

THE ARCHMAGE RETURNS AFTER 4000 YEARS

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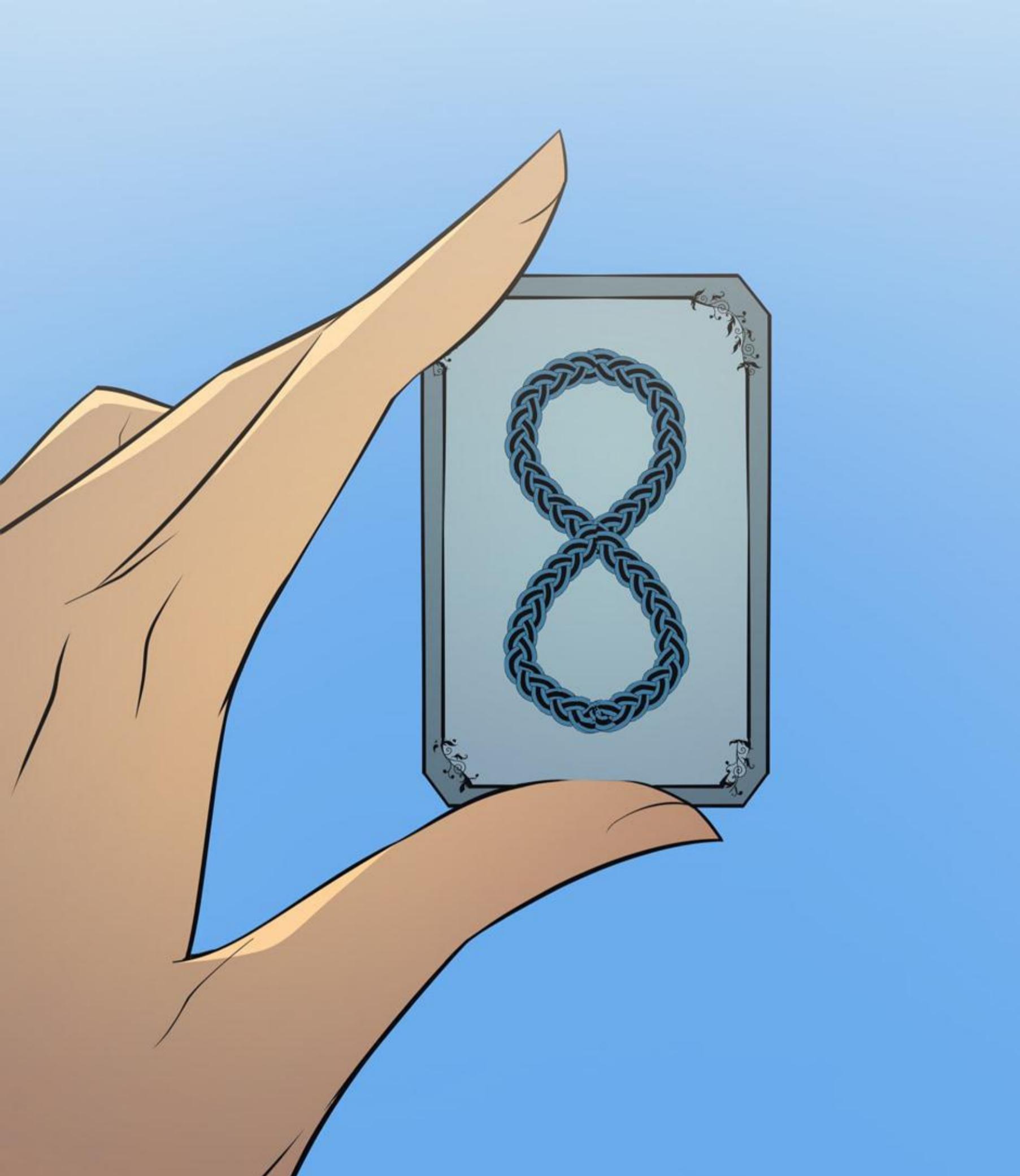
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~ 49 ~

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WHAT IS THIS?





I RECEIVED
IT FROM DUKE
SHEPHERD.

IT'S PROOF OF
SORTS THAT ALLOWS
ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO
TAKE THE ENTRANCE
TESTS FOR THE
CIRCLE.

A SECRET
ORGANIZATION
CREATED TO LIBERATE
THIS WORLD...

IT WOULD BE
BEST TO ACQUIRE
MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
DEMIGOD FROM THESE
ORGANIZATIONS.

UNTIL NOW

UNTIL NOW...

I'VE NEVER
HEARD OF THE
DEMIGODS.

NOR HAVE I
TRULY UNDERSTOOD
THE STRUGGLES OF
THE FIVE HEROES,
INCLUDING YOU...

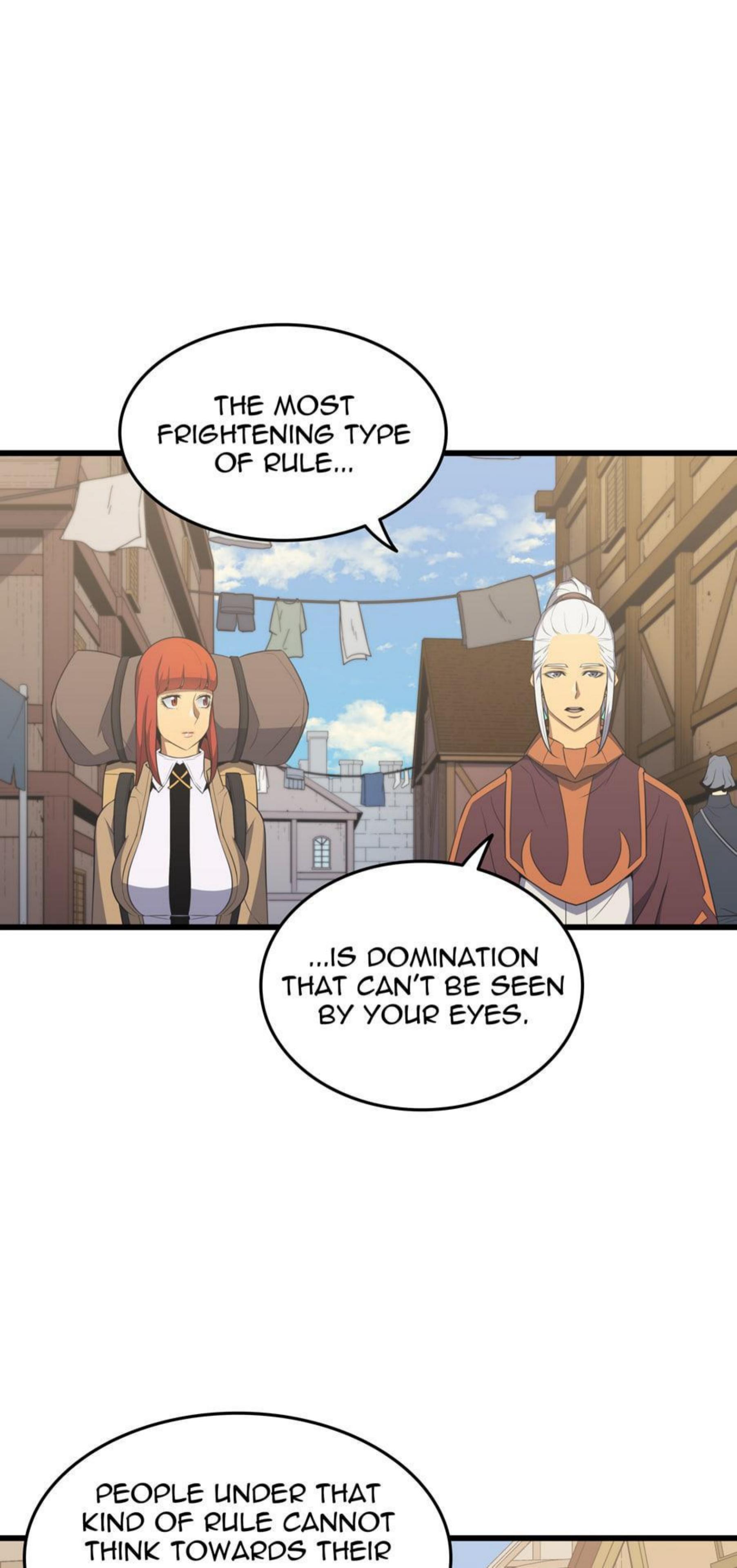


WE WERE SIMPLY
TAUGHT THAT THEY
WERE GREAT HEROES
WHO TRIED TO SAVE THIS
WORLD FROM RUIN...

BUT TO THINK
THAT THE ENEMY THEY
FOUGHT AGAINST AND
LOST WAS THE
DEMIGOD...



IF I HAD NEVER
HEARD IT FROM YOU
DIRECTLY, I MAY HAVE
THOUGHT IT WAS MERELY
A CONSPIRACY
THEORY.



THE MOST
FRIGHTENING TYPE
OF RULE...

...IS DOMINATION
THAT CAN'T BE SEEN
BY YOUR EYES.

PEOPLE UNDER THAT
KIND OF RULE CANNOT
THINK TOWARDS THEIR

FUTURE NOR ARE THEY
WILLING TO ADVANCE
FURTHER.

THEY CAN ONLY
PASS TIME AND BE
CONTENT WITH
LIFE AS IT IS.

THEY ARE
CONTENT WITH THEIR
SMALL SATISFACTIONS
AND ACHIEVEMENTS...

EVENTUALLY,
THEY BECOME SO DRUNK
ON THOSE FEELINGS THAT
THEY DO NOT REALIZE THEY
ARE ALREADY BEING
ENSLAVED...

THAT'S THE
CURRENT SITUATION
THAT'S PLAGUING
HUMANITY.

BY THE WAY,
ISABEL...

