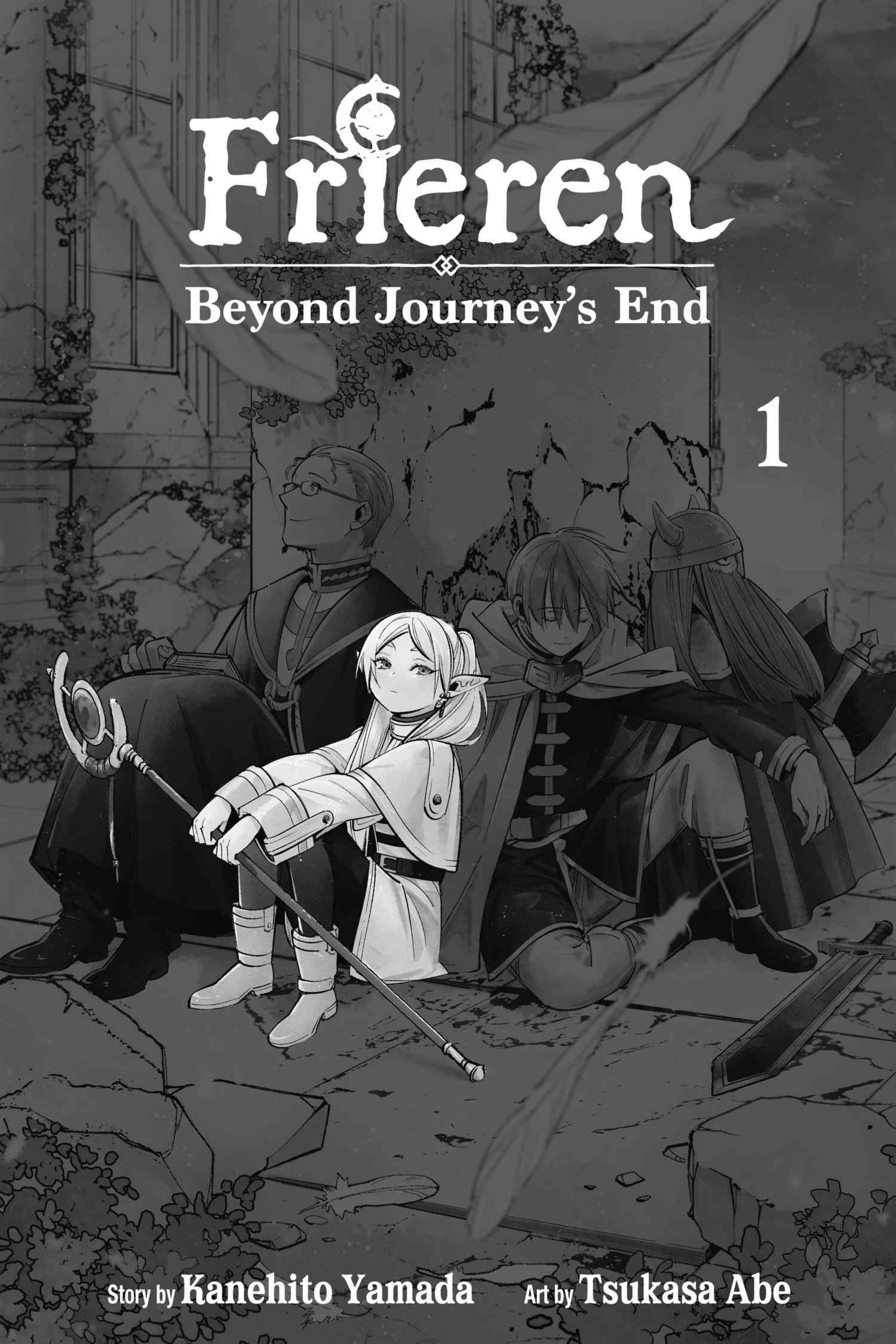
Frieren
Beyond Journey's End
1
Story by Kanehito Yamada
Art by Tsukasa Abe


Frieren
Beyond Journey's End
1
Story by Kanehito Yamada
Art by Tsukasa Abe

CONTENTS

Chapter 1: The Journey's End 3

Chapter 2: The Priest's Lie 41

Chapter 3: Blue-Moon Weed 77

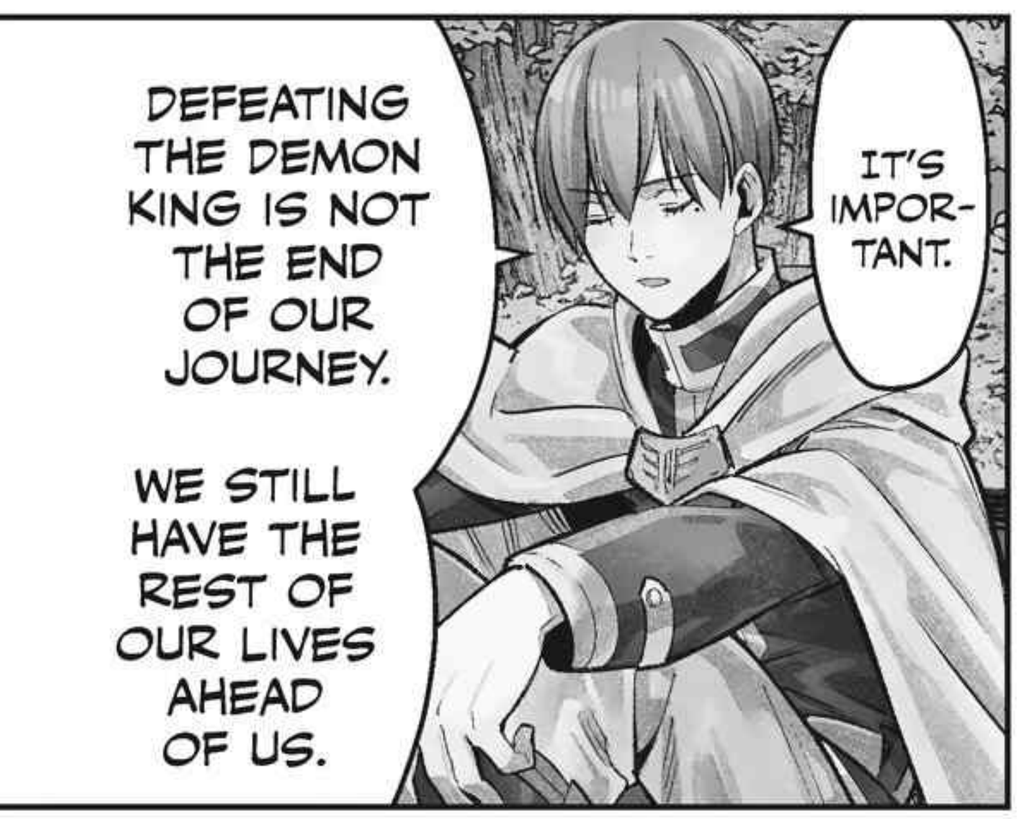
Chapter 4: The Mage's Secret 111

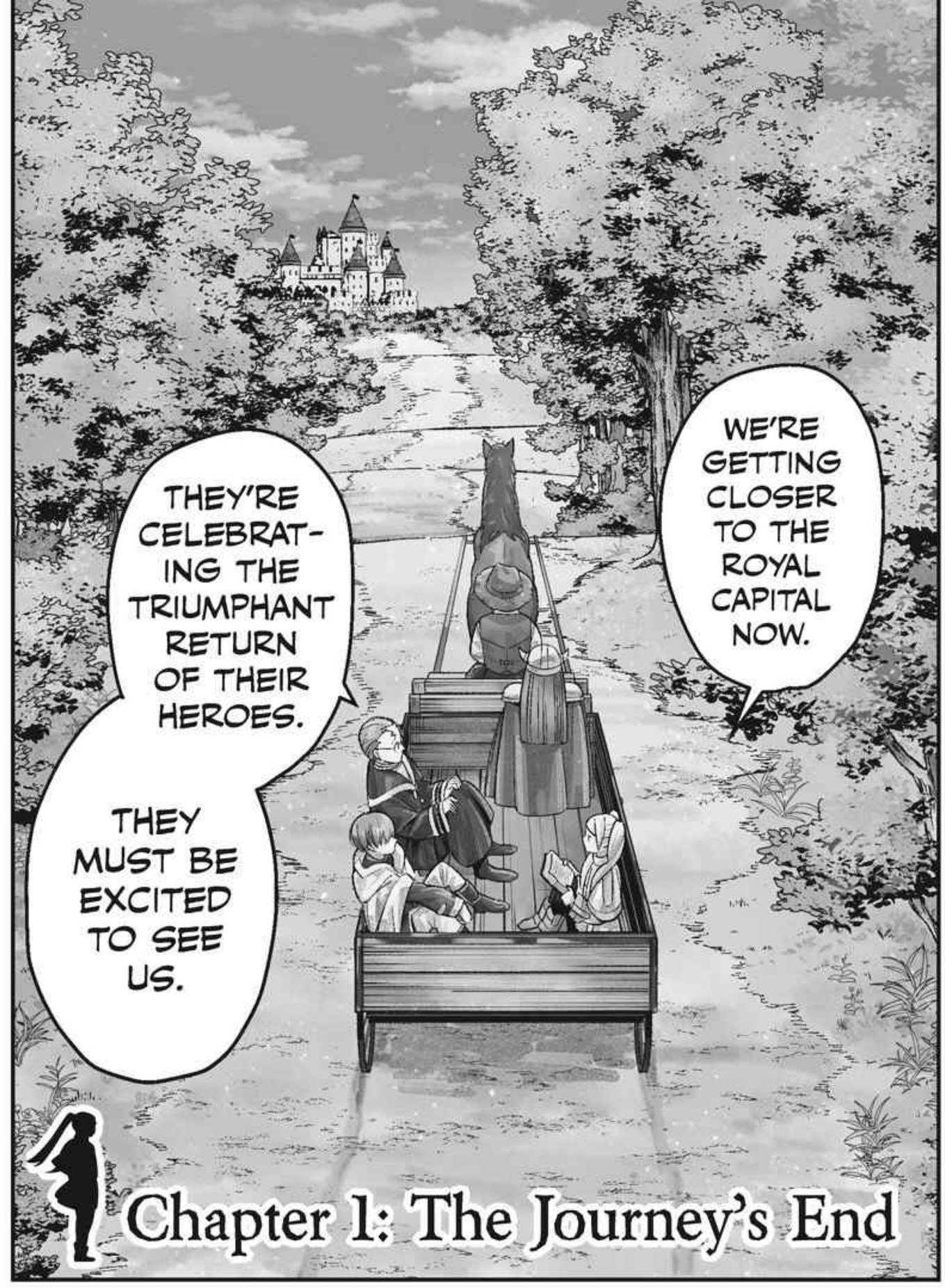
Chapter 5: Killing Magic 129

Chapter 6: New Year's Festival 149

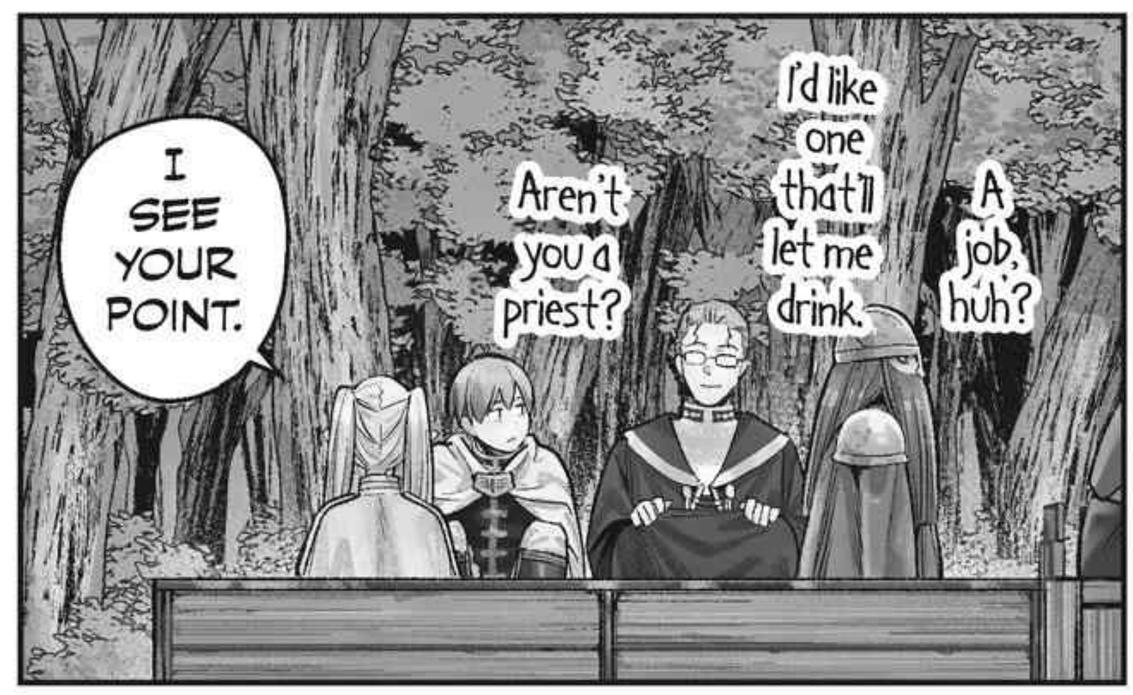
Chapter 7: The Land Where Souls Rest 167

YOU'RE ALREADY THINKING ABOUT THAT?
WE'LL HAVE TO START LOOKING FOR JOBS WHEN WE RETURN ...


DEFEATING THE DEMON KING IS NOT THE END OF OUR JOURNEY.
WE STILL HAVE THE REST OF OUR LIVES AHEAD OF US.
IT'S IMPORTANT.

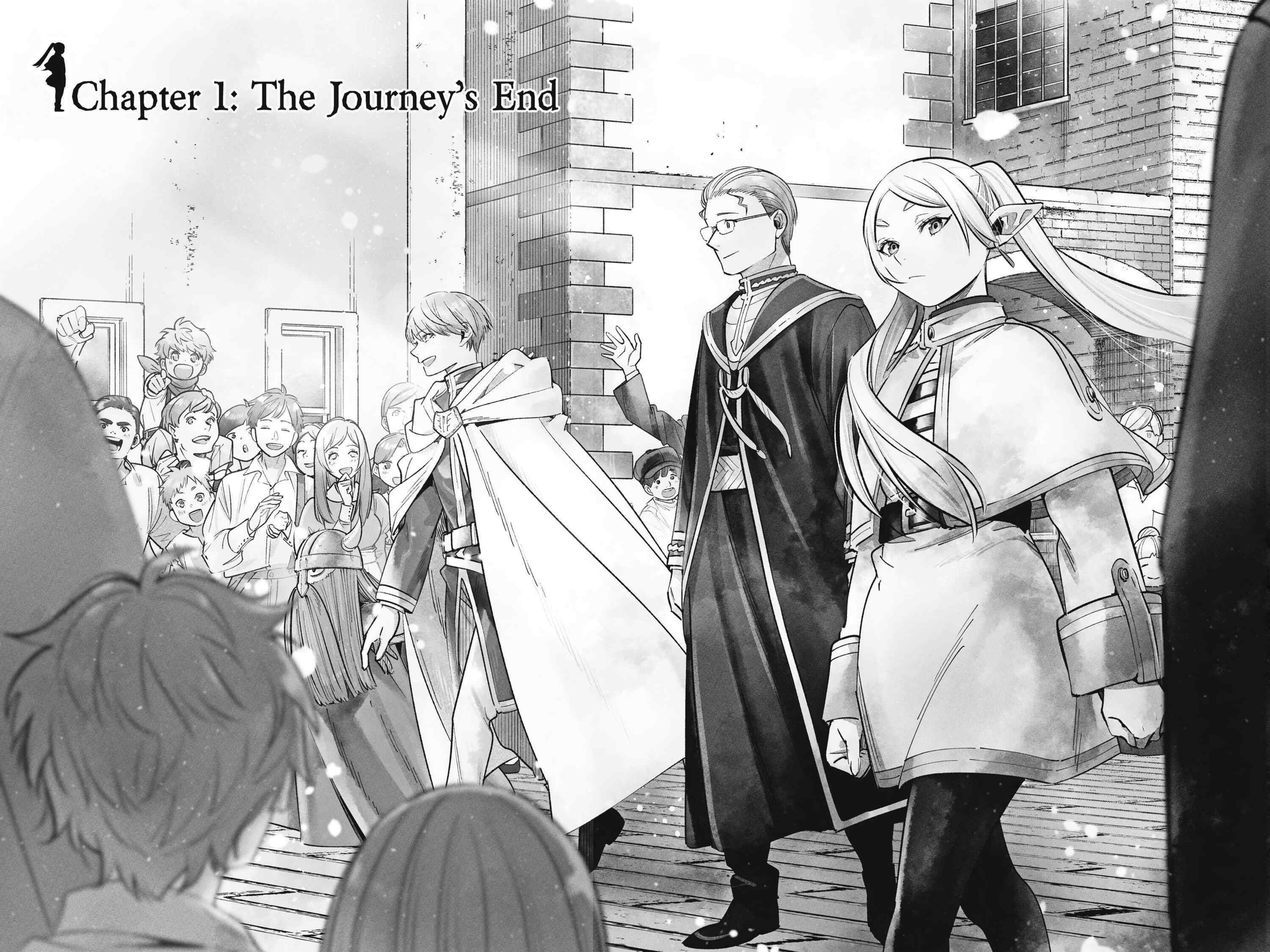

THEY'RE CELEBRATING THE TRIUMPHANT RETURN OF THEIR HEROES.
THEY MUST BE EXCITED TO SEE US.
WE'RE GETTING CLOSER TO THE ROYAL CAPITAL NOW.
Chapter 1: The Journey's End

I GUESS SO.


I SEE YOUR POINT.
Aren't you a priest?
I'd like one that'll let me drink.
A job, huh?

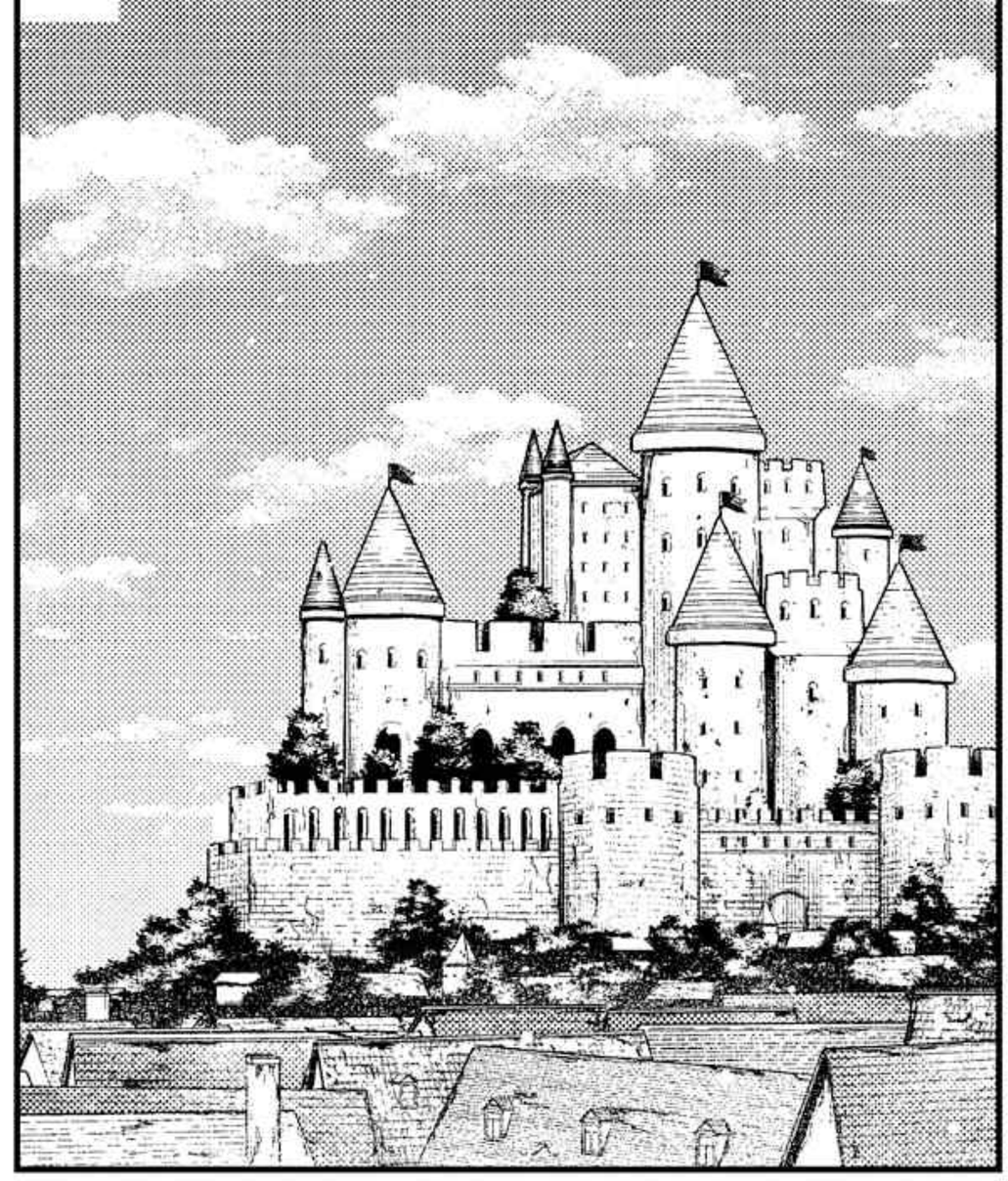
YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE MUCH LONGER...
...THAN WE COULD EVER IMAGINE.
FRIEREN ...

Chapter 1: The Journey's End



Frieren

Beyond Journey's End



HIMMEL THE HERO.

FRIEREN THE MAGE.

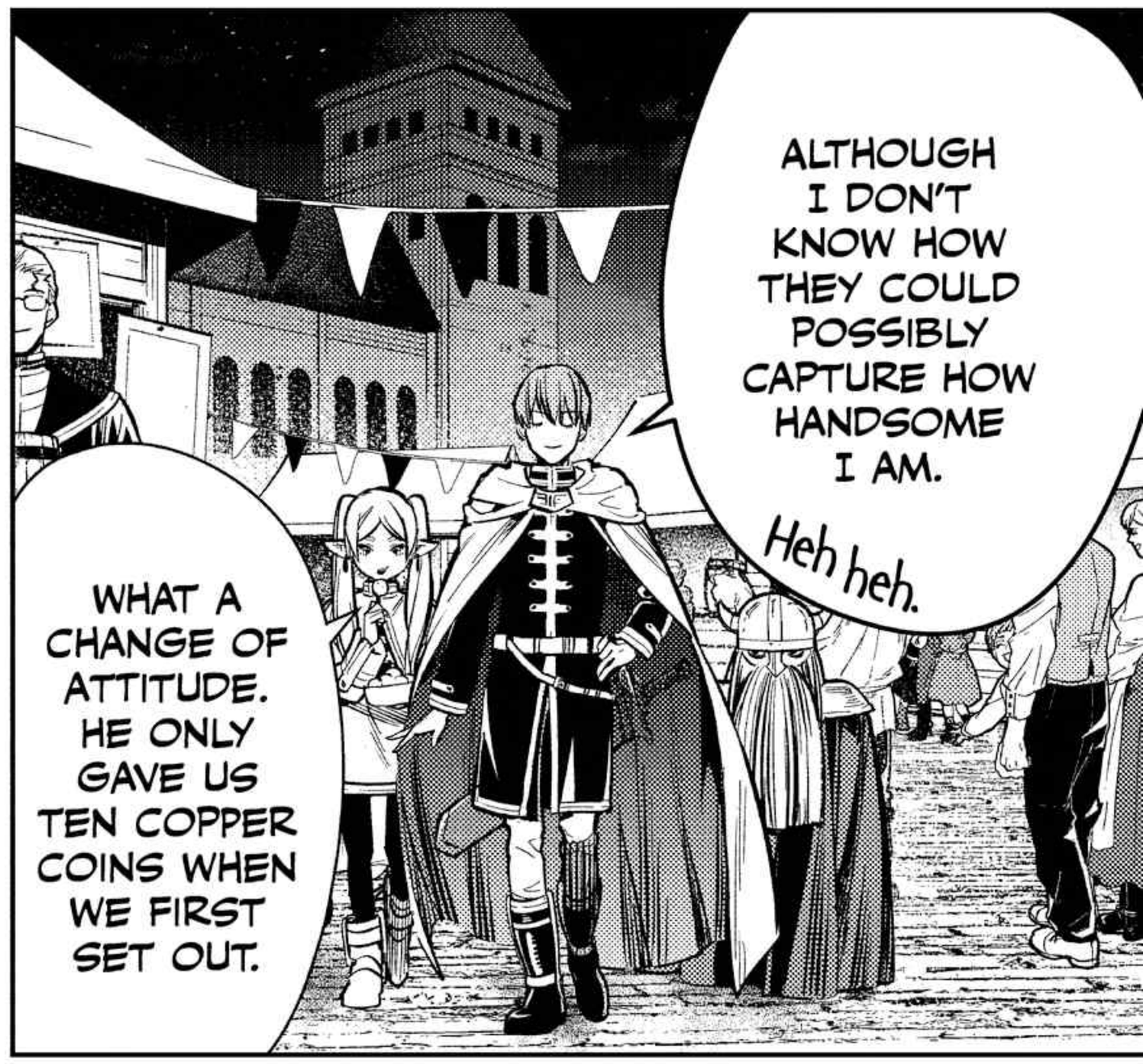
HEITER THE PRIEST.

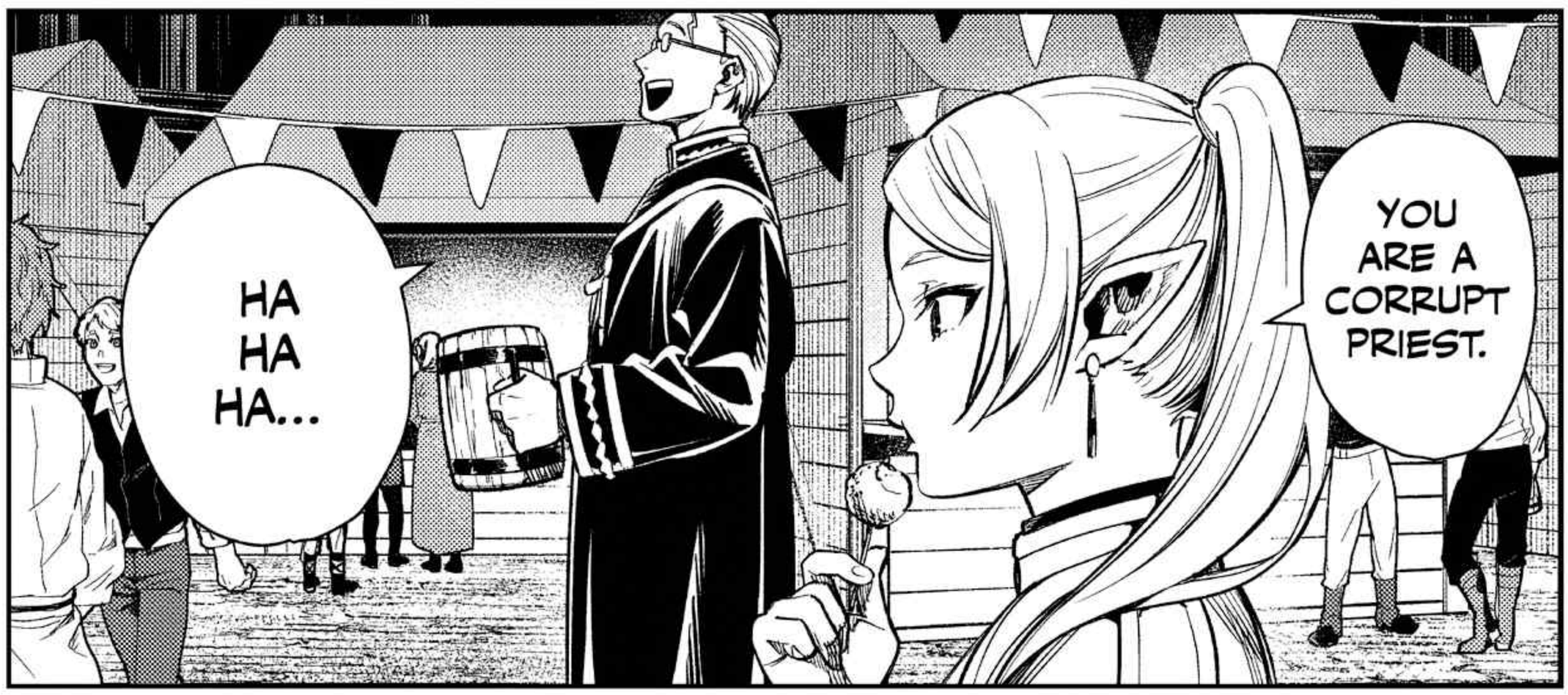
EISEN THE WARRIOR.

NOW AN AGE OF PEACE SHALL BEGIN.

YOU HAVE OUR THANKS FOR DEFEATING THE DEMON KING.

I HEARD THE KING IS GOING TO BUILD STATUES OF US IN THE SQUARE.





YEAH.

OUR ADVENTURE ENDS HERE.

IT REALLY IS OVER, ISN'T IT?

TEN YEARS...

SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED.

OUR ADVENTURE COULD HAVE ENDED THEN AND THERE.

Do it.

Shall I lick Your shoes, your Majesty?

Noooo!

I'll educate them myself. Please forgive us!

REMEMBER HOW HIMMEL AND EISEN ALMOST GOT EXECUTED FOR BEING RUDE TO THE KING BEFORE WE LEFT?

HE WAS LIKE THAT AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK.

Not good, huh?

Are you okay? You look like the undead.

....No.

AND THAT TIME HEITER WAS SO USELESS BECAUSE HE HAD A HANGOVER.

Seriously...? I warned you repeatedly it was a trap...

Should we just leave her here?

It's dark in here! I'm scared!

I THOUGHT ABOUT LEAVING YOU WHEN YOU ALMOST GOT EATEN BY THE MIMIC.

COMPARED TO YOU ALL, I WAS FLAWLESS ...

BUT IT WAS FUN.
I'M GLAD I GOT TO SHARE THIS ADVENTURE WITH YOU GUYS.

GEE.
WE ONLY HAVE LOUSY MEMORIES, DON'T WE?

LIKE-WISE.

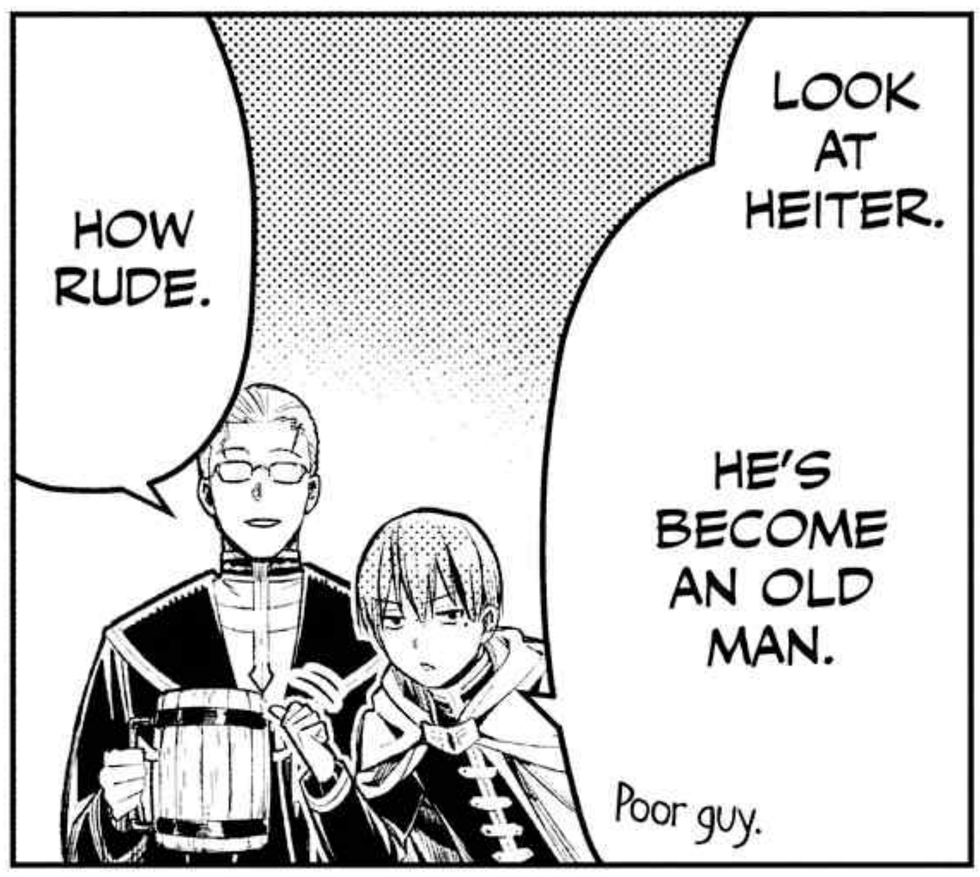
SHORT?

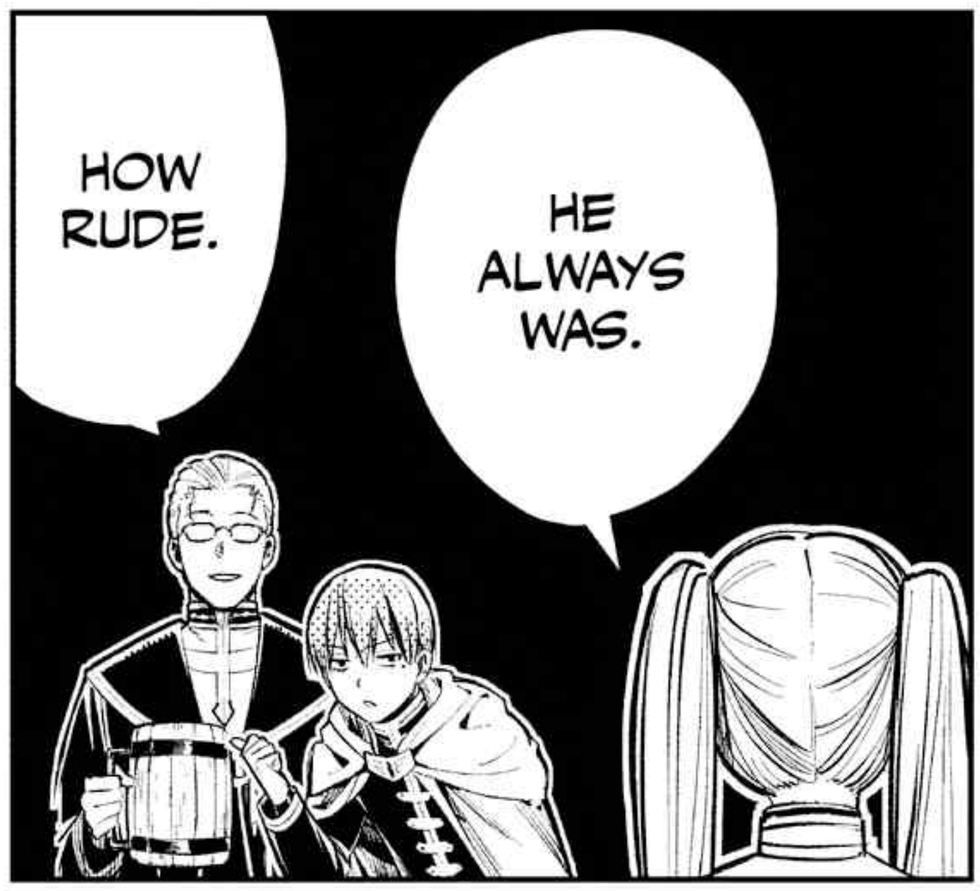
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

IT TOOK TEN YEARS.

IT WAS SHORT THOUGH.

IT'S ALMOST TIME.

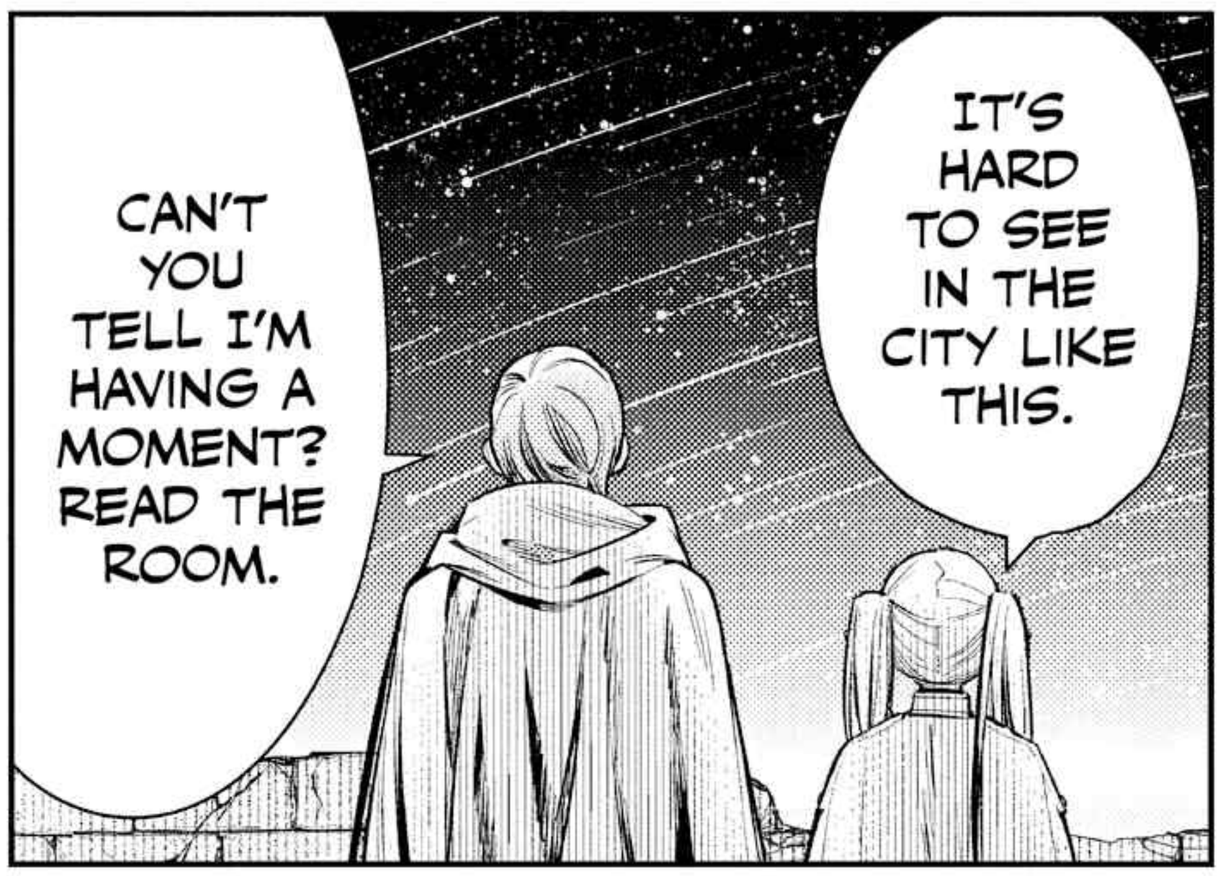




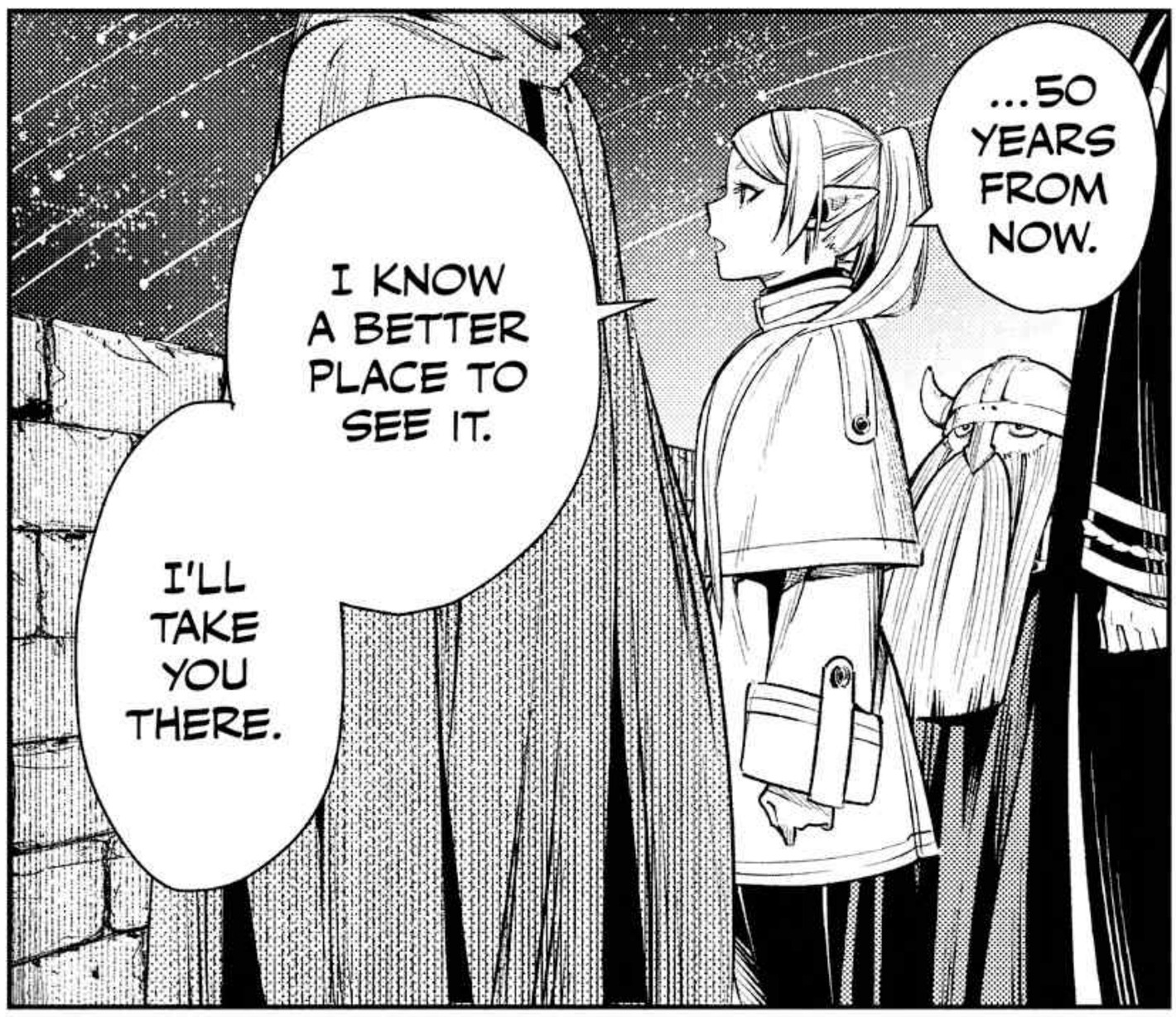
IT'S THE ERA METEOR SHOWER, RIGHT?

IT ONLY HAPPENS ONCE EVERY 50 YEARS.

PERFECT FOR THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA OF PEACE.

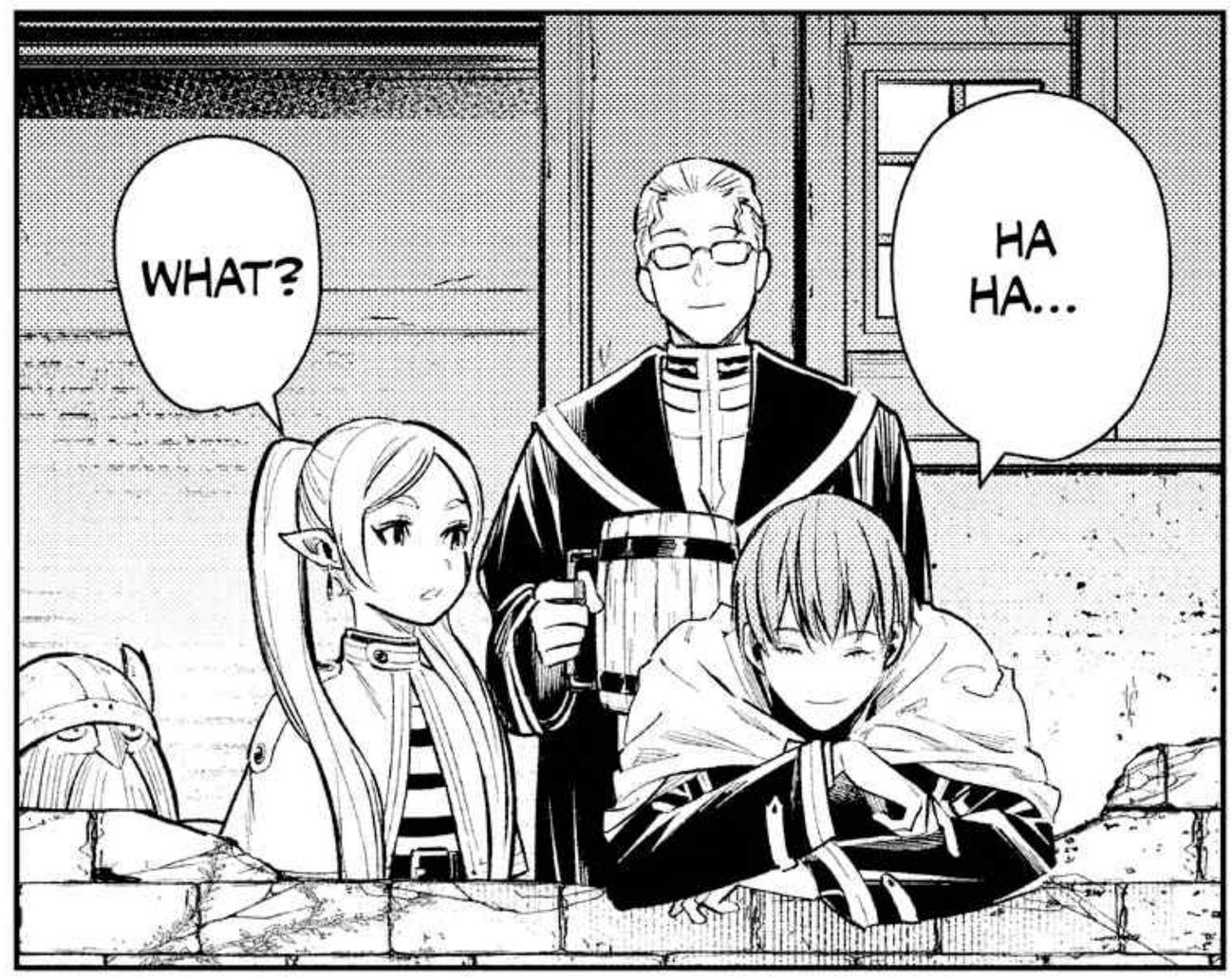

CAN'T YOU TELL I'M HAVING A MOMENT? READ THE ROOM.
IT'S HARD TO SEE IN THE CITY LIKE THIS.

IT'S BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT?


...50 YEARS FROM NOW.
I KNOW A BETTER PLACE TO SEE IT.
I'LL TAKE YOU THERE.

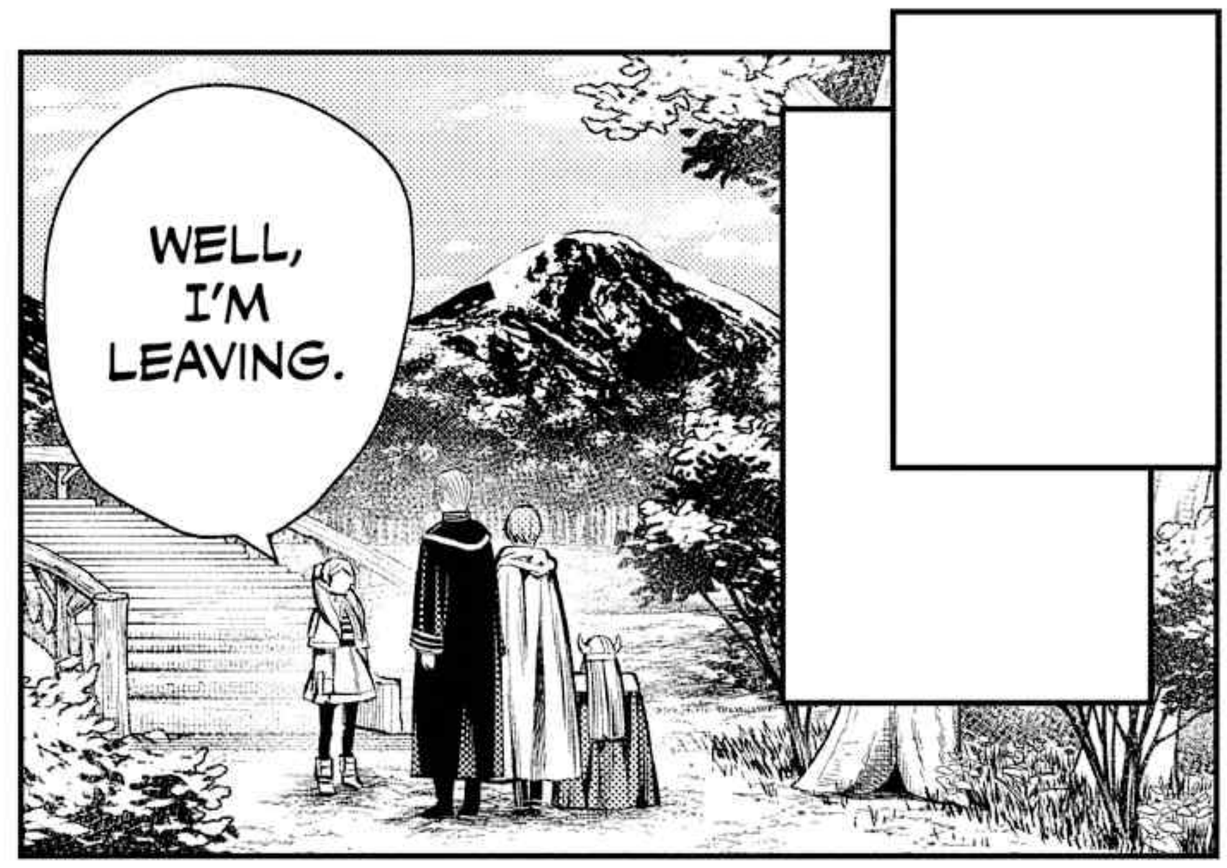
WE CAN DO IT AGAIN...

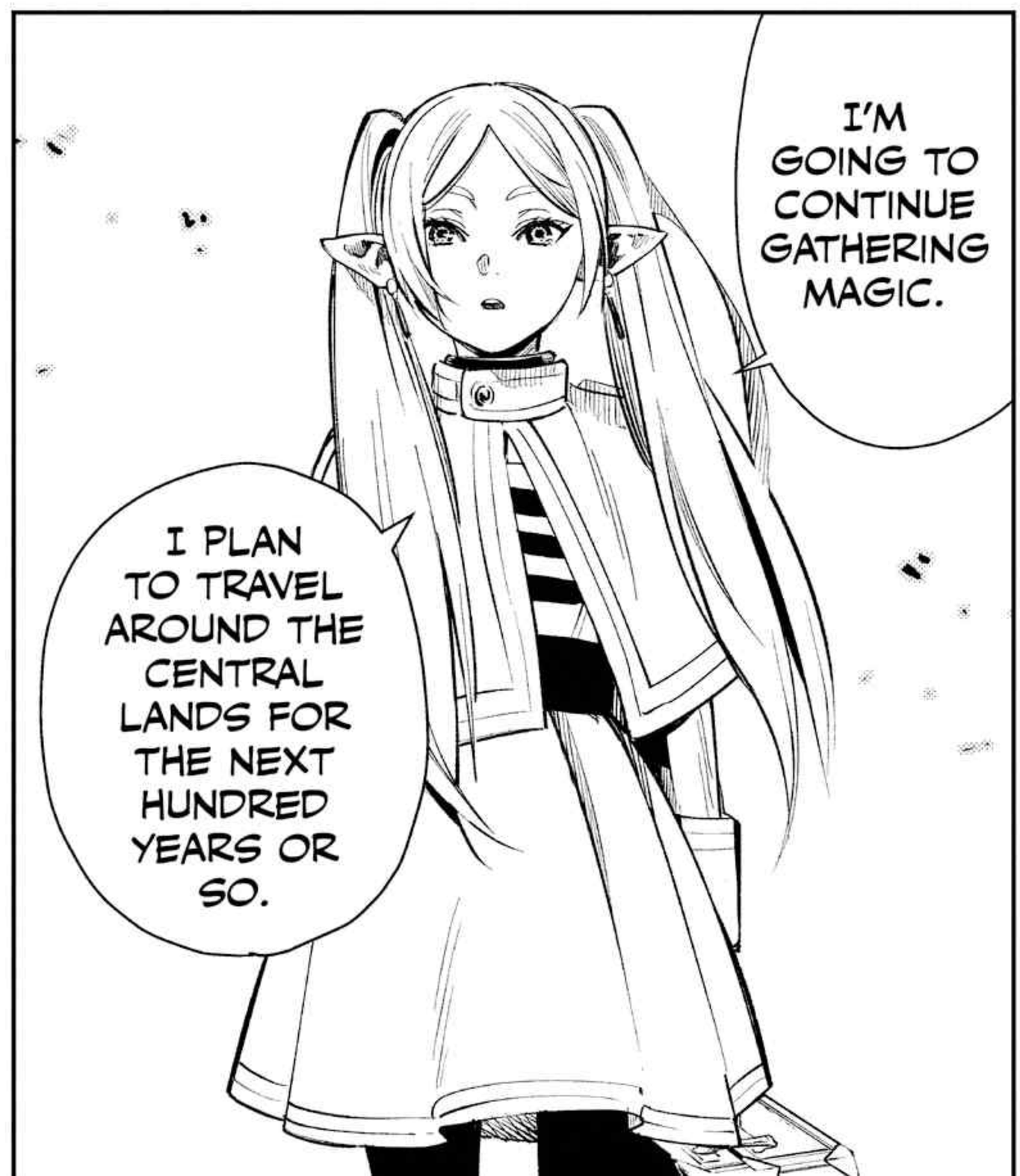
OH...
NOTHING.


WHAT?
HA HA...

LET'S GO SEE IT, ALL OF US TOGETHER.

SURE!

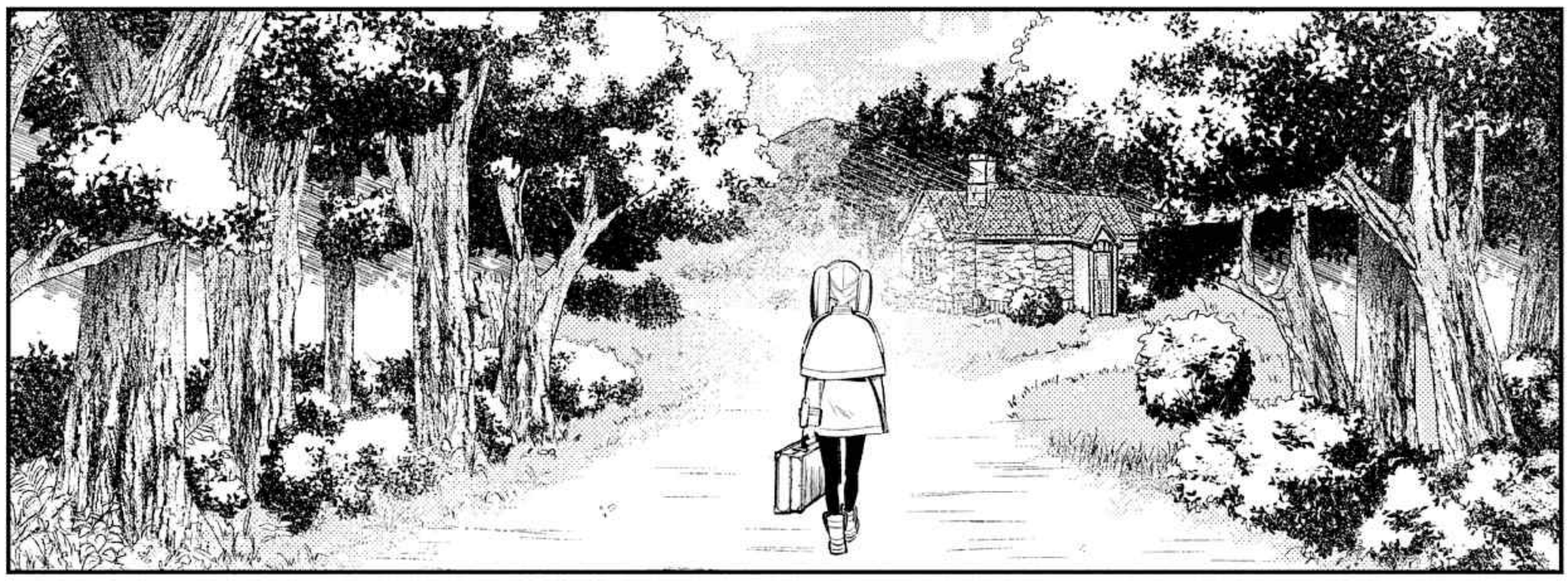


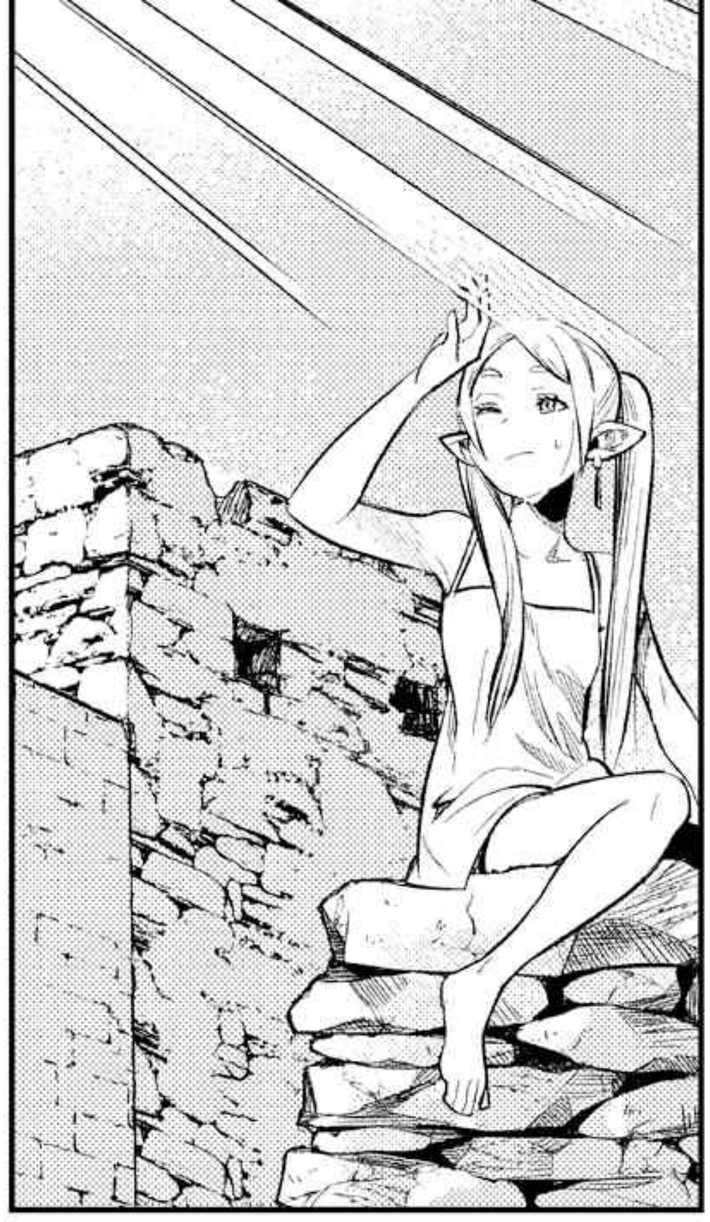


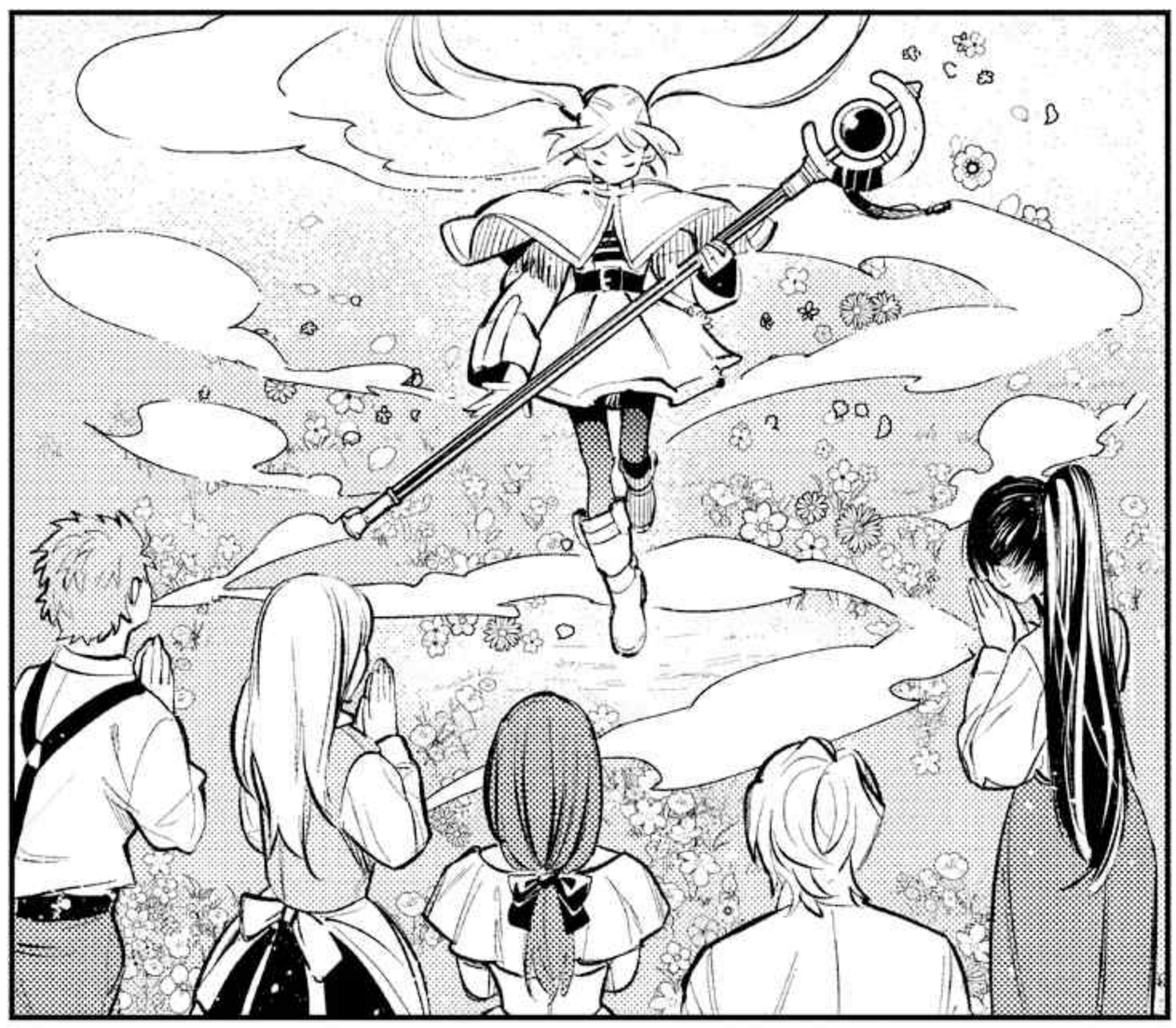
FIFTY, A HUNDRED YEARS... IT'S NOTHING TO HER.

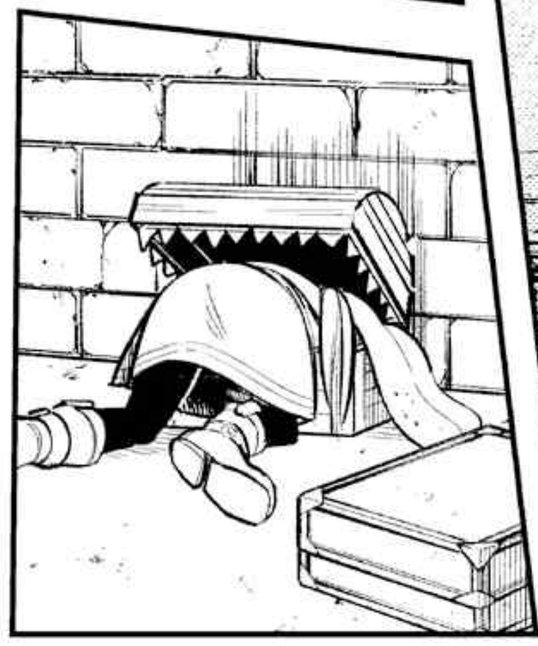
WHO KNOWS HOW LONG SHE'S BEEN AROUND IN THIS WORLD?

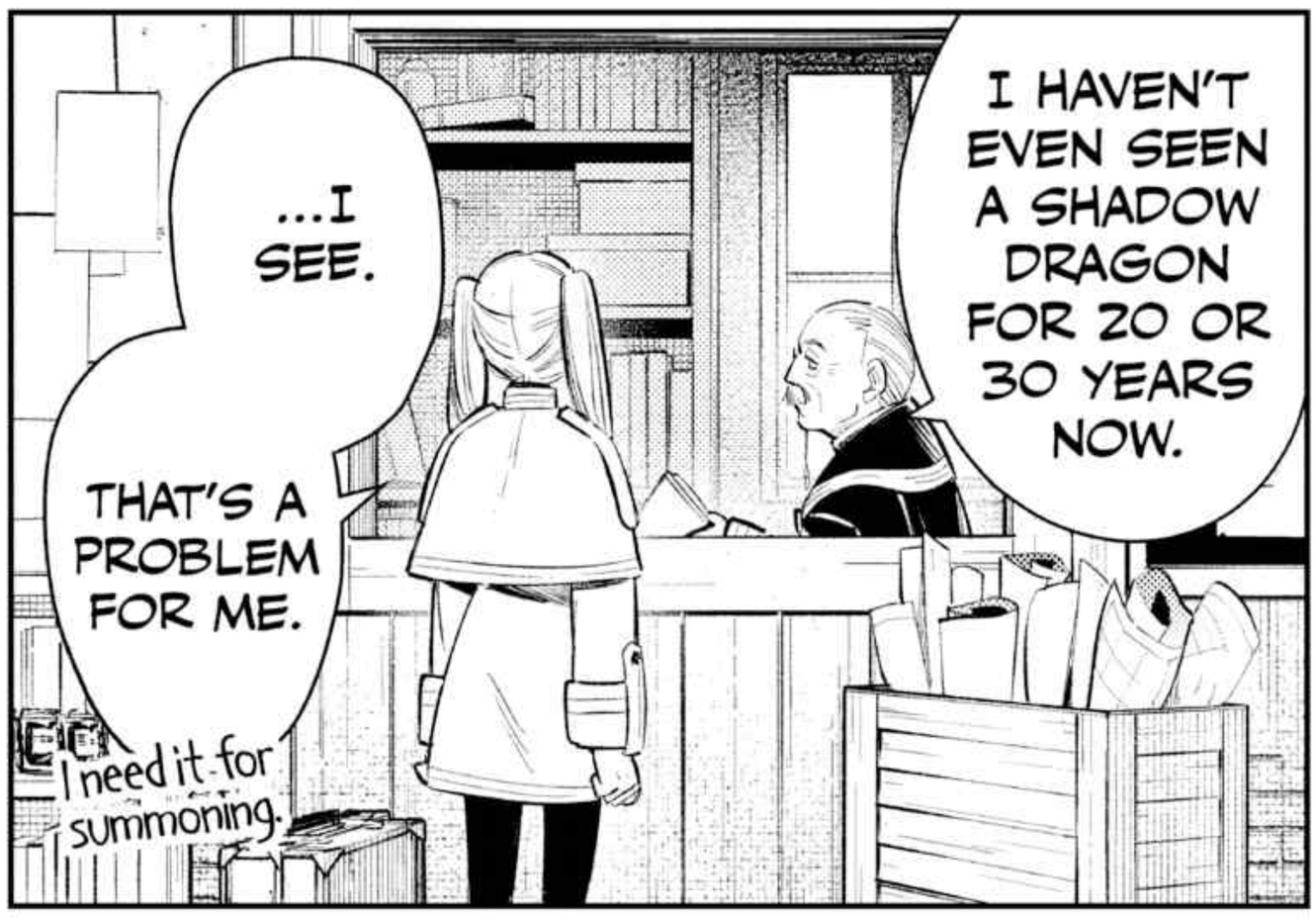
THE WAY ELVES SEE THINGS IS BEYOND COMPREHENSION.



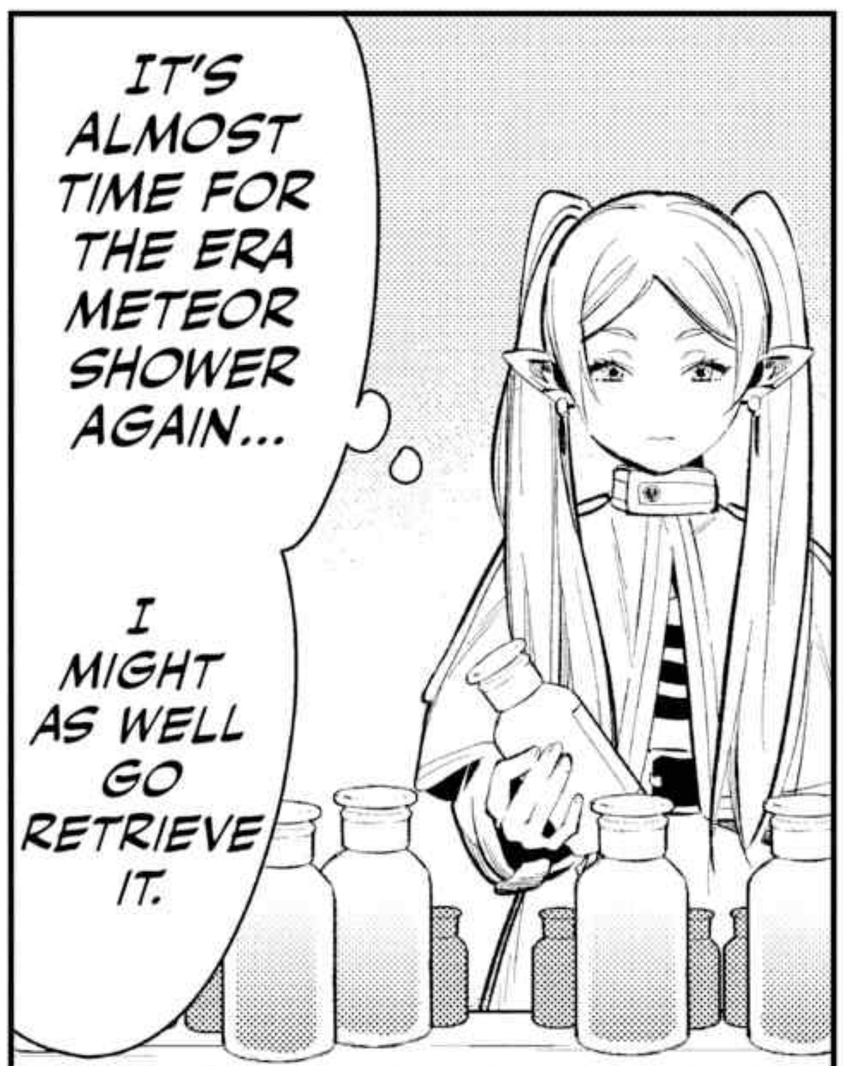


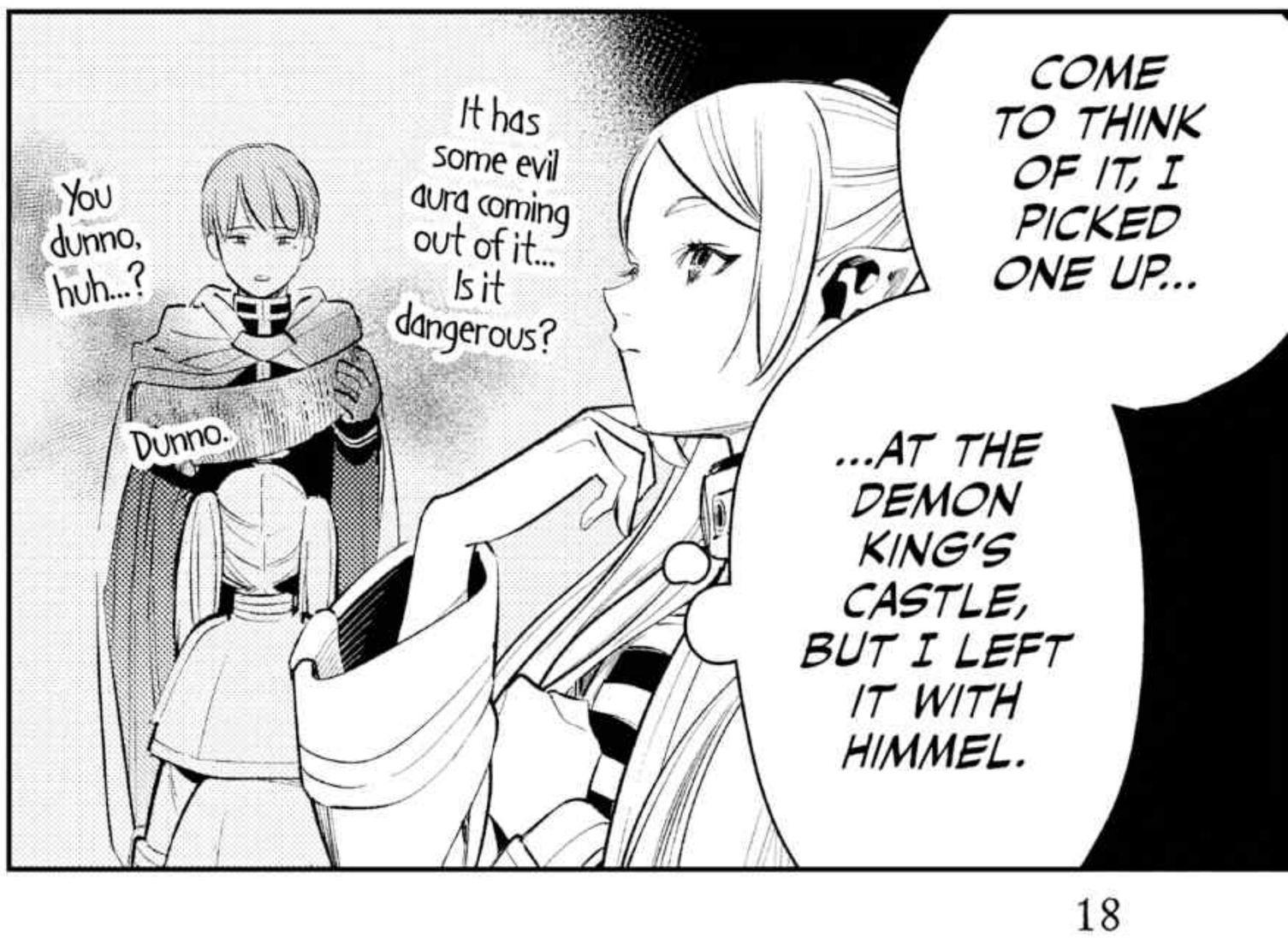





...I SEE.
I HAVEN'T EVEN SEEN A SHADOW DRAGON FOR 20 OR 30 YEARS NOW.
THAT'S A PROBLEM FOR ME.
I need it for summoning.

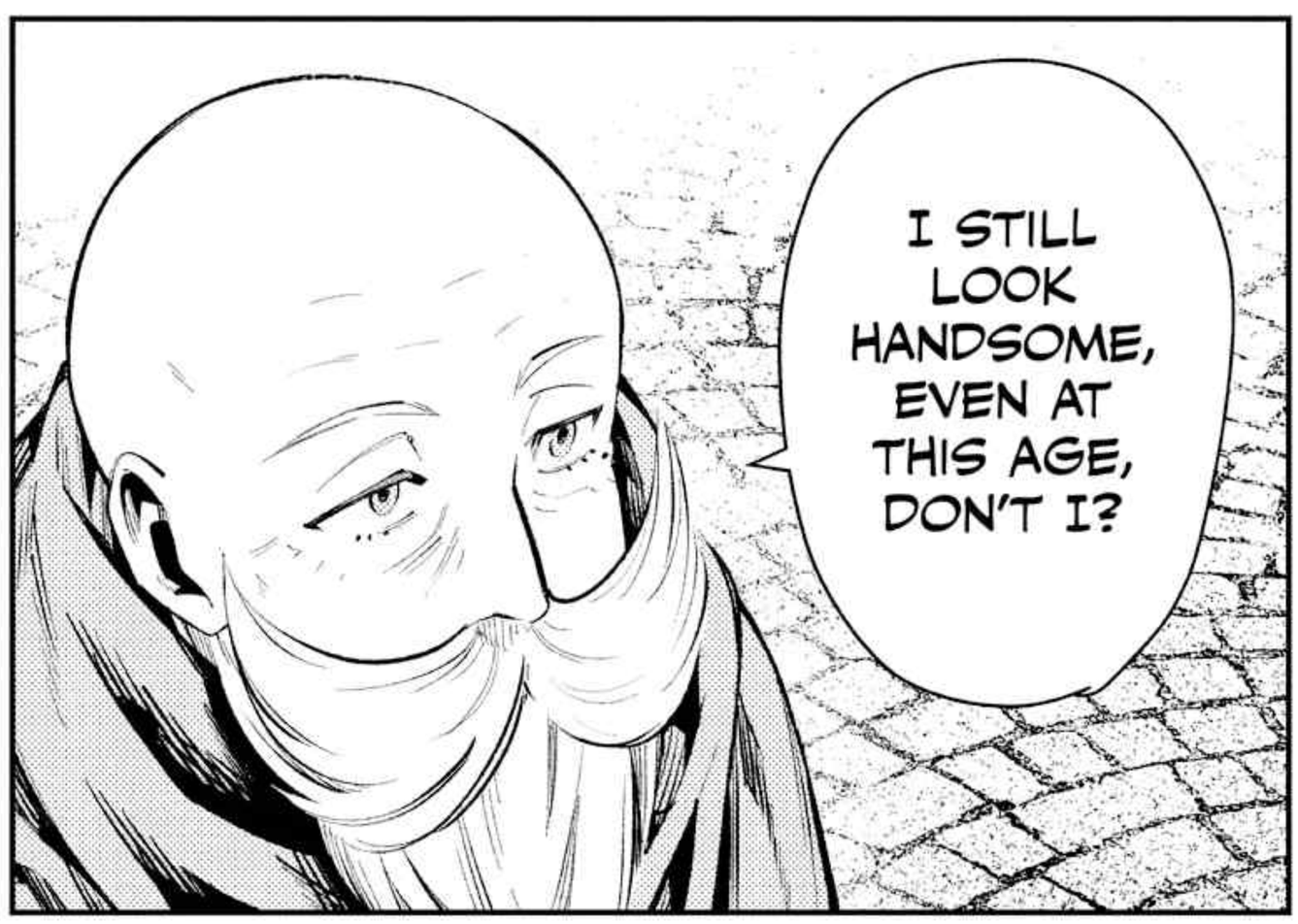
THE SHADOW DRAGON'S HORN?
WE DON'T HAVE THAT HERE.

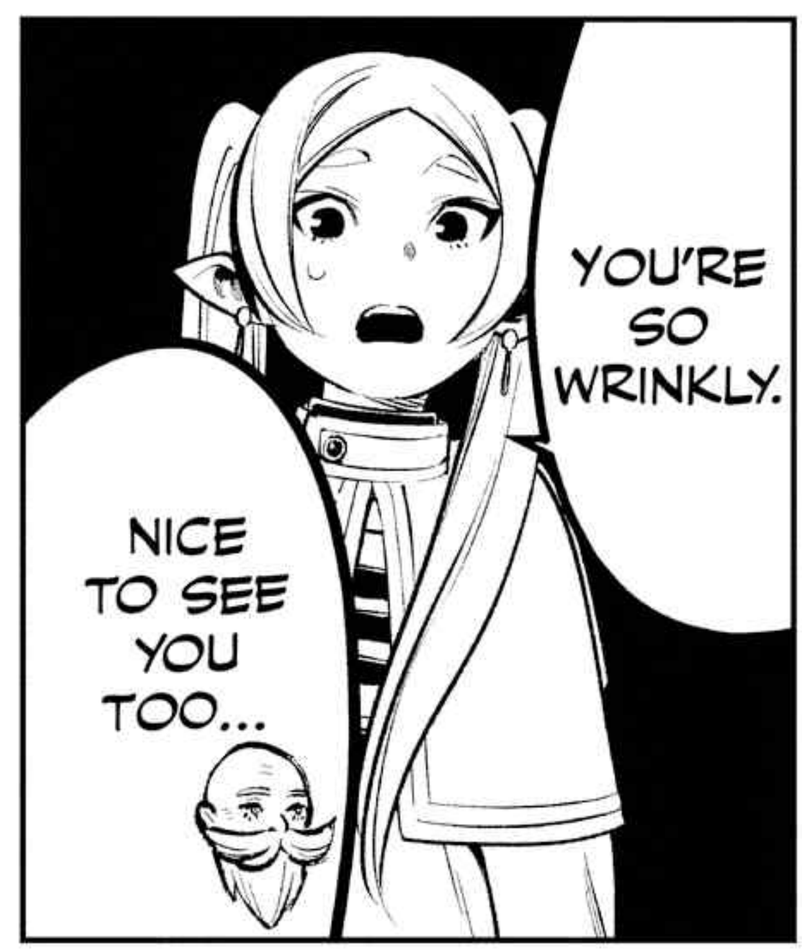

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE ERA METEOR SHOWER AGAIN...
I MIGHT AS WELL GO RETRIEVE IT.

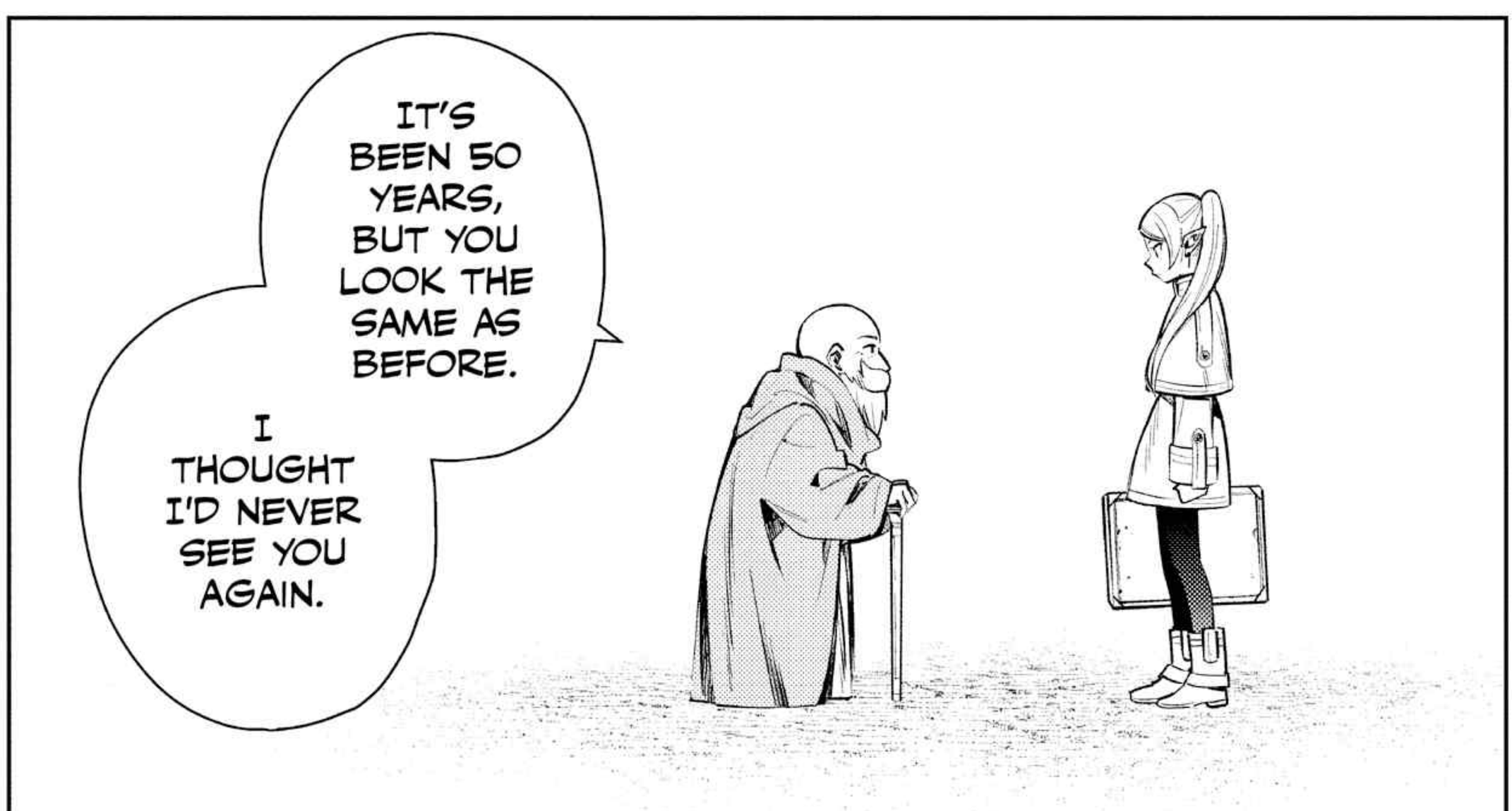

You dunno, huh...?
It has some evil aura coming out of it... Is it dangerous?
Dunno.
COME TO THINK OF IT, I PICKED ONE UP...
...AT THE DEMON KING'S CASTLE, BUT I LEFT IT WITH HIMMEL.

THE CITY HAS CHANGED A LOT...
IF I REMEMBER IT RIGHT, IT SHOULD BE AROUND HERE...
FRIEREN?

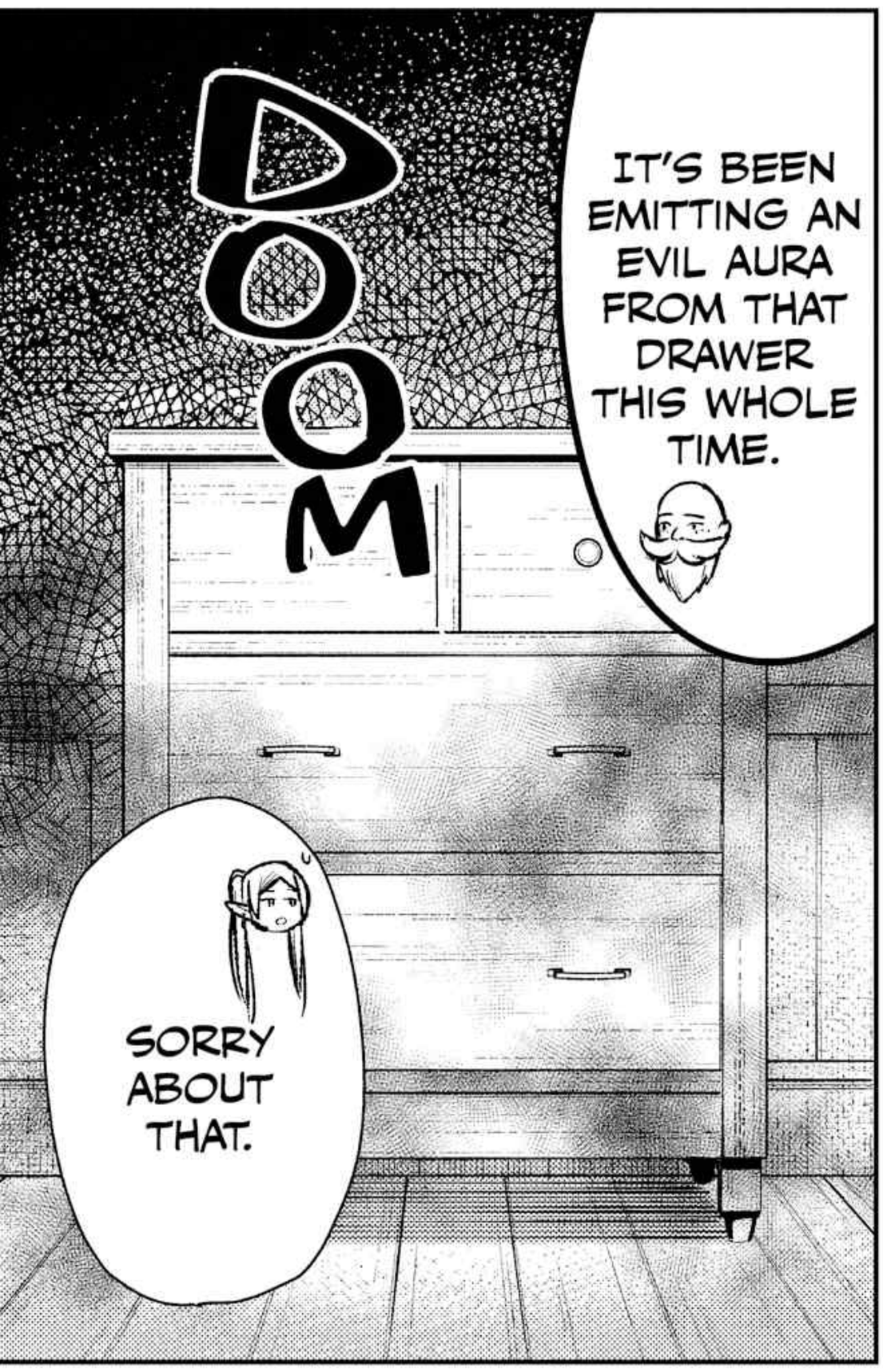
HIMMEL?

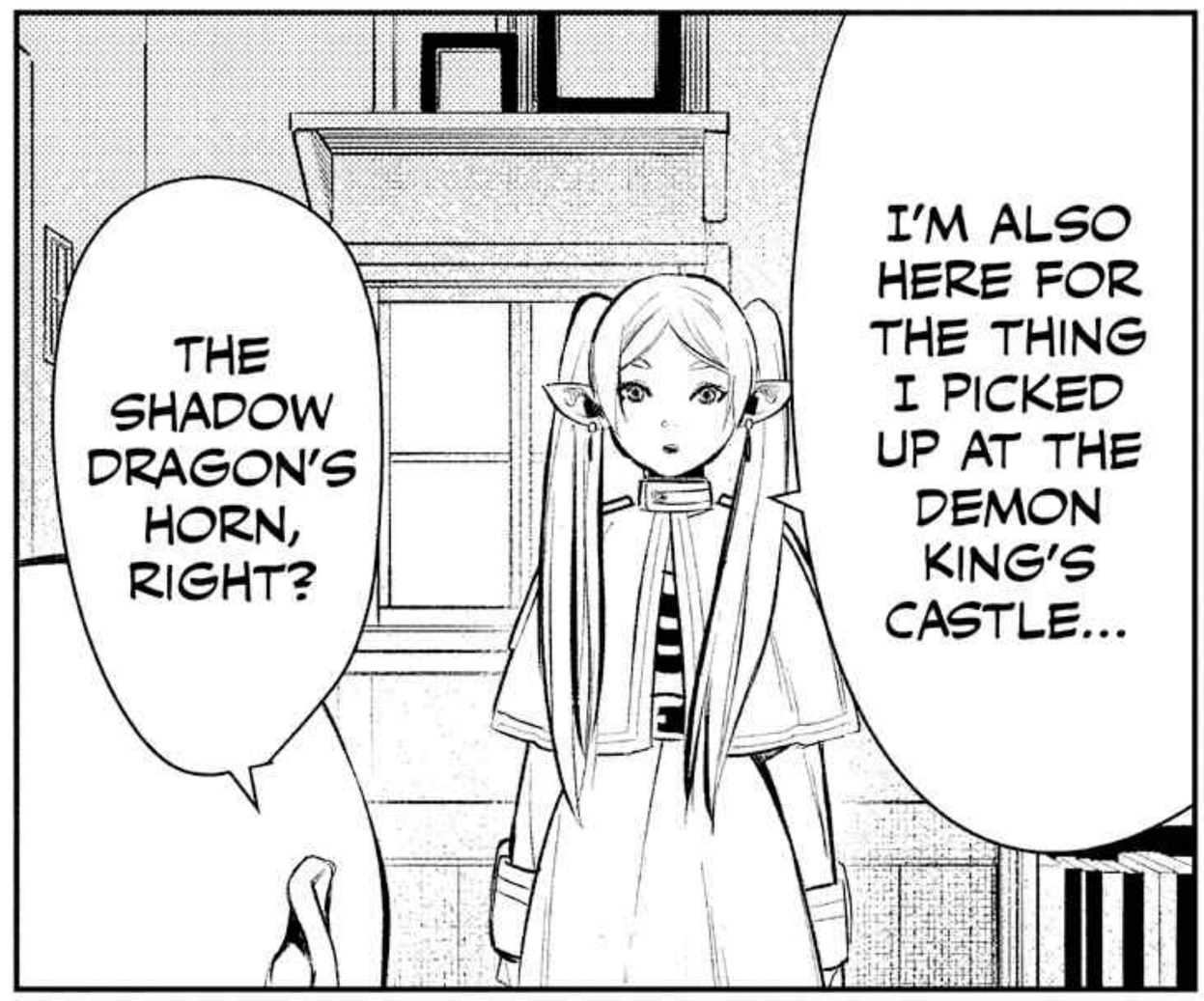

I STILL LOOK HANDSOME, EVEN AT THIS AGE, DON'T I?

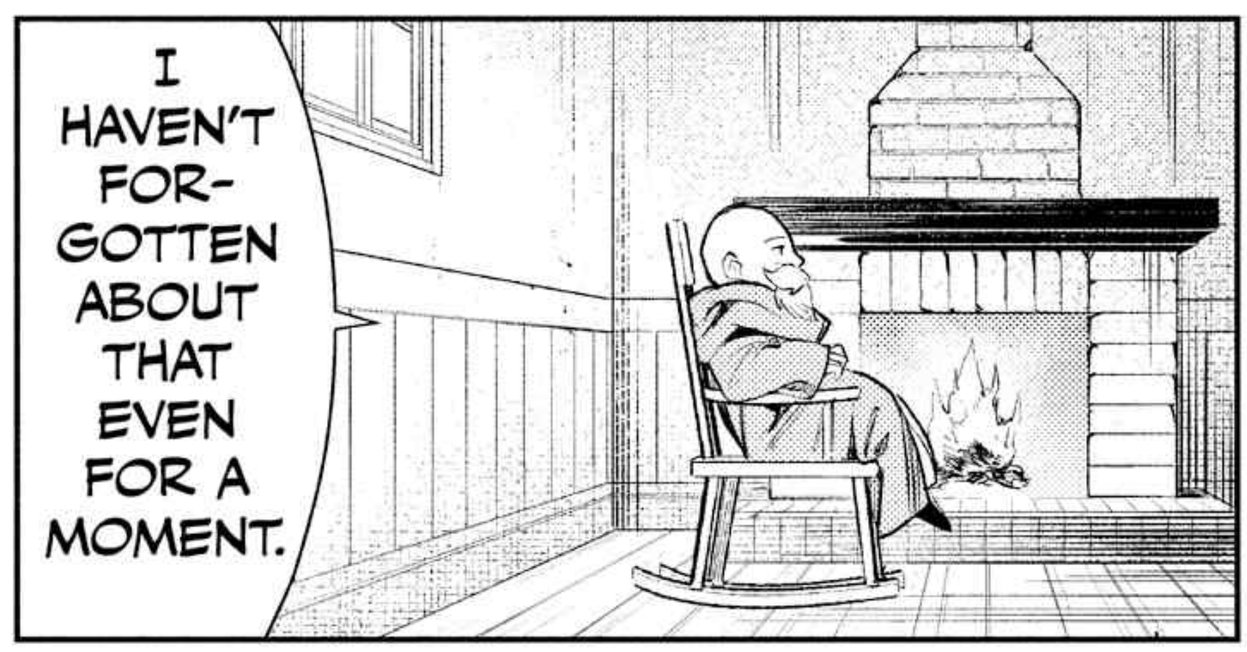

YOU'RE SO WRINKLY.
NICE TO SEE YOU TOO...

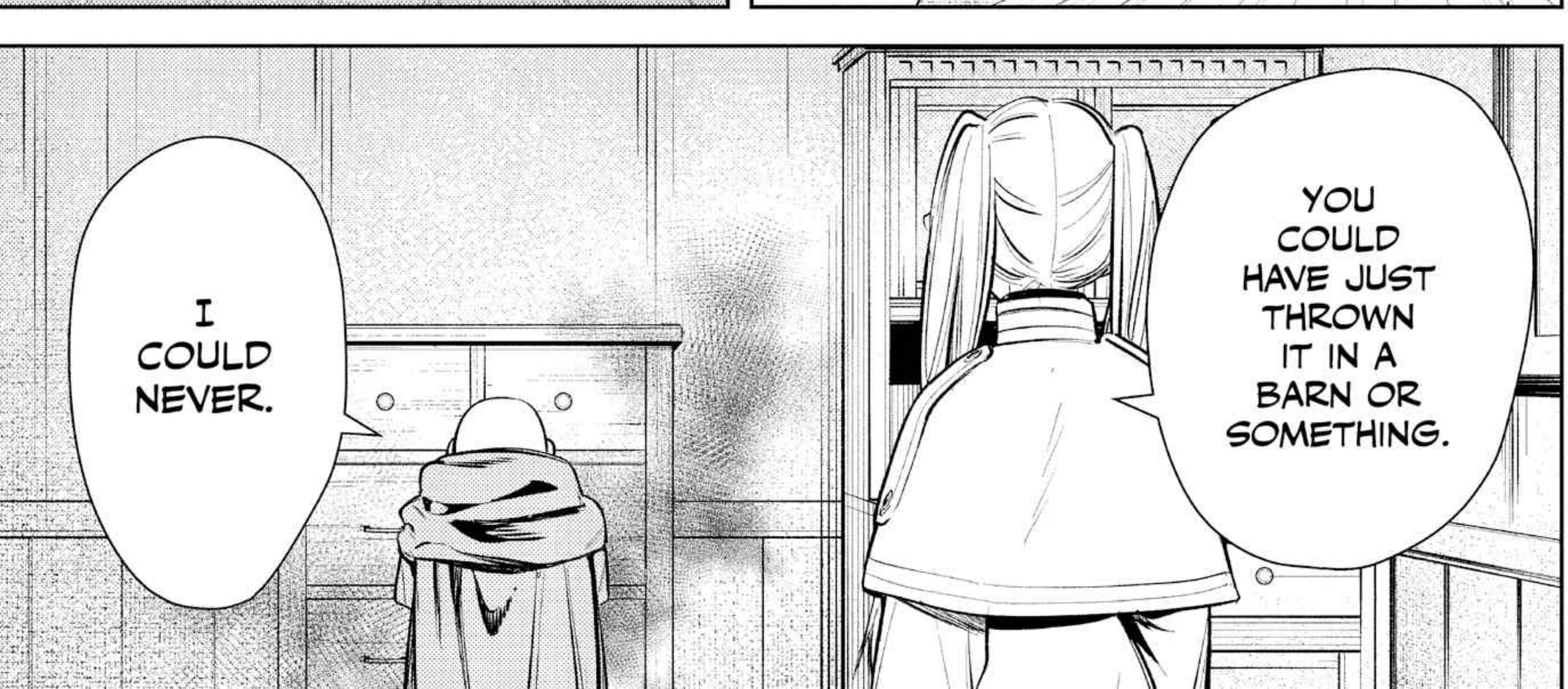

IT'S BEEN 50 YEARS, BUT YOU LOOK THE SAME AS BEFORE.
I THOUGHT I'D NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN.

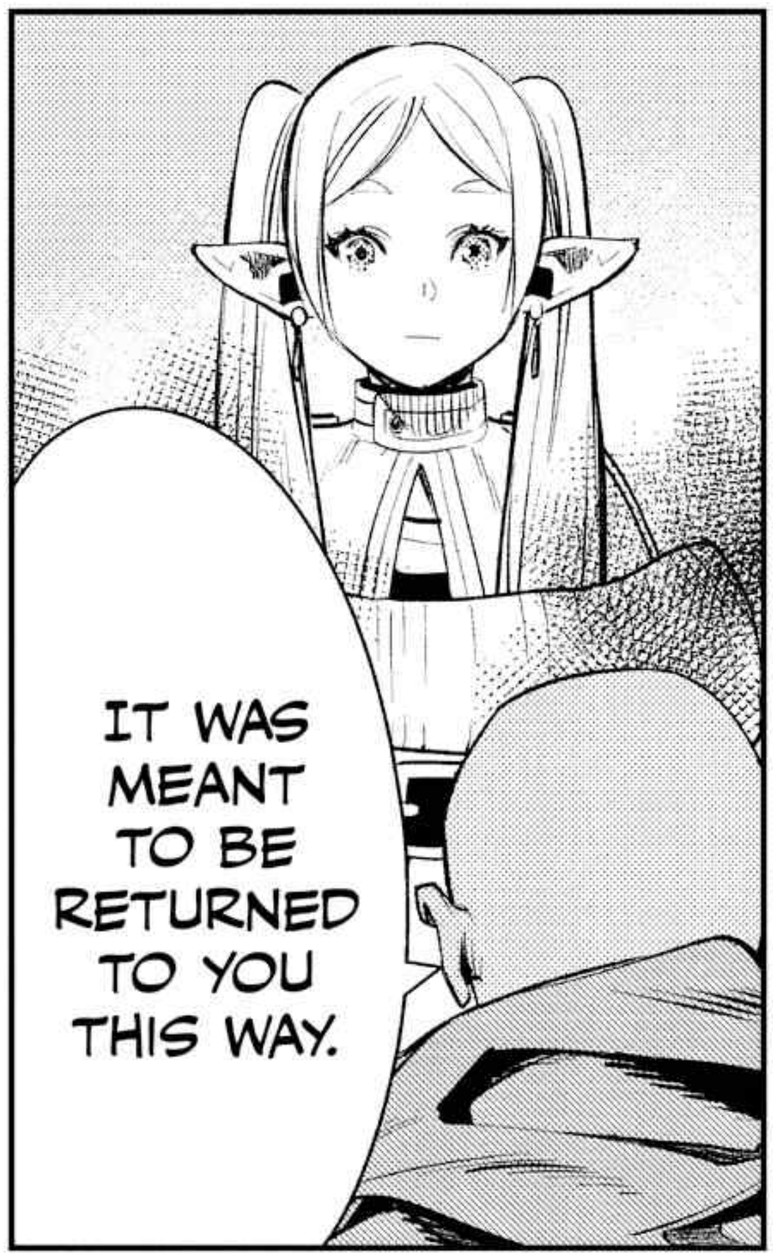
THE ERA METEOR SHOWER, YOU SAY? THAT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES.



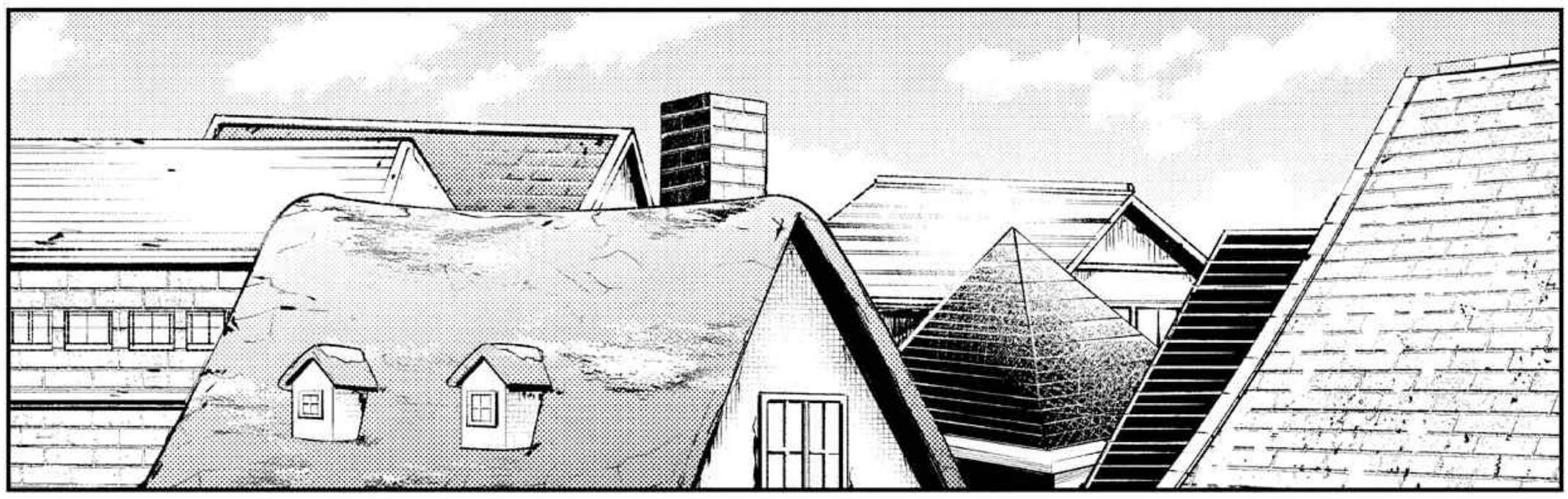




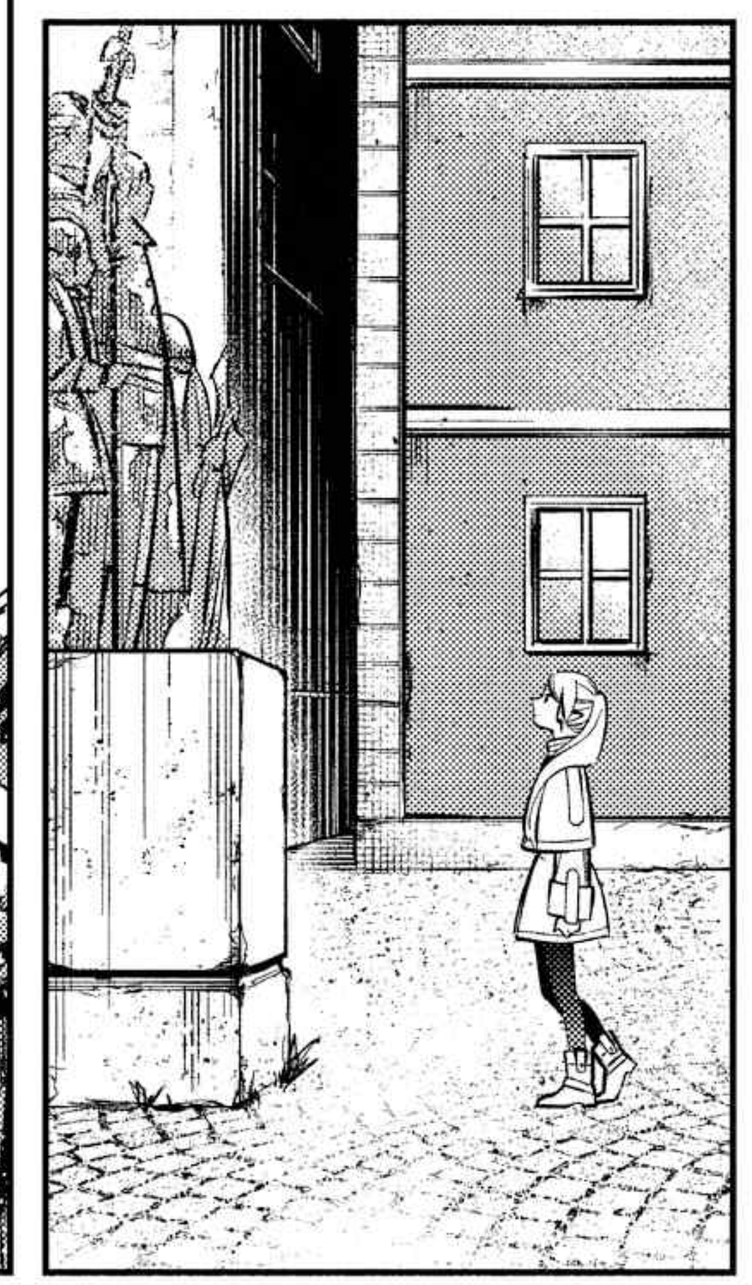


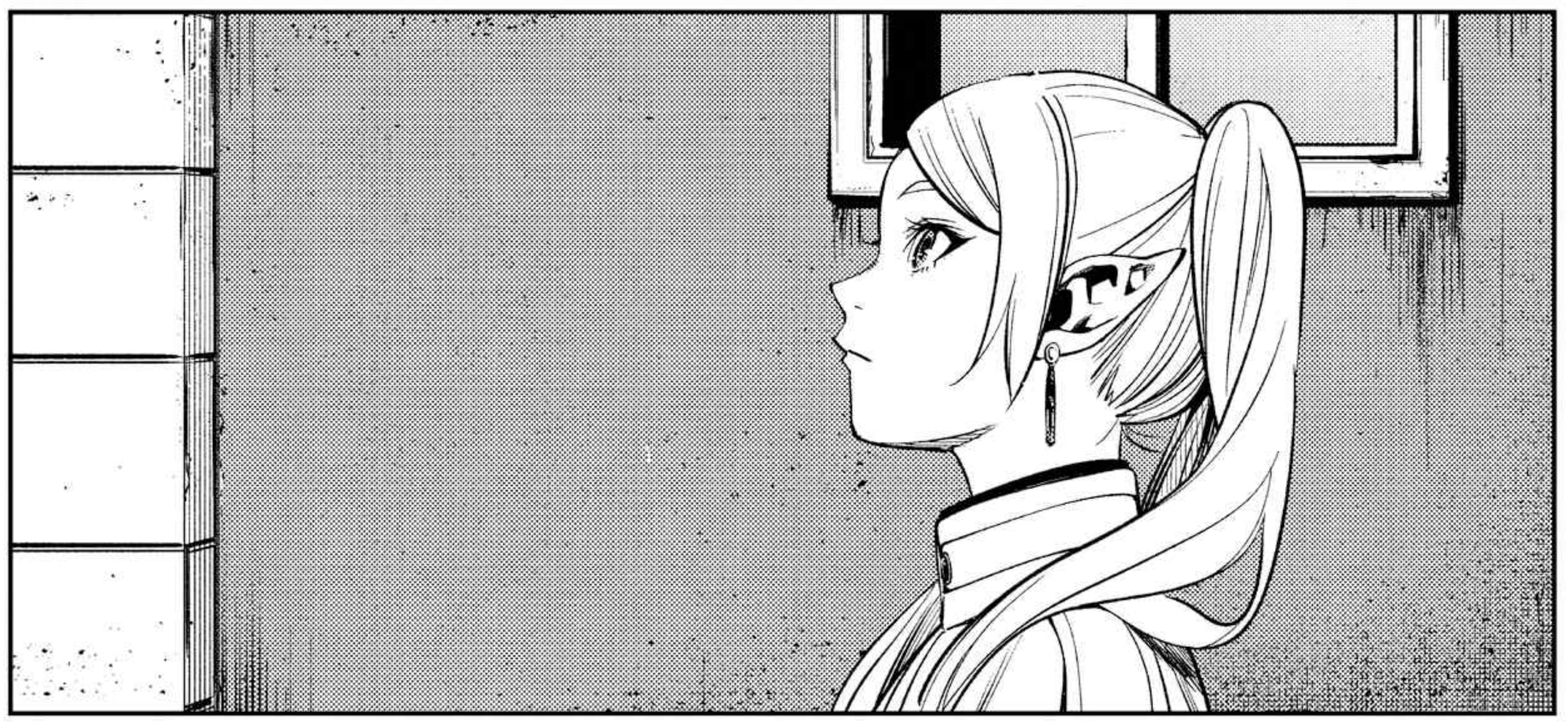

IT WAS MEANT TO BE RETURNED TO YOU THIS WAY.

...YOU ARE MY DEAR FRIEND, AND YOU ENTRUSTED THIS IMPORTANT THING TO ME.
YOU MIGHT HAVE LEFT IT WITH ME WITHOUT GIVING IT MUCH THOUGHT, BUT...



HE SURE IS MAKING A BIG DEAL OUT OF IT...

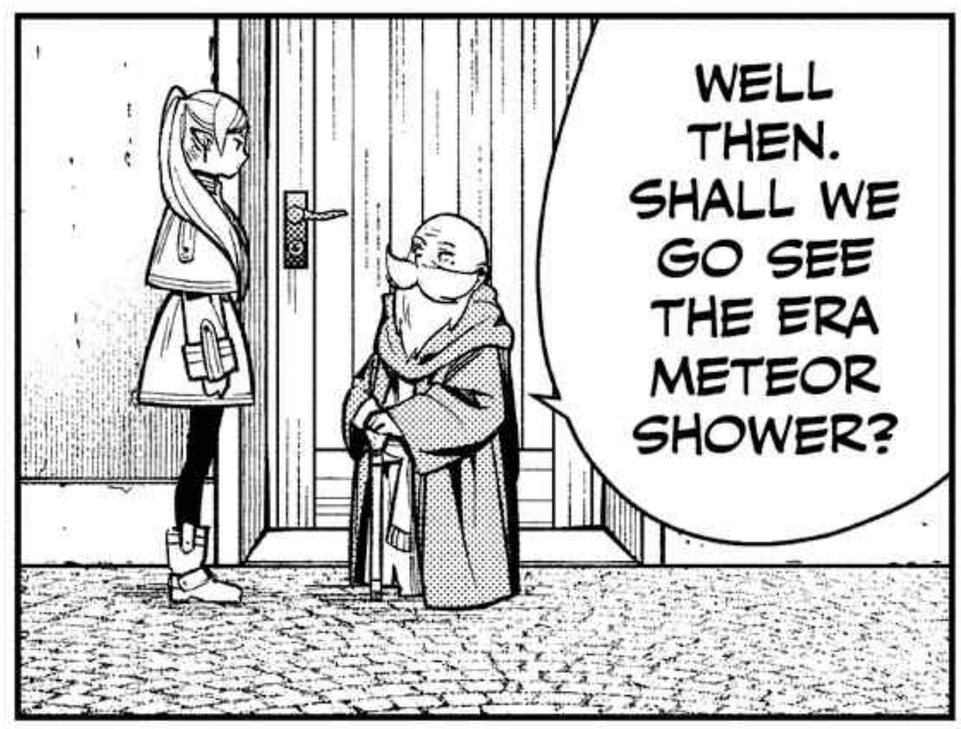


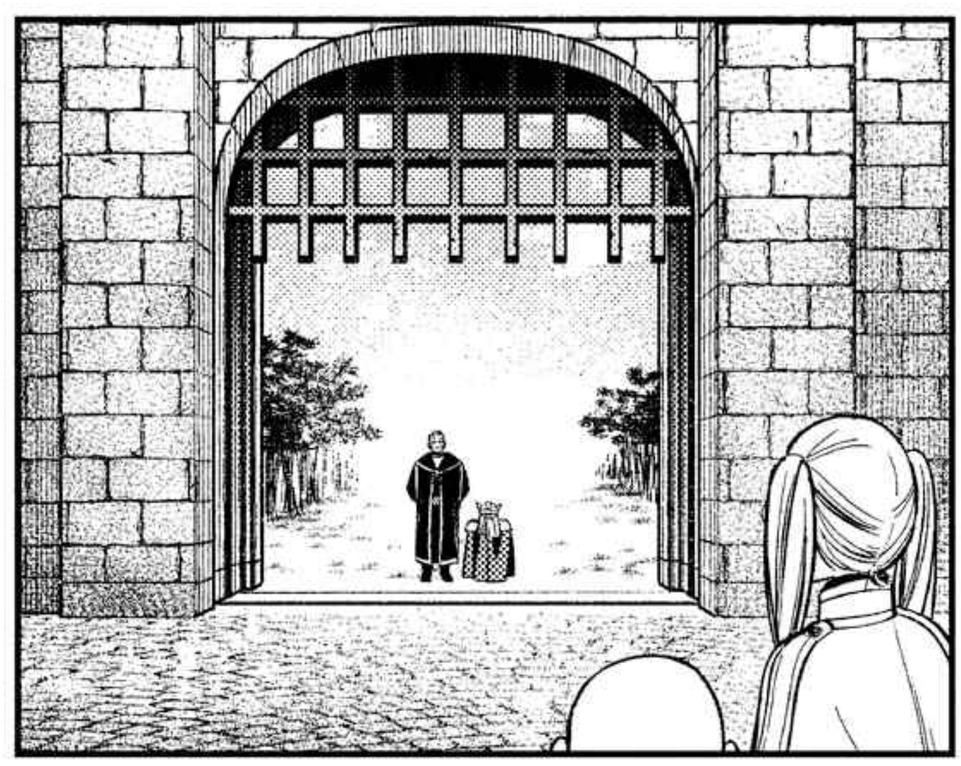


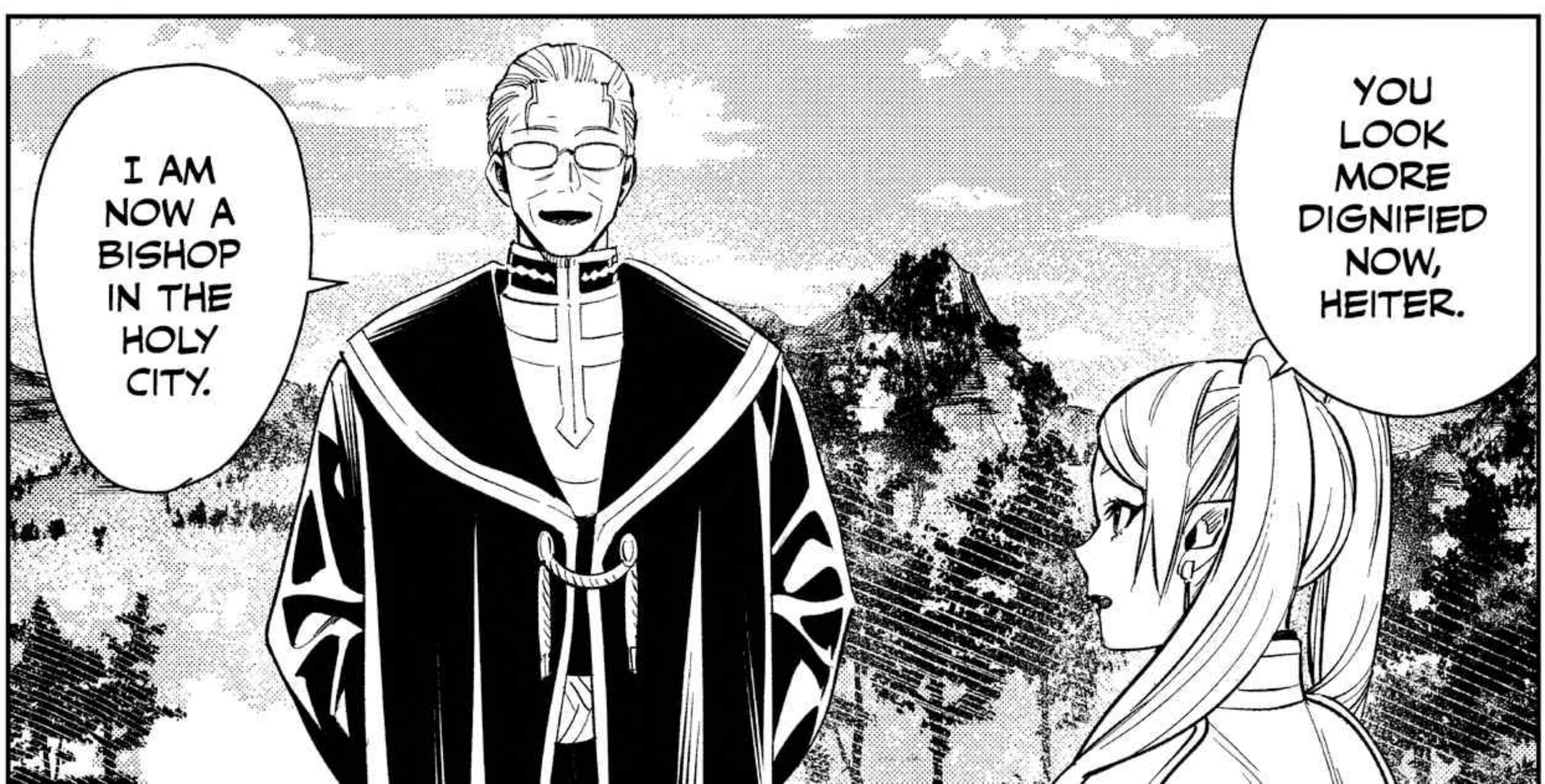
YOU'RE BALD NOW. YOU HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO STYLE.

THERE'S A LOT YOU CAN DO EVEN WHEN YOU'RE BALD.

ARE YOU DONE YET, HIMMEL?







YOU HAVEN'T REALLY CHANGED, EISEN.

You're a dwarf, after all.

HUH.

I DIDN'T THINK I LOOKED THE SAME.

YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT.

Ha ha ha.

PAT PAT

DON'T PAT MY HEAD.

SO, WHERE'S THIS PLACE YOU MENTIONED?

ARE WE LEAVING NOW?

I BELIEVE IT'S A LITTLE EARLY FOR THE ERA METEOR SHOWER...

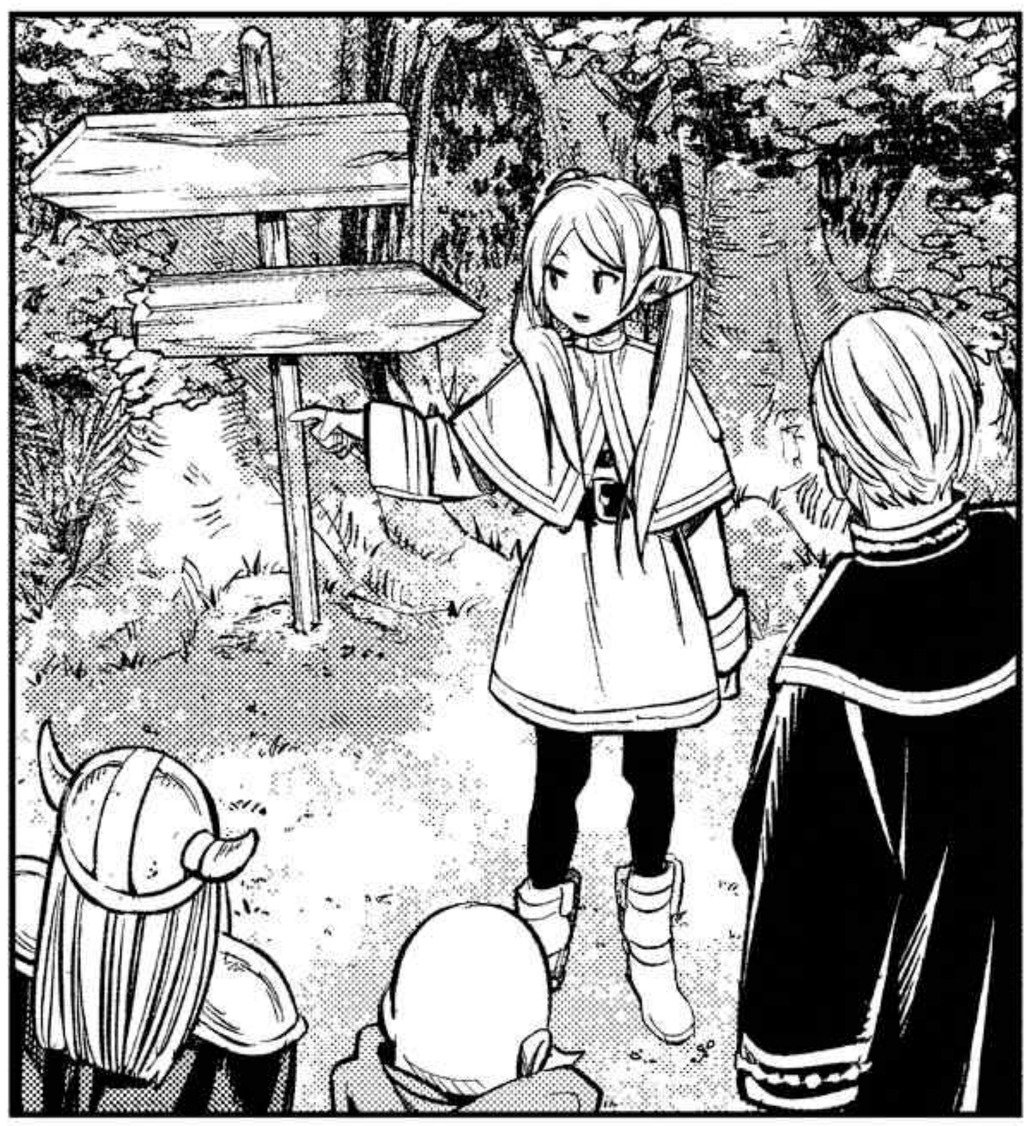
YEAH.

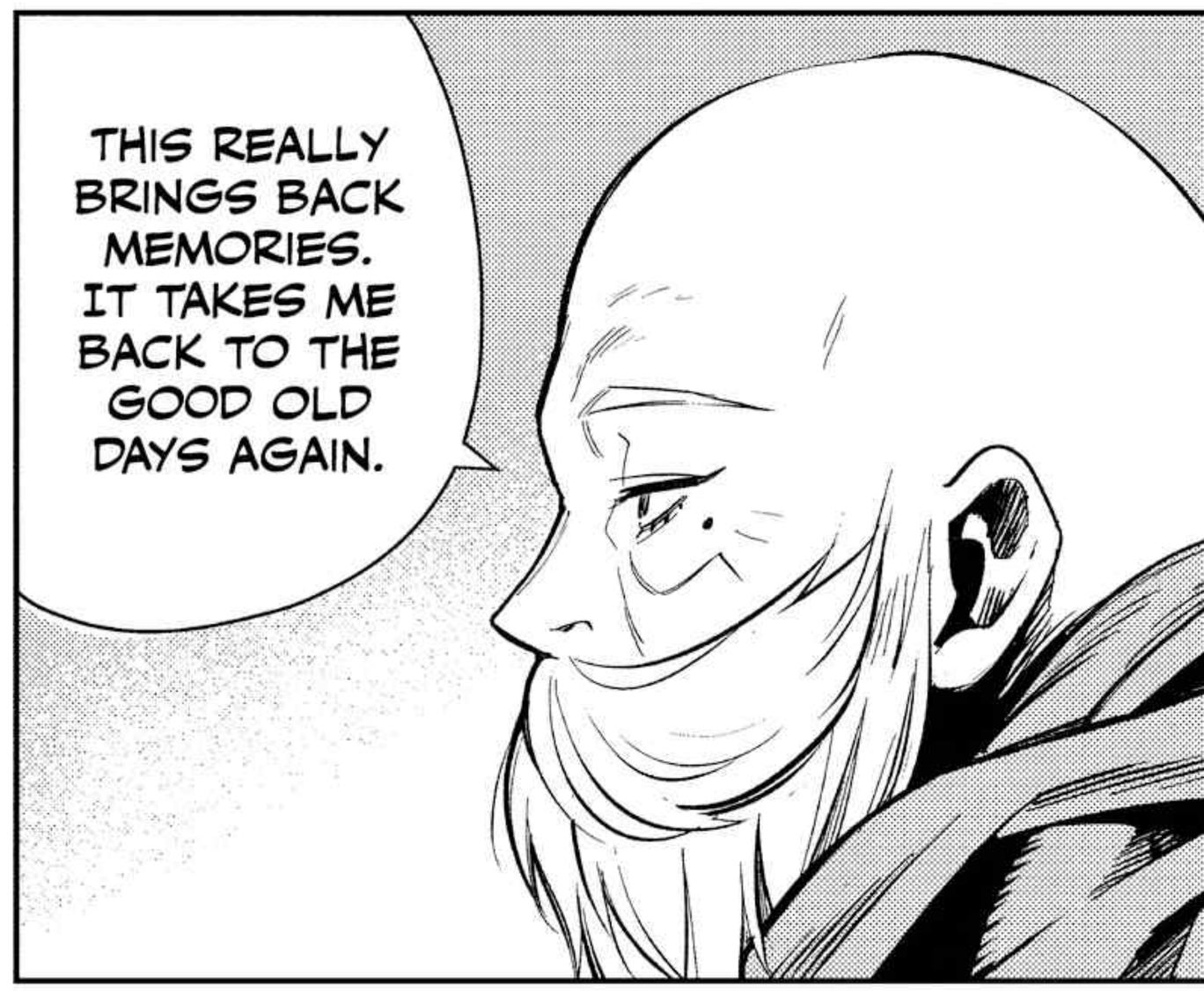
IT'LL TAKE ABOUT A WEEK FROM HERE ON FOOT...

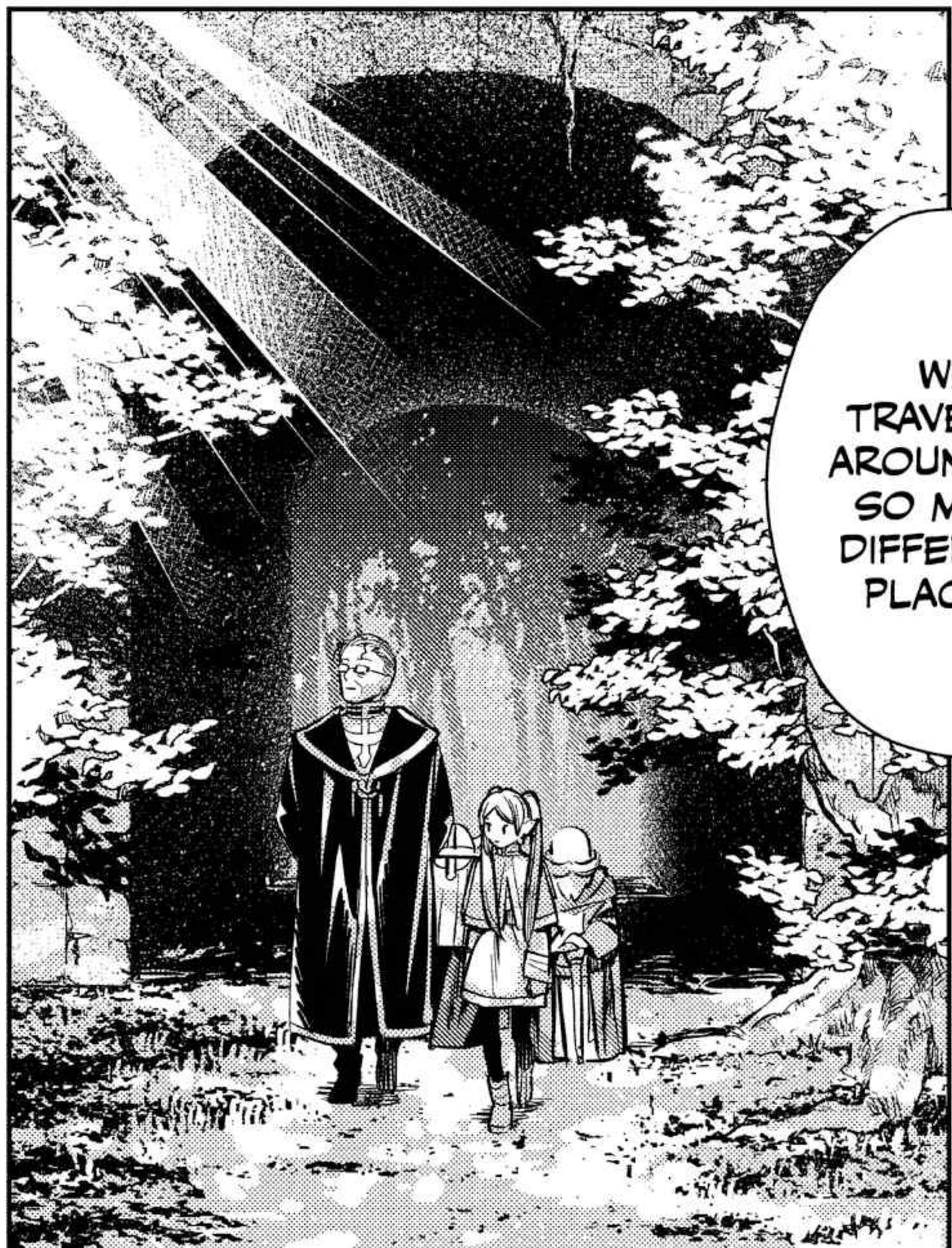
IT'S THAT FAR?

GEE...

YOU'RE PRETTY HARD ON THE ELDERLY.




THIS REALLY BRINGS BACK MEMORIES. IT TAKES ME BACK TO THE GOOD OLD DAYS AGAIN.


WE TRAVELED AROUND TO SO MANY DIFFERENT PLACES.

EVERYTHING WAS SHINING LIKE NEW.

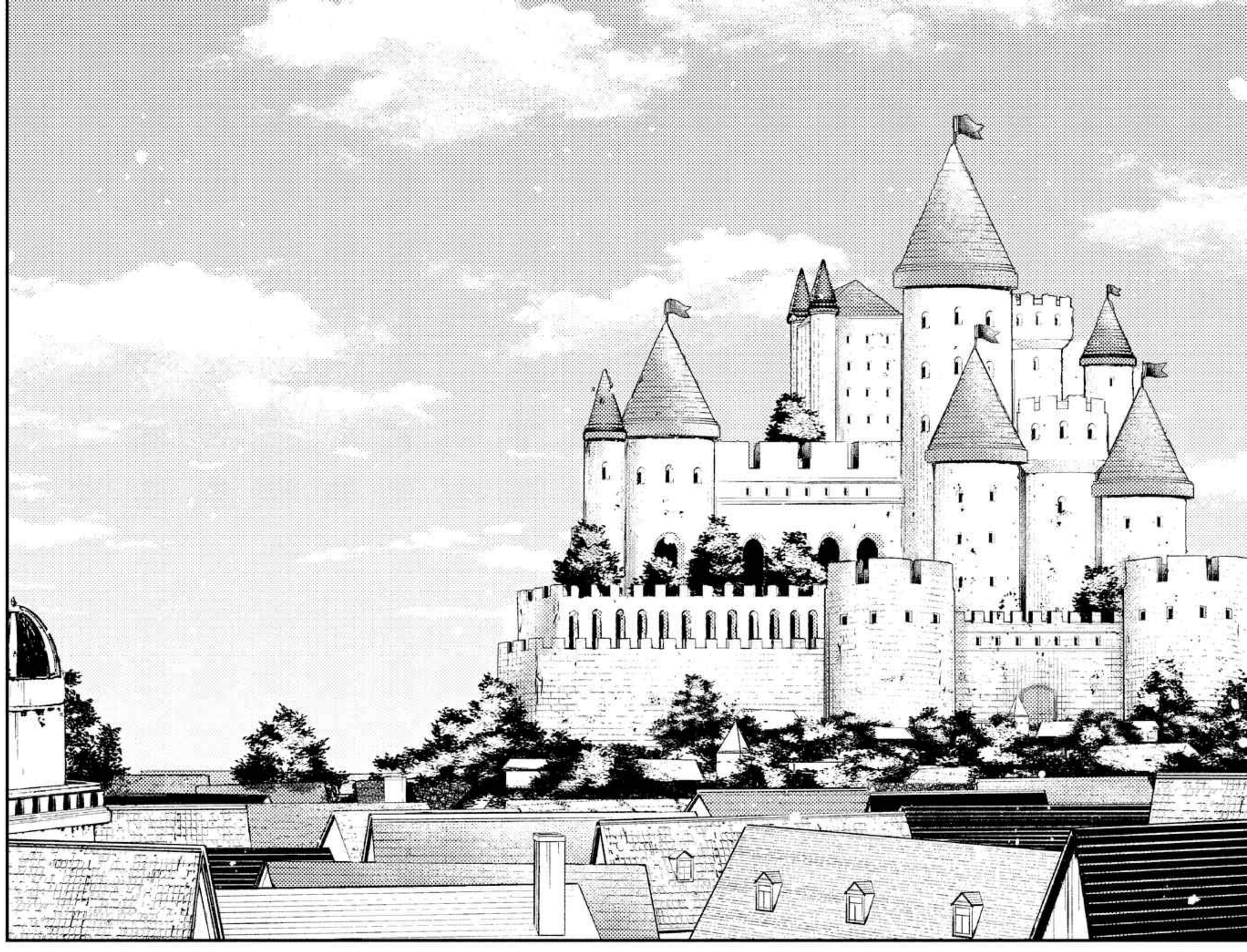
IN EACH OF THOSE BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES, YOU ARE ALL THERE, MY FRIENDS.

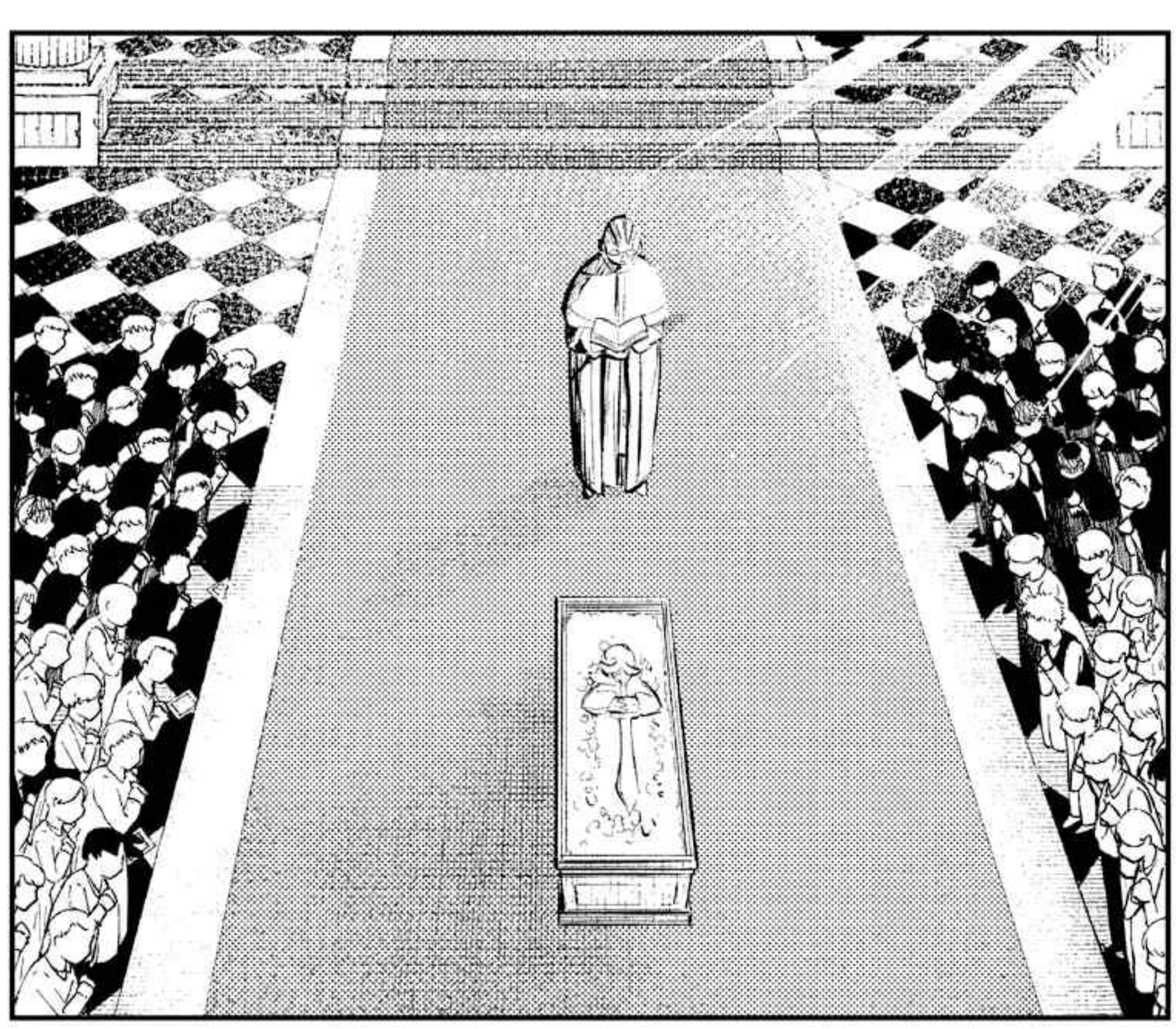
THANK YOU, FRIEREN...

