



INFECTION **OBESE RONE**

YADAV



OBÉ SÉ RÔNE



HEALOMIC®



OMEN



AVERY



AGUNGGA

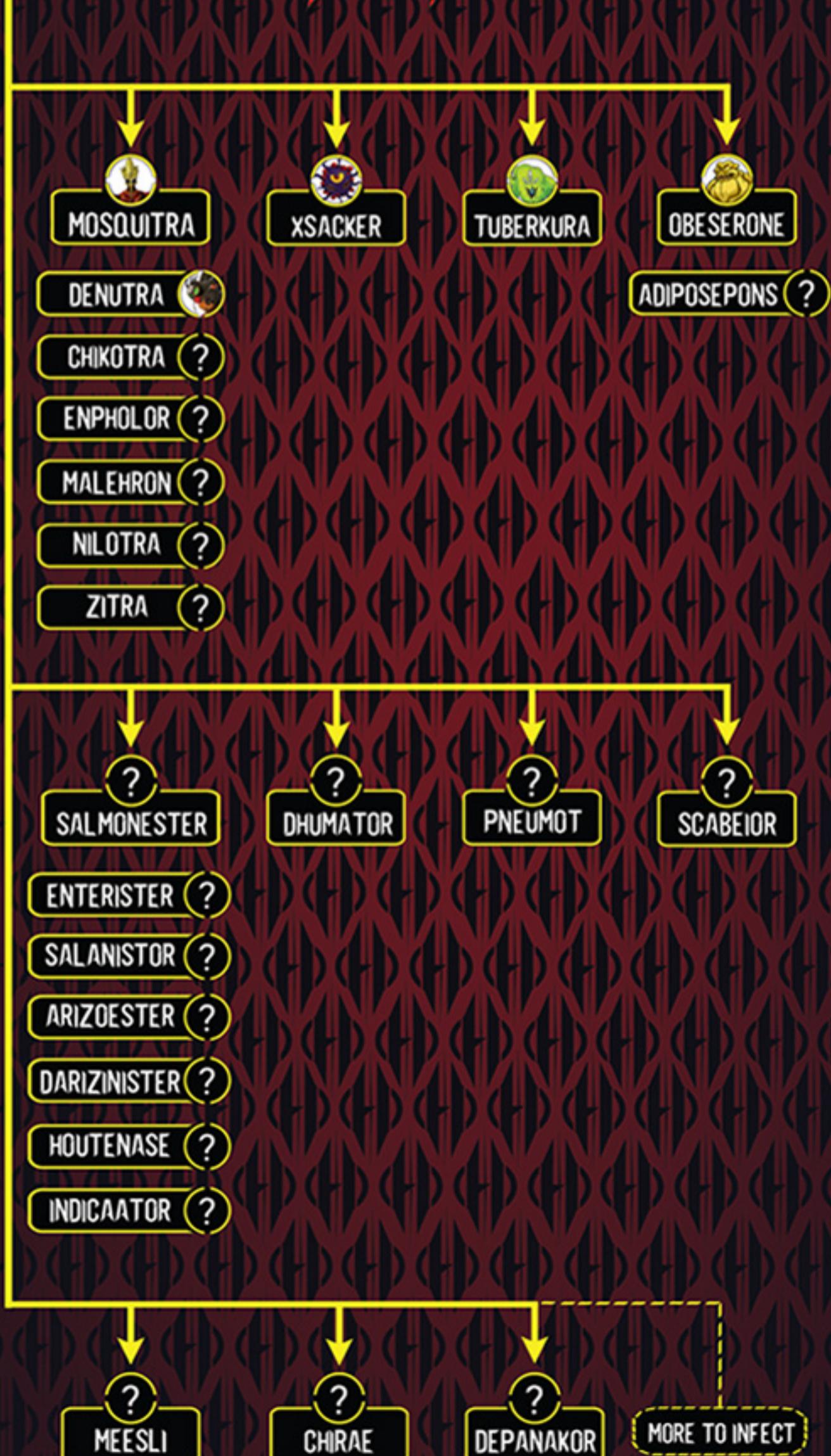


RILEY



MORE TO JOIN

INFECTIO®



Childhood obesity hits alarm levels

CATHY O'LEARY
MEDICAL EDITOR

A British obesity expert has warned of alarming rates of overweight children in WA, with an estimated 90,000 children as young as four carrying too much weight. Obesity Taskforce policy chief Tim Lobstein estimated 6,000 WA children aged four to 18 had high blood pressure, 13,500 had raised cholesterol and more than 27,000 had abnormal insulin levels. About 10,000 had metabolic syndrome, a cluster of risk factors for heart disease and stroke usually seen in adults.

Dr Lobstein, brought to Perth by Curtin University and Healthy Kids Canada, said almost one million WA adults were overweight or obese. The combined numbers would swamp GPs, who would be unable to cope with the tidal wave of weight-related illness. "The issue in children is serious," he said. "We have to avoid particularly as we know how many of these children will go on to have high blood pressure or early signs of diabetes and the figures are pretty shocking," he said.

"What's concerning is that in WA you have less than 500 GP clinics

needing to deal with these children, many of whom will be carrying around extra weight. They're going to be in serious trouble."

Dr Lobstein said governments need to introduce laws to combat child food obesity, including restricting the number of fast food outlets near schools and addressing the tax on junk food versus healthy products.

Curtin University professor of health policy Mike Dabbe said the implications of the obesity epidemic were frightening.

"We were world leaders in healthy lifestyles, but we are now rapidly becoming obese," he said.

A Melbourne anaesthetist has also warned of growing numbers of obese patients, creating a major headache for Australian hospitals and doctors.

Dr Mark Tremblay, a professor of exercise physiology and chairman of Healthy Kids Canada, said patients needed to consider radical surgery to combat obesity such as gastric bypass.

He will tell an Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists scientific meeting in Christchurch this week of obese patients present signs of diabetes and glucose intolerance including increased fees at public pools and cheaper fruit juices used to encourage people, particularly children, to eat well and exercise.

It is in WA this week to attend the Australian Council for Physical Education and Recreation's national conference in Fremantle and meet members of the Premier's taskforce.

1 in 5 in India is obese, overweight

Study Data Confirms Startling Increase In Obesity Rates Worldwide

Kavithya Saha | AP

London: One in five men and women in India is overweight and obese. Five out of every six boys and girls in the country aged between 10 and 19 are overweight or obese.

That is the sobering conclusion of a study in the world's top 10 countries — the US, China, India, Russia, Brazil, Mexico, Egypt, Germany, Pakistan and Indonesia. These seven accounted for 13% of the world's population worldwide in 2008, with China and India alone accounting for 15%.

Around 62% of the world's obese individuals live in developing countries. In India, income countries, four of the highest increases in obesity prevalence occurred in the US (nearly a third of the adult population obese), Australia (one in three men and about two-thirds of women are obese) and the UK (around a quarter of the adult population obese). In the developed world, men have higher rates of obesity than women, while the opposite is true in developing countries.

The greatest gain in overweight and obesity occurs

in girls. Similar to developing countries, rates have risen from nearly 8% to 14% in both boys and girls over the last decade.

Led by Professor Emma Kallis Gakkidou from the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the University of Washington, the team of researchers from 21 regions of the world found that in 2008, more than 40% reported

that increases in the prevalence of obesity have arisen over a short time. However,

there is some evidence of a plateau in adult obesity rates that provides some hope that the trend might have

reached a peak, and that in other countries the very high rates are no longer rising.

But the study said that increased BMI is a massive risk factor for cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, osteoarthritis and chronic kidney disease. "The next global leadership is needed to help countries to intervene against excessive caloric intake, physical inactivity and active promotion of food consumption by industry all of which exacerbate an already problematic obesogenic environment," it said.

Obesity rates rise

The statistics also revealed a significant increase in the proportion of obese children. In 1990, 3.2 per cent of children were obese, but this increased to 7.8 per cent in the 2007-08 survey.

But the number of people smoking declined from the last survey in 2004-05. One in five adults identified themselves as smokers in 2007-08, down 2.3 percentage points.

Children aged 15 to 17 were asked about their smoking for the first time in the latest survey, with 7 per cent saying they smoked.

And the number of people drinking alcohol at risky levels has dropped since 2004-05.

About 13 per cent of adults in 2007-08 admitted drinking alcohol at a level that posed a low health risk, a slight

fall from 15 per cent in 2004-05.

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"WELLOTH" IN YEAR 3000



INFECTION OBESERONE



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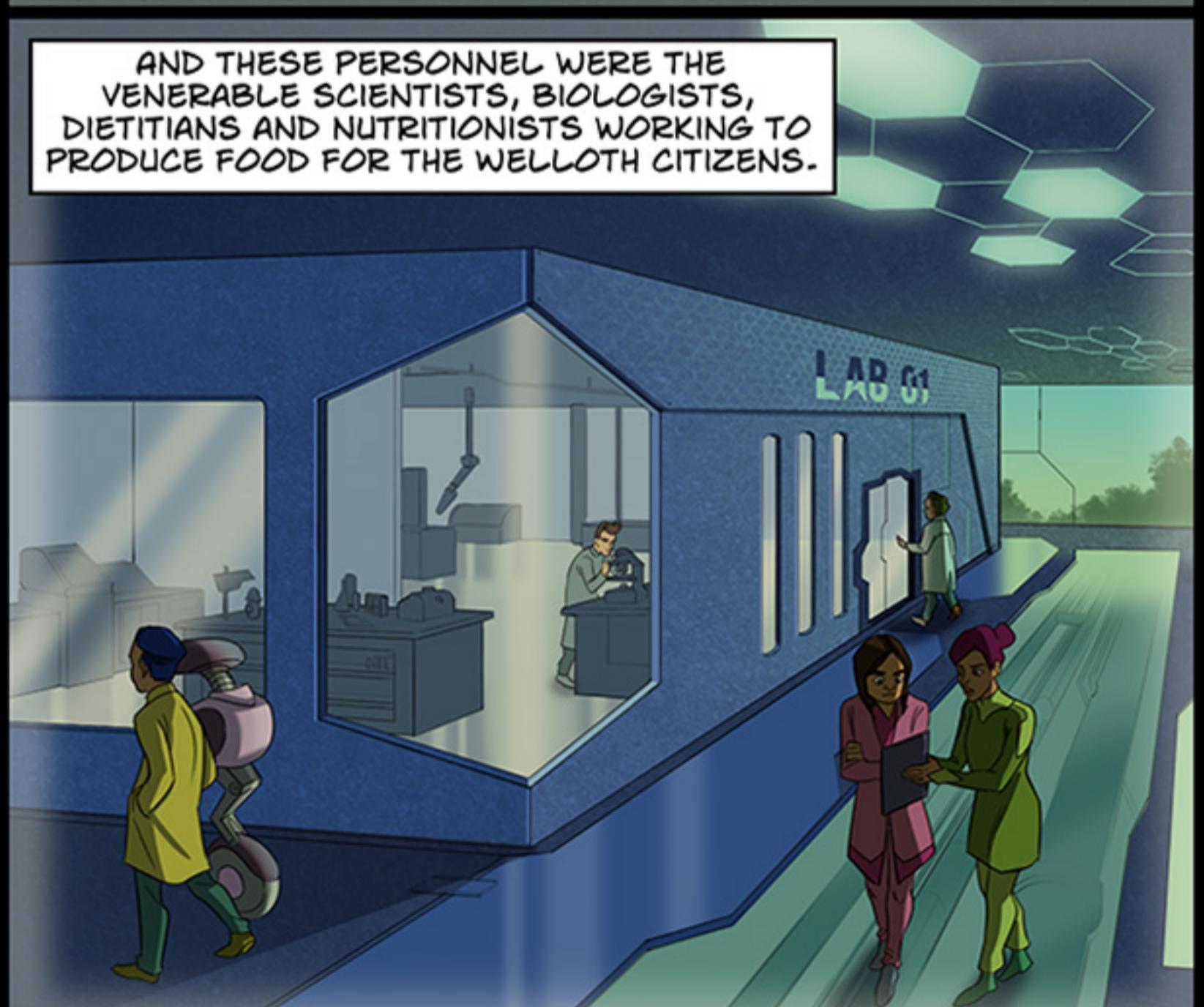
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DURING THE EARLY DAYS OF WELLOTH,
THERE WAS AN AREA SO RESTRICTED THAT IT
WAS PROTECTED BY 10 DIFFERENT LAYERS
OF SECURITY, AND IT WAS CALLED THE
WELLOTH INDUSTRIAL FARM.



ONLY VERY HIGH CLEARANCE
PERSONNEL WERE ALLOWED TO ENTER.

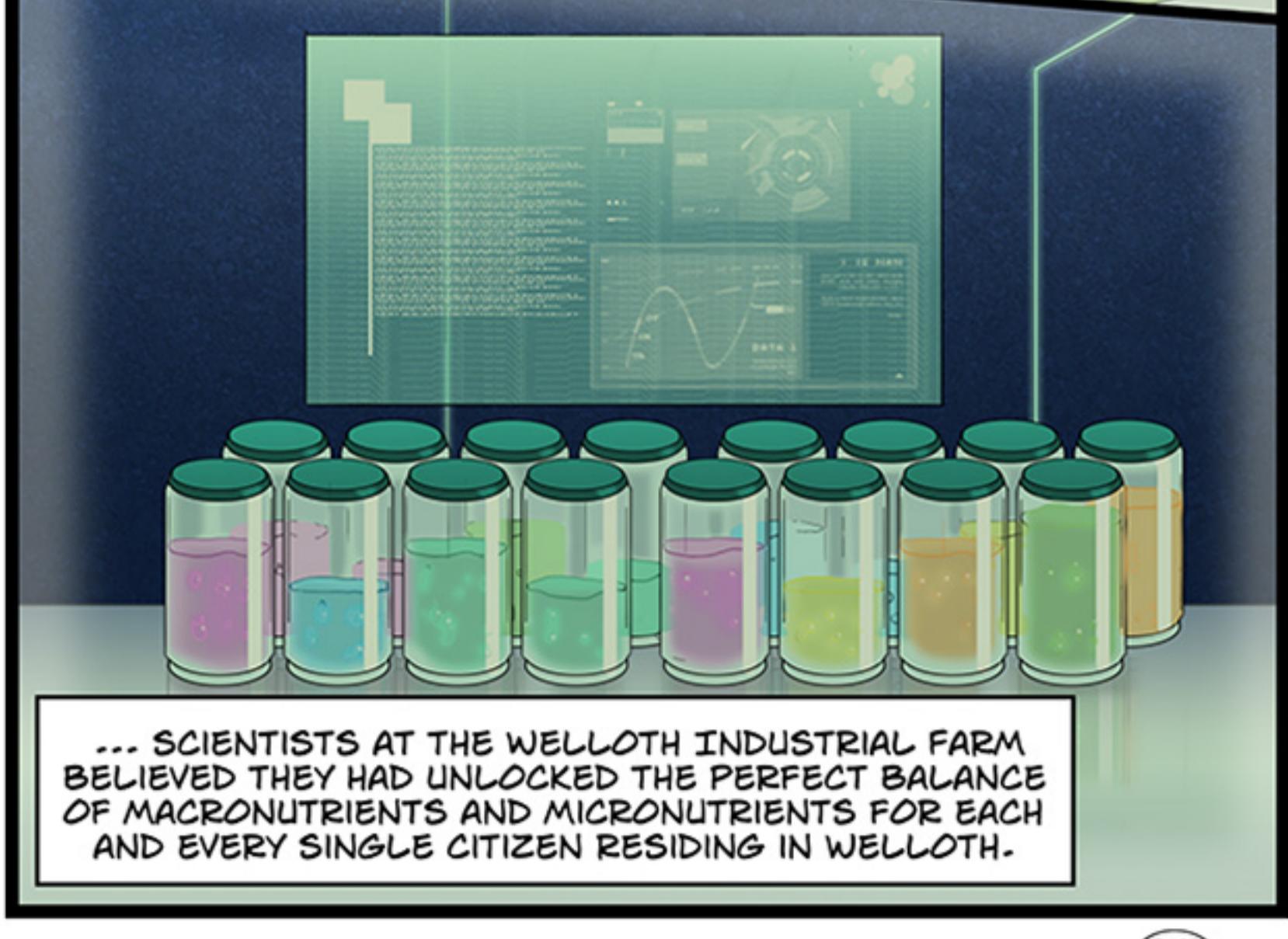
AND THESE PERSONNEL WERE THE
VENERABLE SCIENTISTS, BIOLOGISTS,
DIETITIANS AND NUTRITIONISTS WORKING TO
PRODUCE FOOD FOR THE WELLOTH CITIZENS.



FOOD IN WELLOTH THEN WAS PRODUCED PURELY FOR ITS NUTRITIONAL VALUES AND DID NOT NECESSARILY NEED TO BE PALATABLE.

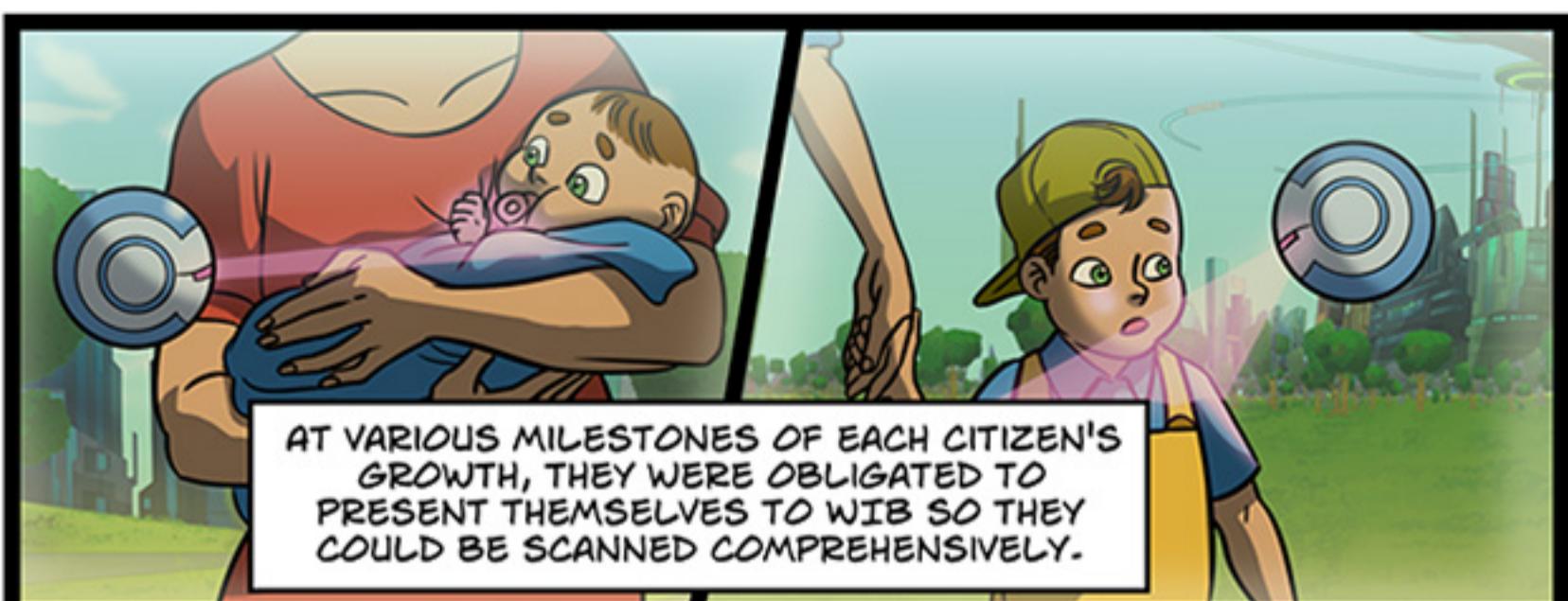


WITH THE HELP OF THE EXPERTS AT WIB...

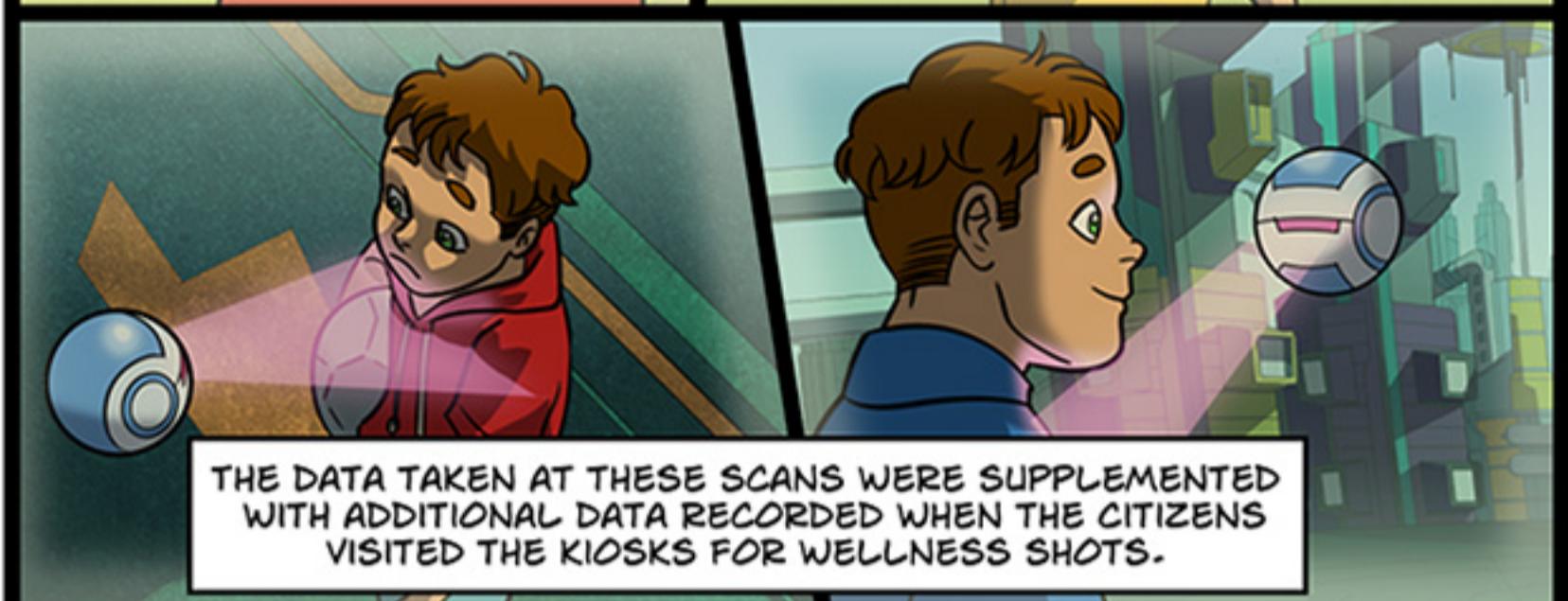


... SCIENTISTS AT THE WELLOTH INDUSTRIAL FARM BELIEVED THEY HAD UNLOCKED THE PERFECT BALANCE OF MACRONUTRIENTS AND MICRONUTRIENTS FOR EACH AND EVERY SINGLE CITIZEN RESIDING IN WELLOTH.





AT VARIOUS MILESTONES OF EACH CITIZEN'S GROWTH, THEY WERE OBLIGATED TO PRESENT THEMSELVES TO WIB SO THEY COULD BE SCANNED COMPREHENSIVELY.



THE DATA TAKEN AT THESE SCANS WERE SUPPLEMENTED WITH ADDITIONAL DATA RECORDED WHEN THE CITIZENS VISITED THE KIOSKS FOR WELLNESS SHOTS.



EVERY MONTH, CITIZENS WOULD RECEIVE A DEDICATED MEAL PLAN DELIVERED TO THEIR COMMUNICATION DEVICES...



AND THEY WERE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO FOLLOW THIS PLAN FOR THE BENEFIT OF THEIR HEALTH.



WELLOTH POPULATION CONTINUED TO GROW BUT SUFFICIENT AMOUNT OF FRESH PRODUCE COULD NOT BE GROWN IN TIME. SCIENTISTS DECIDED TO LOOK FOR OTHER SOURCES.



THE SCIENTISTS STARTED EXPERIMENTING WITH SYNTHETIC FILLERS TO BULK UP THE CONTENTS OF FOOD THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE MADE FROM FRESH INGREDIENTS.



TO ENHANCE THE TASTE OF THE SYNTHETIC FILLERS, FOOD ADDITIVES WERE SOON ADDED AS CITIZENS COMPLAINED ABOUT THE BLAND TASTE OF THEIR MEALS.



AS TIME WENT BY, THE
WELLOTH INDUSTRIAL
FARM WAS DOWNSIZED...

WHRRR...

WHRRR...

WIB

...TO MAKE SPACE FOR EQUIPMENTS MANUFACTURING
SYNTHETIC MACRO AND MICRO NUTRIENTS.

WHIR...

WHIR...

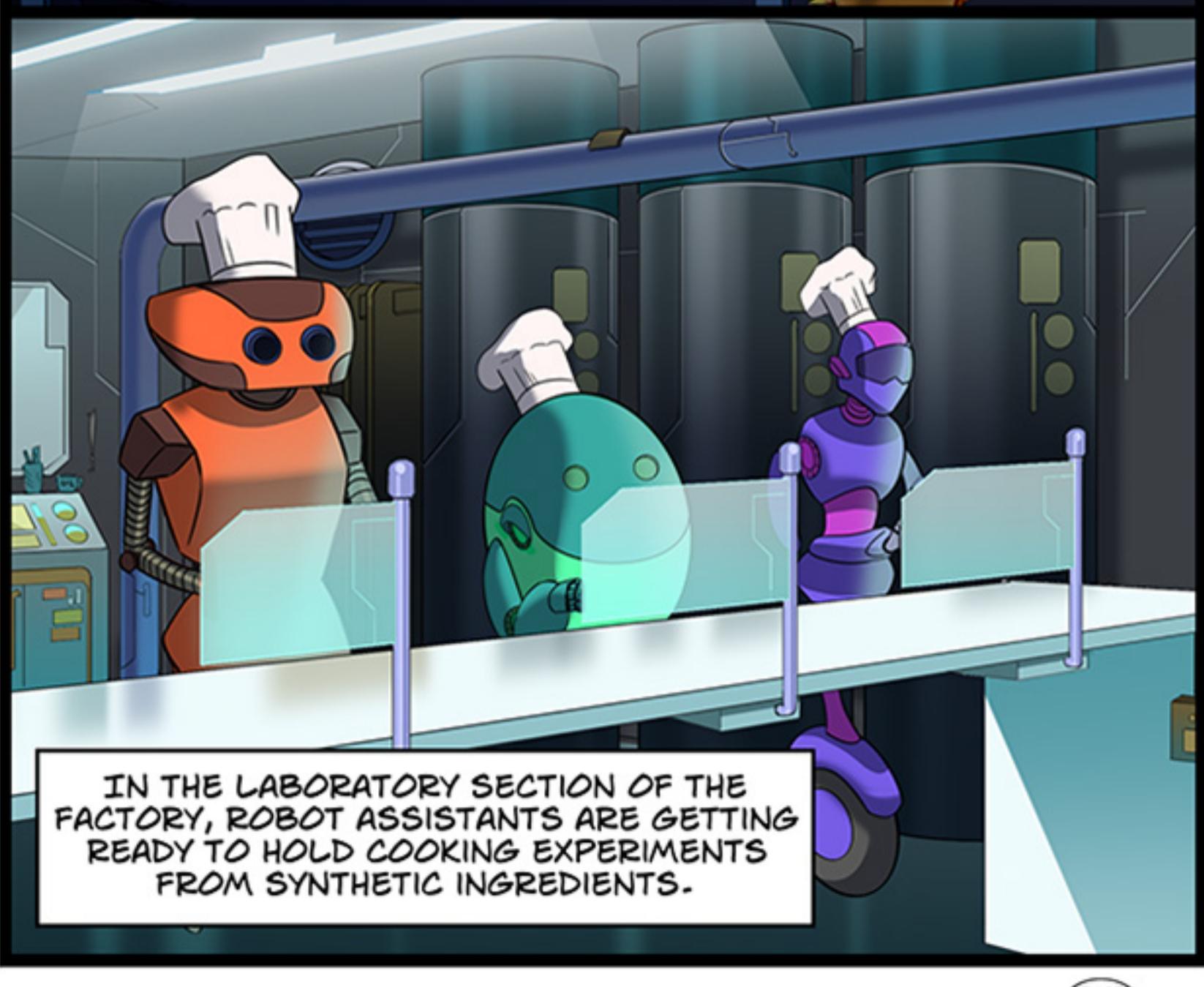
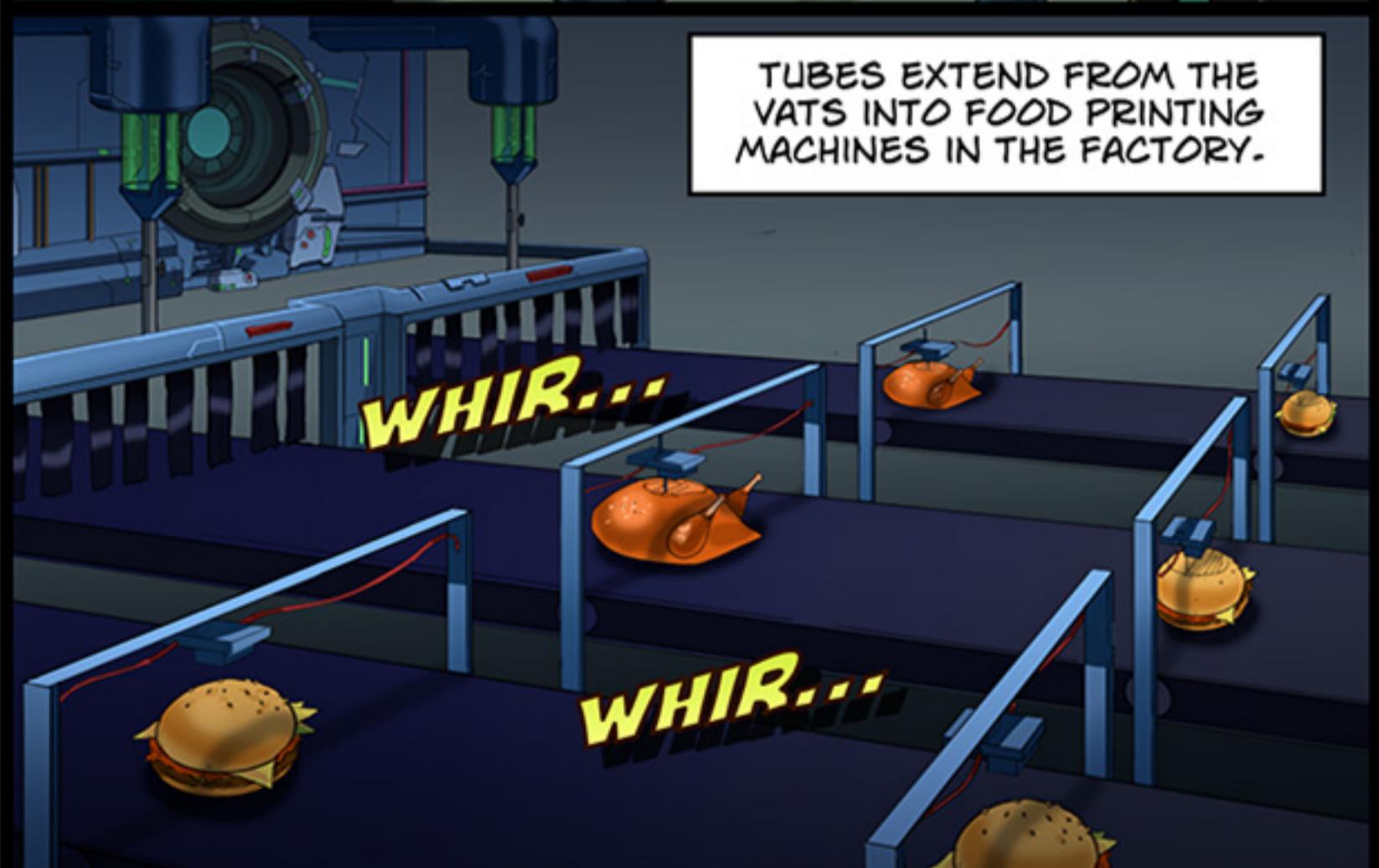
WIB

WIB</

VATS OF SYNTHETIC NUTRIENTS GLEAM IN THE LATE AFTERNOON SUN, LIGHTING THE INCREASINGLY EXPANSIVE FACTORY GROUND.

