

# THE ARCHMAGE

RETURNS AFTER.

# 4000

YEARS

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~ 47 ~

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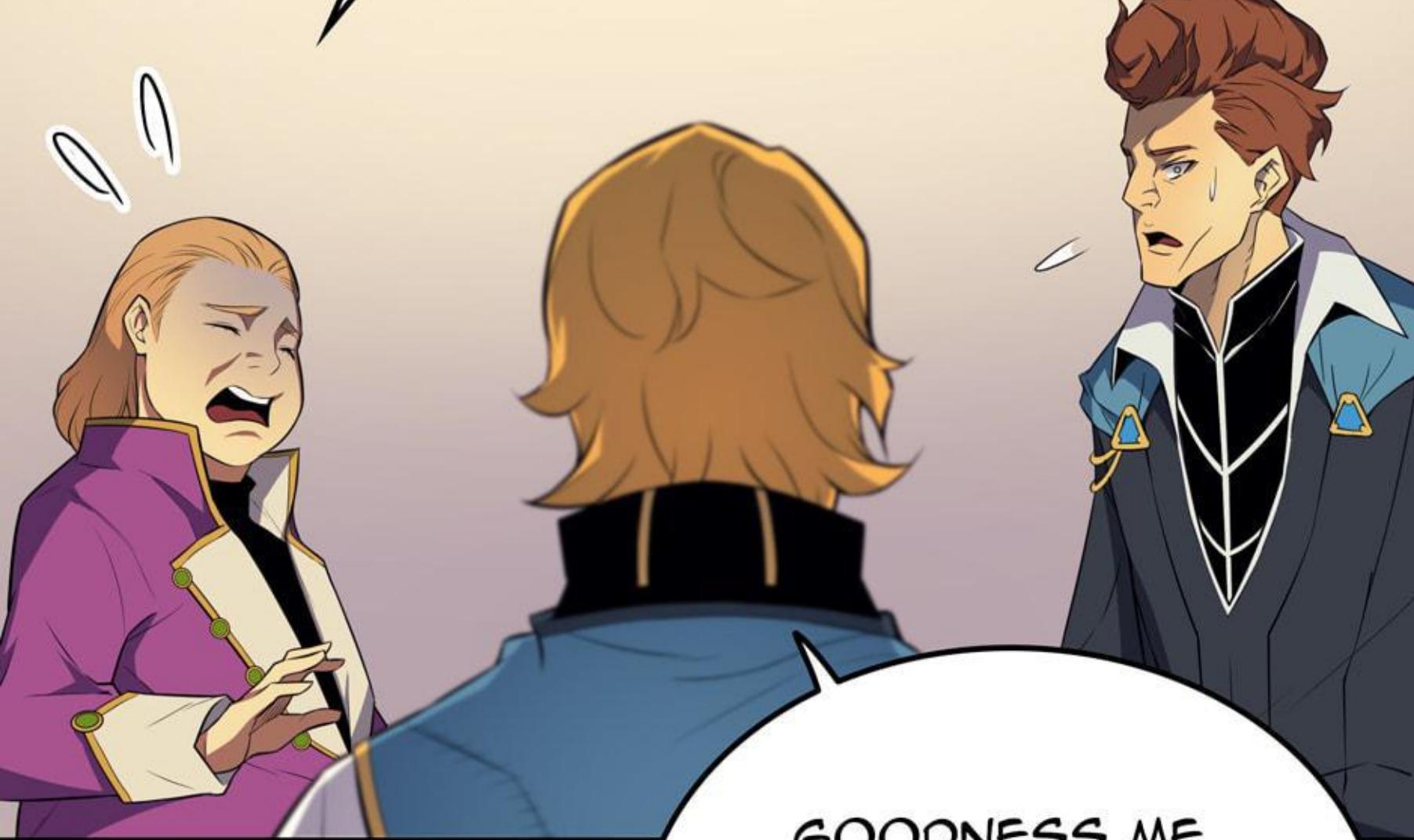
L-LORD  
FERRAN...?!



I WAS THE  
ONE WHO INVITED  
FREI AFTER ALL.

LORD FERRAN?  
YOU INVITED

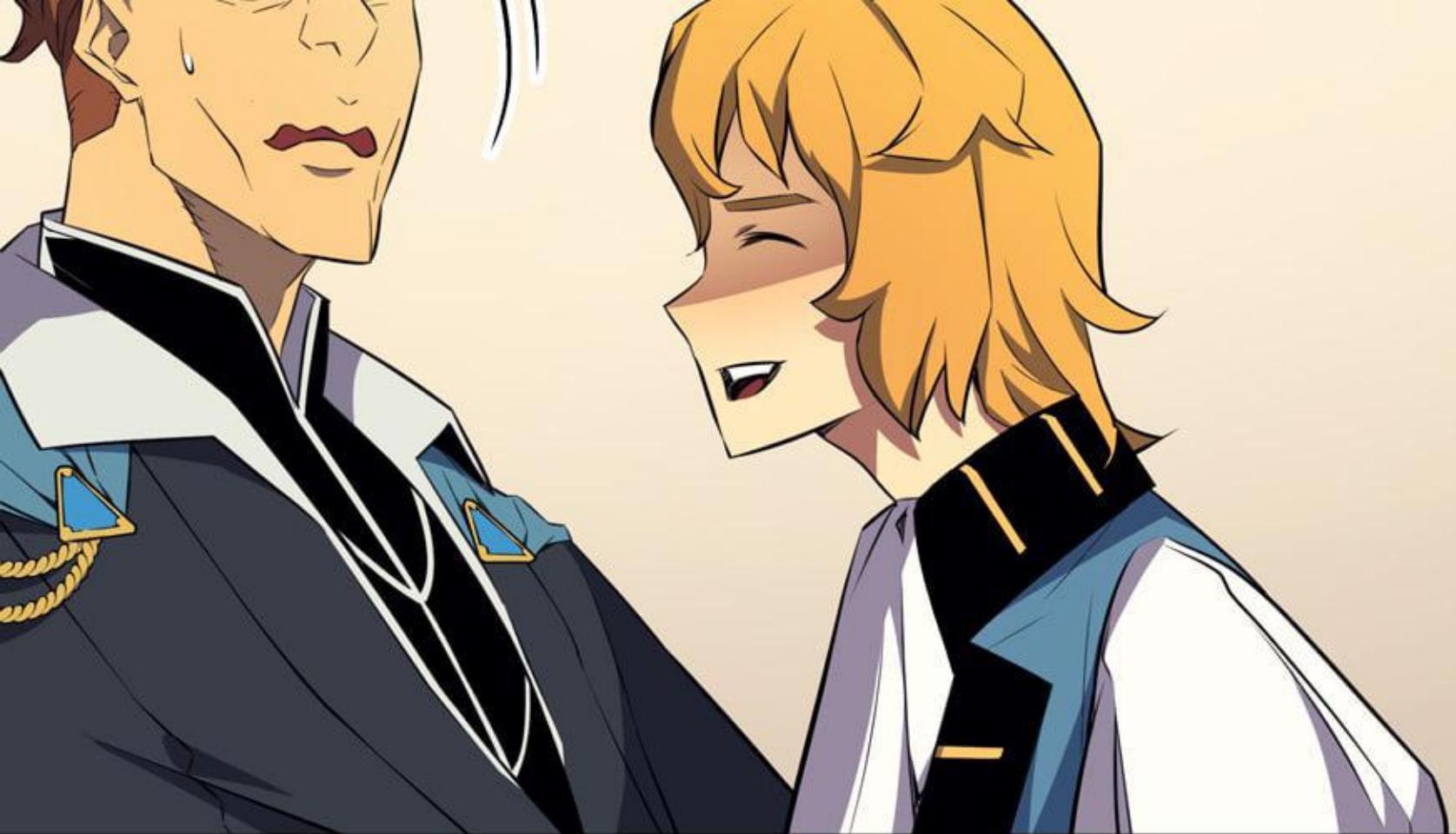
YOU INVITED  
HIM...?!



GOODNESS ME...  
IT SEEMS NEITHER  
OF YOU EXPECTED  
ME TO MAKE SUCH  
AN INVITATION.

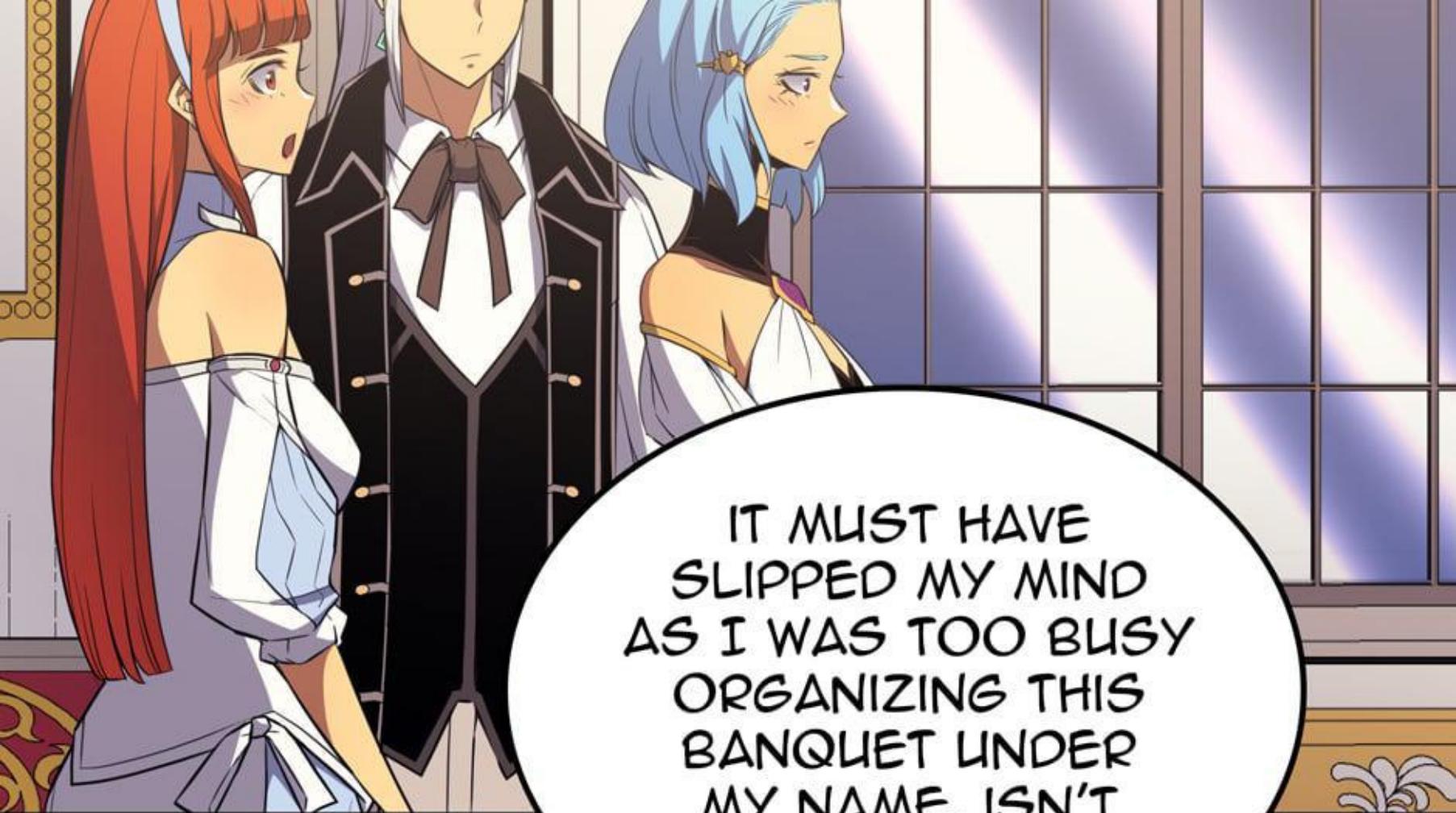
ALLOW ME  
TO APOLOGIZE  
ONCE AGAIN FOR  
DISAPPOINTING  
YOU.





I HAD NO IDEA  
THAT I NEEDED DEASTY  
HOUSE'S PERMISSION TO  
INVITE A DEAR FRIEND OF  
MINE TO THE BANQUET I  
WAS ORGANIZING. HOW  
CARELESS OF ME.

N-NOT AT ALL,  
YOUR LORDSHIP!!  
THAT'S NOT WHAT I  
WAS SAYING...!



IT MUST HAVE  
SLIPPED MY MIND  
AS I WAS TOO BUSY  
ORGANIZING THIS  
BANQUET UNDER  
MY NAME. ISN'T  
THAT RIGHT?

N-NO, YOUR  
LORDSHIP!!

OH, SINCE  
WE'RE ON THE  
SUBJECT...

ALLOW ME TO  
INFORM YOU THAT  
FREI IS AMONG THE  
MOST HONORED GUESTS  
I'VE INVITED TODAY, AND I  
BELIEVE HE'S GOING TO

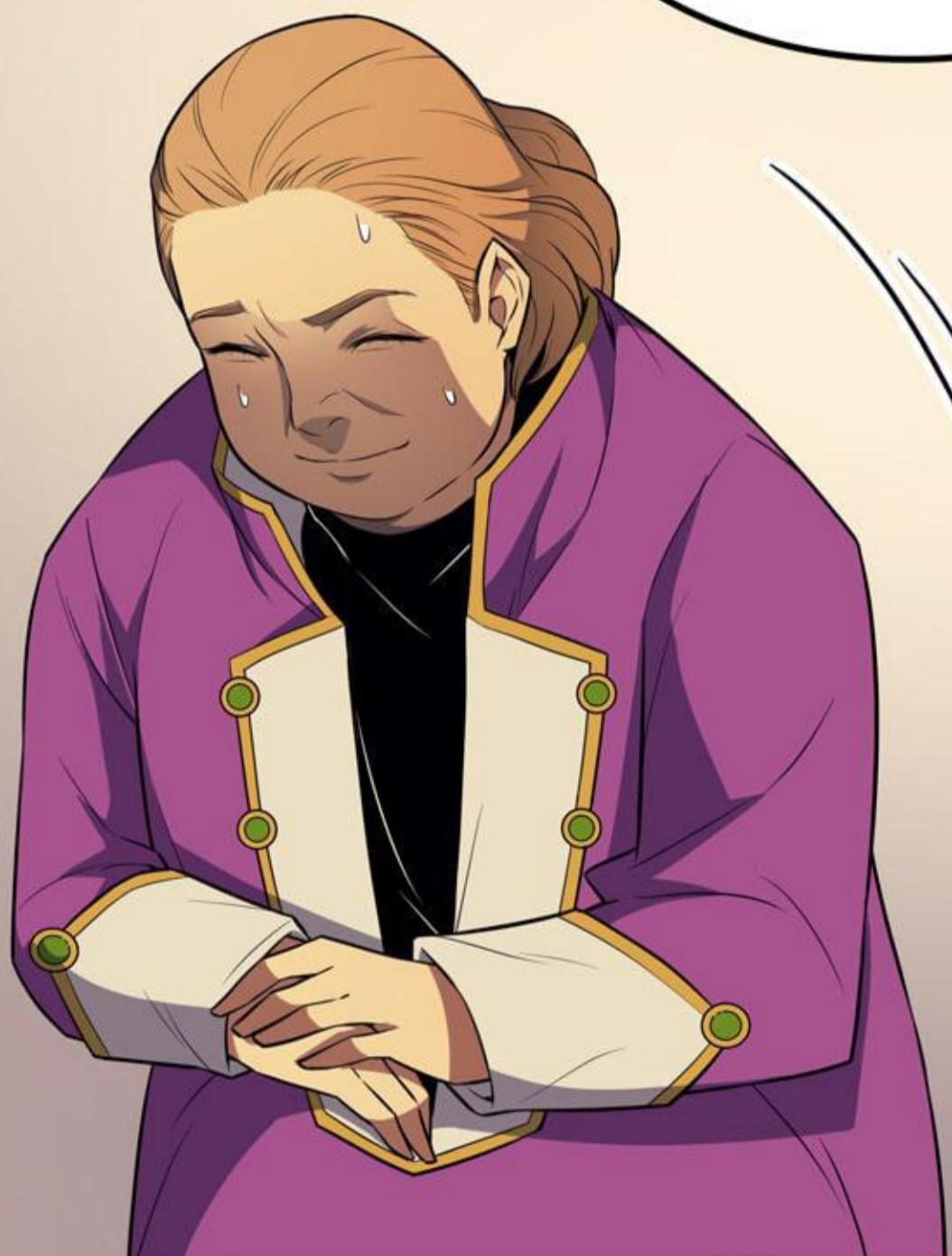
BELIEVE HE DESERVES  
THE UTMOST RESPECT  
FROM EVERYONE.

