

# THE ARCHMAGE RETURNS AFTER 4000 YEARS

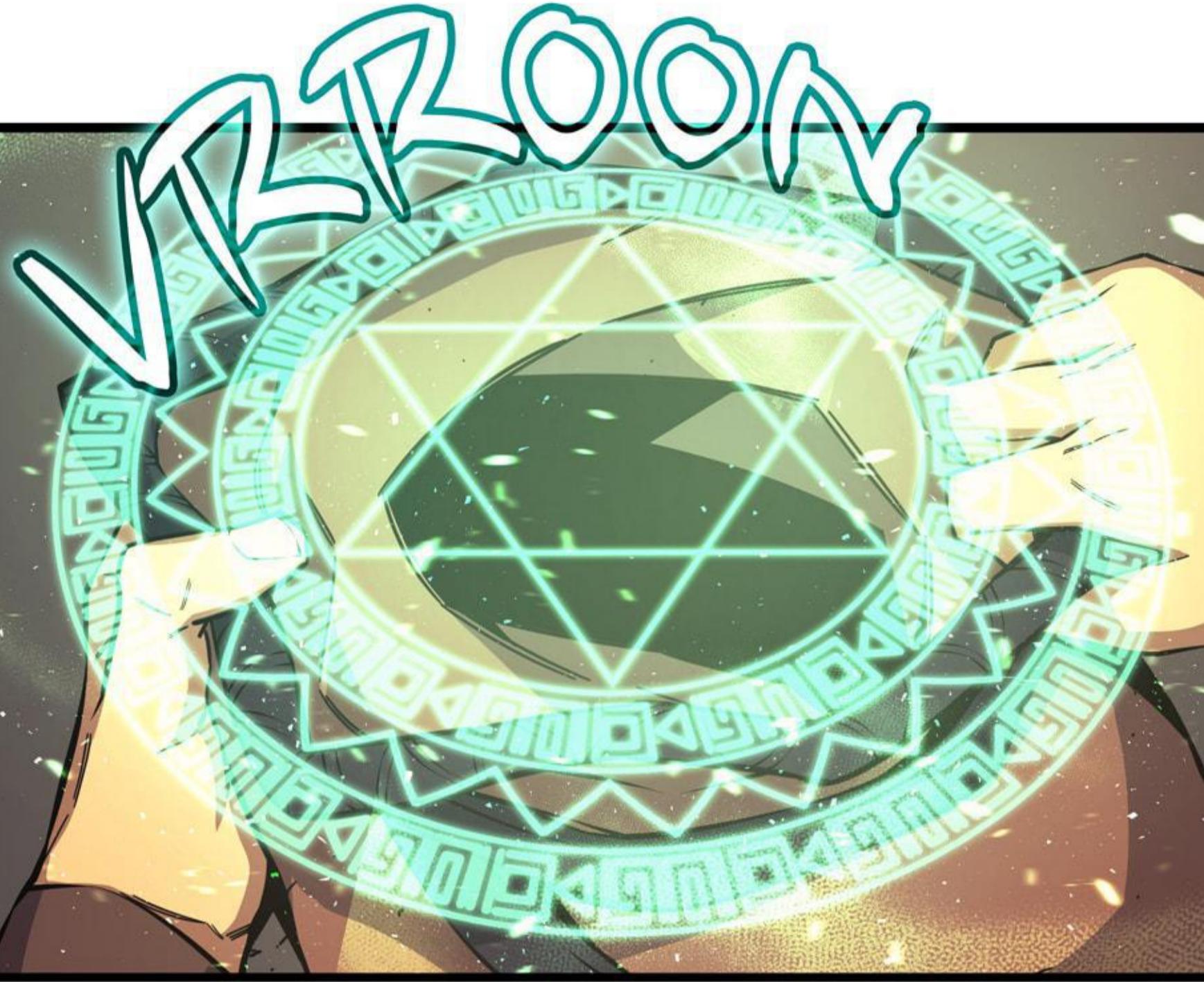
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VIBROON



RUMMAGE

RUMMAGE

HERE,  
EAT THIS.



THANK YOU  
BUT I AM FINE.

I DON'T FEEL  
HUNGRY YET SO  
LET'S SAVE IT  
FOR LATER.

TRUST ME, YOUR  
BRAIN IS CURRENTLY  
MISINTERPRETING THE  
SENSATION OF MANA  
REPLETION AS  
SATIETY.



YOU  
SHOULD EAT  
IT EVEN IF YOU  
DON'T FEEL  
HUNGRY.



AH...



NOM  
NOM





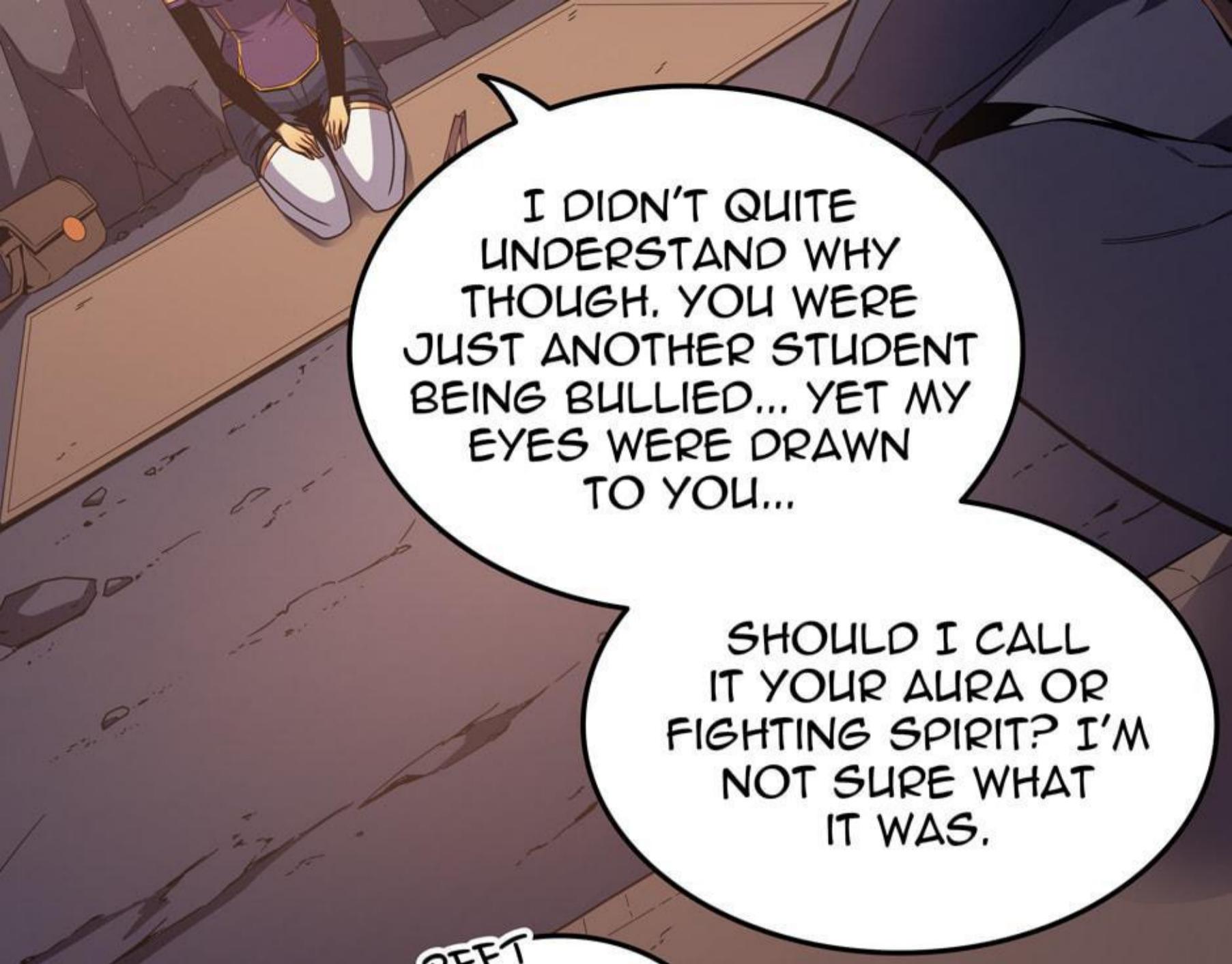
UNTIL  
RECENTLY,  
I NEVER WOULD  
HAVE IMAGINED I'D  
BE SPENDING TIME  
WITH YOU LIKE  
THIS.





TO TELL  
YOU THE TRUTH,  
I HAVE ALWAYS  
OBSERVED YOU AND  
YOUR EXTRAORDINARY  
WILLPOWER ALL  
THIS TIME.

