

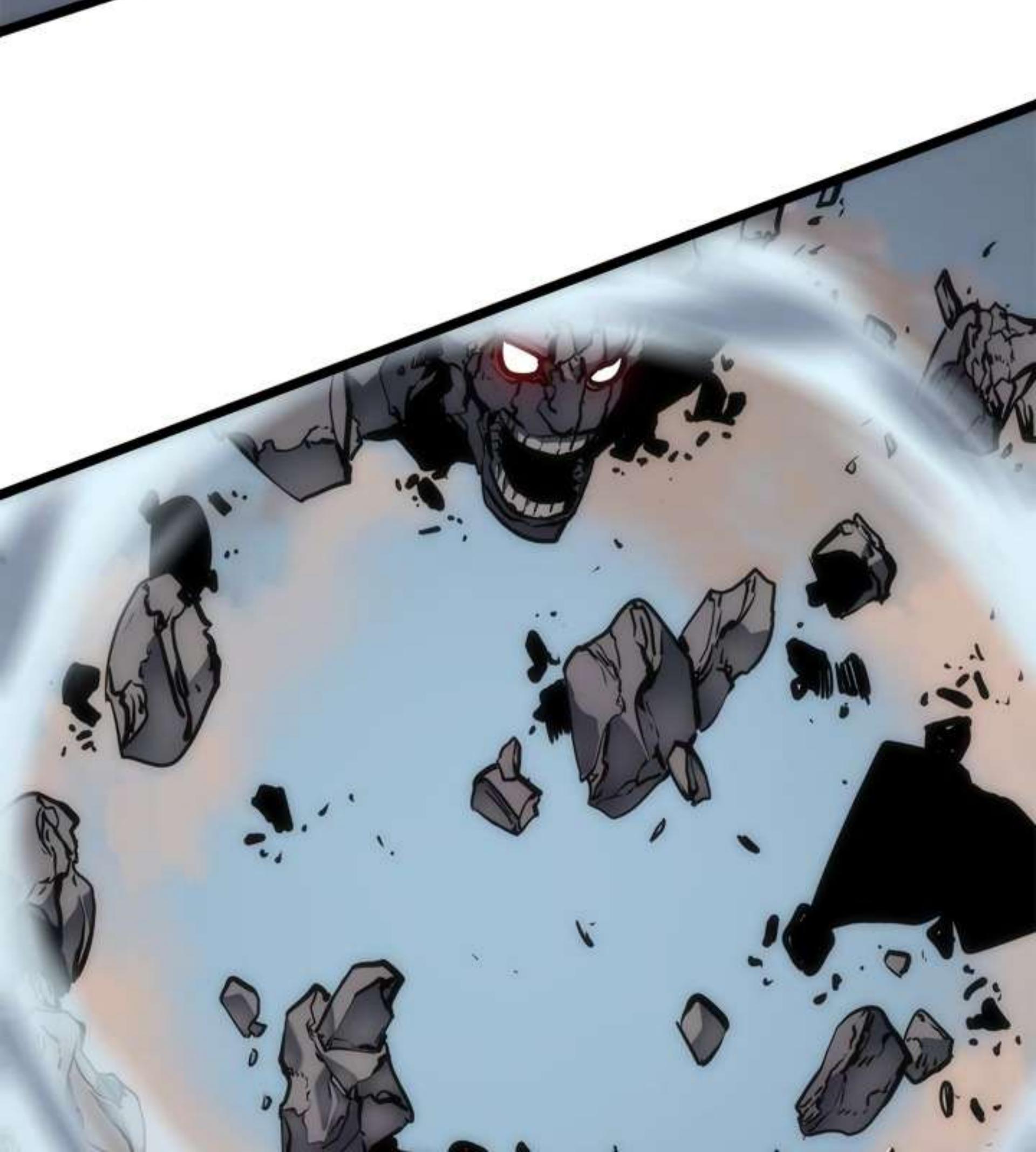
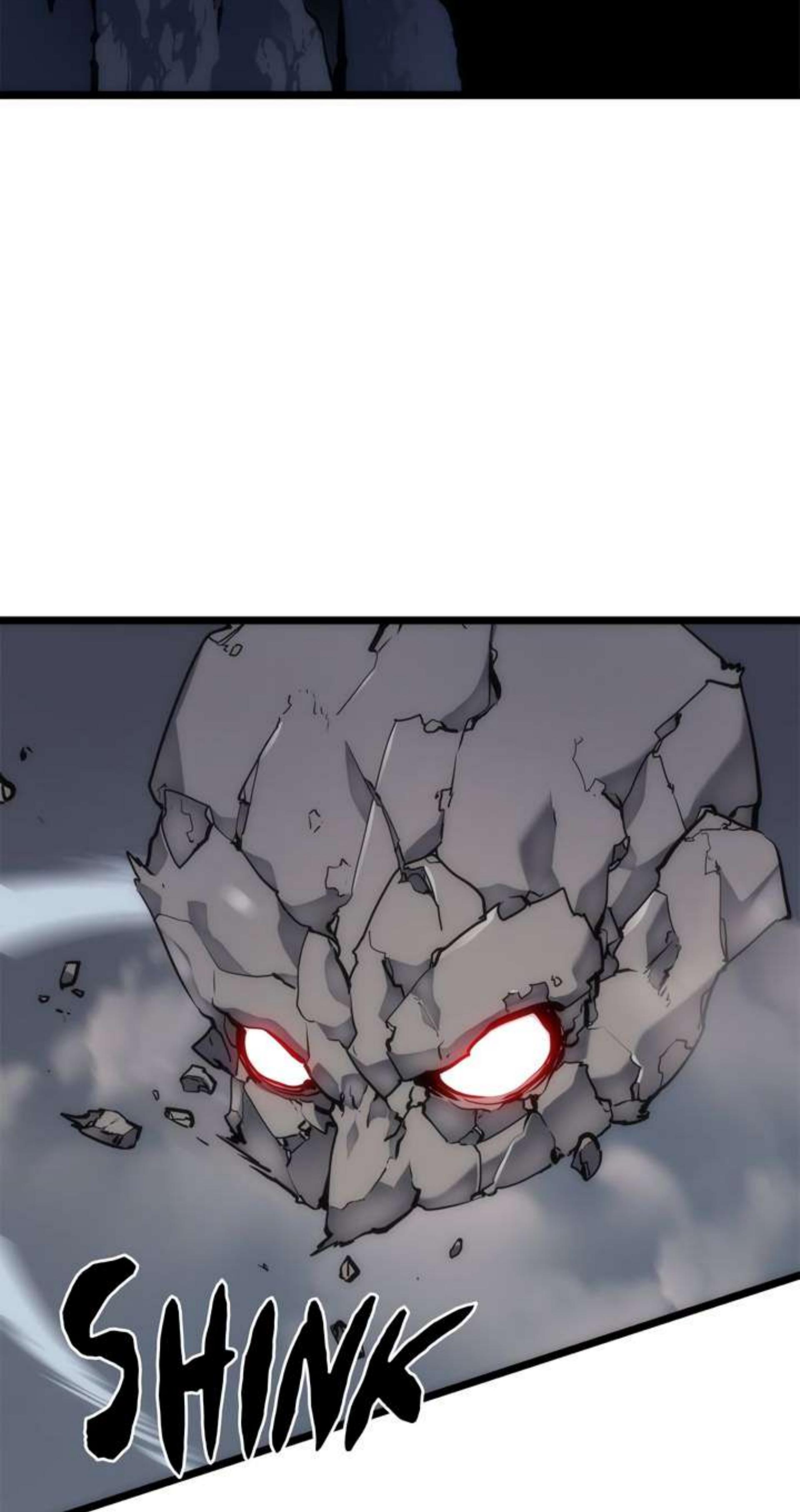
Solo Leveling

Art · DUBU(REDICE STUDIO)

Original Novel · Chugong

Story · h-goon

56



BOOM

S, S...SIR.