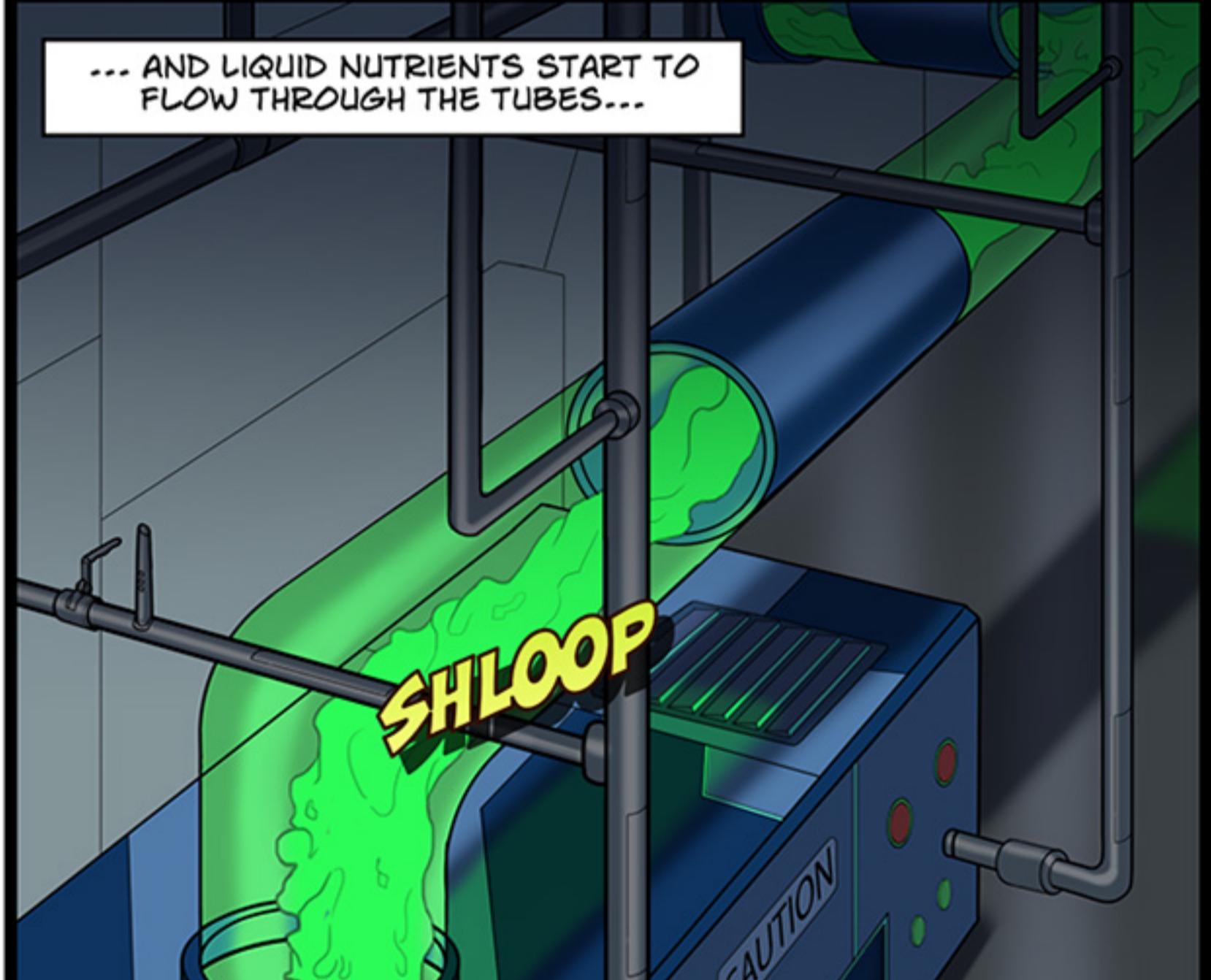
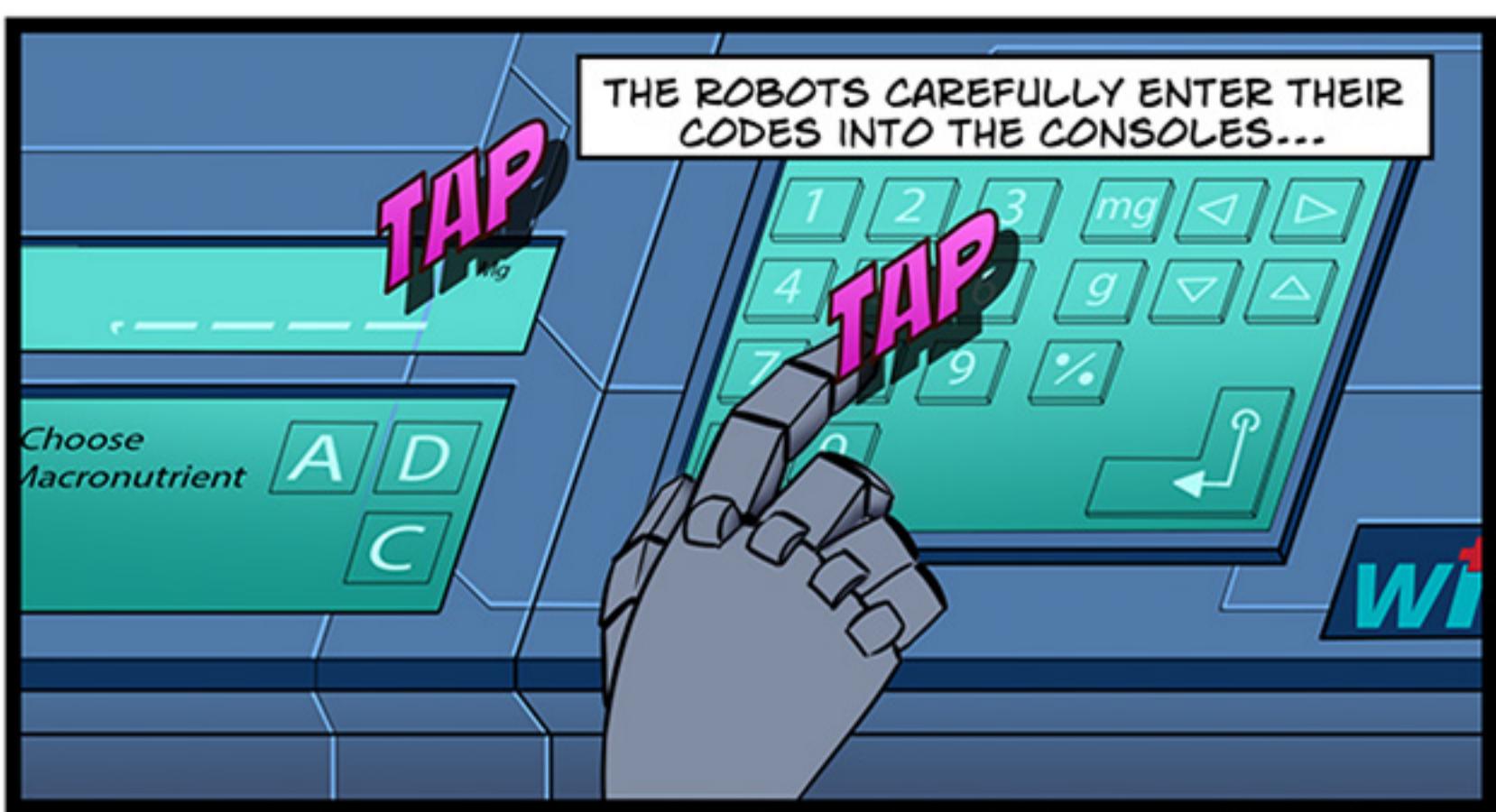


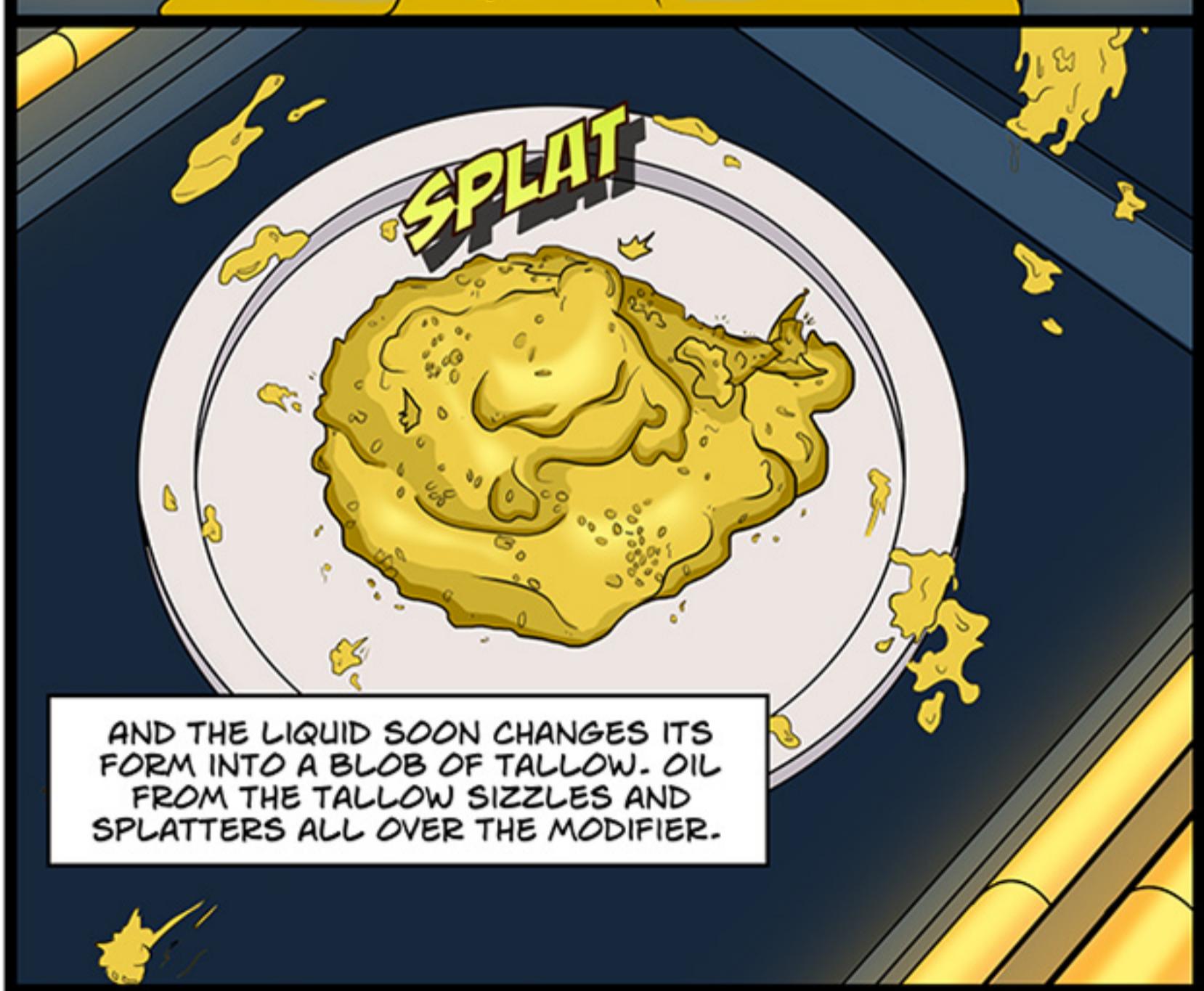
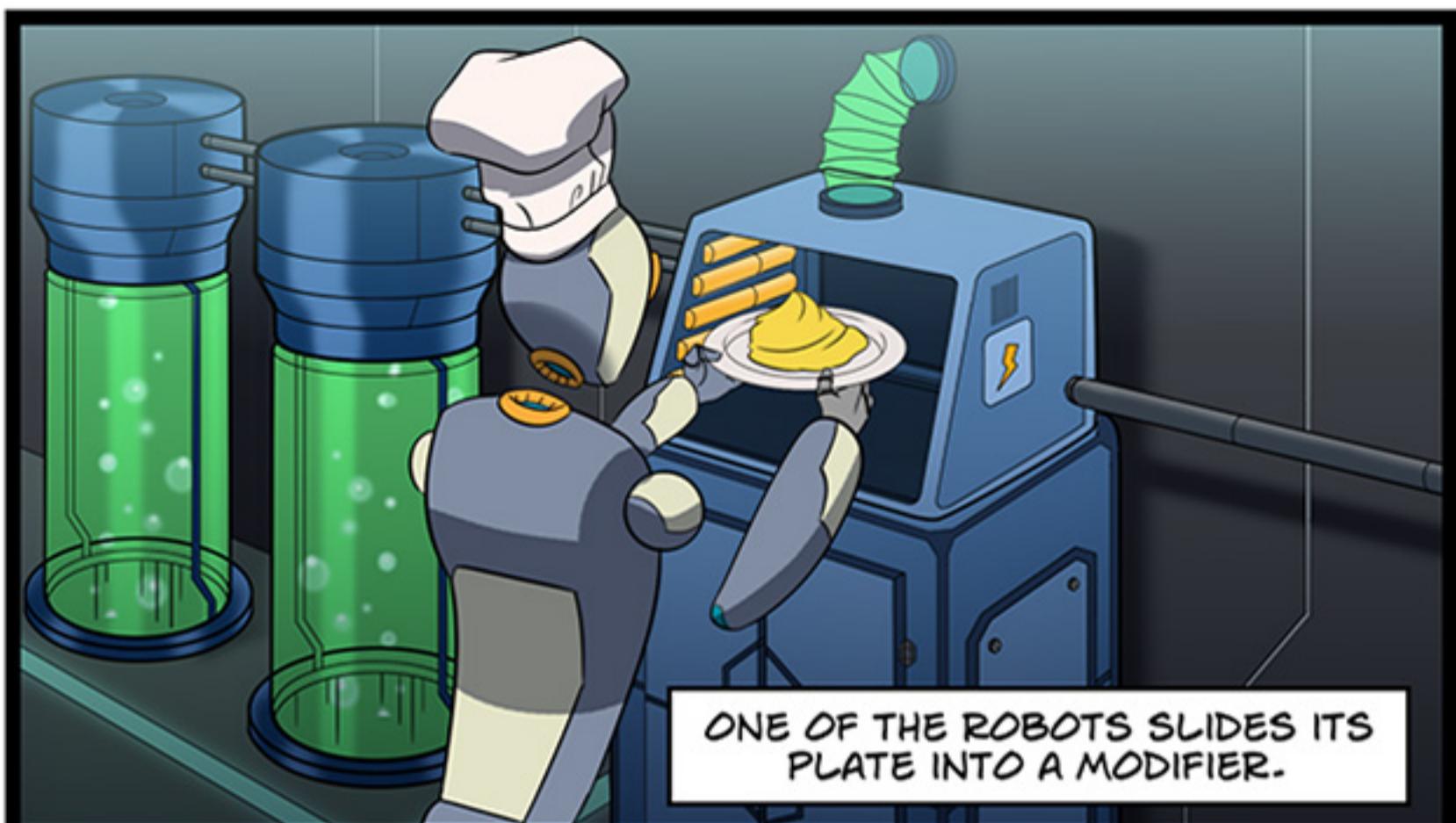
TUBES EXTEND FROM THE VATS INTO FOOD PRINTING MACHINES IN THE FACTORY.

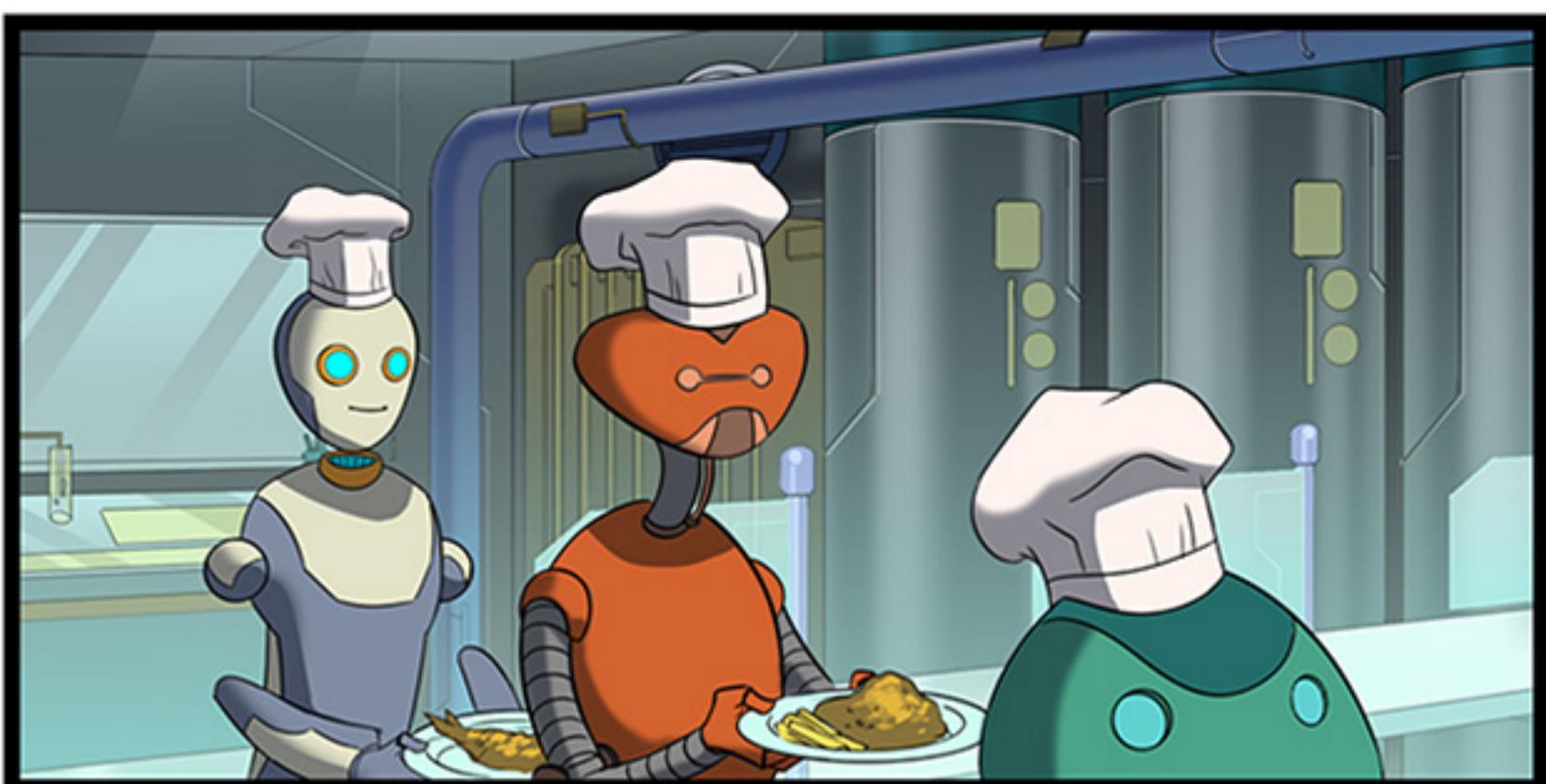


IN THE LABORATORY SECTION OF THE FACTORY, ROBOT ASSISTANTS ARE GETTING READY TO HOLD COOKING EXPERIMENTS FROM SYNTHETIC INGREDIENTS.







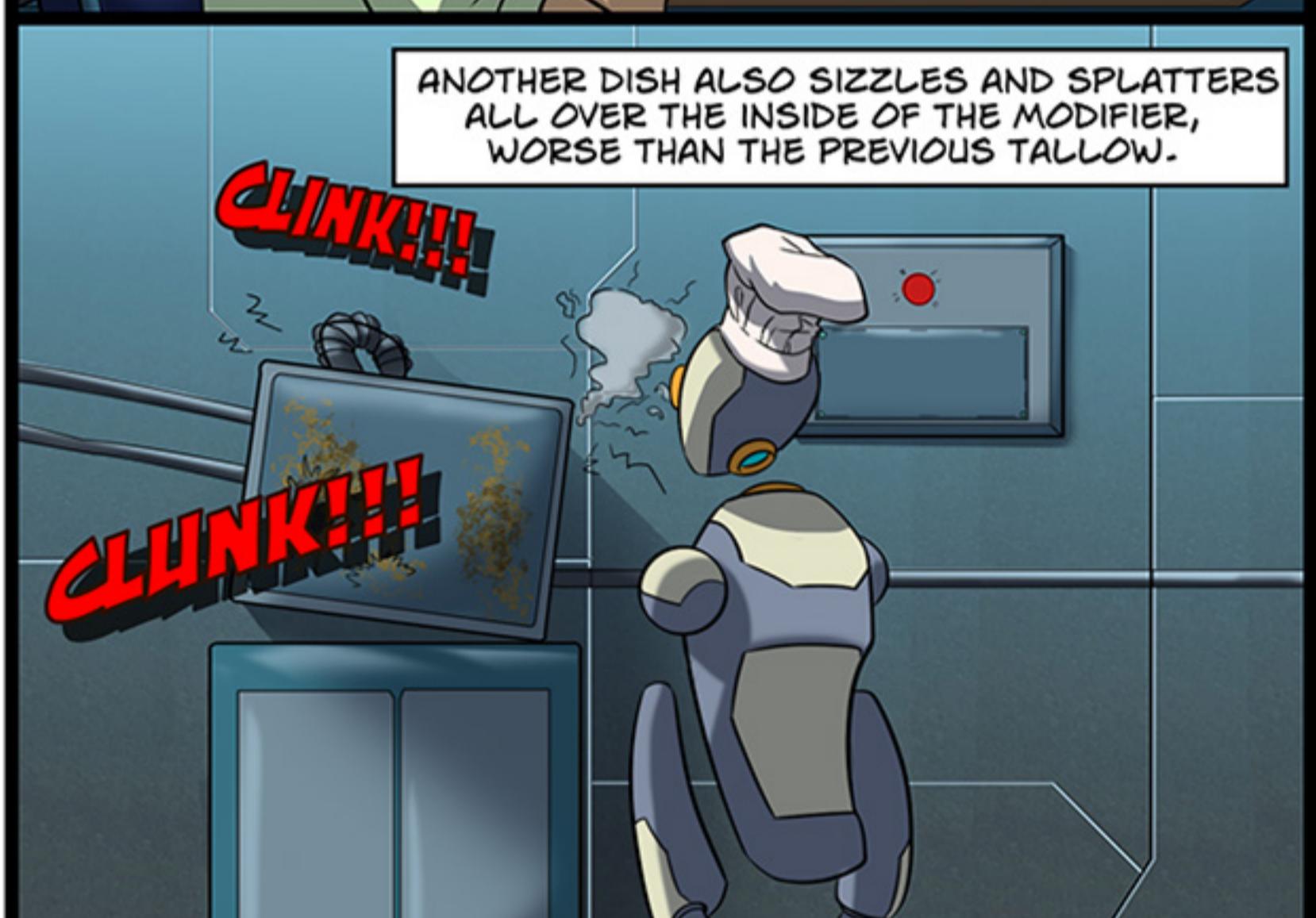


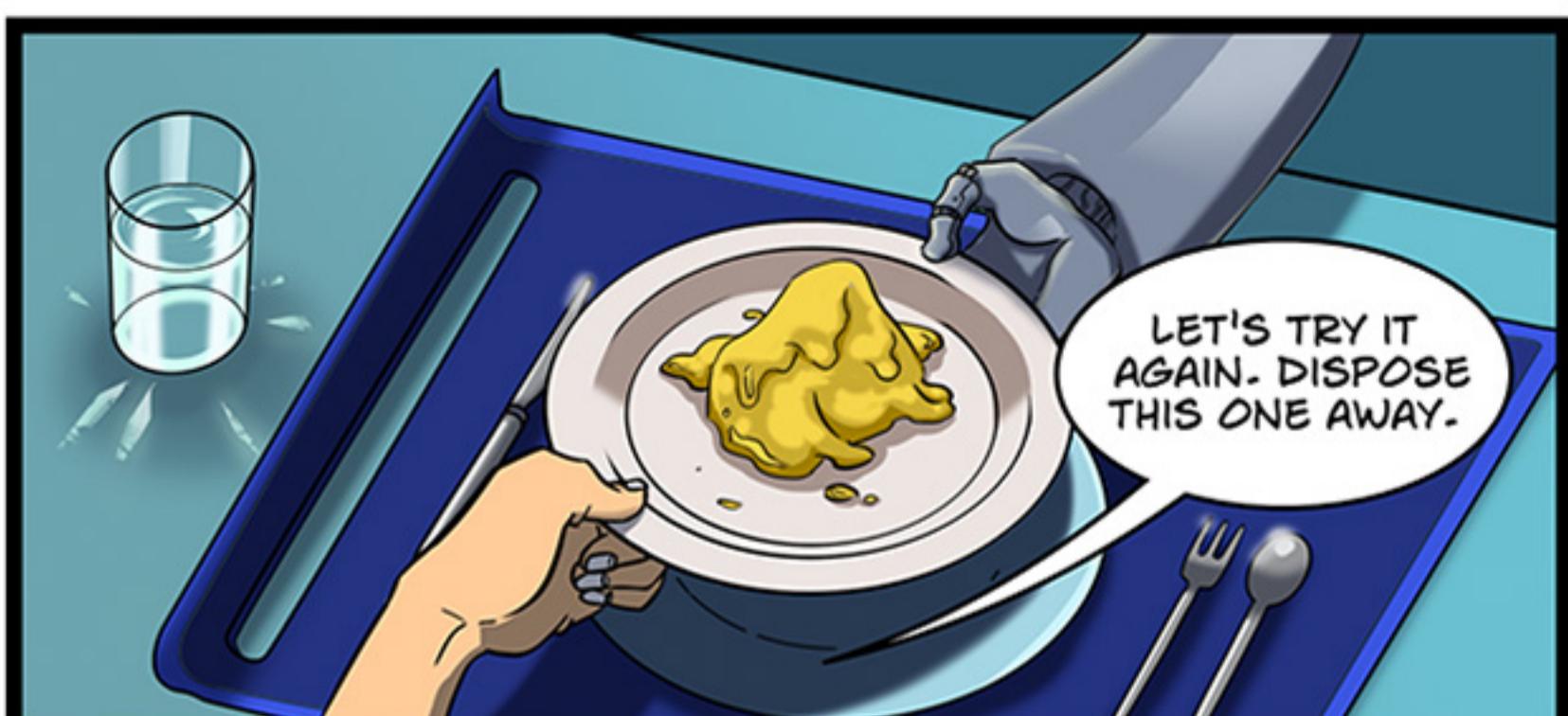
THE ROBOTS THEN BRING THEIR FOOD TO THE OFFICIAL TASTER, A FOOD SCIENTIST BY THE NAME OF PROFESSOR SAFFRON.



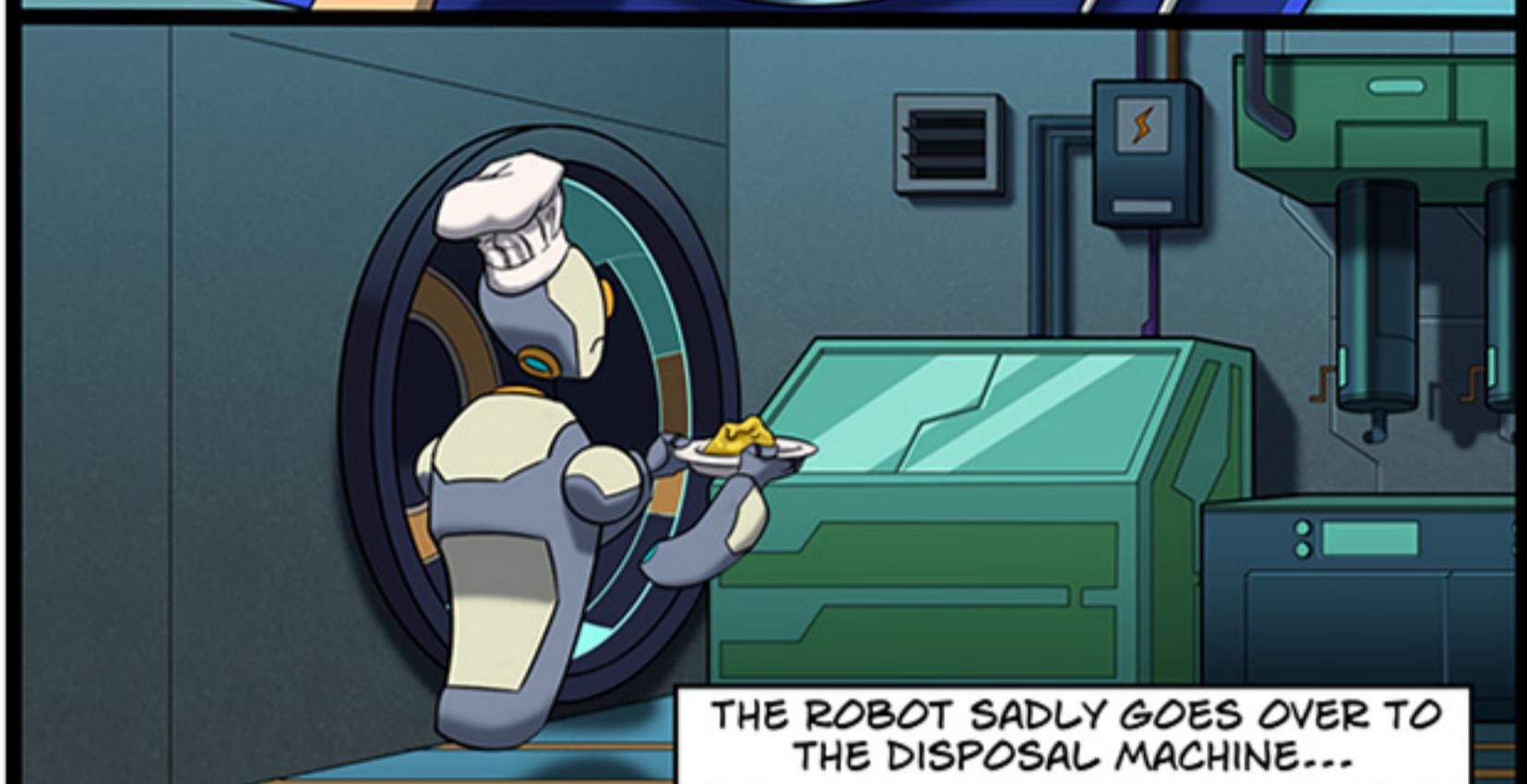
EUGH, DON'T THINK WE GOT THAT ONE RIGHT.







LET'S TRY IT AGAIN. DISPOSE THIS ONE AWAY.



THE ROBOT SADLY GOES OVER TO THE DISPOSAL MACHINE...



AND DUMPS HIS SAD LUMP OF FAT INTO IT.

SHLOO



THE LUMP OF FAT PLOPS INTO A POOL OF CHEMICALS DISCARDED FROM PREVIOUS FAILED EXPERIMENTS.

SPLASH!

IN THE DEPTHS OF THE MACHINE, THE LUMP OF FAT UNDERGOES A WEIRD CHEMICAL PROCESS.

BLOOB

BLOOB

IT STARTS BUBBLING ON ITS SURFACE, SUBMERGED IN EVEN MORE FOOD SCRAPS AND CHEMICALS AFTER THE REPEATED FAILURES TO CREATE DISHES EARLIER IN THE EVENING.

BLOOB





AS IT CLIMBS, THE CHEMICALS AND FOOD SCRAPS SEEM TO GET SUCKED UP BY THE LUMP, INCREASING ITS SIZE.

BLURB

BLURB

KREAKK

ONCE IT REACHES THE OPENING OF THE DISPOSAL MACHINE, THE LUMP SLOWLY CLIMBS OUT.

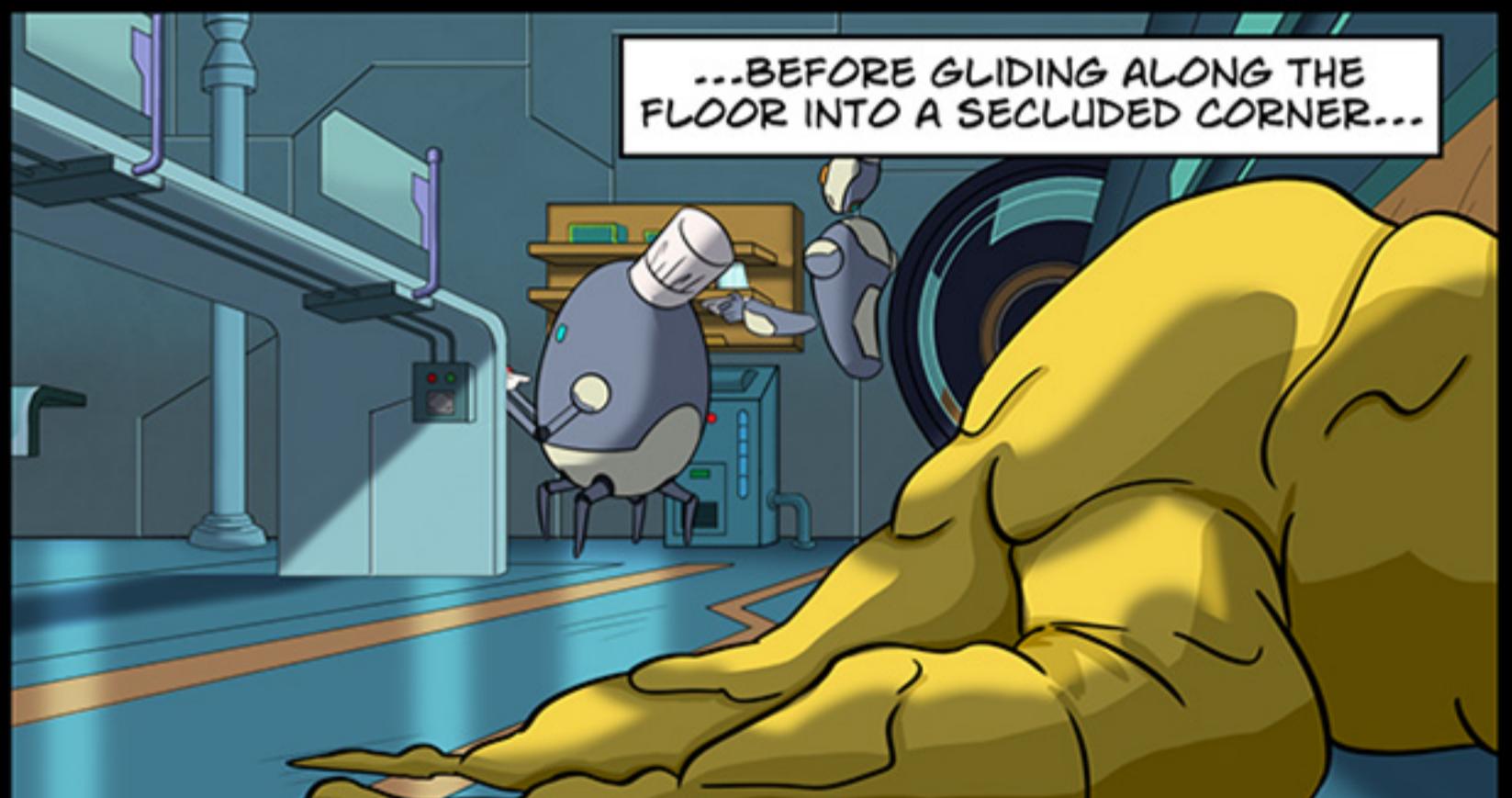
PLOP!



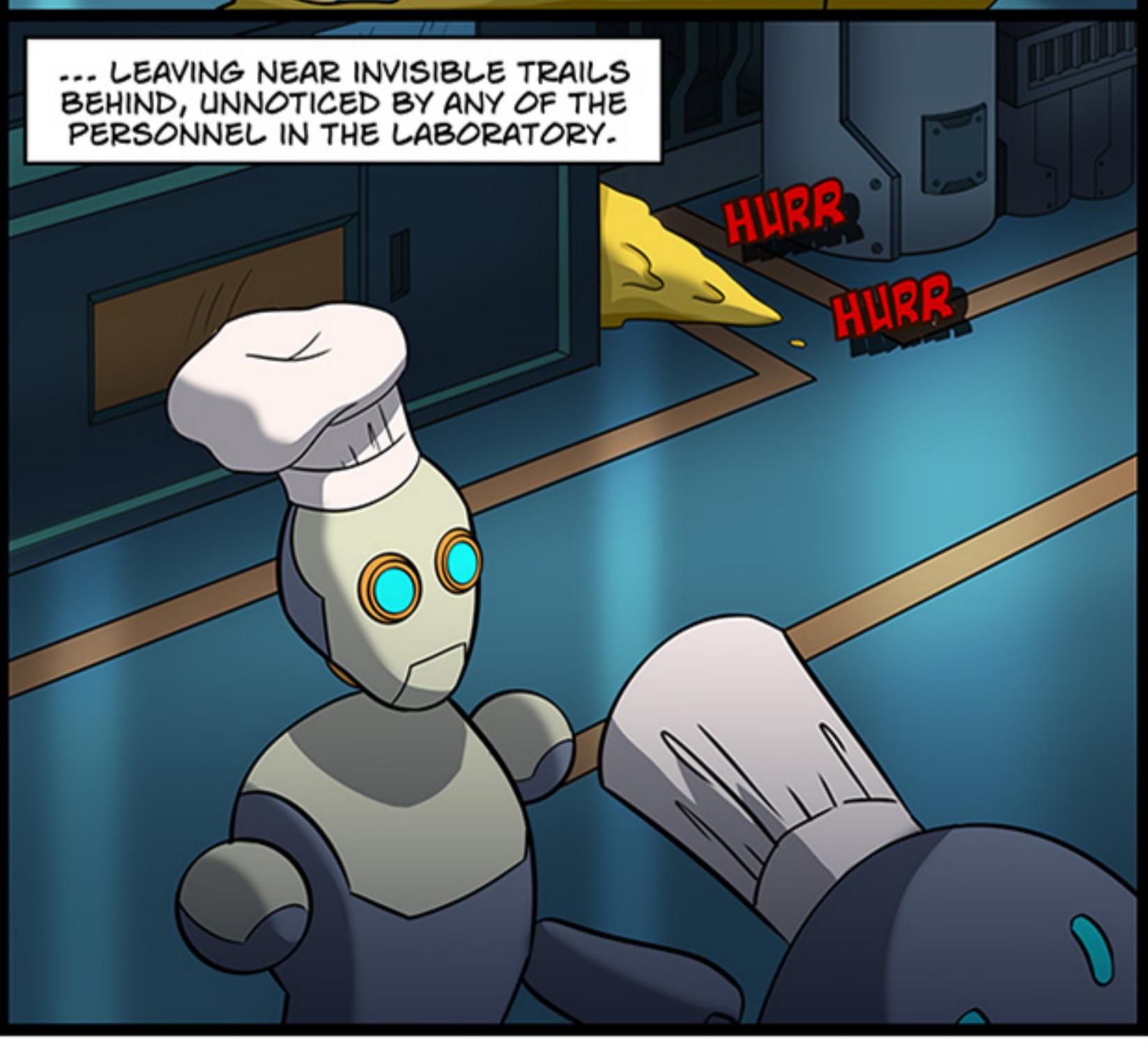
IT CATCHES A GLIMPSE OF ITSELF ON THE SHINY SURFACE OF THE FLOOR...



...BEFORE GLIDING ALONG THE FLOOR INTO A SECLUDED CORNER...



... LEAVING NEAR INVISIBLE TRAILS BEHIND, UNNOTICED BY ANY OF THE PERSONNEL IN THE LABORATORY.