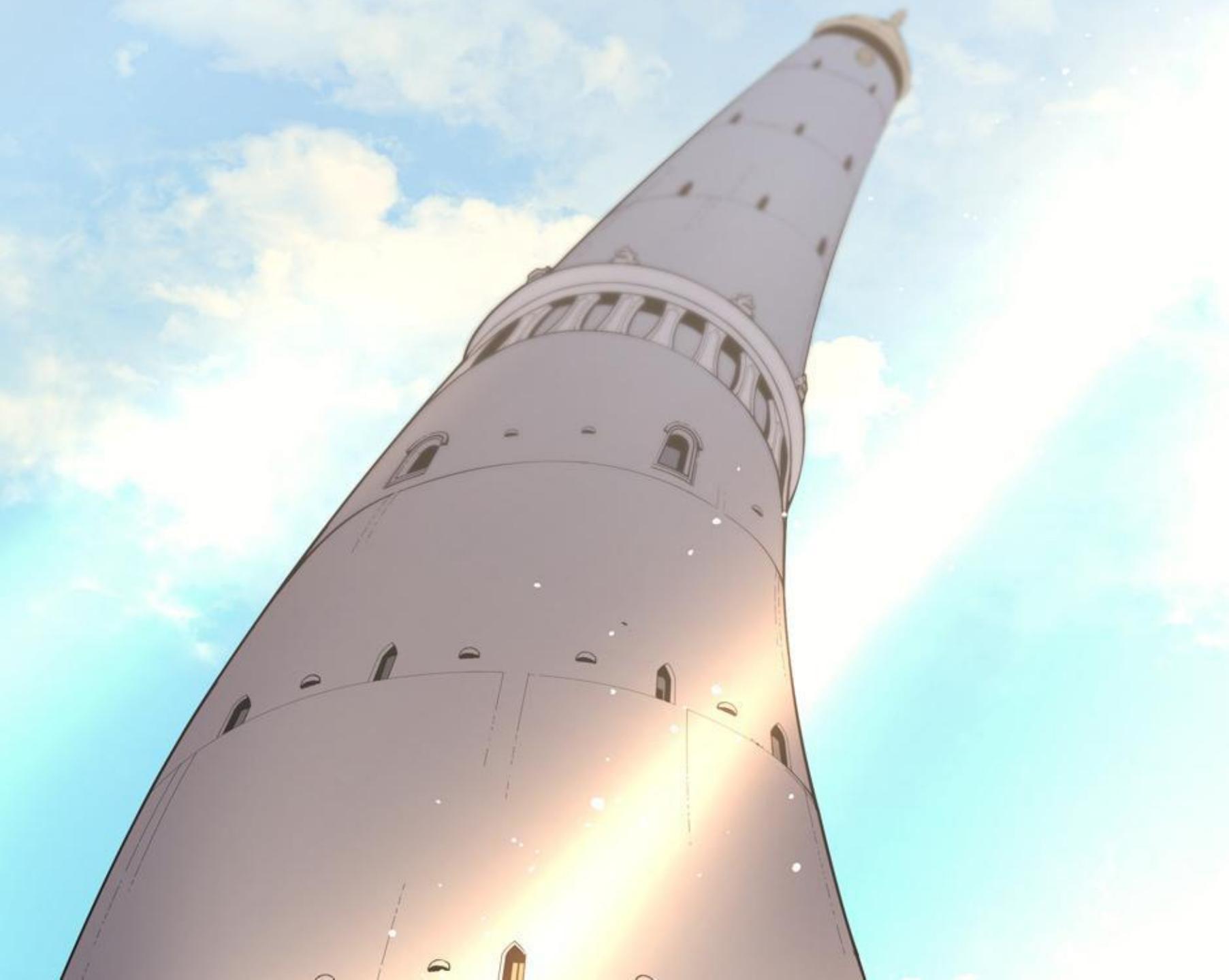


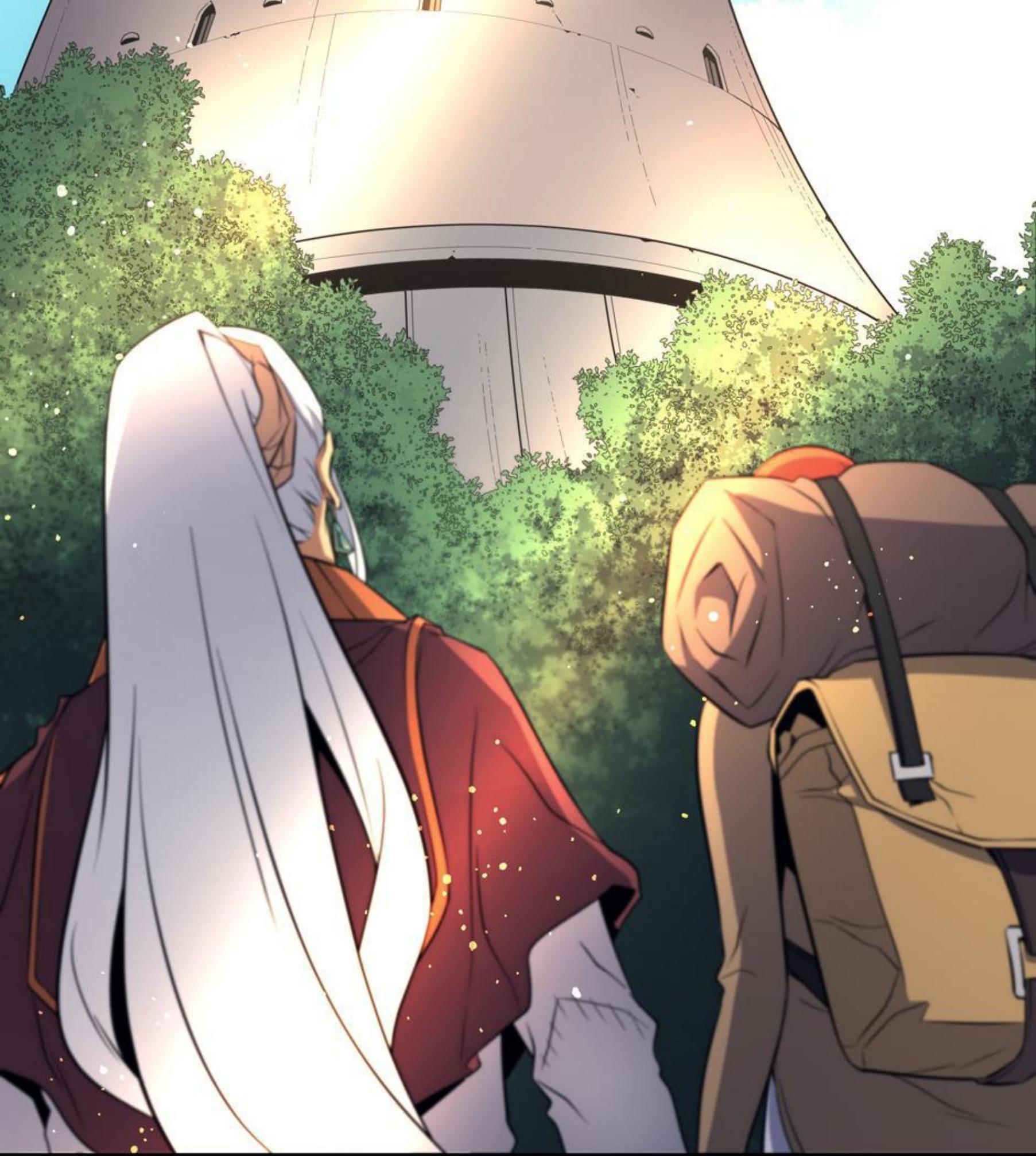
DID YOU SAY
WE LOST AGAINST
THAT PRICK?

THAT WAS MERELY
A SETBACK! I'M ON
MY WAY TO SECURE
MY VICTORY!



АНАНАНА...