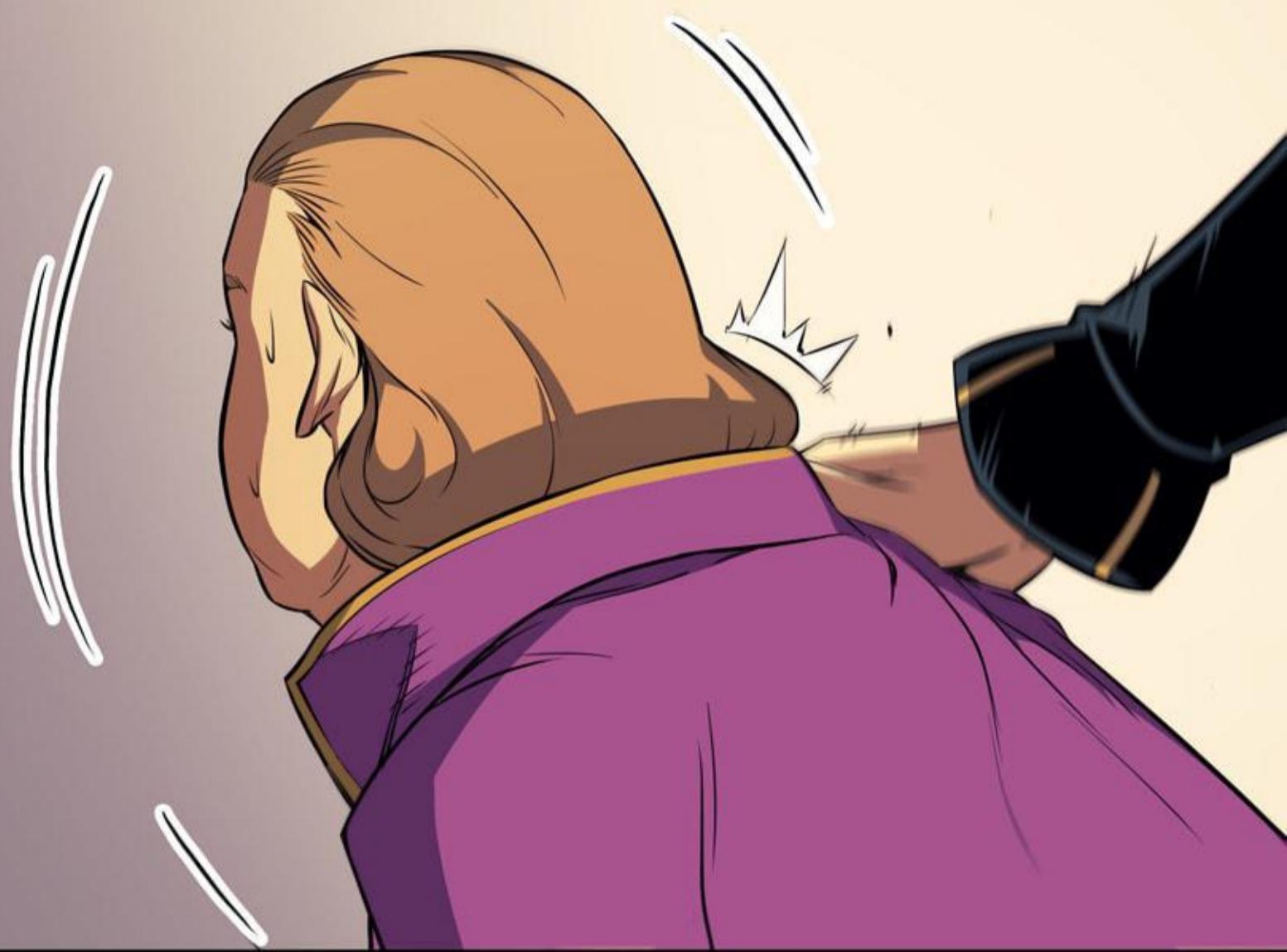
P-PLEASE,  
I BEG FOR YOUR  
FORGIVENESS,  
LORD FERRAN!!

HAAA

THERE'S  
NO NEED FOR  
YOU TO FEEL  
NERVOUS NOW,  
IS THERE?

THIS IS MY  
HOME AND YOU  
ARE MY GUESTS,  
SO YOU SHOULD  
ENJOY YOUR  
TIME HERE.







BECAUSE IF THIS  
WASN'T A FORMAL  
BANQUET...





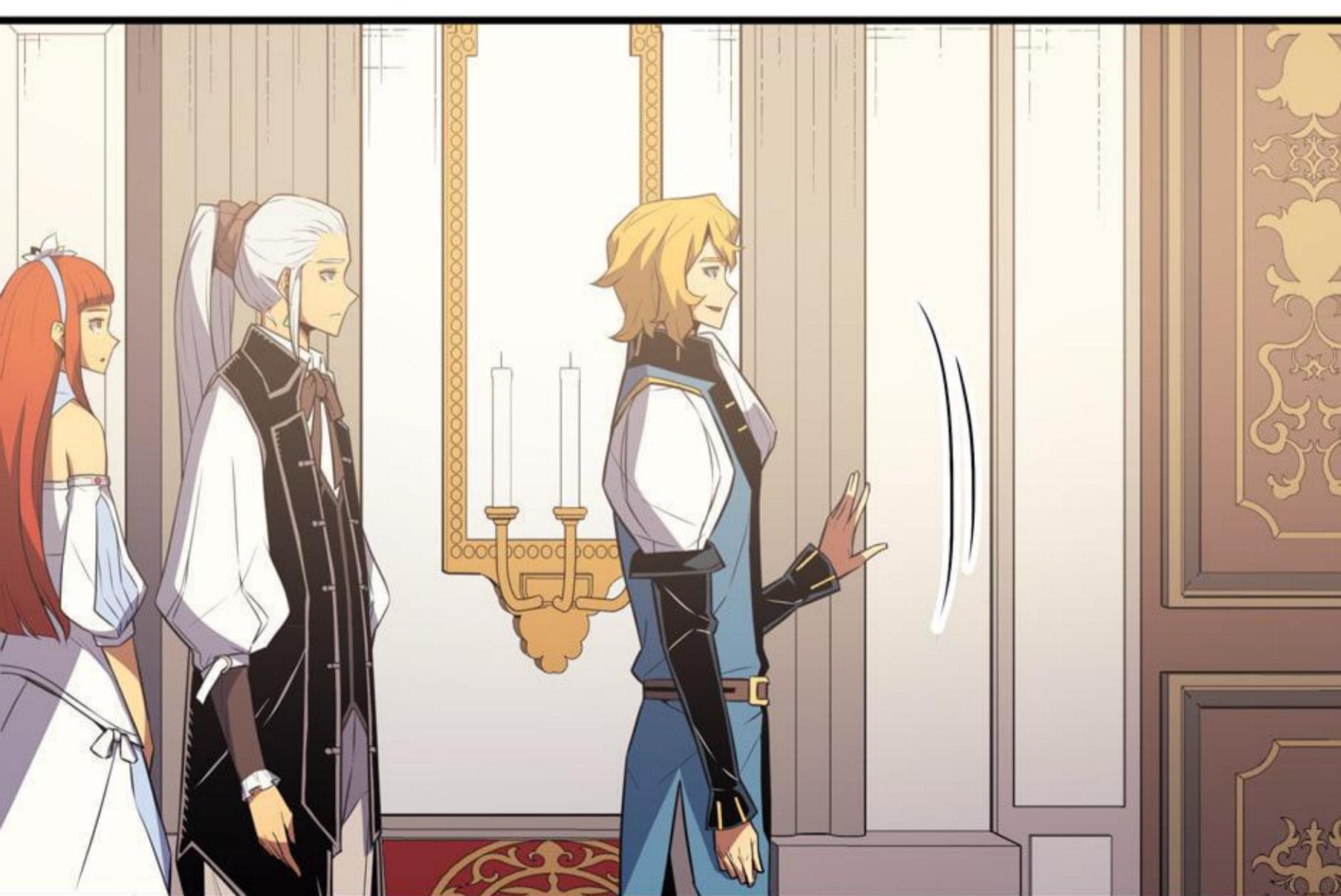
I WOULD  
HAVE HAD YOU  
ALL EXECUTED.



P-PLEASE  
EXCUSE US...!

TAKA

TAKA



MY MY...  
AREN'T YOU A  
VICIOUS ONE?

OH? BUT I WAS  
MERELY IMITATING  
WHAT I LEARNED  
FROM YOU.

YOU KIDDING?

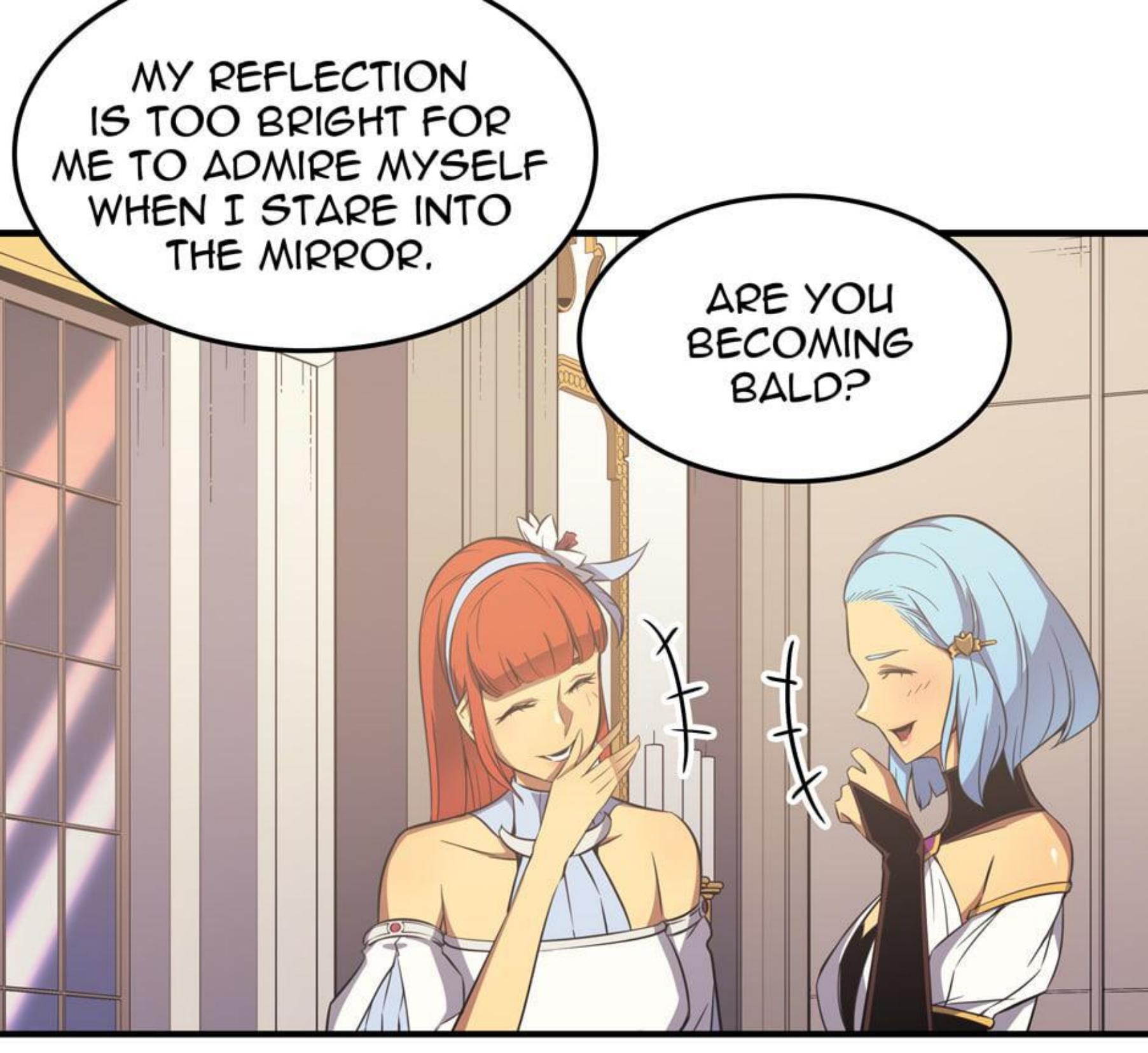
I'M A  
BENEVOLENT AND  
GENTLE PERSON,  
YOU KNOW?

