

# THE ARCHMAGE

RETURNS AFTER.

# 4000

YEARS

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~ 52 ~

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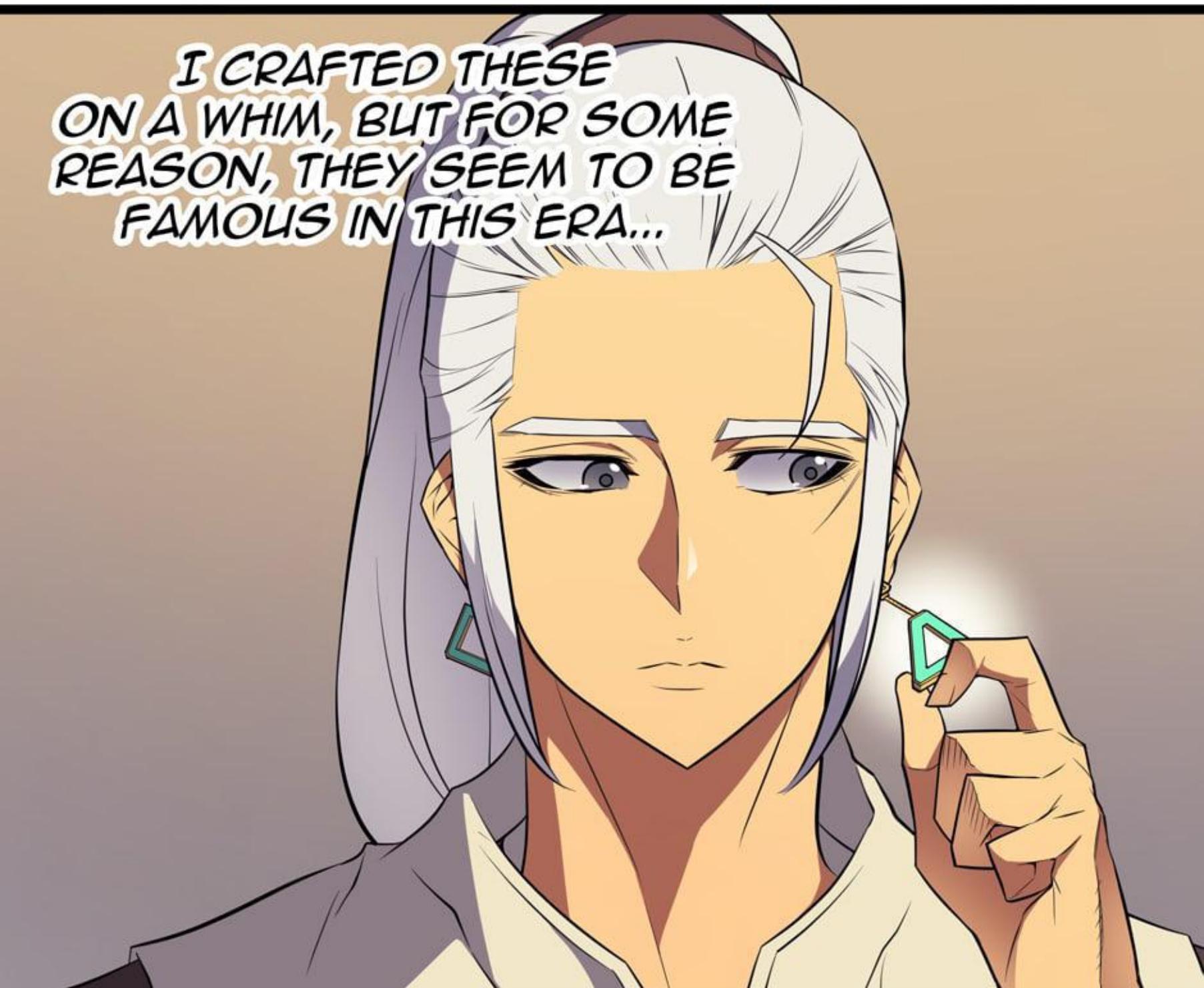




AND THEN YOU  
CAME ALONG...

THE YOUNG  
MAN WEARING THE  
TYphoon EARRINGS.

I CRAFTED THESE  
ON A WHIM, BUT FOR SOME  
REASON, THEY SEEM TO BE  
FAMOUS IN THIS ERA...



A large, light-colored building with multiple arched windows and a curved roofline. Snow is falling outside, visible through the windows and as small white dots in the air. A dark brown curtain is partially visible on the right side of the frame.

SO WHEN  
DO WE LEAVE?

IT WOULD  
TAKE A WEEK  
FOR US TO MAKE  
OUR NECESSARY  
PREPARATIONS...

A WEEK...



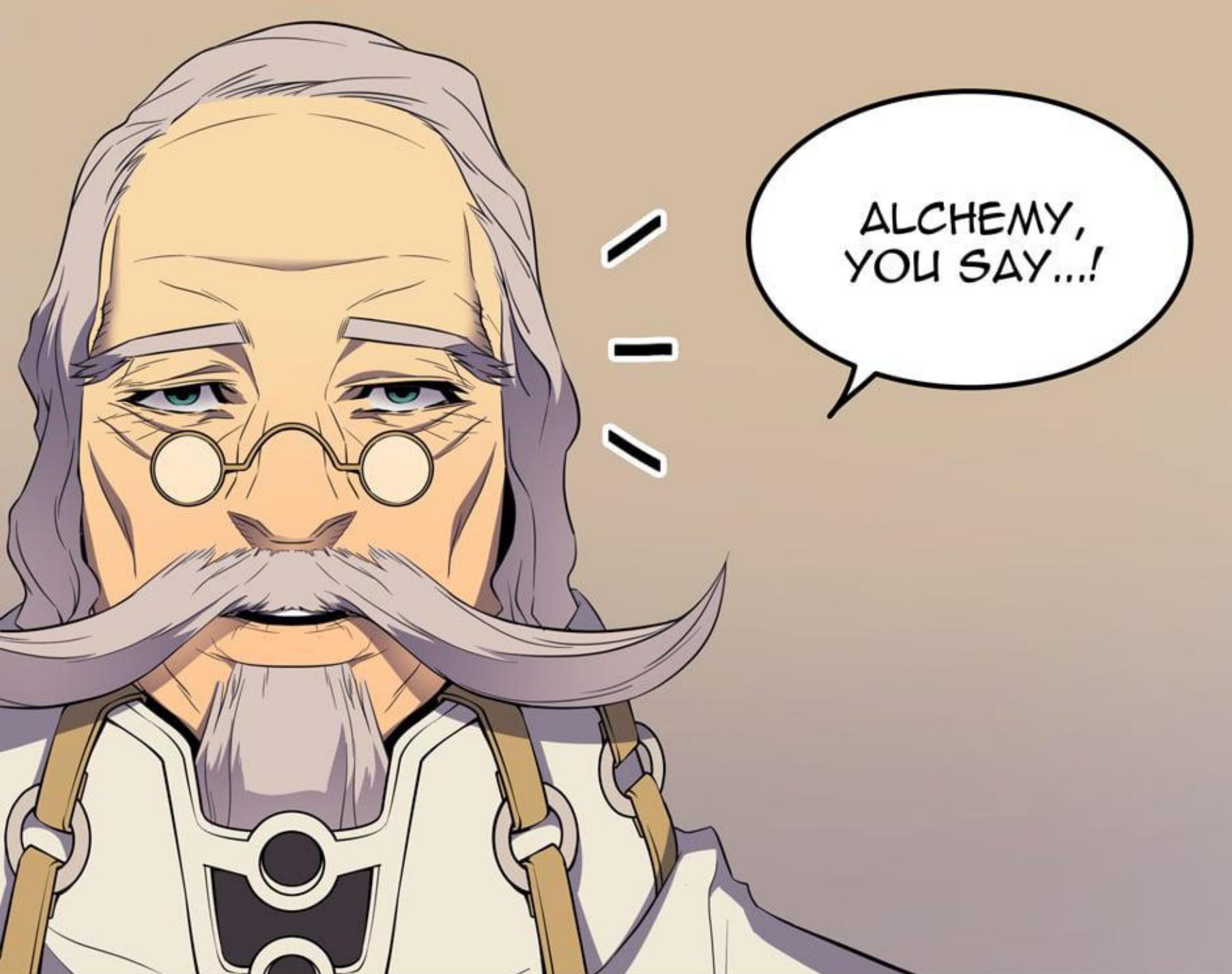
I'LL NEED  
TO STABILIZE  
AND DIGEST THE  
ENERGIES OF THE  
FROZEN RIVER  
BY THEN...



COME TO  
THINK OF IT, WHY  
WAS IT THAT YOU  
WANTED ACCESS  
TO THE MAGICAL  
ARCHIVES?

THERE'S A  
PARTICULAR ELIXIR  
I'D LIKE TO CREATE  
AND SO I'M LOOKING  
INTO STUDYING  
ALCHEMY.





ALCHEMY,  
YOU SAY...!



