

THE ARCHMAGE

RETURNS AFTER.

4000

YEARS

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~ 69 ~

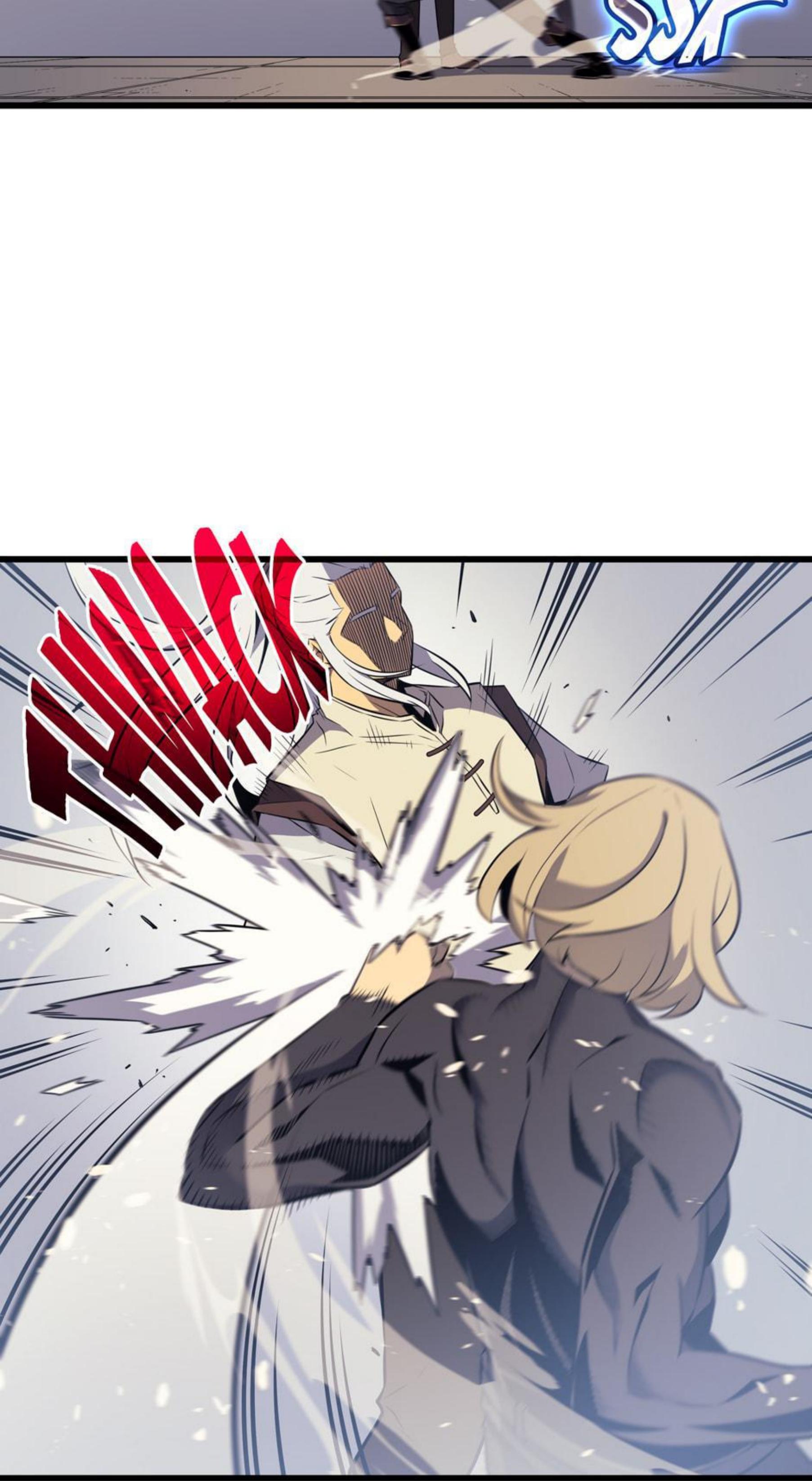
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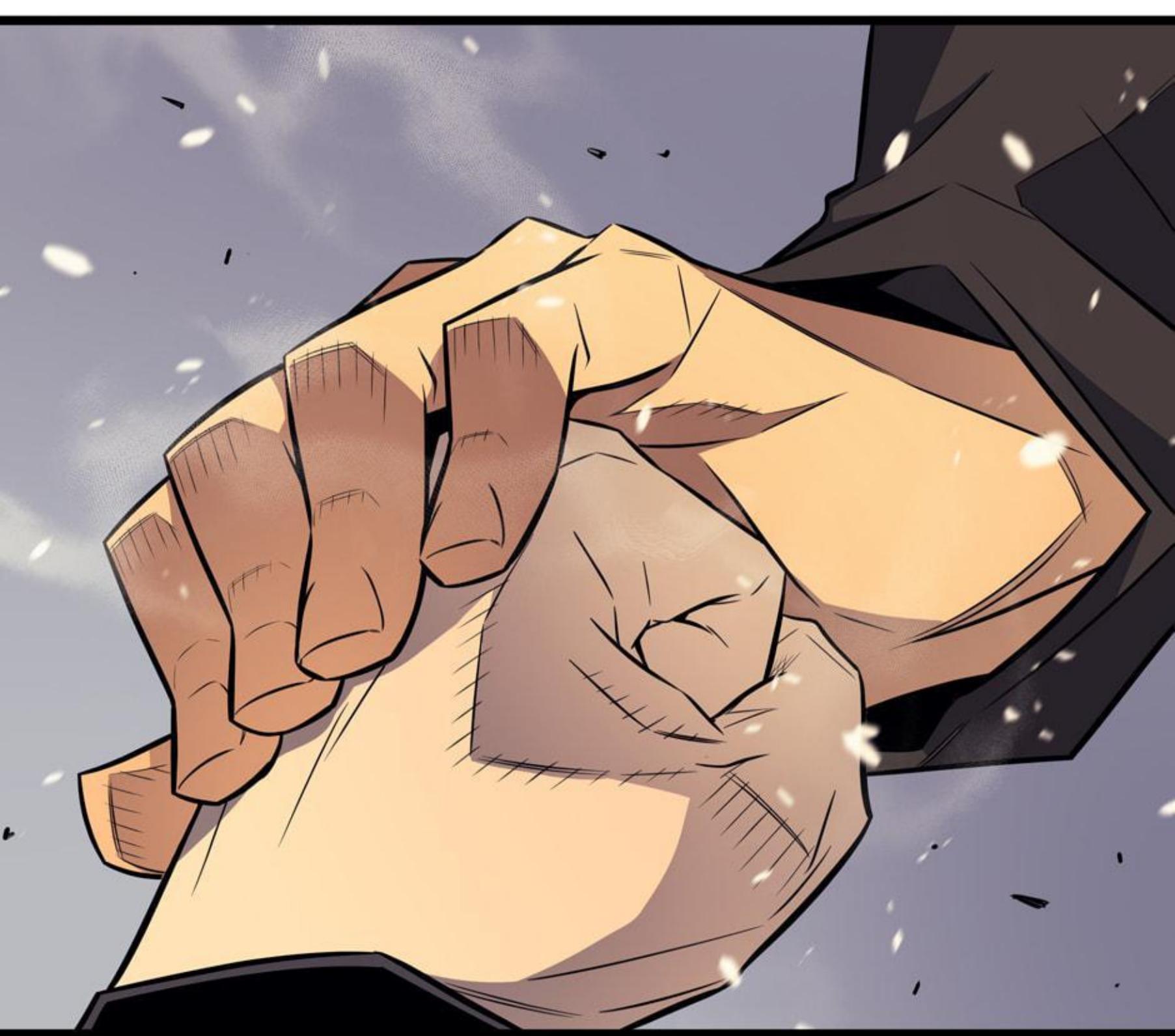