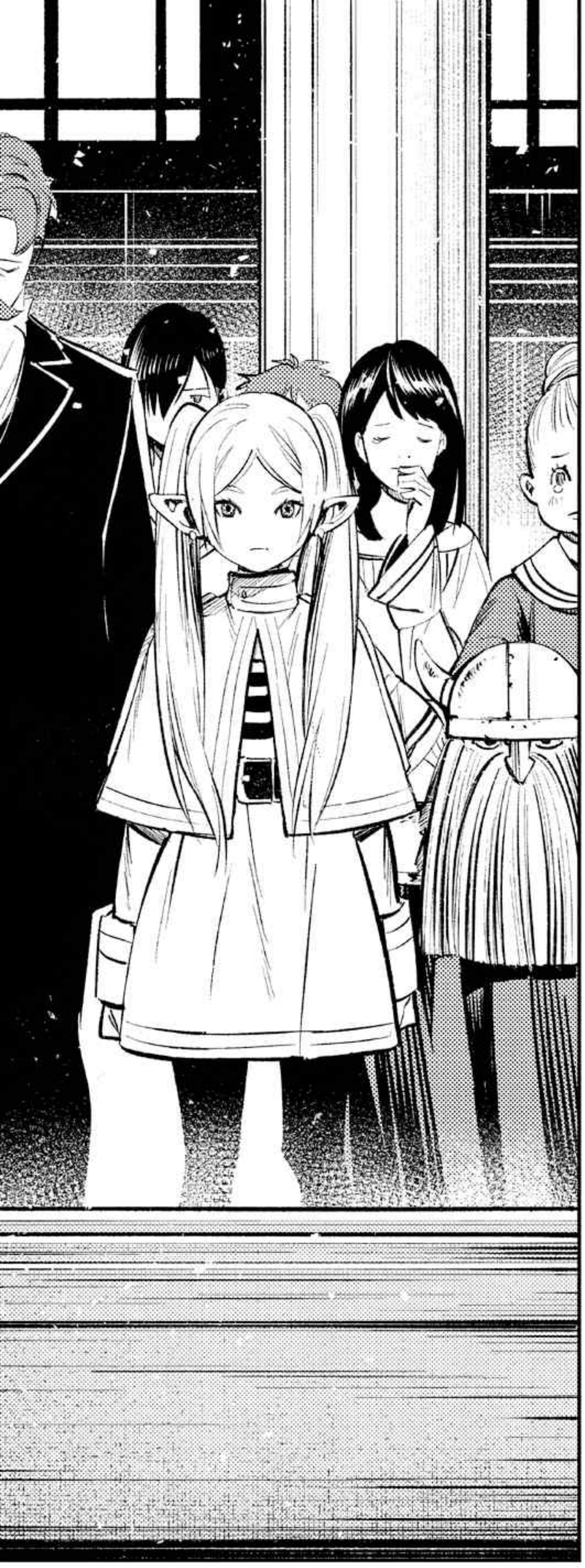
FOR GIVING ME THIS VERY EXCITING JOURNEY WITH YOU ONE LAST TIME.

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS DAY, WHEN WE WOULD ALL GATHER AGAIN.

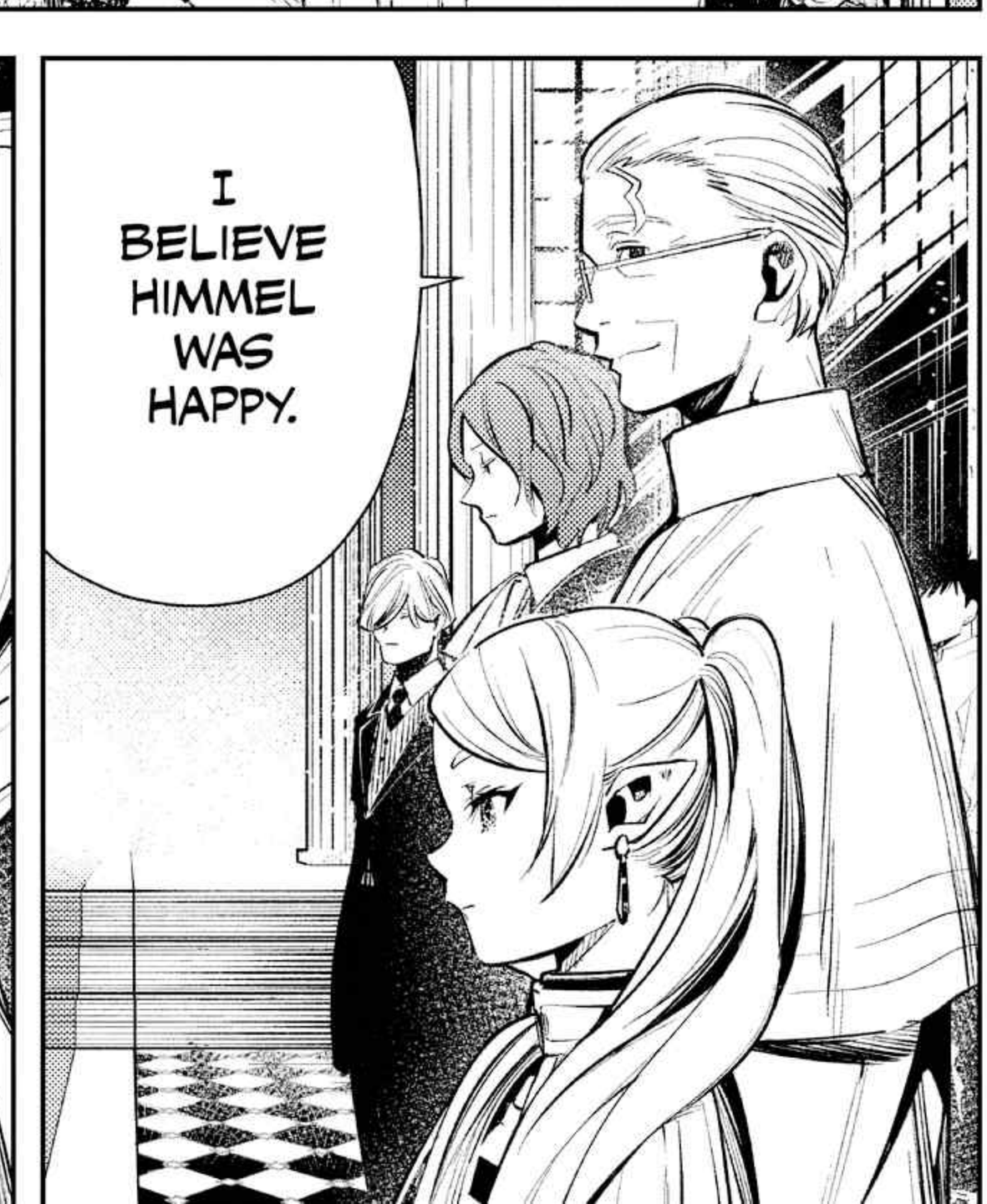
IT'S BEAUTIFUL.

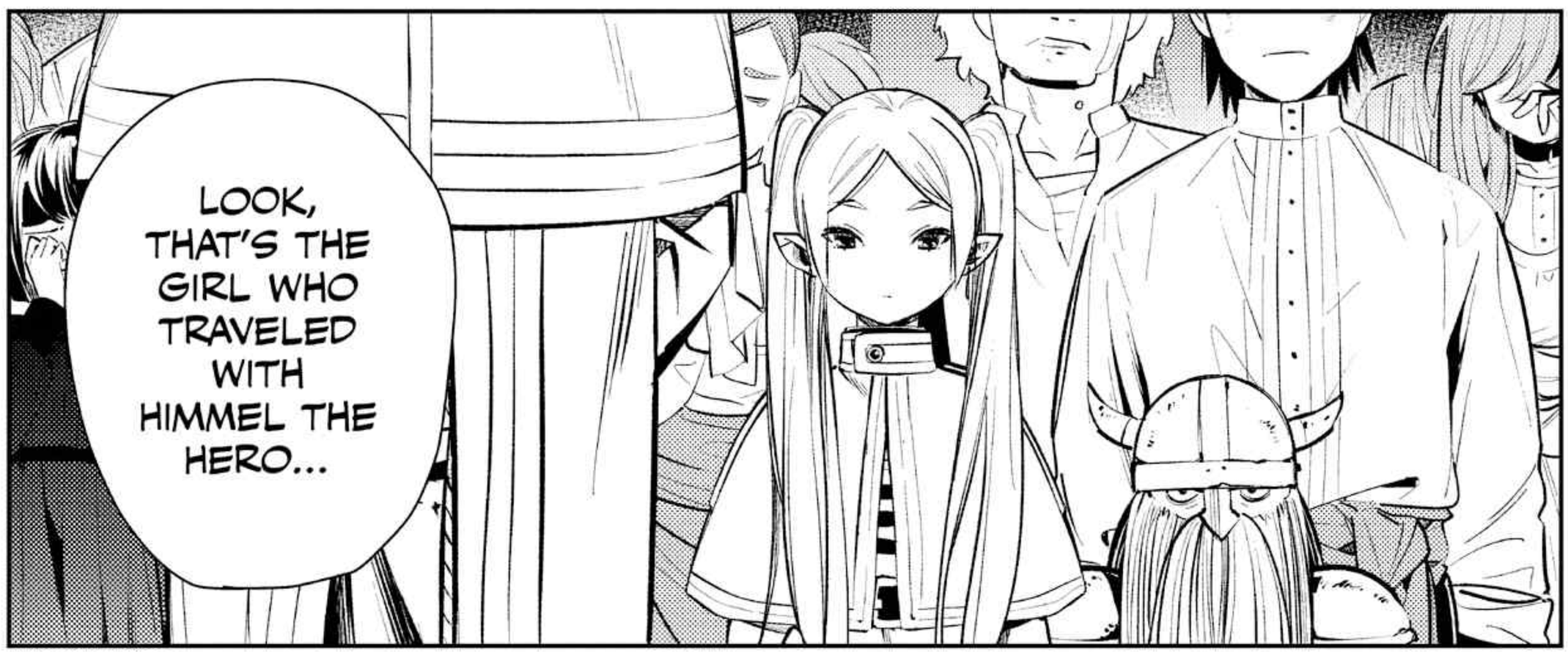


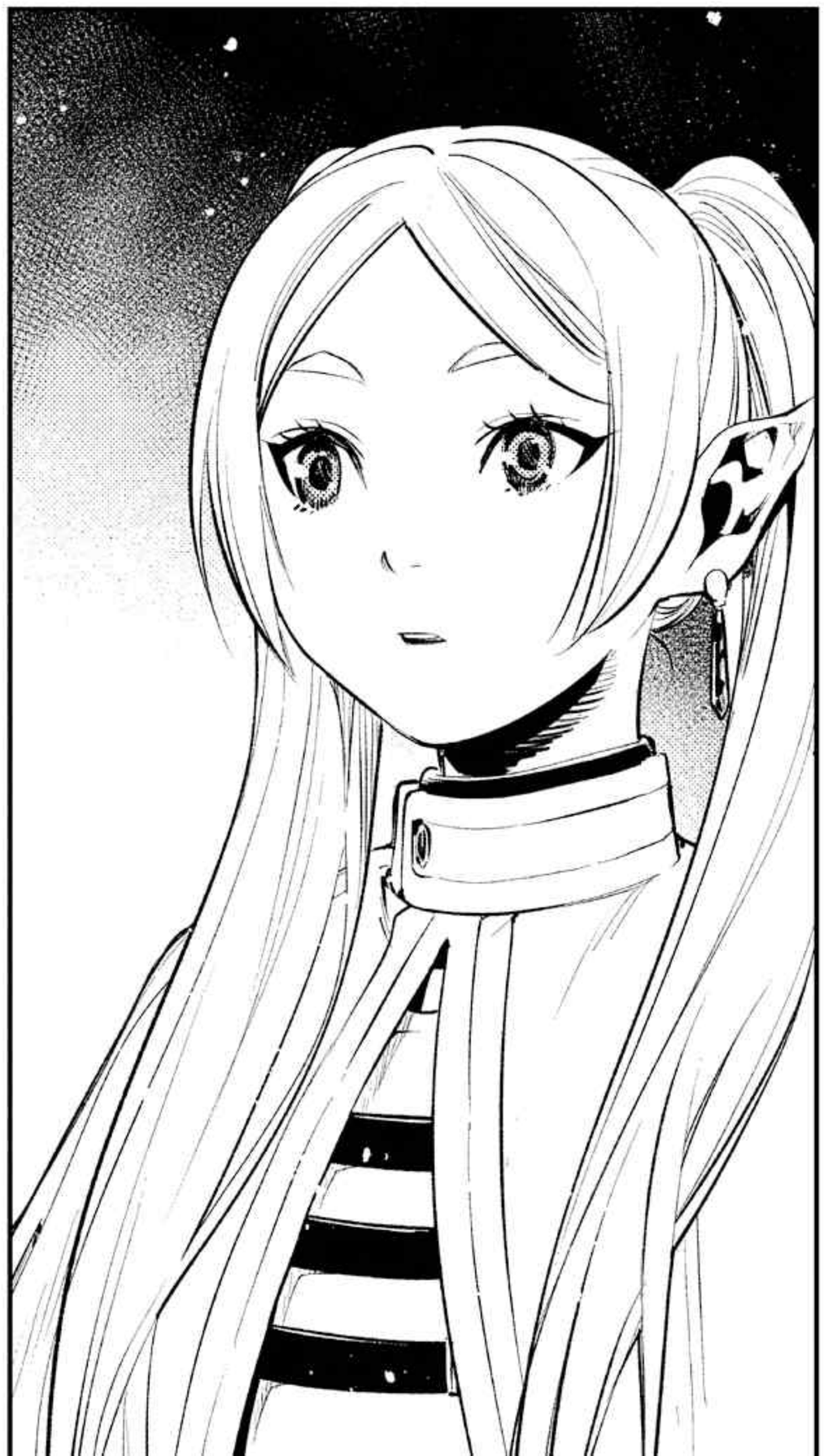




I'M NOT SO SURE...

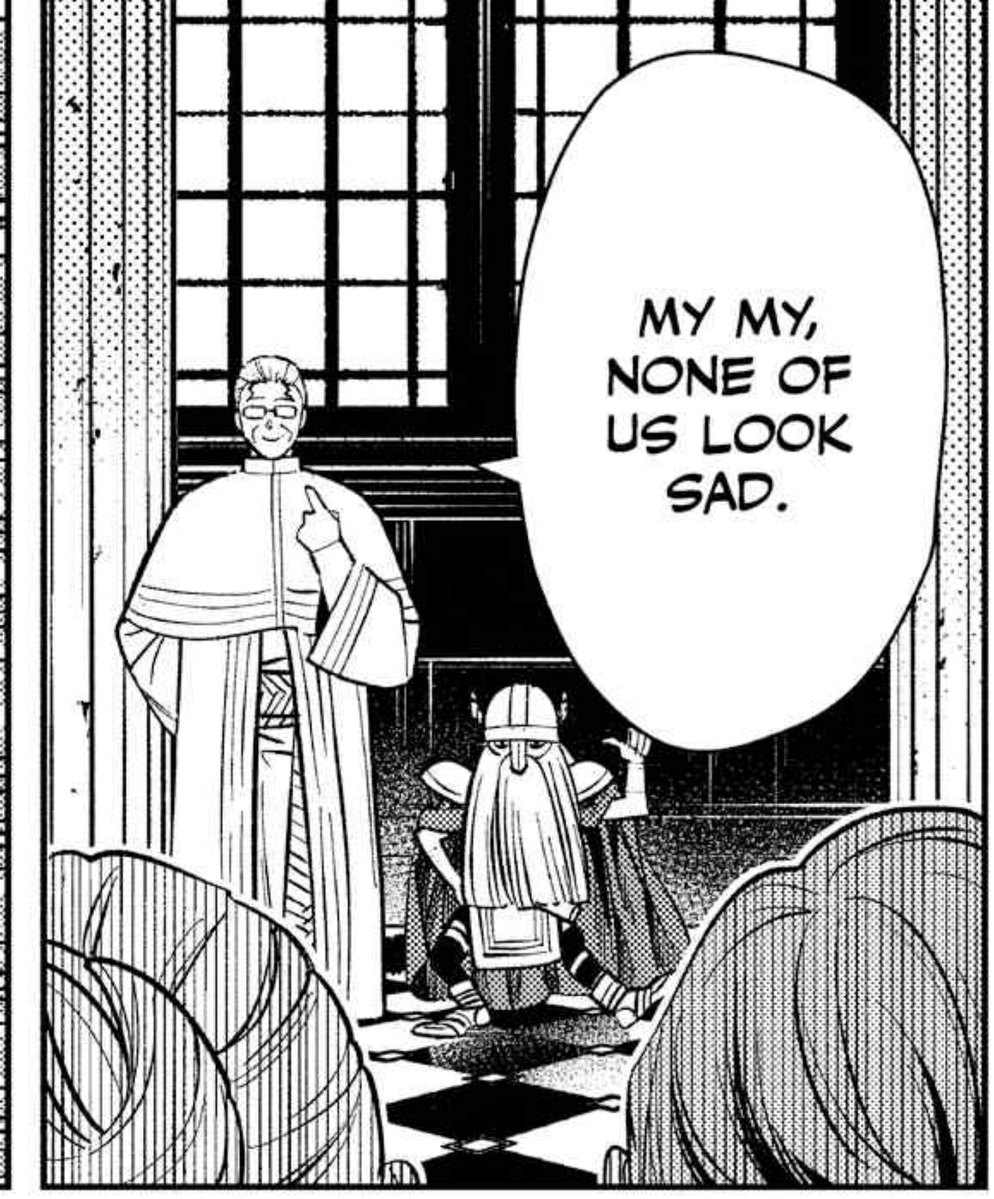

I BELIEVE HIMMEL WAS HAPPY.

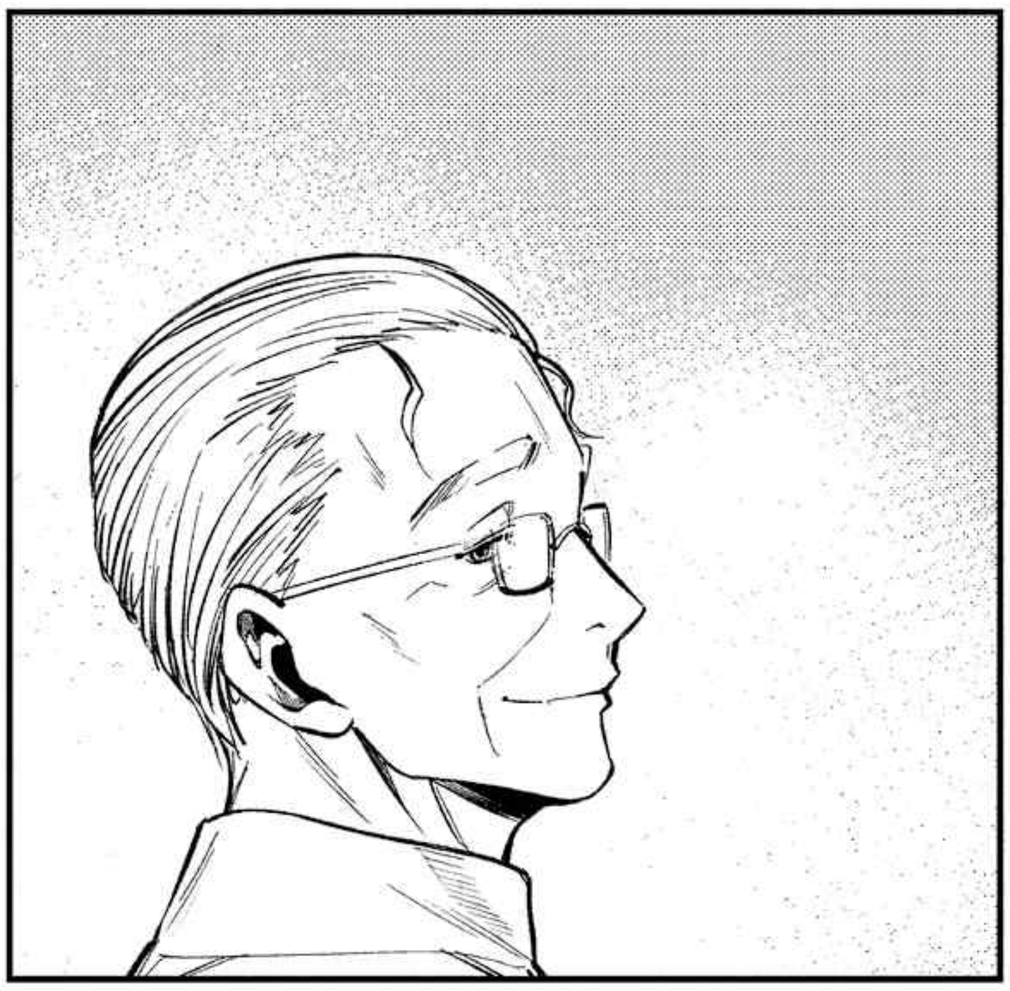

LOOK, THAT'S THE GIRL WHO TRAVELED WITH HIMMEL THE HERO...



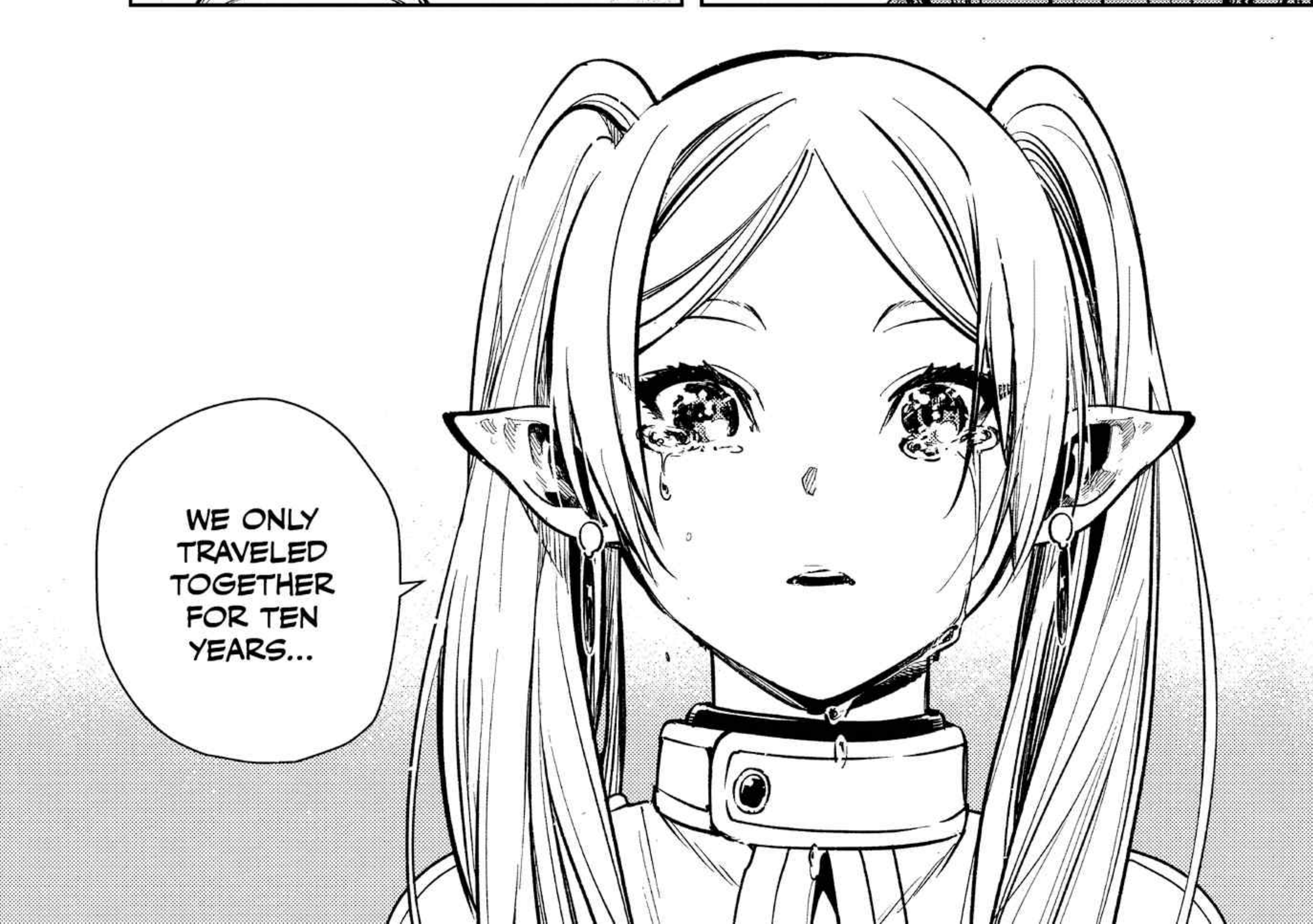
SHE DOESN'T EVEN LOOK SAD.
SO COLD-HEARTED.

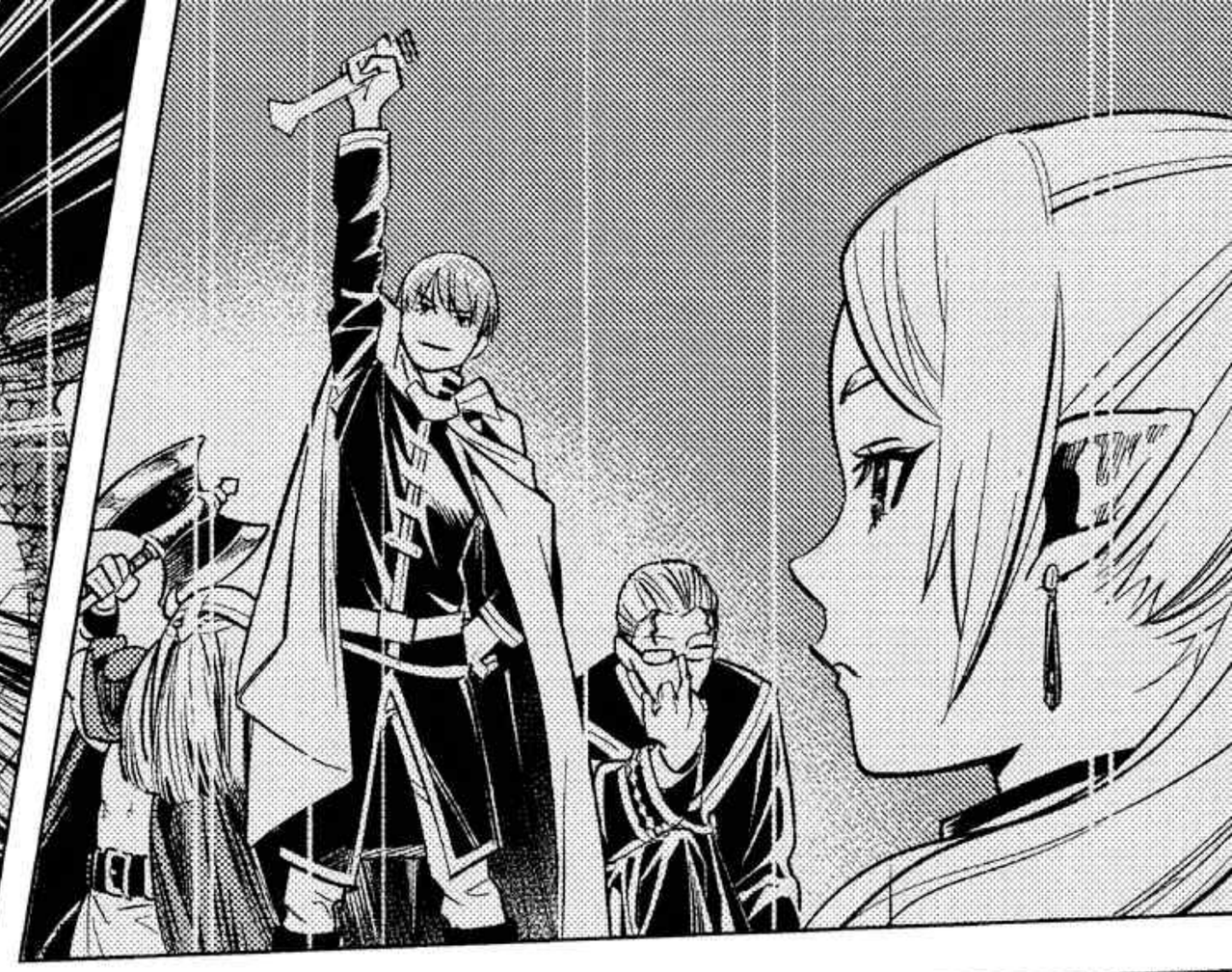
HA HA HA. YOU PEOPLE SURE DON'T GO EASY ON ME!
AREN'T YOU THE BISHOP? ACT LIKE ONE!
CLANG
YOU HEART-LESS MAN!

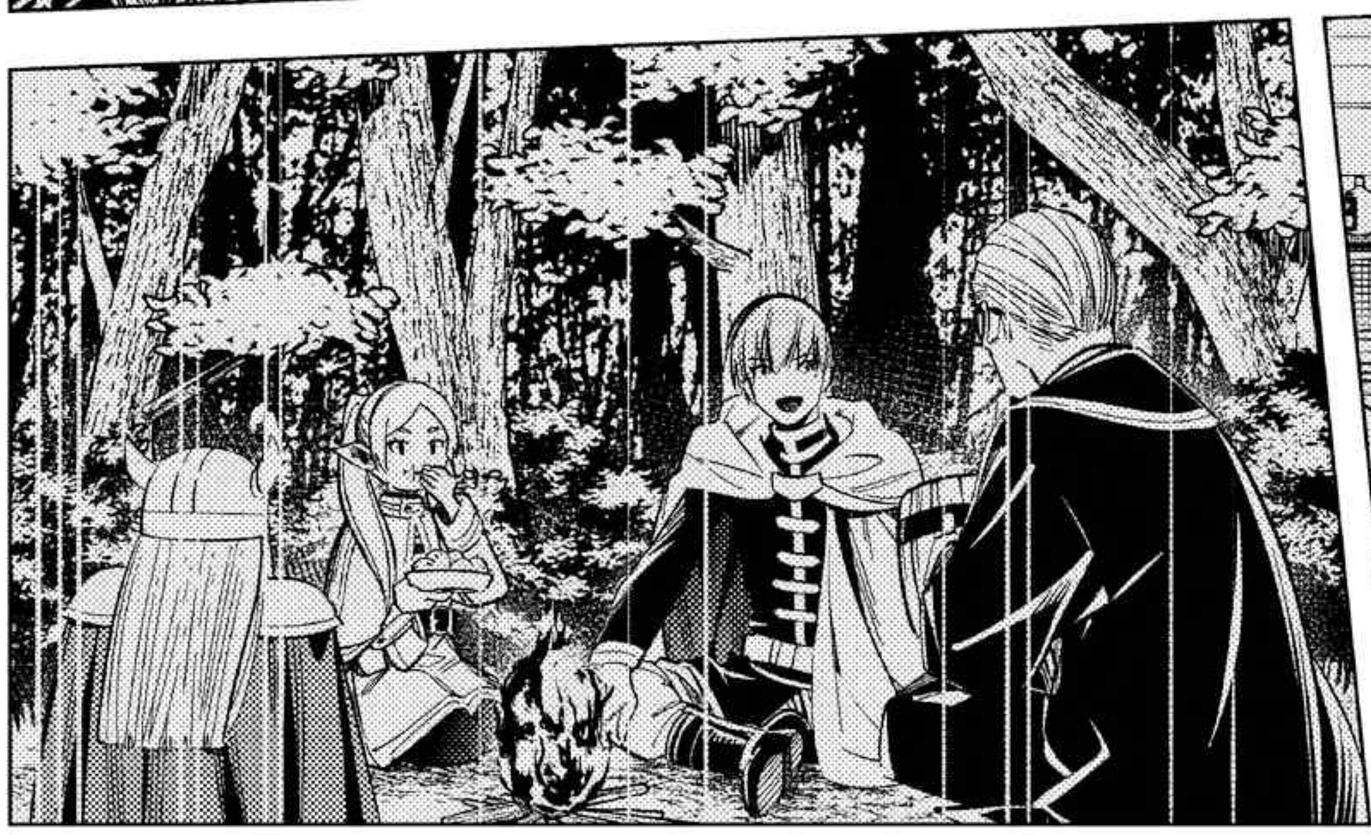

MY MY, NONE OF US LOOK SAD.

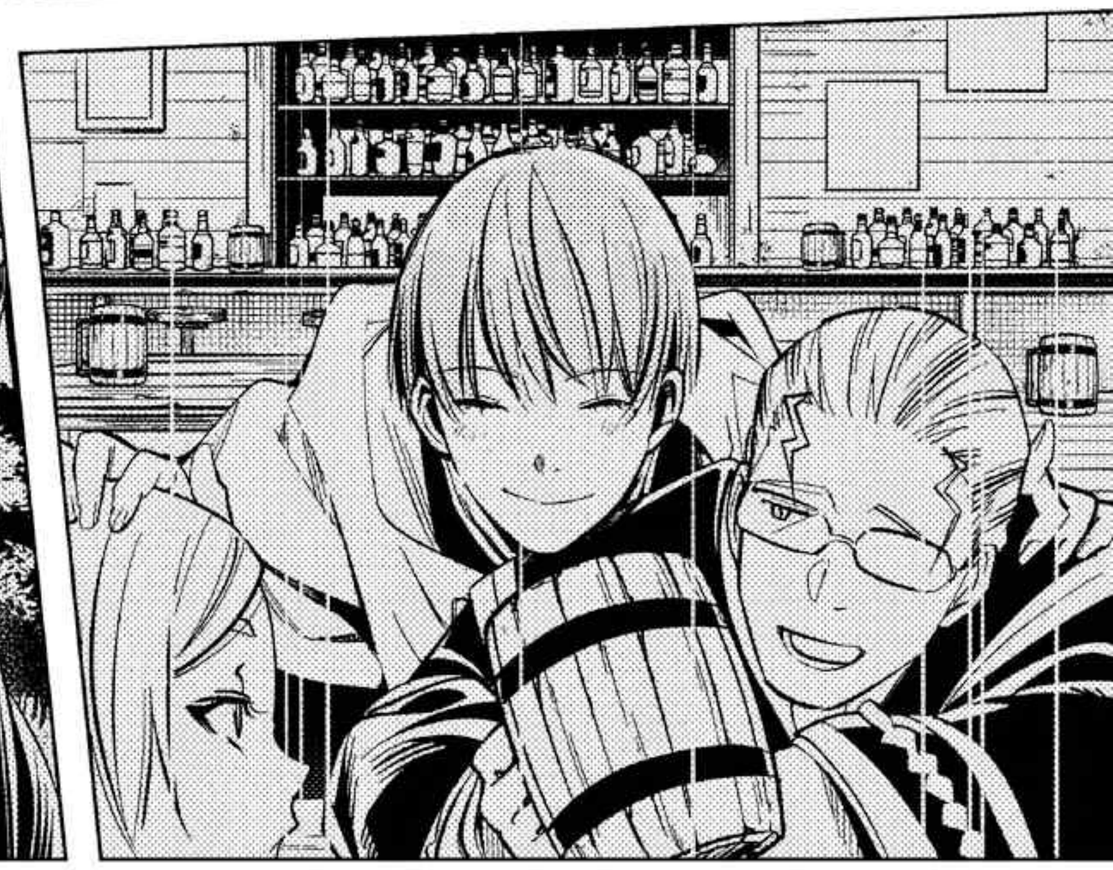


I...I HARDLY KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM...


WE ONLY TRAVELED TOGETHER FOR TEN YEARS...

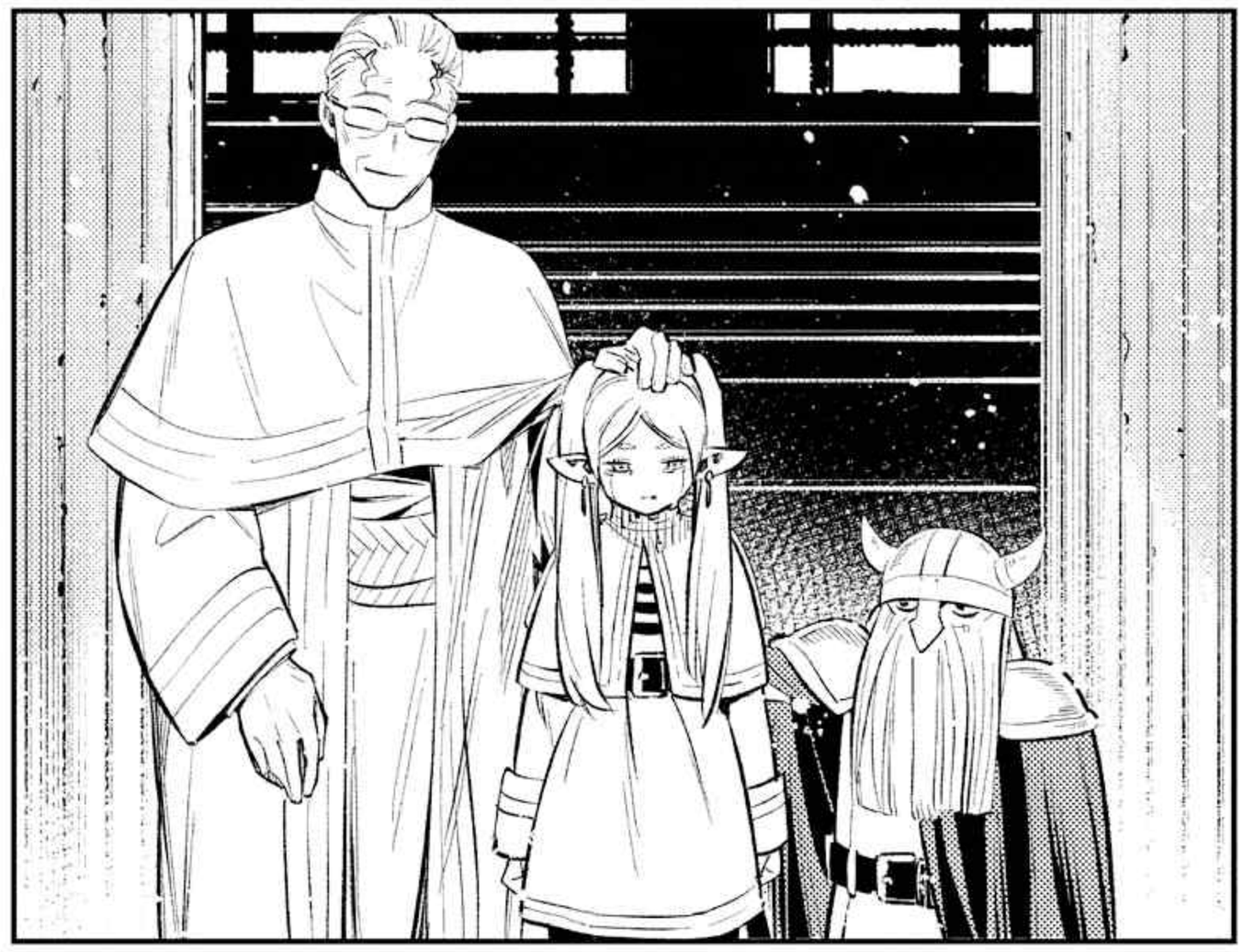






WHY DIDN'T I TRY TO GET TO KNOW HIM BETTER?
I KNEW HUMAN LIVES WERE SHORT...

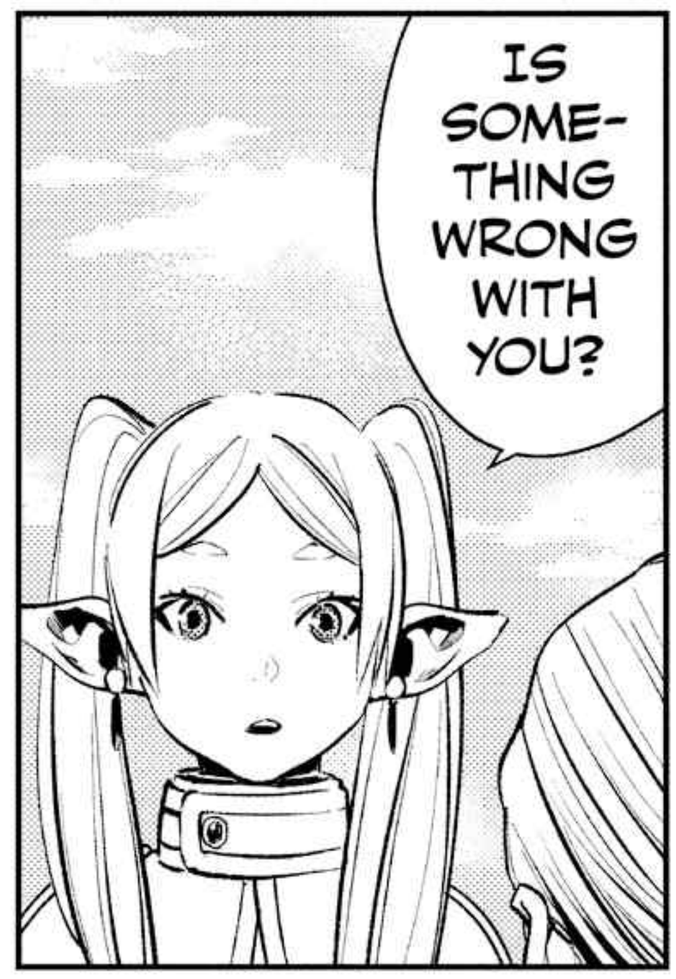
DON'T PAT MY HEAD...



YOU TWO, LET ME HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR FACES MORE CLOSELY.
THIS WILL PROBABLY BE THE LAST TIME.

WELL THEN. I'LL GO BACK TO THE HOLY CITY.

HA HA HA.
ALL THAT DRINKING OVER THE YEARS IS CATCHING UP TO ME.
THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL DIVINE PUNISH-MENT.


IS SOME-THING WRONG WITH YOU?

ARE YOU NOT AFRAID OF DYING, HEITER?

IF YOU HAPPEN TO VISIT THE HOLY CITY...

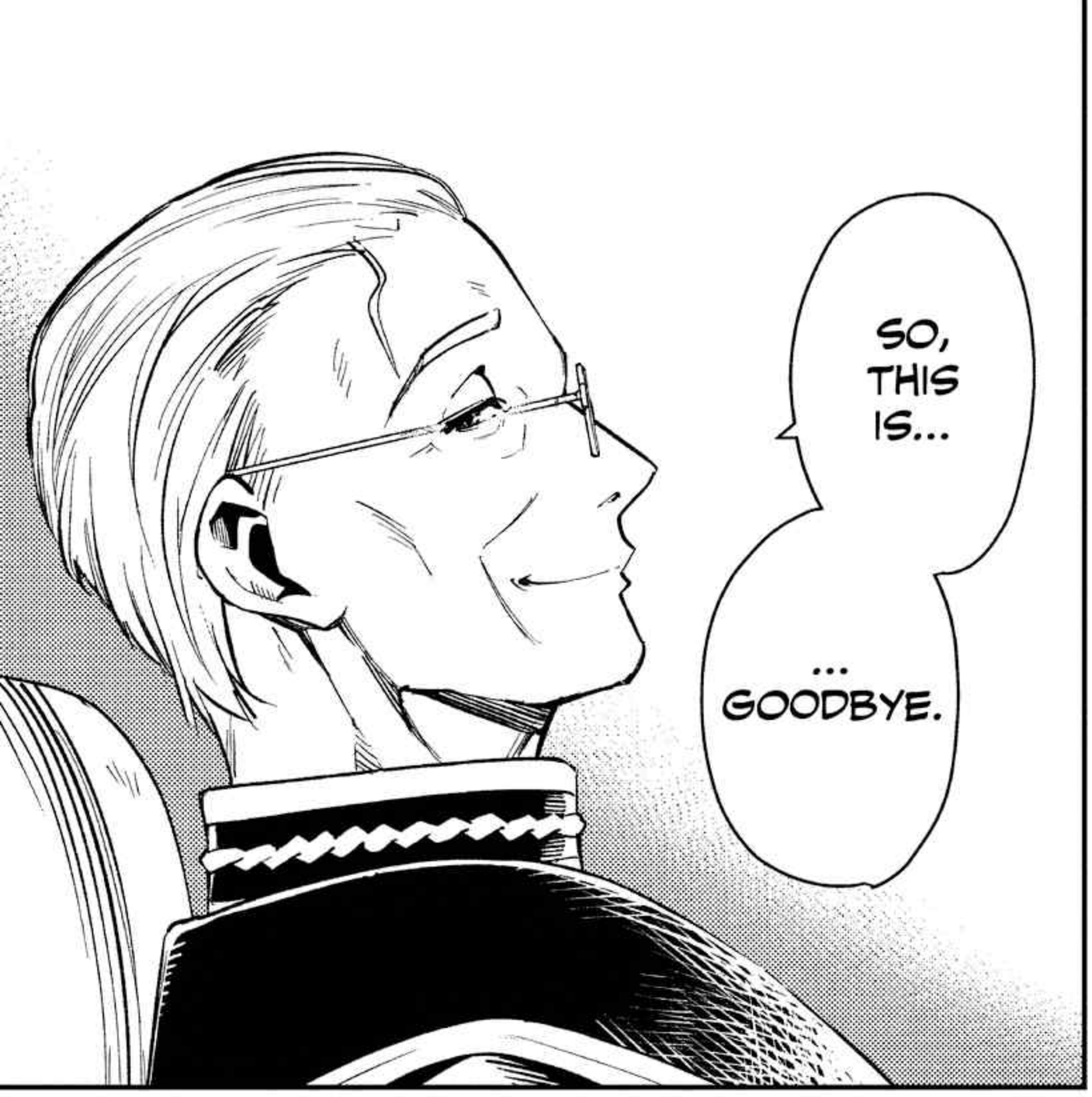
...LEAVE SOME BOTTLES AT MY GRAVE.

THAT'S THE WHOLE REASON...

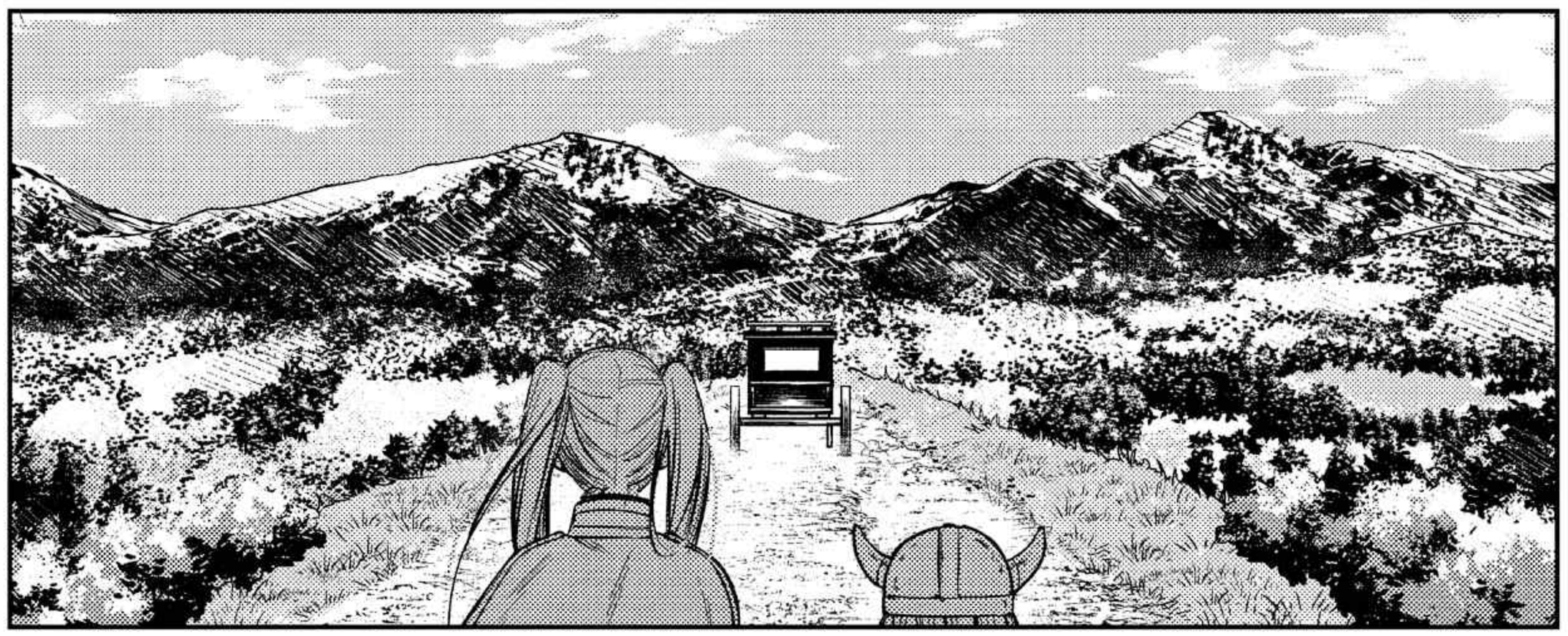
...I FOUGHT ALONGSIDE YOU.

WE ARE THE PARTY OF HEROES THAT SAVED THE WORLD.

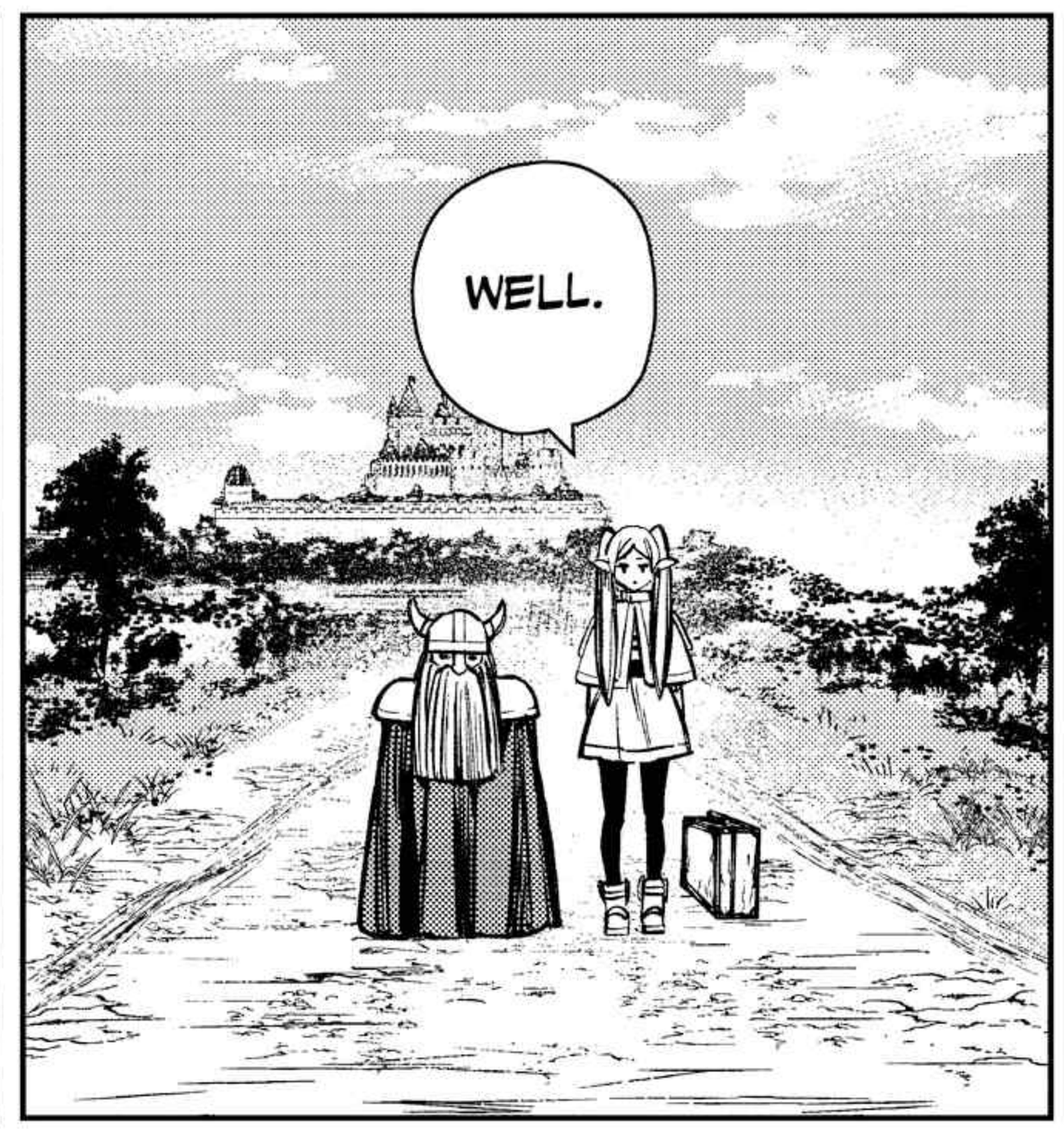
I KNOW WE'LL LIVE IN LUXURY IN HEAVEN AFTER WE DIE.


SO, THIS IS...
... GOODBYE.

YOU CORRUPT PRIEST.
HA HA HA.



I'LL ALSO GET GOING.


WELL.

...I THINK I'D LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HUMANS.

OFF IN SEARCH OF MORE SPELLS?

YEAH, THAT TOO, BUT...

SINCE I'M A MAGE...

...IT'D BE GREAT TO HAVE A POWERFUL WARRIOR BY MY SIDE.

SO I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK.

I SEE.

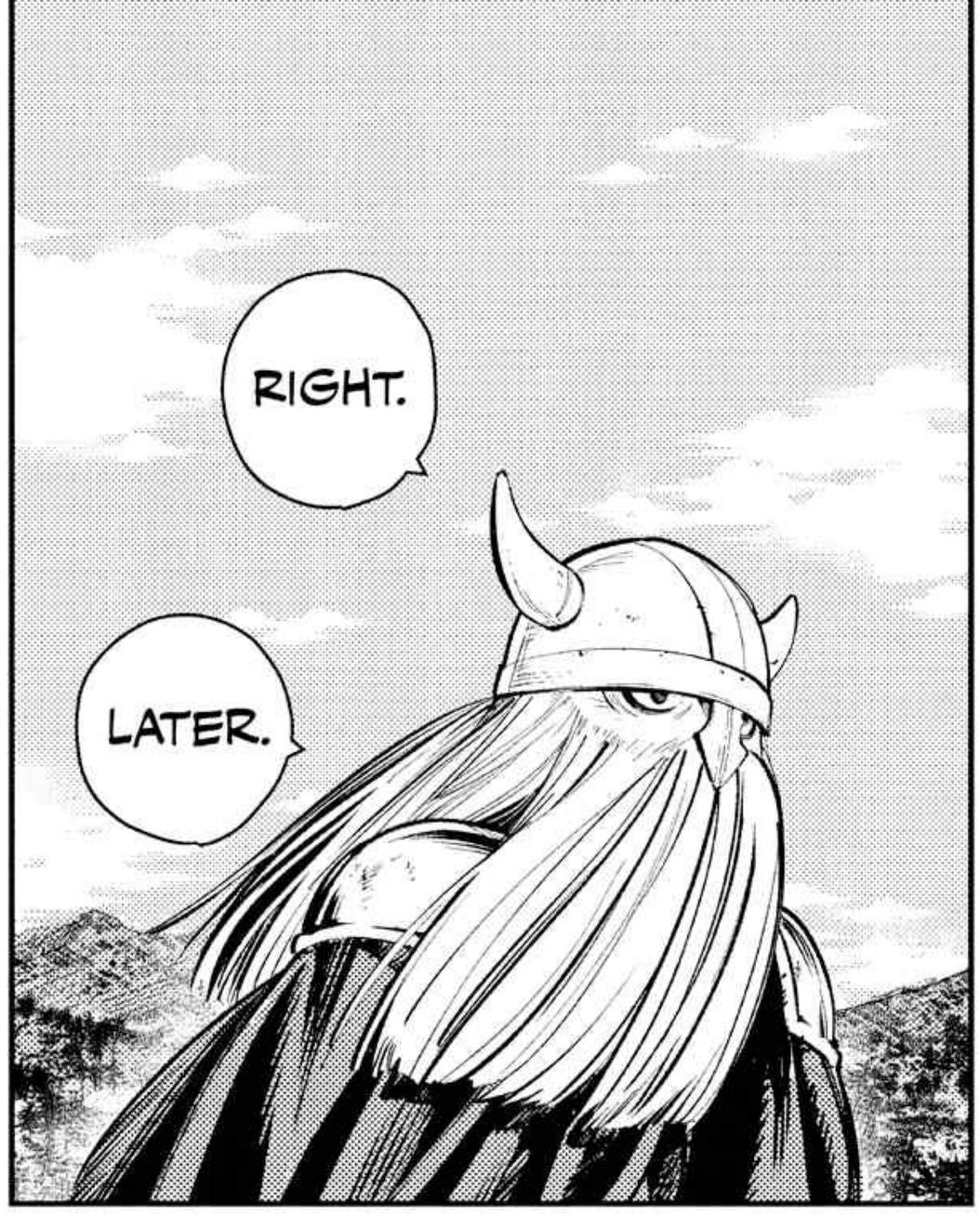
GIVE ME A BREAK.

I'M TOO OLD TO SWING AN AX NOW.

...GOT IT.

THIS MY BE A SURPRISE TO YOU, BUT LIFE GOES ON A LONG TIME EVEN AFTER YOU'VE BEEN IN YOUR PRIME.

DON'T GIVE ME THAT LOOK, FRIEREN.


RIGHT.
LATER.

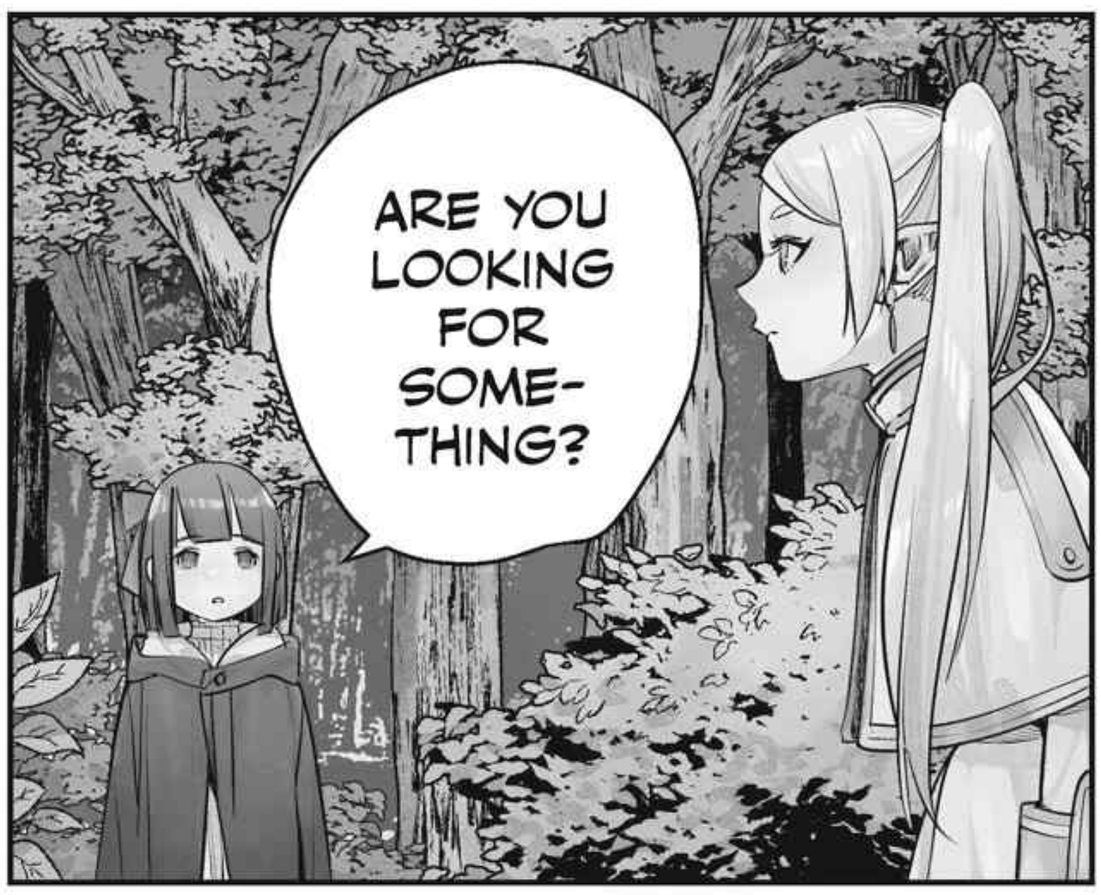
ALL RIGHT, SEE YOU LATER...
...EISEN.

Chapter 2: The Priest's Lie

CENTRAL LANDS

THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE HOLY CITY OF STRAHL

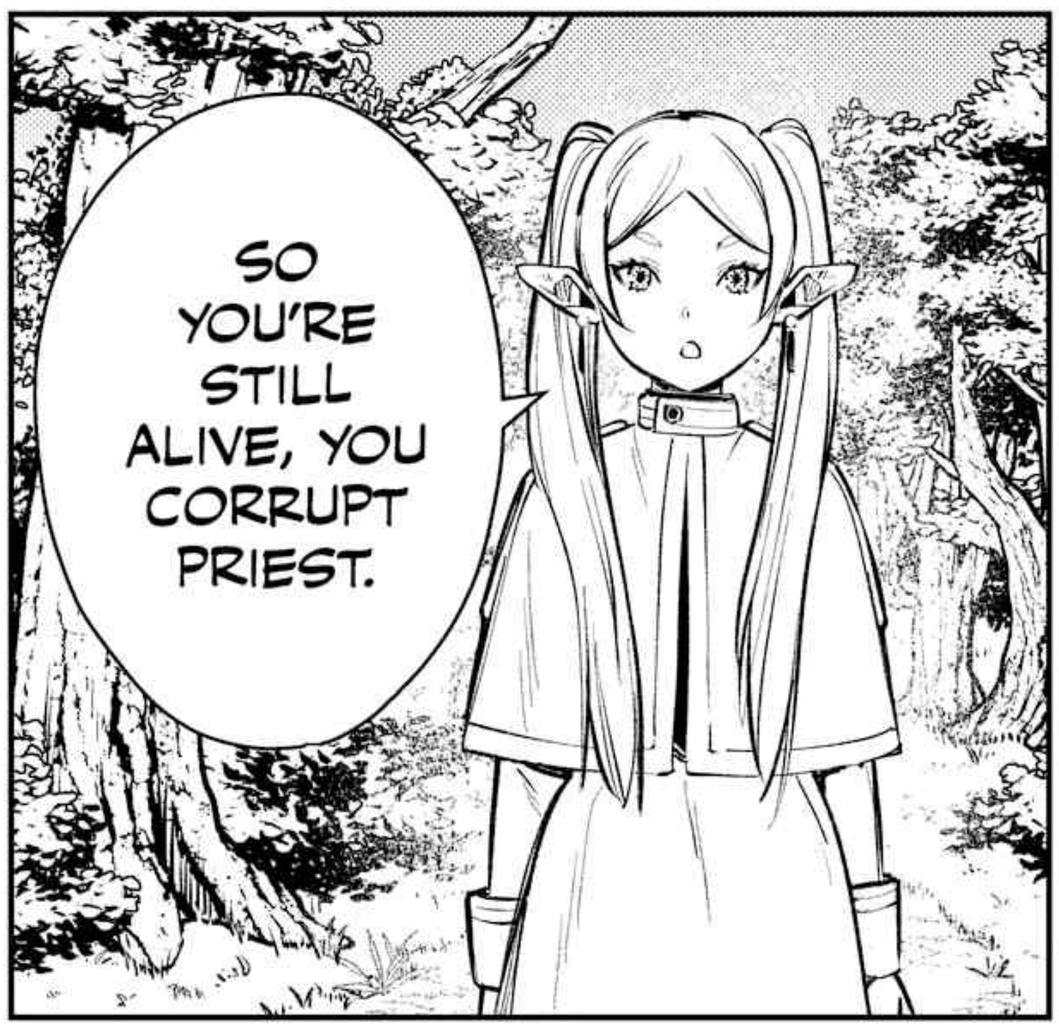
TWENTY YEARS AFTER THE DEATH OF THE HIMMEL THE HERO



THEN YOU ARE OUR GUEST.

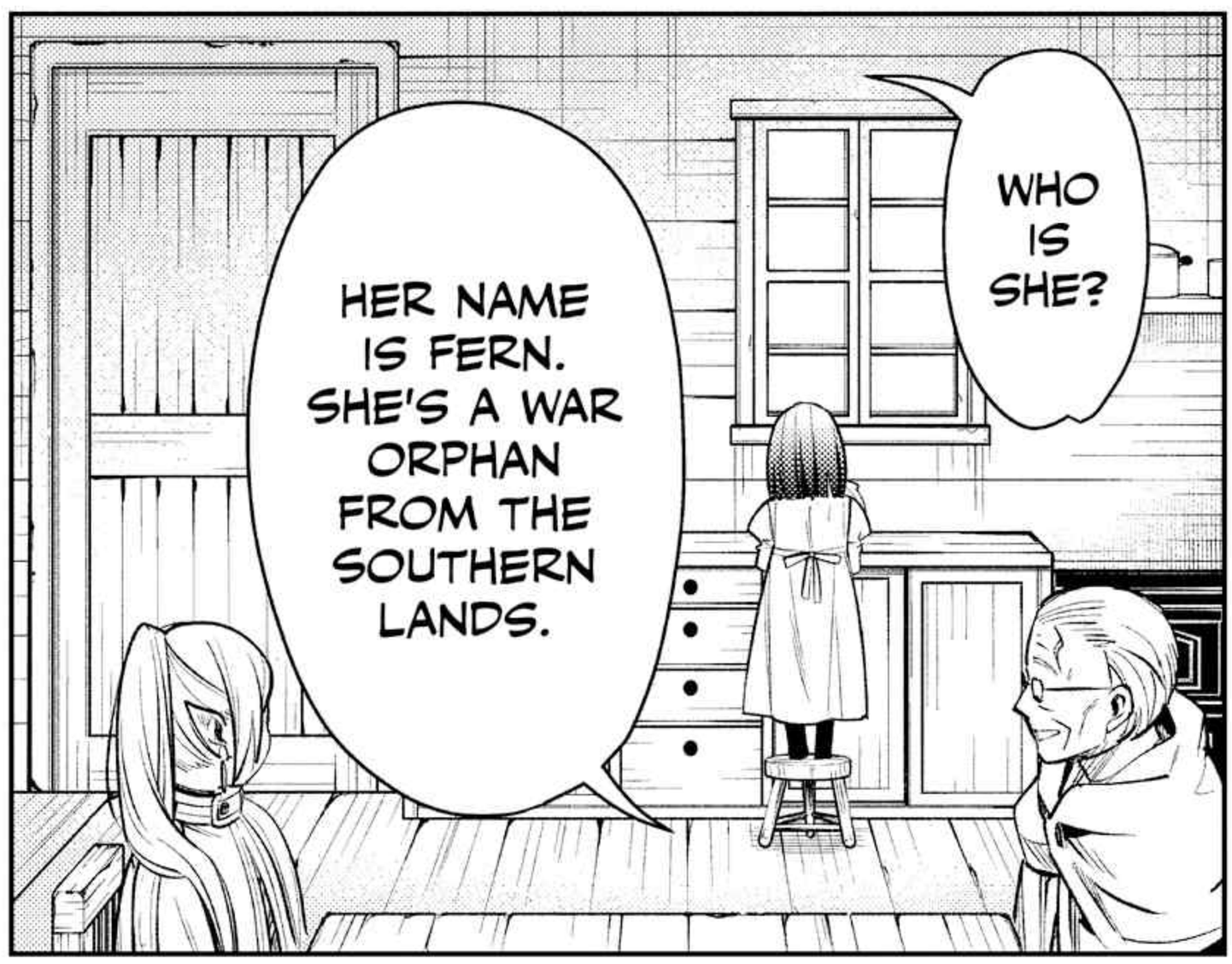
HA HA HA.

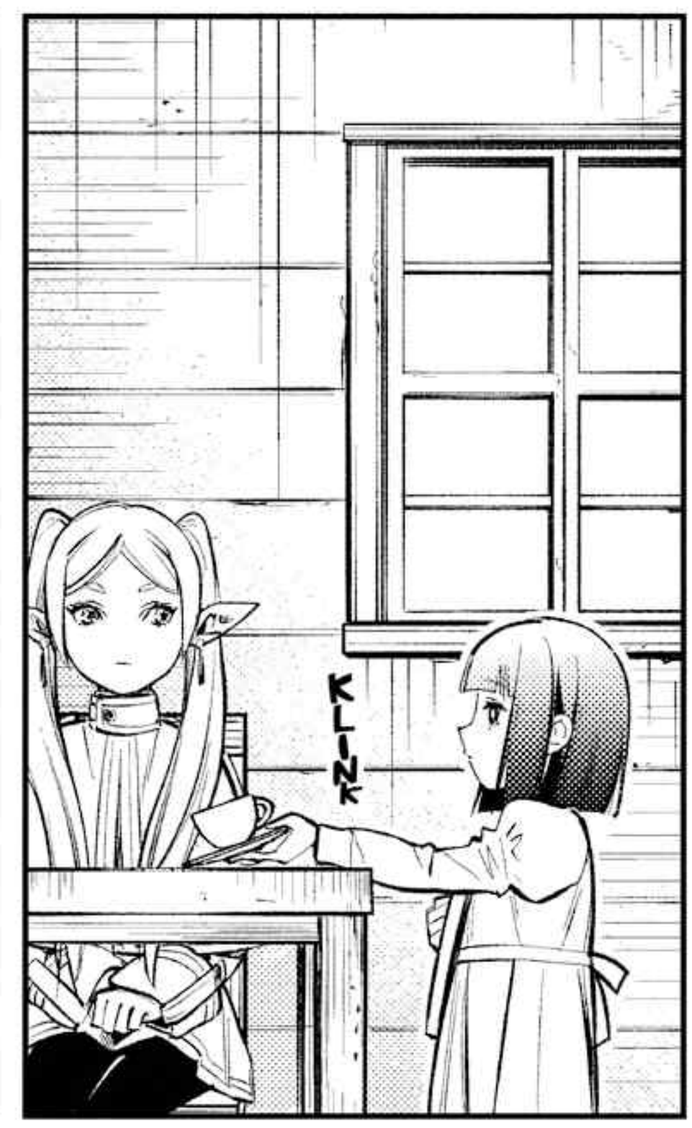
IT SEEMS DYING IN A COOL MANNER IS MORE DIFFICULT THAN I EXPECTED.

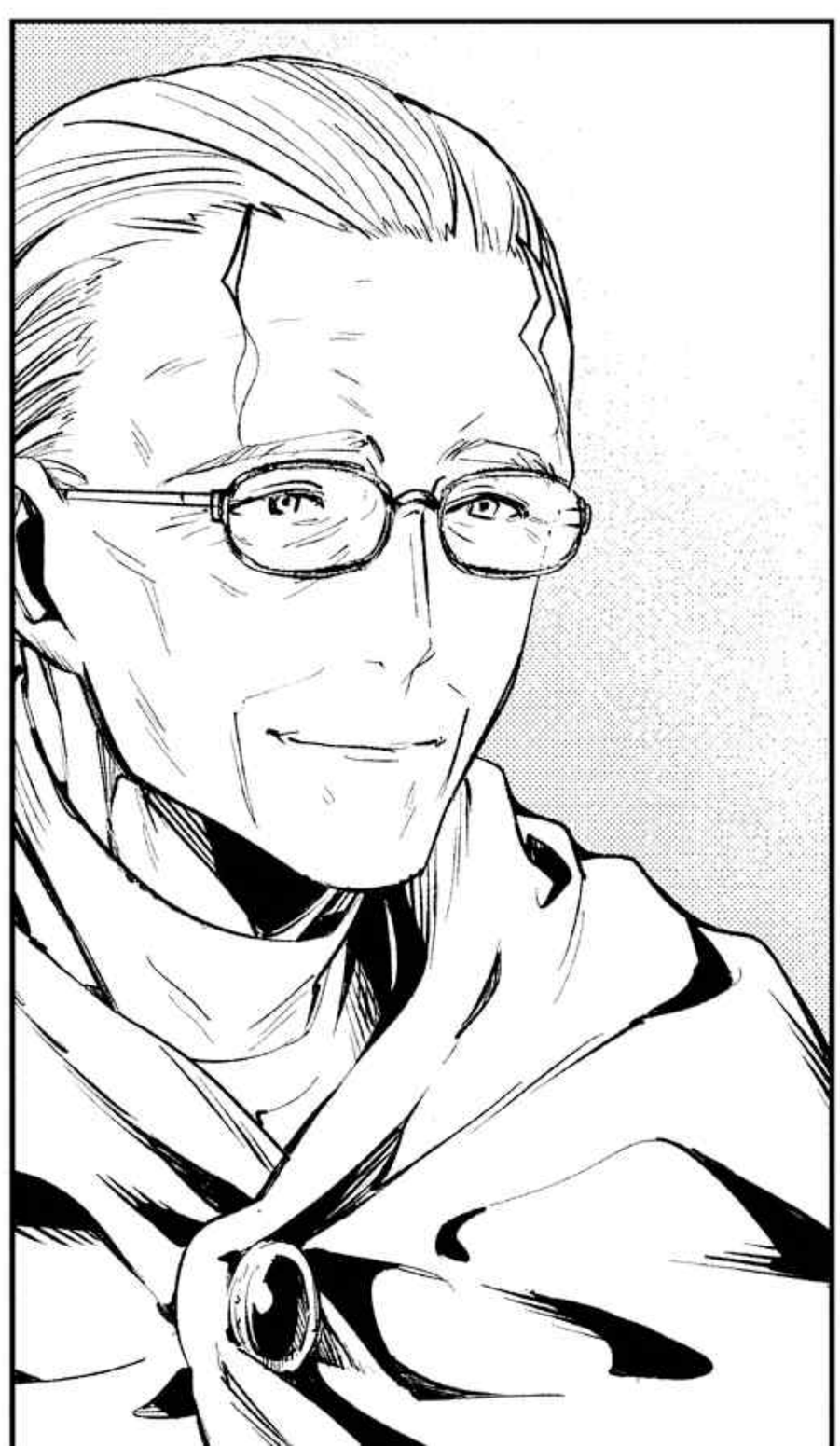


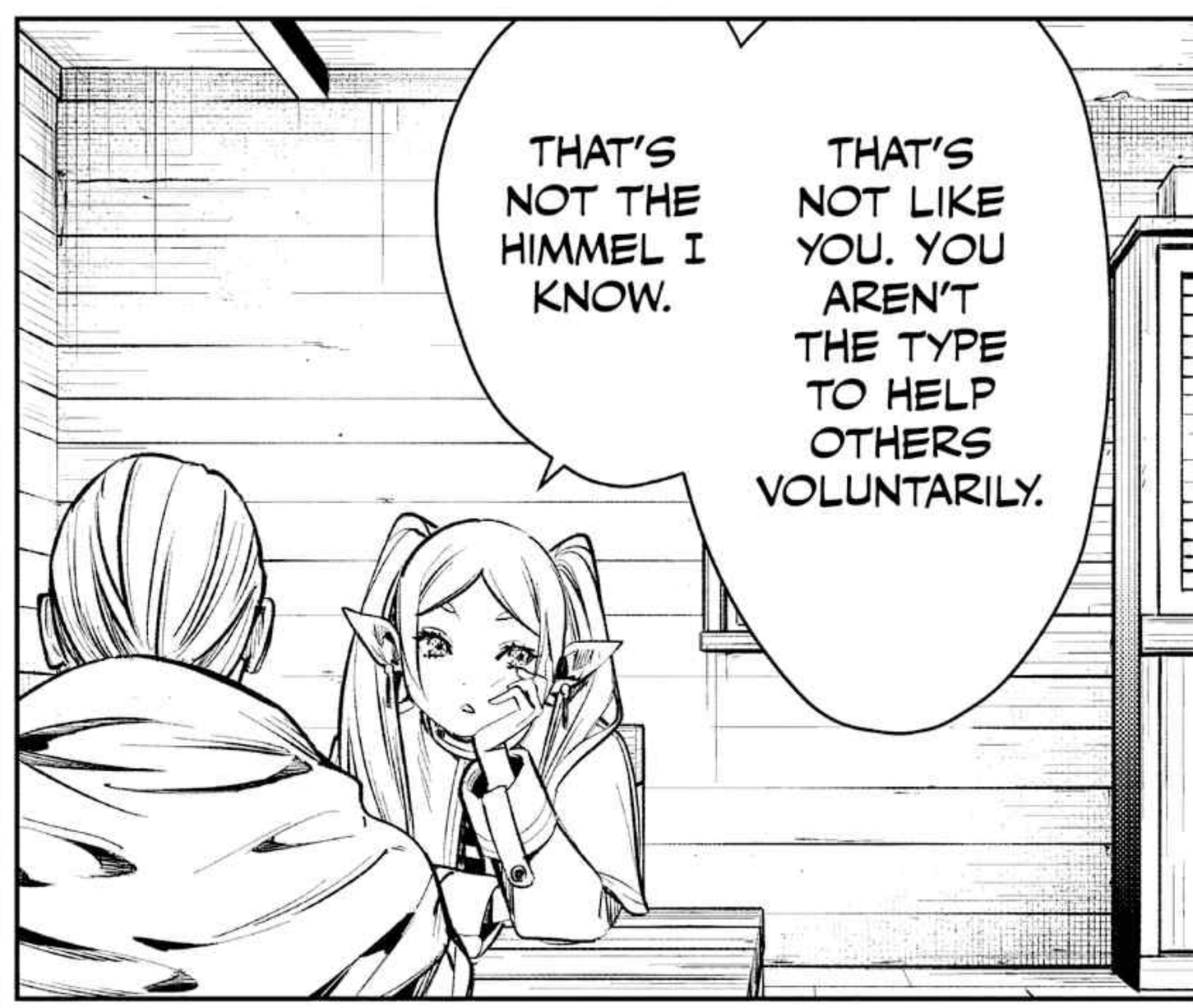
HA HA HA.
REALLY?
I THINK IT'S TOO LATE FOR YOU TO PRETEND TO BE INNOCENT OR ASK THE GODDESS FOR FORGIVENESS THOUGH.

I BROUGHT A BOTTLE TO PUT ON YOUR GRAVE. DO YOU WANNA HAVE A DRINK?
I QUIT DRINKING.


WHO IS SHE?
HER NAME IS FERN. SHE'S A WAR ORPHAN FROM THE SOUTHERN LANDS.


KLINK

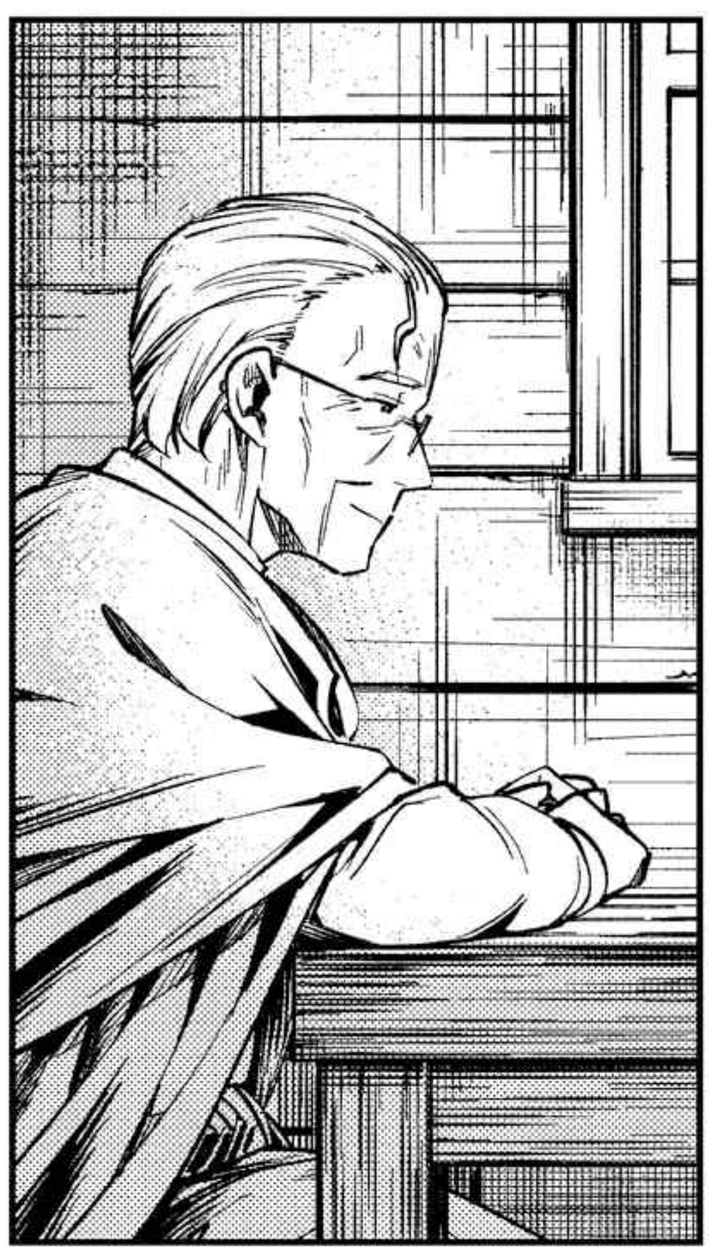



THAT'S NOT THE HIMMEL I KNOW.
THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU. YOU AREN'T THE TYPE TO HELP OTHERS VOLUNTARILY.

I'M TRYING TO INTERACT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE WITH THE PEOPLE I MEET ON THE JOURNEY.

I WAS JUST ON THE WAY TO THE HOLY CITY TO BUY SOME THINGS.

SO, FRIEREN, WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?



FERN HAS WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A MAGE.

COULD YOU TAKE HER WITH YOU ON YOUR JOURNEY?

THEN I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK.

WILL YOU TAKE ON AN APPRENTICE?

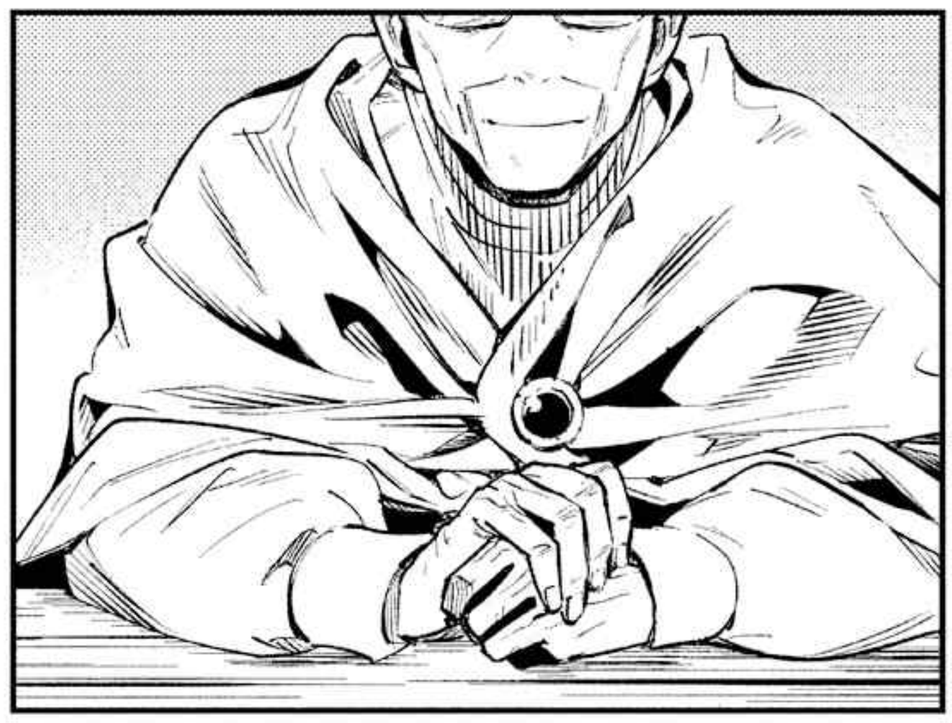
YOU KNOW THE DEATH RATE OF APPRENTICE MAGES IN REAL FIGHTS.

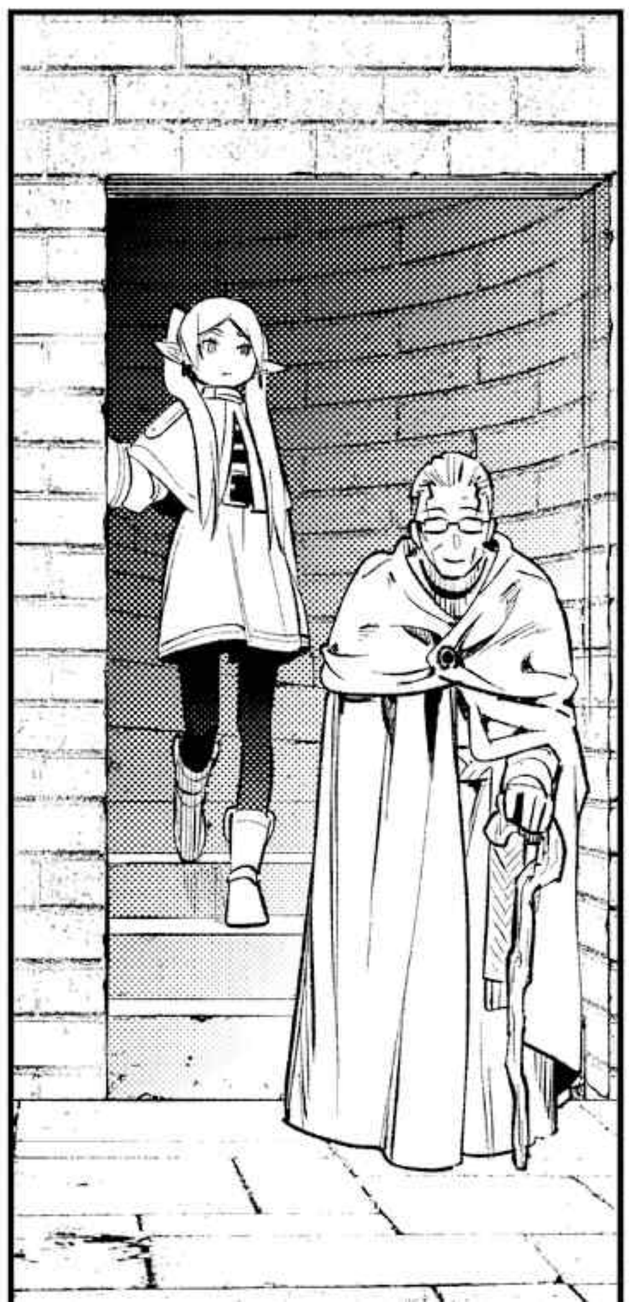
I CANNOT LEAD A GIRL ENTRUSTED TO ME BY A FRIEND TO HER DEATH.

SORRY, HEITER. ANYTHING BUT THAT.

SHE'D SLOW ME DOWN.

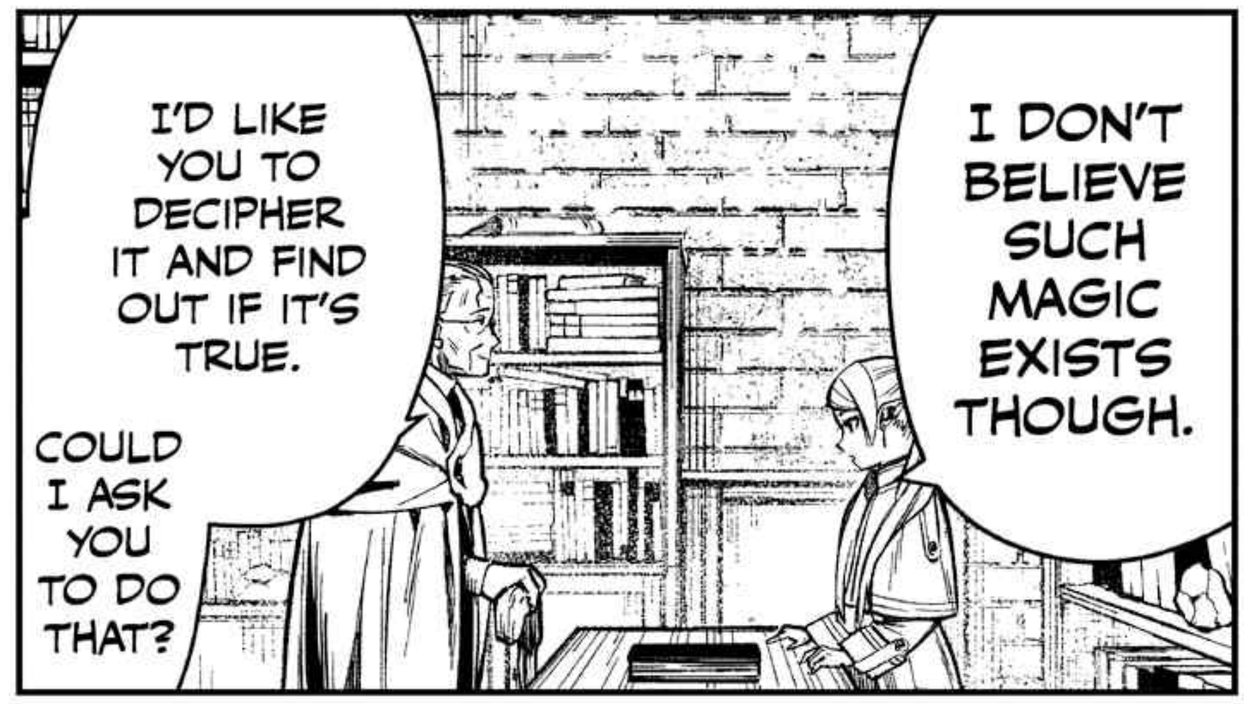
I UNDER-STAND. WELL, THEN THERE'S SOME-THING ELSE.





THEY SAY THIS GRIMOIRE CONTAINS LONG-LOST SPELLS OF RESURRECTION AND IMMORTALITY.

THIS WAS EXCAVATED FROM THE GRAVE OF EWIG THE SAGE.



I'M NOT ASKING FOR IMMORTALITY.

ALL I WANT IS A LITTLE MORE TIME.

I'M ASKING YOU FOR TWO REASONS.

FIRST, BACK THEN I DIDN'T WANT TO SHOW YOU MY WEAKNESS.

AND SECOND, I'M MORE AFRAID OF DYING NOW.

AS A PRIEST, I AM UNABLE TO DO SO.

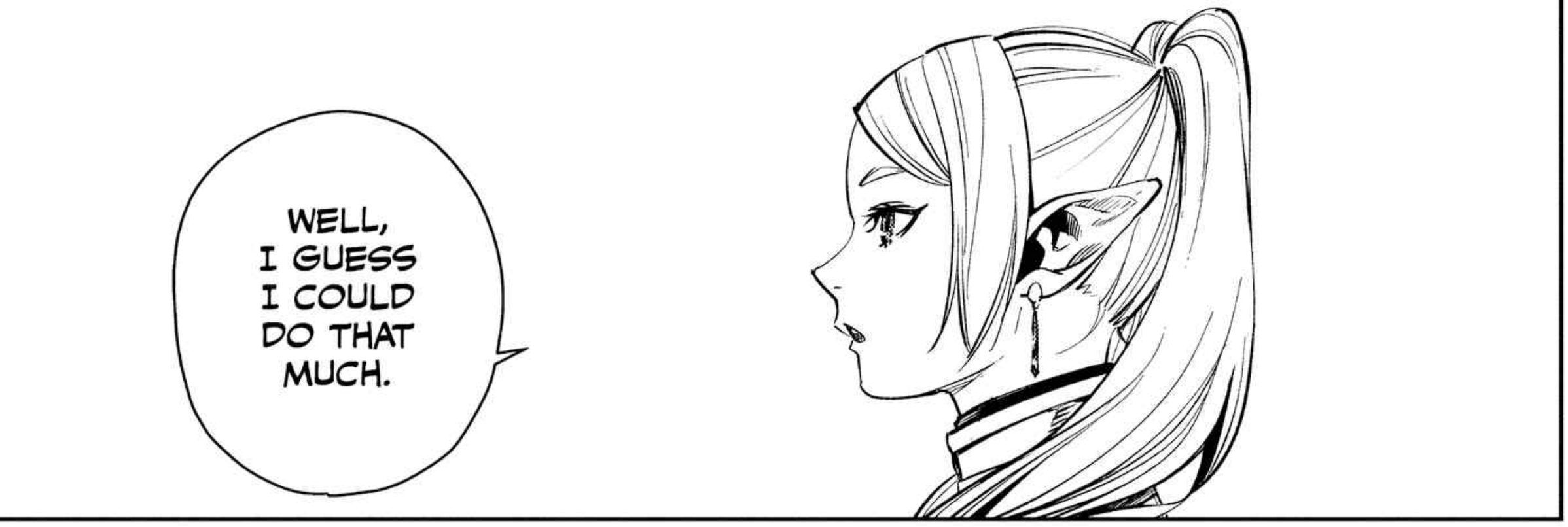
AND... WHILE YOU'RE DECIPHERING THE GRIMOIRE...

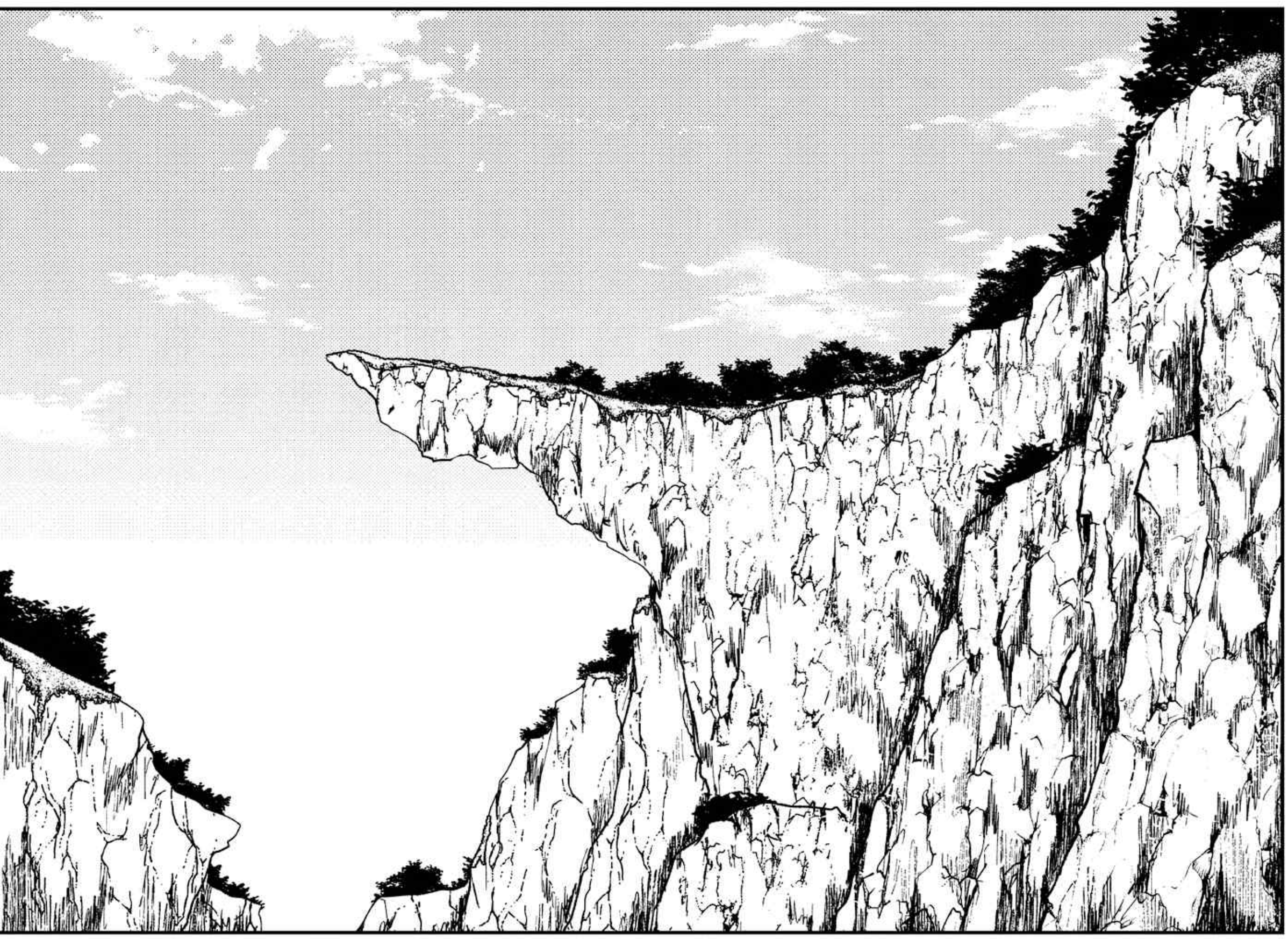
...COULD YOU JUST TEACH FERN SOME MAGIC ON THE SIDE?

ALSO, THE SCRIPTURES TELL US TO LIVE A HEALTHY LIFE.

A LONG LIFE IS EXACTLY THAT, FRIEREN.

YOU CORRUPT PRIEST.


WELL, I GUESS I COULD DO THAT MUCH.



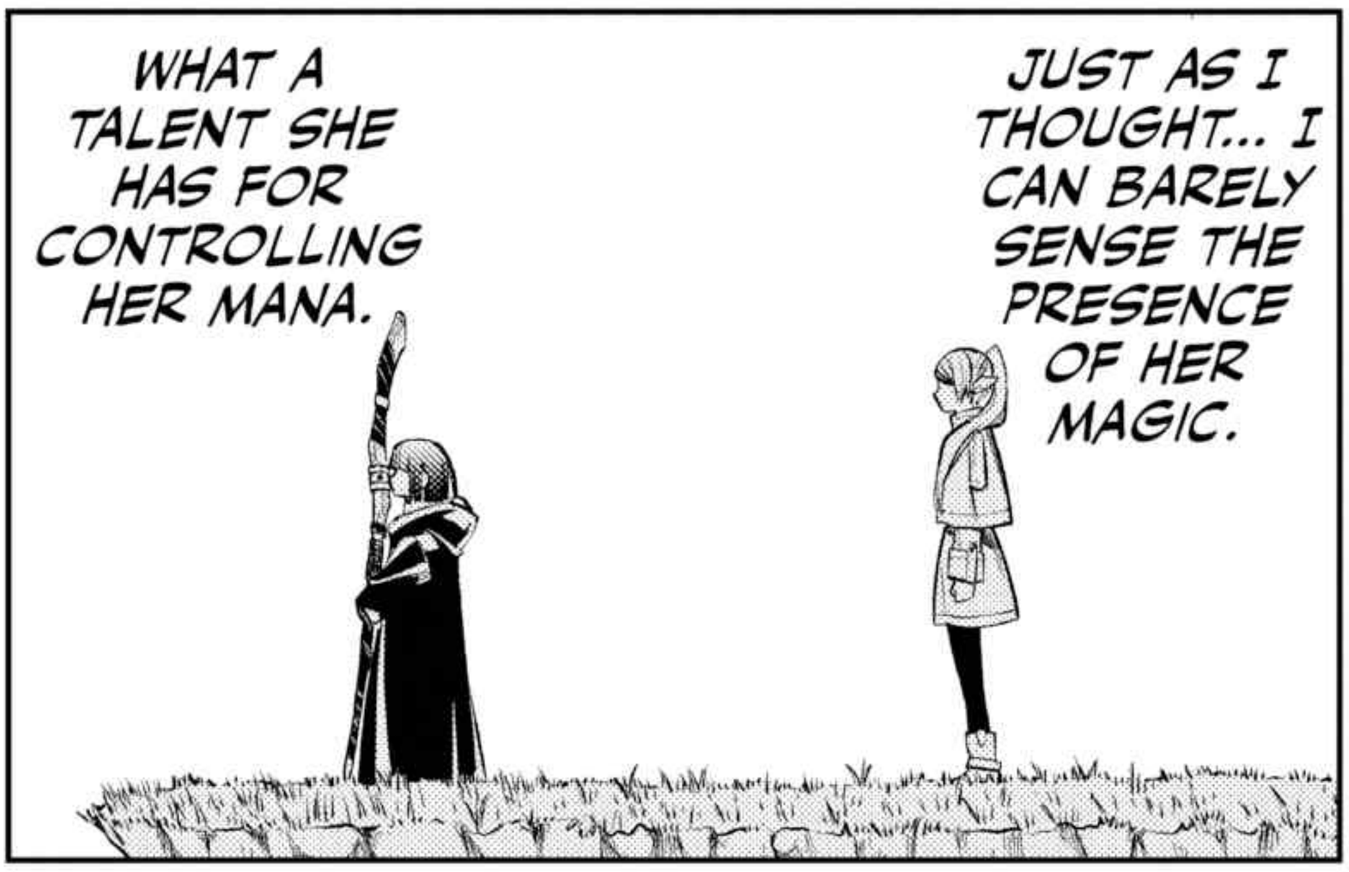
IT WAS HARD TO LOCATE YOU.
ARE YOU ALWAYS TRAINING IN THE FOREST?

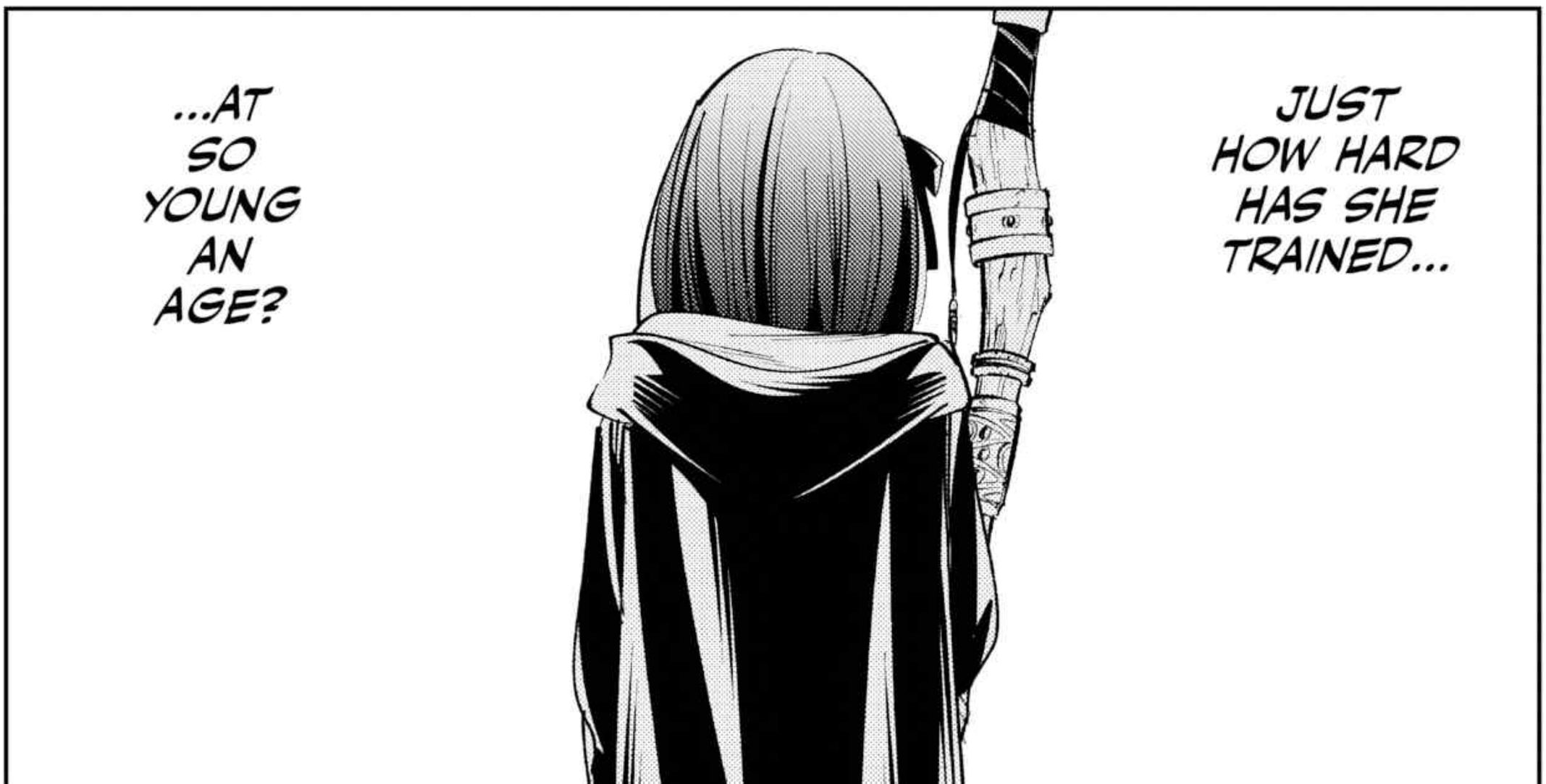
THERE YOU ARE.
RUSTLE

I BELIEVE THAT'S A GREAT THING.

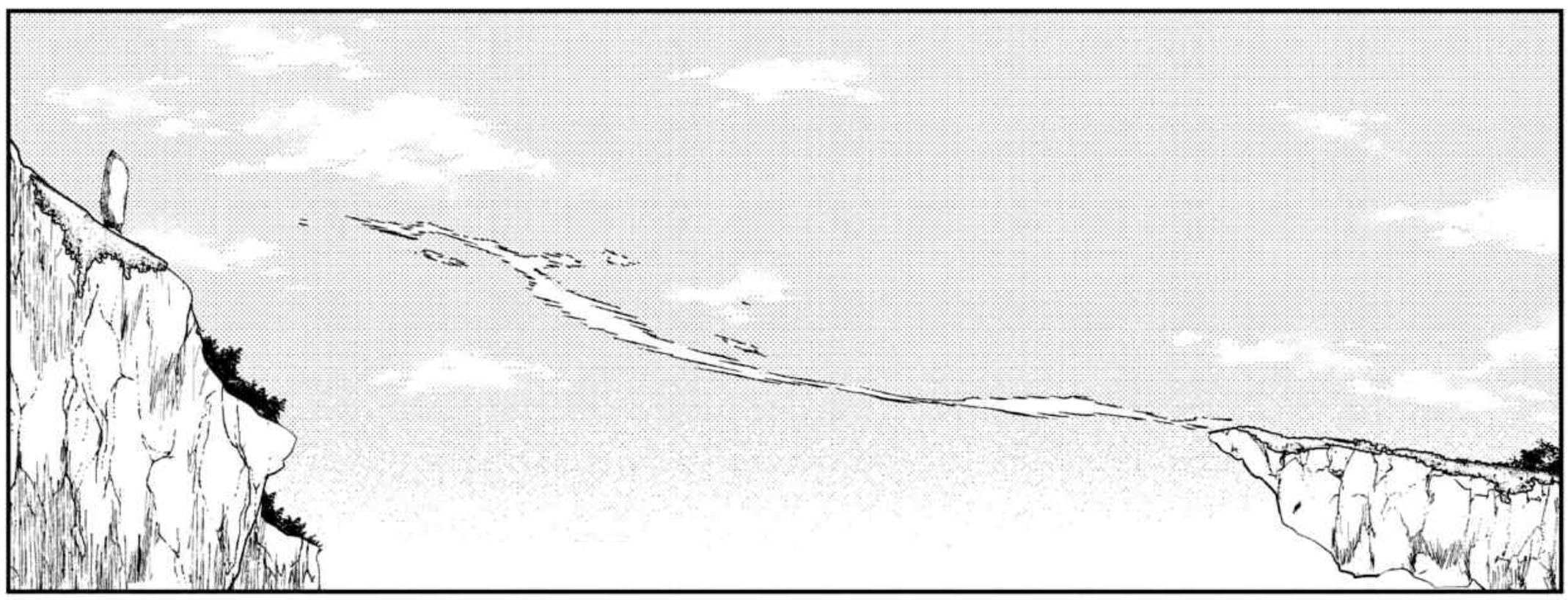
SO IT WAS HARD EVEN FOR YOU TO FIND ME, MISTRESS FRIEREN.

MASTER HEITER ALSO TELLS ME I DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A PRESENCE.





HUH.
HEITER KNOWS WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT.
YOU NEED TO—
MASTER HEITER TOLD ME THAT I'LL BE A FULL-FLEDGED MAGE ONCE I CAN SHOOT THROUGH THAT BOULDER.

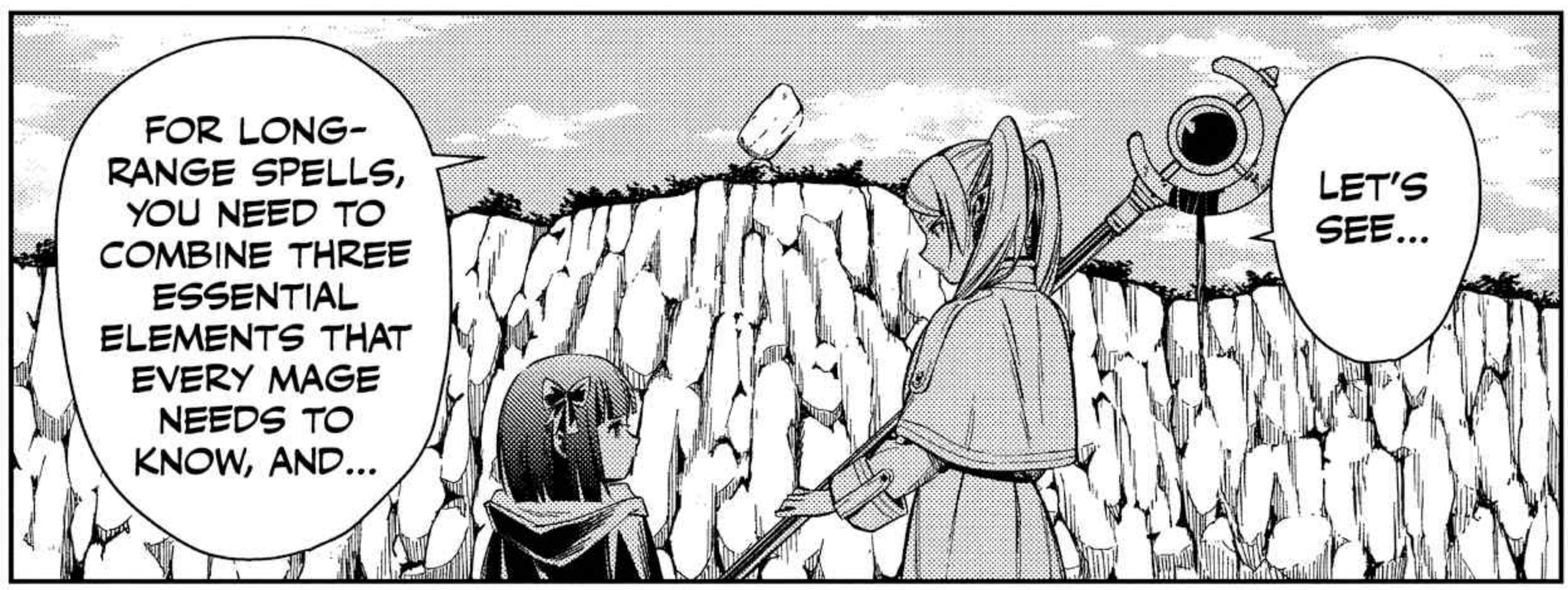


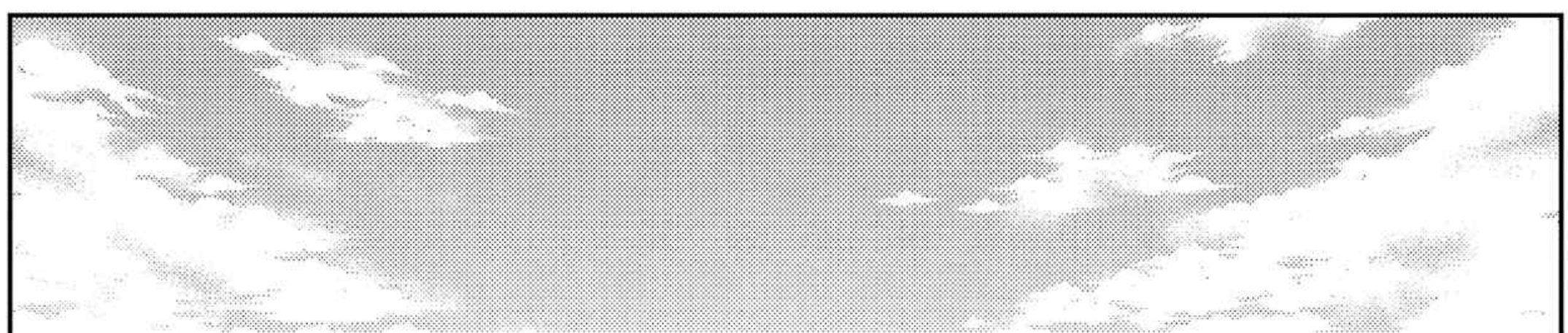
WHAT KIND OF TRAINING WOULD YOU SUGGEST?

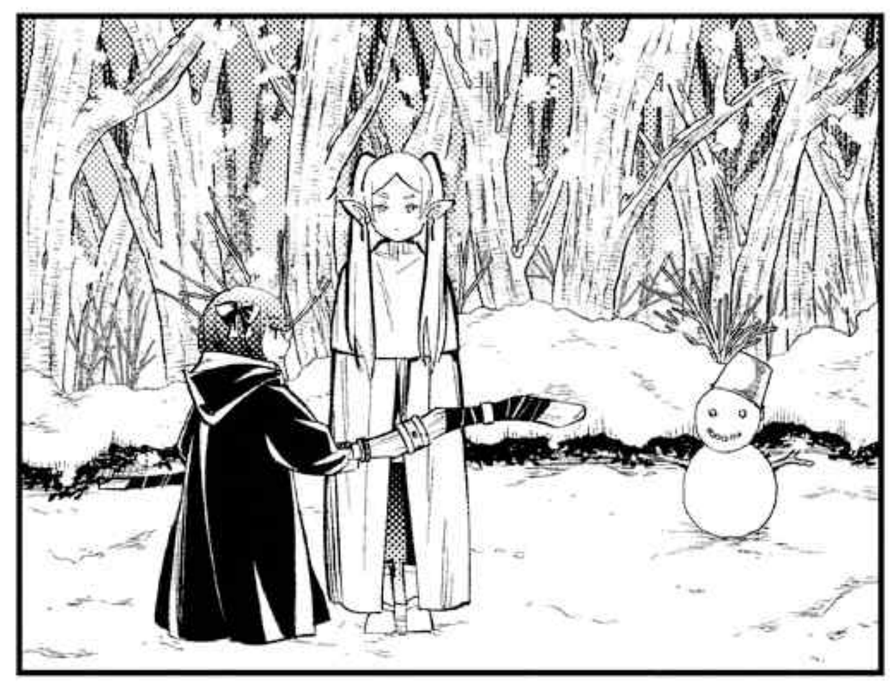
SO I SEE.
MY SPELL DISSIPATES BEFORE IT CAN REACH THE ROCK.

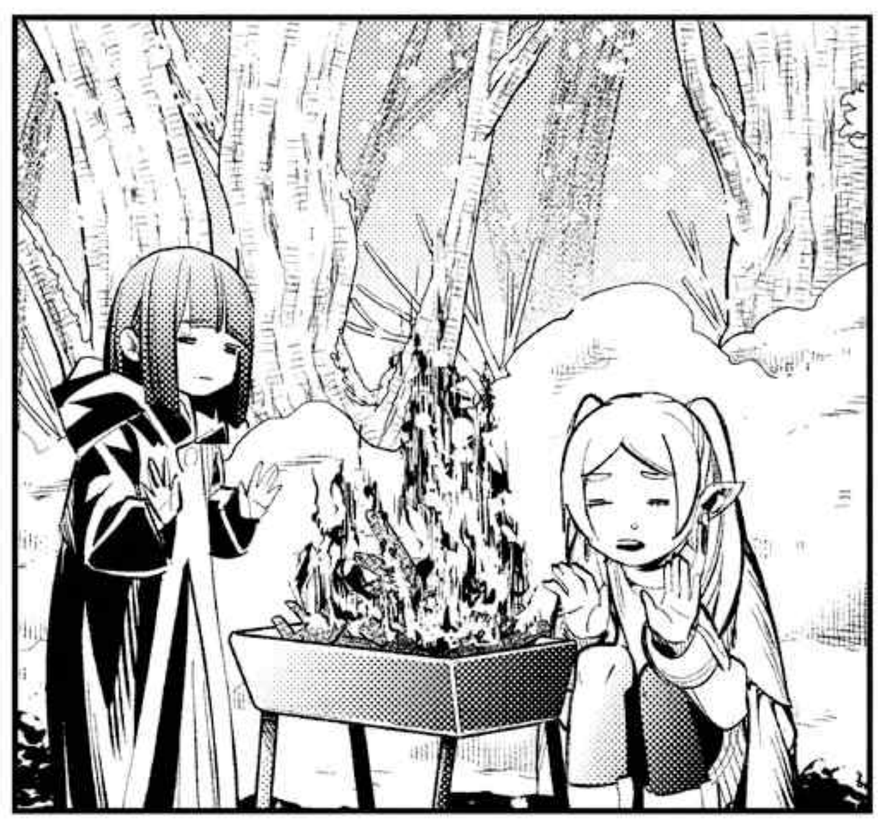
DO YOU LIKE MAGIC?

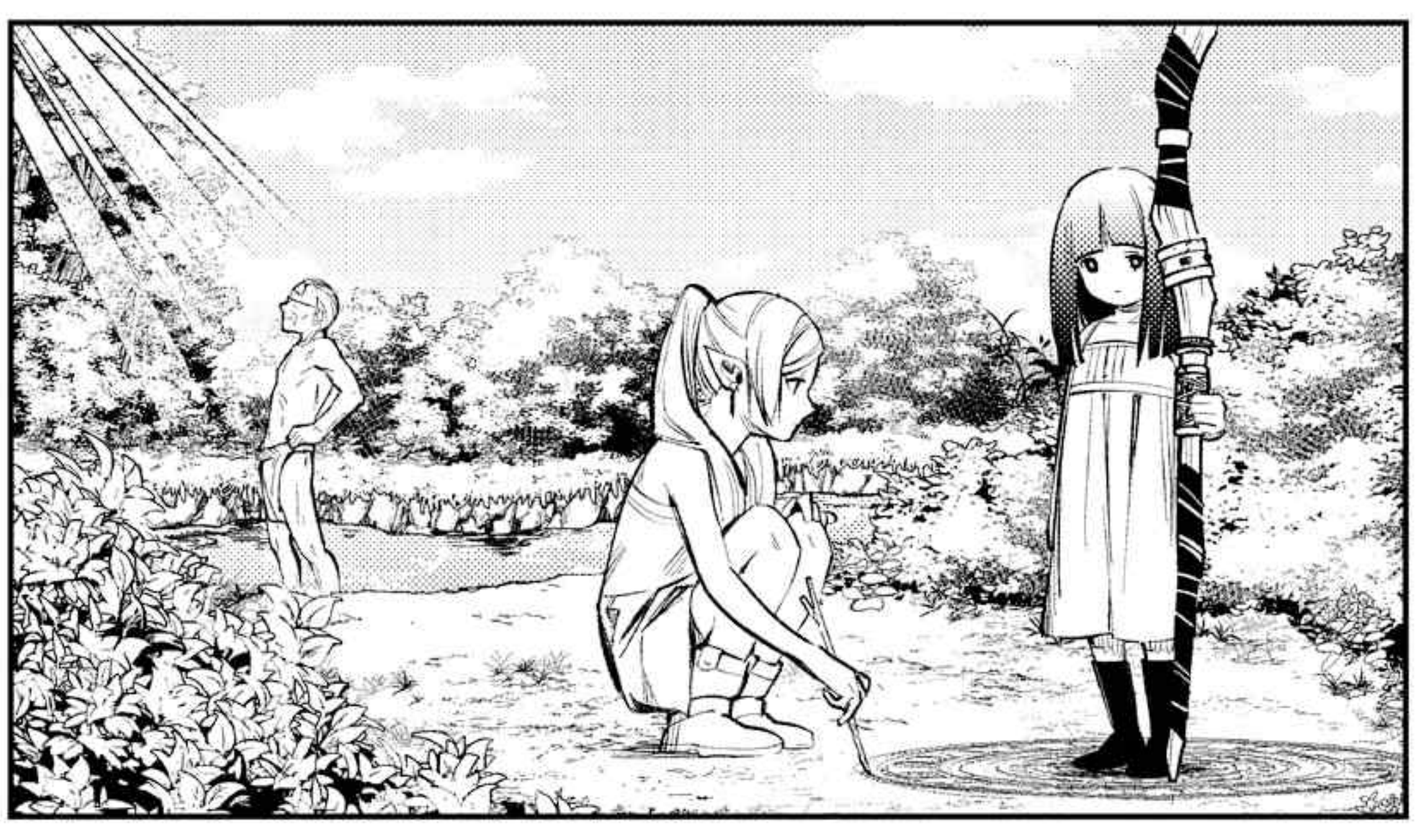
CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING FIRST?

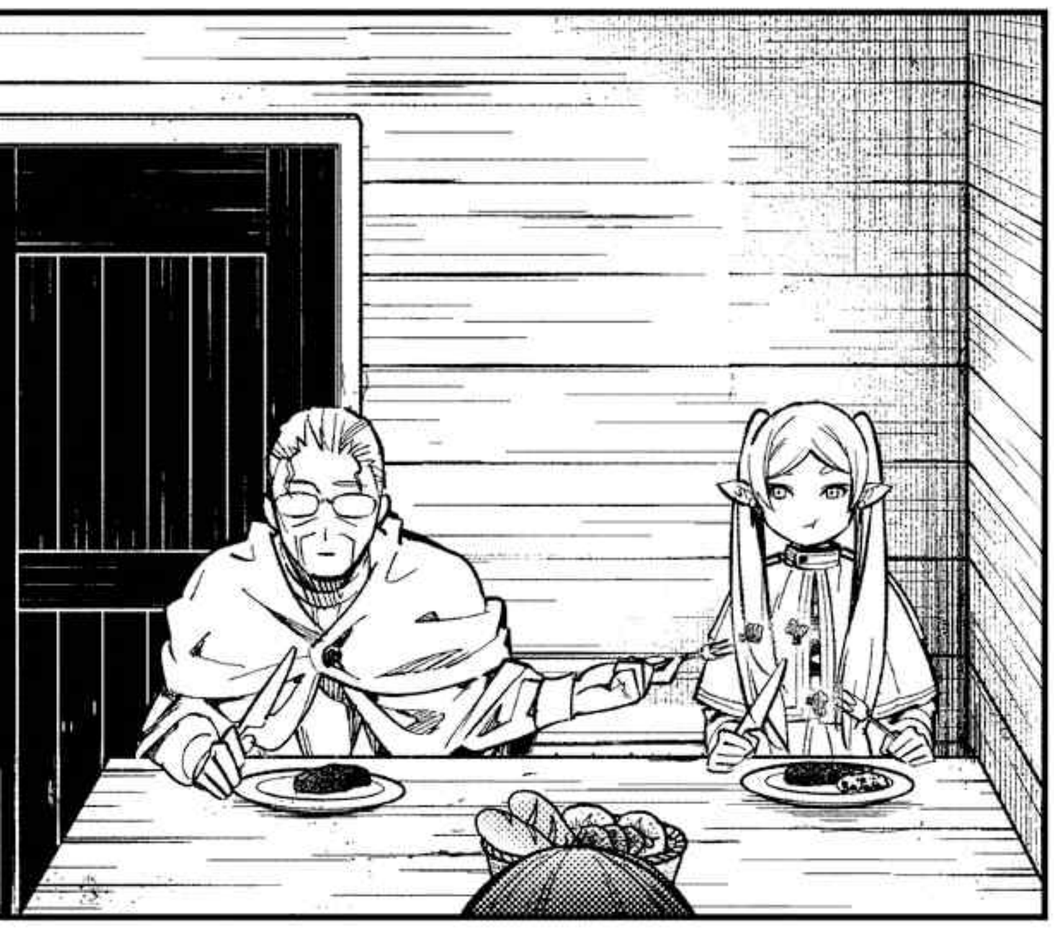


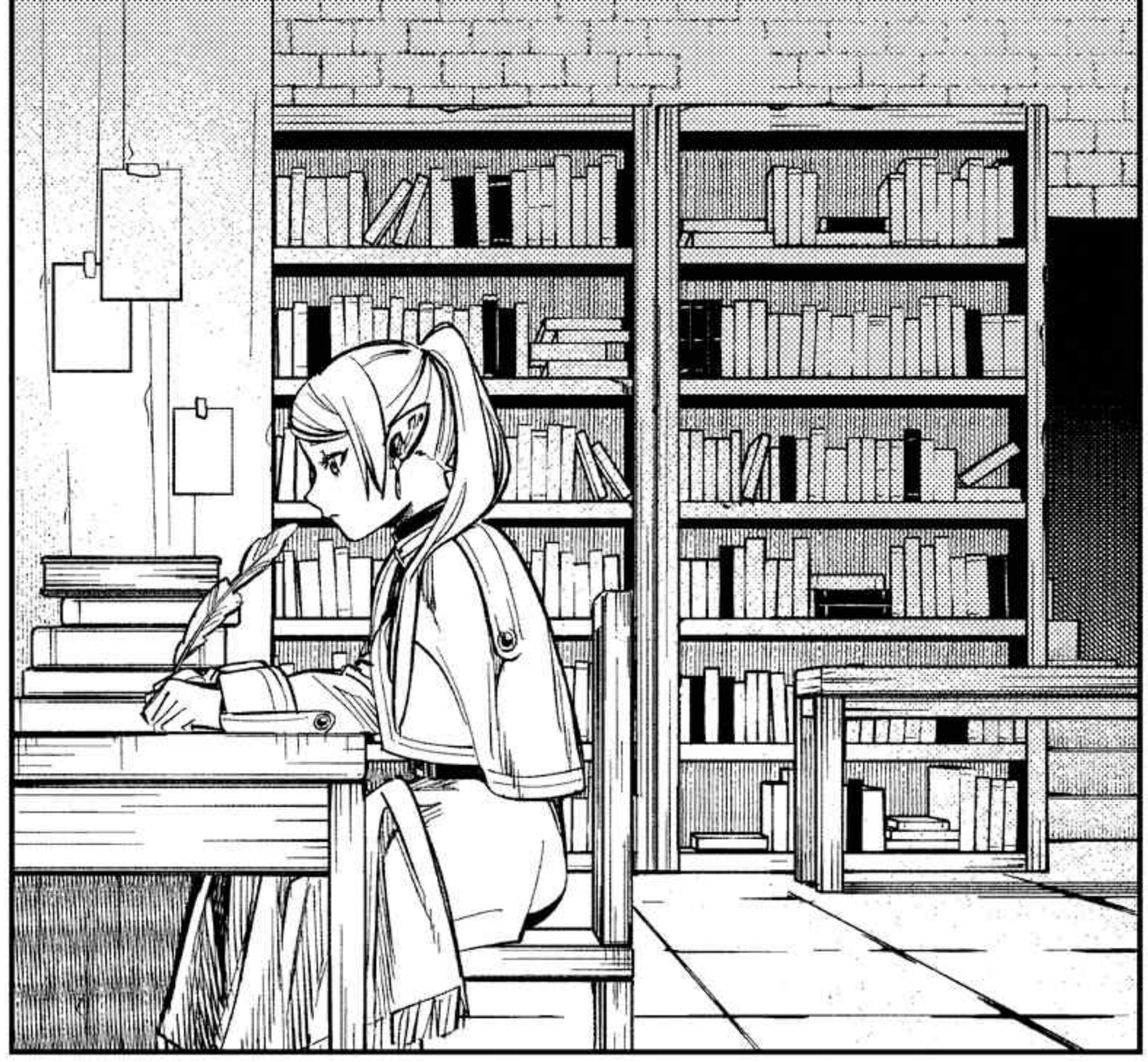


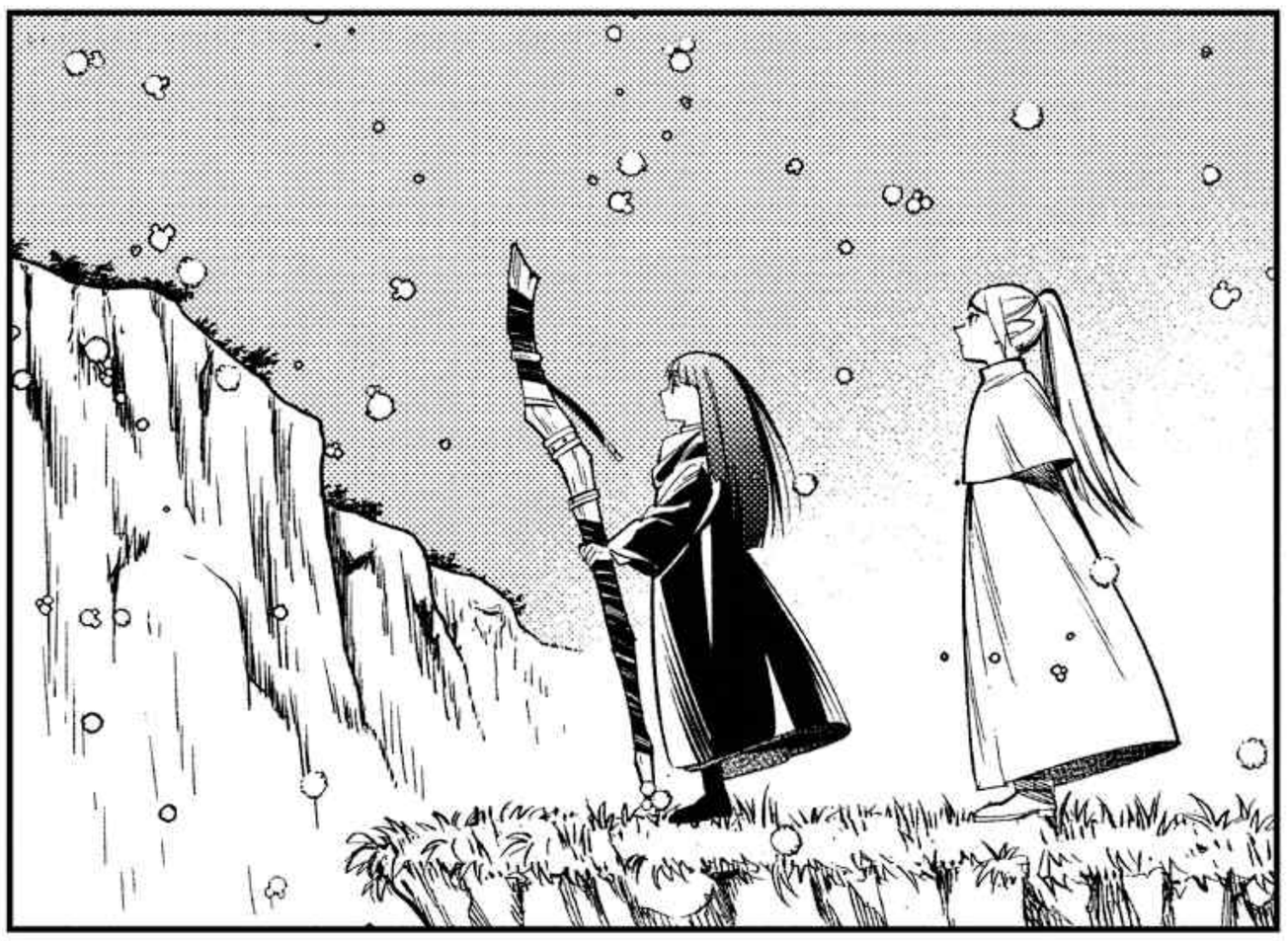


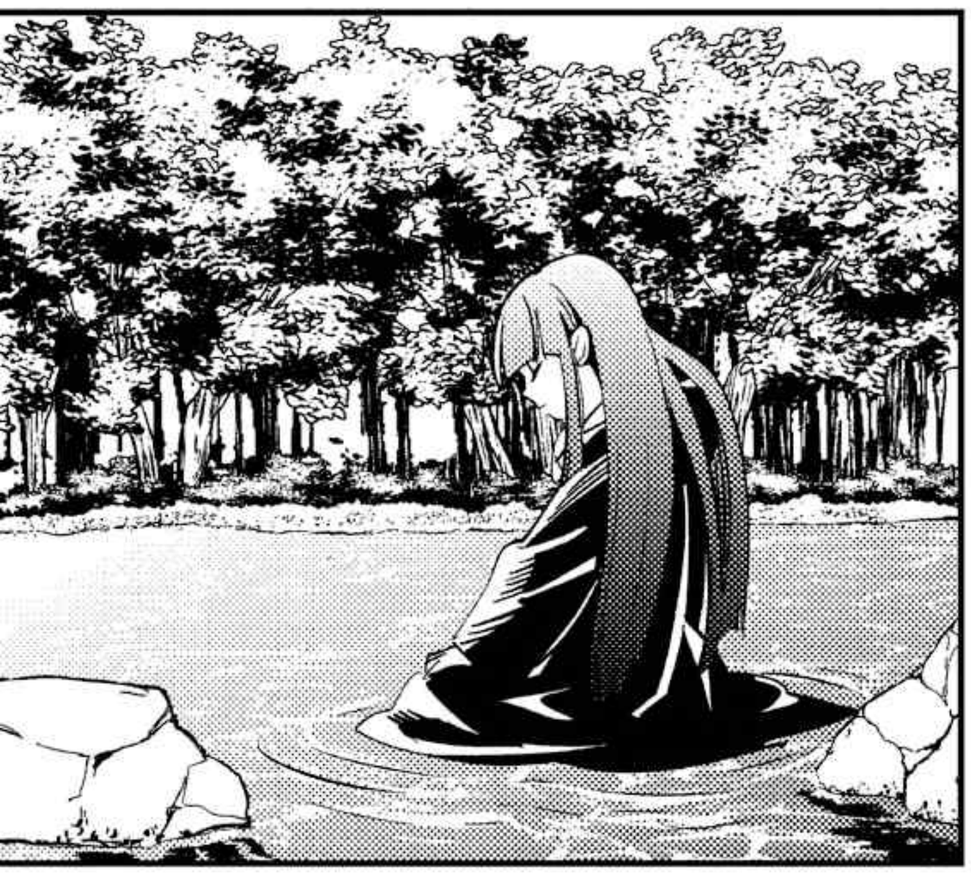


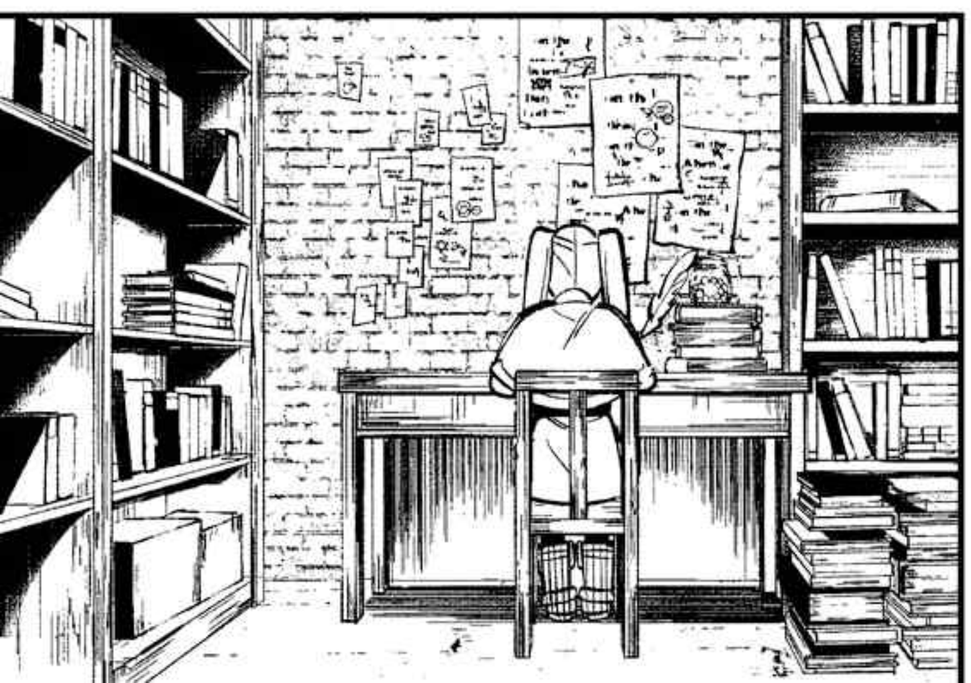




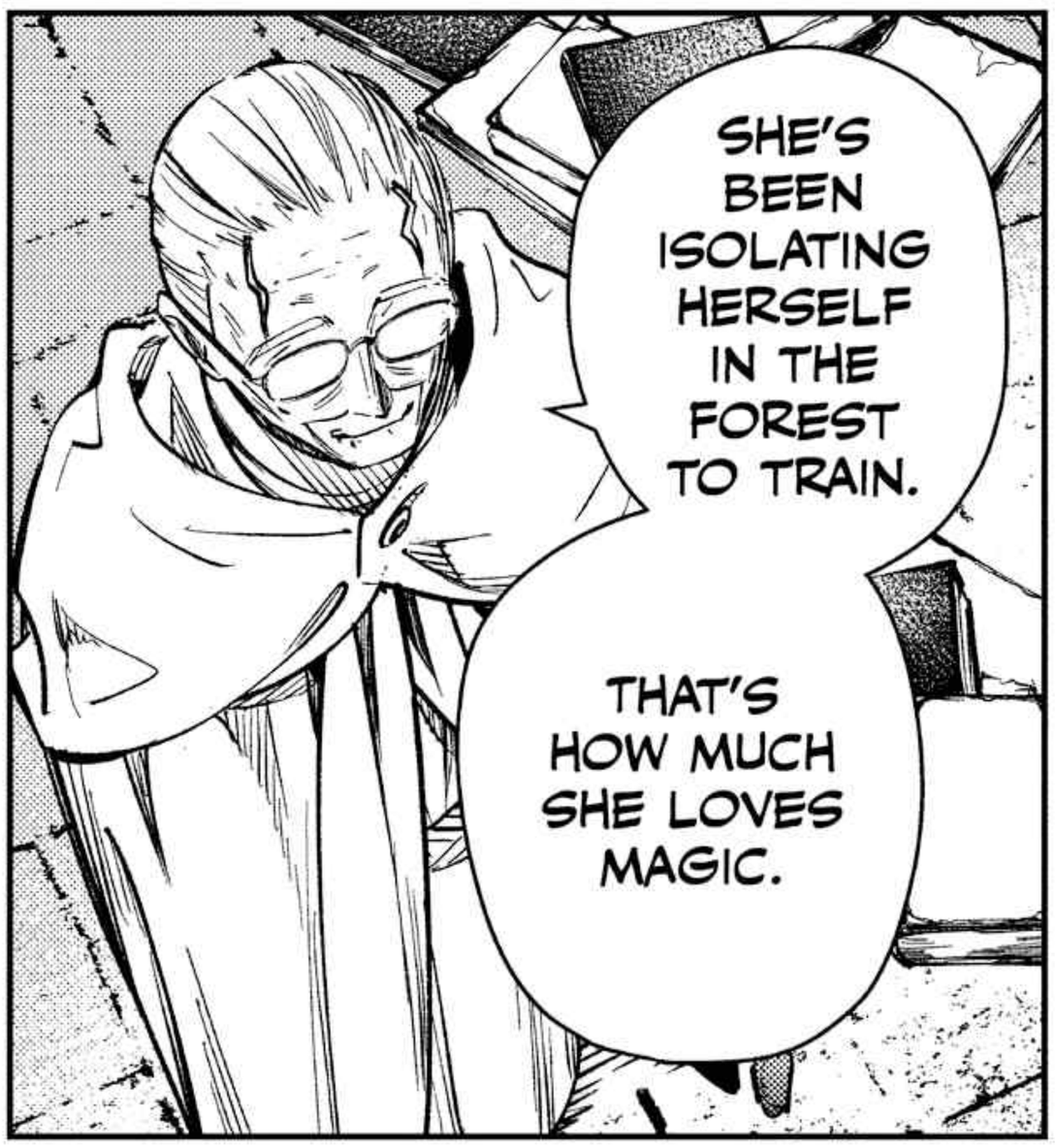


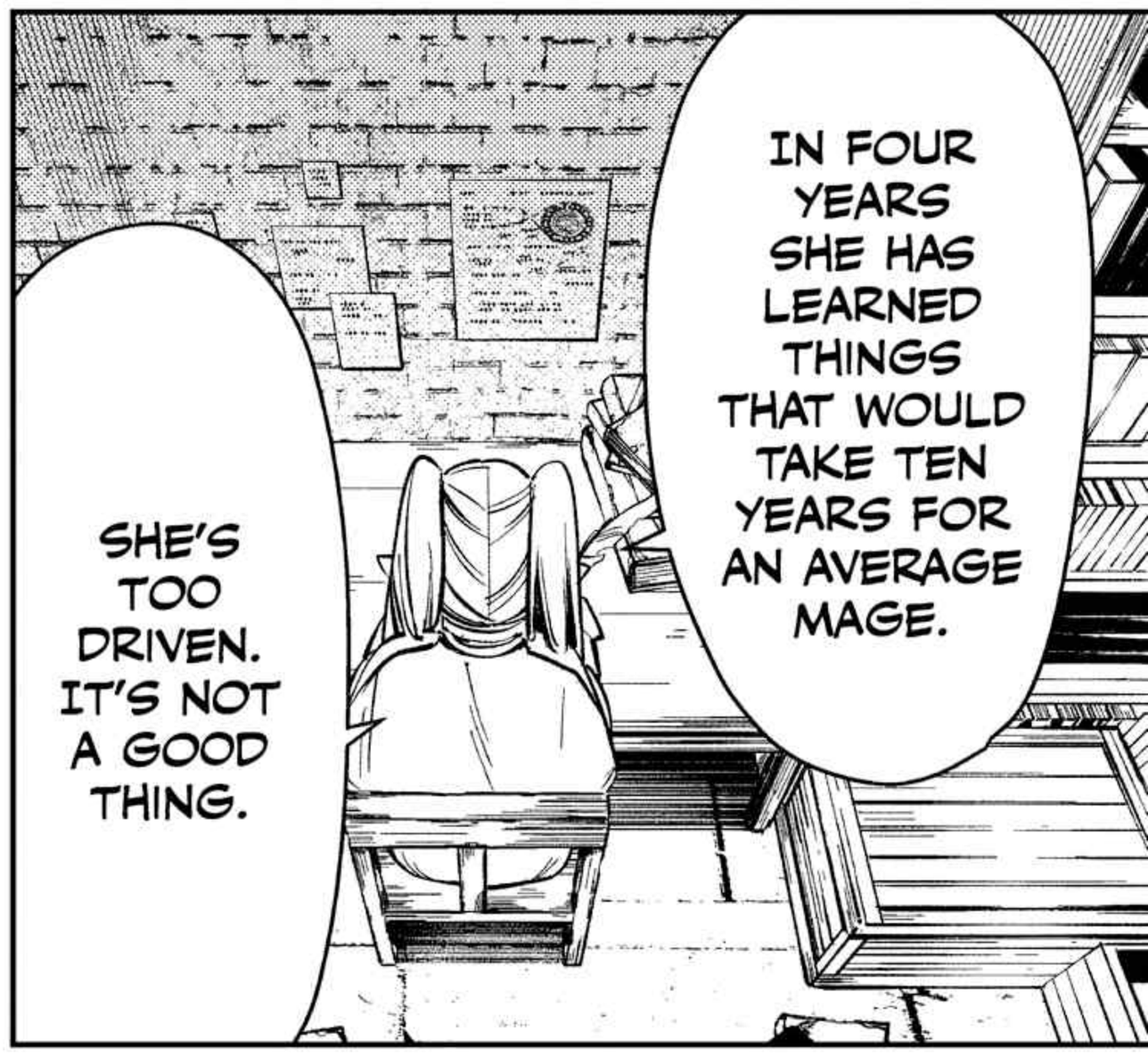


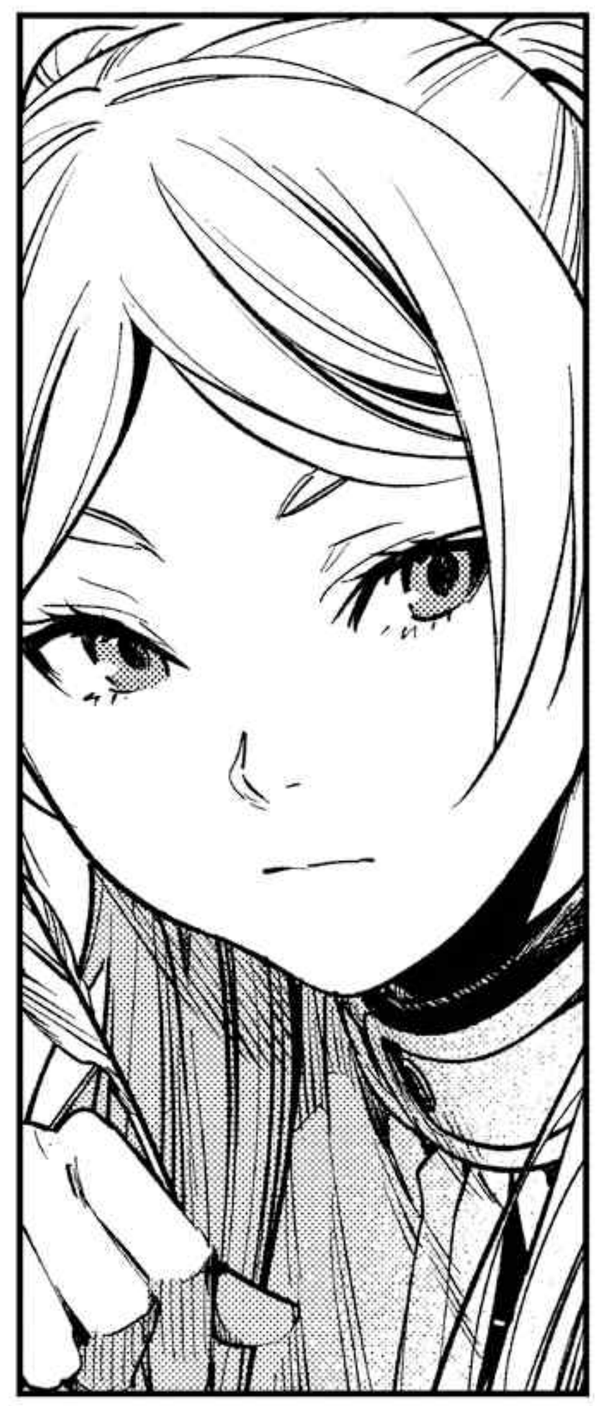


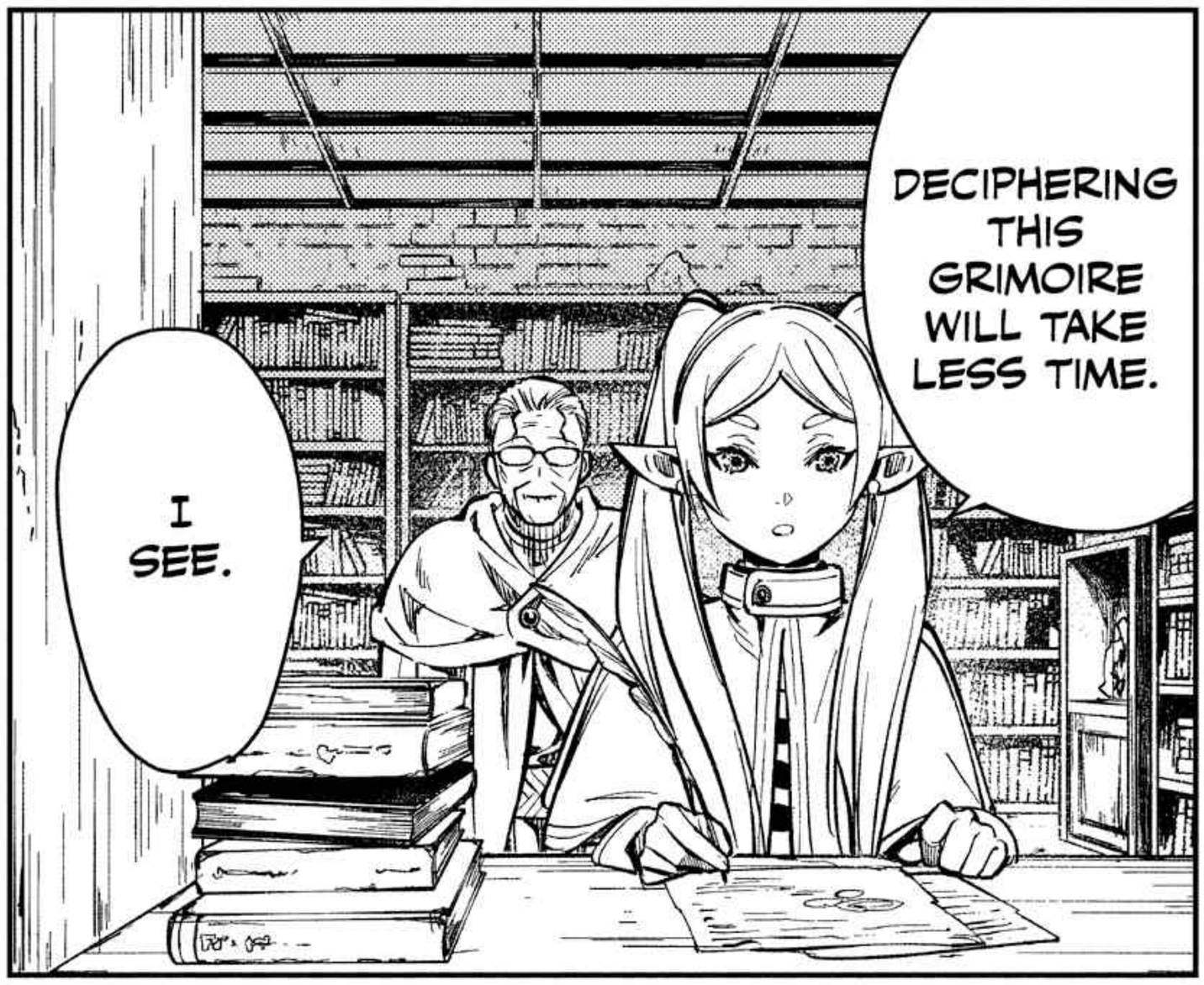


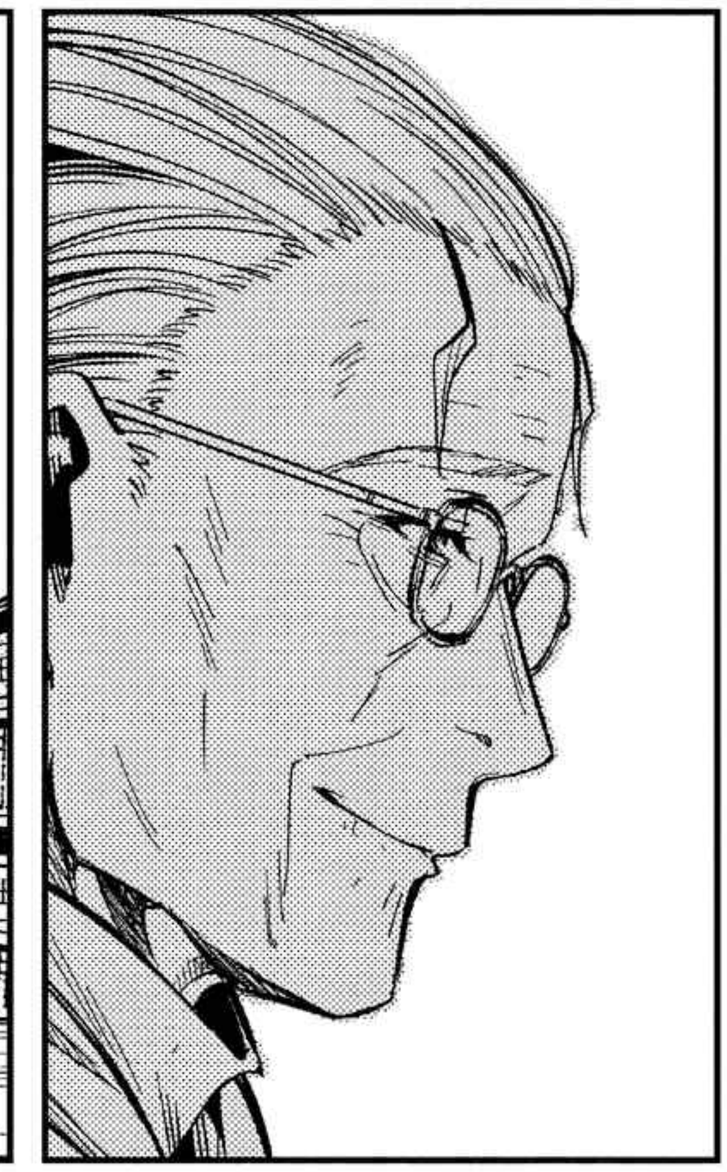
IS FERN'S TRAINING GOING WELL?