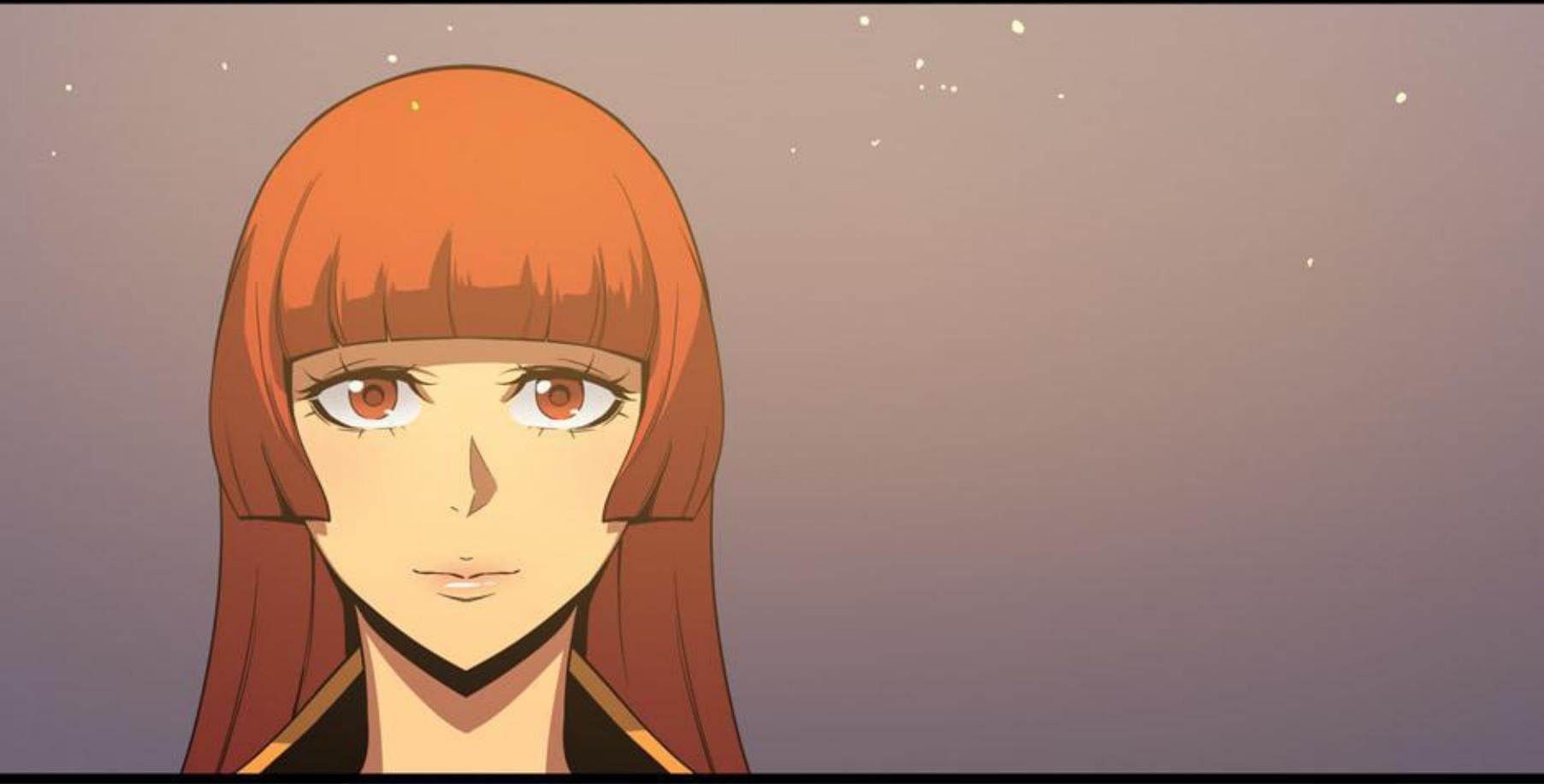




I DIDN'T QUITE  
UNDERSTAND WHY  
THOUGH, YOU WERE  
JUST ANOTHER STUDENT  
BEING BULLIED... YET MY  
EYES WERE DRAWN  
TO YOU...

SHOULD I CALL  
IT YOUR AURA OR  
FIGHTING SPIRIT? I'M  
NOT SURE WHAT  
IT WAS.

PFFT  
FIGHTING  
SPIRIT?



BUT WHEN  
I SEE YOU NOW,  
IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE A  
COMPLETELY DIFFERENT  
PERSON THAN YOU  
WERE.





I STILL DON'T  
UNDERSTAND WHY  
IT IS...

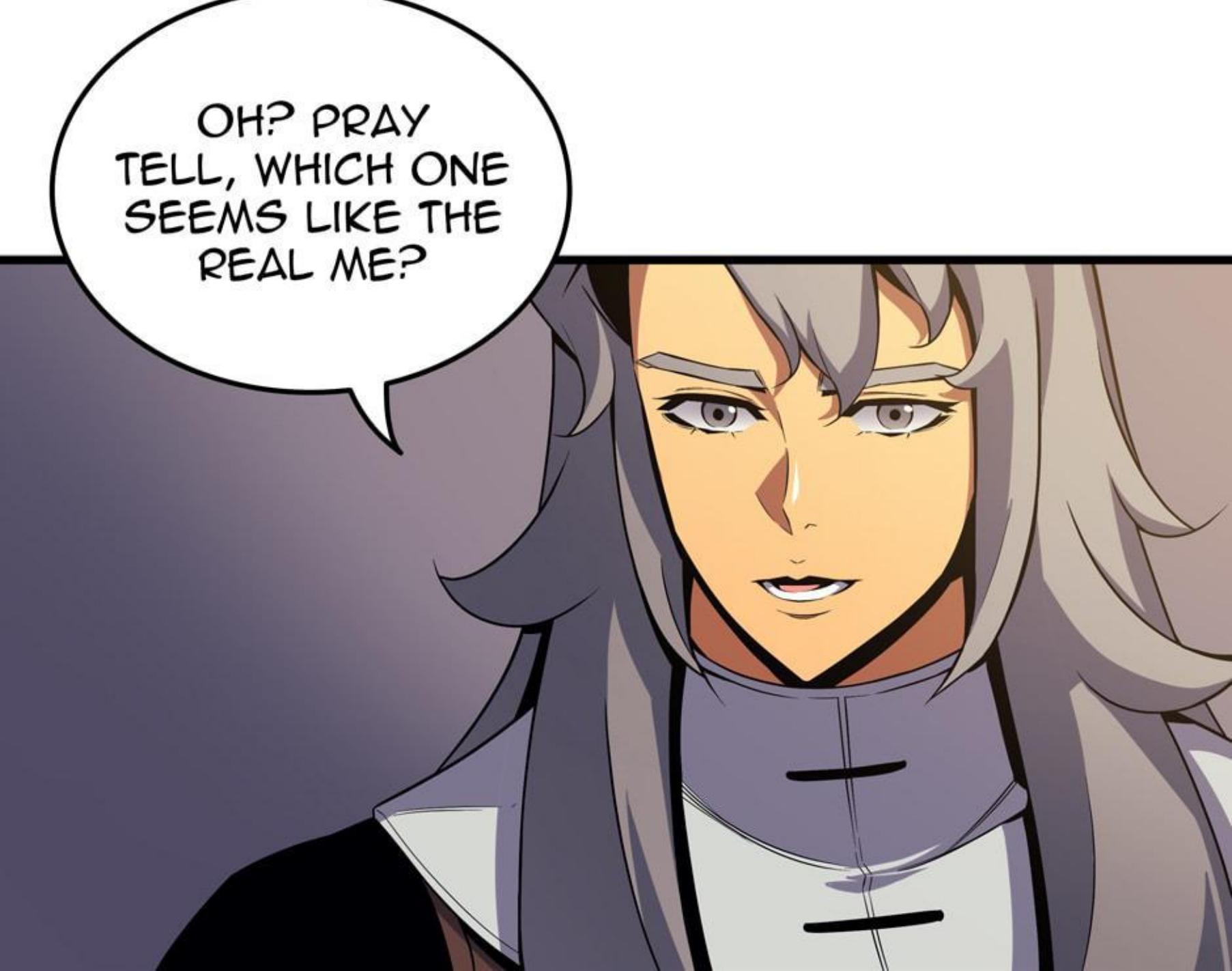


IT'S ALMOST  
LIKE YOU ALREADY  
KNOW WHAT IT IS  
YOU NEED TO DO AND  
WHERE TO GO TO  
ACHIEVE IT.

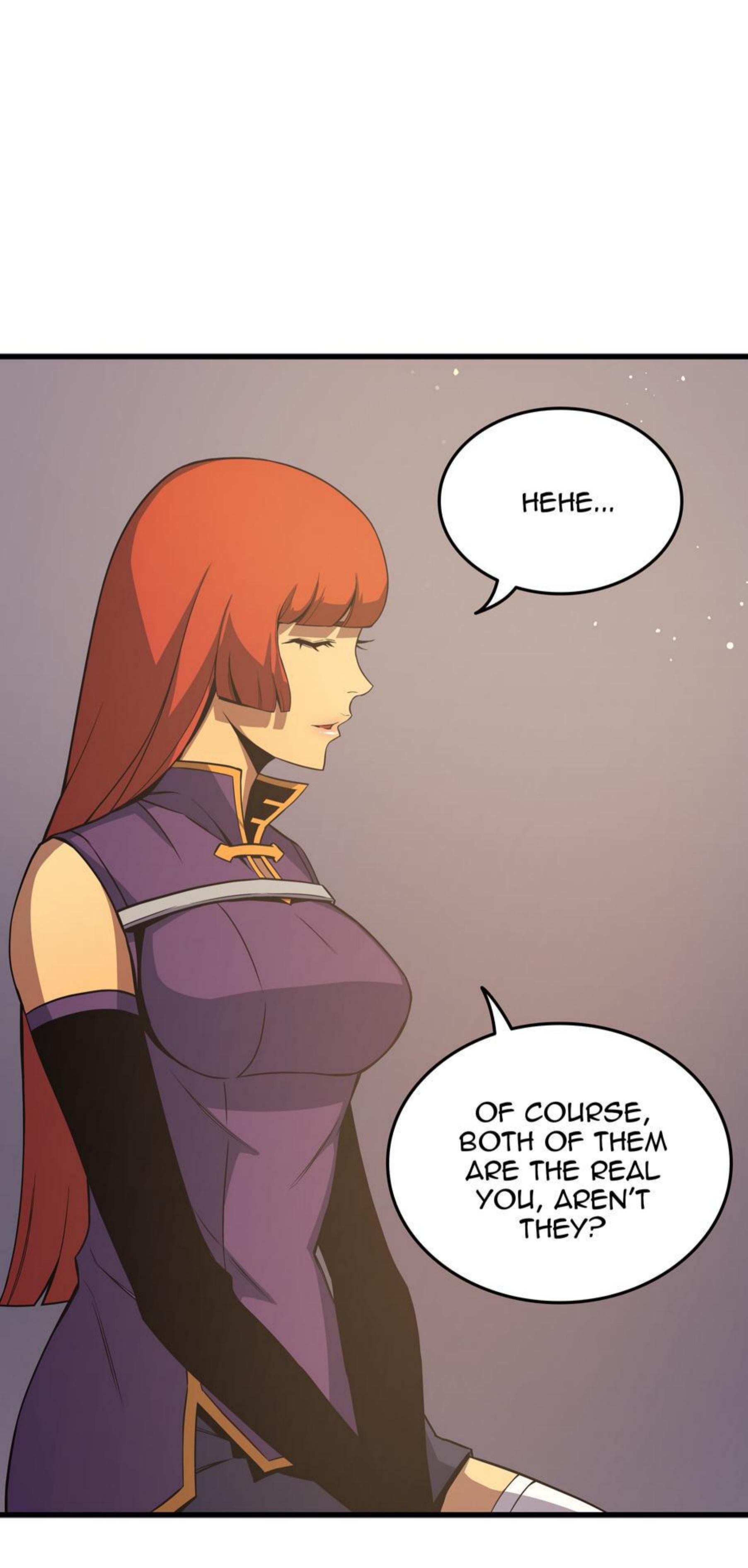
I DON'T  
SENSE THE  
SLIGHTEST SENSE  
OF HESITATION IN  
YOUR ACTIONS.