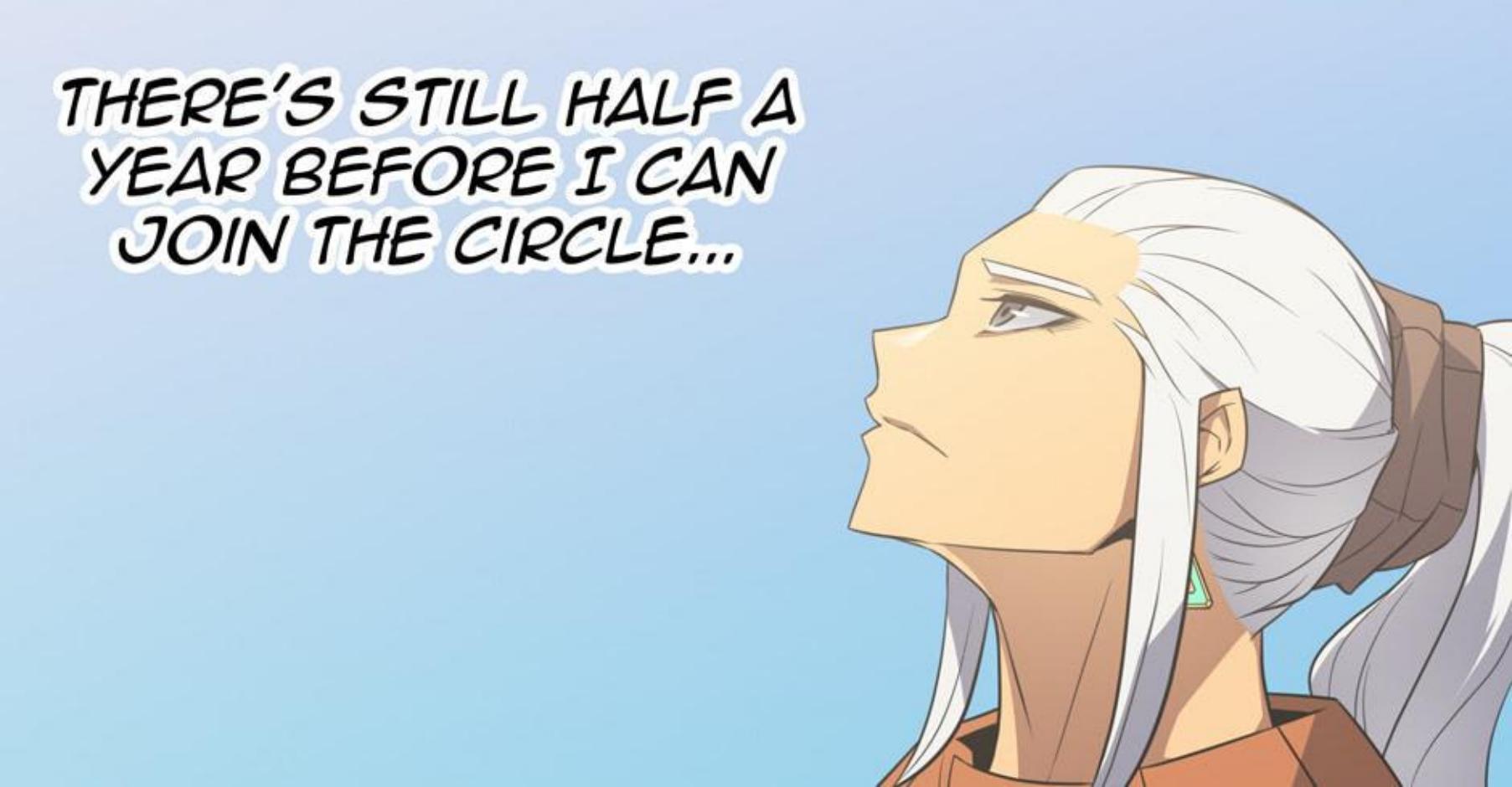


THIS IS THE FIRST
TIME I'VE SEEN THE
MAGIC TOWER.





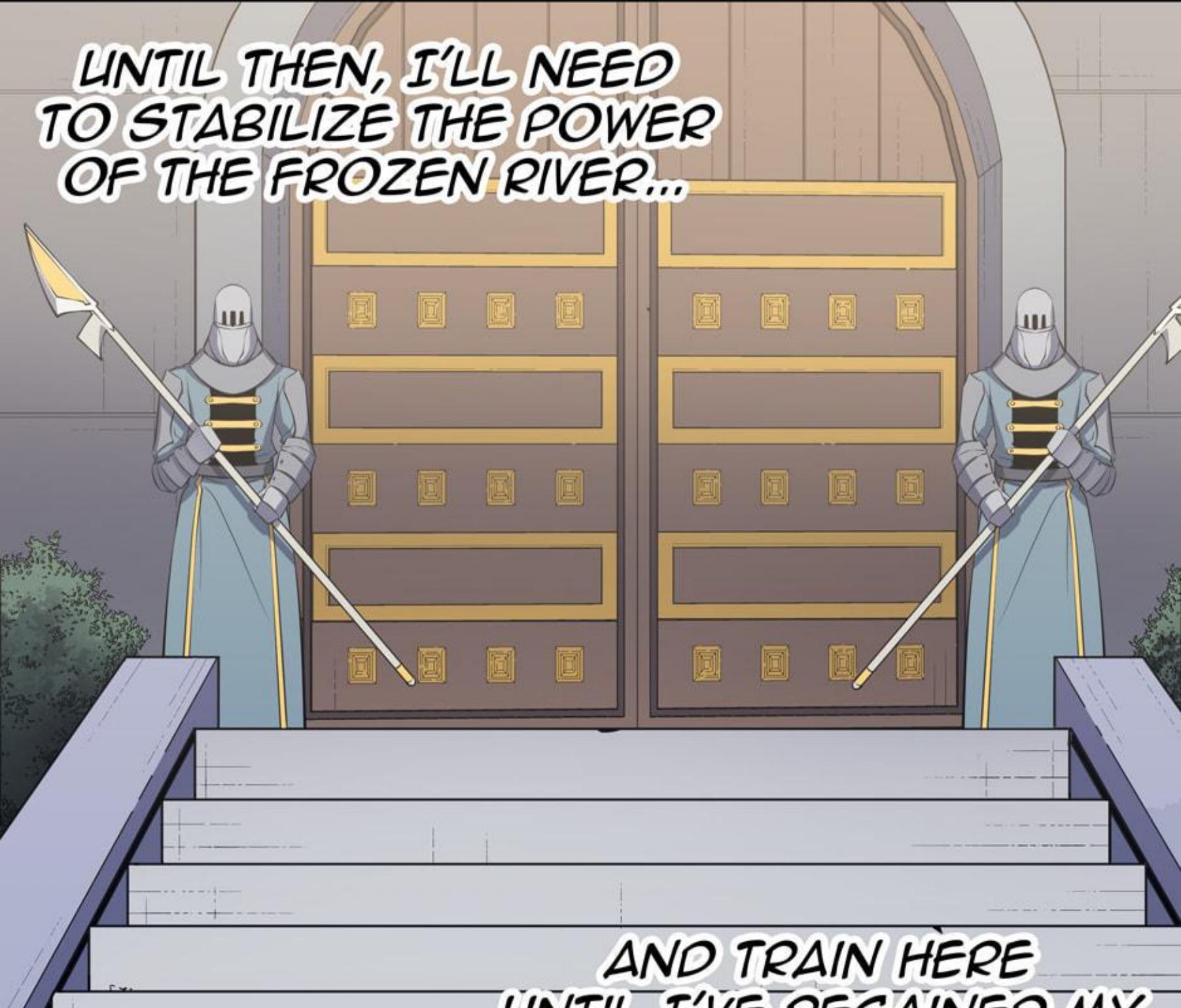
WHAT A SIGHT
TO BEHOLD.



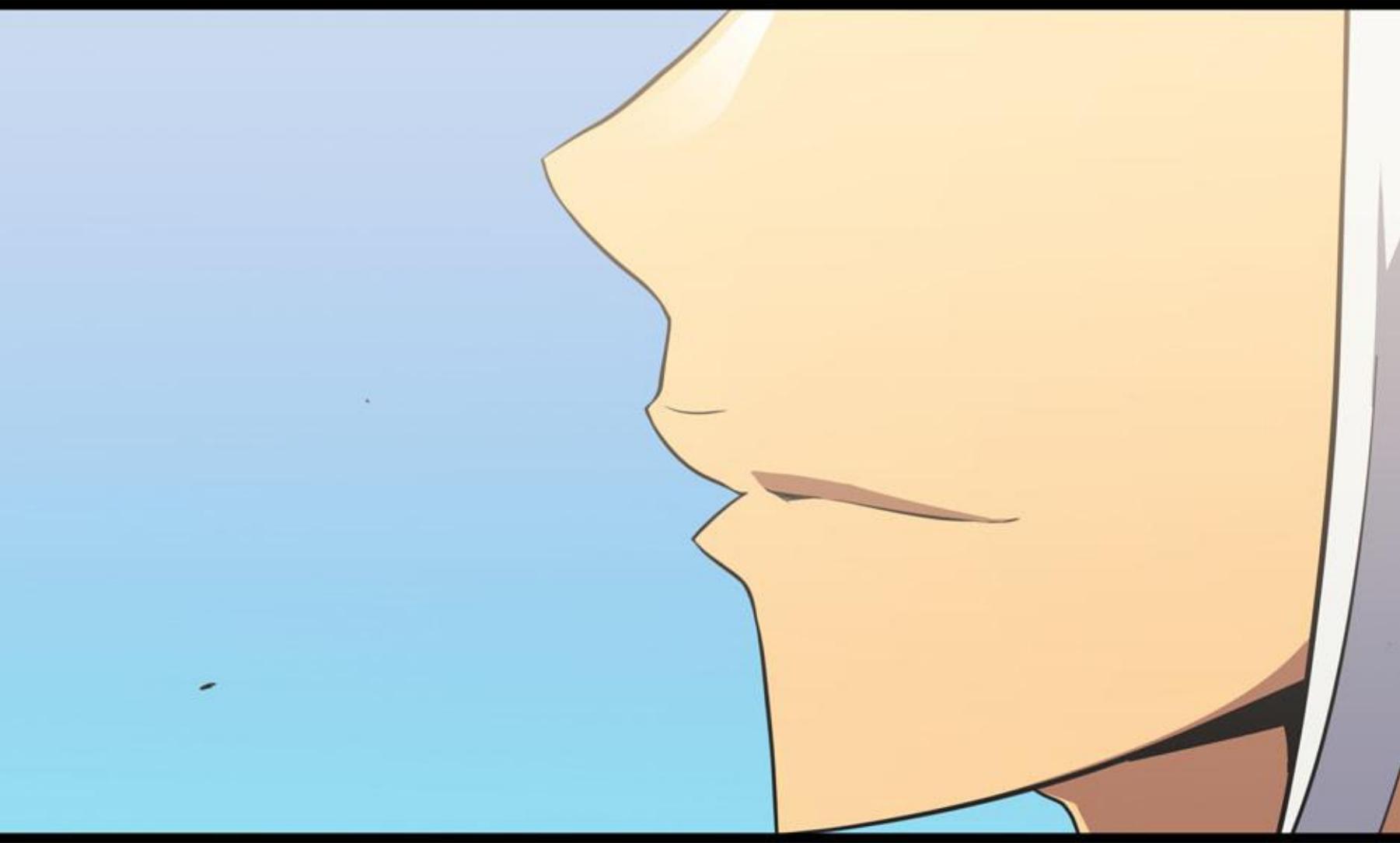
THERE'S STILL HALF A
YEAR BEFORE I CAN
JOIN THE CIRCLE...



