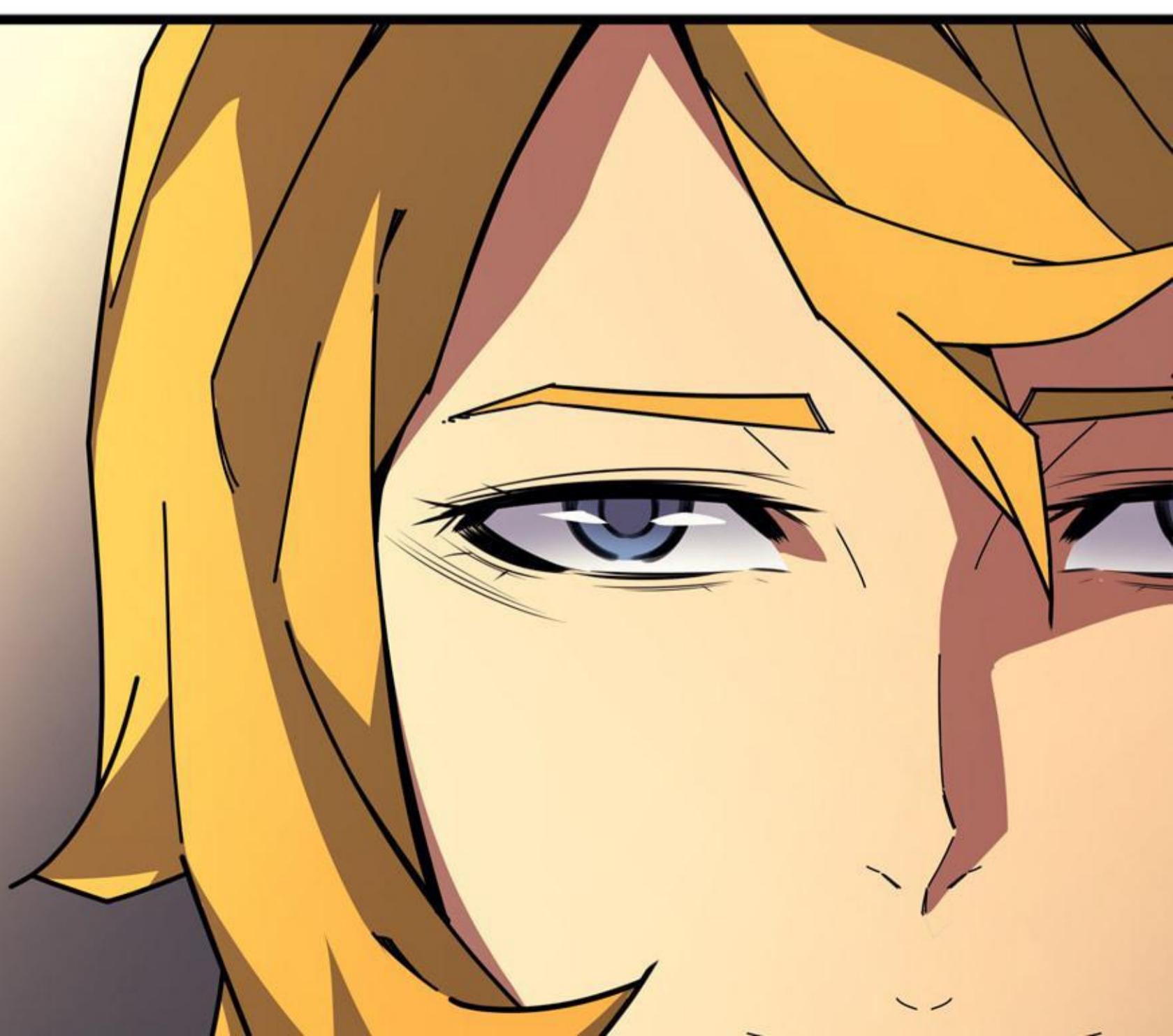


I APOLOGIZE
ON DOWMAN'S
BEHALF.





BUT IT'S ALSO
TRUE THAT I WISH TO
PERSUADE YOU TO JOIN
US AT THE TROWMAN
RINGS.







OH?

HE'S REACHED QUITE A HIGH TIER
FOR SOMEONE SO YOUNG...



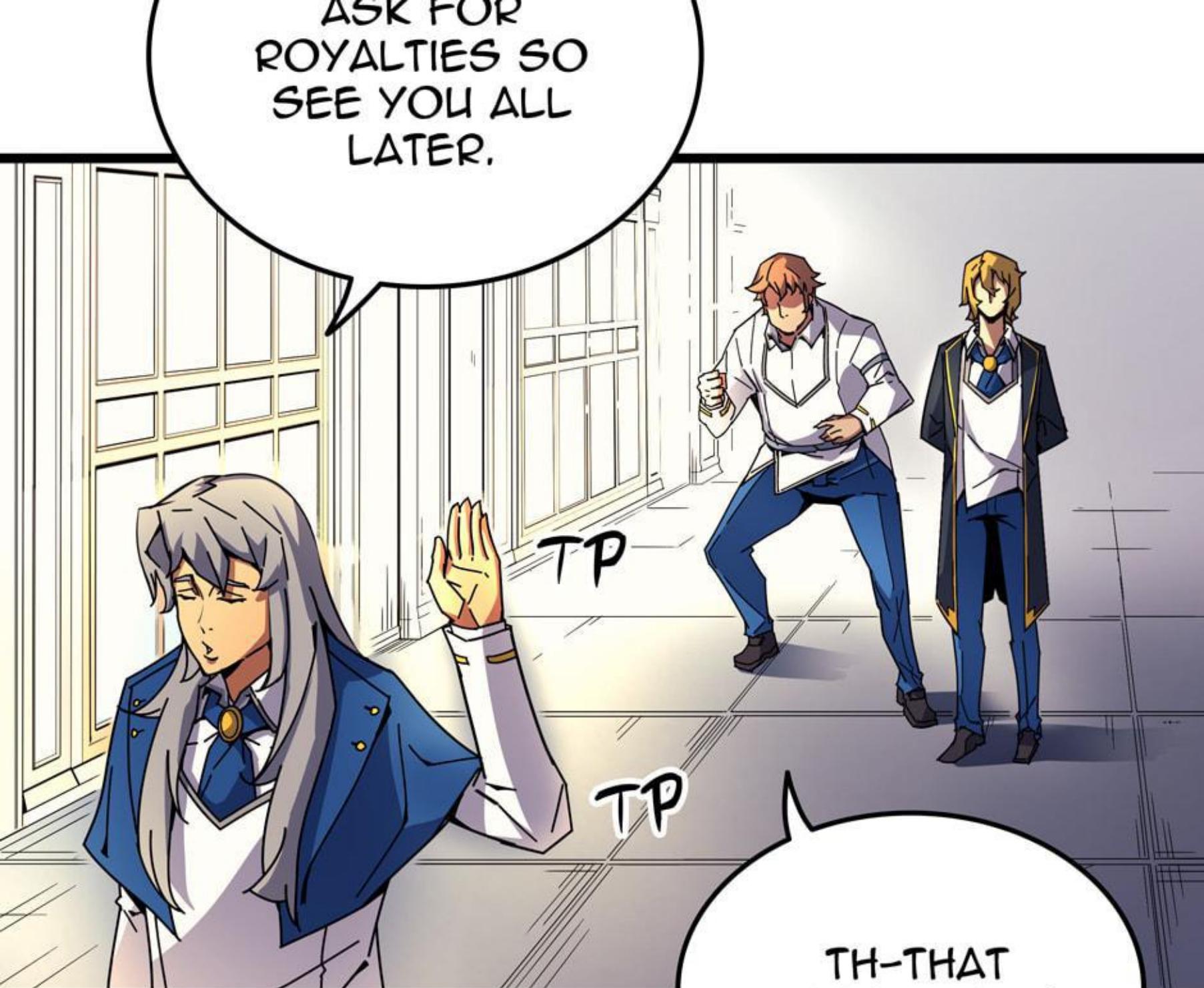
NAH...
I'M FINE.



WHAT
WOULD I GAIN
FROM JOINING
SUCH A WEIRD
GROUP?

I WON'T
JOIN SOON

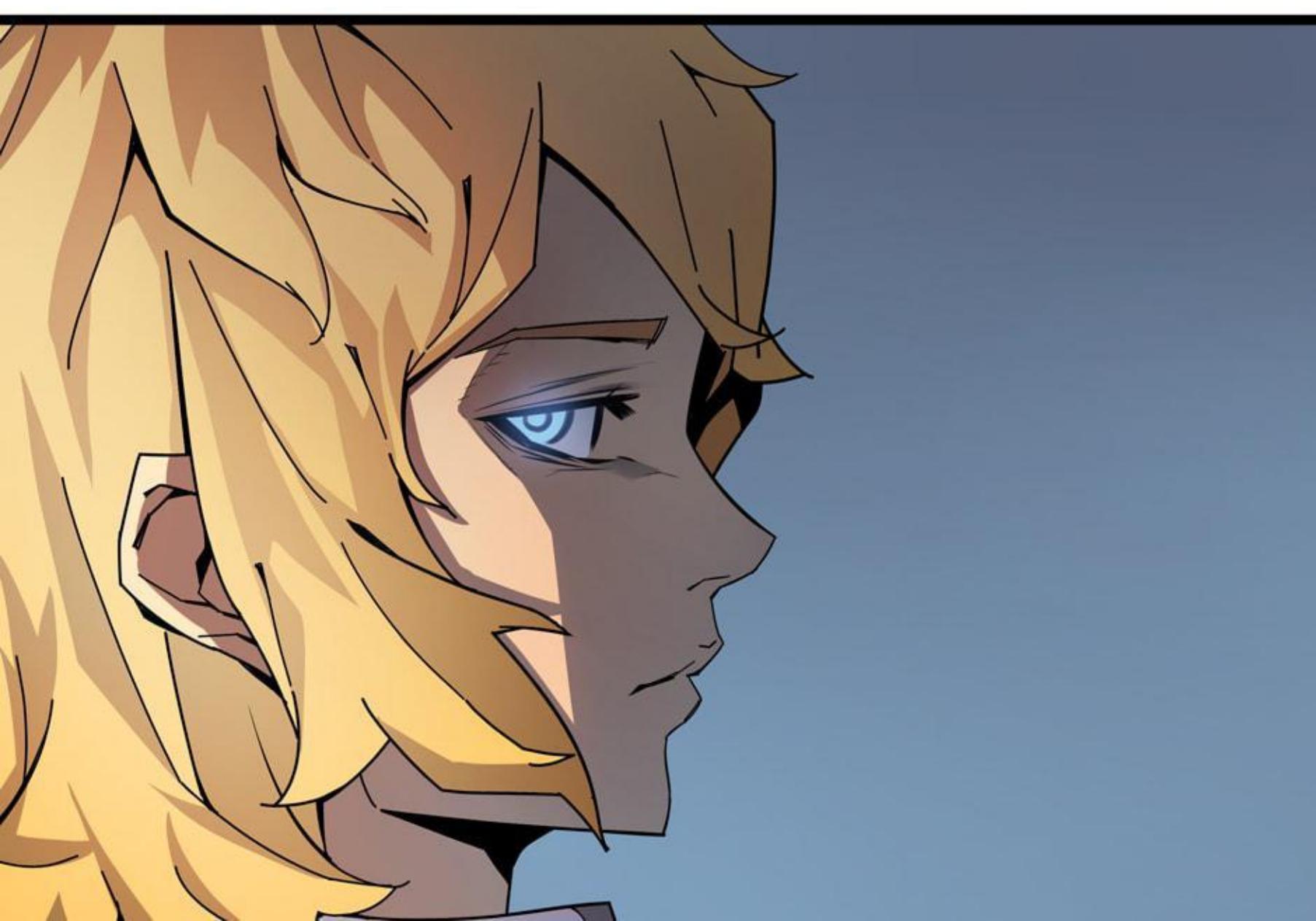
ASK FOR
ROYALTIES SO
SEE YOU ALL
LATER.



TH-THAT
INSOLENT...!

