

EARTHQUAKE  
SHOULD BE A TIER 5  
SPELL...

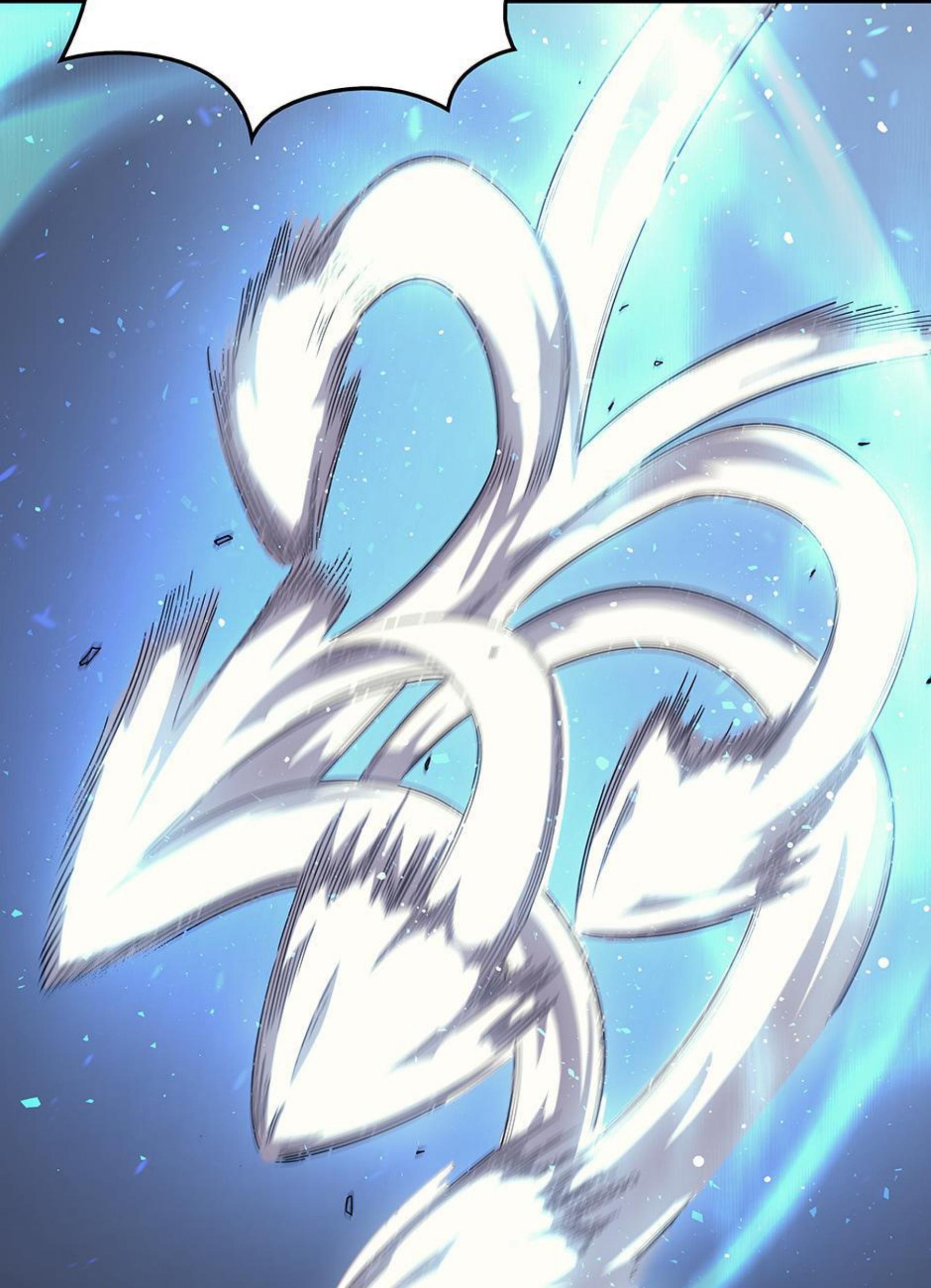
WHEN DID  
HE HAVE TIME TO  
MAKE PREPARATIONS  
TO CAST IT WHILE  
FACING THOSE

MERCENARIES?

THE PREVIOUS  
SPELLS YOU'VE  
SEEN HIM CAST IN  
SUCCESSION WERE TO  
BUY TIME TO CAST  
EARTHQUAKE.

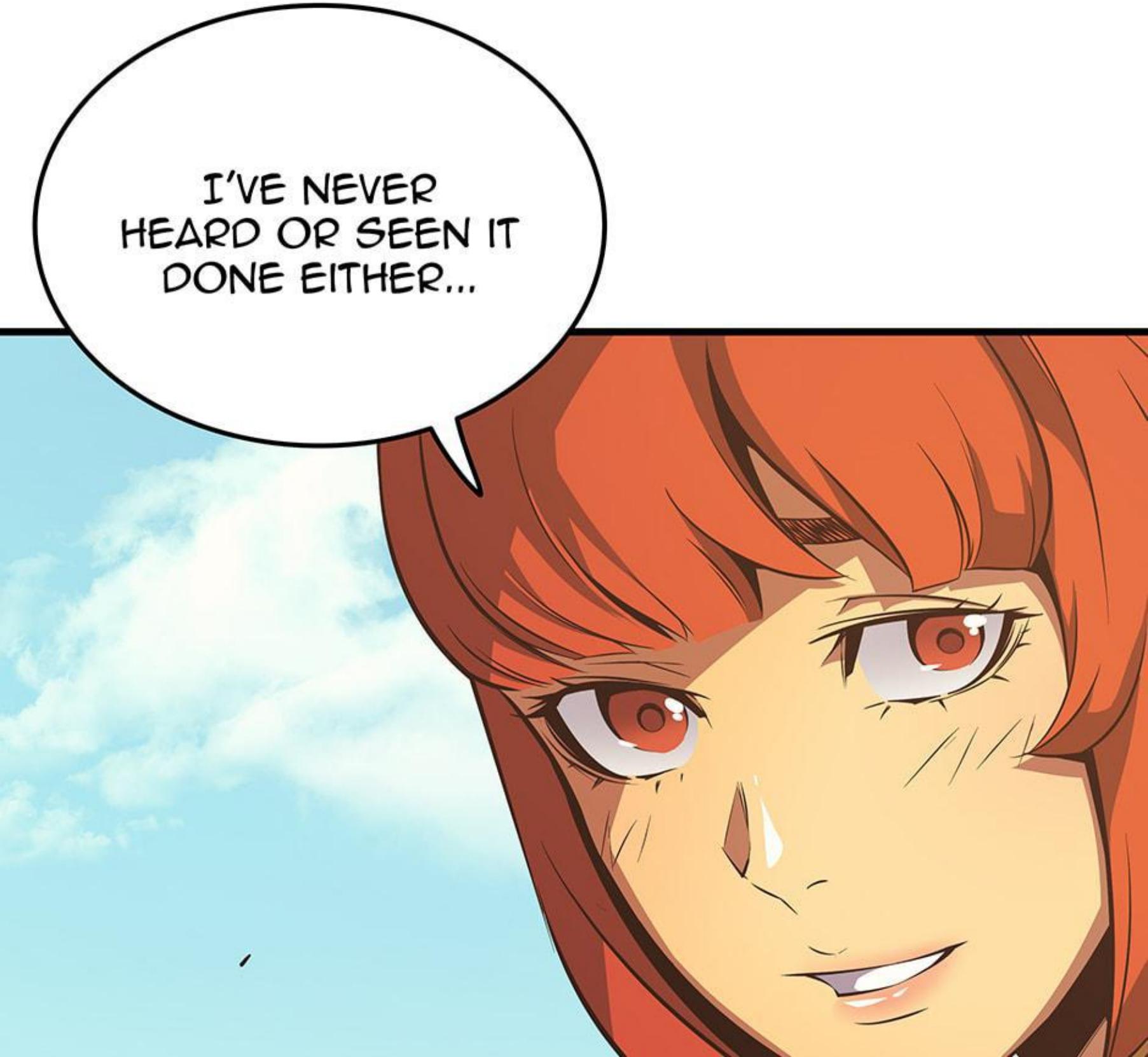
THAT WAS  
HIM BUYING  
TIME?!

THAT RAGING  
STORM OF LIGHT  
ARROWS WAS ONLY  
A DIVERSION...?!

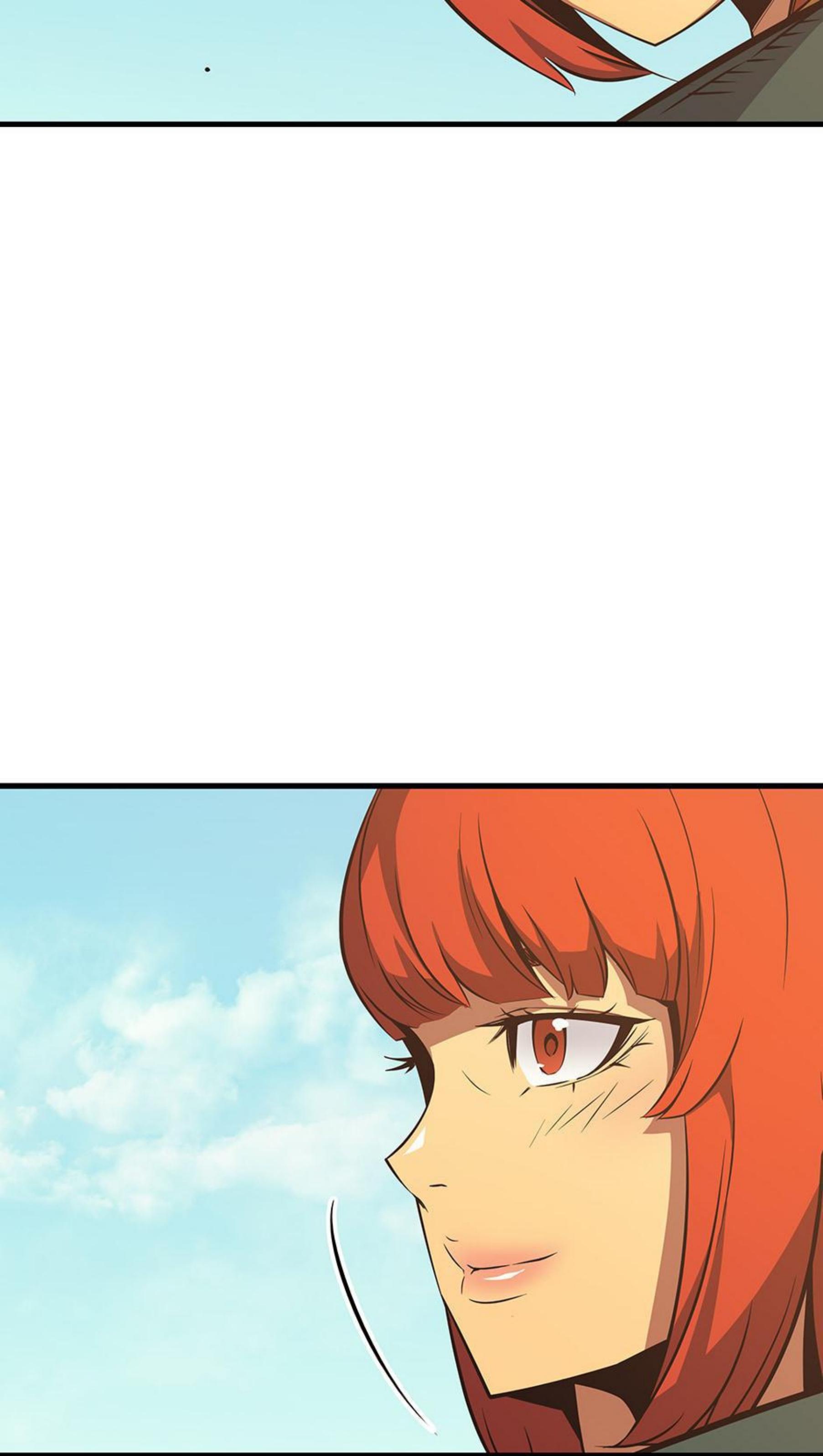




I'VE NEVER HEARD  
OF A MAGE USING  
DOUBLE CASTING  
THIS WAY.