WH, WHO
ARE THESE
GUYS?!



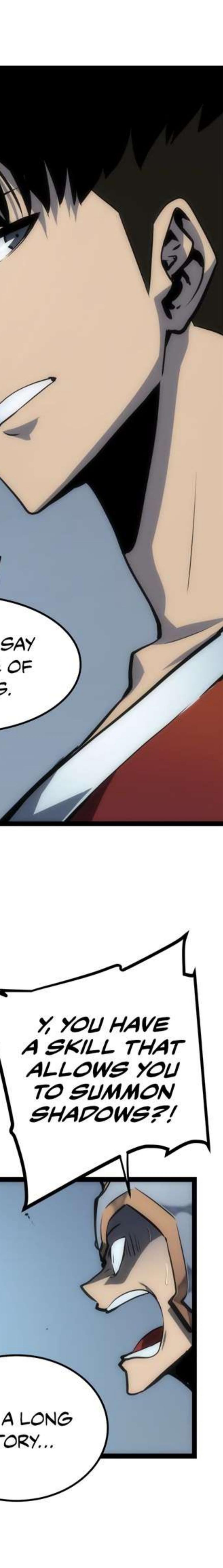
OH, YEAH. THIS IS JINHO'S FIRST TIME SEEING THEM.

LET'S JUST SAY I USED ONE OF MY SKILLS.

Y, YOU HAVE A SKILL THAT ALLOWS YOU TO SUMMON SHADOWS?!

IT'S A LONG STORY...

ANYWAY, THEY'RE SUPER RESOURCEFUL. THEY DO ALL THE HUNTING FOR ME...



...AND ALL THE BUSY WORK, TOO.



SIR...

COULD I AT LEAST PICK UP THE ESSENCE STONES?

WHY?

I'M UPSET BECAUSE I FEEL LIKE MY JOB HAS BEEN TAKEN AWAY FROM ME.

HE'S SO WEIRD.

GRIN

I GUESS THIS
IS MY LAST RAID
WITH HIM.

COME
TOMORROW,
IT WILL ALL BE
OVER.

THANK YOU...

SO
SCARY...

A DAY LATER,

I WAS DONE WITH
THE 19 RAIDS I'D
PROMISED JINHO.

EAST COAST,
U.S.A.



AN A-RANK
DUNGEON



JESUS!

A-RANK HUNTER,
JAMES.

OUR
STRIKE SQUAD
GOT WIPED
OUT!?

IMPOSSIBLE!

IC THAT

IS THAT
A HUMANOID
BEAST?!



WE DIDN'T
SEE A SINGLE MAGIC
BEAST INSIDE THIS
DUNGEON!

I KNEW
SOMETHING WASN'T
RIGHT, BUT...

I HAD NO IDEA
WE'D RUN INTO A
MONSTER LIKE HIM
IN THE BOSS'S
LAIR!

THE
AMOUNT OF MANA
EMANATING FROM HIM
EXCEEDS THE MANA OF
THIS ENTIRE A-RANK
DUNGEON...

THIS IS
UNHEARD OF!

JUST HOW
STRONG IS THIS
GUY?!

HEY.

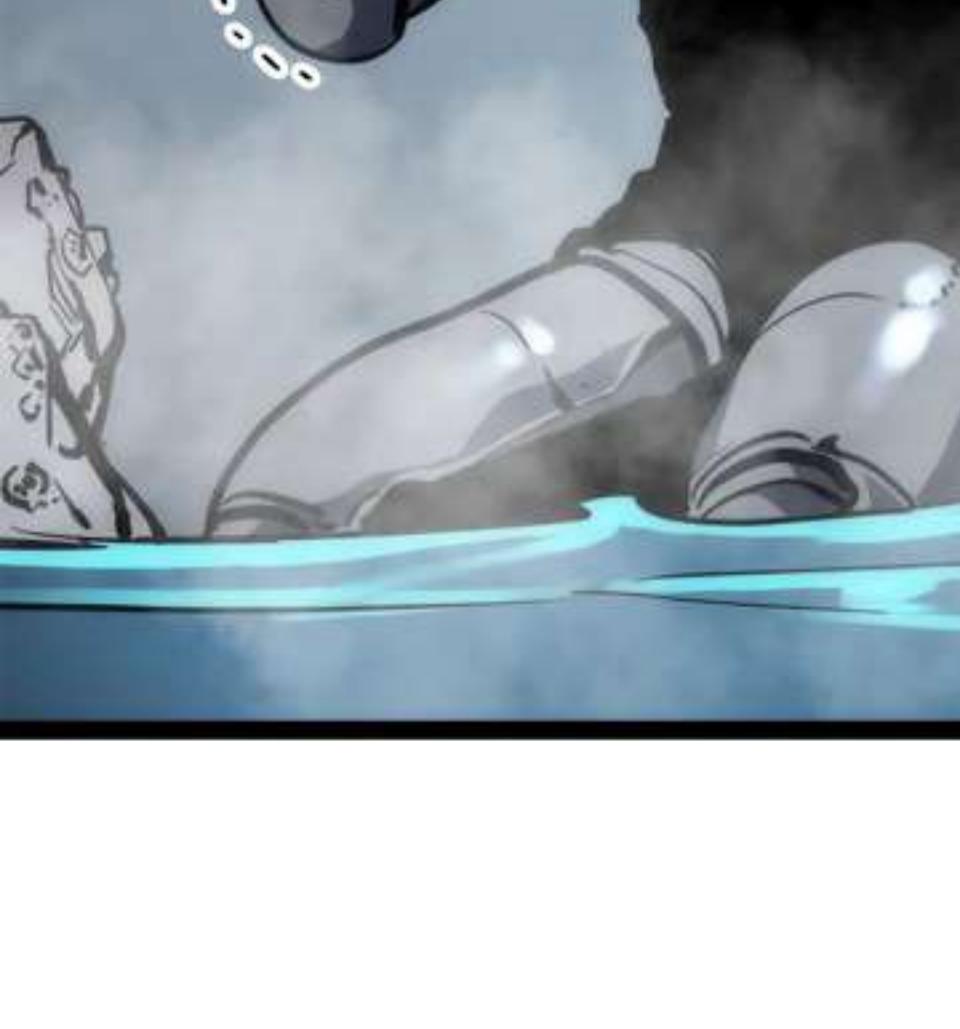
UWAAAHH!
GO AWAY!!

