FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST™

2

Story and art by
Hiromu Arakawa

鋼の錬金術師

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

2

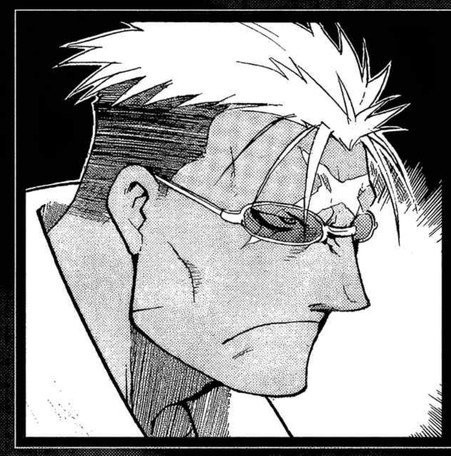
荒川弘
HIROMU ARAKAWA

鋼の錬金術師

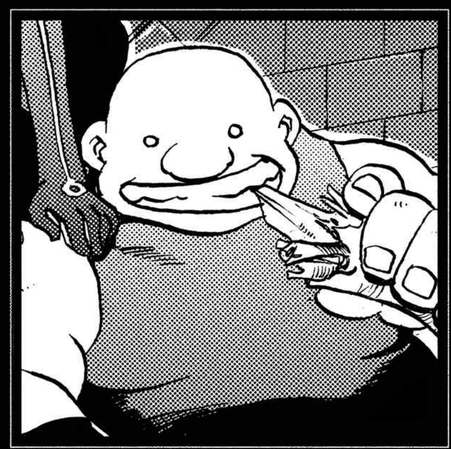
FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

CHARACTERS
FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

ショウ・タッカー
Shou Tucker

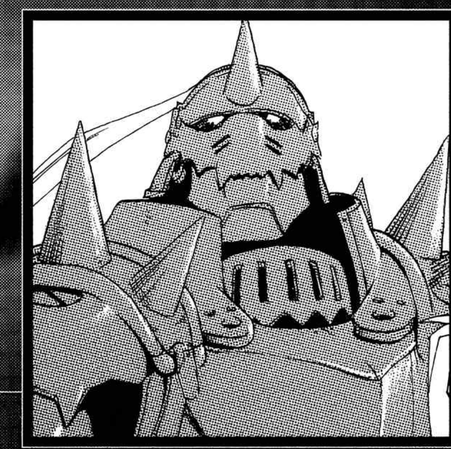


傷の男(スカー)
Scar

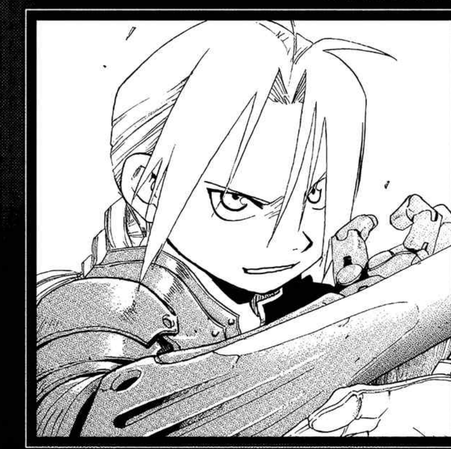


グラトニー
Gluttony

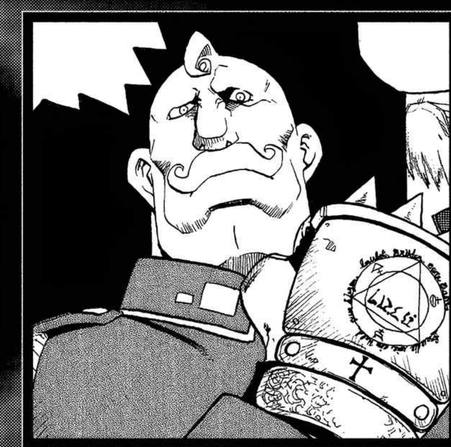
ラスト
Lust



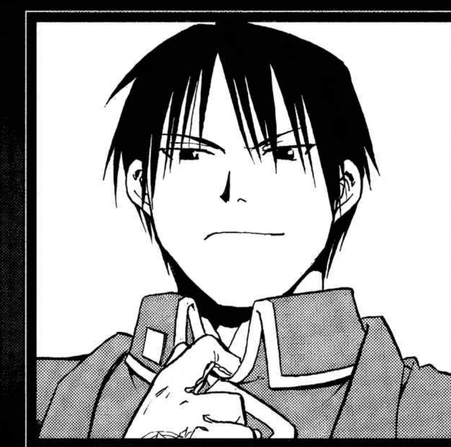
アルフォンス・エルリック
Alphonse Elric



エドワード・エルリック
Edward Elric



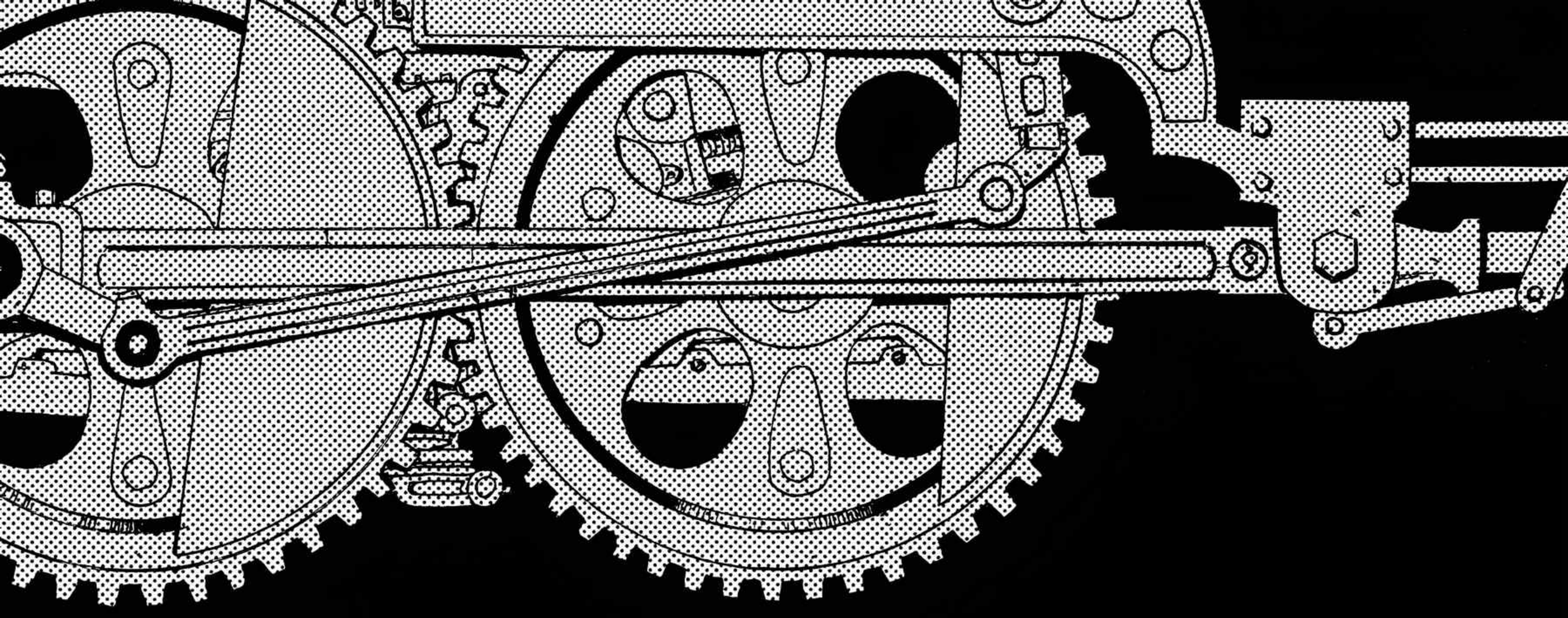
アレックス・ルイ・アームストロング
Alex Louis Armstrong



ロイ・マスタング
Roy Mustang

OUTLINE
FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

Using a forbidden alchemical ritual, the Elric brothers attempted to bring their dead mother back to life. But the ritual went wrong, consuming Edward Elric's leg and Alphonse Elric's entire body. At the cost of his arm, Edward was able to graft his brother's soul into a suit of armor. Equipped with mechanical "auto-mail" to replace his missing limbs, Edward becomes a state alchemist, serving the military on deadly missions. Now, the two brothers roam the world in search of a way to regain what they have lost...



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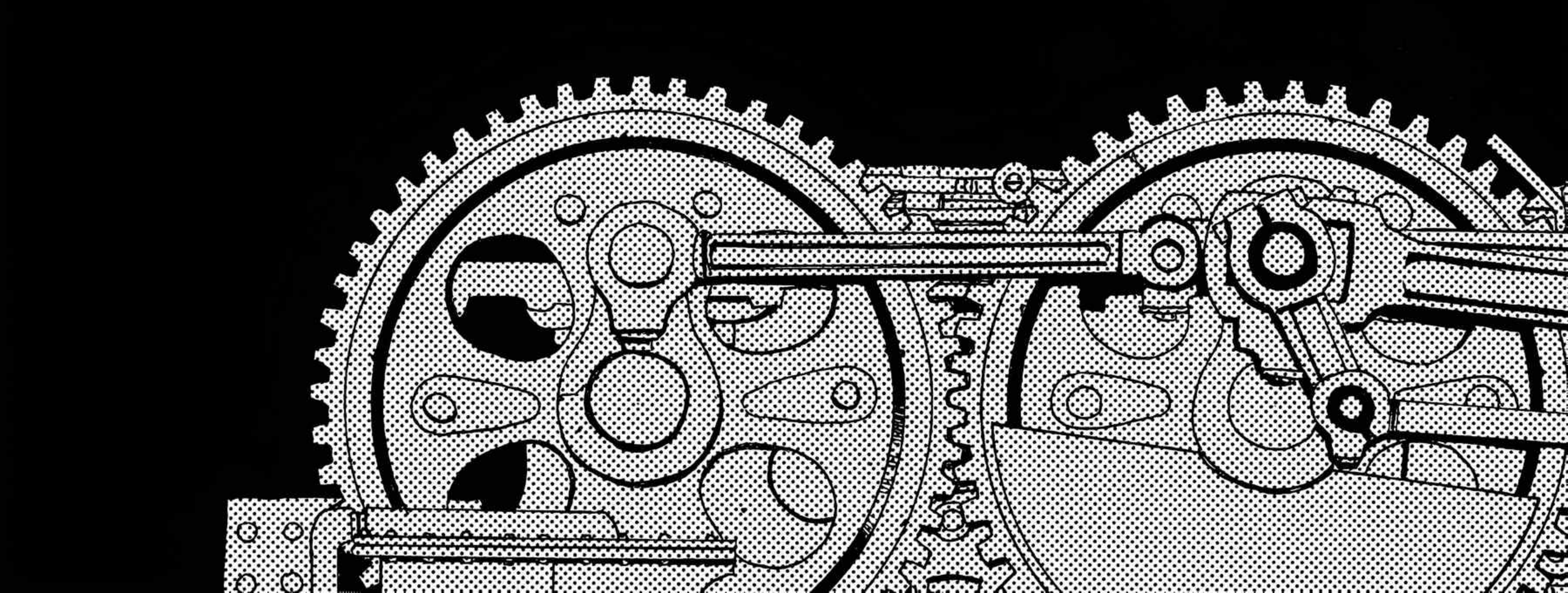


HOW IN THE WORLD DID HE DO THAT!?
OH... SECOND LIEUTENANT HAVOC...
HMM...? YOU'VE NEVER SEEN THE COLONEL SHOOT FIRE BEFORE?
WHOA... THAT WAS AMAZING...
WHEN YOU RUB IT TOGETHER, IT SPARKS.
THE COLONEL'S GLOVE IS MADE OUT OF A SPECIAL REACTIVE CLOTH.
FLICK
AND THEN... BOOM !
THE REST IS JUST ADJUSTING THE OXYGEN LEVEL IN THE AIR AROUND WHAT YOU WANT TO COMBUST...
WHAT !!?
SO HE'S THE ONE WHO CAPTURED ALL THE HIJACKERS ?!
THAT LITTLE GUY STANDING NEXT TO THE COLONEL IS A STATE ALCHEMIST TOO.
ALCHEMISTS ARE PEOPLE WHO CAN DO THESE THINGS.
I UNDERSTAND THE LOGIC BEHIND IT, BUT HOW...?

CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT...?
I DON'T KNOW...
HE CAN'T BE HUMAN...
Chapter 5:
The Alchemist's Suffering

SMIRK☆

YOU OWE ME FOR THIS ONE, COLONEL.

HEARING YOU SAY THAT MAKES A CHILL RUN DOWN MY SPINE...

RIGHT ***NOW?*** YOU SURE ARE IN A HURRY...

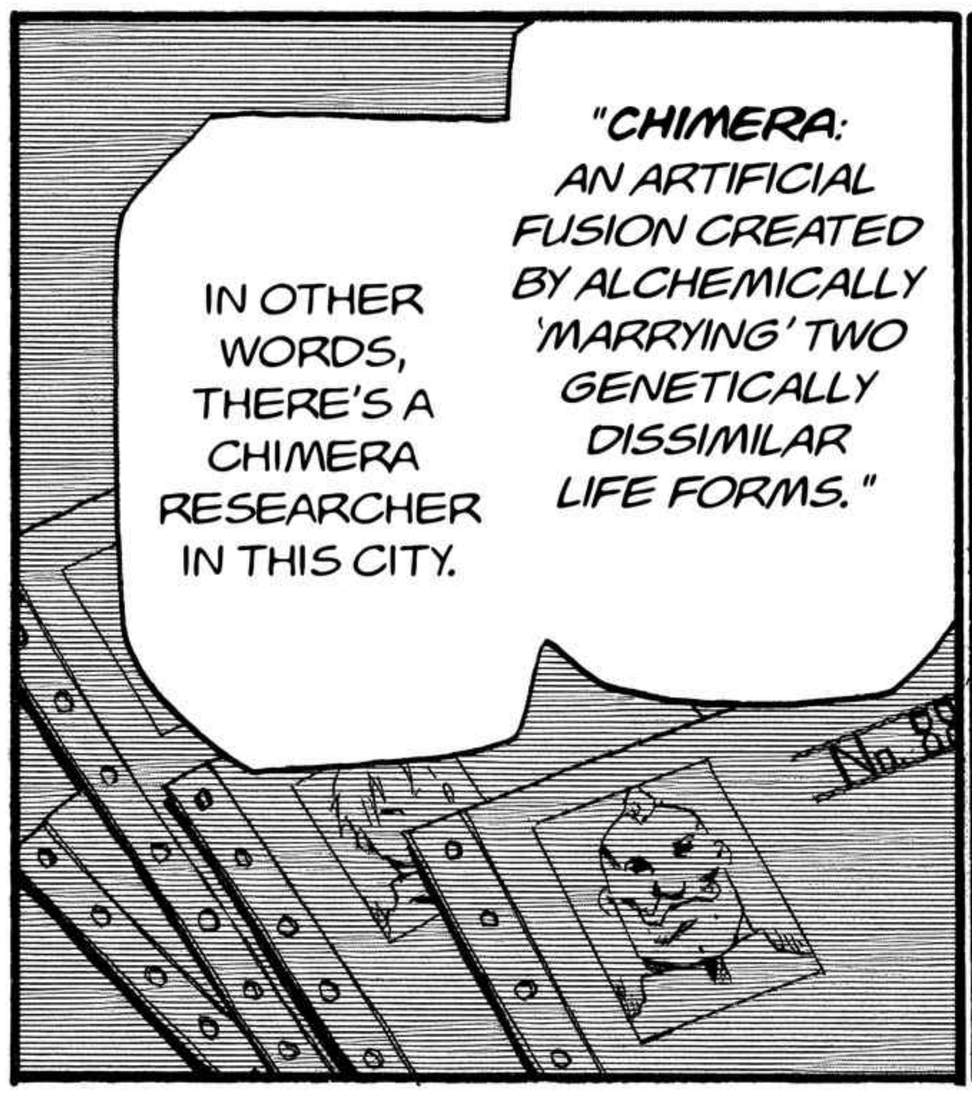
I NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT BIO-ALCHEMY. WHERE CAN I GO AROUND HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION? LIKE A LIBRARY OR AN EXPERT?

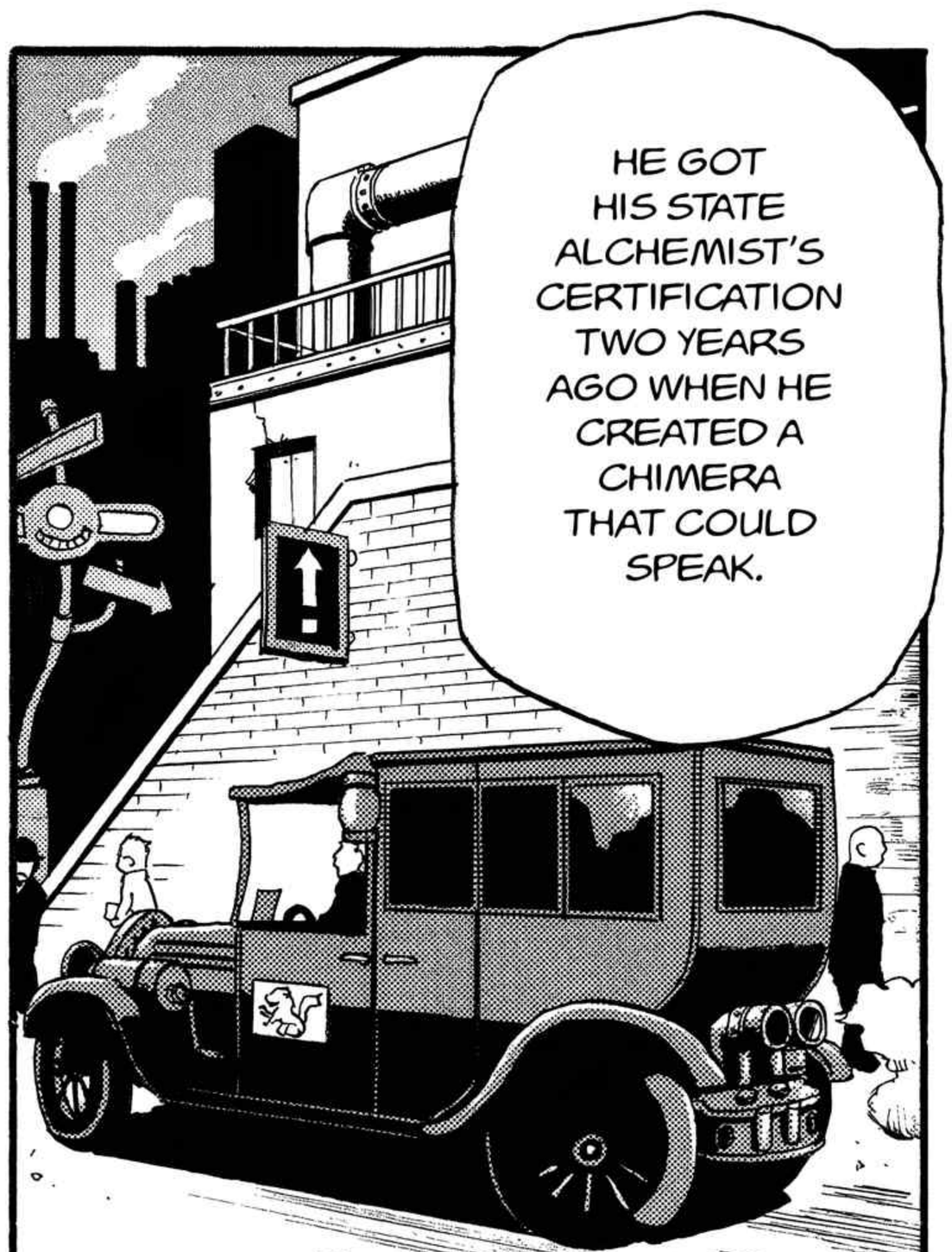
YOU SURE COME RIGHT TO THE POINT. ♪

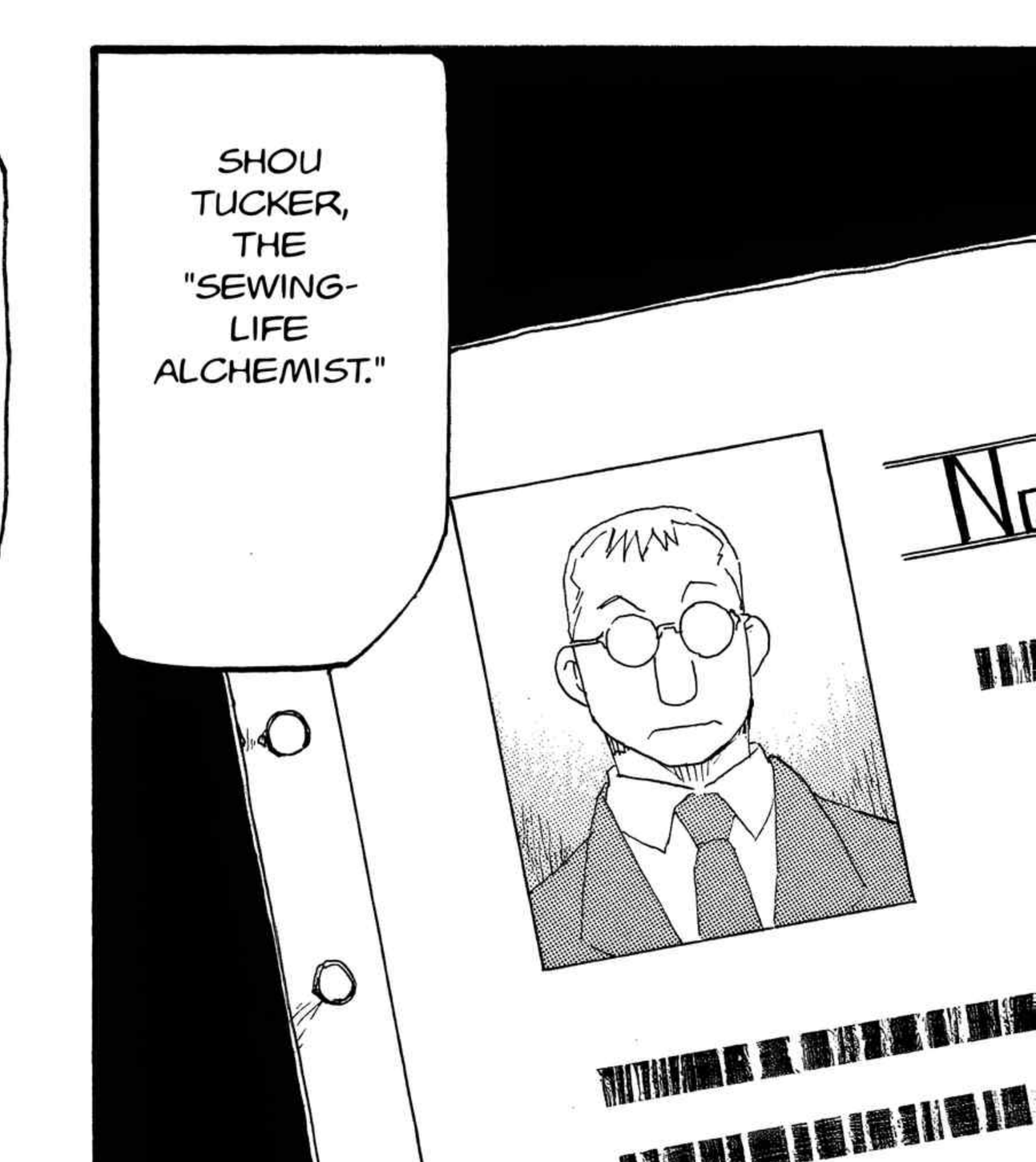
ALL RIGHT. SO WHAT DO YOU WANT?

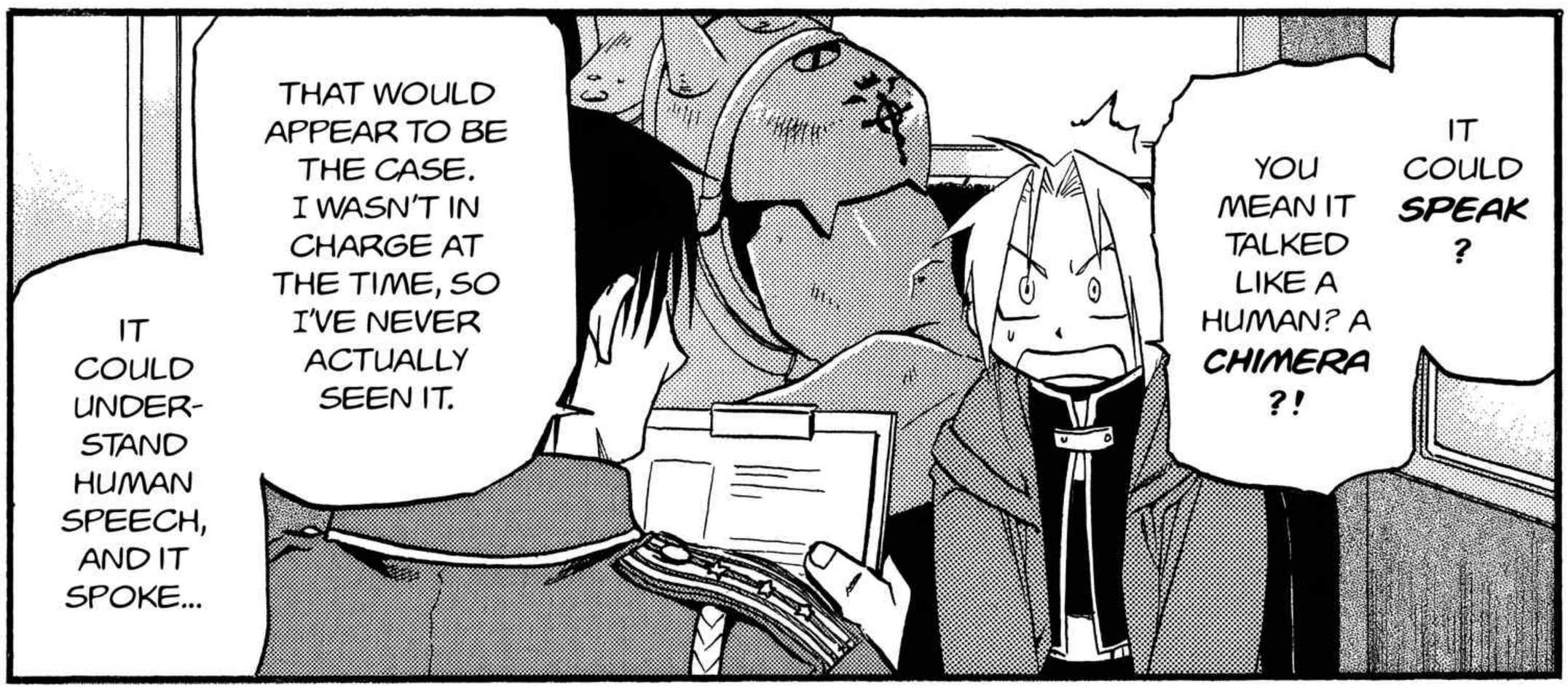
IT'S BEEN AWHILE SINCE WE SAW EACH OTHER... WHY DON'T WE HAVE A CUP OF TEA?

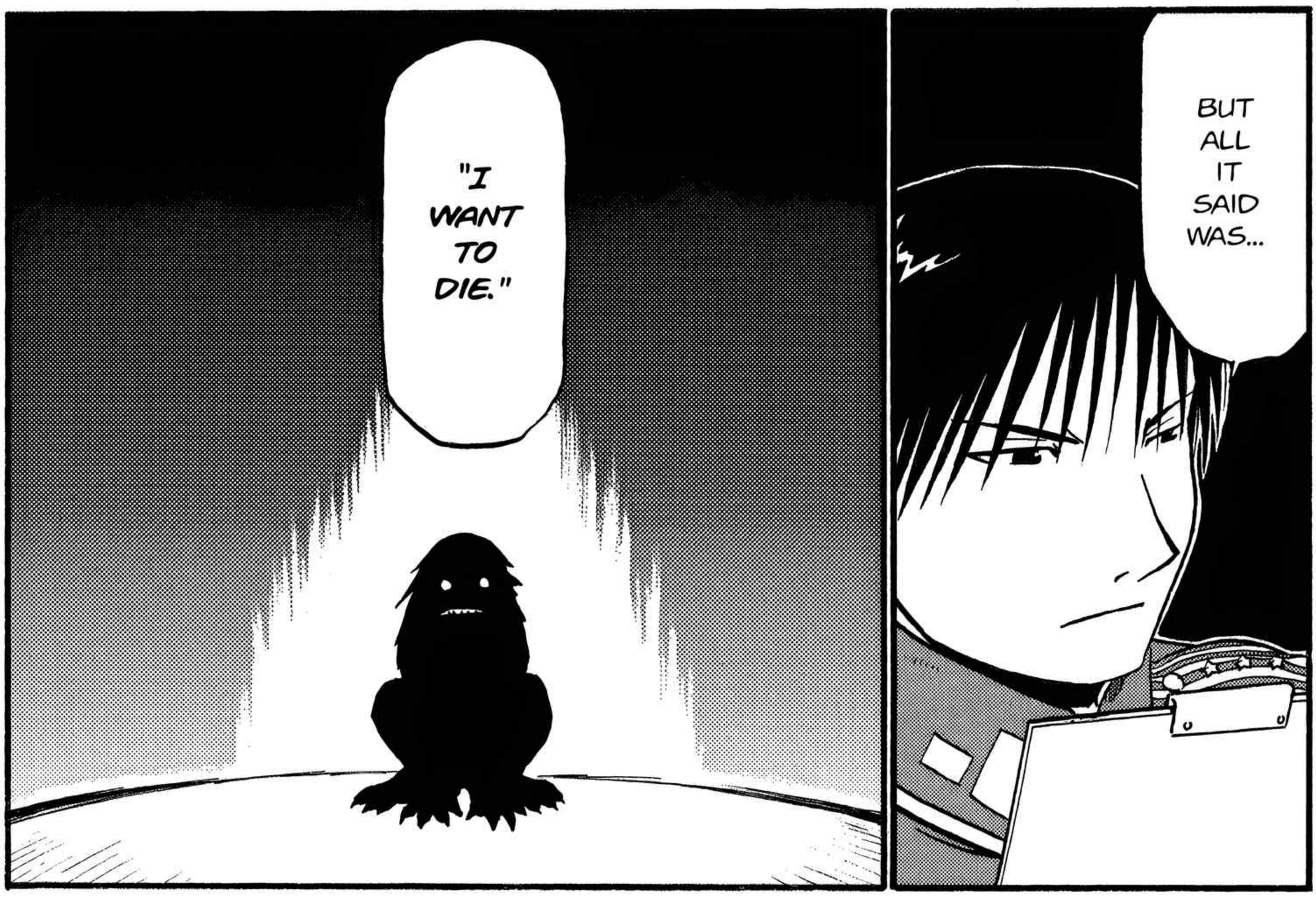
MY ARM AND LEG AREN'T GOING TO JUST GROW BACK IF I WAIT LONG ENOUGH!

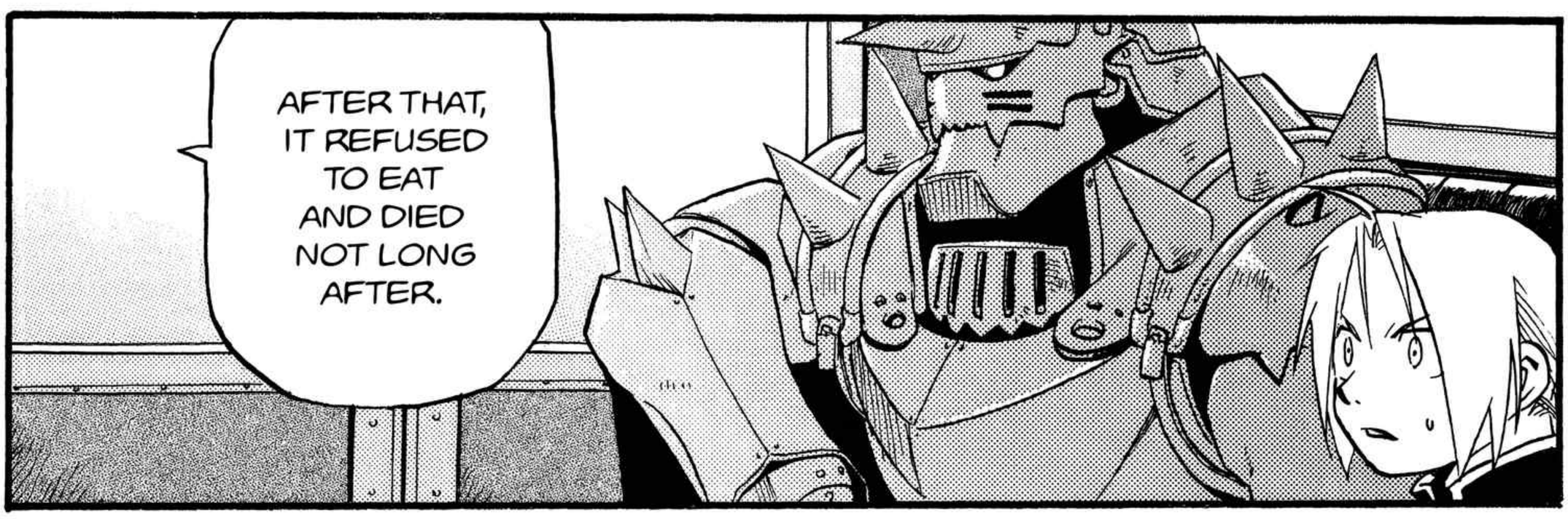




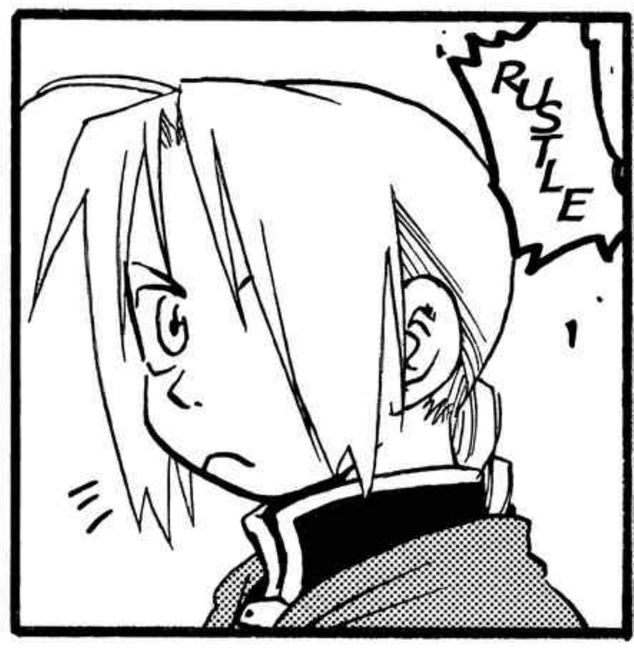


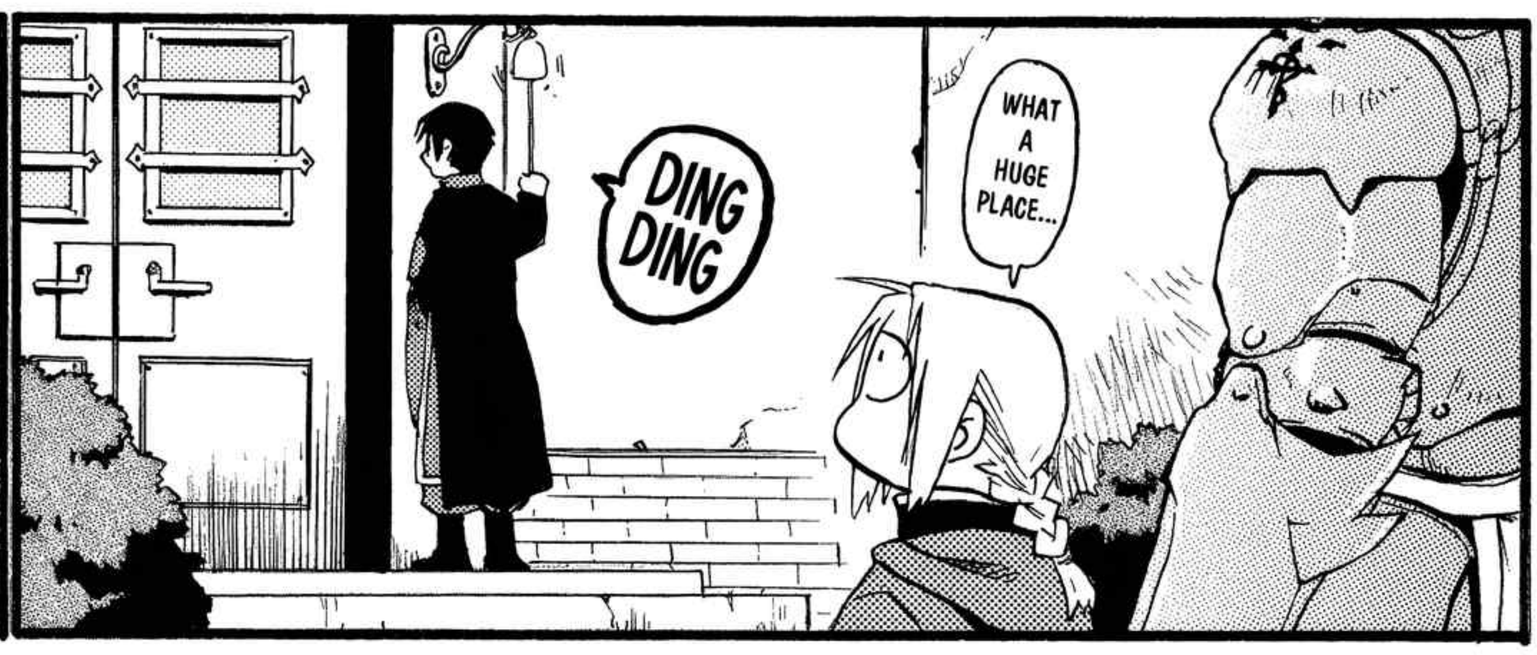

IT COULD UNDER-STAND HUMAN SPEECH, AND IT SPOKE...
THAT WOULD APPEAR TO BE THE CASE. I WASN'T IN CHARGE AT THE TIME, SO I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN IT.
YOU MEAN IT TALKED LIKE A HUMAN? A CHIMERA ?!
IT COULD SPEAK ?


"I WANT TO DIE."
BUT ALL IT SAID WAS...

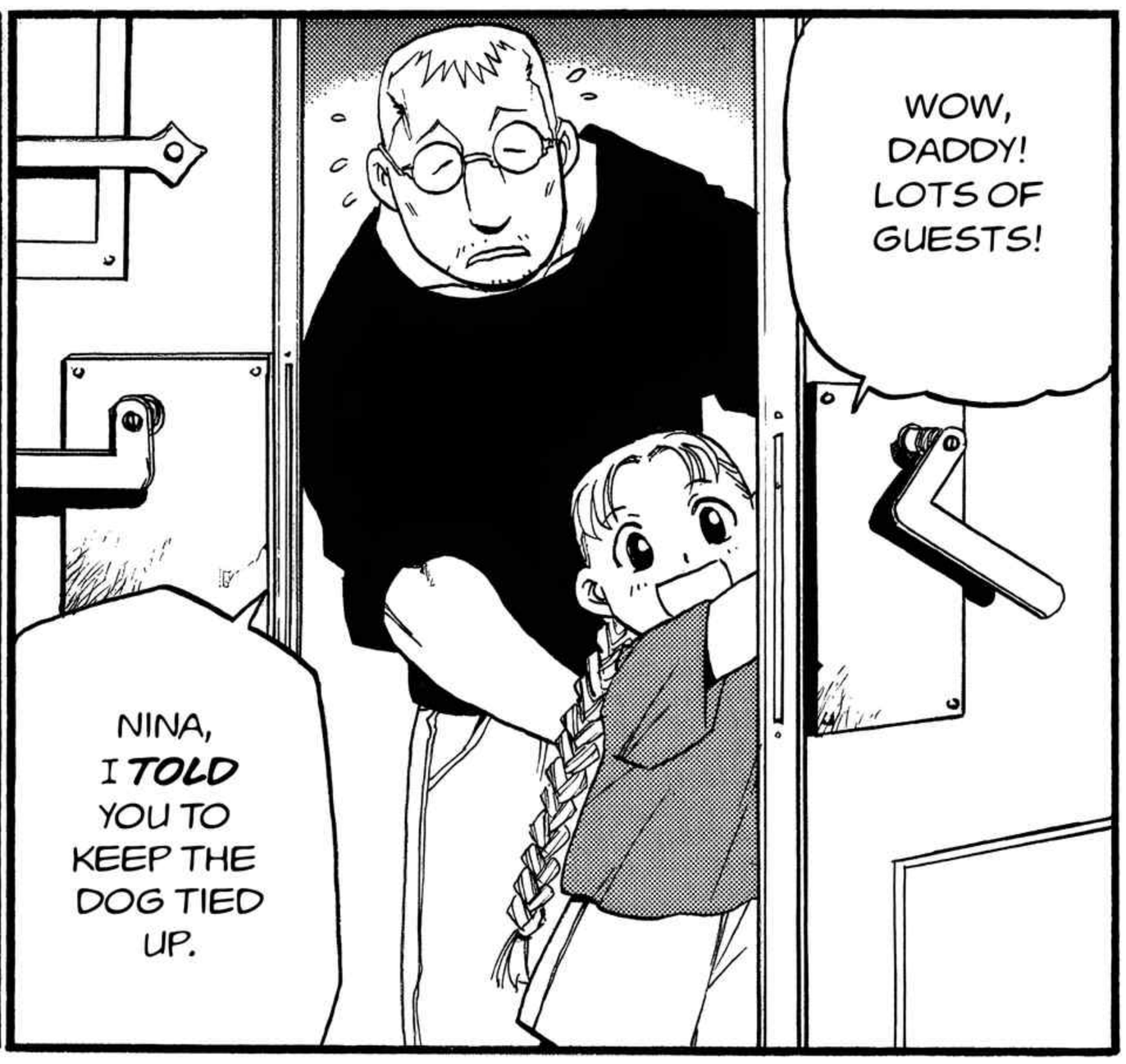

AFTER THAT, IT REFUSED TO EAT AND DIED NOT LONG AFTER.

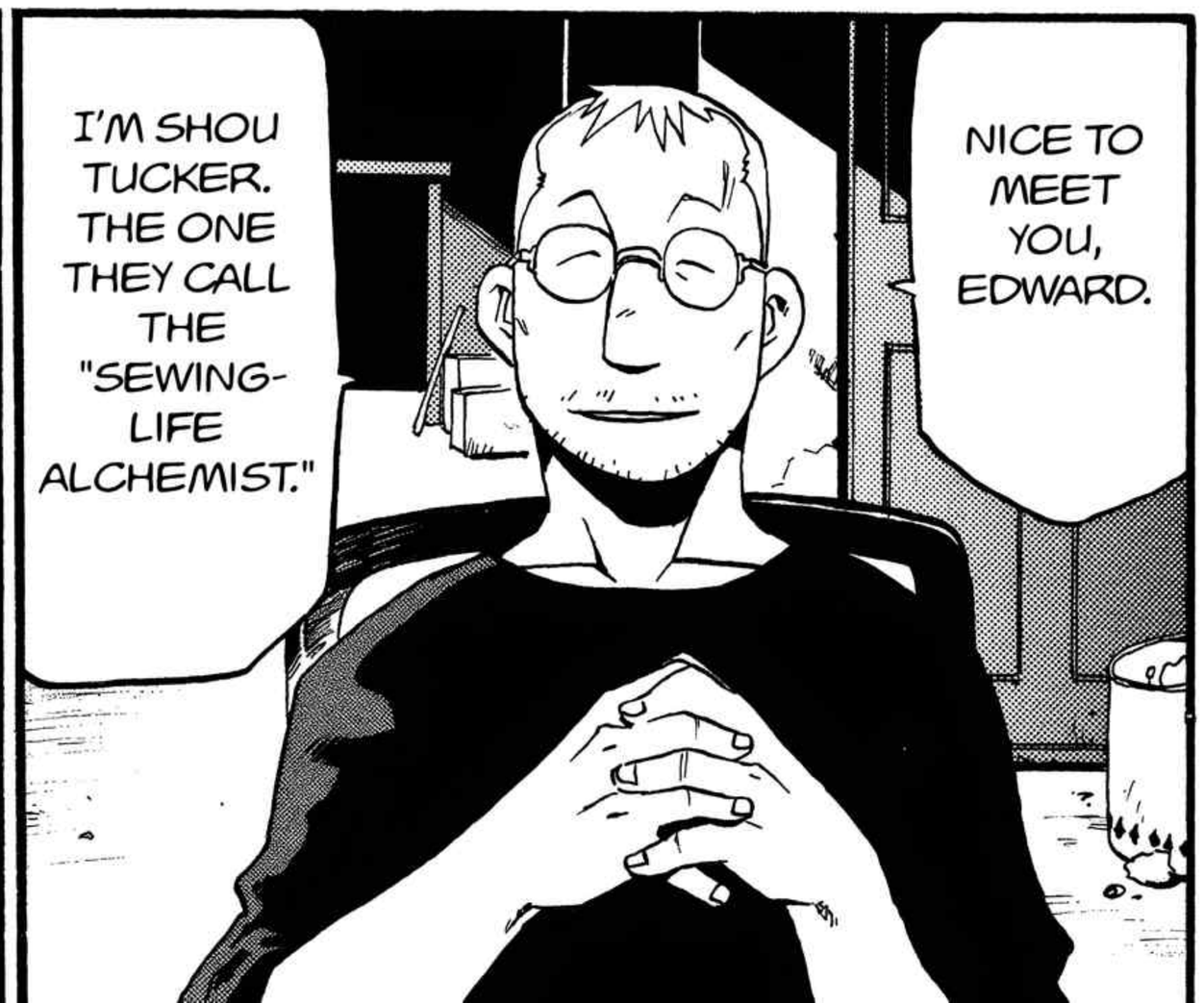
WELL, ANYWAY, LET'S GO MEET HIM AND SEE WHAT KIND OF PERSON HE IS.

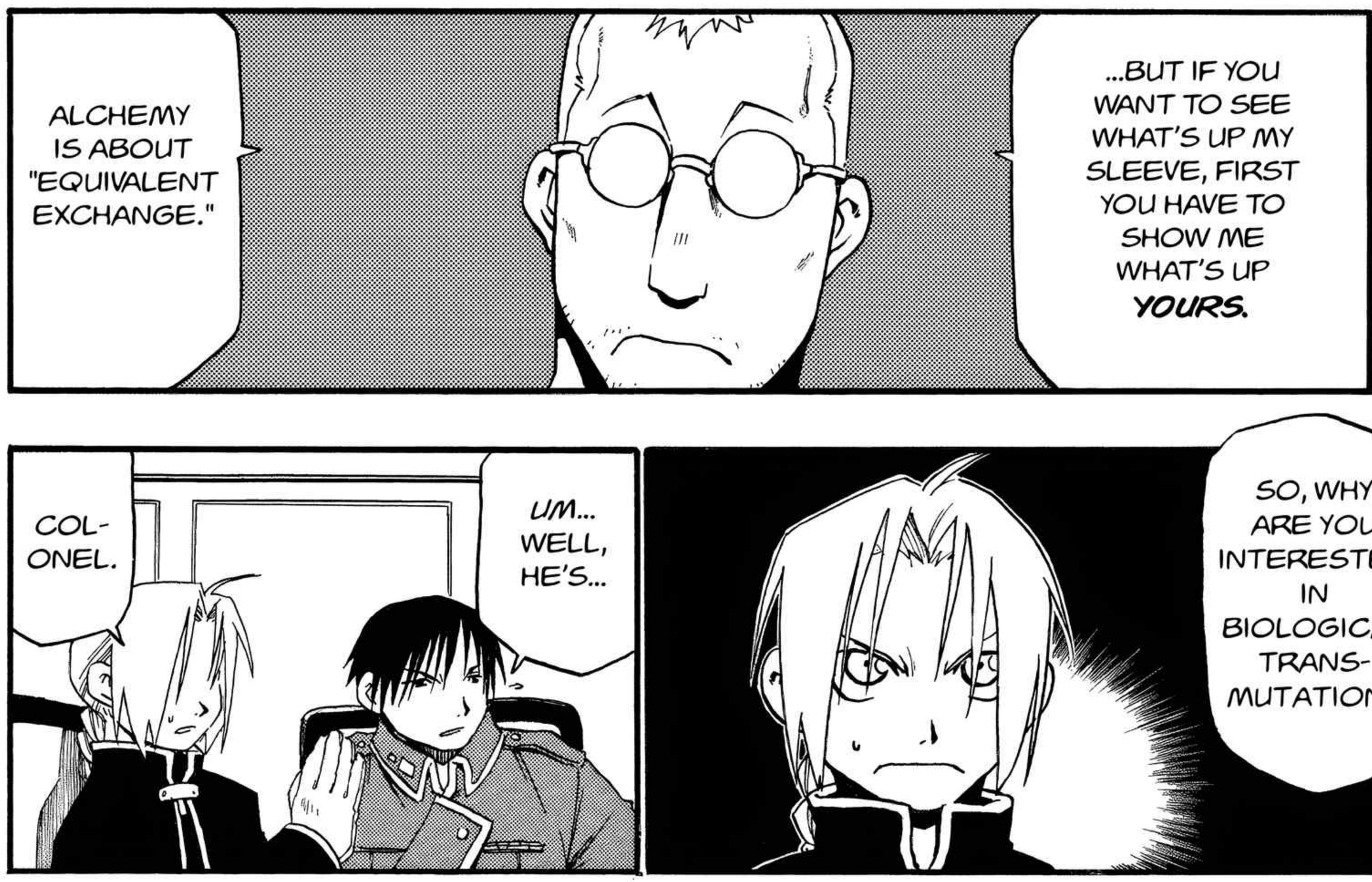


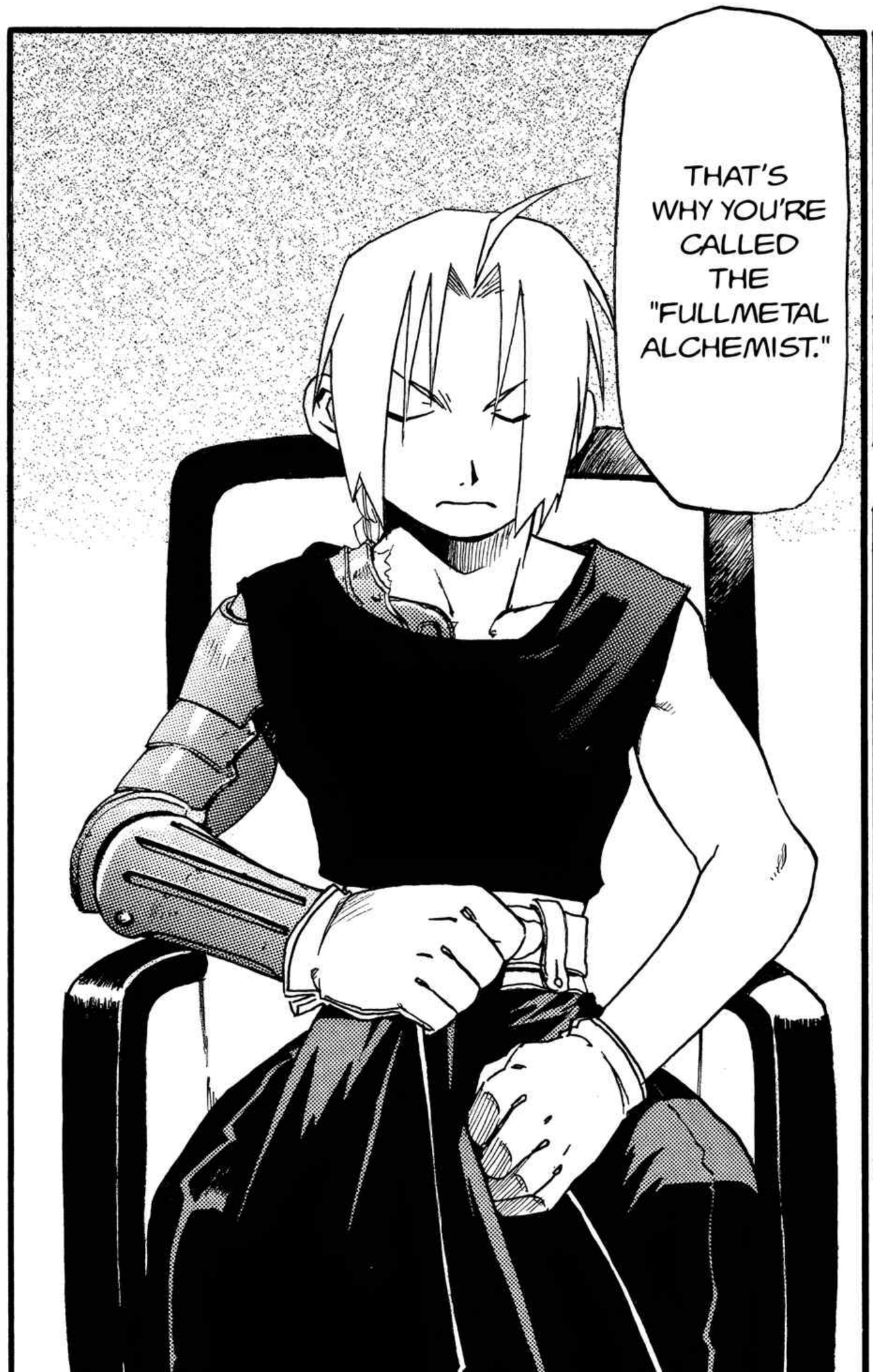


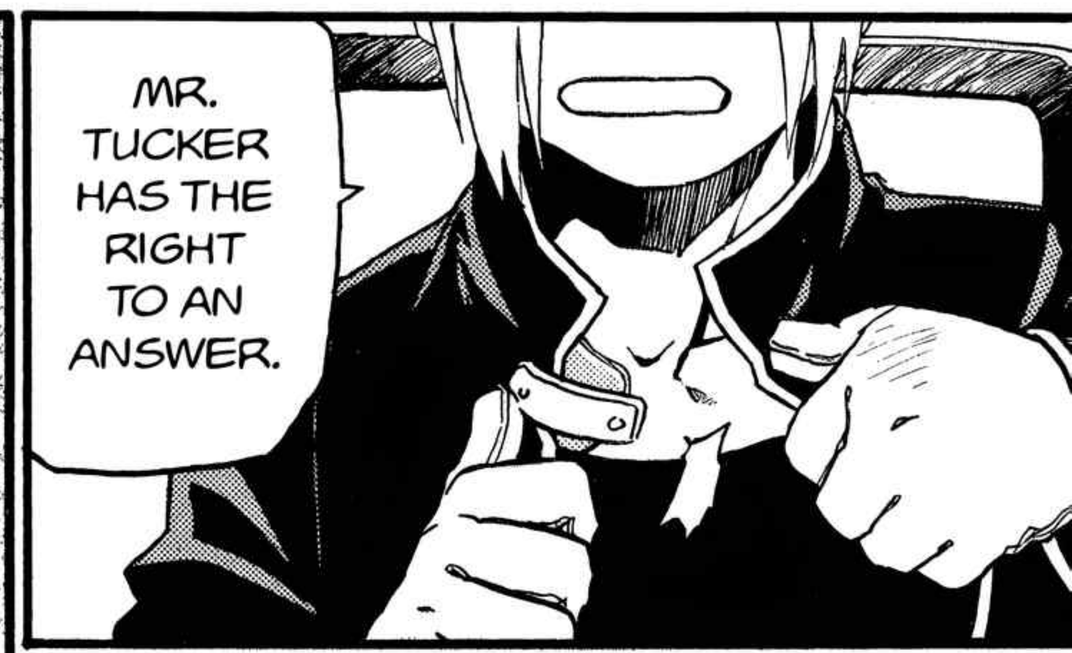
PANT
PANT
PANT
HEY, ALEXANDER. YOU STOP THAT...!
OWW OWW OWW...

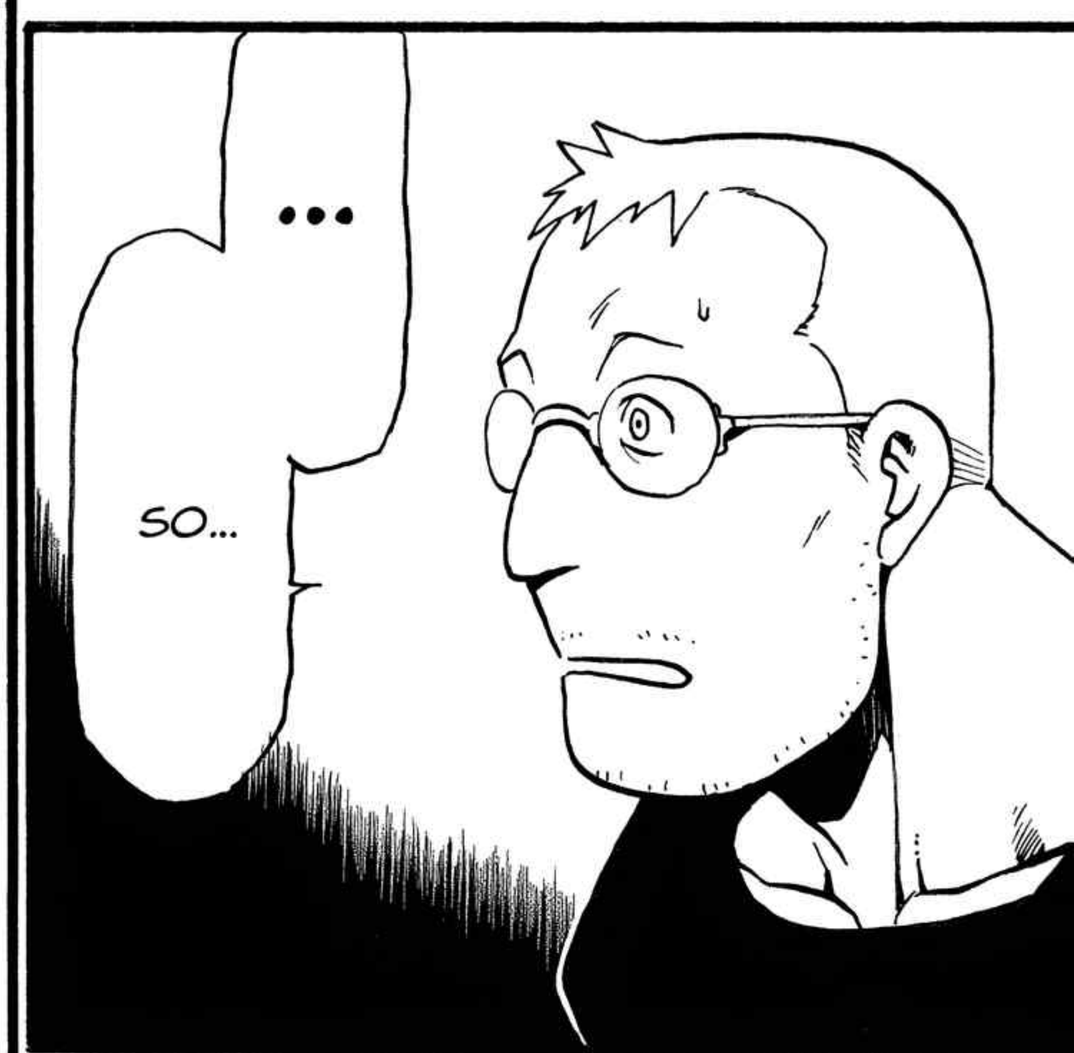


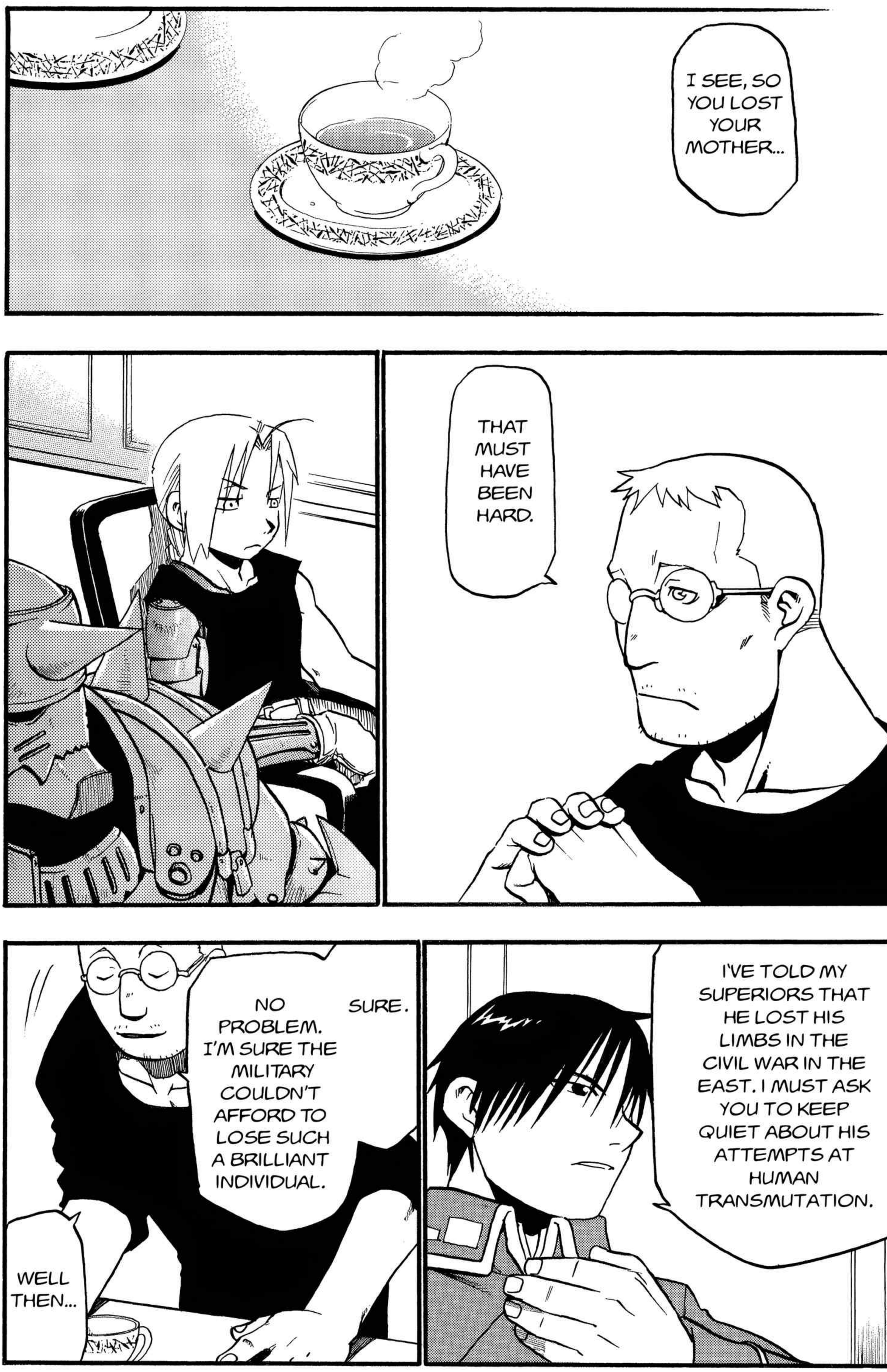


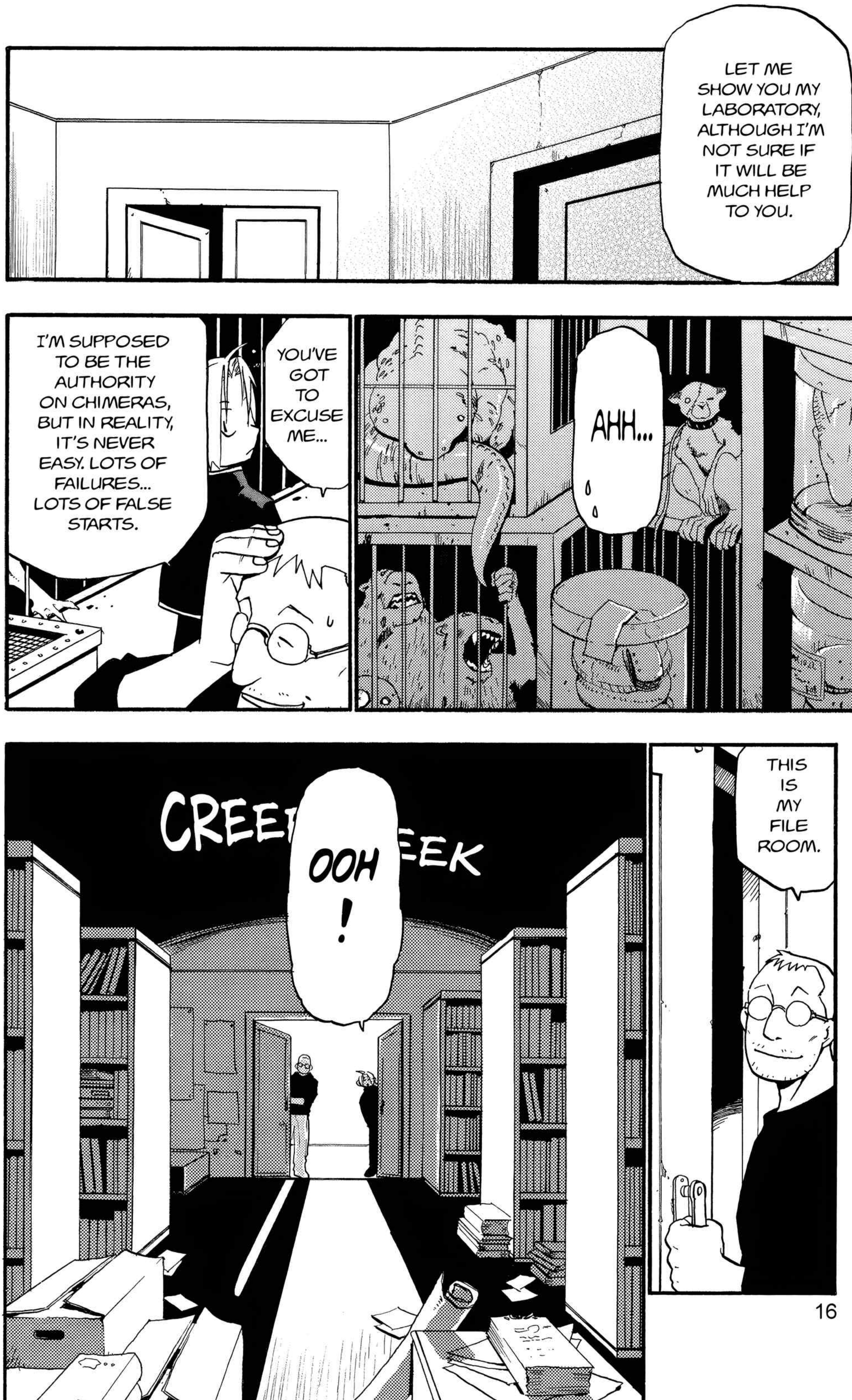

ALCHEMY IS ABOUT "EQUIVALENT EXCHANGE."
...BUT IF YOU WANT TO SEE WHAT'S UP MY SLEEVE, FIRST YOU HAVE TO SHOW ME WHAT'S UP YOURS.
COL-ONEL.
UM... WELL, HE'S...
SO, WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BIOLOGICAL TRANS-MUTATION?

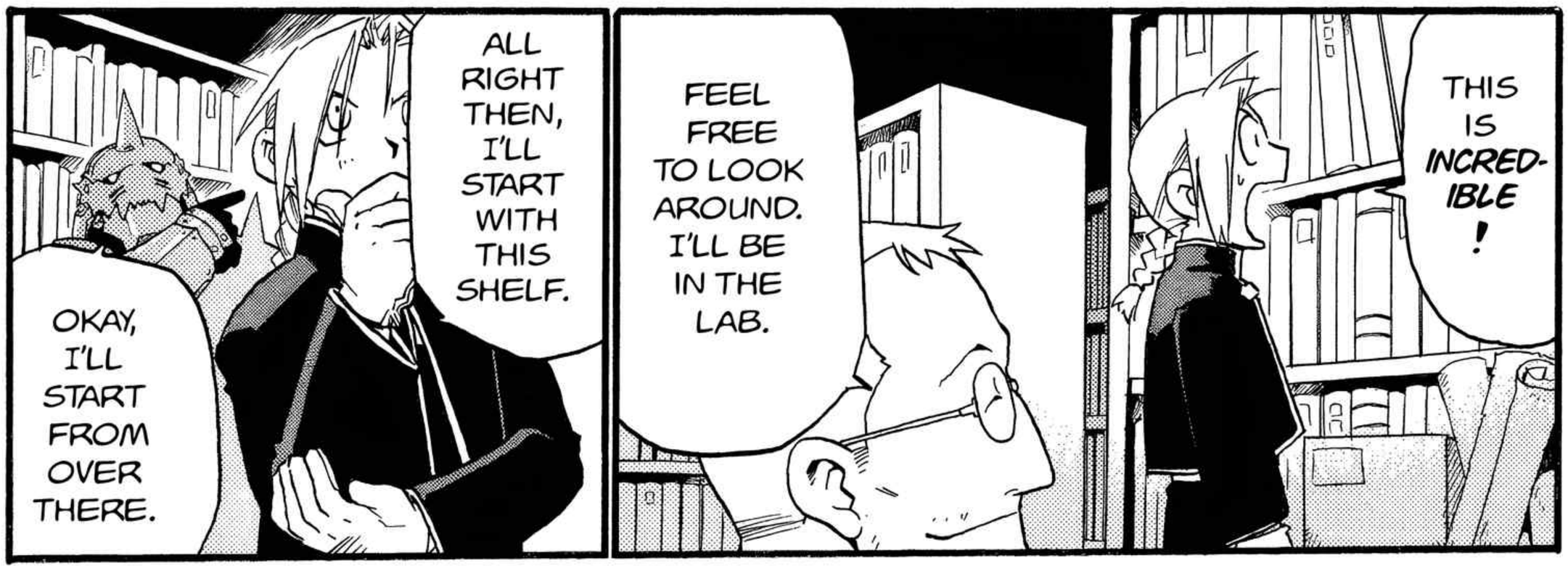

THAT'S WHY YOU'RE CALLED THE "FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST."

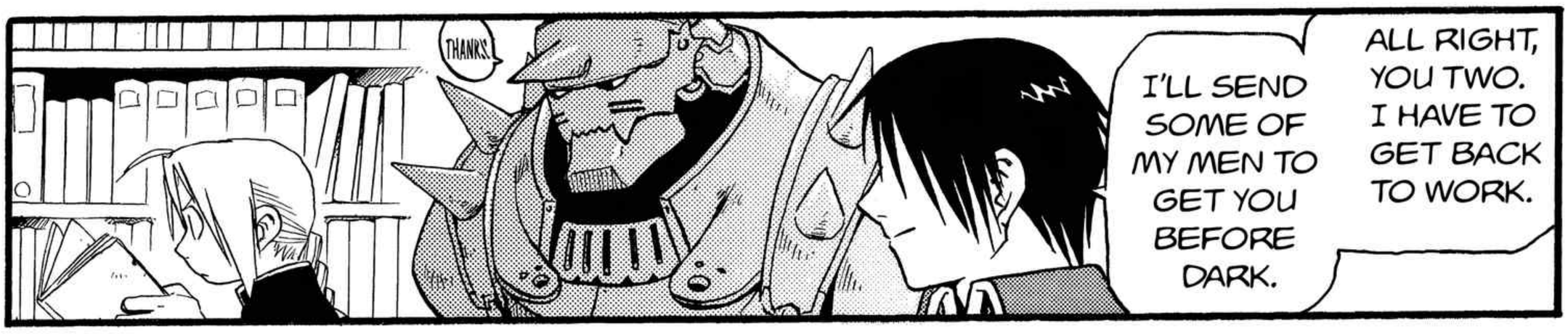

MR. TUCKER HAS THE RIGHT TO AN ANSWER.

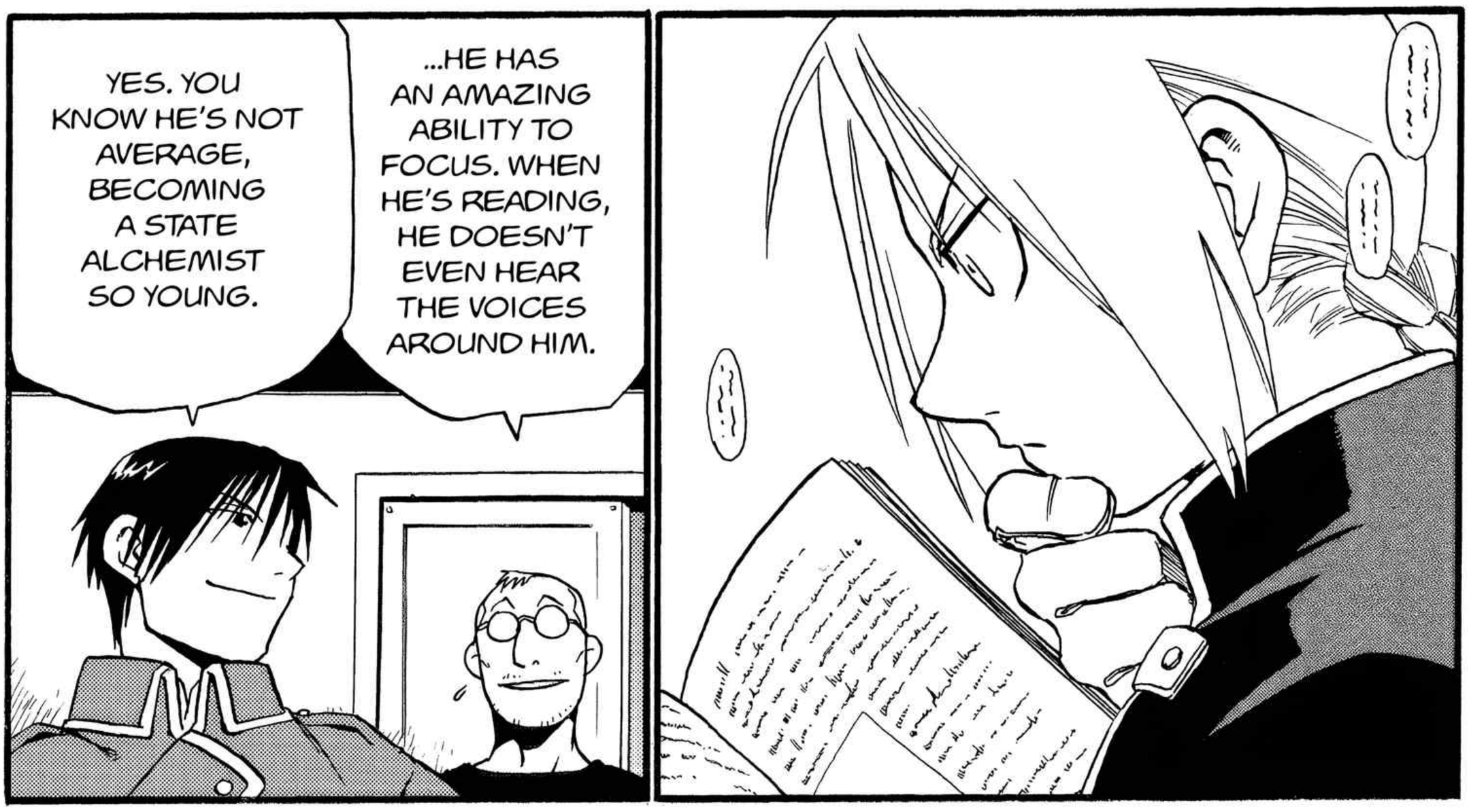

...
SO...

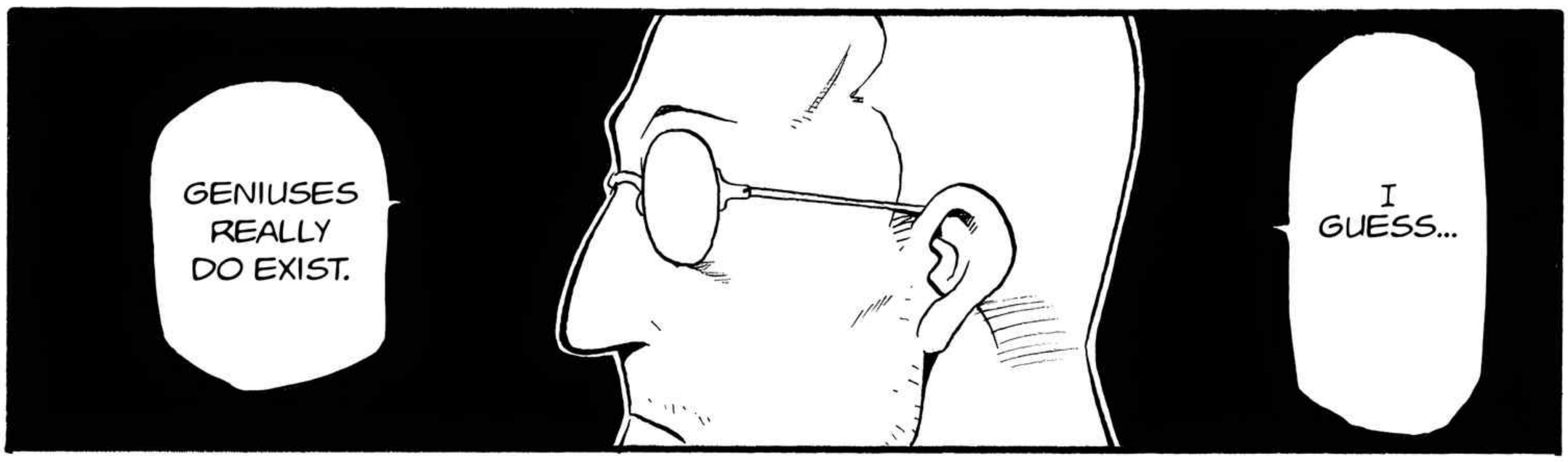

I SEE, SO YOU LOST YOUR MOTHER...
THAT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD.
SURE.
NO PROBLEM. I'M SURE THE MILITARY COULDN'T AFFORD TO LOSE SUCH A BRILLIANT INDIVIDUAL.
WELL THEN...
I'VE TOLD MY SUPERIORS THAT HE LOST HIS LIMBS IN THE CIVIL WAR IN THE EAST. I MUST ASK YOU TO KEEP QUIET ABOUT HIS ATTEMPTS AT HUMAN TRANSMUTATION.


LET ME SHOW YOU MY LABORATORY, ALTHOUGH I'M NOT SURE IF IT WILL BE MUCH HELP TO YOU.
I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THE AUTHORITY ON CHIMERAS, BUT IN REALITY, IT'S NEVER EASY. LOTS OF FAILURES... LOTS OF FALSE STARTS.
YOU'VE GOT TO EXCUSE ME...
AHH...
CREEK
OOH !
THIS IS MY FILE ROOM.

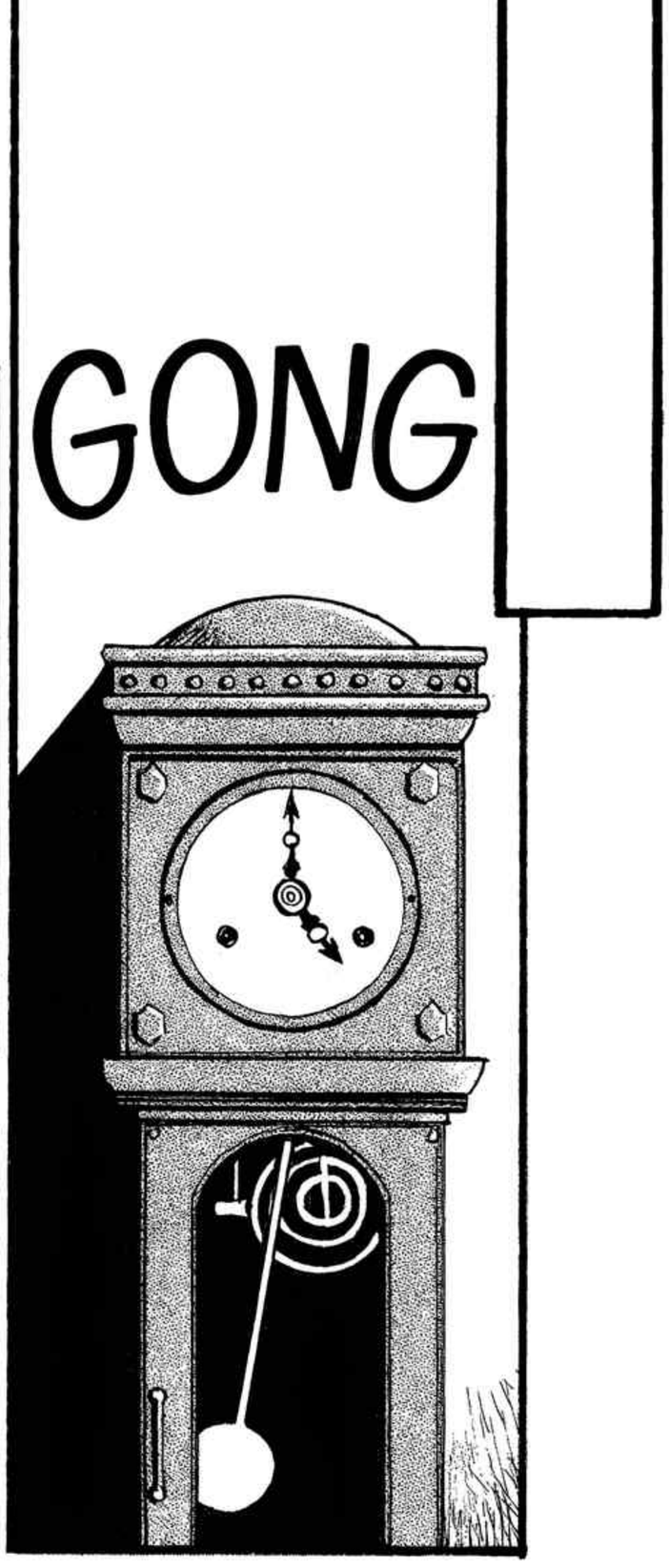

ALL RIGHT THEN, I'LL START WITH THIS SHELF.
OKAY, I'LL START FROM OVER THERE.
FEEL FREE TO LOOK AROUND. I'LL BE IN THE LAB.
THIS IS INCRED-IBLE!


THANKS!
I'LL SEND SOME OF MY MEN TO GET YOU BEFORE DARK.
ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO. I HAVE TO GET BACK TO WORK.

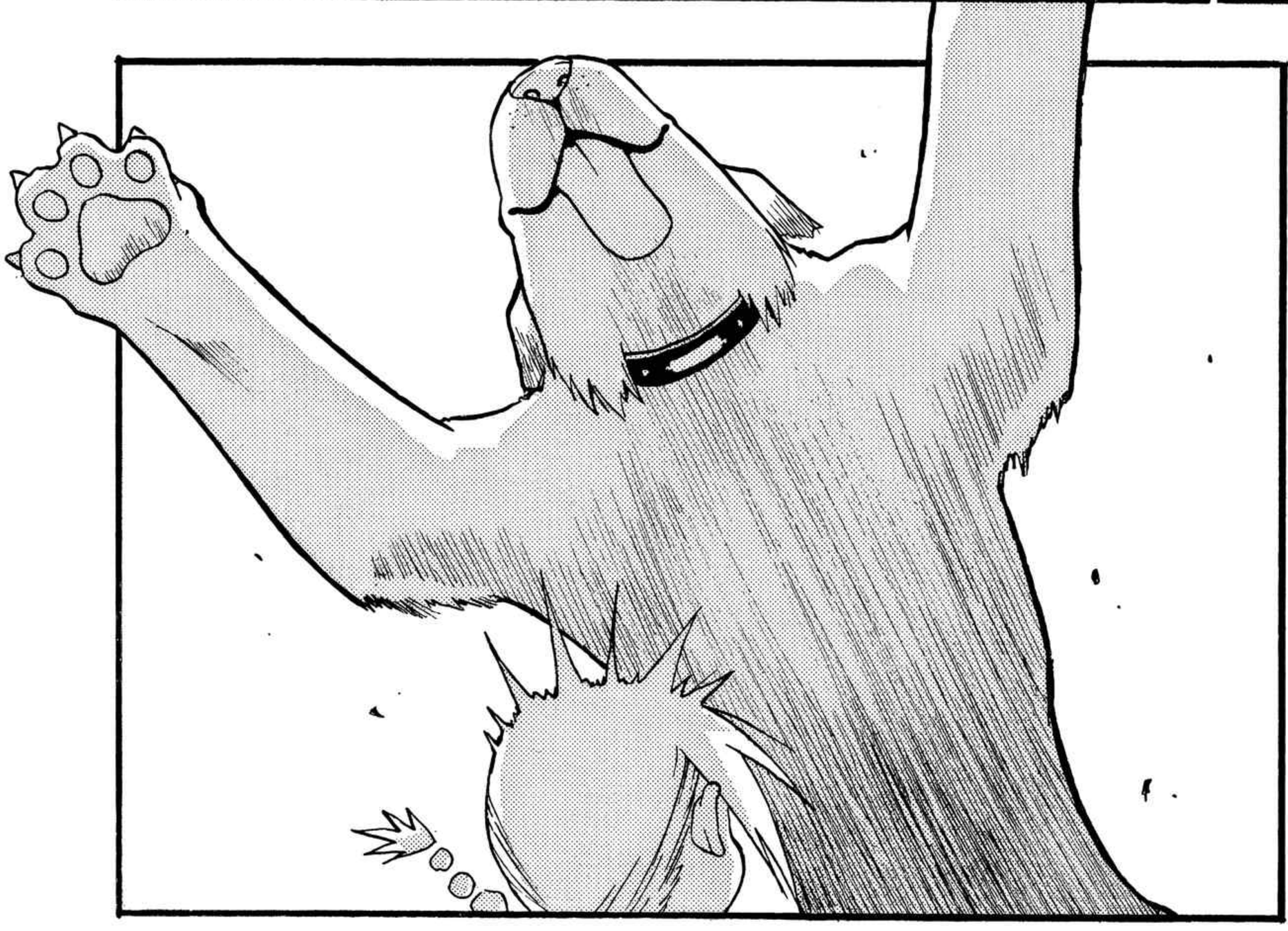

YES. YOU KNOW HE'S NOT AVERAGE, BECOMING A STATE ALCHEMIST SO YOUNG.
...HE HAS AN AMAZING ABILITY TO FOCUS. WHEN HE'S READING, HE DOESN'T EVEN HEAR THE VOICES AROUND HIM.


GENIUSES REALLY DO EXIST.
I GUESS...

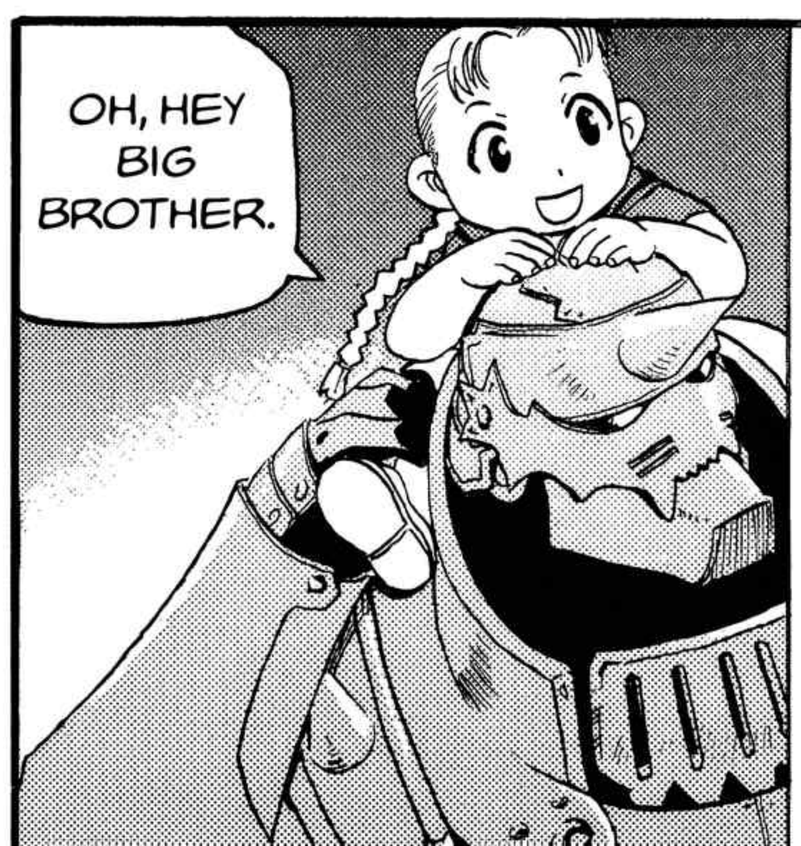
I DIDN'T REALIZE THE TIME...
GONG
GONG
AGH!
UH-OH.


GONG

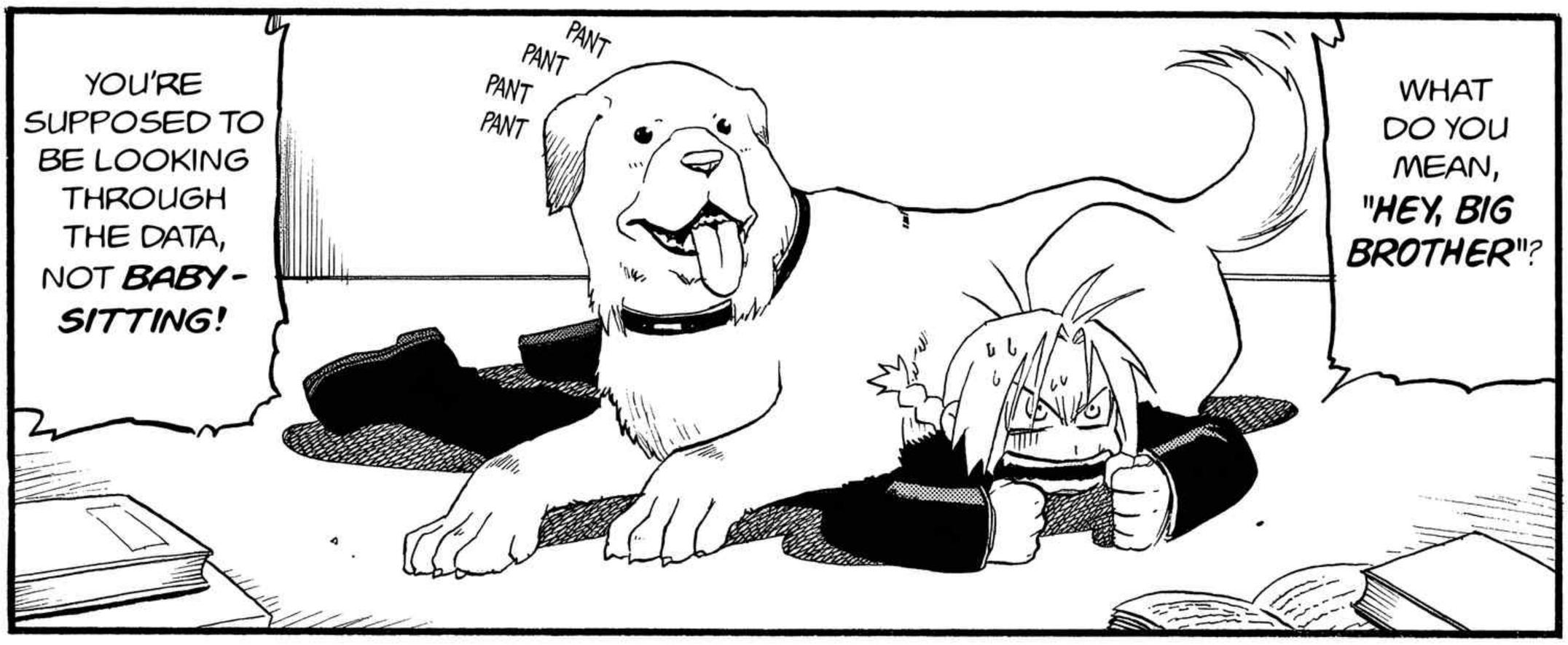
ALPHONSE! WHERE ARE YOU?
GONG
GONG
AL!

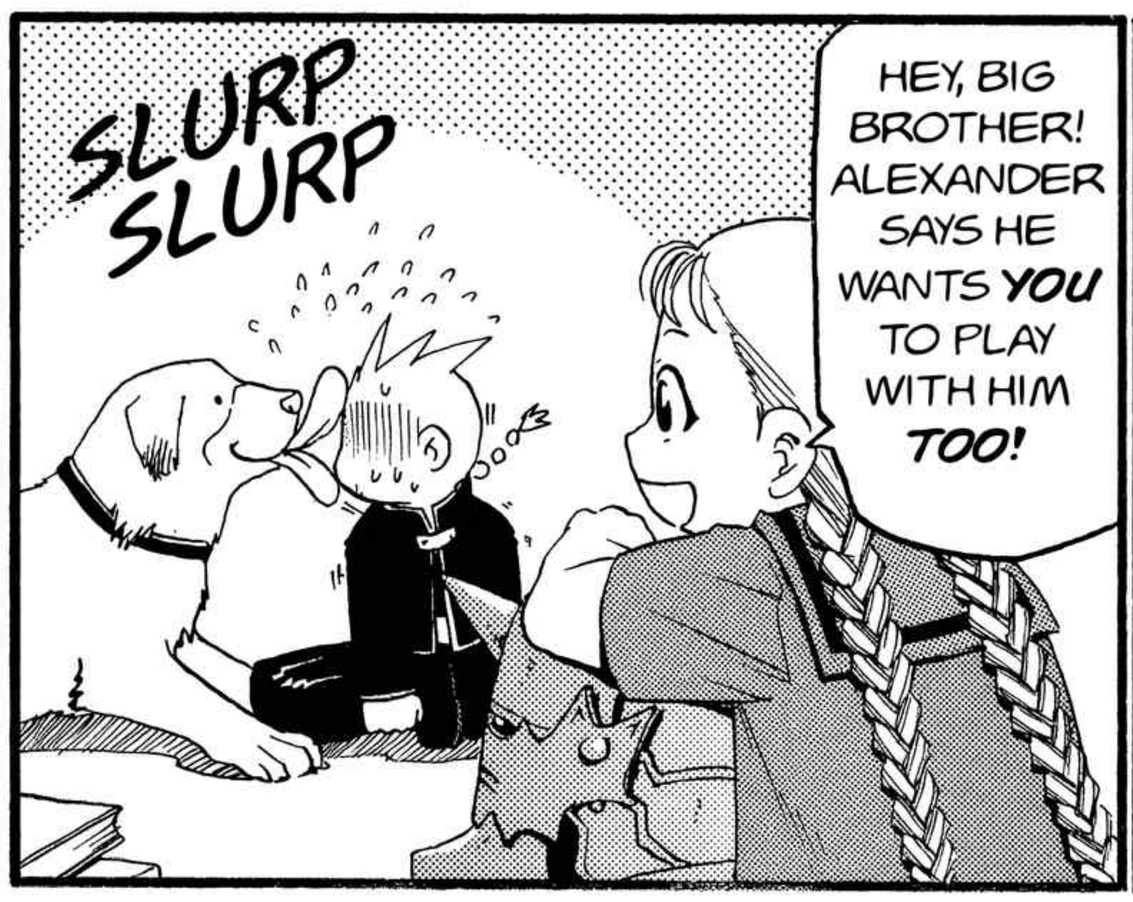


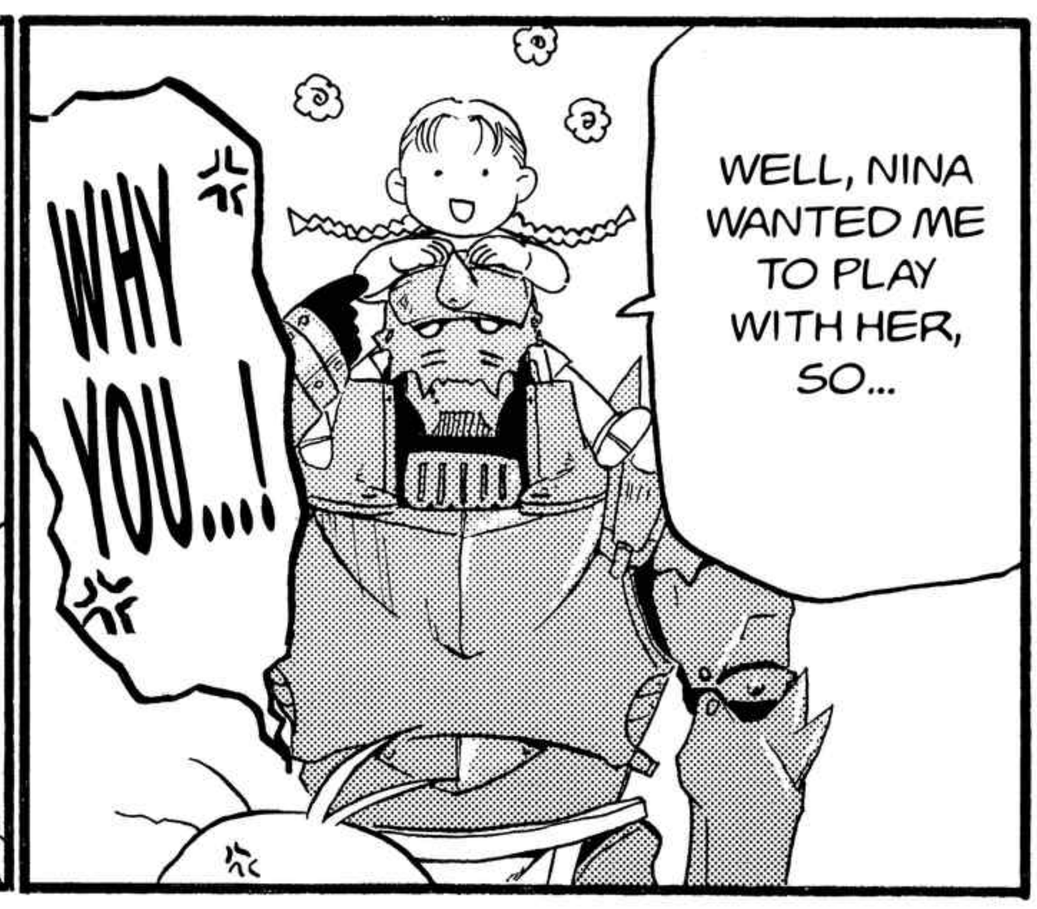
I WONDER WHERE HE WENT...

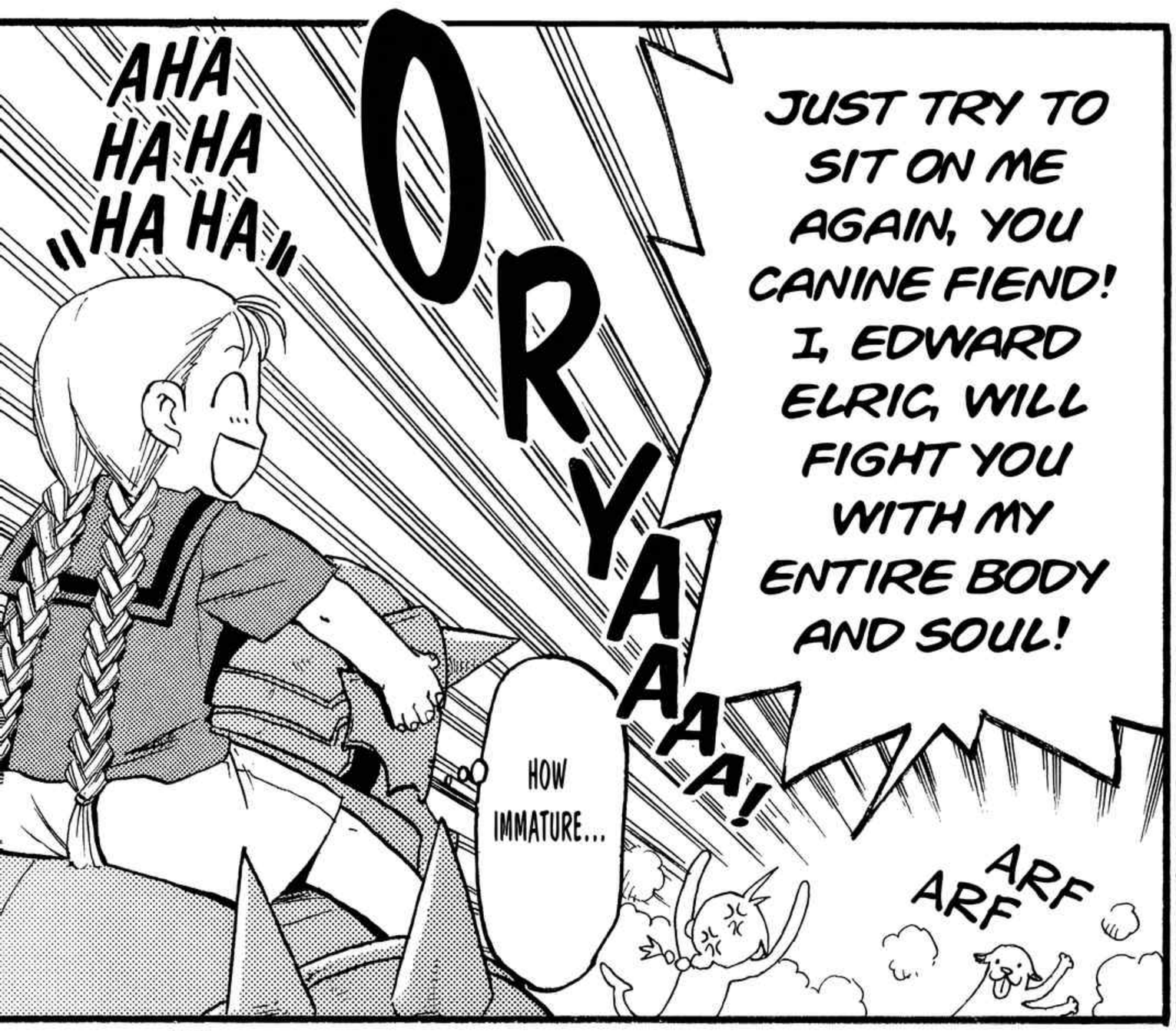

OH, HEY BIG BROTHER.

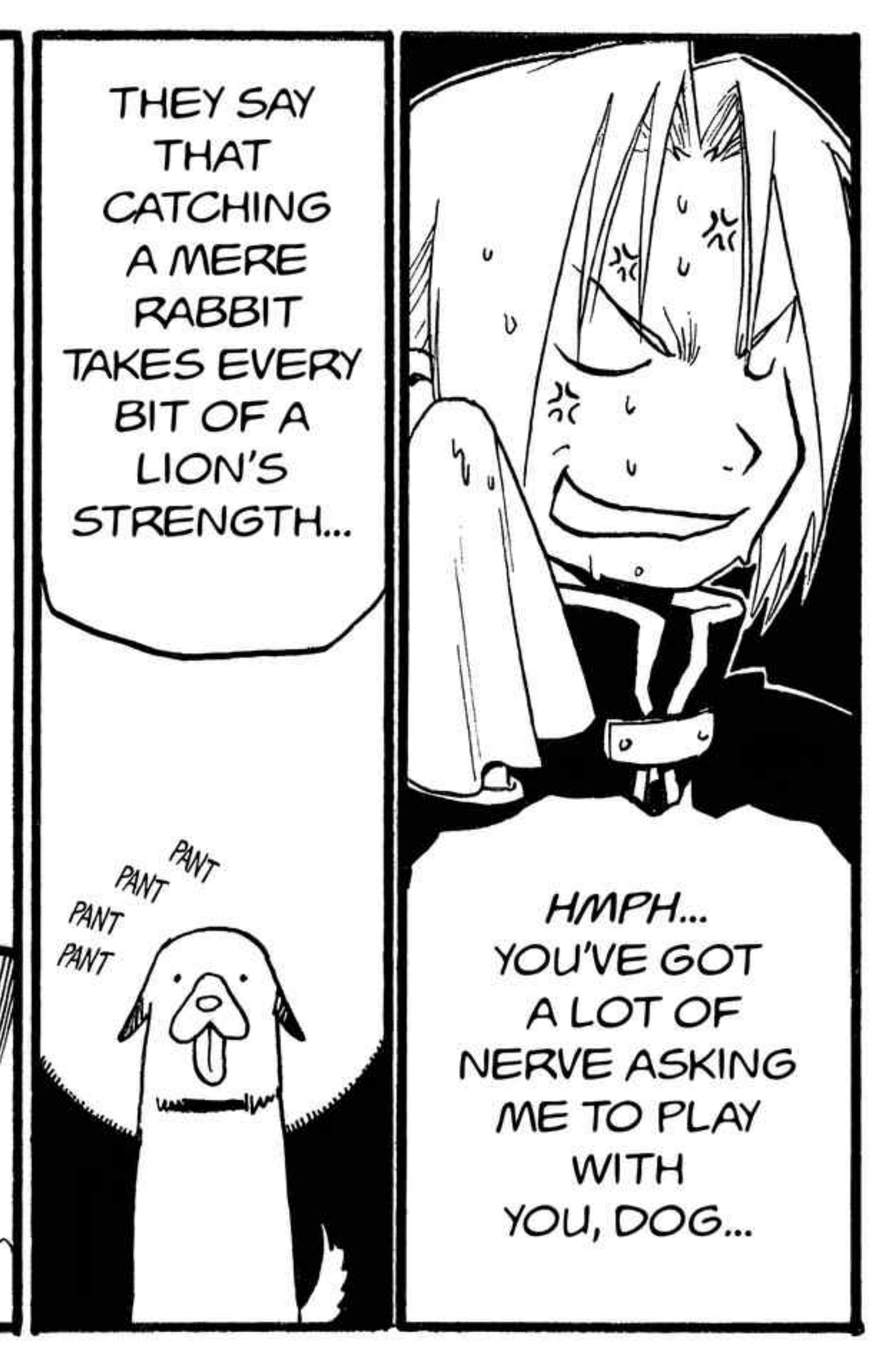
GYAAAAGGH!

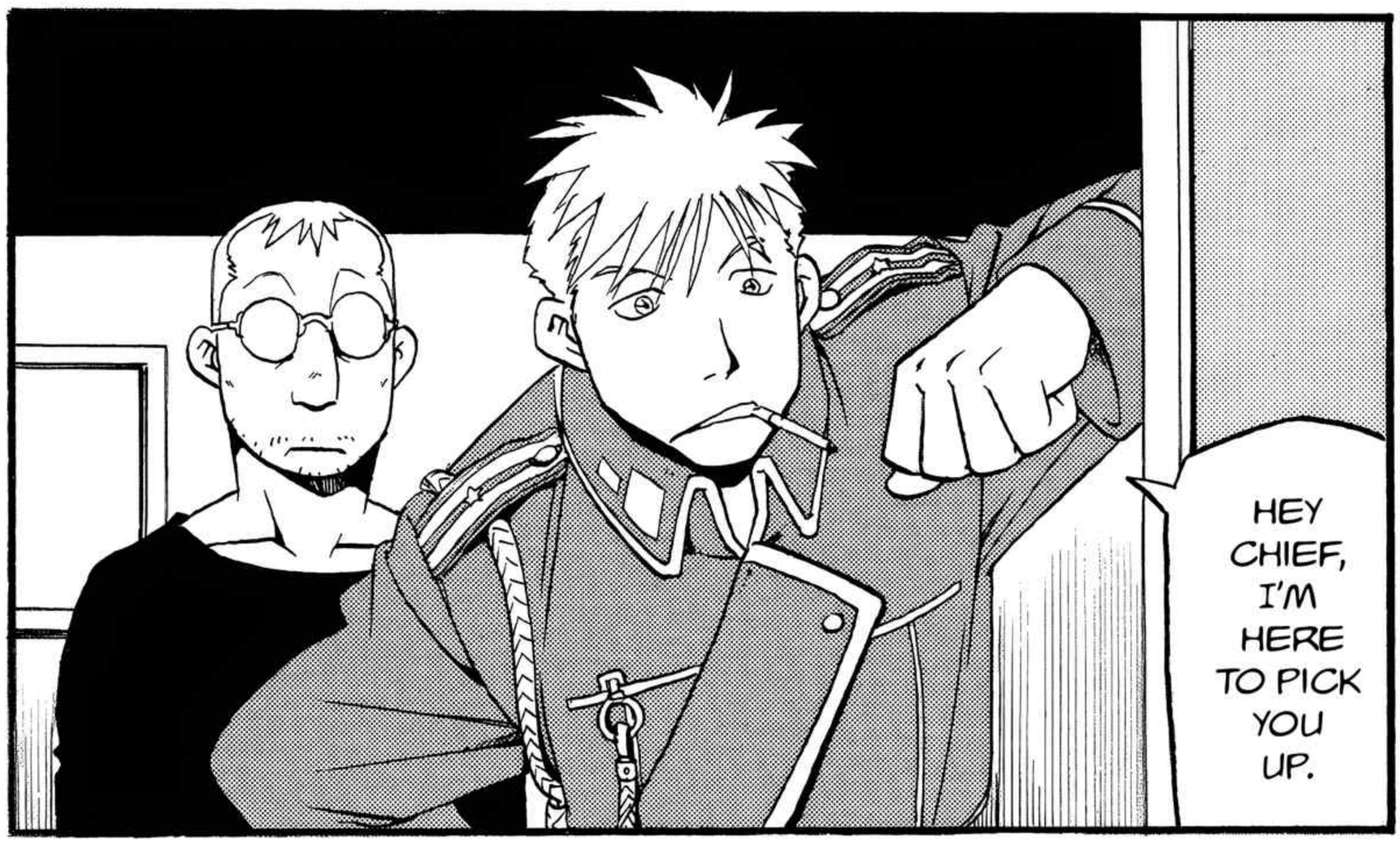

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE LOOKING THROUGH THE DATA, NOT BABY-SITTING!
PANT PANT PANT PANT
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "HEY, BIG BROTHER"?


SLURP SLURP
HEY, BIG BROTHER! ALEXANDER SAYS HE WANTS YOU TO PLAY WITH HIM TOO!

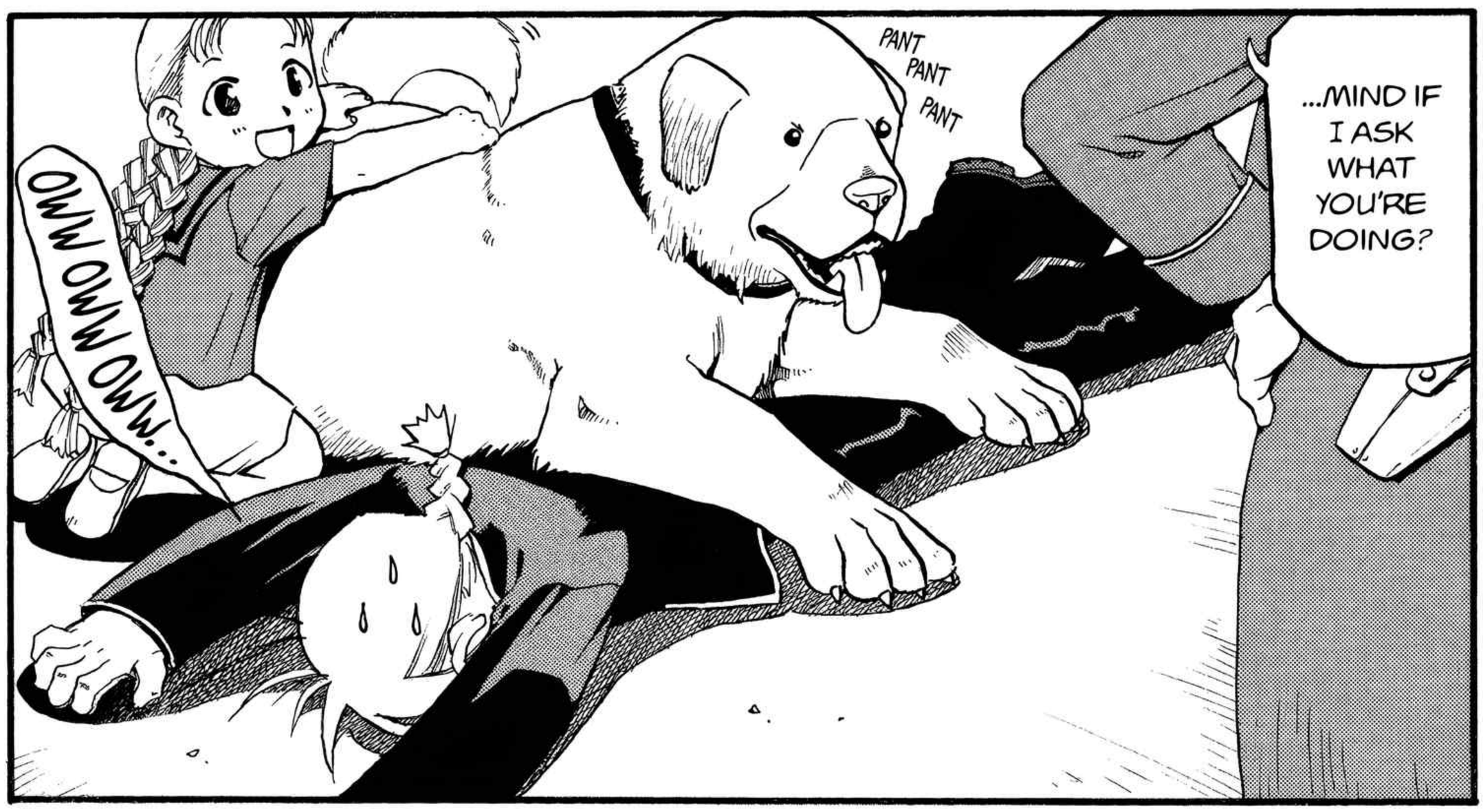

WHY YOU...!
WELL, NINA WANTED ME TO PLAY WITH HER, SO...

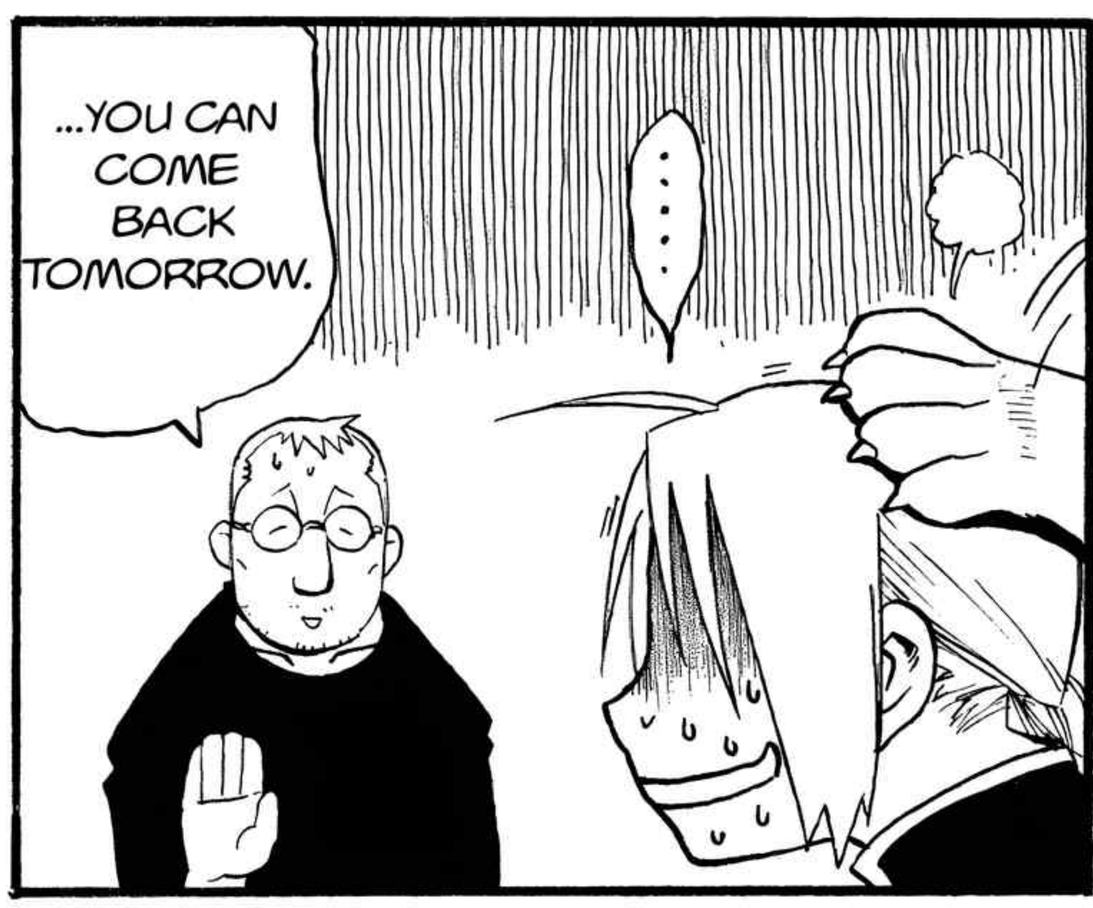

AHA HA HA HA HA
OR
KYAAAA!
JUST TRY TO SIT ON ME AGAIN, YOU CANINE FIEND! I, EDWARD ELRIC, WILL FIGHT YOU WITH MY ENTIRE BODY AND SOUL!
HOW IMMATURE...
ARF ARF ARF

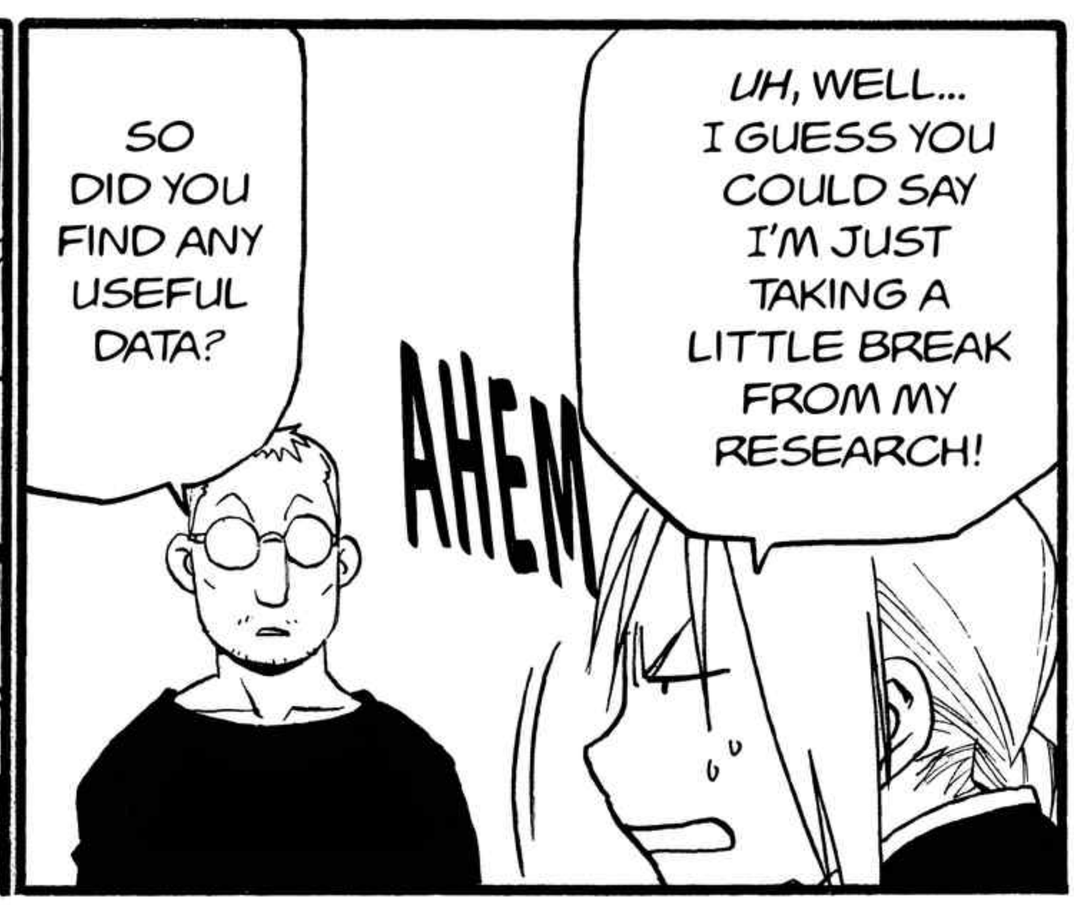

THEY SAY THAT CATCHING A MERE RABBIT TAKES EVERY BIT OF A LION'S STRENGTH...
PANT PANT PANT PANT
HMPH... YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE ASKING ME TO PLAY WITH YOU, DOG...