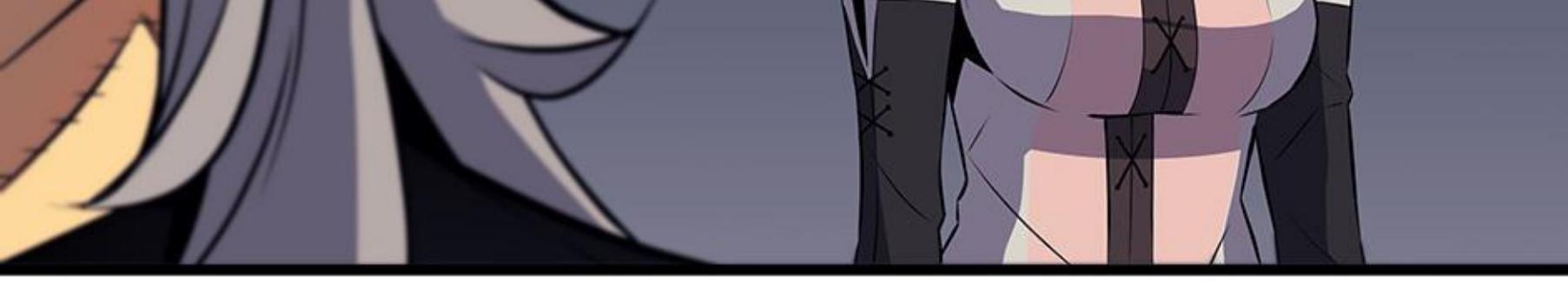
I'VE NEVER  
HEARD OR SEEN IT  
DONE EITHER...



UNTIL I MET HIM.





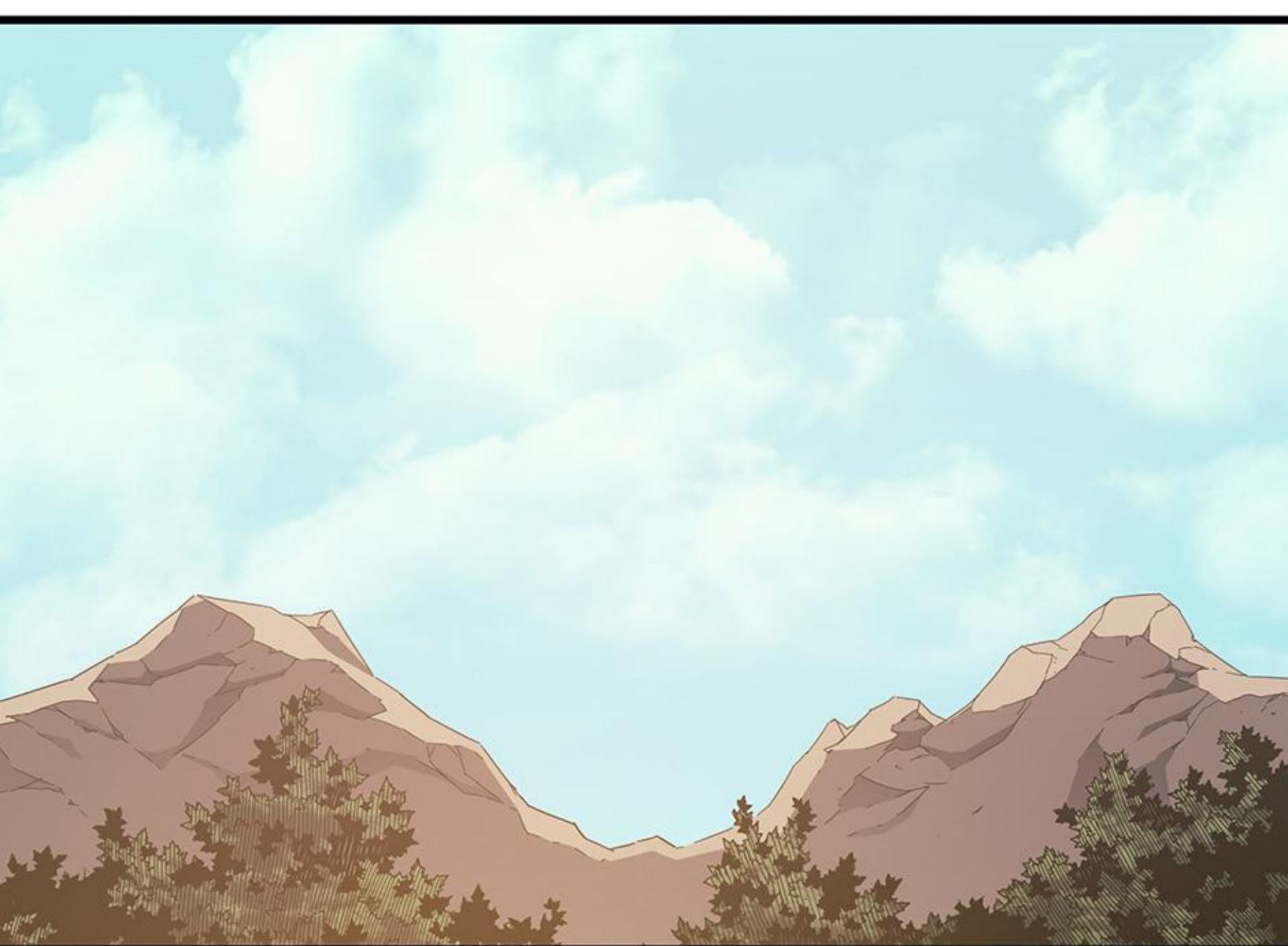


SO THIS IS...



THE POWER  
OF A MAGE...





# THE ARCHMAGE

RETURNS AFTER.