GEEZ, YOU'RE
HURTING MY
EARS.

SCRATCH



DON'T WORRY,
YOUR FRIENDS AREN'T
DEAD. I JUST KNOCKED
THEM OUT FOR THE
TIME BEING.



I WOULDN'T
HAVE IF YOUR SQUAD
HADN'T ATTACKED
ME OUT OF
NOWHERE.



I'M TELLING
YOU, I'M NOT A
MAGIC BEAST.
I'M HUMAN.



TREMBLE

TREMBLE

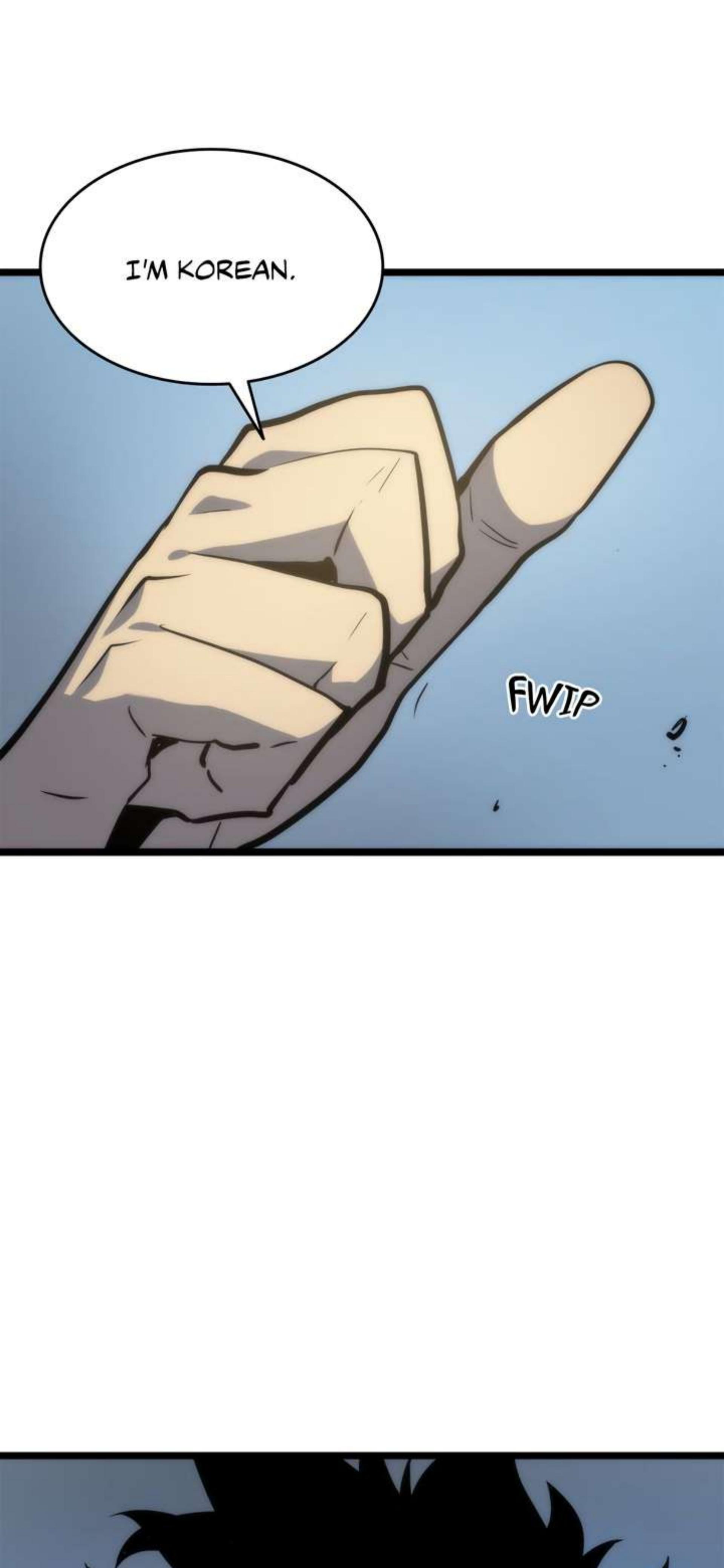


...HMM,
I GUESS YOU
DON'T GET WHAT
I'M SAYING.

TREMBLE

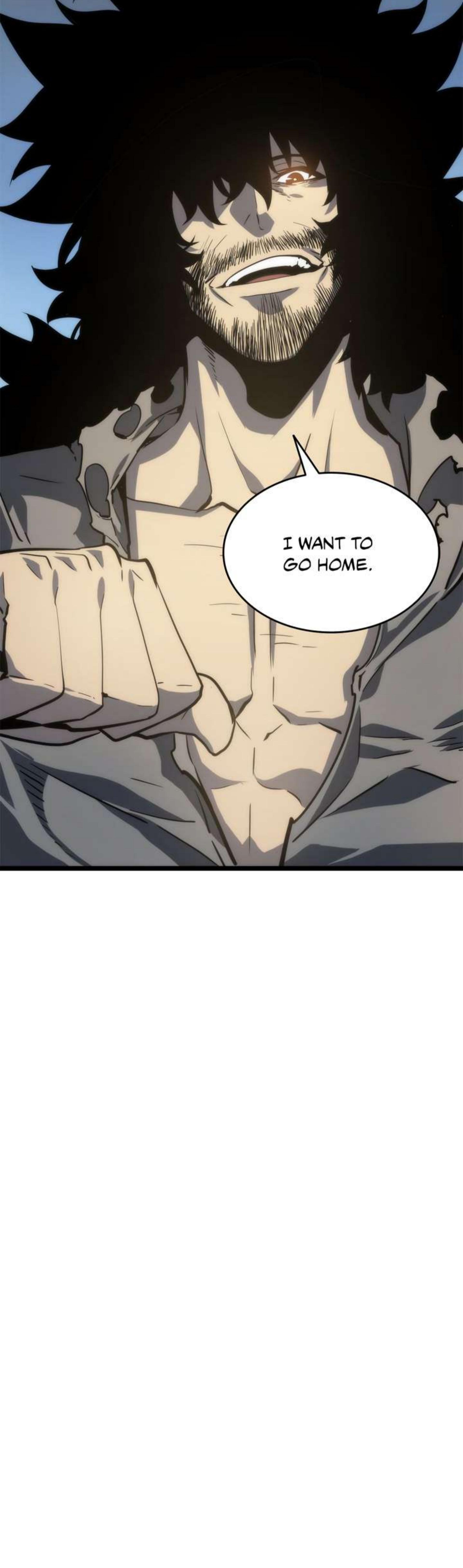


HOW SHOULD
I EXPLAIN
THIS...

