN A STATE OF PERPETUAL DROUGHT FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS...

AND YES...I GUESS THAT REALLY WAS MY OWN FAULT...

SO, FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE I DECIDED TO GO FOR IT. TO TAKE MY CHANCE...BE BRAVE AND FULFILL AT LEAST THIS ONE SECRET DESIRE!

NOOO....STOP IT! THIS BLANK SCREEN AIN'T GONNA FILL ITSELF...BACK TO WRITING! FOCUS!

AND SO I FOCUSED.

HELEN STOOD BEFORE THE EMPRESS, STUBBORNLY REFUSING TO DROP HER GAZE.

BRAN WAS TERRIFIED, TOO SCARED TO RAISE HIS EYES AND OBSERVE THE INEVITABLE DEATH OF HIS SISTER.

IF HE HAD MUSTERED THE COURAGE, HE WOULD HAVE SEEN A SMALL, WICKED SMILE ADORNING THE EMPRESS'S FACE AS SHE ORDERED HER GUARD TO TAKE HIM OUT OF THE THRONE ROOM.

AAAND THEN... MY FOCUS... DETERIORATED.

HELEN MERELY GLANCED A SMALL, DESPISING LOOK UPON HER BROTHER. SHE WOULD NOT GIVE THE EMPRESS EVEN THE HINT OF SATISFACTION.

HELEN WAS OF HOUSE RADDAN, AND SHE BENT NO KNEE TO THIS TYRANT OF THE NORTH.

THE EMPRESS ROSE FROM HER THRONE AND WALKED UP TO HELEN. HER CRIMSON ROBE MAKING THE ONLY NOISE AS IT DRAGGED ALONG THE FLOOR OF THE OTHERWISE PERFECTLY SILENT THRONE ROOM. SHE STOOD FACING HELEN'S DEFIANT GAZE, REVELING IN IT. THEN SHE BROKE THE SILENCE, HER VOICE SLICING THE AIR.

"LADY HELEN, OF THE HOUSE RADDAN. PROUD HOUSE RADDAN, GREAT HOUSE RADDAN, THE HOUSE I CRUSHED! ONLY YOU AND YOUR BROTHER REMAIN, AND HERE YOU STAND BEFORE ME, DEFIANT, UNBROKEN. GOOD. YOUR DEPIANCE WILL ENTERTAIN ME GREATLY. HARREN, KARRASH! REMOVE HER CLOTHES AND BIND HER!"

UM, LISA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

"I WILL TAKE GREAT PLEASURE IN..."

BUH. MM-YEAH, SORRY, WHAT?

NOTHING, DEAR. IT'S JUST...YOU HAD THIS "I JUST HAD A STROKE" KIND OF EXPRESSION, SO I WAS A LITTLE CONCERNED.

OH, UM, SORRY. YEAH, I GUESS I WAS JUST LOST IN THOUGHT.

SUFFICE TO SAY, I DIDN'T WRITE MUCH OF MY FANTASY TALE THAT WEEK. MY EROTIC FICTION ON THE OTHER HAND THRIVED.

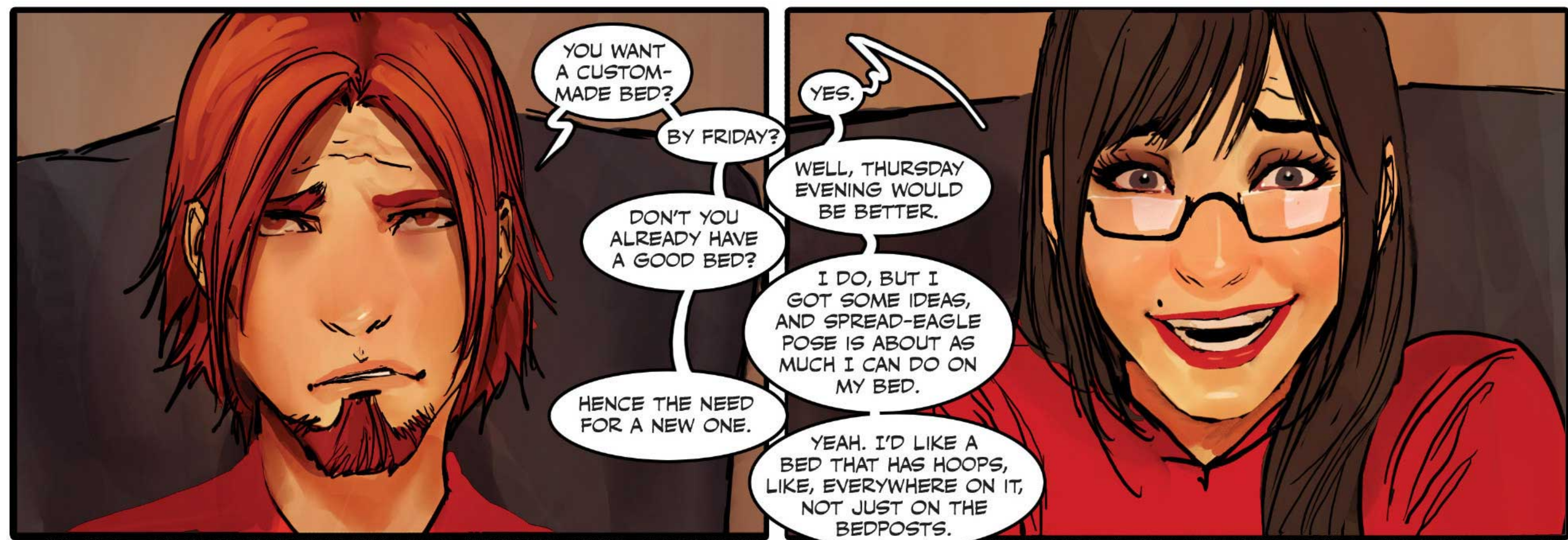
HOLY CRAP! I ALMOST HAD HELEN AND THE EMPRESS...FUCK YOU ONE-TRACK MIND!

SIGH...

I SEE I'LL BE LESS THAN USELESS, AT LEAST 'TIL THIS FRIDAY.

CRAP!

YOU KNOW...WIN SOME, LOSE SOME...SILVER LININGS AND ALL THAT.



YOU WANT A CUSTOM-MADE BED?

BY FRIDAY?

DON'T YOU ALREADY HAVE A GOOD BED?

HENCE THE NEED FOR A NEW ONE.

YES.

WELL, THURSDAY EVENING WOULD BE BETTER.

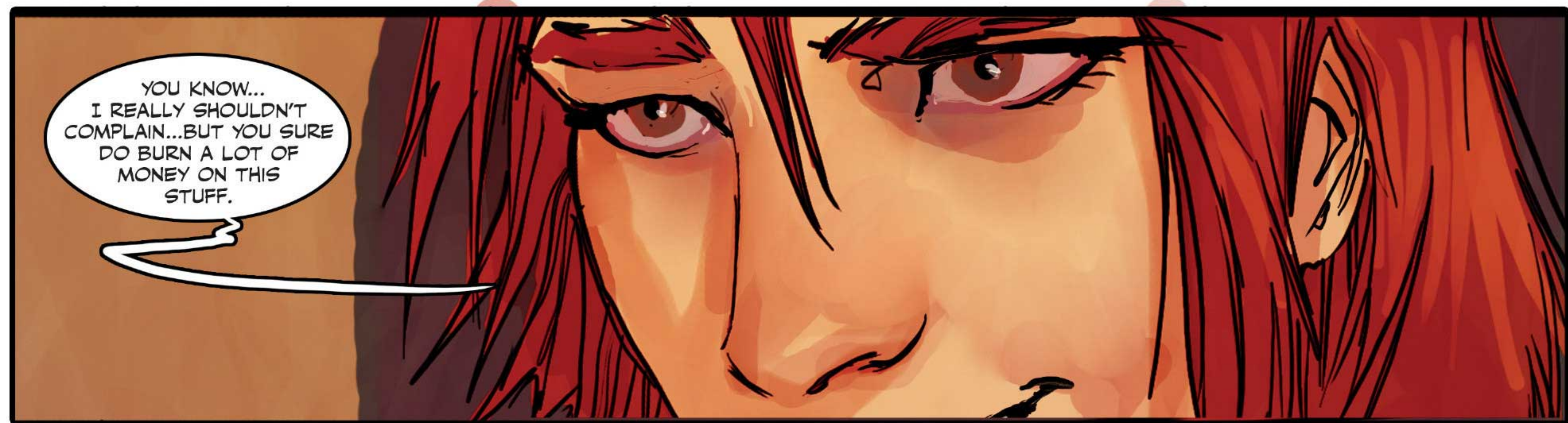
I DO, BUT I GOT SOME IDEAS, AND SPREAD-EAGLE POSE IS ABOUT AS MUCH I CAN DO ON MY BED.

YEAH. I'D LIKE A BED THAT HAS HOOPS, LIKE, EVERYWHERE ON IT, NOT JUST ON THE BEDPOSTS.

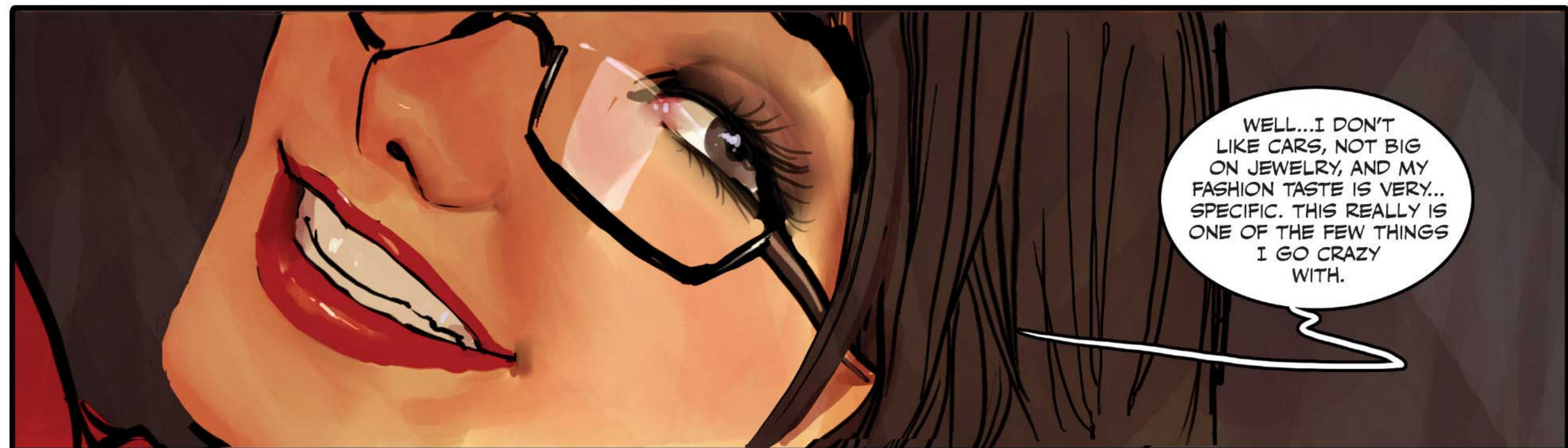


YOU SEE, I'VE GOT A VERY SPECIFIC SETUP I WANT TO TRY OUT. SOMETHING LIKE THIS!

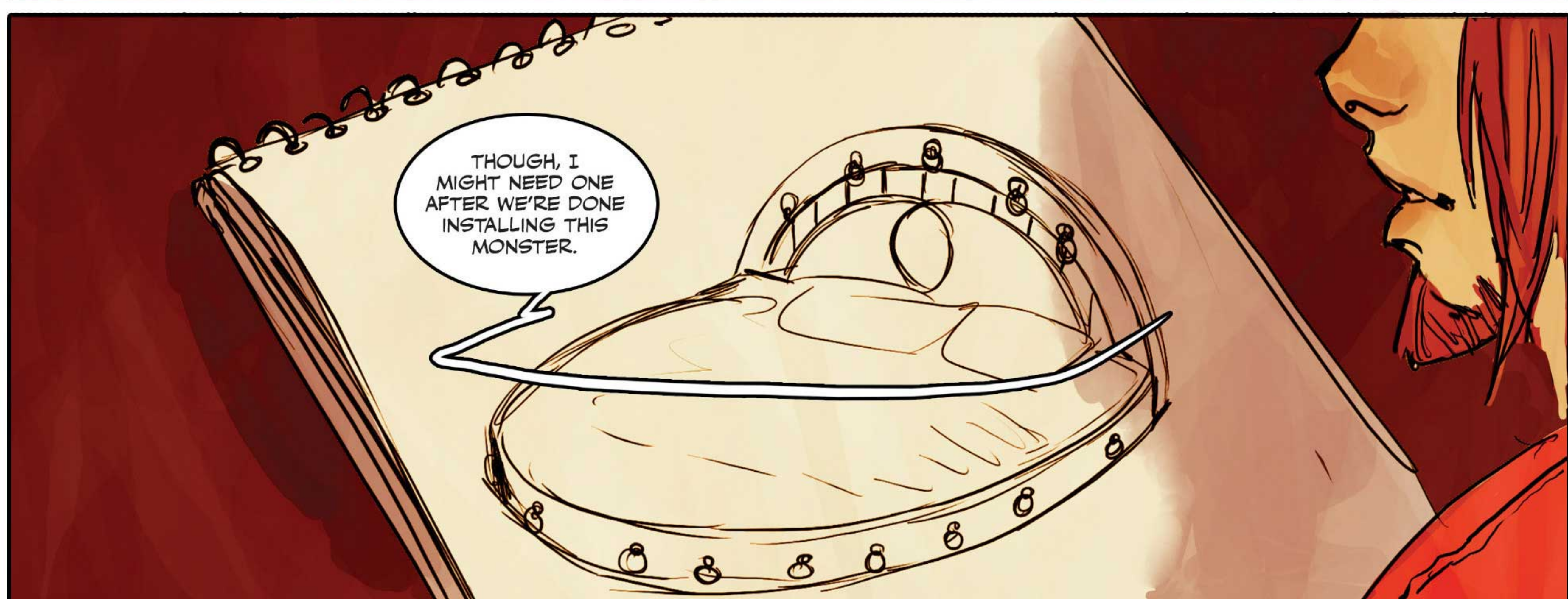
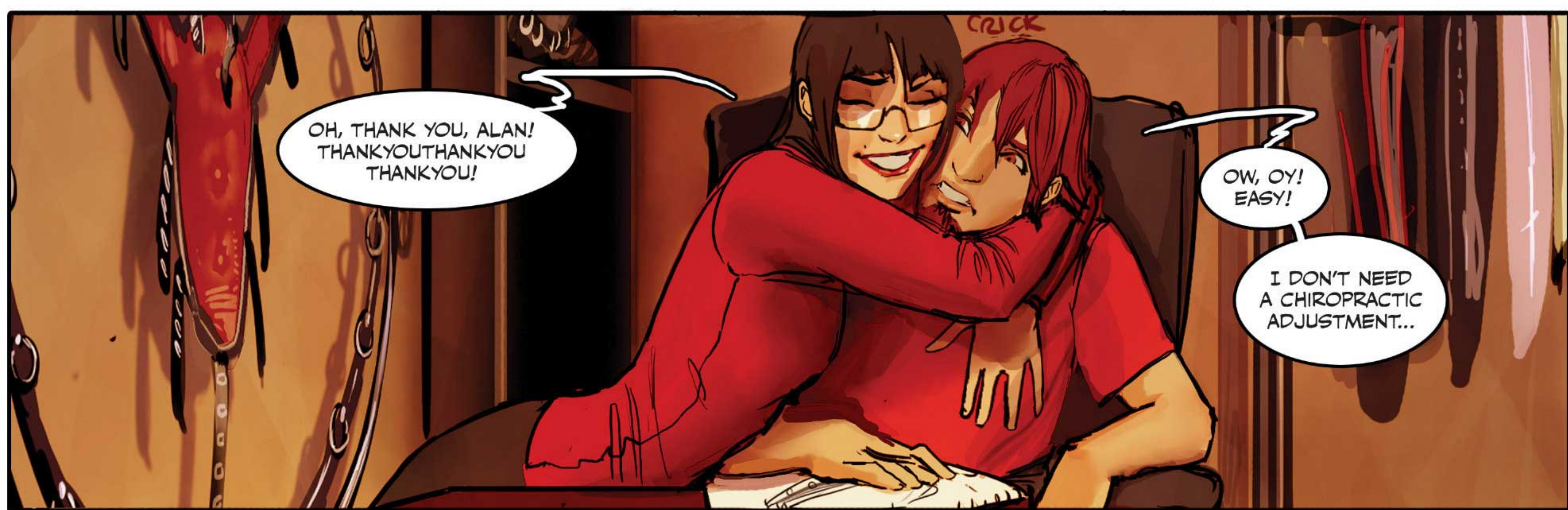
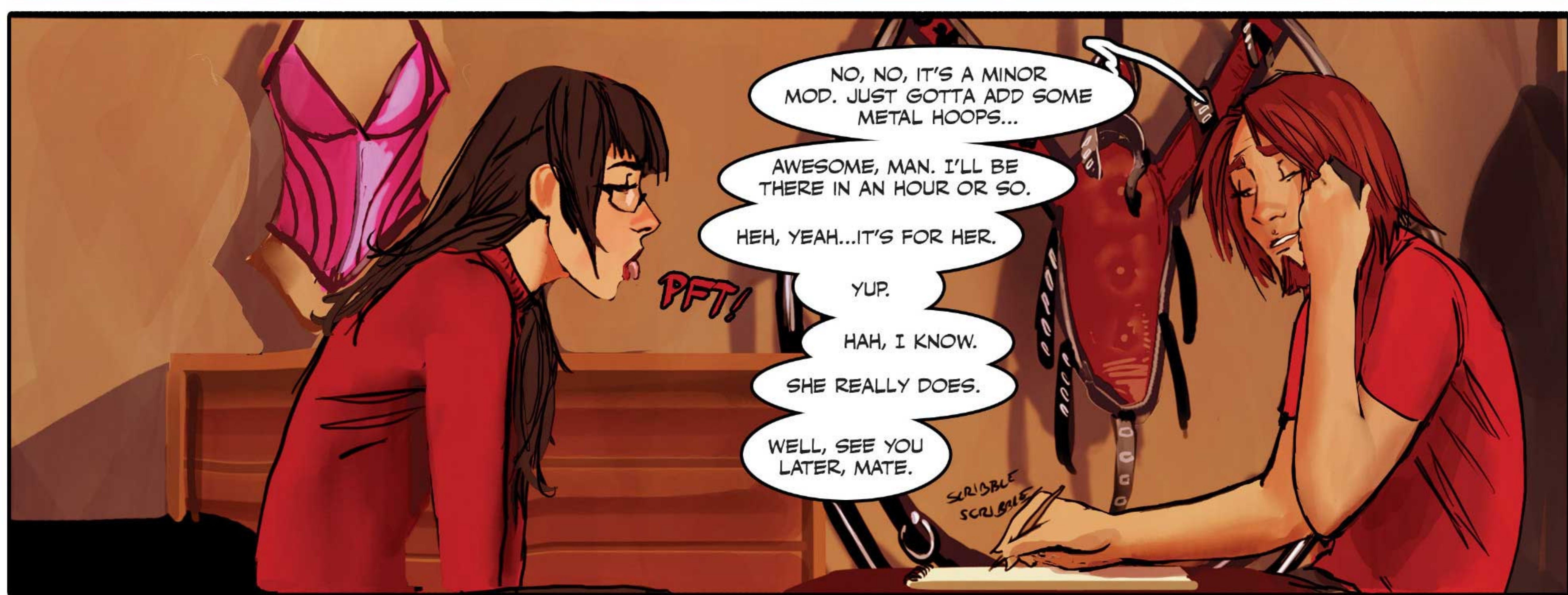
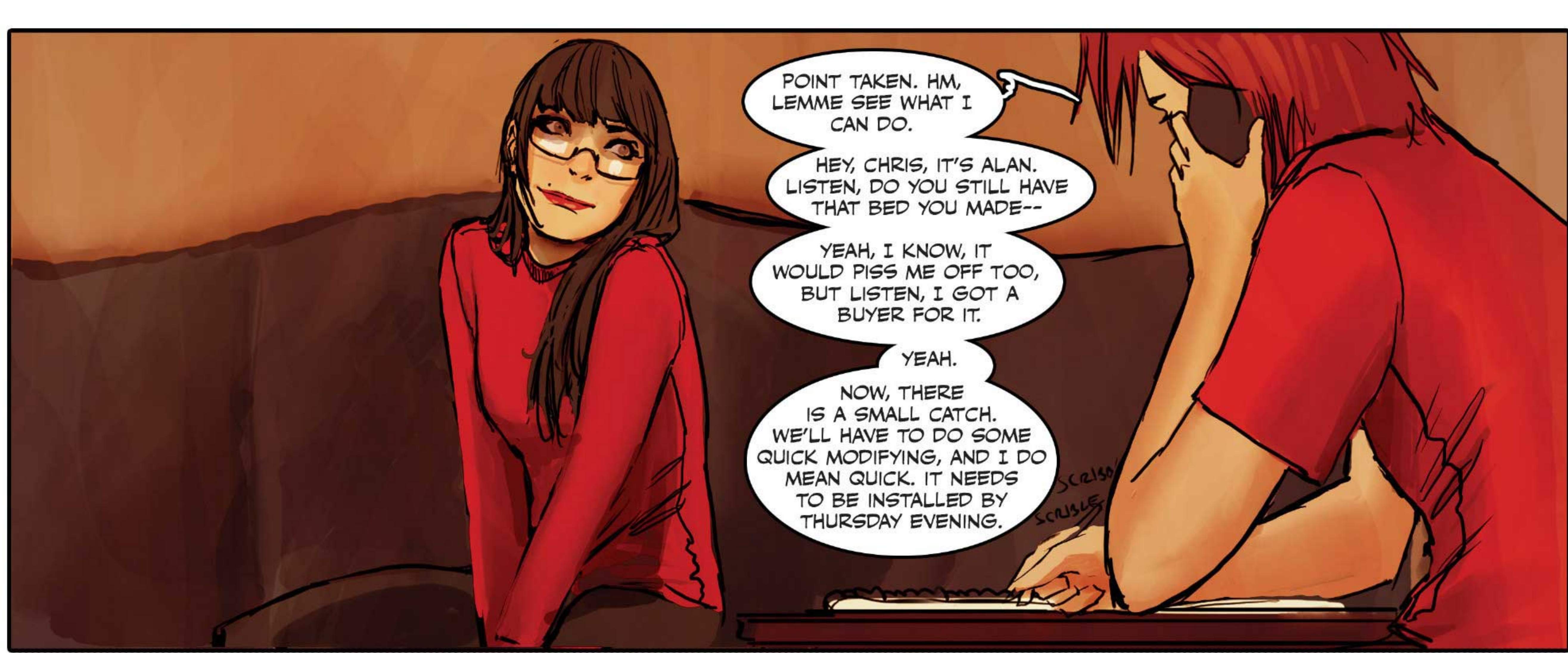
I SEE...



YOU KNOW... I REALLY SHOULDN'T COMPLAIN...BUT YOU SURE DO BURN A LOT OF MONEY ON THIS STUFF.



WELL...I DON'T LIKE CARS, NOT BIG ON JEWELRY, AND MY FASHION TASTE IS VERY.. SPECIFIC. THIS REALLY IS ONE OF THE FEW THINGS I GO CRAZY WITH.



THURSDAY.

ALLY! GET THIS CAT AWAY FROM ME!

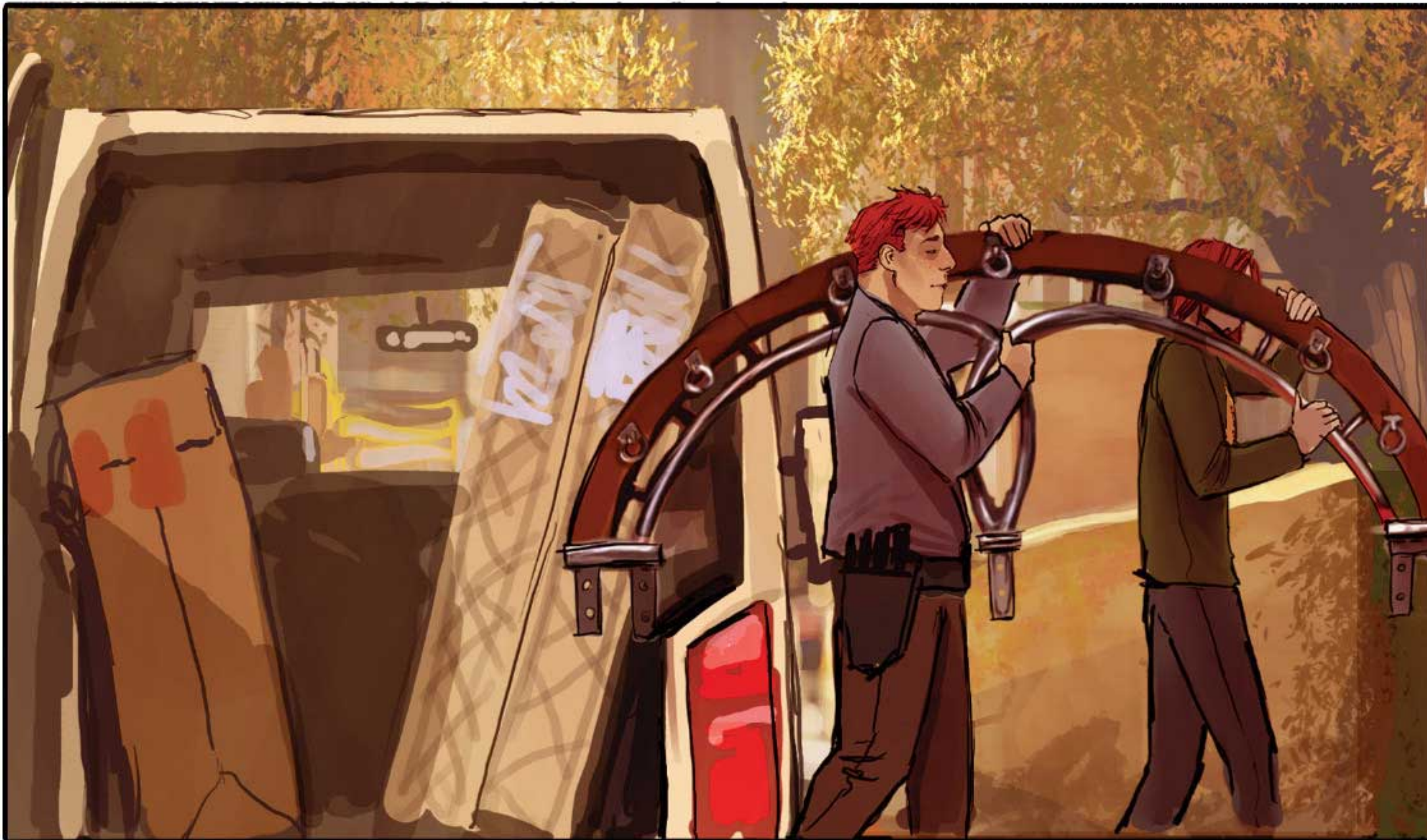
BONKERS!



WATCH YOUR BACK, ALAN. GO A BIT TO YOUR LEFT!

UH-HUH!

GO HOME, YOU SPOILED BRAT!



I HOPE HE WASN'T PESTERING YOU, ALLISON.

WHAT? OH, NO, MRS. KRAMER. HE'S OKAY, JUST A BIT IN THE WAY.

SORRY ABOUT THAT.

YOU KNOW, I DON'T MEAN TO PRY, BUT YOU SURE DO BUY A LOT OF FURNITURE FROM THAT FELLA. WHAT IS THAT THING ANYWAYS? SOME SORT OF A COAT HANGER?



NO THAT'S, AAAH...

WELL...

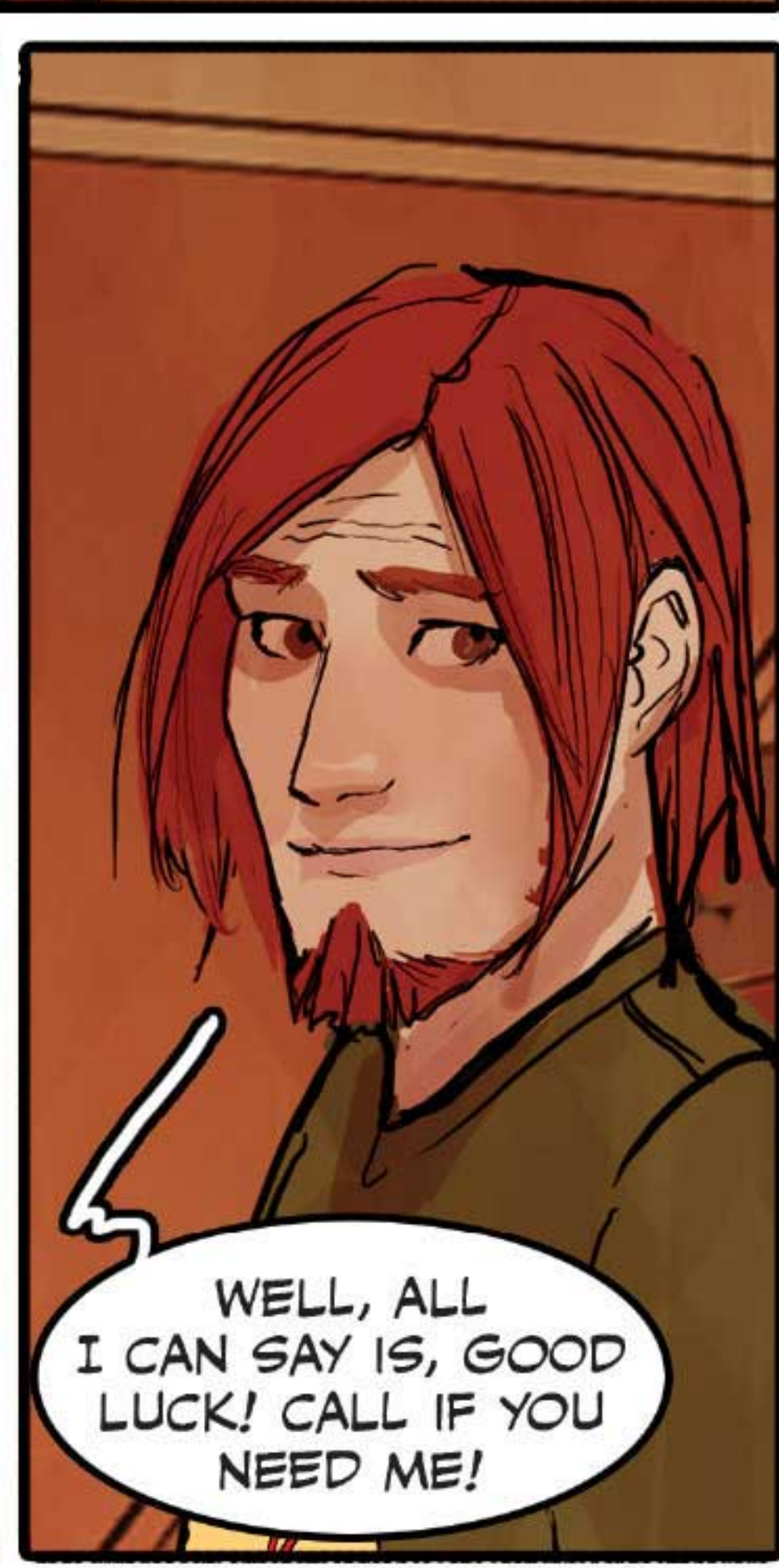
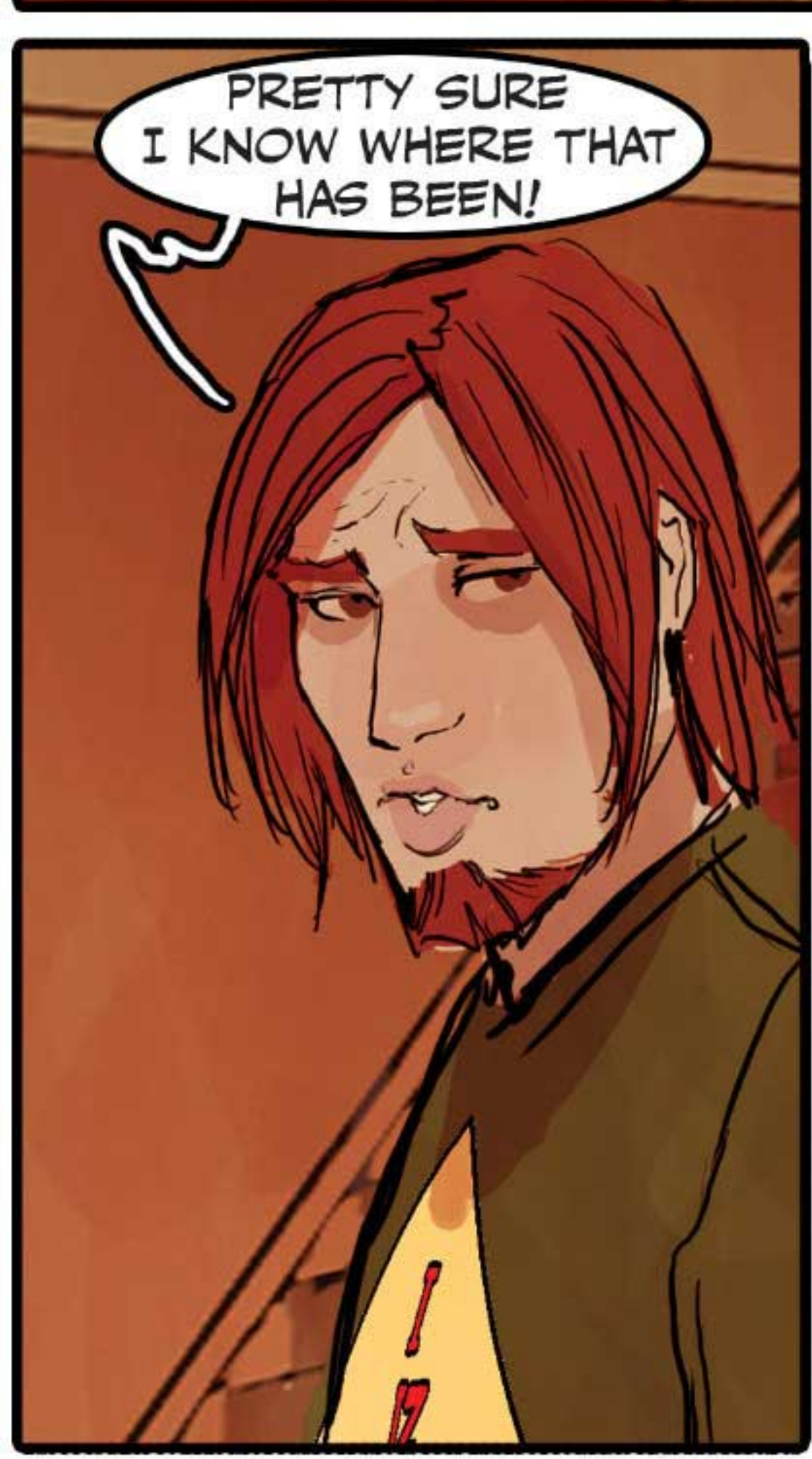
A BED.



SHE WASN'T LYING...



A FEW HOURS LATER...



ALLY SPENT A TOSSING, TURNING, RESTLESS NIGHT ON HER NEW BED, AND THEN...

A BIT NERVOUS...

FRIDAY FINALLY CAME. THE DAY THAT AT TIMES SEEMED IMPOSSIBLY FAR AWAY ARRIVED ONLY TO FIND US...

OKAY. SO... TODAY'S TO-DO LIST!

CLEAN KITCHEN!

TIDY UP THE LIVING ROOM...

SET AUTO-REPLY ON EMAIL...

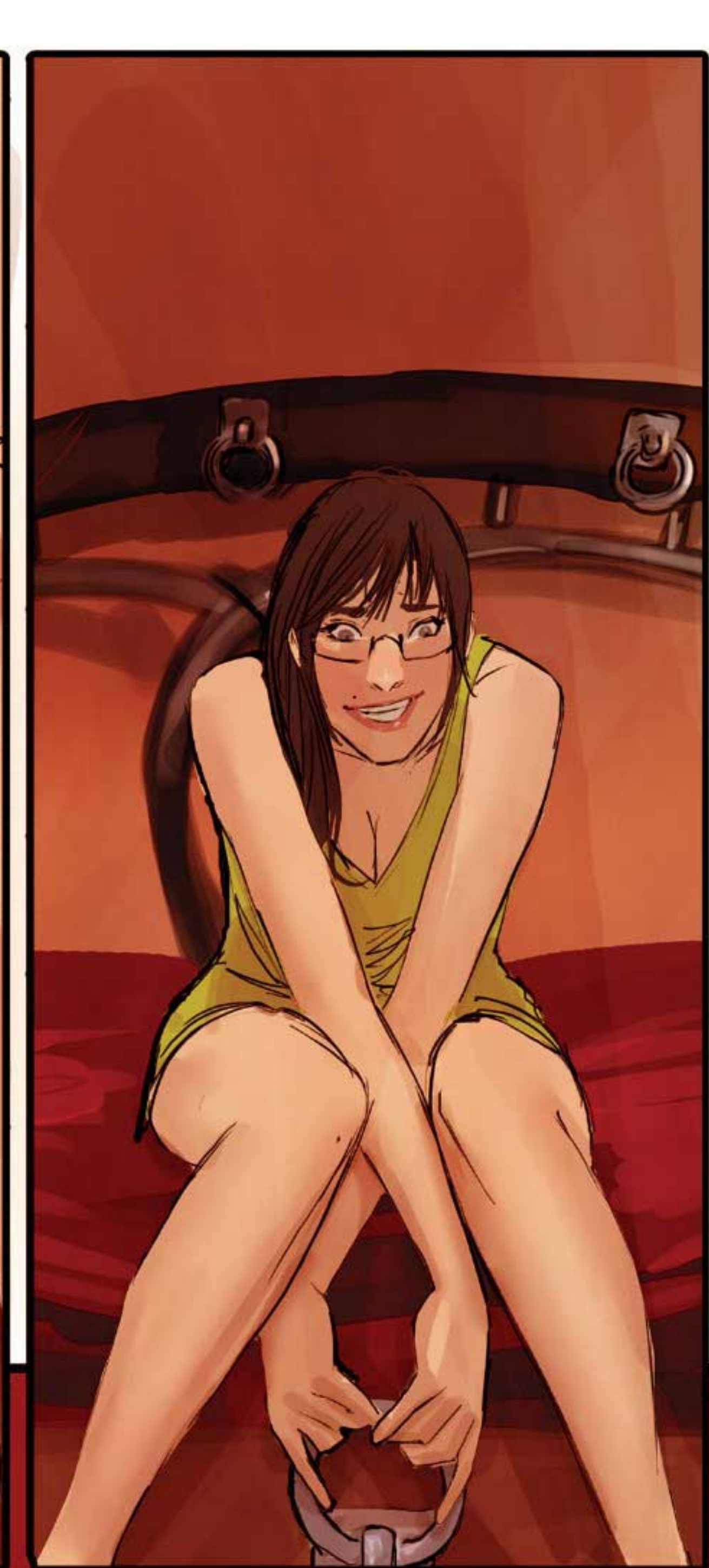
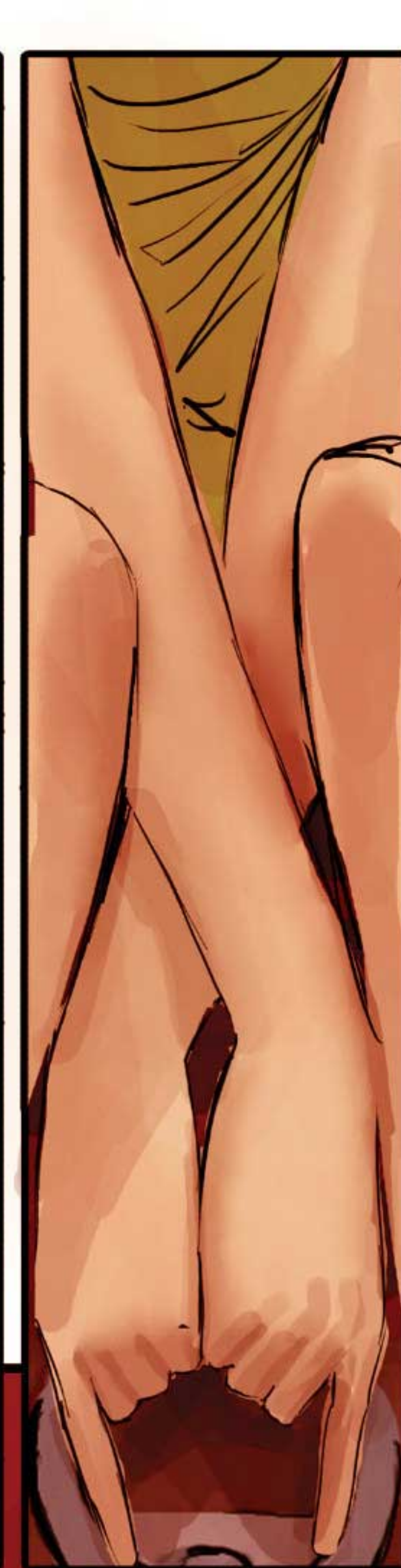
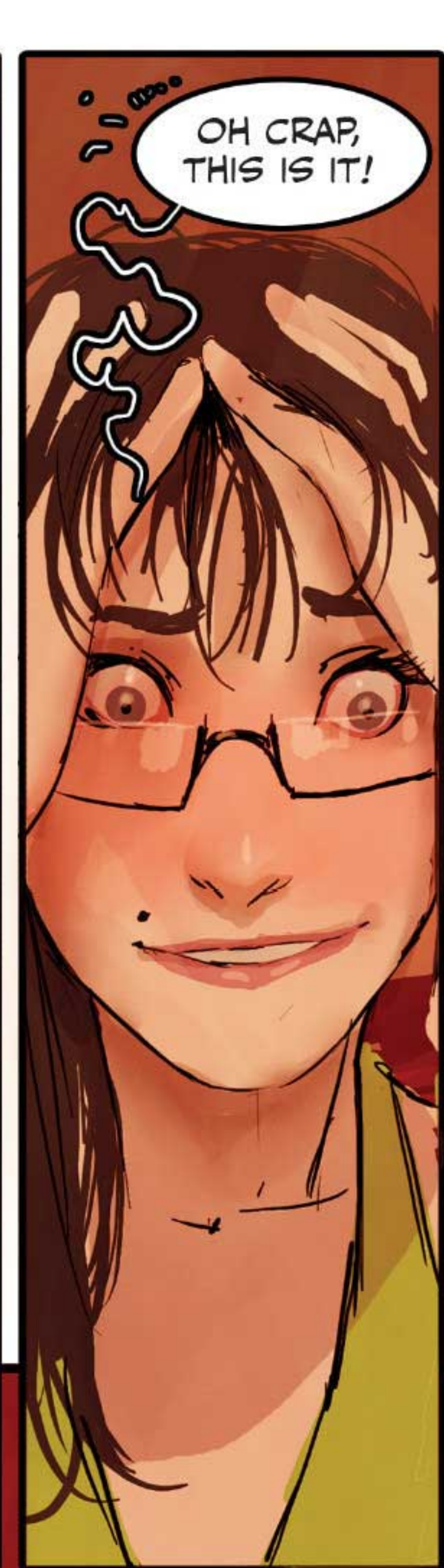
AND LATER TODAY MEET LISA...AAAAND BE A TRUE DOMINATRIX FOR THE FIRST TIME...

RIGHT...

RIGHT...

THAT WHOLE THING.

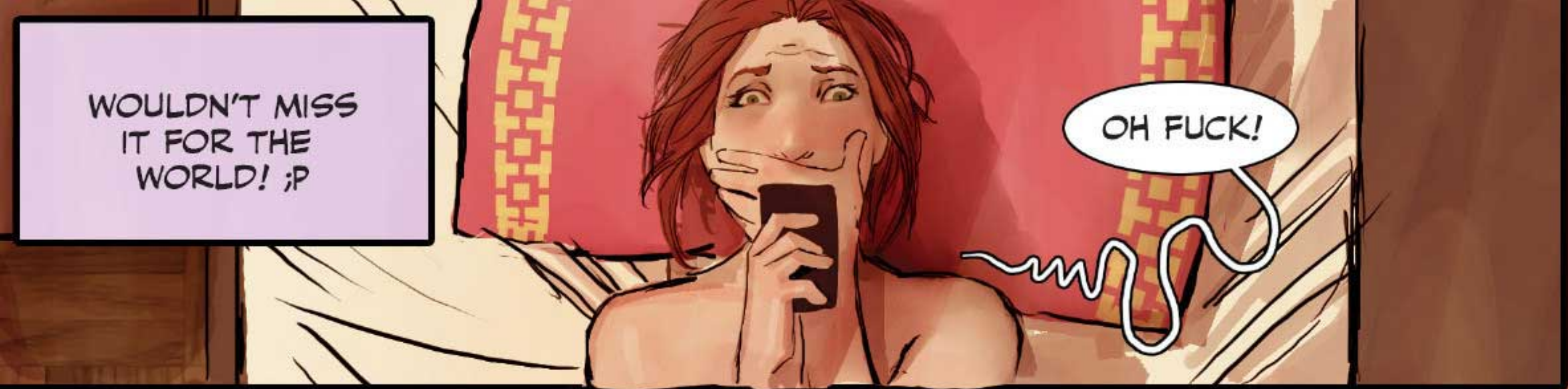




AHEM...SO, ALLY WAS REASONABLY EXCITED.



HEY, IT'S ME! JUST WANTED TO CHECK IF WE ARE STILL GOOD FOR TODAY?



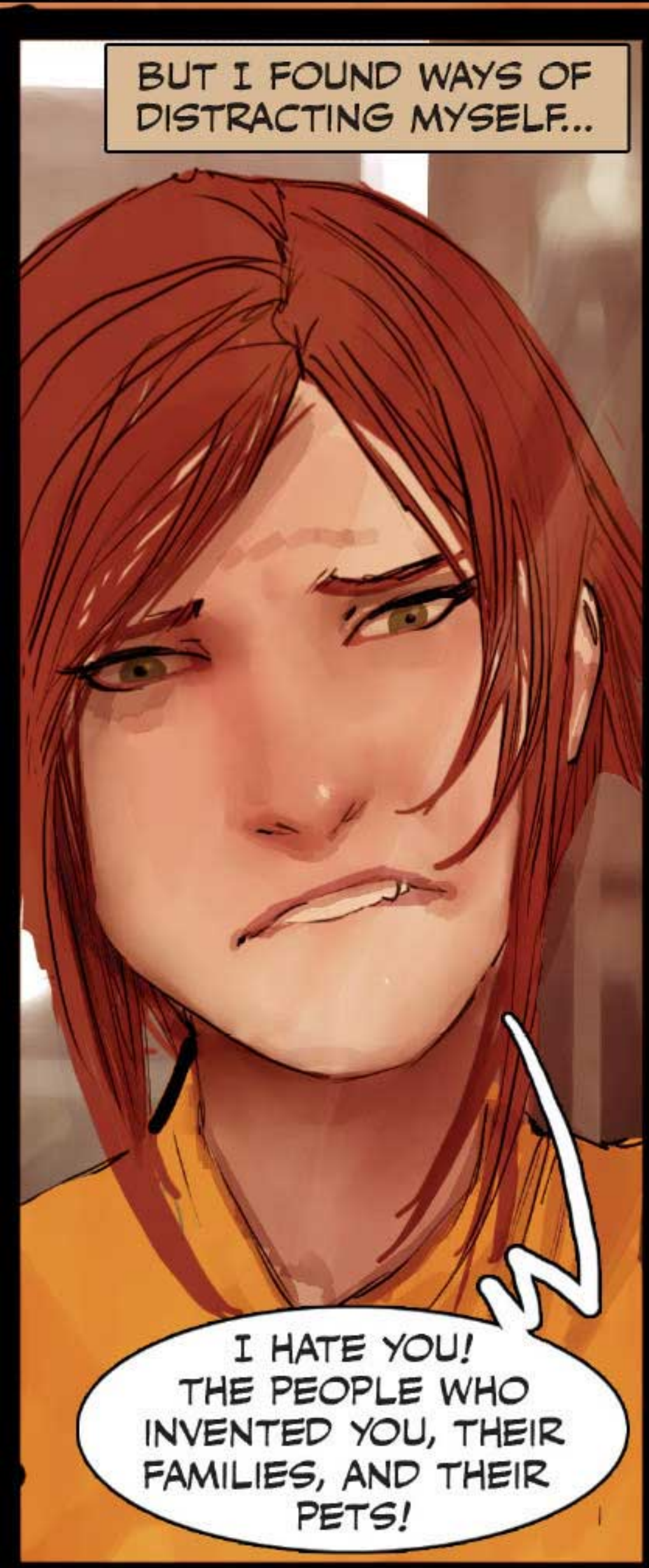
WOULDN'T MISS IT FOR THE WORLD! ;P

OH FUCK!



THIS IS IT! OOOOH SHIT!

YUP...THAT DAY MY PHONE MESSAGES PROJECTED CONFIDENCE WHILE MY STOMACH SCREAMED, "PANIC!"