HOW DARE
YOU...?!

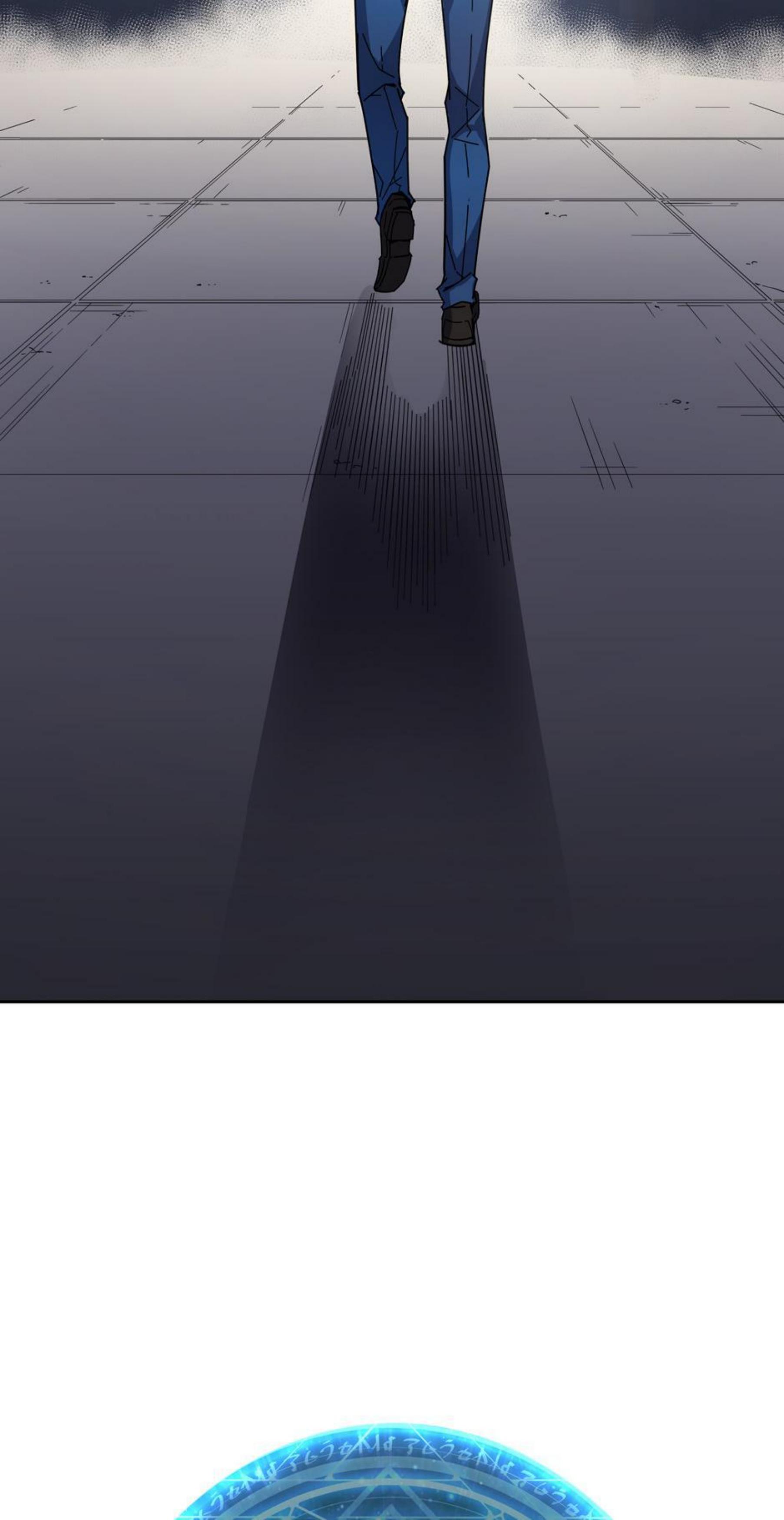






M-MY
APOLOGIES.





THE ARCHMAGE

RETURNS AFTER.

4000

YEARS

Story by: Barnicle

Art by: KD-DRAGON (Redice Studio)

Original Story by: Nakhasan

Quality Control: Barbra Ramos

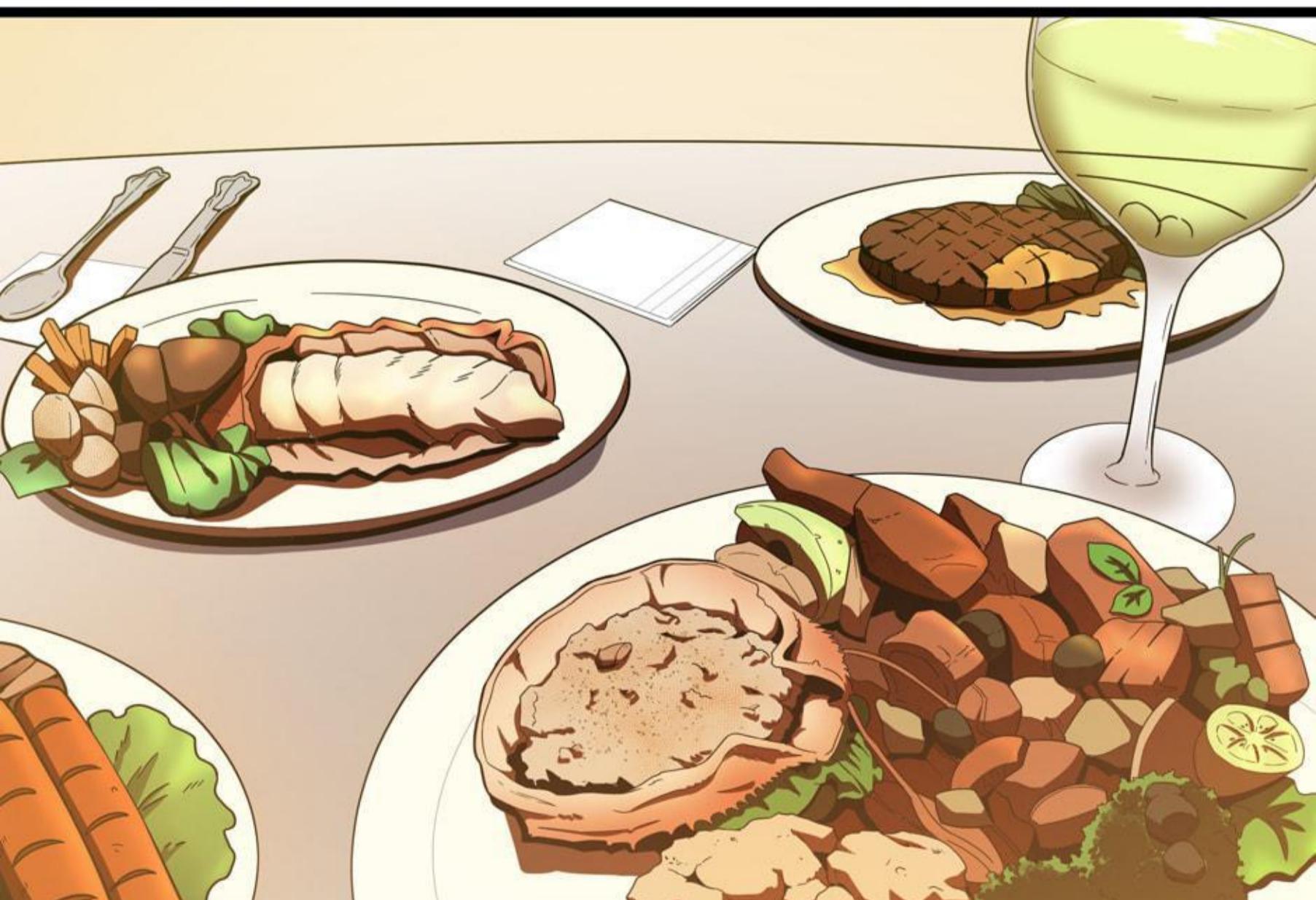
Typesetting: Alex Culang

Translation: Jim Park

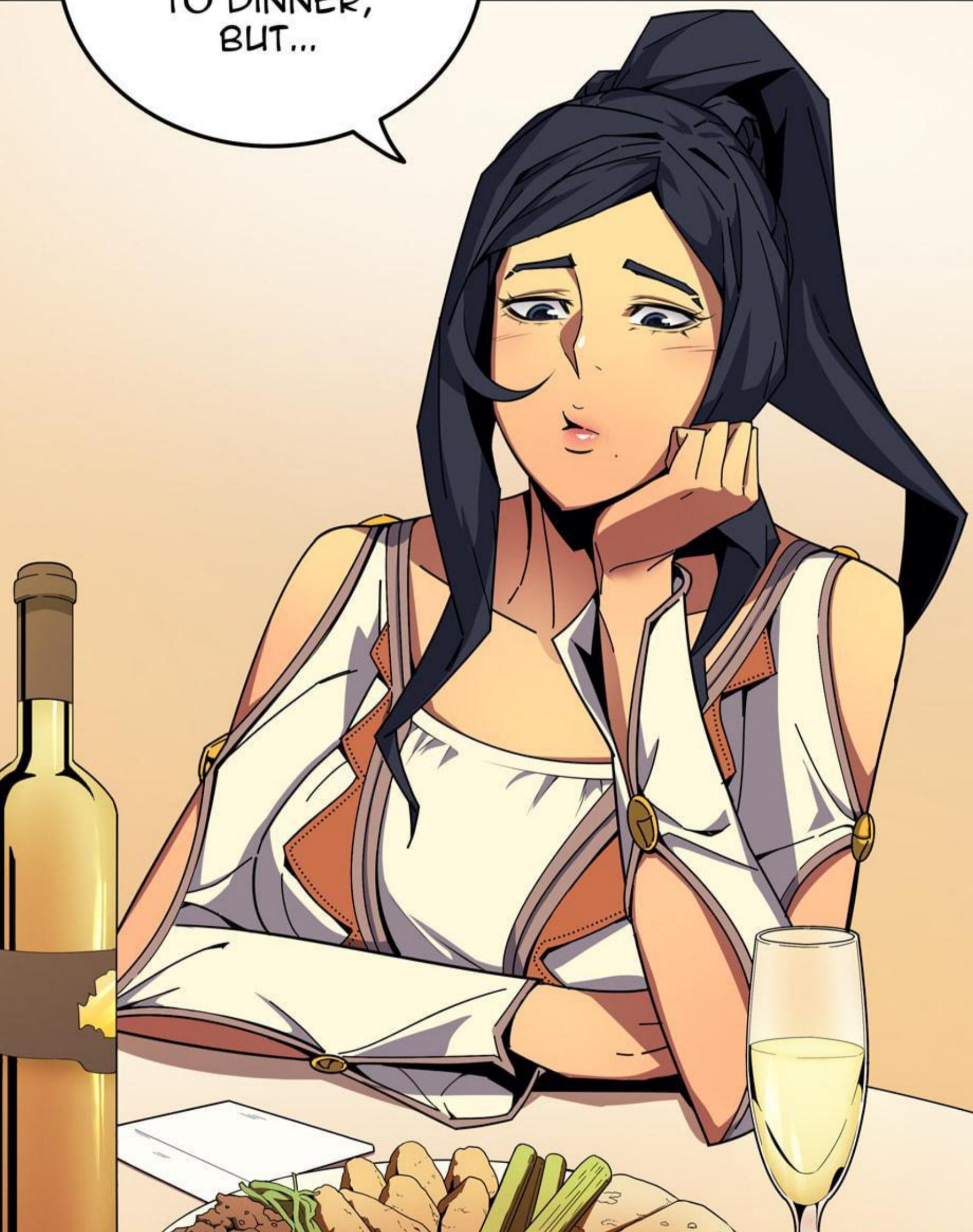
~ 9 ~

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I KNOW
I PROMISED
TO TREAT YOU
TO DINNER,
BUT...



WE SOMEHOW
SEEMS TO HAVE AN
UNEXPECTED GUEST
JOINING US?

DIDN'T
I TELL YOU
TO GO HOME
ALREADY?