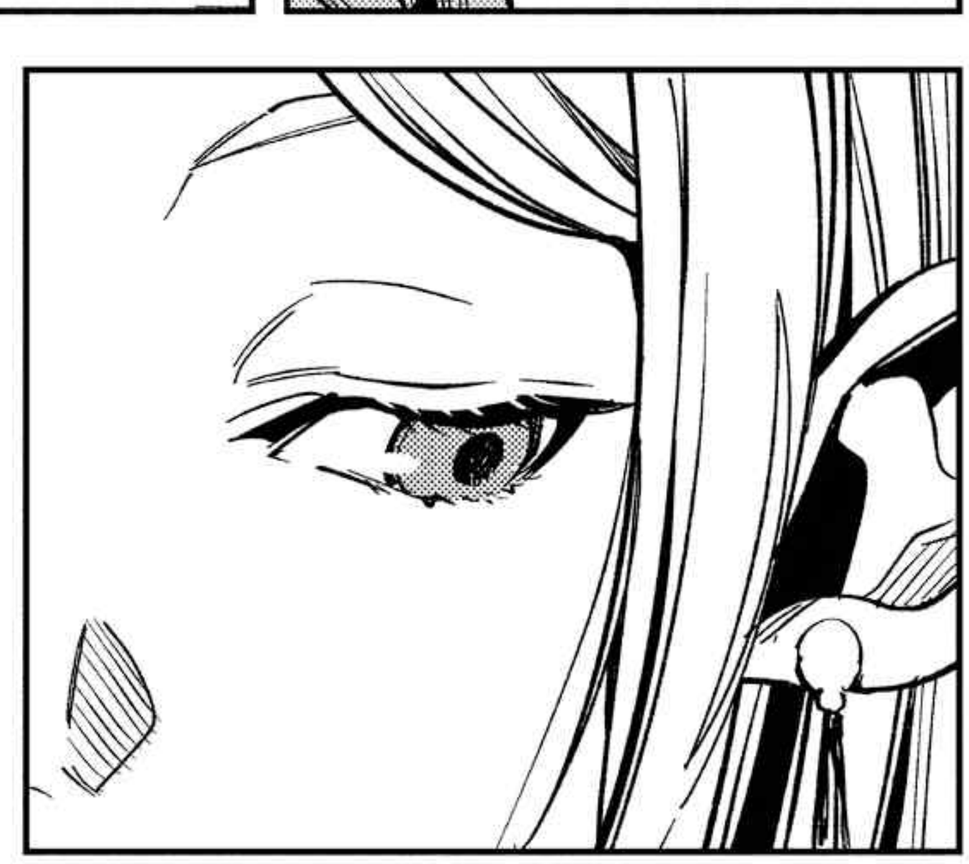


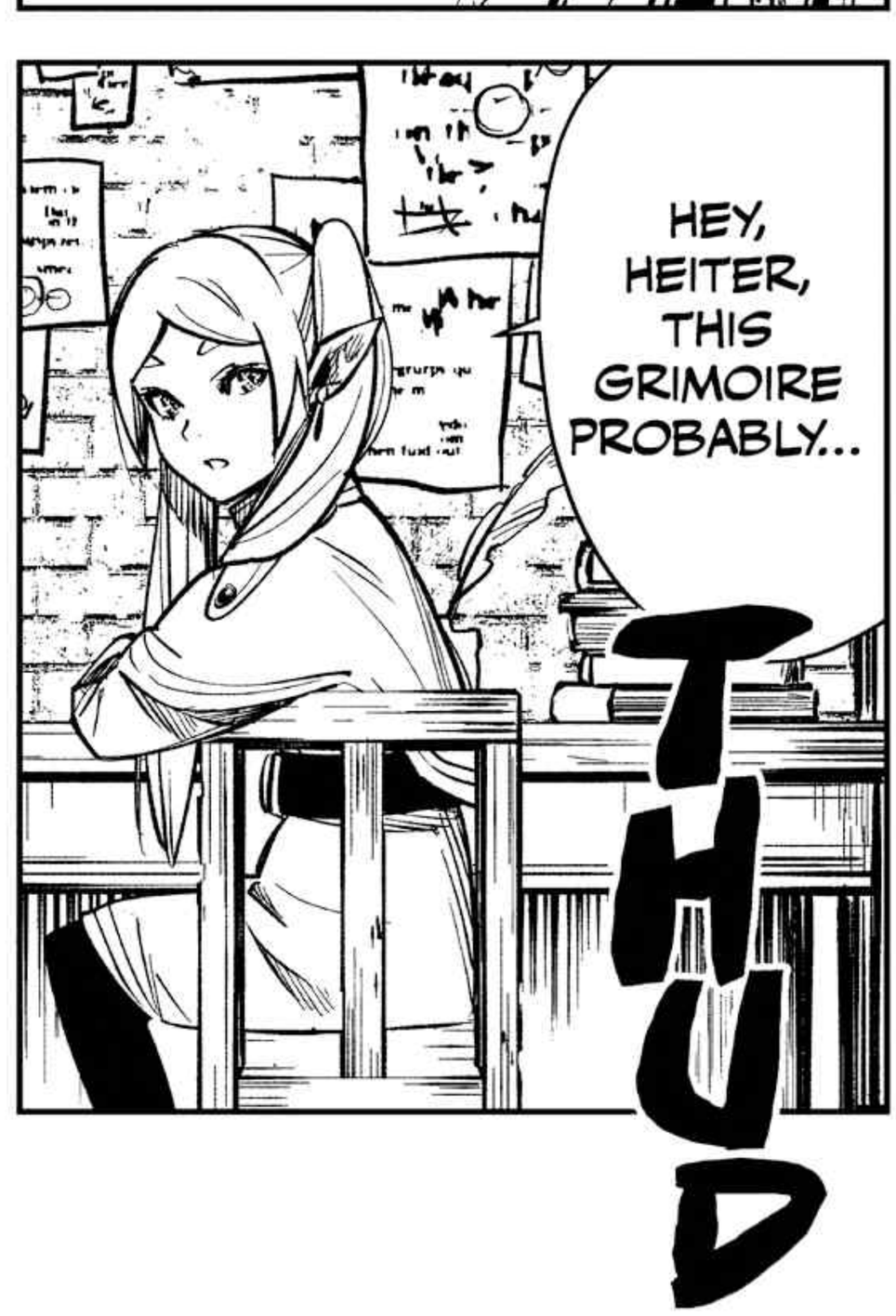



DECIPHERING THIS GRIMOIRE WILL TAKE LESS TIME.
I SEE.

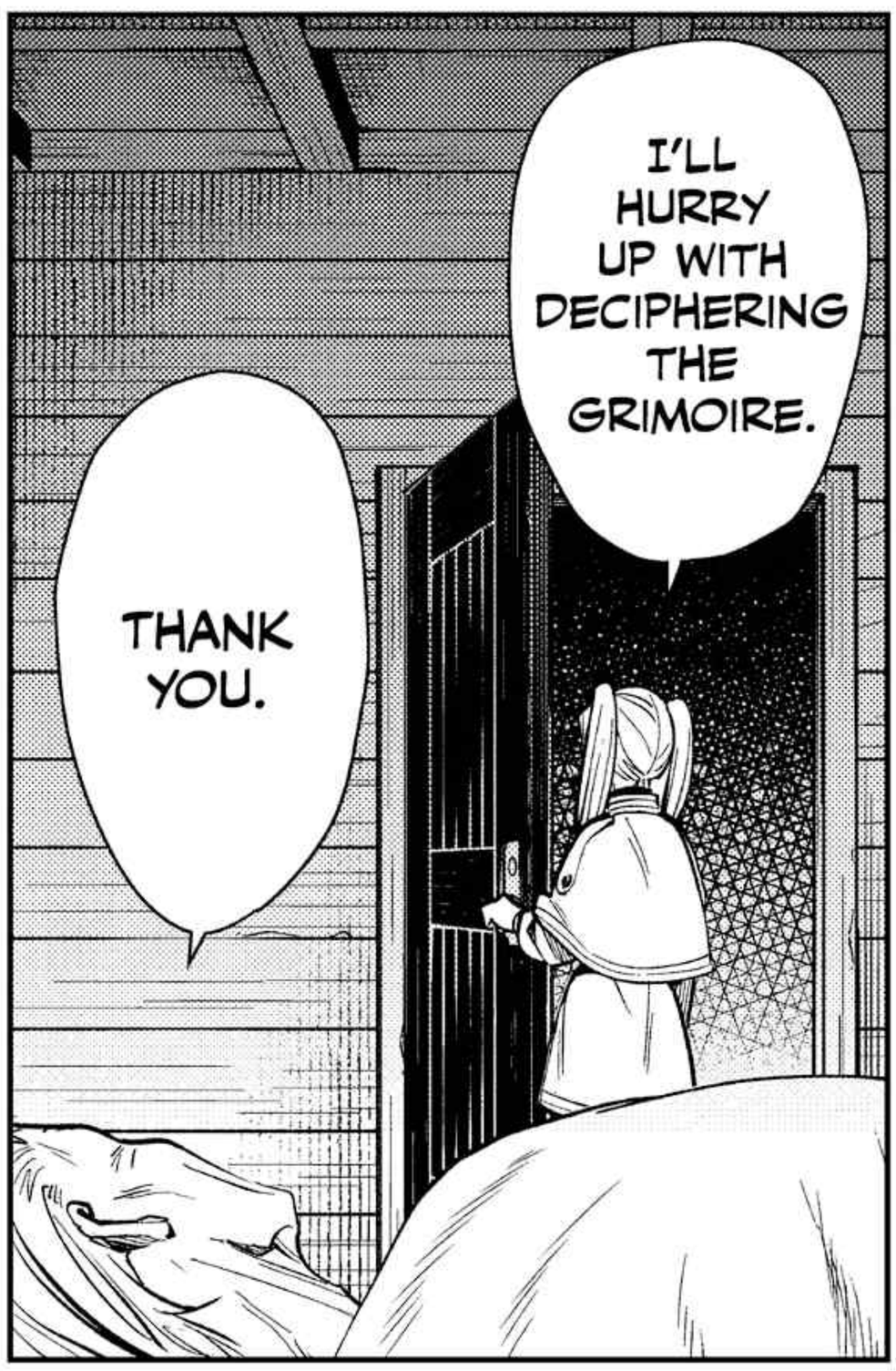


HEITER?




HEY, HEITER, THIS GRIMOIRE PROBABLY...
THUD

SSHHH


I'LL HURRY UP WITH DECIPHERING THE GRIMOIRE.
THANK YOU.

PLEASE DON'T LOOK SO WORRIED.
IT'S A MIRACLE THAT I WAS EVEN ABLE TO MOVE AROUND AND LIVE NORMALLY UNTIL NOW.

THAT'S SOMETHING YOU CAN DEFINITELY ACHIEVE EVENTUALLY.
BUT RIGHT NOW—

FERN, I'M CALLING OFF YOUR TRAINING.
GO STAY BY HIS SIDE.
HEITER COLLAPSED.

I HAVEN'T SHOT THROUGH THE BOULDER YET.

EVENTU-ALLY...

...HE WILL PASS AWAY.

IT CANNOT BE "EVENTU-ALLY".

HE SAVED MY LIFE.

I THINK IT'D BE SUCH A WASTE FOR YOU TO DIE NOW.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, BUT I ONCE LOST SOMEONE I CARED ABOUT TOO.
"A WASTE"...?

...IF HE HAD LIVED ON INSTEAD OF ME.
MORE PEOPLE WOULD HAVE BEEN SAVED...
HE WAS THE KIND OF PERSON WHO WOULD NEVER LEAVE BEHIND SOMEONE IN NEED.
UNLIKE ME, HIS HEART WAS IN THE RIGHT PLACE.
...ONE DAY I REALIZED SOMETHING.
I WASN'T LIKE HIM, SO I WAS GOING TO LIVE THE REST OF MY LIFE QUIETLY BUT...
...I WAS AFRAID THAT THE THINGS I LEARNED FROM HIM—COURAGE, DETERMINATION, FRIENDSHIP...
IF I WERE TO DIE...

ALL THOSE PRECIOUS MEMORIES WOULD DISAPPEAR FROM THE WORLD.

SO, IF YOU ALSO HAVE A PRECIOUS MEMORY LIVING INSIDE YOU...

...I THINK IT WOULD BE WASTED IF YOU WERE TO DIE.

HE HAS DONE THE RIGHT THING.

I DON'T WANT HIM TO REGRET SAVING ME.

MASTER HEITER HAS ALWAYS FEARED DYING AND LEAVING ME ALONE.

"SHE WAS WORTH SAVING," AND "SHE'LL BE JUST FINE ON HER OWN."

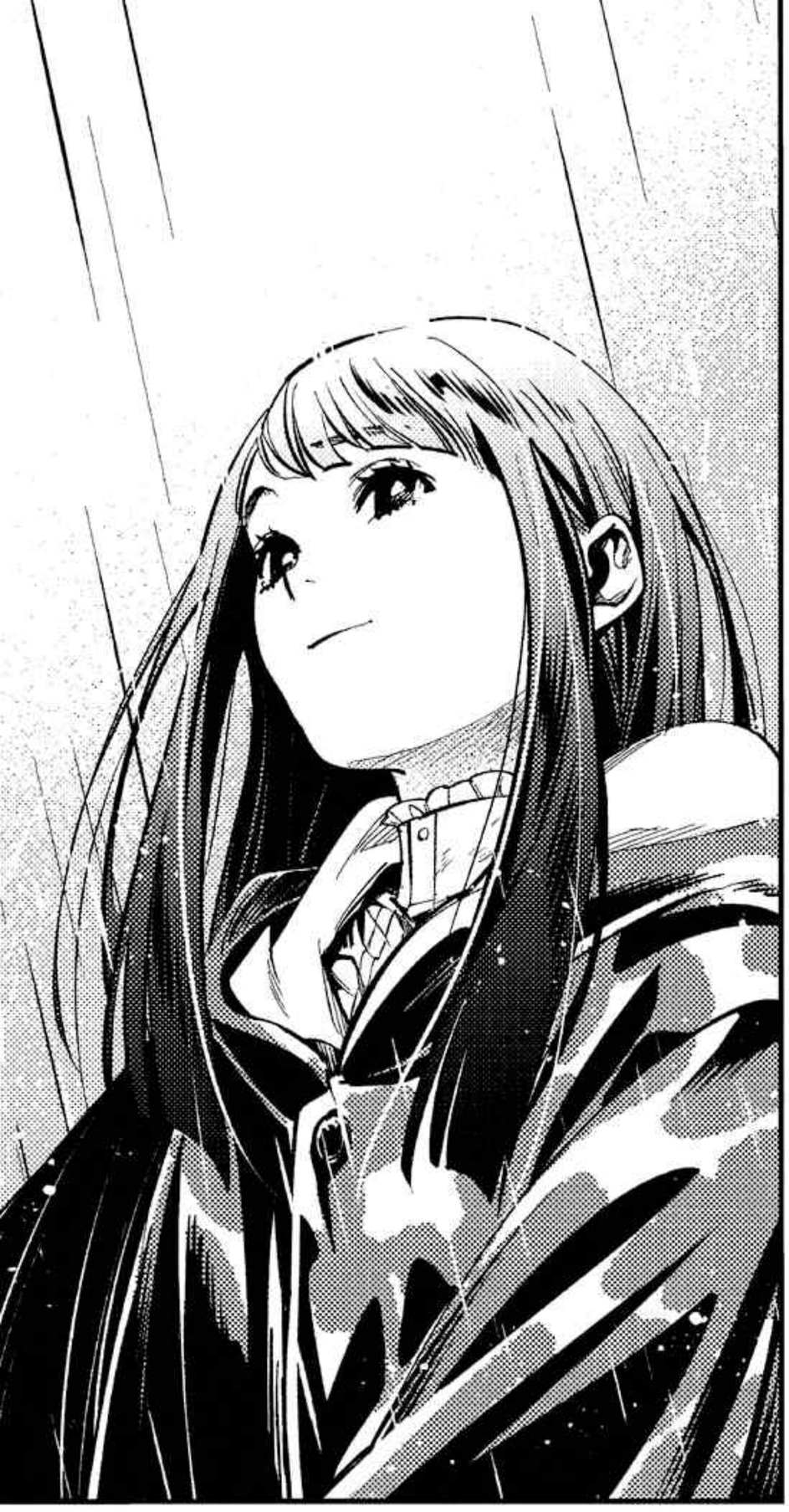
THAT'S WHAT I WANT HIM TO FEEL.

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER I'M A MAGE OR NOT.

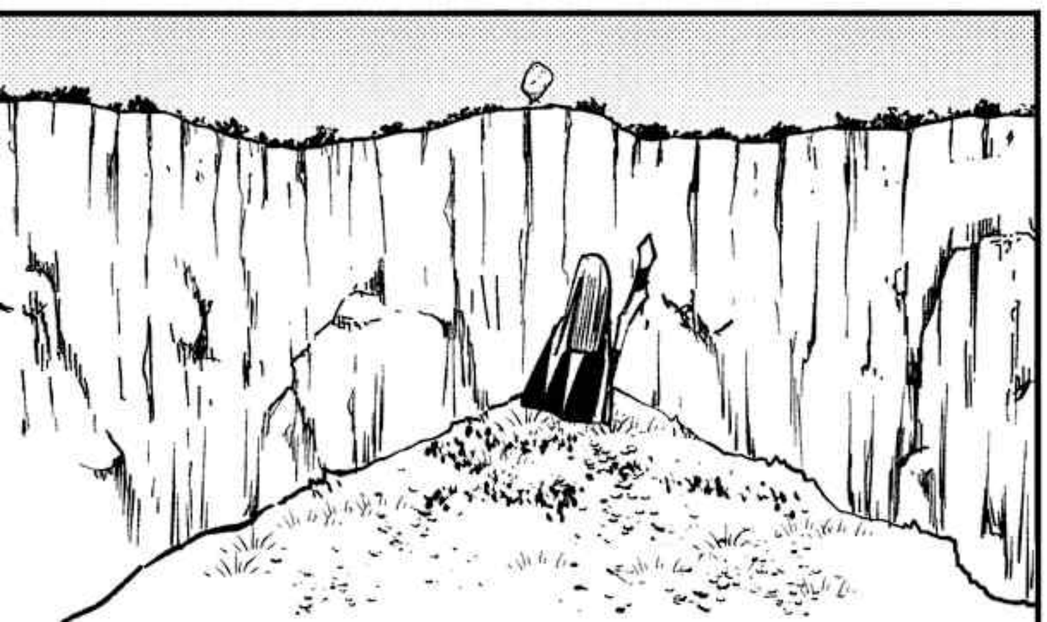
LEARNING HOW TO SURVIVE ON MY OWN WILL BE THE WAY I RETURN HIS KINDNESS.

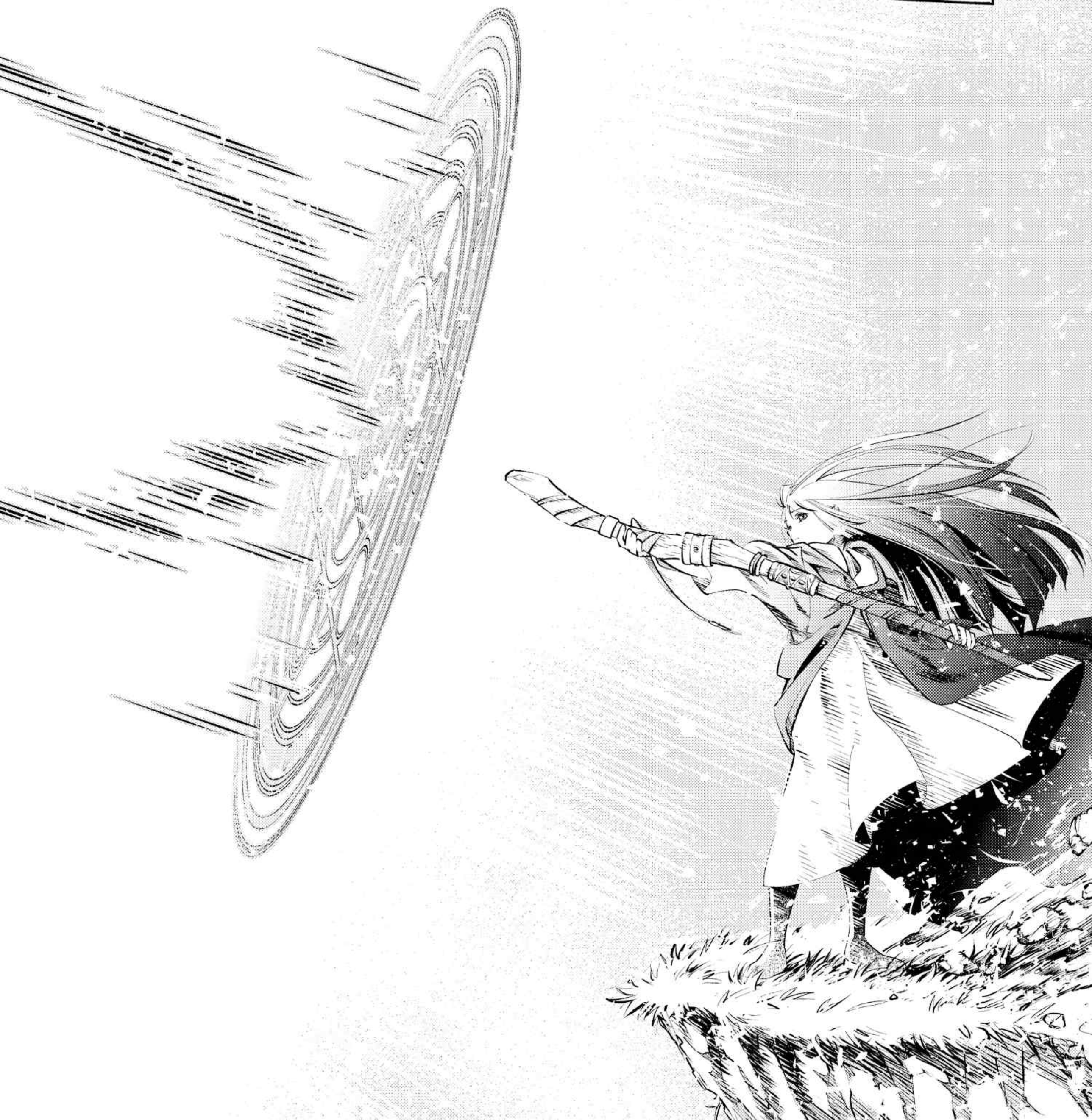
YES.

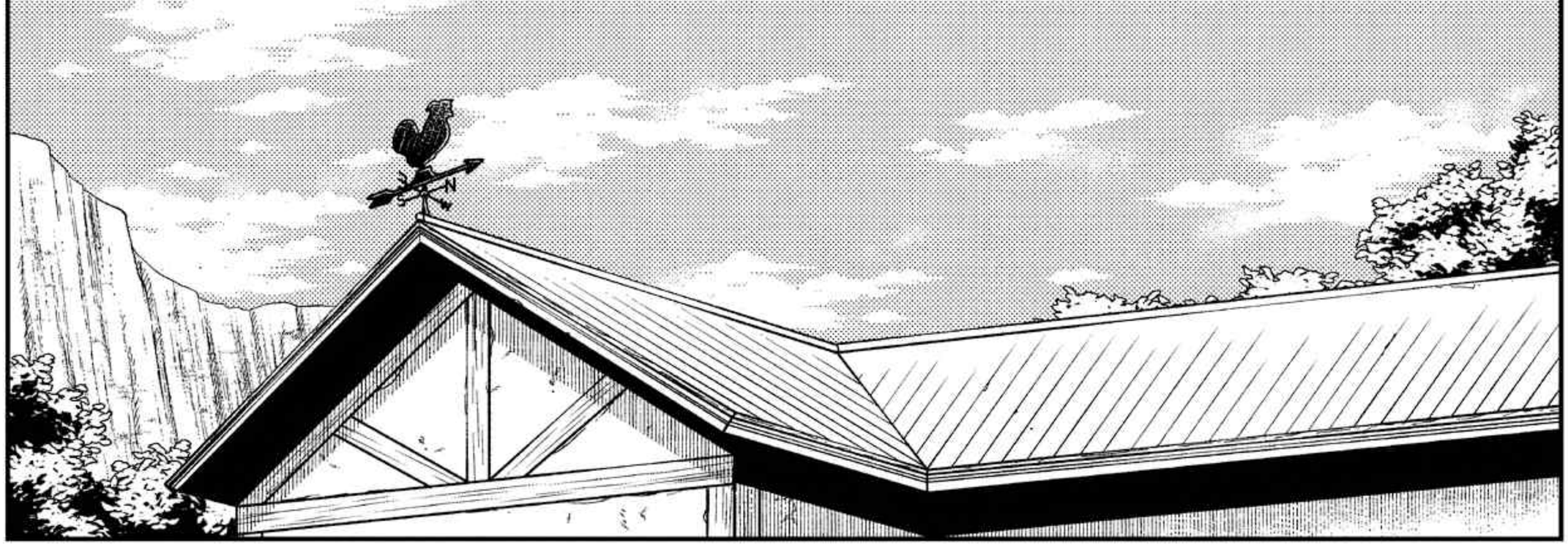
YOU REMEMBER EVERYTHING I TAUGHT YOU, RIGHT?

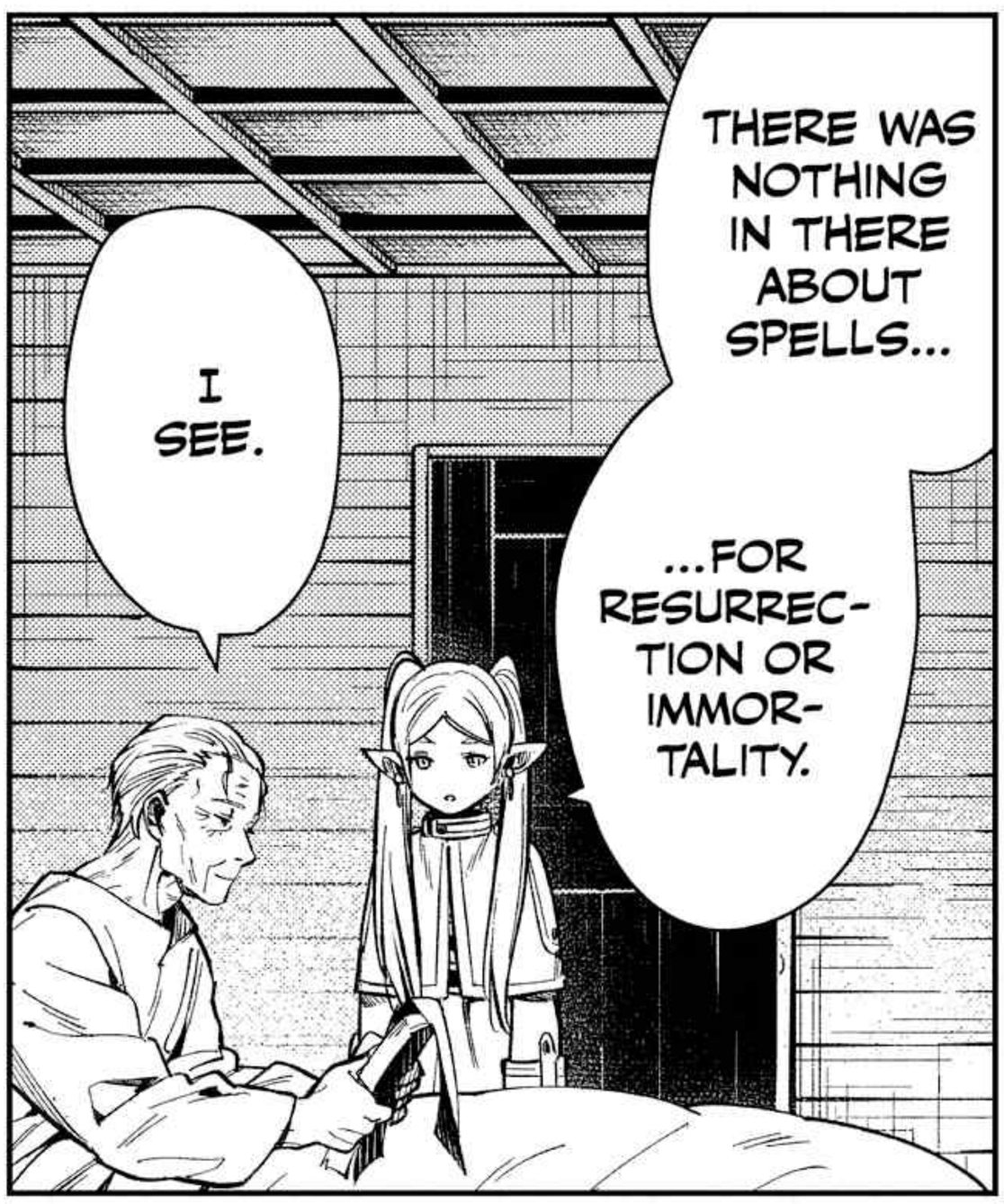


THEN DO AS YOU WISH.





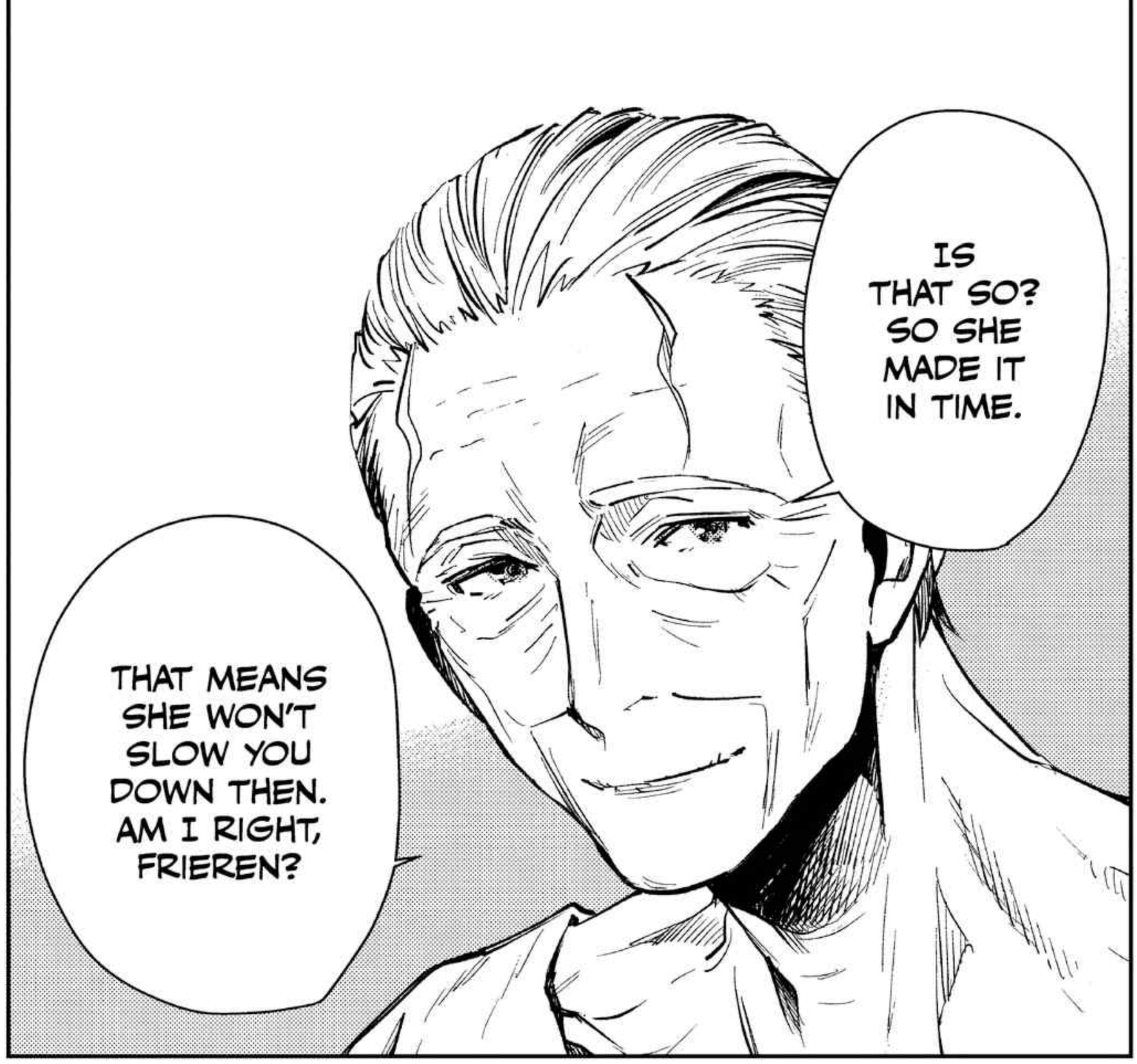


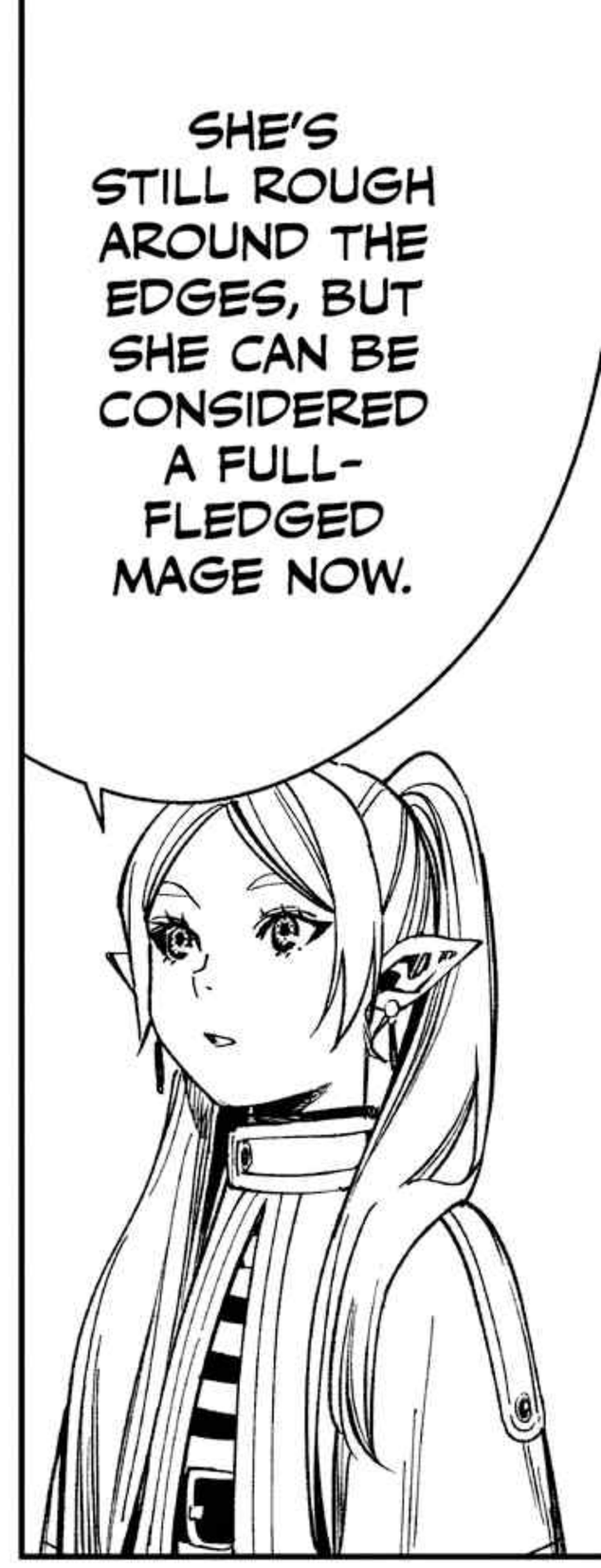

THERE WAS NOTHING IN THERE ABOUT SPELLS...
I SEE.
...FOR RESURRECTION OR IMMORTALITY.

FWMP

THEN WHY–
HOW HAS FERN TURNED OUT?

DID YOU KNOW?
THE FEAR OF DEATH IS UNFATHOMABLE.
IF SUCH SPELLS EXISTED, EWIG HIMSELF WOULD HAVE USED THEM.

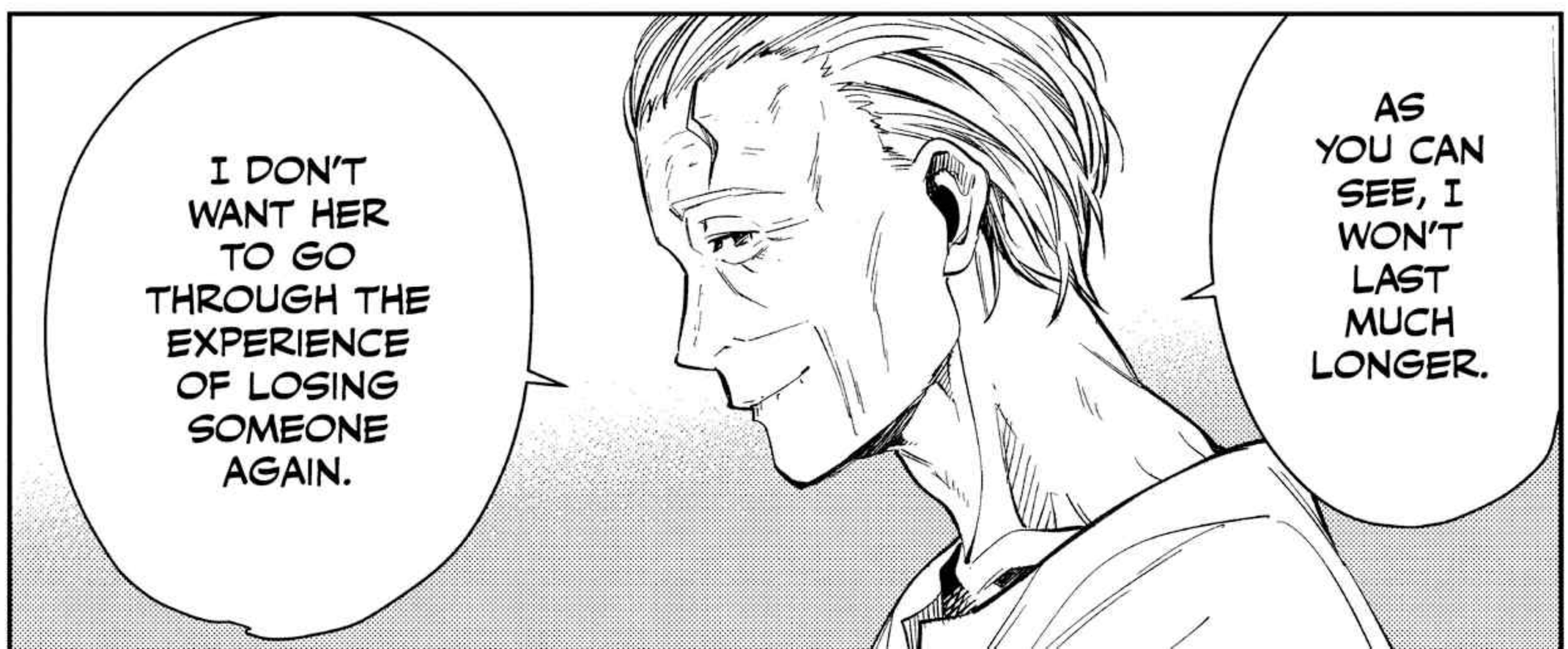

IS THAT SO? SO SHE MADE IT IN TIME.
THAT MEANS SHE WON'T SLOW YOU DOWN THEN. AM I RIGHT, FRIEREN?


SHE'S STILL ROUGH AROUND THE EDGES, BUT SHE CAN BE CONSIDERED A FULL-FLEDGED MAGE NOW.

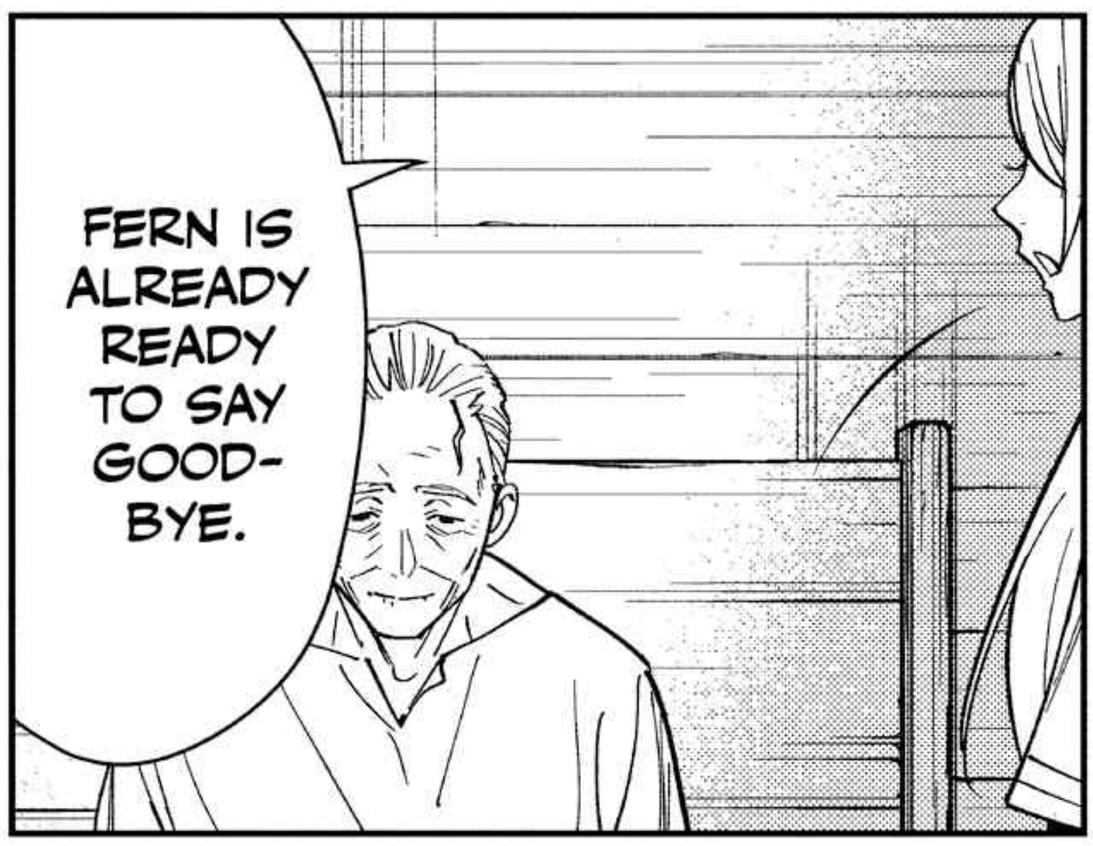
WHY?
YOUR PAYMENT FOR DECIPHERING THE GRIMOIRE IS IN THE DESK DRAWER.
PLEASE LEAVE THIS PLACE WITH HER BY TONIGHT.

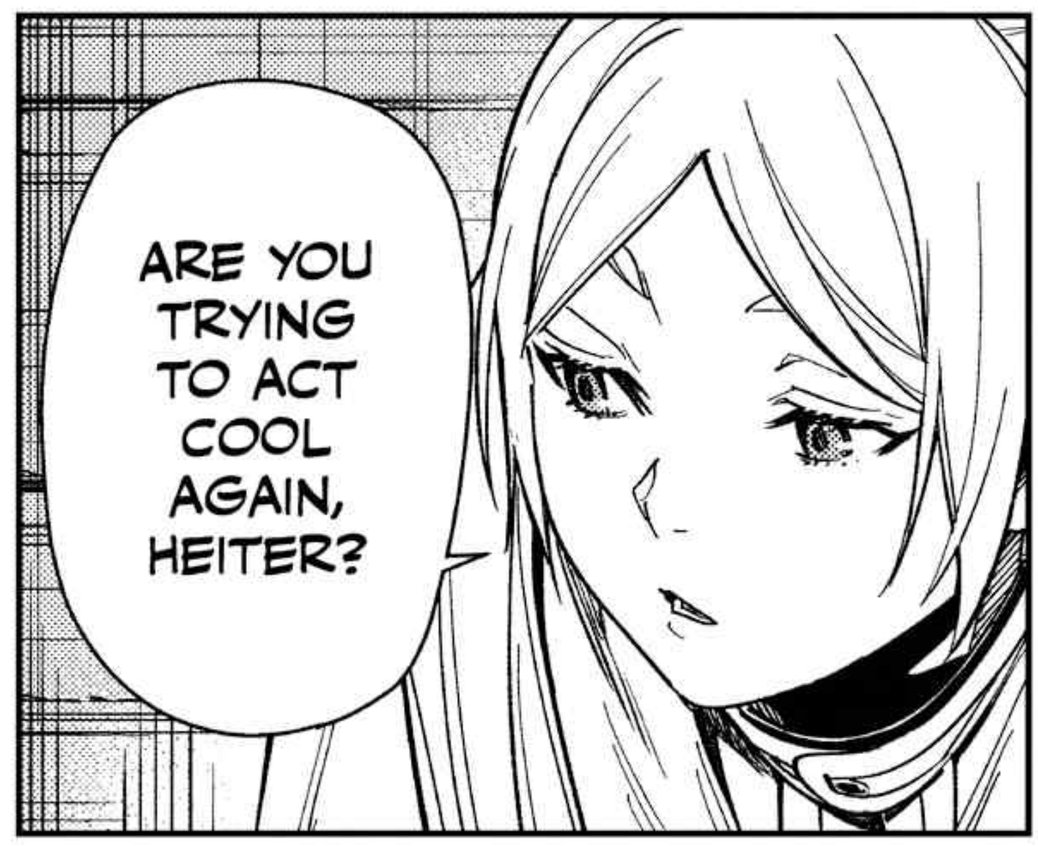
HA HA HA...
...YOU TRICKED ME, HEITER.

SORRY, HEITER. ANYTHING BUT THAT.
SHE'D SLOW ME DOWN.


I DON'T WANT HER TO GO THROUGH THE EXPERIENCE OF LOSING SOMEONE AGAIN.
AS YOU CAN SEE, I WON'T LAST MUCH LONGER.

FRIEREN, PLEASE LOOK AFTER FERN.



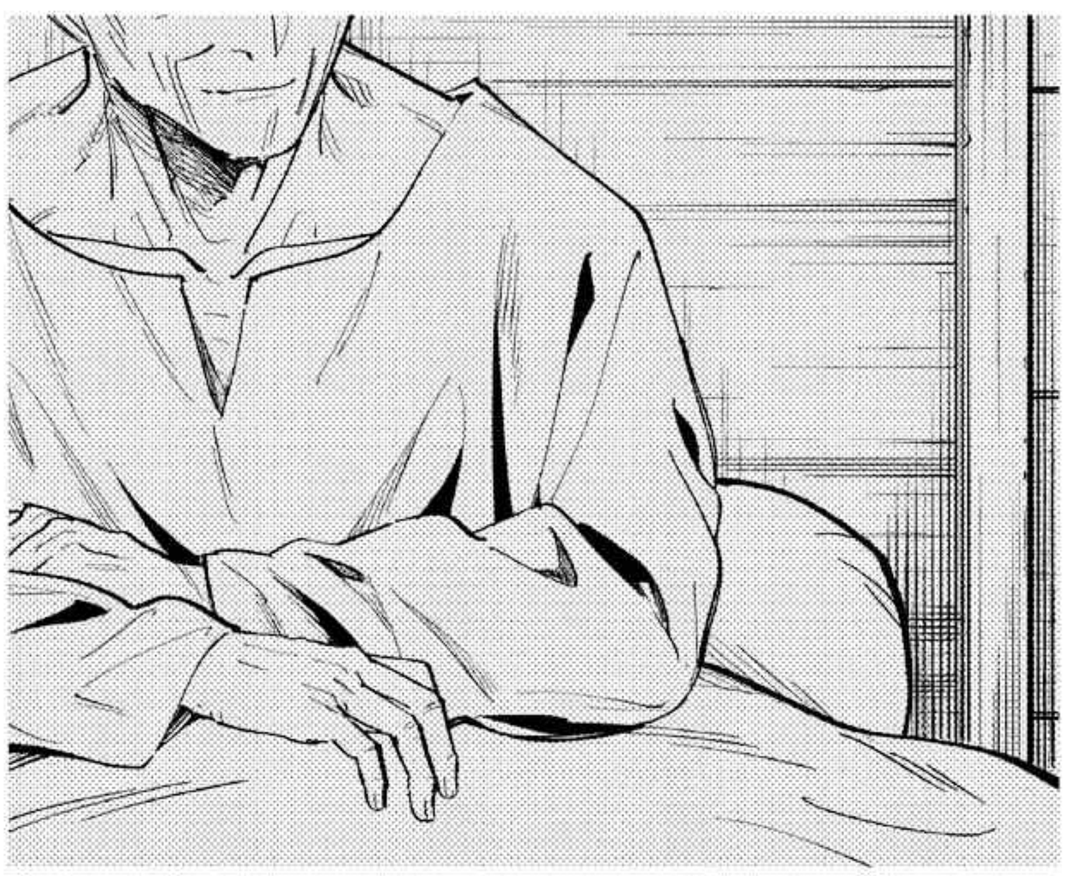


WHAT YOU SHOULD DO BEFORE YOU DIE...

...IS GIVE HER A PROPER FAREWELL...

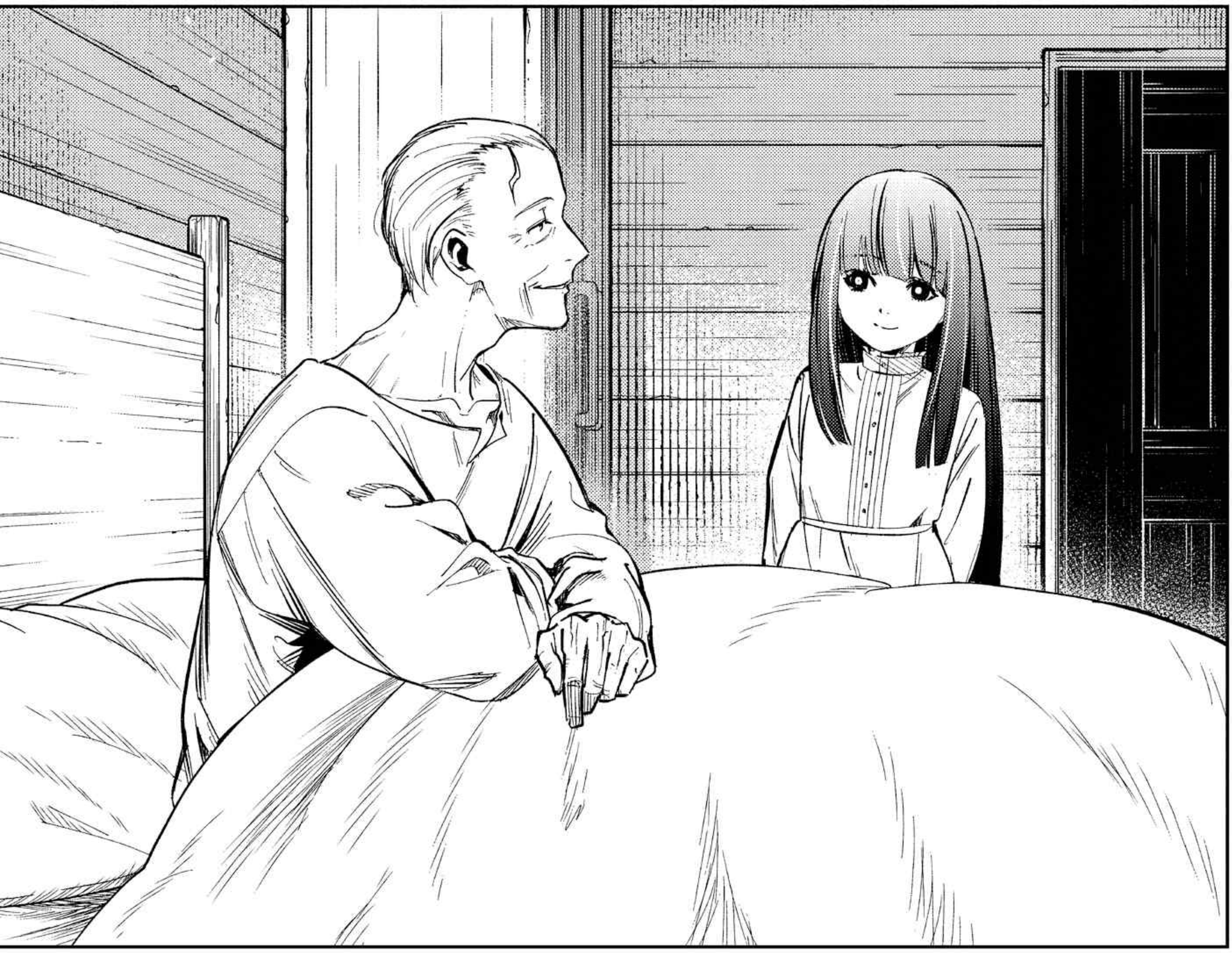
...AND MAKE AS MANY MEMORIES WITH HER AS POSSIBLE.

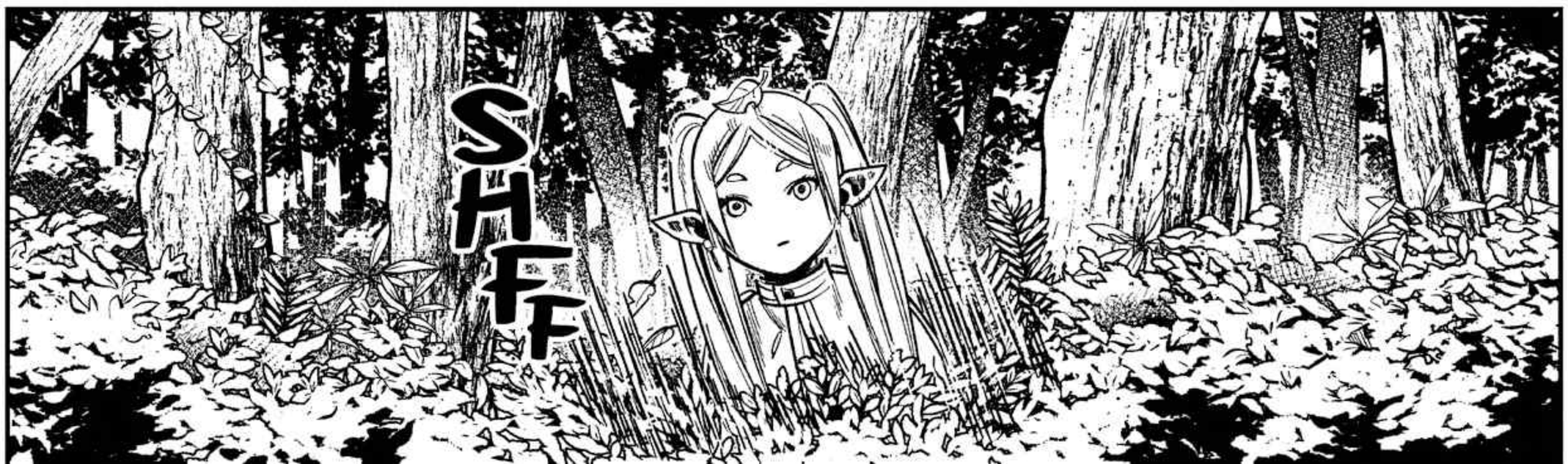
FRIEREN, YOU TRULY ARE A KIND GIRL.



YES, HE WOULD'VE.

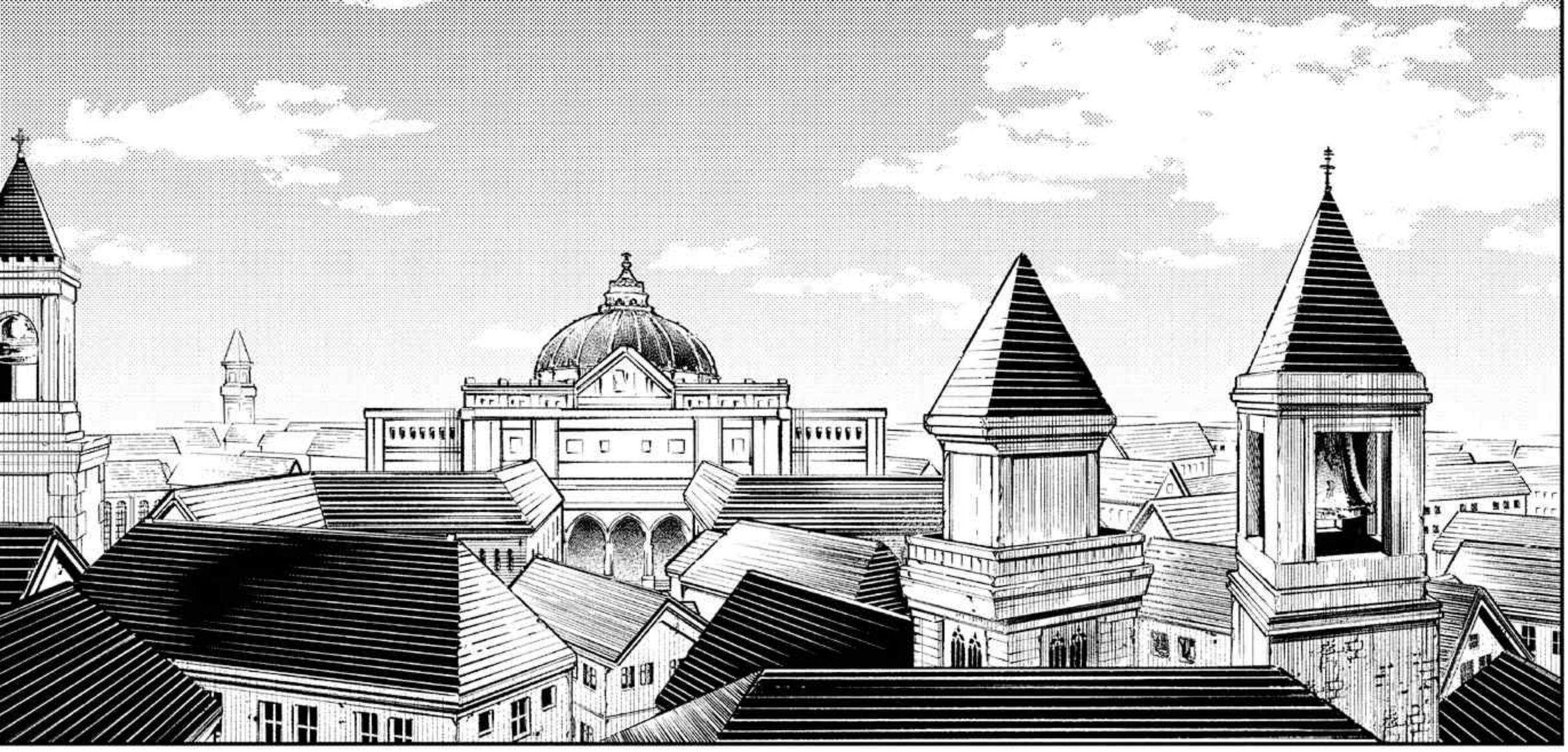
BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT HIMMEL THE HERO WOULD'VE DONE.

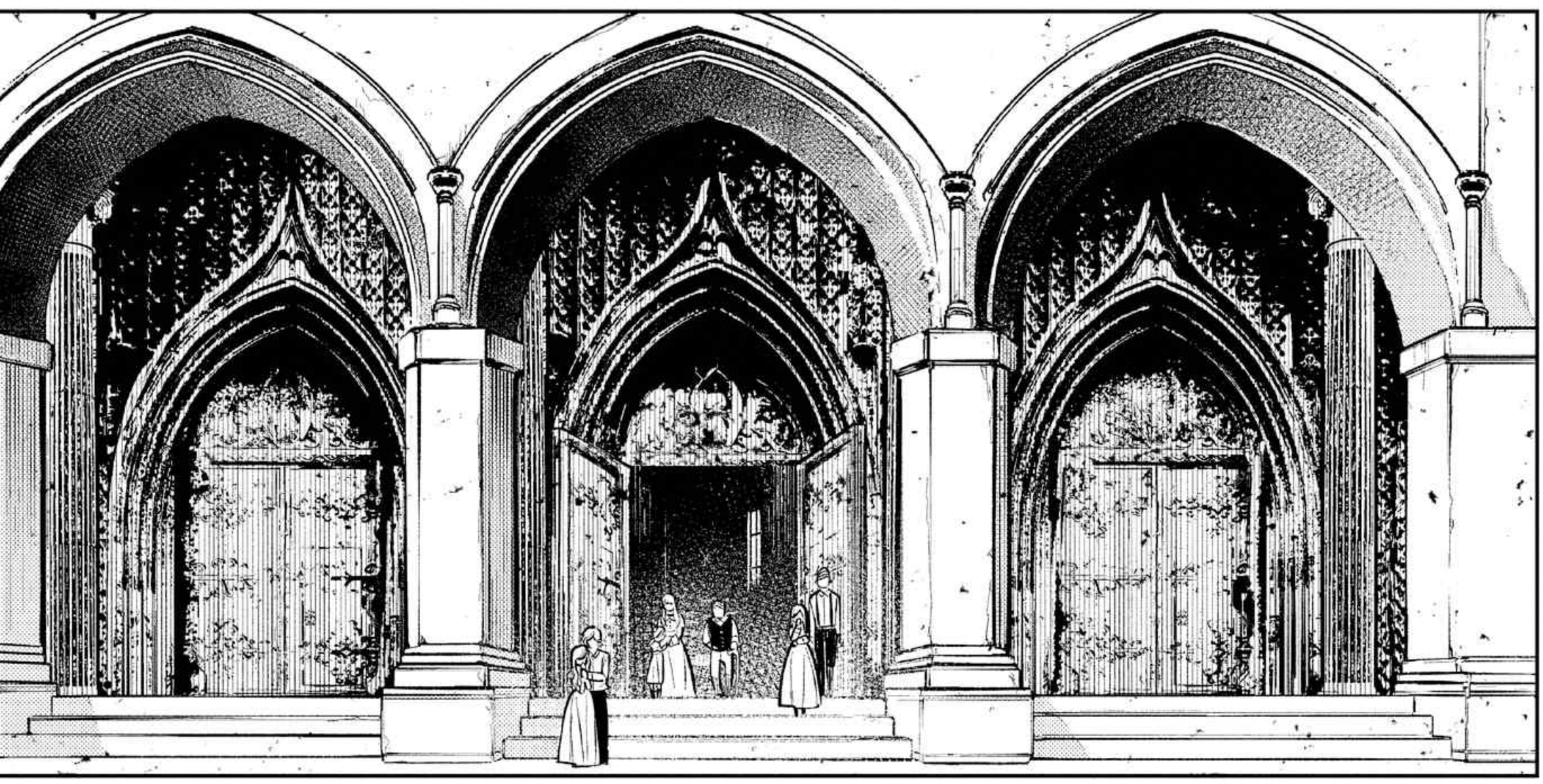



SHFF

...I'LL DO THE SAME.

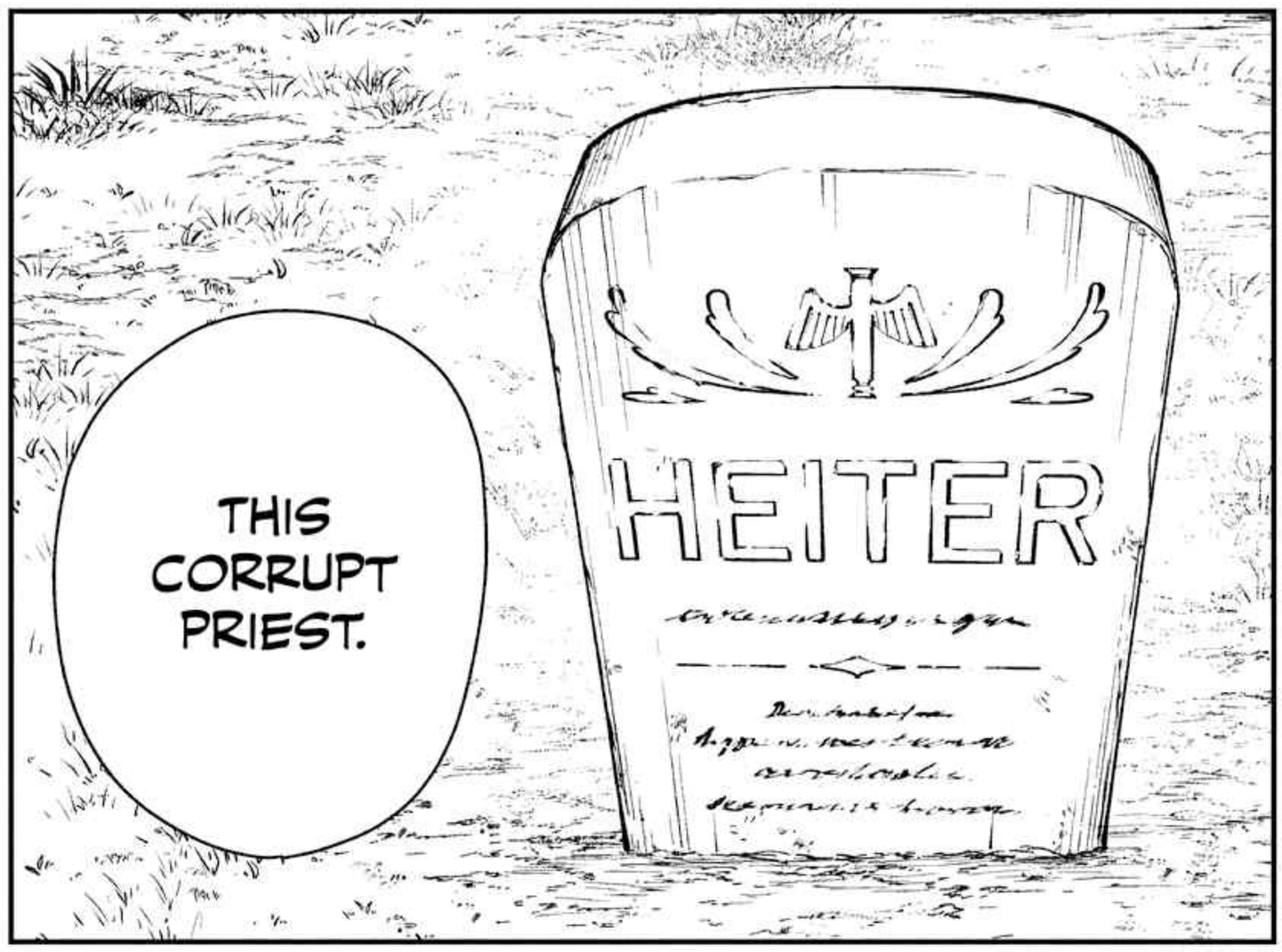
THEN I SUPPOSE...





THANKS TO YOU, I WAS ABLE TO REPAY HIM.

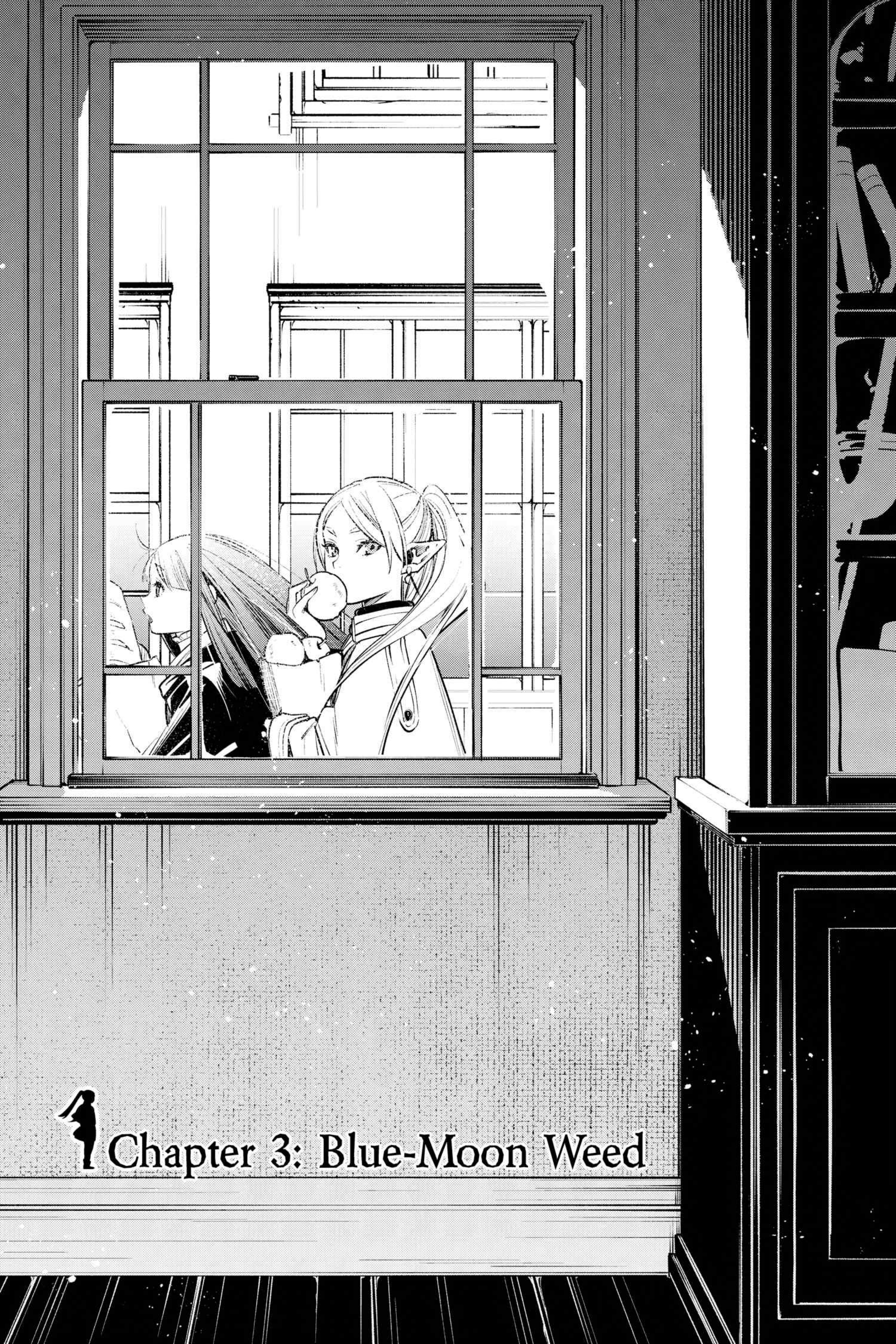
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



OKAY, LET'S GO.

Frieren

Beyond Journey's End

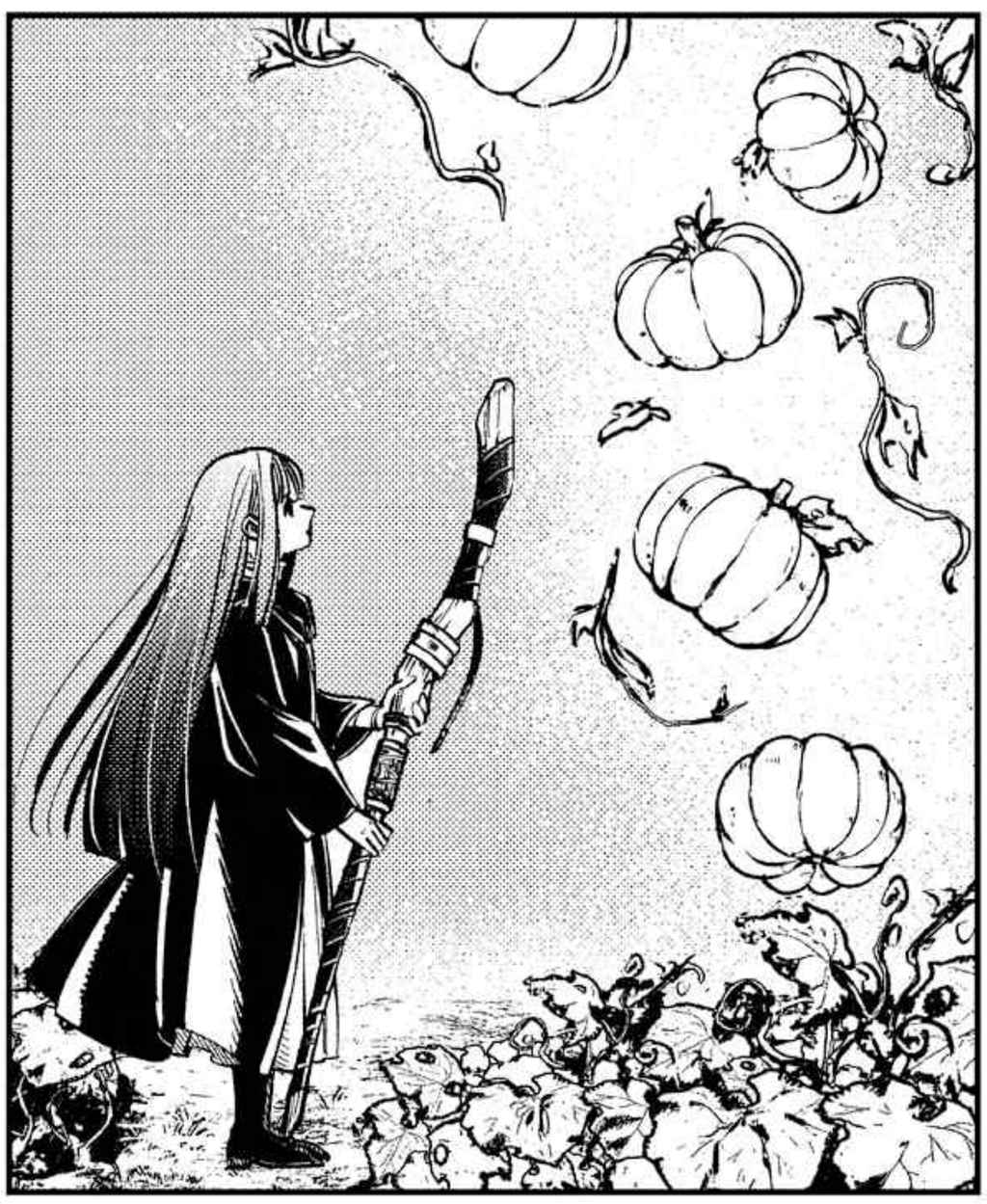


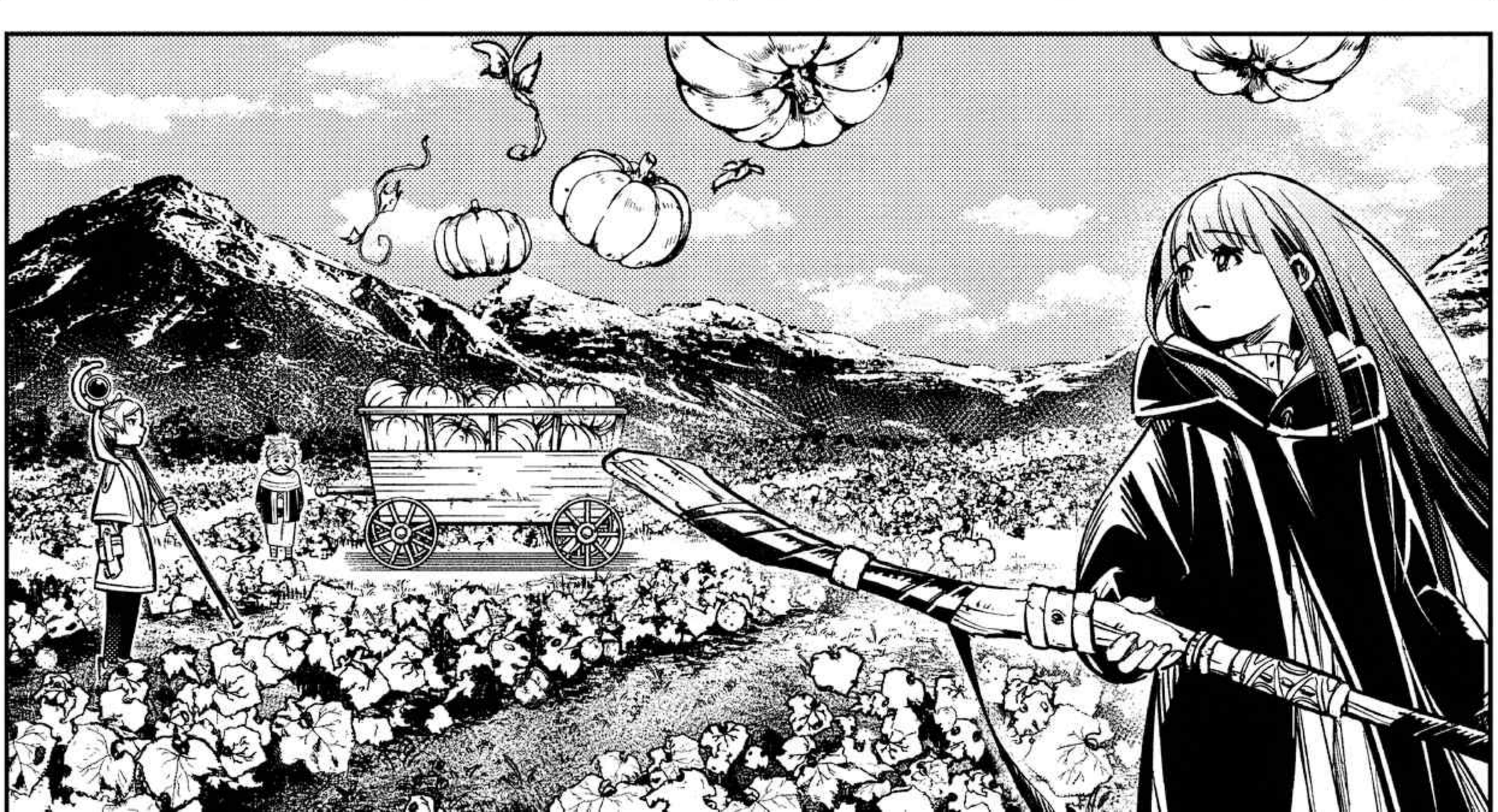
Chapter 3: Blue-Moon Weed

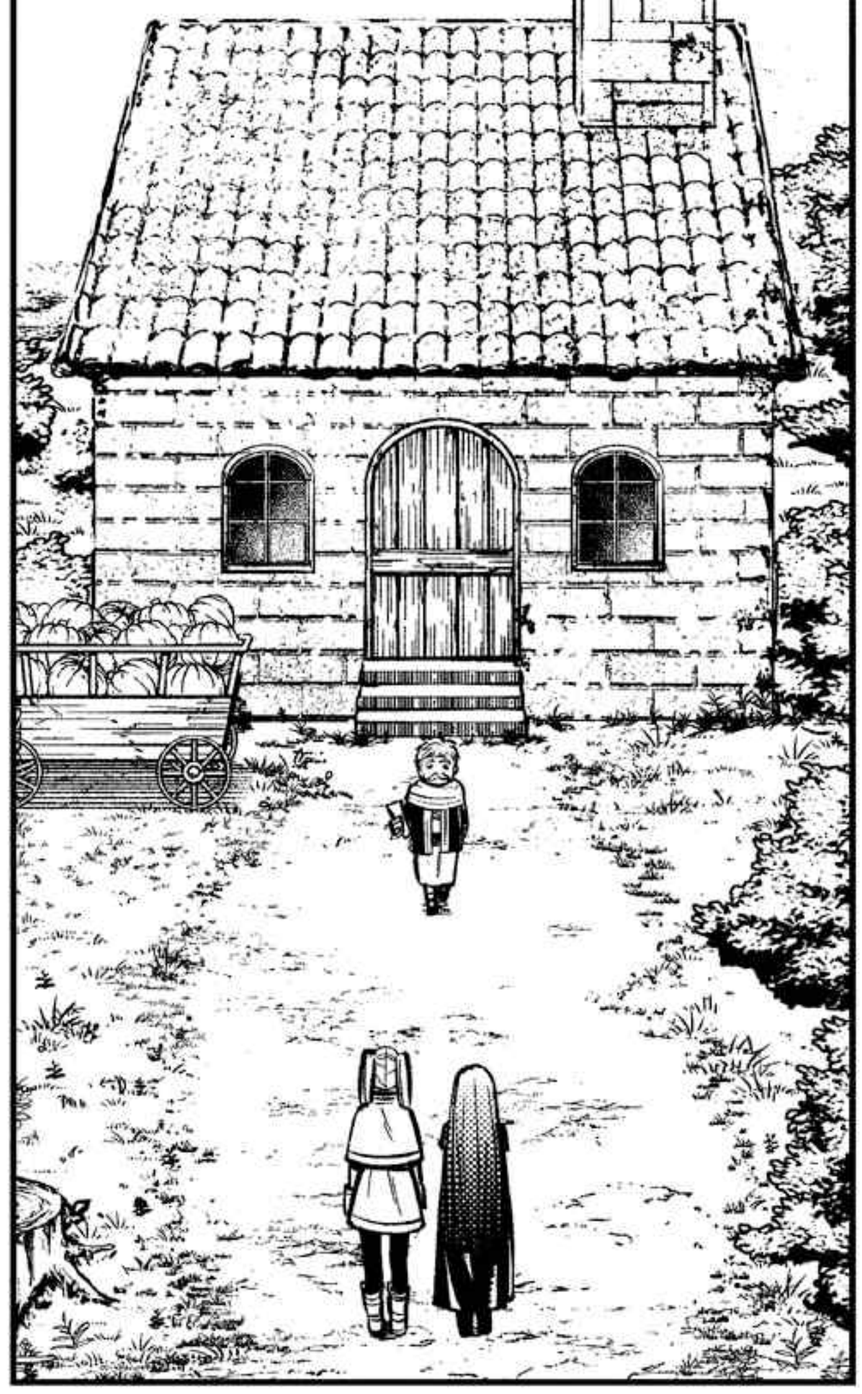
CENTRAL LANDS

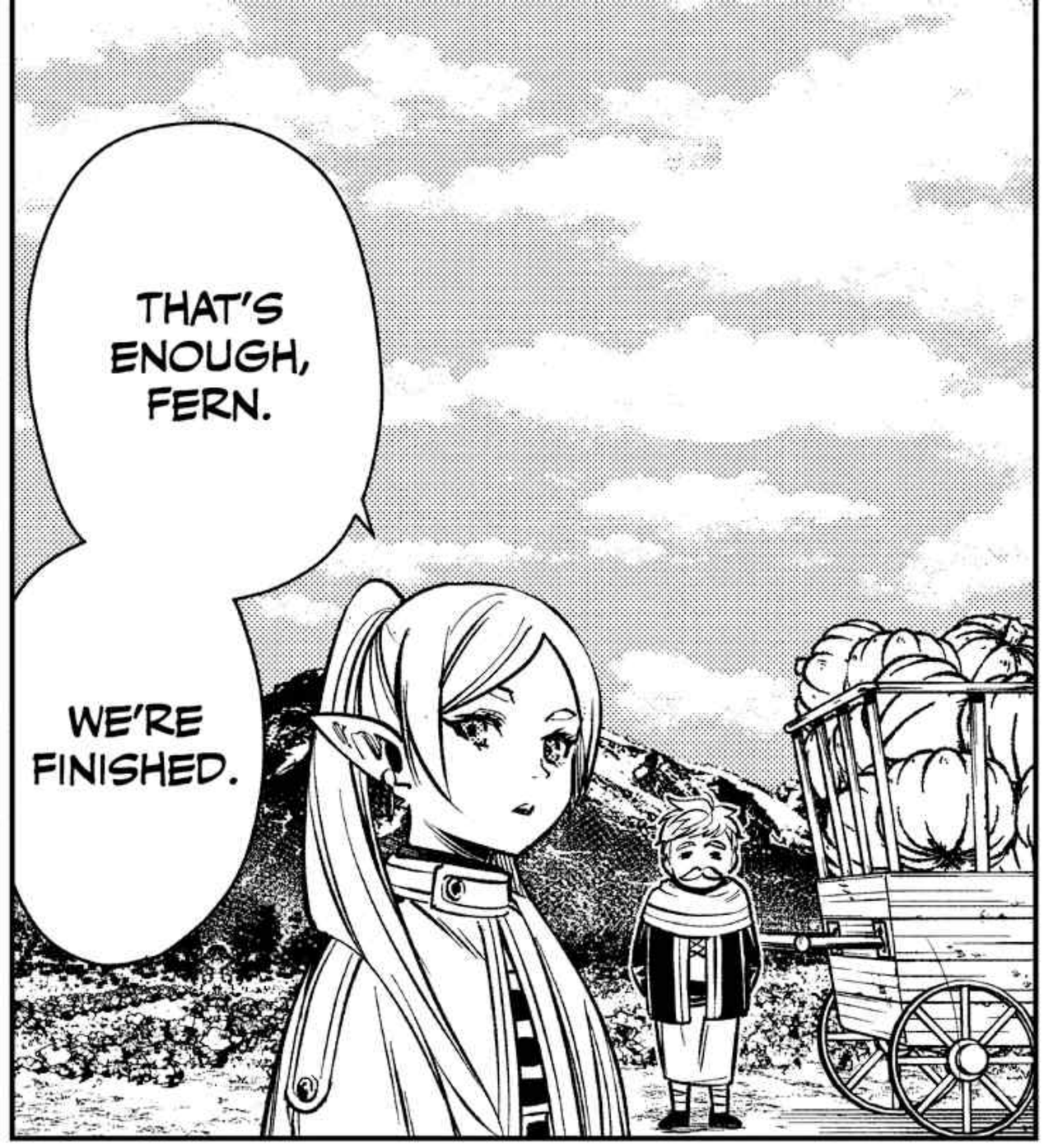
TURK REGION

TWENTY-SIX YEARS AFTER HIMMEL THE HERO'S DEATH

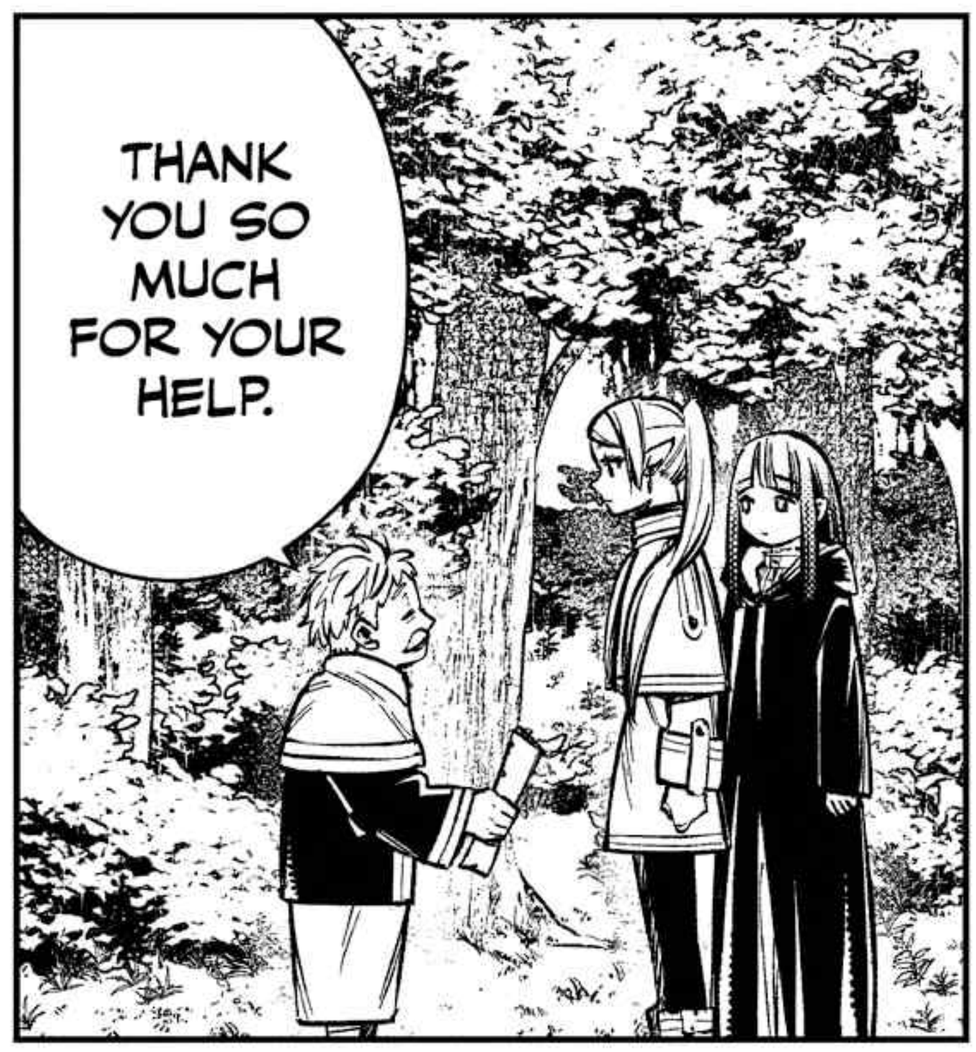







THAT'S ENOUGH, FERN.
WE'RE FINISHED.

HERE'S THE REWARD I PROMISED YOU.


THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP.

WHAT ADVENTURERS REALLY DO IS NOT AS FANCY AS EVERYONE THINKS.
WE'VE BEEN ONLY DOING LOW-PROFILE JOBS.

SHINE

THE OTHER DAY WE GOT A SPELL THAT REMOVES RUST FROM BRONZE STATUES.

AND BEFORE THAT, A SPELL THAT TURNS SWEET GRAPES INTO SOUR ONES.

How is it?

It's sour.

WHAT WAS THE REWARD?

FOLK MAGIC.

IT SAYS IT'S A SPELL THAT PRODUCES HOT TEA.

LET'S EXPERI-MENT LATER.

YOU TRULY LOVE MAGIC, DON'T YOU, MISTRESS FRIEREN?

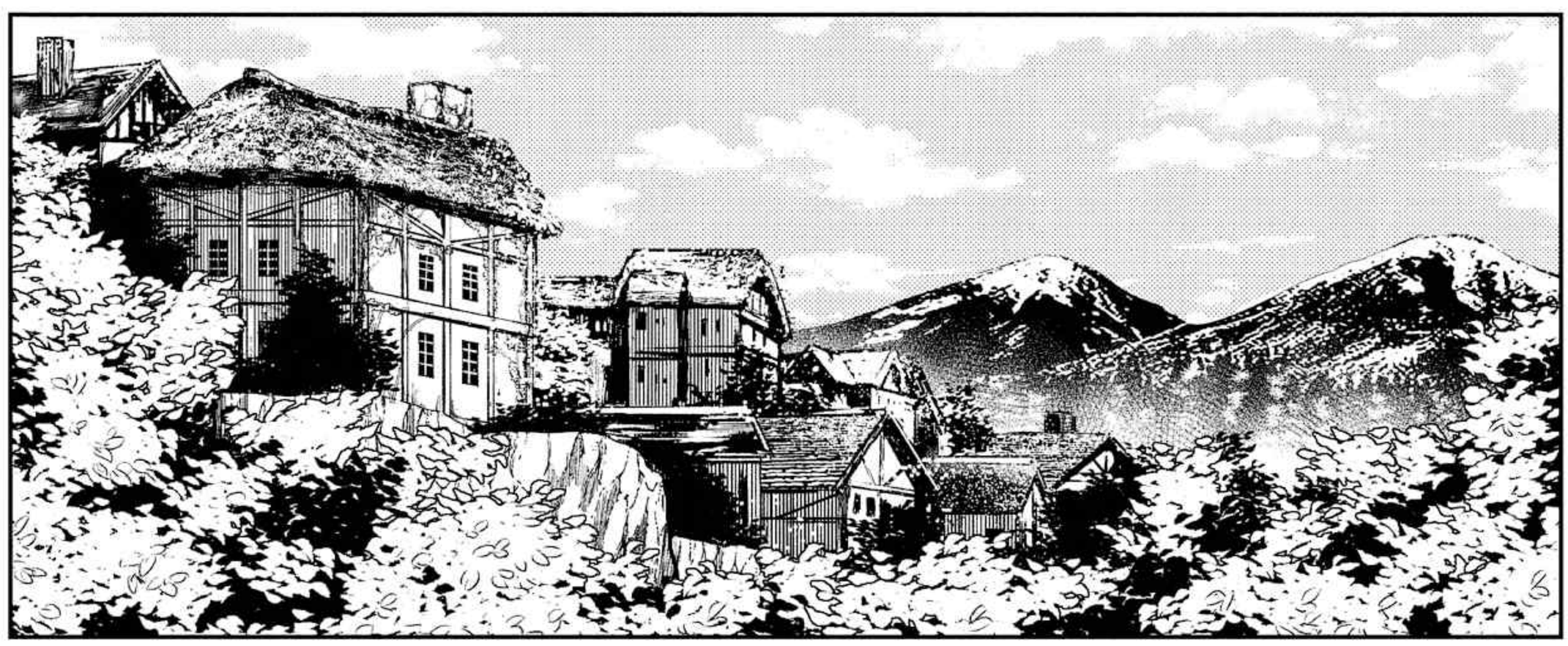
YOU'RE COLLECT-ING NOTHING BUT STRANGE SPELLS.

IT'S WHAT I LIKE.

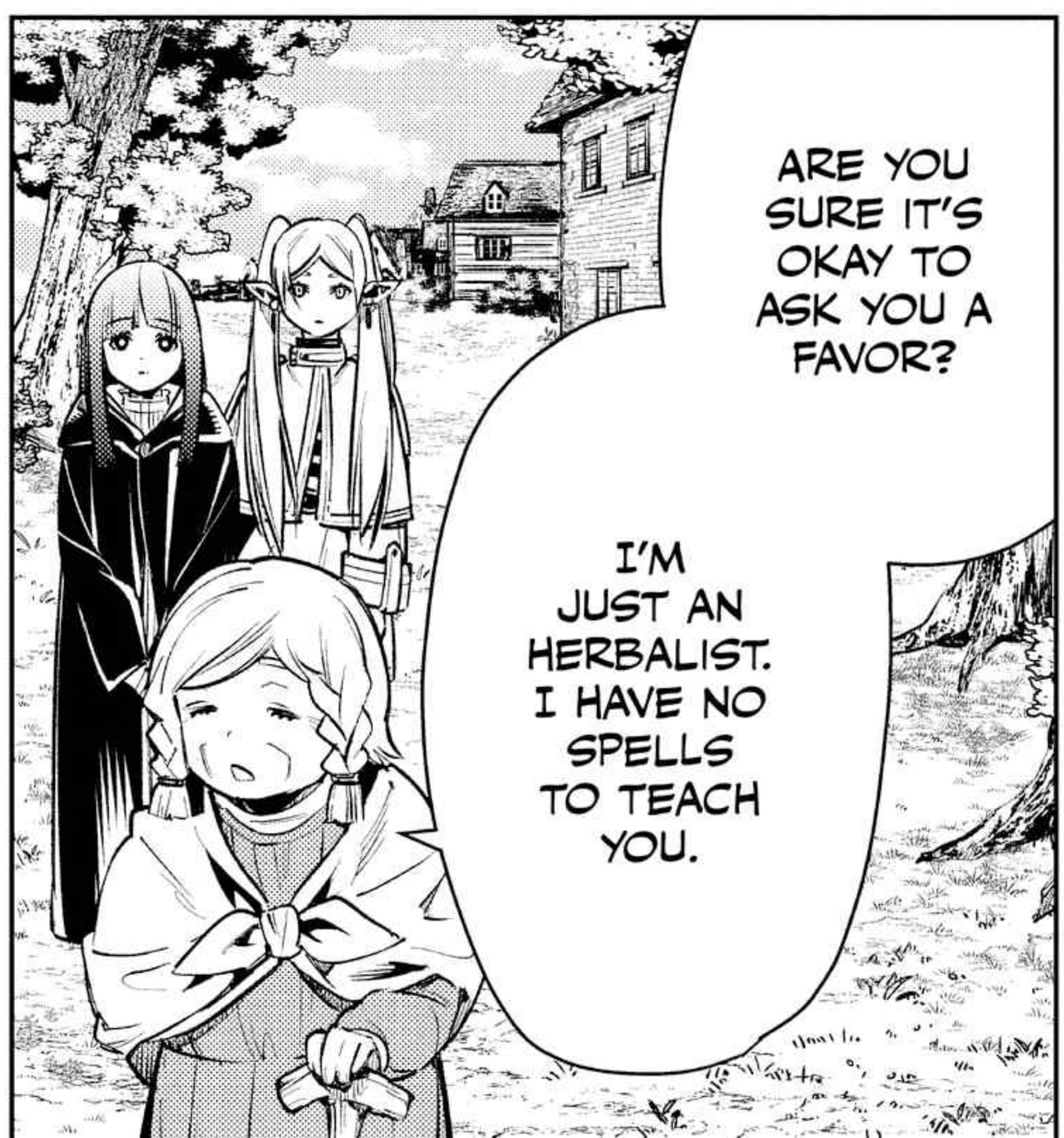
ONLY SOMEWHAT. JUST LIKE YOU, FERN.

IT'S THE SAME.

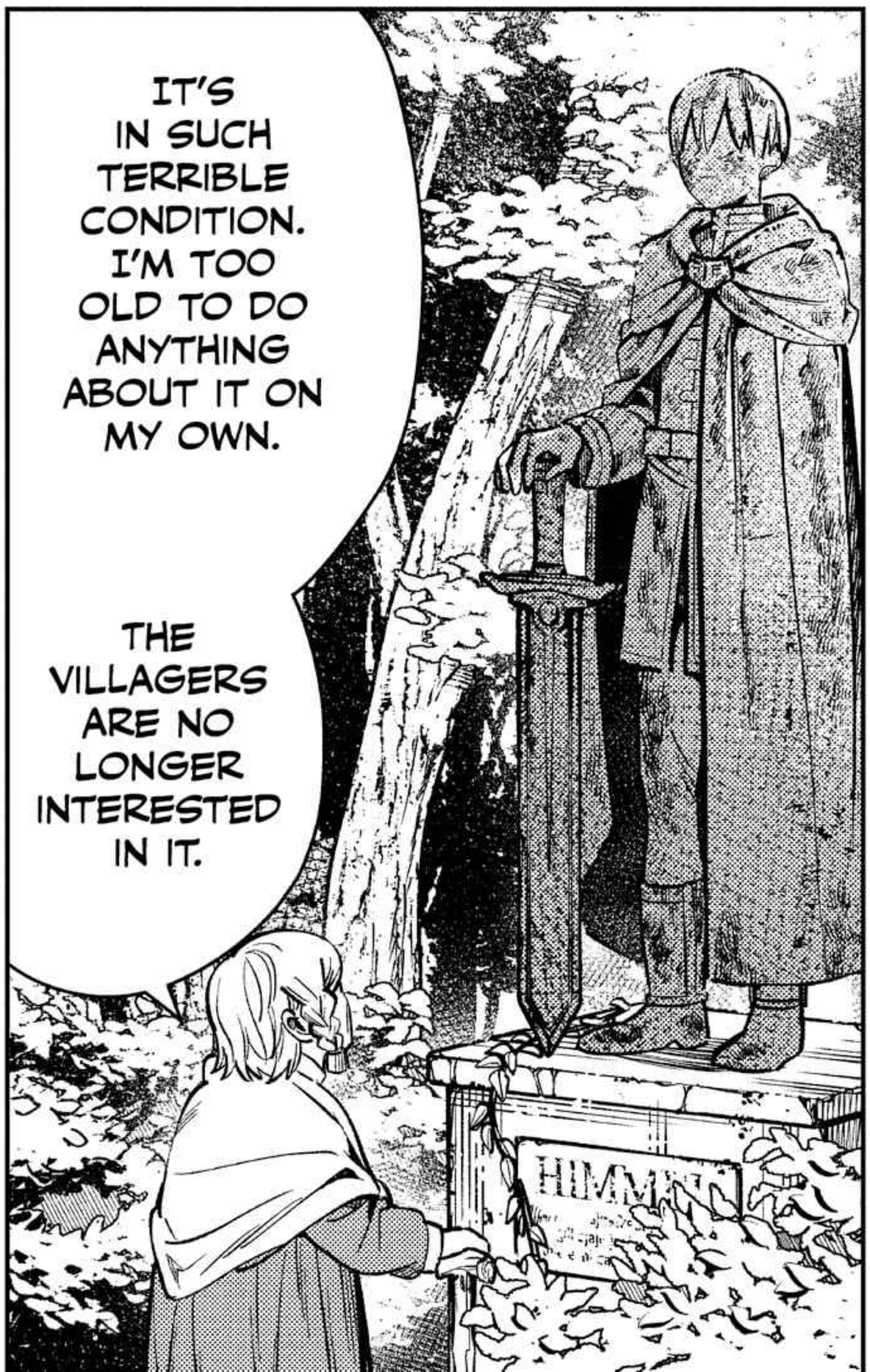
I FEEL LIKE IT'S A LITTLE DIFFER-ENT...

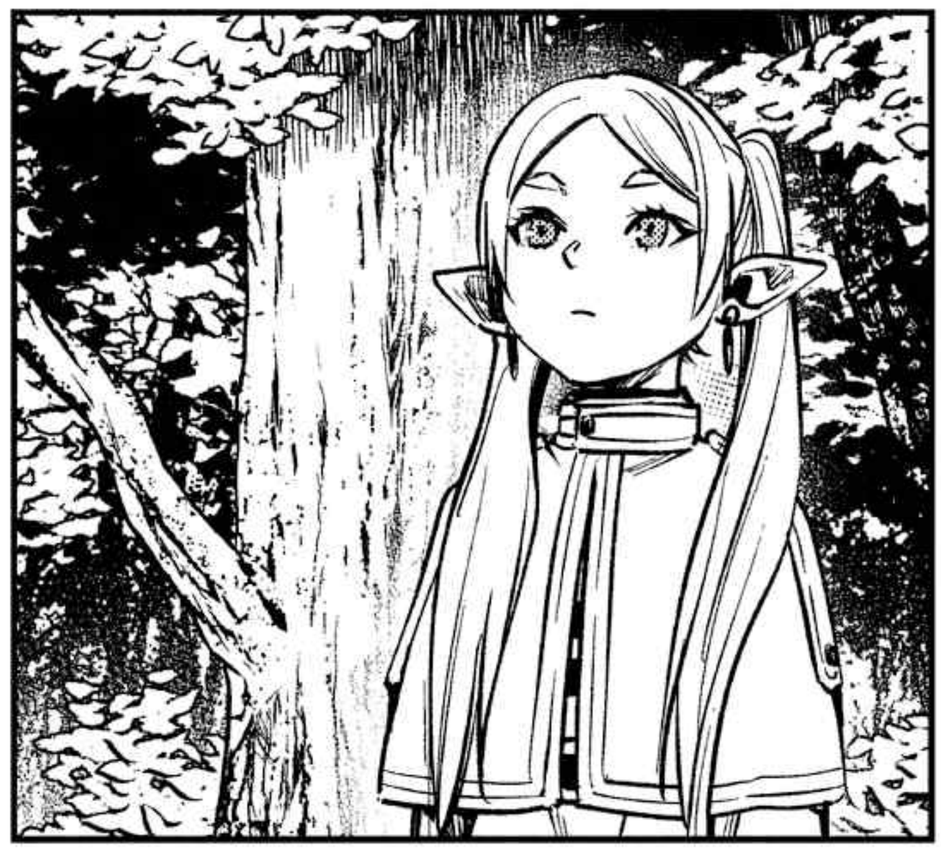


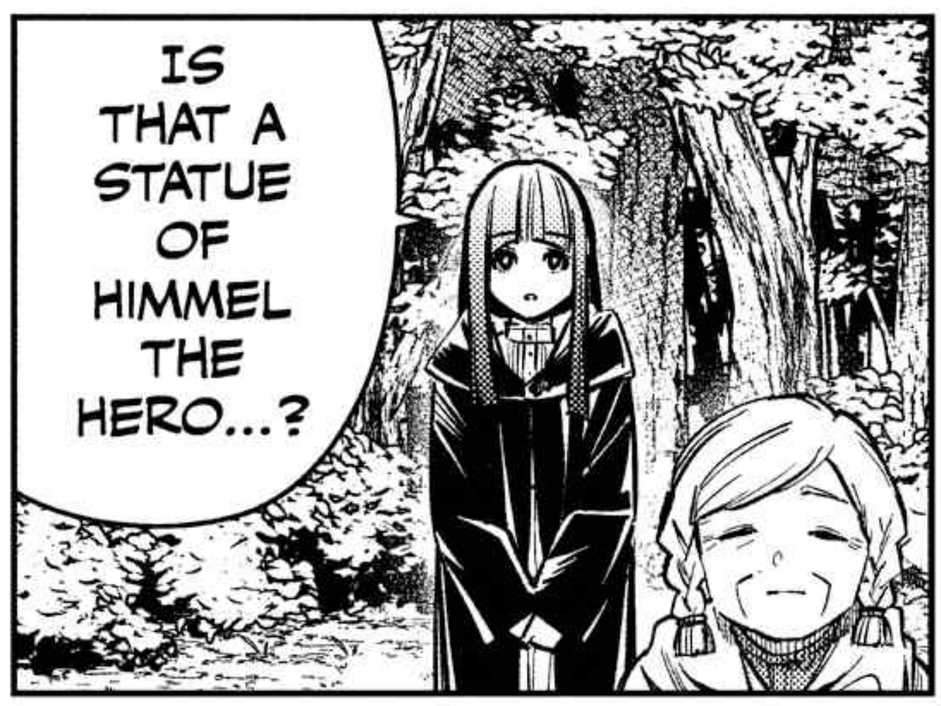
I DON'T MIND.
IT'D BE HELPFUL ENOUGH TO LEARN ABOUT THE FLORA IN THIS REGION.


ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY TO ASK YOU A FAVOR?
I'M JUST AN HERBALIST. I HAVE NO SPELLS TO TEACH YOU.

HERE WE ARE.
HIMMEL

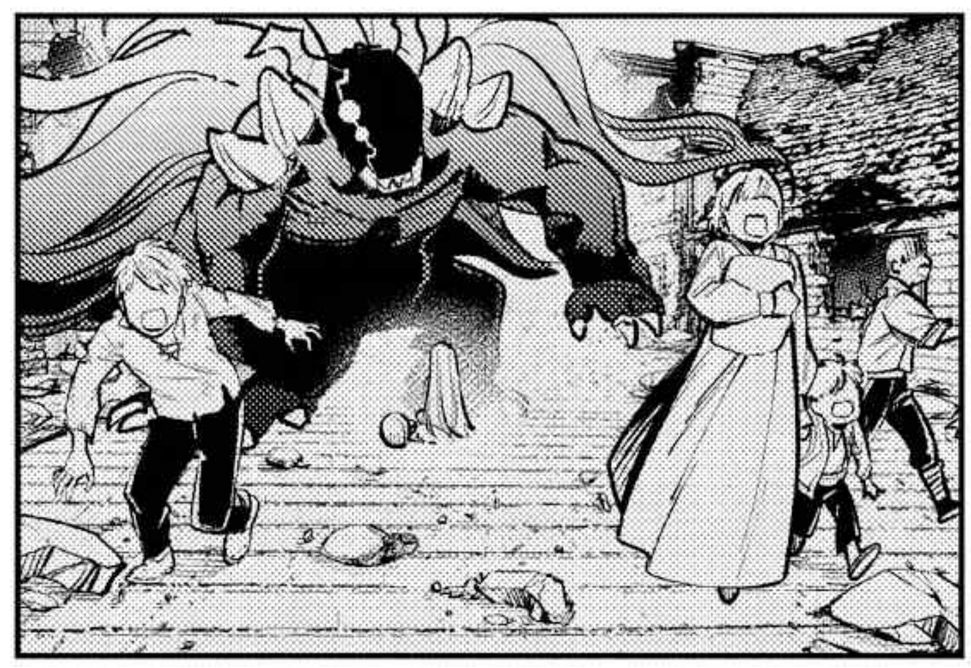

IT'S IN SUCH TERRIBLE CONDITION. I'M TOO OLD TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT ON MY OWN.
THE VILLAGERS ARE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN IT.
HIMMEL

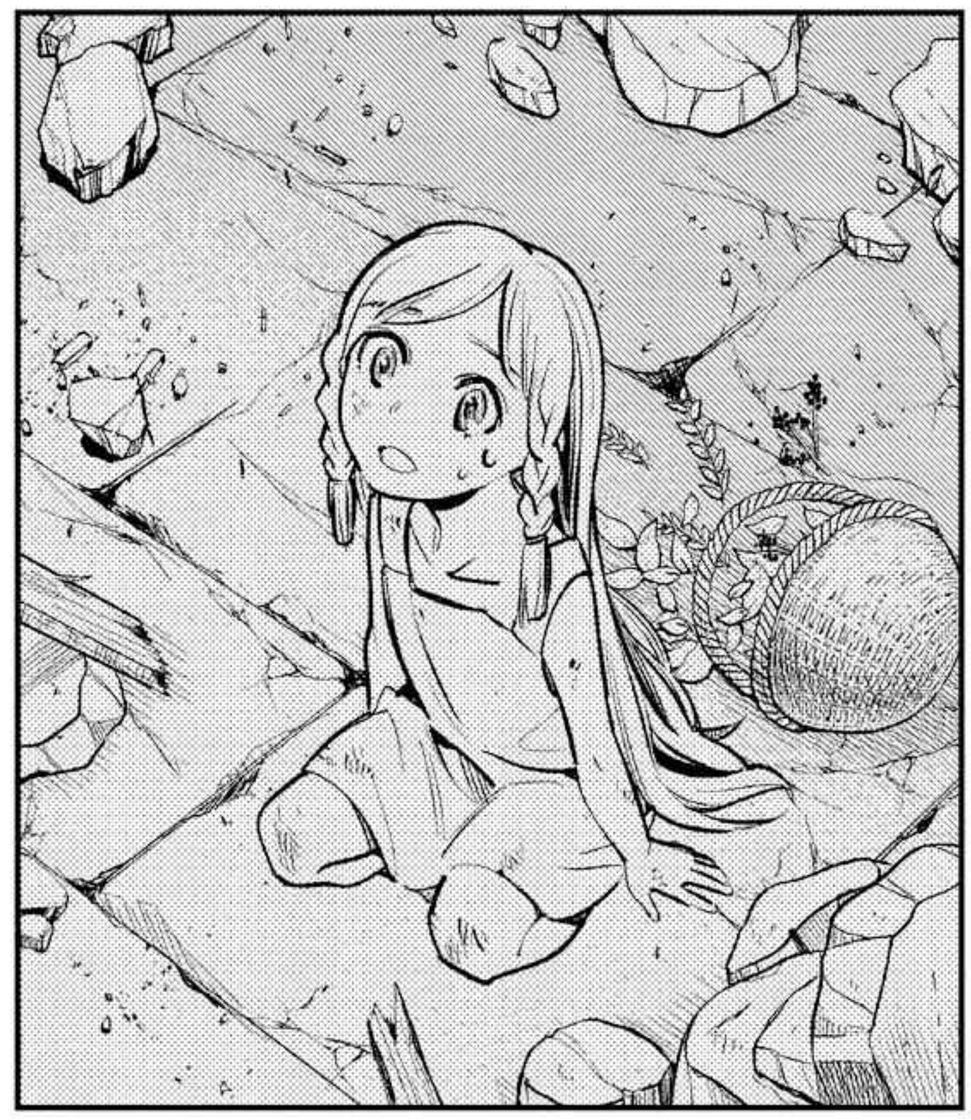


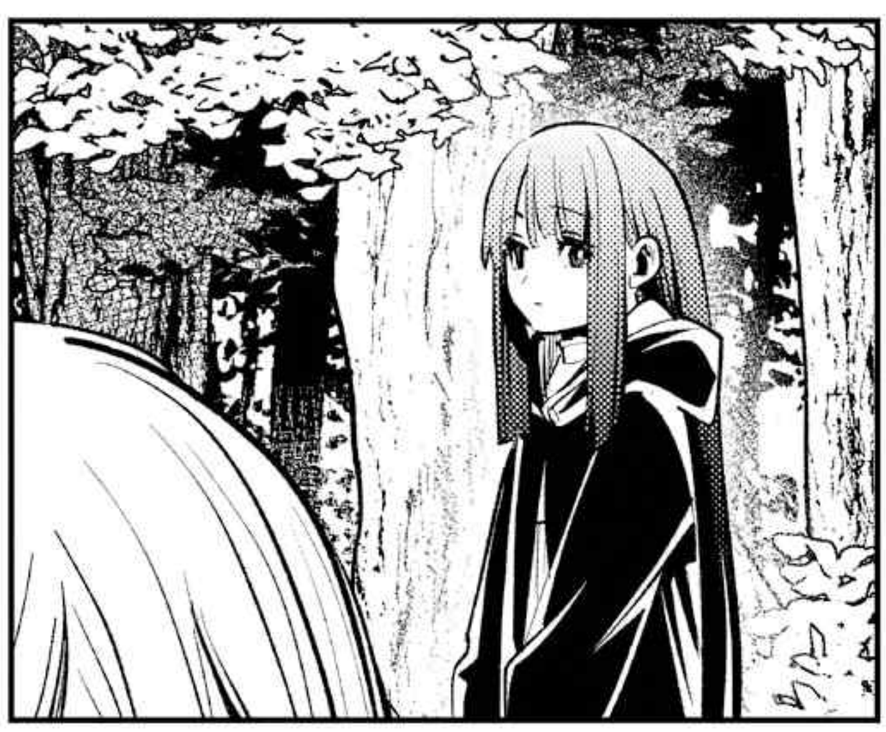

IS THAT A STATUE OF HIMMEL THE HERO...?

WHEN A MONSTER ATTACKED OUR VILLAGE...

...HIMMEL THE HERO FOUGHT FOR US, RISKING HIS OWN LIFE! AND YET...







HE DROVE THE CRAFTSMAN MAD BY SPENDING 18 HOURS DECIDING ON A POSE.

Is this okay? I'm worried I look too handsome in this pose.

I'm hungry.

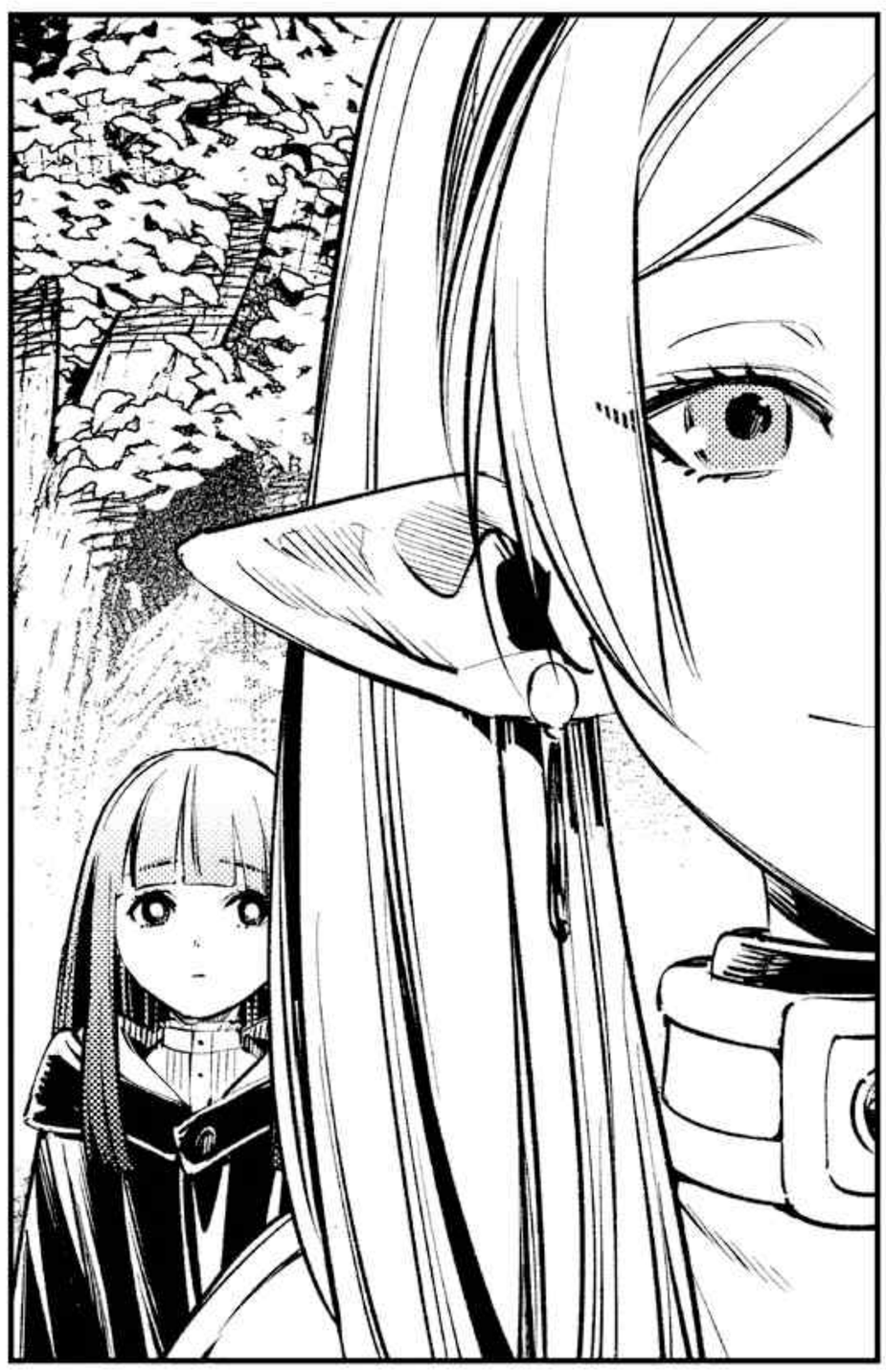
Enough already. Decide now.

Zzz

NO, HE BROUGHT IT ON HIMSELF.

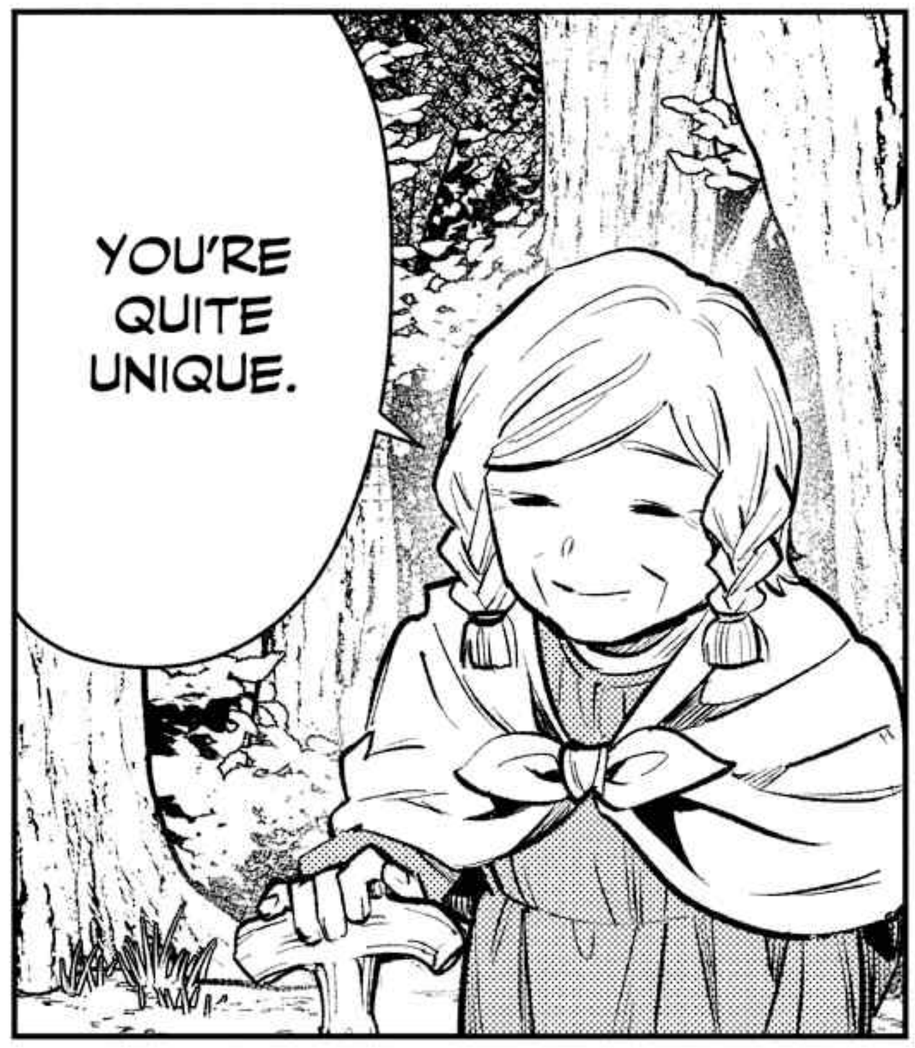
IT'S HIS FAULT FOR BEING AN ATTENTION SEEKER.

HE SHOULD HAVE JUST REFUSED WHEN THE VILLAGERS TOLD HIM ABOUT BUILDING THIS STATUE.

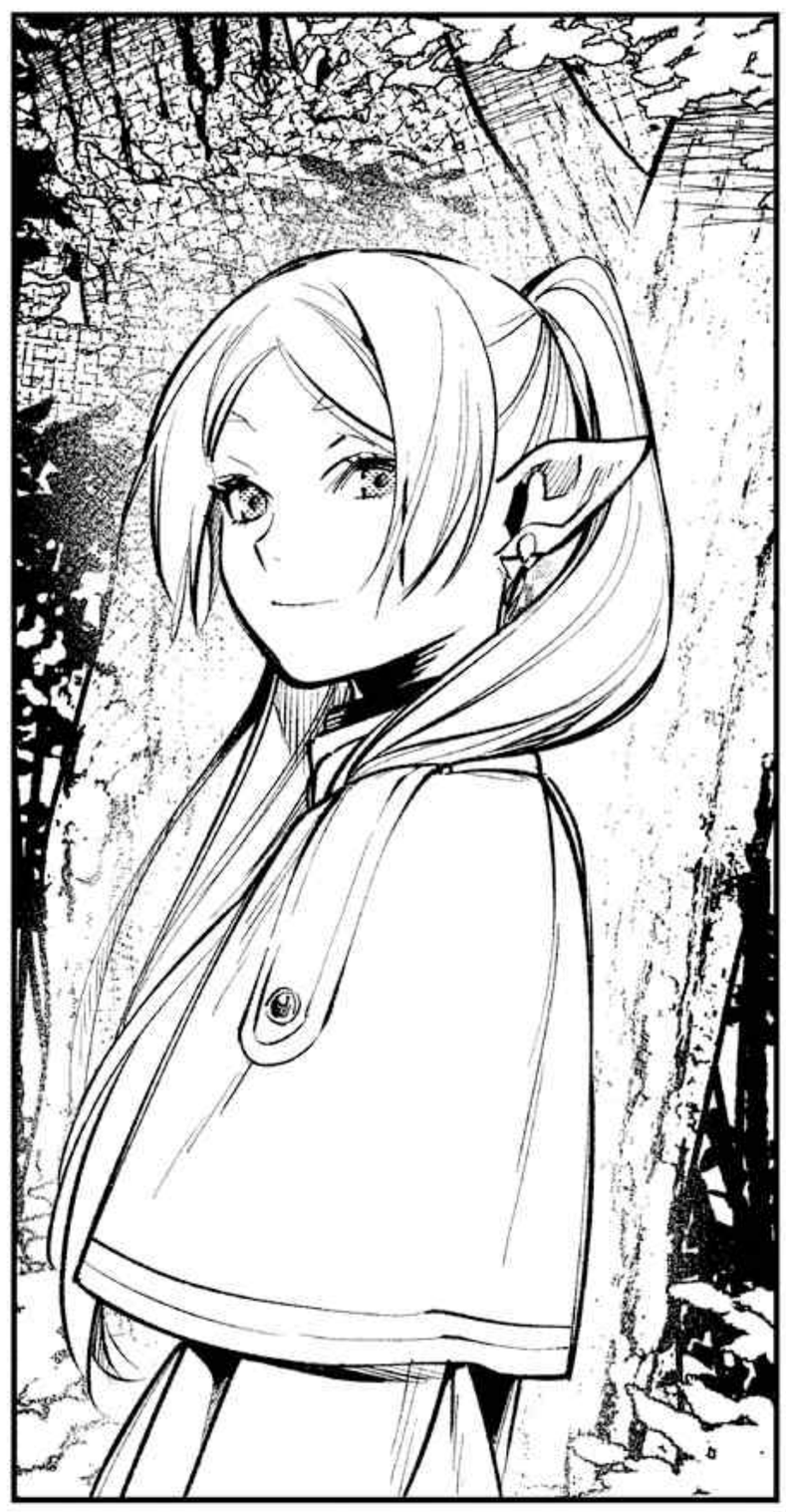


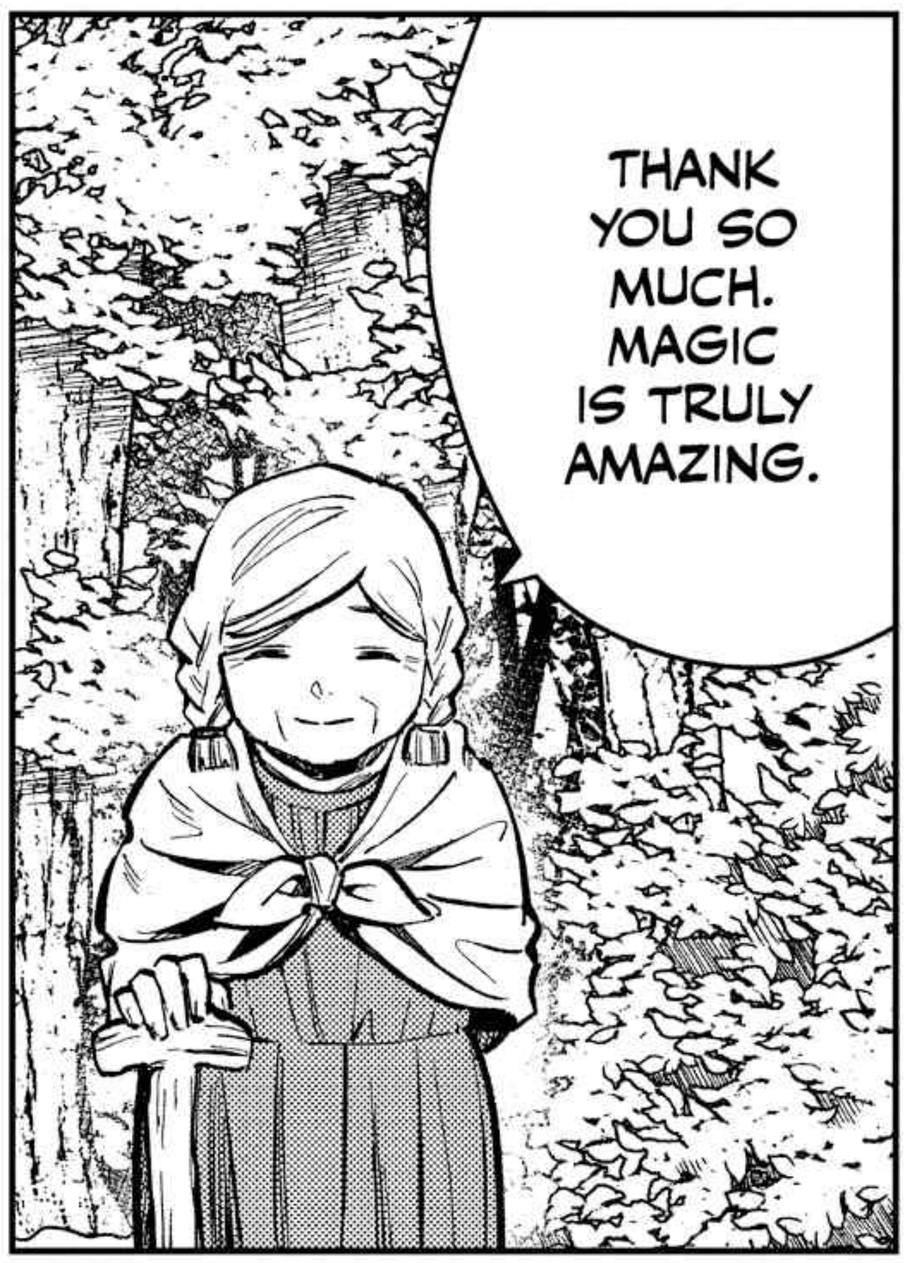
IN THE END, HE JUST SETTLED ON THIS UTTERLY ORDINARY POSE.