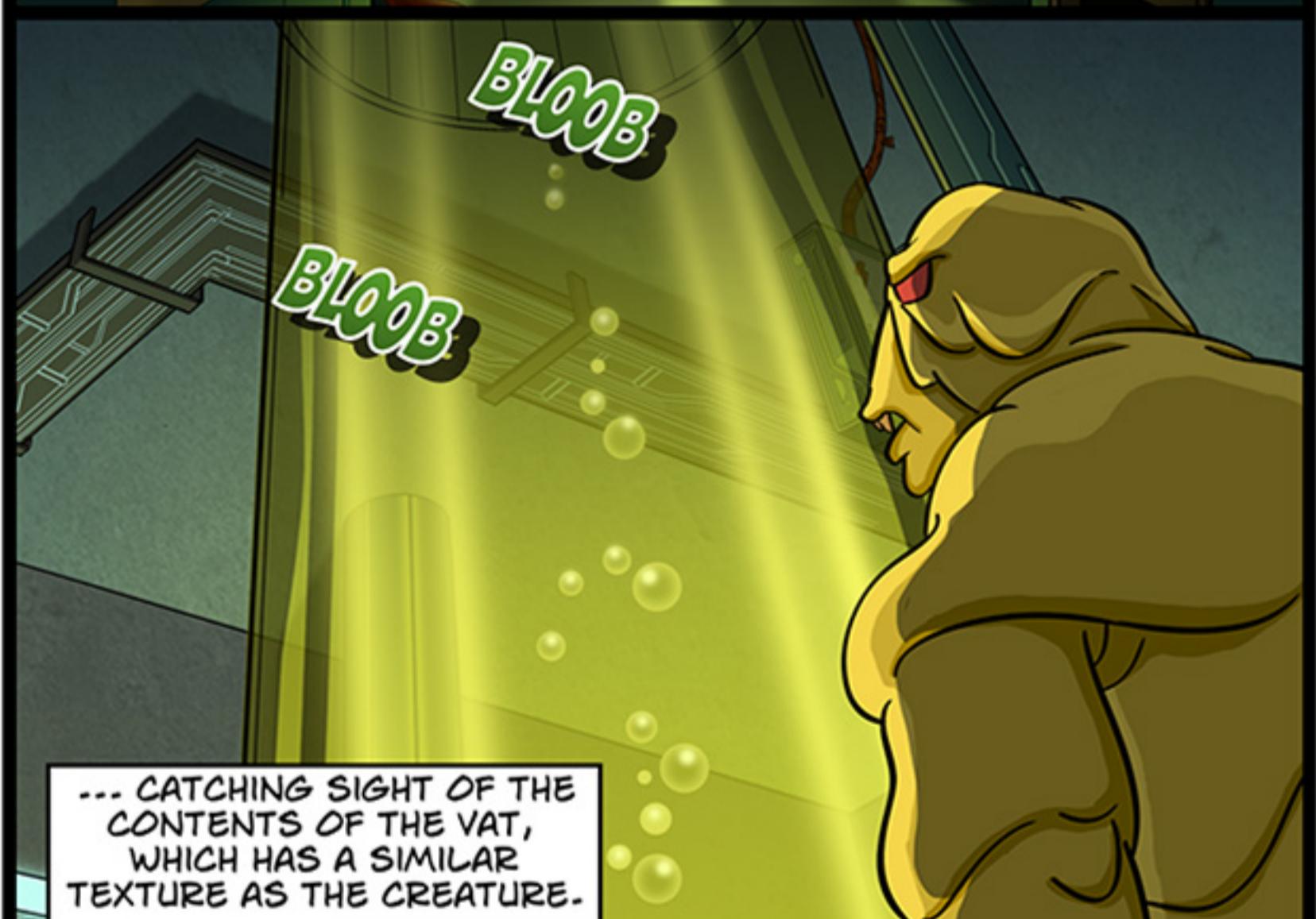
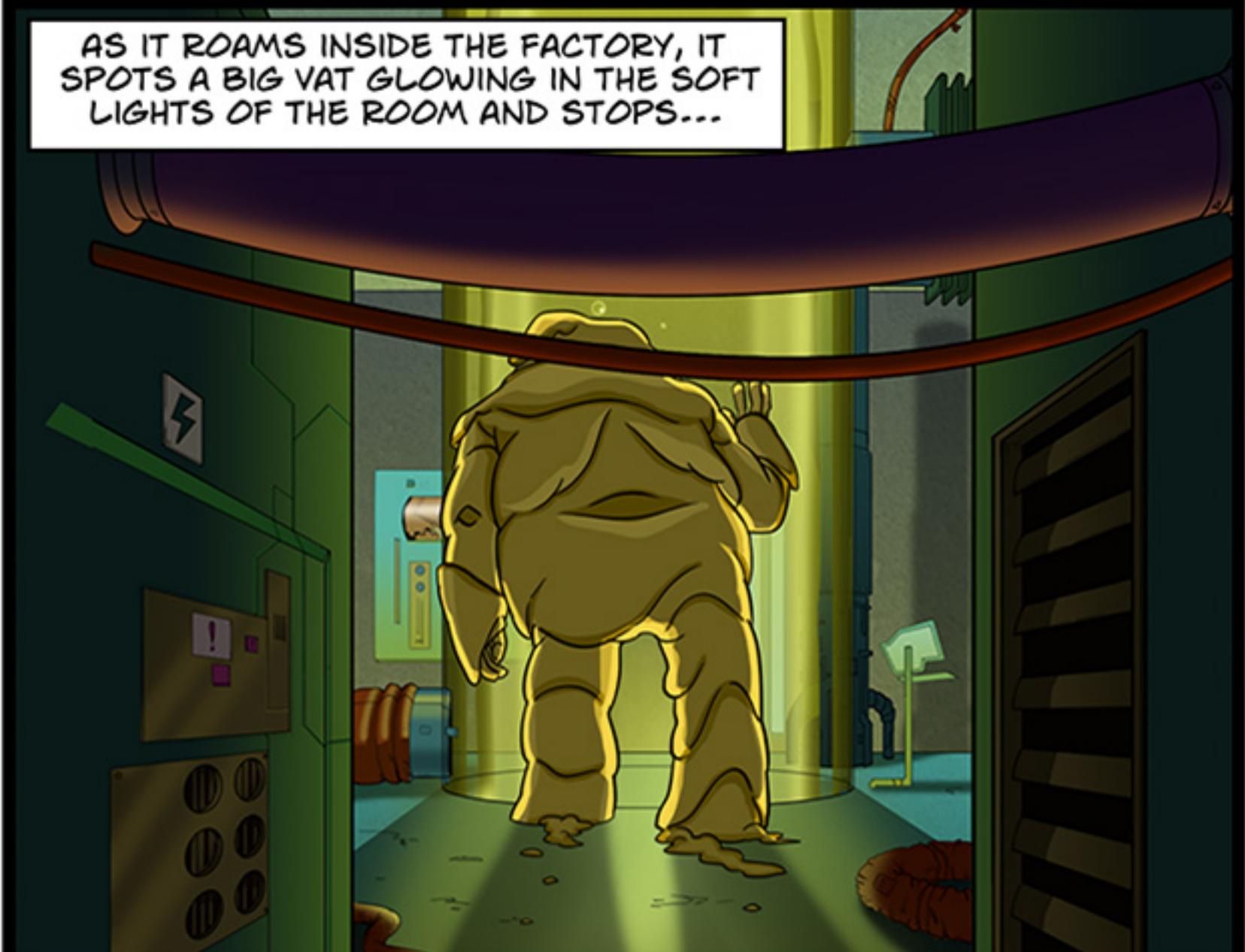


HURR

HURR



AS IT ROAMS INSIDE THE FACTORY, IT SPOTS A BIG VAT GLOWING IN THE SOFT LIGHTS OF THE ROOM AND STOPS...



... CATCHING SIGHT OF THE CONTENTS OF THE VAT, WHICH HAS A SIMILAR TEXTURE AS THE CREATURE.



THE CREATURE LOOKS AROUND TO SEE ANY POTENTIAL ENTRY INTO THE VAT...





...WHERE IT BLENDS IN
PERFECTLY WITH THE FAT
IN THE VAT...



... AND READY TO BE
PROCESSED INTO A MEAL.



MEANWHILE BACK IN WELLOTH...

CHIRP

CHIRP

ALRIGHT! PERFECT
FOR A DAY OF FUN
OUTSIDE!

AGUNGGA HOPS OUT FROM HIS BED
AND GOES TO HIS COMM LINK.

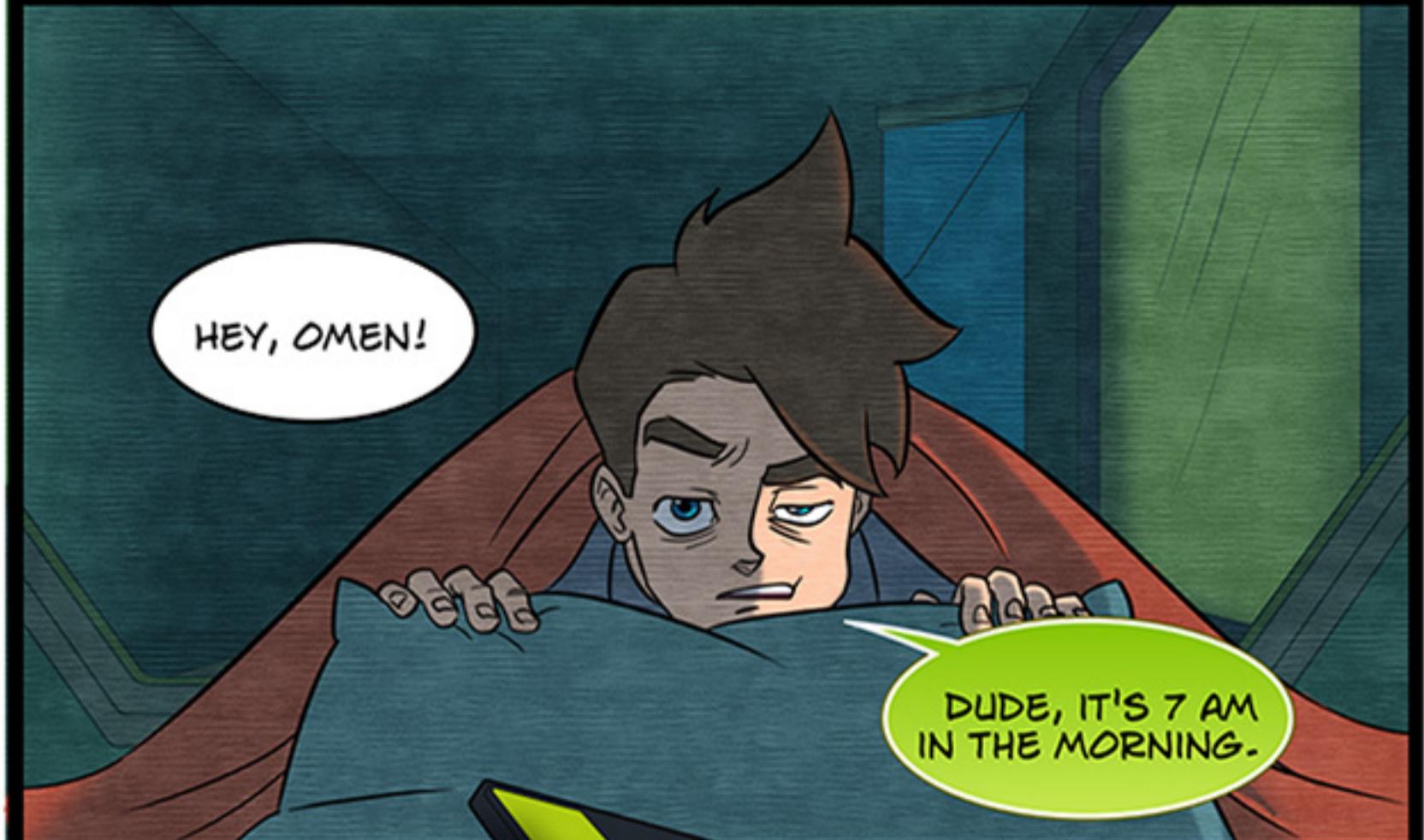
RIING RIING

Sunny
28°C

Call
Omen

WITHOUT HESITATION HE BUZZES OMEN.





HEY, OMEN!

DUDE, IT'S 7 AM
IN THE MORNING.



...



IT'S TOO EARLY.
I'M TOO TIRED.

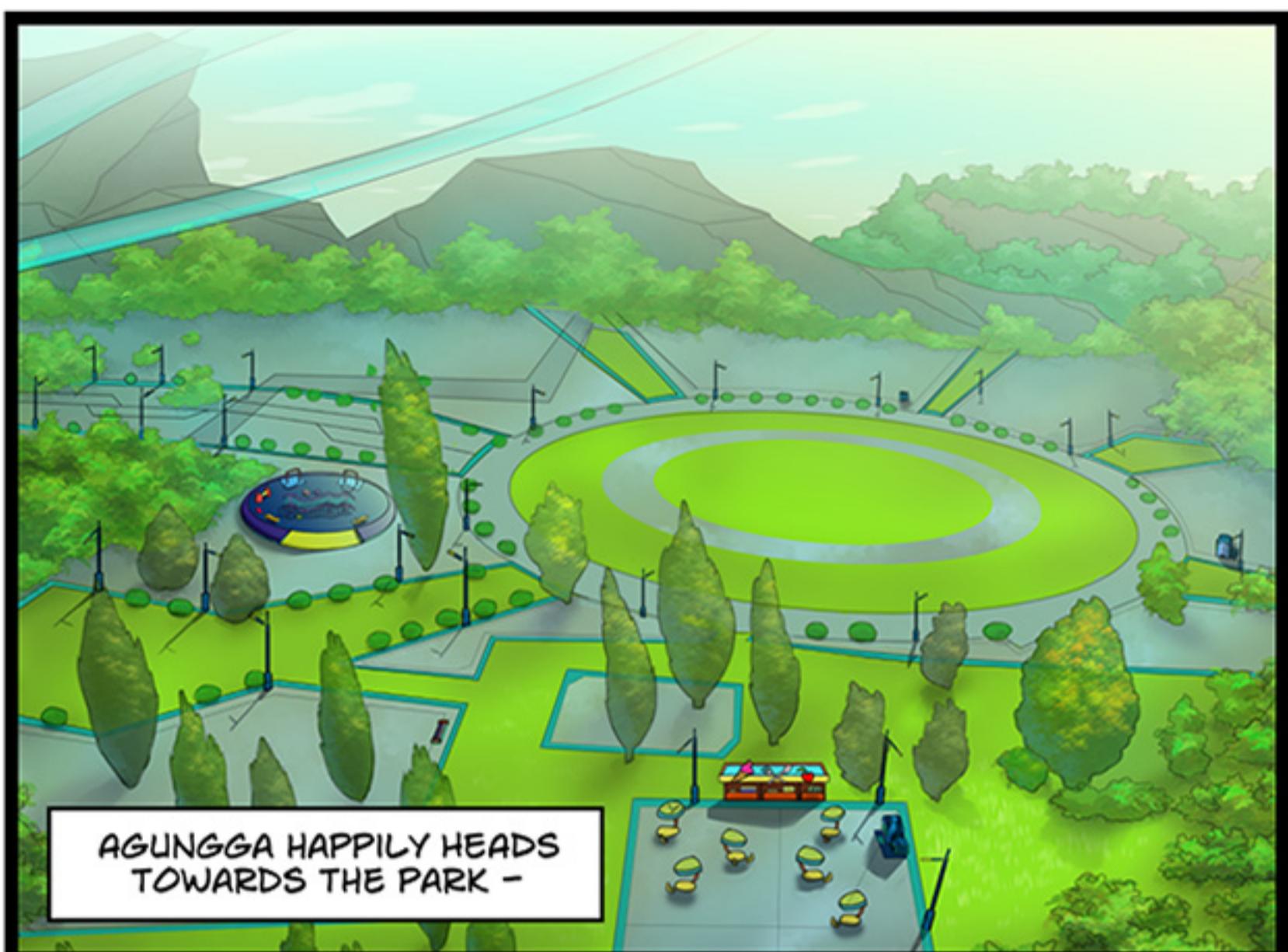


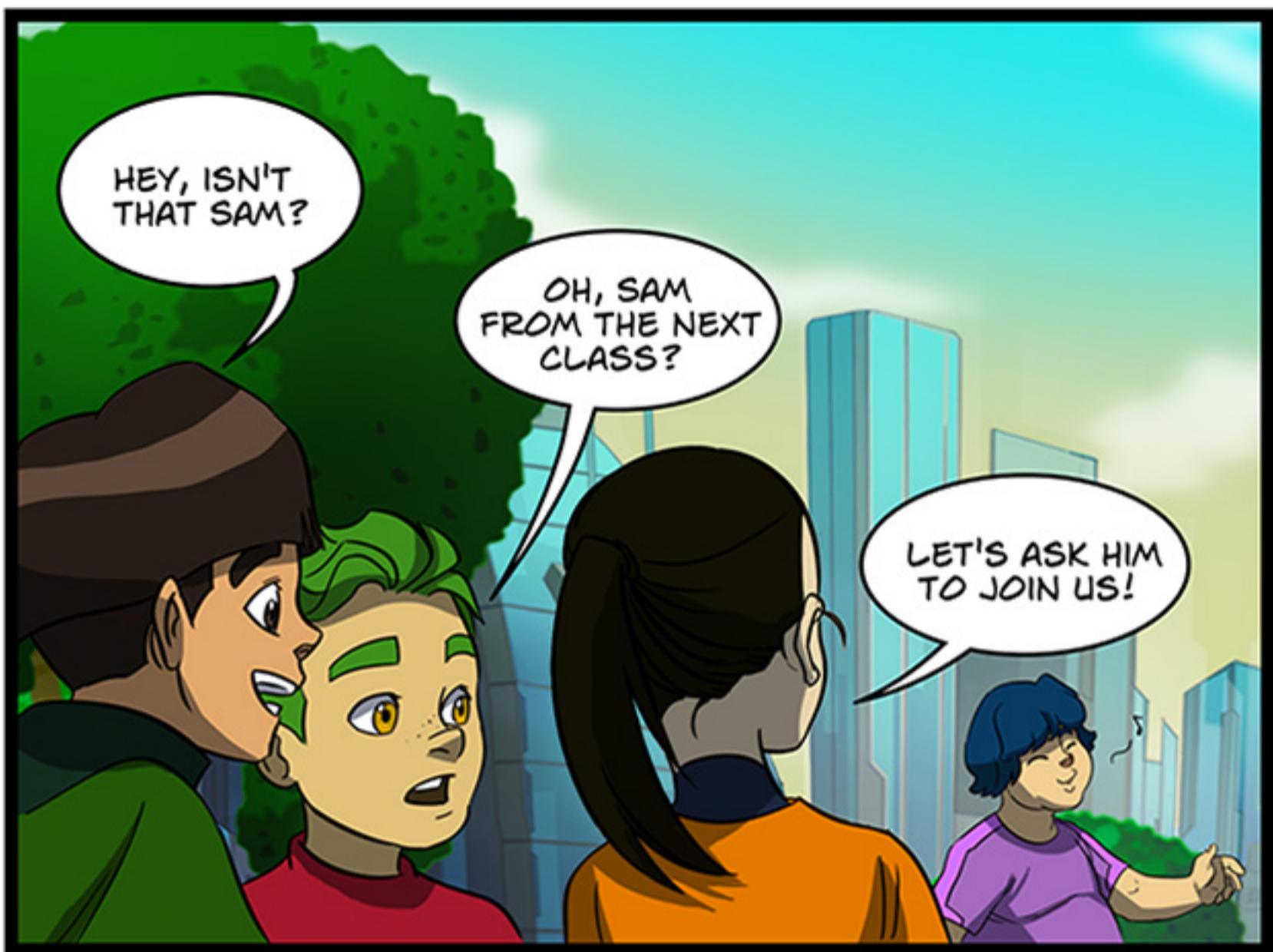




A FEW MOMENTS LATER AGUNGGA BOUNDS OUT THE FRONT DOOR WITH A BACKPACK.









THE GROUP MAKES THEIR WAY AT A BRISK PACE AS AGUNGGA, ANUSHA AND BRIAN LIGHTLY JOG TO THE PARK.

HUFF

HUFF

HOLD UP, GUYS!
WHERE'S THE FIRE?

HUFF

HUFF

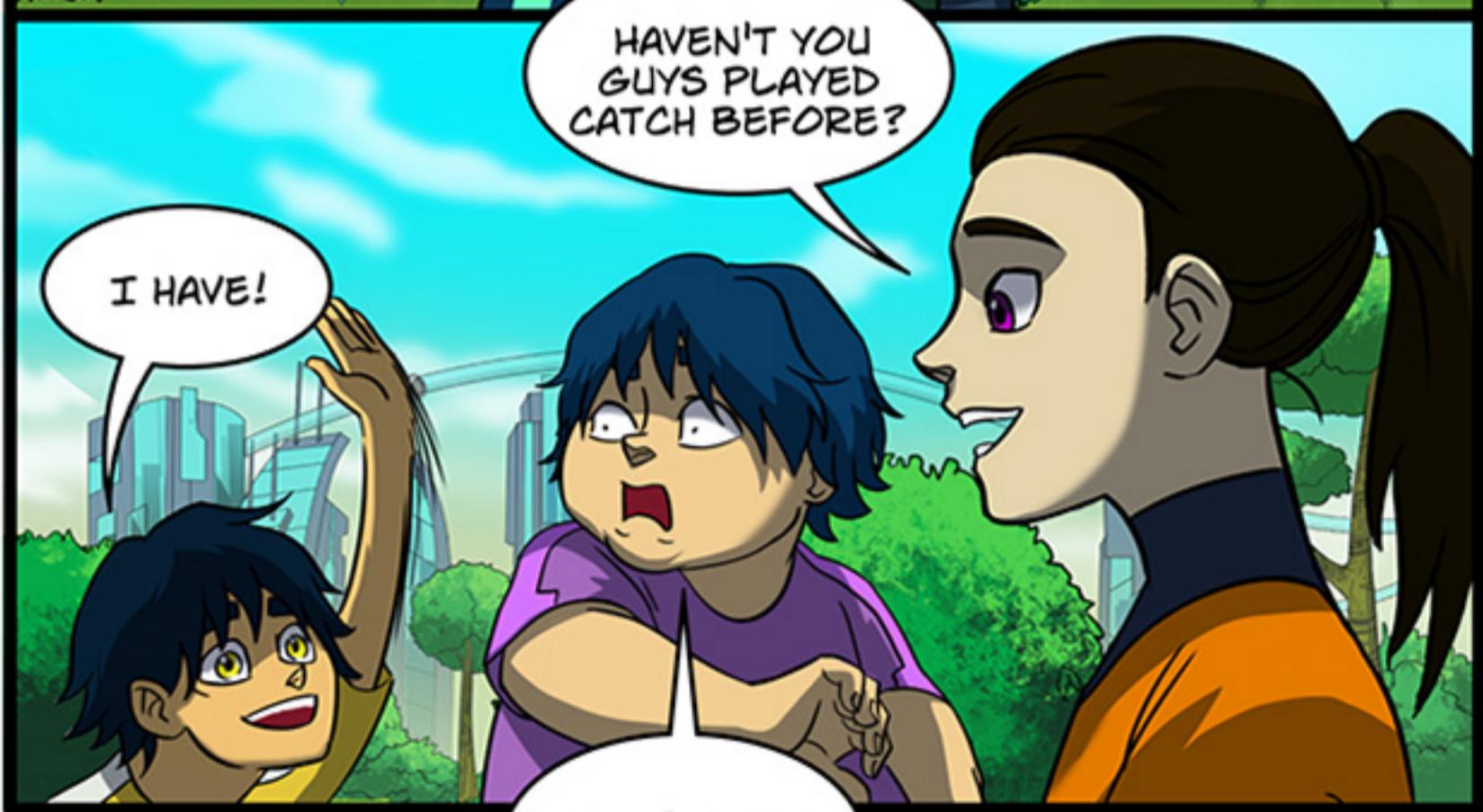
THIS IS
NORMAL FOR
US, SAM.

YEAH, COACH SASHA
WOULD HAVE OUR
HEADS IF WE DARED
STROLL ALONG LIKE
YOU AND TIM.











AGUNGGA, ANUSHA, AND BRIAN TOSS AND CATCH THE BALL WITH EASE.



WHEN IT COMES TO TIM'S TURN, BRIAN MODERATES HIS TOSS SO TIM CAN ALSO CATCH IT EASILY.



AS IF THE BALL WOULD BITE HIM, TIM TIMIDLY TOSSES IT TO SAM AND HE MANAGES TO CATCH IT AWKWARDLY.



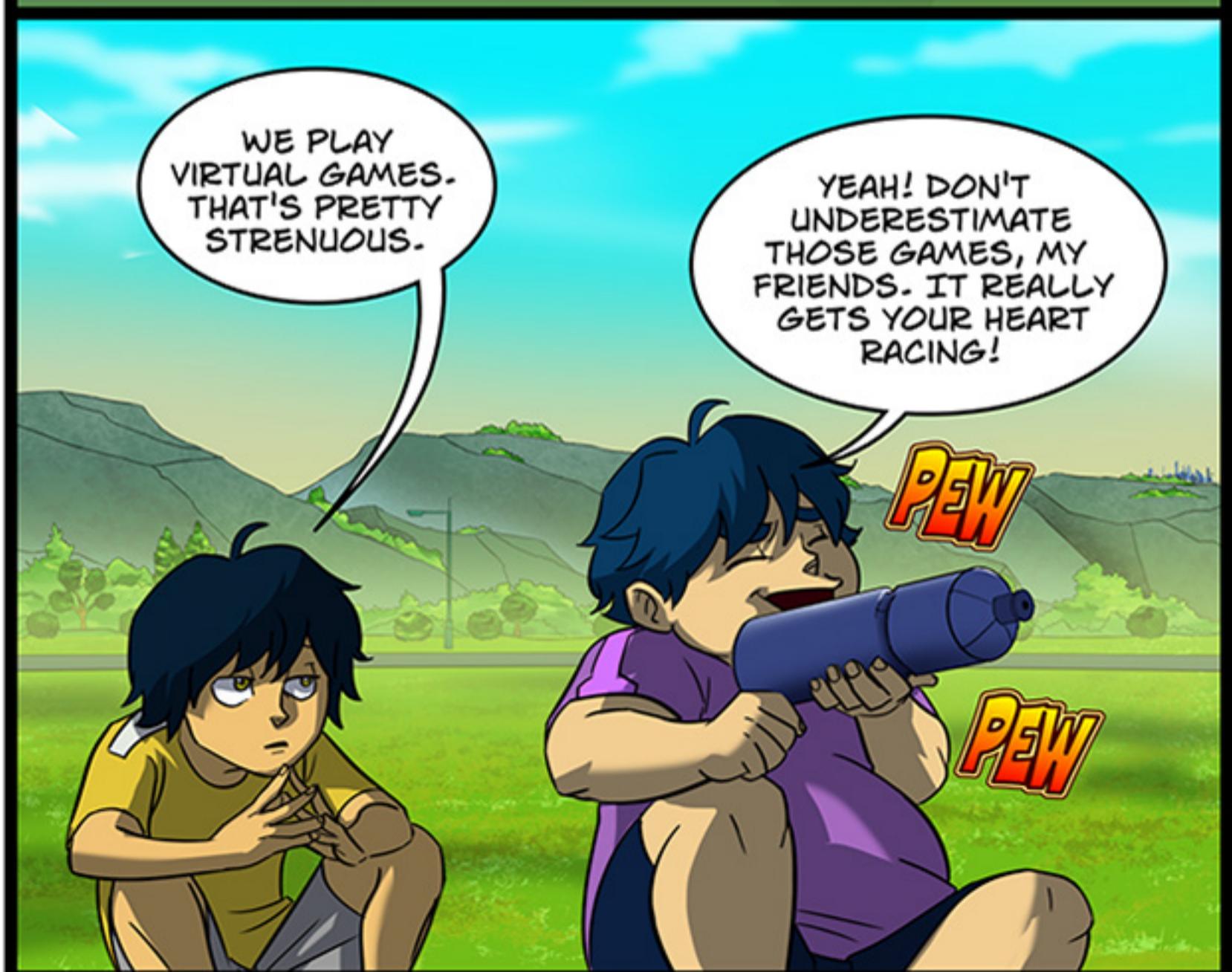
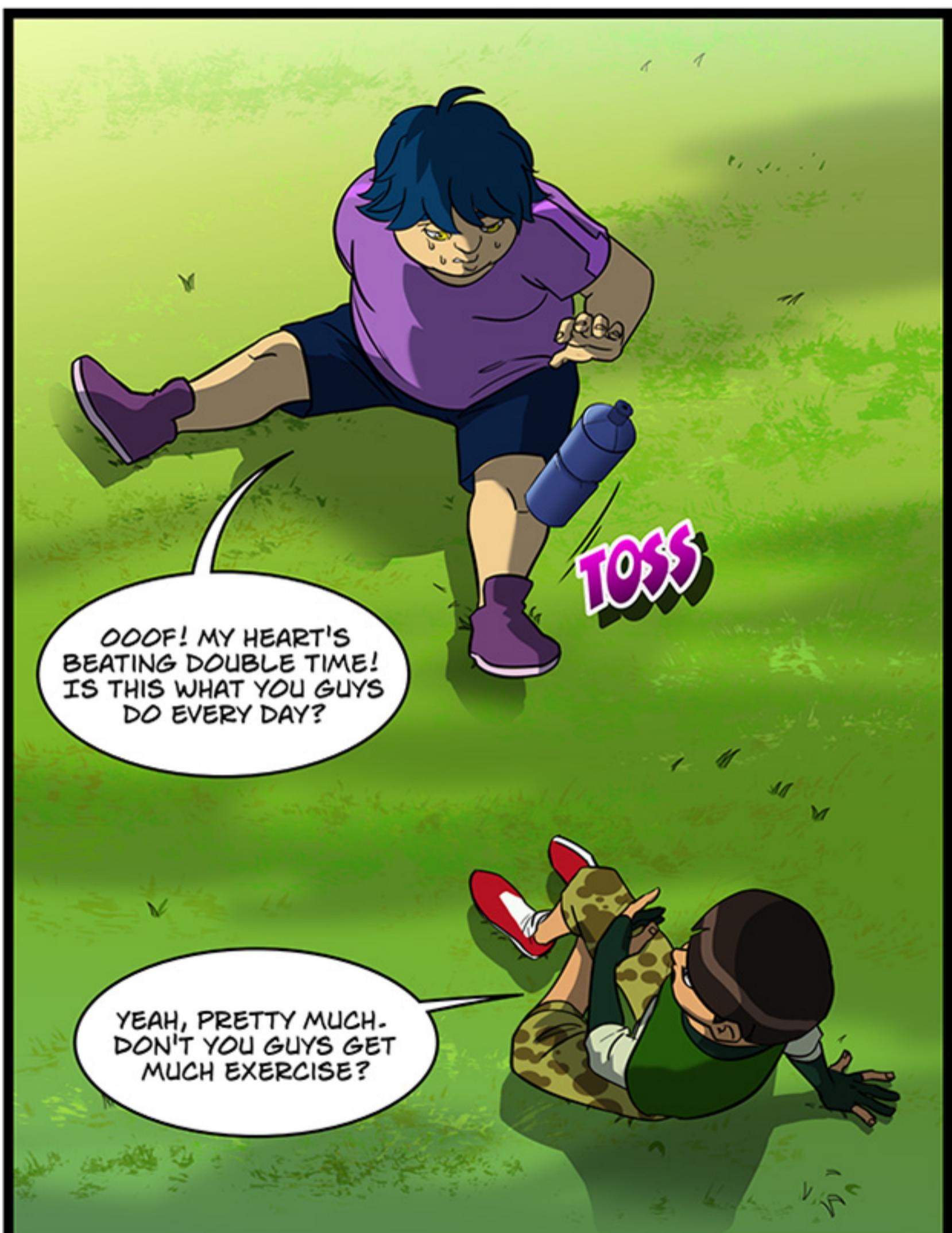


SOON THEY BECOME ENGROSSED IN THE GAME AND SAM AND TIM ARE HAVING LOTS OF FUN PLAYING WITH THEIR FRIENDS.



AFTER A WHILE THEY START TO PANT FROM EXHAUSTION BUT SAM AND TIM LOOK MUCH WORSE OFF. THEY'RE COLLAPSED ON THE GROUND, AGAINST THE SOFT ARTIFICIAL TURF OF WELLOTH PARK.

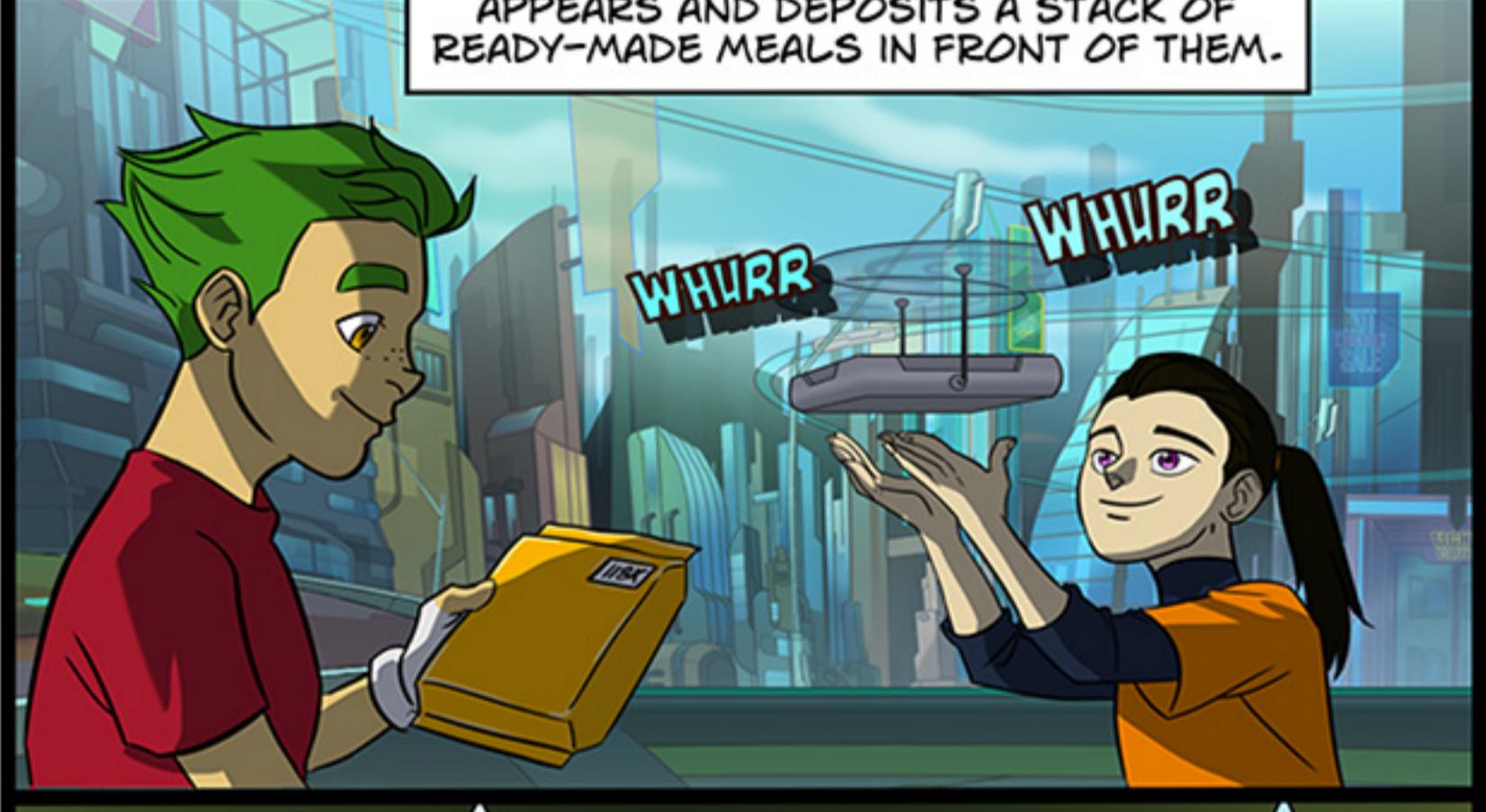




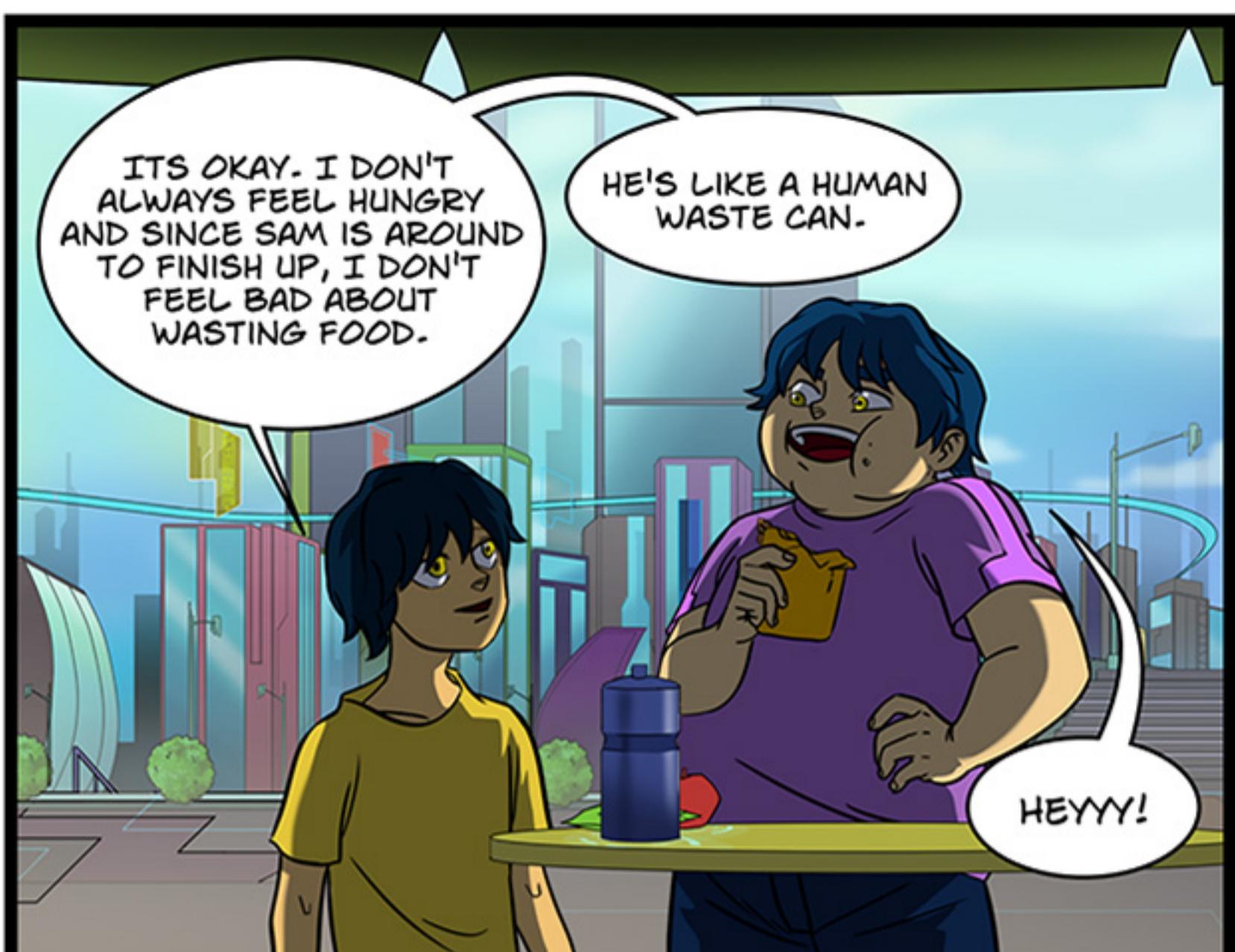
ONCE EVERYBODY HAS COOLED DOWN, THEY ALL HEAD TO A KIOSK TO GET BREAKFAST.