DROP
THE FORK AND
STOP STUFFING
YOURSELF WITH
FOOD!





YOU NEED
NOT WORRY ABOUT
MY PRESENCE
HERE.

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

I'M MOST
DEFINITELY NOT
HERE BECAUSE I
WAS WORRIED ABOUT
ANY IMPROPER CONDUCT
BETWEEN A STUDENT

AND A PROFESSOR.

OH,
FOR CRYING
OUT LOUD -
GO HOME
ALREADY!

HOW
TACTLESS
CAN YOU
BE?!





NO MATTER
HOW MUCH I'VE
SEARCHED, I COULDN'T
FIND ANYTHING ABOUT
THIS THIRD METHOD
YOU SPOKE OF...



AND YOU
WOULDN'T TEACH
ME ANYTHING EITHER
SO WHAT ELSE AM
I SUPPOSED

TO DO?

....

NOM
NOM

I'LL JUST
HAVE TO FOLLOW
YOU UNTIL YOU AGREE
TO TEACH ME.



TRAINING
THROUGH
THE BATTLING
METHOD?

ARE YOU
REFERRING TO
THE METHOD
MENTIONED
IN KASAJIN'S
TRAINING?



!

YOU KNOW
IT AS WELL,
PROFESSOR
JANE?

I'VE HEARD IT
AS A PASSING
RUMOR IN THE
MAGICAL RESEARCH
MEETING.





BUT I
COULDN'T FIND
ANY RELATED TEXTS
NO MATTER HOW MUCH
I'VE SEARCHED
FOR IT.





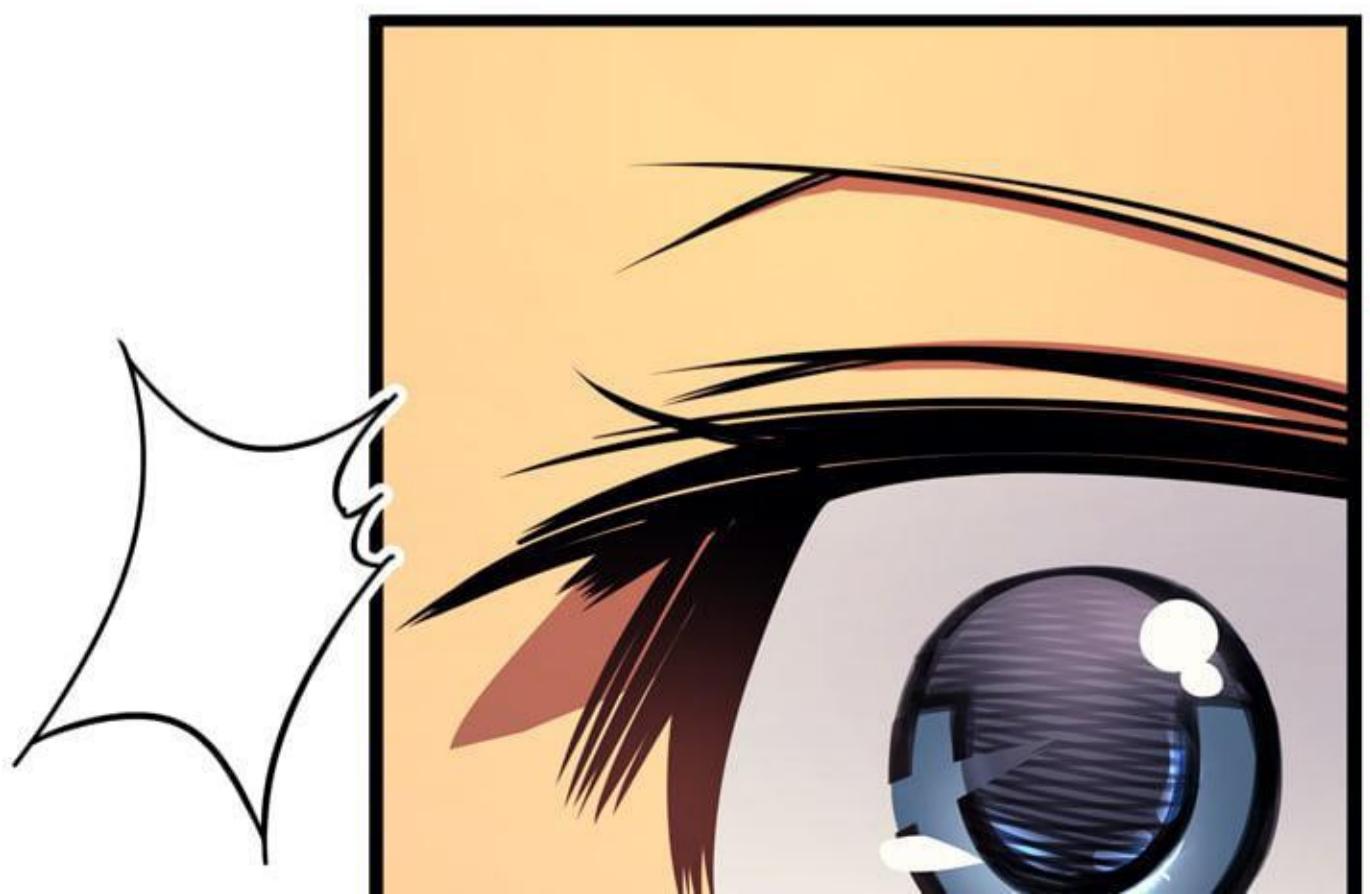
YOU'RE
TELLING ME
FREI HERE KNOWS
ABOUT IT?

IF YOU'RE
TELLING THE
TRUTH,



THEN I'D BE
DELIGHTED TO
HEAR IT AS
WELL.







INSTEAD OF
THAT BORING THING,
I'D BE MORE THAN
HAPPY TO TEACH YOU
SOMETHING... MORE
ENJOYABLE.





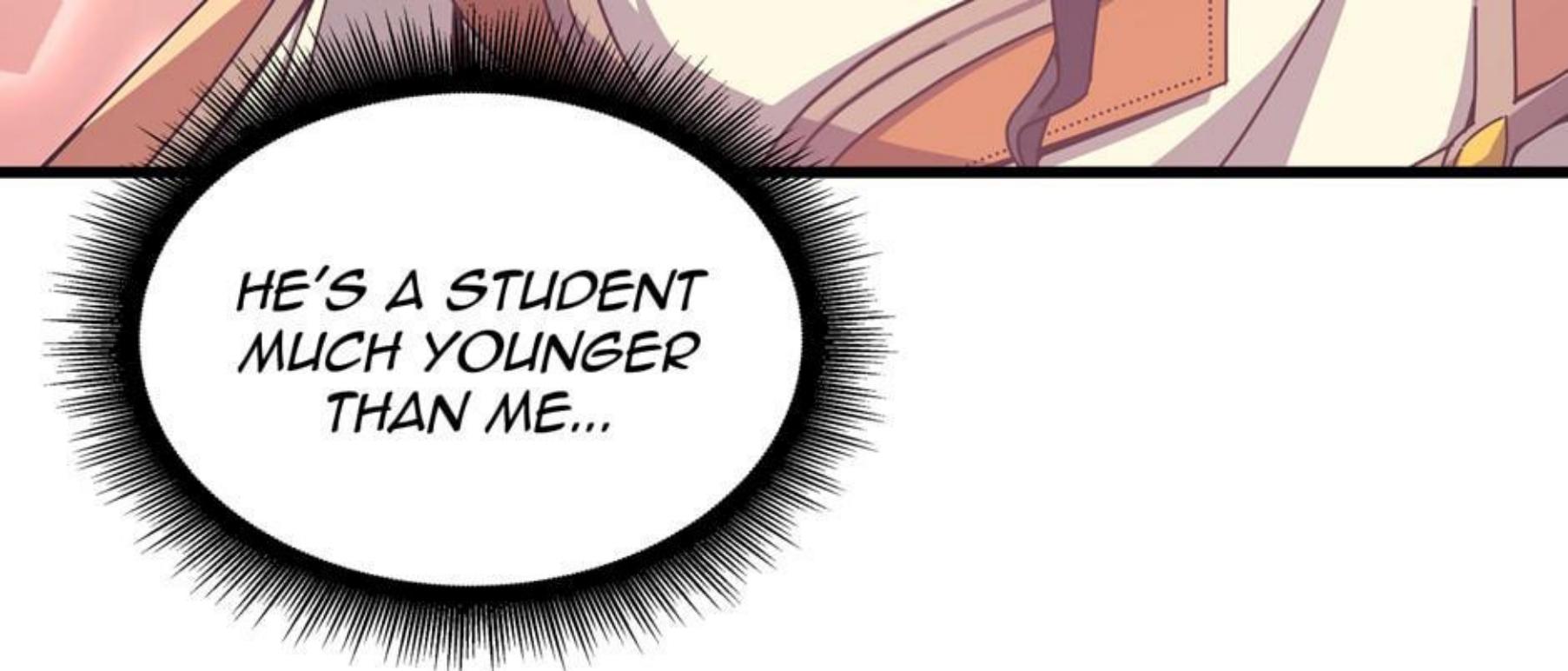
HOW ABOUT IT?
WE CAN SPEAK
MORE ABOUT THIS
IN YOUR PRIVATE
QUARTERS...



WH-WHAT'S
GOING ON WITH
ME...?

BA-THUMP

BA-THUMP



HE'S A STUDENT
MUCH YOUNGER
THAN ME...

