

THE ARCHMAGE

• RETURNS AFTER •

40000

YEARS

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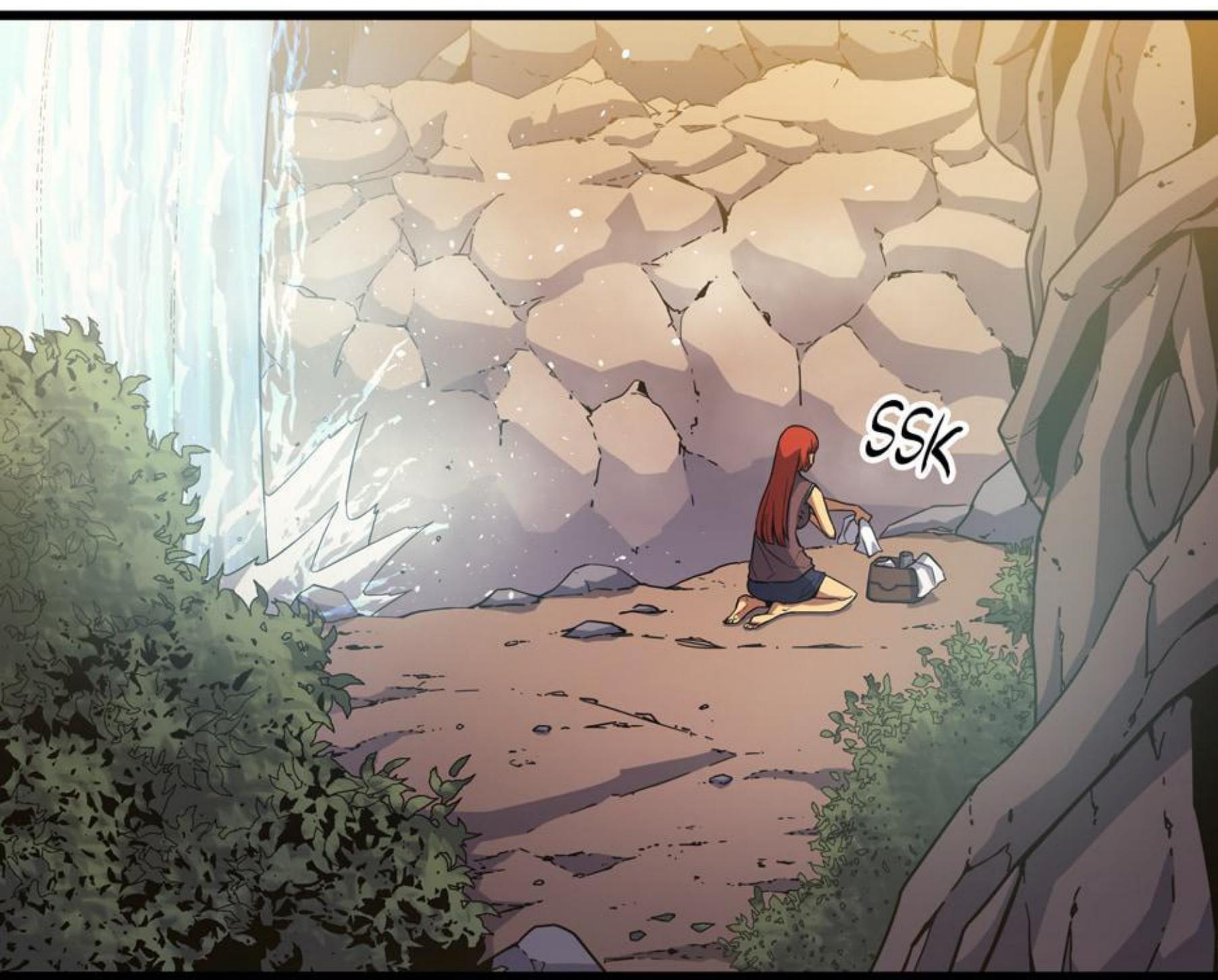
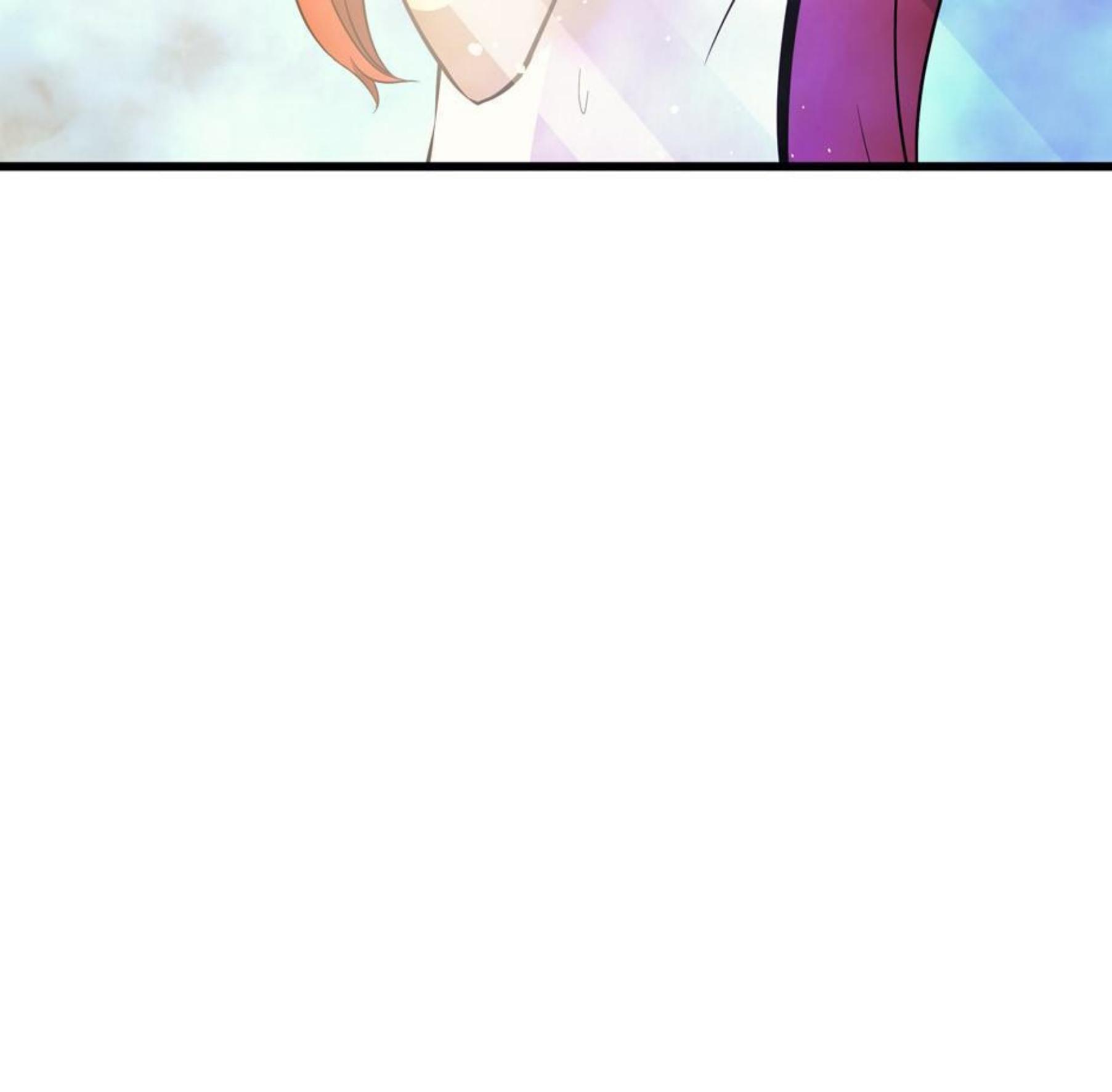
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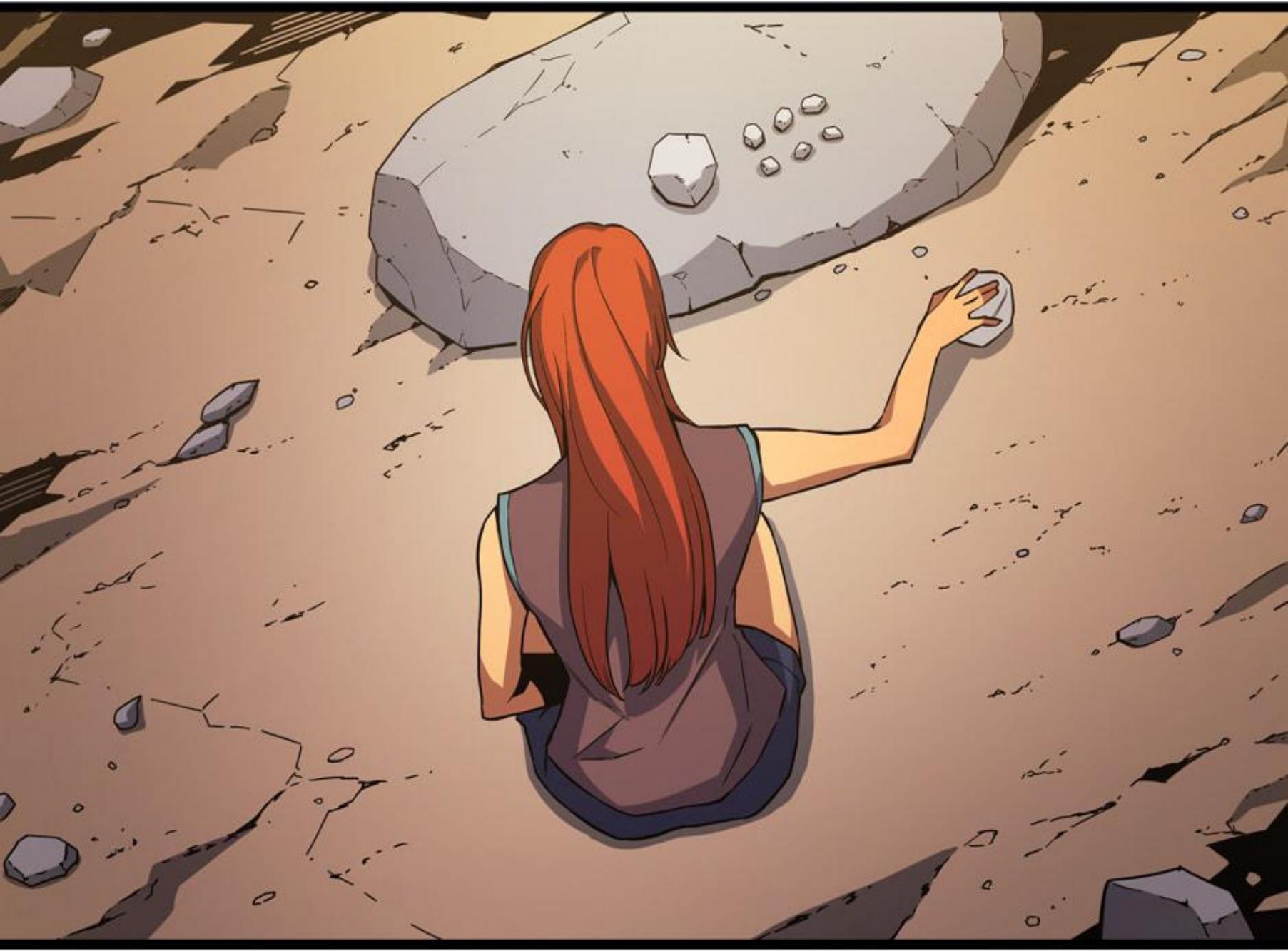