IF THAT'S THE  
CASE THEN I WOULD  
STRONGLY SUGGEST YOU

ASK HER ABOUT HELPING  
YOU INSTEAD. THAT WILL  
YIELD THE QUICKEST  
RESULTS.

HER...?

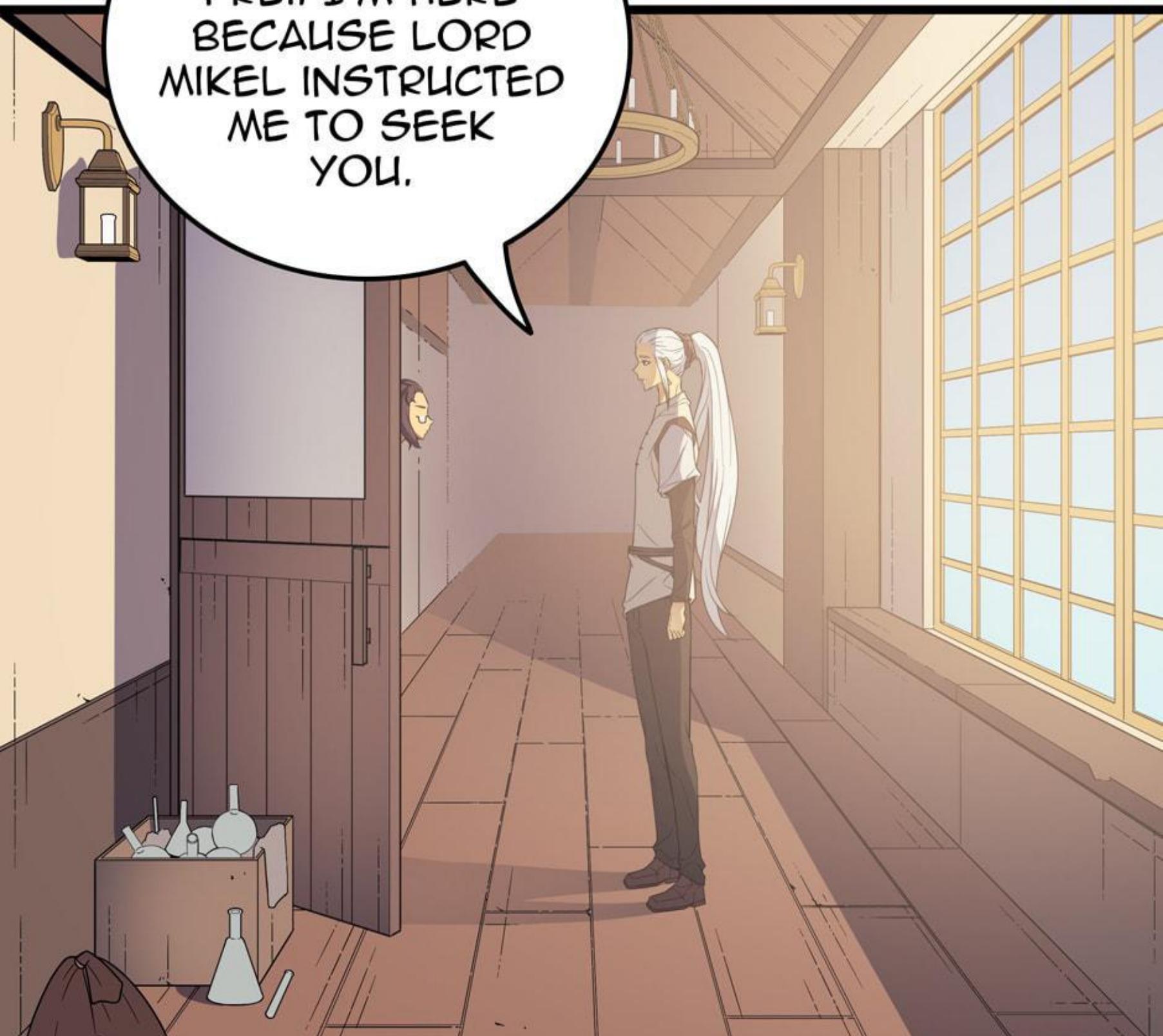


WHO ARE YOU?



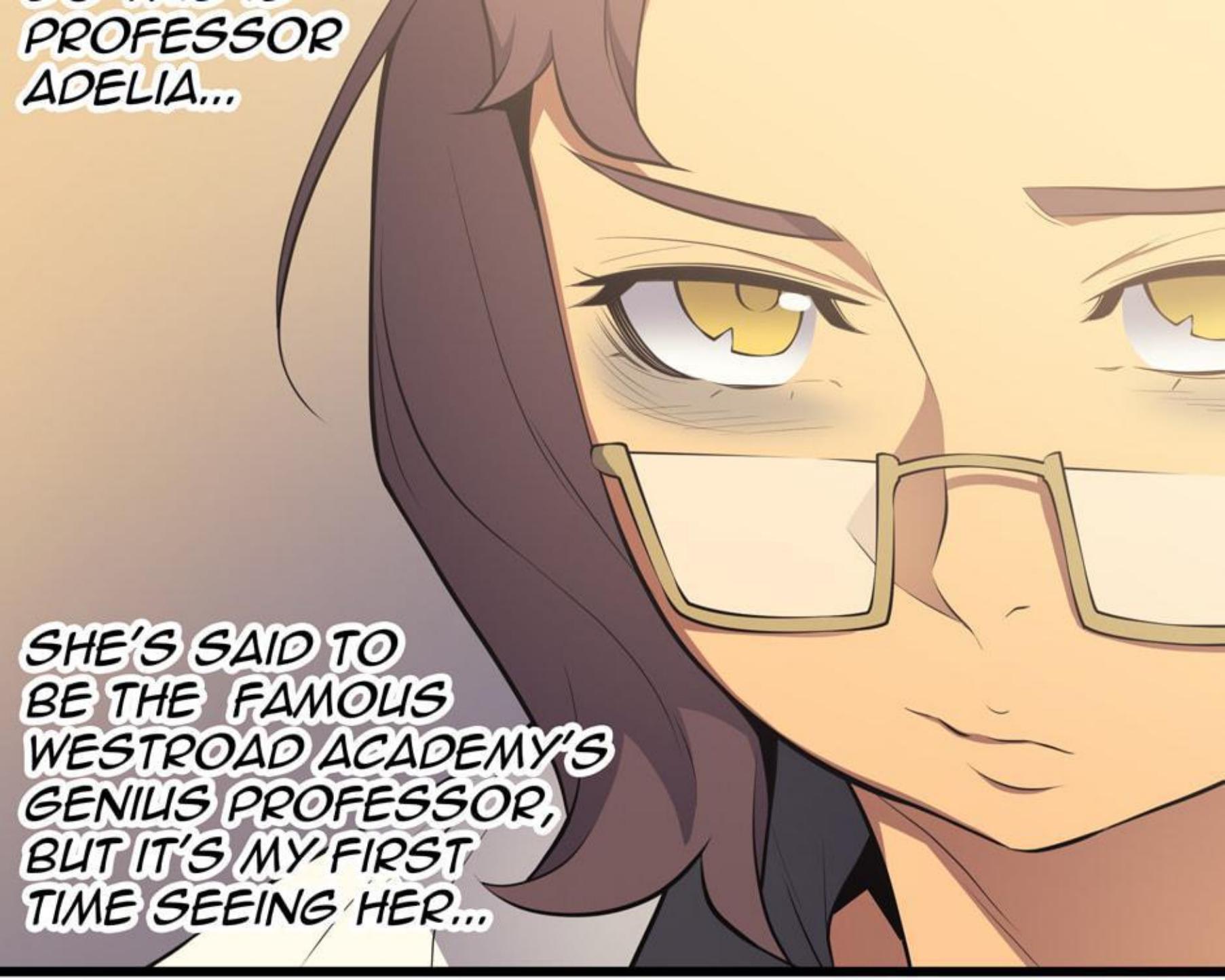
OH...

MY NAME IS  
FREI. I'M HERE  
BECAUSE LORD  
MIKEL INSTRUCTED  
ME TO SEEK  
YOU.



SO THIS IS

PROFESSOR  
ADELIA...



SHE'S SAID TO  
BE THE FAMOUS  
WESTROAD ACADEMY'S  
GENIUS PROFESSOR,  
BUT IT'S MY FIRST  
TIME SEEING HER...



SCRATCH

YOU'RE THAT  
GUY THE OLD MAN  
MENTIONED, HUH?

IT SEEMS SHE HAS QUITE  
THE EXTREME WAY OF LIFE.



SIT ANYWHERE  
YOU FANCY.