COME TO THINK OF IT, THERE WAS AN ELVEN MAGE IN THE HERO'S PARTY.

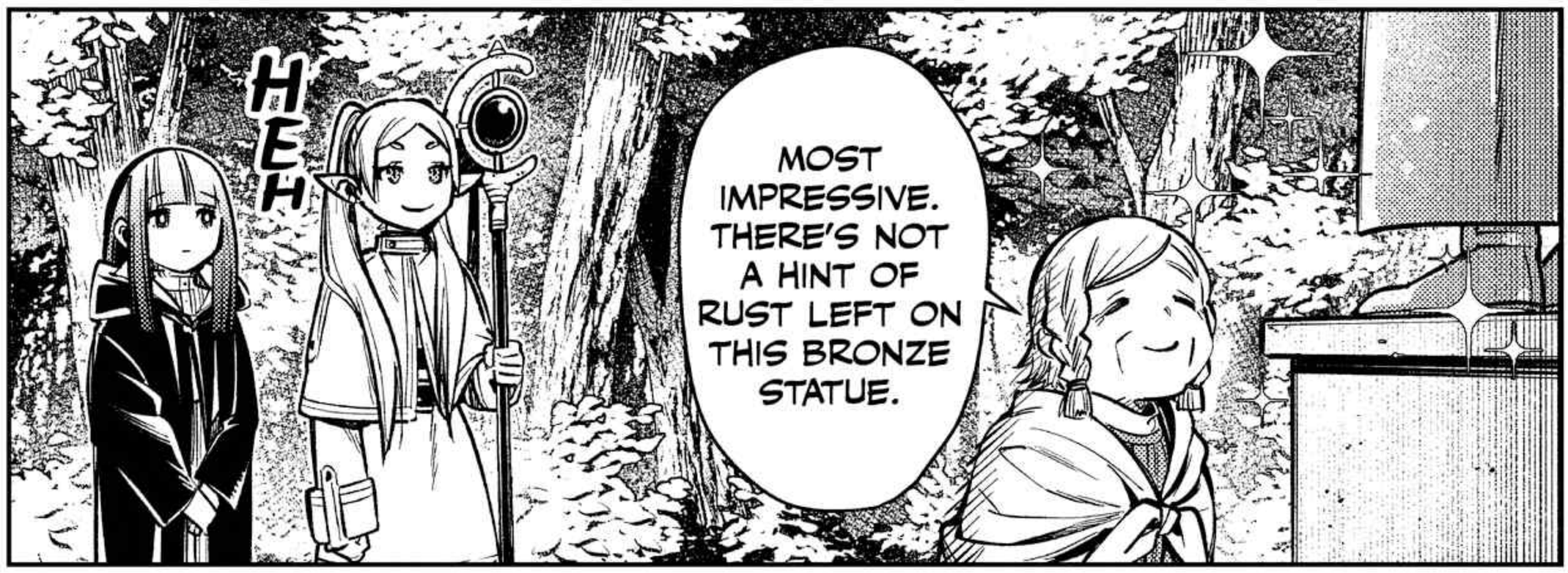

YOU'RE QUITE UNIQUE.

ALL RIGHT, LET'S CLEAN IT UP.

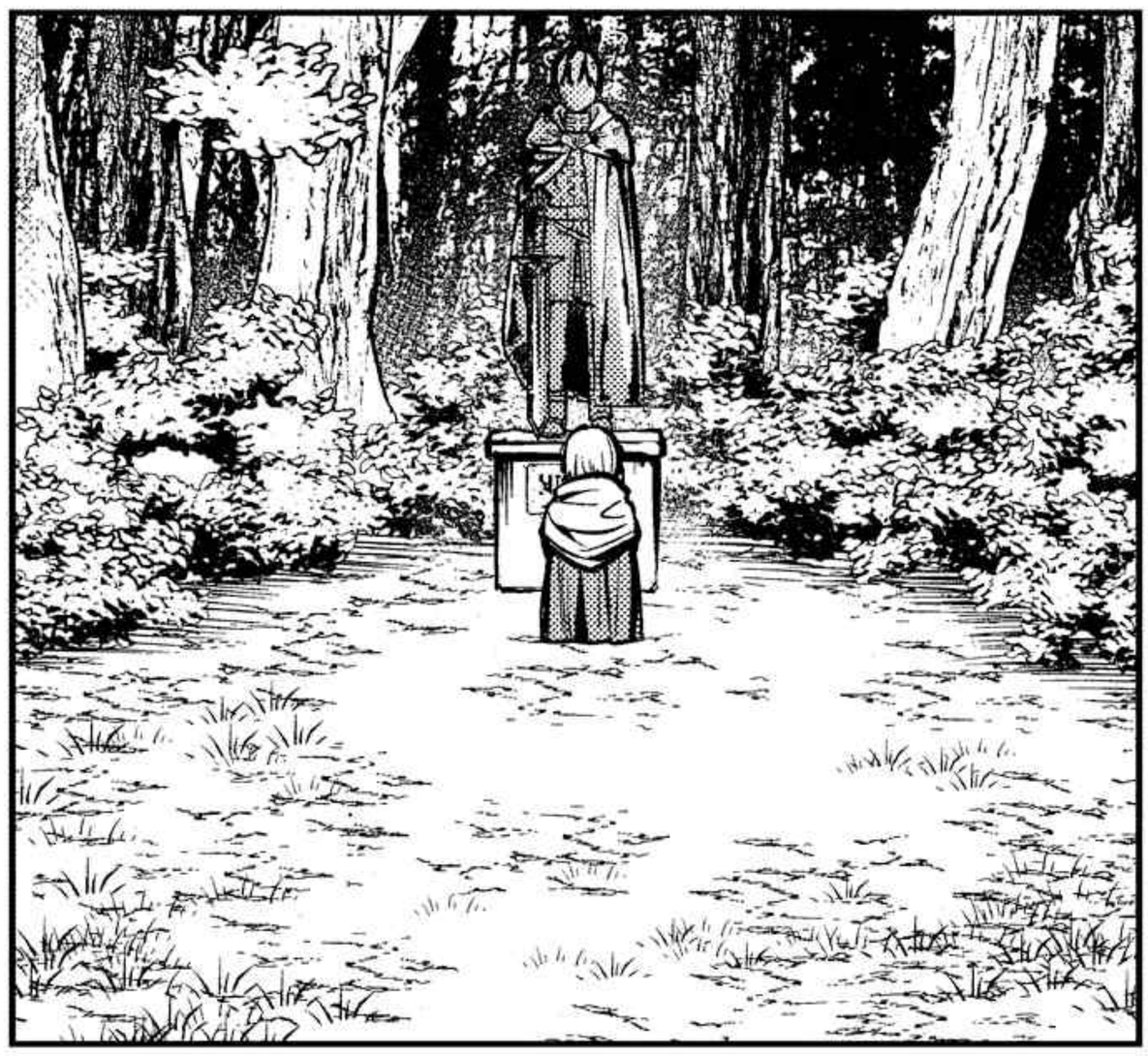



THANK YOU SO MUCH. MAGIC IS TRULY AMAZING.

GLEAM
HIMMEL


HEH
MOST IMPRESSIVE. THERE'S NOT A HINT OF RUST LEFT ON THIS BRONZE STATUE.

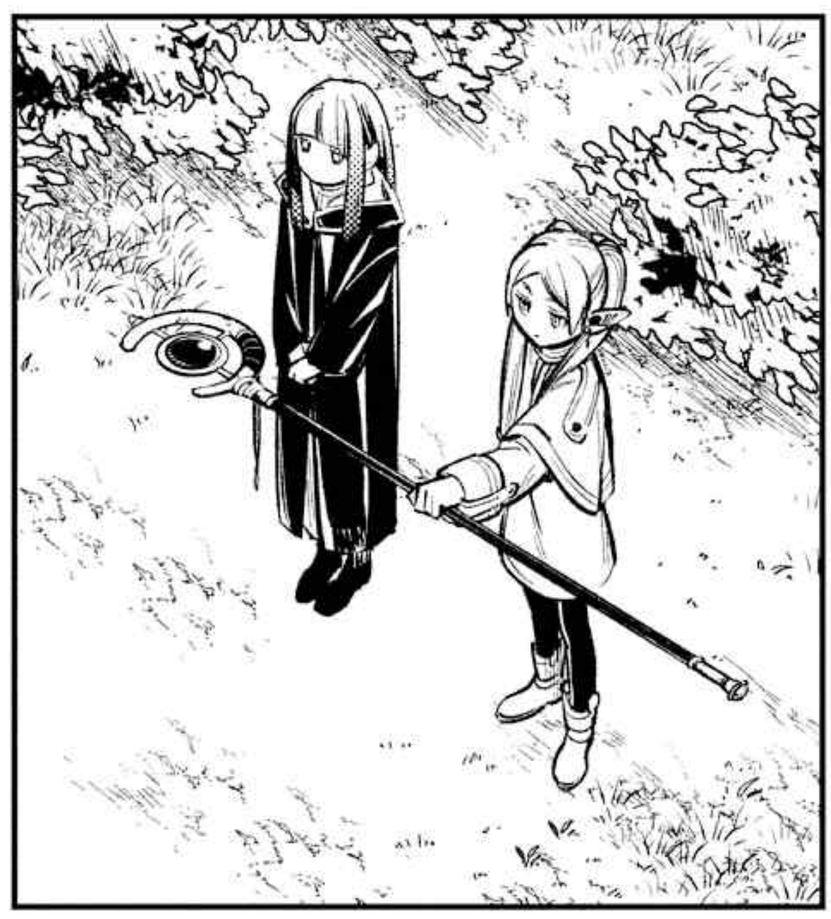
I'D LIKE TO HAVE SOME COLOR AROUND.
MAYBE I'LL PLANT FLOWERS LATER.

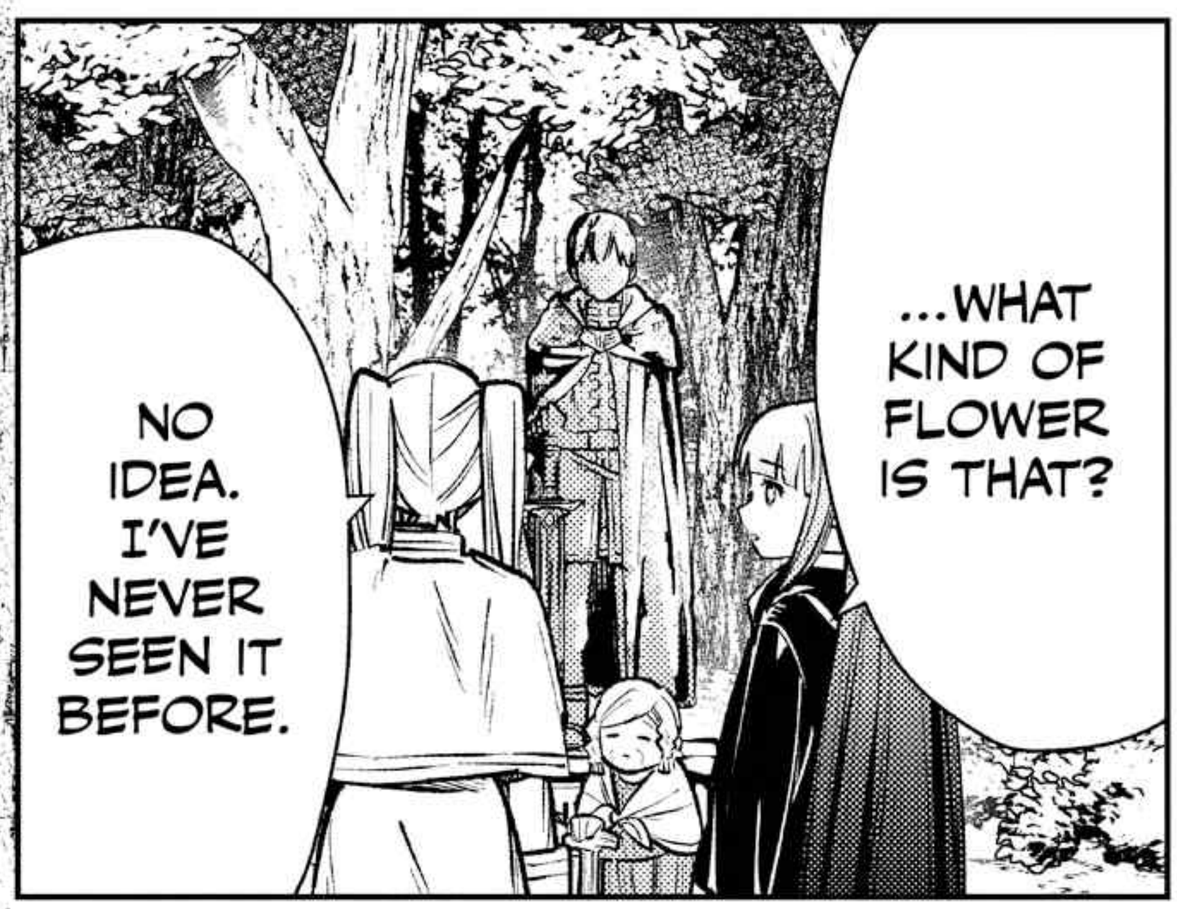


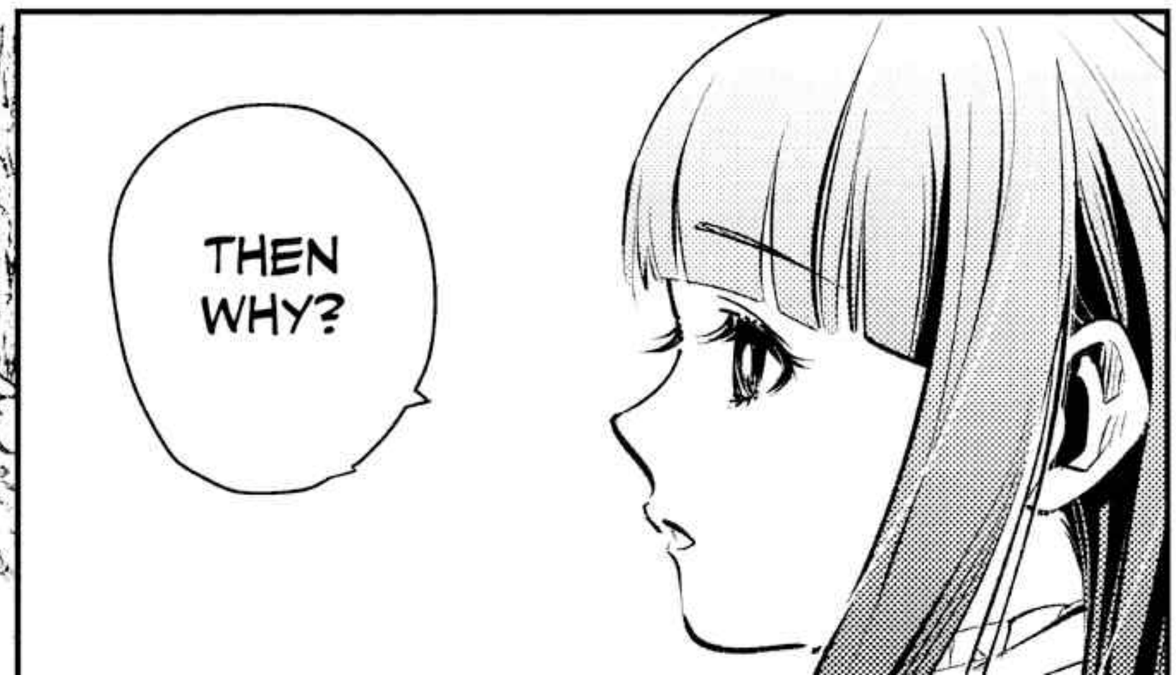
YEAH. I WONDER WHAT FLOWER WOULD BE SUITABLE...

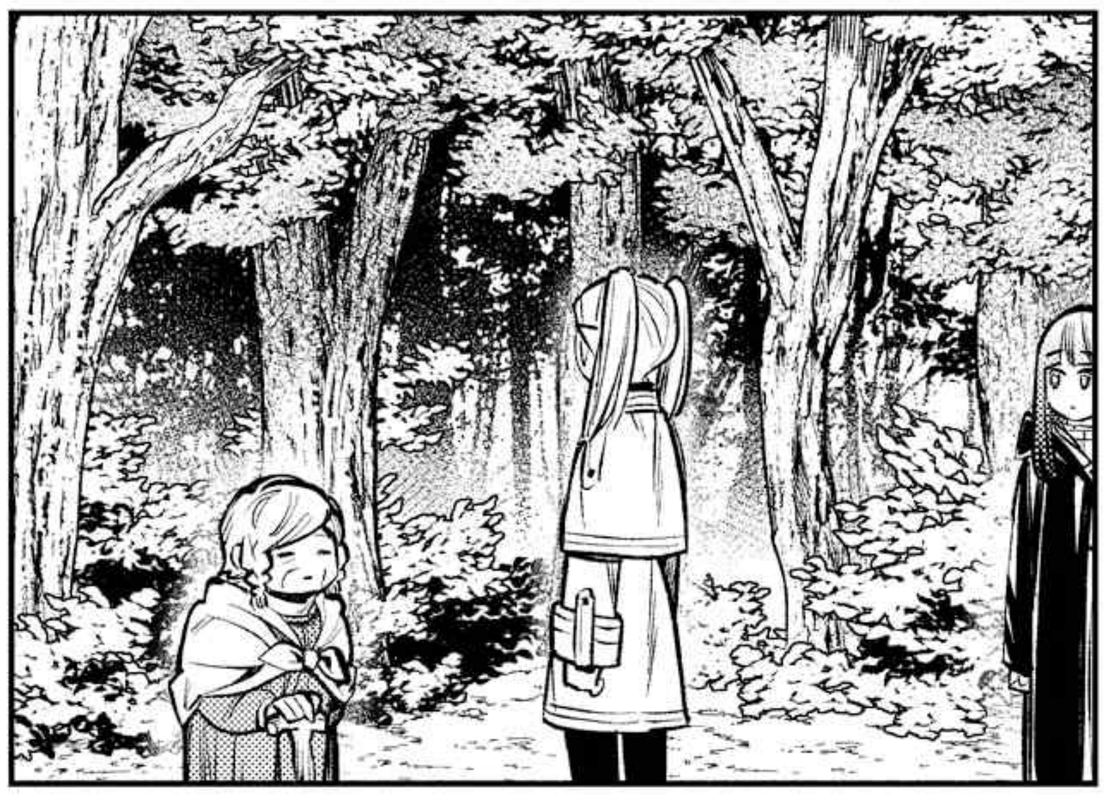
FRIEREN, YOU CAN USE MAGIC THAT PRODUCES FLOWERS, RIGHT?

I KNOW. BLUE-MOON WEED WOULD BE PERFECT.

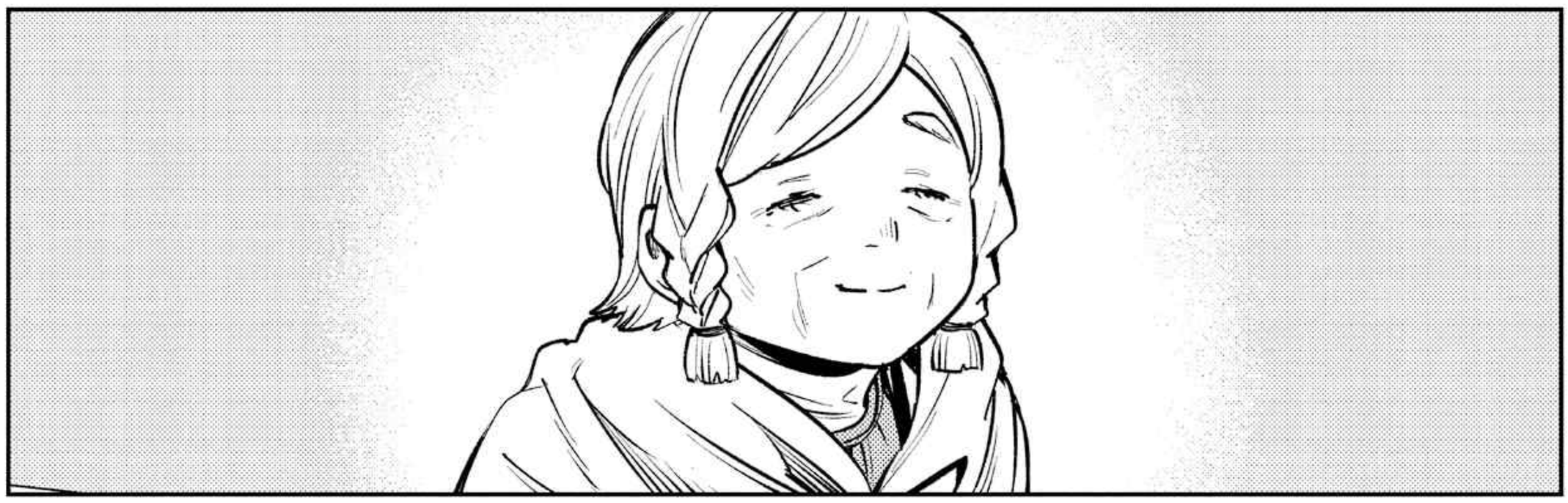




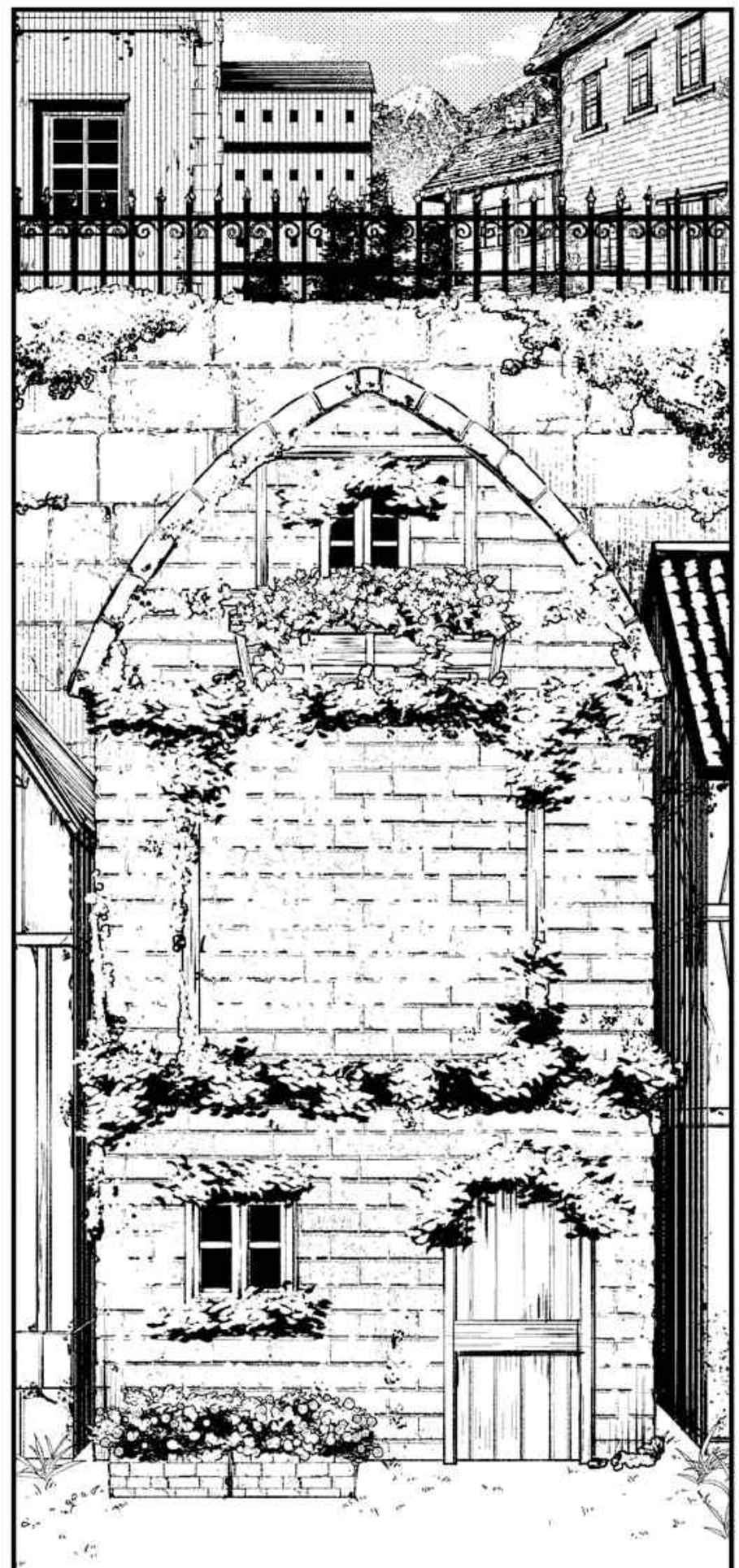




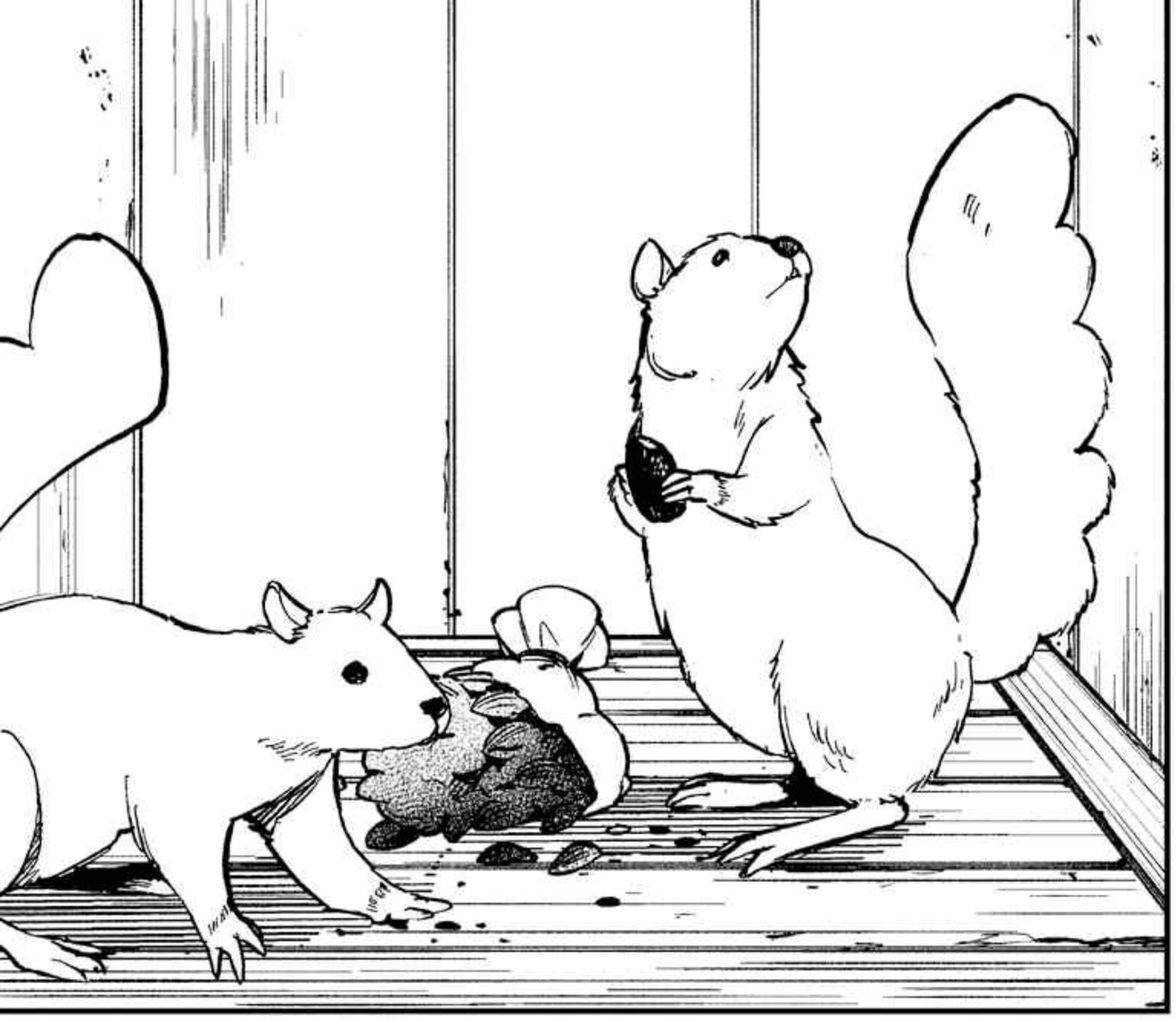
BUT HOW COULD YOU MAKE FLOWERS YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE WITH MAGIC...?



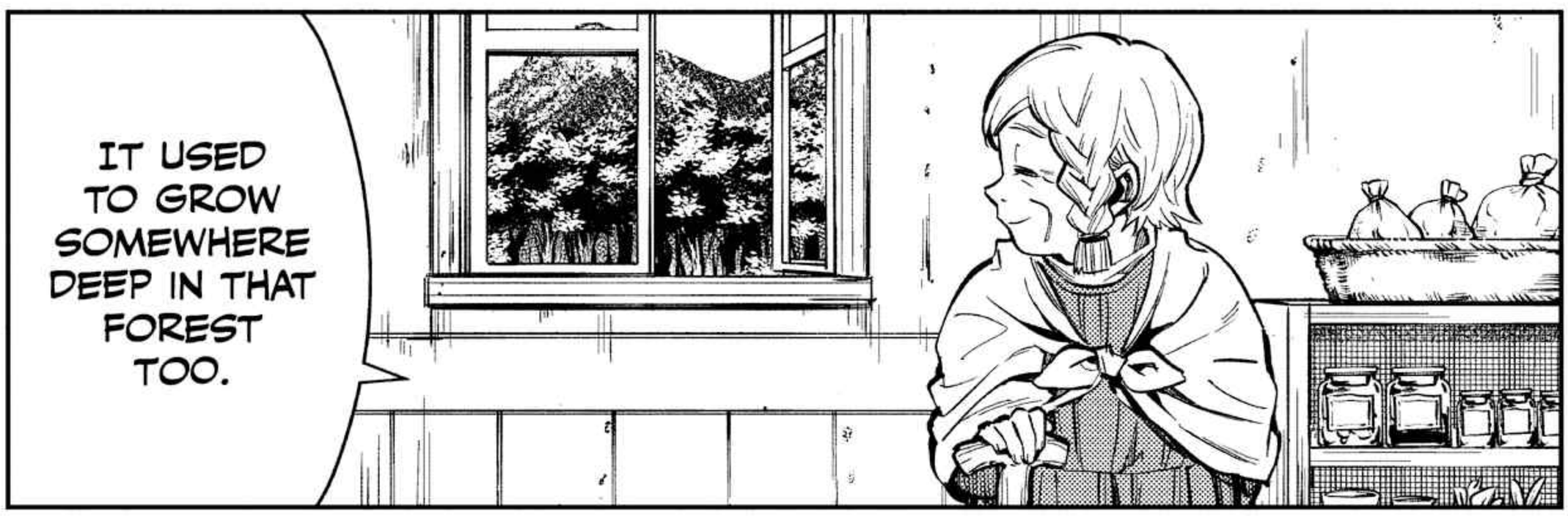
BLUE-MOON WEED.



I HAVEN'T HEARD THAT NAME IN YEARS.



MUNCH
MUNCH


IT USED TO GROW SOMEWHERE DEEP IN THAT FOREST TOO.

IT WENT EXTINCT. NO ONE HAS SEEN BLUE-MOON WEED ON THIS CONTINENT FOR SEVERAL DECADES NOW.

SO THERE ARE NONE AROUND ANYMORE?

FERN, WE'RE LEAVING.

IS THAT SO?

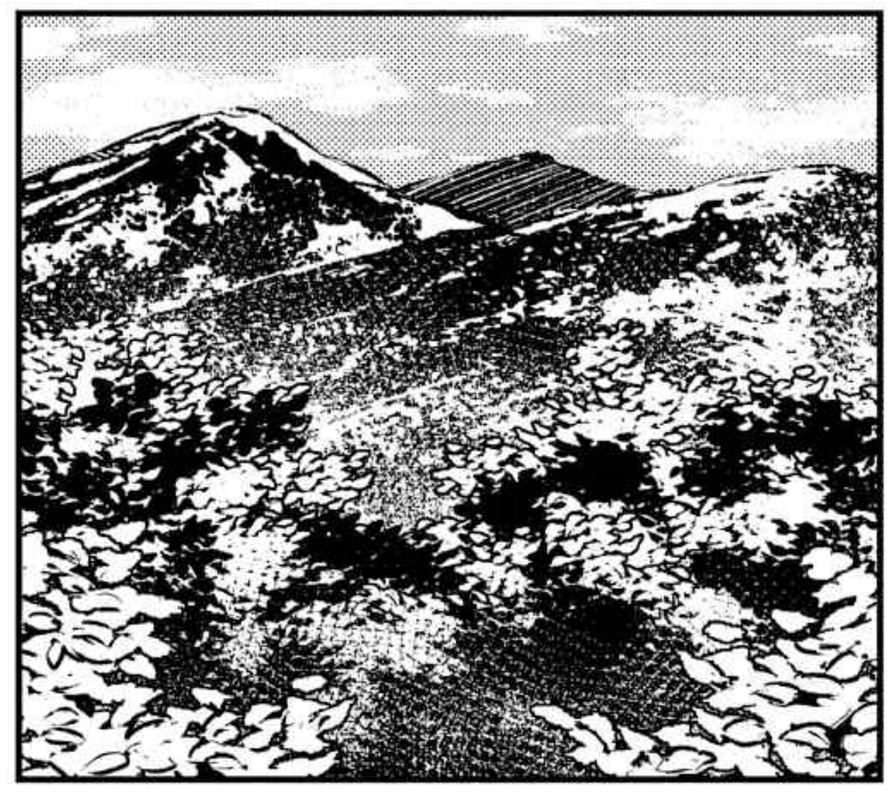
YOU'RE HIDING SOME-THING.

I WON'T GET MAD, BUT SHOW IT TO ME.

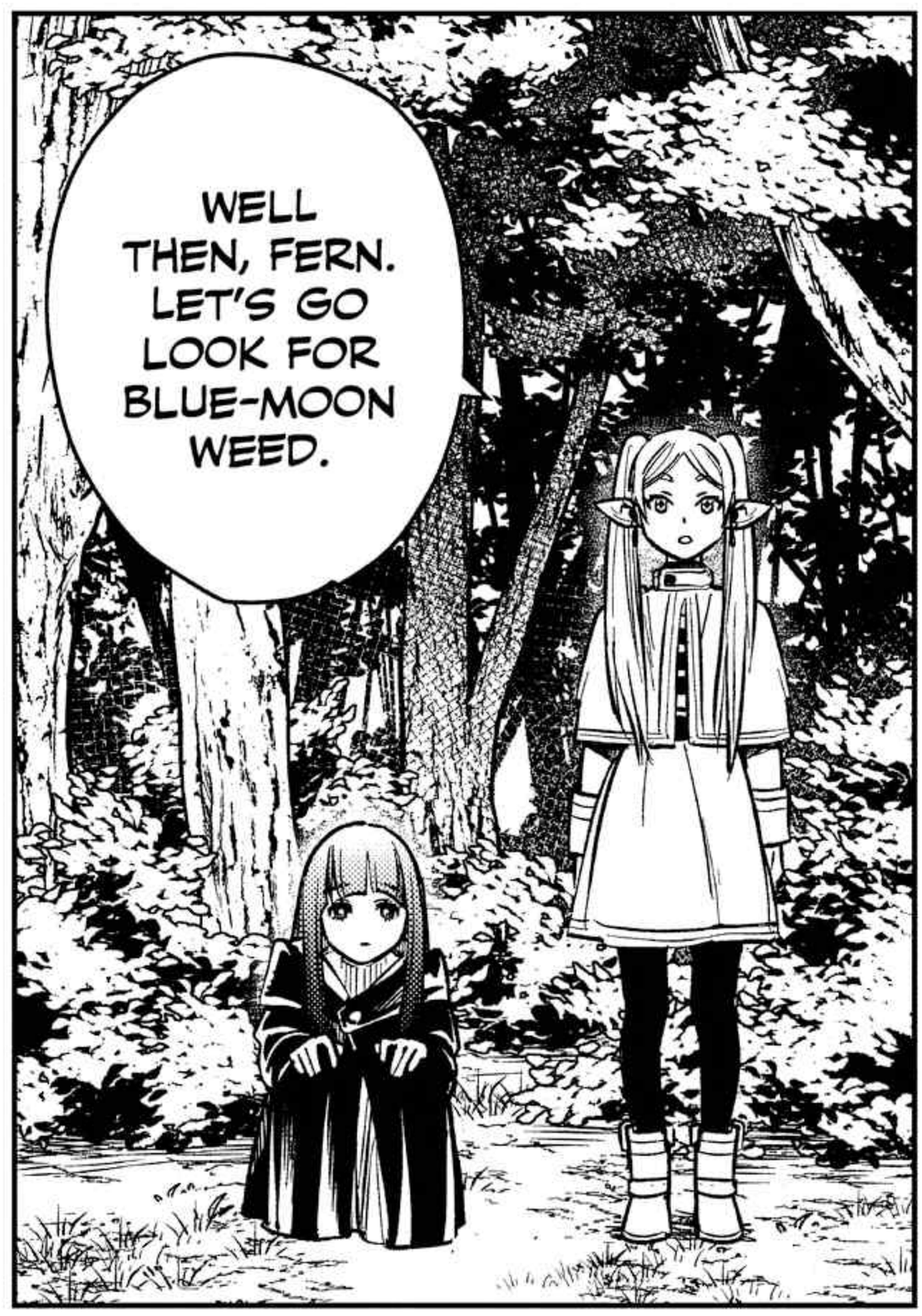
...OKAY.

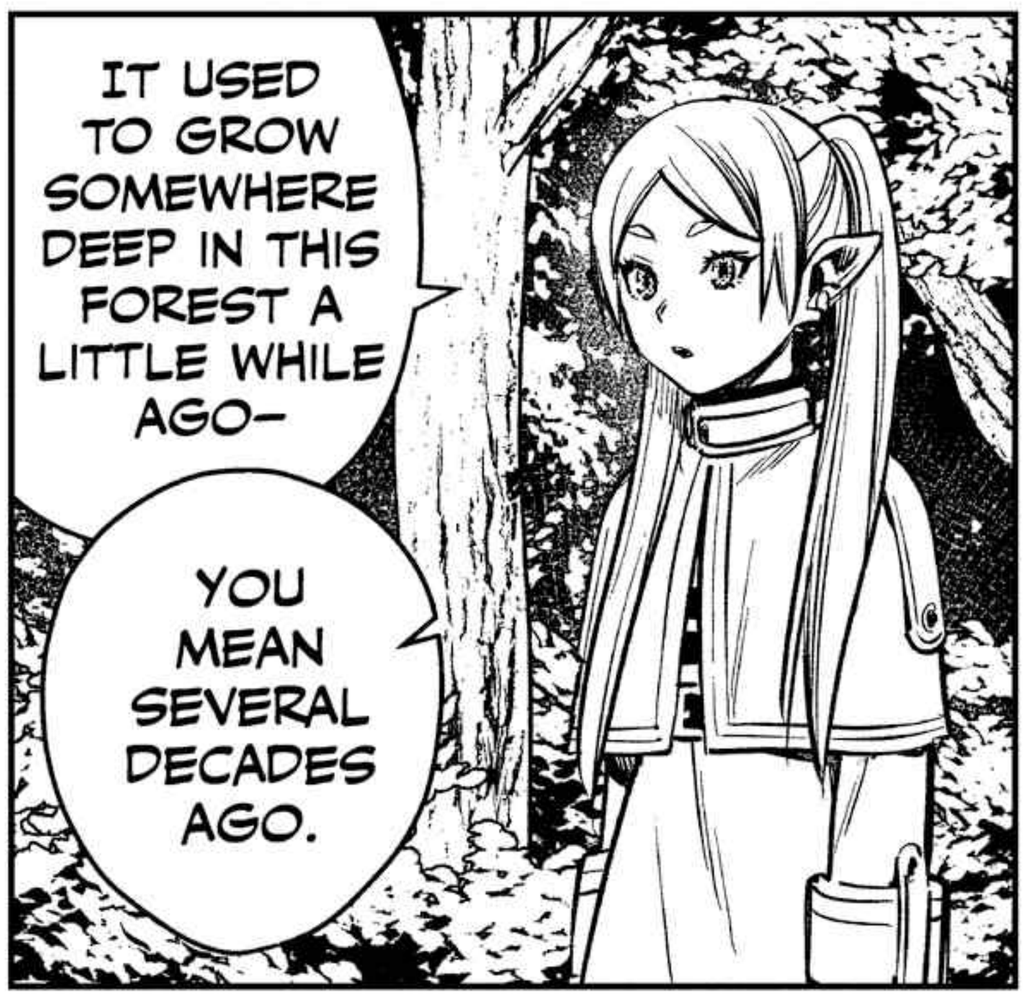
I'LL RELEASE THEM IN THE FOREST.

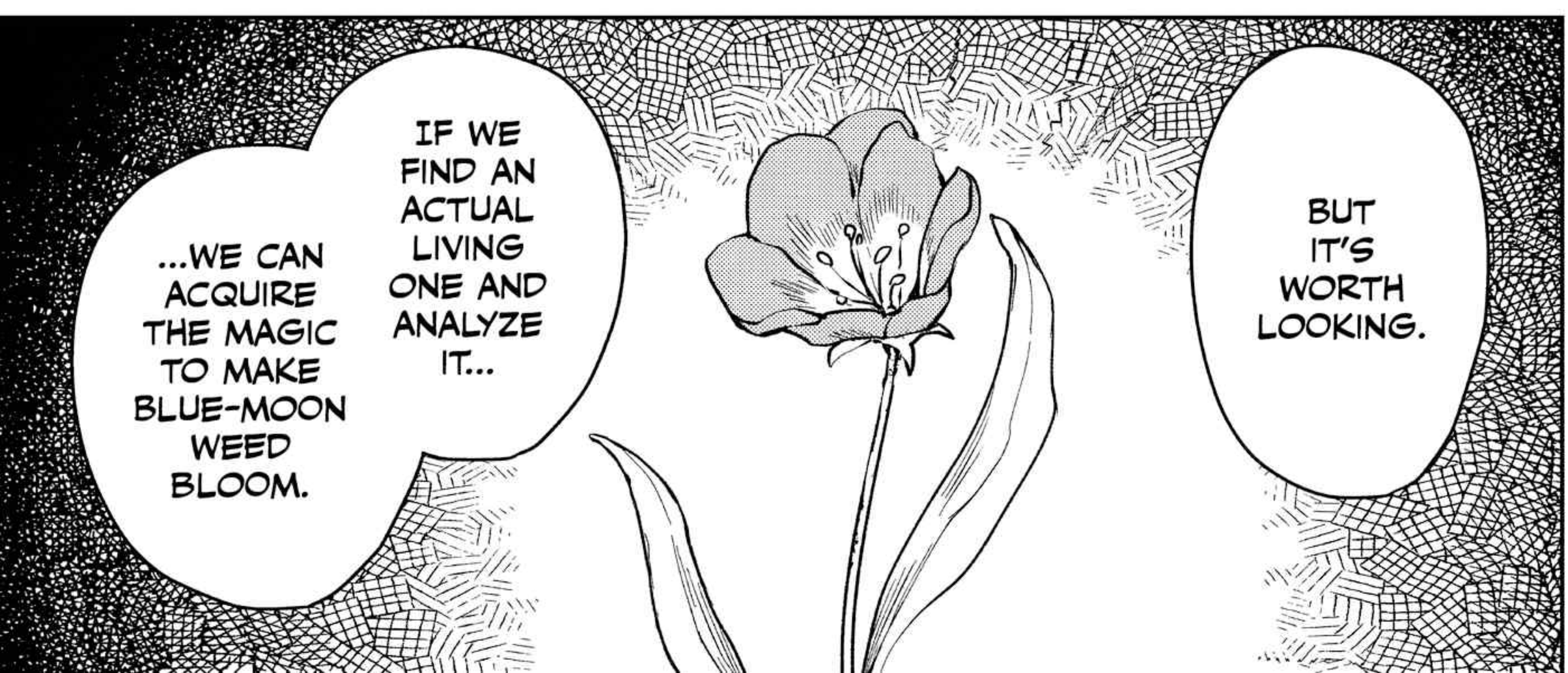
SEED RATS. THEY'RE PESTS. VERMIN THAT EAT SEEDS.



ARE YOU SERIOUS ABOUT THIS?

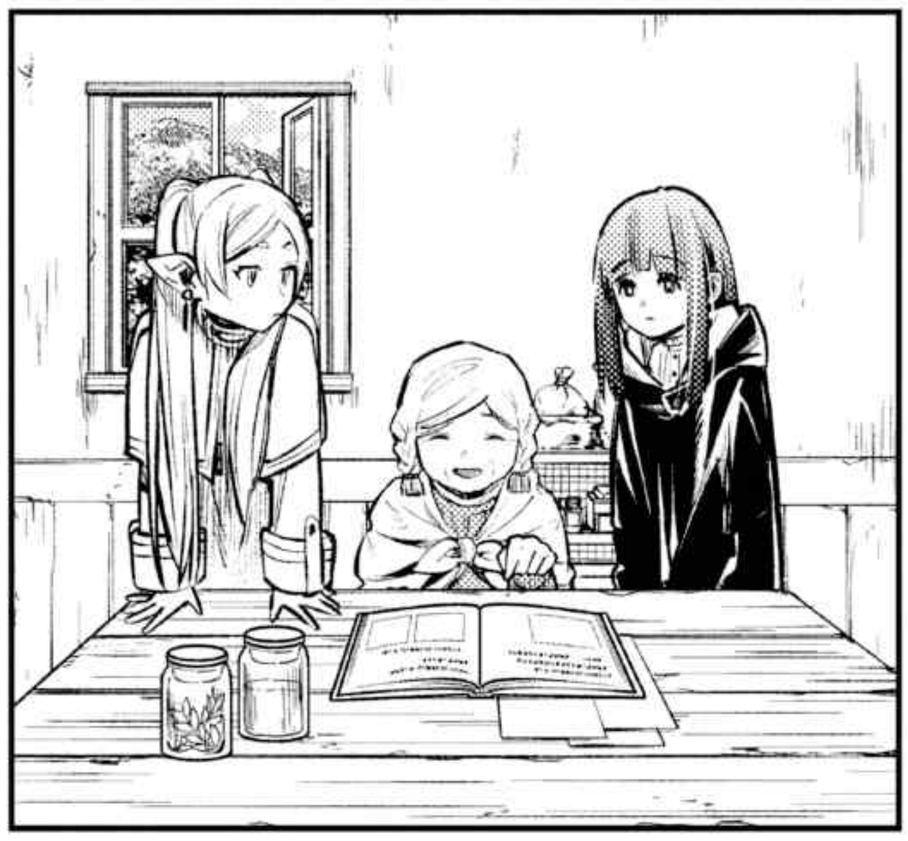

WELL THEN, FERN. LET'S GO LOOK FOR BLUE-MOON WEED.

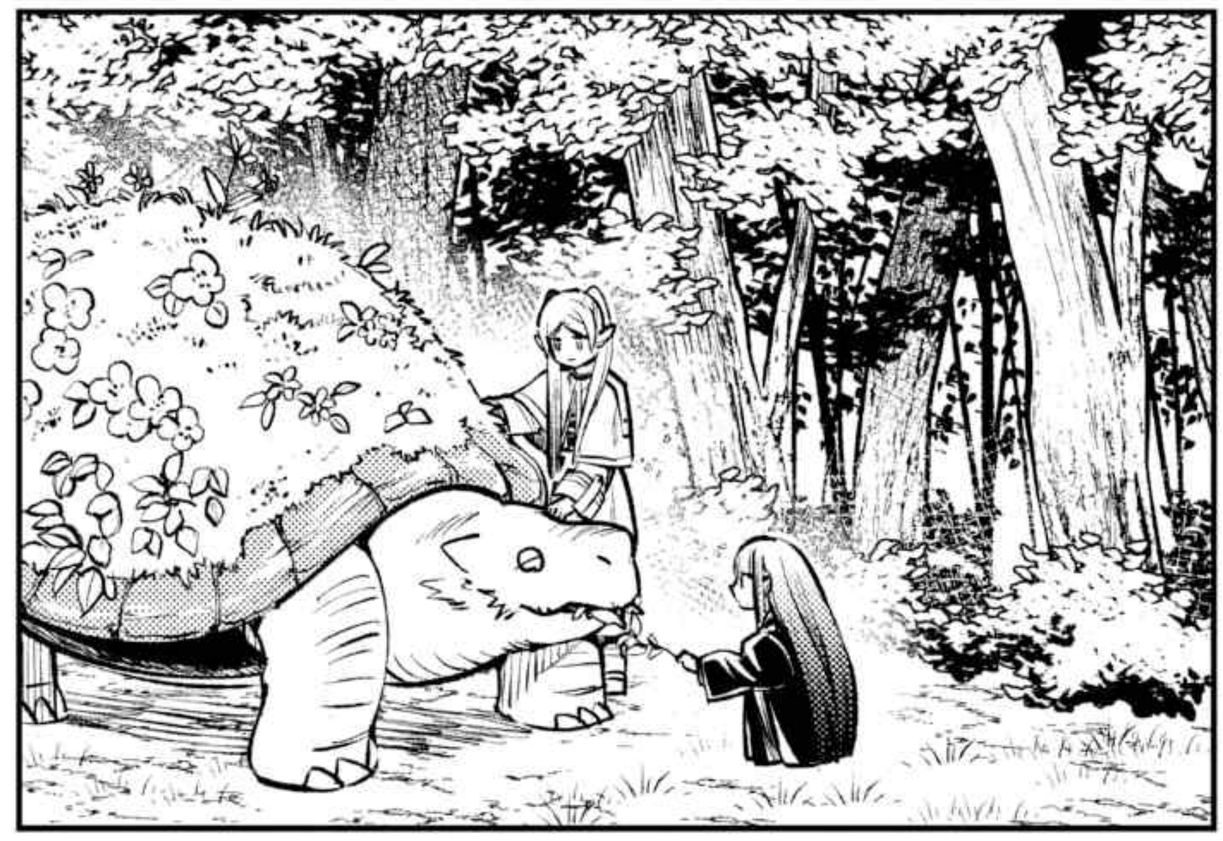

IT USED TO GROW SOMEWHERE DEEP IN THIS FOREST A LITTLE WHILE AGO–
YOU MEAN SEVERAL DECADES AGO.

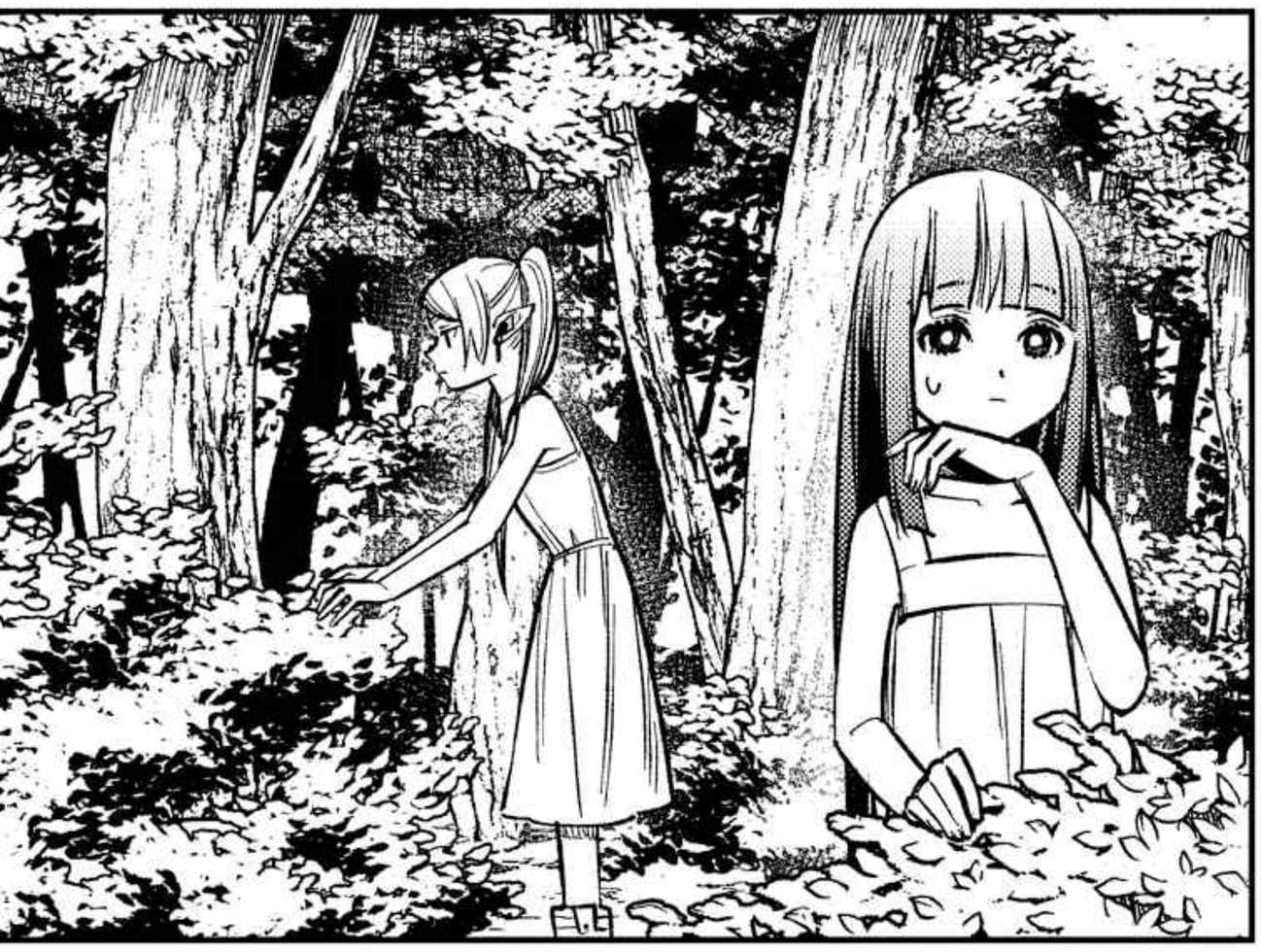

...WE CAN ACQUIRE THE MAGIC TO MAKE BLUE-MOON WEED BLOOM.
IF WE FIND AN ACTUAL LIVING ONE AND ANALYZE IT...
BUT IT'S WORTH LOOKING.

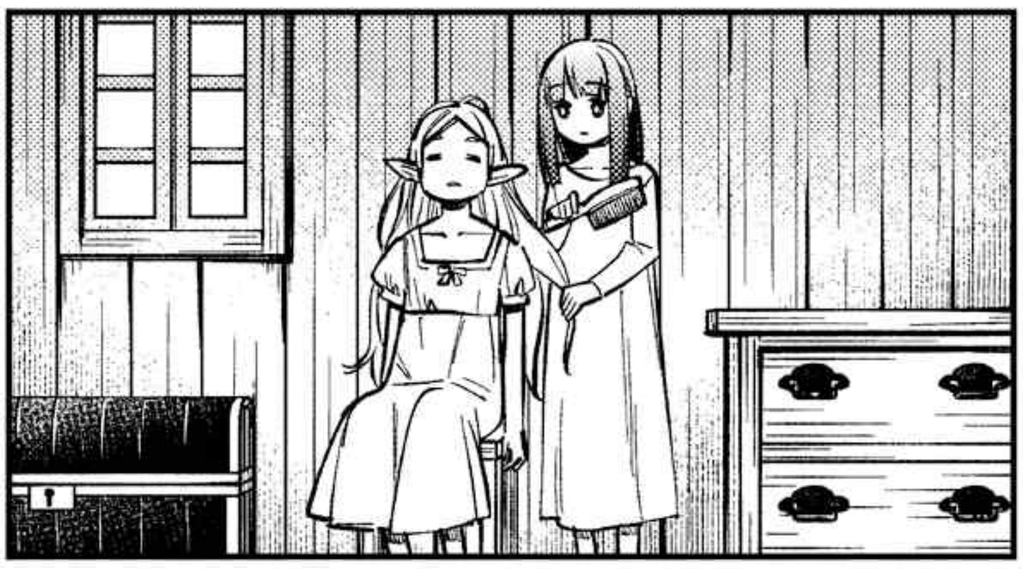
NO, I BELIEVE I'M DOING IT FOR MYSELF.

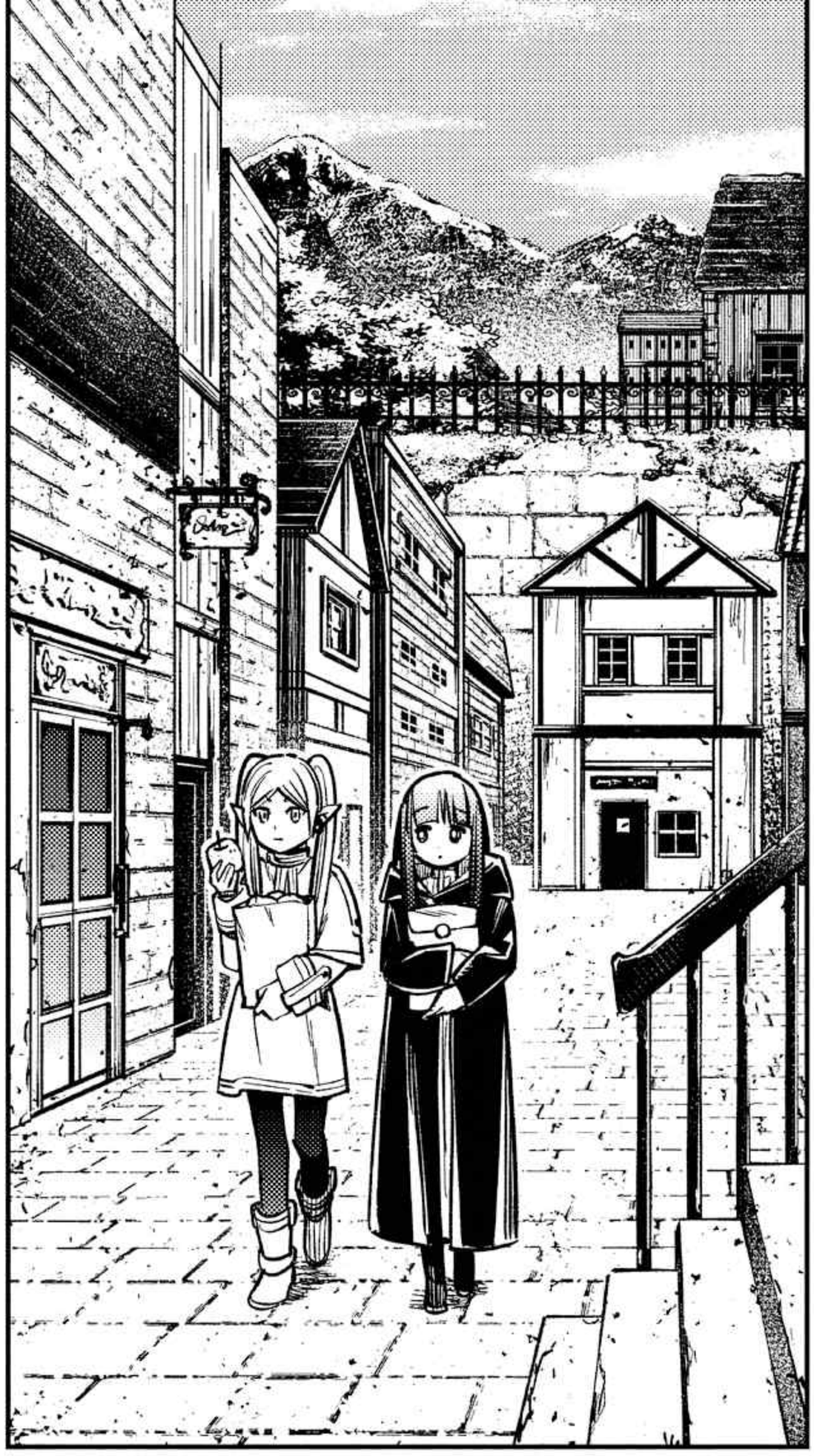
ARE YOU DOING THIS FOR MASTER HIMMEL?

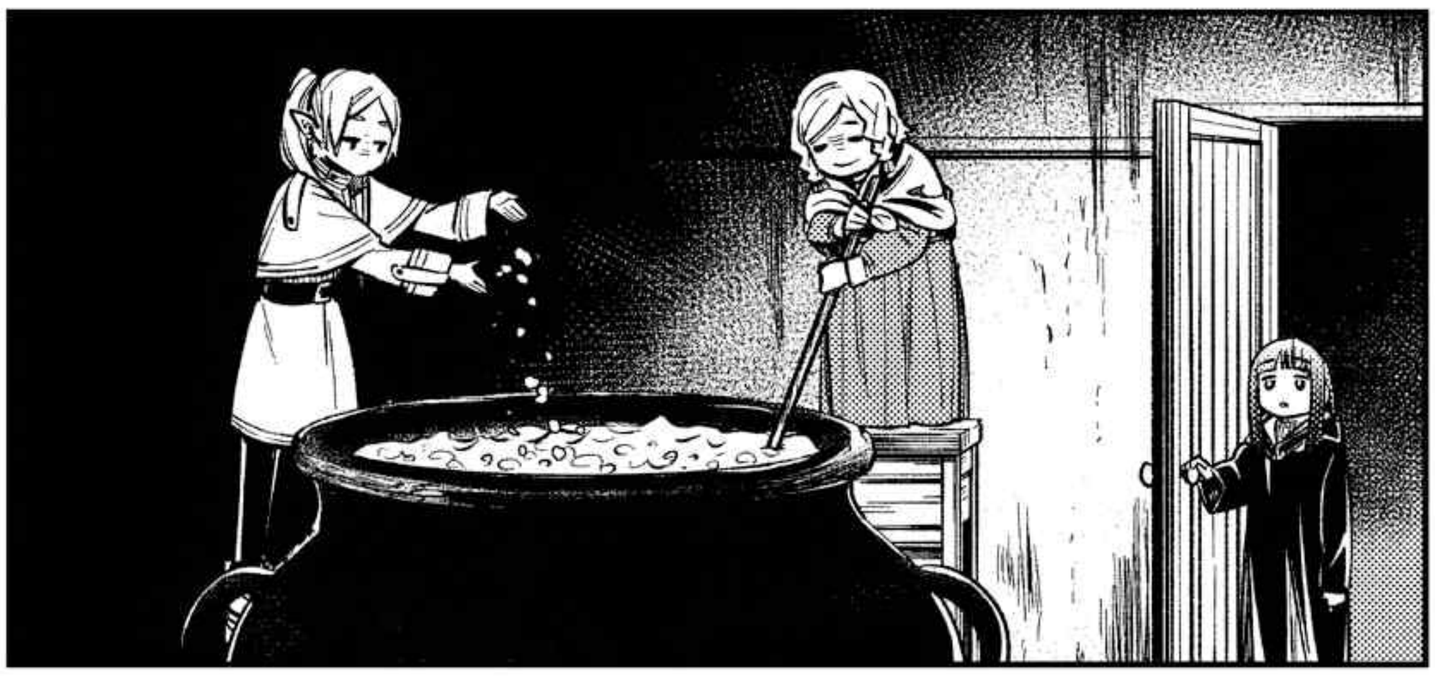


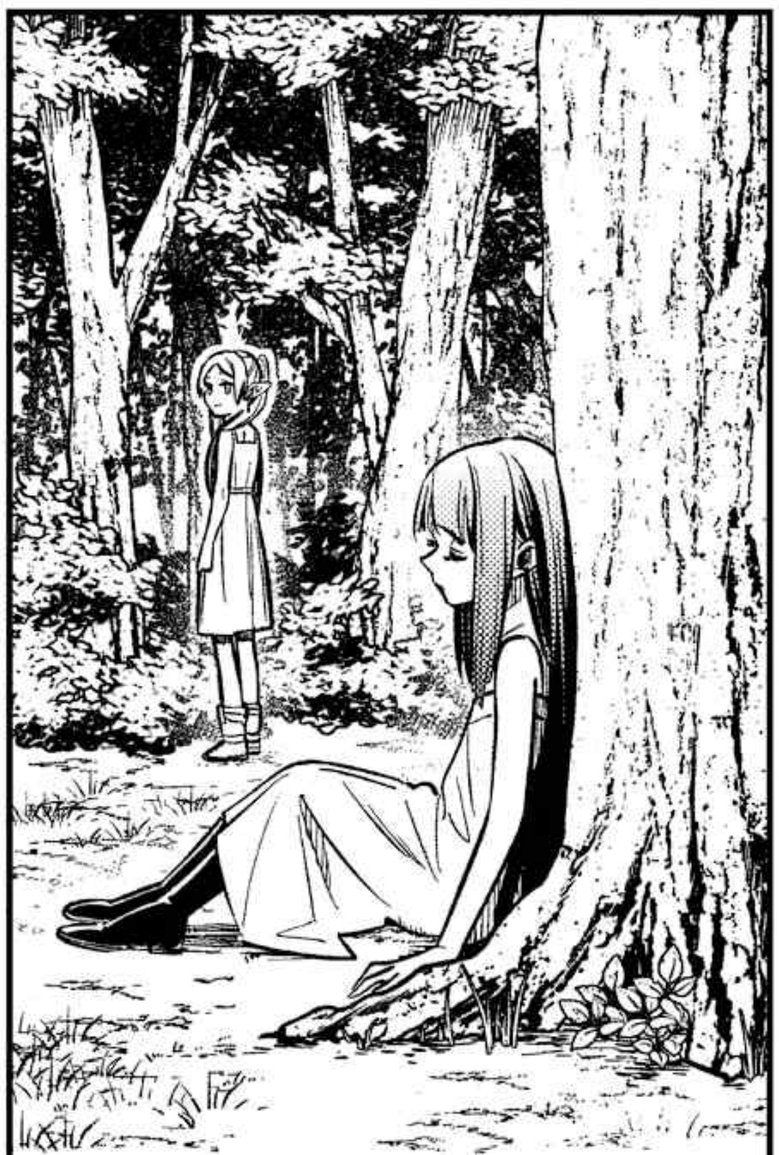


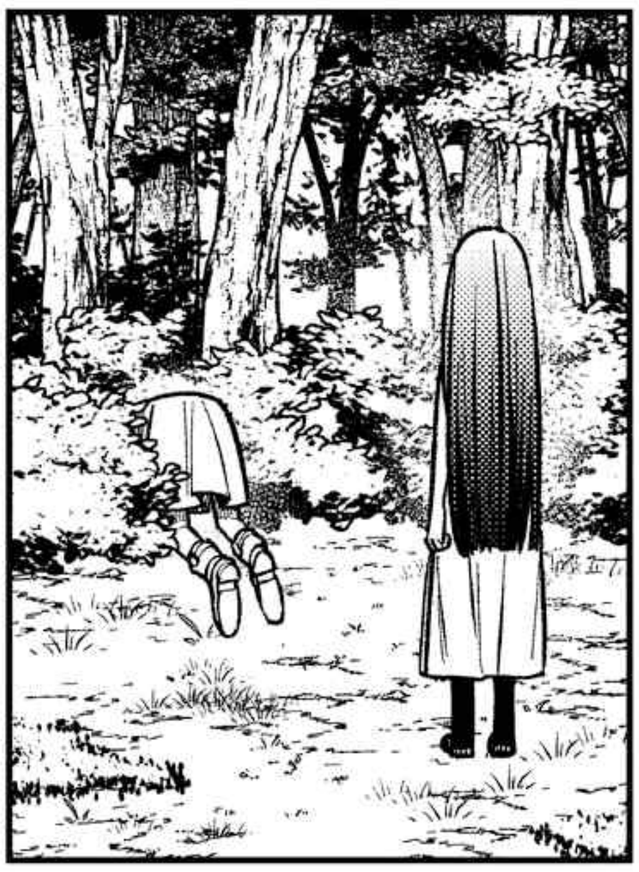






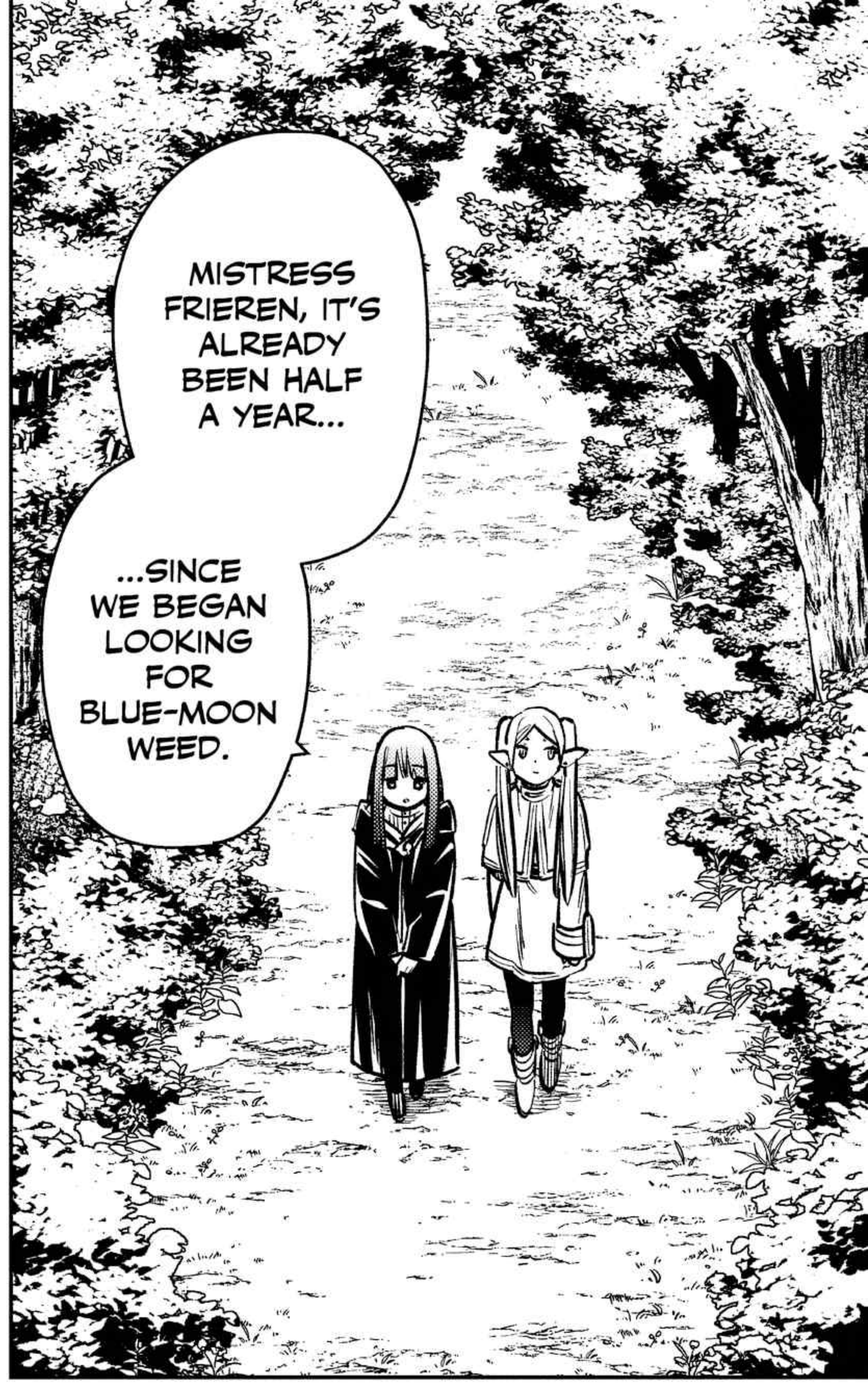




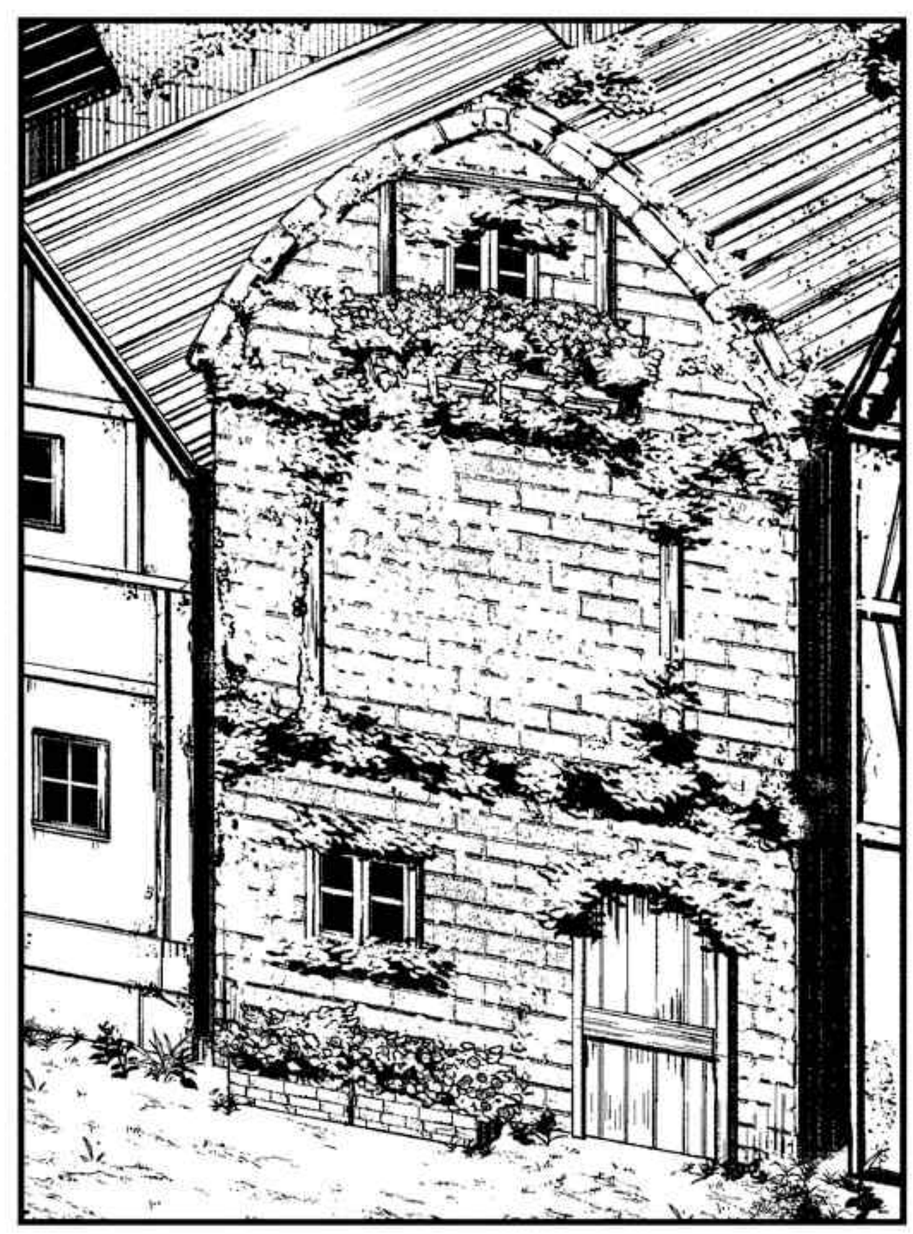


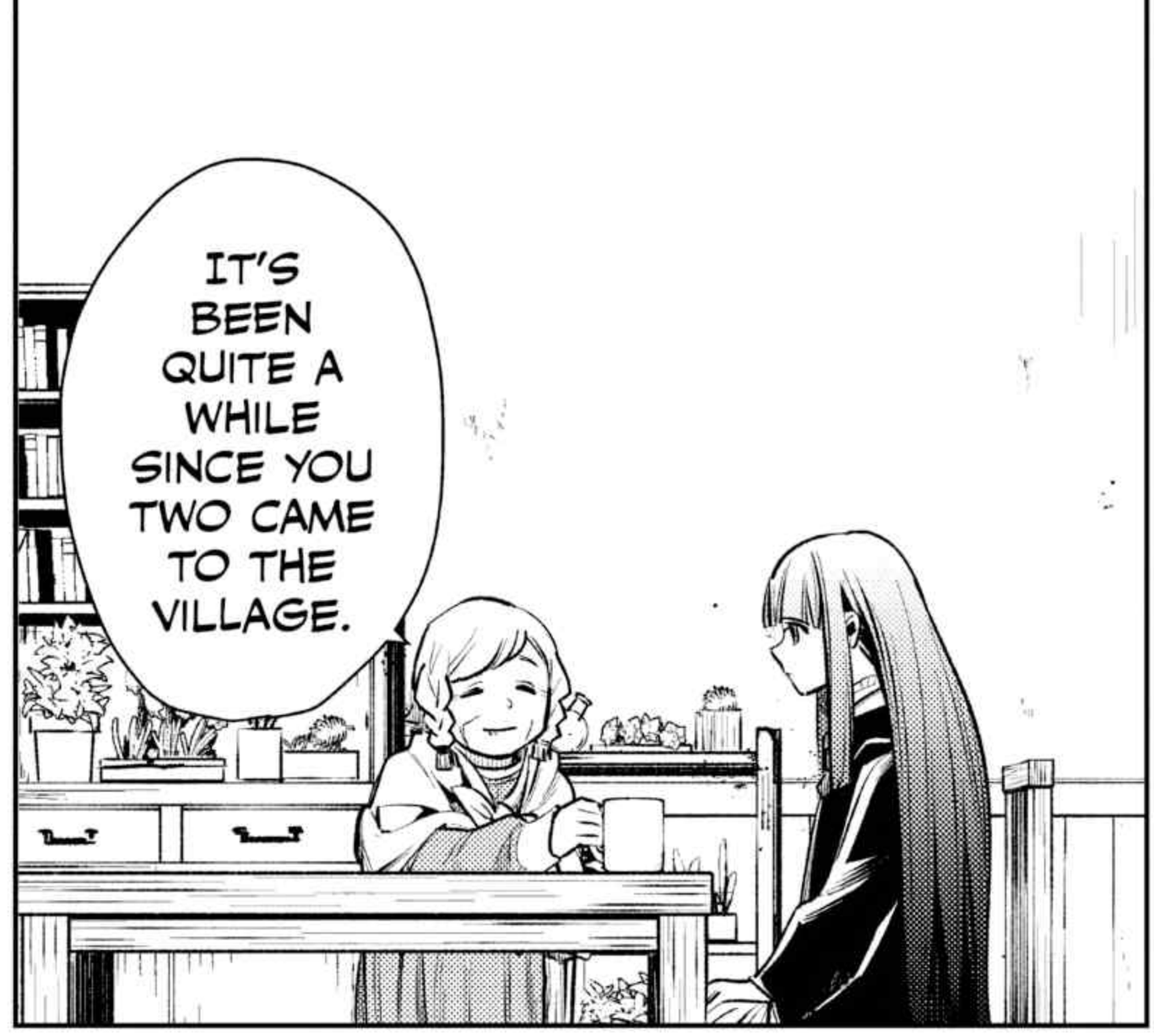
YOU'RE RIGHT.
LET'S EXPAND THE RANGE OF OUR SEARCH NOW.

...

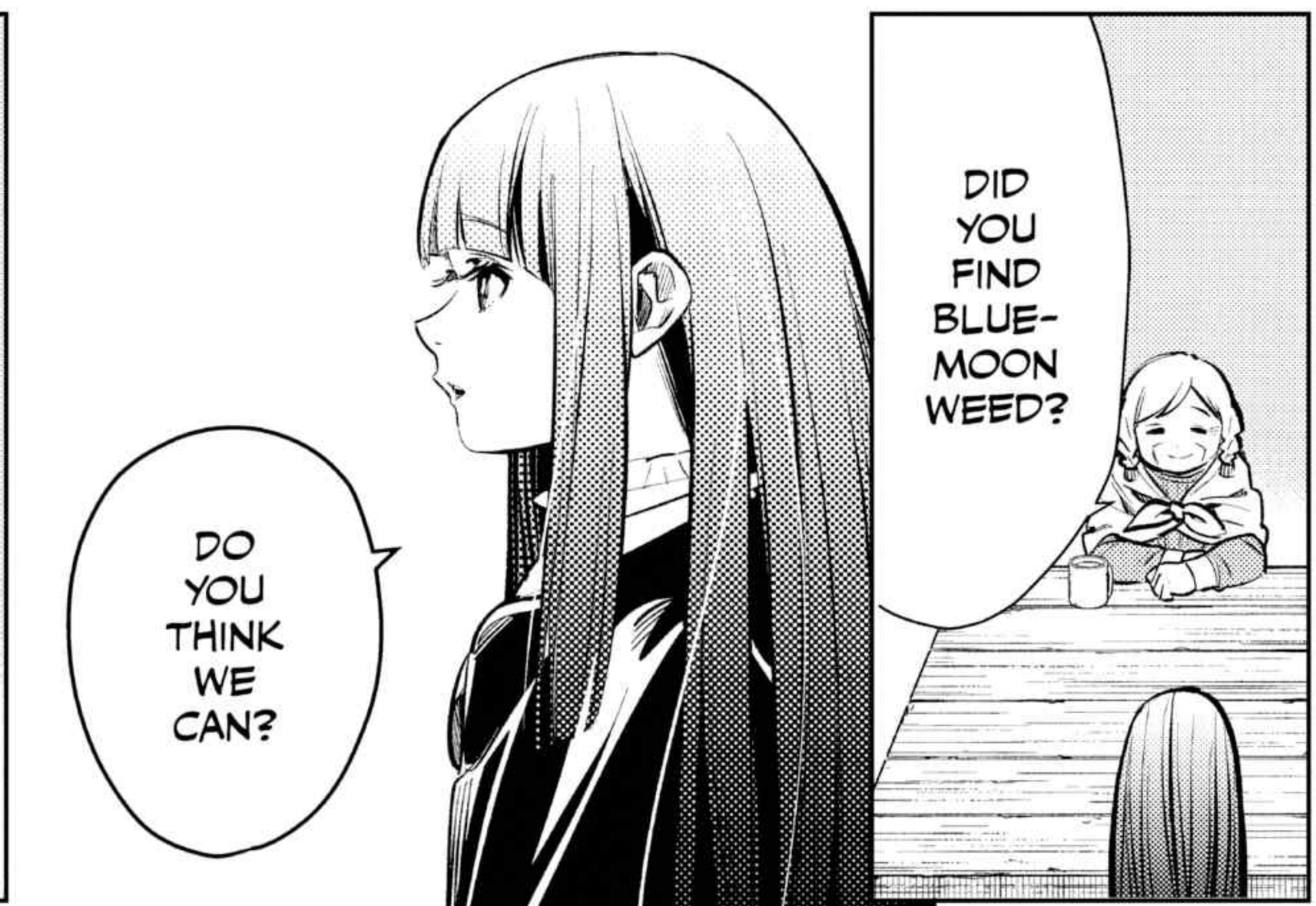

MISTRESS FRIEREN, IT'S ALREADY BEEN HALF A YEAR...
...SINCE WE BEGAN LOOKING FOR BLUE-MOON WEED.

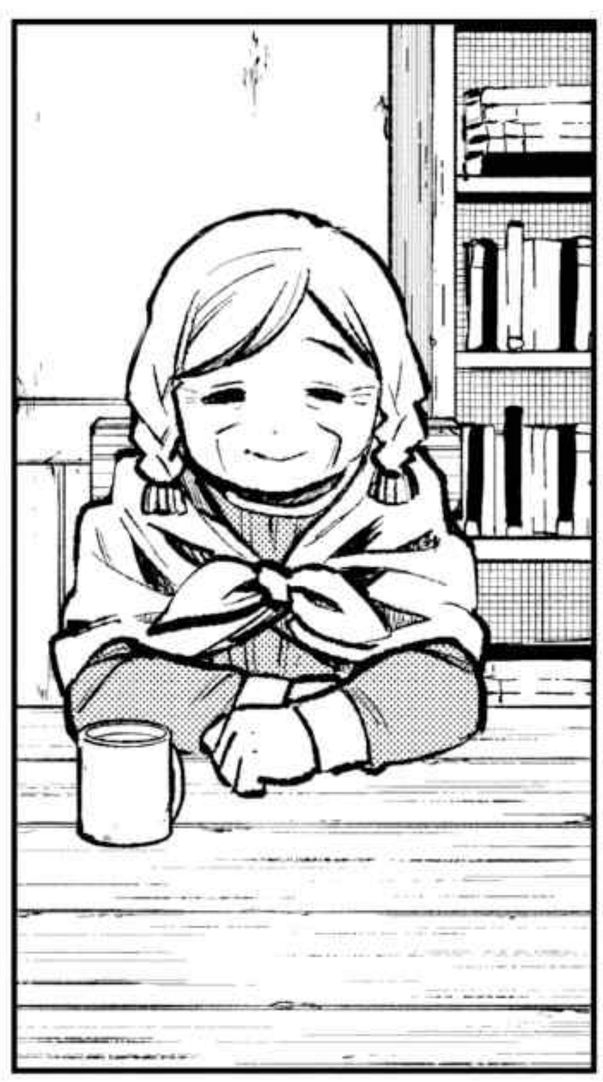
OH MY, IT'S RARE TO SEE YOU ALONE.

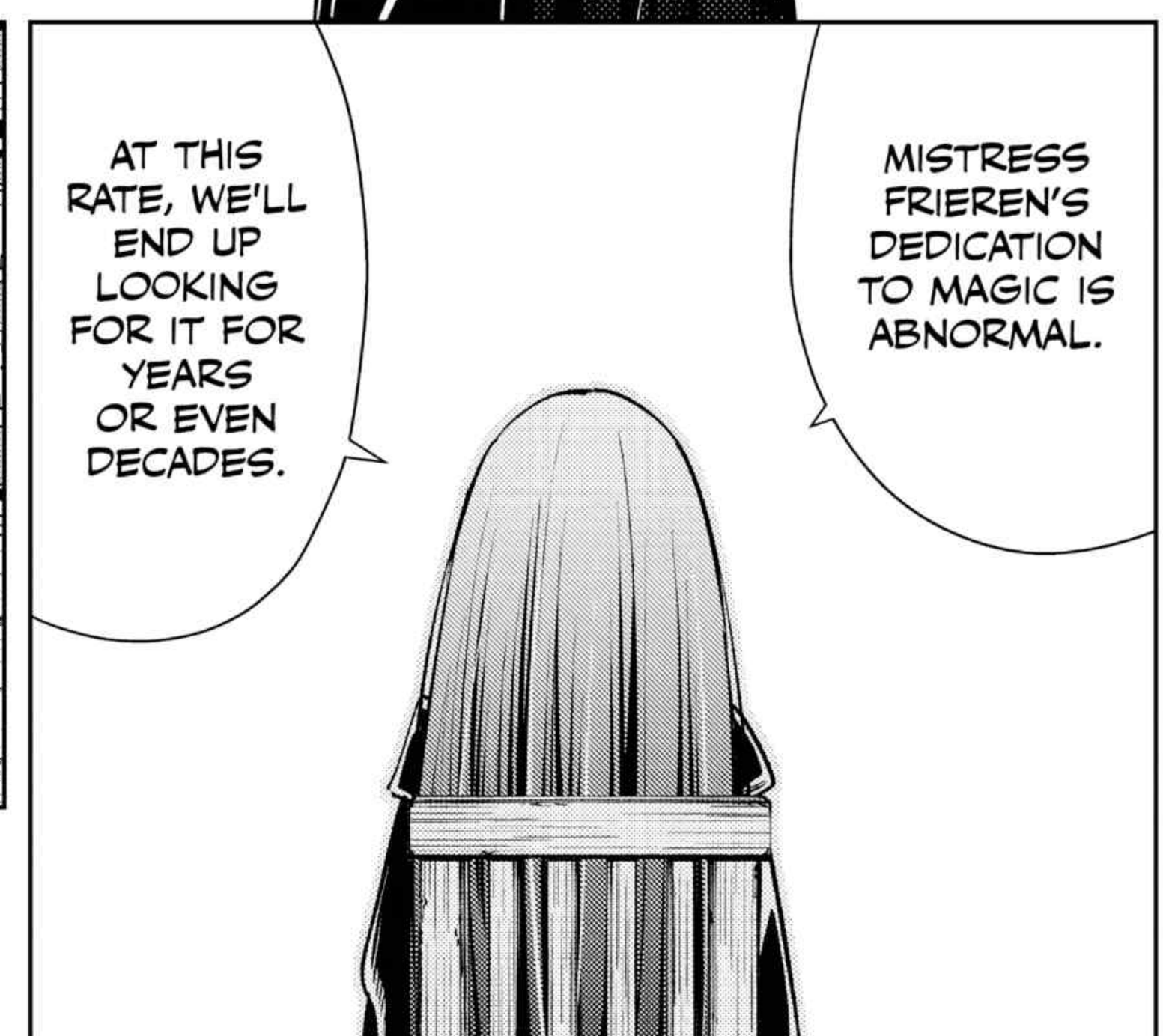



IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE SINCE YOU TWO CAME TO THE VILLAGE.

...

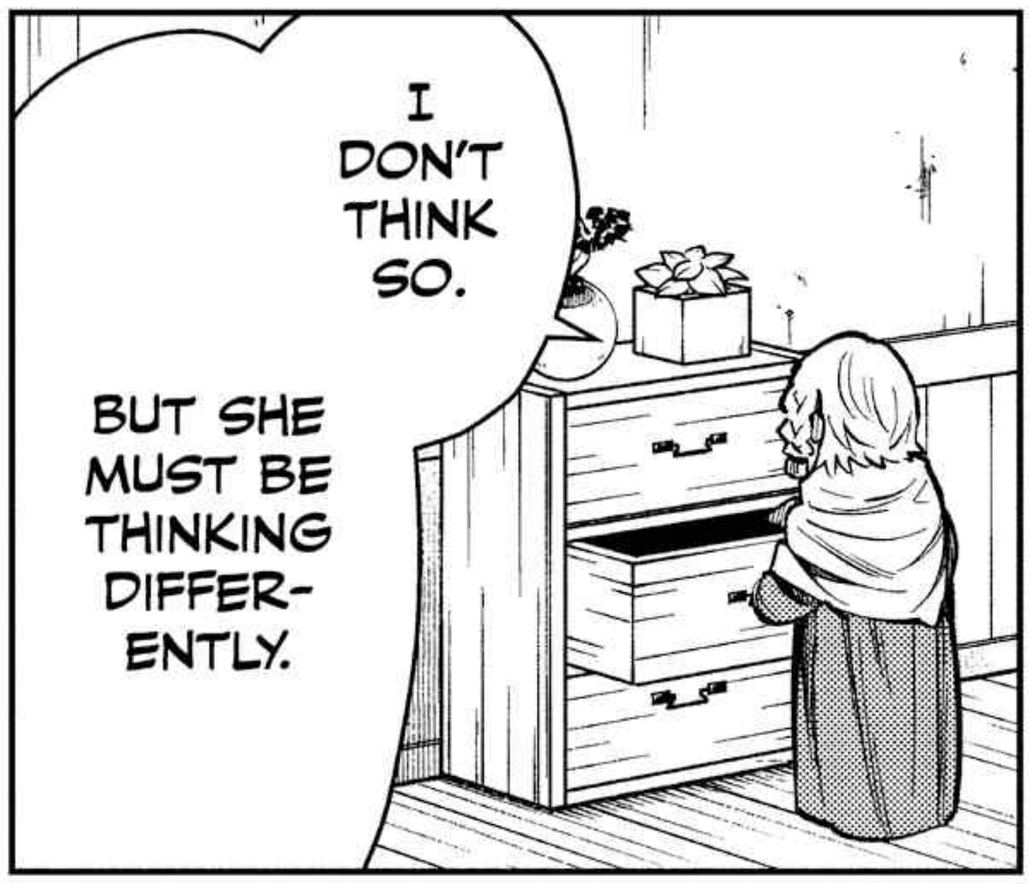

DO YOU THINK WE CAN?
DID YOU FIND BLUE-MOON WEED?

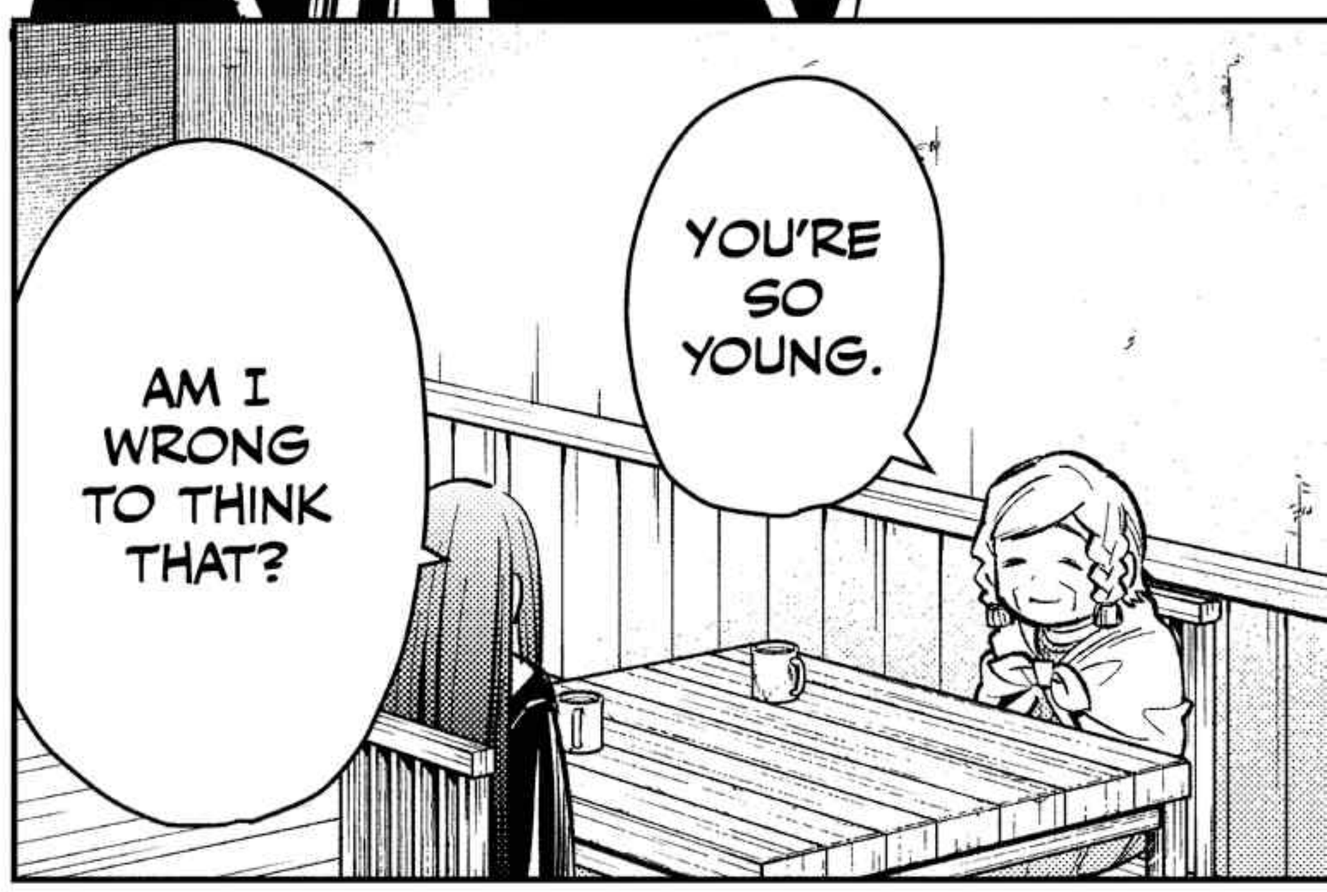


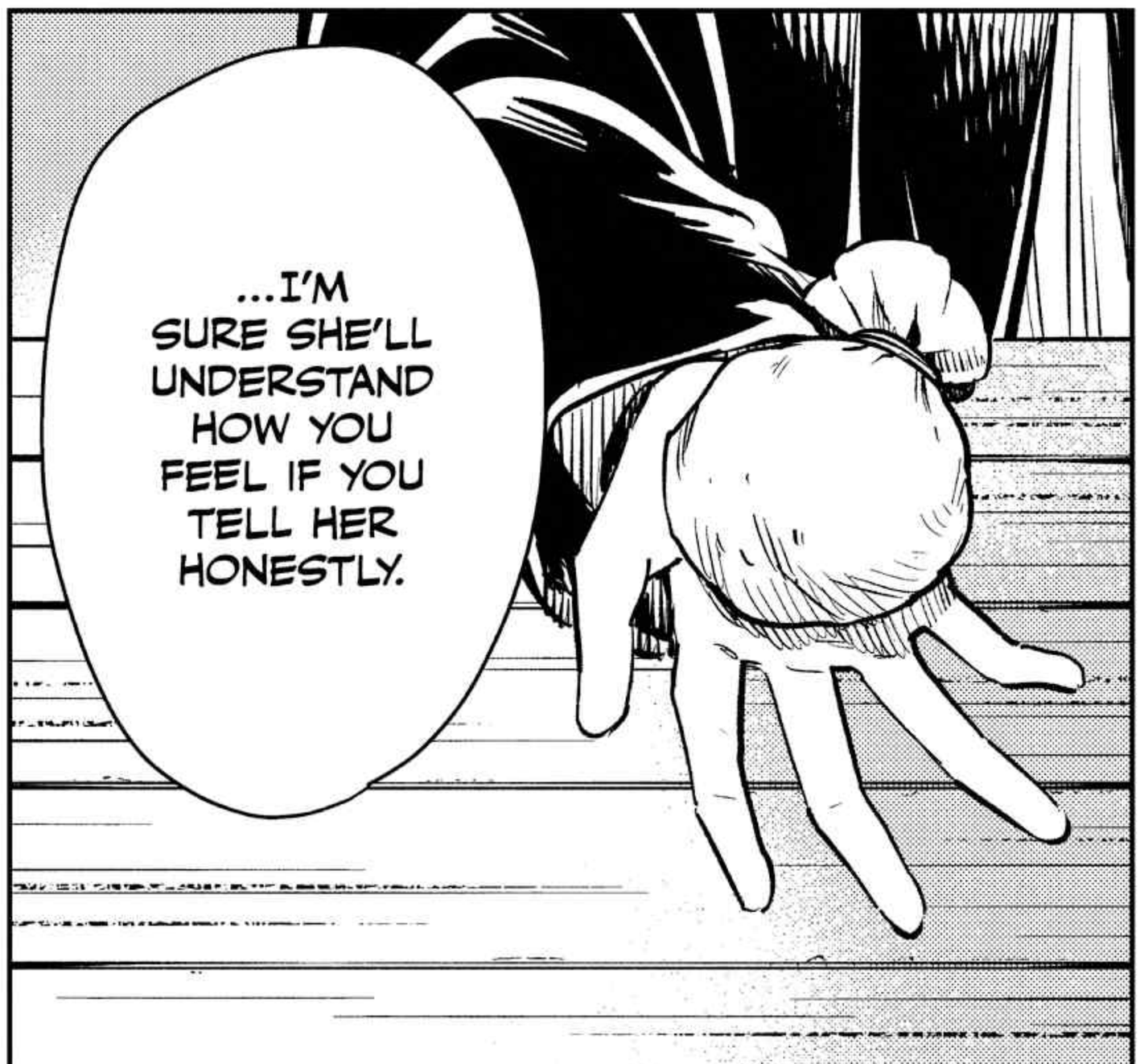

AT THIS RATE, WE'LL END UP LOOKING FOR IT FOR YEARS OR EVEN DECADES.
MISTRESS FRIEREN'S DEDICATION TO MAGIC IS ABNORMAL.

MISTRESS FRIEREN HAS THE POWER TO SAVE MANY PEOPLE.

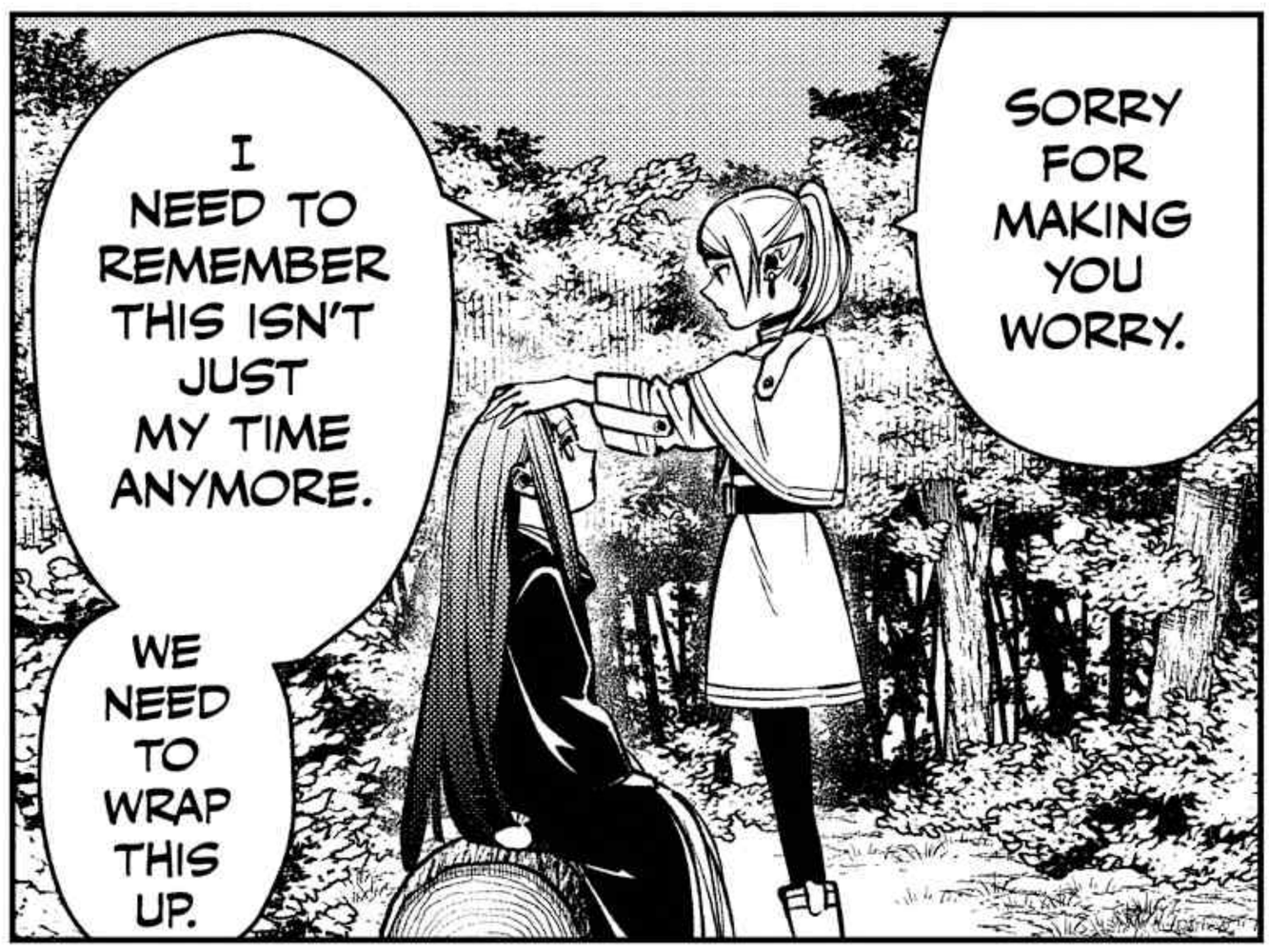
IT'S UNACCEPTABLE THAT SHE'S WASTING HER TIME ON SOMETHING THAT MIGHT NOT EVEN EXIST.







HOW ABOUT WE PLANT THESE AROUND MASTER HIMMEL'S STATUE INSTEAD...?
SHE TOLD ME THESE ARE THE SEEDS OF A CLOSELY RELATED SPECIES THAT WERE STORED TO USE FOR MEDICINE.


I NEED TO REMEMBER THIS ISN'T JUST MY TIME ANYMORE.
WE NEED TO WRAP THIS UP.
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY.

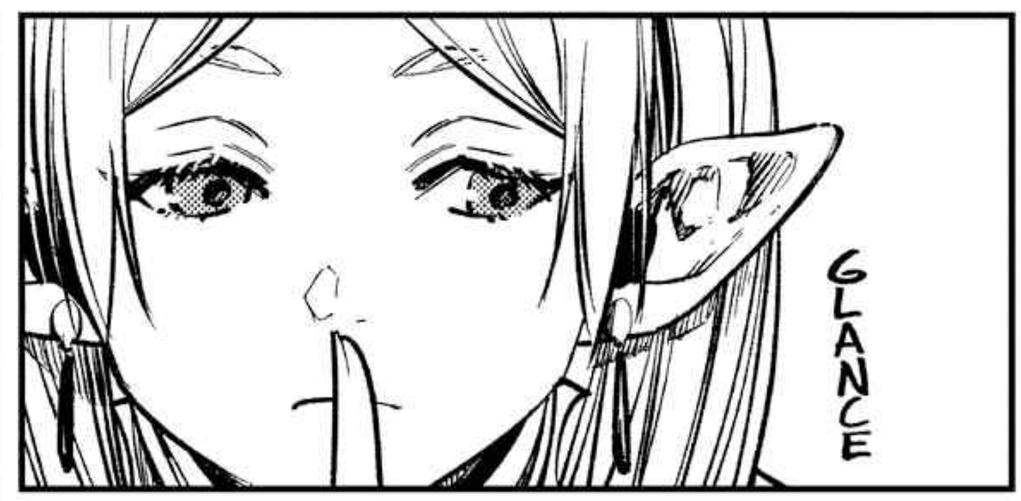
I UNDER-STAND, FERN.

WE'LL JUST LOOK A LITTLE LONGER. THEN WE CAN GIVE UP.

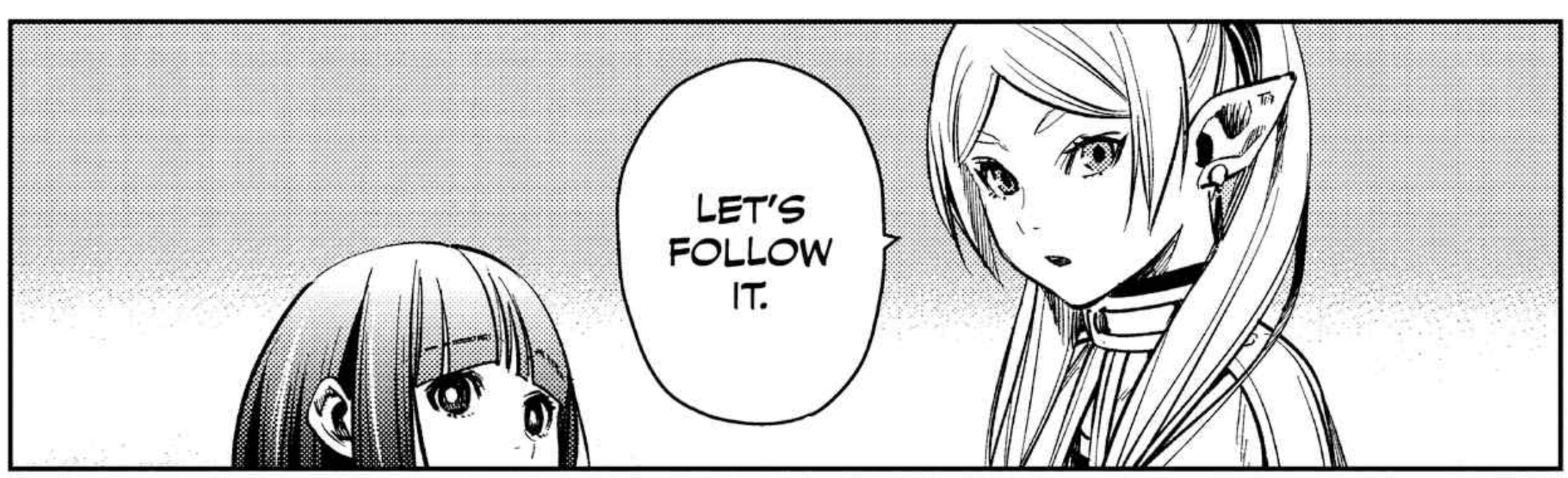
YOU REALLY NEVER GIVE U–

HOW MANY YEARS WOULD BE "A LITTLE LONGER"?
JUST A LITTLE MORE.

KSH

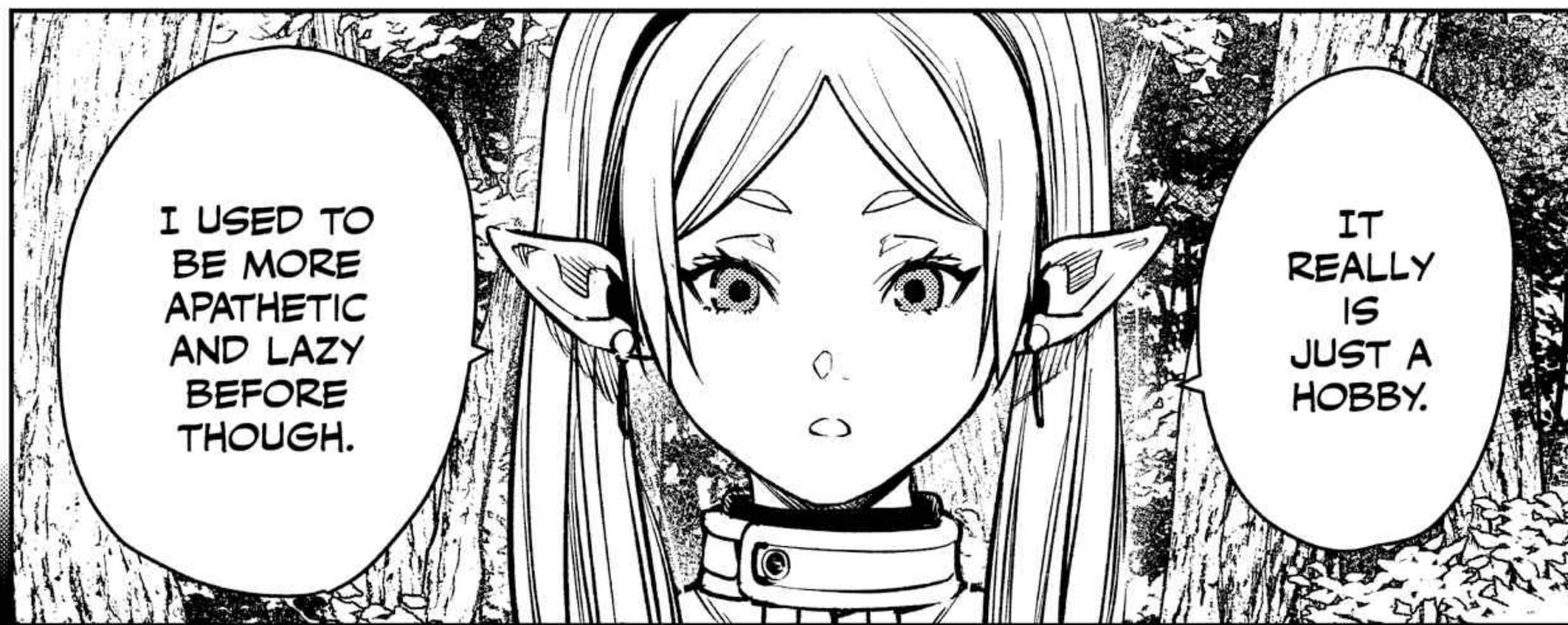

GLANCE

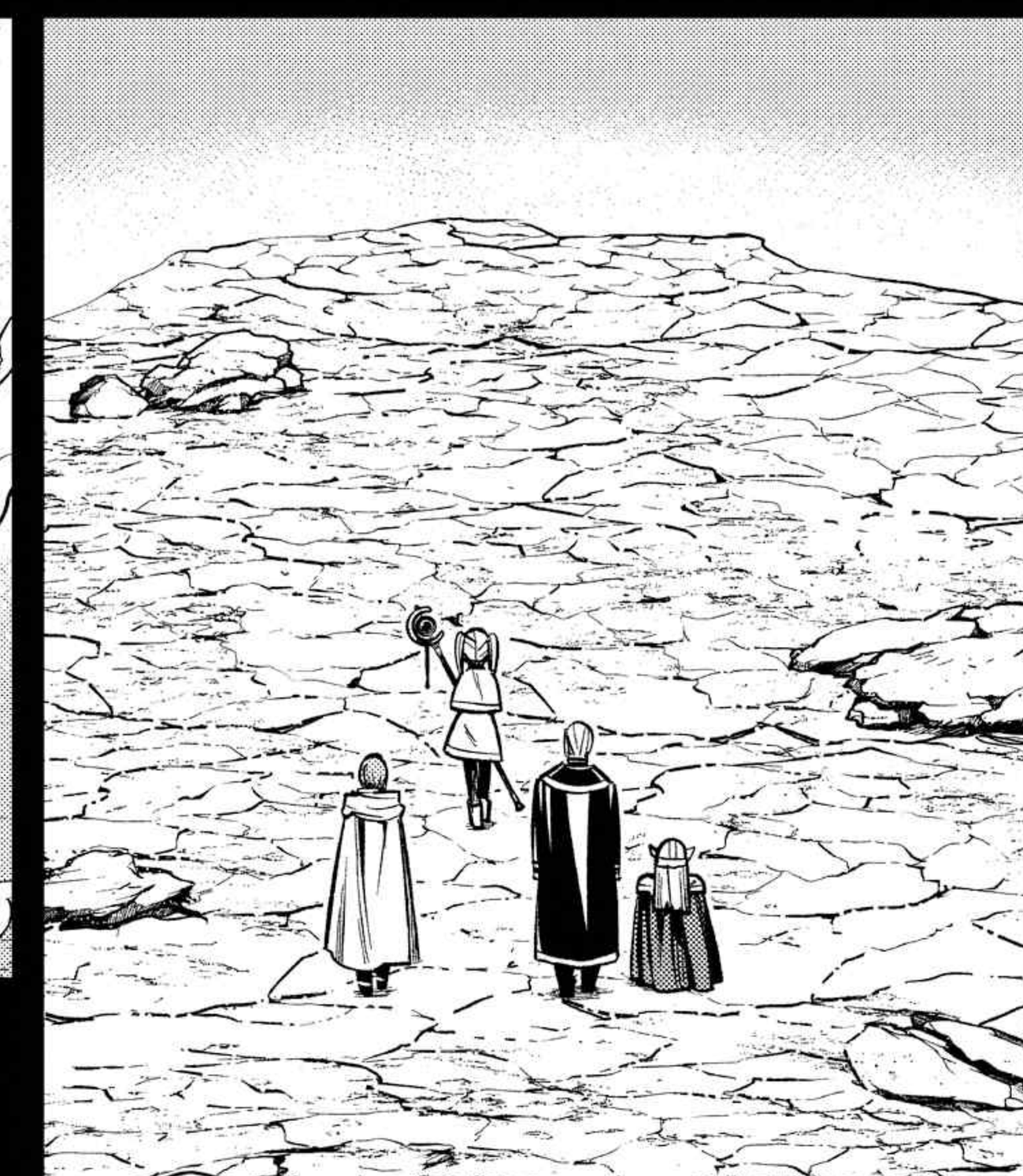
AH...

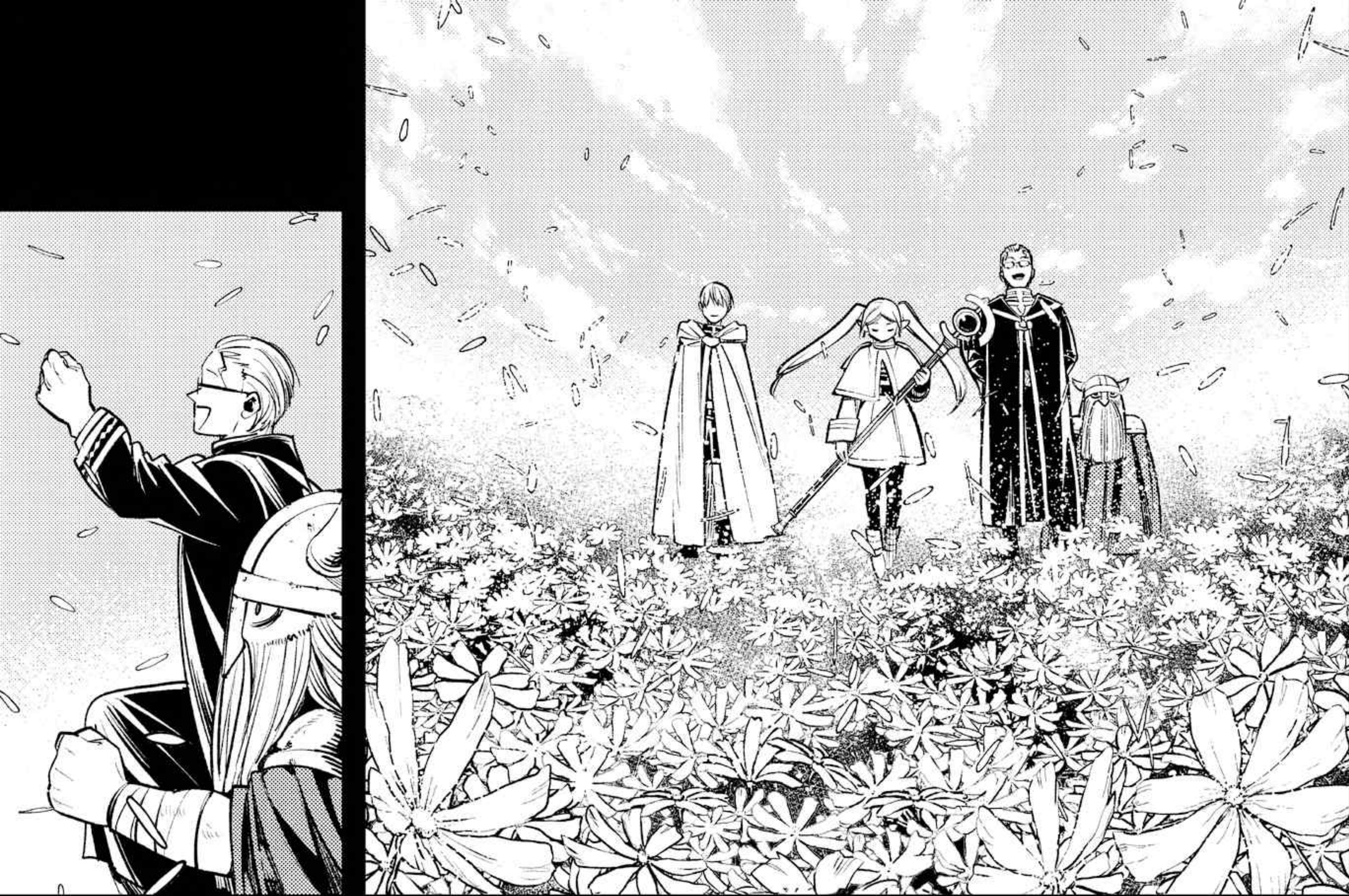

LET'S FOLLOW IT.

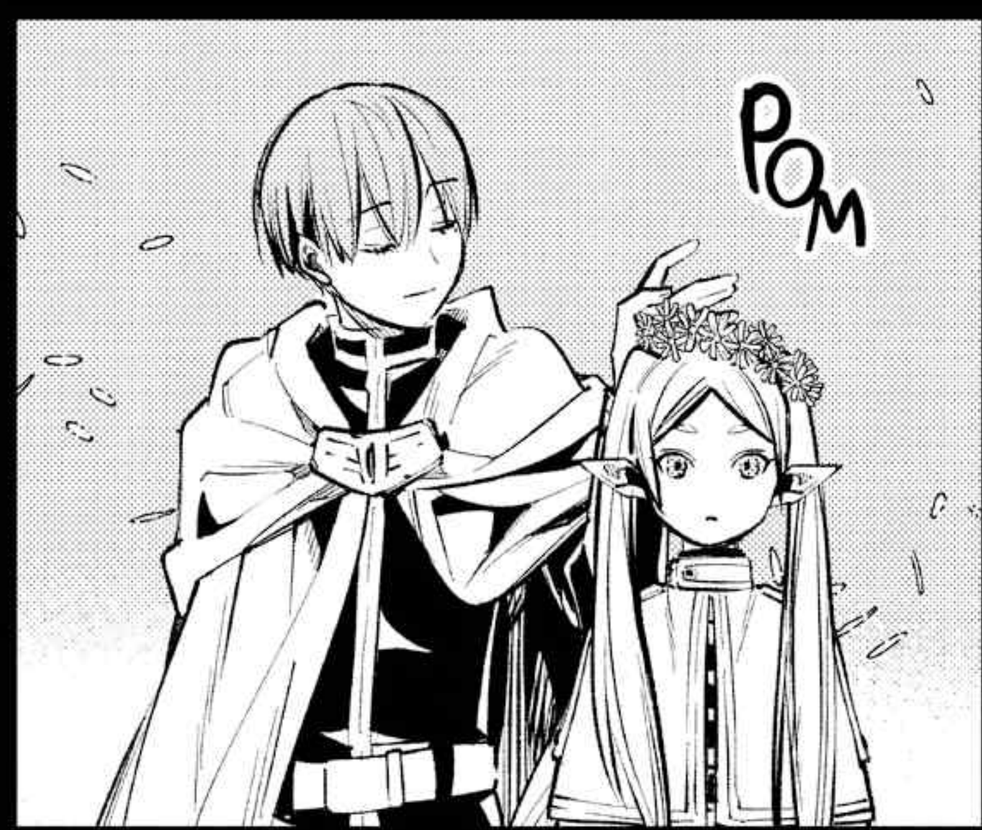
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE IT.

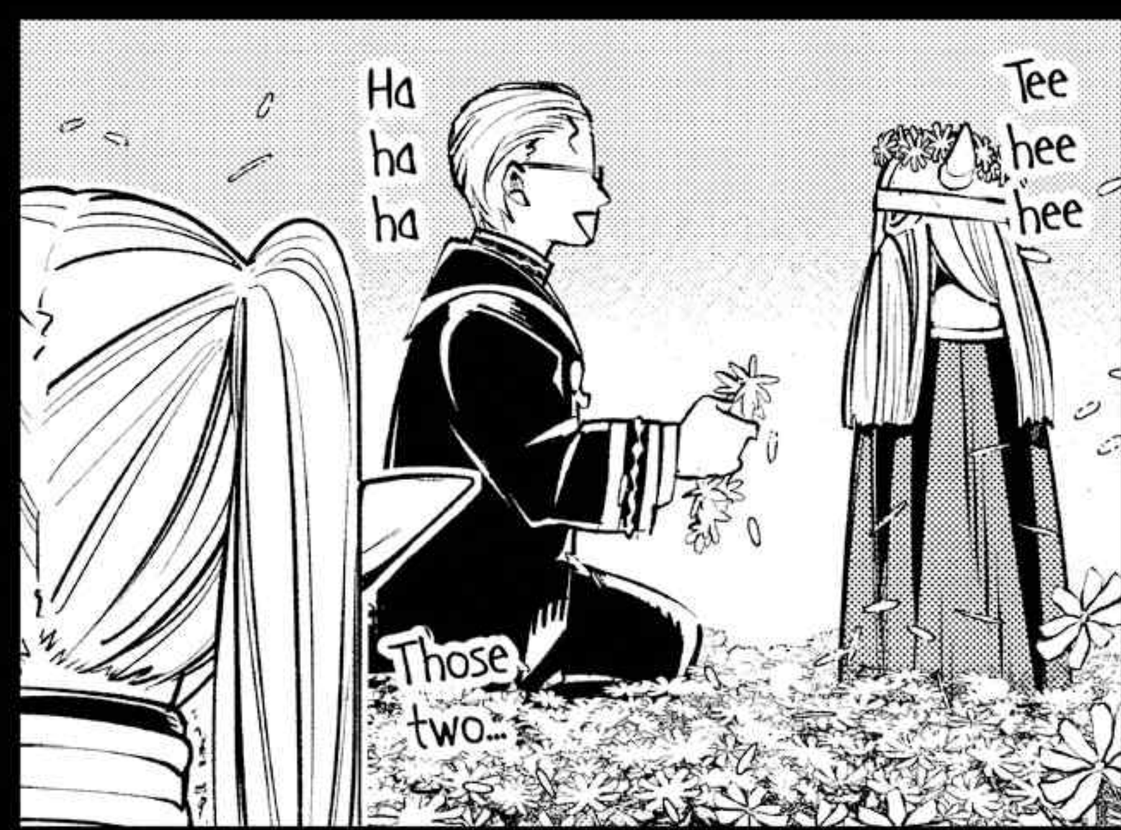
WHAT ARE YOU GATHERING MAGIC FOR?
IT'S JUST A HOBBY OF MINE.


I USED TO BE MORE APATHETIC AND LAZY BEFORE THOUGH.
IT REALLY IS JUST A HOBBY.



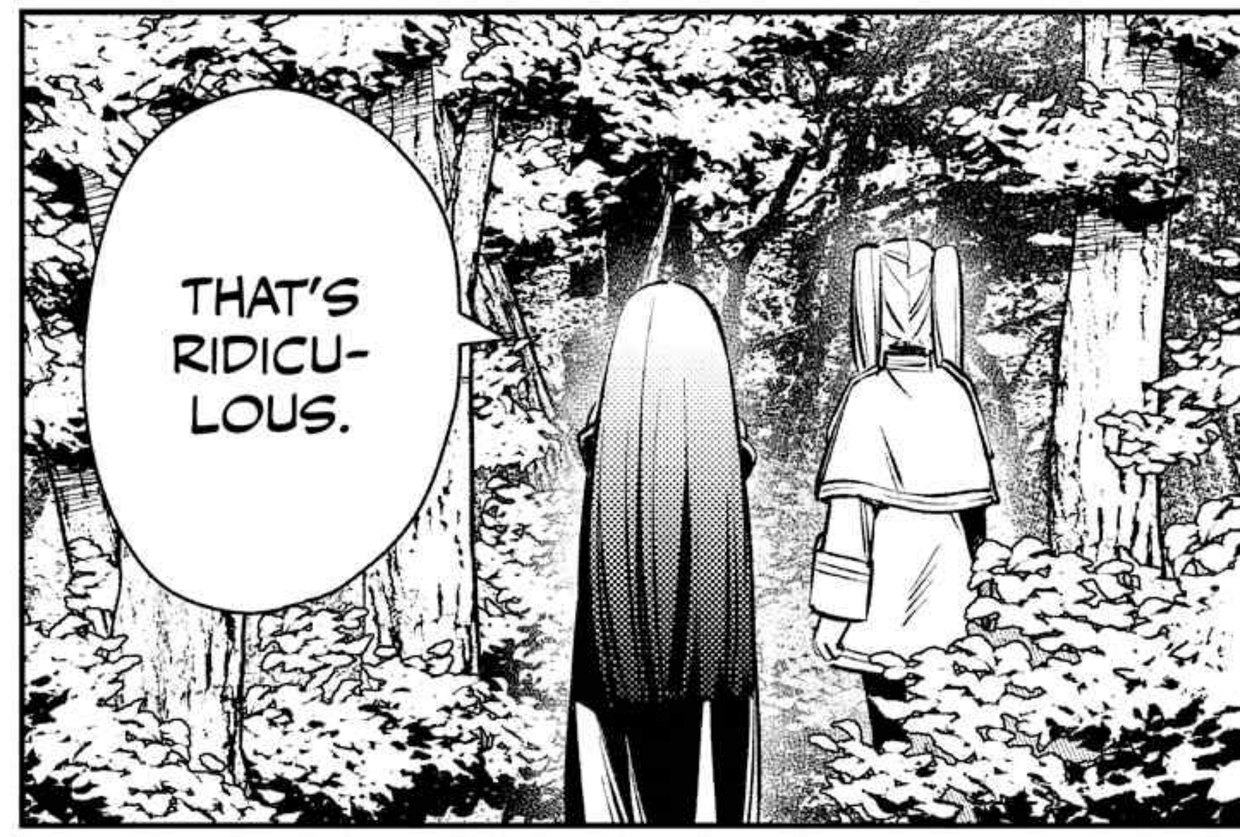


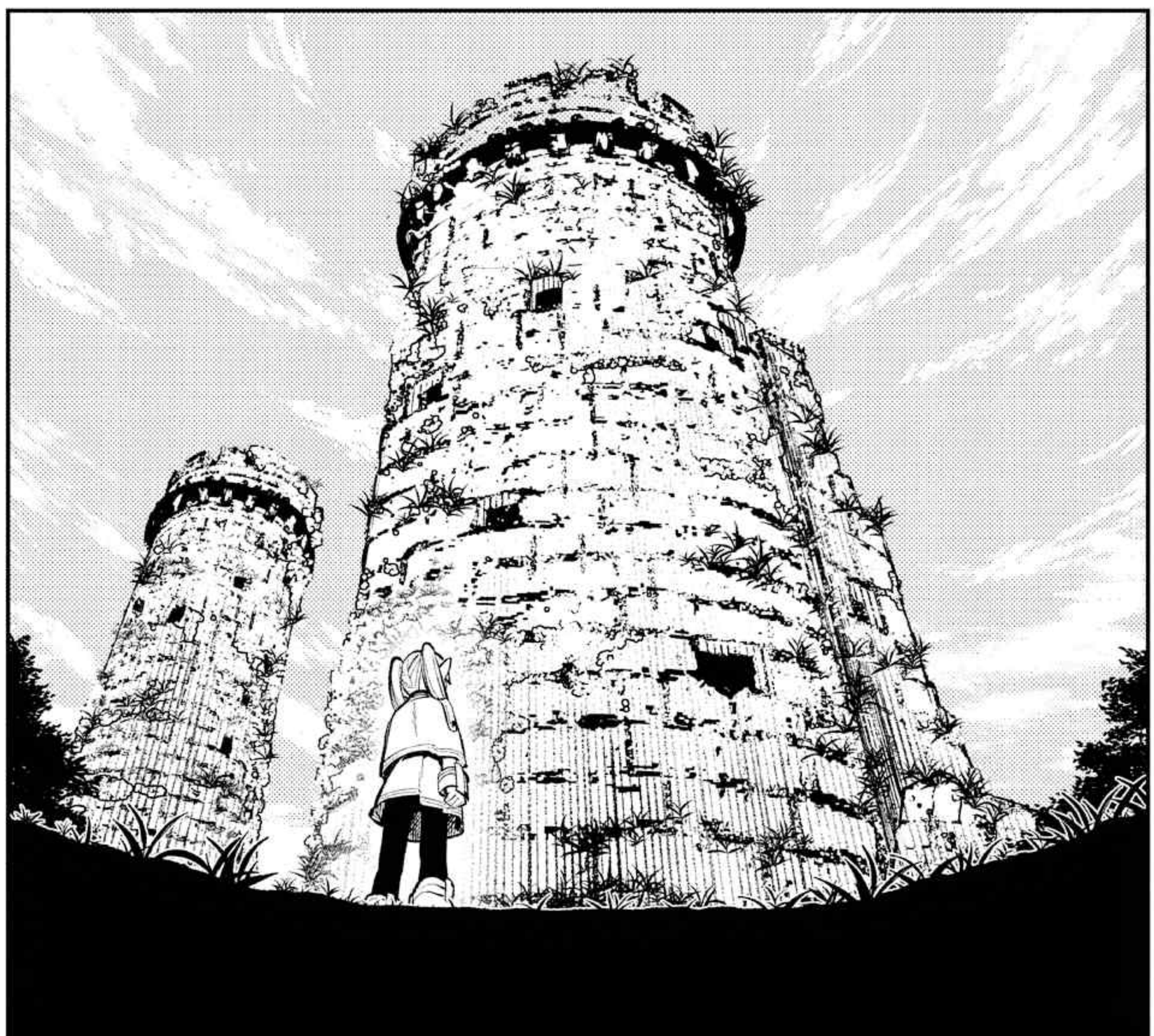

Pom

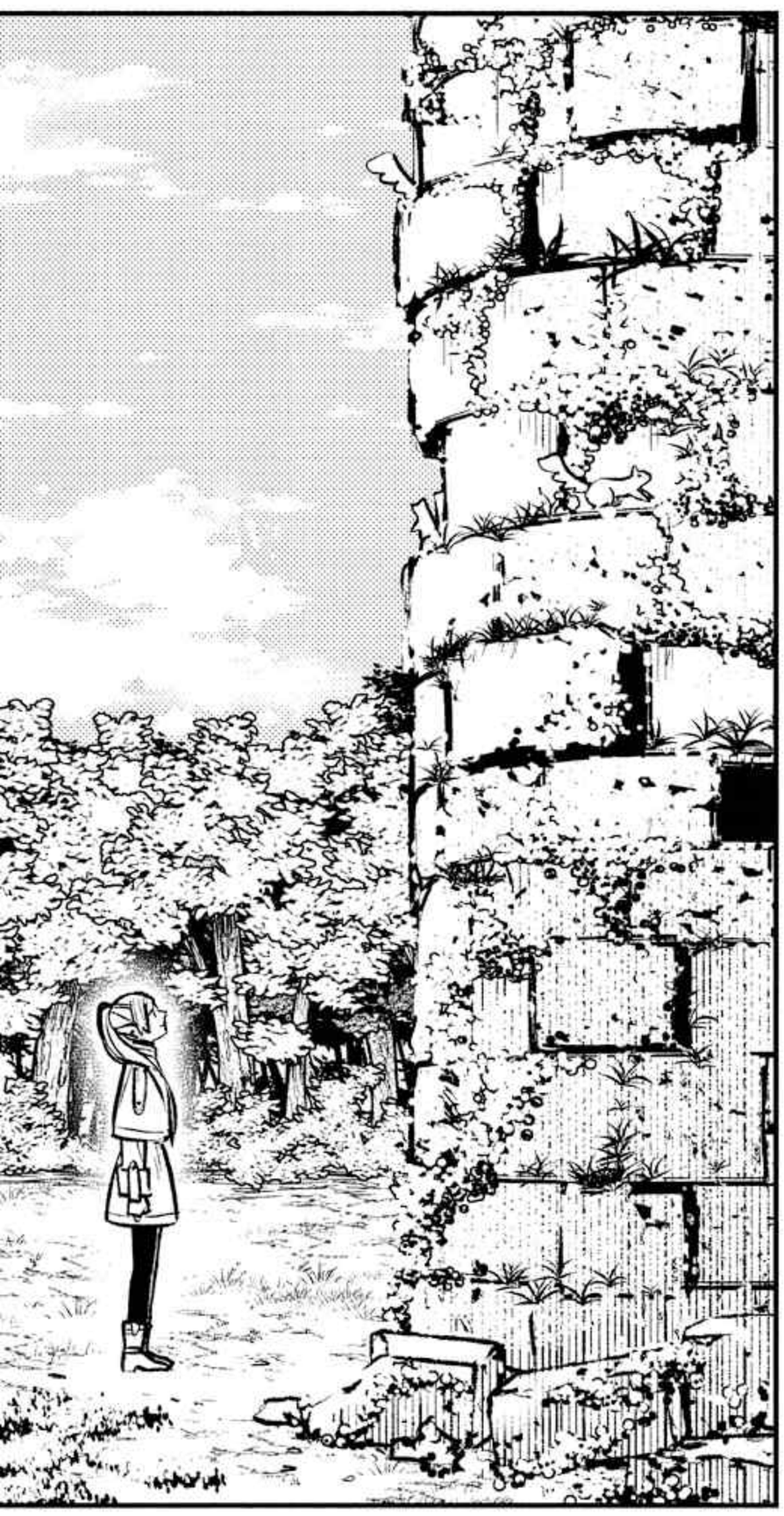

Ha ha ha
Tee hee hee
Those two...

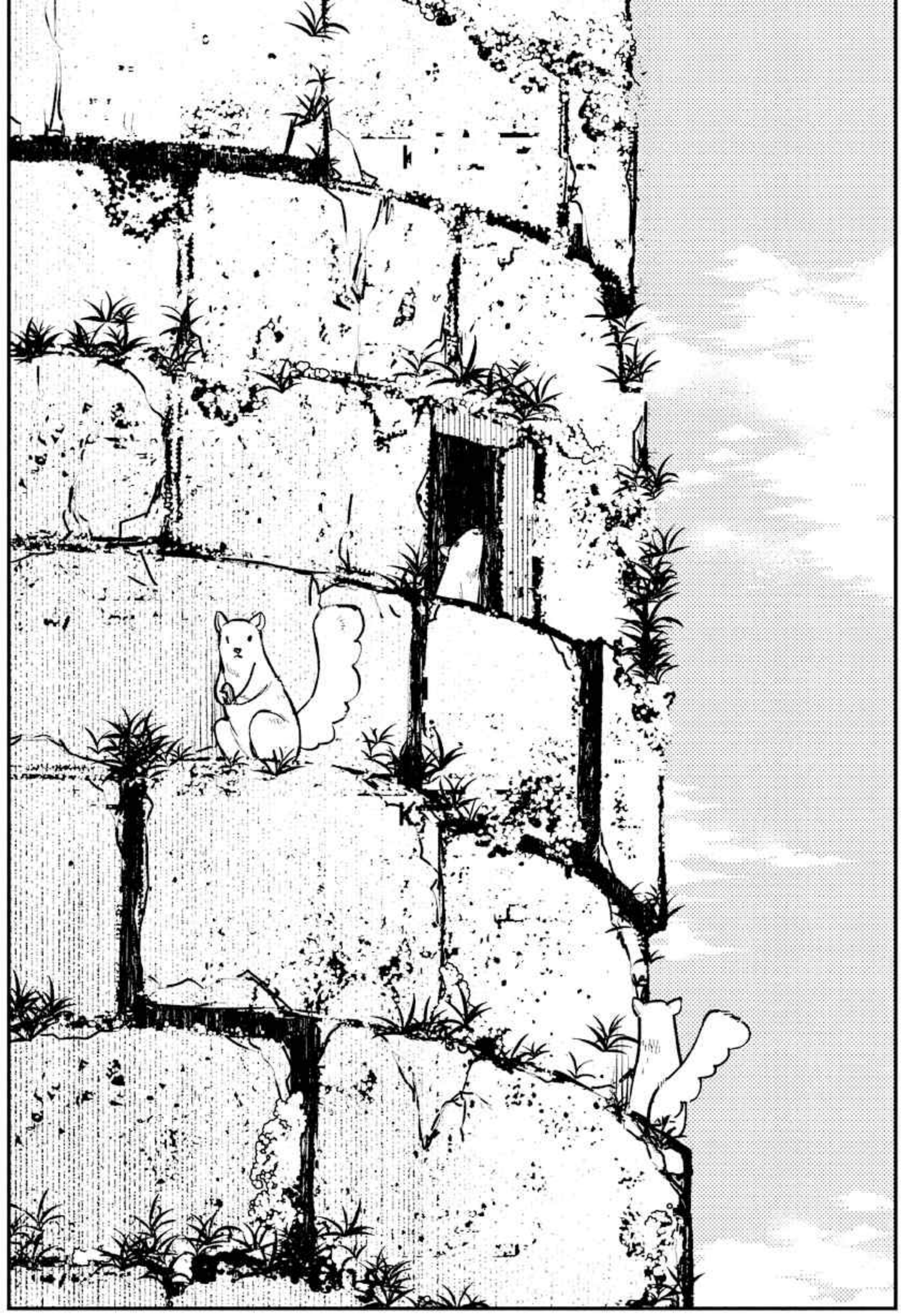
THAT'S ALL.
THERE WAS A FOOL WHO USED TO PRAISE ME FOR THE MAGIC I ACQUIRED.