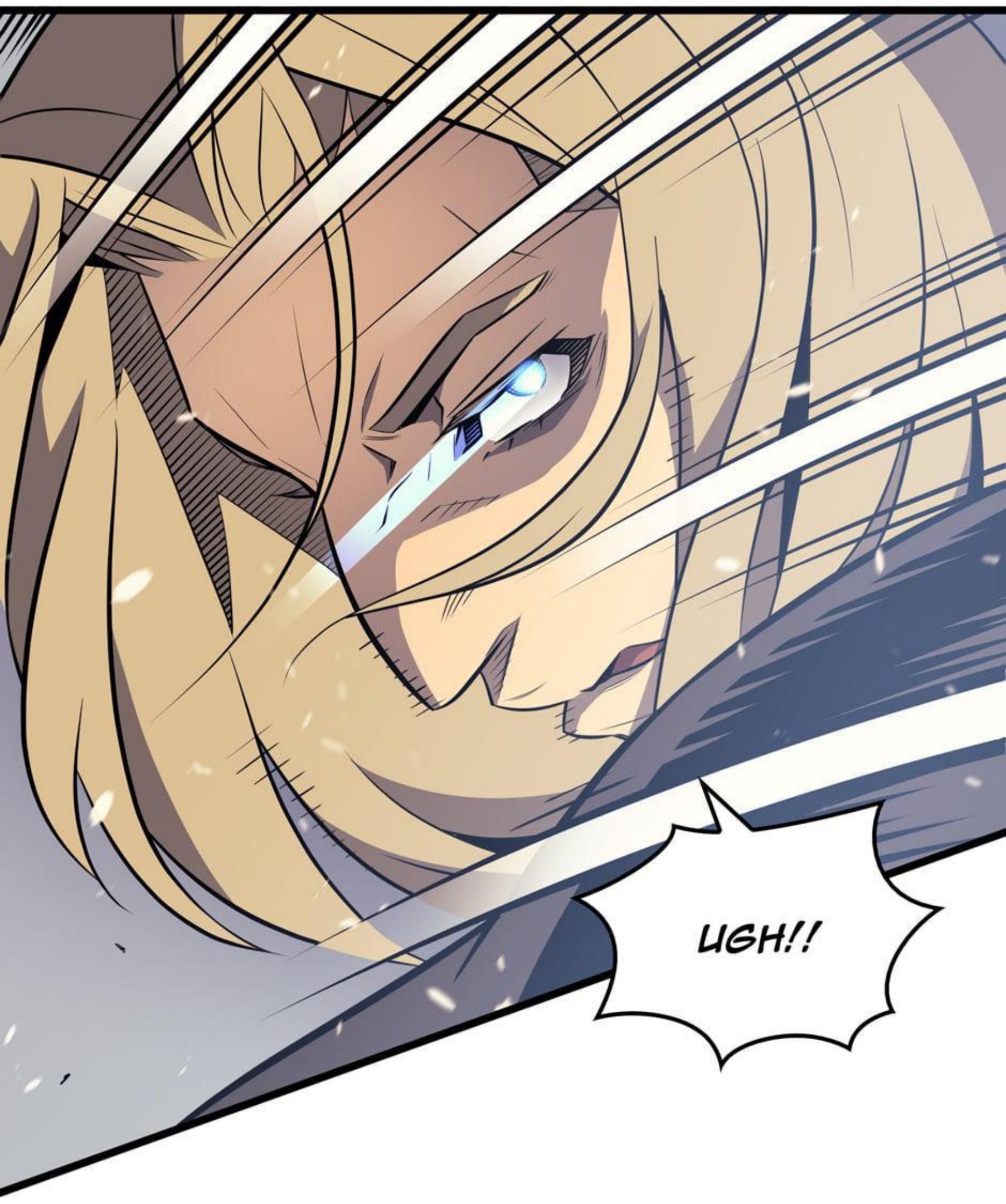


SWING

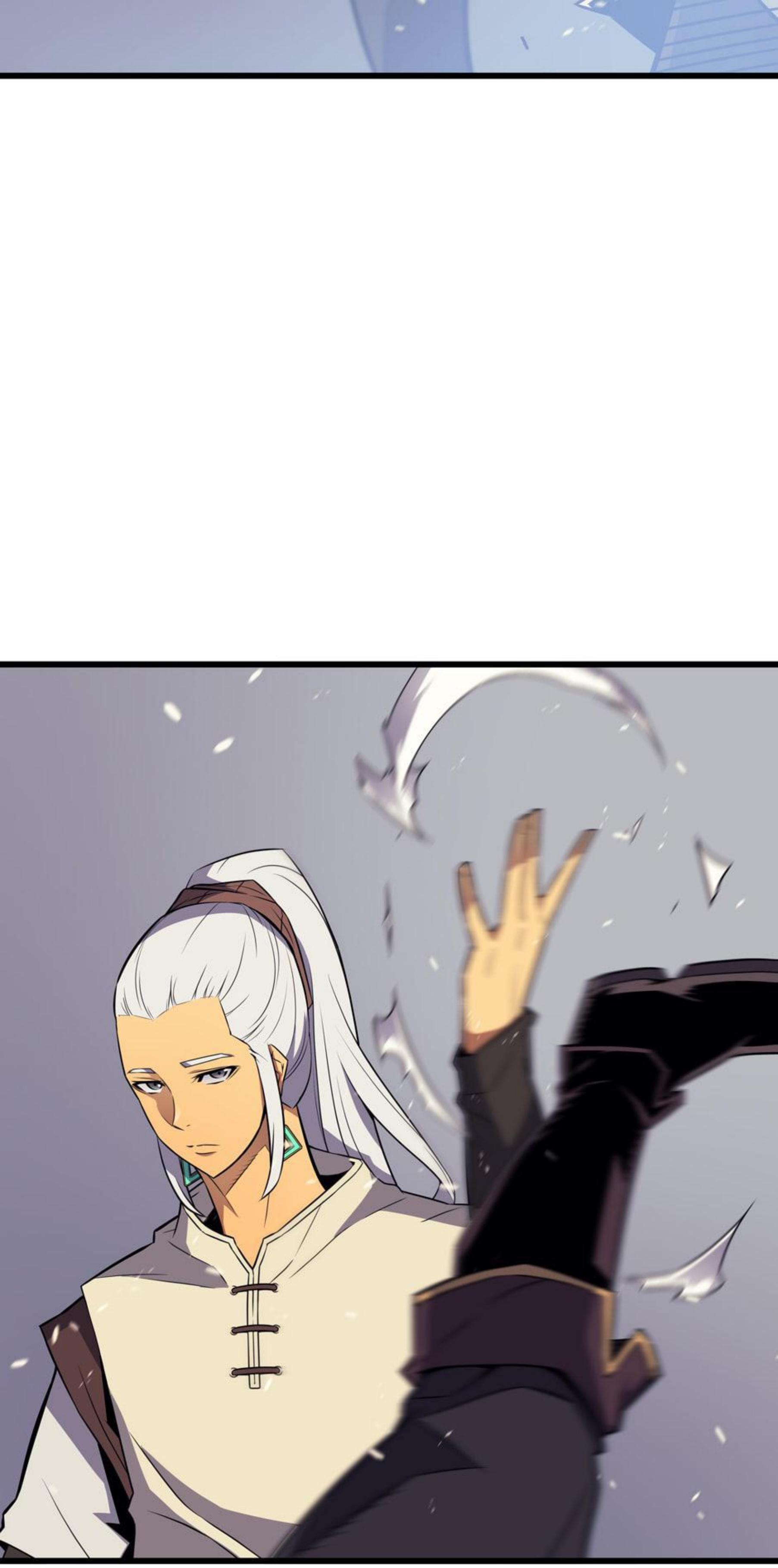




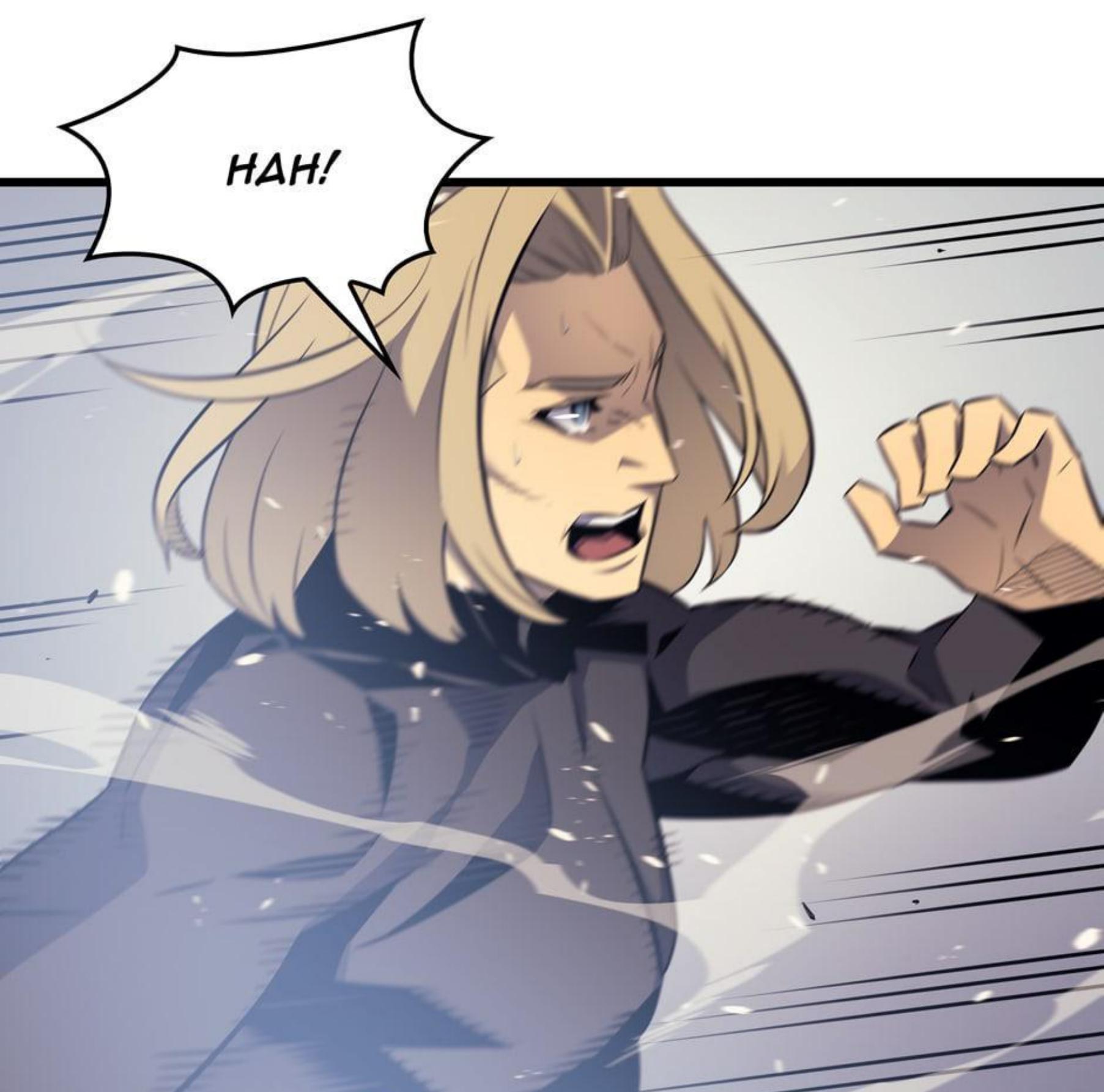








HAH!



WHAT'S
GOING ON
HERE...?





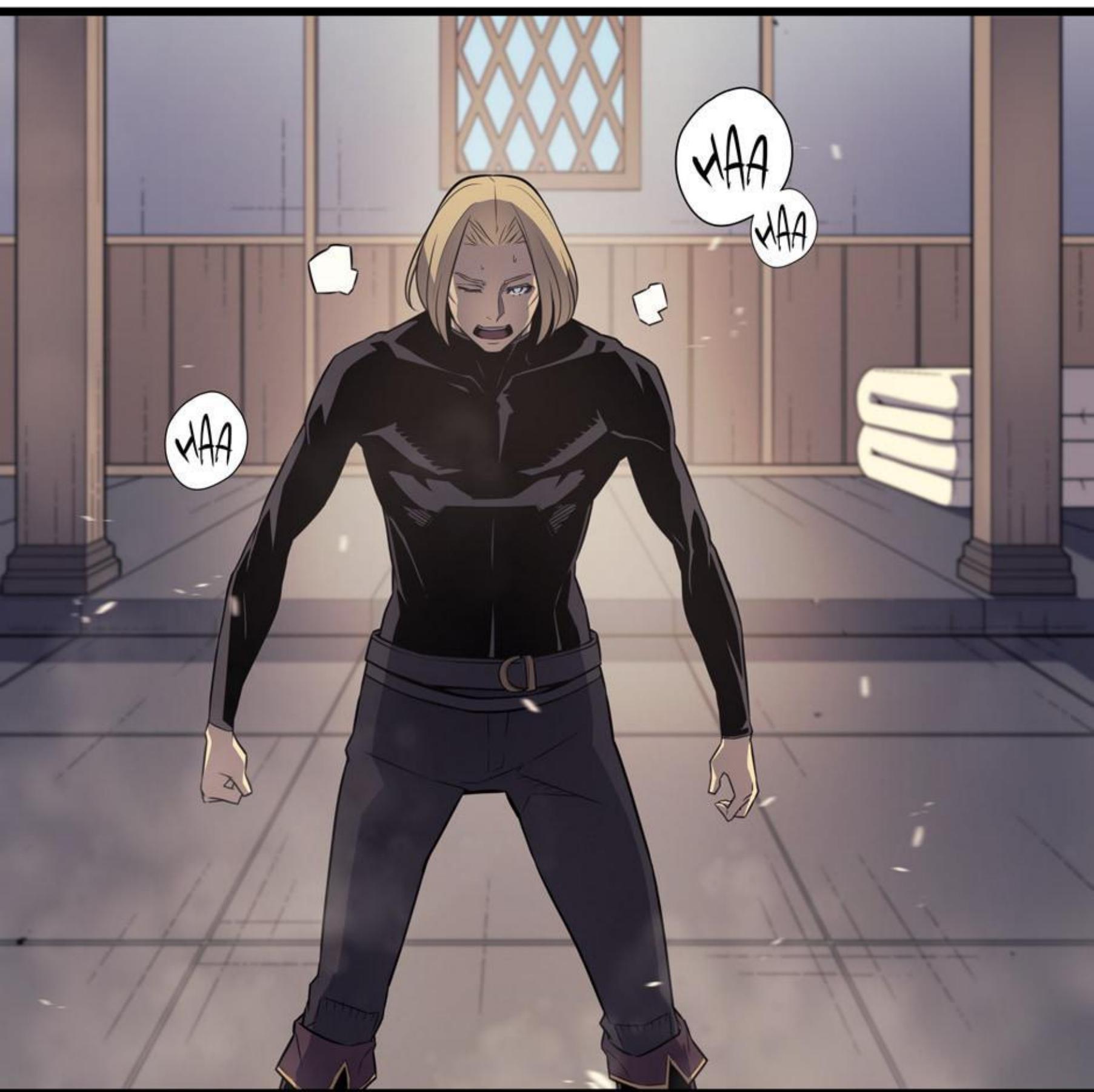
IT'S ALMOST
AS IF...



I'M PUNCHING
A BOULDER!



THAT'S
ENOUGH
FOR NOW.



HONOR PIANNE,
YOUR POWER LEVEL
IS BELOW THAT OF
A SECOND-RATE
MAGICAL AGENT

MARTIAL ARTIST.