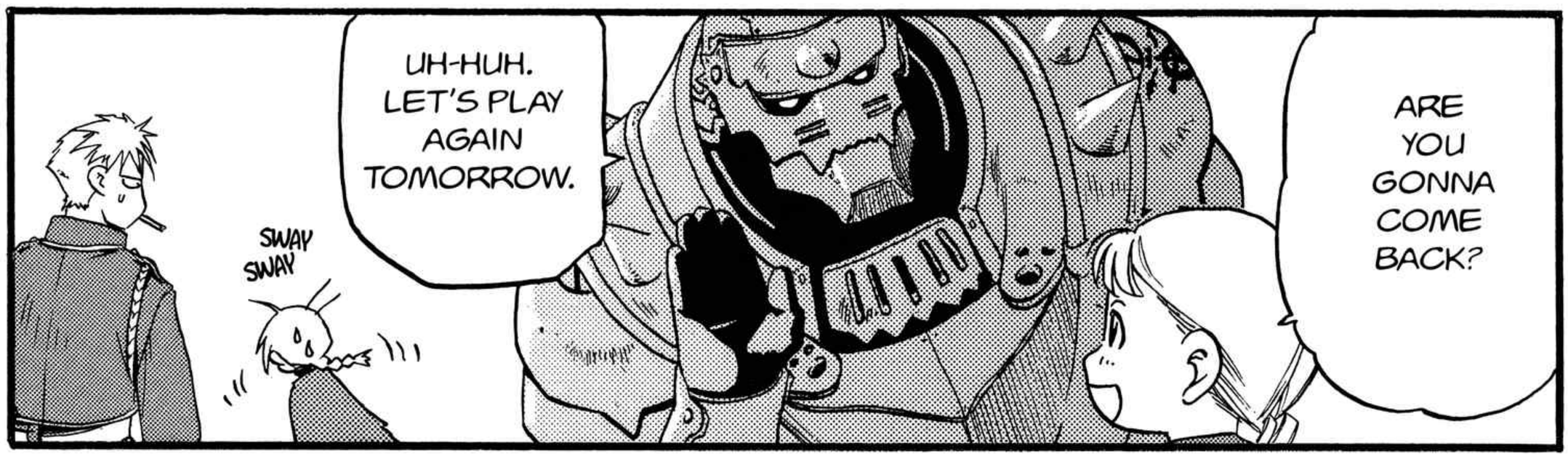

HEY CHIEF, I'M HERE TO PICK YOU UP.

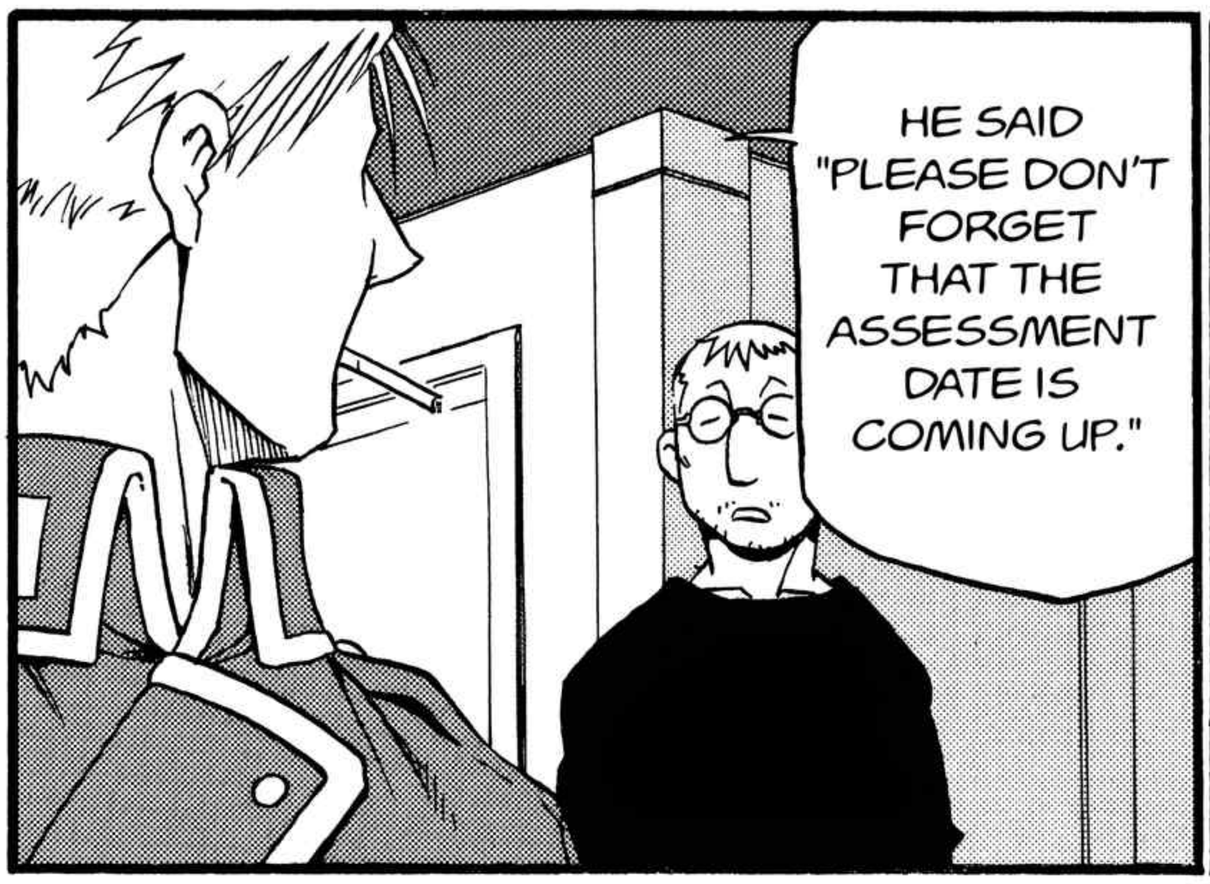
CAAW
CAAW

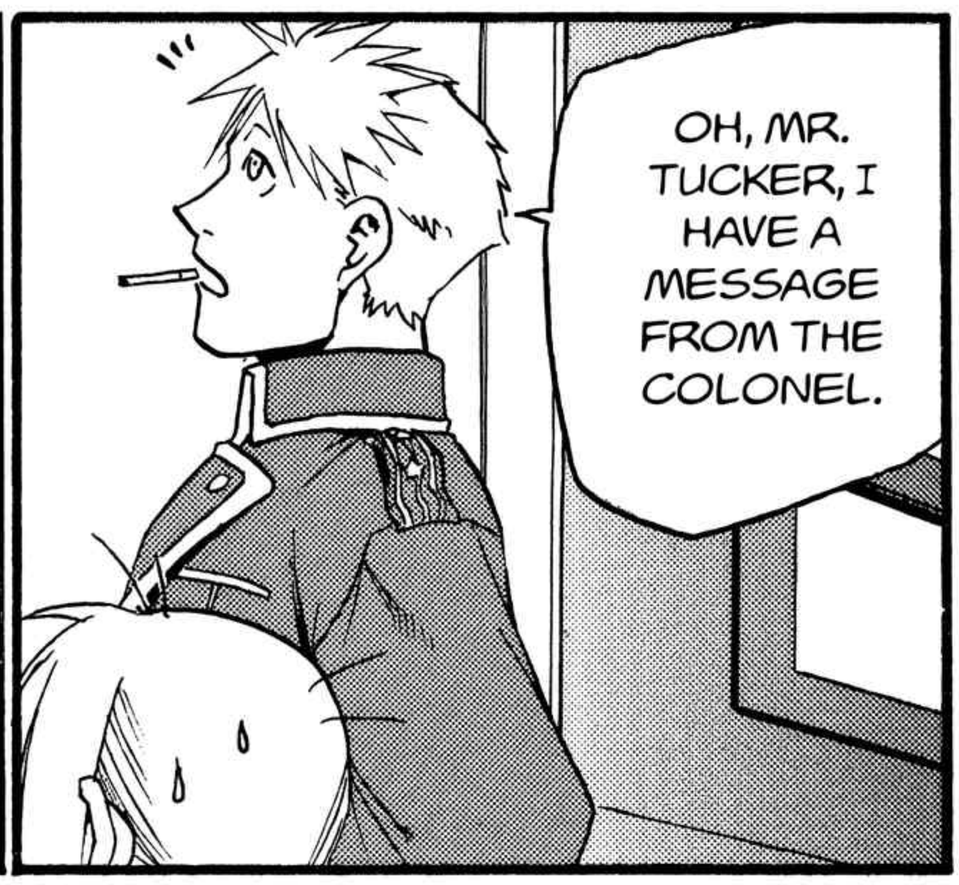

PANT PANT PANT
...MIND IF I ASK WHAT YOU'RE DOING?
OWW OWW OWW...

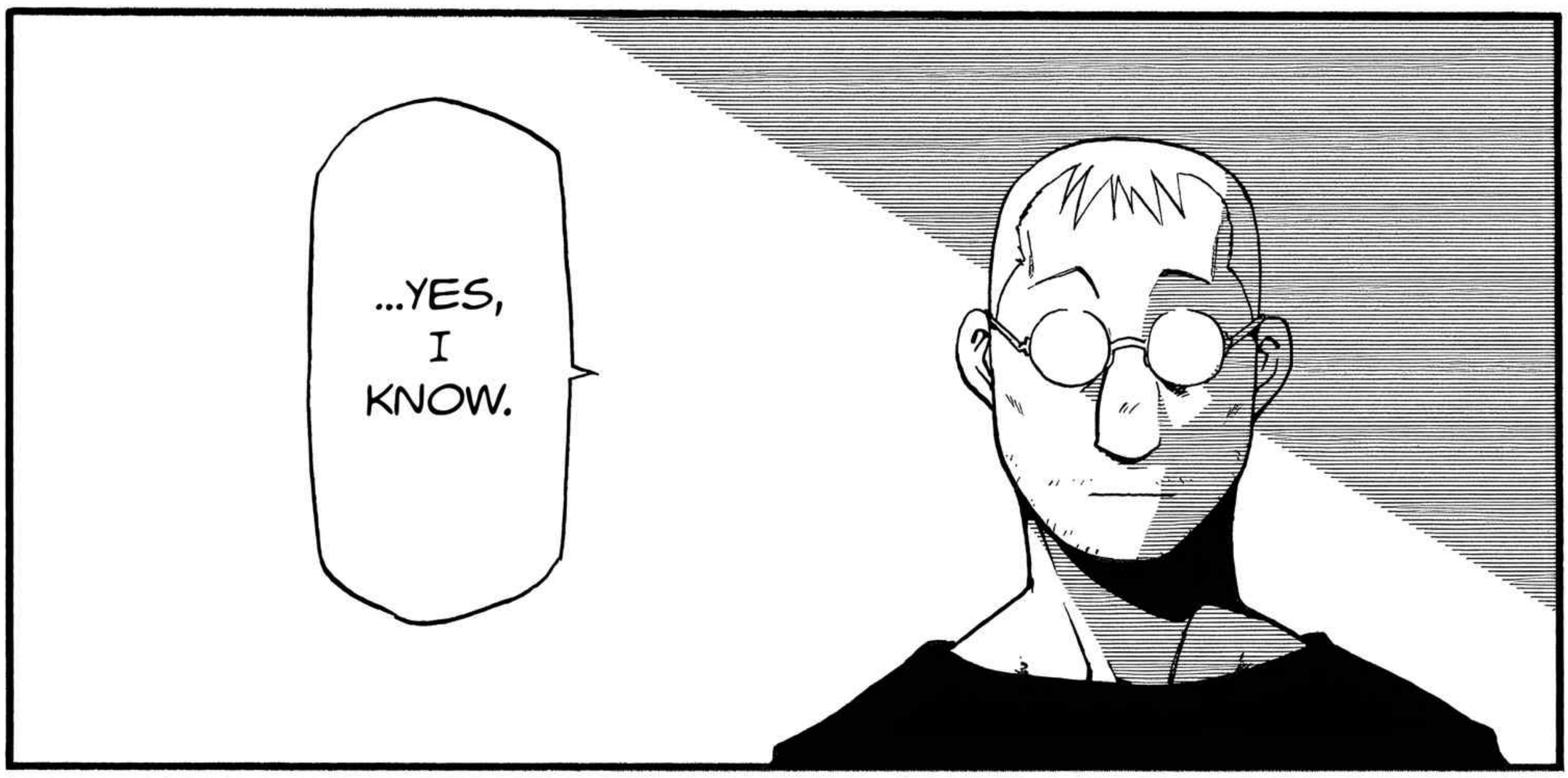

...YOU CAN COME BACK TOMORROW.

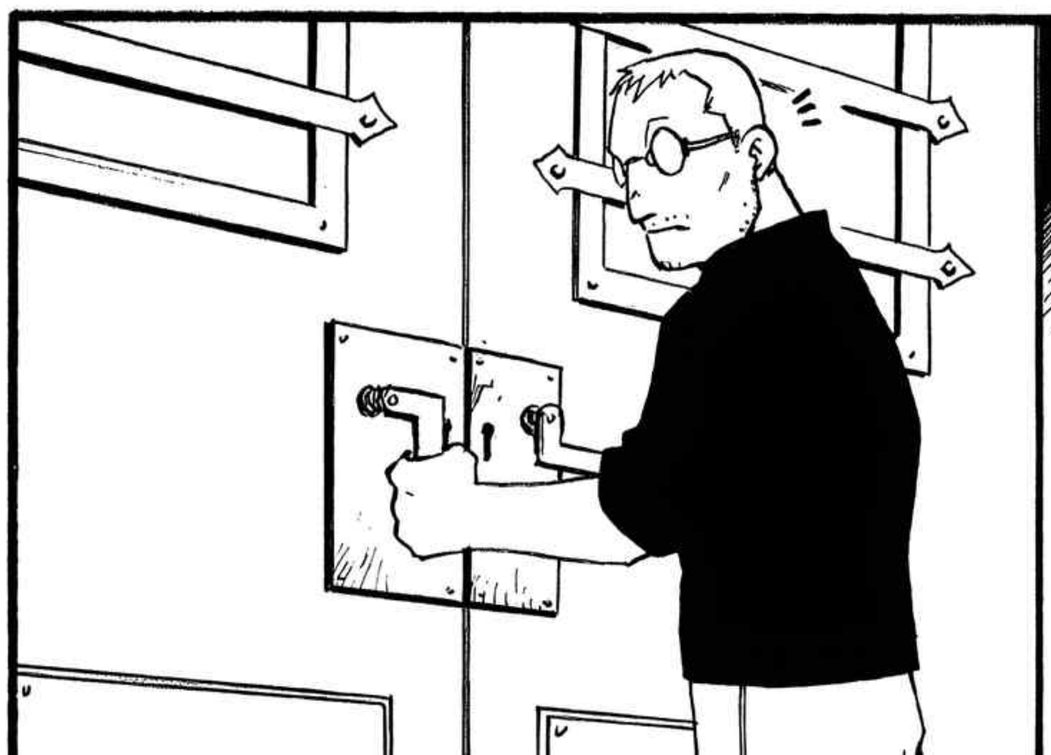

SO DID YOU FIND ANY USEFUL DATA?
AHEM
UH, WELL... I GUESS YOU COULD SAY I'M JUST TAKING A LITTLE BREAK FROM MY RESEARCH!

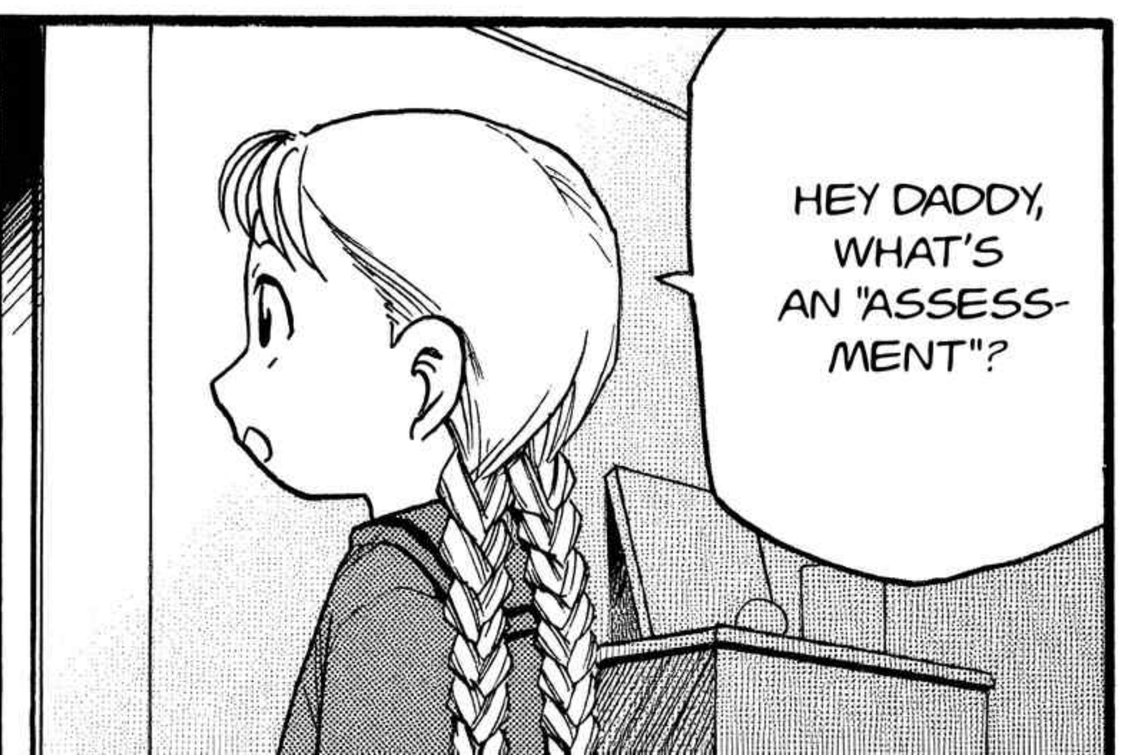

UH-HUH. LET'S PLAY AGAIN TOMORROW.
SWAY SWAY
ARE YOU GONNA COME BACK?

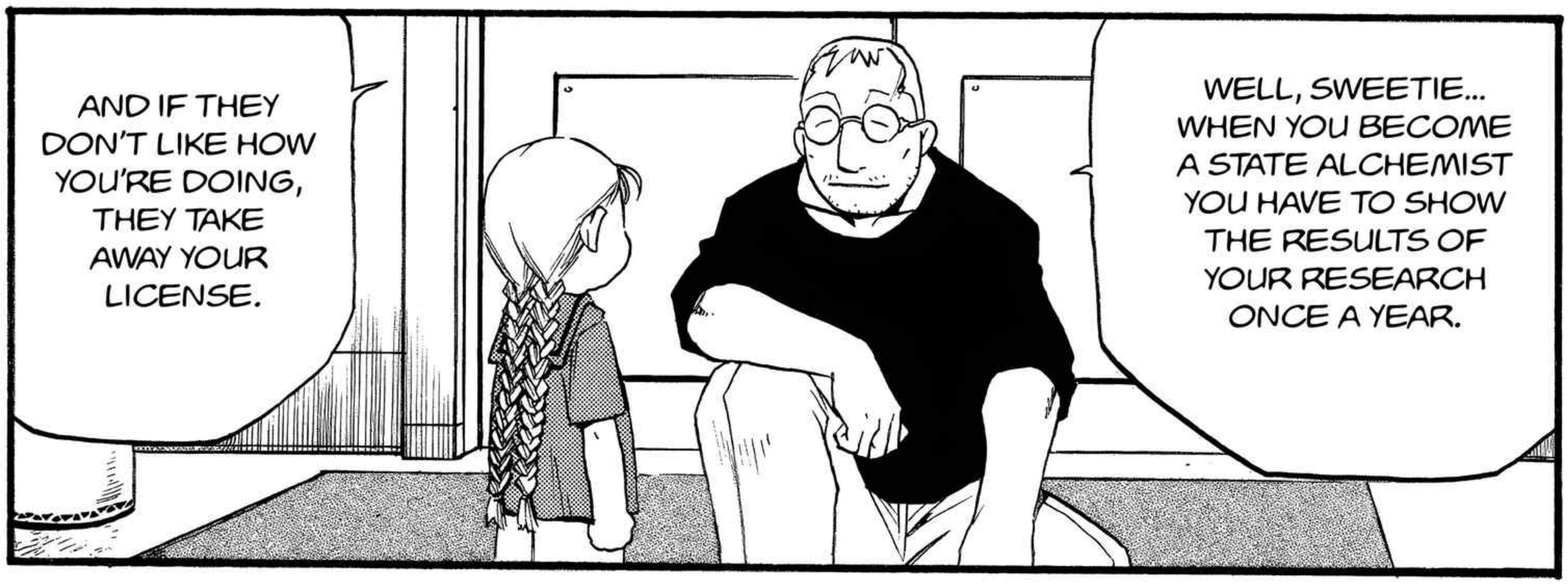

HE SAID "PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT THE ASSESSMENT DATE IS COMING UP."


OH, MR. TUCKER, I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM THE COLONEL.

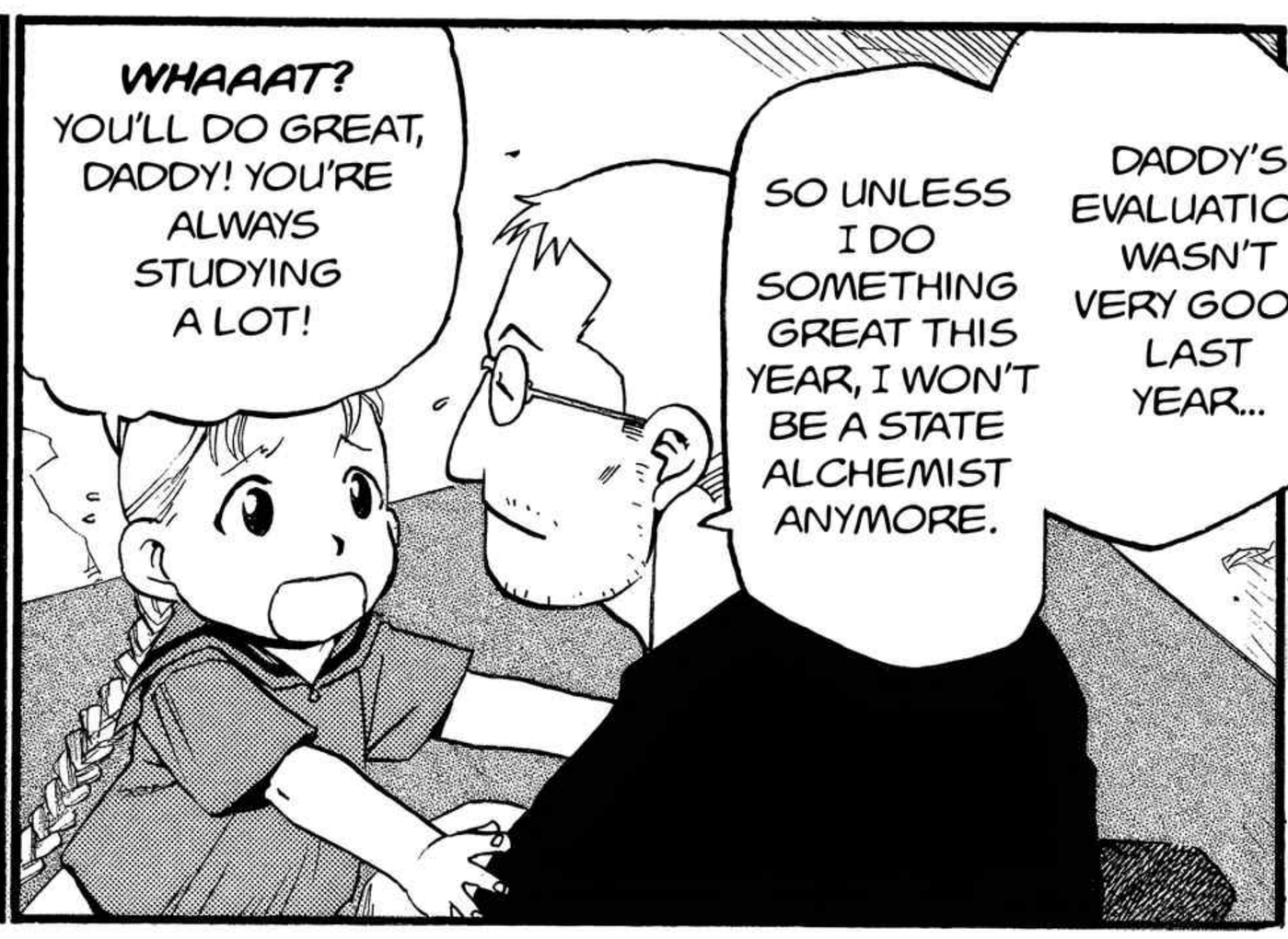

...YES, I KNOW.

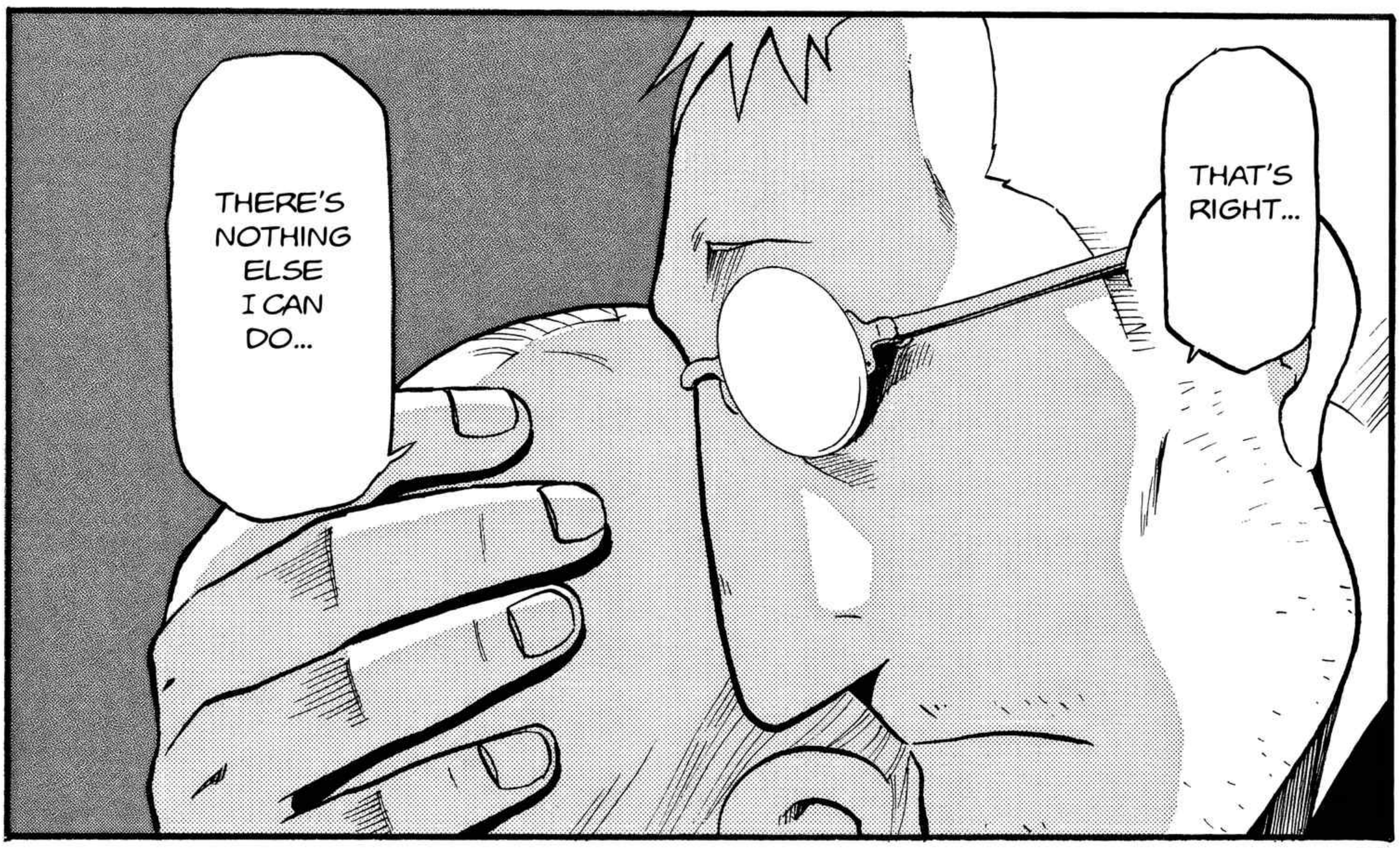



HEY DADDY, WHAT'S AN "ASSESS-MENT"?

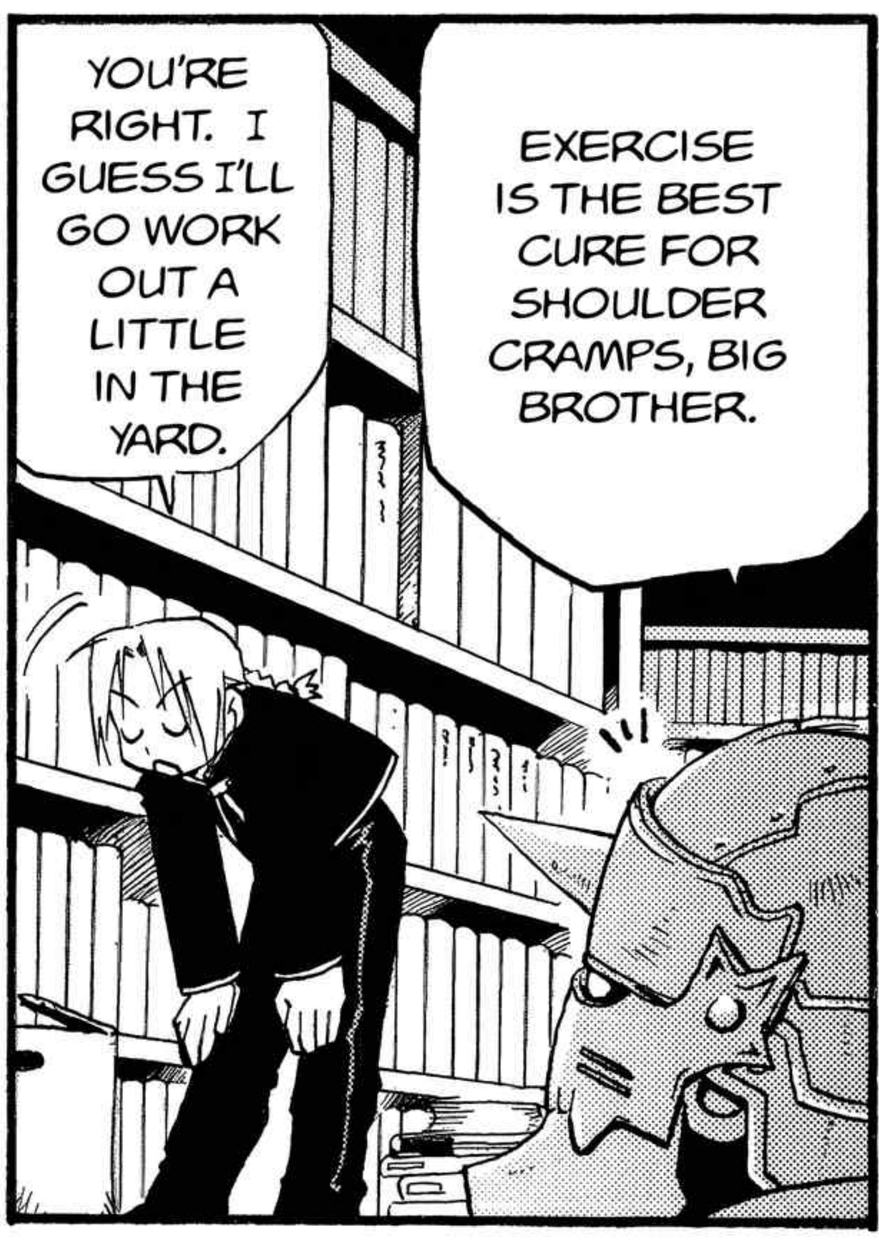

AND IF THEY DON'T LIKE HOW YOU'RE DOING, THEY TAKE AWAY YOUR LICENSE.
WELL, SWEETIE... WHEN YOU BECOME A STATE ALCHEMIST YOU HAVE TO SHOW THE RESULTS OF YOUR RESEARCH ONCE A YEAR.

I KNOW, SWEETIE. BUT IF THEY DON'T LIKE ME, THERE'S NOTHING ELSE LEFT THAT I CAN DO...

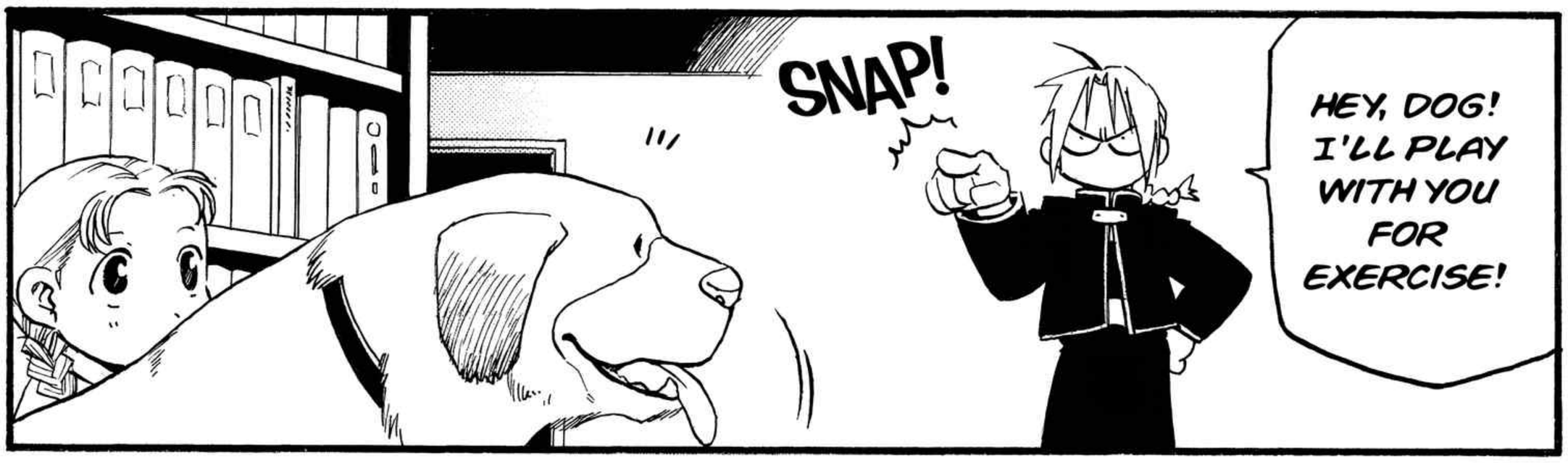

WHAAAT? YOU'LL DO GREAT, DADDY! YOU'RE ALWAYS STUDYING A LOT!
SO UNLESS I DO SOMETHING GREAT THIS YEAR, I WON'T BE A STATE ALCHEMIST ANYMORE.
DADDY'S EVALUATION WASN'T VERY GOOD LAST YEAR...

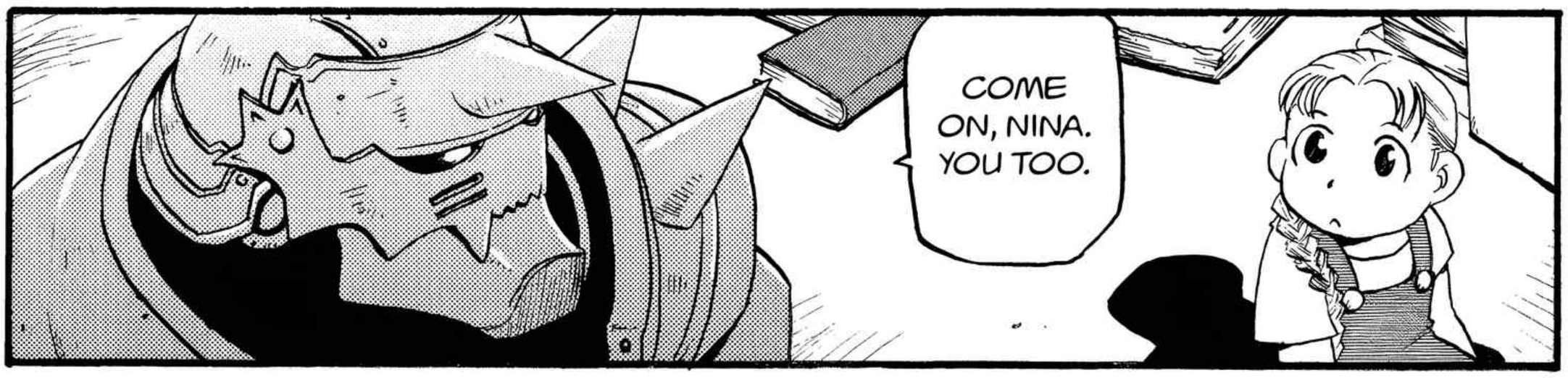

THERE'S NOTHING ELSE I CAN DO...
THAT'S RIGHT...

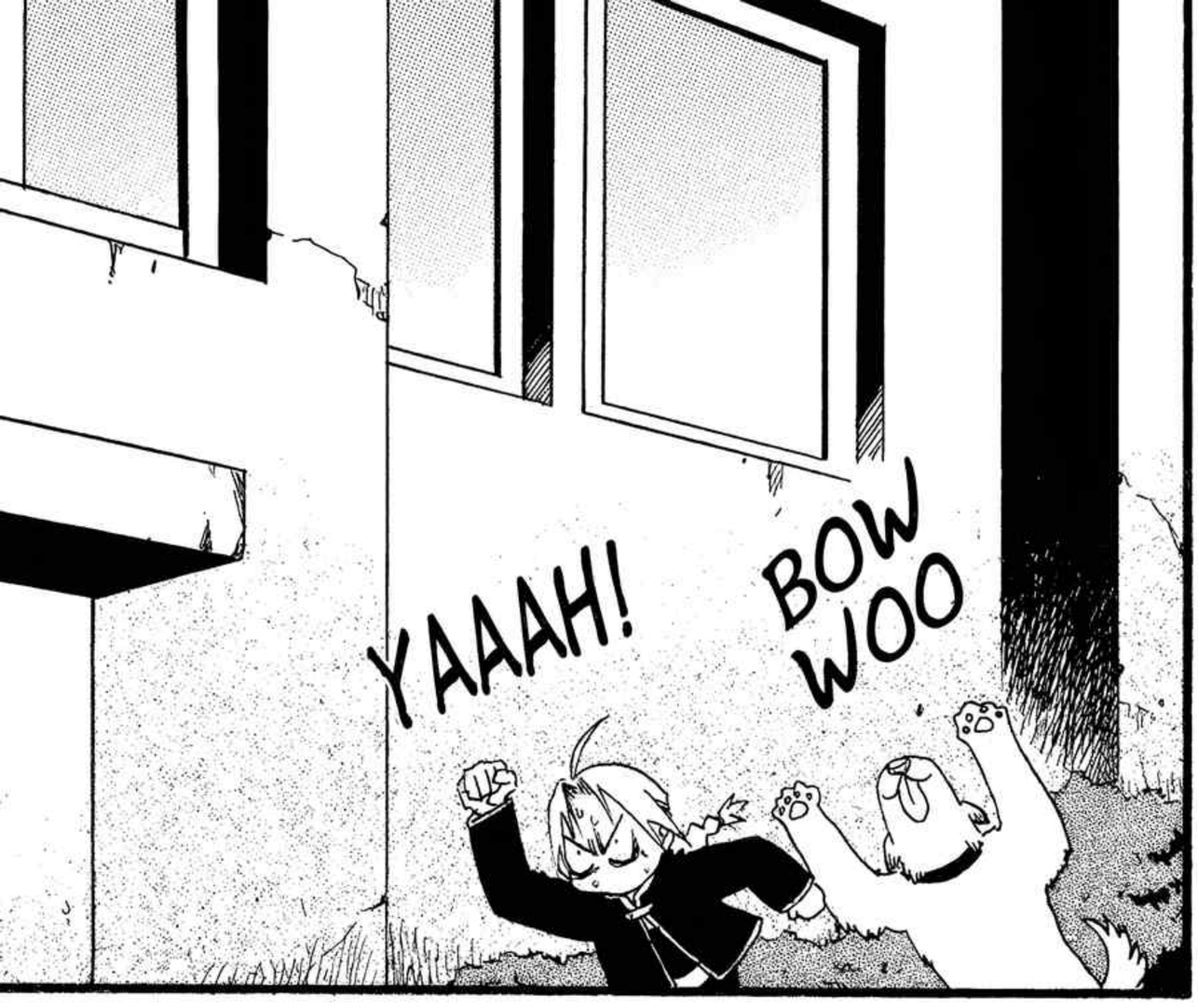
HMM... SO YOUR MOM LEFT TWO YEARS AGO...
REALLY? IT MUST BE LONELY LIVING IN A BIG HOUSE LIKE THIS WITH JUST THE TWO OF YOU.
UH-HUH. DADDY SAID SHE WENT BACK TO HER PARENTS' HOUSE.
LATELY DADDY'S ALWAYS IN HIS LABORATORY WITH THE DOOR LOCKED... SO IT'S A LITTLE LONELY.
DADDY'S NICE TO ME, AND I HAVE ALEXANDER TOO!
NO, IT'S NOT!
BUT...

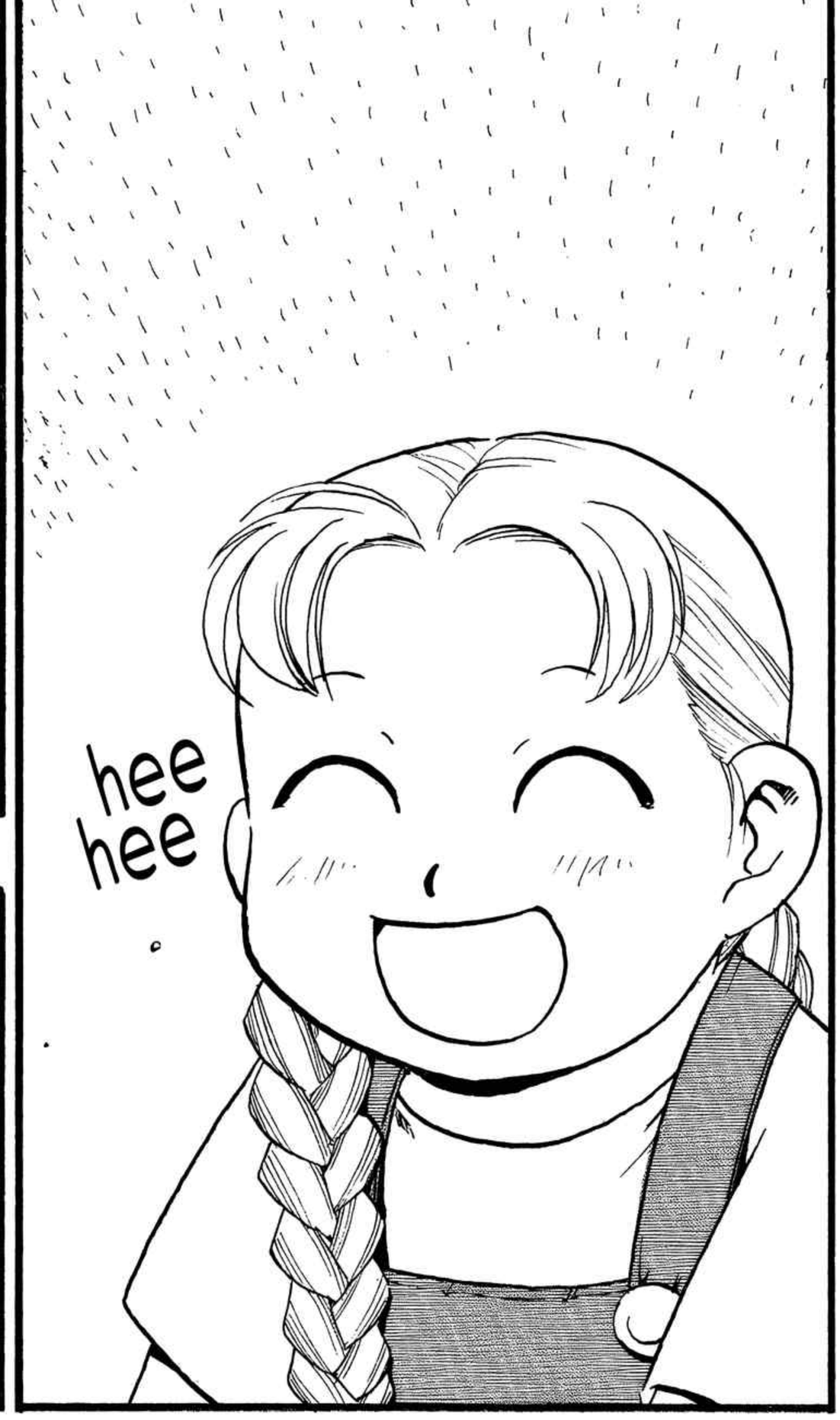

YOU'RE RIGHT. I GUESS I'LL GO WORK OUT A LITTLE IN THE YARD.
EXERCISE IS THE BEST CURE FOR SHOULDER CRAMPS, BIG BROTHER.

ALL THIS READING IS MAKING MY SHOULDERS CRAMP UP. DAY AFTER DAY...
KREK
KREK
AHH, MAN...


SNAP!
HEY, DOG! I'LL PLAY WITH YOU FOR EXERCISE!

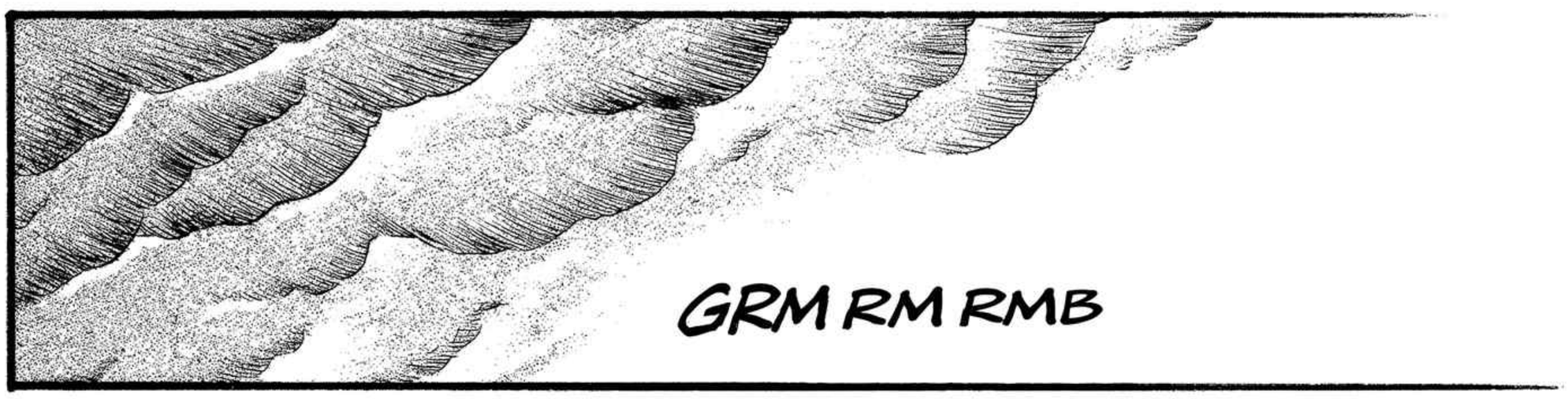

COME ON, NINA. YOU TOO.

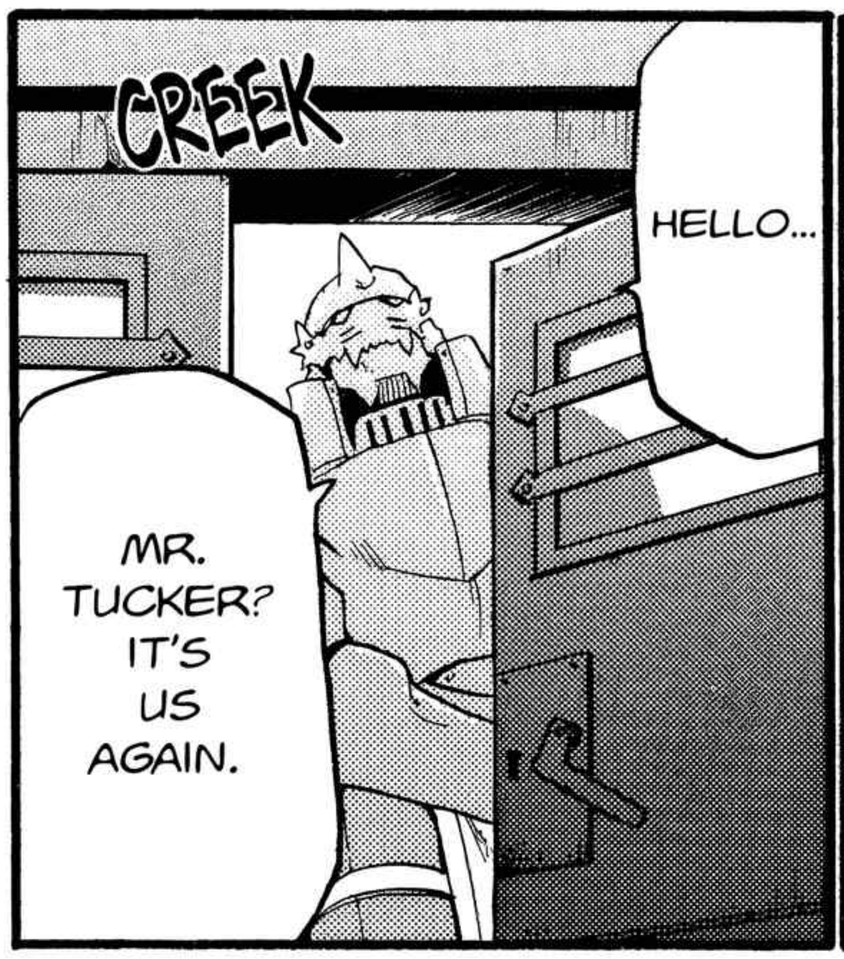

YAAAH!
BOW WOO

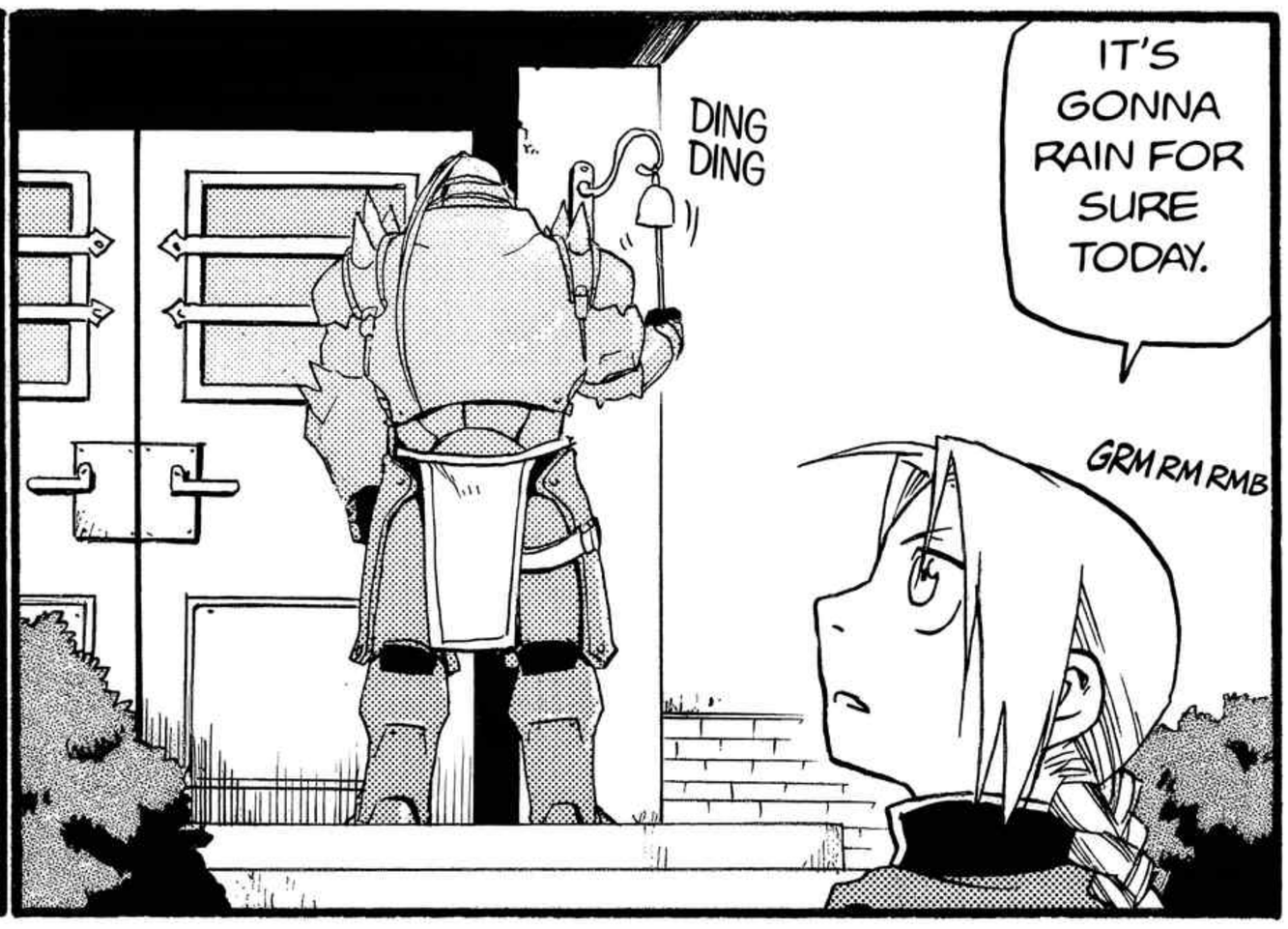

hee hee

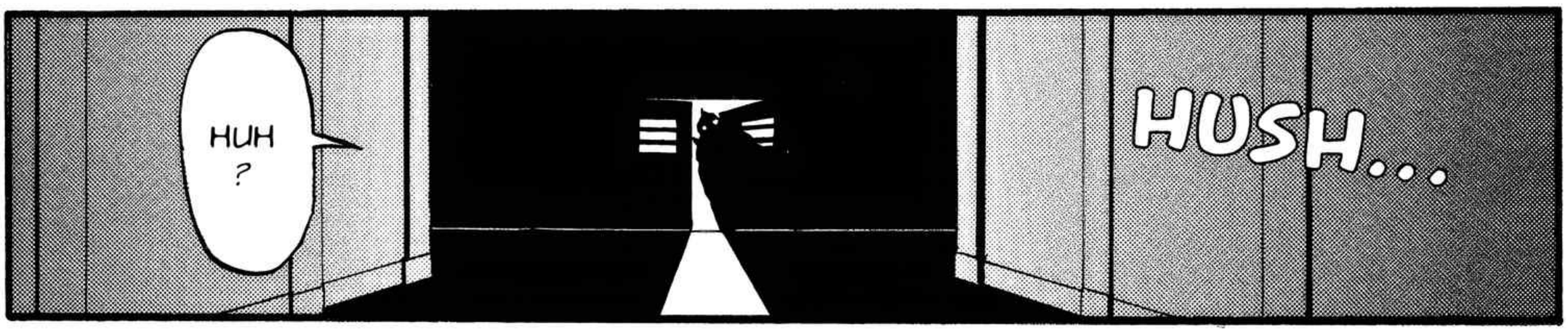
HA HA
AHA HAHA

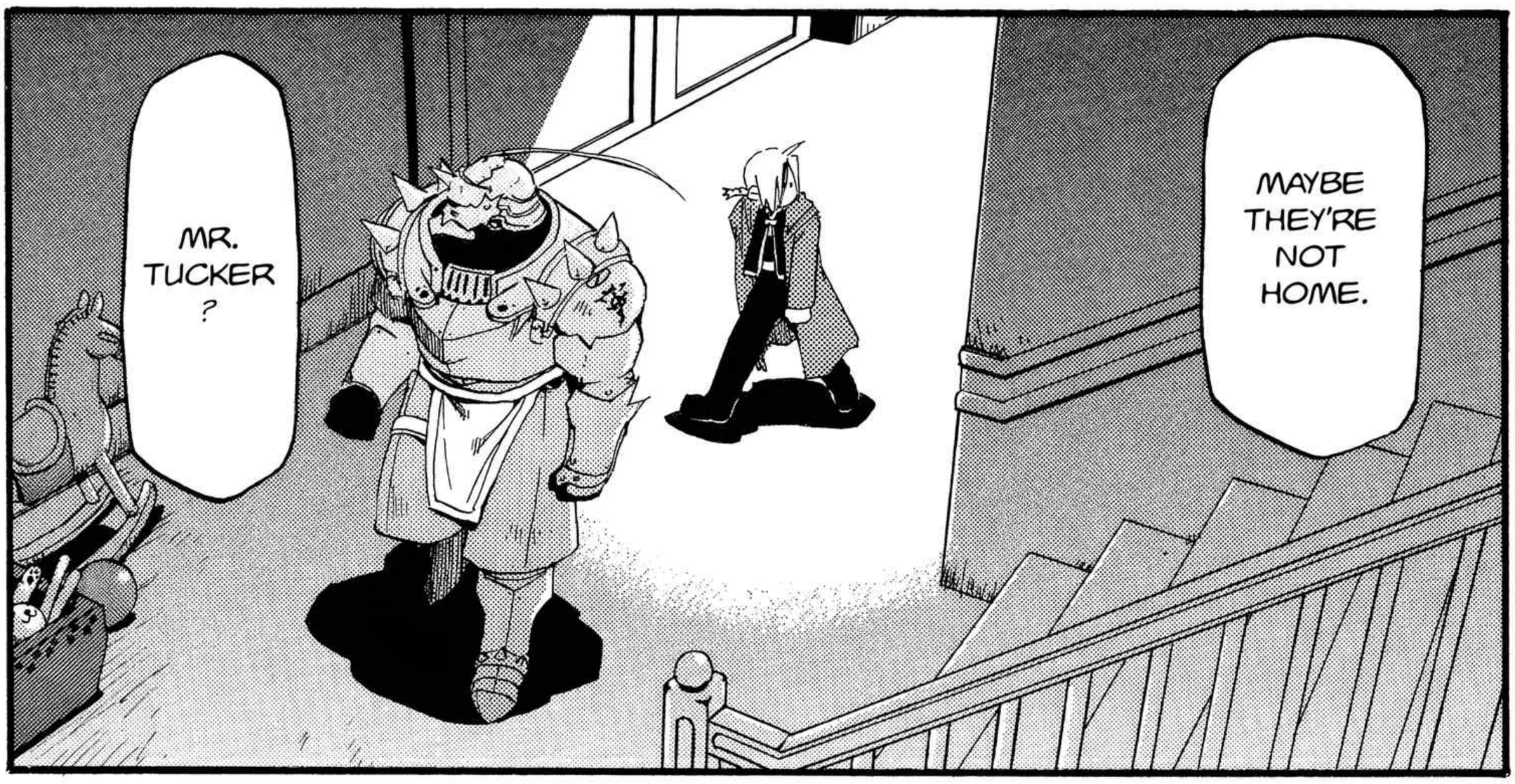
KRSH

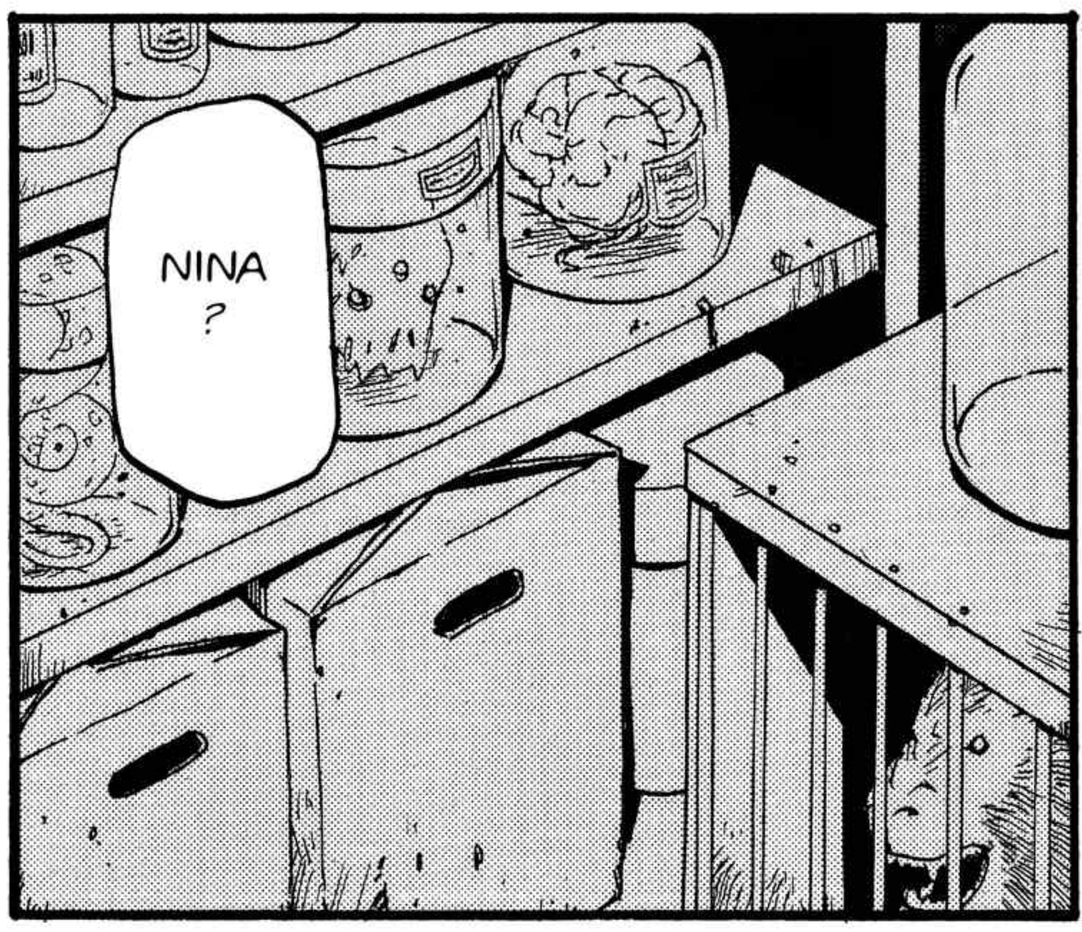

GRM RM RMB

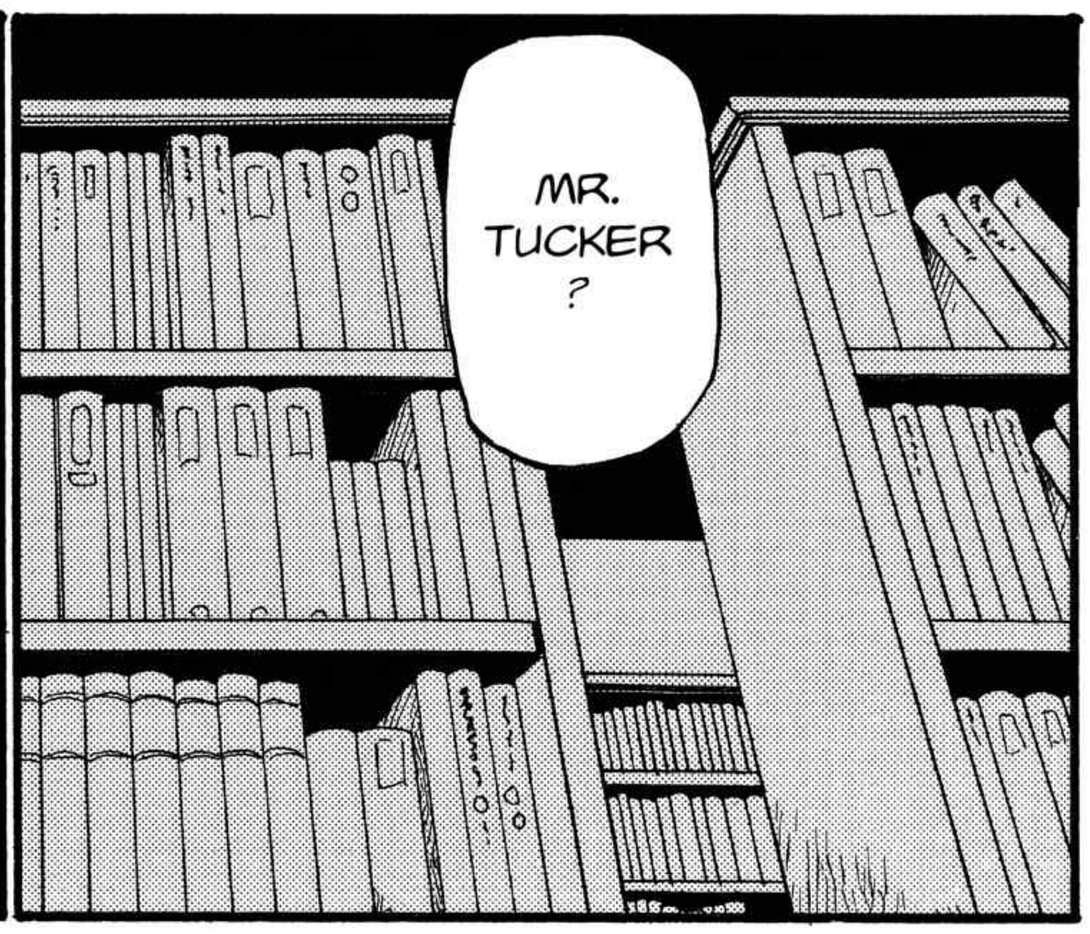

CREEK
HELLO...
MR. TUCKER? IT'S US AGAIN.


DING DING
IT'S GONNA RAIN FOR SURE TODAY.
GRM RM RMB

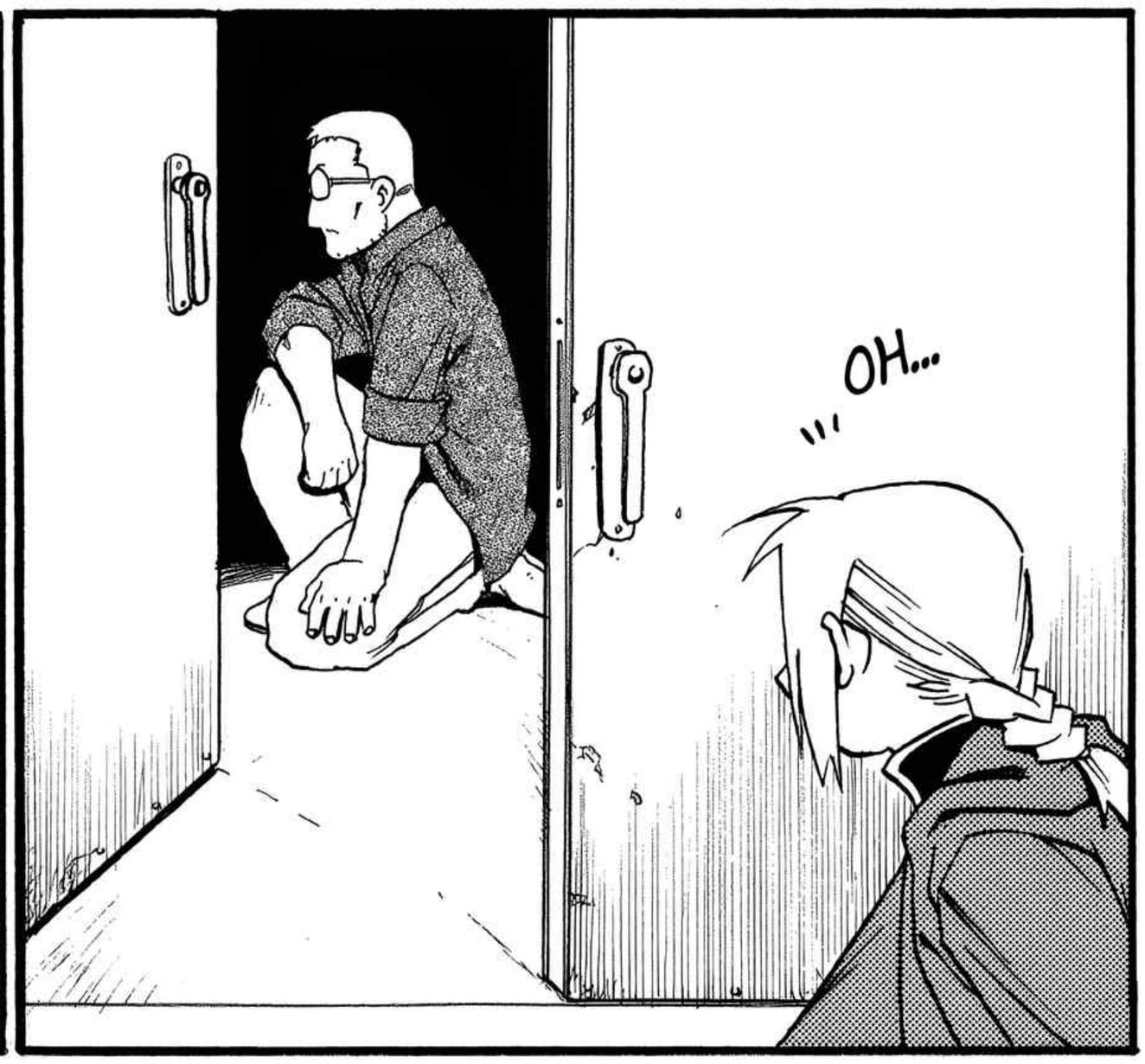

HUH ?
HUSH...

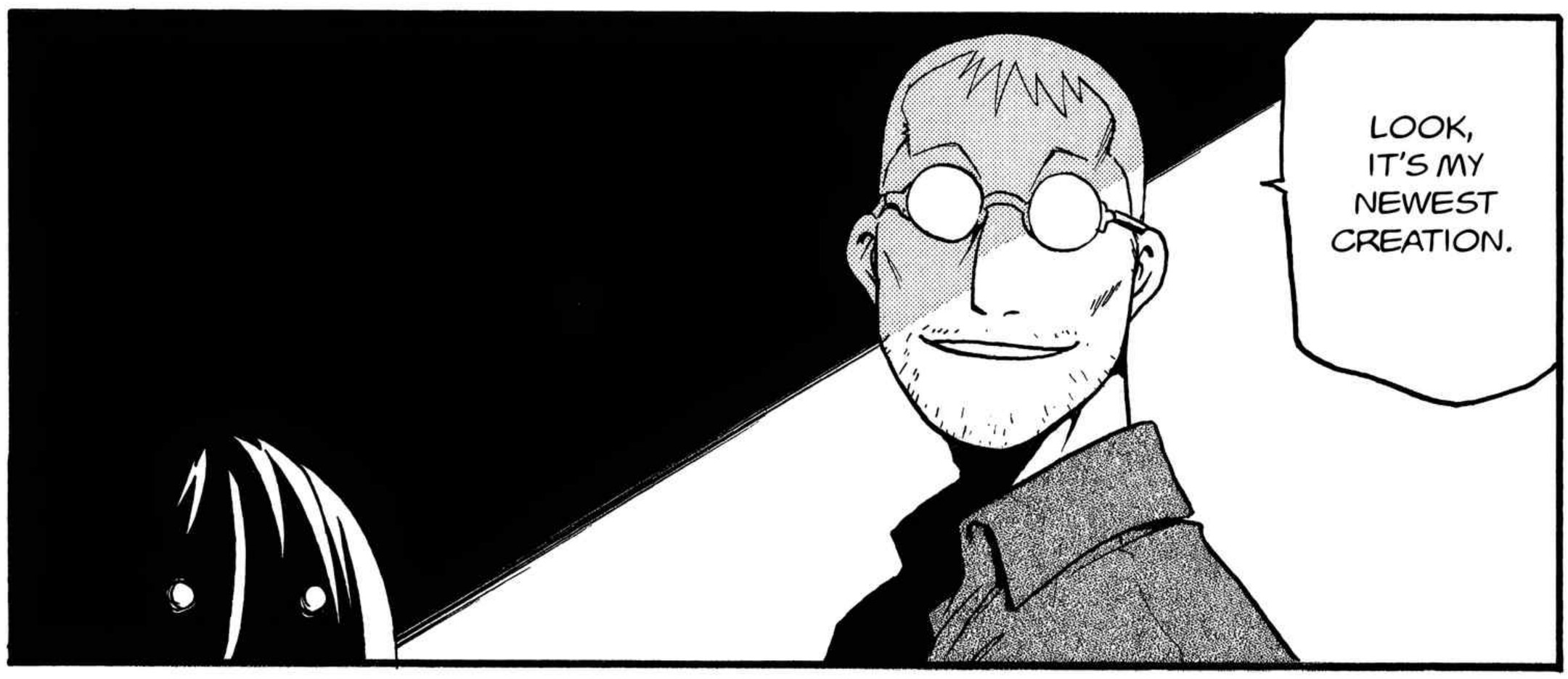

MR. TUCKER ?
MAYBE THEY'RE NOT HOME.


NINA
?

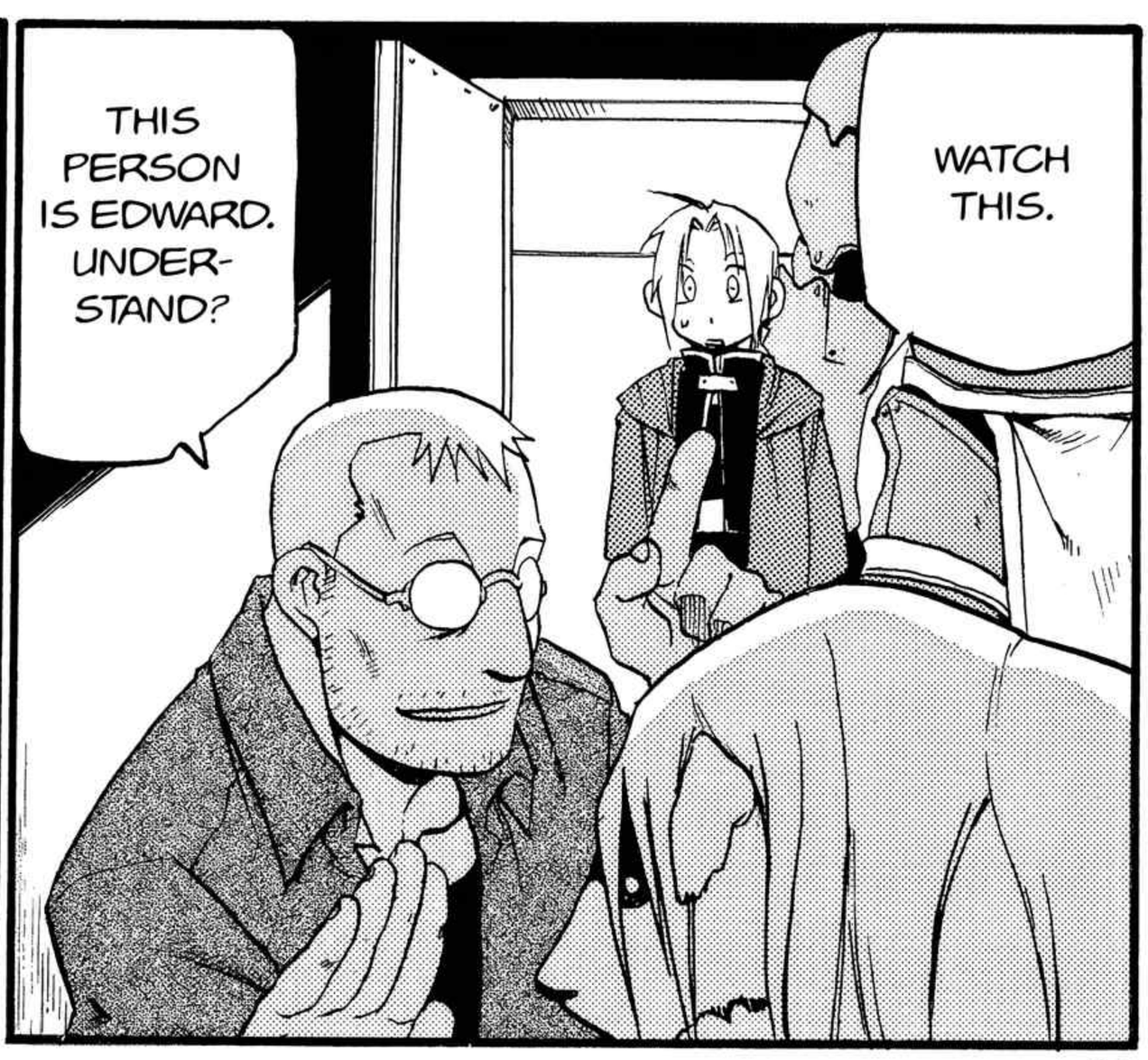

MR.
TUCKER
?

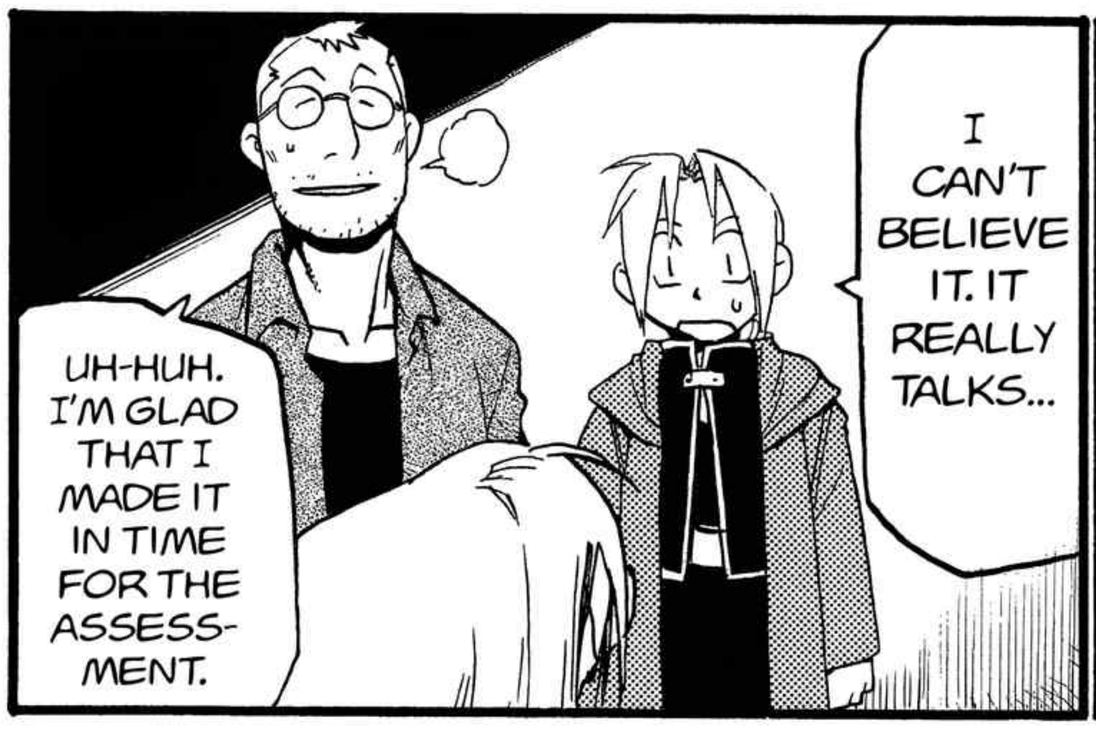
OH,
IT'S
YOU
GUYS.
HEY,
THERE
YOU
ARE.

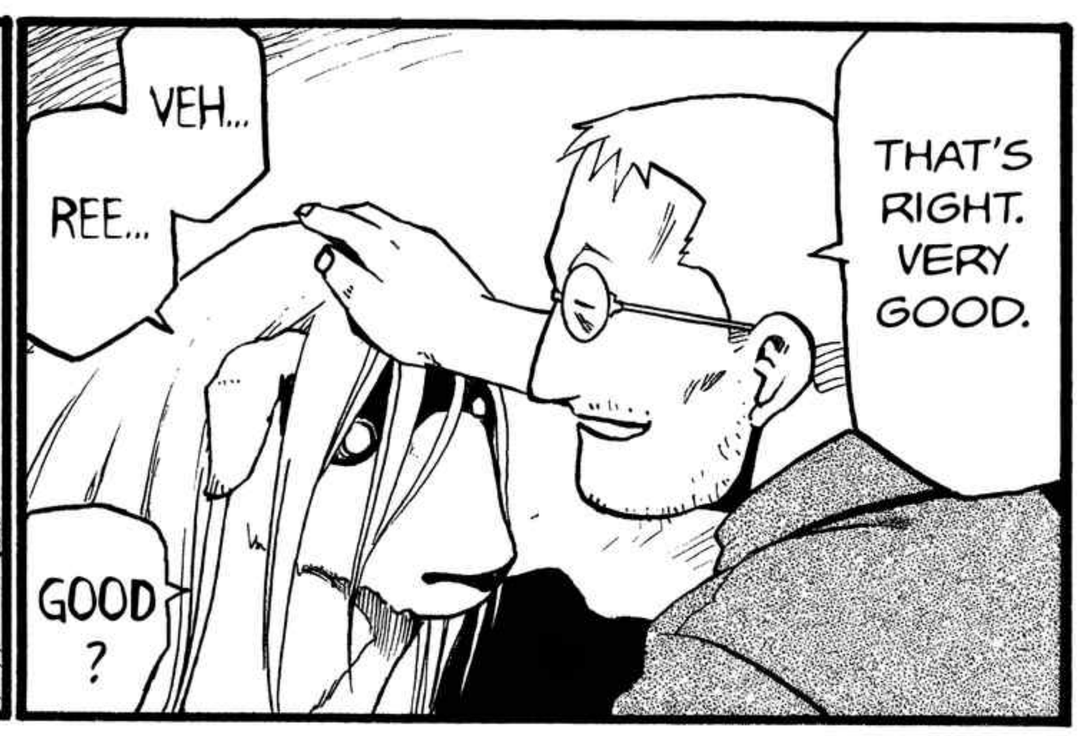

OH...

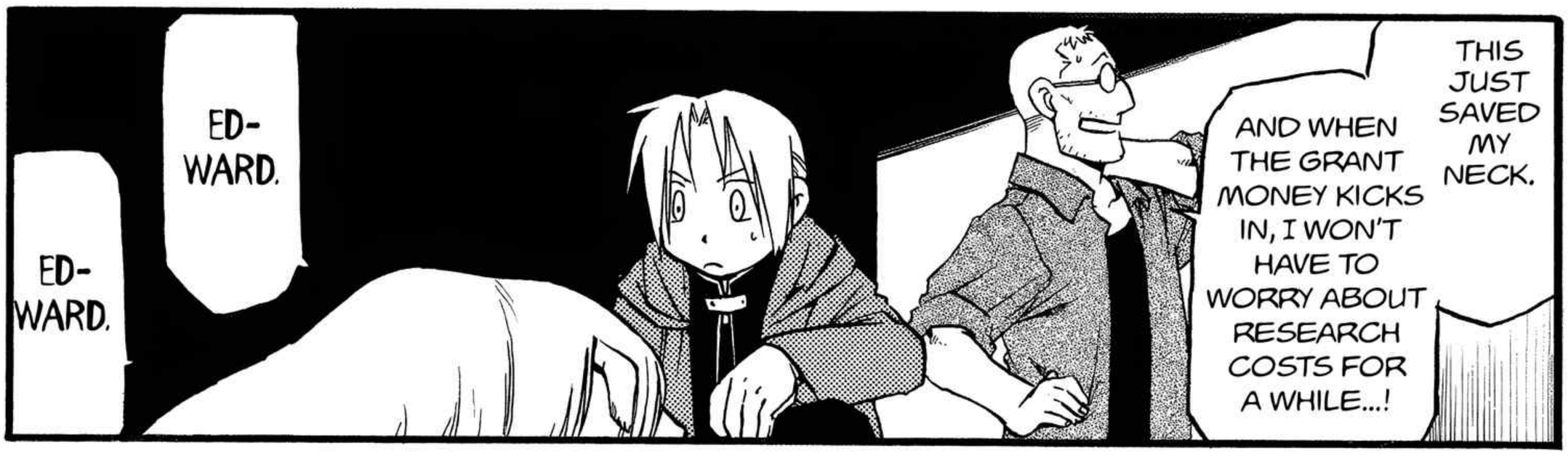

LOOK,
IT'S MY
NEWEST
CREATION.

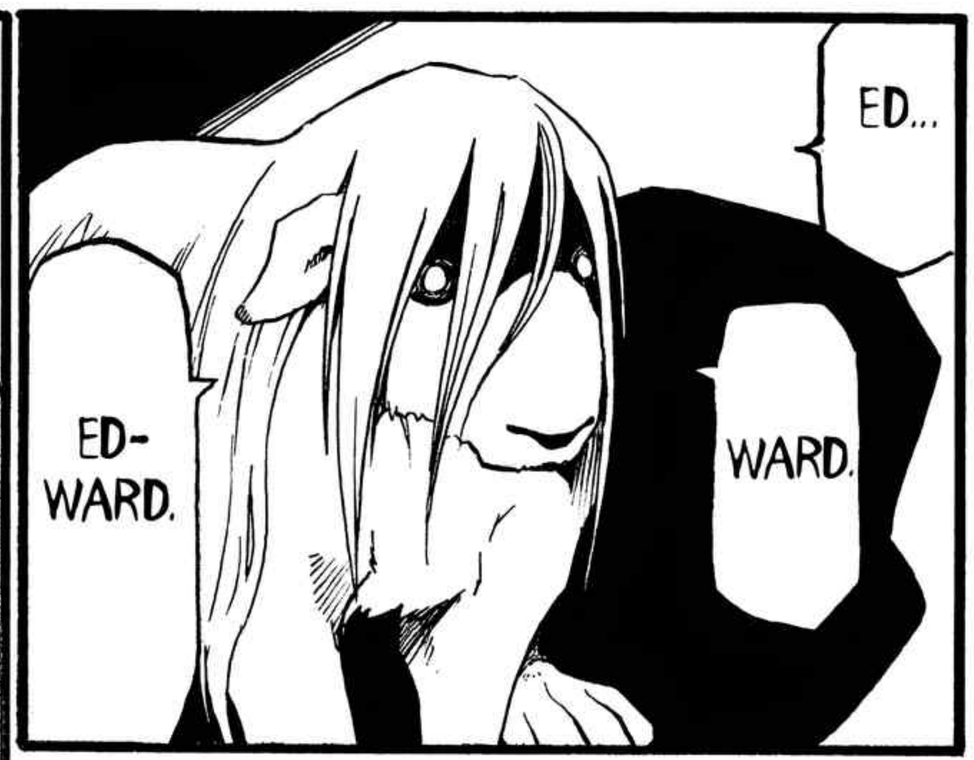
IT'S A CHIMERA THAT TALKS LIKE A HUMAN.

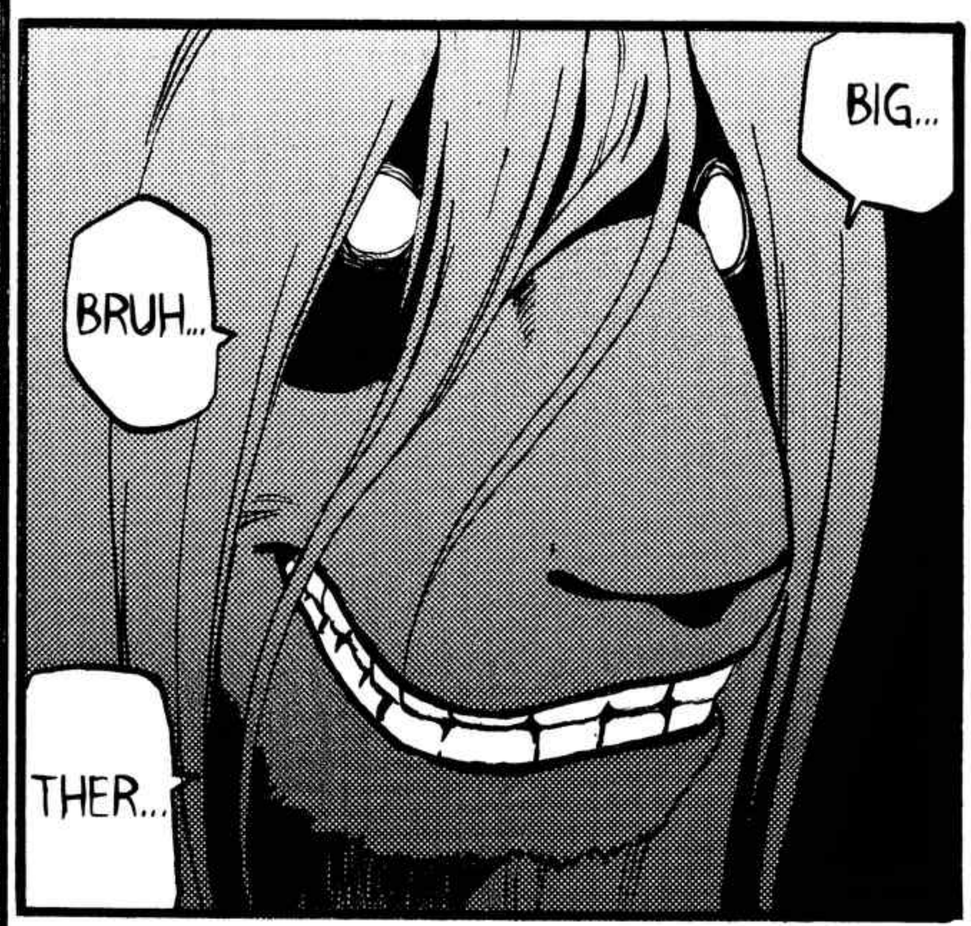



UH-HUH. I'M GLAD THAT I MADE IT IN TIME FOR THE ASSESS-MENT.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. IT REALLY TALKS...


VEH...
REE...
GOOD ?
THAT'S RIGHT. VERY GOOD.


ED-WARD.
ED-WARD.
AND WHEN THE GRANT MONEY KICKS IN, I WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT RESEARCH COSTS FOR A WHILE...!
THIS JUST SAVED MY NECK.

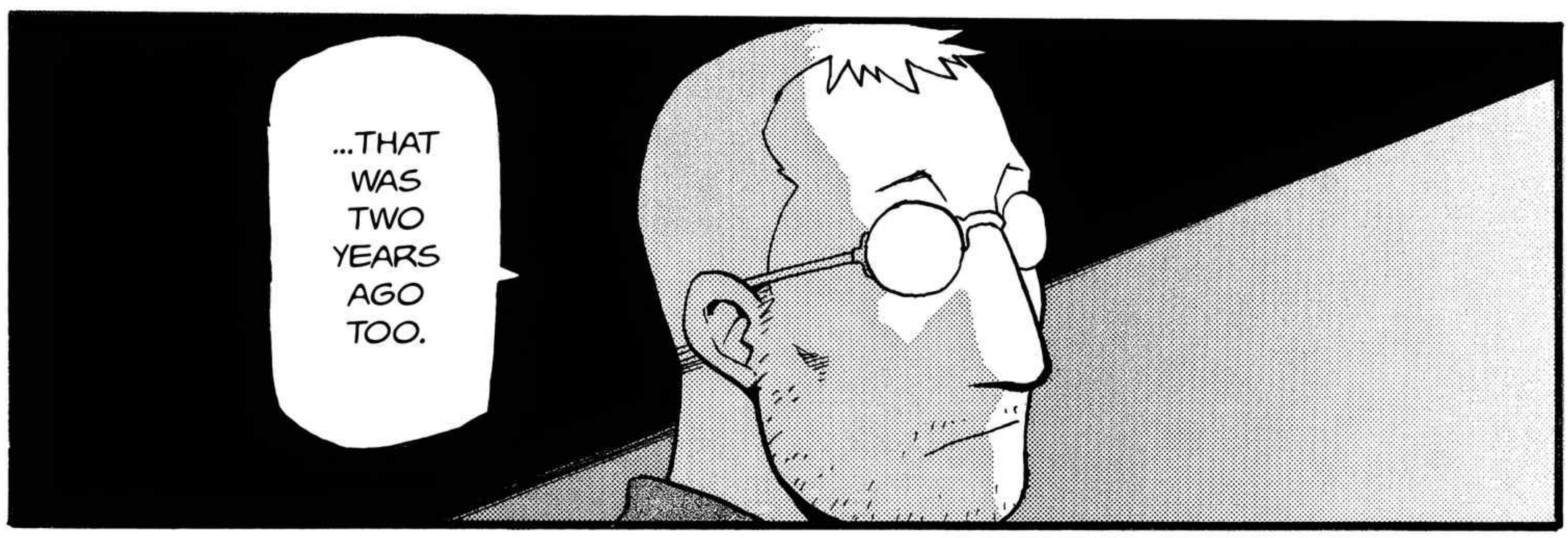

ED...
ED-WARD.
WARD.

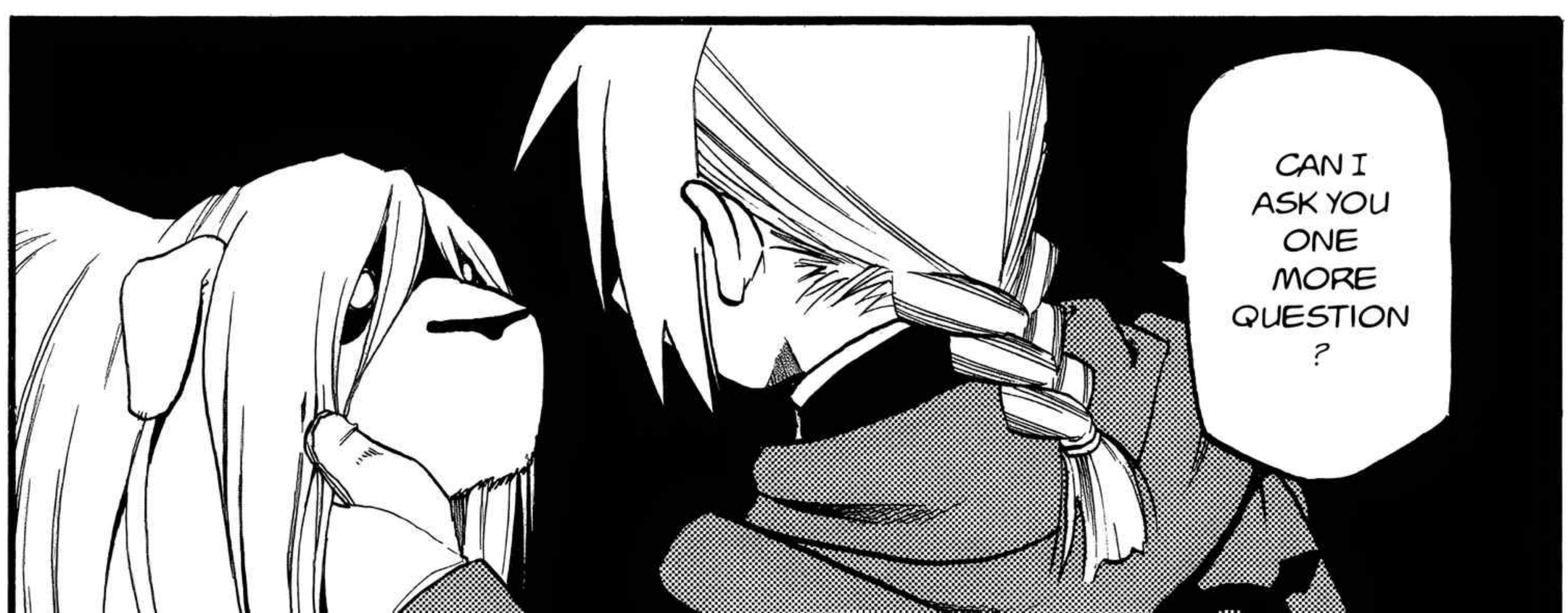

BIG...
BRUH...
THER...

WHEN WAS IT THAT YOU GOT YOUR LICENSE? BY MAKING THE FIRST CHIMERA THAT SPOKE HUMAN WORDS?
MR. TUCKER...

UH... THAT WAS TWO YEARS AGO.

AND WHEN DID YOUR WIFE LEAVE?


...THAT WAS TWO YEARS AGO TOO.

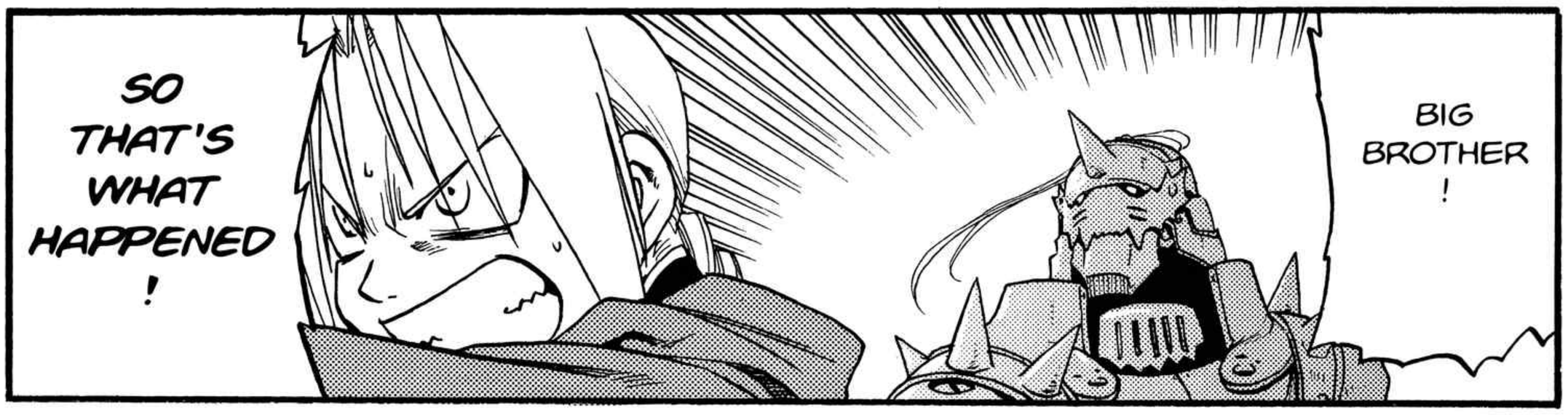

CAN I ASK YOU ONE MORE QUESTION ?

WHAT HAPPENED TO NINA AND ALEXANDER ?
I HATE PER-CEPTIVE BRATS LIKE YOU...

BMP

GMFF!

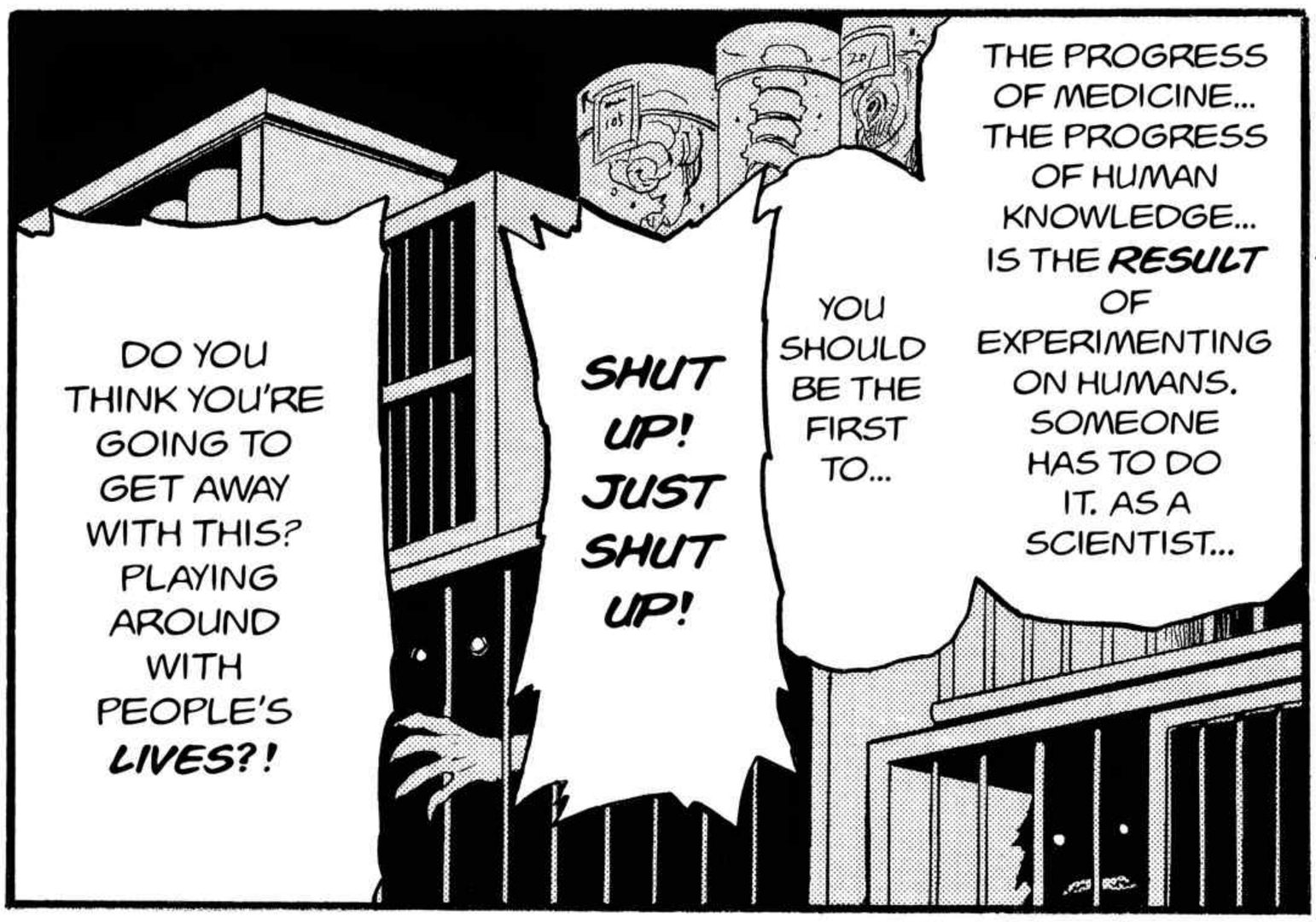
GRAB

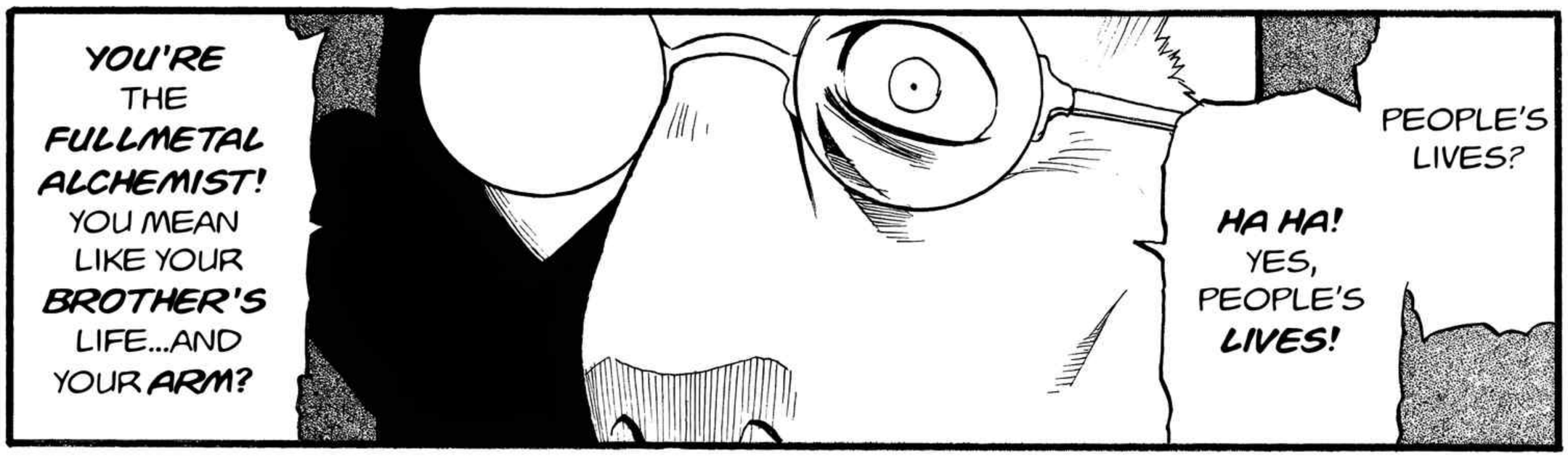


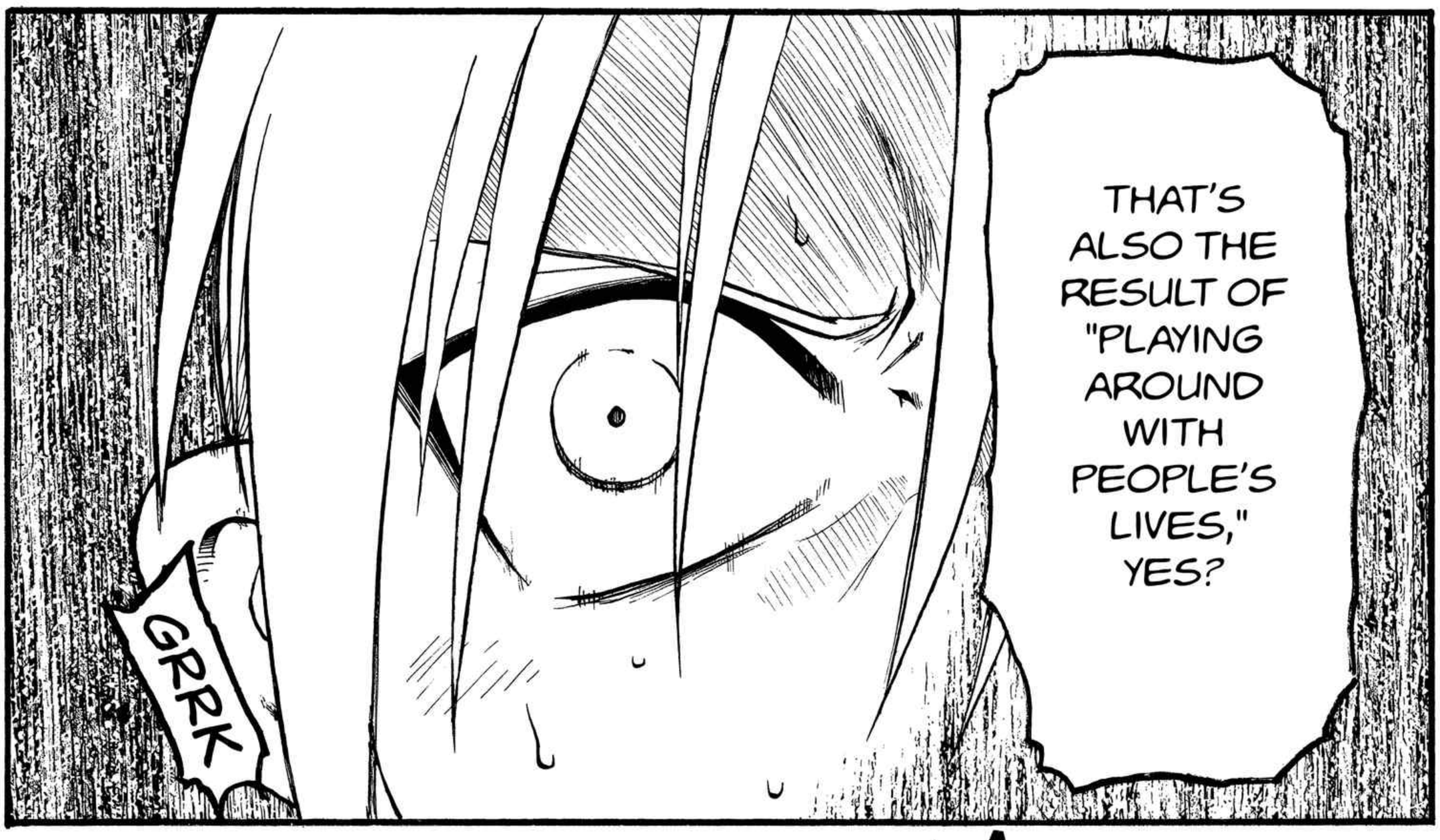
...!

WHY ARE YOU SO MAD?
NNH...

ISN'T THAT RIGHT? BECAUSE THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH YOU CAN DO BY EXPERIMENTING ON ANIMALS.
HUMANS ARE SO MUCH BETTER. AM I RIGHT?

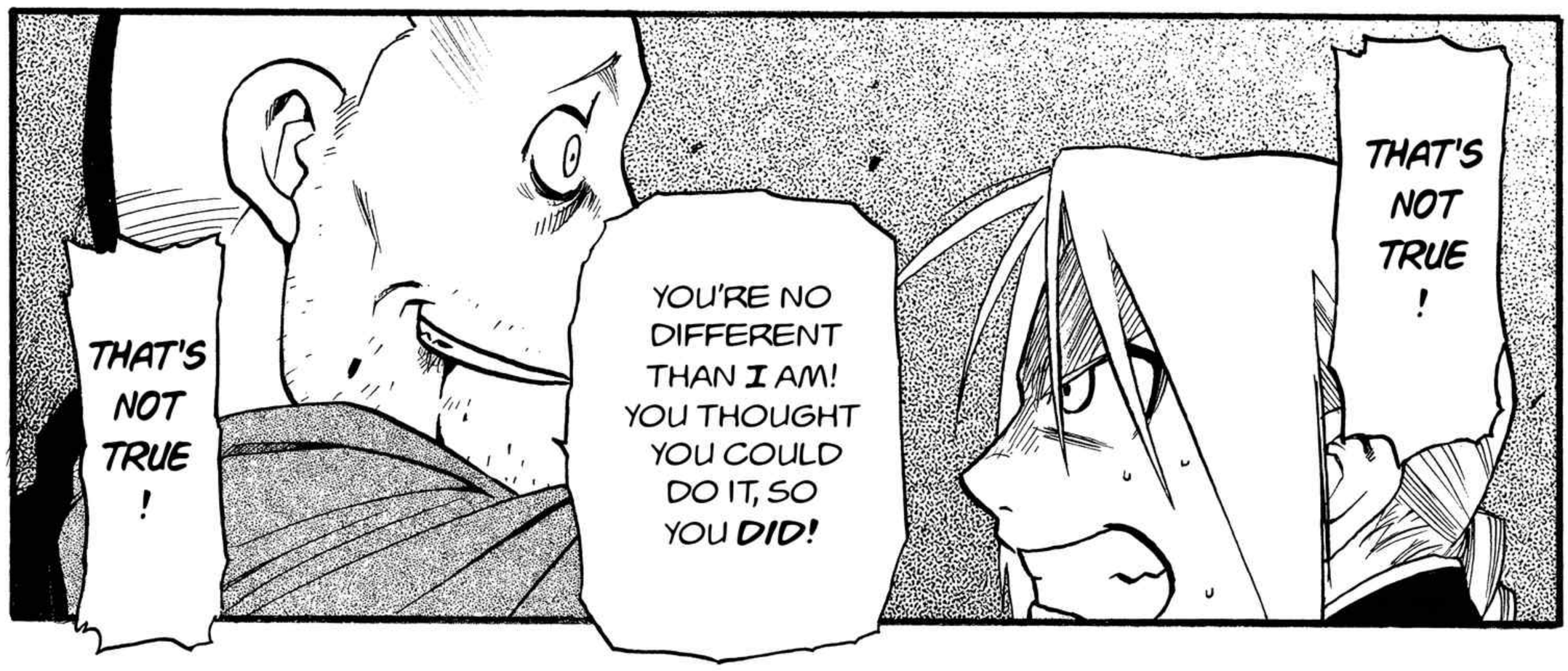

DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO GET AWAY WITH THIS? PLAYING AROUND WITH PEOPLE'S LIVES?!
SHUT UP! JUST SHUT UP!
YOU SHOULD BE THE FIRST TO...
THE PROGRESS OF MEDICINE... THE PROGRESS OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE... IS THE RESULT OF EXPERIMENTING ON HUMANS. SOMEONE HAS TO DO IT. AS A SCIENTIST...


YOU'RE THE FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST! YOU MEAN LIKE YOUR BROTHER'S LIFE...AND YOUR ARM?
PEOPLE'S LIVES?
HA HA! YES, PEOPLE'S LIVES!

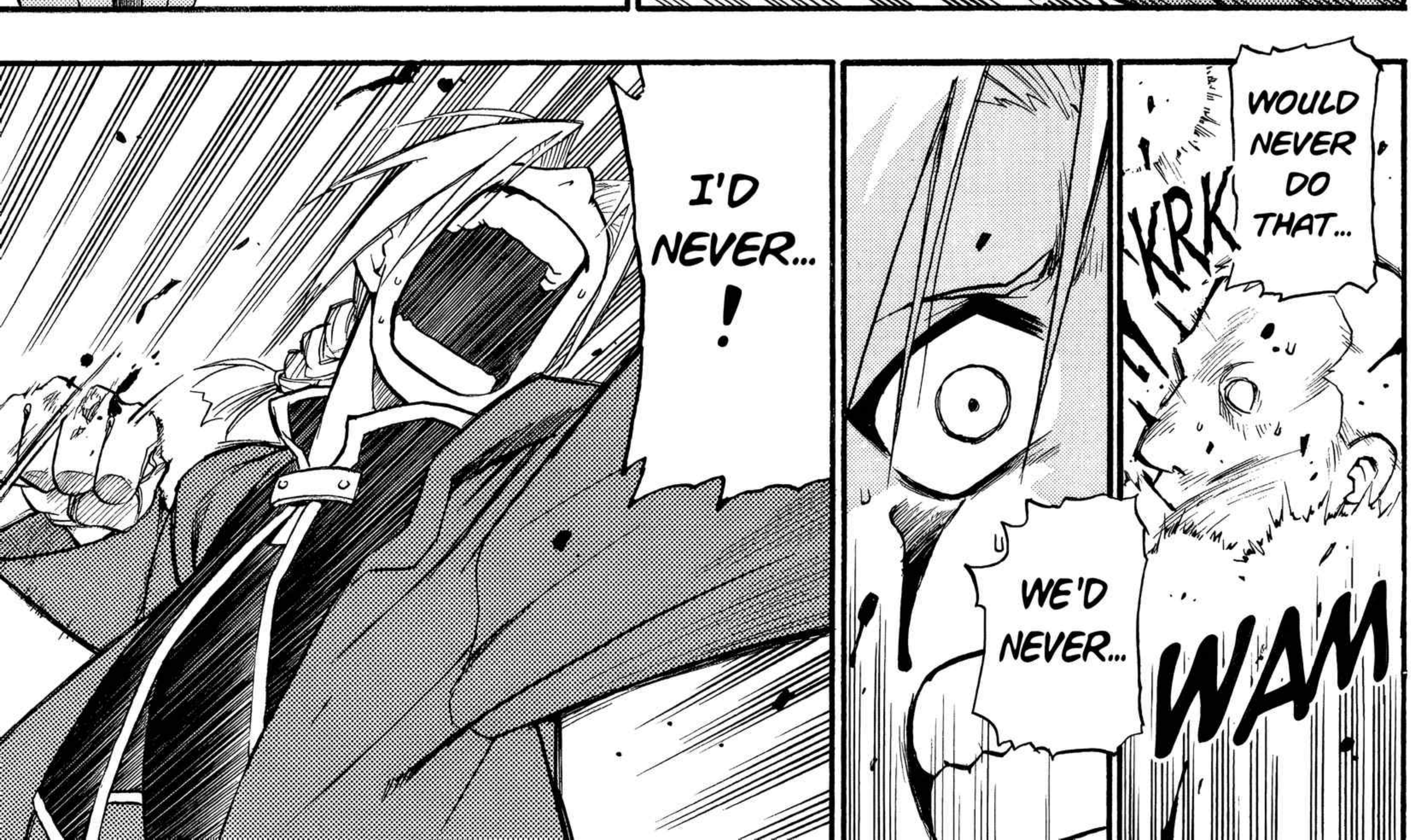

GRRK
THAT'S ALSO THE RESULT OF "PLAYING AROUND WITH PEOPLE'S LIVES," YES?