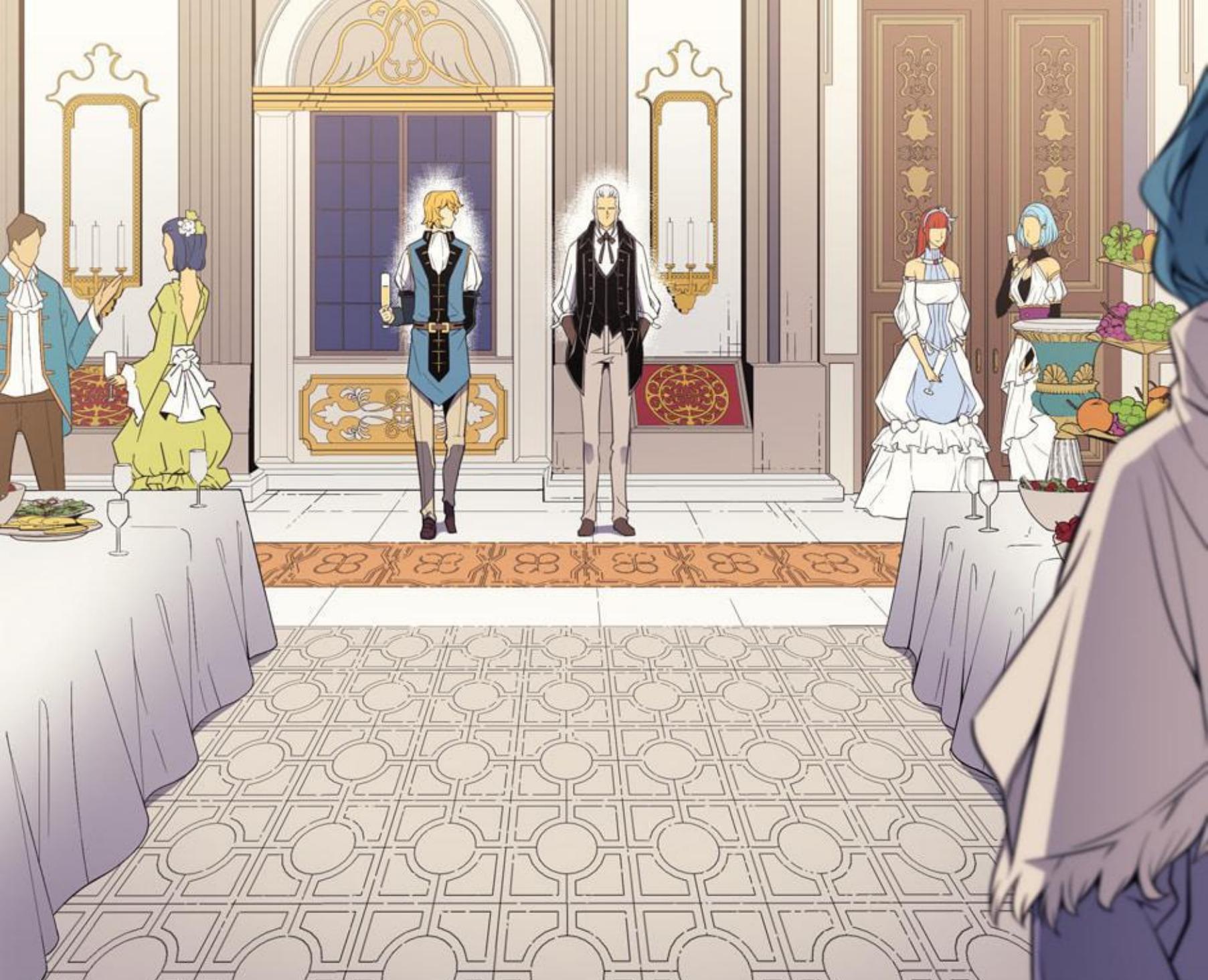


HAVE YOU  
LOOKED IN  
THE MIRROR  
LATELY?

MY REFLECTION  
IS TOO BRIGHT FOR  
ME TO ADMIRE MYSELF  
WHEN I STARE INTO  
THE MIRROR.

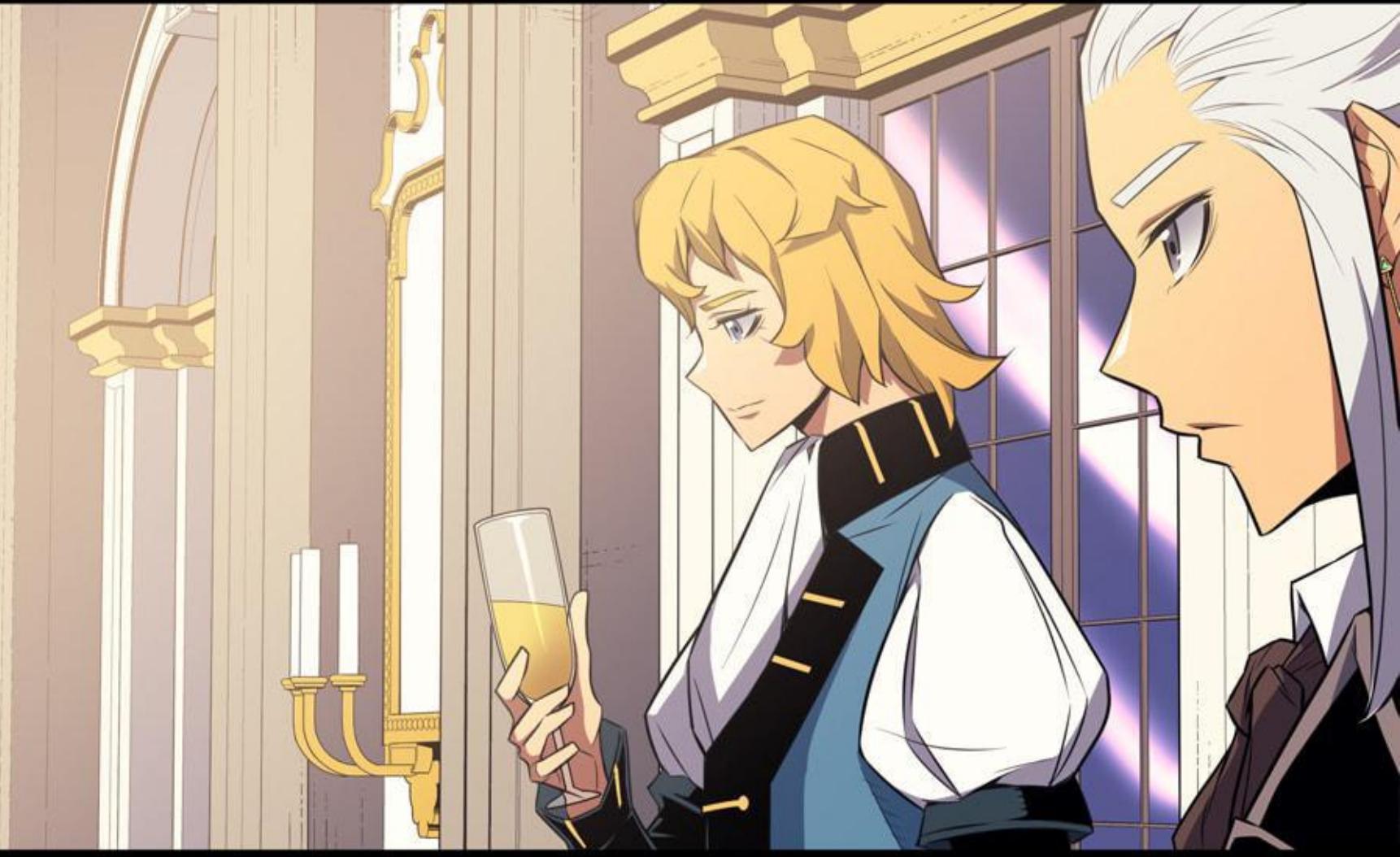
ARE YOU  
BECOMING  
BALD?





YOU'RE QUITE  
THE ECCENTRIC  
CHARACTER, YOU  
KNOW THAT?





THE POWERS YOU  
WIELDED BACK ON  
THE CORTES...



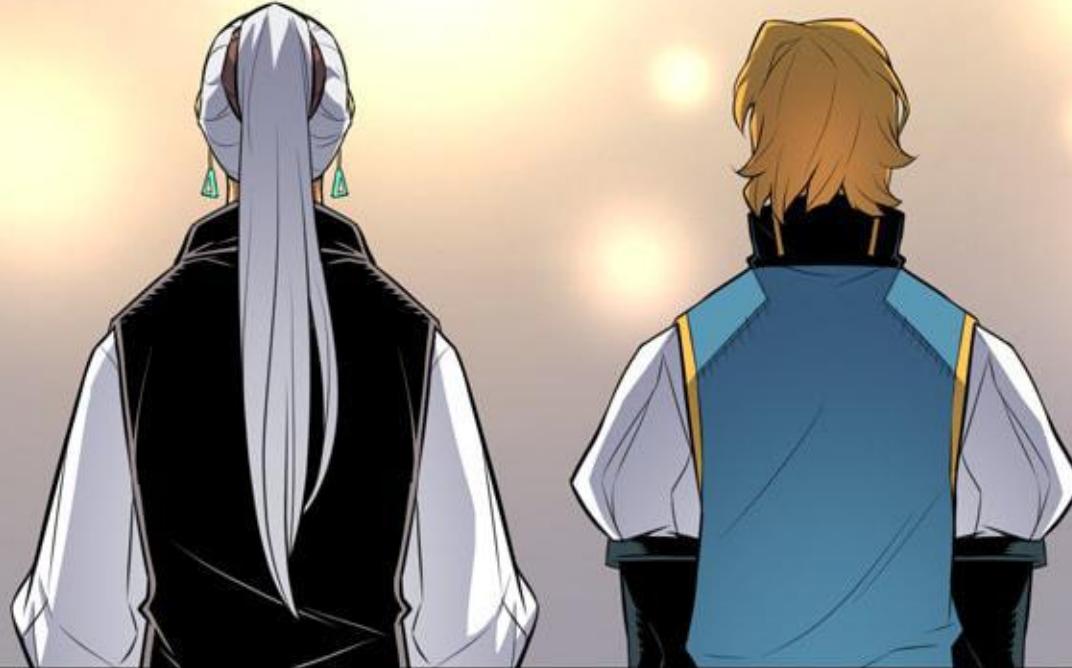
IF WORD GOT AROUND  
AND EVERYONE KNEW HOW  
POWERFUL YOU REALLY ARE,  
NOBODY WOULD DARE CALL  
YOU UNWORTHY OF THE  
BLAKE NAME.

A REAL MAN  
DOESN'T GO AROUND  
SHOWING OFF THEIR  
TRUE POTENTIAL,  
YOU KNOW?

IT JUST GETS  
ANNOYING TO  
DEAL WITH.

CHATTER

CHATTER



SO, WHAT WERE  
YOU DISCUSSING  
WITH MY FATHER?

HMM? OH...



HE HAD  
SUSPICIONS  
ABOUT ME BEING  
A PART OF THE  
TROWMAN  
RINGS.

TWITCH

CHATTER





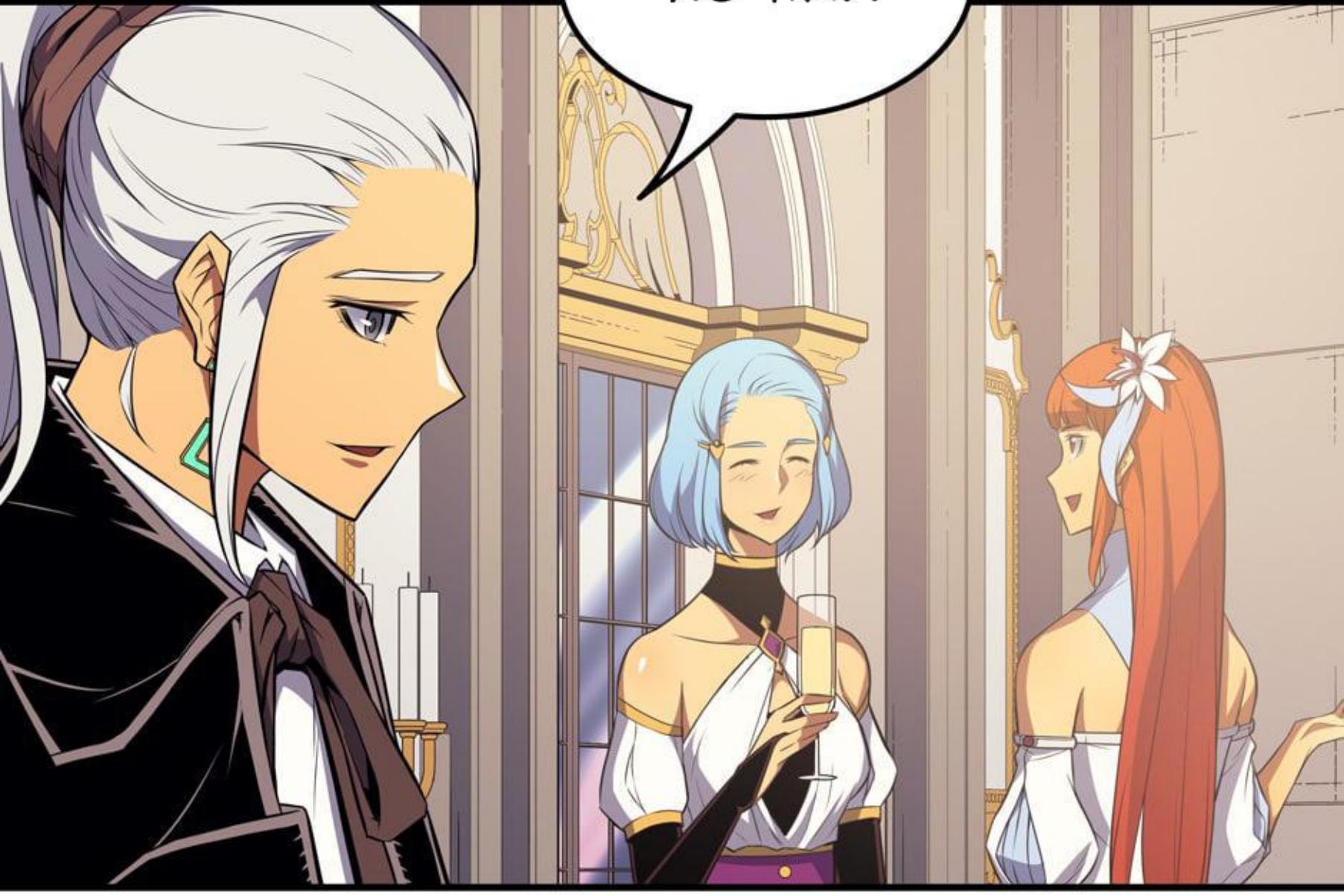
DID YOU  
HAVE A CHANGE  
OF HEART ABOUT  
MY OFFER...?