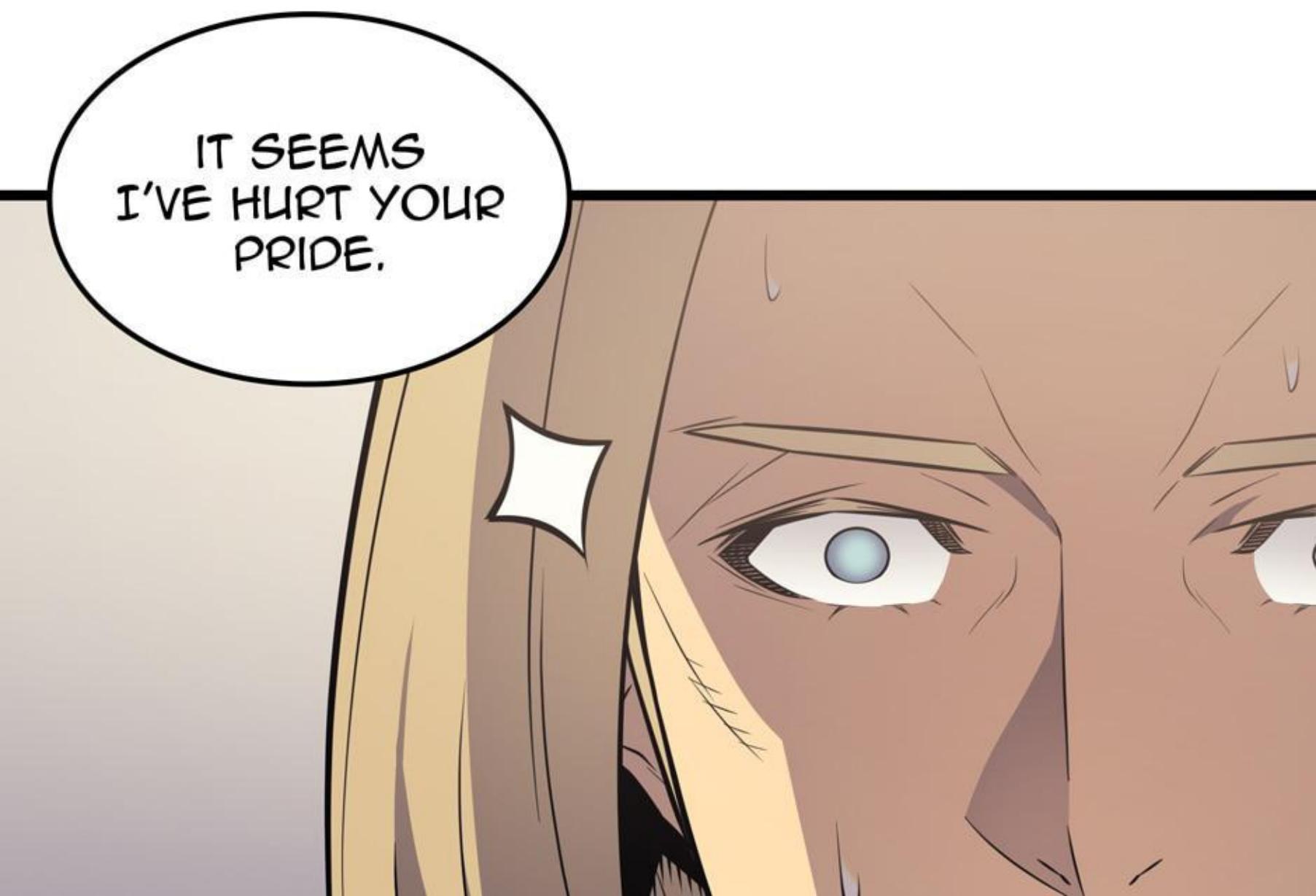
AAA

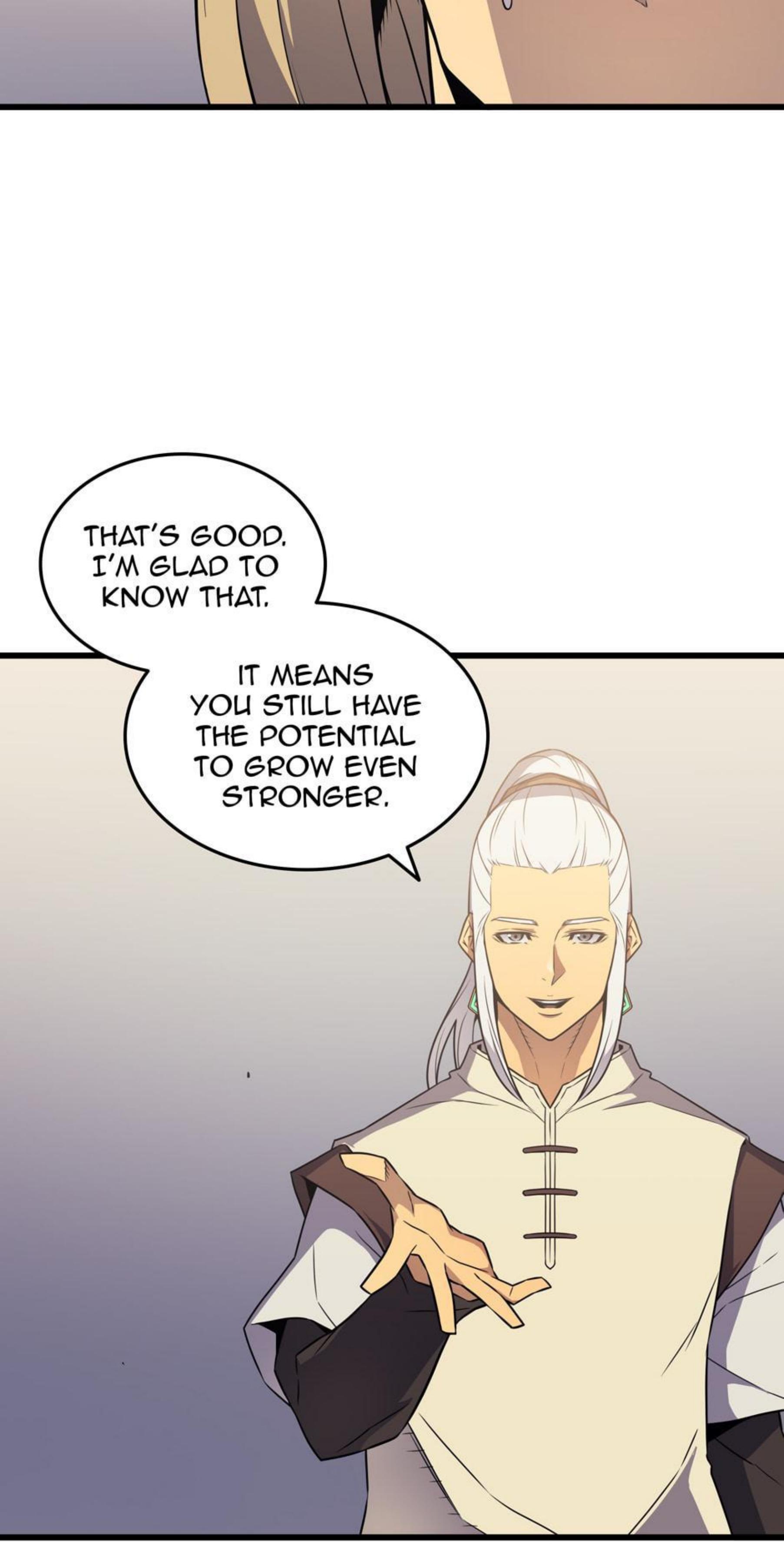
AAA

TCH



IT SEEMS
I'VE HURT YOUR
PRIDE.





THAT'S GOOD.
I'M GLAD TO
KNOW THAT.

IT MEANS
YOU STILL HAVE
THE POTENTIAL
TO GROW EVEN
STRONGER.

I BELIEVE
YOU CALLED YOUR
MARTIAL ARTS THE
HOLY KING FIST
STYLE?

HONESTLY,
WHY DOES EVERY
WARRIOR I RUN INTO
LIKE TO ADD 'KING'
TO EVERYTHING....?

SIGH



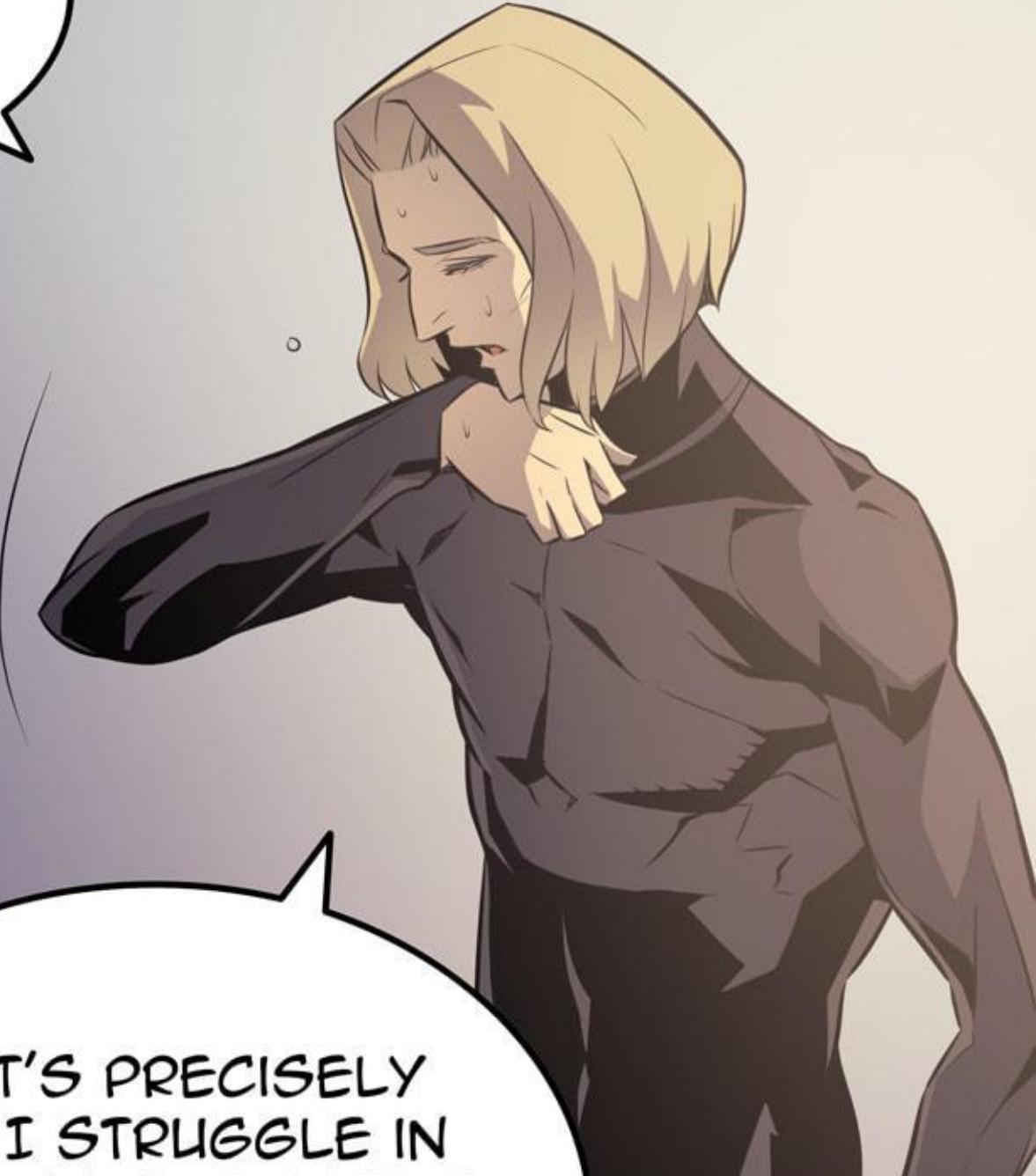


BUT...
DOESN'T
IT SOUND
COOL?



IT'S A
VERY TYPICAL
MARTIAL ART.

THERE ARE NO
FEINTS AND DON'T
REQUIRE MANY
TECHNIQUES
TO IT.



YOU'RE
RIGHT.

THAT'S PRECISELY
WHY I STRUGGLE IN
A DRAWN-OUT BATTLE
BECAUSE THE OPPONENT
CAN QUICKLY READ MY
ATTACK PATTERNS.

I THINK THAT'S
ONLY BECAUSE
YOU'RE WEAK.