I AGREE.

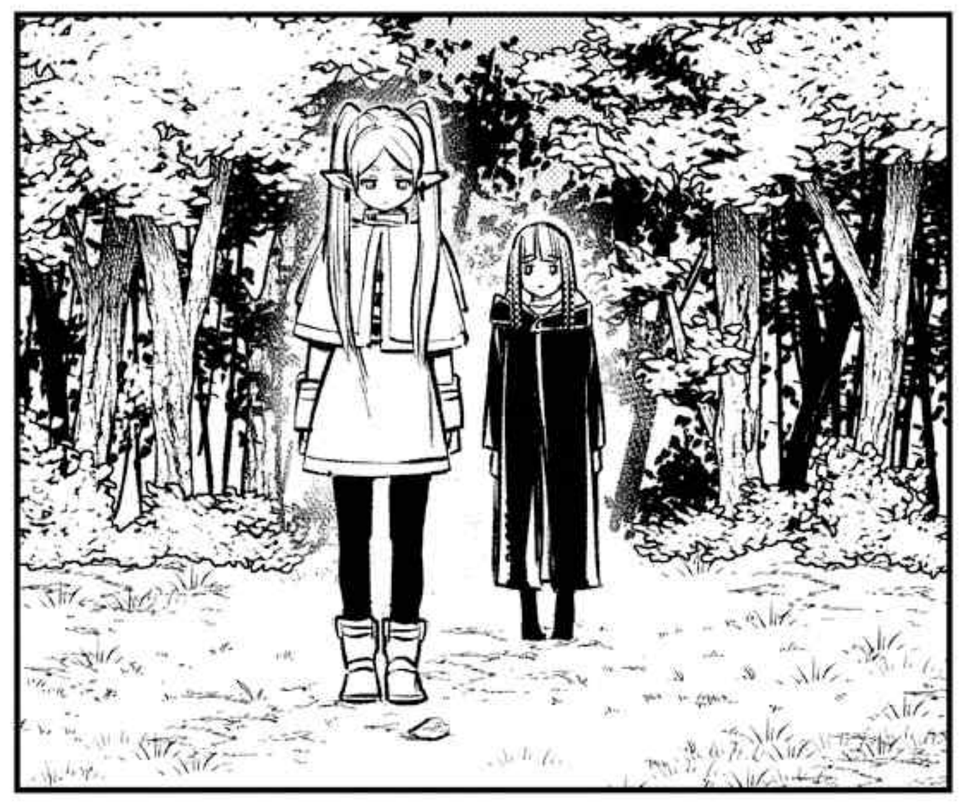

THAT'S RIDICU-LOUS.





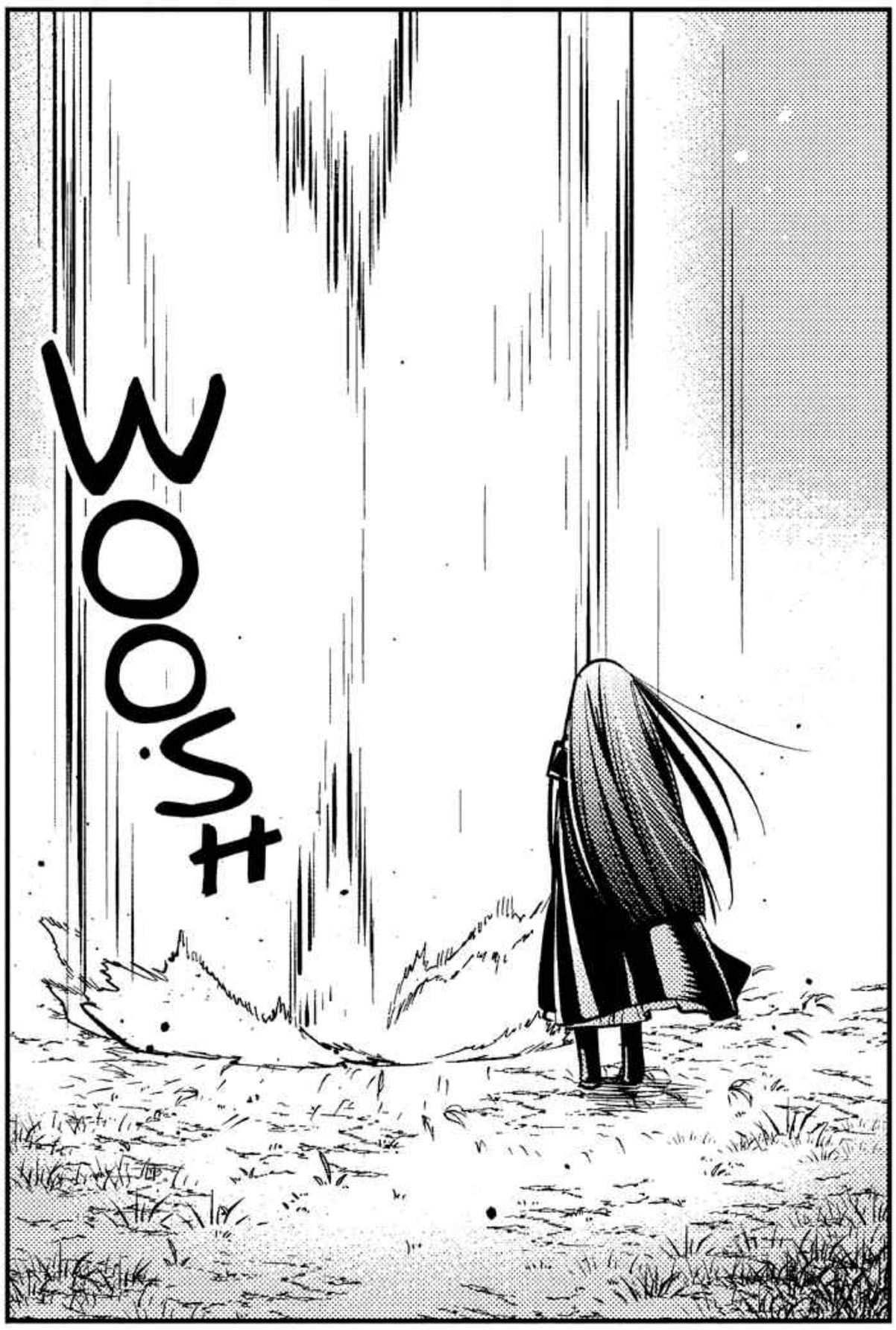


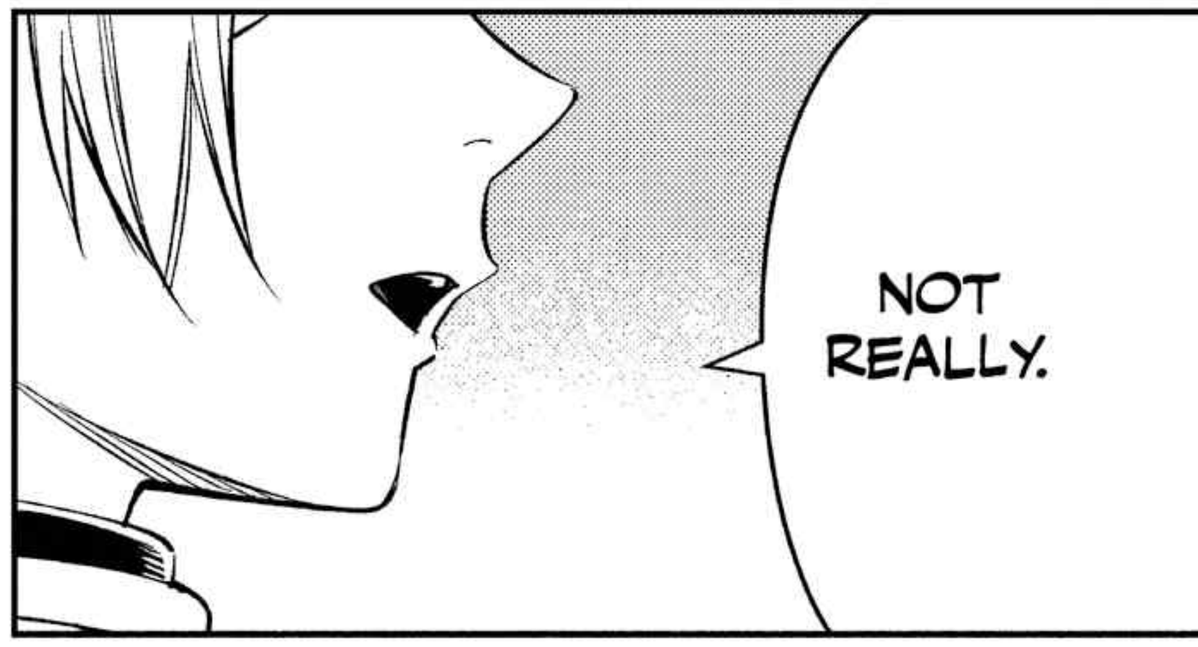
A FLOWER PETAL.
THAT'S ...

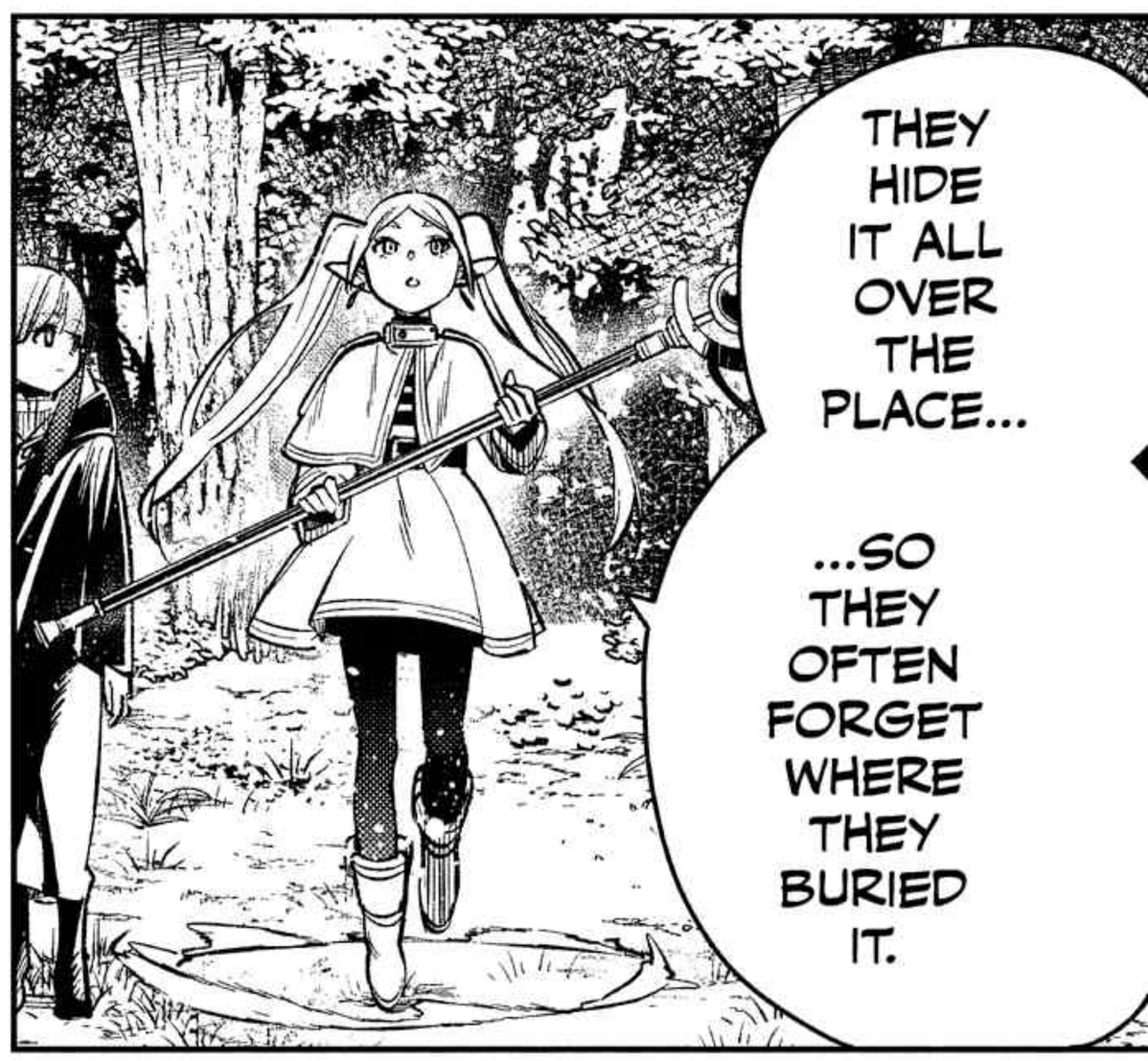


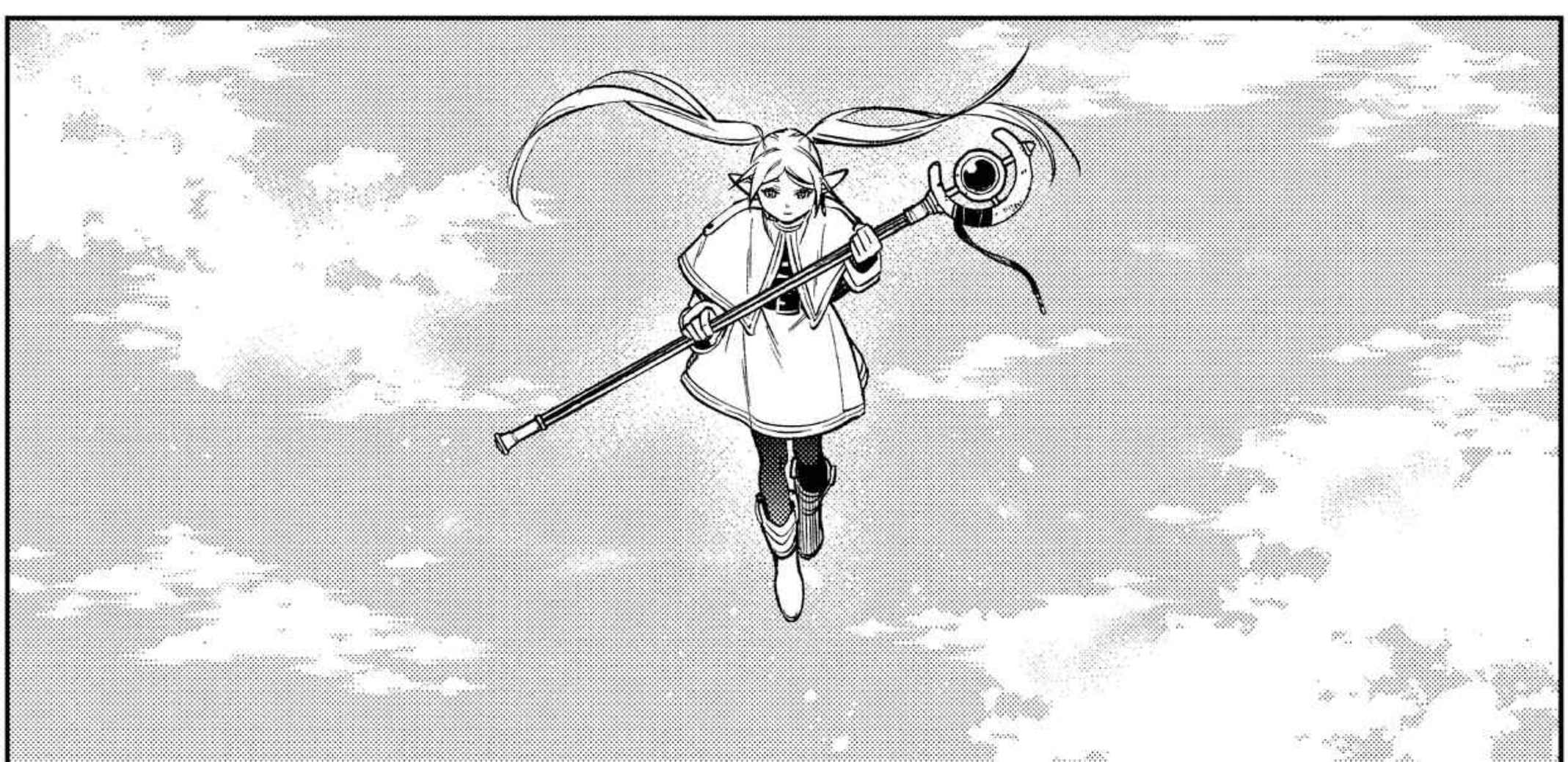
SOUNDS LIKE A SMART ANIMAL.

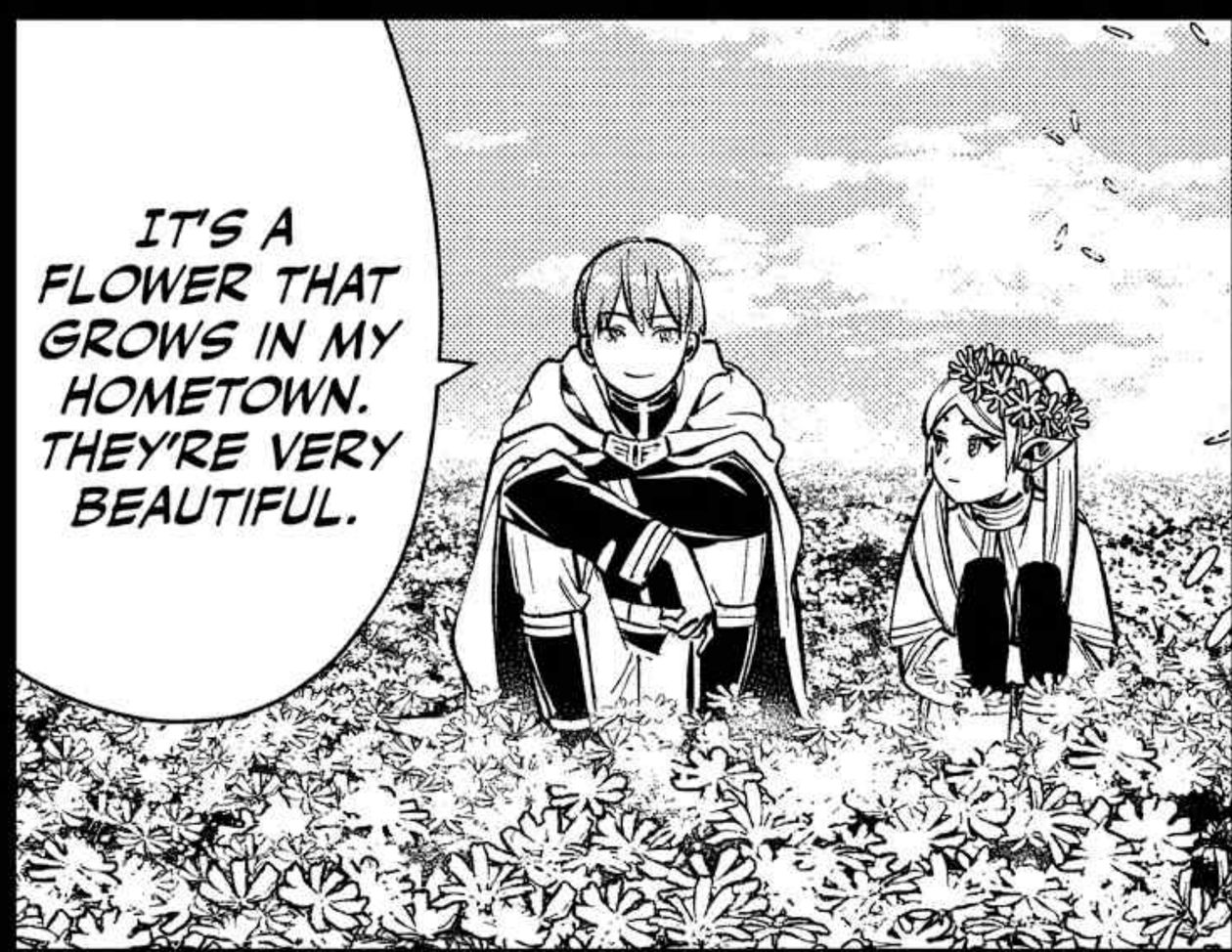
THEY SAY SEED RATS STORE THEIR FOOD BY BURYING IT IN SAFE PLACES.



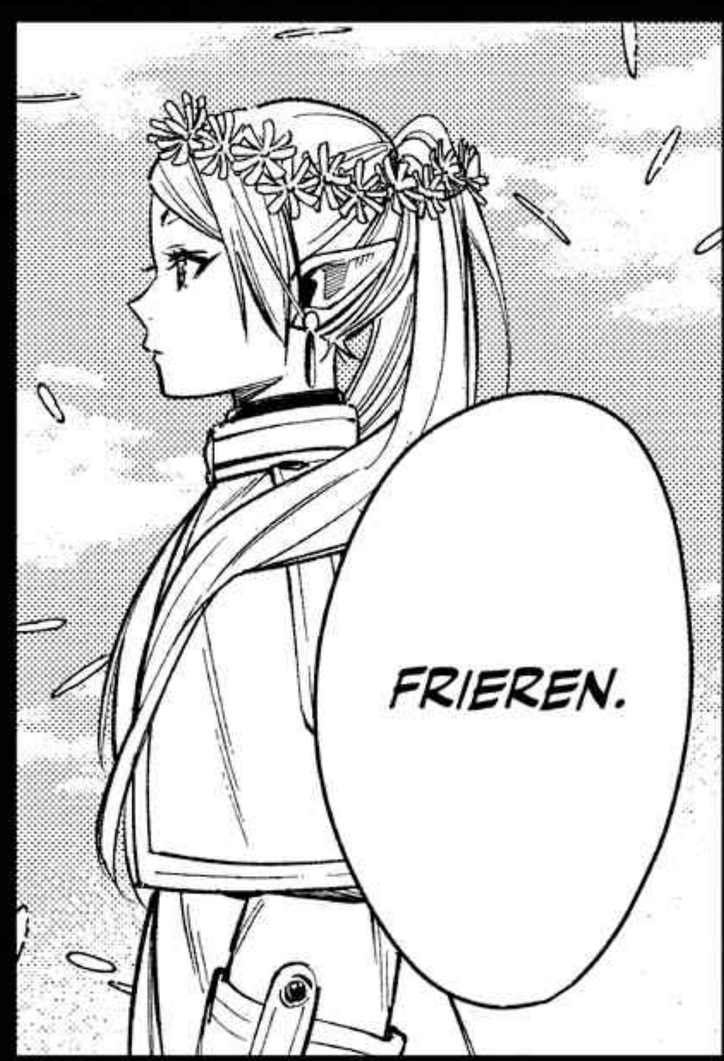







IT'S A FLOWER THAT GROWS IN MY HOMETOWN. THEY'RE VERY BEAUTIFUL.

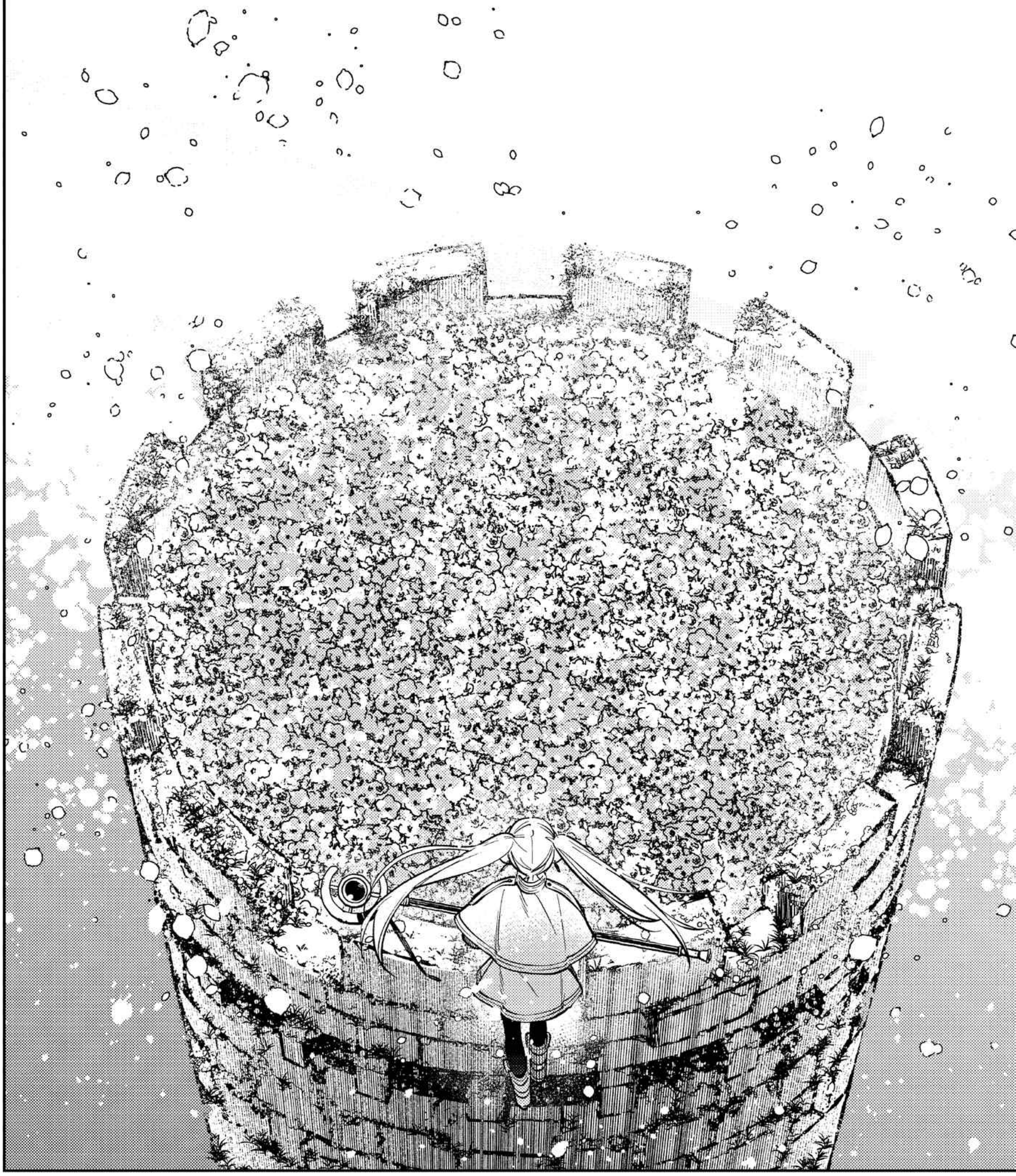
BLUE-MOON WEED?


FRIEREN.

LET'S GET GOING.
WELL, NOT AS BEAUTIFUL AS ME THOUGH.

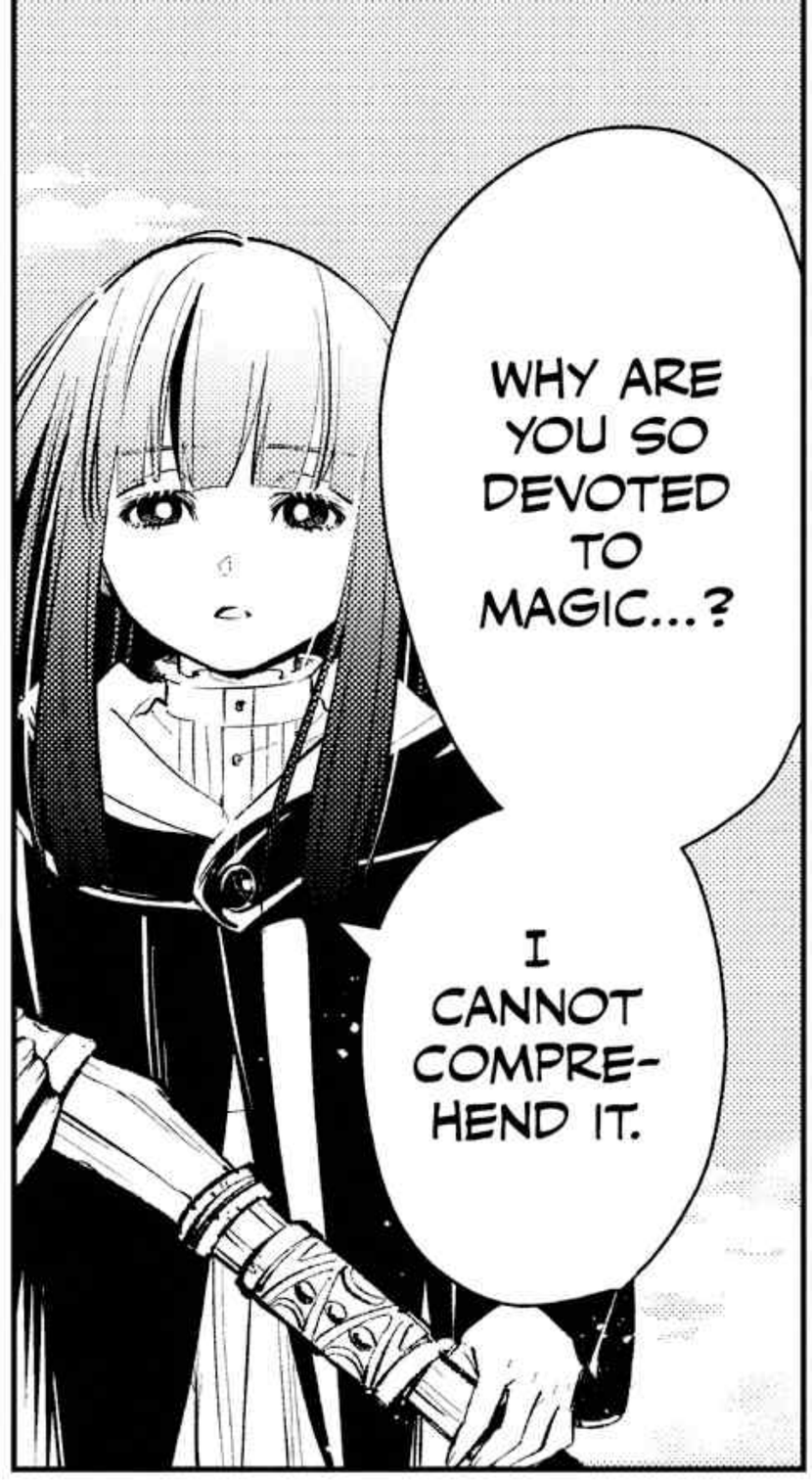
OKAY.
WHEN YOU HAVE A CHANCE THEN.

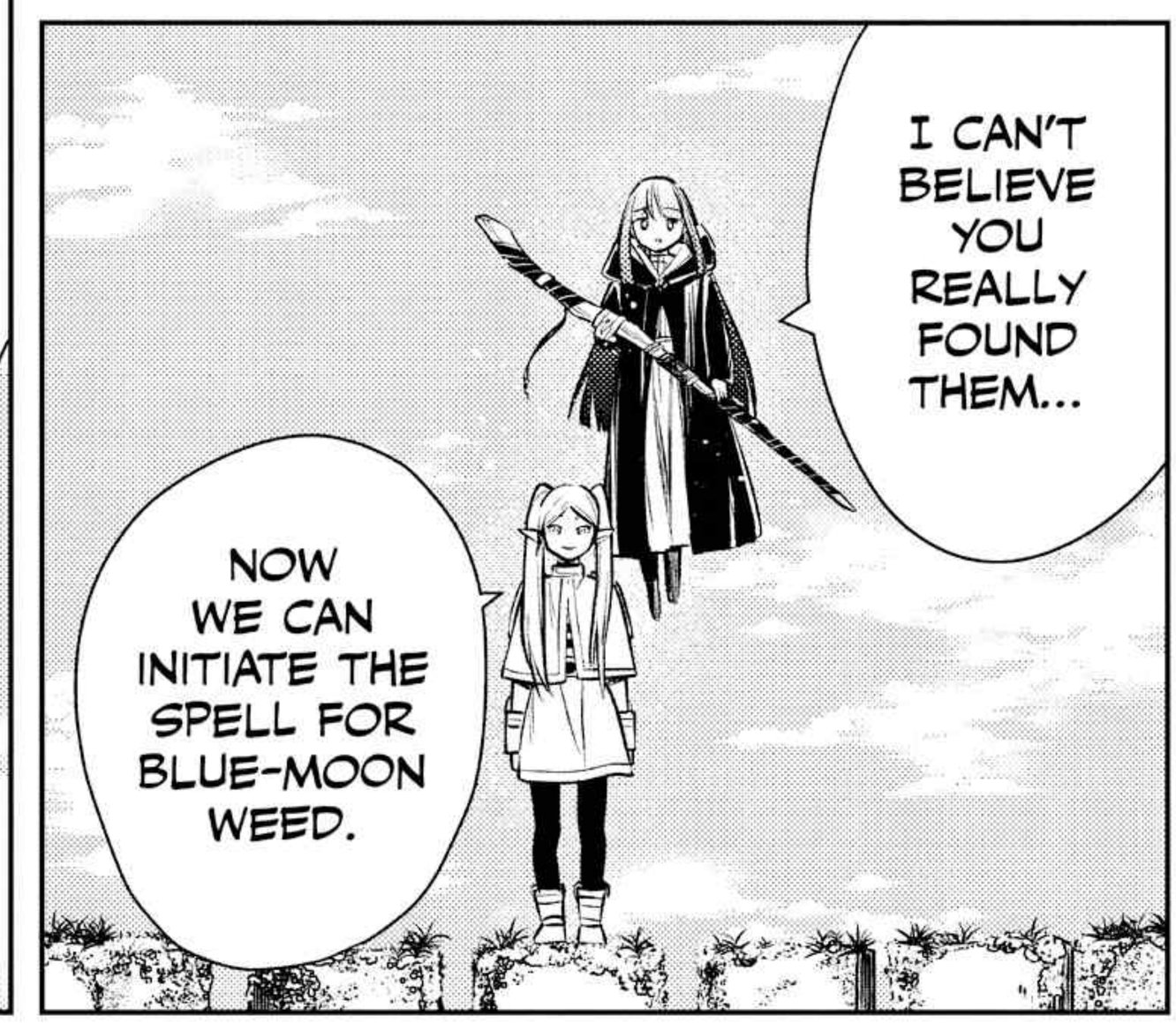
I'D LIKE TO SHOW THEM TO YOU ONE DAY.



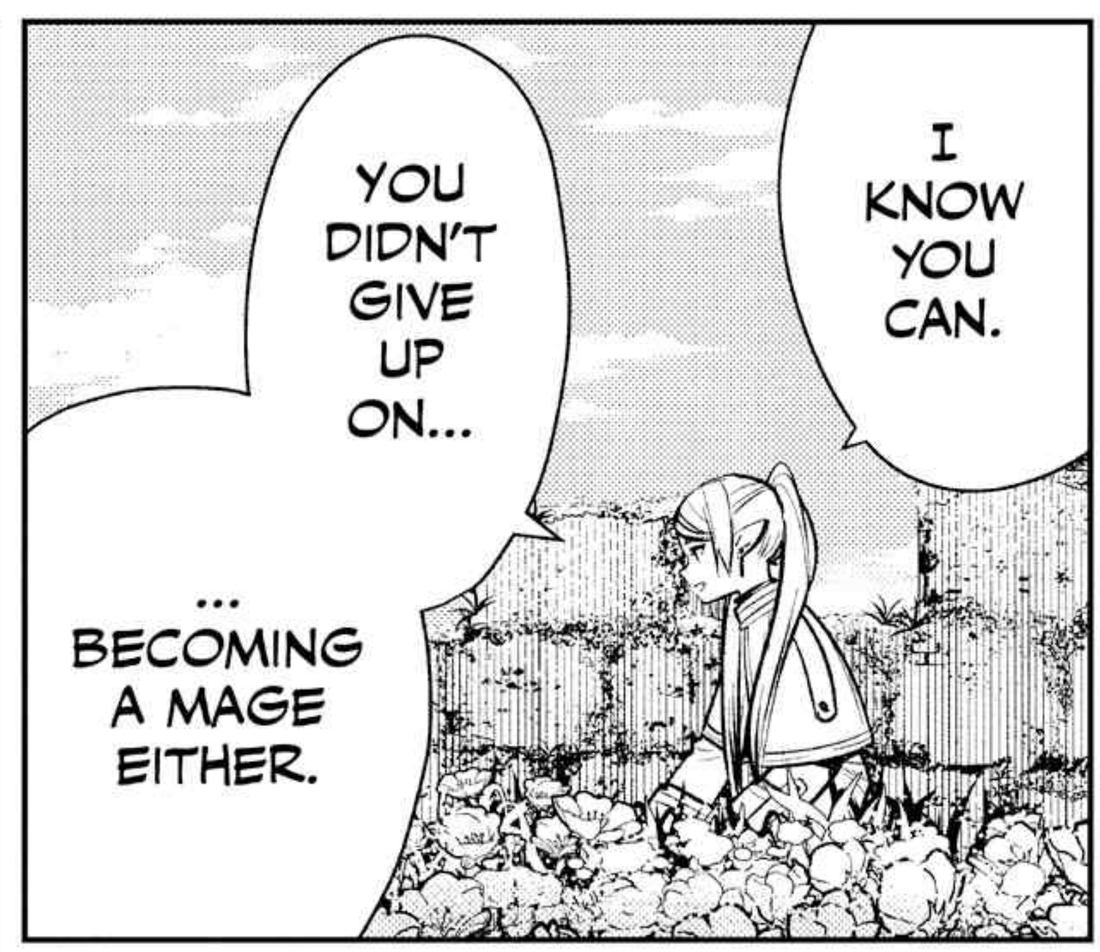
SORRY I MADE YOU WAIT, HIMMEL.

I KNEW THERE WERE SOME LEFT BUT...
...THIS IS MORE THAN I EXPECT-ED.


WHY ARE YOU SO DEVOTED TO MAGIC...?
I CANNOT COMPRE-HEND IT.


I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU REALLY FOUND THEM...
NOW WE CAN INITIATE THE SPELL FOR BLUE-MOON WEED.

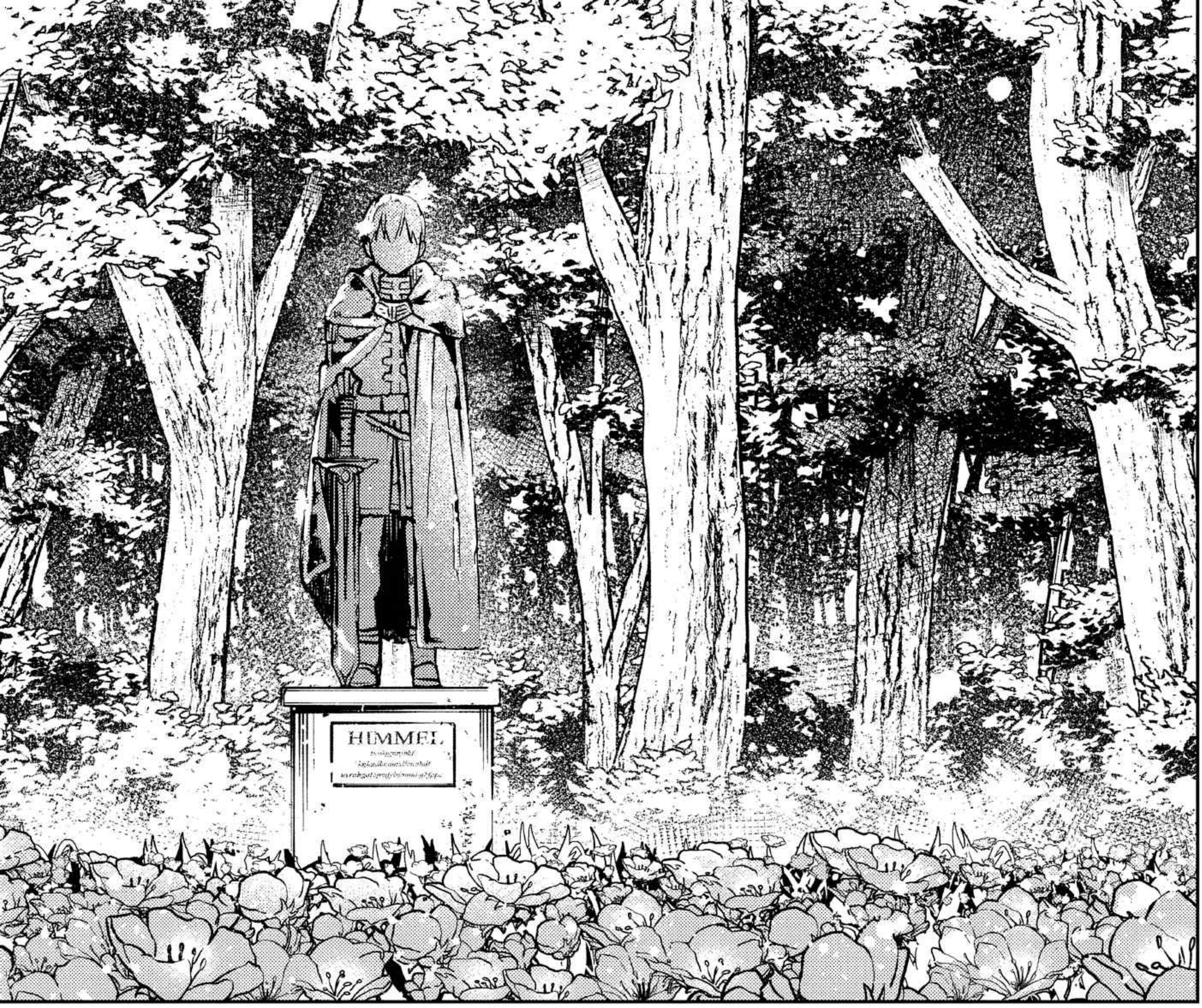
THAT'S DIFFERENT.
I JUST NEEDED TO GAIN THE STRENGTH TO SURVIVE ON MY OWN. IT DIDN'T MATTER HOW.

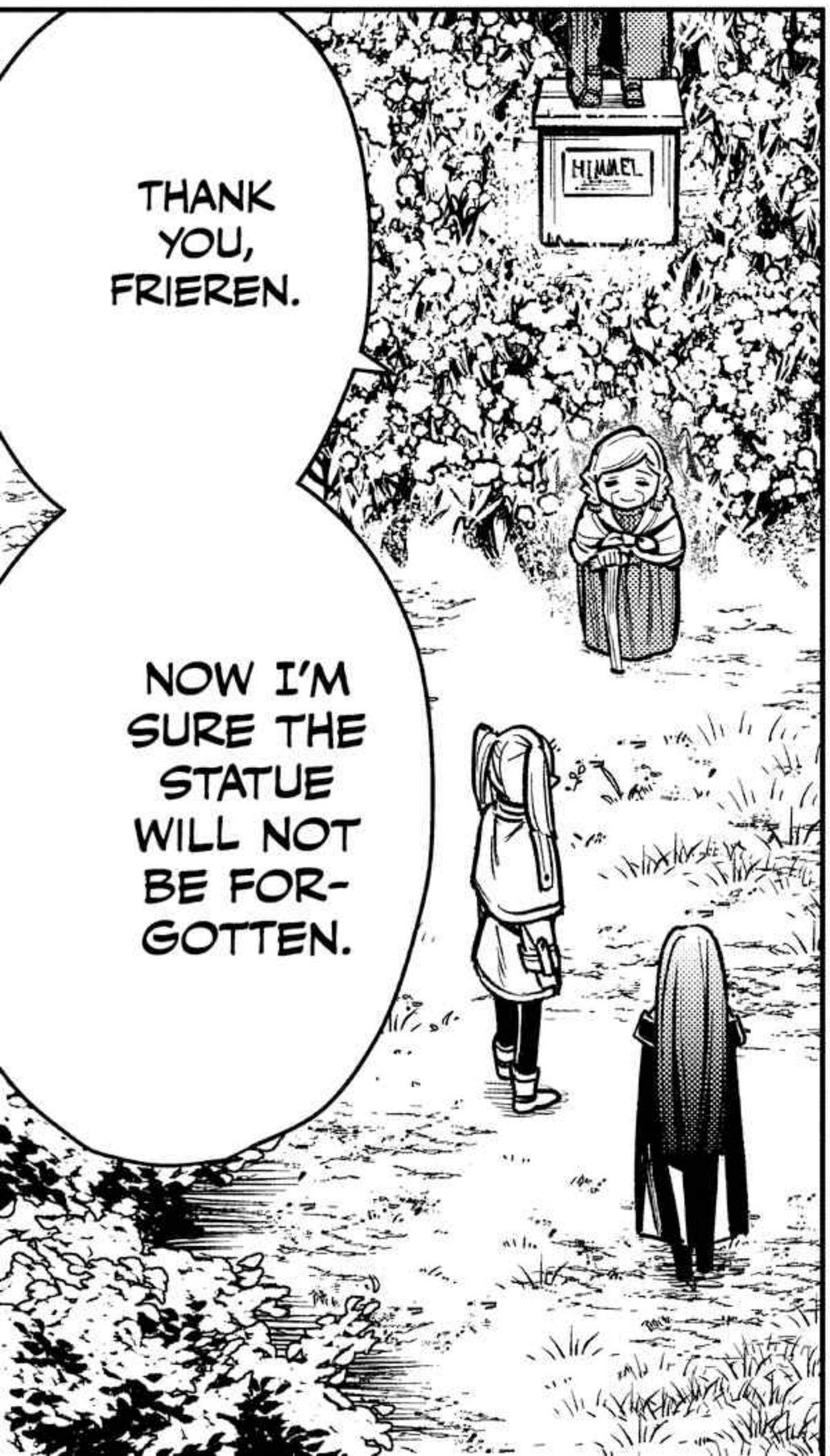

I KNOW YOU CAN.
YOU DIDN'T GIVE UP ON...
... BECOMING A MAGE EITHER.

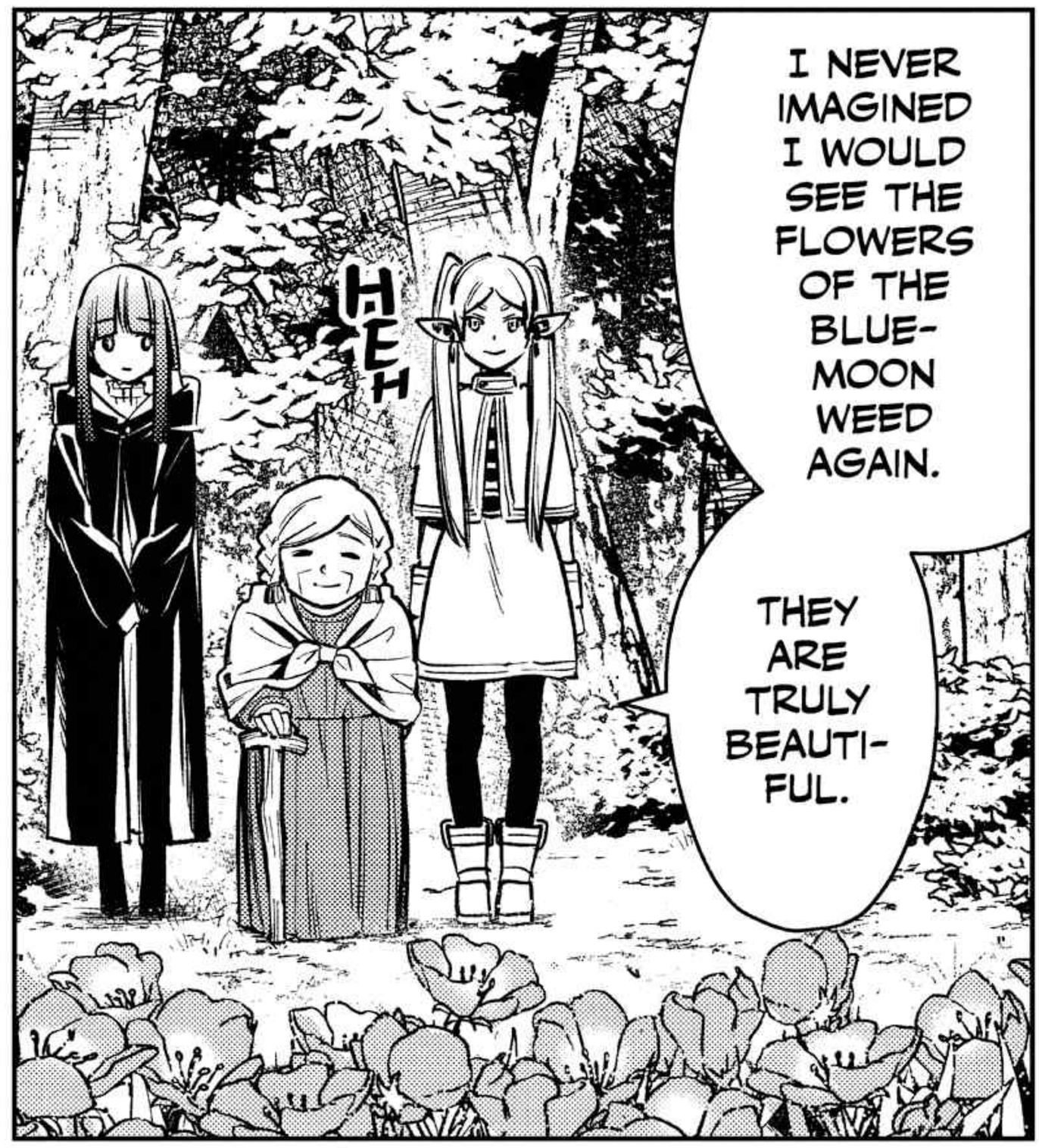
IT DIDN'T HAVE TO BE MAGIC...

AND YET MAGIC IS WHAT YOU CHOSE.

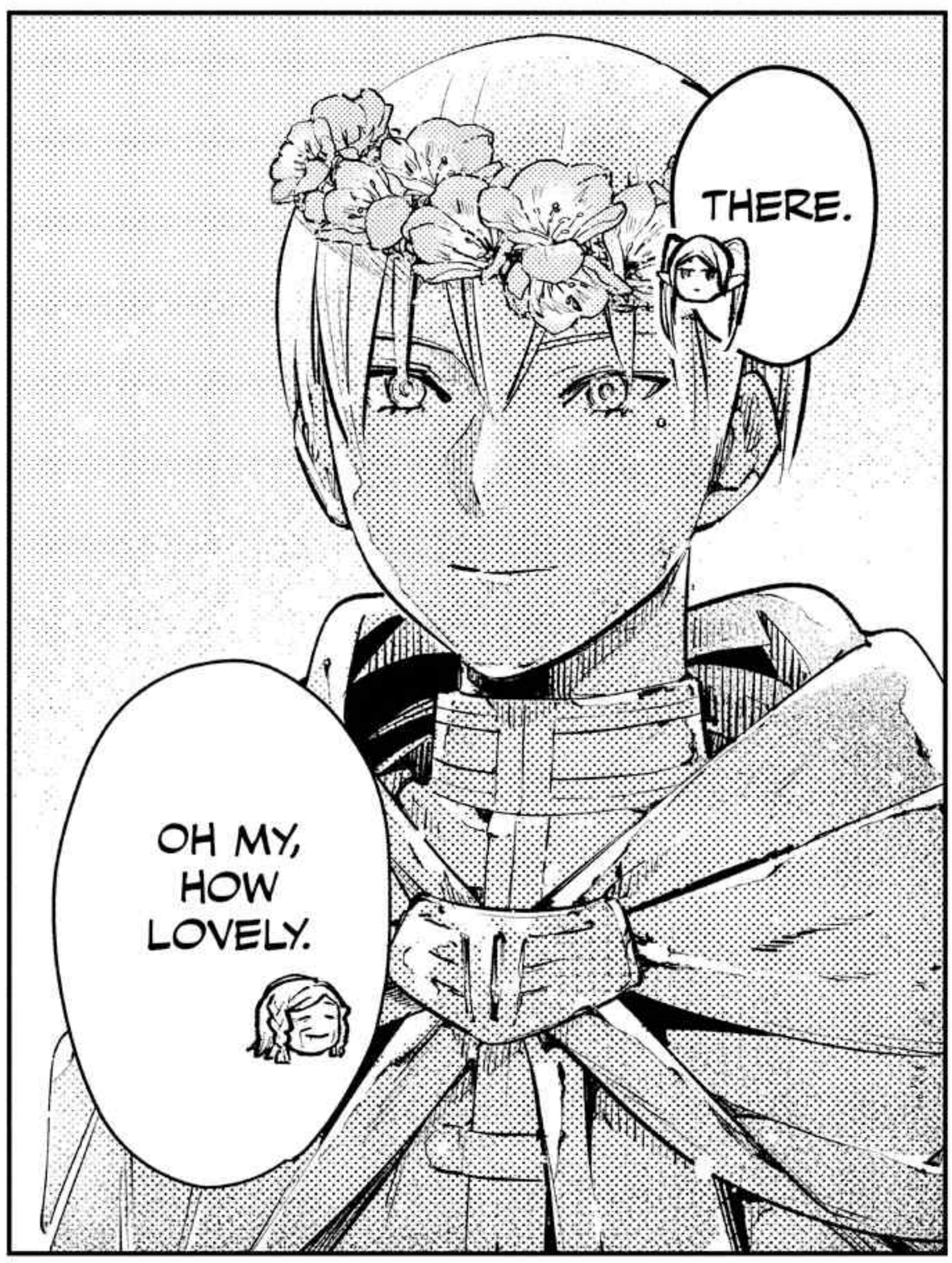
YES, IT WAS.

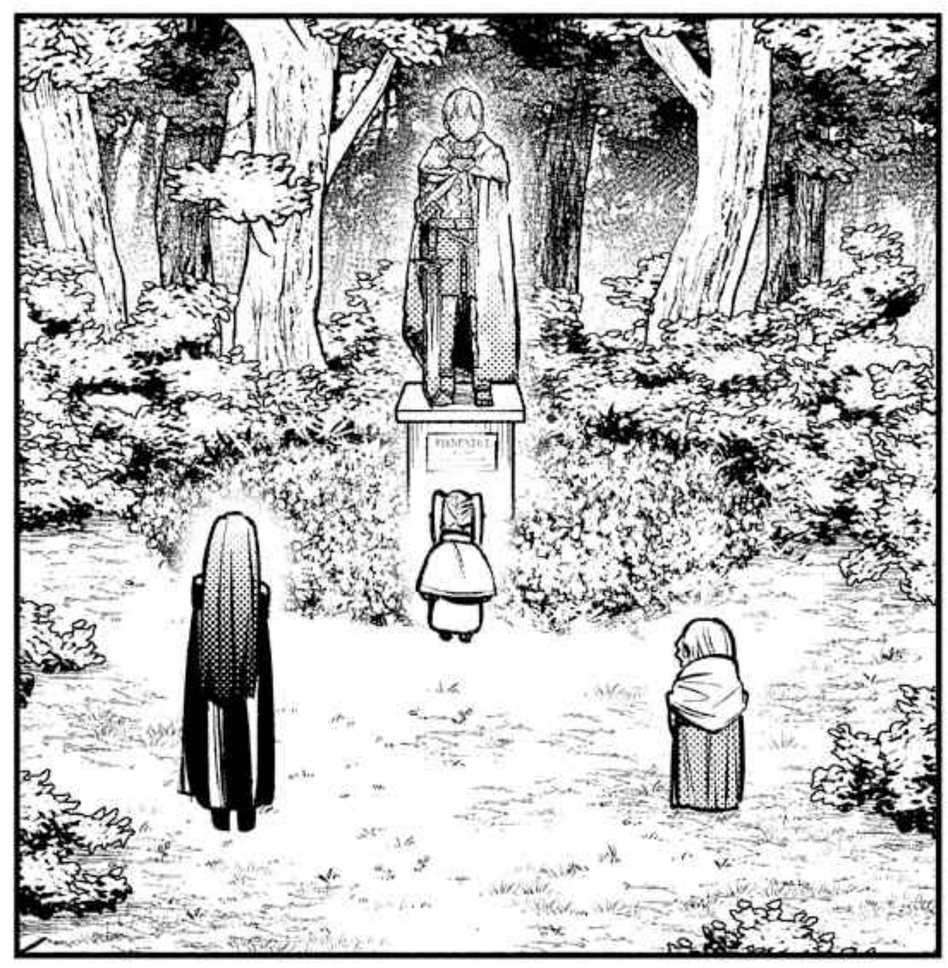

HIMMEL

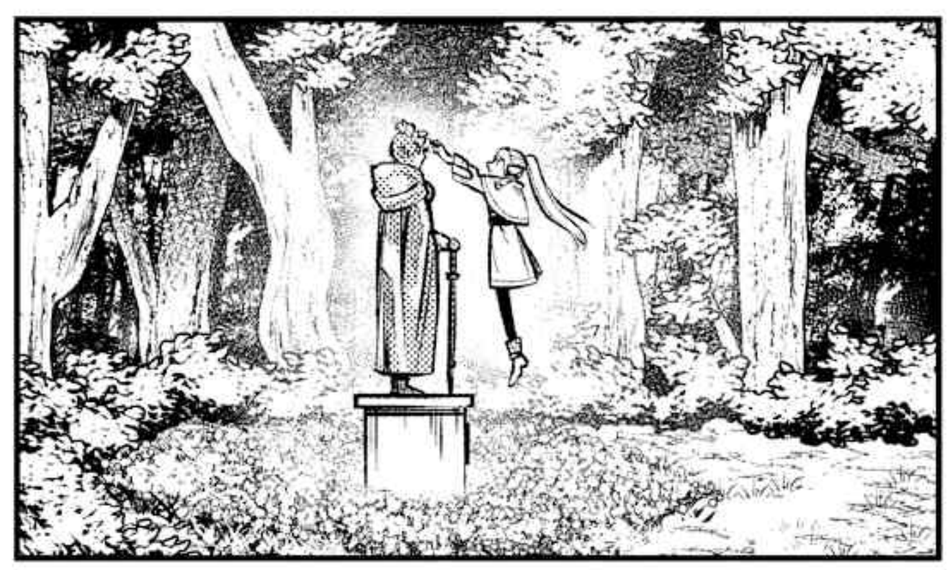

HIMMEL
THANK YOU, FRIEREN.
NOW I'M SURE THE STATUE WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN.


HEH
I NEVER IMAGINED I WOULD SEE THE FLOWERS OF THE BLUE-MOON WEED AGAIN.
THEY ARE TRULY BEAUTI-FUL.

OH, I ALMOST FORGOT.


THERE.
OH MY, HOW LOVELY.





WELL THEN. SHALL WE GO?

Chapter 4:
The Mage's Secret

THE TRADING CITY OF WARM

TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS AFTER THE DEATH OF HIMMEL THE HERO

SO SHALL WE SPLIT UP TO REPLENISH SUPPLIES FOR OUR JOURNEY?

HERBS AND STUFF.

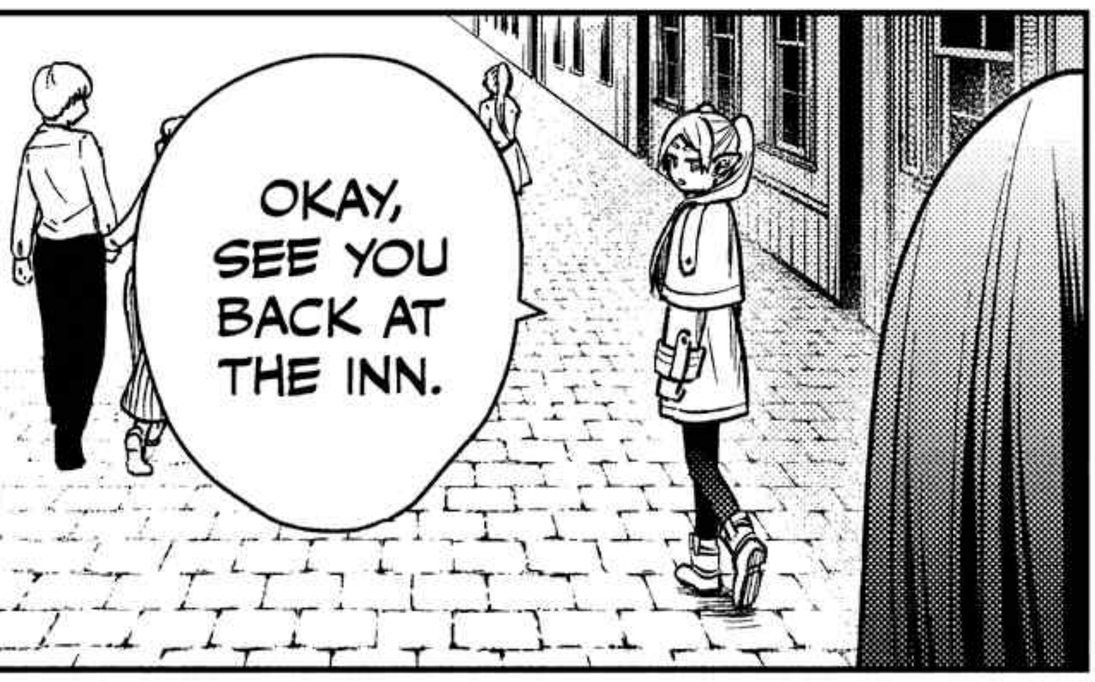
"SPLIT UP"... IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE LEAVING ME TO GATHER MOST OF THE NECESSITIES ...

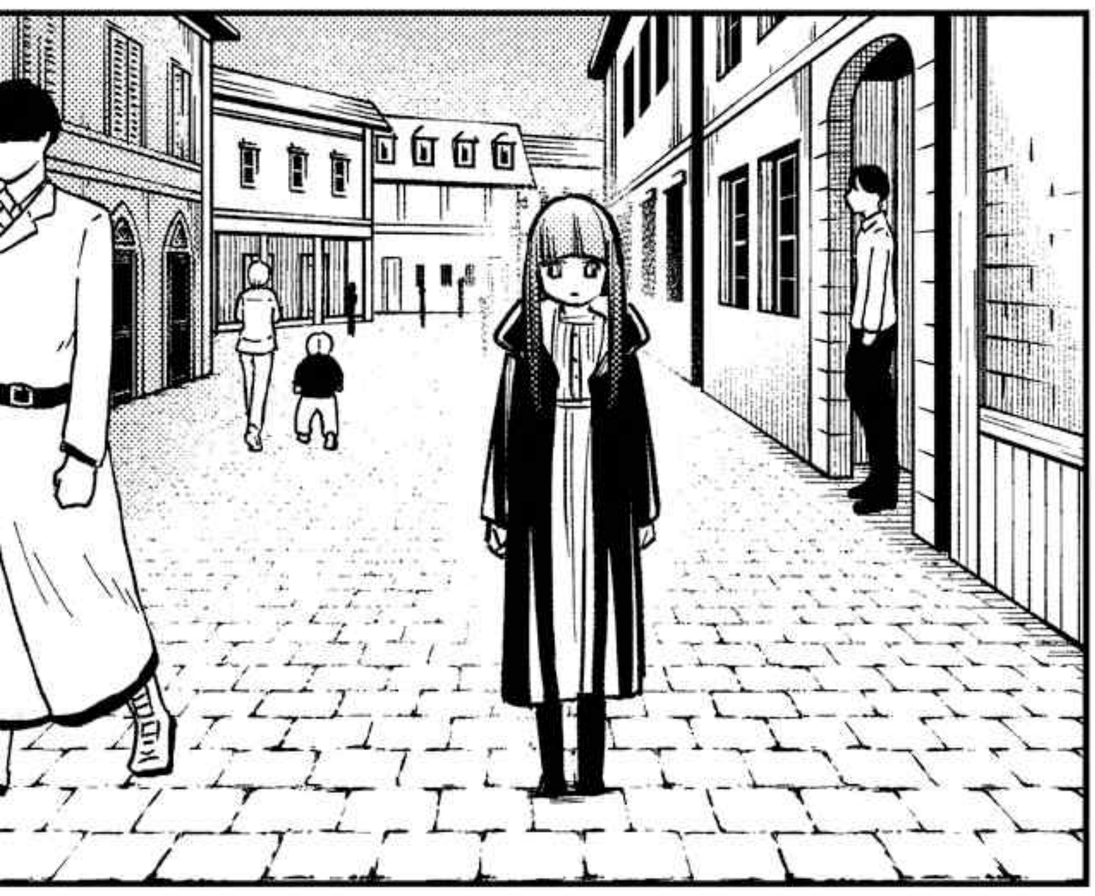
Food, water, everyday items...

WHAT WILL YOU BE BUYING?

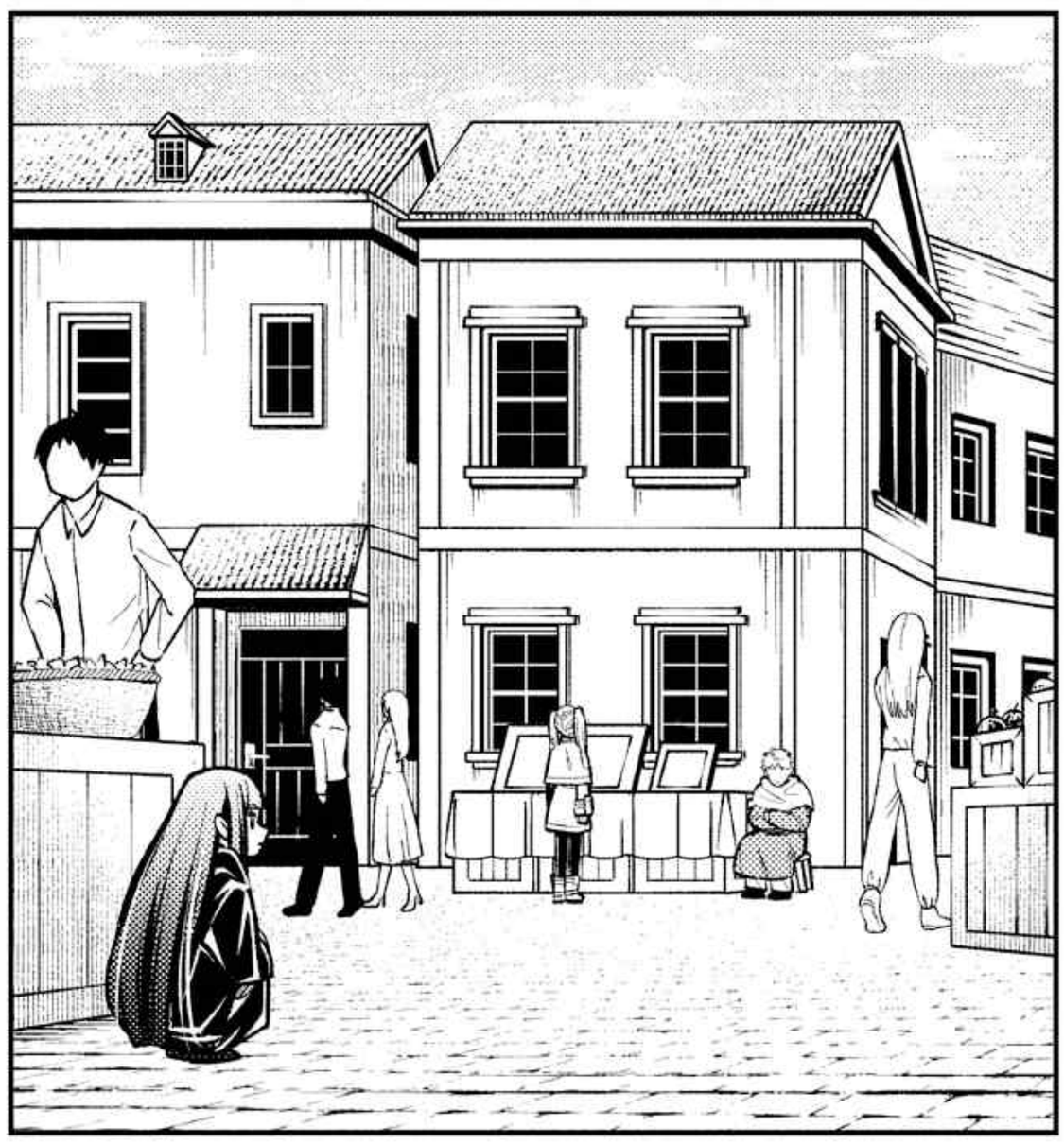
I'VE BEEN WITH MISTRESS FRIEREN FOR A LONG TIME.
NOTHING GOOD HAPPENS WHEN SHE GETS LIKE THIS.

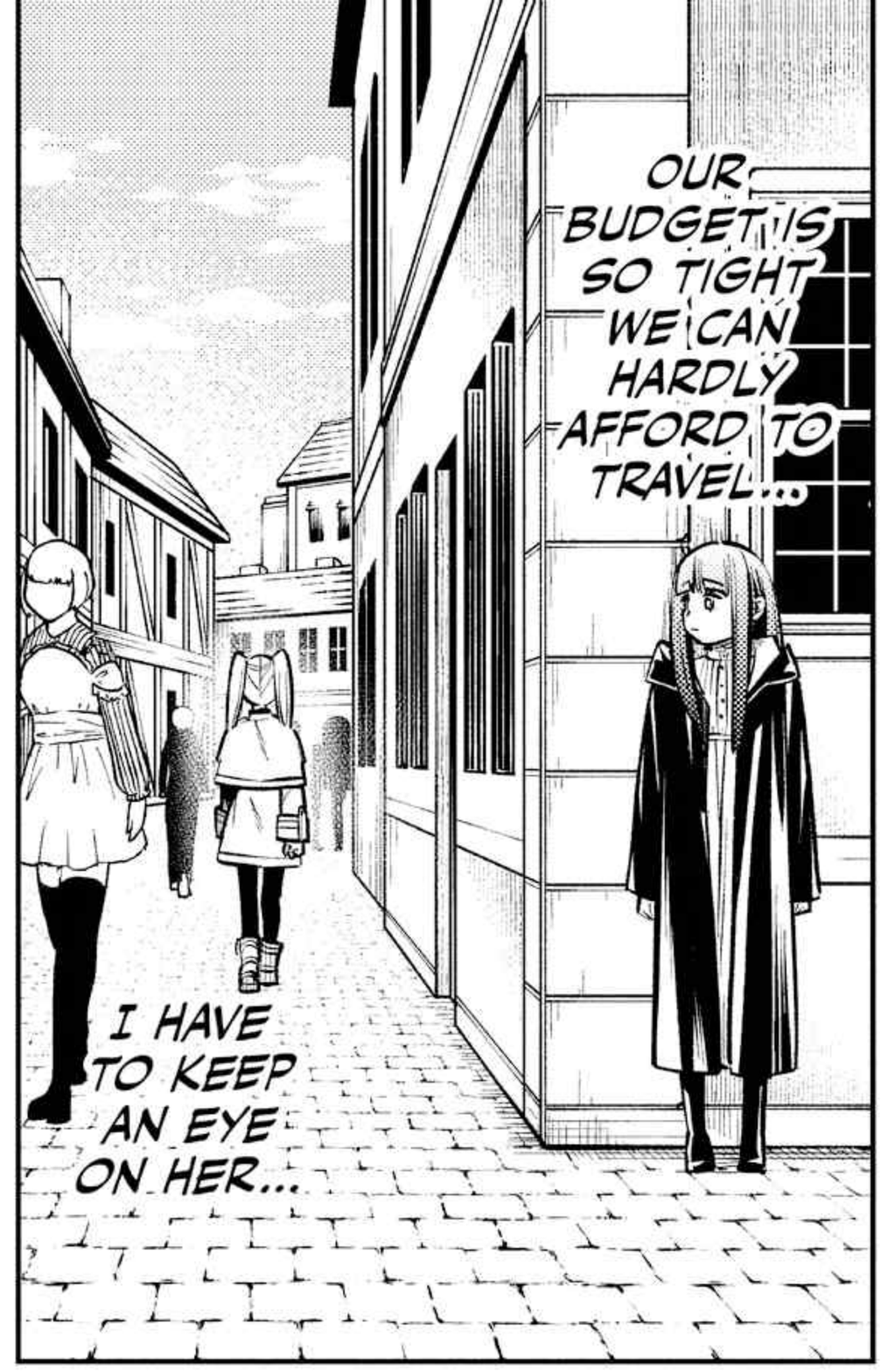
THIS IS THE FACE SHE MAKES WHEN SHE'S HIDING SOMETHING FROM ME.

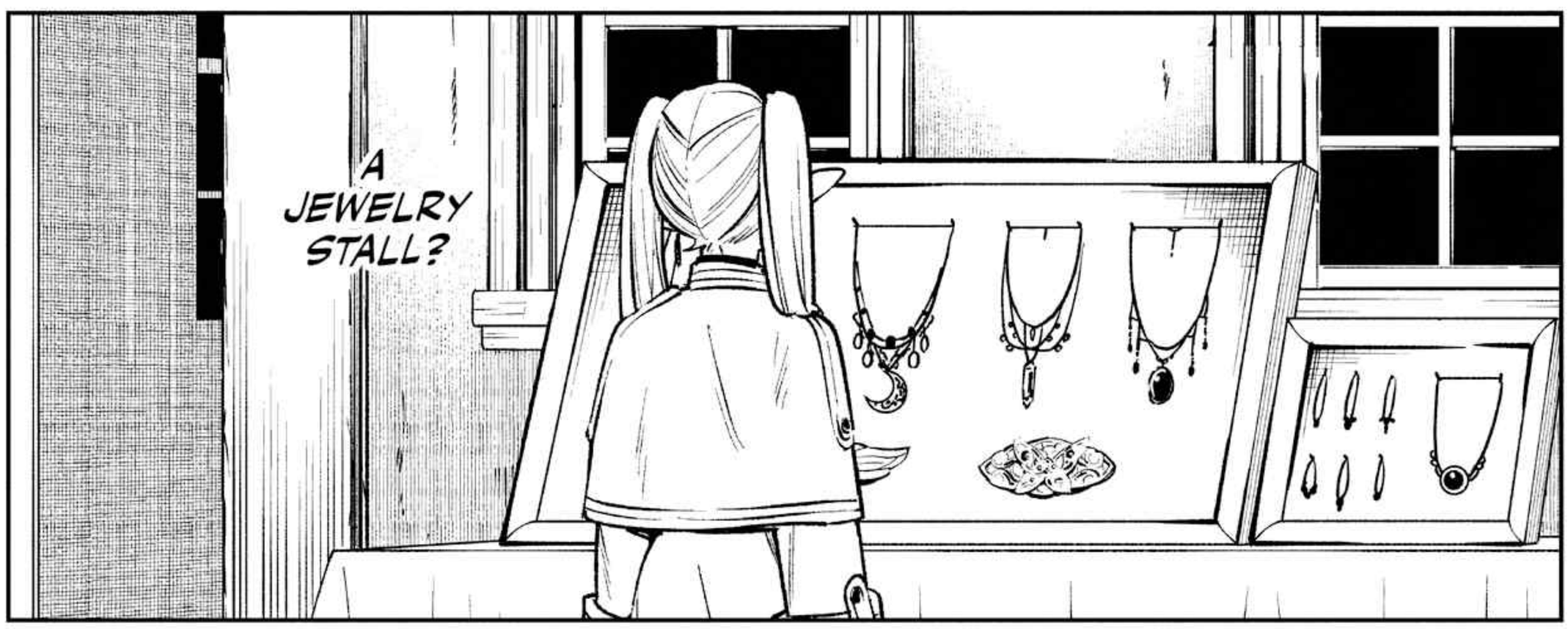

OKAY, SEE YOU BACK AT THE INN.

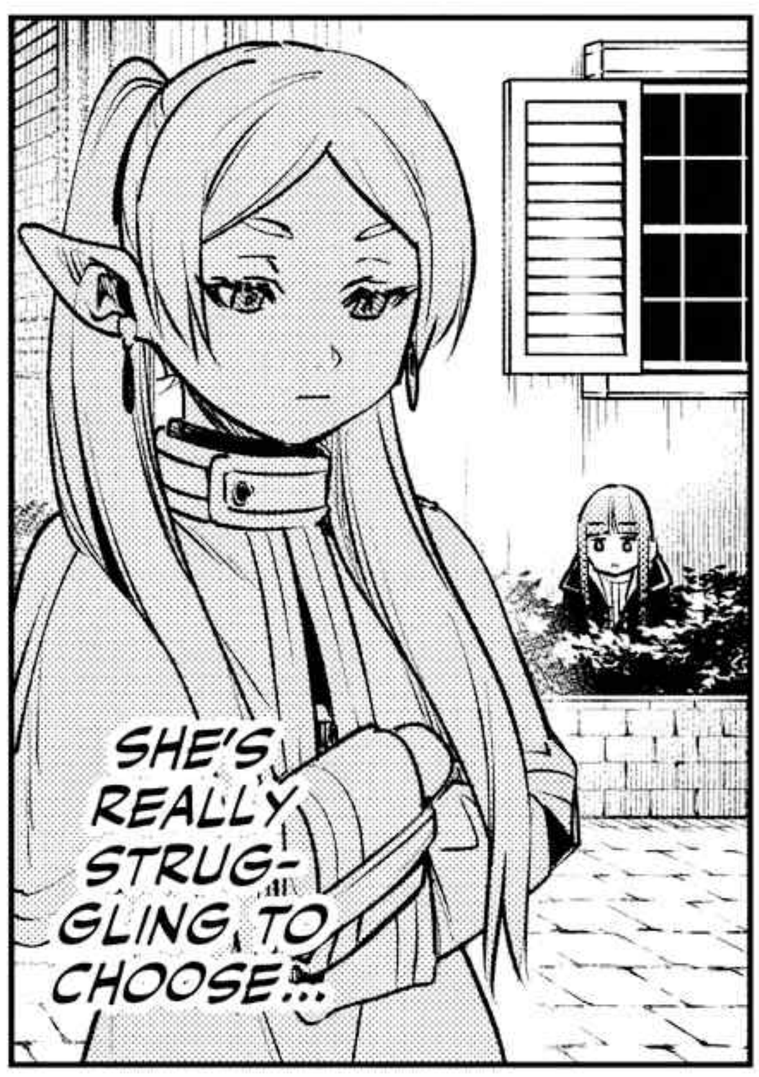


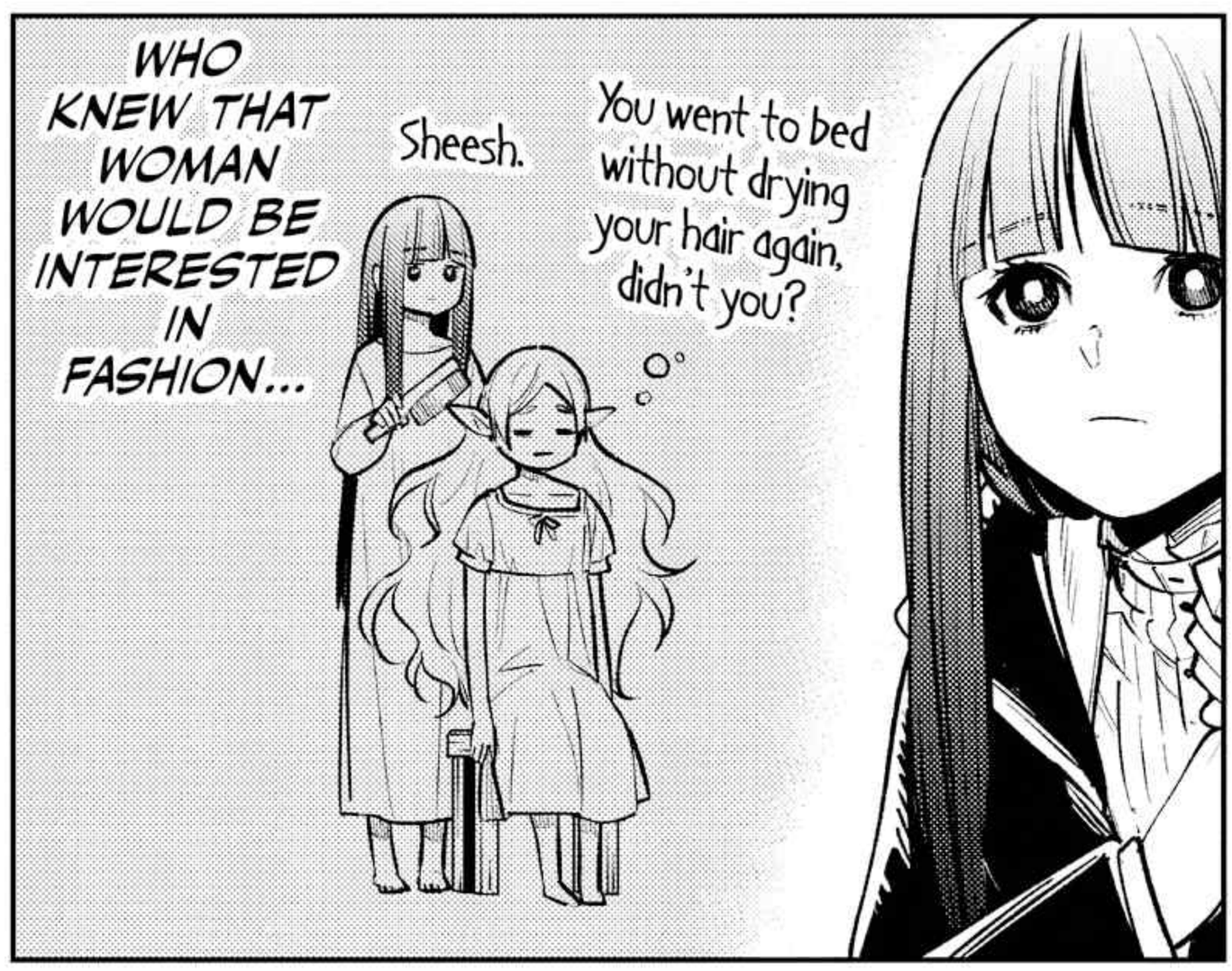
What are you gonna use this for?
I couldn't help but buy it.
SHE ALWAYS COMES BACK WITH UNNECESSARY THINGS.
Go return it.
This potion only melts clothes.

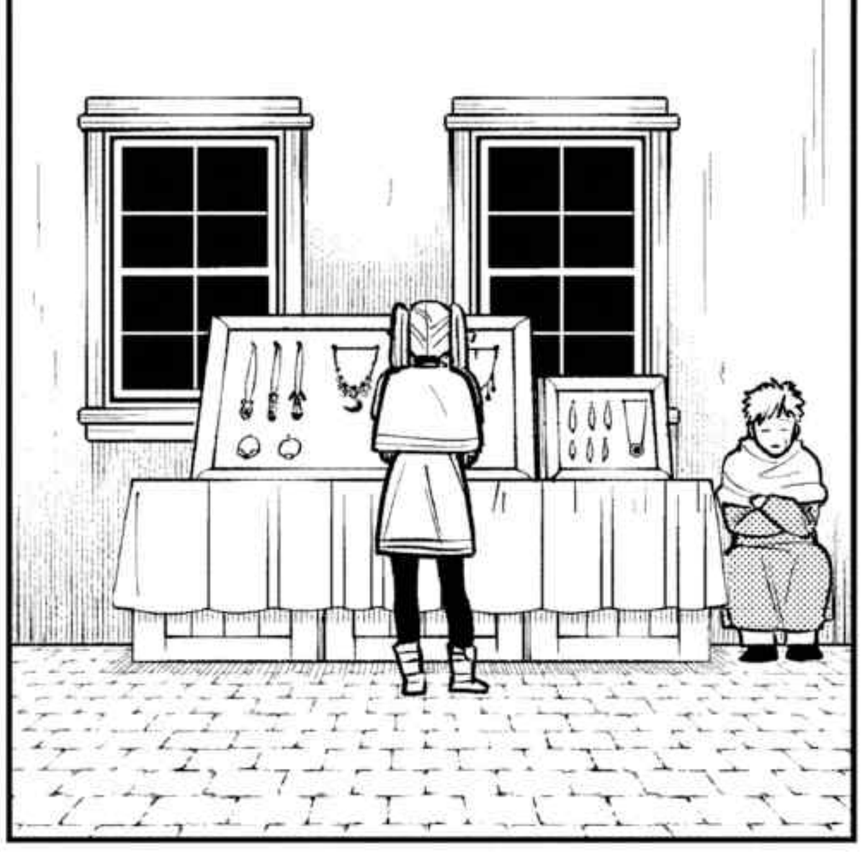


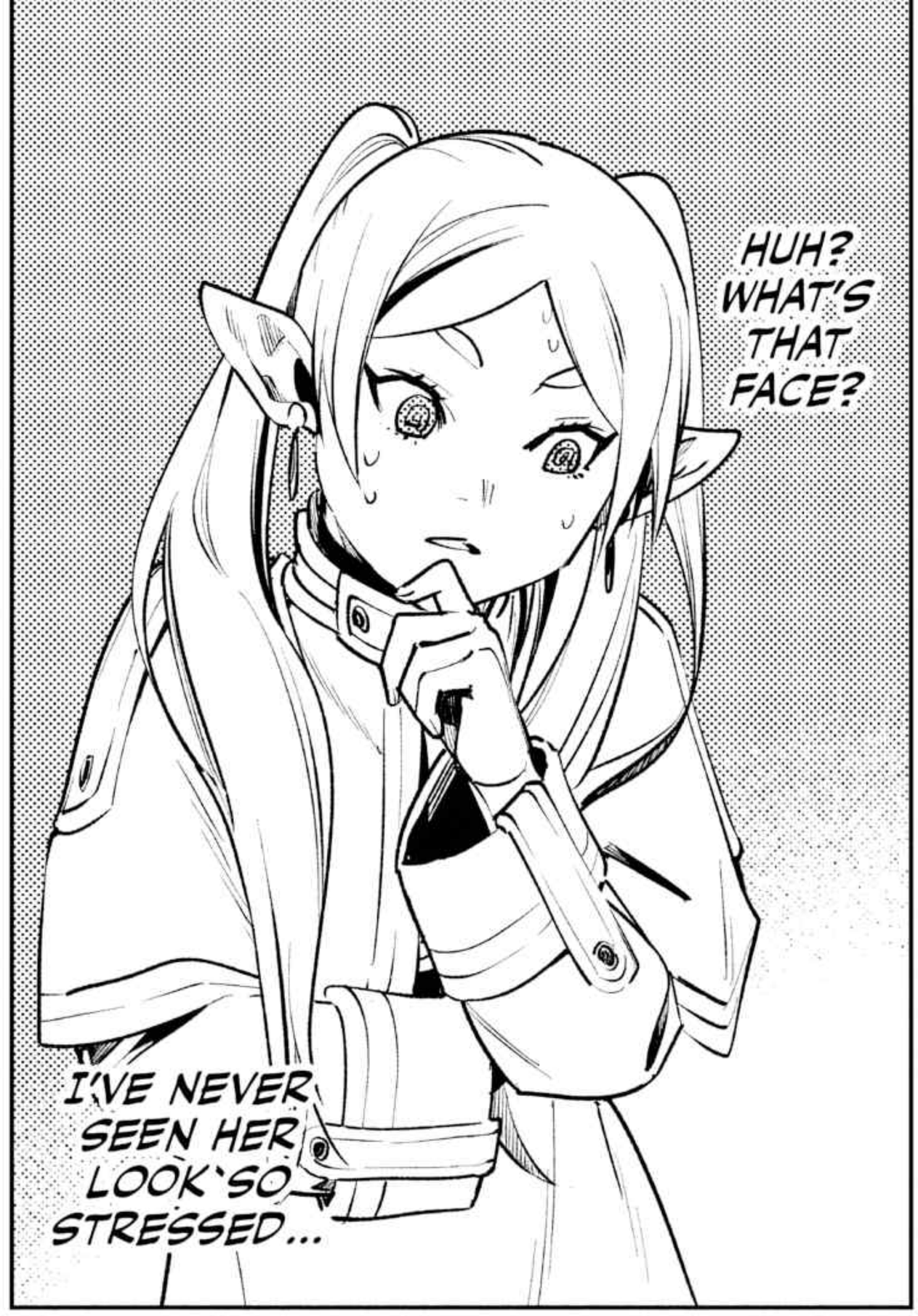

OUR BUDGET IS SO TIGHT WE CAN HARDLY AFFORD TO TRAVEL...
I HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE ON HER...

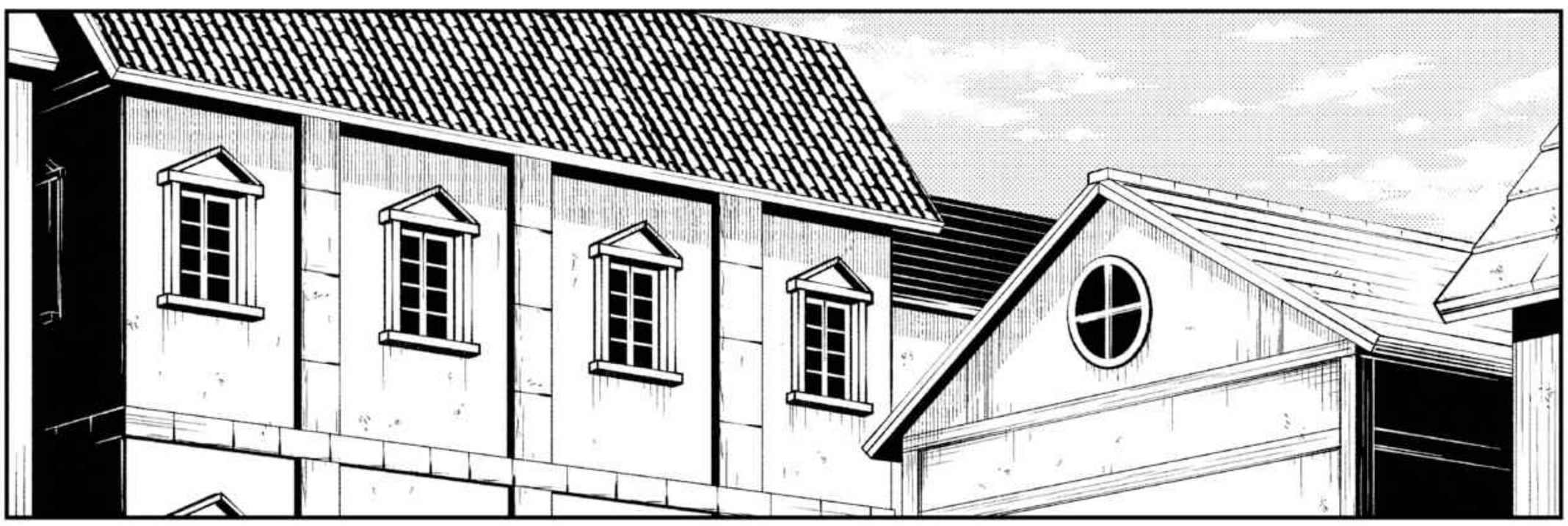

A JEWELRY STALL?


SHE'S REALLY STRUG-GLING TO CHOOSE...

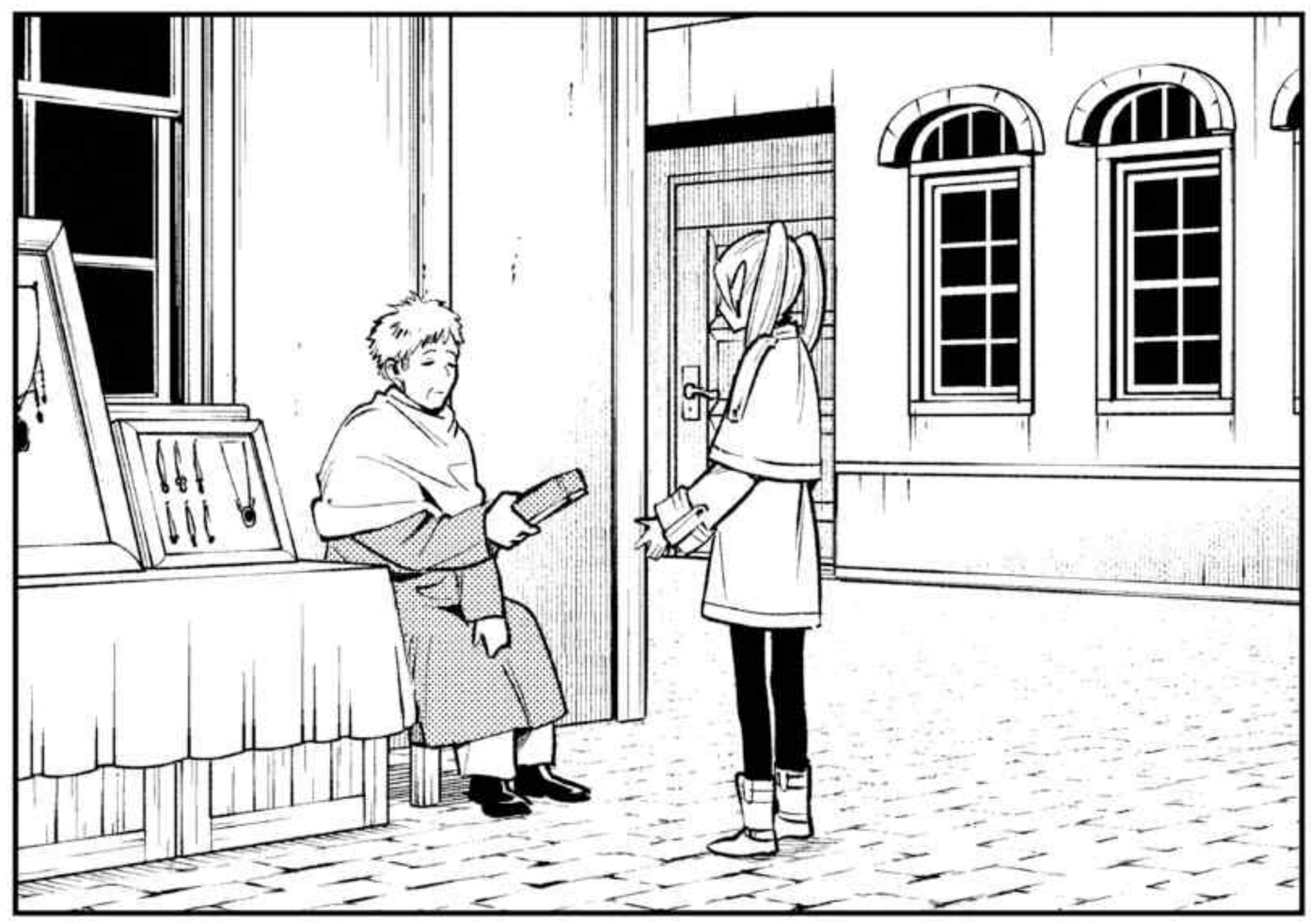

WHO KNEW THAT WOMAN WOULD BE INTERESTED IN FASHION...
Sheesh.
You went to bed without drying your hair again, didn't you?




HUH? WHAT'S THAT FACE?
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER LOOK SO STRESSED...



THAT TOOK SO MUCH TIME...

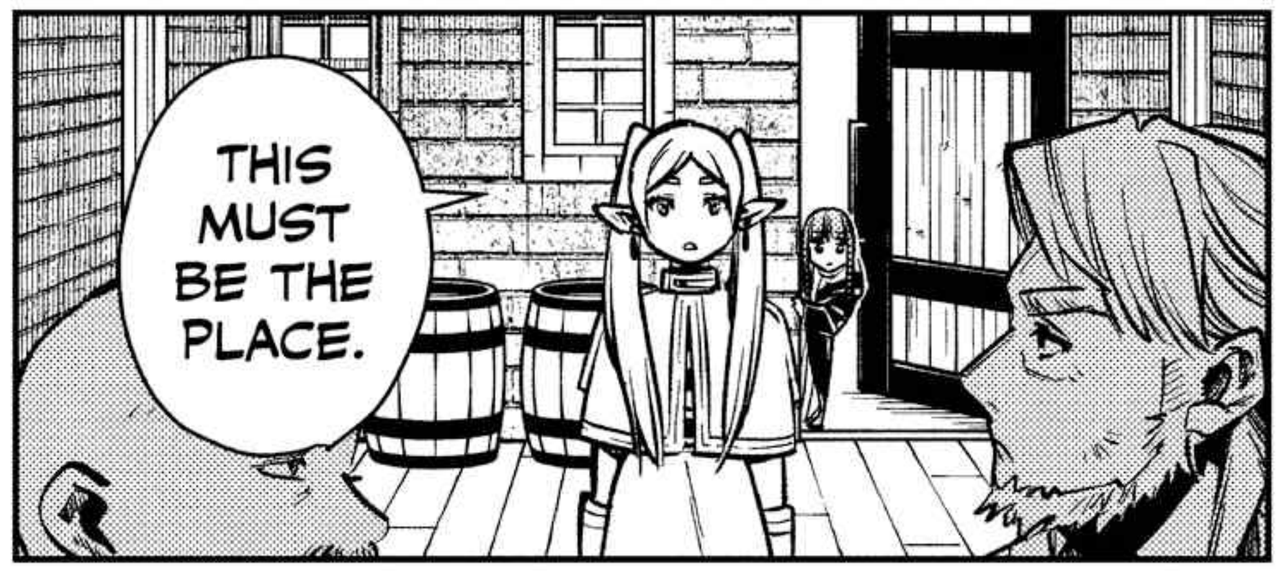


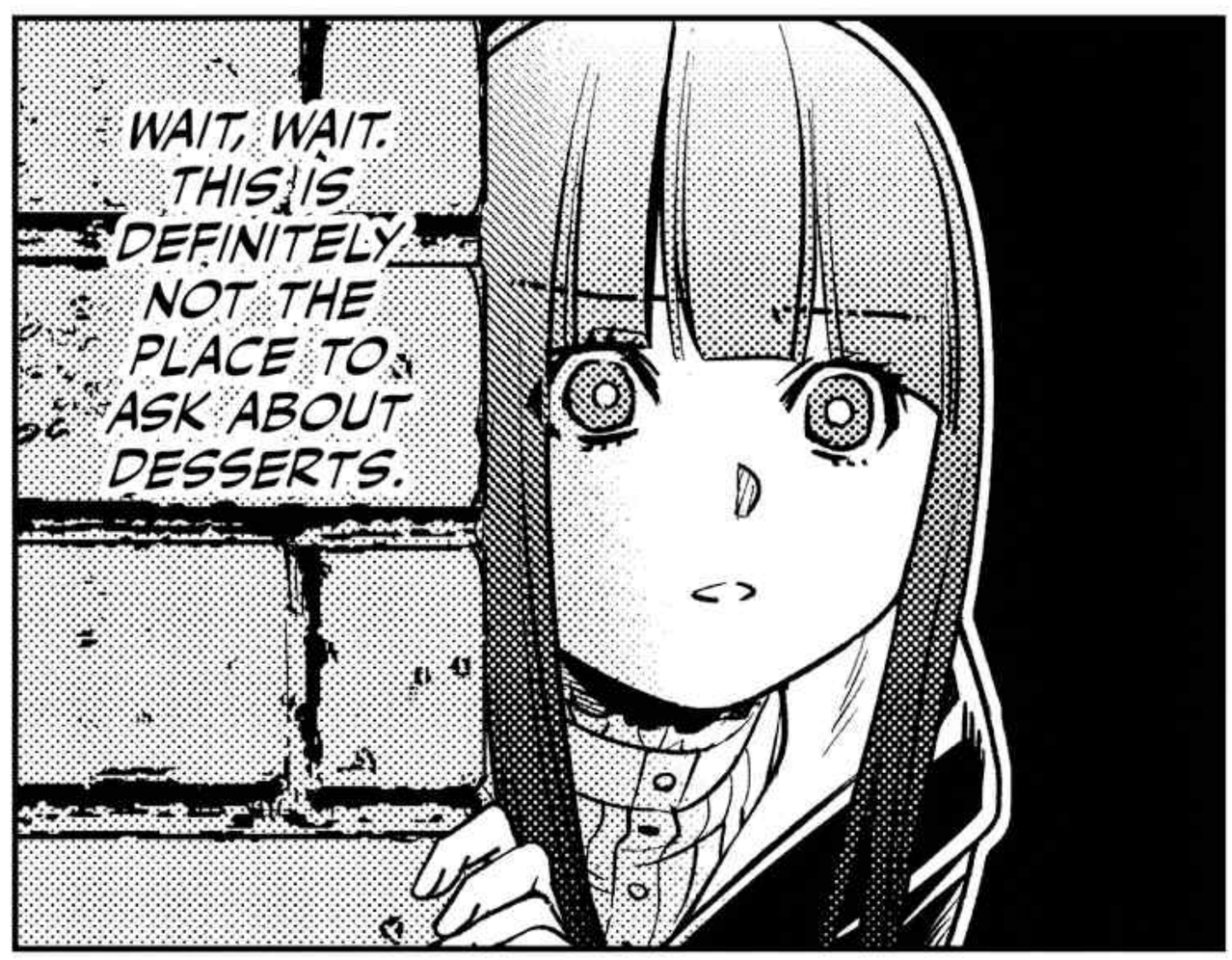
IT'S MUCH BETTER THAN SOME WEIRD BONES OR POTIONS...

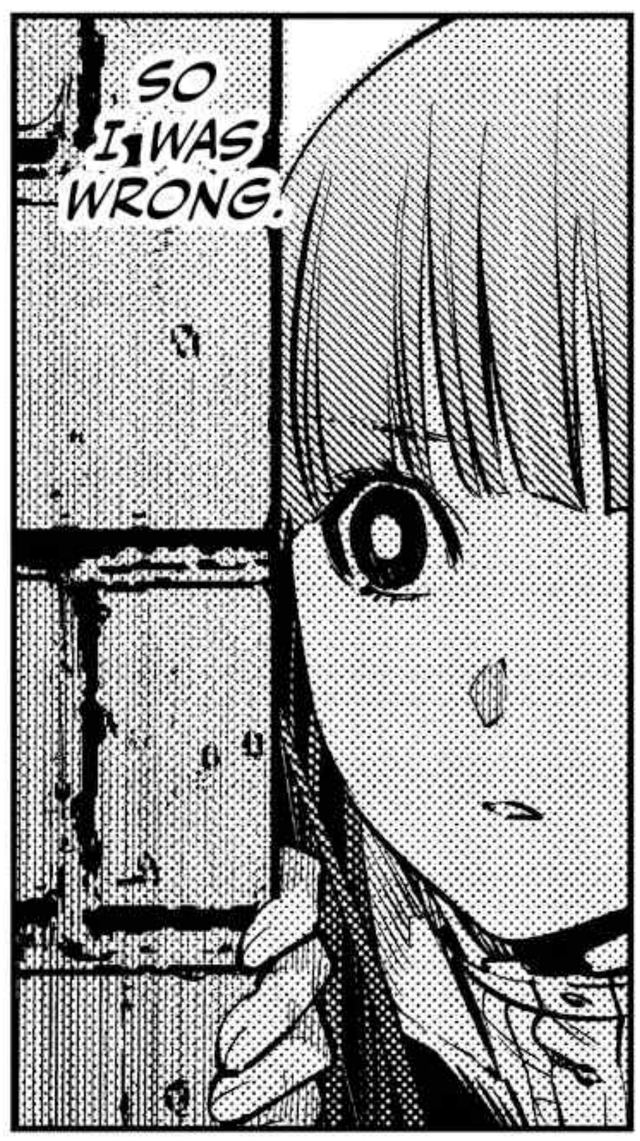
I GUESS SOME JEWELRY ISN'T A BIG DEAL...

MUTTER

WHO DO YOU THINK WE ARE?
A PLACE FOR DESSERTS?
HEH HEH HEH.

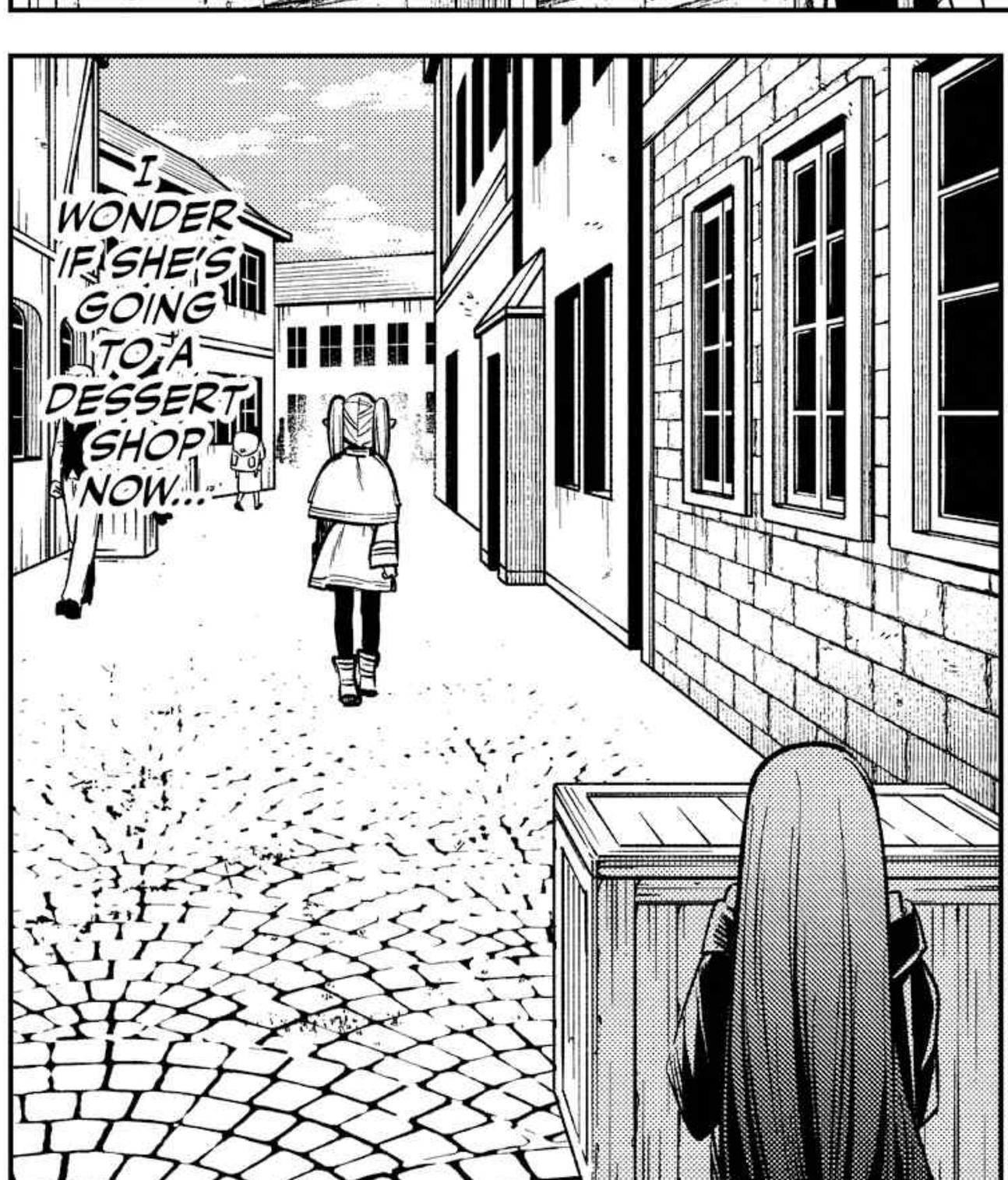

THIS MUST BE THE PLACE.

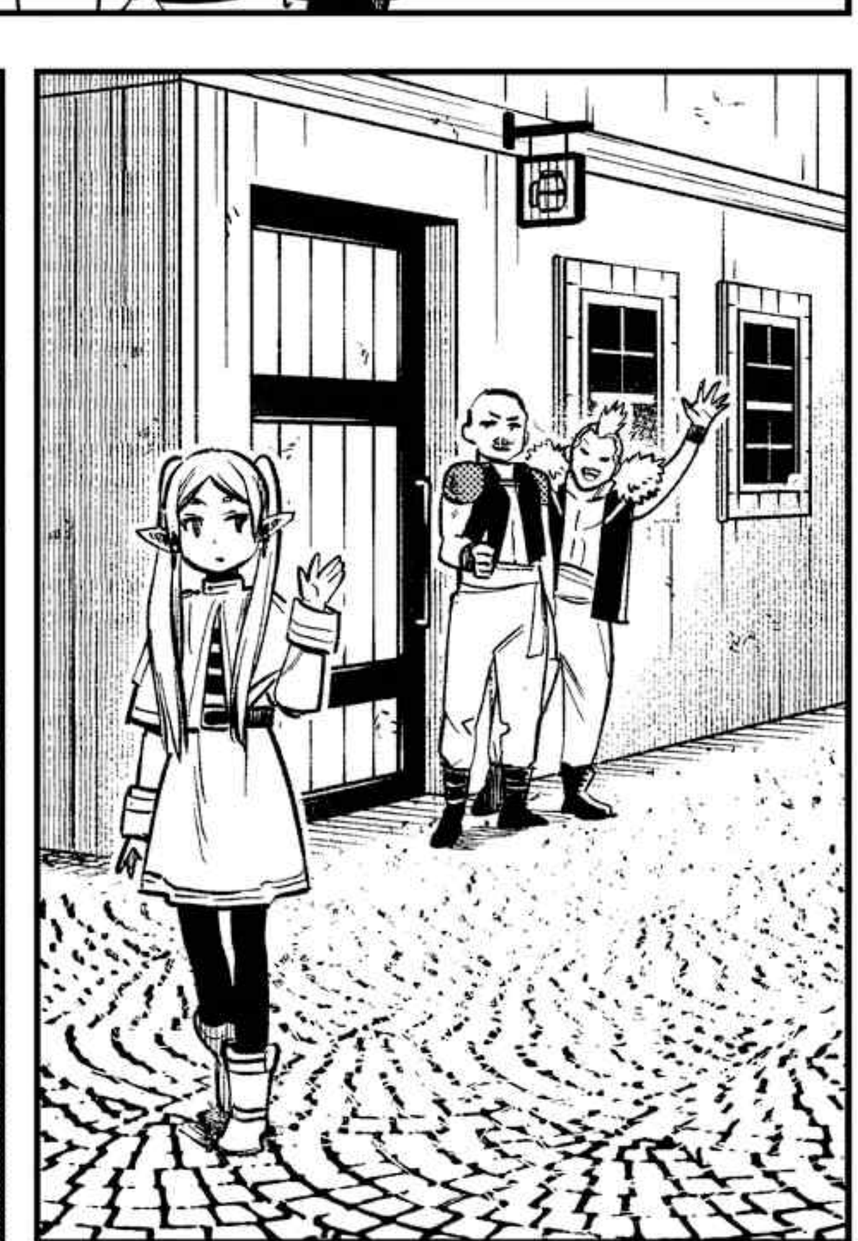

WAIT, WAIT. THIS IS DEFINITELY NOT THE PLACE TO ASK ABOUT DESSERTS.

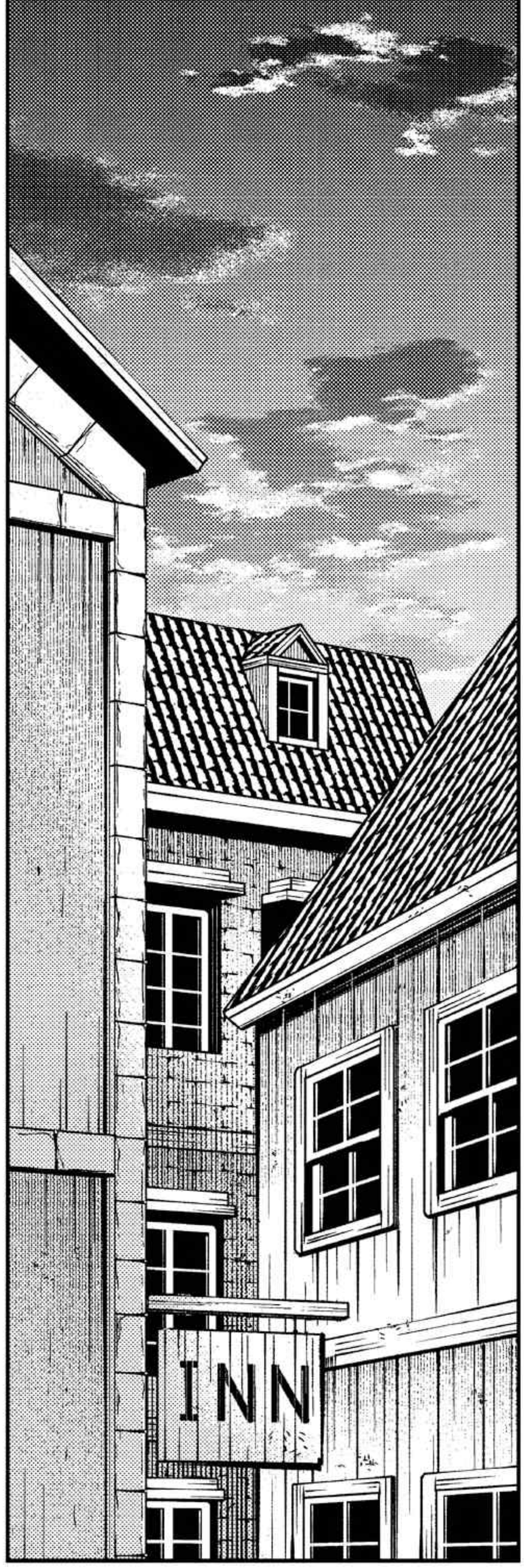

SO I WAS WRONG.

HEH HEH HEH. WE GOT TONS OF RECOMMEN-DATIONS.
WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF GREAT DESSERT PLACES IN THIS TOWN.

THEY'RE ADVENTURERS? AND "KINDA ROUGH"? MORE LIKE VERY ROUGH...
They look so scary.
ADVENTURERS LIKE US GET OUR STRENGTH FROM DESSERTS, AFTER ALL!
YOU'RE QUITE THE EXPERTS EVEN THOUGH YOU LOOK KINDA ROUGH.

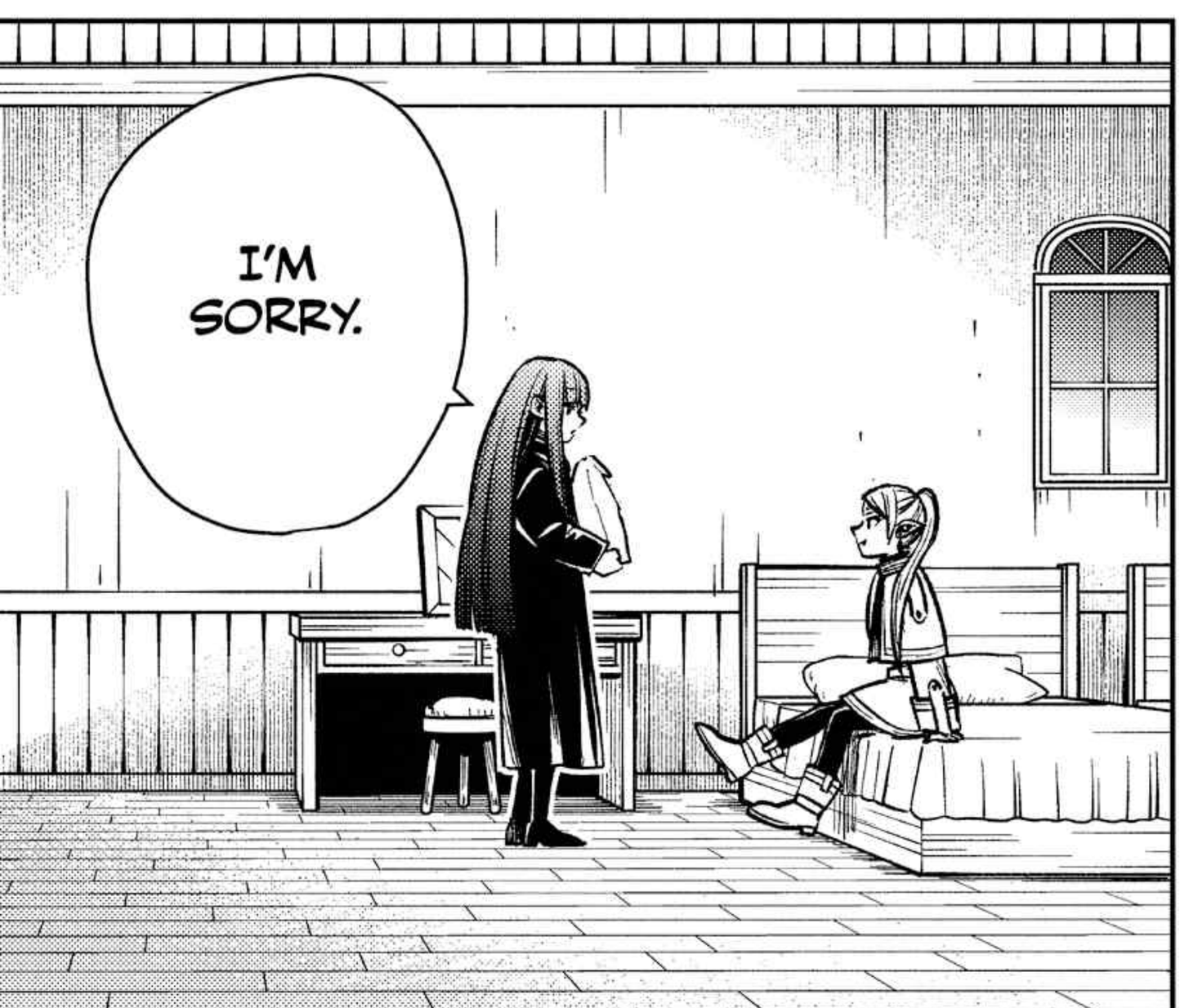

I WONDER IF SHE'S GOING TO A DESSERT SHOP NOW...




INN

HUH? THIS IS THE WAY TO THE INN...
IS SHE HEADING BACK THERE?

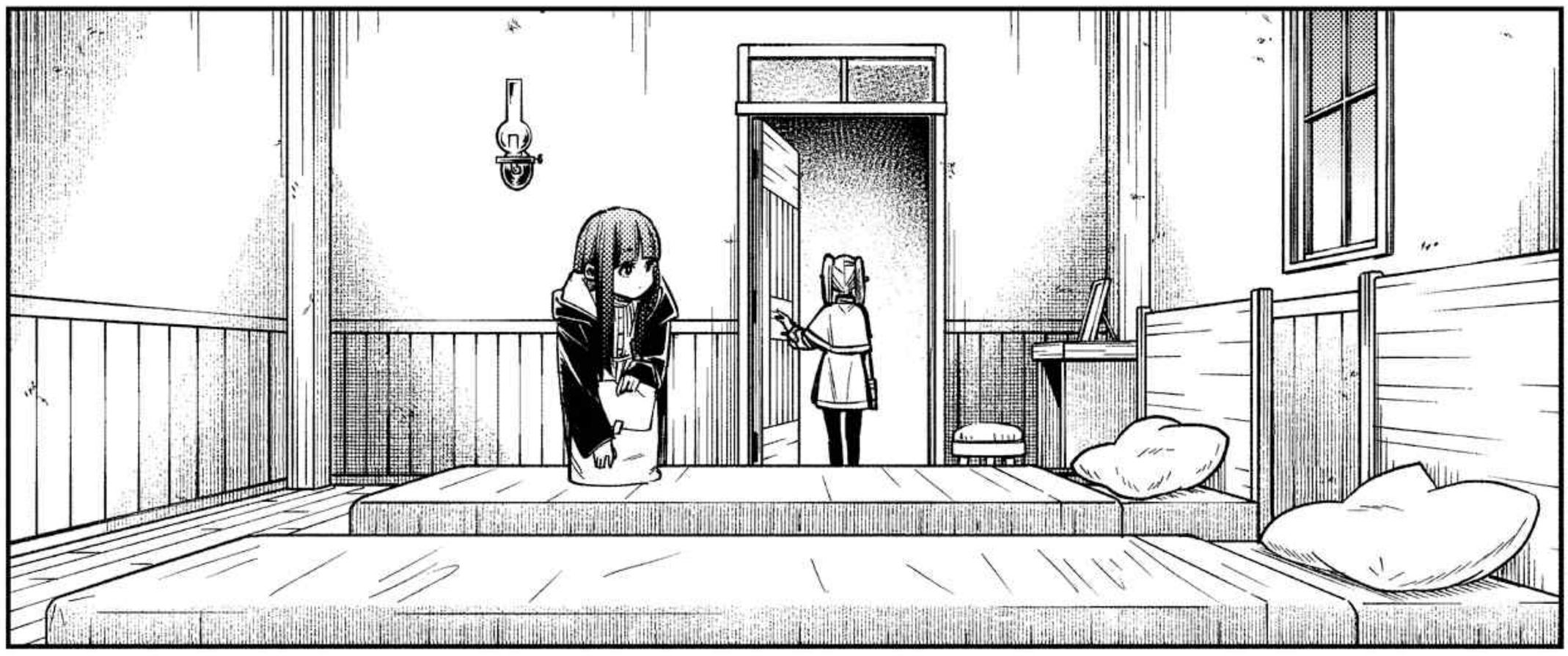
AH...
I HAVEN'T DONE ANY SHOPPING YET.

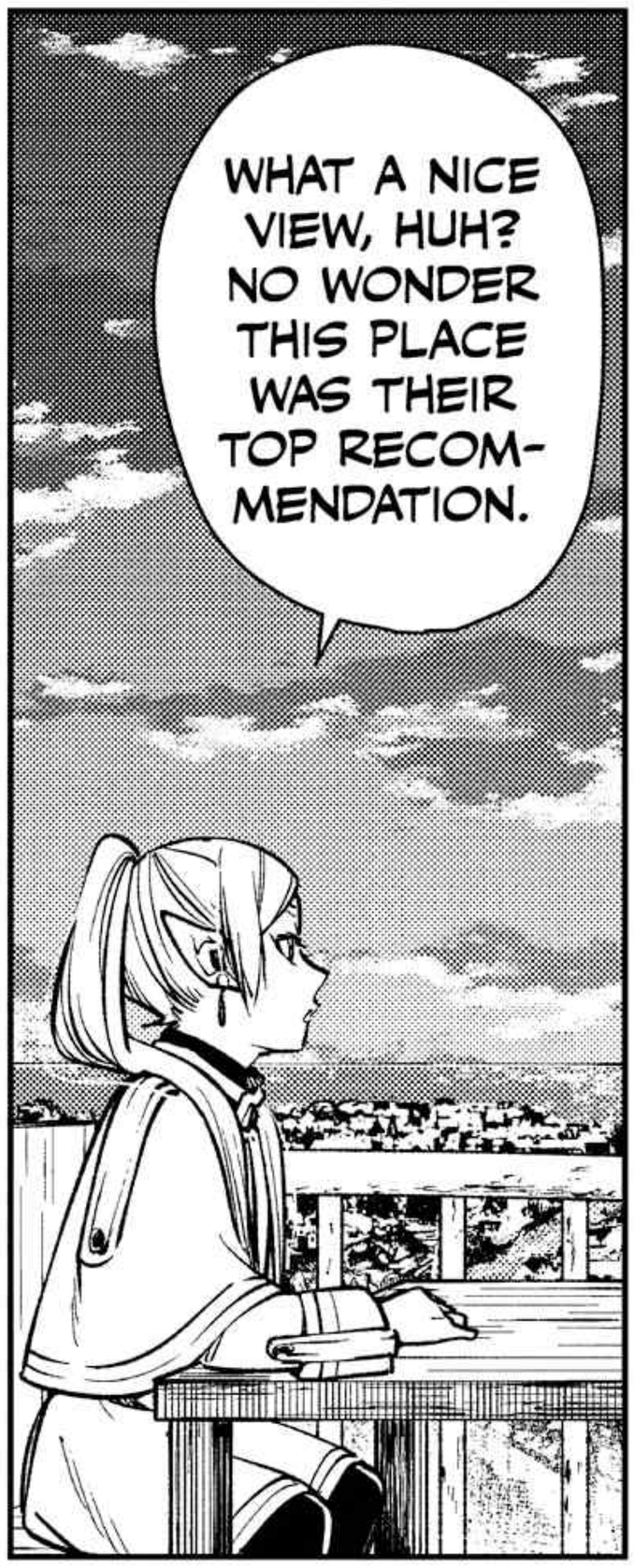

I'M SORRY.

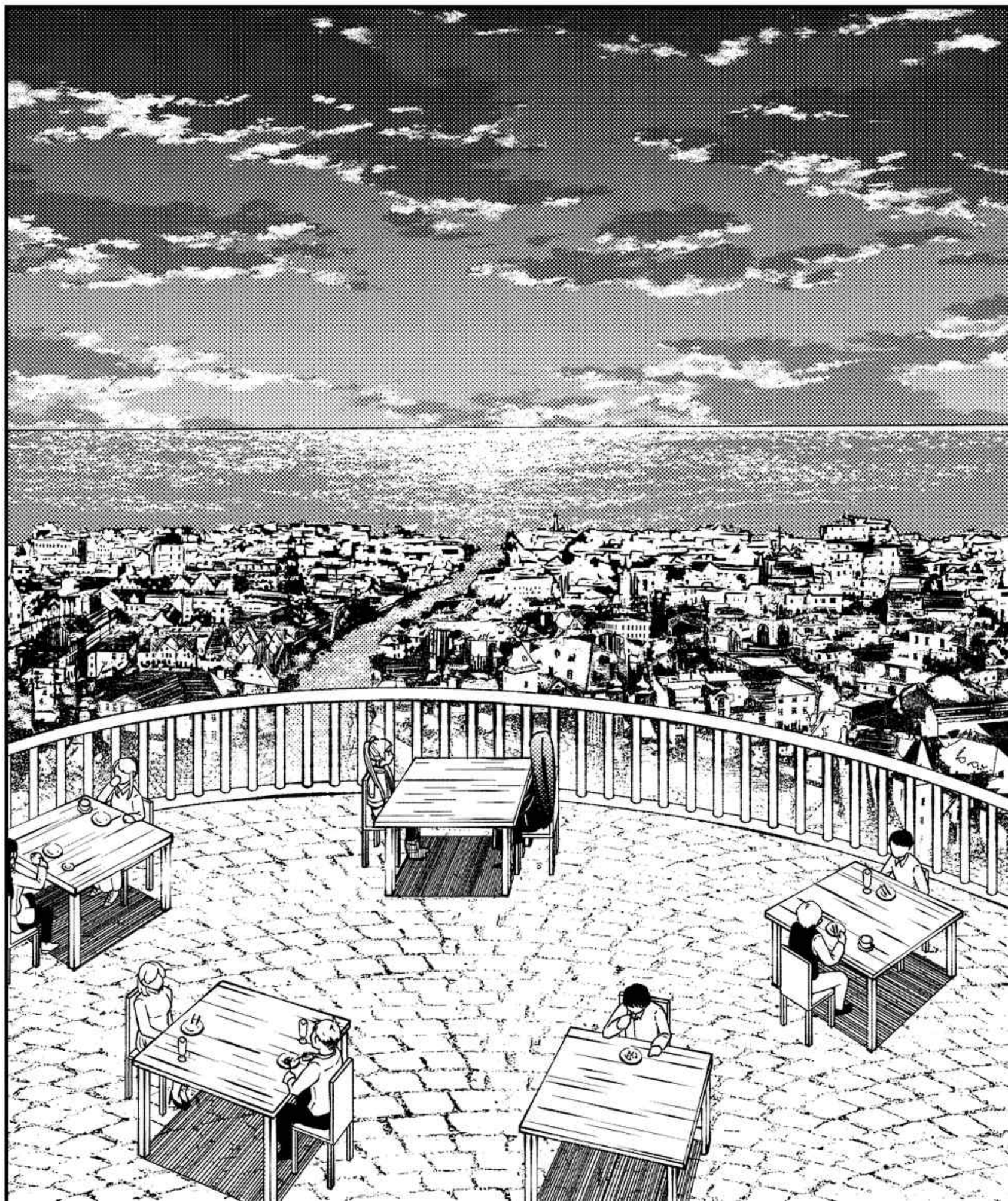
YOU'RE LATE.

IT'S BEEN A WHILE, SO LET'S GO GRAB SOME DESSERT.

WELL, WHATEVER. PUT THAT STUFF DOWN.

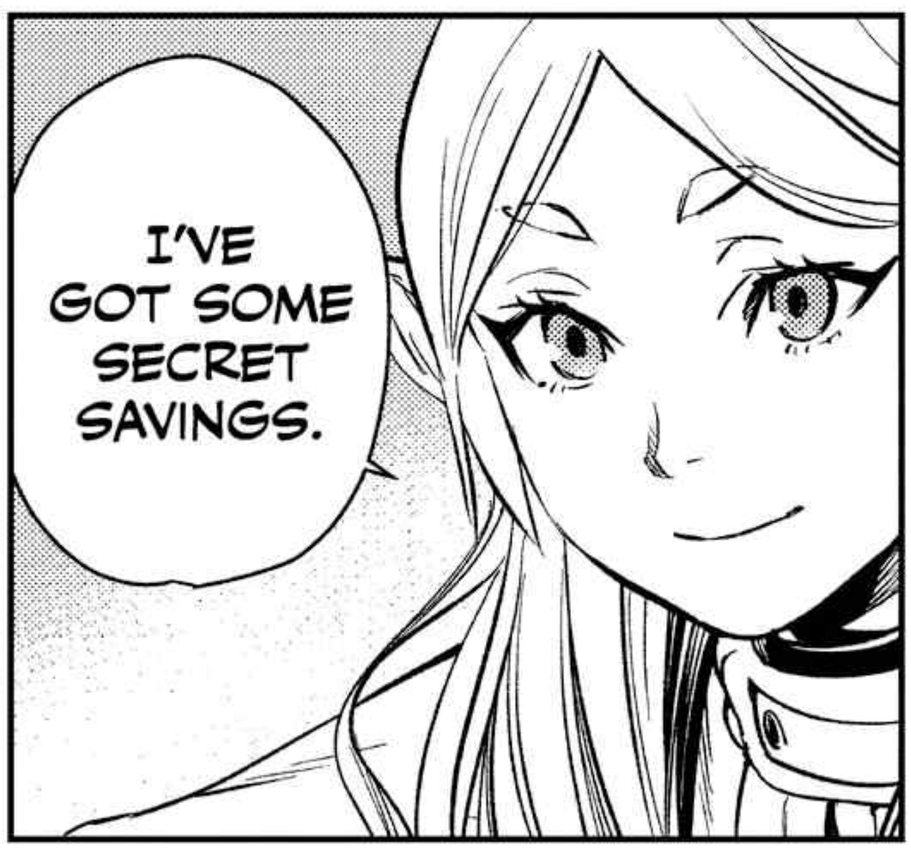




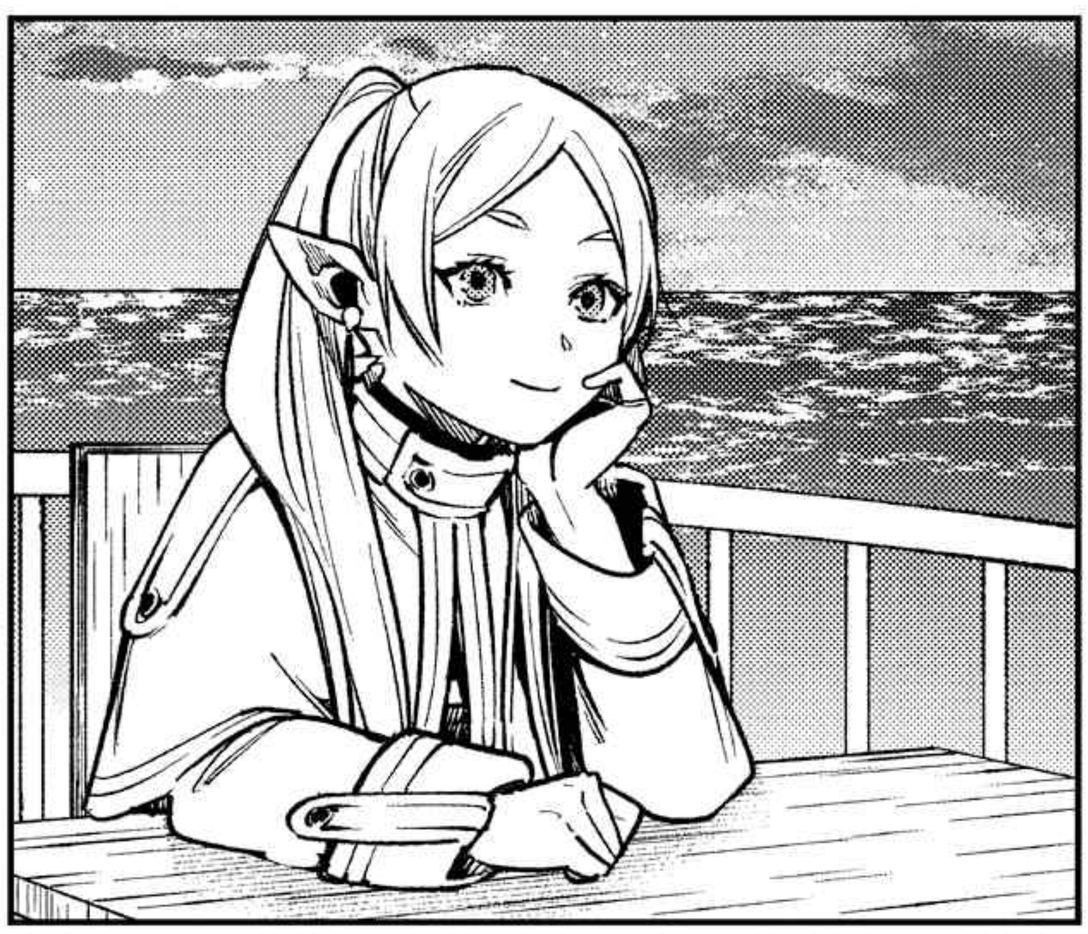


WHAT ARE YOU ON ABOUT?
NOTH-ING...

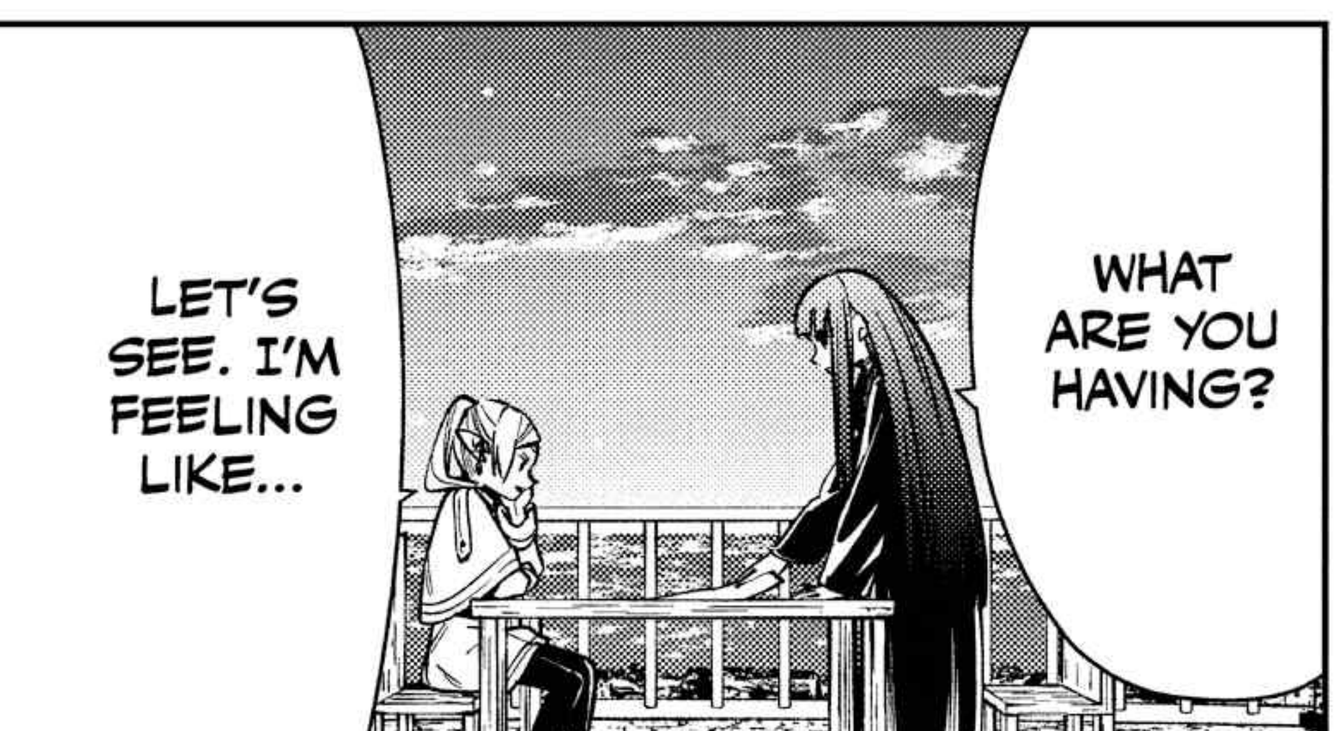
MISTRESS FRIEREN, I'M SORRY FOR DOUBTING YOU.

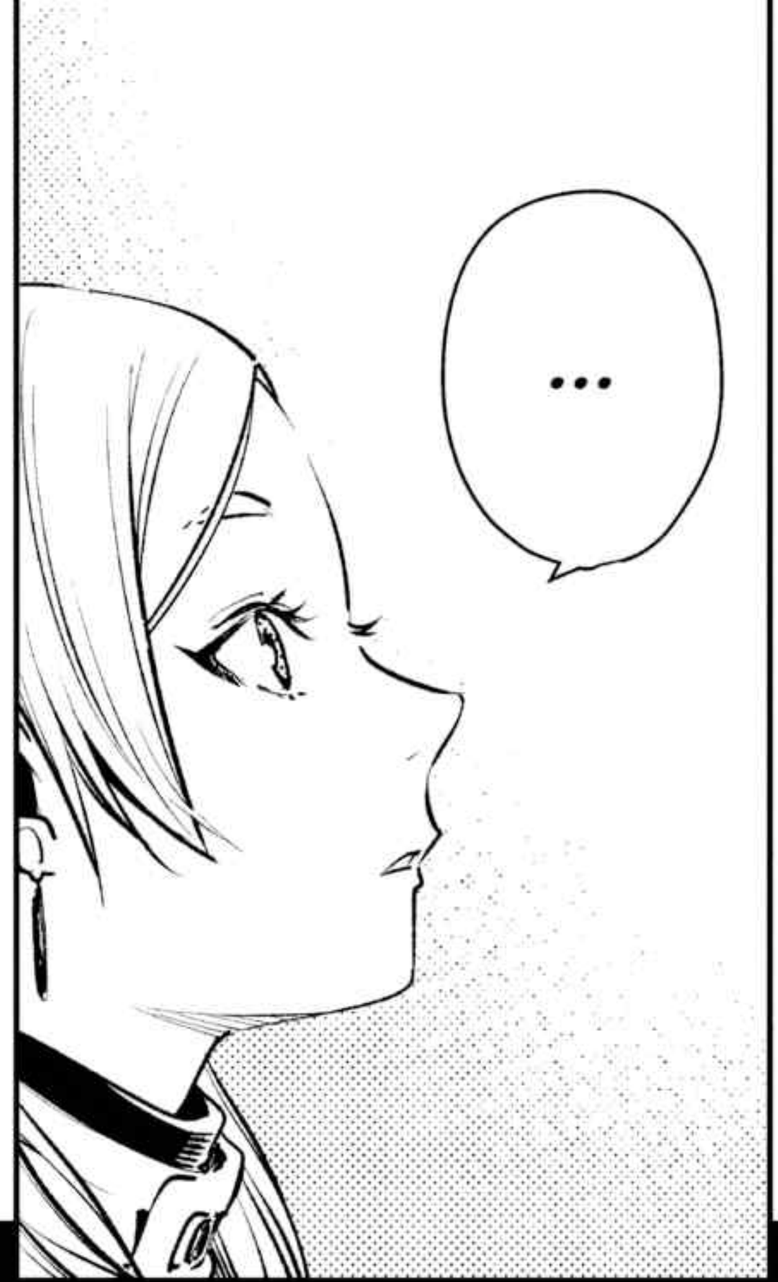

I'VE GOT SOME SECRET SAVINGS.