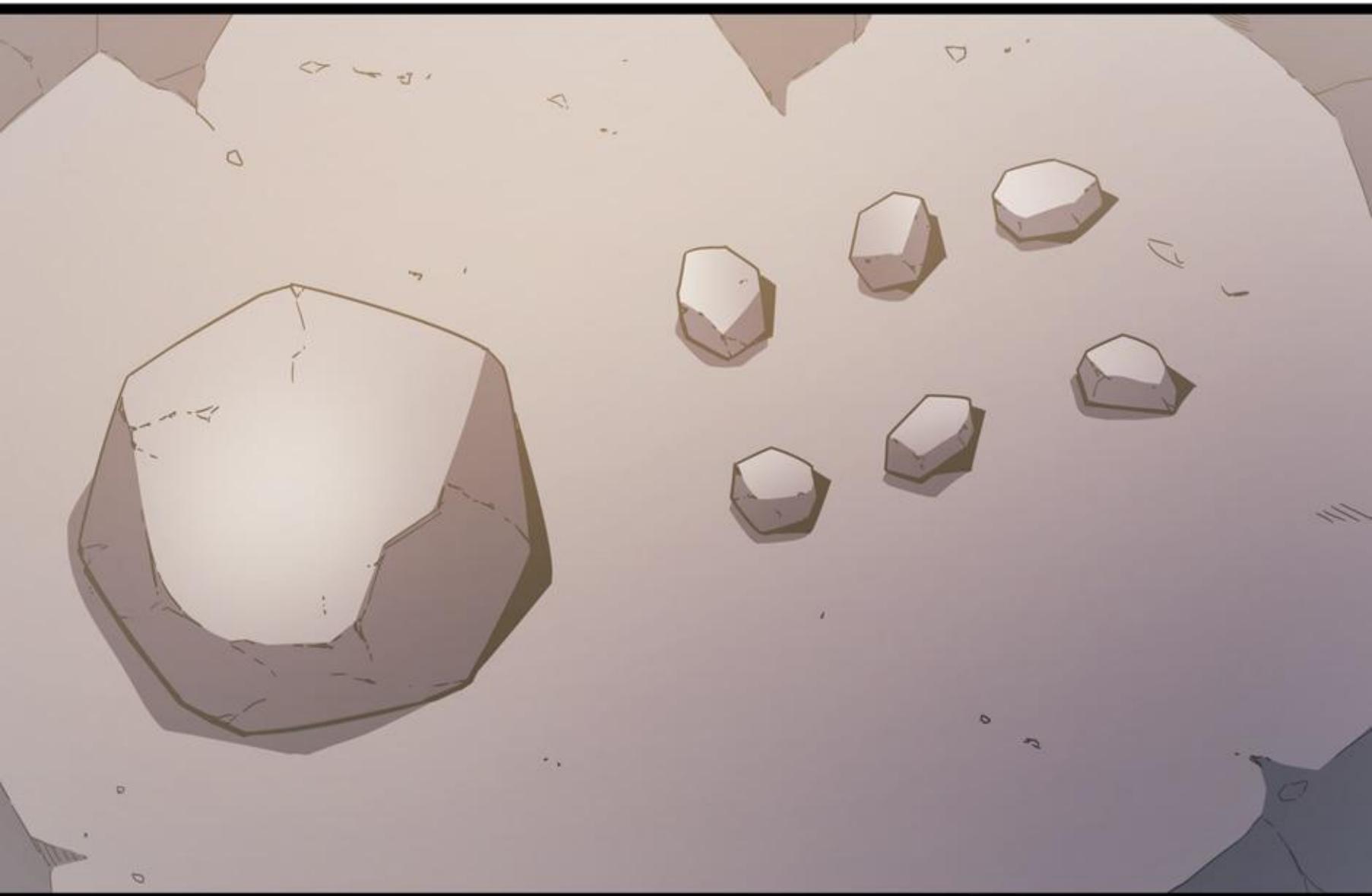




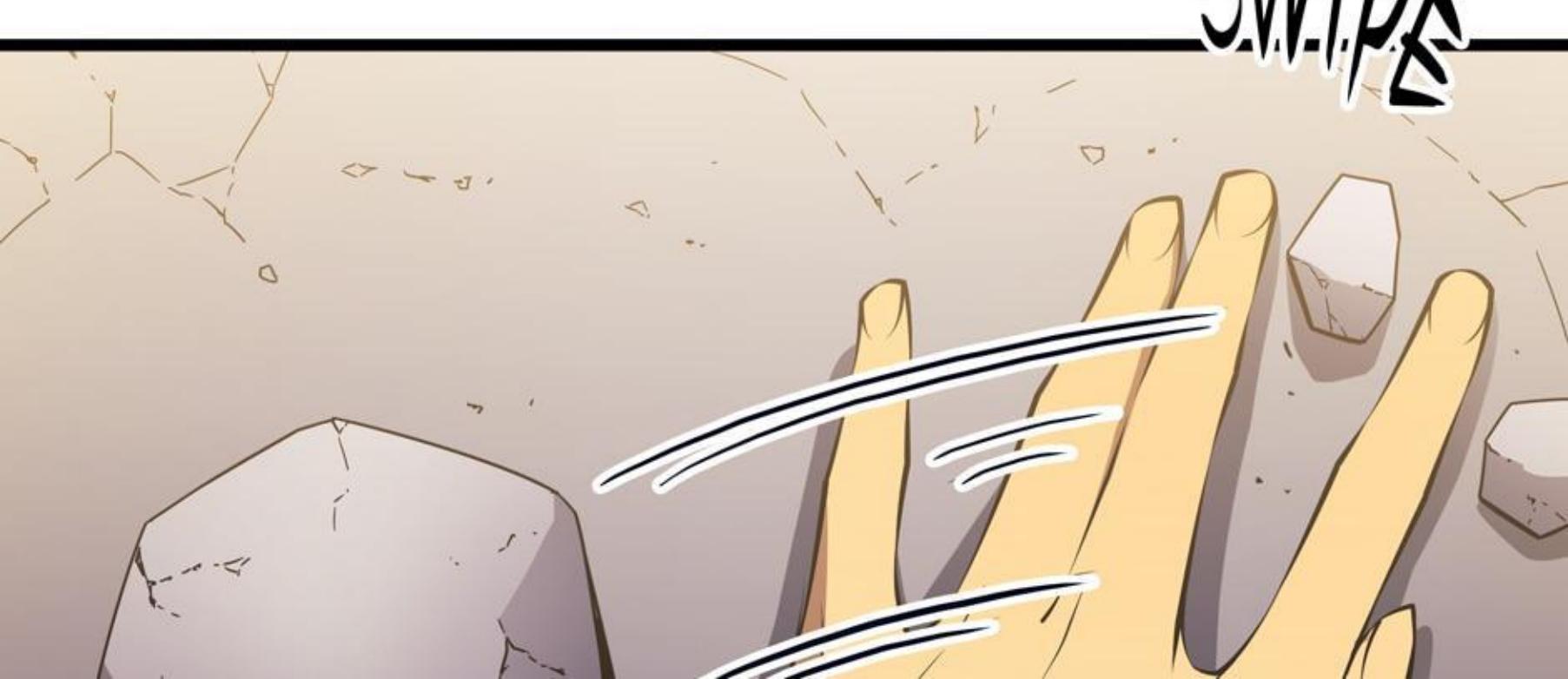






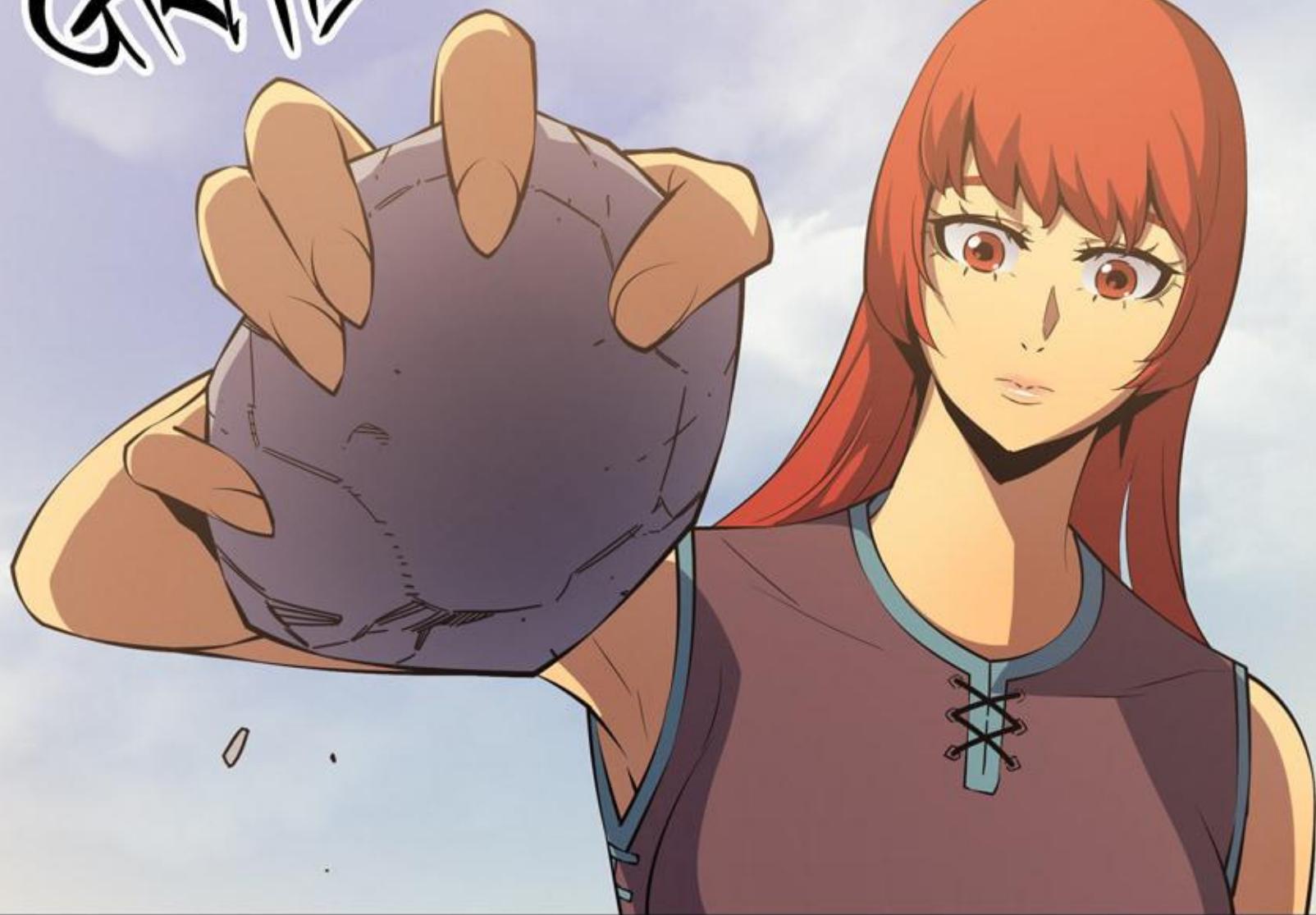


SW/p_A





GRAB



TWO WEEKS HAVE
PASSED SINCE THEN.

TAP



FREI HASN'T MOVED
AN INCH SINCE TWO
WEEKS AGO.

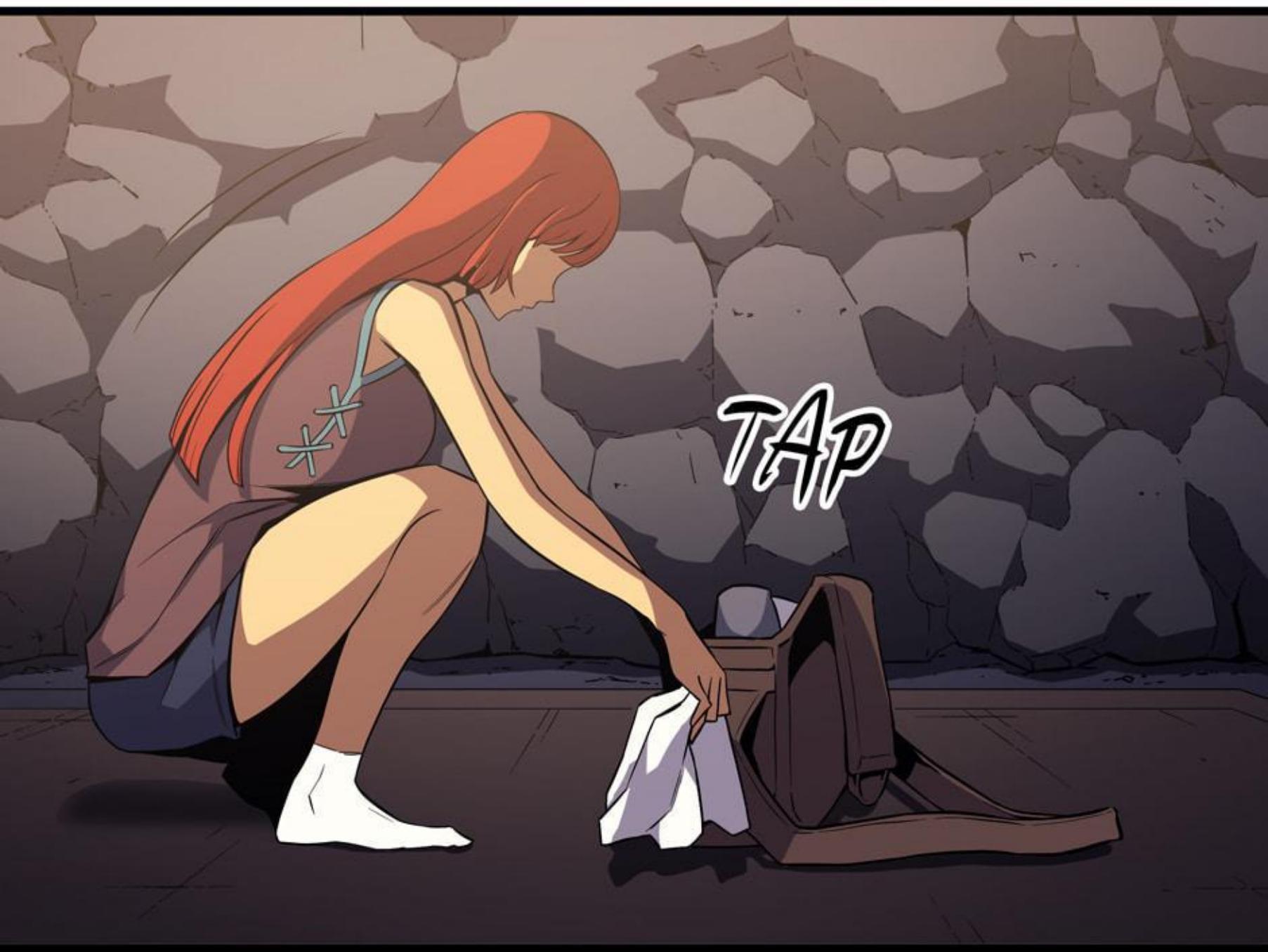


HOW LONG...