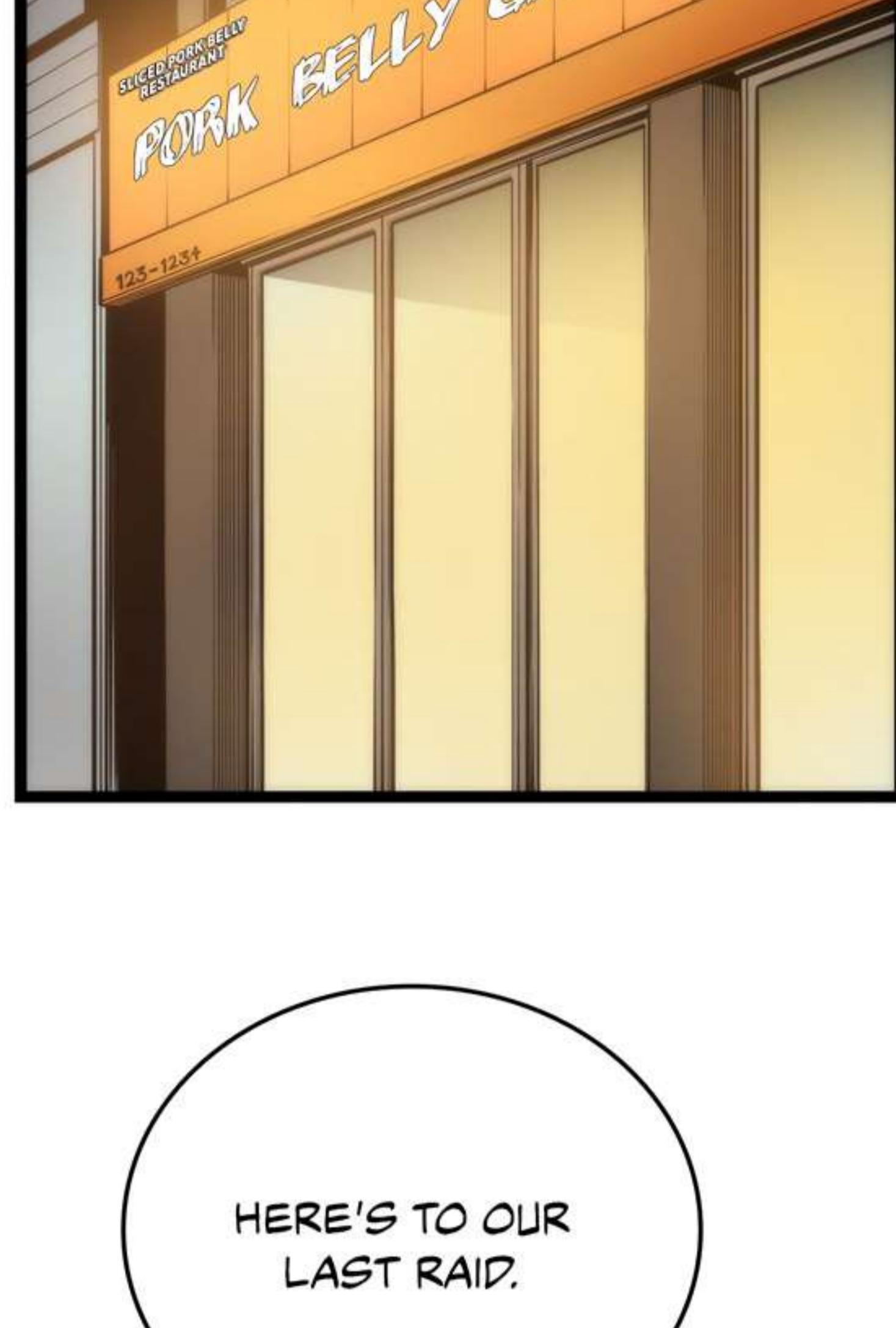


I'M KOREAN.

FWIP



I WANT TO
GO HOME.



HERE'S TO OUR
LAST RAID.

I'M SORRY, SIR.

I WANTED

TO TAKE YOU

SOMEWHERE FANCY

TO CELEBRATE...

SIZZLE

SIZZLE

DON'T BE. I'M MORE
WORRIED THAT THIS
FOOD MIGHT NOT SUIT
YOUR TASTE BUDS.

NOW THAT
OUR RAIDS ARE
OVER,

[HARMFUL SUBSTANCES HAVE
BEEN DETECTED IN YOUR BODY.]

WHAT
ARE YOUR
PLANS?

[YOU HAVE BEEN
SUCCESSFULLY DETOXIFIED.]

I'M GOING
TO TAKE A SIMPLE
WRITTEN EXAM AT THE
ASSOCIATION AND GET
MY GUILD MASTER'S
LICENSE.

AFTER
THAT, I'M GOING
TO TRY AND STRIKE
A DEAL WITH MY
FATHER.

CLINK

THE PROMISE I
MADE TO JINWOO
IS ALSO ON THE
LINE.

SURE,
IT'D BE GREAT
TO OWN A BUILDING
WORTH 30 BILLION

WON, BUT...

...THAT
WOULD JUST BE
A BONUS.

MY REAL
GOAL WAS TO
LEVEL UP.

STRENGTH: 142

AGILITY: 121

SENSE: 103

HEALTH: 101

INTELLIGENCE: 89

AP: 0

PHYSICAL DAMAGE REDUCTION: 46%

NAME: SUNG JINWOO Lv. 61

JOB: THE MONARCH OF SHADOWS

TITLE: CONQUEROR OF ADVERSITY (+1)

HP: 13,001

MP: 1,677

FATIGUE: 0

STRENGTH: 142

AGILITY: 121

SENSE: 103

HEALTH: 101

INTELLIGENCE: 89

AP: 0

PHYSICAL DAMAGE REDUCTION: 46%

BUT...

CHEW

CHEW
WHAT ARE YOUR
FUTURE PLANS,
SIR?

ITEM



[ITEM: CASTLE DOOR KEY]
LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: A
TYPE: KEY

- X

A KEY THAT CAN OPEN THE DOORS TO
THE DEMON'S CASTLE. OBTAINED BY
KILLING THE GATEKEEPER.



YOU
WON'T BE ABLE
TO CONTACT ME
FOR A WHILE.


I HAVE
SOMEWHERE
TO BE.

CLENCH

I HAVE
SOMEWHERE
TO BE.



SIR, PLEASE
LET ME KNOW IF
I'M A NUISANCE
TO YOU.

I WON'T BOTHER
YOU ANYMORE.

GULP



I HOPE HE
DIDN'T TAKE IT
THE WRONG WAY
AGAIN.

THIS GUY...

JINHO.

YES, SIR?