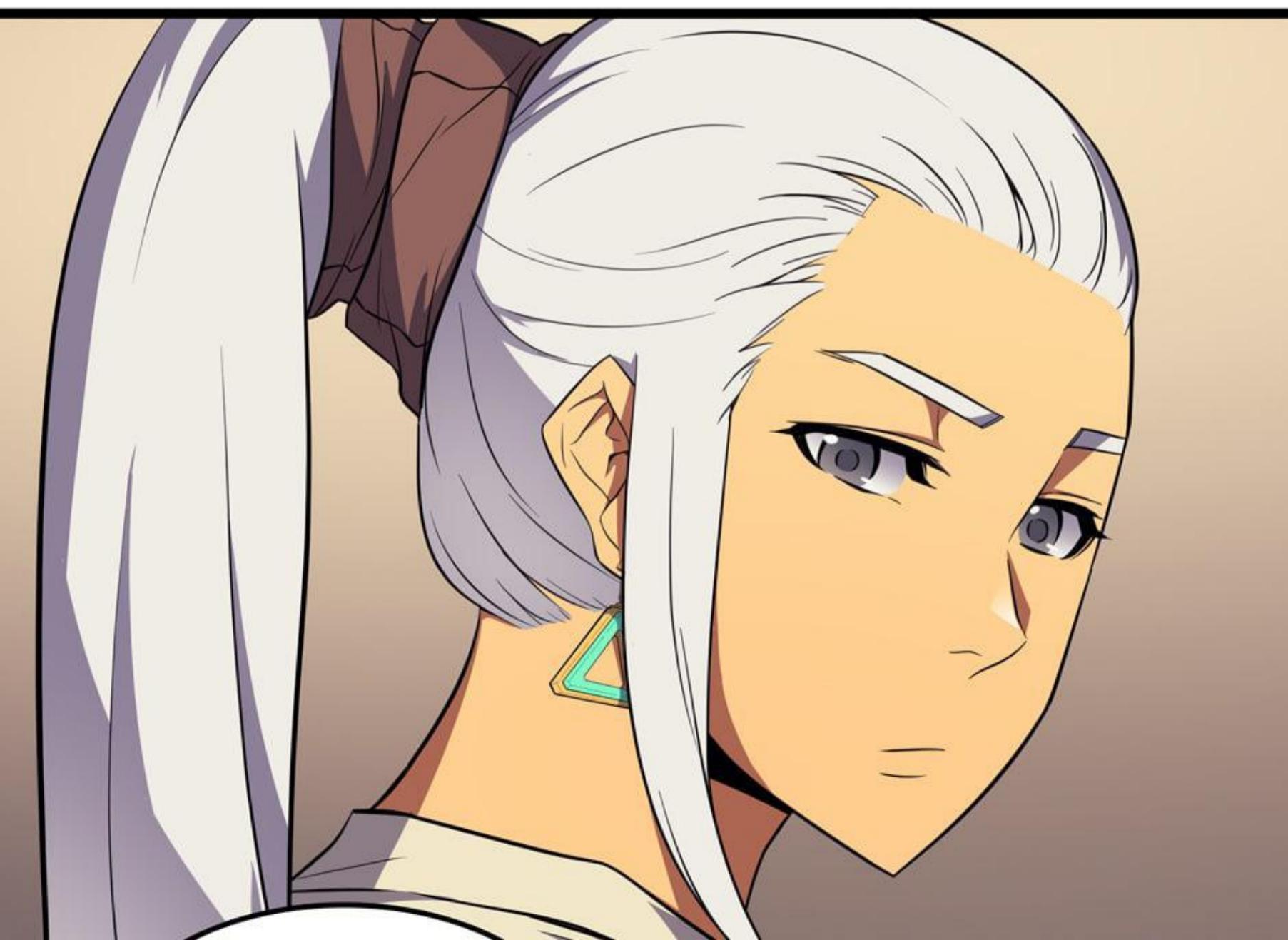
FWUMP

YOU SAY  
THAT BUT WHERE  
EXACTLY...?



I'LL SAY  
THIS JUST ONCE  
BUT FRANKLY, I AM  
EXTREMELY BUSY,  
EXTREMELY TIRED...  
AND I ALSO HAVE  
EXTREMELY LOW  
BLOOD PRESSURE.

SO TELL ME  
IN THREE WORDS  
WHAT YOU WANT. LET'S  
NOT BEAT AROUND  
THE BUSH.



WELL?



CREATE  
MANA POTION.



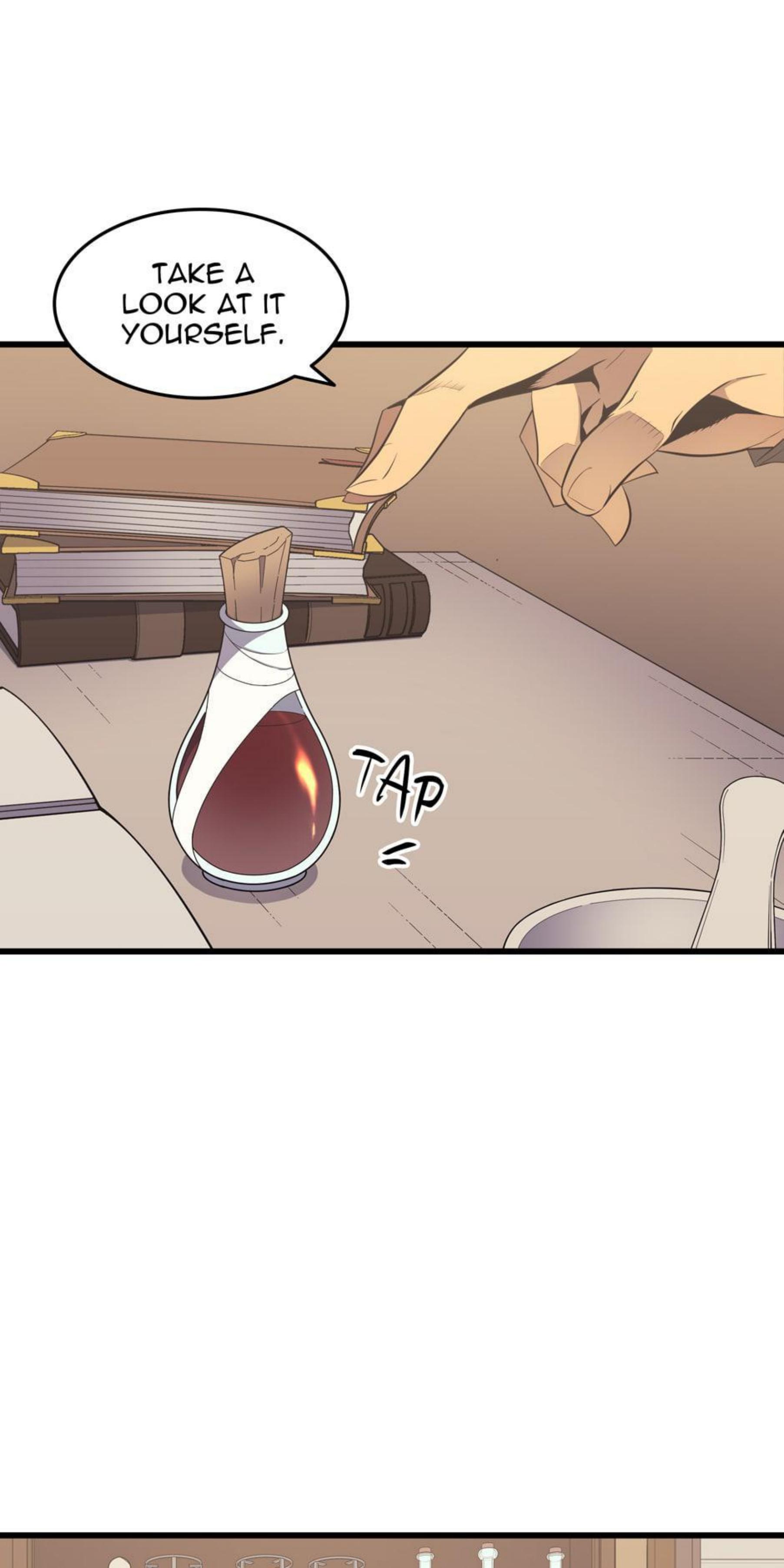
THAT'S SHORT...

YOU SAID  
THREE WORDS,  
SO...



OH....? QUITE  
THE CHEEKY ONE,  
AREN'T YA?

SO WHAT  
KIND OF MANA  
POTION ARE  
WE TALKING  
HERE?



TAKE A  
LOOK AT IT  
YOURSELF.

TAP  
≤





HUH?  
HOLY CRAP...!



WHAT'S  
WITH THIS  
RIDICULOUSLY  
DENSE MANA IN  
THIS VIAL?!



IT'S FROM THE...



I'M OVER  
THE THREE  
WORD LIMIT.

HEY!!

STOP BEING  
ANNOYING  
AND JUST SAY  
IT NORMALLY,  
DANG IT!!



IT'S FROM  
THE HEART OF A  
THOUSAND-YEAR-OLD  
DRAKE.

THE MANA  
ENERGY IS ROUGHLY  
ESTIMATED TO  
BE AROUND  
100,000...





100,000?



SO CAN YOU  
BREW IT INTO A  
MANA POTION?

...

THAT'S  
FUCKING  
INSANE!!