# 4000

YEARS

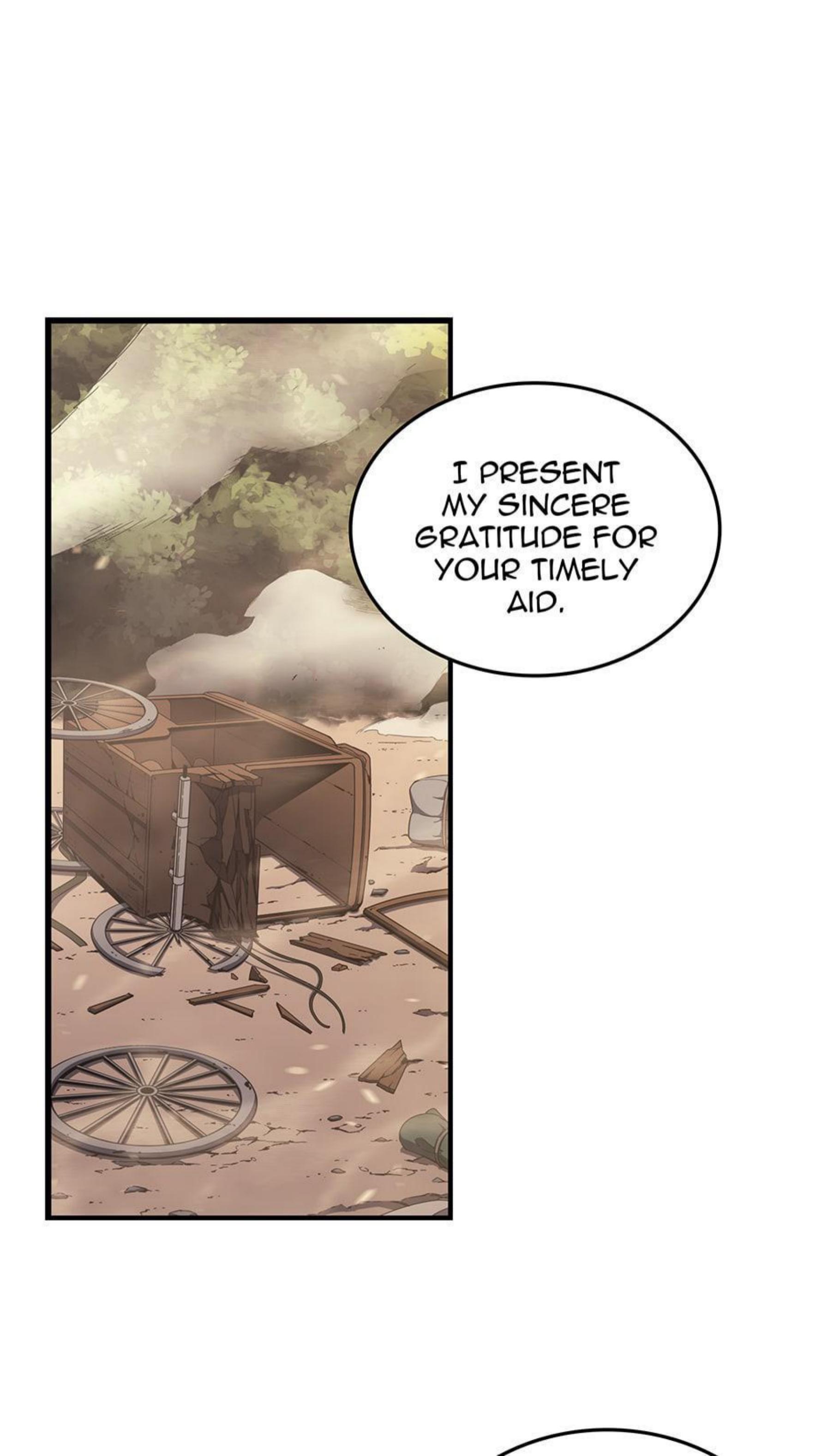
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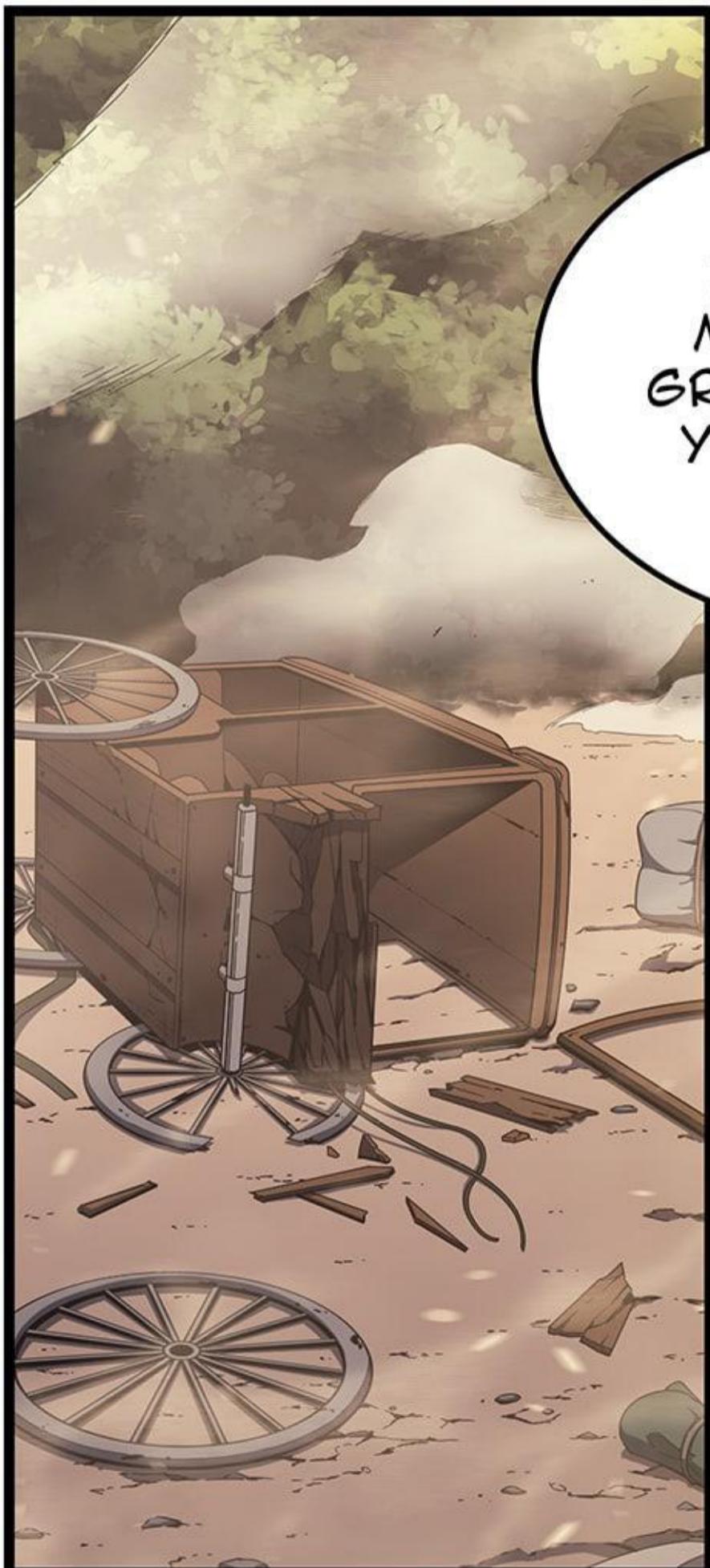
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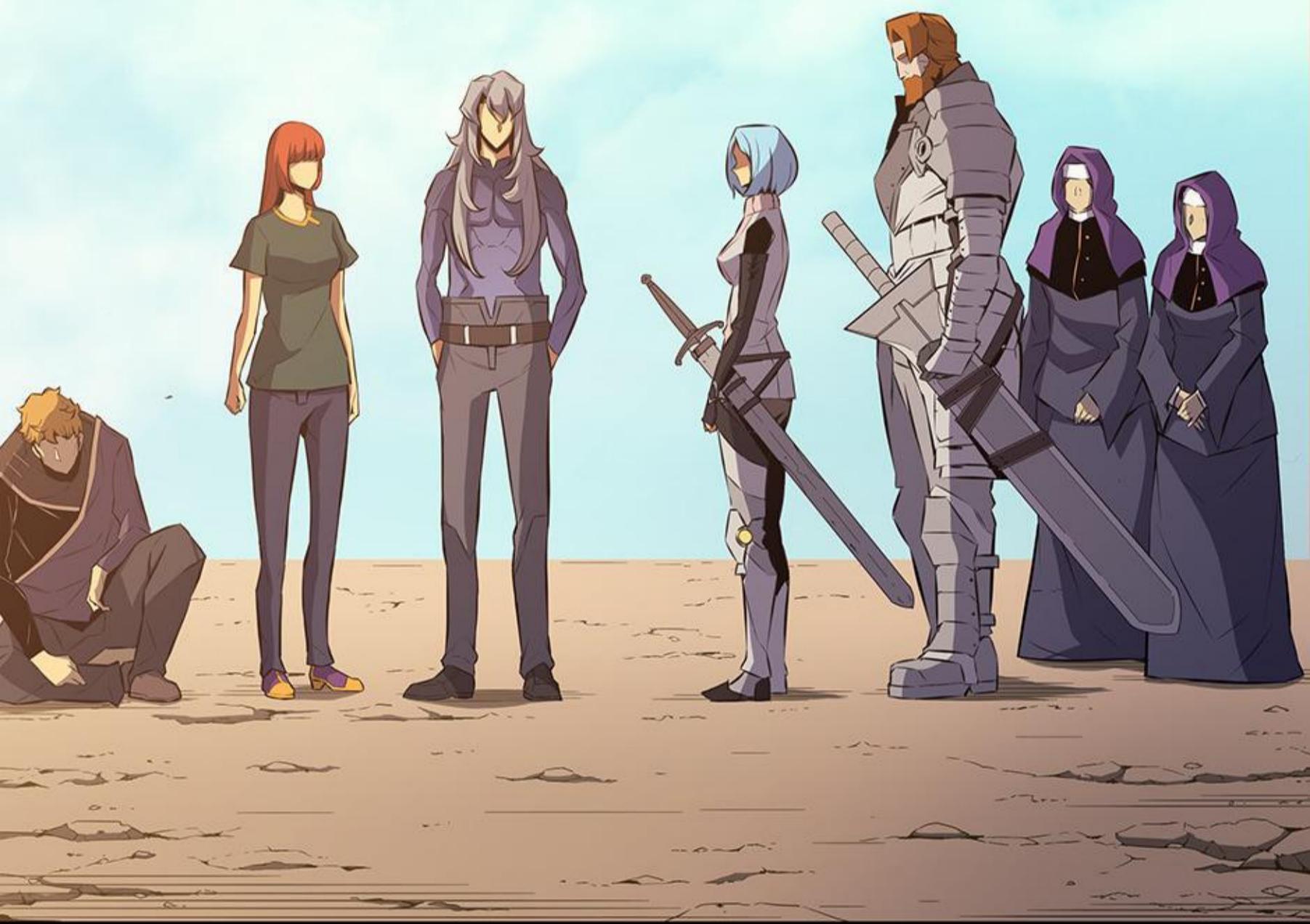




I PRESENT  
MY SINCERE  
GRATITUDE FOR  
YOUR TIMELY  
AID.



I AM SONIA  
AQUAREED OF  
THE RUANOBLE  
KINGDOM.



YO I'M

YOU, I'M  
FREI BLAKE.

AQUAREED?  
WHERE DID I HEAR  
THAT NAME  
BEFORE...?

NO  
COURTESY?!

LOOK, YOU'RE  
NOT BEING SO  
COURTEOUS  
EITHER.

...



ALLOW ME  
TO APOLOGIZE ON  
HIS BEHALF. HE'S NOT  
VERY EXPERIENCED  
IN TERMS OF  
MANNERS...

LADY SONYA,  
I AM ISABEL  
TRIEZNEIN.



AND WHAT'S  
WRONG WITH MY



MANNERS,  
HMM?

DO YOU REALLY  
CONSIDER YOURSELF  
COURTEOUS?

WHY CAN'T  
YOU SHOW AT  
LEAST HALF THE  
KINDNESS YOU'VE  
SHOWN THE  
PHOENIX?

I DON'T  
THINK HE'S A  
BEGGAR...

I GUESS HE'S  
SOMETHING LIKE A  
BARBARIC HERMIT  
TRAINING IN THE  
MOUNTAINS...?

STINKY

STINKY

SINCE YOU  
STARTED THIS,  
I'LL HAVE YOU  
KNOW!





SO HE IS A  
SON OF HOUSE  
BLAKE.

YOU KNOW  
THAT MAN, SIR  
LUTHER?



BLAKE IS ONE  
OF THE HIGH NOBLE  
HOUSES THAT OVERSEES  
THE CASTKALI EMPIRE.

THE CURRENT HEAD  
OF THE BLAKE FAMILY  
IS SIR ISAKA BLAKE.



HE IS ONE  
OF THE EMPIRE'S  
EIGHT MAGES WHO  
HAVE REACHED TIER 7.  
HE IS ALSO THE MASTER  
OF THE 6TH MAGIC  
TOWER.

B-BUT THAT  
CAN'T BE HOW CAN

CAN'T BE... HOW CAN  
A NOBLEMAN OF SUCH  
LINEAGE APPEAR SO  
HAGGARD...?

SO, WHERE ARE  
YOU HEADED?





FIRST, WE  
SHOULD HEAD  
TO A SETTLEMENT  
NEARBY.

I'VE HEARD  
THAT THERE IS  
A CITY CALLED  
ESPAÑIOLA NEAR  
THIS AREA.



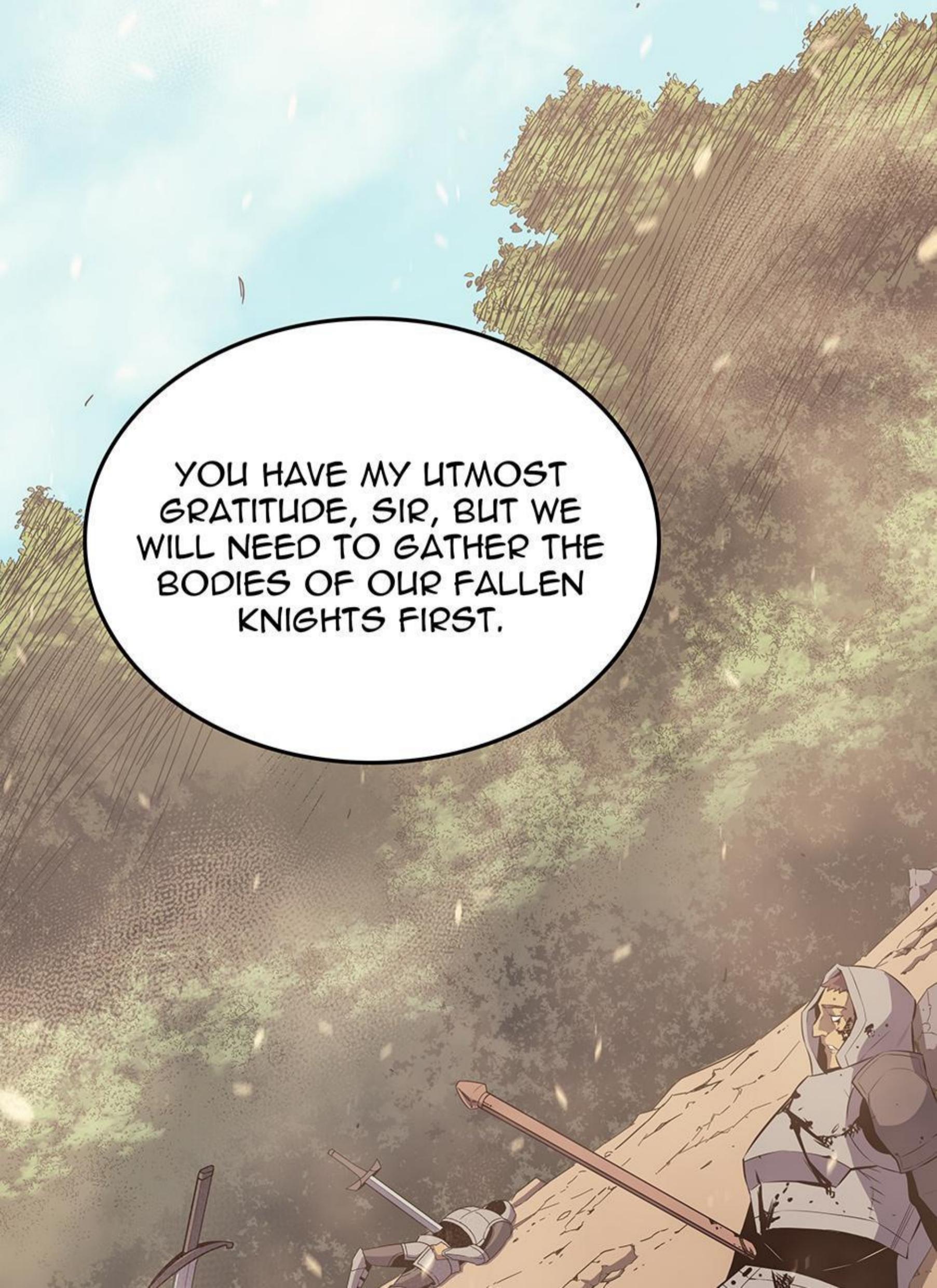
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE  
HEADED TO THE SAME  
DESTINATION, SO WE'LL  
ACCOMPANY YOU.

