

FOLLOW THE RULES



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Xierra099

Guest character and Story:

NPCBuner

Editing:

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and

NPCBurner

Throughout the past few weeks, I have sensed a presence moving about the grounds.

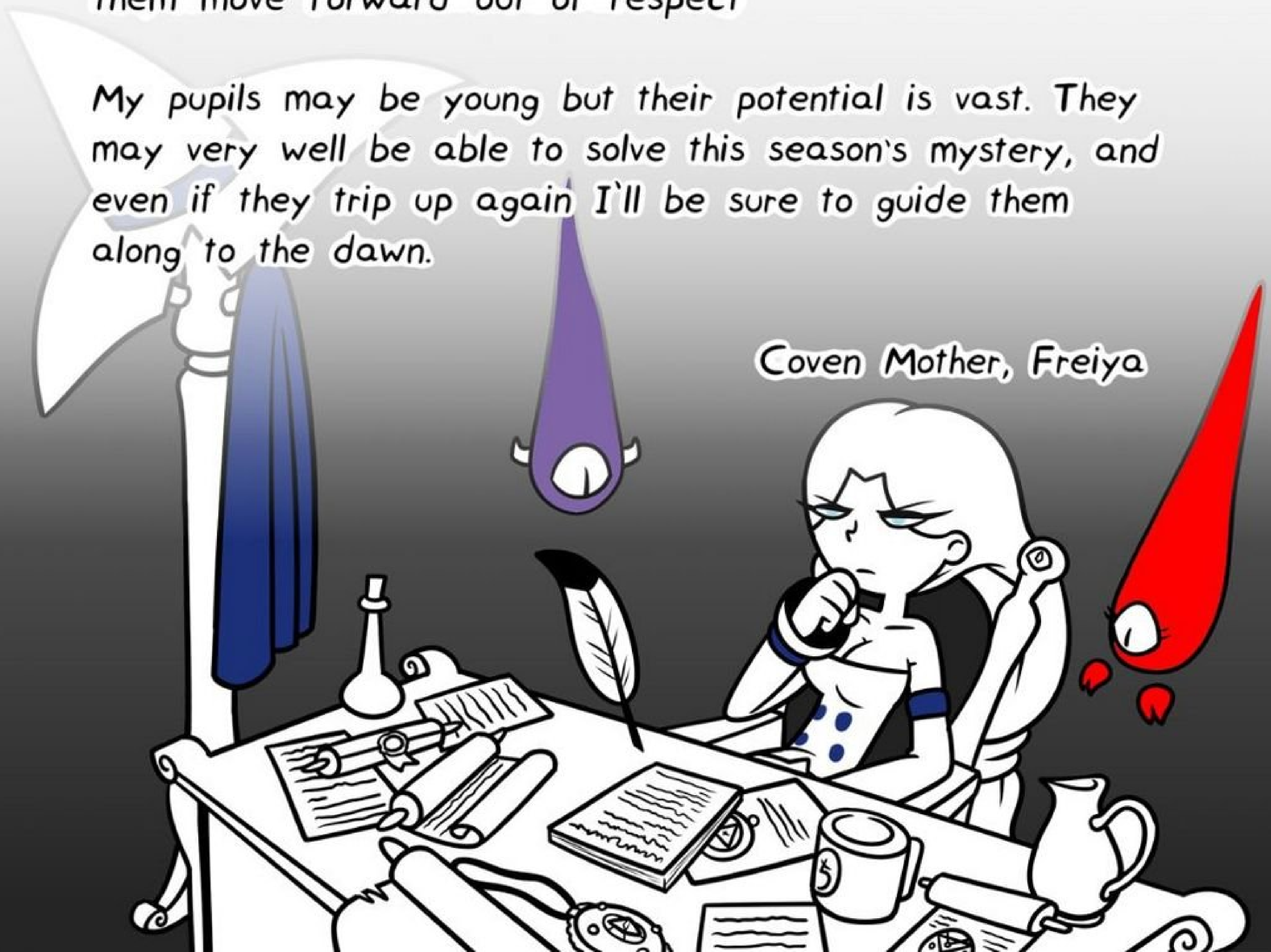
Our security measures are the best in the realm, for I have set them up myself, yet something has managed to bypass them.

My familiars, Sarah and Sully, have reported "Strange coincidences" regarding the summoning assignment my students are undertaking that relate to their subsequent failures thus far.

As the deadline nears, they have banded together to make one final attempt to complete the aforementioned assignment. While I do have my reservations about them doing this while the world barriers are at their weakest, knowing there is something lurking the halls, I will let them move forward out of respect

My pupils may be young but their potential is vast. They may very well be able to solve this season's mystery, and even if they trip up again I'll be sure to guide them along to the dawn.