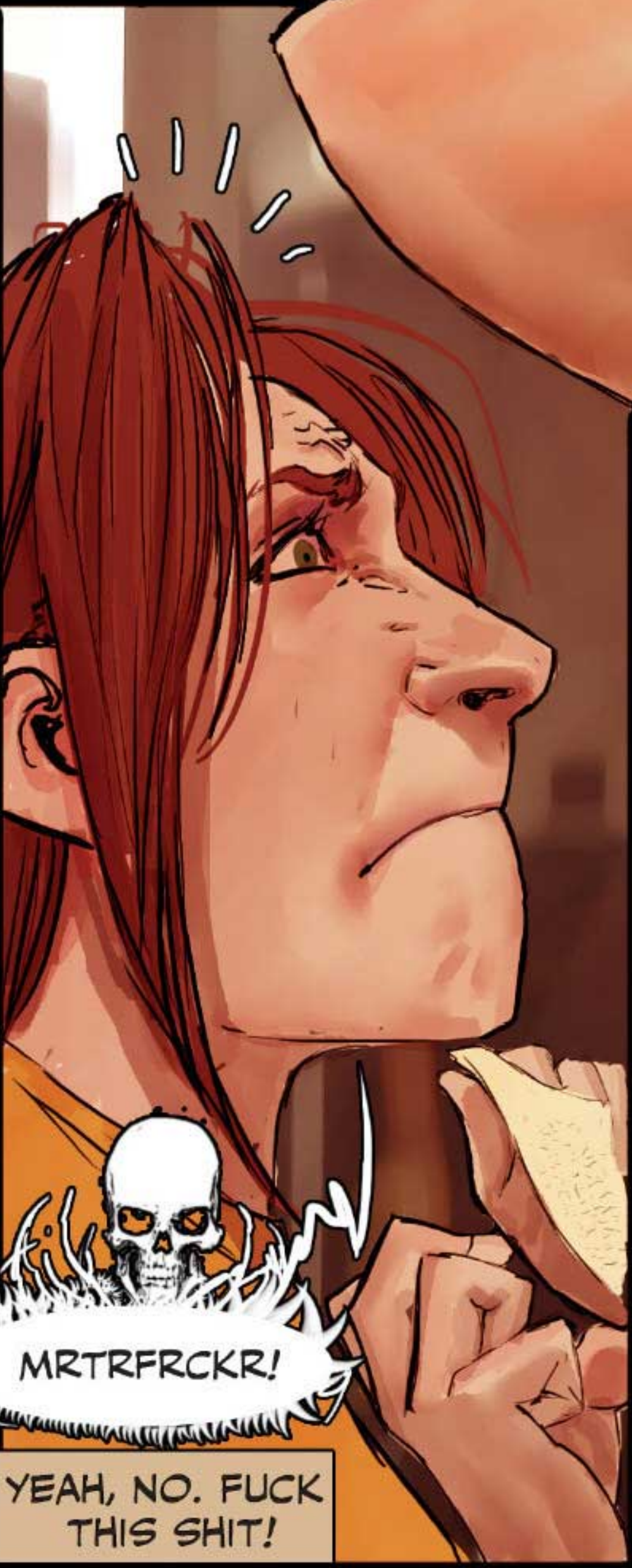


BUT I FOUND WAYS OF DISTRACTING MYSELF...



PAIN BEATS PANIC!

RRRIIPP

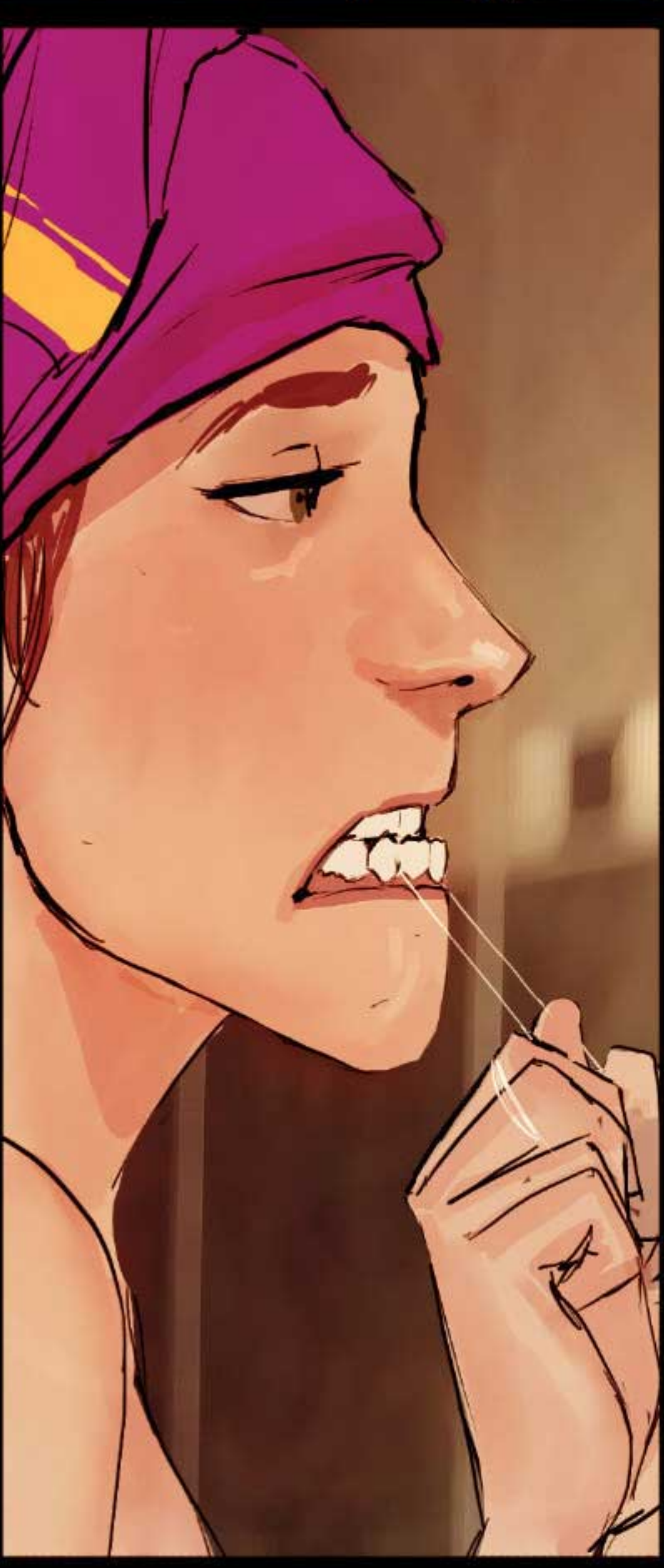
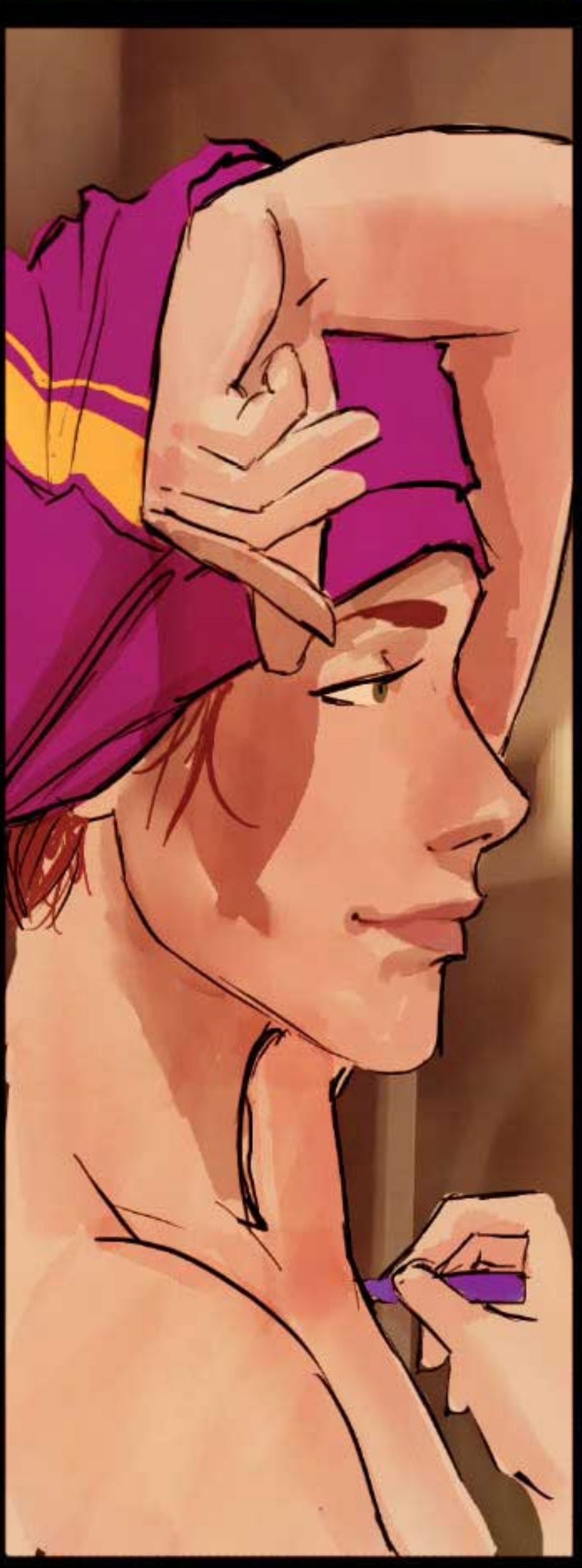


MRTRFRCKR!

YEAH, NO. FUCK THIS SHIT!

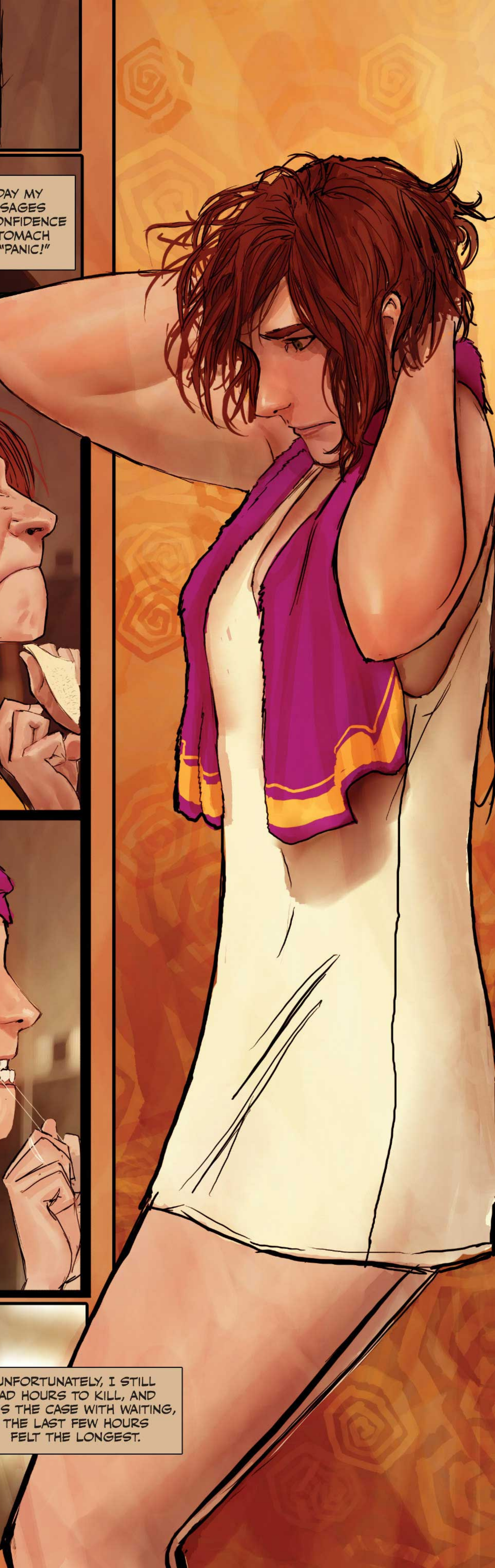


SO I GAVE UP ON WAXING AND JUST SHAVED...TURNS OUT THAT WAS A SMART CHOICE FOR...LATEX REASONS!



THAT SHOULD DO, I GUESS.

UNFORTUNATELY, I STILL HAD HOURS TO KILL, AND AS IS THE CASE WITH WAITING, THE LAST FEW HOURS FELT THE LONGEST.





FOR ALLY, HOWEVER, THE SITUATION WAS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT.

SIMPLE ENOUGH. NON-INTIMIDATING. THIS SHOULD DO!



SHE HAD FAR MORE EXTENSIVE PREPARATIONS TO TAKE CARE OF.

ALLY'S ROOM!



RESPONSIBILITY AND PREPARATION ARE THE BURDENS OF THE DOMME. FOR WITH GREAT POWER...WELL...YOU GET THE GIST OF IT!

YEAH, PROBABLY BEST IF WE START IT OFF HERE.

ALLY'S ROOM!



ALLY'S ROOM!

WHAT? THE TOILET THING? AH, SO IT TURNS OUT WHEN SHE IS EXTREMELY NERVOUS, SHE GETS A BAD CASE OF UPSET STOMACH.

I THINK THAT'S ALL. OH CRAP, IS IT ALL?

YEAH.

YEAH, I GOT EVERYTHING READY!

I HOPE!



UM...YEAH...ALLY LIVES ALONE, AND TENDS TO TALK TO HERSELF AT TIMES...

FLUSSH

FLUSSH

FLUSSH

WHY, YES! I TOO LIVE ALONE. HOW DID YOU GUESS?

SO, HI, UM, I'M LISA...YEEEAH. I SO DON'T HAVE THE GUTS FOR THIS KIND OF AN INTRODUCTION.

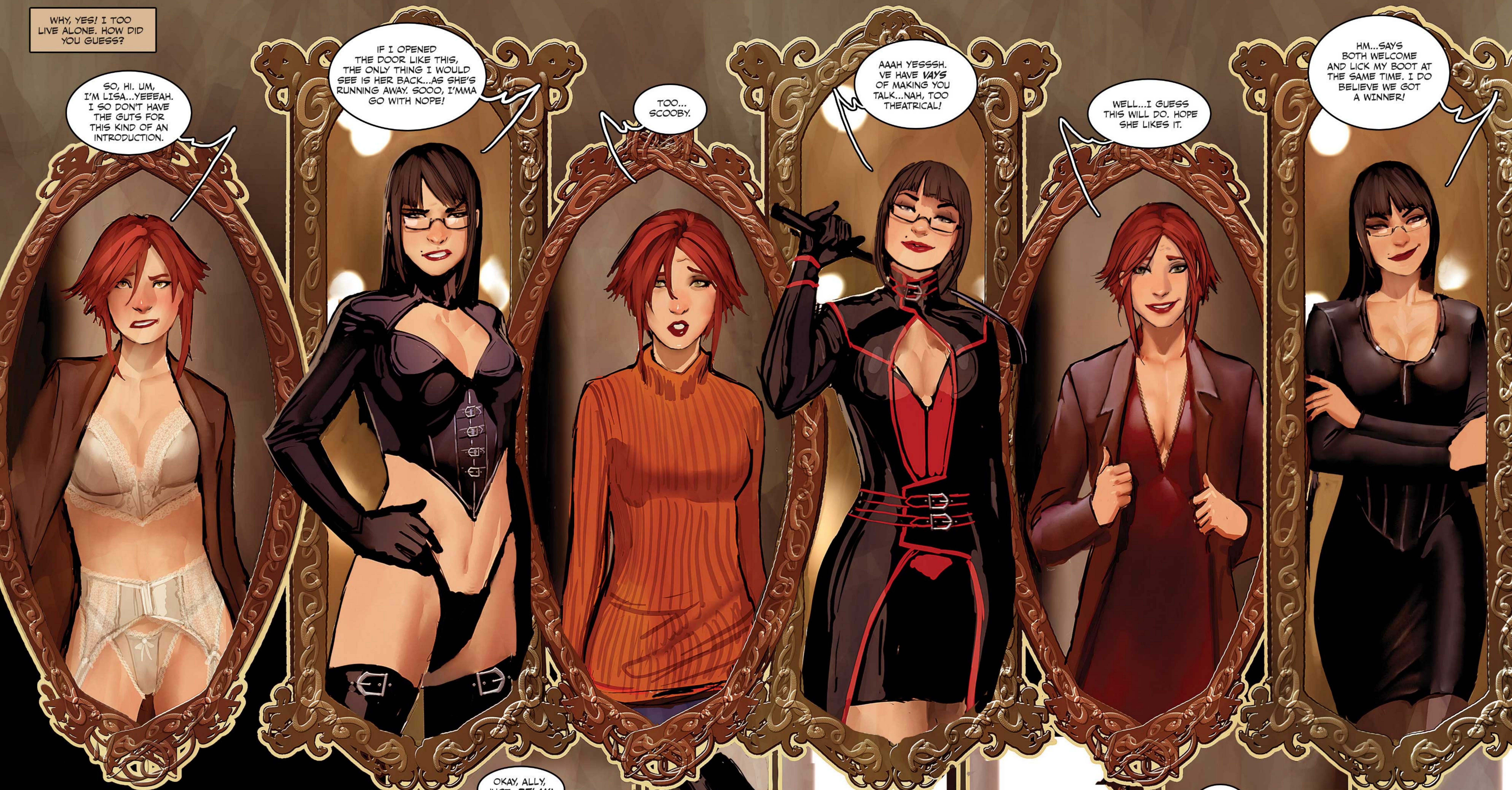
IF I OPENED THE DOOR LIKE THIS, THE ONLY THING I WOULD SEE IS HER BACK...AS SHE'S RUNNING AWAY. SOOO, I'MMA GO WITH NOPE!

TOO... SCOOBY.

AAAH YESSH. VE HAVE VAYS OF MAKING YOU TALK...NAH, TOO THEATRICAL!

WELL...I GUESS THIS WILL DO. HOPE SHE LIKES IT.

HM...SAYS BOTH WELCOME AND LICK MY BOOT AT THE SAME TIME. I DO BELIEVE WE GOT A WINNER!



I WAS EXCITED, OH YES... BUT IT WAS IN THE CAB THAT IT ALL FINALLY HIT ME. I KNEW ALLISON JUST AS SOMEONE FROM THE FORUMS, FROM CHAT, AND ULTIMATELY FROM OUR WEBCAM ENCOUNTERS. AND NOW... HERE I WAS, ABOUT TO MEET HER IN PERSON, AND THEN...

SO MANY THOUGHTS CAME CRASHING IN...ONE OF THE MOST PERSISTENT ONES BEING...SHE IS A WOMAN! WHAT IF...WHAT IF I DON'T... WHAT IF IT DOESN'T, LIKE, WORK?

I MEAN, OUR WEBCAM FLIRTATIONS ASIDE... WHAT IF SHE TURNS THE KEY AND MY ENGINE DOESN'T, LIKE, START RUNNING? ARRRGGGHHH...

AND ON TOP OF ALL THAT, I HAVE TO PEE SO BADLY...PERFECT!



OKAY, ALLY, JUST...RELAX!

YOU'VE BEEN TALKING TO LISA FOR OVER TWO MONTHS NOW...

SHE WANTS THIS, YOU WANT THIS.

BUT... WHAT IF I MESS IT ALL UP? WHAT IF I TAKE IT TOO FAR TOO FAST AND END UP SCARING HER OFF?

OKAY, LISA. CALM DOWN...

WOW... THAT'S A BIG HOUSE!

COME ON, YOU CAN DO THIS!

HERE WE GO.

DA-DING DONG

SHE'S HERE!

CRAP! I STILL GOTTA PEE!





HELL OF A WAY TO START THIS OFF. HI THERE...I'M LISA, AND I GOTTA PEE.

I COME IN PEACE, NOW TAKE ME TO YOUR TOILET!

BETRAYED BY MY OWN BLADDER.



MAYBE I'M OVERREACTING?

IT'S A NORMAL THING. YEAH...THE TIMING WAS A LITTLE IFFY.

BUT IT'S NOT LIKE IT NEVER HAPPENED TO HER.



AM I JUST OVER-THINKING THIS?

WHAT COULD SHE BE THINKING?



HMMMM...I DO LOOK LIKE A VILLAIN.

MAYBE I SHOULD GET A CAT. A WHITE ONE?

WHY NO, MR. BOND, I EXPECT YOU TO DIE!

NO...NO CATS. STILL TOO YOUNG TO BE A CAT LADY.



UM, SORRY ABOUT THAT. THAT WASN'T REALLY HOW I PLANNED THIS.

PLEASE, LISA. HAPPENS TO ALL OF US.



COME, SIT, MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME. AND DON'T WORRY, IT'S PERFECTLY NORMAL TO BE NERVOUS. THIS IS MY FIRST TIME TOO, SO HOW ABOUT WE JUST TALK FOR A WHILE AND LET THIS EVENING TAKE ITS COURSE AT ITS OWN PACE.



HEH...MY JITTERS ARE THAT OBVIOUS, HUH?

AND THERE WE WERE,
FINALLY FACE TO FACE.

SO WHY THE HELL COULDN'T
I JUST...TALK?!

I WANTED TO BE A WRITER,
AND YET, SITTING THERE FACING
HER, WORDS FAILED ME.

I WAS AFRAID I WOULDN'T
FEEL THE CHEMISTRY WE
SHARED DURING OUR CHATS.
TO THE CONTRARY, I MAY HAVE
BEEN OVERWHELMED BY
JUST HOW INTENSE THE
CHEMISTRY ACTUALLY WAS.

I MEAN, WE WOULD CHAT FOR
HOURS, OFTEN VIA WEBCAM. I
LIKED HER, BUT IN PERSON SHE
WAS JUST...OVERWHELMING...

SURE, A LOT OF IT WAS
MAKEUP AND CLOTHES...BUT
SHE HAD THIS...ENERGY.

SO...

SO...

STILL...SHE WAS ALLY...

MY FRIEND ALLYCAT...

THERE WAS NO DOUBT ABOUT
THAT, AND SOON WE WERE
LOST IN OUR OWN WORLD.

WE TALKED AND LAUGHED,
AND I KNEW TWO THINGS.

I WAS HAPPY...

AND I LIKED HER.

A LOT.

...AND HE
GOES, "WHY DO
YOU EVEN HAVE
THAT? AM I NOT
ENOUGH?" AND
I'M LOOKING AT A
STACK OF FIFTY
OR SO PORN
DVDS...

AND A FEW HOURS
LATER WE BOTH
KNEW IT...

IT WAS TIME.

SO...

SO...

ARE YOU
SURE YOU STILL
WANT THIS?

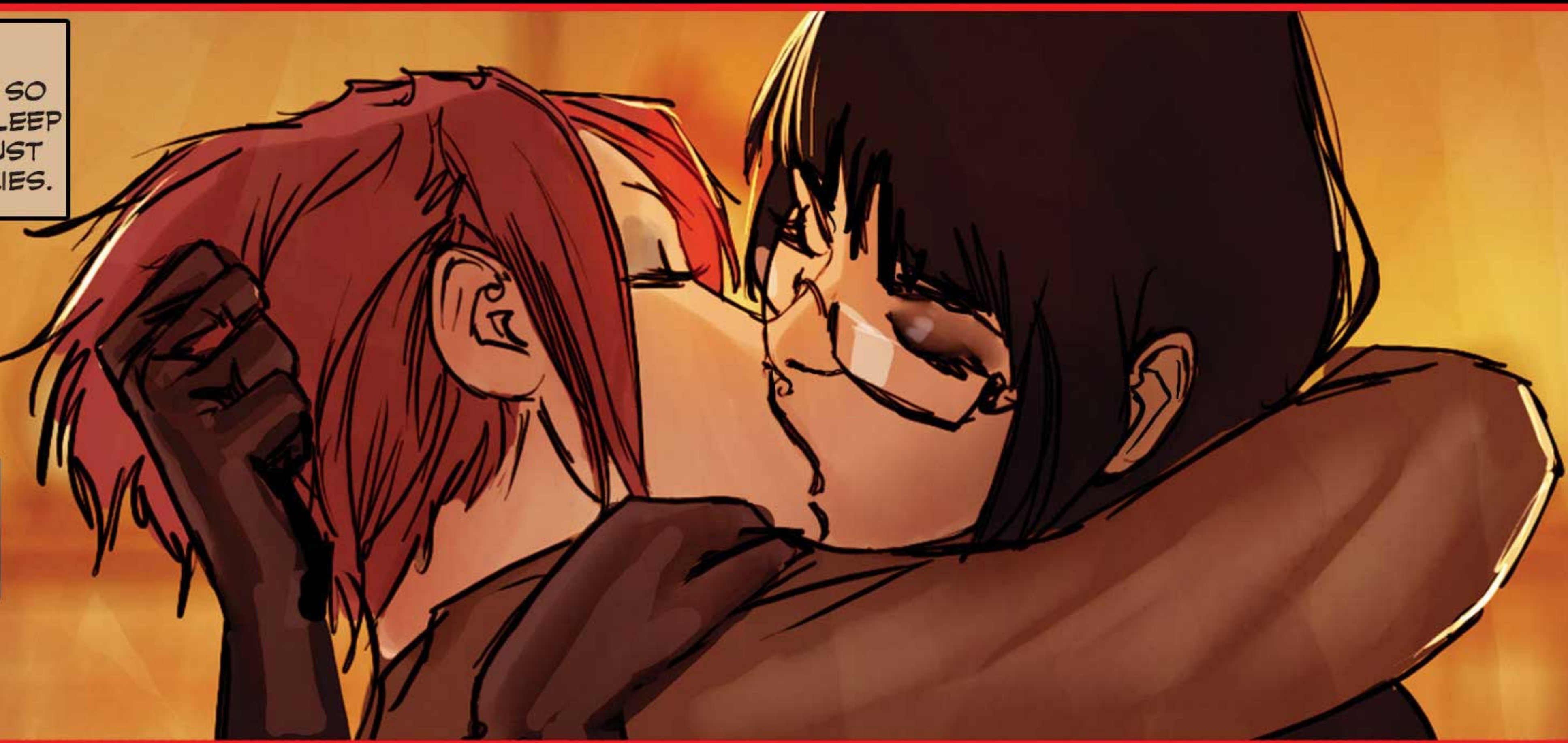
YES...I
REALLY DO.

OH...YES...THE IDEA OF KISSING HER FREAKED ME OUT SO MUCH THAT I COULDN'T FALL ASLEEP LAST NIGHT. I SPENT HOURS JUST DIGGING THROUGH OLD MEMORIES.

I DID IT ONCE, KISSED A GIRL I MEAN. IT WAS A DRUNKEN PARTY. I WAS MESSING WITH MY BOYFRIEND AT THE TIME... I REMEMBER THE ARGUMENT WE HAD...BUT NOT THE KISS.

FUNNY THING IS, THERE WAS A REASON FOR THAT KISS...AND I REMEMBER THE REASON... BUT NOT THE KISS ITSELF.

THIS, HOWEVER...
KISSING ALLY...



THIS I WOULD REMEMBER!

WOW...

WOW YOURSELF...




I'VE BEEN LOOKING AT YOU IN THAT COAT FOR QUITE LONG ENOUGH. WHAT DO YOU SAY WE TAKE IT OFF?

OH...UM...YEAH...HEH. ACTUALLY, I'VE GOTTEN A BIT SWEATY...I SHOULD PROBABLY WASH UP...



DON'T WORRY, AFTER I'M DONE WITH YOU WE'LL BOTH NEED A NICE BATH.






NOW, HERE IS THE
BASE RULE OF TODAY'S GAME!
I WILL BE GENTLE, I WILL NOT
BE PUSHING YOUR LIMITS, THERE
WILL BE NO PAIN...NO
DISCIPLINE...UNLESS YOU
CALL ME...*MISTRESS*.

SO IF I WAS TO
CALL YOU *MISTRESS*...
YOU WOULD...DO
THINGS TO ME?

YES...WHETHER YOU
LIKED IT OR NOT...

SO...WHY WOULD
I *CHOOSE*...TO
SAY IT?



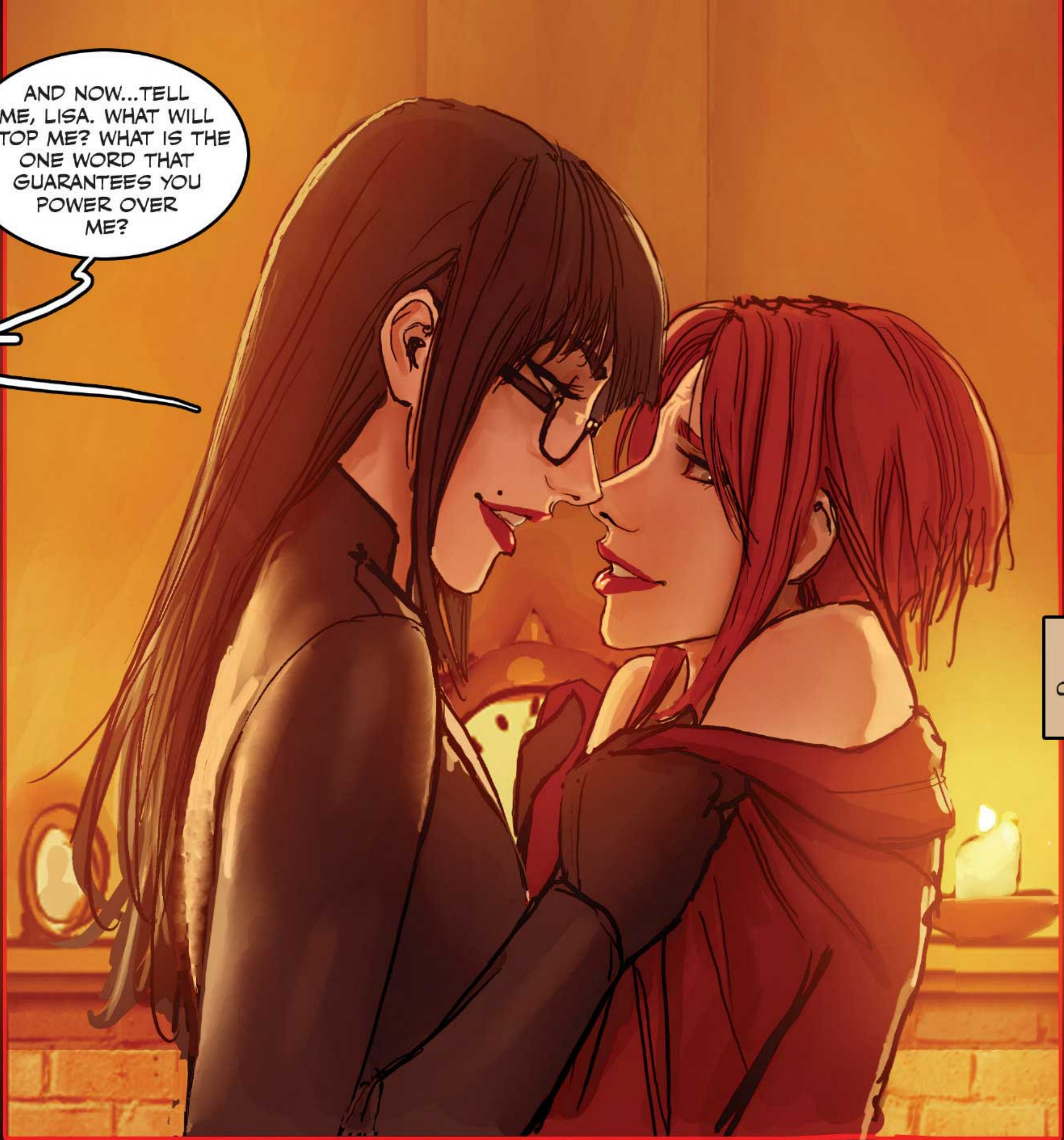
WELL...YOU'LL
FIND THAT I CAN
BE QUITE
PERSUASIVE...

AND NOW...TELL ME, LISA. WHAT WILL STOP ME? WHAT IS THE ONE WORD THAT GUARANTEES YOU POWER OVER ME?

OKAY, THIS!

THIS RIGHT HERE!

THIS BIT OF WONDERFULLY CHEESY POWER-PLAY...



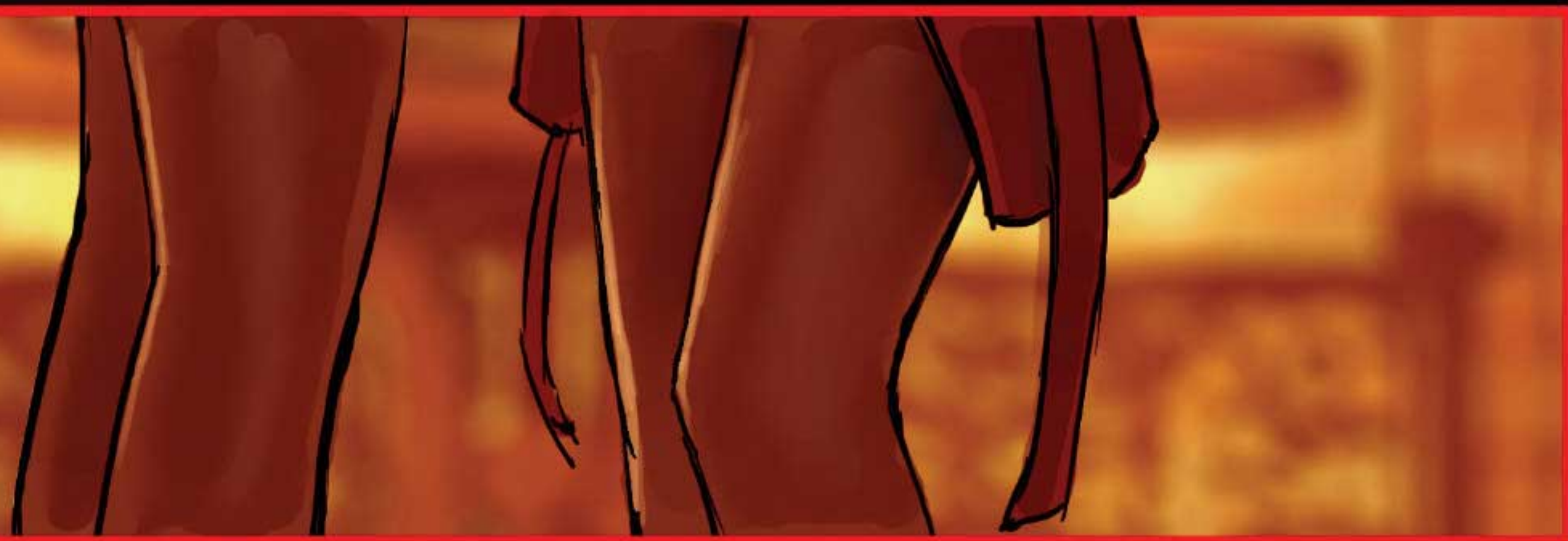
COMPLETELY AND TOTALLY PLANNED AND REHEARSED...



CHEESY OR NOT...THE EFFECT WAS ELECTRIC.

MADE ME WEAK IN THE KNEES AND ALL THAT...

WELL...KNEES AND DEEPER PLACES.



AAANYHOW...

MY SAFEWORD IS?

SUNSTONE!



THEN... SHALL WE BEGIN?

BUT, I THOUGHT SUNSTONE IS SUPPOSED TO END IT?



A WISE-ASS, HUH?

THAT'S OKAY. WISE, DUMB...ALL ASSES GET SPANKED!



THE MOMENT WAS RIGHT,
THE PERSON WAS RIGHT, AND...
WOW...I SOUND LIKE A BONER
PILL AD...BUT YOU GET THE POINT.

SHOULDN'T
YOU LEAD THE WAY?

NOPE, I'M
ENJOYING THE
VIEW.

AAAH...
I SEE.

NOPE, I SEE,
AND I LIKE!



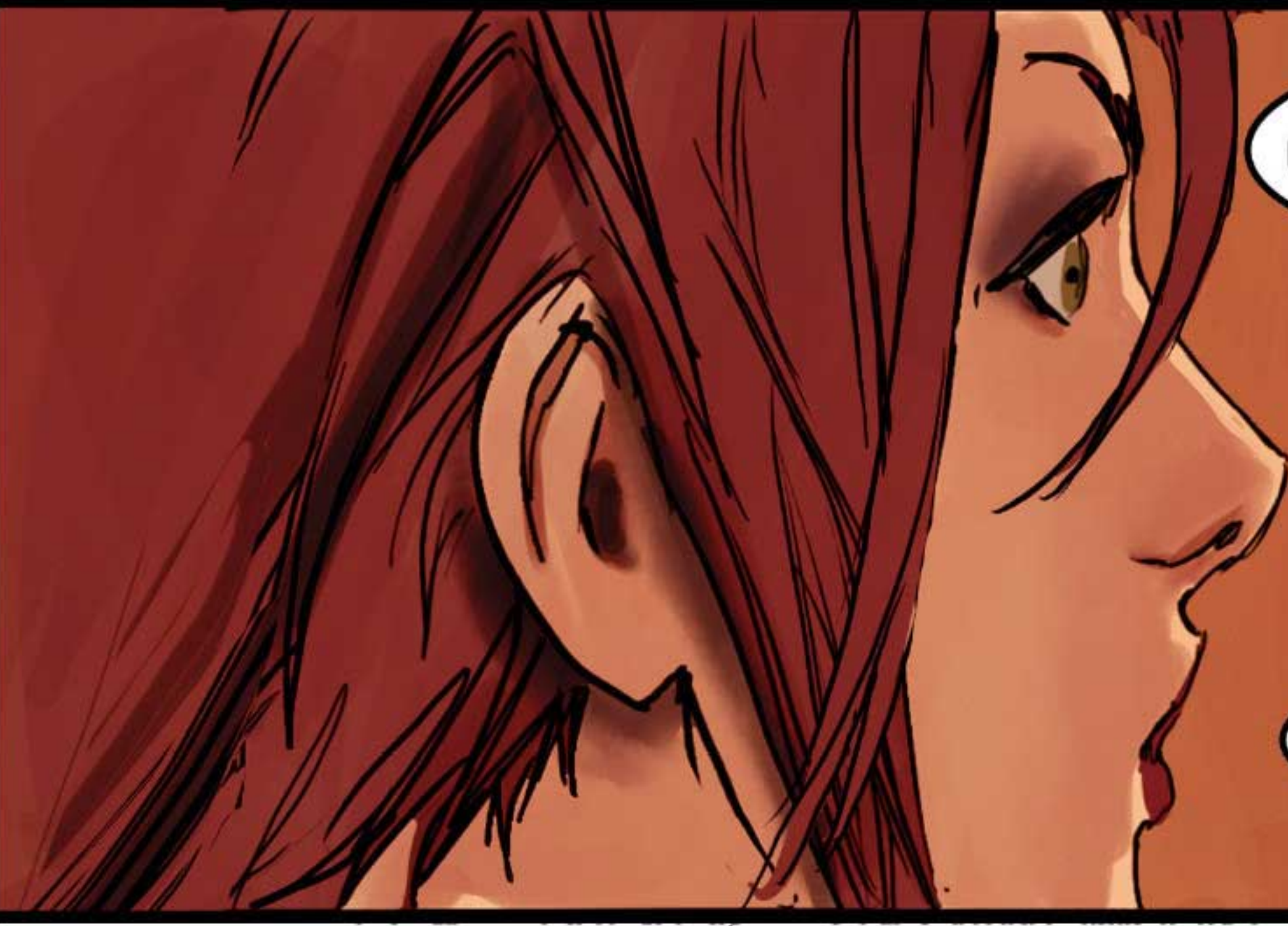
UM, SO,
IN HERE?



WOAH!
CRAP!

ERM, ACTUALLY NOT
IN HERE. IT'S MESSY AND...
UH...CRAPPY BED!

OKAY...



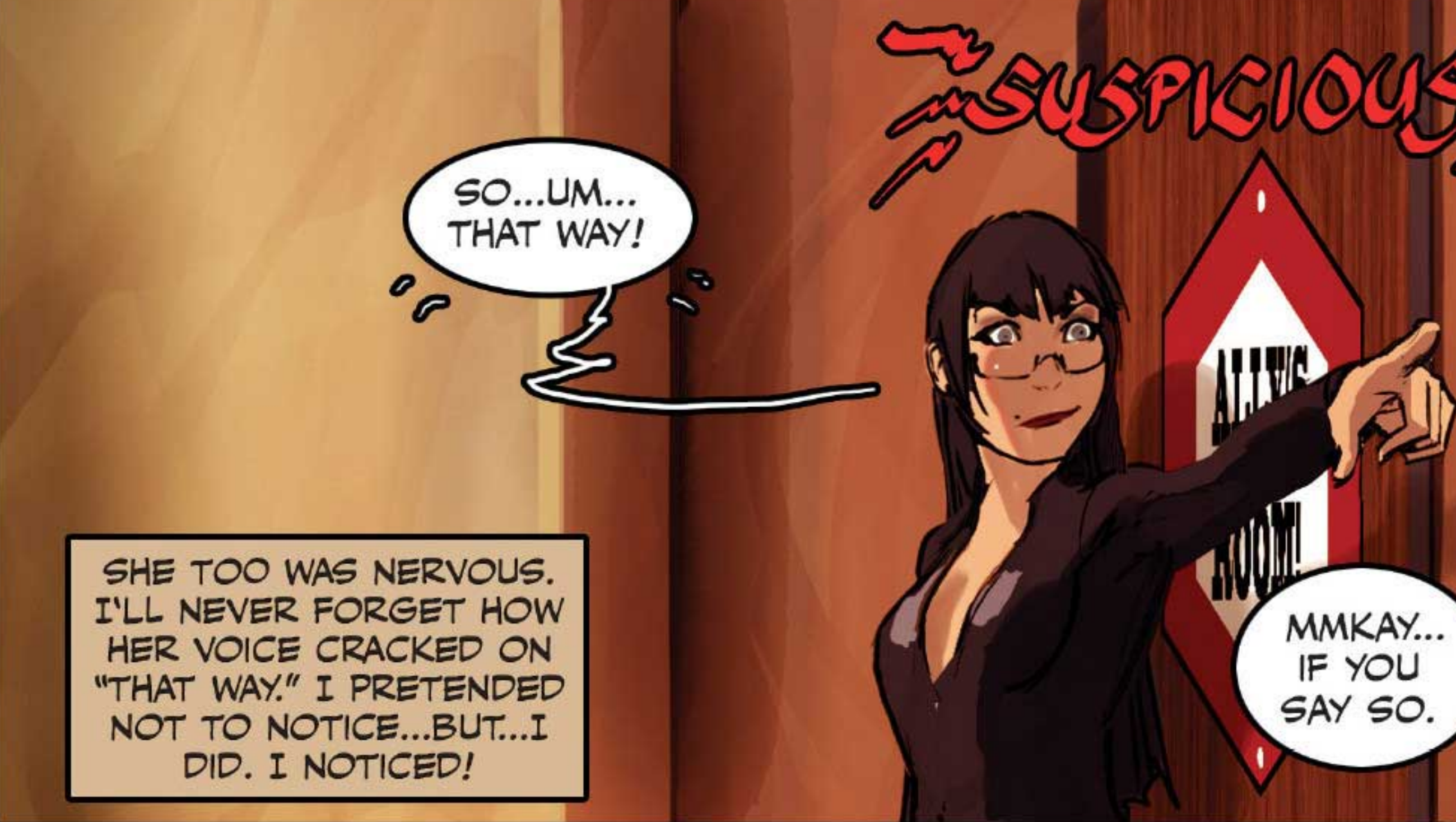
SUSPICIOUS

SO...UM...
THAT WAY!

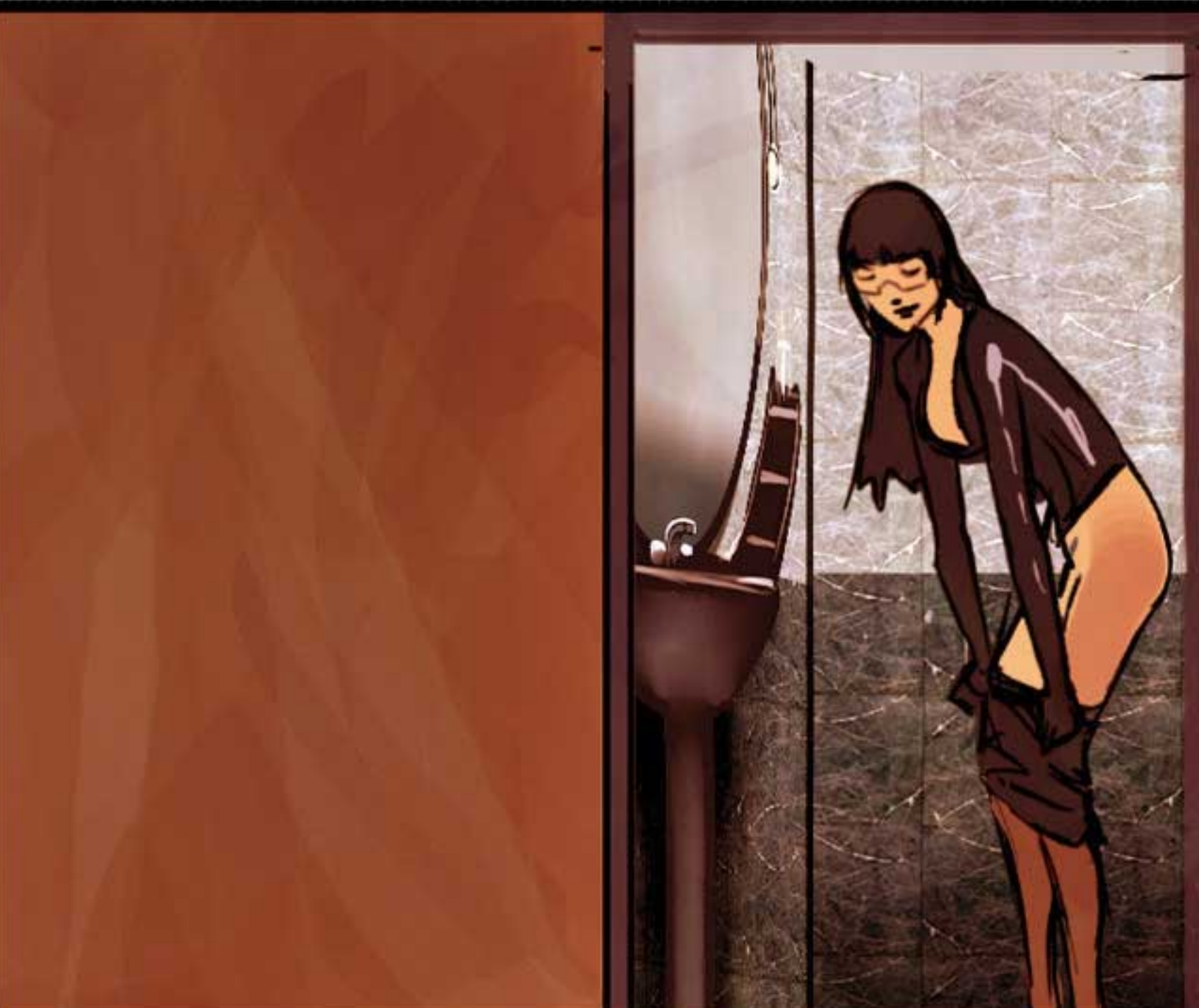
THE HELL
WAS ALL THAT
ABOUT?

MMKAY...
IF YOU
SAY SO.

SHE TOO WAS NERVOUS.
I'LL NEVER FORGET HOW
HER VOICE CRACKED ON
"THAT WAY." I PRETENDED
NOT TO NOTICE...BUT...I
DID. I NOTICED!



DAMN...THAT
WAS A CLOSE ONE!



AS I WAS GETTING READY, I FOUND IT
MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO IGNORE
THE NERVOUS KNOT IN MY STOMACH.

HAVING ANY DREAM FULFILLED
IS EXCITING...BUT THIS...THIS WAS
AN OVERLOAD OF ANTICIPATION...

MY DEEPEST SECRET DESIRES
WERE ABOUT TO BE SATISFIED.

I WAS TO FULLY SURRENDER TO
HER. BE BOUND, TEASED, TAKEN.

ON ONE HAND, IT WAS ALLYCAT...
AN ONLINE FRIEND WHO I
HAD KNOWN FOR MONTHS.

BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, IT WAS
ALLISON...A WOMAN I JUST MET.



BUT WHEN SHE ENTERED THE ROOM, I TRULY SAW IT FOR THE FIRST TIME.

I SAW IT IN HER AWKWARD STANCE, IN HER ATTEMPT TO HIDE THE SHAKING OF HER HANDS...

ALLISON AND ALLYCAT WERE ONE...



AND IN HER NERVOUS EYES, I SAW THAT SHE WAS TELLING THE TRUTH.

I WAS HER FIRST REAL SUBMISSIVE.

SO...UH... YOU ARE STILL SURE?

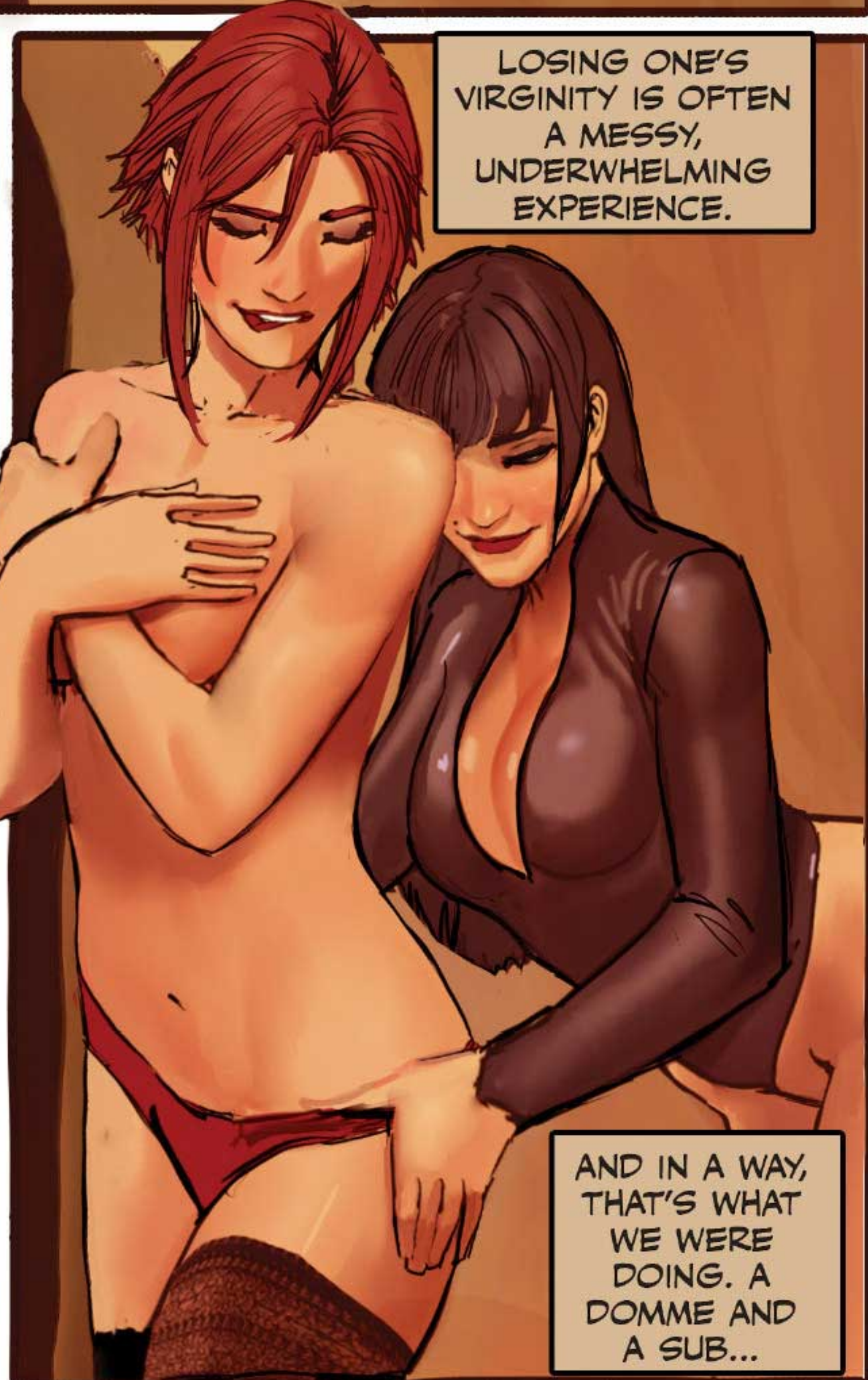


AND THE KNOT IN MY STOMACH VANISHED.