DO WE HAVE THE MONEY?
YOU CAN CHOOSE WHATEVER YOU WANT.
Menu

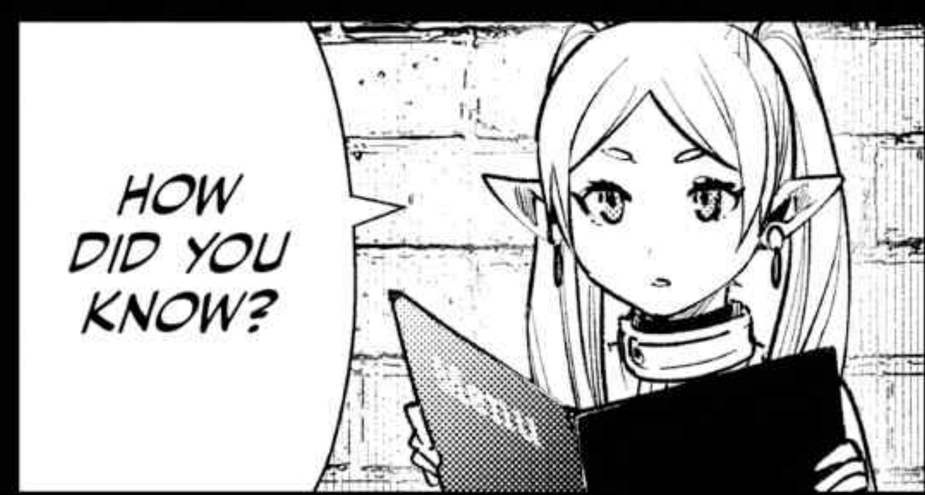


I DIDN'T KNOW SHE HAD SECRET SAVINGS.


LET'S SEE. I'M FEELING LIKE...
WHAT ARE YOU HAVING?


...

MERKUR PUDDING, RIGHT?


HOW DID YOU KNOW?

WE'VE BEEN TRAVELING TOGETHER FOR SO MANY YEARS NOW.
I JUST KNOW SOMEHOW.

YOU MUST BE FEELING LIKE MERKUR PUDDING, AM I RIGHT?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT ANY OF YOU ARE THINKING.

Menu

MINE'S GRAPES.

THE SOURER THE BETTER.

ON THAT NOTE, MY FAVORITE DISH IS RUF-OMELETTE.

THEN I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD PUT IN MORE EFFORT SO YOU GET TO KNOW US BETTER.

BOOZE, RIGHT?

I KNOW. YOU CORRUPT PRIEST.

SLOSH

AND MINE IS-

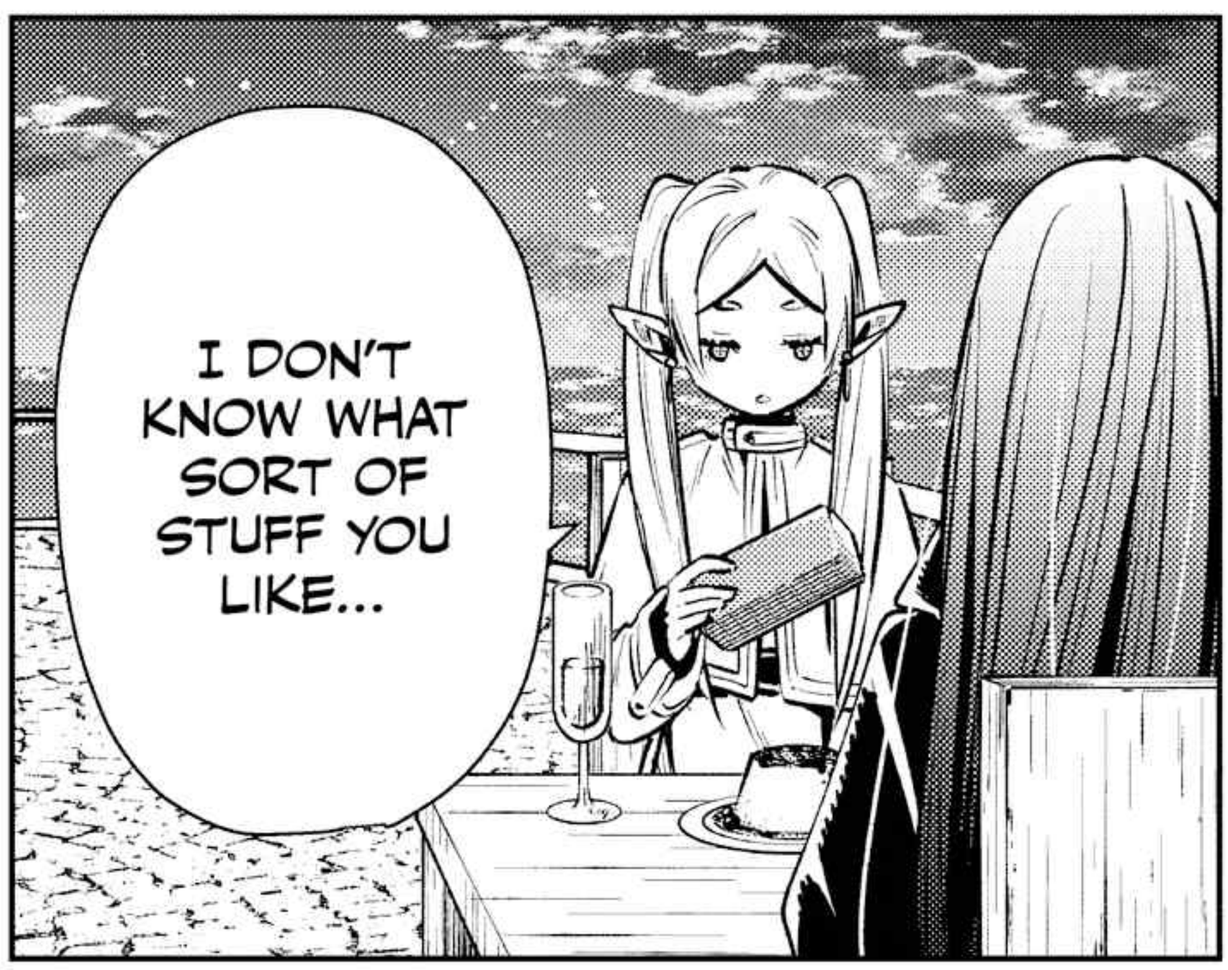
HOW HOPELESS IS IT THAT THE MOST MEMORABLE THING ABOUT A PRIEST IS HIS DRINKING?

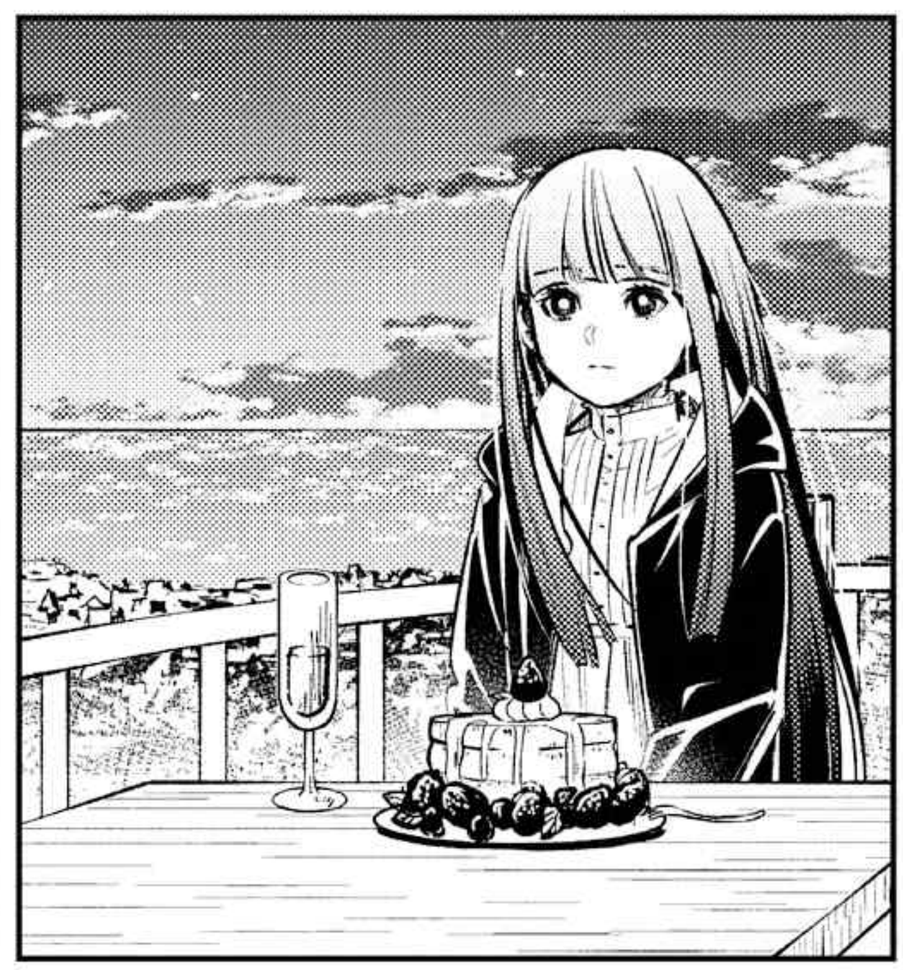
DON'T BE FLATTERED. BE ASHAMED.

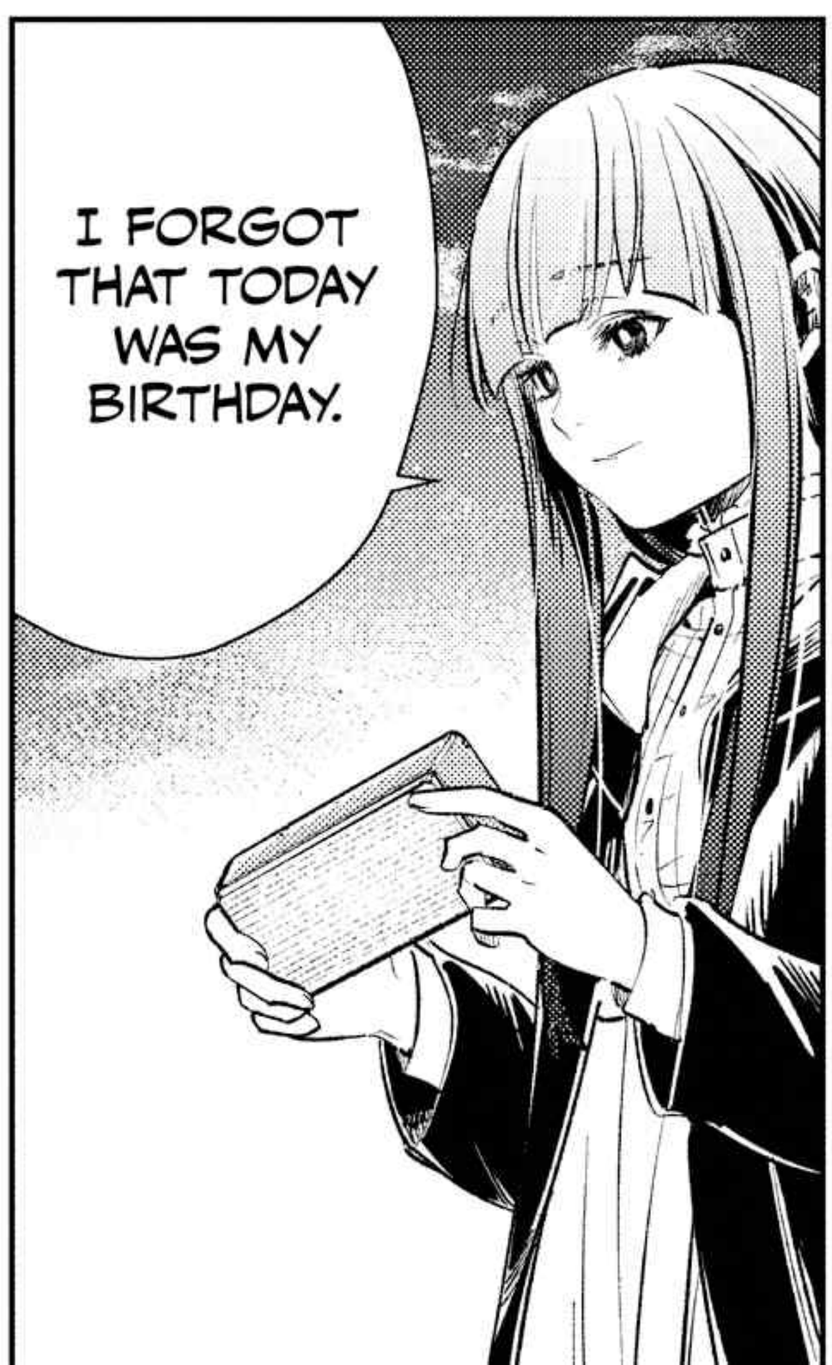
SORRY, FERN.

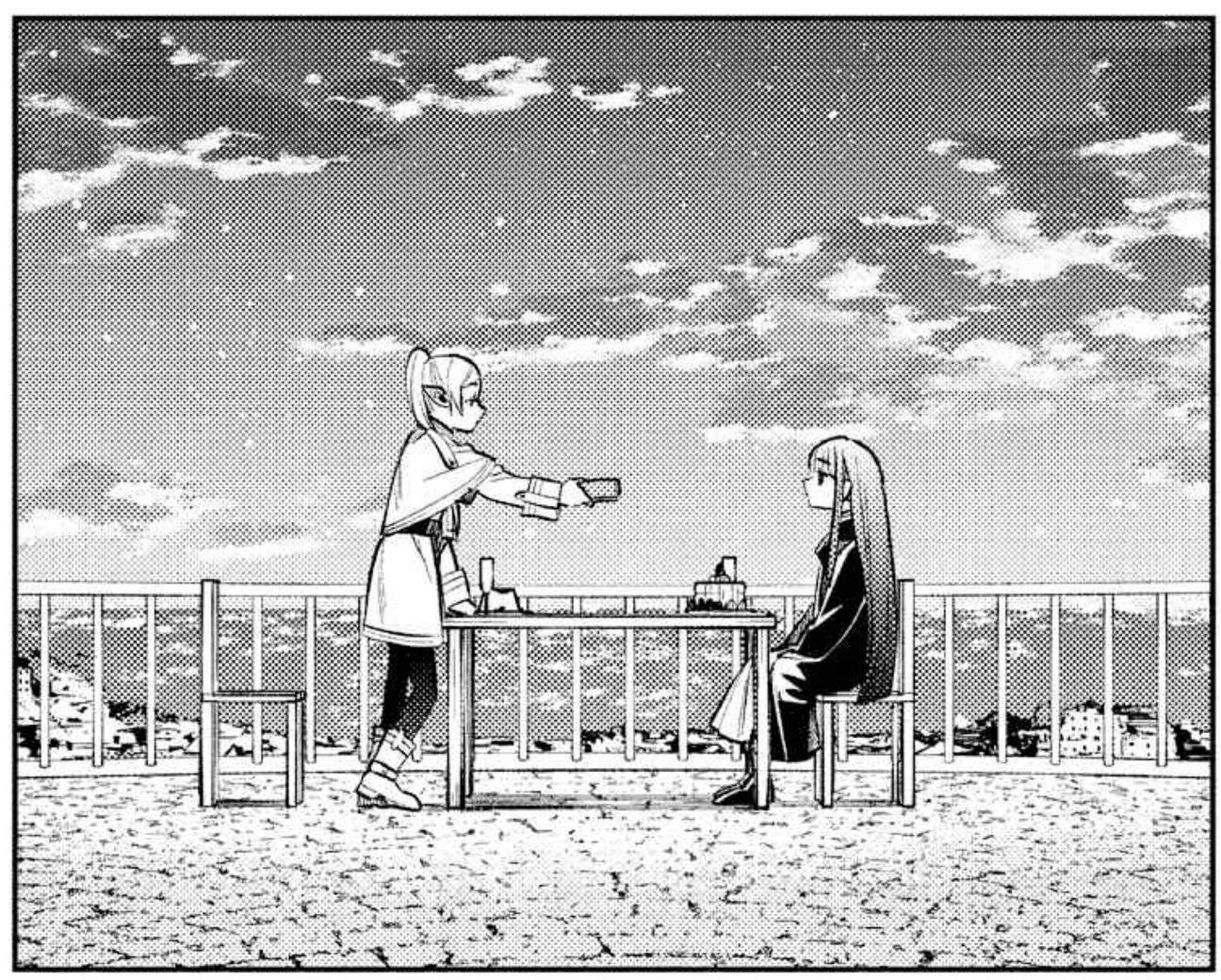
I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT YOU.

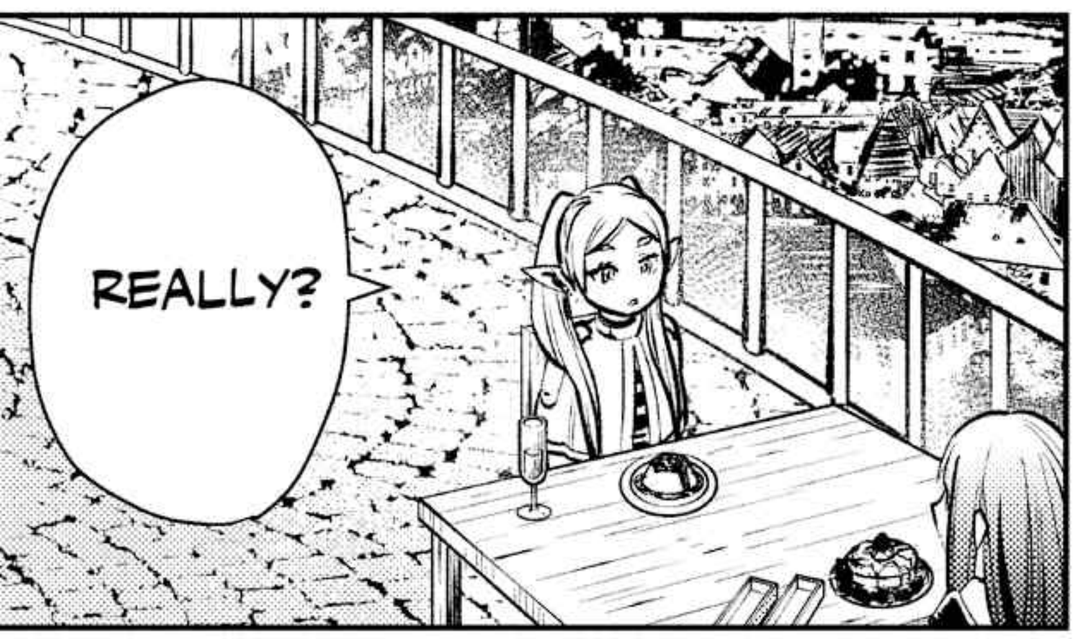
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZ-ING?

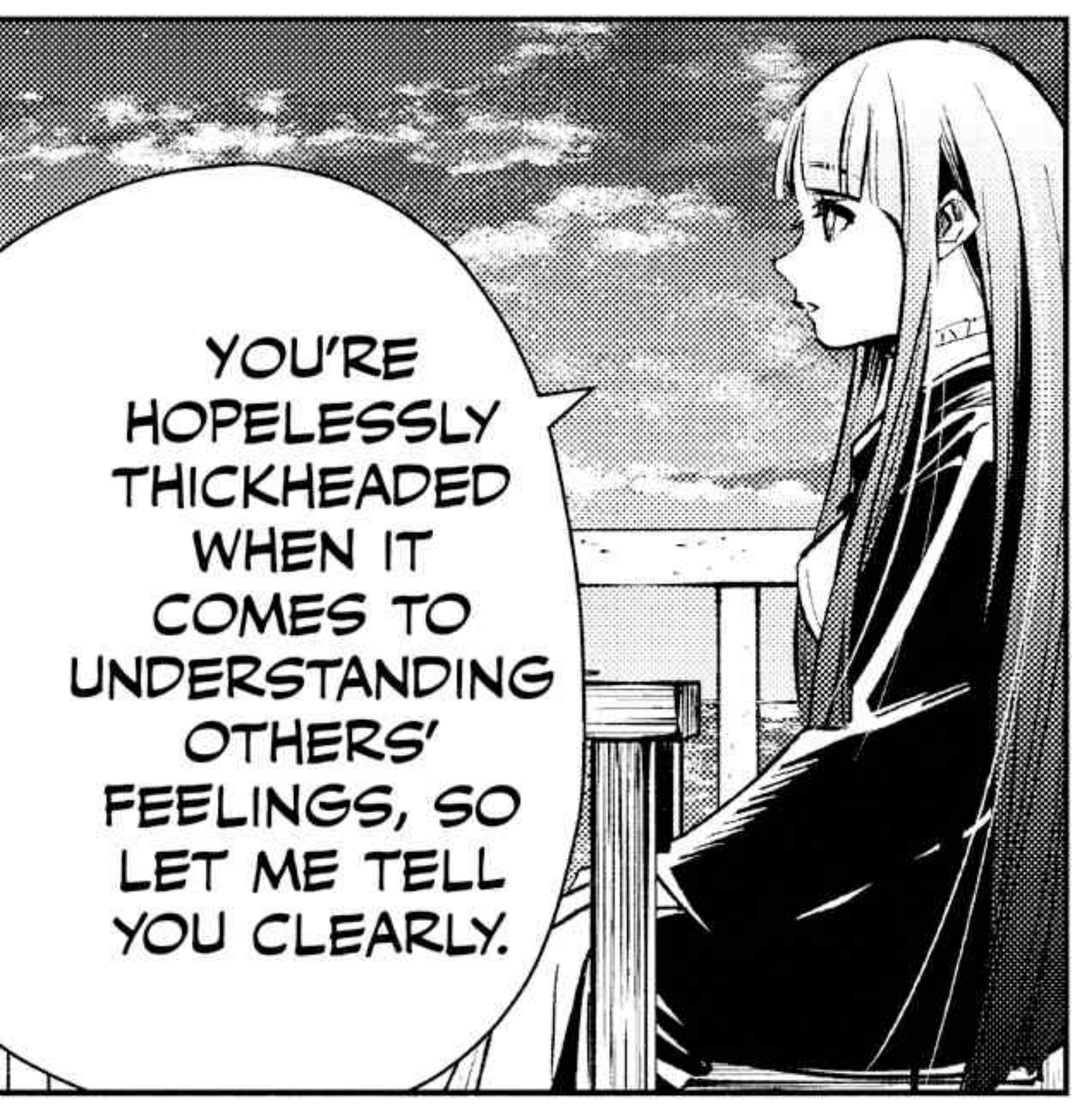

I DON'T KNOW WHAT SORT OF STUFF YOU LIKE...

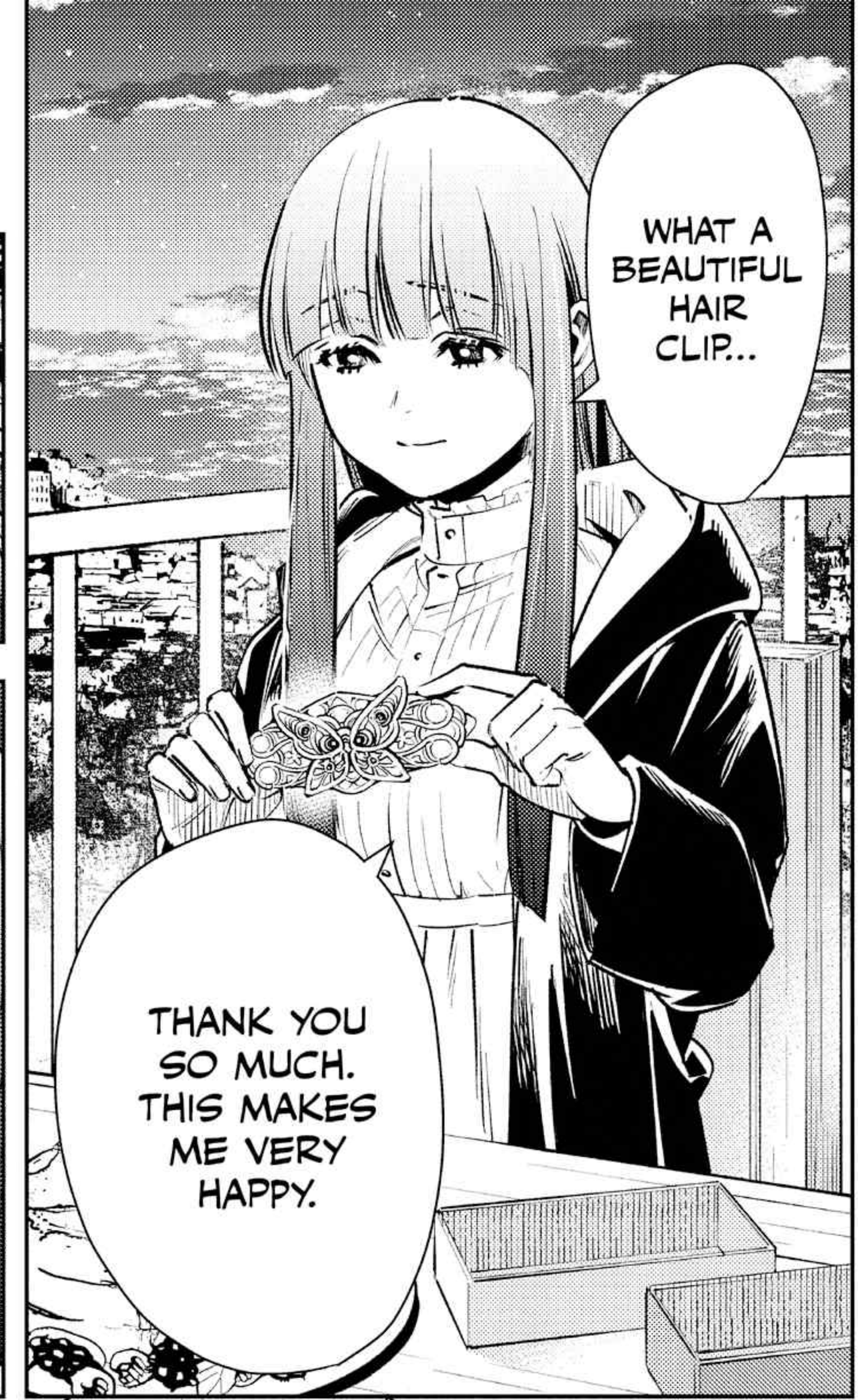



I FORGOT THAT TODAY WAS MY BIRTHDAY.




REALLY?

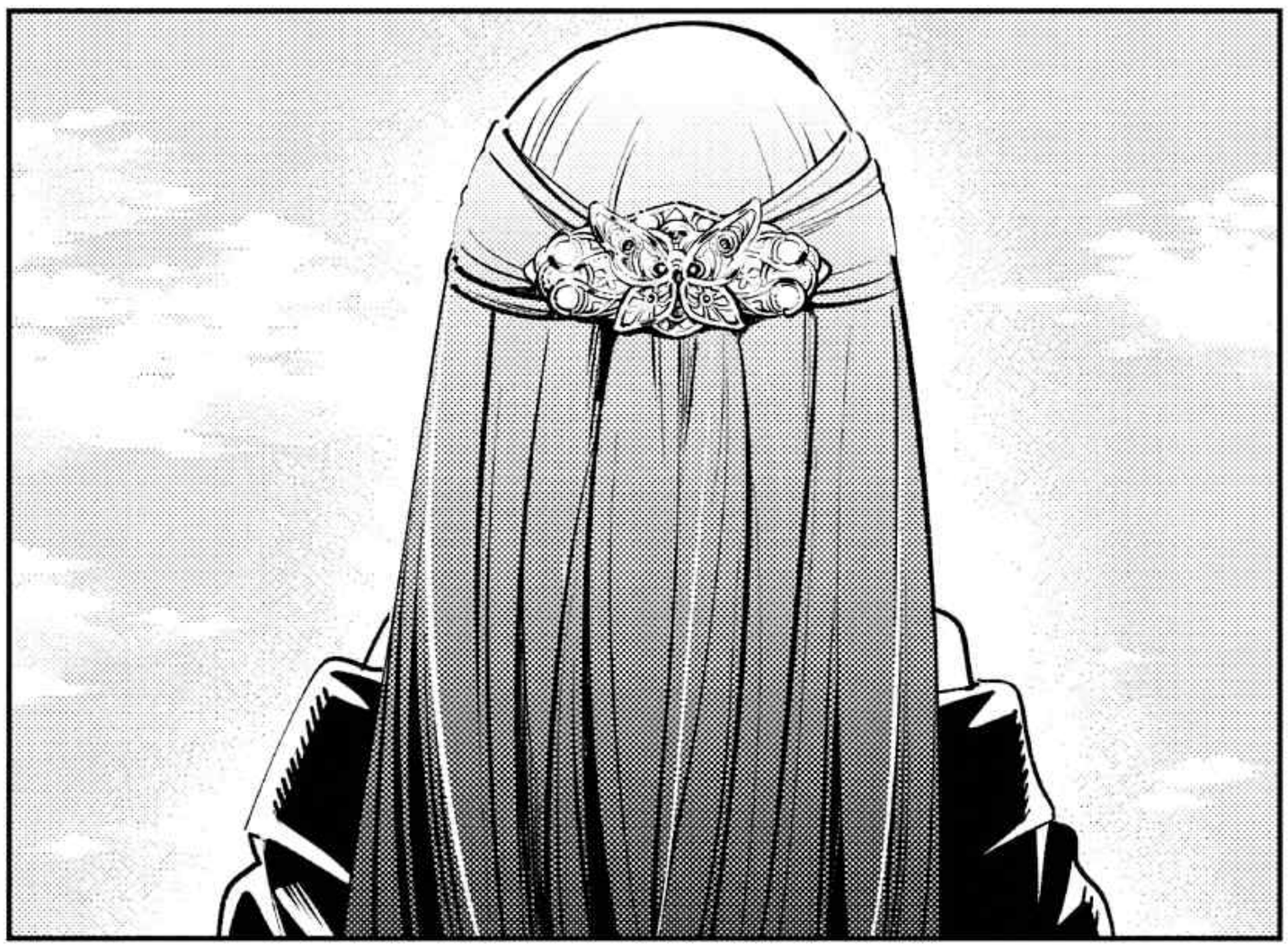

YOU'RE HOPELESSLY THICKHEADED WHEN IT COMES TO UNDERSTANDING OTHERS' FEELINGS, SO LET ME TELL YOU CLEARLY.

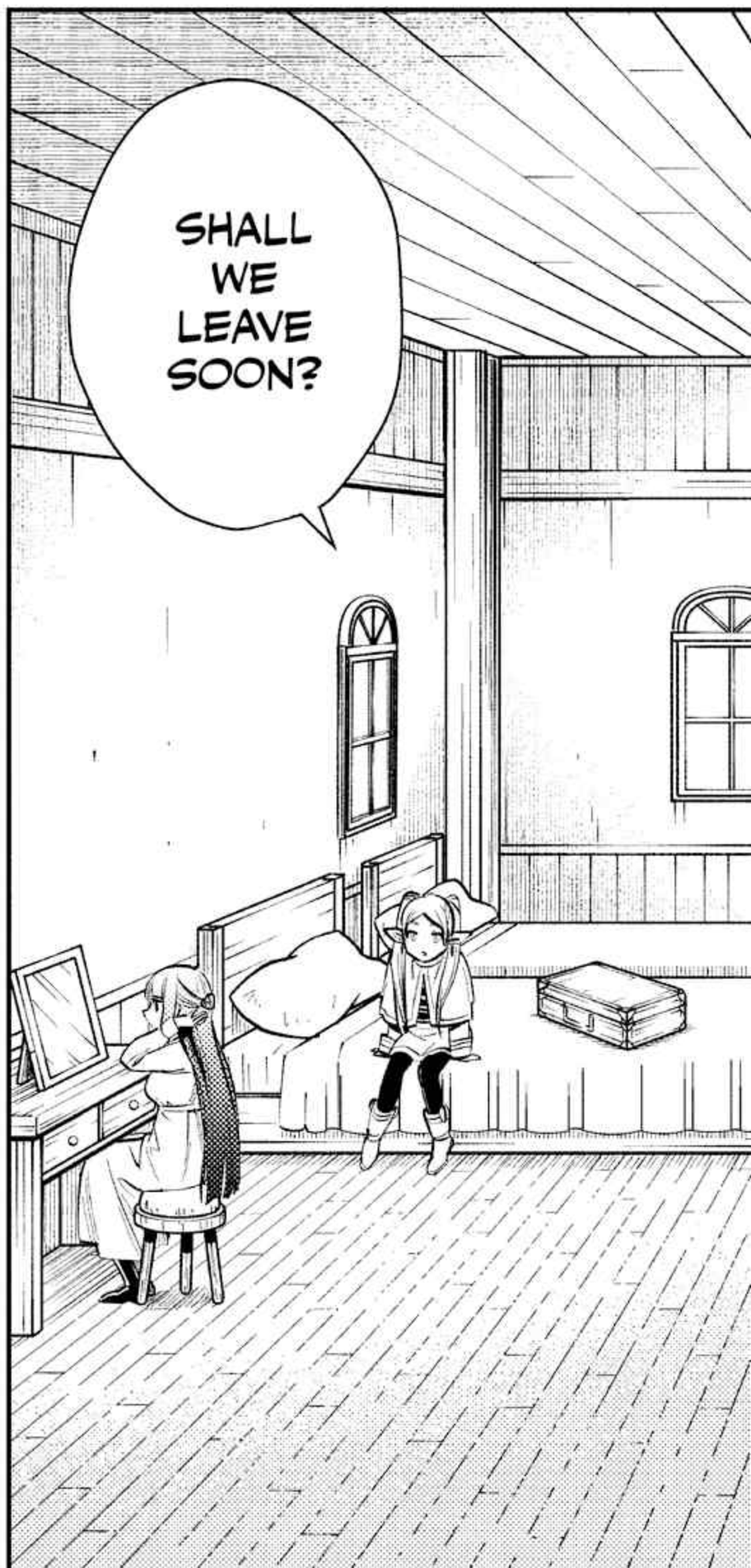

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL HAIR CLIP...
THANK YOU SO MUCH. THIS MAKES ME VERY HAPPY.

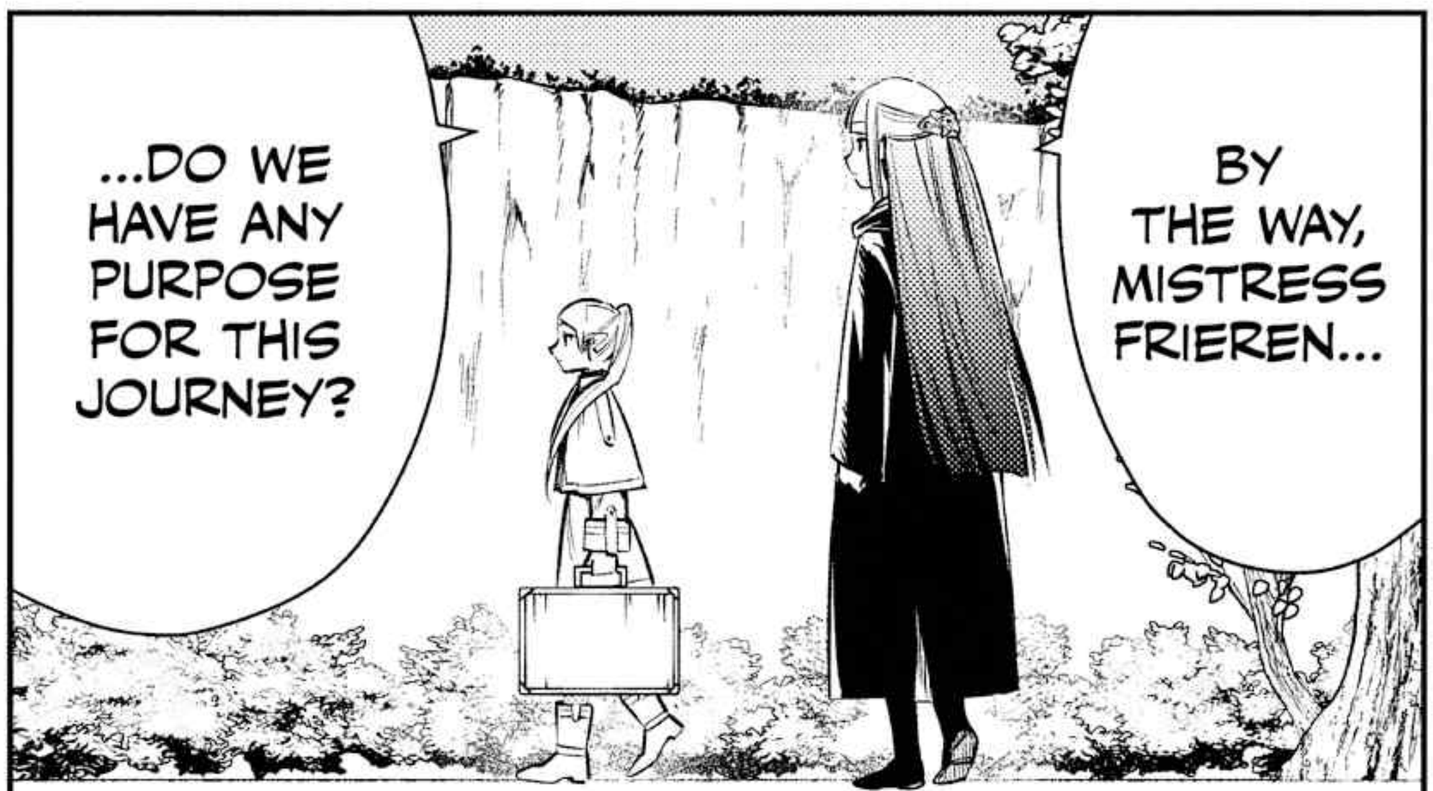
JUST BECAUSE I TRIED TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

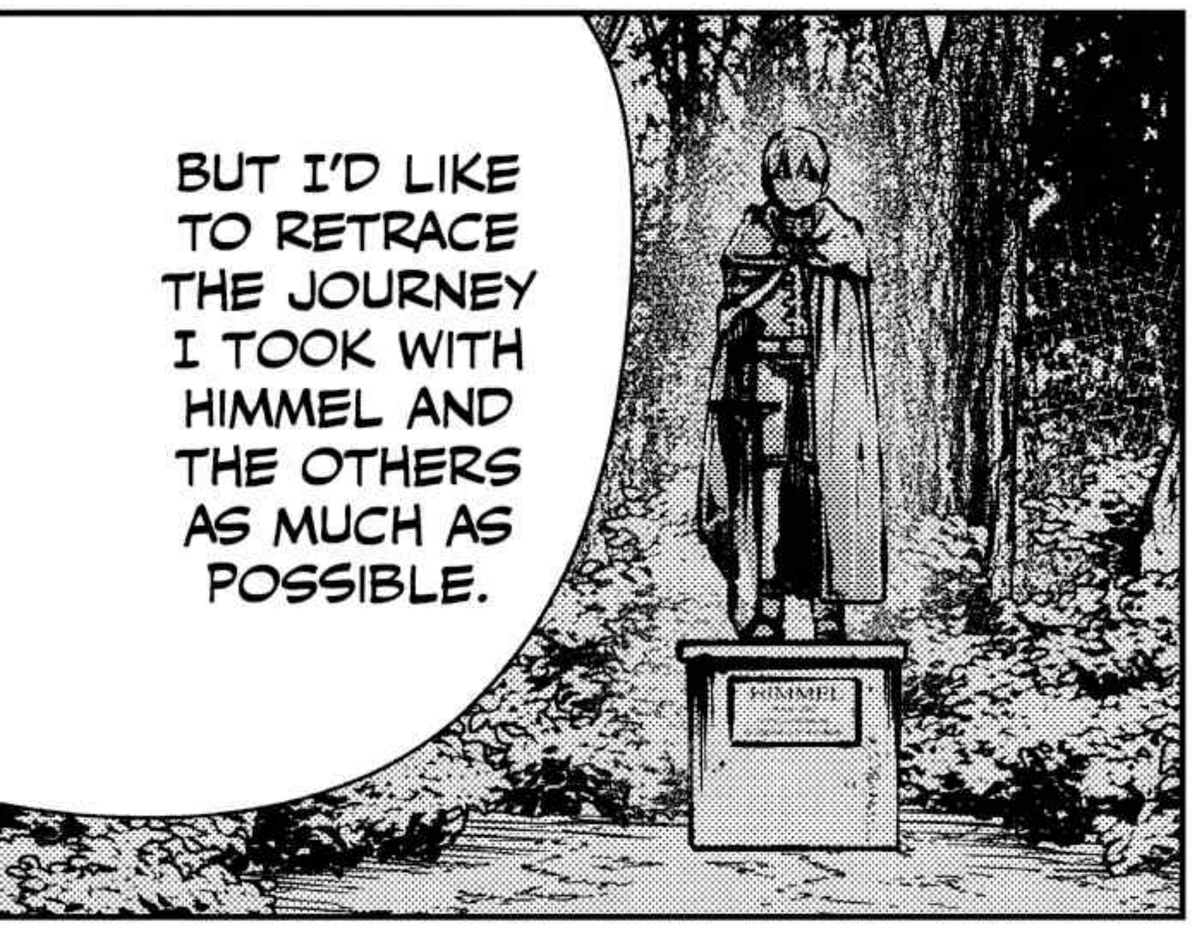
I COULD NOT BE HAPPIER...
...THAT YOU TRIED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT ME.

YOU REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW OTHER PEOPLE FEEL, DO YOU?








BUT I'D LIKE TO RETRACE THE JOURNEY I TOOK WITH HIMMEL AND THE OTHERS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.
HIMMEL

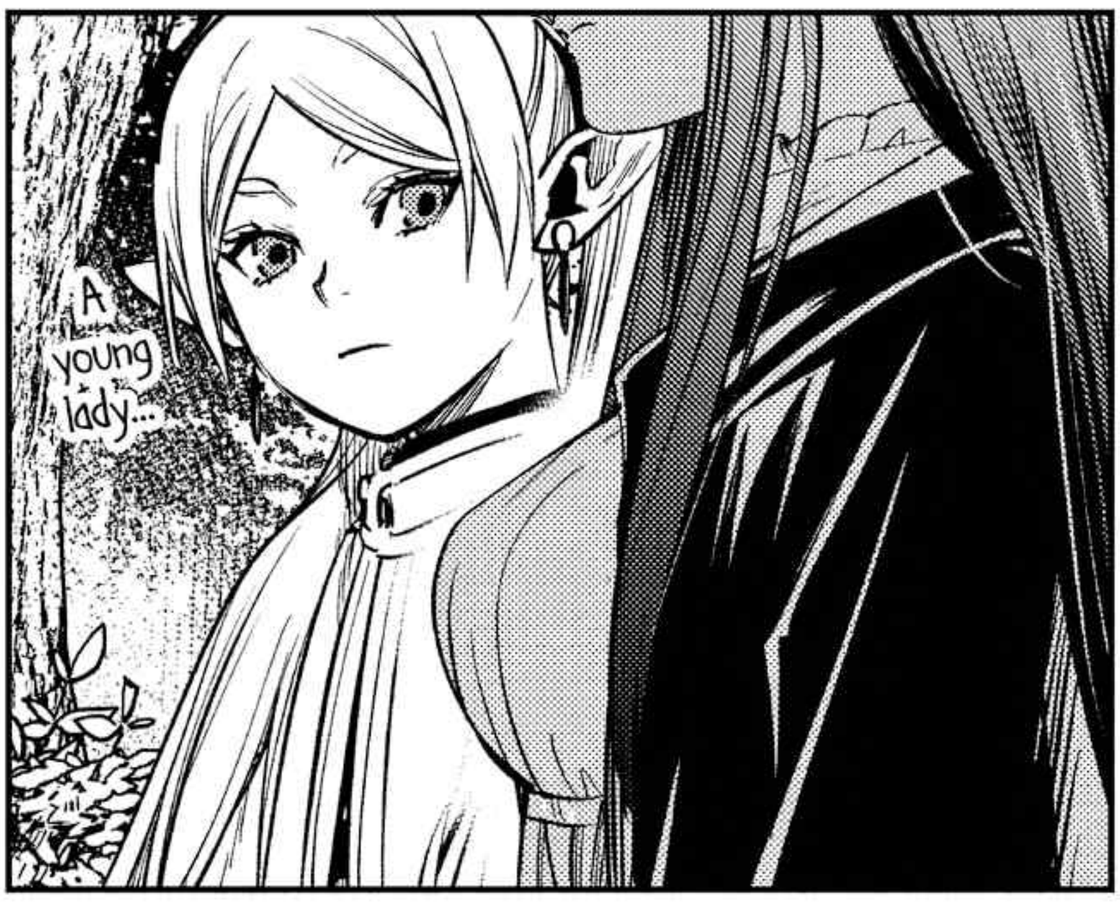
NOT REALLY. IT'S JUST A JOURNEY TO SERVE MY HOBBY OF GATHERING MAGIC.

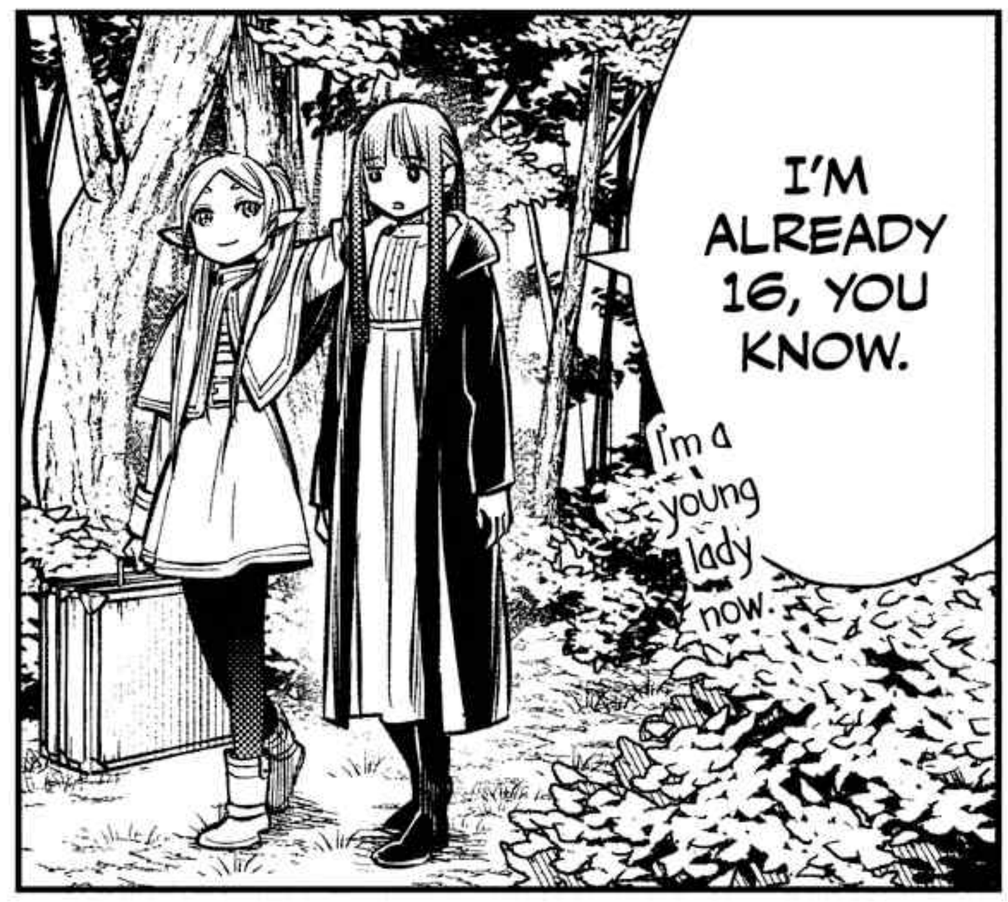
BEFORE IT ALL FADES AWAY.

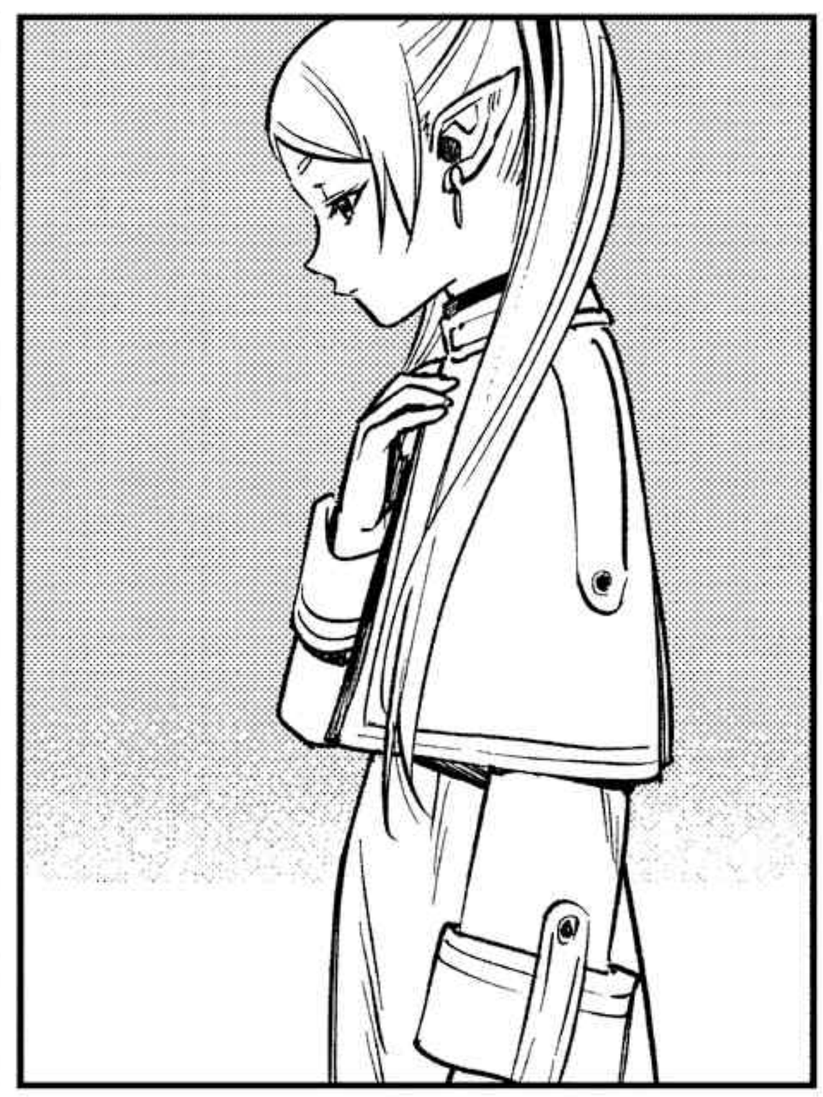
I DON'T KNOW.
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO FIND OUT.

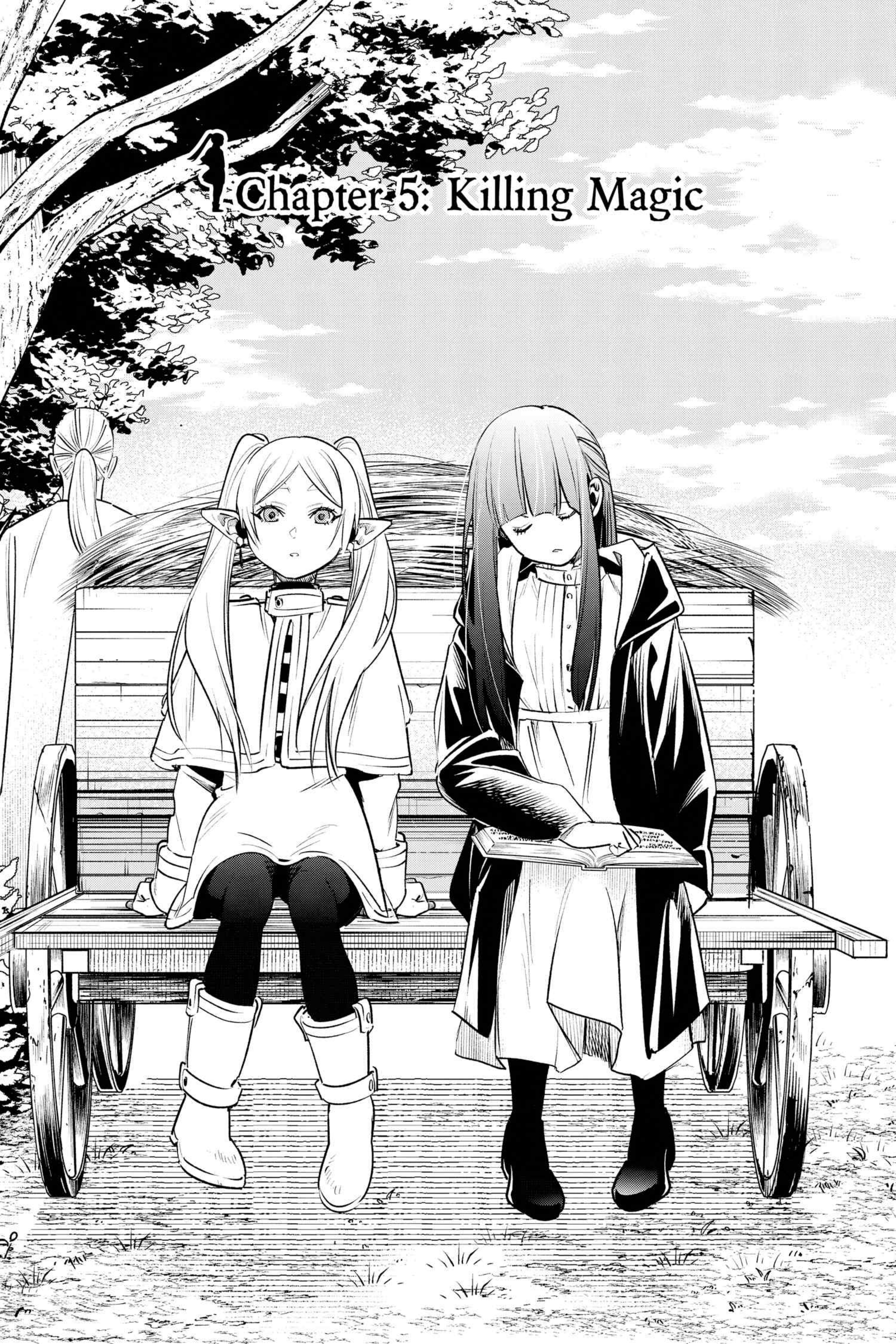
IT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU, RIGHT?

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'VE FINALLY GROWN TALLER THAN ME.







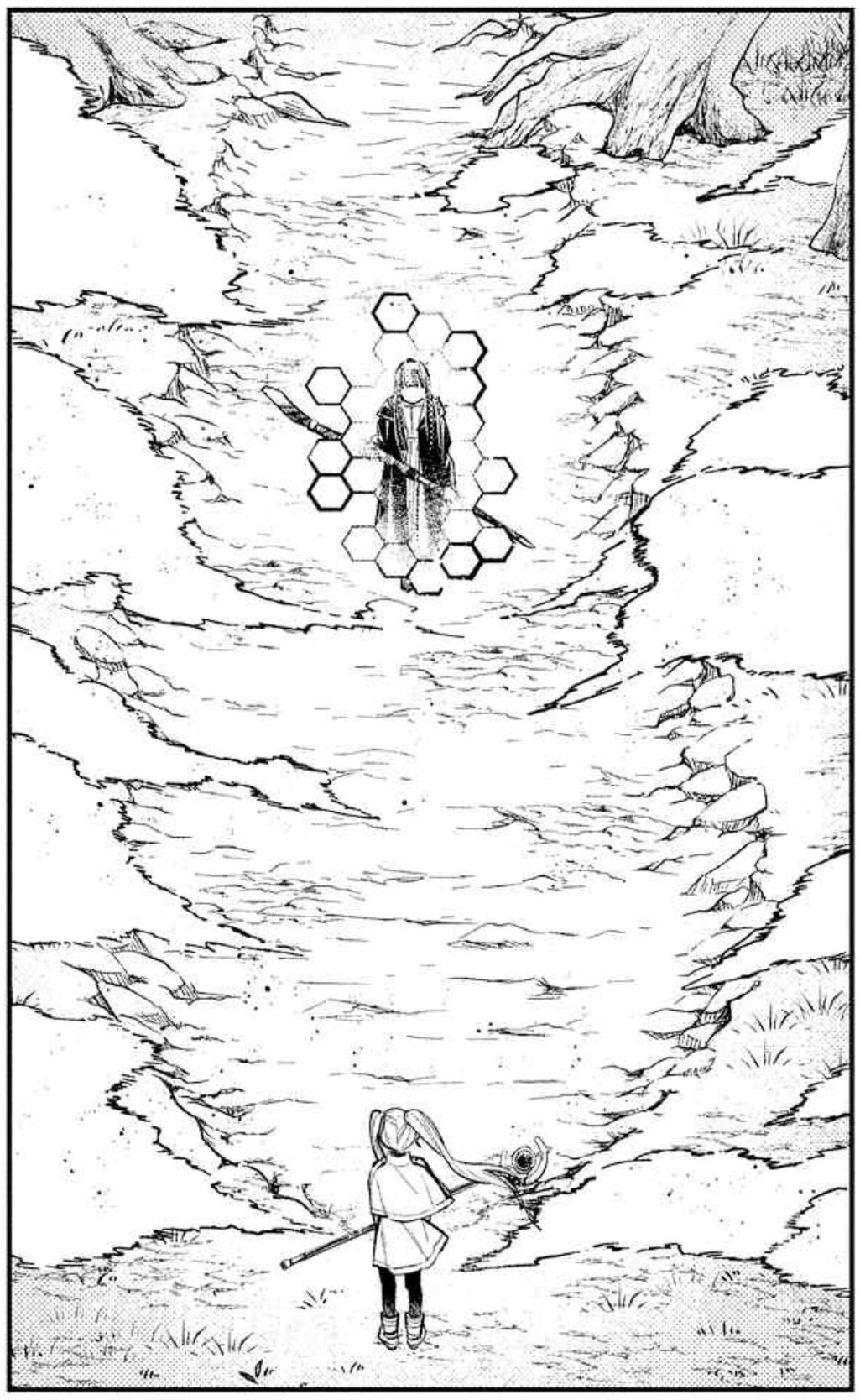


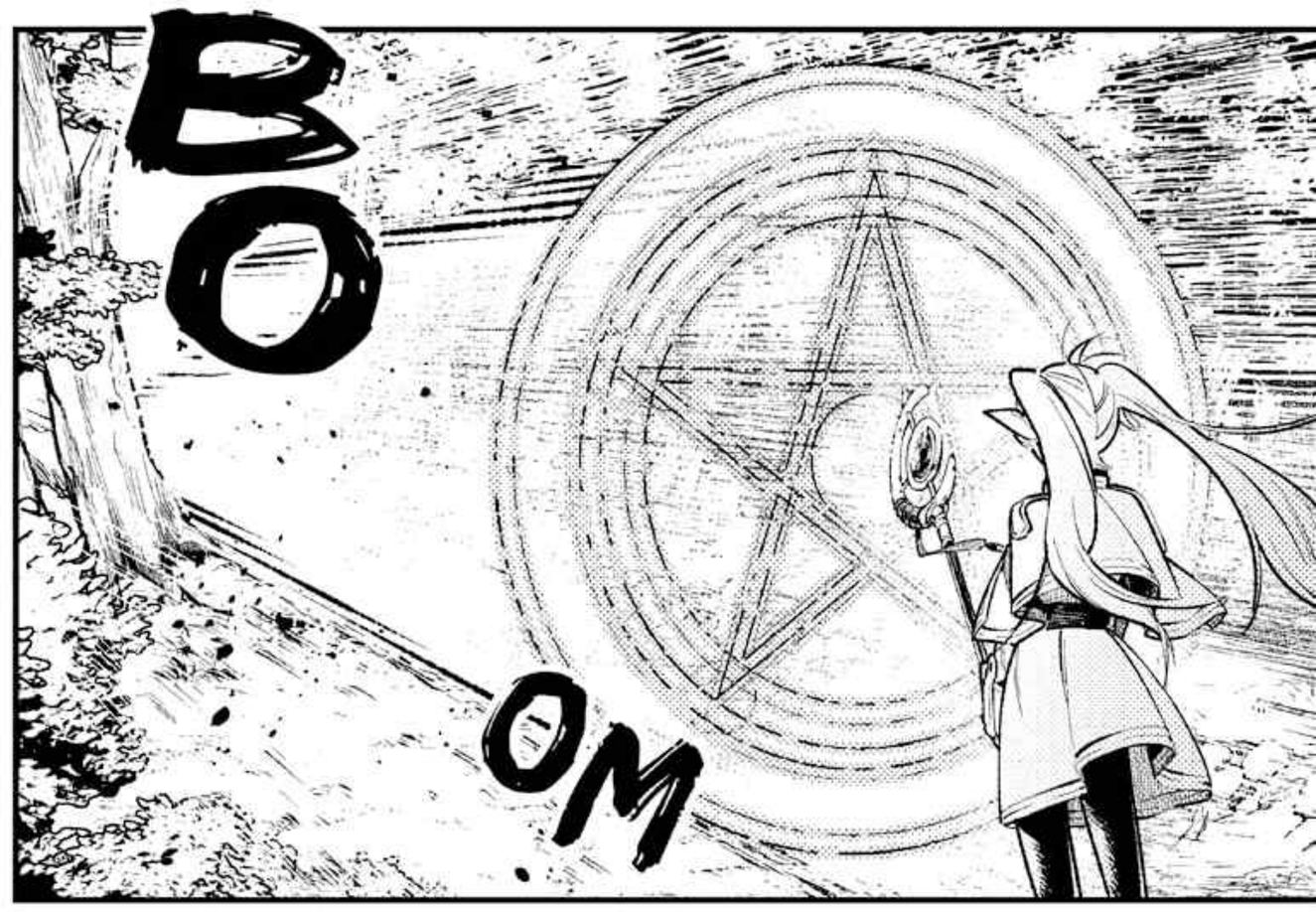
Chapter 5: Killing Magic

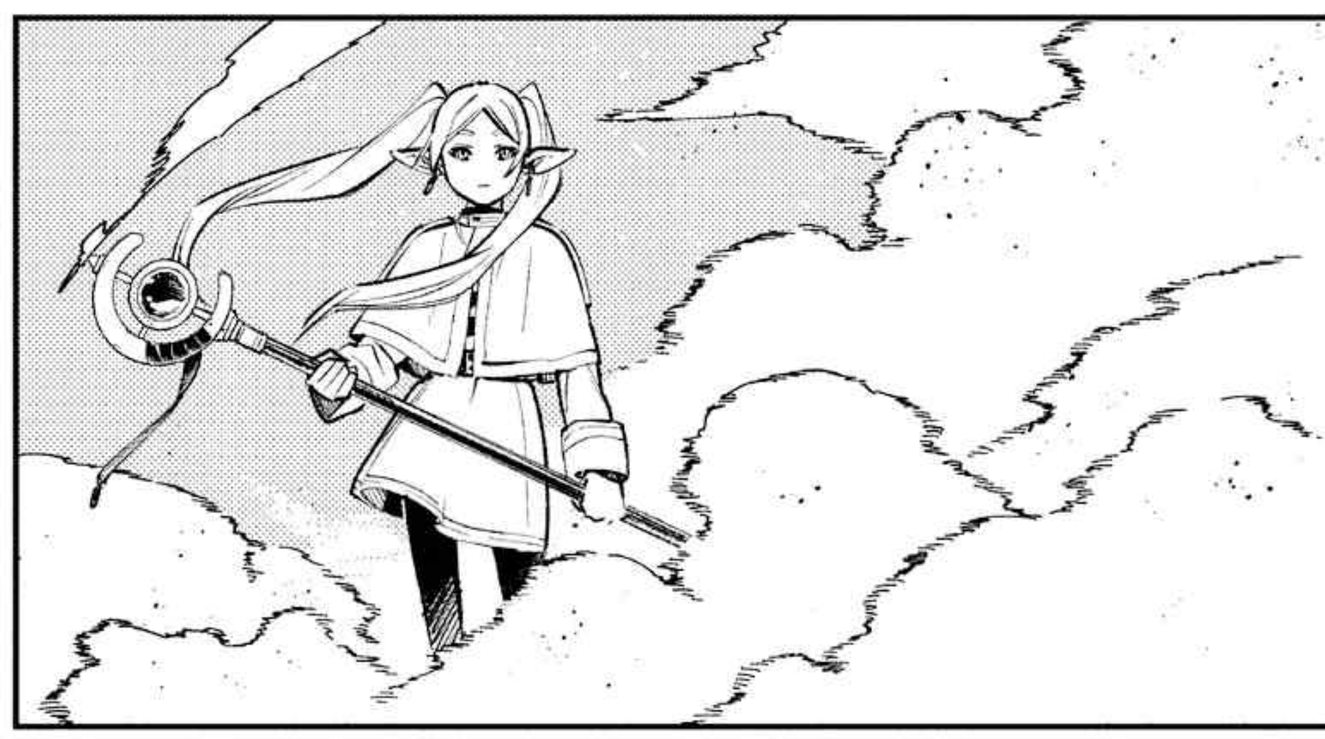
CENTRAL LANDS

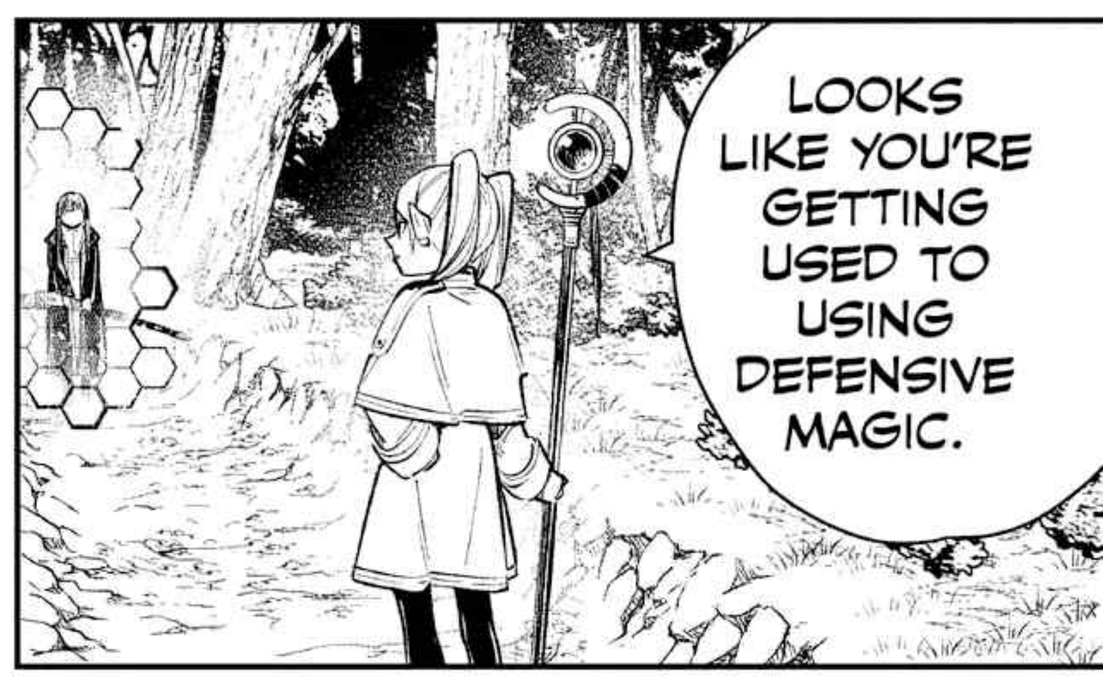
GRÖßE FOREST

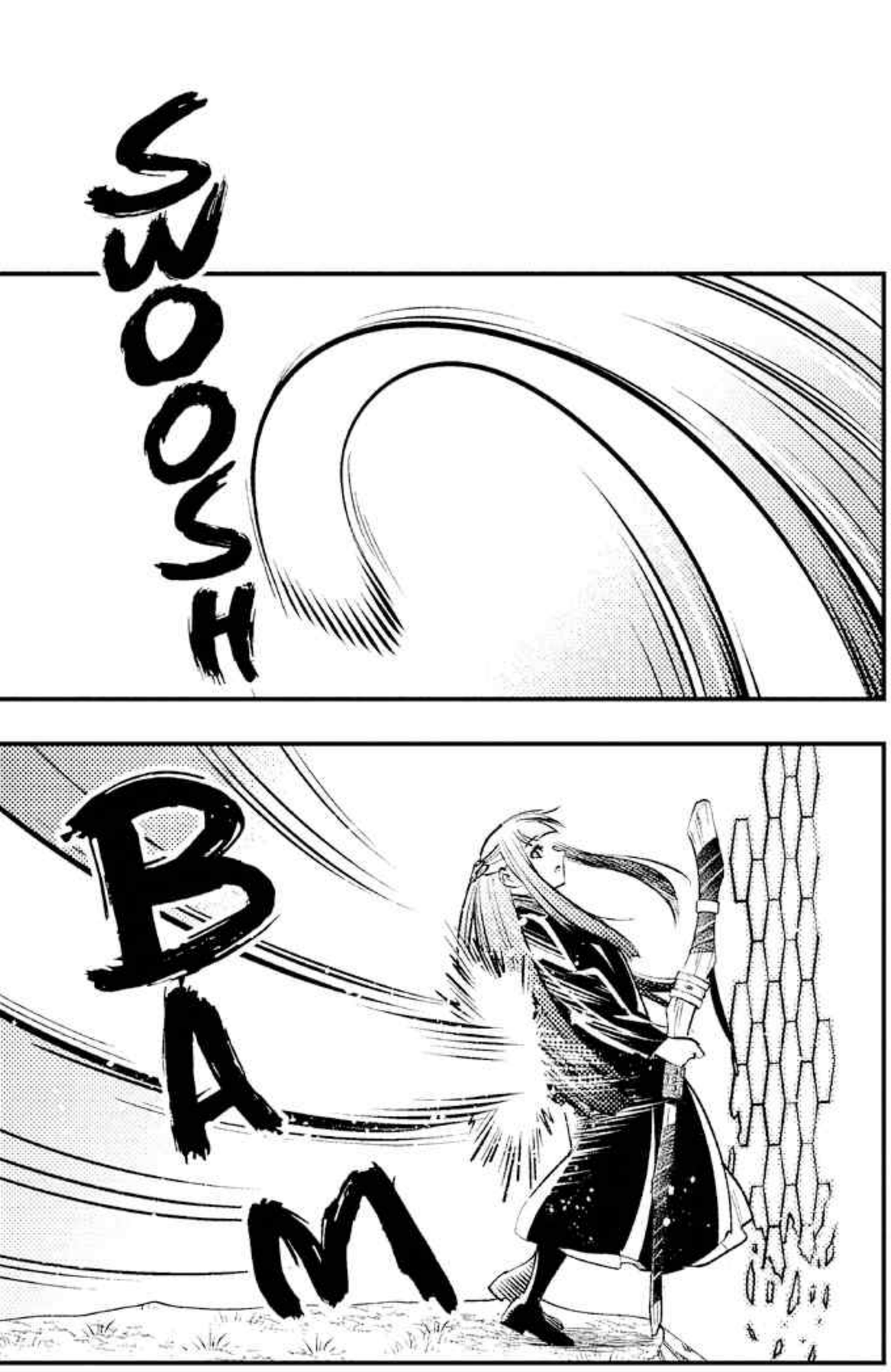
TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS AFTER THE DEATH OF HIMMEL THE HERO







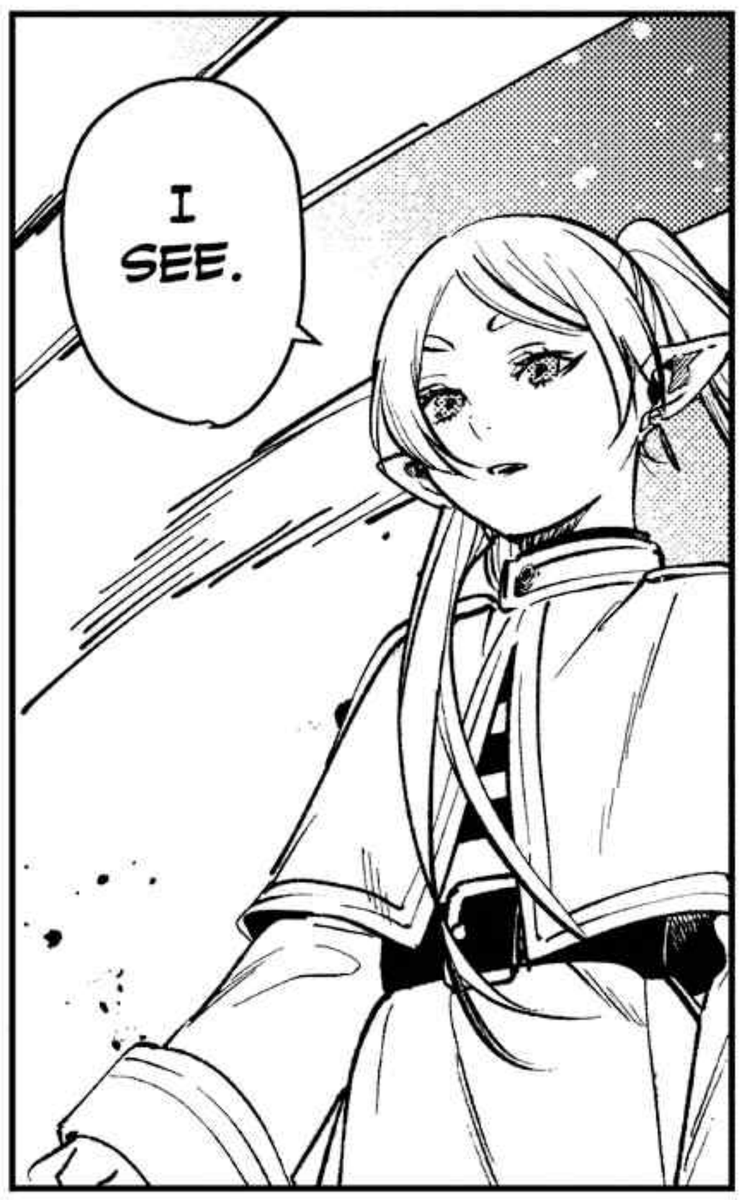



SWOOSH
BAM

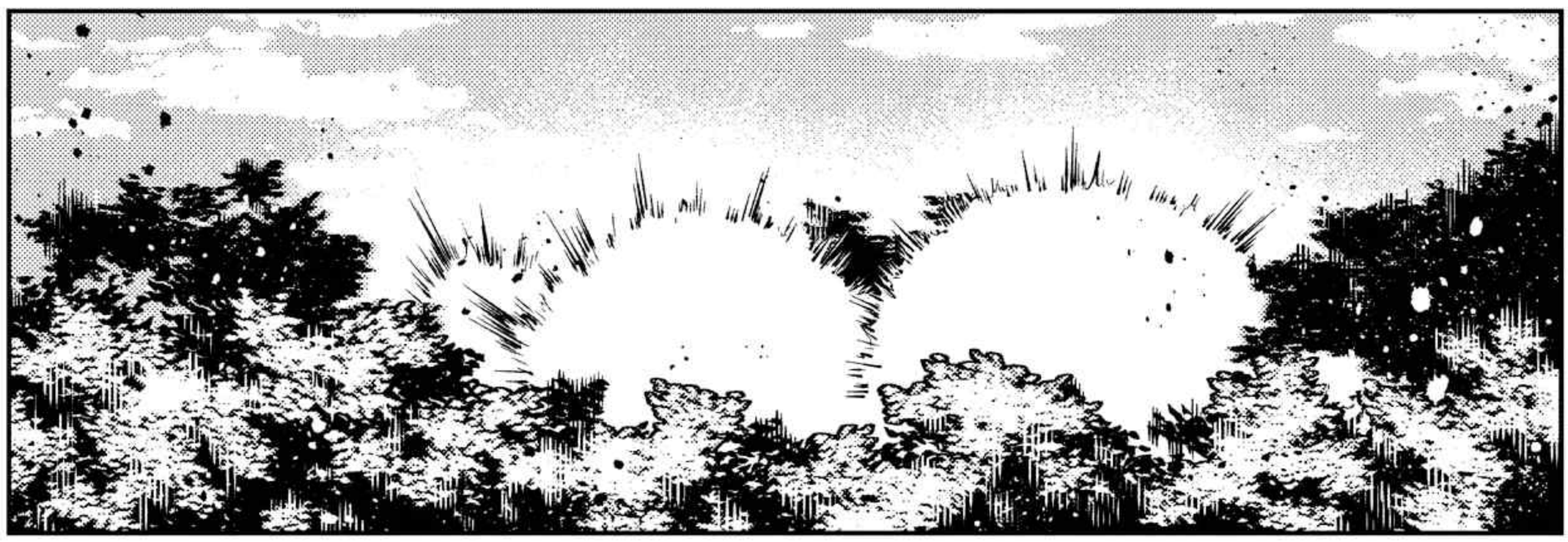
WOOM
WHA–

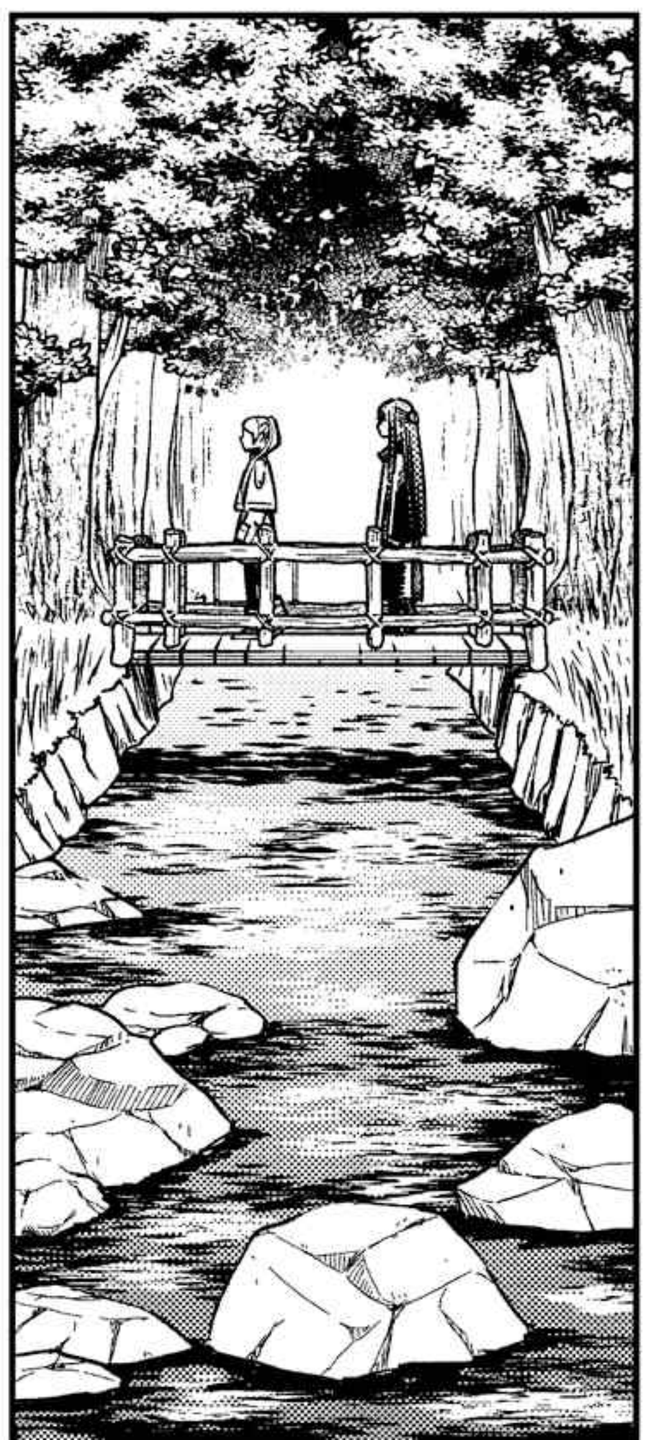
HOW WOULD YOU DEAL WITH THIS?

IN A REAL FIGHT, YOU'D BE DEAD.
I AIMED WHERE YOU ARE DEFENSE-LESS.

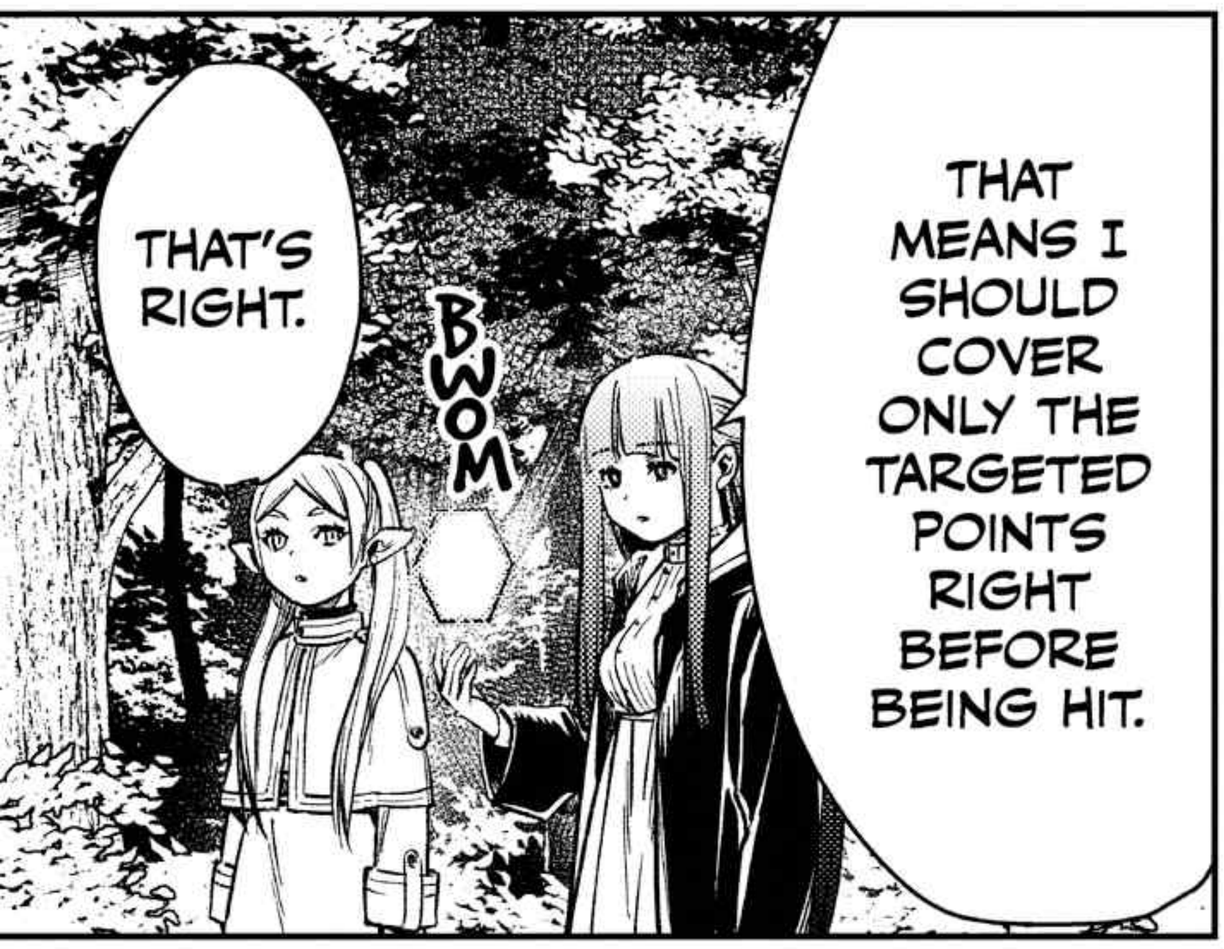

I SEE.

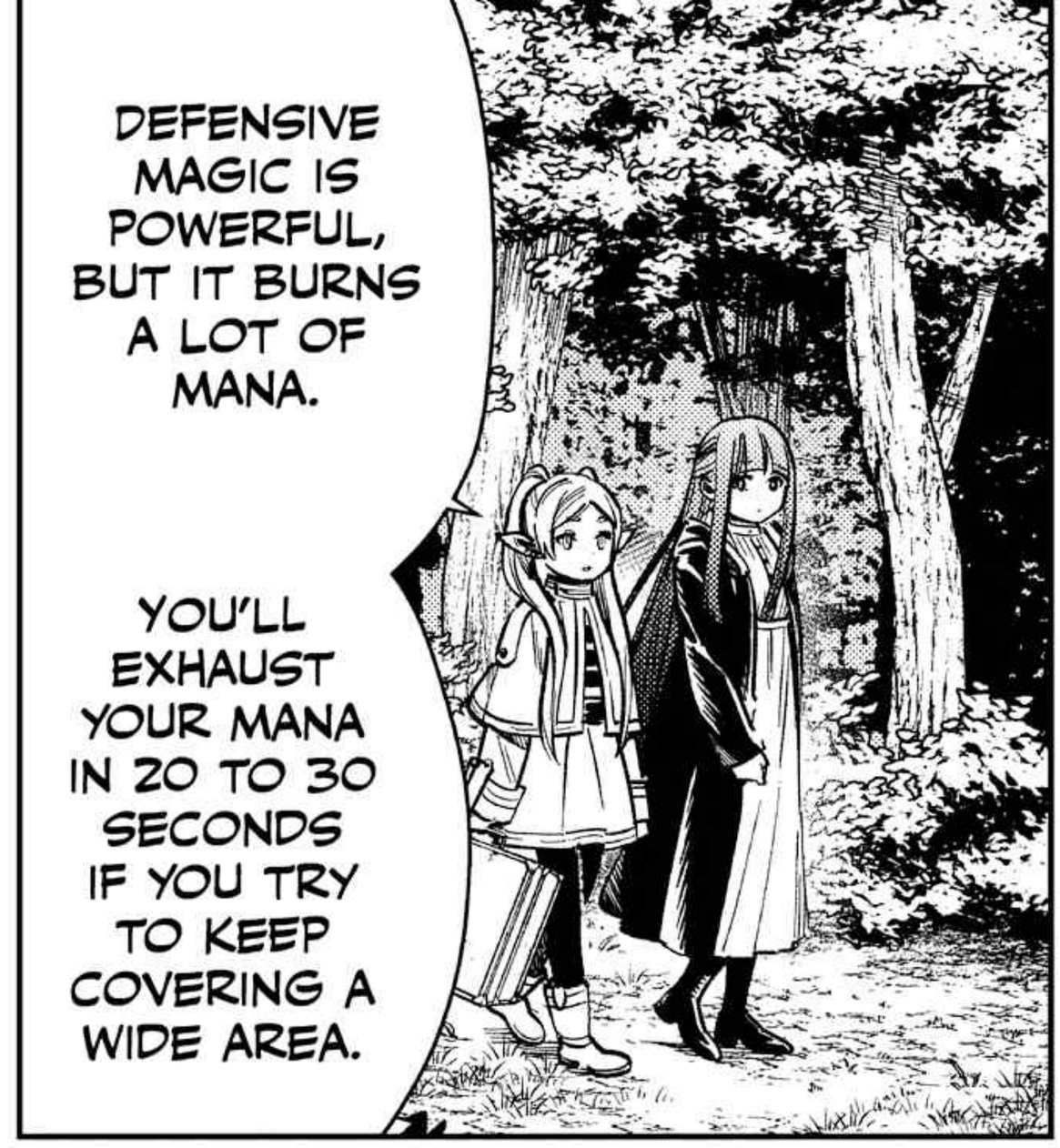
I'D DO THIS.
KSHING

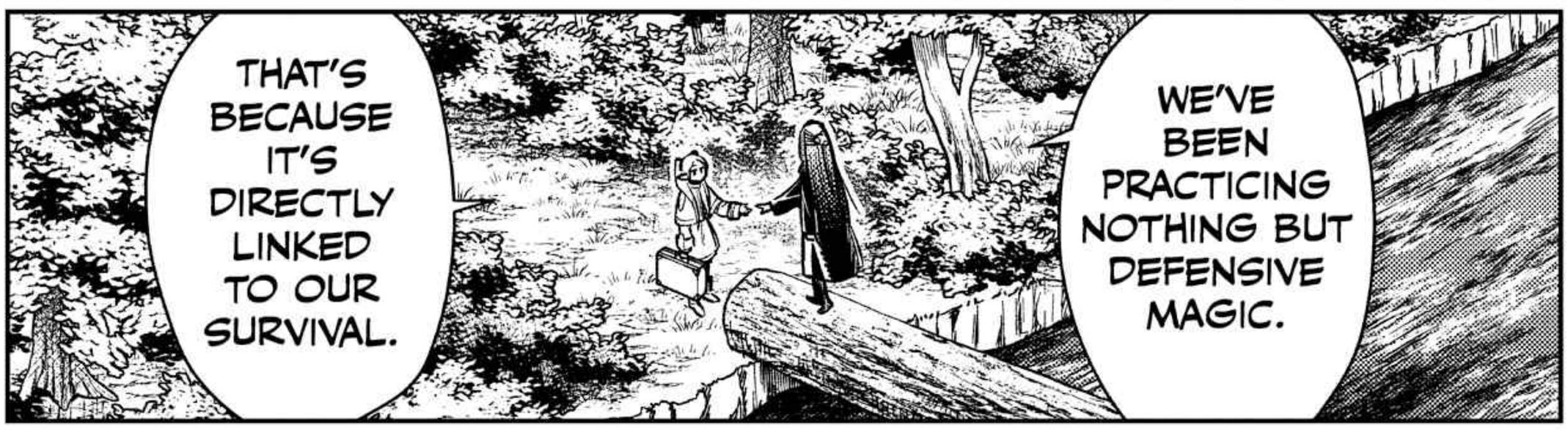


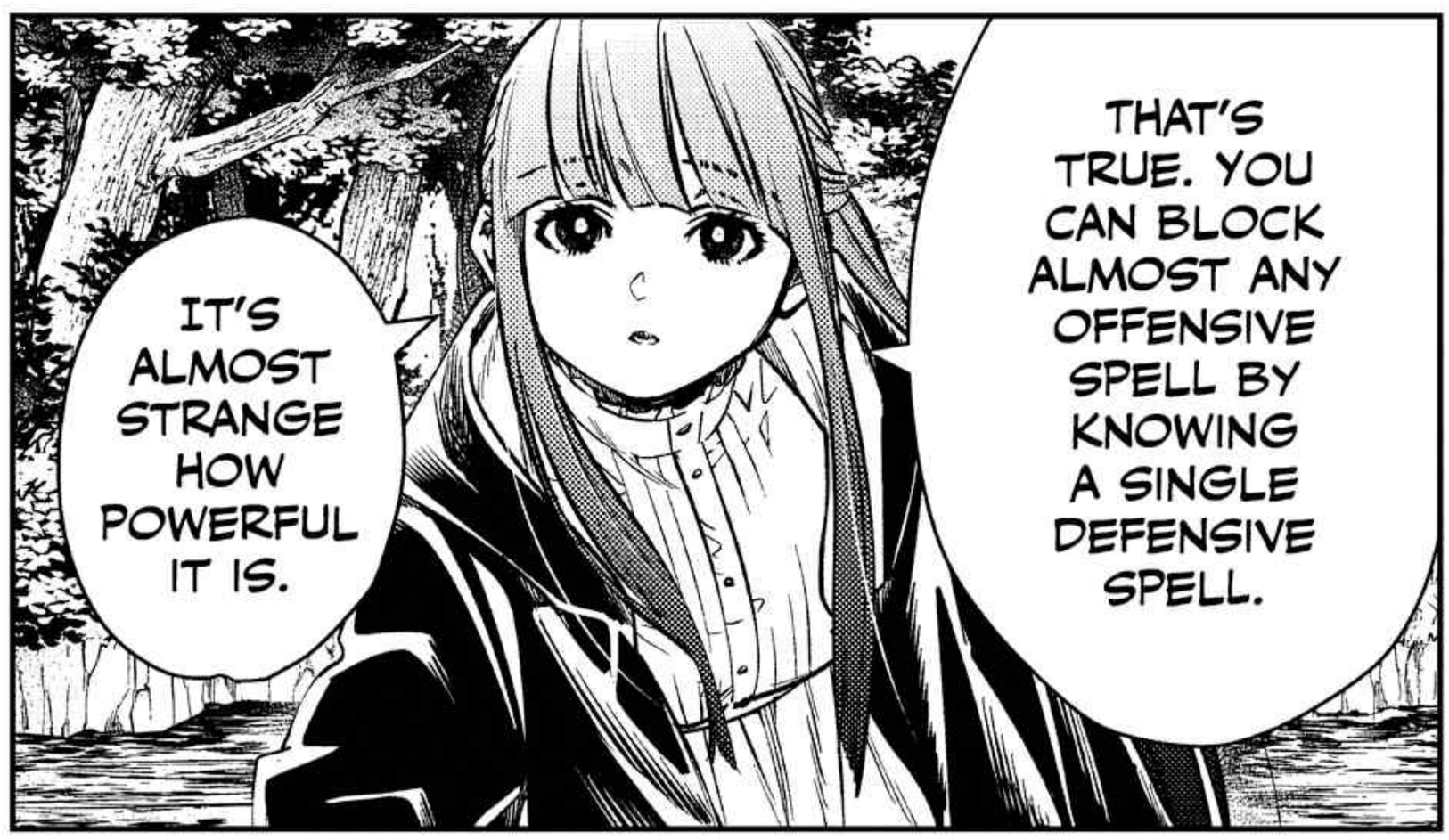


THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY.
PANT PANT PANT


THAT'S RIGHT.
BWOM
THAT MEANS I SHOULD COVER ONLY THE TARGETED POINTS RIGHT BEFORE BEING HIT.


DEFENSIVE MAGIC IS POWERFUL, BUT IT BURNS A LOT OF MANA.
YOU'LL EXHAUST YOUR MANA IN 20 TO 30 SECONDS IF YOU TRY TO KEEP COVERING A WIDE AREA.


THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S DIRECTLY LINKED TO OUR SURVIVAL.
WE'VE BEEN PRACTICING NOTHING BUT DEFENSIVE MAGIC.

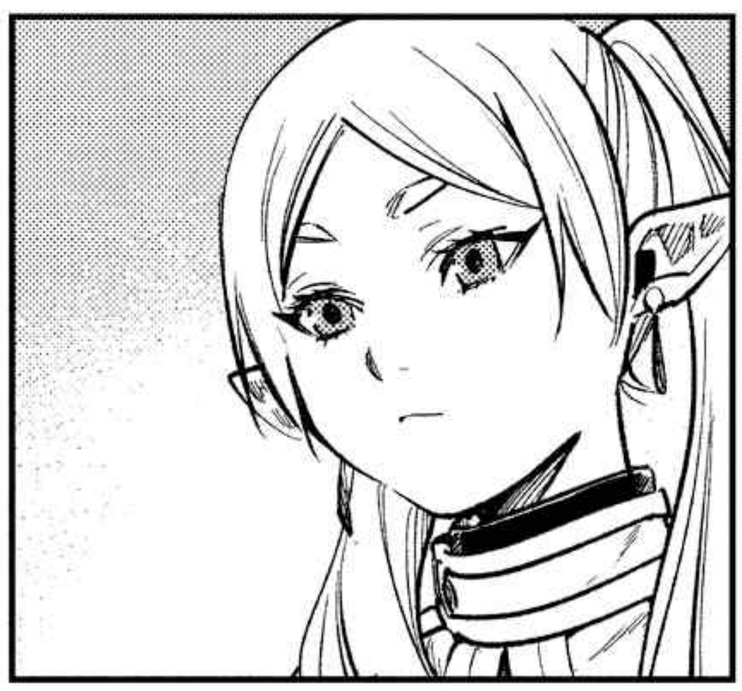

IT'S ALMOST STRANGE HOW POWERFUL IT IS.
THAT'S TRUE. YOU CAN BLOCK ALMOST ANY OFFENSIVE SPELL BY KNOWING A SINGLE DEFENSIVE SPELL.

I'LL READ IT BY MYSELF.
I'm no longer a child, you know...
I STILL HAVE TO READ IT TO YOU BEFORE BED, HUH?

MAGIC ISN'T ONLY ABOUT ACTUALLY USING IT.
FERN...
...YOU HAVEN'T READ THE BOOK I LENT YOU ABOUT THE HISTORY OF MAGIC, HAVE YOU?

NO, NOT THIS TIME.

THIS IS THE VILLAGE WE WERE LOOKING FOR, RIGHT?
ARE WE GATHERING SOME WEIRD SPELLS AGAIN?



YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE PLACE WHERE QUAL WAS SEALED, RIGHT?
I'LL TAKE YOU THERE.
HOW DO YOU KNOW ME?

COULD YOU BE LADY FRIEREN?

HEY, CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
WHITE HAIR...
AN ELF...

THE ELDER SAGE OF CORRUPTION— QUAL.
QUAL?

BUT REALLY, HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS?

I'VE NEVER TOLD ANYONE.

I CAME HERE TO ELIMINATE HIM BECAUSE THE SEAL WILL BREAK SOON...

A DEMON THAT COMMITTED UNCOUNT-ABLE ATROCITIES IN THIS LAND 80 YEARS AGO.

HIMMEL THE HERO'S PARTY SEALED HIM AWAY FOR US.

HE TOLD ME IT WAS TO CHECK IN ON THE STATE OF THE SEAL.

UNTIL ABOUT 30 YEARS AGO, HIMMEL THE HERO USED TO VISIT THIS VILLAGE ALMOST EVERY YEAR.

GEE, I'M SORRY ...

She is, isn't she?

She's so cold.

HE SAID YOU WERE COLD-HEARTED AND WOULDN'T EVEN CARE ABOUT COMING HERE TO CHECK.

HIS GOOD NATURE NEVER CHANGED, HUH?

HE TALKED ABOUT YOU TOO, LADY FRIEREN.

IS THAT SO?

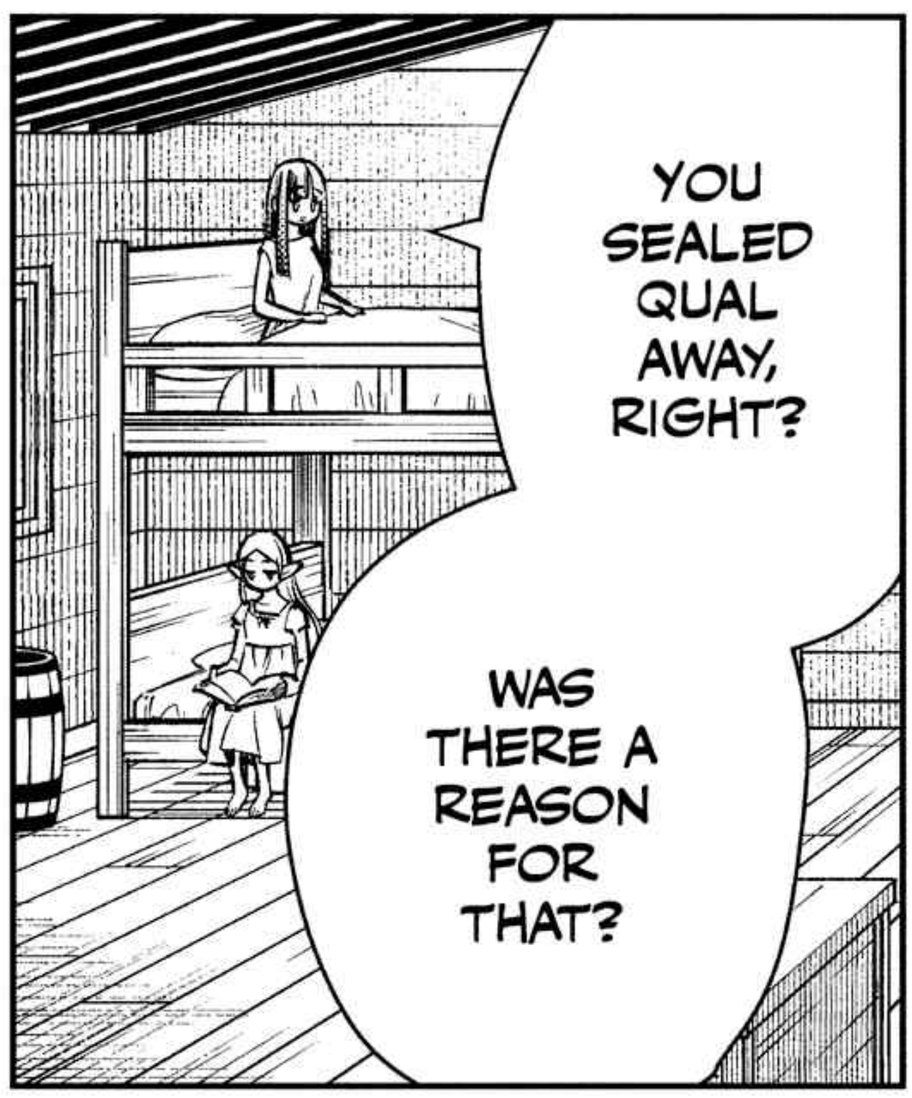
THOSE WERE HIS WORDS.

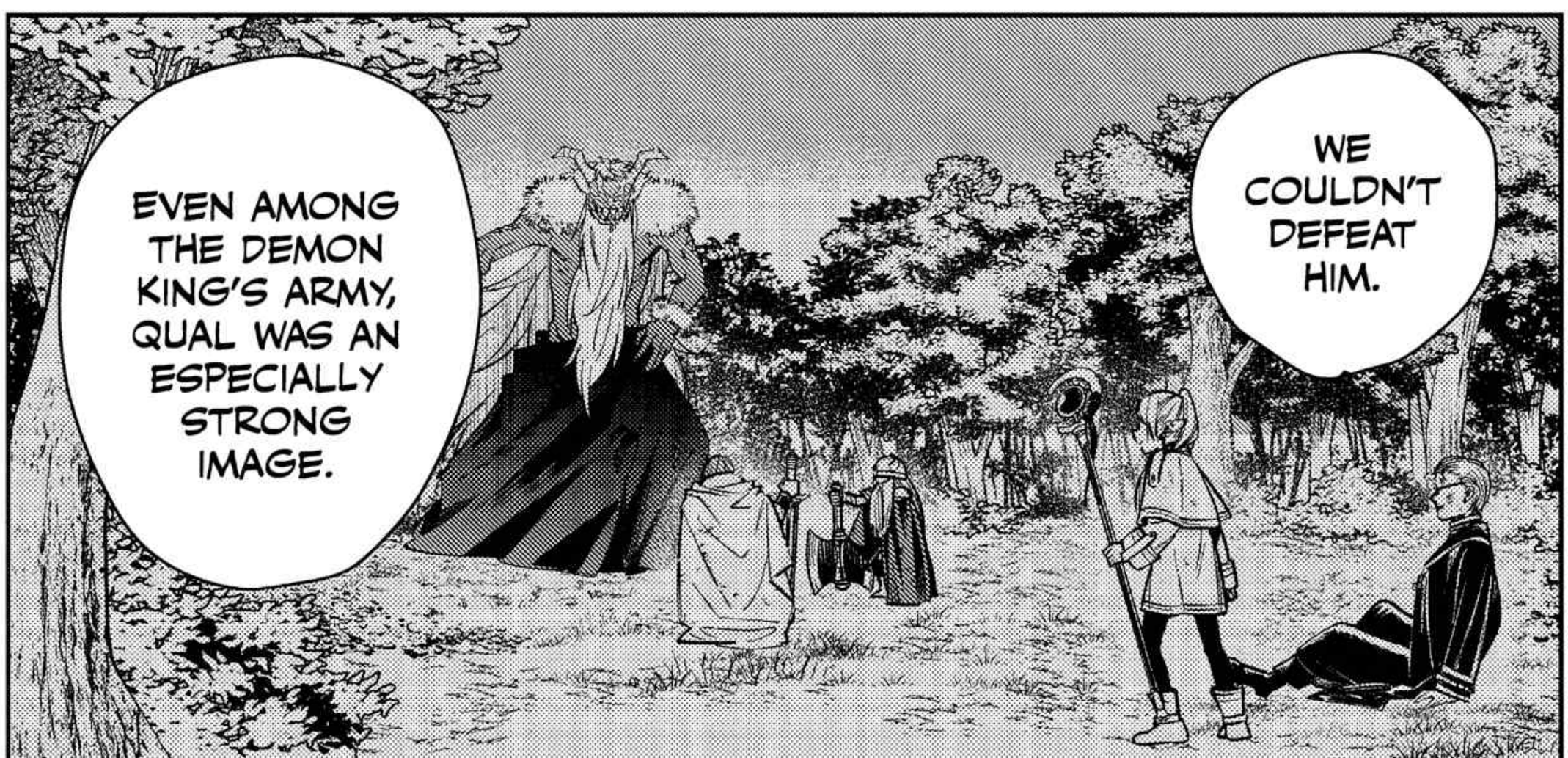
HE SAID YOU'D COME BACK BEFORE THE SEAL BROKE DOWN.

YOU ARE NOT SO HEART-LESS THAT YOU'D LET THE VILLAGE PERISH.

I'LL BREAK THE SEAL AND TAKE CARE OF QUAL TOMORROW.

I CAN SEE IT'S GETTING PRETTY UNSTABLE.





IT COULD EASILY PIERCE THROUGH ANY HUMAN DEFENSIVE MAGIC AND EVEN EQUIPMENT WITH MAGIC RESIS-TANCE...

...TO DIRECTLY DESTROY A PERSON'S BODY.

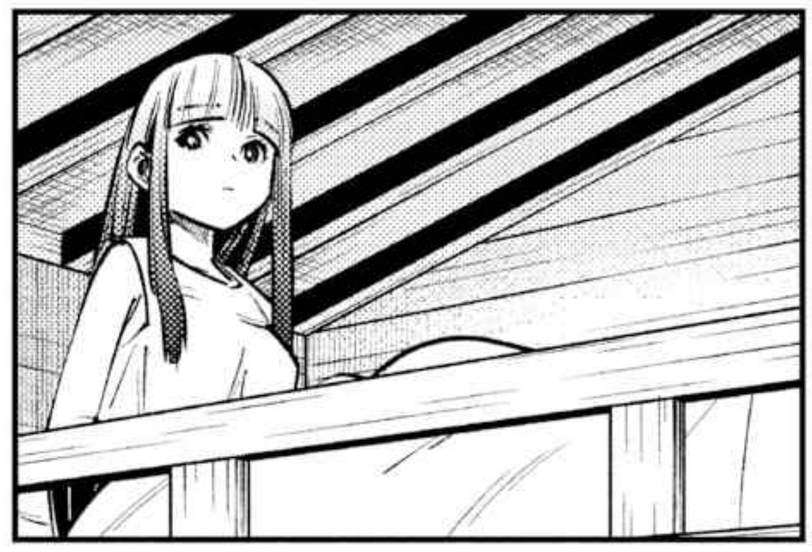
HE CREATED THE KILLING MAGIC CALLED "ZOLTRAAK" ...

...THE VERY FIRST PIERCING SPELL IN HISTORY.

THEY SAY THAT IN THIS REGION...

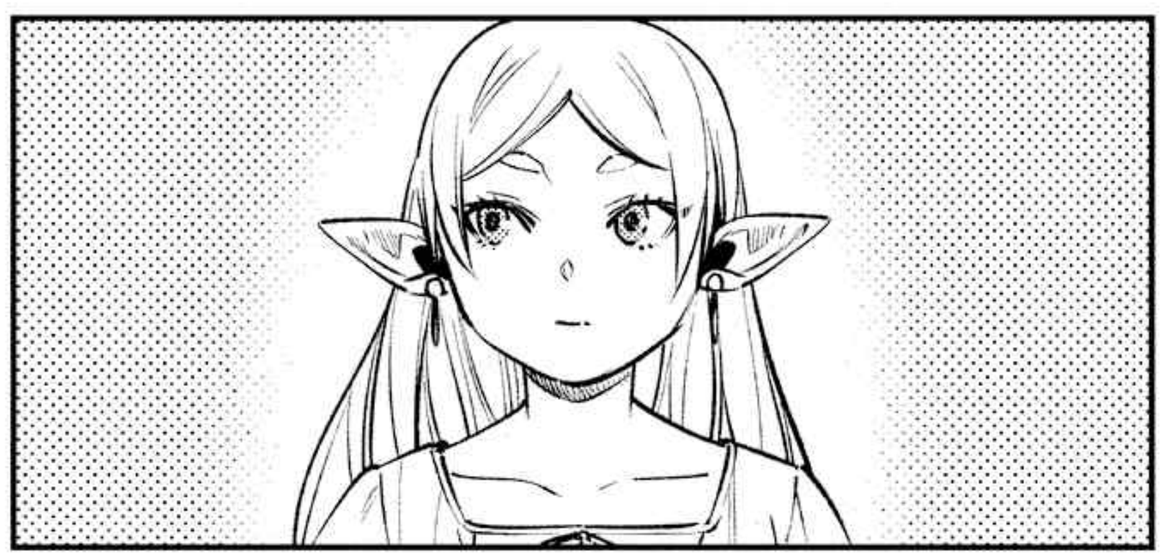
...40 PERCENT OF THE ADVENTURERS AND 70 PERCENT OF THE MAGES...

...WERE TAKEN OUT BY KILLING MAGIC.

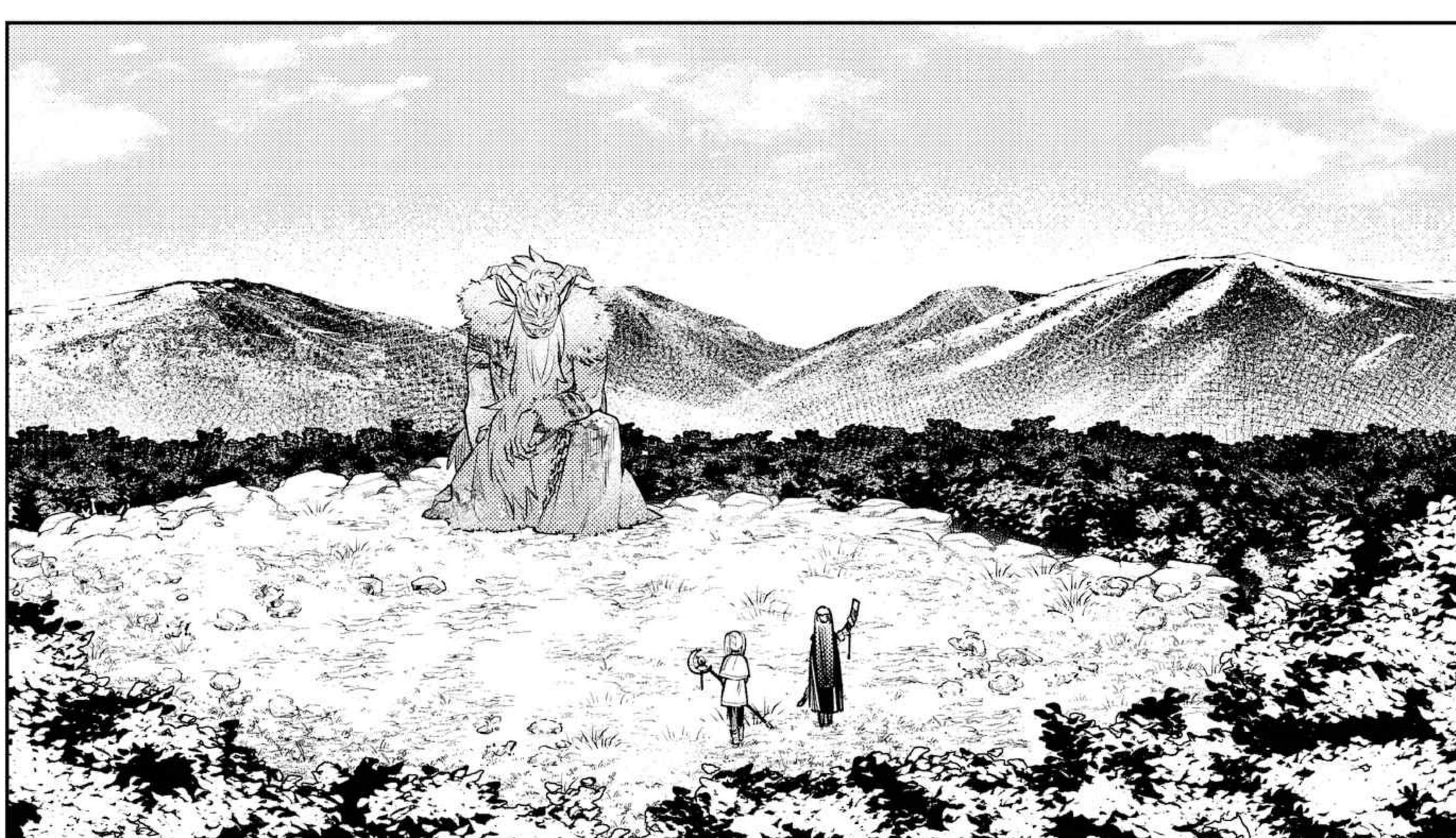


SHALL I READ IT TO YOU AFTER ALL?
YOU REALLY HAVEN'T READ THE HISTORY OF MAGIC, HAVE YOU?
I'LL READ IT NOW.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

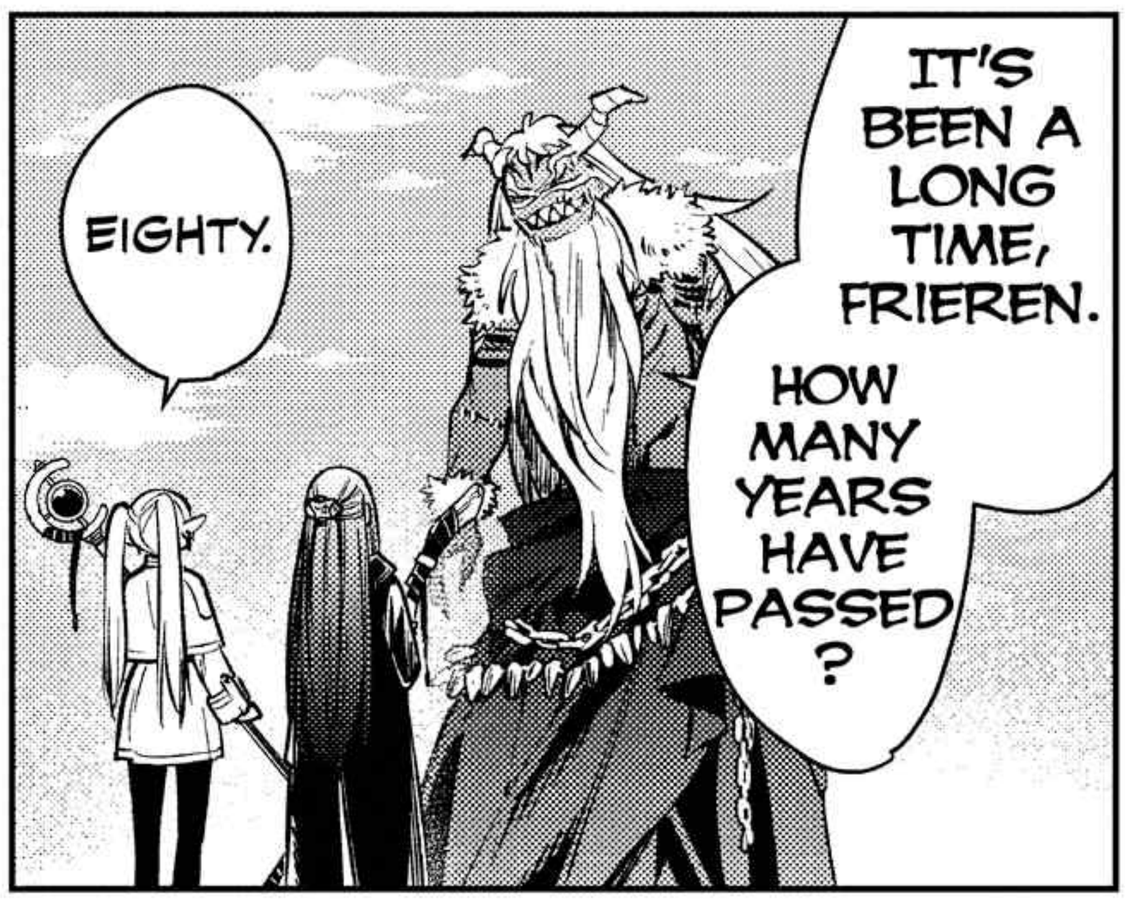


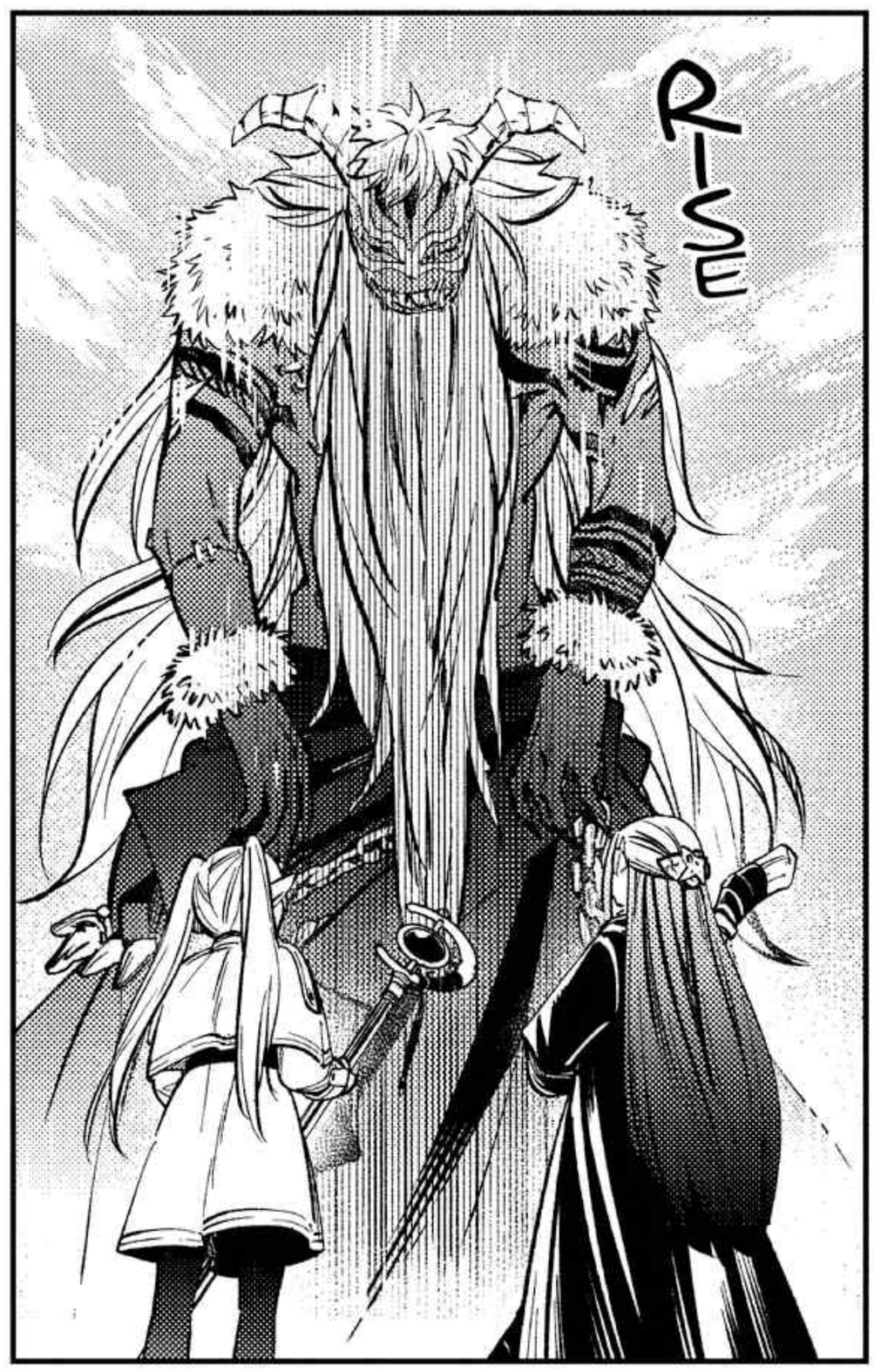
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND TOMORROW ANYWAY.
NO, NEVER MIND. IT'S MORE IMPORTANT TO GET ENOUGH SLEEP.

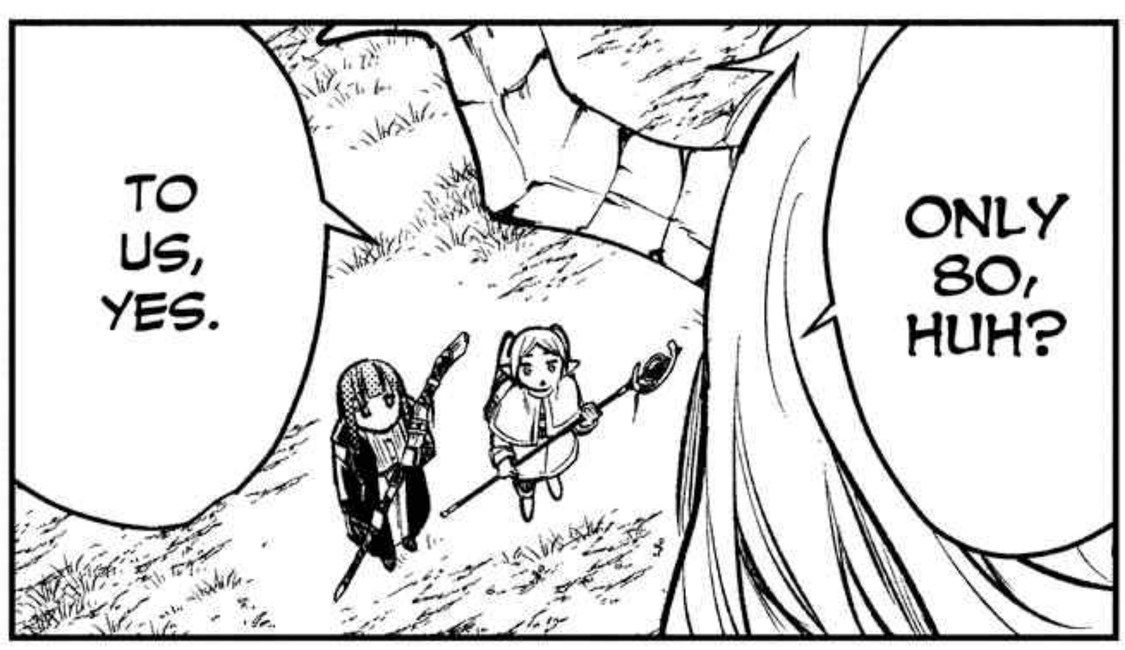


FSHHH

DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN.
I'M BREAKING THE SEAL NOW.


IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, FRIEREN.
HOW MANY YEARS HAVE PASSED?
EIGHTY.


RISE


ONLY 80, HUH?
TO US, YES.

WE KILLED HIM.

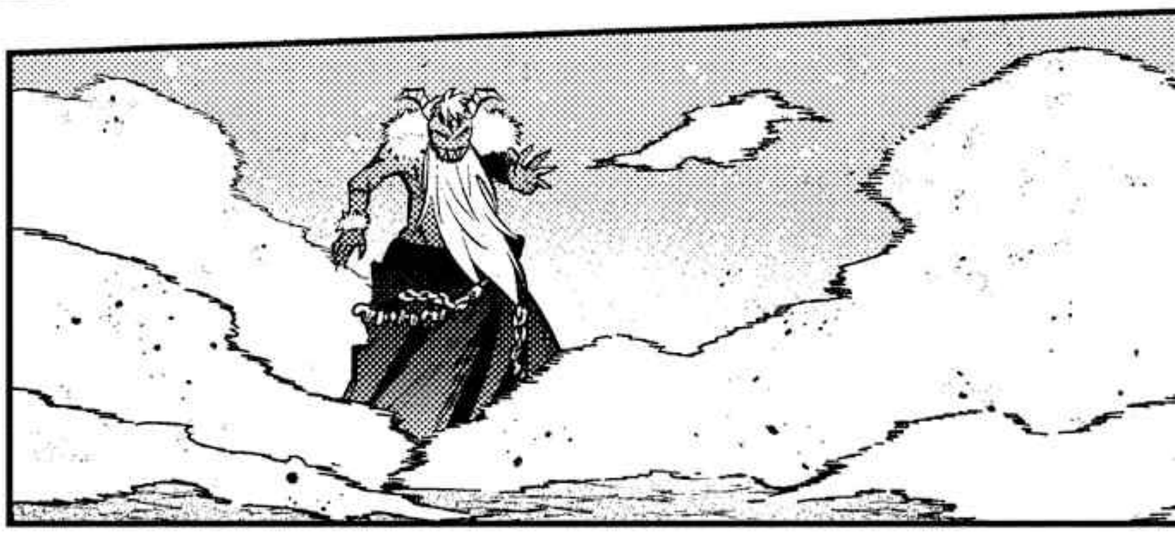
AND THE DEMON KING?

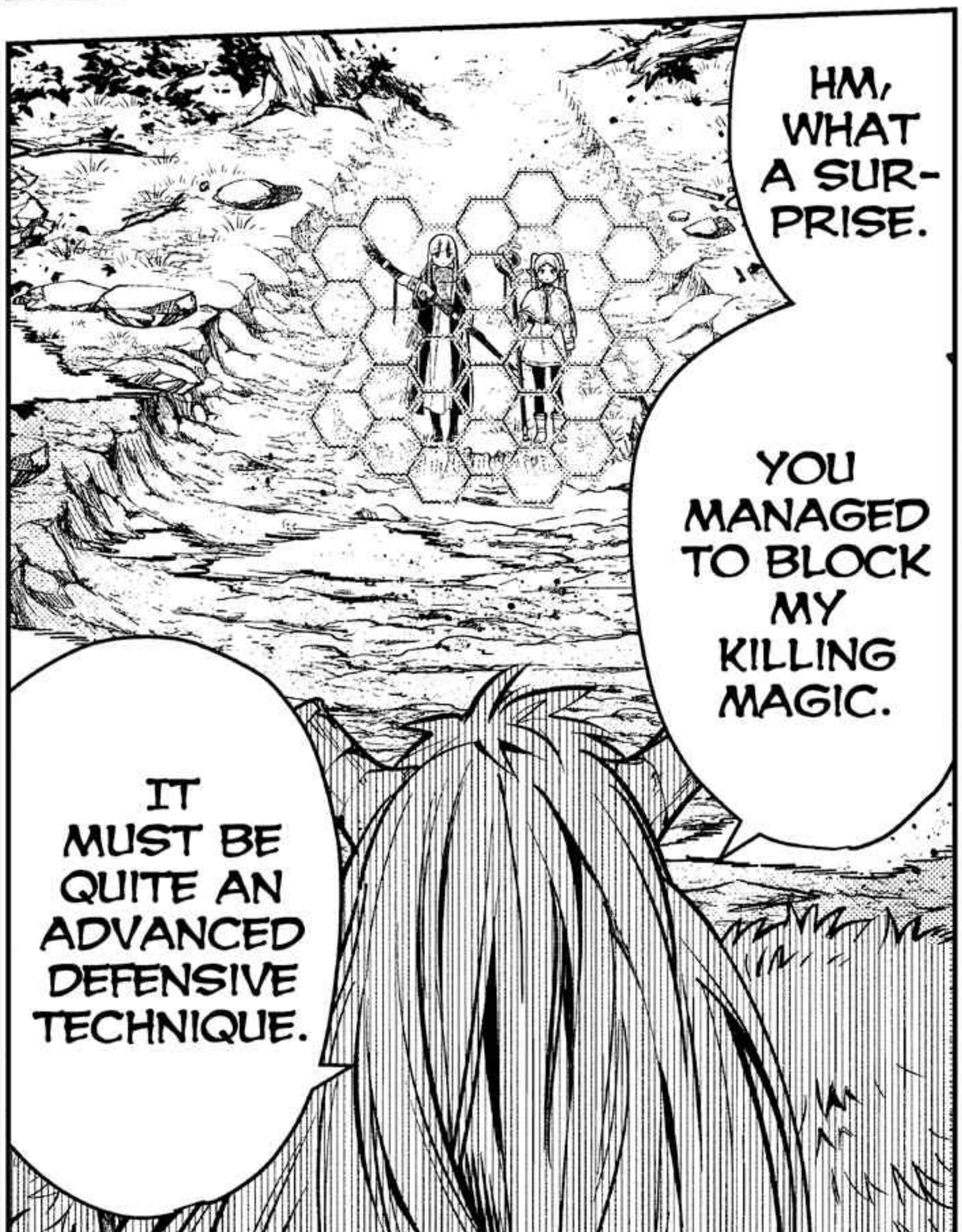
ZOL-TRAAK!

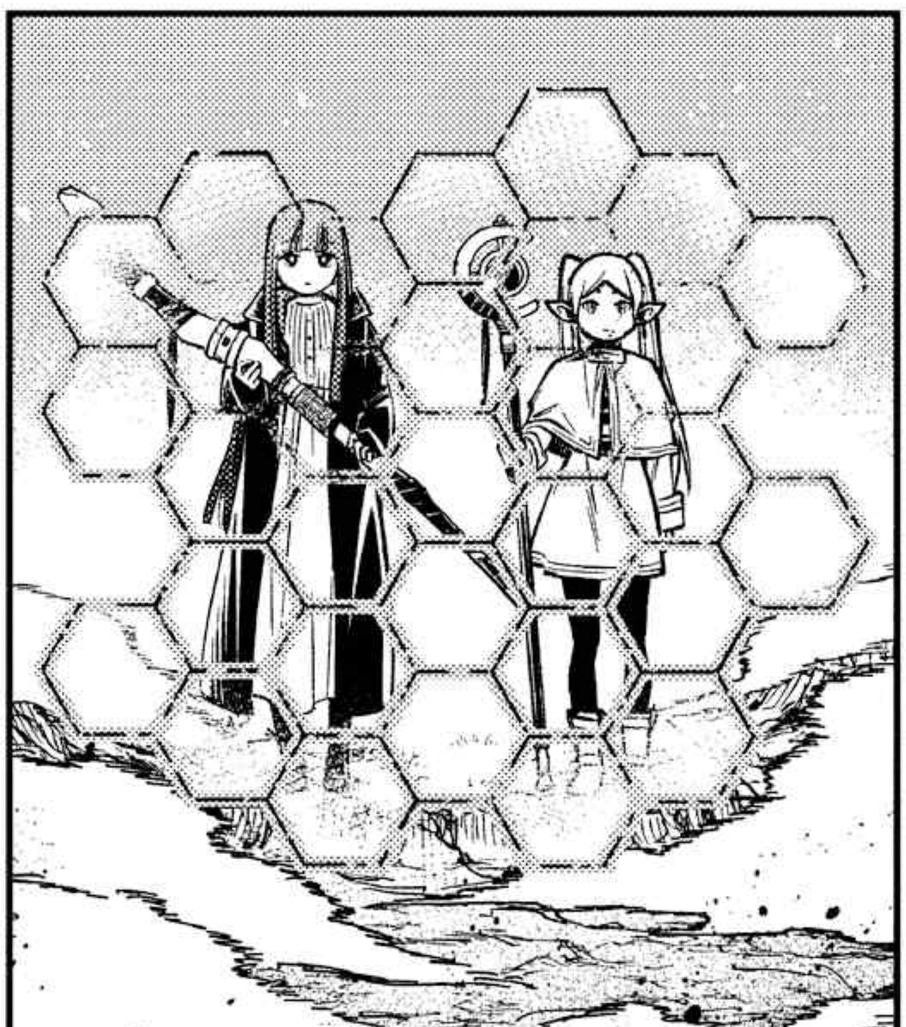
I SEE.

THEN I SHALL AVENGE HIM.

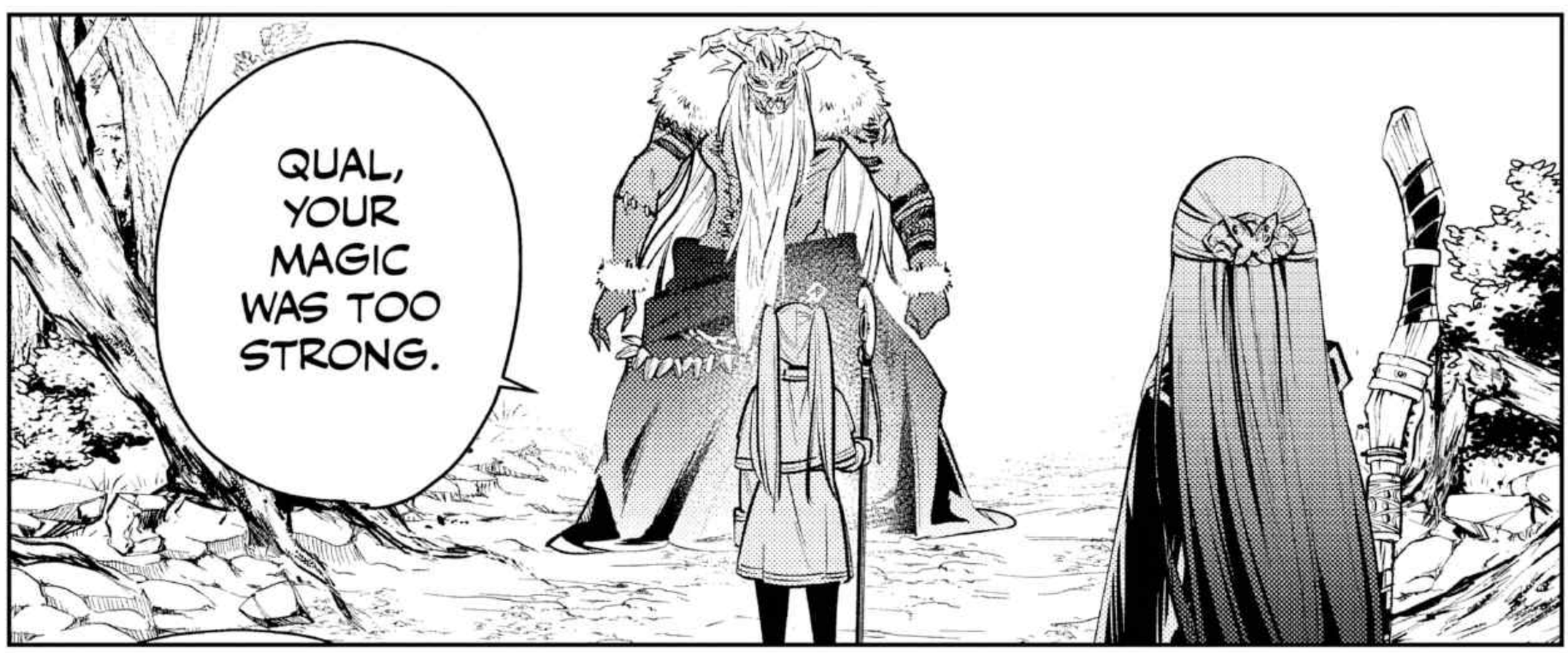
FERN, PUT THE DEFENSIVE SPELL IN FRONT.







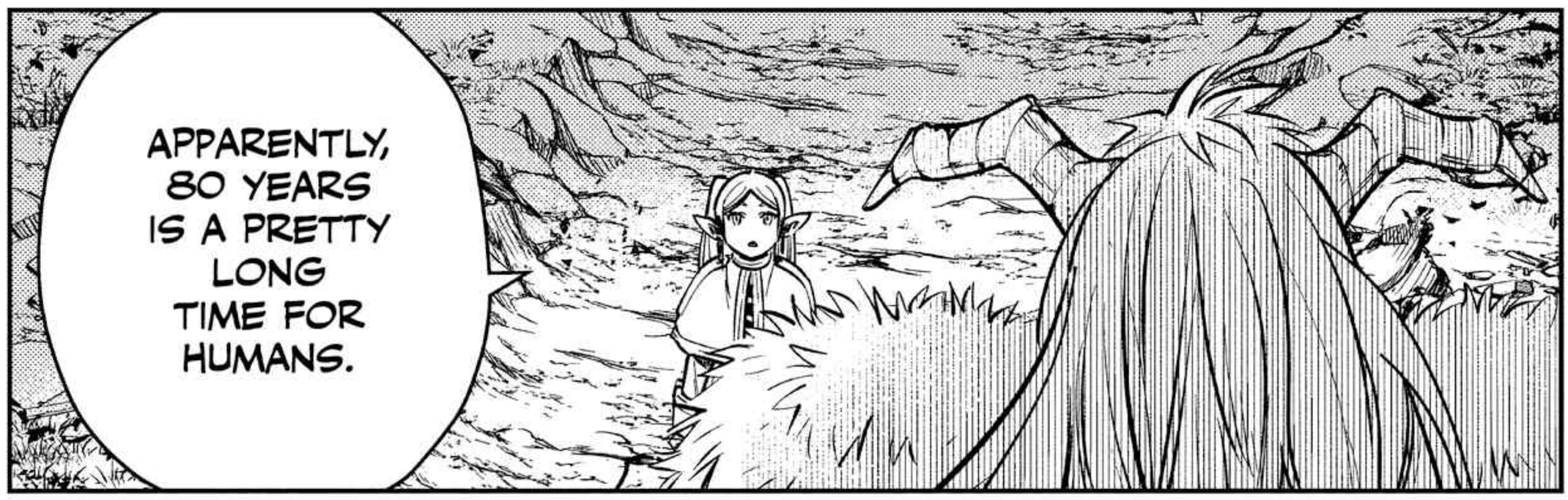
THAT IS THE KILLING MAGIC.

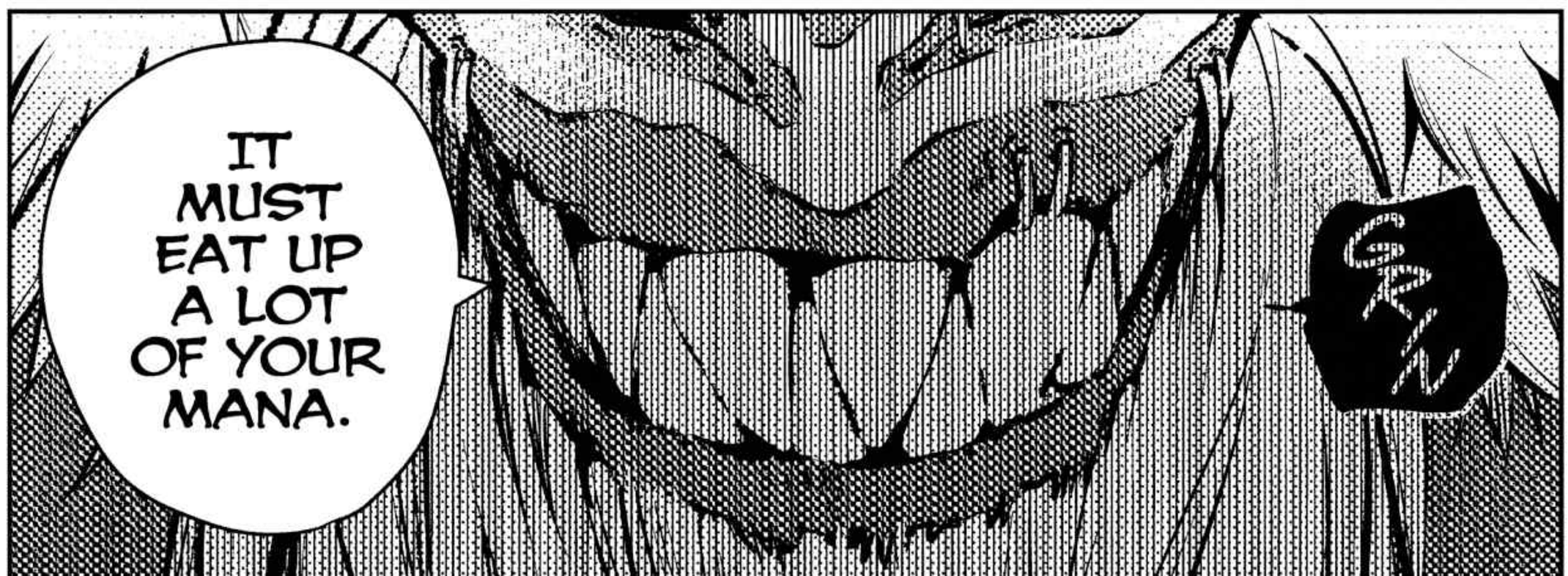


NOWADAYS, YOUR "KILLING MAGIC" IS JUST ORDINARY OFFENSIVE MAGIC.