REALLY?  
THANK YOU  
SO MUCH!





YOU HAVE MY UTMOST  
GRATITUDE, SIR, BUT WE  
WILL NEED TO GATHER THE  
BODIES OF OUR FALLEN  
KNIGHTS FIRST.





REGRETTABLY,  
THIS WILL TAKE TIME.  
I SUGGEST YOU HEAD  
DOWN FIRST.



YOU PLAN  
ON BURYING  
THEM HERE?

IT CAN'T  
BE HELPED.

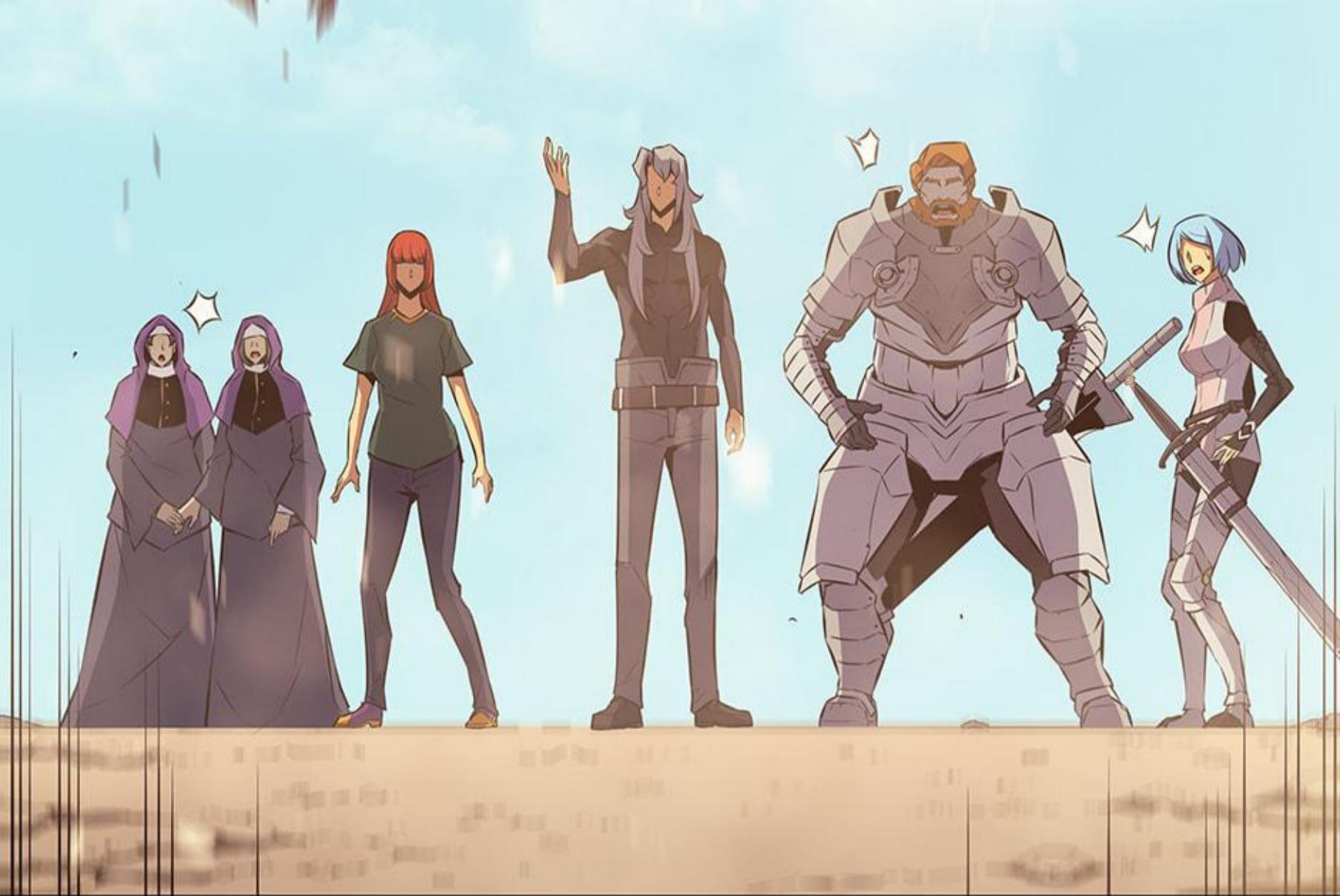
WE CAN'T  
POSSIBLY CARRY  
THEM ALL TO THE  
NEARBY CITY...



I'LL ASSIST  
YOU WITH THAT  
ENDEAVOUR.

WHAT  
DID YOU  
SAY?







...NGGCGG,



**RADUM**



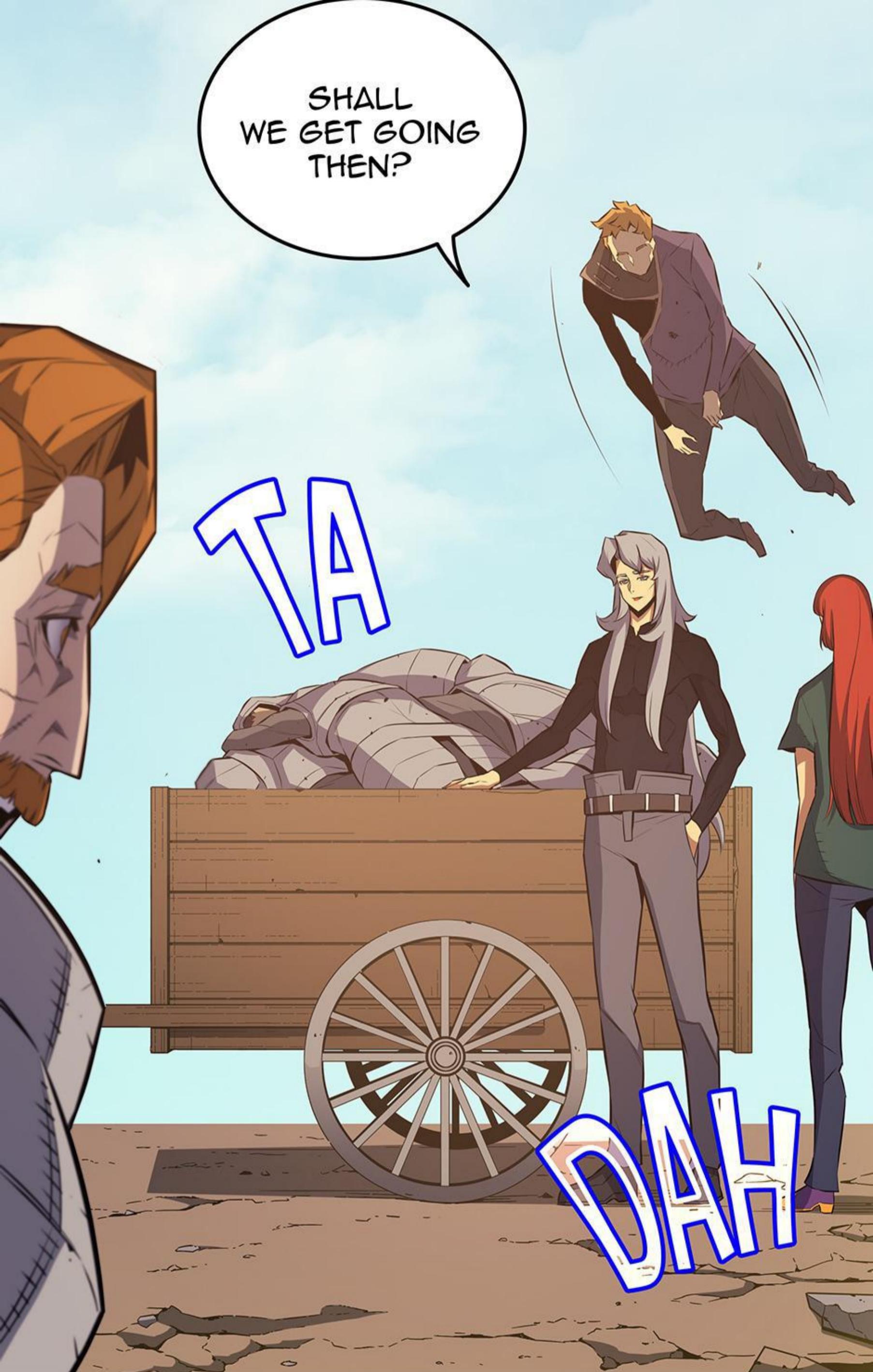
BY THE GODS...



SHALL  
WE GET GOING  
THEN?

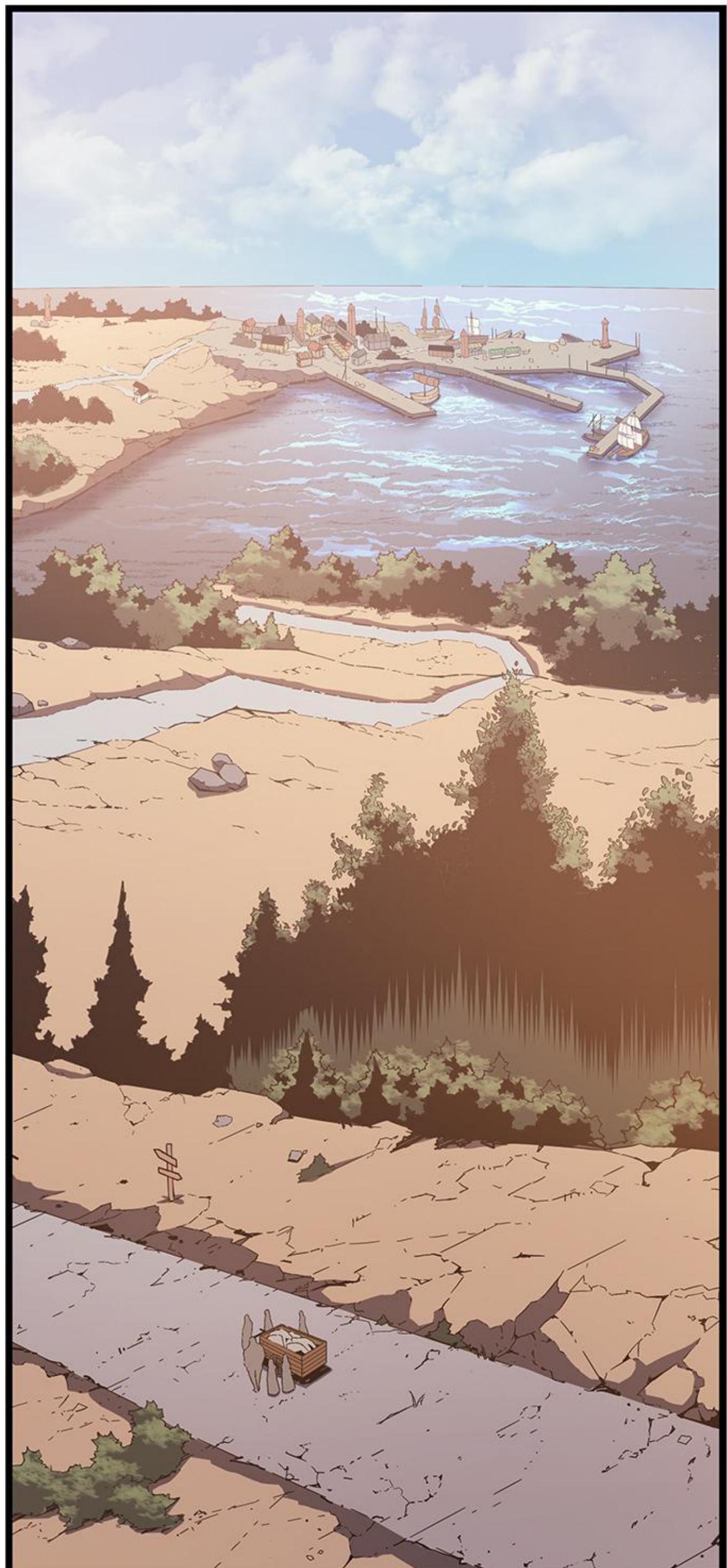
TA

DAH



AH... YES.