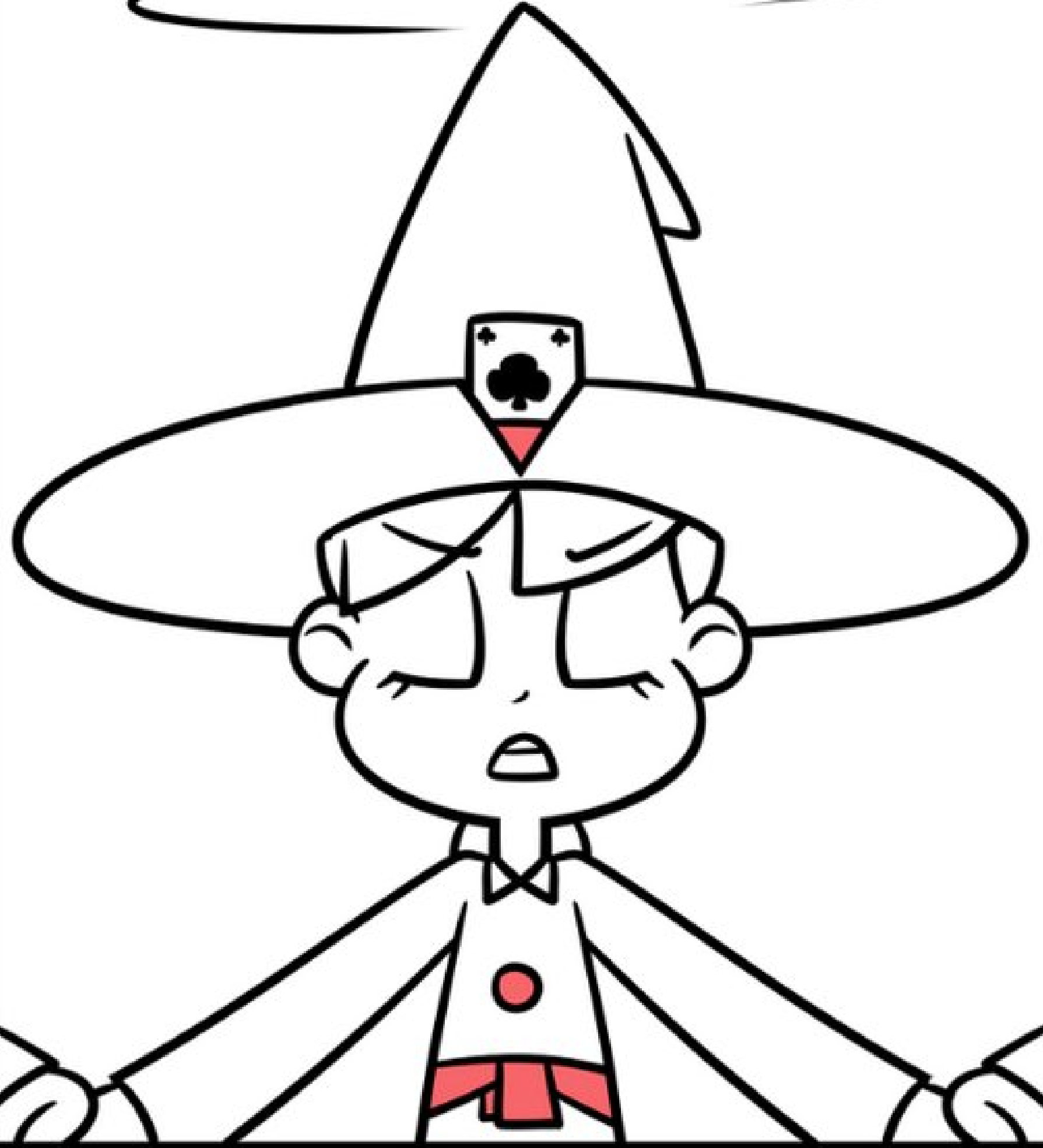
Coven Mother, Freiya



WHEN OUR
DAY OF WORK IS DONE,
WE CALL TO YOU FOR OUR
NIGHTLY FUN



THE CARDS OF THE DECK
SPOKE OF YOUR FAME,
SO WE BEG OF YOU TO
LEAD OUR GAME



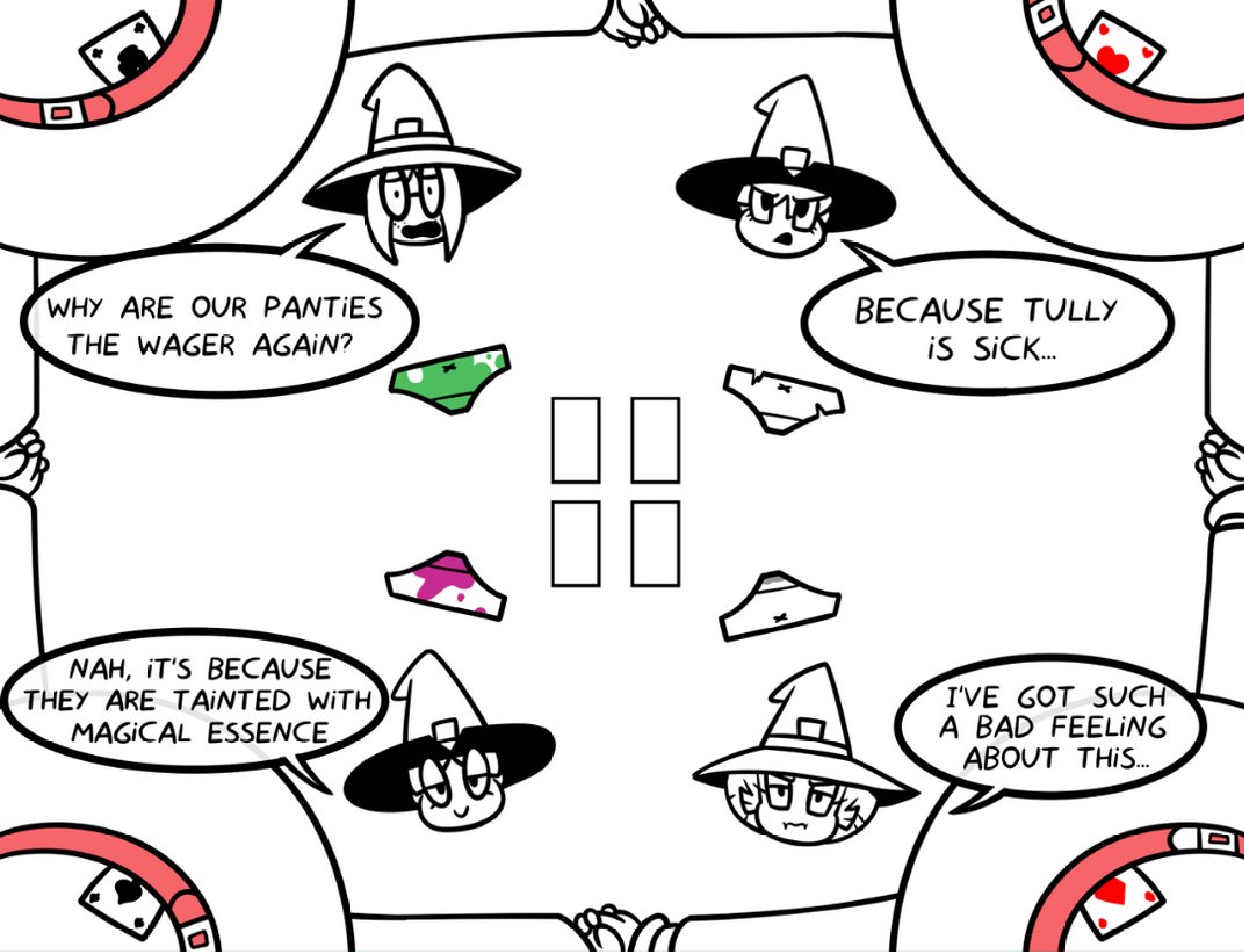
TAKE THIS HOUSE AND
BECOME THE MASTER,
SET YOUR TERMS AND
WE WILL ANSWER



HEART, DIAMOND, CLUB
AND SPADE OFFER OUR
WAGERS TO INSURE YOUR
FEE IS PAID

JOKER THE DARK HERO,
THE GAME BEGINS





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WELCOME LADIES,
GENTLEMAN, AND OTHERS
TO THE VELVET
RABBIT THEATER:

HOME TO THE GREATEST
ENTERTAINER THIS
SIDE OF THE OUTER RINGS!