BA-THUMP



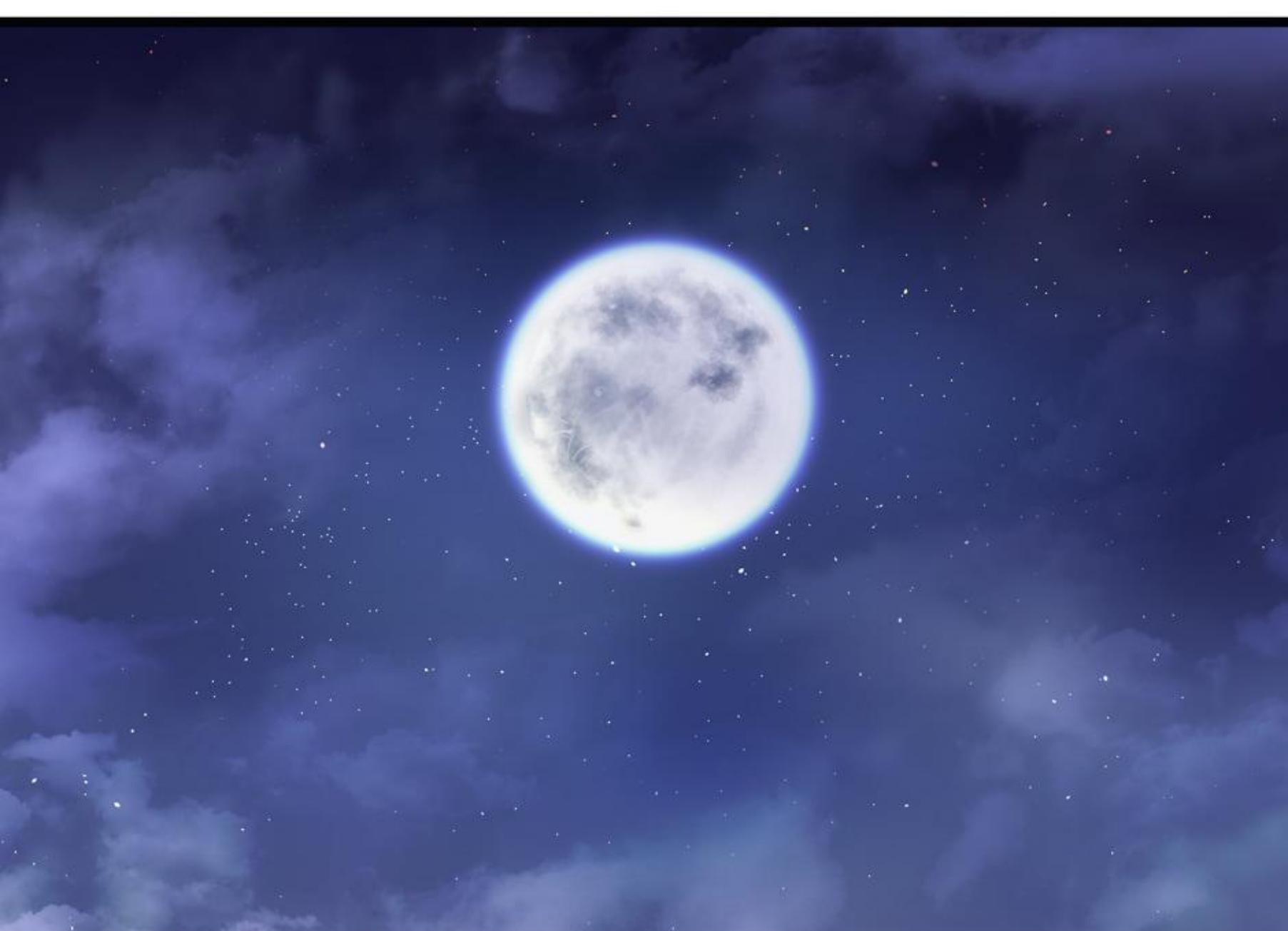
BA-THUMP

SLAM

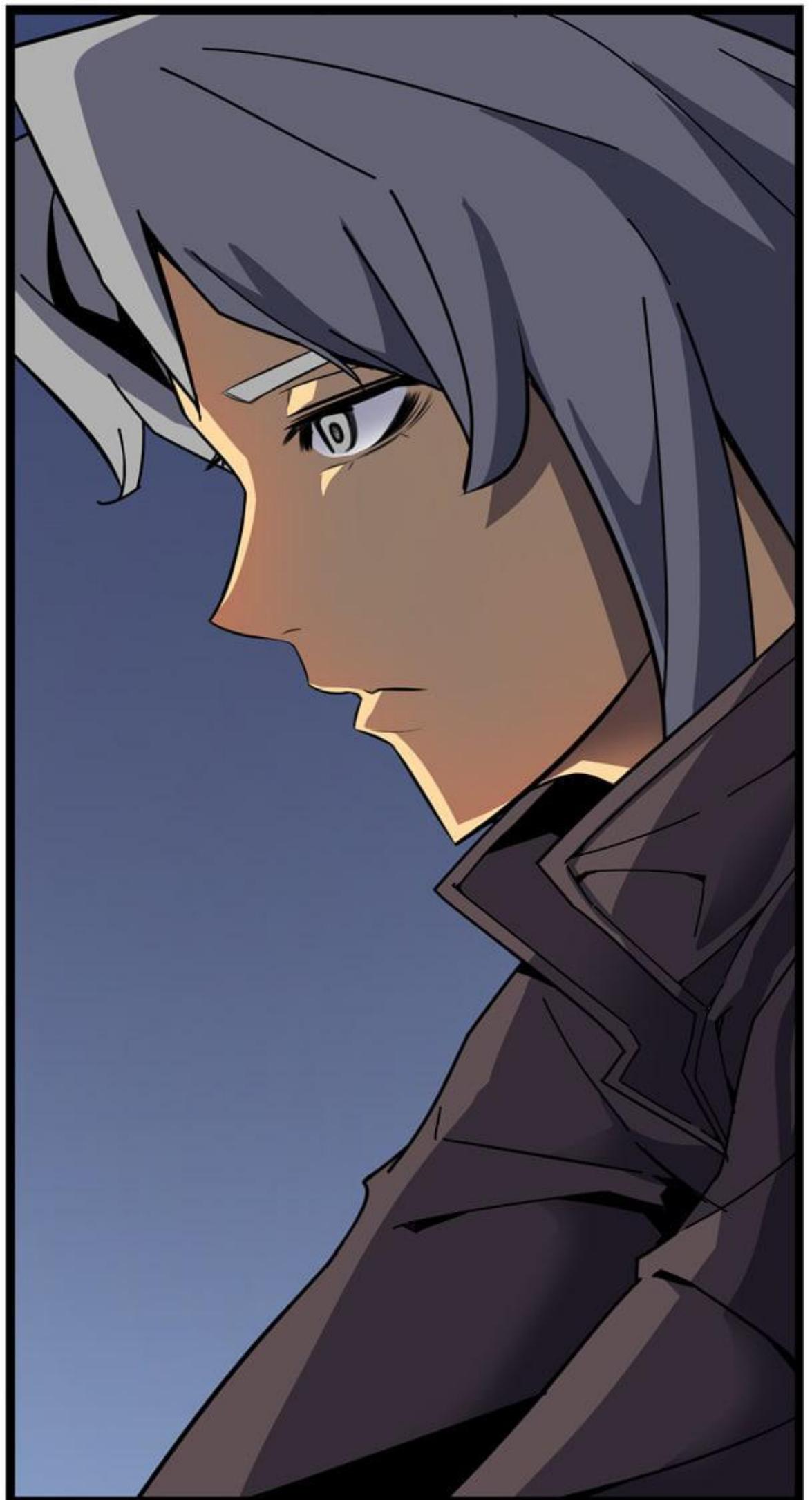


WHAT
SHAMELESS
ACTS ARE YOU
THINKING OF
DOING WITH THE
PROFESSOR?!

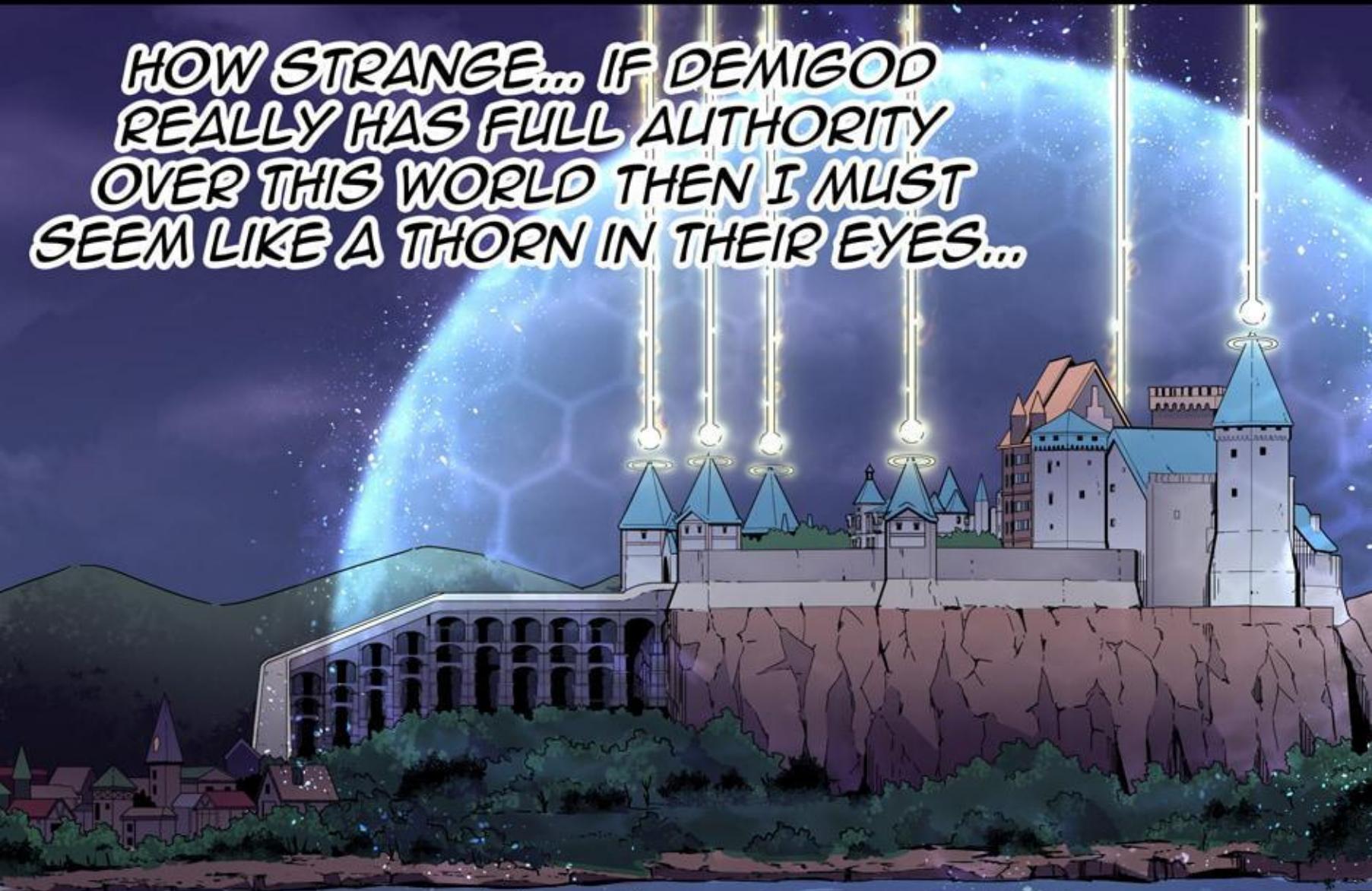
ARE YOU
SERIOUSLY
NOT GOING
HOME...?







**HOW STRANGE... IF DEMIGOD
REALLY HAS FULL AUTHORITY
OVER THIS WORLD THEN I MUST
SEEM LIKE A THORN IN THEIR EYES...**

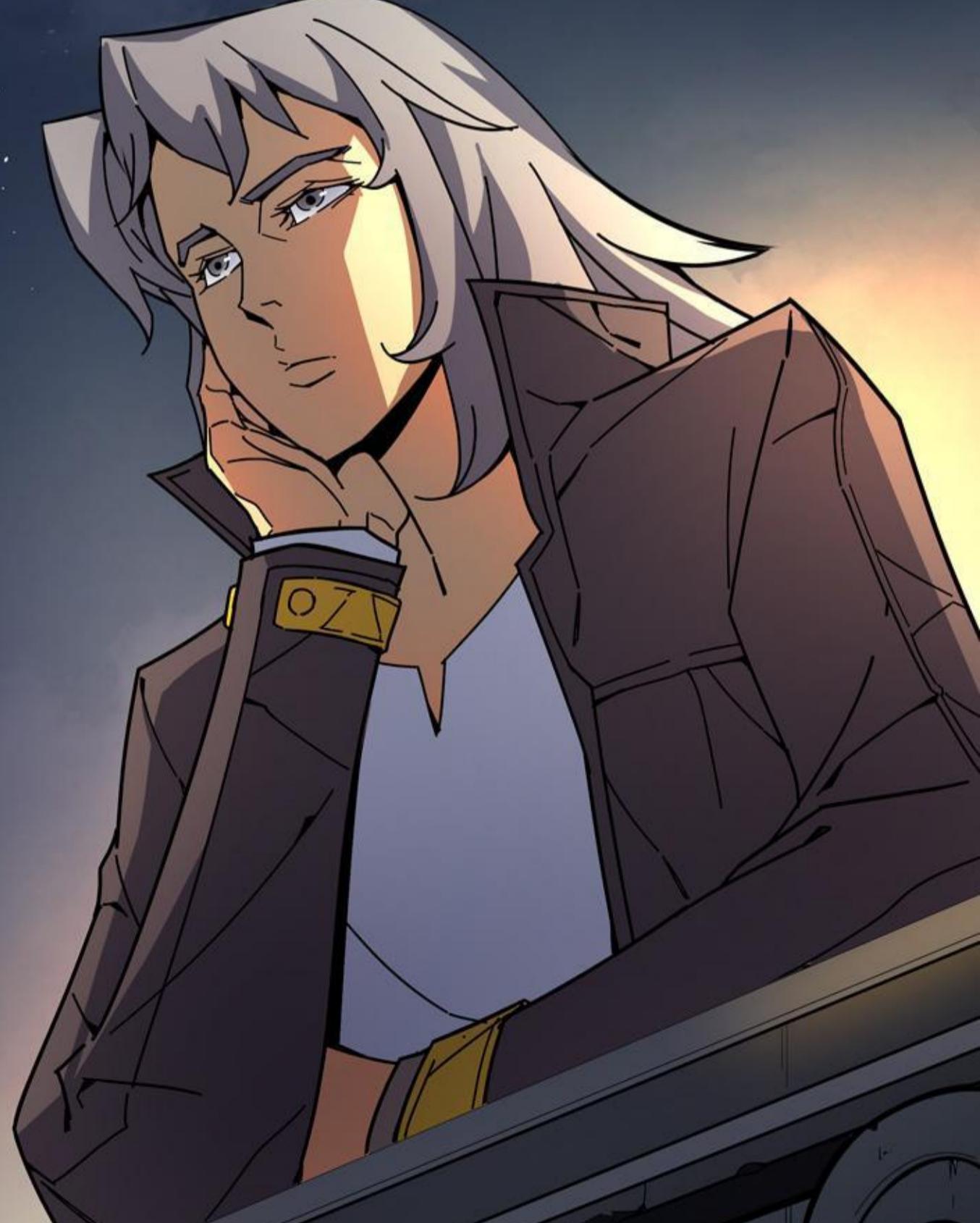


**I THOUGHT BY NOW, THEY WOULD
HAVE DONE EVERYTHING TO ERASE
ANY TRACES OF OUR HISTORY FROM
THE FACE OF THIS WORLD...**

EVEN AFTER 4,000 YEARS,
THEY MADE ABSOLUTELY NO EFFORT
TO DISTORT OUR HISTORY AND ALL
RELATED INFORMATION ABOUT ME,
KASAJIN, SCHEIZER AND YRIS.