MORE THAN EVER!



SHE PLACED HER HANDS ON ME... CARESSING MY SKIN, BUT THE SHAKE WAS HARD TO MASK. SHE WAS NERVOUS. WE BOTH WERE.



LOSING ONE'S VIRGINITY IS OFTEN A MESSY, UNDERWHELMING EXPERIENCE.

AND IN A WAY, THAT'S WHAT WE WERE DOING. A DOMME AND A SUB...



PLAYING THE GAME FOR THE FIRST TIME...LEARNING THE RULES.

BUT JUST LIKE ANY GAME...THERE ARE THOSE WHO LEARN FAST!

LAY DOWN NOW! AND WE CAN BEGIN.



NOW, USUALLY I'M NOT BIG ON ROPES, BUT THEY WILL SERVE THEIR PURPOSE FOR WHAT I GOT IN MIND.

IT IS A FEELING I'VE LIKED FOR A LONG TIME.

ROPE BITING INTO MY SKIN, NOT TOO TIGHT, BUT UNYIELDING.

RELENTLESS.

AND YES, TURNING ME ON FASTER THAN A LIGHTSWITCH.

BUT IT IS DIFFERENT NOW.

FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME, I AM NOT ALONE.

LISA: AGE 18.

BEFORE, SOLITUDE WAS MY BEST FRIEND. IT WAS QUIET, FREEING, NON-JUDGEMENTAL. I CHERISHED THOSE MOMENTS OF PRIVACY WHEN MOM AND DAD WOULD LEAVE AND MY BROTHERS WERE AWAY.

AS THEY SAY, WHILE THE CAT IS AWAY...

THOSE MOMENTS WERE MY OWN PLAYTIME...

IN SECRECY AND SOLITUDE I LOOKED FOR FREEDOM IN BONDAGE.

ALONE, I KEPT A SECRET I COULD NOT SHARE WITH ANYONE. MY OWN DEVIATION FROM THE NORM.

WITH SEXUALITY BEING A TABOO ON A GOOD DAY, DEVIATIONS WERE ALWAYS OBSERVED WITH JUDGEMENTAL EYES.

BUT HONESTLY...EVEN THEN I KNEW ONE THING...

PEOPLE TOOK IT TOO DAMN SERIOUSLY.

THEY TOOK THAT SMALL, PERSONAL ASPECT OF ONE'S LIFE AND PUT A SPOTLIGHT ON IT.

AND UNDER THAT SPOTLIGHT, SEXUALITY CAST AN UGLY SHADOW ON SOCIETY.

AND SOCIETY FROWNED UPON IT...

BUT THERE WERE THOSE WHO UNDERSTOOD THAT IT IS A WONDERFUL ASPECT OF THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE.

WONDERFUL...

EXCITING...

INTIMATE...

SOMETIMES A BIT SCARY...

AND SOMETIMES EVEN A LITTLE FUNNY.

LISA DEAR, COULD YOU COME OUT AND HELP ME UNLOAD THE GROCERIES?

AW FWAF!



BUT THIS, MORE THAN ANYTHING, THIS IS FREEING.

THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT...IF YOU WERE MADE TO EAT IT...

IF YOU HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO TASTE IT...

COULD YOU NOT THEN LET GO OF THE GUILT?

COULD YOU NOT SIMPLY TASTE IT AND ENJOY IT?

I MEAN...WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO DO? I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE ANYWAYS.

AS I LAY HERE, STRAINING AGAINST MY BONDS, I KNOW THIS... I FEEL MORE FREE THAN I'VE EVER FELT IN MY LIFE. SO HELL YEAH, I'MMA ENJOY THAT FRUIT!

THIS WILL DO FOR NOW!

SOOO...

HERE IS HOW WE WILL DO THIS. I WILL BE TENDER, LOVING... THAT IS, UNTIL YOU WISH TO TRULY SUBMIT.

ALL IT TAKES IS FOR YOU TO CALL ME *MISTRESS*.

THEN I WILL PUT THIS AROUND YOUR NECK...

AND THEN, YOUR ASS IS MINE...AS IS THE REST OF YOU.

YOU ARE GONNA MAKE ME SUBMIT BY...*TENDERNESS*?

YUP!

YEAH...GOOD LUCK WITH THAT.

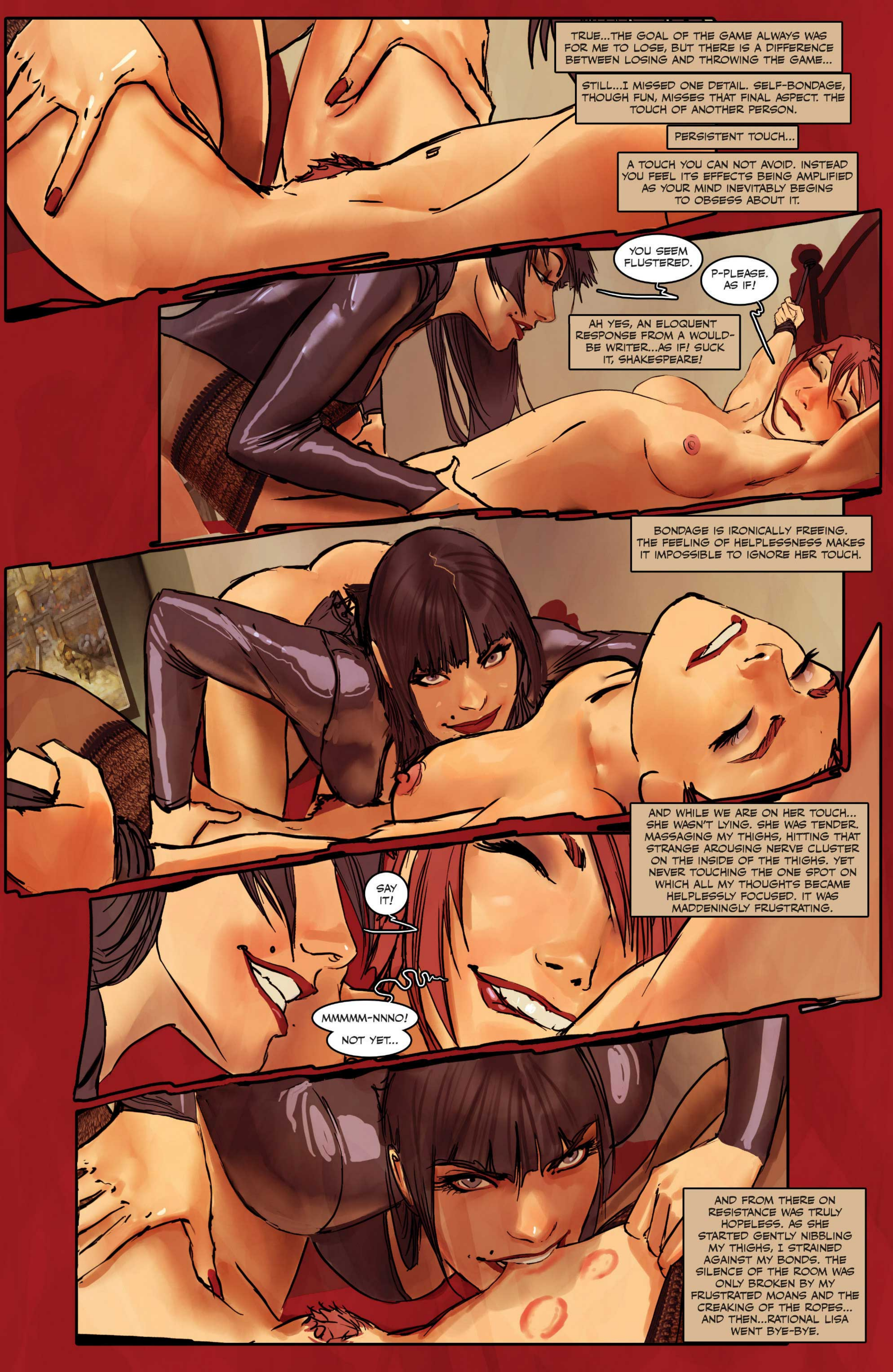
AW, HOW ADORABLE. YOU THINK YOU CAN RESIST ME.

OH, I'M PRETTY SURE I CAN DEAL WITH THE HORRORS OF...*TENDERNESS*.

OH WE'LL JUST SEE ABOUT THAT...

OKAY...SO I UNDERESTIMATED ONE SMALL DETAIL OF THIS SITUATION. I USED TO DO A LOT OF SELF-BONDAGE.

I FELT PRETTY CONFIDENT I COULD MATCH ALLY IN HER GAME.



TRUE...THE GOAL OF THE GAME ALWAYS WAS FOR ME TO LOSE, BUT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LOSING AND THROWING THE GAME...

STILL...I MISSED ONE DETAIL. SELF-BONDAGE, THOUGH FUN, MISSES THAT FINAL ASPECT. THE TOUCH OF ANOTHER PERSON.

PERSISTENT TOUCH...

A TOUCH YOU CAN NOT AVOID. INSTEAD YOU FEEL ITS EFFECTS BEING AMPLIFIED AS YOUR MIND INEVITABLY BEGINS TO OBSESS ABOUT IT.

YOU SEEM FLUSTERED.

P-PLEASE. AS IF!

AH YES, AN ELOQUENT RESPONSE FROM A WOULD-BE WRITER...AS IF! SUCK IT, SHAKESPEARE!

BONDAGE IS IRONICALLY FREEING. THE FEELING OF HELPLESSNESS MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO IGNORE HER TOUCH.

AND WHILE WE ARE ON HER TOUCH... SHE WASN'T LYING. SHE WAS TENDER. MASSAGING MY THIGHS, HITTING THAT STRANGE AROUSING NERVE CLUSTER ON THE INSIDE OF THE THIGHS. YET NEVER TOUCHING THE ONE SPOT ON WHICH ALL MY THOUGHTS BECAME HELPLESSLY FOCUSED. IT WAS MADDENINGLY FRUSTRATING.

SAY IT!

MMMMM-NNNO!
NOT YET...

AND FROM THERE ON RESISTANCE WAS TRULY HOPELESS. AS SHE STARTED GENTLY NIBBLING MY THIGHS, I STRAINED AGAINST MY BONDS. THE SILENCE OF THE ROOM WAS ONLY BROKEN BY MY FRUSTRATED MOANS AND THE CREAKING OF THE ROPES... AND THEN...RATIONAL LISA WENT BYE-BYE.



EVERY THOUGHT WAS THE SAME...
SO CLOSE...SO CLOSE...

THE LOOSENESS OF THE ROPES
WAS DECEPTIVE AND FURTHER
AGITATED THE FRUSTRATION.

BUT HEY...I FOUGHT
THE GOOD FIGHT.



AND HAPPILY
LOST IN THE END.

ARGHH FINE!
MISTRESS, OKAY?
MY MISTRESS!



NOW THEN,
WAS THAT SO HARD?

AS IF I HAD
A CHOICE...



AS IF I HAD A
CHOICE WHAT?

OW...
MISTRESS!

THAT'S BETTER! AND
NOW MY PET, IT'S TIME
FOR YOU TO SLIP INTO
SOMETHING MORE
APPROPRIATE.

AND THAT WAS MY
FIRST LESSON: WHEN
YOUR MISTRESS
PINCHES YOUR NIPPLE
HARD...YOU PAY
ATTENTION!



I WATCHED HER WITH ADMIRATION. SHE HAD REALLY GOTTEN INTO IT. MY... MISTRESS. I KNOW IT'S SILLY, BUT THERE IS AN EXCITING SENSE OF SURRENDER WHEN I CALL HER THAT.

YOU MAY FEEL A BIT CHILLY AT THE MOMENT, BUT I DID PREPARE A WARM OUTFIT FOR YOU.

NOW, MY PET, IT'S TIME TO SHOW YOU MY TOY ROOM.

YOU WERE REALLY CERTAIN I WOULD SUBMIT...MISTRESS?

IT IS WHY YOU CAME TO ME...



CALLING HER MISTRESS WAS STRANGE...GOOD STRANGE! IT SENT SHIVERS DOWN MY SPINE...I'M PRETTY SURE IT WAS THE WORD AND NOT BEING NAKED AND A BIT COLD...

IT REALLY WAS A SIMPLE TRUTH...

I DID COME FOR THIS. TO SUBMIT, TO BE HERS.

AND CALLING HER MISTRESS WAS AN ACT OF SURRENDER AND ACCEPTANCE...

THIS IS WHERE THE GAME TRULY BEGINS. ROLES HAVE BEEN CAST...AND THE PLAY BEGINS...



SHE REMAINED SILENT, BUT I NOTICED HER HANDS SHAKING A BIT TOO...

WHATEVER SHE HAD LOCKED IN THERE WAS GOING TO BE THE MAIN EVENT OF THE EVENING I GUESSED, AND HER SILENCE WAS, I'LL BE HONEST, A BIT ALARMING.

HONESTLY...AT THAT MOMENT I WAS GLAD SHE DIDN'T TIE MY HANDS...



AND THEN SHE OPENED THE DOOR.

WOW.

PLAY IT COOL!

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

PLAY IT COOL!

UM...

YEEES?

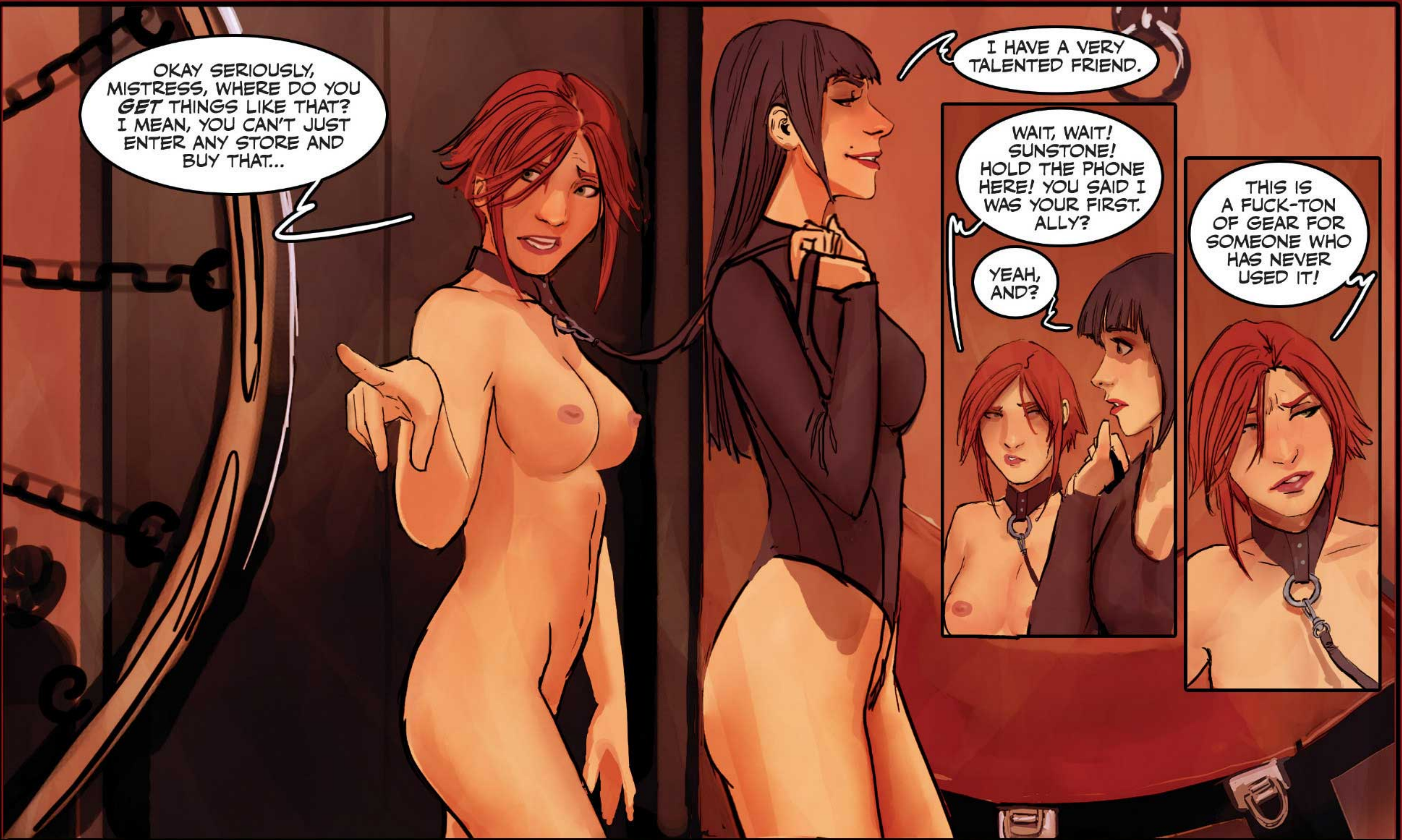


PLAY IT COOL!

AW, MISTRESS... DID YOU GET ALL OF THIS FOR LI'L OL' ME?

ATTA GIRL!

I'VE GOT SOME NICE PADDLES FOR LI'L OL' YOU...SO, BEHAVE!



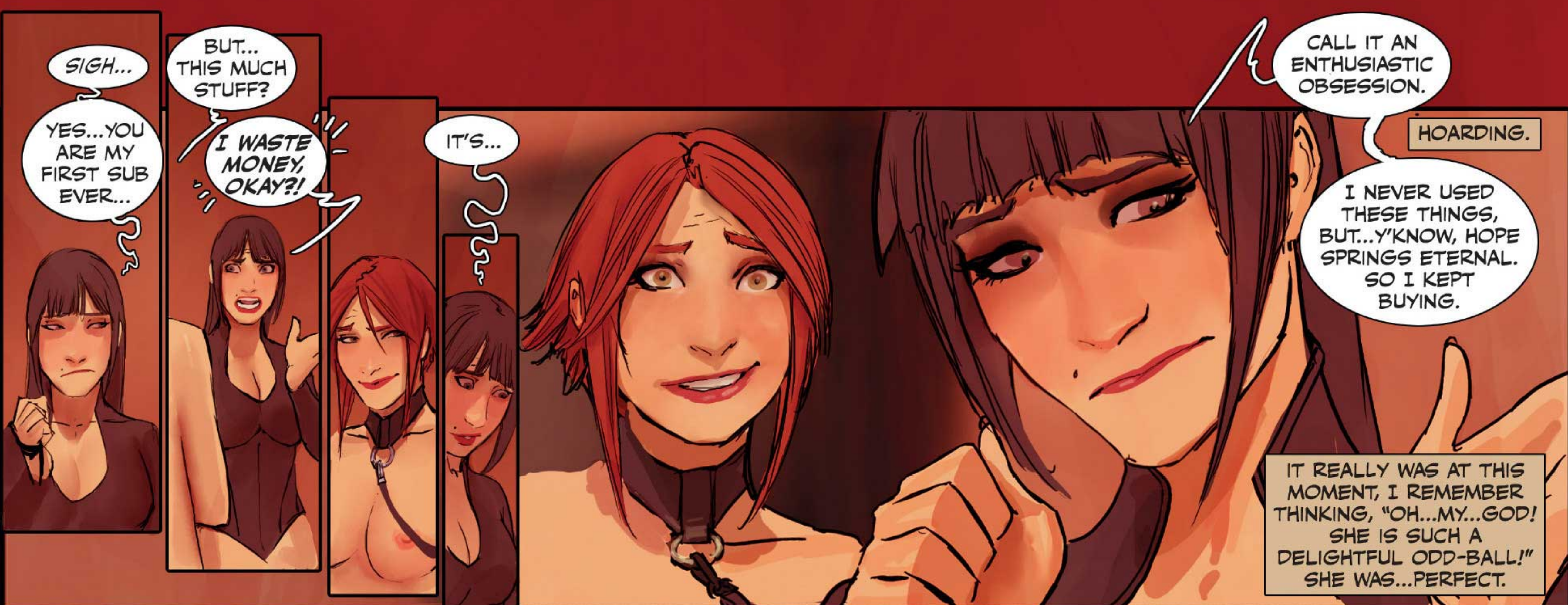
OKAY SERIOUSLY, MISTRESS, WHERE DO YOU GET THINGS LIKE THAT? I MEAN, YOU CAN'T JUST ENTER ANY STORE AND BUY THAT...

I HAVE A VERY TALENTED FRIEND.

WAIT, WAIT! SUNSTONE! HOLD THE PHONE HERE! YOU SAID I WAS YOUR FIRST. ALLY?

YEAH, AND?

THIS IS A FUCK-TON OF GEAR FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS NEVER USED IT!



SIGH...

BUT... THIS MUCH STUFF?

I WASTE MONEY, OKAY?!

IT'S...

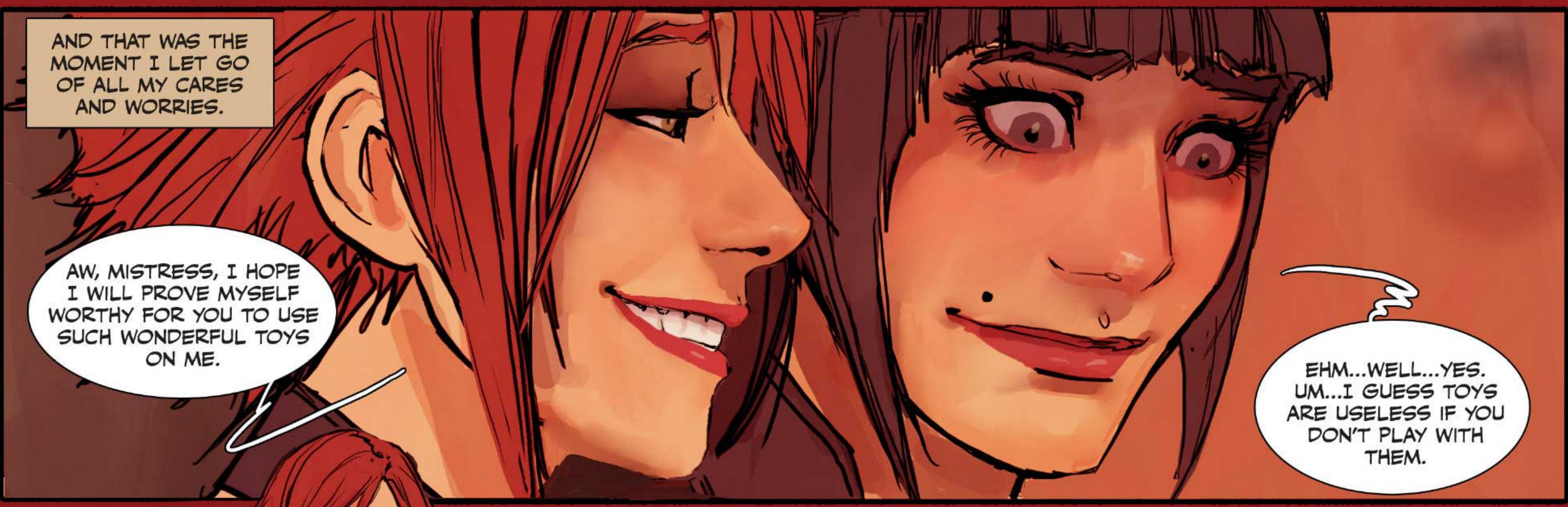
YES... YOU ARE MY FIRST SUB EVER...

CALL IT AN ENTHUSIASTIC OBSESSION.

HOARDING.

I NEVER USED THESE THINGS, BUT...Y'KNOW, HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL. SO I KEPT BUYING.

IT REALLY WAS AT THIS MOMENT, I REMEMBER THINKING, "OH...MY...GOD! SHE IS SUCH A DELIGHTFUL ODD-BALL!" SHE WAS...PERFECT.



AND THAT WAS THE MOMENT I LET GO OF ALL MY CARES AND WORRIES.

AW, MISTRESS, I HOPE I WILL PROVE MYSELF WORTHY FOR YOU TO USE SUCH WONDERFUL TOYS ON ME.

EHM...WELL...YES. UM...I GUESS TOYS ARE USELESS IF YOU DON'T PLAY WITH THEM.



SPEAKING OF WHICH, THAT THERE WILL BE YOUR OUTFIT FOR TODAY.

WHOA! THAT'S LATEX!

YUP!



IT'S GORGEOUS!

I'VE WORN CORSETS BEFORE. I ALWAYS LOVED THE RELENTLESS HUGGING FEELING, BUT THIS. THIS IS DIFFERENT. LATEX IS, WELL, KINDA GROSS TO THE TOUCH AT FIRST, AND YES, THE RUBBERY SMELL IS SOMETHING TO GET USED TO.

BUT...THE FEELING OF WEARING IT...

IT'S LIKE...OH...WOW. LOTION? HEH...THANK YOU, MISTRESS, BUT I'M TURNED ON ENOUGH AS IT IS.

I SURE DO HOPE YOU ARE FEELING COMFORTABLE, 'CAUSE THIS IS GONNA BE A LONG...FUN...NIGHT.

LATEX REALLY IS UNLIKE ANYTHING ELSE. IT, WELL, FIGHTS YOU. LEATHER WILL HUG YOUR SKIN. LATEX WILL BECOME YOUR SKIN...YOUR SLIGHTLY TOO TIGHT SKIN...

AND YOU ARE CONSTANTLY AWARE OF WEARING IT. IT RESISTS YOUR EVERY MOVE, YOU FEEL IT STRAINING AGAINST YOU...FIGHTING YOU...

AS IF IT IS A REBELLING PART OF YOUR GIVEN FORM. AND THEN THERE IS THE FEELING YOU GET WHEN TOUCHED BY IT. FOREIGN...A BIT STRANGE AND SO EXCITING...

UNLIKE YOUR EVERYDAY FOREPLAY, THERE IS AN ALMOST RITUALISTIC QUALITY TO BONDAGE. THE BUILD-UP OF EXCITEMENT YOU FEEL WITH EVERY STEP...AS YOU BECOME CLAY IN YOUR PARTNER'S HANDS... A PIECE OF ART SKILLFULLY MOLDED. AND ALL THE TIME YOU FEEL YOUR OWN HEARTBEAT.

WITH EVERY NEW STEP TAKEN I LOST MORE OF MY FREEDOM...

SHE WORKED IN SILENCE, AND I ENJOYED HER EVERY TOUCH.

AND WITH SOME SURPRISE, I BECAME AWARE OF THE UTTER LACK OF ANY FEAR. THERE WAS EXCITEMENT, OH YES, NERVE-TINGLING ANTICIPATION, BUT ONLY NOW I TRULY REALIZE THAT I TRUSTED HER. MY FRIEND ALLYCAT...MY MISTRESS.

AND IT WAS... IT REALLY REALLY WAS.



YOU KNOW THAT WINDOWS TUNE YOU HEAR WHEN YOU RESTART YOUR PC?

BY THE WAY, SORRY MAC USERS...

HOLY... CRAP.

ANYWAYS, IF THAT TUNE HAD A FACE...

THIS WOULD BE IT...

PLEASE WAIT, LOADING BRAIN. BRAIN NOT FOUND...RETRY!

THERE YOU ARE BRAIN. WELCOME BACK!



LISTEN, UM, I KNOW IT GOT KINDA...INTENSE THERE. AND, WELL, I'M SORRY IF I WENT A LITTLE TOO FAR. BUT, WELL, THIS IS MY FIRST TIME TOO...SO...Y'KNOW. I GOT A BIT...WELL, CARRIED AWAY.

MY GOD... THAT WAS...



I MEAN...WELL. IF YOU DECIDE THIS WAS A ONE-TIME THING, I'LL UNDERSTAND. I WON'T LIKE IT, BUT I'LL UNDERSTAND.



I JUST HOPE WE CAN KEEP ATLUMP--




WHATEVER YOU WISH IS FINE WITH ME, MY MISTRESS!




BUT LISTEN... I...UM. IT WASN'T... Y'KNOW, TOO MUCH?

DID YOU HEAR ME SAY SUNSTONE? I LOVED IT... MISTRESS.



SO...YOU FEEL
UP FOR THAT
SHOWER NOW?

GIMME A MOMENT.
I'M NOT EVEN SURE
I CAN STAND.



SO I GUESS GOING
HOME WOULD BE OUT
OF THE QUESTION.

WELL...IT WOULD
BE DIFFICULT.



SO I GUESS
YOU'LL JUST HAVE
TO SPEND THE
NIGHT WITH ME.

AW, MISTRESS...
IS THAT AN ORDER?



YES!



WE CALL IT
AFTERCARE.

WHY YES, IT IS PRETTY
MUCH A BDSM PHRASE
FOR SNUDDLING.
HOW DID YOU GUESS?!

SO, WHY DID WE
FEEL THE NEED TO RENAME
SOMETHING AS MUNDANE
AS SNUDDLING?

TWO
REASONS,
REALLY.

ONE, DUE TO THE PHYSICAL
AND EMOTIONAL INTENSITY OF
A BDSM SESSION, WE FIND
IN THIS SNUDDLING THE
WAY TO UNWIND, TO
REAFFIRM THE KINDNESS
AND RESTORE THE HUMANITY
WE RELINQUISH FOR THE
SAKE OF THE ROLES WE
PLAY IN OUR GAME.

AND TWO, BECAUSE WE ARE
NERDS AND WE LIKE TO
MAKE UP NAMES FOR SHIT.

THAT IS WHAT BDSM
PEOPLE ARE...BEHIND
ALL THE PRETENSE.

SEXUAL NERDS.

A BUNCH OF SEXUAL
COSPLAYERS AND
LARPERS REALLY...

WE PLAY ROLES...

IT'S ABOUT THE ATTITUDE. ATTITUDE "SELLS" THE ROLE: IMPOSING, PERSUASIVE. A DOMME MAKES YOU SUBMIT BY HIS OR HER PRESENCE ALONE.

IT TRULY IS AN ELABORATE SEXUAL PLAY, AND ALL THE ACTORS MUST GIVE IT THEIR ALL. WE BUILD THIS ILLUSION TOGETHER. EVERYTHING DEPENDS ON BELIEVABILITY OF ONE'S ATTITUDE.

AND ALLY HAD THAT BELIEVABILITY IN SPADES. IT IS A COMFORTABLE ROLE TO HER. SHE LOVES IT, AND I PRETEND TO PROTEST...TO STRUGGLE AND THEN...TO RELUCTANTLY SUBMIT.

AND SO WE END UP FULFILLING EACH OTHER'S NEED.

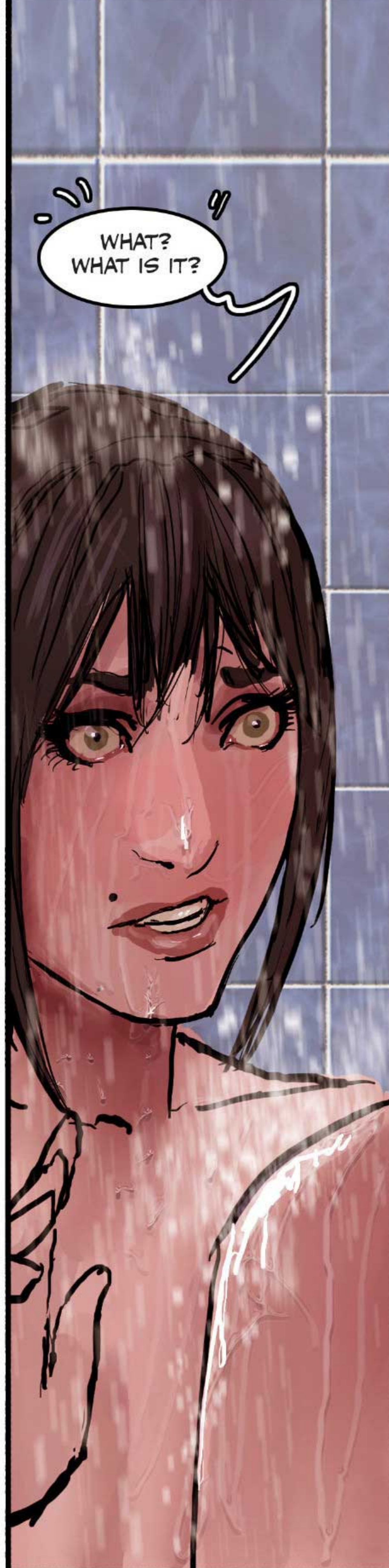
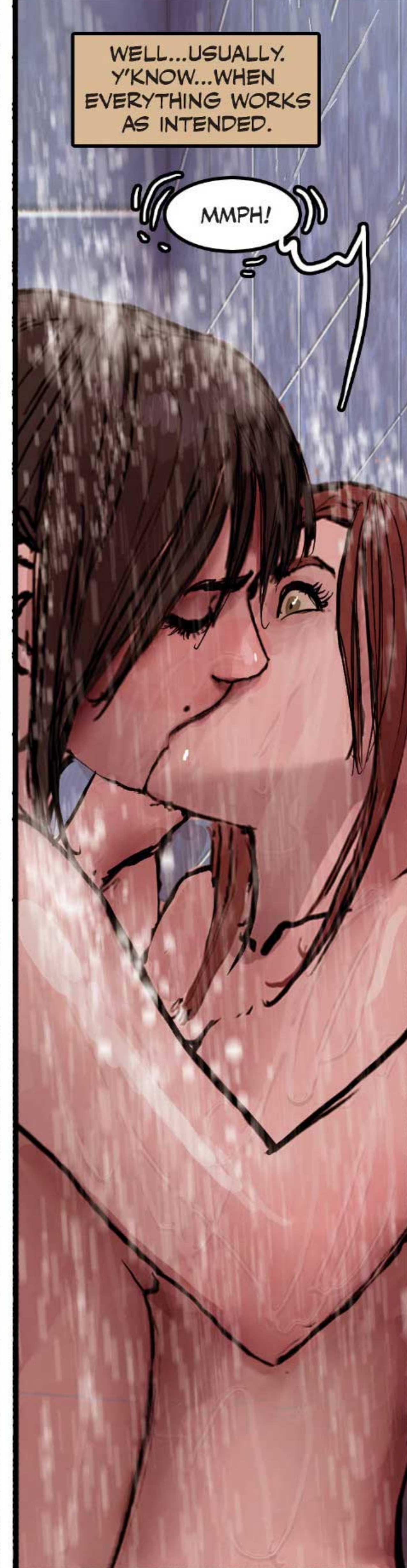
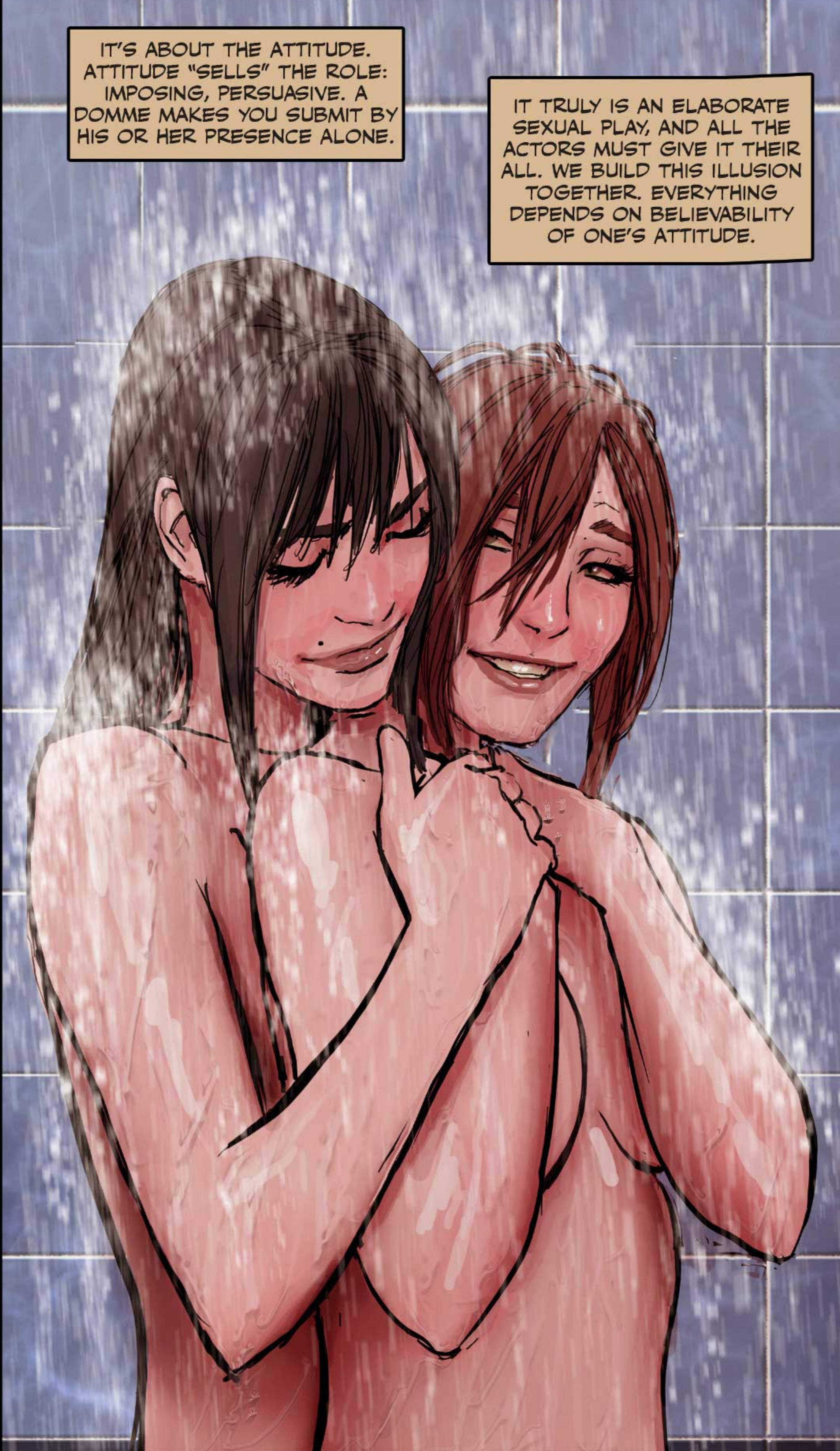
WELL...USUALLY. Y'KNOW...WHEN EVERYTHING WORKS AS INTENDED.

MMPH!

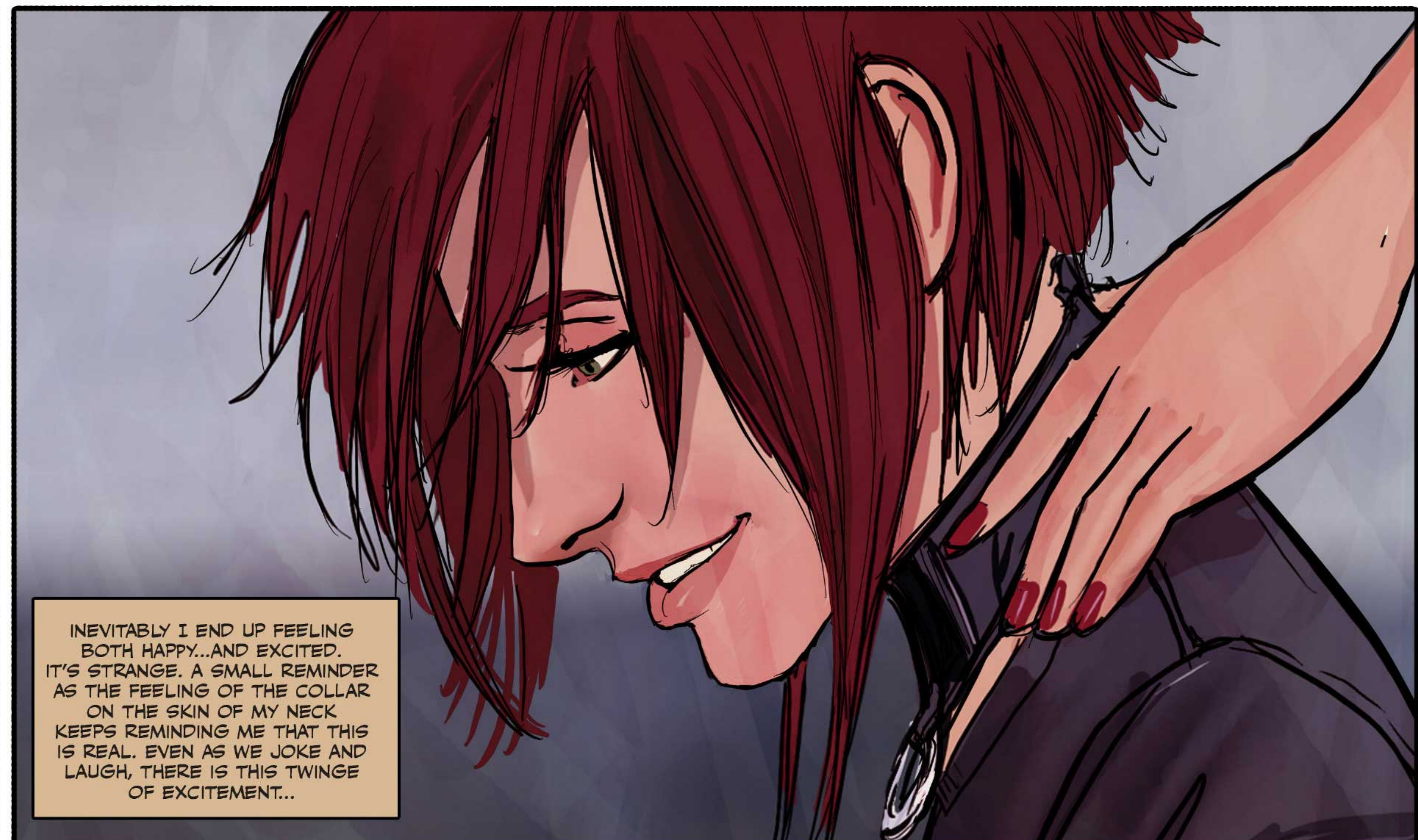
WHAT? WHAT IS IT?

TILES...COLD!

COLD TILES!



IT IS ACTUALLY QUITE AMAZING HOW EASILY SHE SWITCHES BETWEEN ALLYCAT AND MY MISTRESS.



INEVITABLY I END UP FEELING BOTH HAPPY...AND EXCITED. IT'S STRANGE. A SMALL REMINDER AS THE FEELING OF THE COLLAR ON THE SKIN OF MY NECK KEEPS REMINDING ME THAT THIS IS REAL. EVEN AS WE JOKE AND LAUGH, THERE IS THIS TWINGE OF EXCITEMENT...

YOU KNOW, THE COLLAR REALLY SUITS YOU! LIKE...WEARING-IT-IN-PUBLIC KIND OF SUITS YOU.

SURE. SCREW CASUAL FRIDAYS, LET'S HAVE S-AND-M MONDAYS.

JUST TELL THEM YOUR MISTRESS COMMANDS IT!

SO, MY MISTRESS TOPS MY BOSS?

OO MUACK!

NOPE. I ONLY TOP YOU!

I'LL ORDER US SOME CHINESE. THAT OKAY WITH YOU?

SURE!

YOU COMING?

YES, MISTRESS...

YOU KNOW...IT'S NOT THE SAME WHEN YOU'RE NO LONGER HORNY...

IN FACT THAT'S WHEN YOU REALIZE IT'S INHERENT SILLINESS...BUT THAT'S FINE. THAT'S JUST MY KIND OF SILLY.

SO THE NIGHT WENT ON...AND EVEN AS I WAS WATCHING A SILLY MOVIE WITH ALLYCAT...THE COLLAR WAS THERE...LIKE A PRECIOUS TROPHY.

SERIOUSLY? SHE IS CHOOSING BETWEEN NECROPHILIA AND BESTIALITY, AND WE'RE THE PERVERTS HERE?

I KNOW, RIGHT?

AND THEN IT WAS TIME TO SLEEP...AND HONESTLY, I NEEDED IT...

ALLY'S ROOM!

SO IN HERE, OR?

NO, NO... THIS WAY.

WELL... GOODNIGHT...

UH-HUH...

UM...REALLY? YOU...AREN'T, LIKE, TIRED?

SILENCE!

GIGGLE YES, MISTRESS.

ANYWAY...MORNING HAD TO COME EVENTUALLY, AND I LEARNED ANOTHER THING ABOUT ALLY.

SERIOUSLY...HOW EDUCATIONAL CAN A SINGLE NIGHT BE?

SO, UM. I... I HOPE YOU LIKE EGGS.

YUP.

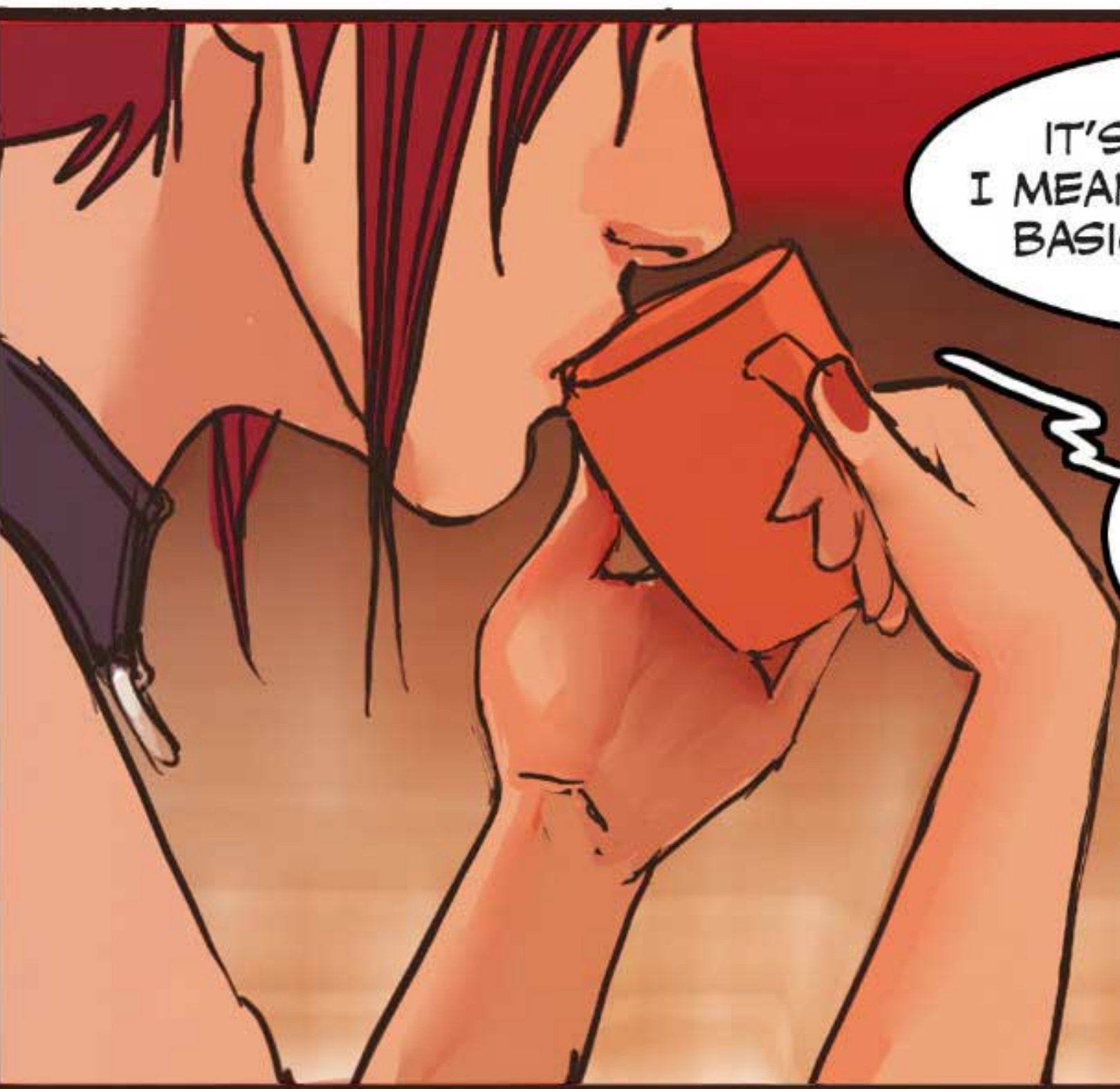


SO...UMMMM. IT'S SATURDAY...WHAT I MEAN IS, WELL. I'M FREE BASICALLY THIS WHOLE WEEKEND...

I ACTUALLY KINDA PROMISED TO COVER A SHIFT AT THE DINER TODAY.

I SEE...