**S
K
A
K**

**ARE YOU PLANNING ON
CONTINUING WITH THIS
TERRIFYING TRAINING
METHOD?**







GRACe



PHYSICAL MANIFESTATION OF MANA?!

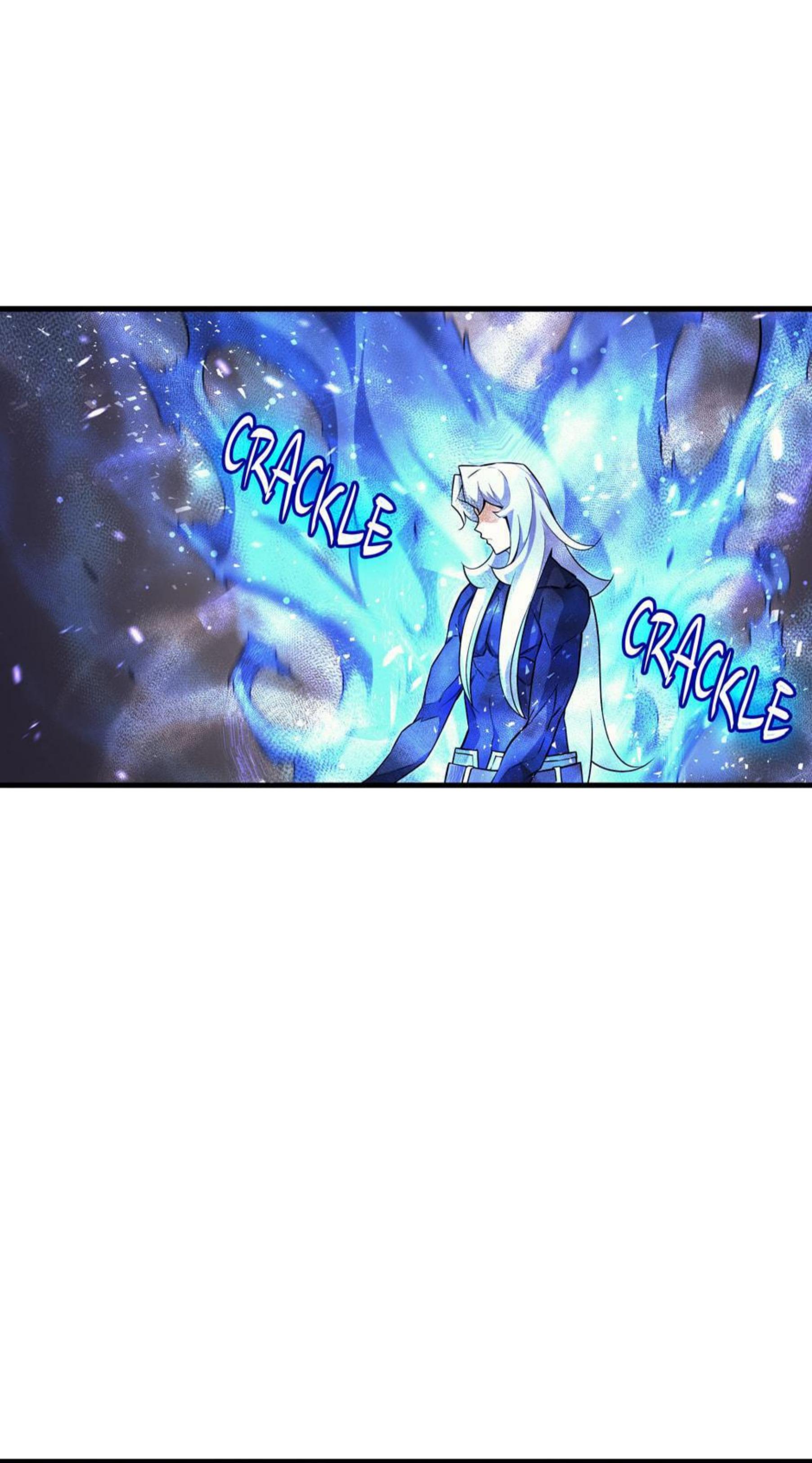


IT'S IRREFUTABLE
PROOF THAT HE'S NEARING THE
6TH TIER! HE REACHED THAT PHASE
IN A MONT-NO, IN MERE
TWO WEEKS...?!

UNBELIEVABLE...

I'VE NEVER
WITNESSED SUCH
INCONCEIVABLE
SPEED OF
GROWTH.