YOU'RE ONLY  
TWENTY YEARS  
OLD?!

I THOUGHT  
YOU WERE AT  
LEAST THIRTY!

HMM...  
ALTHOUGH  
NOW THAT YOU  
MENTION IT...

TWENTY OR  
THIRTY, WHO  
CARES?

TP

HUH?

WHAT  
MATTERS  
IS THAT IT'S  
GOOD TO BE  
YOUNG.

FLOAT



TP

FLOAT



WHAT ARE  
YOU TALKING  
ABOUT?

BY THE WAY,  
ABOUT THOSE  
MERCENARIES  
FROM BEFORE...

TP  
TP

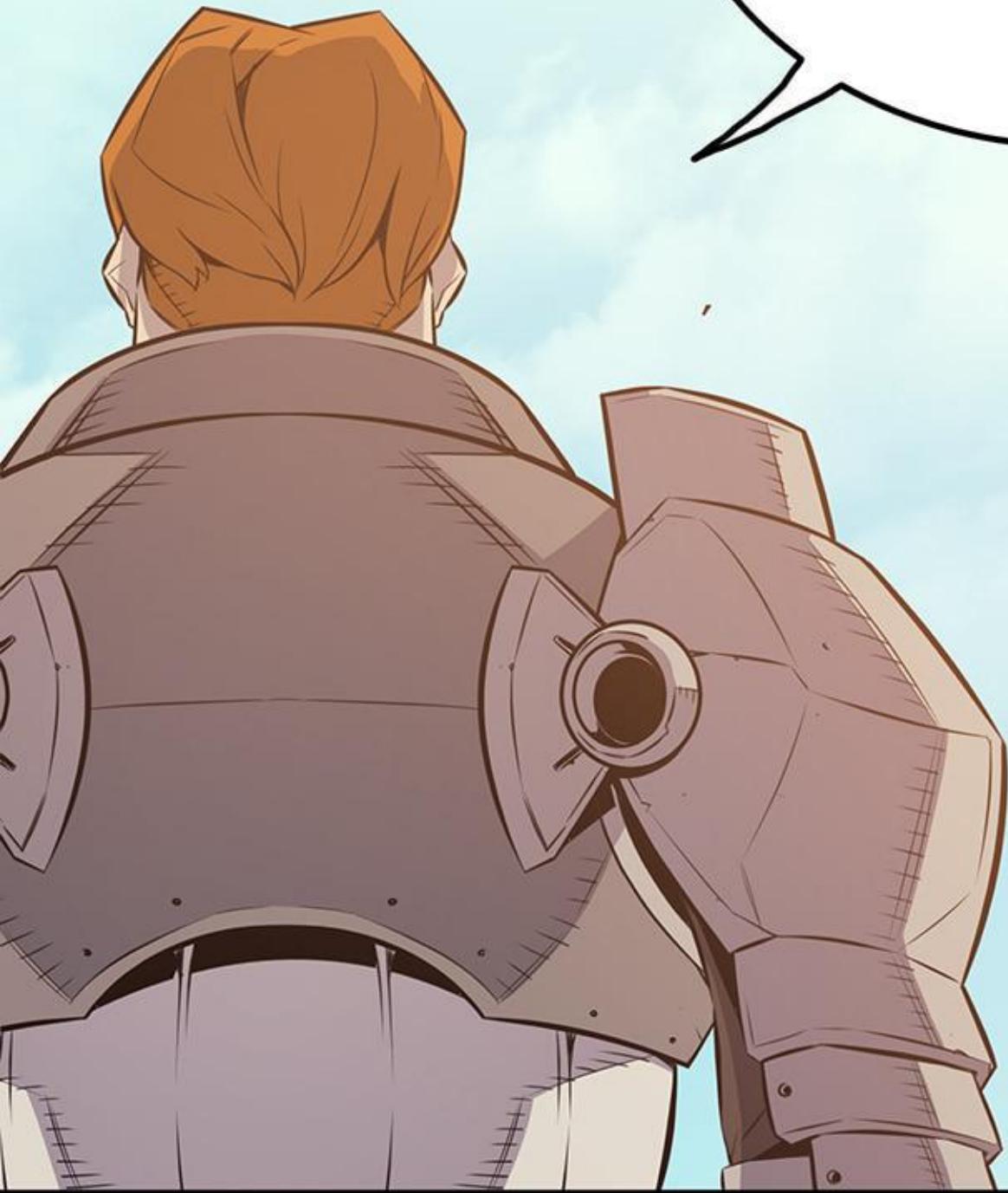
IT LOOKED LIKE  
THEY WERE CAMPING IN  
THAT PARTICULAR AREA  
KNOWING YOU'D PASS  
BY. GOT ANY IDEA WHO  
THEY WERE WORKING  
FOR AND WHY?

NOW THAT  
YOU MENTION  
IT, YES, THEY DID  
MENTION SOMETHING  
ABOUT WAITING FOR  
US TO PASS BY  
FOR ALMOST  
A MONTH.

TP

TP





IF IT WAS A  
MONTH AGO, THEN  
THAT'S AROUND THE TIME  
WHEN WE DEPARTED  
RUANOBLE.



BUT I  
CAN'T FATHOM  
WHO MIGHT HAVE  
PLOTTED AGAINST  
US LIKE THIS.

AQUAREED,  
I LOATHE TO  
ADMIT, HAS AS  
MANY ALLIES  
AS ENEMIES  
YOU SEE.



HMM...

DESPITE THAT,  
THEY WERE HIGHLY  
SKILLED FOR A  
BAND OF COMMON  
MERCENARIES.





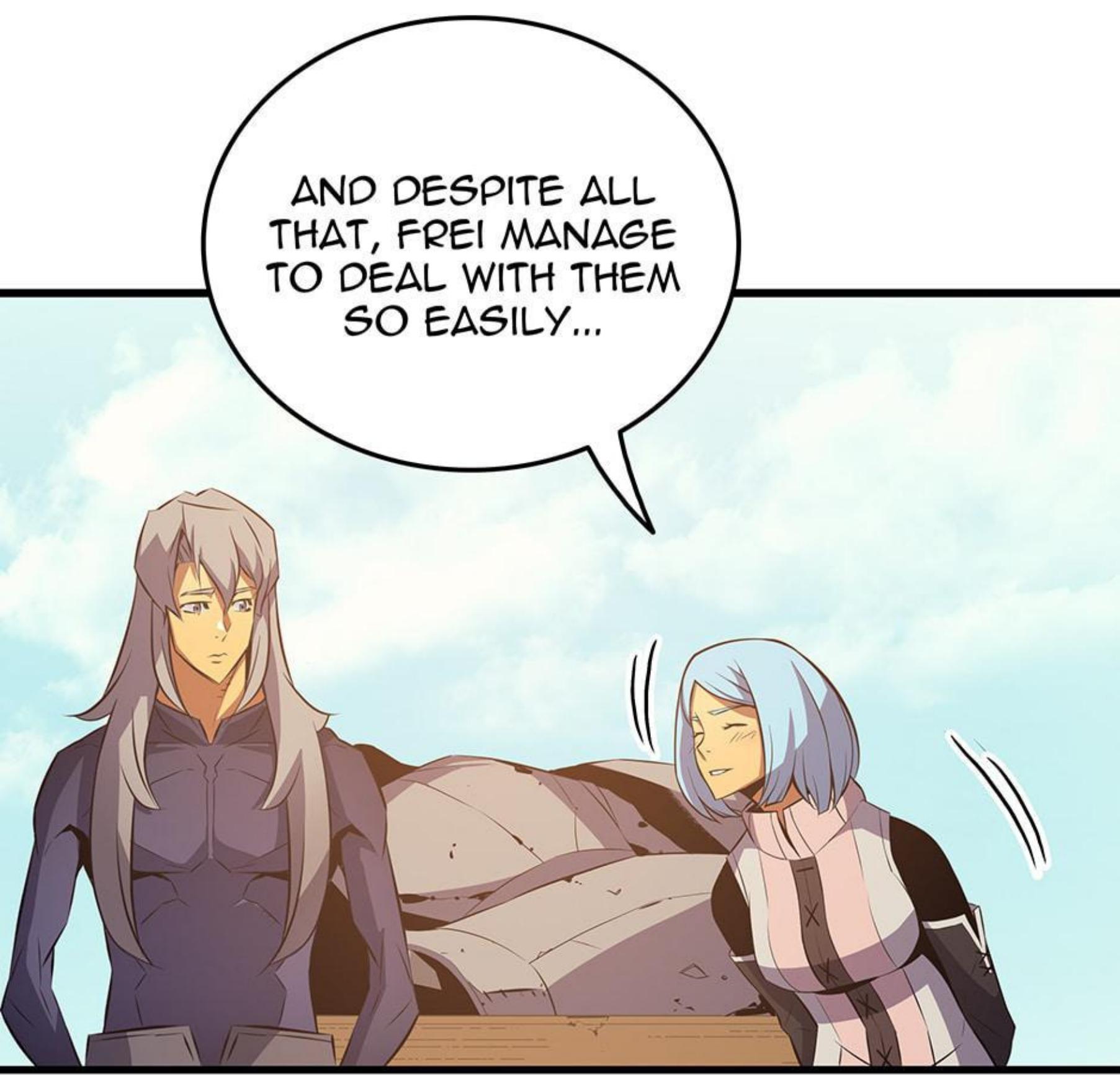
JUDGING FROM  
THEIR ABILITY TO  
HIRE SUCH SKILLED  
MERCENARIES,



OUR ENEMIES  
WERE PEOPLE



WERE PEOPLE  
WITH SIGNIFICANT  
POWER AND  
INFLUENCE.