UNTIL THEN, I'LL NEED
TO STABILIZE THE POWER
OF THE FROZEN RIVER...

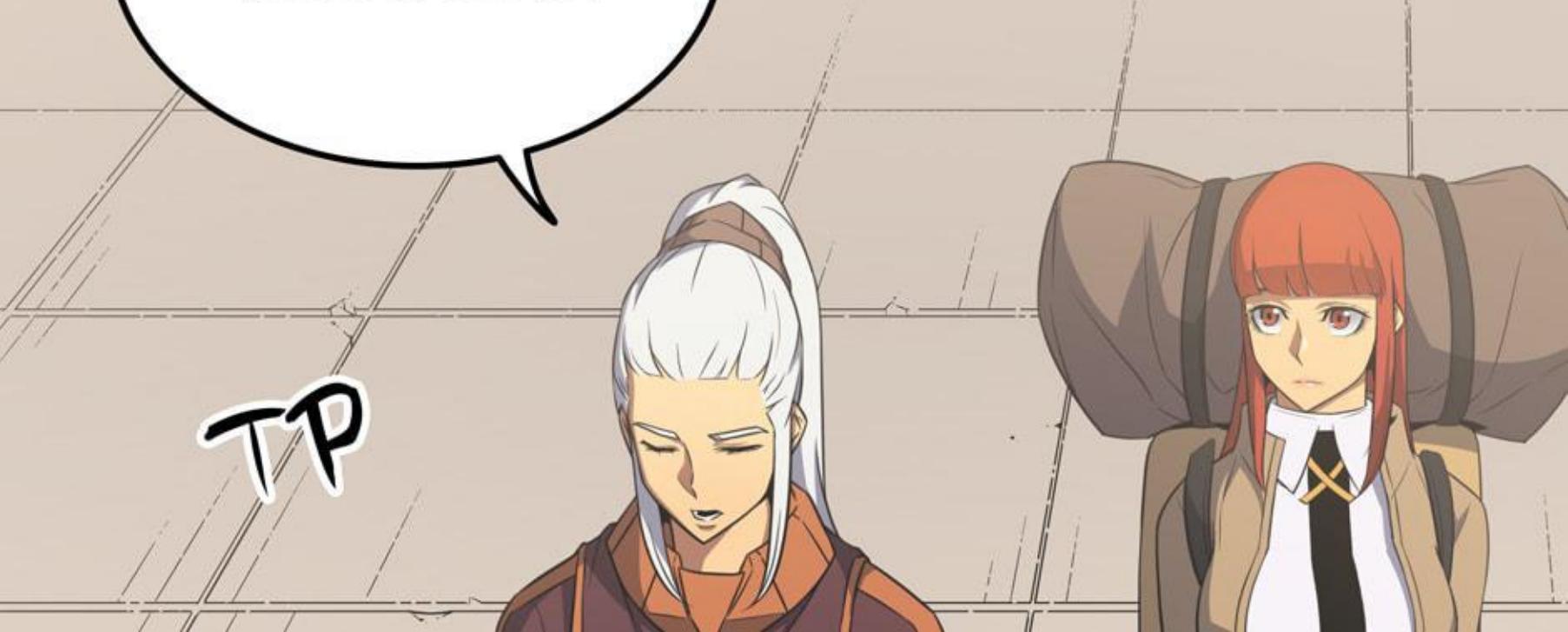


AND TRAIN HERE
UNTIL I'VE REGAINED MY
ORIGINAL POWERS...



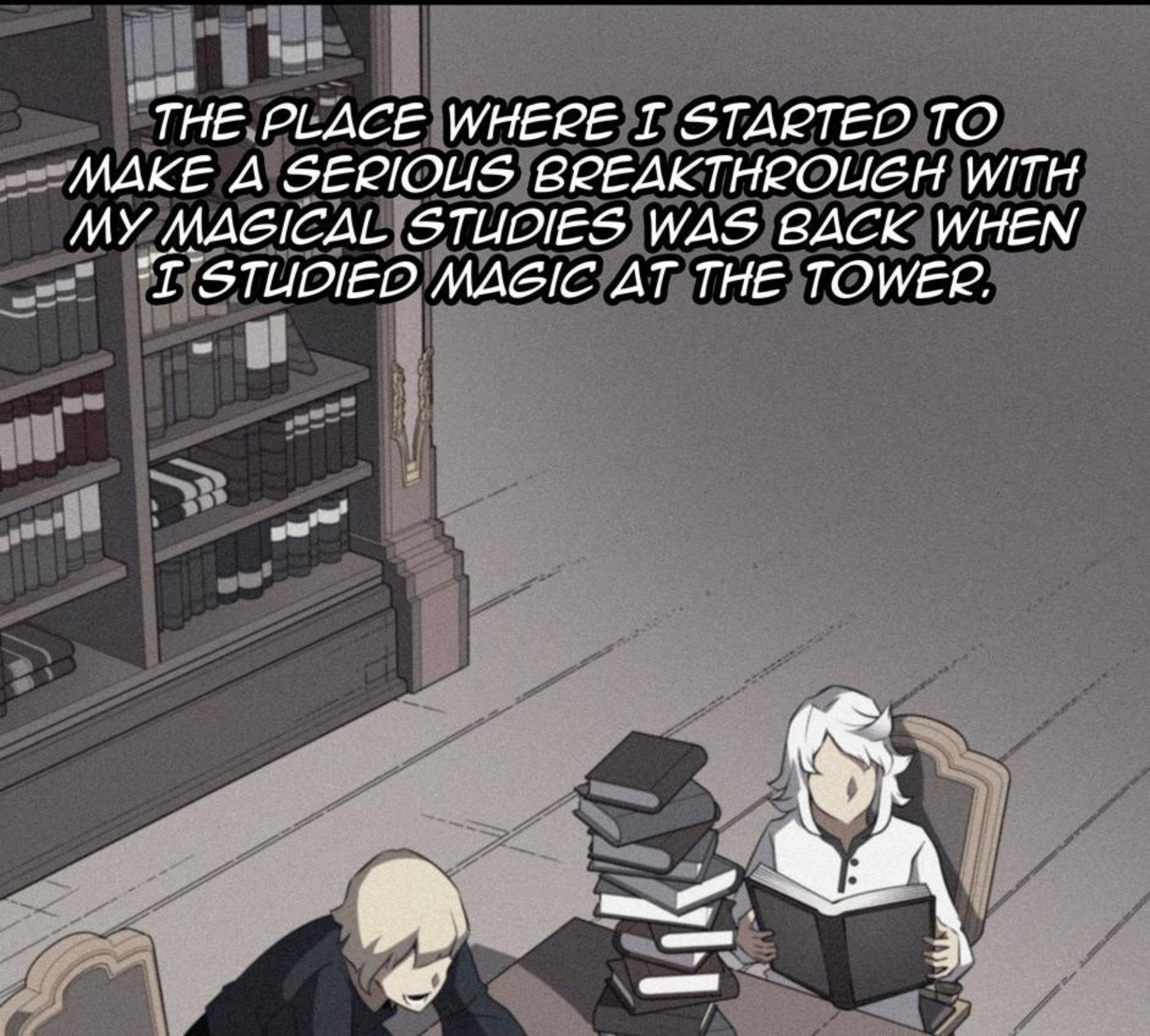
THIS IS QUITE
NOSTALGIC.