CONNOISSEUR OF CARDS

MAGICAL MAESTRO
OF MUSIC

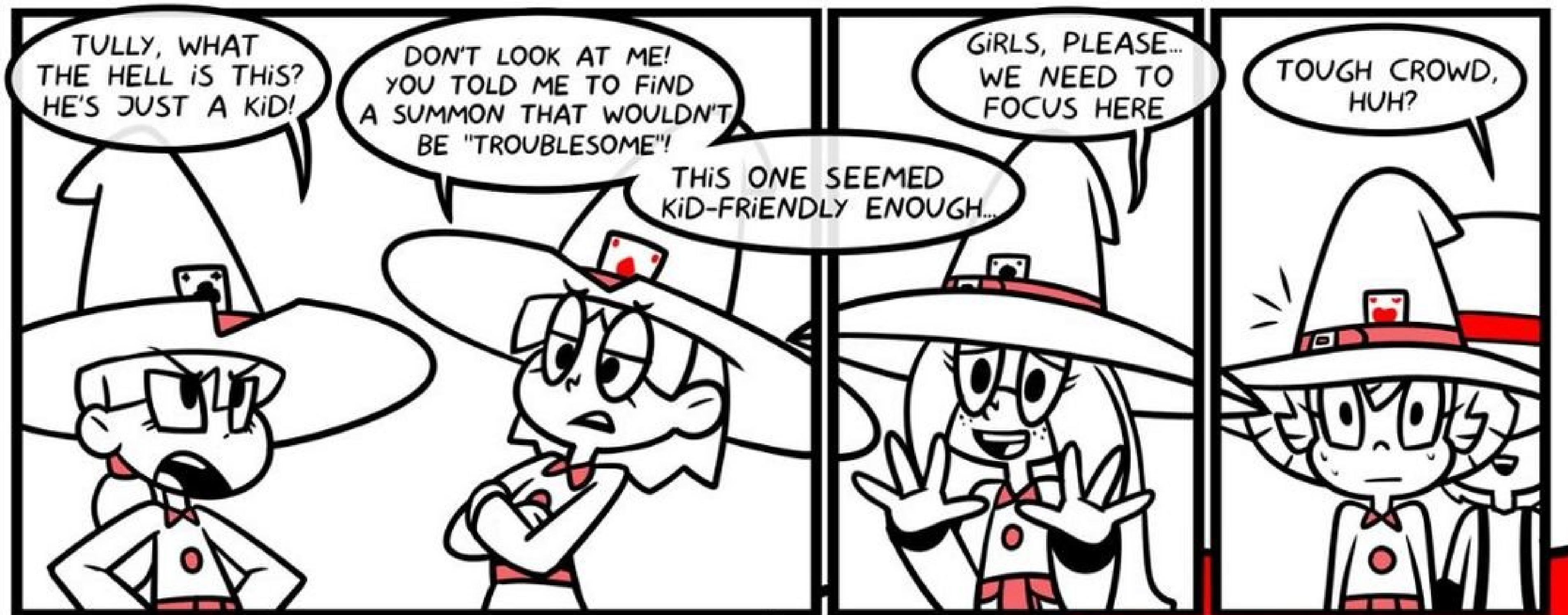
GENTLEMAN, SCHOLAR,

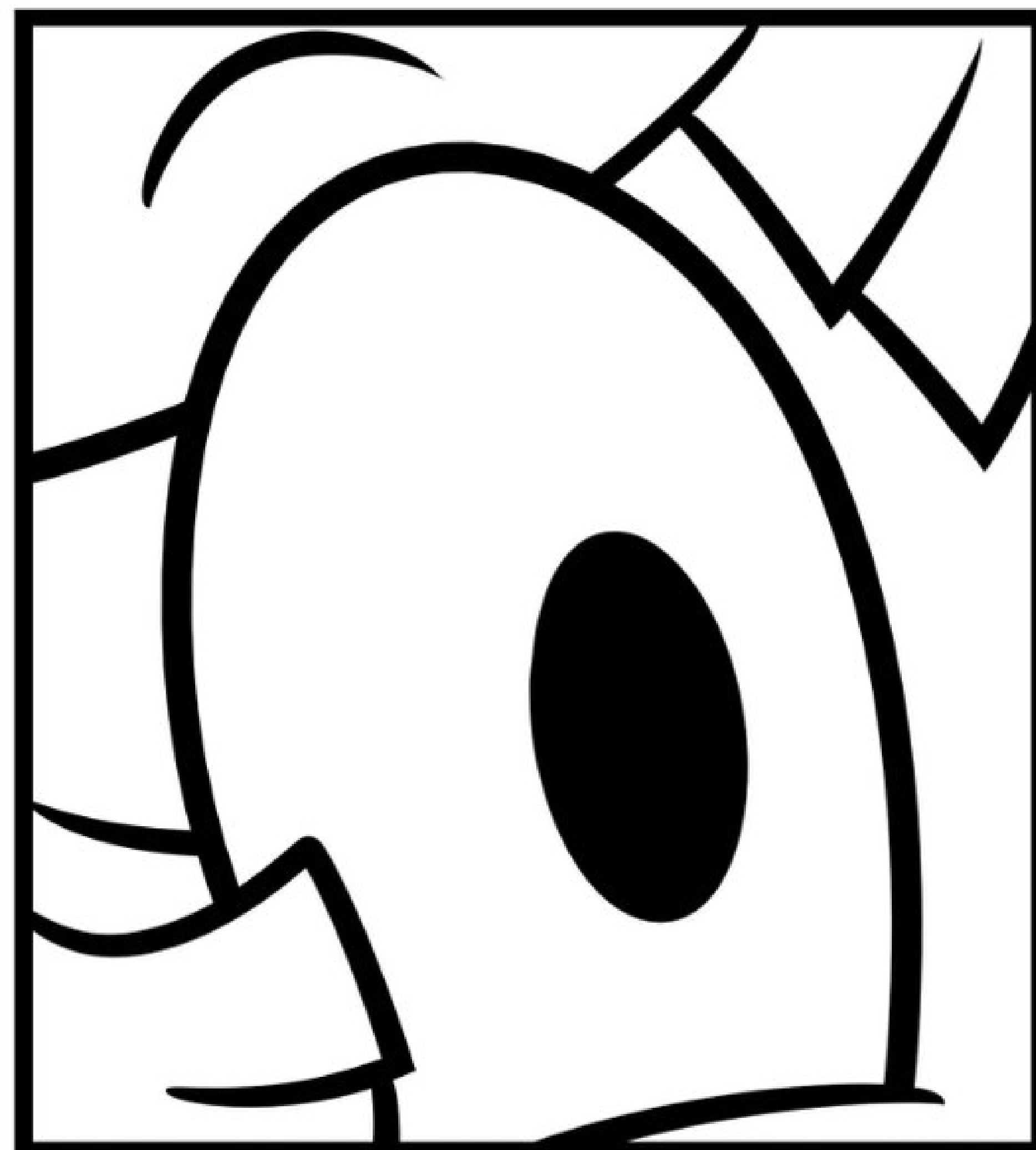
AND SINNER
WITHOUT A SIN

PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER FOR...



THE
AMAZING
JOKER!







OK, A MERE
KISS USUALLY ISN'T
ENOUGH TO EXCITE ME,
BUT IF YOU ARE GIVING,
I'M TAKING!