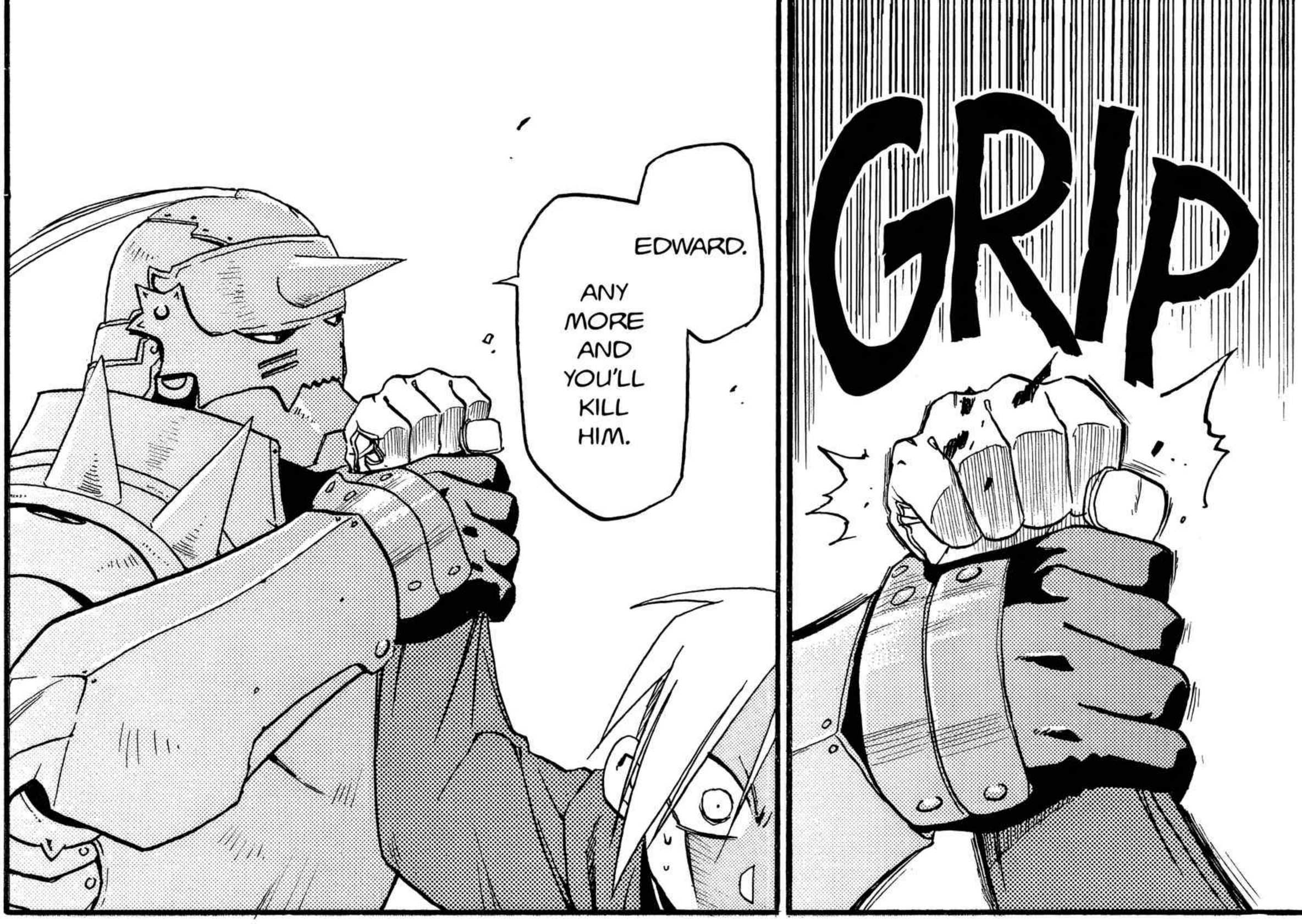
NHH... HA HA HA HA...
YOU AND I ARE JUST THE SAME!

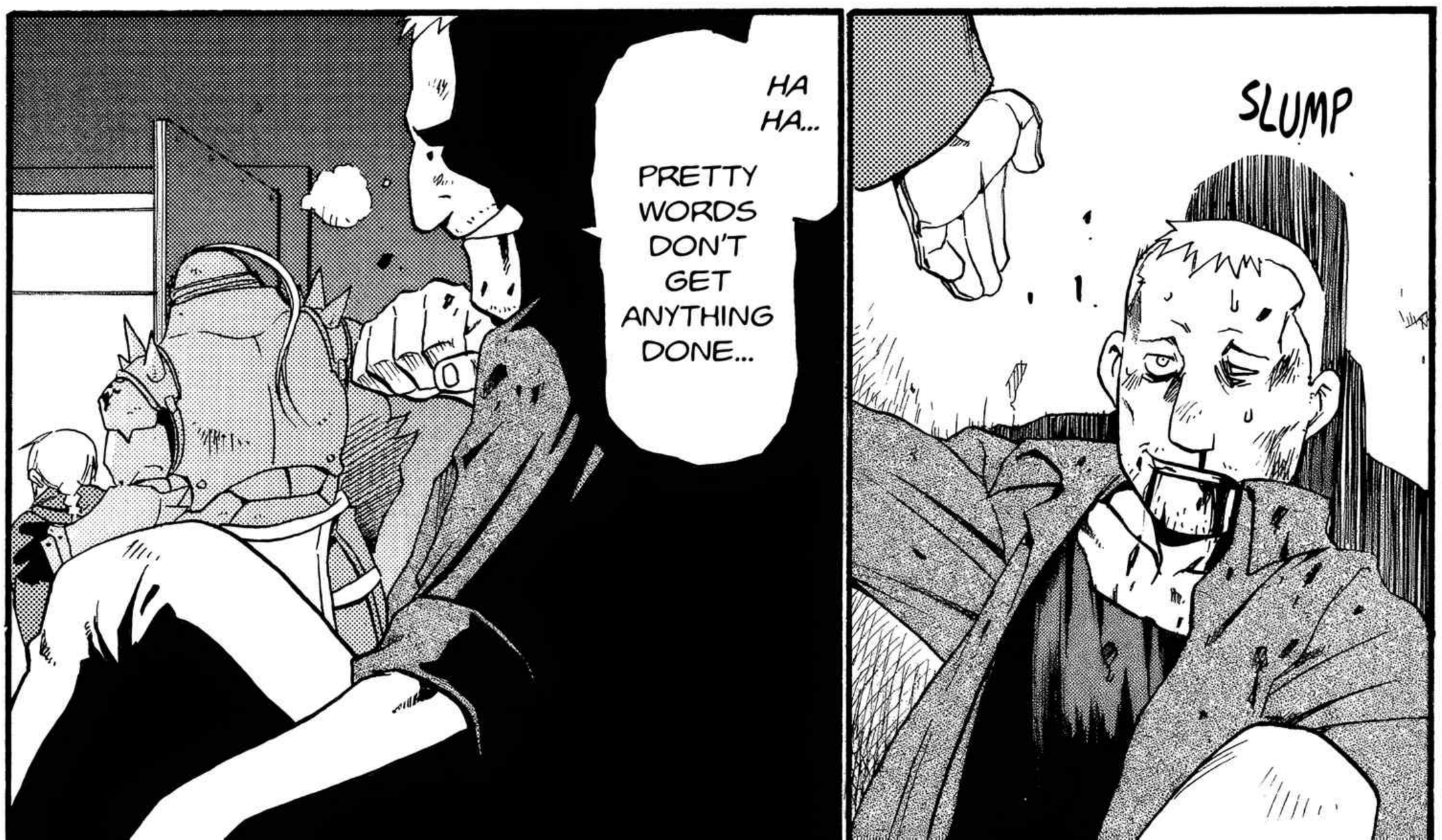
WAM


THAT'S NOT TRUE !
YOU'RE NO DIFFERENT THAN I AM! YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD DO IT, SO YOU DID!
THAT'S NOT TRUE !

WE ALCHEMISTS...
SLAM
KRAK
THAT'S NOT TRUE !
WHAM
AGH !
YOU COULDN'T HELP BUT TRY IT EVEN IF IT WAS FORBIDDEN! IN FACT, BECAUSE IT'S FORBIDDEN!

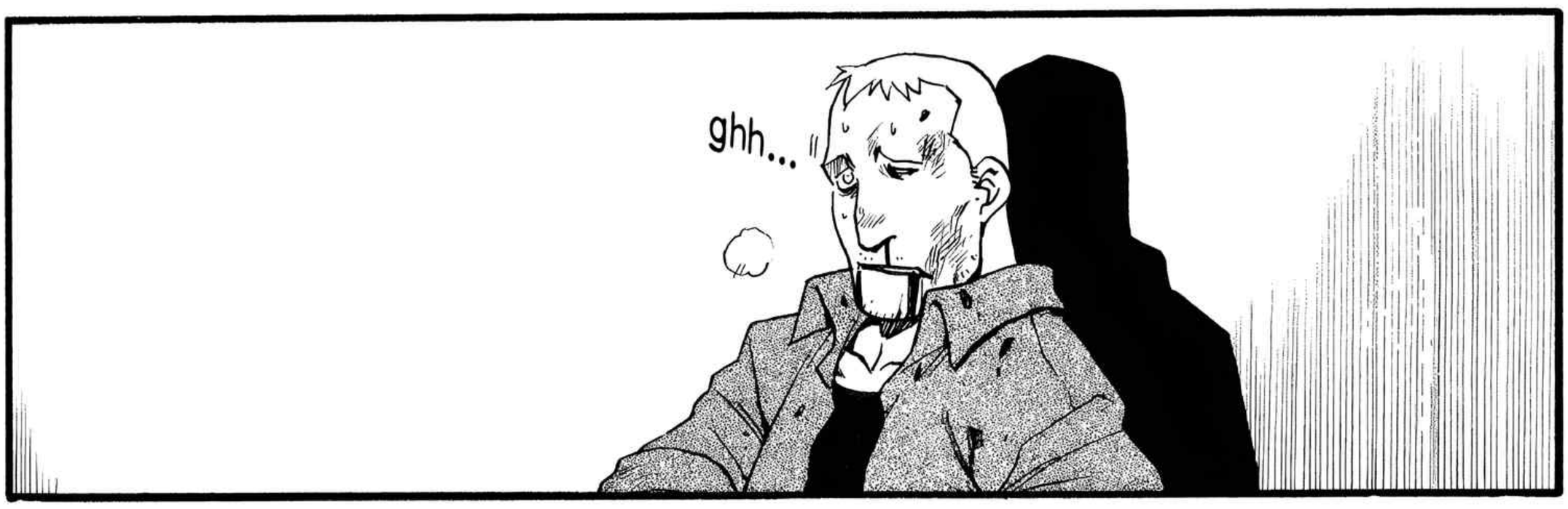

I'D NEVER... !
WE'D NEVER...
KRK
WOULD NEVER DO THAT...
WAM

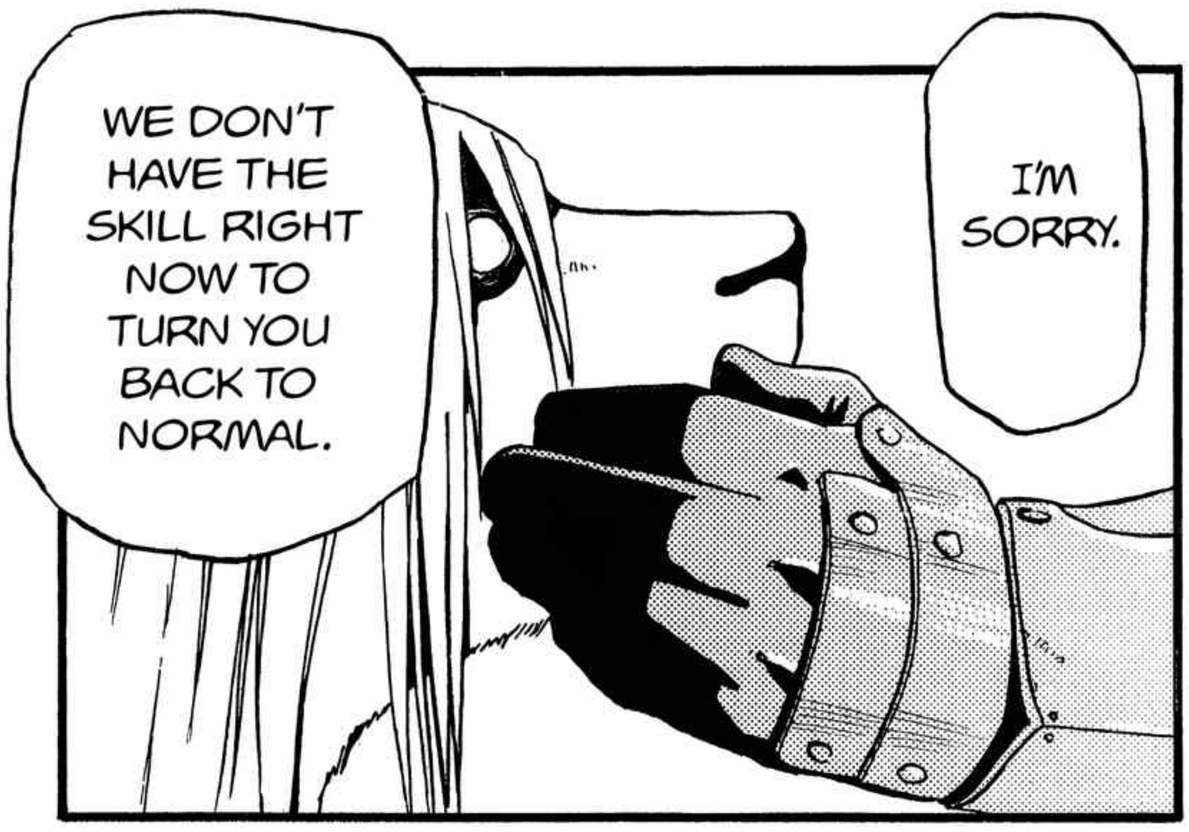

EDWARD.
ANY MORE AND YOU'LL KILL HIM.
GRIP

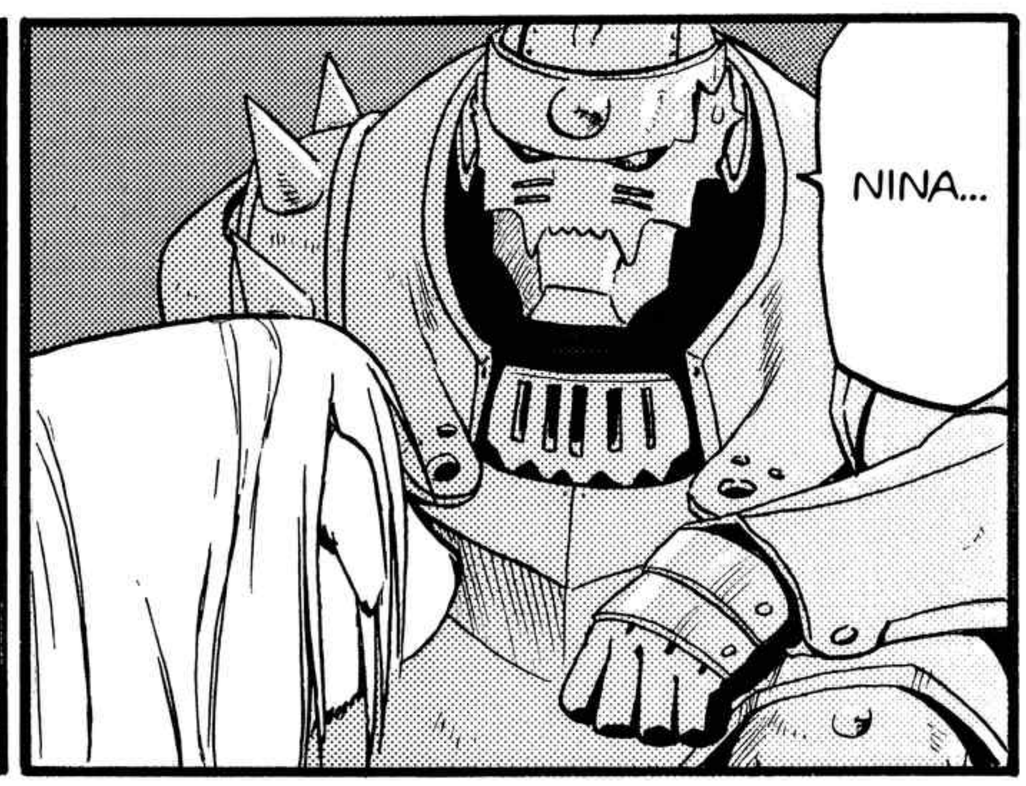

HA HA...
PRETTY WORDS DON'T GET ANYTHING DONE...
SLUMP

IF YOU SAY ONE MORE WORD, THIS TIME I'LL BE THE ONE TO SNAP.

MR. TUCKER.







I'M SO SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

SHAAAAA

WAN-NA PLAY.

WAN-NA PLAY.

WAN-NA...

...PLAY.

"THE DEVIL...?"

TO PUT IT BLUNTLY, ***ALL*** STATE ALCHEMISTS ARE NOTHING BUT THE MILITARY'S HUMAN WEAPONS.

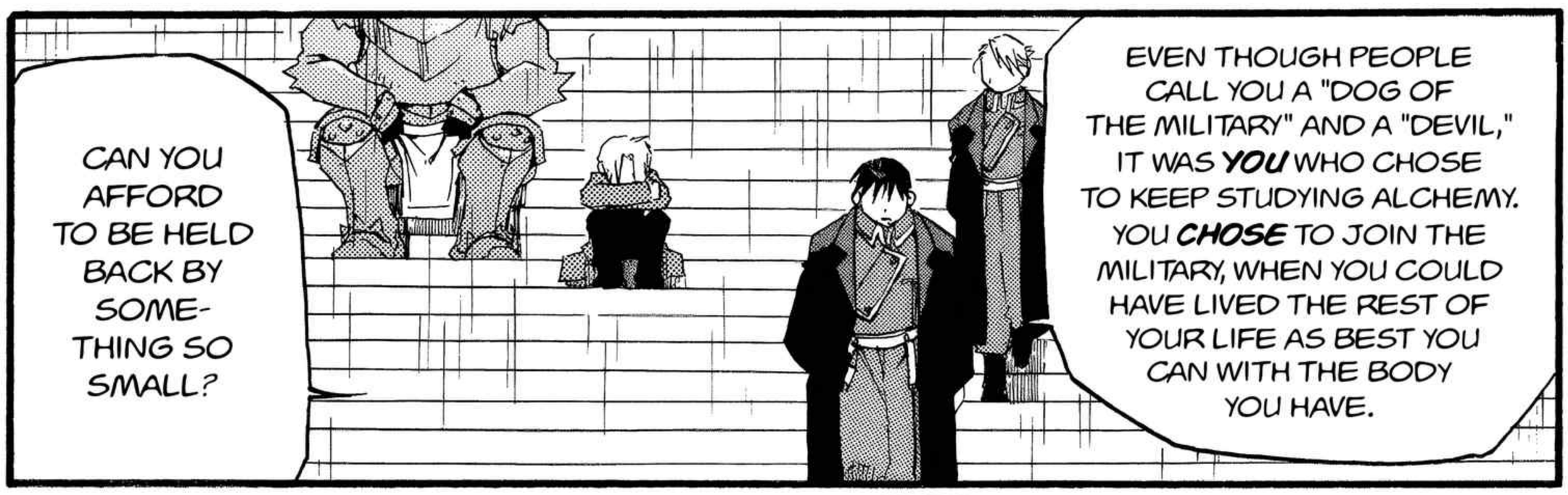
WE DO WHAT THEY WANT, WE OBEY ORDERS, AND WE DON'T COMPLAIN IF OUR HANDS GET DIRTY IN THE PROCESS.

IF THERE EVER TRULY WAS "THE WORK OF THE DEVIL," THEN THIS WAS IT.

MY POINT BEING THAT WHEN IT COMES TO MESSING WITH HUMAN LIVES, TUCKER'S ACTIONS AREN'T SO DIFFERENT FROM OUR OWN.
THAT'S THE LOGIC OF AN ADULT, SIR.
EVEN THOUGH EDWARD ACTS OLDER THAN HIS YEARS, HE'S STILL A CHILD.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, FULL-METAL ?
KLMP
YES. BUT THE PATH THAT HE'S CHOSEN WILL NO DOUBT LEAD TO HARDSHIPS GREATER THAN HE FACED TODAY.
HE HAS TO MOVE FORWARD... EVEN IF IT MEANS FORCING HIMSELF TO UNDER-STAND.

BE QUIET.

HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON STAYING DEPRESSED ?


CAN YOU AFFORD TO BE HELD BACK BY SOME-THING SO SMALL?
EVEN THOUGH PEOPLE CALL YOU A "DOG OF THE MILITARY" AND A "DEVIL," IT WAS **YOU** WHO CHOSE TO KEEP STUDYING ALCHEMY. YOU **CHOSE** TO JOIN THE MILITARY, WHEN YOU COULD HAVE LIVED THE REST OF YOUR LIFE AS BEST YOU CAN WITH THE BODY YOU HAVE.

BUT WE'RE NOT DEVILS OR GODS.

YOU'RE RIGHT. PEOPLE MAY CALL US DOGS OR DEVILS, BUT AL AND I WILL GET OUR ORIGINAL BODIES BACK.

GRIP
"SOME-THING SO SMALL"... ?

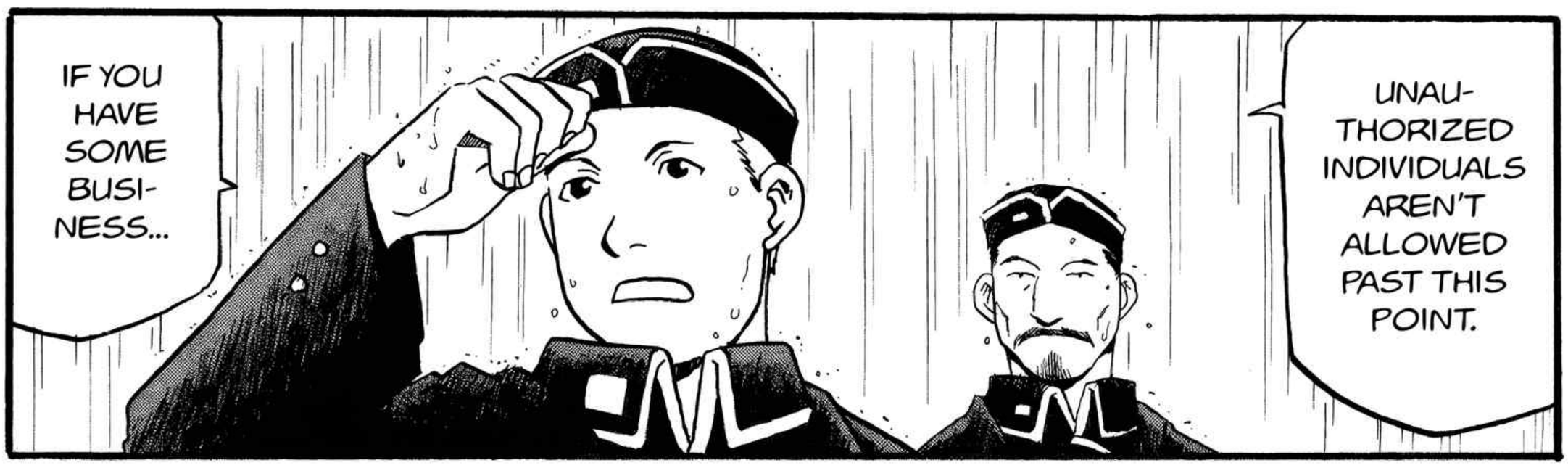
WE'RE HUMANS.

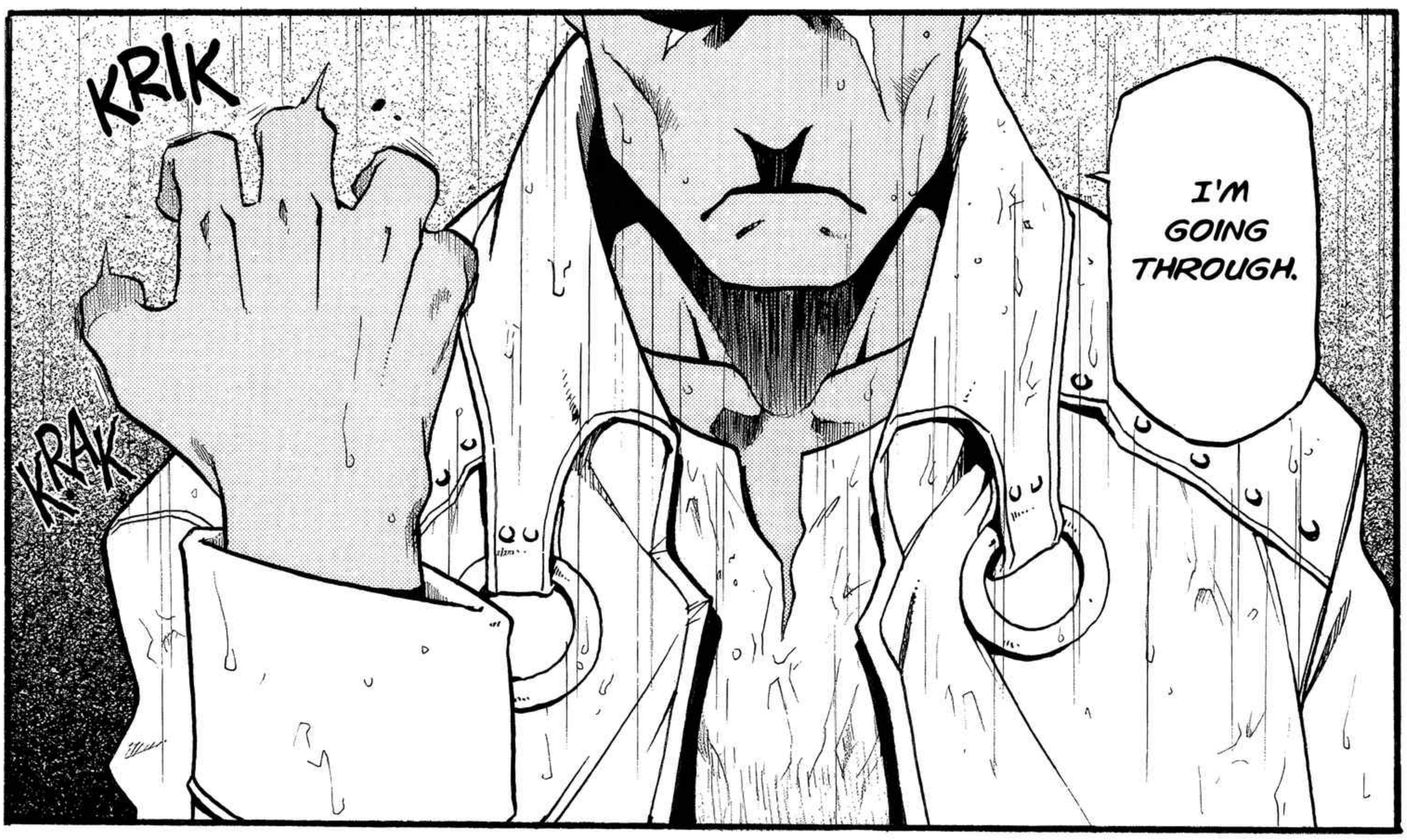
WE CAN'T EVEN SAVE ONE LITTLE GIRL.

ARE YOU HERE TO SEE MR. TUCKER ?
OH...

SPLASH

SHAAAAA

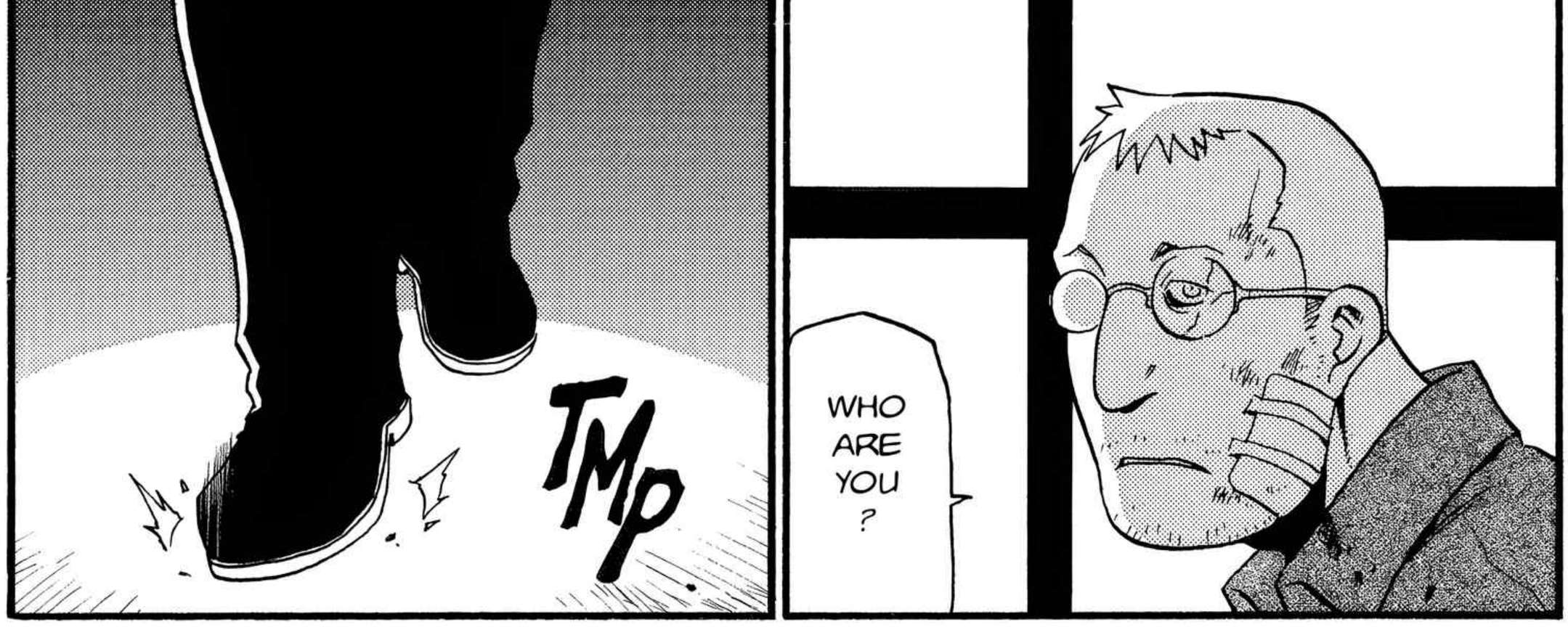

IF YOU HAVE SOME BUSI-NESS...
UNAU-THORIZED INDIVIDUALS AREN'T ALLOWED PAST THIS POINT.


KRIK
KRAK
I'M GOING THROUGH.

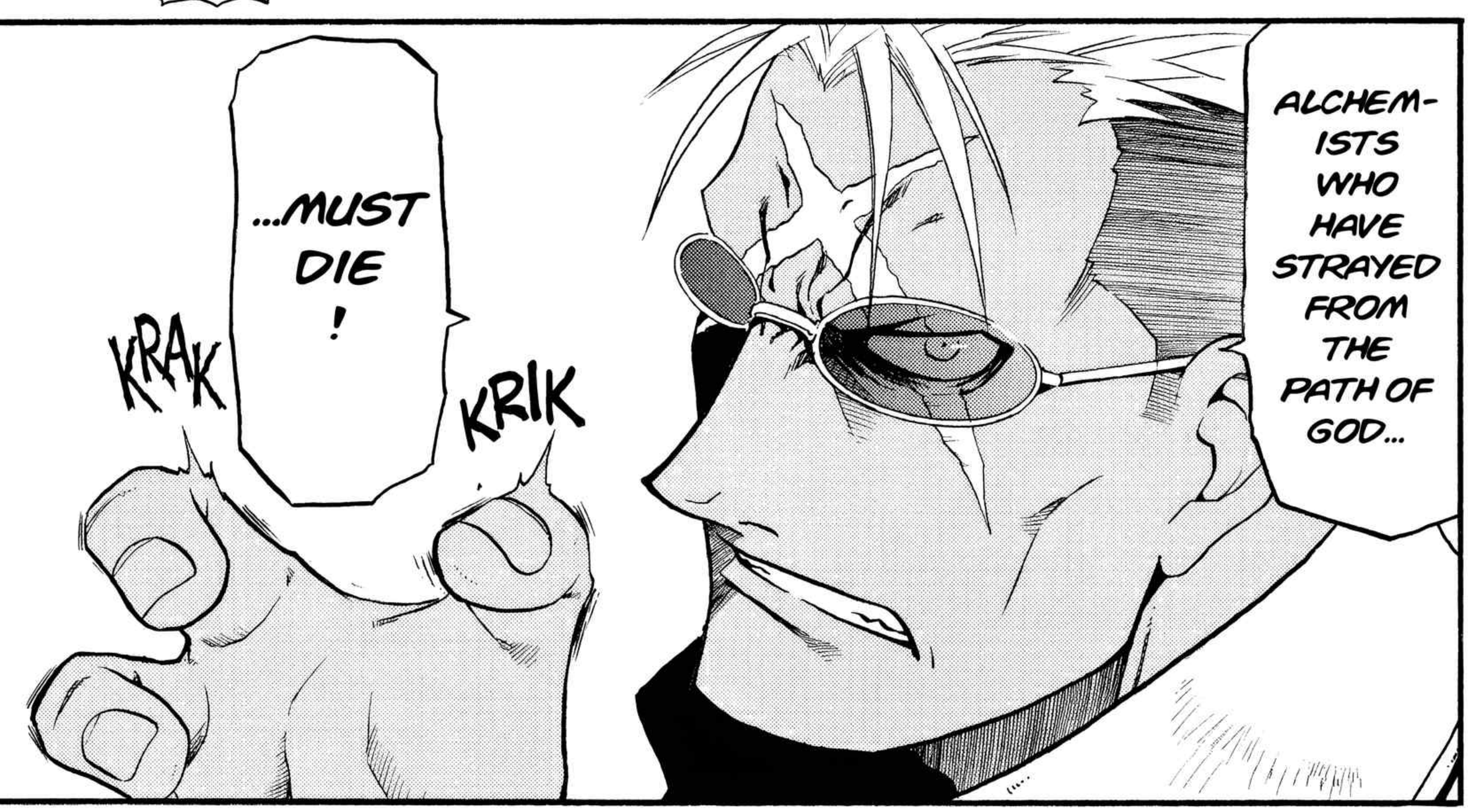
HUH?

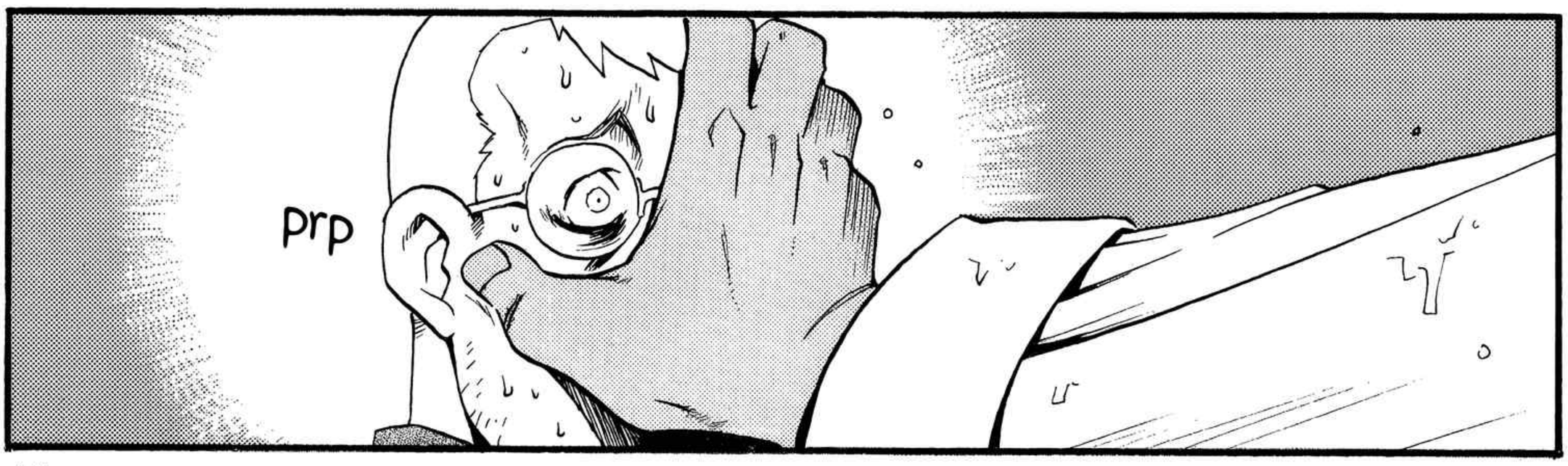
WHY DOESN'T ANYBODY UNDER-STAND ?
GRM RM RMB
KRAKABOOM
WHY, NINA... ?

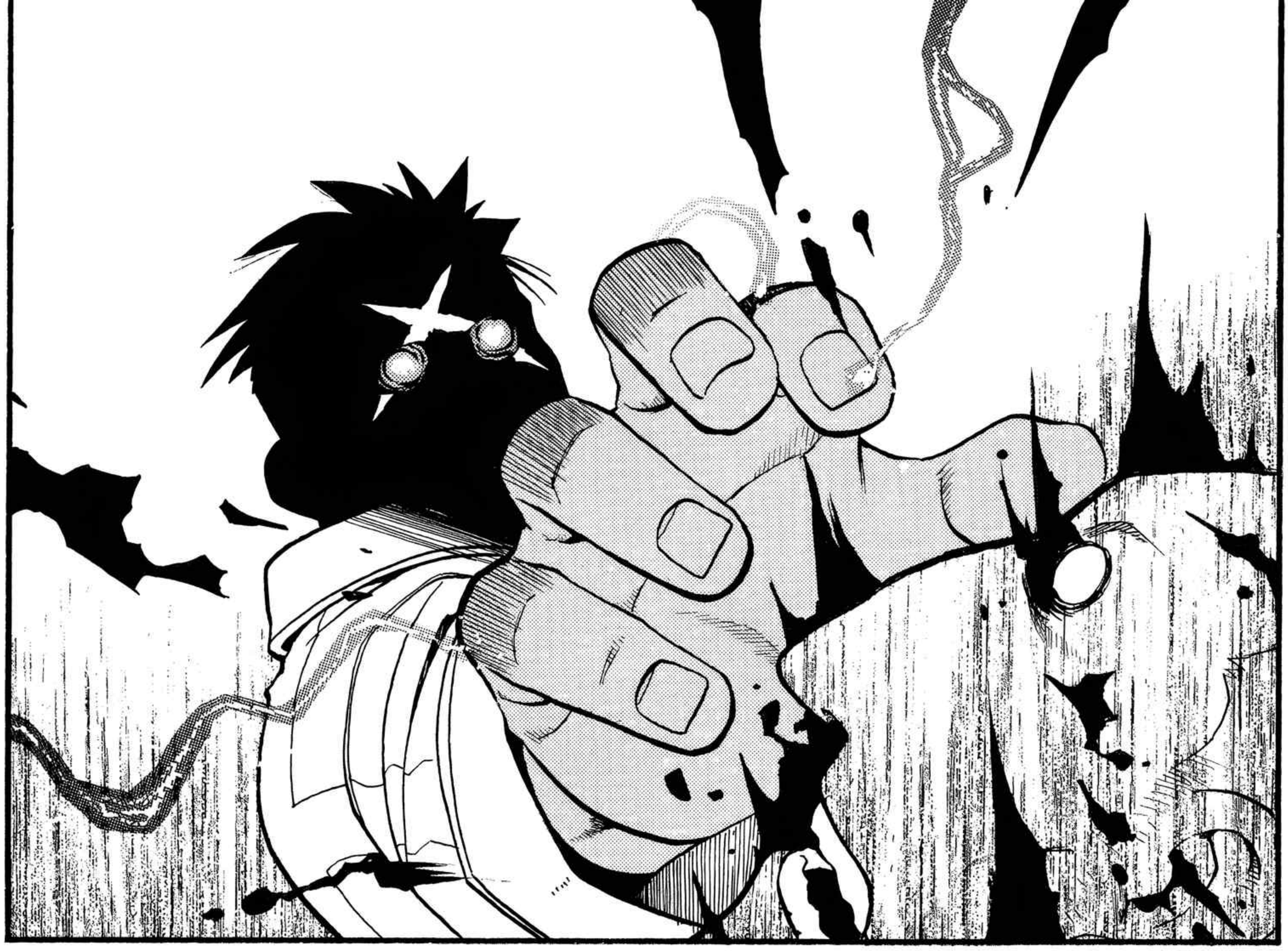
ARE YOU SHOU TUCKER ?
KRAKA
..
!

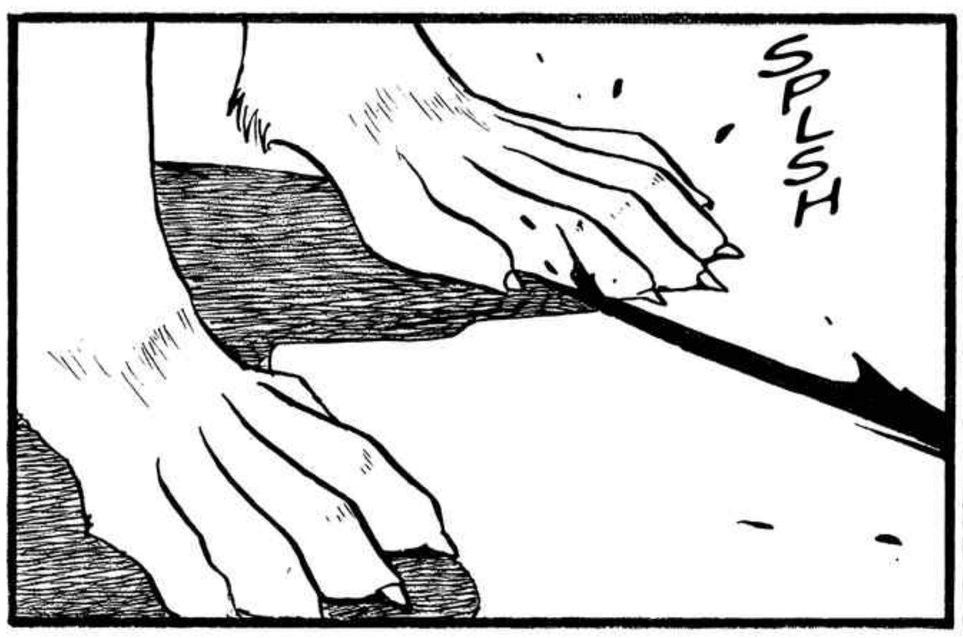

TMP
WHO ARE YOU ?

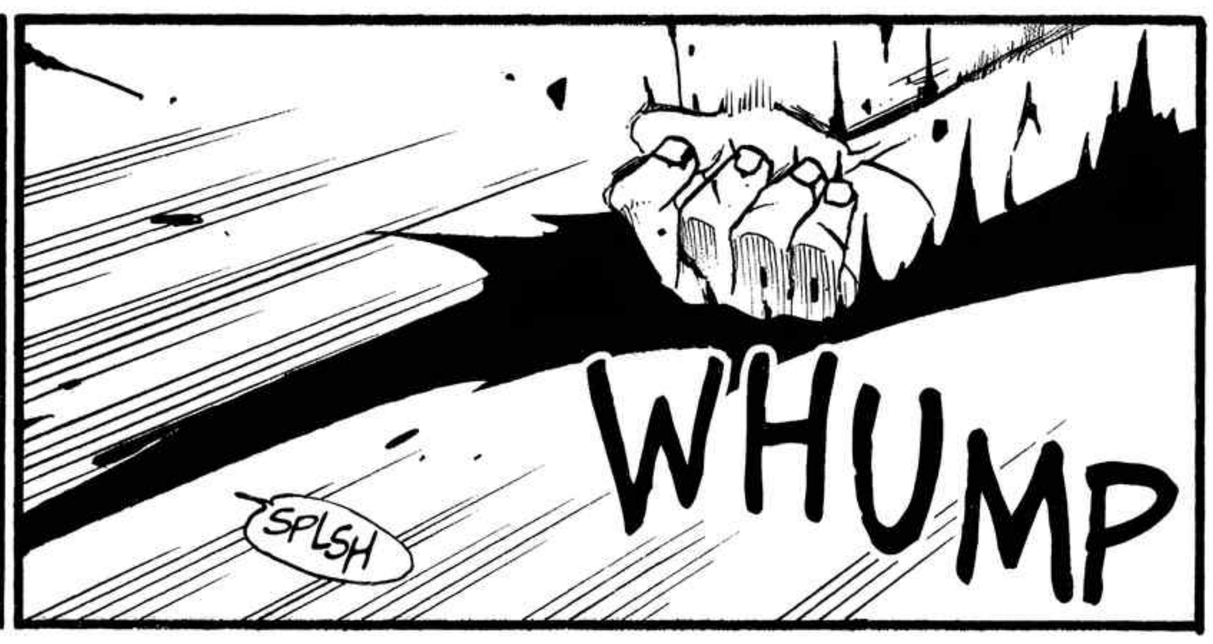
THERE WERE GUARDS OUT-SIDE...
HOW DID YOU GET IN!?
TMP TMP TMP
YOU'RE... YOU'RE NOT WITH THE ARMY.
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?

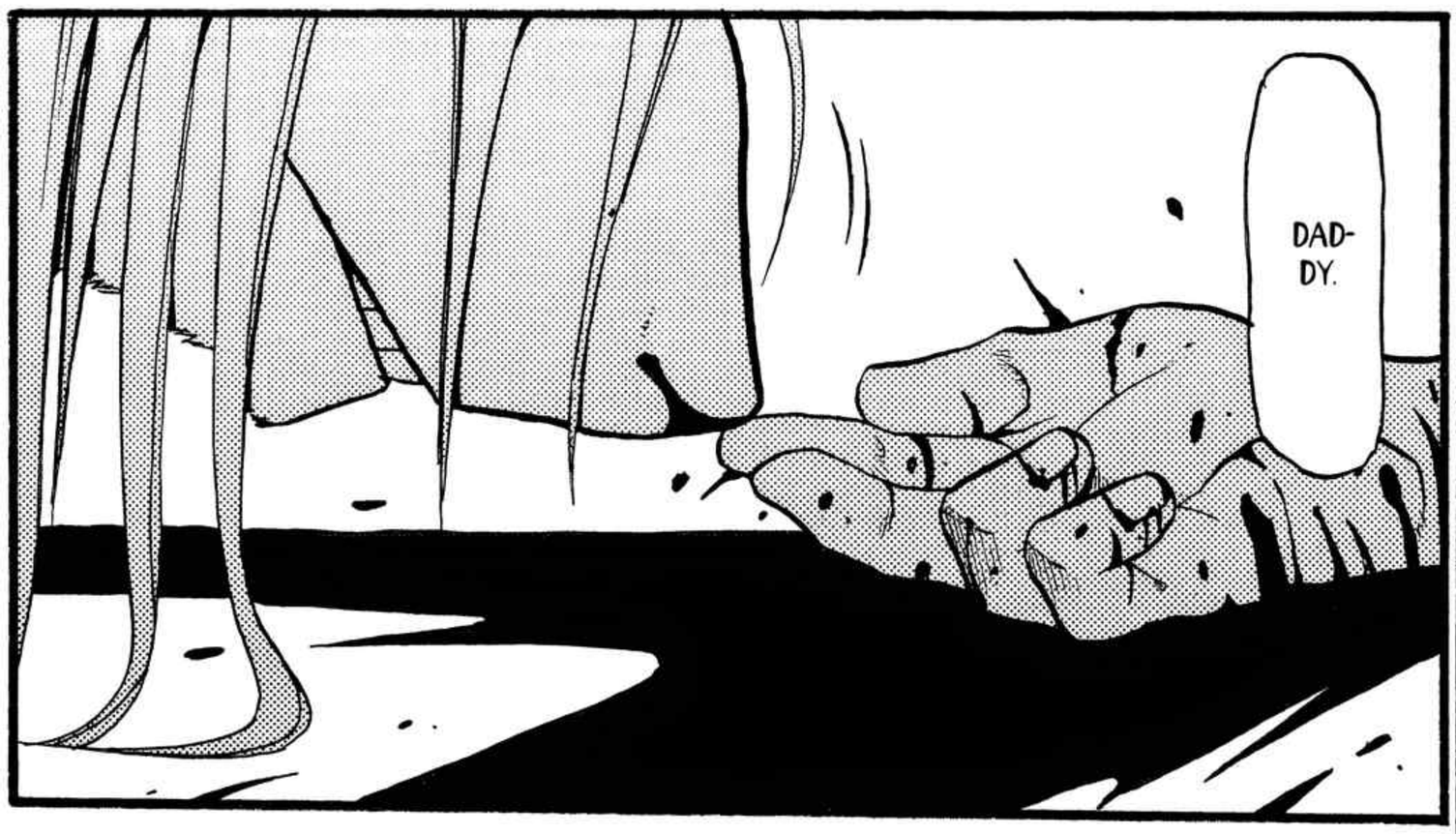

...MUST DIE !
KRAK
KRIK
ALCHEM-ISTS WHO HAVE STRAYED FROM THE PATH OF GOD...


prp

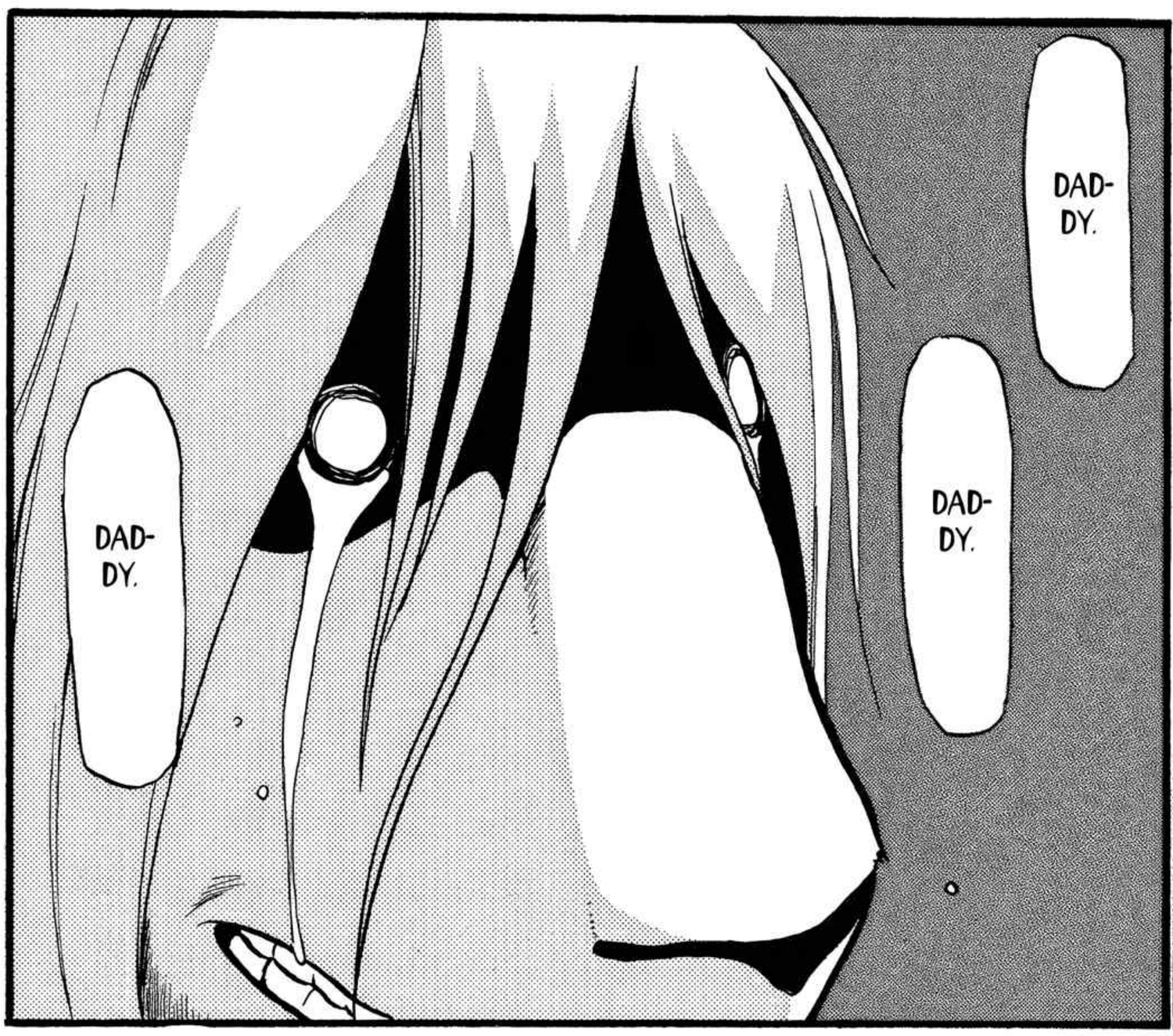


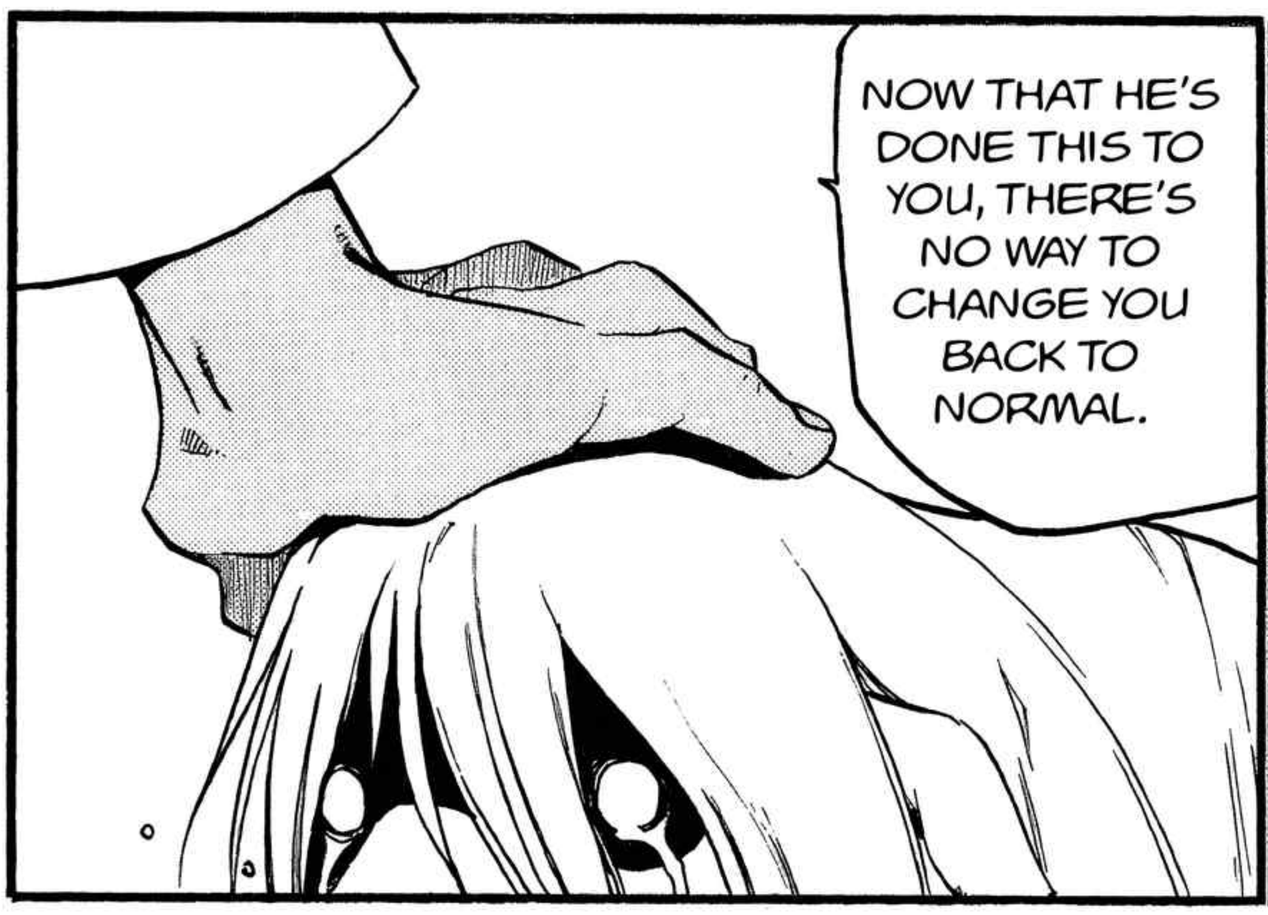

SPLSH

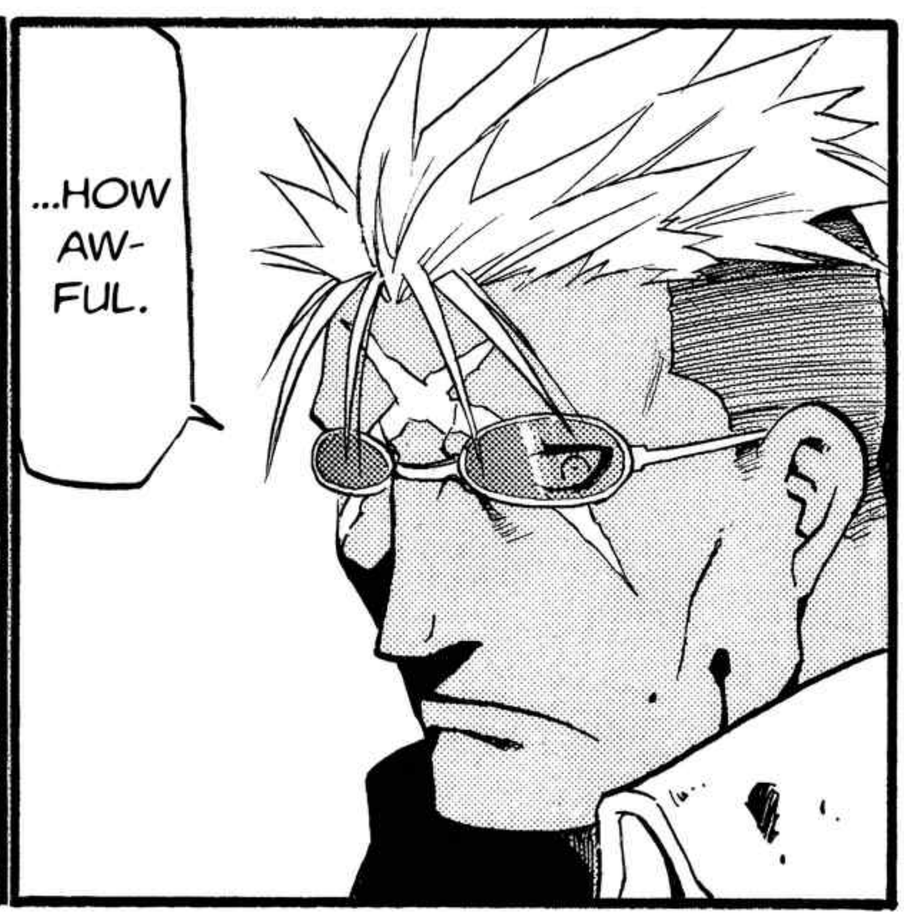

WHUMP
SPLSH

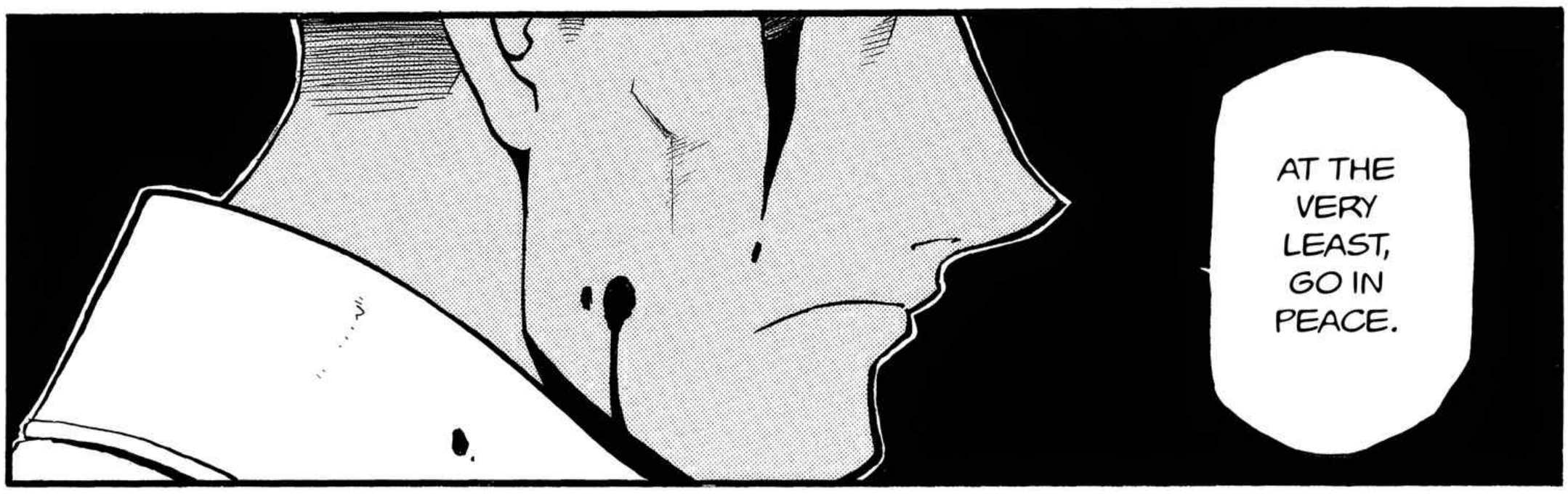

DAD-
DY.

DA-
DA...


DAD-
DY.
DAD-
DY.
DAD-
DY.


NOW THAT HE'S DONE THIS TO YOU, THERE'S NO WAY TO CHANGE YOU BACK TO NORMAL.

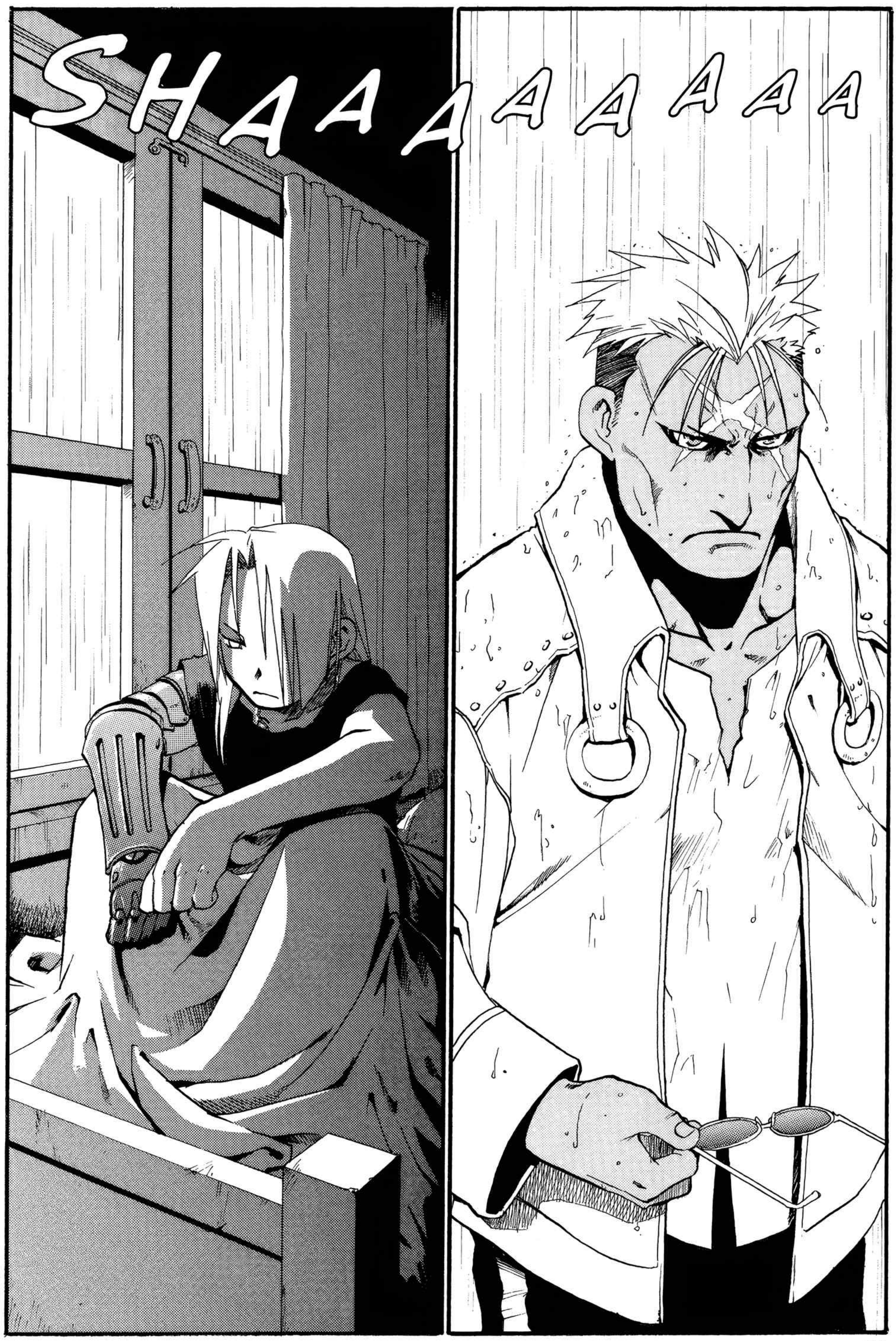

...HOW AW-
FUL.


AT THE VERY LEAST, GO IN PEACE.

SHAAA A A

TWO SOULS HAVE NOW RETURNED TO YOUR SIDE.
PLEASE TAKE PITY ON THEM... AND GRANT THEM FORGIVENESS AND PEACE IN YOUR LOVING EMBRACE.

MY LORD.
LORD GOD, WHO CREATED EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD...


SHAAAAAAAA

FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST

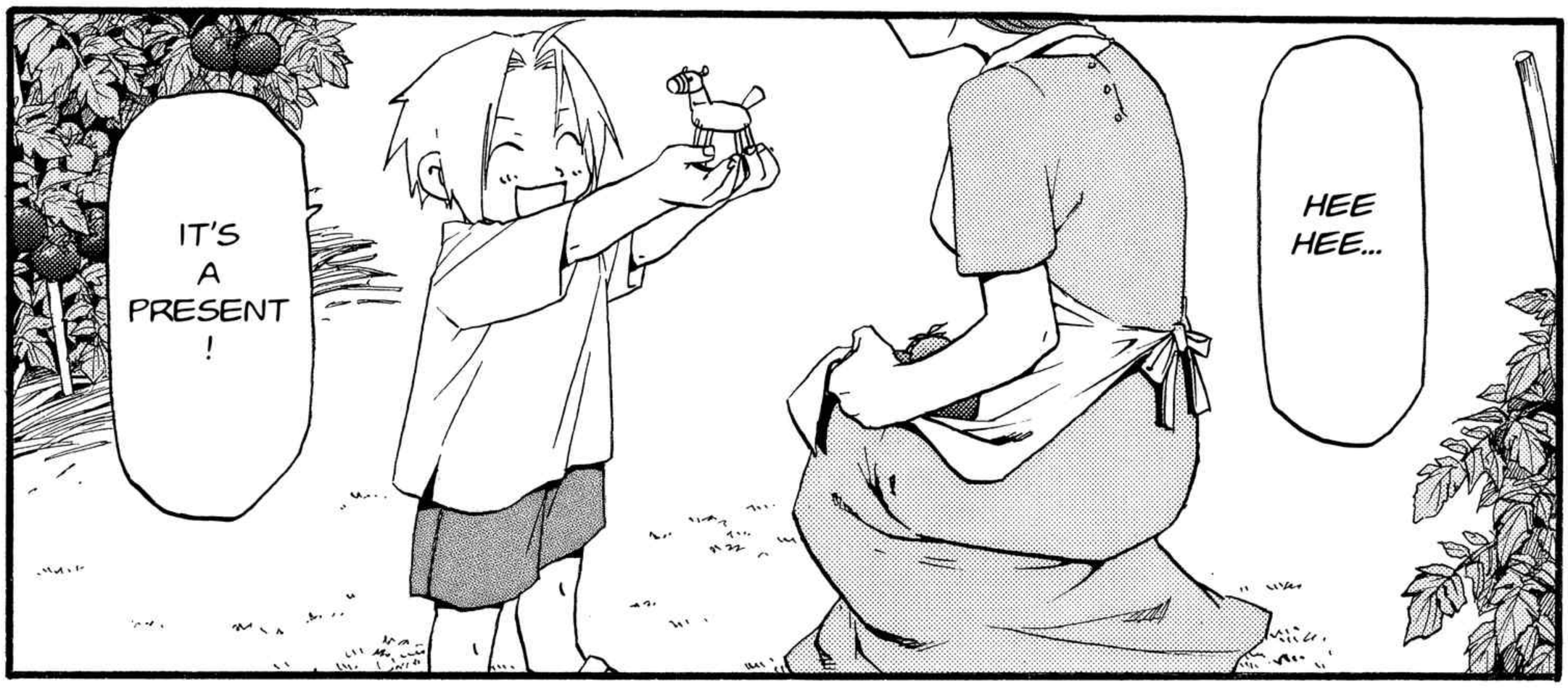
Chapter 6: The Right Hand of Destruction

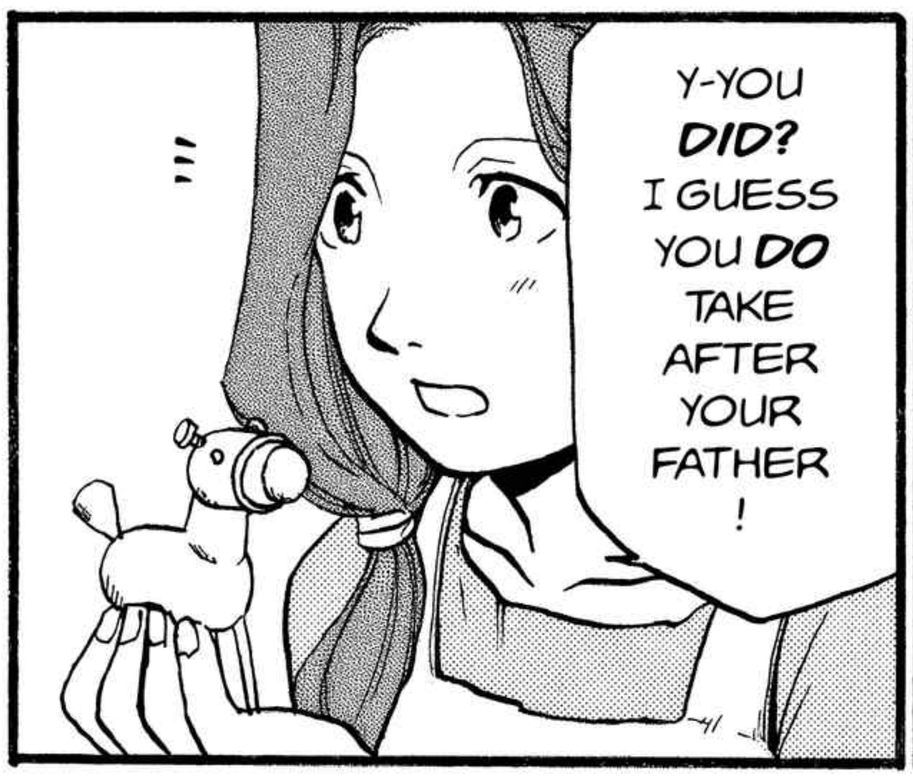
MOM !

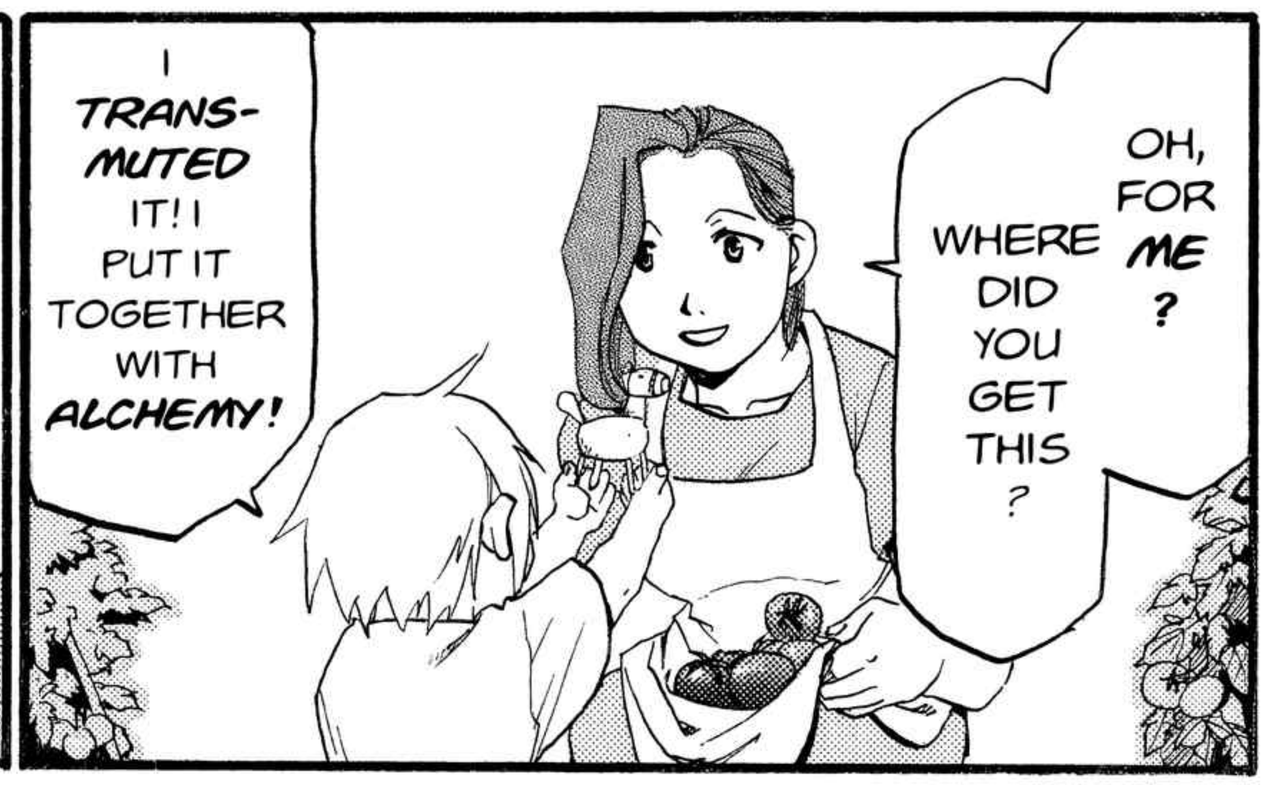
MOM !

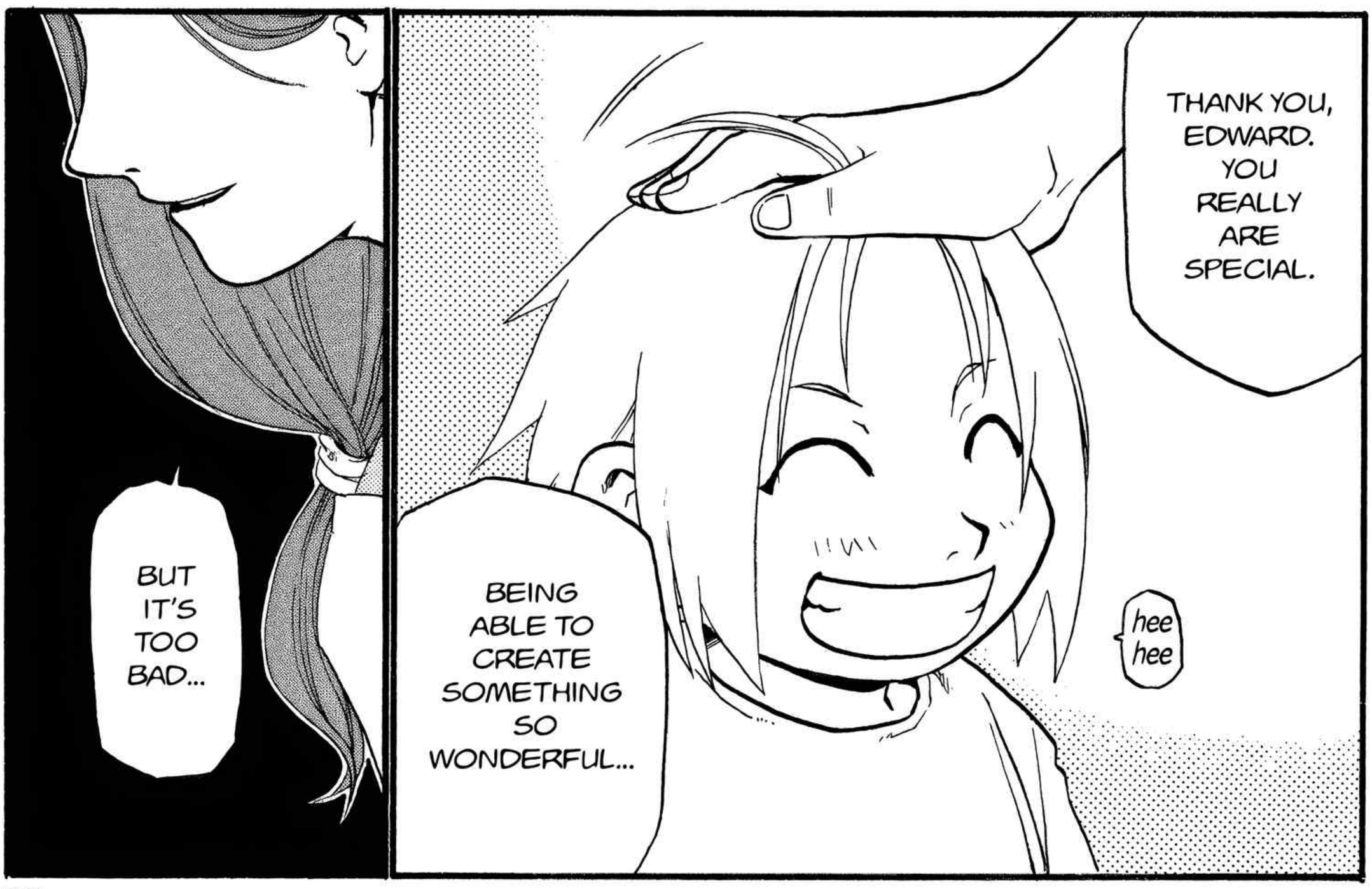
WHAT IS IT, EDWARD ?

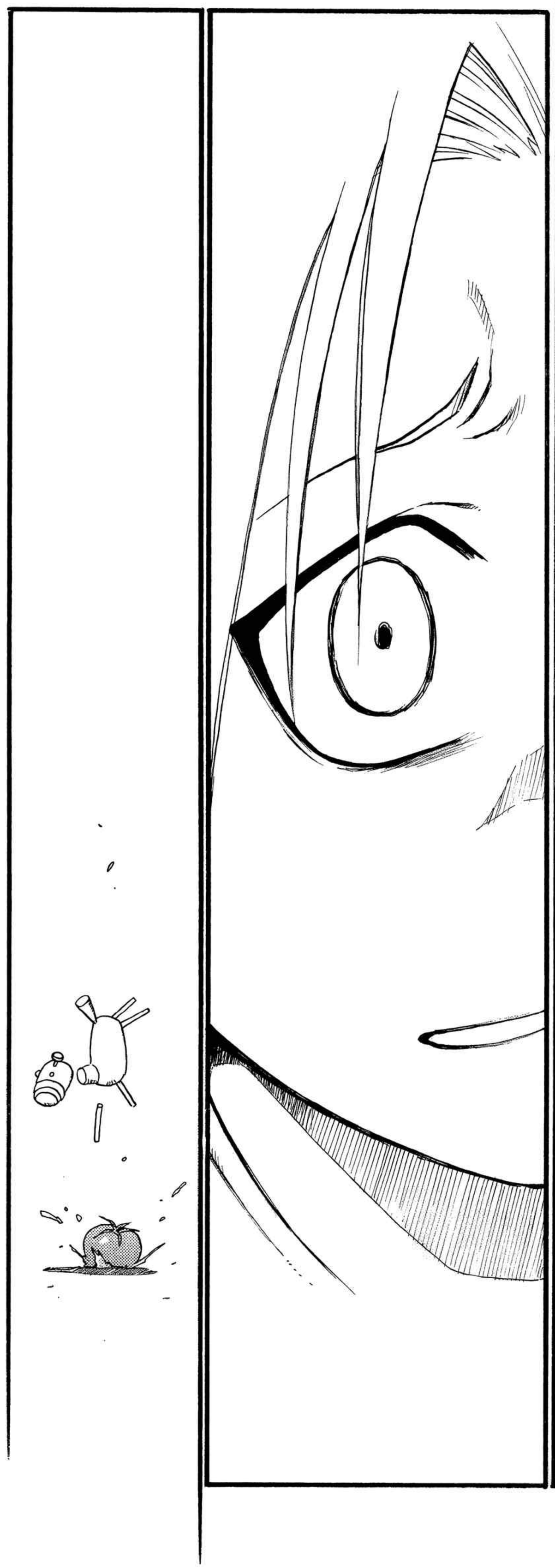
MOM, COME LOOK !


IT'S A PRESENT !
HEE HEE...


Y-YOU DID? I GUESS YOU DO TAKE AFTER YOUR FATHER !

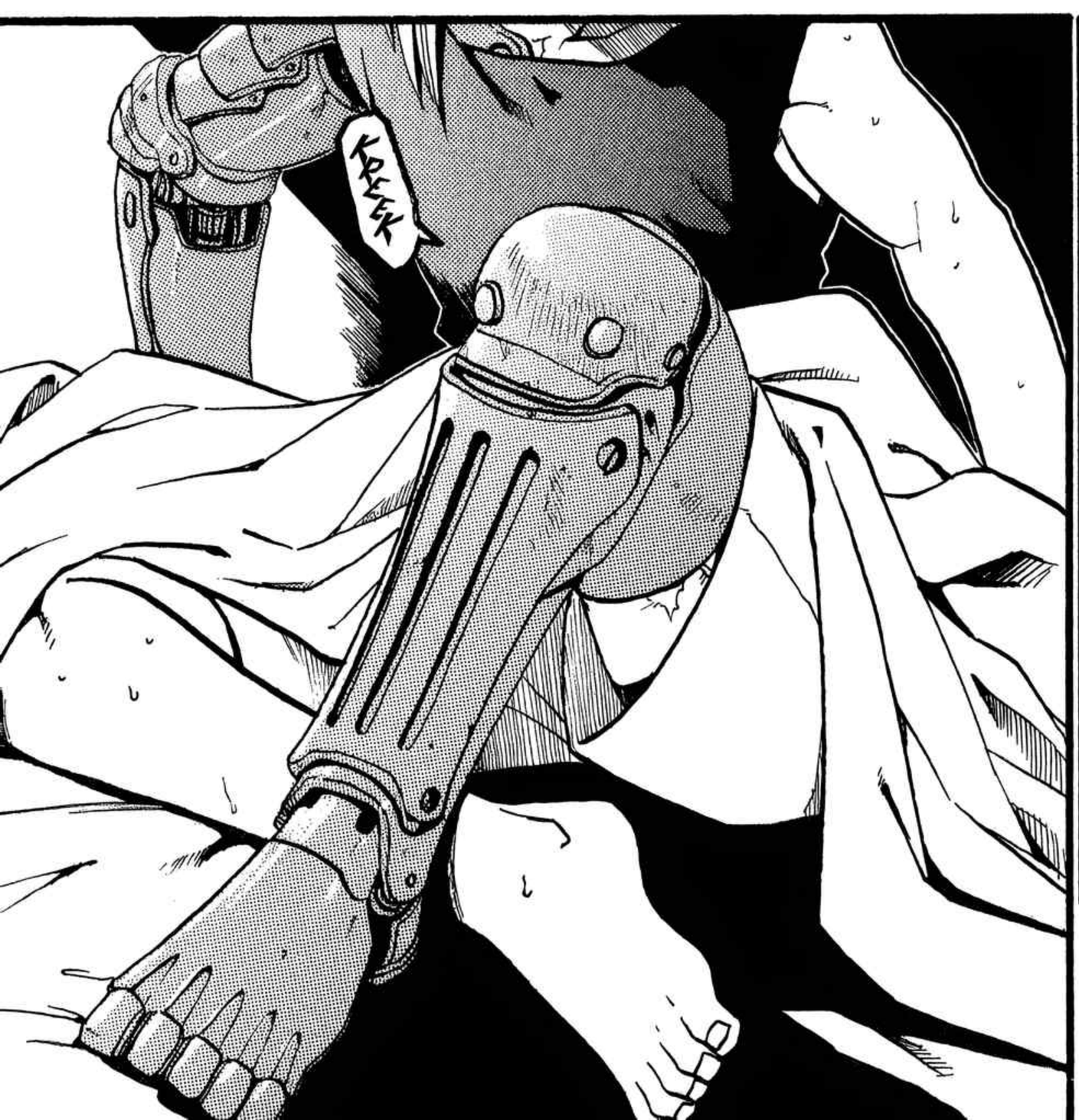

I TRANS-MUTED IT! I PUT IT TOGETHER WITH ALCHEMY!
OH, FOR ME ? WHERE DID YOU GET THIS ?

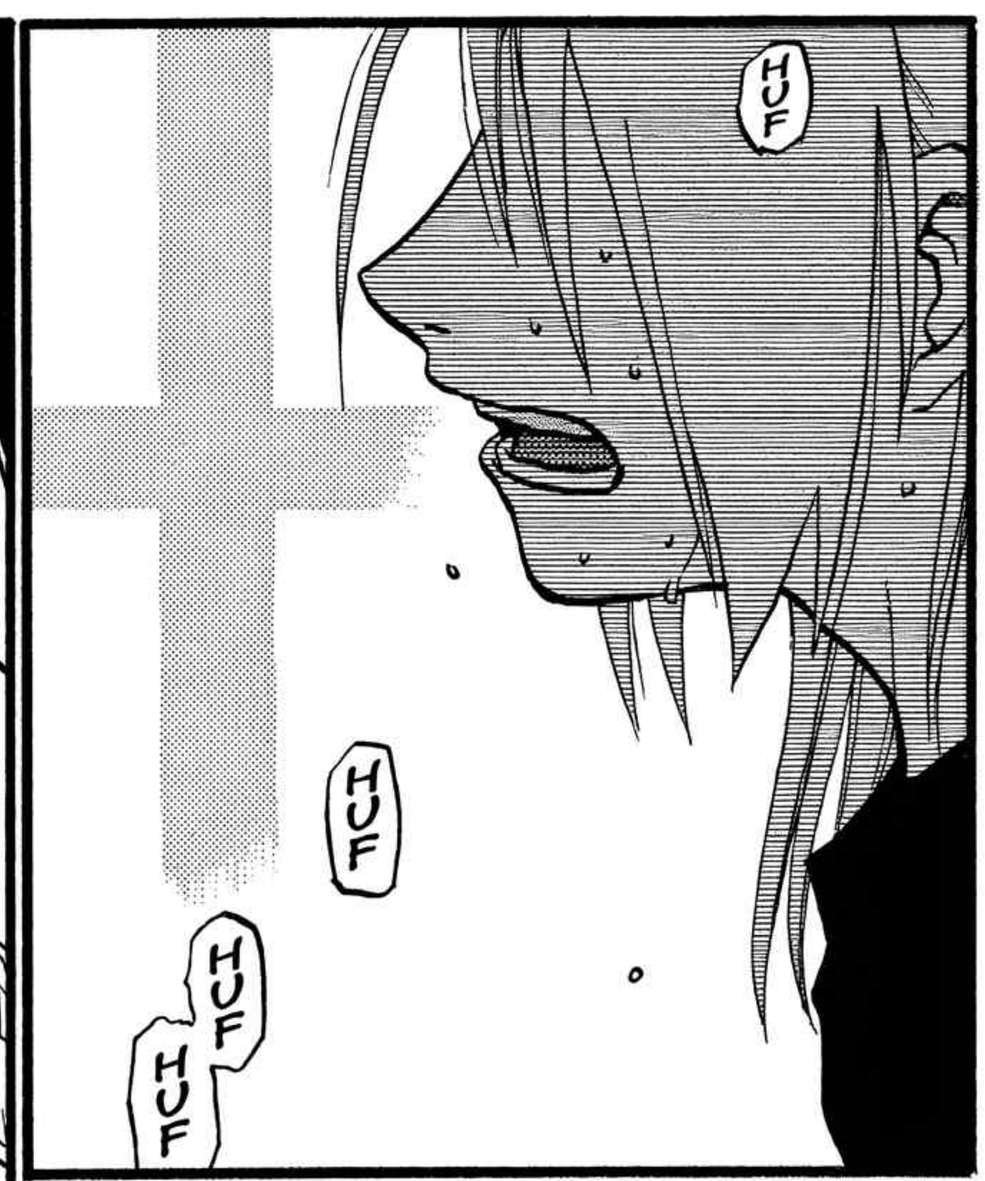

BUT IT'S TOO BAD...
BEING ABLE TO CREATE SOMETHING SO WONDERFUL...
THANK YOU, EDWARD. YOU REALLY ARE SPECIAL.
hee hee



...YOU COULDN'T PUT ME BACK TOGETHER TOO.

HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF


KREEK

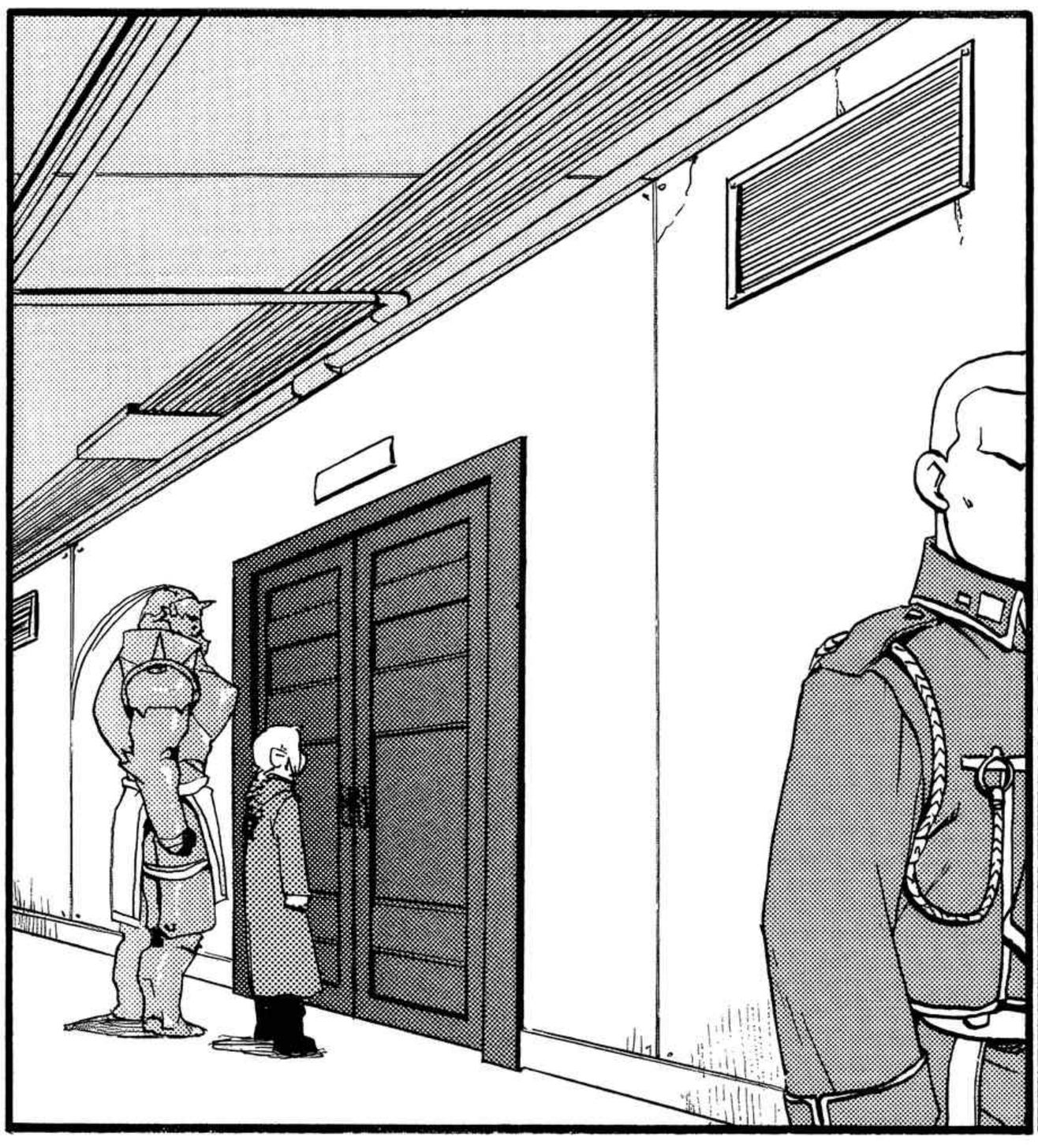

HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF

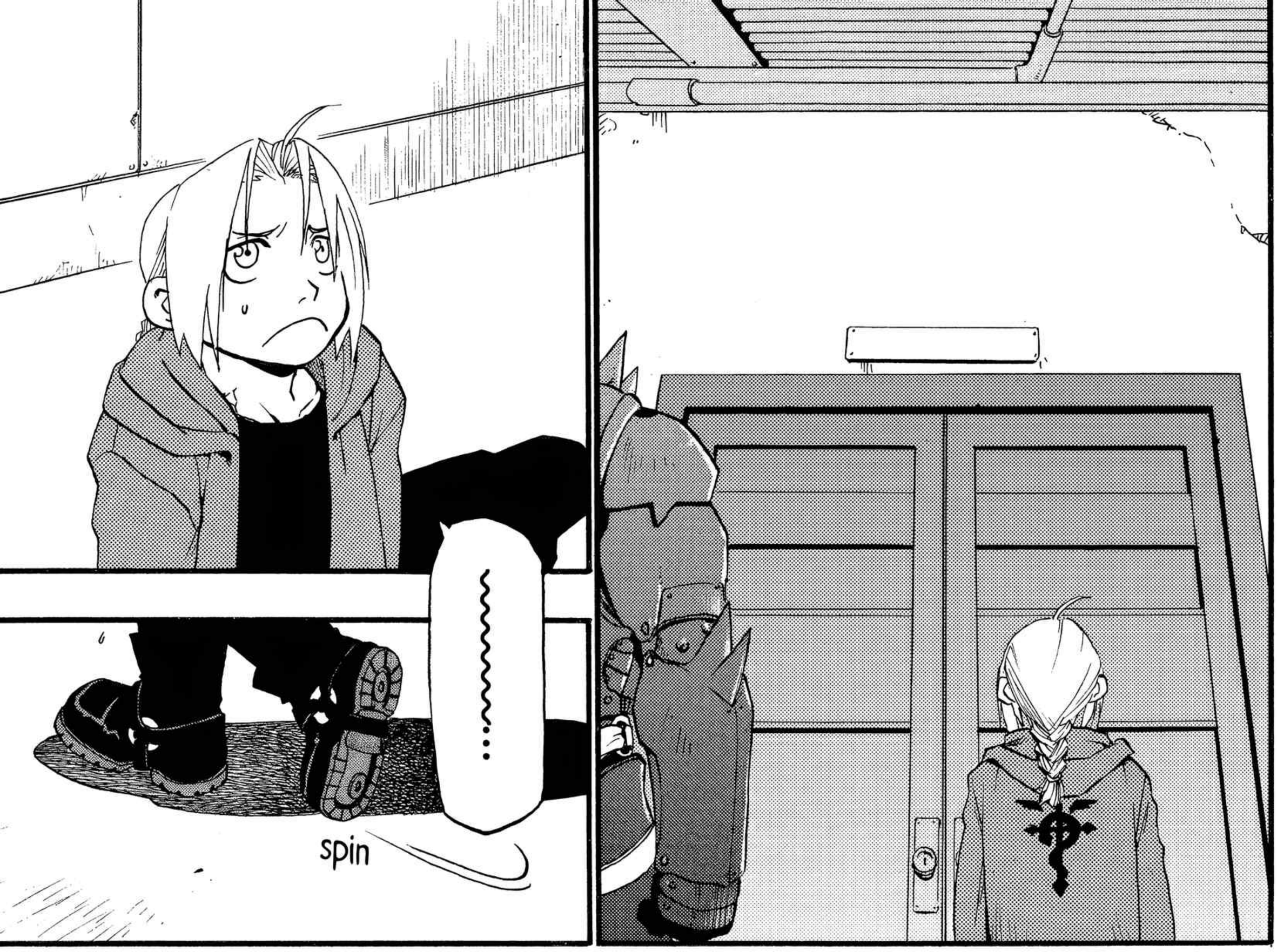
IT HURTS...

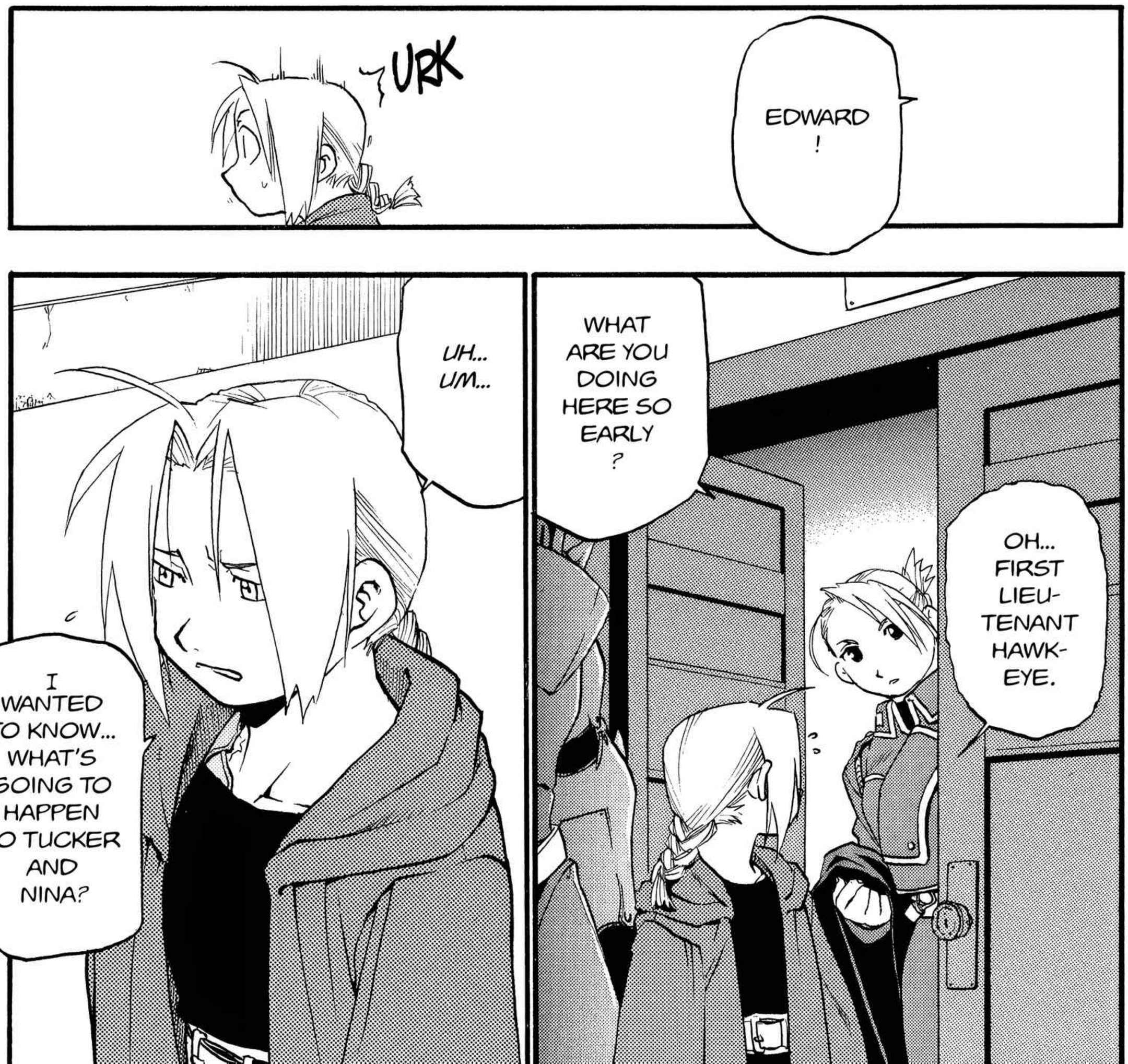
SKRRR

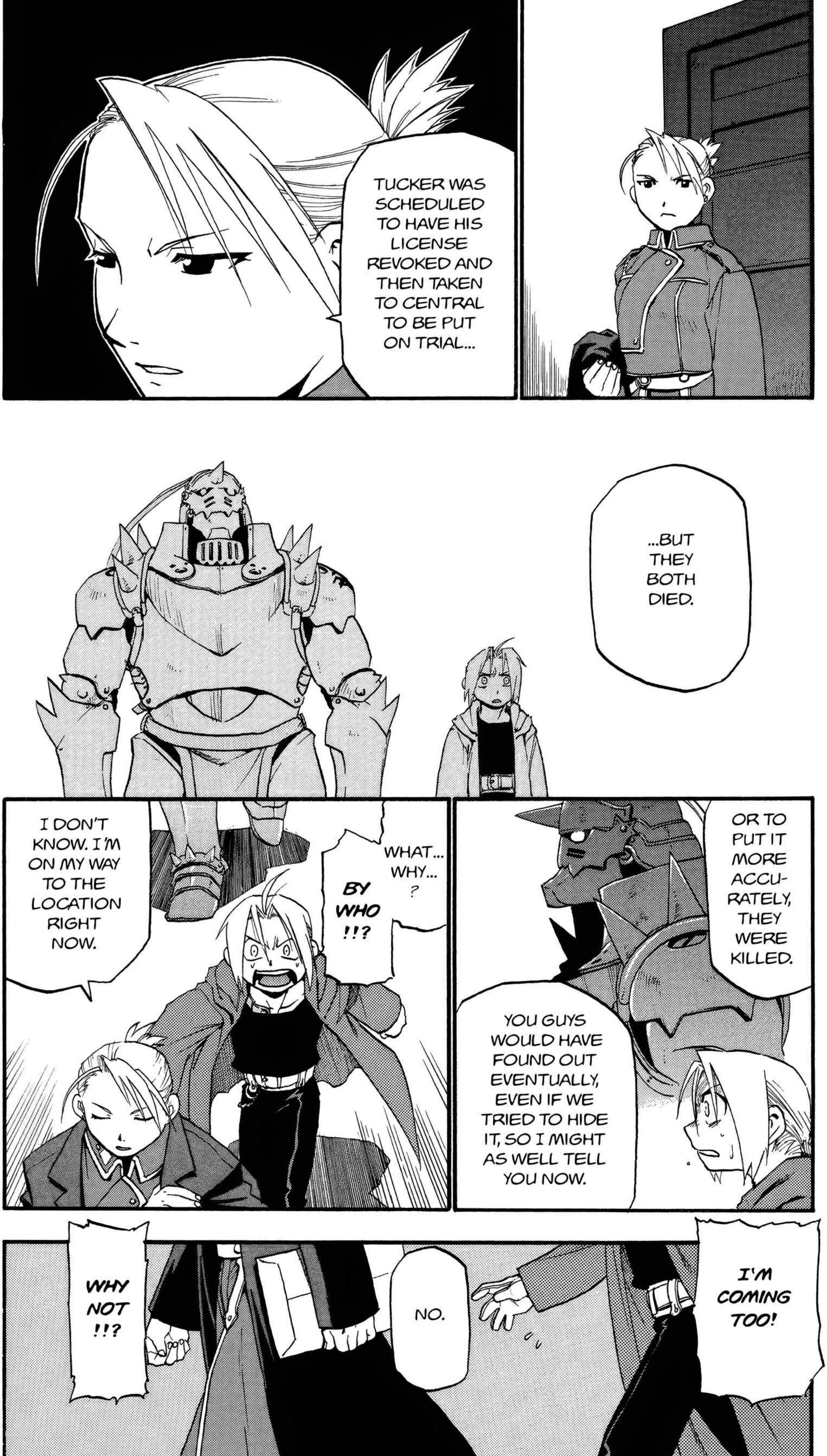
HUF

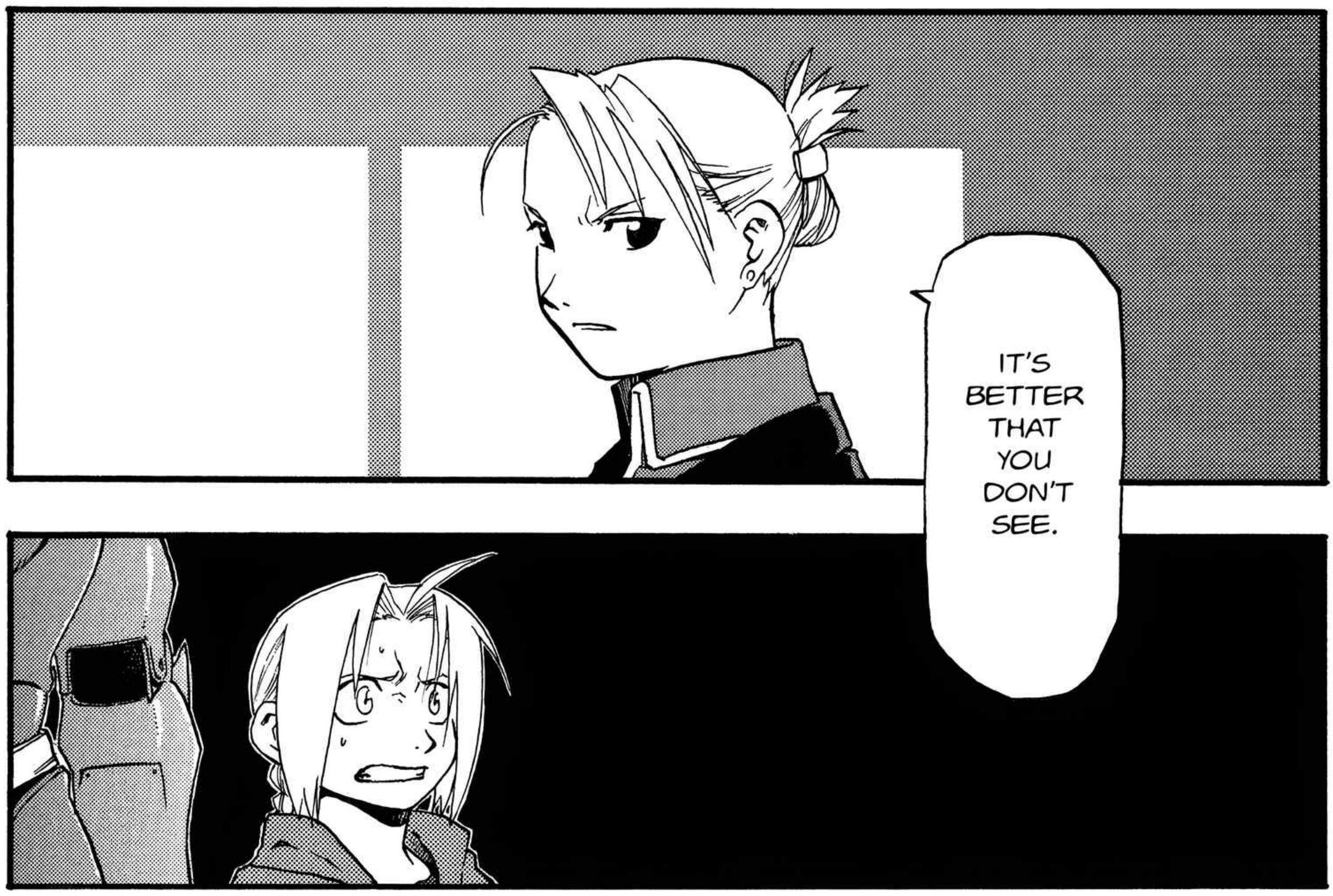
HUF




.....
spin


URK
EDWARD !
UH... UM...
I WANTED TO KNOW... WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO TUCKER AND NINA?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE SO EARLY ?
OH... FIRST LIEU-TENANT HAWK-EYE.

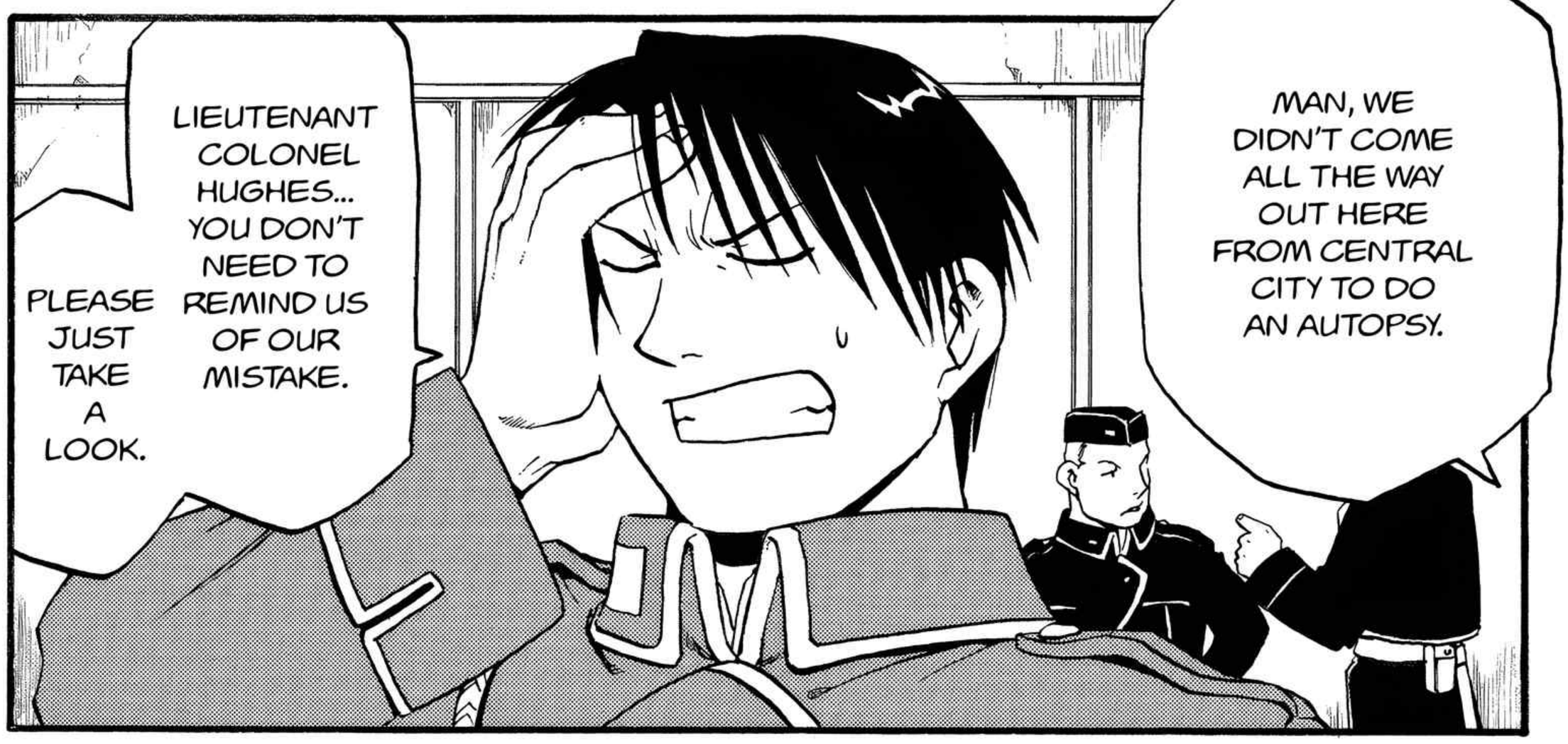

TUCKER WAS SCHEDULED TO HAVE HIS LICENSE REVOKED AND THEN TAKEN TO CENTRAL TO BE PUT ON TRIAL...
...BUT THEY BOTH DIED.
I DON'T KNOW. I'M ON MY WAY TO THE LOCATION RIGHT NOW.
WHAT... WHY...?
BY WHO!!?
OR TO PUT IT MORE ACCURATELY, THEY WERE KILLED.
YOU GUYS WOULD HAVE FOUND OUT EVENTUALLY, EVEN IF WE TRIED TO HIDE IT, SO I MIGHT AS WELL TELL YOU NOW.
WHY NOT!!?
NO.
I'M COMING TOO!


IT'S BETTER THAT YOU DON'T SEE.

WE CAME TO GET TUCKER *ALIVE*...

HEY, HEY, COLONEL MUSTANG.

ARE YOU TELLING US TO PUT THIS CORPSE ON TRIAL?



EWW... JUST AS I THOUGHT.

HMM... IF THIS GUY REALLY USED HIS OWN WIFE AS AN EXPERI-MENT...

IT MUST HAVE BEEN DIVINE JUSTICE.

IT'S HIM.

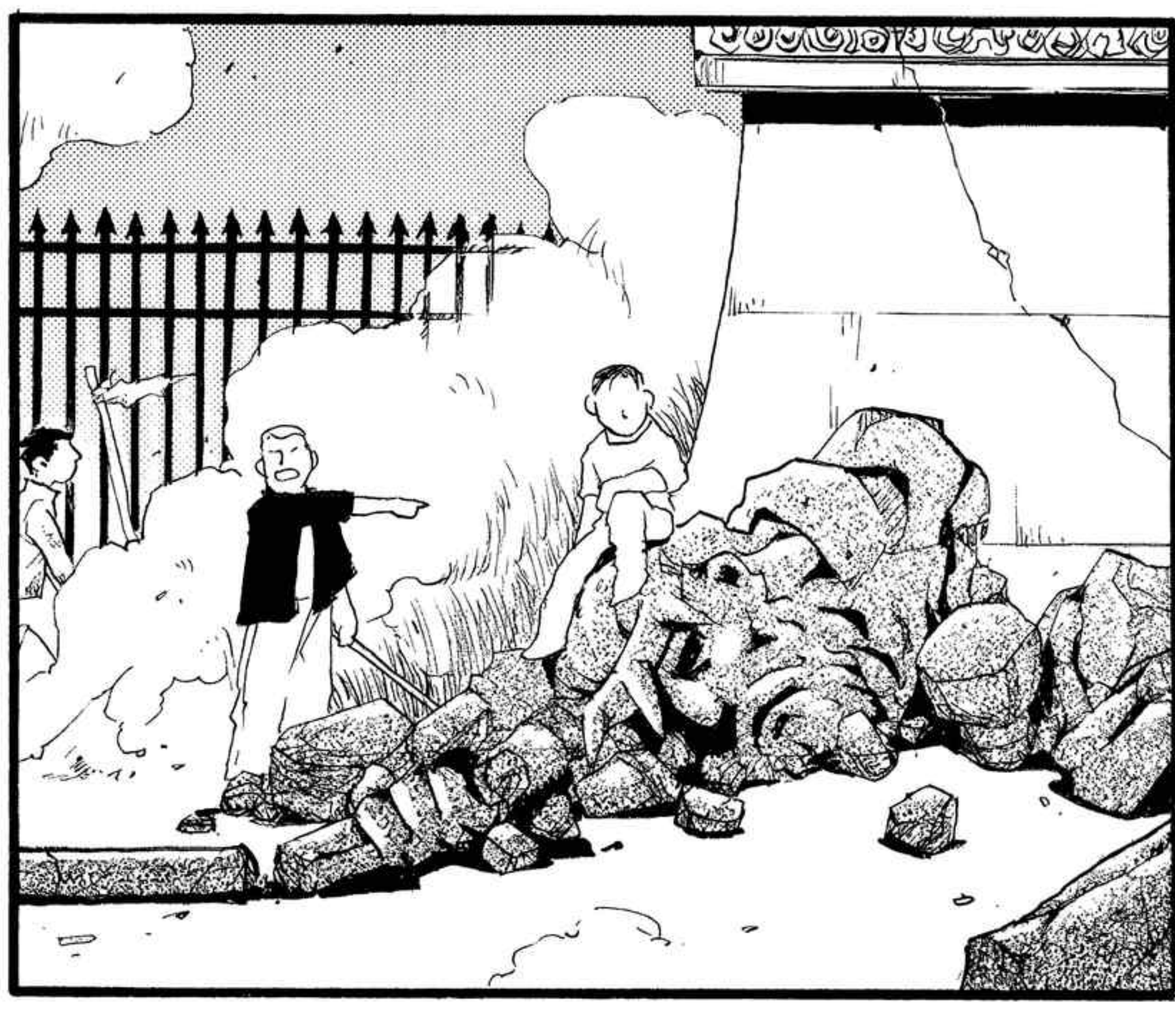
DID THE GUARDS OUTSIDE DIE THE SAME WAY?