TP



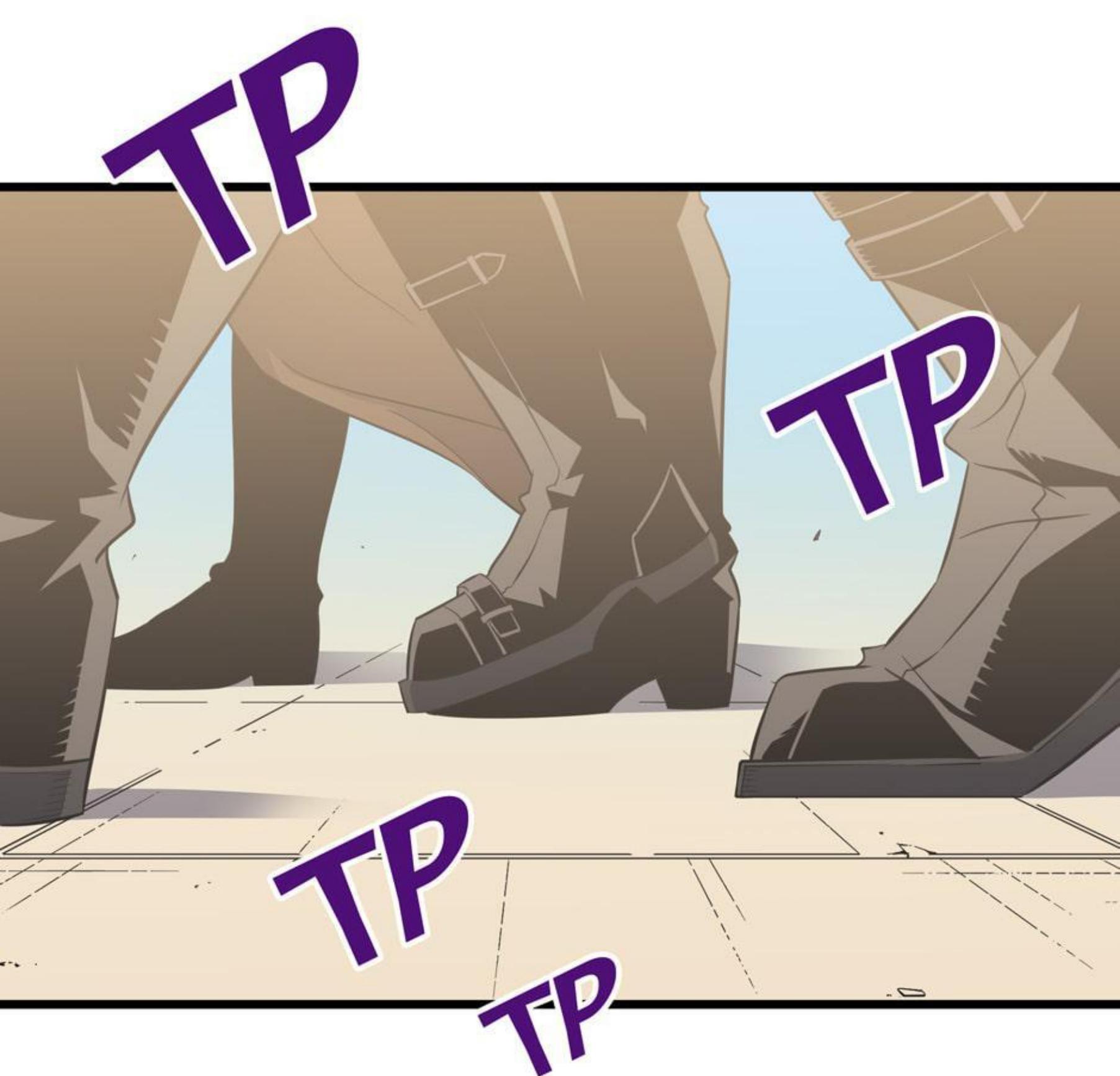


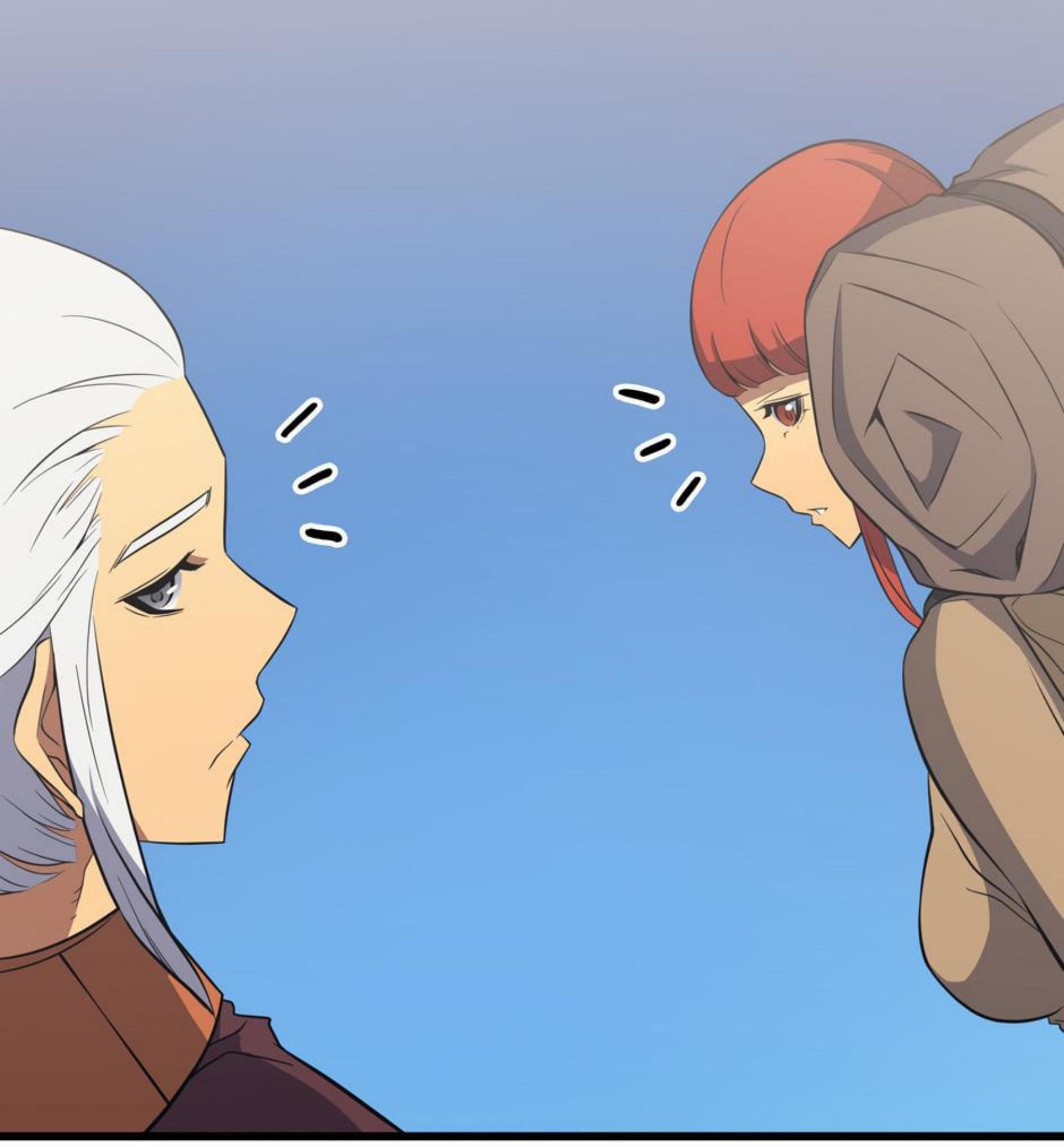
TP



**THE PLACE WHERE I STARTED TO
MAKE A SERIOUS BREAKTHROUGH WITH
MY MAGICAL STUDIES WAS BACK WHEN
I STUDIED MAGIC AT THE TOWER.**







TP

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TP

TP

TP

TP

TP

HUH?

DARK ELVES...?

YOU SEEM SURPRISED?

ELVES AND DWARVES HAVE FREELY TRAVESED THESE LANDS AND HAVE POSITIVE POLITICAL RELATIONS WITH THE HUMAN KINGDOMS.

WHAT?

AH...

COME TO
THINK OF IT,
I REMEMBER
READING THAT AT
THE ACADEMY...



IT'S STILL
QUITE SURPRISING
TO SEE THEM IN
PERSON...





YOU SEE, THIS
WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN
POSSIBLE 4,000
YEARS AGO.



**IF I REMEMBER
CORRECTLY, THE
ELVES UNIFIED AT
ONE POINT.**

**NOW THE ENTIRE JUNGLE
TO THE FAR NORTH IS
ELVEN TERRITORY.**



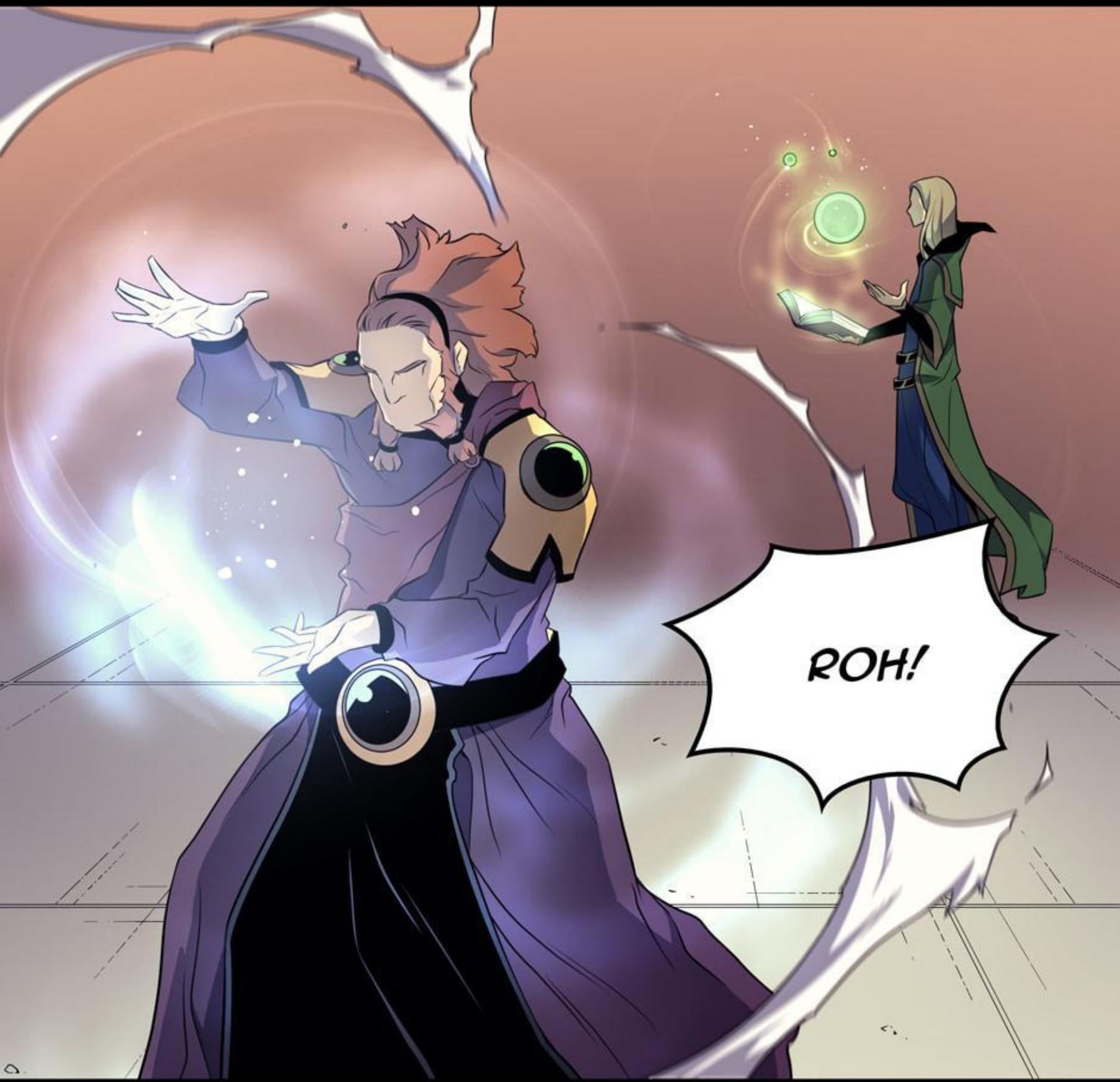






HYAH!