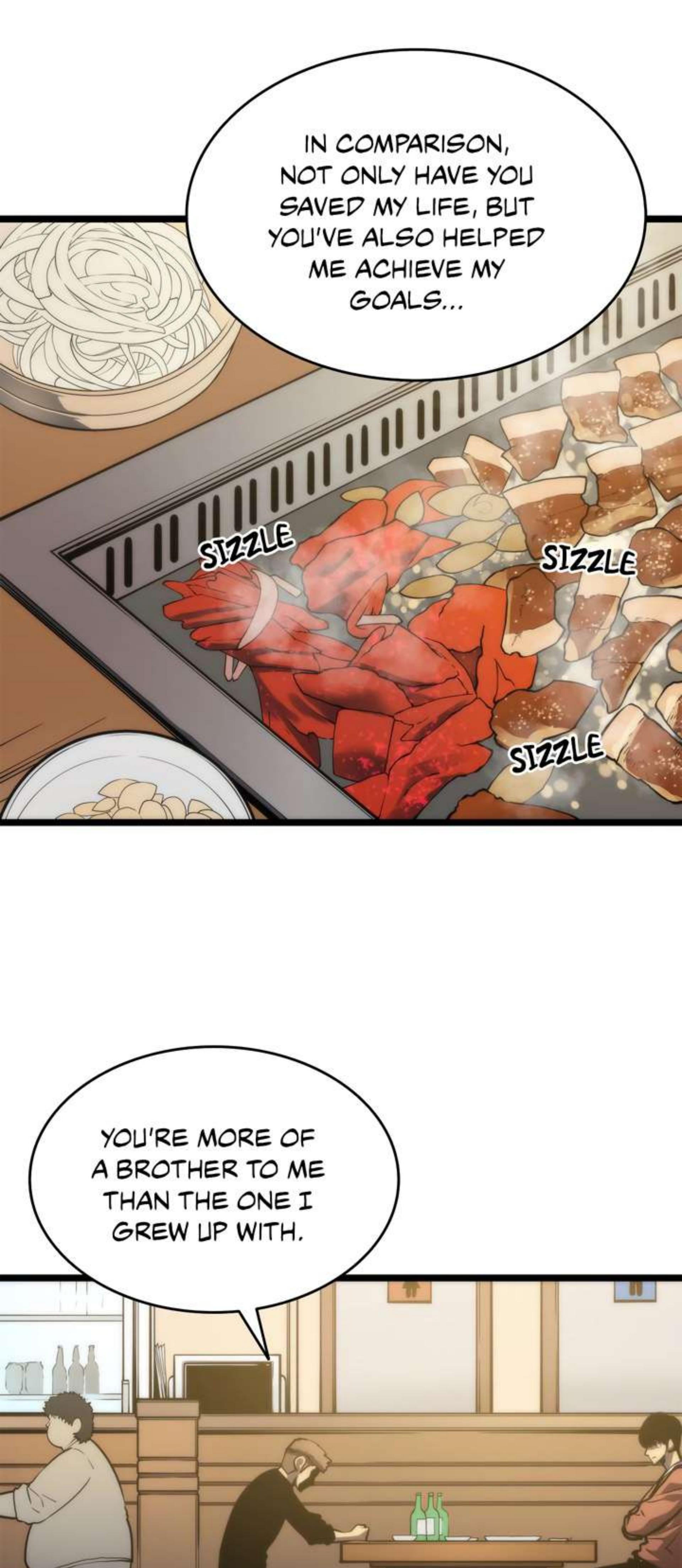
WHAT IS YOUR
HONEST OPINION
OF ME?

Breaking News
[Red Gate Incident]

...MY OLDER
BROTHER AND
I ARE MORE THAN
10 YEARS APART.

HE DOESN'T LIKE
ME VERY MUCH, SO WE
NEVER SPENT MUCH
TIME TOGETHER
GROWING UP.

...

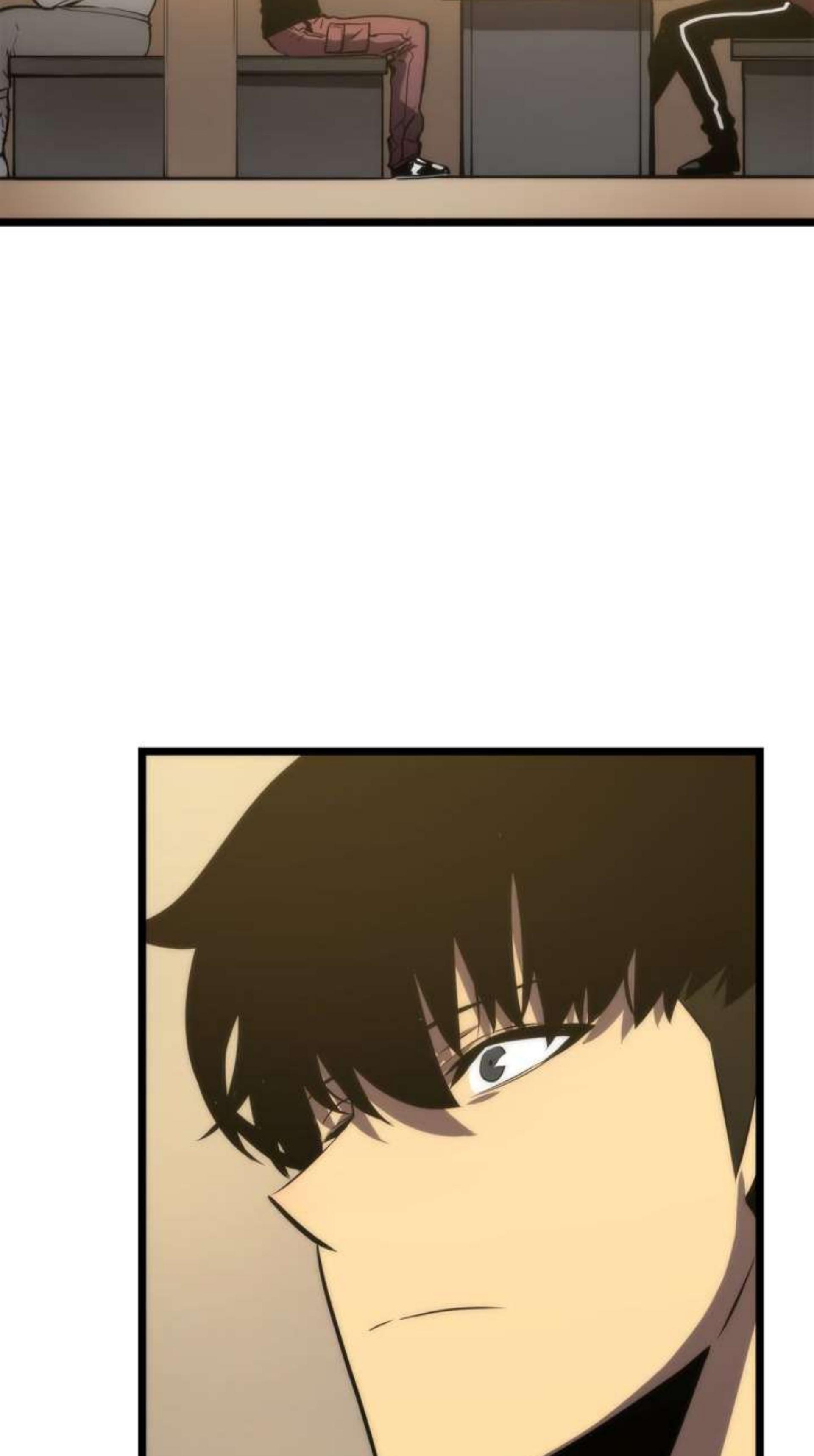


IN COMPARISON,
NOT ONLY HAVE YOU
SAVED MY LIFE, BUT
YOU'VE ALSO HELPED
ME ACHIEVE MY
GOALS...