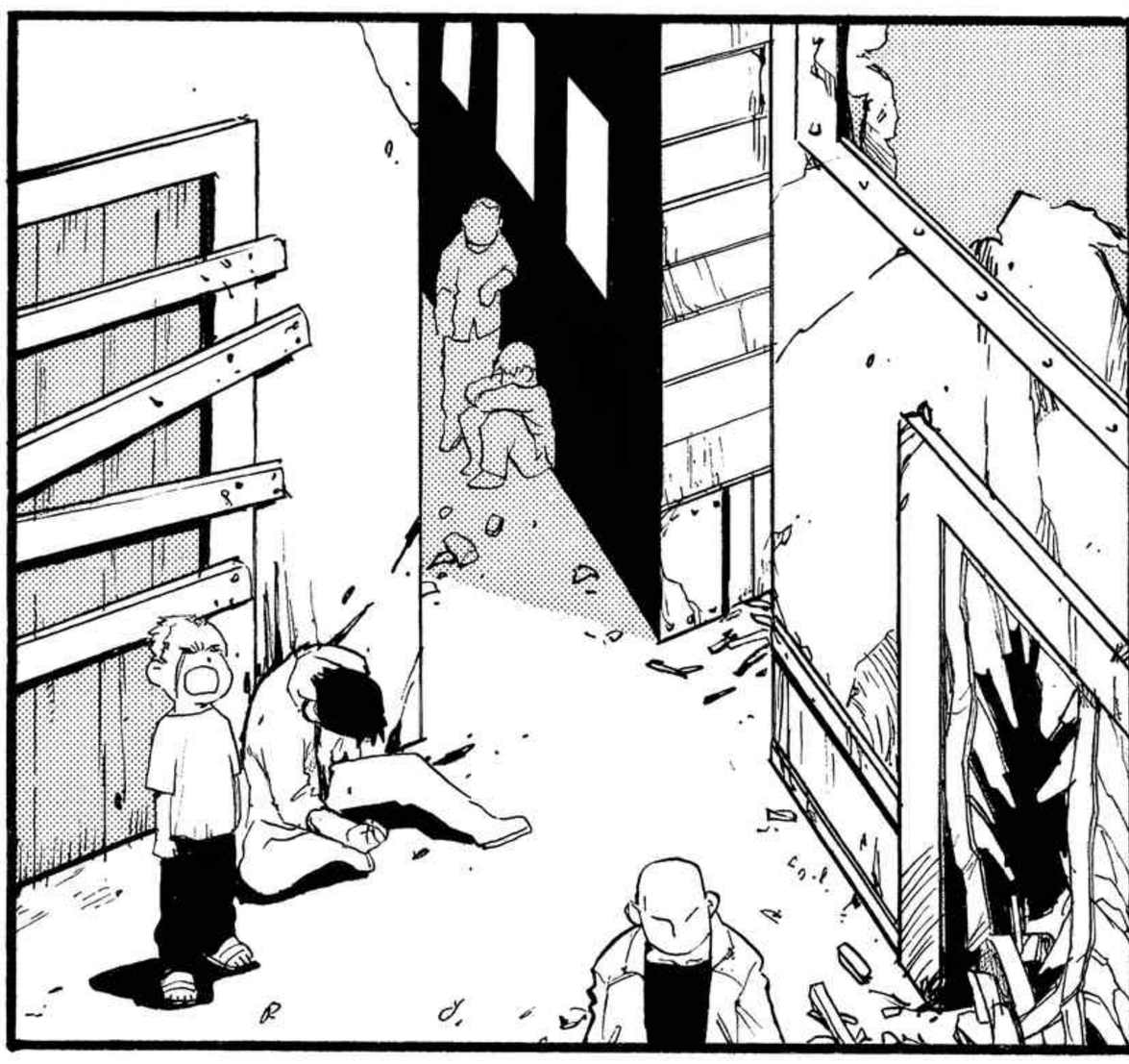
THAT'S RIGHT.

THEY WERE IN PIECES... OR GETTING THAT WAY... AS IF THEY WERE BLOWN APART FROM THE INSIDE.

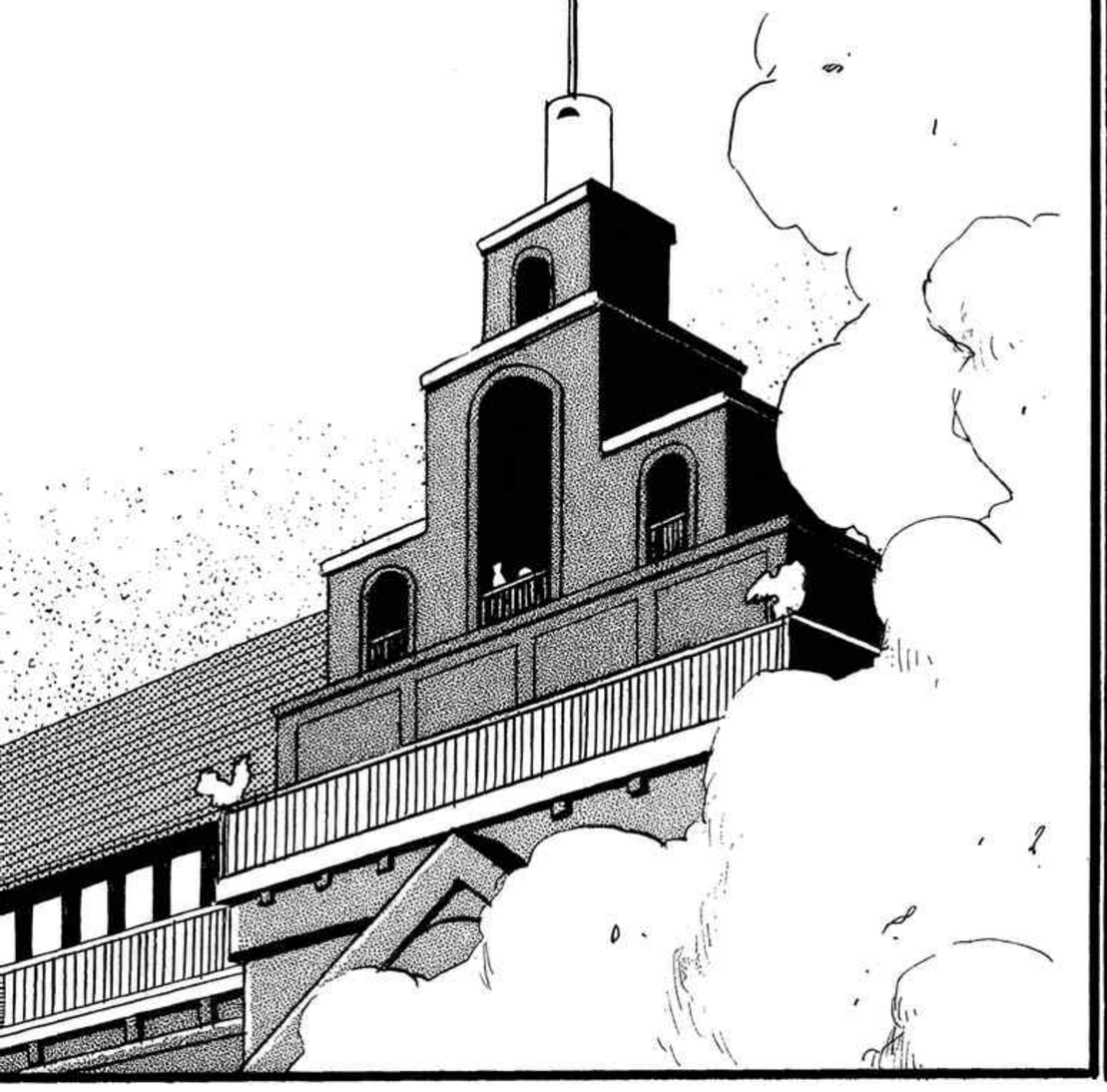
ARE YOU THINKING WHAT I'M THINKING, MAJOR ARM-STRONG ?

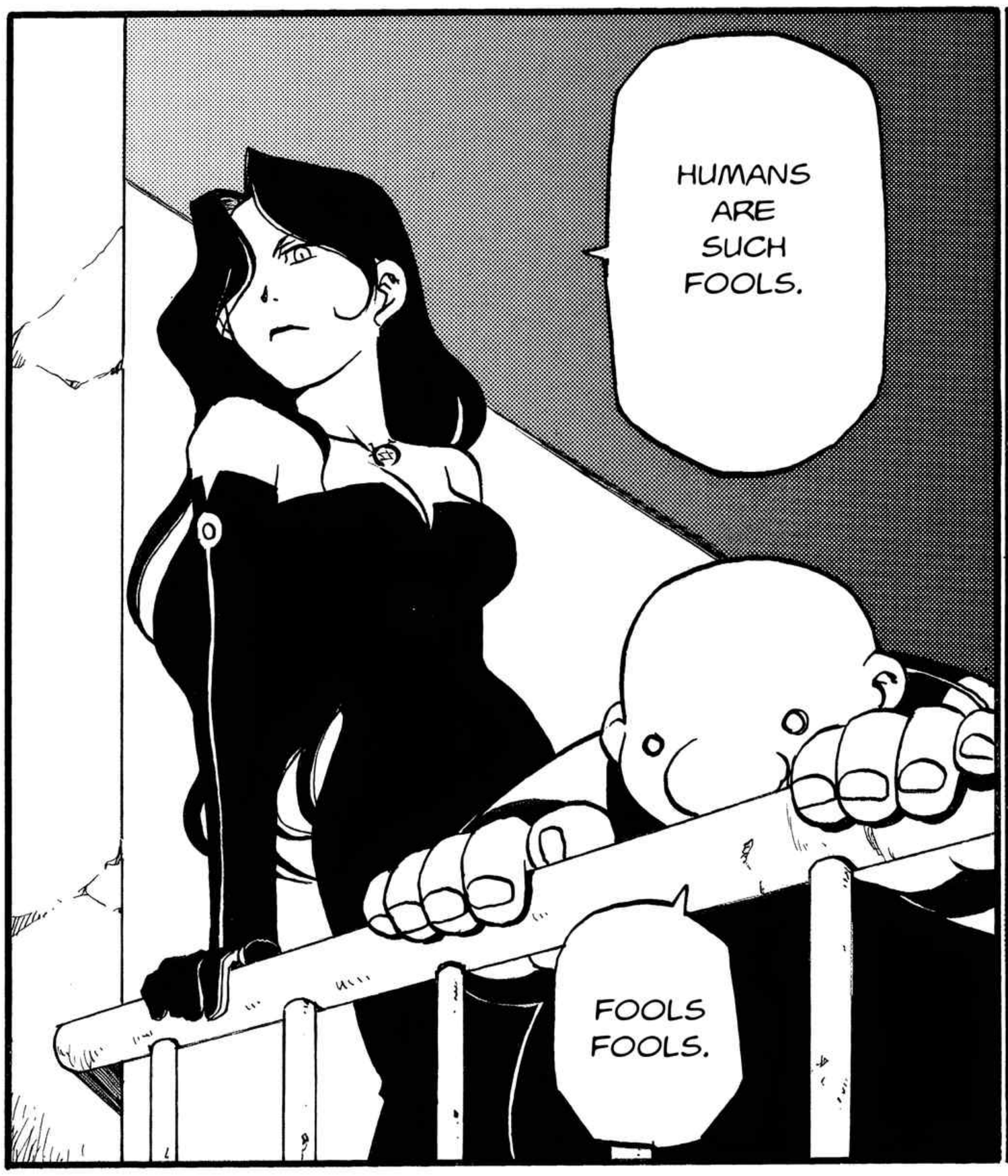
YES, THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.

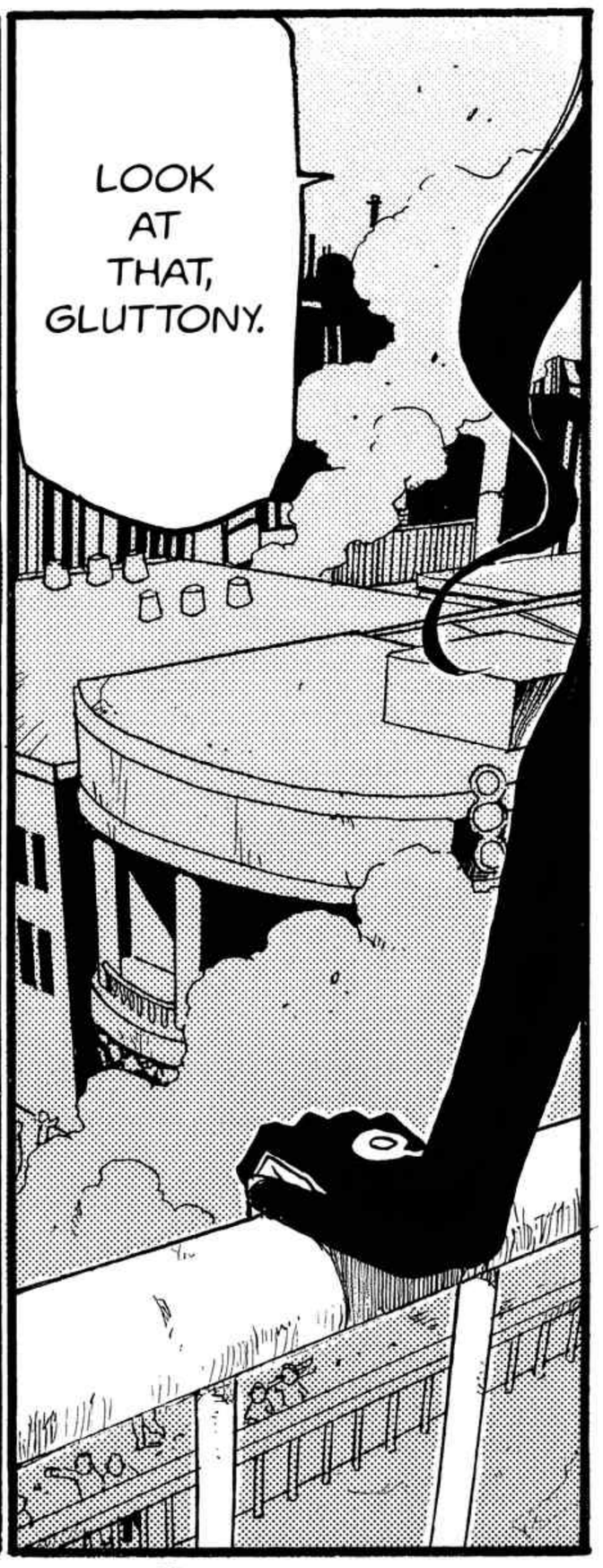




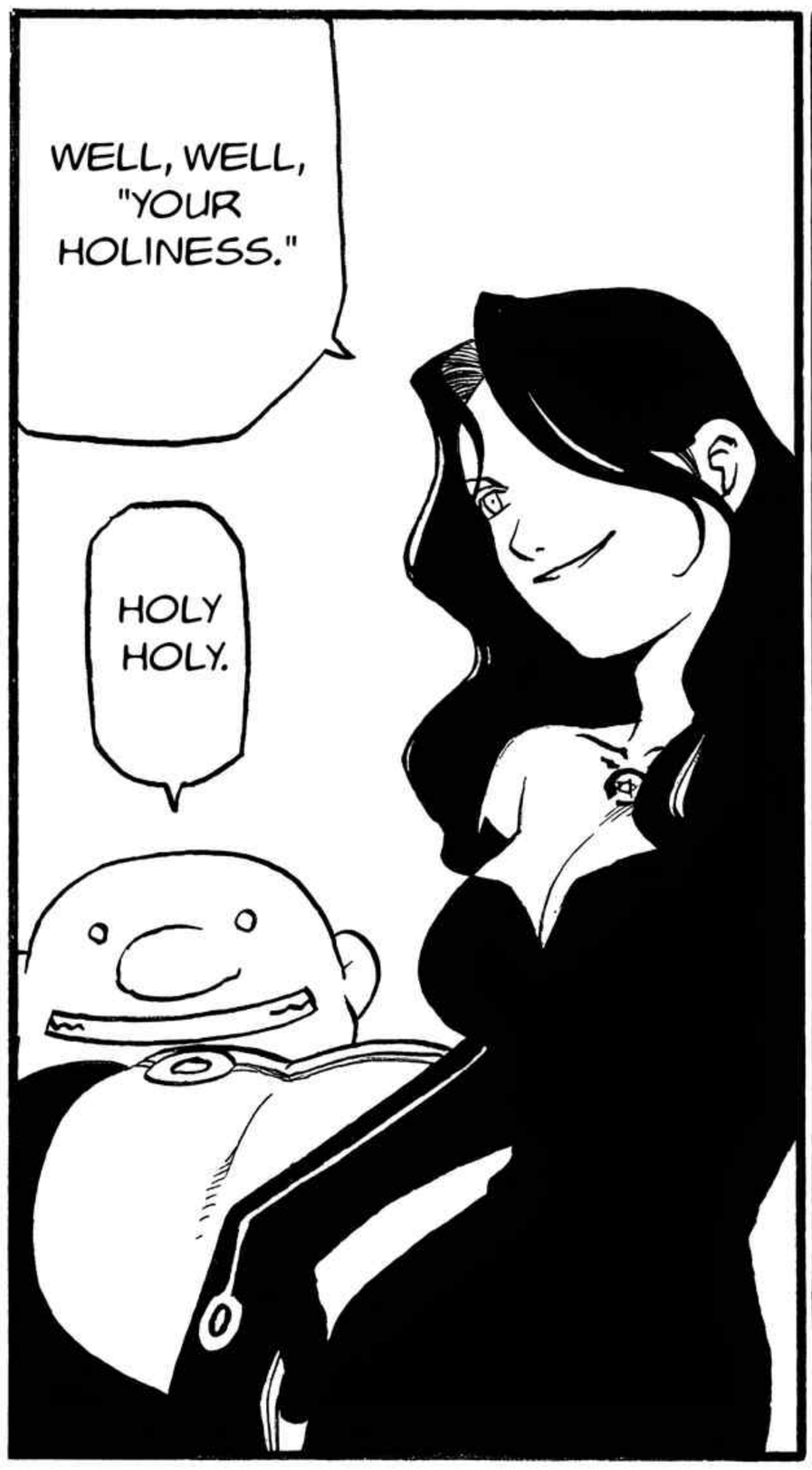
GWOOOO
RRRAAAA

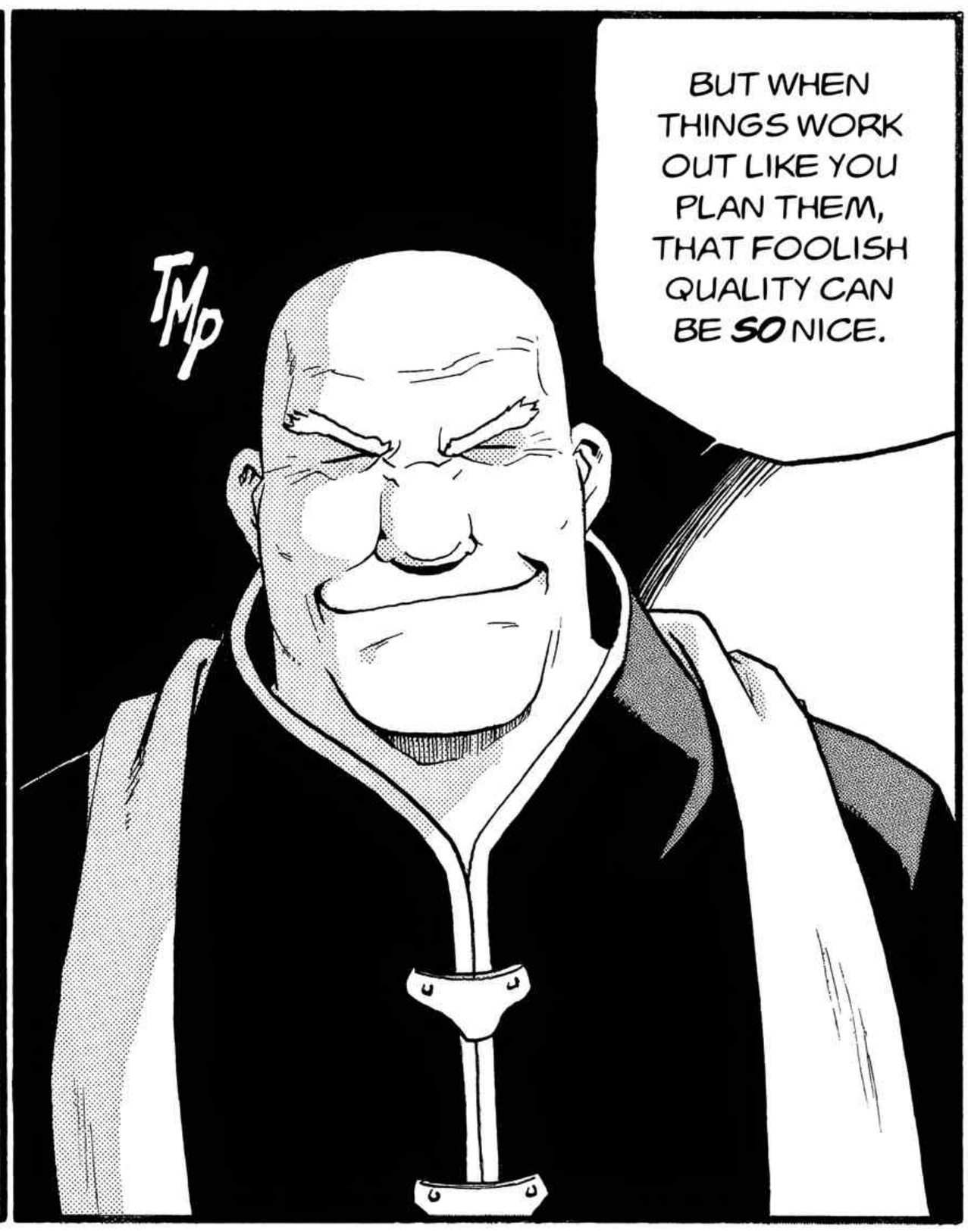


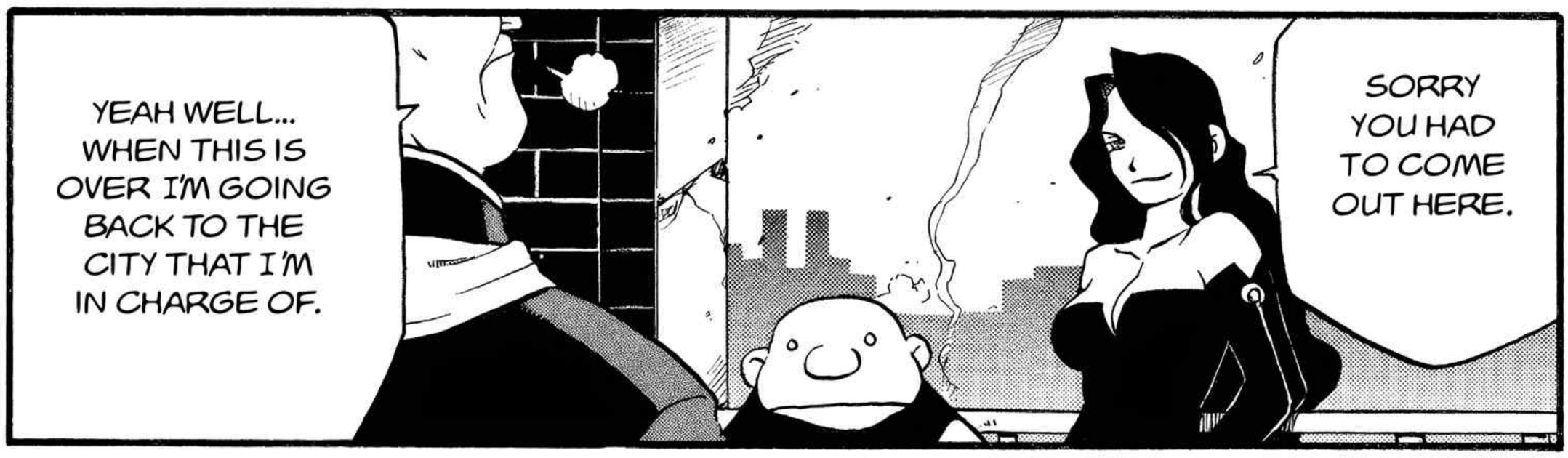

HUMANS ARE SUCH FOOLS.
FOOLS FOOLS.

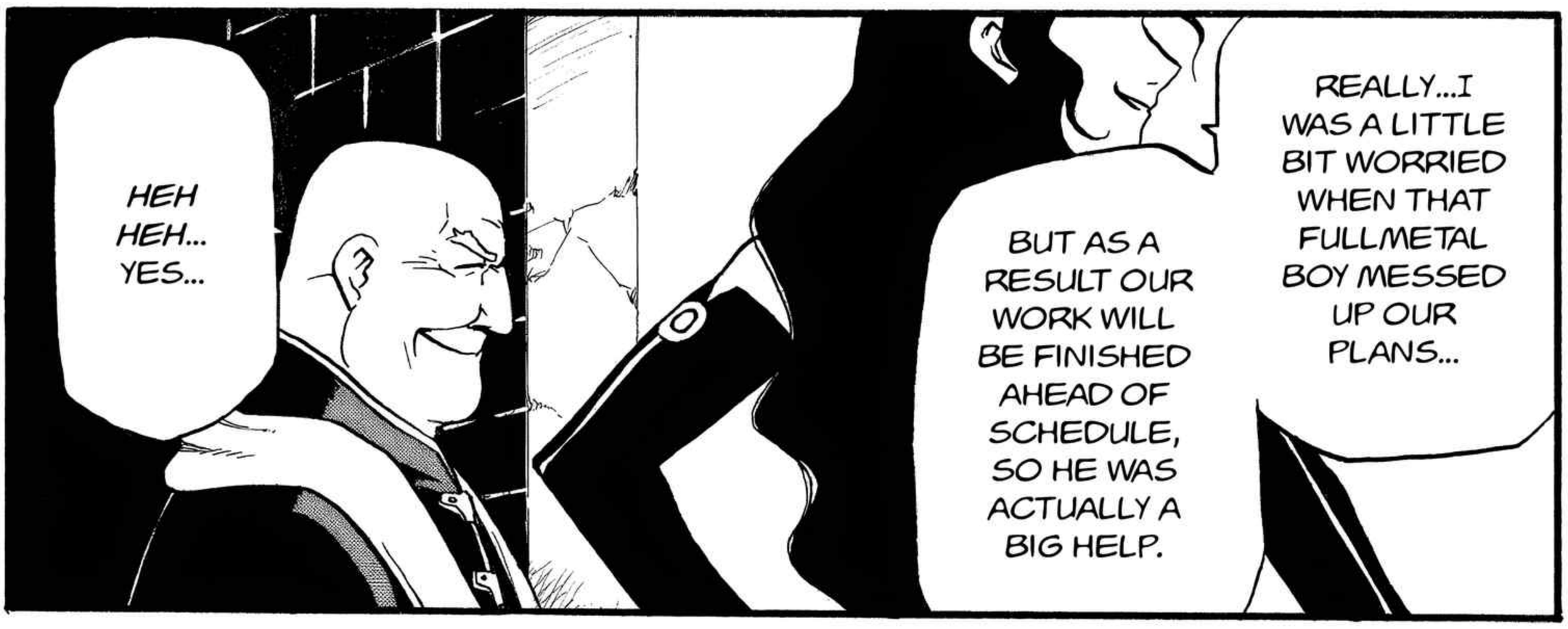

LOOK AT THAT, GLUTTONY.

QUITE RIGHT.

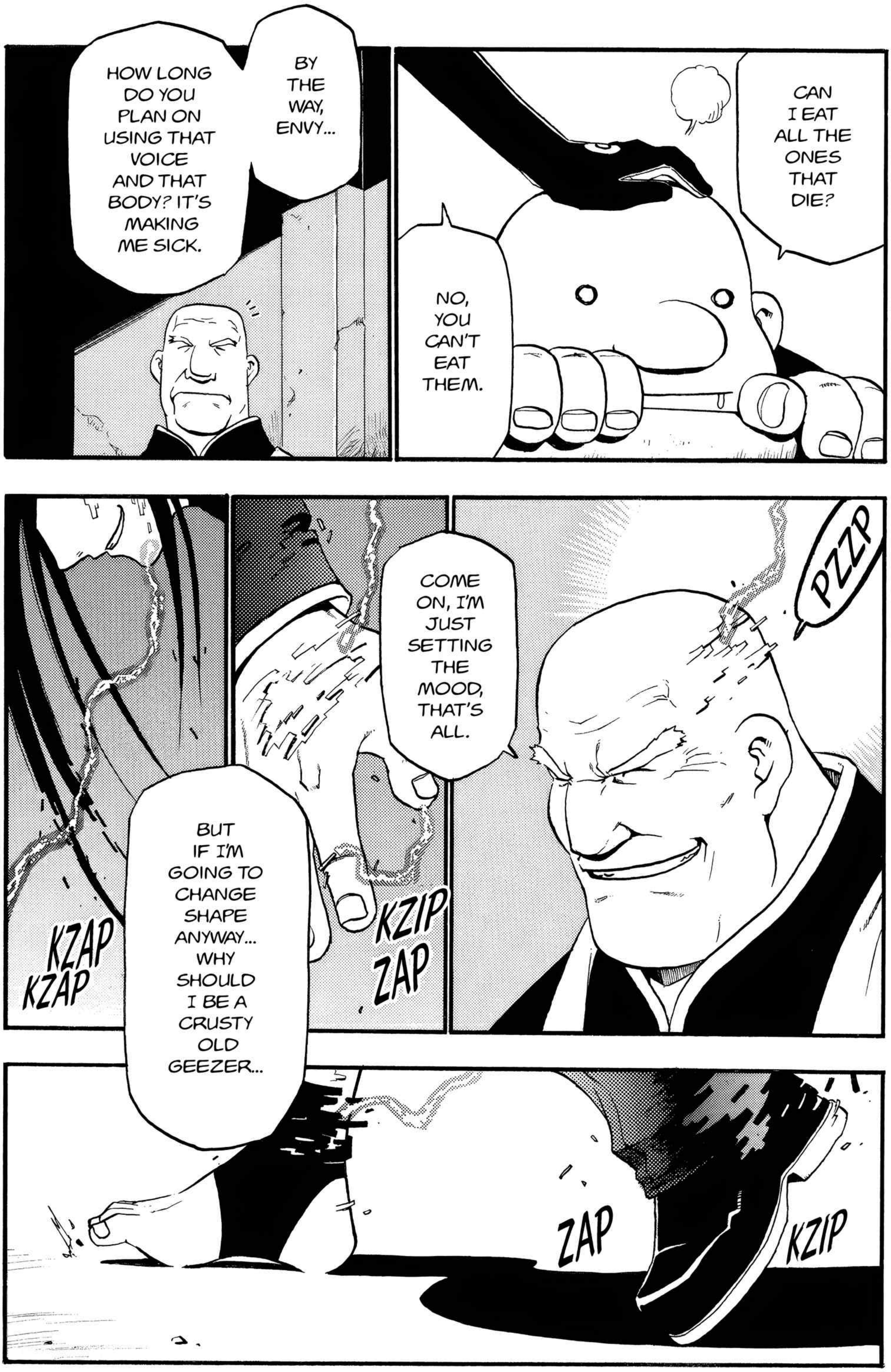

WELL, WELL, "YOUR HOLINESS."
HOLY HOLY.


TMP
BUT WHEN THINGS WORK OUT LIKE YOU PLAN THEM, THAT FOOLISH QUALITY CAN BE SO NICE.

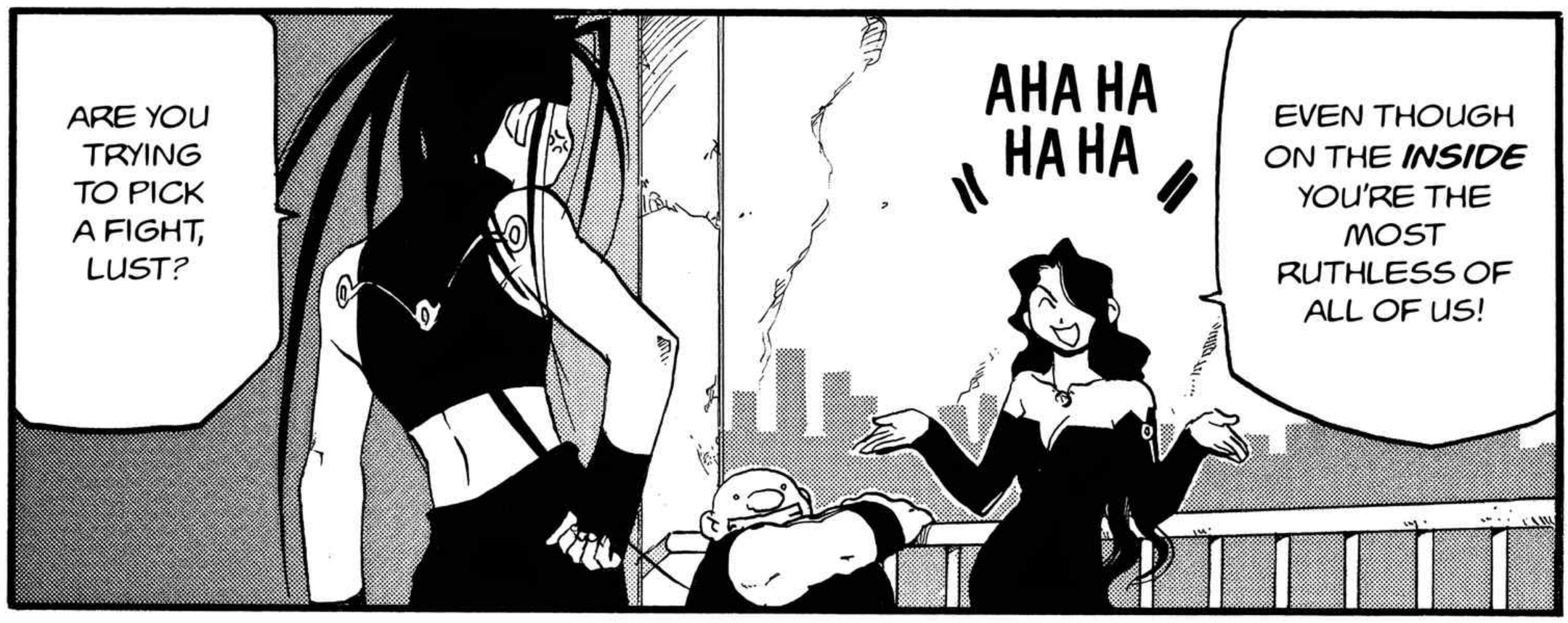

YEAH WELL... WHEN THIS IS OVER I'M GOING BACK TO THE CITY THAT I'M IN CHARGE OF.
SORRY YOU HAD TO COME OUT HERE.

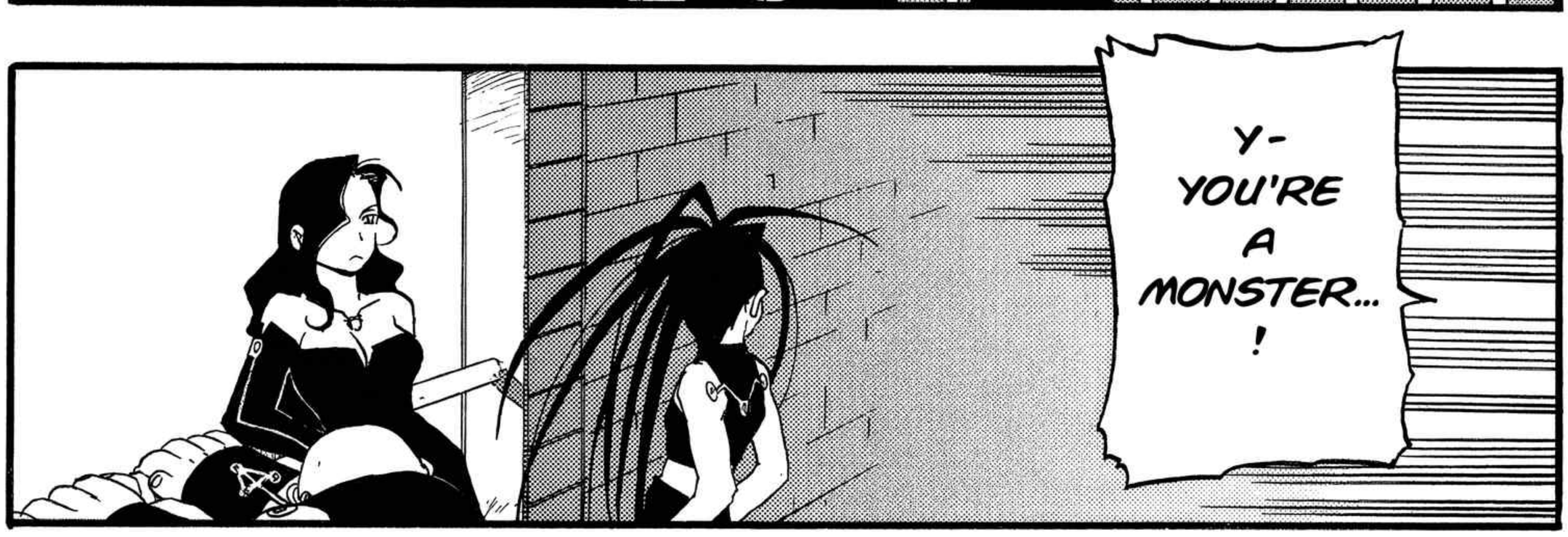

HEH HEH... YES...
BUT AS A RESULT OUR WORK WILL BE FINISHED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, SO HE WAS ACTUALLY A BIG HELP.
REALLY...I WAS A LITTLE BIT WORRIED WHEN THAT FULLMETAL BOY MESSED UP OUR PLANS...

BLOOD-SHED BEGETS BLOOD-SHED. HATRED BEGETS HATRED.
THE RAGE AND EMOTION SINKS INTO THE LAND AND STAINS IT WITH THE CREST OF BLOOD.
ALL IT TOOK WAS FOR YOU TO SPREAD SOME PROPAGANDA AMONG MY "FOLLOWERS," TO GET THEM STARTED, AND THIS IS THE RESULT.
HUMANS REALLY ARE SIMPLE CREATURES.
THAT'S WHY WE CAN DO ANYTHING TO THEM, RIGHT?
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES THEY REPEAT THEM-SELVES, THEY NEVER LEARN.
THESE SAD FOOLS...
YES, I GUESS THEY'LL DIE.
WILL A LOT OF PEOPLE DIE AGAIN?

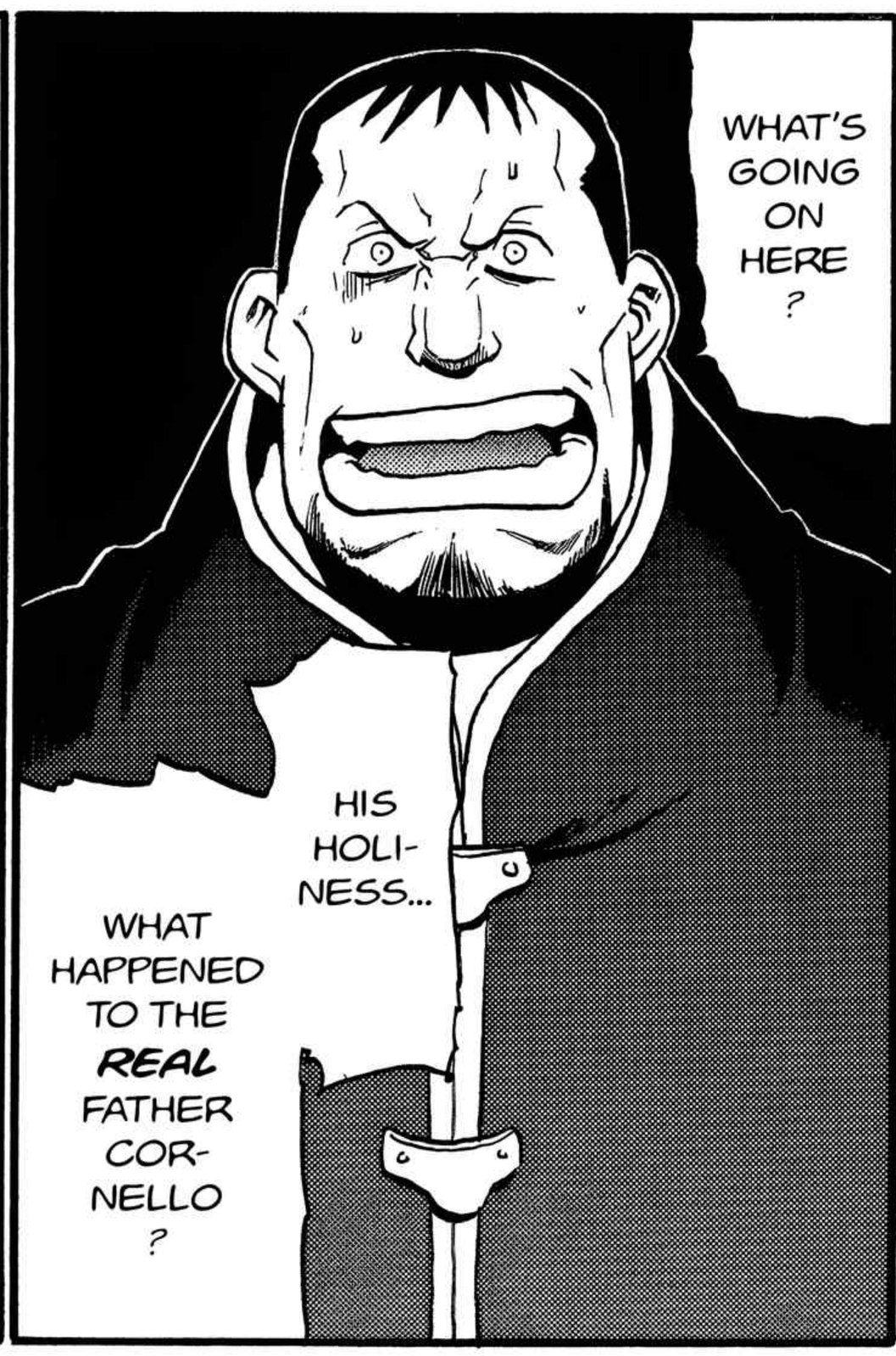

HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON USING THAT VOICE AND THAT BODY? IT'S MAKING ME SICK.
BY THE WAY, ENVY...
NO, YOU CAN'T EAT THEM.
CAN I EAT ALL THE ONES THAT DIE?
KZAP KZAP
COME ON, I'M JUST SETTING THE MOOD, THAT'S ALL.
KZIP ZAP
PZZP
BUT IF I'M GOING TO CHANGE SHAPE ANYWAY... WHY SHOULD I BE A CRUSTY OLD GEEZER...
ZAP
KZIP

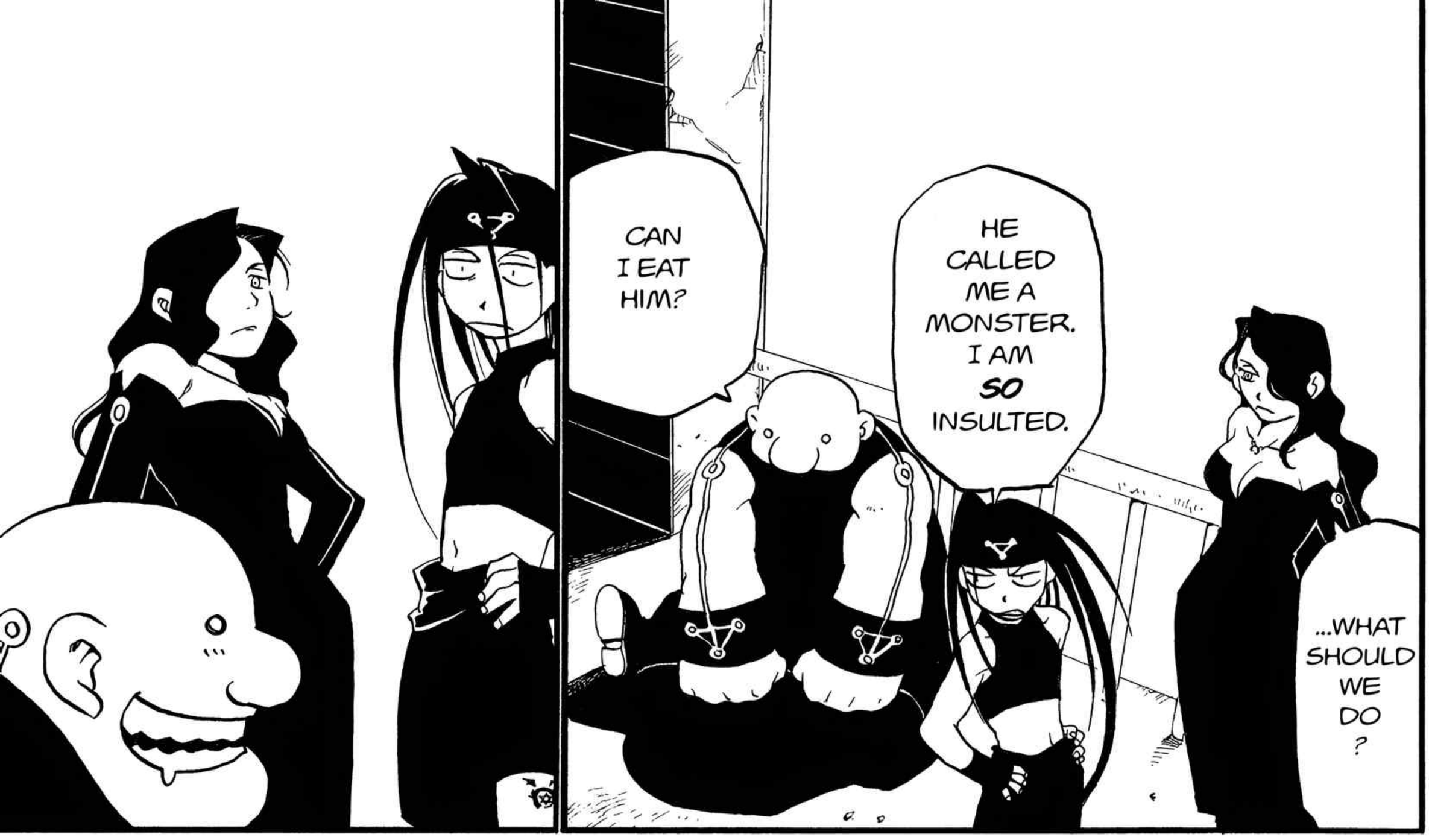
BASH
OOM
...WHEN I CAN BE YOUNG AND CUTE?

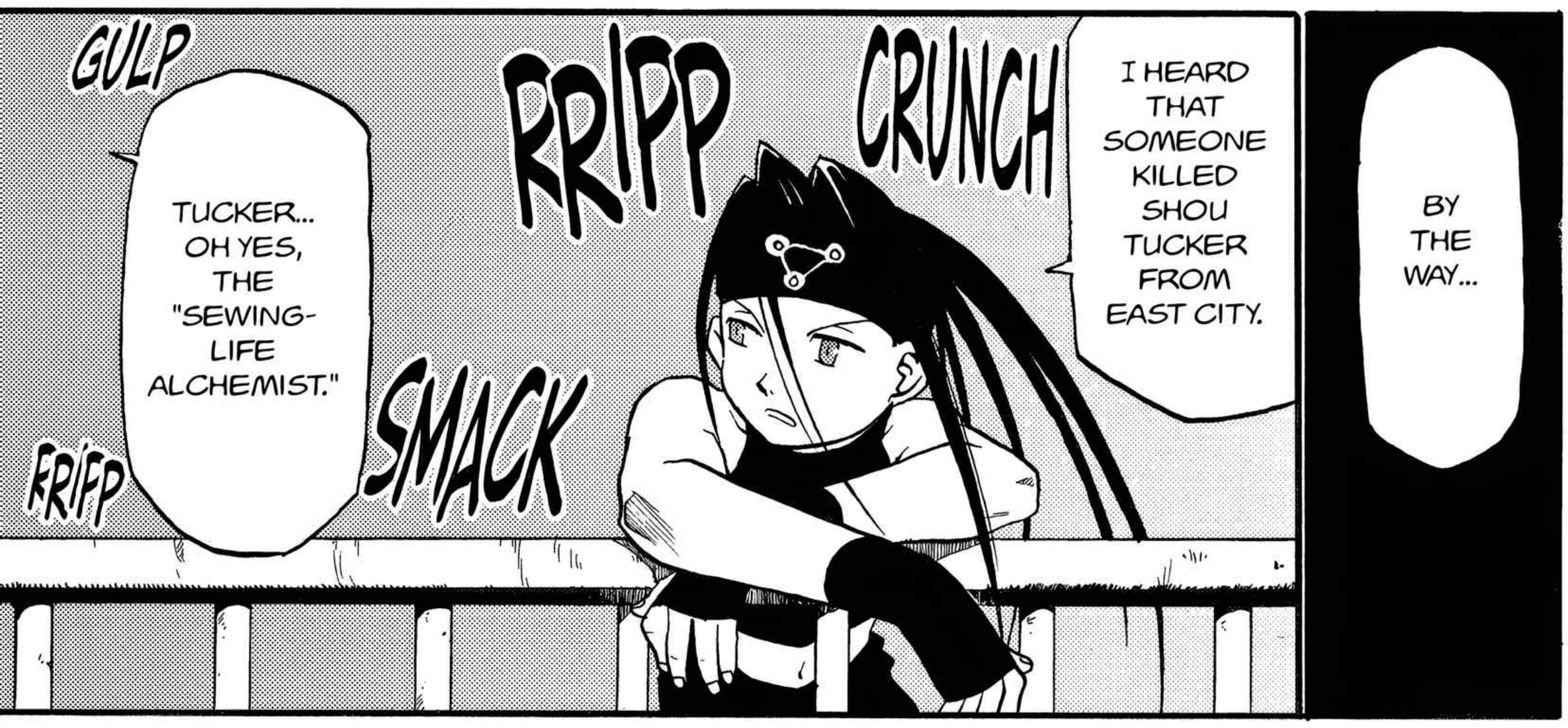

ARE YOU TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT, LUST?
AHA HA HA HA
EVEN THOUGH ON THE *INSIDE* YOU'RE THE MOST RUTHLESS OF ALL OF US!

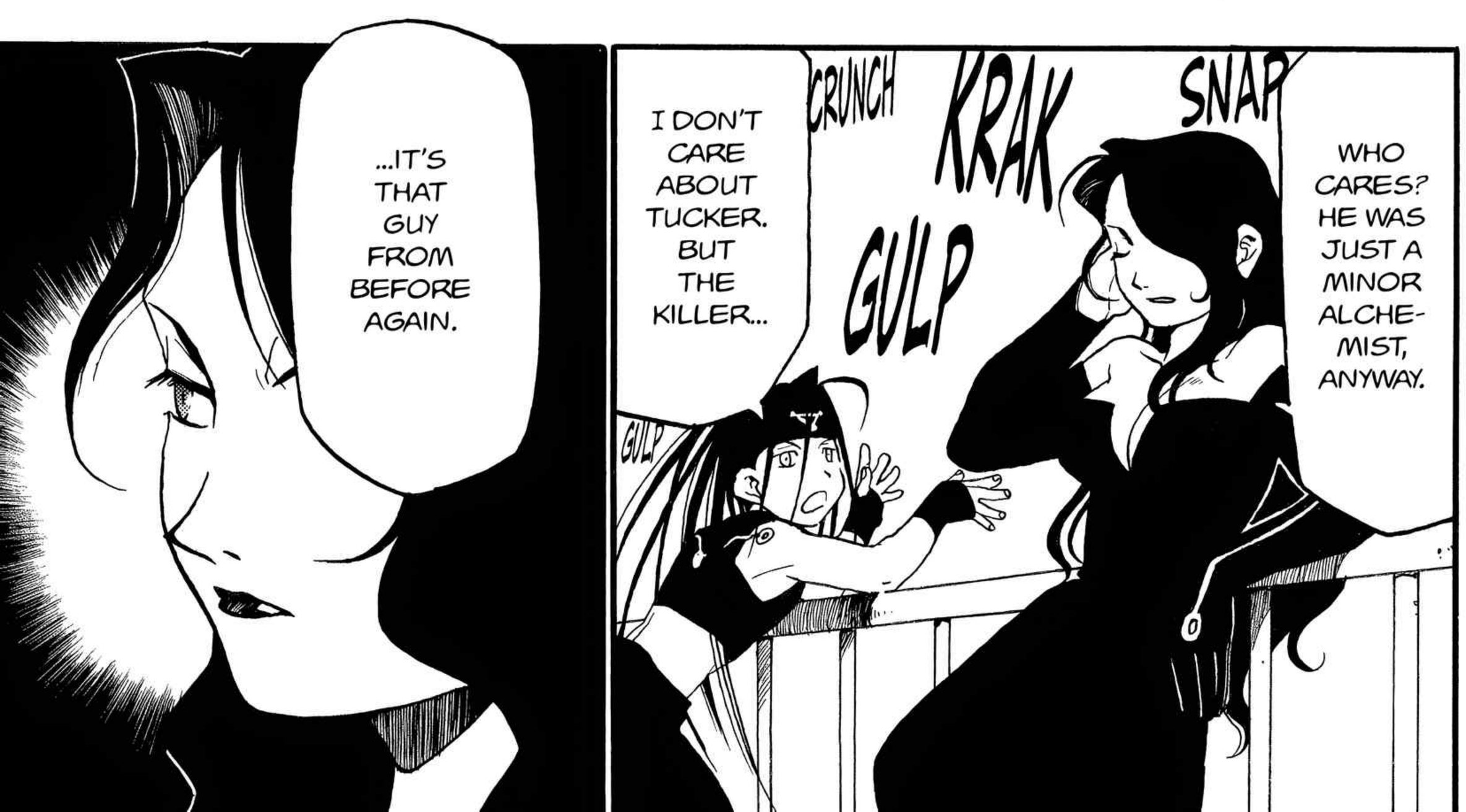

Y- YOU'RE A MONSTER... !

WHAT IN GOD'S NAME *ARE* YOU?!!

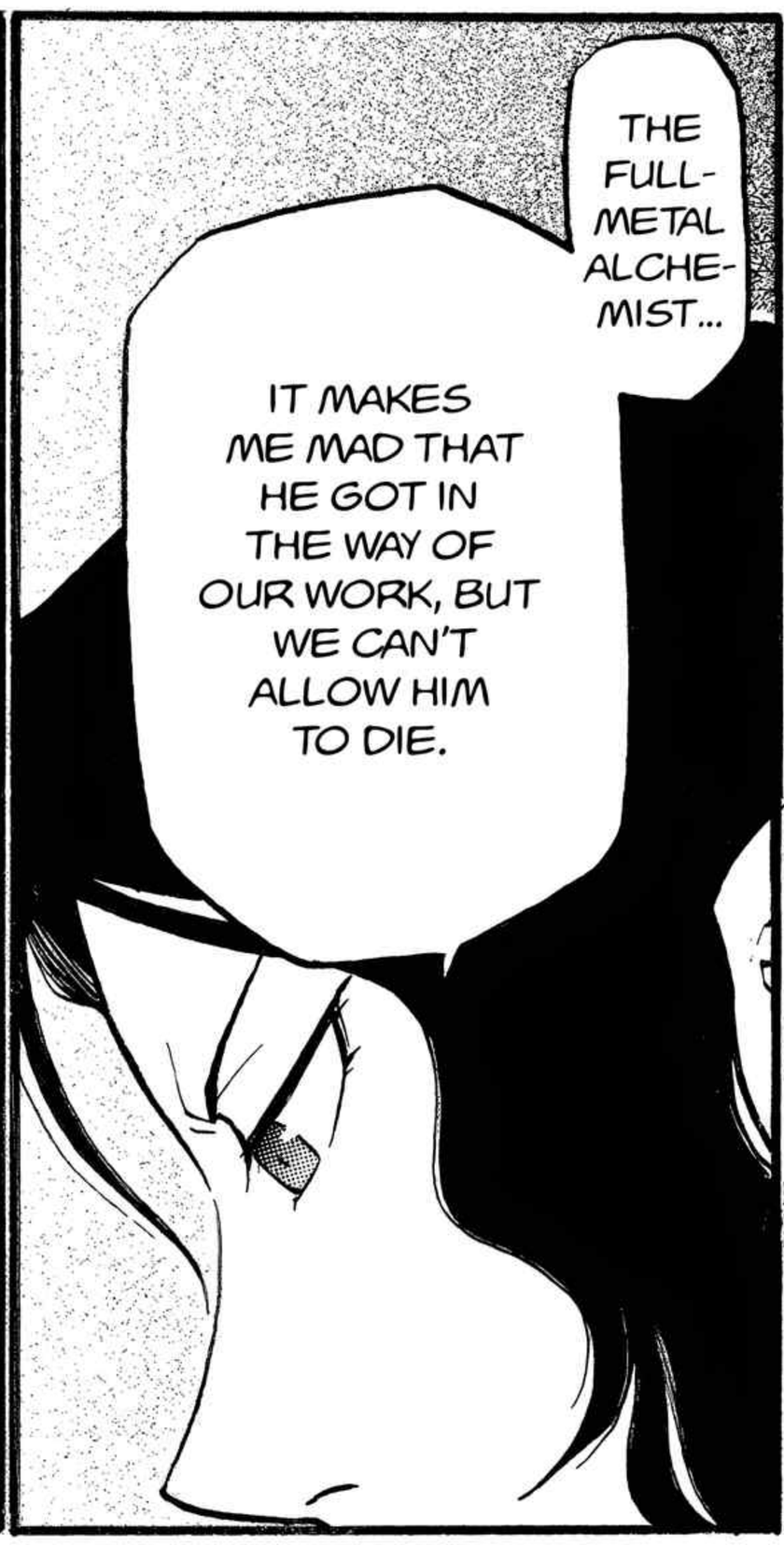

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE ?
HIS HOLI-NESS...
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE *REAL* FATHER COR-NELLO ?


CAN I EAT HIM?
HE CALLED ME A MONSTER. I AM SO INSULTED.
...WHAT SHOULD WE DO ?

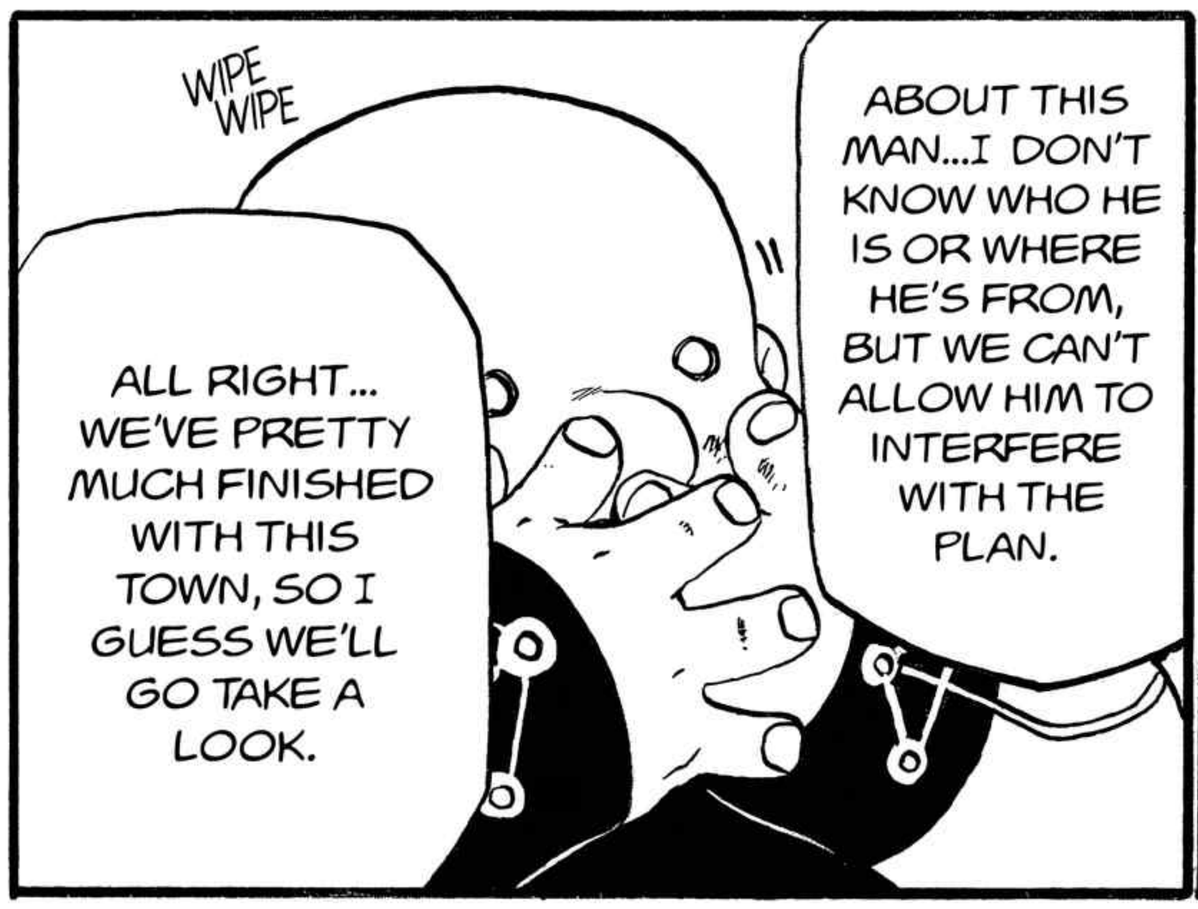

GULP
TUCKER... OH YES, THE "SEWING-LIFE ALCHEMIST."
FRIFP
RRIPP
SMACK
CRUNCH
I HEARD THAT SOMEONE KILLED SHOU TUCKER FROM EAST CITY.
BY THE WAY...

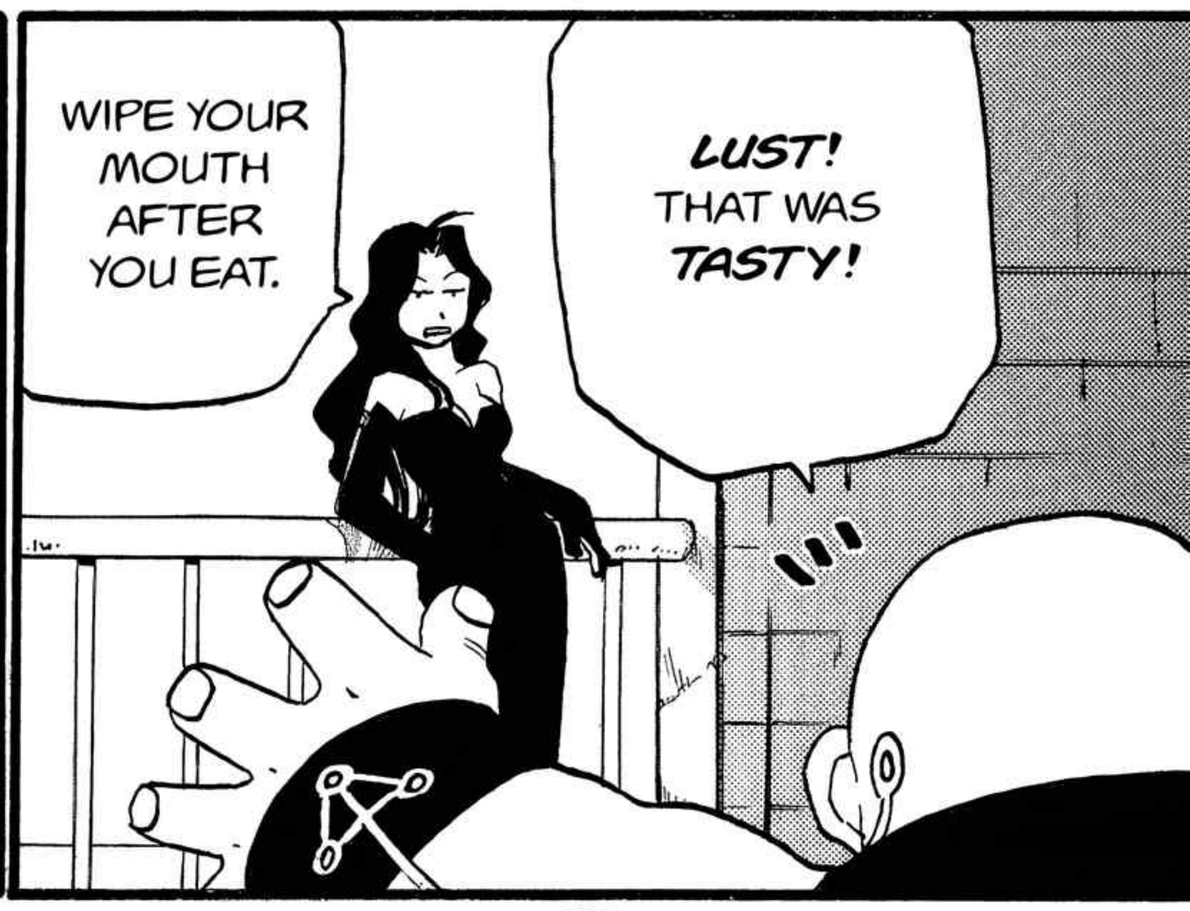

...IT'S THAT GUY FROM BEFORE AGAIN.
I DON'T CARE ABOUT TUCKER. BUT THE KILLER...
CRUNCH
KRAK
SNAP
GULP
GULP
WHO CARES? HE WAS JUST A MINOR ALCHEMIST, ANYWAY.

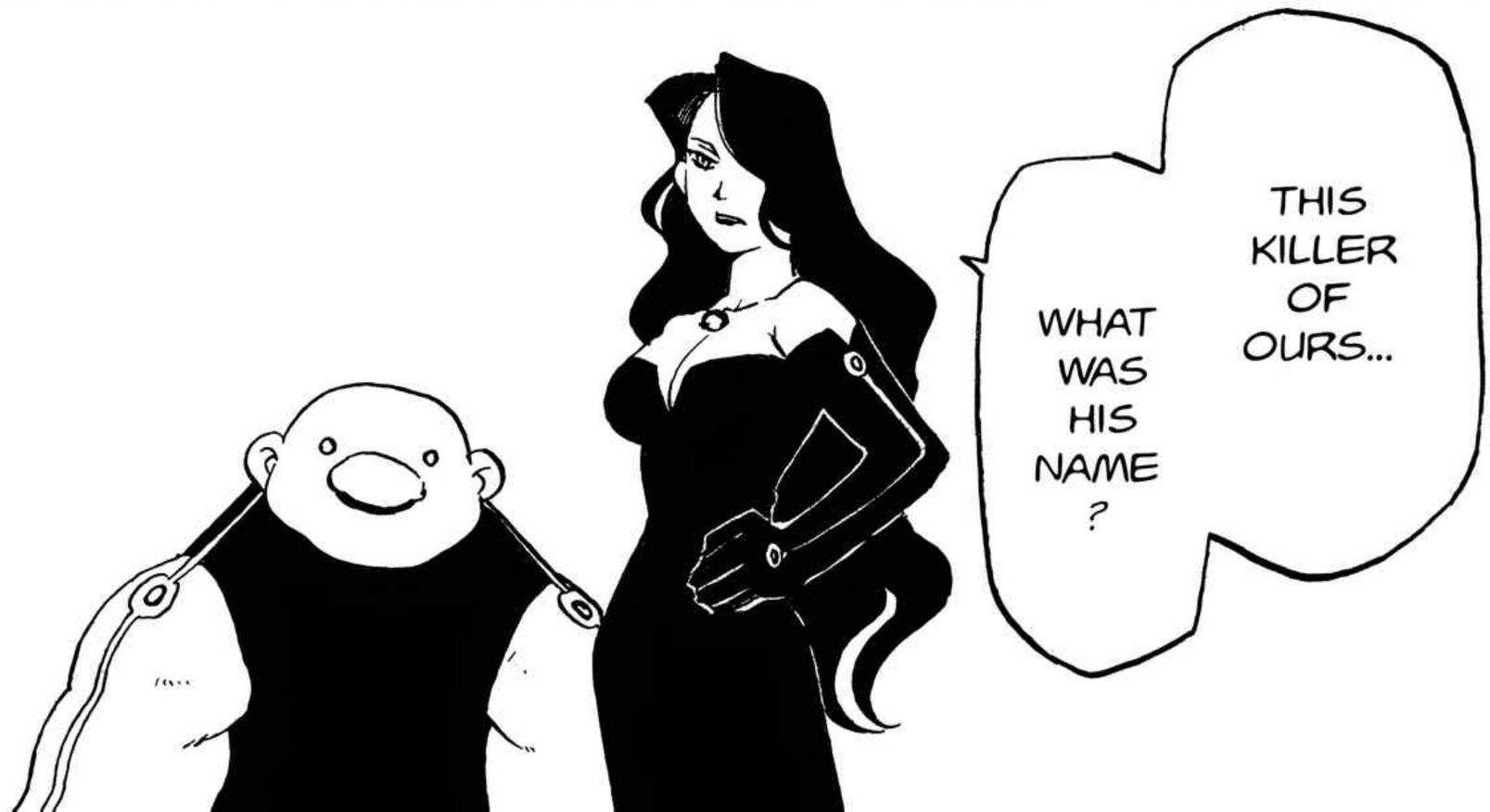
HE'S OUR HUMAN SACRIFICE.


THE FULL-METAL ALCHE-MIST...
IT MAKES ME MAD THAT HE GOT IN THE WAY OF OUR WORK, BUT WE CAN'T ALLOW HIM TO DIE.

EAST CITY IS WHERE THE FLAME COLONEL IS, RIGHT?
UH-HUH.
APPAR-ENTLY THE FULL-METAL RUNT IS THERE TOO.

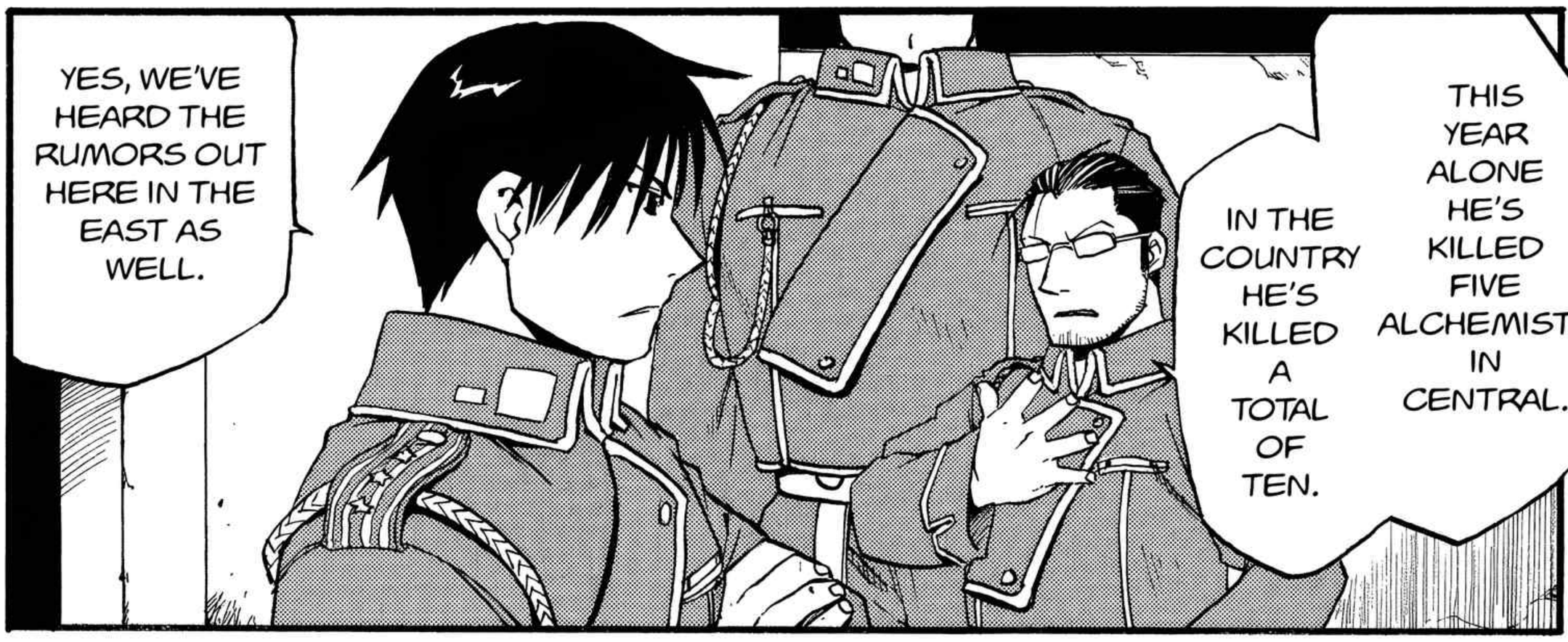

WIPE WIPE
ALL RIGHT... WE'VE PRETTY MUCH FINISHED WITH THIS TOWN, SO I GUESS WE'LL GO TAKE A LOOK.
ABOUT THIS MAN...I DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS OR WHERE HE'S FROM, BUT WE CAN'T ALLOW HIM TO INTERFERE WITH THE PLAN.

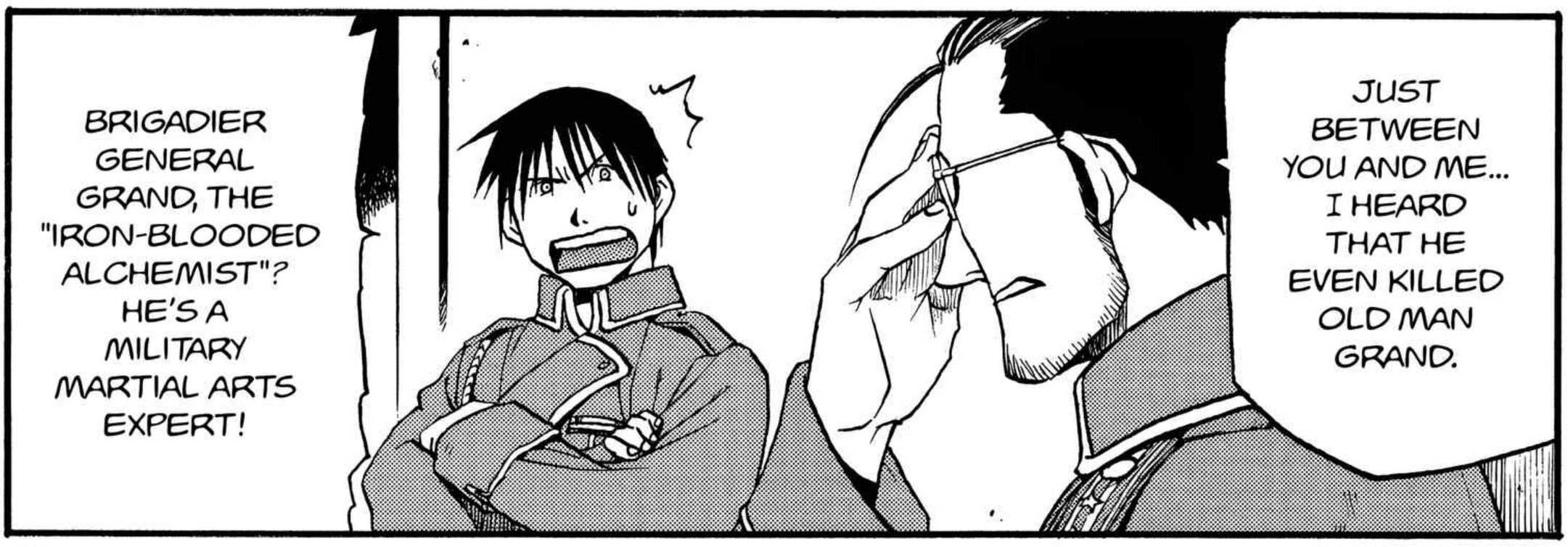

WIPE YOUR MOUTH AFTER YOU EAT.
LUST! THAT WAS TASTY!

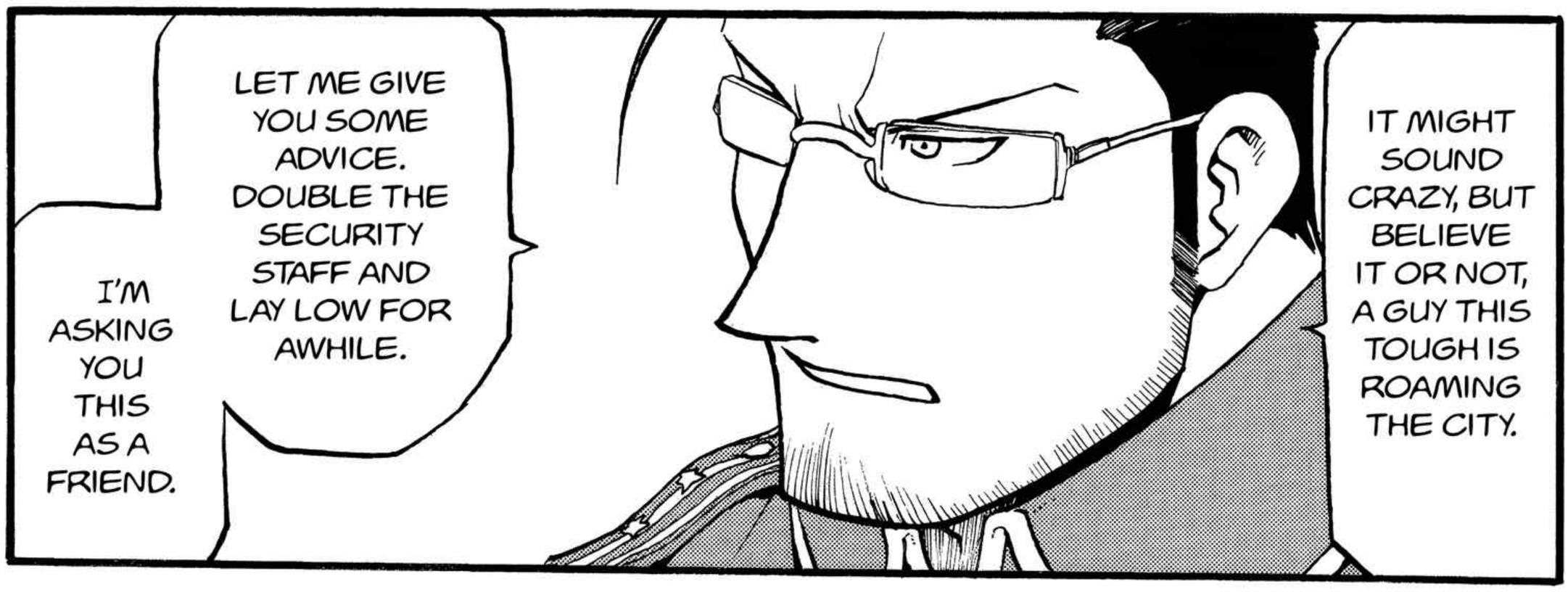

WHAT WAS HIS NAME?
THIS KILLER OF OURS...

NOT ONLY IS HIS BACKGROUND A MYSTERY, BUT WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT KIND OF WEAPON HE USES OR WHAT HIS INTENTIONS ARE. IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S EVERYWHERE.
THE ONLY INFORMATION WE'VE RECEIVED ABOUT HIM IS THAT HE HAS A LARGE X-SHAPED SCAR ON HIS FOREHEAD.

"SCAR" ?
WE DON'T KNOW HIS NAME, SO THAT'S WHAT WE CALL HIM.

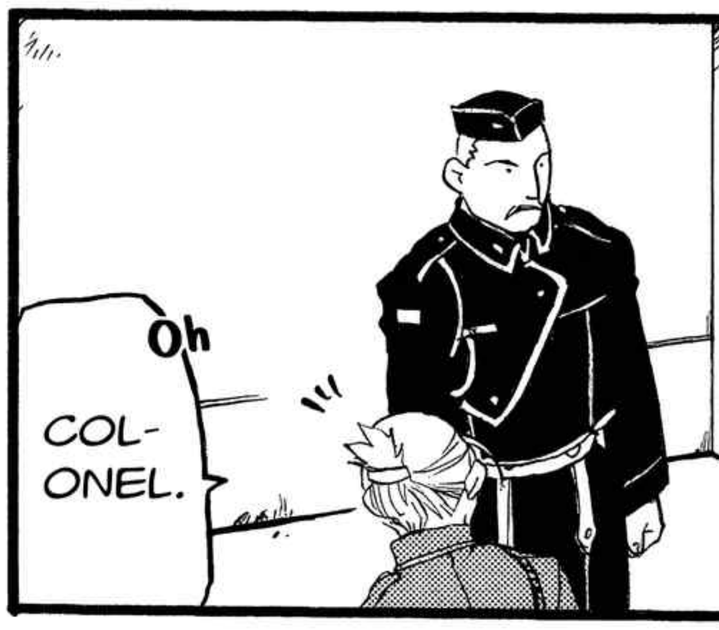

YES, WE'VE HEARD THE RUMORS OUT HERE IN THE EAST AS WELL.
IN THE COUNTRY HE'S KILLED A TOTAL OF TEN.
THIS YEAR ALONE HE'S KILLED FIVE ALCHEMISTS IN CENTRAL.


BRIGADIER GENERAL GRAND, THE "IRON-BLOODED ALCHEMIST"? HE'S A MILITARY MARTIAL ARTS EXPERT!
JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME... I HEARD THAT HE EVEN KILLED OLD MAN GRAND.

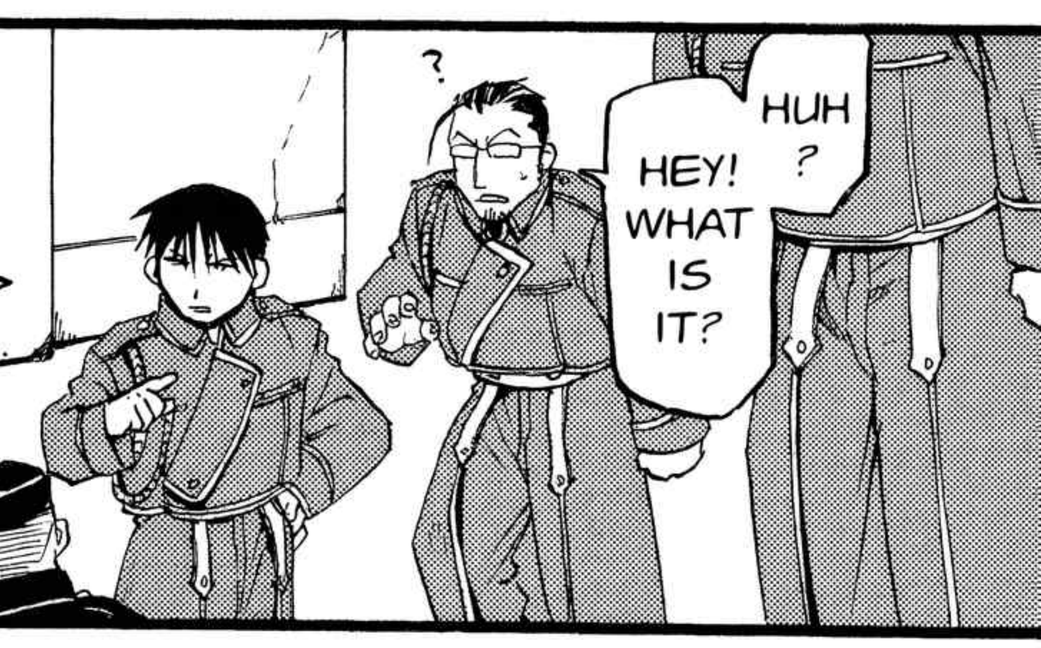

I'M ASKING YOU THIS AS A FRIEND.
LET ME GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE. DOUBLE THE SECURITY STAFF AND LAY LOW FOR AWHILE.
IT MIGHT SOUND CRAZY, BUT BELIEVE IT OR NOT, A GUY THIS TOUGH IS ROAMING THE CITY.

OH NO...
WITH WHAT HAPPENED TO TUCKER, YOU REALLY CAN'T LET DOWN YOUR GUARD...

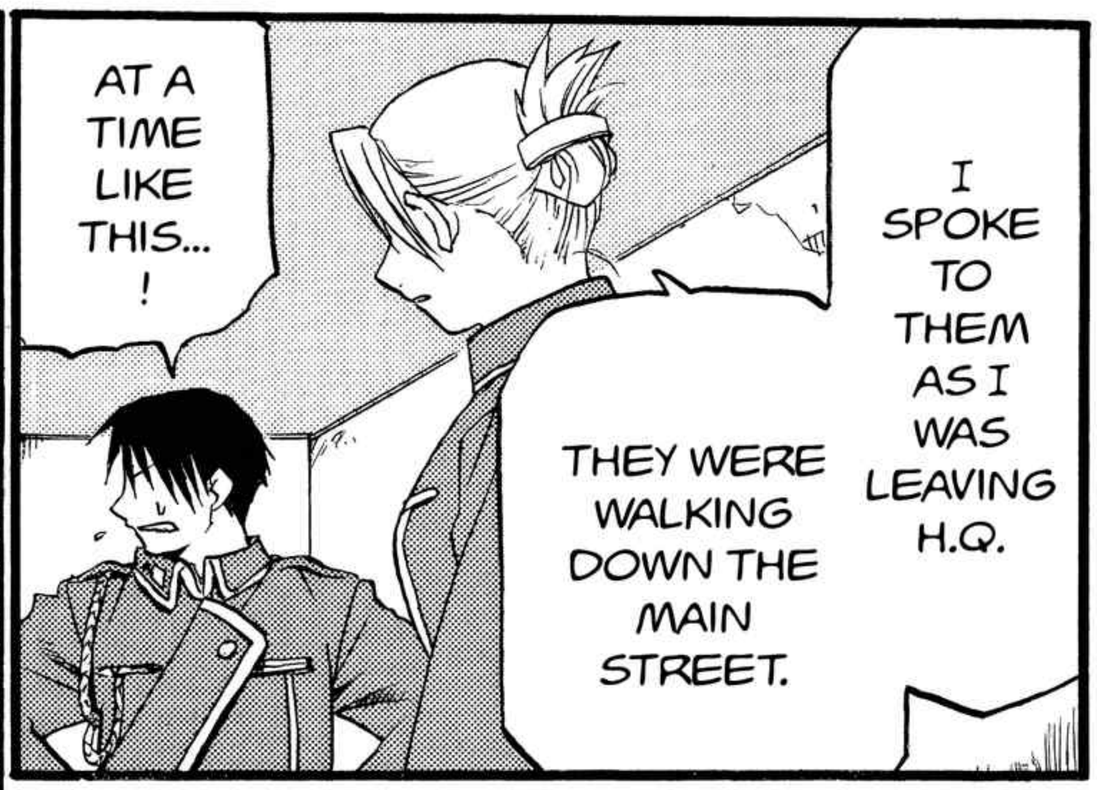
THE ONLY WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE OUT IN THESE PARTS ARE TUCKER AND YOU, RIGHT?


Oh
COL-ONEL.

YOU! CONFIRM WHETHER THE ELRIC BROTHERS ARE STILL AT THEIR LODGINGS.
ON THE DOUBLE!


?
HEY! WHAT IS IT?
HUH?

ALL SPARE HANDS REPORT TO THE MAIN STREET AREA!!
BRING THE CAR AROUND!


AT A TIME LIKE THIS...!
I SPOKE TO THEM AS I WAS LEAVING H.Q.
THEY WERE WALKING DOWN THE MAIN STREET.

BIG BROTH-ER...?

HUH? OH...

MY HEAD IS JUST SO FULL THAT I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK RIGHT NOW.

SINCE LAST NIGHT I'VE BEEN WONDERING WHAT THIS ALCHEMY THAT WE TRUST IN REALLY IS...

"ALCHEMY IS THE RECON-STRUCTION OF MATTER IN NEW FORMS BASED ON THE KNOWLEDGE OF NATURAL LAWS."

AND THAT'S WHY I'M WONDERING WHAT I CAN DO ABOUT SOMETHING THAT NOBODY CAN FIX.

"ACCEPT THE FLOW OF THE WORLD."

OUR TEACHER REALLY BEAT THAT INTO US.

"DEATH, TOO, IS A PART OF THAT FLOW."

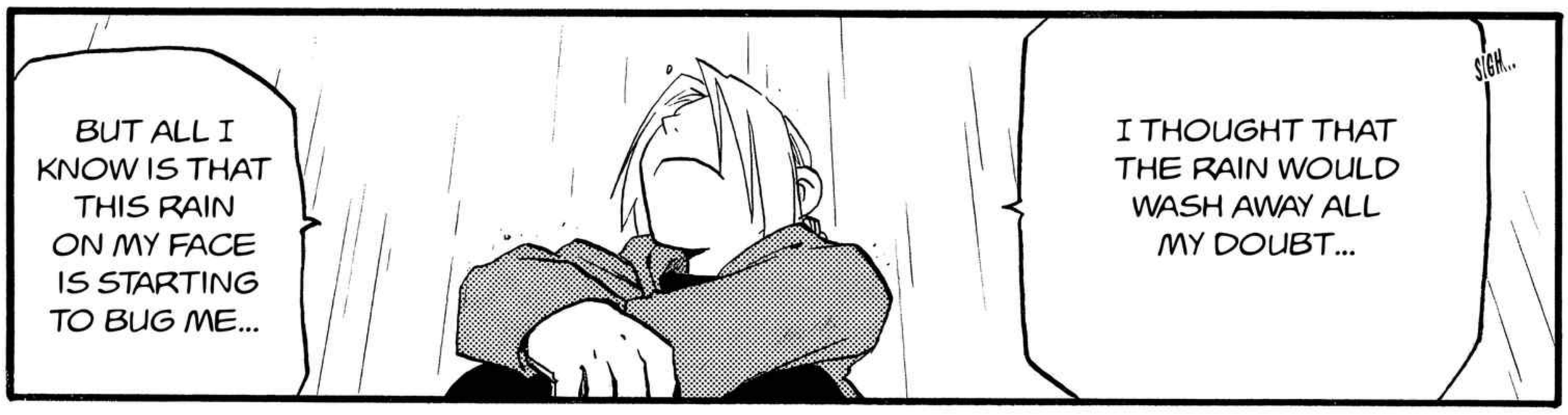
"THIS WORLD FLOWS BY OBEYING THESE LAWS."

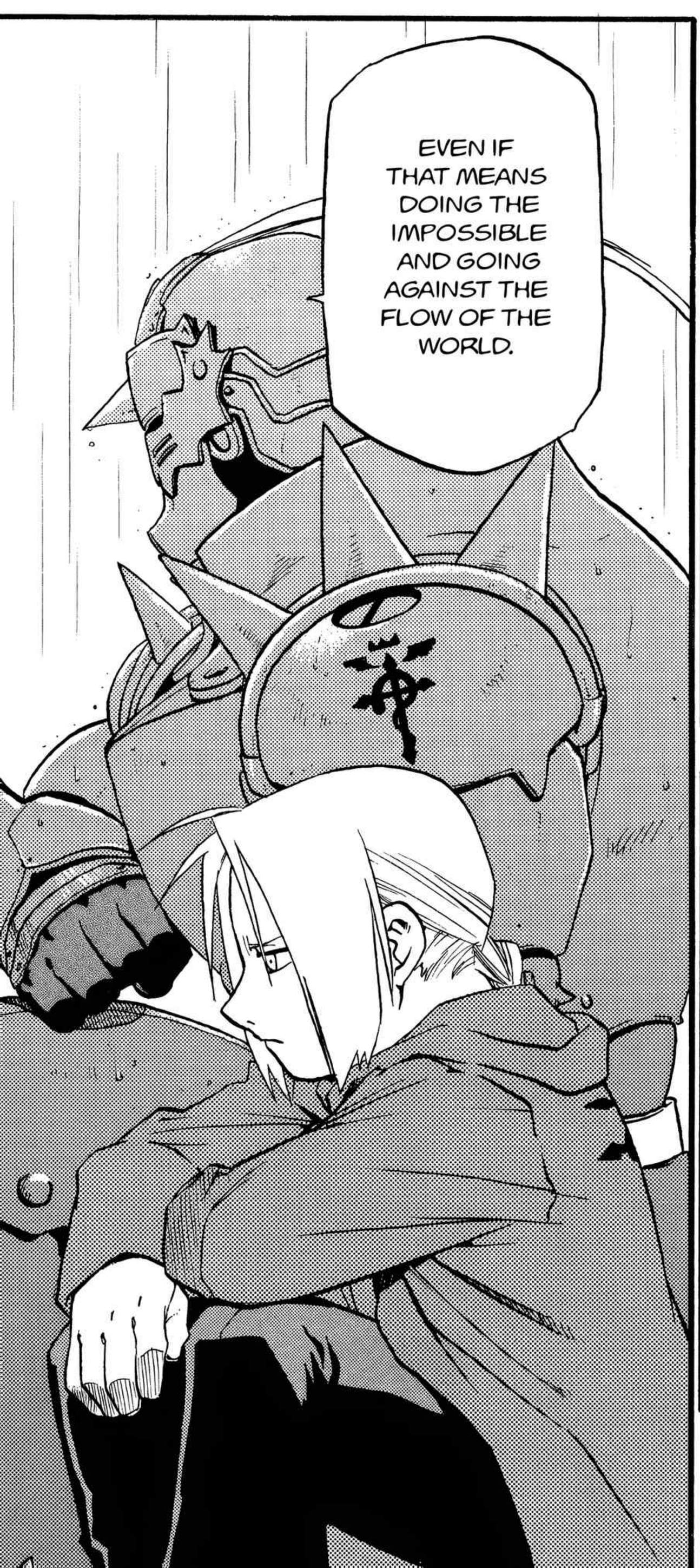
BUT I DIDN'T. THAT'S WHY MOM...

I THOUGHT I KNEW WHAT SHE MEANT.

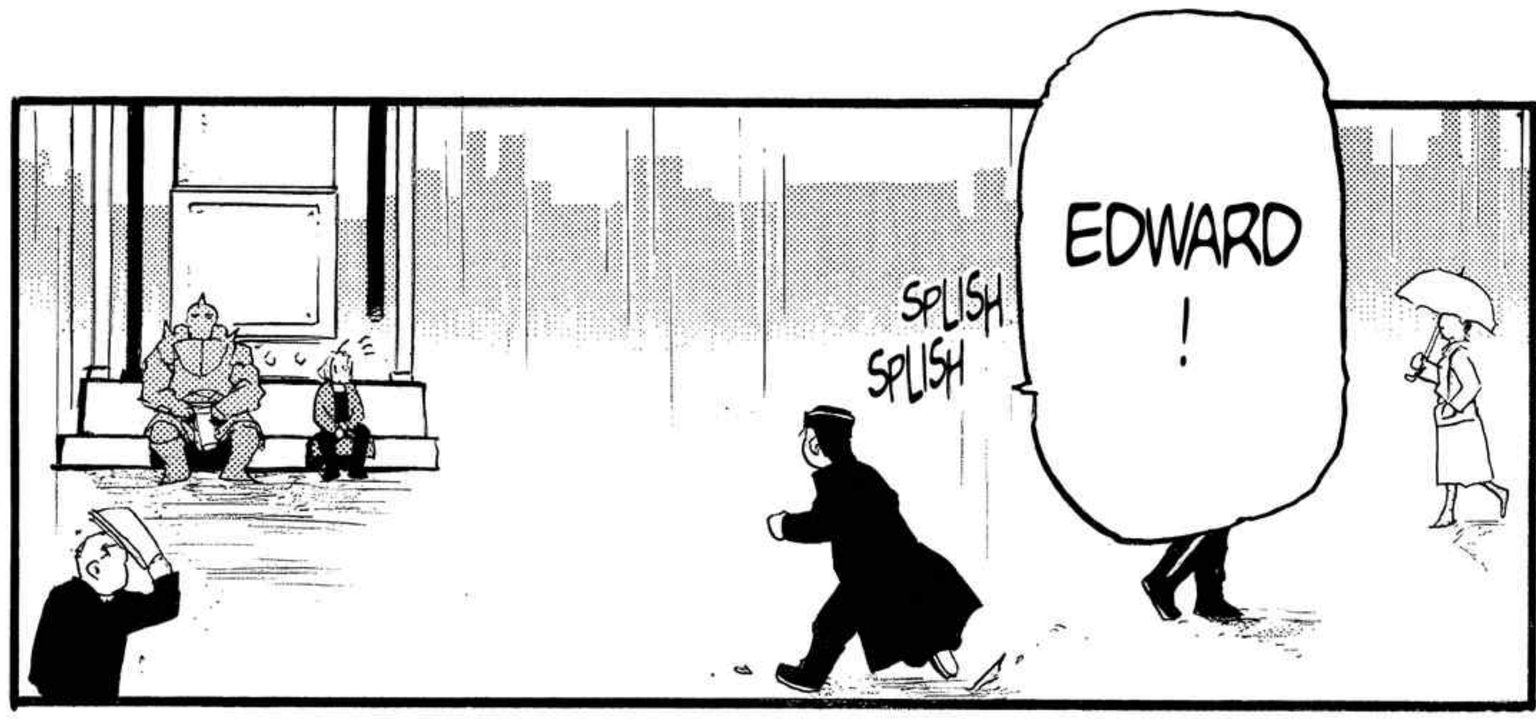
I HAVEN'T GROWN UP AT ALL SINCE THEN.

I'M A FOOL.


BUT ALL I KNOW IS THAT THIS RAIN ON MY FACE IS STARTING TO BUG ME...
I THOUGHT THAT THE RAIN WOULD WASH AWAY ALL MY DOUBT...
SIGH...


EVEN IF THAT MEANS DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE AND GOING AGAINST THE FLOW OF THE WORLD.

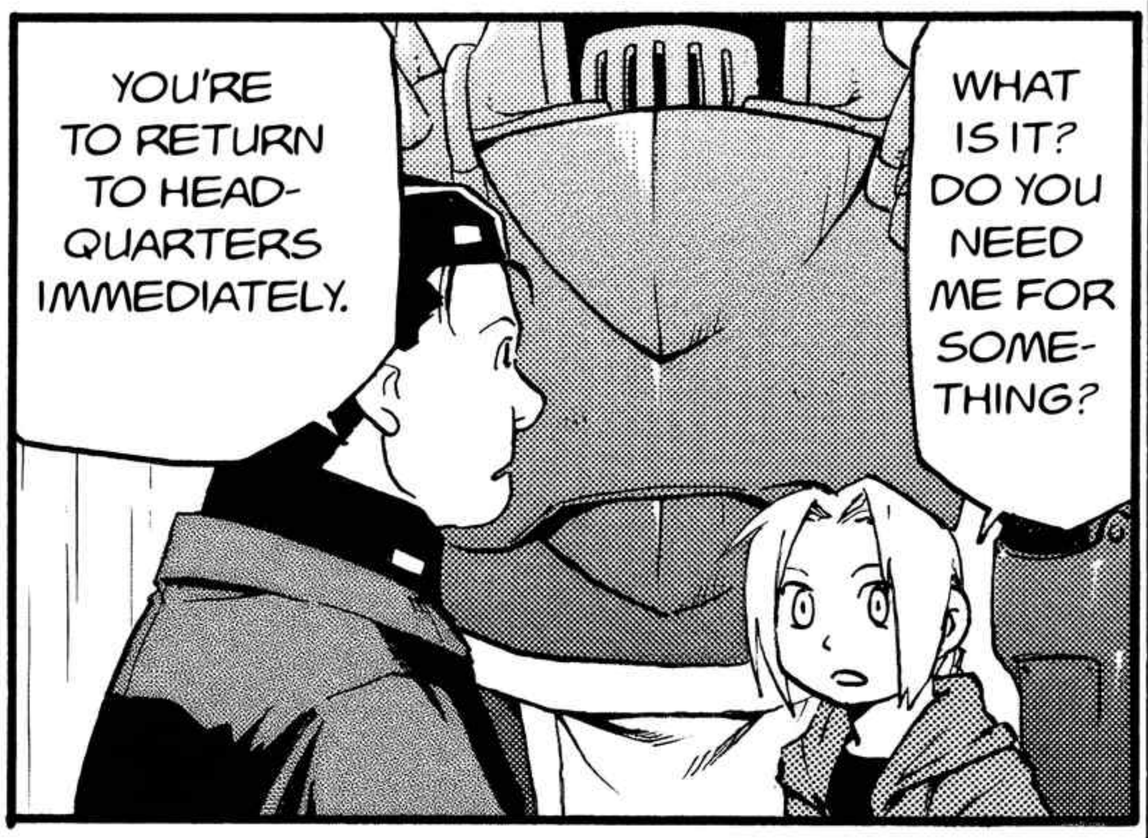
BUT...
I DON'T EVEN HAVE A BODY THAT CAN FEEL THE RAIN.
IT'S LONELY INSIDE HERE...
IT'S HARD.
I WANT TO GET MY OLD BODY BACK...
I WANT TO GO BACK TO BEING HUMAN.


SPLISH SPLISH
EDWARD !

OH! THERE THEY ARE.

ELRIC... ?
OH, I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU!
EDWARD... ELRIC...

MR. EDWARD ELRIC !!

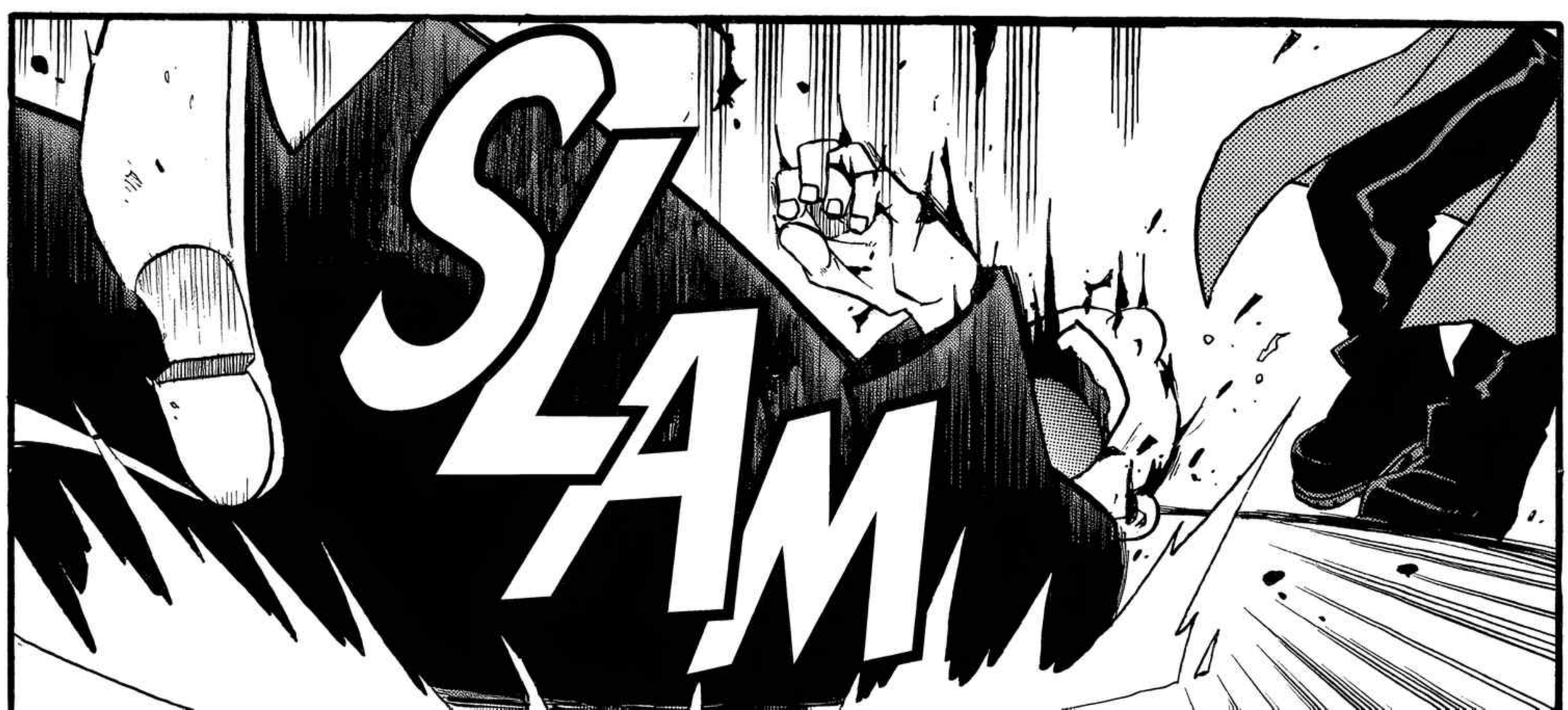

YOU'RE TO RETURN TO HEAD-QUARTERS IMMEDIATELY.
WHAT IS IT? DO YOU NEED ME FOR SOME-THING?

THERE'S A KILLER ON THE LOOSE IN THIS AREA...

NO !!

FWP
!!
THAT SCAR !

SK
SH


SLAM

SPLSH

KREK

EVERYTHING FROM THE CORE OF MY BODY SAYS TO RUN AWAY BUT MY LEGS WON'T MOVE...!

THIS IS BAD! BAD! BAD!!

...WHO IS THIS GUY?

OH MY GOD!

WHAT THE-?!

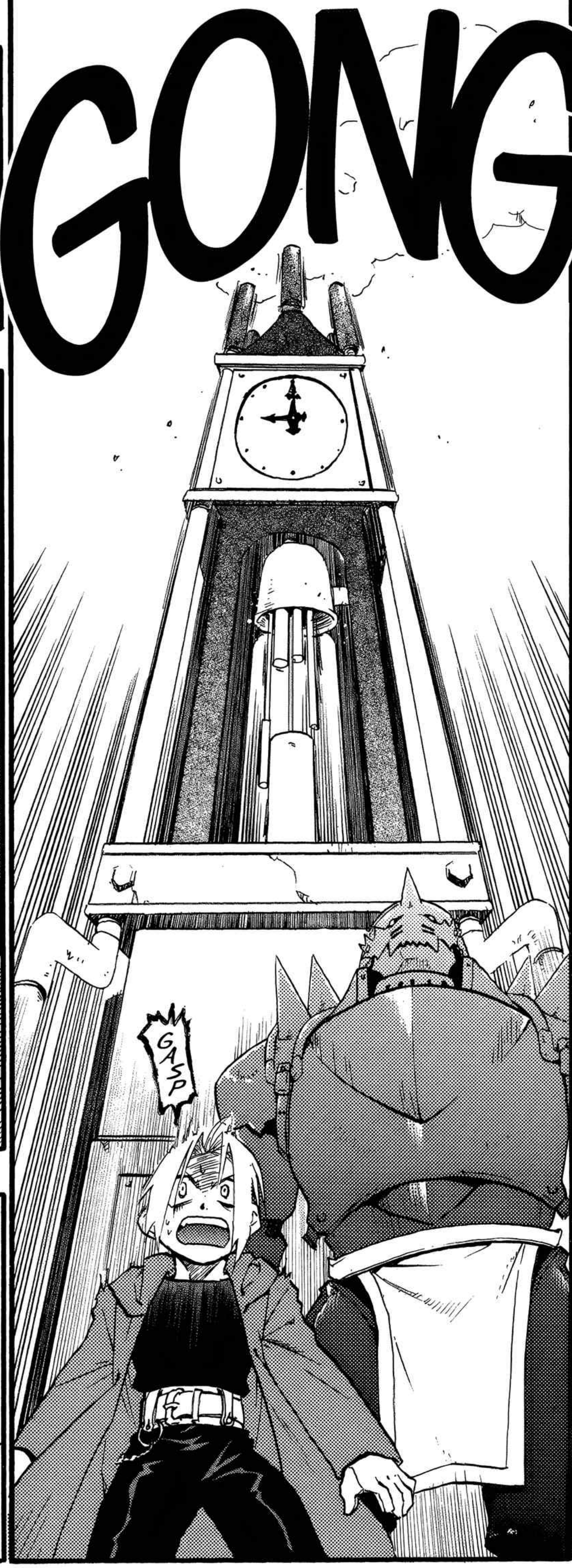
TIK

I'M GONNA DIE!!

OH NO...

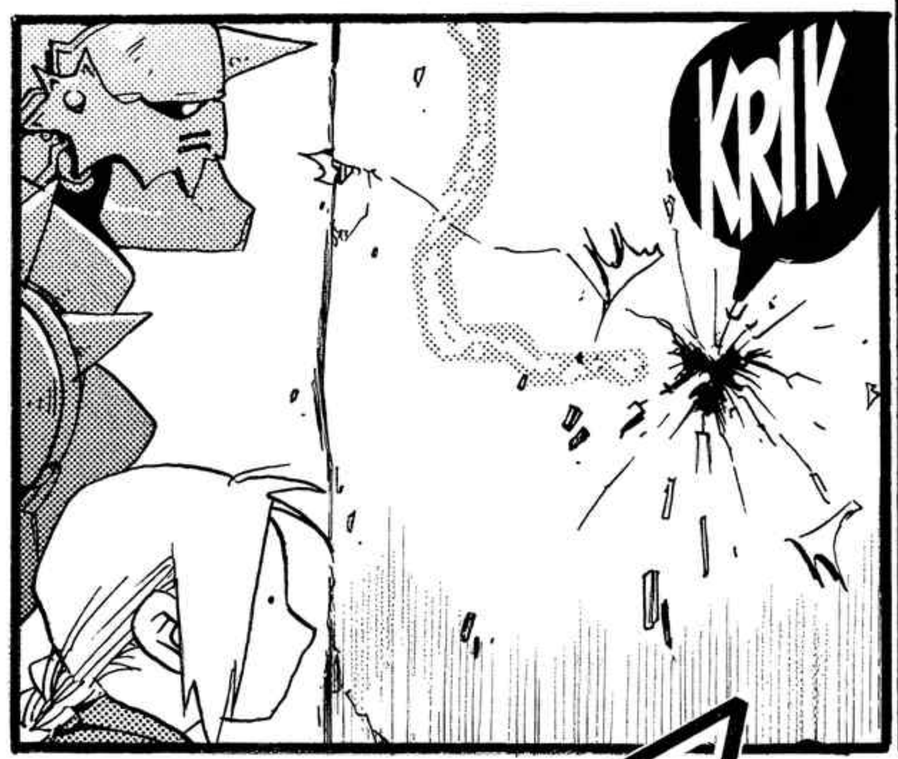
UNH... AL!
RUN!
WSH

YOU WON'T GET AWAY!


GONG
GASP

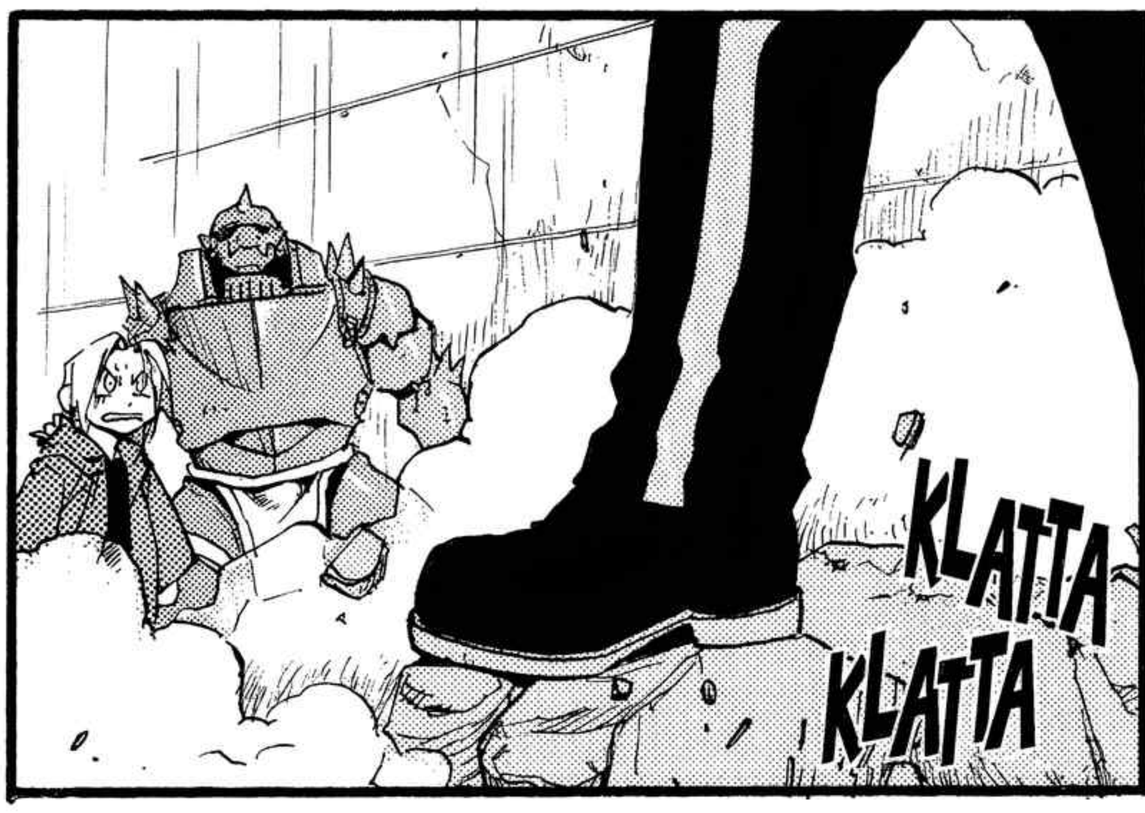
I DON'T DESERVE TO DIE!
ACTUALLY I'VE DONE THAT A LOT, BUT...
I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING TO MAKE SOMEONE HATE ME...
WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM !?

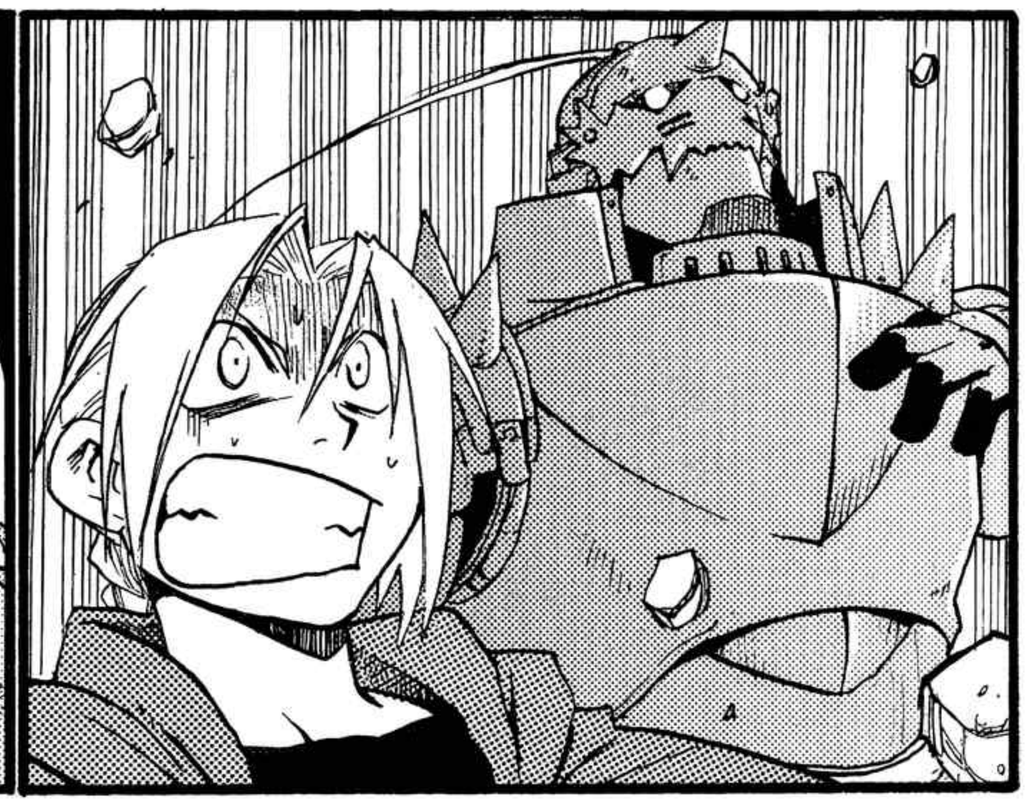
SKRIK
DOMM
?
ED! IN THE ALLEY!
JUST WATCH !
WHAT?! HE SAW US GO IN HERE!

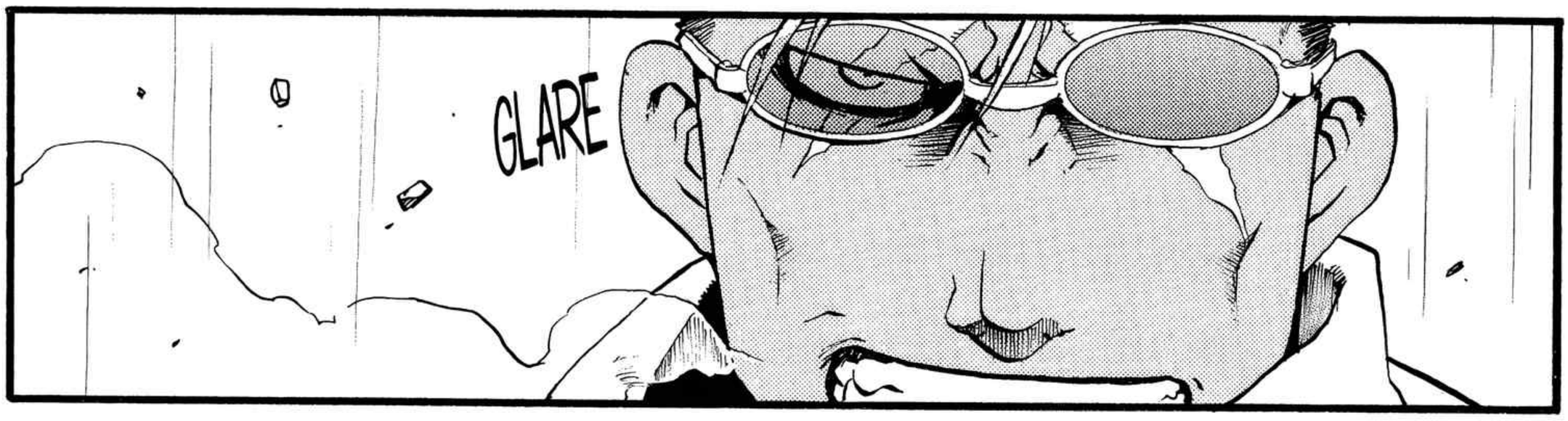

KRIK

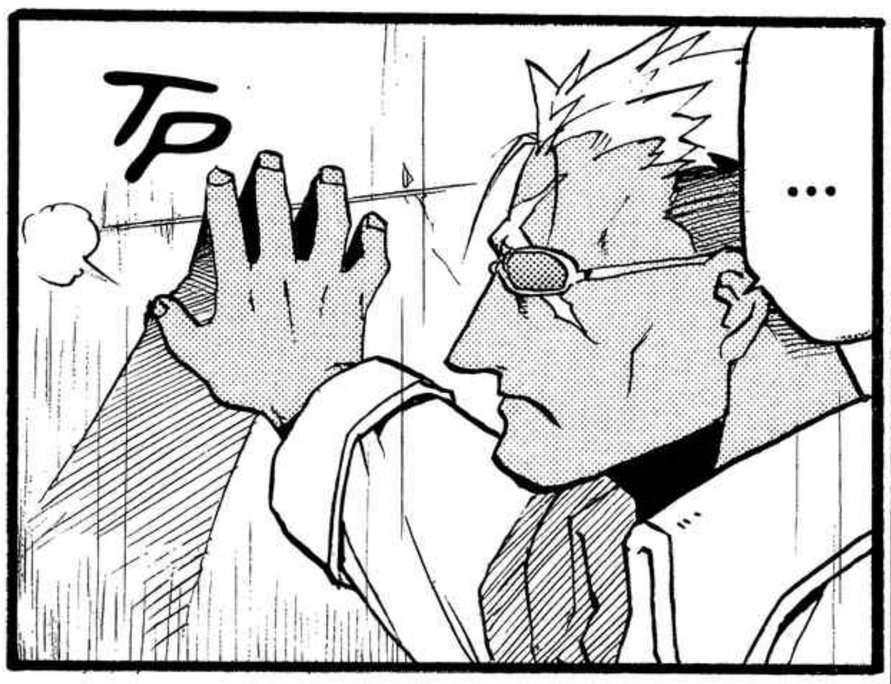
OH!
NOW HE CAN'T COME AFTER US.