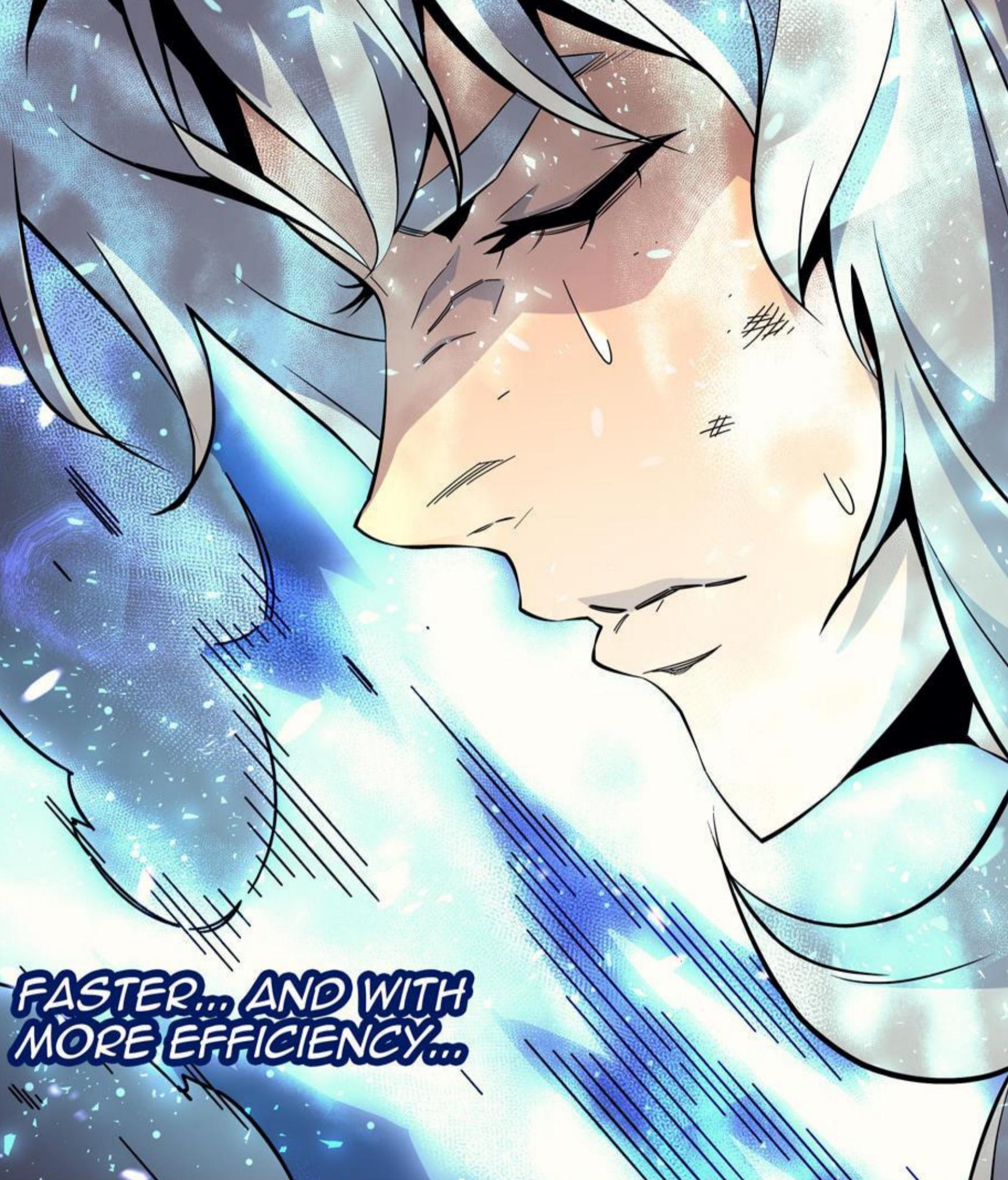




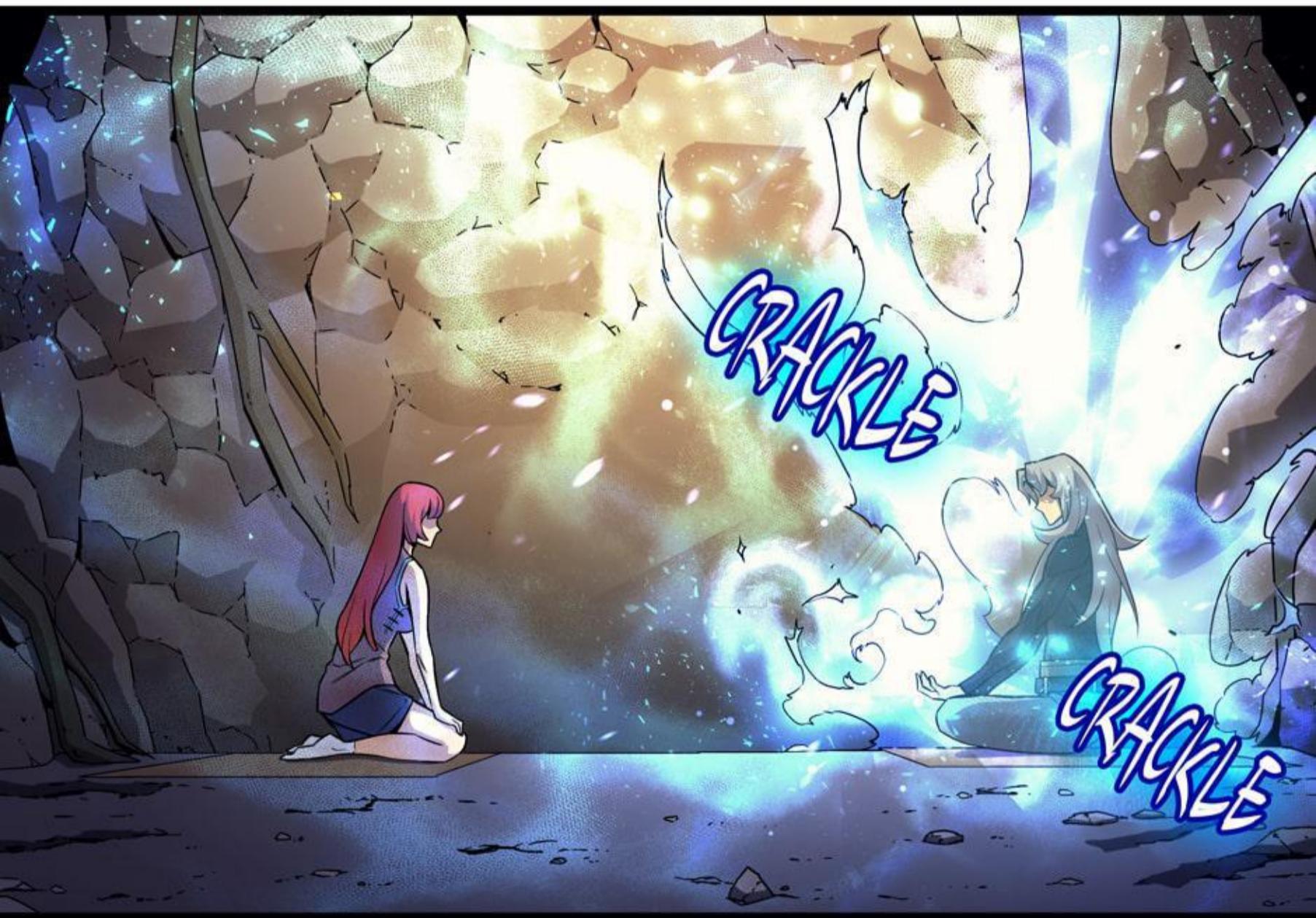
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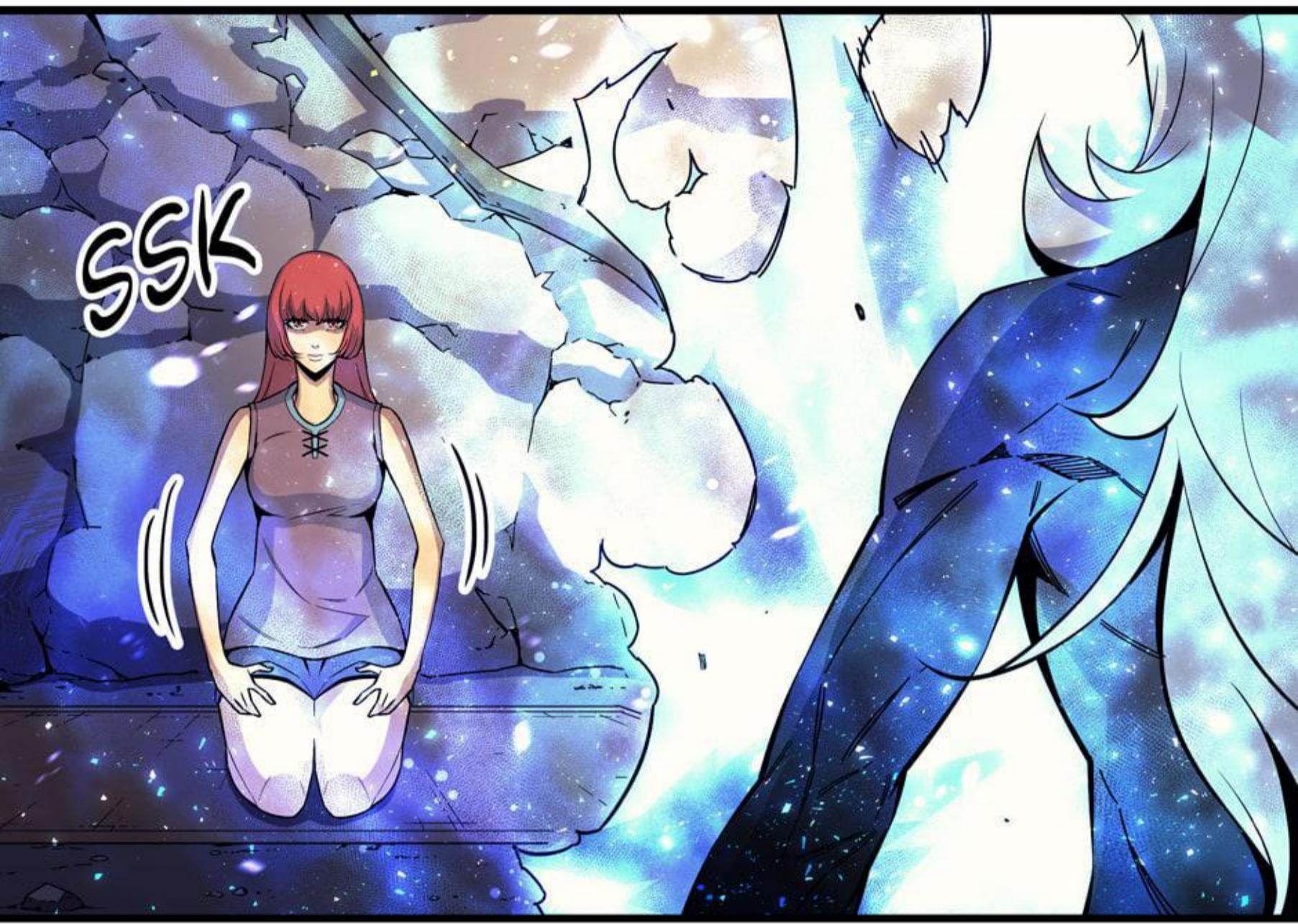
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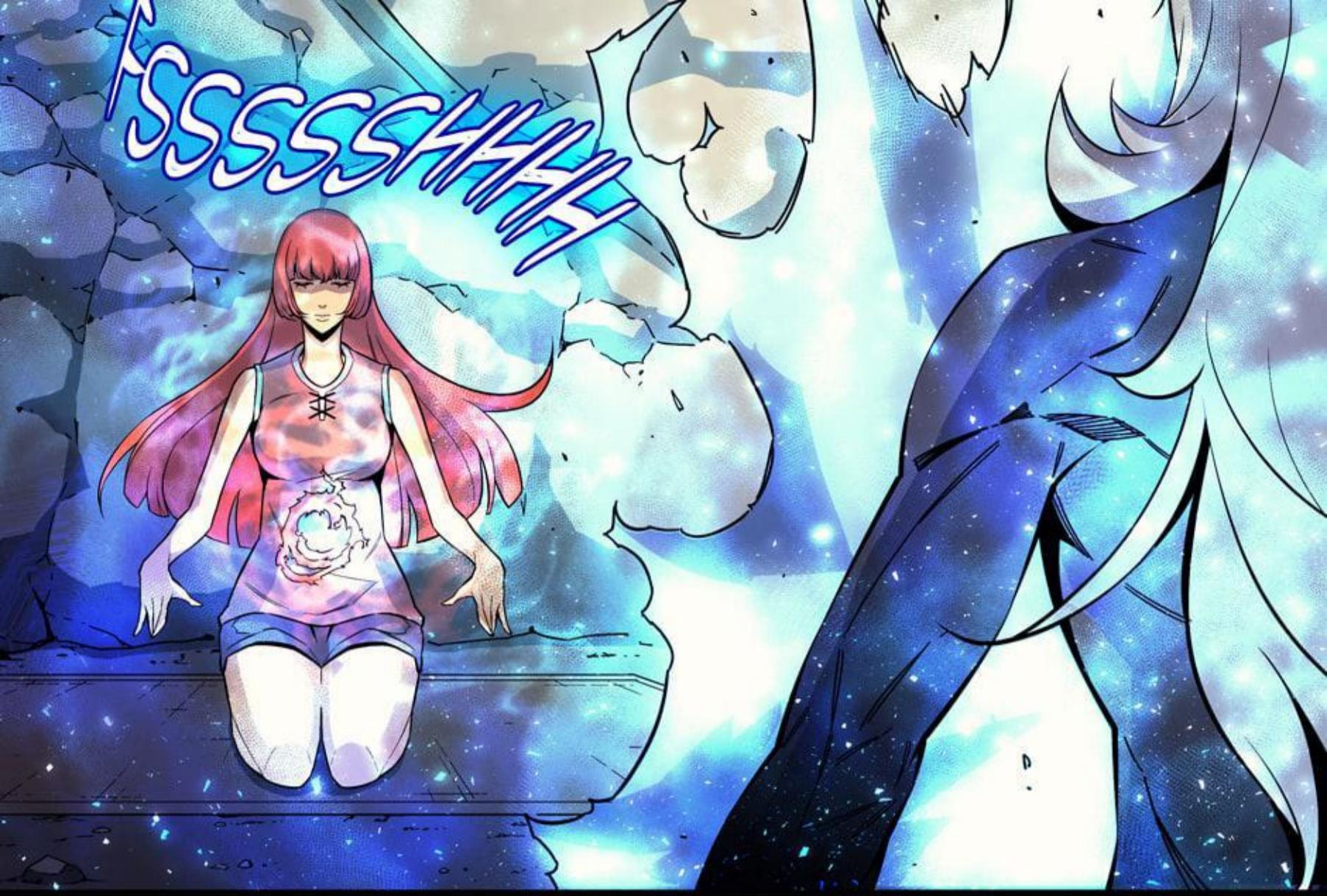
**NOT YET...
IT'S STILL PROGRESSING
TOO SLOWLY...**



**FASTER... AND WITH
MORE EFFICIENCY...**







SHHAAA

SHH



PITTER

PITTER

PIT
PAT
PIT

PIT

GRAG





COUGH
COUGH

BWERLLGH!

**THE SLIGHTEST LAPSE IN
CONCENTRATION IS ALL IT TAKES
FOR THE BALANCE TO CRUMBLE.**



**BUT IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE WITH
MY OWN EYES... THE RATE OF
MY OWN GROWTH SO FAR.**



**SO THIS IS THE
LONG FORGOTTEN
WAY, KASAJIN'S**

BATTLING METHOD...



IT TRULY IS A
DANGEROUS METHOD
OF TRAINING. IS IT TRUE
THEN? OUR ANCESTORS
PRACTICED MAGIC IN
SUCH TERRIFYING
WAYS?



AS EXPECTED... IT'S NO WONDER
WHY THE MODERN MAGES ARE
UNABLE TO REACH THE HEIGHTS
OF THE MAGES OF THE PAST.

...

SNIFF
SNIFF



DO I SMELL?

CRACK





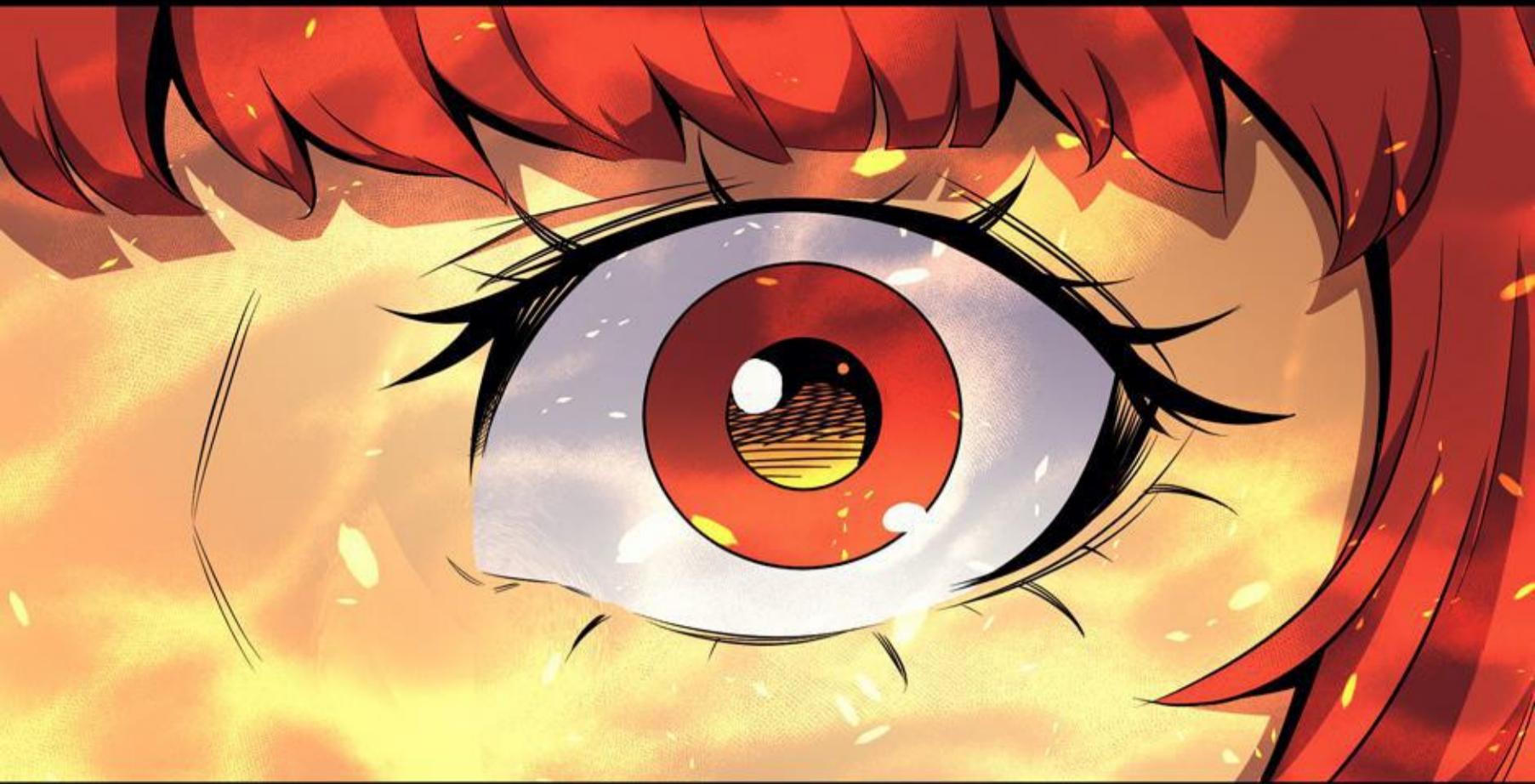
THE BARRIER
IS BREAKING?!

AN
INTRUDER?!