YOUR
MARTIAL ART IS
GREAT PRECISELY
BECAUSE IT'S

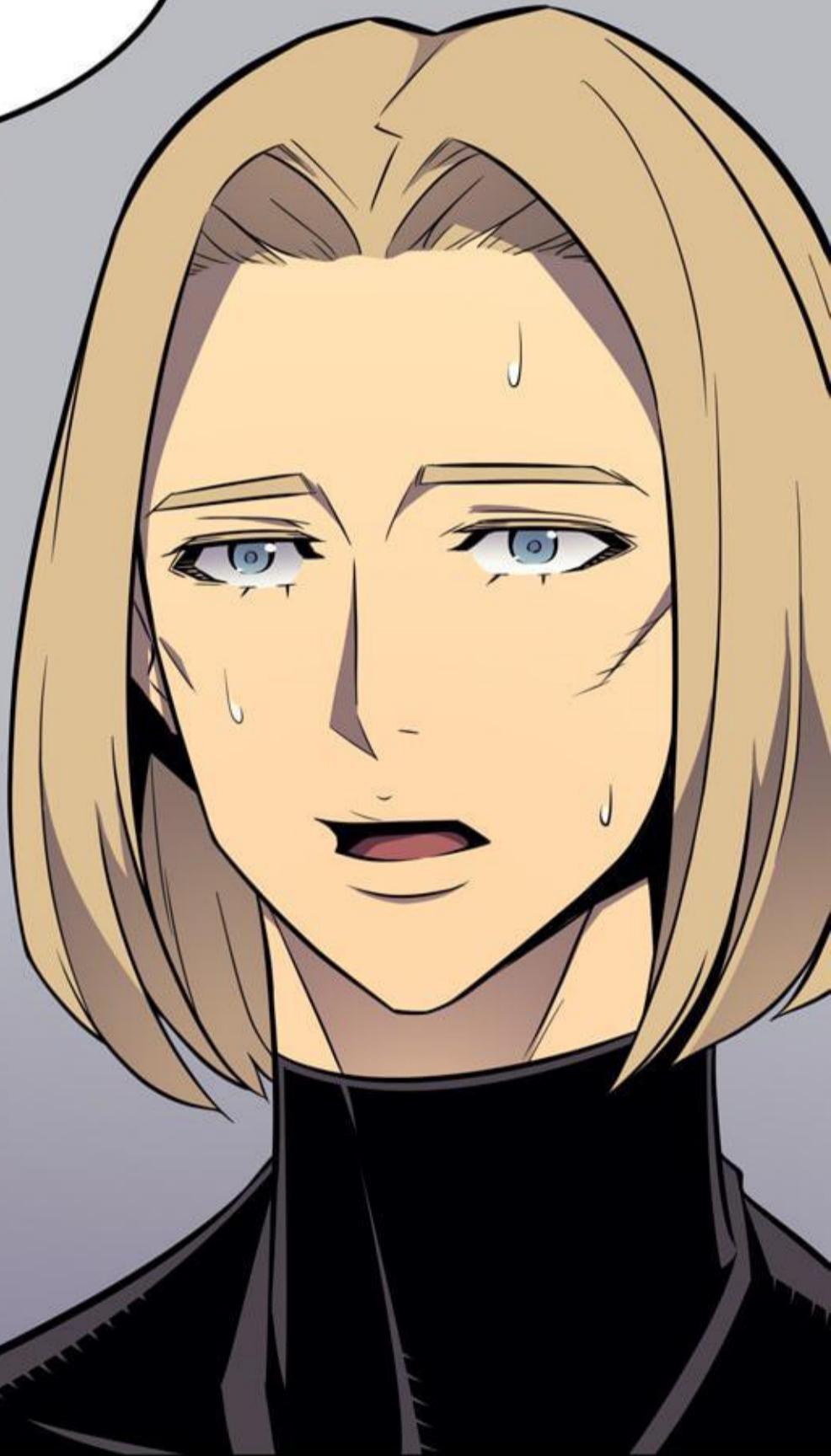
A close-up of a character's face, showing their eyes and mouth. A speech bubble originates from the top right corner.

TYPICAL.

YOU CAN
OBSERVE YOUR
FOE AND LOOK
FOR A GOOD
OPENING,

THEN USE
EXPLOSIVE FORCE
TO JUMP INTO THE
FRAY TO CRUSH
THEM SWIFTLY.

H-HOW DO YOU
THINK I CAN GROW
STRONGER...?





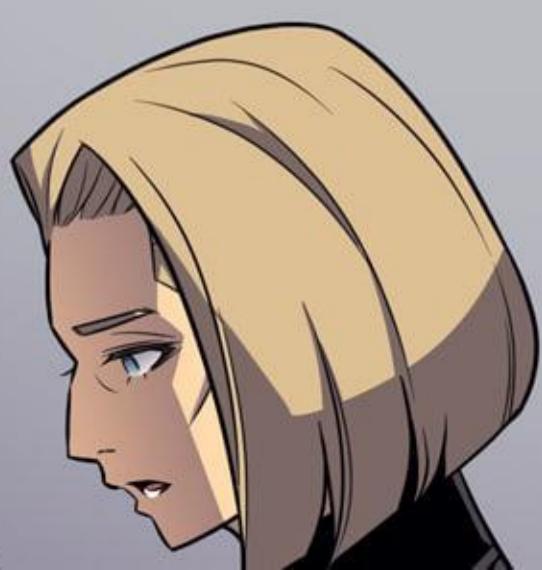
YOU SHOULD
KNOW BY NOW THAT
THERE ARE NO REAL
SHORTCUTS FOR MANA
FIST PRACTITIONERS.



YOU JUST NEED
TO TAKE THINGS ONE
STEP AT A TIME.

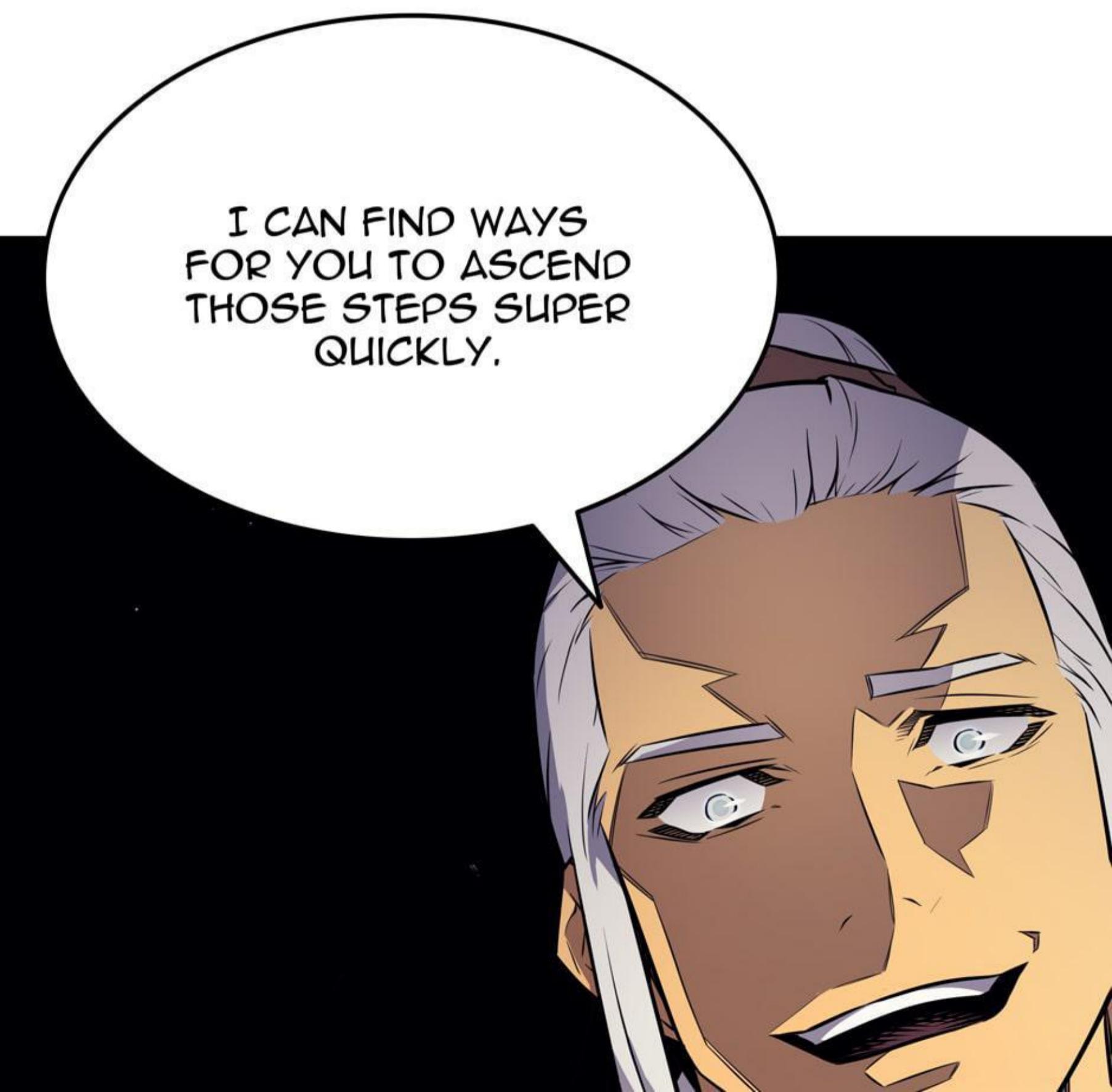


I THOUGHT SO.





HOWEVER...



I CAN FIND WAYS
FOR YOU TO ASCEND
THOSE STEPS SUPER
QUICKLY.



AND I MEAN
SOUL-CRUSHINGLY
FAST.



....!



GAH...

AGH...!

M-MERCY...!



DIDN'T GET
A GOOD SLEEP
LAST NIGHT? YOU'RE
SPRAWLED OUT ON
THE FLOOR EVERY
CHANCE YOU
GET.





Y-YOU'RE
GONNA KILL ME...

OH, COME ON.

YOU'RE
EXAGGERATING.

GET UP, YOU'RE

NOT EVEN THROUGH
HALF YOUR TRAINING
FOR TODAY.









HONOR
JIZZELAN...



YOU'LL BE
USING THIS FROM
NOW ON.



ISN'T THIS...?





GUNGNIR'S DAGGER. IT'S AN ARTIFACT FROM THE AGE OF LIGHT.

THERE ARE A FEW ABILITIES IMBUED ON THE DAGGER ITSELF AND IT'S CRAFTED WITH MYTHRIL. YOU WON'T FIND ANYTHING LIKE IT OUT THERE.





...!



BUT
ROUNDER FREI,
YOU KNOW I'M
A MAGE...