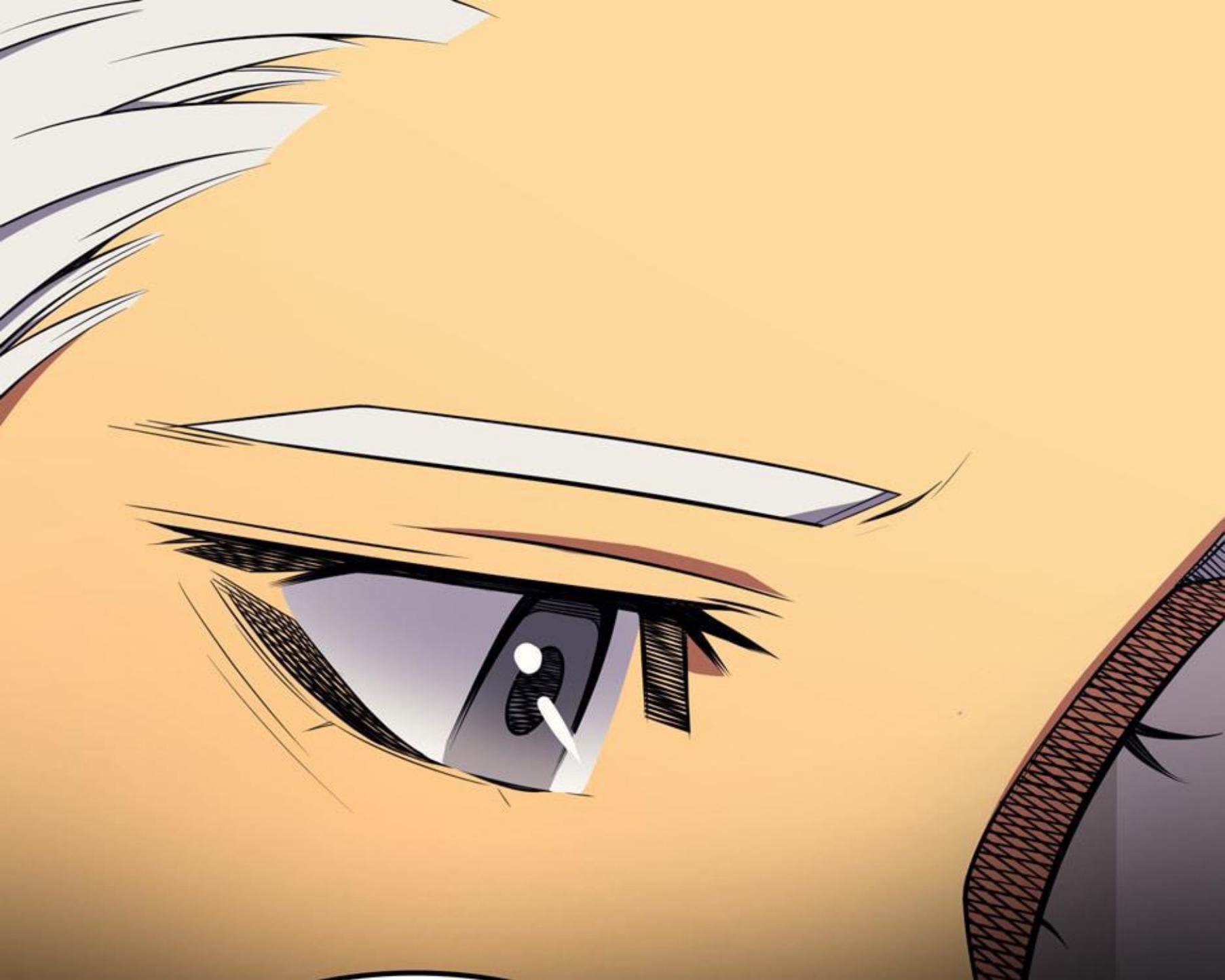
SIP





NO WAY.





THE REASON  
WHY I CAN CLEAR  
MY SUSPICIONS  
OF YOU

ISN'T BECAUSE  
YOU COULD TAP INTO  
THE POWERS OF THE  
TYPHOON EARRINGS.





ACTUALLY,  
THERE WAS  
SOMEONE WHO  
INFORMED ME  
ABOUT YOU.

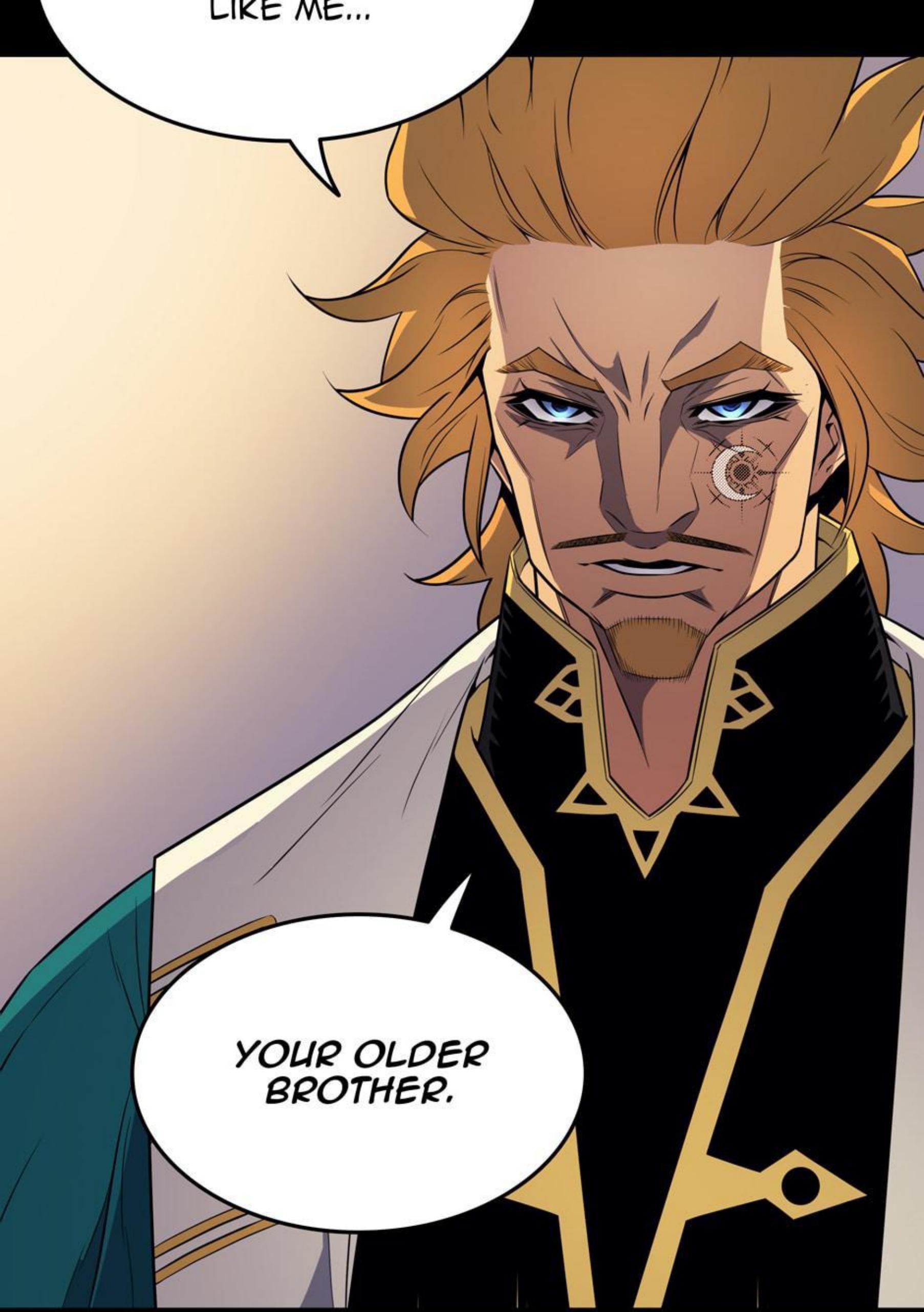
ABOUT ME?  
WHO WOULD...



HEINZ BLAKE.

A MEMBER OF  
STRAU NECKLACE,  
LITTLE MC

LIKE ME...



YOUR OLDER  
BROTHER.

I'M WELL  
AWARE OF WHAT  
YOUR FAMILY DID  
TO YOU.

I'M SURE  
YOU WENT ENOUGH

YOU WENT THROUGH  
MUCH DESPAIR AND  
IT'S DIFFICULT  
TO BEAR.

AND I REALIZE  
I'M IN NO POSITION  
TO SAY THIS, BUT  
IF I MAY...

YOUR  
BROTHER  
HEINZ...

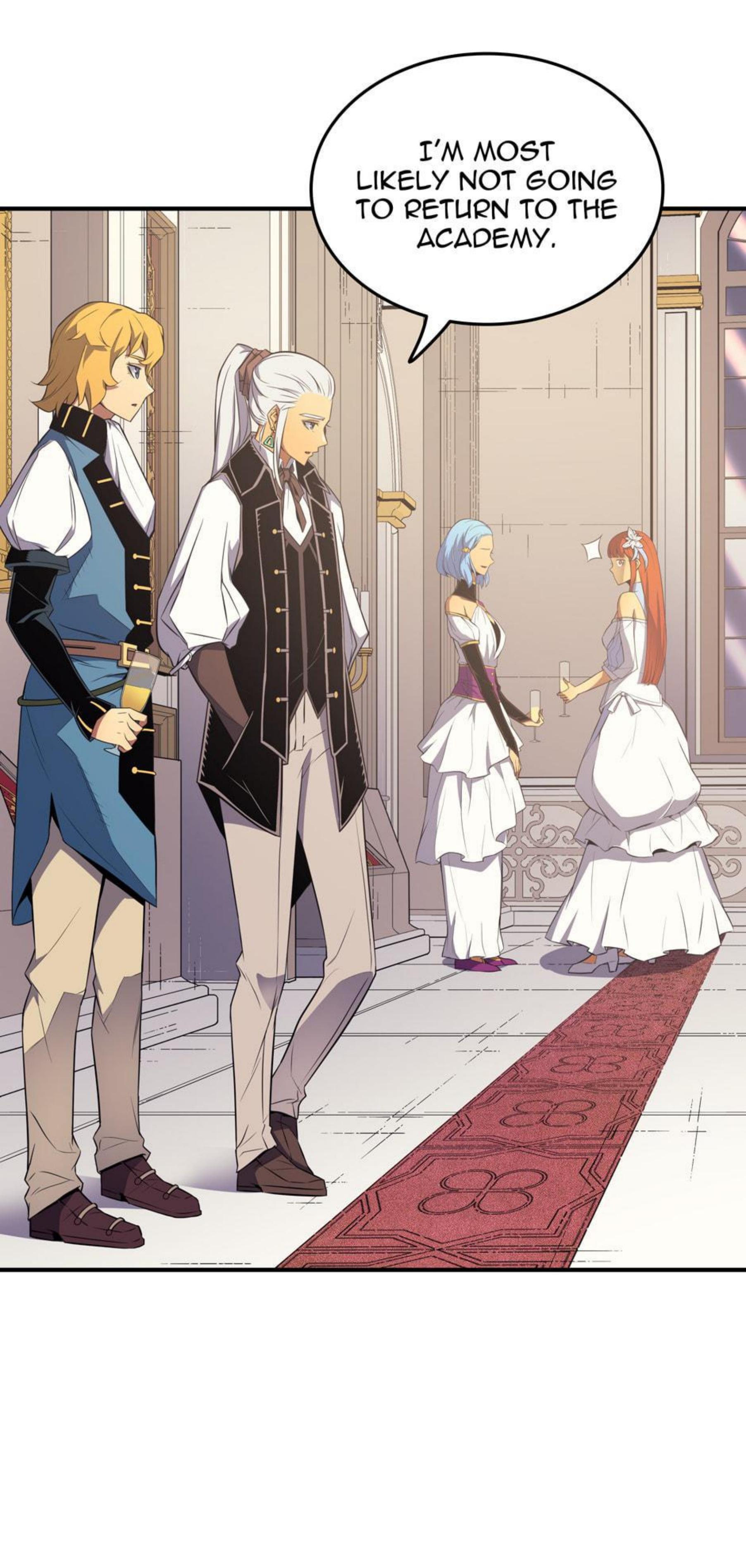
HE'S VERY  
DIFFERENT  
COMPARED TO  
COUNT ISAKA  
AND MISHAEL.



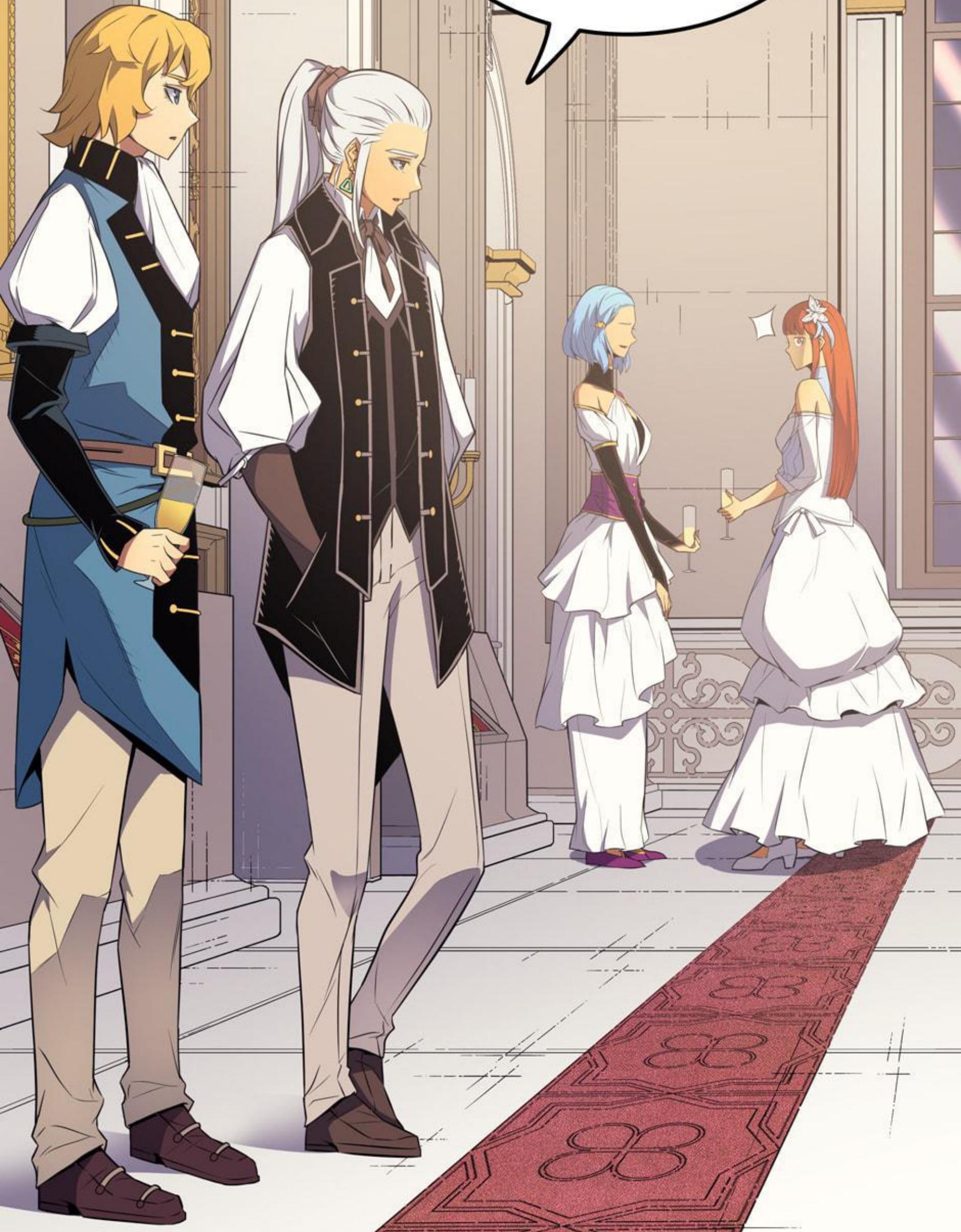
THERE  
WAS ANOTHER  
REASON WHY HE  
AGREED TO YOUR  
BANISHMENT FROM  
THE BLAKE HOUSE.