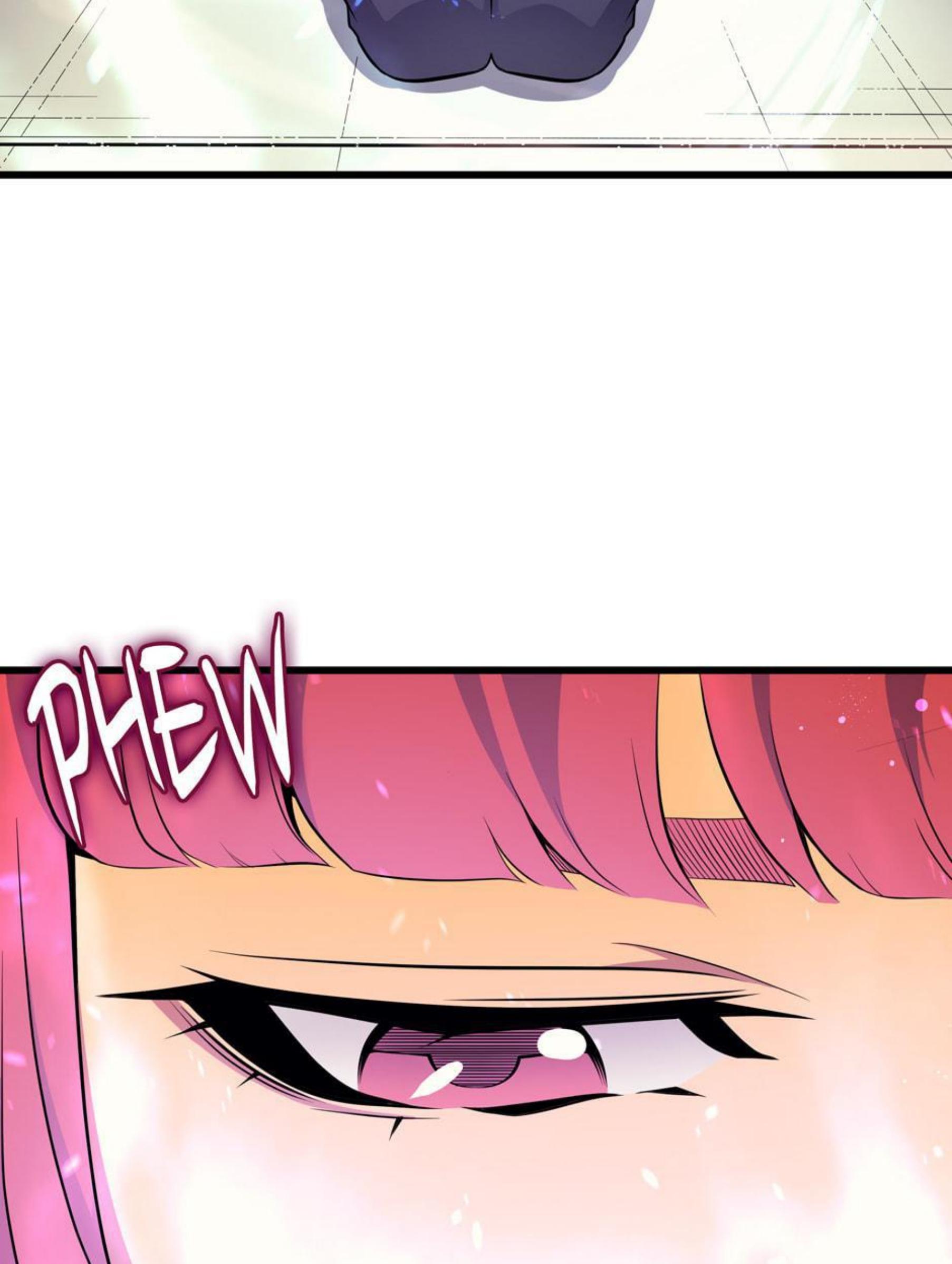




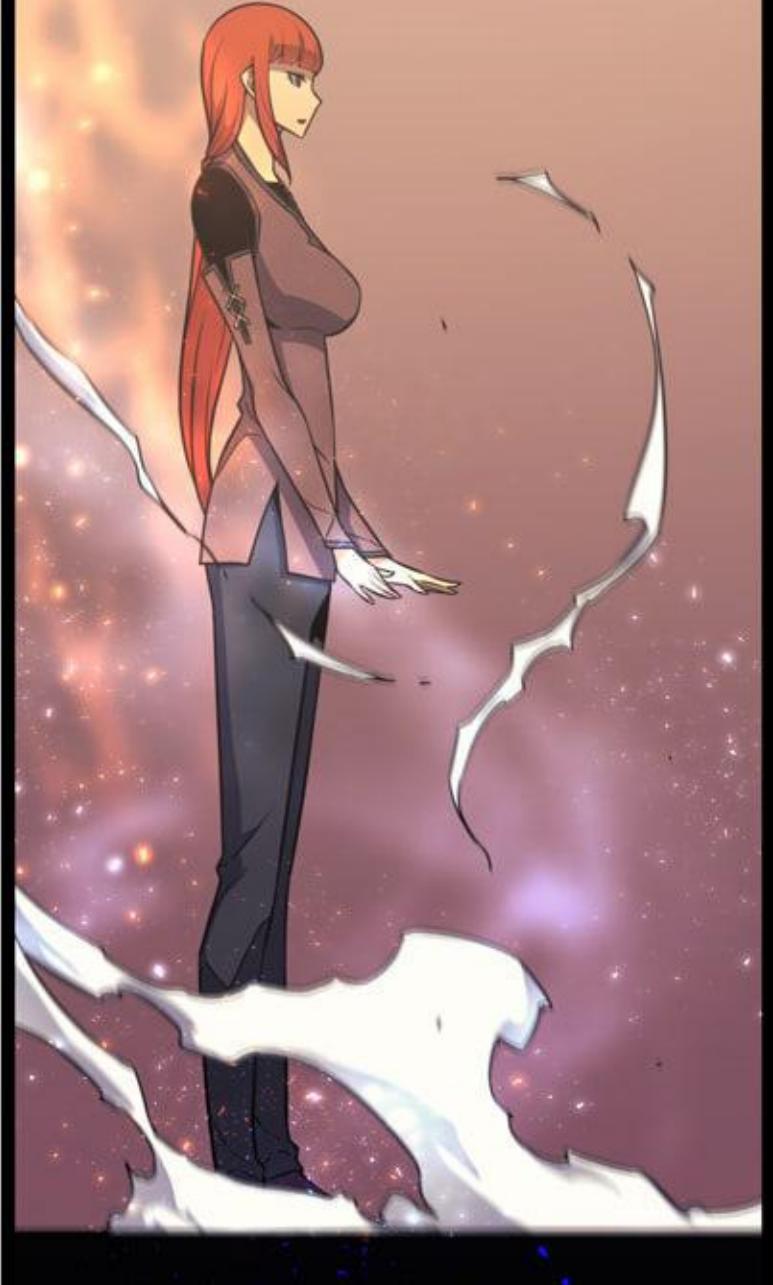
CHAH!

HA!





I'VE GOTTEN
USED TO THIS
TRAINING...









THAT'S A
FRIEND OF YOURS,
RIGHT, MISS?

THERE'S
INTERESTING
RUMORS GOING
AROUND ABOUT
HIM IN THE
TOWER.