BLAM

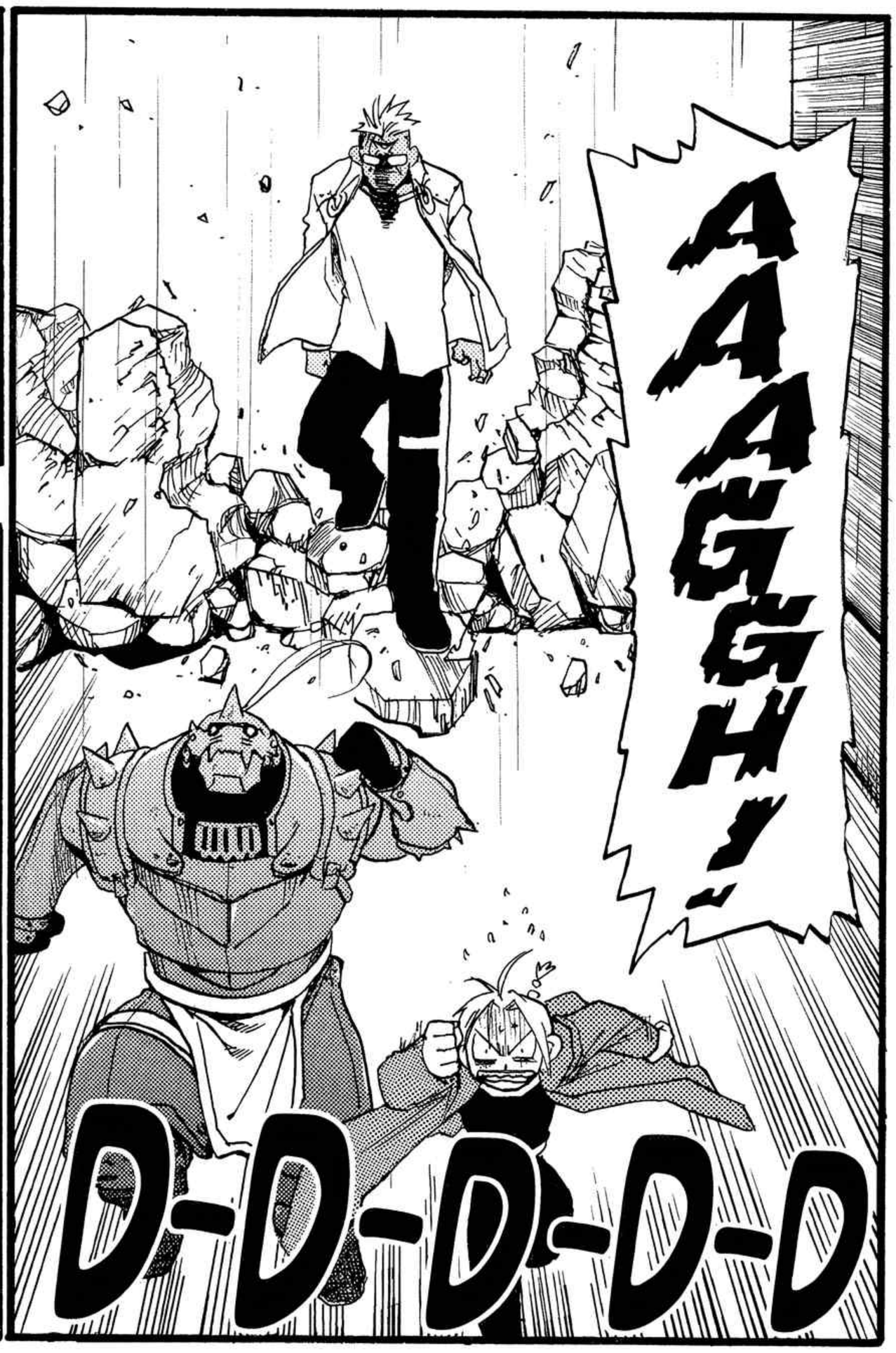

KLATTA
KLATTA




GLARE

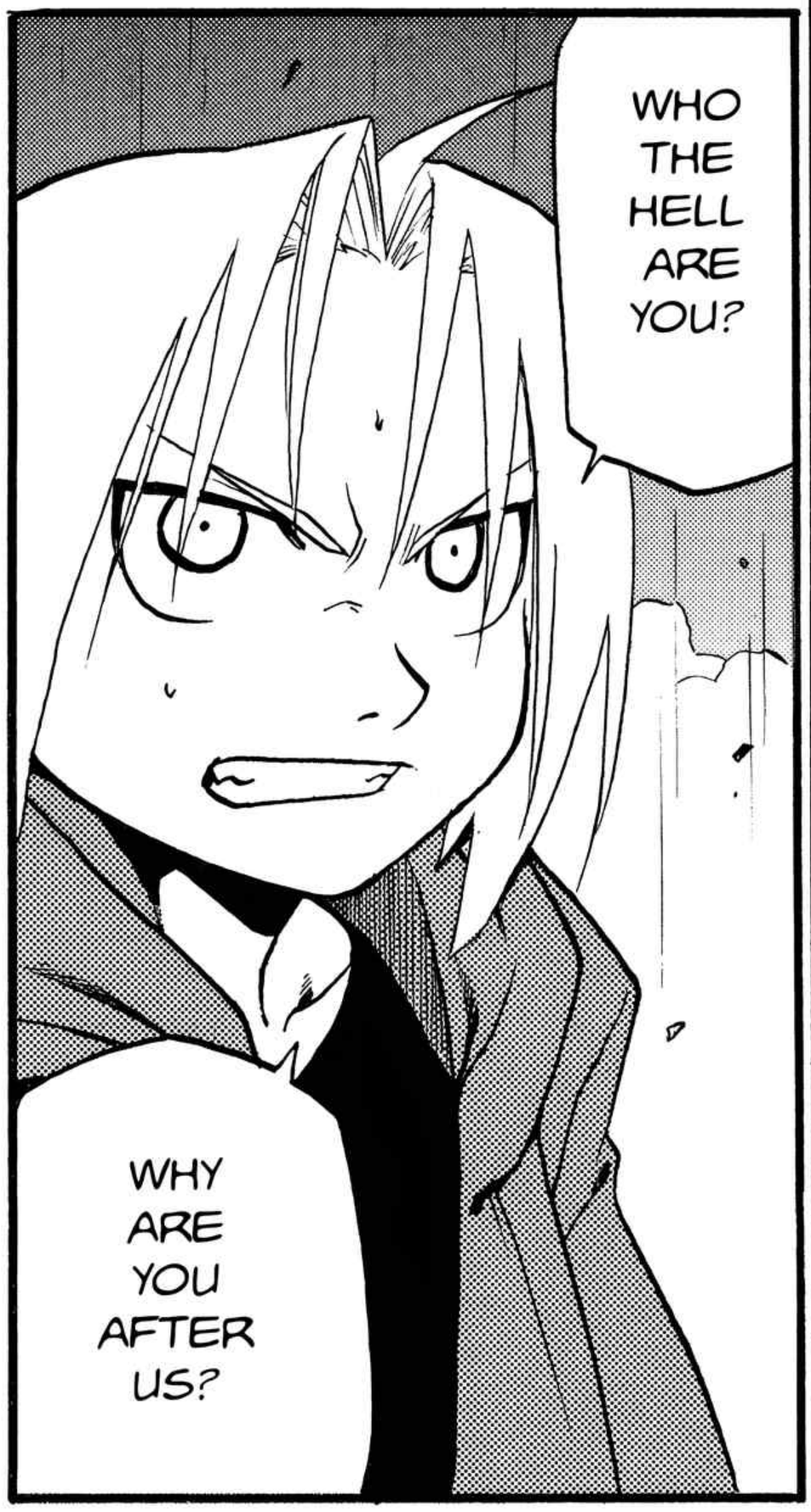

TP
...

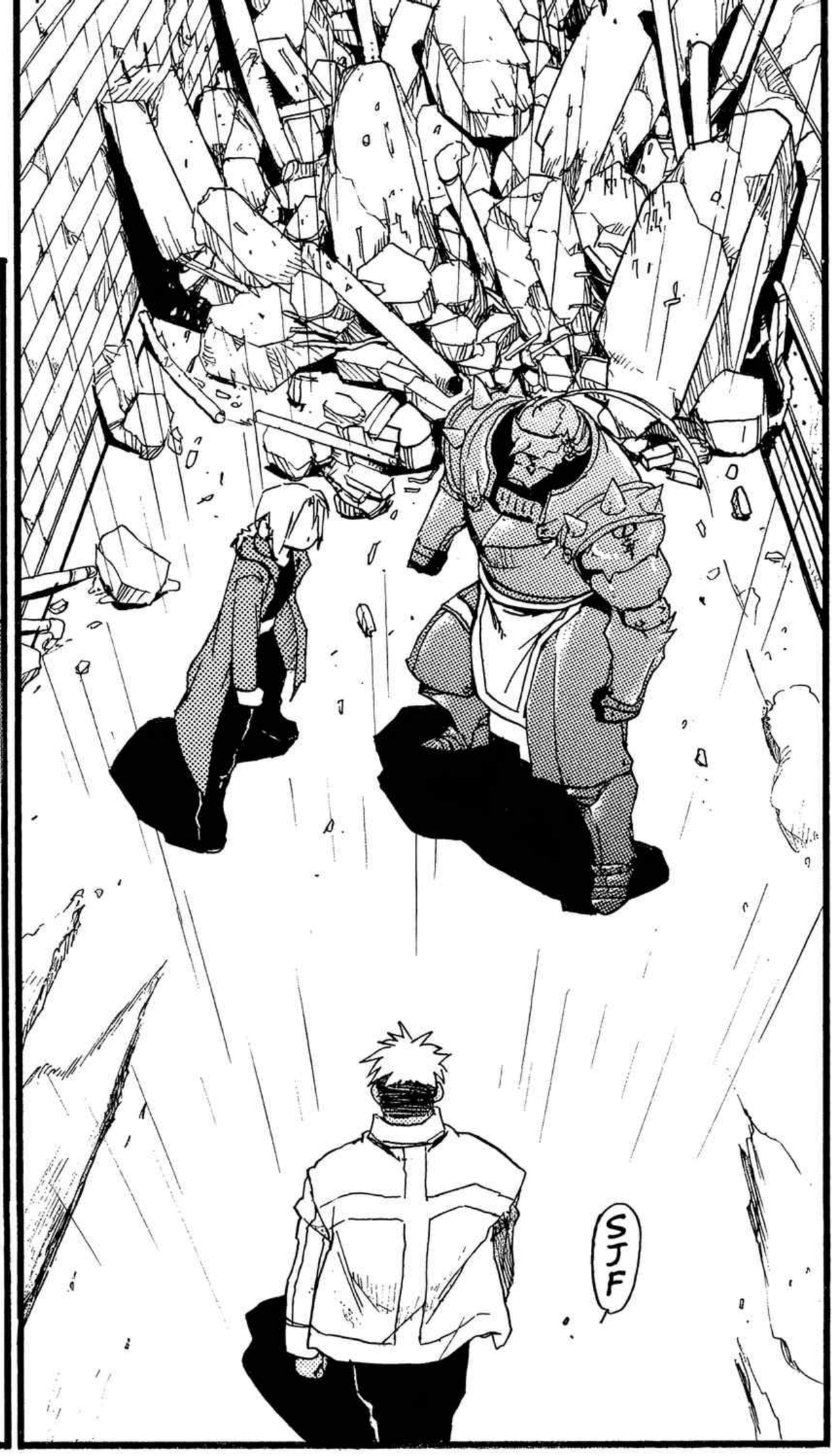
KZAP

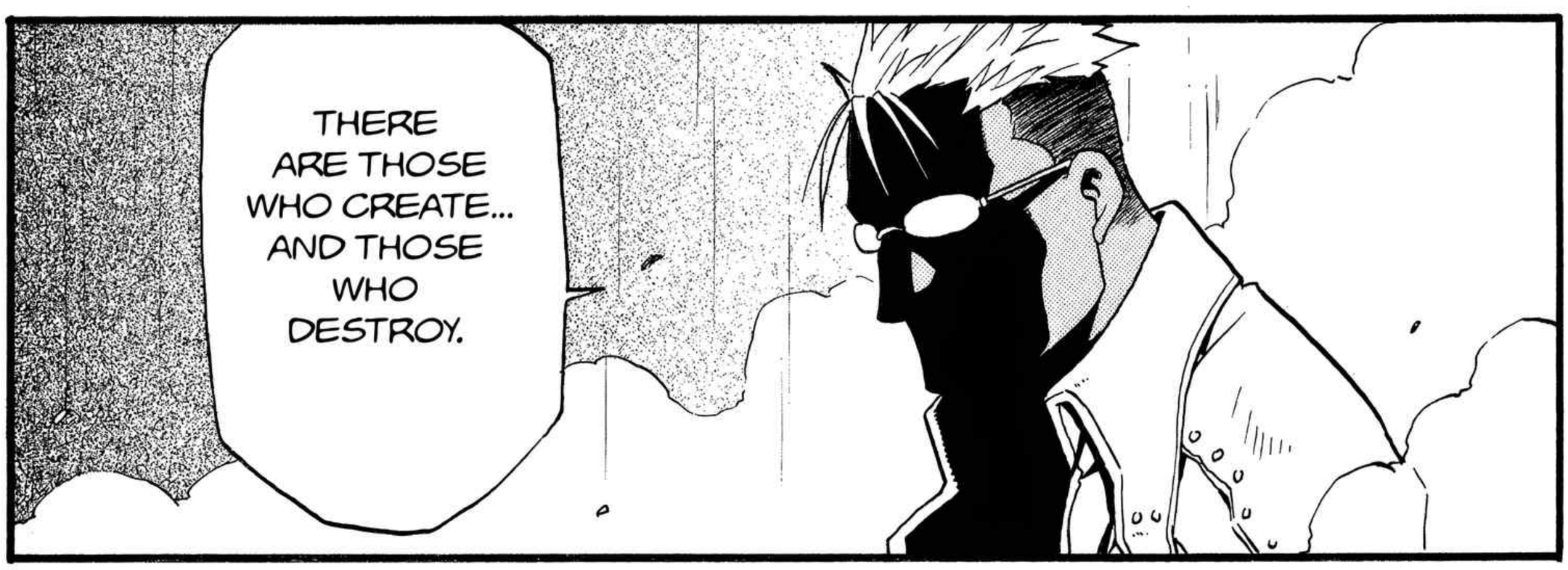

AAAGGH!
D-D-D-D-D

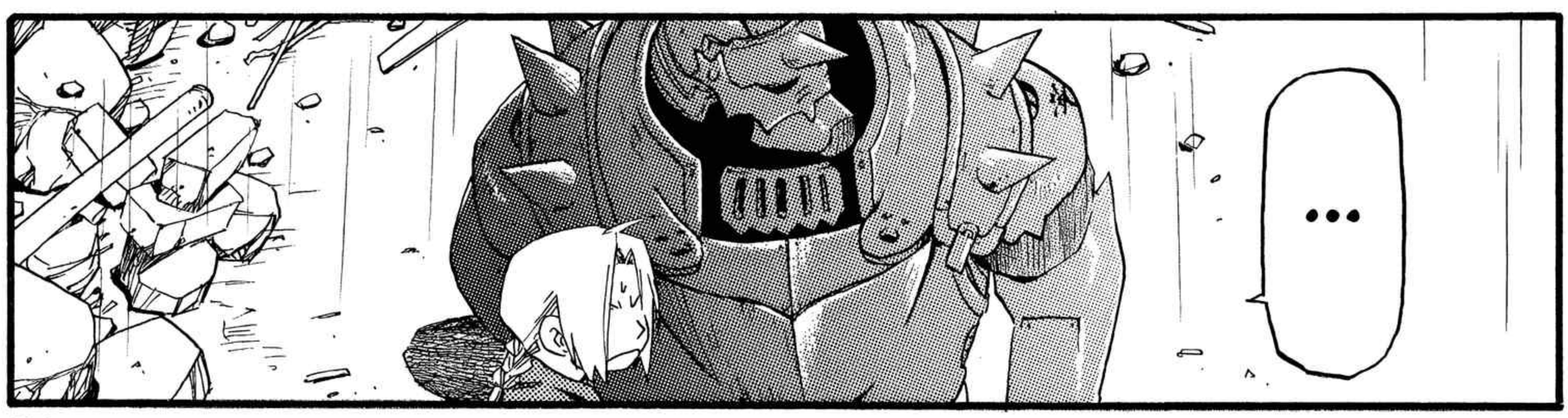
VSH
VSH
VSH
VSSH
VSSH
VSSH

VSH
!?
KR- KR-
KR-
KR-
GAGOOM
GWOO
KABLAMM
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME...
KLATA
KLATA


WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
WHY ARE YOU AFTER US?


SJF


THERE ARE THOSE WHO CREATE... AND THOSE WHO DESTROY.


...

GRIP

I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE...

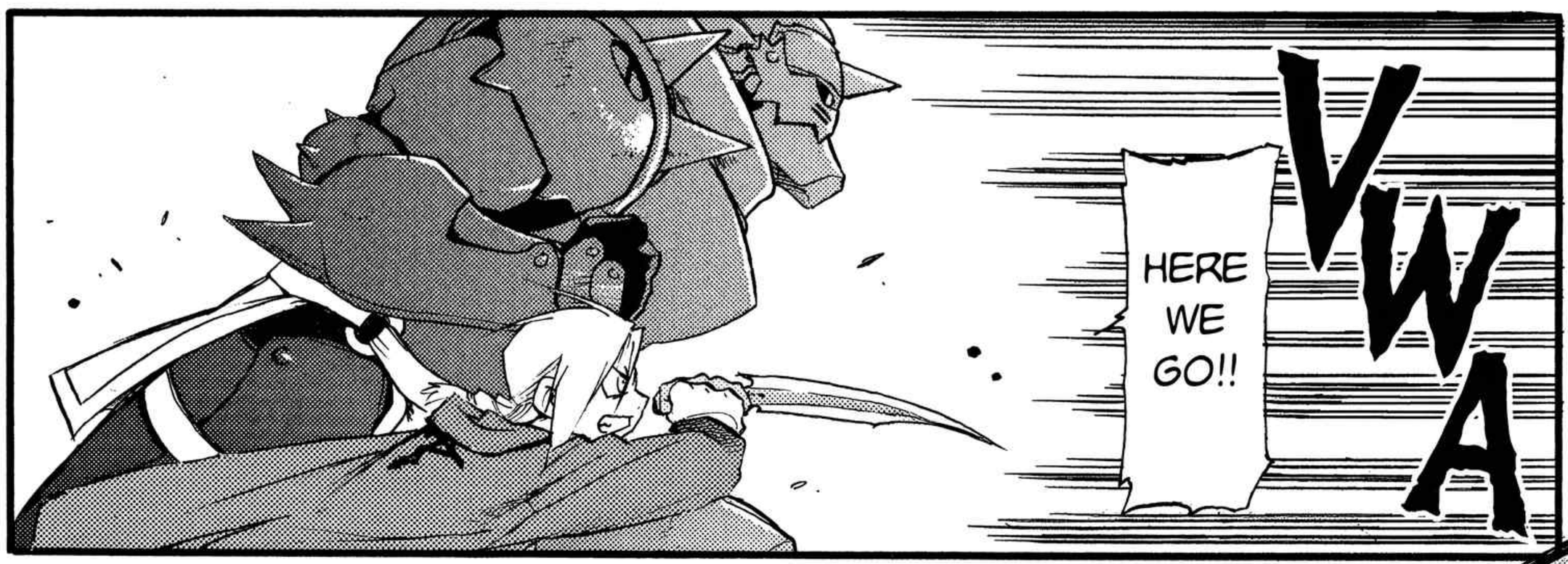
SLAP

ZZT ZT ZT ZT ZZT

KRIK

KLACH

YOU'RE NOT AFRAID...

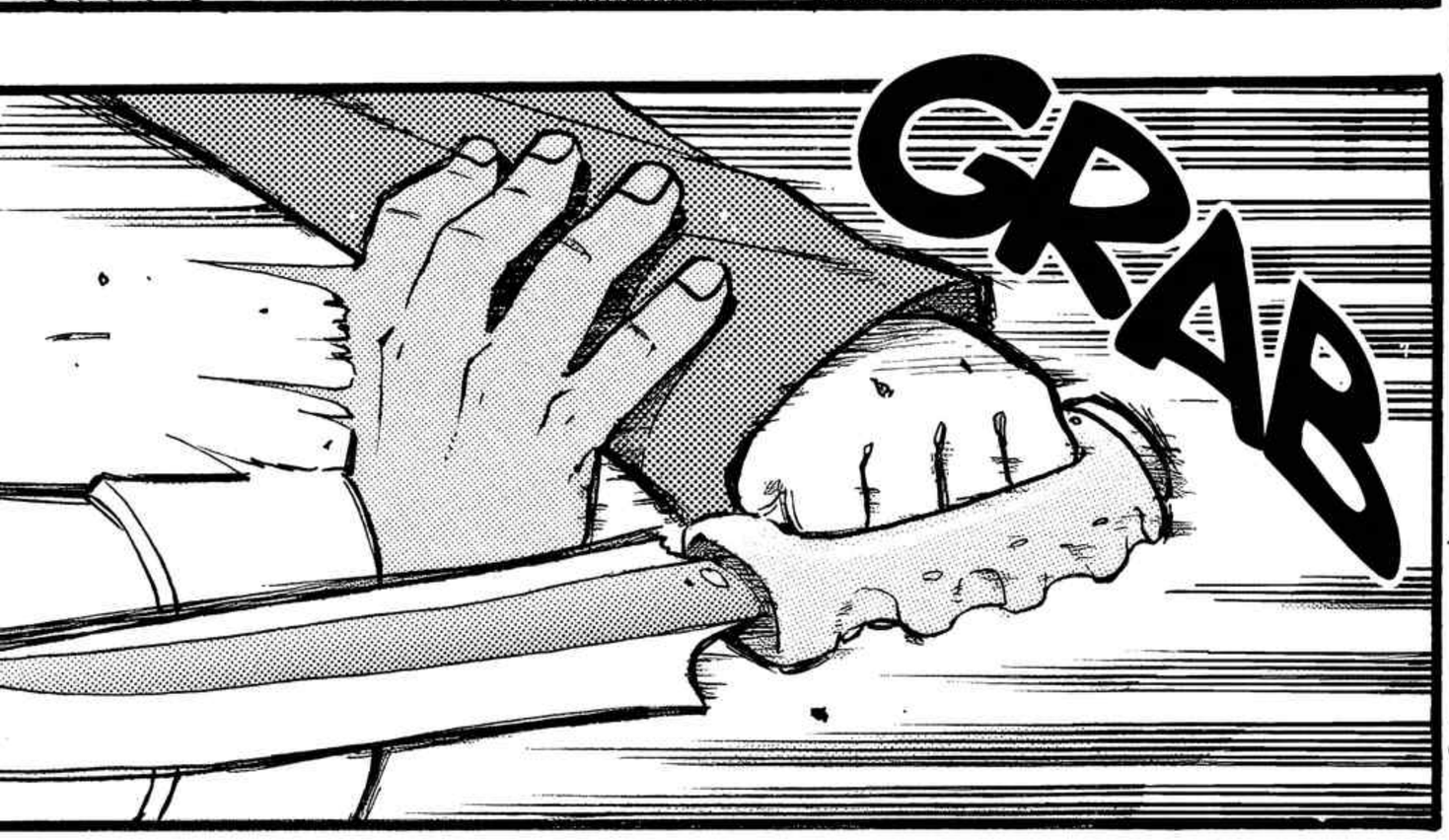

HERE WE GO!!
VWA

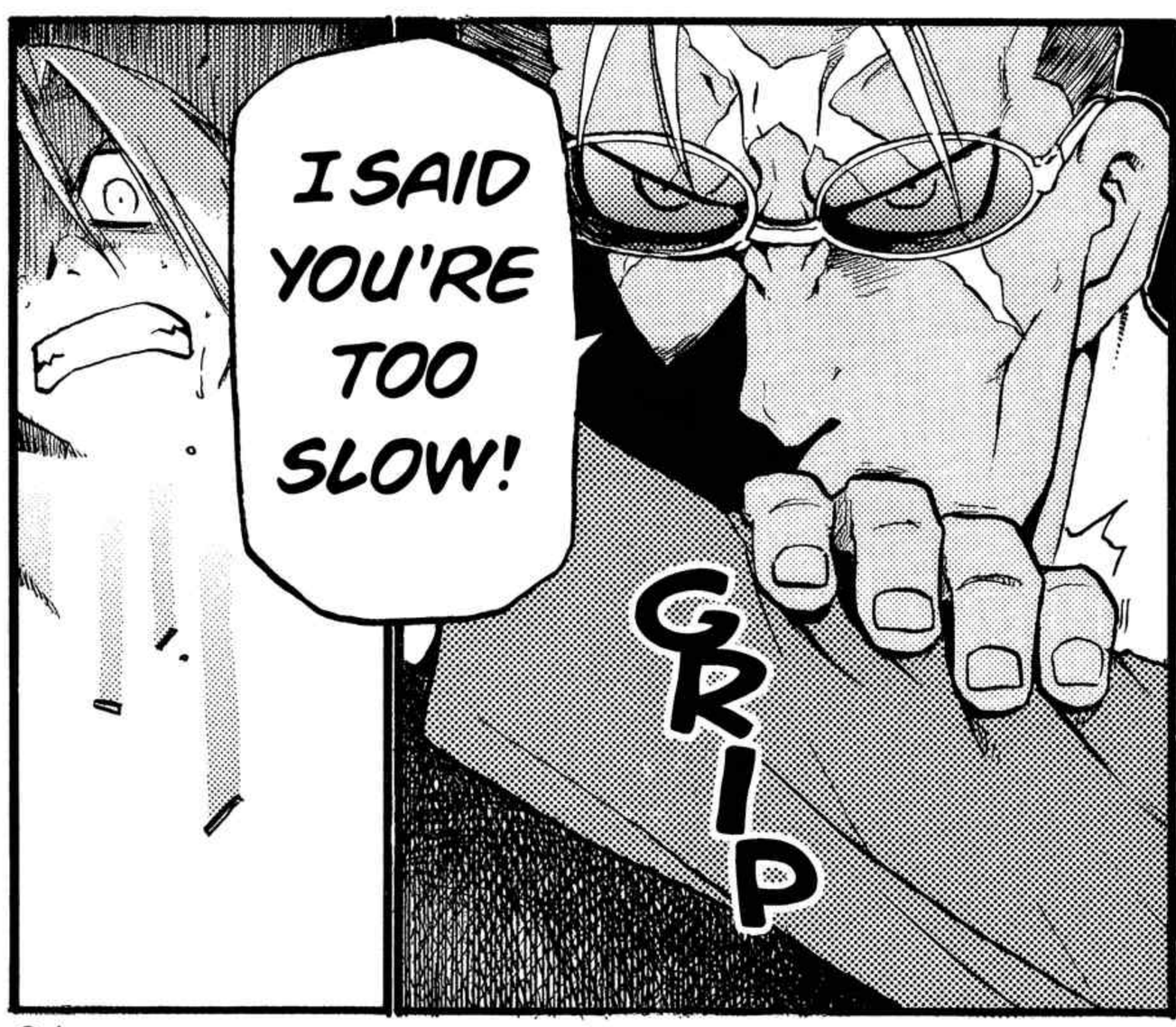
...BUT YOU'RE SLOW!

VSH
WSH
WSH

SKSHT
HUH...?
!
....

YOU SON OF A--


GRAB


I SAID YOU'RE TOO SLOW!
GRIP

AL !!!
KLANGG

!?

HING

KAS

WHAM

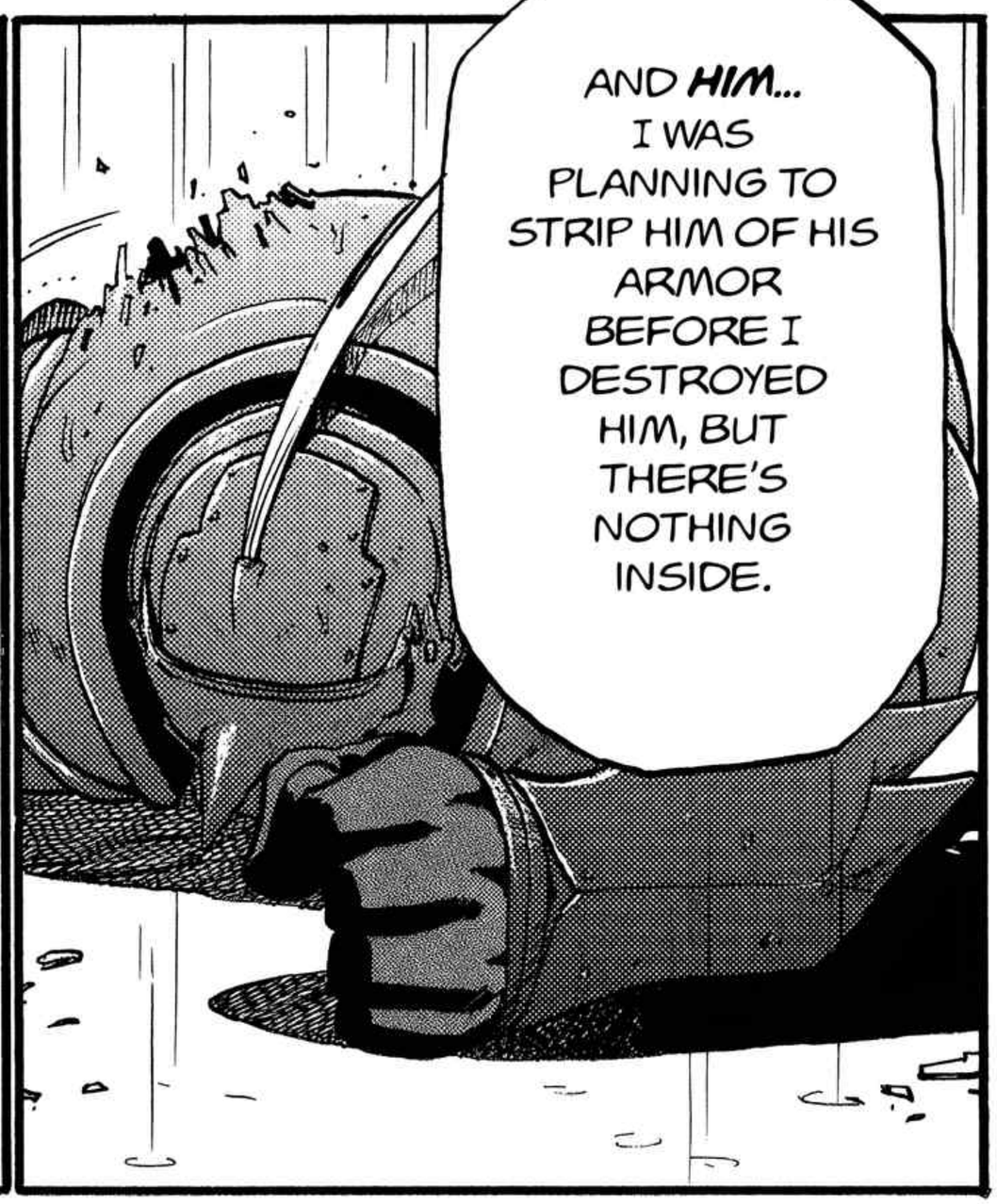
OW!!

?....

AUTO-MAIL...
IT'S NO WONDER MY BODY-DISRUPTING ATTACK HAD NO EFFECT.

HUF
HUF
HUF
F
...DAMN IT!!
FWIP

YOU'RE A STRANGE PAIR...
THIS HAS TAKEN LONGER THAN I THOUGHT...
SLAP


AND HIM... I WAS PLANNING TO STRIP HIM OF HIS ARMOR BEFORE I DESTROYED HIM, BUT THERE'S NOTHING INSIDE.

BASHOOM
DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO FOLLOW YOUR SCHEDULE!
HM...YOU CREATE A TRANSMUTATION CIRCLE BY PUTTING YOUR HANDS TOGETHER... AND THEN USE THE POWER THAT FLOWS BETWEEN THEM...
DON'T BE STUPID! I'M NOT LEAVING WITHOUT YOU!!
NO, EDWARD...! YOU HAVE TO RUN...
KRIK
WELL THEN...
RRRAAAAAAH!

BA MM

ALLOW ME TO DESTROY IT.
KZZT

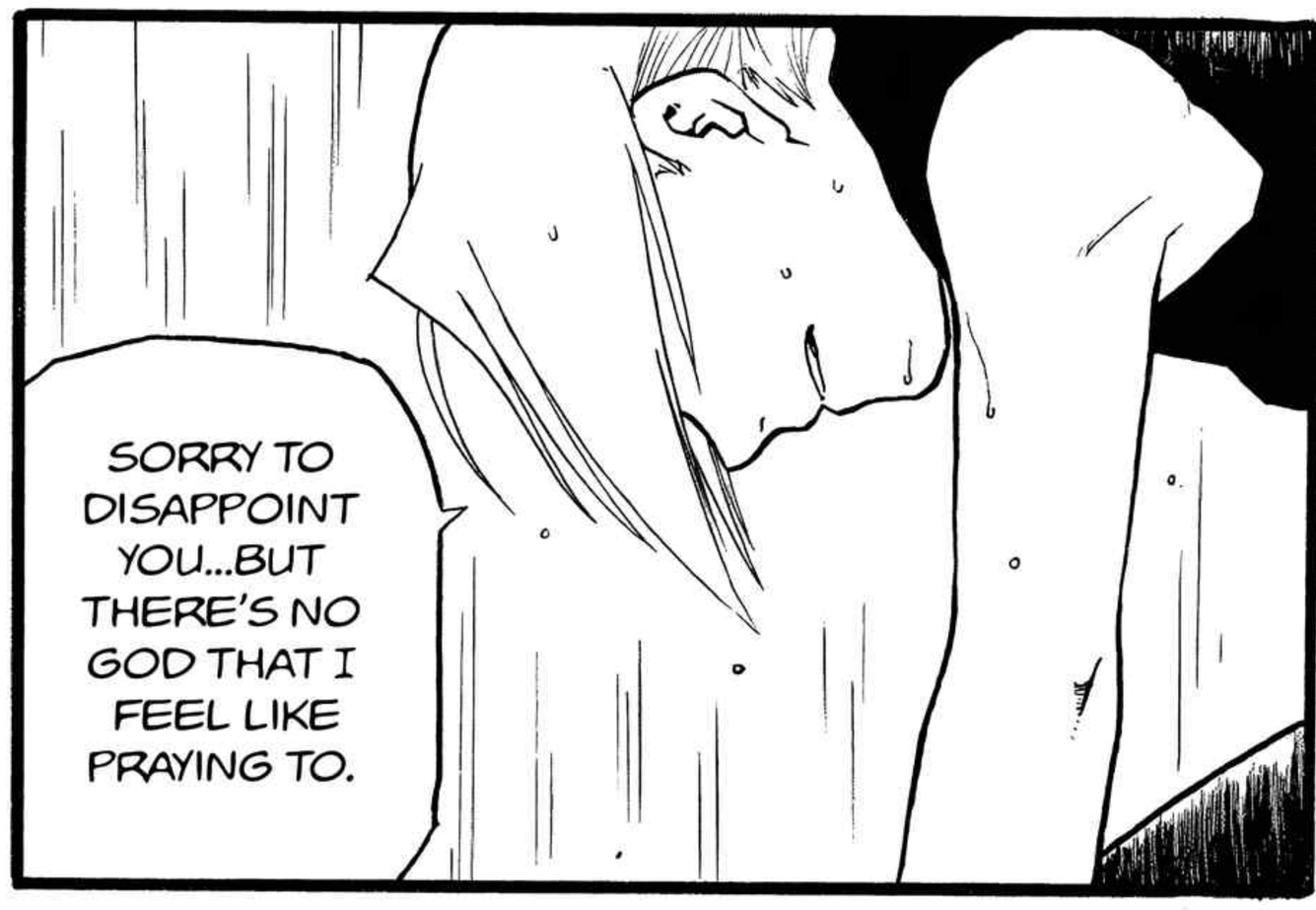
SLISH
GRIP
I'LL START WITH YOUR ARM.

BOOM!

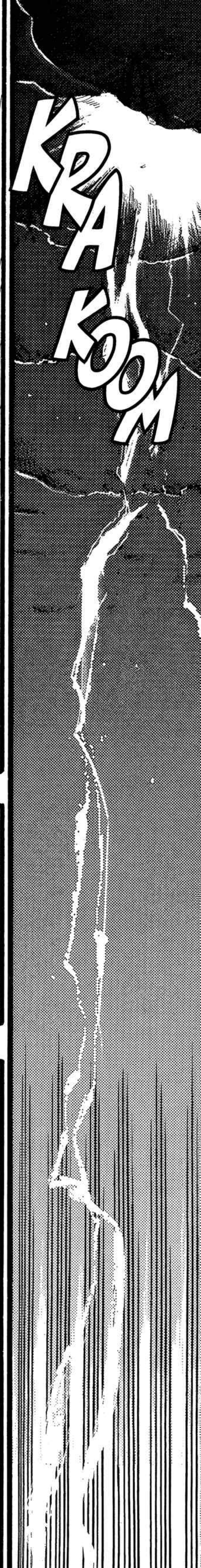
FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST

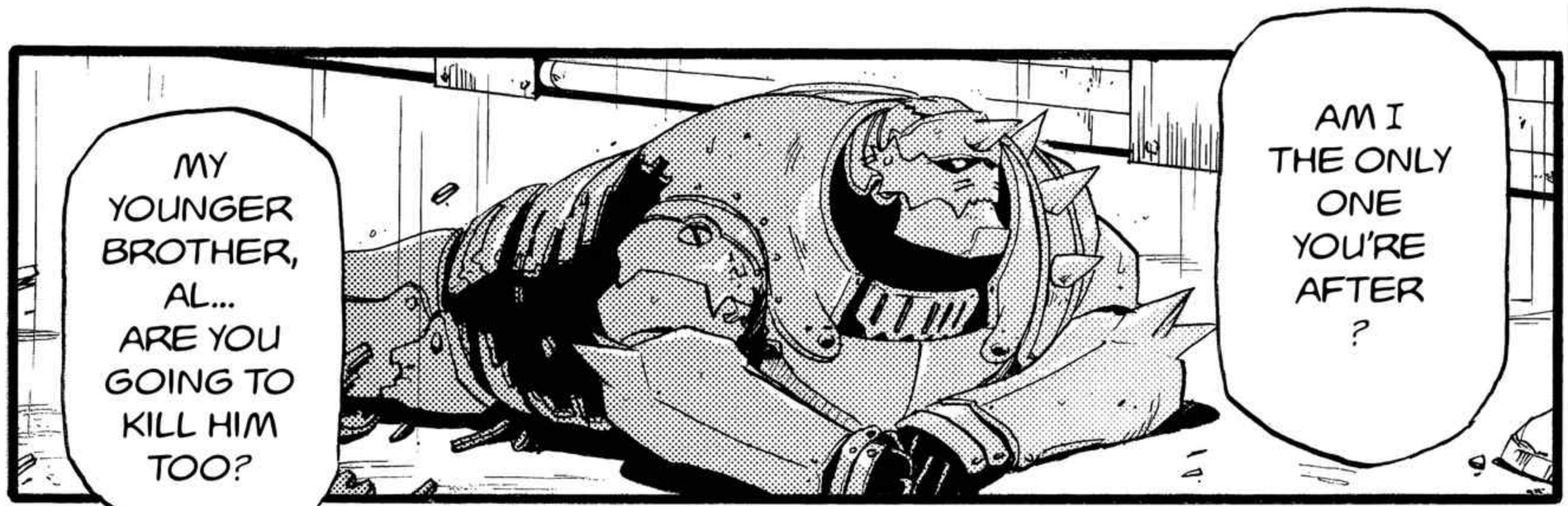
ED...

Chapter 7: After the Rain


SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU...BUT THERE'S NO GOD THAT I FEEL LIKE PRAYING TO.

SHAAA
I'LL GIVE YOU A MOMENT TO PRAY.

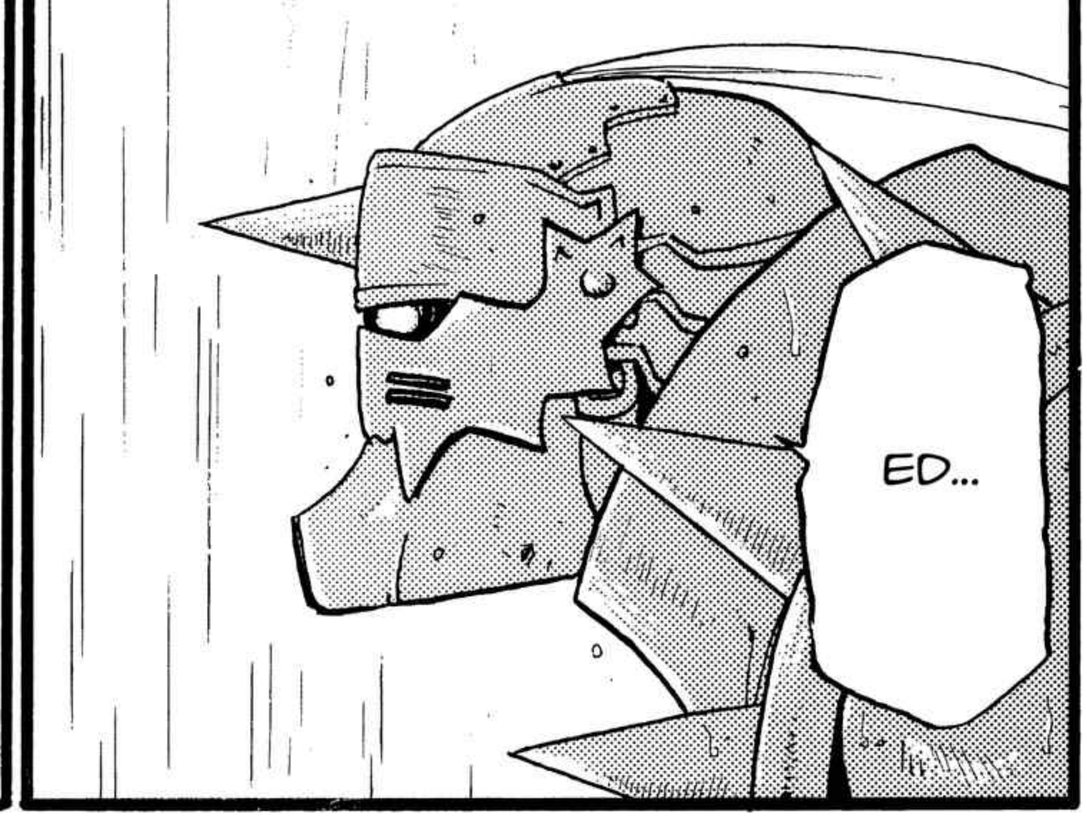

KRA KOOM

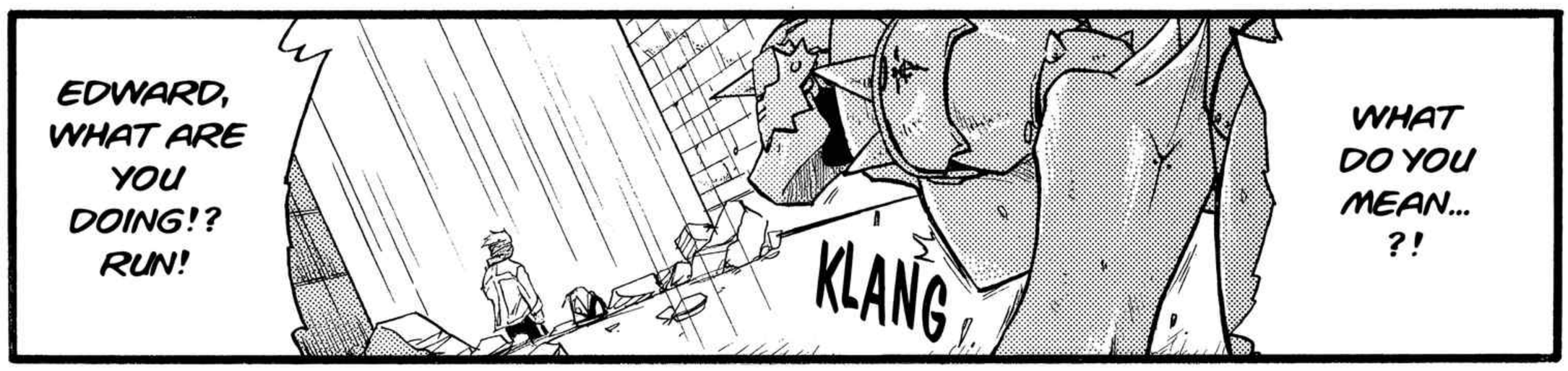

MY YOUNGER BROTHER, AL... ARE YOU GOING TO KILL HIM TOO?
AM I THE ONLY ONE YOU'RE AFTER ?

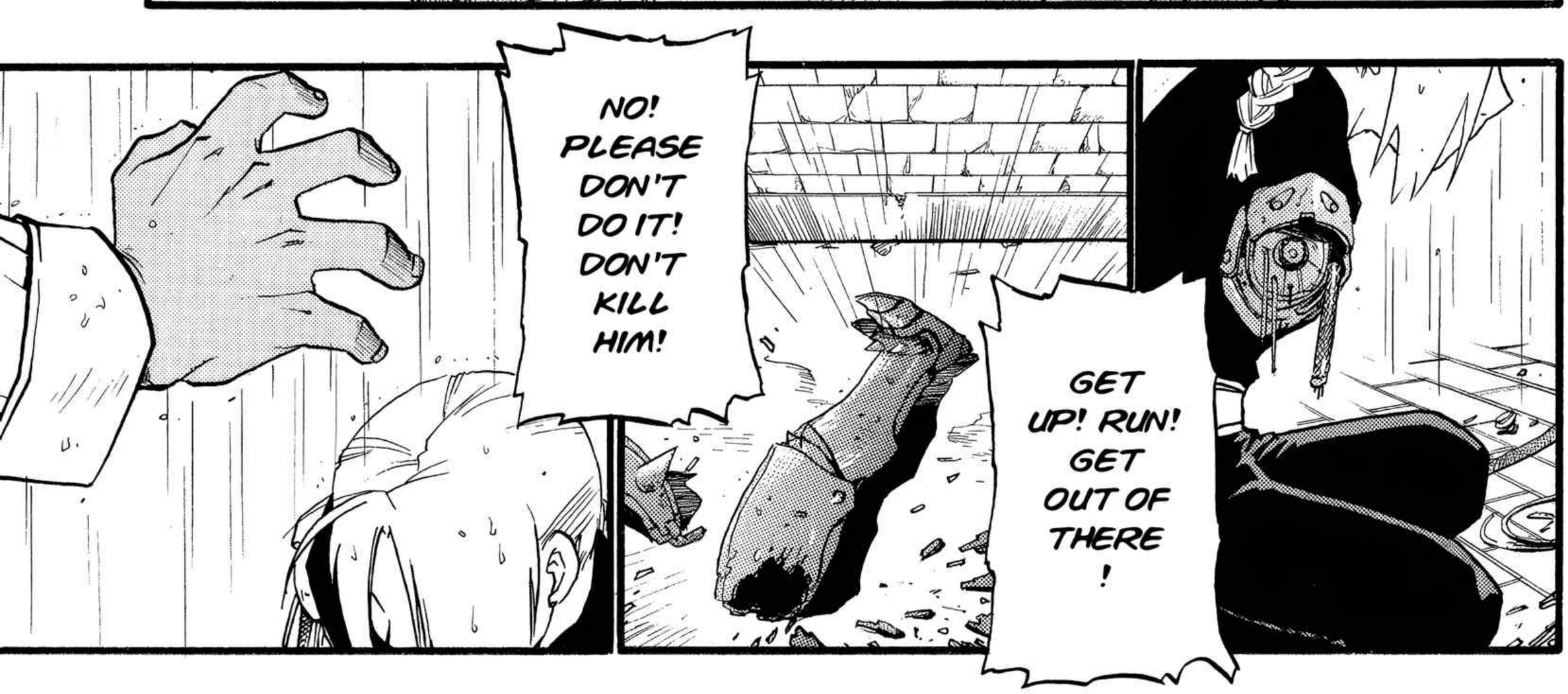
PROMISE YOU WON'T TOUCH MY BROTHER.
ALL RIGHT THEN, PROMISE ME.

IF ANYONE GETS IN MY WAY I WILL ELIMINATE THEM...BUT RIGHT NOW I ONLY HAVE BUSINESS WITH YOU, THE FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST.

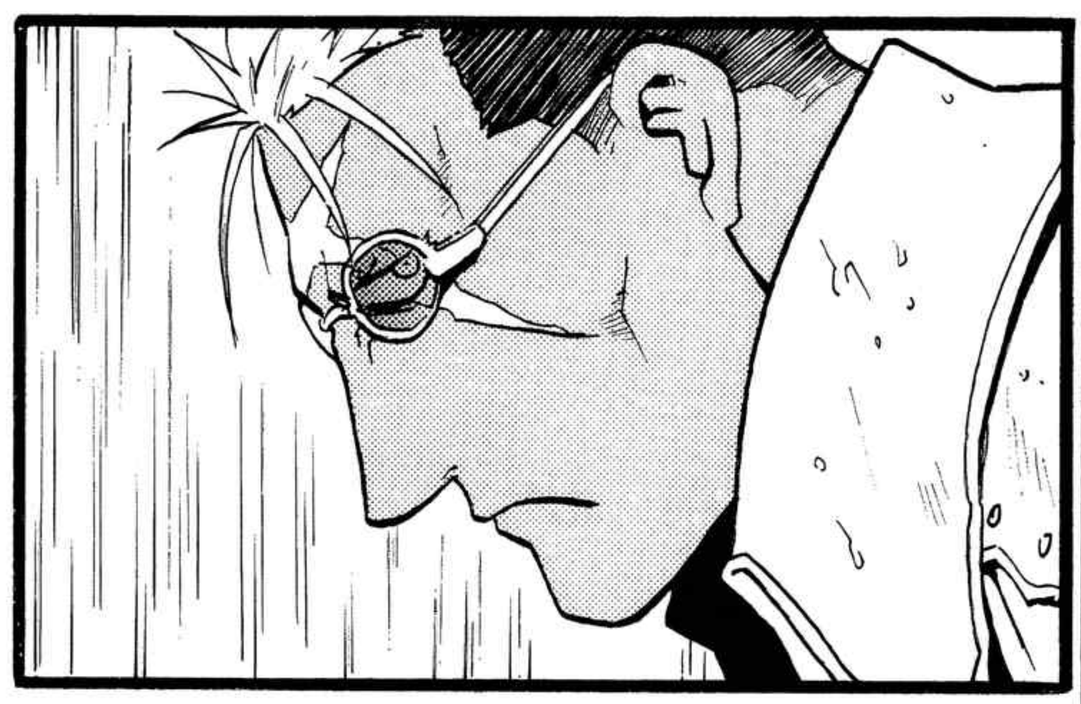
I PROMISE.

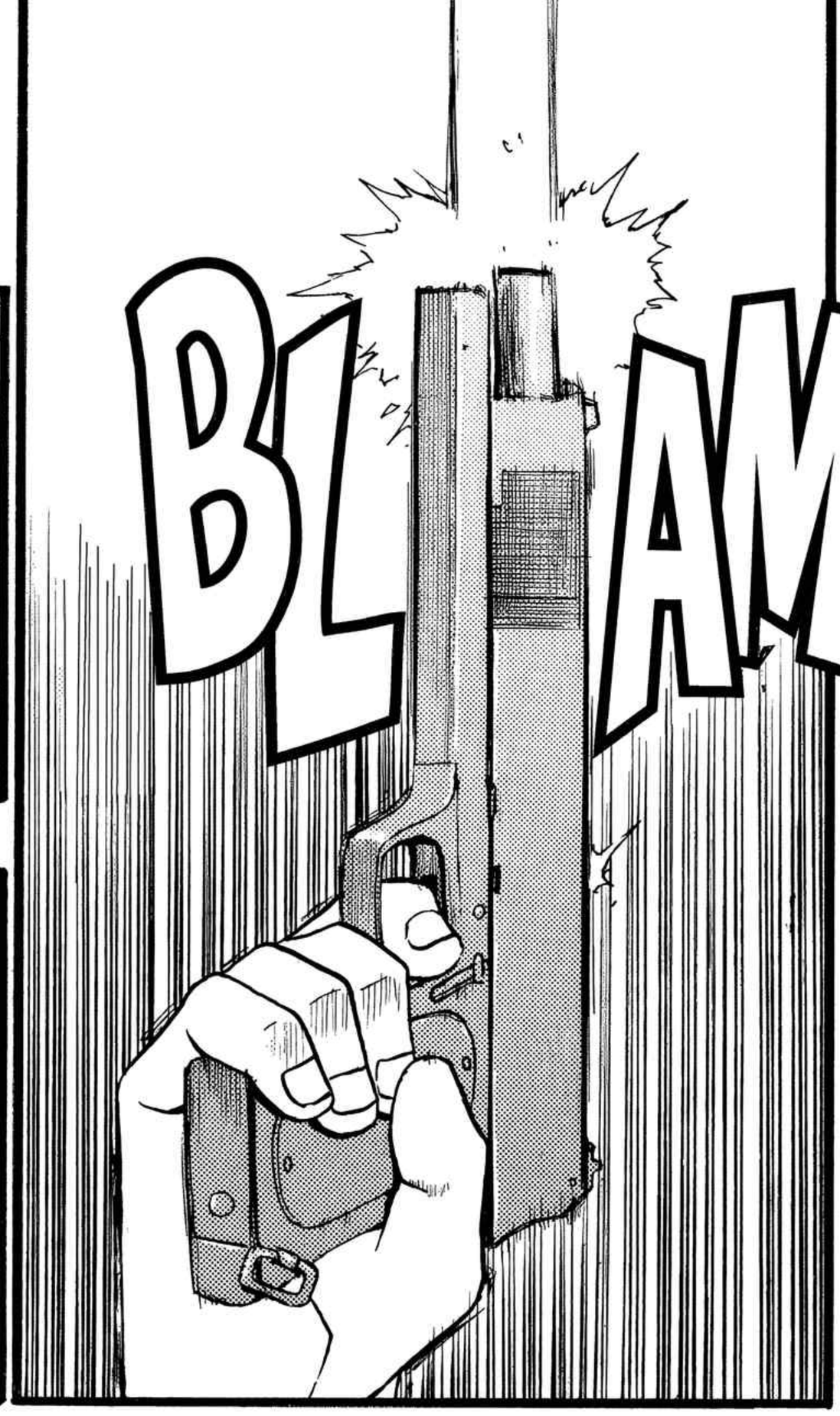

ED...

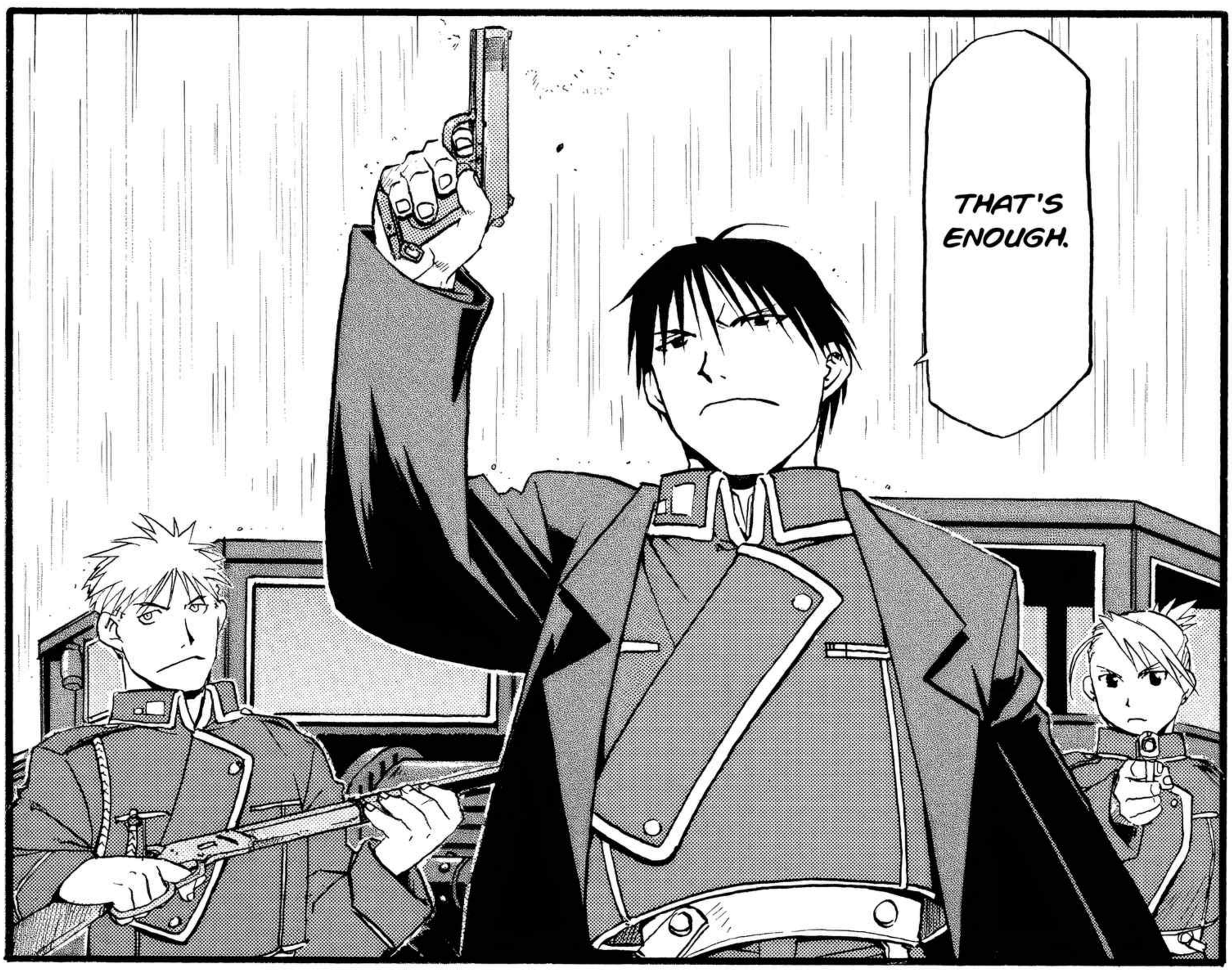

EDWARD, WHAT ARE YOU DOING!? RUN!
KLANG
WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?!


NO! PLEASE DON'T DO IT! DON'T KILL HIM!
GET UP! RUN! GET OUT OF THERE!

NO!!!
SKERK
KRK KRIKKSNAP

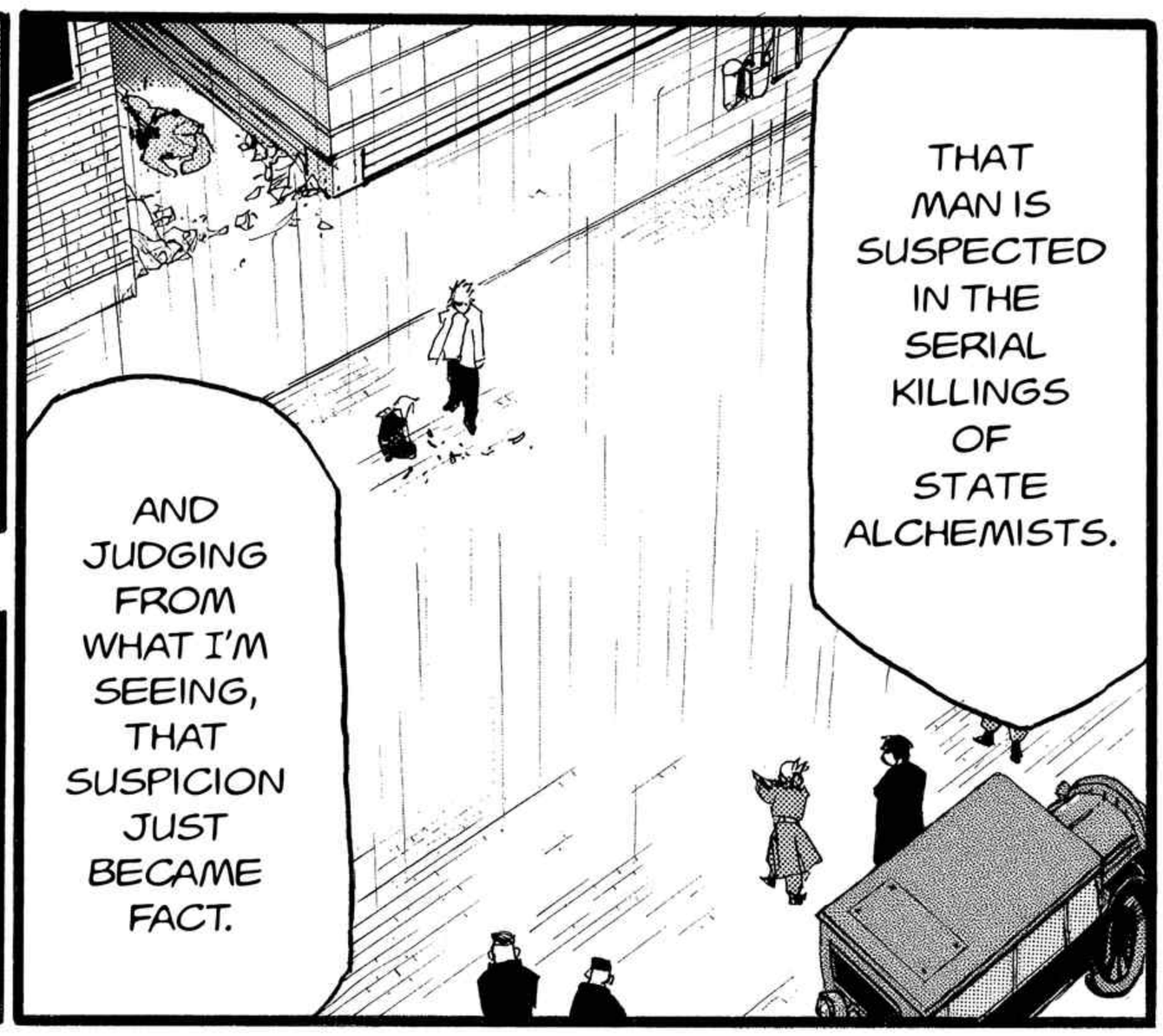



BLAM

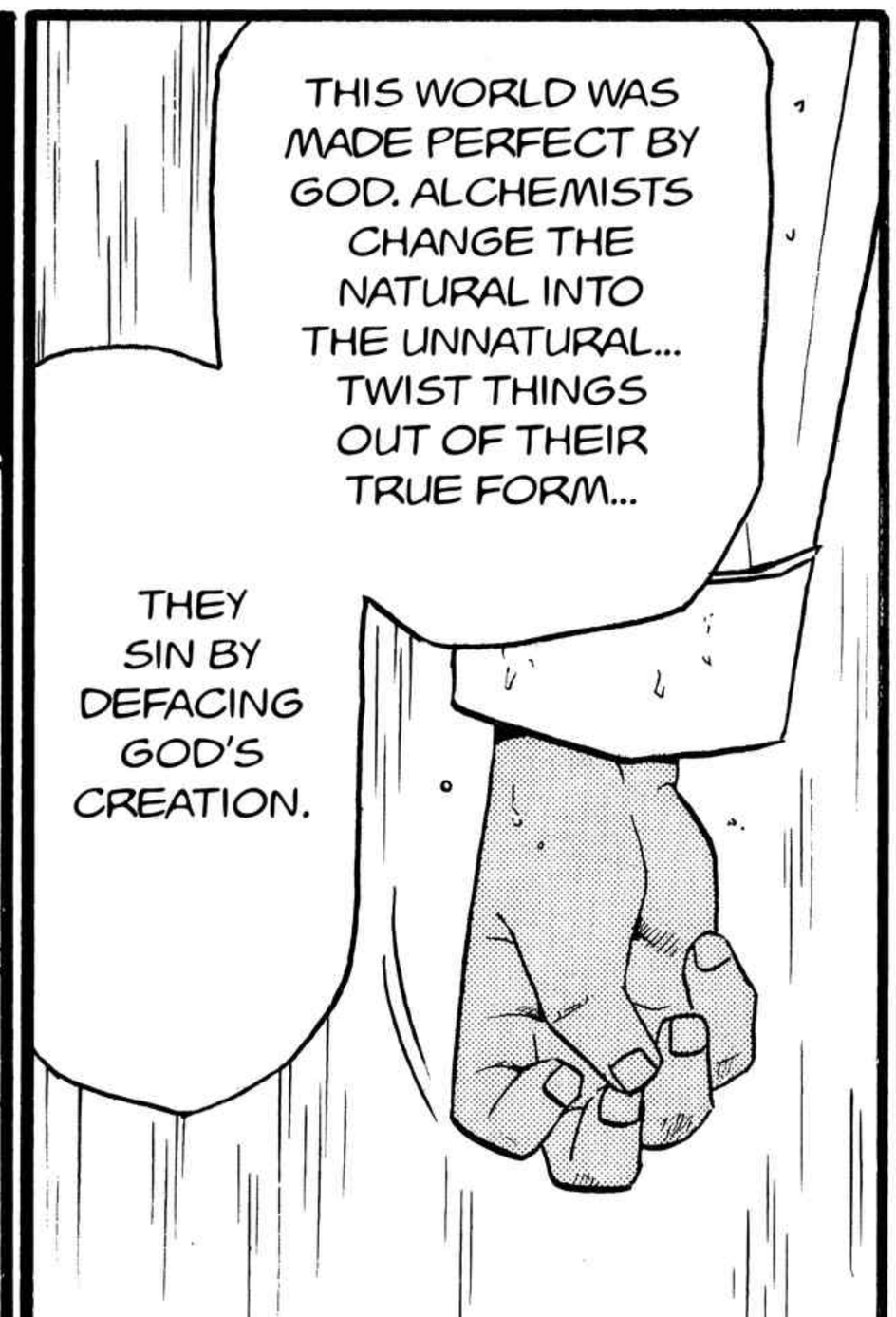

THAT'S ENOUGH.

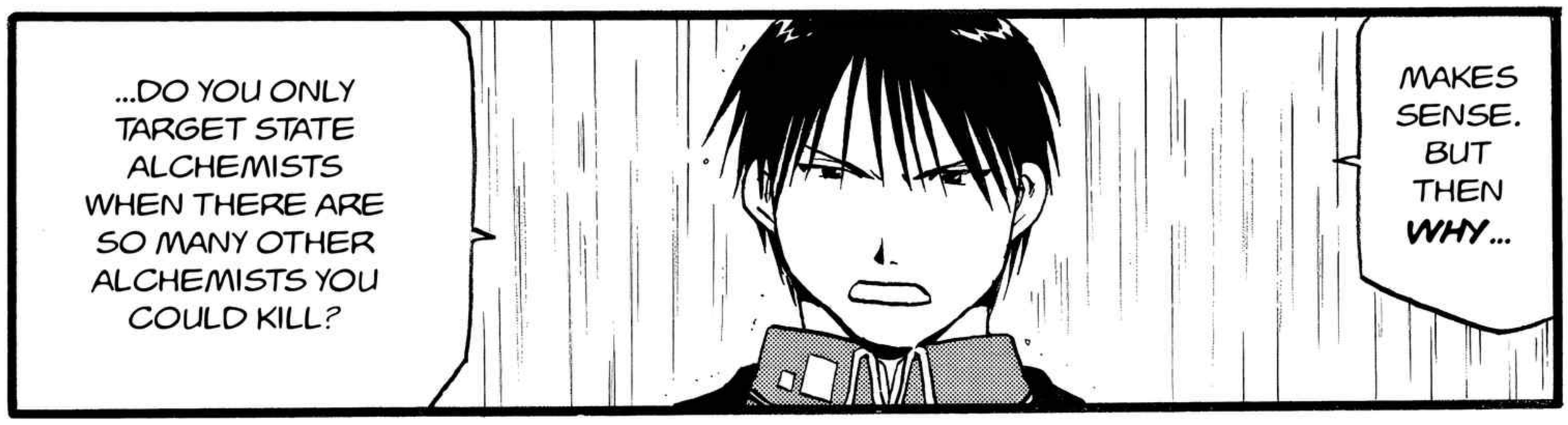
COLONEL !
HE'S...
THAT WAS PRETTY CLOSE, FULL-METAL.

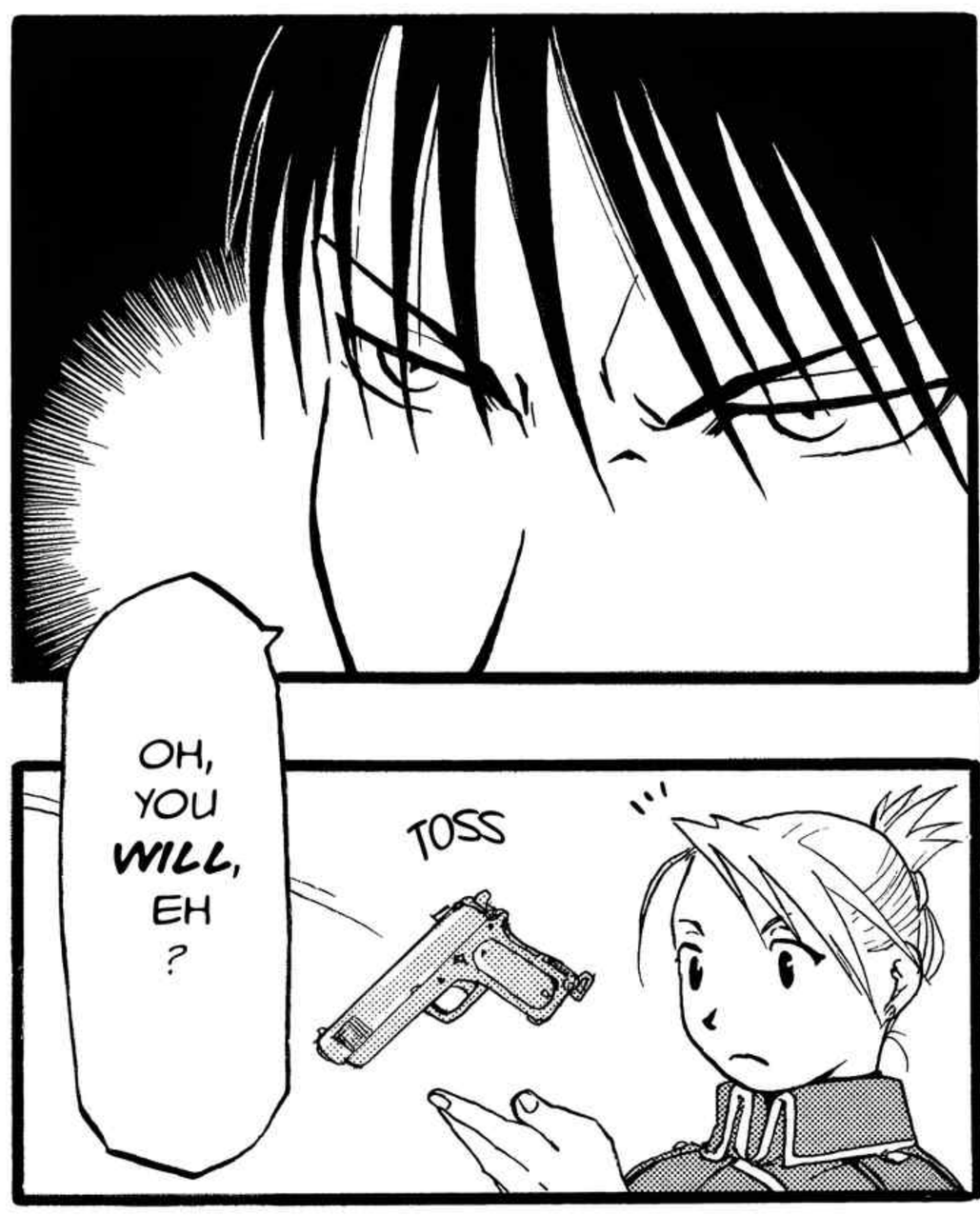
!
THE MURDER AT THE TUCKER ESTATE... LET ME GUESS. THAT WAS YOU TOO?
GRR

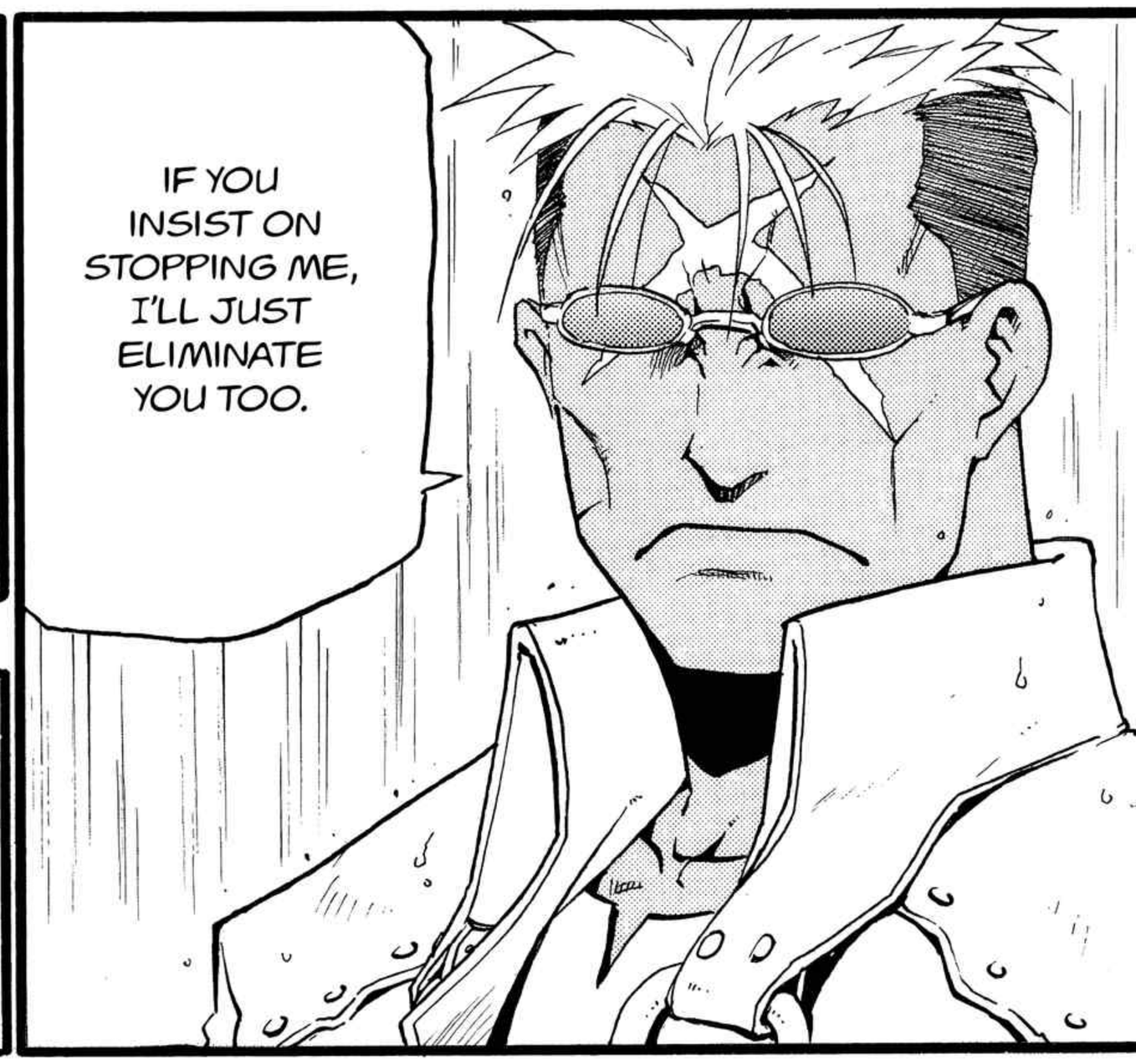

THAT MAN IS SUSPECTED IN THE SERIAL KILLINGS OF STATE ALCHEMISTS.
AND JUDGING FROM WHAT I'M SEEING, THAT SUSPICION JUST BECAME FACT.

I AM AN INSTRUMENT OF DIVINE JUDGMENT !


THIS WORLD WAS MADE PERFECT BY GOD. ALCHEMISTS CHANGE THE NATURAL INTO THE UNNATURAL... TWIST THINGS OUT OF THEIR TRUE FORM...
THEY SIN BY DEFACING GOD'S CREATION.


...DO YOU ONLY TARGET STATE ALCHEMISTS WHEN THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER ALCHEMISTS YOU COULD KILL?
MAKES SENSE. BUT THEN WHY...


OH, YOU WILL, EH ?
TOSS


IF YOU INSIST ON STOPPING ME, I'LL JUST ELIMINATE YOU TOO.

STAY OUT OF THIS.
COLONEL MUSTANG !

I'M THE "FLAME ALCHE-MIST," ROY MUSTANG !
THE ONE AND ONLY !

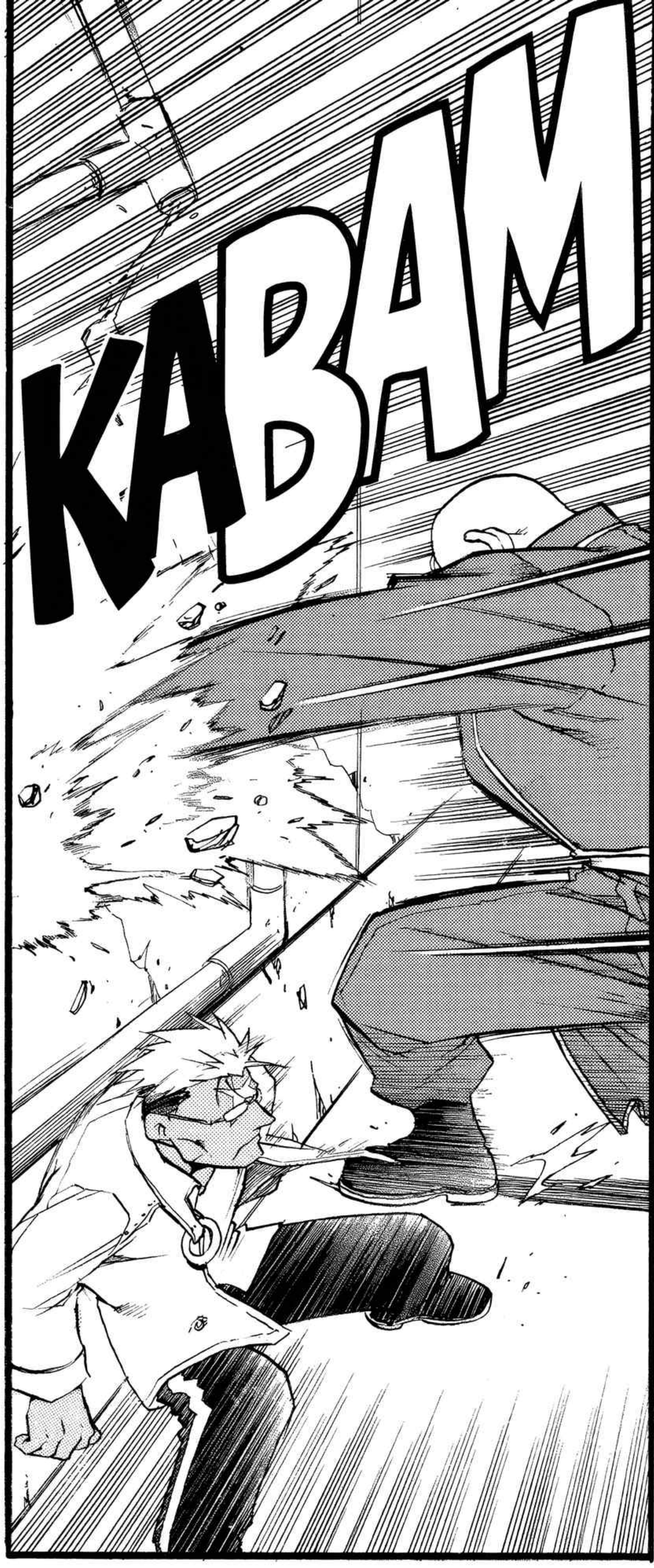
THE STATE ALCHE-MIST?
MUS-TANG...

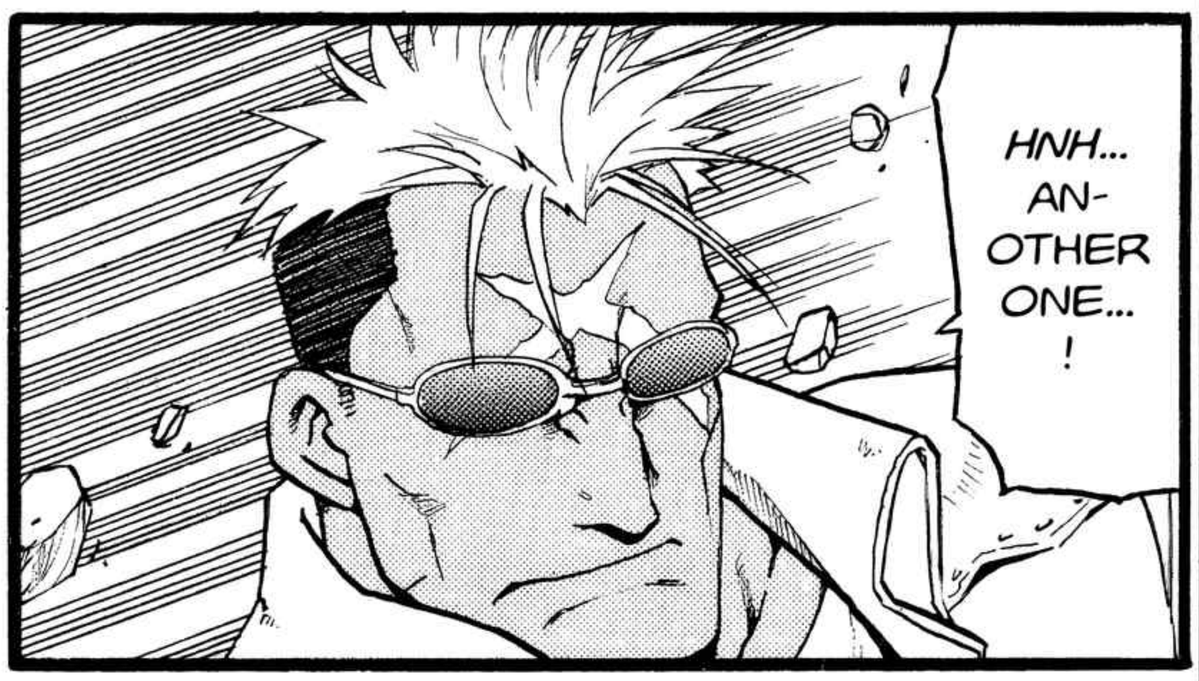
WHAT A GLORIOUS DAY THIS IS!!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE THIS...YOU TURN FROM THE PATH OF GOD, THEN COME TO MEET JUDGMENT OF YOUR OWN FREE WILL...
KRAK
YOU KNOW THAT I'M THE FLAME ALCHEMIST, BUT YOU STILL WANT TO FIGHT ME?
YOU'RE A FOOL !!

SWAPP
AH!
COLO...
VIFF
WHOOSH
WAAGH !?
CHAK

BA-BA-BABABA-

BAM


KABAM


HNH... AN-OTHER ONE...!

GO AHEAD AND TRY.

SNK SNAP KRK

YOU DODGED THAT...

NOT HALF BAD...

BAGUMP

MM-HMM...

GRMM RMM RMB RMB RMB

RMB RMB RMB

YOU BRAZEN INSURRECTIONARY! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU.

RRMM RMM RMM M M M

YOU WANT TO DESTROY EVERYONE HERE ?

MM MM M M M M

WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO BEAT *ME* FIRST ?!

USELESS...

MM MM M

DON'T MAKE ME *LAUGH* !!

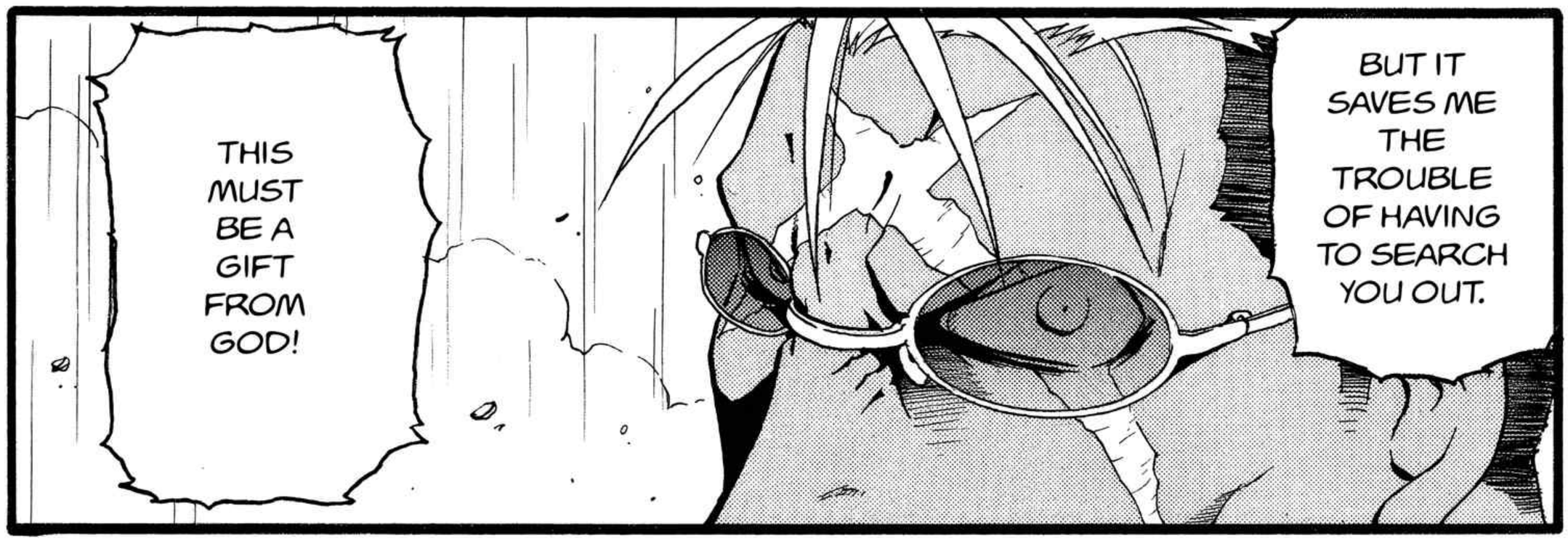
KA WHAM

TA-DAA!

SKISH KRSH KRASH

ALEX LOUIS ARMSTRONG !!

I'M THE "STRONG ARM ALCHE-MIST"...



THE ELEGANT ALCHEMICAL TECHNIQUE PASSED DOWN THROUGH THE ARMSTRONG FAMILY FOR GENERATIONS!

HWOOOO

SPIN

SPIN

THEN AS A SIGN OF RESPECT FOR YOUR COURAGE, I'LL SHOW YOU ***THIS!***

VFF

HMH HMH... SO YOU WON'T BACK DOWN, EH?

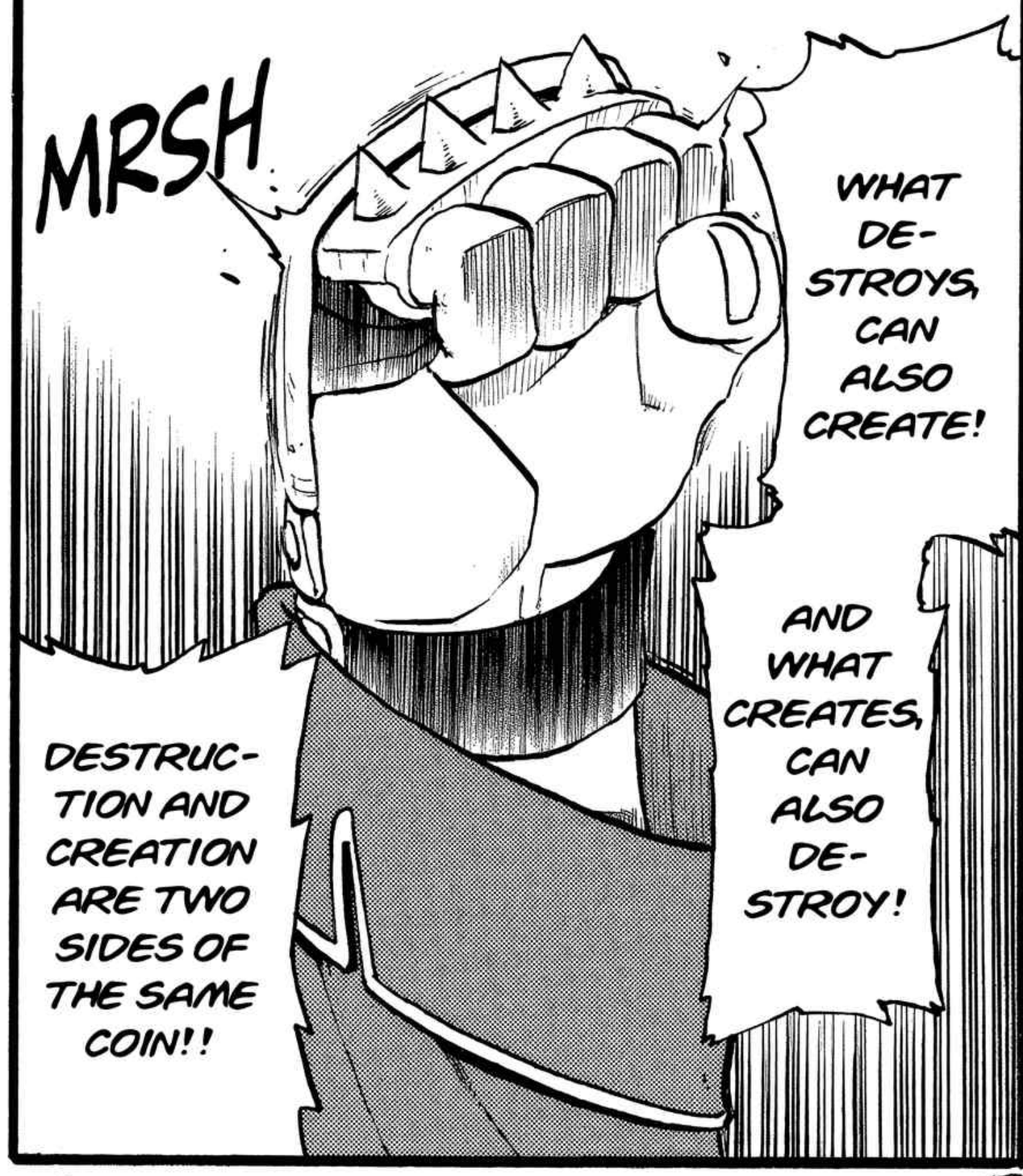
KZAP

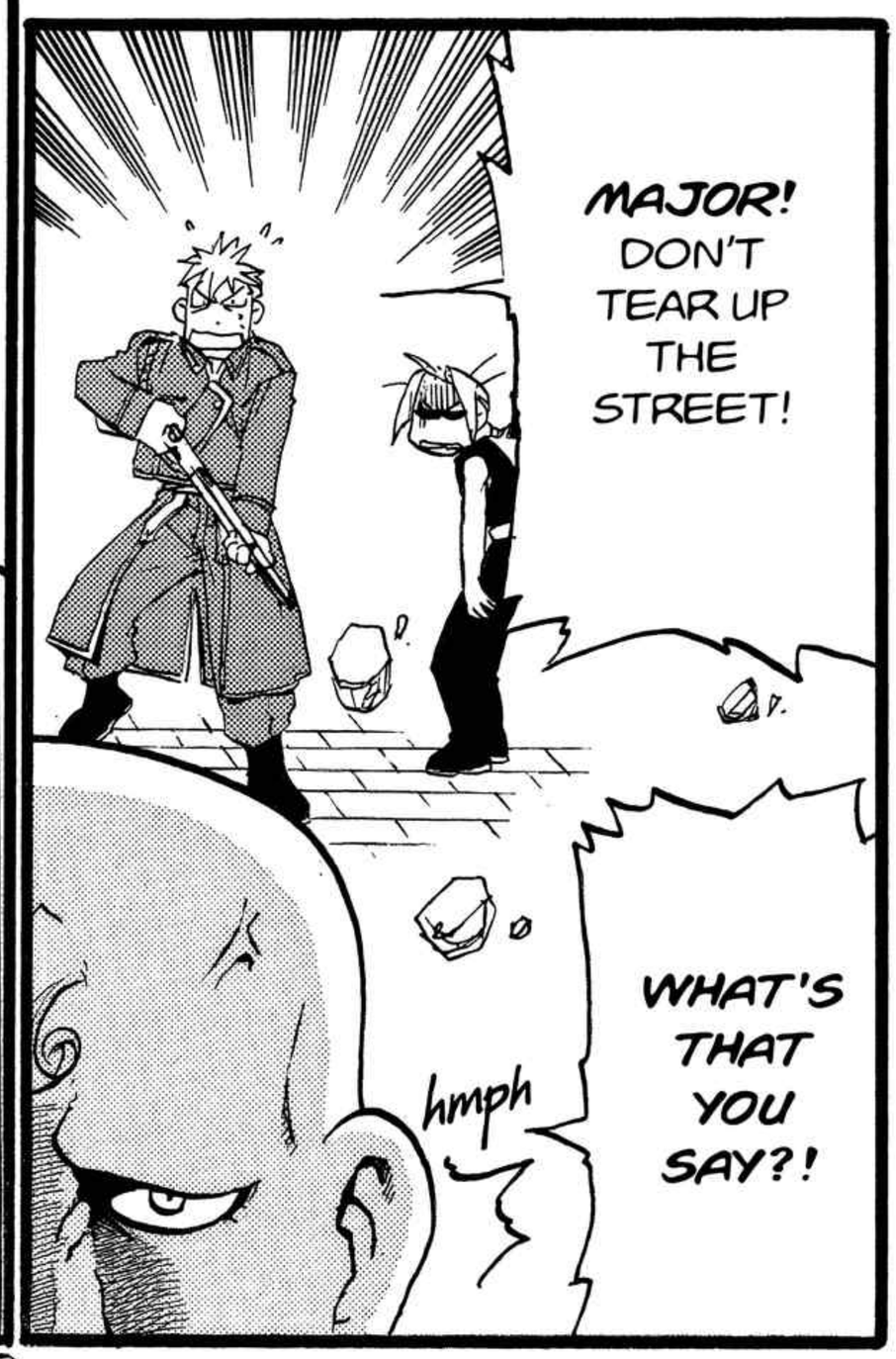
BOM

DOOOM!

WM
TOOM
SLAM
AND AGAIN !
G-G-G-G-G-G-G
!!

D·D·D·MM
YOU..
STABBAK

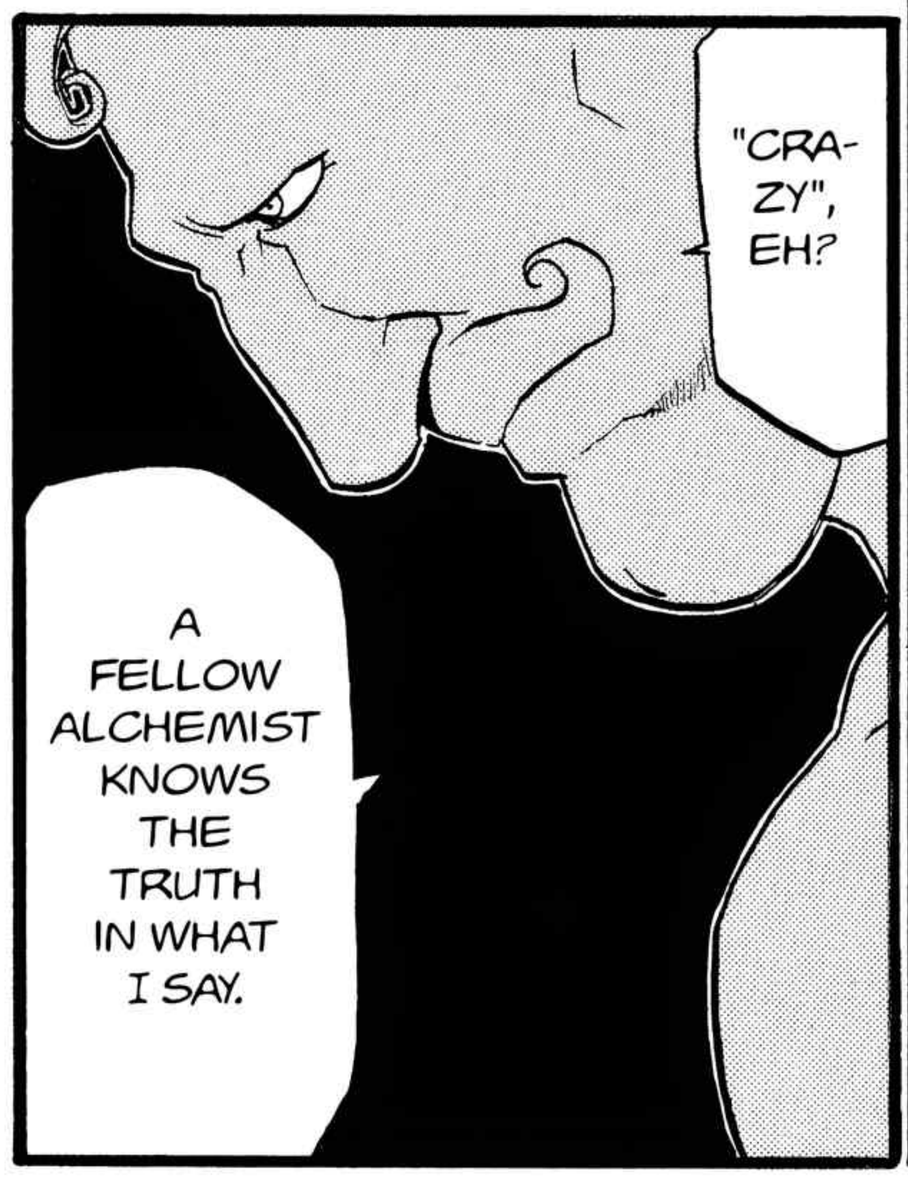


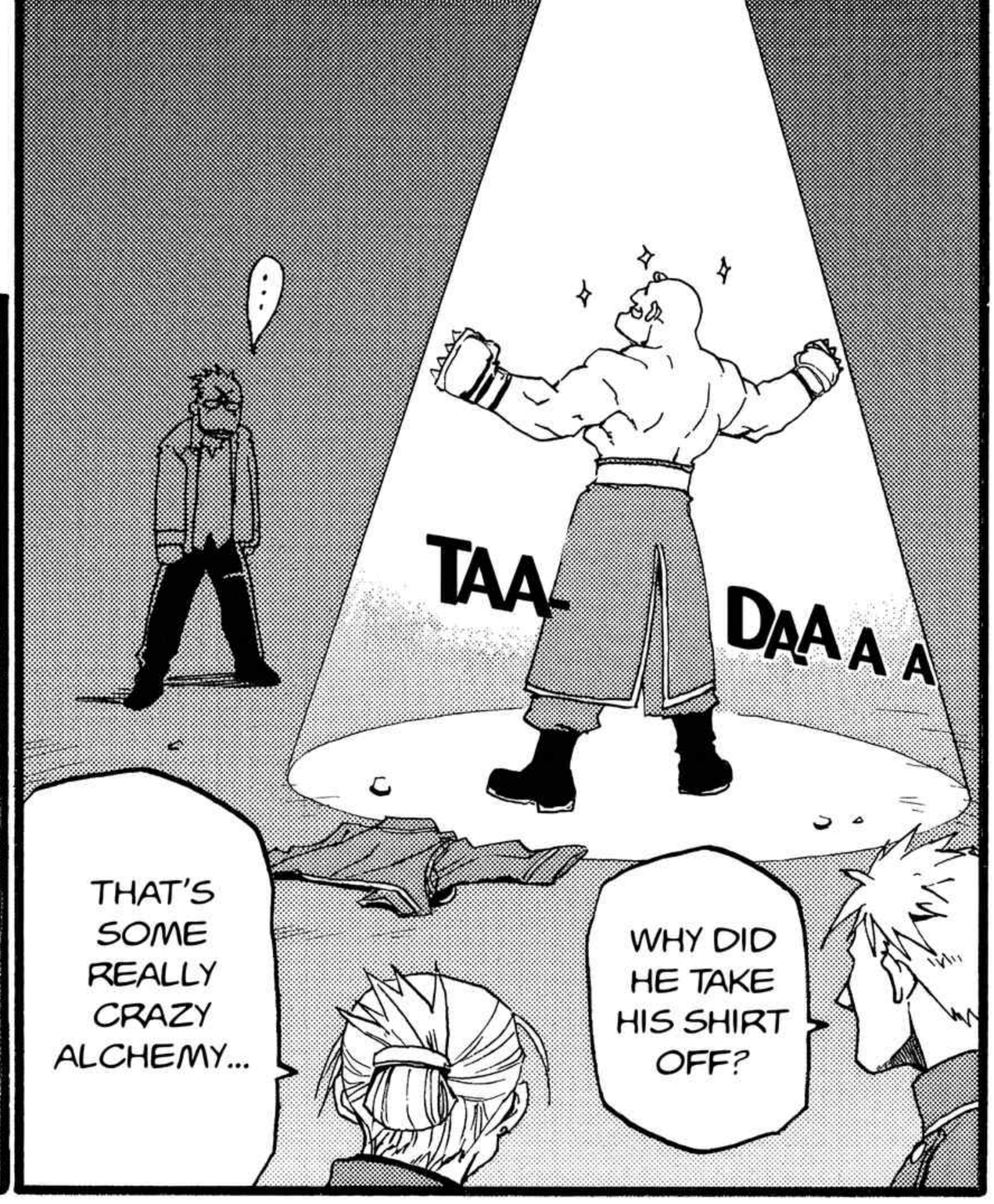


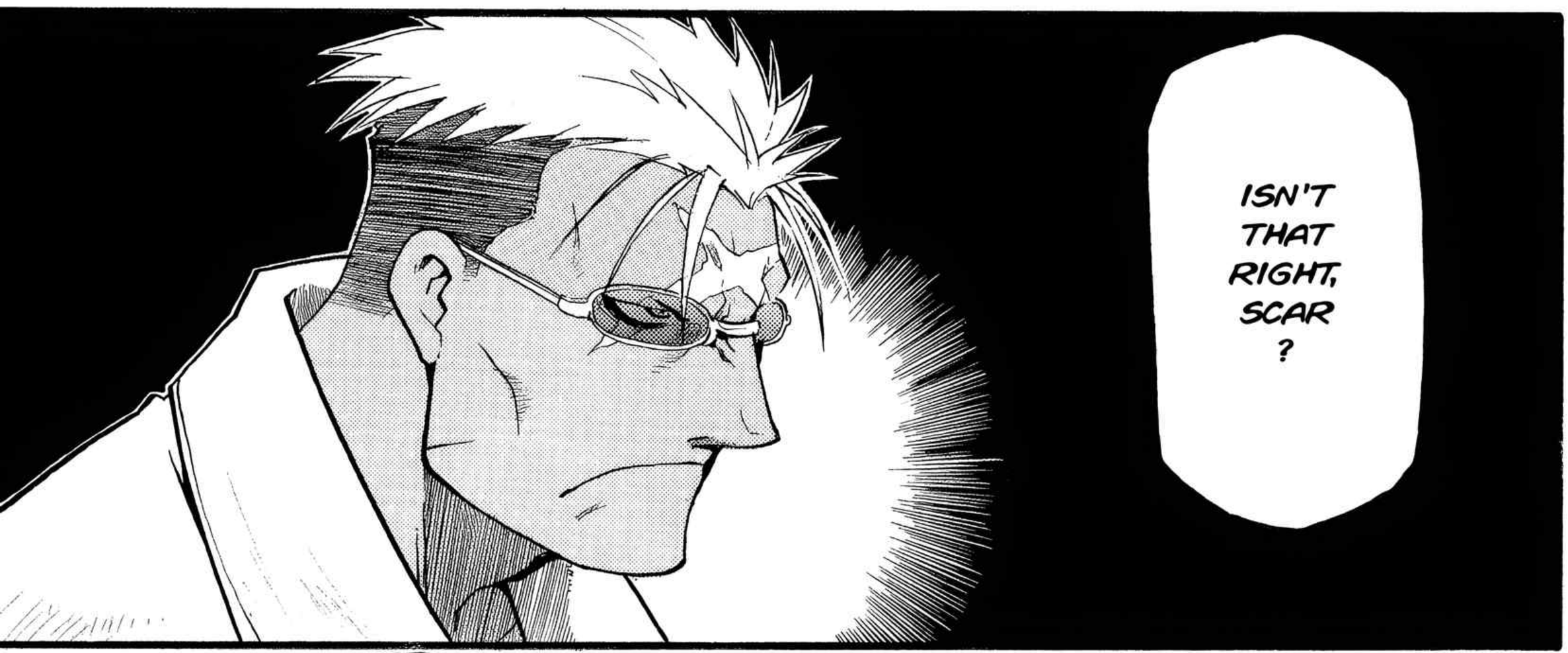
THAT IS THE GREAT LAW OF THE COSMOS!

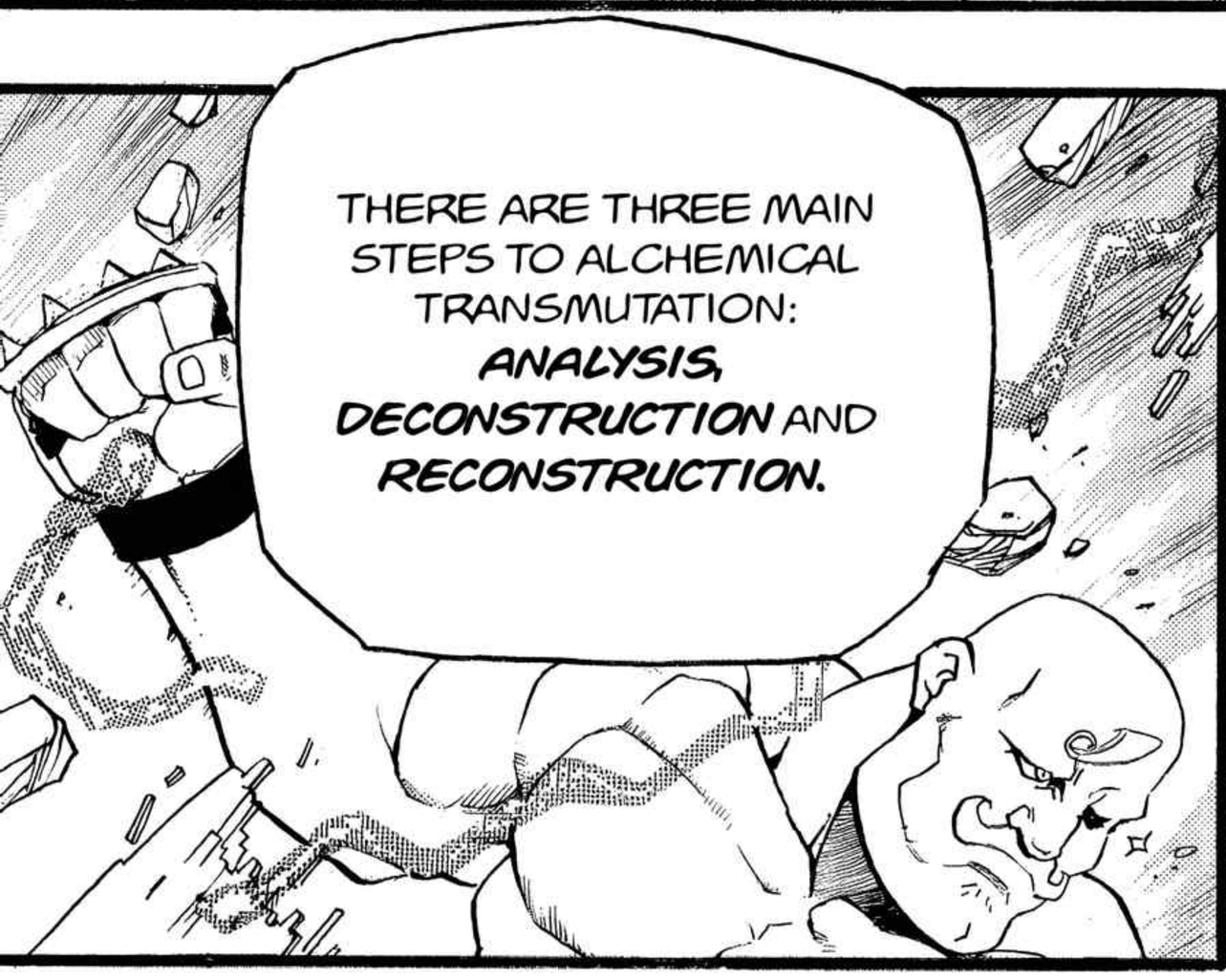
WE MUST TEAR DOWN IN ORDER TO BUILD!

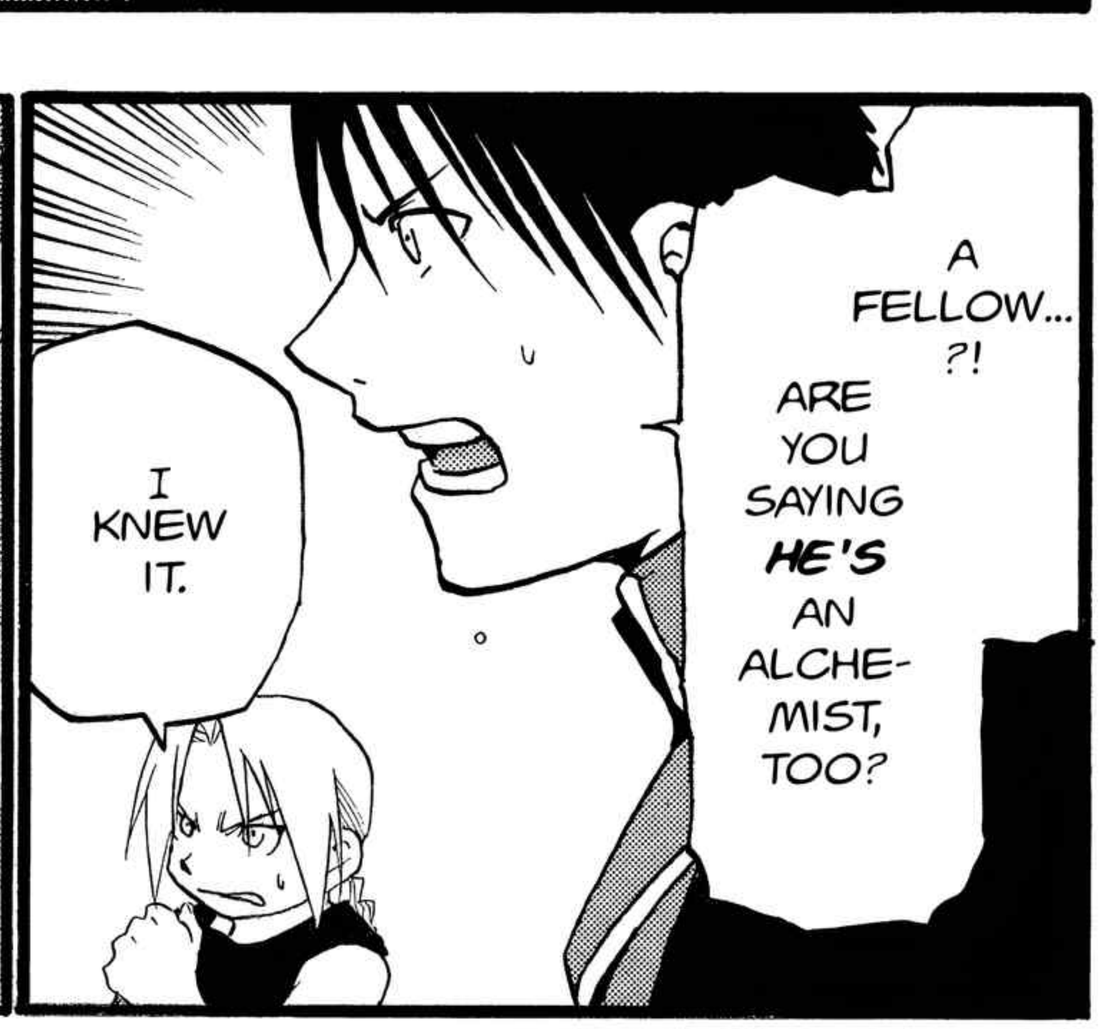
RRRIPPP





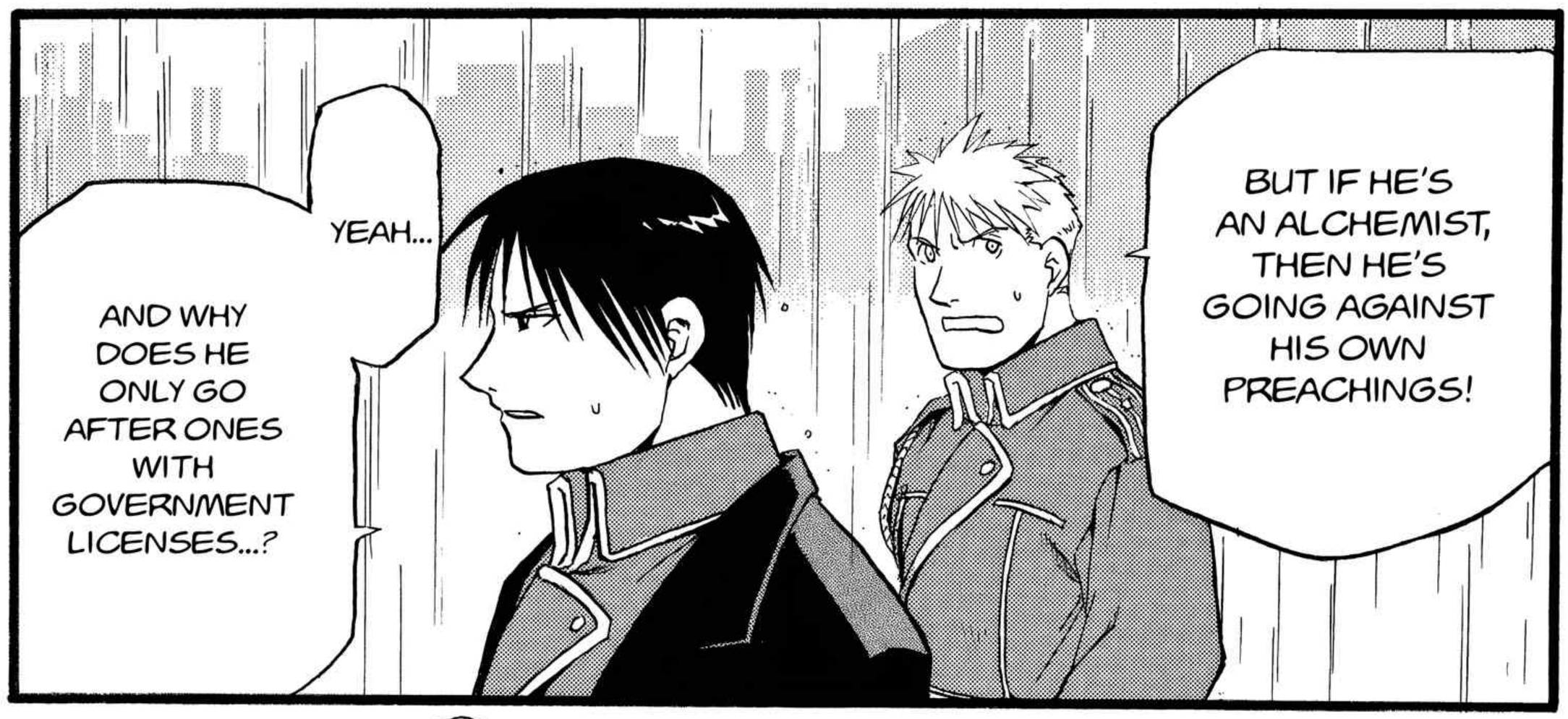






HE'S RECOVERED BY THIS TIME...