A FEW MOMENTS LATER A DRONE APPEARS AND DEPOSITS A STACK OF READY-MADE MEALS IN FRONT OF THEM.







THE GROUP ENJOYS THE REST OF THEIR MORNING CHATTING AND JOKING WITH EACH OTHER.



ON THE OTHER HAND, IN OMEN'S HOUSE...

cough

cough

UHHH... IS THIS
WHAT HAVING A
FEVER FEELS
LIKE?

OMEN FEELS HIS THOUGHTS DRIFTING TO
PREVIOUS TRANSFORMATIONS AND MONSTERS...
AS IF SCROLLING THROUGH A NIGHTMARE.

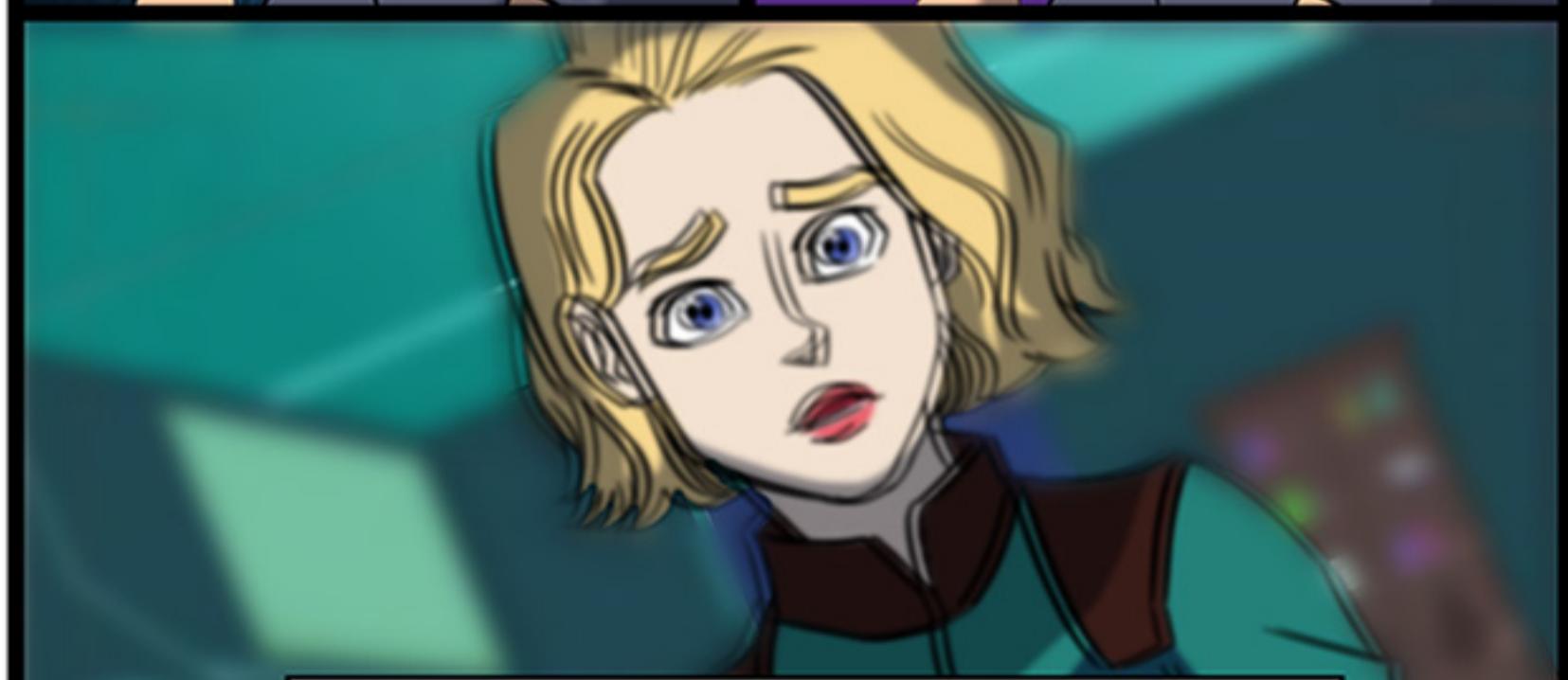
I HAVEN'T FELT
THIS SICK IN A
LONG TIME...





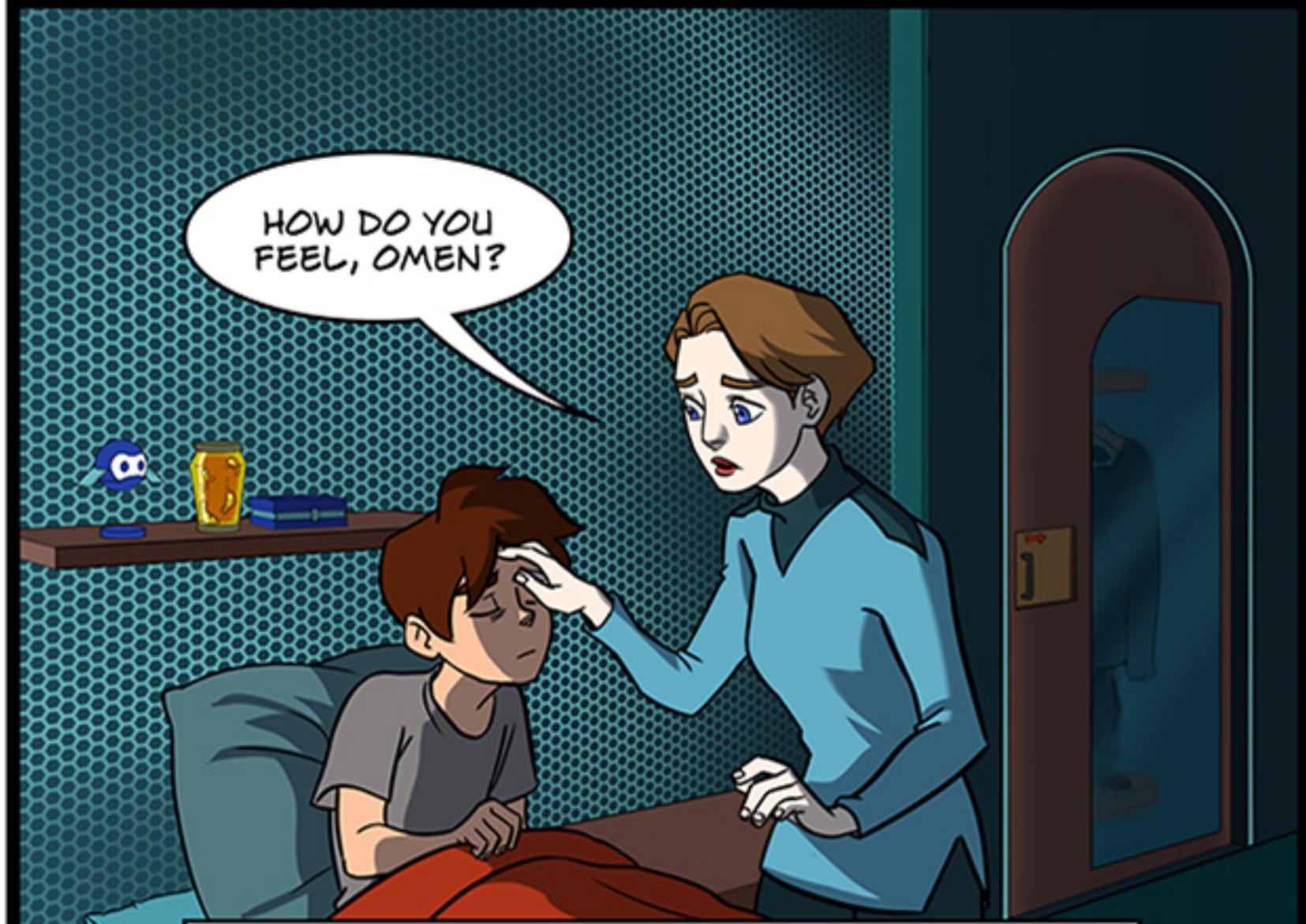
TAP...
TAP...

SUDDENLY HE HEARS FOOTSTEPS THAT JOLT HIM FROM HIS NIGHTMARES.



HE BLINKS BLEARILY AND SEES THE IMAGE OF HIS MOTHER... BUT WHEN HIS VISION CLEARS IT TURNS OUT TO BE AUNT RATNA INSTEAD.



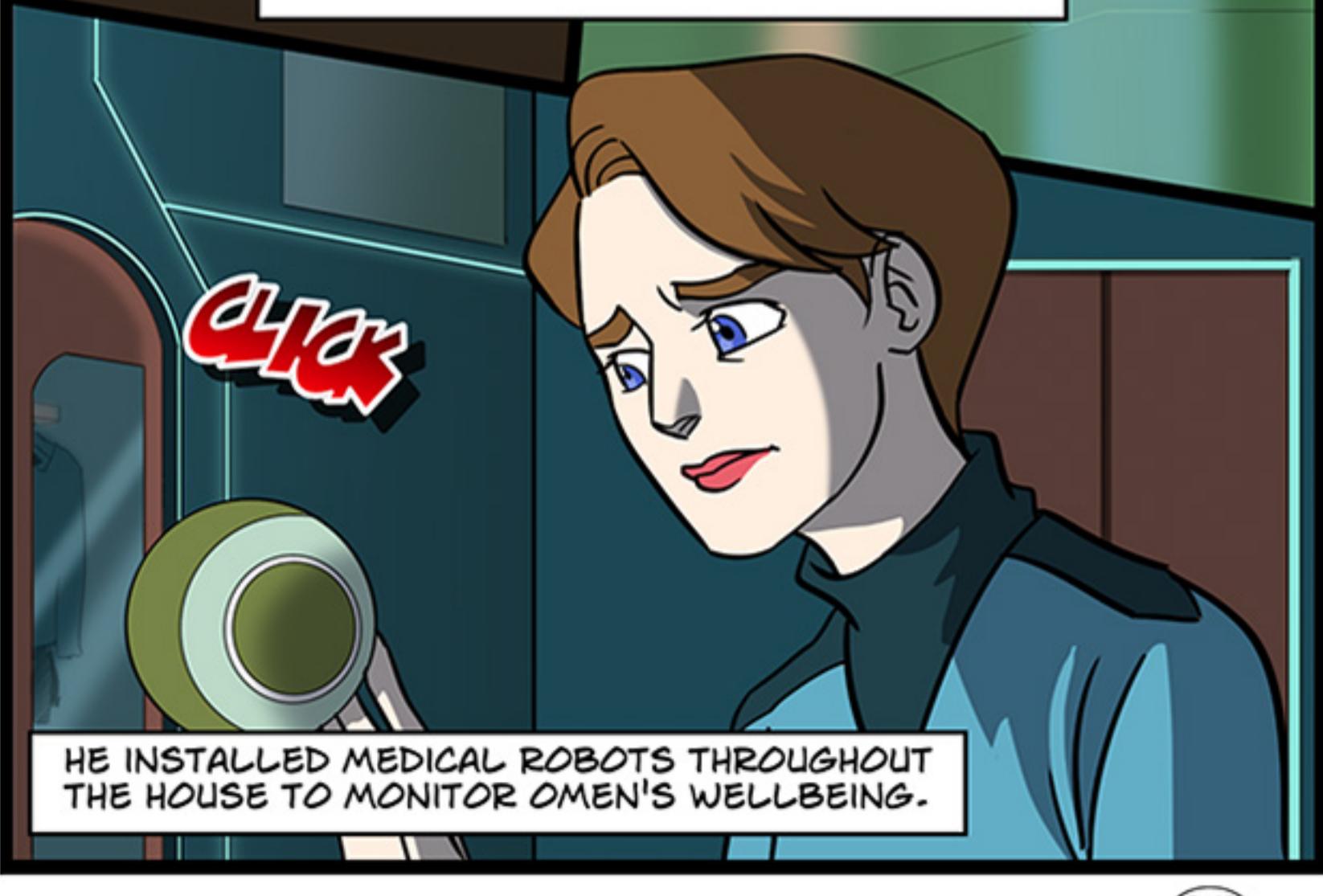


HOW DO YOU
FEEL, OMEN?

EVER SINCE MARIT'S PASSING, DR. GUNADI HAS BEEN CLOSED UP WITH HIS OWN WORKS AT THE WIB WHILE OMEN HAS MOSTLY BEEN UNDER THE CARE OF HIS AUNT.



BUT OMEN'S HEALTH REMAINS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO DR. GUNADI.

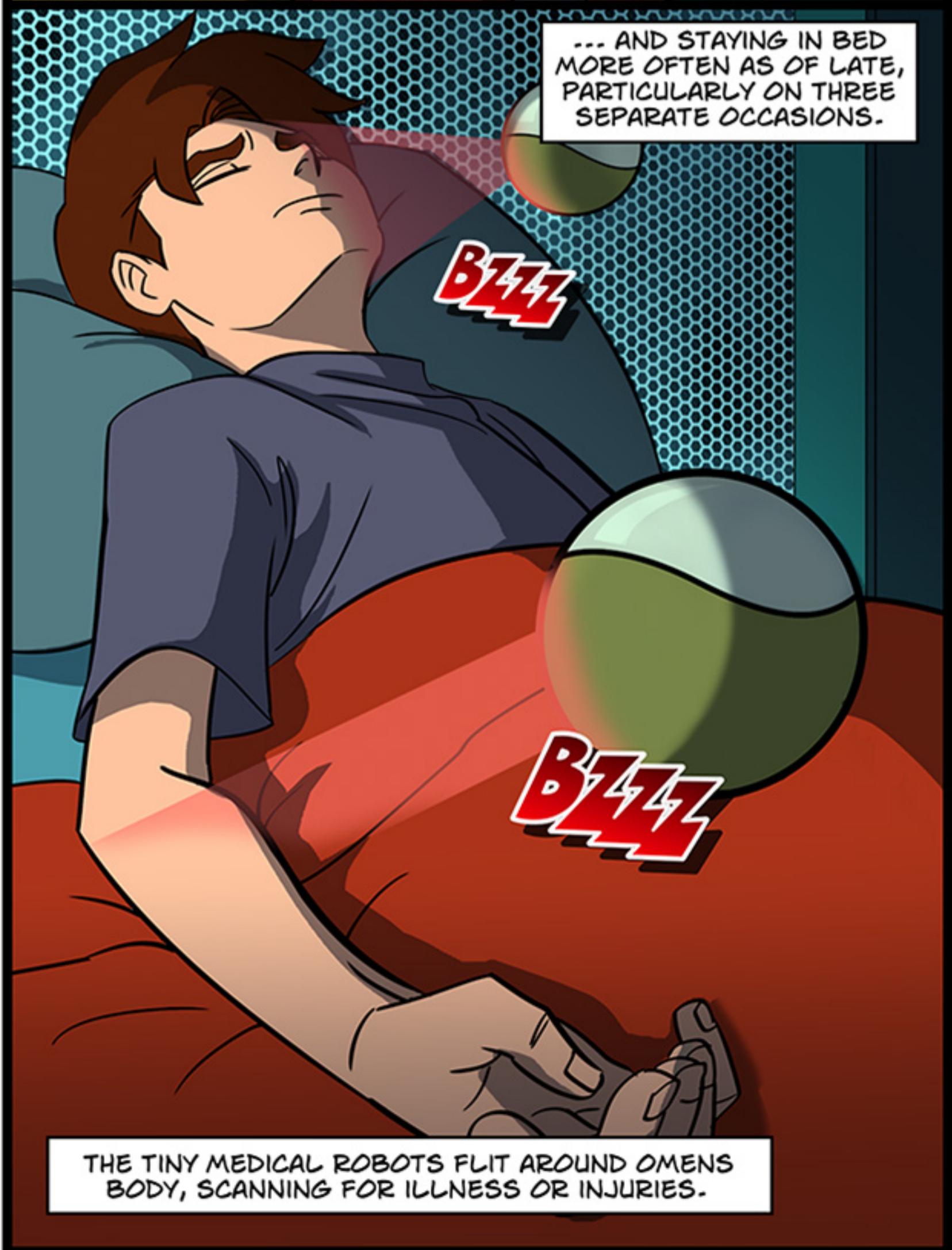


HE INSTALLED MEDICAL ROBOTS THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE TO MONITOR OMEN'S WELLBEING.



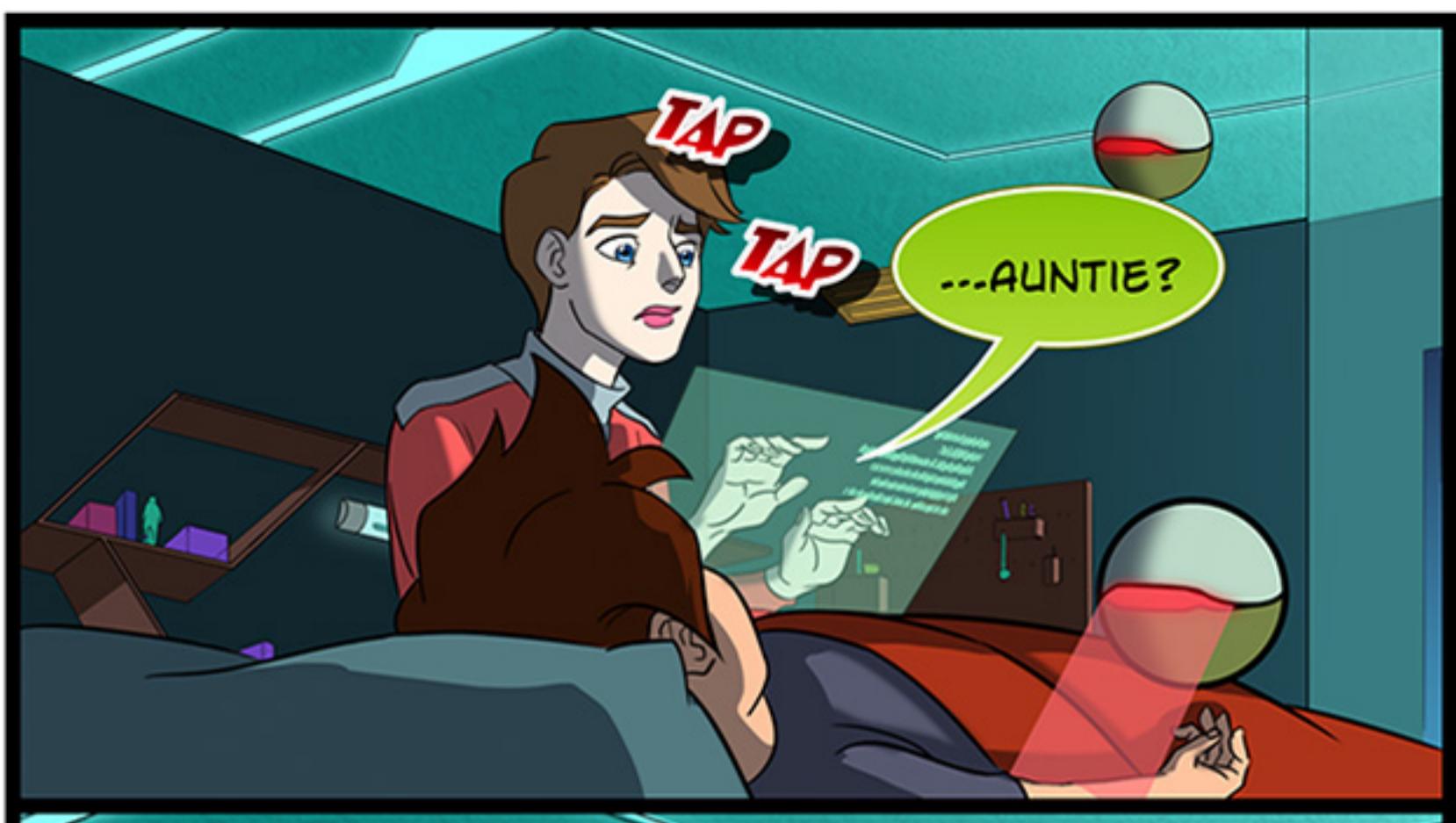


AUNT RATNA DOESN'T KNOW WHAT OMEN HAS BEEN DOING WITH HIS FRIENDS BUT THROUGH THE ROBOTS SHE CAN SEE THAT OMEN IS FREQUENTLY FATIGUED...



... AND STAYING IN BED MORE OFTEN AS OF LATE, PARTICULARLY ON THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS.

THE TINY MEDICAL ROBOTS FLIT AROUND OMENS BODY, SCANNING FOR ILLNESS OR INJURIES.



AUNT RATNA FROWNS WHEN SHE SEES OMEN'S ODD SYMPTOMS: LOWERED BODY TEMPERATURE AND LOSS OF FAT, MUSCLE MASS AND BODY TISSUES.

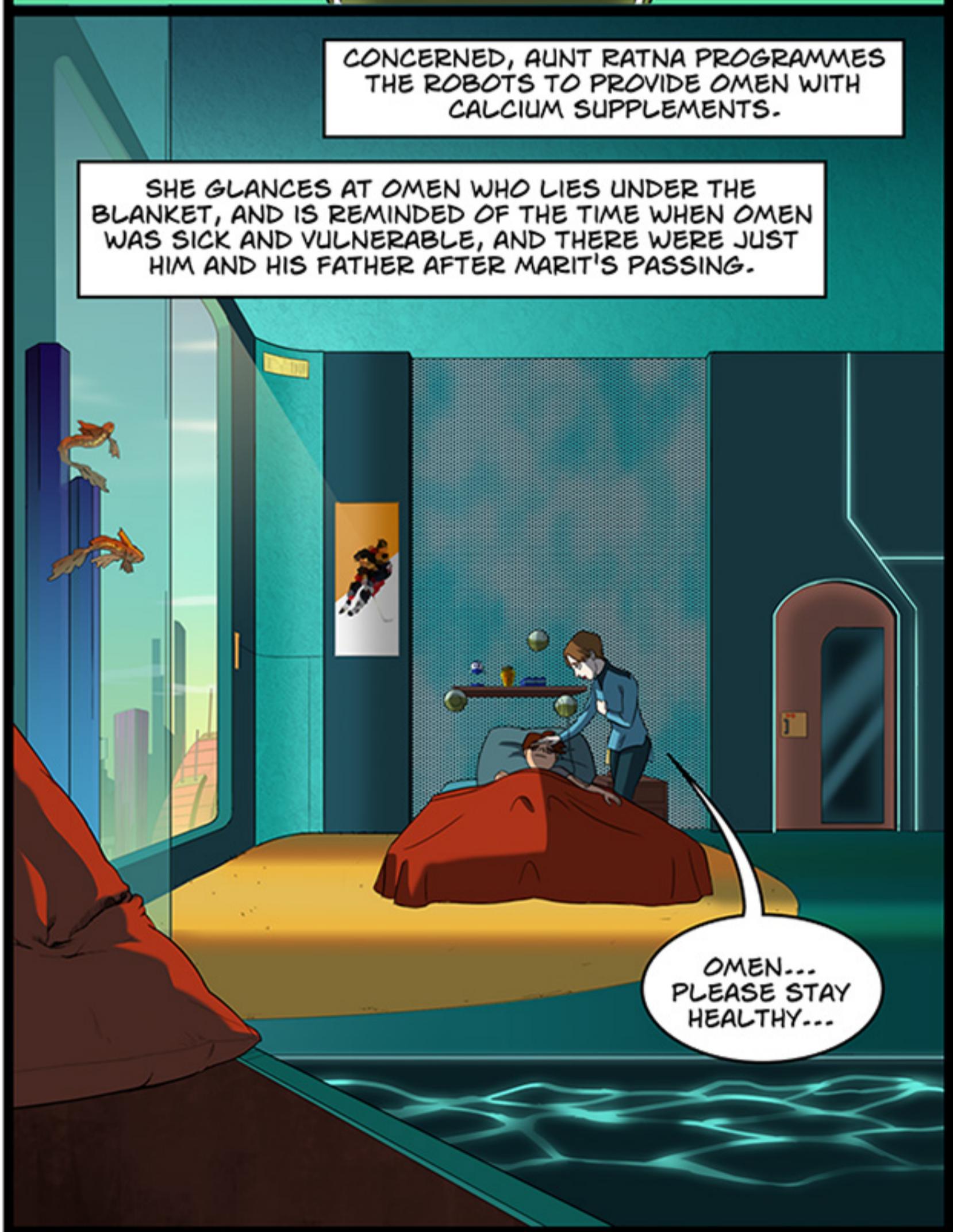
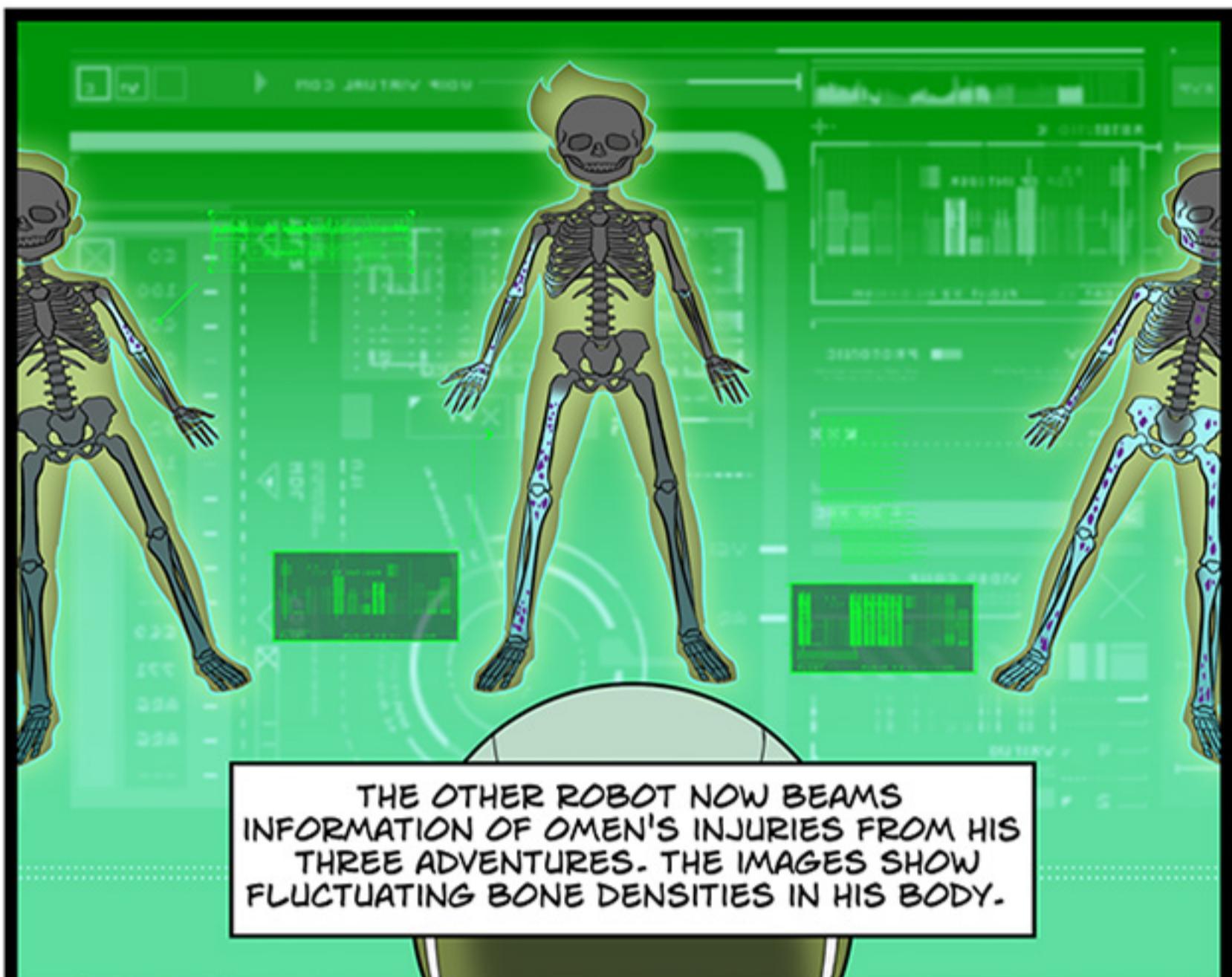


SHE IMMEDIATELY KEYS IN A NEW NUTRITION PLAN FOR OMEN AND INCREASES THE AMOUNT OF FOOD DELIVERED TO HIM.



SHE ALSO PROGRAMMES THE MEDICAL ROBOT TO ADMINISTER INTRAVENOUS FLUIDS AND NUTRIENTS TO OMEN IMMEDIATELY.





THE NEXT DAY AT SCHOOL...

I DO APOLOGIZE, AGUNGGA,
BUT I WAS VERY BUSY
RUNNING SOME DIAGNOSTICS
FOR THE KIOSKS WITH
PROFESSOR CONNOR
YESTERDAY.

FOR THE
REJUVENATION
KIOSK?

IS SOMETHING
WRONG WITH IT?

YES, THERE WERE SOME
ANOMALIES IN THE MAIN
SYSTEM FOR THE KIOSKS.
BUT EVERYTHING
SHOULD BE WORKING
FINE NOW.











A FEW MOMENTS LATER, OMEN, AVERY, AGUNGGA AND RILEY JOIN THE REST OF THEIR CLASSMATES ON THE FIELD.

YOU'RE GOING DOWN, OMEN!

BRING IT ON, AGUNGGA!

I SHALL ASSIST IN RECORDING YOUR RESULTS.

EXCELLENT, RILEY! READY, BOYS?





NEXT UP FOR THE RACE ARE AVERY AND ANUSHYA.

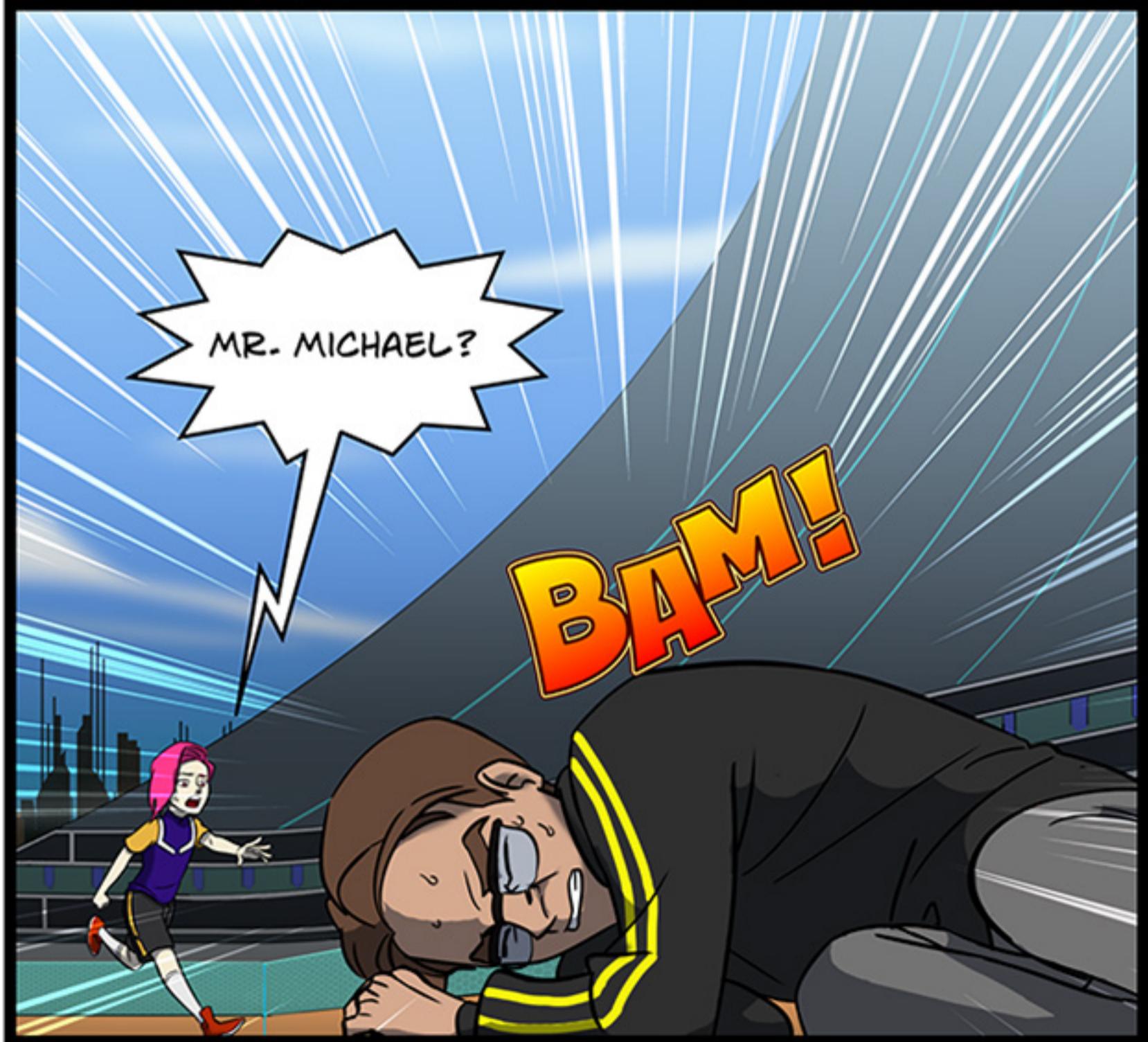
C'MON, AVERY!
YOU CAN DO IT!

MR. MICHAEL RAISES HIS ARM TO CHEER
BUT SUDDENLY HE FEELS AN ODD
SENSATION OF NUMBNESS.