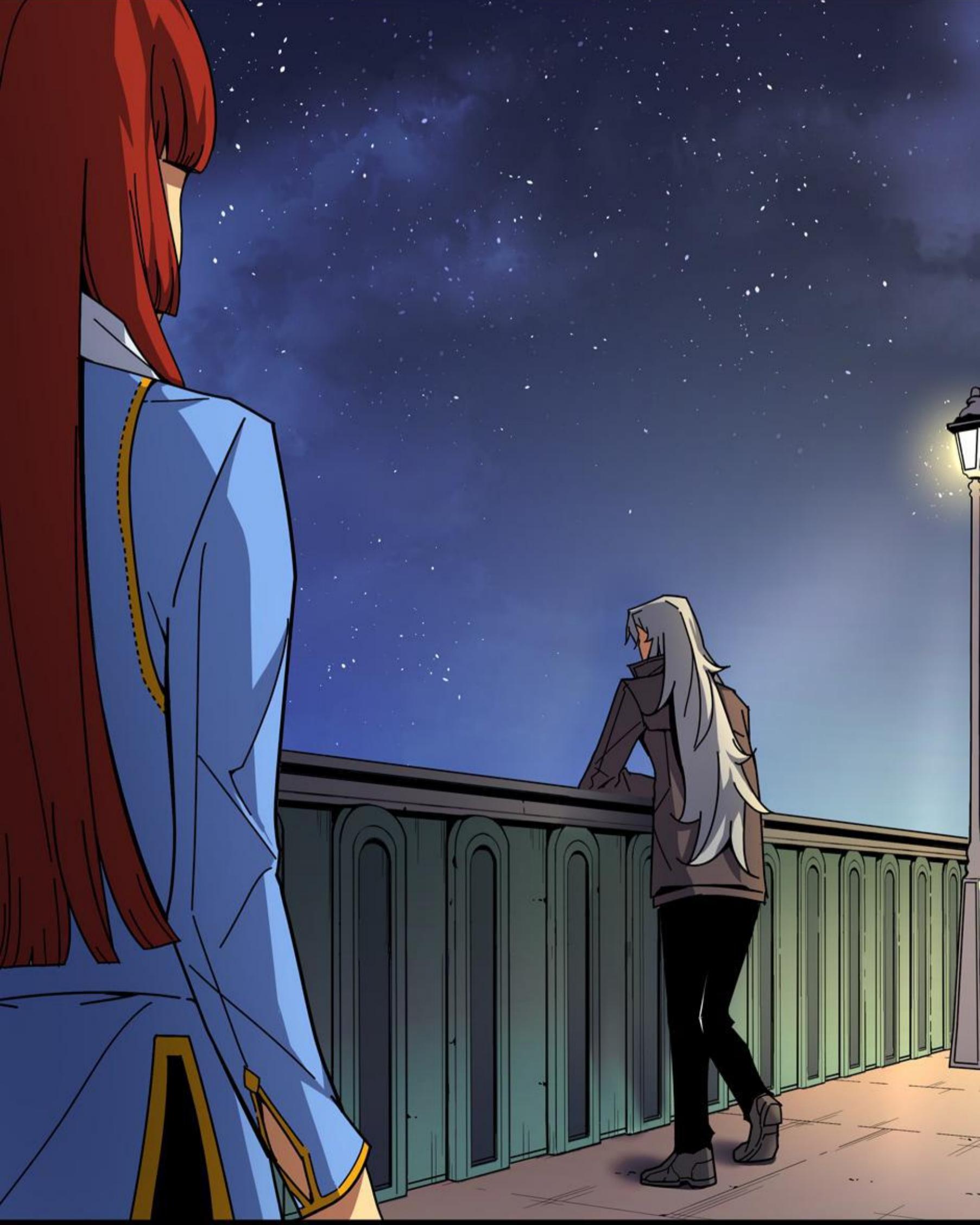
BUT WHY???

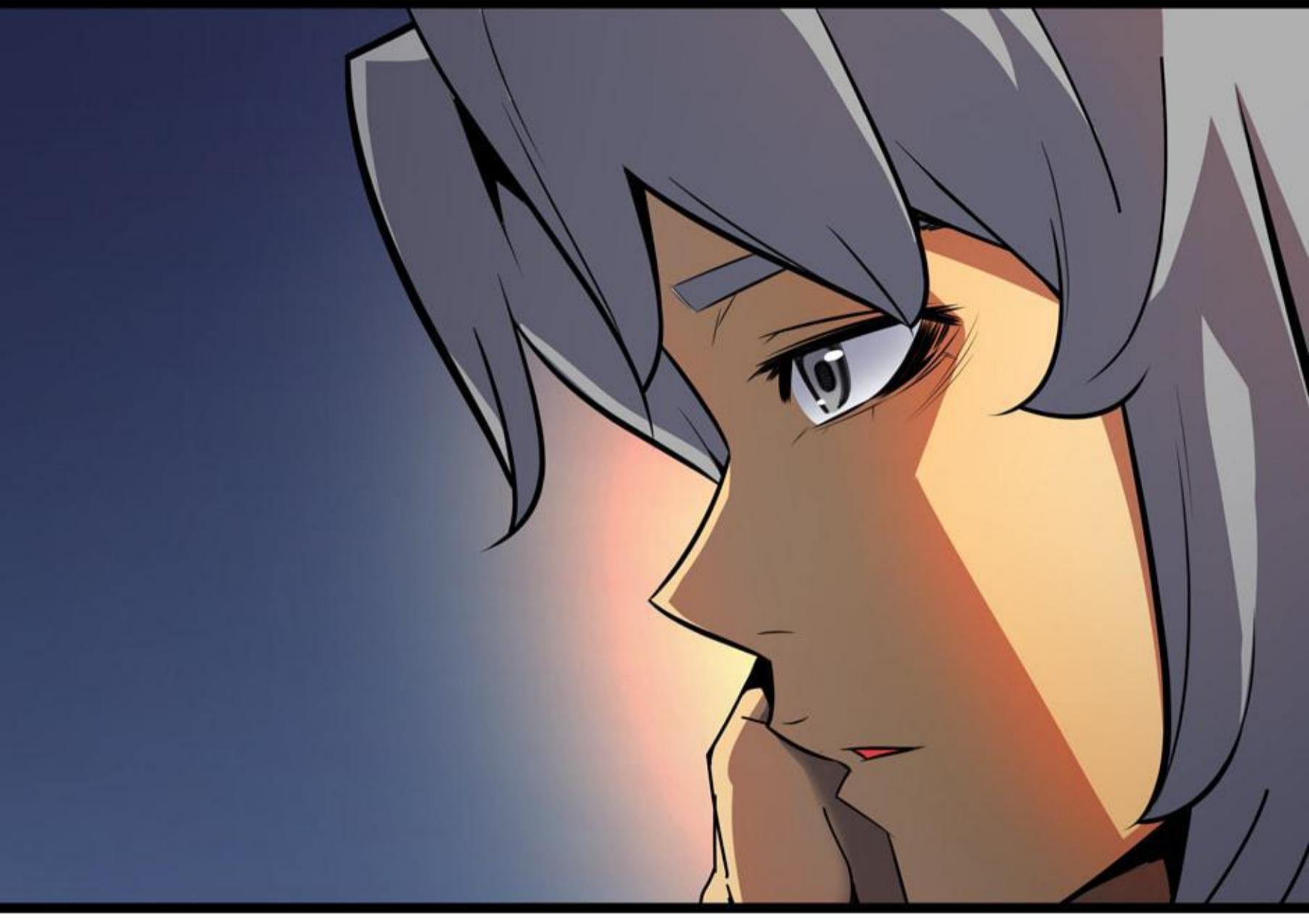
...