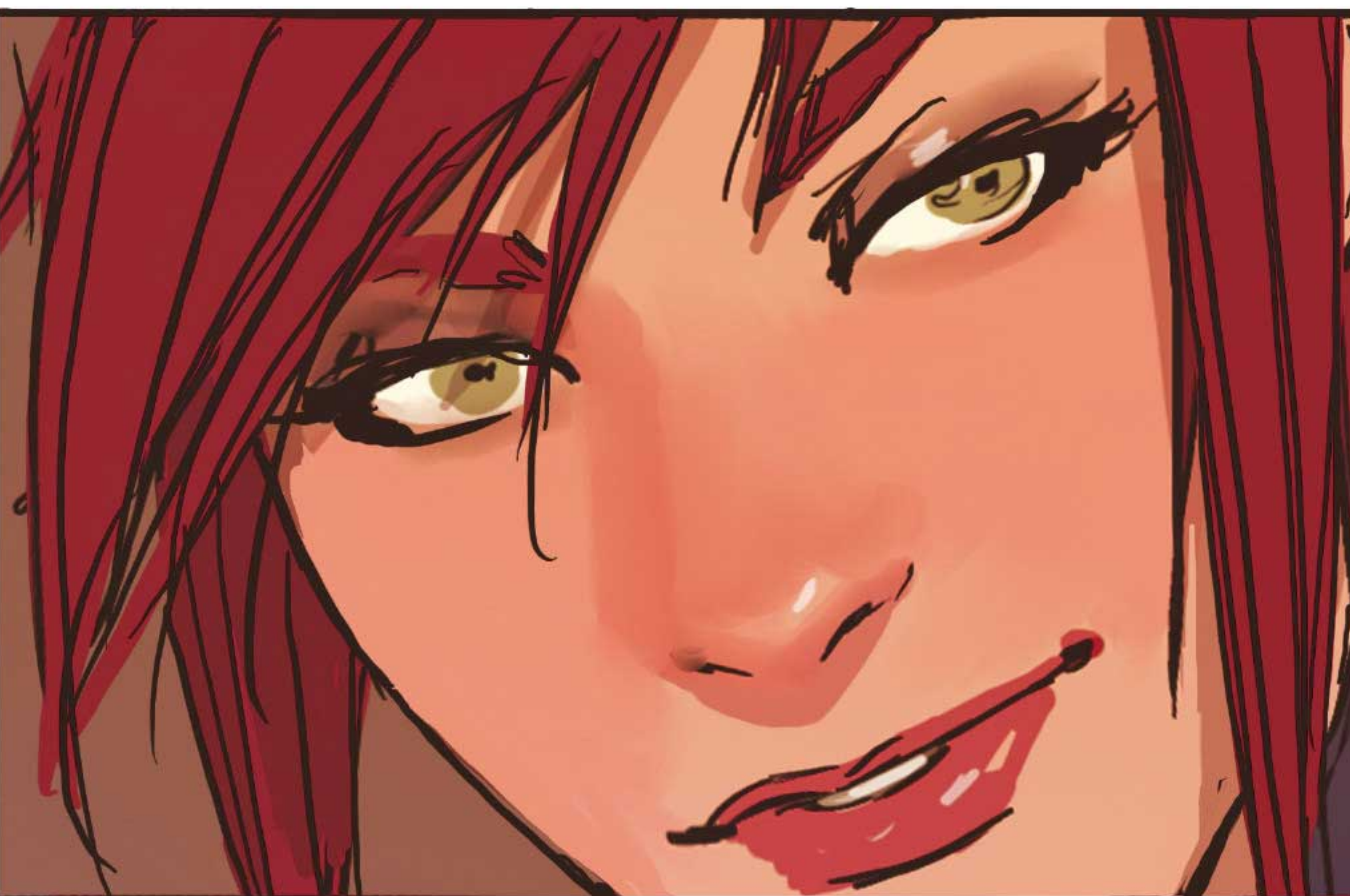
SHE WAS A LITTLE BIT LONELY.



BUT IF YOU WANT ME TO... I COULD COME BACK...AROUND SEVEN TONIGHT.

OH...I INSIST!

AND SHE WANTED OUR GAME TO CONTINUE.



ALMOST AS MUCH AS I WANTED IT.



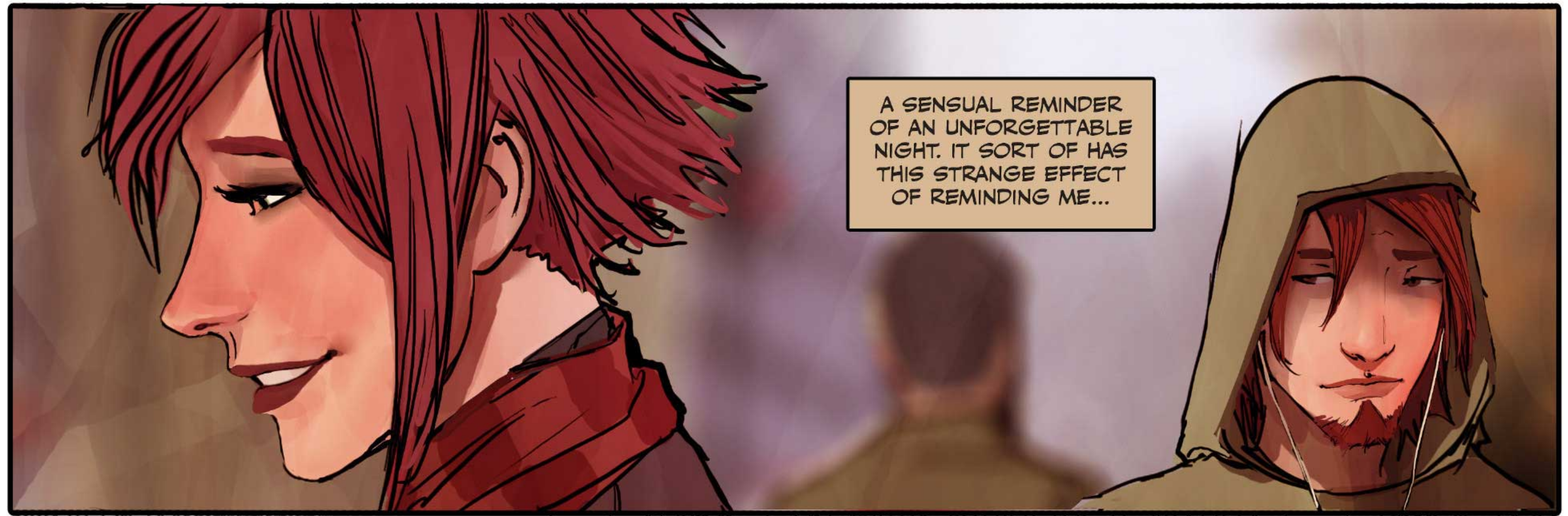
I COULD HAVE TAKEN
A CAB...BUT THERE IS
SOMETHING ABOUT BEING
OUTSIDE AMONG PEOPLE
WEARING MY COLLAR...

I LAUGHED IT OFF LAST NIGHT,
BUT TRUTH IS...WELL...IT WAS
AN AWKWARD LAUGH. THE LAUGH
YOU GIVE WHEN SOMEONE GETS
A BIT TOO CLOSE TO THE TRUTH
YOU MAY NOT WANT TO SHARE...

AND THE TRUTH WAS...
I LOVED IT!



A SENSUAL REMINDER
OF AN UNFORGETTABLE
NIGHT. IT SORT OF HAS
THIS STRANGE EFFECT
OF REMINDING ME...



ANY MOVEMENT OF THE NECK
AND I HEAR THE LEATHER CREAK.
ALMOST LIKE A WEIRD, SECRET
WEDDING RING, IT WAS THERE
TO REMIND ME I WAS HERS...



BROKEN BY HER,
TAKEN BY HER...
COLLARED AS
HER OWN...

YUP...GONNA
NEED NEW PANTIES!



YEAH...IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT FOR THE REST OF THAT SATURDAY I WAS GONNA HAVE TO ACCEPT THE SINGLE-TRACKED NATURE OF MY THOUGHTS...

MY MISTRESS.



SHE'S COMING BACK TONIGHT!

YESYESYESSSSS!

SHOULD I CALL ALAN? YEAH. WAIT...NO! FIRST I SHOULD CLEAN UP THE PLACE...SHE IS COMING AGAIN TONIGHT...

DAMN...I WASN'T PLANNING FOR THIS TO GO THIS WELL...I HOPED, BUT... AW, CRAP! NOW I GOTTA PLAN FOR TONIGHT.

CLEAN HOUSE...

OR CALL ALAN?

YEAH... I'LL CALL ALAN.

HE'LL PROBABLY WANT TO KNOW ABOUT LAST NIGHT.

WHAT THE HELL DO I EVEN SAY?

ALAN...I JUST HAD THE BEST NIGHT OF MY LIFE?



SHE WAS SO WONDERFULLY HELPLESS.



BUT PLAYFUL.



AND...THAT DEVIOS LITTLE LIP-BITE OF HERS THAT...



...



HELLOOO BEGINNING OF MOST PORN MOVIES!

MUST...THINK OF A CLEVER LINE...

OWWWH.



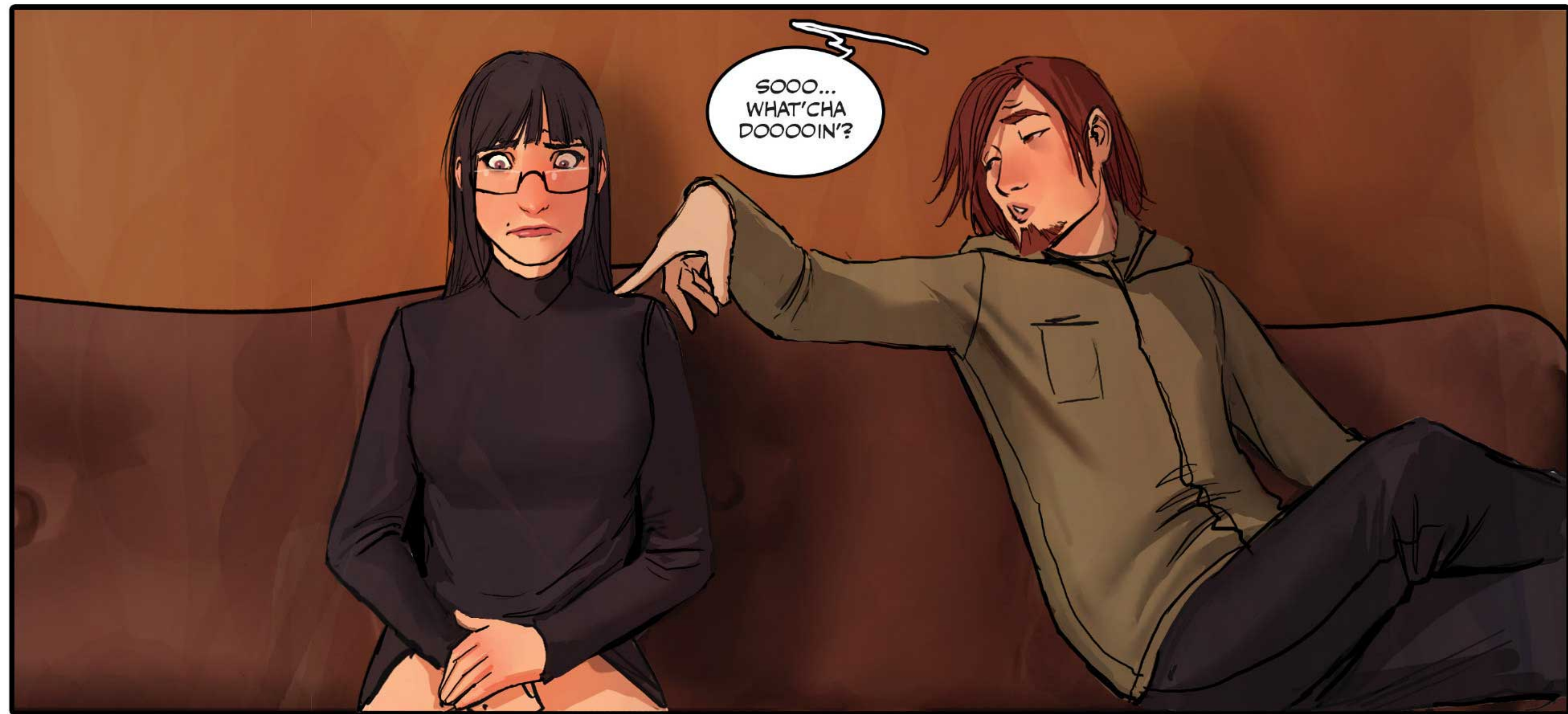
MMKAY. SO EITHER LAST NIGHT WAS SO GOOD THAT YOU'RE STILL..."INSPIRED"...

OR SO BAD THAT YOU'RE CATCHING UP?

BWAH?!



NOOOO... SHOULD HAVE GONE WITH, "NEED A HAND?"



SOOO...
WHAT'CHA
DOOOOIN'?



YOU SURE ARE
TAKING THIS SITUATION
LIGHTLY...



HEY, BEEN THERE
DONE THAT...IN MORE
WAYS THAN ONE...IF
YOU KNOW WHAT
I MEAN.



DID I EVER TELL YOU,
YOU CAN BE SUCH AN
ASS?

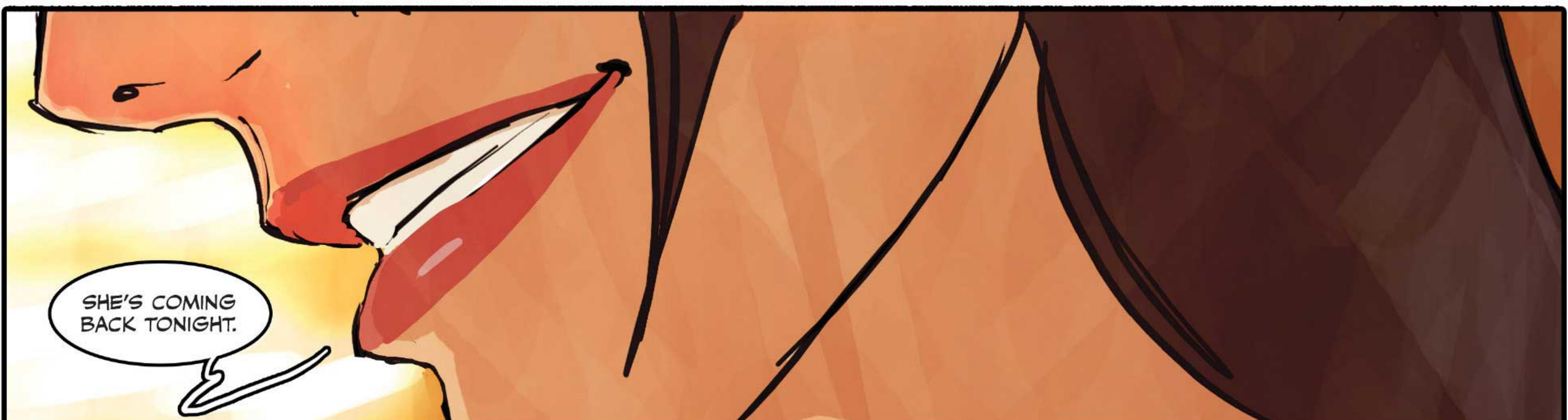
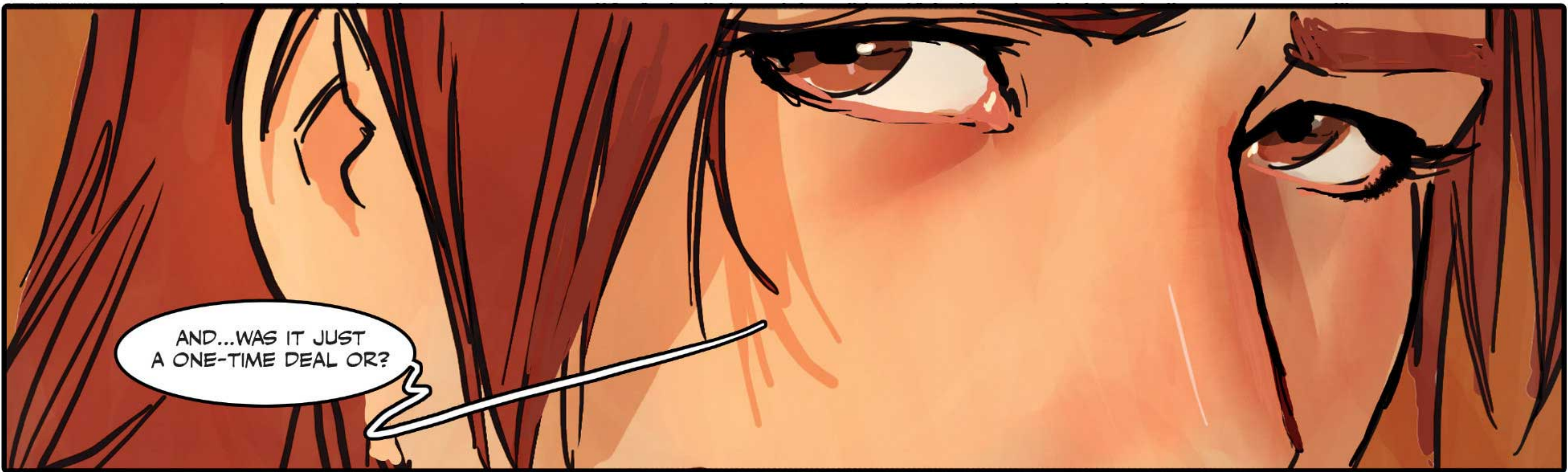
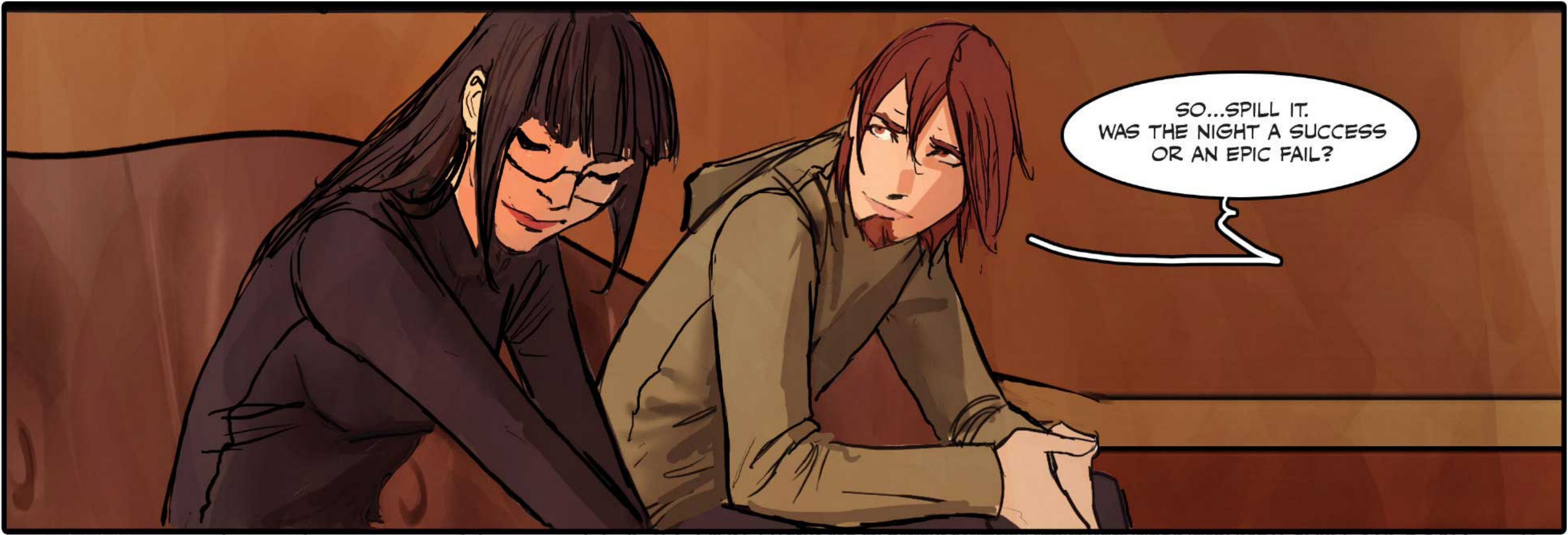
YUP!

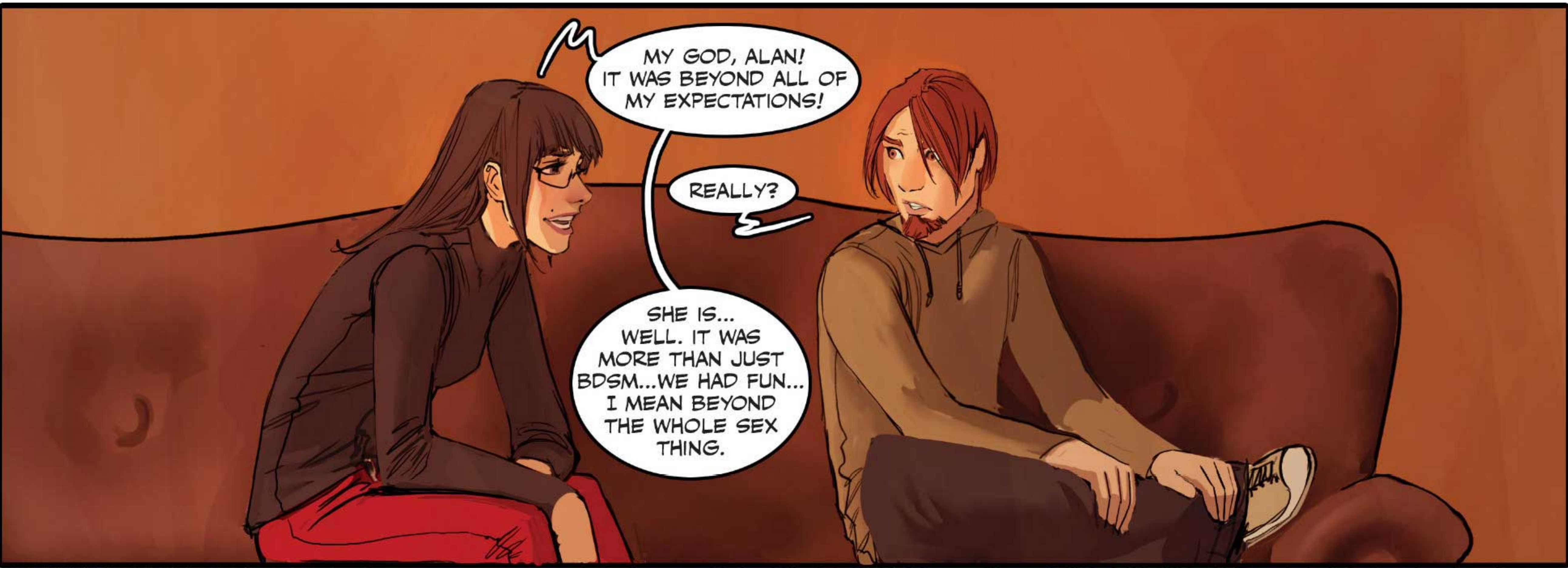
OBVIOUSLY YOU NEED
REMINDING!



WELL, WHY NOT?
IT LOOKS LIKE A GOOD DAY
FOR REMEMBERING THE PAST...
WHY, JUST A MINUTE AGO I WAS
REMINDED OF THE WAY YOU
TRIM YOUR SHRUBBERY.

YOU ARE
AN ASS!





MY GOD, ALAN!
IT WAS BEYOND ALL OF
MY EXPECTATIONS!

REALLY?

SHE IS...
WELL. IT WAS
MORE THAN JUST
BDSM...WE HAD FUN...
I MEAN BEYOND
THE WHOLE SEX
THING.



YOU TWO ARE...
FRIENDS?

YEAH,
I GUESS SO.

SOOO...YOU ARE
HAVING BDSM SESSIONS
WITH A FRIEND...
AGAIN?

IT'S NOT THE
SAME! YOU AND
I WERE--

WELL...
YEAH!

JUST
TESTING
SHIT OUT?

...



AND
SHE IS A REAL
SUBMISSIVE?

UH-HUH.

AW, YOUR
FIRST REAL SUBBIE!
YOU LOST YOUR
SUB-GINITY!

BITE ME!

HEH! WELL...I
JUST HOPE YOU CAN KEEP
BOTH THE BDSM AND THE
FRIENDSHIP GOING.

DOMINATING A FRIEND...
WELL...WE BOTH KNOW HOW
DIFFICULT THAT CAN BE.

I KNOW...



DON'T GET ME WRONG,
I'M NOT TRYING TO BUM YOU OUT.
THERE WAS THE OBVIOUS REASON
WHY IT COULDN'T WORK BETWEEN
US. TWO DOMINANT PARTNERS
ARE A POOR MATCH.

SO...YOU THINK
THIS COULD WORK
THEN?



HOW SHOULD I KNOW? I NEVER EVEN MET THE GIRL. DID YOU LIKE HER?

YES.

UM...YEAH.

WELL... WE'RE JUST...HAVING SOME FUN.

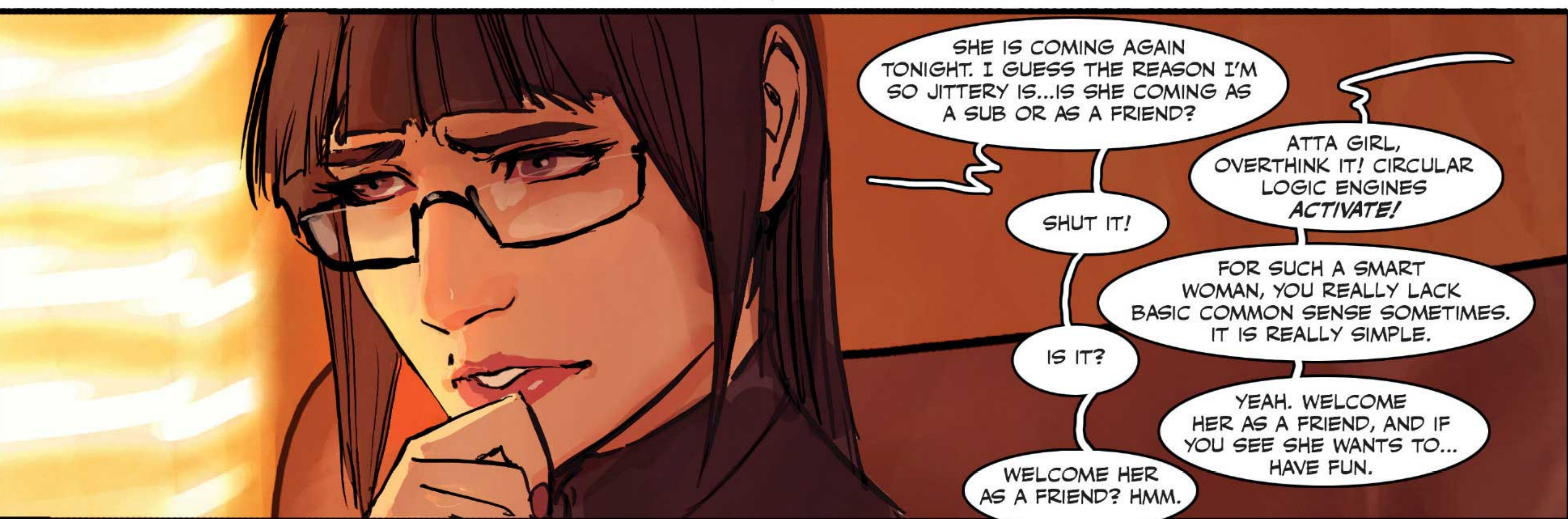
YES.

SO, I GUESS IT WORKS.

DID YOU GET THE FEELING SHE LIKED YOU?

THEN JUST DO WHAT FEELS RIGHT. RELAX, DON'T OVERTHINK IT. DID IT FEEL RIGHT?

YEAH, YEAH... DID IT FEEL RIGHT?



SHE IS COMING AGAIN TONIGHT. I GUESS THE REASON I'M SO JITTERY IS...IS SHE COMING AS A SUB OR AS A FRIEND?

SHUT IT!

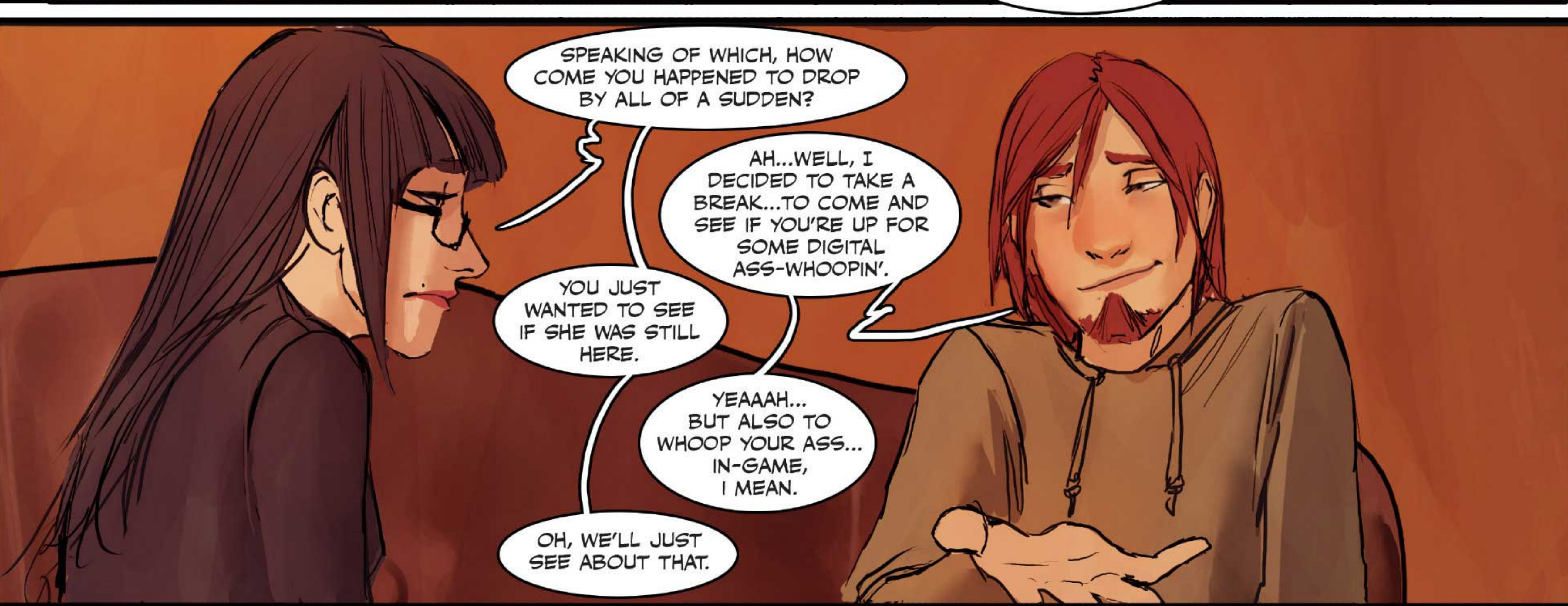
WELCOME HER AS A FRIEND? Hmm.

ATTA GIRL, OVERTHINK IT! CIRCULAR LOGIC ENGINES ACTIVATE!

FOR SUCH A SMART WOMAN, YOU REALLY LACK BASIC COMMON SENSE SOMETIMES. IT IS REALLY SIMPLE.

IS IT?

YEAH. WELCOME HER AS A FRIEND, AND IF YOU SEE SHE WANTS TO... HAVE FUN.



SPEAKING OF WHICH, HOW COME YOU HAPPENED TO DROP BY ALL OF A SUDDEN?

AH...WELL, I DECIDED TO TAKE A BREAK...TO COME AND SEE IF YOU'RE UP FOR SOME DIGITAL ASS-WHOOPIN'.

YOU JUST WANTED TO SEE IF SHE WAS STILL HERE.

YEAH... BUT ALSO TO WHOOP YOUR ASS... IN-GAME, I MEAN.

OH, WE'LL JUST SEE ABOUT THAT.



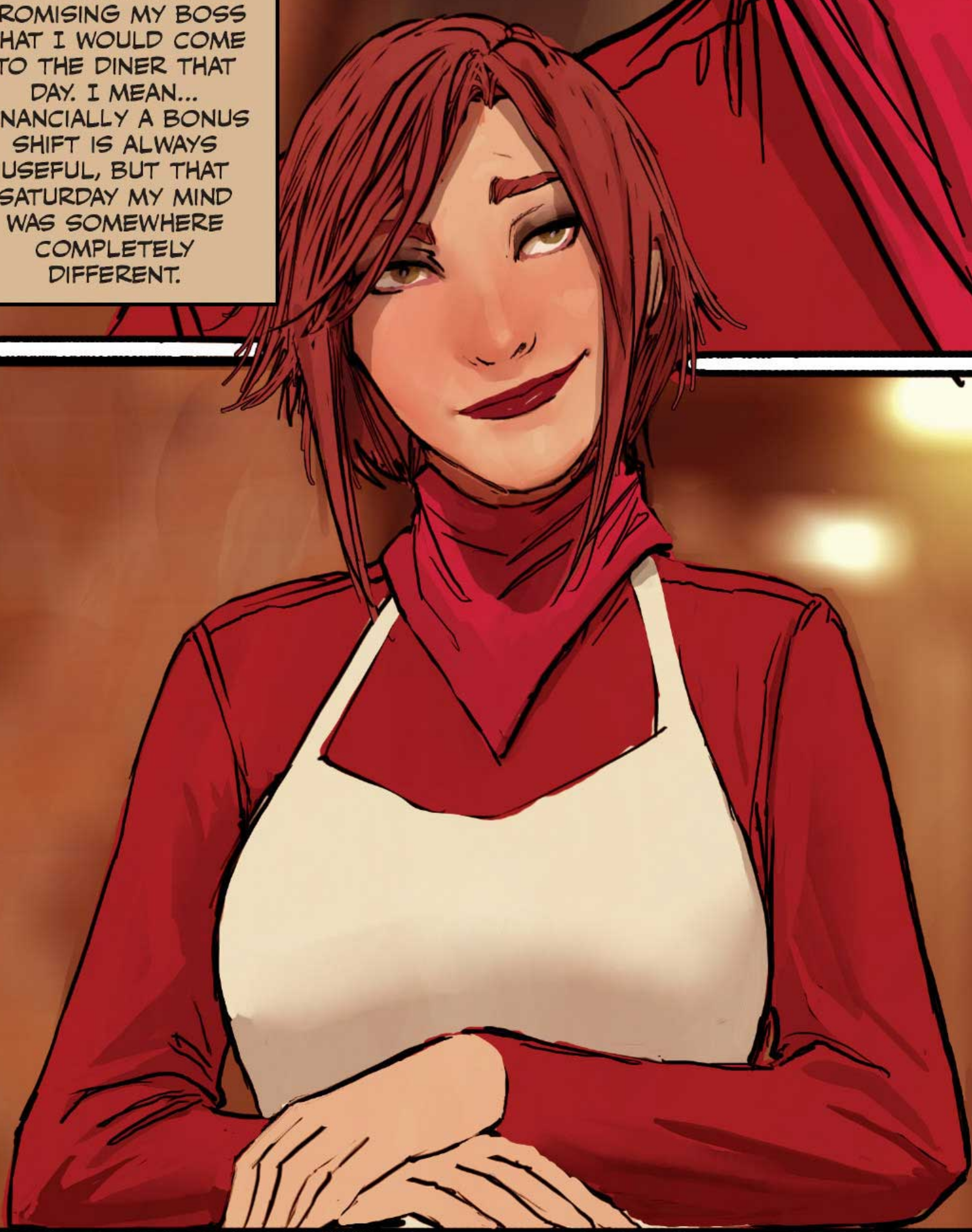
OH...YOU MAY WANNA WASH YOUR HANDS FIRST... Y'KNOW.

EHM... YEAH.

ON AN IRONIC SIDENOTE, ALLY HAD A KEY TO ALAN'S APARTMENT. SHE STILL RANG THE BELL BECAUSE... WELL...SHE DIDN'T WANT TO WALK IN ON HIM MASTURBATING.

NOW, WHILE ALLY AND ALAN WERE DOING THEIR THING, I WAS REGRETTING PROMISING MY BOSS THAT I WOULD COME TO THE DINER THAT DAY. I MEAN... FINANCIALLY A BONUS SHIFT IS ALWAYS USEFUL, BUT THAT SATURDAY MY MIND WAS SOMEWHERE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

OKAY...MAYBE KEEPING THE COLLAR ON WASN'T THE BEST IDEA I EVER HAD...



BUT I GUESS I COULD BE EXCUSED...I REALLY WANTED TO KEEP IT ON. A REMINDER OF LAST NIGHT...LIKE A PERMANENT TOUCH ON MY SKIN.

SO I MESSED UP, LIKE WHAT? SIX ORDERS...

HM...LUCKY FOR ME THAT SATURDAY AFTERNOON SHIFT IS USUALLY A SLOW ONE. THOUGH THERE IS A DOWN-SIDE BEYOND NOT BEING WITH ALLY...

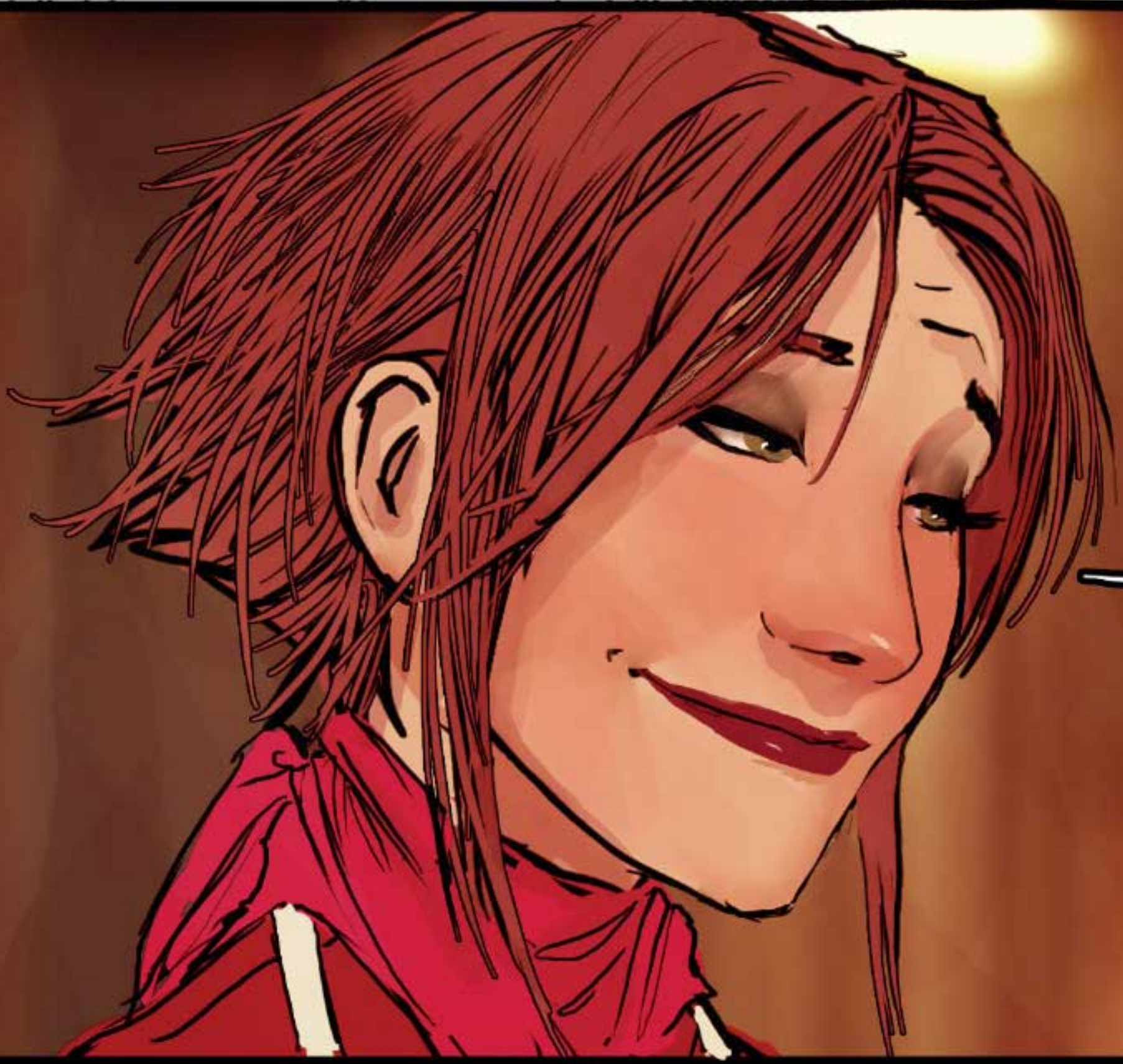
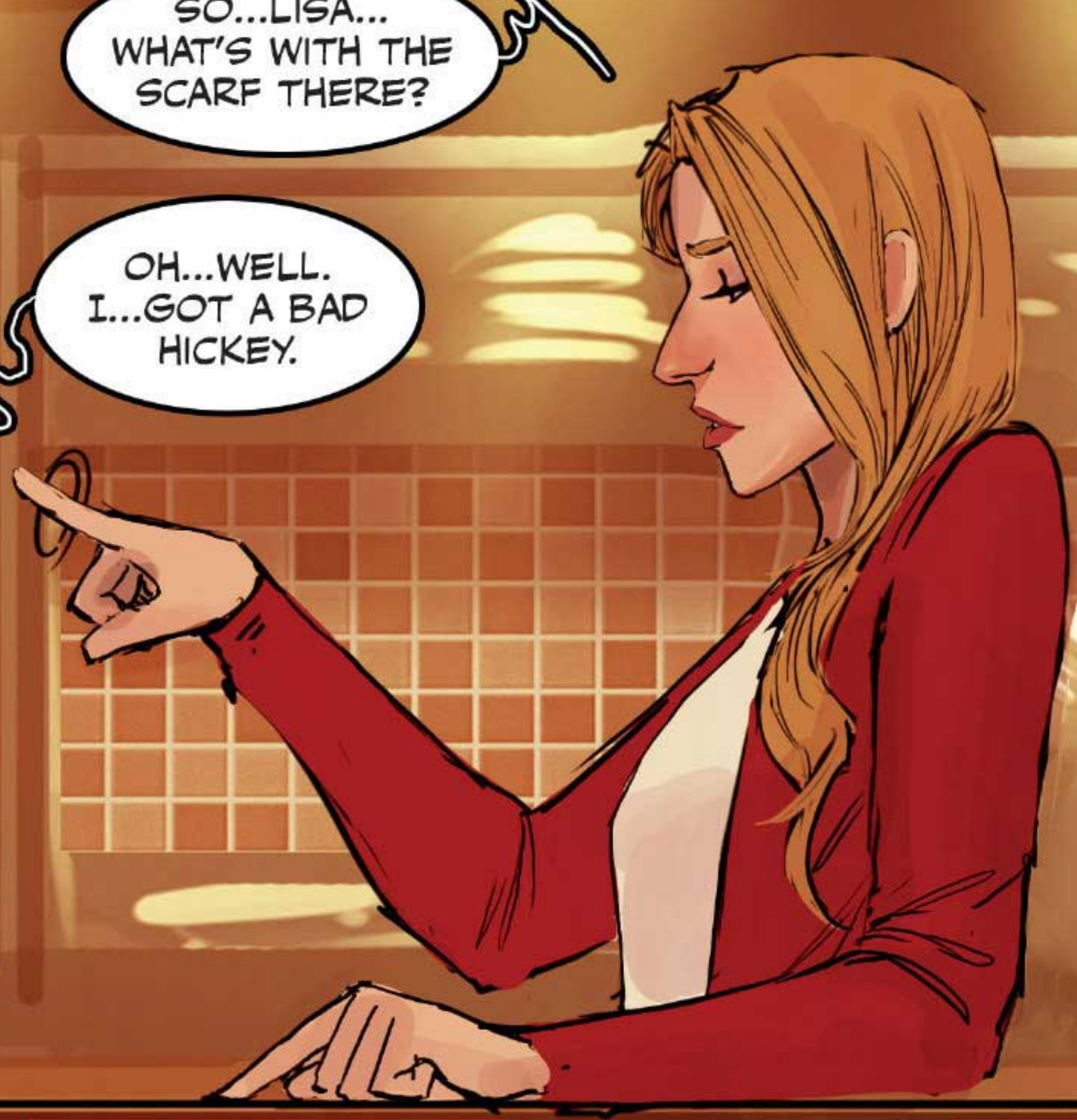
WOW...AM I THAT CLINGY?

ANYWAYS...THE OTHER DOWN-SIDE:

VALERIE. A FUNNY THING... ALL MY LIFE I HAD THIS MESSED UP PERSISTENT COINCIDENCE, I GUESS... EVERY SINGLE BLONDE I KNEW...WAS A BITCH. OH YEAH, I'M WELL AWARE IT IS MERELY BAD LUCK, BUT...EVERY SINGLE ONE?

SO...LISA... WHAT'S WITH THE SCARF THERE?

OH...WELL. I...GOT A BAD HICKEY.

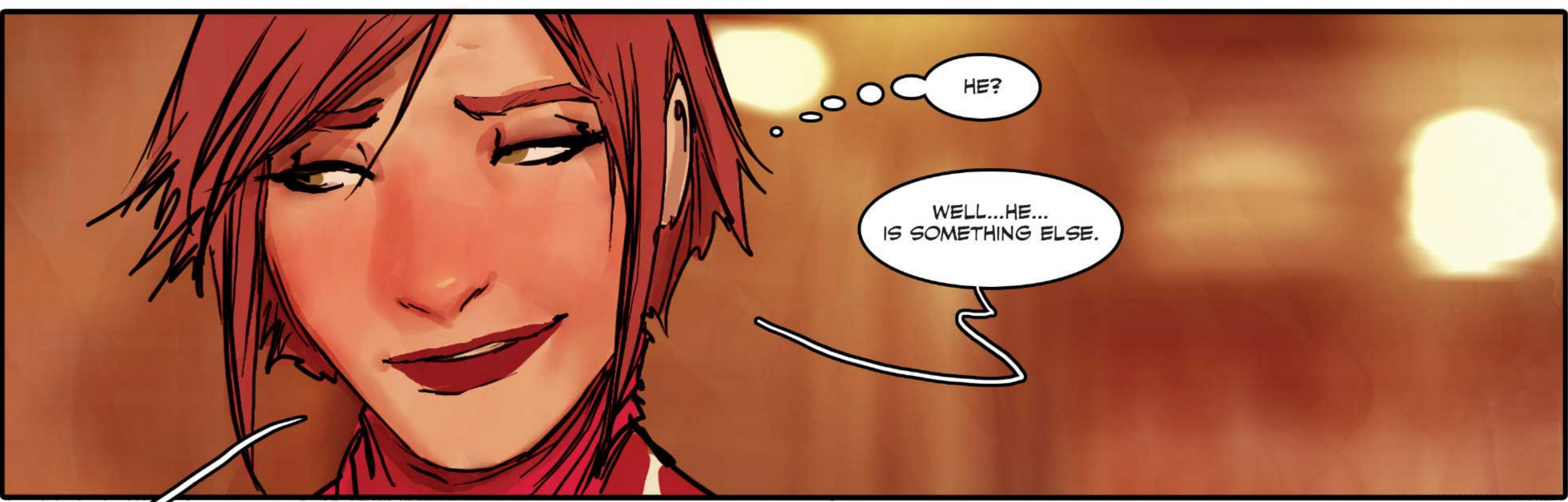


OOOH! A WILD NIGHT, HUH?

YEAH... YOU MIGHT SAY SO.

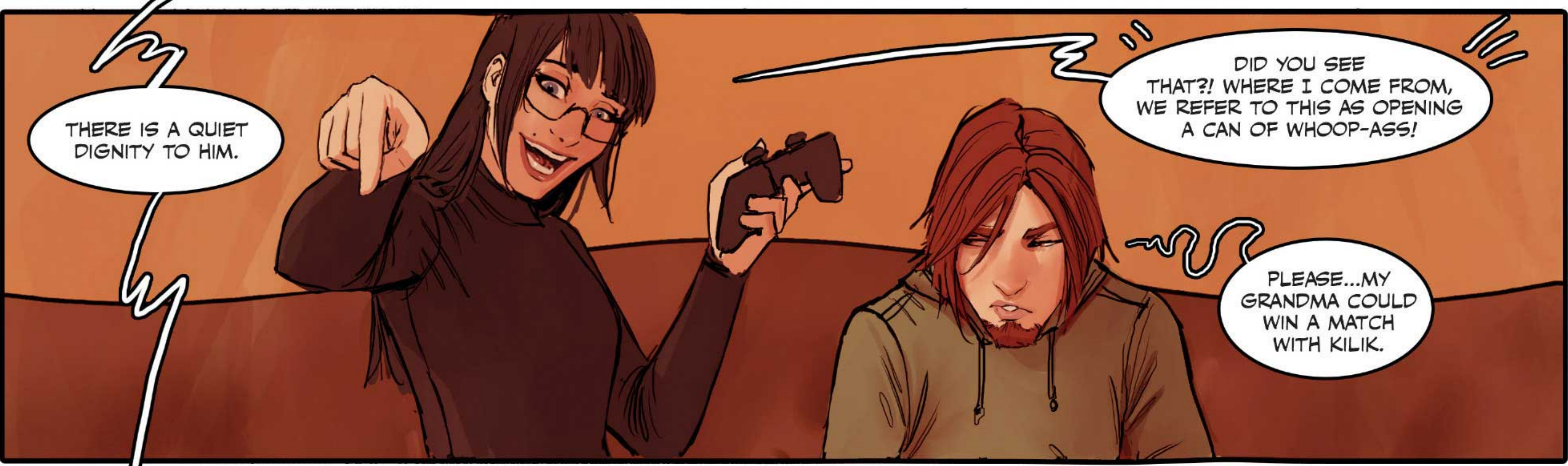
SO? WHAT'S HE LIKE?





HE?