HER FACE AND  
WHAT SHE SAYS  
ARE COMPLETELY  
DIFFERENT...



I GUESS  
THAT'S A NO  
THEN?



THE TECHNIQUE  
INVOLVED MIGHT BE A  
BIT TOO COMPLICATED  
BUT... THAT DOESN'T  
MATTER BECAUSE  
I CAN PULL  
IT OFF.



THE MAIN  
PROBLEM IS THE  
INGREDIENTS  
YOU'D NEED.



A woman with long brown hair tied back with a pink bow, wearing a white lab coat over a dark vest with gold accents and glasses, is in a kitchen. She is looking down at something in her hands. In the background, there are shelves filled with jars and bottles. Two speech bubbles are present: one above her head and one below her hands.

ACTUALLY...  
WE'LL NEED  
SOMETHING THAT  
YOU CAN'T JUST  
FIND READILY.

WHAT ARE  
THE INGREDIENTS  
YOU NEED?



FOR EXAMPLE,  
WE'D NEED THE  
FEATHER OF A  
PHOENIX.



BADKUN



SO WHAT  
ELSE DO WE  
NEED?

TREMBLE

TREMBLE





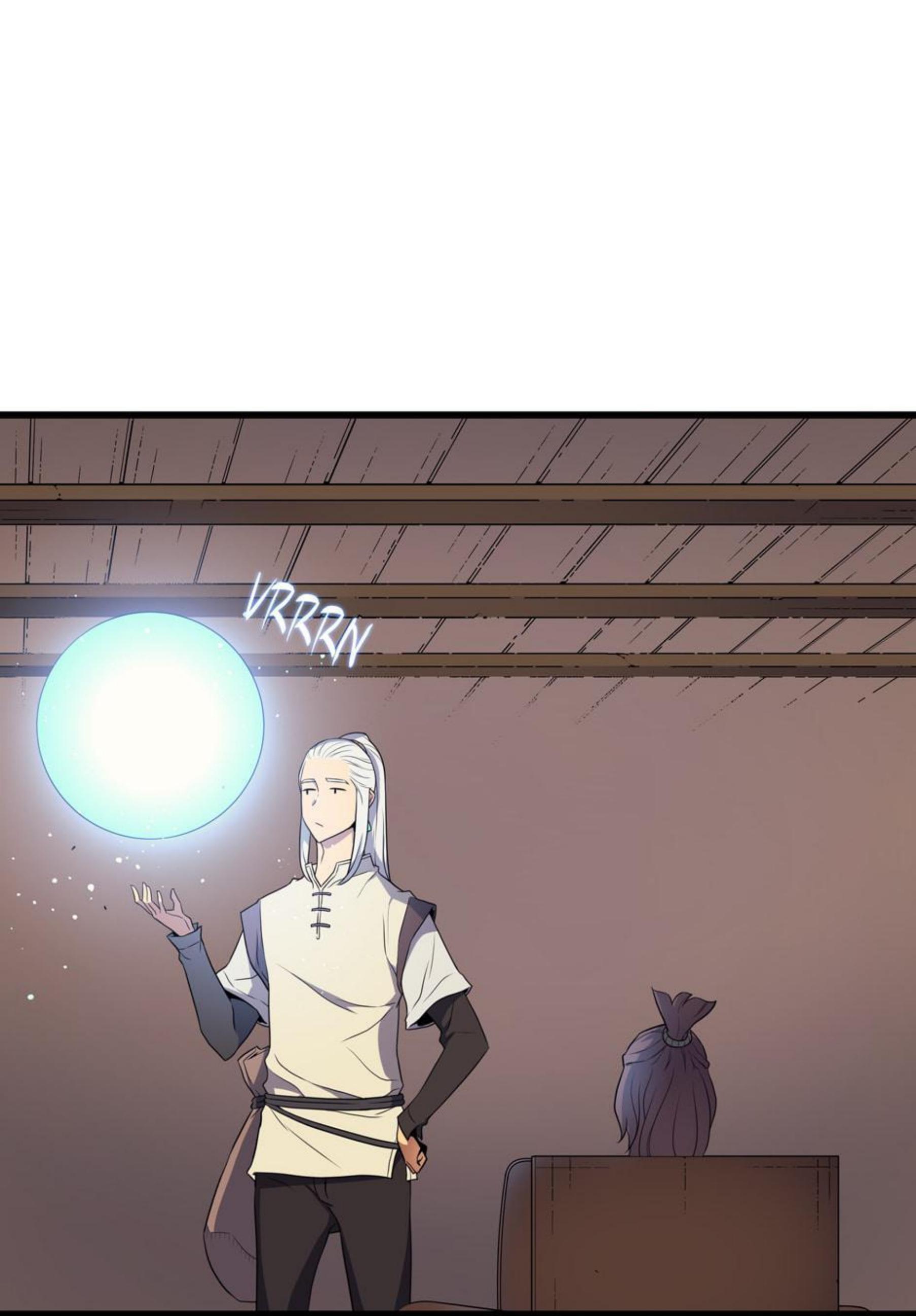
I-I WOULD  
NEED AN EXCELLENT  
MAGICAL ASSISTANT...  
SOMEONE SKILLED  
IN CONTROLLING  
MANA.

THEORETICALLY,  
I'D NEED A GUY WHO  
IS ABLE TO COMPRESS

AN ENERGY BALL TO  
THE SIZE OF A  
FINGERNAIL...



FSSSH



**FLASH**



OH MY, WHAT  
A SURPRISE!





ANYWAY...

WHO EXACTLY  
ARE YOU?



IF YOU'RE A  
BLAKE BOY THEN  
THAT MUST MEAN  
YOU'RE A SON OF

COUNT ISAKA  
BLAKE?



I'VE HEARD OF  
MISHAEL AND HEINZ  
BLAKE BUT THIS IS  
THE FIRST TIME I'VE  
HEARD OF FREI  
BLAKE.

AND YOUR  
MANA CONTROL...

YOUR OVERALL  
KNOWLEDGE OF  
ALCHEMISTRY IS VERY  
ADVANCED... EVEN THOUGH  
THE KNOWLEDGE YOU  
HAVE SEEMS WAY  
OUTDATED...

WELL, SOR~RY~  
IT'S KNOWLEDGE  
FROM 4,000 YEARS  
AGO. DAMN...!

CONSIDERING  
YOUR SKILLS AND  
TALENTS, HOW IS IT  
THAT I'VE NEVER ONCE  
HEARD OF YOU  
BEFORE?

AHAHA...

WHO  
KNOWS?



HEY.

Y-YES...?

BECOME MY  
ASSISTANT.



NO, THANK YOU.

WHY NOT?!

I'LL PAY  
YOU A GREAT  
WAGE!!

DRAG  
DRAG  
DRAG

....!



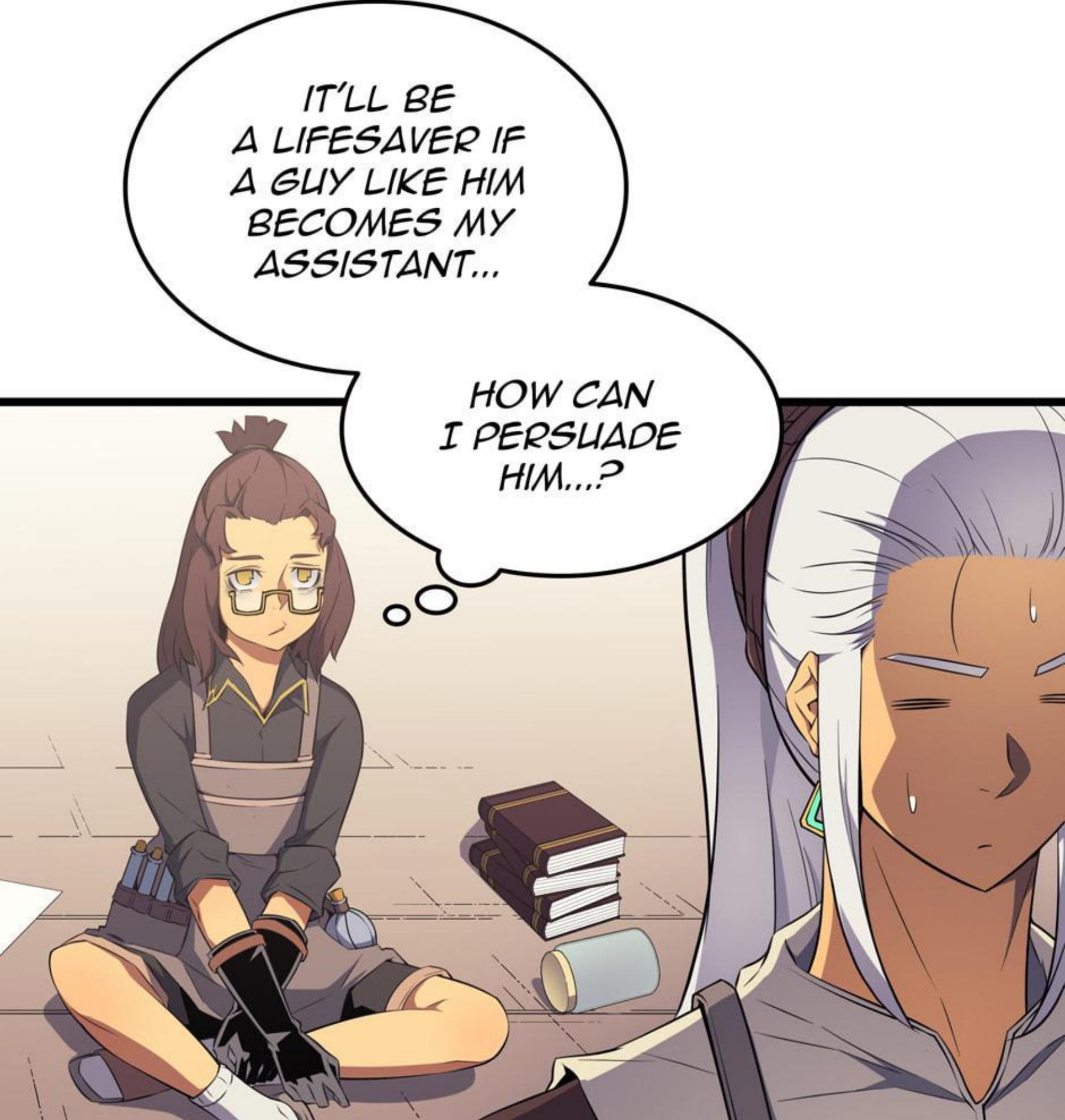
I'LL TEACH YOU  
CRAFTING METHODS  
YOU'LL NEVER SEE  
ELSEWHERE!!