OH? PRAY  
TELL, WHICH ONE  
SEEMS LIKE THE  
REAL ME?







HEHE...

OF COURSE,  
BOTH OF THEM  
ARE THE REAL  
YOU, AREN'T  
THEY?

HUMANS  
DON'T CHANGE  
AFTER ALL.





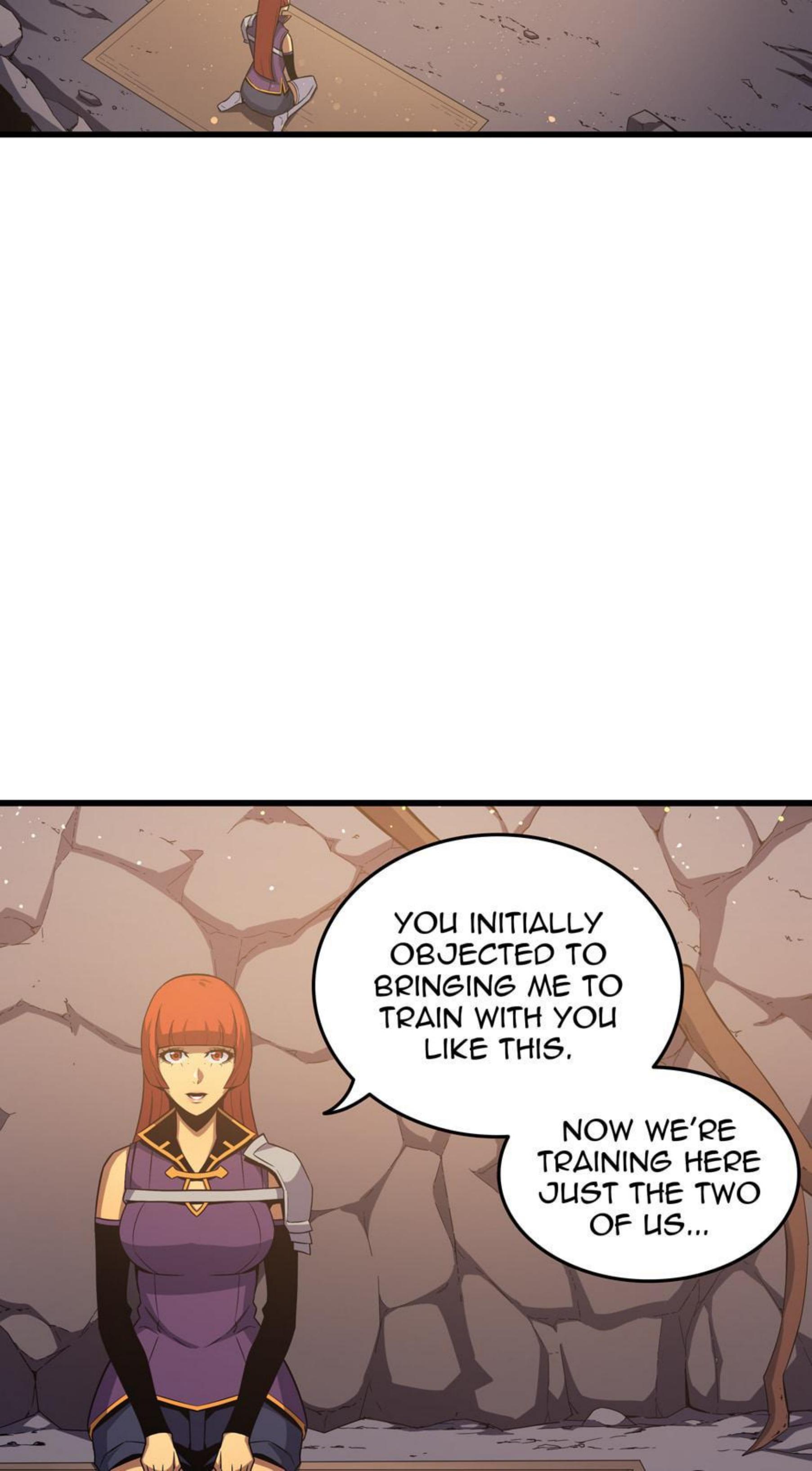
WE SIMPLY  
GROW STRONGER.





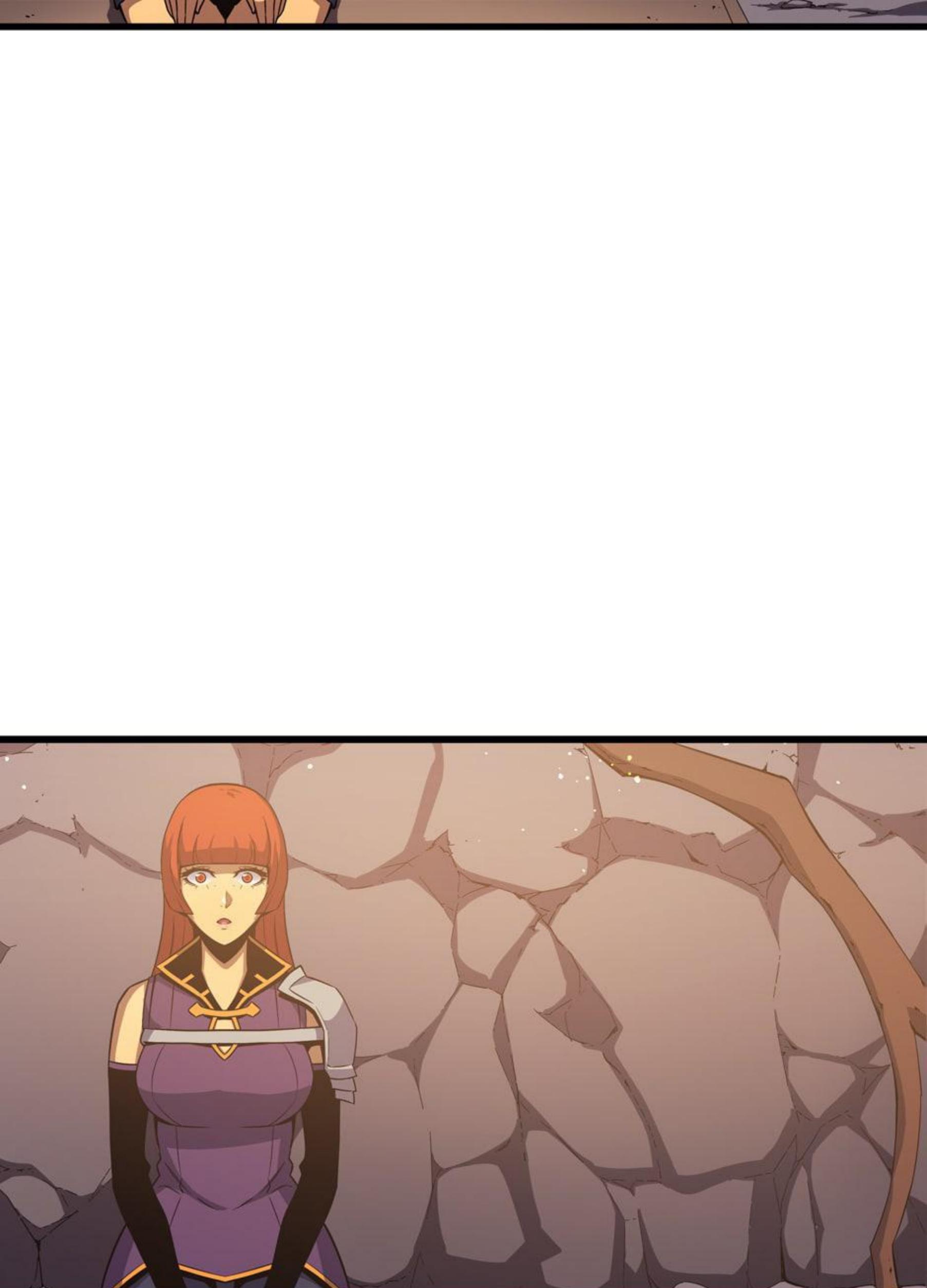
IN ANY CASE  
I MUST OFFER  
MY THANKS FOR  
YOUR CHANGE  
OF MIND.





YOU INITIALLY  
OBJECTED TO  
BRINGING ME TO  
TRAIN WITH YOU  
LIKE THIS.

NOW WE'RE  
TRAINING HERE  
JUST THE TWO  
OF US...



**NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...**



**DOESN'T THAT MEAN WE'LL  
BE SPENDING THE NIGHTS TOGETHER  
FOR A MONTH IN THIS SMALL CAVE,  
JUST THE TWO OF US?!**



STOP  
THINKING  
OF USELESS  
THOUGHTS.

I TOLD  
YOU, DIDN'T I?  
I'VE GOT NO  
INTEREST  
IN KIDS.



WHY IS IT  
THAT HIS WORDS  
INFLI<sup>R</sup>IATE ME...?



RRNNNG

WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING  
NOW...?



I'M INSTALLING  
A BARRIER.