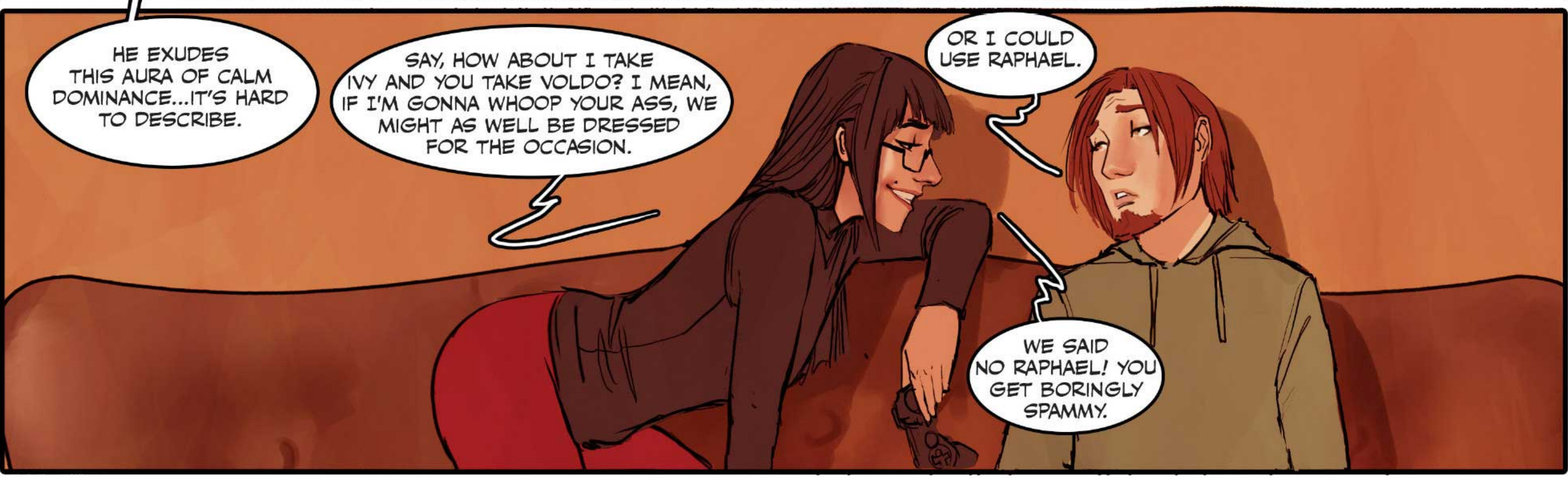
WELL...HE... IS SOMETHING ELSE.



THERE IS A QUIET DIGNITY TO HIM.

DID YOU SEE THAT?! WHERE I COME FROM, WE REFER TO THIS AS OPENING A CAN OF WHOOP-ASS!

PLEASE...MY GRANDMA COULD WIN A MATCH WITH KILIK.

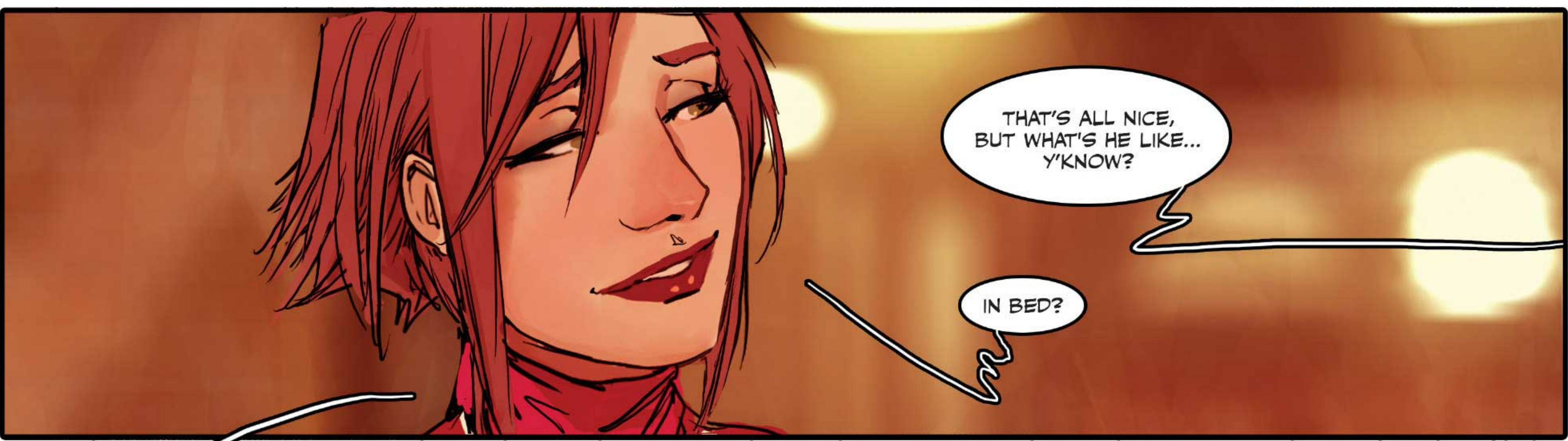


HE EXUDES THIS AURA OF CALM DOMINANCE...IT'S HARD TO DESCRIBE.

SAY, HOW ABOUT I TAKE IVY AND YOU TAKE VOLDO? I MEAN, IF I'M GONNA WHOOP YOUR ASS, WE MIGHT AS WELL BE DRESSED FOR THE OCCASION.

OR I COULD USE RAPHAEL.

WE SAID NO RAPHAEL! YOU GET BORINGLY SPAMMY.



THAT'S ALL NICE, BUT WHAT'S HE LIKE... Y'KNOW?

IN BED?



LET'S PUT IT LIKE THIS, HE CAN HIT ALL MY SPOTS WITH HIS EYES CLOSED.

HEY, ALAN! LOOK, NO EYES!

OH SCREW YOU! WHILE YOU WERE PUNCHING KEYS, I SPENT THE LAST THREE DAYS PUNCHING HOLES IN A LEATHER HARNESS! I GOT FUCKING CARPAL TUNNEL!

GOOD! I FEED ON EXCUSES!

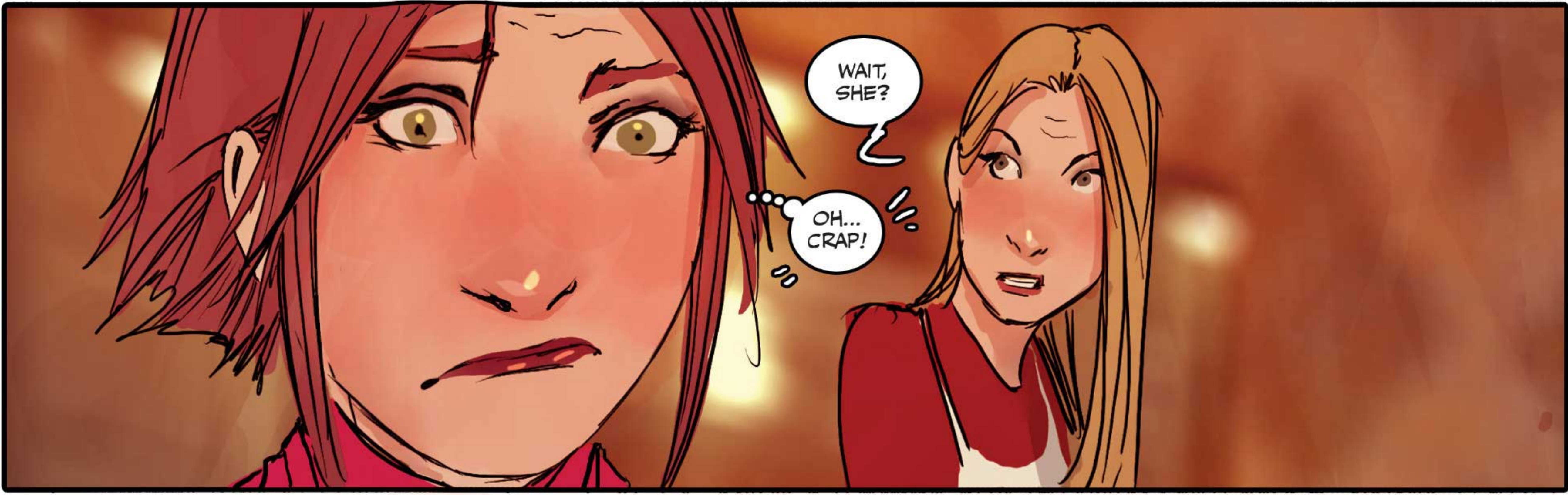


AND I WAS GOING TO SEE HER AGAIN IN JUST TWO HOURS.

MY MISTRESS...

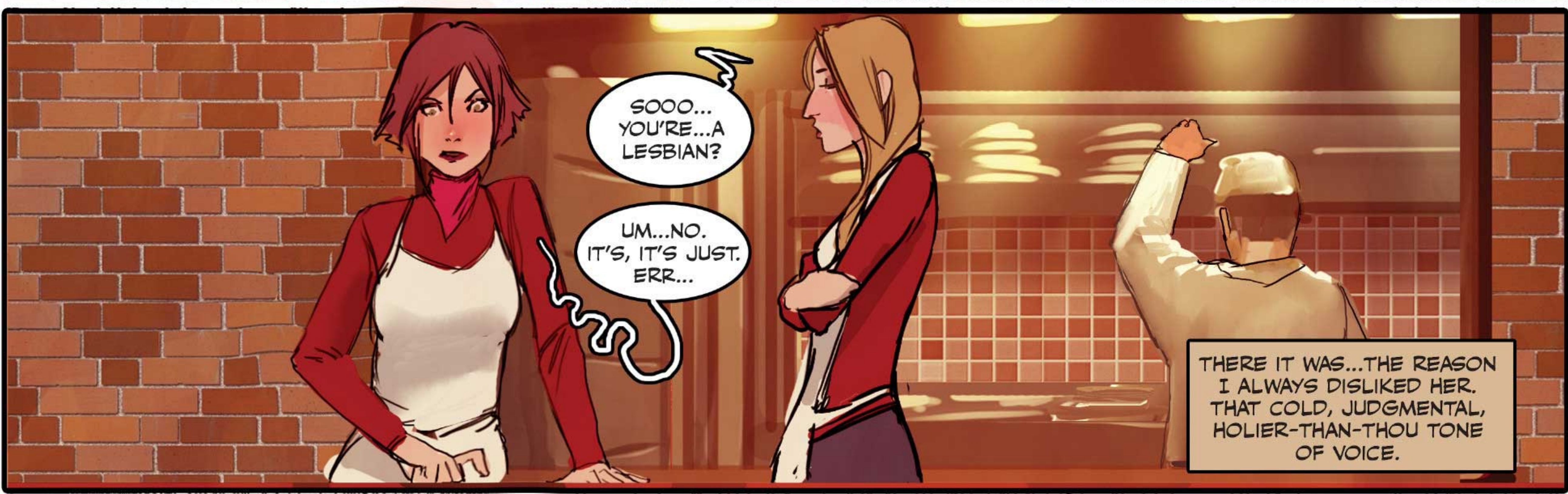
SHE REALLY IS.

SEEMS NICE.



WAIT, SHE?

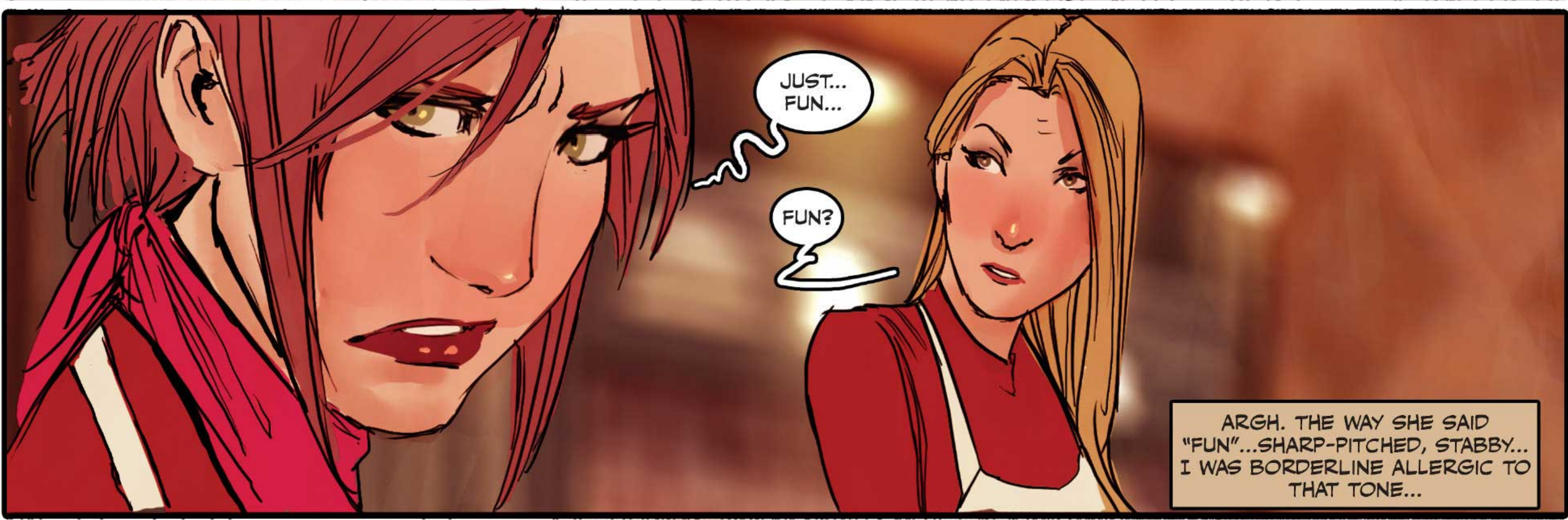
OH... CRAP!



SOOO... YOU'RE...A LESBIAN?

UM...NO. IT'S, IT'S JUST. ERR...

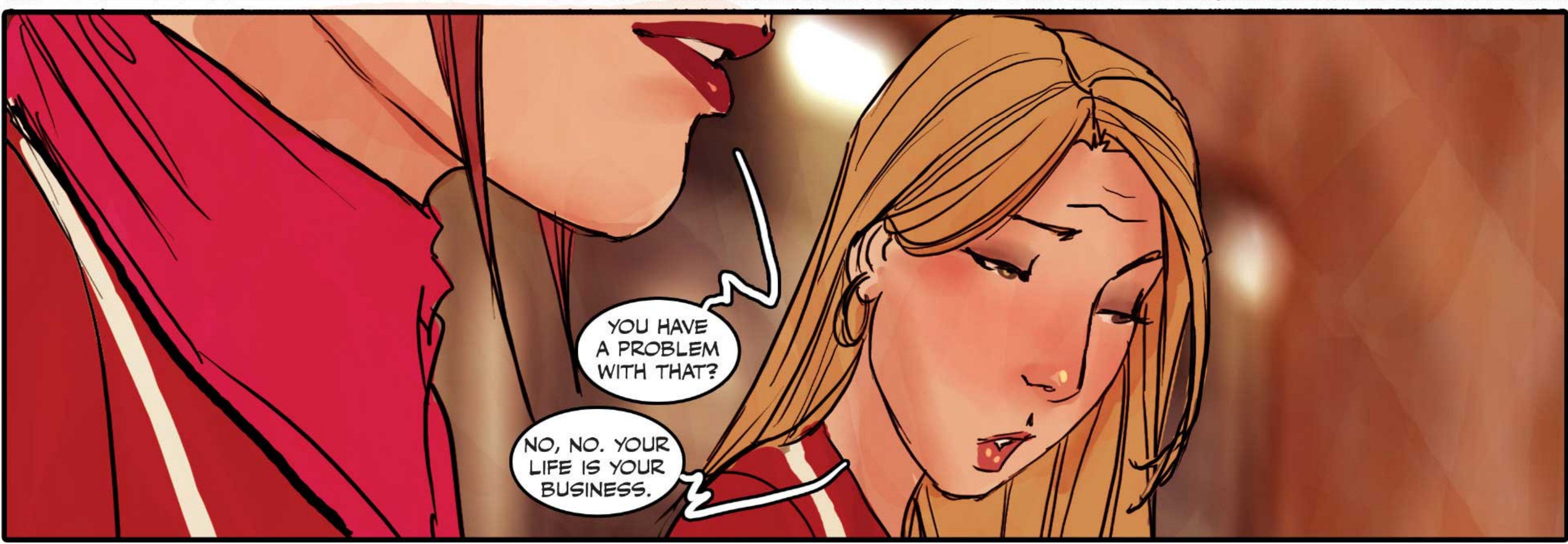
THERE IT WAS...THE REASON I ALWAYS DISLIKED HER. THAT COLD, JUDGMENTAL, HOLIER-THAN-THOU TONE OF VOICE.



JUST... FUN...

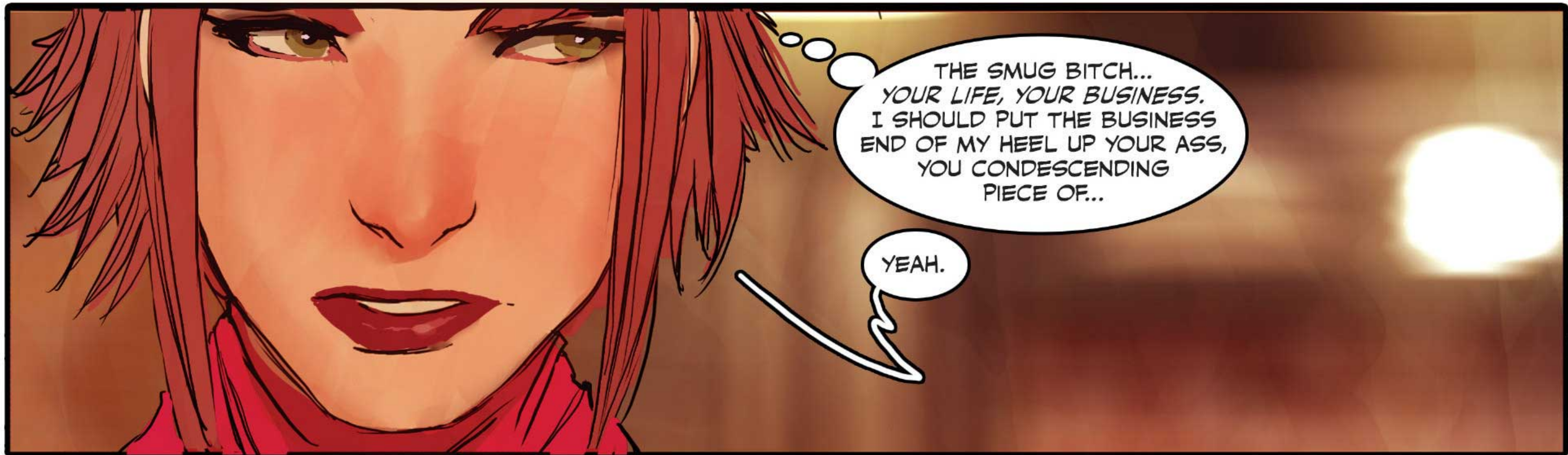
FUN?

ARGH. THE WAY SHE SAID "FUN"...SHARP-PITCHED, STABBY.. I WAS BORDERLINE ALLERGIC TO THAT TONE...



YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?

NO, NO. YOUR LIFE IS YOUR BUSINESS.



THE SMUG BITCH...
YOUR LIFE, YOUR BUSINESS.
I SHOULD PUT THE BUSINESS
END OF MY HEEL UP YOUR ASS,
YOU CONDESCENDING
PIECE OF...

YEAH.



ANYWAYS, NICE TALKIN'
TO YOU. I MUST GO NOW,
MY SHIFT IS OVER.




GOOD
RIDDANCE!

UGH! THE WAY
SHE SAID IT...

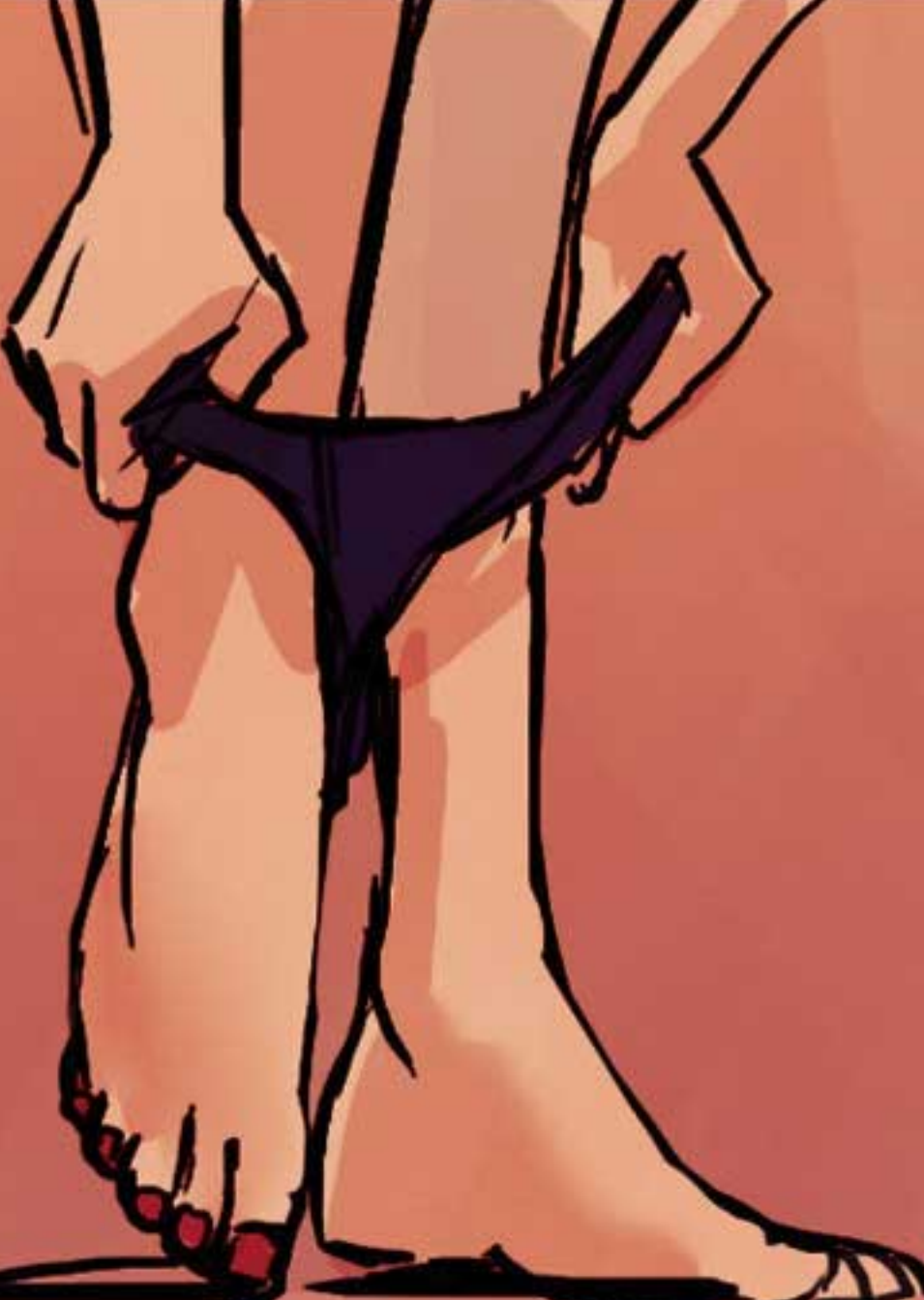
LESBIAN.



HEH...




NEVER IN MY LIFE HAVE I RUSHED HOME FROM WORK SO VIGOROUSLY. THERE IS THAT FEELING THAT JUST KEEPS BUILDING UP. THAT GIDDY ANTICIPATION.




IT COMPLETELY TAKES OVER YOU, AND THIS TIME, UNLIKE YESTERDAY, I AM FREE FROM THE NERVOUS FEAR. I'M OFF TO SEE ALLYCAT AGAIN... AND I'M OFF TO SEE MY MISTRESS, AND BOTH SIDES OF THE COIN MAKE ME SO HAPPY I COULD BURST.


THE SENSE OF URGENCY AND EXCITEMENT GAVE ME THE COURAGE TO DO SOMETHING CRAZY.



AND, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I WAS NEVER THE CRAZY, RISK-TAKING TYPE...



BUT...IT COULDN'T BE HELPED. I WAS IN A HURRY!



I RUSHED DRIVEN BY ONE THOUGHT. EVERY SECOND I'M HERE IS TAKING TIME AWAY FROM HER.



AND WE CAN'T HAVE THAT!

BY THE WAY, EXCITEMENT AND PUTTING ON MAKEUP ARE POOR BED-FELLOWS.

I REMEMBER TWO THOUGHTS BATTLING THAT EVENING.

ONE, DRIVE...FASTER!

AND TWO, HOLY FUCK, I'M NAKED UNDER THE COAT! WHAT IF SOMEBODY NOTICES? WHAT IF THE CAB DRIVER NOTICES?



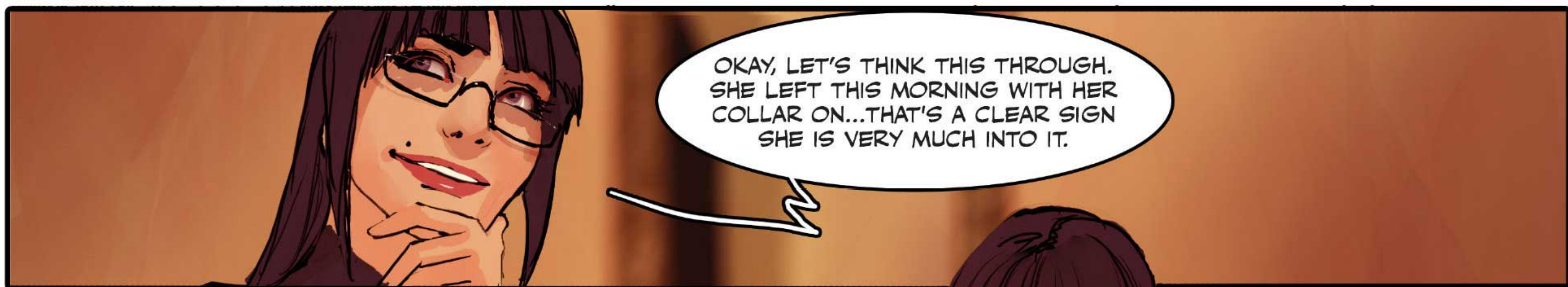
MY MIND WAS A CRAZY MIX OF EXCITEMENT AND PANIC.



GREET HER AS A...FRIEND.



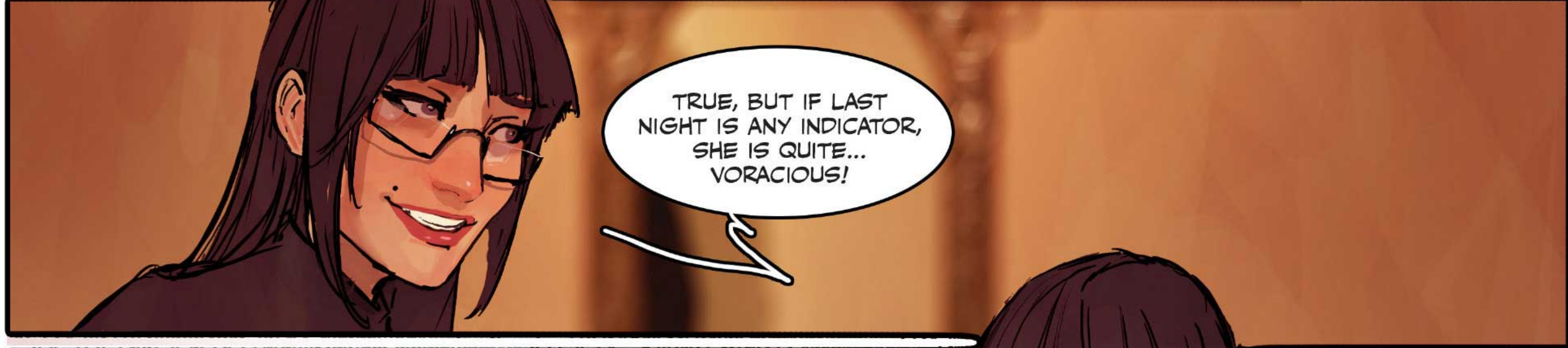
EASY FOR YOU TO SAY THAT, ALAN...BUT FIRST IMPRESSIONS ARE A BIT MORE IMPORTANT TO ME...WELL...NOT REALLY... HER OPINION THOUGH.



OKAY, LET'S THINK THIS THROUGH. SHE LEFT THIS MORNING WITH HER COLLAR ON...THAT'S A CLEAR SIGN SHE IS VERY MUCH INTO IT.



ON THE OTHER HAND, WE DID DO IT QUITE A FEW TIMES JUST LAST NIGHT...DIFFERENT PEOPLE, DIFFERENT APPETITE SO TO SAY...



TRUE, BUT IF LAST NIGHT IS ANY INDICATOR, SHE IS QUITE... VORACIOUS!



THOUGH...AGAIN...SHE DID SAY SHE WAS ON A...DRY STREAK. SO IT MIGHT BE HER JUST... CATCHING UP.



SIGH. YEAH, THIS IS GETTING ME NOWHERE FAST! HEADS FRIENDS, TAILS...WITH BENEFITS!



THE COIN LANDED ON HEADS...

DA-DING
DONNG

ALLY TOLD IT TO GO FUCK ITSELF.

WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?

WOAH...GO TEAM, GO! I GOTTA SAY, YOU DO HAVE SOME WONDERFUL ITEMS IN YOUR WARDROBE.

HEH. ACTUALLY, I WASN'T SURE IF I SHOULD WEAR THIS...Y'KNOW. DIDN'T KNOW IF YOU WERE COMING AS A FRIEND...OR... YOU KNOW.

AW, COME ON, ALLY...

I THINK WE PROVED LAST NIGHT THAT WE CAN HAVE BOTH.

TWO THINGS!

ONE, YES, I ACTUALLY DID THIS! IT WAS AN OLD PERSONAL FANTASY OF MINE. SO...YEAH...THAT NIGHT, I NAILED IT!

AND TWO, THE WHOLE "HAVING BOTH" THING... AHAAAAHAHAHAHA! OH WOW...GOOD ONE, PAST ME! GOOD ONE!

THEN I PRESUME YOU HAVE SOME FREE TIME ON YOUR HANDS... BECAUSE I HAVE SO MANY IDEAS.

SO MY SECOND NIGHT WAS LOADS OF FUN. BDSM REALLY MAKES YOU REALIZE THINGS ABOUT YOURSELF AND ABOUT YOUR BODY.

A SKILLED DOMME CAN DRIVE YOU TO THE POINT WHERE YOU FEEL AS IF YOU ARE DROWNING IN SENSATIONS. A GAME OF PLEASURE AND YES, SOME PAIN, IN WHICH YOUR LIMITS ARE EXPANDED...

A MERE PLAYTHING...TOUCHED... POKED...TEASED...UNABLE TO RESIST. SQUIRMING AND IMAGINING HER PREDATORY, AMUSED LOOK...

THAT AND BEING SO MADDENINGLY TURNED ON THAT IF I COULD, AT THIS POINT, I'D HUMPH HER LEG. UGH...

NOT MY MOST DIGNIFIED MOMENT.

THAT WOULD BE A ROUGH DESCRIPTION OF YOUR AVERAGE SESSION. BUT...WHEN YOUR MISTRESS DECIDES TO TAKE YOUR SIGHT AND SPEECH AWAY WHILE YOU ARE BOUND AND VULNERABLE...

HOLY CRAP...YOU FEEL LIKE YOUR EVERY NERVE IS IN A STATE OF RED ALERT...

EVERY SINGLE NERVE PREPARED AS YOUR MIND AND BODY SEEK TO RECLAIM CONTROL OVER THIS NEW UNEXPECTED TURN OF EVENTS...

AND YET...YOU ARE HELPLESS.

AND THERE SHE WAS... MY MISTRESS REVELLING IN MY HELPLESSNESS.

SHE REALLY IS AMAZING. A TRUE DOMINATRIX...





AND THEN...AFTER REALIZING
THE FUN POTENTIALS OF A
SPIDER GAG...MY MEMORIES
KINDA SORTA FADE TO BLACK.

DON'T GET ME WRONG, ALL JOKING
ASIDE, THERE ARE TWO REASONS WHY I
AM STOPPING MY DESCRIPTIONS AT
CERTAIN POINTS, AND NEITHER OF THEM ARE
EMBARRASSMENT.

REASON ONE: PRETTY MUCH
EVERY DESCRIPTION OF AN
ORGASM HAS BEEN WRITTEN
ALREADY...SO I WILL JUST SKIP
THE WHOLE OPENING OF MY INNER
FLOWER, CRESTING THE TIDES
OF PLEASURE CRAP.

AND REASON TWO: MY MEMORIES PAST
A CERTAIN POINT USUALLY DEVOLVE
TO "ASDFGAFFGSDASDDADADSADSA"...

WHAT CAN I SAY? ALLY KNEW WHAT
SHE WAS DOING, AND WHAT SHE DIDN'T
KNOW, SHE LEARNED FAST.

ALLY WAS A TRUE
DOMME.
MY MISTRESS.

AND AT THE SAME TIME...A TRUE FRIEND.

YEAH, I LIKED THE BOOK, BUT THEN CAME THAT SCENE WITH ALIENOR...

AND?

AND THEN I LOVED THE BOOK.

UH-HUH...A RICH DOMINATRIX IN A BIG-ASS CASTLE... THOUGHT YOU MIGHT RELATE!

SPEAKING OF WHICH...

HERE IT COMES...

YOU LIVE HERE...ALONE?

UH-HUH.

UM...WELL... WERE THERE NO AVAILABLE CASTLES?

FUNNY...

I'M JUST SAYIN'...

THAT IT'S WEIRD I GOT A HOUSE THIS BIG...ALONE.

I MADE MY MONEY WITH SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT. A BIT OF LUCKY TIMING AND ALL THAT.

YOU DID MENTION IT. THOUGH HONESTLY, I UNDERESTIMATED YOUR CLAIM.

YEAH, SO ANYWAY, I NEVER HAD THE BEST RELATIONSHIP WITH MY MOTHER.

SHE WAS ALWAYS THE JUDGEMENTAL TYPE...AND MY OLDER SISTER IS HAPPILY MARRIED, A FACT MY MOTHER NEVER FAILS TO REMIND ME OF IN FRONT OF ANYONE WHO WILL LISTEN.

SO AFTER MY INITIAL BIG BUYOUT...I BOUGHT THIS PLACE...TO GIVE MY MOTHER SOMETHING ELSE TO TALK ABOUT.

YOU BOUGHT A BIG-ASS HOUSE FOR...REVENGE?


HEH...ALAN...MY BEST FRIEND... WELL...PRETTY MUCH MY ONLY FRIEND NEXT TO YOU... ASKED ME THE EXACT SAME QUESTION.

AND, WELL...I DON'T KNOW. THAT'S THE THING. I LIVED IN AN APARTMENT MY WHOLE LIFE WITH A MOTHER THAT HAD LITTLE RESPECT FOR MY PRIVACY. IT GOT WORSE AFTER MY DAD PASSED AWAY, SO I GUESS, ON SOME LEVEL I ALWAYS WANTED THIS.

I DON'T KNOW...OVERALL I AM HAPPY HERE...BUT THERE ARE DAYS WHEN IT FEELS TOO BIG.

PEOPLE ARE COMPLEX. YOU USUALLY SEE ONE SIDE OF THEM... ON ANY GIVEN DAY THEY ARMOR UP TO MEET SOCIETY. THE SOCIETY THAT LOVES BRANDING ITS MEMBERS.

ALLY...IS A DOMINATRIX... BUT ALLY IS MY FRIEND... MY LONELY FRIEND.



NOW, R1 AND JUMP TO THE SIDE!

SHE HAD ONLY TWO FRIENDS... THIS BUGGED ME AT FIRST. I TRIED NOTICING WHAT ASPECT OF HER WOULD CONDEMN HER TO THIS ISOLATION.

SHE WAS AN ATTRACTIVE YOUNG WOMAN.

PLAYFUL, FUNNY, SMART.

OH, IS THAT ALL?

ALLY, LAST TIME I PLAYED A GAME WAS, LIKE, TEN YEARS AGO!

BESIDES HER SEXUAL TASTES, NOTHING ABOUT HER STOOD OUT.

JUST A NORMAL PERSON.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

SURPRISINGLY CATCHY!

BUT, IN THE END, DOES IT EVEN MATTER?

IF I WAS TO THINK CAREFULLY... HOW MANY PEOPLE COULD I CALL MY TRUE FRIENDS...

AT THIS MOMENT...

OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD...

I GUESS...

THERE WAS ALLY... AND I GUESS THAT'S ALL RIGHT.



HOW THE HELL DID THIS HAPPEN? IT WAS THE SECOND MORNING OF ME WAKING UP NEXT TO HER... AND I WAS HAPPY... GENUINELY...HAPPY.

I MEAN, IF I WAS GONNA BE COMPLETELY HONEST, THIS WAS ABOUT SEX. WE STARTED CHATTING BECAUSE OF OUR, WELL, SPECIFIC TASTES. WE MET TO SATISFY THOSE DESIRES.

WE WERE FRIENDS. AND SURE, ON A CERTAIN LEVEL, SHE KNEW ME BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE EVER DID...SO IT MADE PERFECT SENSE FOR ME TO CARE ABOUT HER.

WE HAD OTHER STUFF IN COMMON... BESIDES THE BDSM STUFF THAT IS. SHE LIKED BOOKS, HAD A GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR...

I WAS WELL AWARE THAT WE ONLY REALLY MET TWO DAYS AGO...

AND YET, LOOKING AT HER SLEEPING, I FELT THIS OVERWHELMING NEED TO KISS HER. AND IT WAS THE SHEER LACK OF SEXUAL DESIRE THAT TRIGGERED ALL SORTS OF ALARMS IN ME...

I TRIED TO RATIONALIZE THESE THOUGHTS AWAY.



AFTER LAST NIGHT, I CAN'T HELP MYSELF...SHE IS TRYING TO HIDE IT, BUT SHE IS LONELY.

THAT WAS PROBABLY WHY I FELT THIS...WHATEVER THIS WAS!

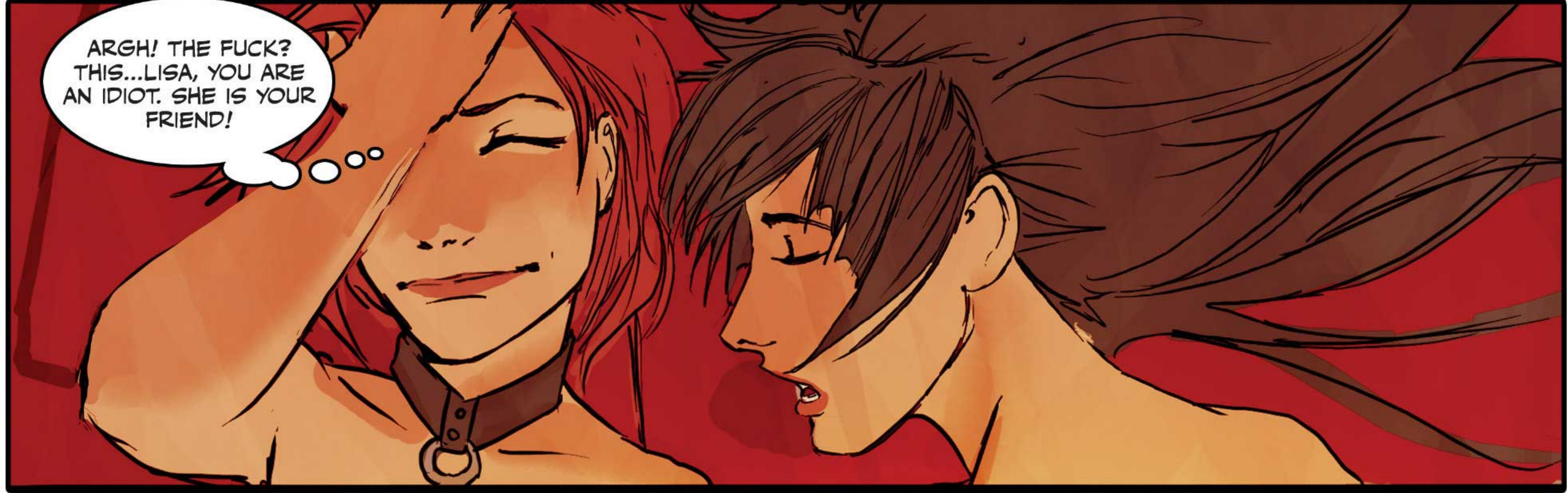
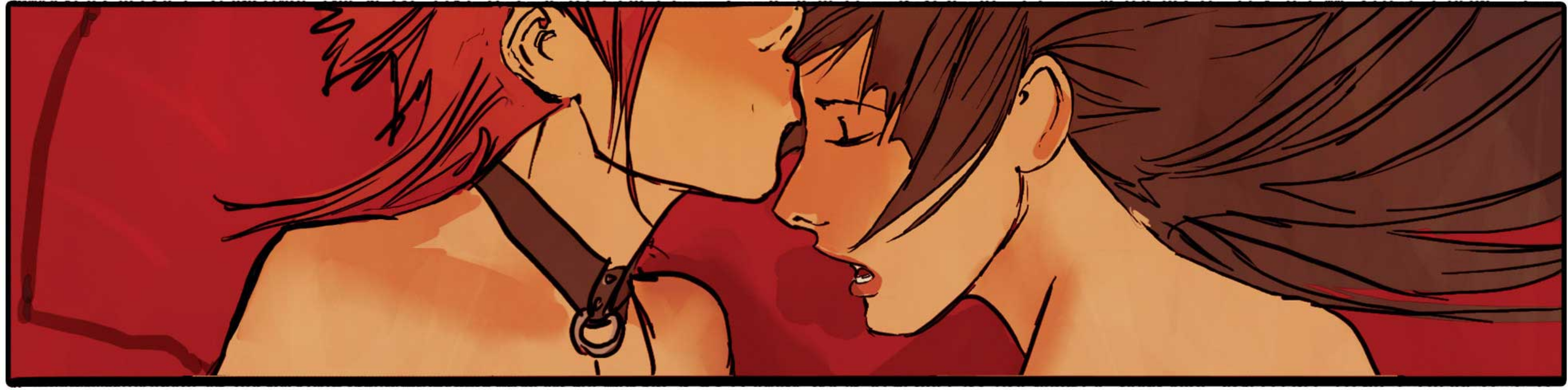
YEAH...THAT'S IT...



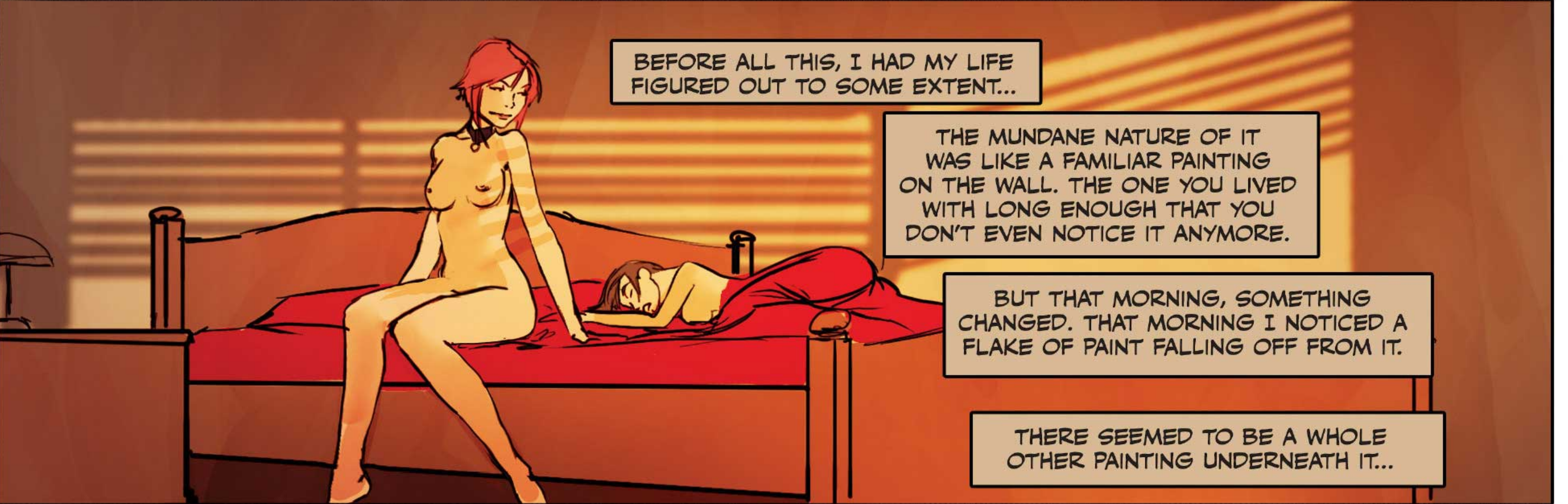
"THE FEW FRIENDS I HAD EITHER LEFT ME ONCE I GOT SUCCESSFUL, OR TRIED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE." SHE SAID THAT THE NIGHT BEFORE WITH A STRANGE, ALIEN SMILE THAT NEVER TOUCHED HER EYES...BUT WHEN SHE SMILES AT ME...



MY ALLY.



ARGH! THE FUCK? THIS...LISA, YOU ARE AN IDIOT. SHE IS YOUR FRIEND!




BEFORE ALL THIS, I HAD MY LIFE FIGURED OUT TO SOME EXTENT...

THE MUNDANE NATURE OF IT WAS LIKE A FAMILIAR PAINTING ON THE WALL. THE ONE YOU LIVED WITH LONG ENOUGH THAT YOU DON'T EVEN NOTICE IT ANYMORE.

BUT THAT MORNING, SOMETHING CHANGED. THAT MORNING I NOTICED A FLAKE OF PAINT FALLING OFF FROM IT.

THERE SEEMED TO BE A WHOLE OTHER PAINTING UNDERNEATH IT...



A RESTLESS PART OF ME MUSED ABOUT THE HIDDEN POSSIBILITIES OF THIS NEW PAINTING...CONSIDERED TEARING DOWN THE LAYER OF FAMILIARITY FOR A CHANCE OF SOMETHING AMAZING.

AND NOW FOR A FAR LESS POETIC TRANSLATION, I WAS OVERTHINKING A *TWINGE* OF AFFECTION I FELT FOR A FRIEND I WAS SLEEPING WITH FOR *TWO DAYS*.



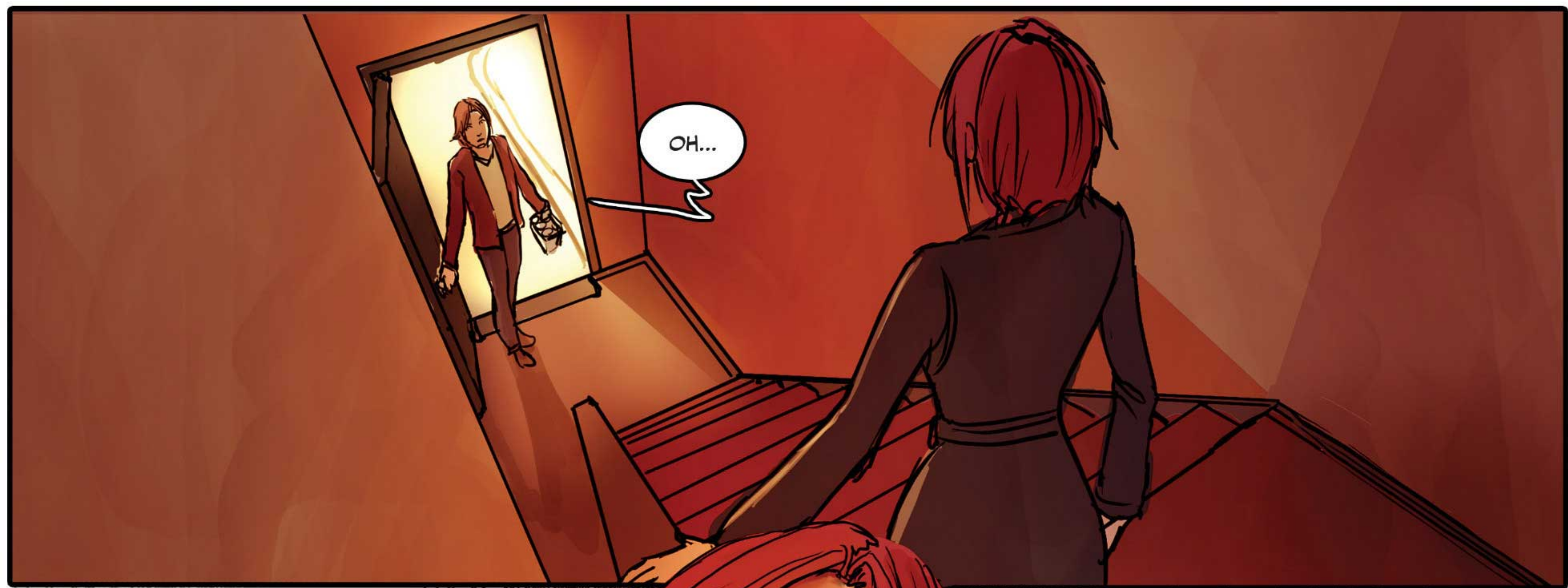
**KA-
TCHIK**



THE HELL?