IT NOW STOPS THE KILLING MAGIC FROM KILLING PEOPLE.

THE MAGIC RESISTANCE OF EQUIPMENT HAS ALSO IMPROVED REMARKABLY.





HE NOTICED THE WEAKNESS OF THE DEFENSIVE SPELL.

FERN...

...YOU CAN HANDLE THAT, RIGHT?

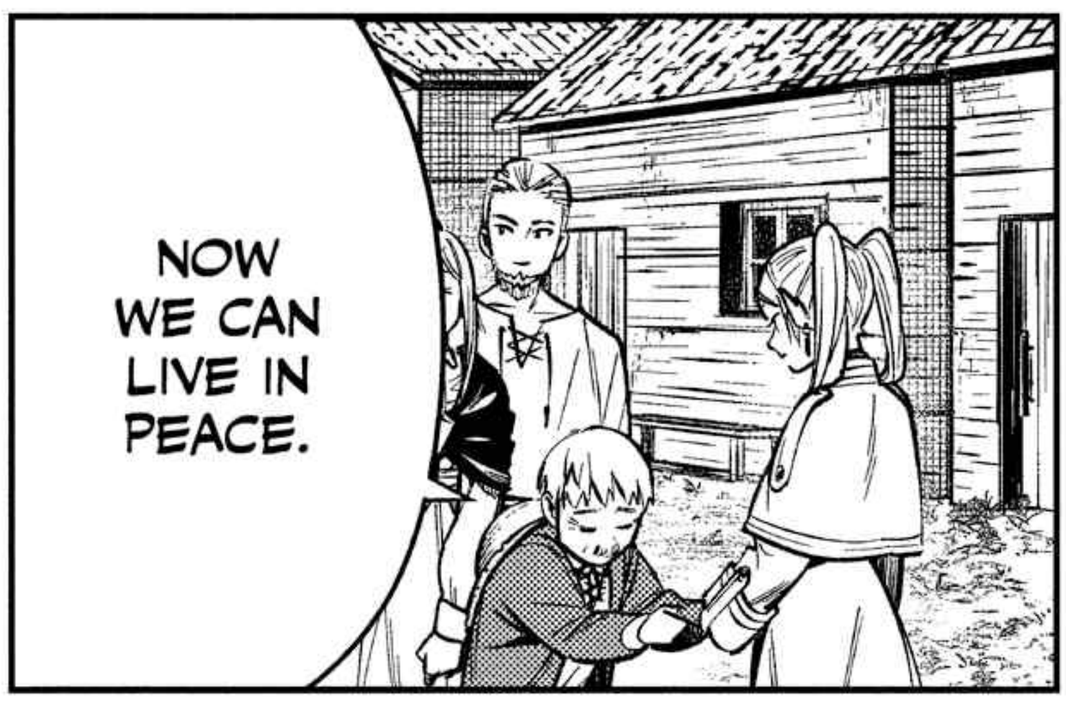
THEN COVER ME TOO.

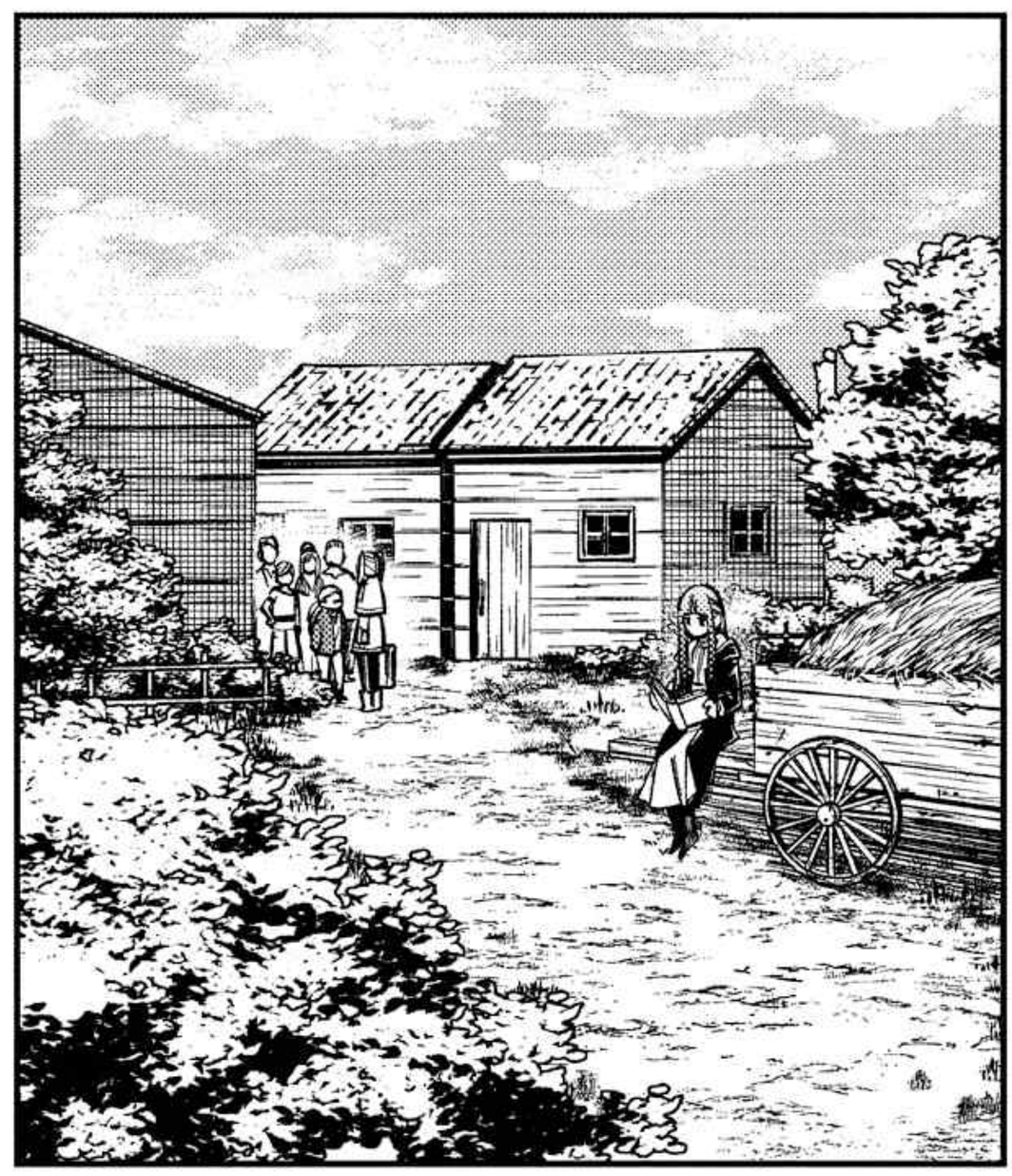
YES.

I HAVE ALREADY SEEN THIS IN TRAINING.

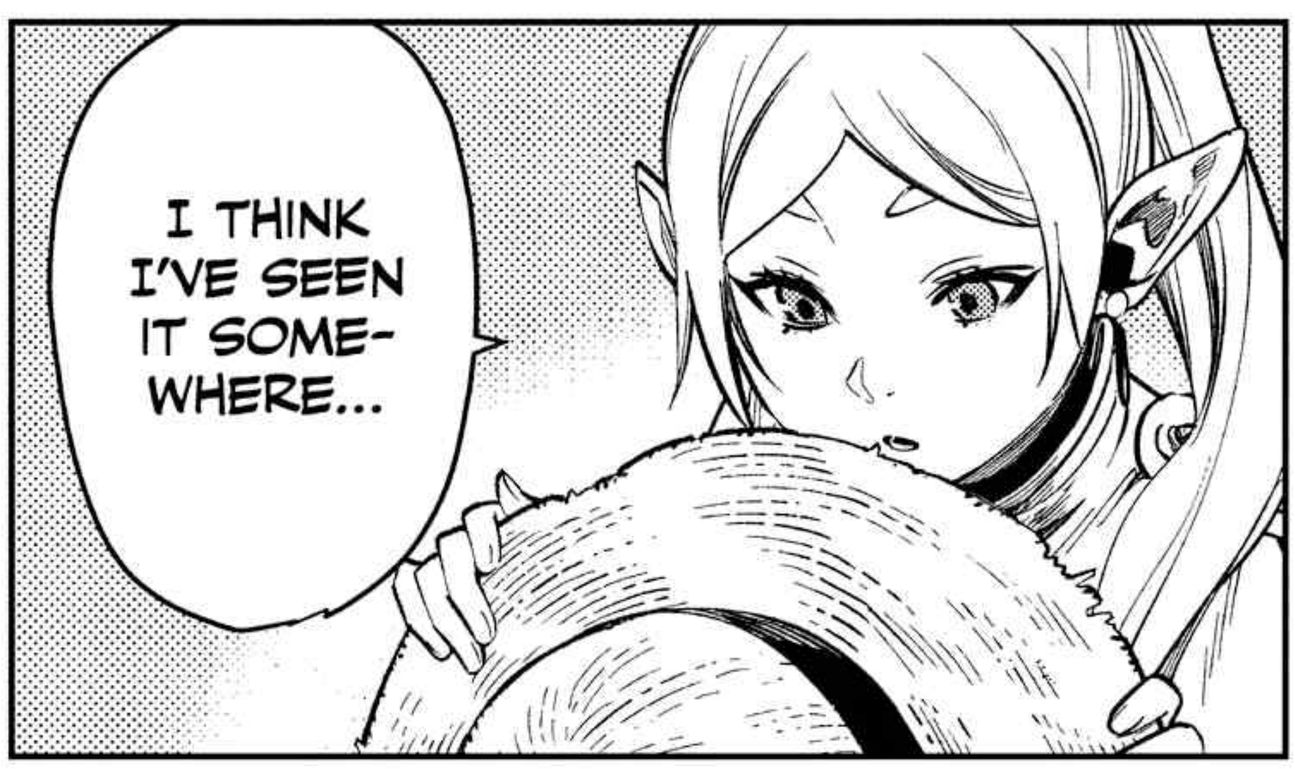
DOM
DOM
DOM
DOM

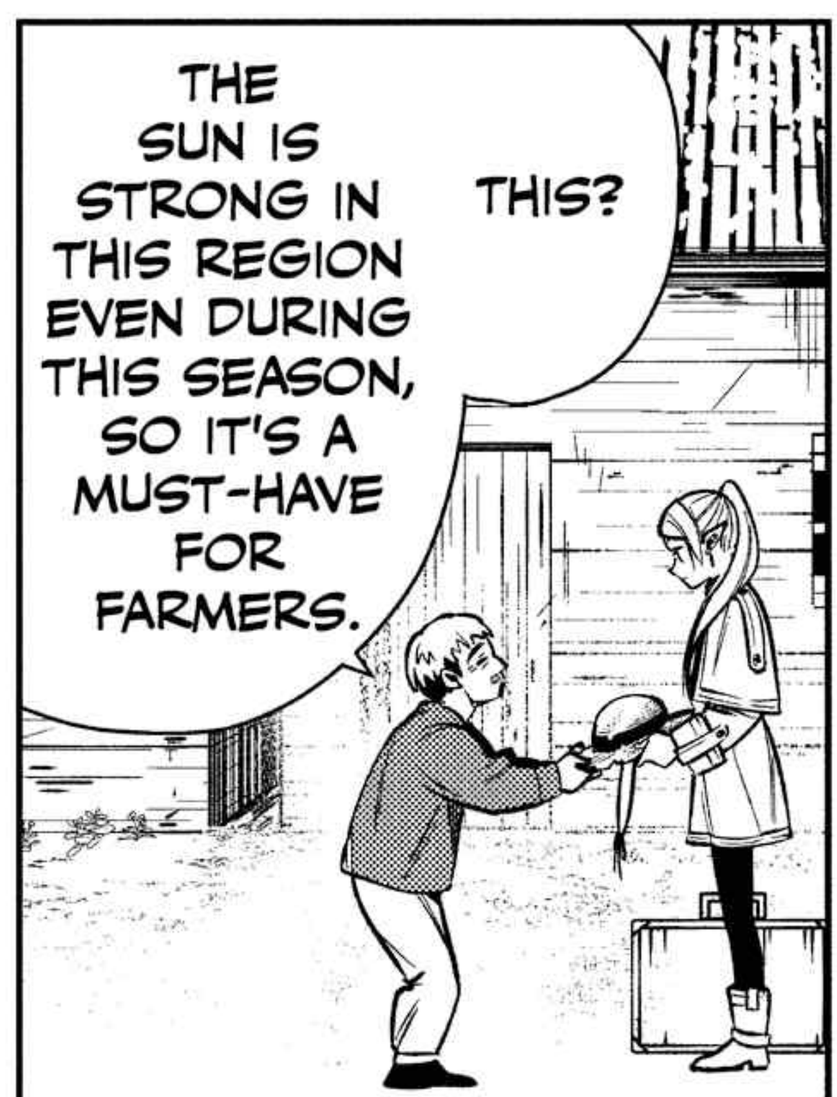
ZOLTRAAK.
BO
OM
...MY OWN... MAG-IC...
... FRIE.. RE...

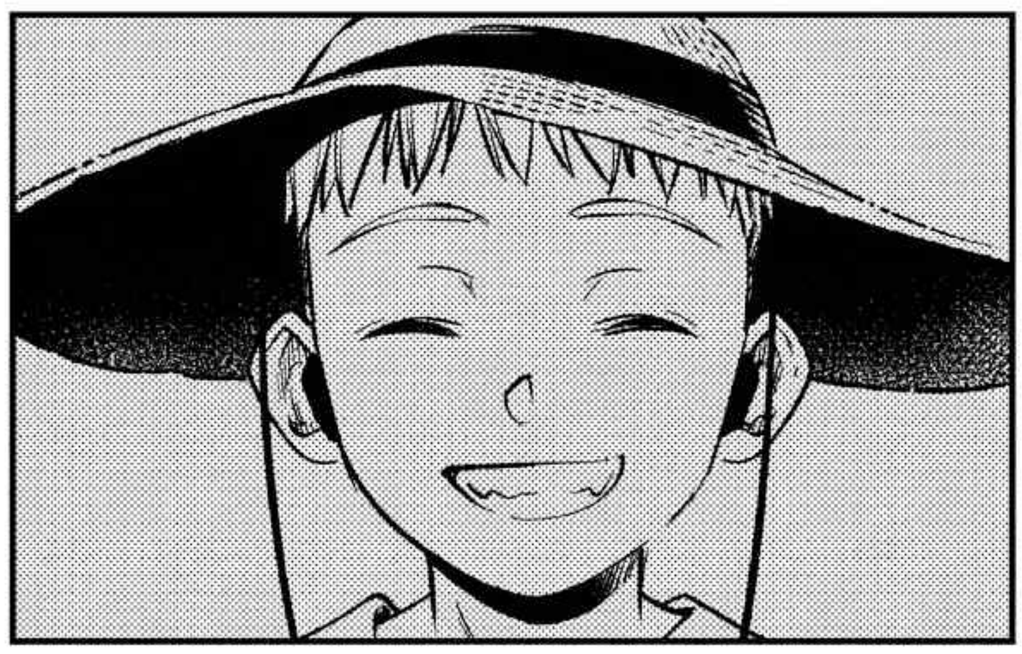

NOW WE CAN LIVE IN PEACE.

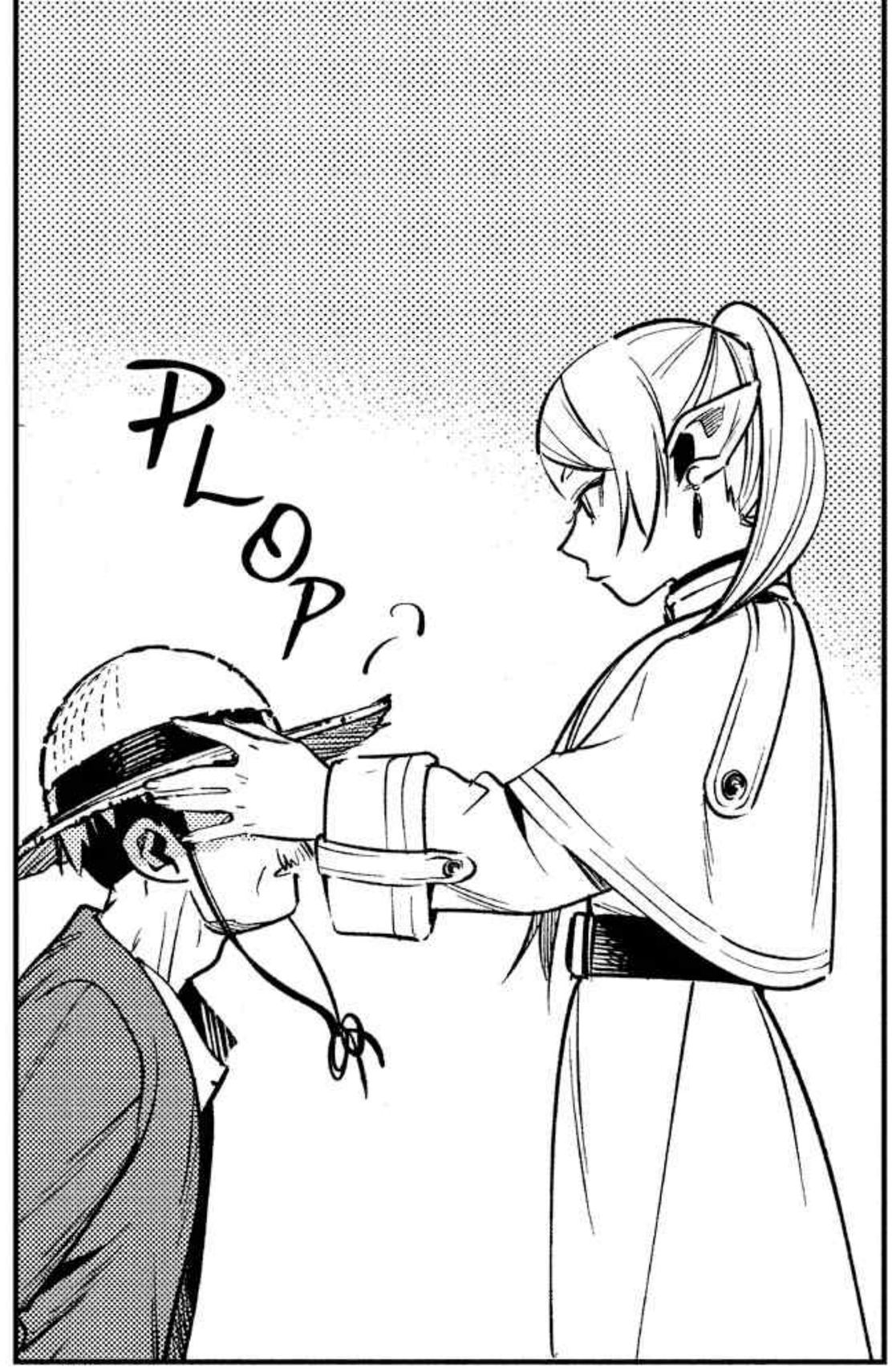


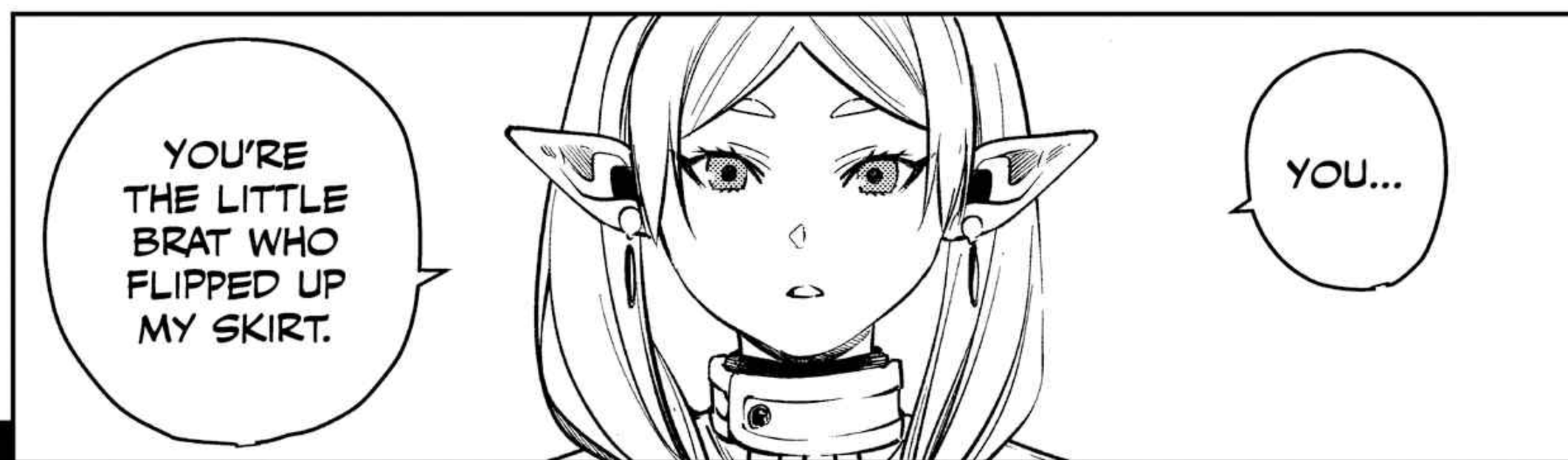
HEY, THAT HAT...


I THINK I'VE SEEN IT SOME-WHERE...


THE SUN IS STRONG IN THIS REGION EVEN DURING THIS SEASON, SO IT'S A MUST-HAVE FOR FARMERS.
THIS?




PLOP


YOU'RE THE LITTLE BRAT WHO FLIPPED UP MY SKIRT.
YOU...

I'll show you mine instead.
I WANTED TO LOOK UNDER THERE TOO!!
I'LL KILL YOU!!
You can't kill him.
Yikes.

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, YOU STUPID BRAT?!

YAH!!
SWISH

AND THANKS TO YOU, IT SEEMS I CAN LIVE EVEN LONGER.

I'M GLAD I BELIEVED IN THE WORDS OF HIMMEL THE HERO. IT WAS WORTH THE WAIT.

SO YOU'RE STILL ALIVE.

THE PEOPLE IN THIS VILLAGE BELIEVED IN HIMMEL.

THEIR GRATITUDE WASN'T DIRECTED AT ME.

THEY WERE SO THANKFUL TO YOU.

WHAT IS IT?

NOTH-ING.

I THINK MASTER HIMMEL...

...BELIEVED IN YOU, FRIEREN.

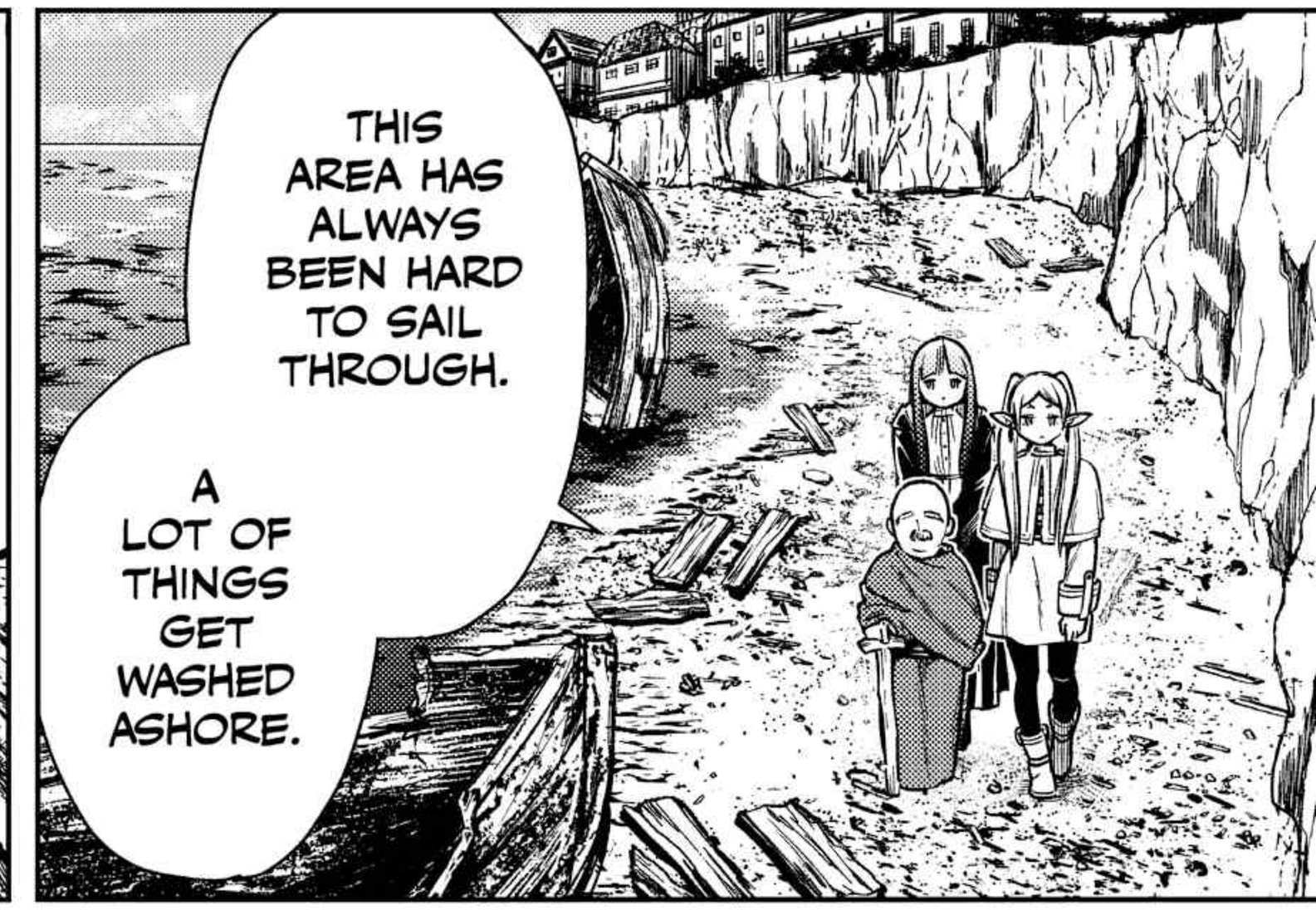
I'M NOT SURE BUT...

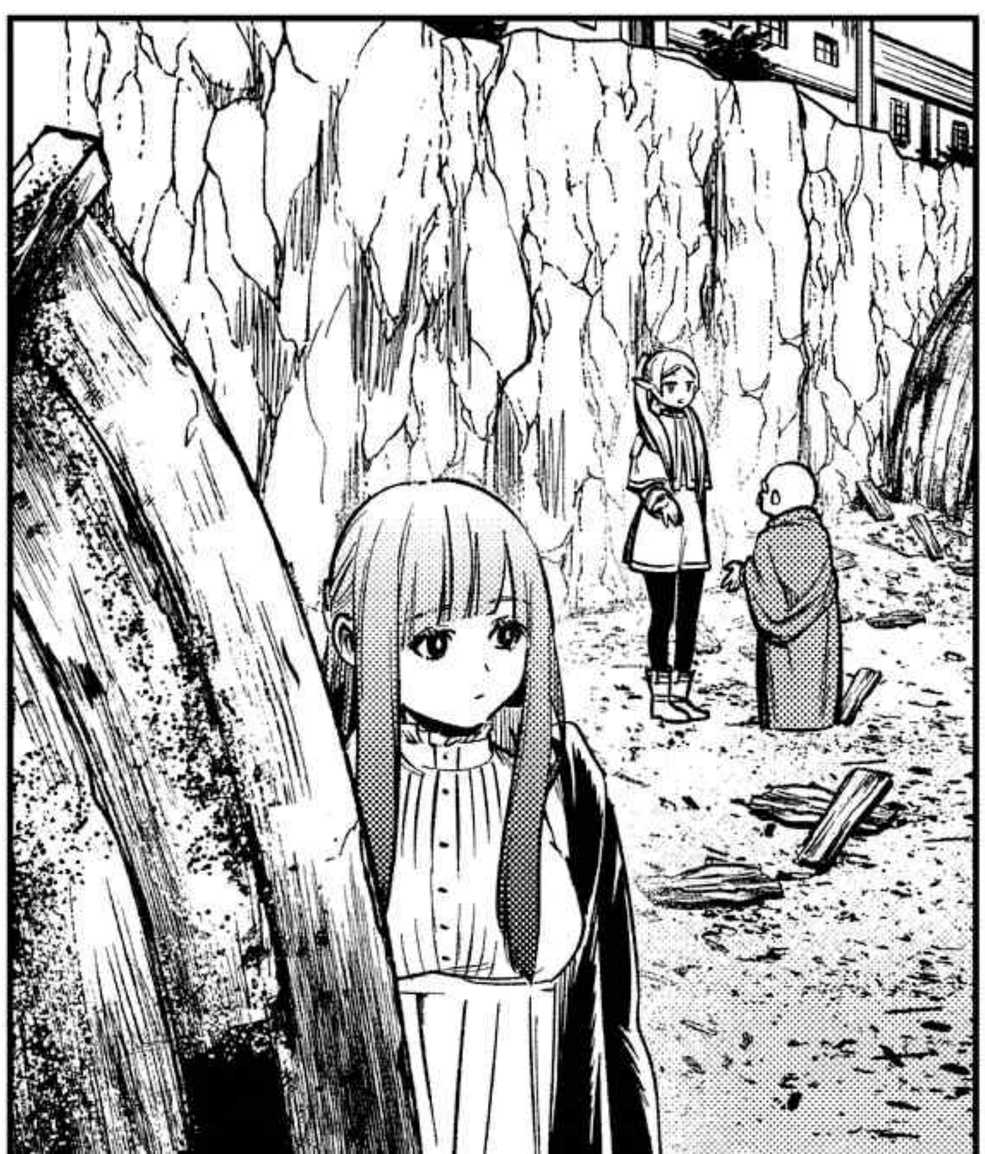
Chapter 6: New Year's Festival

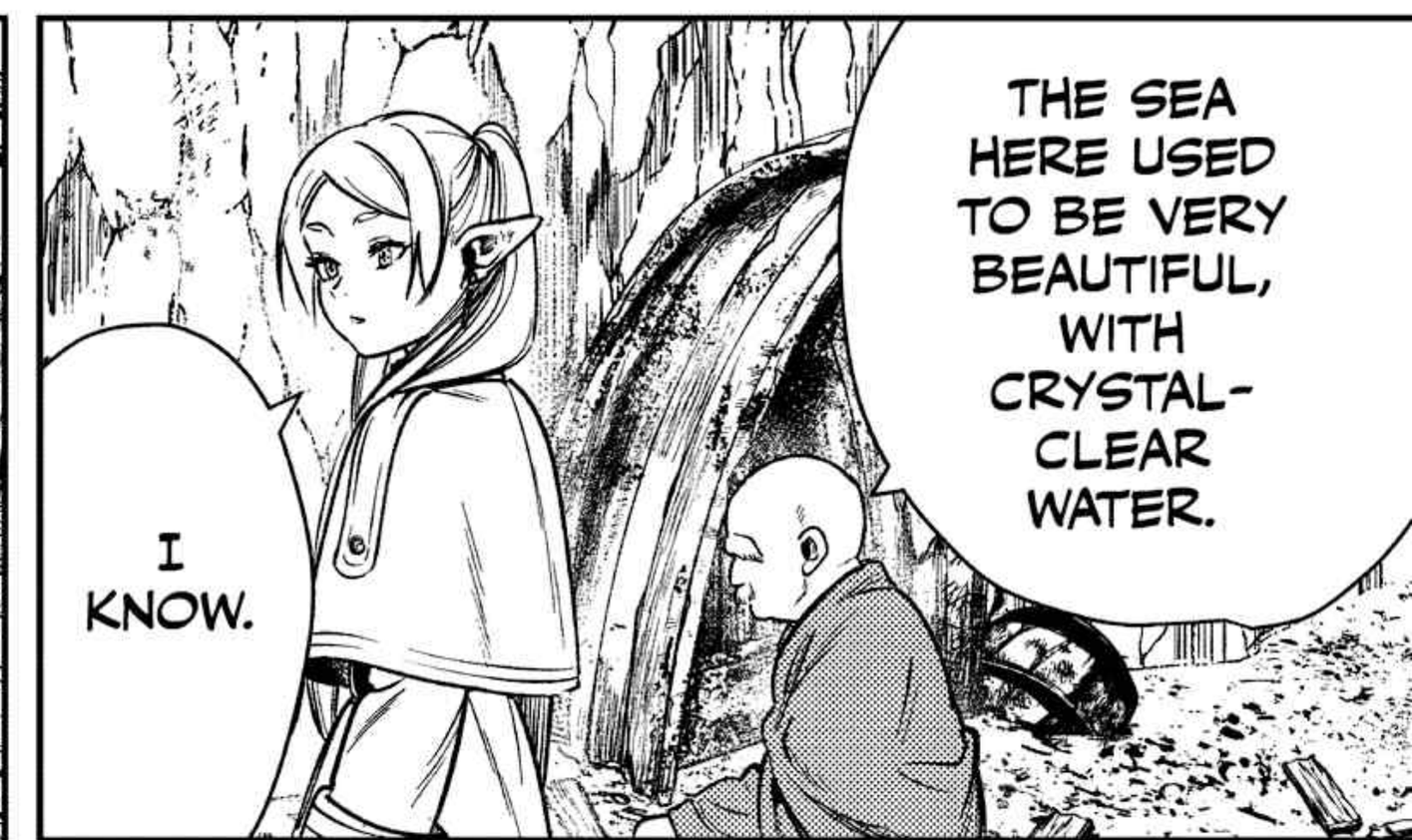
CENTRAL LANDS

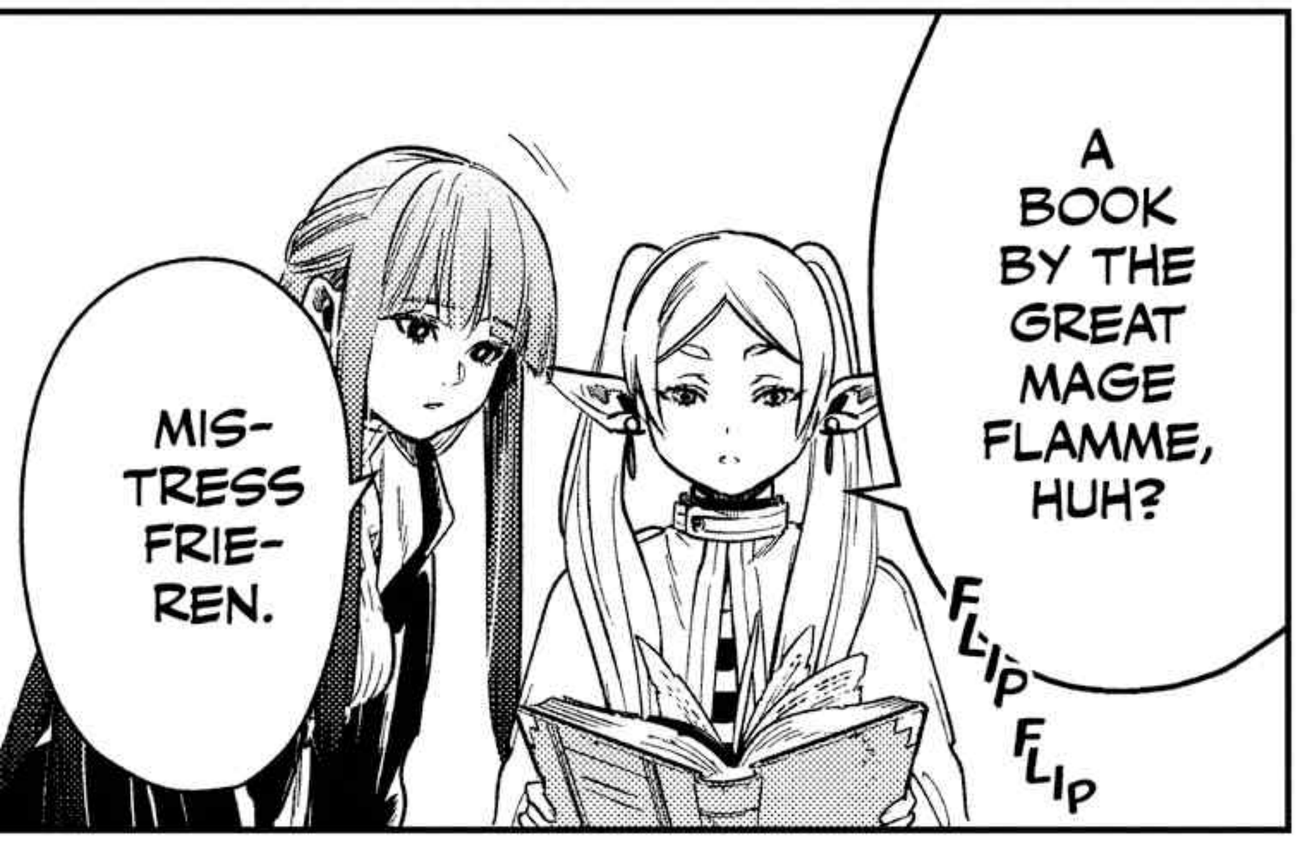
GRANZ CHANNEL

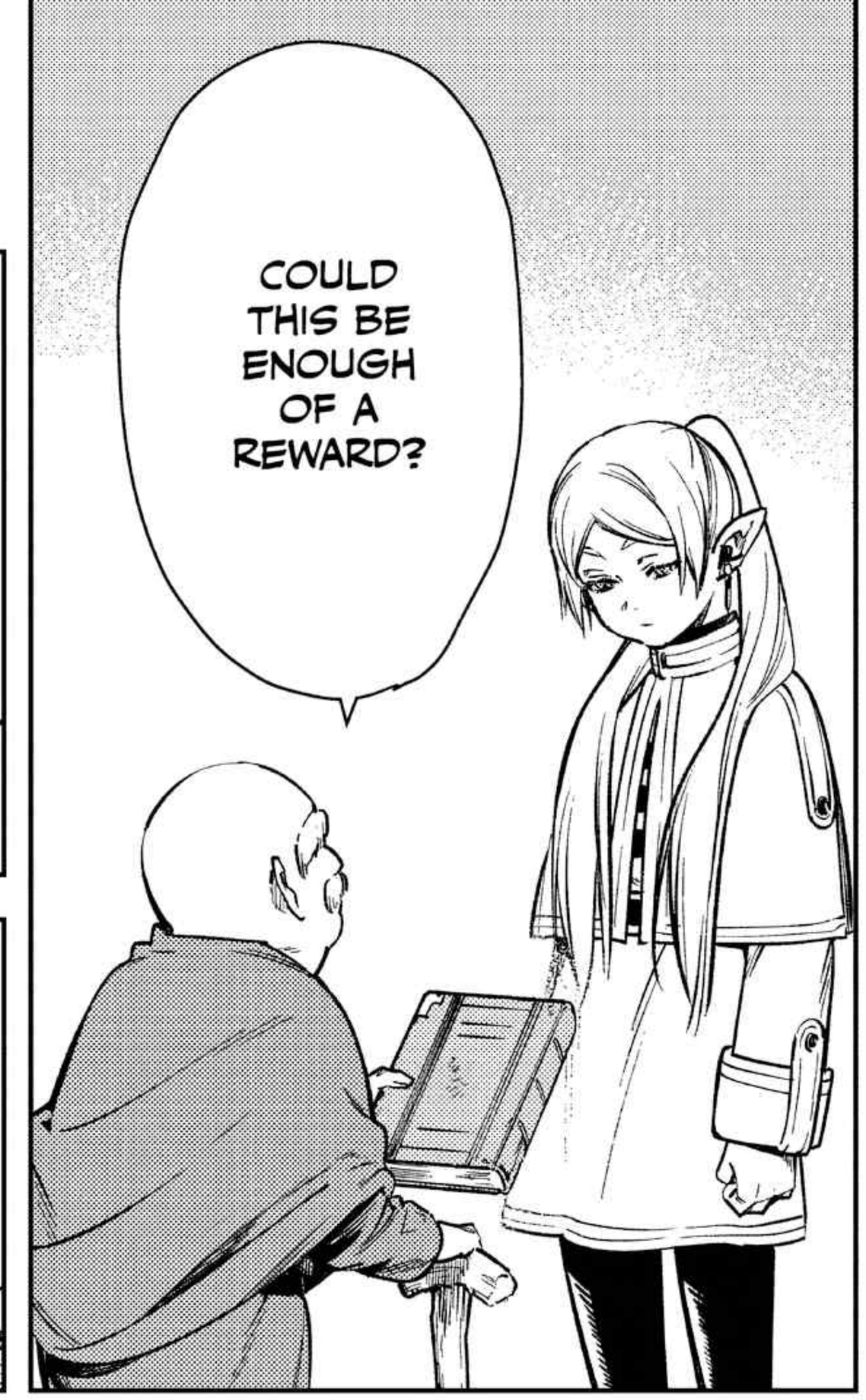
TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS AFTER THE DEATH OF HIMMEL THE HERO

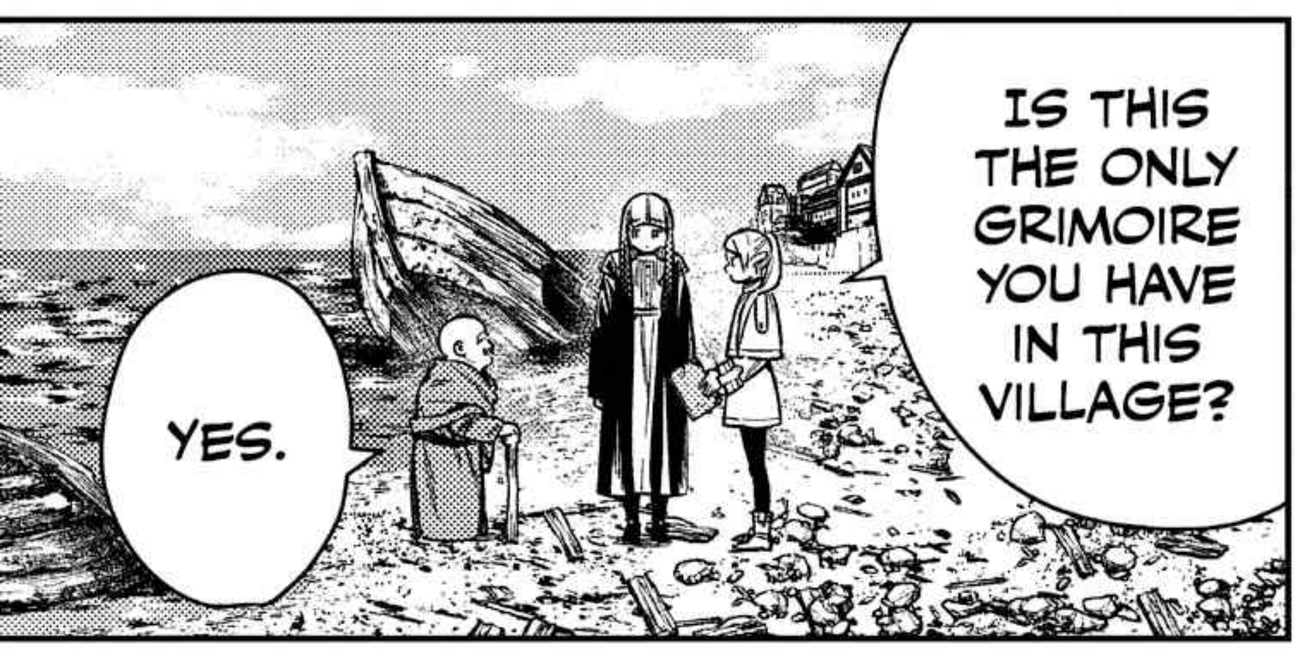




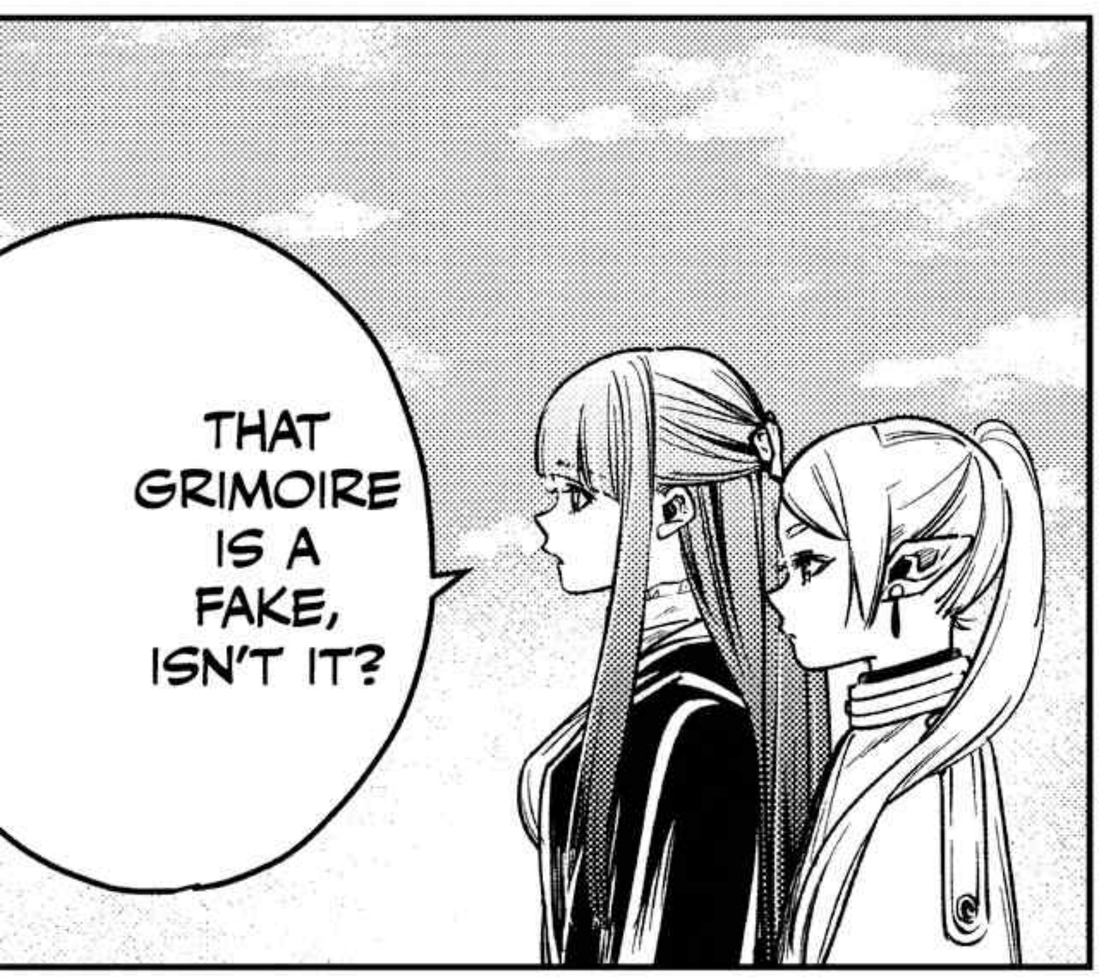



MIS-TRESS FRIE-REN.
A BOOK BY THE GREAT MAGE FLAMME, HUH?
FLIP FLIP


COULD THIS BE ENOUGH OF A REWARD?


YES.
IS THIS THE ONLY GRIMOIRE YOU HAVE IN THIS VILLAGE?

WE WILL ACCEPT YOUR CLEAN-UP REQUEST.
OKAY.


THAT GRIMOIRE IS A FAKE, ISN'T IT?

THEN WHY DID YOU ACCEPT IT?

BECAUSE IT SEEMS LIKE HE NEEDS OUR HELP.

YOU'RE NOT DOING THIS JUST OUT OF THE GOODNESS OF YOUR HEART, ARE YOU?

I SEE YOU'VE BEEN STUDYING AS I TOLD YOU.

I'M PROUD OF YOU, FERN.

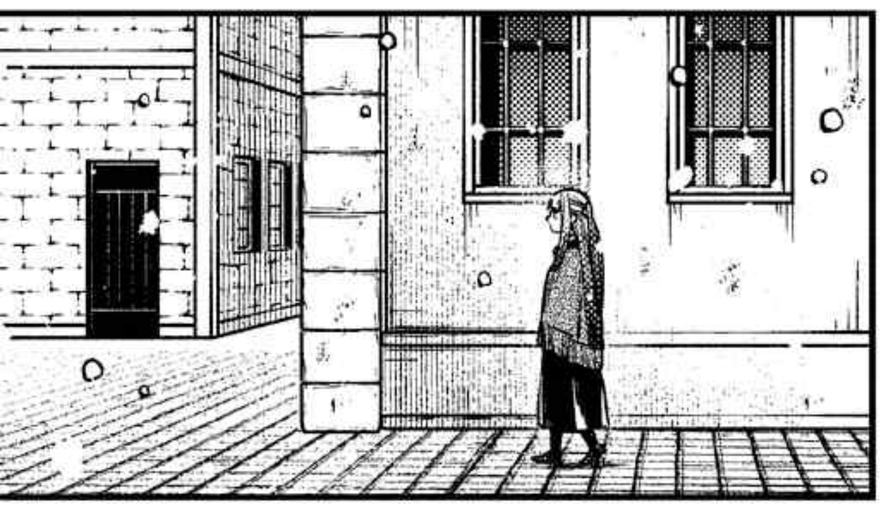
THERE IS NO REAL BOOK BY FLAMME IN EXISTENCE.

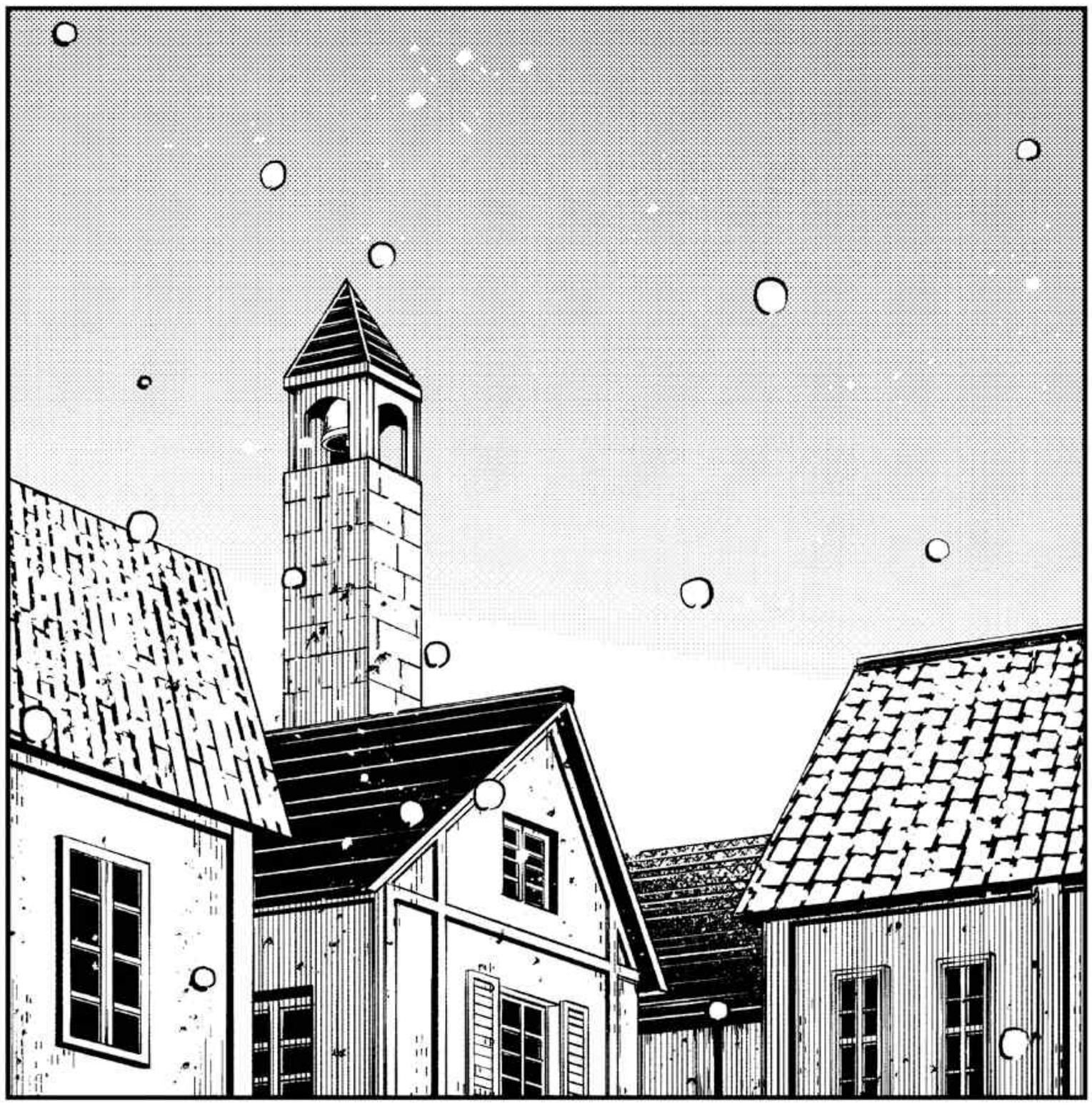
THIS IS ANOTHER POOR IMITATION.

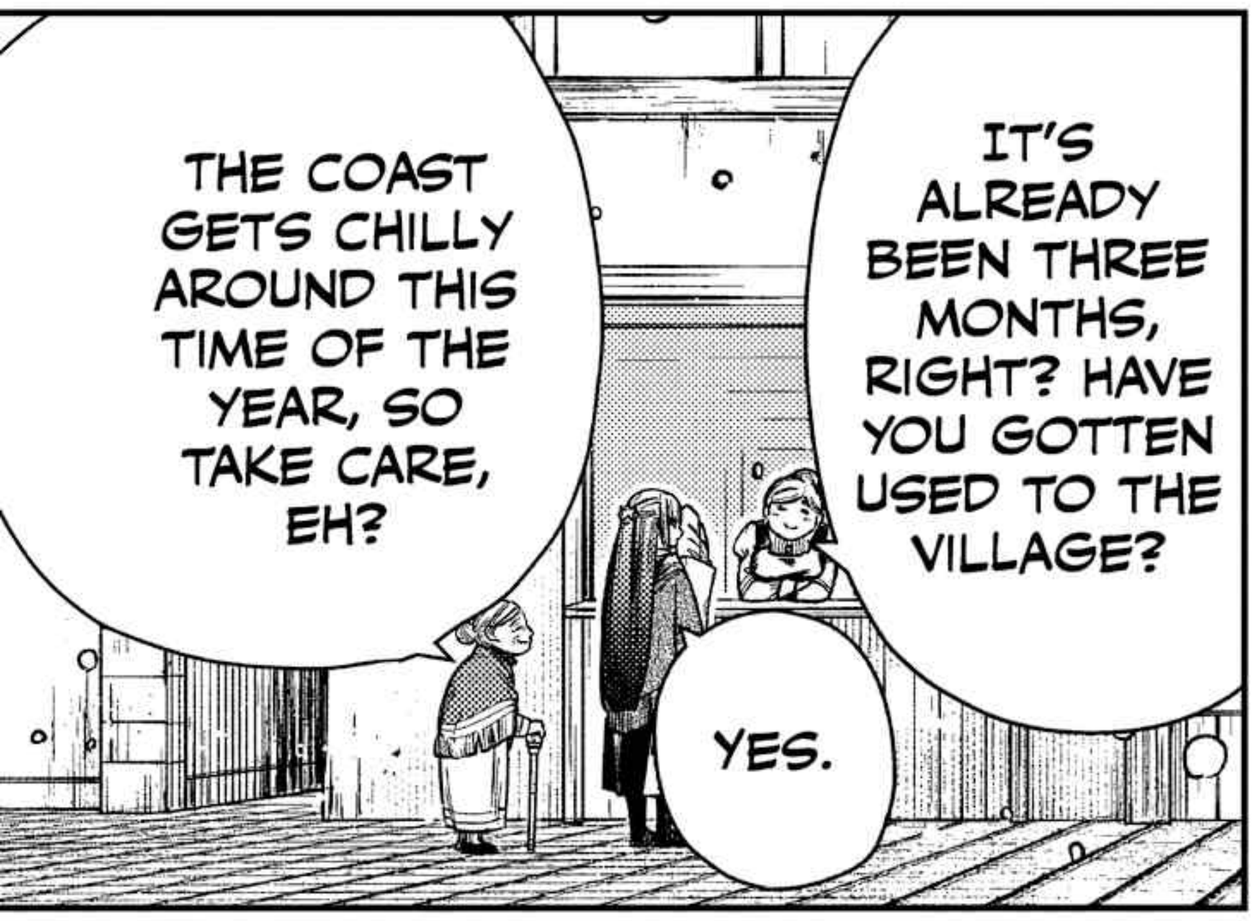
LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE ANOTHER LONG STAY THEN.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

I'M DOING THIS FOR MYSELF.



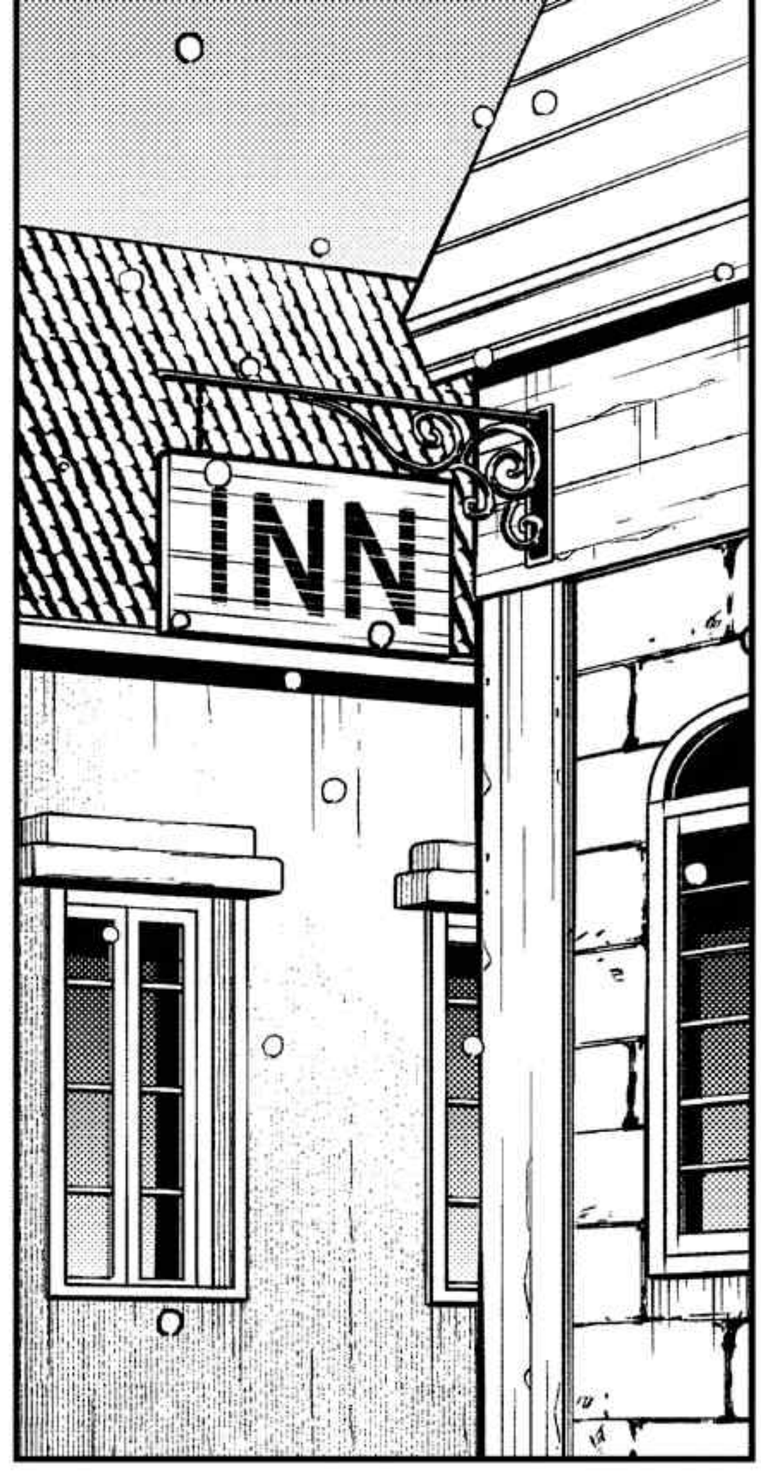


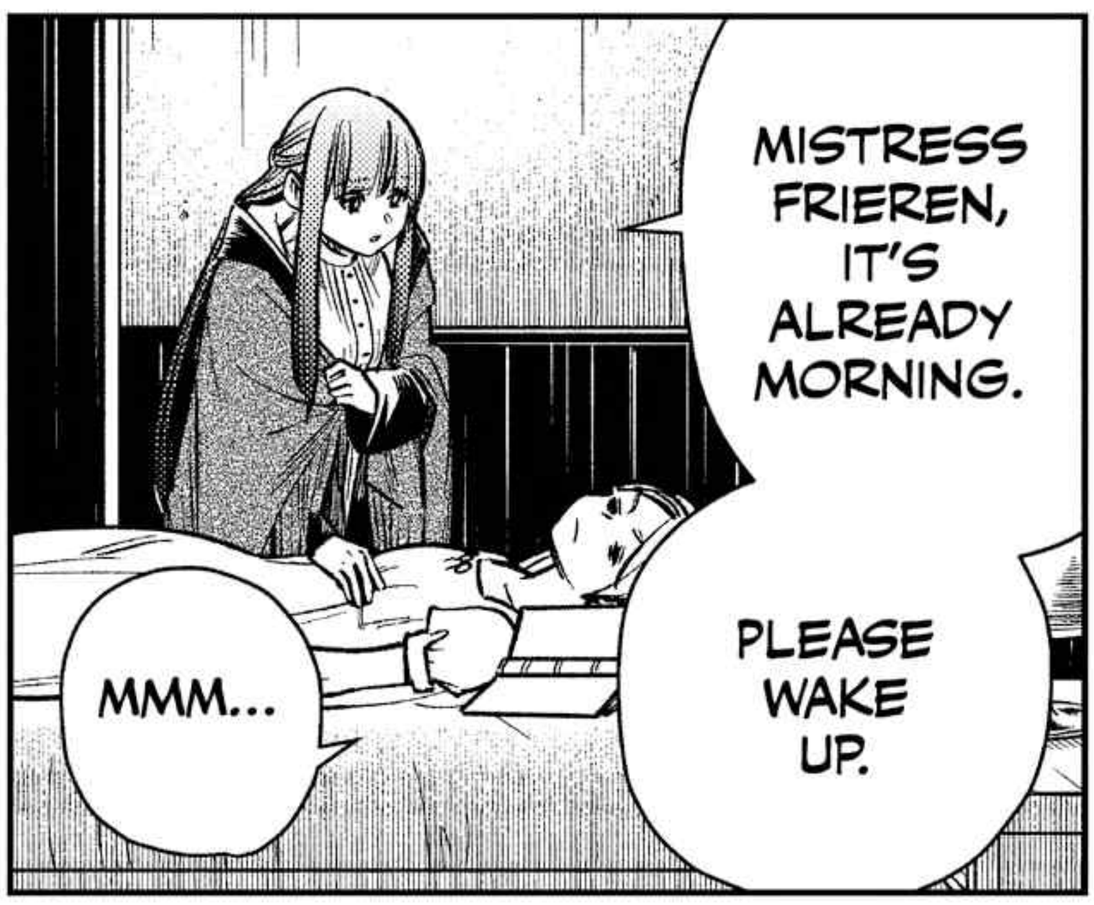

THE COAST GETS CHILLY AROUND THIS TIME OF THE YEAR, SO TAKE CARE, EH?
IT'S ALREADY BEEN THREE MONTHS, RIGHT? HAVE YOU GOTTEN USED TO THE VILLAGE?
YES.

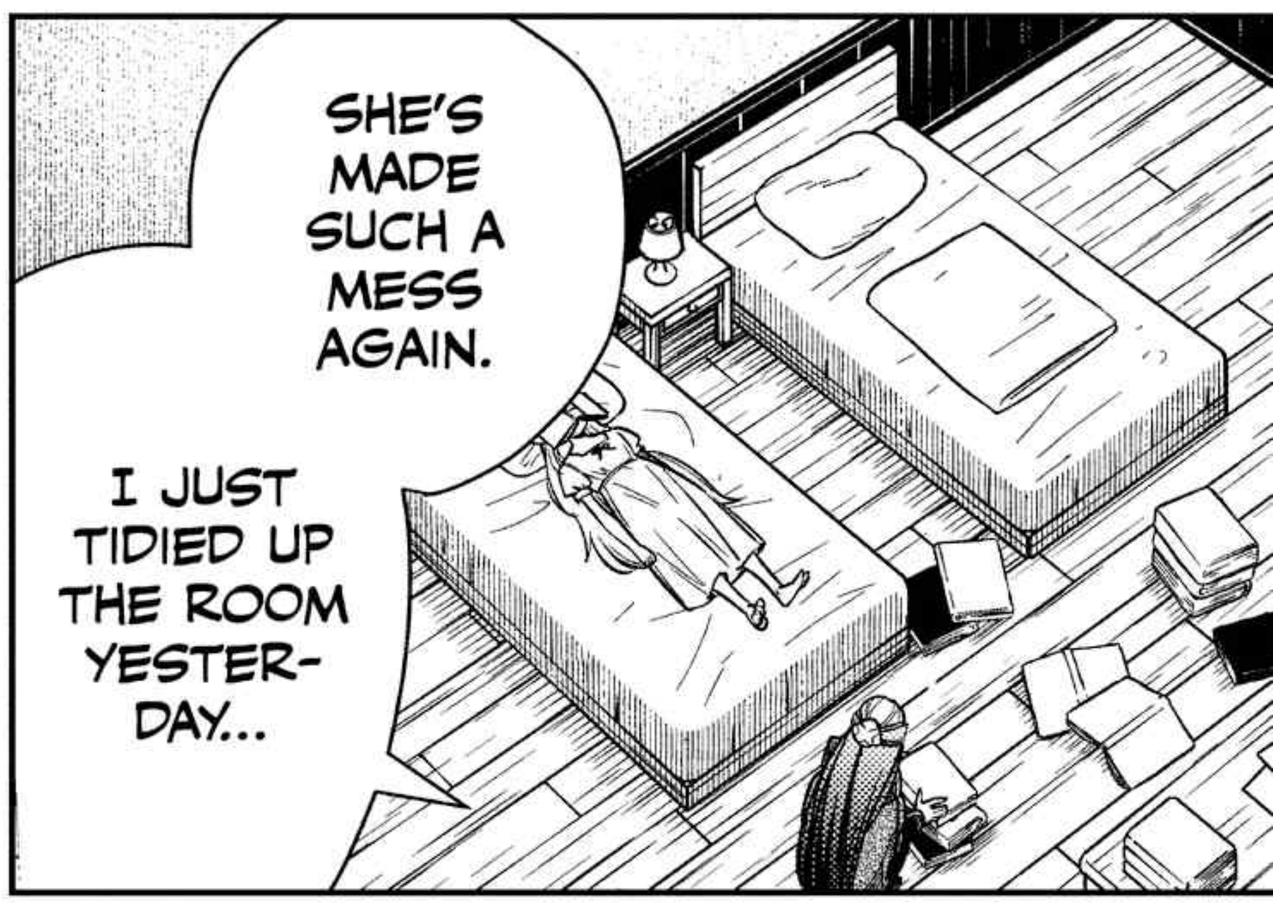
THIS IS ON US.
THANK YOU AS ALWAYS, FERN.
THANK YOU.

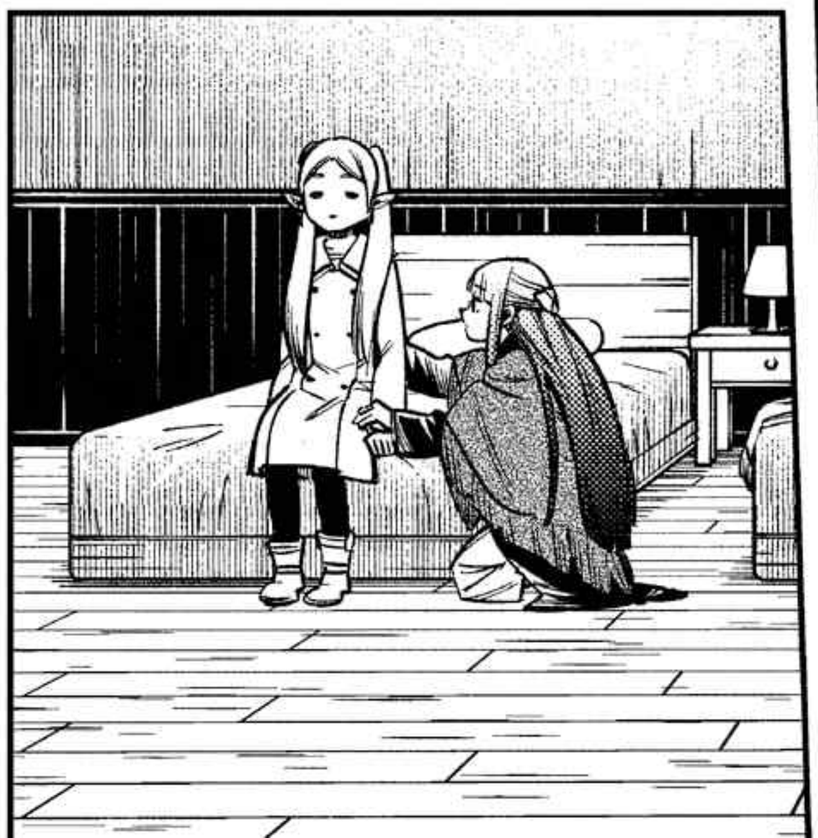
SO IT'S ALREADY WINTER...

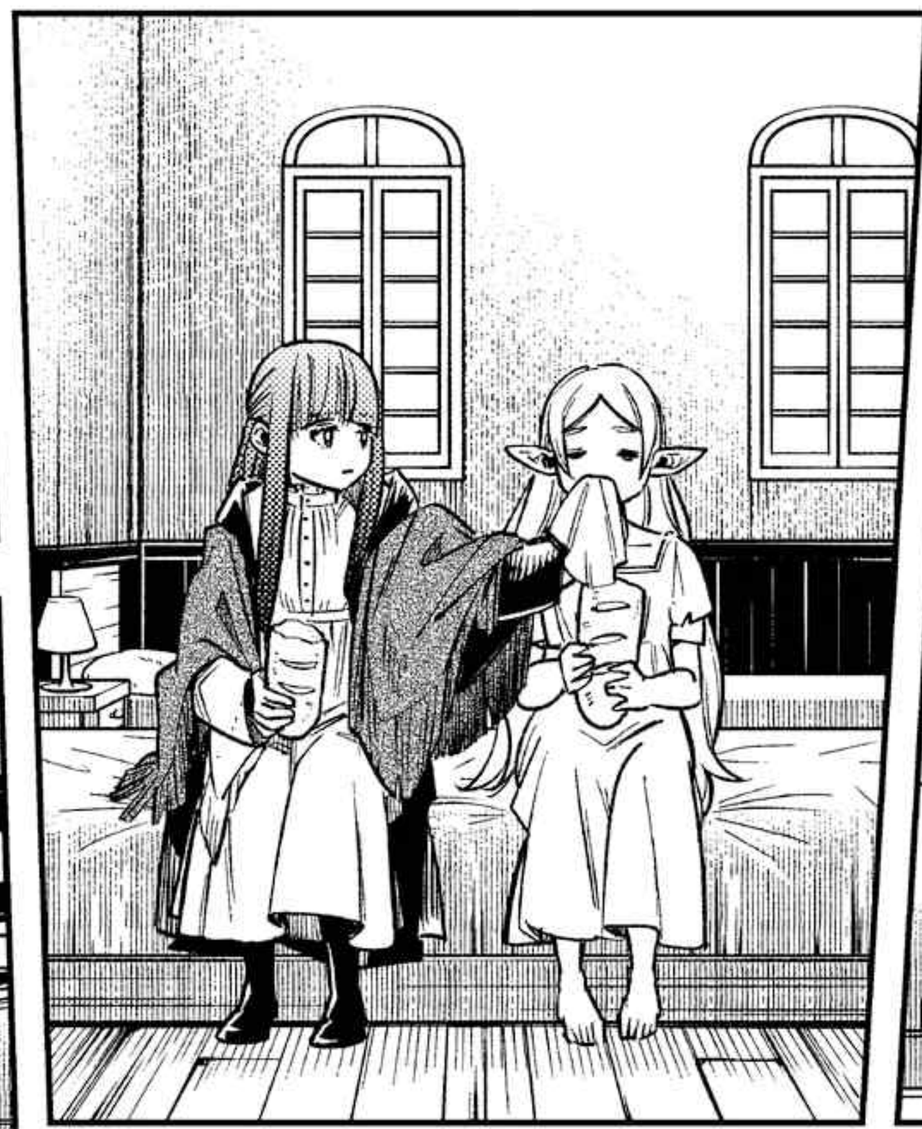
SHE'S STILL ASLEEP...


INN

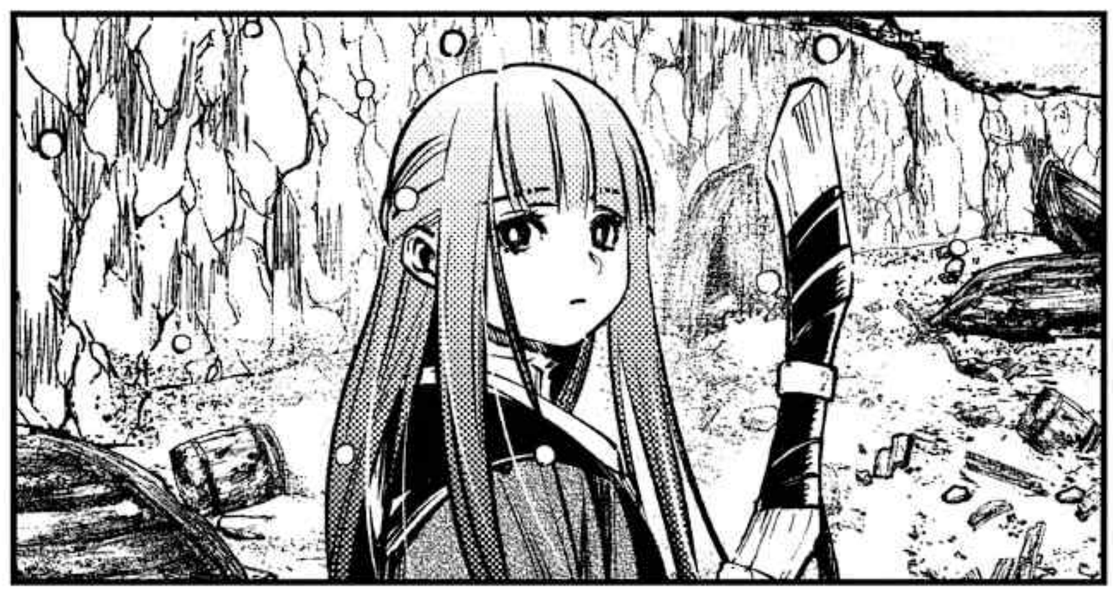

MISTRESS FRIEREN, IT'S ALREADY MORNING.
MMM...
PLEASE WAKE UP.

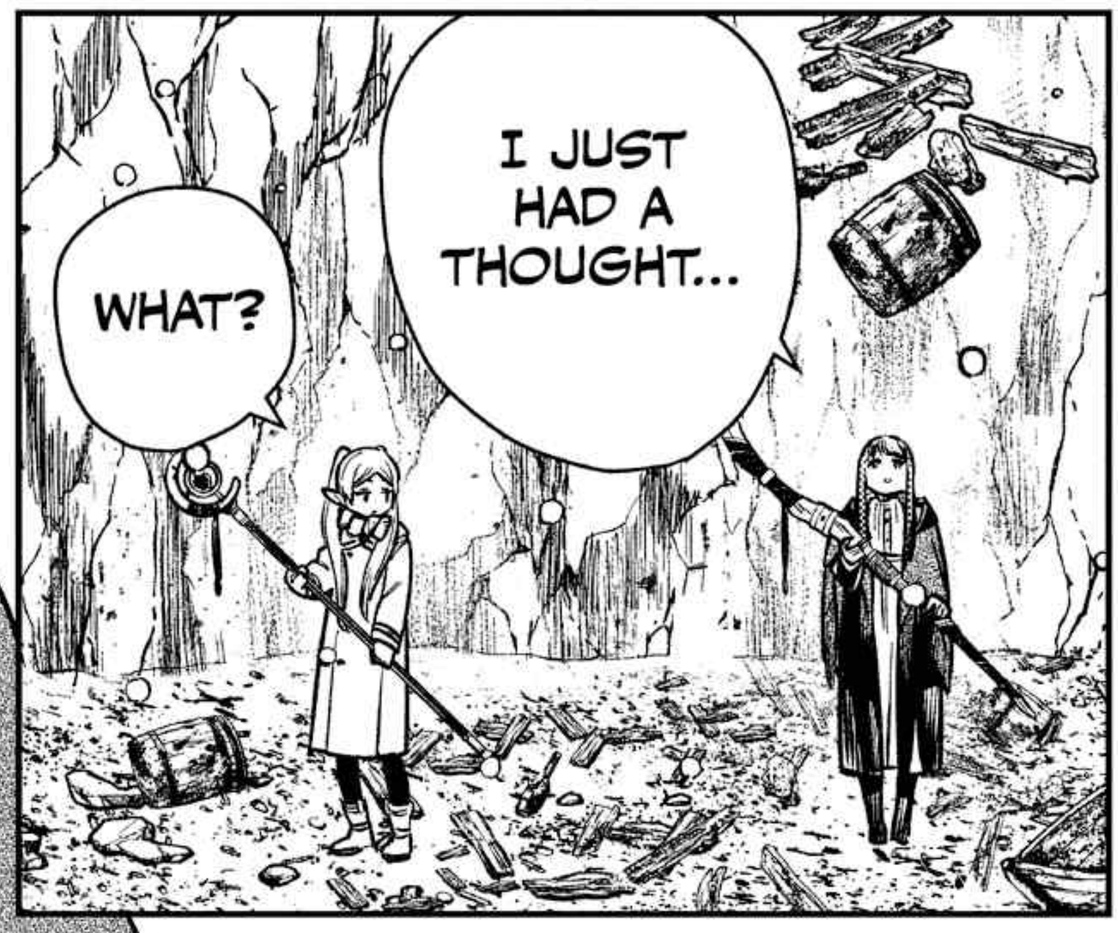

SHE'S MADE SUCH A MESS AGAIN.
I JUST TIDIED UP THE ROOM YESTER-DAY...





OHH... IT'S COLD.

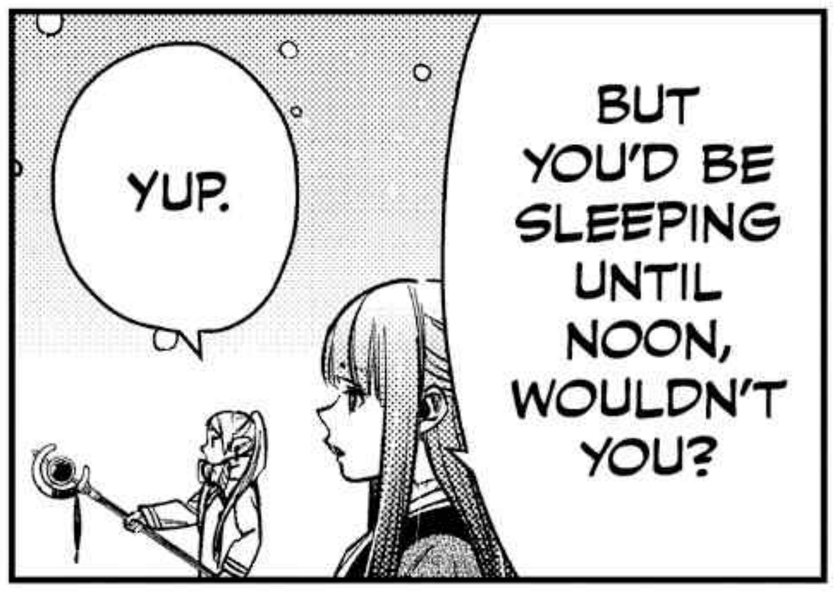




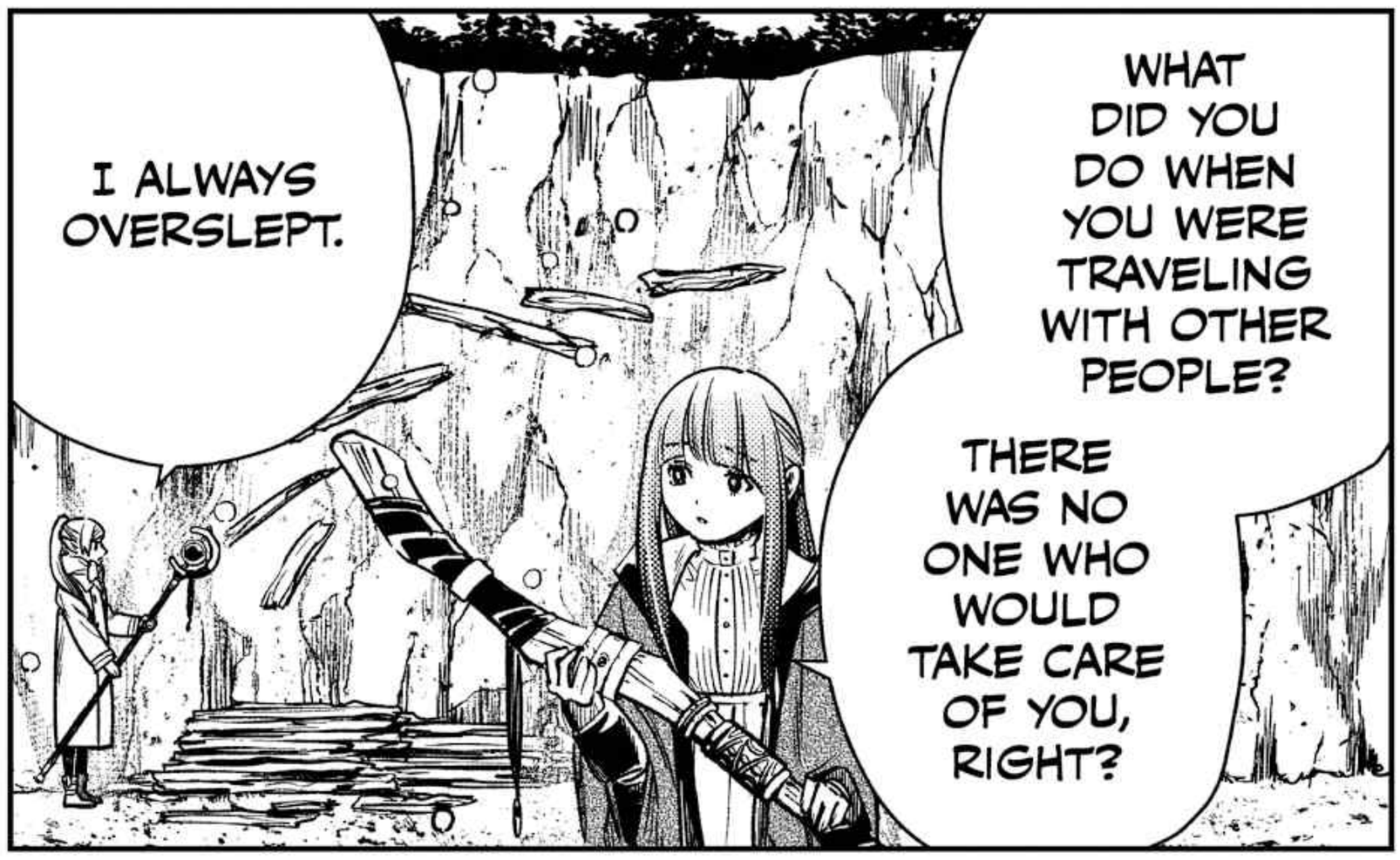
I WONDER IF YOU ARE... PERHAPS...

...AN EXTREMELY SLOPPY PERSON.

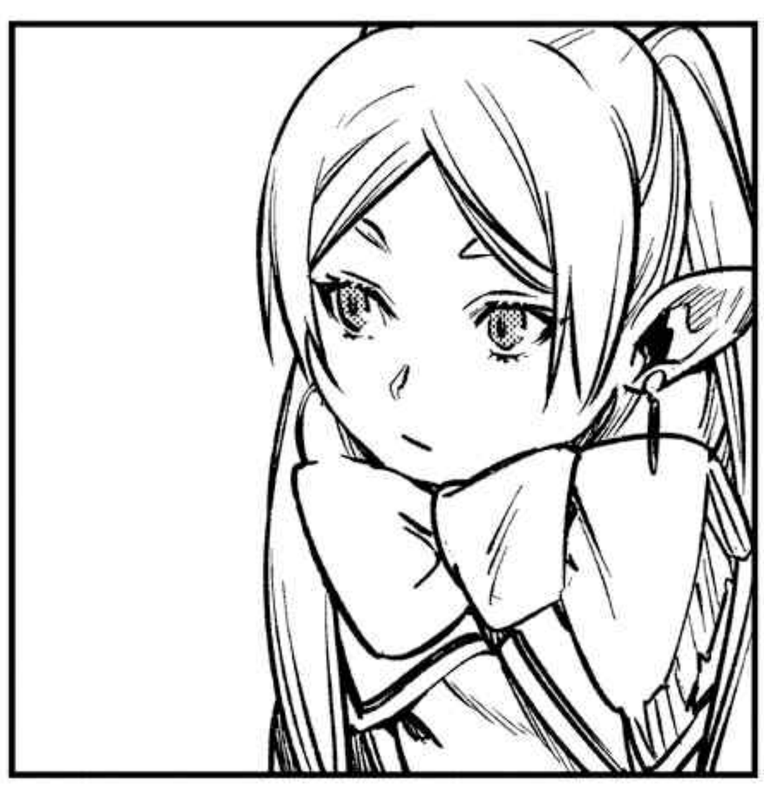
I CAN DO EVERYTHING MYSELF TOO.

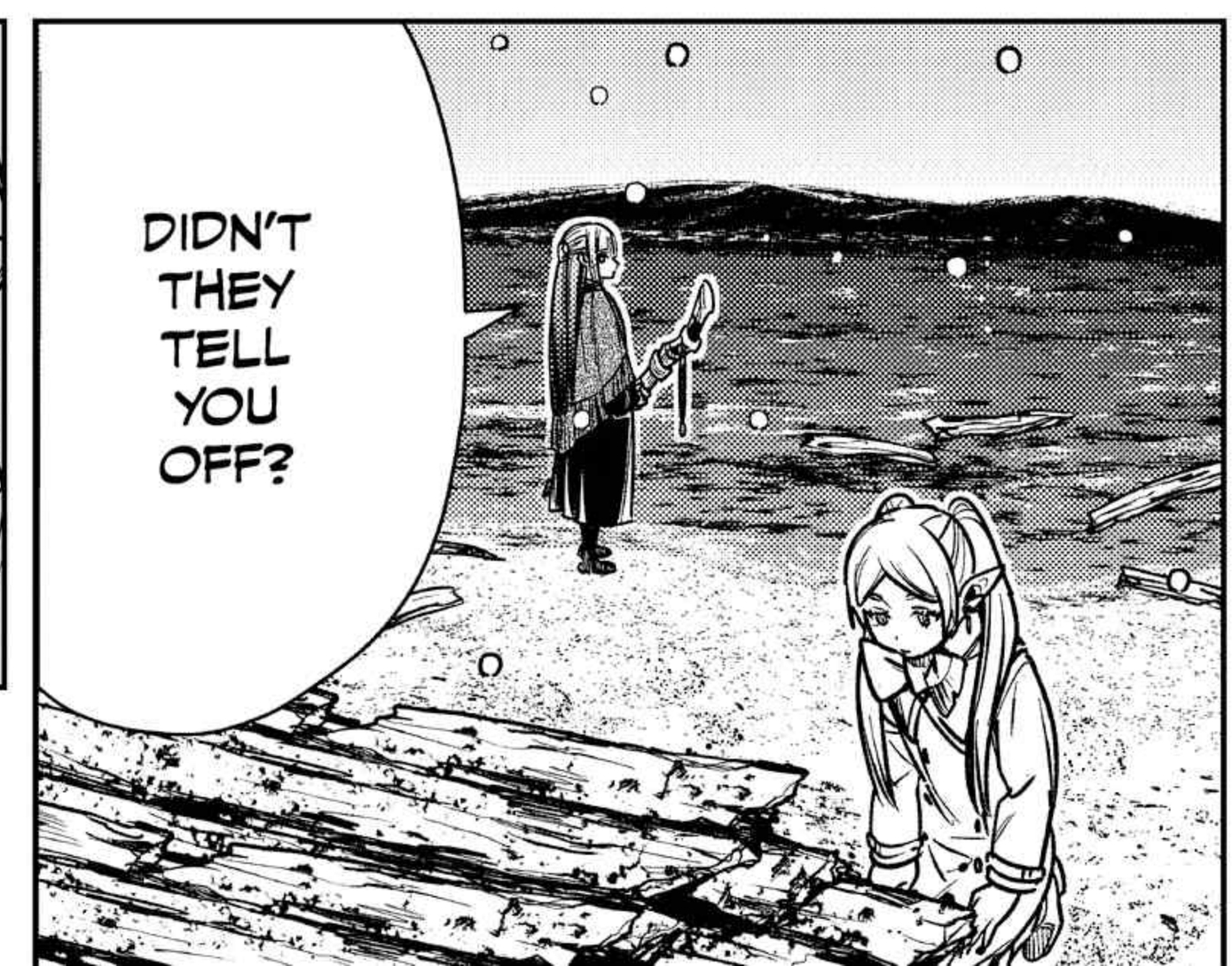

YUP.
BUT YOU'D BE SLEEPING UNTIL NOON, WOULDN'T YOU?

EVERY MORNING I WAKE YOU UP, FEED YOU AND DRESS YOU...
THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT A MOTHER DOES.


I ALWAYS OVERSLEPT.
WHAT DID YOU DO WHEN YOU WERE TRAVELING WITH OTHER PEOPLE?
THERE WAS NO ONE WHO WOULD TAKE CARE OF YOU, RIGHT?

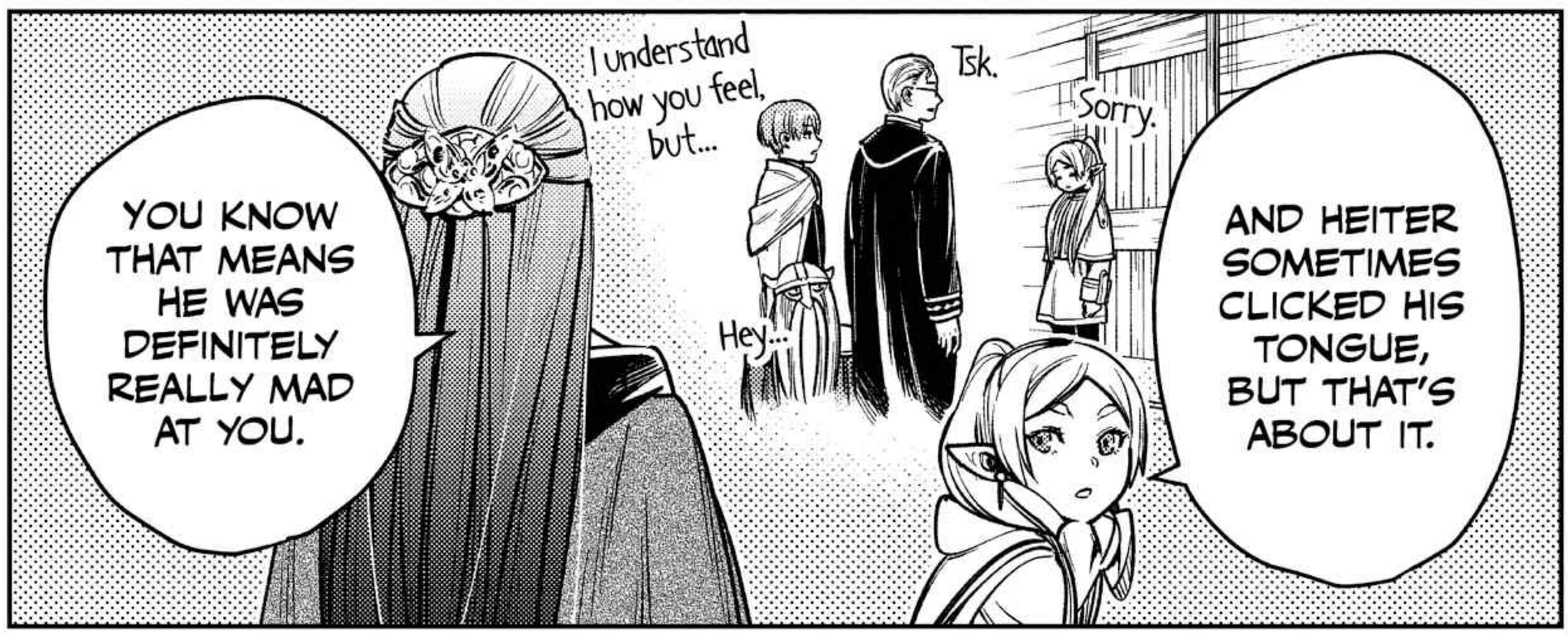
I'VE ALREADY GIVEN IN, BUT...
SORRY, SORRY.

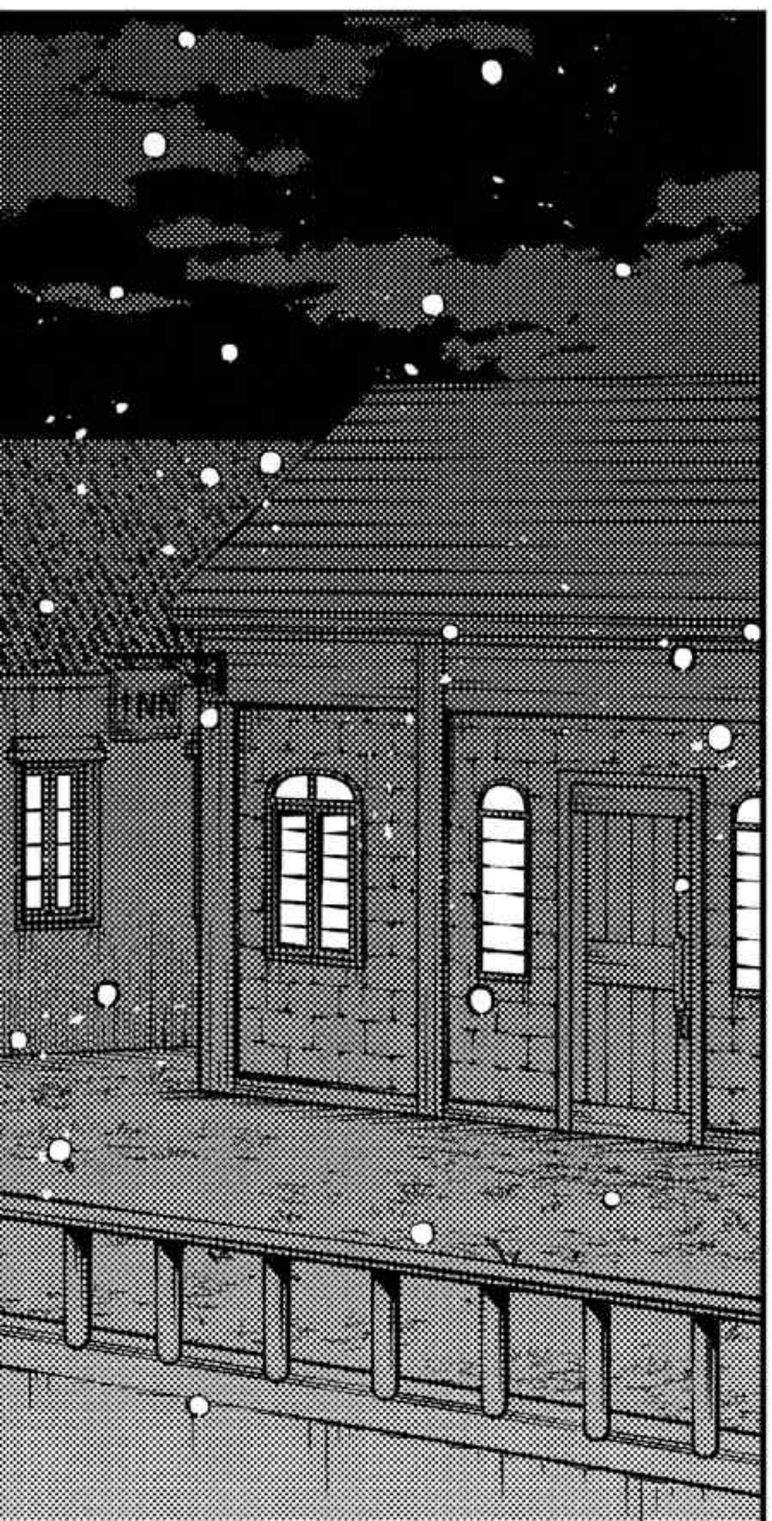


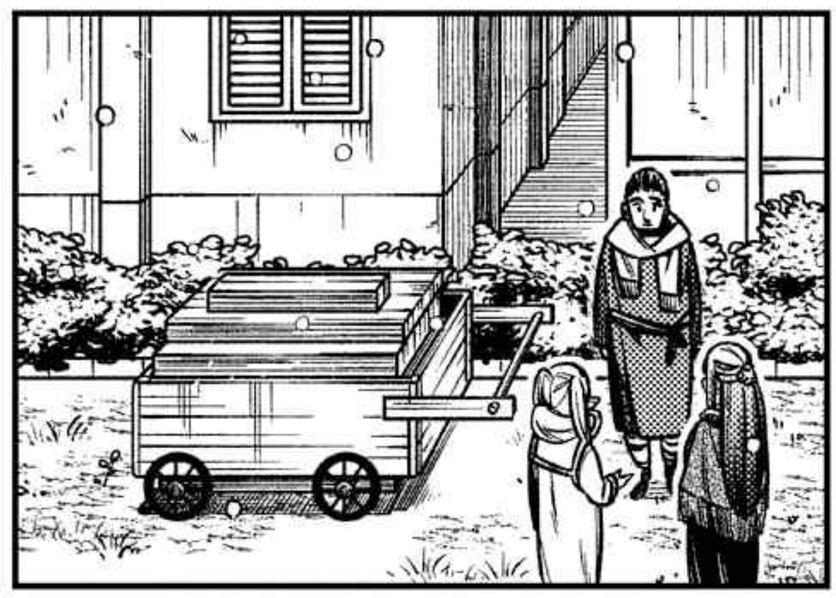

DIDN'T THEY TELL YOU OFF?

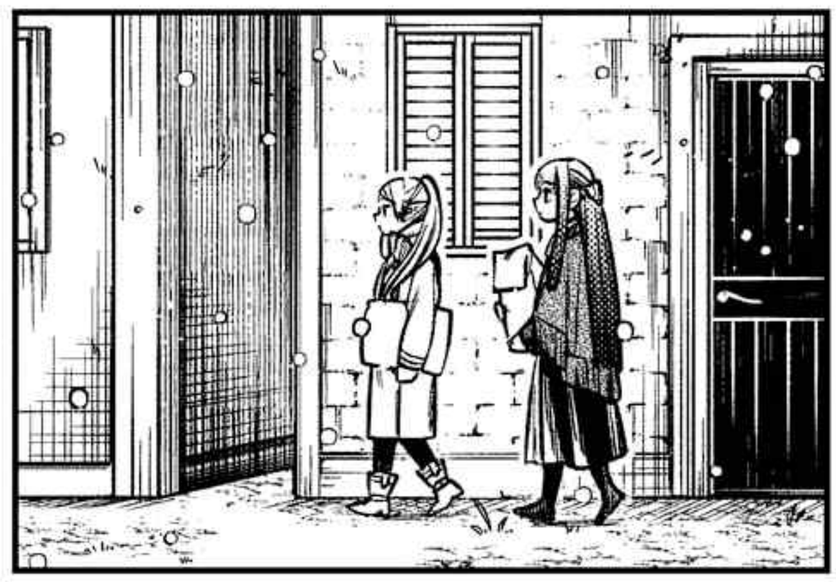
ONLY ONCE...? THOSE HEROES MUST HAVE BEEN VERY TOLERANT.
THEY WERE BETTER THAN ME.

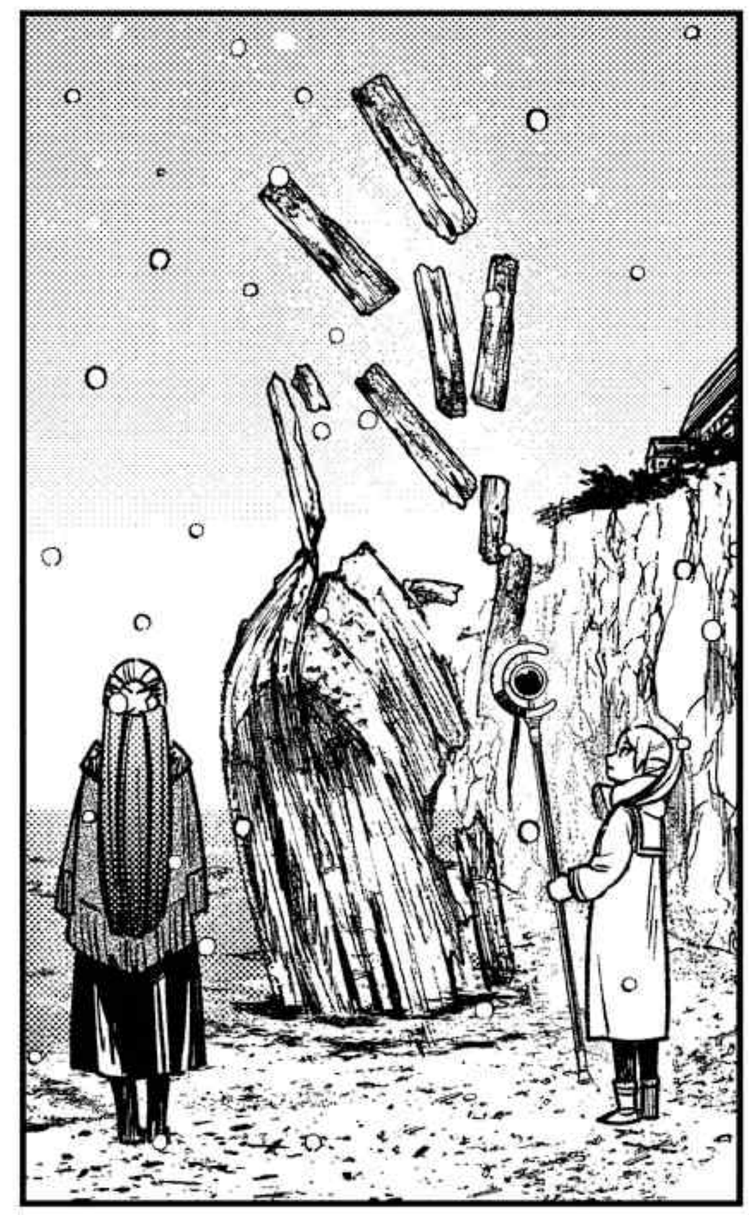
THEY DID.
JUST ONCE THOUGH.

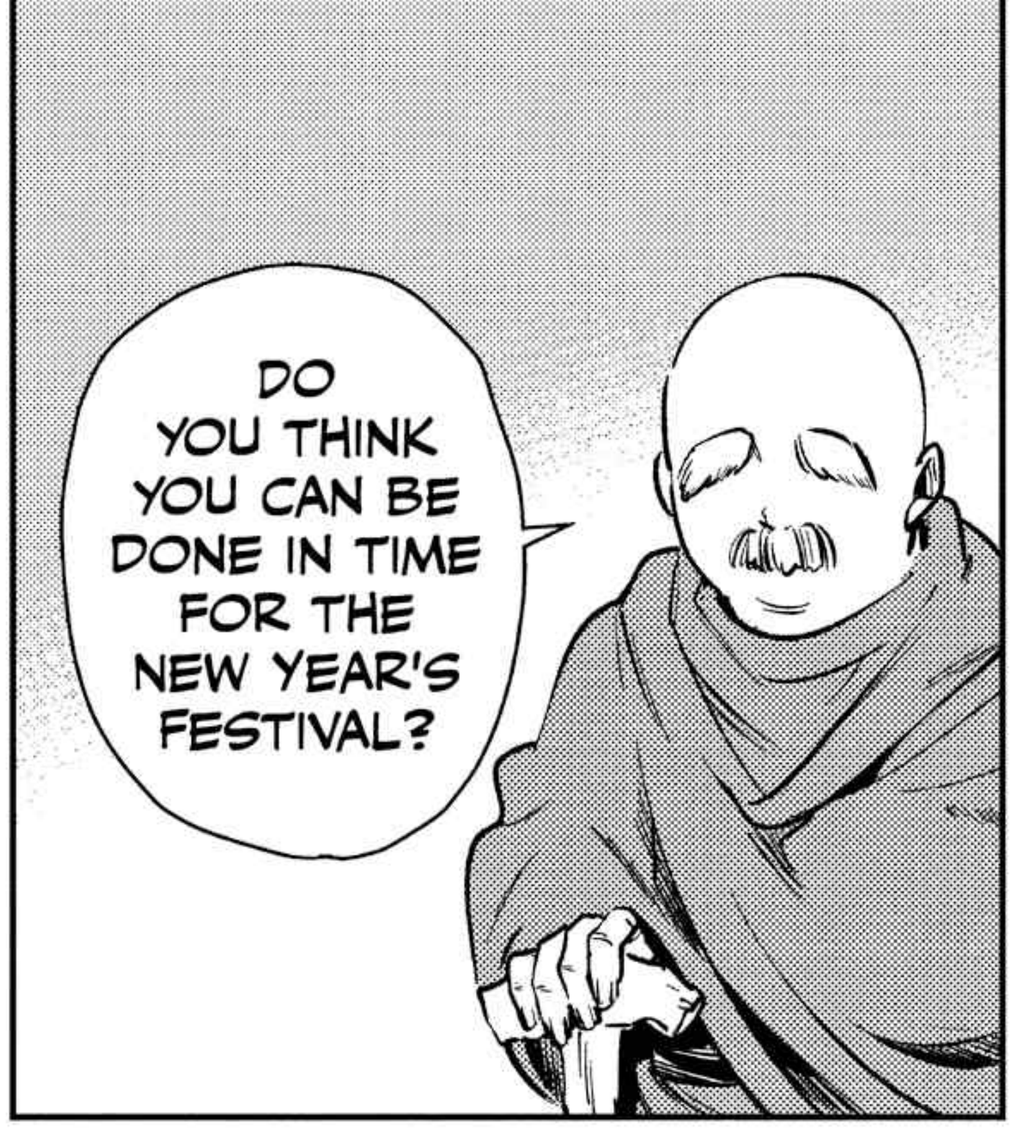

YOU KNOW THAT MEANS HE WAS DEFINITELY REALLY MAD AT YOU.
I understand how you feel, but...
Tsk.
Sorry.
Hey...
AND HEITER SOMETIMES CLICKED HIS TONGUE, BUT THAT'S ABOUT IT.


INN



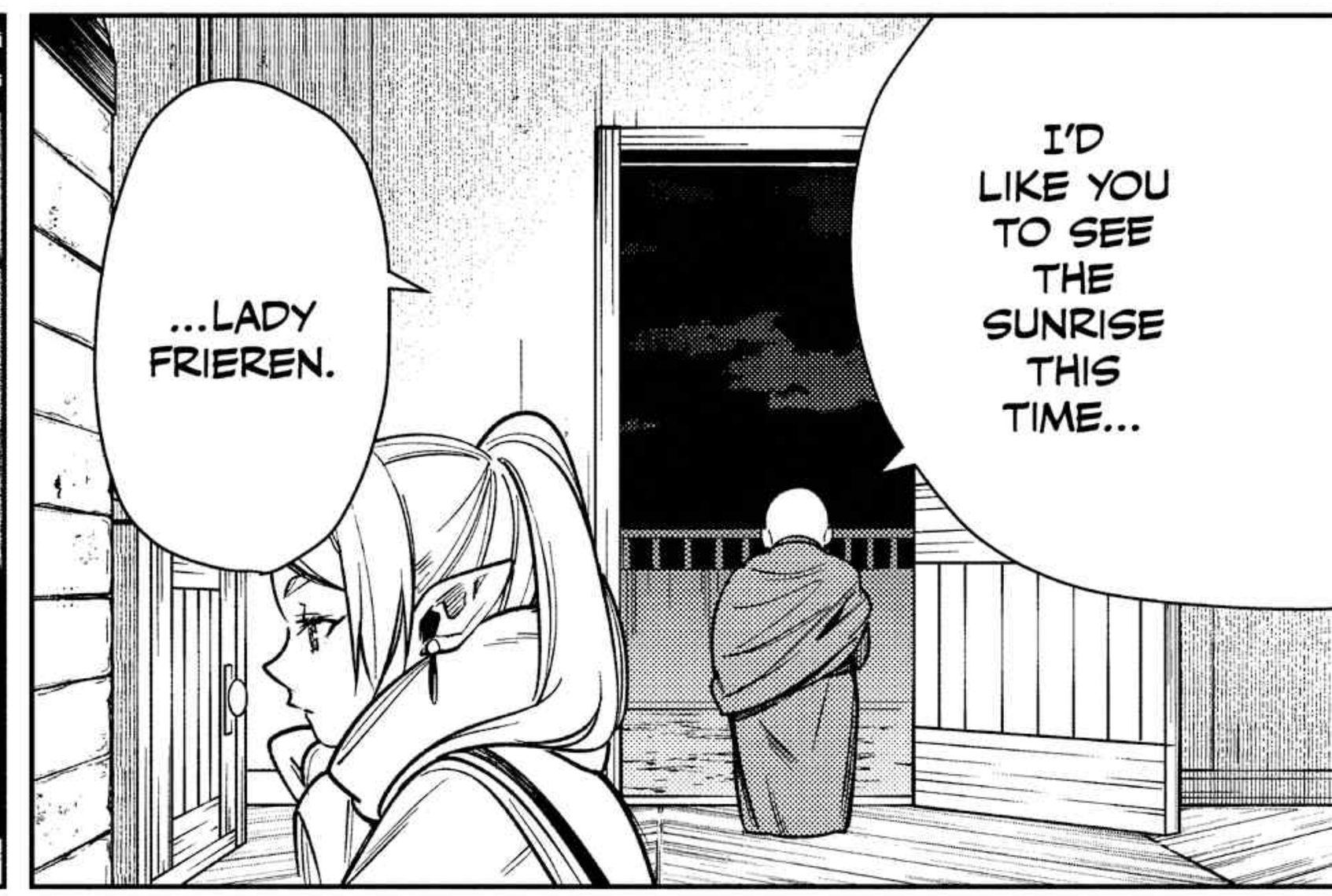


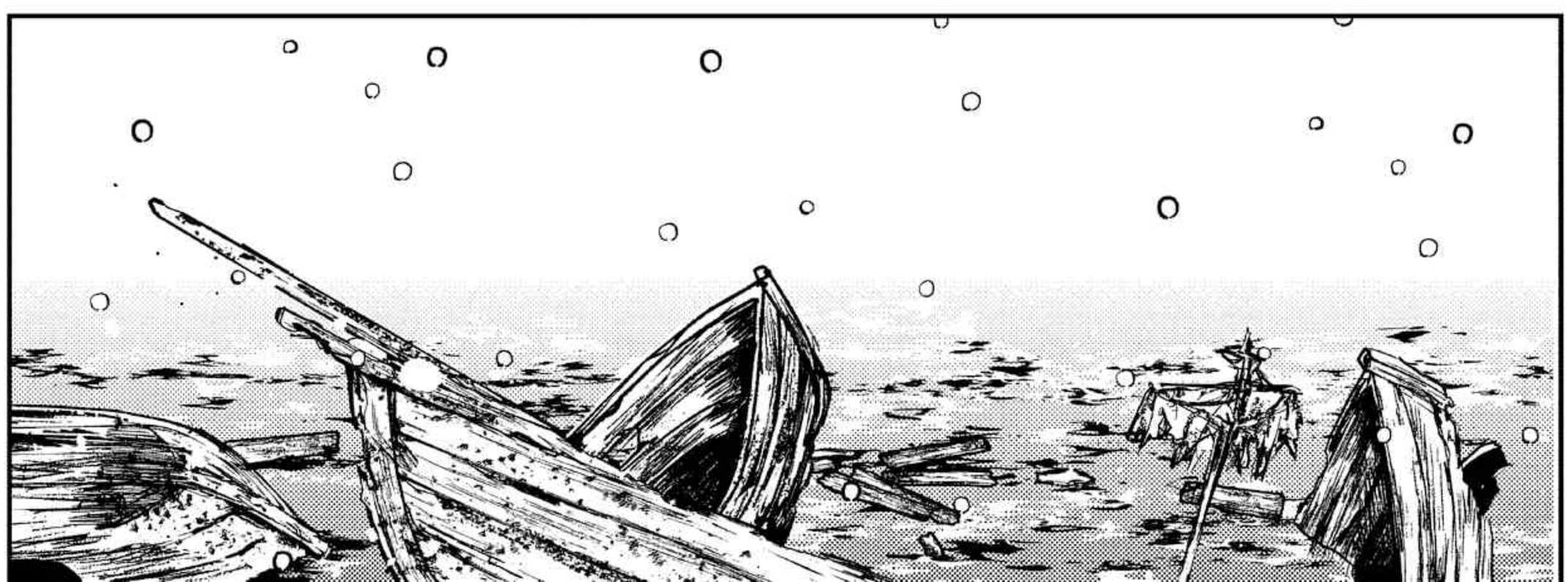



DO YOU THINK YOU CAN BE DONE IN TIME FOR THE NEW YEAR'S FESTIVAL?

WE WILL, SOME-HOW.

WE ONLY HAVE A THIRD OR SO LEFT TO DO.
IS THE CLEANUP GOING WELL?

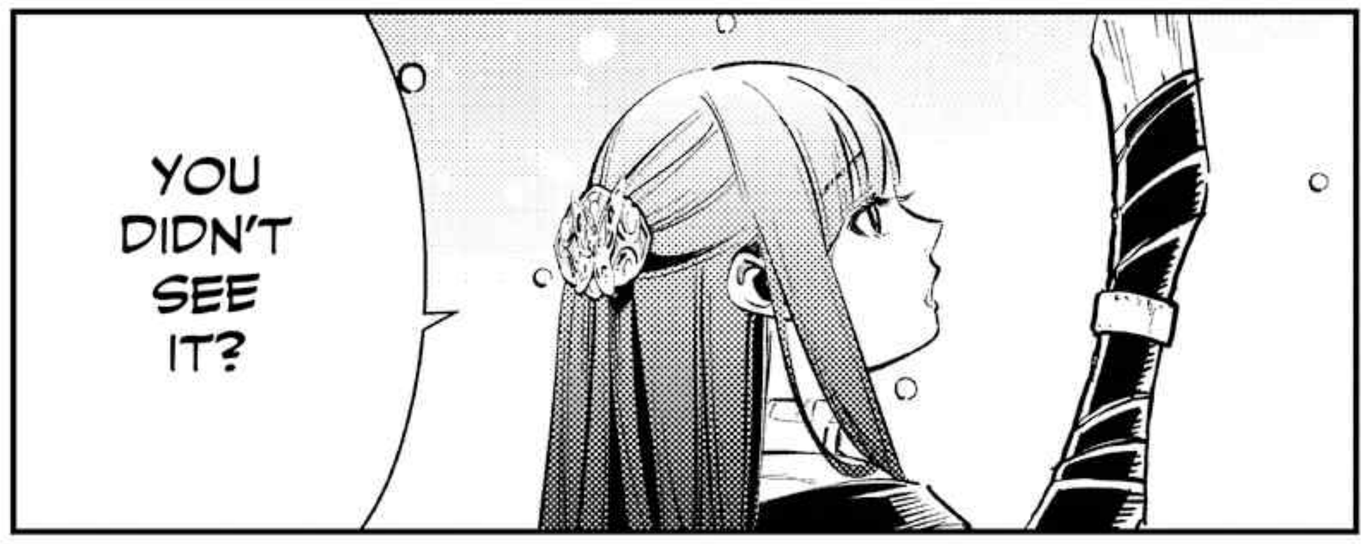

...LADY FRIEREN.
I'D LIKE YOU TO SEE THE SUNRISE THIS TIME...

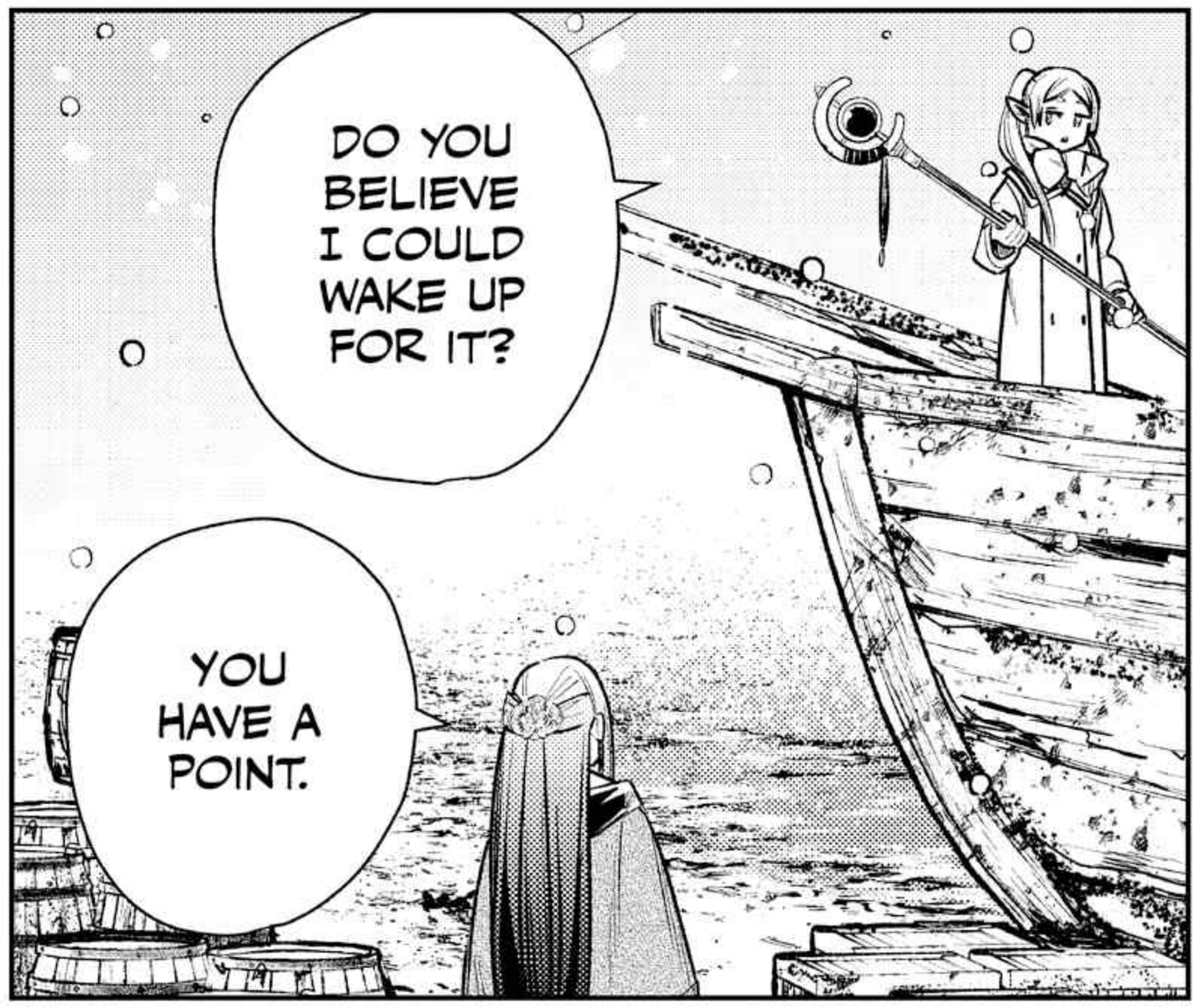


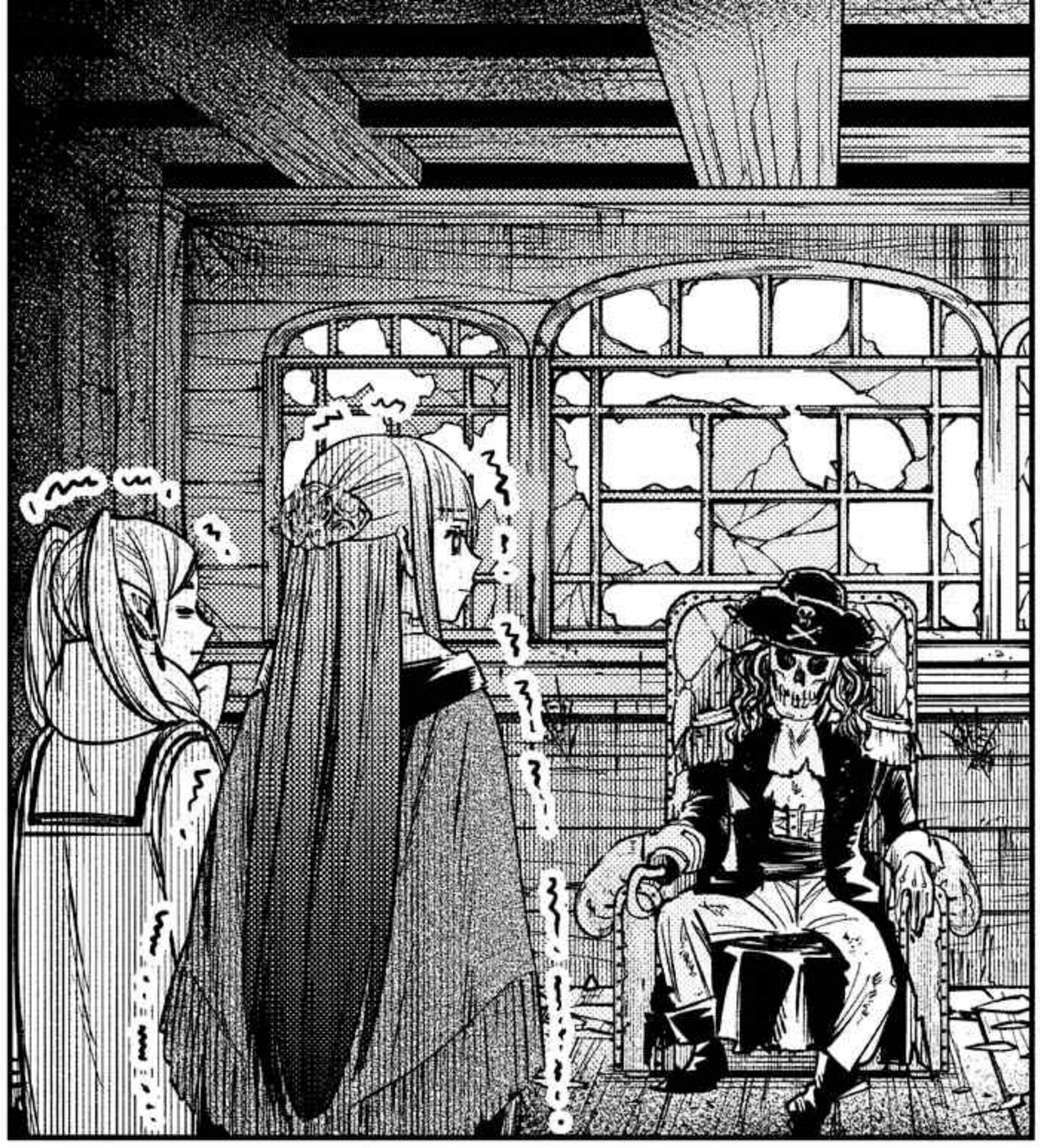
APPARENTLY, IT'S VERY BEAUTIFUL WHEN THE SUNLIGHT REFLECTS OFF THE CRYSTAL-CLEAR SEA.

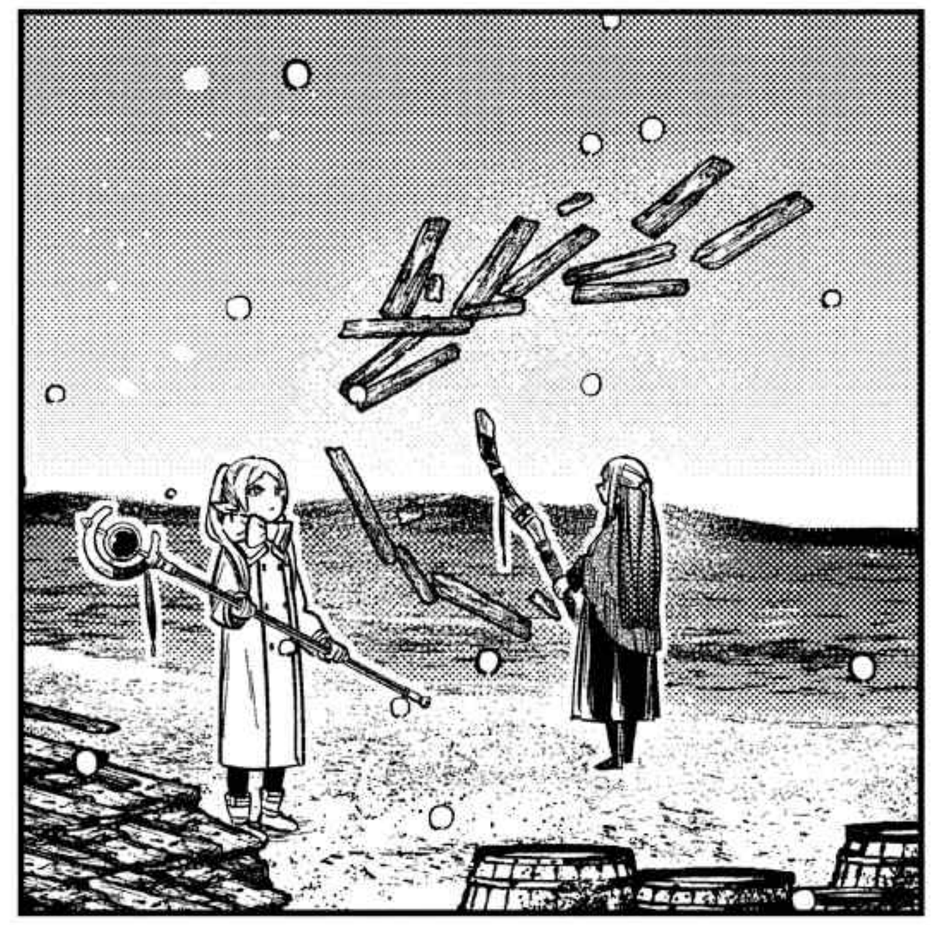
IT'S THE CUSTOM IN THIS VILLAGE TO WATCH THE SUNRISE ON THE DAY OF THE FESTIVAL.

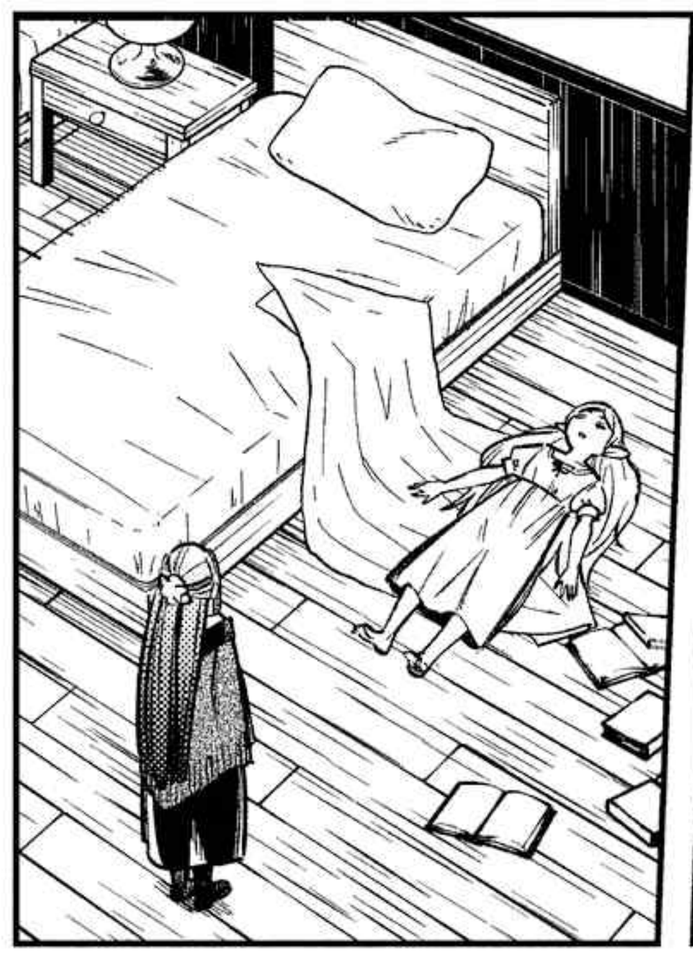
HOW DOES CLEANING UP THE COASTLINE RELATE TO THE NEW YEAR'S FESTIVAL?

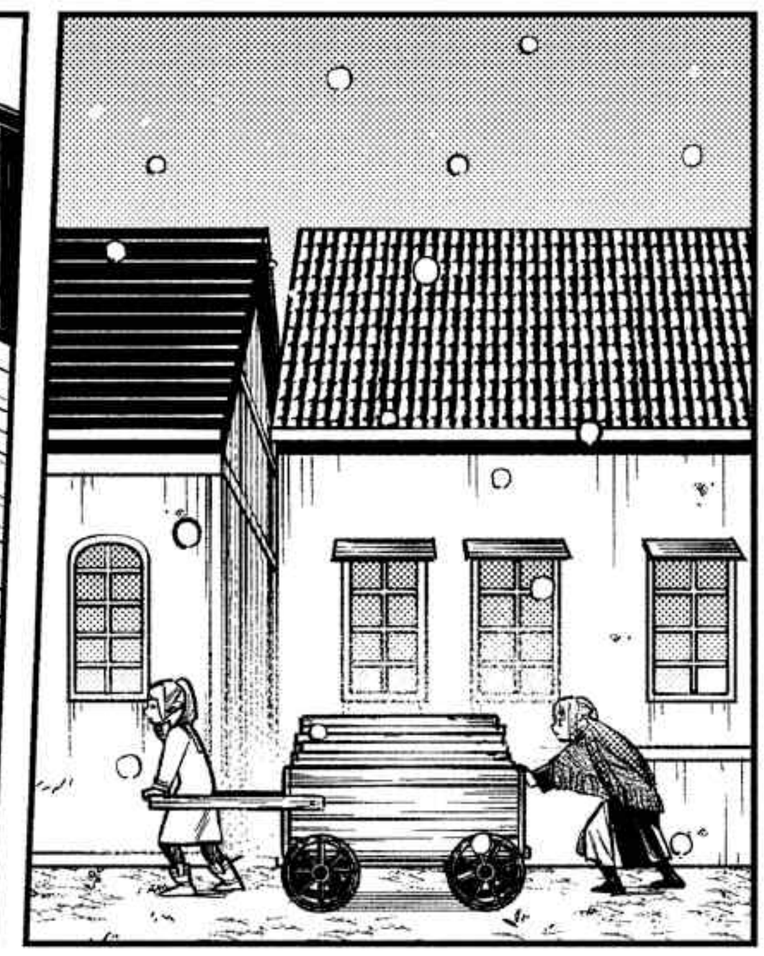


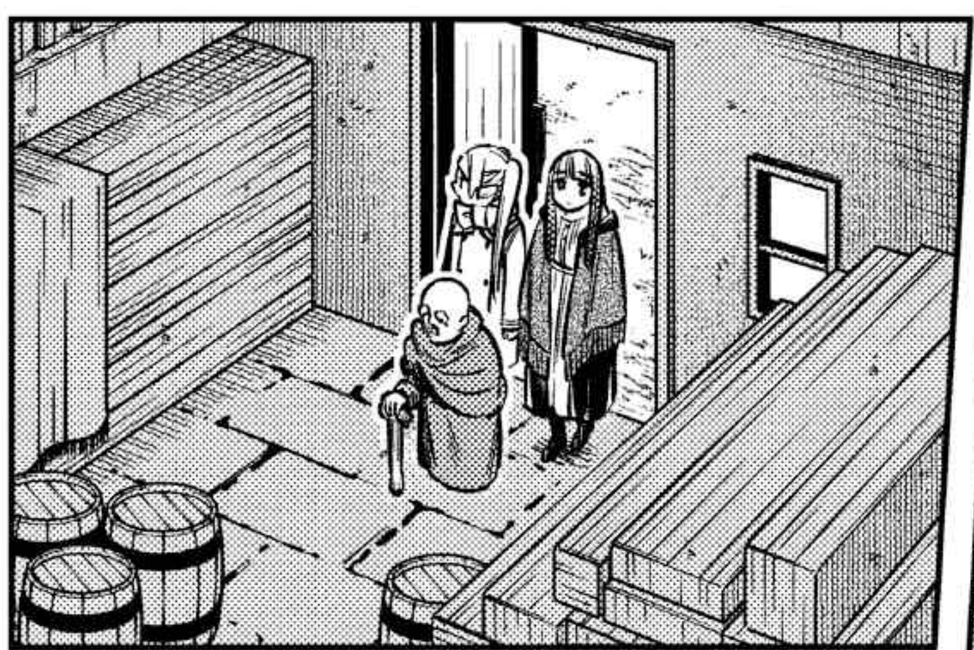


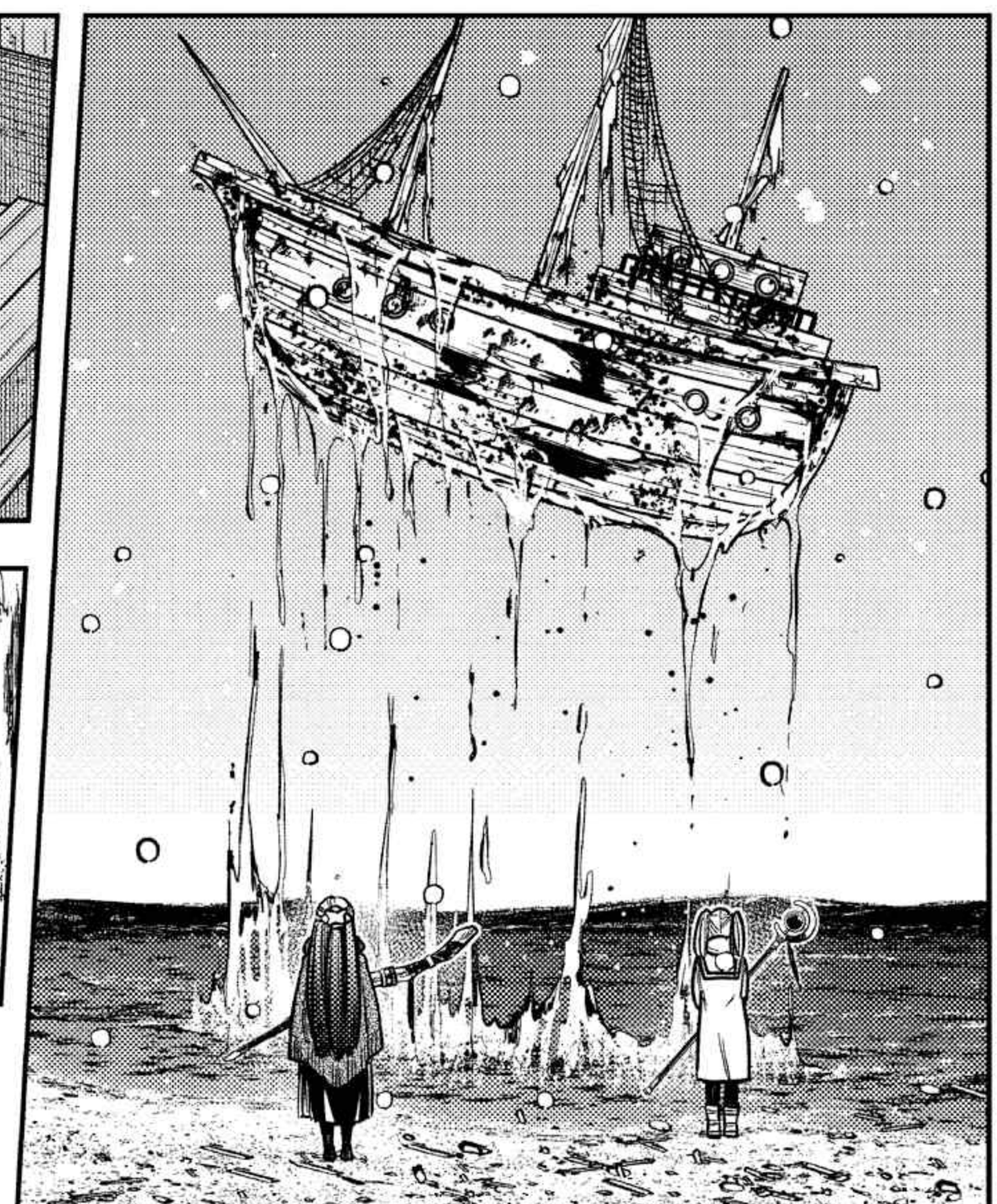






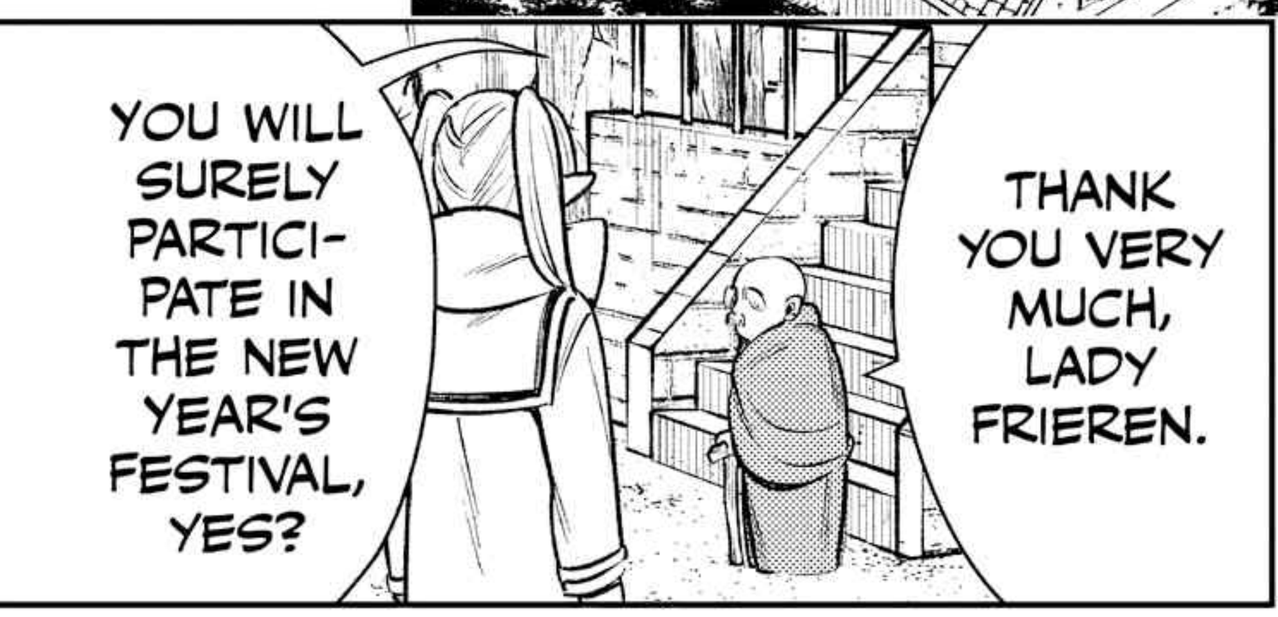


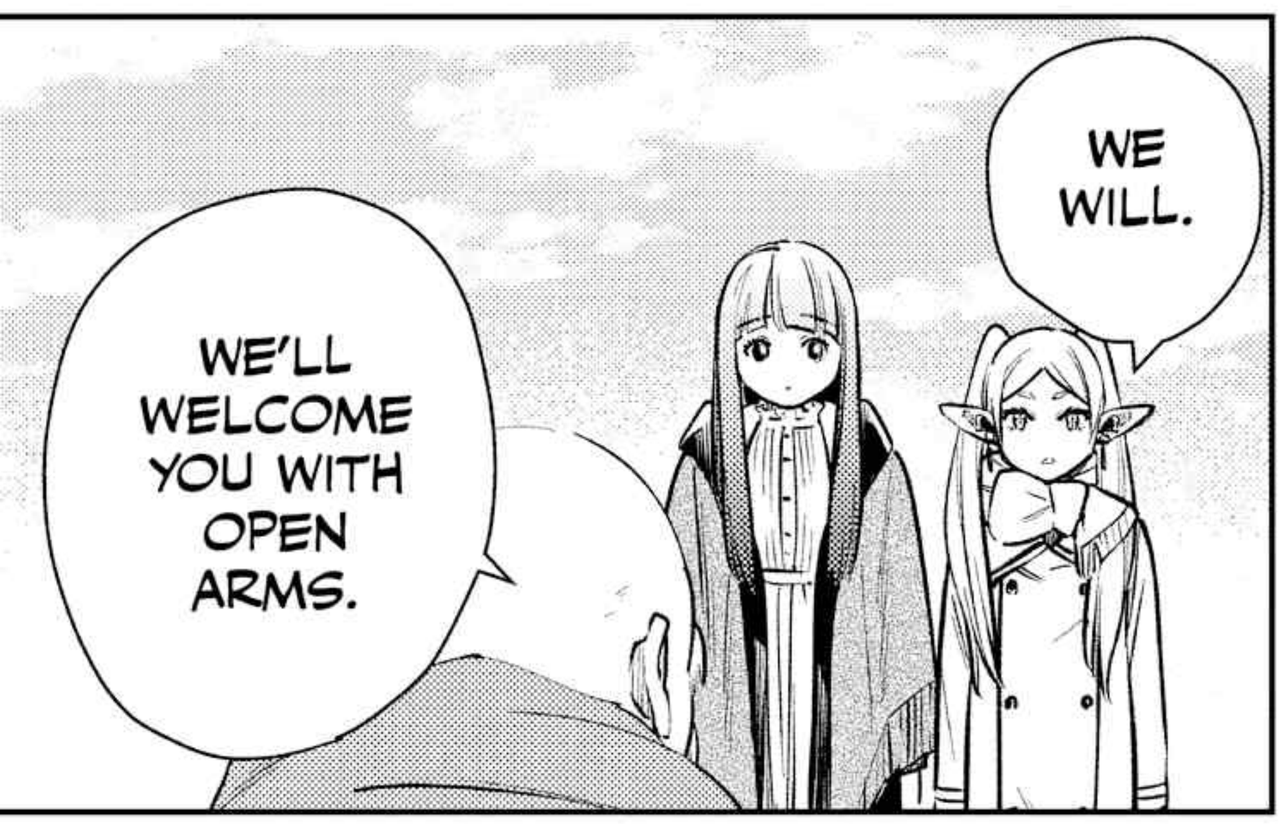




SPLASH

WE MANAGED TO FINISH JUST ONE DAY BEFORE.
THE WATER QUALITY SEEMS FINE TOO.