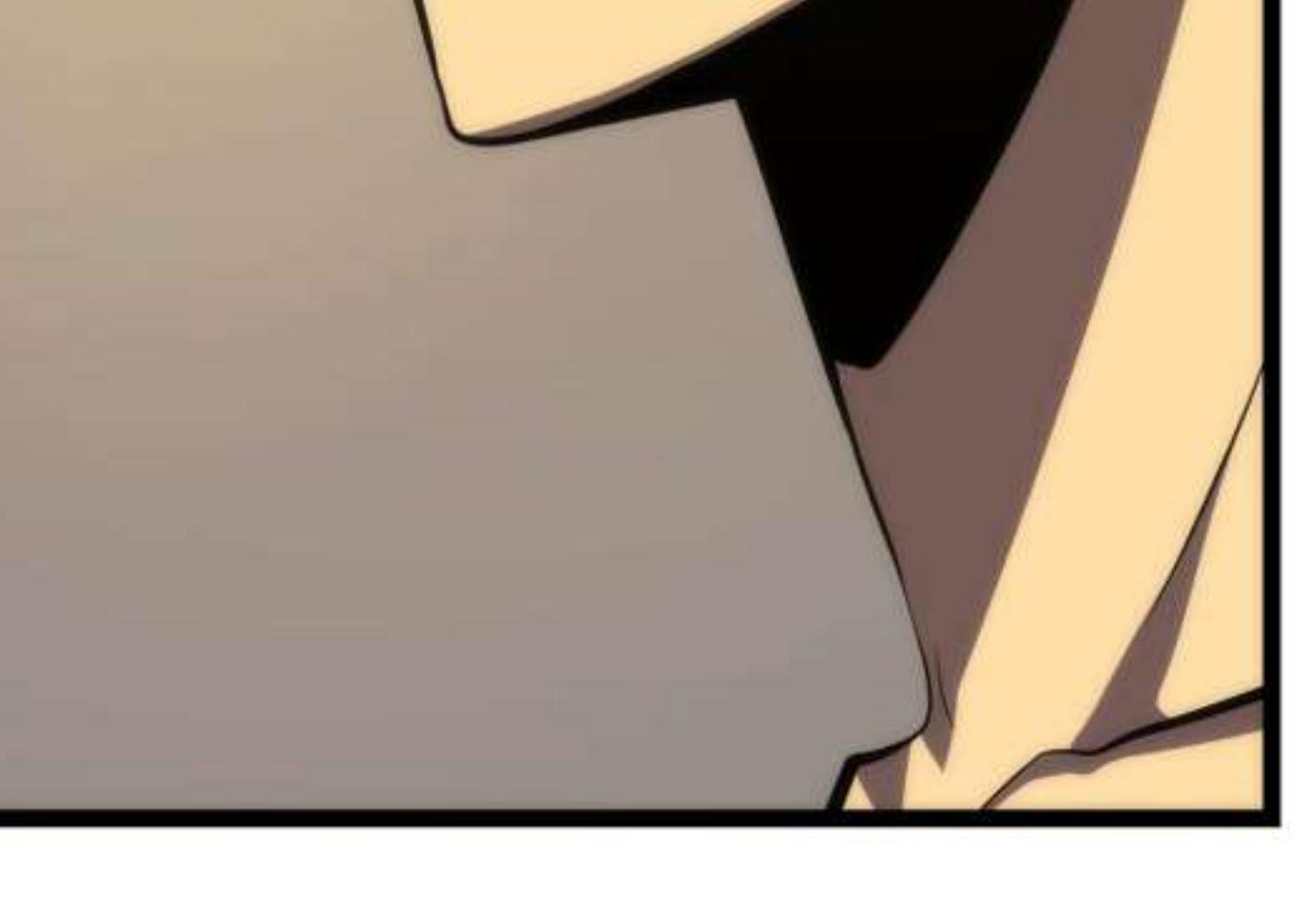
SIZZLE

SIZZLE

SIZZLE



YOU'RE MORE OF
A BROTHER TO ME
THAN THE ONE I
GREW UP WITH.





IF YOU THINK OF
ME AS YOUR OLDER
BROTHER,



I'LL THINK OF
YOU AS MY YOUNGER
BROTHER, TOO.



S...SIR.

DRIP

SIR! CAN I GIVE
YOU A HUG??



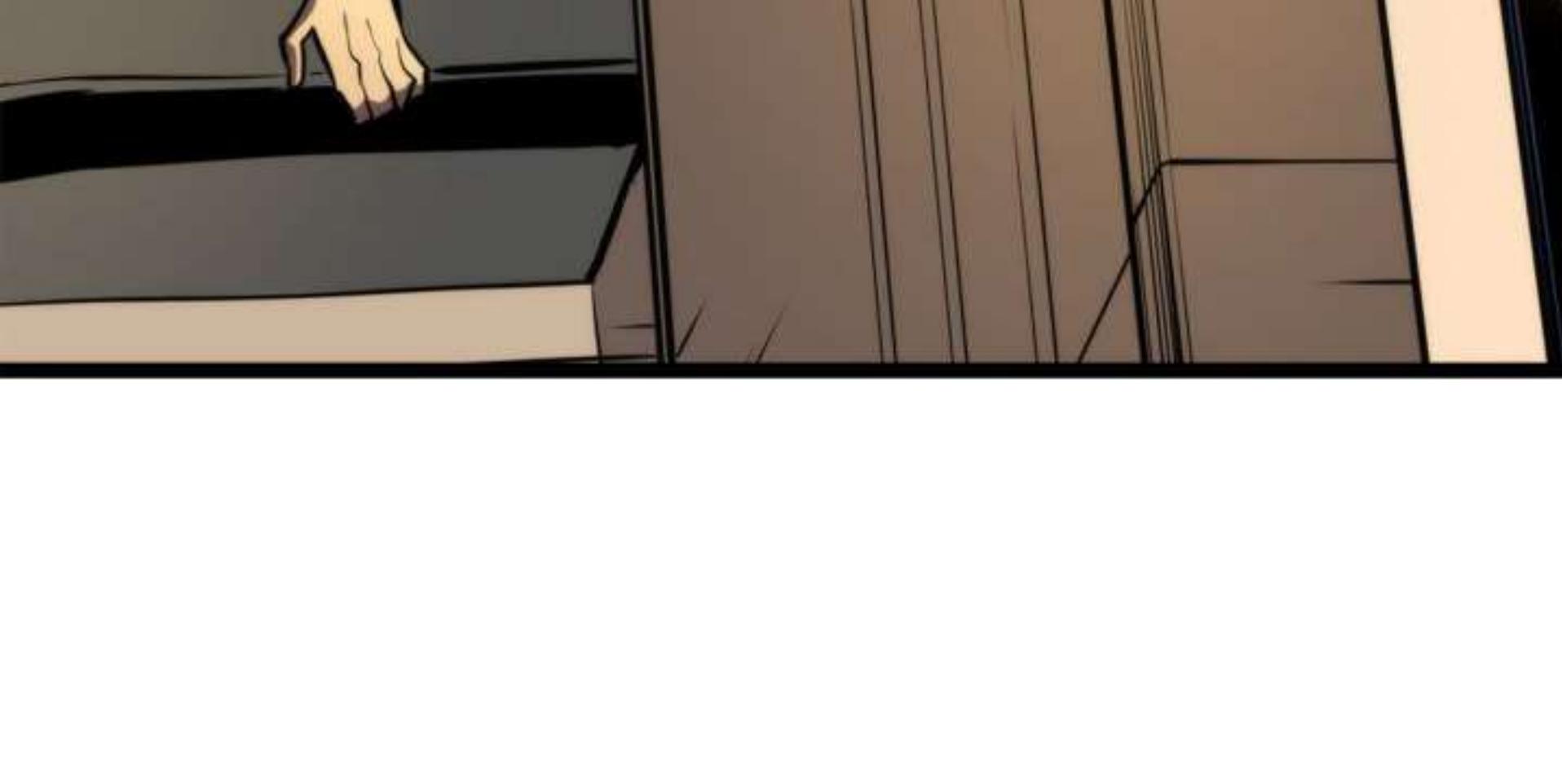
NO, I'M NOT!