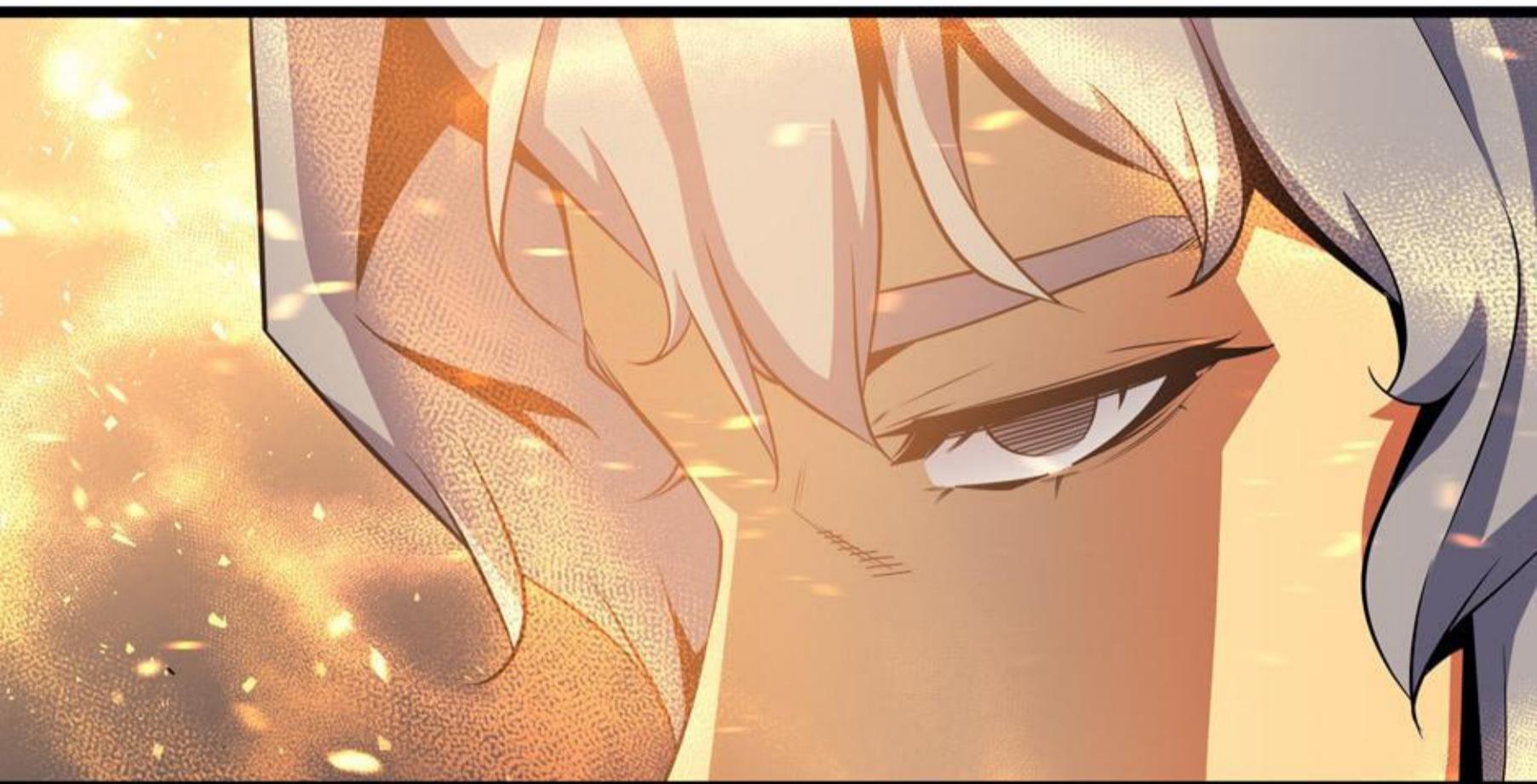






TH-THAT'S...!





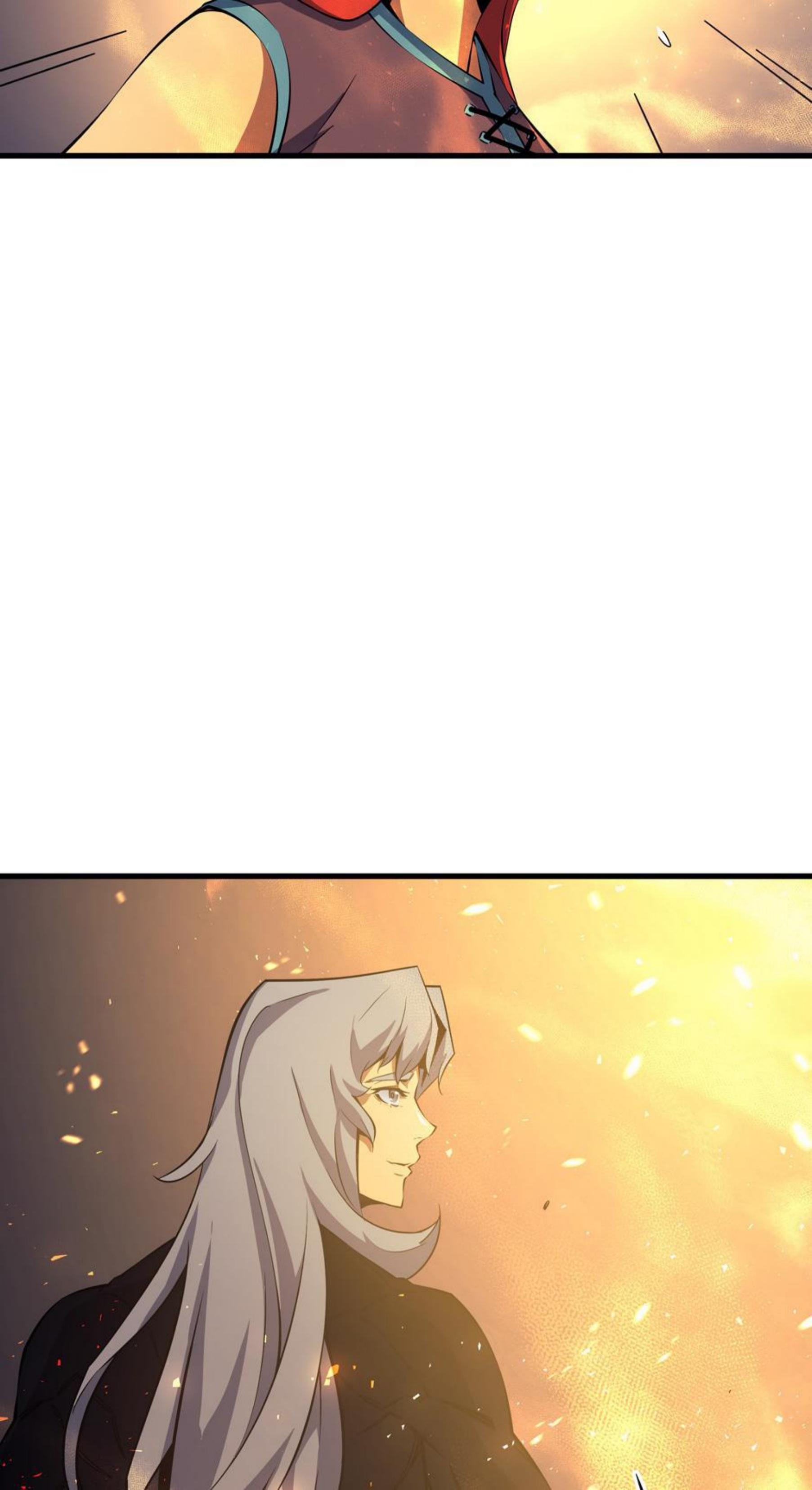
A PHOENIX.



P-PHOENIX?!

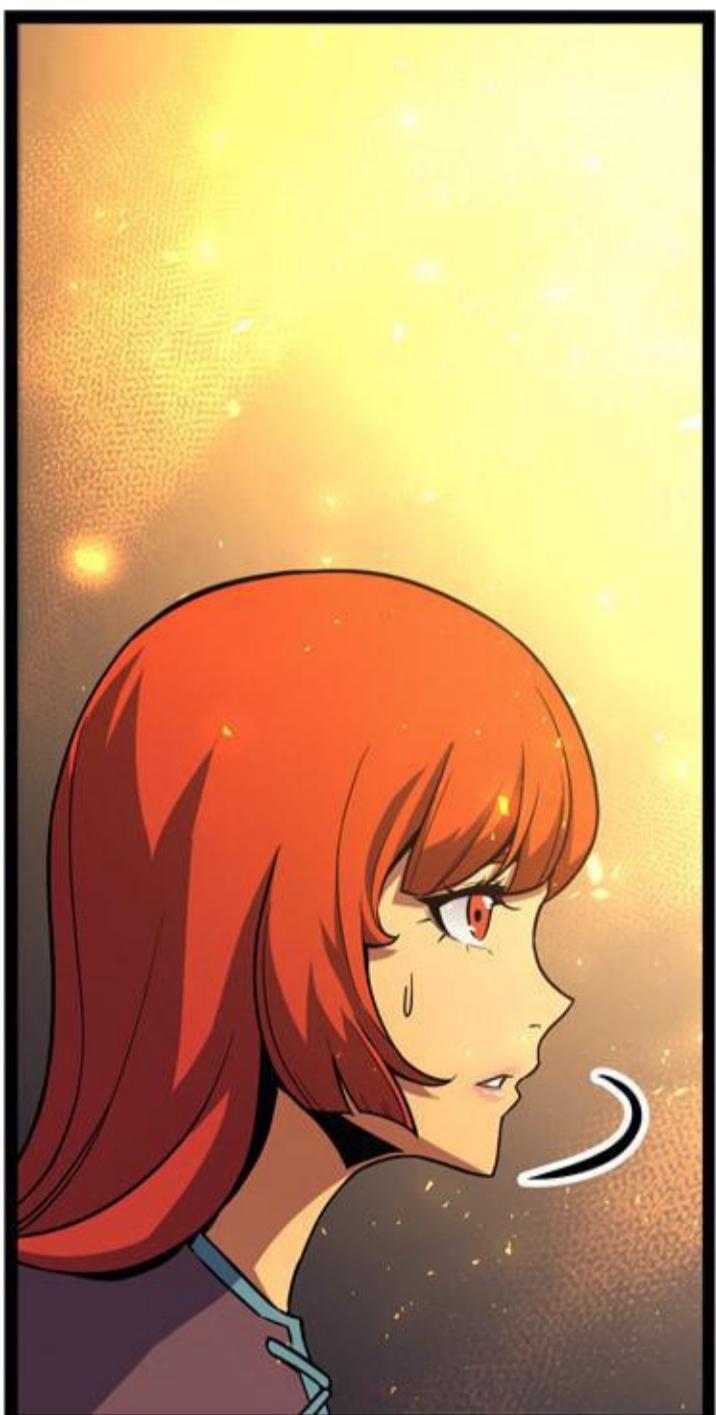
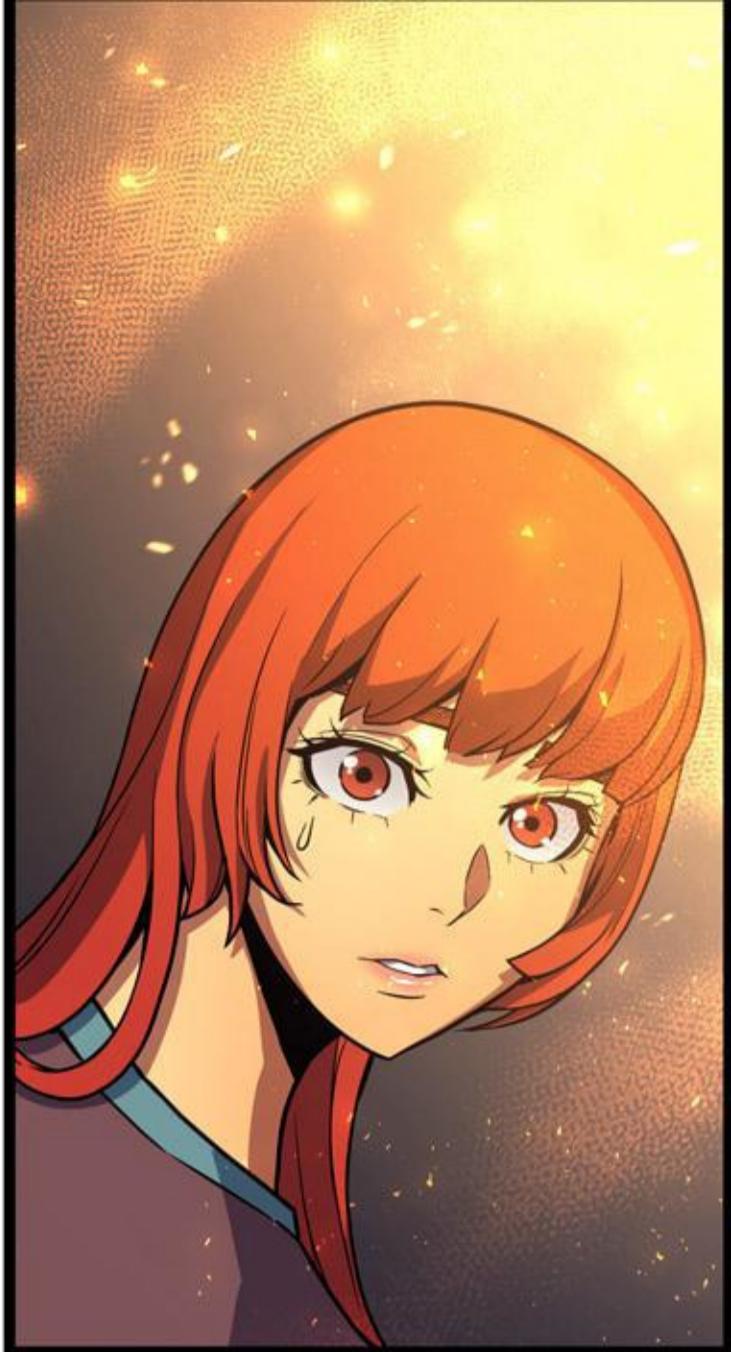
AREN'T THEY
CONSIDERED
PHANTASMAL
CREATURES?
A DIVINE BEAST
OF MYTHS?