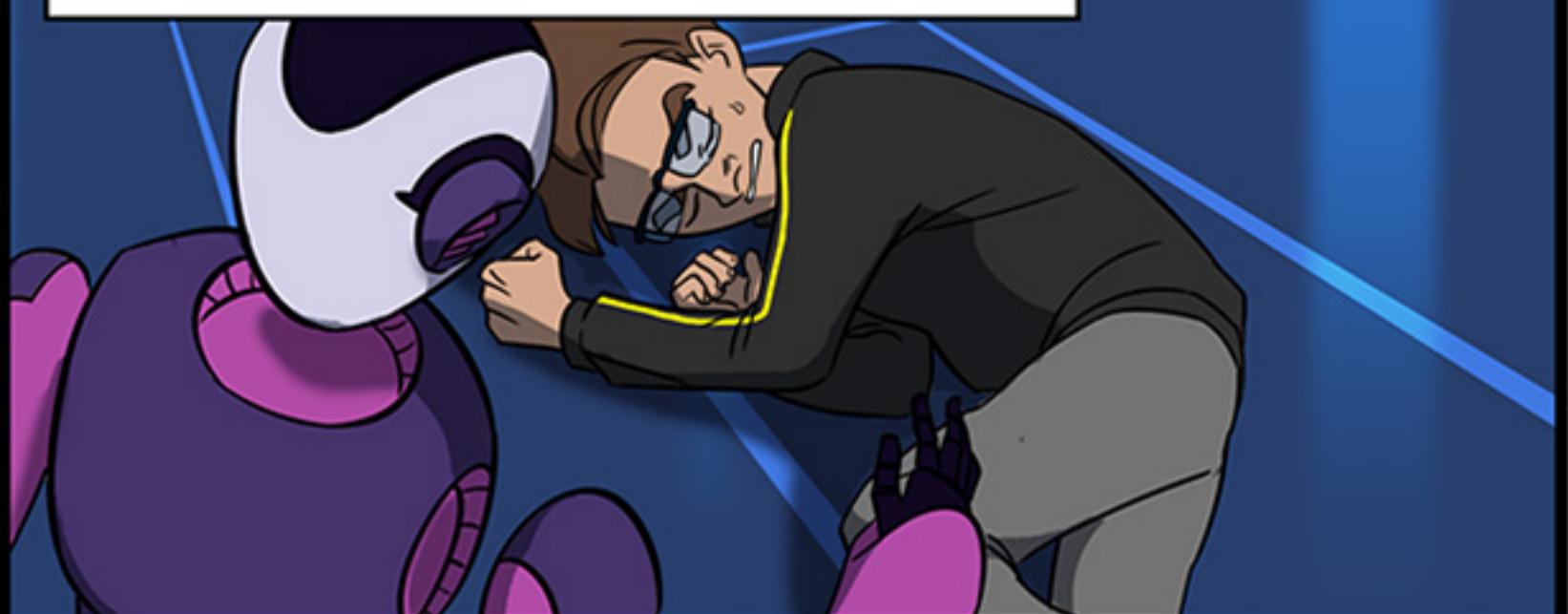
HUH?

HIS POINT OF VIEW OF AVERY AND
ANUSHYA BLURS AND EVERYTHING SEEMS
TO BE HAPPENING IN SLOW MOTION.

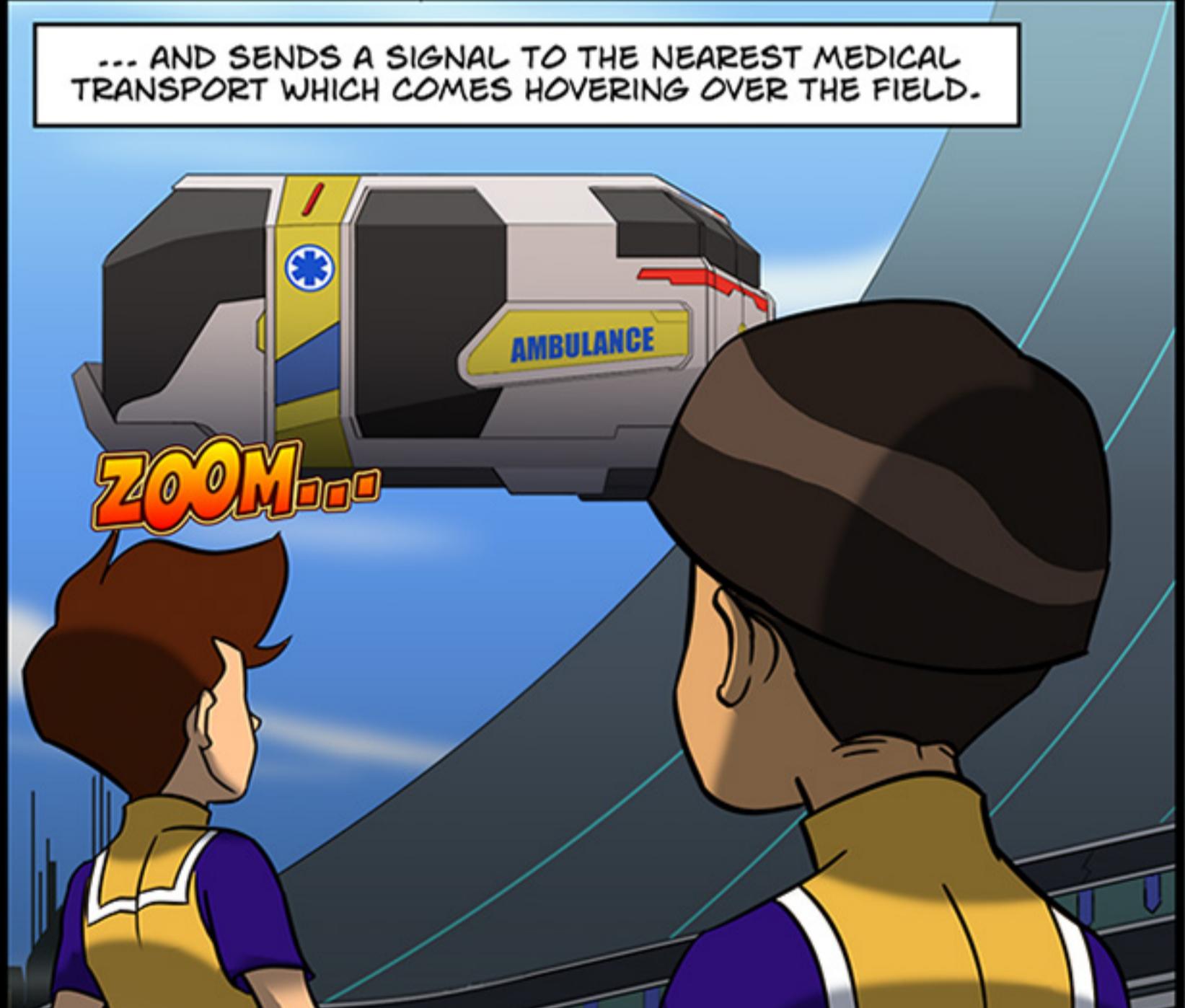




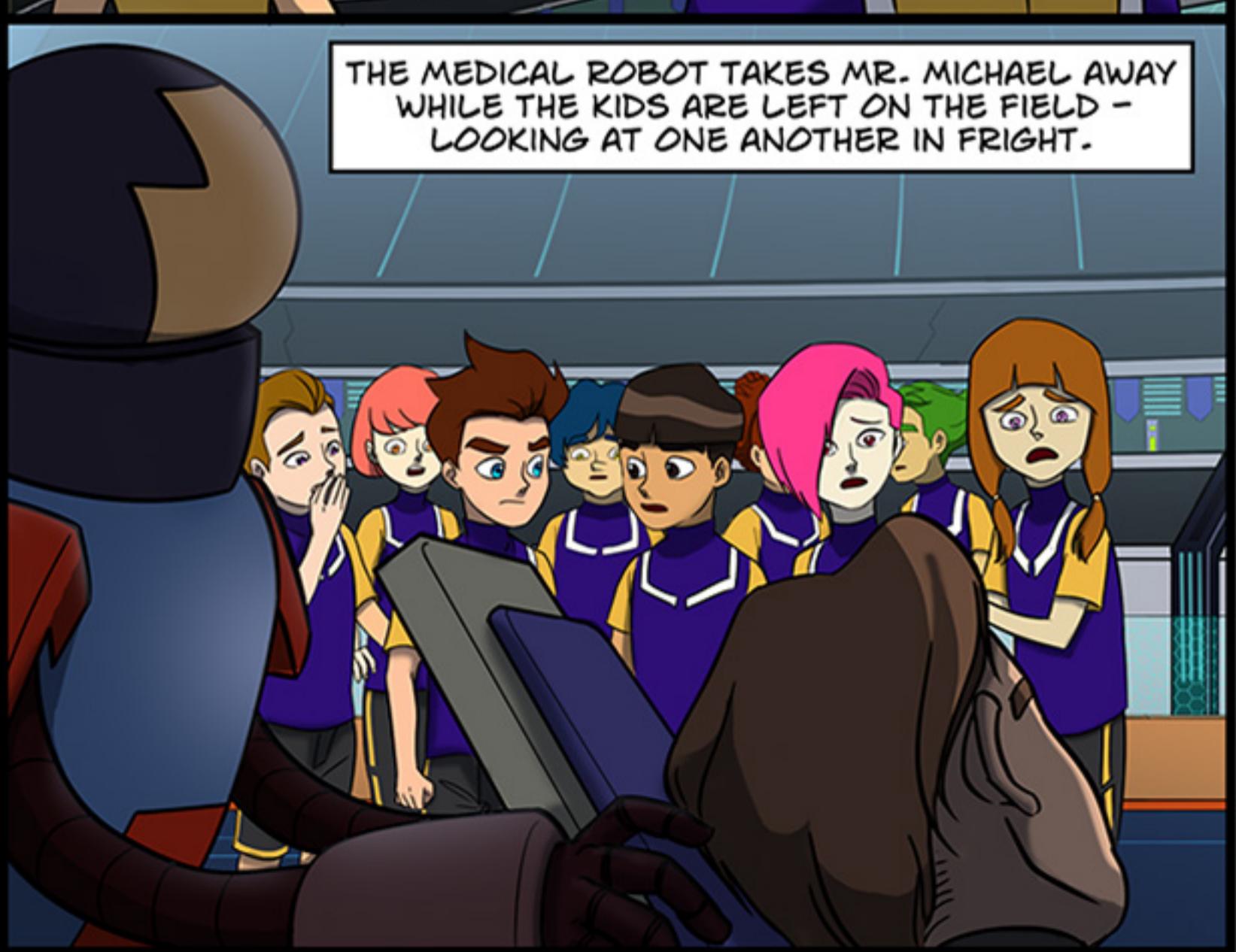
RILEY IMMEDIATELY ZOOMS TO HIS SIDE...



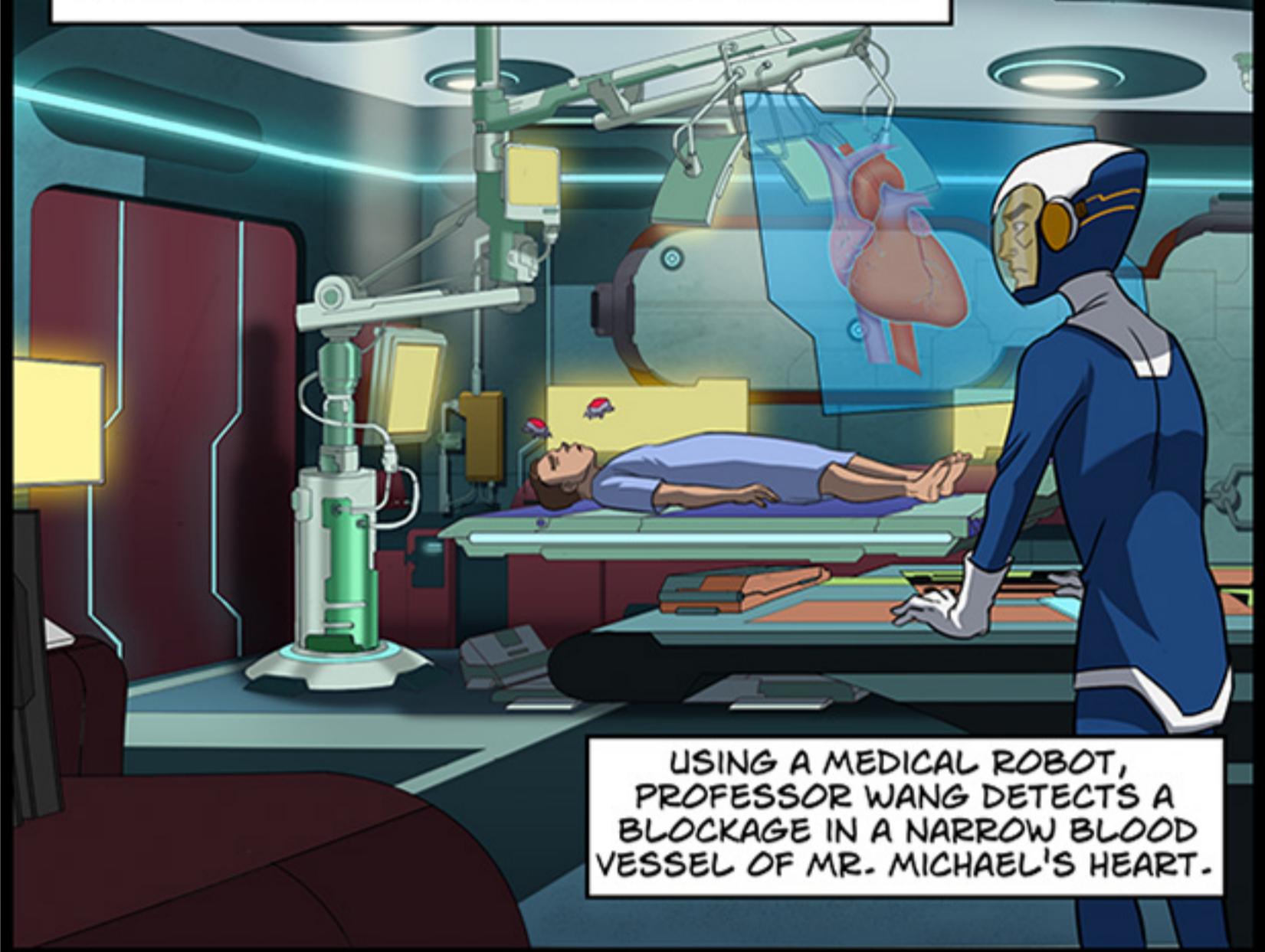
... AND SENDS A SIGNAL TO THE NEAREST MEDICAL TRANSPORT WHICH COMES HOVERING OVER THE FIELD.



THE MEDICAL ROBOT TAKES MR. MICHAEL AWAY WHILE THE KIDS ARE LEFT ON THE FIELD - LOOKING AT ONE ANOTHER IN FRIGHT.



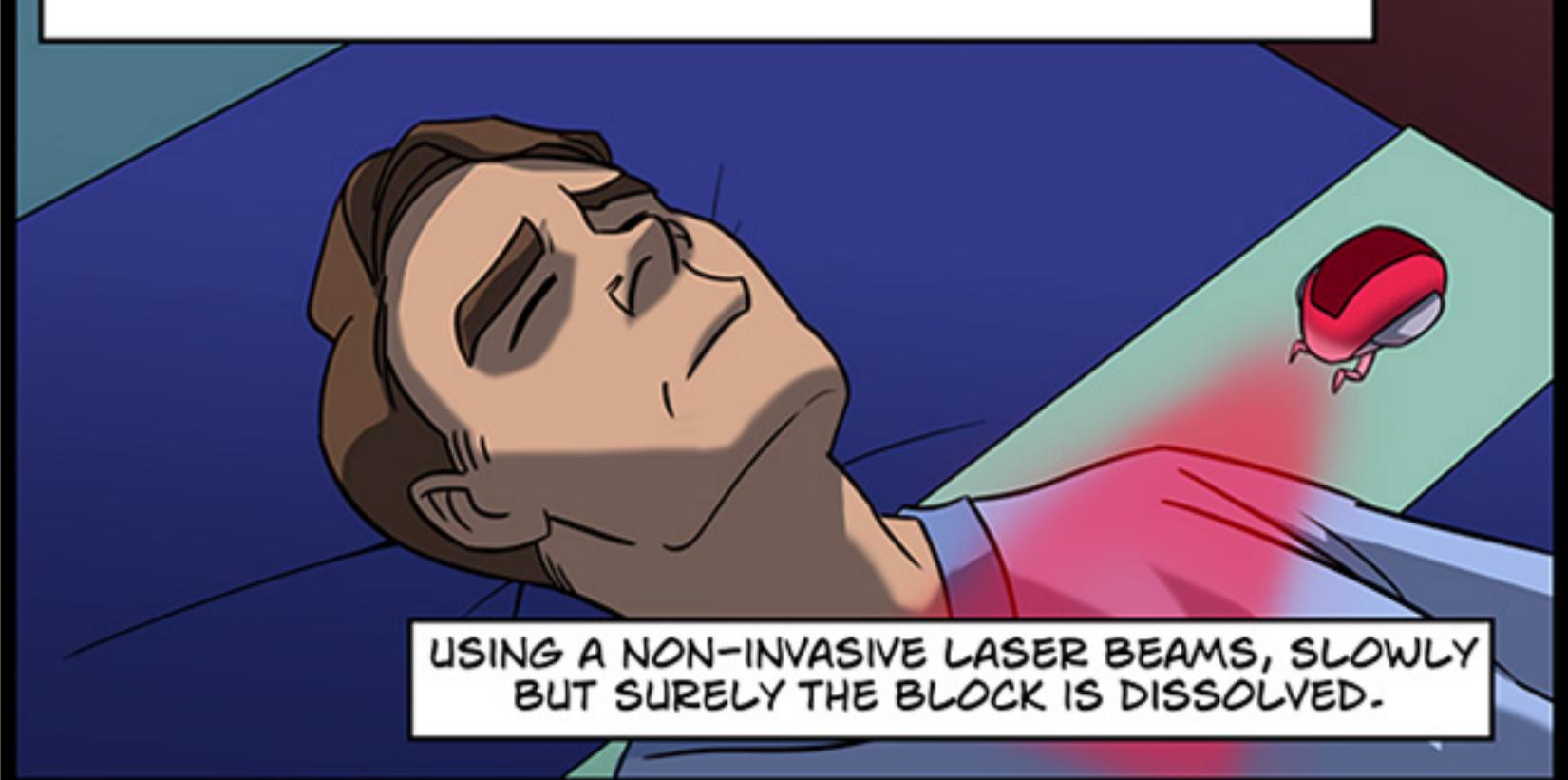
MR. MICHAEL IS TAKEN TO THE WIB WHERE HE IS PUT UNDER THE CARE OF PROFESSOR WANG.



USING A MEDICAL ROBOT, PROFESSOR WANG DETECTS A BLOCKAGE IN A NARROW BLOOD VESSEL OF MR. MICHAEL'S HEART.



THE MEDICAL ROBOT SETS OFF TO SCAN MR. MICHAEL AND DETERMINE THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE BLOCKAGE.



USING A NON-INVASIVE LASER BEAMS, SLOWLY BUT SURELY THE BLOCK IS DISSOLVED.



PROFESSOR WANG KEEPS A CLOSE EYE ON THE IMAGES IN FRONT OF HIM.

SHOW ME THE PATIENT'S STATS.

MR. MICHAEL IS SAFE FOR THE TIME BEING AND AFTER A COMPREHENSIVE SCAN, THE MEDICAL ROBOTS FIND NO FURTHER BLOCKAGES.

THE ROBOTS ALSO HIGHLIGHT THE AFTER EFFECTS OF THE BLOCKAGE.

TIGHT AND STIFF MUSCLES...

... AND WEAK MOTOR CONTROL.



HE IS THEN TRANSFERRED
TO ANOTHER WARD...



AFTER SCHOOL HOURS...

SOMETHING WEIRD IS HAPPENING IN WELLOTH. APPARENTLY MR. MICHAEL ISN'T THE ONLY ONE SUFFERING A COLLAPSE.

I WONDER IF IT'S GOT ANYTHING TO DO WITH ALL THOSE WEIRD MONSTERS THAT KEEP POPPING UP IN THE PAST...

BUT I DIDN'T SENSE ANYTHING WRONG THIS TIME.





OH NO, SAM! WHAT'S WRONG?!

BLAM

SAM?

PHEW, WHAT WAS THAT? WAS I JUST HIT OVER BY A TRANSPORTER?

OWW, MY CHEST HURTS...

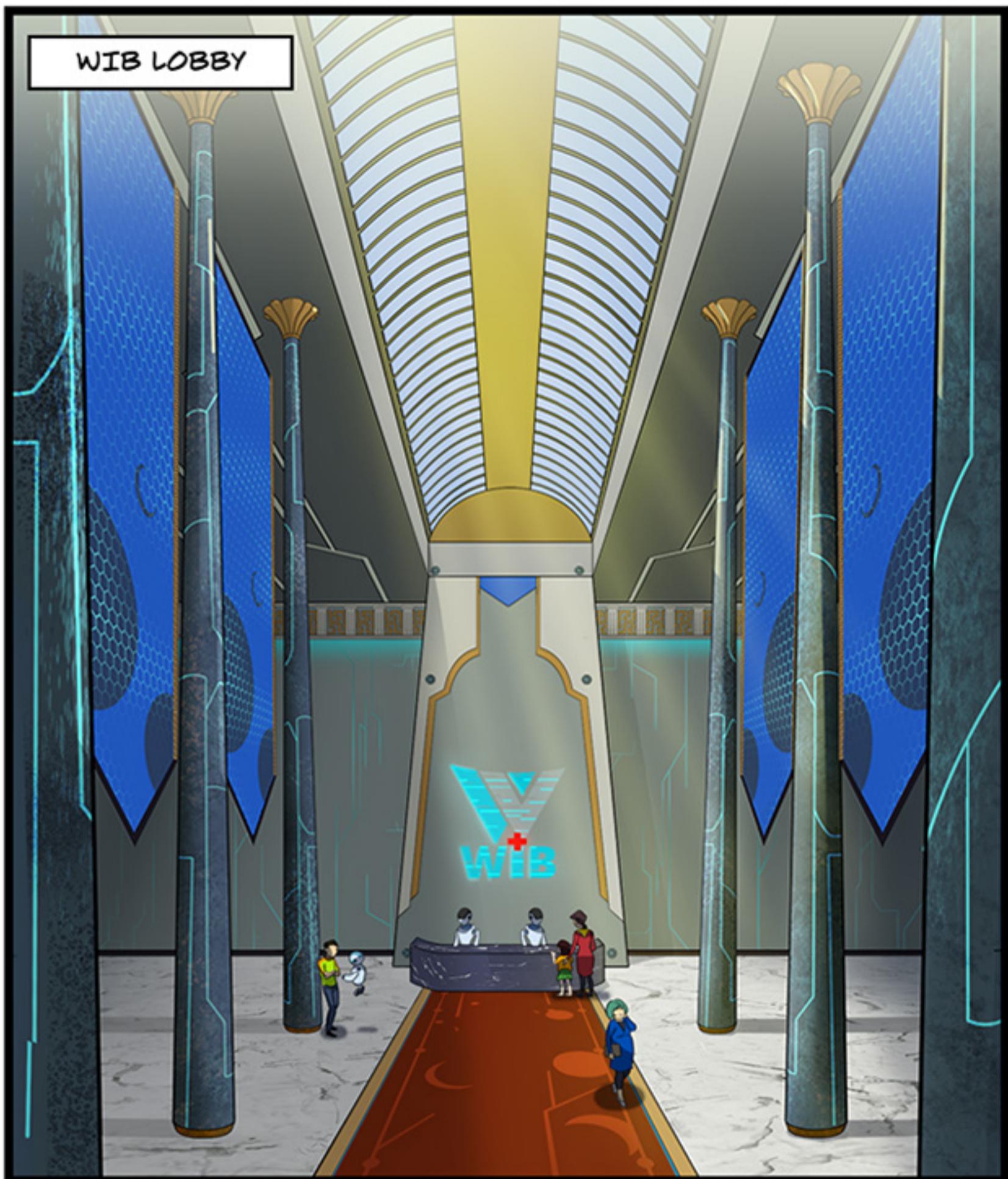
HUFF

HUFF

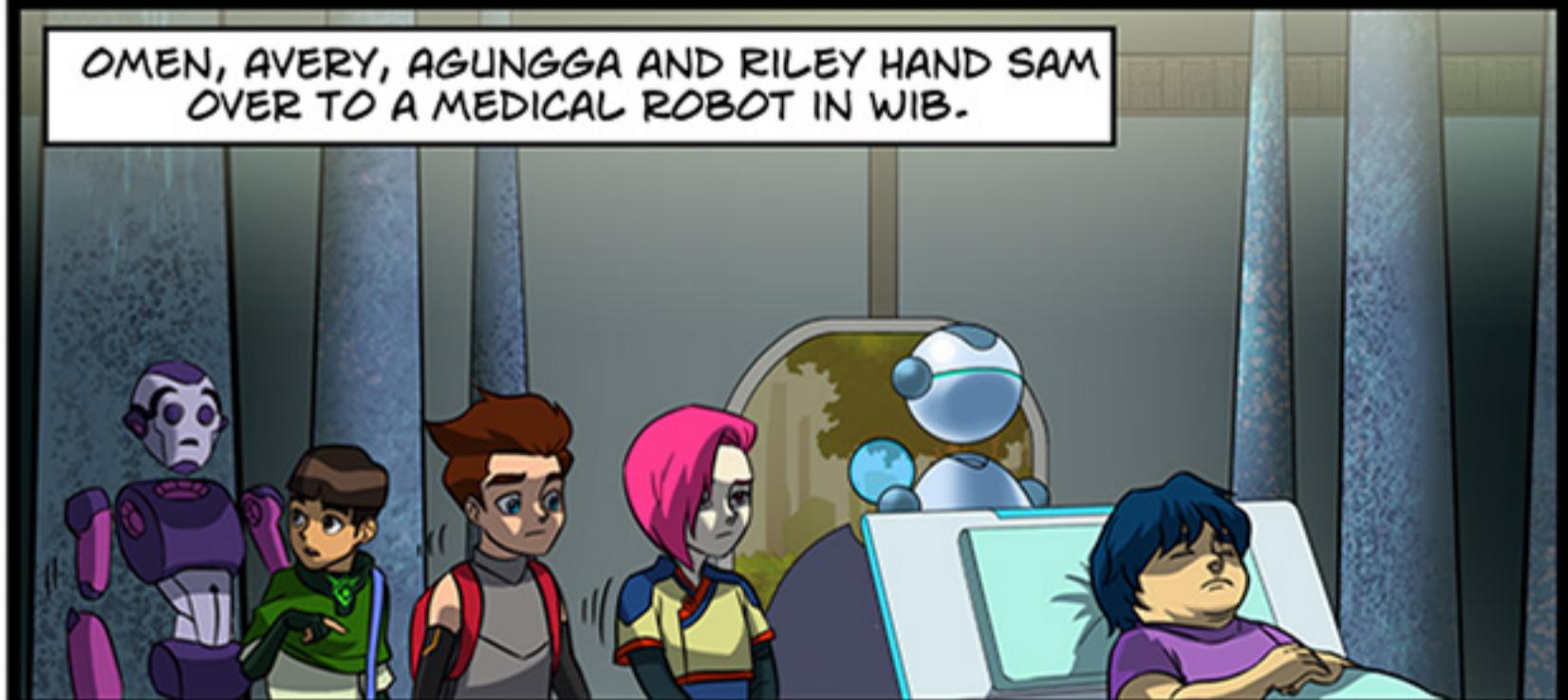
LET'S GO TO THE WIB TO GET YOU CHECKED OUT!



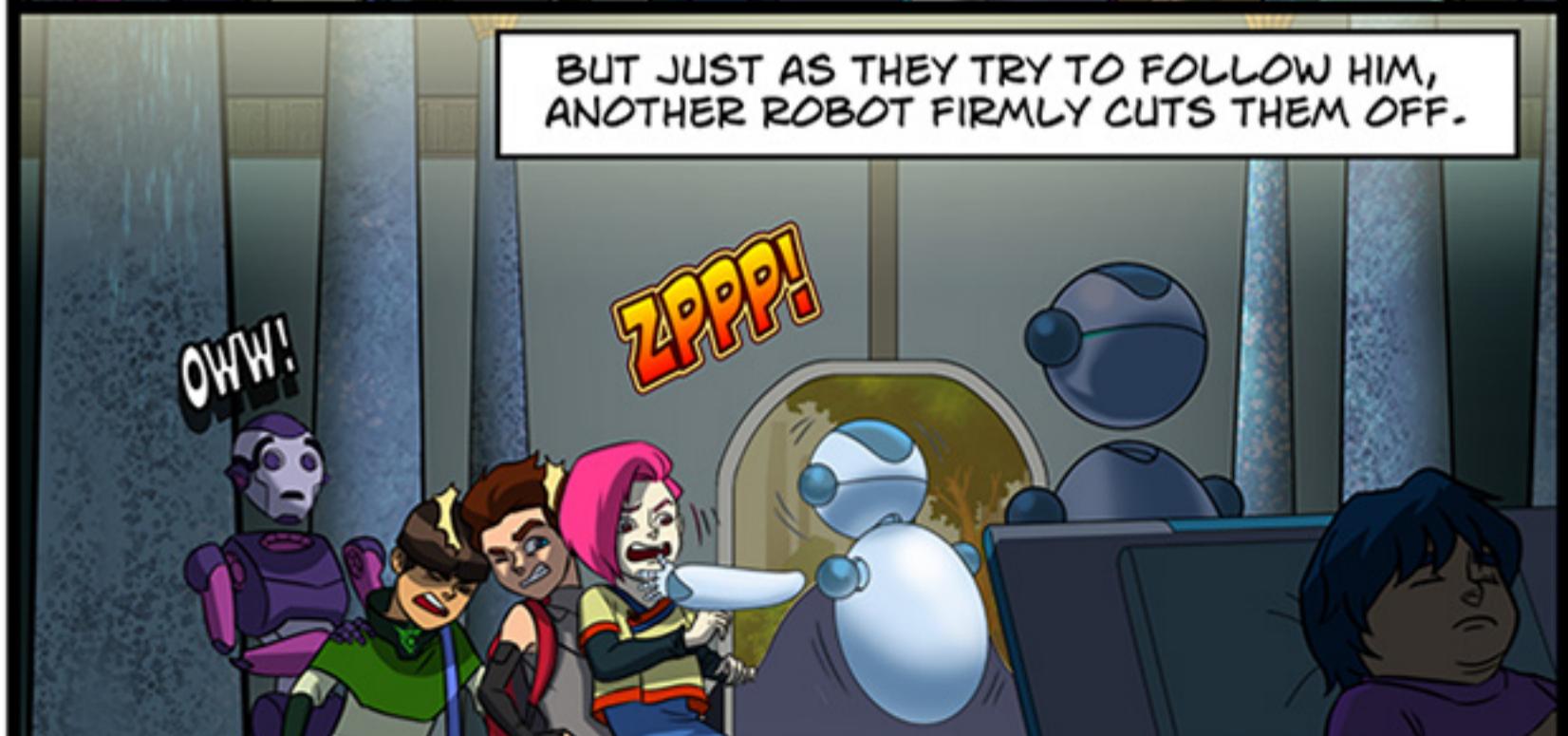
WIB LOBBY

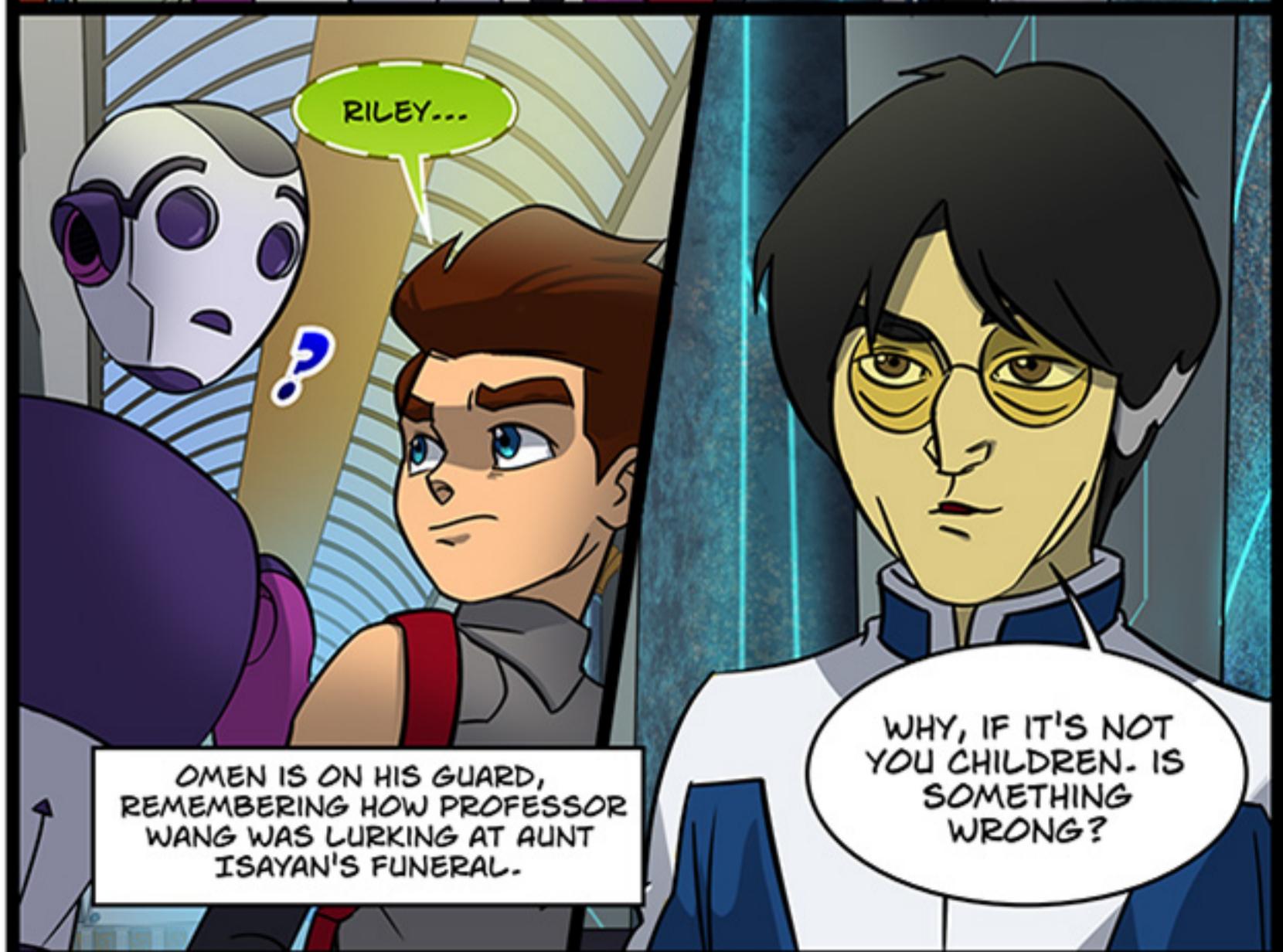


OMEN, AVERY, AGUNGGA AND RILEY HAND SAM OVER TO A MEDICAL ROBOT IN WIB.



BUT JUST AS THEY TRY TO FOLLOW HIM,
ANOTHER ROBOT FIRMLY CUTS THEM OFF.





OUR FRIEND COLLAPSED AND WAS JUST BROUGHT INSIDE BY THE MEDICAL ROBOT, AND THE SAME THING ALSO HAPPENED TO OUR TEACHER, MR. MICHAEL.

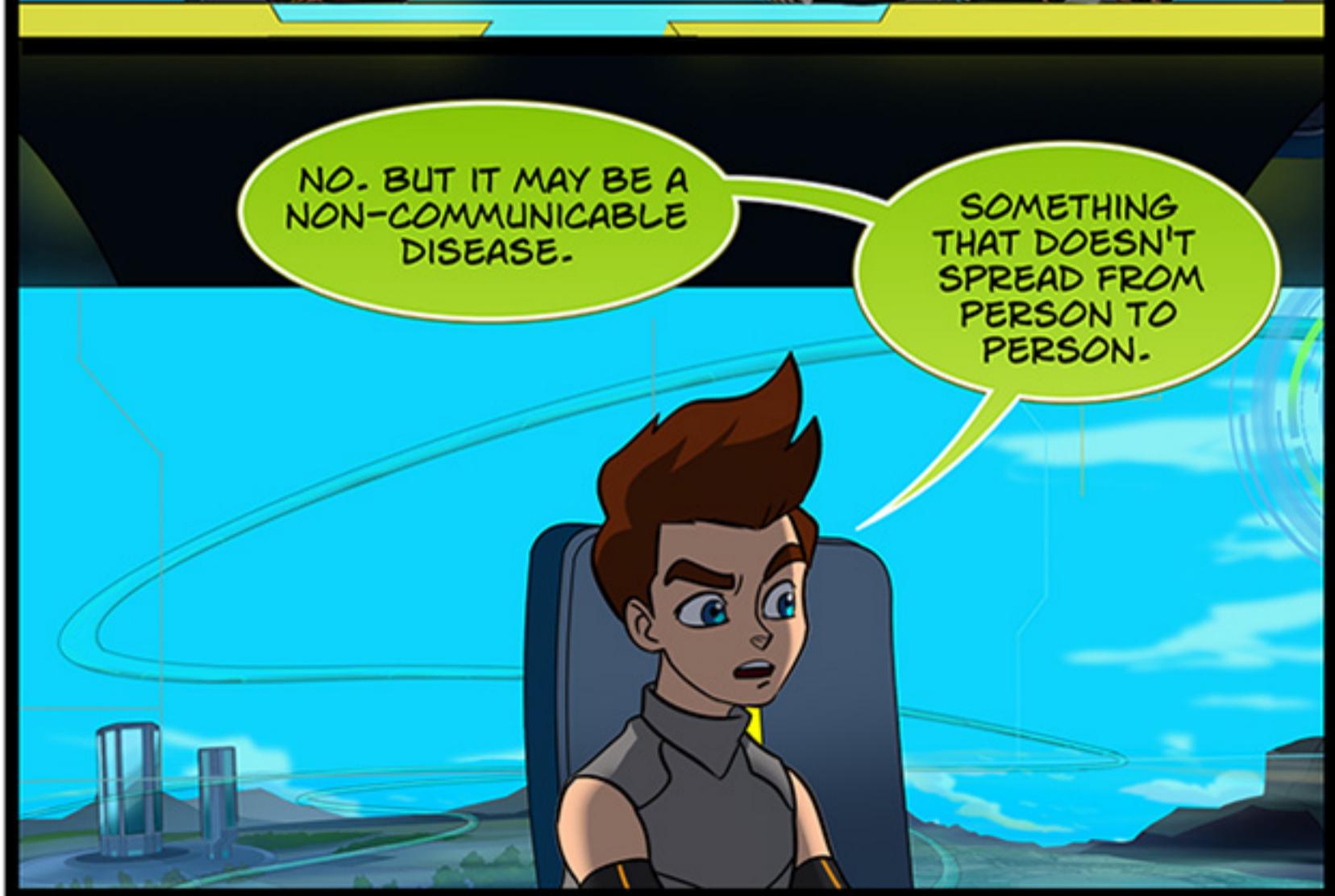
HMM...

WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S WRONG WITH THEM AND WHETHER THEY HAVE THE SAME ILLNESS.

I SEE... WELL, NO NEED TO WORRY.

THEY'RE FINE. LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THEM.

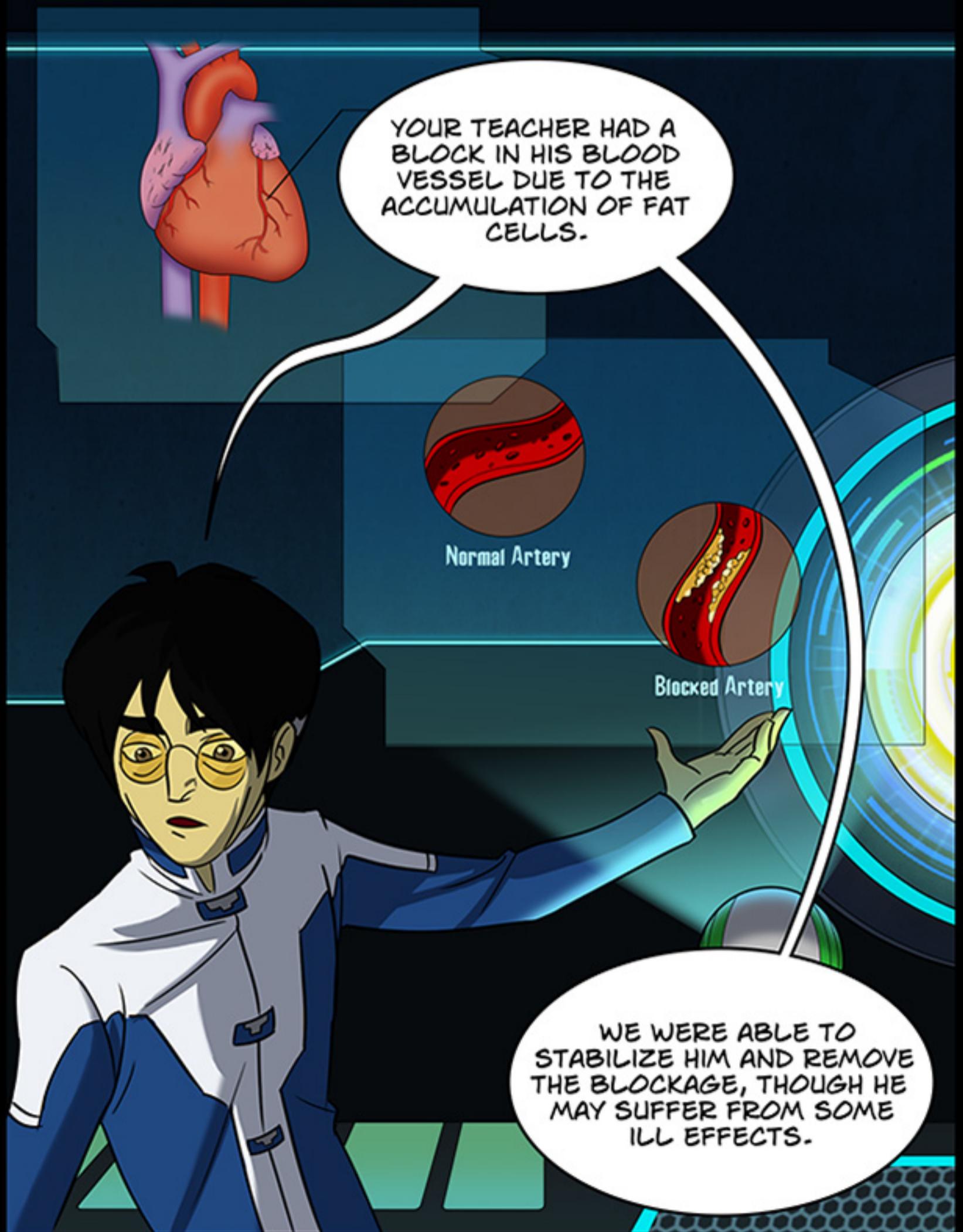




PROFESSOR WANG ENTERS THE ROOM WITH A MINIATURE MEDICAL ROBOT, WHICH HAD BEEN COLLECTING MR. MICHAEL'S STATS IN THE WARD.

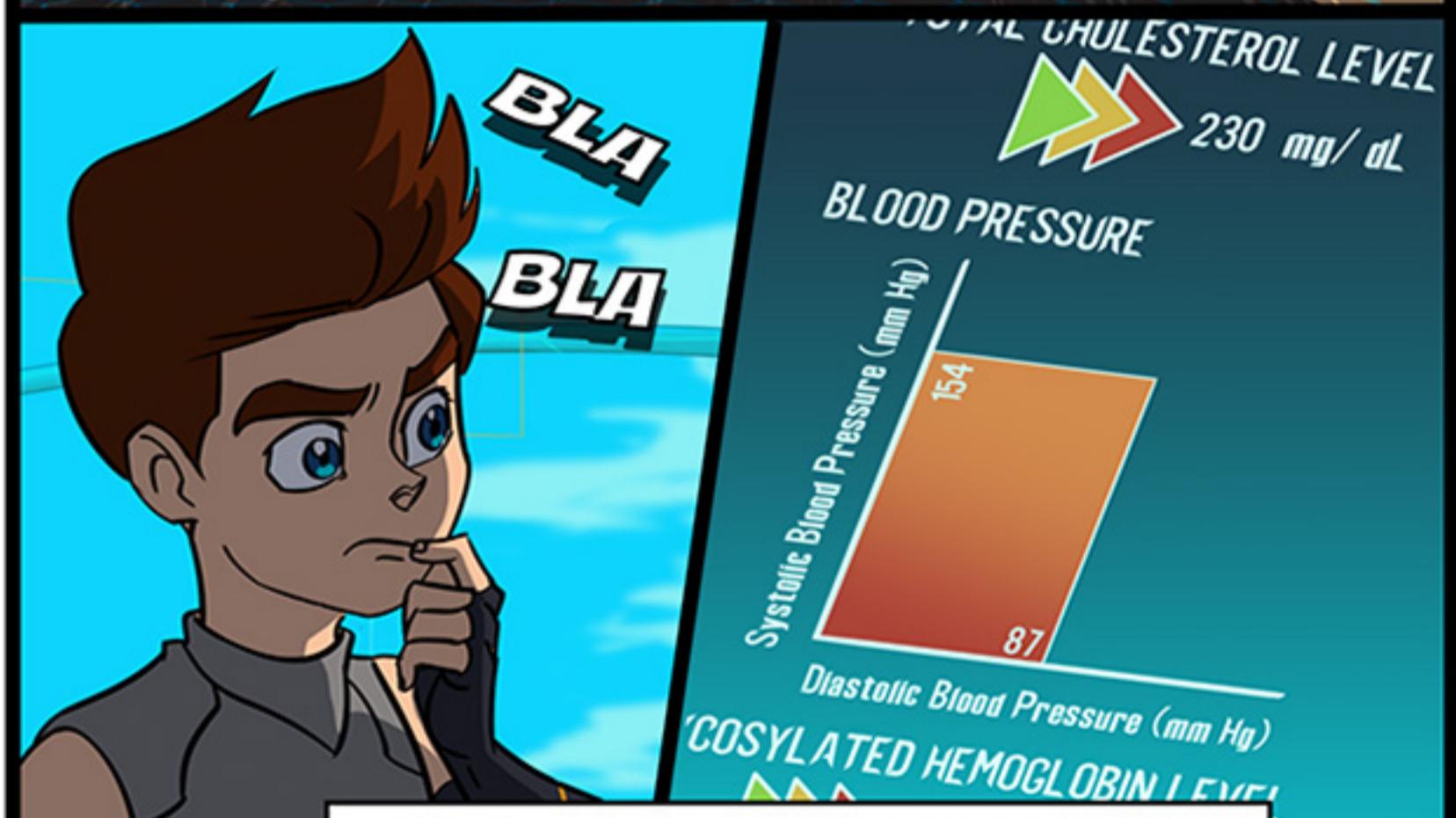


THE ROBOT NOW PUTS UP THOSE STATS IN THE ROOM.



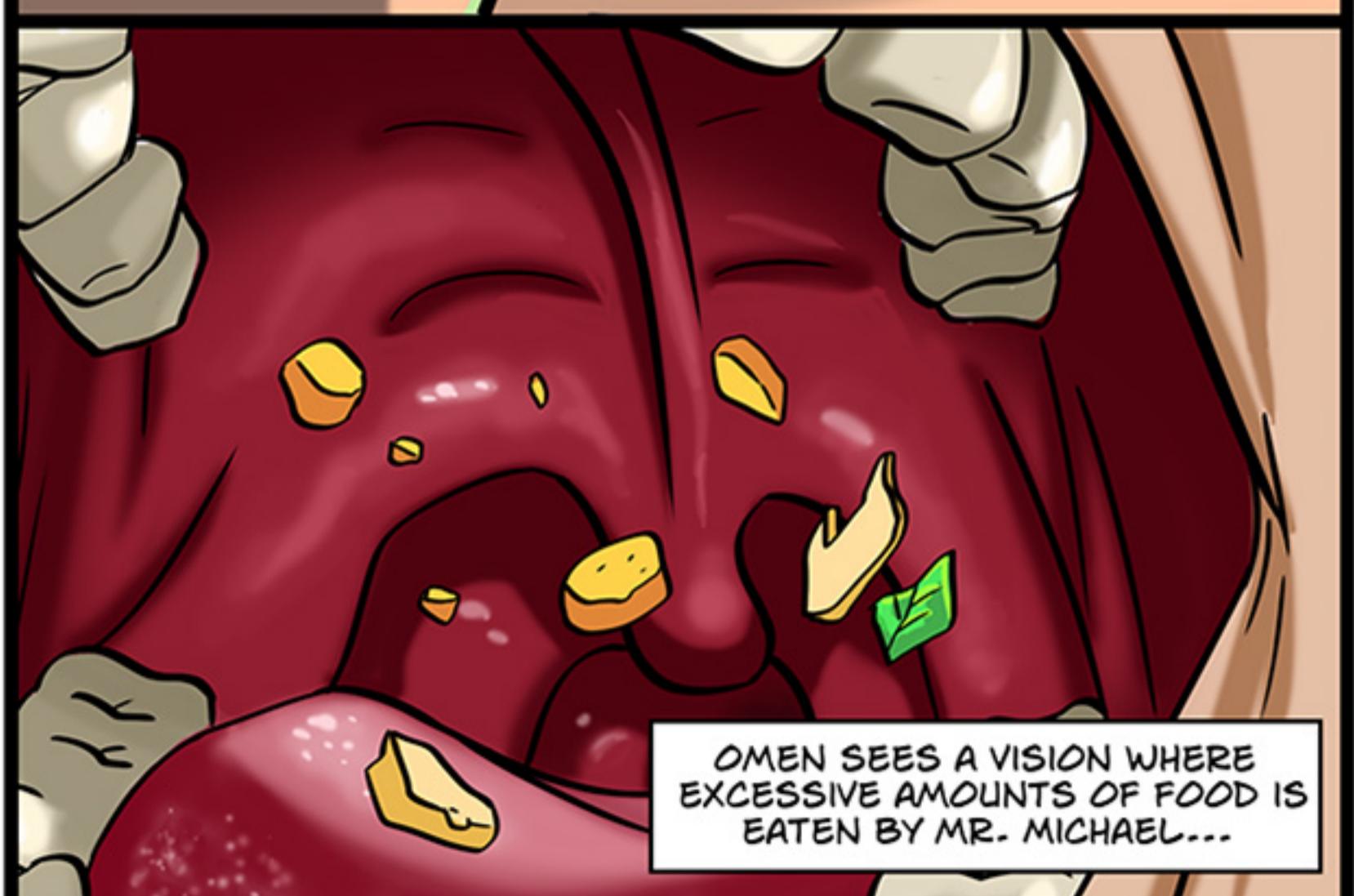


WHY WAS THERE A BLOCK IN HIS BLOOD VESSEL?



MEANWHILE, OMEN TURNS HIS ATTENTIONS TO THE STATS, NOTICING MR. MICHAEL'S HIGH LEVELS OF CHOLESTEROL, BLOOD PRESSURE AND BLOOD SUGAR.





... BREAKING DOWN FROM THE MINUTE IT'S CHEWED UP AND PASSING THROUGH THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.

FLASHES OF VISIONS SHOW LIPASE ENZYMES IN MR. MICHAEL'S BODY WORKING TO BREAK DOWN FATS INTO FATTY ACIDS AND GLYCEROL...

... WHICH THEN FORM INTO TRIGLYCERIDES AND STORED IN FAT CELLS CALLED ADIPOCYTES.



AS THE VISION CONTINUES, OMEN SEES SUSPICIOUS LOOKING CREATURES MANIFESTING IN THE ADIPOCYTES.

BLOOB

BLOOB

THE CREATURES CONTINUE TO GROW AND EXPAND...

OMEN IS TAKEN ABACK. HIS FRIENDS AND PROFESSOR WANG SEE HIS REACTION BUT CAN'T REACH HIM.

OMEN? CAN YOU HEAR ME?



OMEN SEES THE CREATURES GRABBING AT SHREDS OF CHOLESTEROL, CALCIUM AND OTHER SUBSTANCES FLOATING IN THE BLOOD STREAM AND FORTIFYING THEMSELVES AGAINST THE ARTERY WALL.

CHOMP

AS THEY GET BIGGER, THE CREATURES DIVIDE THEMSELVES INTO TWO, SQUEEZING THEIR WAY AGAINST THE ARTERY WALL.

BLOOR

BLOOR

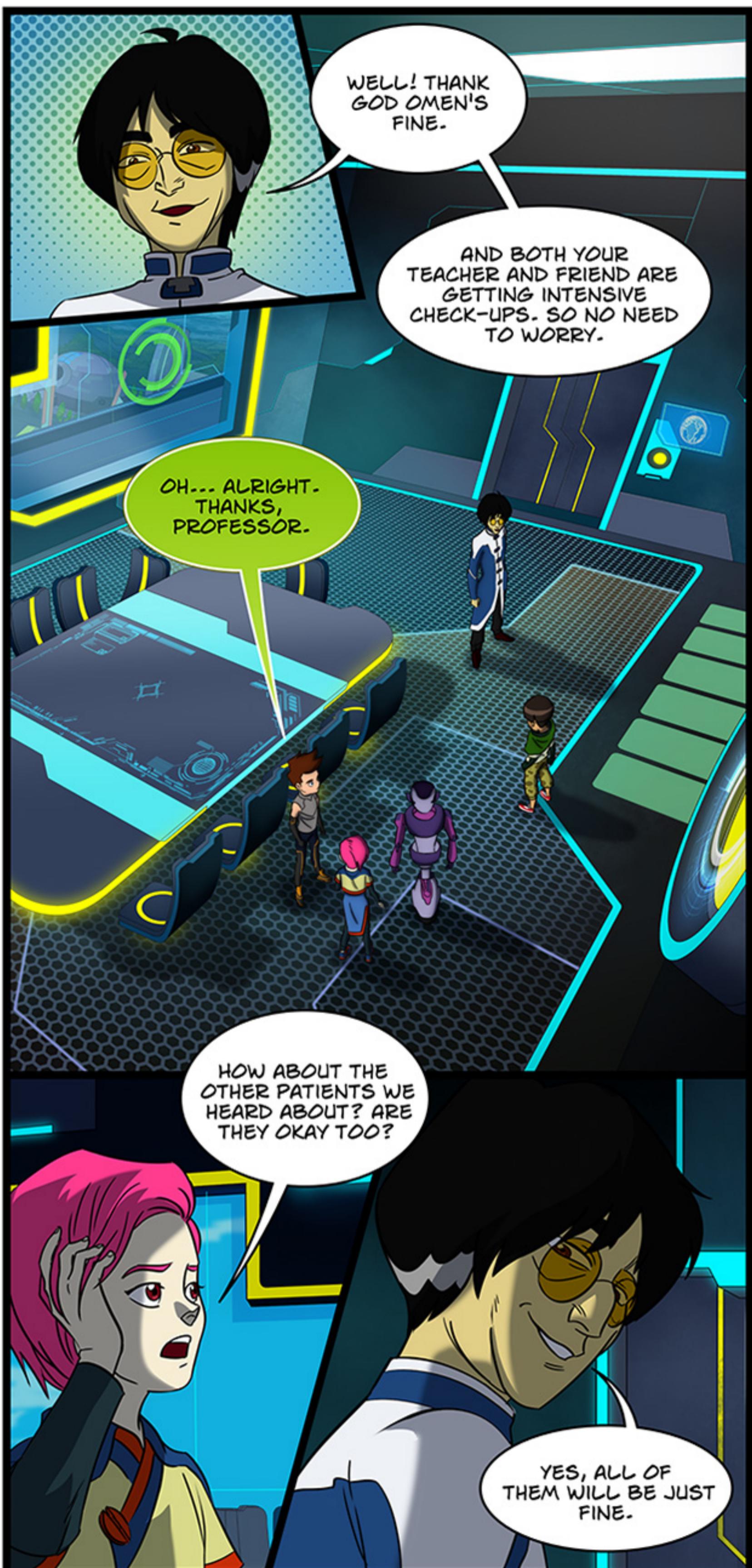
THE DIVIDED CREATURES HARDEN INTO PLAQUE THAT FURTHER NARROWS THE ARTERIES.

BLOOR

AND IN TIME, PIECES OF THIS SUBSTANCE CAUSE A BLOCKAGE ALONG THE ARTERIES.





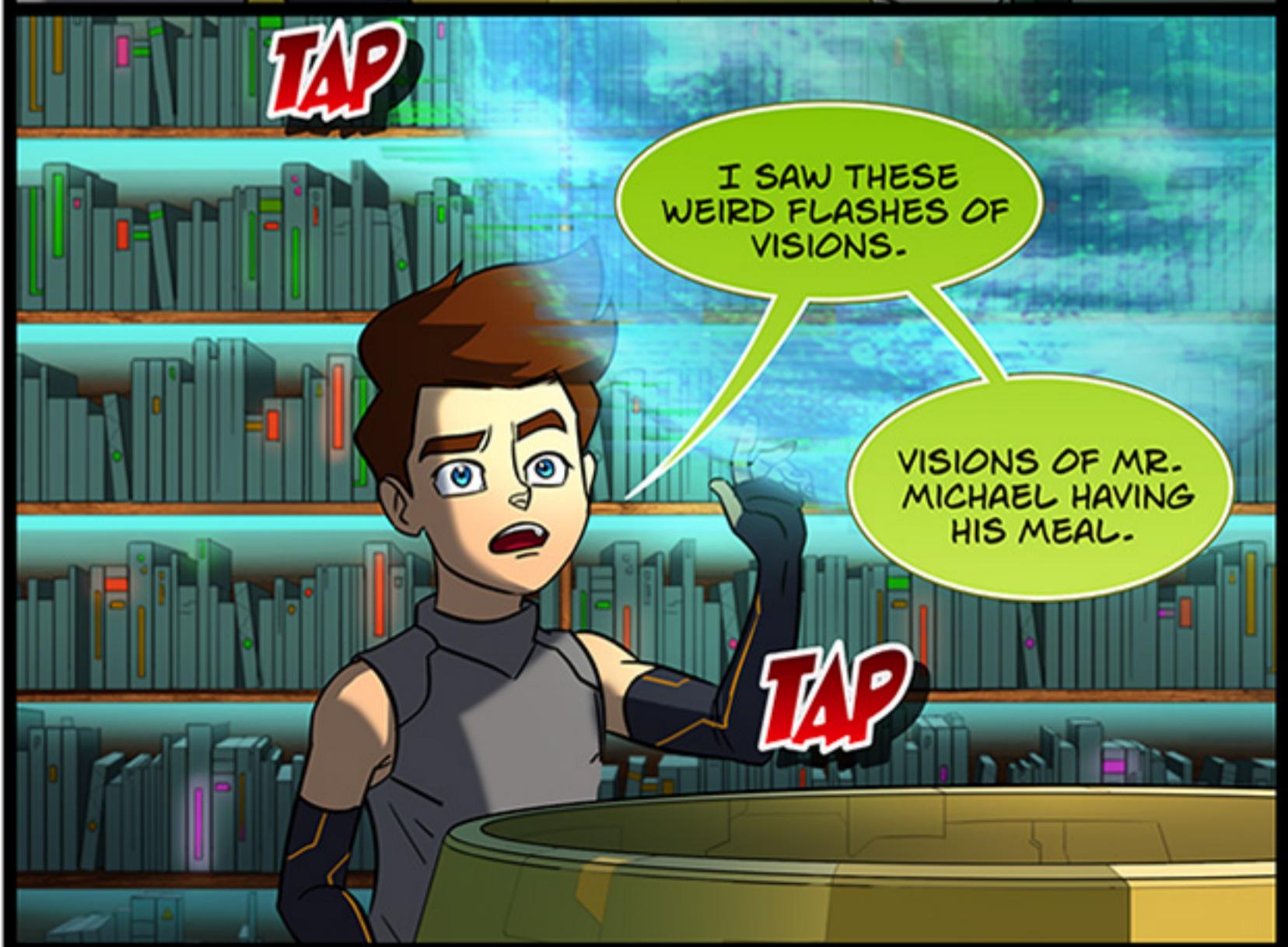
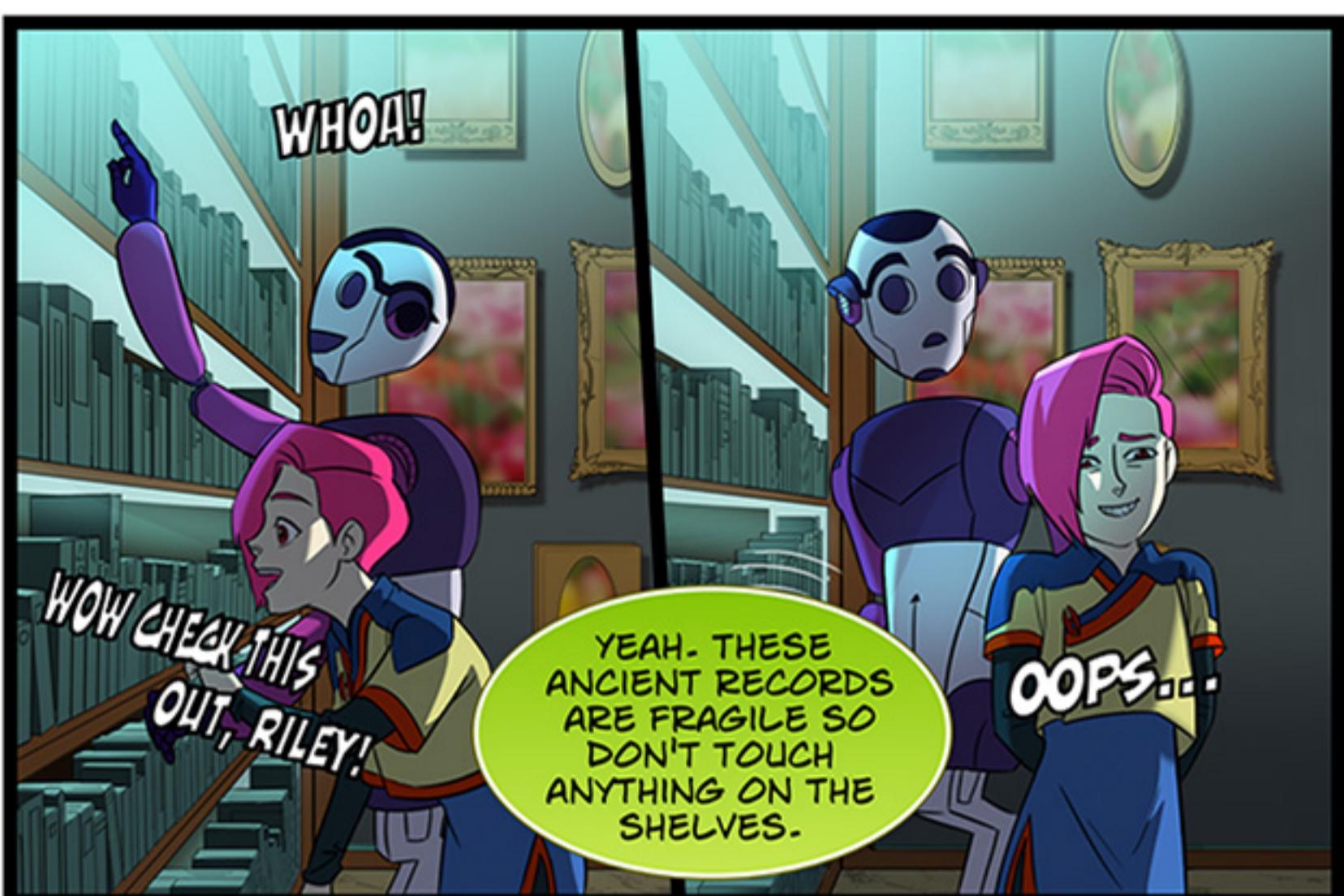


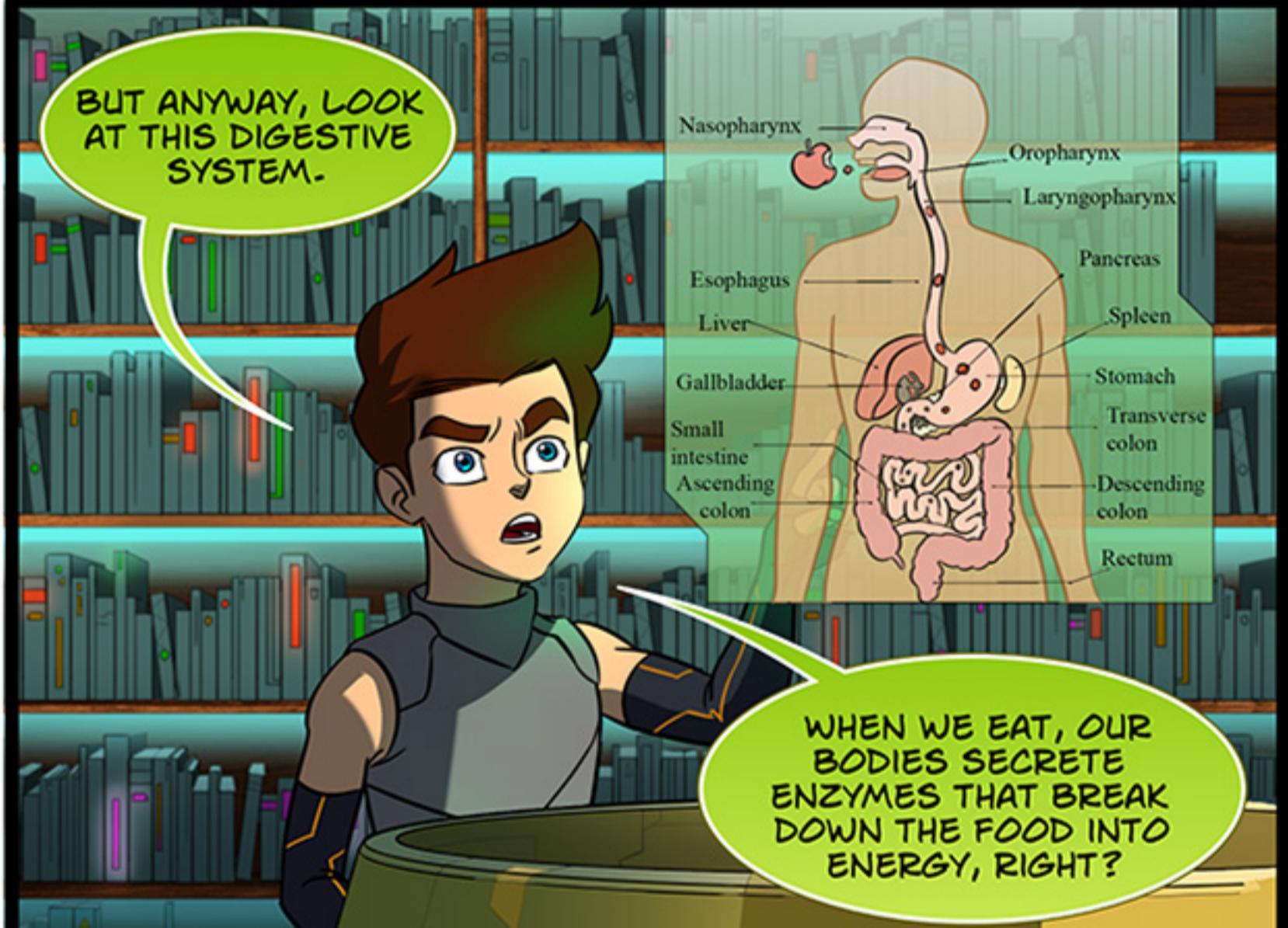
BACK AT OMEN'S HOUSE, OMEN QUICKLY HEADS INTO HIS PARENTS' LIBRARY.

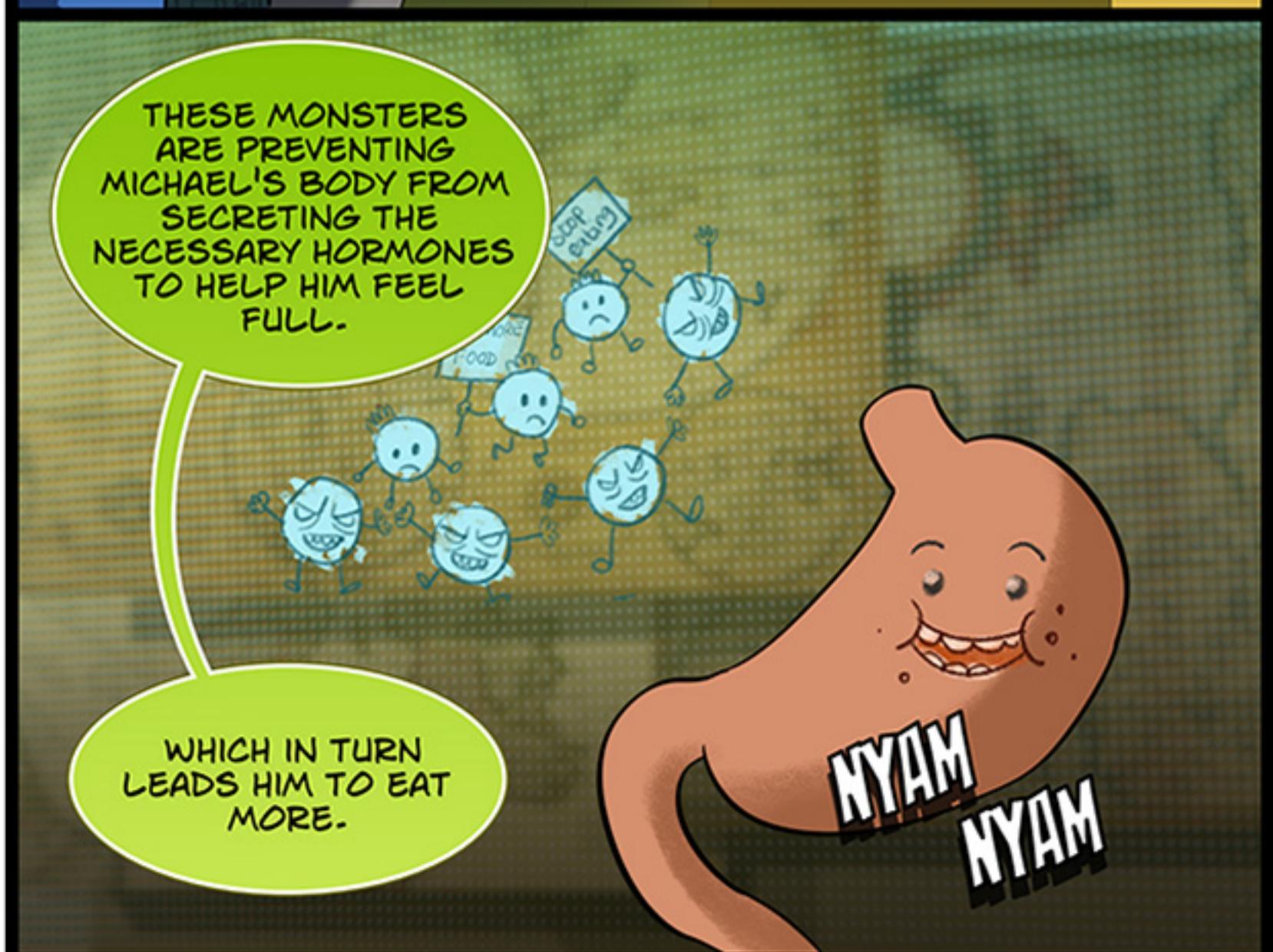
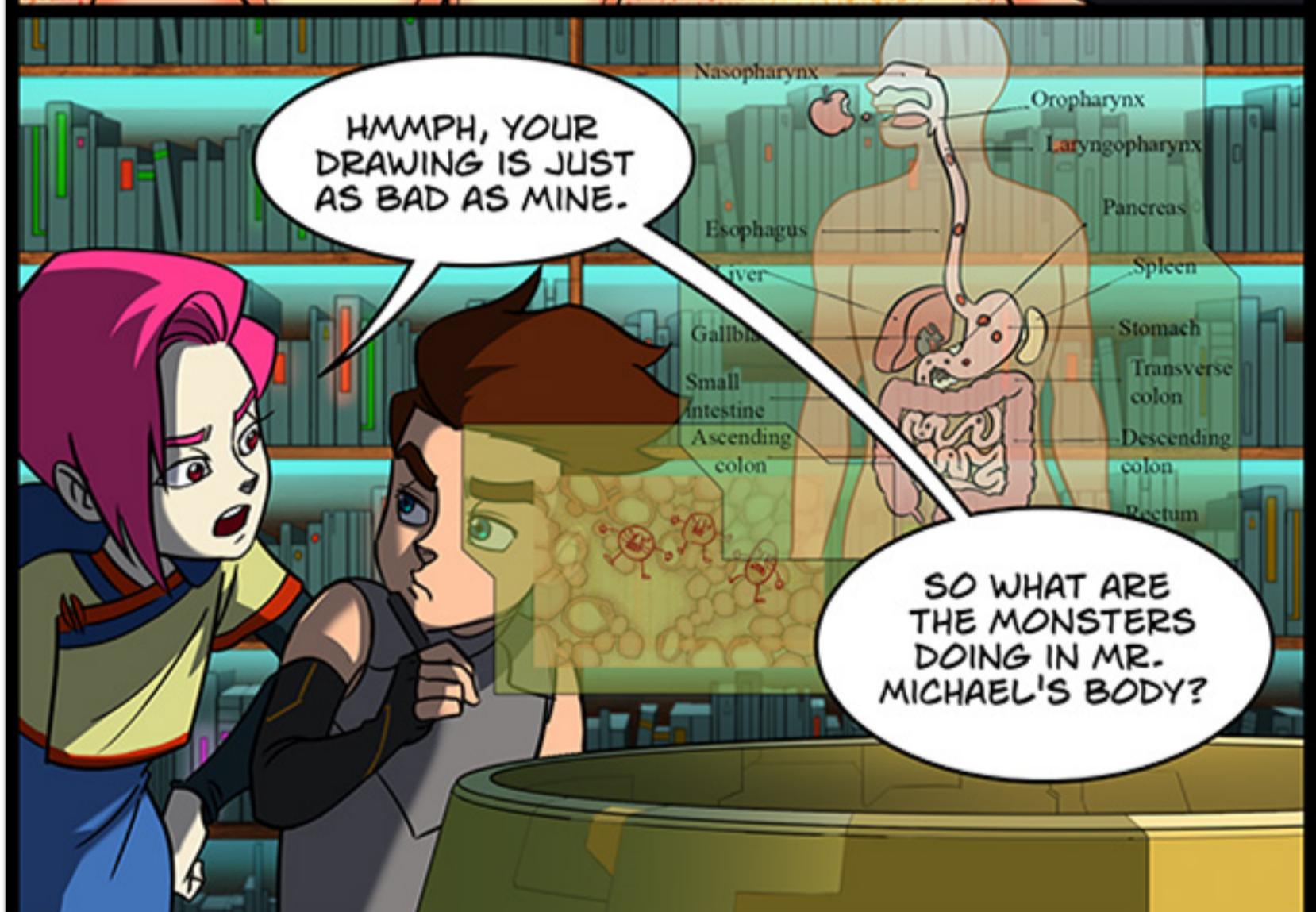
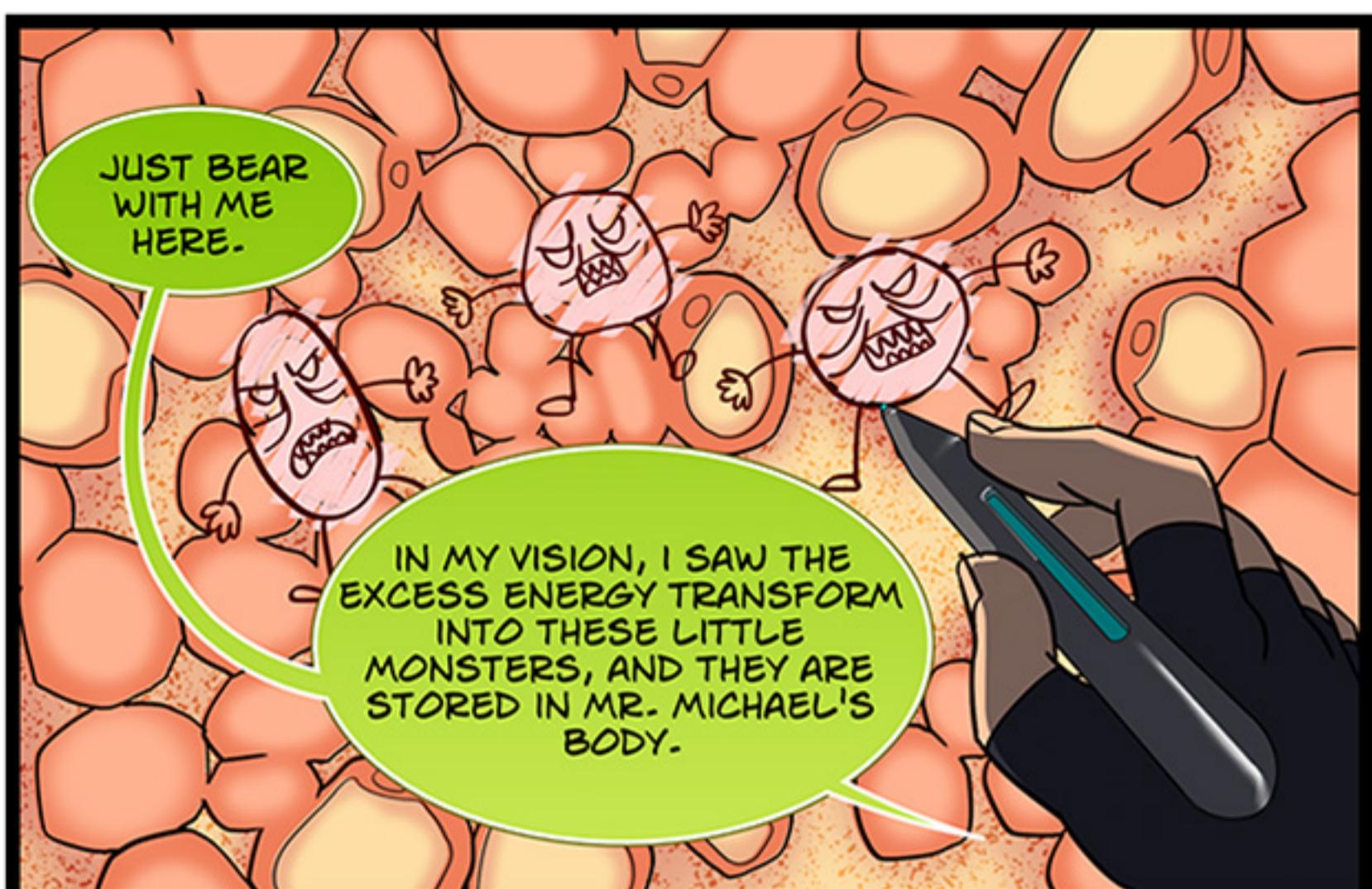