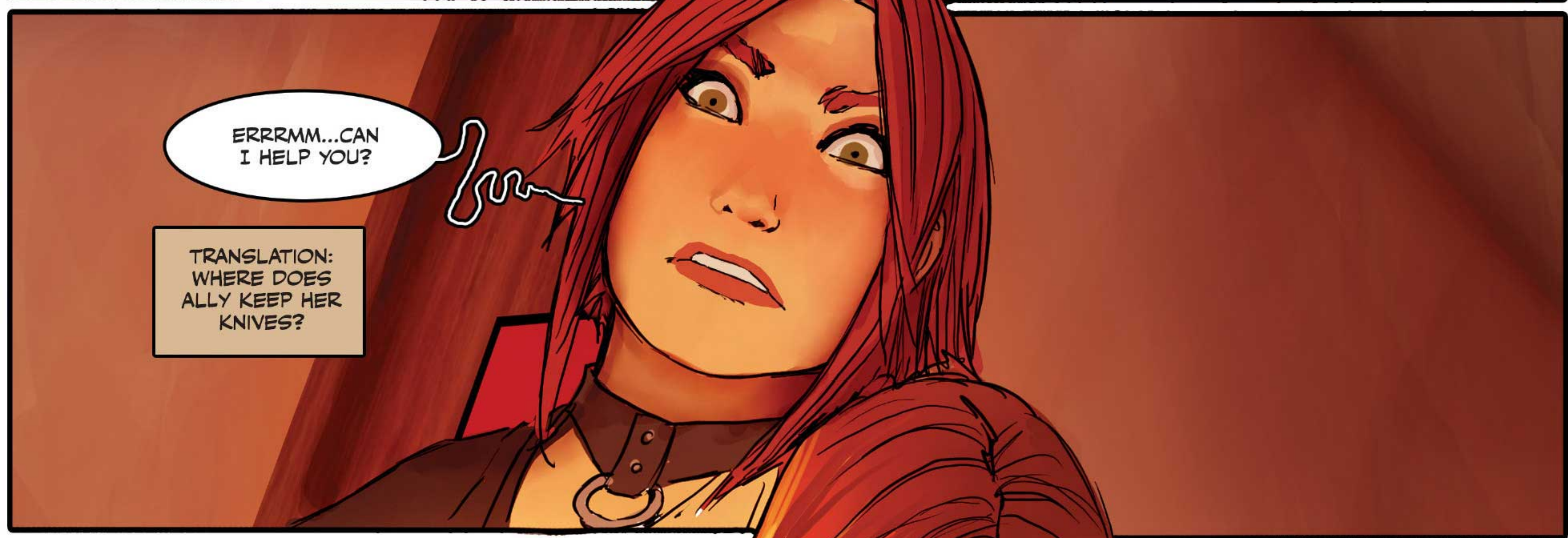
YO, ALLY. PAYBACK TIME!



OH...

ERRRMM...CAN I HELP YOU?

TRANSLATION: WHERE DOES ALLY KEEP HER KNIVES?



YOU MUST BE LISA. UM, DUNNO IF ALLY MENTIONED ME, I'M ALAN.



OH, RIGHT. SHE DID MENTION YOU WOULD DROP BY AGAIN. JUST A SEC, I'LL GO WAKE HER UP.

OKAY, I SWEAR I'M NOT USUALLY THIS FUCKING DITSY!



YEAH. UM, YOU DO THAT. I'LL BE IN THE LIVING ROOM.

M'KAY, ALAN...SAY NOTHING...WOULDN'T MAKE THE BEST FIRST IMPRESSION.

SAY IT!
ALLY DOESN'T NEED BREAKFAST, SHE ATE YOUR UNDERPANTS!

I SEE PARIS, I SEE FRANCE, GUESS WHAT I'M NOT SEEING?!

WOOO-BOY! I REALLY AM AN ASS.





THIS COULD BE AN INTERESTING DAY.



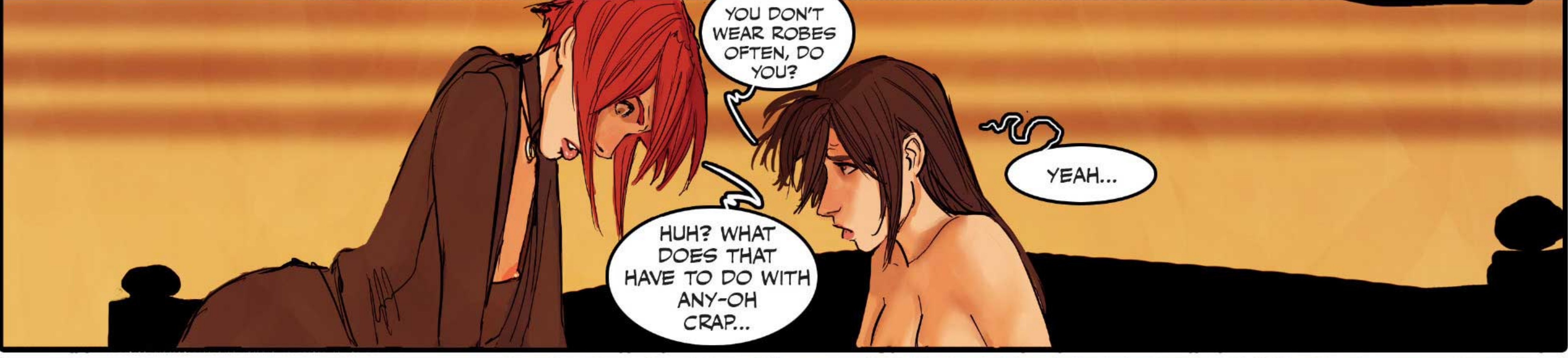
HEH...



ALLY, WAKE UP.

MMNWUTIZZIT?

UM, YOUR FRIEND, THAT ALAN GUY, JUST ARRIVED.



YOU DON'T WEAR ROBES OFTEN, DO YOU?

YEAH...

HUH? WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ANY-OH CRAP...



I'M NO BOTANIST, BUT SEEING TWO BUSHES IN TWO DAYS...

THIS WEEKEND COULD HAVE GONE WORSE.



DAMN! THIS ROOM IS LIKE A PERVY CRIME SCENE.

DID HE AT LEAST HAVE THE COMMON COURTESY TO BRING SOME COFFEE?



I THINK SO.

DAMMIT. DID HE NOTICE?

OOOH, HELLO THERE! I REMEMBER YOU! SO SHE FINALLY GOT TO USE YOU? HM, THIS LISA IS A BIT OF A WILD THING.



MORNIN', ROADKILL!

HE MUST HAVE NOTICED.

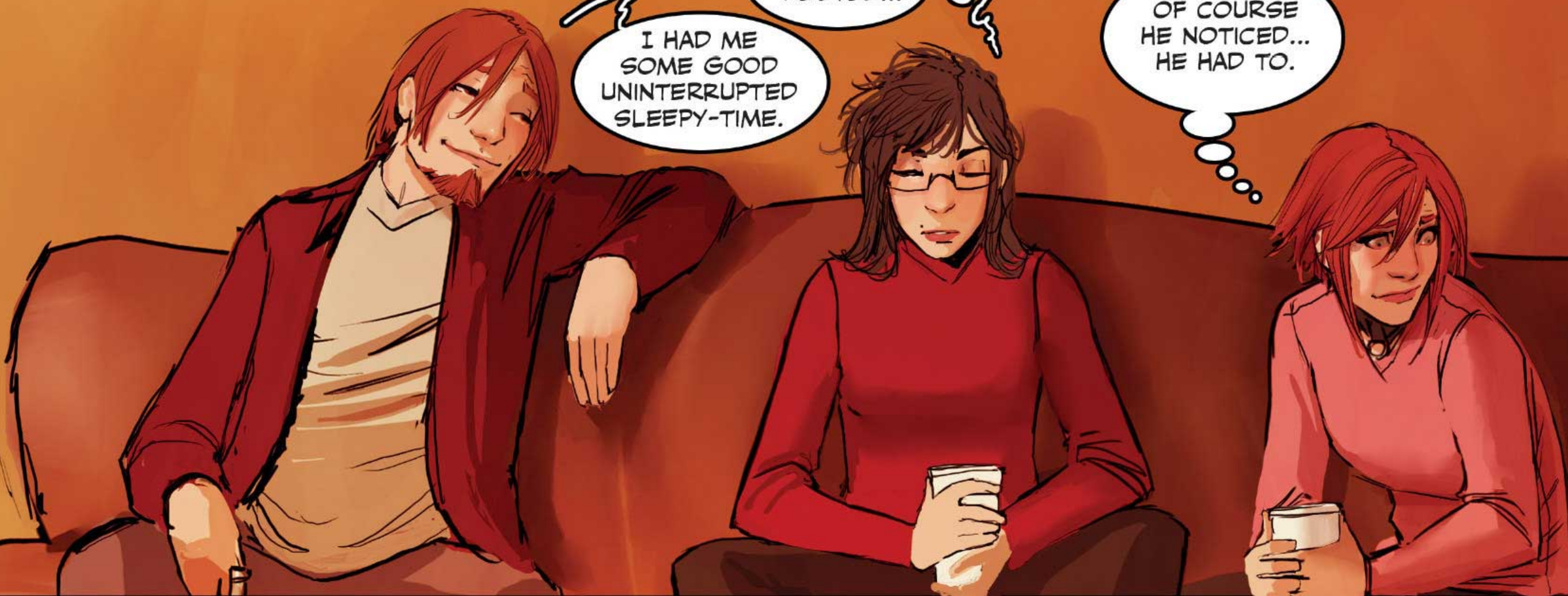
DROP DEAD! WHERE'S MY COFFEE?



YOU LOOK RESTED...

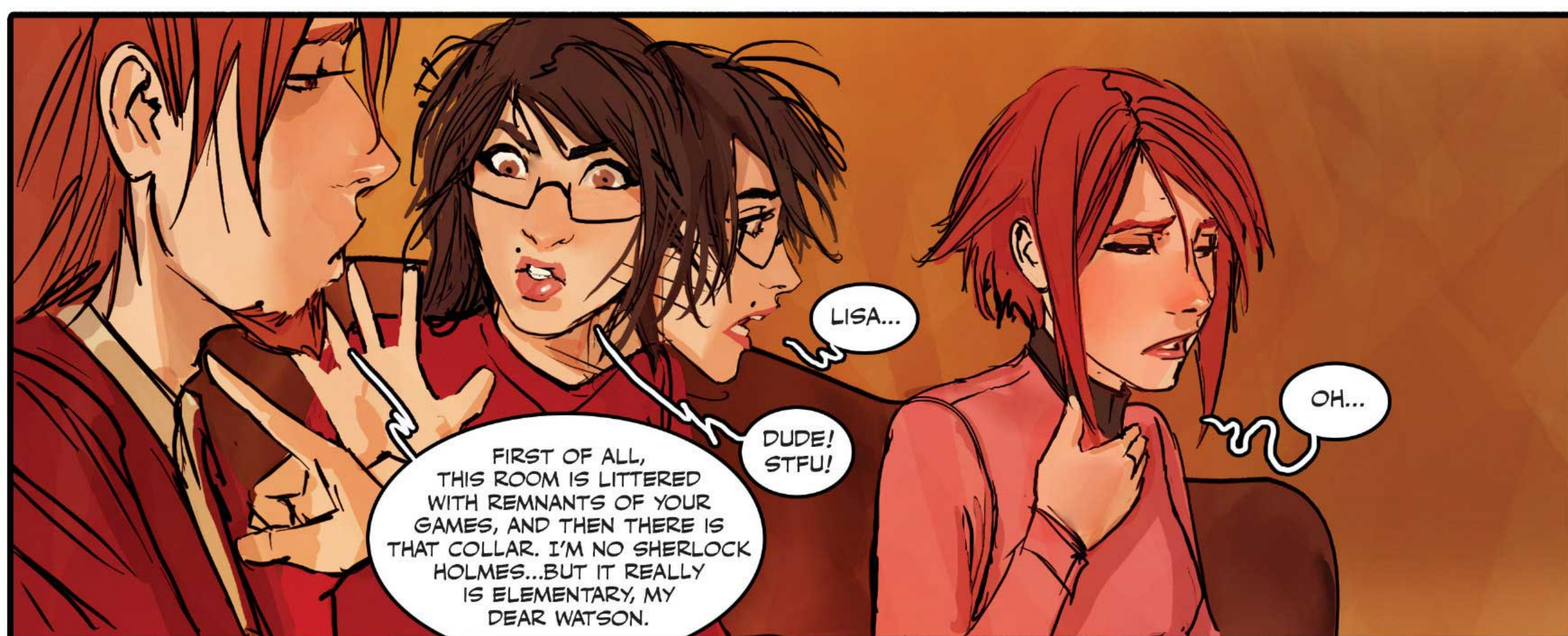
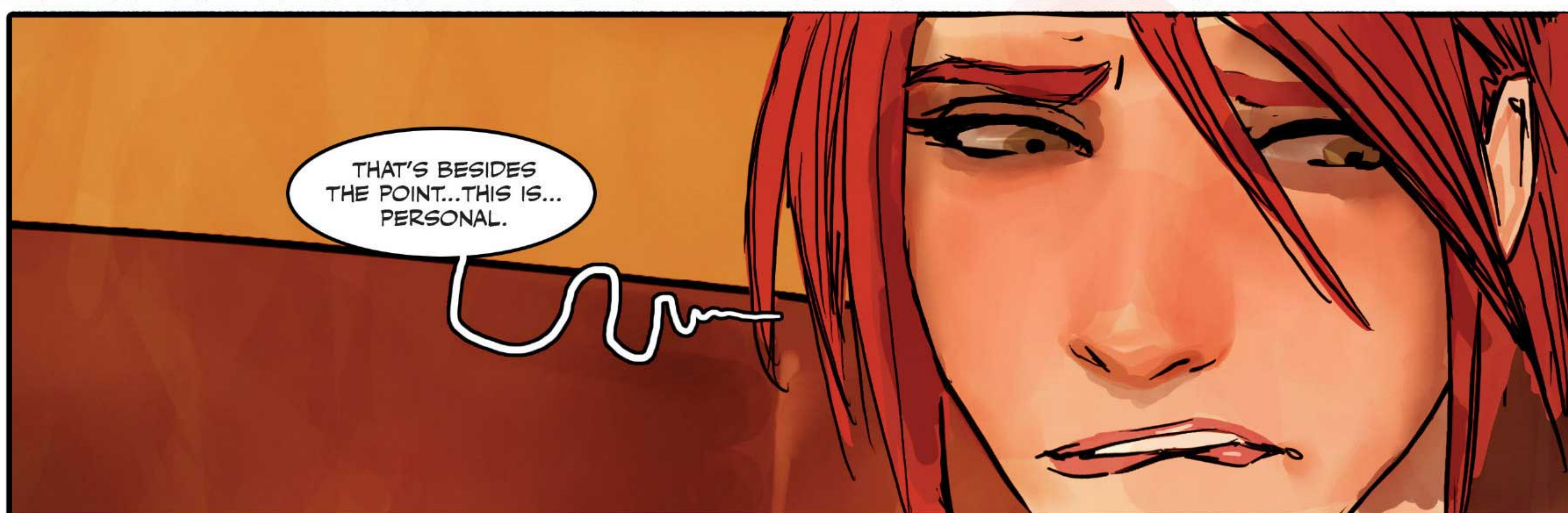
I HAD ME SOME GOOD UNINTERRUPTED SLEEPY-TIME.

OF COURSE HE NOTICED... HE HAD TO.



YOU ON THE OTHER HAND, LOOKS LIKE YOU HAD A WILD NIGHT...A WILD, PERVY, HOT NIGHT... OF COURSE I'M MERELY GUESSING.



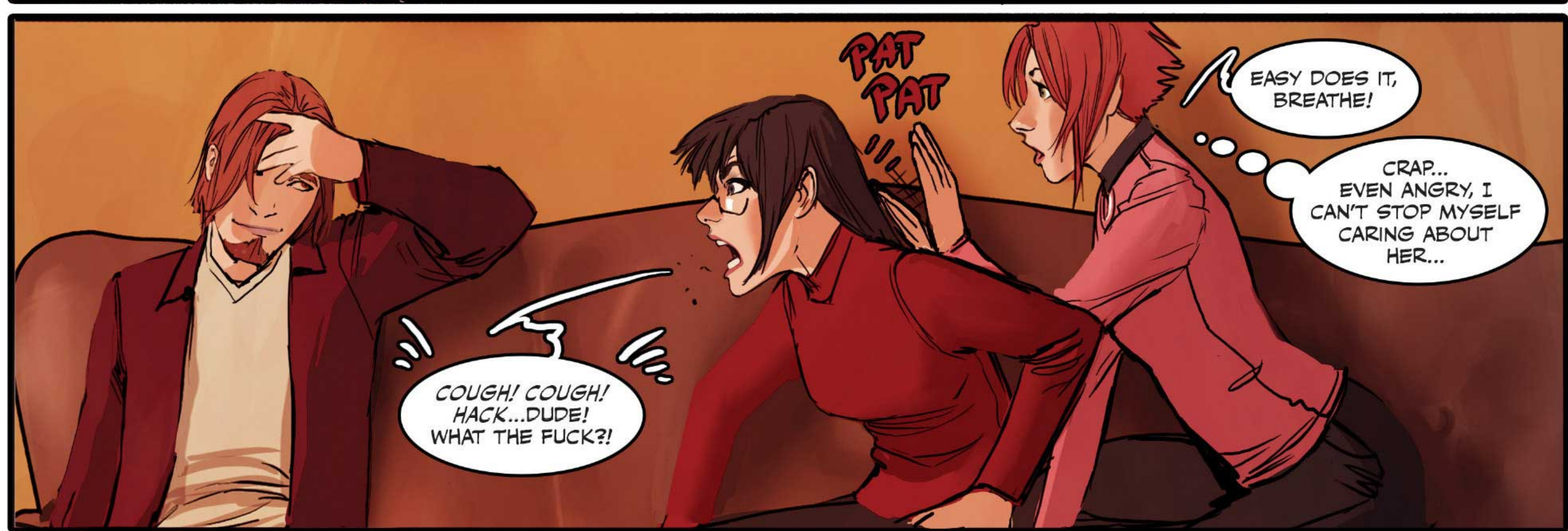




OKAY...LET ME DEFUSE THIS THING. ONE TIME IN COLLEGE, ALLY AND I PUT BUTTPLUGS IN EACH OTHER'S ASSES TO SEE HOW THAT FEELS...

KA-SNORT

DA-FUCK?

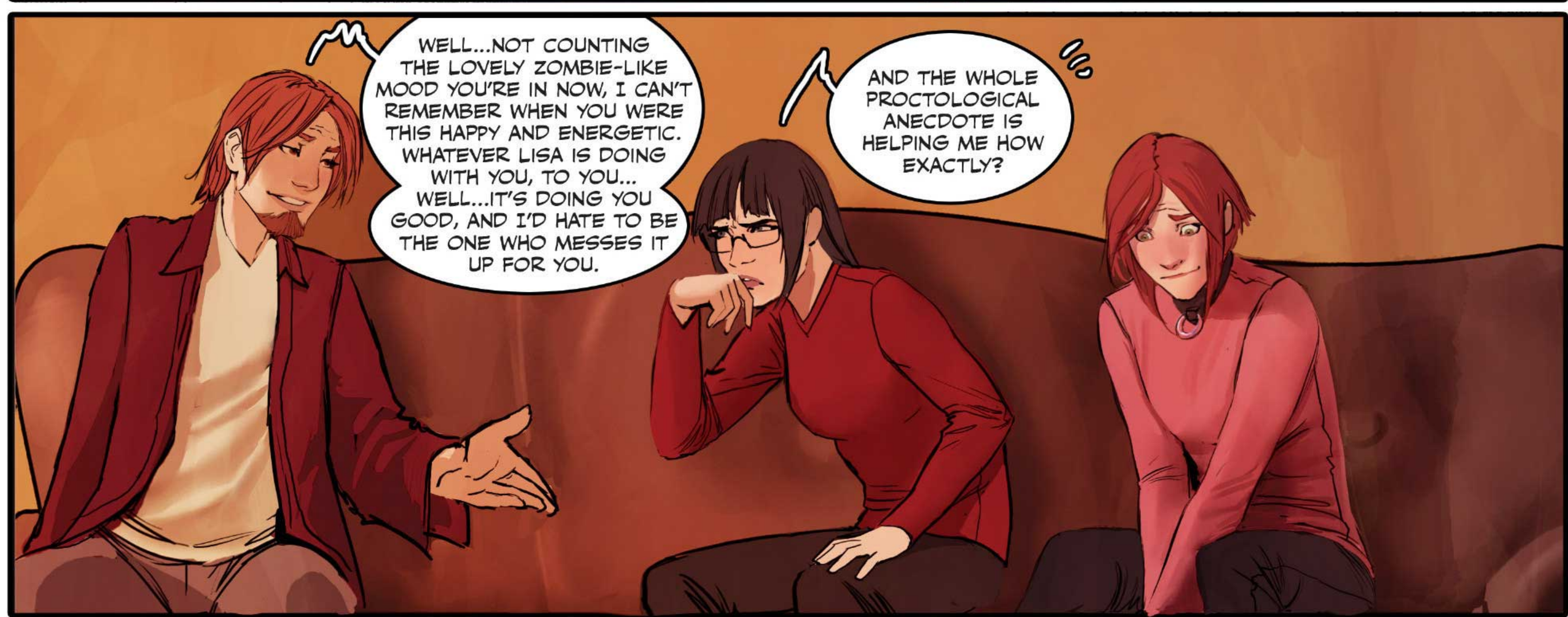


COUGH! COUGH! HACK...DUDE! WHAT THE FUCK?!

PAT PAT

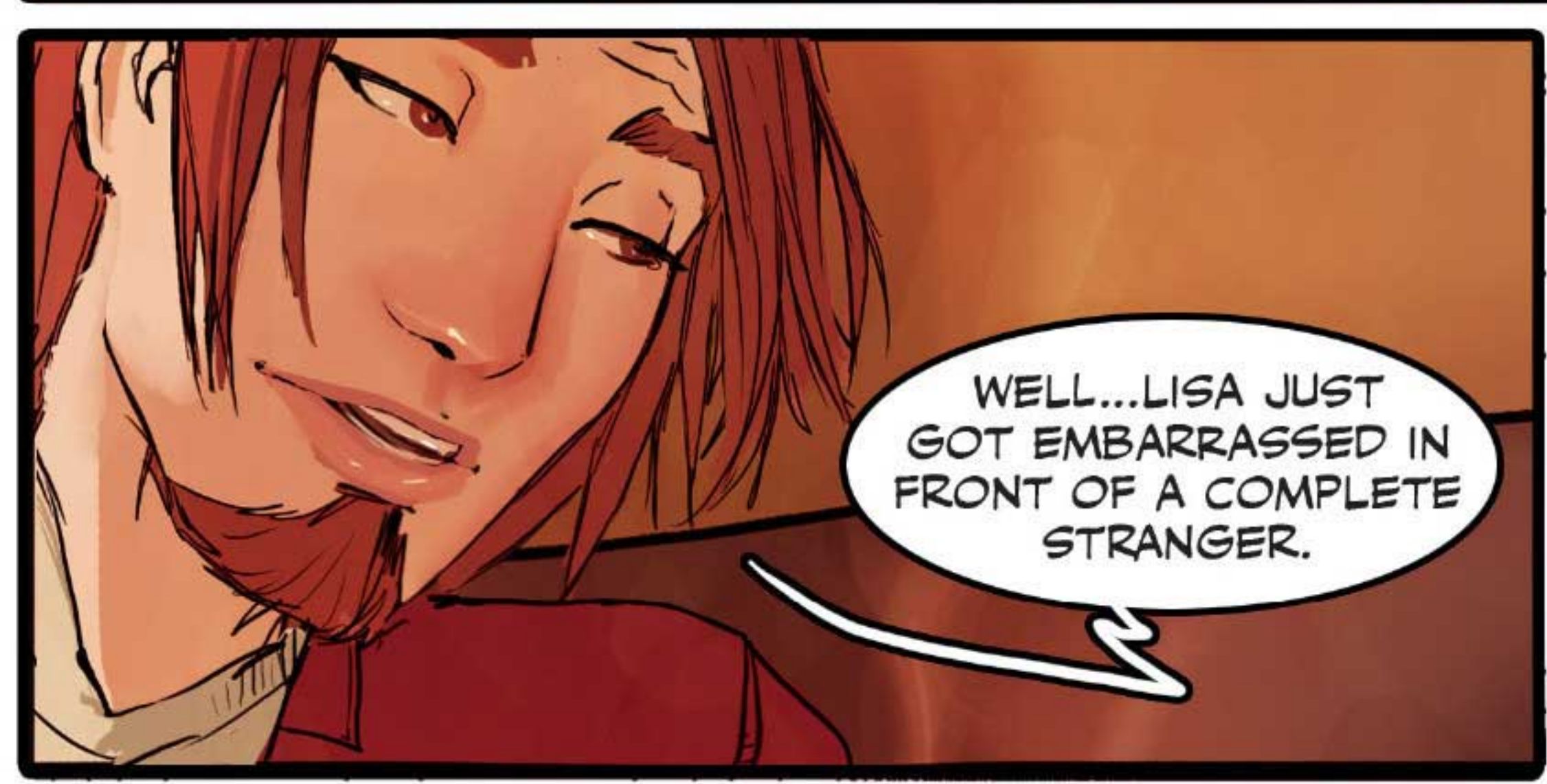
EASY DOES IT, BREATHE!

CRAP... EVEN ANGRY, I CAN'T STOP MYSELF CARING ABOUT HER...



WELL...NOT COUNTING THE LOVELY ZOMBIE-LIKE MOOD YOU'RE IN NOW, I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE THIS HAPPY AND ENERGETIC. WHATEVER LISA IS DOING WITH YOU, TO YOU... WELL...IT'S DOING YOU GOOD, AND I'D HATE TO BE THE ONE WHO MESSSES IT UP FOR YOU.

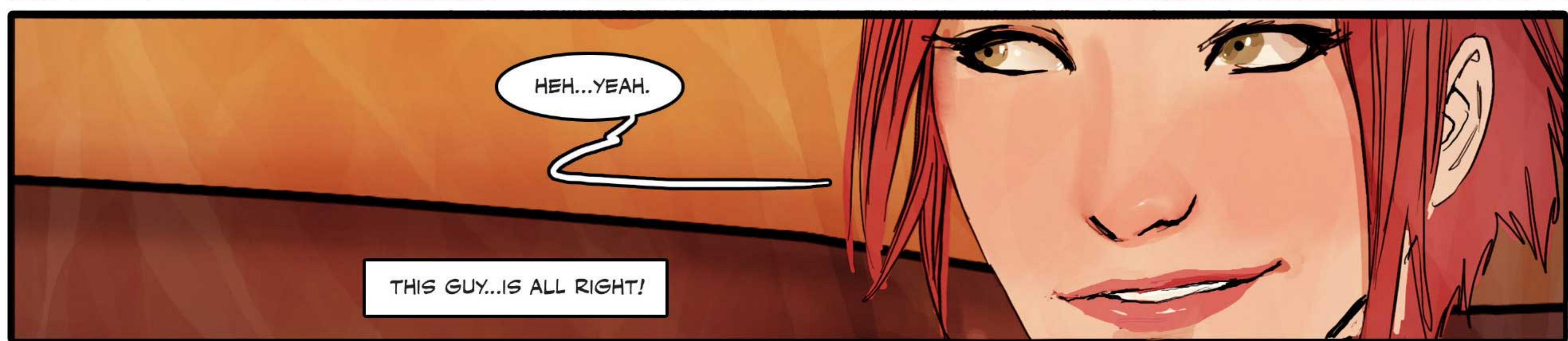
AND THE WHOLE PROCTOLOGICAL ANECDOTE IS HELPING ME HOW EXACTLY?



WELL...LISA JUST GOT EMBARRASSED IN FRONT OF A COMPLETE STRANGER.



SO, NOW THAT WE ALL GOT THE PROVERBIAL EGG ON OUR FACES... MOVING ON, LISA?



HEH...YEAH.

THIS GUY...IS ALL RIGHT!

IT WAS A WEIRD PREDICAMENT I FOUND MYSELF IN THAT DAY. I WAS IN THIS BIG HOUSE ALONE WITH TWO DOMMES. NO ONE KNEW I WAS HERE...IT WAS A SITUATION THAT WOULD SCARE ME...IF IT WASN'T FOR ONE SIMPLE TRUTH.

BDSM PEOPLE ARE SEXUAL NERDS...

I KNOW I SAID THIS BEFORE... BUT SEEING THESE TWO BRAINSTORMING ABOUT SOME RIG DESIGN ALAN WAS COMMISSIONED TO MAKE...

IT WAS LIKE WATCHING ENTHUSIASTS HAVING A HEARTFELT CONVERSATION ABOUT A COMMON HOBBY.

LIKE GOURMAND CHEFS DISCUSSING CONTENTS OF SPICE RACKS.

SO I FIGURE THIS WOULD DISTRIBUTE THE WEIGHT EVENLY WHILE KEEPING CIRCULATION UNOBSTRUCTED.

YEAH, BUT THE PRESSURE ON THE FUN PARTS IS GONNA SPOIL THE FUN. THIS RIG RELIES HEAVILY ON KEEPING THE EROGENOUS ZONES STIMULATED, BUT THE CROTCH AREA AS IT IS WOULD ONLY CAUSE PAIN, TRUST ME ON THIS ONE.

HM, POINT TAKEN. I'LL TALK IT OVER WITH THEM.

IF THEY DECIDE TO GO WITH IT AS IT IS... WELL, I GUESS THEY LIKE IT REAAAALLY SPICY.

IT WAS FUNNY ACTUALLY, THIS WAS MY FIRST EVER SEX TALK WITH FRIENDS...AND BOY DID THESE TWO HAVE SOME CRAZY ONES. ALAN HAS BEEN MAKING PERSONALIZED GEAR FOR CLUBS, PERFORMANCES, AND INDIVIDUALS FOR YEARS. A JOB LIKE THAT OFTEN HAS SOME FUN STORIES LINKED TO IT.

...AND HER IDEA WAS TO HAVE A CORSET THAT WOULD BE HELD IN PLACE BY HER PIERCING.

THAT ACTUALLY SOUNDS COOL!

YUP, SOUNDED COOL... 'TIL SHE SNEEZED.



ALRIGHT, I'M GOING IN! COVER ME!

M-HM...

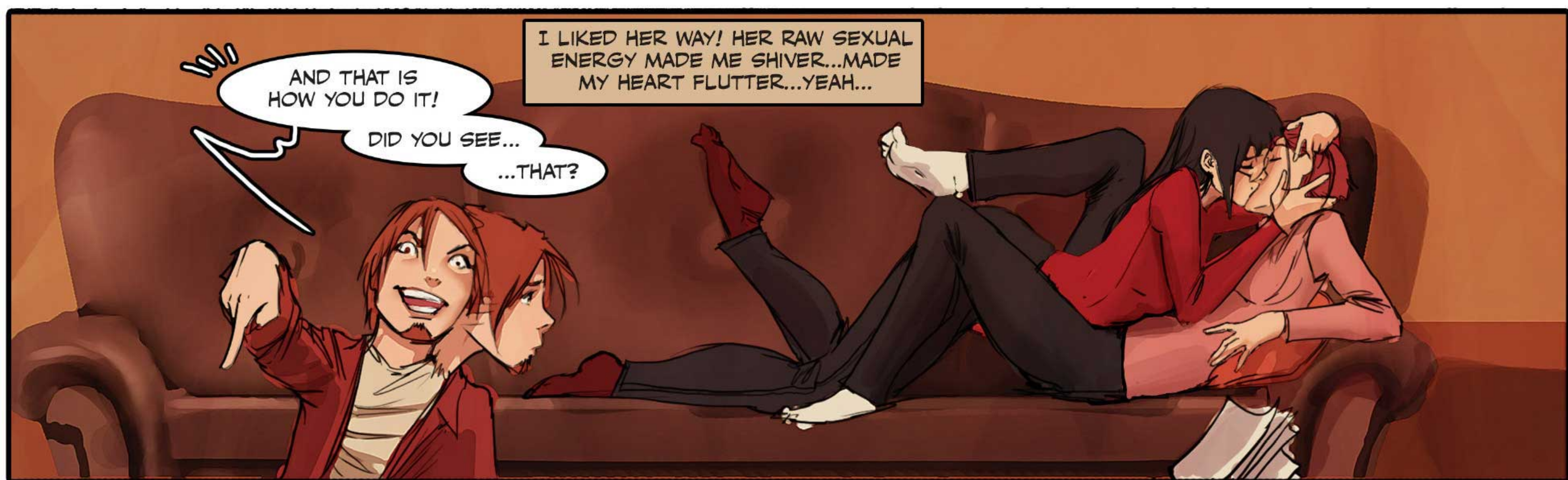
ALLY AND ALAN WERE GAMERS. I LIKED VIDEO GAMES, BUT MY ENTHUSIASM FOR THEM SUBSIDED IN MY LATE TEENS DUE TO MY FOCUS SHIFTING TO WRITING, AND MY BROTHERS' RELENTLESS HOGGING OF THE PLAYSTATION.

I AMUSED MYSELF WITH A BUNCH OF FETISHWEAR CATALOGUES ALLY HAD. IT WASN'T LIKE I WAS BORED...



BUT ALLY, WELL, LET'S JUST SAY SHE REALLY WANTED TO KEEP ME FROM FEELING LIKE A THIRD WHEEL. SHE HAD A GREAT WAY OF ACCOMPLISHING THAT.

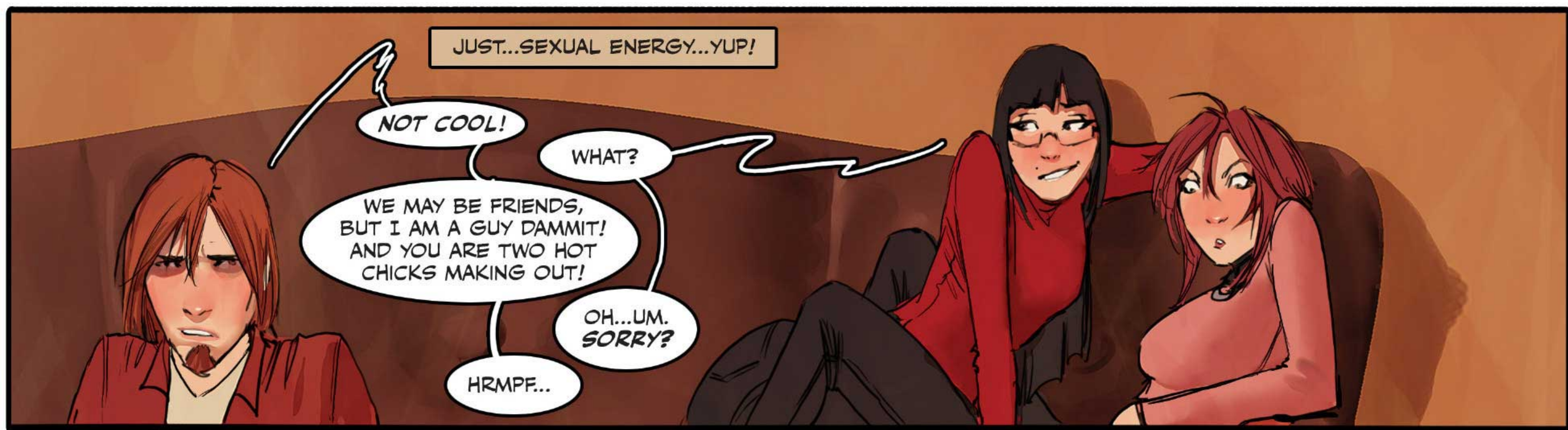
ALRIGHT, YOU SON OF A BITCH, YOUR ASS IS MINE!



AND THAT IS HOW YOU DO IT!

DID YOU SEE...
...THAT?

I LIKED HER WAY! HER RAW SEXUAL ENERGY MADE ME SHIVER...MADE MY HEART FLUTTER...YEAH...



JUST...SEXUAL ENERGY...YUP!

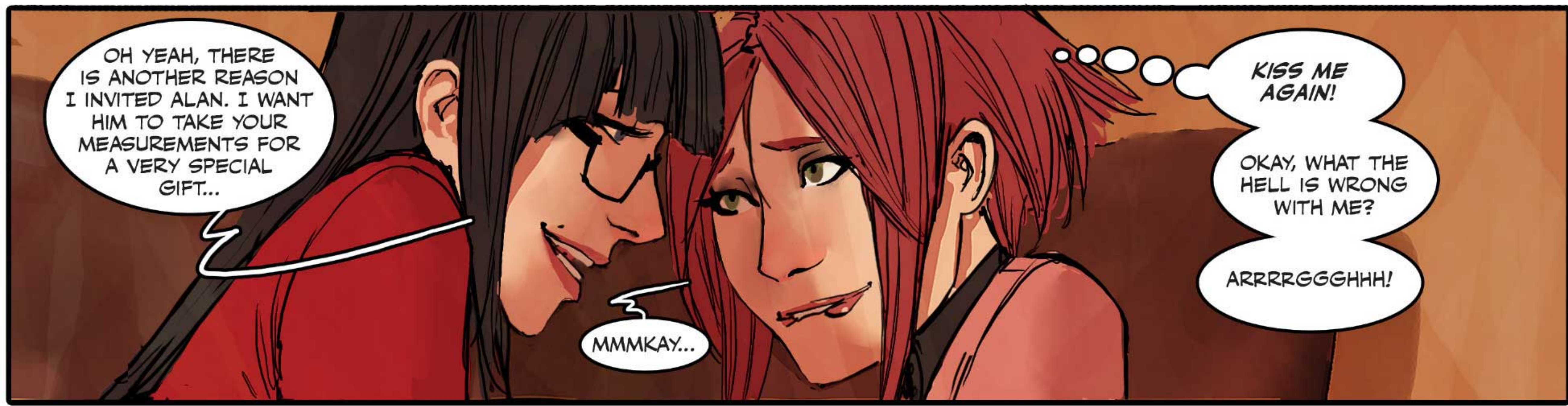
NOT COOL!

WHAT?

WE MAY BE FRIENDS, BUT I AM A GUY DAMMIT! AND YOU ARE TWO HOT CHICKS MAKING OUT!

OH...UM. SORRY?

HRMPF...



OH YEAH, THERE IS ANOTHER REASON I INVITED ALAN. I WANT HIM TO TAKE YOUR MEASUREMENTS FOR A VERY SPECIAL GIFT...

MMMKAY...

KISS ME AGAIN!

OKAY, WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH ME?

ARRRRGGGHHH!

IT'S 'CAUSE OF YOUR
LONG DRY STREAK...

THAT'S IT!

SHE IS YOUR
FRIEND, SOMEONE YOU
FEEL *COMFORTABLE* WITH,
HAVE TALKED TO FOR TWO
MONTHS NOW, AND SHE
IS YOUR MISTRESS...

A BIT OF AFFECTION
IS *PERFECTLY*
UNDERSTANDABLE.

AND THAT'S WHY
YOU'RE FANTASIZING
ABOUT KISSING HER
FOR *HOURS* ON A
BEACH.

YUP! MAKES
PERFECT SENSE!



STOP THINKING ABOUT
IT! THINK OF SOMETHING
ELSE! ANYTHING!

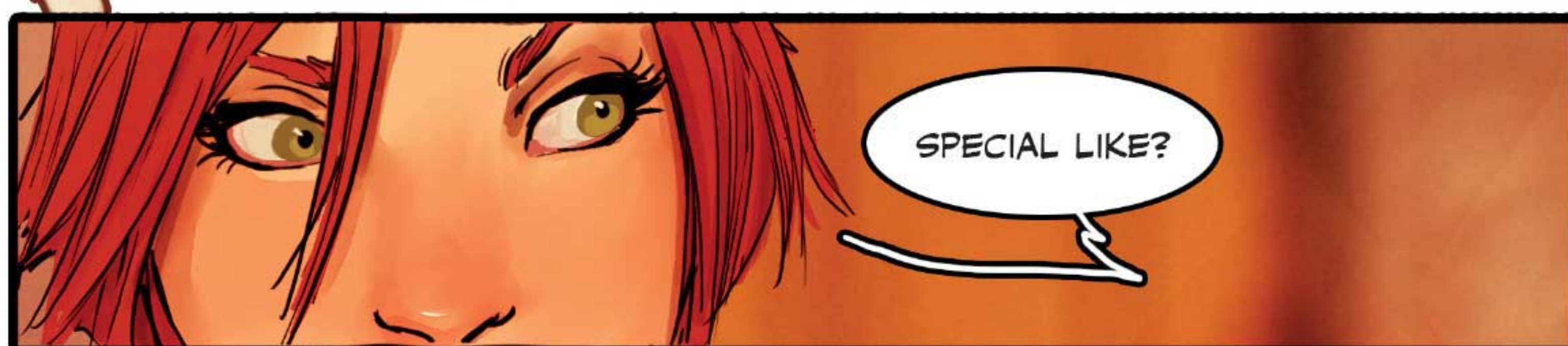
EXTEND YOUR
FINGERS PLEASE.

UM, PLANNING
ON LONGER
SLEEVES?

YOU MIGHT SAY
SO. THIS IS GONNA BE
SOMETHING SPECIAL.



SPECIAL LIKE?



PAJAMAS!



THIS...IS NOT HOW I SAW THIS WHOLE SITUATION UNFOLDING. AND YET...AFTER THREE DAYS OF BASICALLY HAVING MY DEEPEST SEXUAL ITCHES SCRATCHED...

I FEEL...THIS STRANGE VOID IN THE PIT OF MY STOMACH.

I GUESS...THE PROBLEM WAS IN ME. I MEAN...I KNEW WHY I CAME TO ALLY. IT WAS A SEXUAL DESIRE THAT GREW OVER THE YEARS, A VERY SPECIFIC DESIRE. AND THERE WAS THIS WOMAN...WILLING TO PARTAKE IN THIS GAME WITH ME. AND...WELL...SHE WAS WONDERFUL, FRIENDLY, ATTRACTIVE, FUNNY. BUT A WOMAN NONETHELESS. SO I FELT A CERTAIN SENSE OF...EMOTIONAL UNCERTAINTY. A DETACHMENT OF SORTS. IT WAS JUST SEX. THAT WAS ALL IT EVER COULD BE.

SEE YA, ALAN. IT WAS NICE MEETING YOU.

SAME HERE.

AH, HINDSIGHT... I COULD HAVE SAID SO MANY DIFFERENT THINGS.

HONESTLY...IT WAS THAT KISS FROM EARLIER THAT DAY. I MEAN, WE KISSED BEFORE THAT TOO...BUT...THIS TIME IT SHOOK ME UP. MY MIND WAS OBSESSING.

SO YEAH...I HAD TO KNOW. I HAD TO SEE IF THAT FEELING WOULD STILL BE THERE. THIS TIME I WENT FOR IT. I HAD TO TAKE THE DOMINANT ASPECT OF ALLY THAT EXCITED ME SO MUCH OUT OF THE EQUATION. I KISSED HER. I TOOK HER BY SURPRISE. FELT HER BODY STIFFEN FOR A SPLIT SECOND, AND THEN SHE GAVE INTO IT...AND YUP.

SOMETHING CLEVER...

SOMETHING FUNNY...

ANYTHING...I'M A DAMN WRITER. AND I JUST STOOD THERE...

UM...SO... WANNA DO THIS AGAIN SOMETIME?

OF COURSE.

NEXT WEEKEND OKAY WITH YOU?

YES...

THE FEELING WAS STILL THERE. CRAP...THIS WAS NOT PART OF THE PLAN.

THERE IS A SAYING ABOUT THE BEST LAID PLANS, AND I THINK IT APPLIES TO SEXUALLY-SUBMISSIVE WRITERS AS WELL...

I THINK IT GOES SOMETHING LIKE, FUCK YOUR PLANS!

I SHOULD HAVE ASKED HER TO MEET ME SOONER... LIKE, FOR COFFEE OR SOMETHING.

YEAH...WELL... YOU'LL PROBABLY CHAT ONLINE ANYWAYS, SO YOU CAN ASK HER THEN. ANYWAY, I GOTTA GO, TOUGH WEEK AHEAD.

OH...YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY?

OH, OKAY. SEE YOU, ALAN.

YEAH. GOT ME A RIG TO BUILD FOR THE CLUB.



HOUSE FEELS BIGGER SOMEHOW.






HOME SWEET HOME...



THREE OF THE BEST...



MOST EXCITING DAYS OF MY LIFE...



AND I'M BACK...
IN MY FAMILIAR ROOM...
ALMOST LIKE NOTHING
HAPPENED.



SIGH.



BUT THERE IS ONE
SMALL REMINDER...
OF THE WEEKEND.



OF HER... MY ALLYCAT... MY MISTRESS...

SIGH.

ALRIGHT...A SHORT NAP, AND THEN GET SOME WORK DONE.

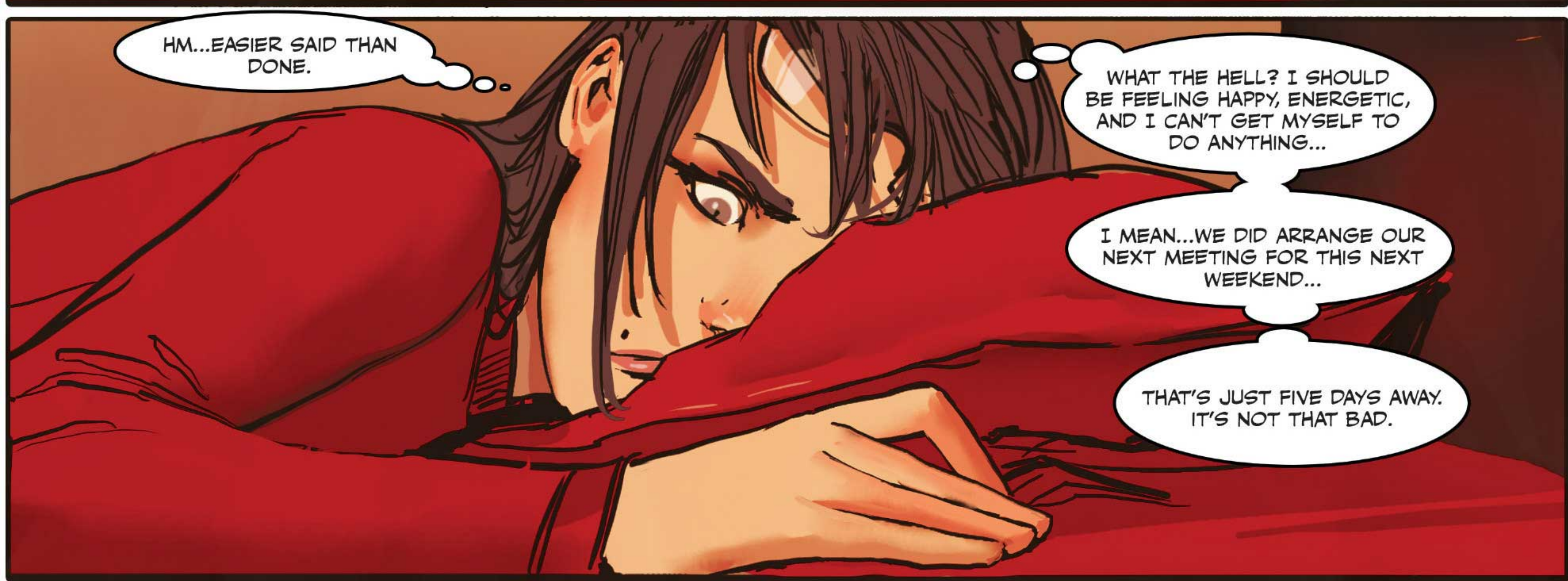


HM...EASIER SAID THAN DONE.

WHAT THE HELL? I SHOULD BE FEELING HAPPY, ENERGETIC, AND I CAN'T GET MYSELF TO DO ANYTHING...

I MEAN...WE DID ARRANGE OUR NEXT MEETING FOR THIS NEXT WEEKEND...

THAT'S JUST FIVE DAYS AWAY. IT'S NOT THAT BAD.



ARGH, I CAN'T GET HER OUT OF MY MIND. SNAP OUT OF IT, ALLISON!

YOU DON'T WANT HER TO SEE YOU AS DESPERATE... IT'S NOT REALLY DOMINATRIXEY.

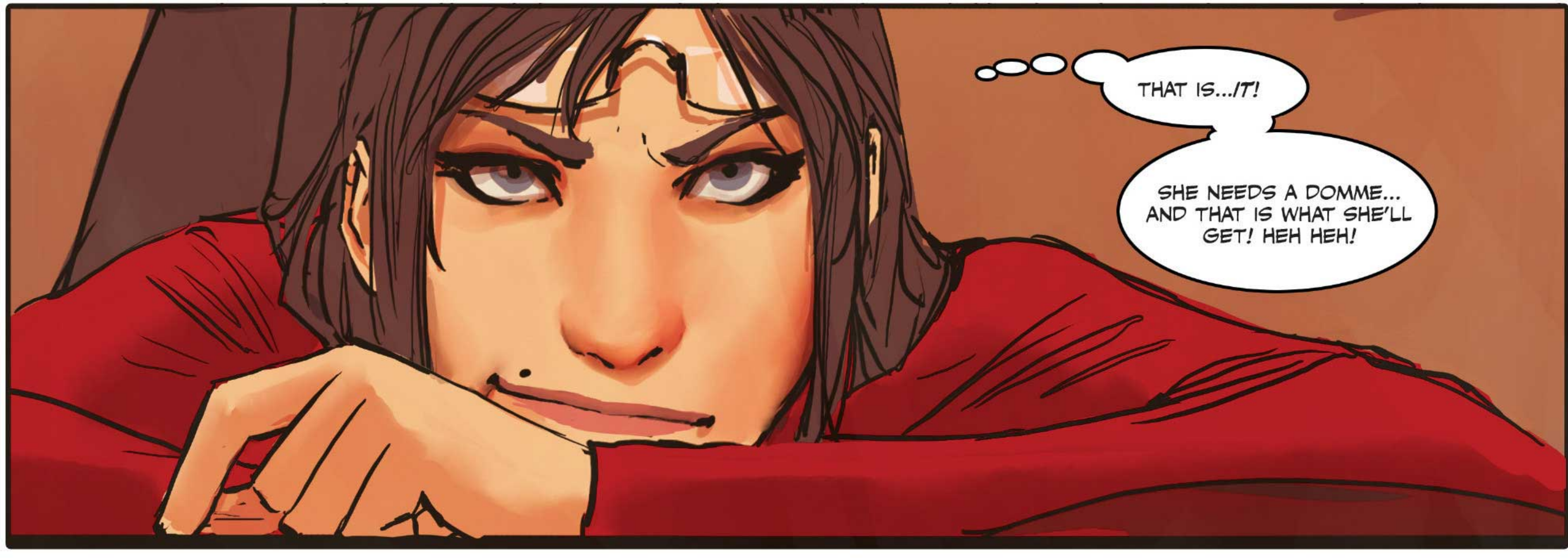
I HAVE MY ROLE... THAT IS WHY SHE CAME TO ME...