COME ON!  
BECOME MY  
ASSISTANT!!

PROFESSOR!  
STOP IT! STOP  
SHAKING ME OR IT  
WILL OVERFLOW!!

IT'LL BE  
A LIFESAVER IF  
A GUY LIKE HIM  
BECOMES MY  
ASSISTANT...

HOW CAN  
I PERSUADE  
HIM...?







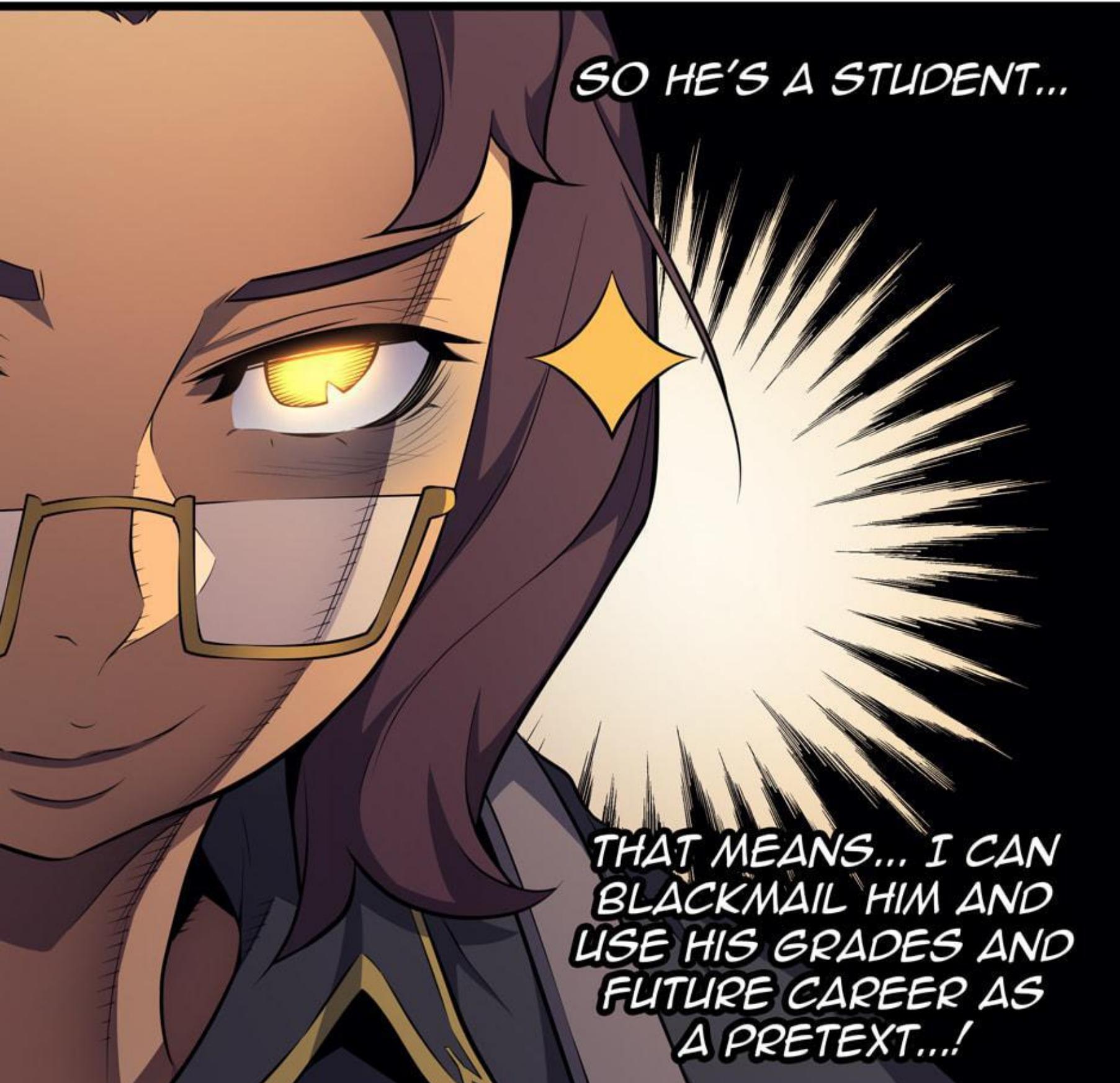
AM I WRONG?



I'M A STUDENT  
OF WESTROAD  
ACADEMY.

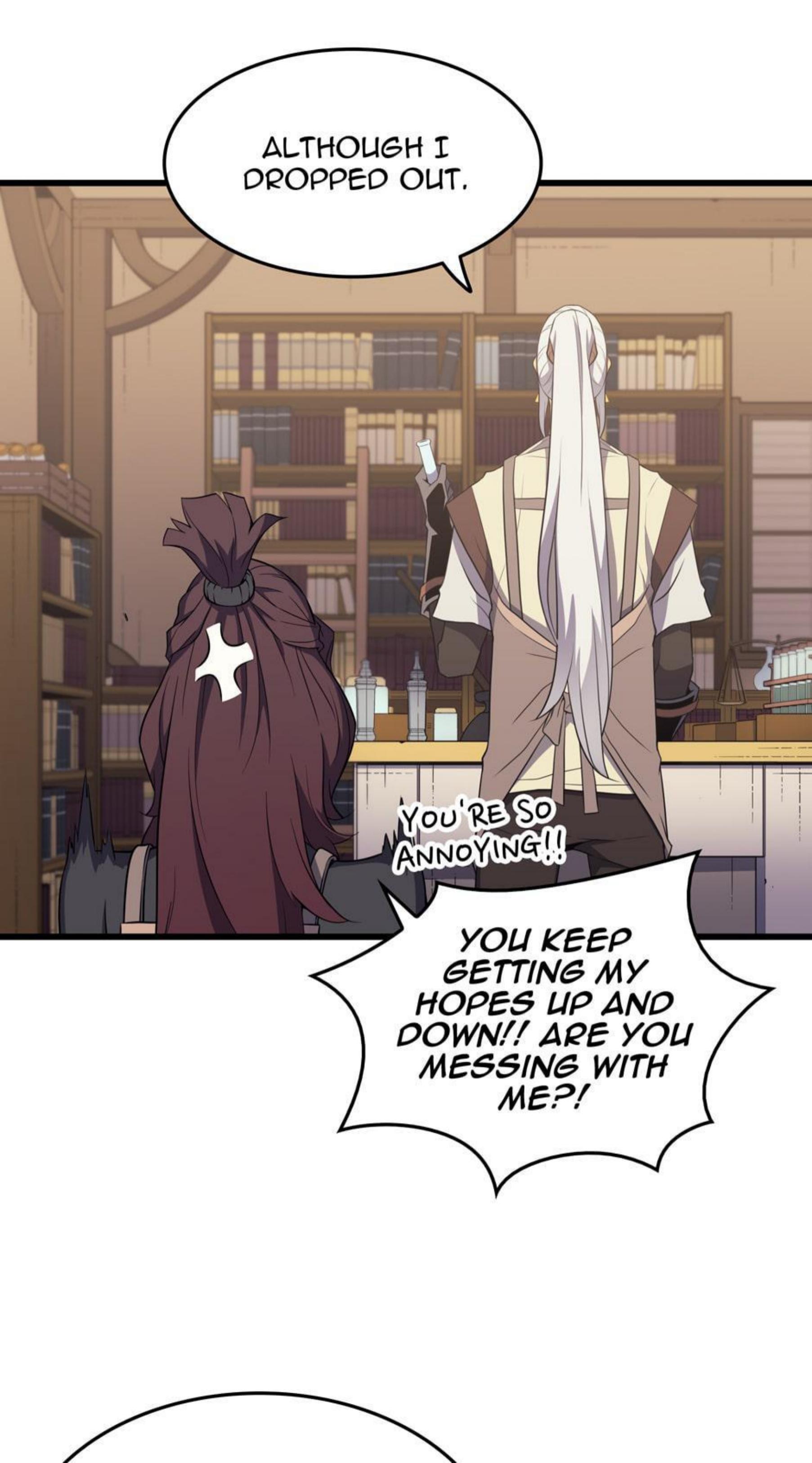


WHAT?  
REALLY?!!