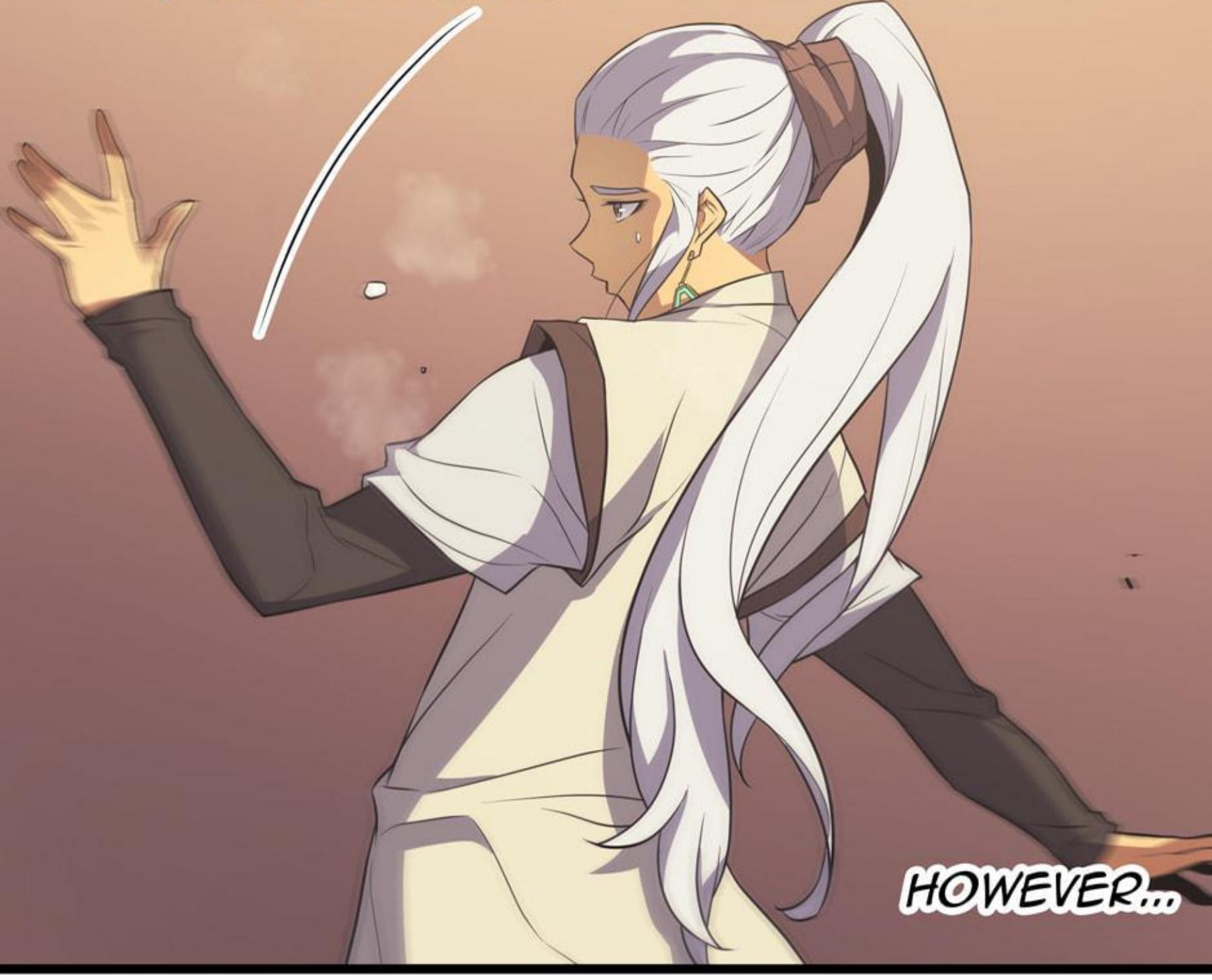


WORD HAS IT THAT HE GOES AROUND PERFORMING THAT WEIRD DANCE ALL DAY AND SPENDS THE REST OF THE EVENING AT THE LIBRARY.

HE'S GETTING A REPUTATION FOR BEING QUITE... ODD.

AHAHAHA...

ON FIRST GLANCE, IT MAY
LOOK LIKE A STRANGE
WOBBLY DANCE.



HOWEVER...

NOW THAT I CAN
READ THE FLOW
OF MANA, I CAN
SEE WHAT'S

ALL THAT'S
GOING ON.

STRIKE

FWIP

SLAM

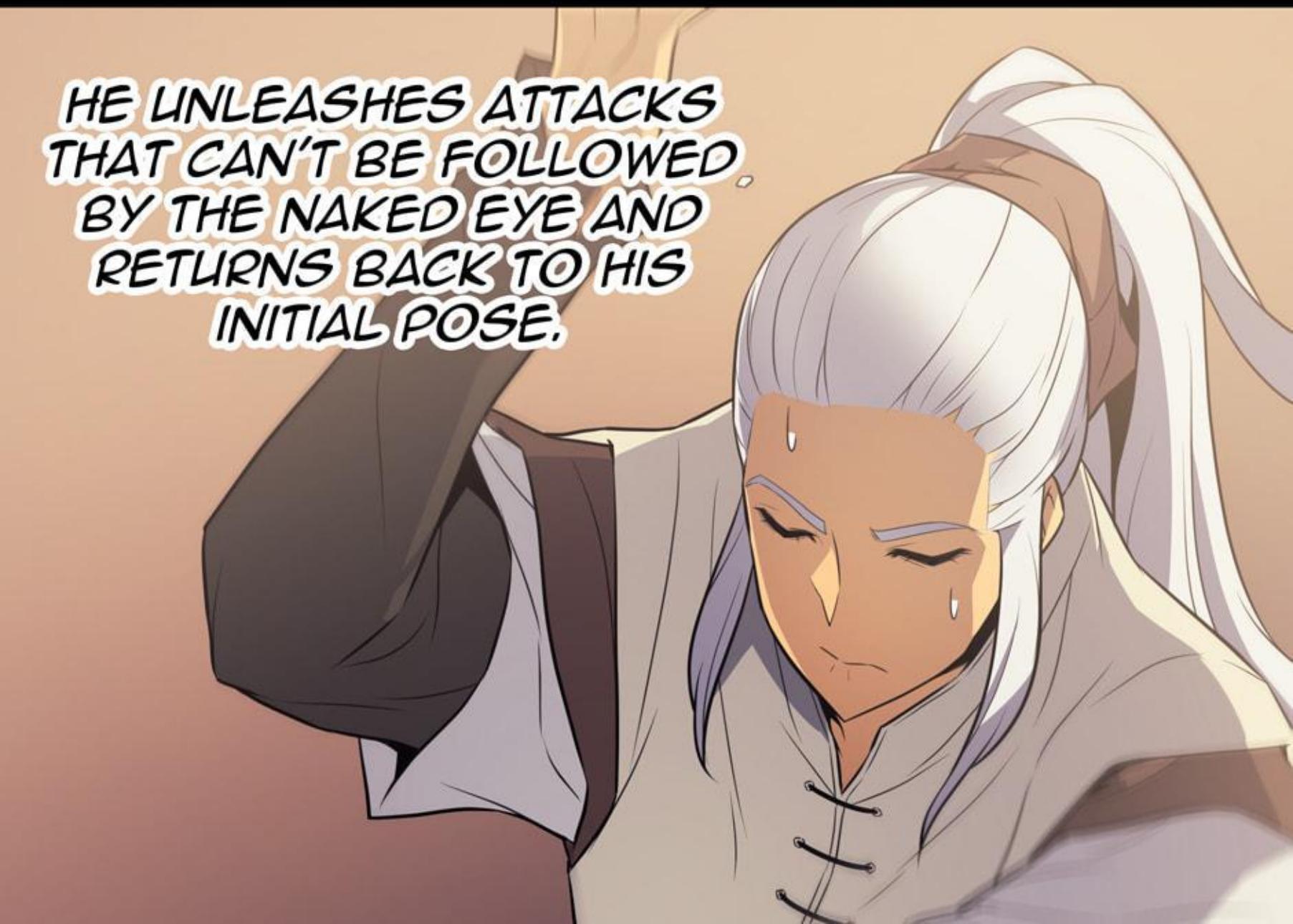
Wobble

Wobble

POW



**THE INCREDIBLE MOVES HE'S
PERFORMING AT SPEEDS
THAT CAN'T BE SEEN...**



**HE UNLEASHES ATTACKS
THAT CAN'T BE FOLLOWED
BY THE NAKED EYE AND
RETURNS BACK TO HIS
INITIAL POSE.**



TO ORDINARY PEOPLE,
IT WILL JUST LOOK
LIKE HE'S CLUMSY.

IN TRUTH, IT'S A
VERY HIGH-LEVEL
MARTIAL ART...



HONESTLY,
THE MORE I SEE
IT THE MORE I'M
CONFUSED BY HIS
WEIRD DANCE.

SMACK

OOF!





I-I YIELD....!!





HUMAN,
YOU ARE
WEAK.

HMMPH



WHY DO YOU ACT
SO DISRESPECTFULLY
TOWARDS AN OPPONENT
WHO YIELDED?



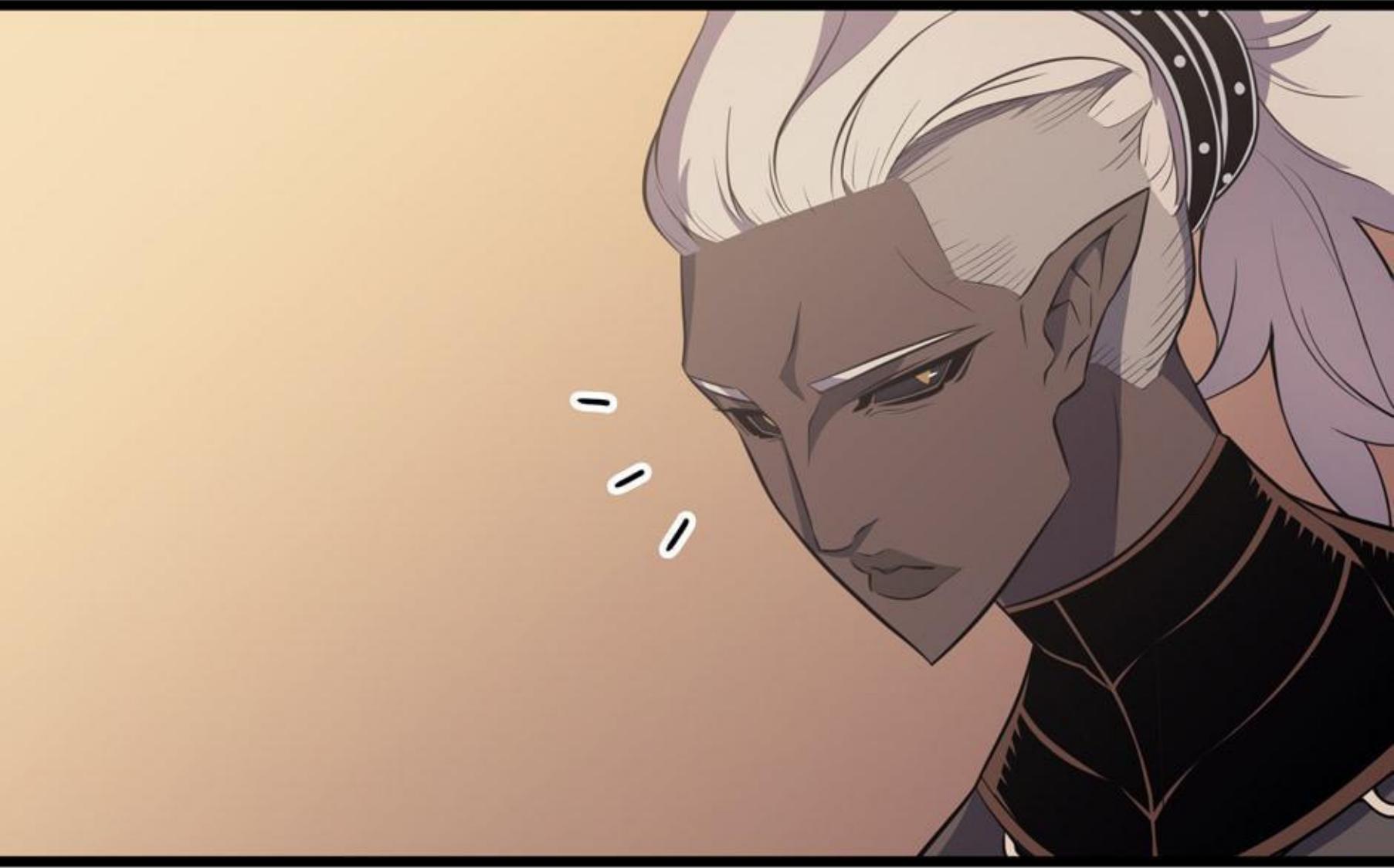
IS THIS SUPPOSED
TO BE THE ATTITUDE
FITTING OF A WARRIOR
THAT YOU WERE GOING
ON ABOUT, LIAMSON?