I'M TOTALLY
SOBER RIGHT
NOW!

HAA...
WHAT AM I
GOING TO DO
WITH YOU...

WE HEARD THAT
WHILE TRAINING YOUR
NEW HUNTERS, A HUGE
ACCIDENT OCCURRED.
IS THAT TRUE?

WAAAHH



IS IT TRUE THAT ALL THE HIGH-RANKING HUNTERS DIED AND ONLY THE LOW-RANKING HUNTERS MADE IT BACK ALIVE?

THERE'S WORD GOING AROUND THAT THE SURVIVORS RECEIVED HELP FROM SOMEONE. DO YOU CARE TO COMMENT?

SNAP

SNAP

SNAP

THE ASSOCIATION HAS ALREADY FINISHED THEIR INVESTIGATION.

YES, THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT, BUT THE SURVIVORS DID NOT HAVE SOMEONE COME TO THEIR RESCUE.

COME TO THEIR RESCUE?

THEN WHY ARE YOU DENYING US AN INTERVIEW WITH THE SURVIVORS?

I FEEL LIKE THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT ME.

I WON'T BE TAKING ANY MORE QUESTIONS.



THOSE DAMN
REPORTERS...

THEY REALLY
KNOW HOW TO
SNIFF OUT A
STORY.

WHW—

SIR, MR. MIN
BYUNG-GU WOULD
LIKE TO SPEAK TO
YOU. WHAT WOULD
YOU LIKE ME TO
DO?

BYUNG-GU'S
ON THE LINE?

PUT HIM
THROUGH.

HEY, BAEK. WHY'S
YOUR CELLPHONE
TURNED OFF?

I'M LAYING
LOW UNTIL THE
REPORTERS STOP
PESTERING ME.



WHAT?
YOU'RE IN
JAPAN?



LOOKED GOOD
ON CAMERA.

DON'T START WITH
ME. I'M NOT IN THE
MOOD FOR YOUR
JOKES.

DON'T WORRY,
MAN. THINGS WILL
DIE DOWN SOON
ENOUGH.

I'VE ACTUALLY
GOT MORE BIG
NEWS FOR YOU.

BIG NEWS?

I THOUGHT YOU
SAID YOU WERE
IN JAPAN.

YEAH, A WEEK AGO,
SOMEONE FROM JAPAN
SECRETLY CONTACTED
THE HUNTER'S
ASSOCIATION.

SO I CAME OVER TO
CHECK THINGS OUT, AND
IT SEEMS THE SITUATION
IS A LOT WORSE THAN
I EXPECTED.

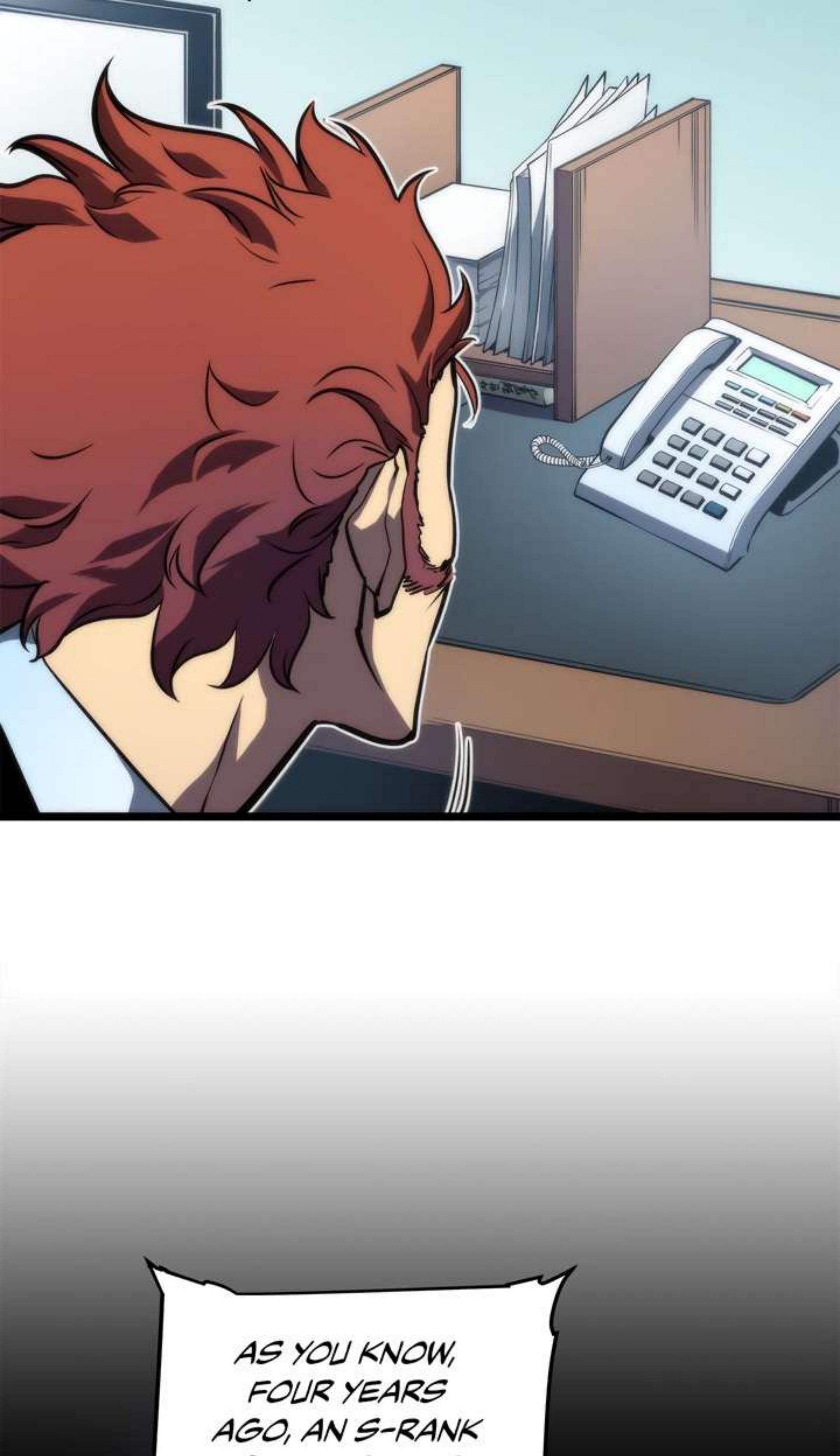
PRETTY SOON,
THE NEWS WILL
REACH KOREA,
TOO.