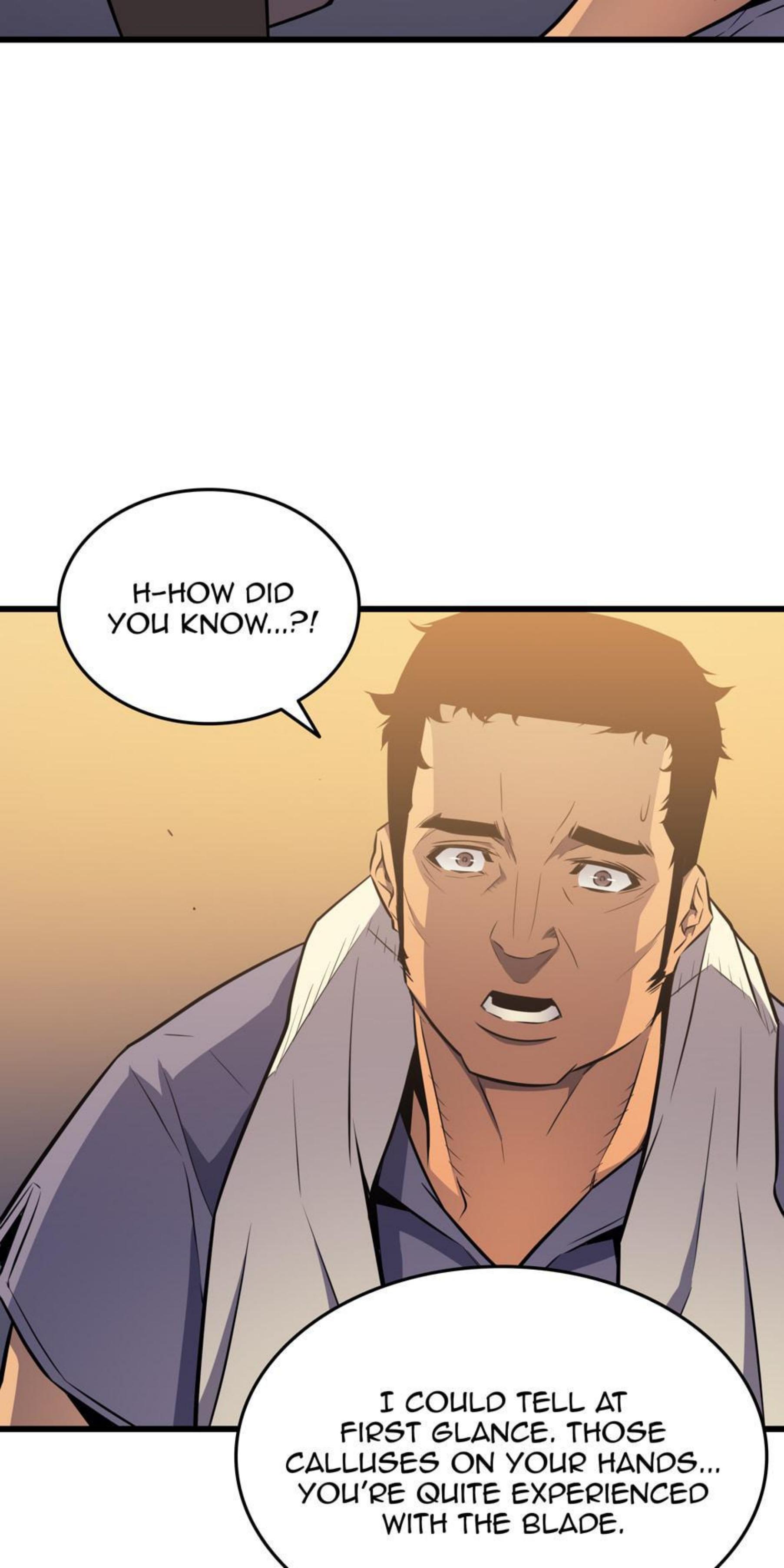


HONOR
JIZZELAN...



YOU WERE A
SWORDSMAN
BEFORE,
RIGHT?

I CAN TELL
YOU DON'T SKIP
OUT ON SWORD DAY
EVEN NOW.



H-HOW DID
YOU KNOW...?!

I COULD TELL AT
FIRST GLANCE, THOSE
CALLUSES ON YOUR HANDS...
YOU'RE QUITE EXPERIENCED
WITH THE BLADE.

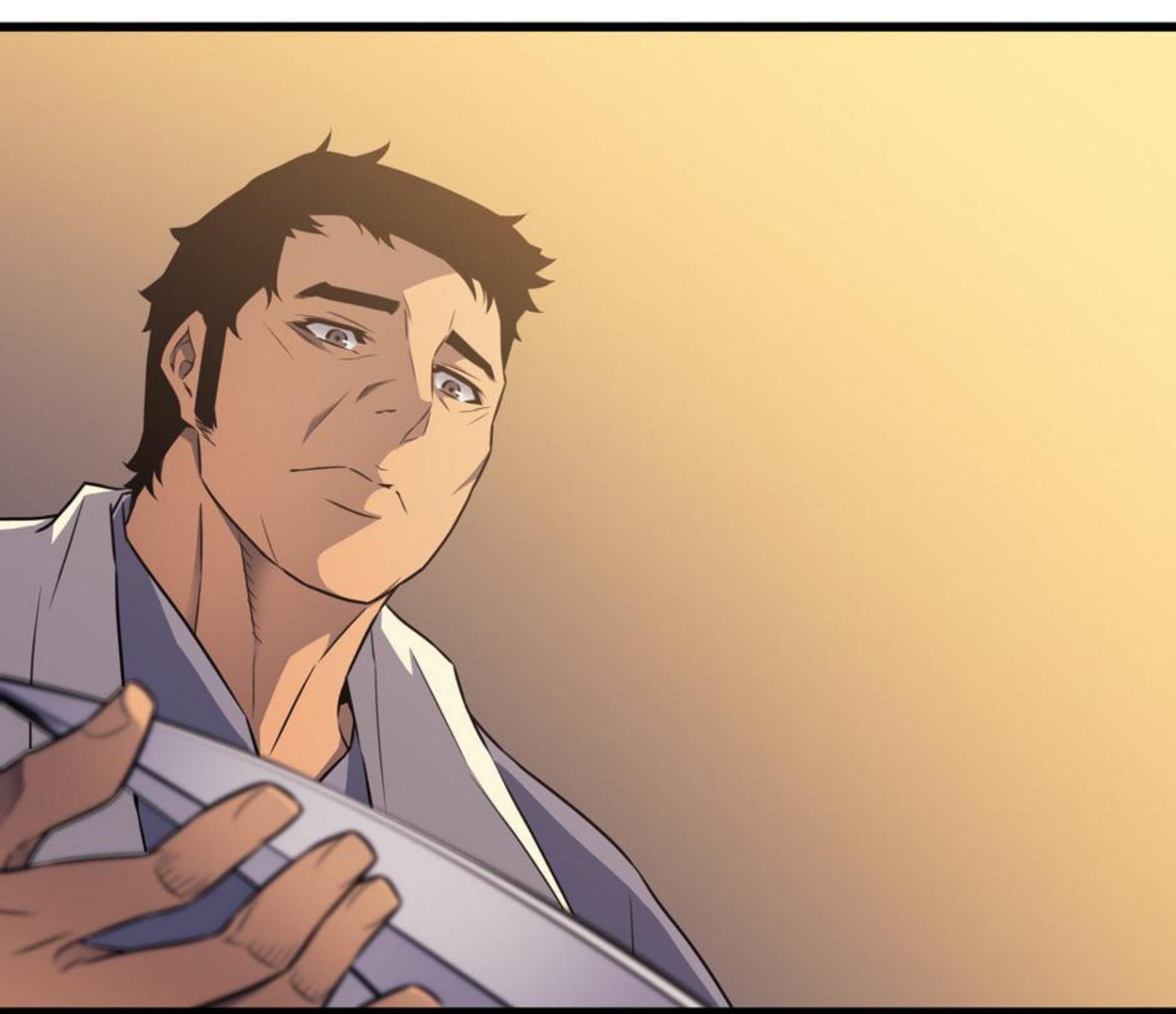
I PLAN ON
TRAINING YOU FURTHER
TO BECOME A MAGIC
SWORDSMAN.



IN TERMS OF
YOUR RAW MAGIC,
I WOULD SAY YOU'RE
PROBABLY A TIER 5
AT BEST...

BUT IF YOU
BECOME ACCUSTOMED
TO USING THAT DAGGER,

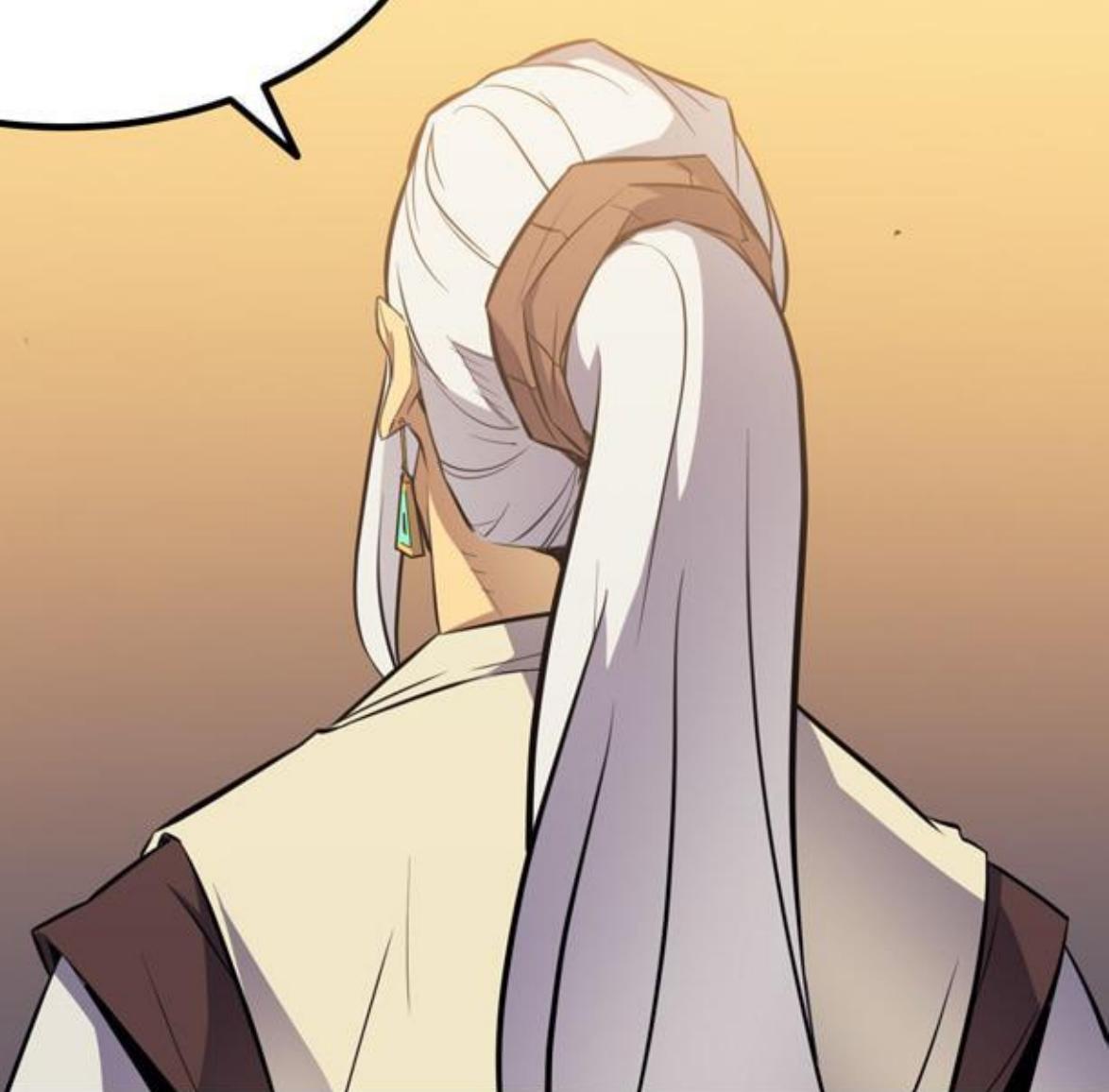
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO
SEE AN EXPLOSIVE
BREAKTHROUGH.





I'LL DEVOTE
MYSELF TO THE
TRAINING YOU
RECOMMEND...