**I KNEW THAT MOUNT
ESPAÑIA WAS HOME
TO ALL KINDS OF
MONSTERS...**

**BUT TO THINK WE'D ENCOUNTER
A DIVINE BEAST AS WELL...**

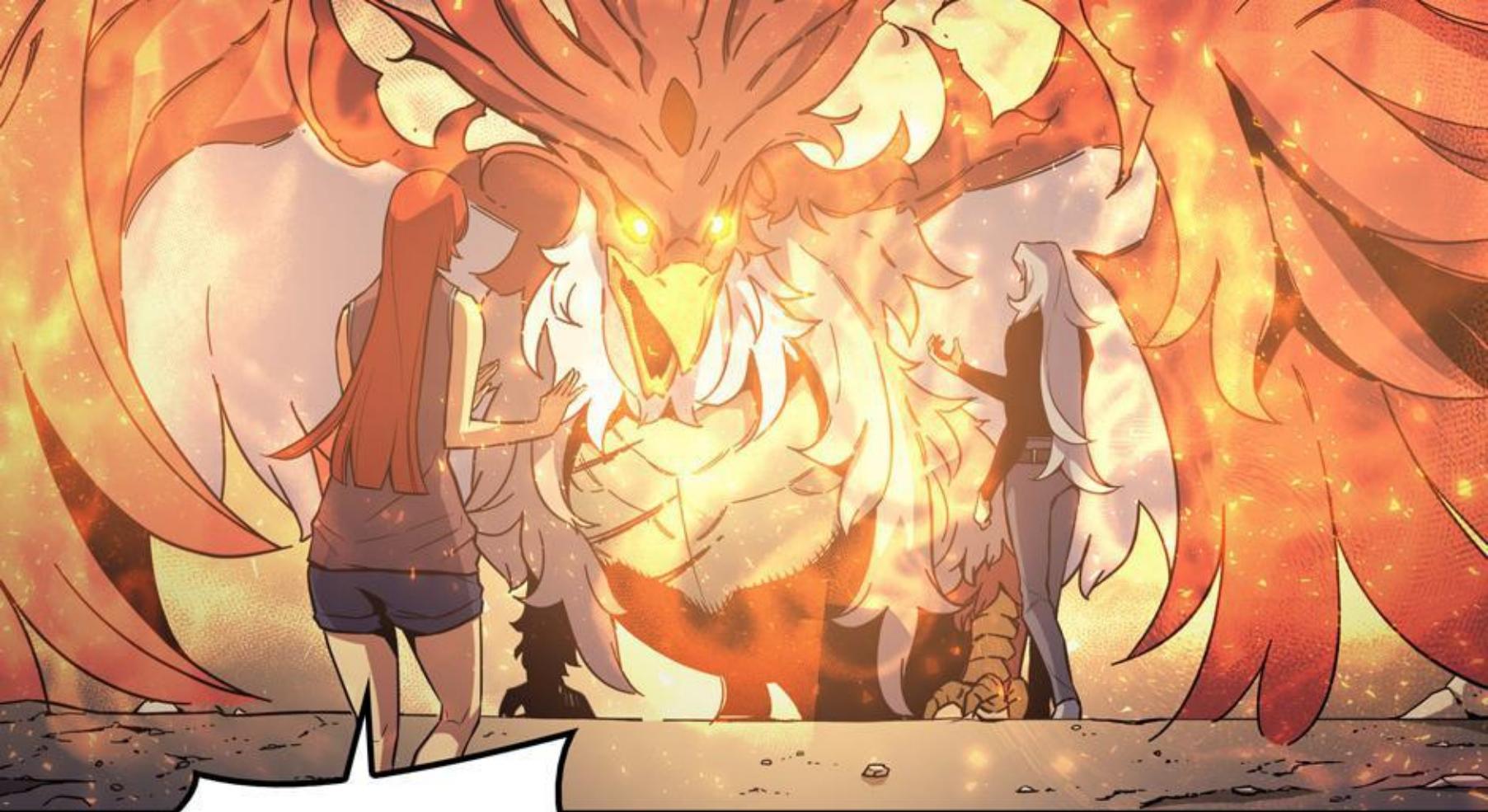


IT WAS
MOST LIKELY
ATTRACTED HERE
BY THE FIRE
ELEMENTAL

THAT MANIFESTED
WITHIN THE BATTLING
METHOD.

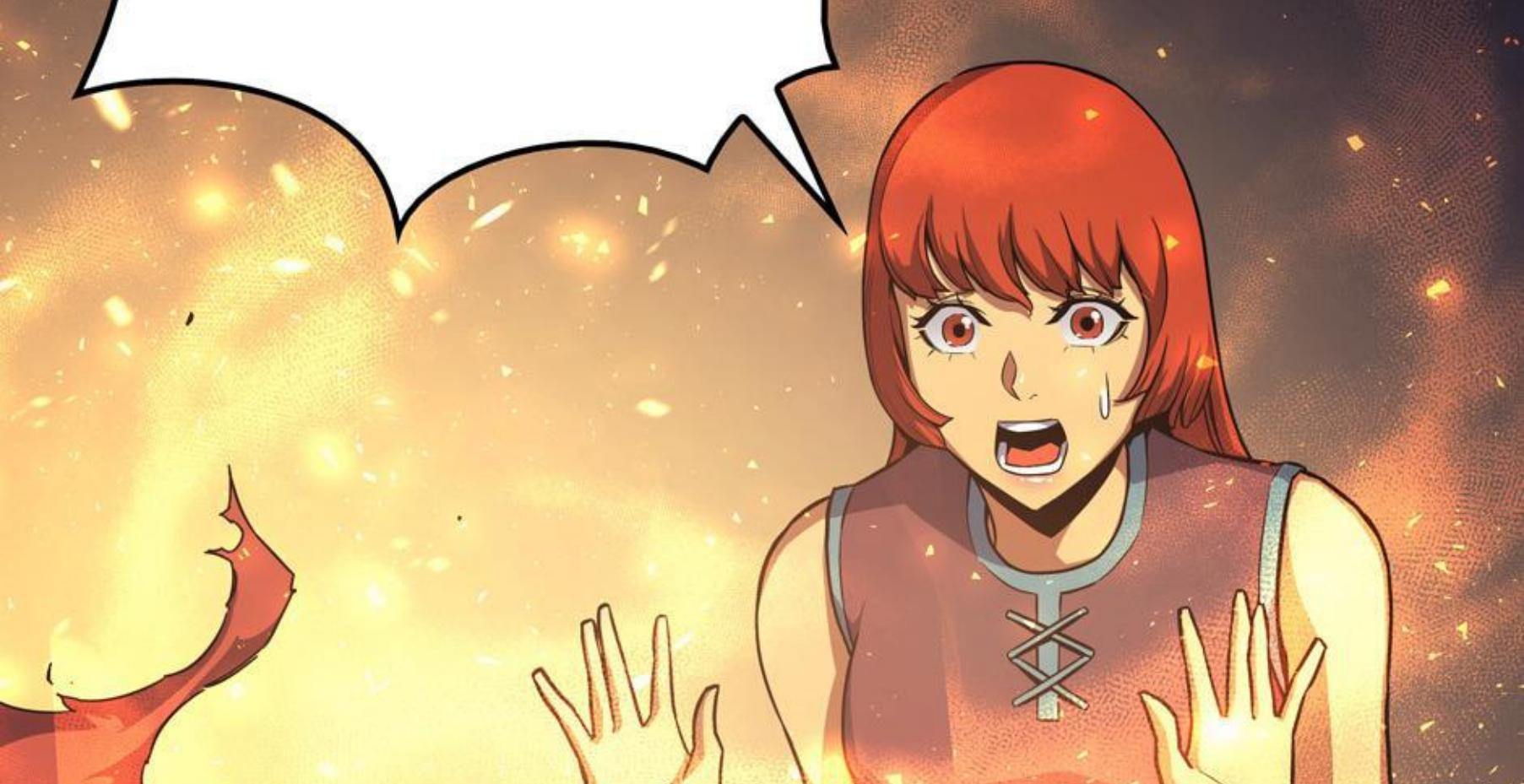


COME.



IT'S TOO
DANGEROUS!

A DIVINE BEAST
IS NOT SOMETHING
MERE MORTALS CAN
HOPE TO TAME!





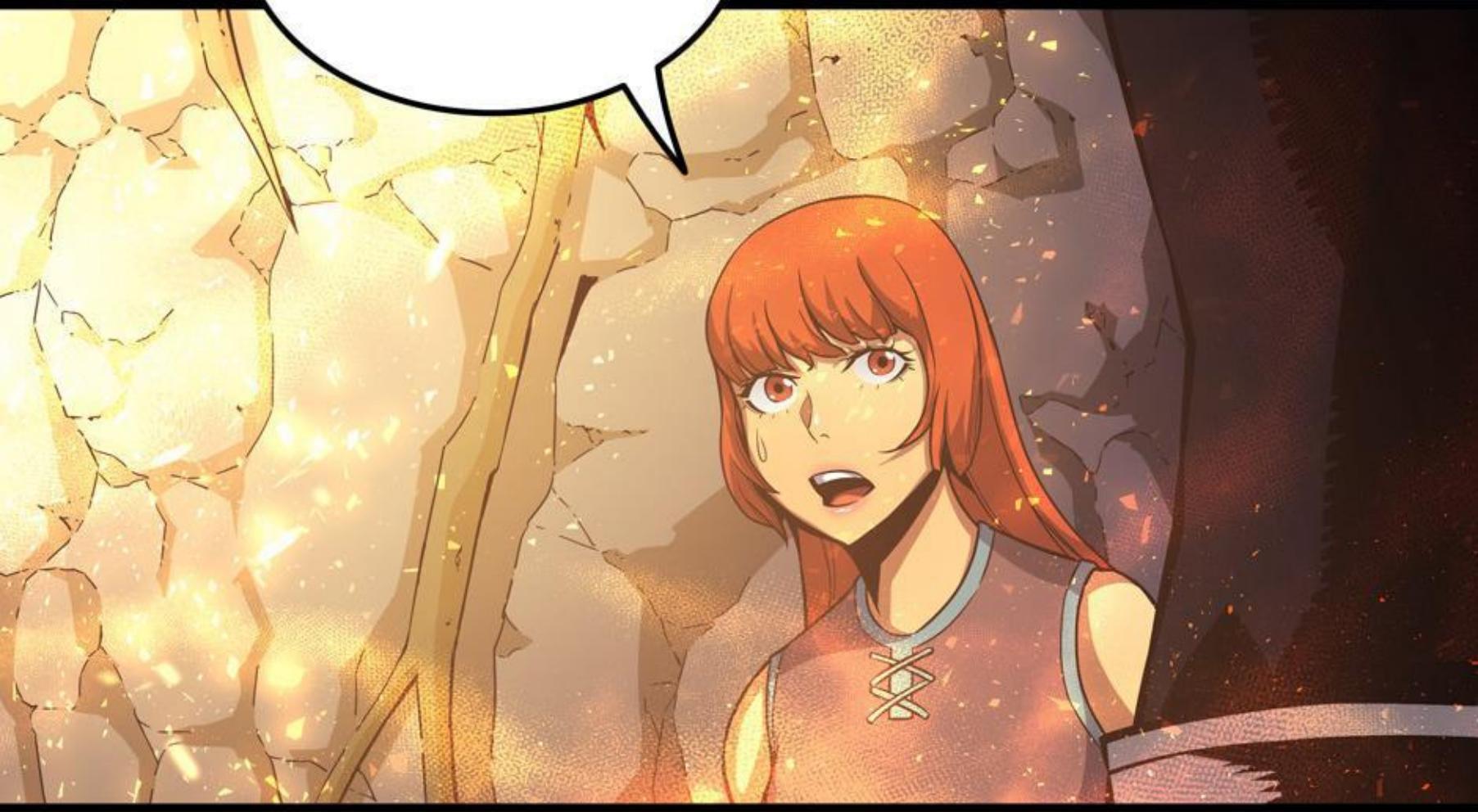
ARE YOU SIMPLY
MORTAL?

GOING TO STAND
AND STARE?