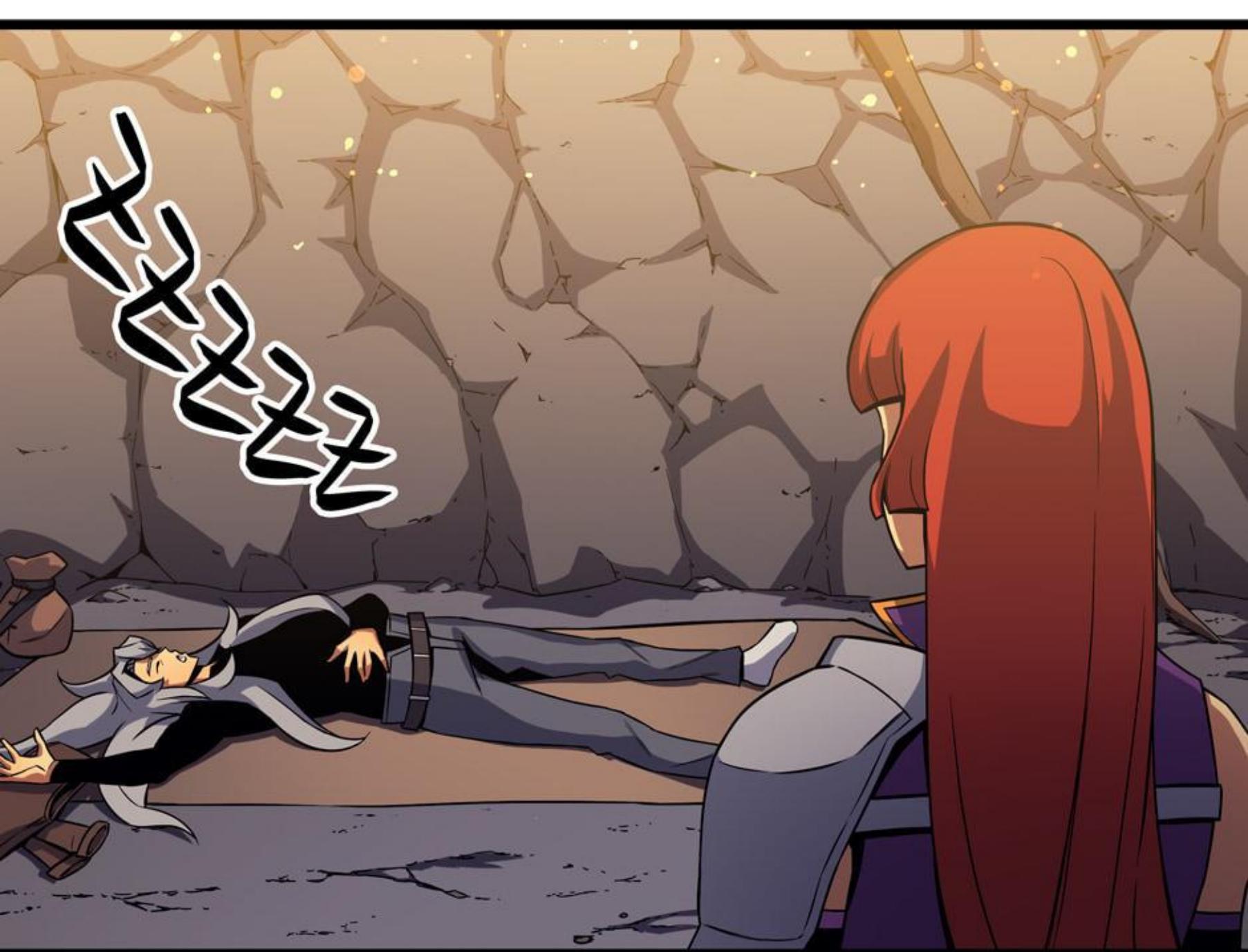
IT'S GOING  
TO BE A PAIN IN  
THE ASS TO DEAL  
WITH MONSTERS IF  
THEY COME IN HERE  
WHILE WE'RE  
ASLEEP.

OH...



WELL,  
I'M OFF TO  
SLEEP.

IT'S THE  
FIRST DAY SO  
YOU SHOULD ALSO  
GET PLENTY OF  
SLEEP.



**I KNOW I SHOULD  
BE FEELING RELIEVED  
RIGHT NOW BUT...**

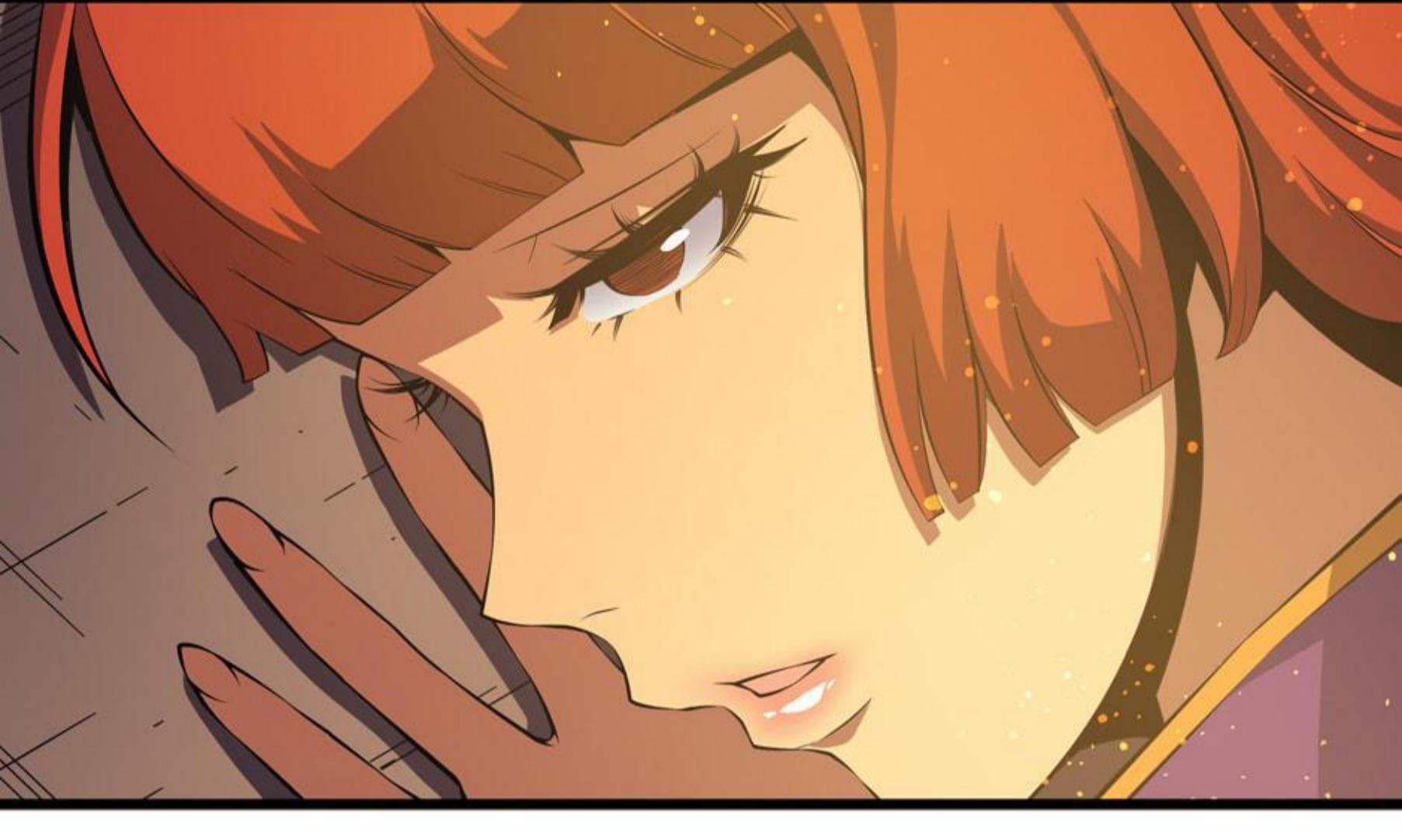


**I DON'T KNOW WHY...  
I JUST FEEL LIKE PUNCHING HIM  
IN THE FACE RIGHT NOW.**

SHAAAAA







DID  
YOU SLEEP  
WELL?

Ssk





HOW LONG  
HAVE I BEEN  
SLEEPING...?

RUB

I WOULD  
SAY AROUND  
FIVE HOURS?

CONSIDER  
IT YOUR LAST  
BREAK FOR A  
WHILE.

WE'LL BE  
SINKING OUR  
TEETH INTO THE  
REAL TRAINING  
TODAY.



NOW, WE WILL  
BEGIN KASAJIN'S  
TRAINING METHOD,



THE BATTLING  
METHOD.