OH. MY. GOSH. THIS IS SO COOL! ARE THESE ALL RECORDS OF THE ARCHIVED DISEASES, OMEN?









THE FOOD WILL BE BROKEN DOWN IN OUR DIGESTIVE SYSTEM INTO NUTRIENTS THAT CAN BE USED AS ENERGY.

BUT BECAUSE MR. MICHAEL OVEREATS, HE HAS EXCESS OF ENERGY WHICH WILL BE STORED AS FAT, AND THEY FURTHER TRANSFORM INTO THOSE MONSTERS.

SO HIS BODY JUST KEEPS STORING AND STORING THOSE FATTY MONSTERS?

YUP, AND THEY GET BIGGER AND BIGGER TOO...

AND THEY MULTIPLY BY SPLITTING UP, WHICH MAKES US GAIN WEIGHT.



AND OVER TIME THE FAT CELLS WILL HARDEN INTO PLAQUE, WHICH IS WHAT NARROWS THE ARTERIES AND CAUSES ALL THESE PROBLEMS FOR MR. MICHAEL.

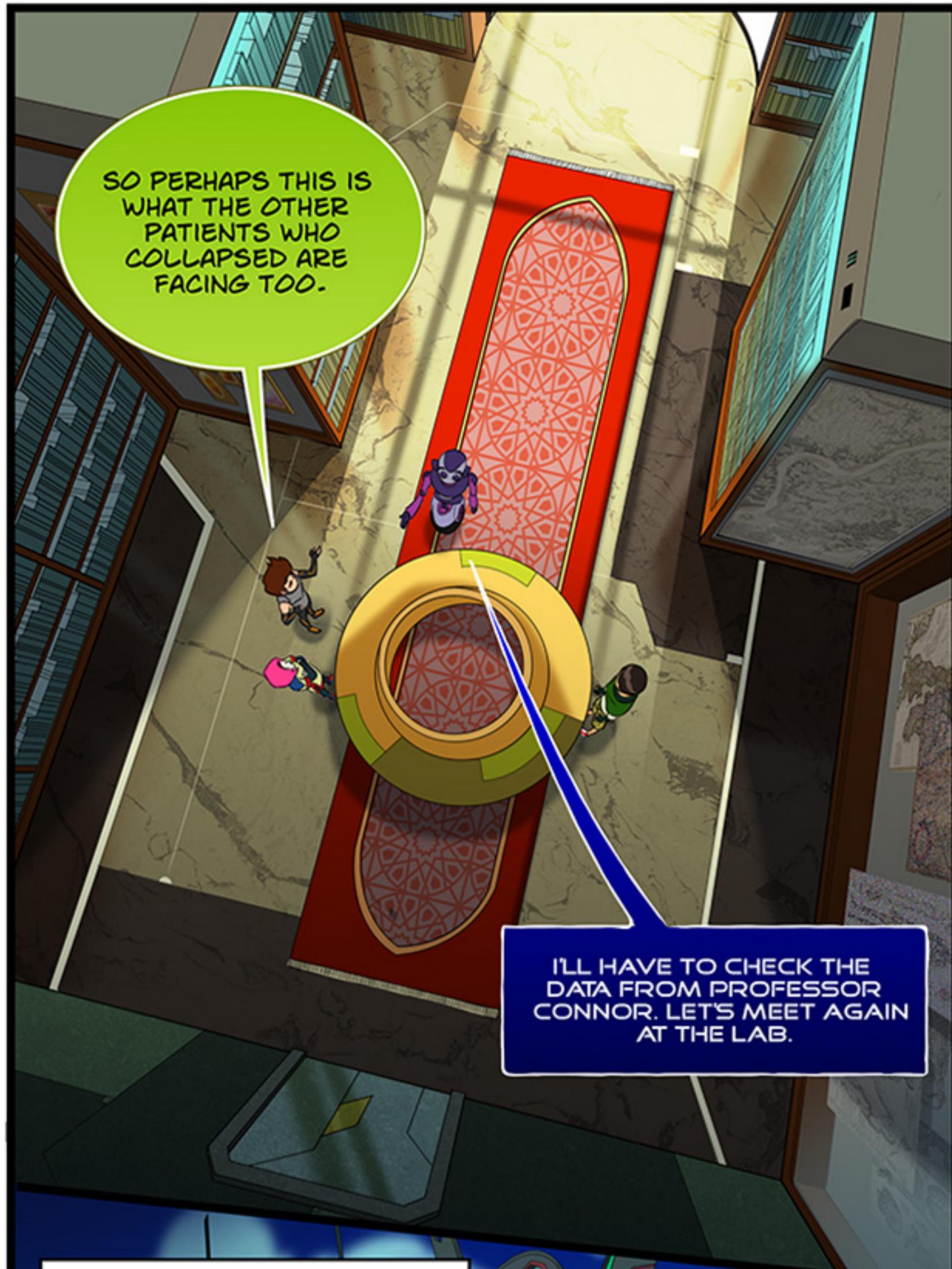
WHAT'S THAT RED BLOB?

IT'S THE RED BLOOD CELLS!

WAIT A MINUTE.
REMEMBER WHEN I HUNG OUT WITH SAM AT THE PARK?

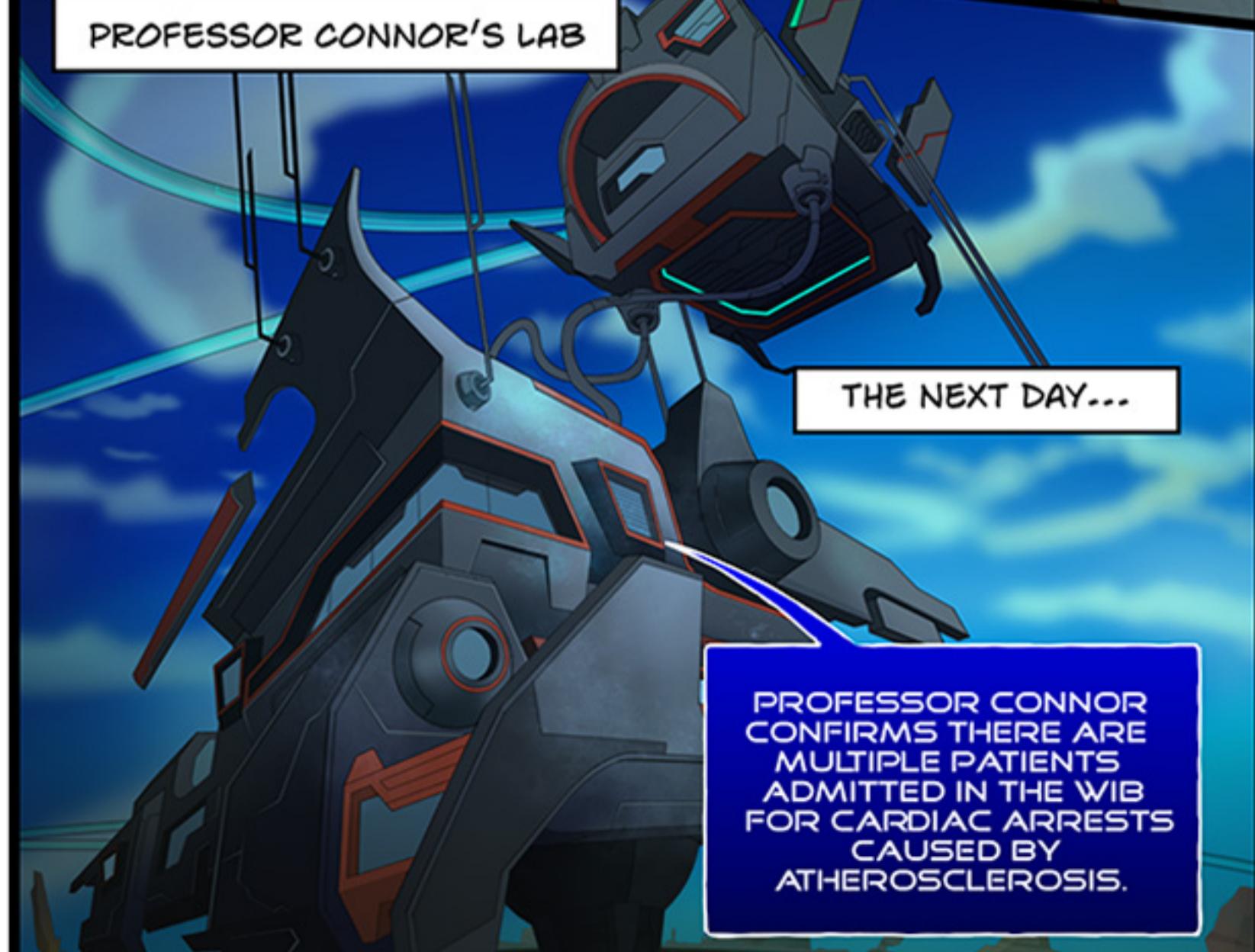
HE SAID HE COULDN'T GET FULL, AND HE WAS EATING HIS BROTHER'S FOOD TOO.





SO PERHAPS THIS IS
WHAT THE OTHER
PATIENTS WHO
COLLAPSED ARE
FACING TOO.

I'LL HAVE TO CHECK THE
DATA FROM PROFESSOR
CONNOR. LET'S MEET AGAIN
AT THE LAB.



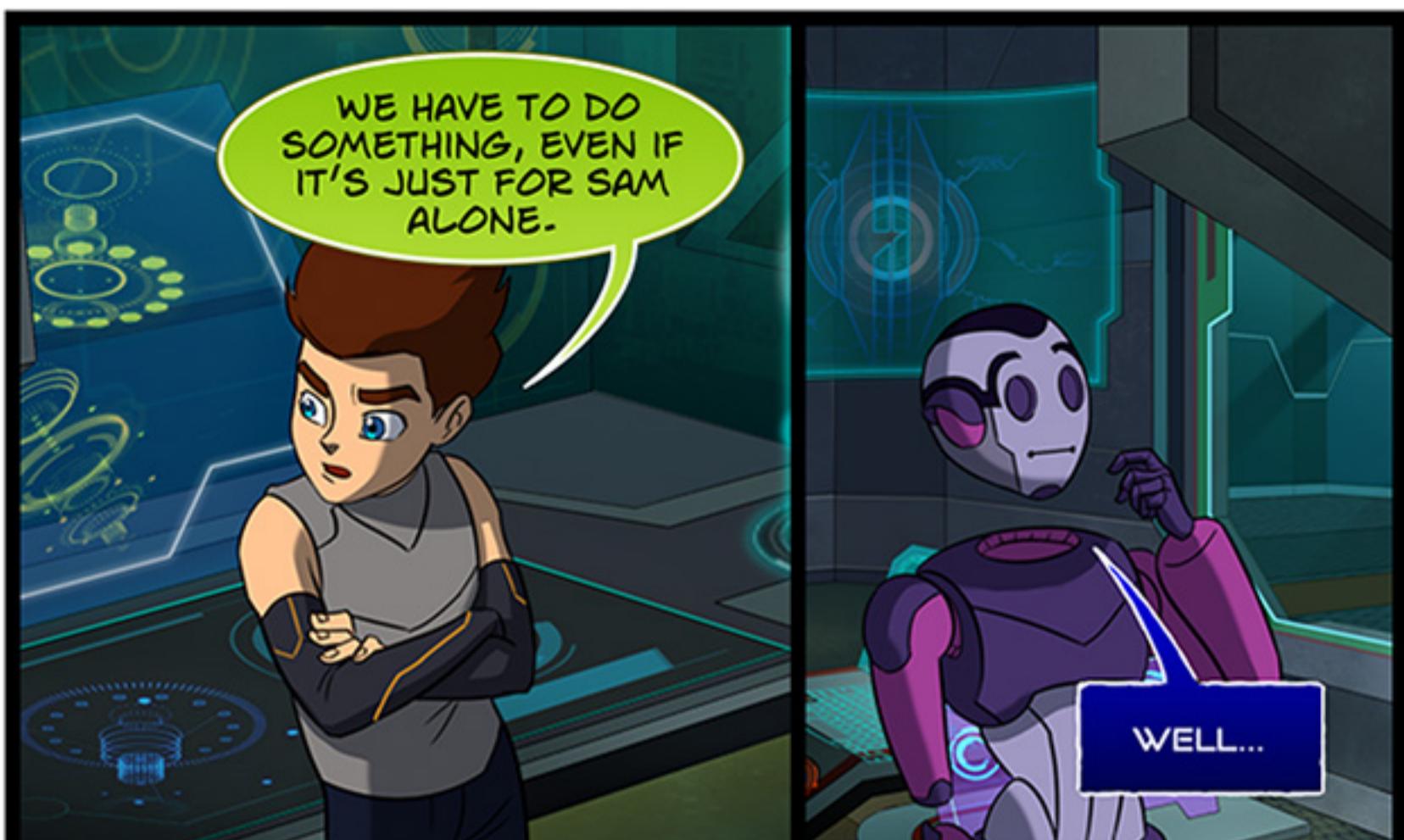
PROFESSOR CONNOR'S LAB

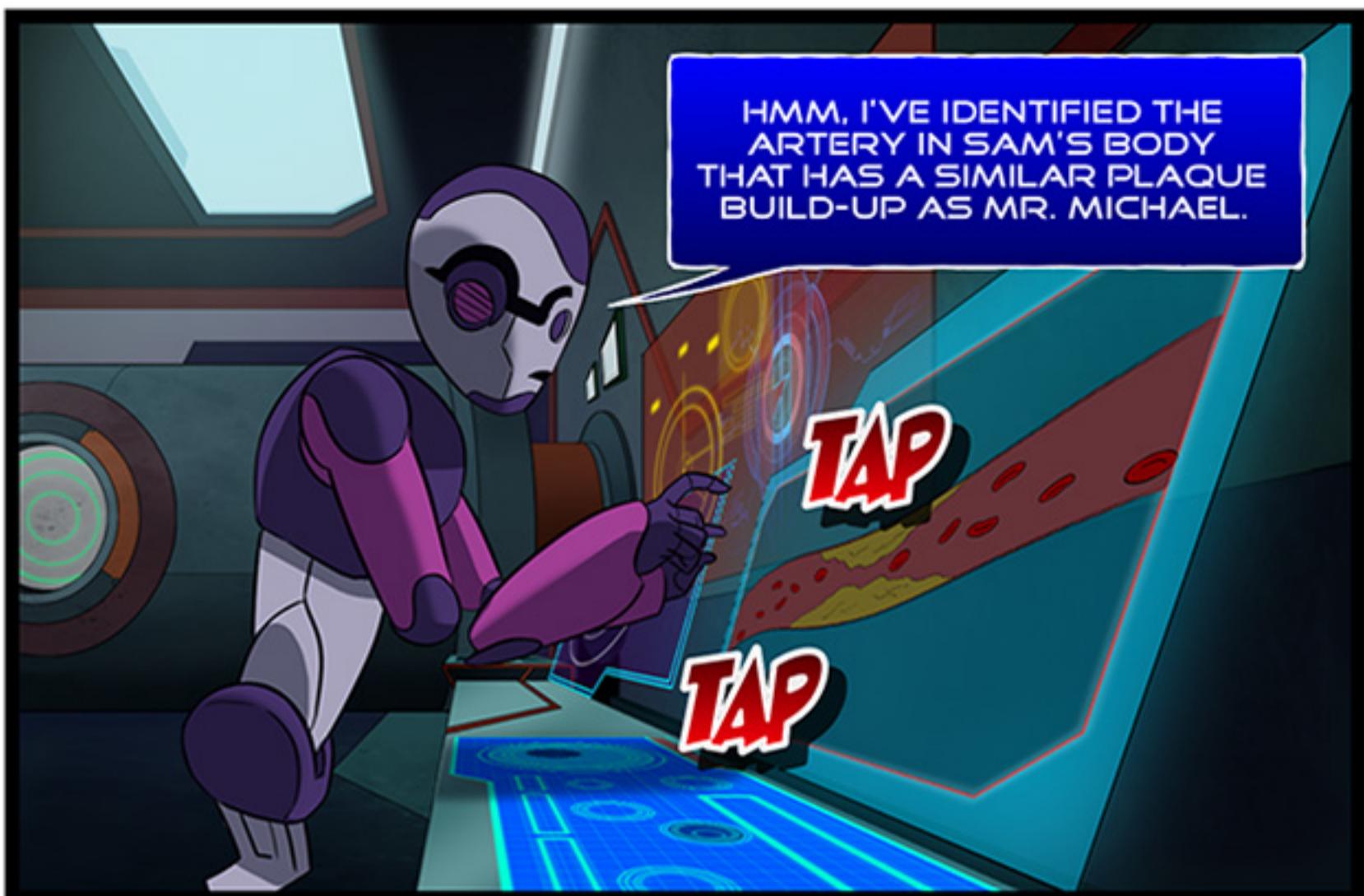
THE NEXT DAY...

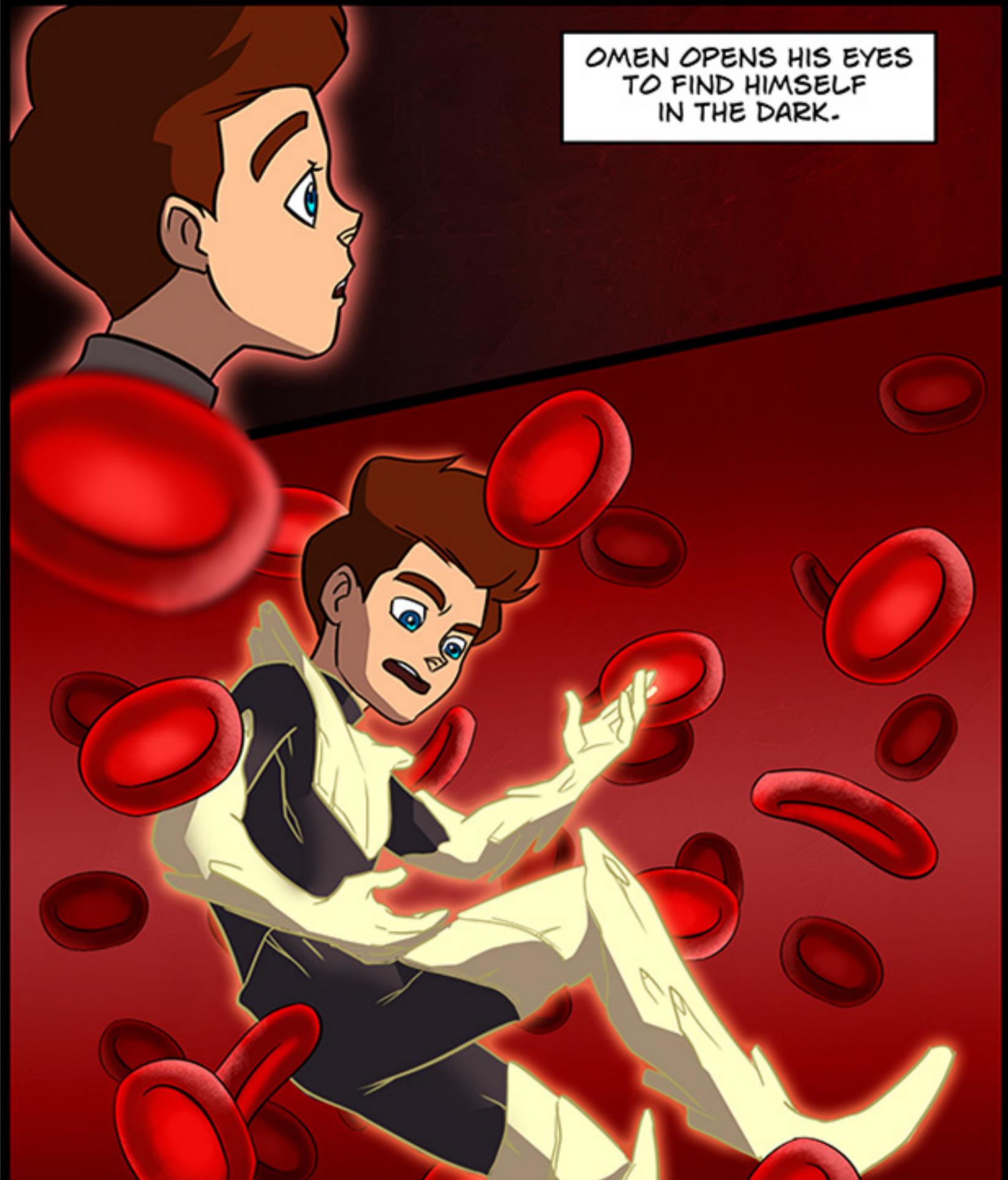
PROFESSOR CONNOR
CONFIRMS THERE ARE
MULTIPLE PATIENTS
ADMITTED IN THE WIB
FOR CARDIAC ARRESTS
CAUSED BY
ATHEROSCLEROSIS.



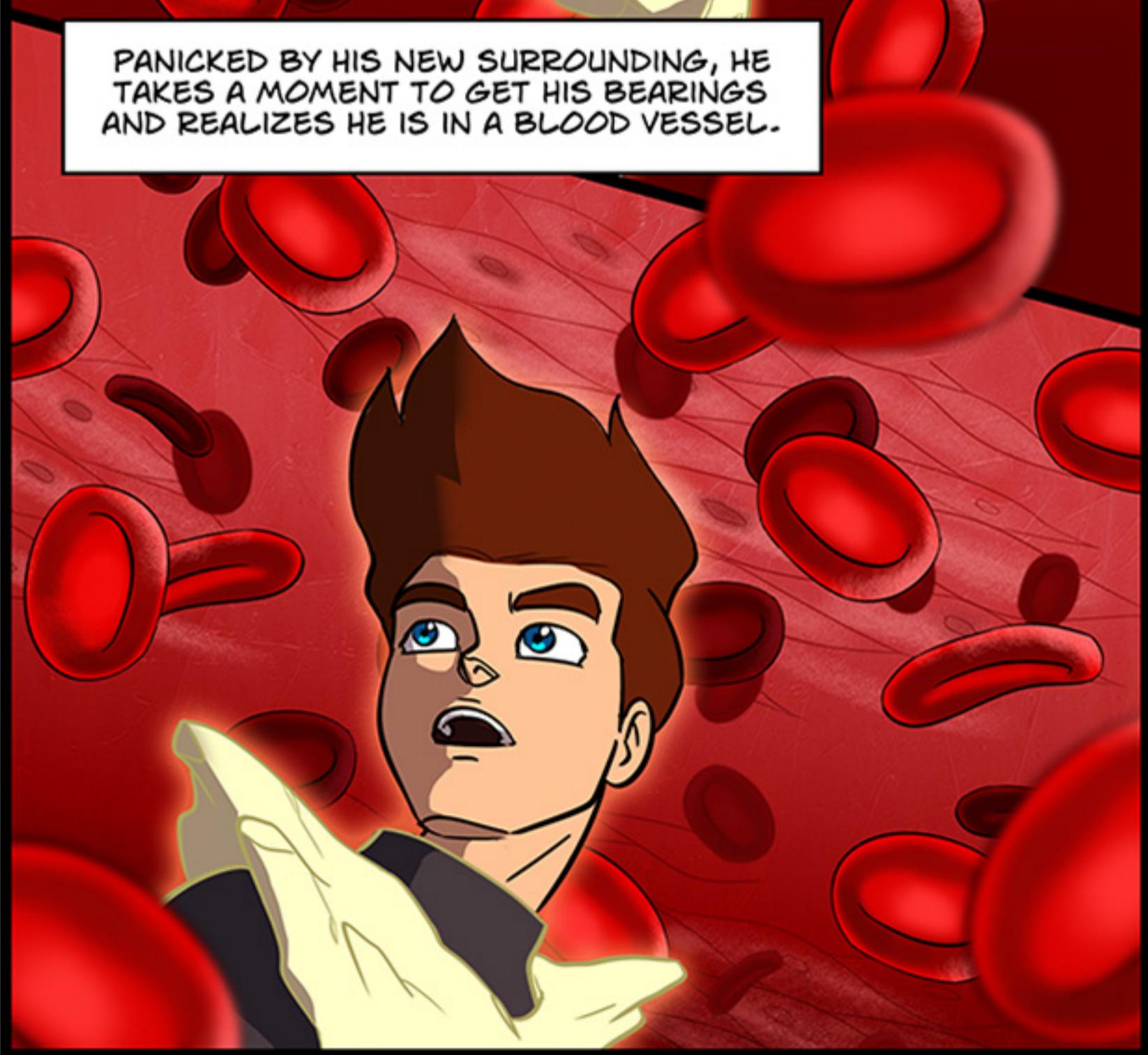






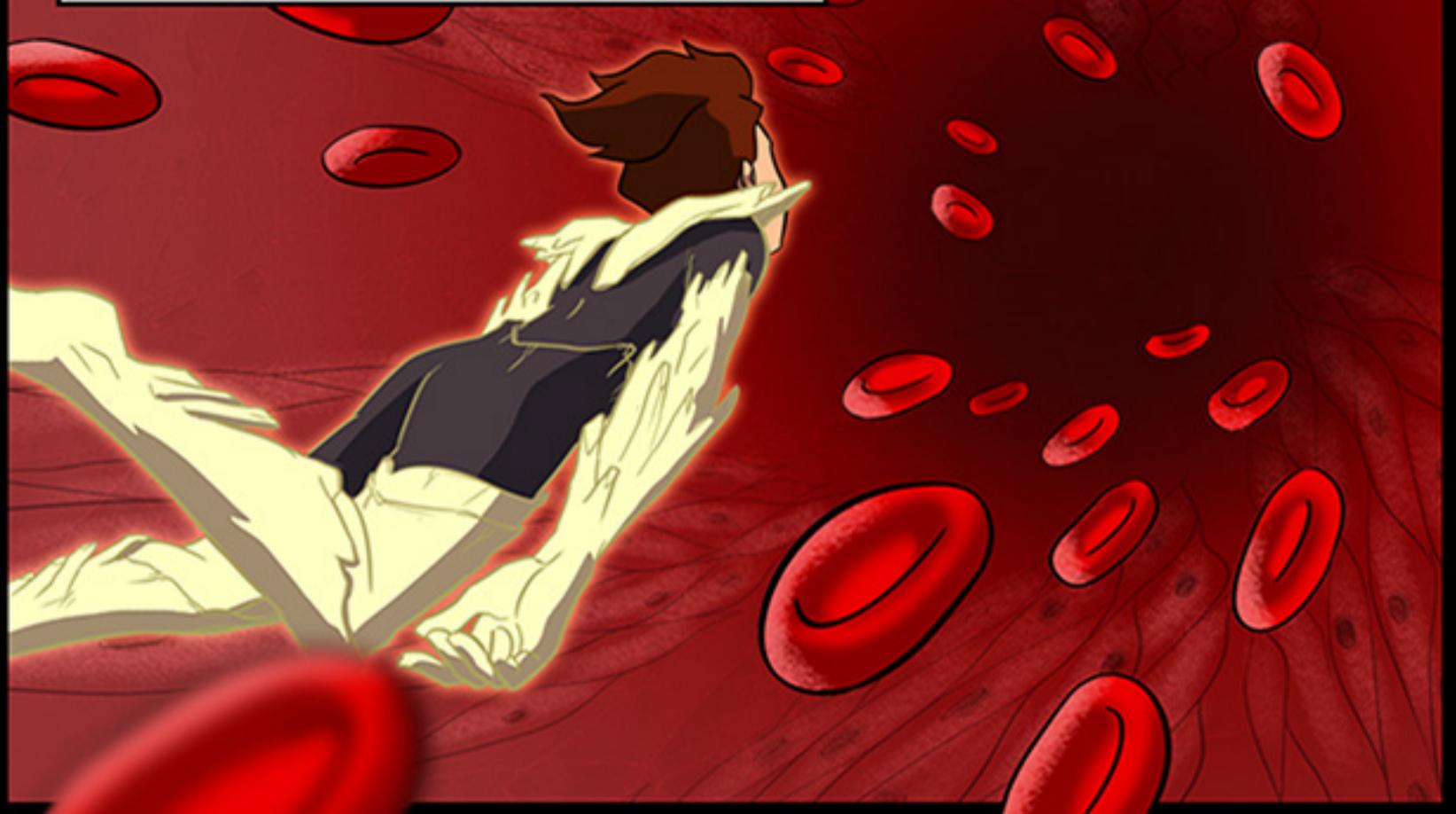


OMEN OPENS HIS EYES
TO FIND HIMSELF
IN THE DARK.



PANICKED BY HIS NEW SURROUNDING, HE
TAKES A MOMENT TO GET HIS BEARINGS
AND REALIZES HE IS IN A BLOOD VESSEL.

HE FOLLOWS THE FLOW OF THE BLOOD CELLS...



... UNTIL IT SLOWS DOWN.

TAKING A GOOD LOOK AT THE SURROUNDING AREA, HE SEES A SHADOW UP AHEAD AND SWIMS TO IT.



AS OMEN NEARS THE SHADOW, HE REALIZES IT IS WHAT HE HAS SEEN IN HIS VISIONS...

... A BUILD-UP OF FAT CELLS ALONG THE ARTERY WALL...

BLOOB

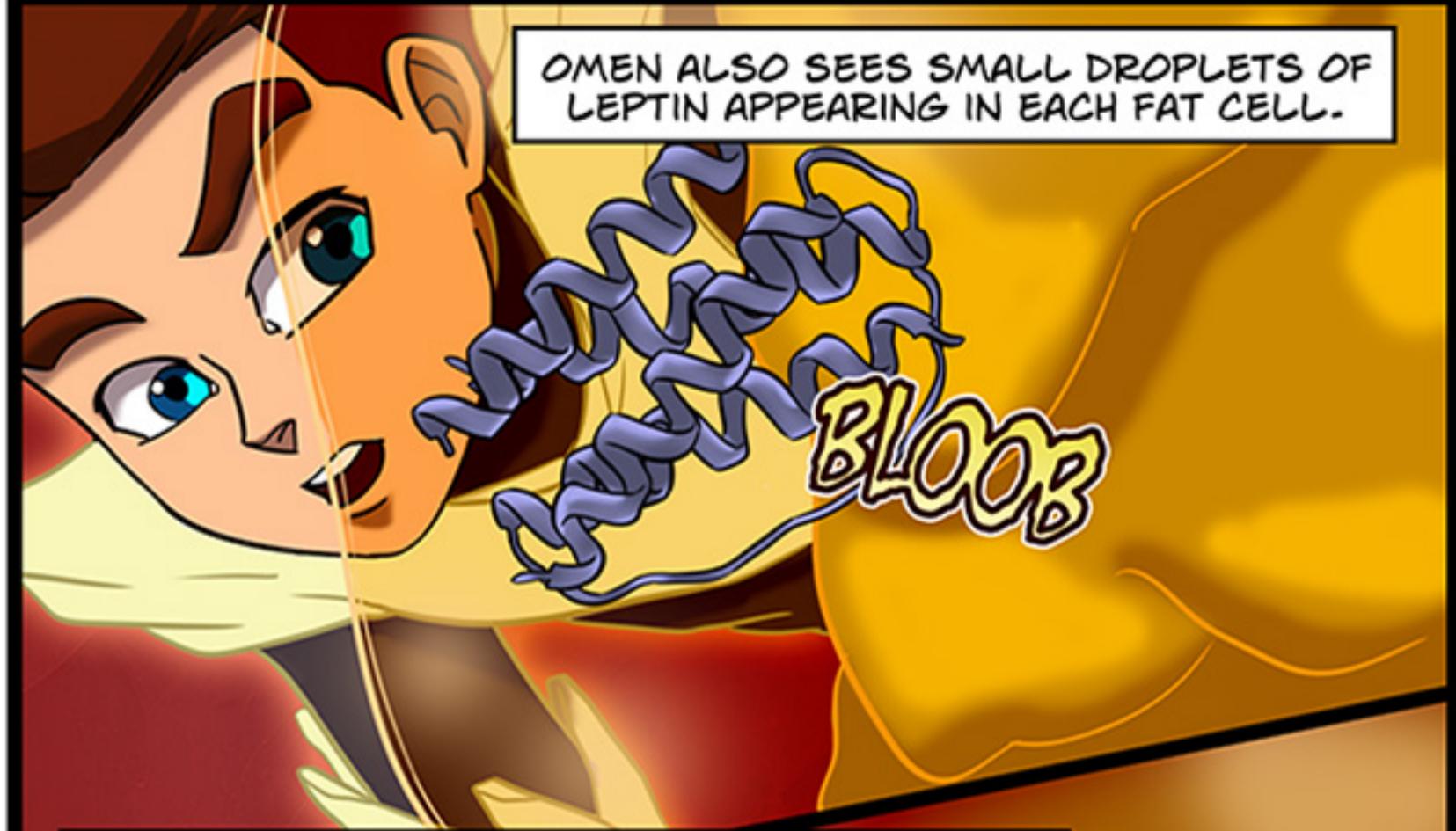
BLOOB

... AND INSIDE EACH FAT CELL ARE THE CREATURES HE SAW PREVIOUSLY.