MY
APOLOGIES,
MASTER...

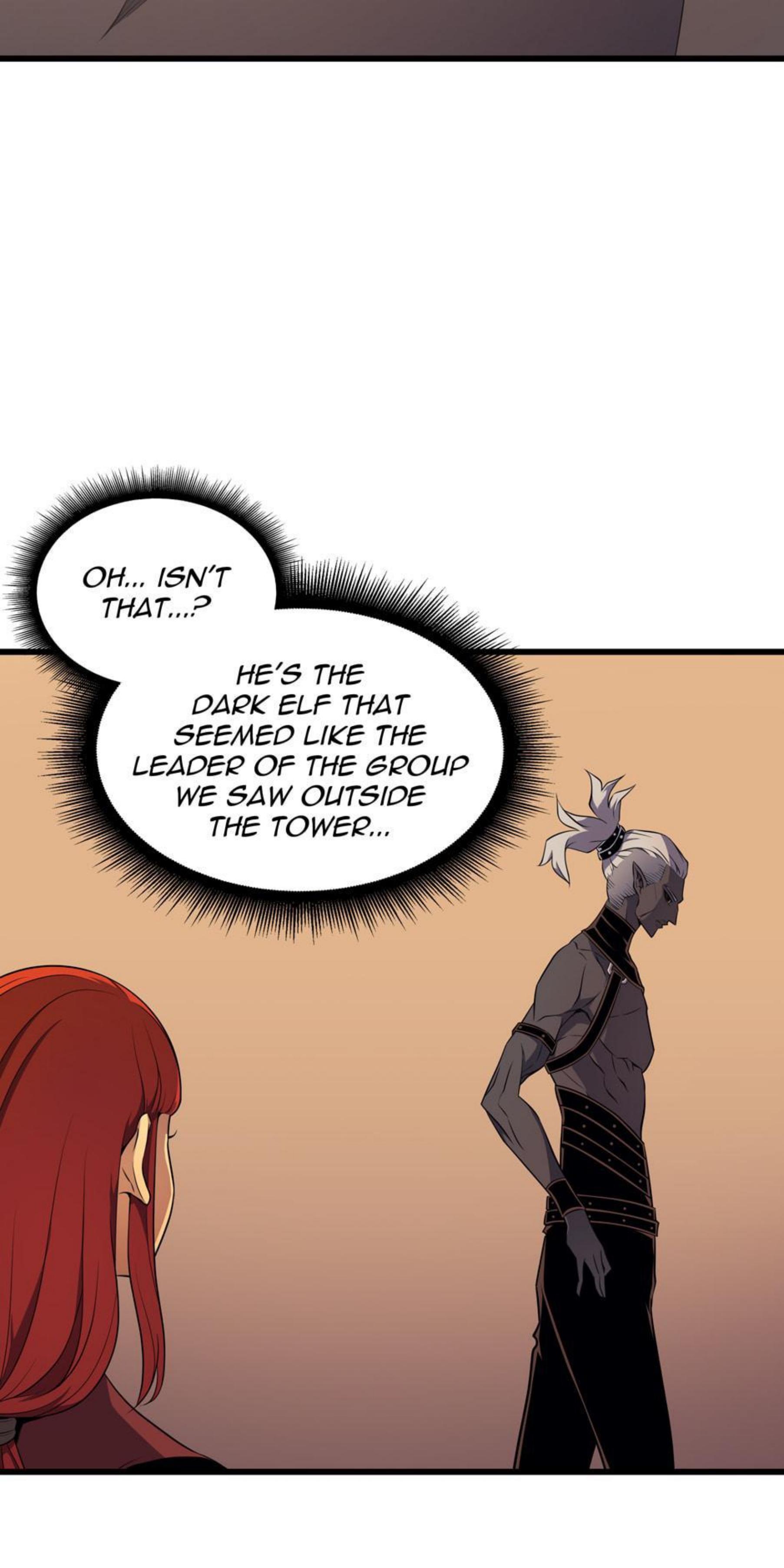




WOBBLE







OH... ISN'T
THAT...?

HE'S THE
DARK ELF THAT
SEEMED LIKE THE
LEADER OF THE GROUP
WE SAW OUTSIDE
THE TOWER...



HEY, ARE
YOU A MANA FIST
PRACTITIONER?



...?

NO, JUST
A MAGE.



A MAGE? ARE

YOU SHITTING
ME?



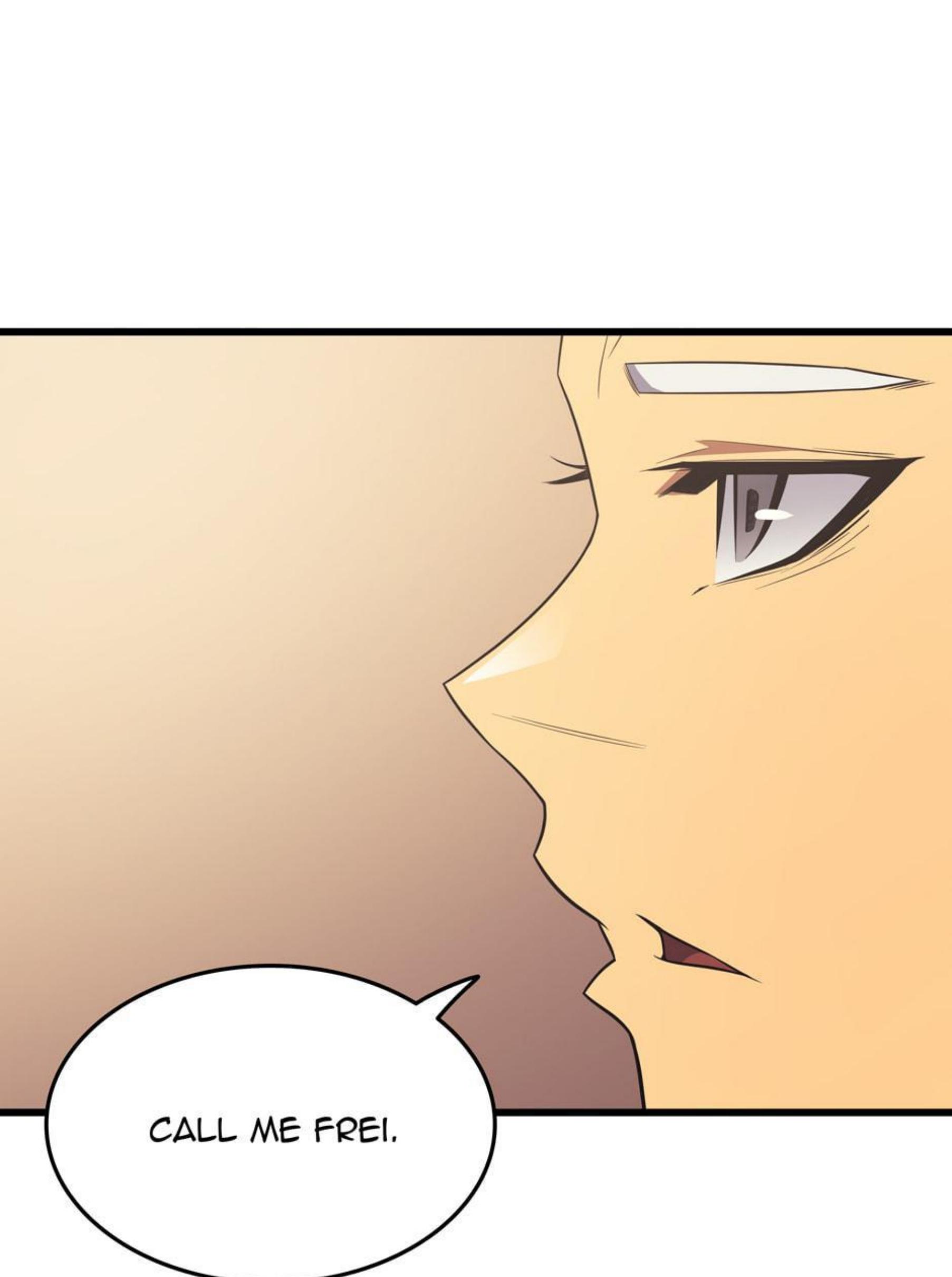
BUT THOSE ARE
NO ORDINARY MOVES
FOR A MERE MAGE...!



HUMAN.



FREI.



CALL ME FREI.



I'M LIAMSON.

FIGHT ME.