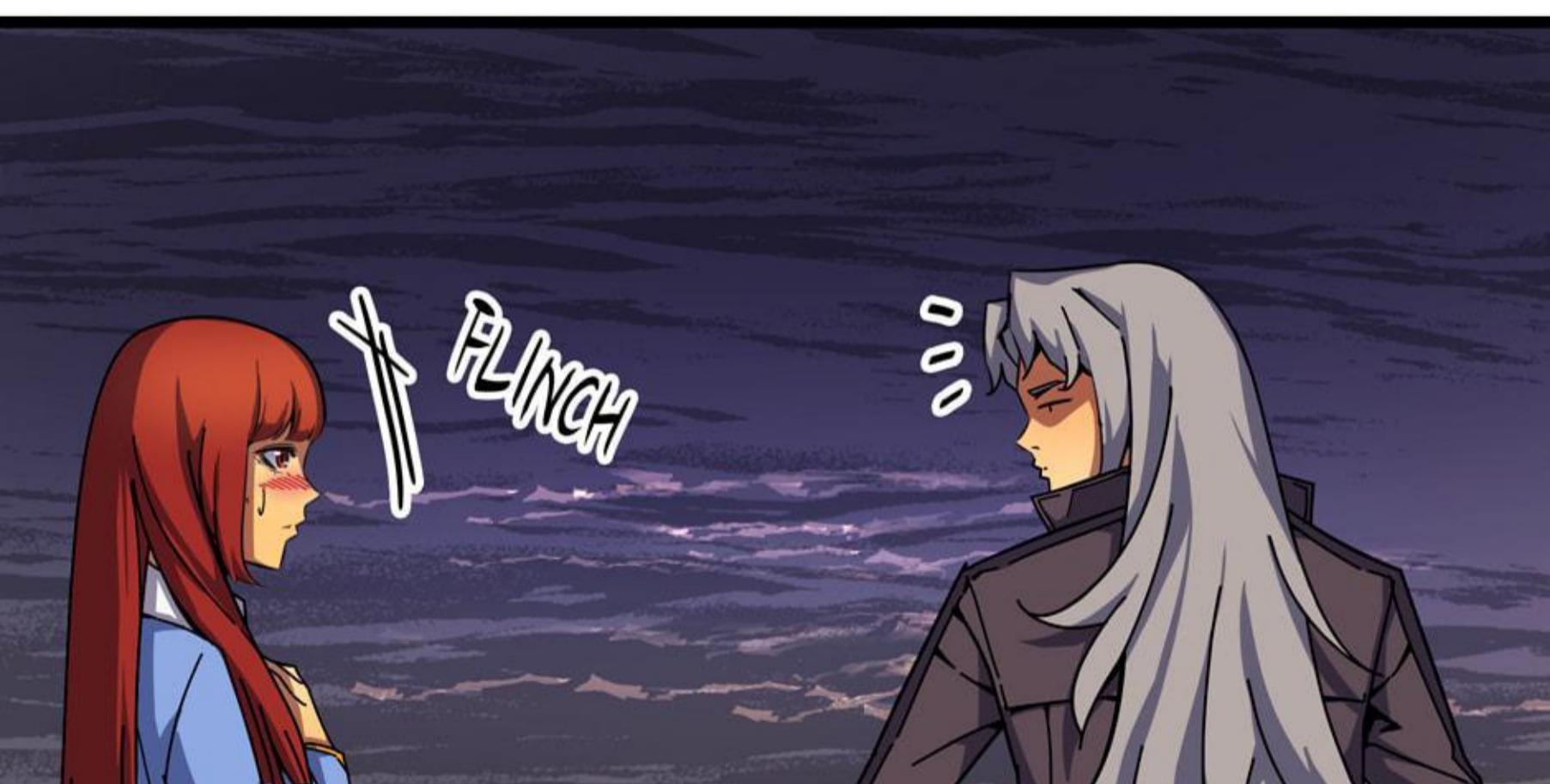
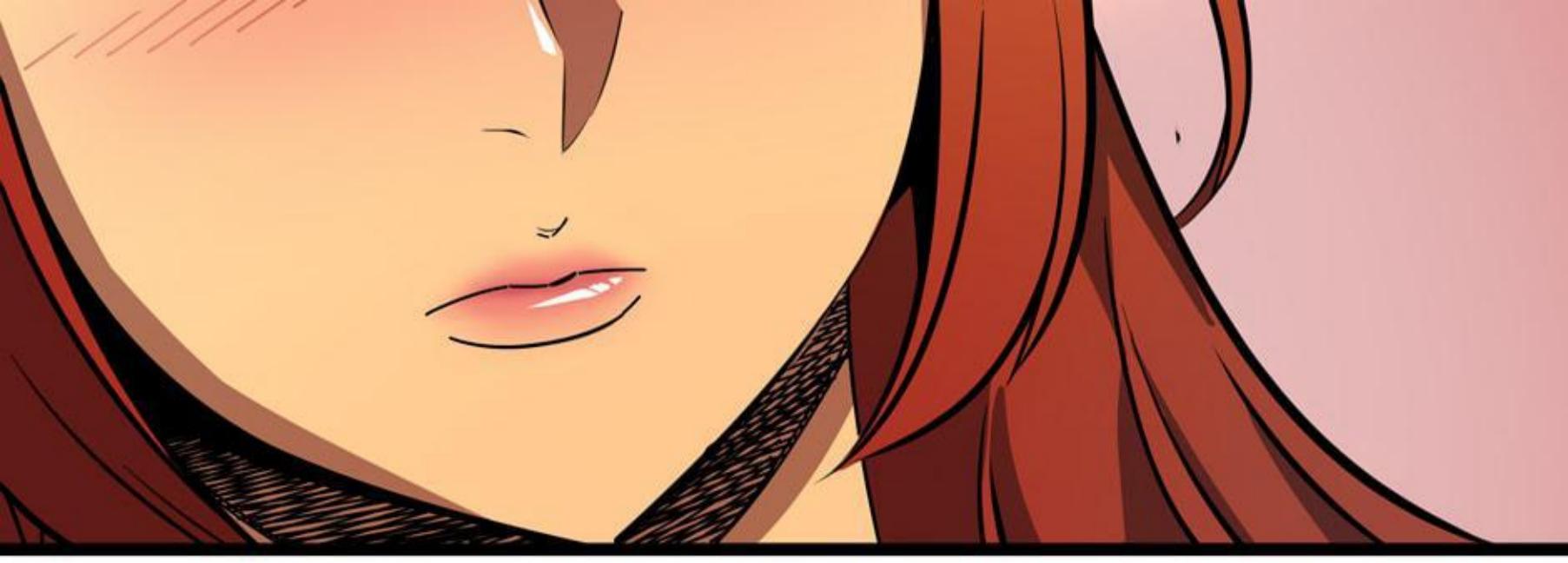


**DOES THAT MEAN THERE ARE
THOSE WHO CARRIED ON OUR WILL
AND LEGACY TO FIGHT AGAINST THE
DEMIGOD EVEN TO THIS DAY?**

Dreamed even in the dark





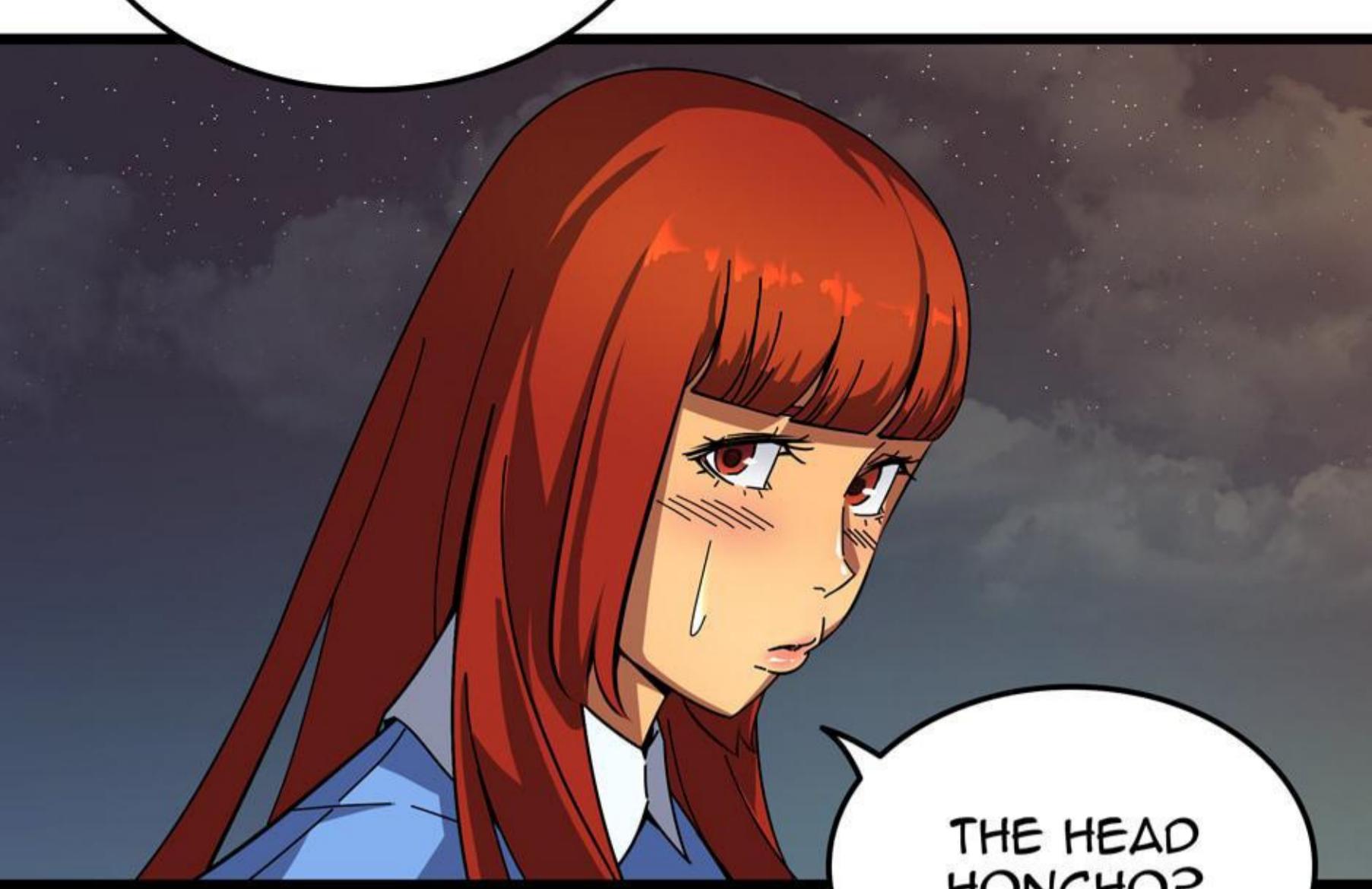


ISABEL...



I HAVE A
QUESTION.

WHO IS THE
HEAD HONCHO OF
THIS ACADEMY?



THE HEAD
HONCHO?

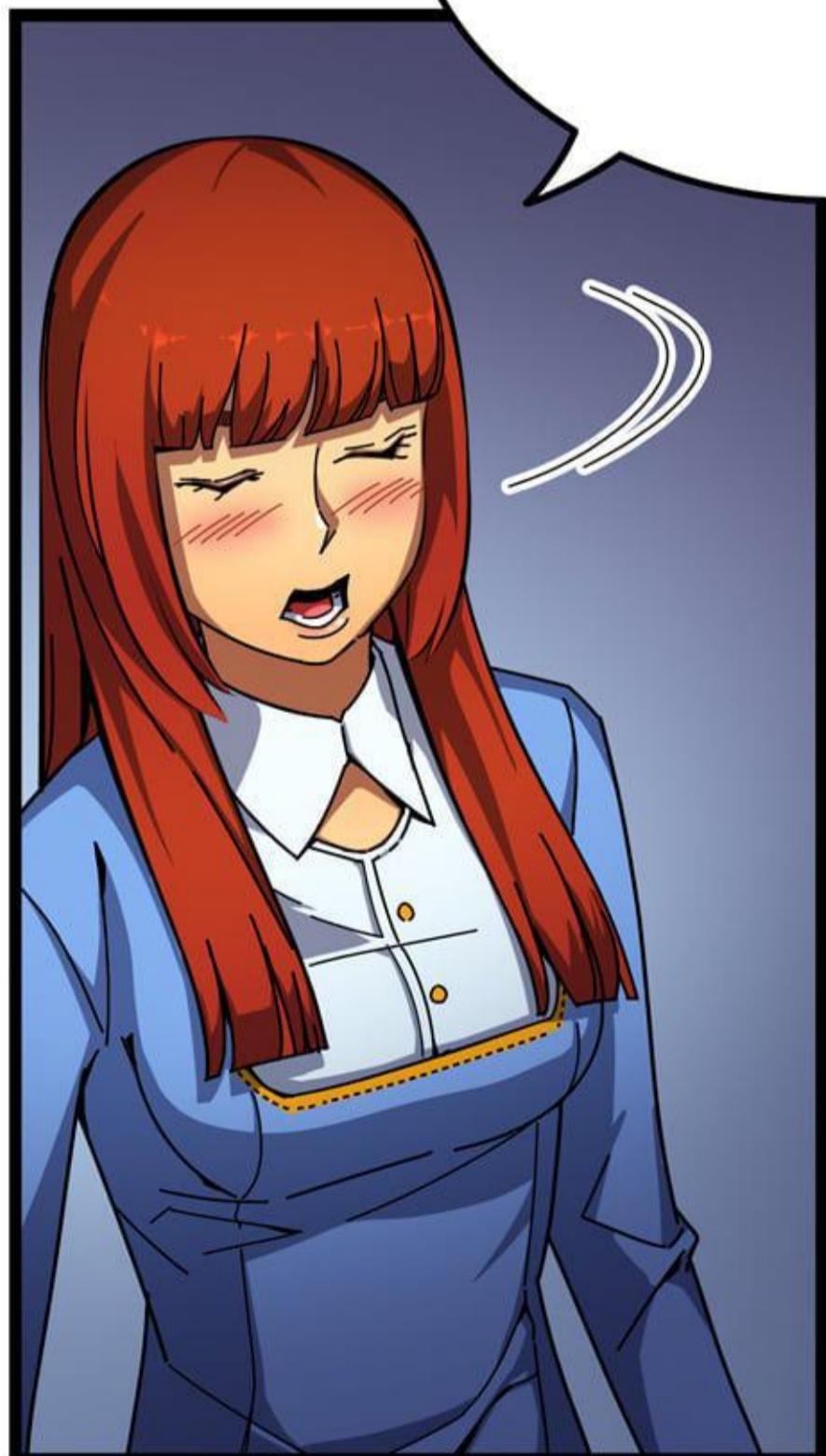
ISN'T THAT A
CHILDISH THING
TO ASK?