SORRY, I DID THAT
BECAUSE SHE WAS IN
DESPERATE NEED OF
SOME COMFORT

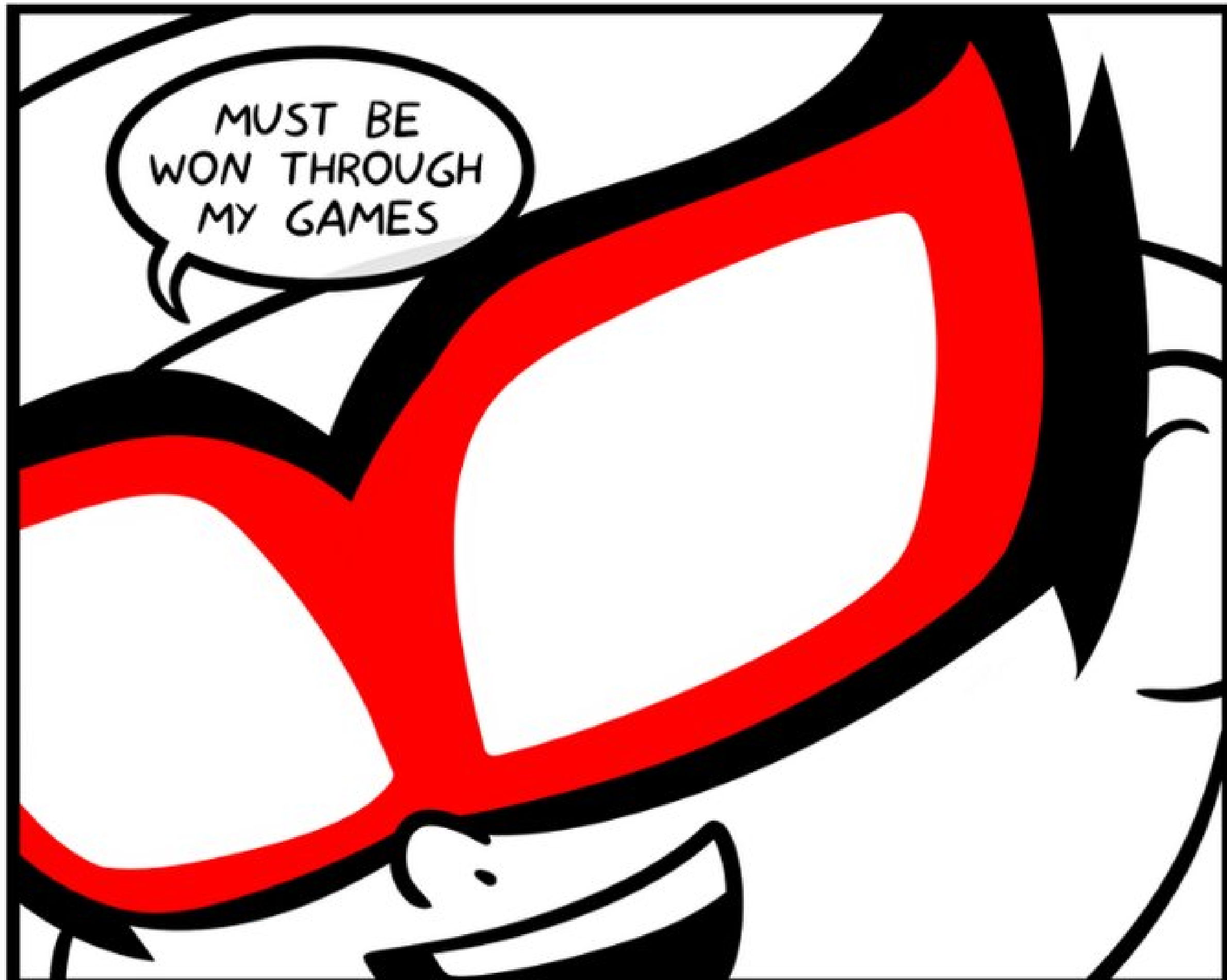


A LITTLE BIT OF
"HUMAN CONTACT"
IF YOU WILL

OTHERWISE,
ALL I HAVE
TO GIVE



MUST BE
WON THROUGH
MY GAMES



AND SINCE YOU
ARE SO EAGER...

LET'S START
WITH AN EASY ONE;
THIS DECK HAS 78
CARDS, EACH
NUMBERED

THIS ONE IN
MY HAND

YOUR
CARD IS 69.
NICE!



YOU REALLY
SHOULD'VE LET
ME FINISH...



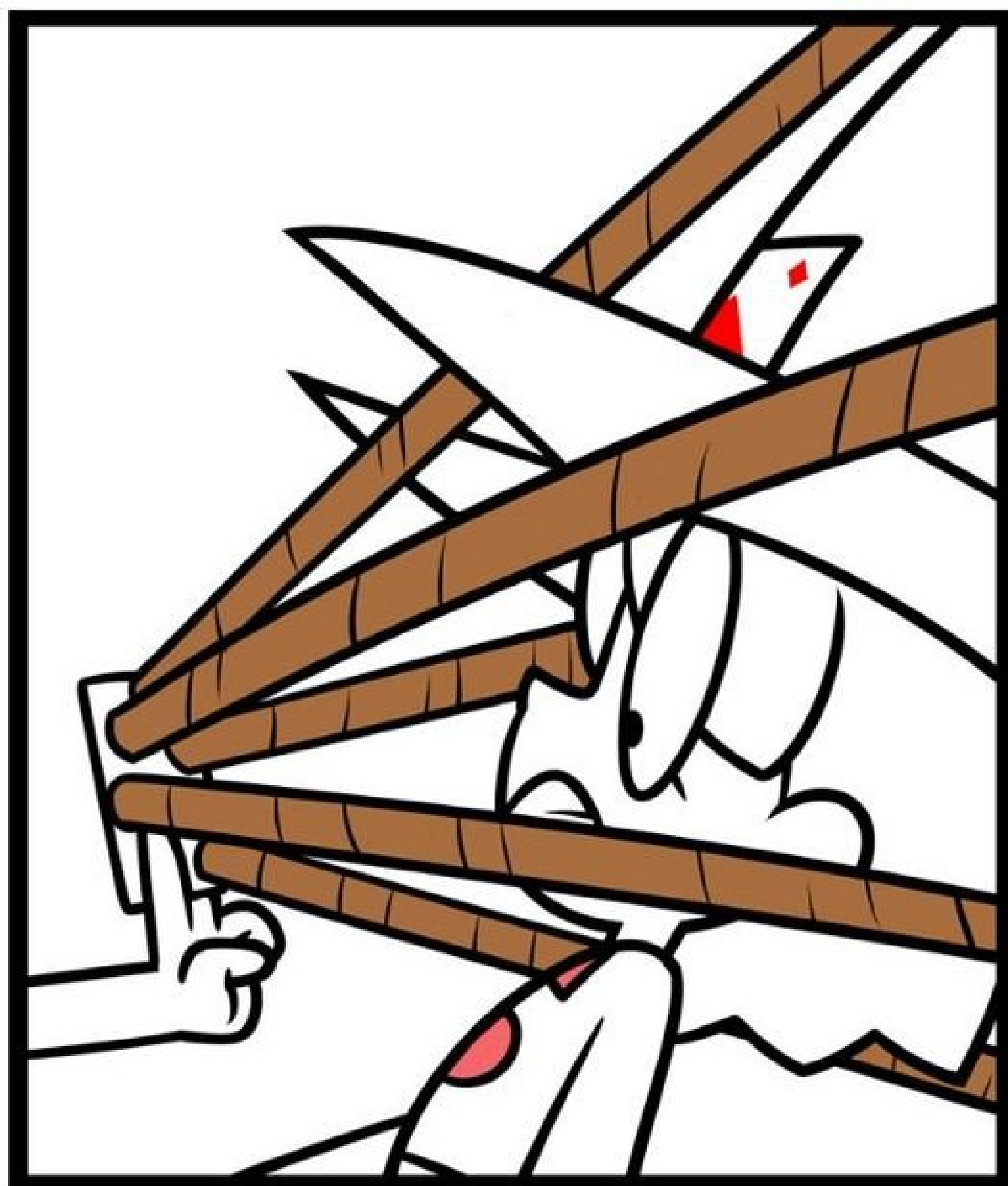
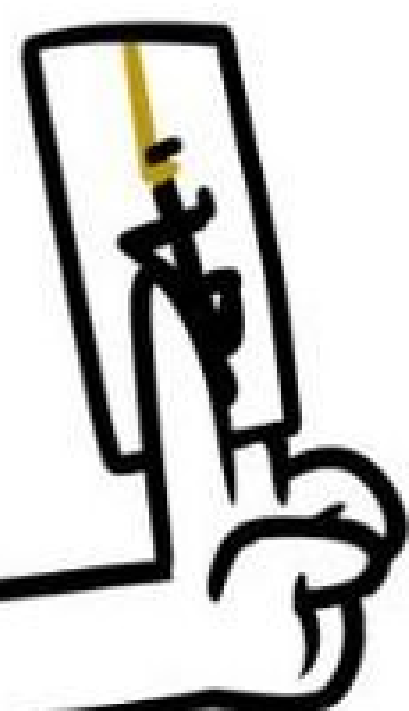
DON'T
NEED TO-

MAGICAL
CLAIRVOYANCE;
I CAN *FEEL*
YOUR 69.
HEHE...