I SEE...SO HE'S STOPPED TRANSMUTING AT THE SECOND STAGE... THE STAGE OF ***DECONSTRUCTION!***



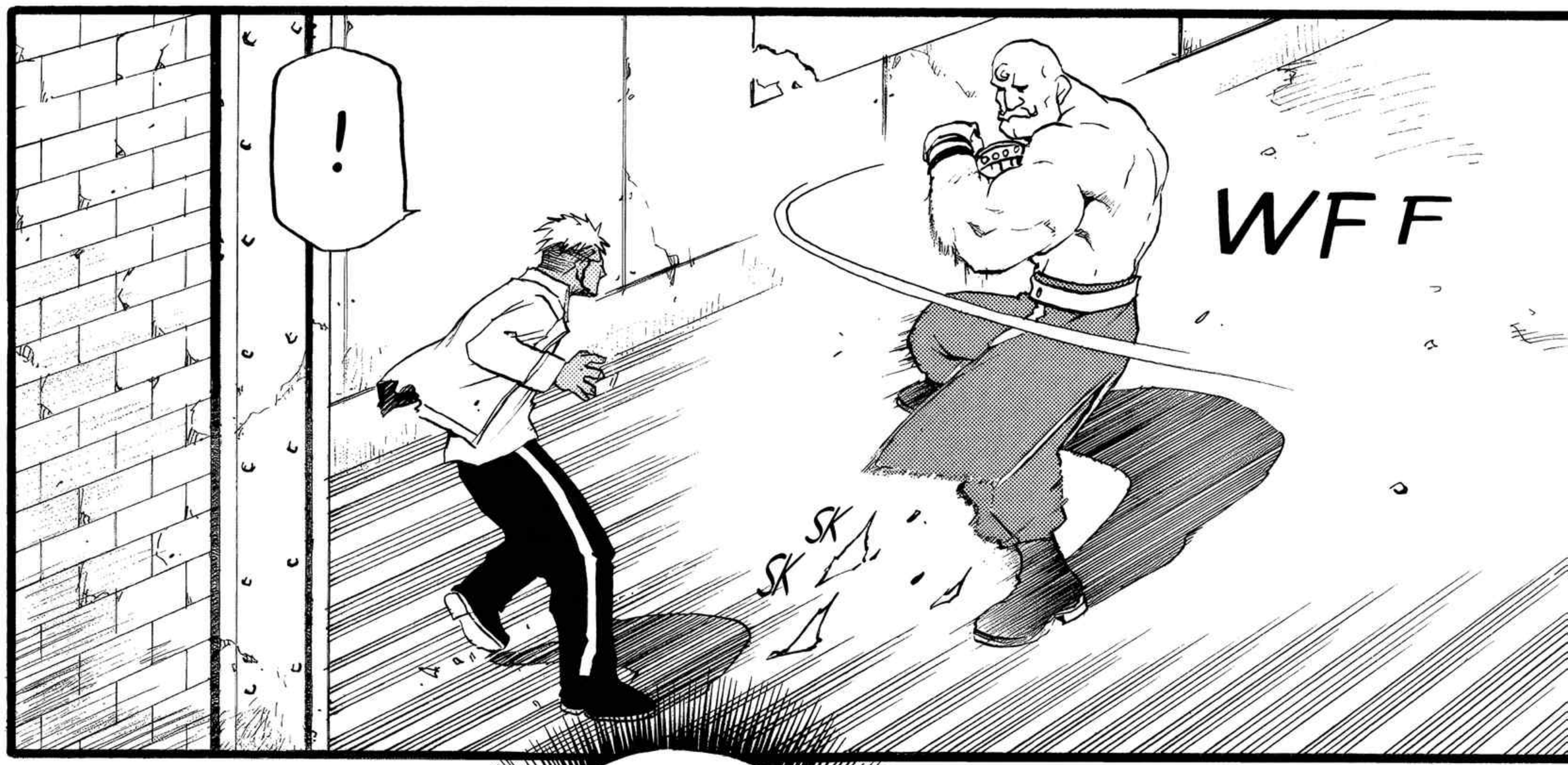
BMP

BAP

BAP

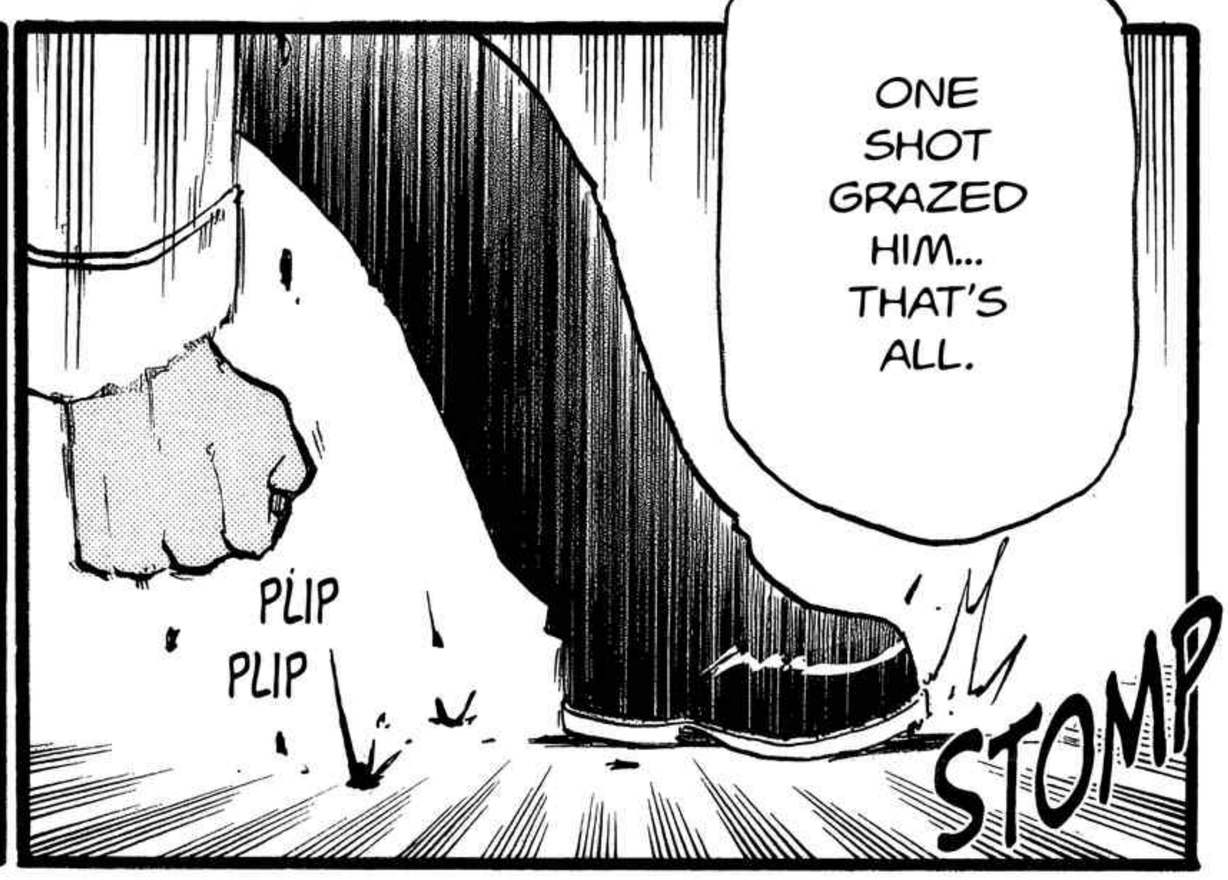
BAP

SKREEK



BANG!
BANG!
BANG
BANG
B A N G
HE'S FAST.
DID YOU GET HIM !?

hff

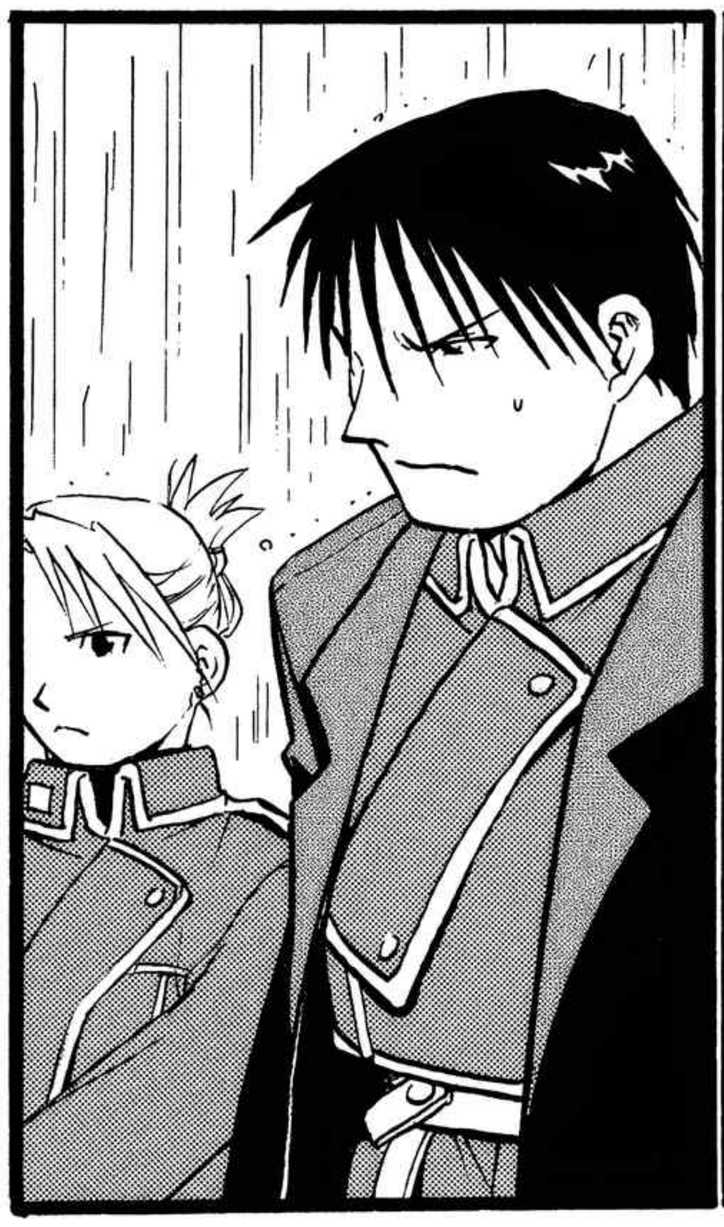

ONE SHOT GRAZED HIM... THAT'S ALL.
PLIP PLIP
STOMP

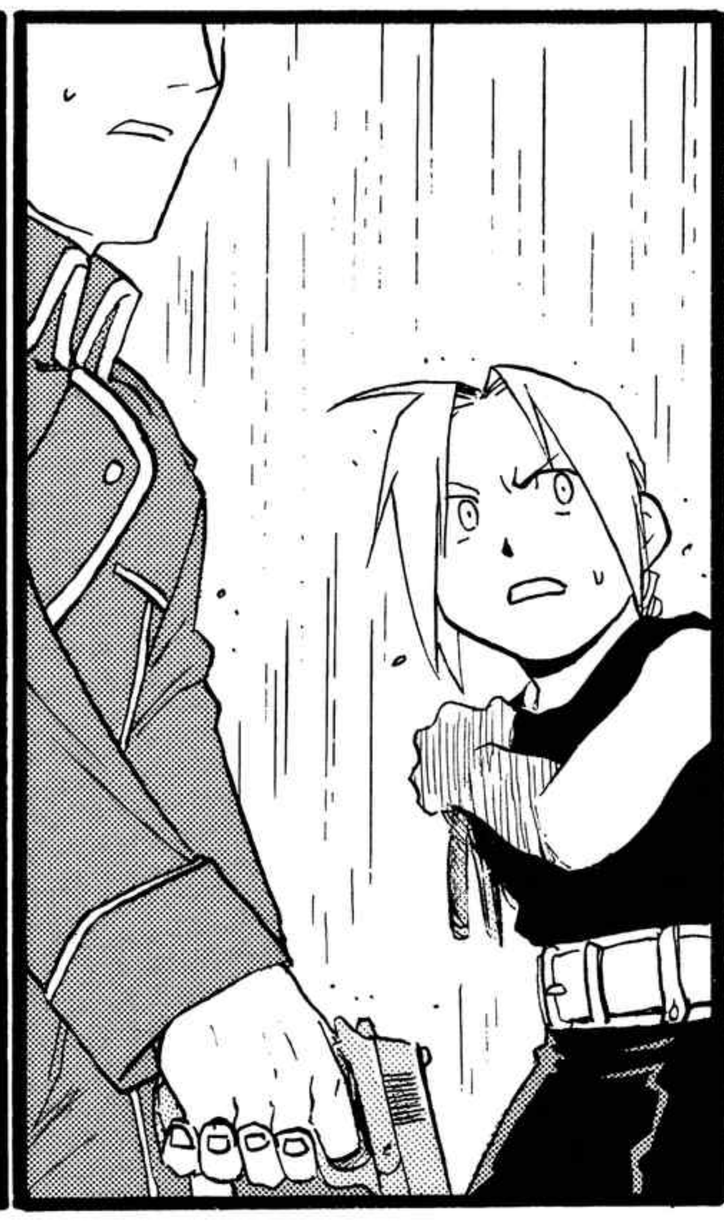
GLARE

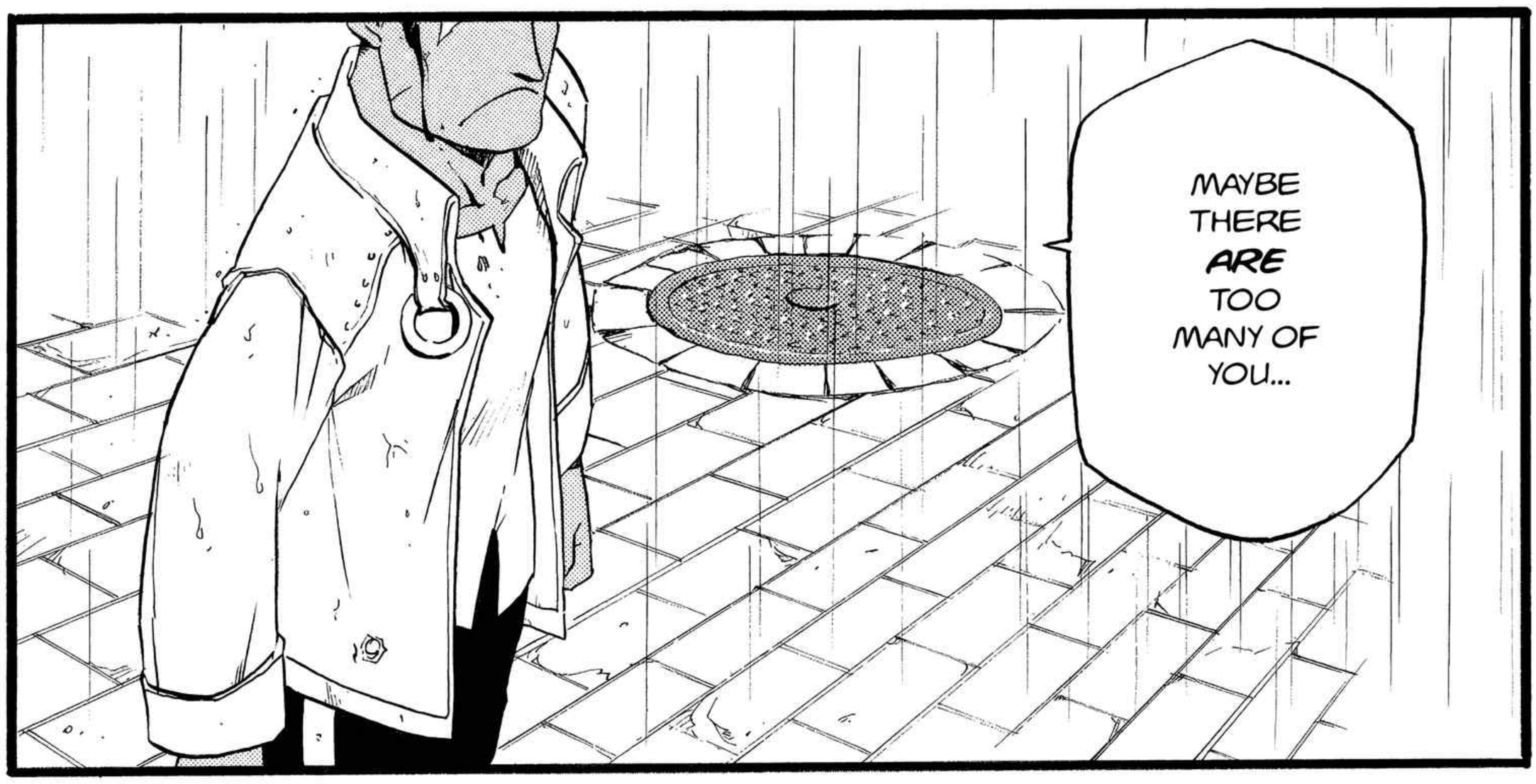
HE'S AN ISHBALAN...!

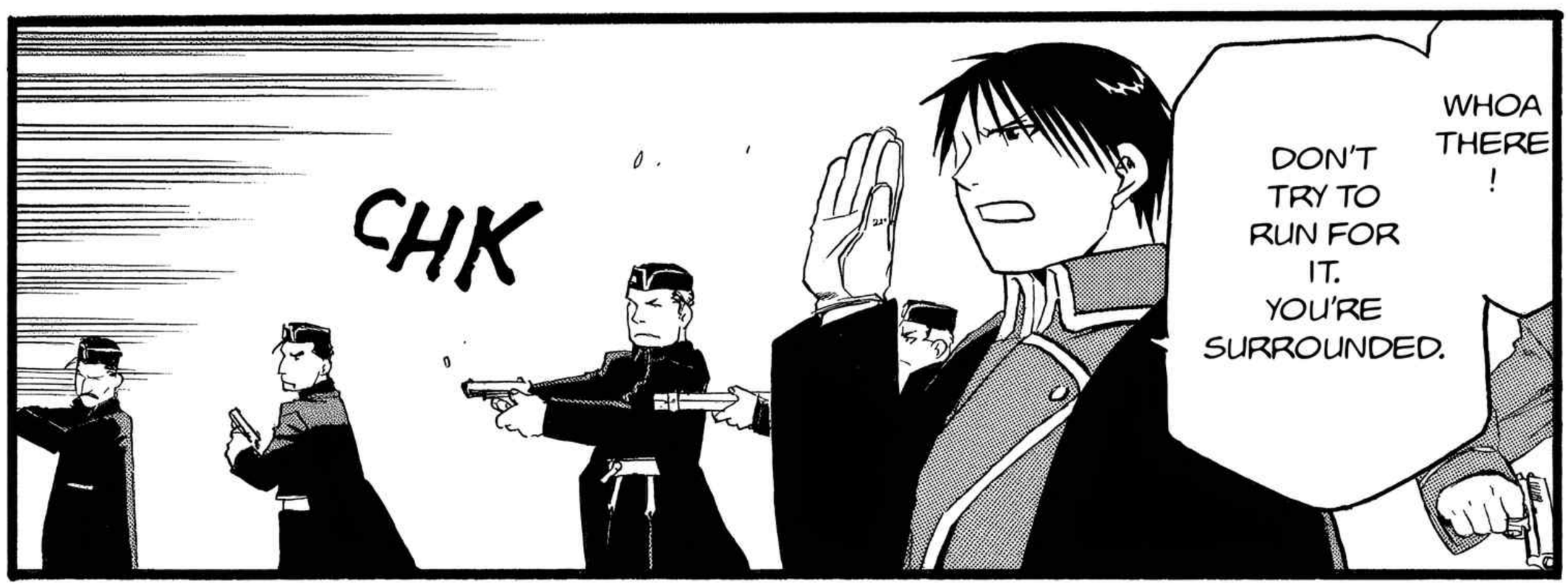
...

RED EYES! AND HIS DARK SKIN...






MAYBE THERE ARE TOO MANY OF YOU...


CHK
DON'T TRY TO RUN FOR IT. YOU'RE SURROUNDED.
WHOA THERE !

GA

DM

BAAK

B-B-BAM

BOOM

AAGGGH !

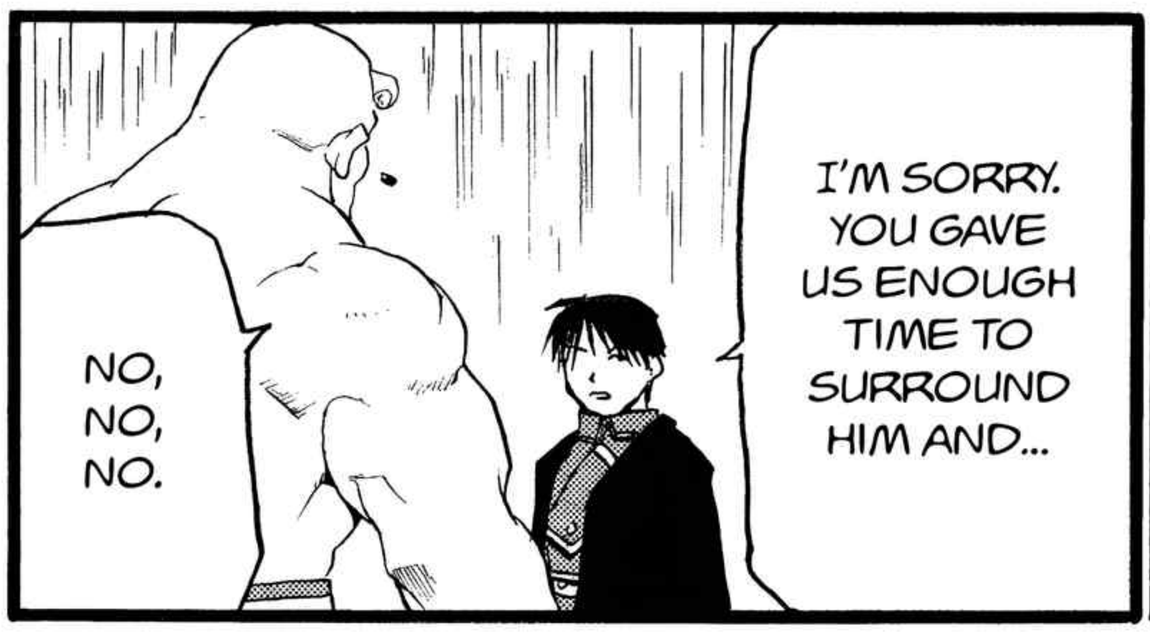
KRBK

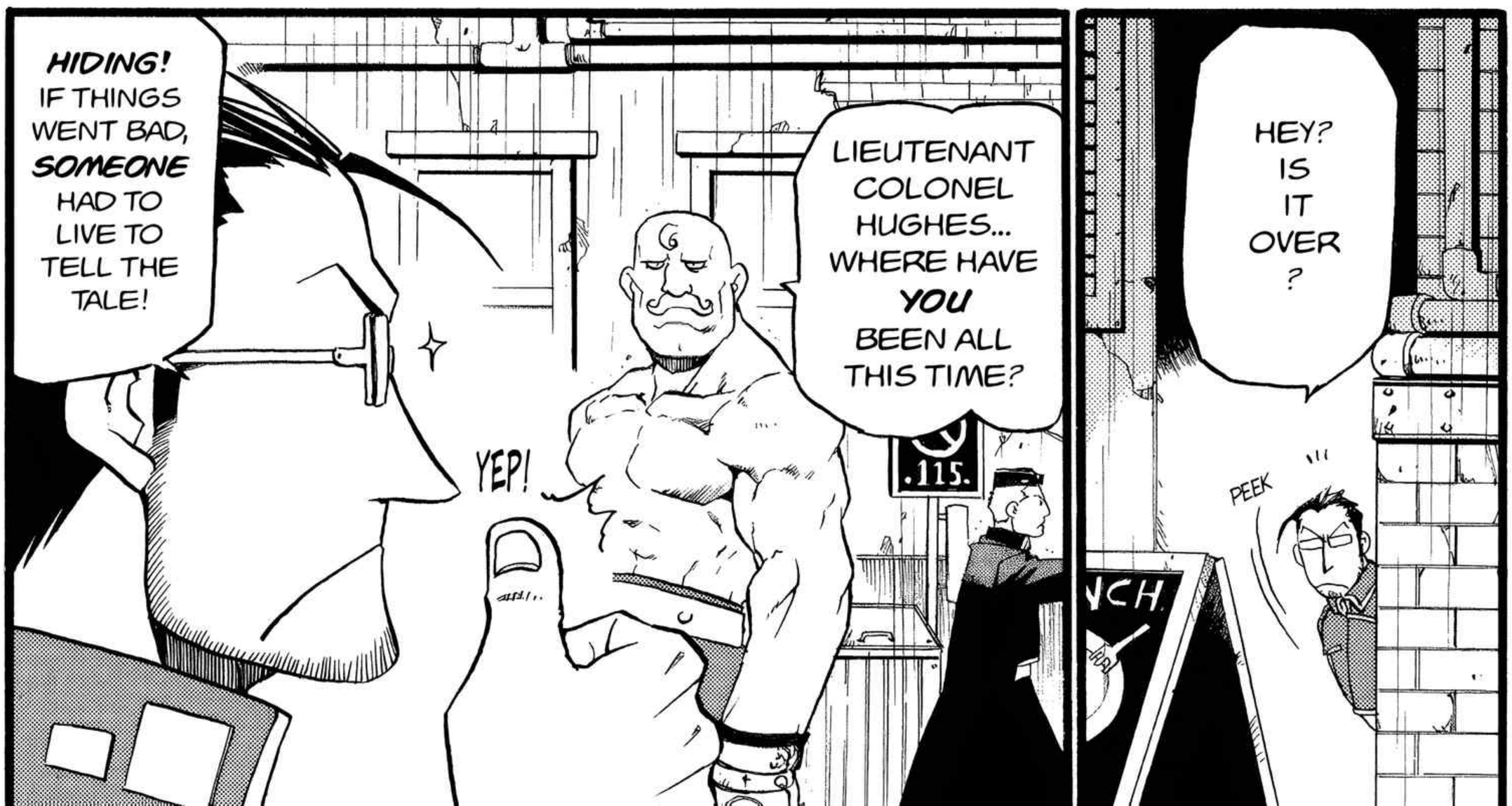
KRK RK

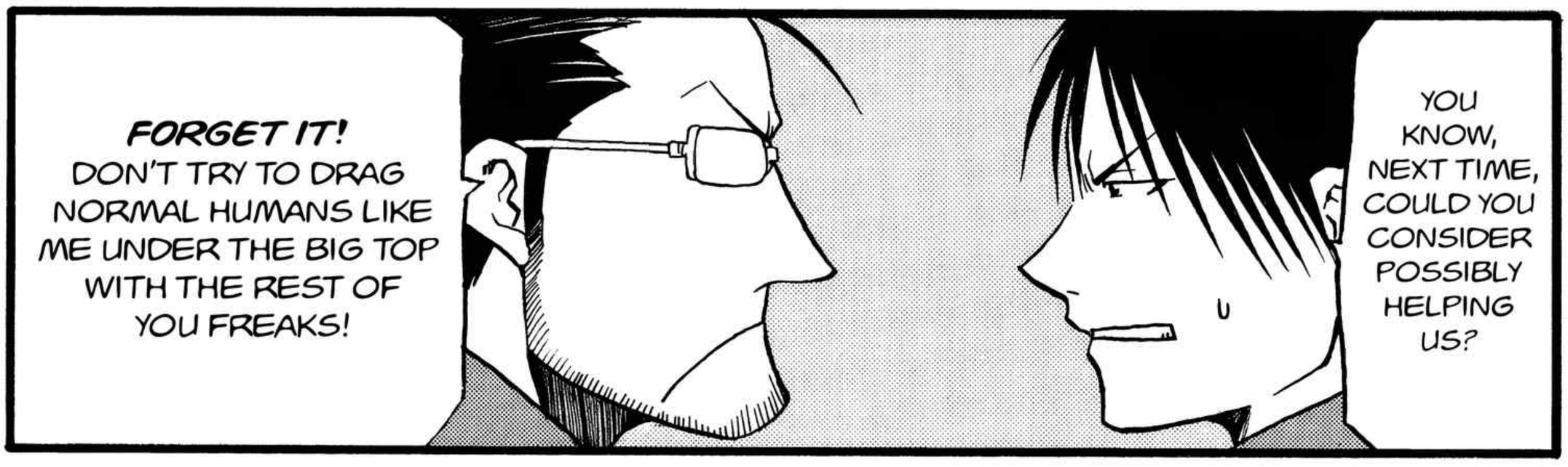
KATUMBE

KRA KA KLATA KLK KRK

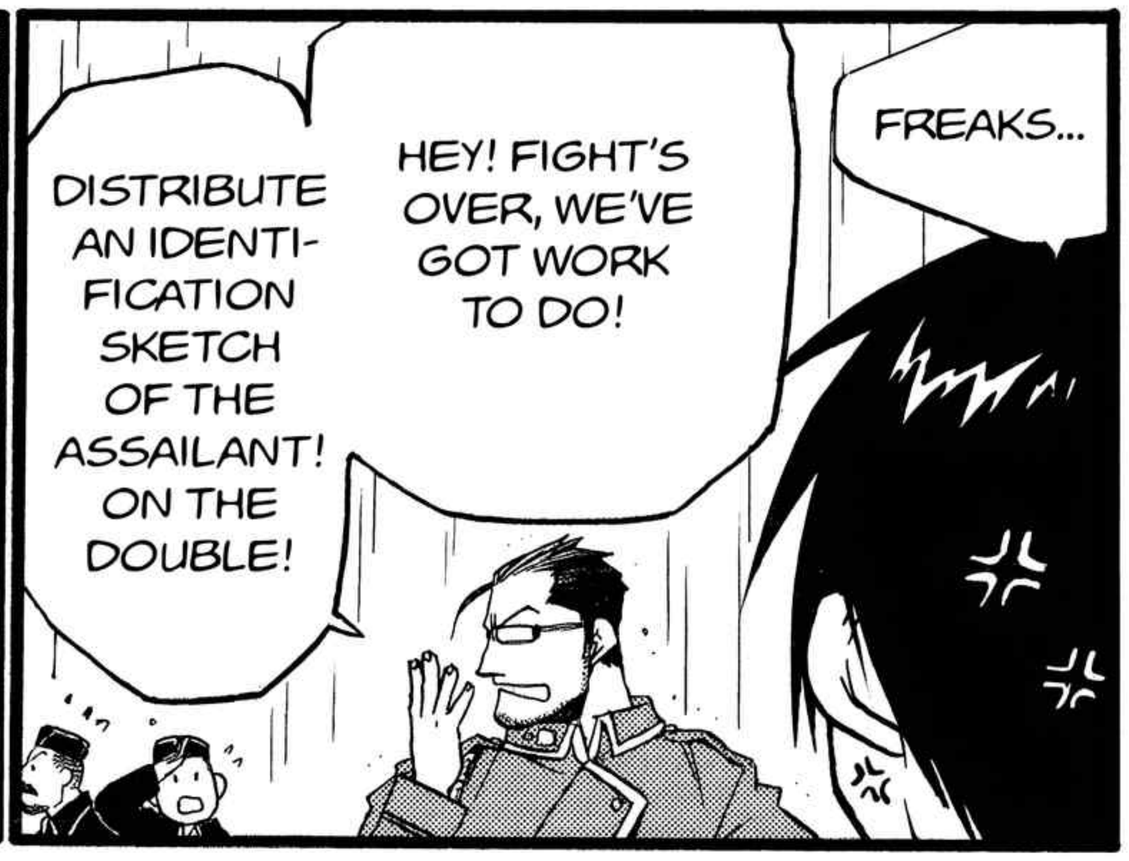
TH-THAT MANIAC WENT INTO THE SEWERS!

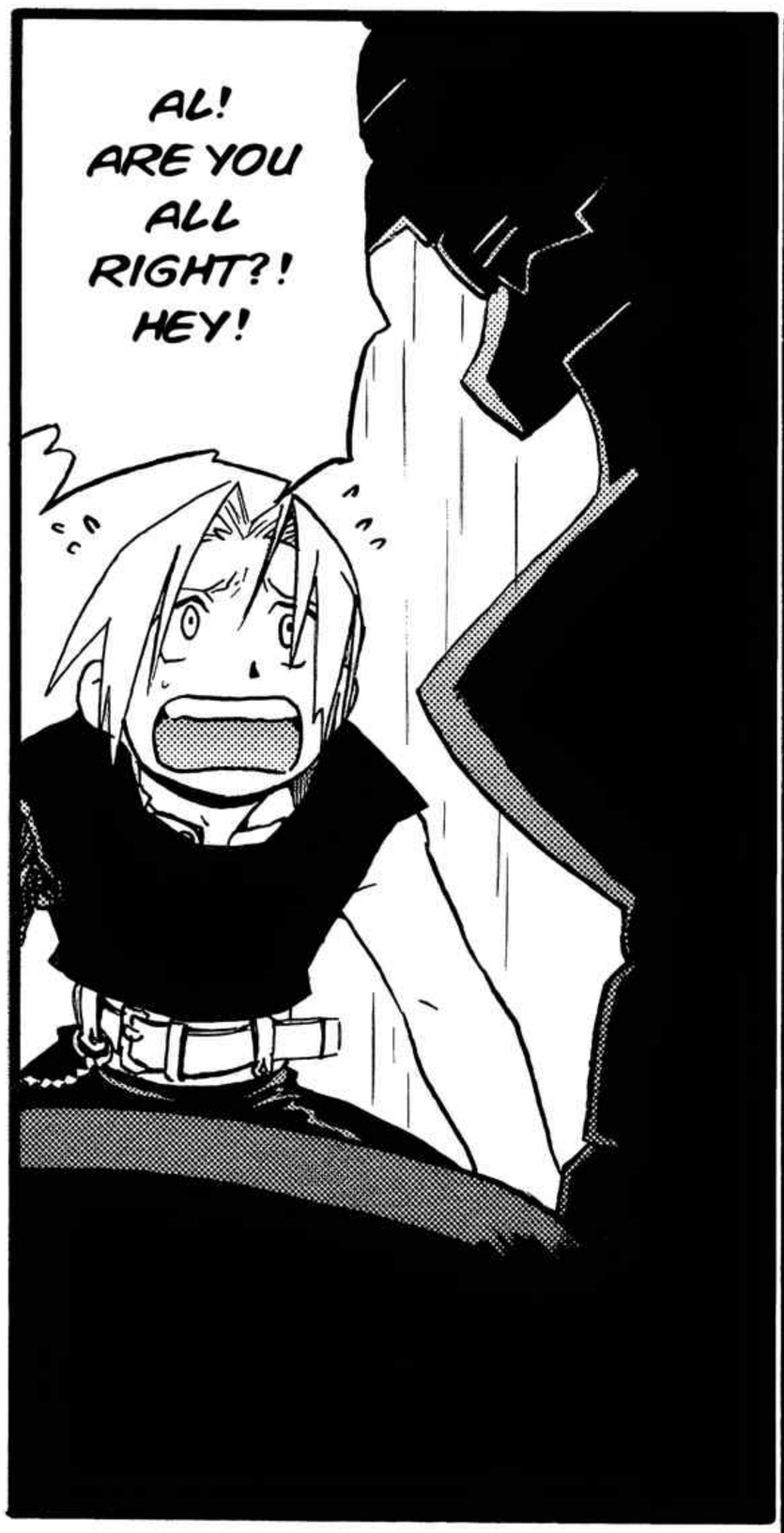




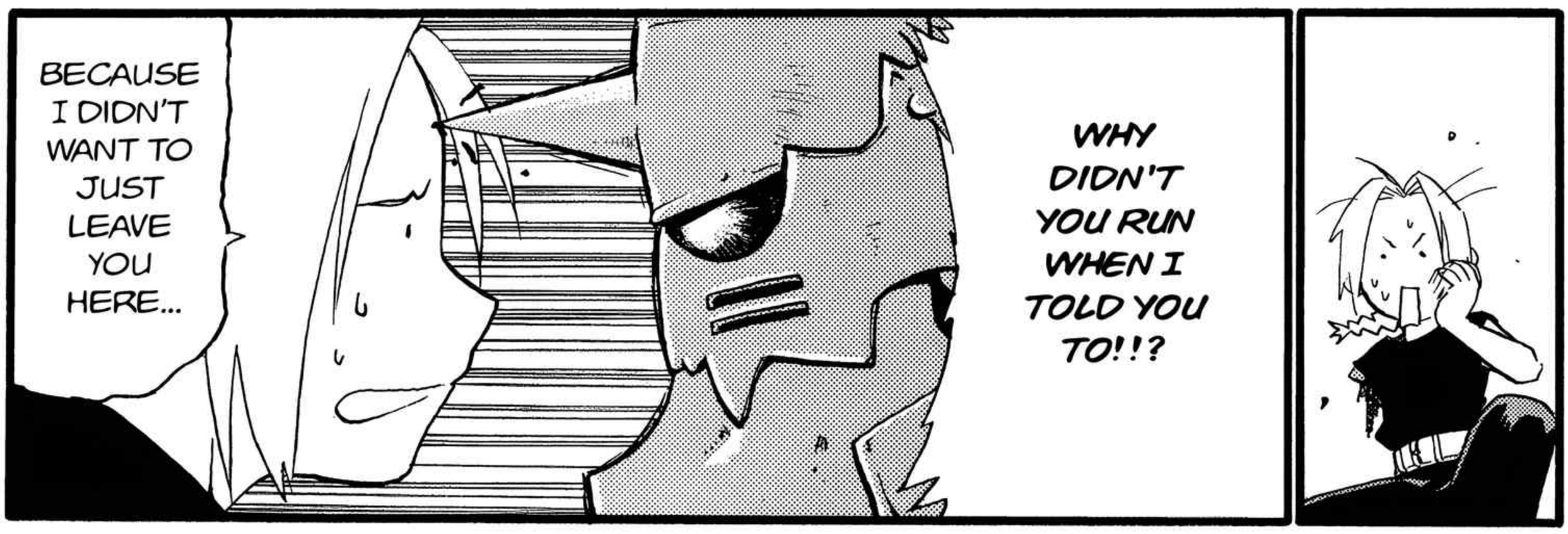

FORGET IT! DON'T TRY TO DRAG NORMAL HUMANS LIKE ME UNDER THE BIG TOP WITH THE REST OF YOU FREAKS!
YOU KNOW, NEXT TIME, COULD YOU CONSIDER POSSIBLY HELPING US?

AL-PHONSE !!


DISTRIBUTE AN IDENTI-FICATION SKETCH OF THE ASSAILANT! ON THE DOUBLE!
HEY! FIGHT'S OVER, WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO!
FREAKS...

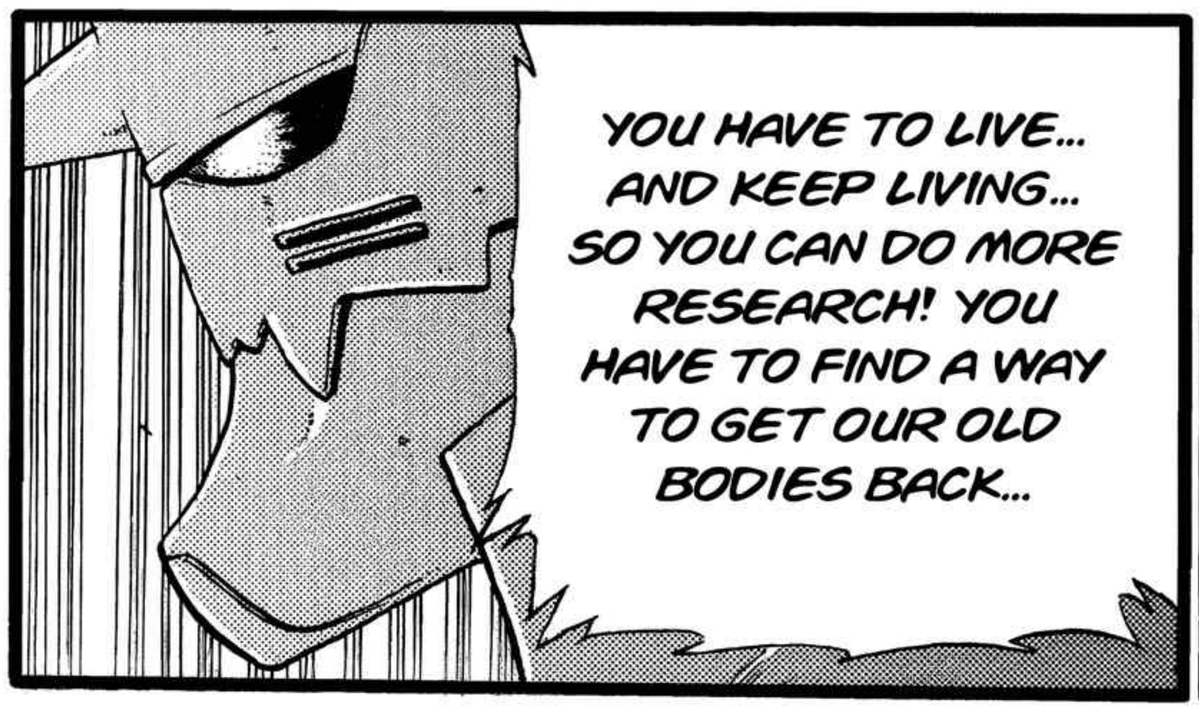

AL! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?! HEY!

ONG
YOU IDIOT !
ED-WARD...

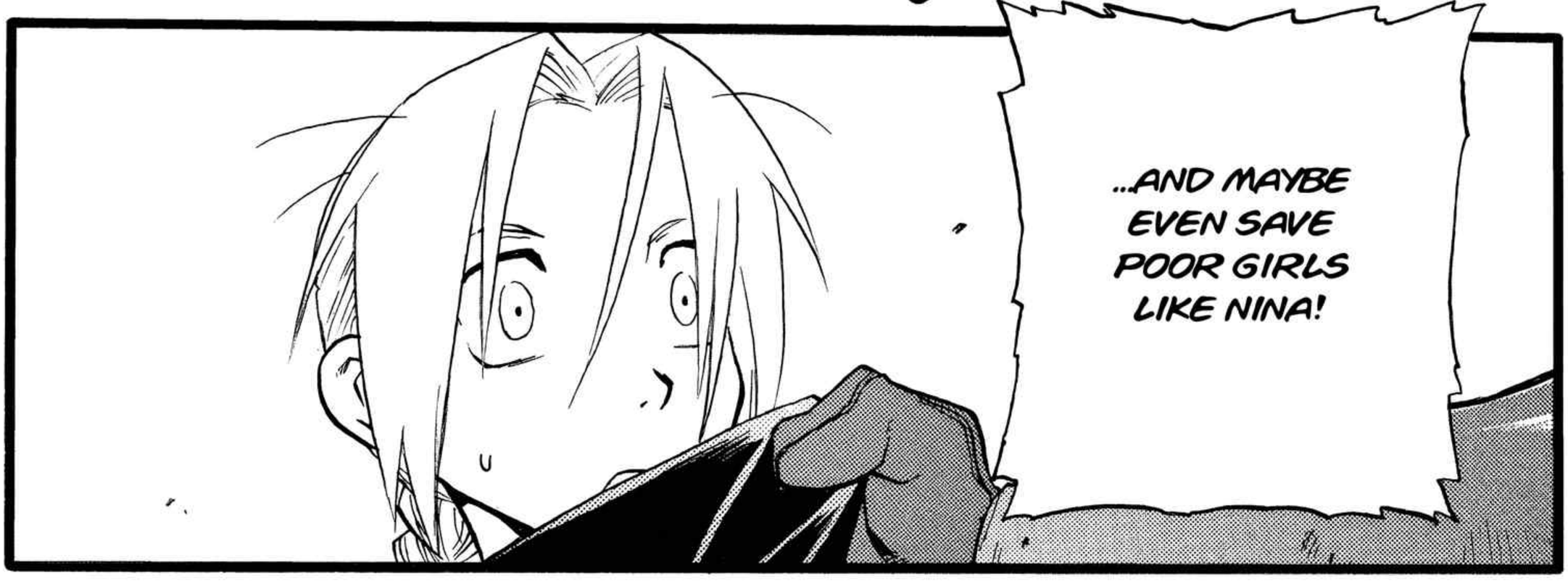

BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO JUST LEAVE YOU HERE...
WHY DIDN'T YOU RUN WHEN I TOLD YOU TO!!?

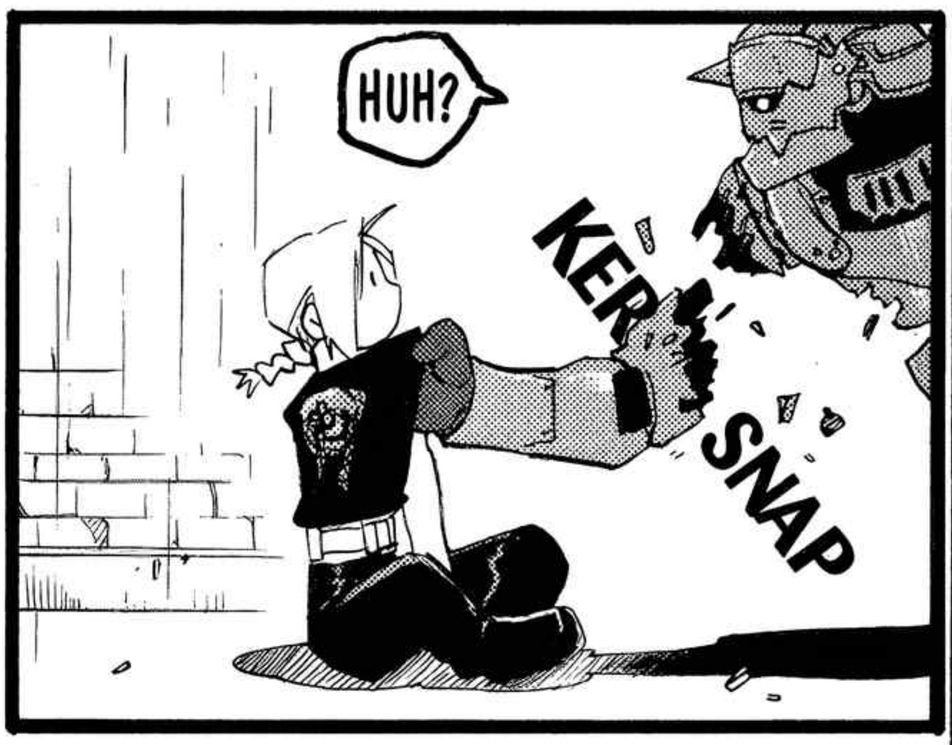
BACHOOM
THAT'S WHAT I MEAN BY STUPID!!

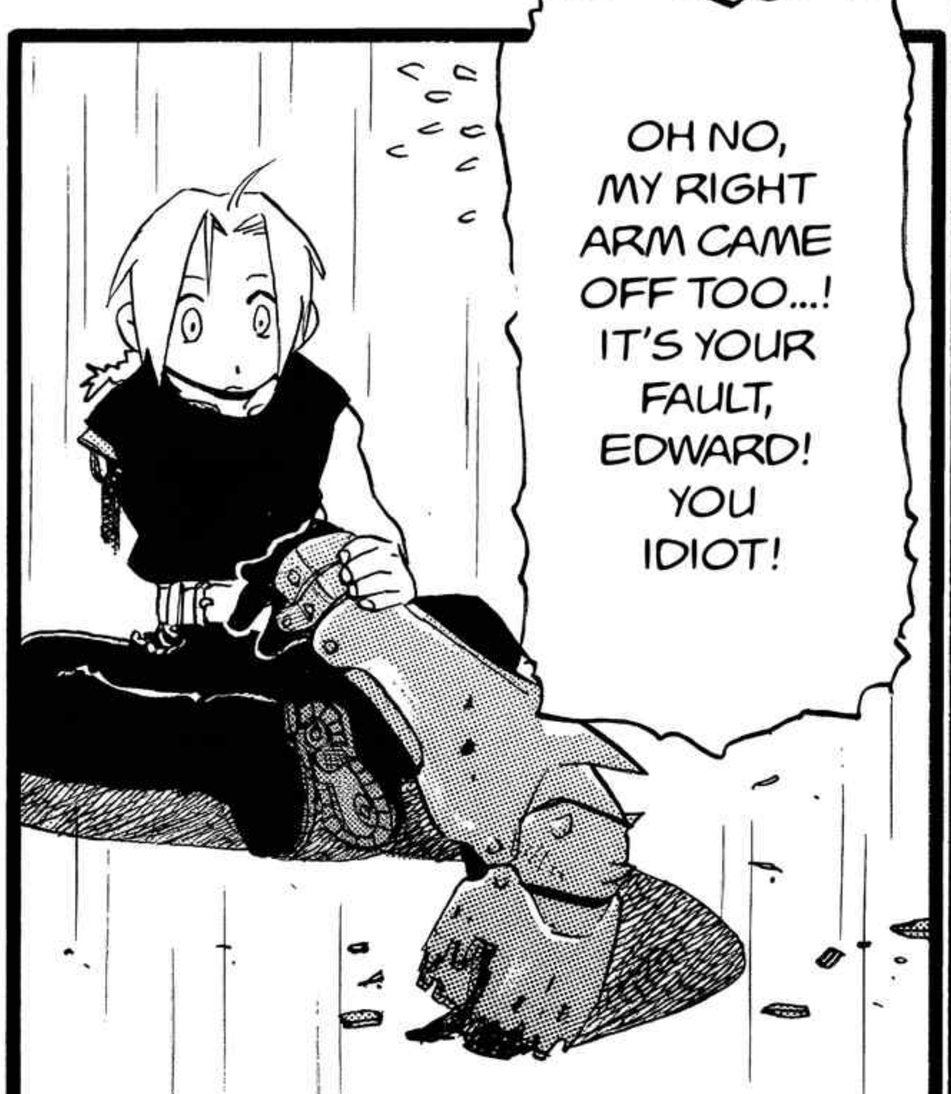
D...DON'T TALK THAT WAY TO YOUR OLDER BROTHER !
WHEN THERE'S A WAY TO SURVIVE AND THEN YOU CHOOSE DEATH, THAT'S WHAT IDIOTS DO!!
I MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN KILLED TOO !!
WHY?! IF I RAN AWAY YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN KILLED !!


YOU HAVE TO LIVE... AND KEEP LIVING... SO YOU CAN DO MORE RESEARCH! YOU HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO GET OUR OLD BODIES BACK...

GMP
I'LL TALK TO YOU HOWEVER I WANT!


...AND MAYBE EVEN SAVE POOR GIRLS LIKE NINA!


HUH?
KER-SNAP


OH NO, MY RIGHT ARM CAME OFF TOO...! IT'S YOUR FAULT, EDWARD! YOU IDIOT!

IF YOU DID, I'D NEVER FORGIVE YOU!
I WON'T LET YOU THROW THAT CHANCE AWAY!

HA-
HA...

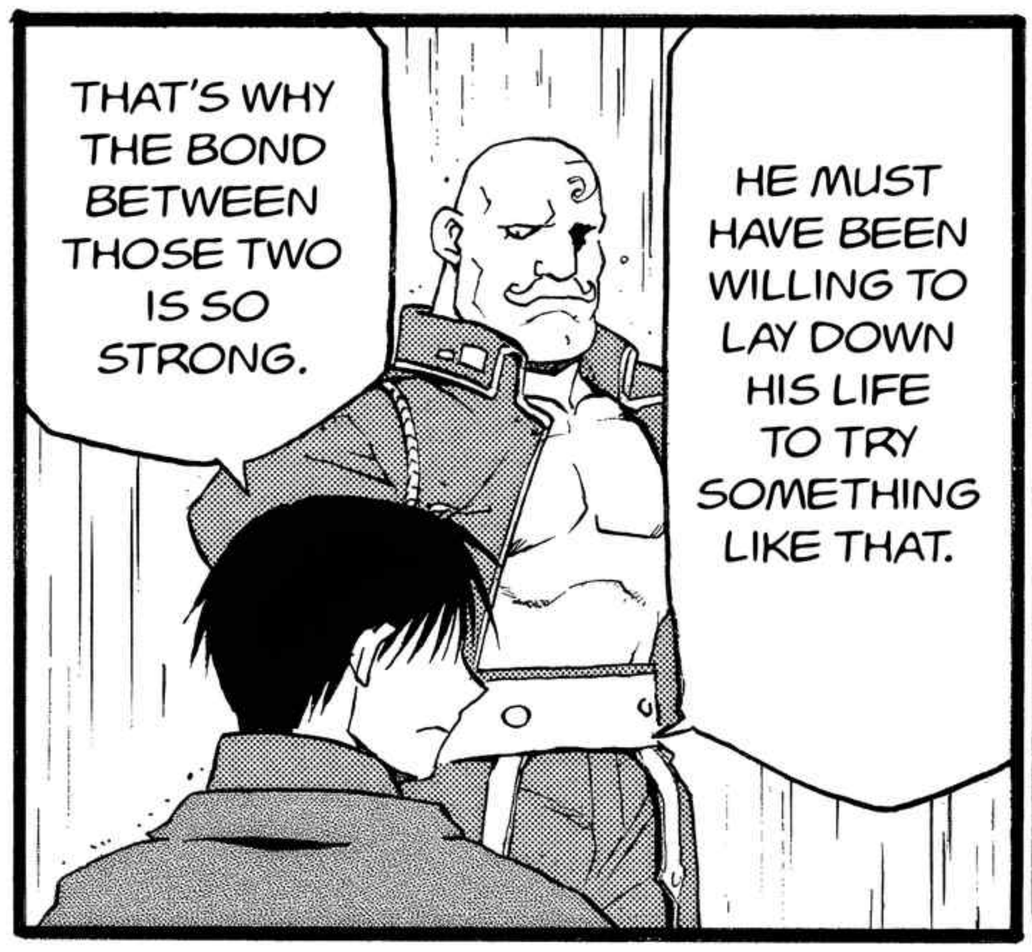
HOW
UNCOOL.

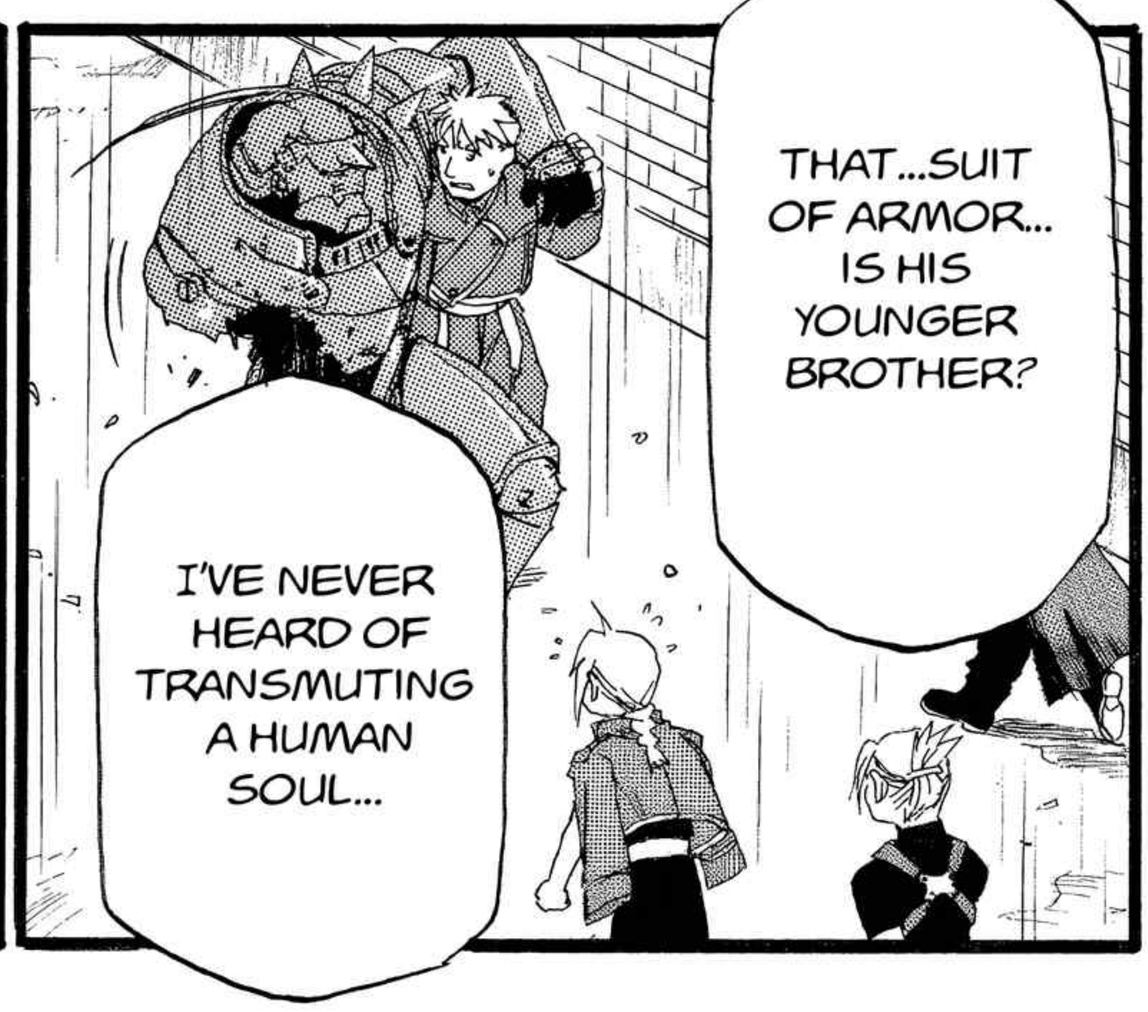
WE'RE
A REAL
MESS,
AREN'T
WE?

WE'RE
ALIVE.

BUT
WE'RE
ALIVE.

YEAH.

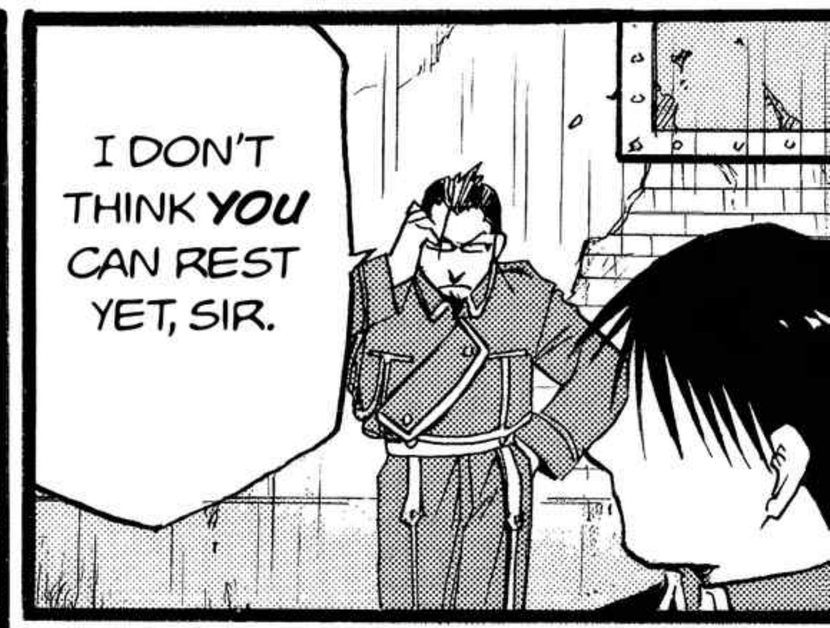

THAT'S WHY THE BOND BETWEEN THOSE TWO IS SO STRONG.
HE MUST HAVE BEEN WILLING TO LAY DOWN HIS LIFE TO TRY SOMETHING LIKE THAT.


THAT...SUIT OF ARMOR... IS HIS YOUNGER BROTHER?
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF TRANSMUTING A HUMAN SOUL...

WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'LL AT LEAST GET A MOMENT'S REST.

LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT GET WORSE.
SHAAA A A

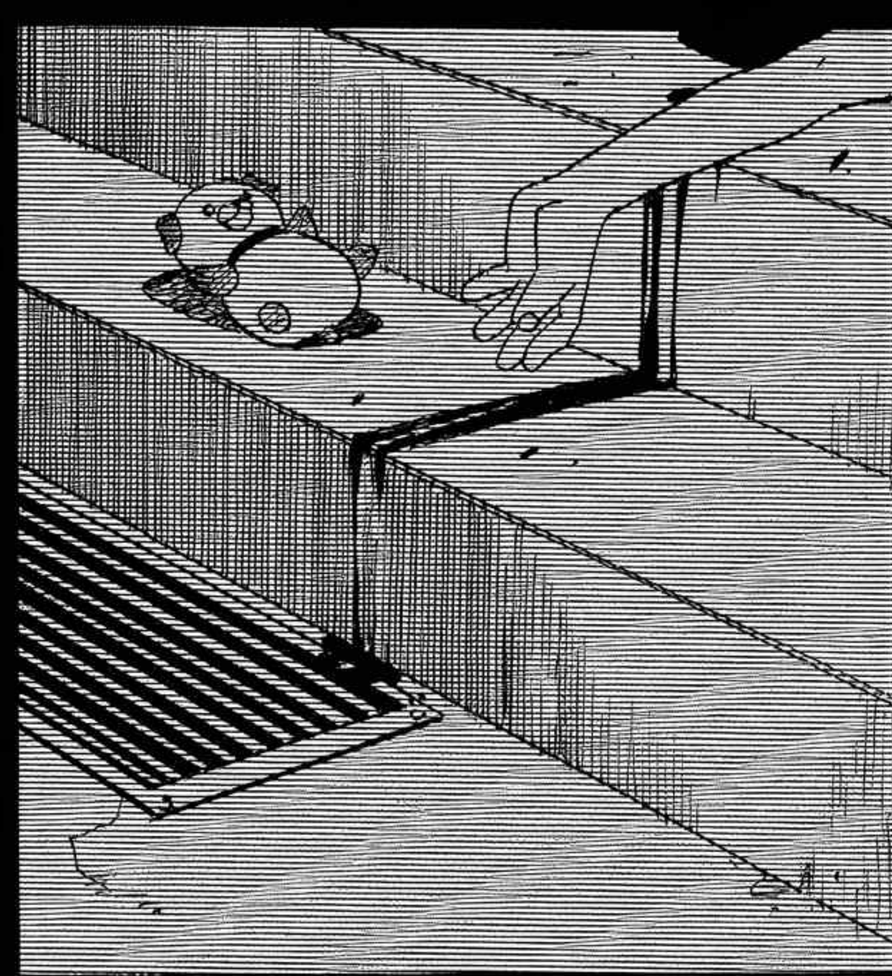
AND HE'S AN ISHBA-LAN...


I DON'T THINK YOU CAN REST YET, SIR.

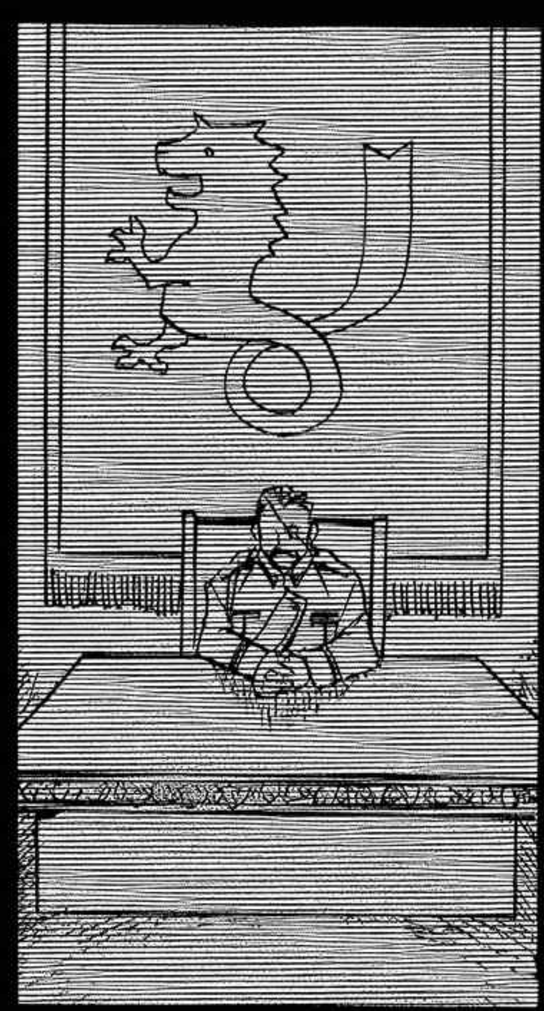
YOU'VE GOT A VERY DAN-GEROUS MAN AFTER YOU.

THE ISHBALANS ARE A PEOPLE FROM THE EAST, WHO BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, ISHVARA.

BUT THIRTEEN YEARS AGO, WHEN AN ARMY OFFICER ACCIDENTALLY SHOT AN ISHBALAN CHILD, THE INCIDENT EXPLODED INTO CIVIL WAR.



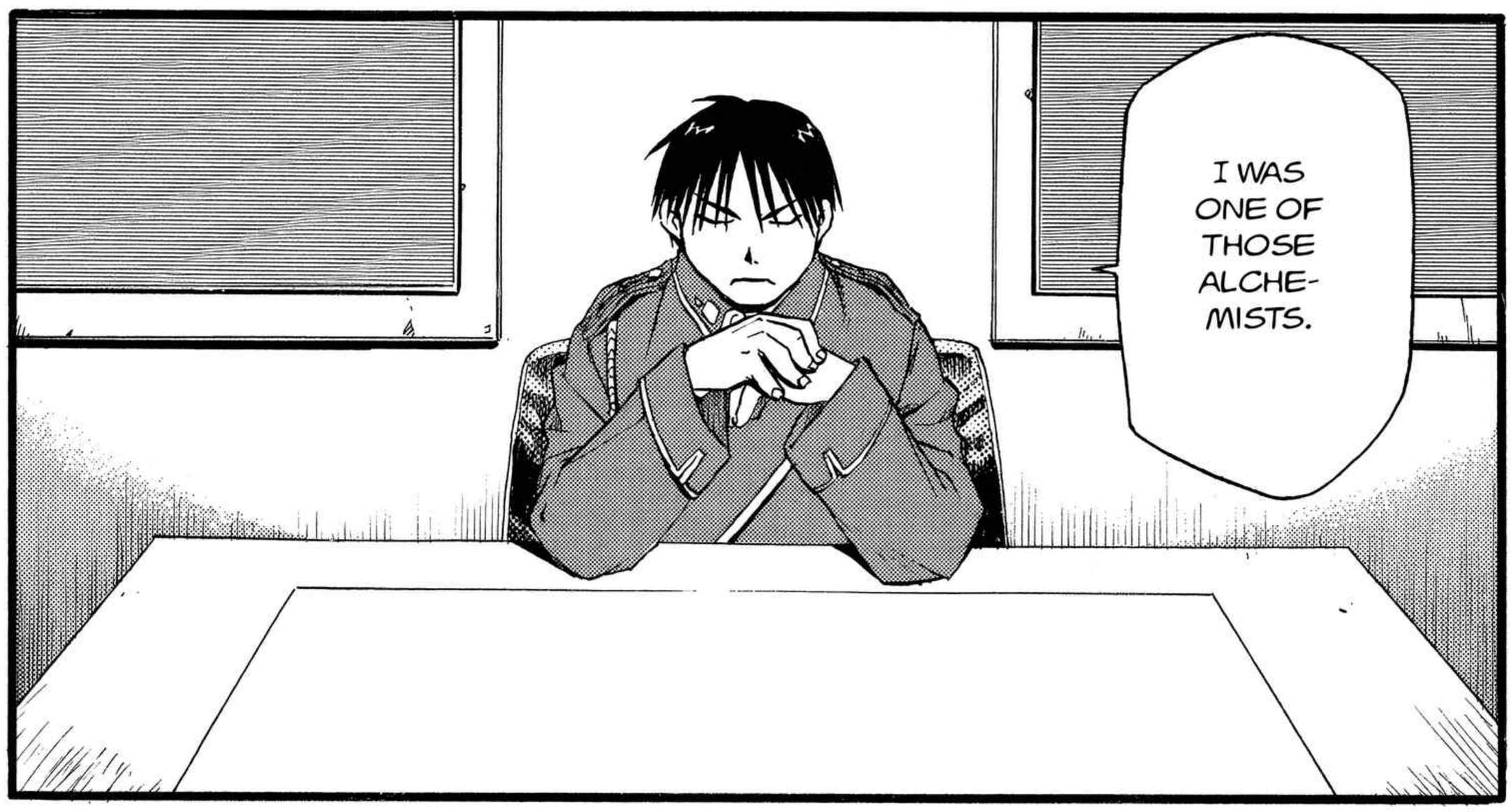
DUE TO RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCES, THEY'D ALWAYS BEEN IN CONFLICT WITH THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT...

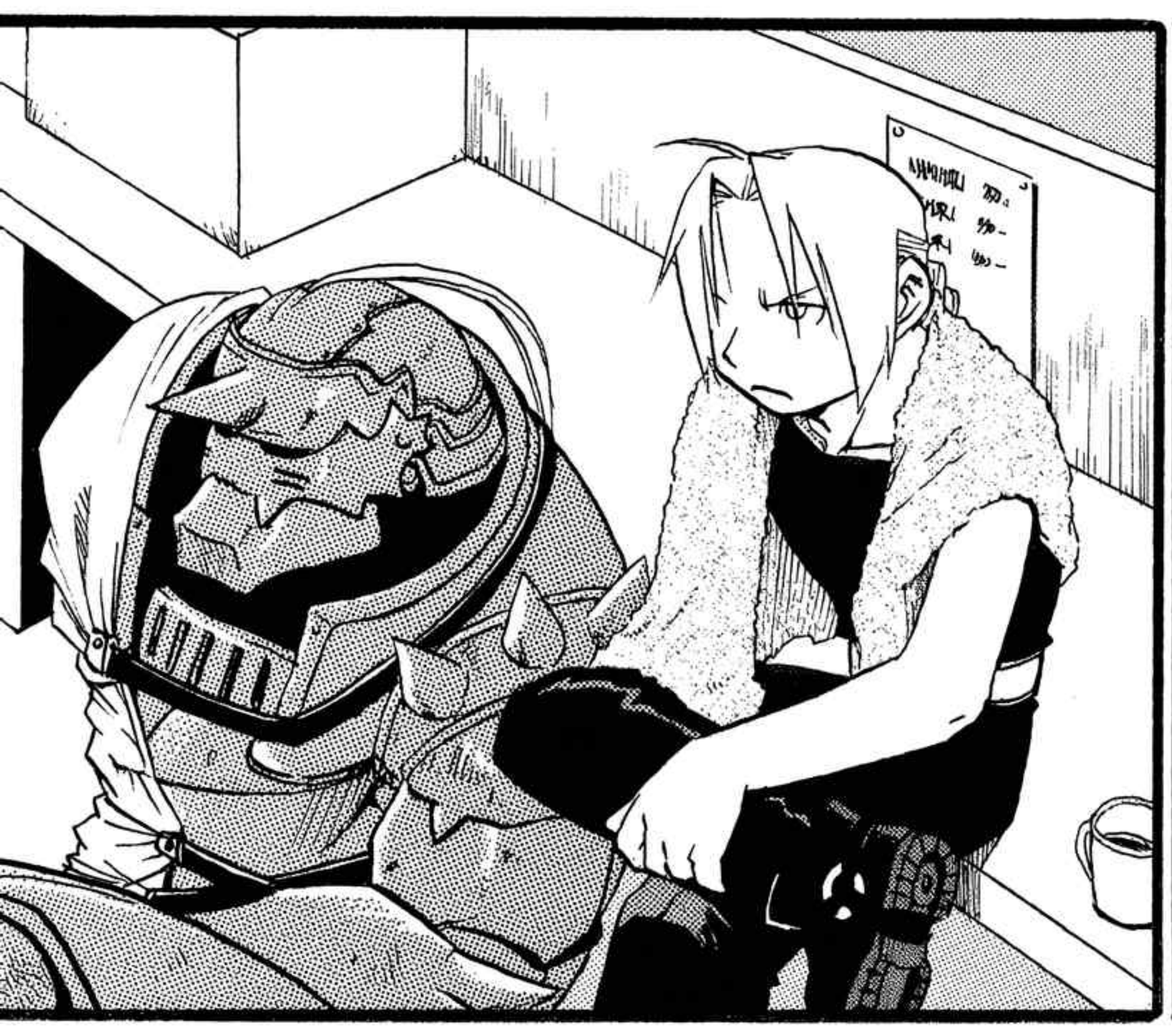


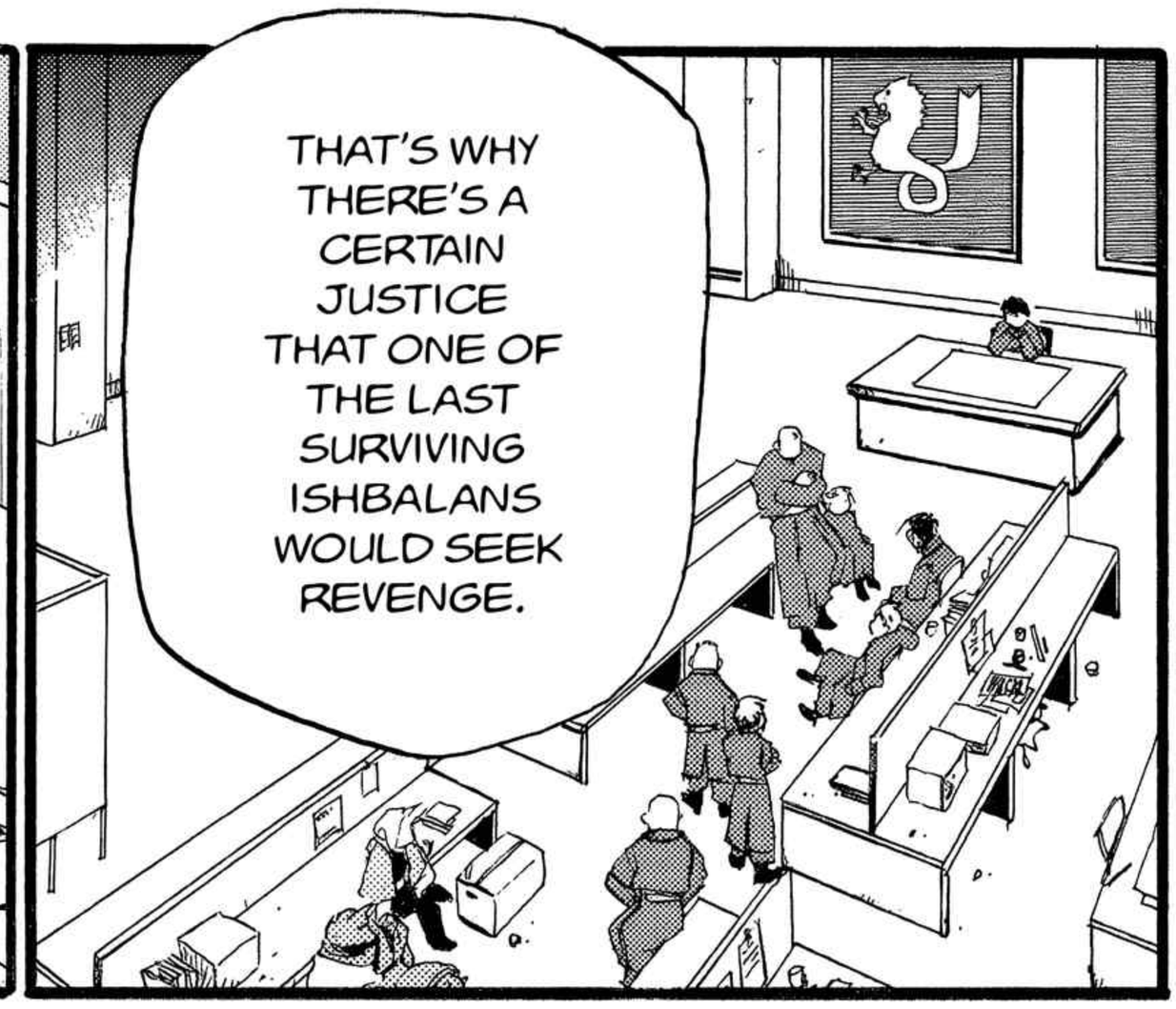
RIOT LED TO RIOT, AND SOON THE FIRES OF CIVIL WAR SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE EAST AREA. AFTER SEVEN FRUSTRATING YEARS, THE MILITARY COMMANDERS TOOK A NEW TACTIC...

THEY USED STATE ALCHEMISTS IN AN ALL-OUT GENOCIDE CAMPAIGN.

THEY WERE RECRUITED AS HUMAN WEAPONS. IT WAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO TEST THEIR SUITABILITY FOR WAR.


I WAS ONE OF THOSE ALCHE-MISTS.

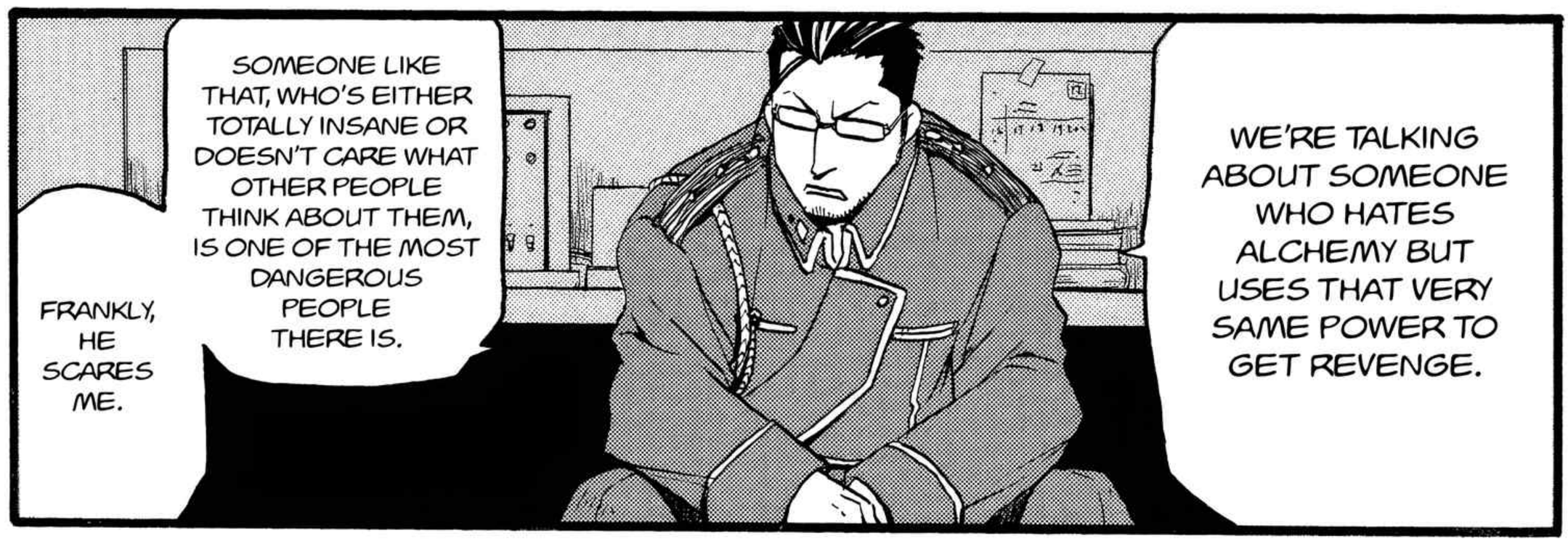


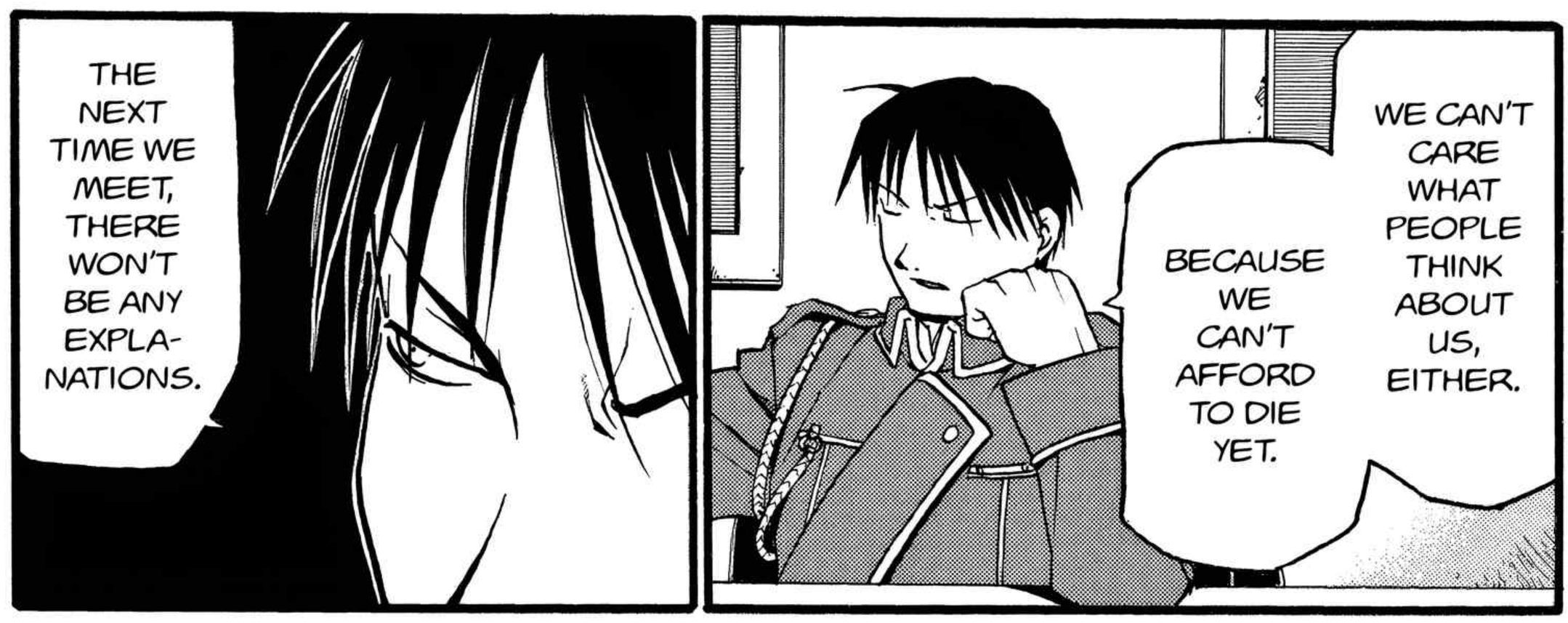

THAT'S WHY THERE'S A CERTAIN JUSTICE THAT ONE OF THE LAST SURVIVING ISHBALANS WOULD SEEK REVENGE.

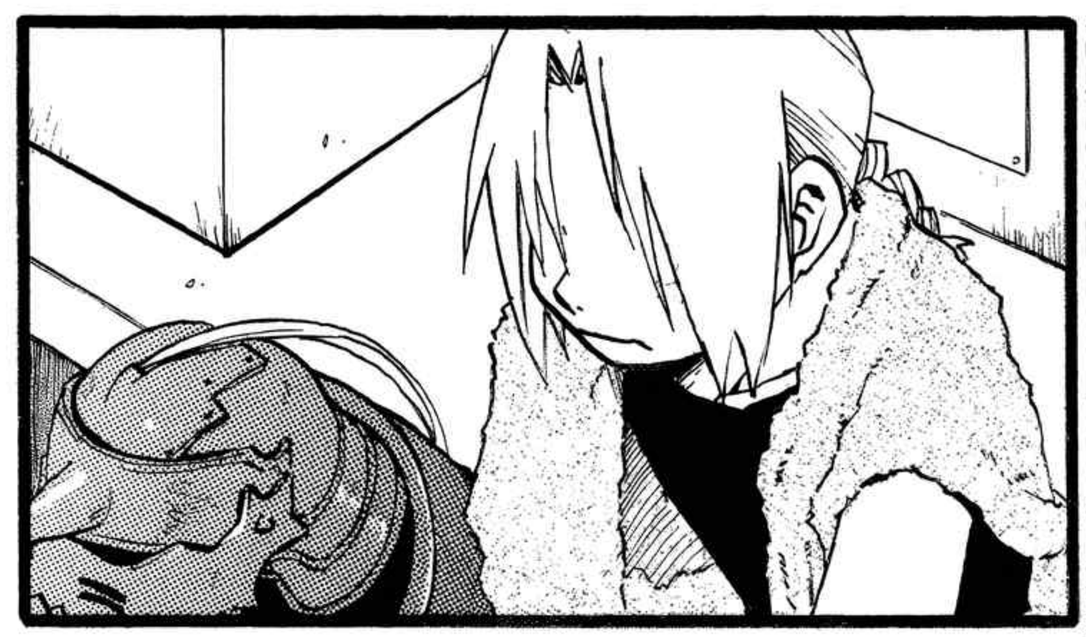
HE'S JUST CANDY-COATING IT BY ACTING SELF-RIGHTEOUS AND CALLING HIMSELF "AN INSTRUMENT OF GOD."

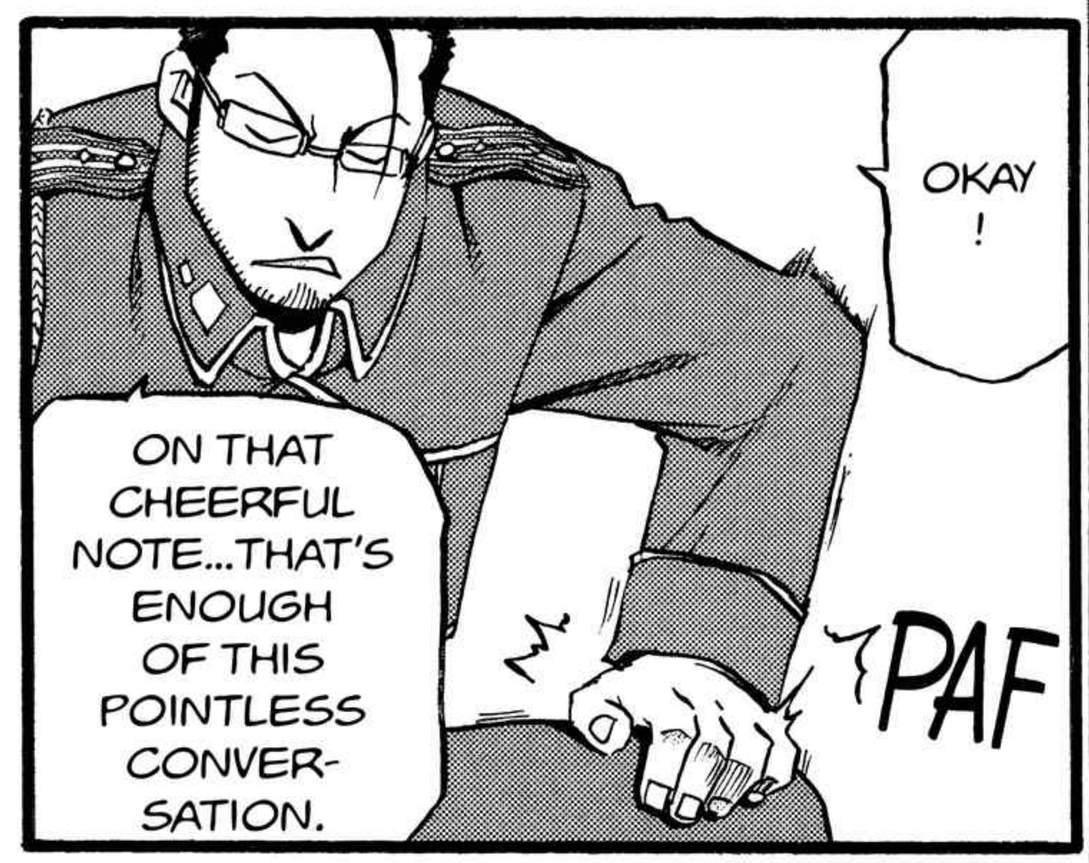
WHATEVER HAPPENED, HE'S STILL INVOLVING INNOCENT PEOPLE FOR THE SAKE OF HIS REVENGE.

IT'S STILL NOT JUS-TICE.


FRANKLY, HE SCARES ME.
SOMEONE LIKE THAT, WHO'S EITHER TOTALLY INSANE OR DOESN'T CARE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK ABOUT THEM, IS ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS PEOPLE THERE IS.
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMEONE WHO HATES ALCHEMY BUT USES THAT VERY SAME POWER TO GET REVENGE.


THE NEXT TIME WE MEET, THERE WON'T BE ANY EXPLA-NATIONS.
WE CAN'T CARE WHAT PEOPLE THINK ABOUT US, EITHER.
BECAUSE WE CAN'T AFFORD TO DIE YET.

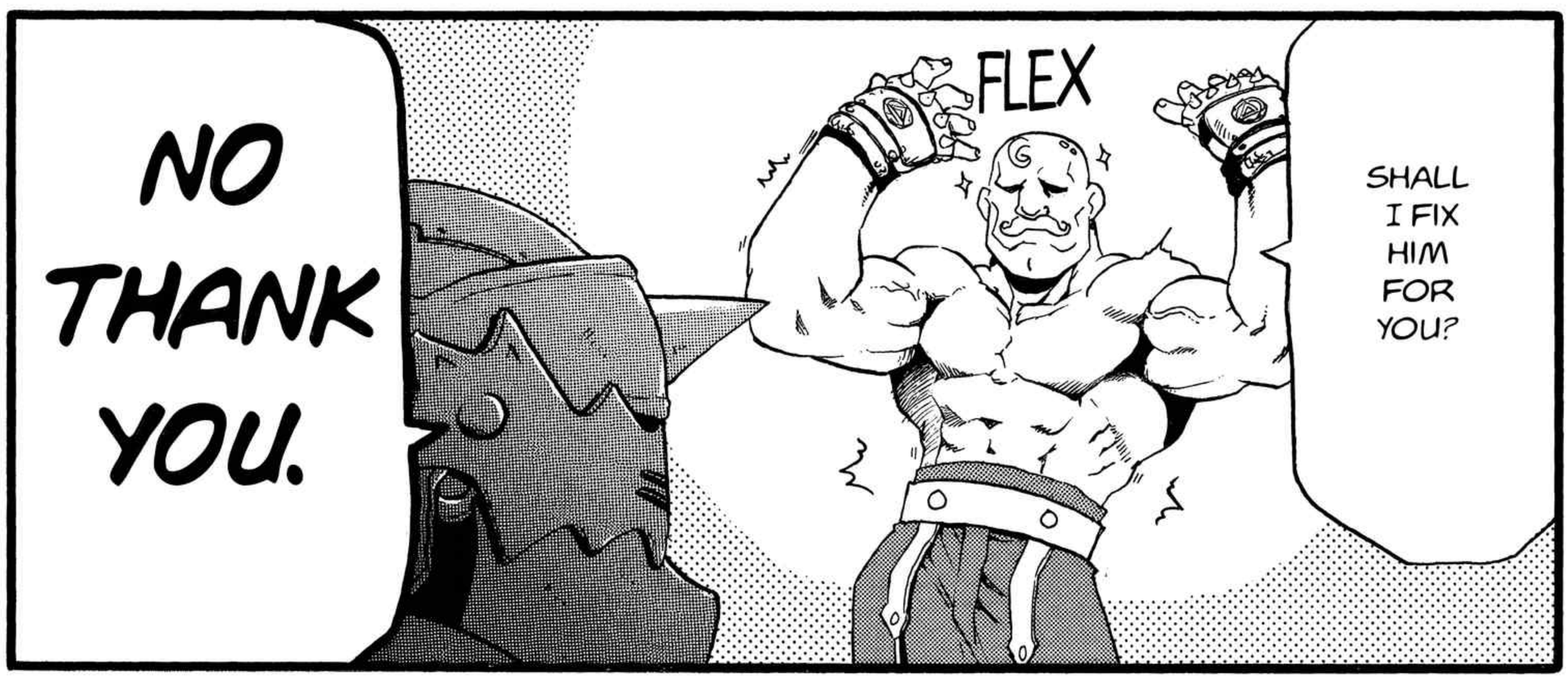


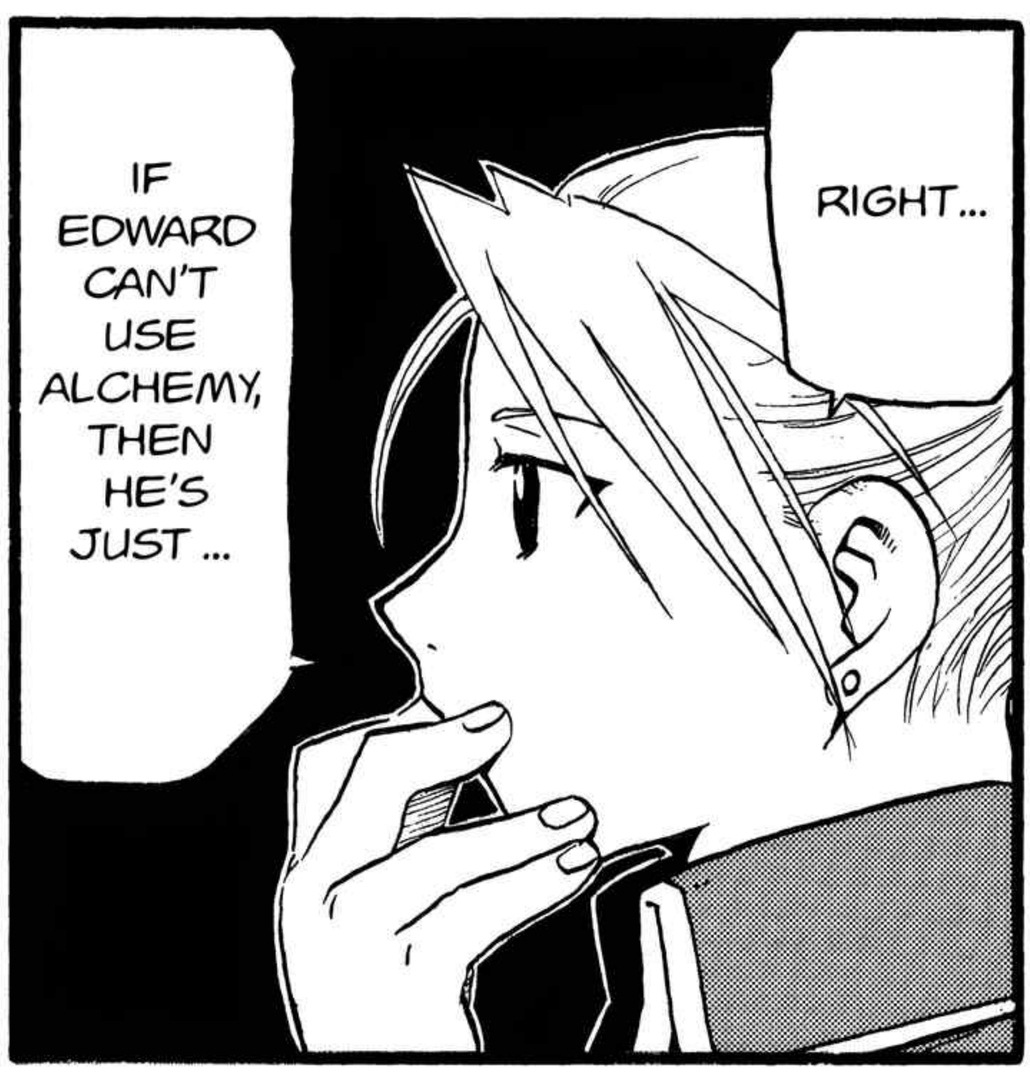

OKAY !
ON THAT CHEERFUL NOTE...THAT'S ENOUGH OF THIS POINTLESS CONVER-SATION.
PAF

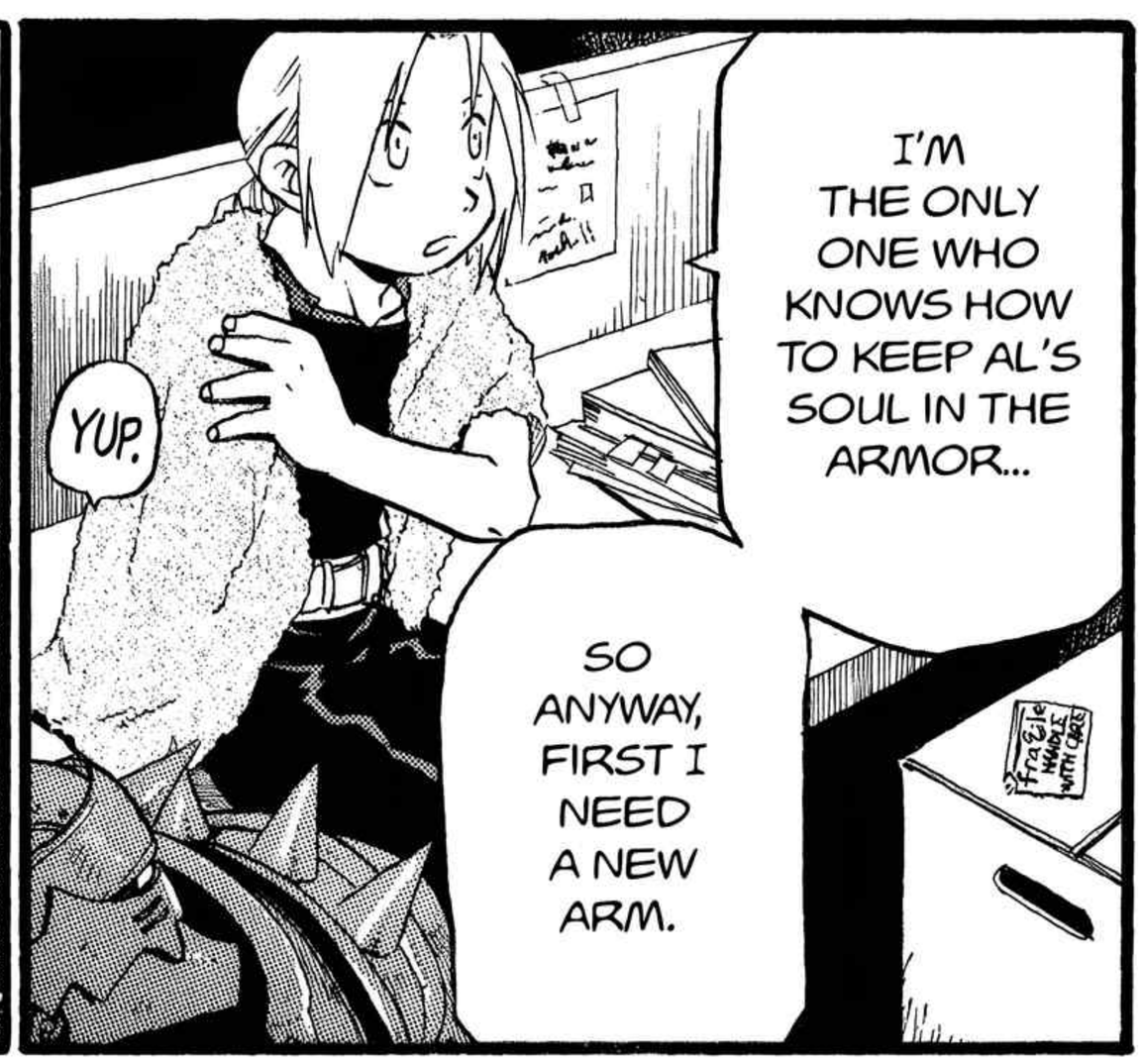
BECAUSE WE'LL KILL HIM.

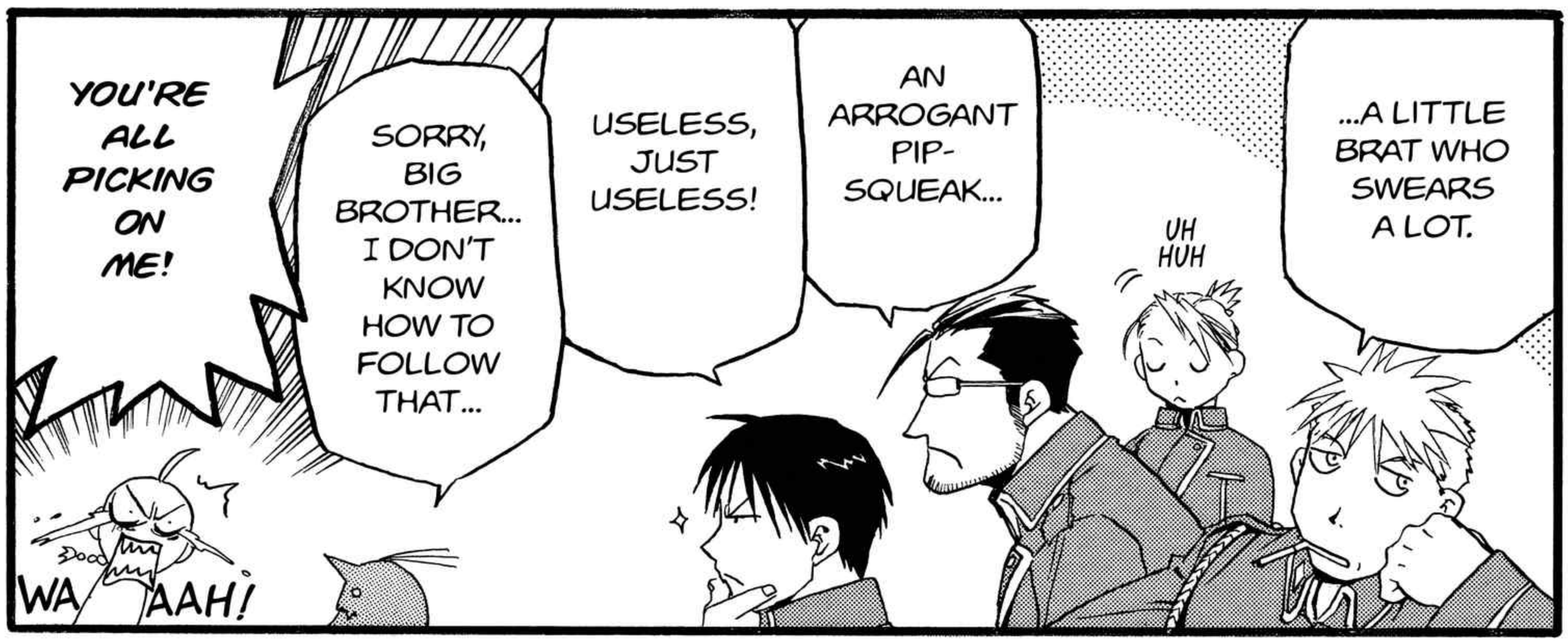
WELL...I WANT TO FIX AL'S BODY, BUT I CAN'T PERFORM ALCHEMY WITH JUST ONE ARM...

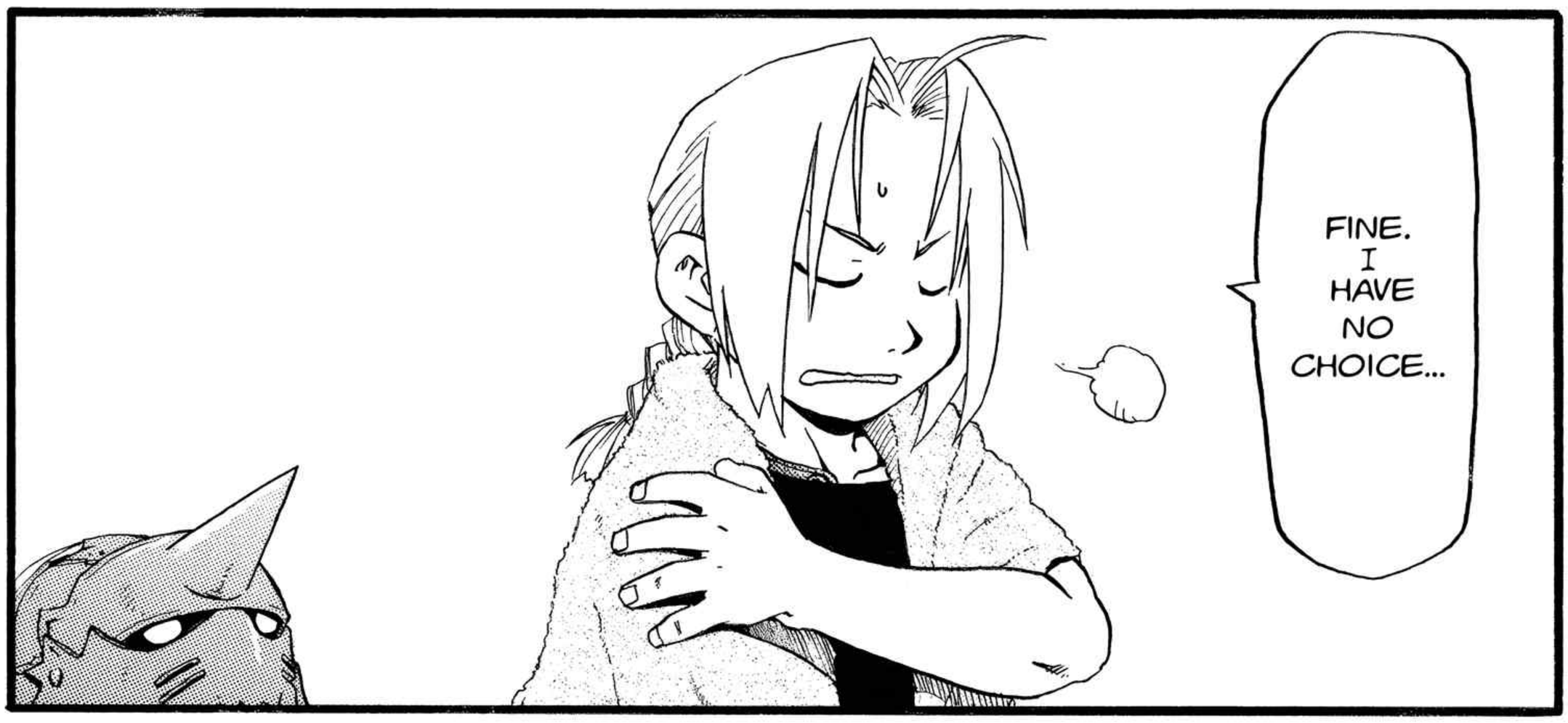
SO WHAT ARE YOU GUYS GOING TO DO NOW ?

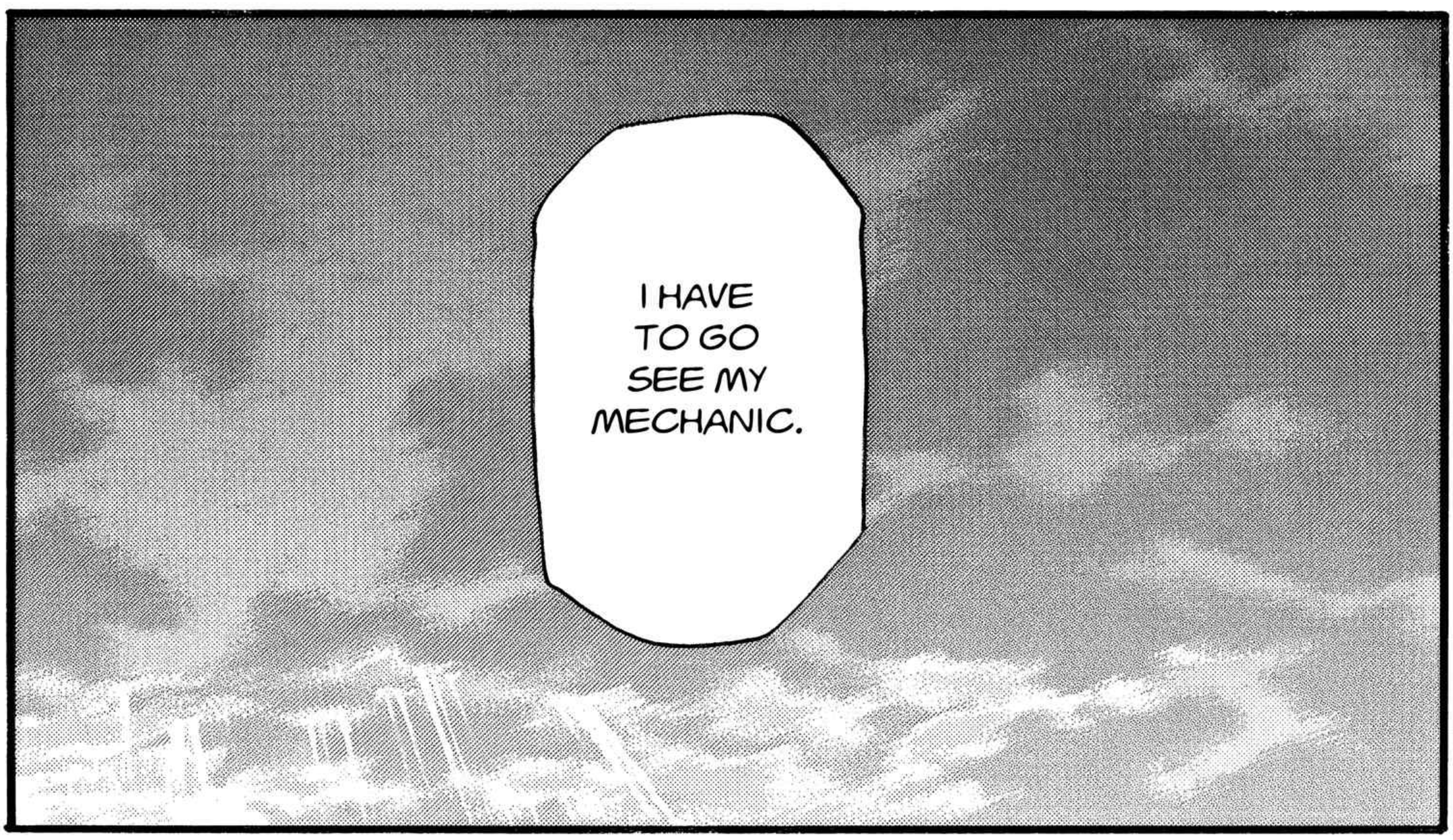

NO THANK YOU.
FLEX
SHALL I FIX HIM FOR YOU?


IF EDWARD CAN'T USE ALCHEMY, THEN HE'S JUST ...
RIGHT...


YUP.
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS HOW TO KEEP AL'S SOUL IN THE ARMOR...
SO ANYWAY, FIRST I NEED A NEW ARM.
FRAGILE HANDLE WITH CARE

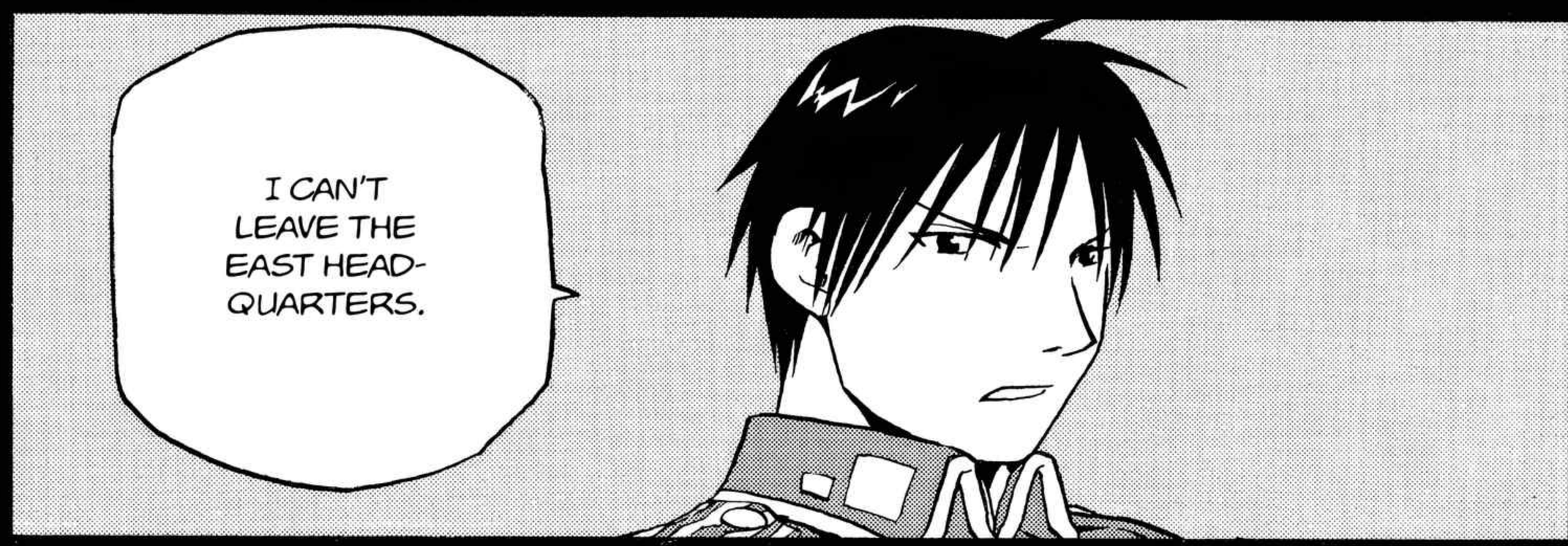

YOU'RE ALL PICKING ON ME!
SORRY, BIG BROTHER... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO FOLLOW THAT...
USELESS, JUST USELESS!
AN ARROGANT PIP-SQUEAK...
UH HUH
...A LITTLE BRAT WHO SWEARS A LOT.
WA AAH!

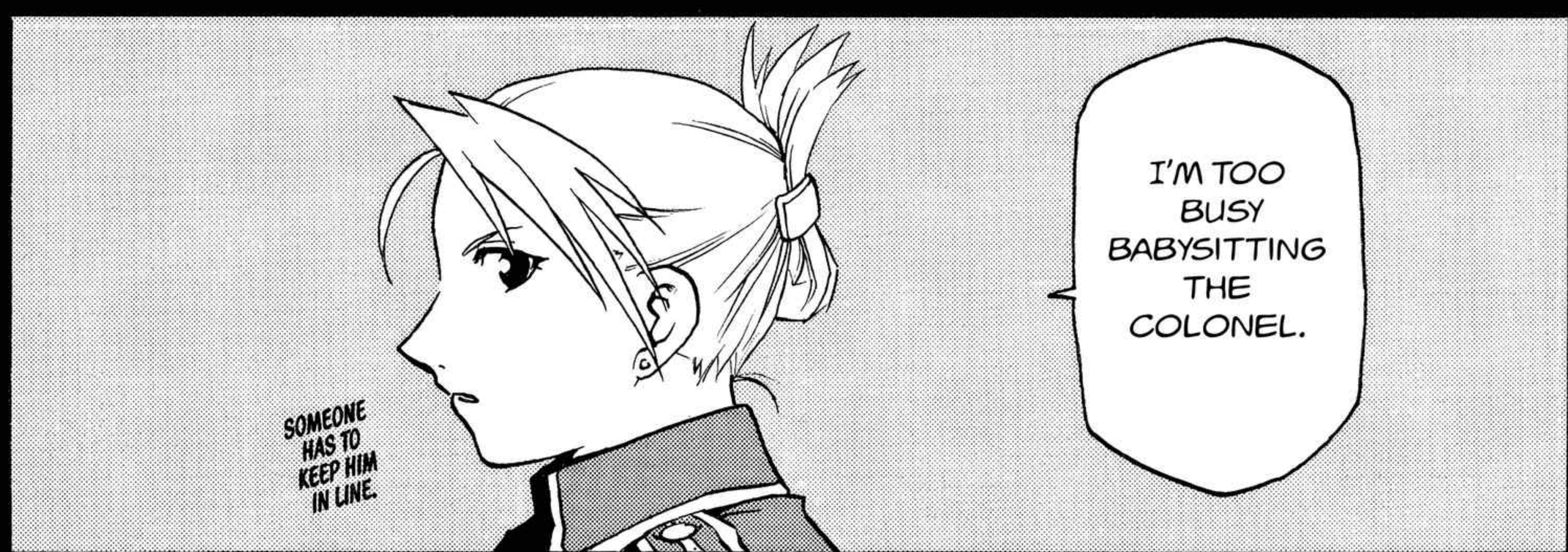

FINE. I HAVE NO CHOICE...

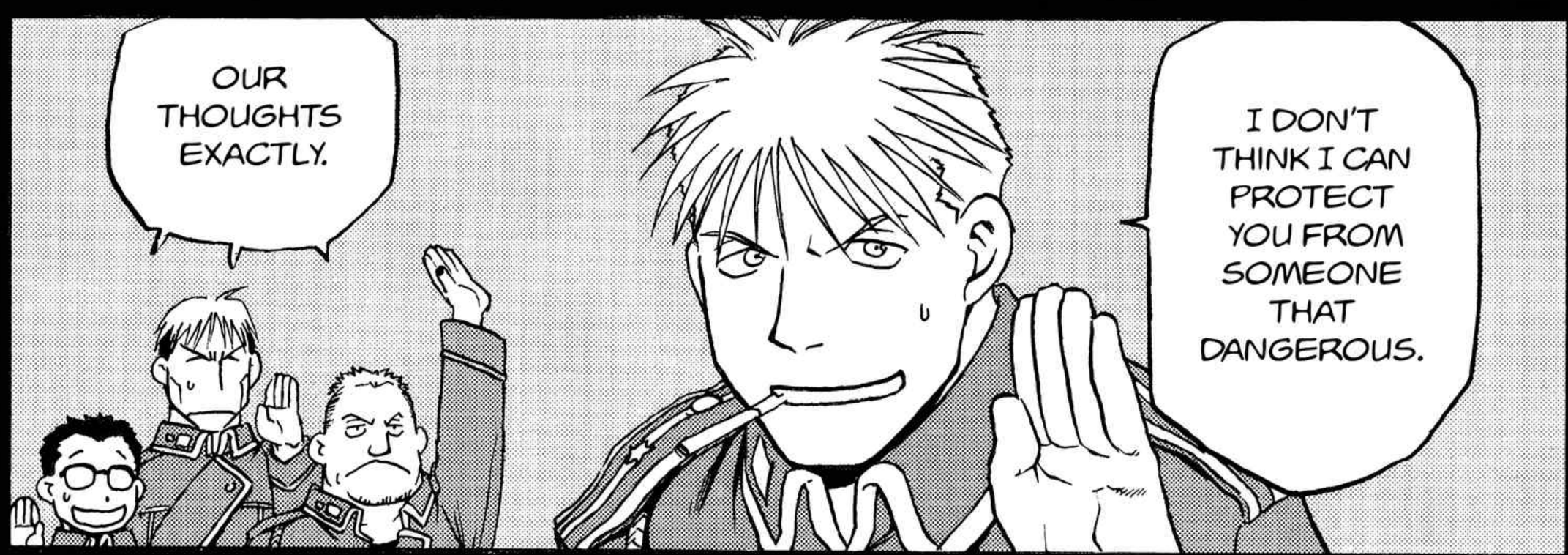

I HAVE TO GO SEE MY MECHANIC.