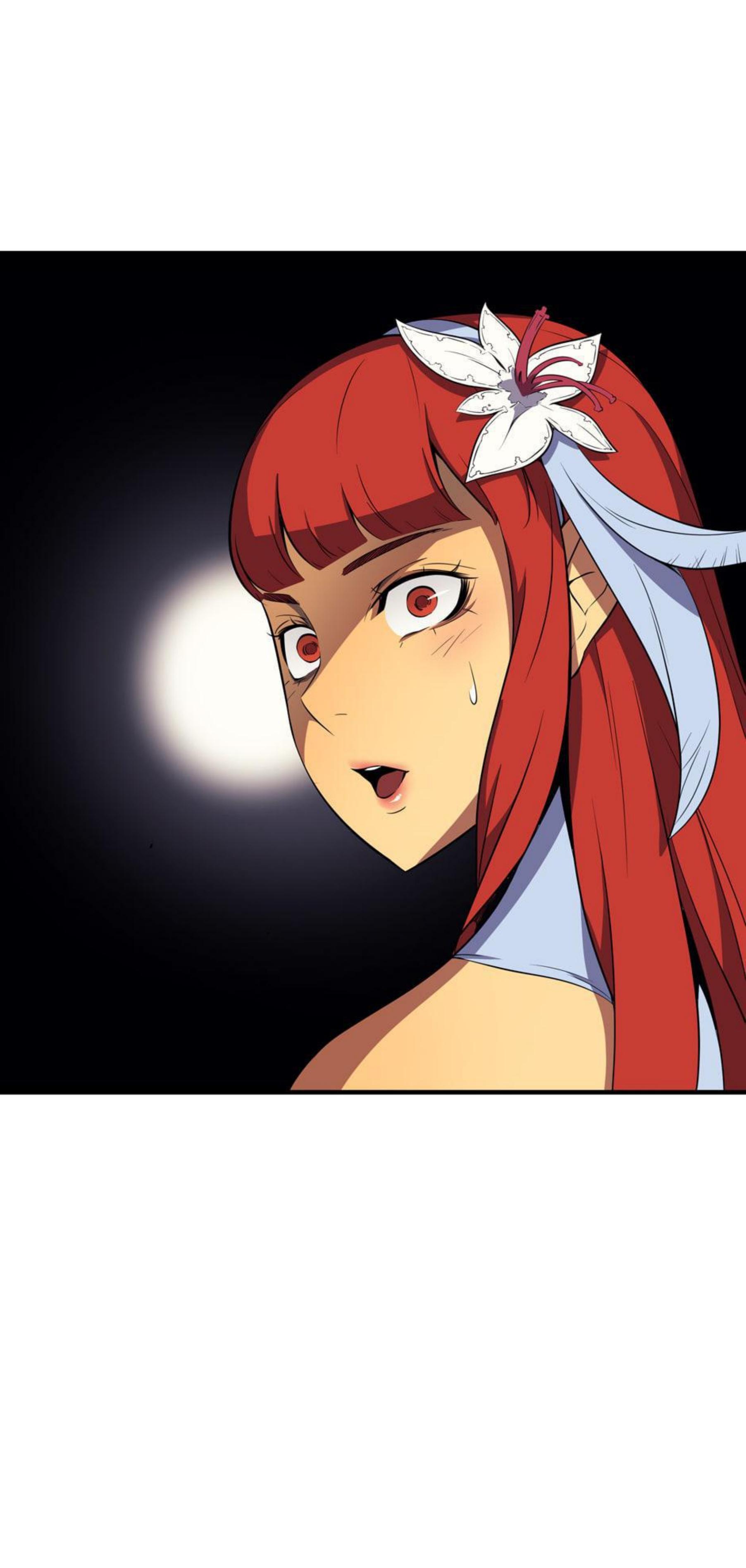


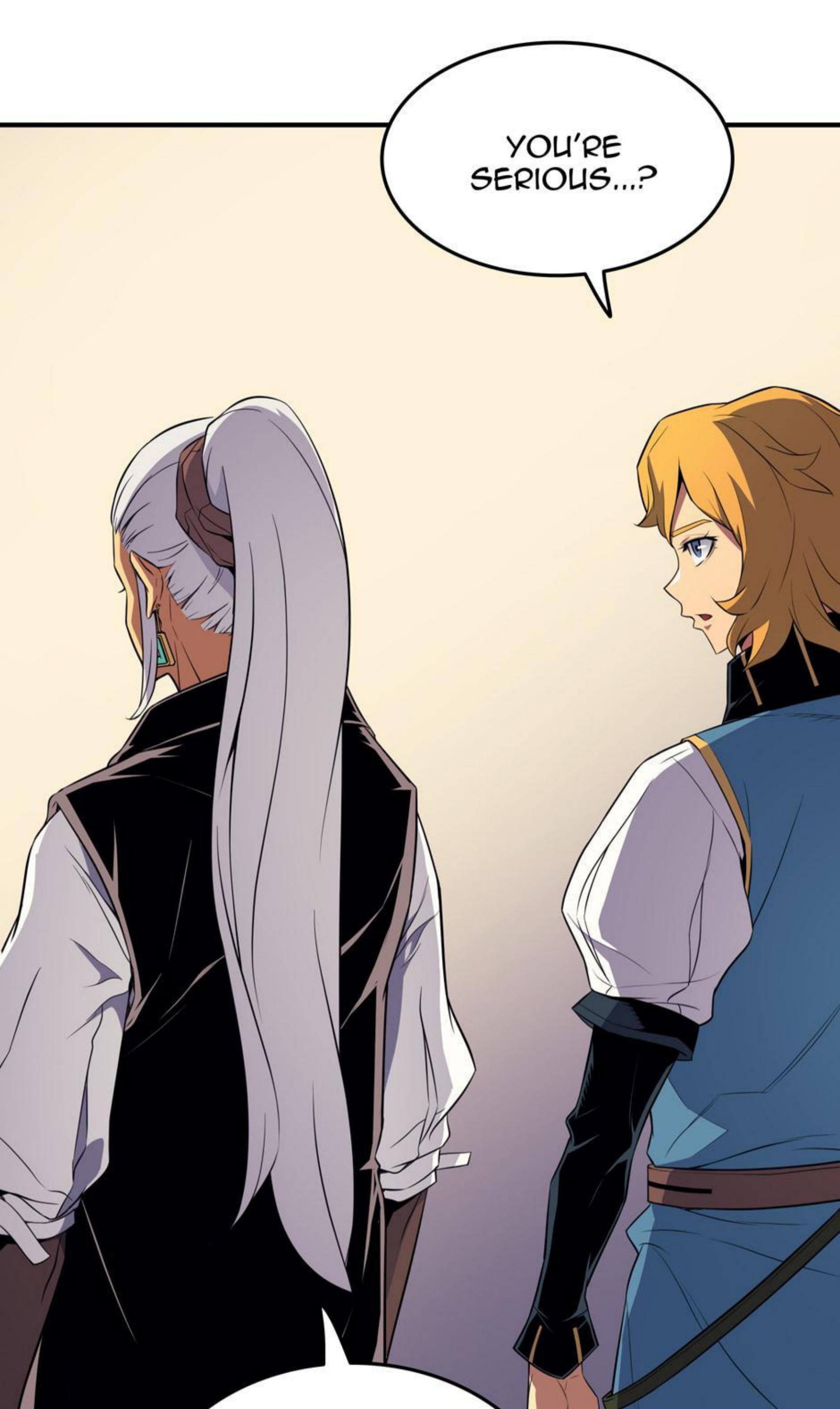
THAT'S ALL I CAN  
SAY FOR NOW.



I'M MOST  
LIKELY NOT GOING  
TO RETURN TO THE  
ACADEMY.