SOMEONE
FROM JAPAN
CONTACTED THE
KOREAN HUNTER'S
ASSOCIATION?

FOR WHAT
REASON?

THEY WANTED TO SPEAK
TO SOMEONE WHO HAD
PARTICIPATED IN THE
JEJU ISLAND RAID.

EXPLAIN TO
ME IN MORE
DETAIL!



AS YOU KNOW,
FOUR YEARS
AGO, AN S-RANK
GATE OPENED
UP IN JEJU.

BUT WHEN ALL THREE
SEARCH-AND-DESTROY
MISSIONS FAILED, EVEN
THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT
GAVE UP ON SAVING
THE ISLAND.



FOUR YEARS LATER,
THE PLACE IS STILL
SWARMING WITH ANTS.

YOU AND I NEARLY
DIED DURING THAT
RAID.

...YEAH. IT'S A
NIGHTMARE I WANT
TO FORGET.

UNFORTUNATELY,
I THINK A
MUTATION HAS
OCCURRED.

A MUTATION?

WHAT DOES THAT
HAVE TO DO WITH
ANYTHING? THEY'RE
STUCK ON THAT
ISLAND.

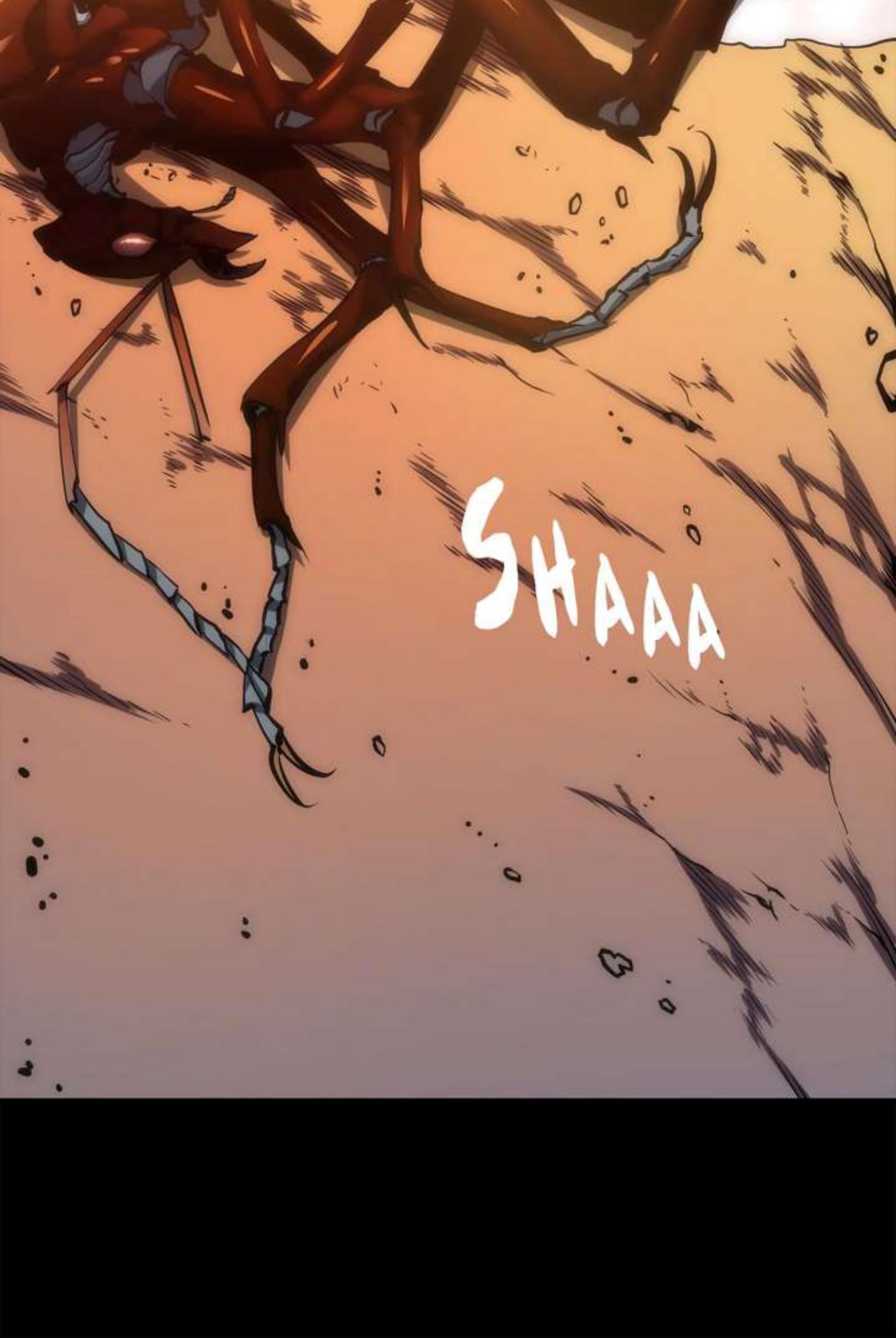
JUST
LEAVE THEM
ALONE. THEY'RE NOT
OUR CONCERN
ANYMORE.

WELL...

...THE ANTS MIGHT
BE CAPABLE OF
MIGRATING TO OTHER
COUNTRIES...

...BY FLYING
ACROSS THE
OCEAN!

THE CORPSE OF AN
ANT WITH WINGS WAS
FOUND WASHED UP ON
THE SHORES OF
JAPAN.



**THEY'VE
BEEN...**

**...EVOLVING AT
AN ALARMING
RATE!!**

To Be Continued...



D&C
WEBTOON

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