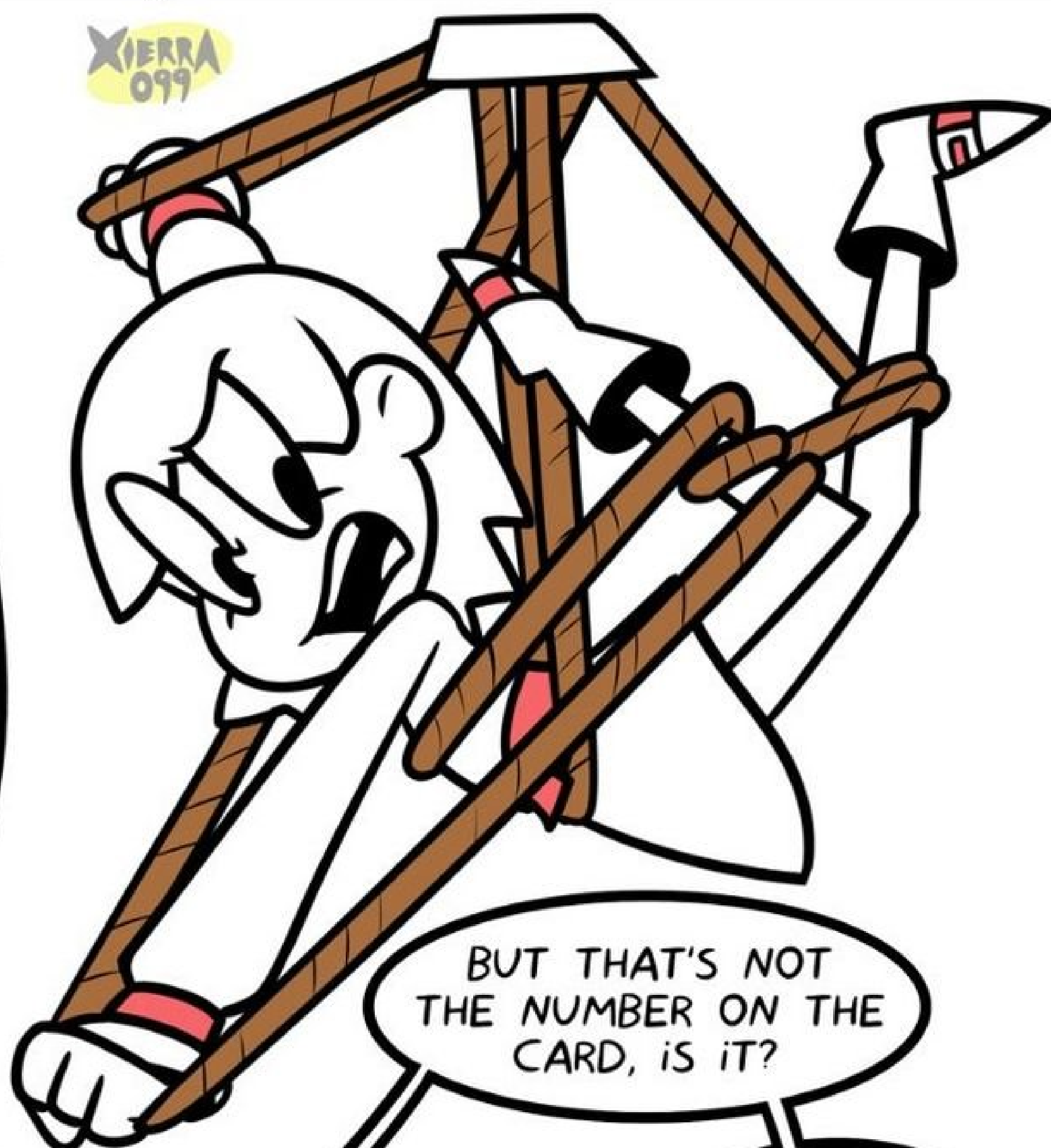
THIS IS A
TAROT DECK

MY CARD IS
THE
HANGED MAN...



BUT--
BUT I FELT--!!!

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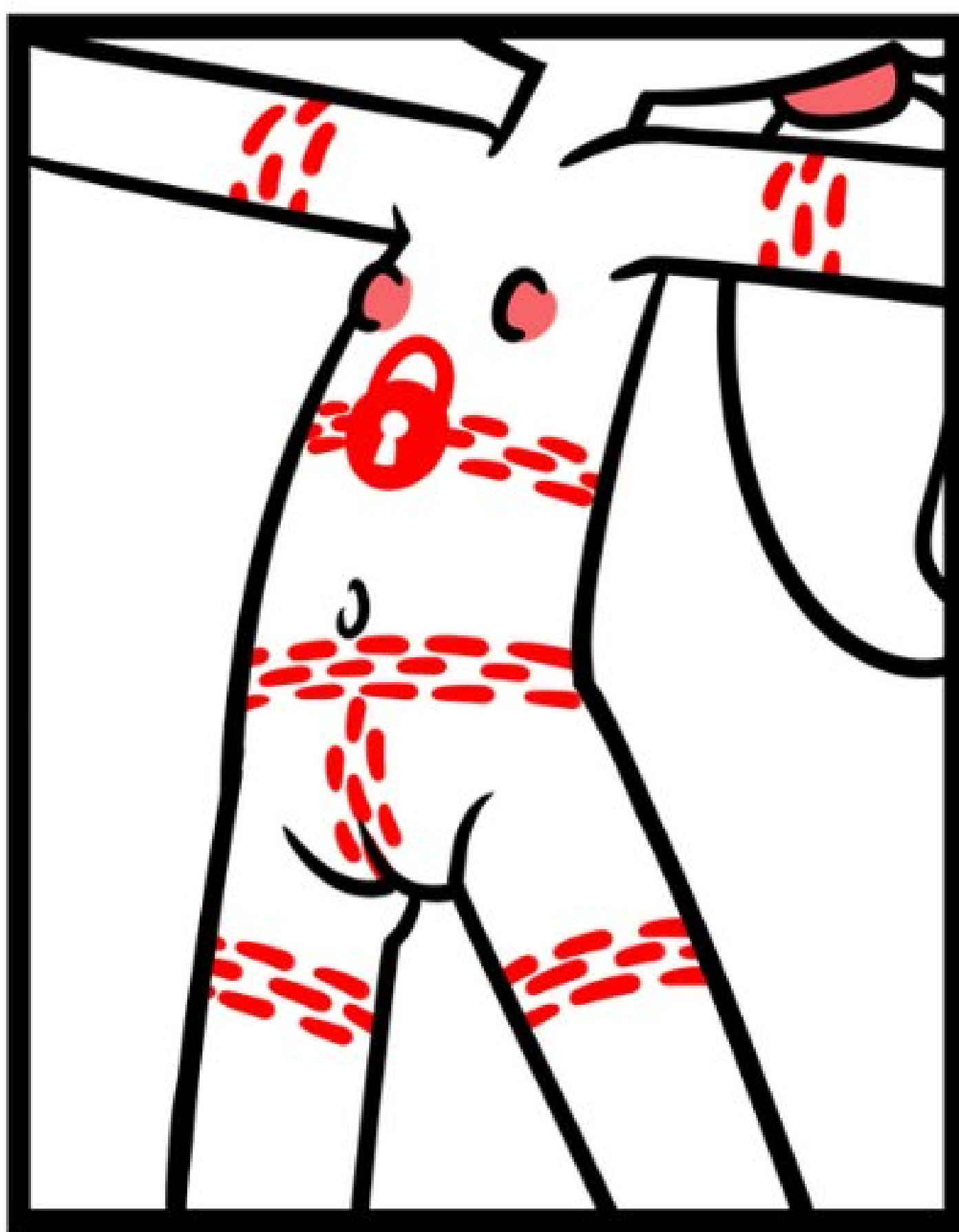
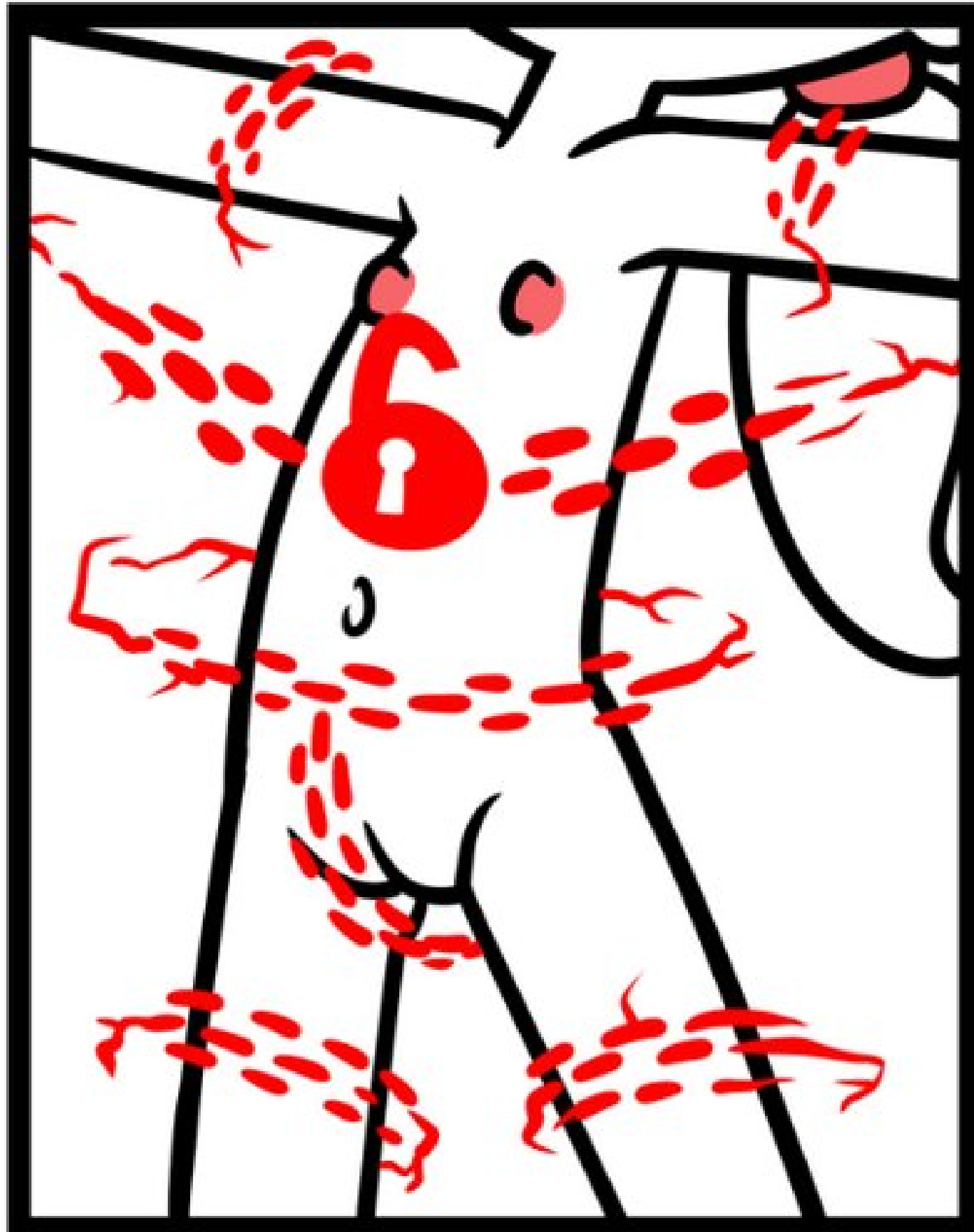
WELL,
IF THE DECK WENT
IN ORDER FROM
MINOR ARCANA
TO
MAJOR ARCANA