SO HE'S A STUDENT...

THAT MEANS... I CAN  
BLACKMAIL HIM AND  
USE HIS GRADES AND  
FUTURE CAREER AS  
A PRETEXT...!



ALTHOUGH I  
DROPPED OUT.

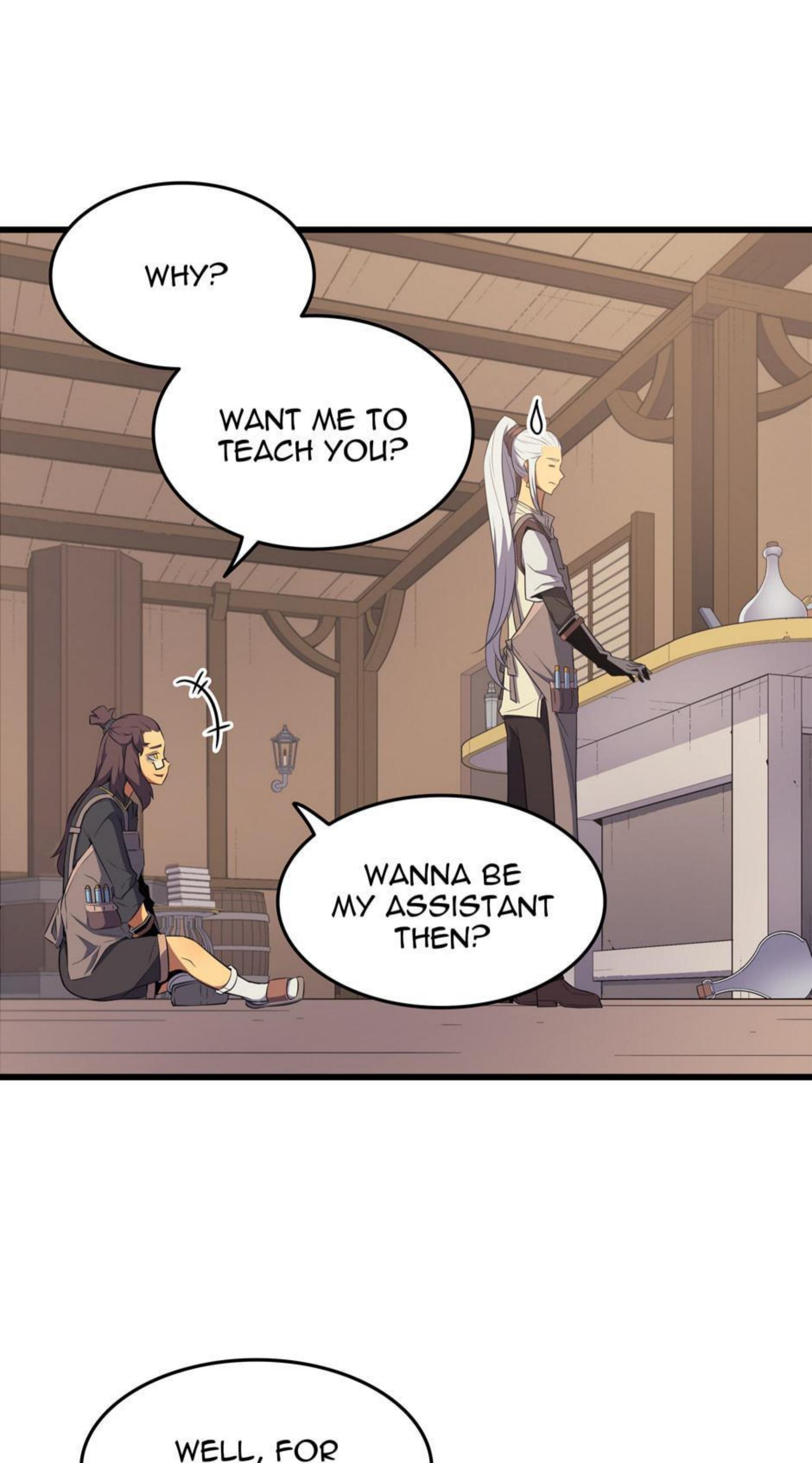
YOU'RE SO  
ANNOYING!!

YOU KEEP  
GETTING MY  
HOPES UP AND  
DOWN!! ARE YOU  
MESSING WITH  
ME?!

PROFESSOR,  
ARE YOU ALSO QUITE  
KNOWLEDGEABLE WHEN  
IT COMES TO CREATING  
GOLEMS?

IT'S NOT  
MY FORTE, BUT...

I PROBABLY  
KNOW MORE THAN  
THE AVERAGE DERPS  
WHO CALL THEMSELVES  
GRAND PUPPETEERS.



WHY?

WANT ME TO  
TEACH YOU?

WANNA BE  
MY ASSISTANT  
THEN?

WELL, FOR

EXAMPLE...

LET'S PRESUME  
THAT I HAVE A GOLEM  
CORE WITH A MANA ENERGY  
AT AROUND ONE MILLION UNITS.  
HOW WOULD I BE ABLE TO  
CREATE A GOLEM OUT  
OF THAT?





THAT'S  
UTTERLY INSANE.

OH...?

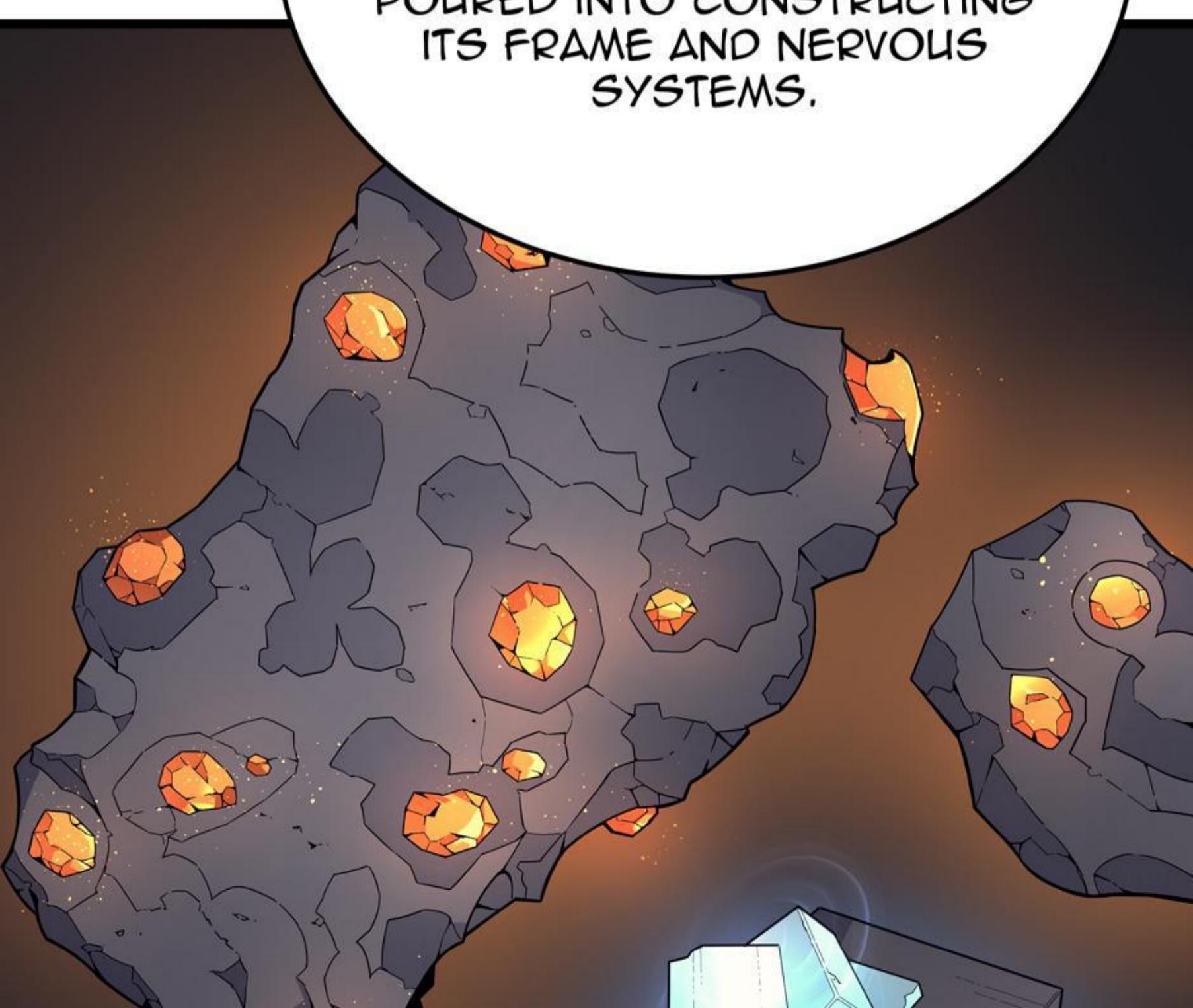
WHEN YOU  
PUT IT THAT WAY,  
IT GENERALLY MEANS  
IT TICKLES YOUR  
FANCY, RIGHT?