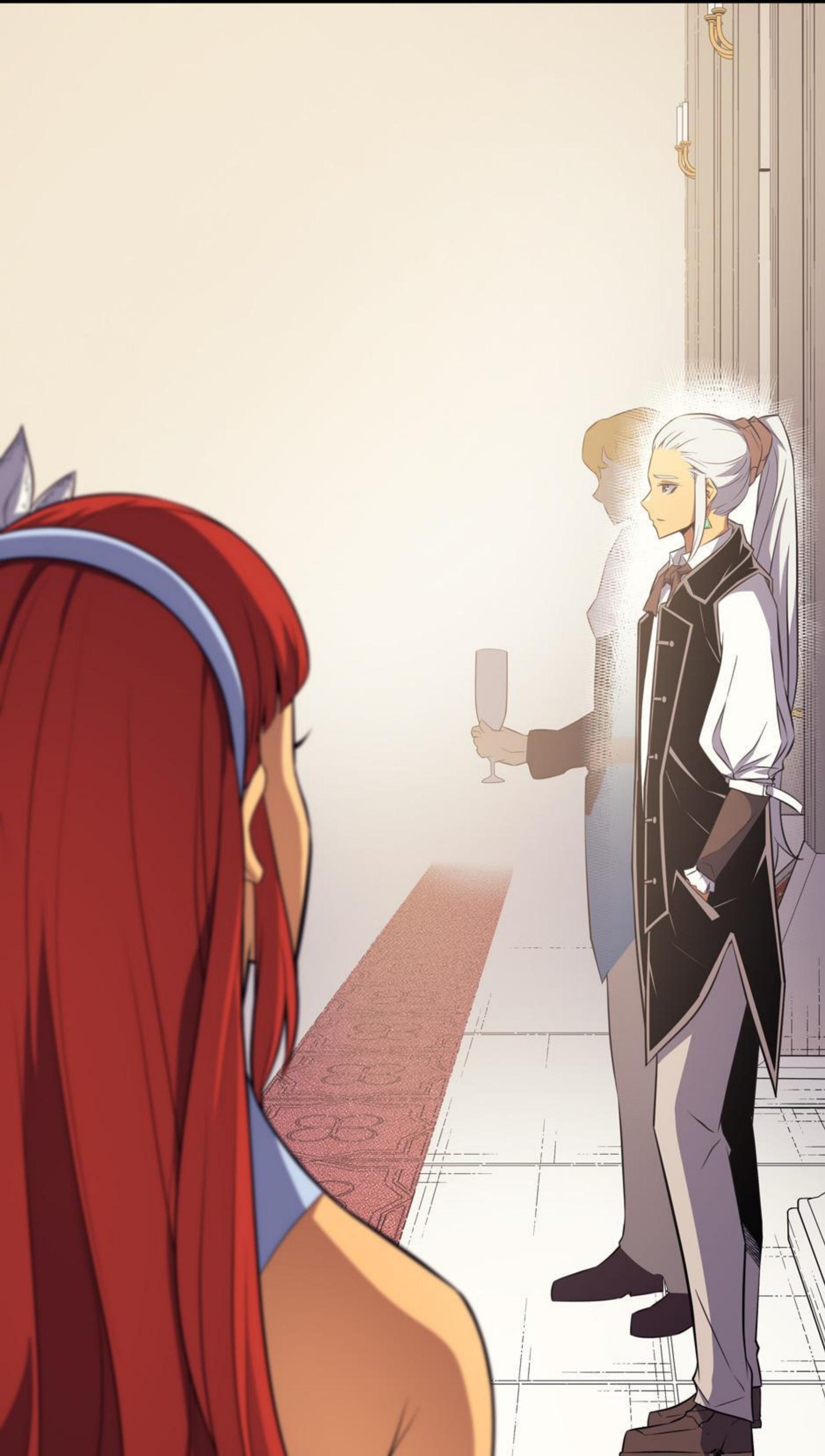


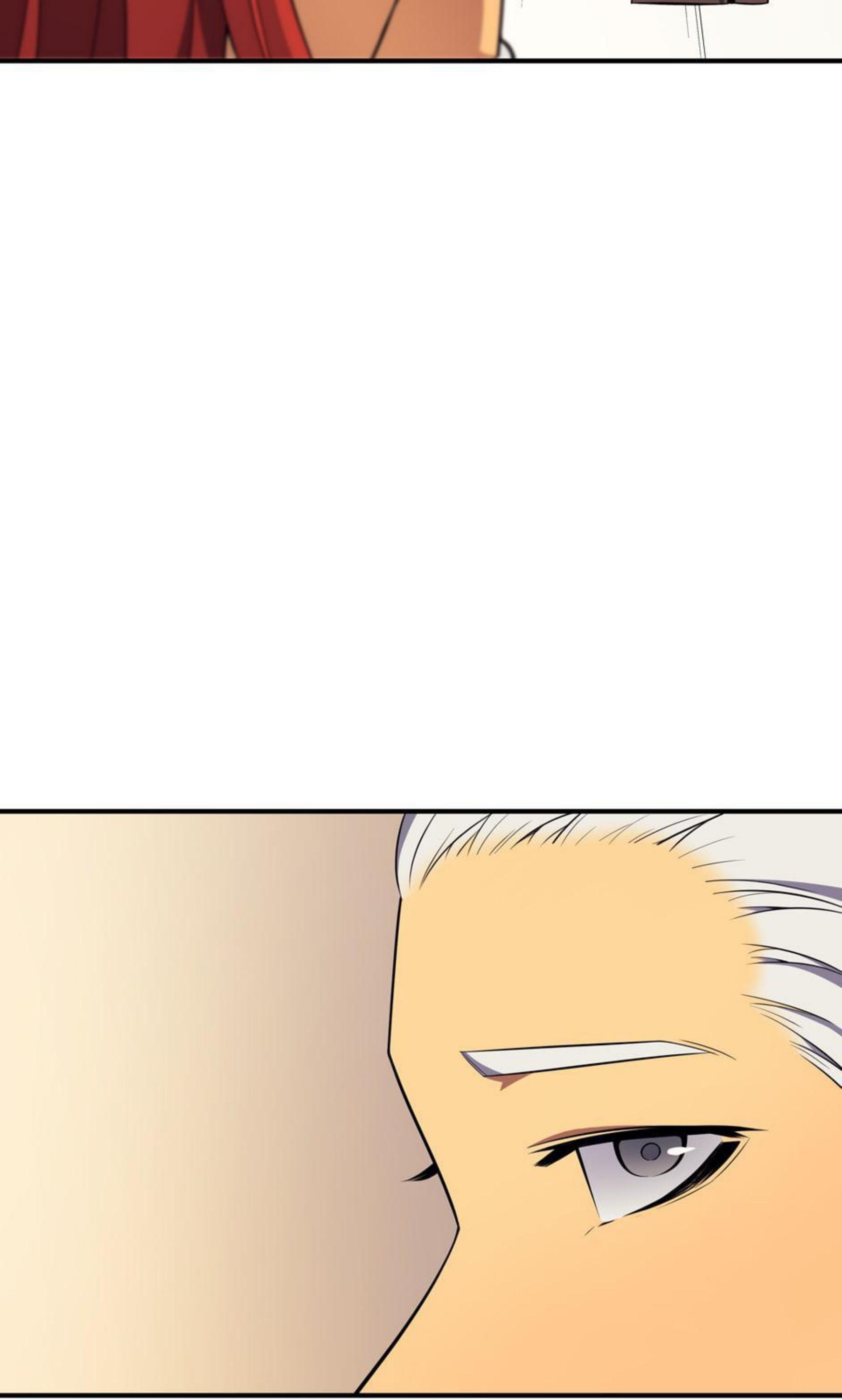


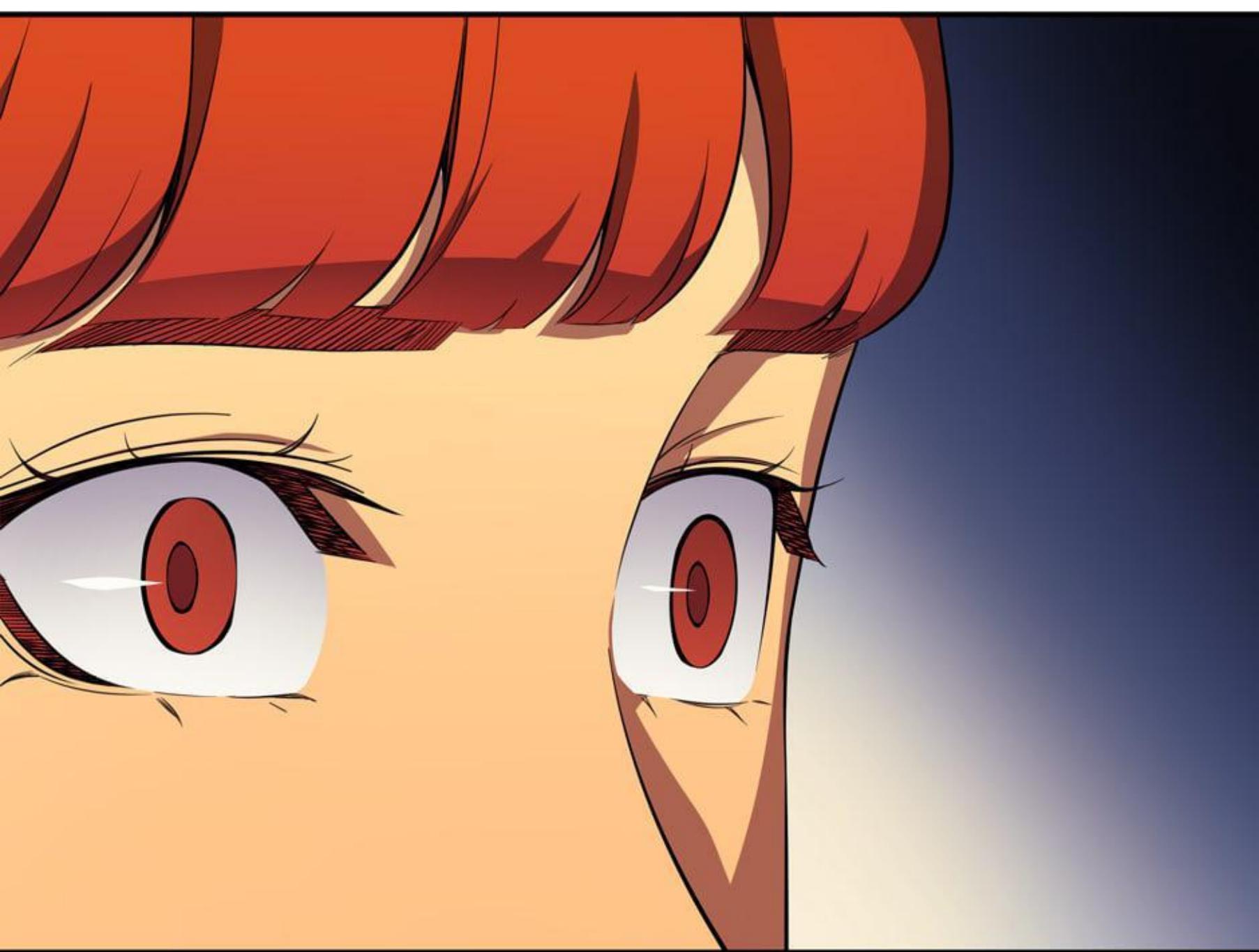
YOU'RE  
SERIOUS...?

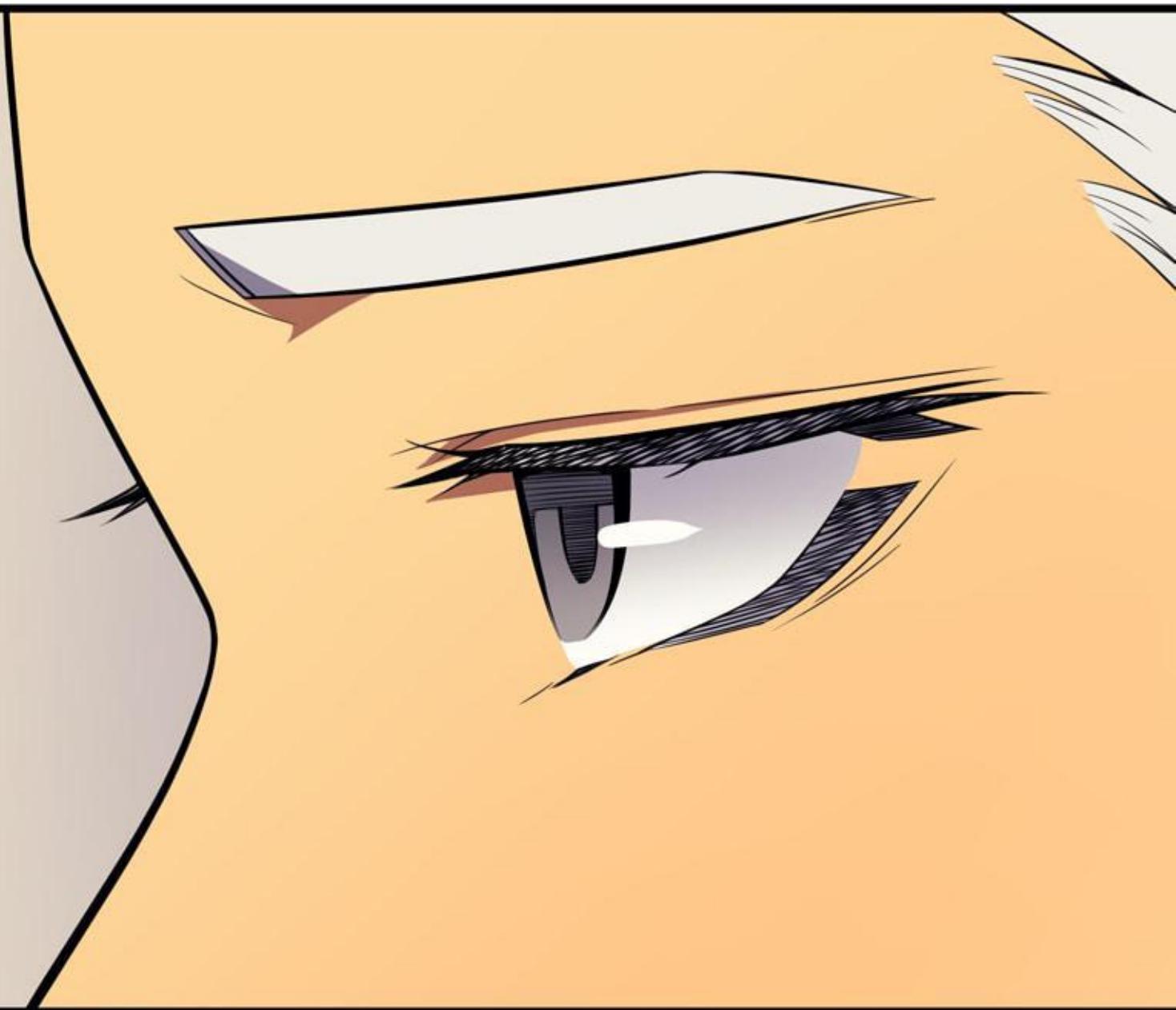


WELL...  
THERE'S REALLY  
NO REASON FOR  
ME TO RETURN  
THERE.



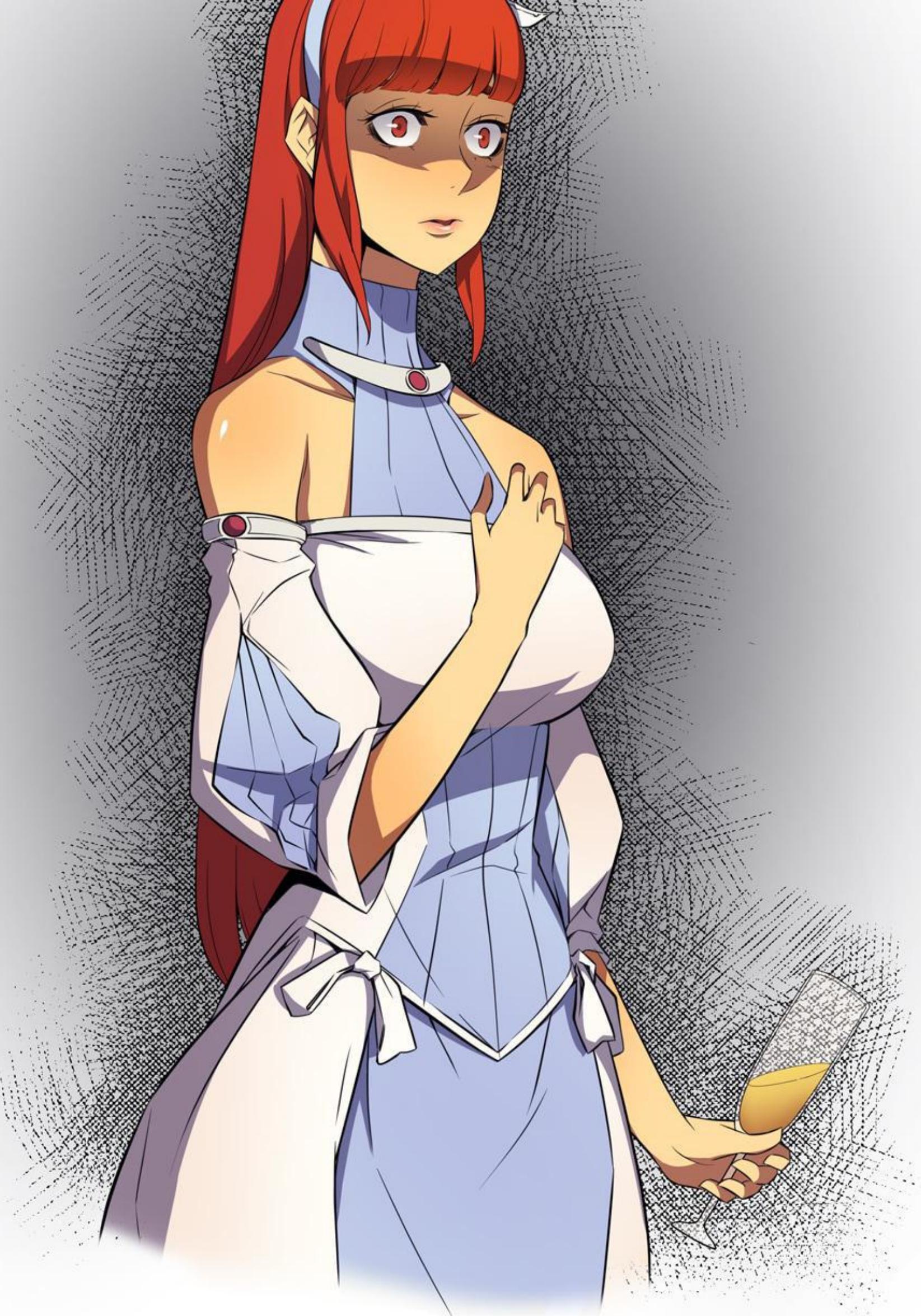






IF FREI ISN'T  
RETURNING TO  
THE ACADEMY...





**THEN WHAT  
SHOULD I...**

WHAT ARE  
YOUR PLANS GOING  
FORWARD?

CHATTER



HARD  
TO SAY... BUT  
YOUR FATHER  
DID MENTION I  
SHOULD APPLY  
TO JOIN THE 3RD  
MAGIC TOWER.

AH, THAT'S  
A FINE IDEA.



THEIR TRAINING CURRICULUM ISN'T ANYTHING EXTRAORDINARY,

BUT THEY SAY THE 3RD MAGIC TOWER POSSESSES SOME OF THE MOST UNIQUE MAGICAL RESEARCH AND ARCANE TEXTS AMONG ALL THE TOWERS.

ISABEL,  
YOU OKAY...?

MY APOLOGIES,  
I THINK I WILL  
RETIRE FOR  
THE EVENING.







**TOMORROW YOU WILL  
SET OFF FOR THE MAGIC  
TOWER... WHILE I WILL  
BE RETURNING TO  
THE ACADEMY...**

**IS THIS  
WHERE WE  
PART WAYS?**



EVER SINCE I CAME TO KNOW  
THAT YOU ARE NONE OTHER THAN  
LUCAS TROWMAN...

I KNEW THIS  
DAY WOULD COME  
EVENTUALLY...