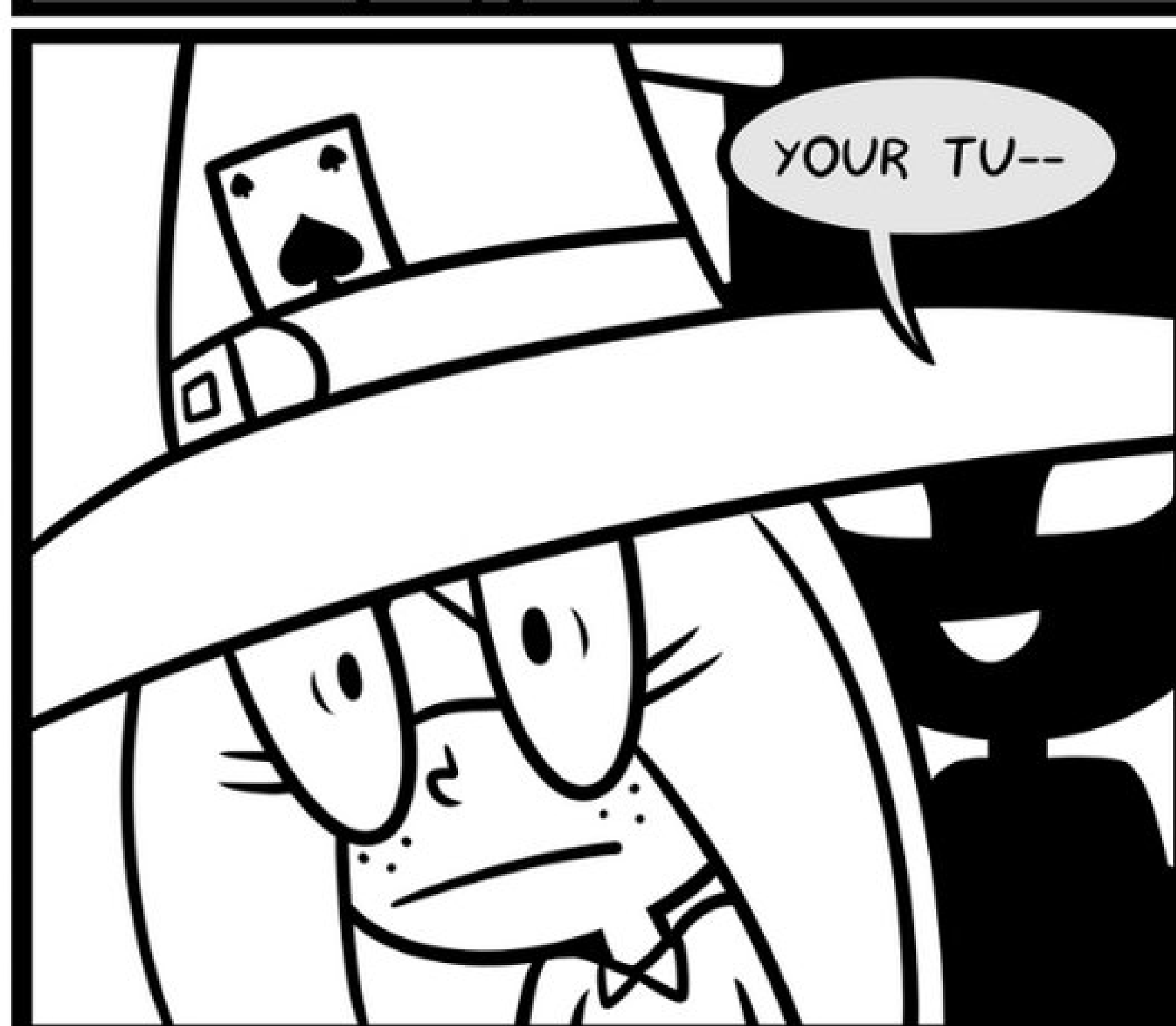
BUT THAT'S NOT
THE NUMBER ON THE
CARD, IS IT?

AND YOU COUNT
BACKWARDS IN THE ORDER
FROM THE 21ST MAJOR ARCANA,
THE 69TH CARD IS #12:
THE HANGED MAN

OH AND,
THAT COUNTS
AS CHEATING,
SO YOU LOSE
YOUR TURN!







OH, I THINK
THERE'S BEEN A TERRIBLE
MISUNDERSTANDING...

CLAP!