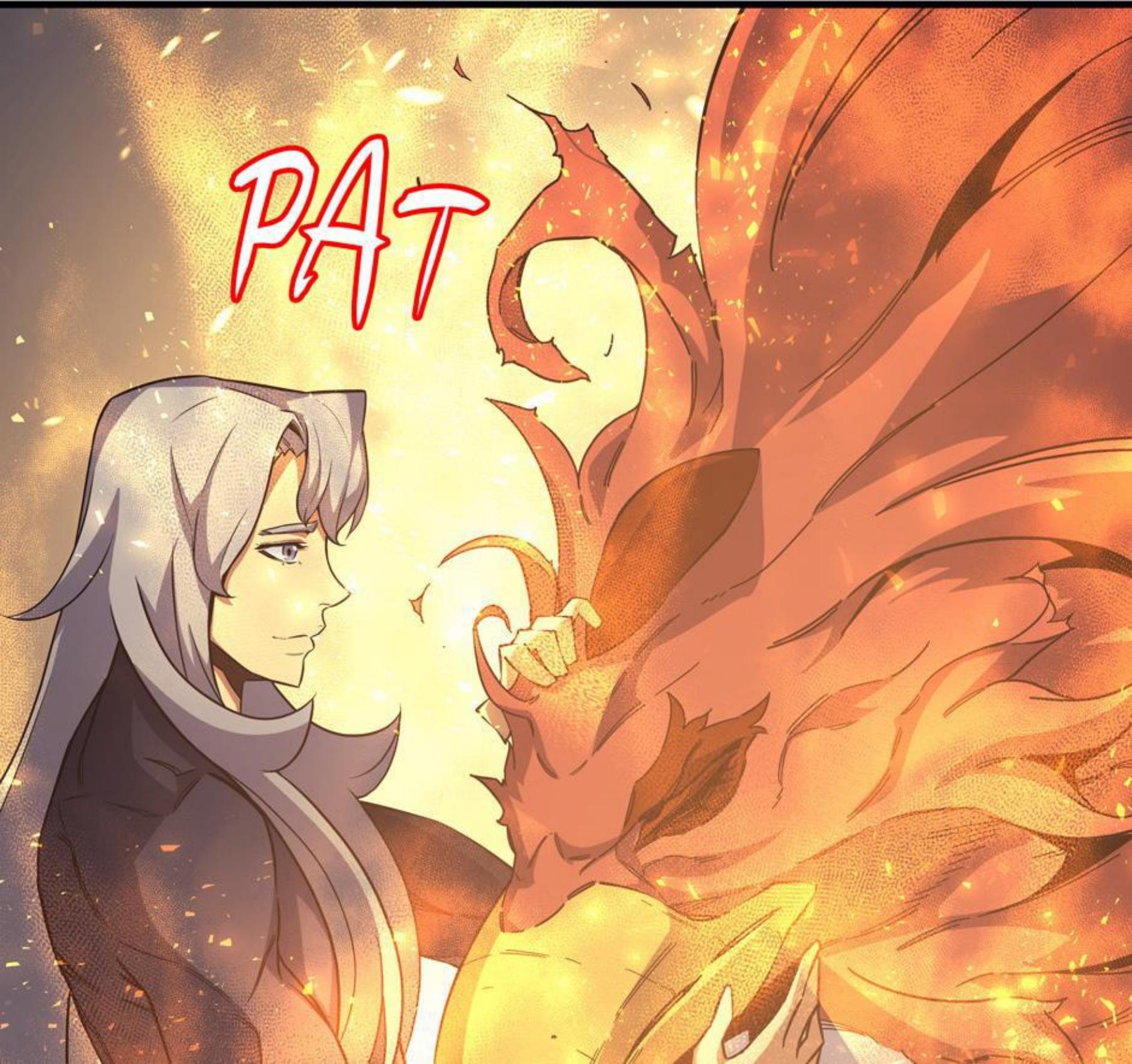
YOU MUST HAVE
COME BEFORE ME
TO SEEK MY HELP.

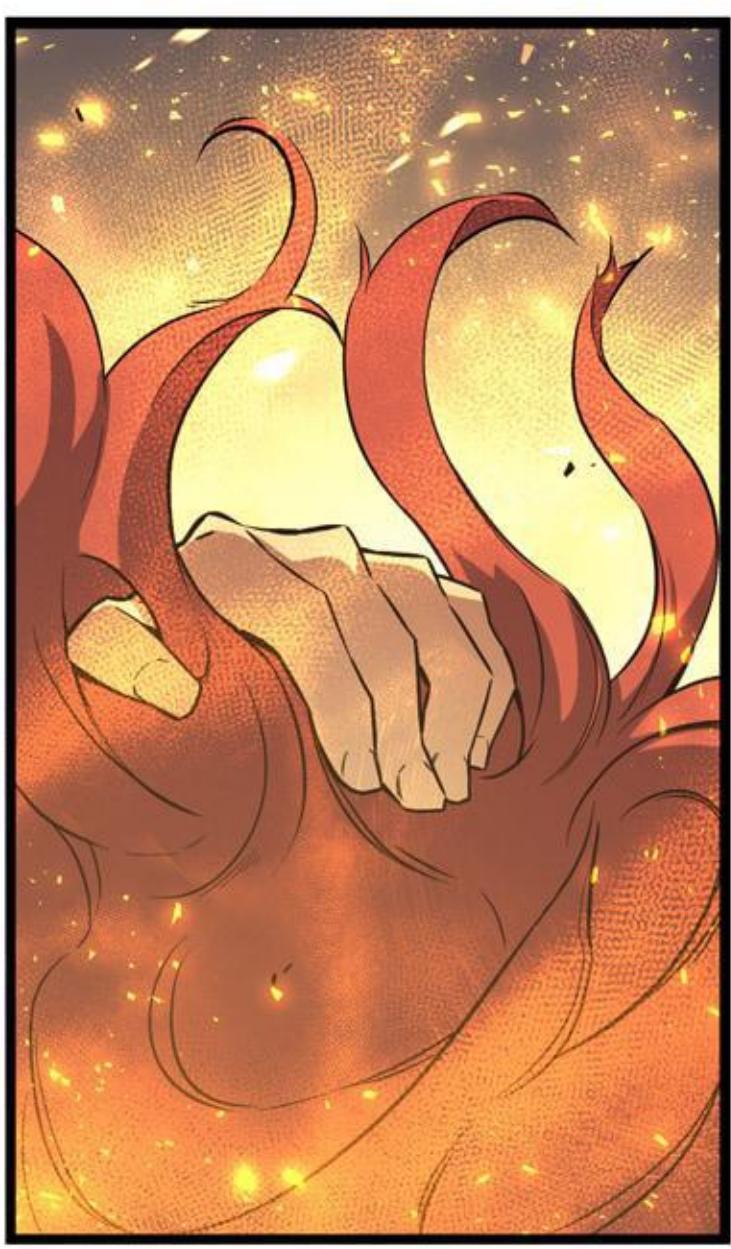


FREI...?



PAT







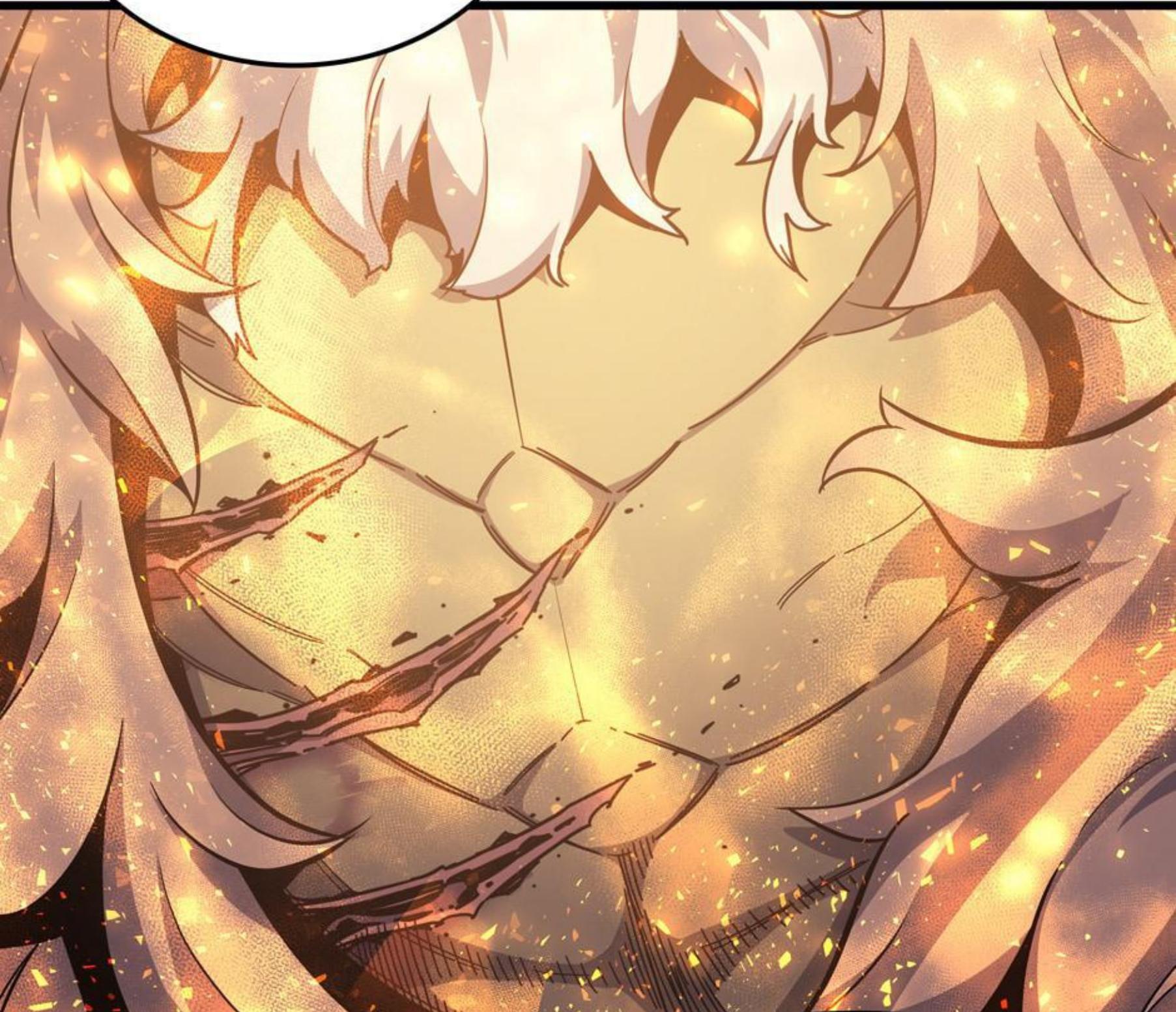
UNBELIEVABLE...

FEATHERS
OF A PHOENIX
ARE NO DIFFERENT
FROM FLAMES YET

FROM FLAMES... YET
HE TOUCHED THAT
WITH HIS BARE
HANDS?

THAT'S BECAUSE
IT'S NOT SHOWING
ANY HOSTILITY
TOWARDS ME.





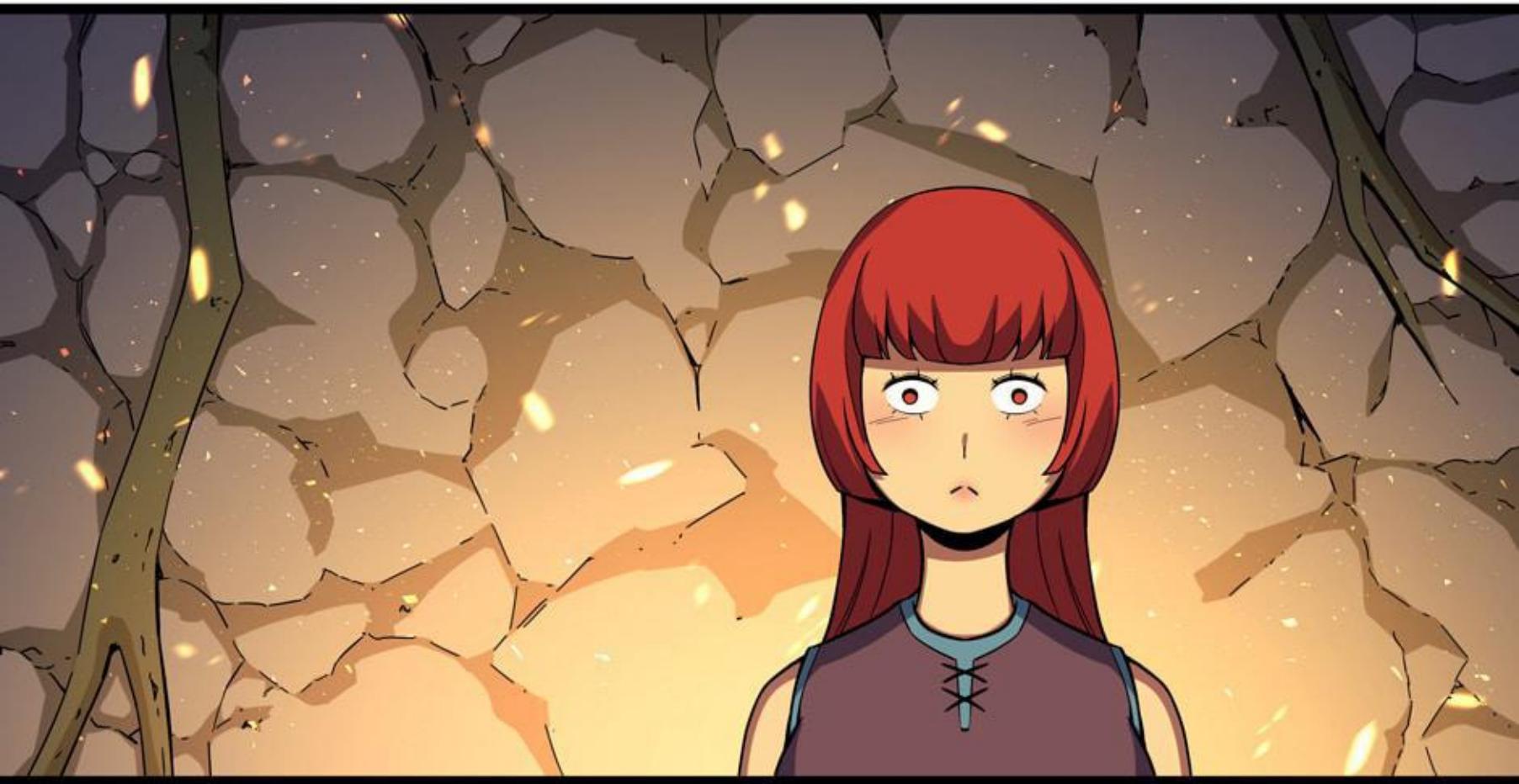
FORGET
FOR A MOMENT
THAT IT'S A DIVINE
BEAST AND LOOK
CAREFULLY.