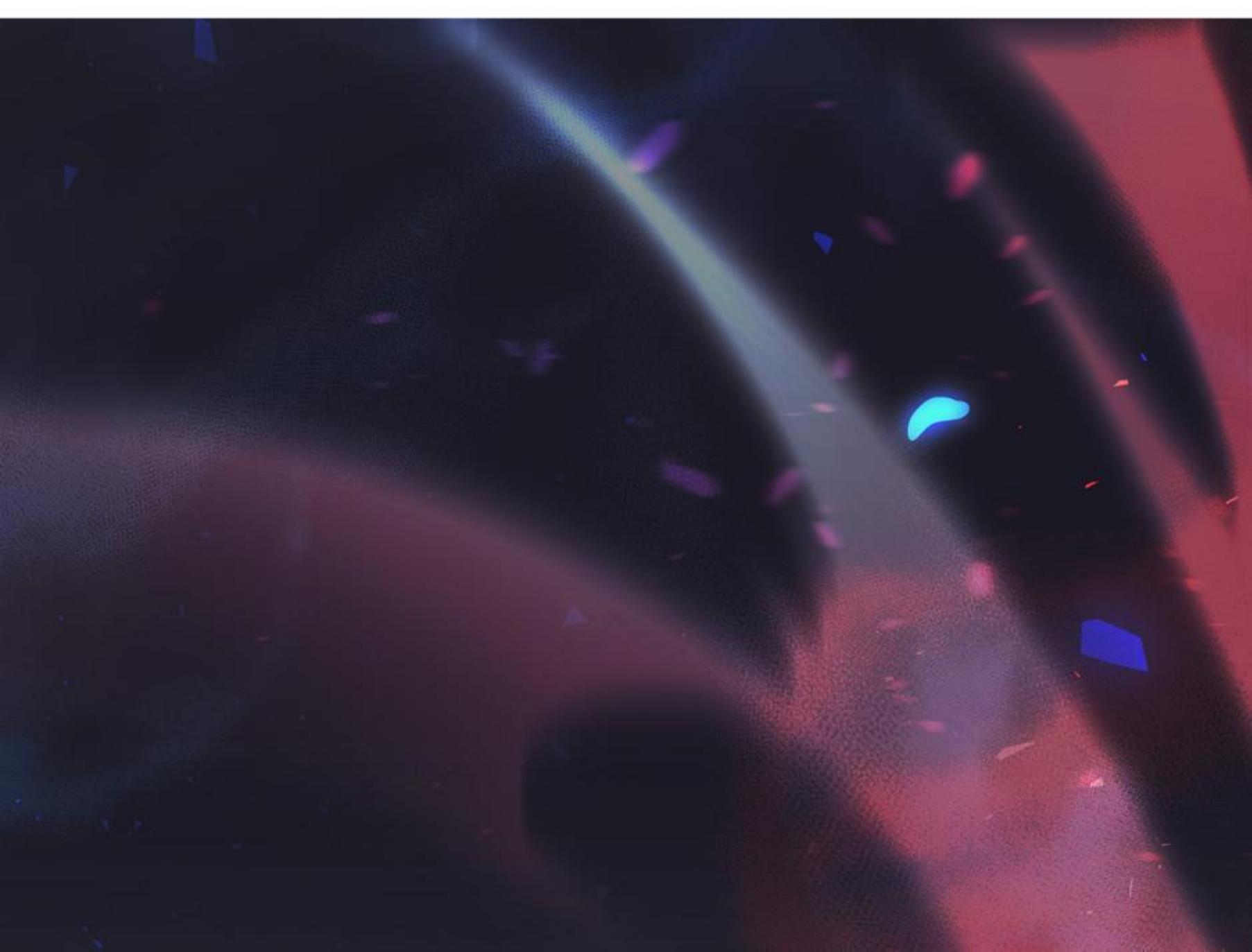


LET ME REMIND  
YOU THOUGH, THIS IS AN  
EXTREMELY DANGEROUS  
TRAINING METHOD.



DON'T TRY TO  
IMITATE AND JUST  
OBSERVE.









ARROCKY



SSS



SSSHH

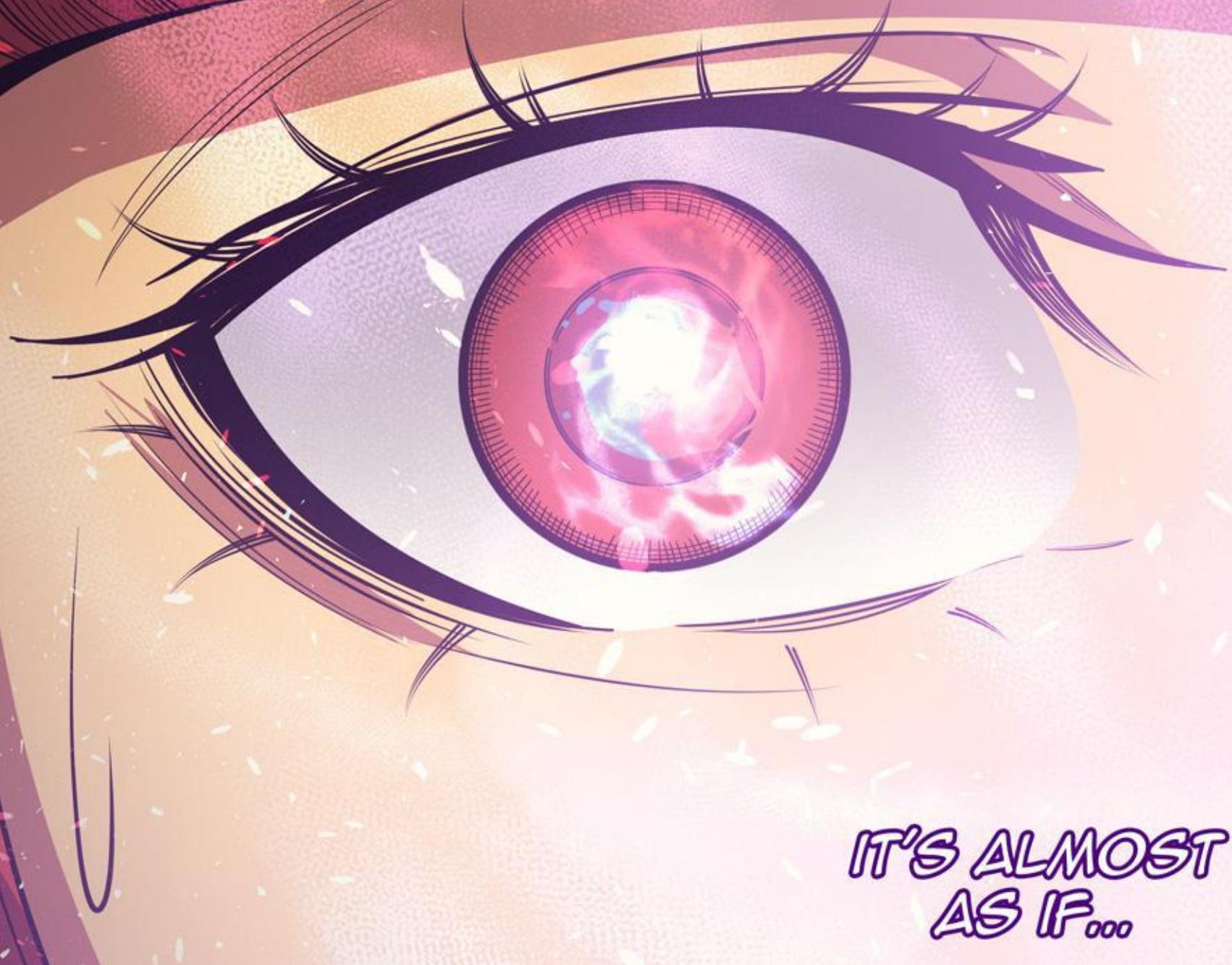
ARE YOU SEPARATING  
THE GATHERED MANA IN  
YOUR BODY INTO FIRE AND  
WATER ATTRIBUTES?

WATER ATTRIBUTES



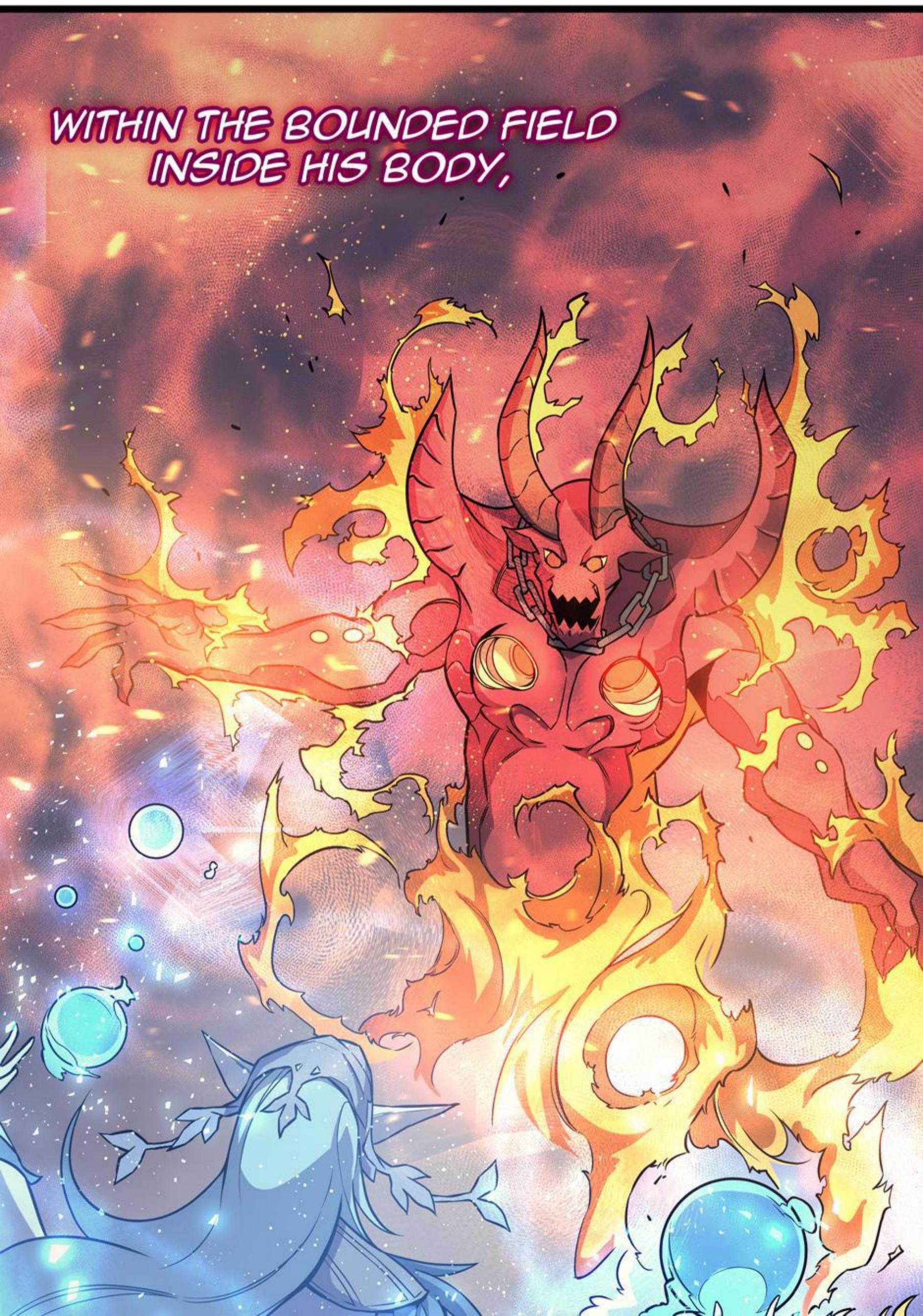
THE CONTRADICTING ELEMENTS  
ARE REPELLING AGAINST EACH  
OTHER, KEEPING THE COUNTER  
ELEMENT IN CHECK