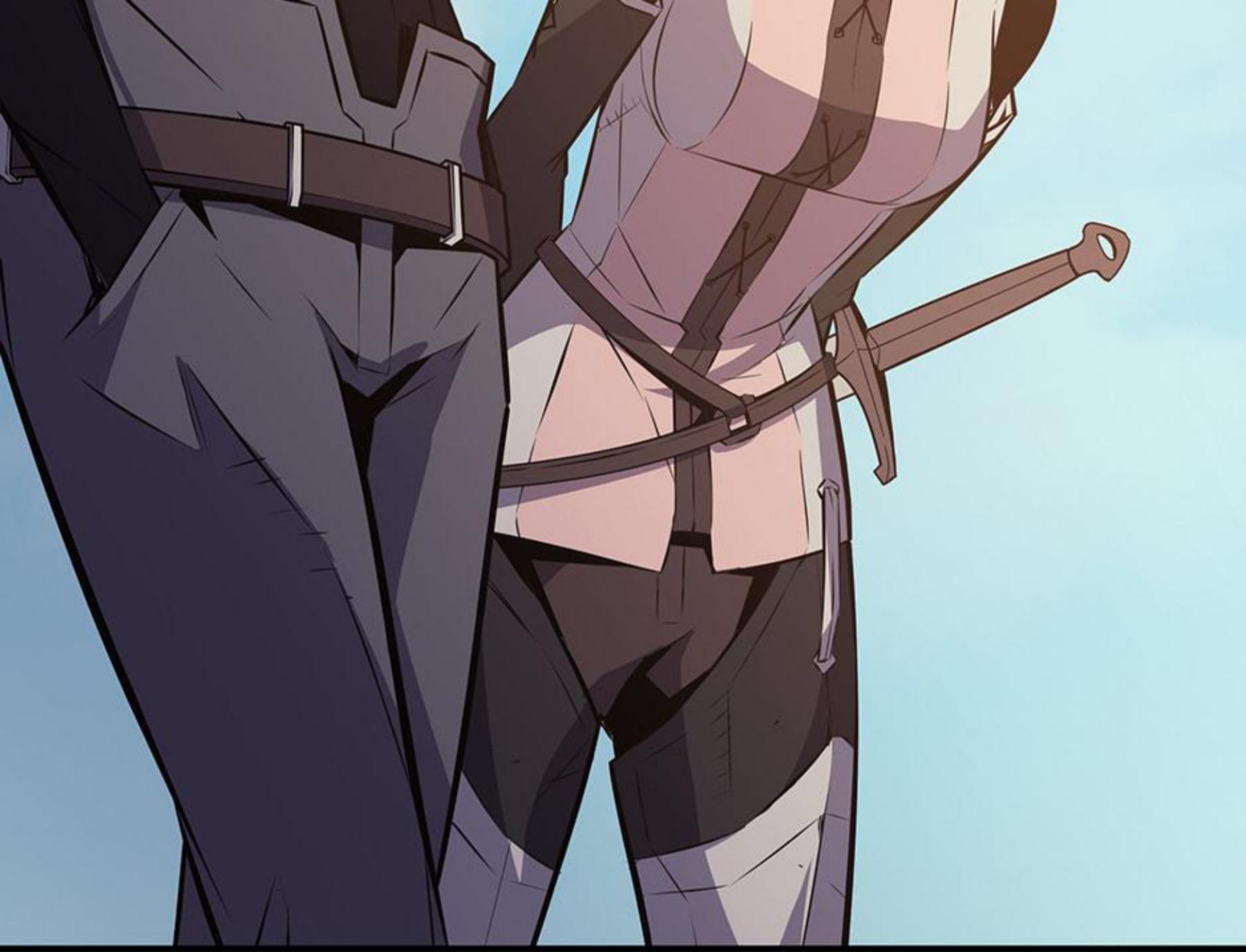


AND DESPITE ALL  
THAT, FREI MANAGE  
TO DEAL WITH THEM  
SO EASILY...





JUST HOW  
DID YOU END  
UP WITH SUCH  
POWER?

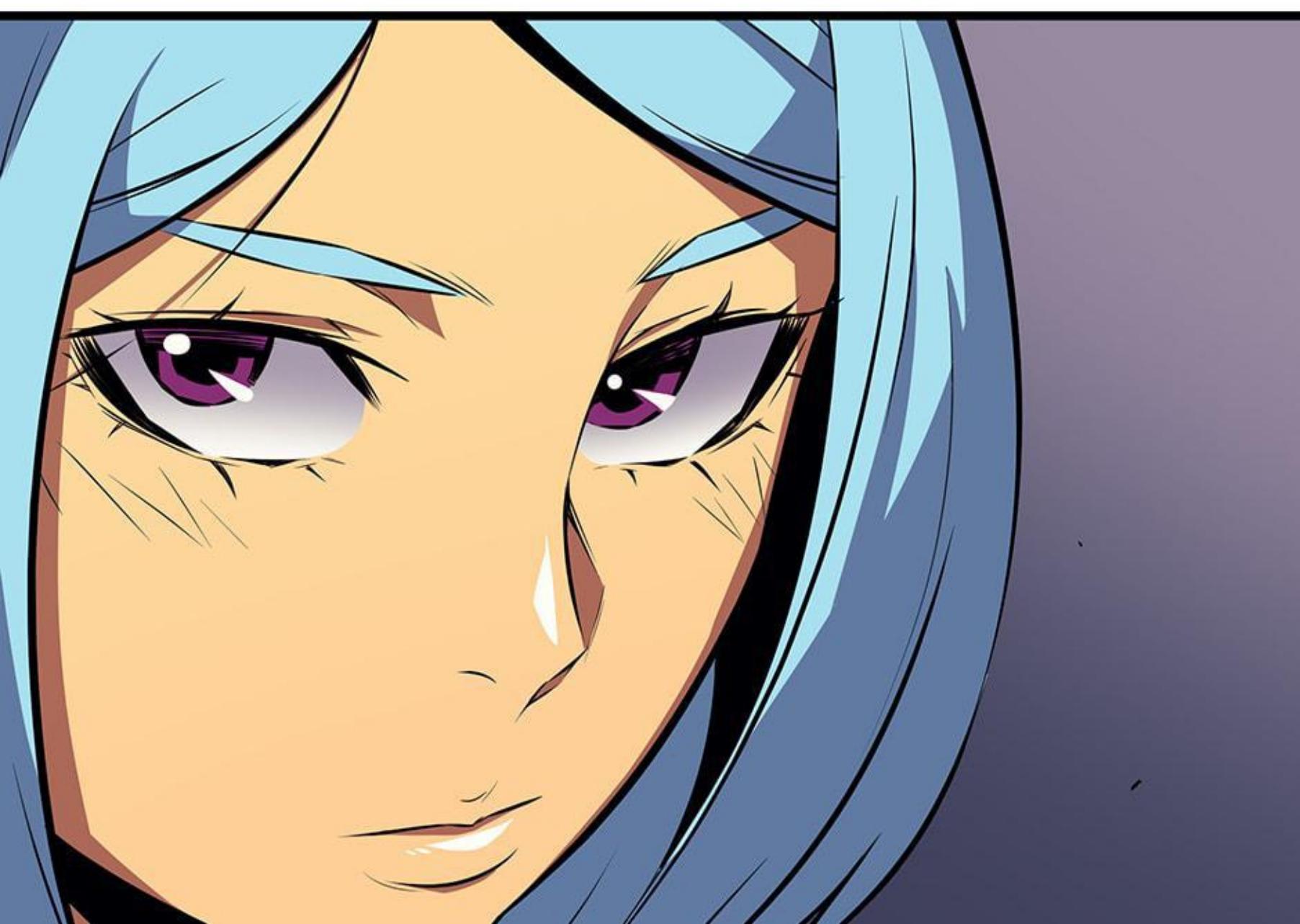


I WAS  
ALWAYS UNDER  
THE IMPRESSION  
THAT MAGES WERE  
NOTHING BUT  
WEAKLINGS.





THOUGH  
YOU'VE THOROUGHLY  
CRUSHED THAT MINDSET  
OF MINE WITH TODAY'S  
DEMONSTRATION.





WELL...  
HOW ELSE...?