**BUT IF I'M BEING  
HONEST, I STILL  
DON'T KNOW...**

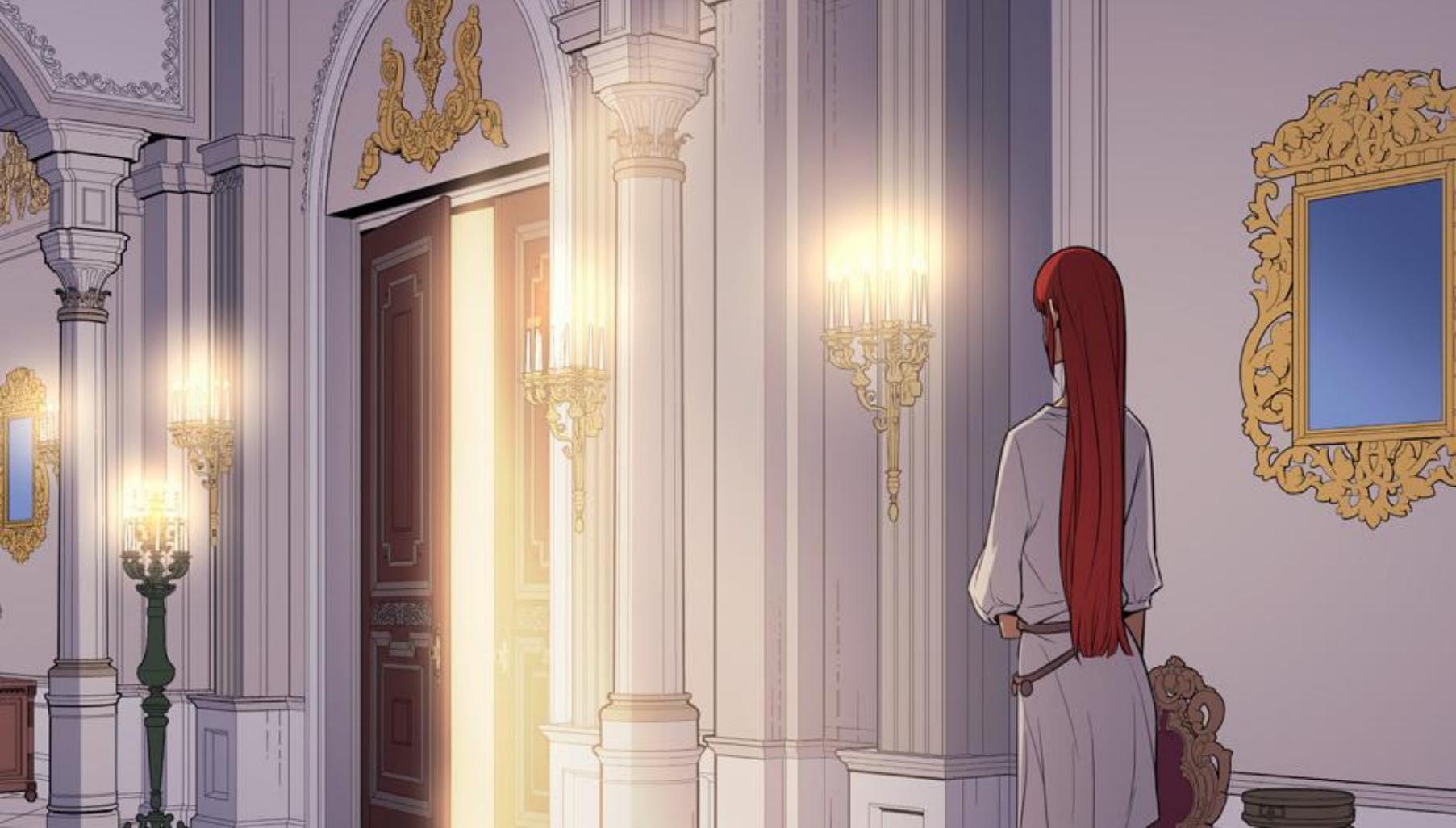


**WHAT IS IT THAT I**

**STRIVE TO ACHIEVE  
AND WHERE SHOULD  
I GO FROM HERE...?**



**WHERE SHOULD  
MY PATH TAKE ME?  
WHAT MUST I MASTER  
TO BECOME A  
GREAT MAGE?**



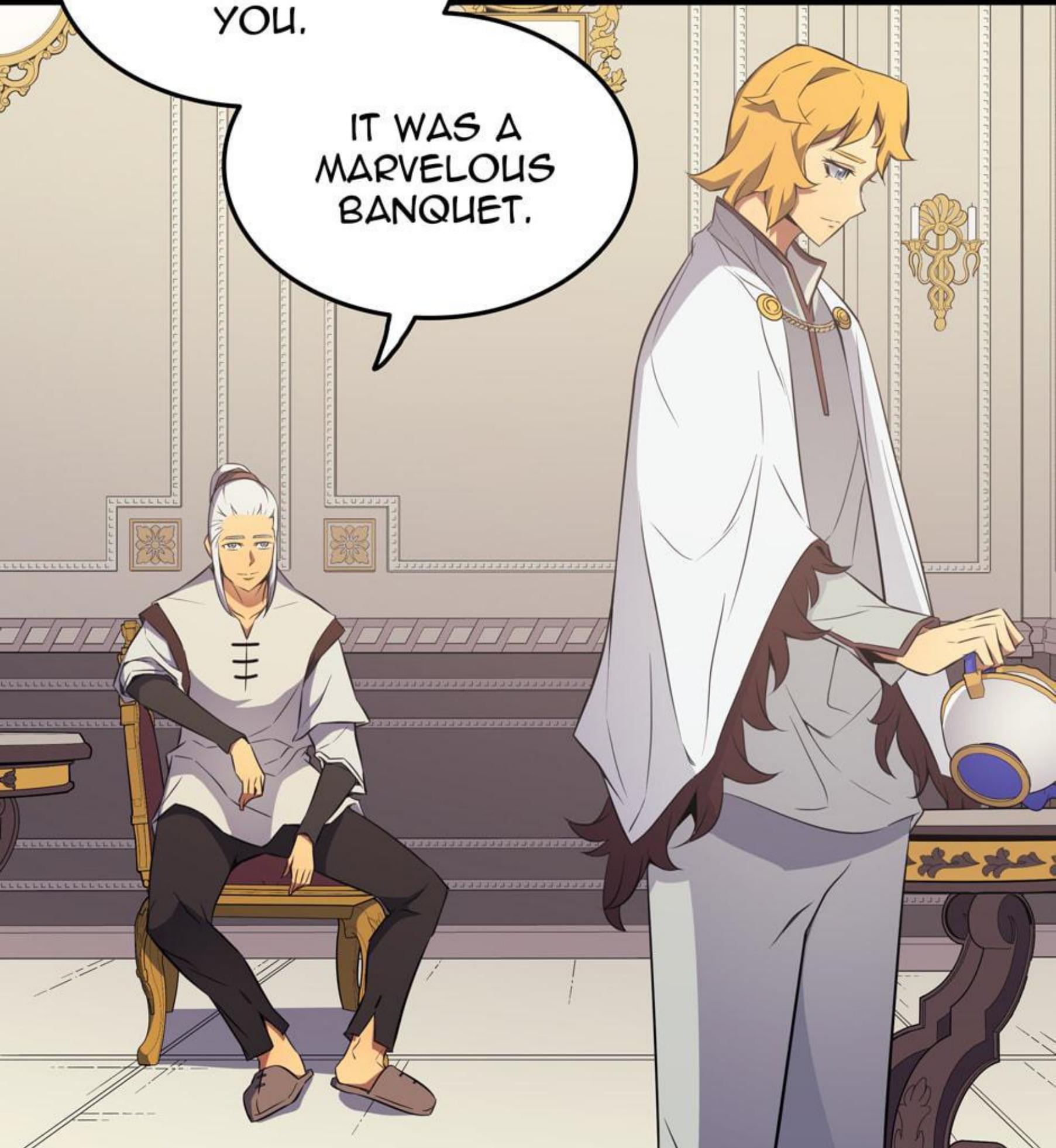


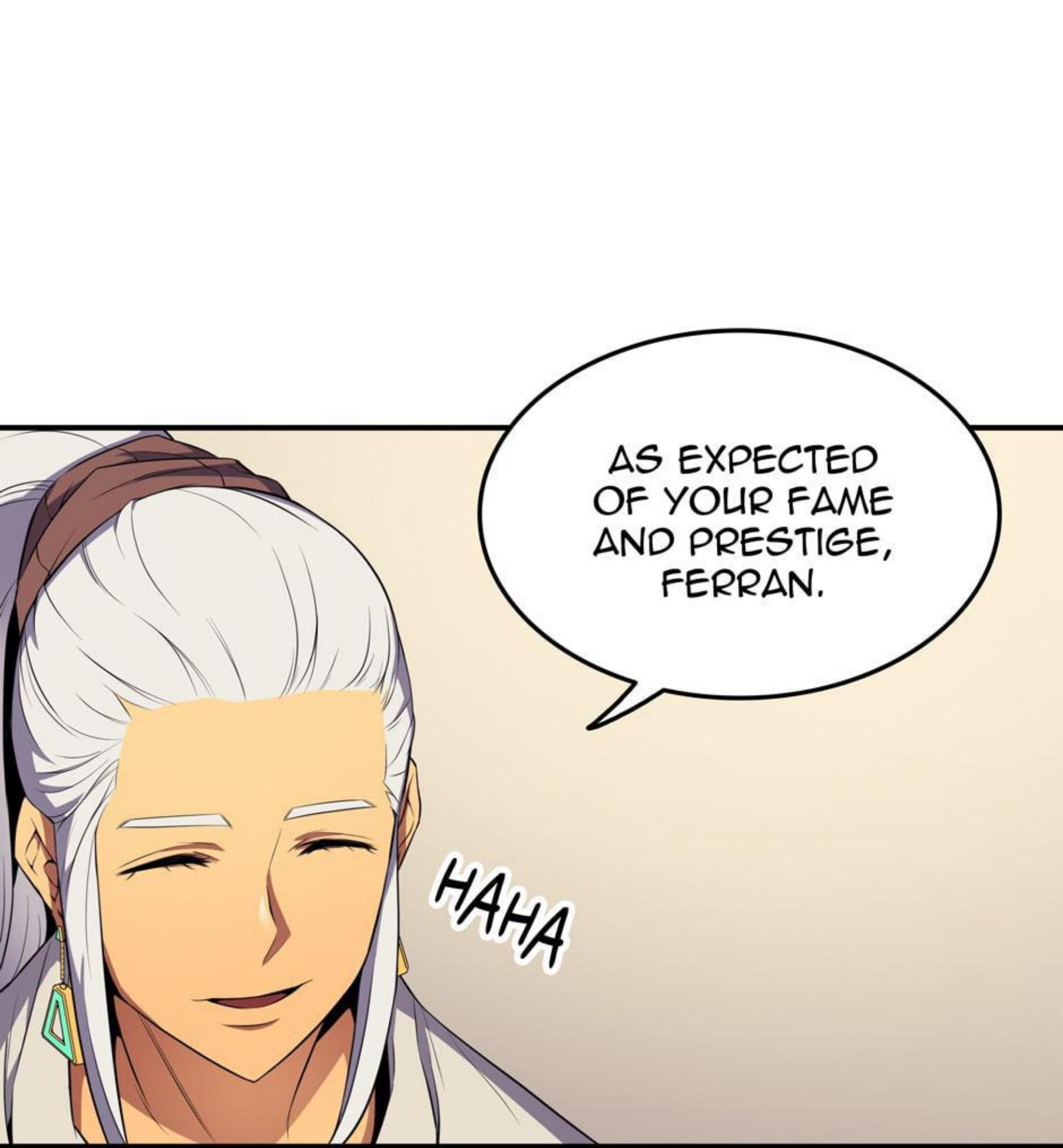
SO YOU LEAVE  
TOMORROW?

YEAH.

I HAD A  
GOOD TIME  
THANKS TO  
YOU.

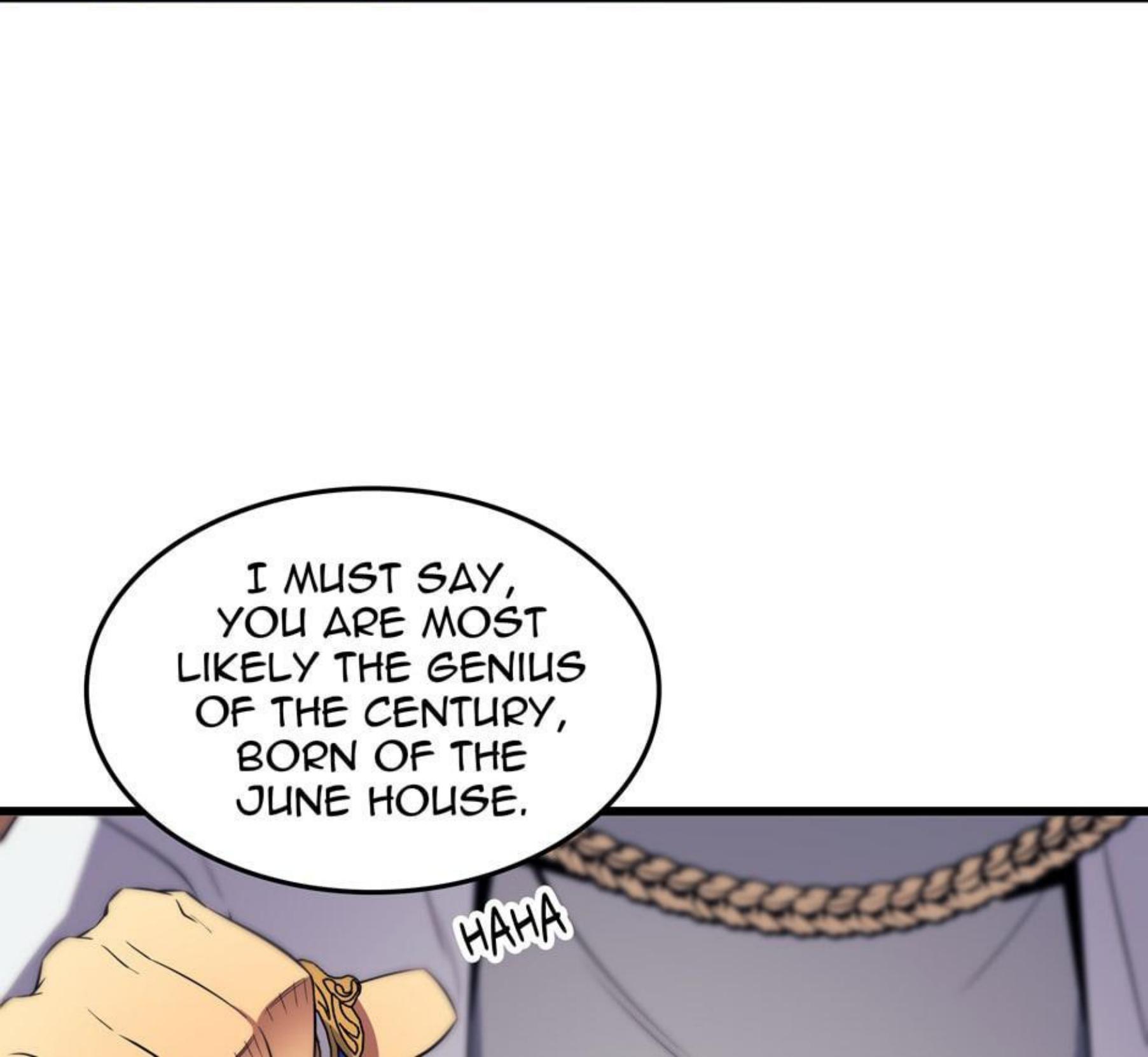
IT WAS A  
MARVELOUS  
BANQUET.





AS EXPECTED  
OF YOUR FAME  
AND PRESTIGE,  
FERRAN.