PUT A SOCK IN
IT. I'M ASKING YOU
WHO THE STRONGEST
MAGE IS OUT OF THE
PROFESSORS AND
THE STUDENTS.



WELL?

YOU ASK, YET
YOU'VE NEVER
ANSWERED MY
QUESTIONS...



I'LL TELL

YOU IF YOU
TELL ME.



REALLY??

WHY DOES
THAT PLEASE YOU
SO MUCH...?



OUT OF THE
STUDENTS, THE
MOST POWERFUL
MAGE WOULD
PROBABLY BE
FERRAN
JUNE.



AND AMONG
THE PROFESSORS,
I WOULD SAY IT HAS TO
BE EITHER PROFESSOR
DIO OR PROFESSOR
ADELIA.

BUT THE
STRONGEST
OUT OF THE
ACADEMY...

...IS MOST
LIKELY MY

AUNTIE.



YOUR
AUNTIE?



ISABEL'S AUNTIE IS THE
CHAIRMAN OF WESTROAD
ACADEMY...



LADY SIRIS TRIEZNEIN.





SHE IS A
TIER 6 MAGE WHO
IS RENOWNED WITHIN
THE EMPIRE AS THE
FROST QUEEN.



OH...?
TIER 6,

HUH?



THEY SAY
THAT THE LIMITS OF A
MAGE ARE THEORETICALLY
ACHIEVABLE UP
TO TIER 9.





BUT THEY SAY
THE LAST PERSON WHO
WAS RUMORED TO HAVE
REACHED TIER 9 EXISTED
ALMOST 3,000
YEARS AGO.



BUT WE HAVE
NO WAY TO PROVE
WHETHER THOSE RUMORS
ARE TRUE OR NOT. AS
SUCH, WE BELIEVE THE
HIGHEST A MAGE CAN
ACHIEVE IS TIER 8.

EVEN THEN,
THERE'S ONLY BEEN
TEN ARCHMAGI WHO'VE
REACHED TIER 8 IN THE
WHOLE WORLD,



SO THE
LIKELIHOOD OF
A TIER 9 IS MOST
LIKELY A MYTH.



LET ME GUESS -
THE ONE WHO SET UP
SUCH AN ELABORATE
BARRIER AROUND THE
ACADEMY...



WAS THAT
THE CHAIRMAN'S
DOING?

WHO
KNOWS...?

I ASSUME SO.







JOIN THE TROWMAN RINGS.

**I FEEL LIKE SOMETHING
IS HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS...**

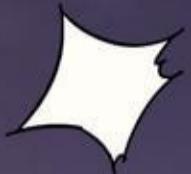


SIRIS TRIEZNEIN... PERHAPS

SHE KNOWS THE ANSWERS...

I'LL HAVE TO
MEET HER AT
SOME POINT.

ISABEL.



YES?



NO... AS LONG
AS I DON'T KNOW
HOW MUCH INFLUENCE
DEMIGOD HAS IN
THIS WORLD,

I CAN'T BRING
MYSELF TO DRAG
THIS KID INTO MY
PROBLEMS.

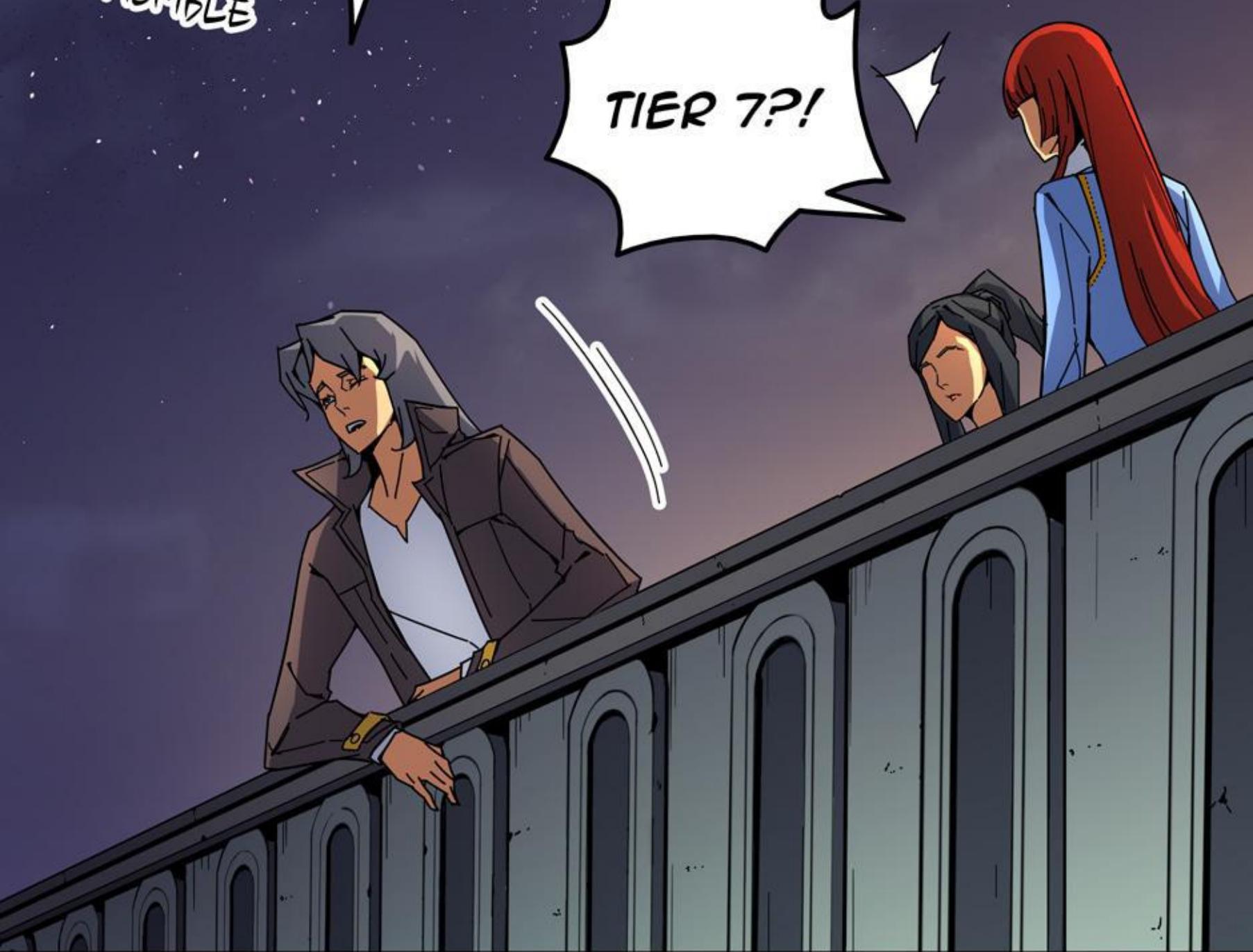


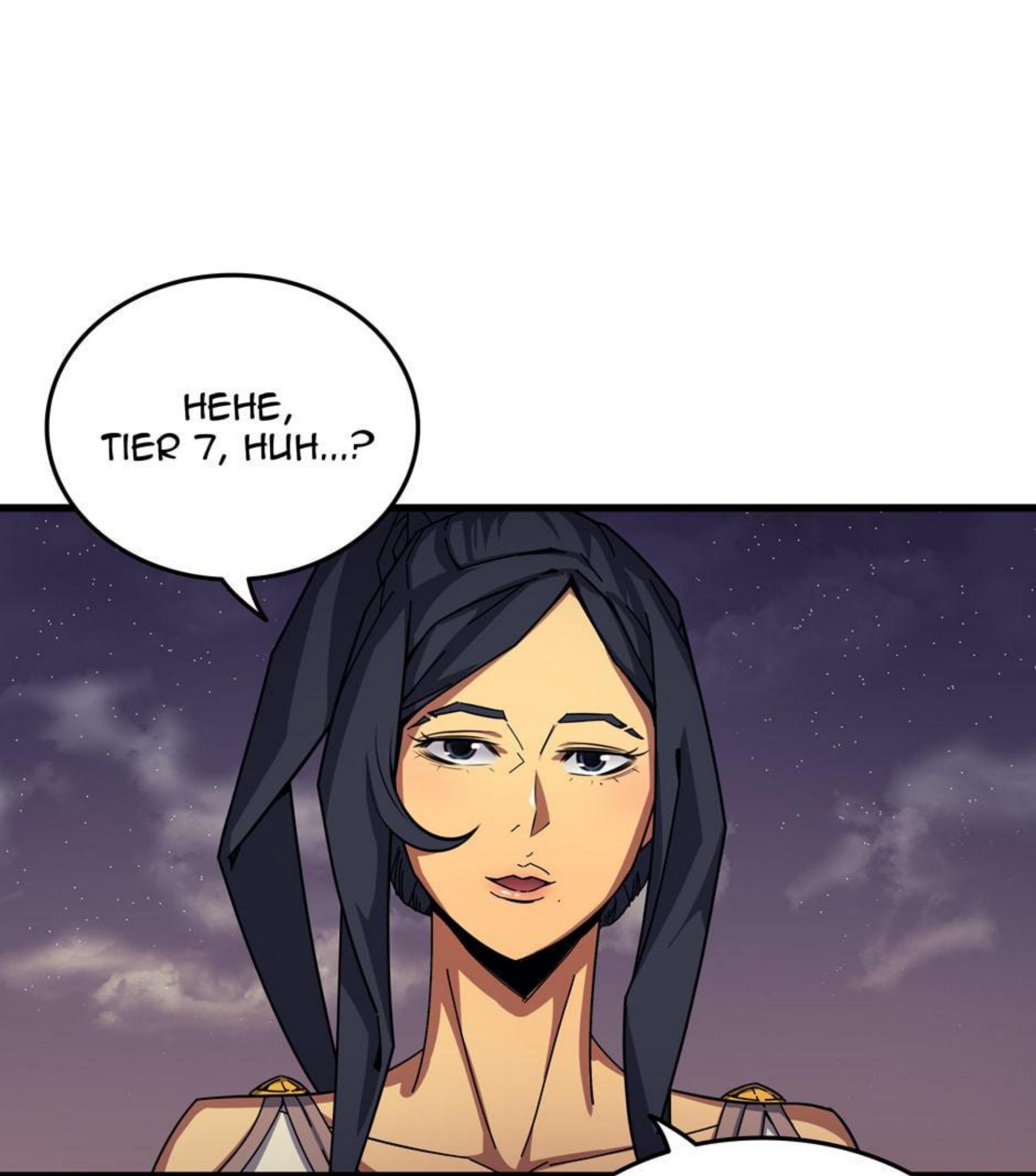
DEPENDING
ON THE SITUATION,
I MAY ONE DAY HAVE
TO FACE OFF AGAINST
THE CHAIRMAN TOO.

I GUESS
I'LL AIM TO
REACH TIER 7
FIRST...

MUMBLE

TIER 7?!





HEHE,
TIER 7, HUH...?

IF YOU'RE QUICK,
YOU MIGHT ACHIEVE
IT IN 10 YEARS... NO,
MAYBE 20 YEARS?

WELL...
IF I WORK AT
IT NOW, I GUESS I
SHOULD BE ABLE TO
REACH IT BY THE END
OF THE UPCOMING
HOLIDAYS

HOBIDAY.