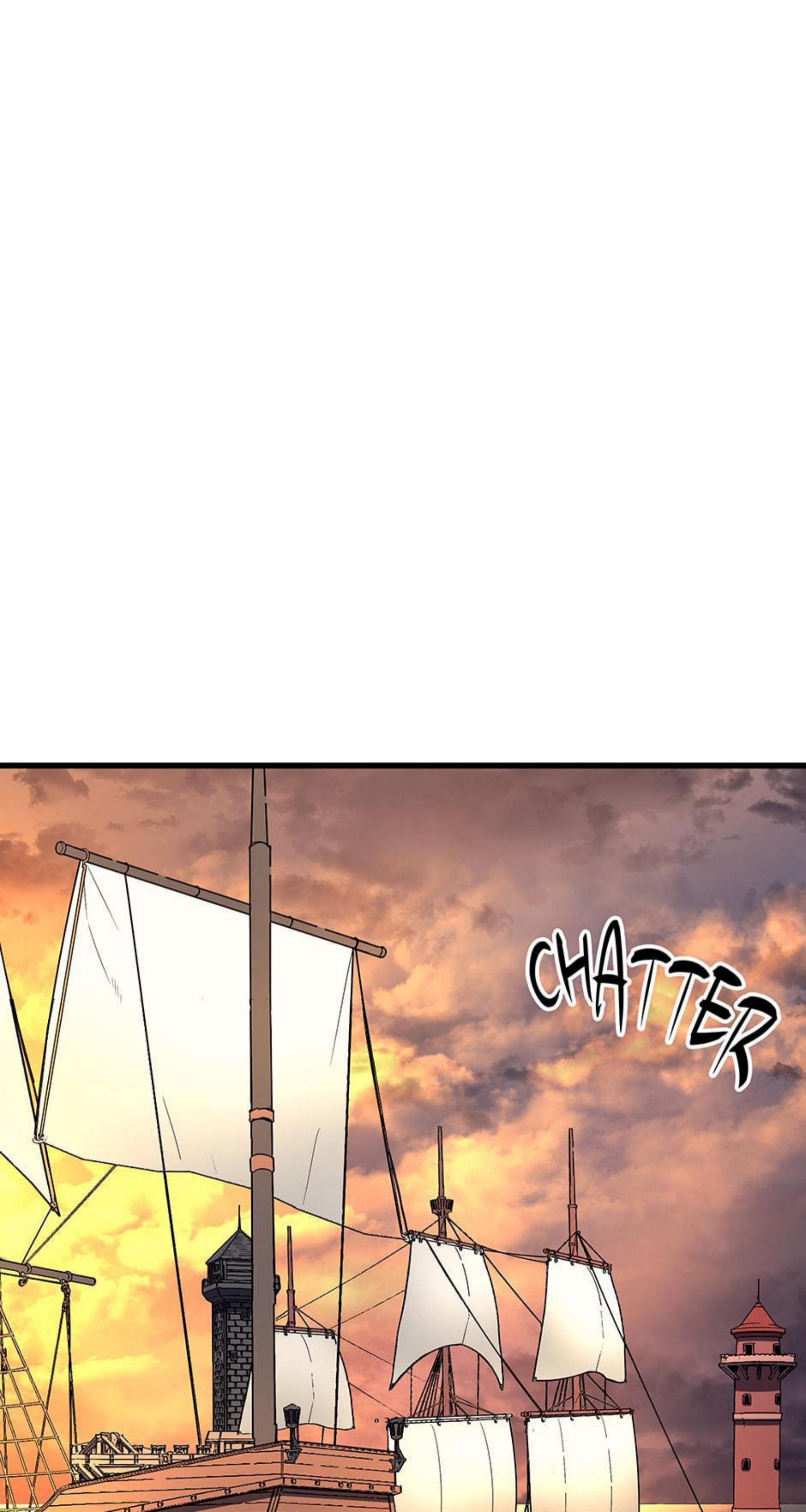
**THROUGH  
SHEER EFFORT.**





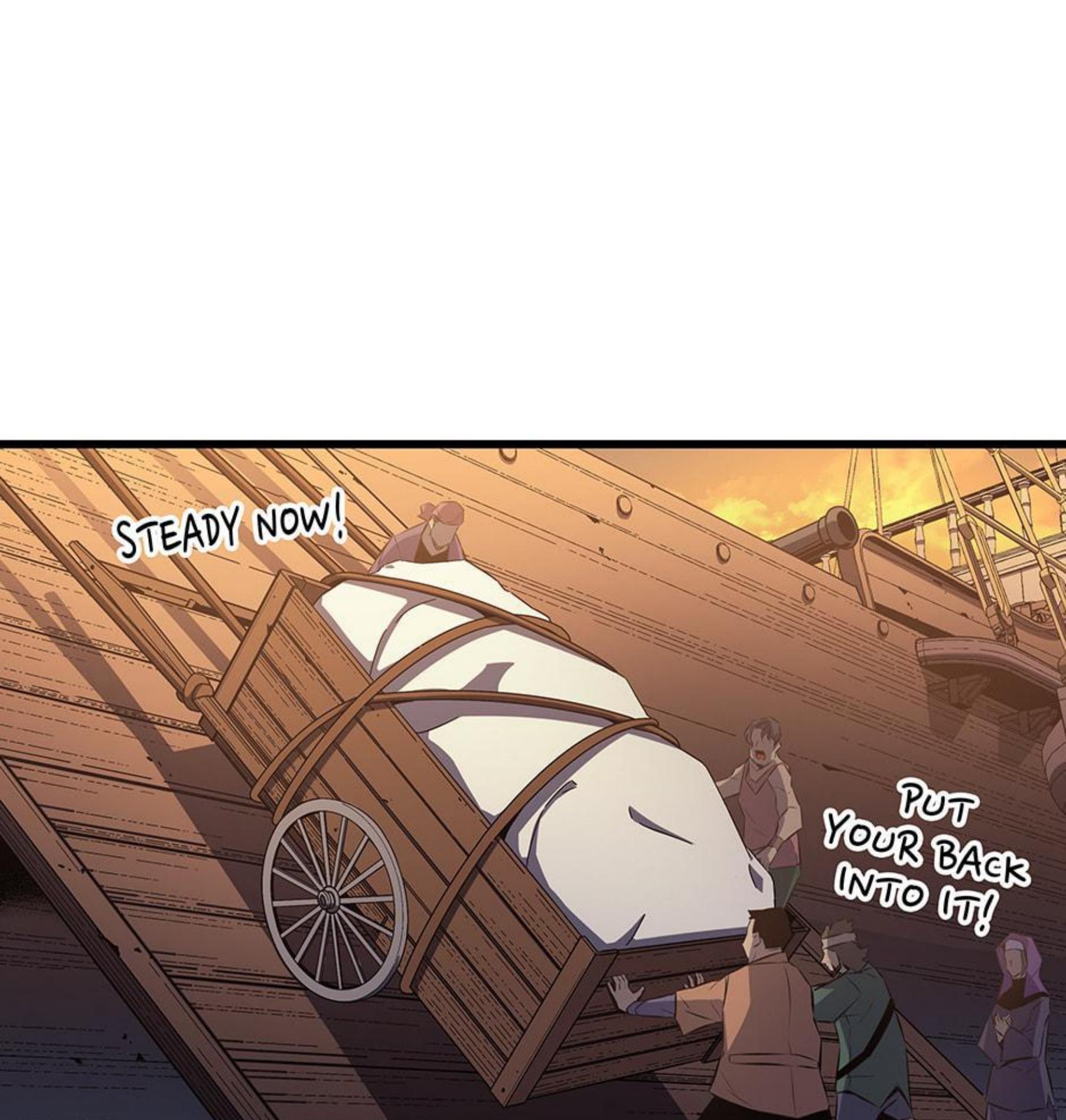


SHEER  
EFFORT...?



CHATTER





STEADY NOW!

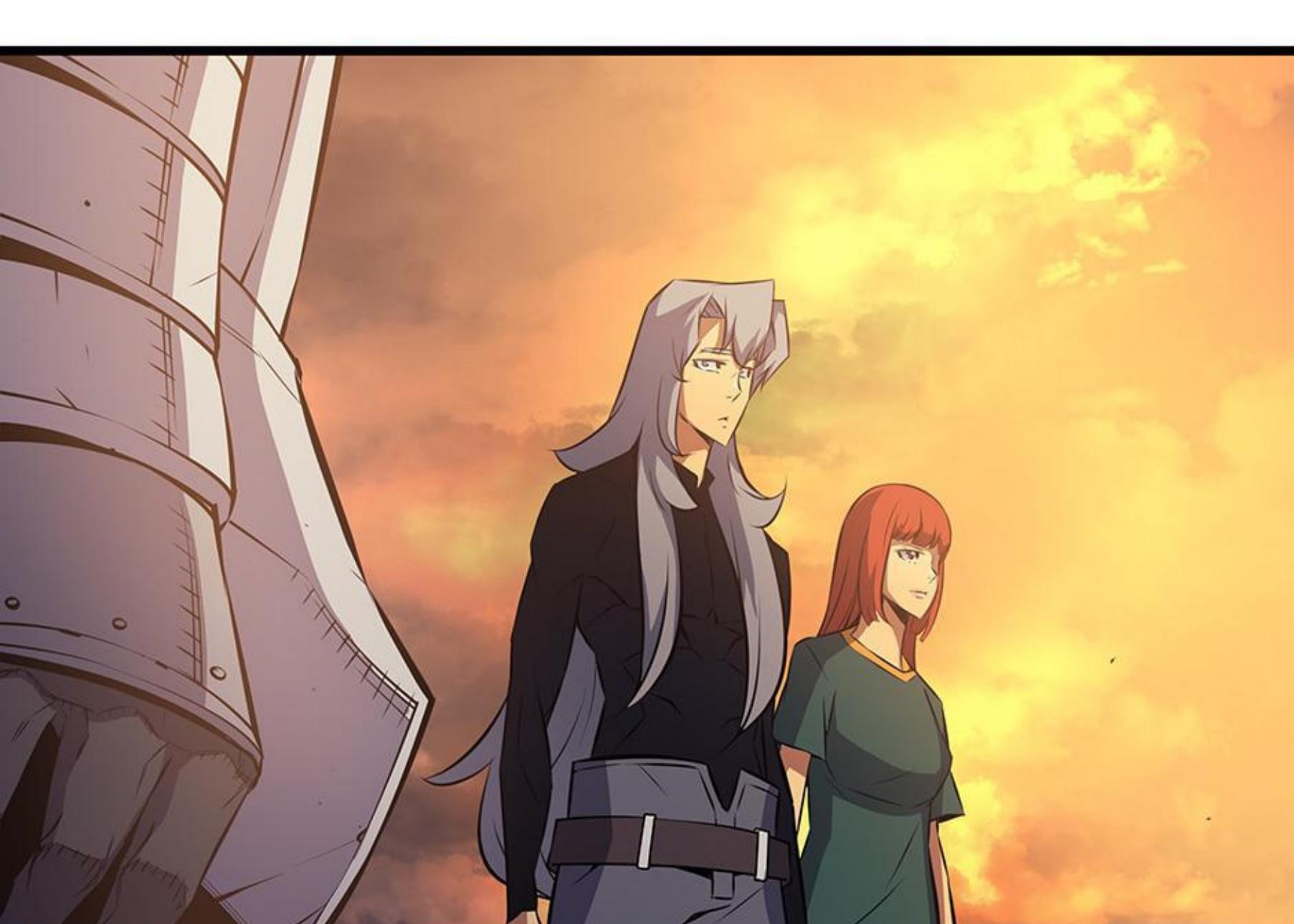
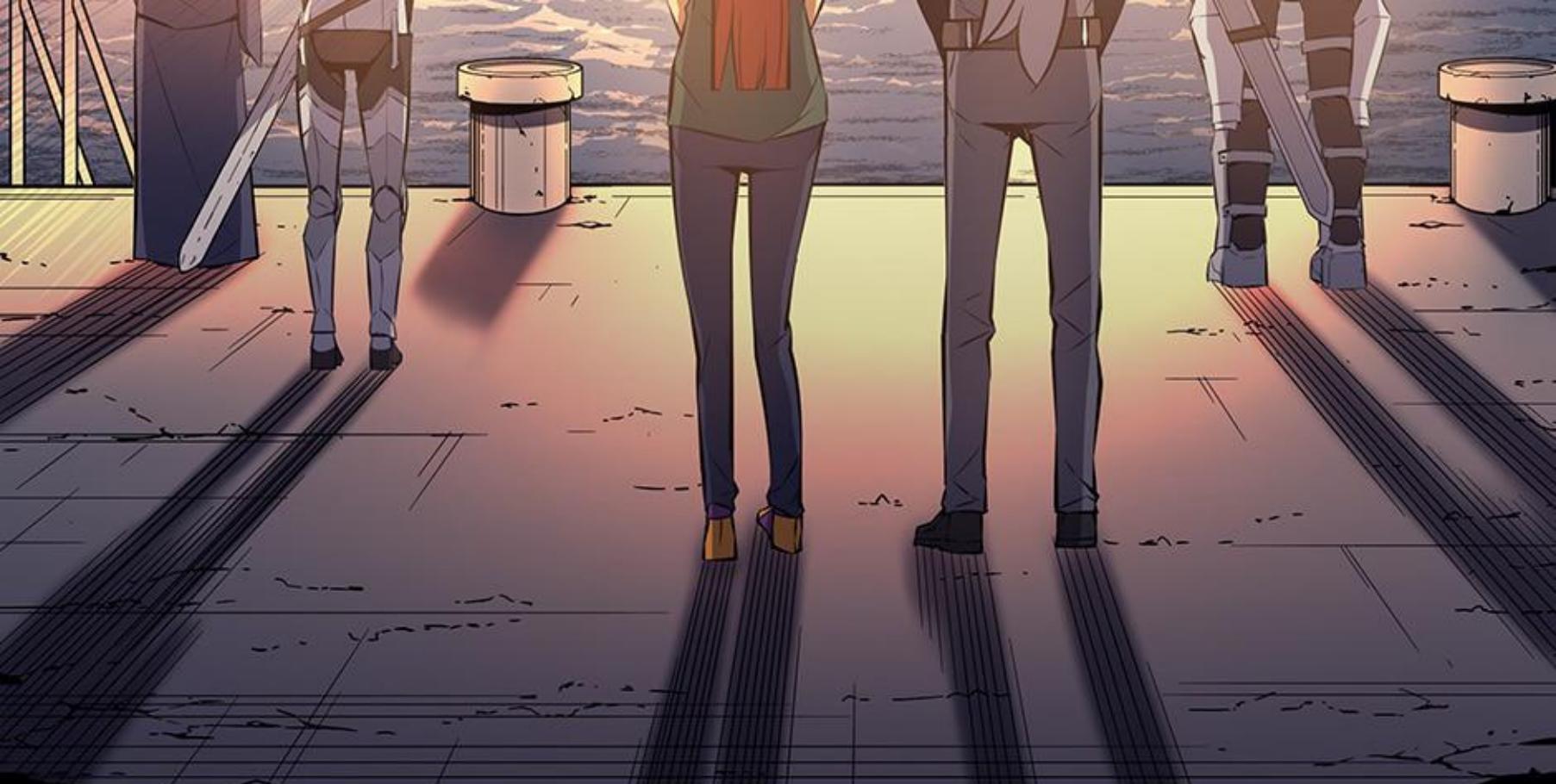
PUT  
YOUR BACK  
INTO IT!