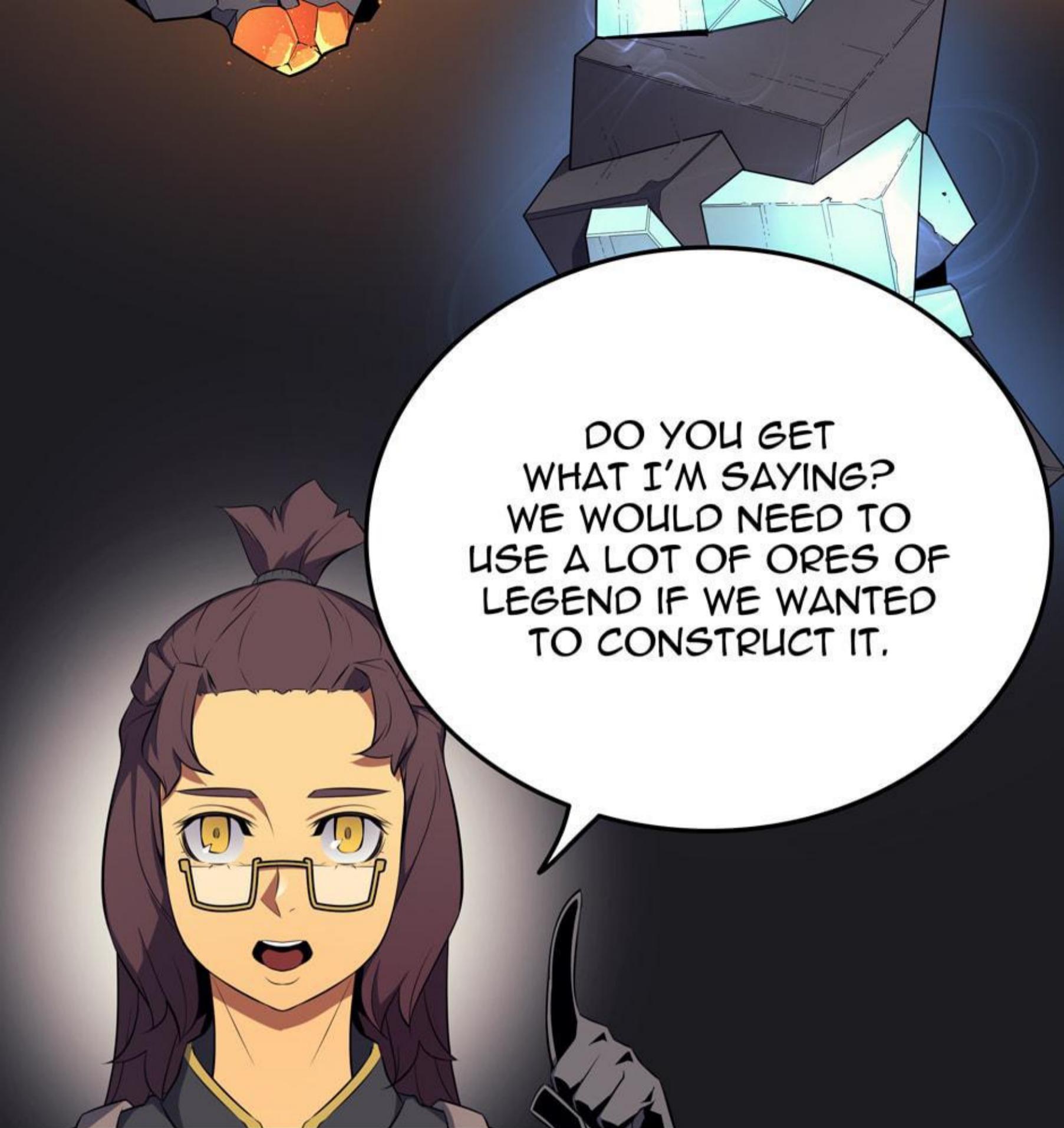
NO, I MEAN  
IT THIS TIME.



NOT THAT THERE  
WOULD BE SUCH A  
CORE IN THE FIRST  
PLACE, BUT...

EVEN IF THERE  
WAS A CORE LIKE  
THAT, THERE'S NO WAY TO  
MANIFEST IT WITHOUT A TON  
OF ORICHALCUM AND MITHRIL  
POURED INTO CONSTRUCTING  
ITS FRAME AND NERVOUS  
SYSTEMS.