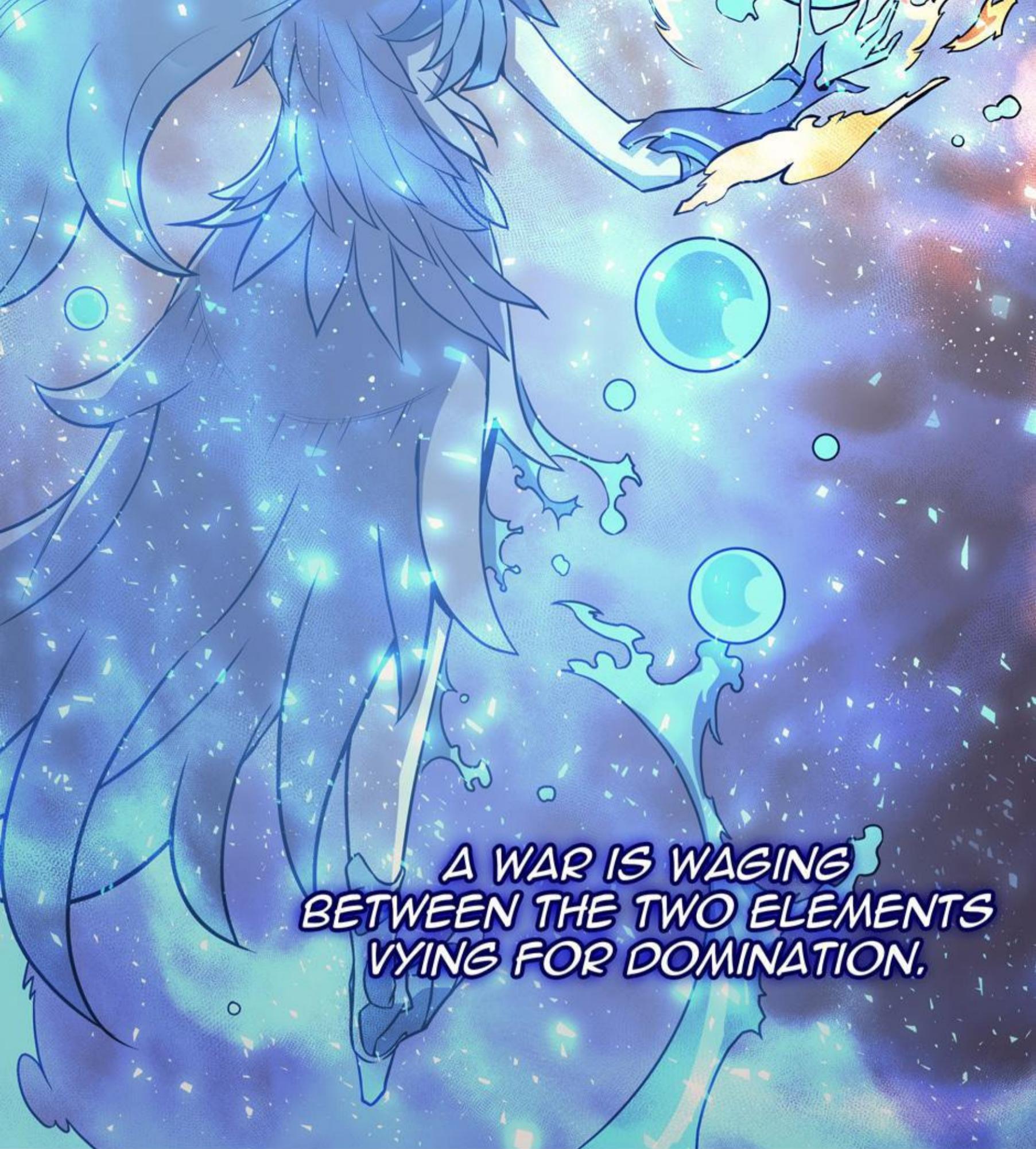
ELEMENT IN CHECKS.



IT'S ALMOST  
AS IF...

**WITHIN THE BOUNDED FIELD  
INSIDE HIS BODY,**

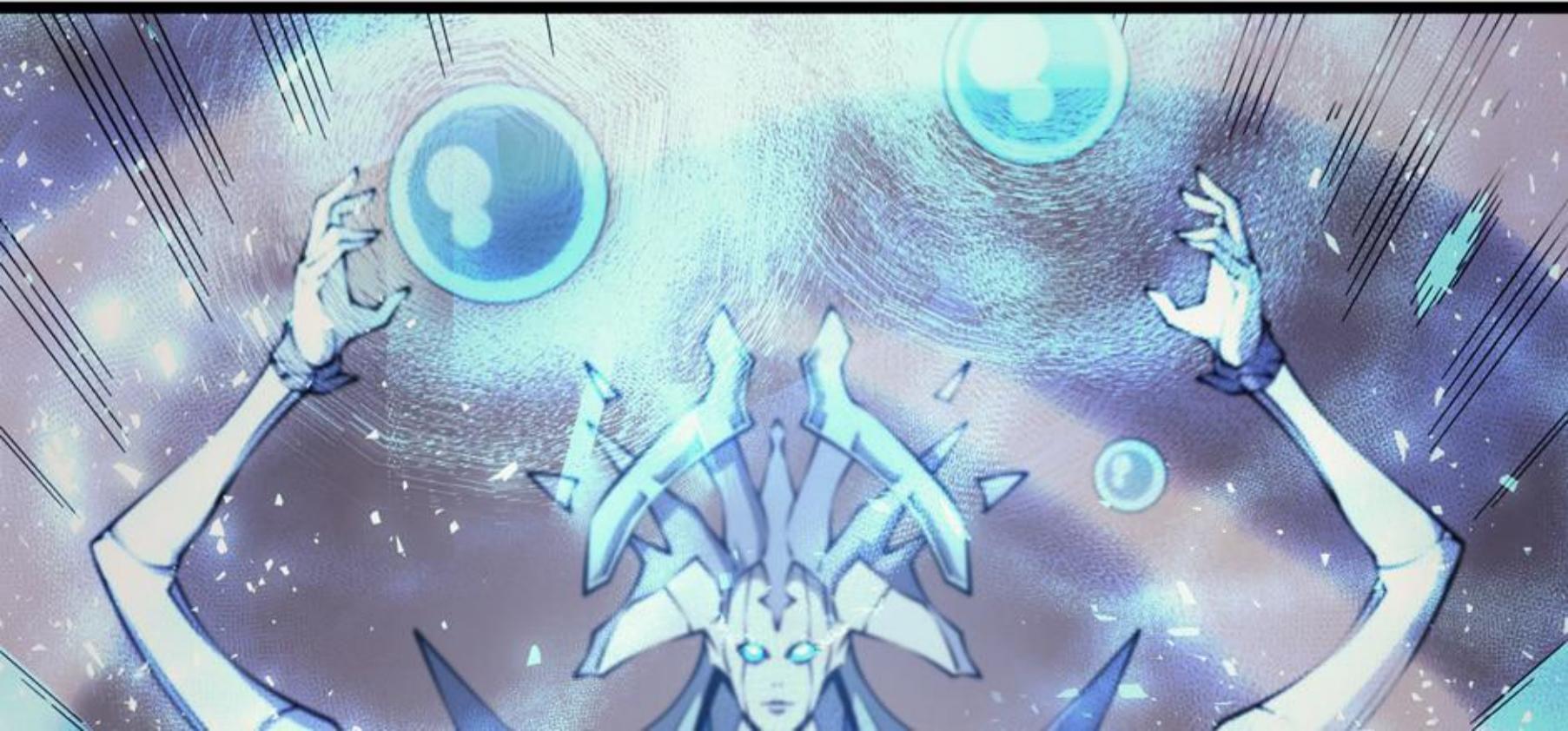
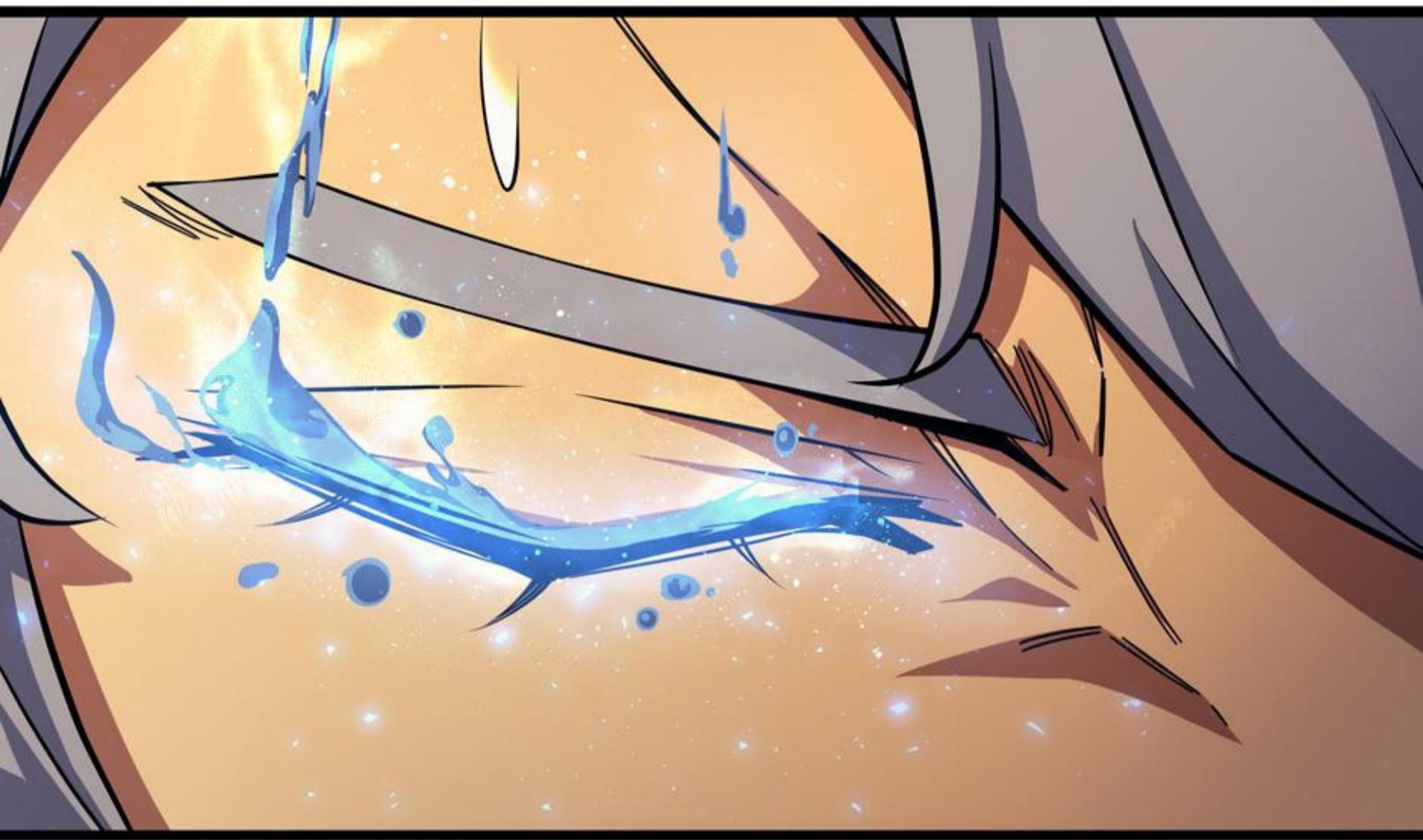




A WAR IS WAGING  
BETWEEN THE TWO ELEMENTS  
VYING FOR DOMINATION.