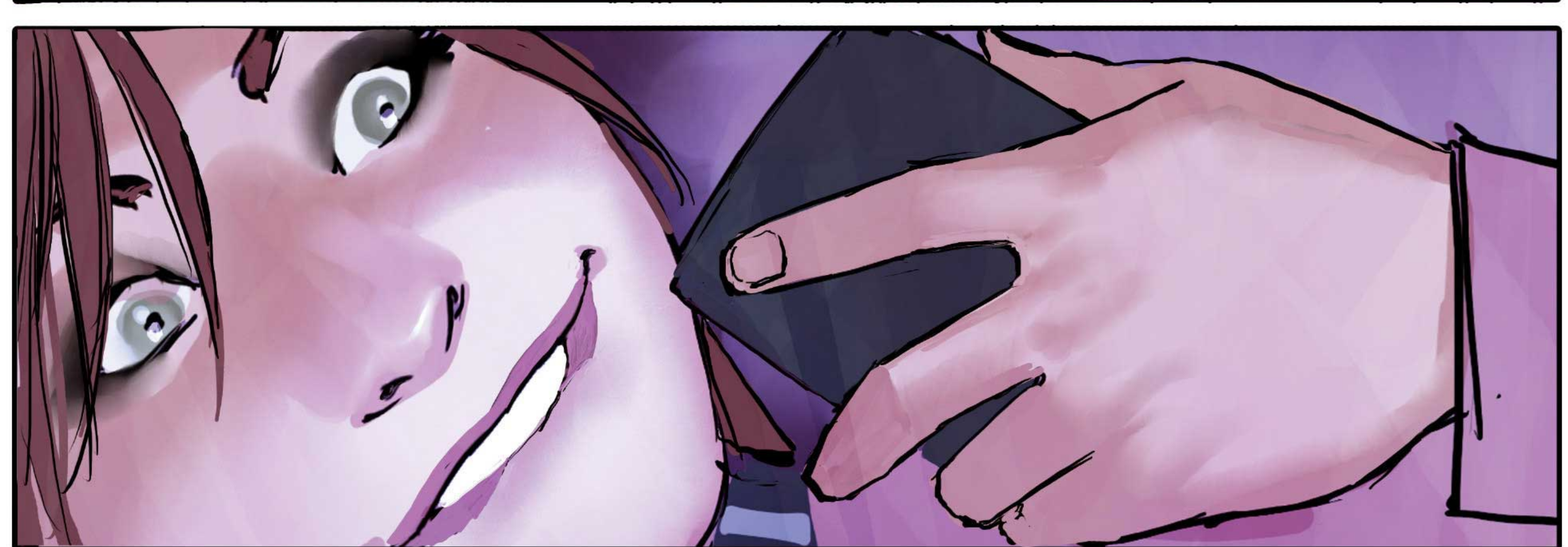
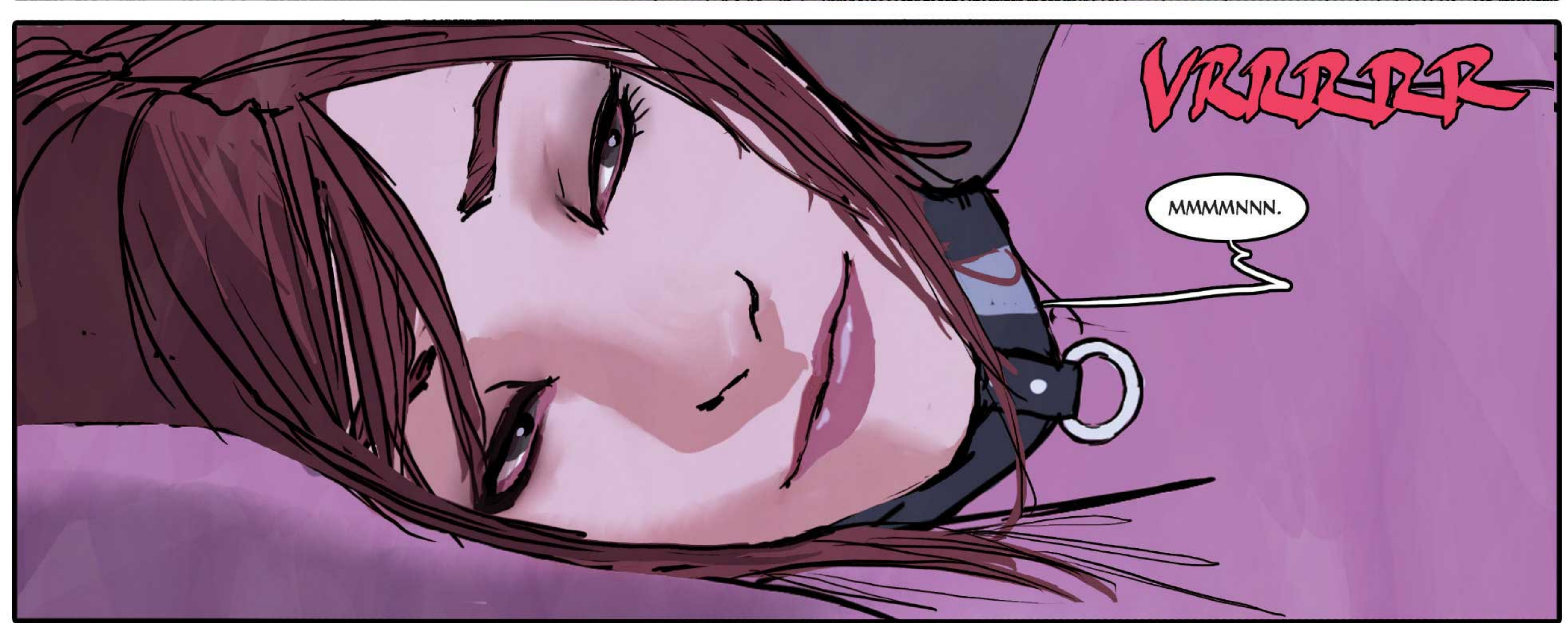
THAT IS WHAT SHE NEEDS FROM ME.



THAT IS...IT!

SHE NEEDS A DOMME... AND THAT IS WHAT SHE'LL GET! HEH HEH!







YOU AWAKE?

YUP.

YUP WHAT?

YUP, MISTRESS. :P

BETTER! THO' "YUP" KIND OF KILLS ANY DIGNITY IN A SENTENCE.

LOL... I GUESS SO.

SO...WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

NOTHING MUCH... LAYING IN MY BED AND MENTALLY RELIVING THIS WEEKEND.

HEH HEH! GOOD GIRL! NOW...HERE IS WHAT YOUR MISTRESS WANTS YOU TO DO...



A woman with long red hair, wearing a red, low-cut, open-front dress, is dancing joyfully with her arms raised. To her left is a black and white sketch of her in the same pose. The background is a vibrant orange and red with a pattern of small hearts and larger abstract shapes. A heart-shaped speech bubble with musical notes is positioned above the woman's head.

I JUST HAD SEX!

AND NOW FOR SOME *MAKING OF* BONUS MATERIAL, SKETCHES, PIN-UPS...STUFF LIKE THAT.

A small, stylized handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.

HOW THE HELL DID WE END UP HERE?

I CERTAINLY HAD NO INTENTIONS OF MAKING THIS COMIC. THERE WAS, IN FACT, NO COMIC TO BE MADE. *SUNSTONE* WAS THE END RESULT OF THE DEEPEST ART-BLOCK AND BURN-OUT I HAVE EVER EXPERIENCED IN MY LIFE.

IT WAS THREE YEARS AGO. I HAD JUST FINISHED MY LAST ISSUE OF *WITCHBLADE*, A COMIC THAT I LOVED AND HATED AT THAT POINT.

COMICS ITSELF HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT...TRUTH WAS, ARTISTICALLY SPEAKING, I HIT A WALL AND THERE WAS NO WAY PAST IT. IN MY EYES, I WASN'T A STORYTELLER ANYMORE. I WAS JUST A GRINDER GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS.

AND I WAS BURNT OUT.

HONEY?
ARE YOU
OKAY?

IT...

IT'S
MOCKING
ME!!!

SO THERE I WAS SITTING AND HATE-STARING MY COMPUTER MONITOR...
FOR WAY...TOO...LONG...



HATE

SOMETHING HAD TO CHANGE. I HAD TO FIND THE SPARK, WHICH BY THAT TIME, I HAD OBVIOUSLY LOST. I STARTED REMINISCING ABOUT THOSE GREAT BURSTS OF INSPIRATION AND DRIVE I EXPERIENCED IN MY PAST.

AND THERE, I REMEMBERED IT. THE MOST EXCITING MOMENT OF MY CAREER. IT WAS JUST BEFORE I GOT HIRED BY TOP COW. I WAS IN MY EARLY TWENTIES, AND MY DREAM WAS TO BECOME A COMIC ARTIST. CHANCES OF THIS LIVING IN CROATIA WERE SLIM TO NONE, BUT MY WORK WAS NOTICED, AND I GOT ASKED TO DO A FETISHISTIC EROTIC COMIC.

NOT ALL THAT UNUSUAL IN EUROPE.

I WAS ECSTATIC. FOR THE FIRST TIME I WOULD BE ABLE TO HELP MY FAMILY BY DOING SOMETHING I LOVE. I REMEMBER DRAWING UP A STORM. I DREW OVER 30 SAMPLE PAGES, AND THEN CRAZILY ENOUGH, TOP COW'S OFFER CAME IN.

I HAD TO MAKE A CHOICE. AND IT WAS A CHOICE I NEVER REGRETTED.

BUT I REMEMBERED SOMETHING ABOUT THOSE LONG LOST SAMPLE PAGES...THEY WERE EXPRESSIVE.

THERE WAS SO MUCH ENERGY TO THEM...ENERGY THAT GOT LOST IN MY WORK OVER TIME AS A RESULT OF TRYING TO EMULATE OTHER PEOPLE'S WORK.

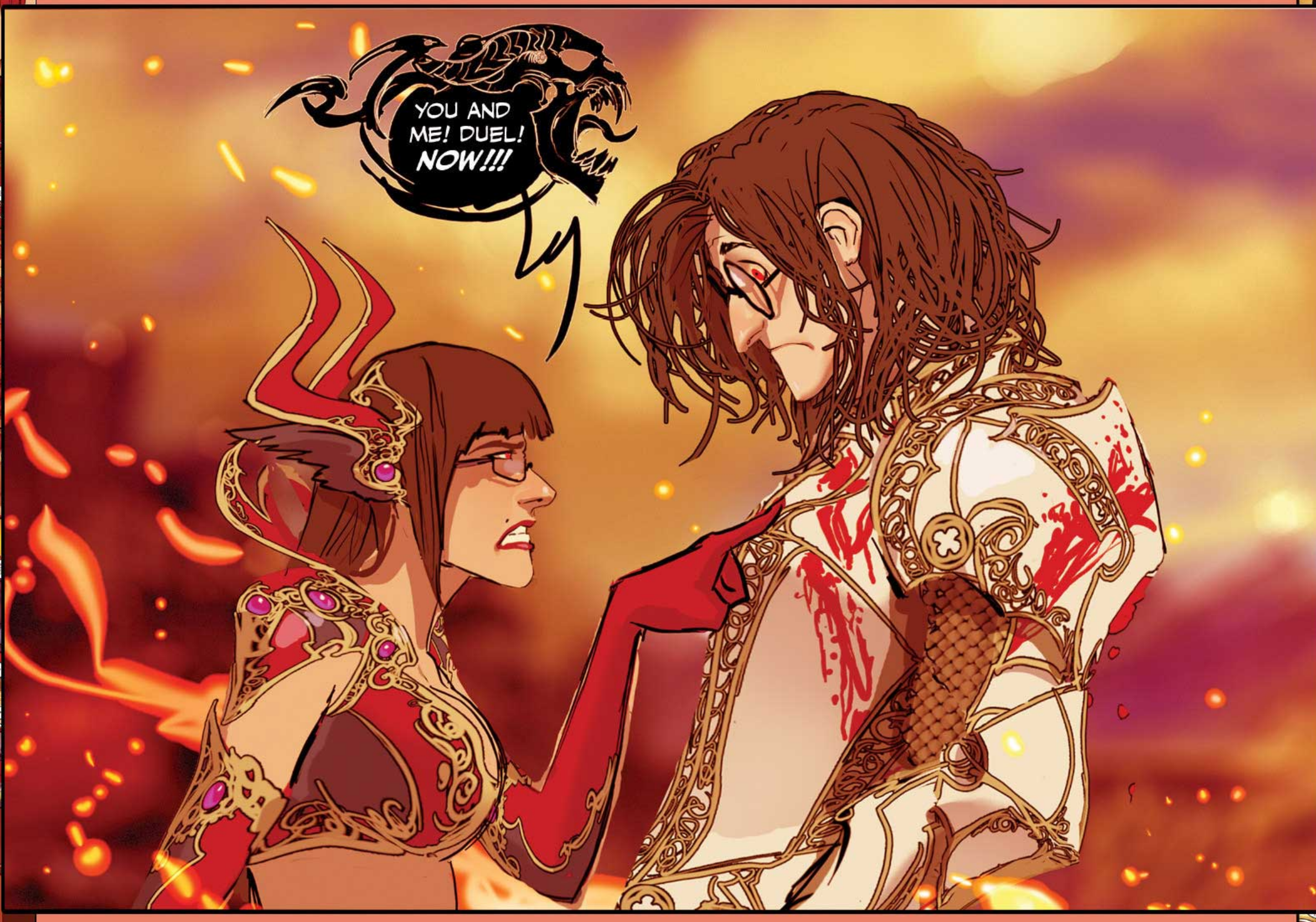
I SHRUGGED...SAID, "FUCK IT!" TURNED TO LINDA, AND TOLD HER ABOUT MY IDEA...

I WOULD MAKE AN ALTERNATE ACCOUNT ON DEVIANTART AND JUST USE IT TO POST SOME FETISHY PIN-UPS, SIMPLE JOKES, CRAP LIKE THAT. NOTHING SERIOUS. JUST, I DON'T KNOW, A BREAK FROM THE WHOLE REALISM THING.

THE IDEA WAS A SIMPLE ONE. I WOULD MAKE THIS ACCOUNT AND SEE IT GROW ON ITS OWN. I WASN'T GOING TO CROSS PROMOTE IT WITH MY MAIN ACCOUNT. TO ME, IT WAS LIKE MAKING A NEW CHARACTER IN A MMO.

OF COURSE, IF I WAS TO CONTINUE AND USE A MMO AS A METAPHOR FOR MY NEW ACCOUNT, THEN I ALSO CHOSE THE MOST OP, UNBALANCED CLASS THAT HELPED IT LEVEL AT AN INSANE RATE...

IN THIS CASE, FETISHISTIC EROTIC IMAGERY.



THE REAL PROBLEM WAS FINDING A NAME FOR THE ACCOUNT. WE SPENT ABOUT FOUR HOURS JUST THINKING UP NAMES, ONLY TO DISCOVER THAT EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM WAS TAKEN. BETWEEN LINDA AND ME, WE MUST HAVE TRIED OVER A HUNDRED OPTIONS.

IN THE END, WE WENT: LATEX IS SHINY...FUCK IT! IT'S *SHINIEZ!*

AND THEN...IT HAPPENED. A SINGLE PICTURE RESULTED IN A DECISION THAT GOT US HERE.



IT WAS THIS PICTURE, AND HERE IS HOW IT UNINTENTIONALLY STARTED EVERYTHING...



HEY, LINDA, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS IDEA?

I'M THINKING THESE TWO CHARACTERS WOULD BE THE THEME OF THIS WHOLE ACCOUNT.

JUST...Y'KNOW... PICTURES...MAYBE SOME SIMPLE JOKE STRIPS...



SURE, WHY NOT? YOU GONNA MAKE A STORY OUT OF IT, OR?



FUCK NO!

I'M DONE WITH STORIES! I JUST WANT TO DRAW SOME SIMPLE STUFF...



NOTHING SERIOUS...



YOU KNOW YOU'VE NO PROBLEM ALL OTHER MY PUZZLE?

SHOONING!

SEE HERE! NO MISTY LACK PUZZLE!

A LITTLE MORE AND YOU'VE MADE IT!

THEY'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR YEARS!

NEW! DEBIT DOWN! A WHOLE NEW PUZZLE!

HEY ANNE!

YELLOW!

BLACK!

WITH THE NEW BOARD, THE PUZZLE IS APPARENTLY...

OH, NOW THAT'S FINISHED! I'VE FINISHED WITH MY LUNCH!

REALLY? ANNY, CAN'T SEE IT?

AWESOME! I'LL DROP ALL ALONG WITH YOU!

OH, ANNY! SO LOW ANNY WILL GET SO I CAN!

OH, ANNY! MY FRIENDS WERE VERY NUTTY!

NOTHING THINKS THAT YOU'VE FINISHED THE PUZZLE! BEARING FOR MATERIALS!

NOT BETTER! ANNY! YOU'VE FINISHED IN THE PUZZLE!

AND NOW FOR THE OBVIOUS, AND YET EVER SO JUSTIFIED:

WELL, THAT ESCALATED QUICKLY.



THESE GUYS ARE GETTING TO ME! I'M NOT THE SAME PERSON!

THE PROCESS OF *SUNSTONE* ACTUALLY BECOMING *SUNSTONE* WAS A STRANGE ONE. AT FIRST, THE ONLY PURPOSE TO THESE CHARACTERS WAS TO REKINDLE AN EXTINGUISHED CREATIVE FLAME, AND IT WORKED. BUT THEN...THEY STARTED TALKING... MORE AND MORE. THEY HAD NAMES, THEY HAD THEIR OWN THING GOING.

THERE WAS NOTHING SERIOUS ABOUT THE CONCEPT. NOT YET. IT WAS AT FIRST A SILLY SERIES OF STRIPS ABOUT THIS DOMINATRIX AND HER TWO SUBMISSIVES. THE CONCEPT WAS SIMPLE. THE JOKES WERE SIMPLE.

AND I THOUGHT...OKAY, THIS IS COOL, SIMPLE FETISHISTIC HUMOROUS FUN...

I GUESS THE MOMENT THINGS STARTED SHIFTING WAS WHEN I STARTED DOING A HOLIDAY-THEMED SERIES OF PICTURES AND STRIPS. THIS WAS WHEN I DREW ALLY'S SILLY, DRUNKEN CONFESSION OF LOVE FOR LISA.

IT IS COMPLETELY OUT OF CONTINUITY NOW, BUT THIS WAS THE SCENE THAT MADE ME ASK THE QUESTION...HOW DID THEY EVEN MEET?

THIS WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE CHAOTIC CLUSTER-FUCK THAT WAS, FOR A WHILE, DRIVING MANY OF MY FANS NUTS. (SORRY Y'ALL!)

I WAS DOING TONS OF UNCONNECTED, RANDOMLY TIME-SKIPPING STRIPS. FANS WERE TRYING TO MAKE SENSE OF CONTINUITY, OFTEN RESULTING IN LONG DISCUSSIONS OF STRIPS' ORDERS.

THIS WAS UNPLANNED. I HAD NO STORY IN MIND. IN FACT, THE RANDOM NATURE OF OUT OF ORDER STRIPS WAS ALMOST LIKE MISTS CLEARING AND A STORY TAKING SHAPE. ONCE I SAW WHAT THIS NEEDED TO BE, I SWITCHED TO POSTING PAGES IN ORDER.

THIS WAS WHEN *SUNSTONE* TRULY BEGAN.

OH YEAH, THAT'S SUBTLE!

ANNE'S ROLE MAY HAVE CHANGED OVER TIME, BUT SOMEHOW THIS PICTURE STILL HOLDS TRUE.

AW. 'TIS AWL GONE...WHER'S ANNE? MAYBE SHE HAS SOME MORE?

SHE WENT TO BUG ALAN SOME MORE. YOUR LITTLE STORY GOT HER, HM, INSPIRED. AND ANYWAYS, I THINK YOU HAD MORE THAN ENOUGH!

Y'KNOW... SHE'S A NICE GIRL, I LIKE HER AWLOT...BUT...MMM, DONT TELL THIS TO YOURSELF, BUT I FELL IN...I FELL BIG-TIME IN LOVE WITH MY LITLIE LISIE... BUT YOU MUST PROMISE YOU'LL...YOU'LL KEEP THIS A SECRET... 'KAY?!

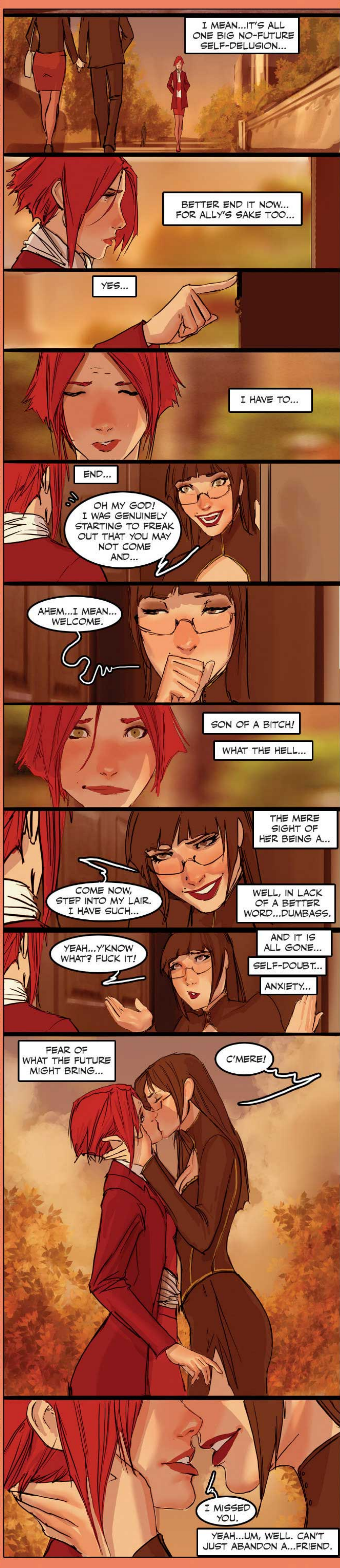
YOU... LOVE ME?

YEP! NOW, 'MERE!

MMNNN!

ALLY...

Z



ONCE I STARTED WRITING THE ACTUAL STORY, IT BECAME APPARENT THAT THIS WASN'T GOING TO BE A STORY ABOUT ONE DOMME AND TWO SUBMISSIVES. IT JUST MADE NO SENSE. A SIMPLE, SERIOUS LOOK AT THE CHARACTERS AND THEIR SITUATION TRANSFORMED IT INTO A STORY ABOUT TWO WOMEN, TWO ONLINE FRIENDS, WHO MET FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF SCRATCHING A VERY SPECIFIC SEXUAL ITCH.

AND THEN, THE UNPLANNED ELEMENT OF ROMANCE MESSED UP THEIR PLANS. IT WAS A STORY ABOUT THEM DEALING WITH THEIR EMOTIONS, TRYING AT FIRST TO DENY THE CRUSH. THEN, AS IT GREW TO LOVE, IT BECAME ABOUT THEM STRUGGLING TO FIND A WAY TO ADMIT IT.

IT WAS A VERY INTREAGUING WRITING PROCESS, AS THE CONFLICT WITHIN THEIR STORY WAS INTERESTING, HUMAN, AND LOADED WITH IRONY.

THAT IS THE AMAZING THING ABOUT WRITING ROMANCE. YOU START REALIZING JUST HOW MUCH LOGIC IS CHUCKED OUT THE WINDOW.

WHEN WE ARE SECRETLY IN LOVE, WE MAKE MISTAKES. WE MAKE STUPID DECISIONS AND JUSTIFY THEM WITH THE DUMBEST OF REASONS. THESE REASONS MAKE SENSE AT THE TIME...THEY MAKE PERFECT SENSE TO US...

AND THOSE REASONS, THOSE PERSISTENT SELF DELUSIONS PISS OFF EVERYONE AROUND US WHO CAN SEE THE OBVIOUS.

SO YEAH...ALLY, LISA, ALAN, AND ANNE...THEY ALL CHANGED FROM THEIR INITIAL CONCEPTION.

MORE AND MORE OF THEIR PASTS, THEIR MOTIVATIONS, AND THEIR INTERESTS WERE REVEALED. EVERYTHING FROM LISA'S LOVE OF JIGSAW PUZZLES, TO WHY AND WHEN ALLY STARTED SPORTING HER DOMINATRIX LOOK HAIRDO.

FROM MY OWN EXPERIENCE, THE FUNNY THING ABOUT WRITING IS HOW THE CHARACTERS RARELY REMAIN WHAT YOU INITIALLY THOUGHT THEY WOULD BE.

AT FIRST, *RAVINE* INCLUDED TIME TRAVEL.

DEATH VIGIL USED TO BE ABOUT THIS GRIM, GRITTY, GRUMPY DUDE NAMED SAM.

AND *SUNSTONE*, BEFORE IT WAS EVER *SUNSTONE*, WAS A BUNCH OF FETISHISTIC PICTURES AND STRIPS ABOUT ALLY, LISA, ALAN, AND ANNE...

I HONESTLY NEVER WANTED TO MAKE A STORY. I HAD MY PLATE FULL WITH *RAVINE* AT THE TIME, AND BEING JADED AND CYNICAL IN THOSE DAYS, I THOUGHT THERE WERE NO MORE STORIES LEFT IN ME TO TELL...

SUNSTONE CHANGED THAT. THIS COMIC CHANGED ME, IT MADE ME FIND MY LOVE OF WRITING. MADE ME RECONSIDER THE IMPORTANCE OF CHARACTER WRITING, AND THAT REFLECTED IN ALL OF MY OTHER WORKS.

WITH THIS CHANGE IN ATTITUDE, *SUNSTONE* WENT FROM BEING A BUNCH OF PICTURES PERTAINING TO THIS FETISH, TO A STORY ABOUT THESE SPECIFIC FETISHISTS.

TRUTH IS, THERE ARE GOOD SIDES AND BAD SIDES TO BDSM, AND WHAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE IS THE HUMAN ELEMENT. JUST LIKE ANY OTHER ACTIVITY PEOPLE DO FOR FUN.

AND THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT INTERESTS ME THE MOST. THE SUCCESSES, AND THE MISTAKES. HOW ONE'S FETISH RELATES TO THEIR EVERYDAY LIFE. THE PRIDE AND FEAR OF IT ALL. THE JOYS AND THE SORROWS.

IN SHORT THE HUMANITY OF THESE CHARACTERS.



I MEAN...IT'S ALL ONE BIG NO-FUTURE SELF-DELUSION...

BETTER END IT NOW... FOR ALLY'S SAKE TOO...

YES...

I HAVE TO...

END...
OH MY GOD! I WAS GENUINELY STARTING TO FREAK OUT THAT YOU MAY NOT COME AND...

AHEM...I MEAN... WELCOME.

SON OF A BITCH!
WHAT THE HELL...

THE MERE SIGHT OF HER BEING A...
COME NOW, STEP INTO MY LAIR. I HAVE SUCH...
WELL, IN LACK OF A BETTER WORD...DUMBASS.

YEAH...Y'KNOW WHAT? FUCK IT!
AND IT IS ALL GONE...
SELF-DOUBT...
ANXIETY...

FEAR OF WHAT THE FUTURE MIGHT BRING...
C'MERE!

I MISSED YOU.
YEAH...UM, WELL. CAN'T JUST ABANDON A...FRIEND.





FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS THIS COMIC HAS HELPED ME DEVELOP AS A CREATOR, BUT THERE WAS YET ANOTHER UNFORSEEN CONSEQUENCE. SEE, MY WIFE LINDA WAS ALWAYS THERE TO HELP ME WITH IT, BE IT BY OCCASIONALLY FLATTING SOME COLORS, OR AS AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT FOR BOUNCING OFF JOKE IDEAS. SHE WAS THE ONE WHO I WOULD ASK ABOUT CERTAIN ASPECTS OF FEMININITY WHICH I COULD OTHERWISE ONLY AT BEST GUESS ABOUT.

AND THEN...AFTER TWO TRAGIC DEATHS ON HER SIDE OF THE FAMILY...SHE TOO FOUND HER CREATIVE FIRE IGNITED BY STARTING OFF HER OWN WEBCOMIC, *BLOODSTAIN*.

AND YES, *SUNSTONE* AND *BLOODSTAIN* ARE COMPLETELY IN CONTINUITY; HOWEVER, *SUNSTONE* TAKES PLACE ROUGHLY SIX MONTHS BEFORE. FOR THIS REASON, ELLY AND VLAD ARE ALREADY DEPICTED AS ALLY'S GUILDMATES IN THE MMO THEY ALL PLAY TOGETHER. SO THE ARTWORK ON THIS PAGE IS DONE BY HER. :)



END OF CHAPTER TWO



Sunstone

THIS WAS THE INITIAL COVER FOR BOOK ONE OF *SUNSTONE*. OVER TIME I GAVE UP ON IT FOR THE SIMPLE REASON THAT THE BOOK IS ABOUT BOTH ALLY AND LISA, SO I WANTED THEM BOTH ON THE COVER. I AM, HOWEVER, STILL FOND OF THIS ONE.

THIS SERVED BOTH AS A DESIGN SHEET FOR THE MMO APPEARANCES OF BOTH LINDA'S AND MY OWN CHARACTERS IN THEIR MMO, AND AS A BIT OF A LAYERED JOKE ON SOME MMO TROPES.

ELLYOLDCOOT:
LVL. 98 HEALER

BLOODSTEIN:
LVL. 99 PALE KNIGHT
(CASHOAR SUPREME)

ALLYCAT:
LVL. 97 DARK MAGE

LIIIIIIISA-
LVL. 1 ASSASSIN
(NOOB)

TOOK OVER A YEAR
TO LEVEL UP AND EQUIP
HER CHARACTER...STILL
NOT DONE.

F#%ING
CASHOAR!

BOUGHT EVERYTHING IN A
WEEK, MARATHON-LEVELED AIDED
BY CASHOP XP BOOSTERS...

OVER 900 USD SPENT...

EPEEN VALUE...

PRICELESS!

COME OOOON!
LET'S GO!

SHUSH! I WANNA
SEE WHAT THIS QUEST
LOG THING IS ALL
ABOUT.

BUT...
WHY?!

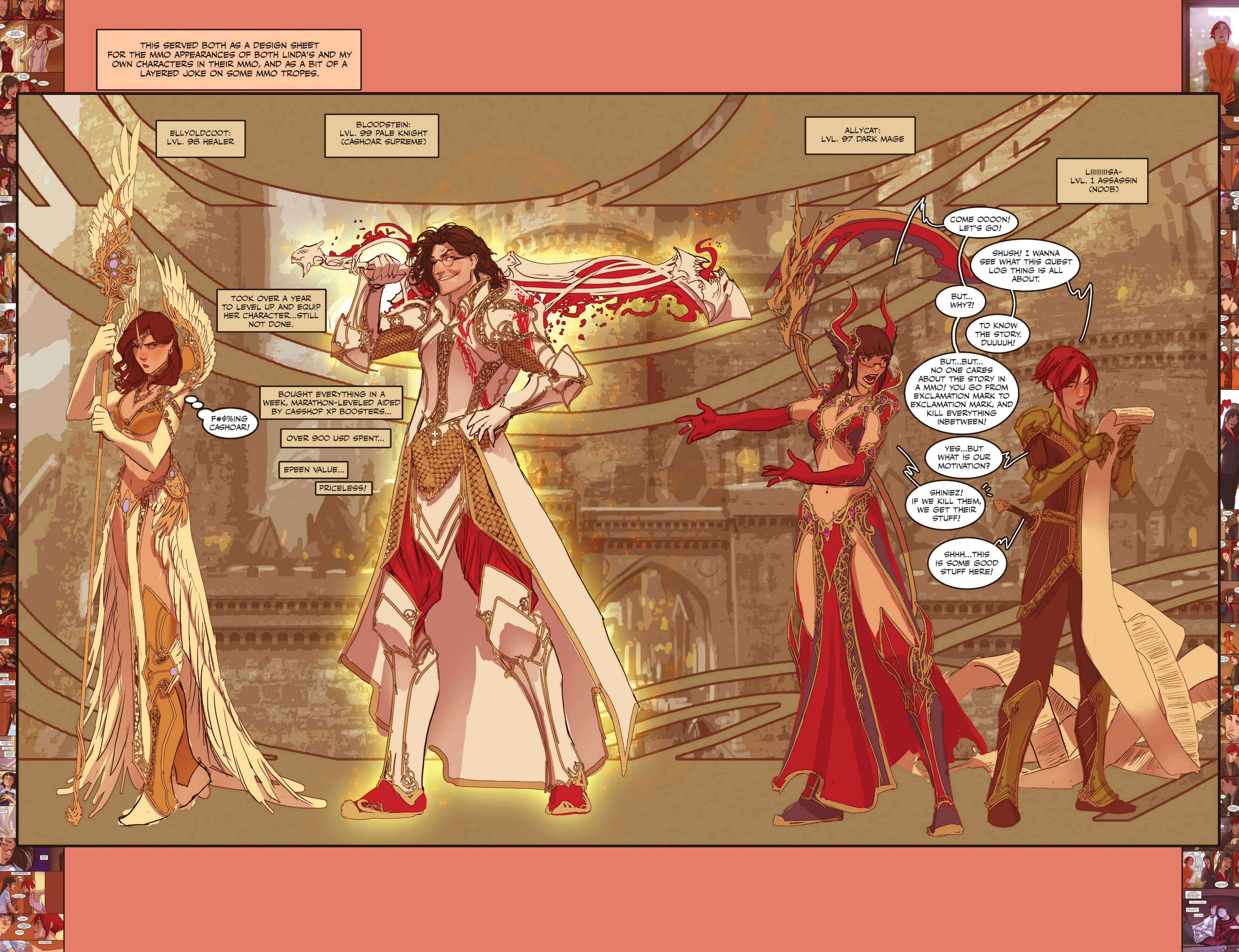
TO KNOW
THE STORY.
DUUUUH!

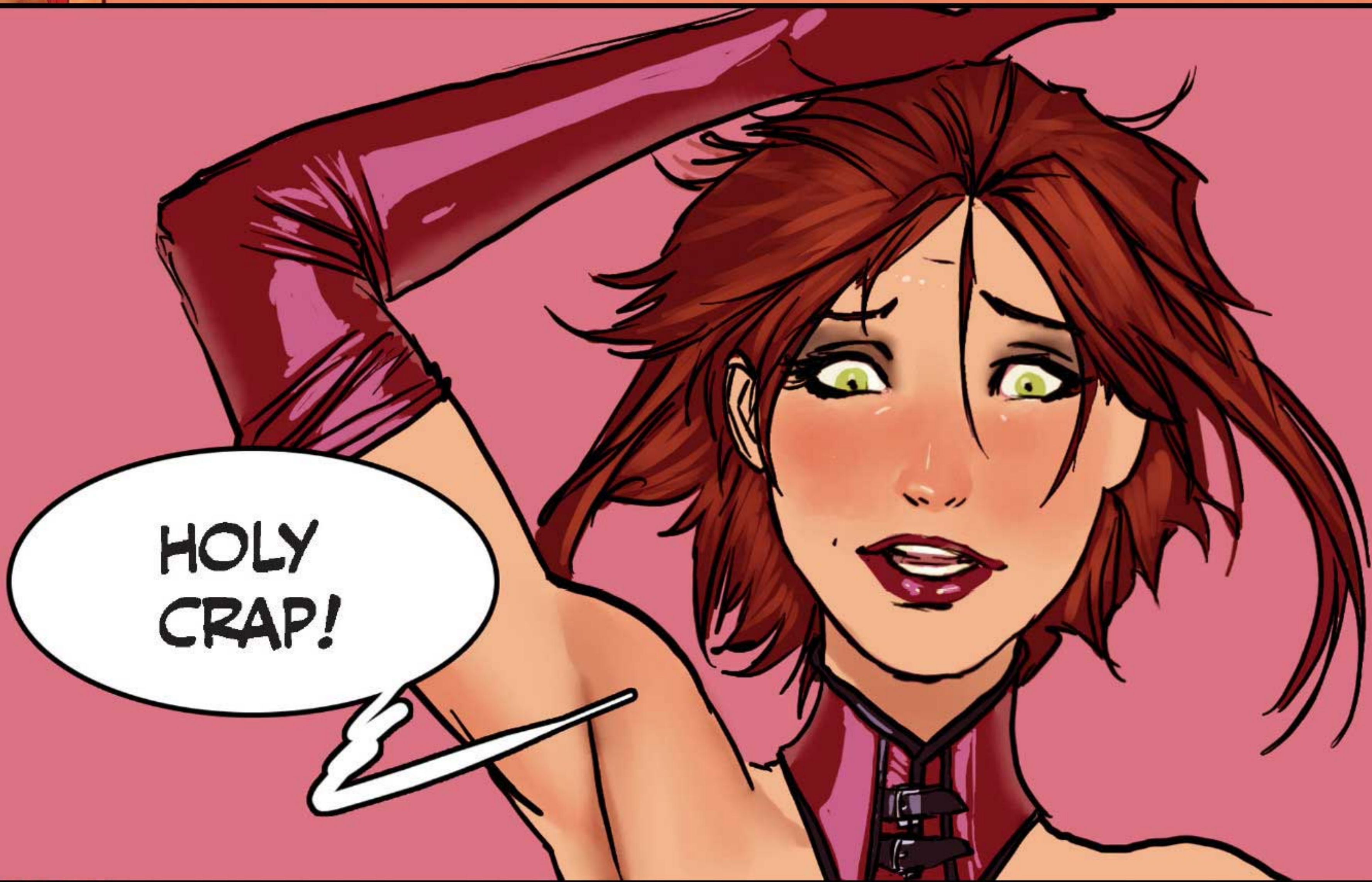
BUT..BUT..
NO ONE CARES
ABOUT THE STORY IN
A MMO! YOU GO FROM
EXCLAMATION MARK TO
EXCLAMATION MARK, AND
KILL EVERYTHING
INBETWEEN!

YES...BUT
WHAT IS OUR
MOTIVATION?

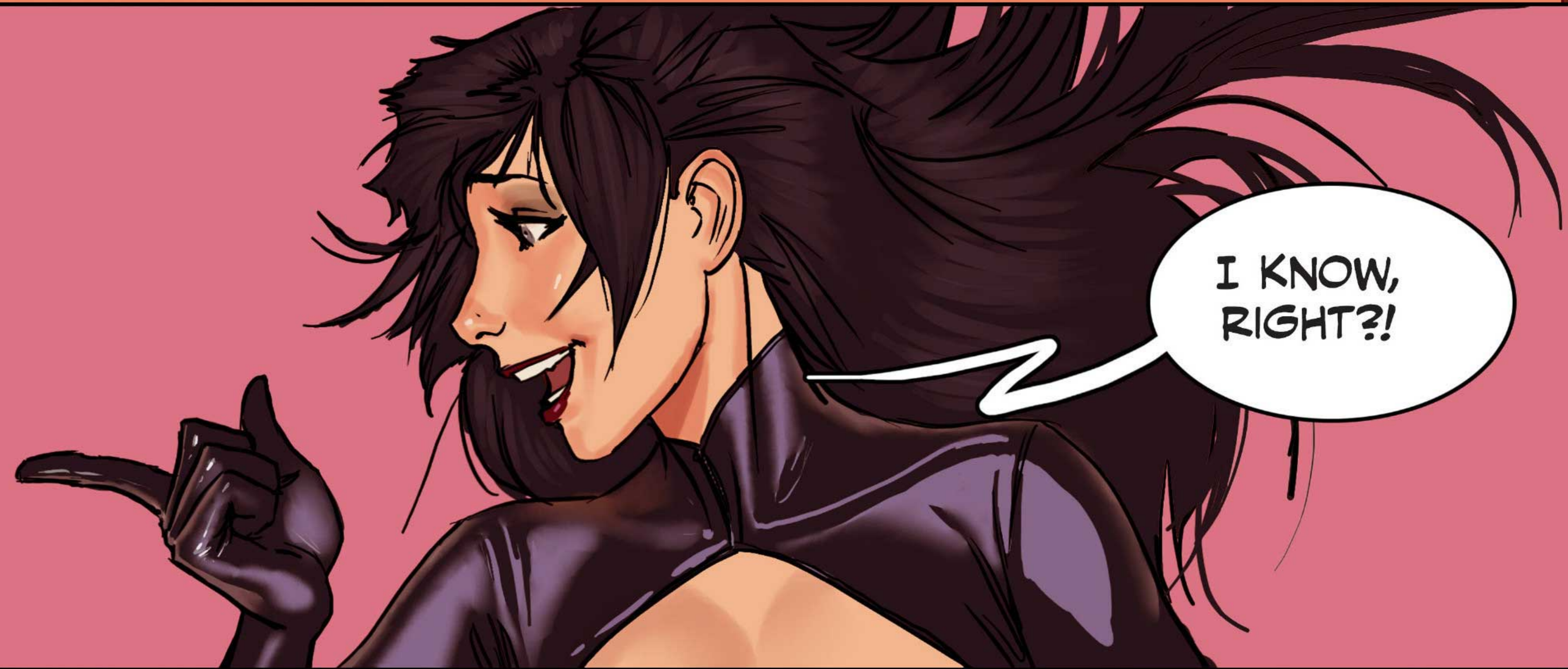
SHINEZ!
IF WE KILL THEM,
WE GET THEIR
STUFF!

SHHH...THIS
IS SOME GOOD
STUFF HERE!



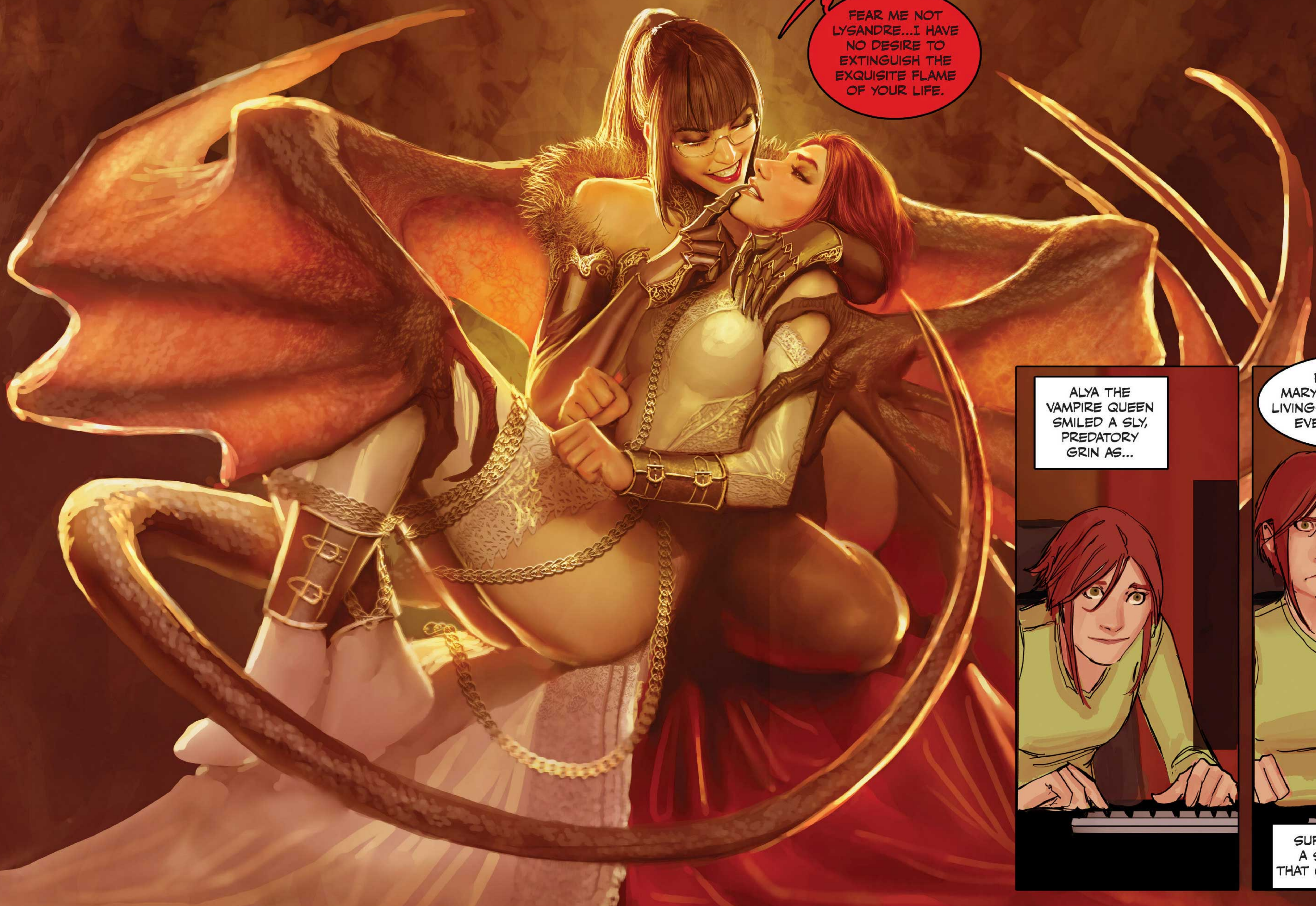


HOLY CRAP!



I KNOW, RIGHT?!

I REMEMBER DABBLING IN MANY STORIES THAT YEAR...EVEN TACKLING THE OBLIGATORY VAMPIRE GENRE...



FEAR ME NOT LYSANDRE...I HAVE NO DESIRE TO EXTINGUISH THE EXQUISITE FLAME OF YOUR LIFE.

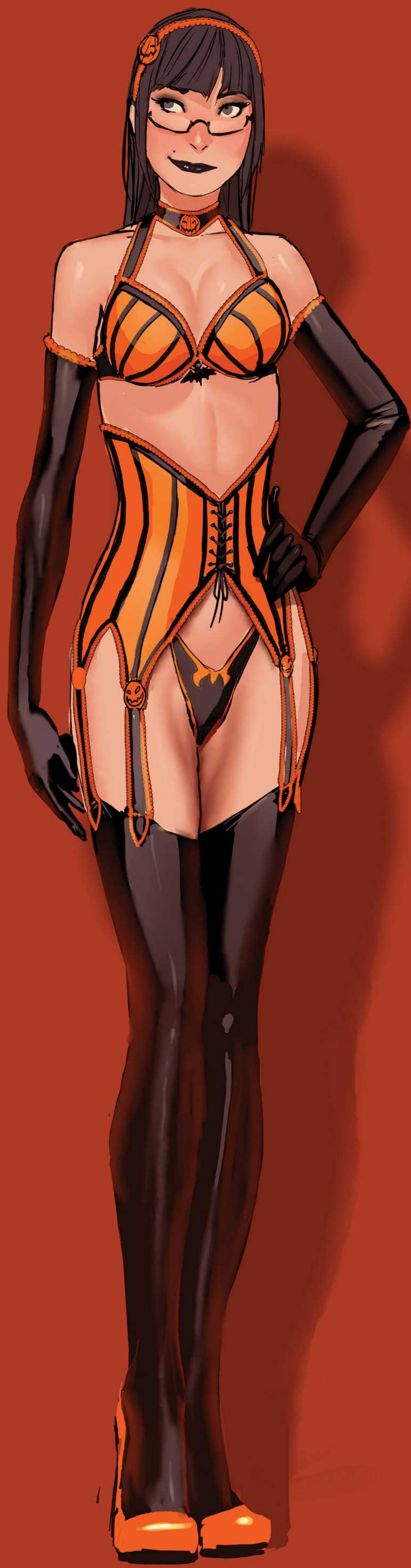


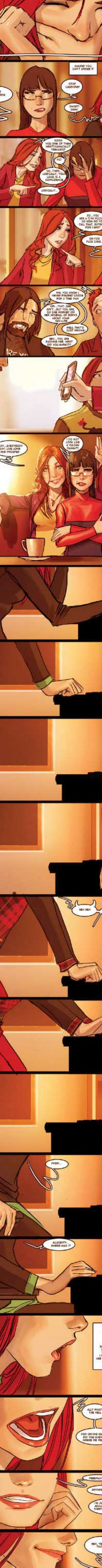
ALYA THE VAMPIRE QUEEN SMILED A SLY, PREDATORY GRIN AS...



FUCK! I JUST MARY SUED THE EVER-LIVING-CRAP OUT OF THIS EVER-LIVING-CRAP!

SUFFICE TO SAY, IT WAS A SHORT EXPERIMENT THAT CRASHED AND BURNED.





YEAH, IT'S A CUTE JOKE, ALAN, BUT IT FAILS 'CAUSE IT'S SPELLED "STRAITJACKET" NOT "STRAIGHT JACKET."

OKAY...NOTE TO SELF...REMIND ALLY TO REMOVE THAT STICK OUT OF YOUR...

**THE ONLY
STRAIGHT
THING ABOUT ME
IS MY JACKET**





YOU KNOW...
I AM ABSOLUTELY,
UNTREATABLY CRAZY
ABOUT YOU.

D'AWWW...
YOU HAD ME AT,
"LICK MY BOOT!"

I'M SERIOUS!

AND YET,
SOMEHOW I'M THE ONE
WHO ALWAYS ENDS UP
IN A STRAITJACKET!

FUNNY HOW
THAT WORKS,
HUH?

HEY, I'M NOT
COMPLAINING!

BDSM PEOPLE
WHENEVER SOMEONE
GETS TIED UP IN A
MOVIE...