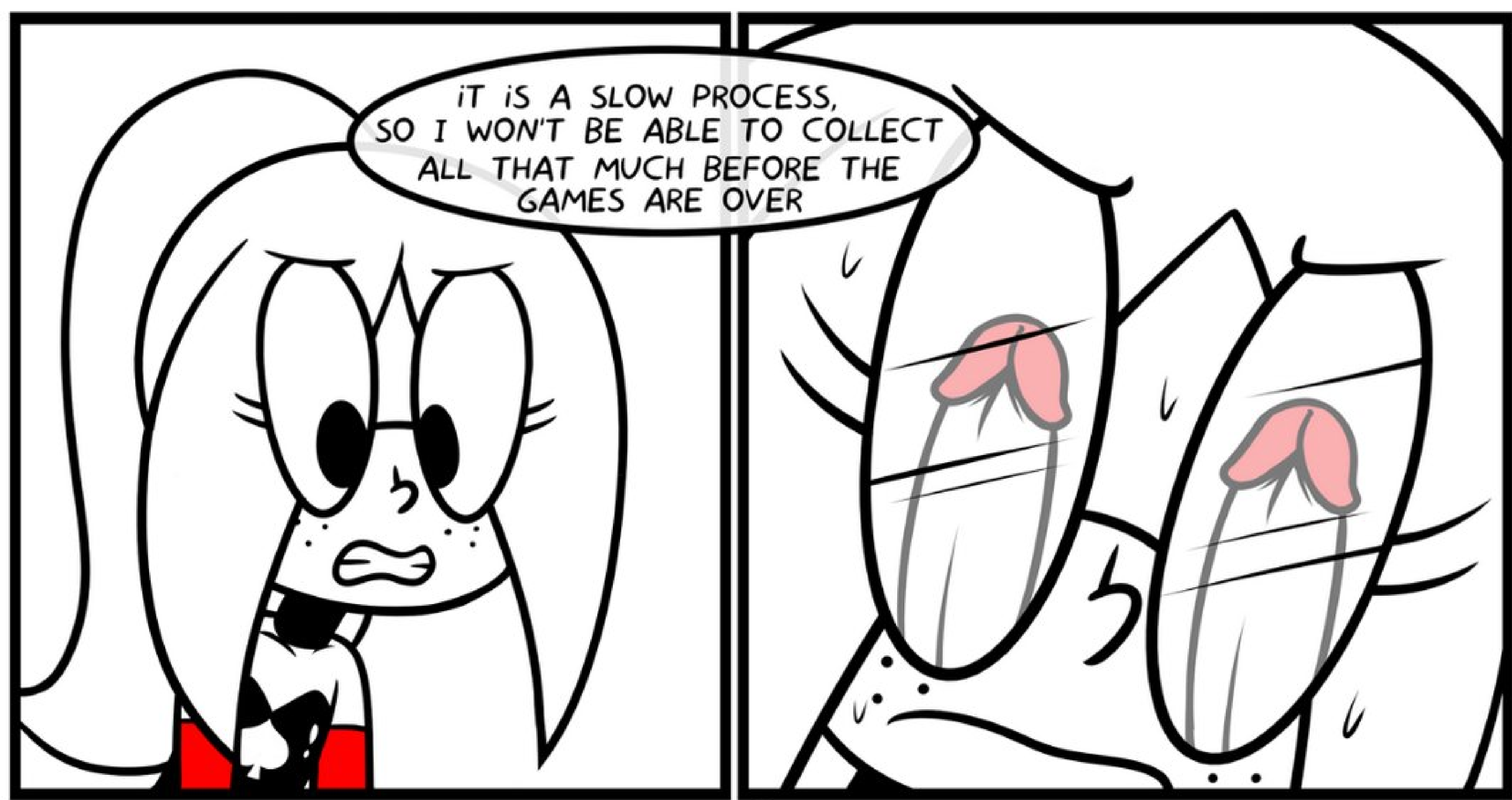
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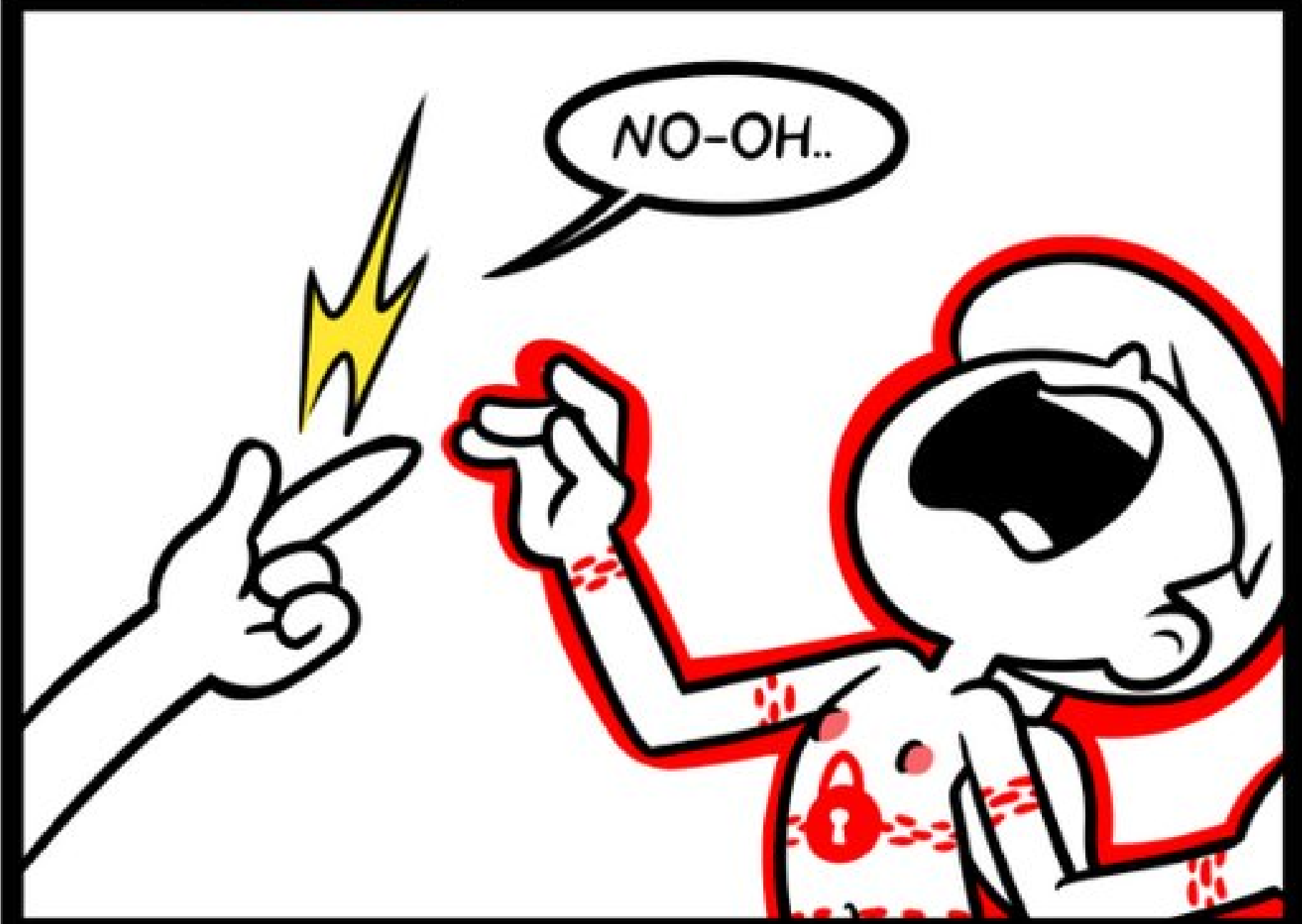
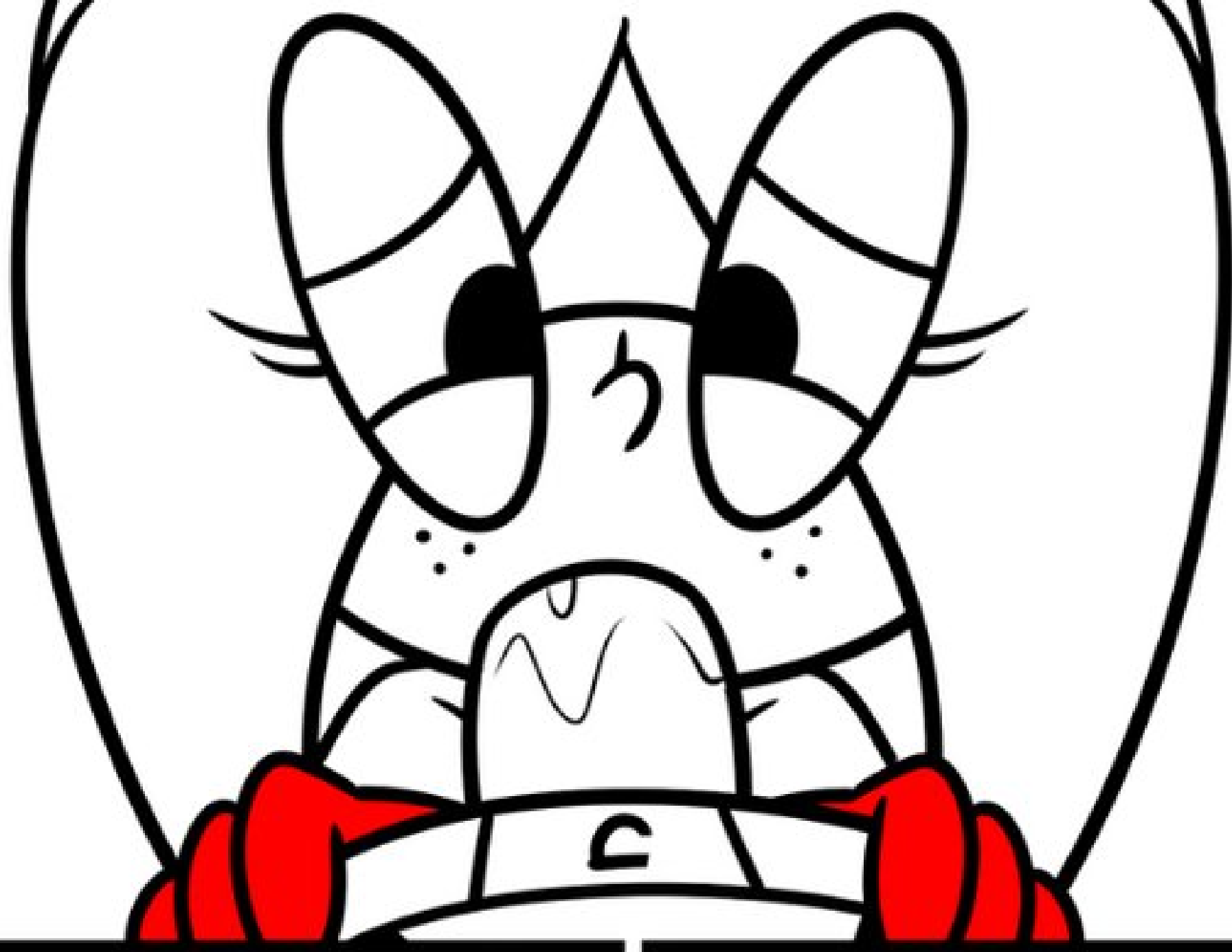
YOU SEE,
THAT UNDERWEAR WAS
DRENCHED IN YOUR
MAGICAL ESSENCE;