HUG



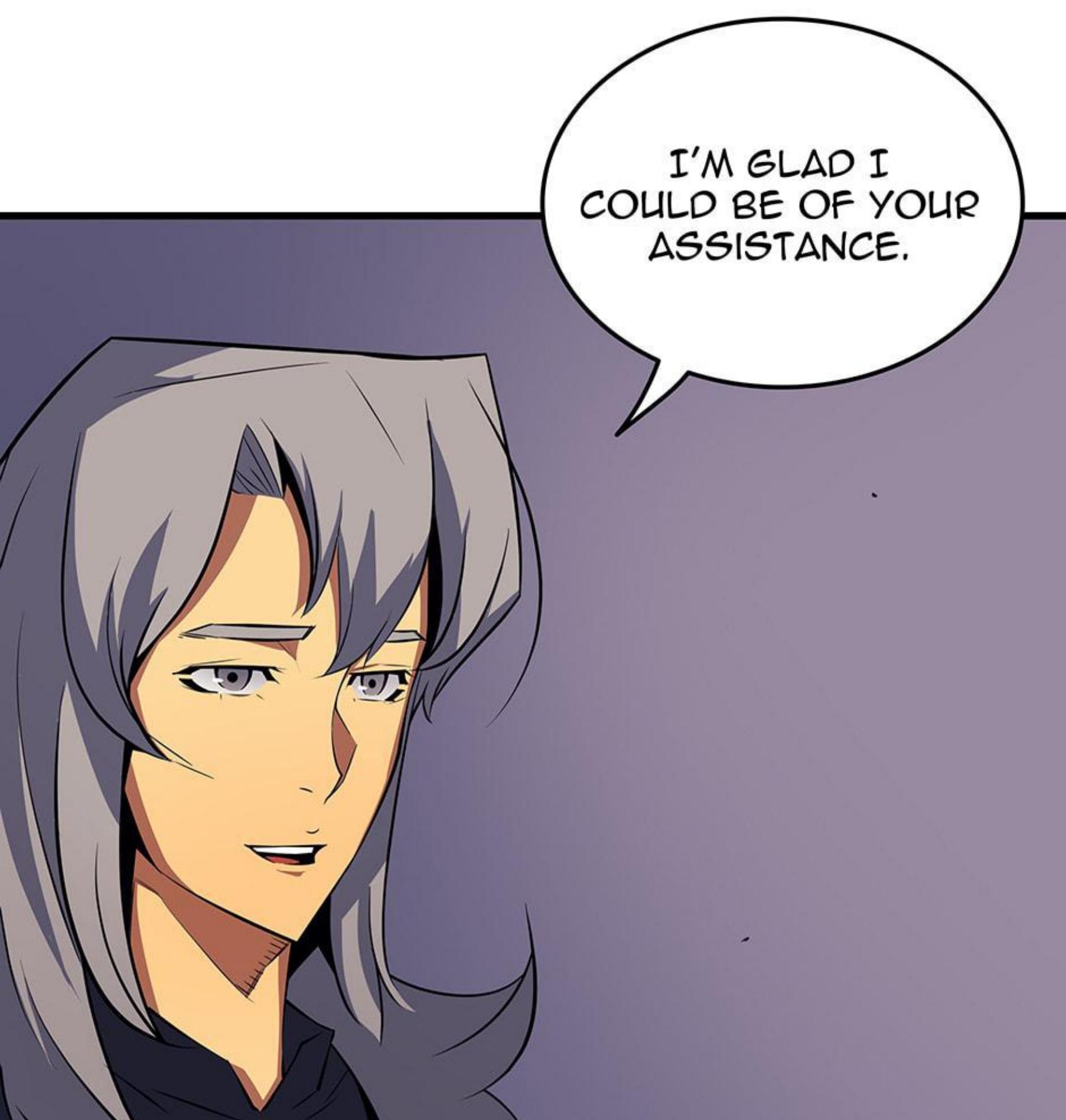






ONCE  
AGAIN, YOU HAVE  
MY SINCEREST  
GRATITUDE.

THANKS TO  
YOU, OUR FALLEN  
KNIGHTS WILL RETURN  
TO THEIR FAMILIES'  
SIDES.



I'M GLAD I  
COULD BE OF YOUR  
ASSISTANCE.



ALL RIGHT  
THEN. HAVE A  
NICE TRIP.



AHH!!





?!

HUH?

I, UMM...  
I'LL HAVE TO  
RETURN THE  
FAVOR.



NAH, DON'T  
SWEAT IT.

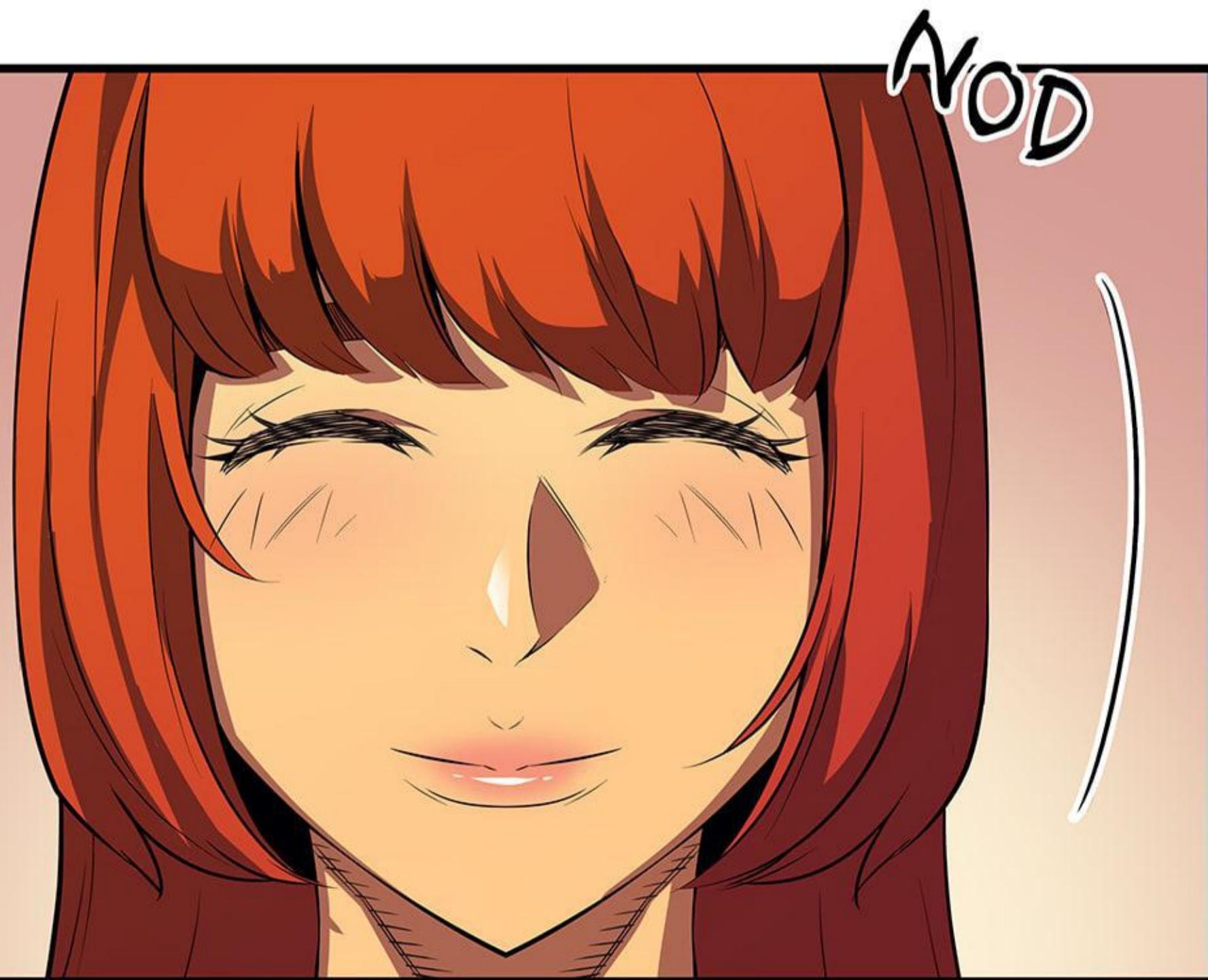
WE GOTTA  
HELP EACH OTHER  
OUT TO SURVIVE IN  
THIS WORLD.

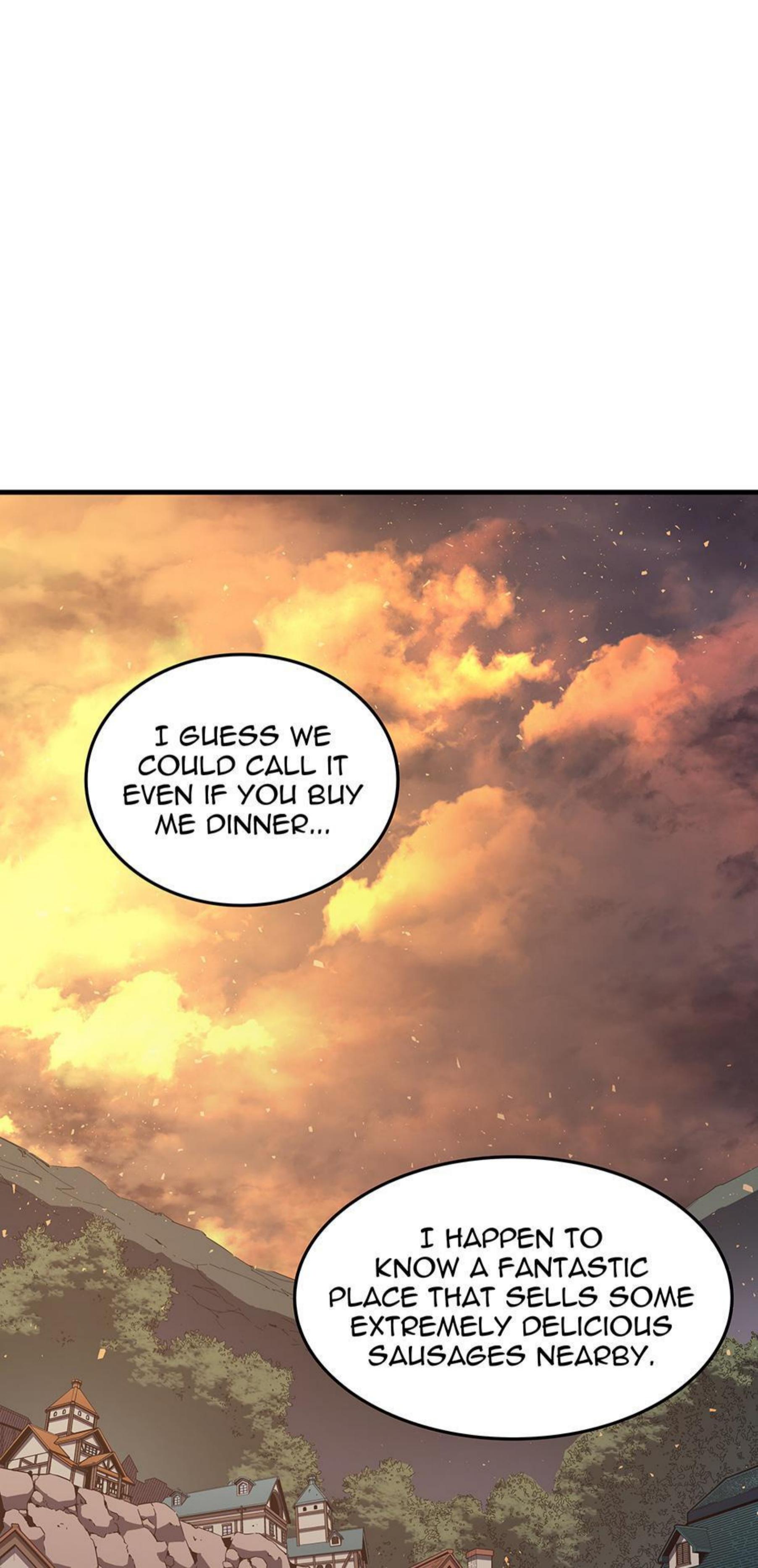


PLEASE  
ALLOW US TO  
REPAY YOUR  
KINDNESS.

THE AQUAREED  
HOUSE WILL LOSE  
FACE SHOULD IT BE  
KNOWN THAT WE SENT  
OFF OUR SAVIORS  
WITHOUT REPAYING  
YOUR KINDNESS.







I GUESS WE  
COULD CALL IT  
EVEN IF YOU BUY  
ME DINNER...

I HAPPEN TO  
KNOW A FANTASTIC  
PLACE THAT SELLS SOME  
EXTREMELY DELICIOUS  
SAUSAGES NEARBY.