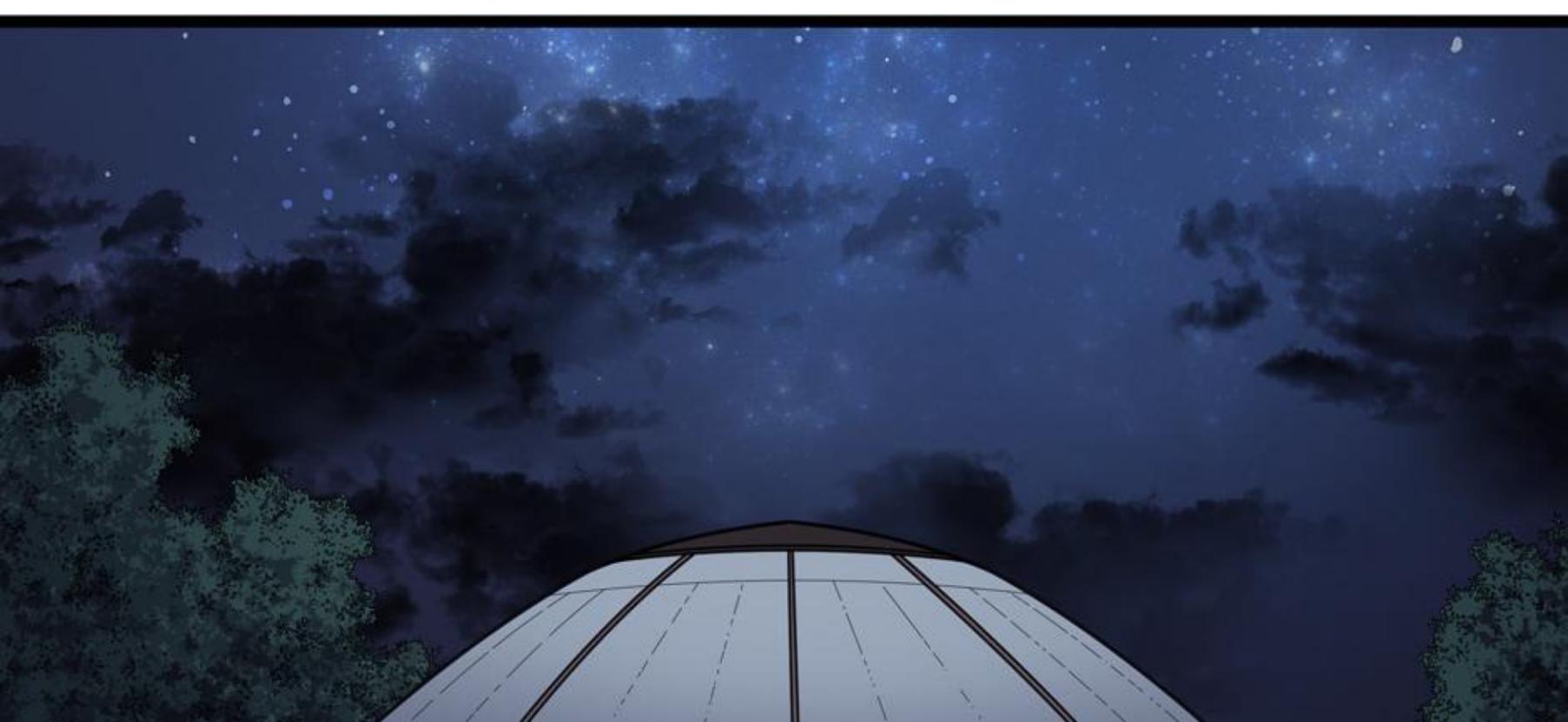
BUT HONESTLY
SPEAKING, I'M NOT
VERY CONFIDENT.



OH, DON'T
WORRY ABOUT
THAT AT ALL.



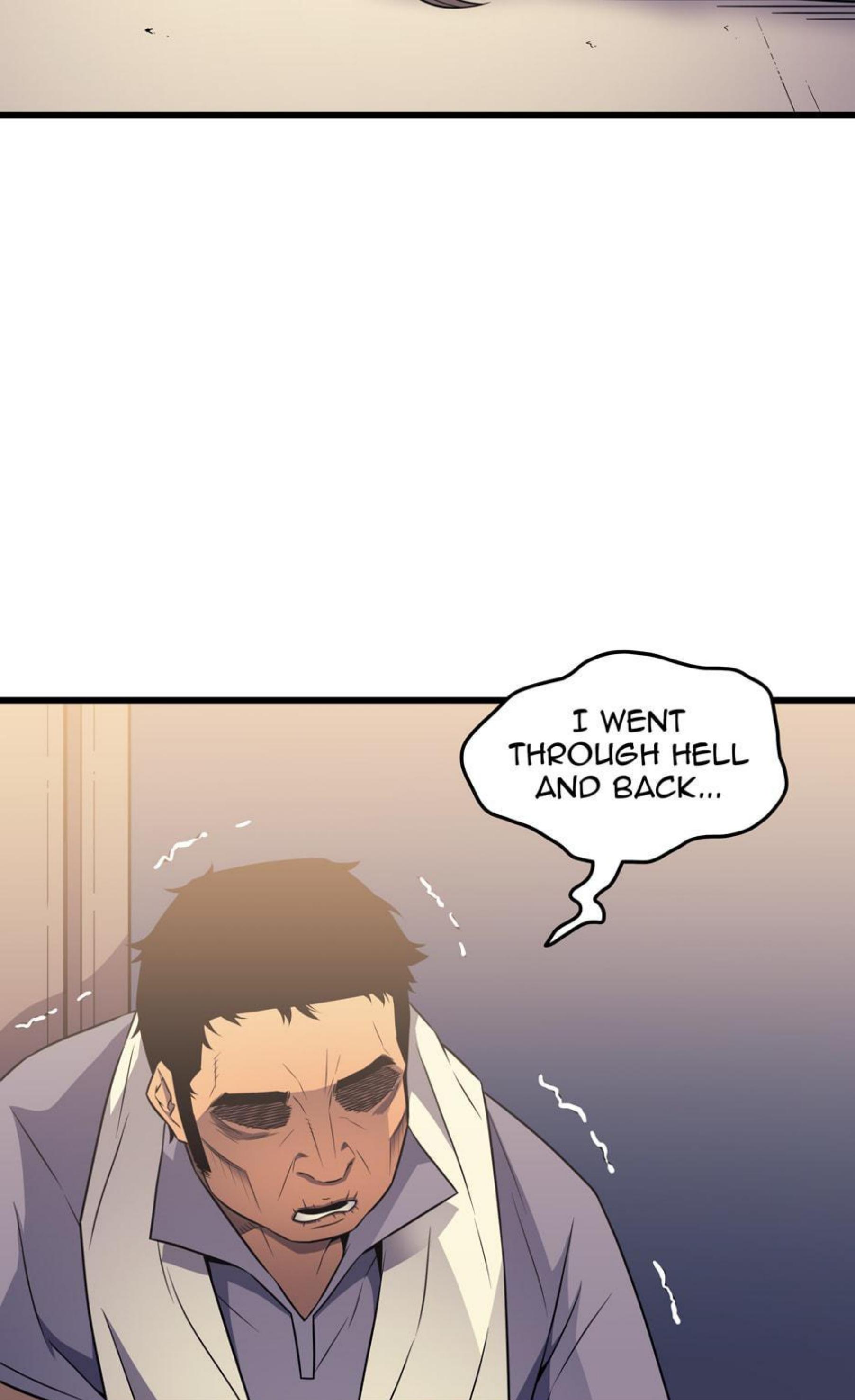
I'M GOING
TO DRILL THAT
CONFIDENCE INTO
YOU ONE WAY OR
ANOTHER.





SLAM





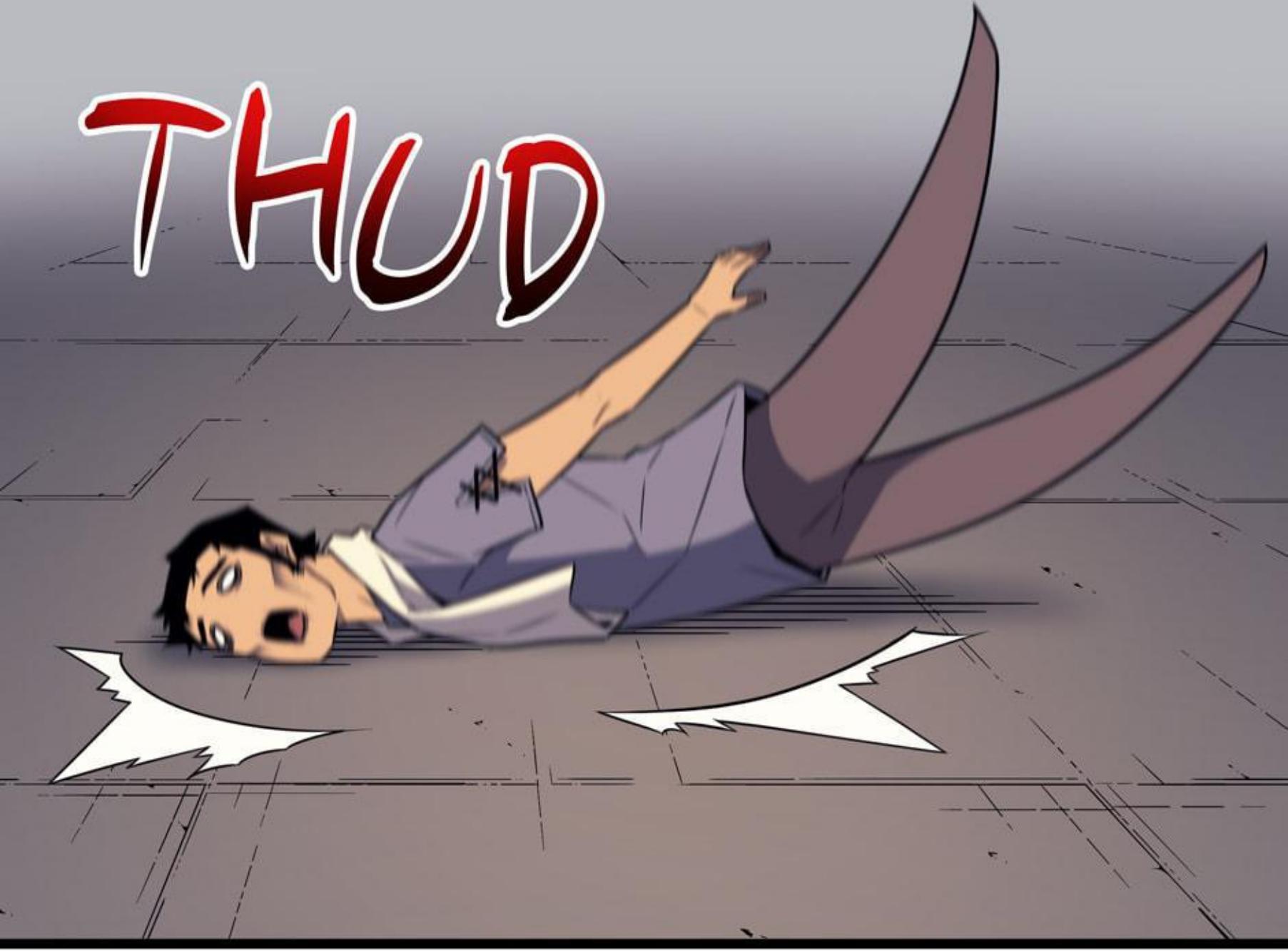
I WENT
THROUGH HELL
AND BACK...