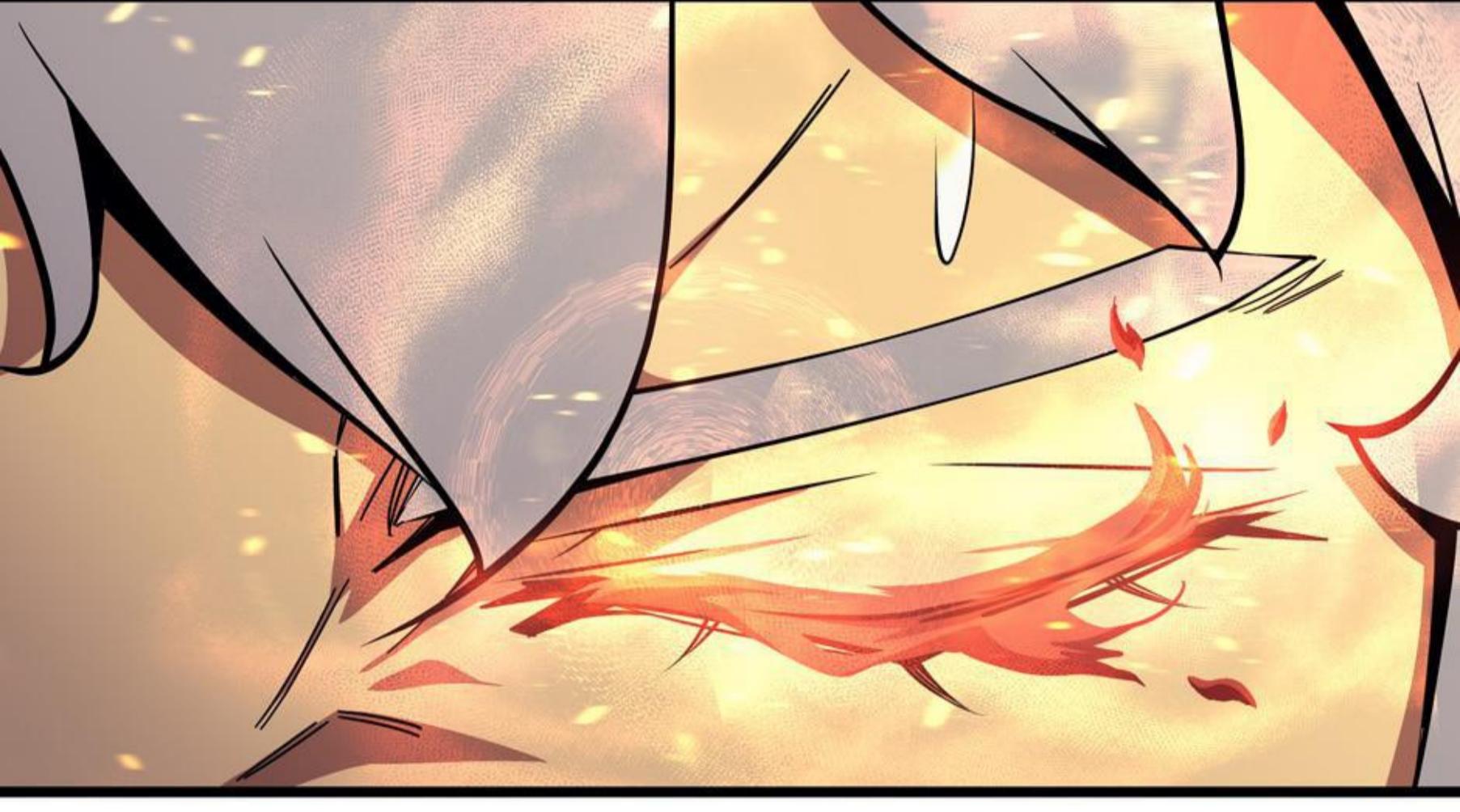
**SMASH!**











**REINFORCING BOTH  
ELEMENTS SO THAT A PURE  
BALANCE CAN BE ACHIEVED.**



**NEITHER SIDE ABLE TO  
DOMINATE EACH OTHER IN A  
STALEMATE OF WILLS...**

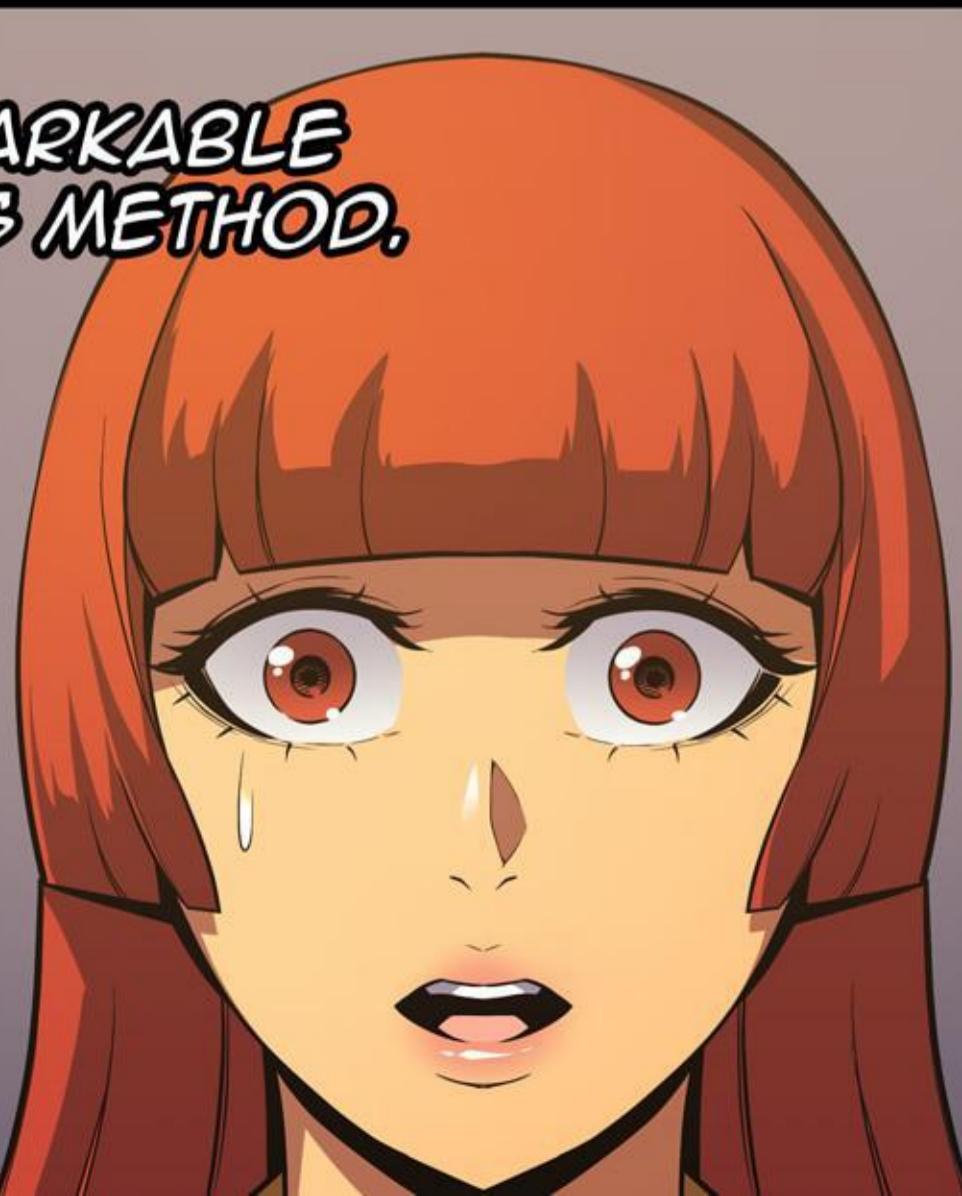


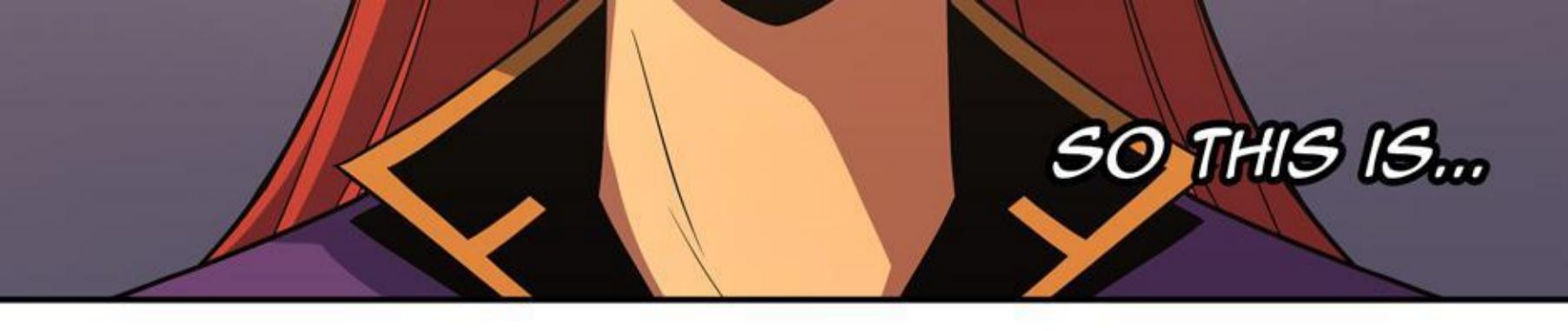


**IT'S LIKE STABILIZING A  
BALANCE OF POWER THAT IS  
CONSTANTLY CHANGING...**

---

**A REMARKABLE  
TRAINING METHOD.**





SO THIS IS...