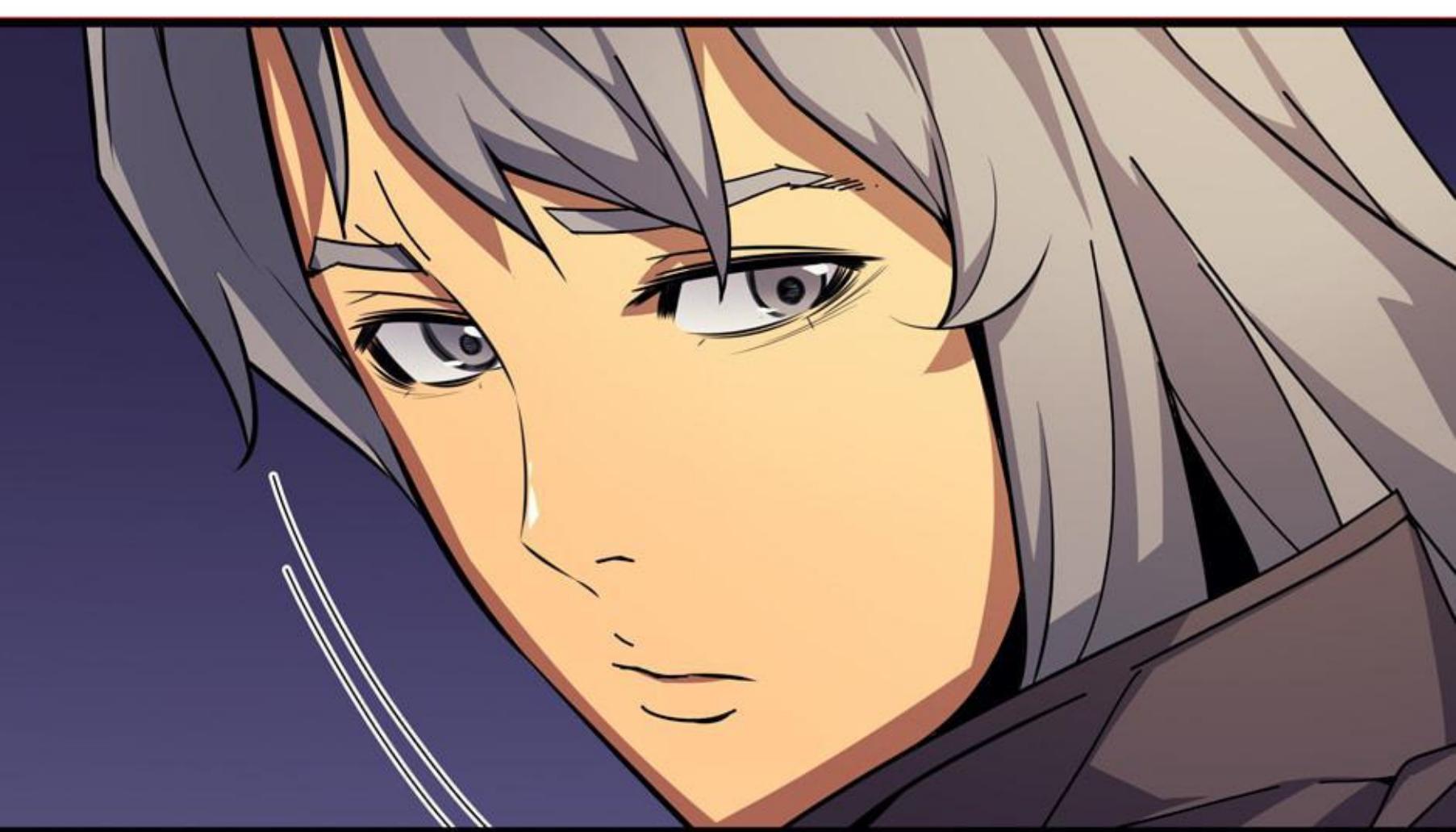
WHAT?!

HEHE...
OKAY, FINE.
SOMETIMES A
BASELESS BLUFF
MAY TURN INTO
REALITY.

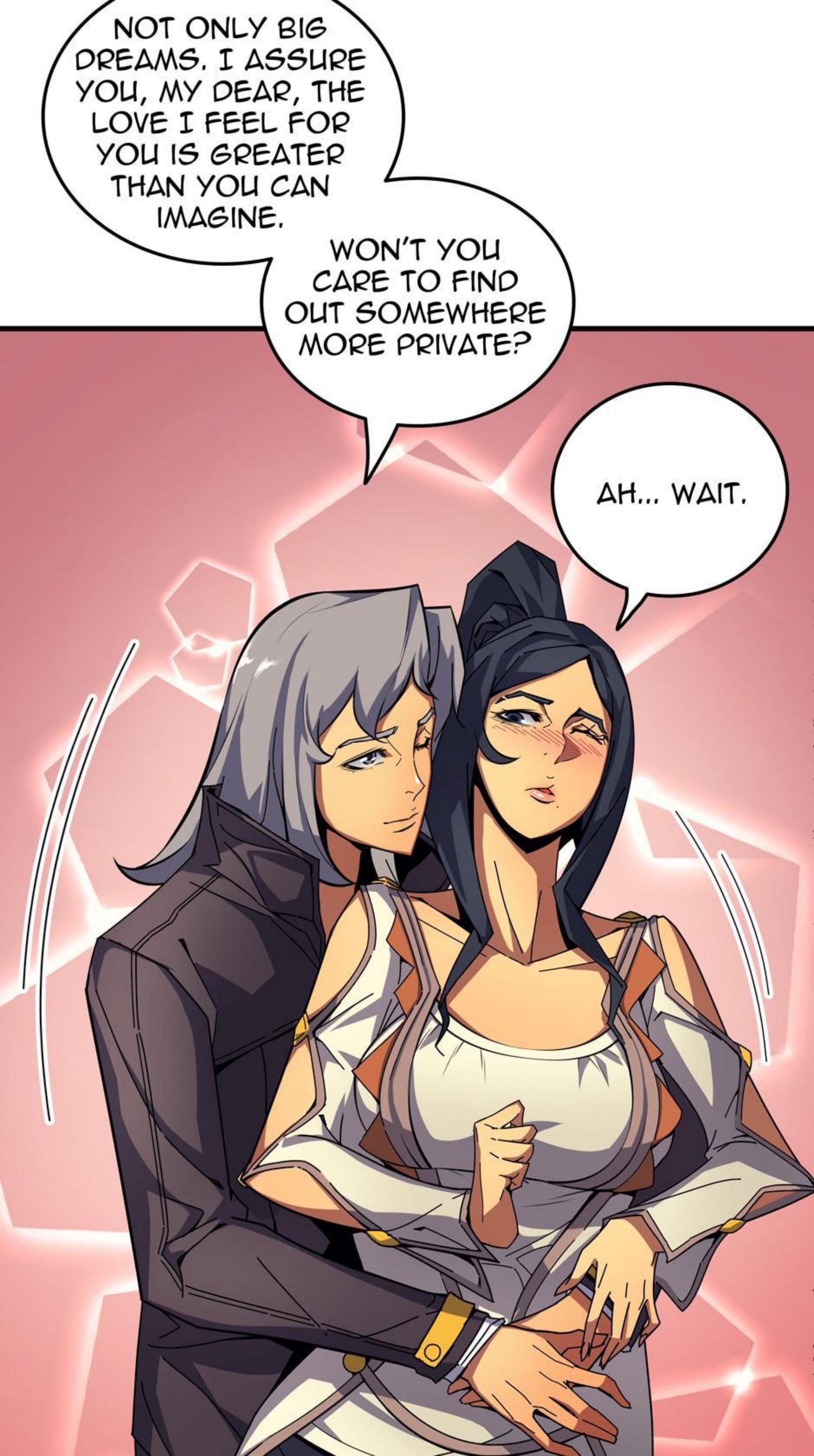




IT'S GOOD
TO HAVE BIG
DREAMS.







NOT ONLY BIG DREAMS. I ASSURE YOU, MY DEAR, THE LOVE I FEEL FOR YOU IS GREATER THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE.

WON'T YOU CARE TO FIND OUT SOMEWHERE MORE PRIVATE?

AH... WAIT.

AH, NO...
HE'S MY STUDENT...!

AHEM!

CASP



I HOPE YOU

DON'T YOU
WILL REFRAIN
FROM SUCH
ACTS.

SHOULD YOU
DECIDE TO HAVE AN
ILLEGIT AFFAIR WITH
A PROFESSOR, I'LL
REPORT IT DIRECTLY
TO MY AUNTIE.





THIS IS
WHY I HATE
SNOT-NOSED
BRATS...





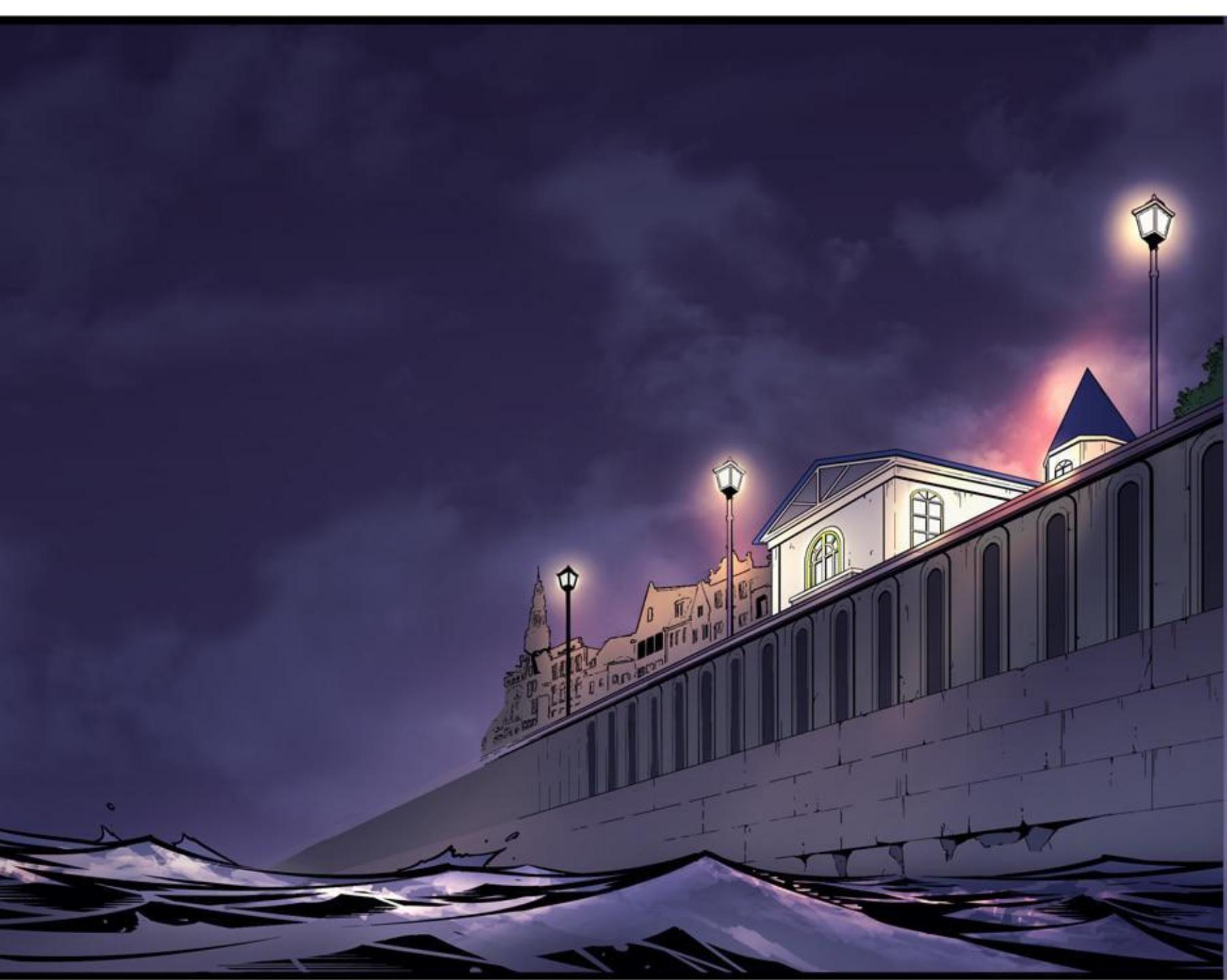
SNOT-
NOSED?!

I'LL SAY...

EXCUSE
ME?!

**PROFESSOR
JANE! WHAT
DID YOU JUST
SAY?!**

**NOTHING
AT ALL.**



**I SHOULDN'T
BE TOO HASTY...**



**I SIMPLY JUST NEED
TO TAKE THINGS SLOW.**



BECAUSE THIS WILL BE...



THE FASTEST WAY FOR ME.