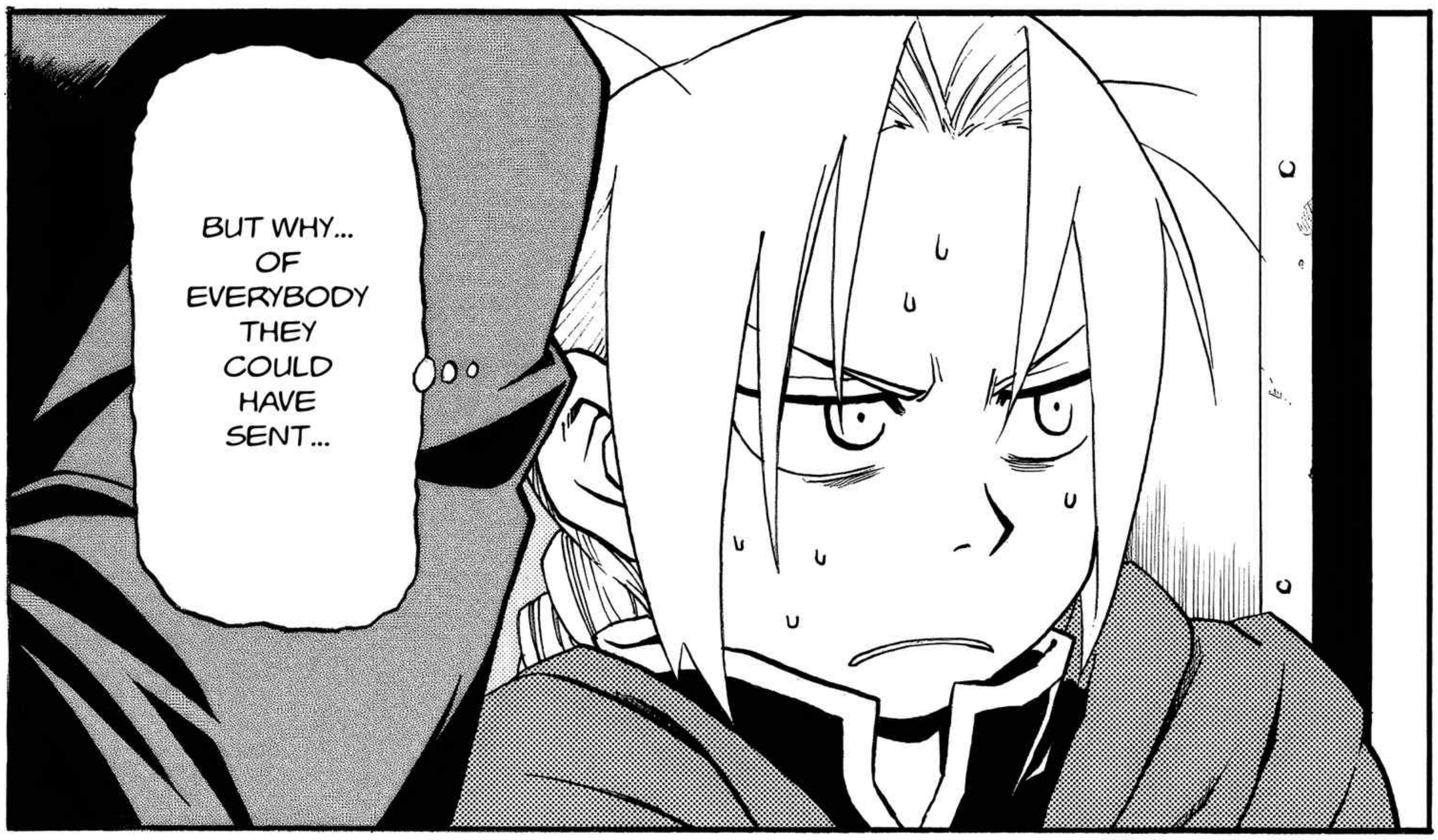
FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST

I GOT A TON OF WORK WAITING FOR ME BACK IN CENTRAL.


I CAN'T LEAVE THE EAST HEAD-QUARTERS.


I'M TOO BUSY BABYSITTING THE COLONEL.
SOMEONE HAS TO KEEP HIM IN LINE.


I DON'T THINK I CAN PROTECT YOU FROM SOMEONE THAT DANGEROUS.
OUR THOUGHTS EXACTLY.

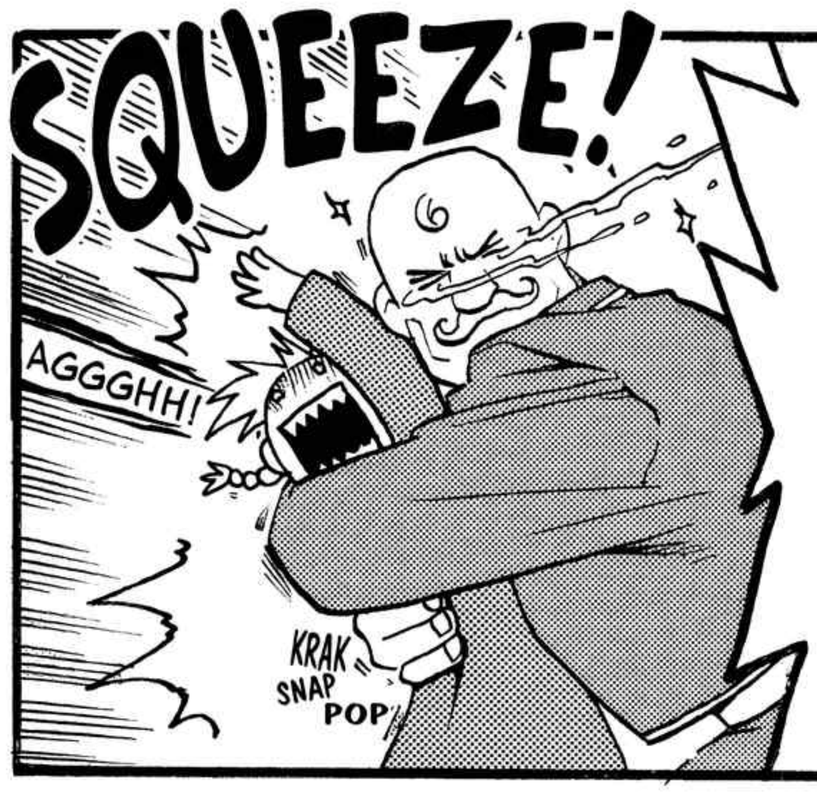


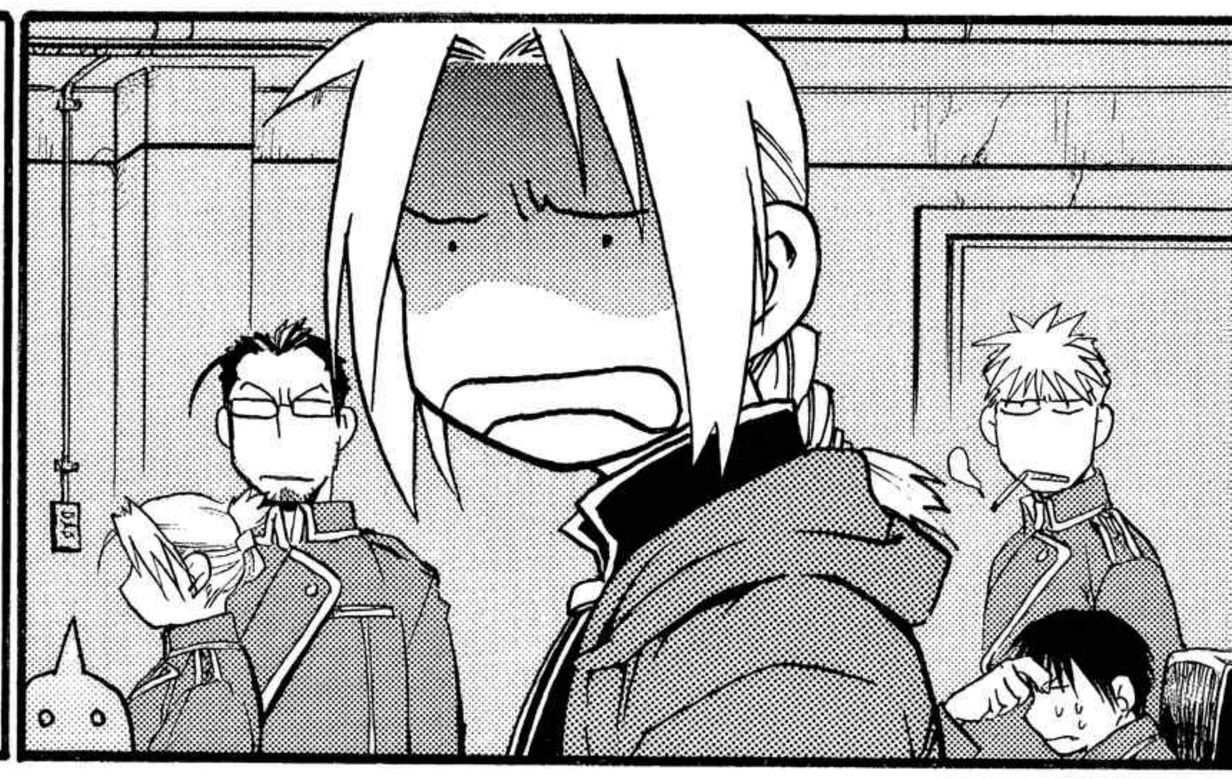
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE *HIM*?!

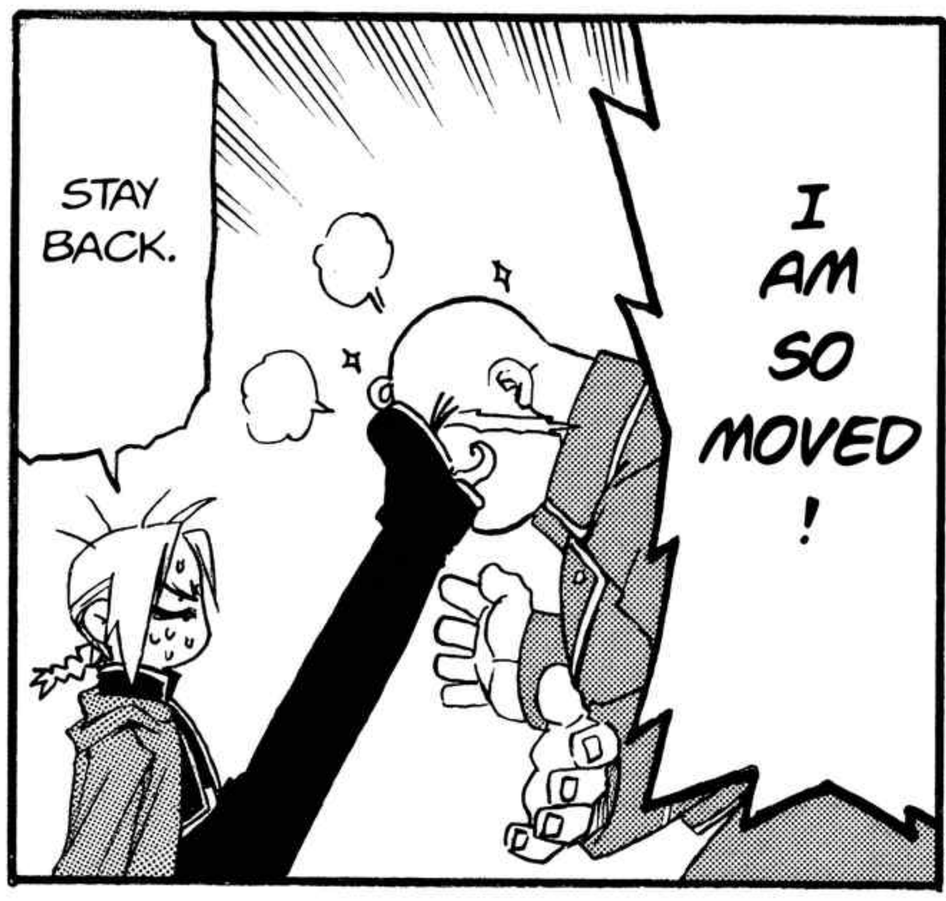
EAST

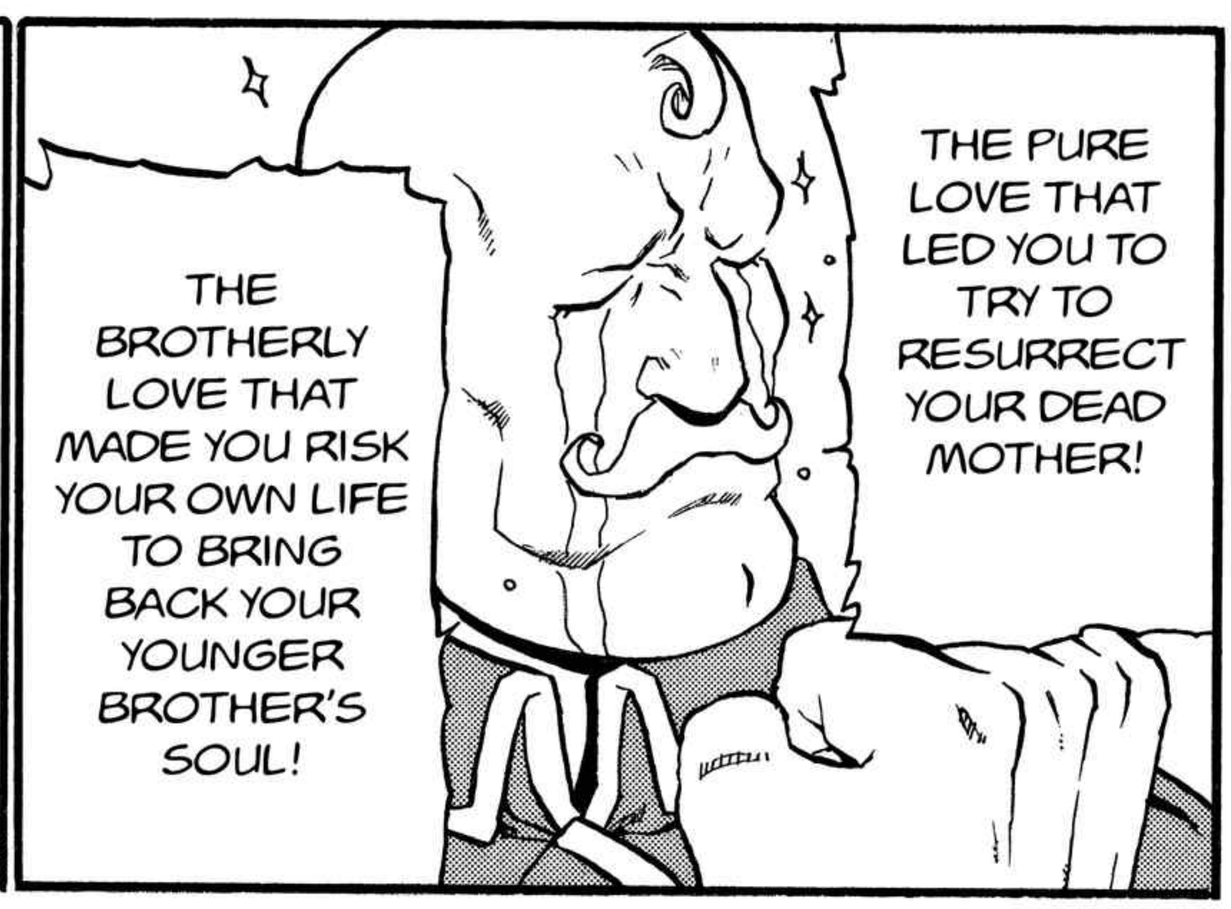
Chapter 8: The Road of Hope

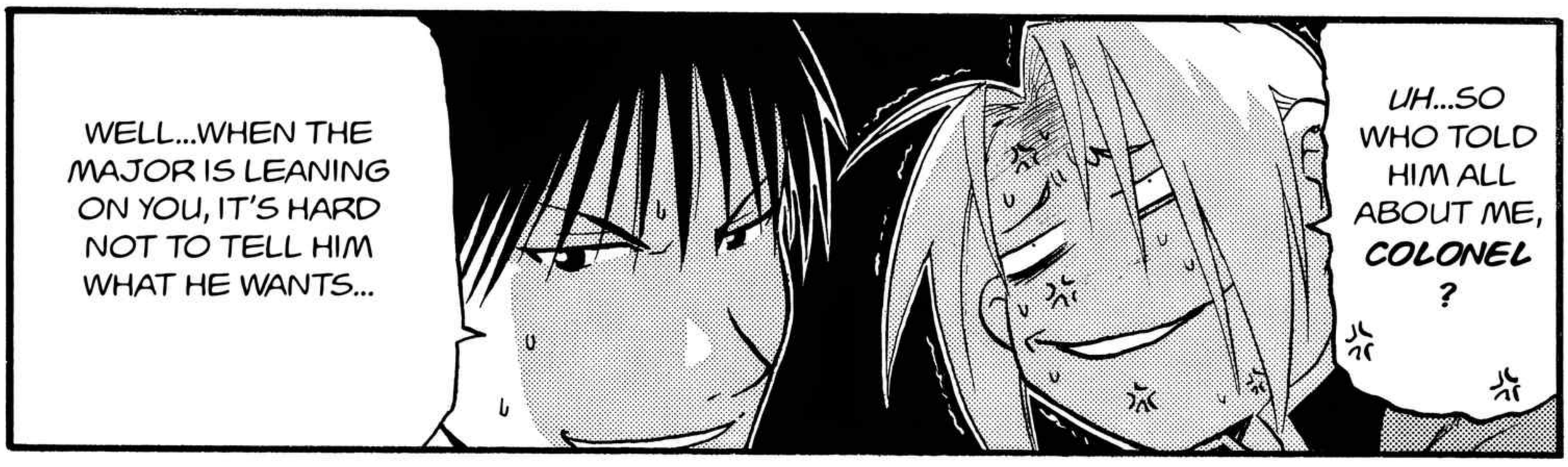
SNIFF SNIFF

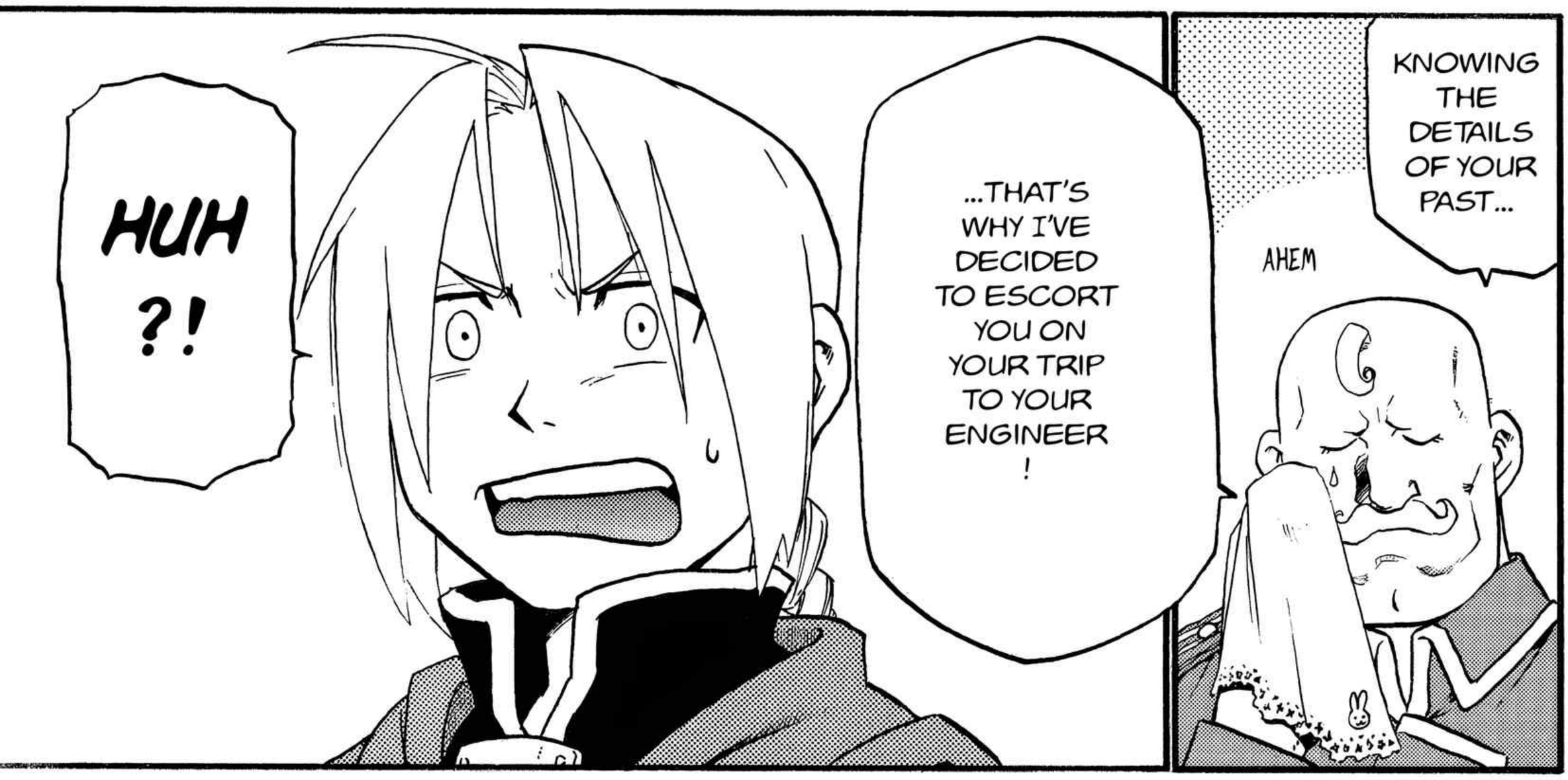

SQUEEZE!
AGGGHH!
KRAK
SNAP
POP
OH, EDWARD ELRIC! I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT YOU!

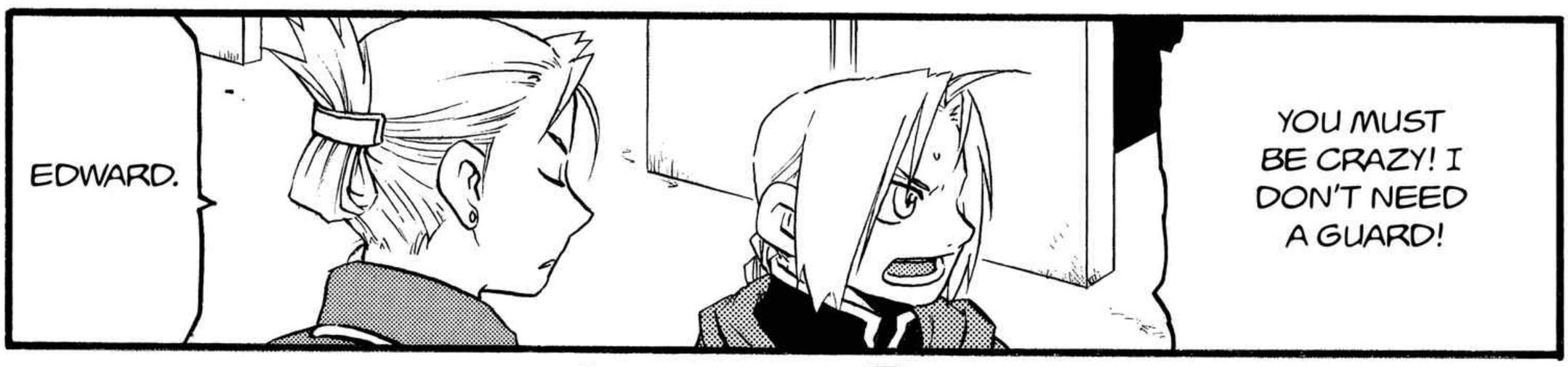



STAY BACK.
I AM SO MOVED!


THE BROTHERLY LOVE THAT MADE YOU RISK YOUR OWN LIFE TO BRING BACK YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER'S SOUL!
THE PURE LOVE THAT LED YOU TO TRY TO RESURRECT YOUR DEAD MOTHER!


WELL...WHEN THE MAJOR IS LEANING ON YOU, IT'S HARD NOT TO TELL HIM WHAT HE WANTS...
UH...SO WHO TOLD HIM ALL ABOUT ME, COLONEL ?

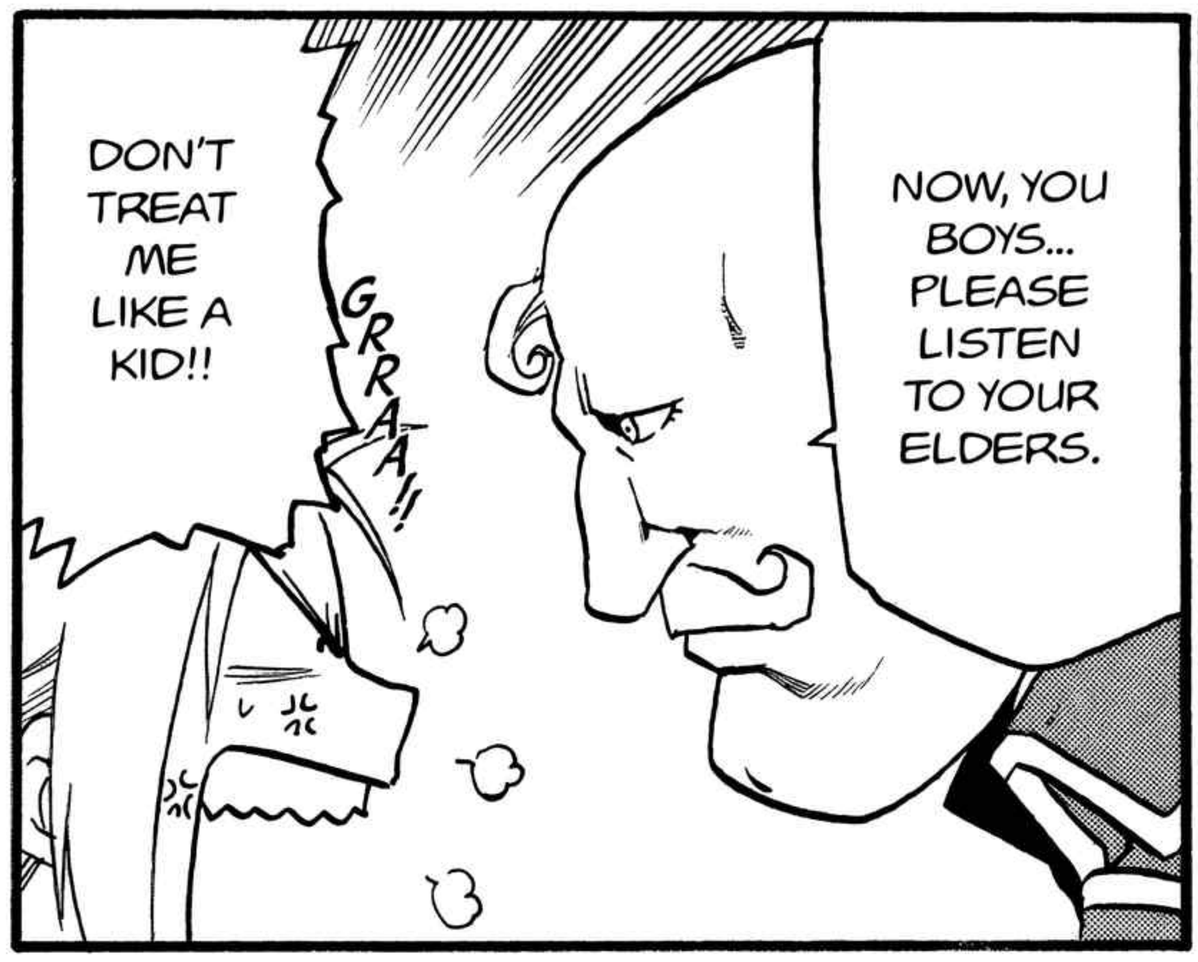

HUH ?!
...THAT'S WHY I'VE DECIDED TO ESCORT YOU ON YOUR TRIP TO YOUR ENGINEER !
KNOWING THE DETAILS OF YOUR PAST...
AHEM

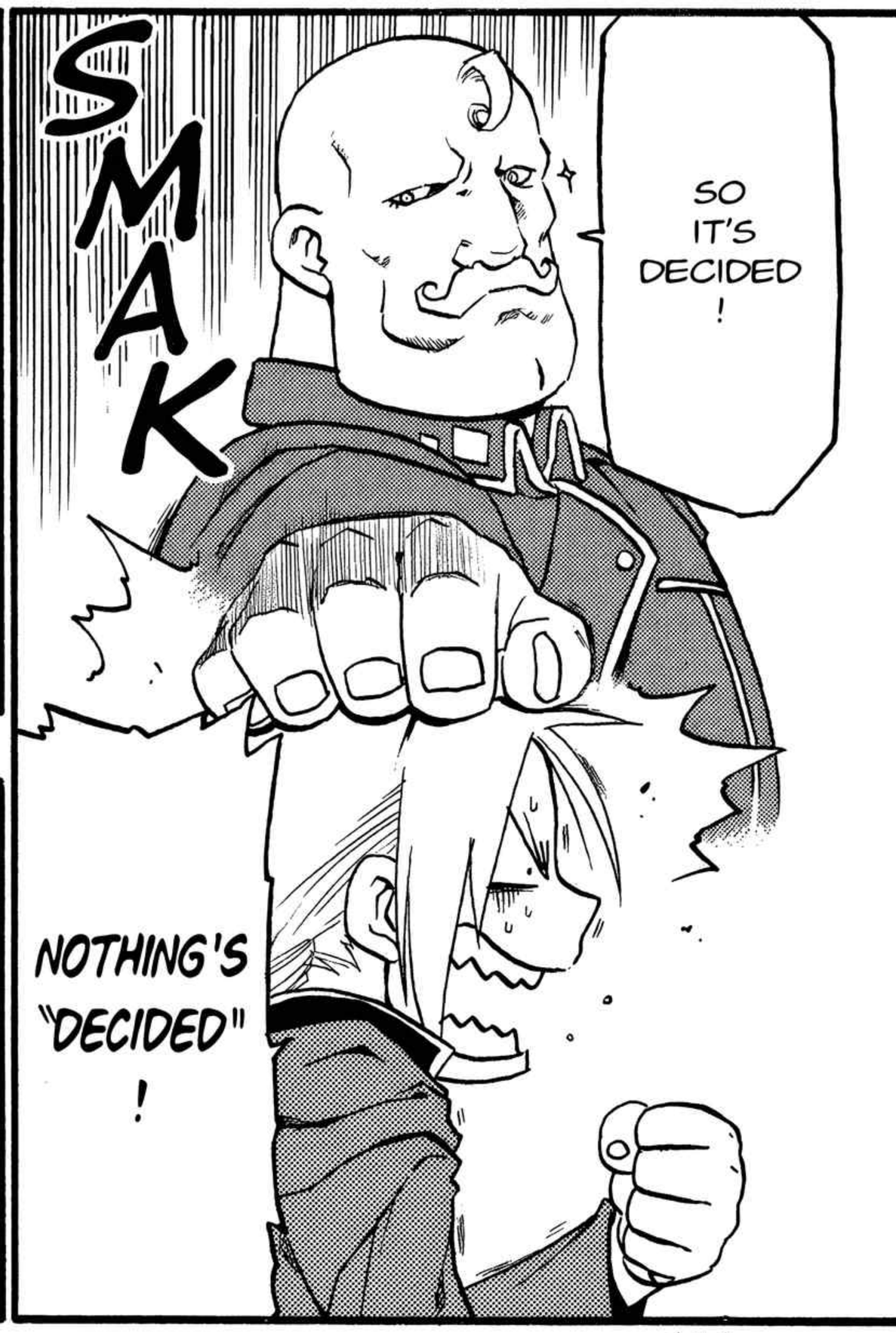

EDWARD.
YOU MUST BE CRAZY! I DON'T NEED A GUARD!

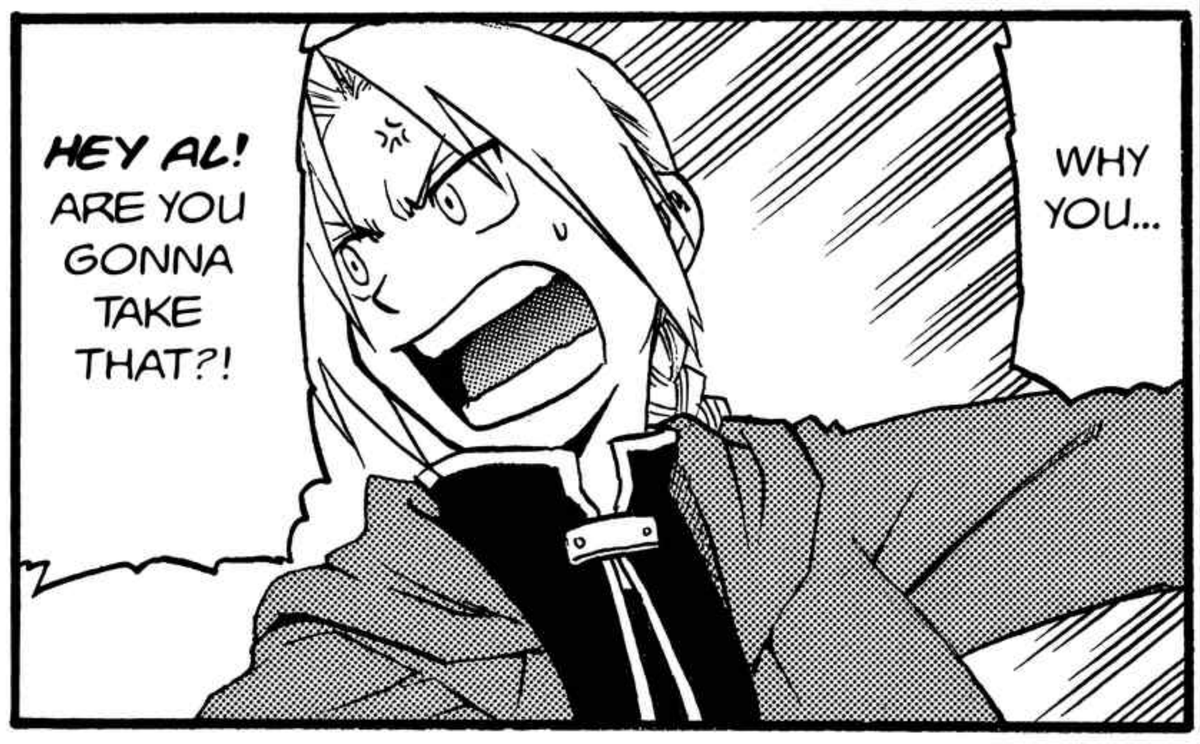
UGH...
BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THE MAJOR !
PLUS, WITH YOUR ARM THE WAY IT IS, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO CARRY AL EITHER.
OF COURSE WE'RE GOING TO ASSIGN A GUARD TO YOU. OTHERWISE YOU'D BE TOTALLY DEFENSE-LESS.
YOU'RE PLANNING TO TRAVEL AROUND IN THAT STATE WHEN SCAR COULD ATTACK YOU AT ANY MOMENT?

I DON'T THINK I CAN PROTECT YOU FROM SOMEONE THAT DANGER-OUS.
I'M TOO BUSY BABYSITTING THE COLONEL. SOMEONE HAS TO KEEP HIM IN LINE.
OUR THOUGHTS EXACTLY.

I CAN'T LEAVE THE EAST HEAD-QUARTERS.
I GOT A TON OF WORK WAITING FOR ME BACK IN CENTRAL.


DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A KID!!
GRRAA!!
NOW, YOU BOYS... PLEASE LISTEN TO YOUR ELDERS.


SMAK
SO IT'S DECIDED !
NOTHING'S "DECIDED" !


HEY AL! ARE YOU GONNA TAKE THAT?!
WHY YOU...

WOWW!

IT'S NO USE...

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SOMEONE'S TREATED ME LIKE A KID SINCE MY BODY BECAME ARMOR!

OH, ED!

HMH...NOW THAT IT'S DECIDED, LET'S PACK UP.

WHAT?! YOU DIRTY...!

HA HA HA HA HA

IF YOU STILL PLAN ON MAKING A FUSS, WOULD YOU PREFER TO BE COURT-MARTIALED FOR DISOBEYING ORDERS?

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SOMEONE'S TREATED ME LIKE LUGGAGE SINCE MY BODY BECAME ARMOR...

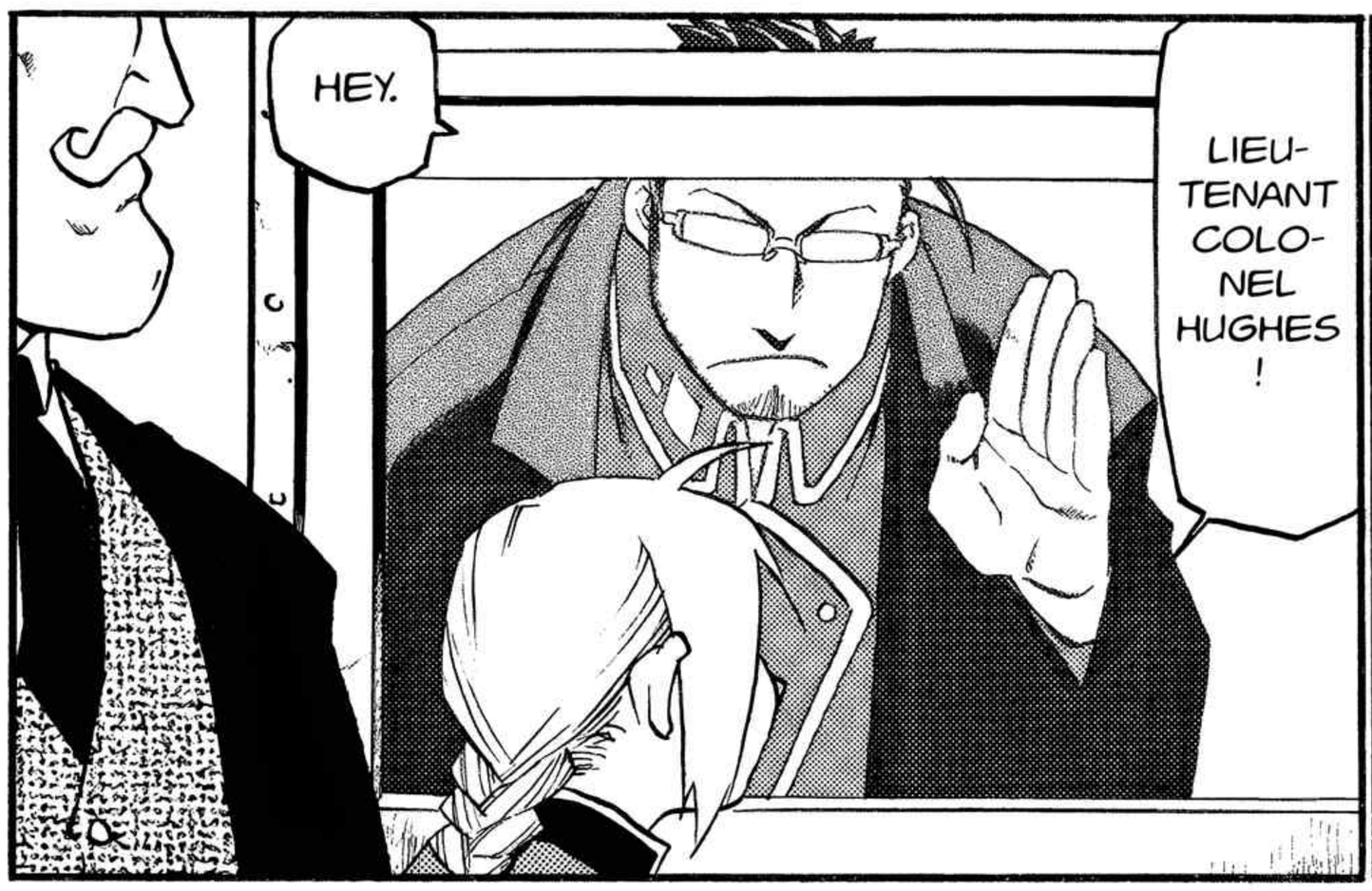
BAGGAGE FEES ARE CHEAPER THAN TRAVEL FEES!

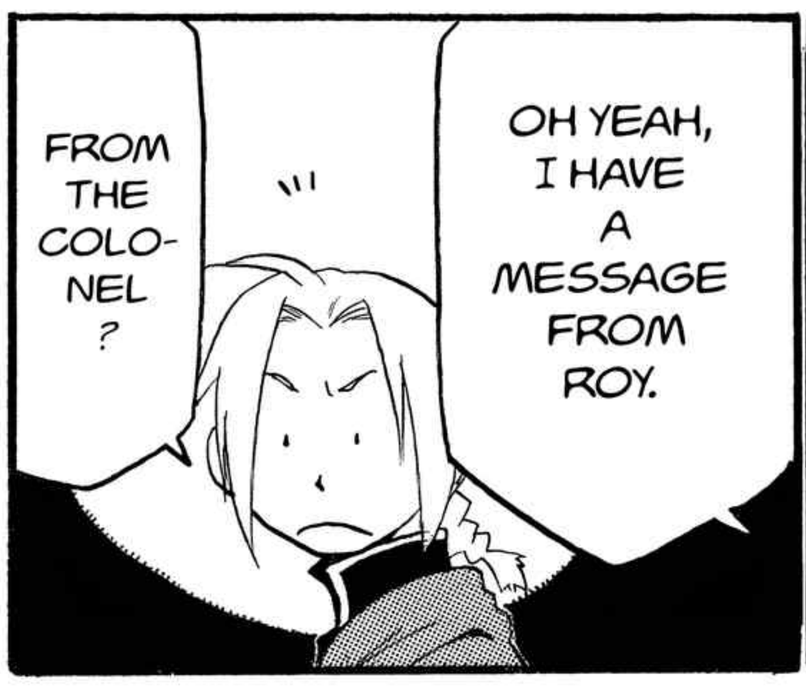
GLOOM GLOOM GLOOM

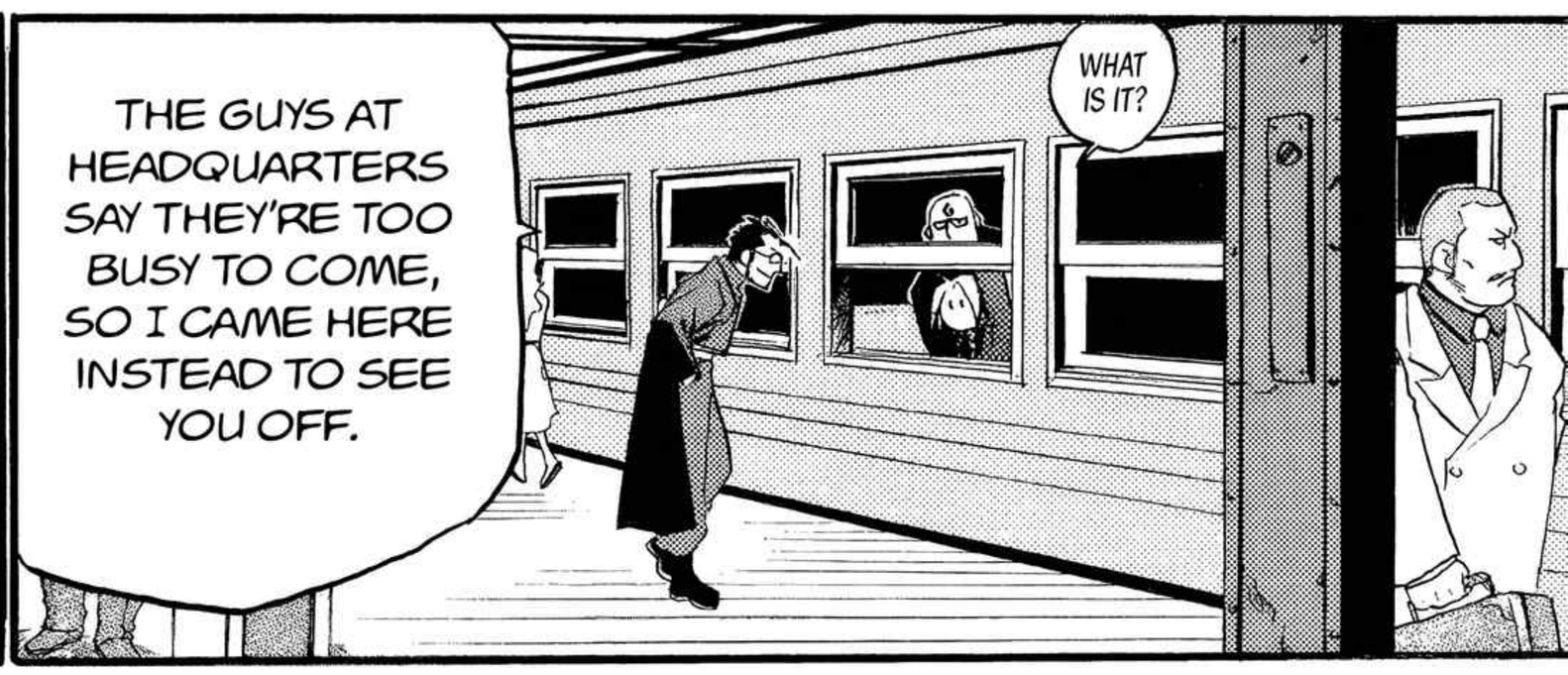
MY POOR BROTHER...

TA-DA

sigh...
NOW I CAN LOOK FORWARD TO A WHOLE TRAIN RIDE WITH THIS BOZO...
I TOLD YOU, DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A KID!
DID YOU BRING YOUR HANDKER-CHIEF?
YOU GET READY TOO, EDWARD ELRIC.







SNAP

ALL RIGHT THEN, HAVE A SAFE TRIP!

FOOO

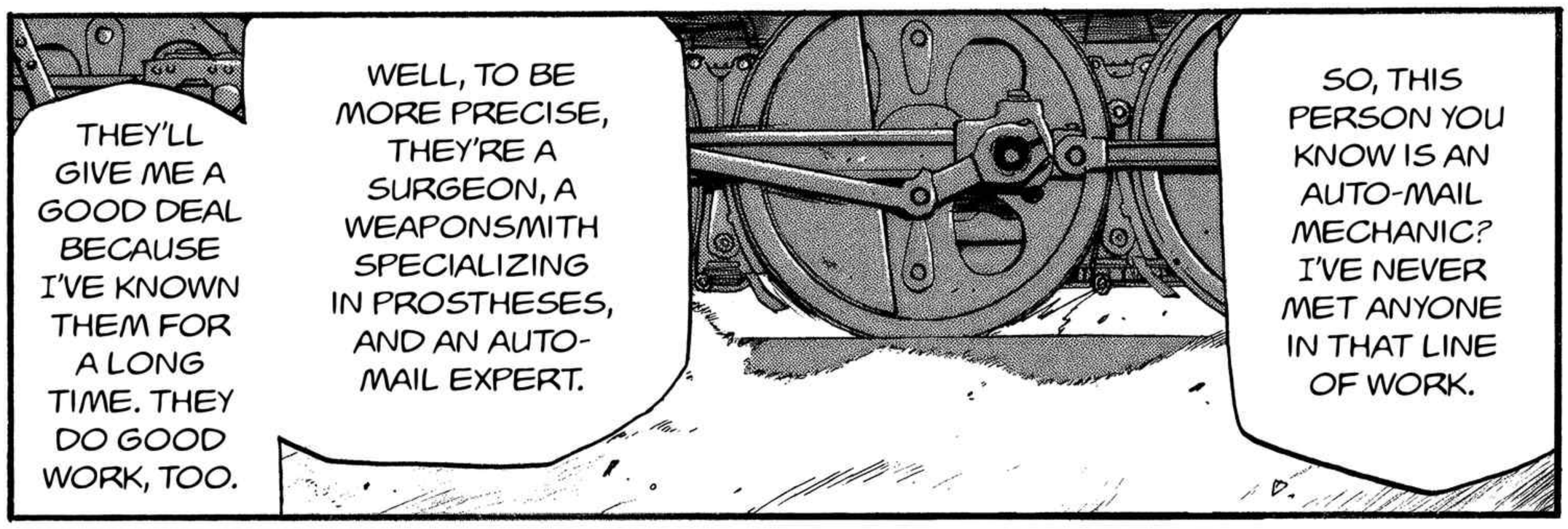
PHWEEE

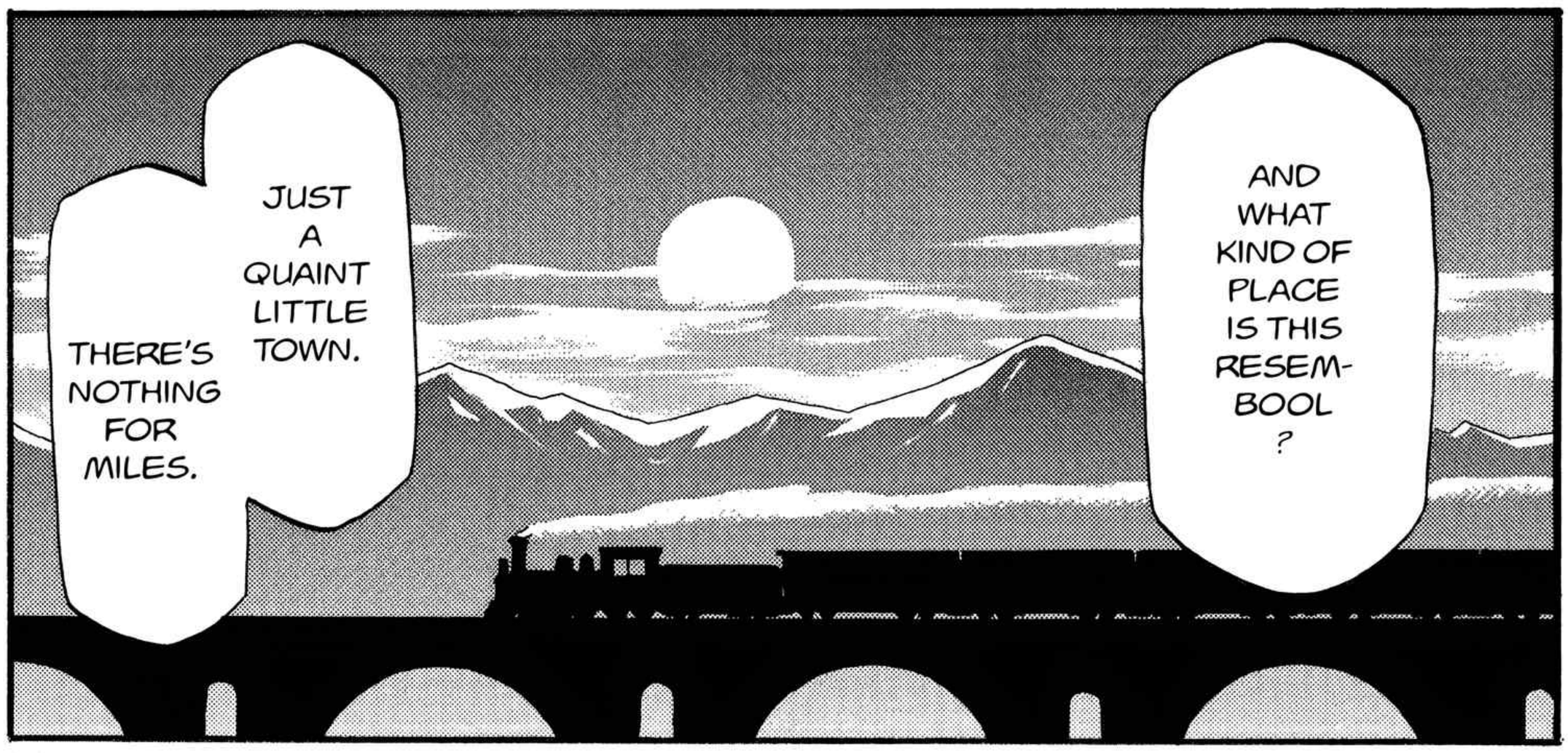
PH

WEEEEEEE

LET ME KNOW IF YOU'RE EVER OUT IN CENTRAL.

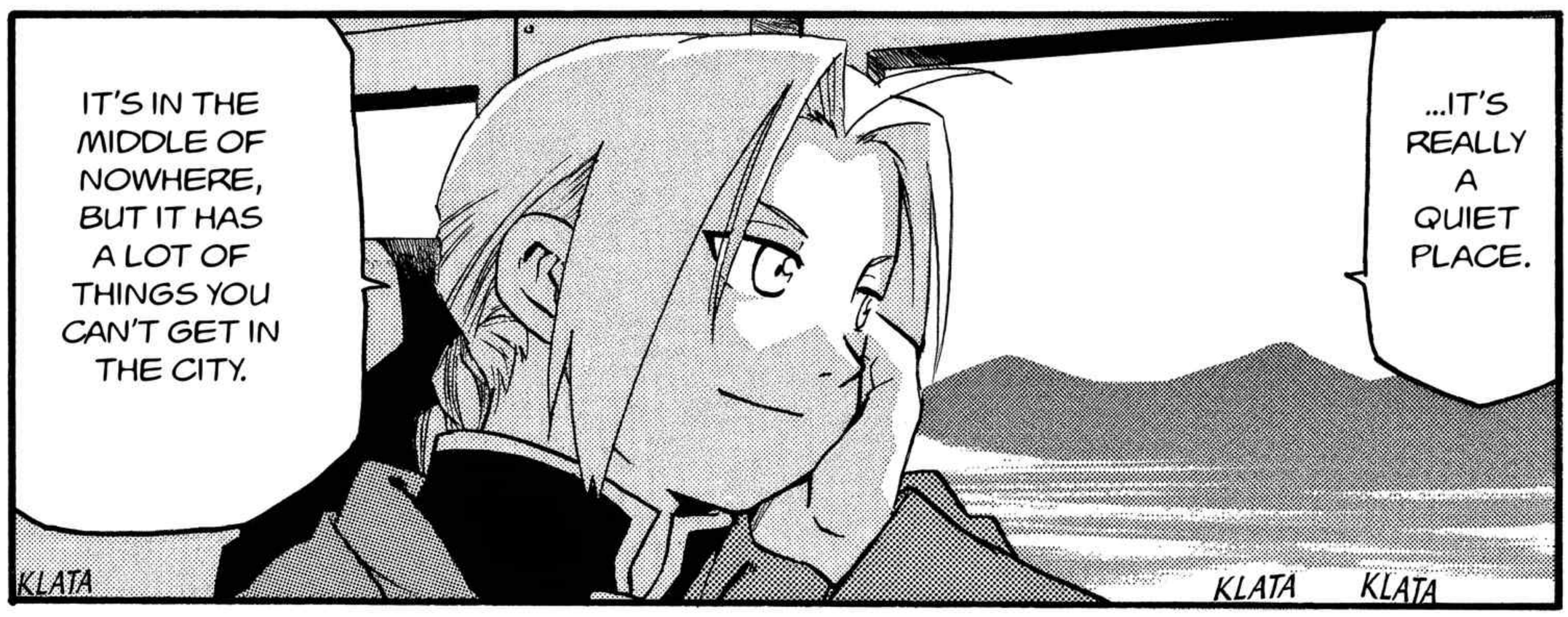
SORRY, GOTTA USE MY LEFT...

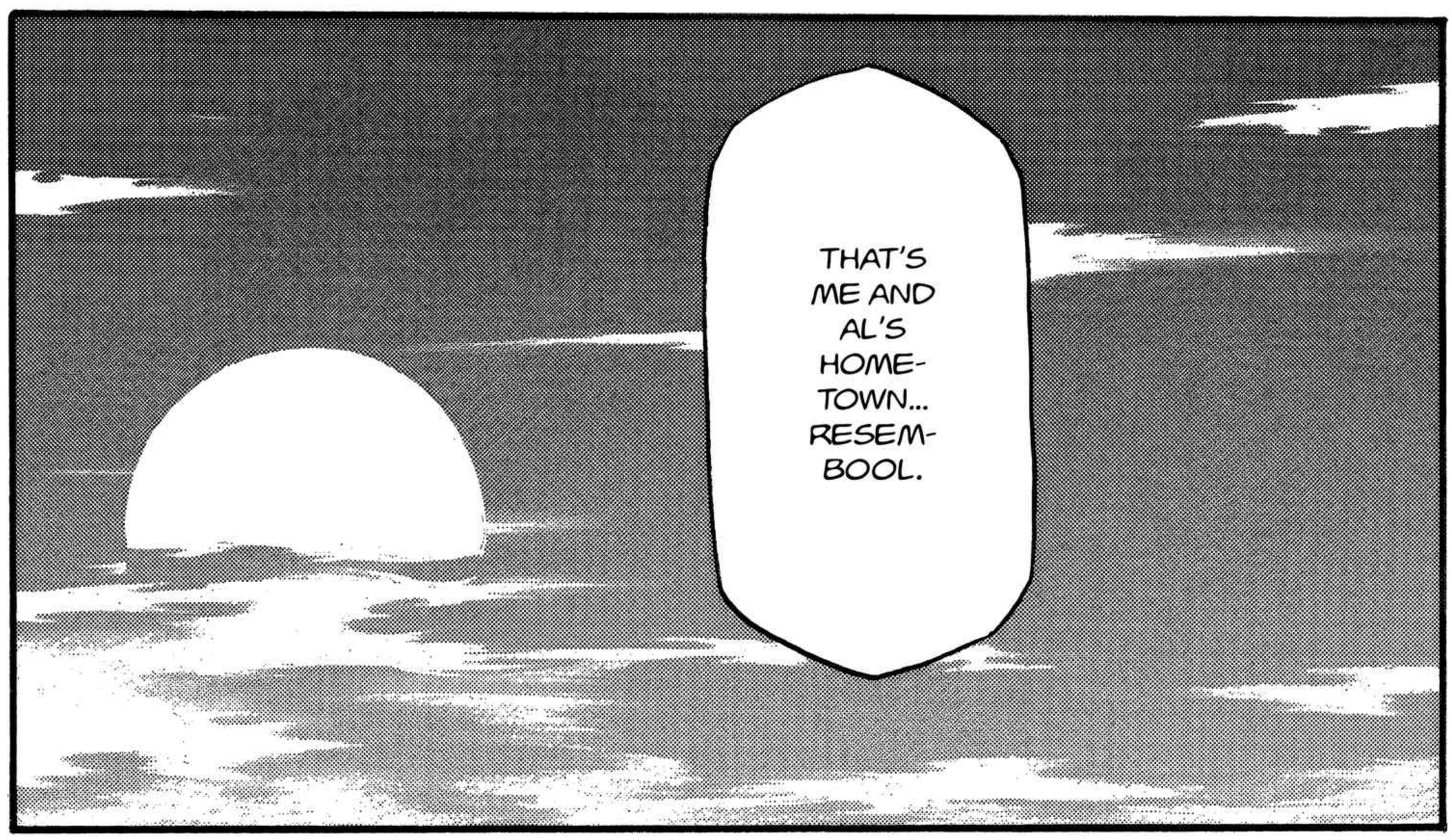




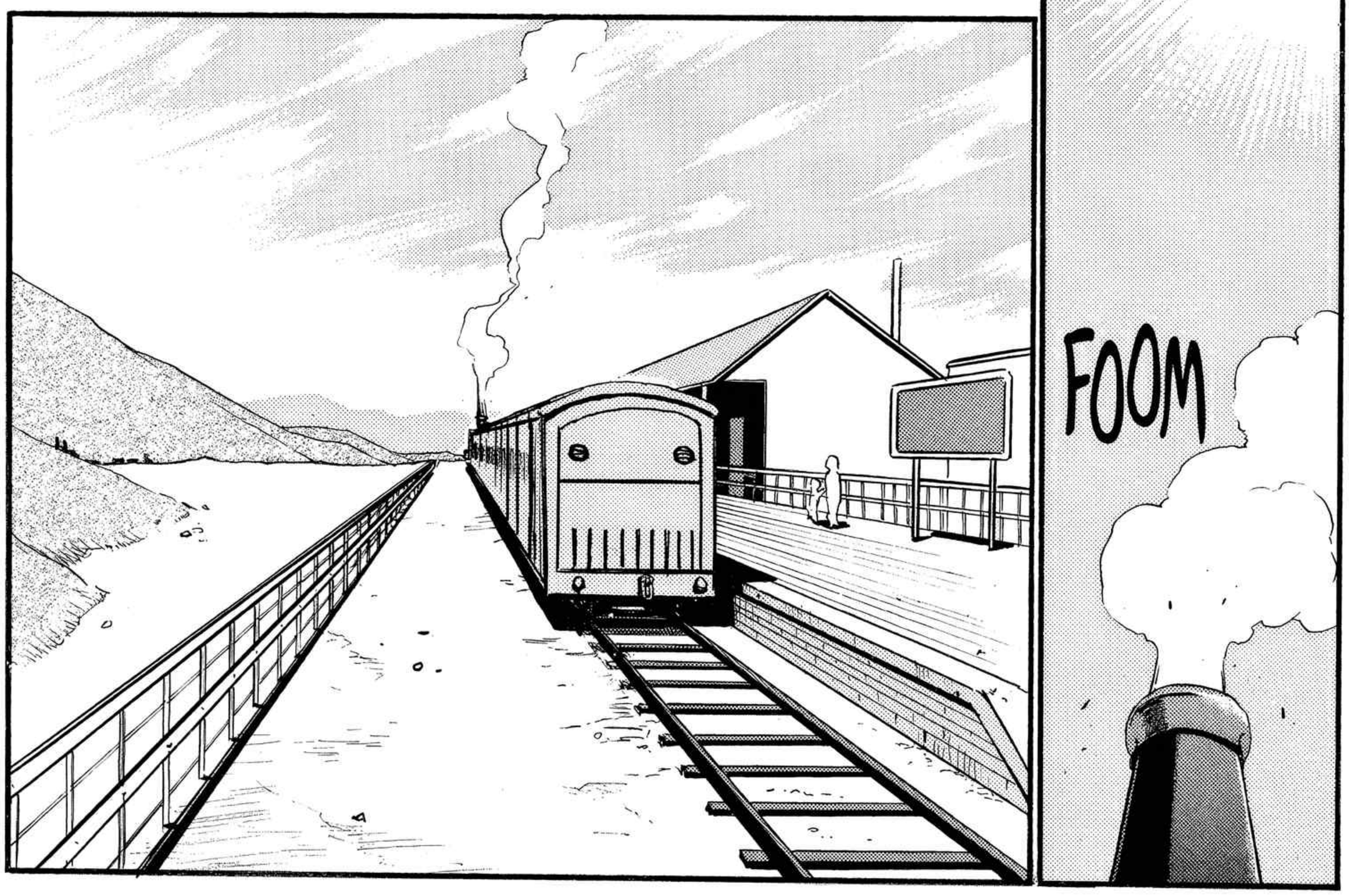
YOU'RE MAKING MY EARS HURT.
THAT'S GOOD. SHOULD I SAY SOME MORE?

KLATA KLATA KLATA
IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A BUSTLING CITY IF THE MILITARY HAD BEEN MORE ON TOP OF THINGS.
ACTUALLY, EVERYTHING GOT DESTROYED BECAUSE OF THE CIVIL WAR IN THE EAST.


IT'S IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, BUT IT HAS A LOT OF THINGS YOU CAN'T GET IN THE CITY.
...IT'S REALLY A QUIET PLACE.
KLATA
KLATA KLATA


THAT'S ME AND AL'S HOME-TOWN... RESEM-BOOL.

HMH HMH... YES, I TOOK CARE OF EVERYTHING.
BY THE WAY... YOU DID PUT AL ON THIS TRAIN, RIGHT?
YOU JERK! THAT'S WORSE THAN THE LUGGAGE CAR!
I THOUGHT HE MIGHT GET LONELY BY HIM-SELF...
LIVESTOCK CAR
KLATA KLATA
KLATA KLATA
BAAAH
BAAH BAAAH
RAAAR
QUIT MESSING WITH MY BROTHER !
AAARGG RAAAA
HE'S GOT PLENTY OF ROOM, IT'S CHEAP, THERE'S LOTS OF LIVING THINGS... WOOLY FRIENDS...
HMH... REALLY, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM ?
BRITISH NAVAL COMMANDER MURDER


FOOM

SHFF
WAGH
?!

YAWN
Z

DR. MARCOH !!

IT'S ALEX LOUIS ARMSTRONG FROM CENTRAL!

AREN'T YOU DR. MARCOH !?

SOME-ONE YOU KNOW ?

YES...

UH...

WSH

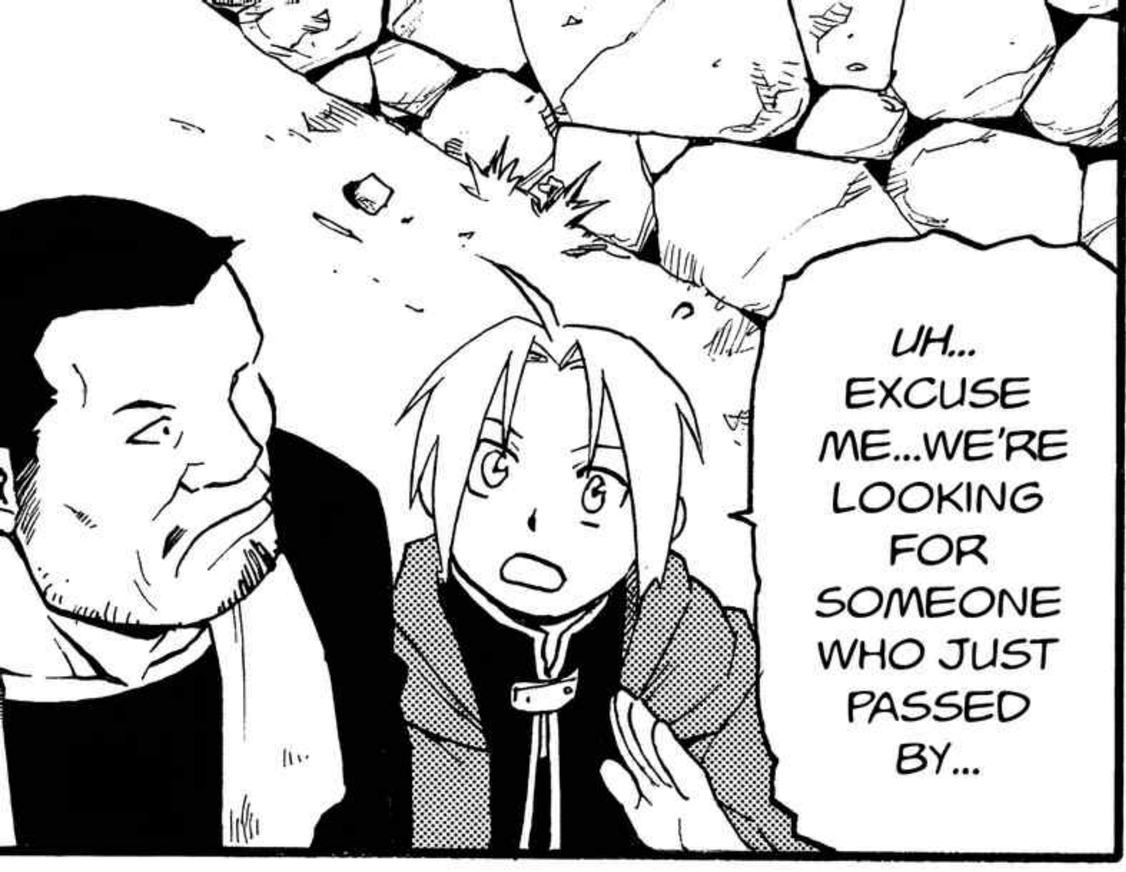
HE WAS STUDYING THE USE OF ALCHEMY FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES, BUT HE VANISHED DURING THE CIVIL WAR.

HE'S A SKILLED ALCHEMIST WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THE ALCHEMY RESEARCH DEPARTMENT AT CENTRAL.

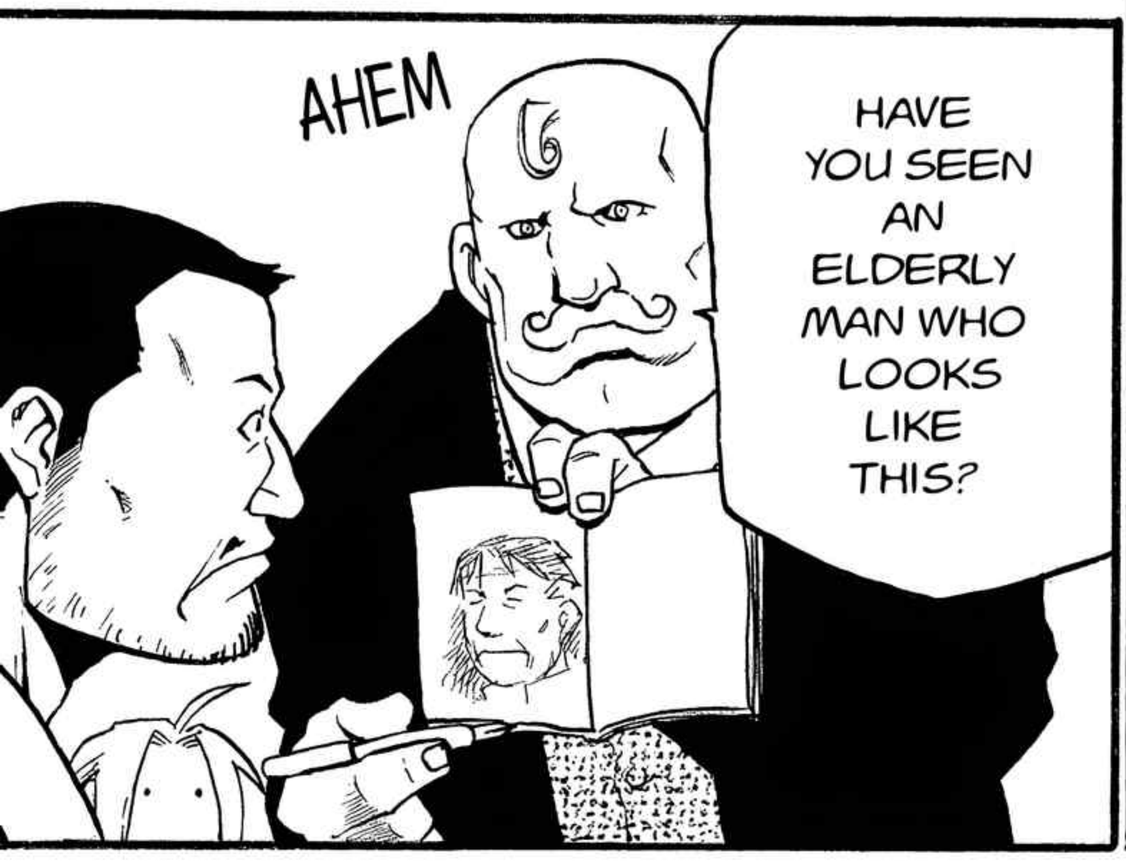
IF HE USED TO DO THAT KIND OF RESEARCH, THEN HE MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT BIOLOGICAL TRANS-MUTATION TOO!

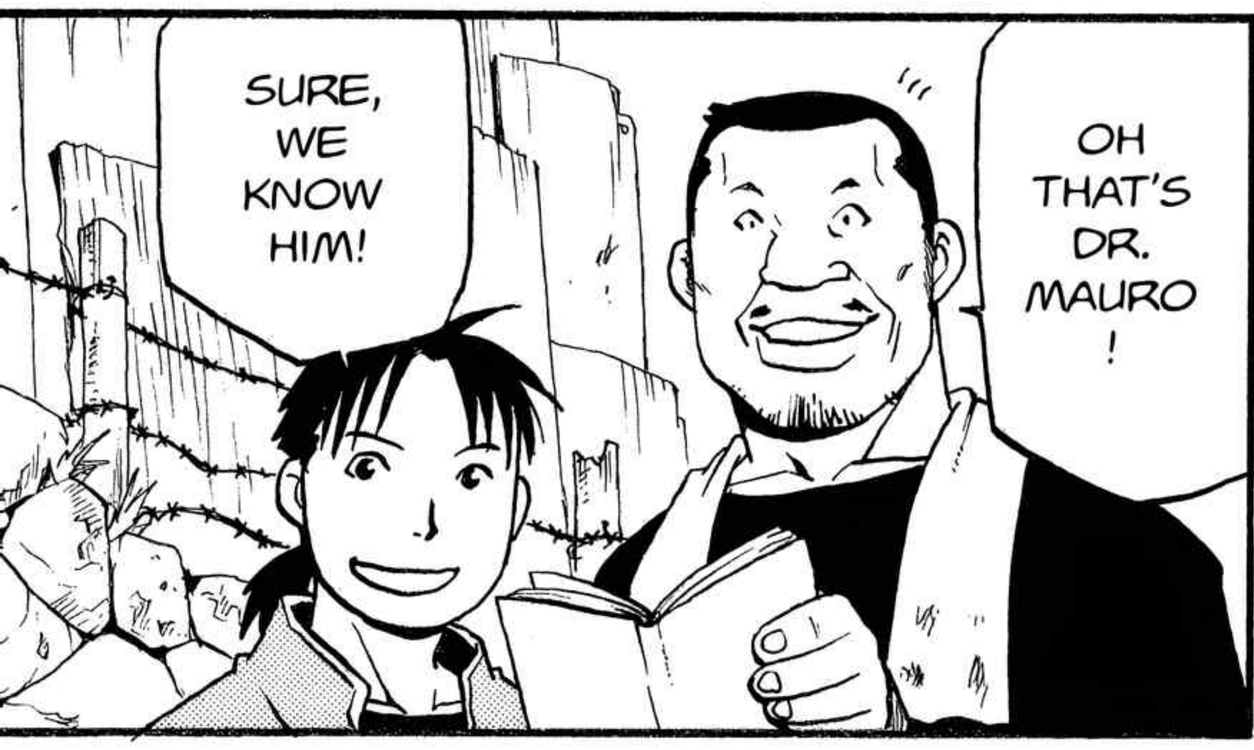
HMH? DON'T WE GET OFF AT RESEM-BOOL ?

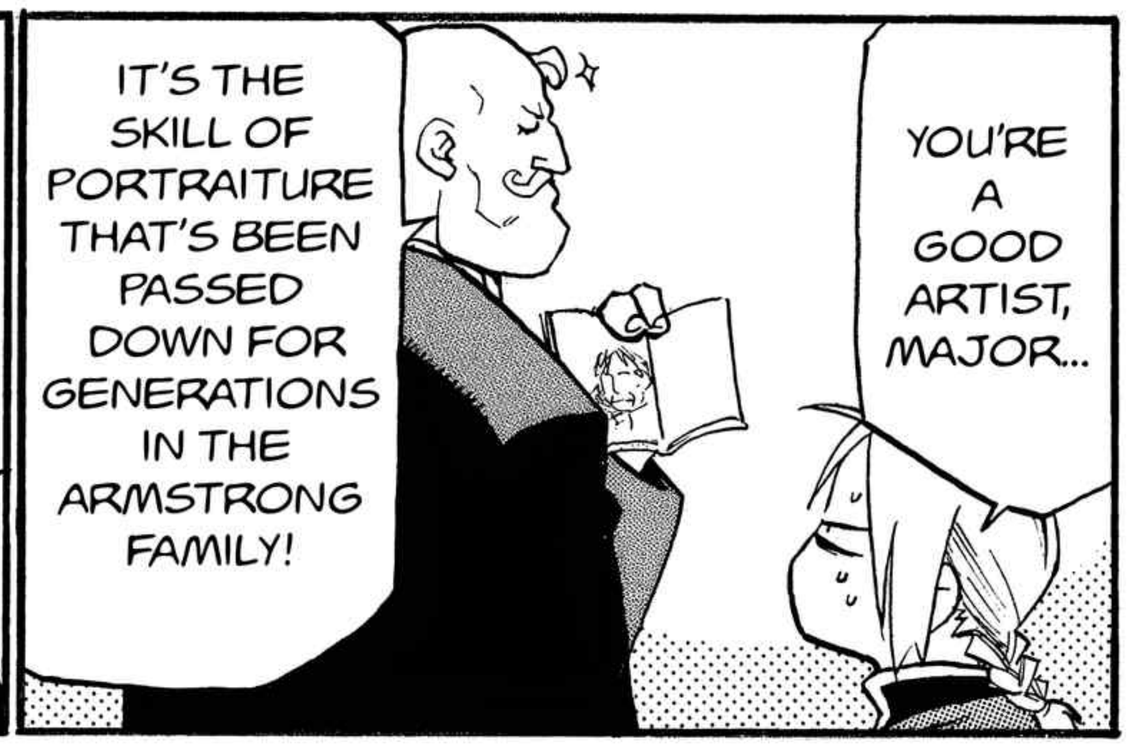
LET'S GET OFF !

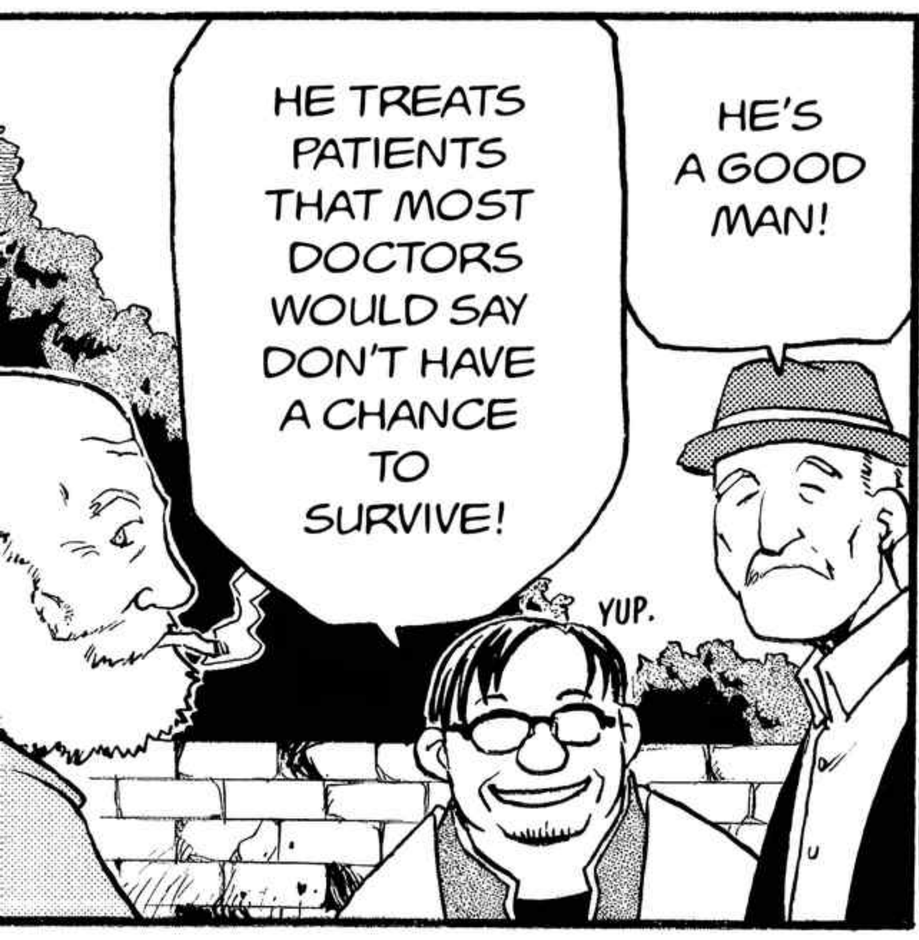

UH... EXCUSE ME...WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO JUST PASSED BY...

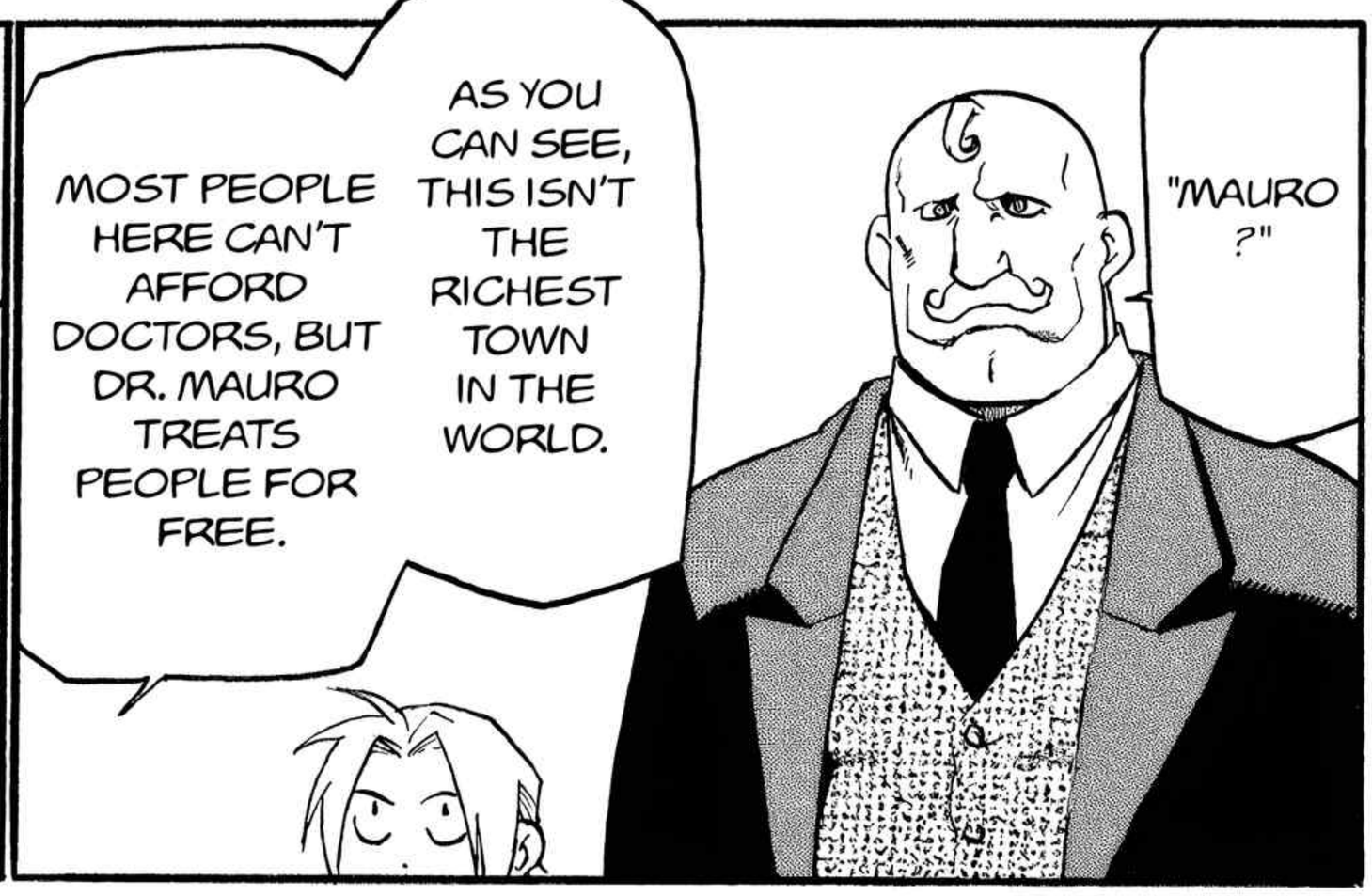
DR. MARCOH...
WELL, WELL...

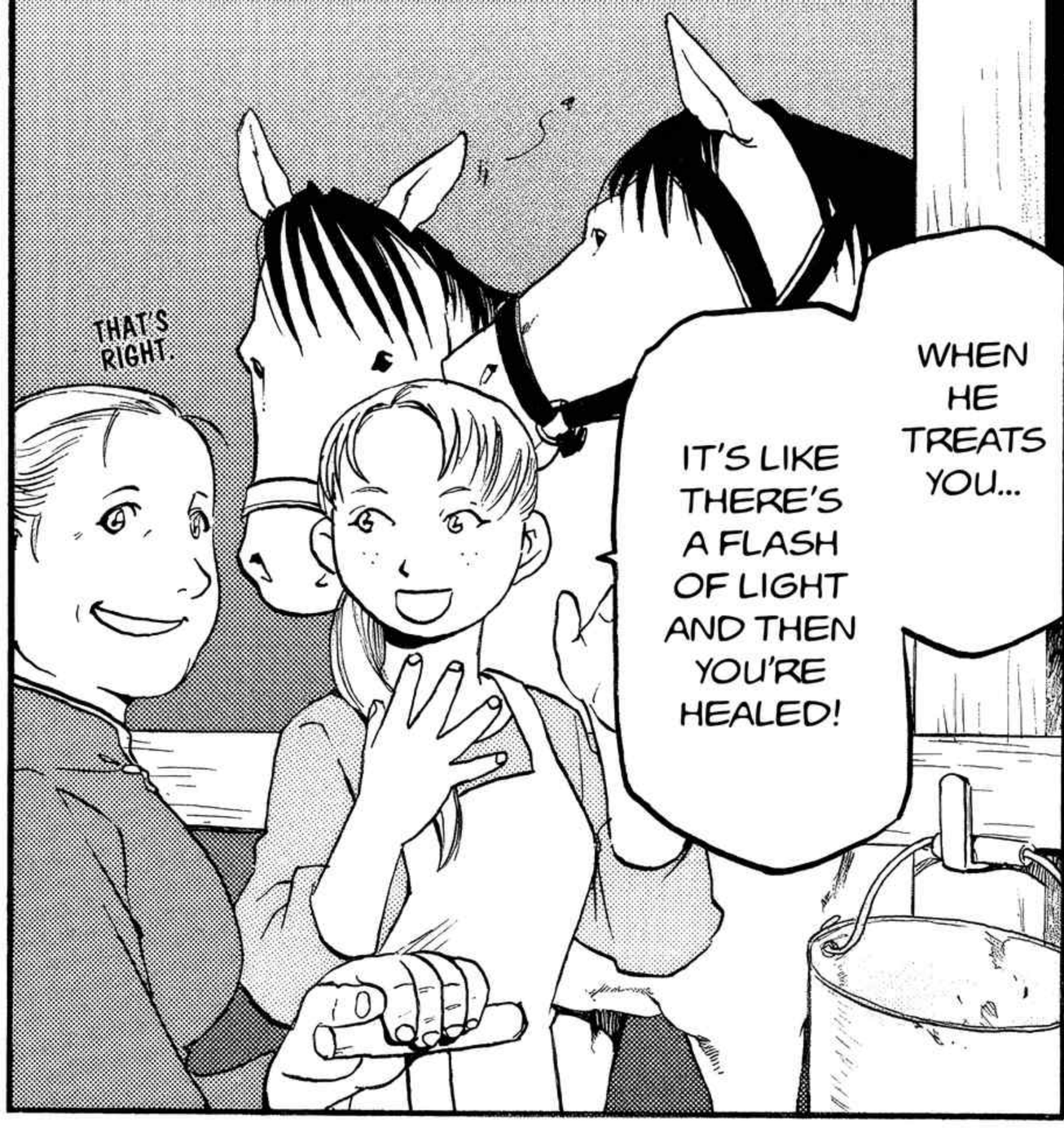

AHEM
HAVE YOU SEEN AN ELDERLY MAN WHO LOOKS LIKE THIS?


SURE, WE KNOW HIM!
OH THAT'S DR. MAURO !

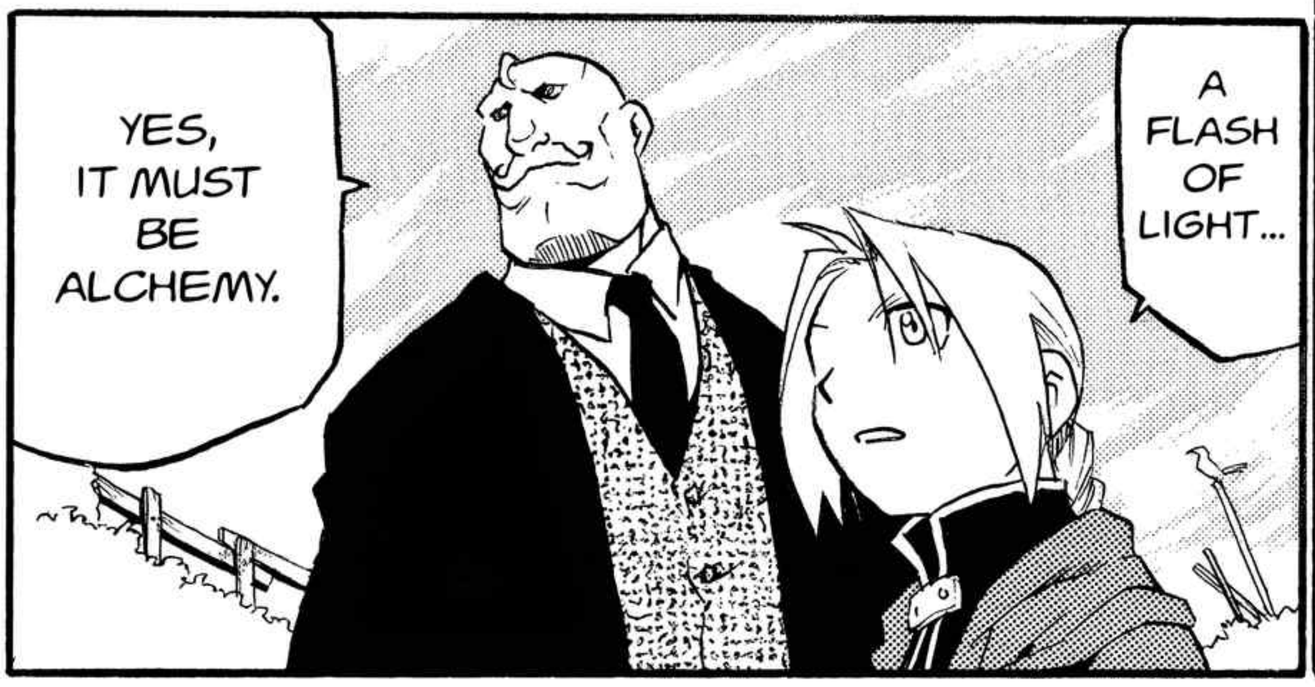

IT'S THE SKILL OF PORTRAITURE THAT'S BEEN PASSED DOWN FOR GENERATIONS IN THE ARMSTRONG FAMILY!
YOU'RE A GOOD ARTIST, MAJOR...


HE TREATS PATIENTS THAT MOST DOCTORS WOULD SAY DON'T HAVE A CHANCE TO SURVIVE!
HE'S A GOOD MAN!
YUP.


MOST PEOPLE HERE CAN'T AFFORD DOCTORS, BUT DR. MAURO TREATS PEOPLE FOR FREE.
AS YOU CAN SEE, THIS ISN'T THE RICHEST TOWN IN THE WORLD.
"MAURO ?"


THAT'S RIGHT.
WHEN HE TREATS YOU...
IT'S LIKE THERE'S A FLASH OF LIGHT AND THEN YOU'RE HEALED!

'S TRUE! WHEN I GOT MY LEG STUCK IN THE WEED PULLER AND ALMOST DIED, HE FIXED IT GOOD AS NEW!
GA HA HA


YES, IT MUST BE ALCHEMY.
A FLASH OF LIGHT...

PERHAPS HE THOUGHT WE WERE SENT HERE TO BRING HIM BACK.

APPARENTLY WHEN THE DOCTOR DISAPPEARED, SOME OF THE TOP-SECRET RESEARCH MATERIAL DISAPPEARED TOO.
IT WAS RUMORED THAT HE STOLE IT AND RAN...

SO HE'S BEEN USING AN ALIAS AND HIDING OUT IN THE COUNTRY-SIDE.
BUT WHY? WHAT'S HE HIDING FROM ?

KREEE

HELLO THERE? ANY-BODY...

...HOME ?

WHAT DID YOU COME FOR ?

BL AM

WHOA !!

DID YOU COME TO TAKE ME BACK !?

PLEASE CALM DOWN, DOCTOR.

I BEG YOU! LET ME GO...!

I'LL NEVER GO BACK TO THAT PLACE !

YOU CAN'T FOOL ME !!

FIRST, IF YOU COULD PLEASE LOWER YOUR GUN...

SO YOU CAME TO *KILL* ME AND SHUT ME UP FOR GOOD!?

NO, THAT'S NOT IT. PLEASE LISTEN...

I COULDN'T STAND IT ANY MORE...

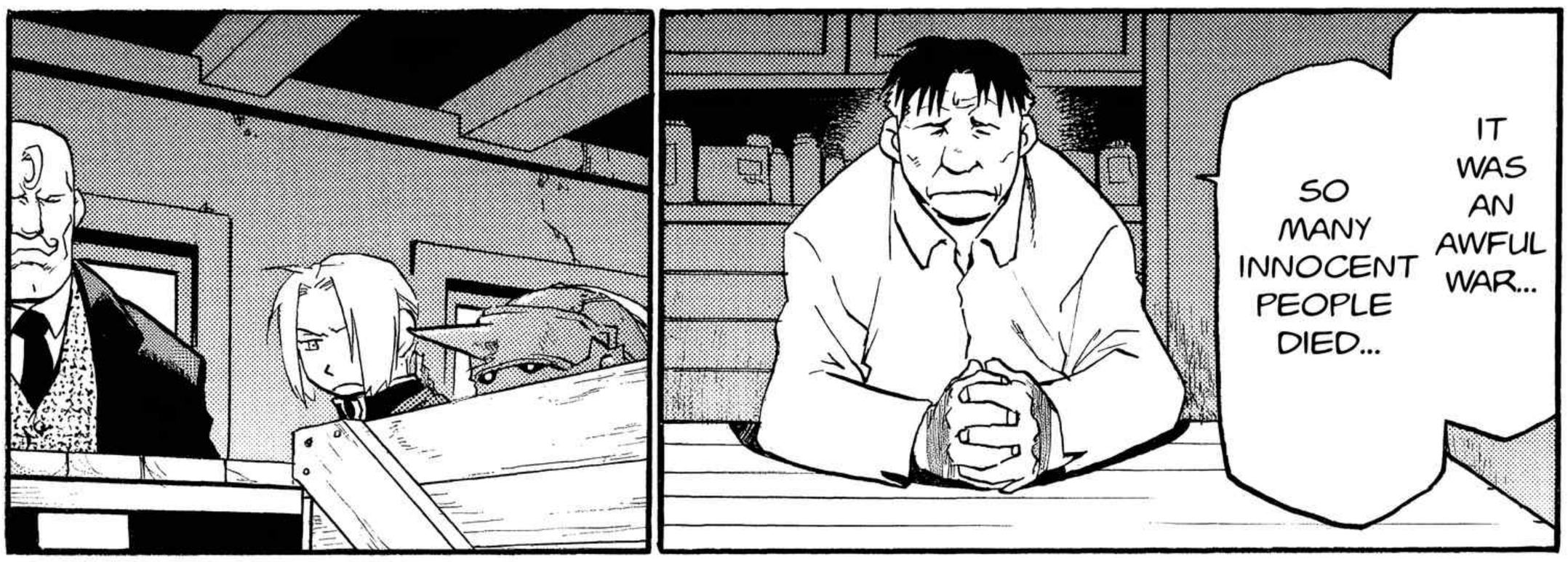
I SAID, PLEASE CALM DOWN.

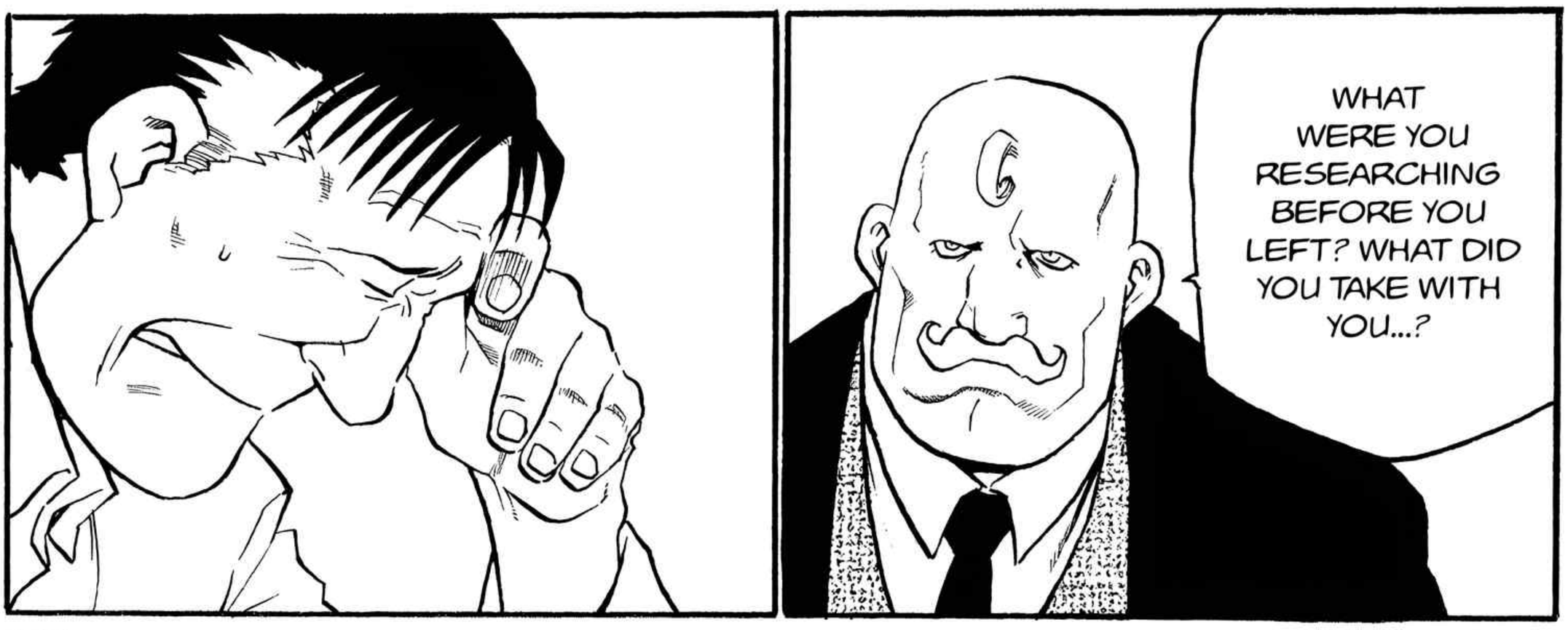
AI!

SMUSH

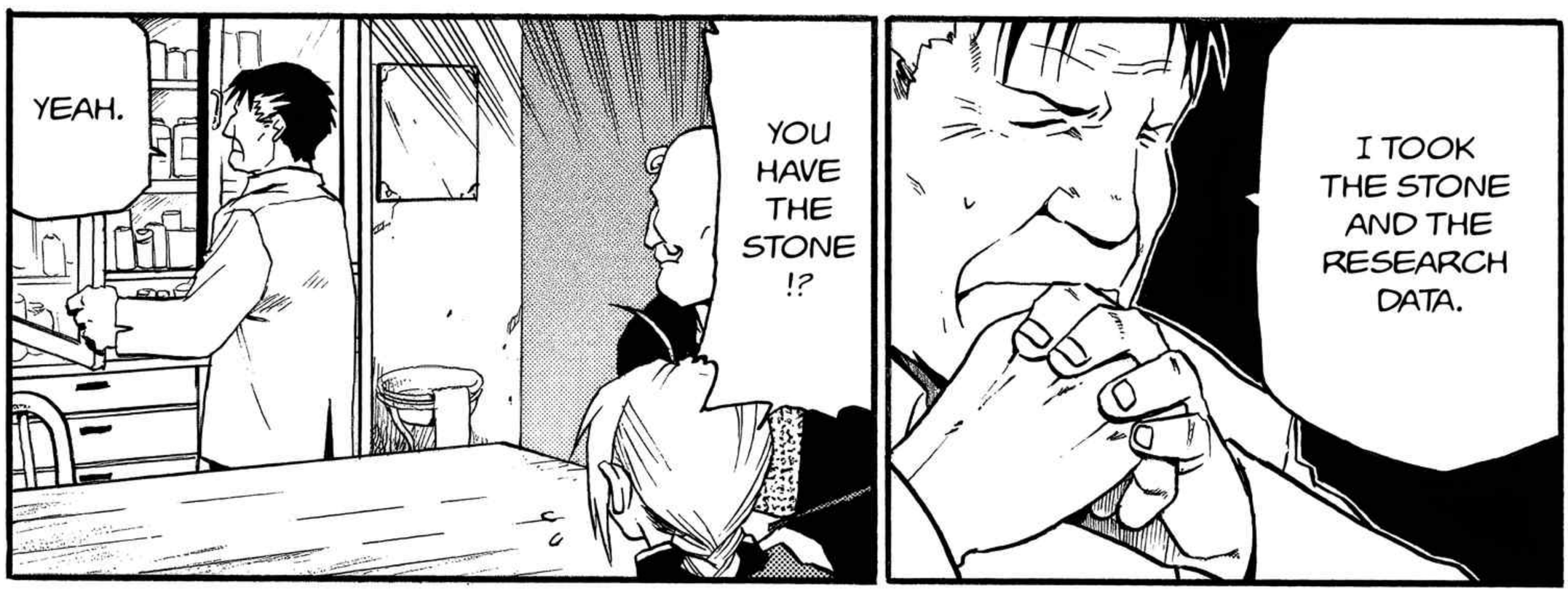
AND THEN SEEING IT USED IN THE CIVIL WAR TO SLAUGHTER HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE...

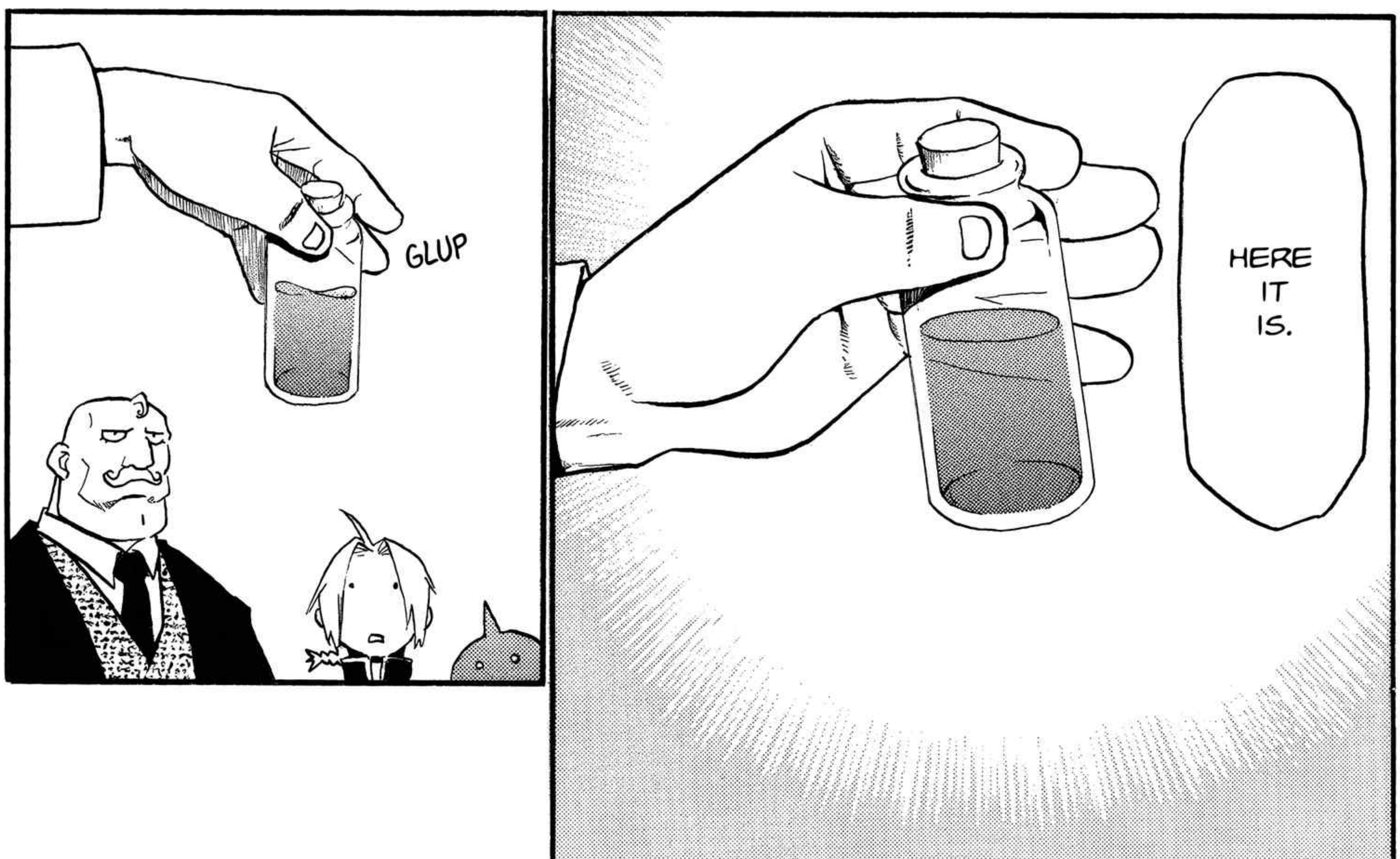
HAVING TO OBEY THEIR ORDERS... DIRTYING MY HANDS TO RESEARCH THE THINGS I DID...

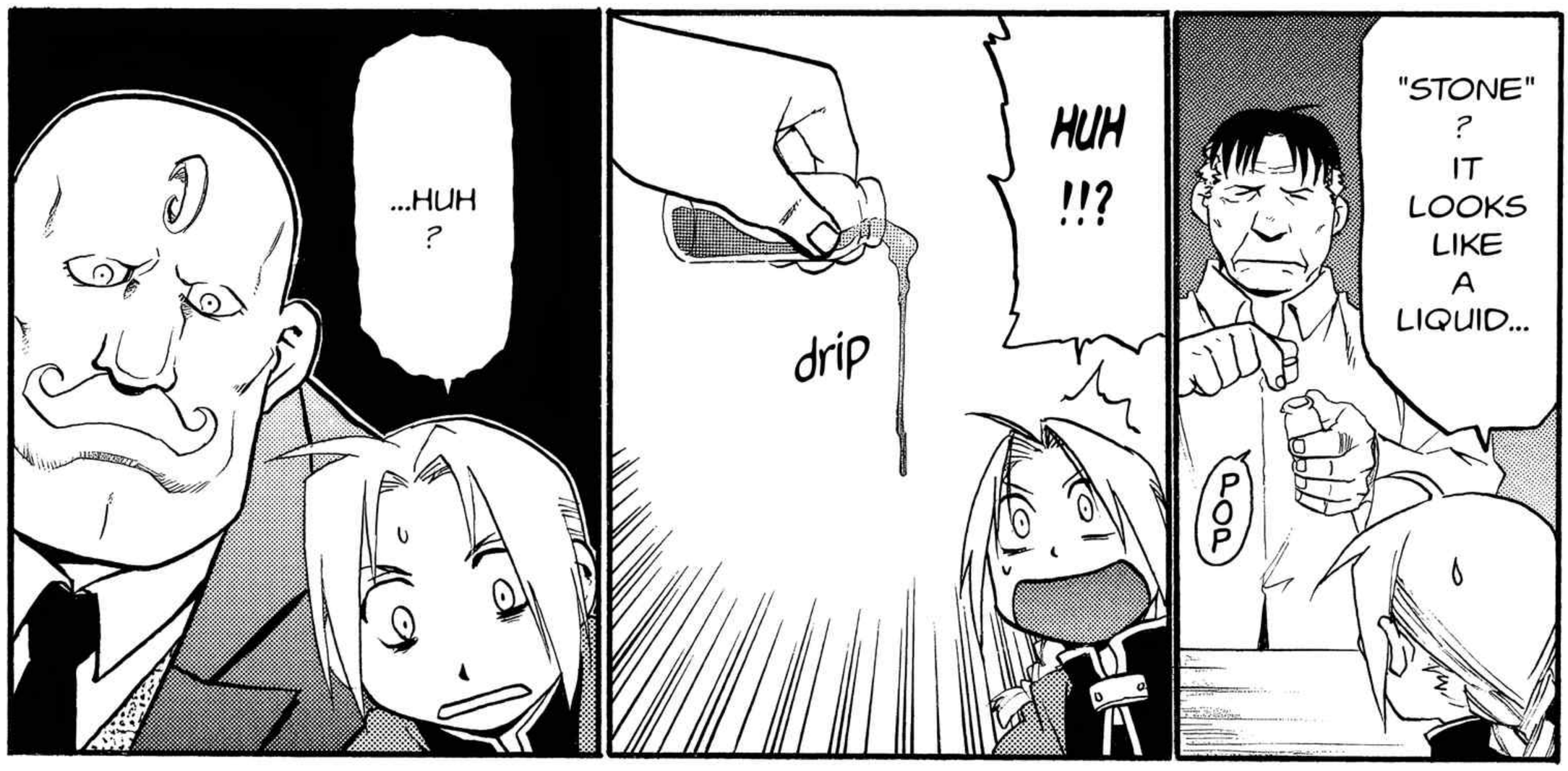


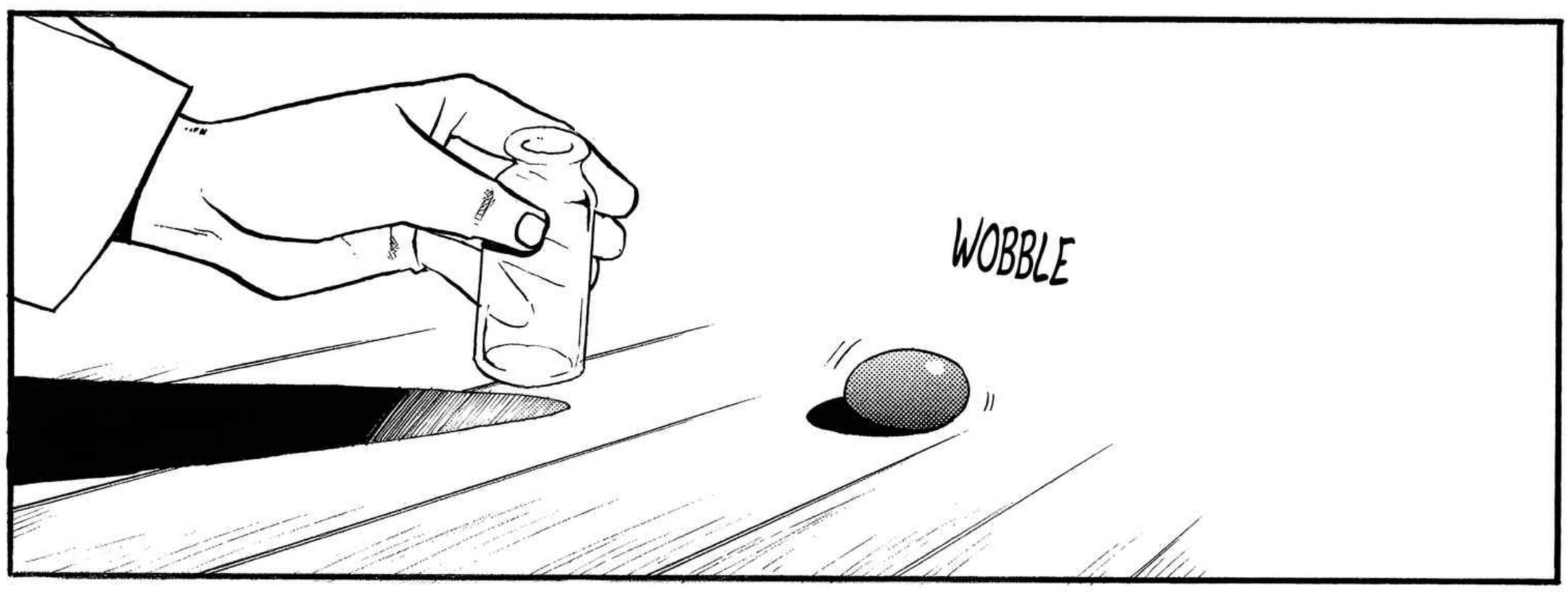


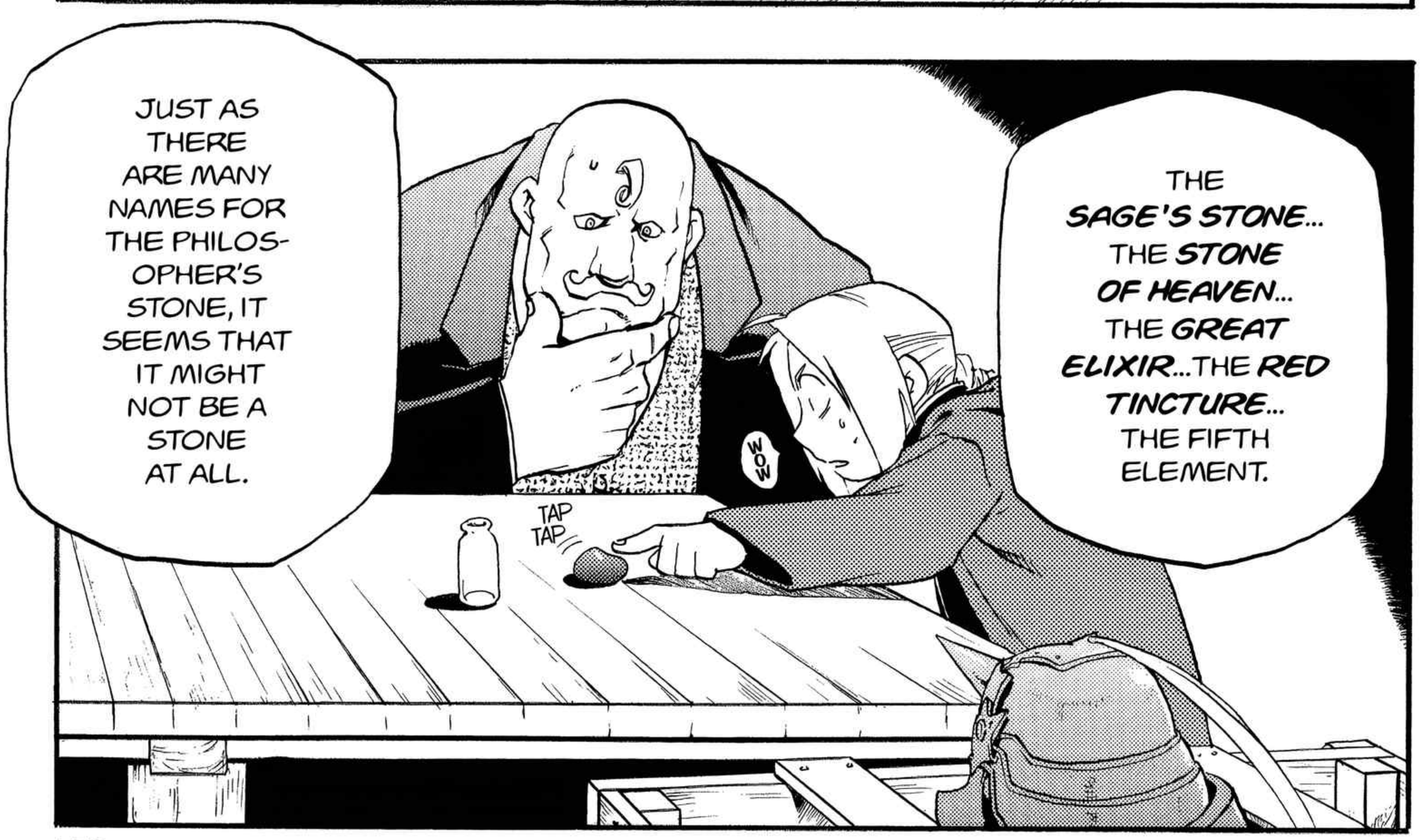
I WAS MAKING THE PHILOS-OPHER'S STONE.






...HUH ?
drip
HUH !!?
"STONE" ? IT LOOKS LIKE A LIQUID...
POP


WOBBLE


JUST AS THERE ARE MANY NAMES FOR THE PHILOS-OPHER'S STONE, IT SEEMS THAT IT MIGHT NOT BE A STONE AT ALL.
THE SAGE'S STONE... THE STONE OF HEAVEN... THE GREAT ELIXIR... THE RED TINCTURE... THE FIFTH ELEMENT.
WOW
TAP TAP

WA HA HA HA HA
AN IMPERFECT COM-POUND... SO THAT'S WHAT CORNELLO HAD...
BUT EVEN SO, COMPOUNDS LIKE THESE WERE SECRETLY USED THROUGHOUT THE CIVIL WAR, AND THEY WERE TREMENDOUSLY SUCCESSFUL.
IT'S AN IMPERFECT COMPOUND, AND IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOW WHEN IT WILL REACH ITS LIMITS AND CEASE TO WORK.
BUT THIS IS JUST SOMETHING THAT WAS CREATED FOR EXPERIMENTAL PURPOSES.
WHAT !?
DR. MARCOH! CAN YOU PLEASE SHOW ME YOUR DATA?
IT MAY BE IMPERFECT... BUT THE FACT THAT YOU MADE IT MEANS THAT IT MUST BE POSSIBLE TO MAKE THE PERFECT STONE SOMEDAY, RIGHT?
HE'S A STATE ALCHE-MIST.
MAJOR ARMSTRONG, WHO IS THIS CHILD...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN TO DO WITH SUCH A THING?

HE HAS A STATE LICENSE AT HIS AGE...? HE MUST HAVE BEEN LURED BY THE PROMISES OF PRIVILEGE AND RESEARCH MONEY... HOW FOOLISH!

THIS *BOY* ?

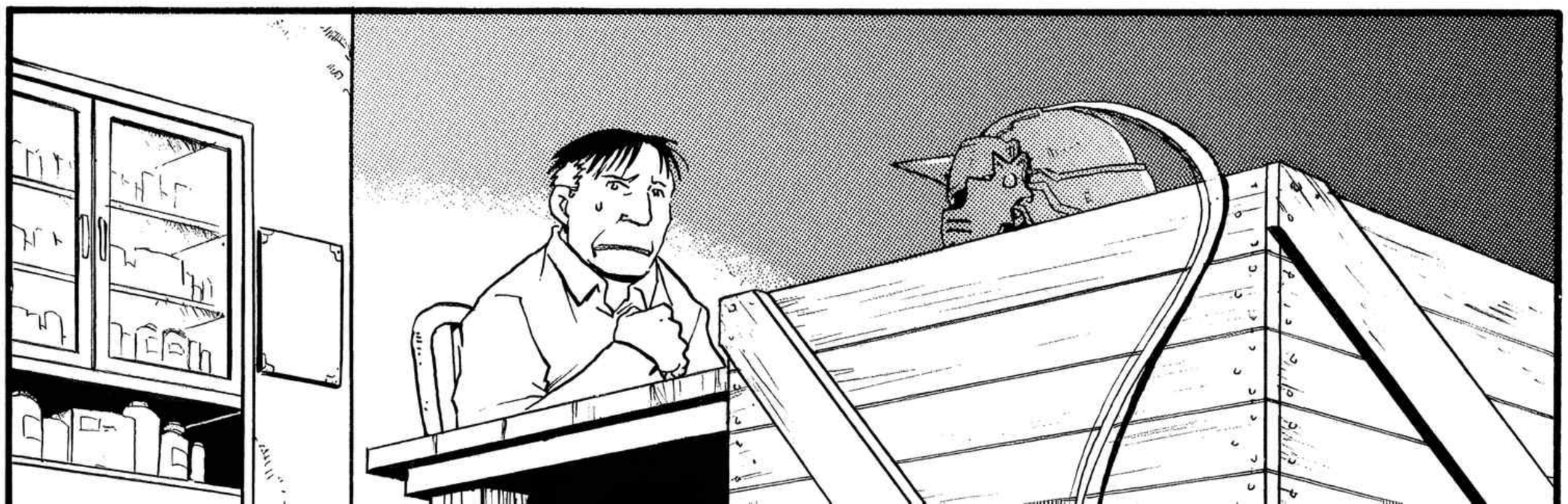
BUT YOU STILL...

DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY ALCHEMISTS THREW AWAY THEIR LICENSES AFTER THE WAR? I WASN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO HATED MYSELF FOR BEING USED AS A WEAPON...

I HAVE TO ACHIEVE MY GOAL...EVEN IF IT MEANS SLEEPING ON THIS BED OF NAILS...

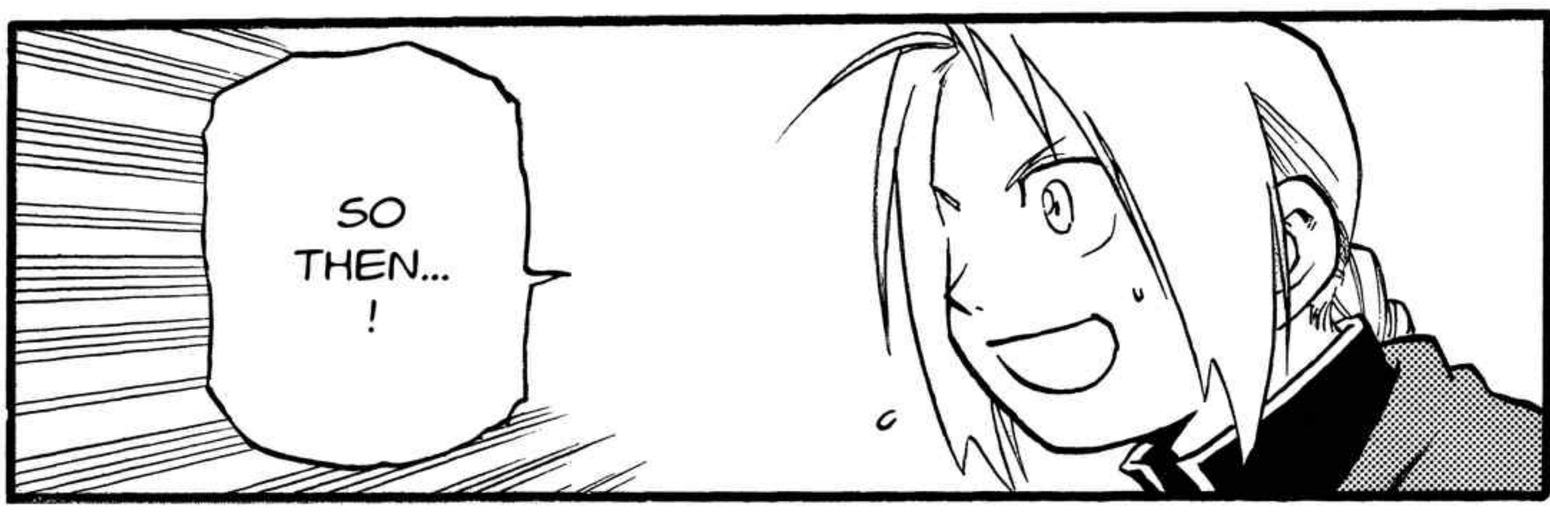
I KNOW IT WAS FOOLISH !

BUT *I HAD TO* !

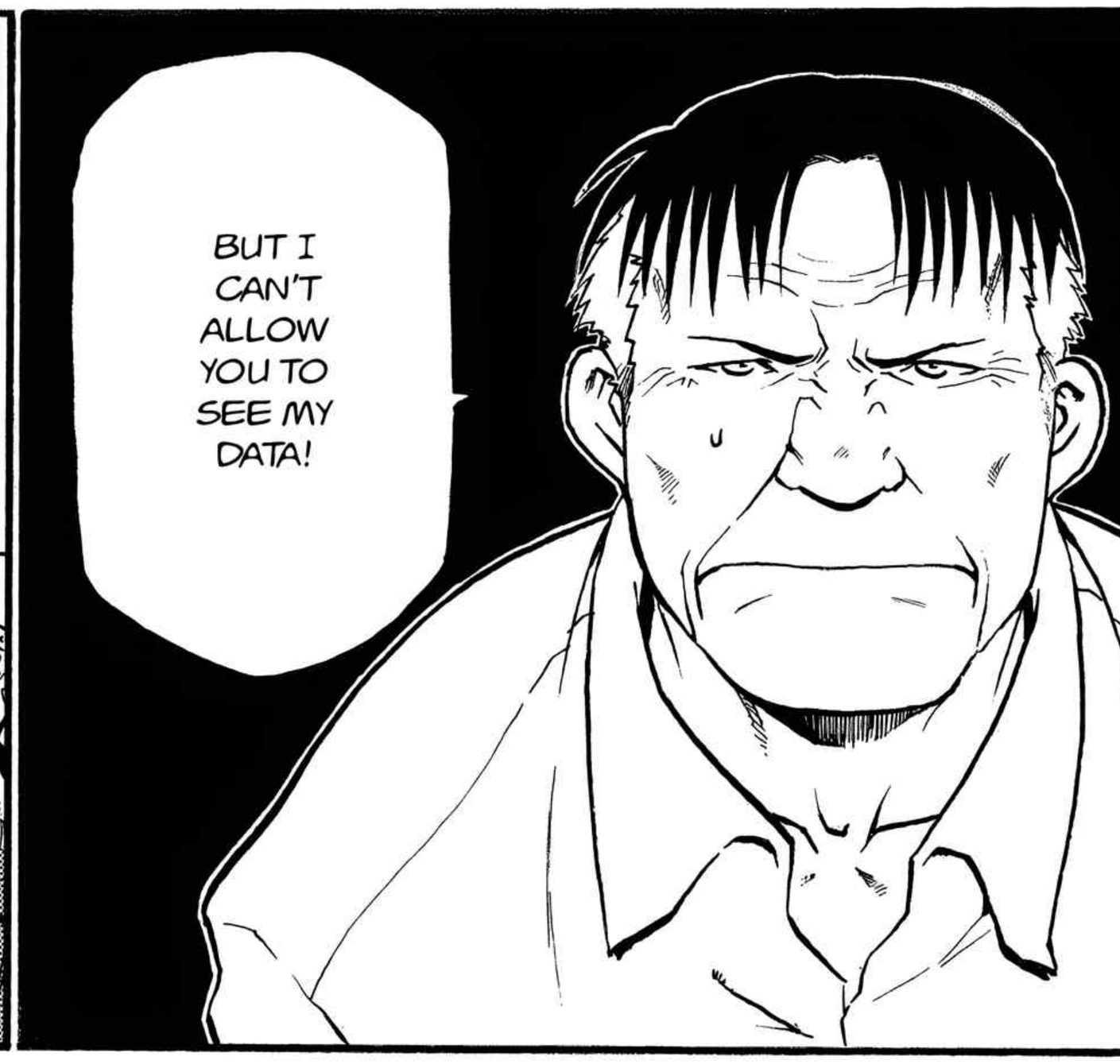


IF YOU HAVE THAT KIND OF TALENT, YOU MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO CREATE A COMPLETE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE.
I'M SURPRISED THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO TRANSMUTE A SOUL...

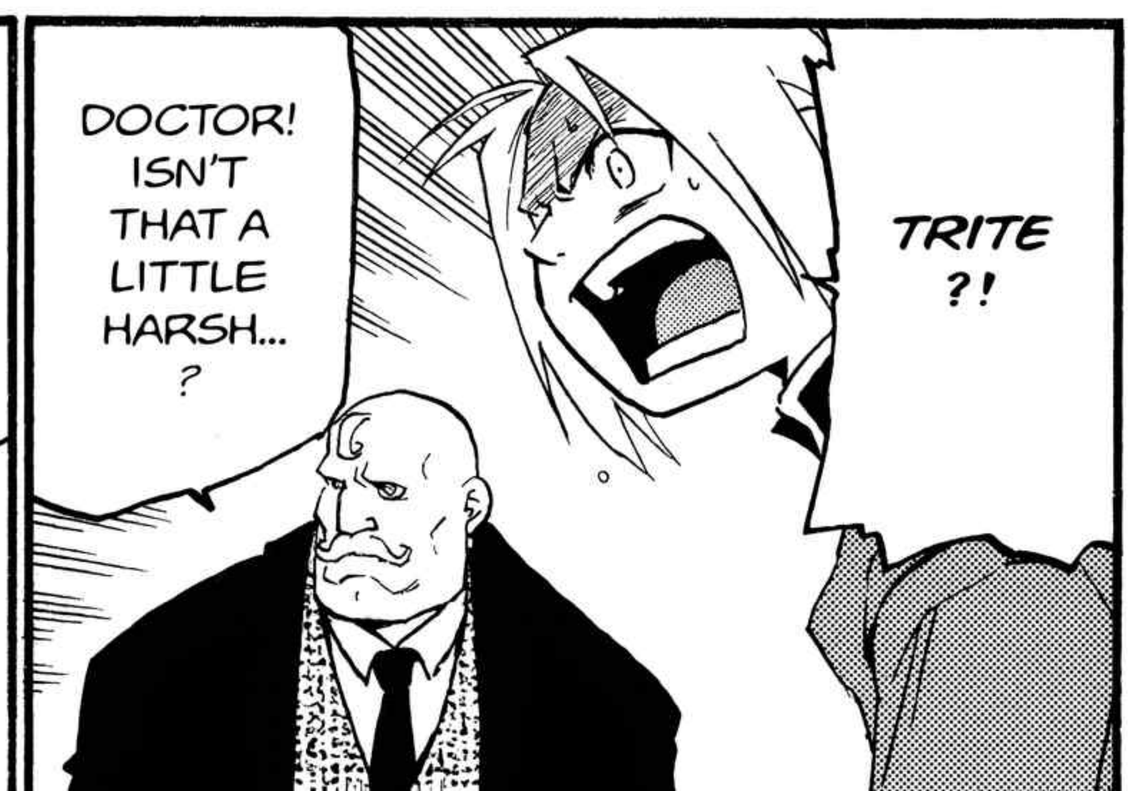
SO... YOU COMMITTED THE ULTIMATE SIN...


SO THEN...!

GETTING YOUR ORIGINAL BODY BACK...THE STONE SHOULDN'T BE USED FOR SOMETHING SO TRITE.
I'VE SAID EVERYTHING I'M GOING TO SAY.
BUT WHY NOT?!


BUT I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO SEE MY DATA!

IT'S THE WORK OF THE DEVIL.
NO ONE WILL EVER SEE MY RESEARCH.


DOCTOR! ISN'T THAT A LITTLE HARSH...?
TRITE?!

AND IT CAN ONLY LEAD STRAIGHT TO HELL.

I'VE ALREADY SEEN HELL !

...NO.
PLEASE GO.
I'VE ALREADY SEEN HELL !

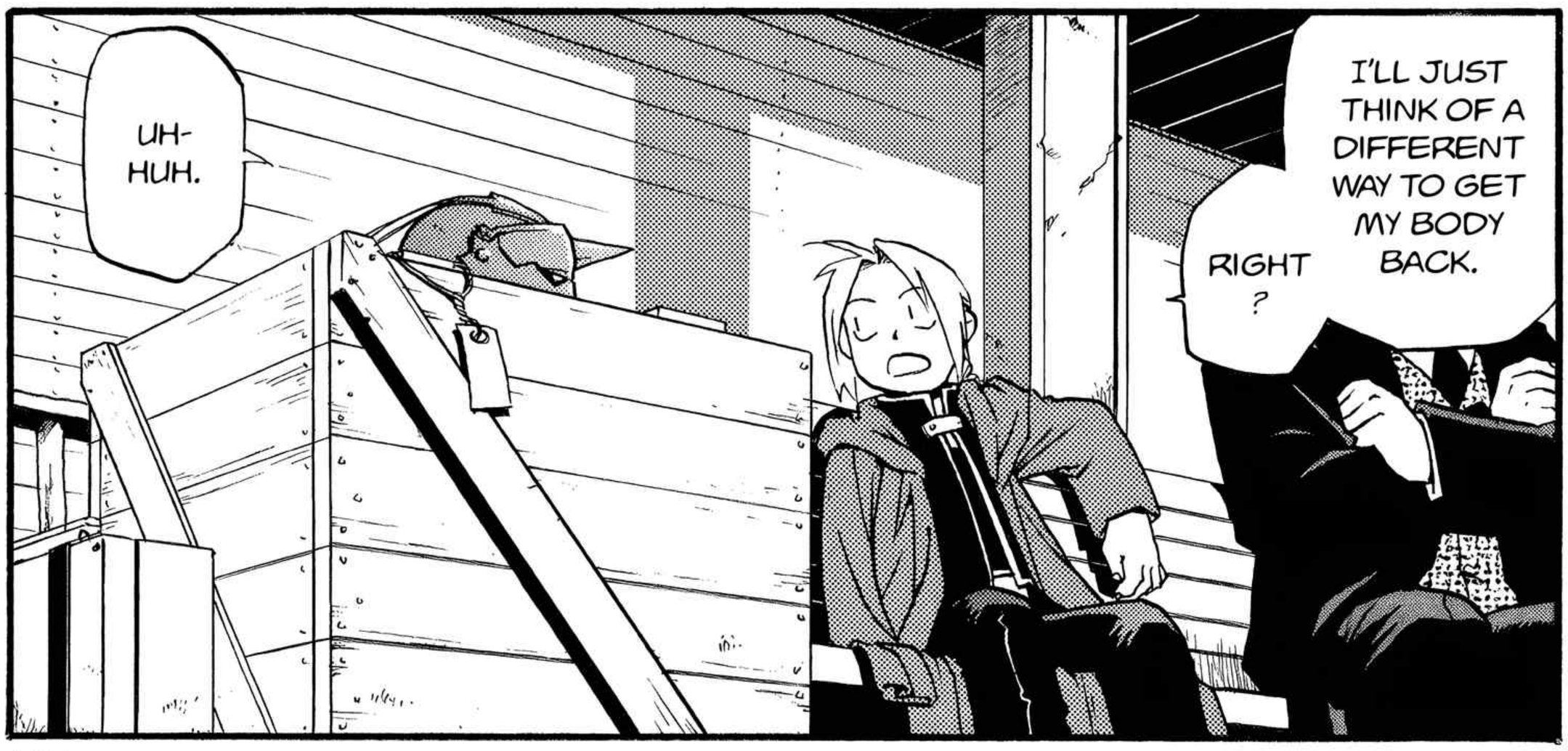
YEAH...I WANTED IT SO BAD THAT I COULD TASTE IT...

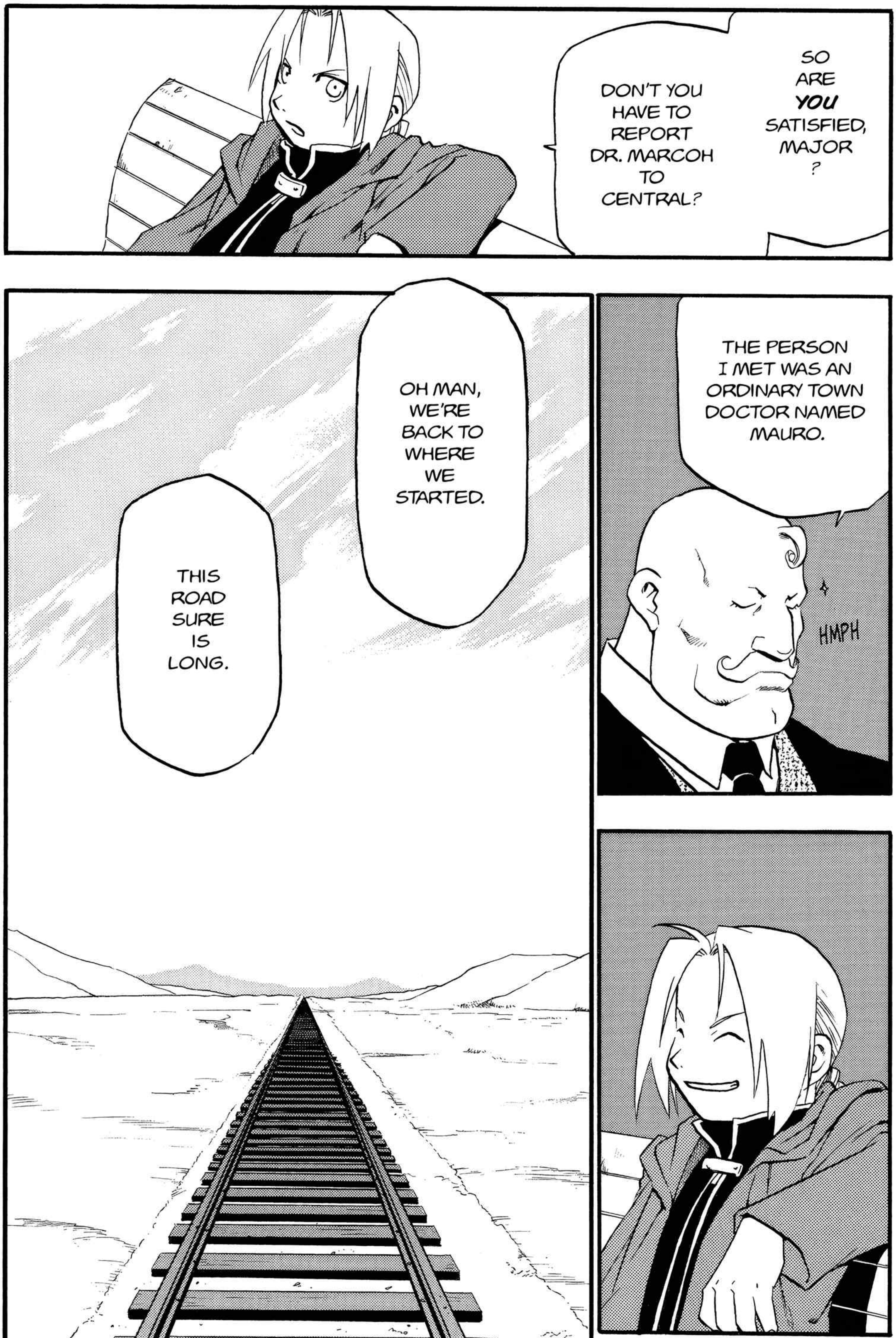
YOU COULDN'T LOOK AT THE DATA, BUT YOU COULD HAVE TAKEN THE STONE BY FORCE IF YOU'D WANTED TO.

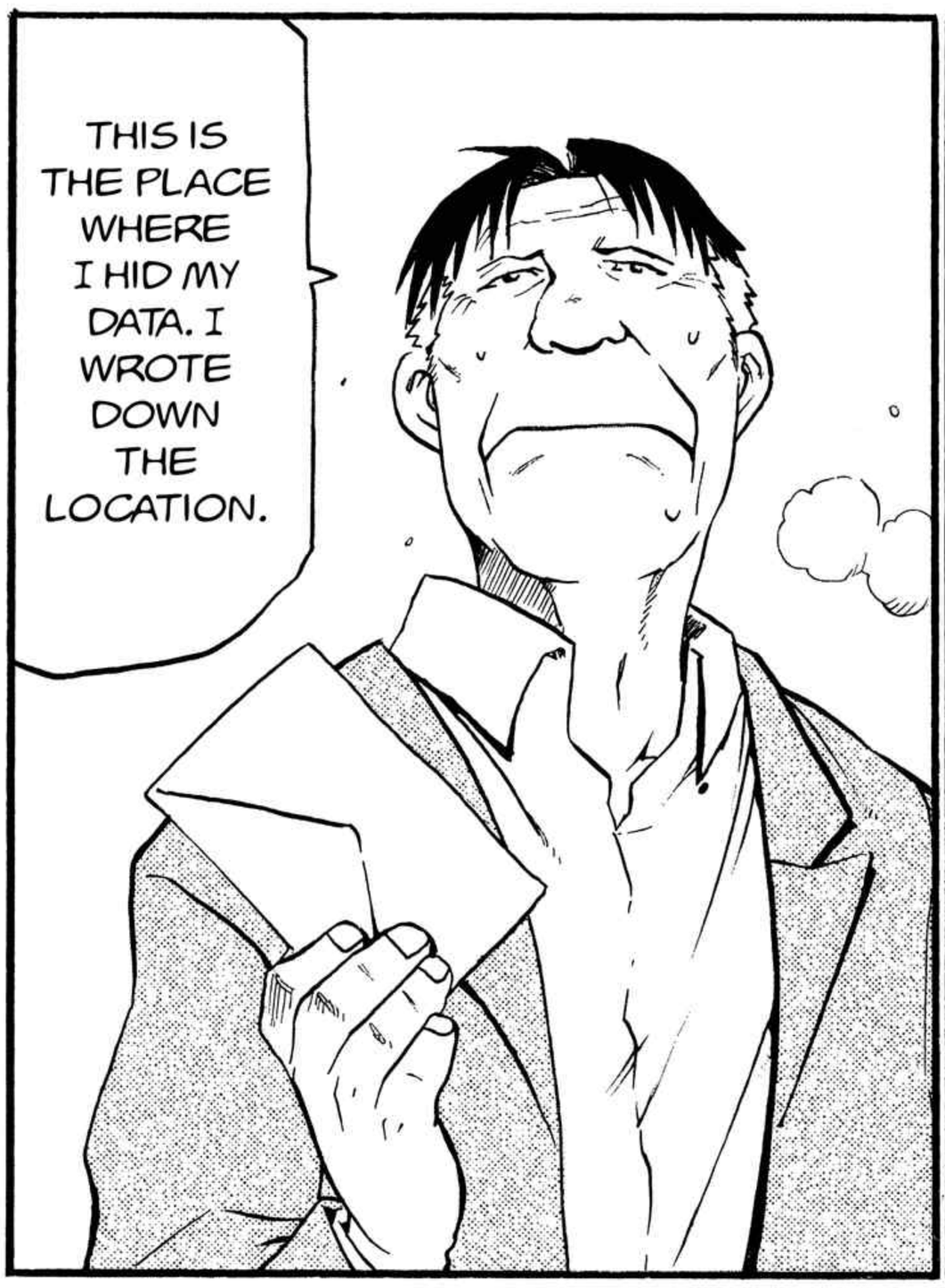
ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH HOW THAT TURNED OUT?

HUH ?

BUT WHEN I THOUGHT ABOUT THE PEOPLE WE MET ON THE WAY TO DR. MARCOH'S HOUSE...

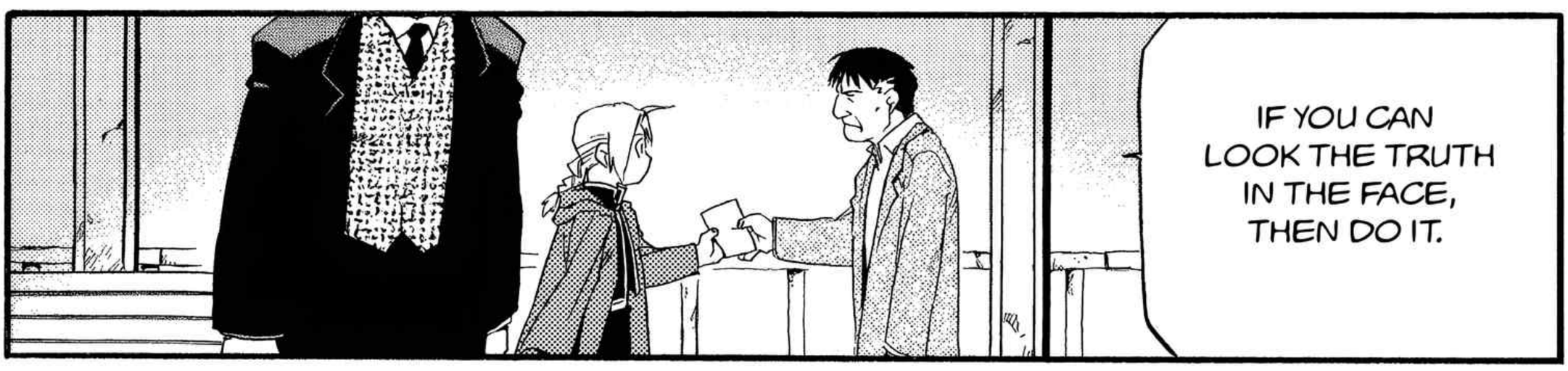


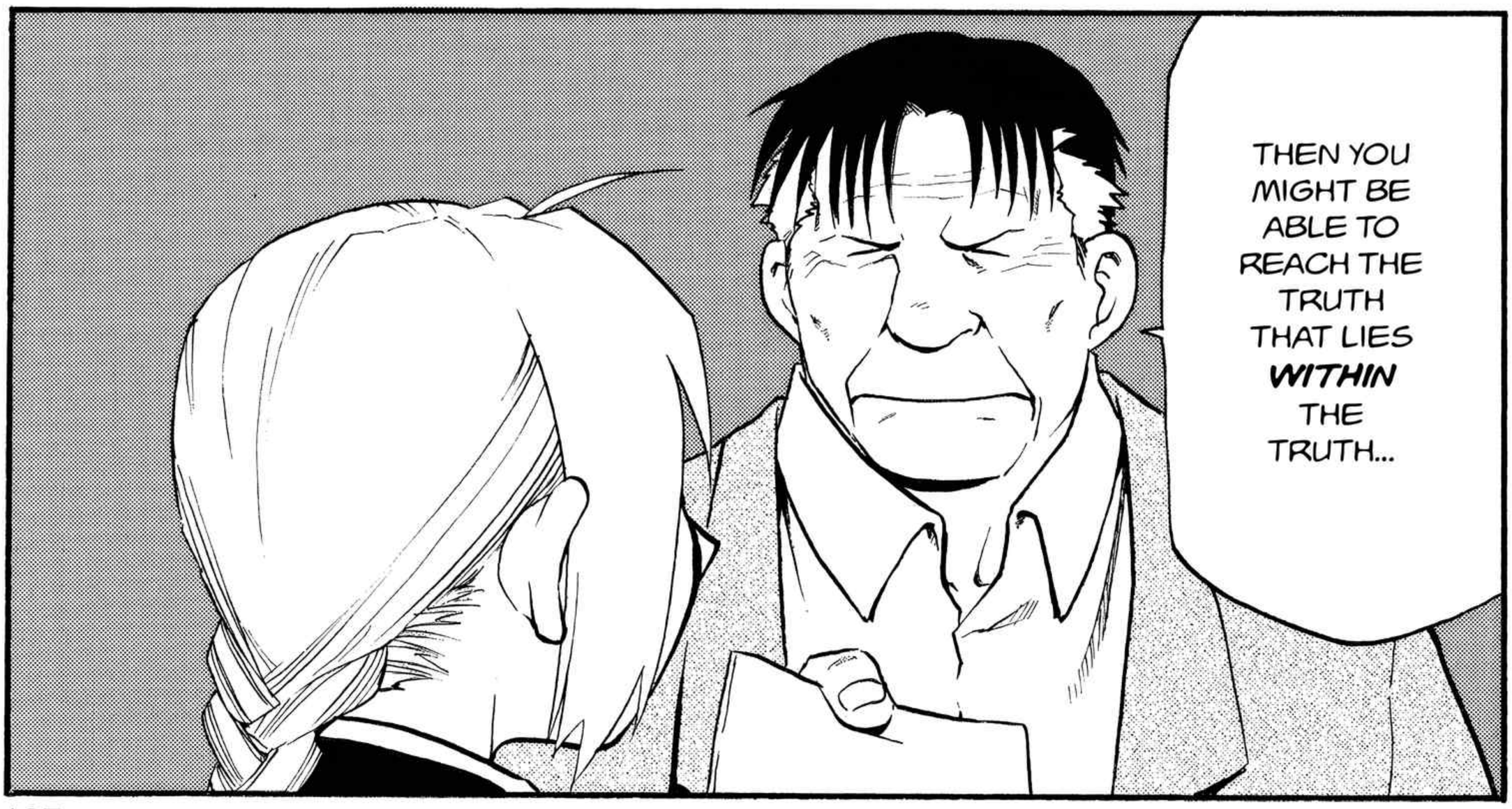

DON'T YOU HAVE TO REPORT DR. MARCOH TO CENTRAL?
SO ARE YOU SATISFIED, MAJOR ?
OH MAN, WE'RE BACK TO WHERE WE STARTED.
THIS ROAD SURE IS LONG.
THE PERSON I MET WAS AN ORDINARY TOWN DOCTOR NAMED MAURO.
HMPH

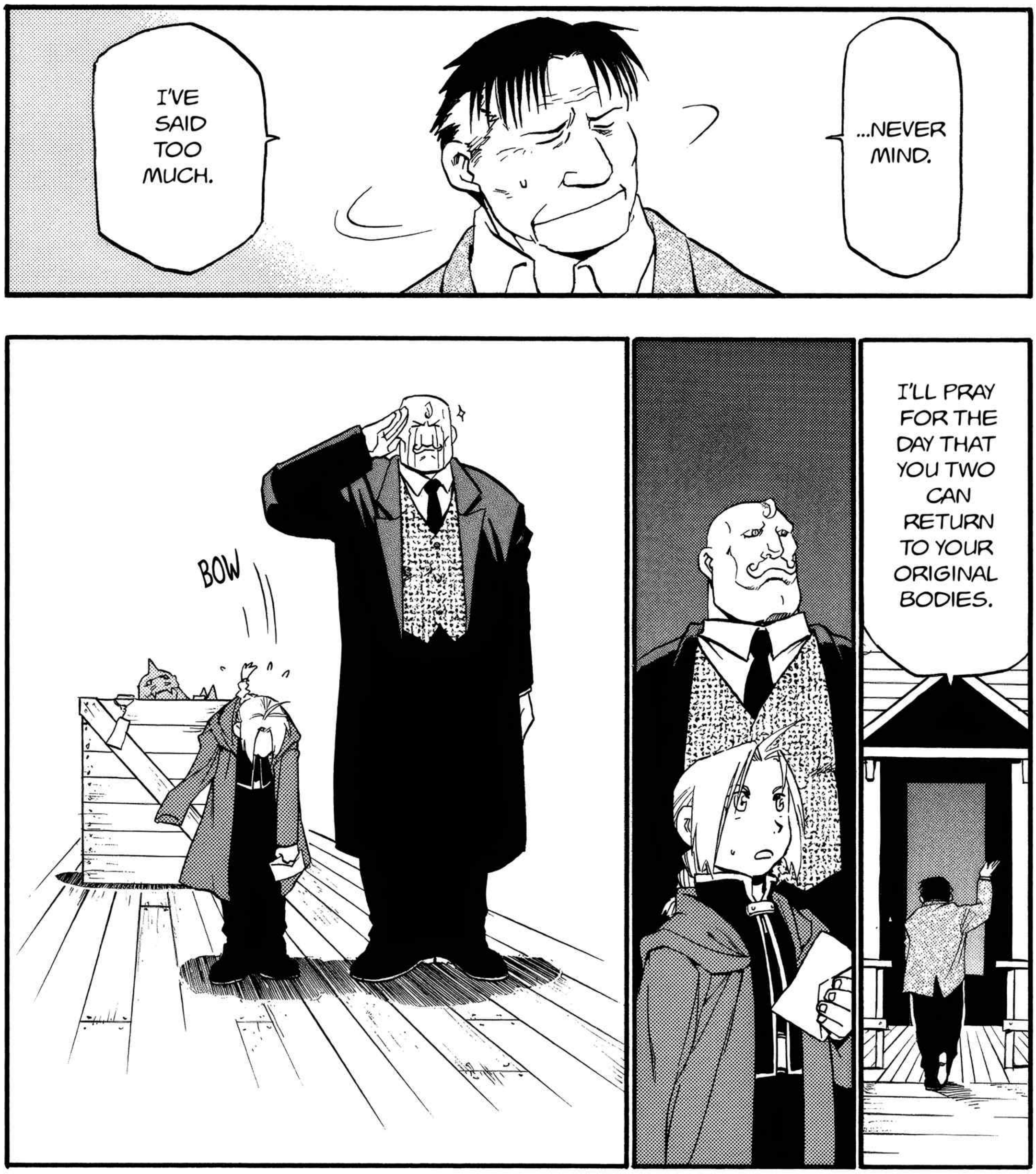

THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE I HID MY DATA. I WROTE DOWN THE LOCATION.

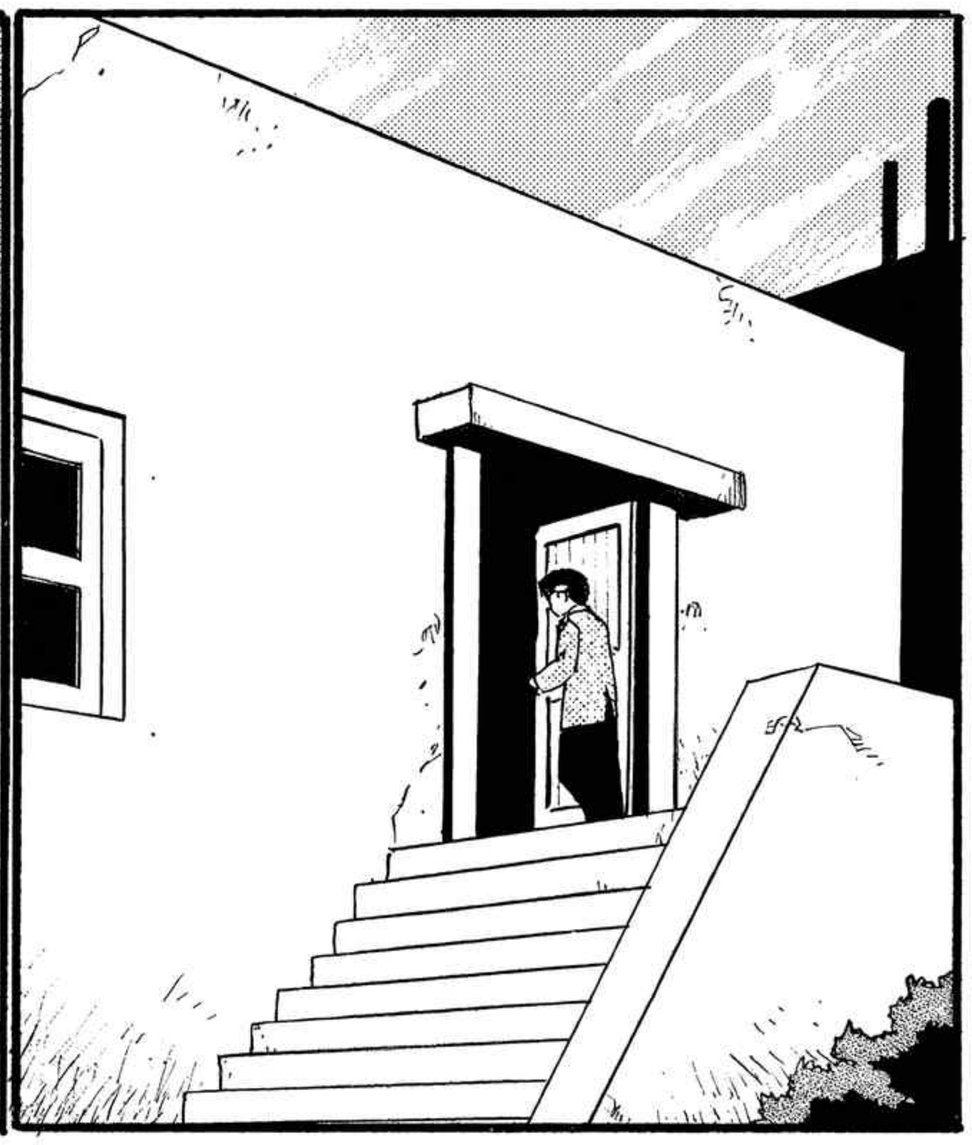
DR. MARCOH...?

HEY YOU!

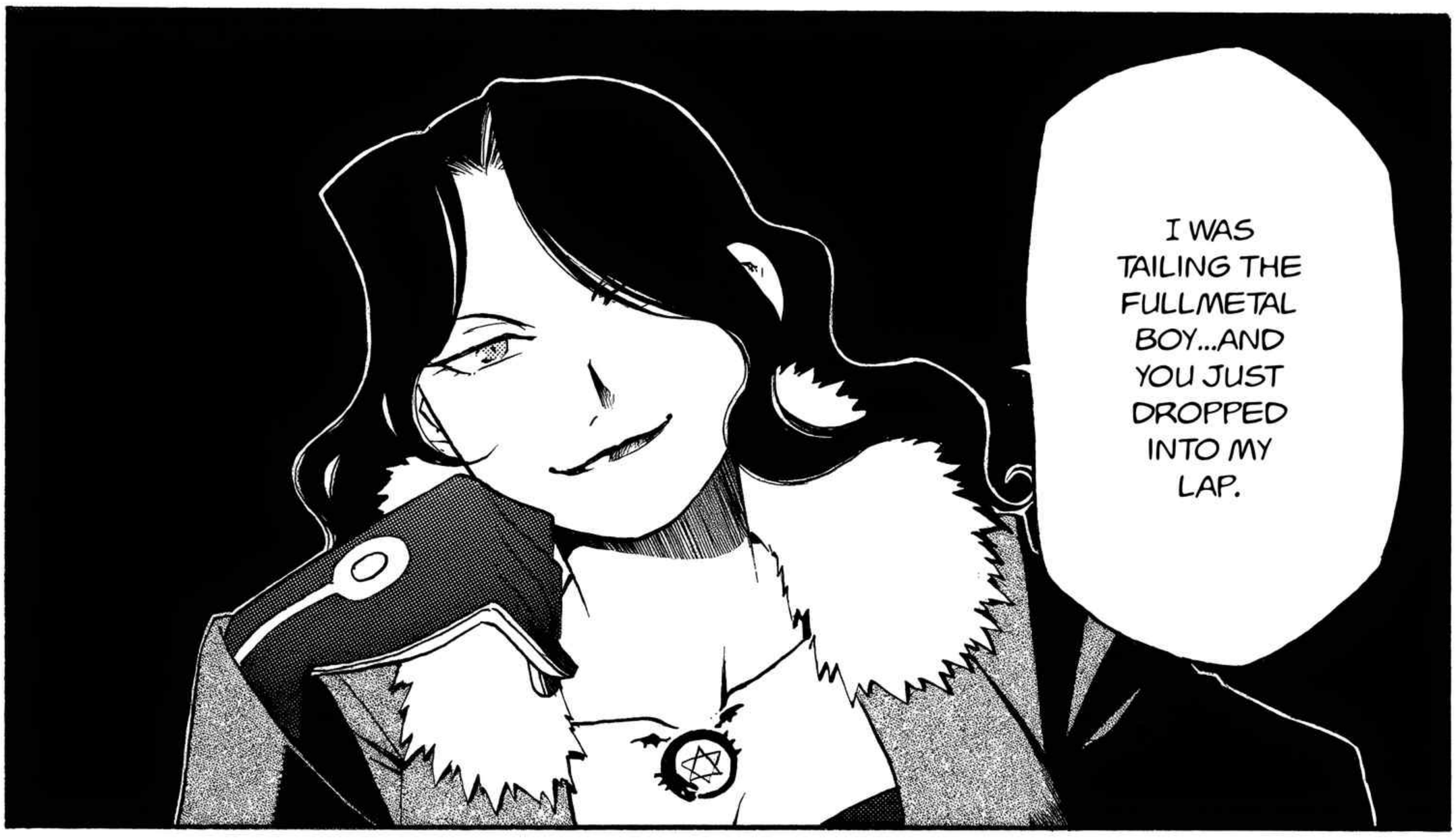

IF YOU CAN LOOK THE TRUTH IN THE FACE, THEN DO IT.

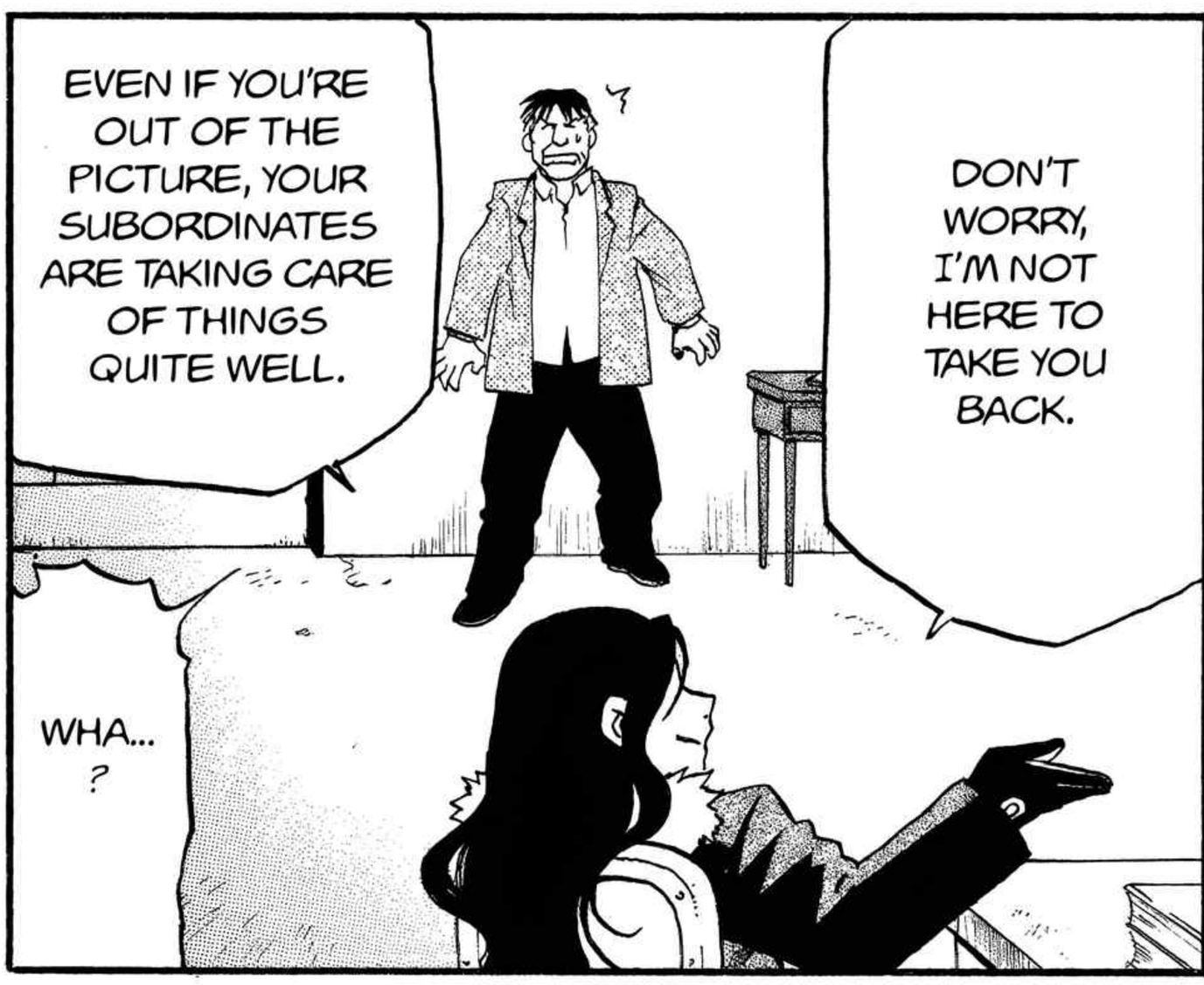

THEN YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO REACH THE TRUTH THAT LIES ***WITHIN*** THE TRUTH...

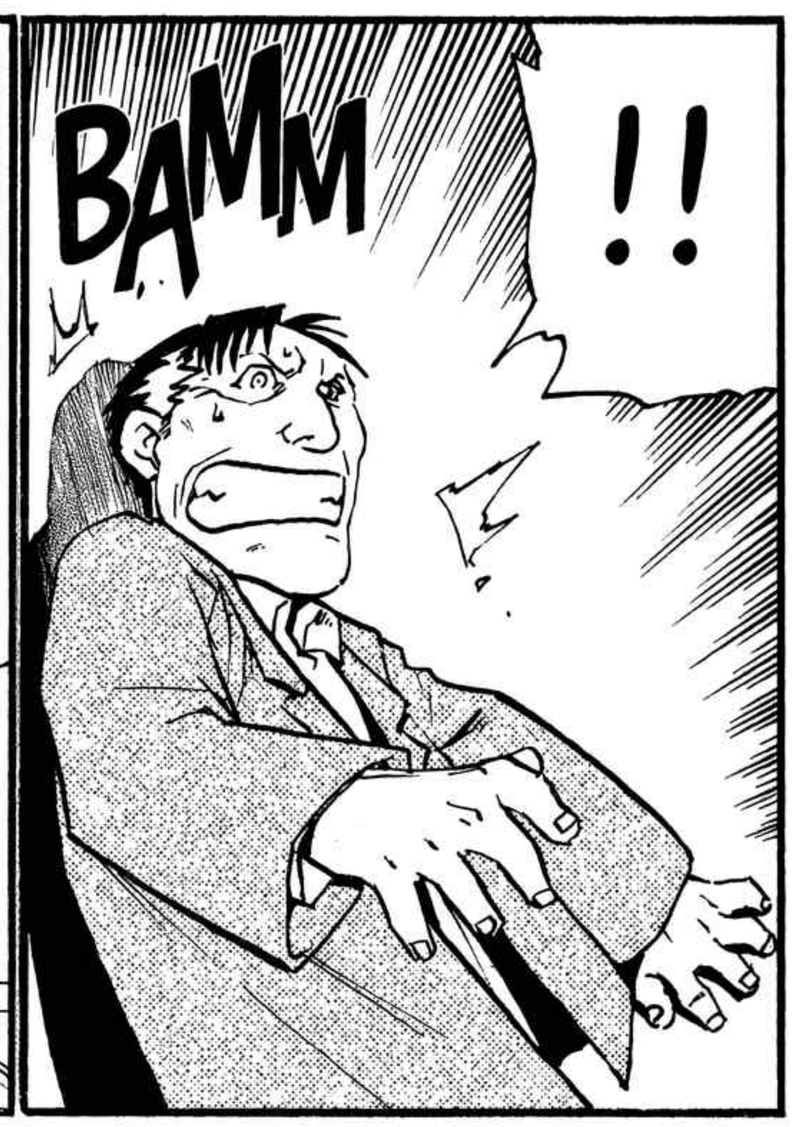

I'VE SAID TOO MUCH.
...NEVER MIND.
BOW
I'LL PRAY FOR THE DAY THAT YOU TWO CAN RETURN TO YOUR ORIGINAL BODIES.



IT'S BEEN A WHILE, MARCOH.

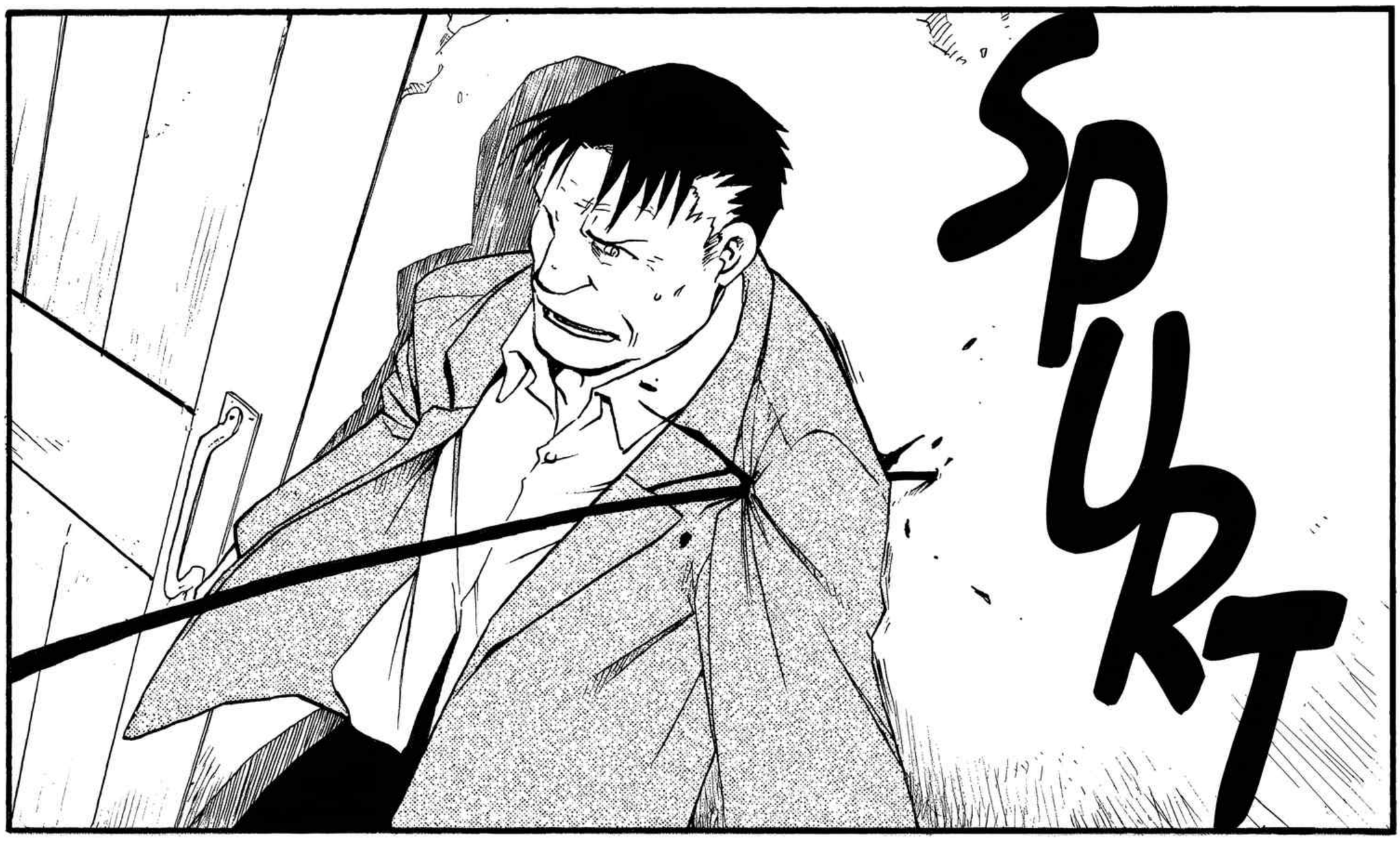

I WAS TAILING THE FULLMETAL BOY...AND YOU JUST DROPPED INTO MY LAP.


EVEN IF YOU'RE OUT OF THE PICTURE, YOUR SUBORDINATES ARE TAKING CARE OF THINGS QUITE WELL.
DON'T WORRY, I'M NOT HERE TO TAKE YOU BACK.
WHA... ?


BAMM
!!

OH MY...PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT WE WERE THE ONES WHO TAUGHT YOU HOW TO MAKE PHILOSOPHER'S STONES.
ARE YOU...
ARE YOU STILL MAKING THOSE HORRIBLE THINGS !?

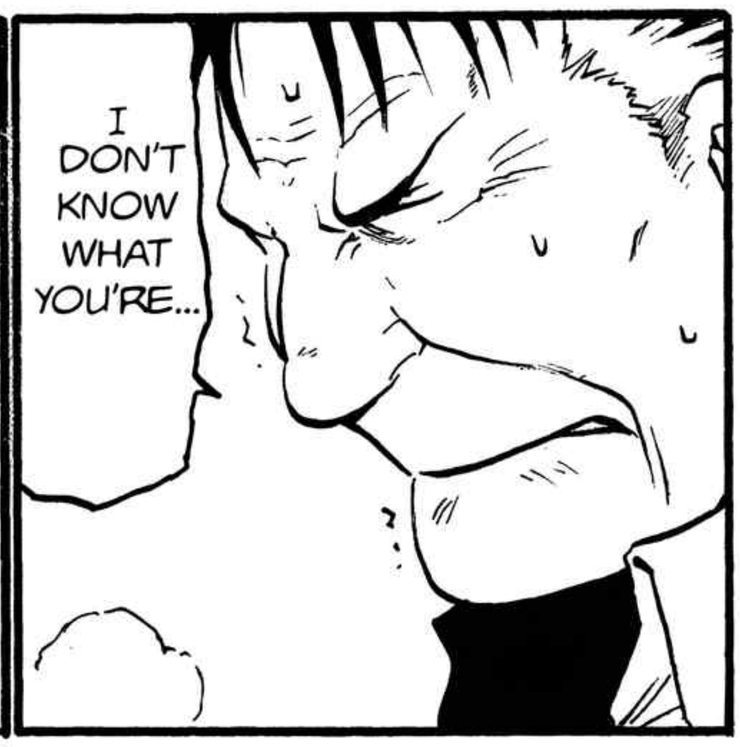
YOUR LEAVING, AND TAKING YOUR DATA, DIDN'T SLOW DOWN OUR RESEARCH AT ALL.
I WANTED TO BELIEVE THAT I HAD MADE A MISTAKE AND THAT IT WAS ALL A TERRIBLE DREAM...
SO I WAS RIGHT.
YOU STARTED TO HAVE SUSPICIONS TOO, DIDN'T YOU? THAT'S WHY YOU LEFT THE LAB...
ISN'T THAT SO ?
BUT THAT DATA YOU TOOK... !
unh...
YOU DEVIL... !!
IF AN ORDINARY PERSON SEES IT, IT'S NO BIG DEAL. BUT IF AN ALCHEMIST OF THAT BOY'S LEVEL SEES IT, IT COULD CAUSE A LOT OF TROUBLE.


SPURT

THE DATA YOU STOLE...
YOU TOLD HIM WHERE IT IS, DIDN'T YOU?

AAAGGHH!
DON'T GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS.

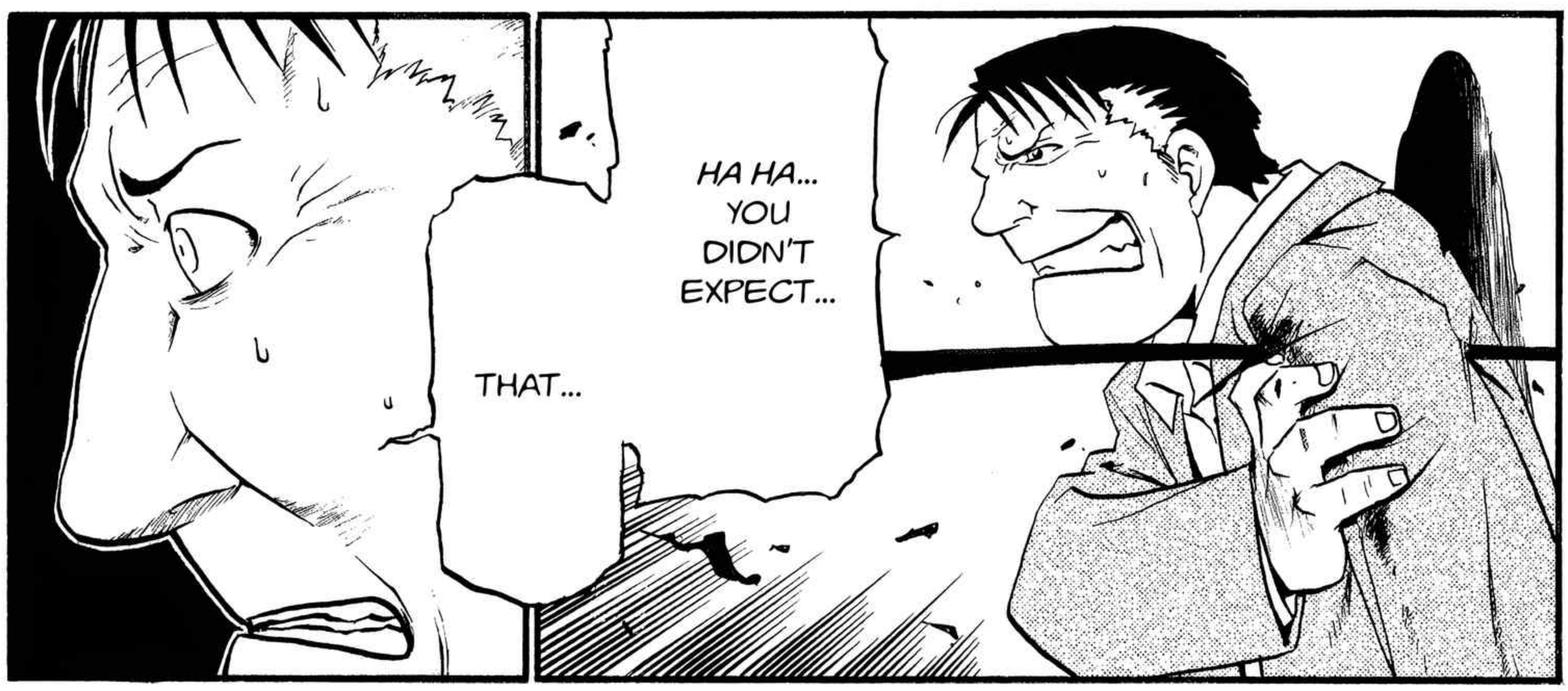
GUAGGH!
TWIST
DON'T LIE TO ME.


I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE...

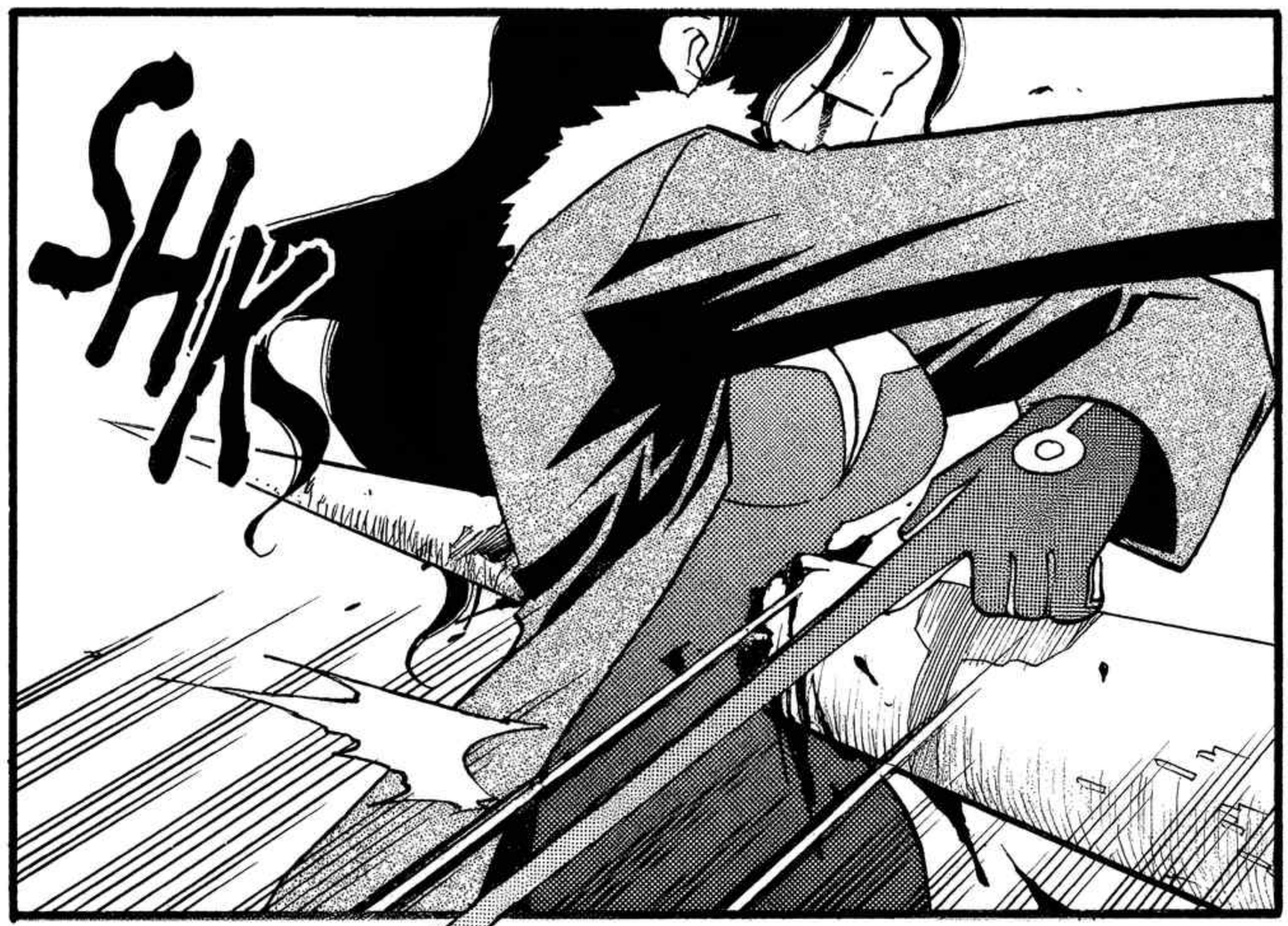
THAT BOY IS SMART...
HEH...
I'VE GOT A LOT OF THINGS TO DO, MARCOH.
WHEN HE SEES THAT DATA, HE'LL EVENTUALLY FIGURE OUT THE TRUTH...
HE'LL REALIZE WHAT YOU AND THE OTHERS ARE TRYING TO DO.
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR CHIT-CHAT.
I'LL NEVER ALLOW THAT TO HAPPEN.

OH, YOU WON'T ?
BECAUSE I'VE GOT YOU !
YOU'RE GOING TO DIE HERE!
SKSH
HA HA HA HA HA! YOU DON'T HAVE A CHOICE !

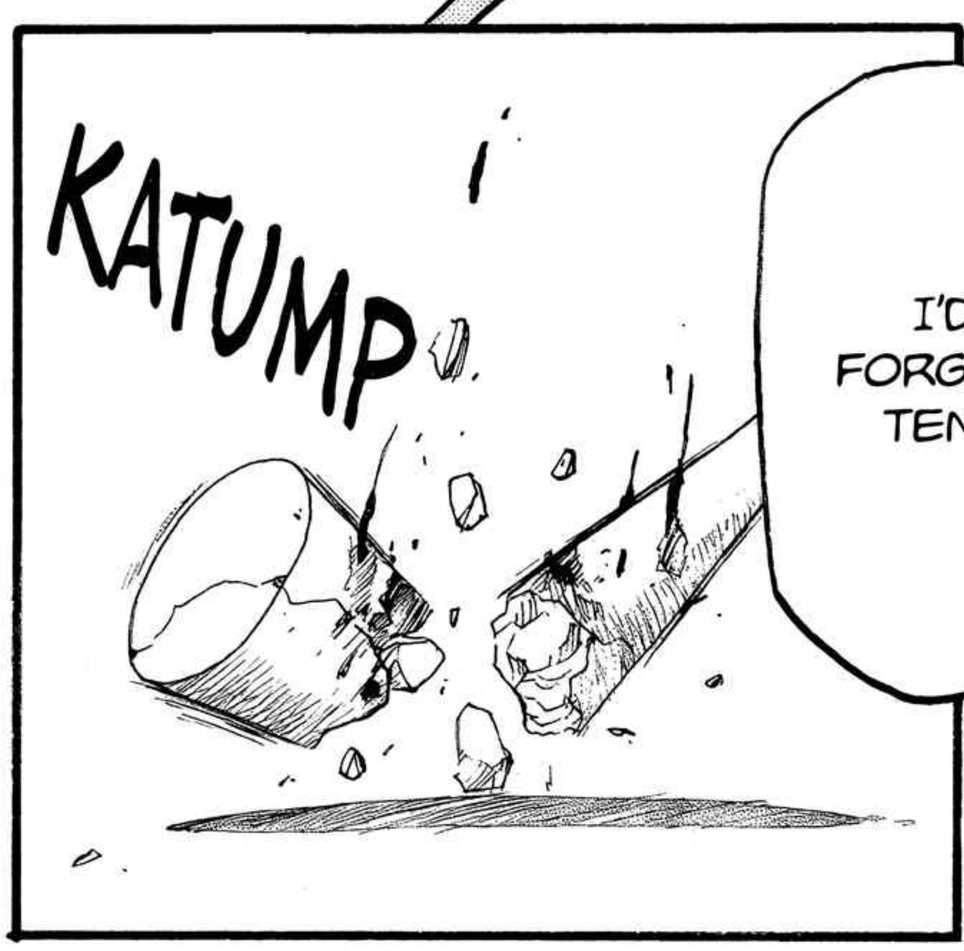
DOMM



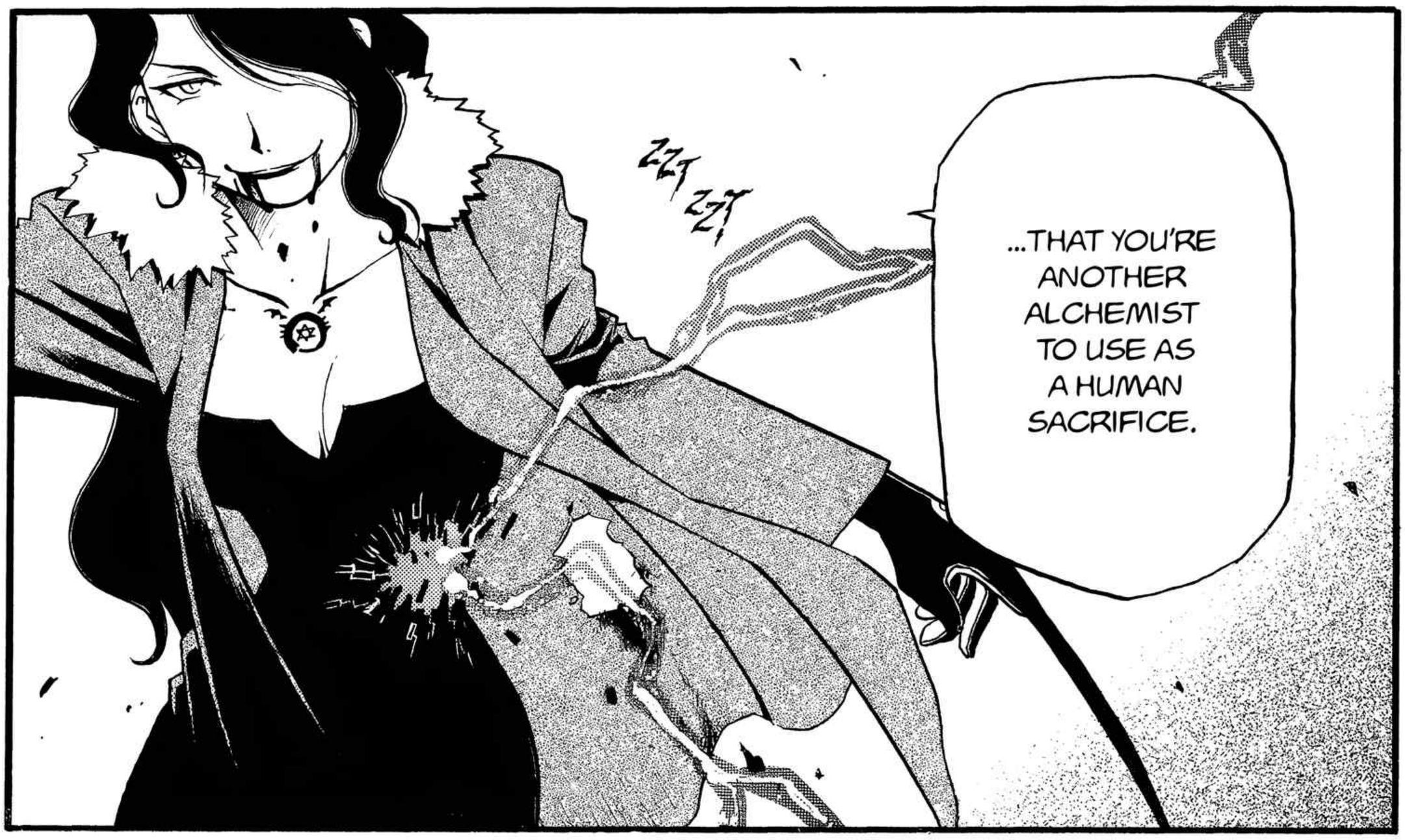
NOW YOU'VE MADE ME DIE ONCE.
HOW MEAN OF YOU...


SHRS

...!!


KATUMP
I'D FORGOT-TEN...

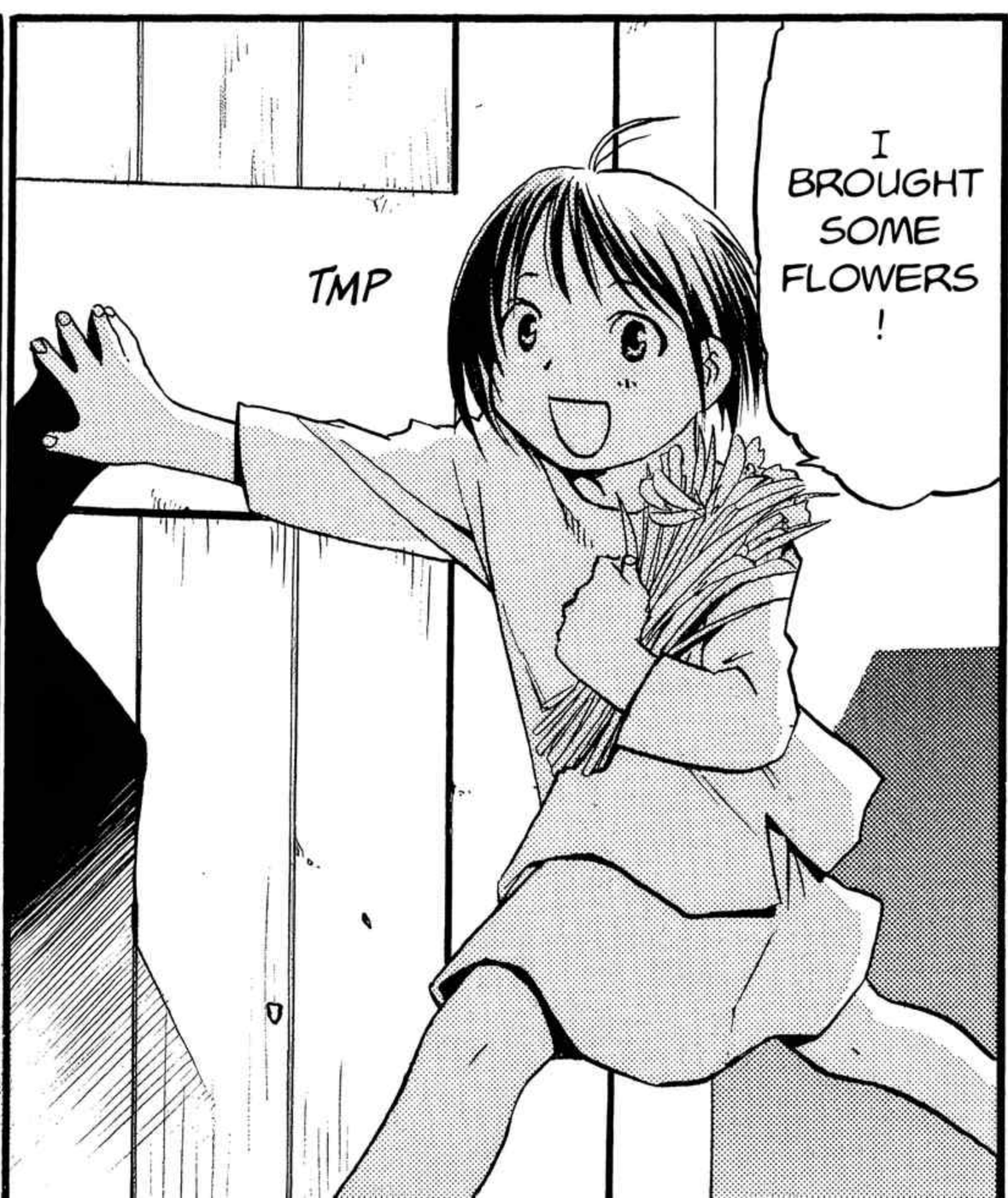
SNIK


ZZT ZZT
...THAT YOU'RE ANOTHER ALCHEMIST TO USE AS A HUMAN SACRIFICE.

WELL NOW.
WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH YOU?

NO...
THIS IS IMPOS-SIBLE...!

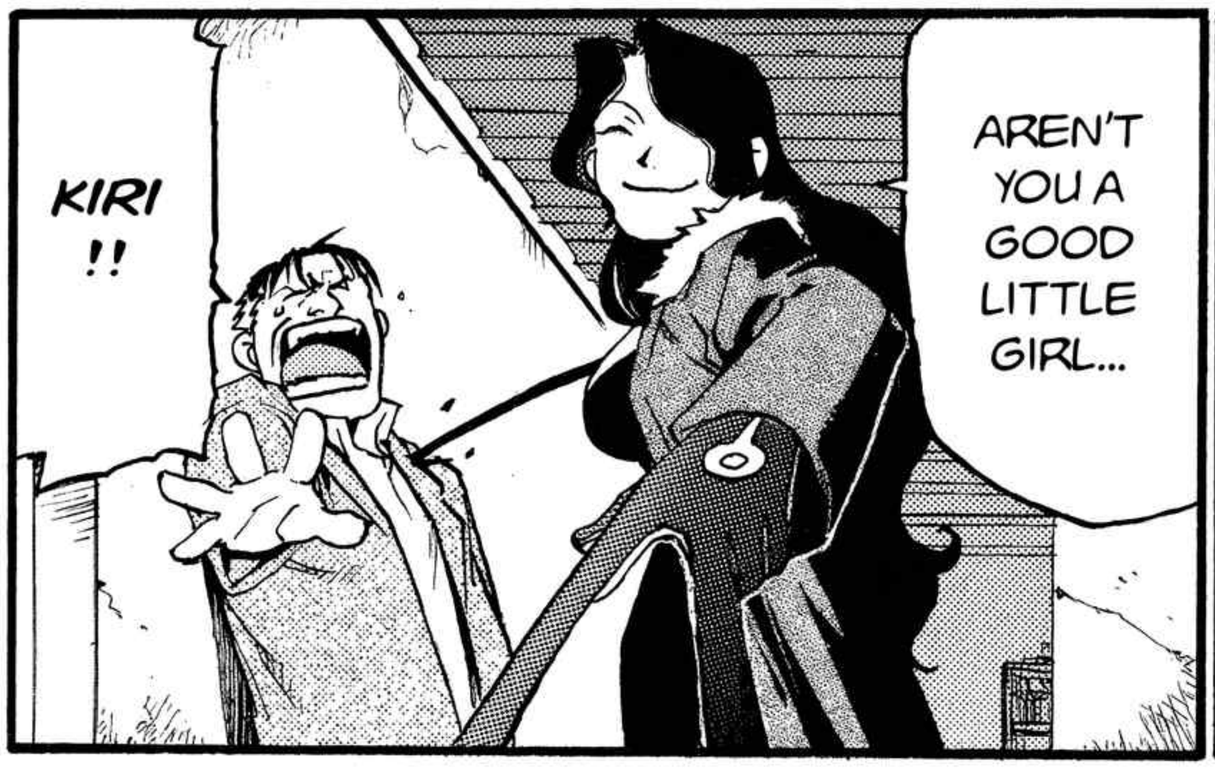
!!
KIRI! STAY BACK !!

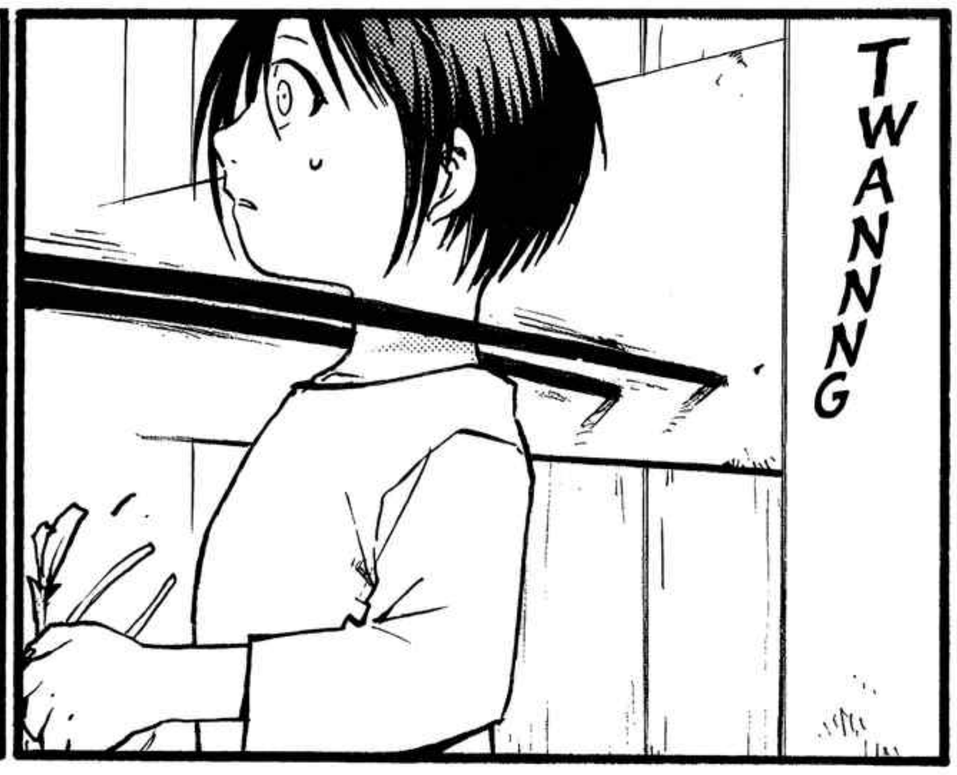

TMP
I BROUGHT SOME FLOWERS!

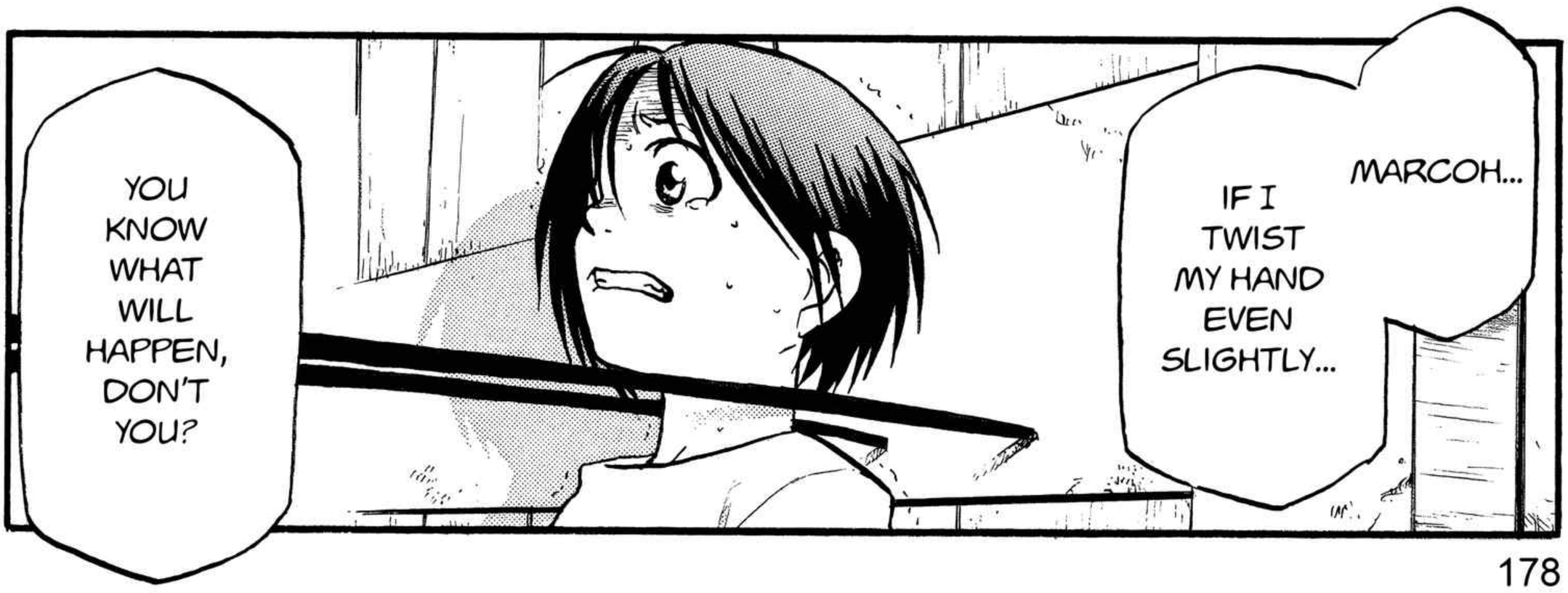
DOCTOR MARCOH!

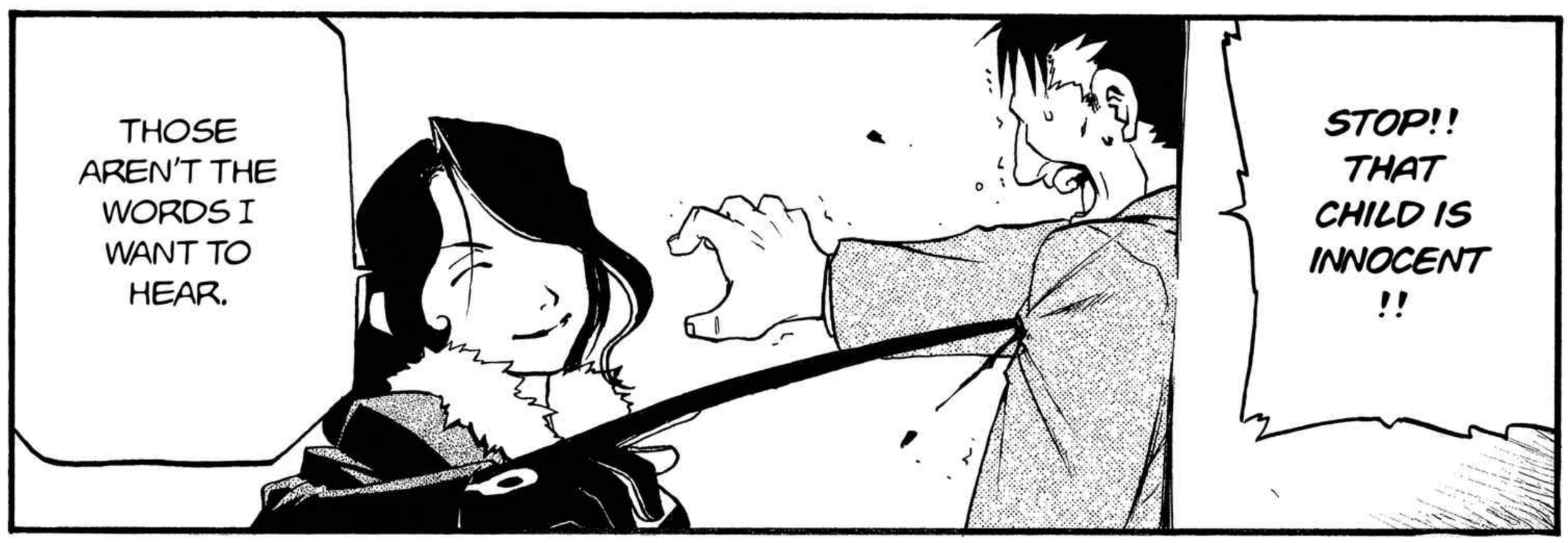
SHIK

CHUK

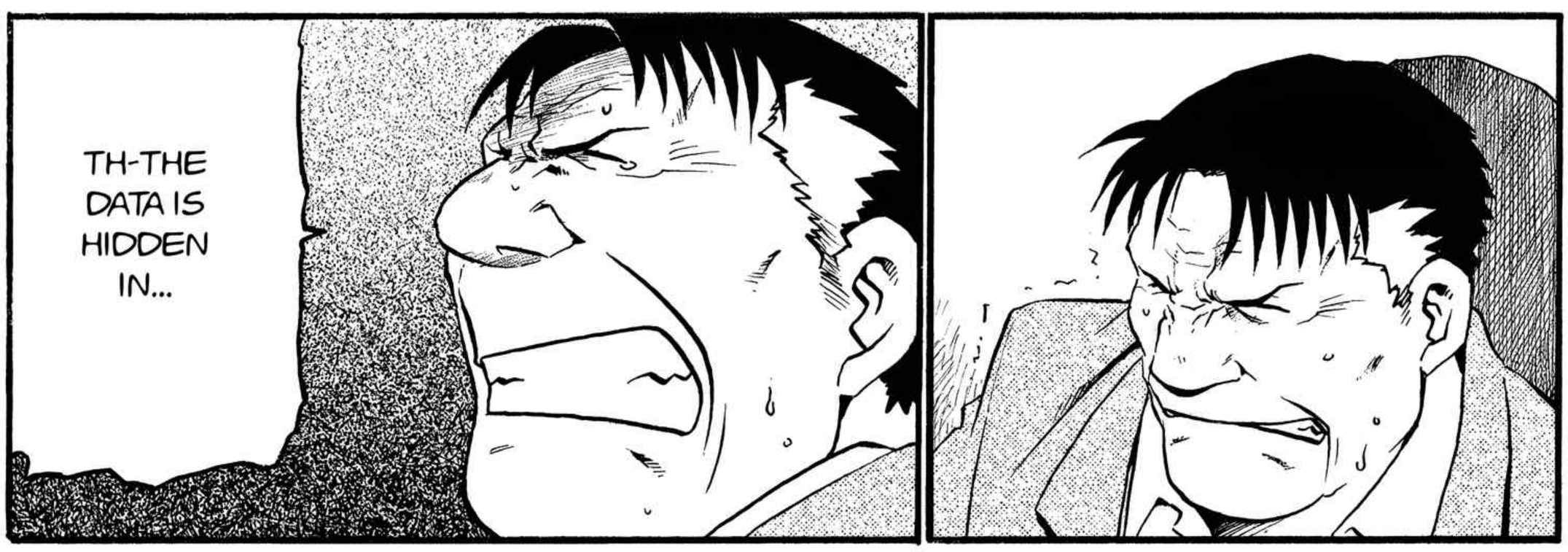

KIRI !!
AREN'T YOU A GOOD LITTLE GIRL...


TWANNNG

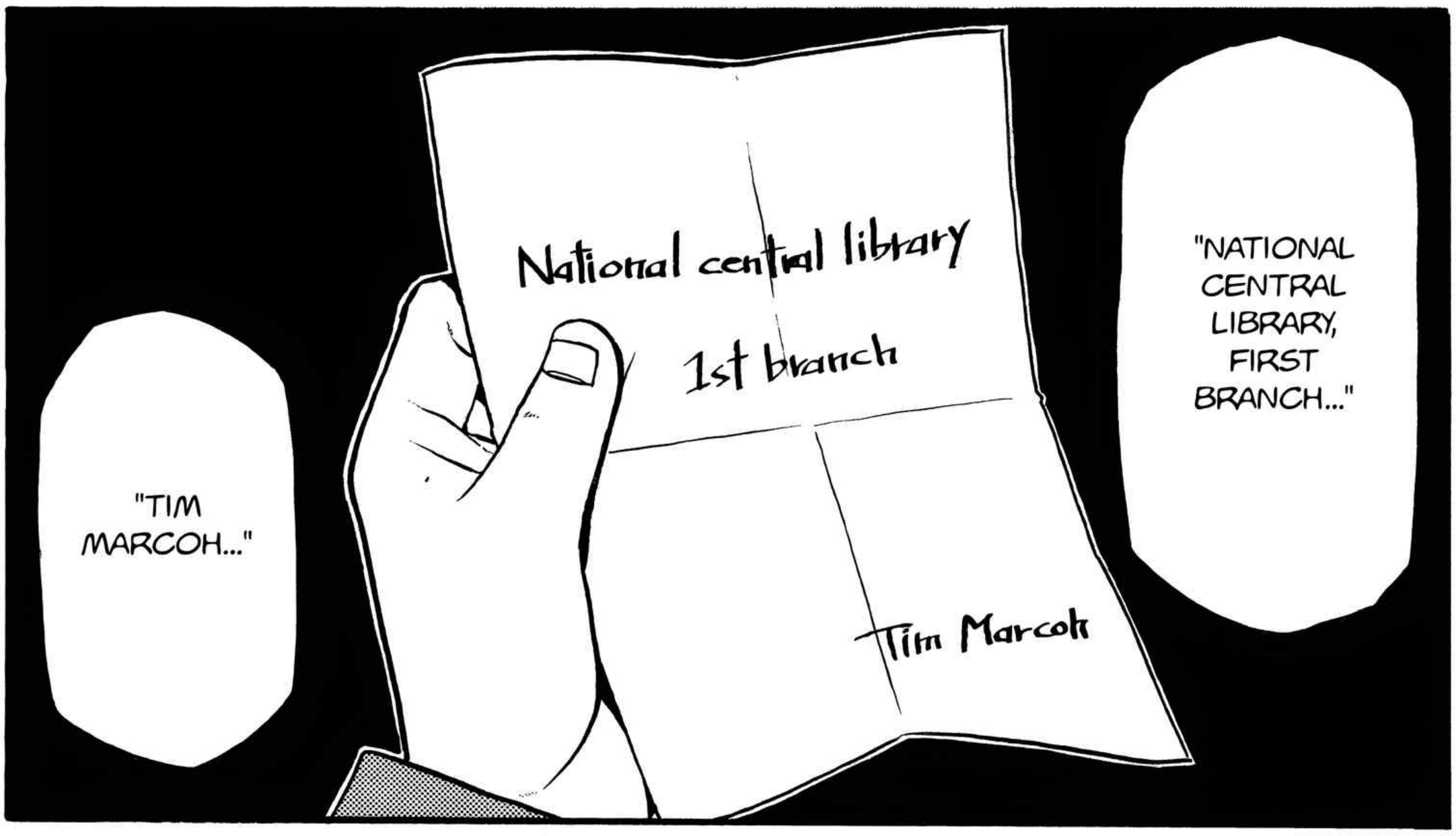

YOU KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN, DON'T YOU?
IF I TWIST MY HAND EVEN SLIGHTLY...
MARCOH...

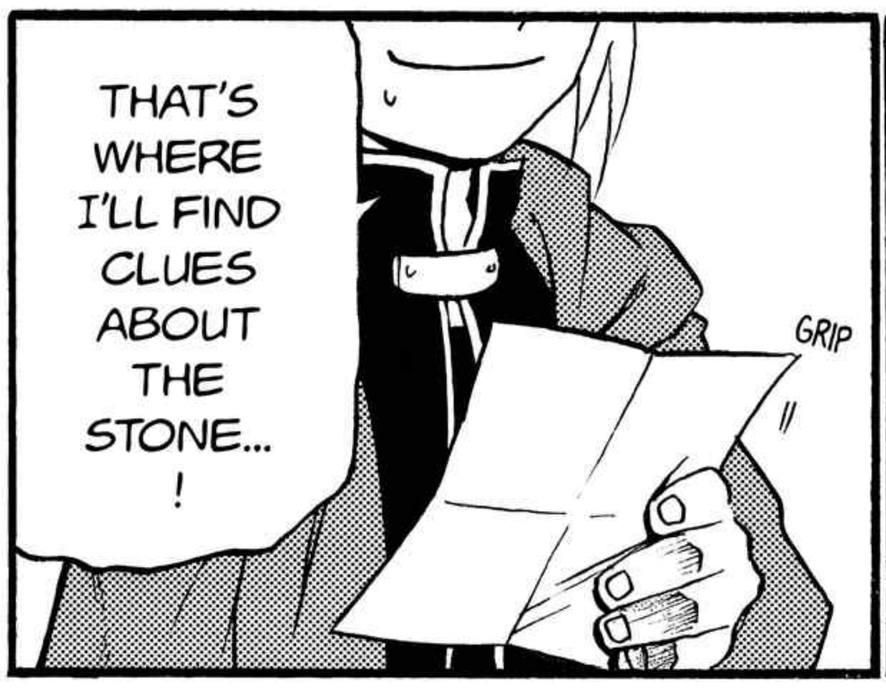

THOSE AREN'T THE WORDS I WANT TO HEAR.
STOP!! THAT CHILD IS INNOCENT !!

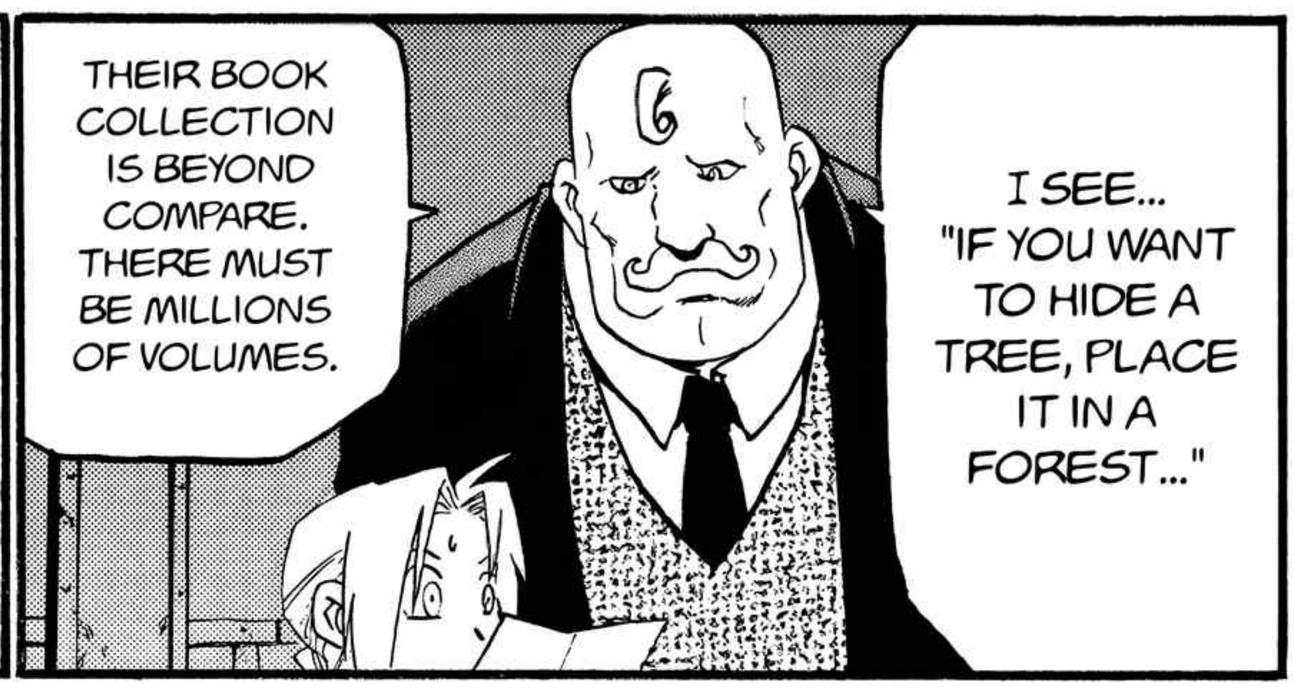
TELL ME.

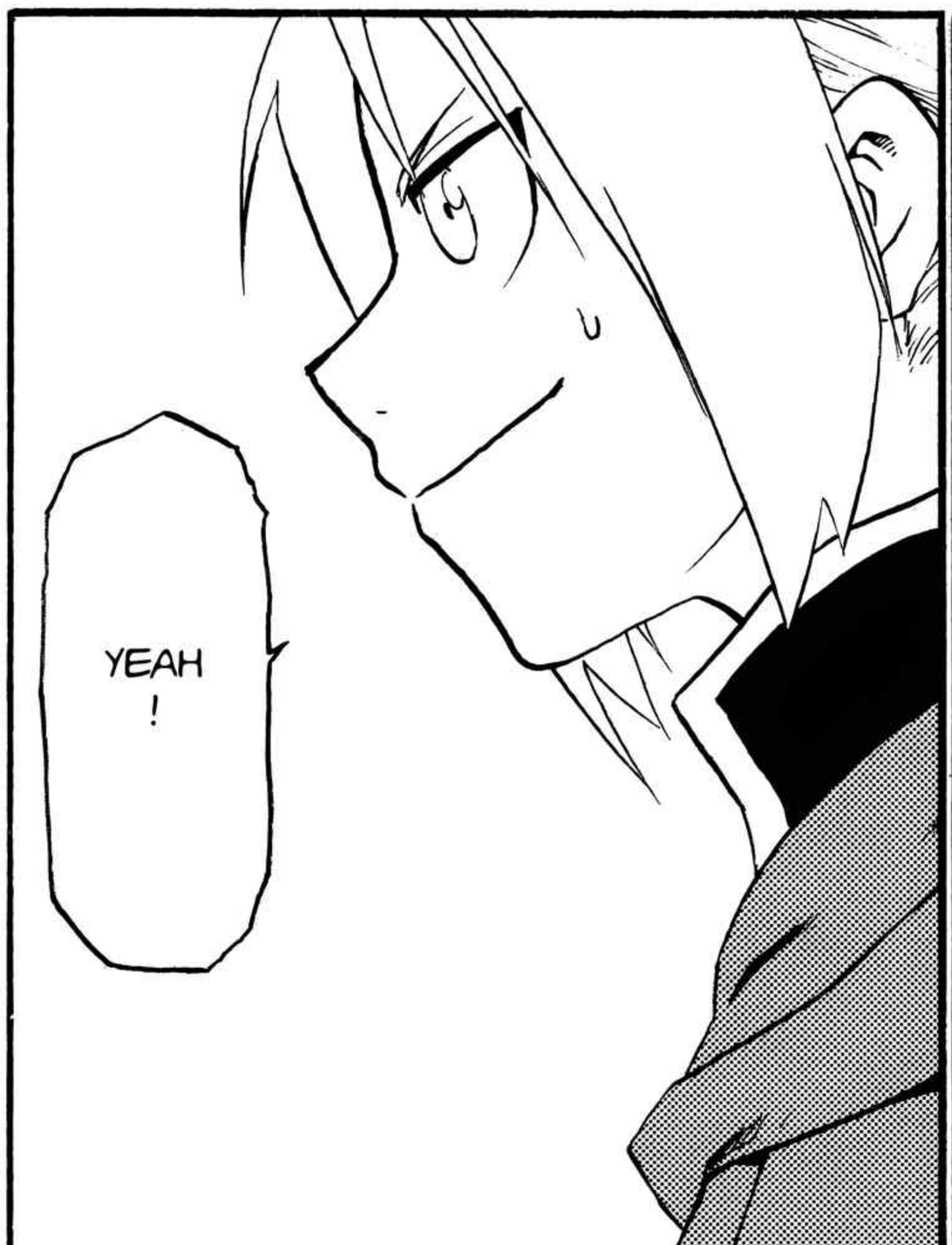

TH-THE DATA IS HIDDEN IN...

YES... WHERE ?


National central library
1st branch
Tim Marcoh
"TIM MARCOH..."
"NATIONAL CENTRAL LIBRARY, FIRST BRANCH..."

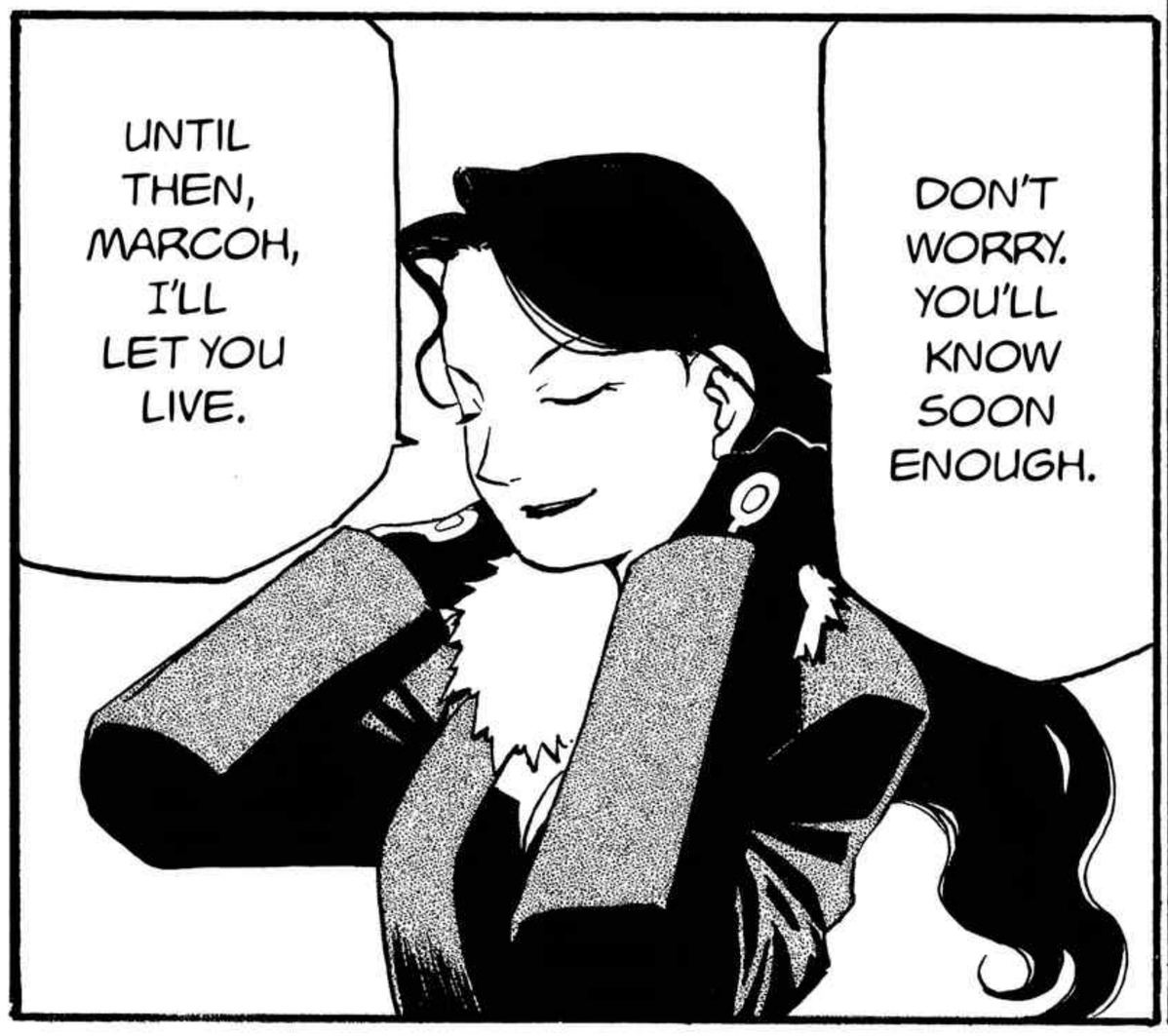

THAT'S WHERE I'LL FIND CLUES ABOUT THE STONE...!
GRIP


THEIR BOOK COLLECTION IS BEYOND COMPARE. THERE MUST BE MILLIONS OF VOLUMES.
I SEE... "IF YOU WANT TO HIDE A TREE, PLACE IT IN A FOREST..."


YEAH!

GOOD JOB, BIG BROTHER!
WE'RE ON OUR WAY!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "HUMAN SACRIFICE" ?
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU PEOPLE... ?


UNTIL THEN, MARCOH, I'LL LET YOU LIVE.
DON'T WORRY. YOU'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH.

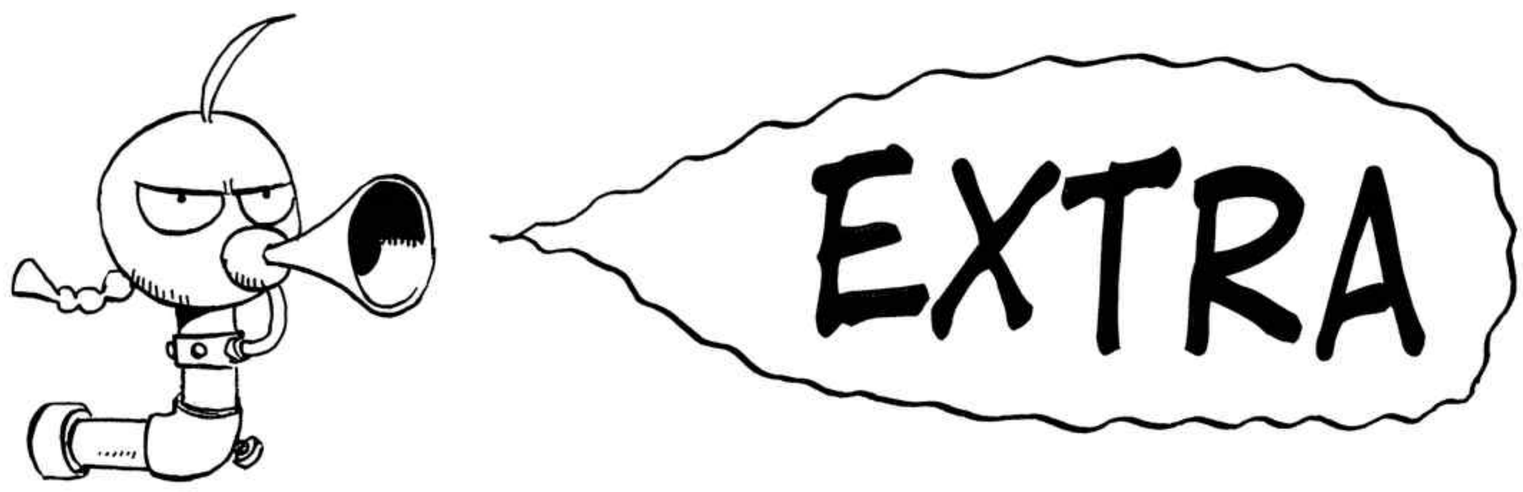
HOW CLEVER OF YOU TO HIDE IT IN THE LIBRARY.
I THOUGHT YOU HAD TAKEN IT AND RAN.

WELL...
IF YOU GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS...
BUT DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT RUNNING ANYWHERE ELSE...OR GETTING IN OUR WAY AGAIN.

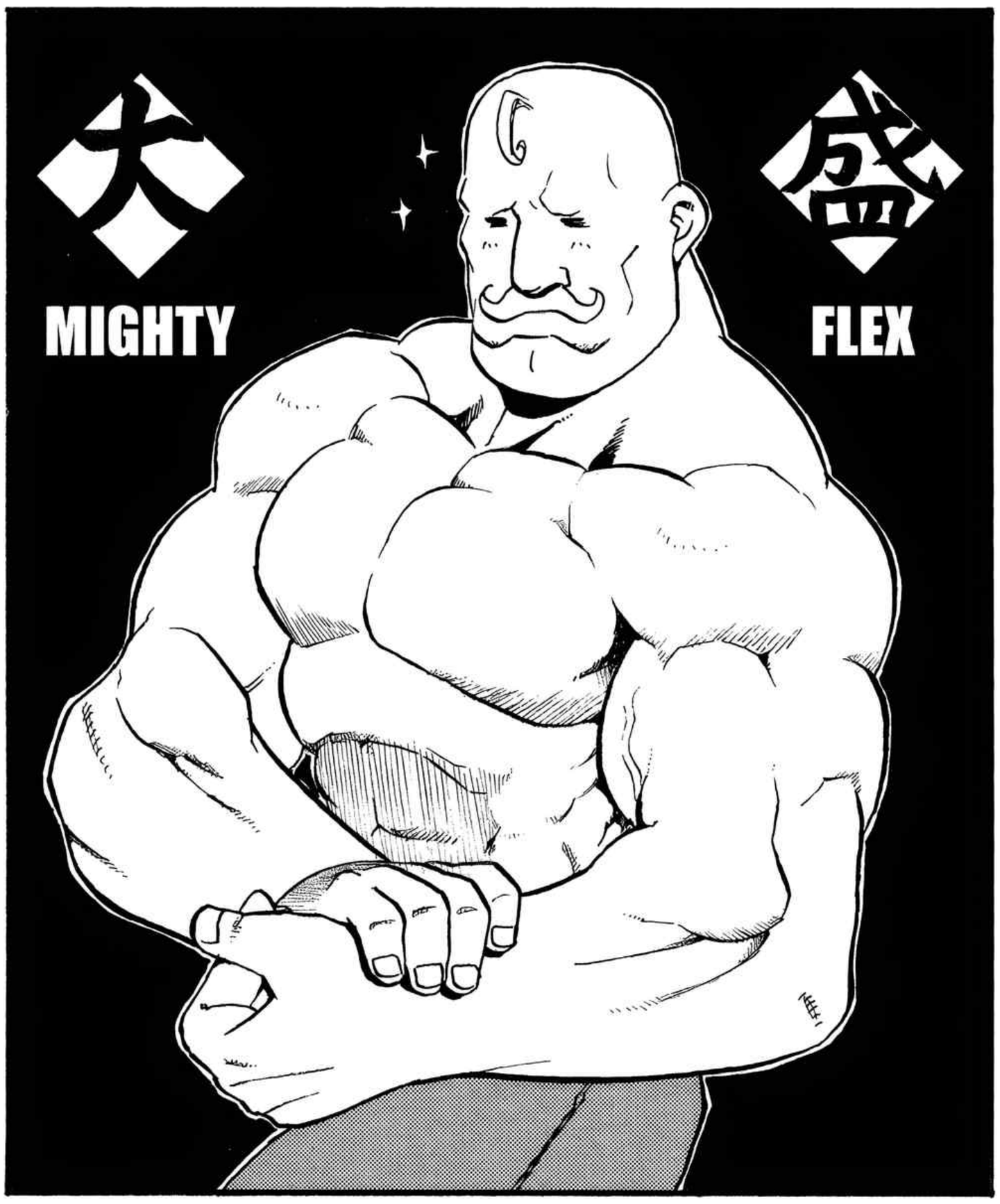
I'LL ERASE THIS TOWN FROM THE MAP.

THIS MANGA WAS ORIGINALLY PRINTED IN MONTHLY **SHONEN GANGAN**, DECEMBER 2001 THROUGH MARCH 2002.

TO BE CONTINUED IN **FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST** VOL. 3...



MAJOR ARMSTRONG LUCKY CHARM



※ Please be extra careful when using it.

FIRST, DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE LOINCLOTH

SO I'VE DECIDED I'M GOING TO AT LEAST TRY TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS BIG AND BULKY BODY OF MINE.

I STILL WANT TO BE POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS...

HOW CAN A SUIT OF ARMOR LOSE WEIGHT ?

JOGGING, JOGGING...

THAT'S WHY I'M GOING ON A DIET AND EXERCISING !

NO THEY CAN'T, YOU FOOL! THAT'S CRAZY!

A PERSON CAN DO ANYTHING WHEN THEY PUT THEIR MIND TO IT!!

THE PUNCH LINE'S IN THE WRONG SPOT...

THAT'S *TOO* THIN !!

A FEW MONTHS LATER...

HEH HEH HEH HEH

I DID IT.

AGGH!

SWAY

POPULARITY EMPIRE

DESPITE HIS APPEAR-ANCE, INSIDE, HE IS A YOUNG TEENAGE BOY...

sigh

ALPHONSE ELRIC.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND, DEAR BROTHER?

sigh

I'LL NEVER BE POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS WITH A BODY LIKE THIS...

SO WHAT IF YOU DON'T LOOK HUMAN! IT'S NOT ABOUT WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE ON THE OUTSIDE!!

OH, EDWARD !

SNIFF

DON'T WORRY! I'LL FIND YOU A NICE GIRL-FRIEND!

I FEEL A SUDDEN URGE TO MURDER SOME-ONE...

WHICHEVER ONE YOU LIKE.

OKAY THEN, CHOOSE.

ARMOR CATALOG

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST 2
SPECIAL THANKS TO...

KEISUI TAKAEDA-SAN

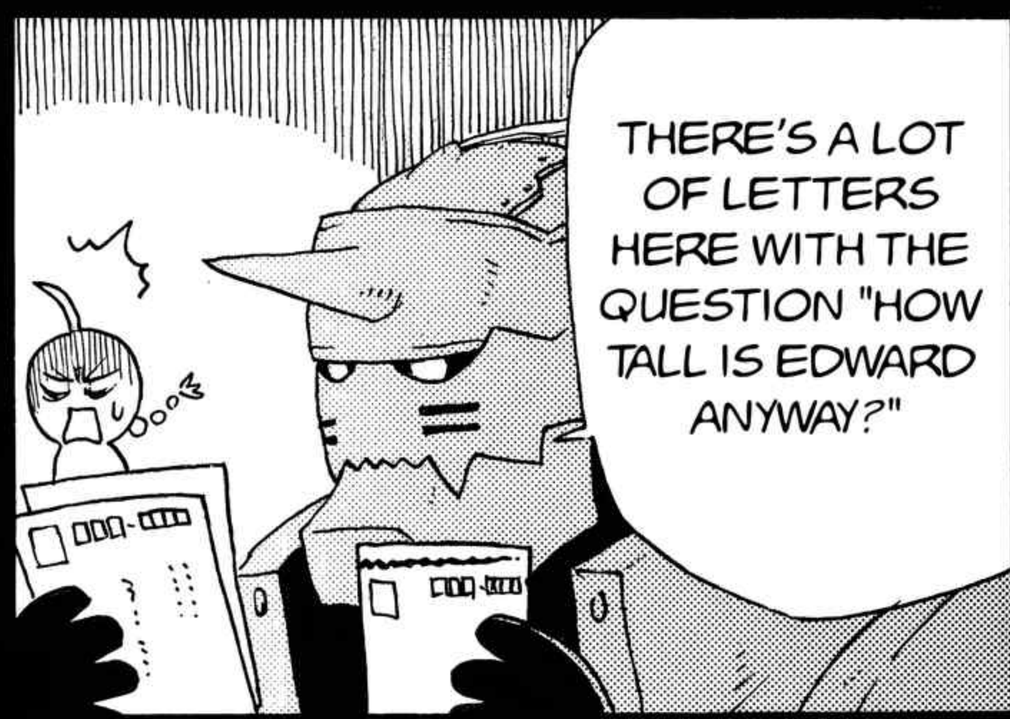
SANKICHI HINODEYA-CHAN

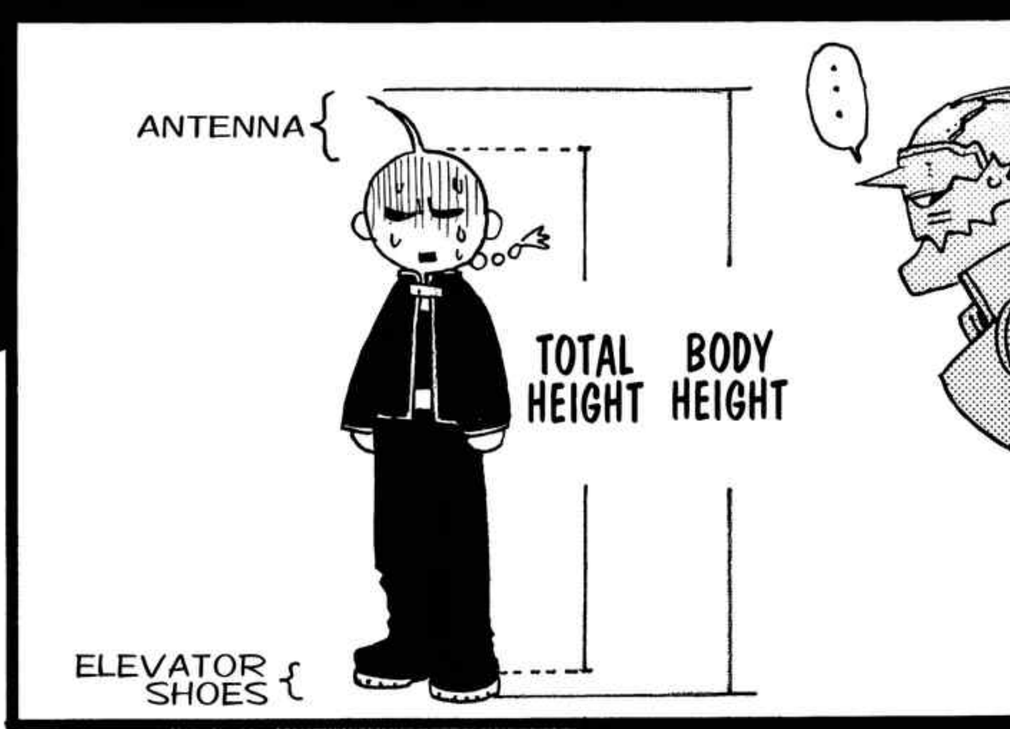
JUN MORIYASU-SAN

YUICHI SHIMOMURA-SHI
(MANAGER)

AND YOU!!

THE PITIFUL TRUTH





FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST VOL. 3

FLAME ALCHEMIST
Chapter 152,931:
The Dangerous Aroma of
the First Lieutenant's Kick

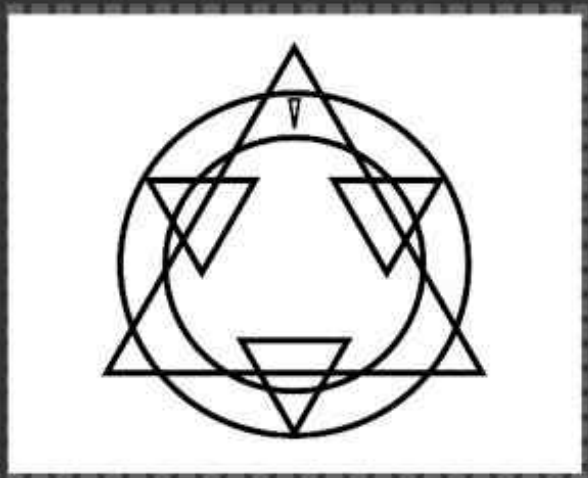
USELESS!

Heh heh heh...

COLONEL

In Memoriam

It's been a few years since I left home, saying, "I won't come back here until I can make a living drawing manga." I got my wish but now I'm so busy that I don't have time to go home. I feel happy and sad at the same time.
—Hiromu Arakawa, 2002



Born in Hokkaido (northern Japan), Hiromu Arakawa first attracted national attention in 1999 with her award-winning manga **Stray Dog**. Her series **Fullmetal Alchemist** debuted in 2001 in Square Enix's monthly manga anthology **Shonen Gangan**.

FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST ②

Hiromu Arakawa

Translation: Akira Watanabe

Touch-up Art & Lettering: Wayne Truman

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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