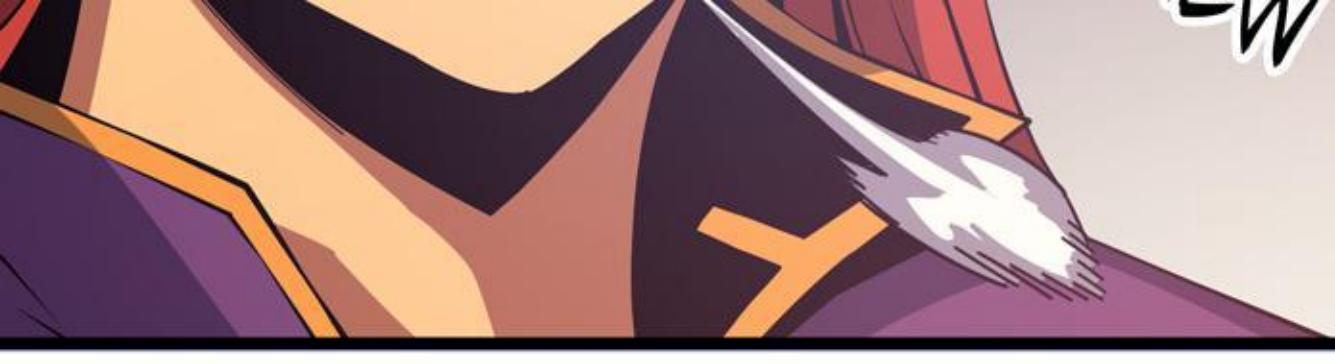
THIS MUST BE

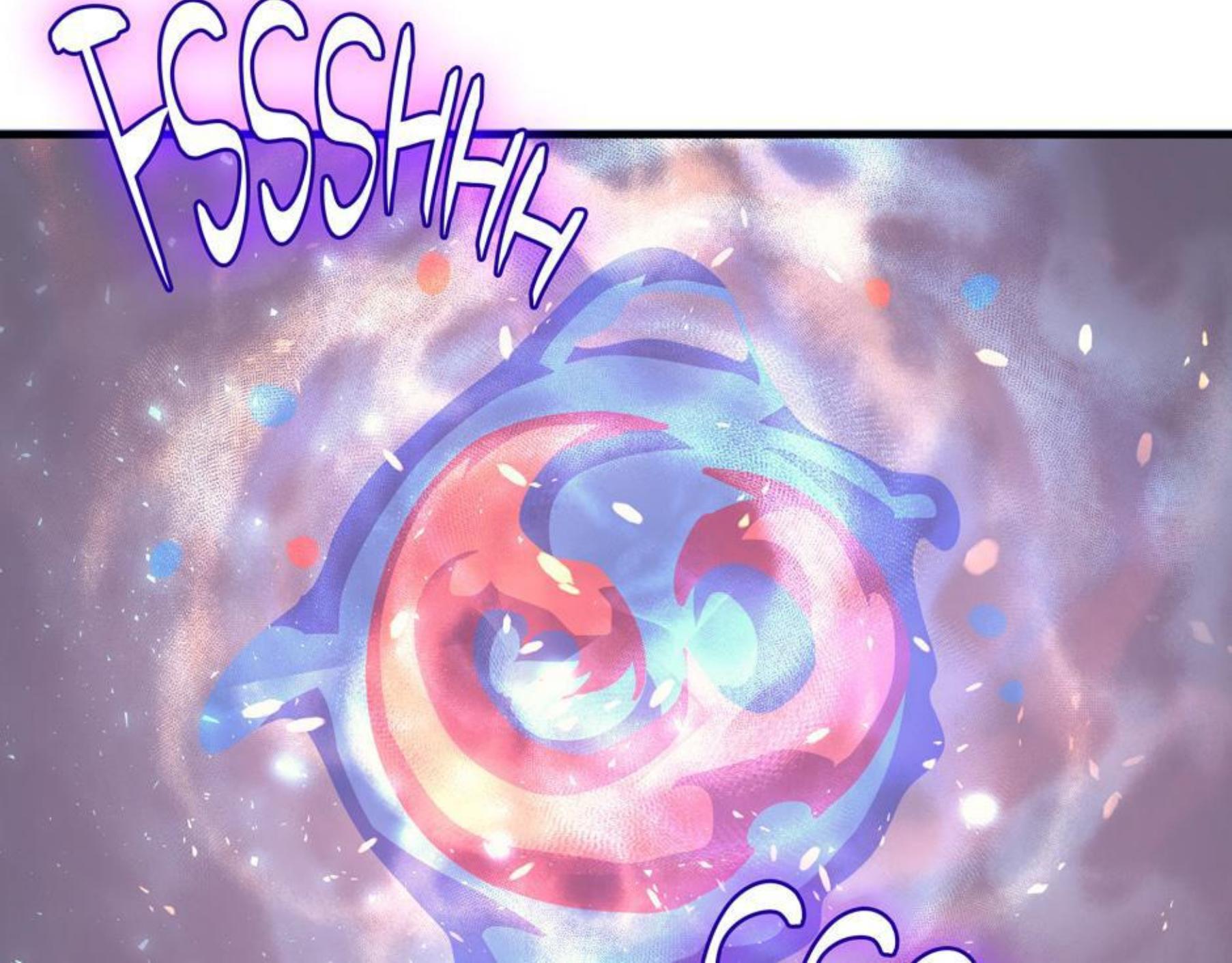


**THE BATTLING METHOD.**









WSSHH

FSSSSSHHH



MASH



FLASH



CUGH

*GAAAHH!!!*



*\*COUGH\**

**THE BALANCE WAS ONLY  
SLIGHTLY OFF YET...**

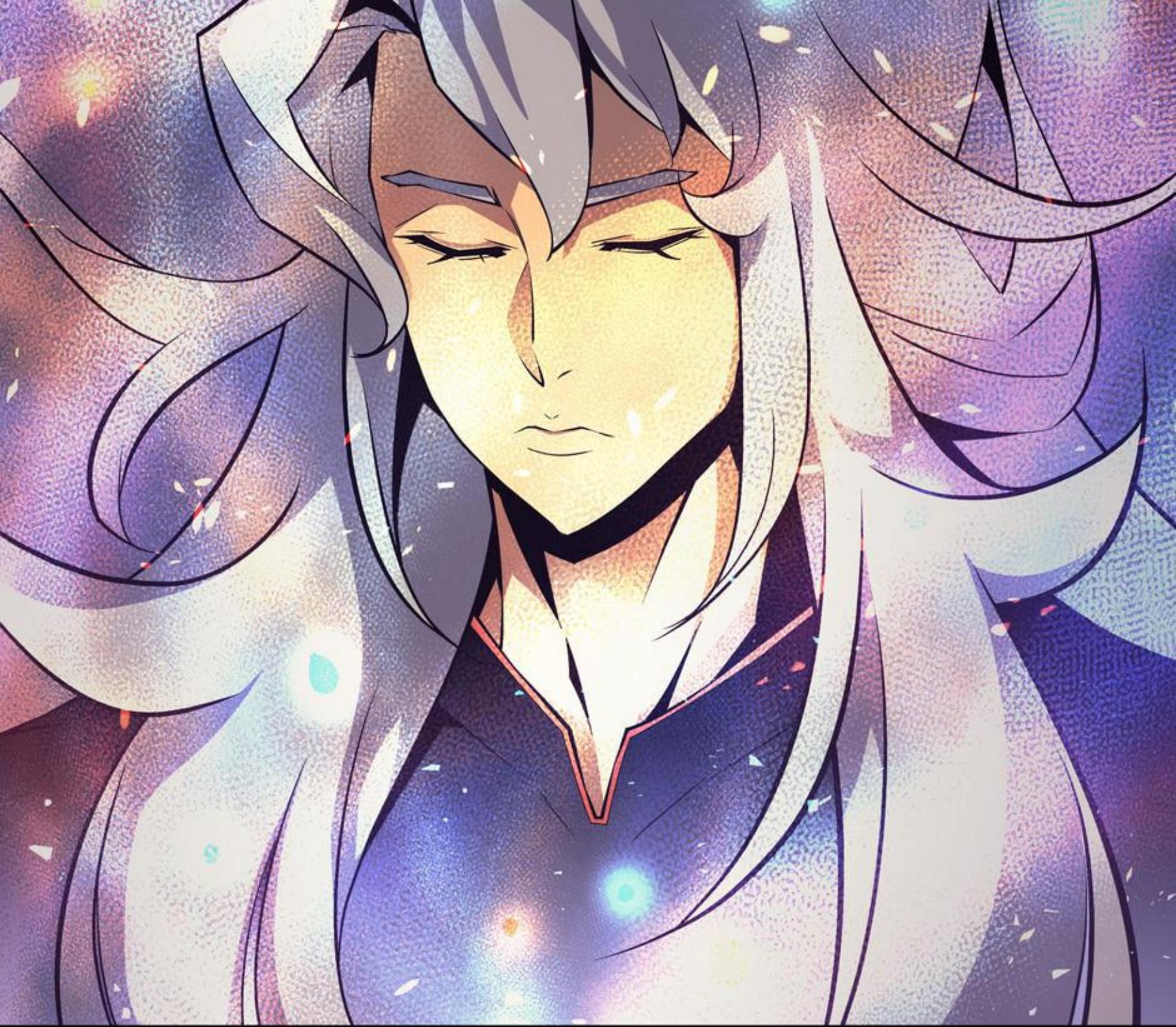
**I'M OVERCOME  
WITH IMMENSE PAIN...**



**IT'S A RIDICULOUS TIGHTROPE HE'S  
TREADING WITH HIS LIFE ON THE LINE,**

**YET HE'S DIGESTING THIS TRAINING  
METHOD AS IF HE'S SIMPLY  
MEDITATING PEACEFULLY...**





**JUST WHO ARE YOU...?**