BLOOB

BLOOB





OMEN ALSO SEES SMALL DROPLETS OF LEPTIN APPEARING IN EACH FAT CELL.

BLOOB



BUT BEFORE THE DROPLETS CAN PASS THROUGH THE MEMBRANE OF THE FAT CELL, THE CREATURES SWIFTLY DISPOSE THE LEPTIN.

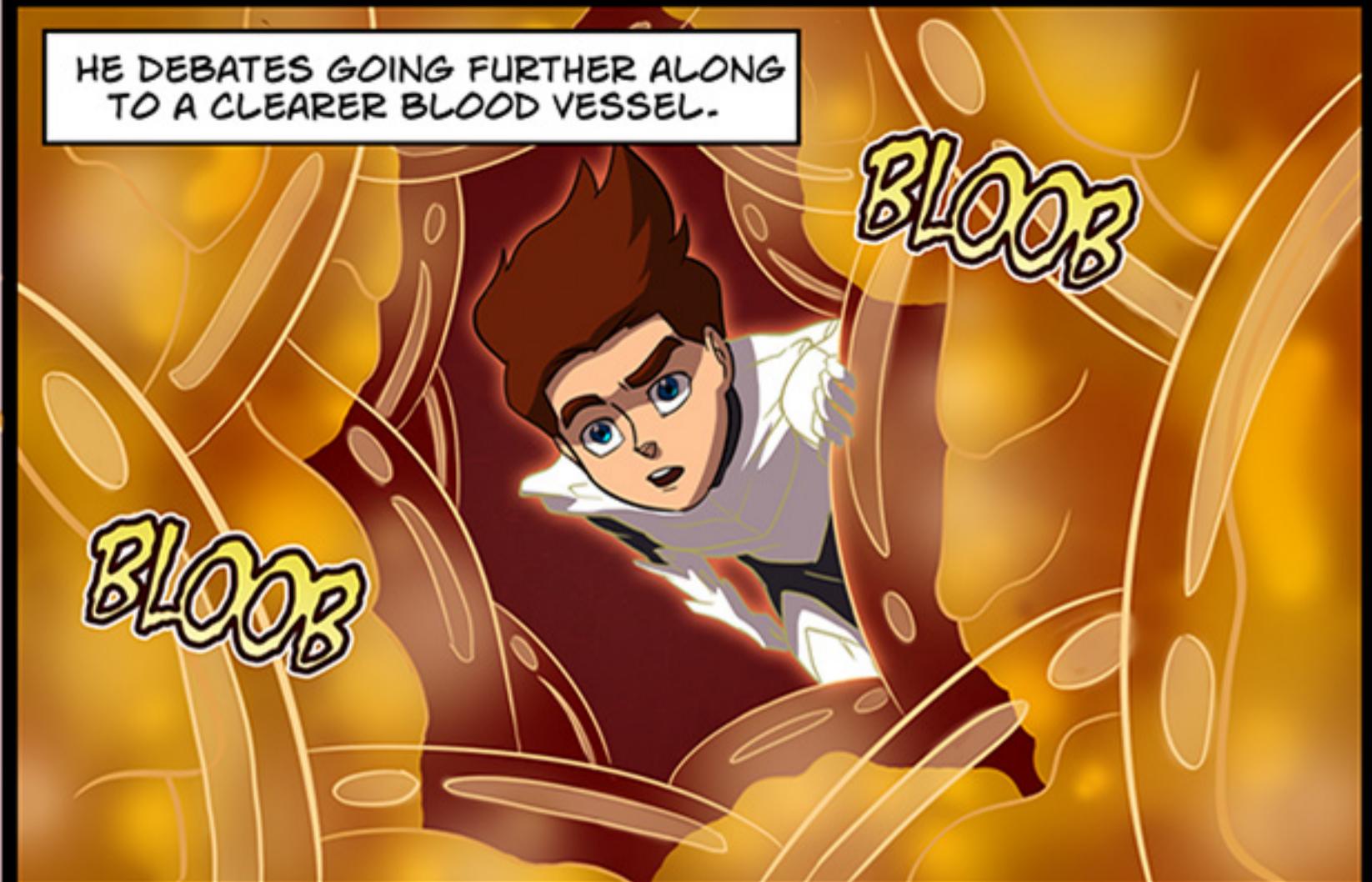
SPLAT!

ROAR RGHH!!!



OMEN LOOKS AROUND TO FIND THAT NO FAT CELLS CONTAINING THE CREATURES HAD ANY LEPTIN SECRETED INTO THE BLOOD STREAM.

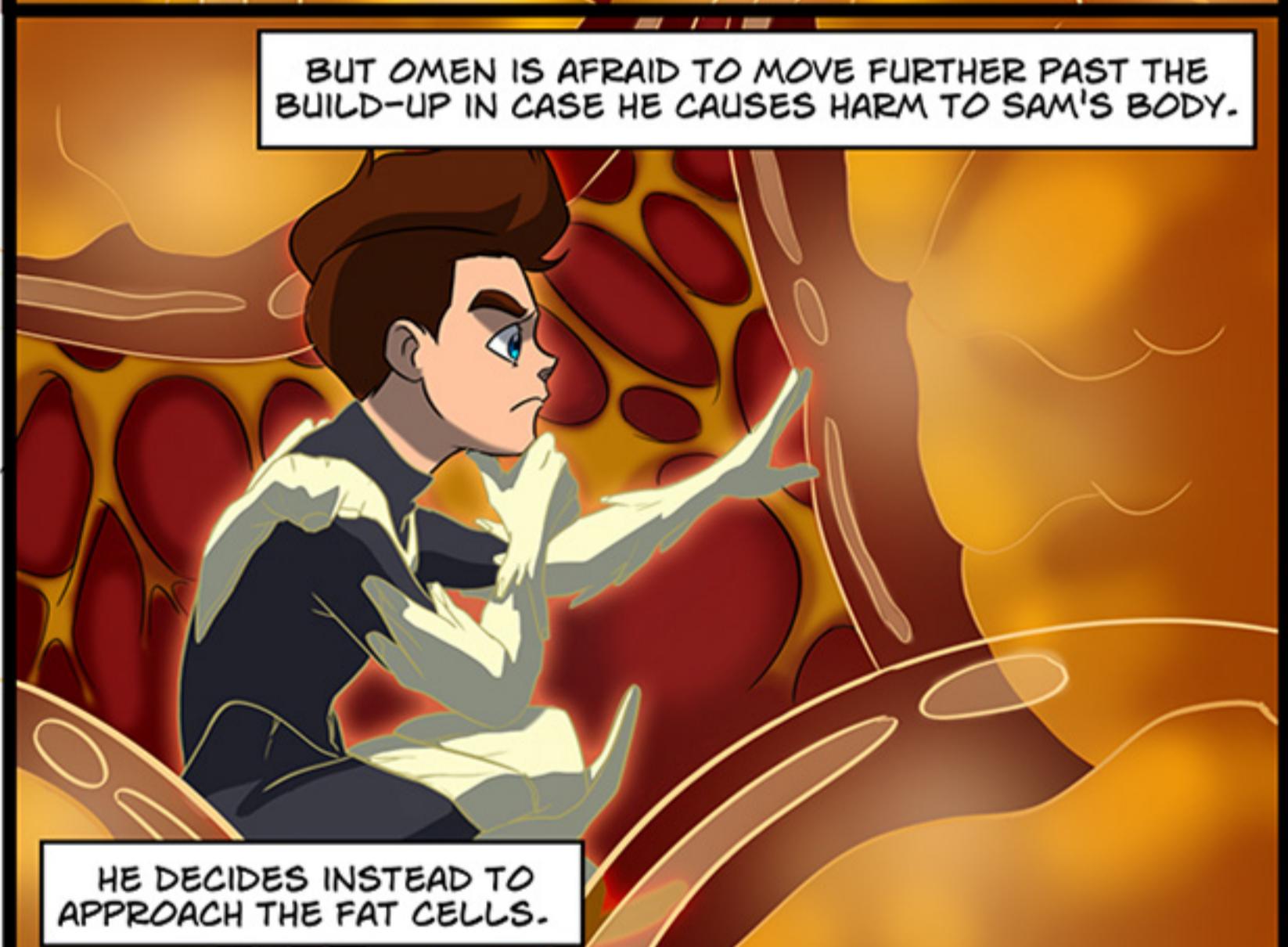




HE DEBATES GOING FURTHER ALONG
TO A CLEARER BLOOD VESSEL..

BLOOB

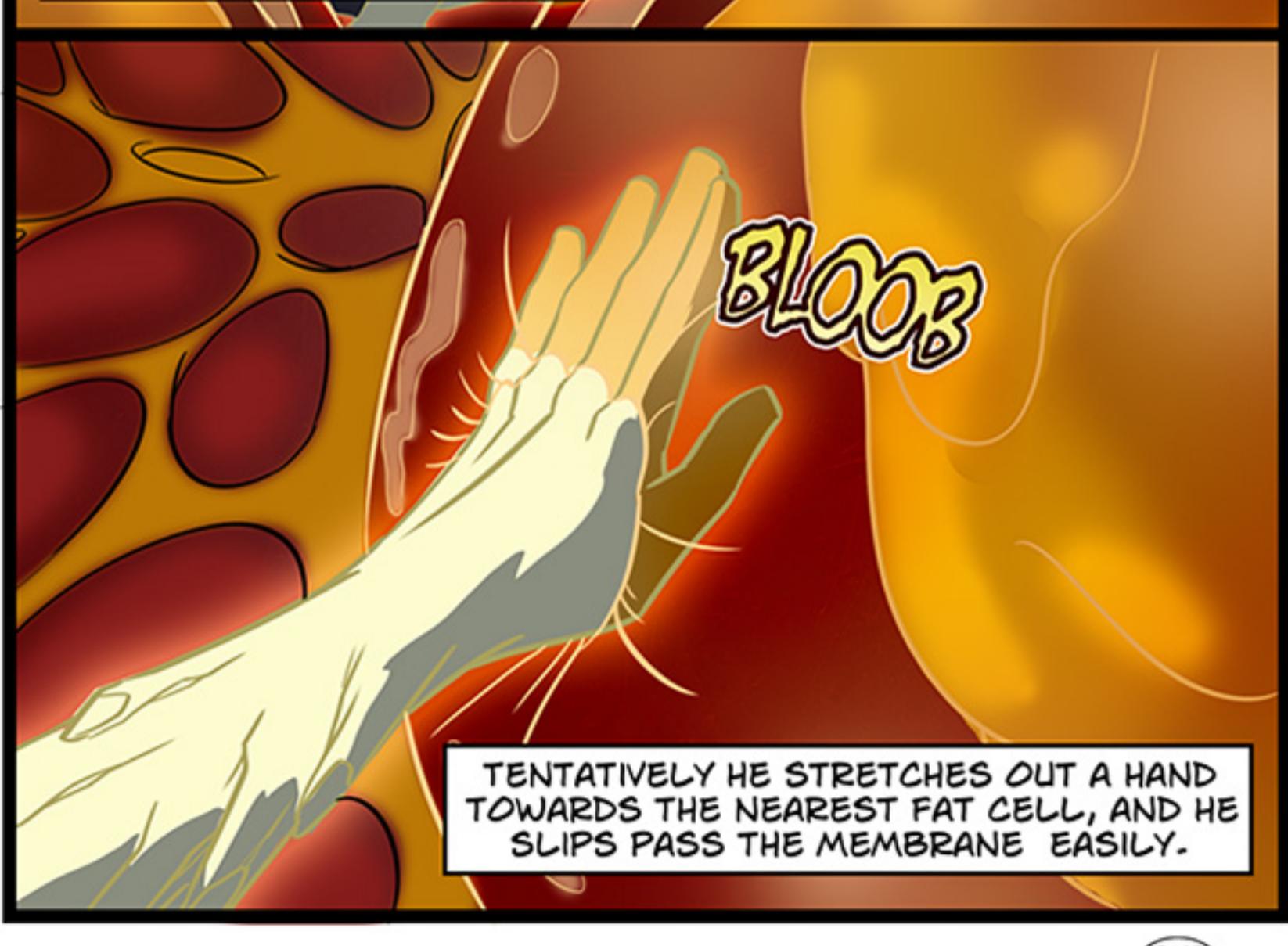
BLOOB



BUT OMEN IS AFRAID TO MOVE FURTHER PAST THE
BUILD-UP IN CASE HE CAUSES HARM TO SAM'S BODY.

HE DECIDES INSTEAD TO
APPROACH THE FAT CELLS.

BLOOB



TENTATIVELY HE STRETCHES OUT A HAND
TOWARDS THE NEAREST FAT CELL, AND HE
SLIPS PASS THE MEMBRANE EASILY.





OMEN BREAKS THE CREATURE APART IN ONE MOTION, AKN TO THE PROCESS OF METABOLISM IN THE HUMAN BODY.

SPLASH

SPLASH

THE CREATURE DISAPPEARS INTO SEPARATE DROPLETS OF FATTY ACIDS AND GLYCEROL...

... WHICH ARE THEN RELEASED INTO THE BLOODSTREAM.



OMEN QUICKLY MOVES ON FROM CELL TO CELL, STARTING FROM THE OUTER CELLS TOWARDS THE INNER CELLS CLOSER TO THE ARTERY WALL.

SPLATT!

IN SOME CELLS THE CREATURES UNDERGO A TRANSFORMATION THAT CAUSES THE CELLS TO HARDEN.

Tok

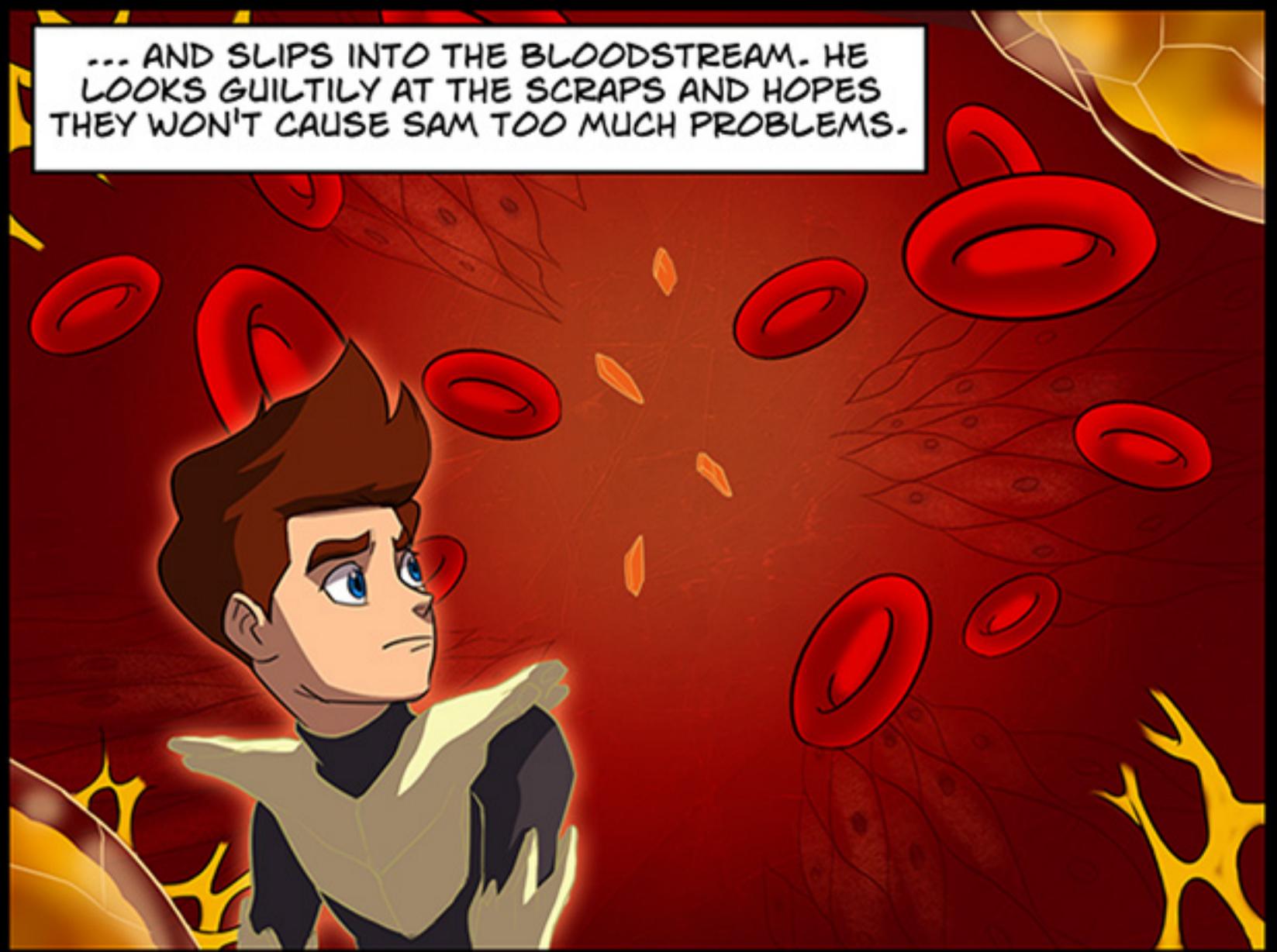
Tok

CRACK!!!

OMEN HAS TO BREAK HIS WAY INTO THE HARDENED CELLS, CAUSING LITTLE BITS OF THE PLAQUE TO BREAK OFF...



... AND SLIPS INTO THE BLOODSTREAM. HE LOOKS GUILTY AT THE SCRAPS AND HOPES THEY WON'T CAUSE SAM TOO MUCH PROBLEMS.



SPLATT!

SPLATT!

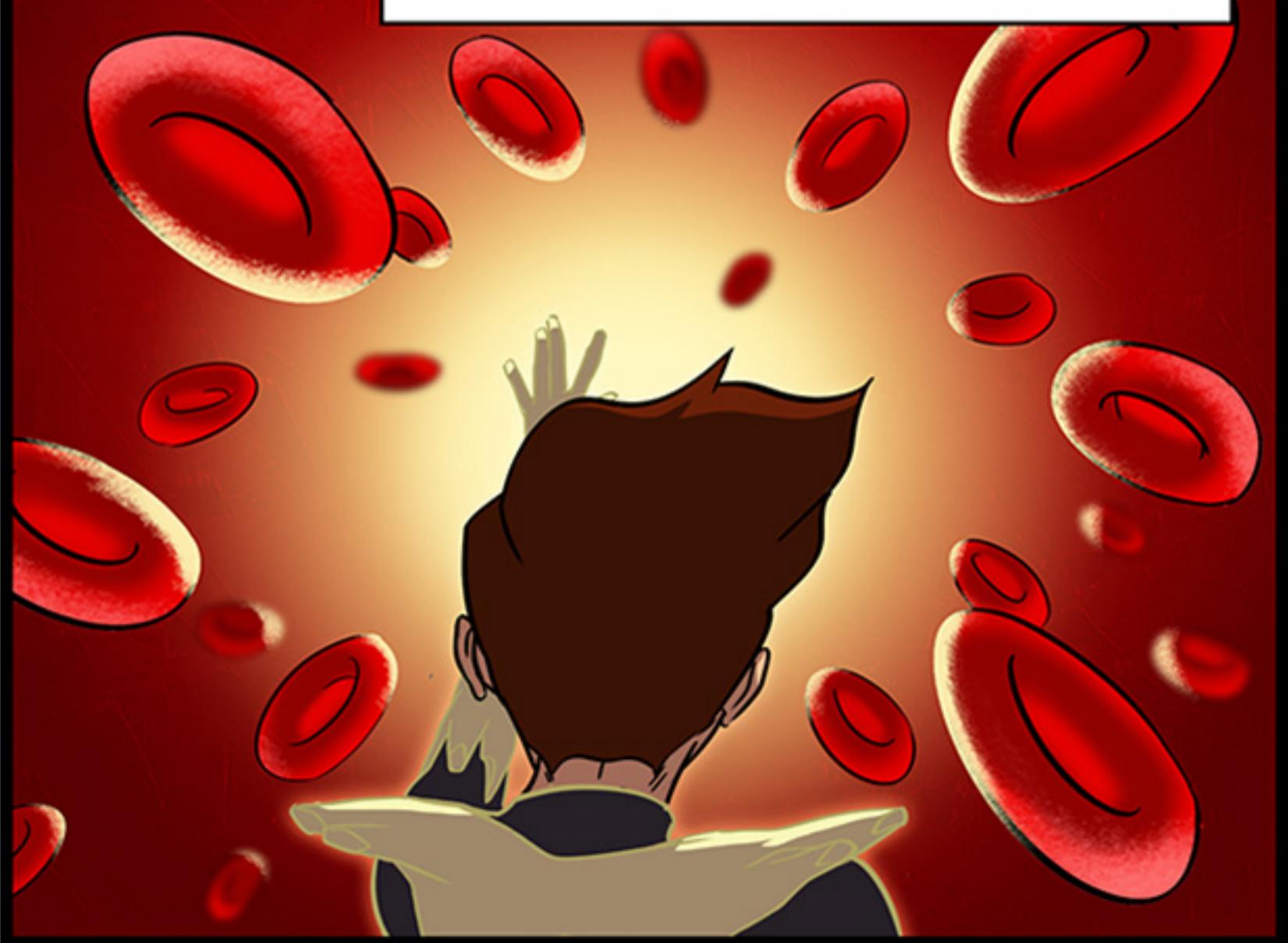
AS OMEN DESTROYS MOST OF THE CELLS, HE CAN FEEL THE BLOOD FLOWING MUCH FASTER NOW.

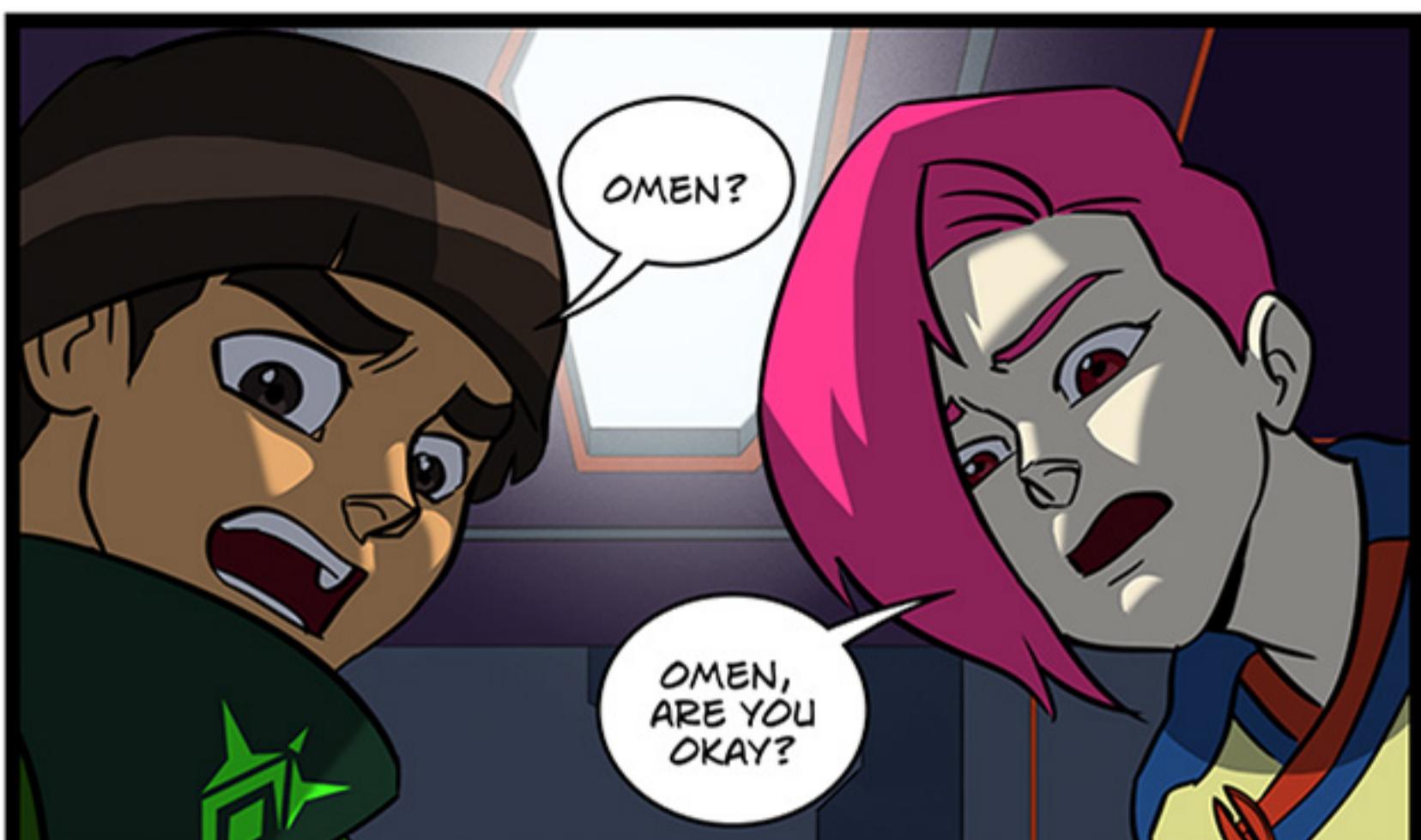


OMEN TRIES NOT TO BE PULLED BY THE STRONG CURRENT HEADING TOWARDS SAM'S HEART, HAVING ALMOST NOTHING TO GRAB ON.



DESPERATELY, HE TRIES SWIMMING AGAINST THE FLOW AND SEES A FLASH OF LIGHT...







GOOD NEWS, OMEN!
SAM'S CONDITION
HAS BECOME STABLE.
I THINK YOU DID IT!



WHATEVER YOU DID
THERE, IT WAS
AMAZING.

WHAT
HAPPENED IN
THERE?

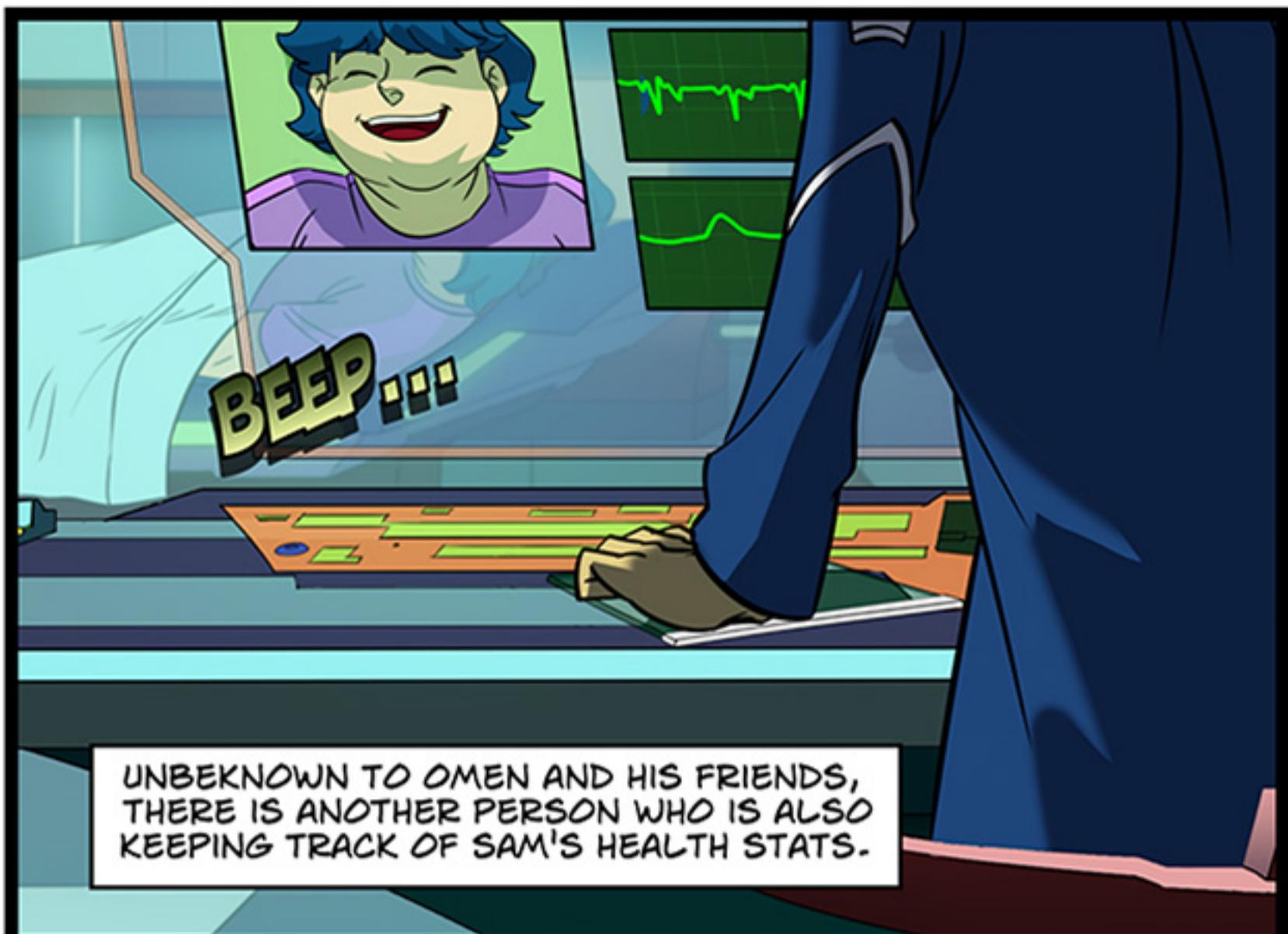


WELL, MY ARMOUR
ACTIVATED INSIDE AND I
MANAGED TO DESTROY
MOST OF THE CREATURES
ON SAM'S ARTERY.

HOPEFULLY ENOUGH
PLAQUE IS GONE SO THAT
SAM'S BODY CAN HANDLE
THE REST.







WITH A FLICK OF HIS FINGERS, HE BRINGS UP AN IMAGE SHOWING THE PLAQUE BUILD-UP IN SAM'S ARTERY...

CLICK

zoom...

... AND WATCHES AS THE BUILD-UP GRADUALLY DECREASES ON THE PROJECTED IMAGE, EVENTHOUGH NO TREATMENT HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT YET.





THAT'S VERY ODD...
WHAT IS GOING ON
INSIDE THIS CHILD'S
BODY?



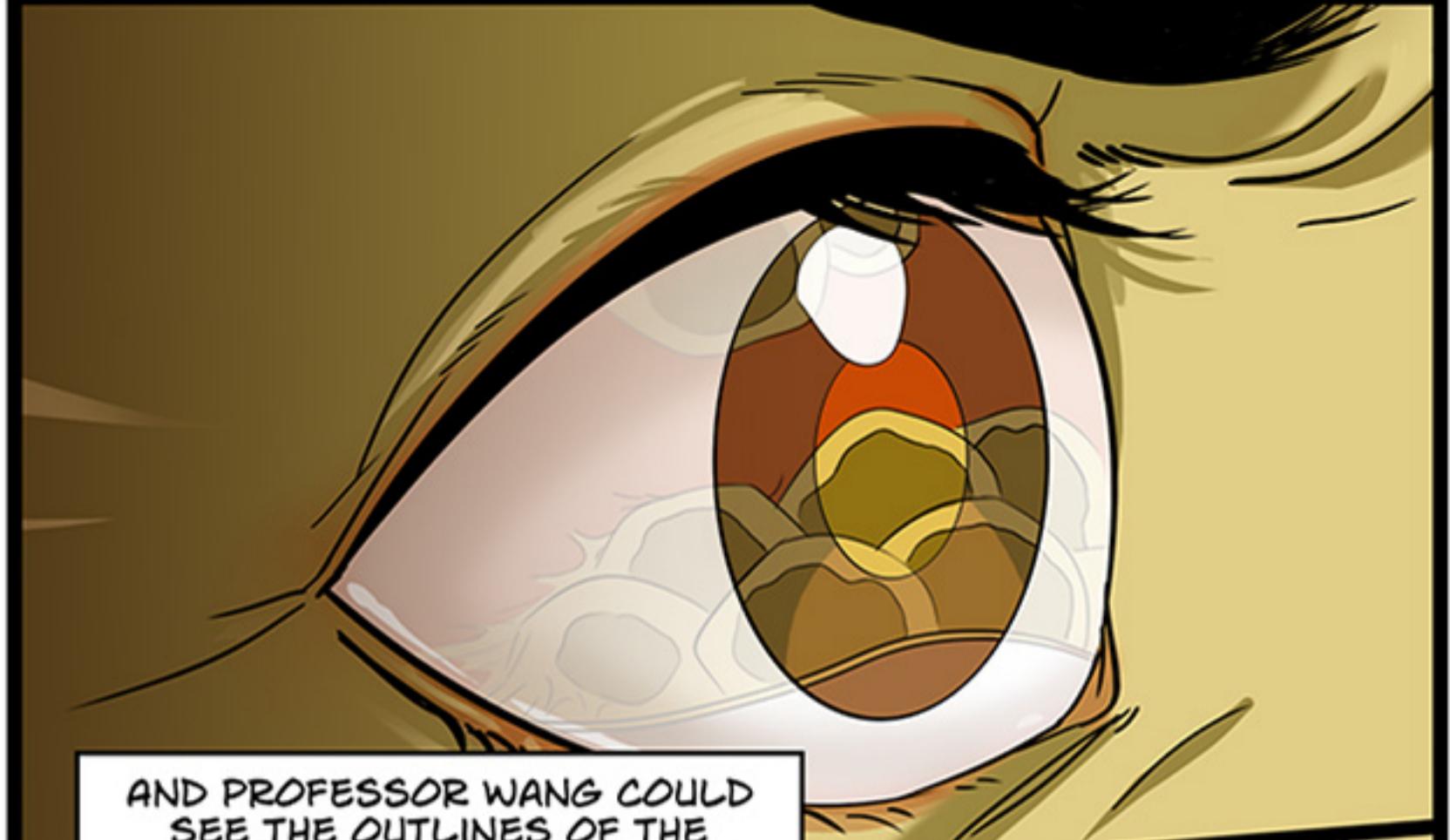
HMM?



THAT'S THE NEW
ROBOT DESIGNED BY
PROFESSOR
CONNOR...







AND PROFESSOR WANG COULD SEE THE OUTLINES OF THE ADIPOCYTES, INCLUDING THE CREATURES INSIDE THEM...



AND A HUMANOID FIGURE ACTIVELY DESTROYING THE CREATURES.



IN WELLOTH INDUSTRIAL FARM, PROFESSOR SAFFRON IS DOING HER ROUTINE CHECKS ON THE FOOD'S QUALITY.

THIS RAW MEAT FROM SECTOR F17 HAS BEEN CONTAMINATED. DISPOSE OF IT IMMEDIATELY.

YES, PROFESSOR.

HEY, WHERE DID YOU PROGRAMME THE ROBOT TO DISPOSE THE MEAT?

OH, I DIDN'T REALLY SPECIFY...

OH WELL, I DON'T THINK IT MATTERS AS LONG AS WE GET THEM OUT OF PROFESSOR SAFFRON'S SIGHTS.

PLOP

PLOP

SPLASH

SPLASH







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