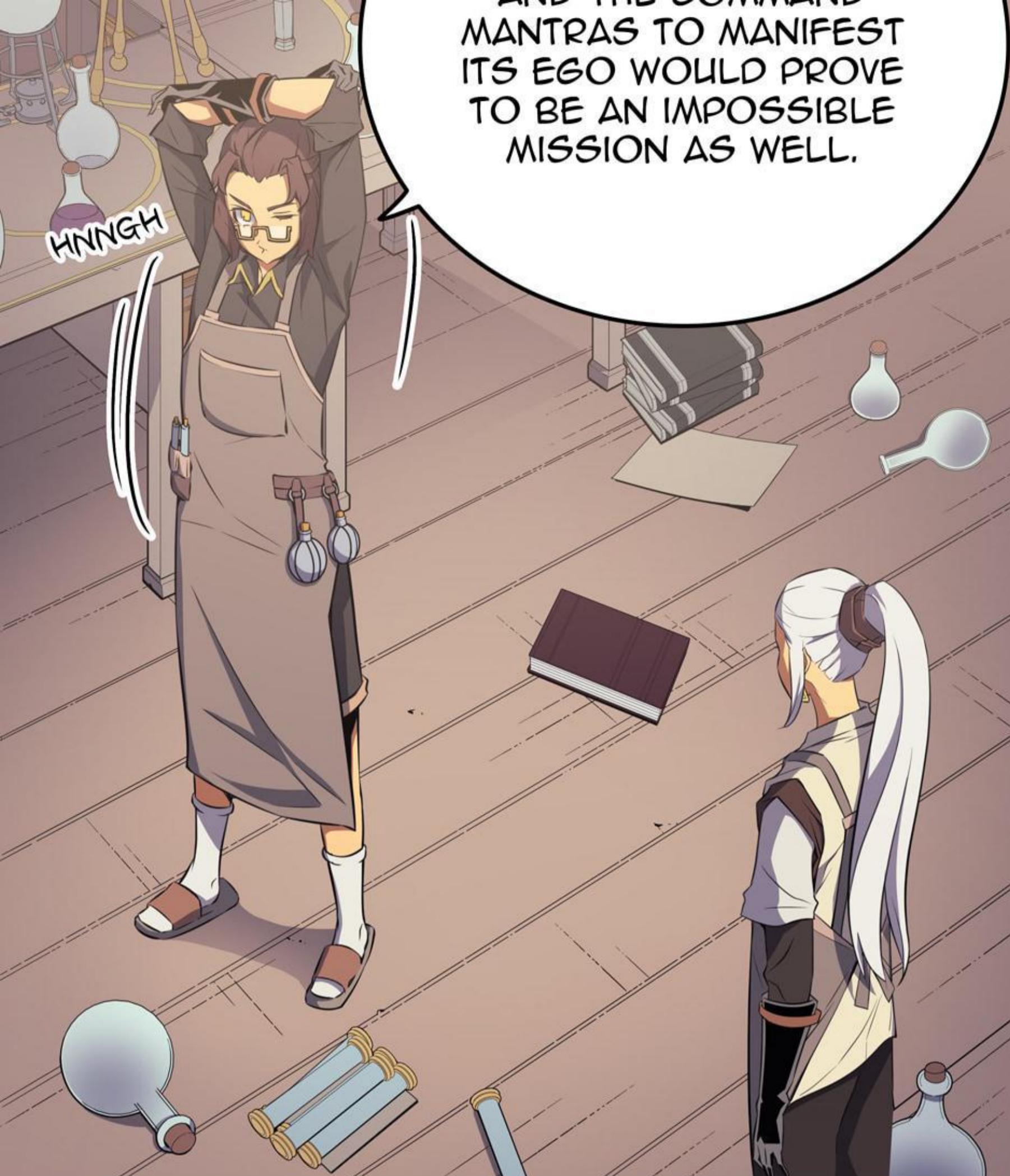


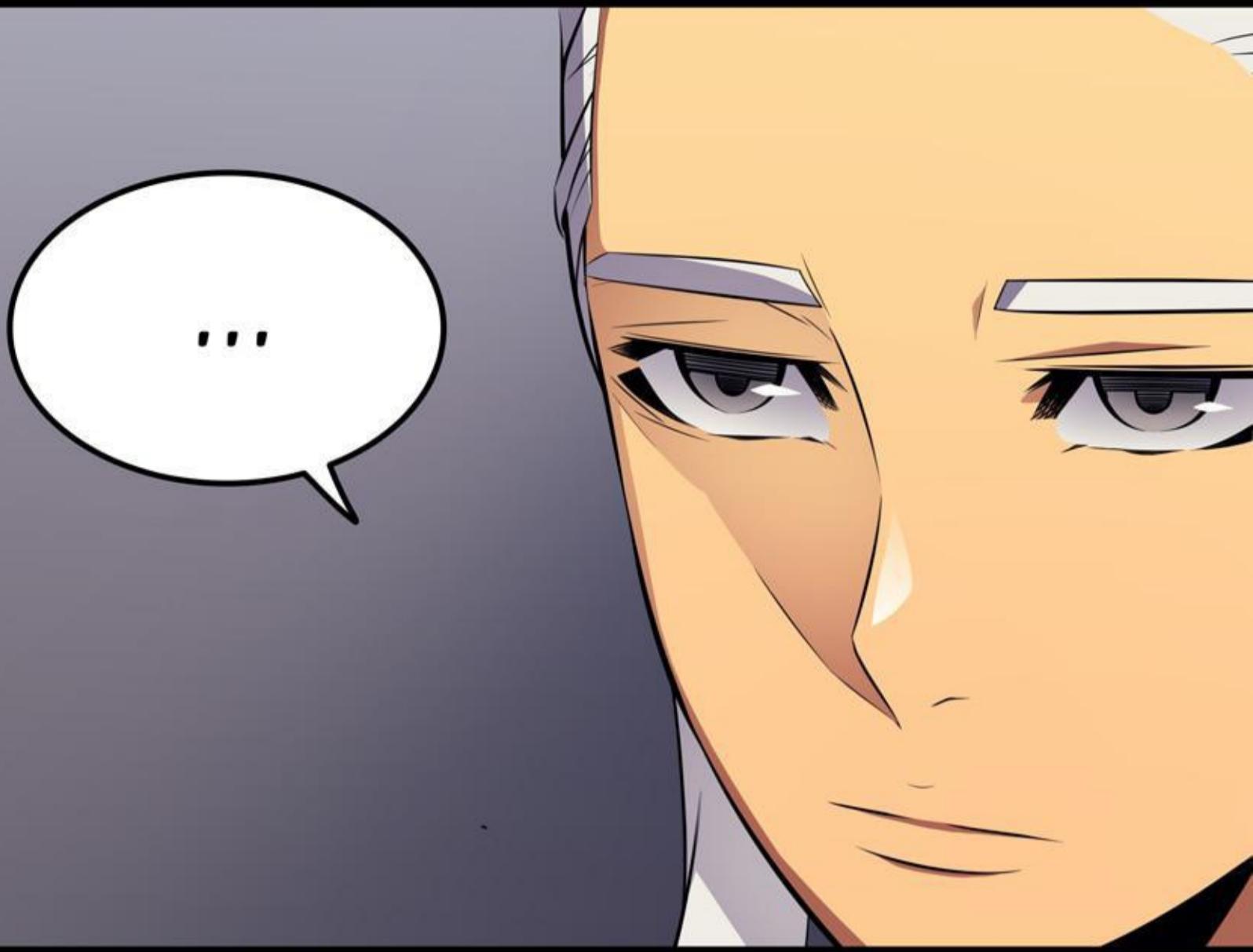
DO YOU GET  
WHAT I'M SAYING?  
WE WOULD NEED TO  
USE A LOT OF ORES OF  
LEGEND IF WE WANTED  
TO CONSTRUCT IT.

LET'S NOT FORGET  
ABOUT THE PLATING  
THAT WOULD BE  
REQUIRED.

CREATING  
THE BLUEPRINTS  
AND THE COMMAND

AND THE COMMAND  
MANTRAS TO MANIFEST  
ITS EGO WOULD PROVE  
TO BE AN IMPOSSIBLE  
MISSION AS WELL.

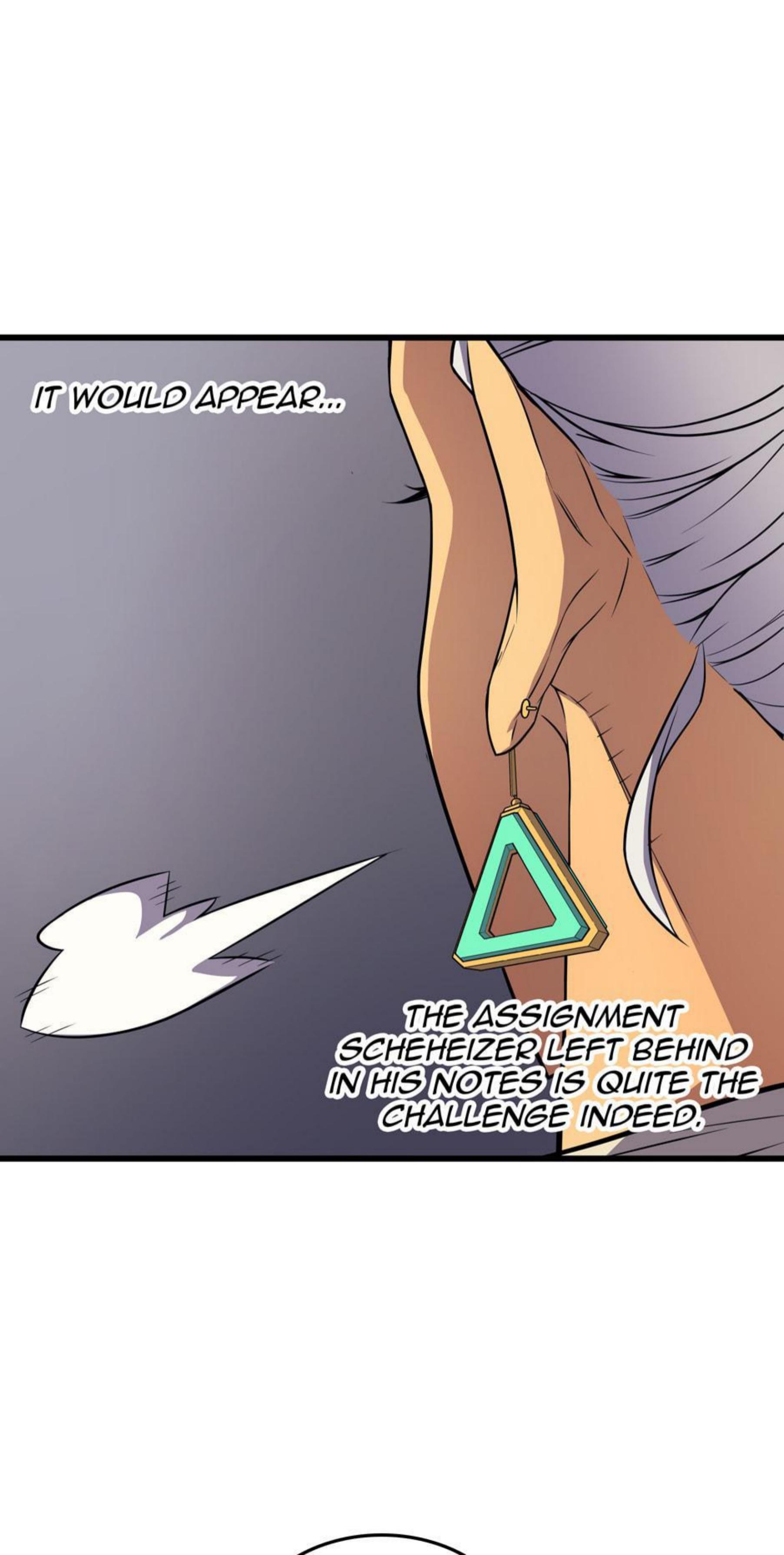




With regards  
Nicholas  
Timothy  
Walker.

**YOU MUST COMPLETE ANASTASIA.**

**IT WOULD APPEAR...**



**THE ASSIGNMENT  
SCHEHEIZER LEFT BEHIND  
IN HIS NOTES IS QUITE THE  
CHALLENGE INDEED,**



WHY DO  
YOU ASK  
SUCH A THING  
ANYWAY?

DON'T TELL  
ME YOU POSSESS  
SUCH A CORE?



NO WAY.