HAHA

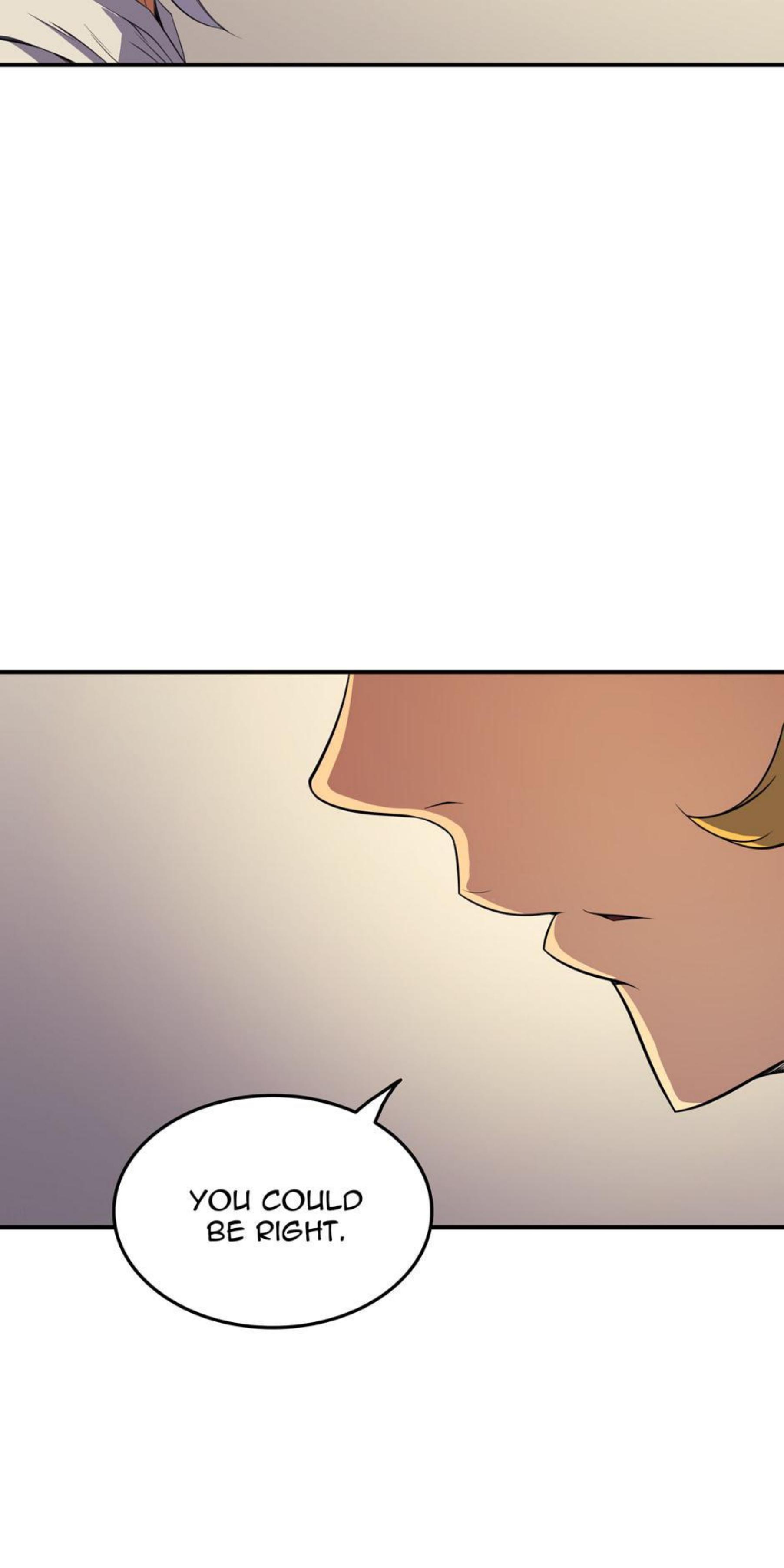


I MUST SAY,  
YOU ARE MOST  
LIKELY THE GENIUS  
OF THE CENTURY,  
BORN OF THE  
JUNE HOUSE.

HAHA



A GENIUS,  
HUH...?



A close-up of a character's face, showing the side of their head and ear. The character has dark brown hair with a yellow outline. A white speech bubble is attached to the side of their head, containing the text "YOU COULD BE RIGHT.".

YOU COULD  
BE RIGHT.

I WAS FIVE YEARS OLD WHEN I FIRST NOTICED I COULD SENSE MANA.

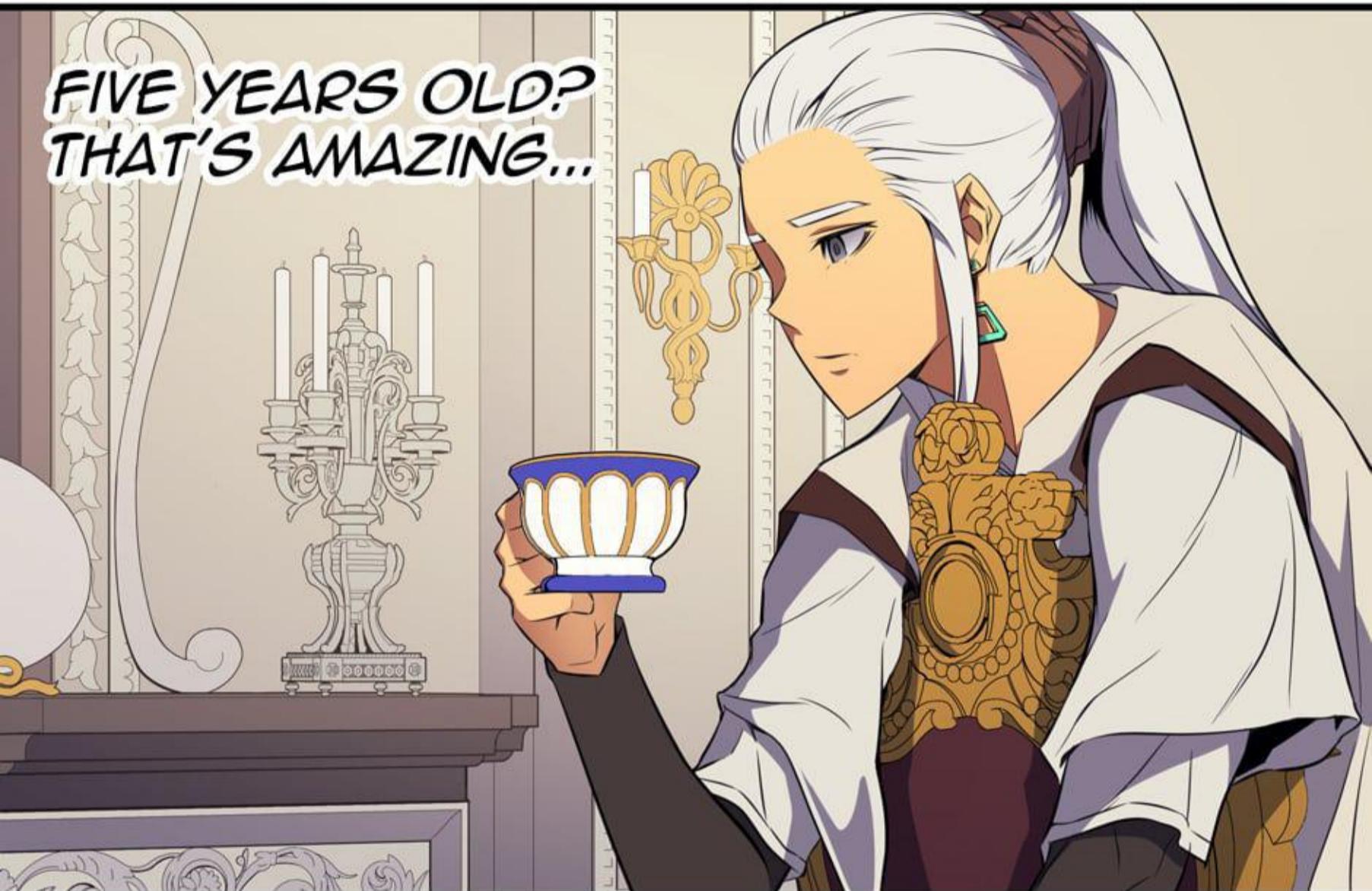


HEH, ARE  
YOU TRYING TO  
SHOW OFF?

Ssk

HAHA, AS IF.

**FIVE YEARS OLD?  
THAT'S AMAZING...**



I'M SURE THE EARLIEST  
SCHEIZER AND I FELT  
MANA WAS WHEN WE  
TURNED SEVEN...

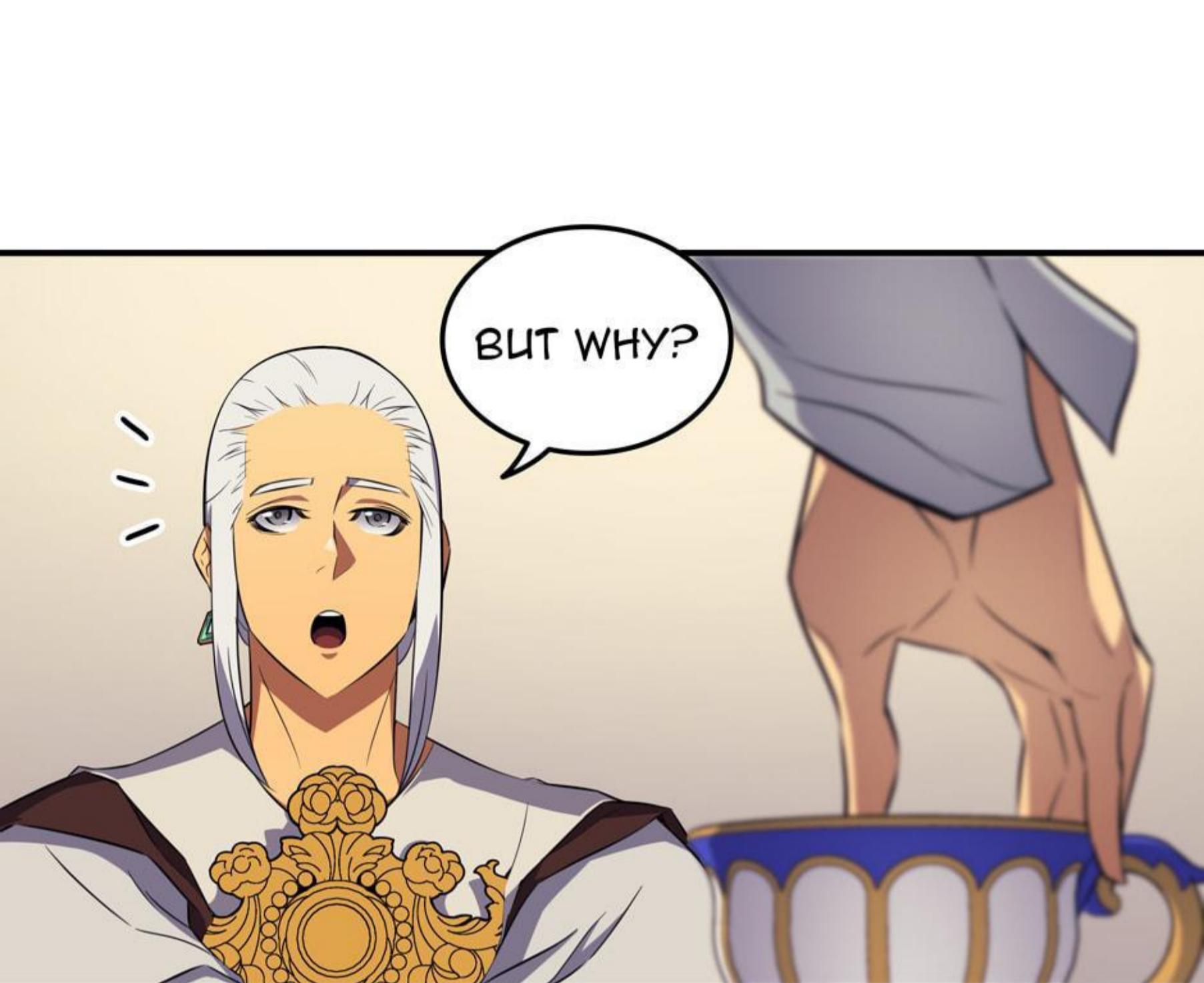


THIS LAD TRULY  
IS A GENIUS.

I WAS  
SEVENTEEN  
YEARS OLD WHEN  
I REACHED  
TIER 4.



THOUGH... ON  
OFFICIAL RECORDS,  
WE RECORDED THAT  
I REACHED TIER 4 BY  
THE TIME I REACHED  
TWENTY YEARS  
OLD...



BUT WHY?

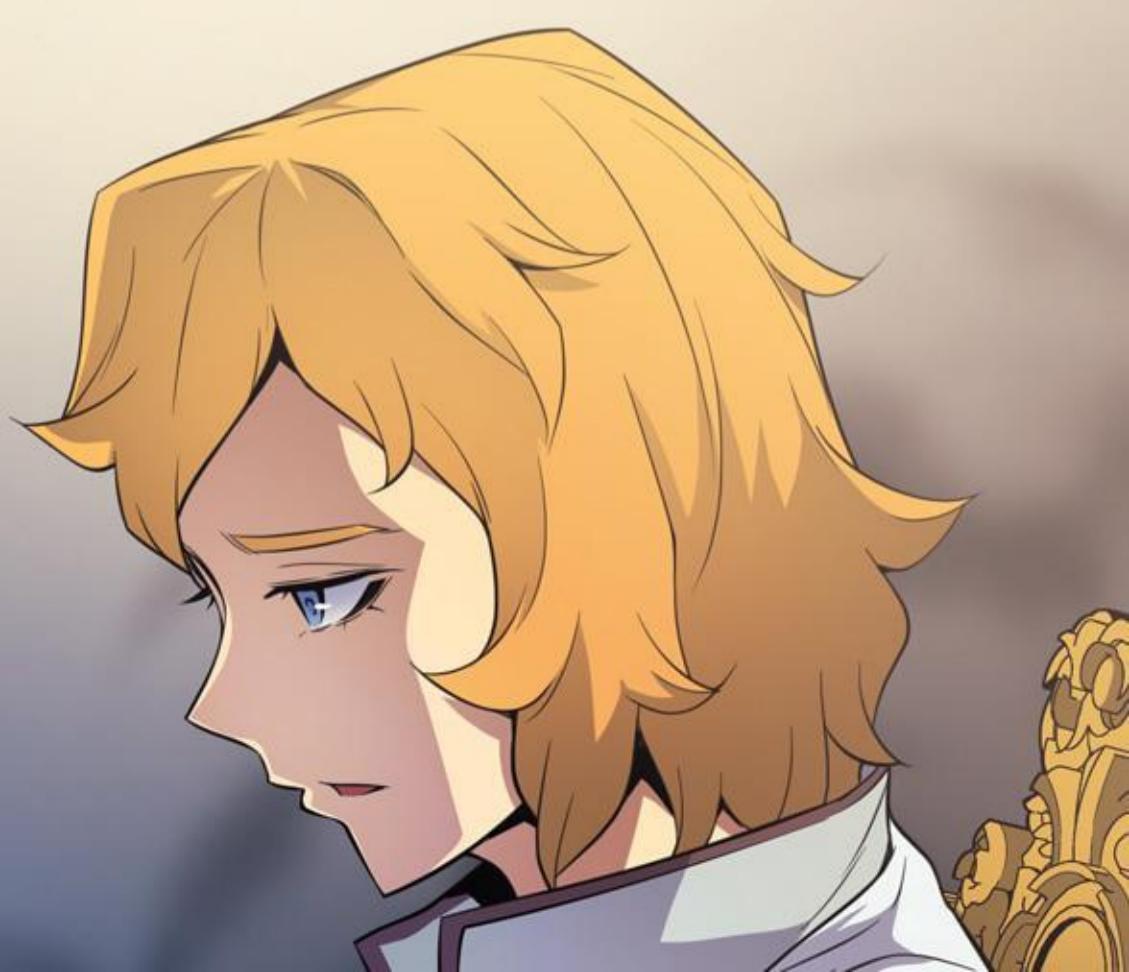


FREI...



I'VE NEVER  
SHARED MY  
HONEST THOUGHTS  
AND FEELINGS  
ABOUT THIS  
BEFORE...

BUT I CAN  
FINALLY GET THIS OFF  
MY CHEST BECAUSE  
IT'S YOU...





**TO BE FRANK...  
I SEE MY TALENT  
AS A CURSE.**