YOU WILL SURELY PARTICI-PATE IN THE NEW YEAR'S FESTIVAL, YES?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, LADY FRIEREN.


WE'LL WELCOME YOU WITH OPEN ARMS.
WE WILL.

IT'S BARELY RECOGNIZABLE COMPARED TO WHEN WE STARTED.

YOU WANT TO SEE THE SUNRISE THAT BADLY?

I'LL JUST PULL AN ALL-NIGHTER. IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT INTERESTED.

THAT'S WHY I WANT TO WATCH IT—TO SEE IF I'M WRONG.

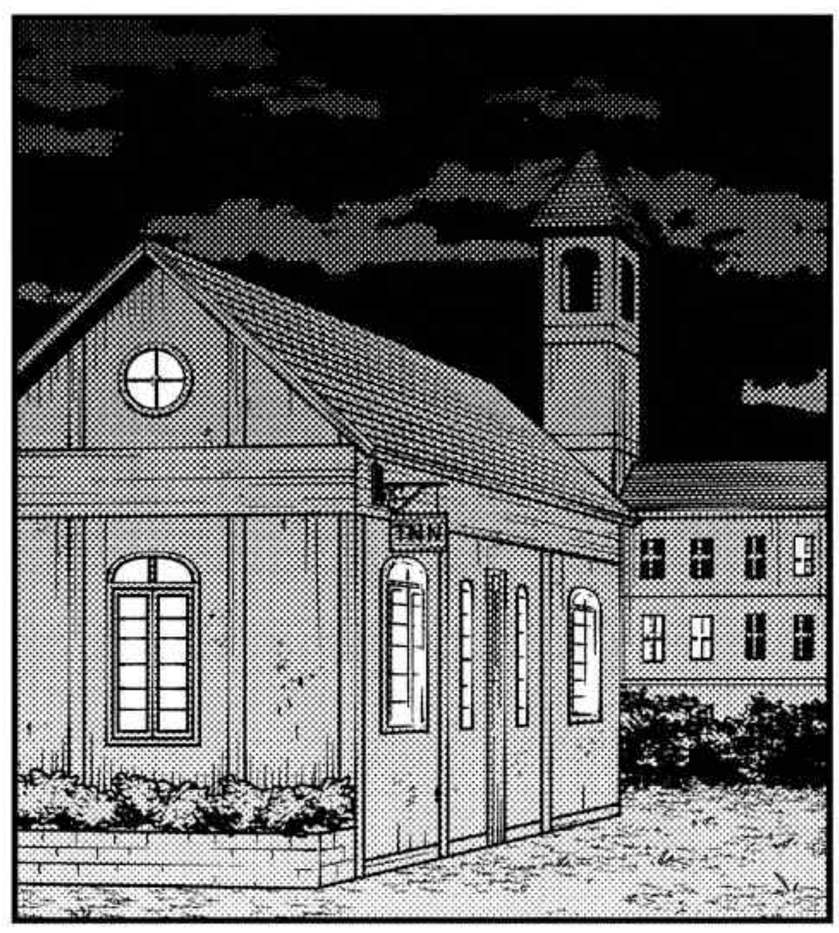
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU.

HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND, MISTRESS FRIEREN?

YOU DO UNDERSTAND YOU'LL HAVE TO WAKE UP BEFORE THE SUN RISES, RIGHT?

ME NEITHER.

...I DON'T REALLY GET IT.



WHY DIDN'T YOU ATTEND THE NEW YEAR'S FESTIVAL?

YOU GUYS GOT TO GO SO...

...WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

WE ALL WANTED YOU TO ENJOY IT TOO.

HE'S JUST DOWN FROM DRINKING TOO MUCH.

LOOK AT HEITER. HE'S FALLEN ILL FROM THE SADNESS.

Poor guy.

BECAUSE THAT'S WHO YOU ARE.

NO, YOU WOULD HAVE HAD FUN.

I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT BEING FUN.

IT'S JUST A SUNRISE THOUGH.

HOW SO?

SHE'S SLEEP-ING...

SHE'S SLEEP-ING!!

I'M NOT YOUR MOTHER!!

MUMBLE MUMBLE

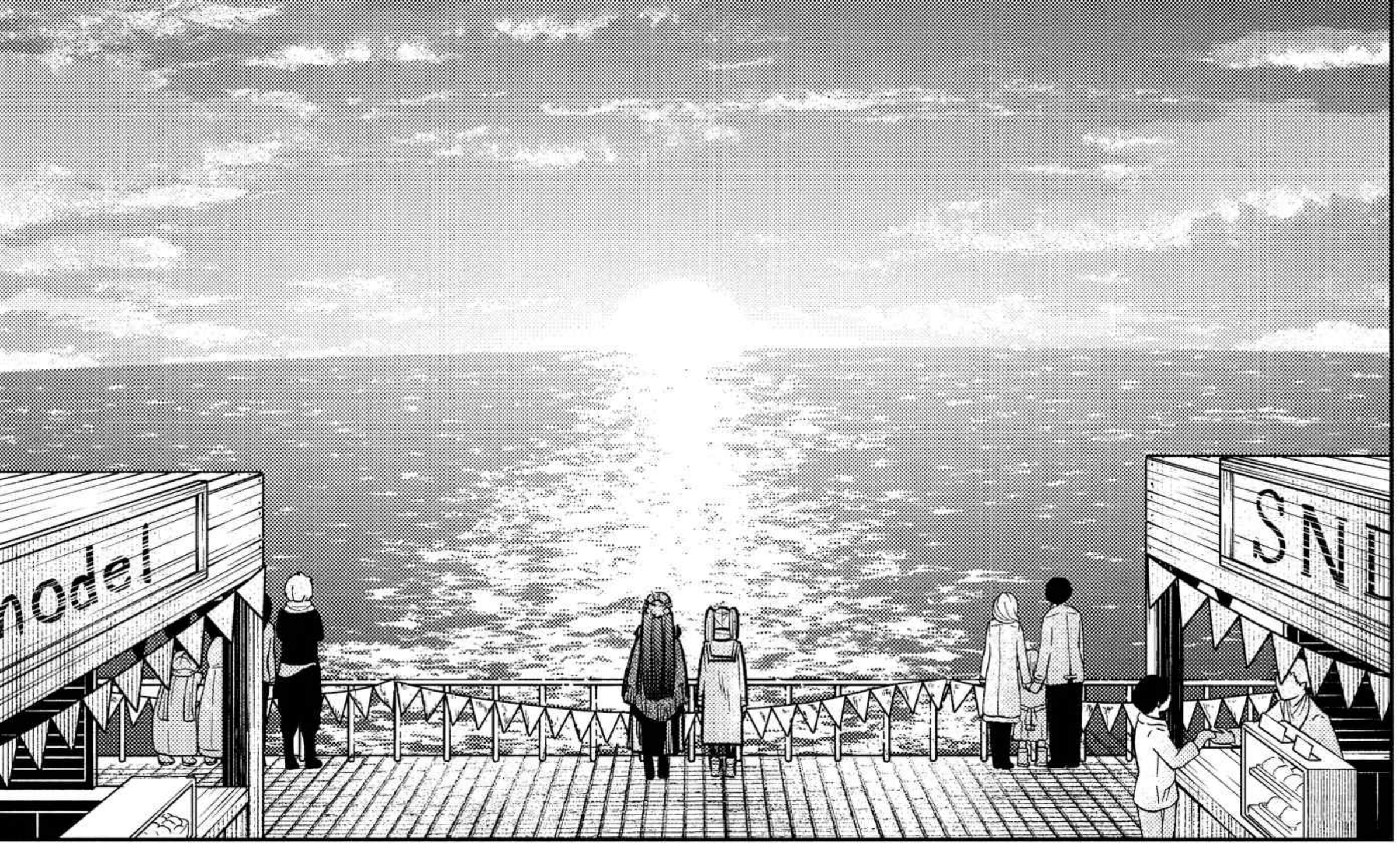
...MOM...

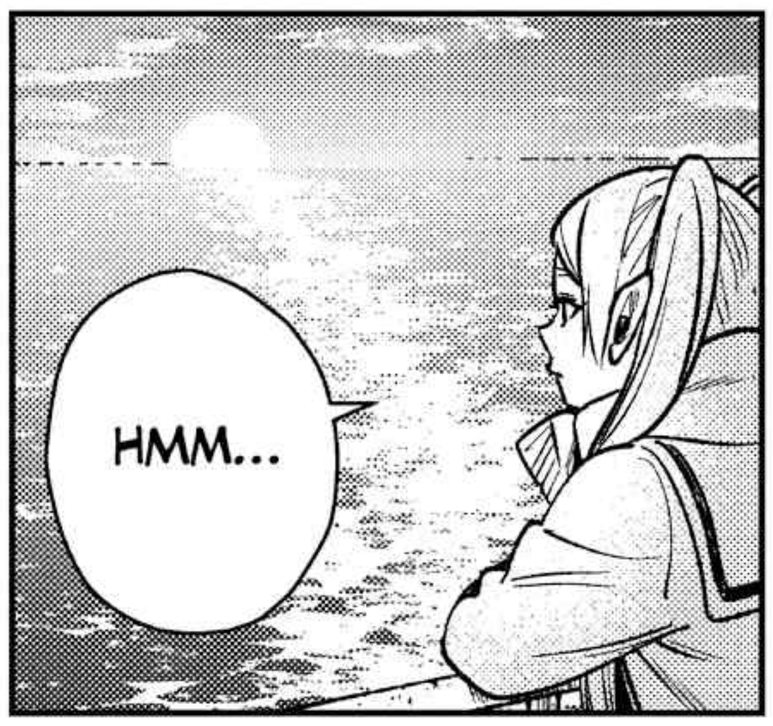
MISTRESS FRIEREN, PLEASE WAKE UP!!

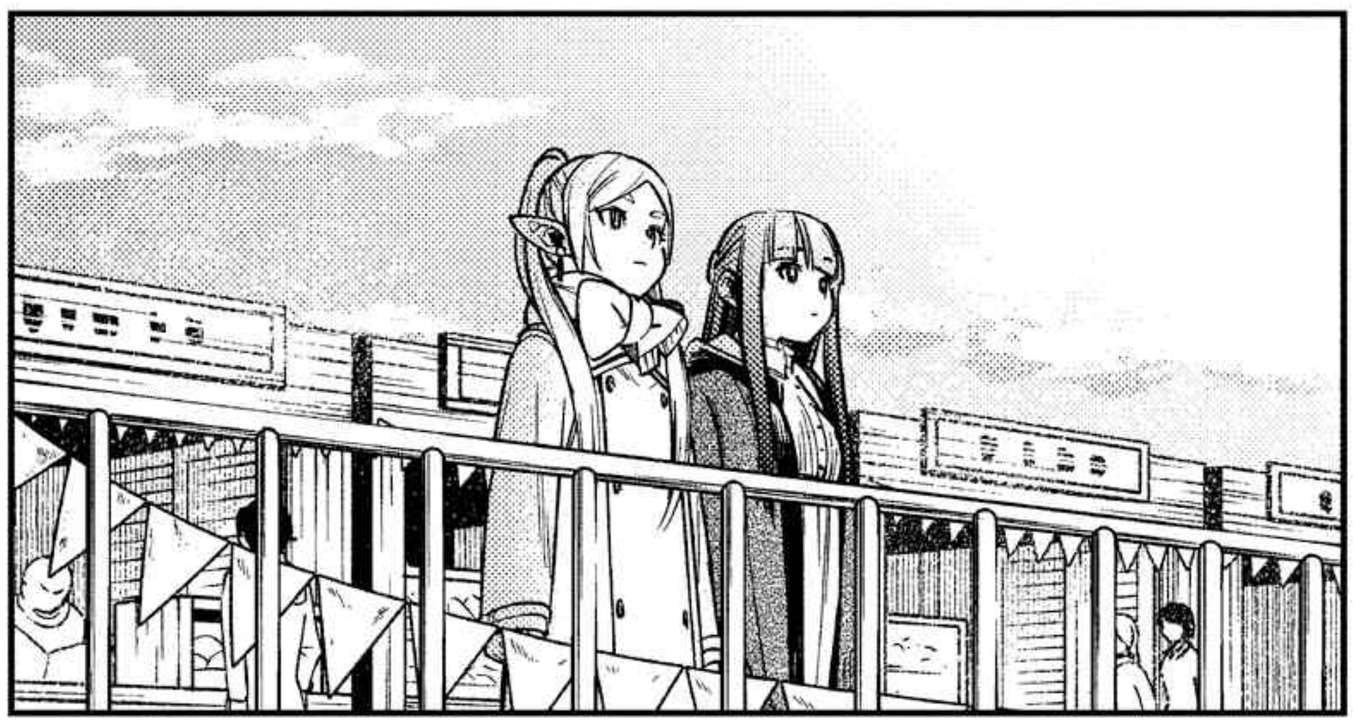
YOU'LL BE LATE FOR THE FESTIVAL !!

WHY DO I HAVE TO DO THIS...?

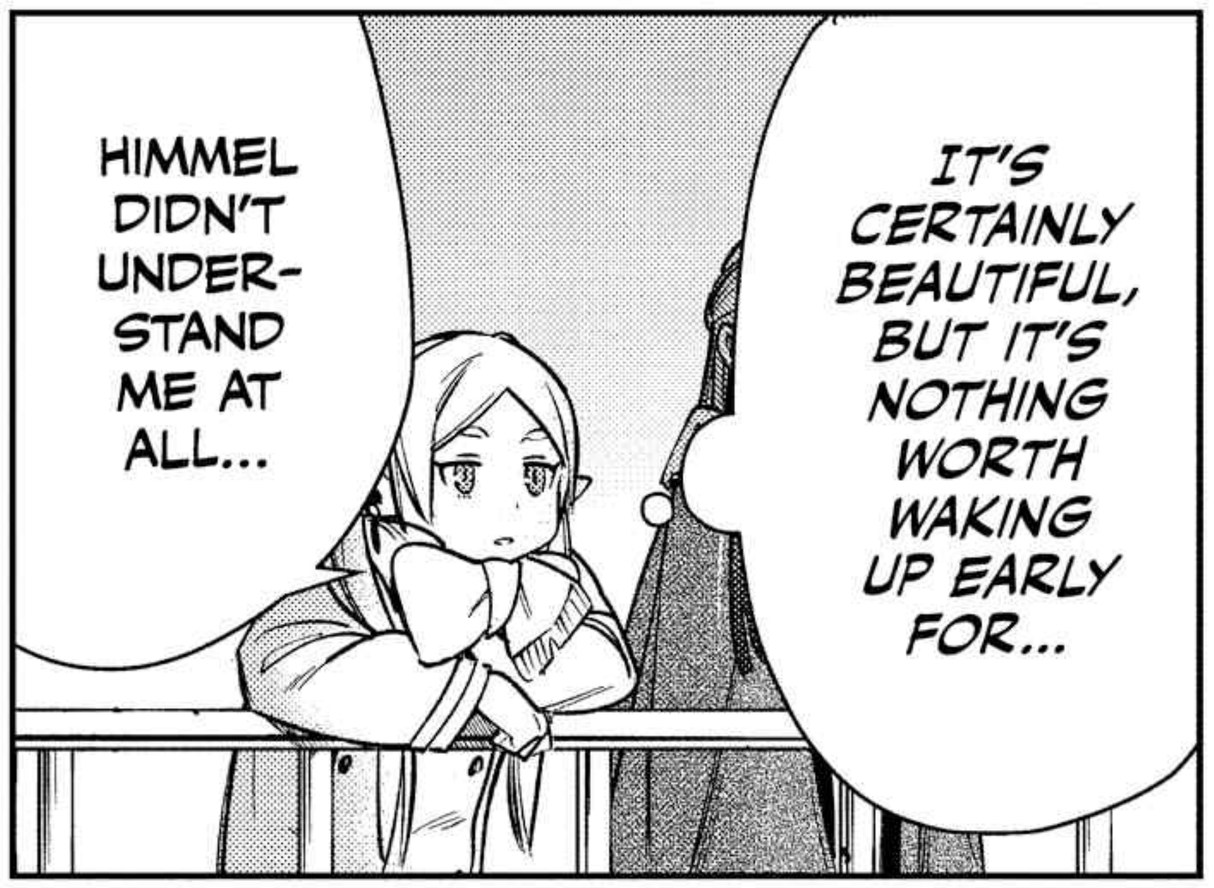
...THANK YOU... FERN...


nodel
SNE


HMM...



IT TRULY IS BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT, FRIEREN?


HIMMEL DIDN'T UNDER-STAND ME AT ALL...
IT'S CERTAINLY BEAUTIFUL, BUT IT'S NOTHING WORTH WAKING UP EARLY FOR...

FERN, LET'S GO BACK TO SLEEP—

BUT YOU SEEM TO BE ENJOYING YOURSELF. A LITTLE.

YOU THINK? IT'S JUST A SUNRISE.

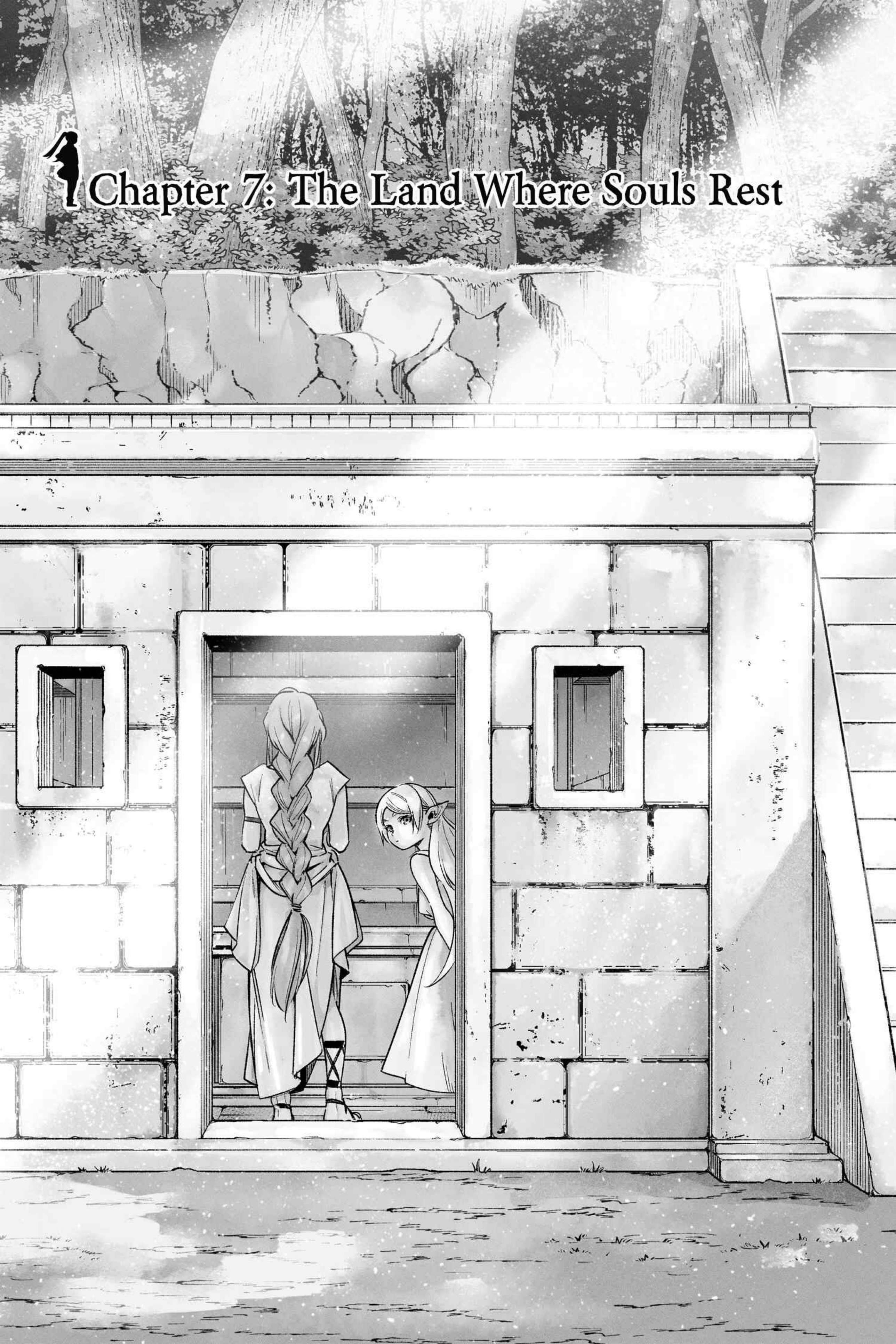
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE SMILING...

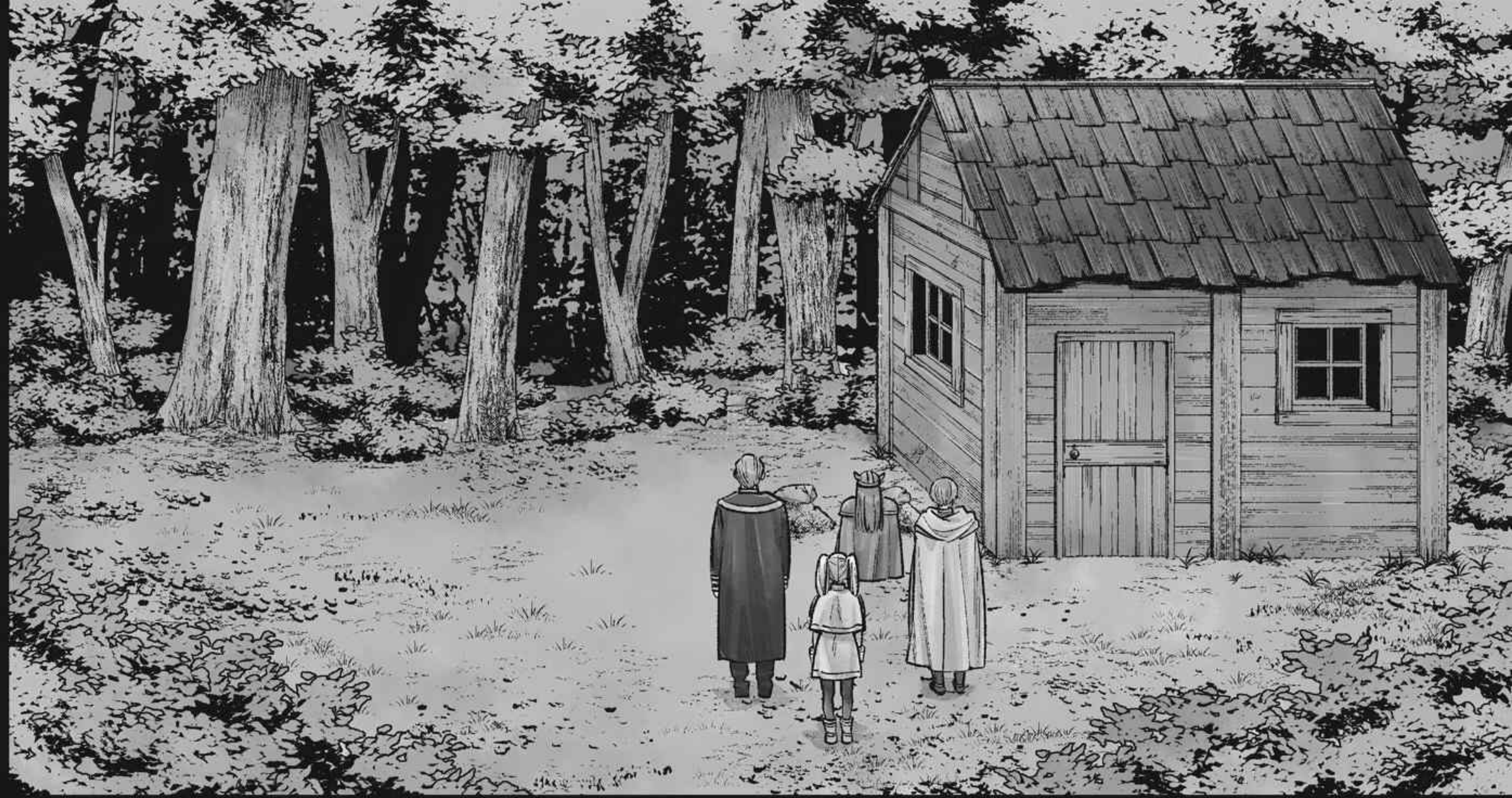
OF COURSE NOT.

YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GET UP ON YOUR OWN.

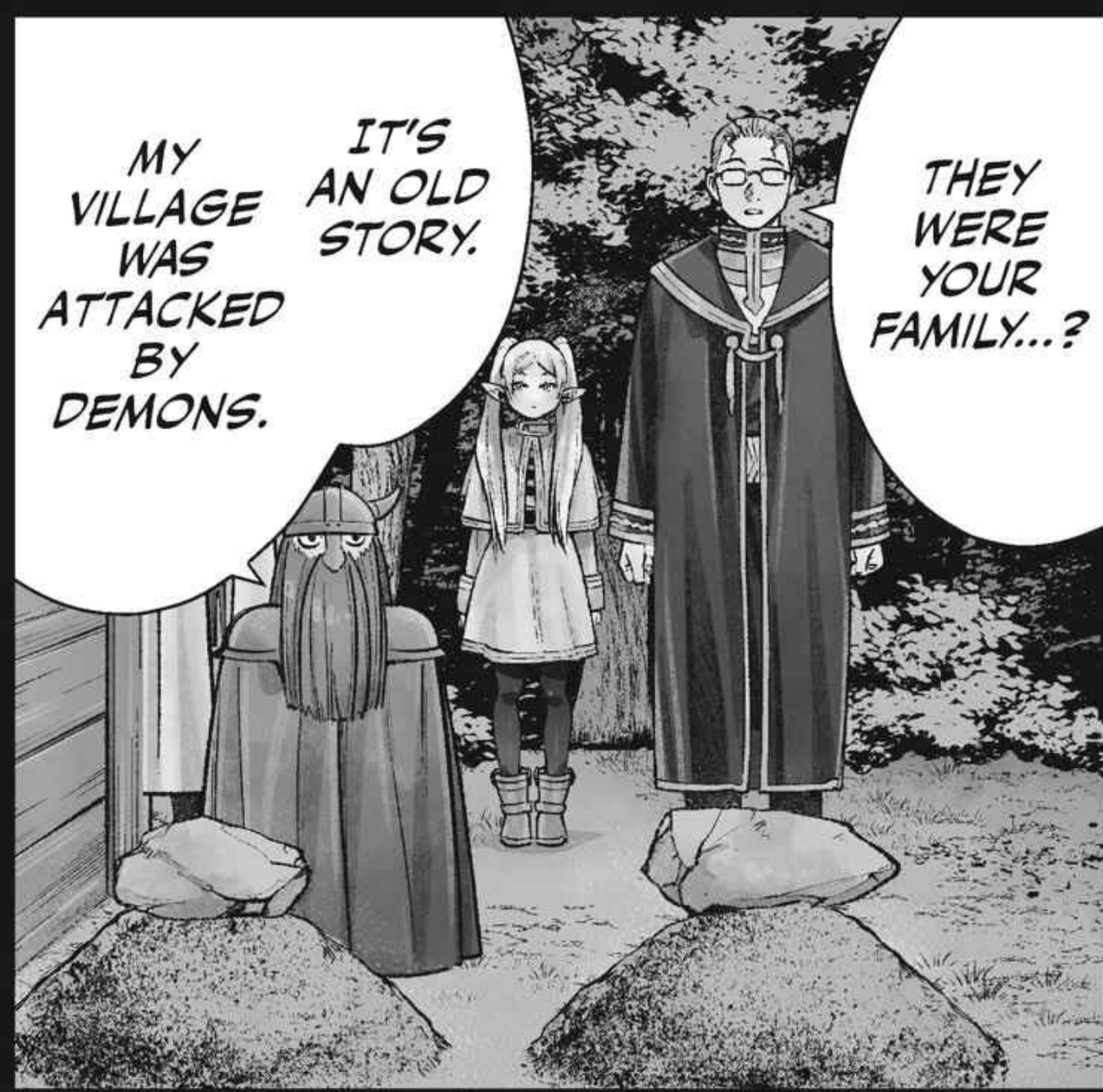
I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SEE THIS SUNRISE WITHOUT YOU, HUH?

Chapter 7: The Land Where Souls Rest





WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'M PRAYING.


THEY WERE YOUR FAMILY...?
IT'S AN OLD STORY.
MY VILLAGE WAS ATTACKED BY DEMONS.

WE GO TO HEAVEN.

YOU RETURN TO NOTHING WHEN YOU DIE.

WITH OUR CURRENT MAGIC TECHNIQUES, WE CANNOT OBSERVE SOULS AFTER DEATH, SO WE CAN'T PROVE THEIR EXISTENCE.

WELL, I'M SKEPTICAL ABOUT HEAVEN TOO.

UNTIL A FEW THOUSAND YEARS AGO, THE COMMONLY HELD BELIEF WAS THAT WE RETURN TO NOTHING WHEN WE DIE.

DWARVES VALUE THEIR TRADI-TIONS.

I AGREE.

I ALSO DON'T CARE IF HEAVEN EXISTS OR NOT.

I DON'T MIND EITHER WAY THOUGH.

PRIESTS SHOULDN'T SAY THAT, YOU CORRUPT PRIEST.

WHY?

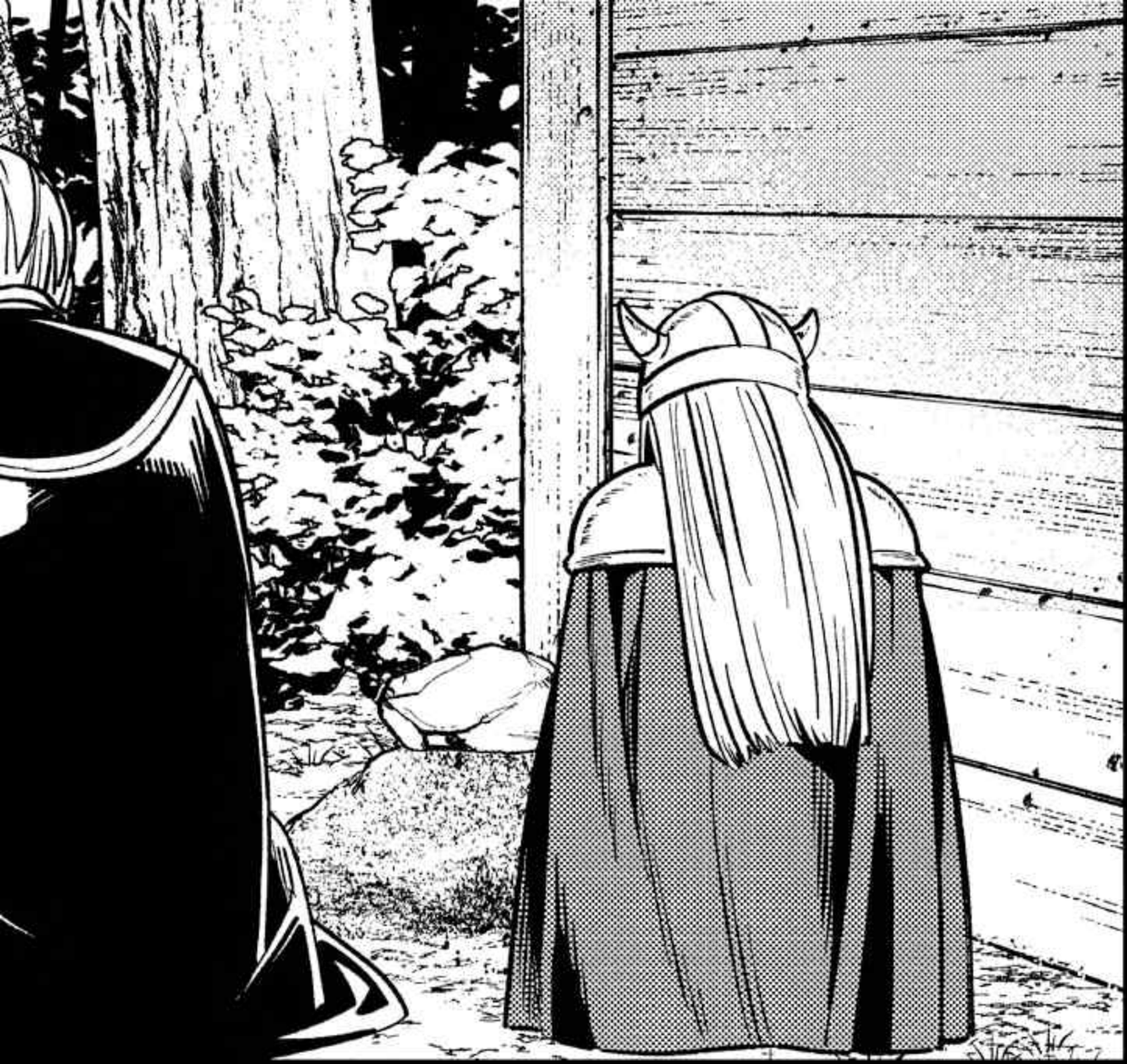
BUT EVEN IF IT DOESN'T EXIST...

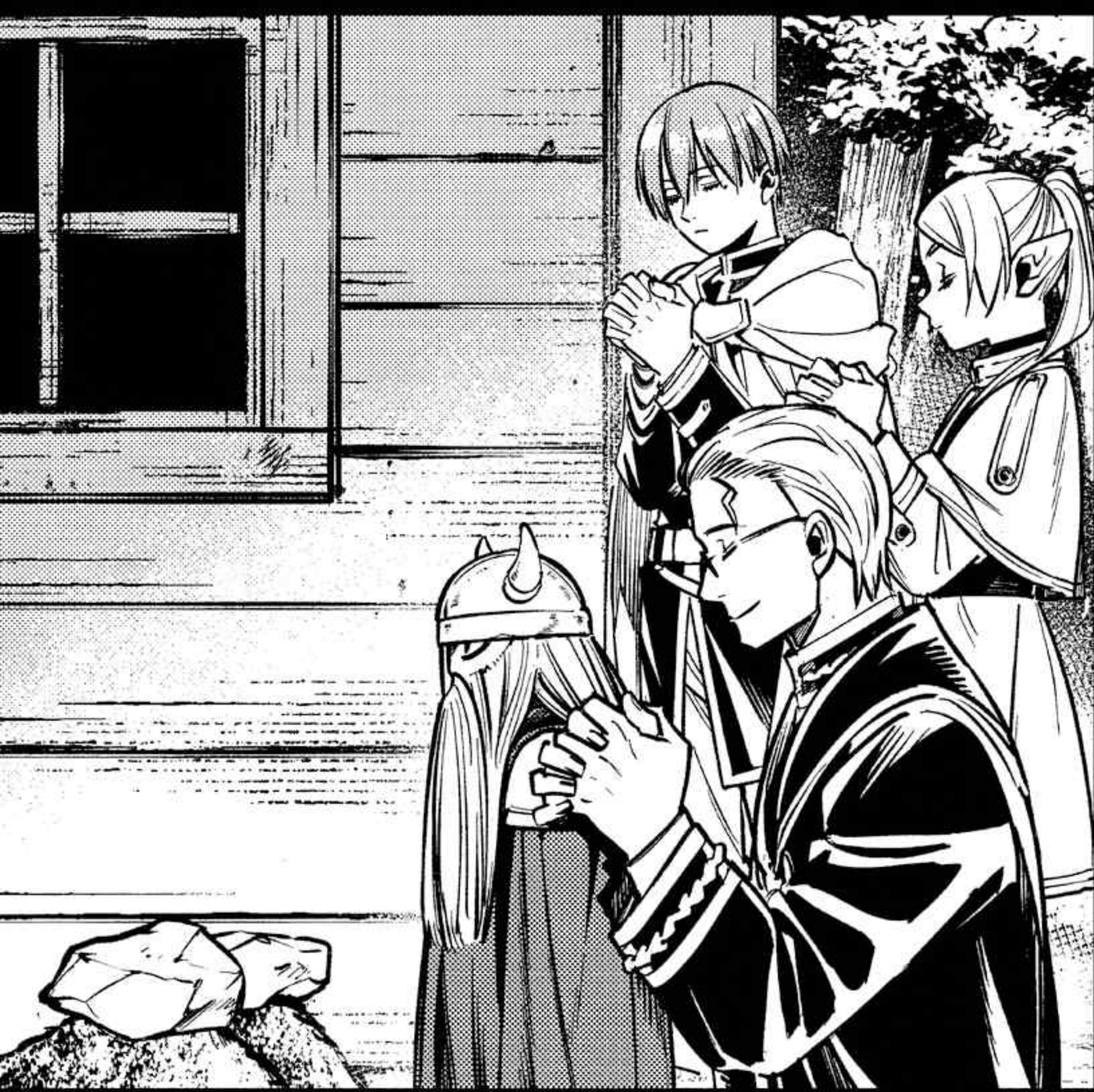
...I THINK IT'S SOMETHING THAT SHOULD.

THE FINAL DESTINATION FOR THOSE WHO KEPT ON LIVING DESPITE ALL OF LIFE'S HARDSHIPS SHOULDN'T BE OBLIVION.

IT'S MORE CONVENIENT THAT WAY.

WOULDN'T IT BE NICER TO THINK THAT THEY'RE INDULGING IN LUXURY UP IN HEAVEN?

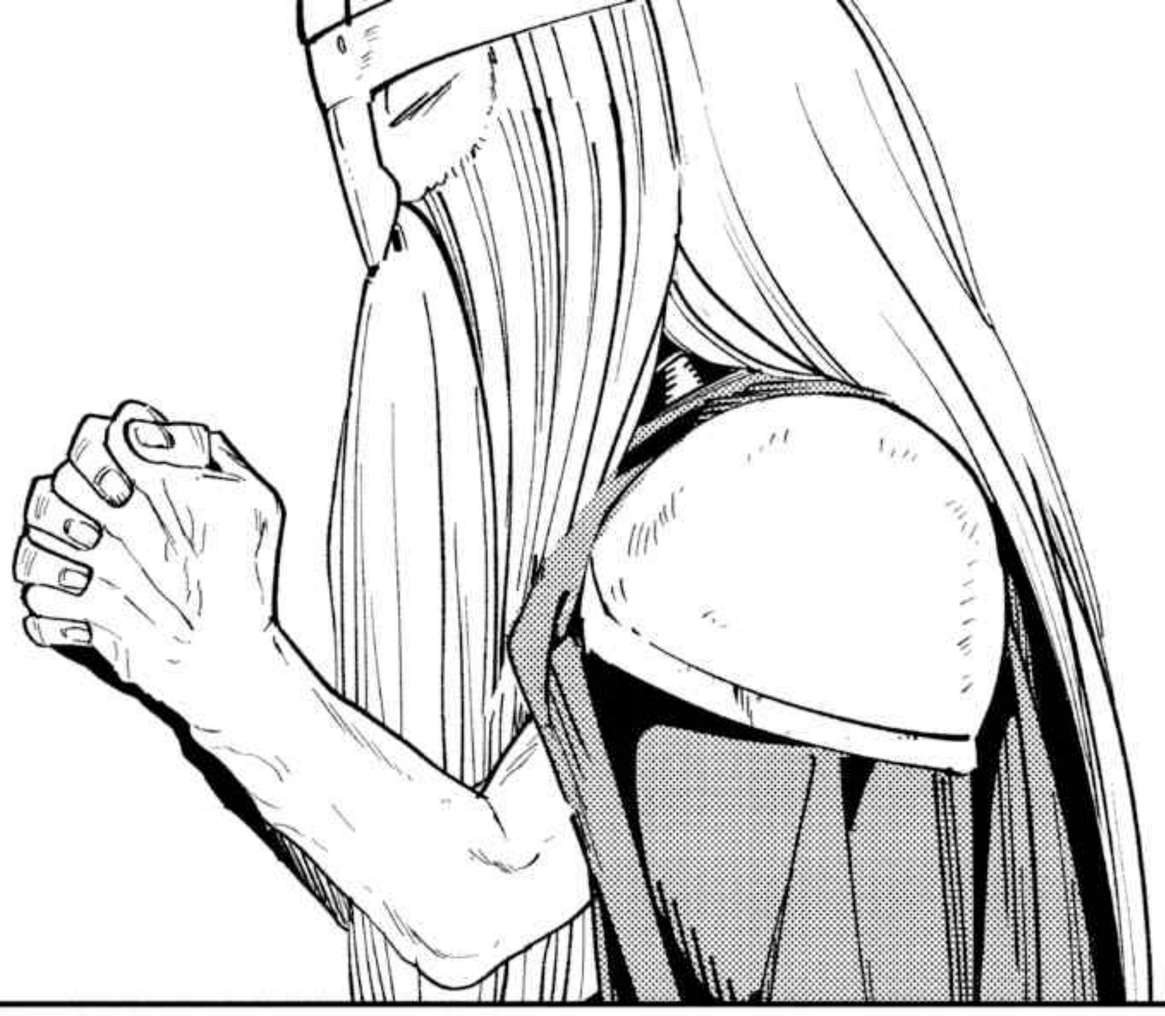




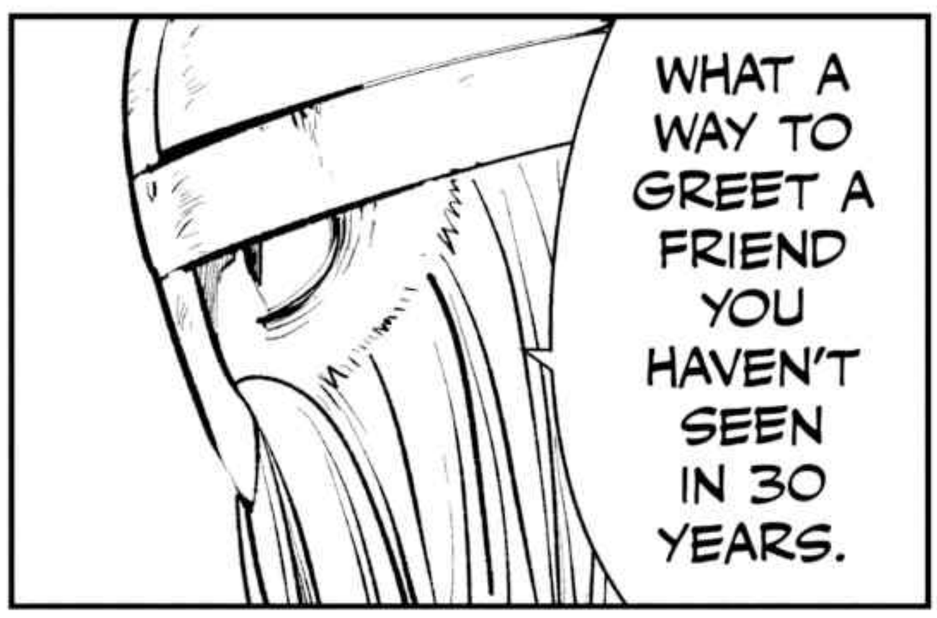
YOU'RE RIGHT. IT IS MORE CONVE-NIENT.
HEH HEH...

SHALL WE PRAY THEN?

YEAH.

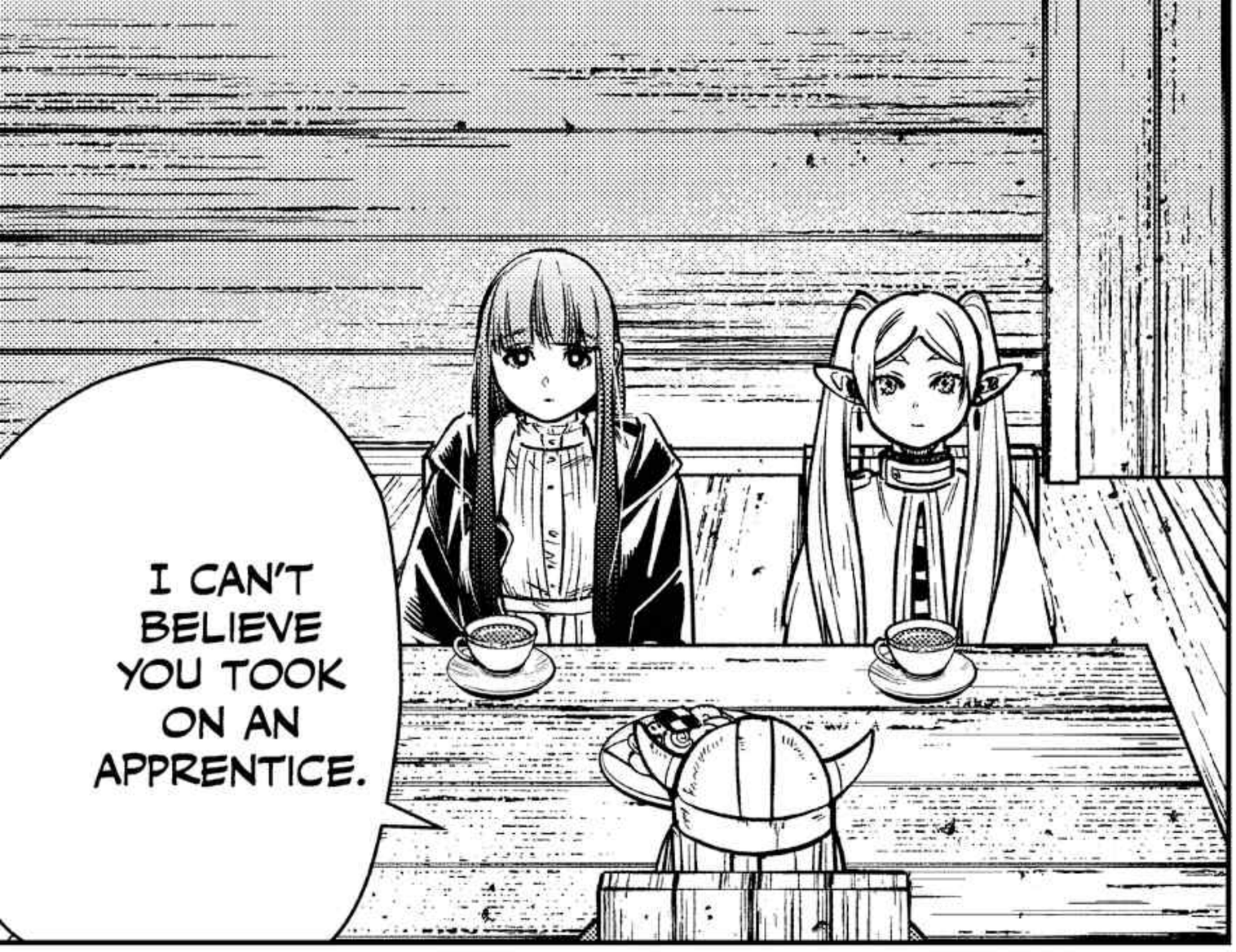


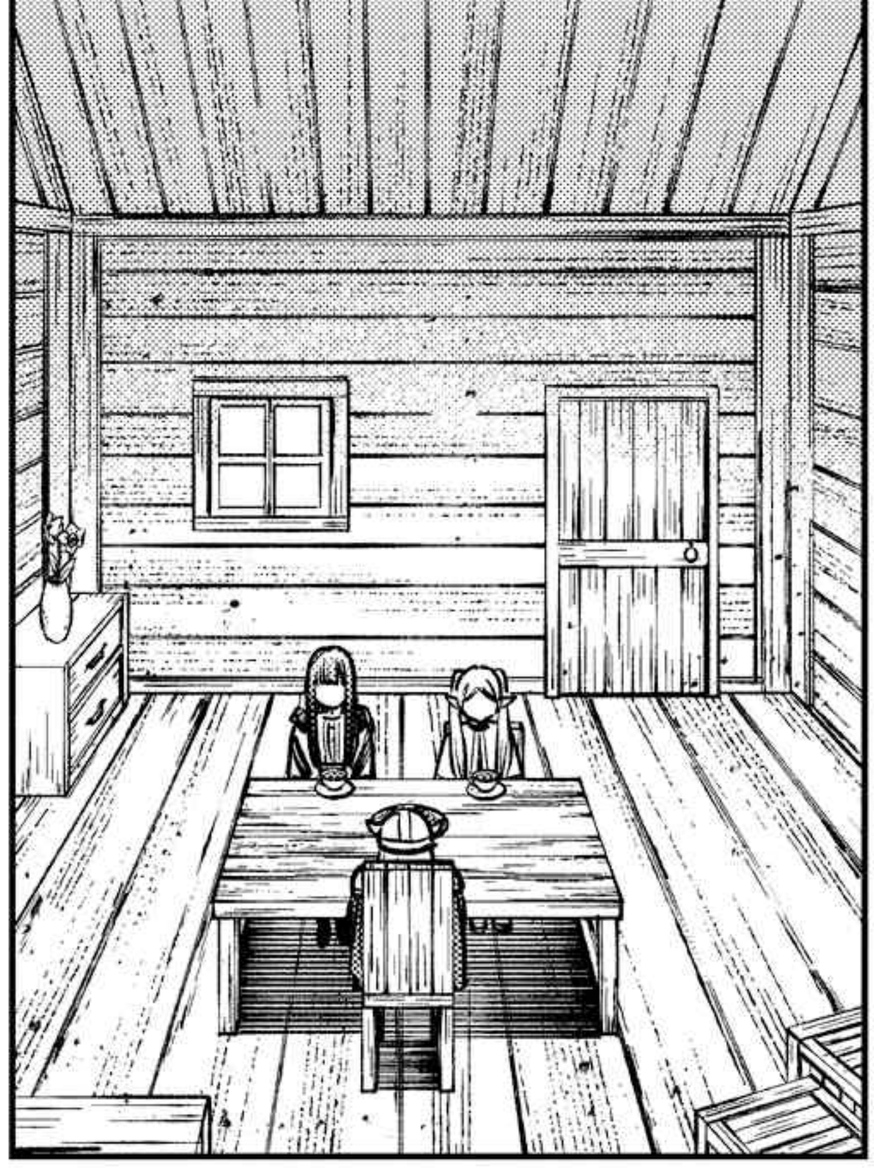
EISEN, I'VE COME TO VISIT YOU.

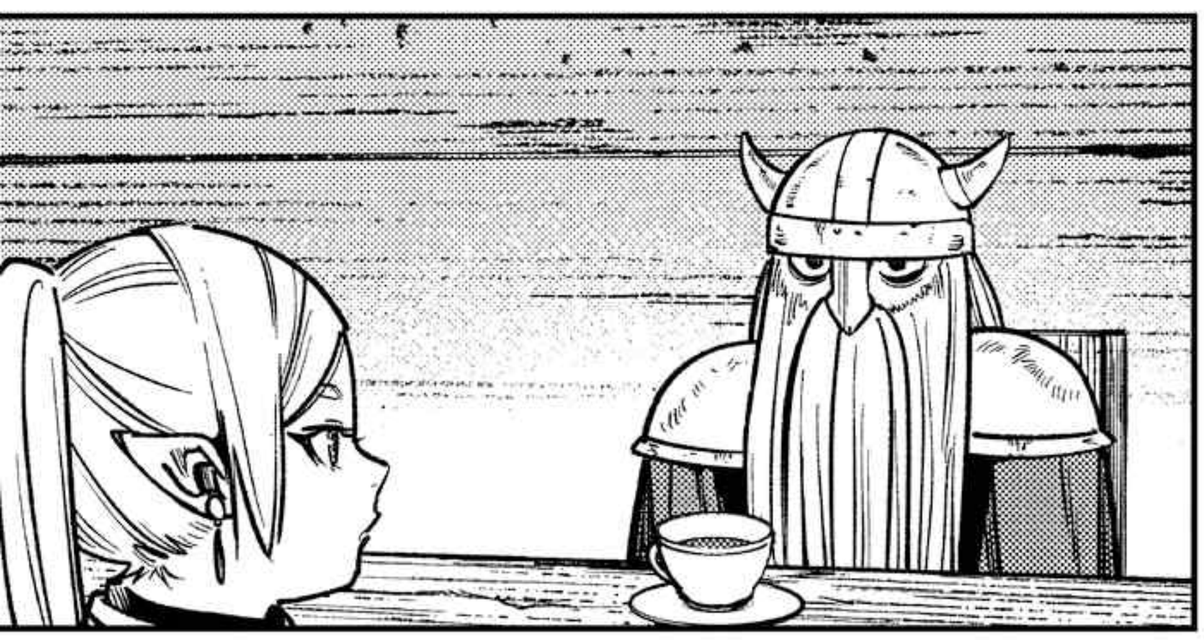

WHAT A WAY TO GREET A FRIEND YOU HAVEN'T SEEN IN 30 YEARS.

TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS AFTER THE DEATH OF HIMMEL THE HERO
CENTRAL LANDS
BREDT REGION

RIGHT.
IT'S *ONLY* BEEN 30 YEARS, RIGHT?

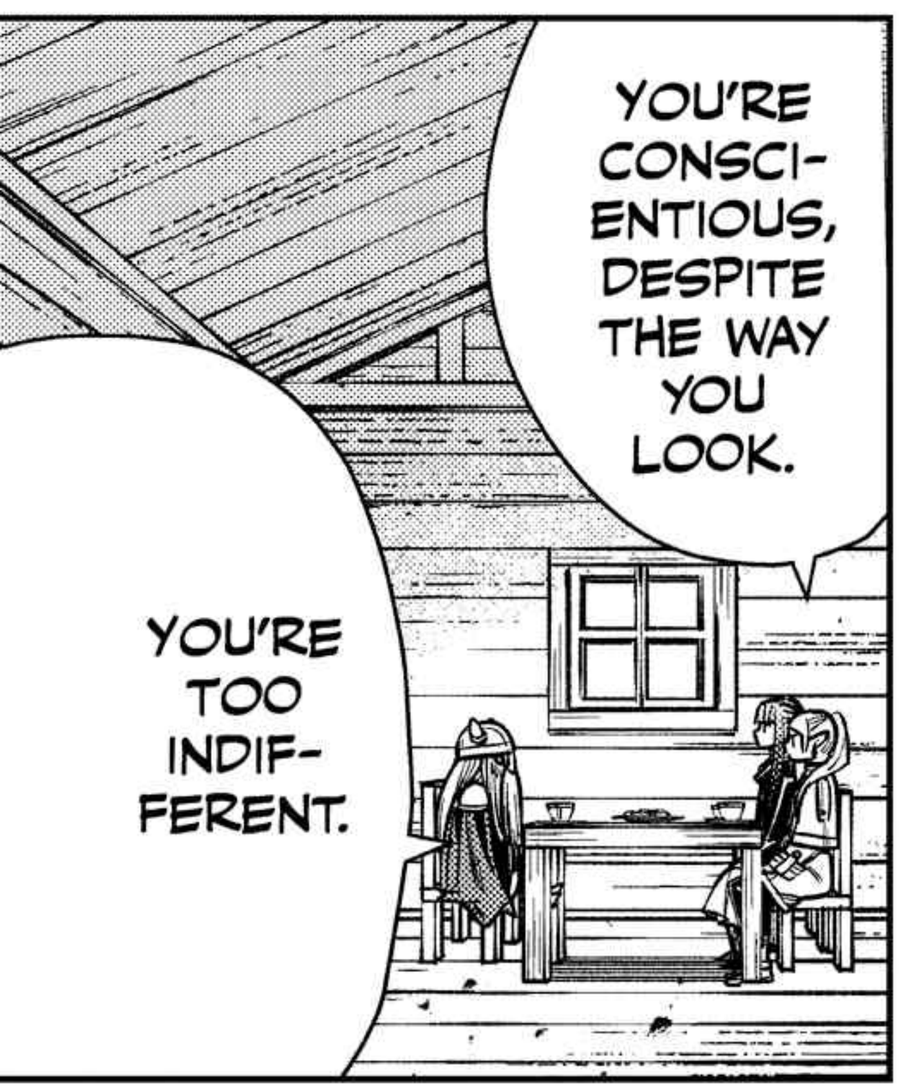

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU TOOK ON AN APPRENTICE.

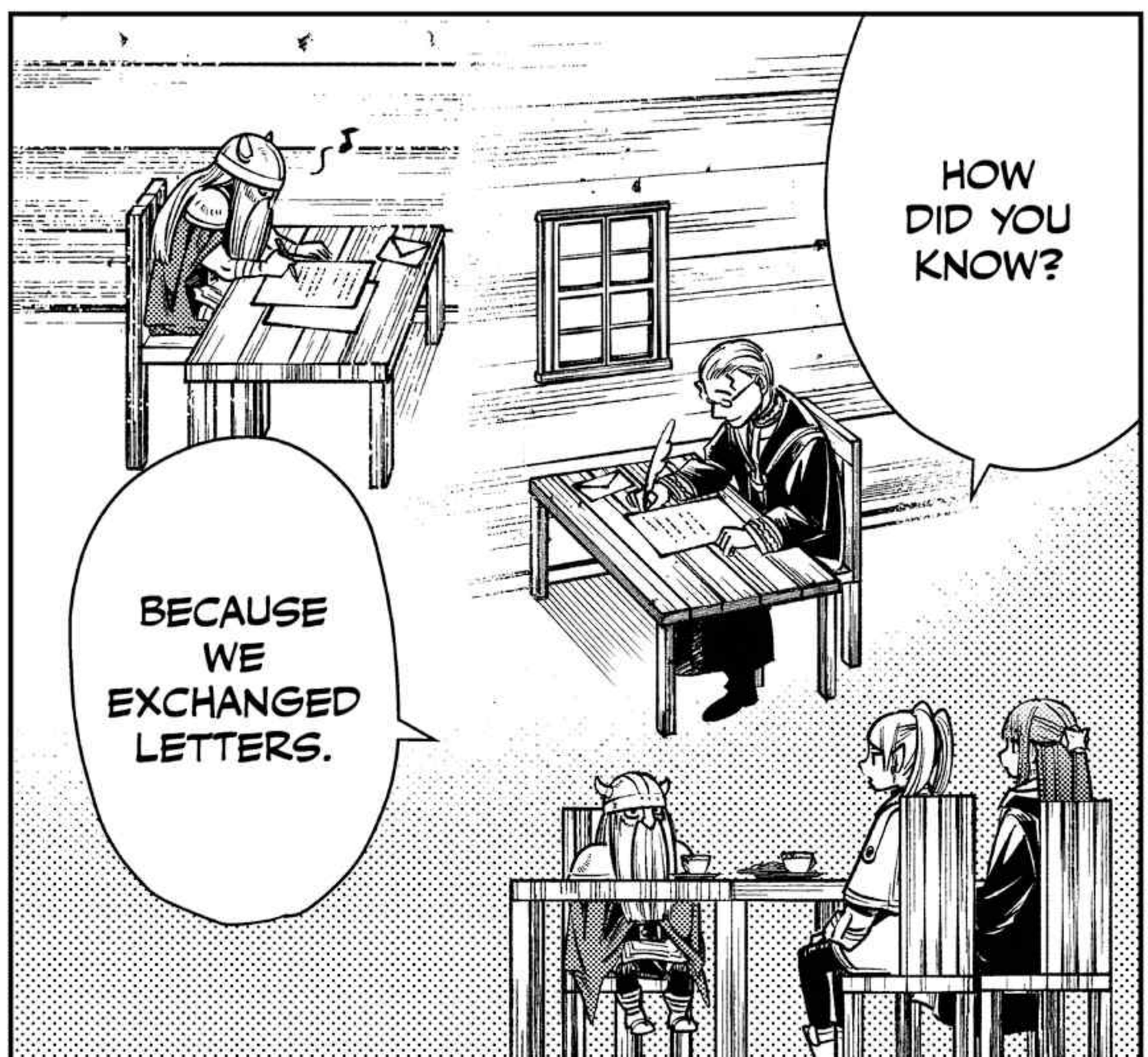


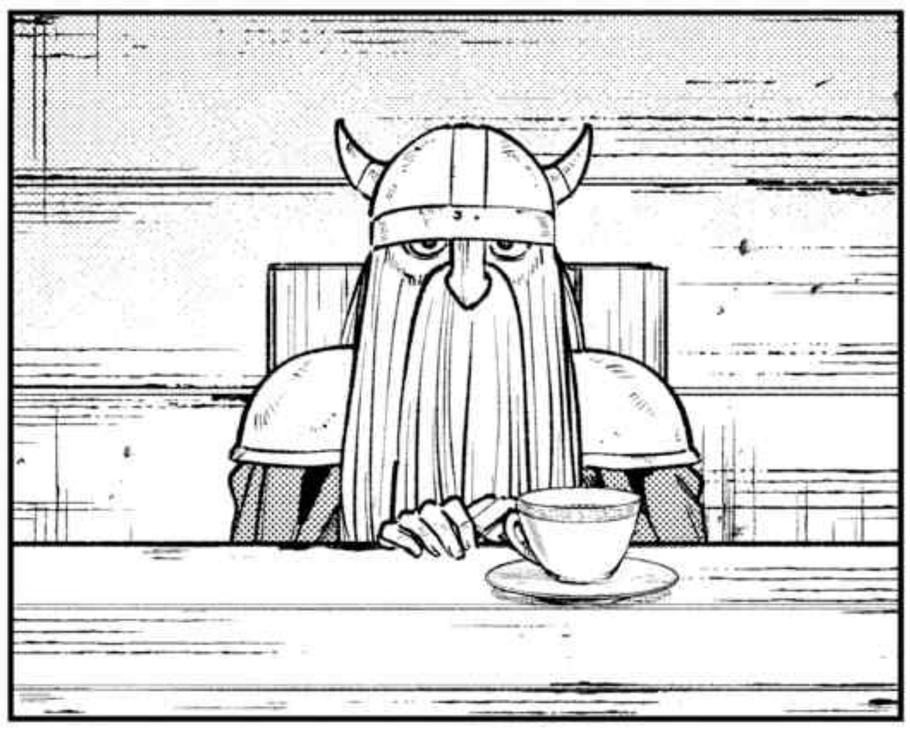


WELL, I'M NOT READY TO PASS ON JUST YET.
I HEARD YOU ASKED HEITER SOMETHING SIMILAR.

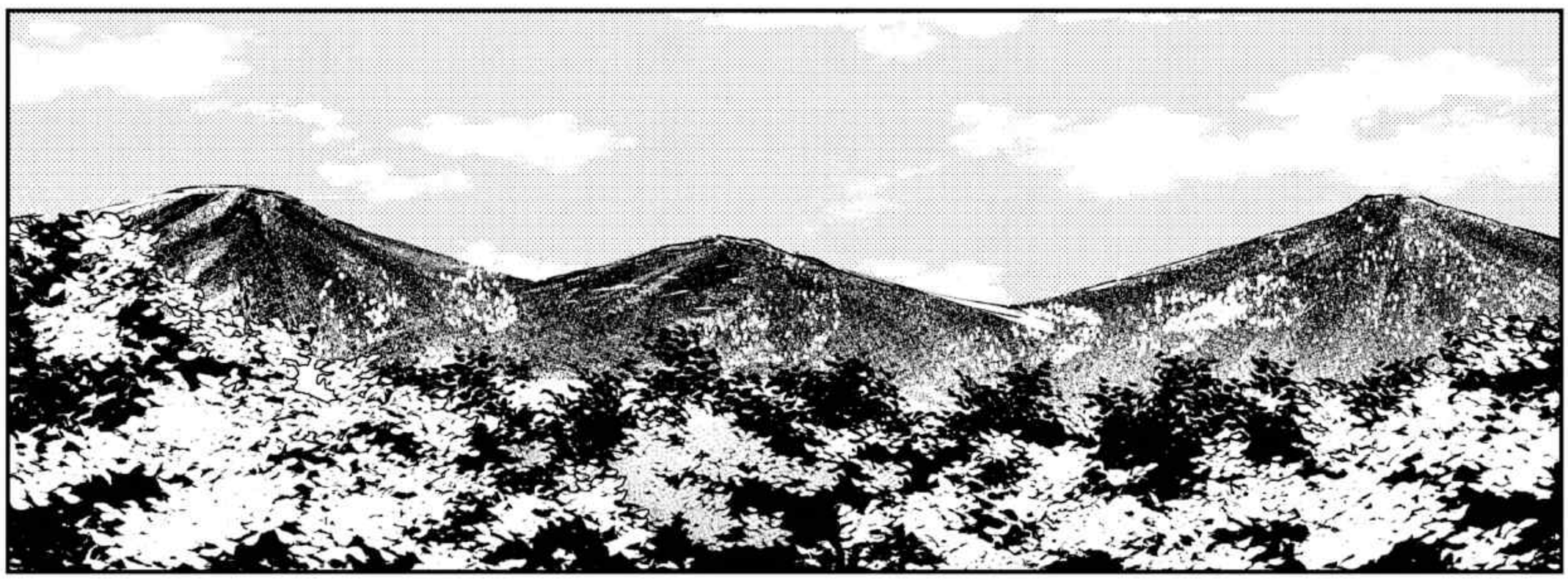
EISEN. IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WANT US TO HELP YOU WITH?

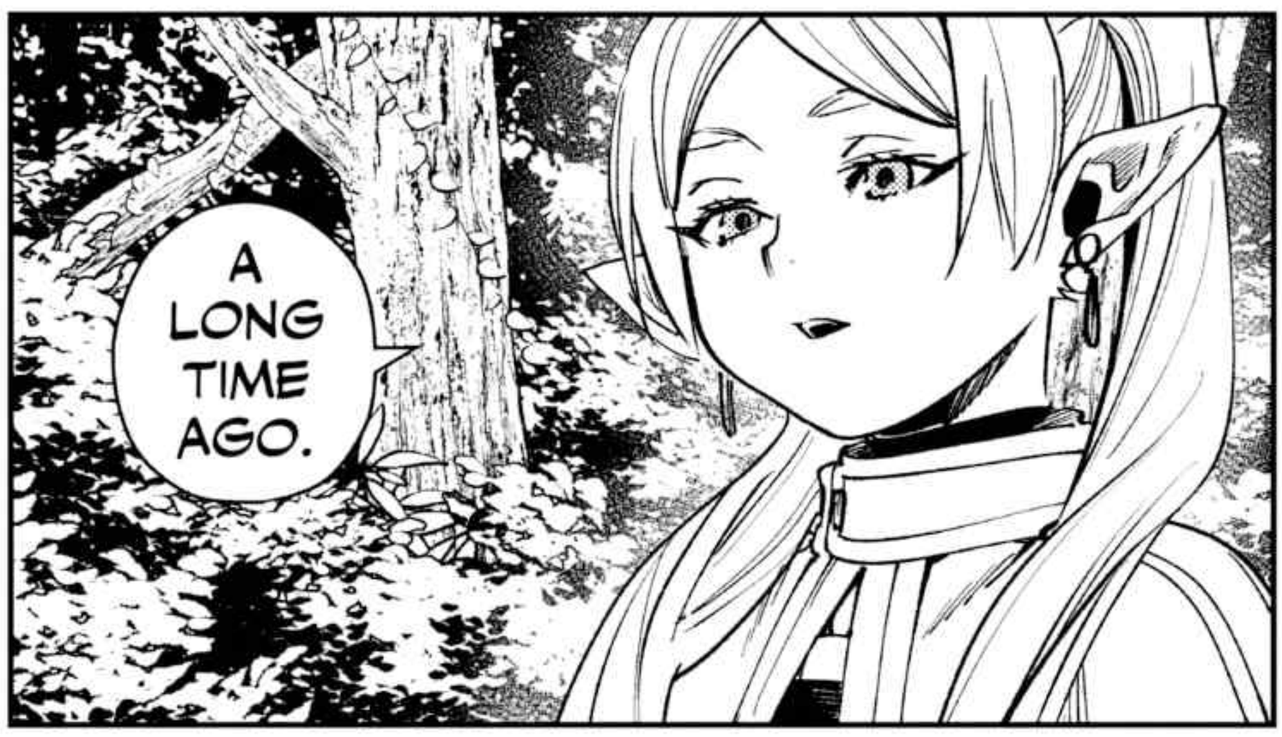

YOU'RE CONSCI-ENTIOUS, DESPITE THE WAY YOU LOOK.
YOU'RE TOO INDIF-FERENT.

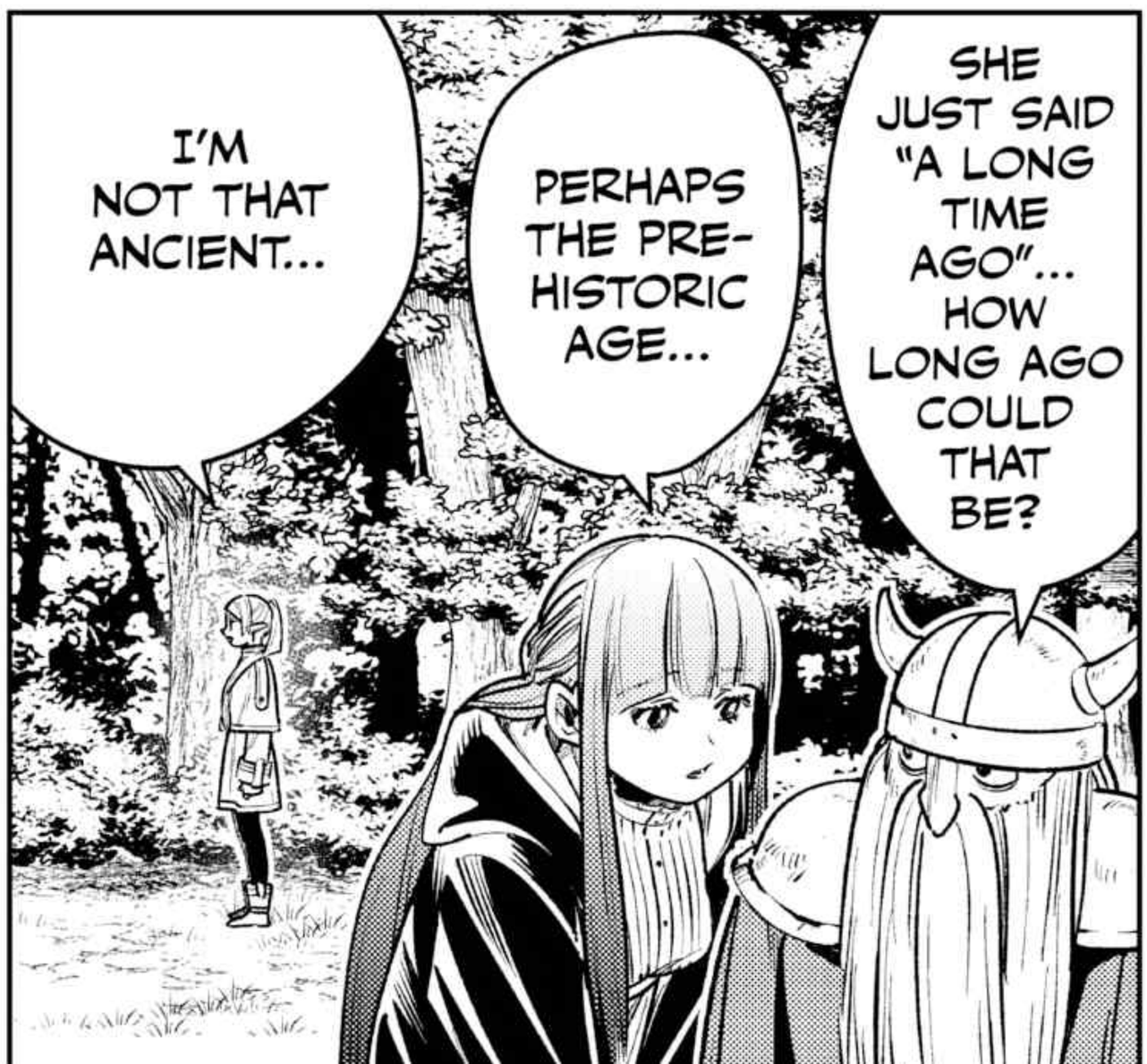

HOW DID YOU KNOW?
BECAUSE WE EXCHANGED LETTERS.



SO IS THERE ANYTHING YOU NEED OUR HELP WITH?

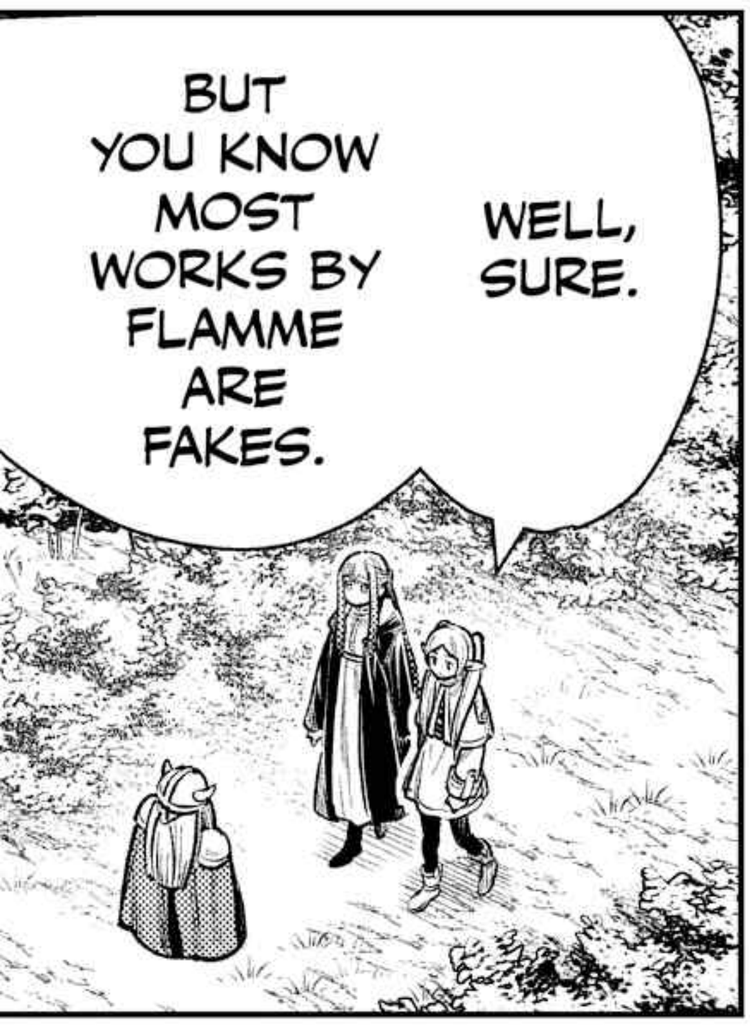



A LONG TIME AGO.


I'M NOT THAT ANCIENT...
PERHAPS THE PRE-HISTORIC AGE...
SHE JUST SAID "A LONG TIME AGO"... HOW LONG AGO COULD THAT BE?

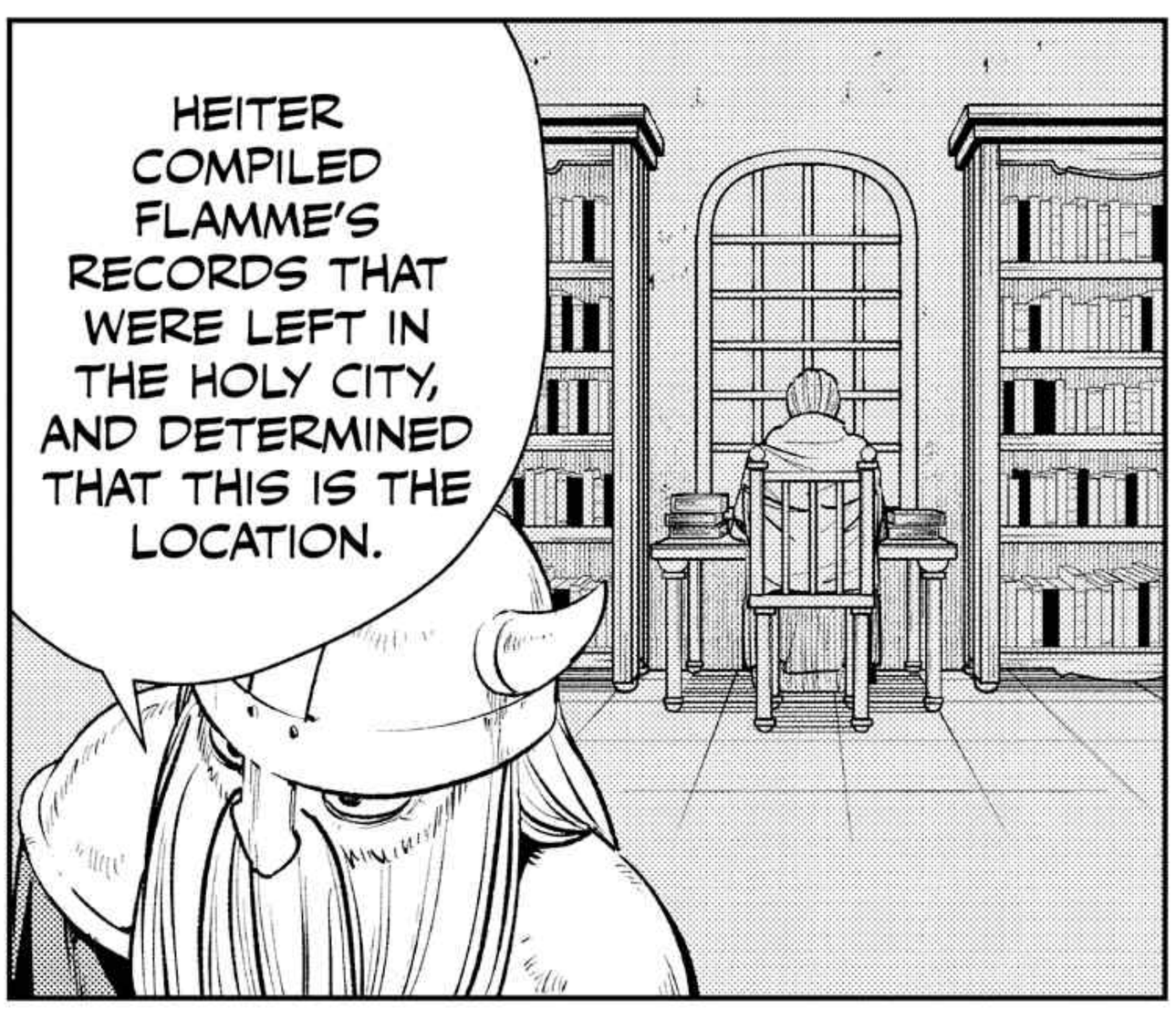
THE VOLL BASIN, HUH? HOW NOSTALGIC.
YOU'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE?

HMMM?


BUT YOU KNOW MOST WORKS BY FLAMME ARE FAKES.
WELL, SURE.

SO, YOU SAID YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?
THE GREAT MAGE FLAMME'S NOTES.

HER REAL NOTES SHOULD BE SOMEWHERE IN THE VOLL BASIN.


HEITER COMPILED FLAMME'S RECORDS THAT WERE LEFT IN THE HOLY CITY, AND DETERMINED THAT THIS IS THE LOCATION.

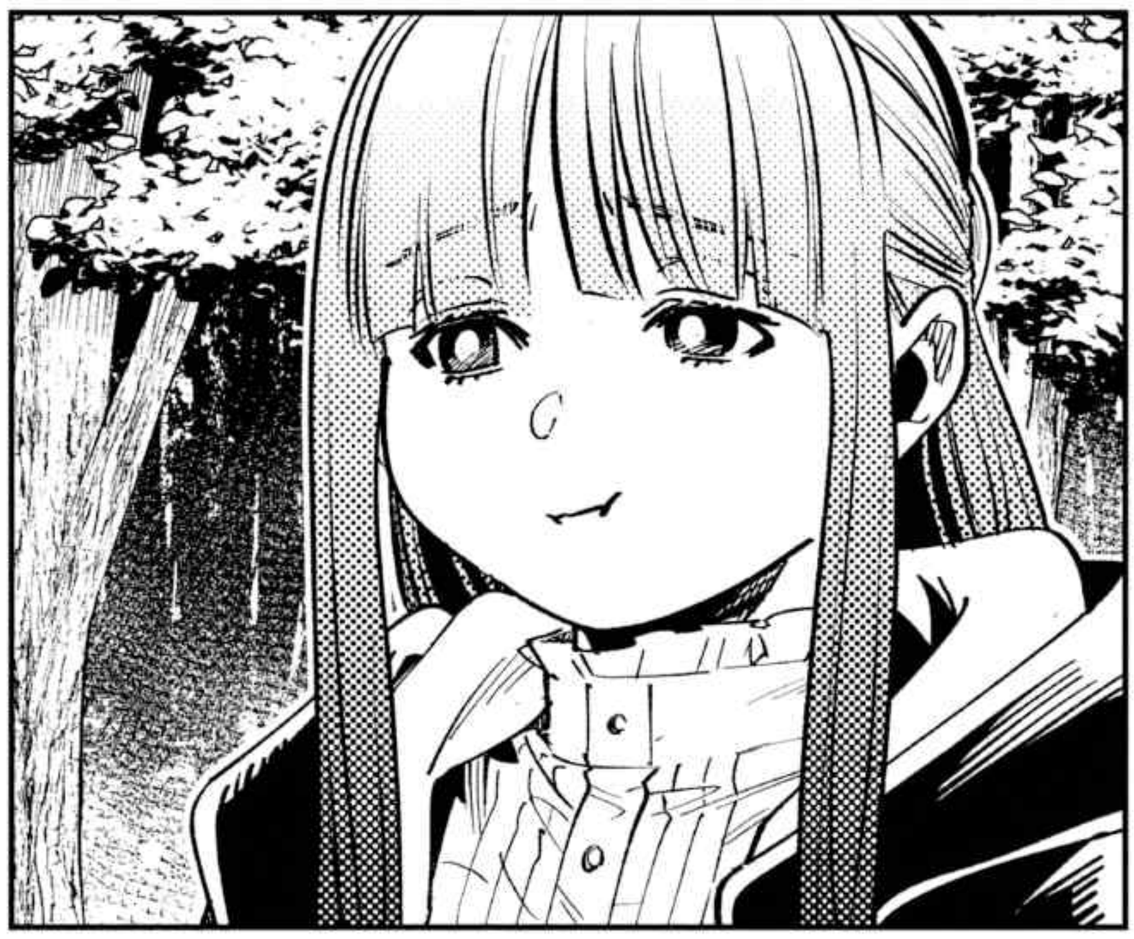
THAT CORRUPT PRIEST... I DIDN'T REALIZE HE LOOKED INTO IT THAT FAR.

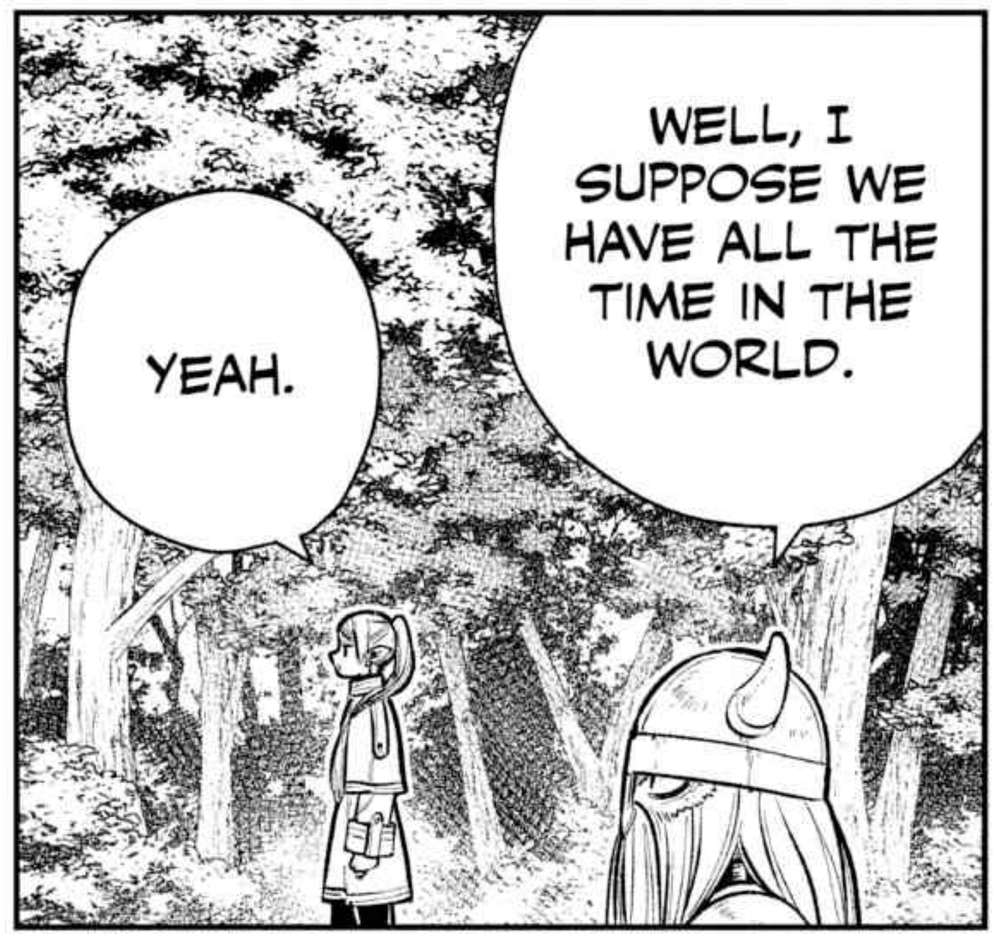
FRIEREN, I'M SURE YOU KNOW ABOUT IT.

A BIG TREE, HUH? THIS COULD TAKE FOREVER.

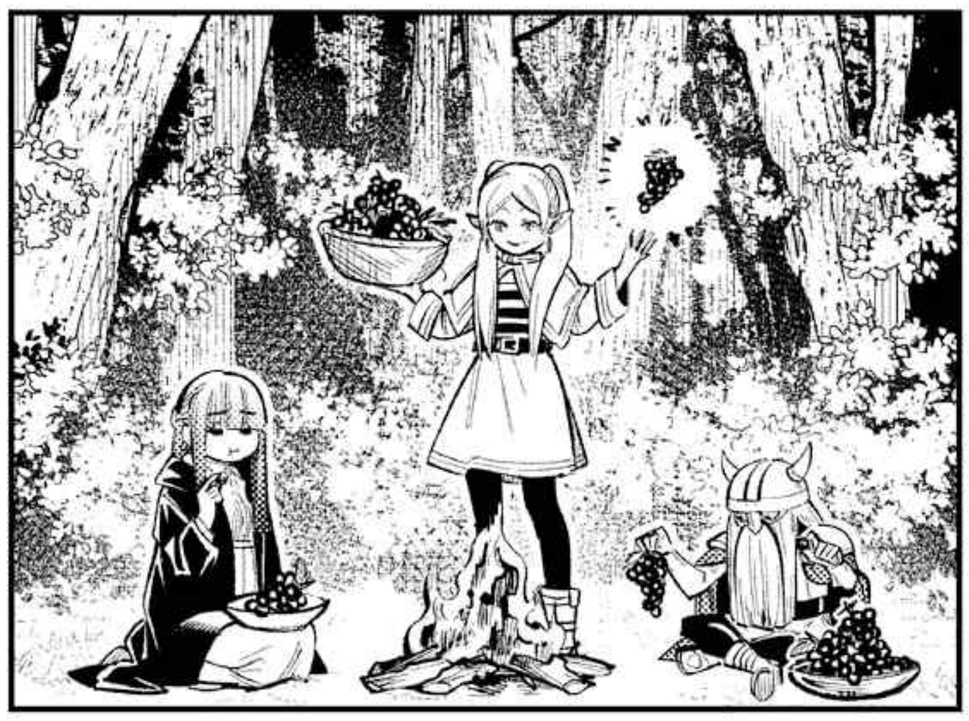
They're everywhere.

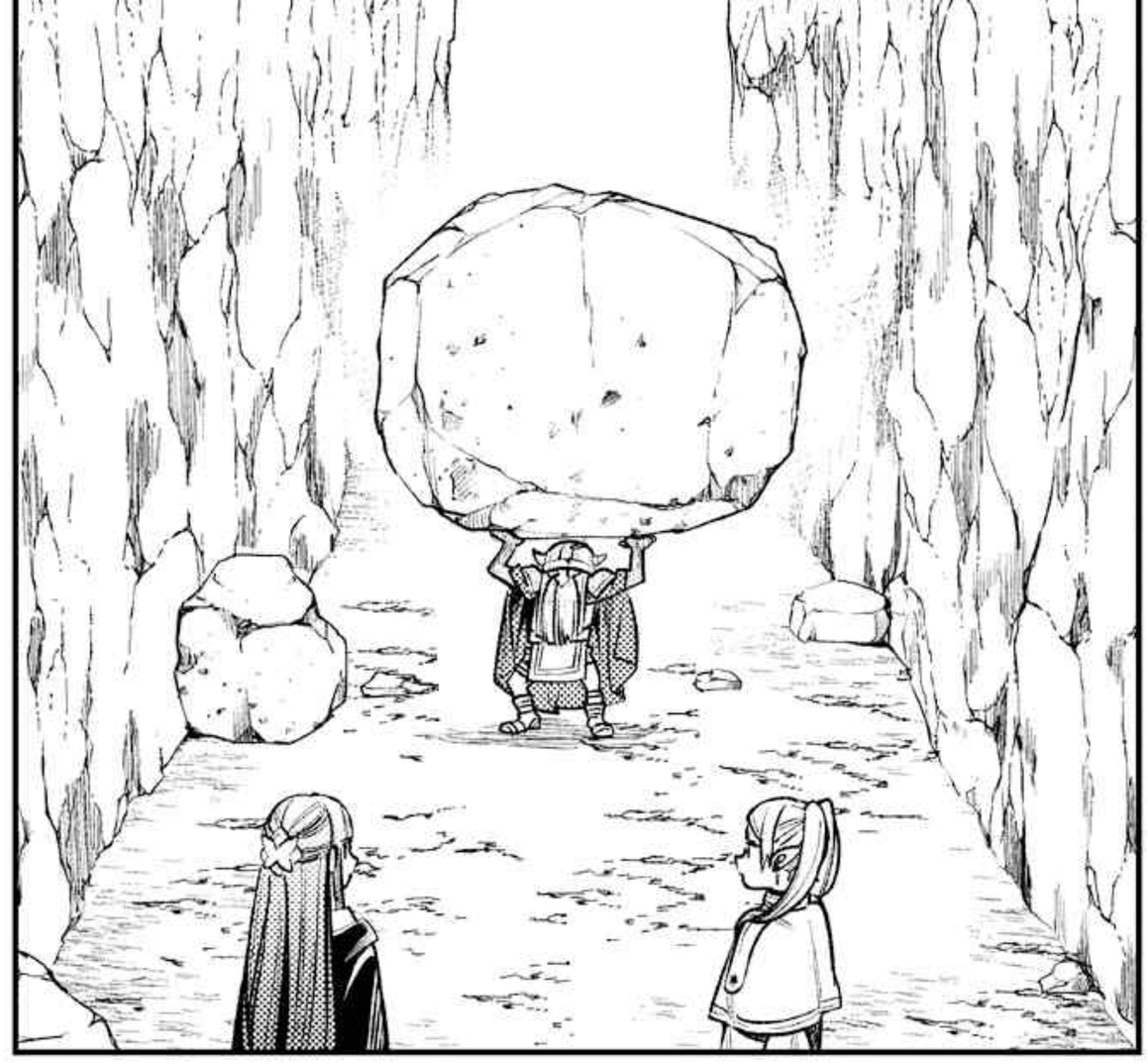
ALL RIGHT. LET'S START BY FINDING A BIG TREE.

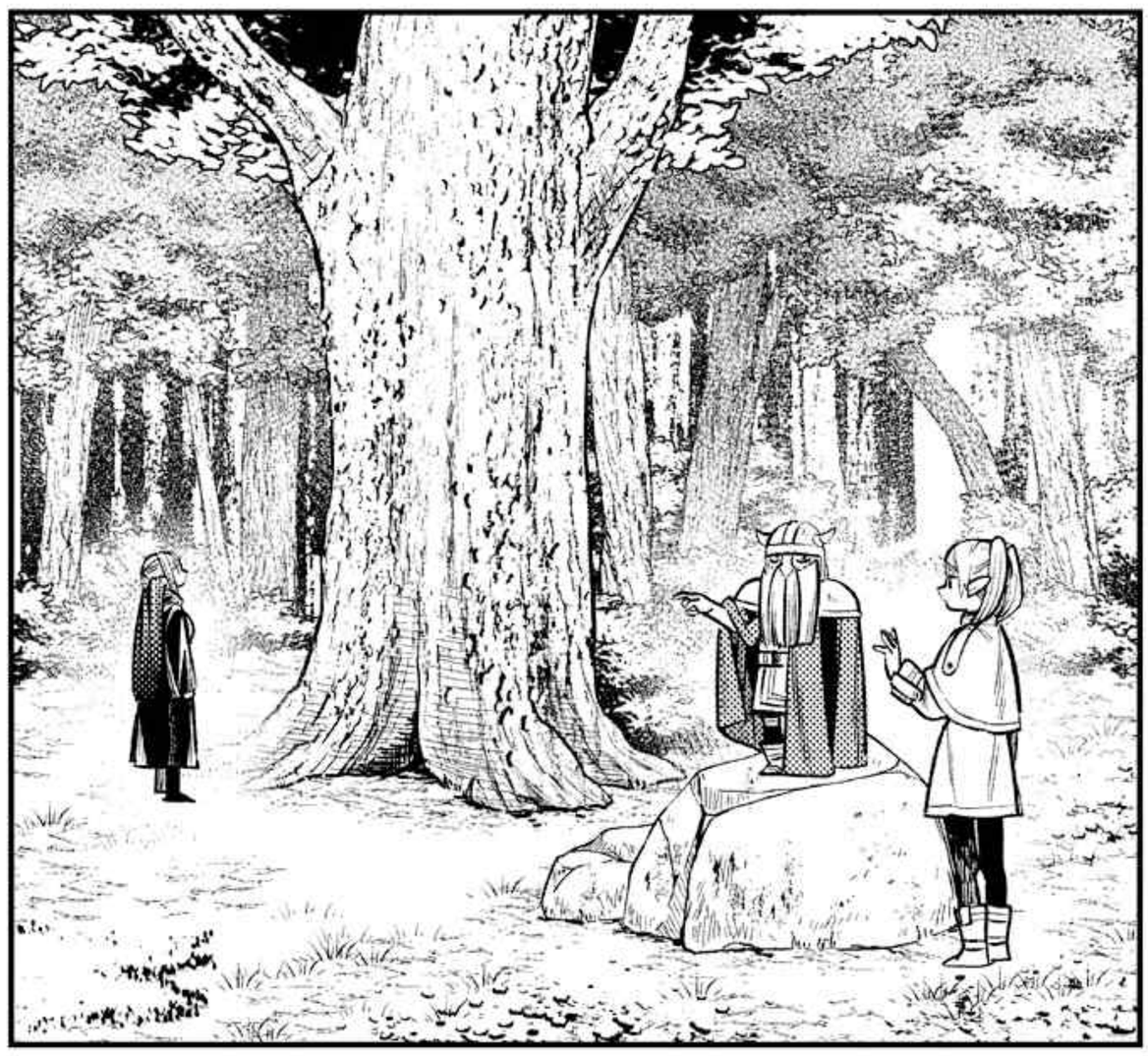




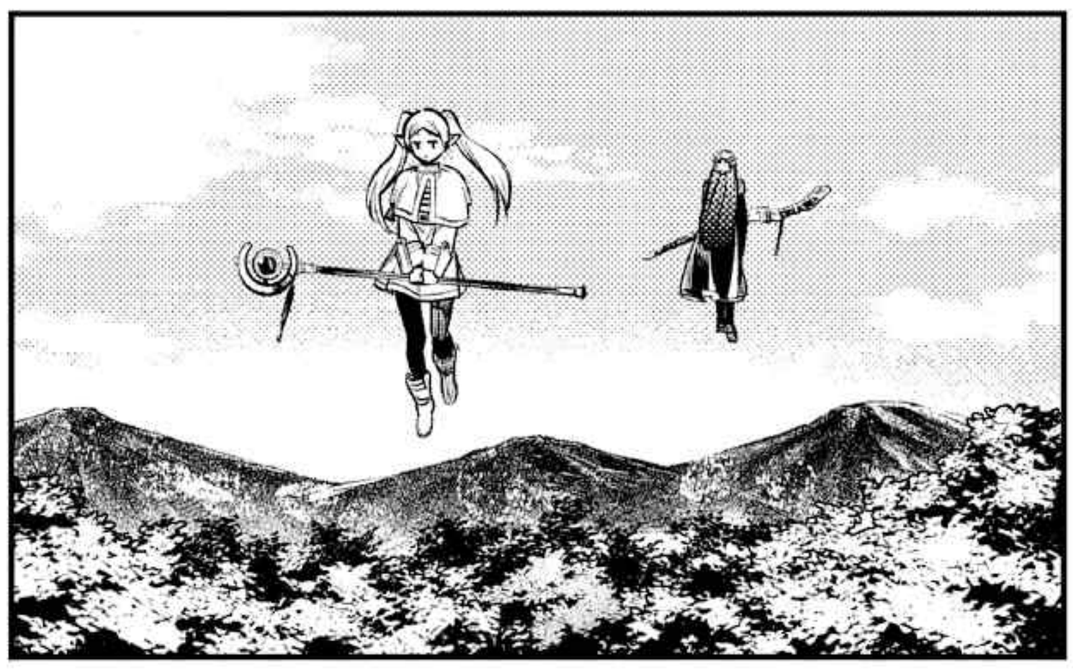
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW SCARY FERN GETS WHEN SHE'S ANGRY.
YOU NEVER CARED ABOUT OTHERS' TIME BEFORE.
YOU'VE CHANGED.
I SEE. I'LL BE CAREFUL THEN.



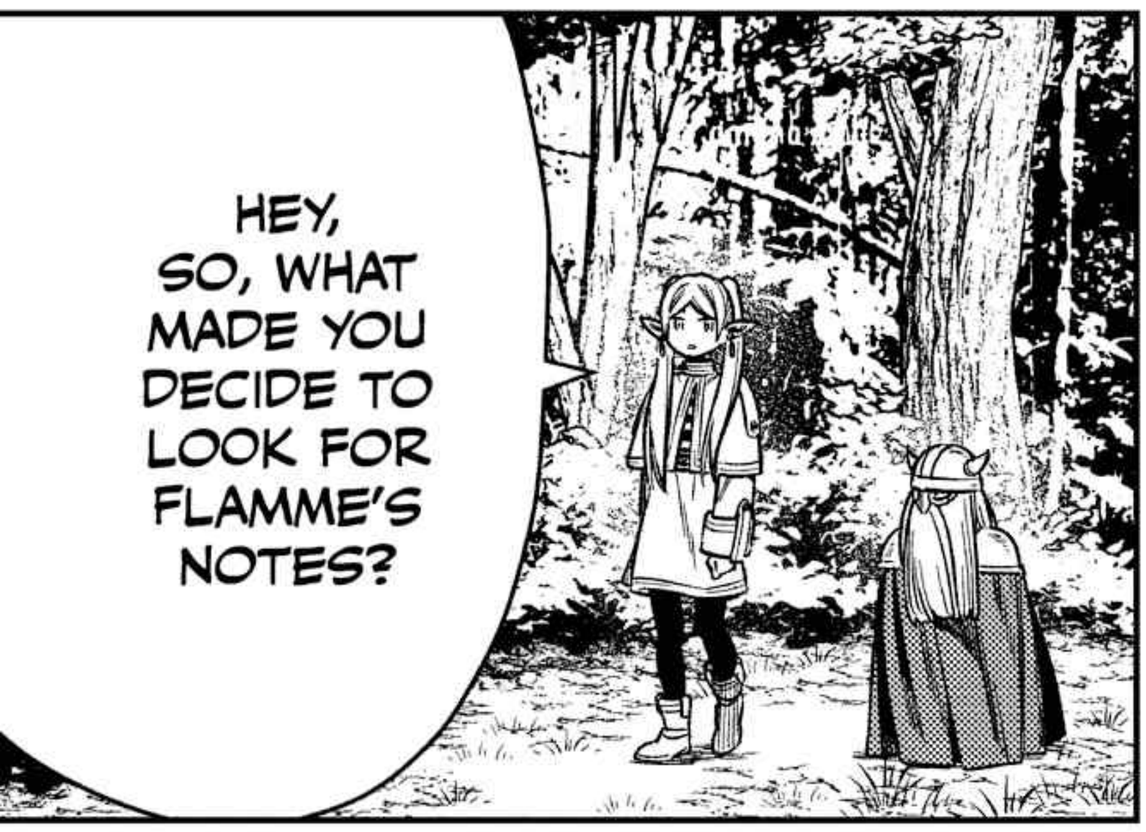


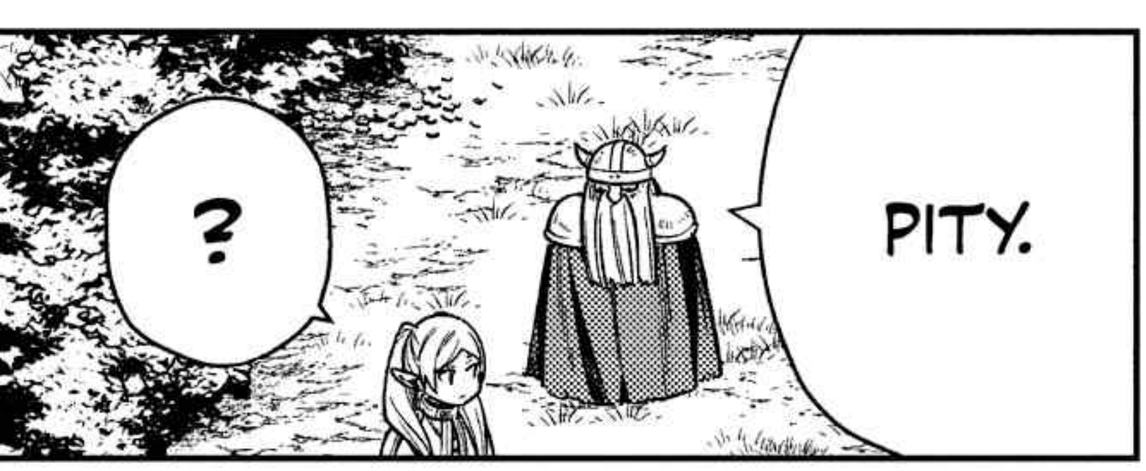


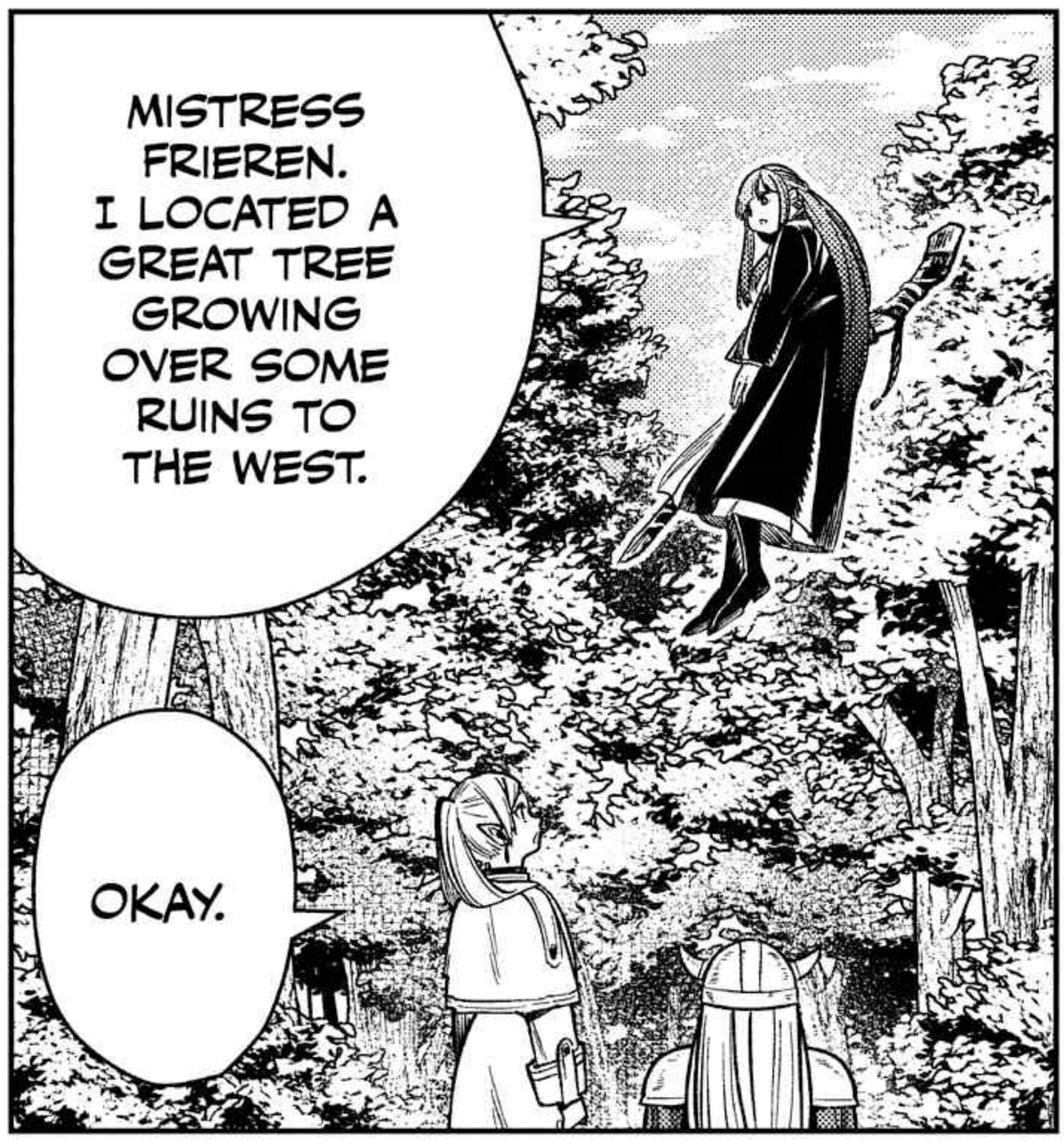
ZZZZ

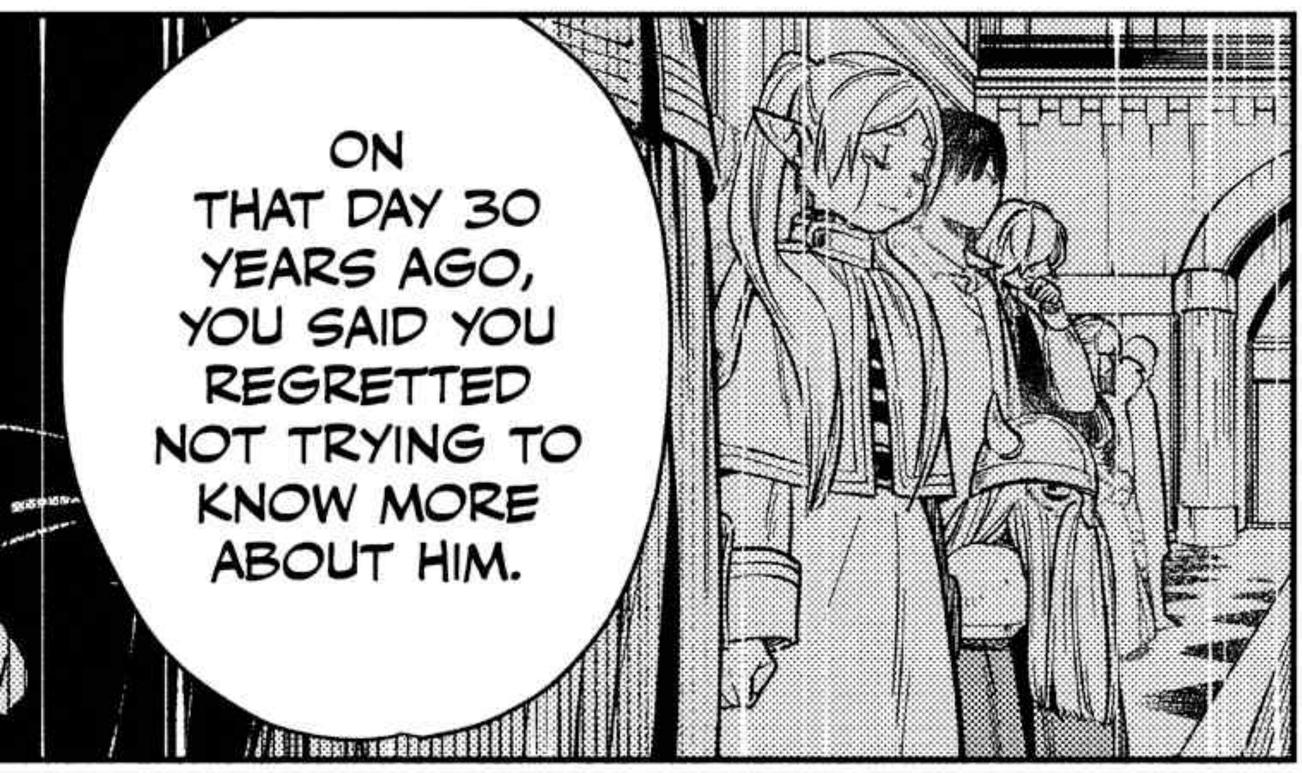


ZZZZ
ZZZZ


HEY, SO, WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO LOOK FOR FLAMME'S NOTES?


?
PITY.


MISTRESS FRIEREN. I LOCATED A GREAT TREE GROWING OVER SOME RUINS TO THE WEST.
OKAY.


ON THAT DAY 30 YEARS AGO, YOU SAID YOU REGRETTED NOT TRYING TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HIM.

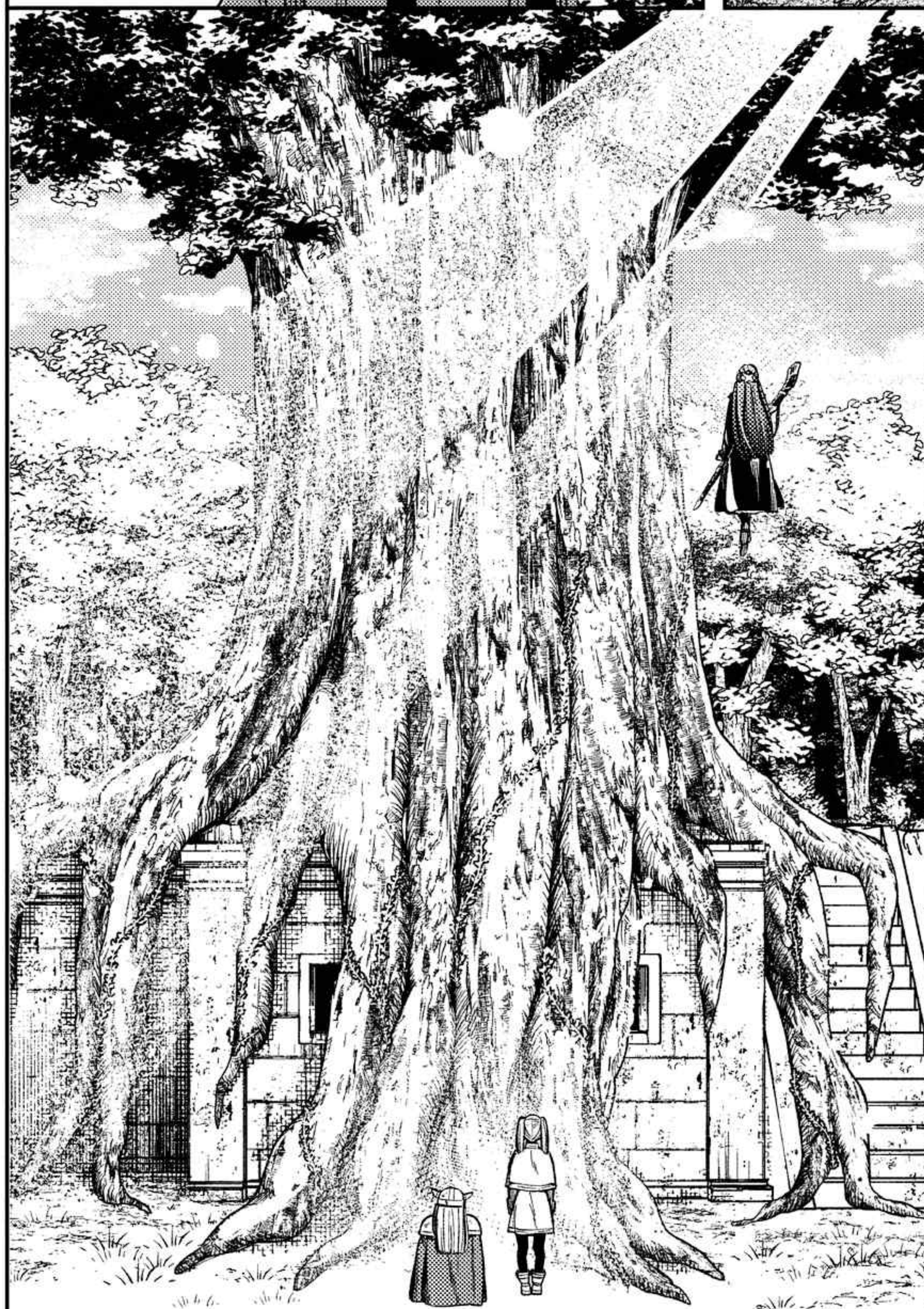
YOU SHOULD CONVEY THOSE WORDS TO HIM DIRECTLY.

I FELT PITY FOR YOU AND HIMMEL.

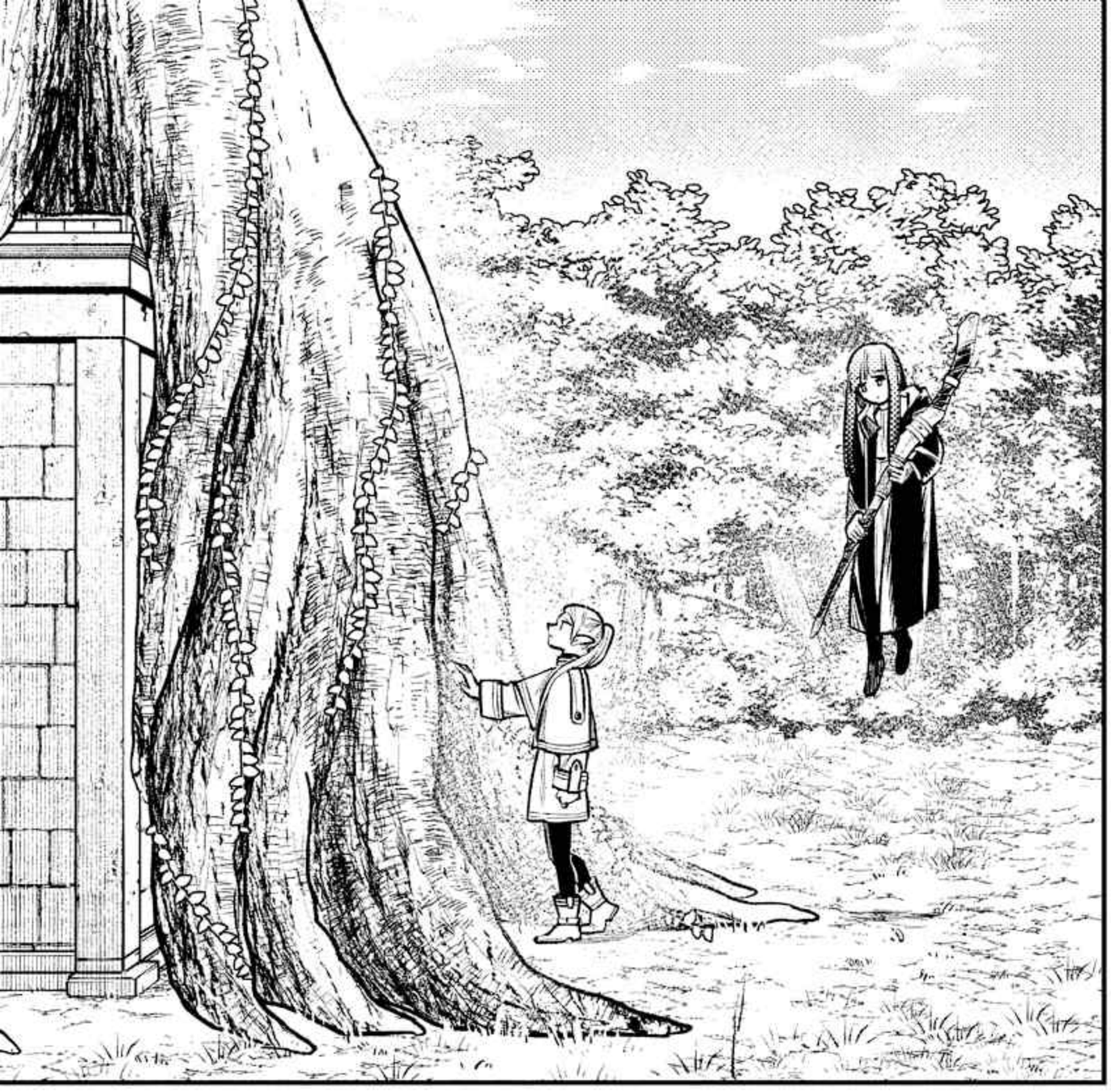
AND I'M NOT THINKING ABOUT SEEING HIM NOW.
THAT'S JUST SOME FAIRY TALE.

IT'S SAID THAT IN THE GREAT MAGE FLAMME'S NOTES, THERE'S A RECORD OF HER CONVERSING WITH THE DEAD.

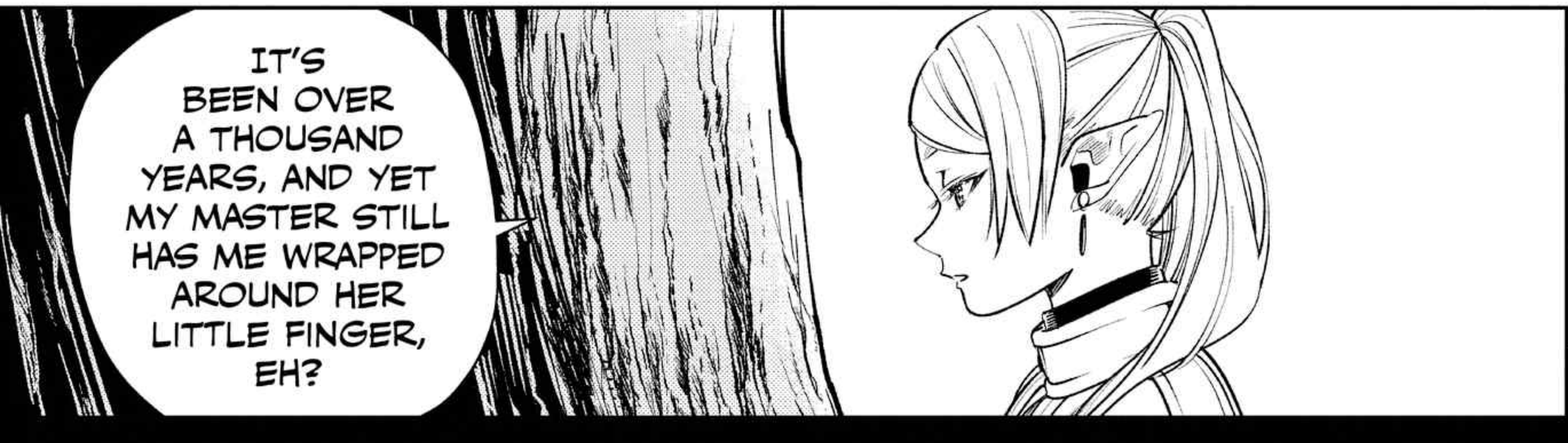
ALL MAGIC STARTED OFF AS A FAIRY TALE.
BESIDES, DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT HIMMEL?



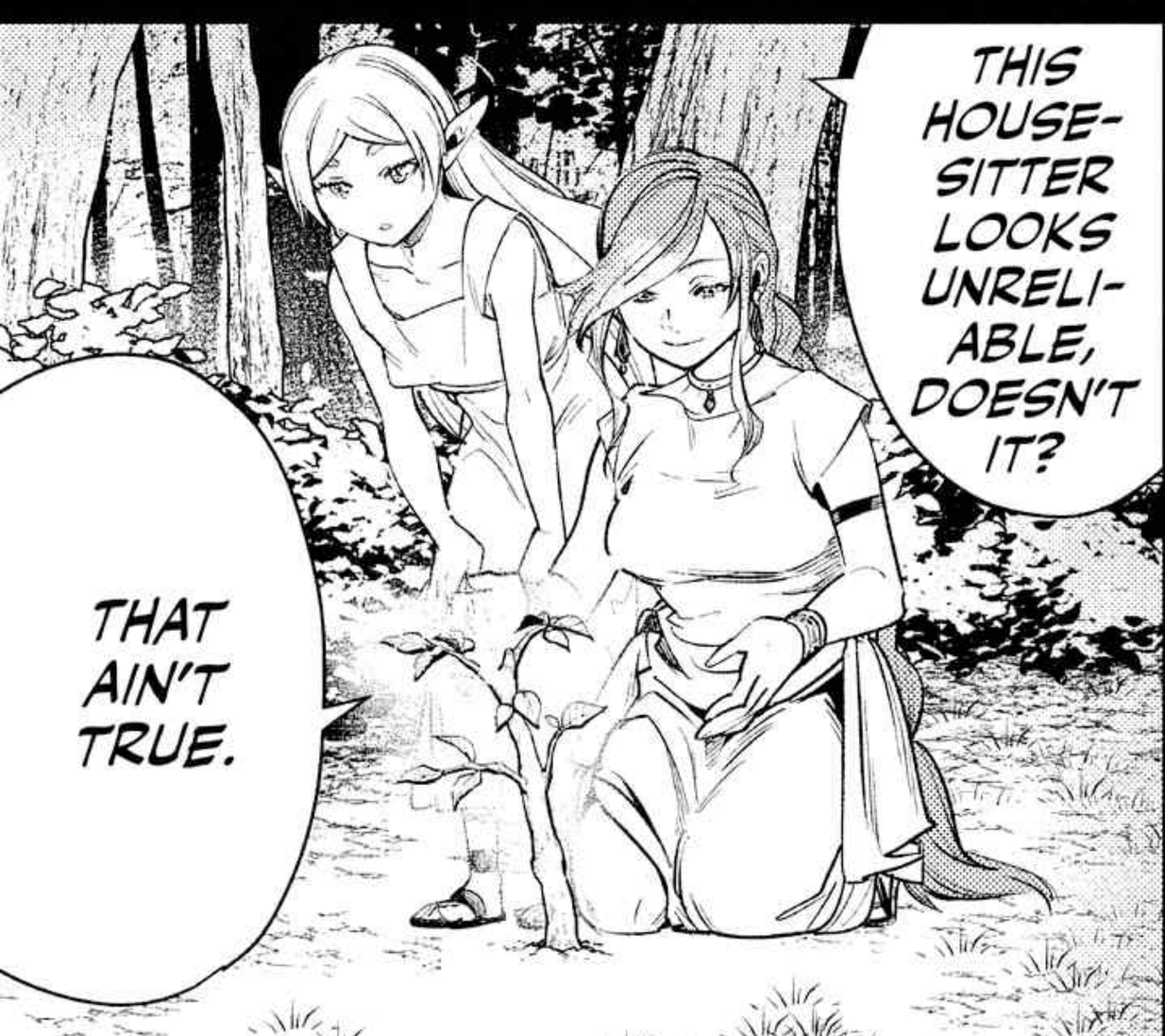
THAT'S WHY I ASKED HEITER FOR ADVICE.
I WANTED TO HELP YOU BECAUSE I WAS SURE YOU'RE REGRETTING THINGS.



MISTRESS FRIEREN, BOTH THE GREAT TREE AND THE RUINS ARE PROTECTED BY A POWERFUL BARRIER...


IT'S BEEN OVER A THOUSAND YEARS, AND YET MY MASTER STILL HAS ME WRAPPED AROUND HER LITTLE FINGER, EH?

FWAH


THIS HOUSE-SITTER LOOKS UNRELI-ABLE, DOESN'T IT?
THAT AIN'T TRUE.

YOU'LL BE DEAD THEN, THOUGH.

ONCE THIS GUY GROWS UP, IT'S GONNA KEEP PROTECTING THIS PLACE FOR A THOUSAND YEARS OR HOWEVER LONG.

Are, you really so needy...?

YOU WANT ME TO KNOW ABOUT YOU, MASTER?

HELL NO.

ONE DAY, YOU'LL MAKE A HUGE MISTAKE. THAT'LL CHANGE YOUR MIND, MAKE YOU THINK YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT PEOPLE.

BUT NOT YOU.

AND I'LL GIVE YOU A HAND.

ALL I'M SAYING IS, JUST COME BACK HERE WHEN THAT HAPPENS.

I-THE GREAT MAGE FLAMME ...

... WILL HELP YOU.

THEY ARE.

DO YOU THINK THEY ARE REAL?

THESE... ARE FLAMME'S NOTES...

FRIEREN WAS FLAMME'S BEST APPRENTICE.

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

DOES IT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT CONVERSING WITH THE DEAD?

You really must have been around since the prehistoric age...

THE GREAT MAGE FLAMME IS THAT HEROINE OF ANCIENT TIMES WHO APPEARS IN THE HISTORY OF MAGIC, RIGHT...?

WHO KNOWS? SHE WAS A SLOPPY PERSON.

I WONDER IF IT'S TRUE...

ISN'T IT MORE CONVENIENT THAT WAY?

HEAVEN EXISTS.

YOU'RE RIGHT. I SHOULD GIVE IT A CHANCE AND BELIEVE ONCE IN A WHILE.

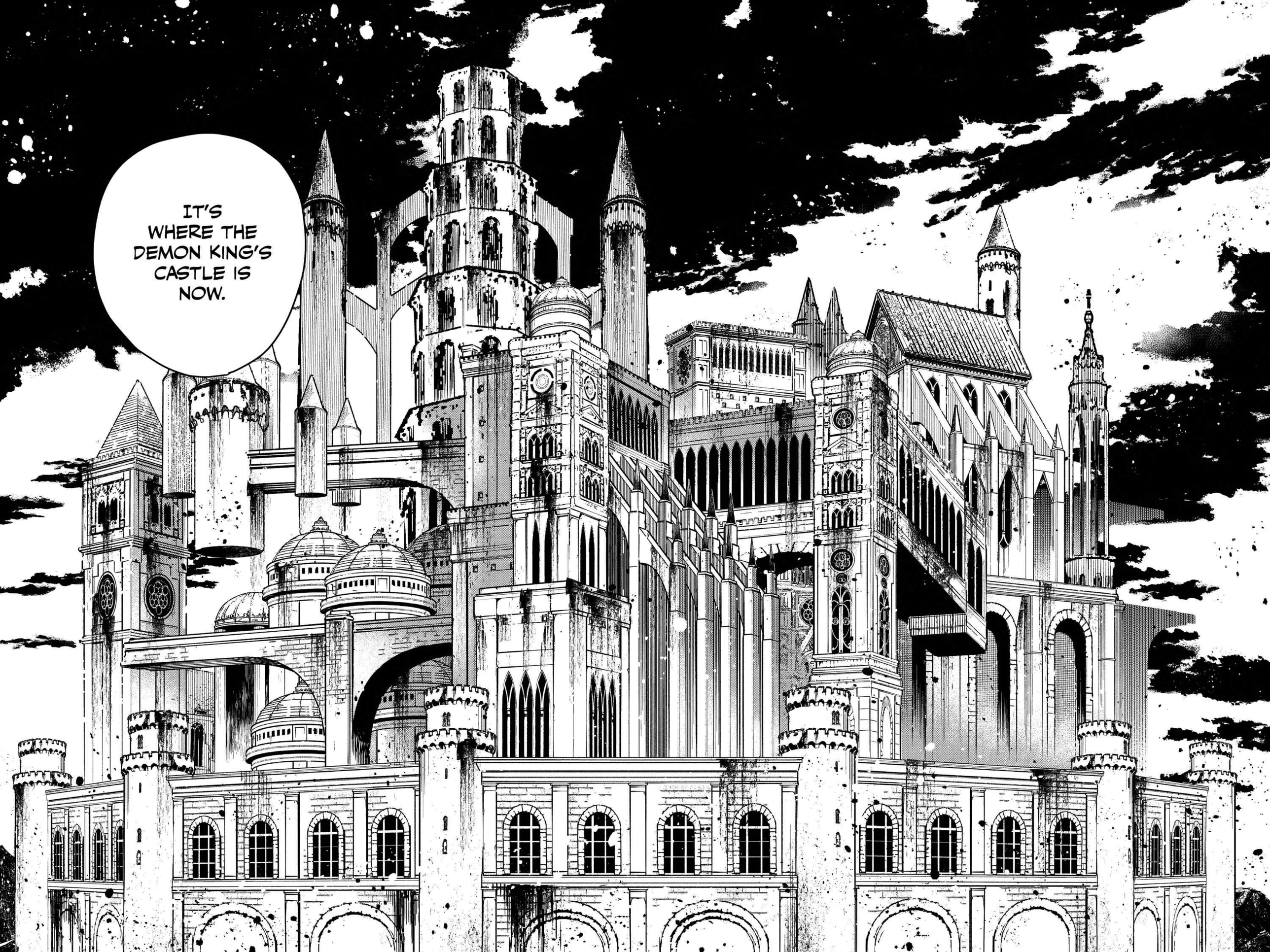
CORRECT.

ENDE... THAT'S...

GIVE ME A SECOND.

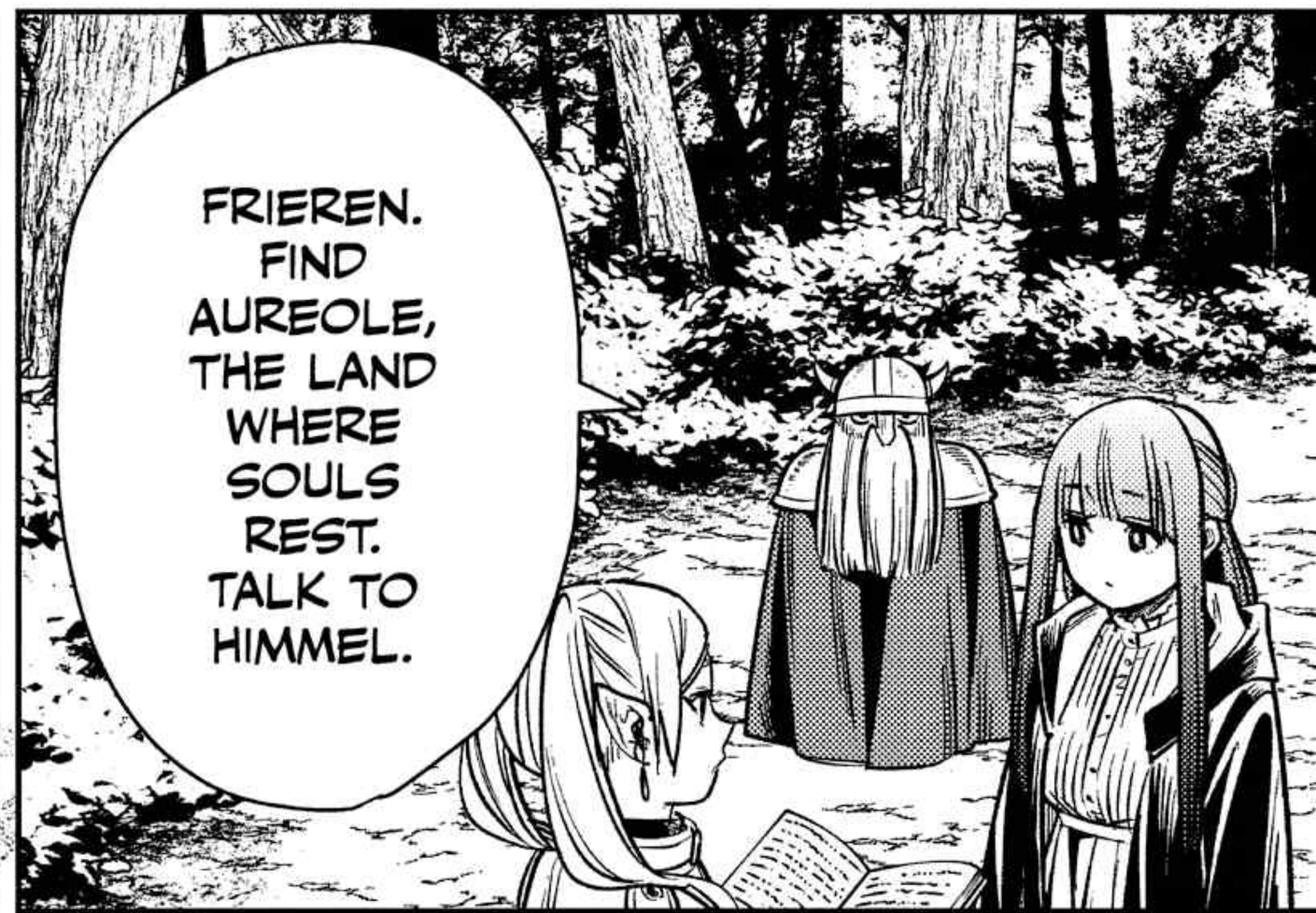
...THE NORTHERN-MOST PART OF THE CONTINENT. ENDE.

WHERE DO YOU THINK IT'S LOCATED EXACTLY?

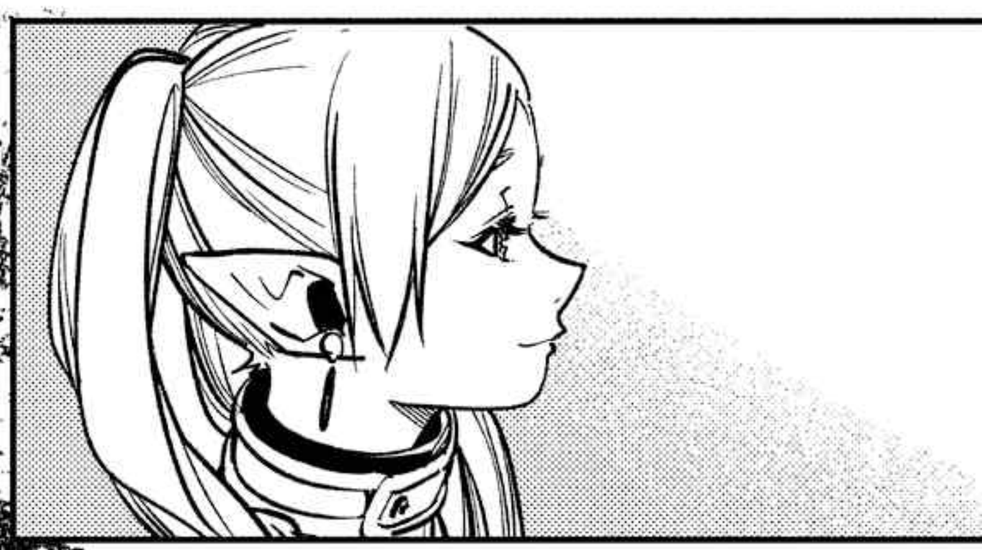

IT'S WHERE THE DEMON KING'S CASTLE IS NOW.

WHY WOULD IT BE IN SUCH A PLACE...?

YOU WANT TO HELP ME OUT, RIGHT?


FRIEREN. FIND AUREOLE, THE LAND WHERE SOULS REST. TALK TO HIMMEL.

ALL RIGHT THEN.
THIS IS A JOURNEY WITHOUT A DESTINATION ANYWAY.



ALL THANKS TO HEITER.
YOU'VE GOTTEN SNEAKY, HAVEN'T YOU, EISEN?

SHE'S ALREADY STARTED FEELING DISCOUR-AGED...
I DON'T WANNA GO...
BUT IT'S RIDICULOUSLY COLD AROUND THE DEMON KING'S CASTLE...

Frieren: Beyond Journey's End

VOLUME 1

Shonen Sunday Edition

STORY BY
KANEHITO YAMADA

ART BY
TSUKASA ABE

SOSO NO FRIEREN Vol. 1
Story by Kanehito YAMADA, Tsukasa ABE

© 2020 Kanehito YAMADA, Tsukasa ABE
All rights reserved.

Original Japanese edition published by SHOGAKUKAN.
English translation rights in the United States of America, Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand arranged with SHOGAKUKAN.

Original Cover Design: Masato ISHIZAWA + Bay Bridge Studio

Translation/Misa 'Japanese Ammo'
Touch-up Art & Lettering/Annaliese 'Ace' Christman
Design/Yukiko Whitley
Editor/Mike Montesa

The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this publication are entirely fictional.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

Printed in Canada

Published by VIZ Media, LLC
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
First printing, November 2021

PARENTAL ADVISORY
FRIEREN: BEYOND JOURNEY'S END is rated T for Teen and recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains fantasy violence.

viz.com

shonensunday.com