IT'S SUFFERED A
DEEP WOUND CREATED
BY LARGE CLAWS.



ANY DEEPER AND IT
WOULD HAVE GOUGED
OUT THE HEART.

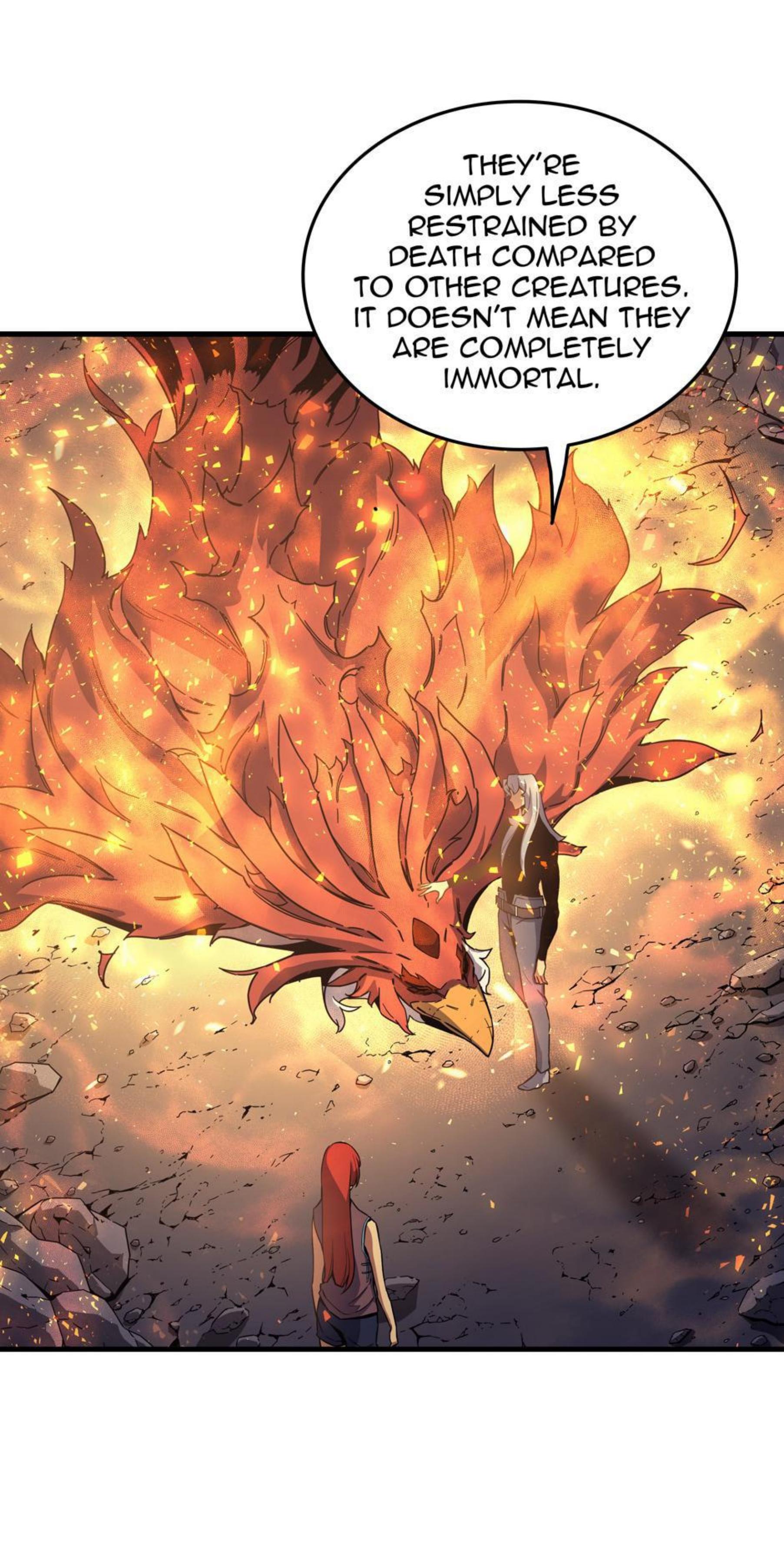
IT'S A
MIRACLE IT'S
STILL ALIVE.



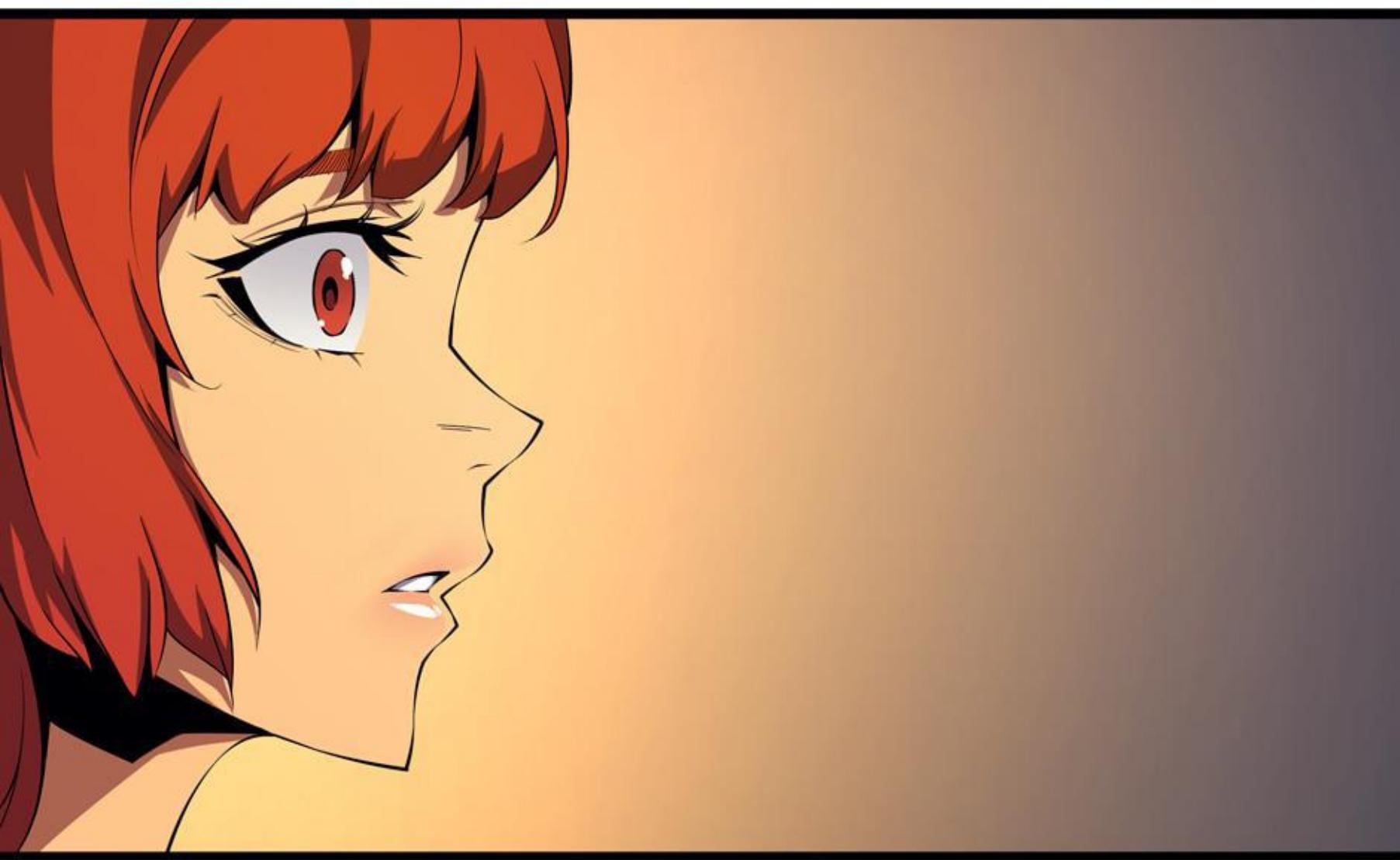
WAIT... SO
PHOENIX CAN
ACTUALLY
DIE?

BUT AREN'T
THEY IMMORTAL
BECAUSE THEY'RE
PHOENIX?



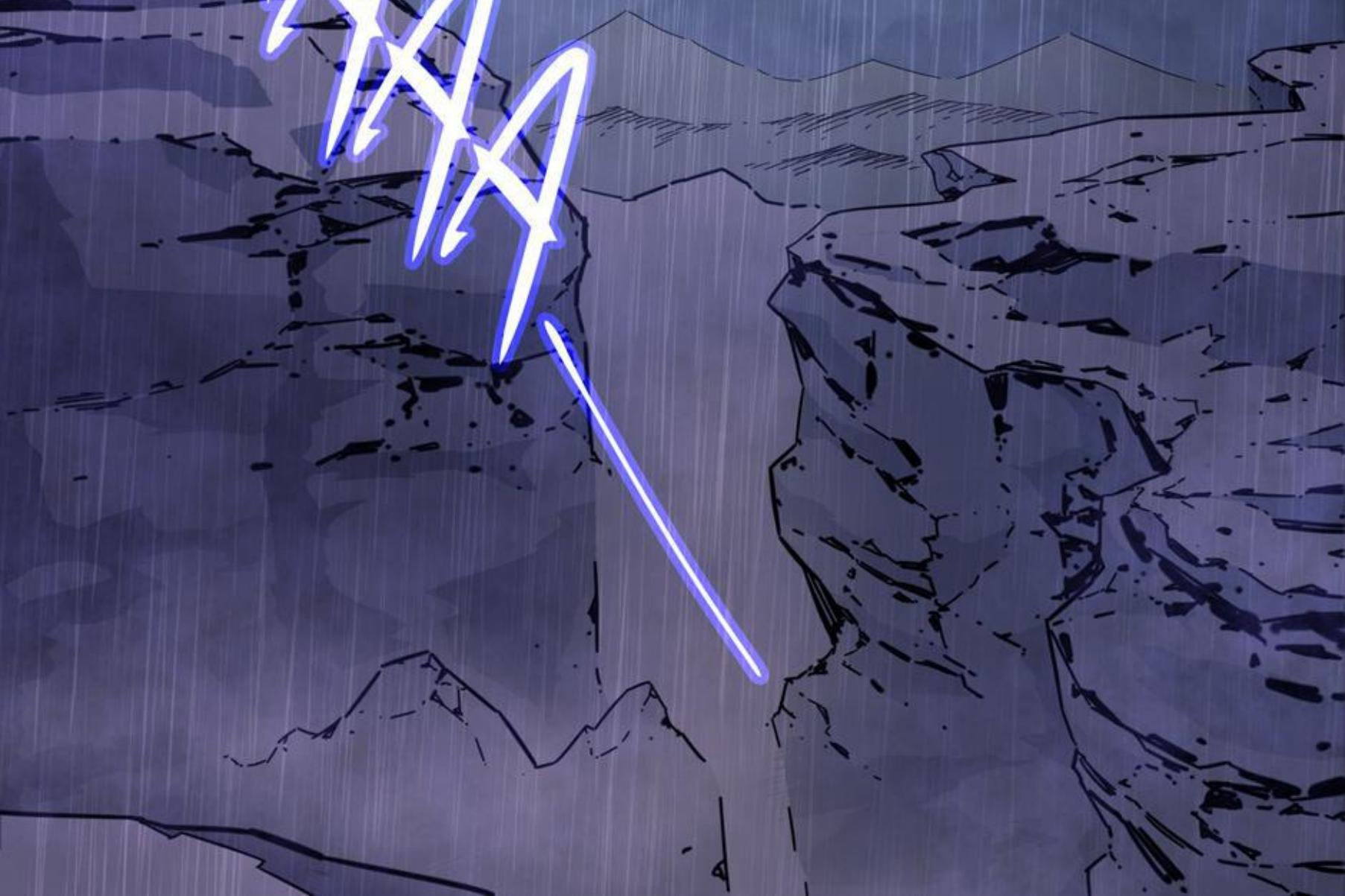


THEY'RE
SIMPLY LESS
RESTRAINED BY
DEATH COMPARED
TO OTHER CREATURES.
IT DOESN'T MEAN THEY
ARE COMPLETELY
IMMORTAL.



A BEING CAPABLE OF INFILCTING
SUCH A WOUND ON A DIVINE
BEAST LIKE THE PHOENIX...

SHAA





**JUST WHAT IS LURKING
WITHIN THESE MOUNTAINS?**