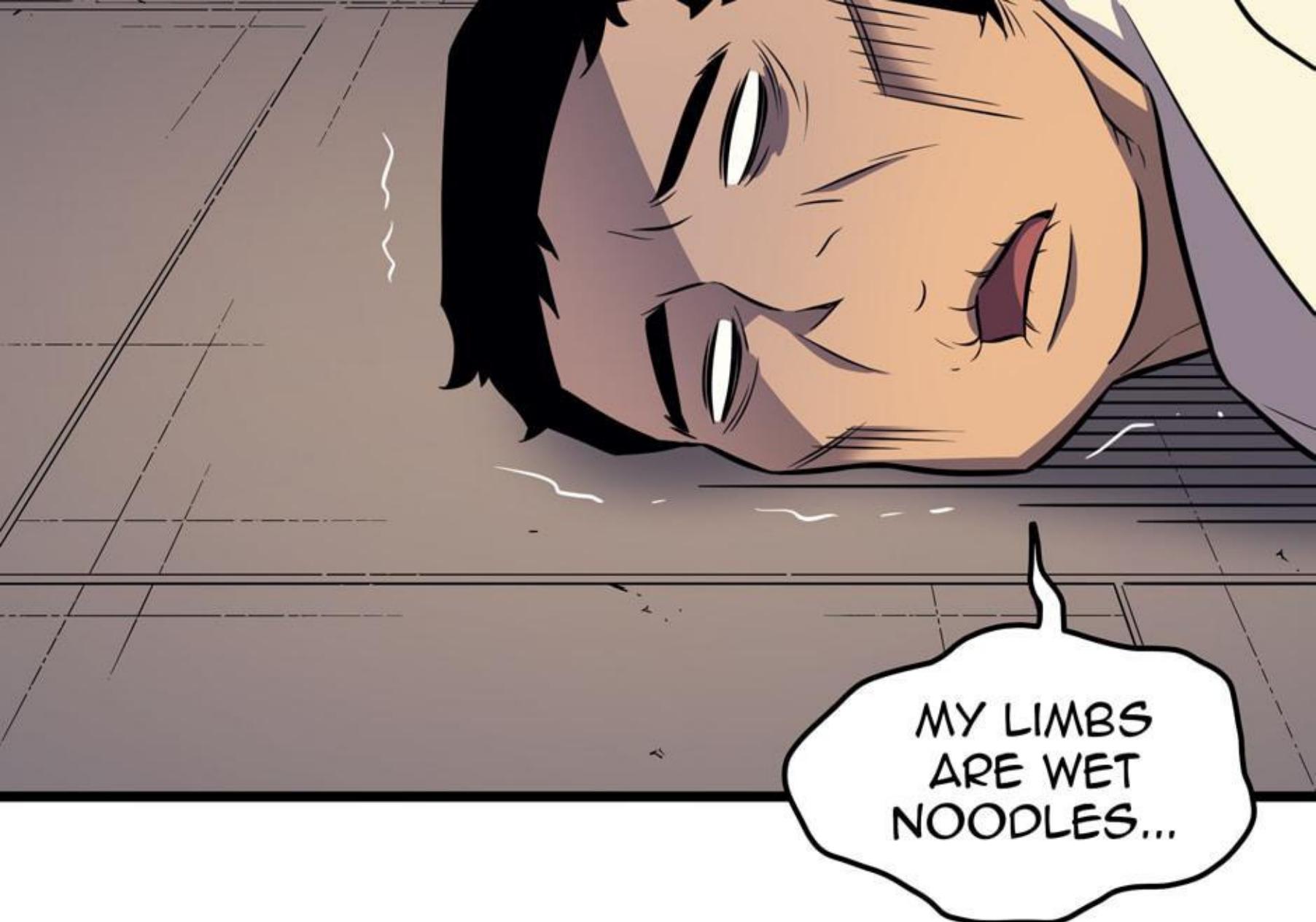
WELCOME
BACK, HONOR
JIZZELAN...

I APOLOGIZE...
I WOULD FACE YOU
IF I COULD TURN
MY HEAD BUT
ALAS...

THUD



MY...



MY LIMBS
ARE WET
NOODLES...



I NEED
TO GO TO THE
BATHROOM...

BUT I
CAN'T EVEN
PULL DOWN
MY PANTS...



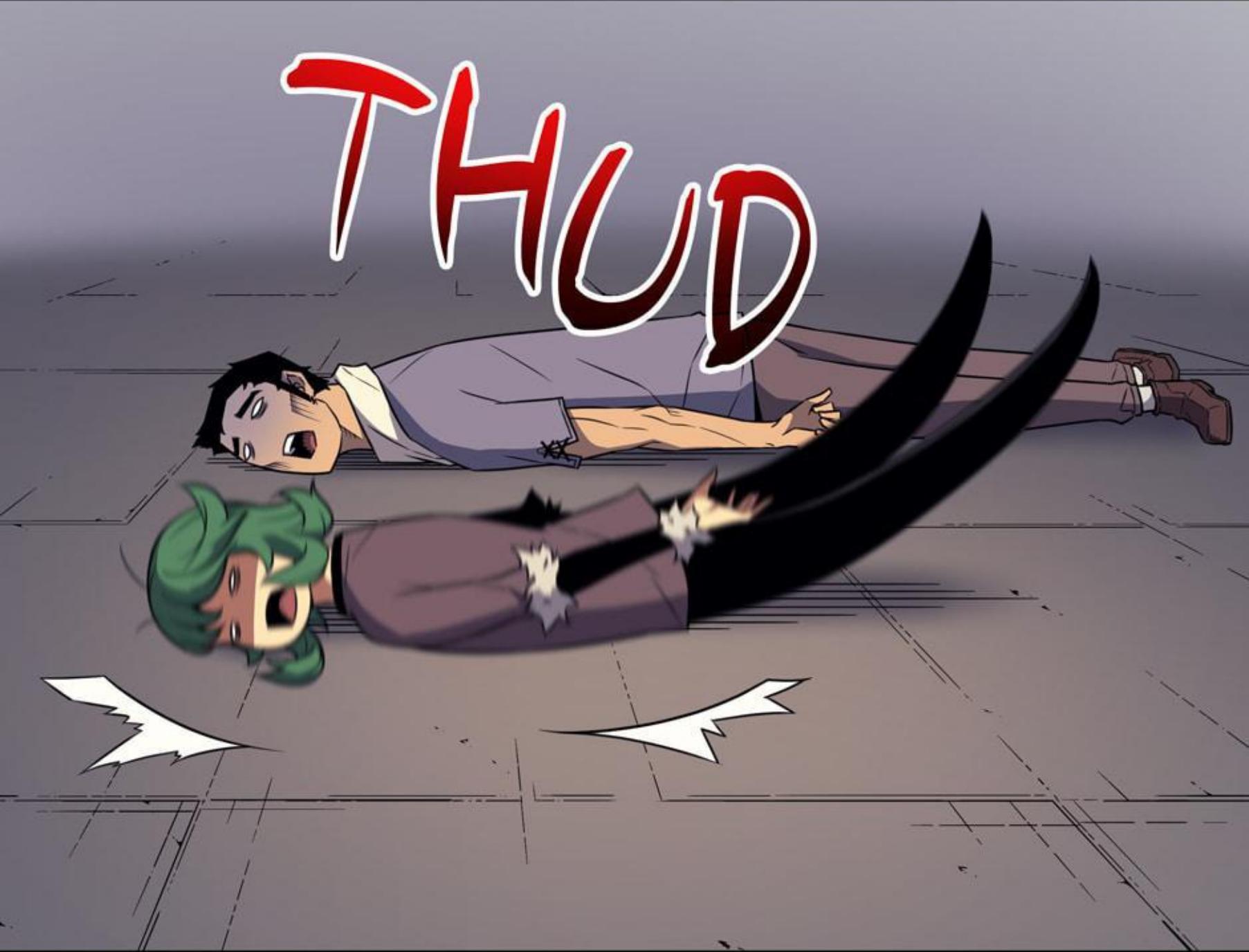
STAGGER

MY STOMACH
FEELS LIKE A
RAGING STORM
OF QUAKING

OF QUAKING
MAGMA...

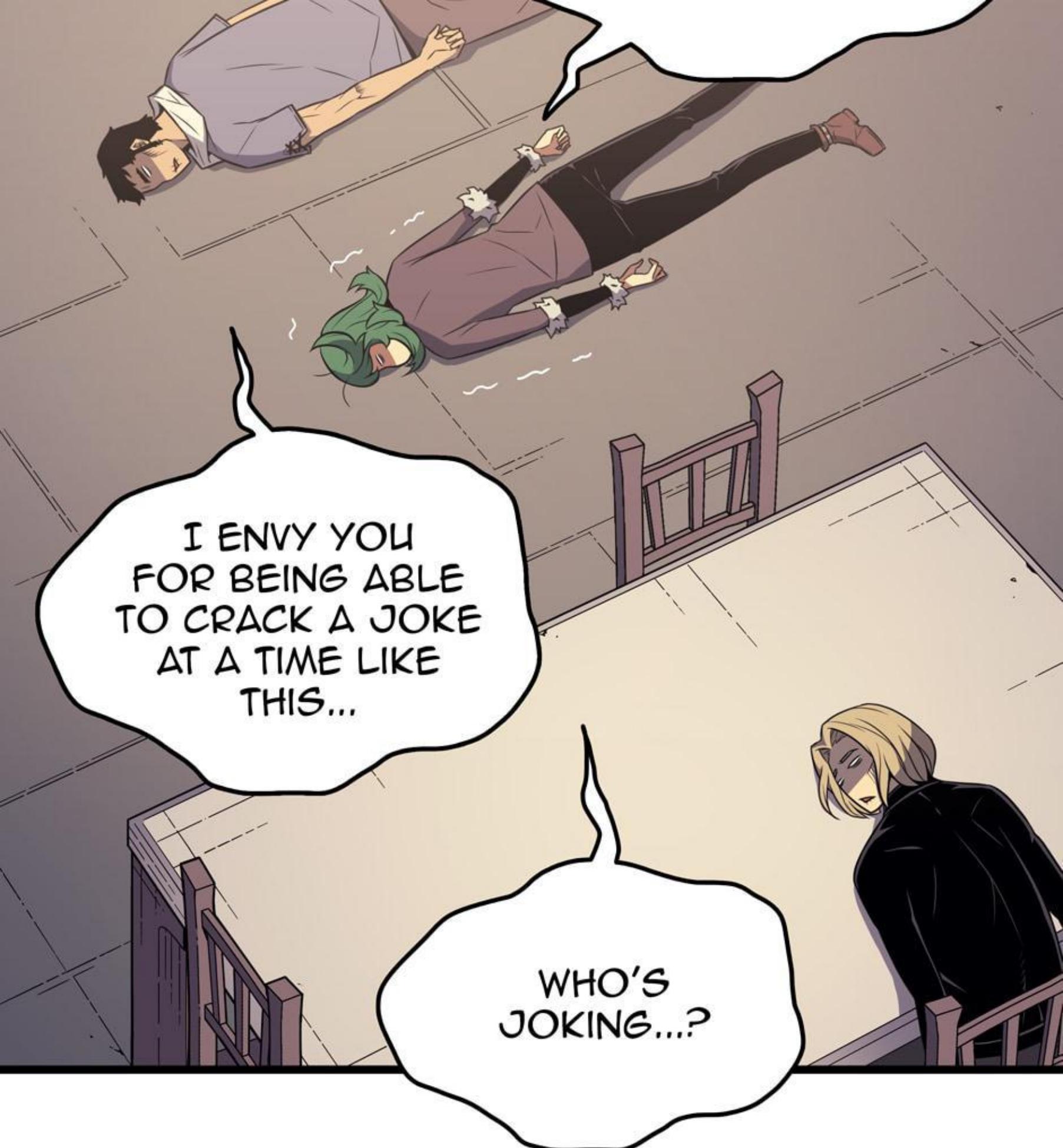


THUD



I NEED TO
GO POO...

IF YOU GO RIGHT
HERE AND NOW...
I'LL KILL YOU...



I ENVY YOU
FOR BEING ABLE
TO CRACK A JOKE
AT A TIME LIKE
THIS...

WHO'S
JOKING...?

CHAM

ALRIGHT,
GANG!

YOU'VE GOT FIVE

MINUTES TO ENJOY A
NICE LEISURELY DINNER
BEFORE GETTING BACK
INTO THE EVENING
TRAINING!



HMM? YOU
GUYS OKAY? WHAT
HAPPENED?

THIS IS ALL
YOUR FAULT, YOU
DEMON!

CREAK

MASTER VENIAN...

CLACK

I'VE RETURNED
AFTER FINISHING
MY MISSION.