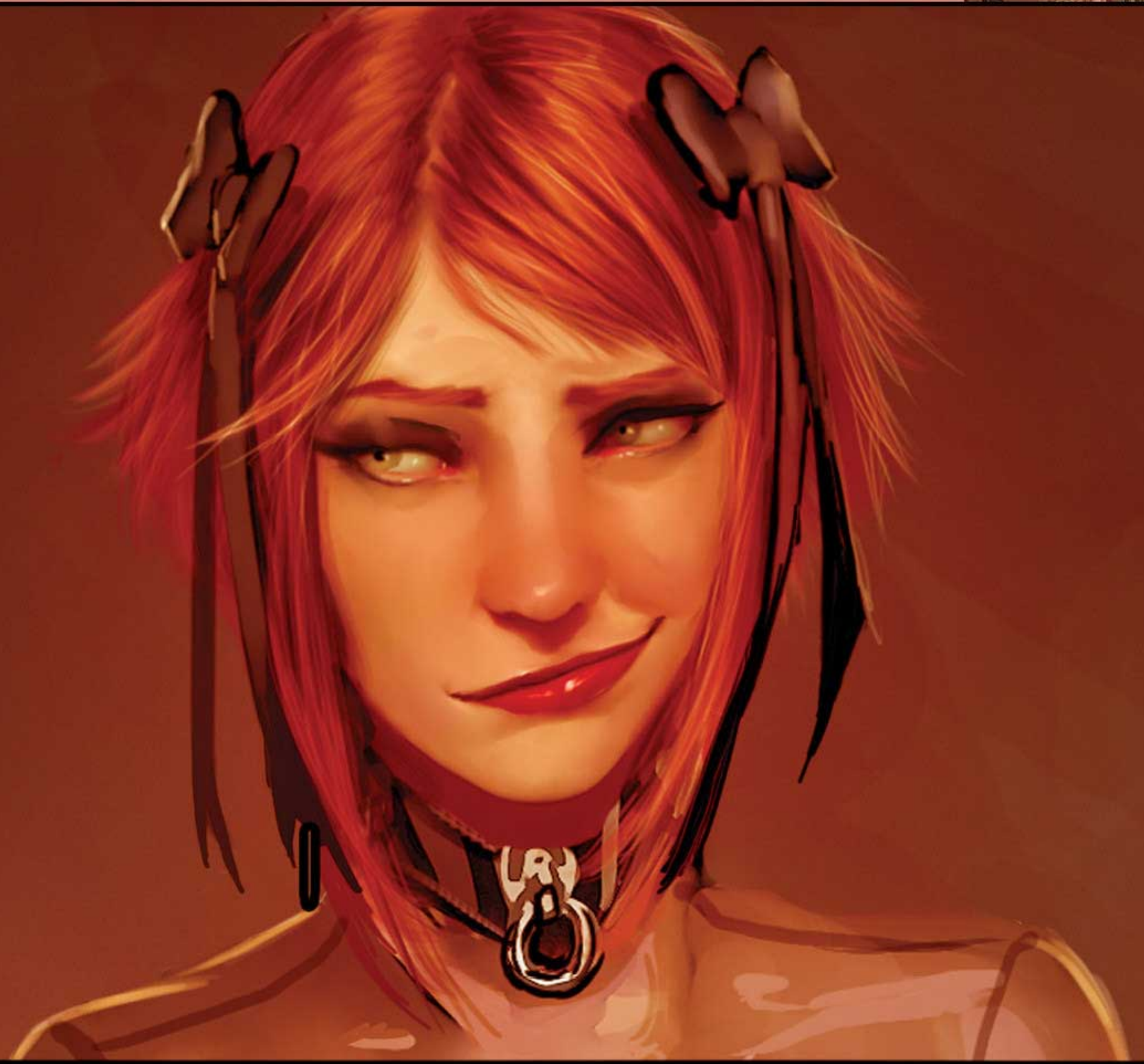
OH GOD!


OH PLEASE!



LEMME GUESS...
MY NEW NOSE?

GUESS
AGAIN!





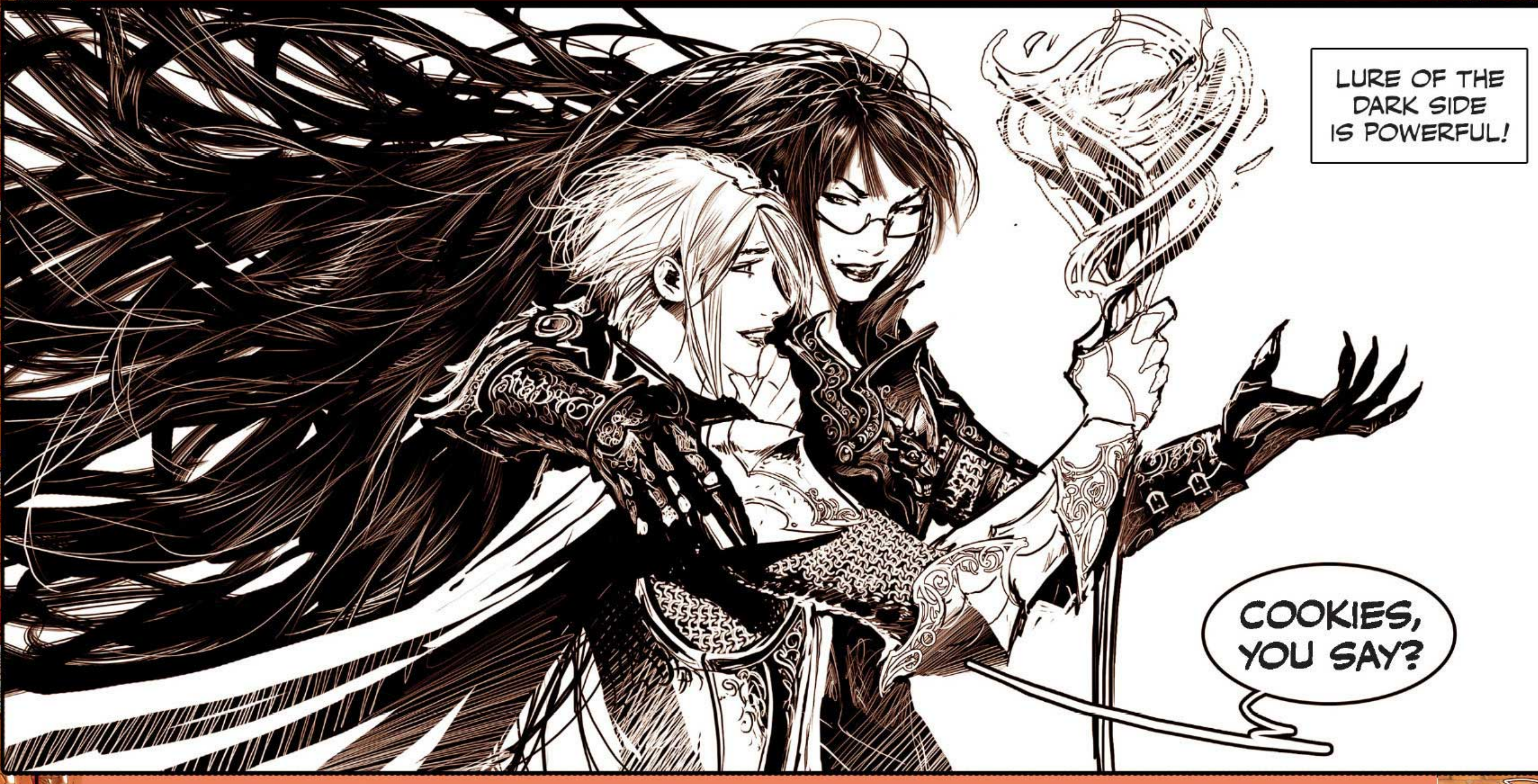
AND NOW
THAT I GOT YOU ALL
DRESSED UP...WHAT
DO YOU SAY WE...

ALLY...I SWEAR,
MY *LIVER* IS SWEATING
RIGHT NOW! I DON'T EVEN THINK
LIVERS *HAVE* PORES!

JUSTLATEXFETISHISTSINSUMMERTHINGS



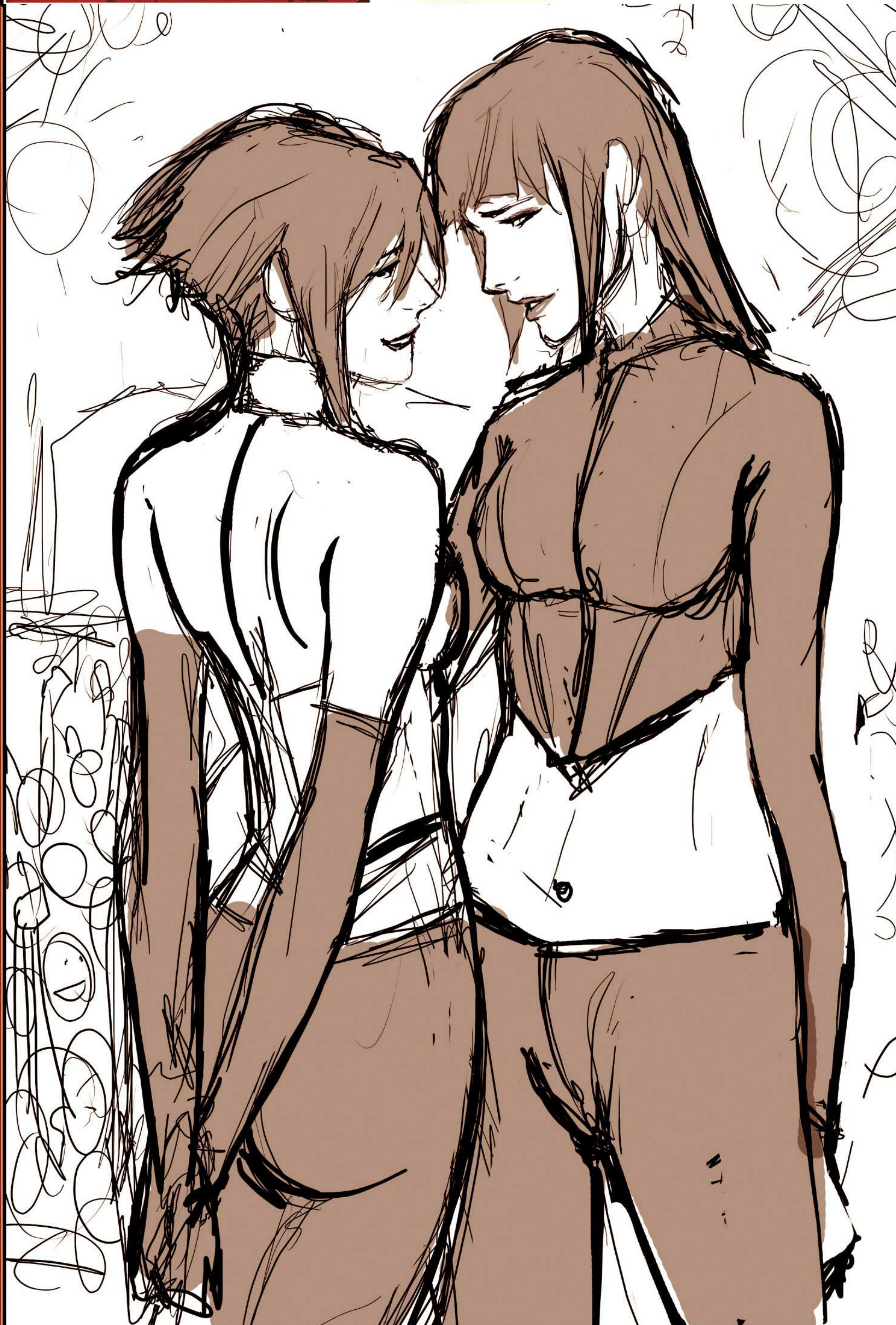
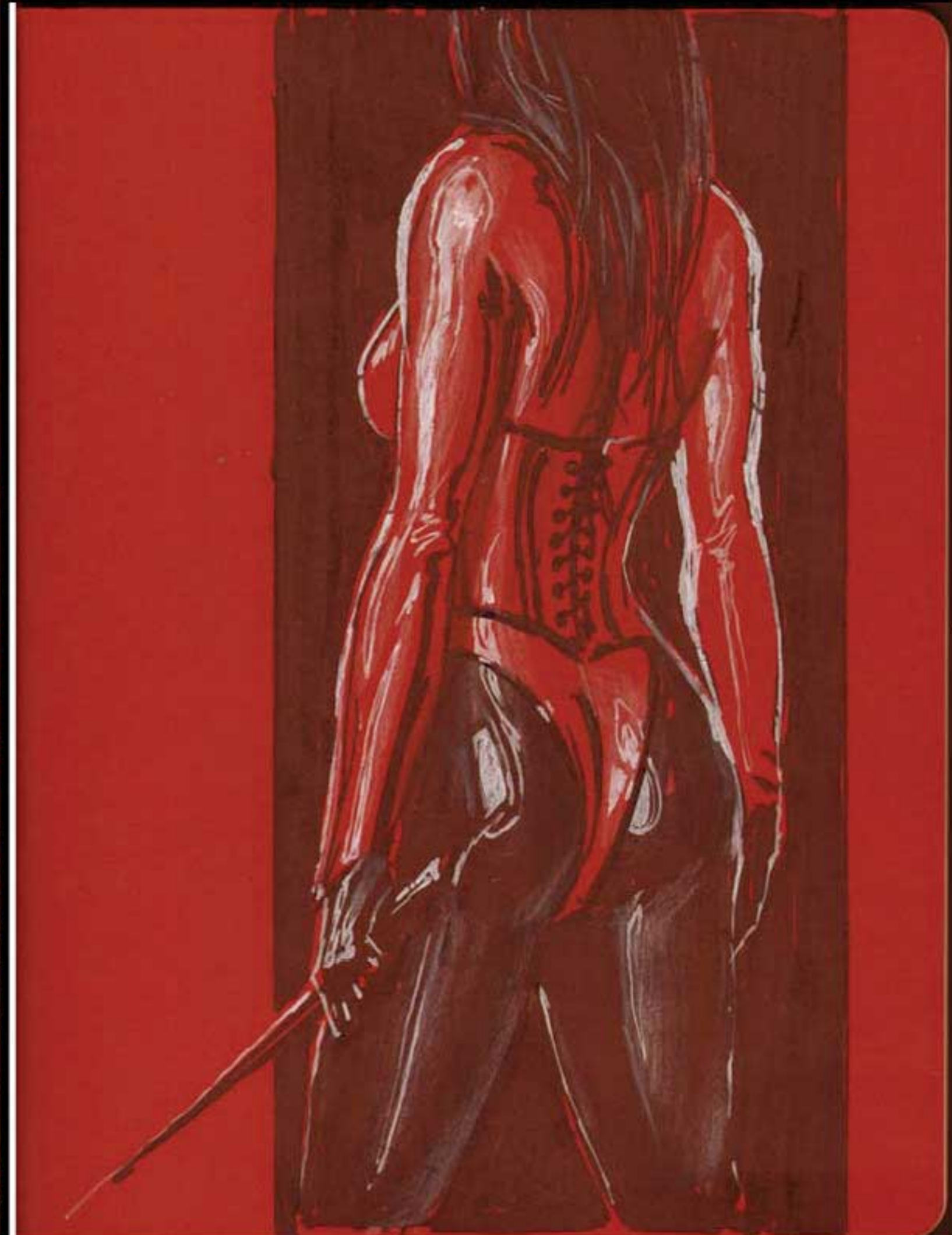
THIS OUTFIT RIGHT HERE...
PEOPLE ACTUALLY MADE IT!
NO JOKE!

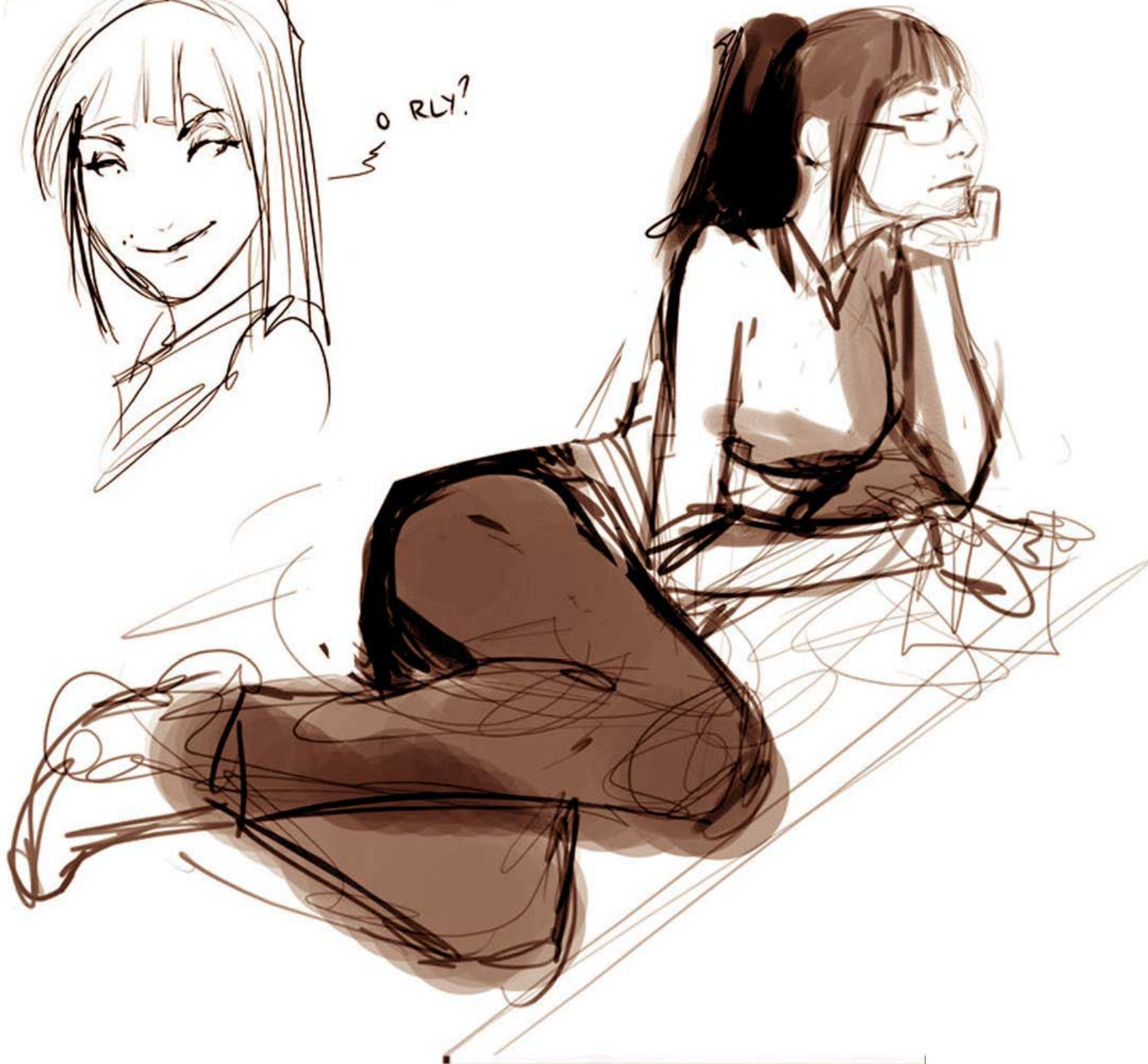
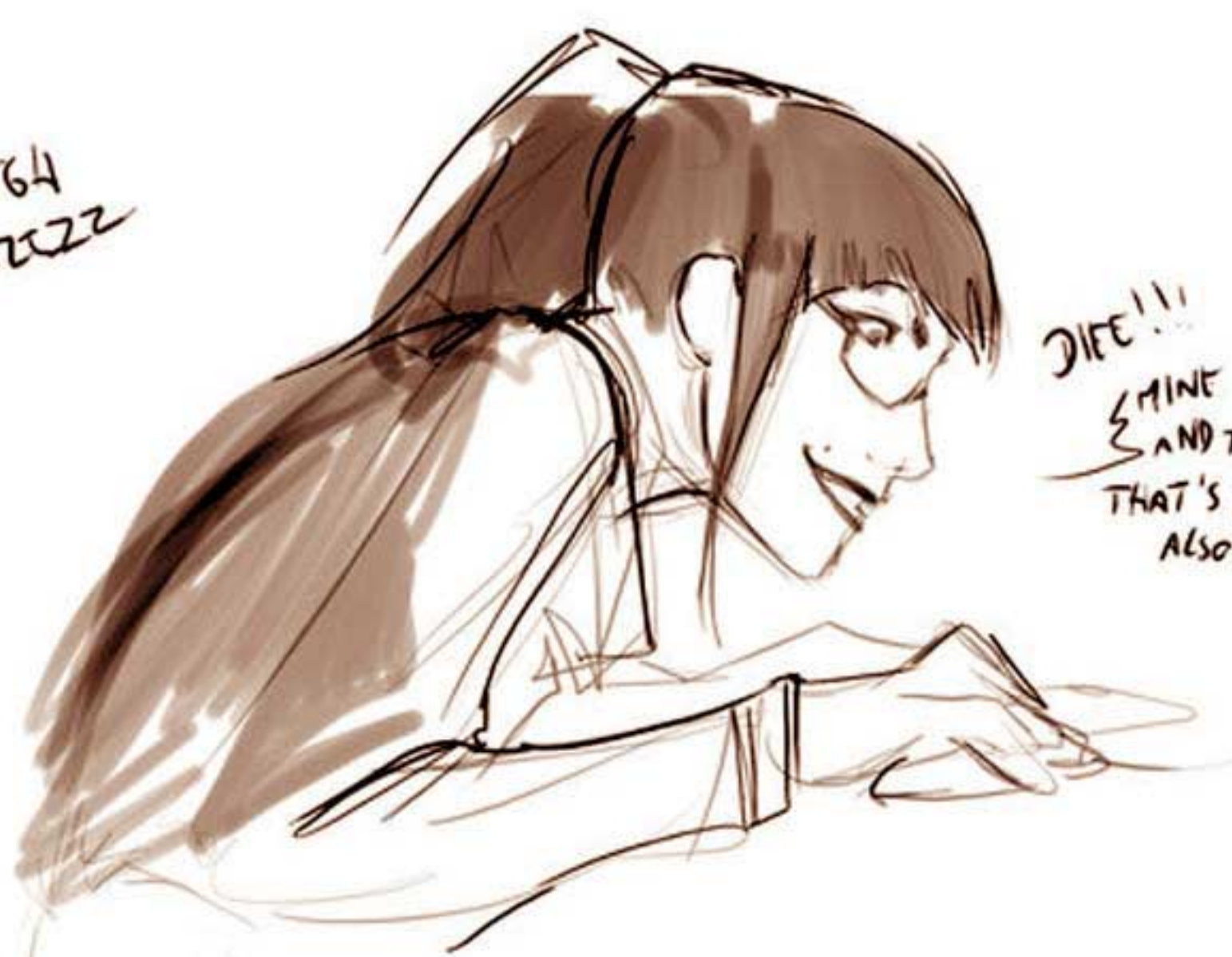


LURE OF THE
DARK SIDE
IS POWERFUL!

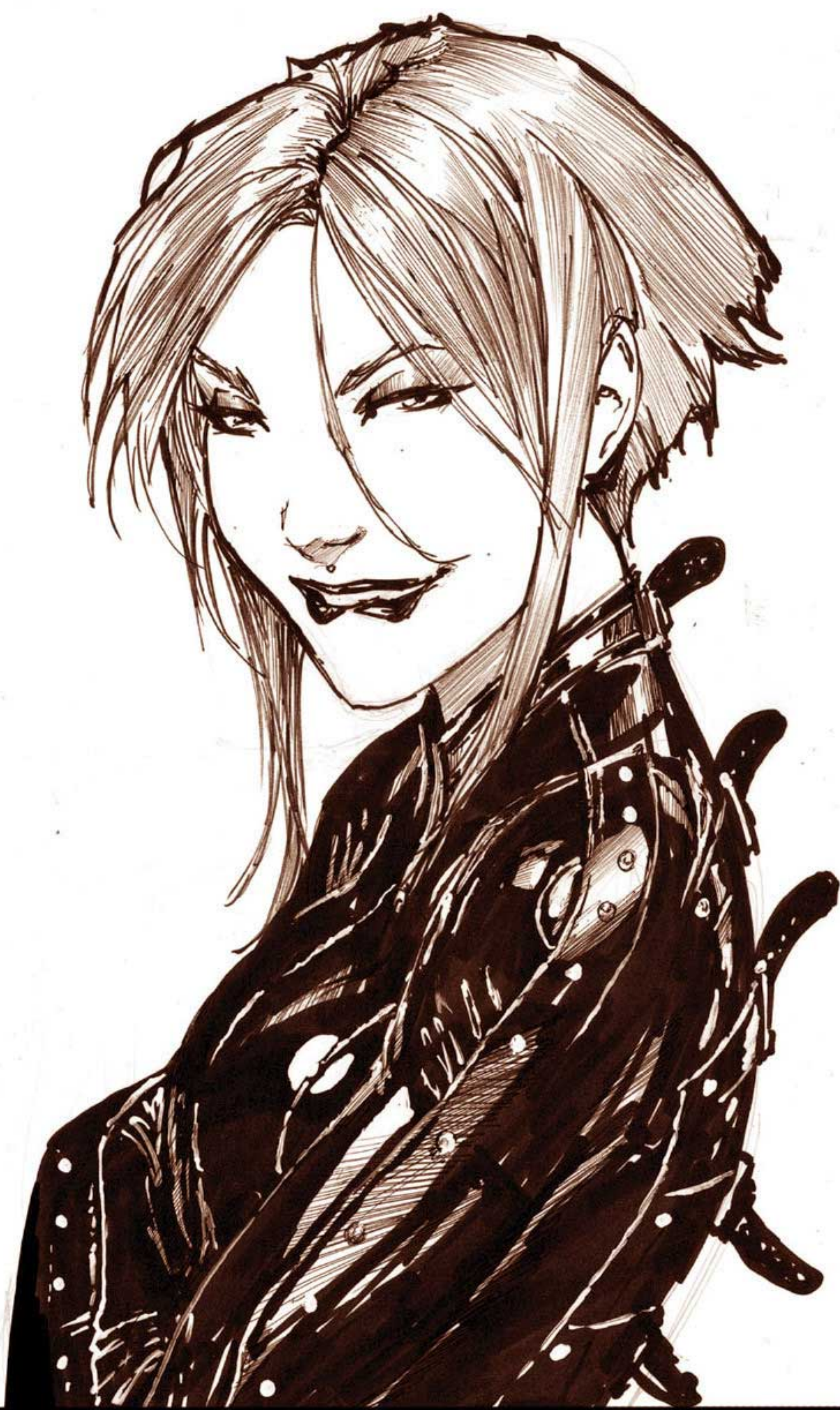
COOKIES,
YOU SAY?

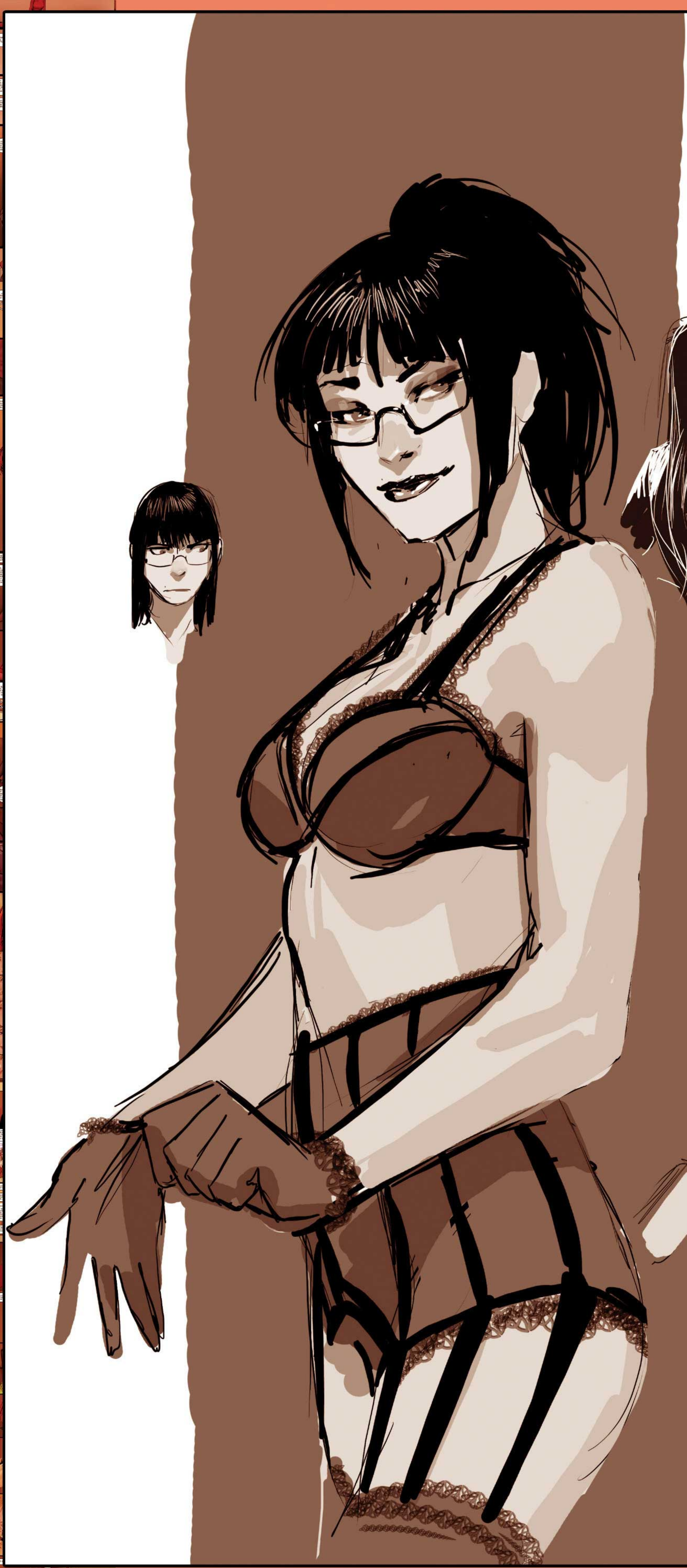




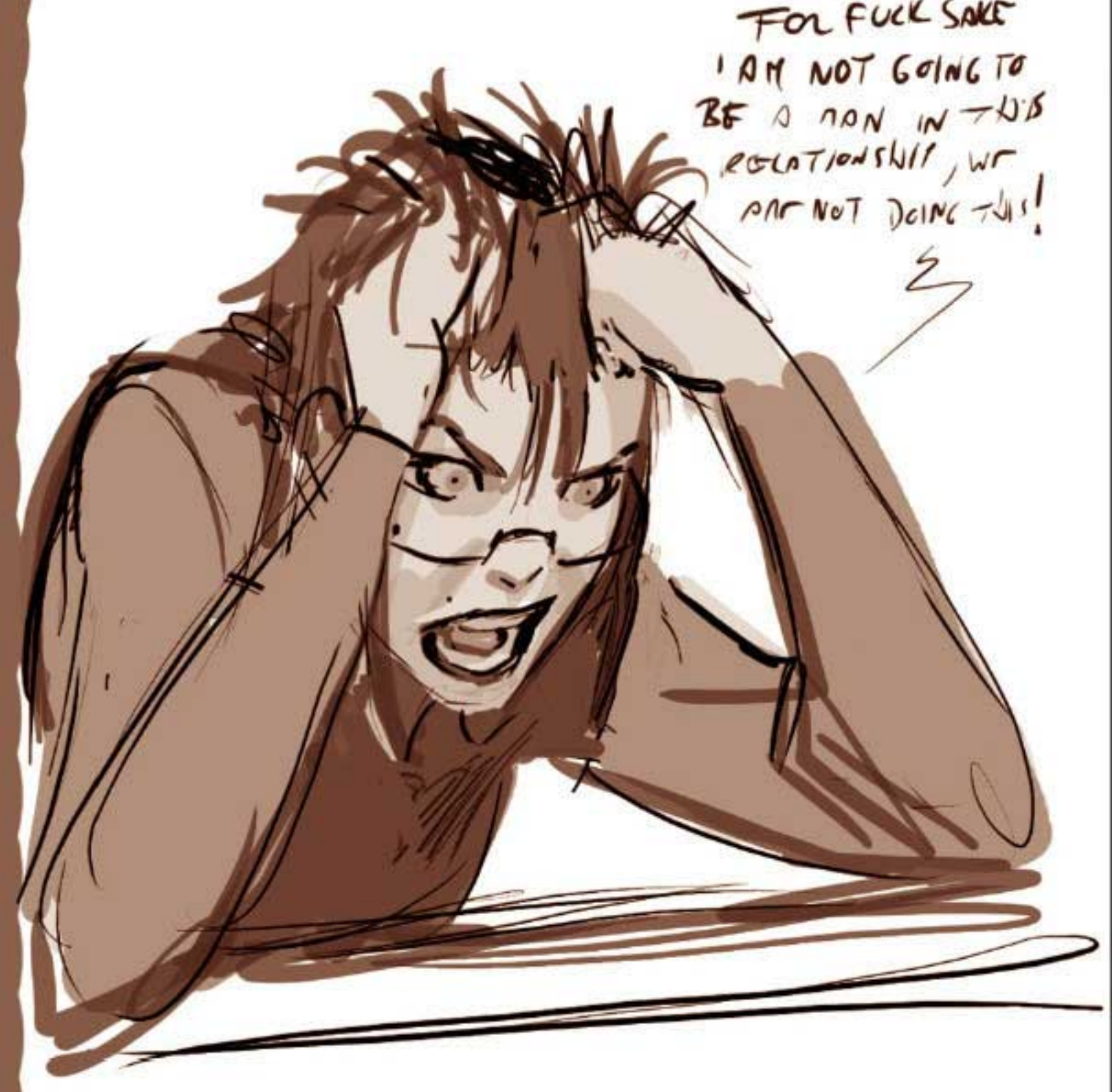


WE ARE ALL CRAZY IN OUR OWN
WAYS --- I AM FUN CRAZY!





LOOK AWAY!



FOR FUCK SAKE I AM NOT GOING TO BE A NON IN THIS RELATIONSHIP, WE ARE NOT DOING THIS!



NO I'M NOT BE SITTING ANY WAY I DON'T VELL PLEASE THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

LIKE A BOSS!





HUA-HA-HA



A. CARVI



Sunstone



THIS IS THE MAIN COVER FOR BOOK TWO OF *SUNSTONE*. AND IT IS SOMEWHAT LOADED WITH A BIT OF IN YOUR FACE, STORY-RELATED SYMBOLISM.

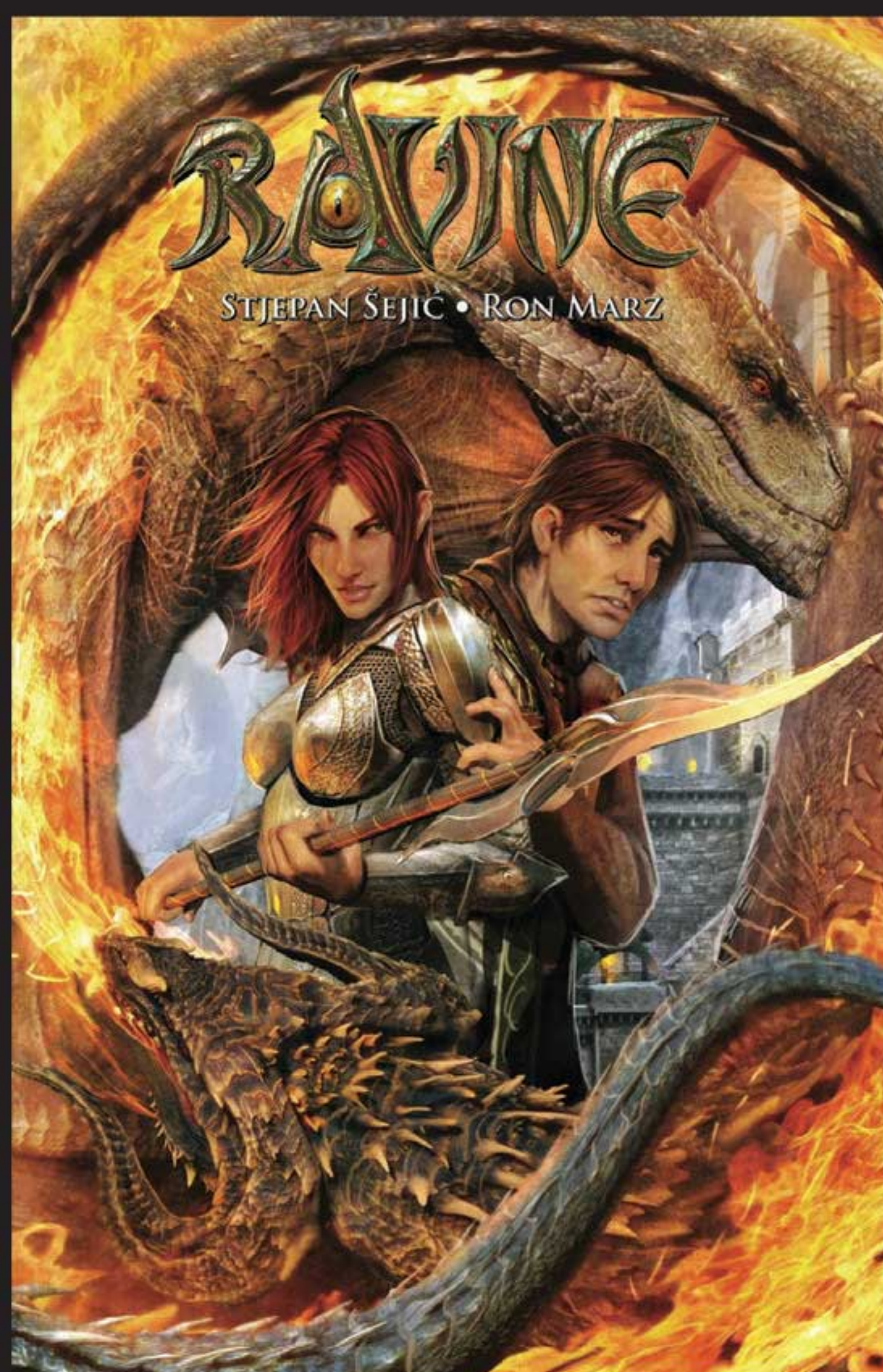
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RAVINE VOL. 1

*Writers: Stjepan Sejic & Ron Marz
Artist: Stjepan Sejic*

In a fantastic world far from our own, an ancient magic spell almost split the world in two and left an endless ravine in the north. One man, Nebezial Asheri, driven by the deaths of his wife and daughters will attempt to reclaim that magic and bring his loved ones back to life. The forces of an entire city, Paladia, will rise to oppose him, but his greatest foes will be a ragtag band of an outcast wizard, a dragonrider, and their allies.



RAVINE VOL. 2

*Writers: Stjepan Sejic & Ron Marz
Artist: Stjepan Sejic*

The balance of power in the kingdom of Palladia is threatened, as schemers plot to overthrow the rightful king. Amid this turmoil, a sorcerer named Stein Phais and a dragon rider named Lynn de Luctes are Wanderers, blessed with great power and destinies that can shape the fate of nations. How long will it be before they are drawn into the conflict?

READ MORE TOP COW



DEATH VIGIL

*Writer: Stjepan Sejic
Artist: Stjepan Sejic*

Gifted? Join the Death Vigil in their ongoing war against the ever-growing power of the Primordial Enemy! The only catch is you have to die first. Become a corporeal immortal Death Knight and obtain reality-altering weaponry in the never-ending battle between good and evil.

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APHRODITE IX: REBIRTH VOL. 1

Writer: Matt Hawkins
Artist: Stjepan Sejic

Hundreds of years after a cataclysmic event scorched the surface, Earth and its inhabitants have been forever altered and a new landscape and political struggle has taken hold between two distinct factions fighting for control. Aphrodite IX is both anachronism and advanced technology in a world that she no longer recognizes. To survive in this future, she must choose sides in a war that she wants no part in.



APHRODITE IX: REBIRTH VOL. 2

Writer: Matt Hawkins
Artist: Stjepan Sejic

Determined to never be controlled by outside forces again, Aphrodite IX seeks revenge against those who manipulated her. Plus the secrets behind the generational models revealed by Aphrodite XV and Artemis IX.

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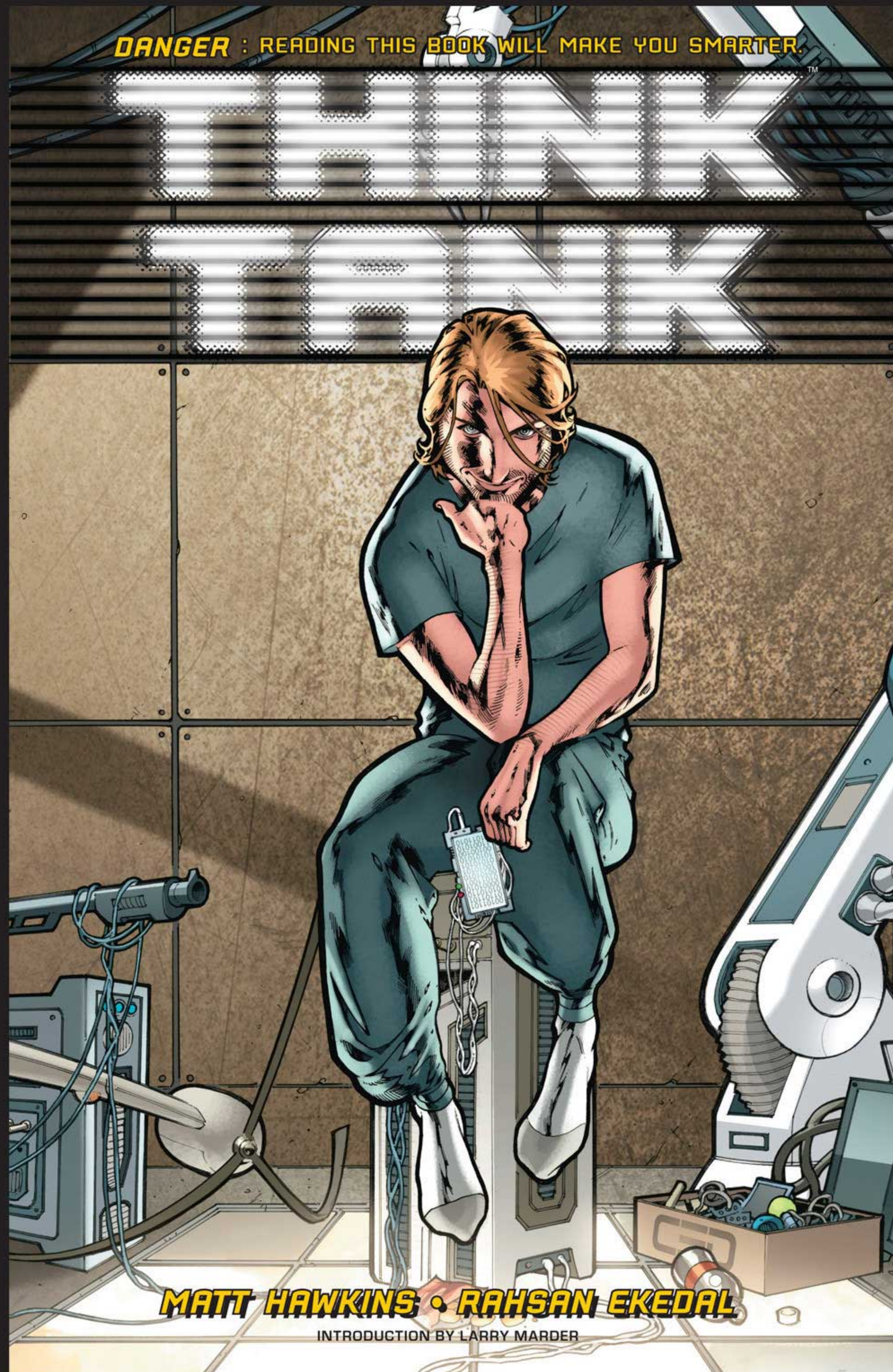


IXTH GENERATION

*Writer: Matt Hawkins
Artist: Stjepan Sejic*

In the future there is no more natural death, no needs unfilled and everything you could ever want is yours...as long as you're one of the chosen ones to live in this new Utopia and you're willing to subjugate yourself to these new self-proclaimed gods with IX's emblazoned on them. Do the ends truly justify the means? Is a utopia built on genocide worth the price? Aphrodite, Velocity, Hades and the other Nines establish fiefdoms in this new world and attempt to rule. Their internal clashes have escalated, but they are forced to put that aside as they face off against the relentless hordes of the Darkness. The sins of the past have come to claim those who would pretend to be Gods. The cybernetic future established in Aphrodite IX and Cyber Force finally comes face to face with the supernatural Artifact side of the Top Cow universe!

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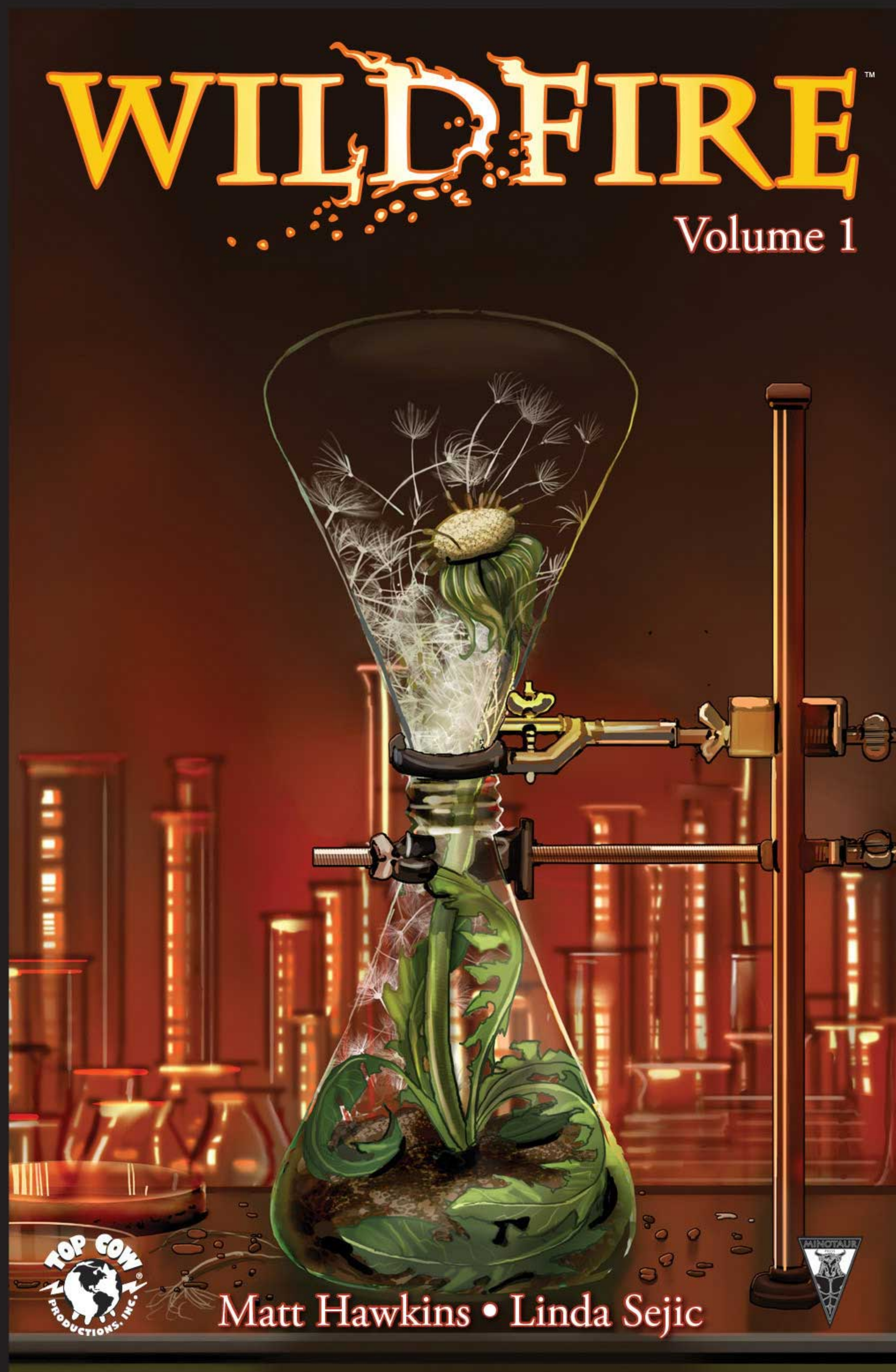
THINK TANK

*Writer: Matt Hawkins
Artist: Rahsan Ekedal
Cover: Rahsan Ekedal & Brian Reber*

Dr. David Loren is many things: child prodigy, inventor, genius, slacker... mass murderer. When a military think tank's smartest scientist decides he can no longer stomach creating weapons of destruction, will he be able to think his way out of his dilemma or find himself subject to the machinations of smaller men?

Collecting the original series in its entirety, this trade paperback also is jam packed with a complete cover gallery, bonus articles, behind-the-scenes sketches, and more!

READ MORE TOP COW



WILDFIRE

*Writer: Matt Hawkins
Artist: Linda Sejic*

Is genetically modified food an end to world hunger or a first class ticket to the apocalypse? Dan Miller is a plant biologist working with a small team perfecting an accelerated plant growth process. When things go wrong, Los Angeles pays the price in a disaster story unlike any before.



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“Sexual nerds. That is what BDSM people are, behind all the pretense...”

From critically-acclaimed creator STJEPAN SEJIC (Death Vigil, Ravine, Aphrodite IX, Witchblade) comes Sunstone, a love story like no other.

Lisa's tastes were always...unique. Longing to be restrained, without restraint. Lisa always felt like something was missing from her love life—until she met Ally. Ally was implacably ordinary—successful job, nice house, an average childhood—except for her preference for bedroom domination.

Originally posted on DeviantArt, this book collects the first volume of the often erotic, always amusing, and surprisingly heartfelt Sunstone.

“Containing all the awkwardness and sweetness that comes with two people falling in love. It's definitely apparent that Sunstone is a unique beast.”

-Comic Book Resources

“Exploring sexuality and how it affects our lives, nature of fetishism, and the truth behind BDSM...as there seem to be more than a few misconceptions about it.”

-Comics For Sinners



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