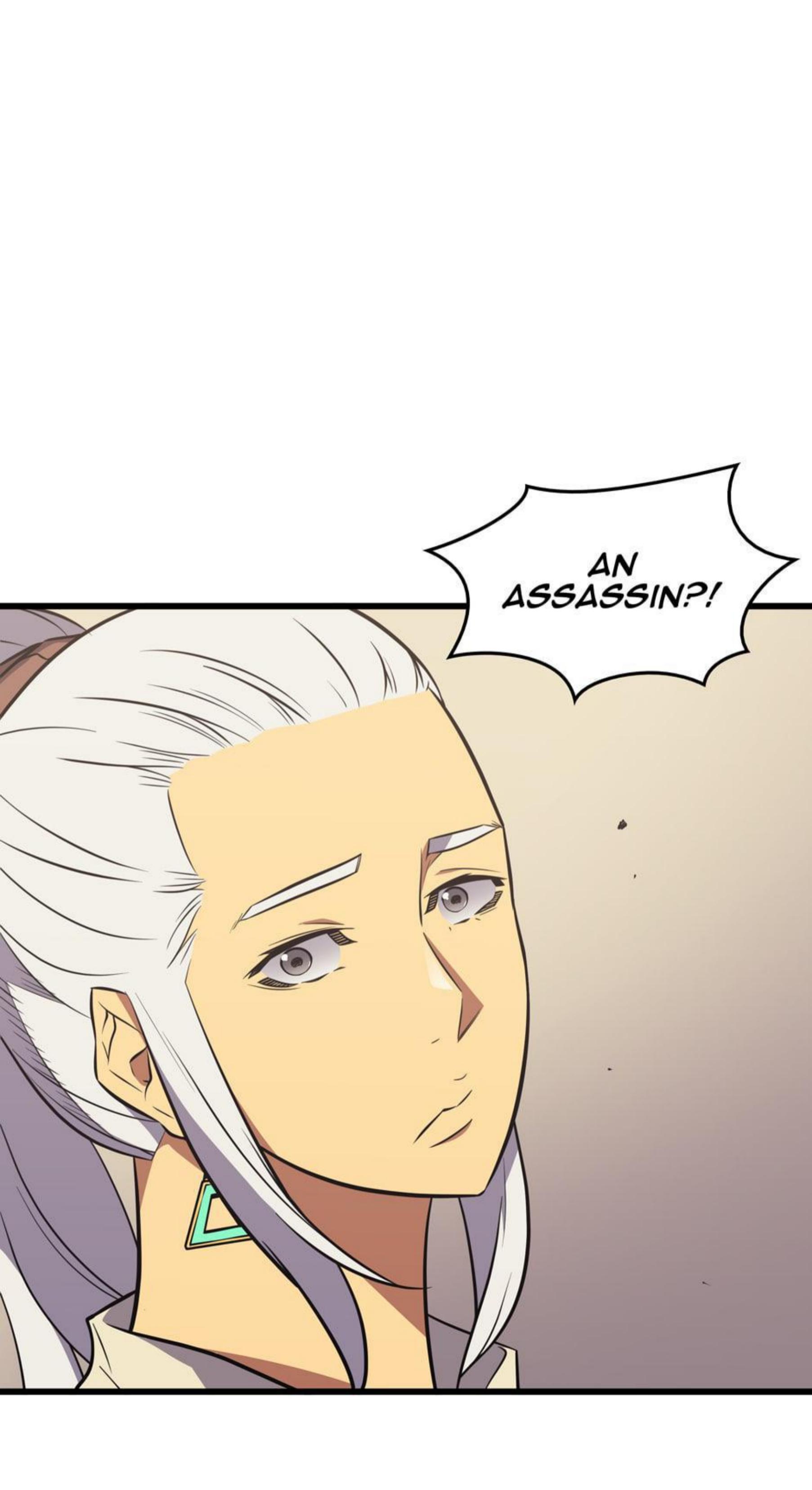
W-WHAT...

HAPPENED
HERE...?!



AH...

HONOR AJAX...



**AN
ASSASSIN?!**

**YOU'VE GOT
GUTS CHARGING
IN HERE ALL
ALONE! HOW
DARE YOU?!**





I-I NEED TO
STOP HIM BUT I
DON'T HAVE THE
STRENGTH TO SAY
ANYTHING...!



YOU FIEND!
HOW DARE YOU
KILL THE CIRCLE
LEADERS WHILE I
WAS GONE?!





WHO ARE YOU?



I'VE NO
NAME TO GIVE
TO A COWARDLY
ASSASSIN,
FIEND!



HUH?!

FREI AND
ISABEL?

OH!

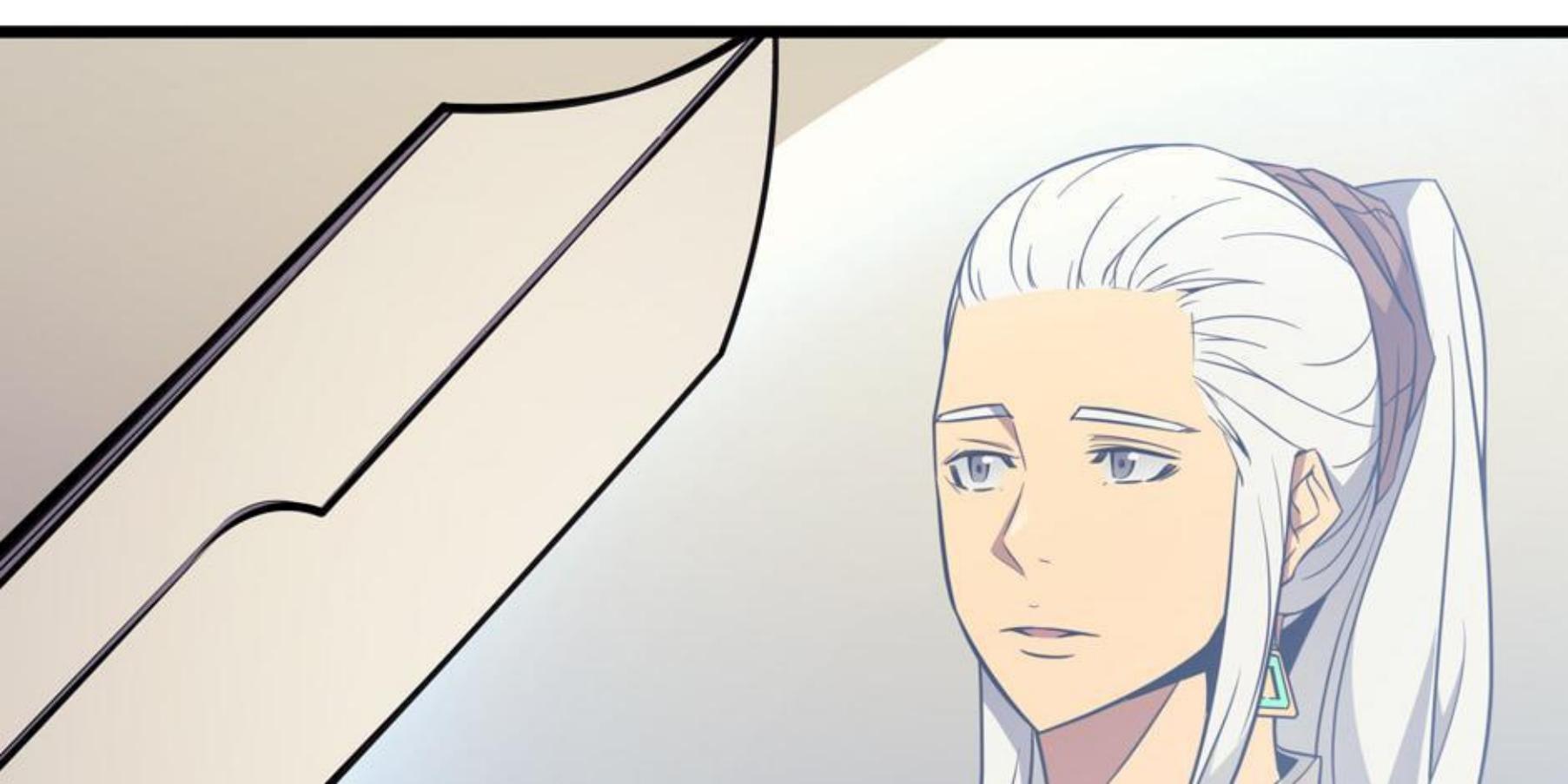
PROFESSOR
ADELIA!

YOU
KNOW THESE
PEOPLE?!

FREI... THAT MAN
IS AN HONOR OF THE
TROWMAN RINGS WHO
WAS DISPATCHED ON
A MISSION...



HE'S HONOR
AJAX...





AH, SO
THAT'S WHO
YOU ARE...!



AJAX, SHEATHE
YOUR BLADE...

LET ME
INTRODUCE
HIM TO YOU.

HE IS THE NEW
ROUNDER OF THE
TROWMAN RINGS...
FREI BLAKE.





AND THAT'S
HIS ASSISTANT,
MISS ISABEL
TRIEZNEIN.

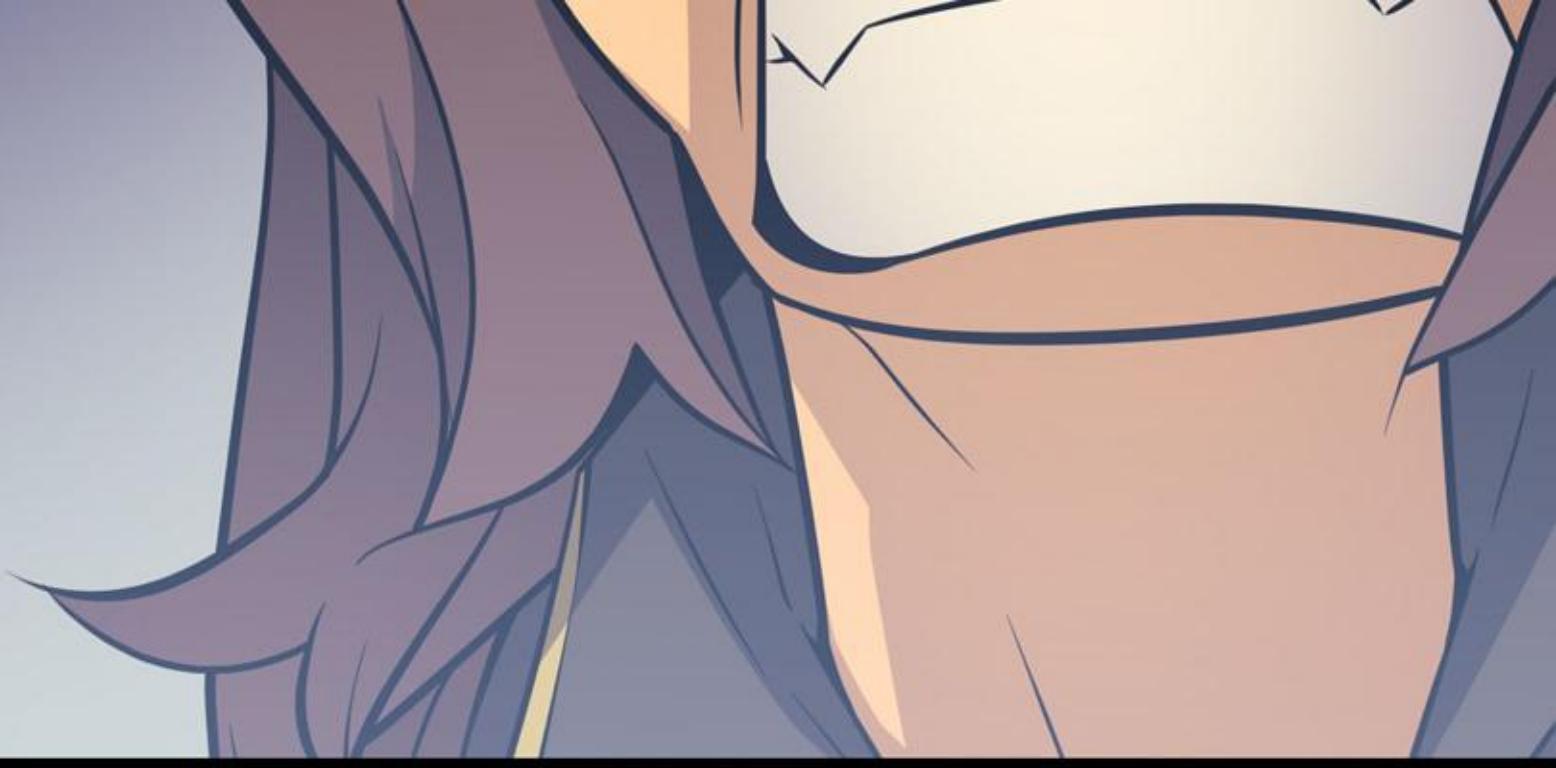
HIS
ASSISTANT...?



B-BUT
THEY'RE SO
YOUNG...?

A ROUNDER?





**WHAT?! FREI
IS A ROUNDER
NOW?!**