AND THAT
IS WHAT I ACCEPTED
AS WAGER

SO NOW
I GET TO TAKE
THAT MAGIC POWER
OF YOURS FOR MYSELF,
IN A...

WELL, A VERY
"ENTERTAINING"
WAY...

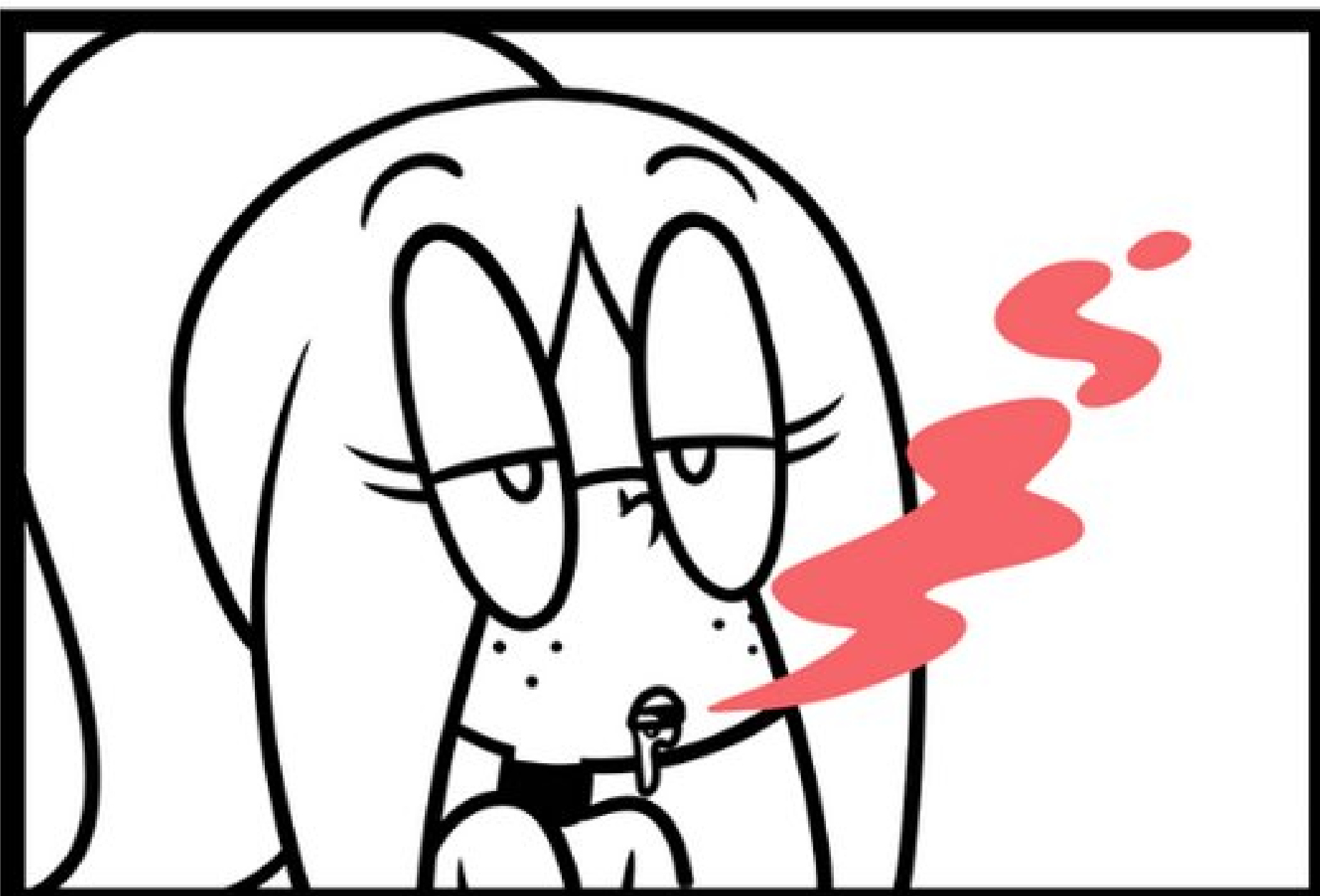




THIS IS YOUR
SECOND WARNING;
ATTACK ME AGAIN
AND YOU WILL LOSE
AUTOMATICALLY

MUCH LIKE
WENDY HERE, THAT
WON'T GIVE YOU MUCH
OF A CHANCE TO FIGHT
BACK IN THE GAMES...





W-WELL
I LOST TOO,
DIDN'T I?
SO YOU'RE
GOING TO COLLECT
MY ESSENCE NEXT,
RIGHT?

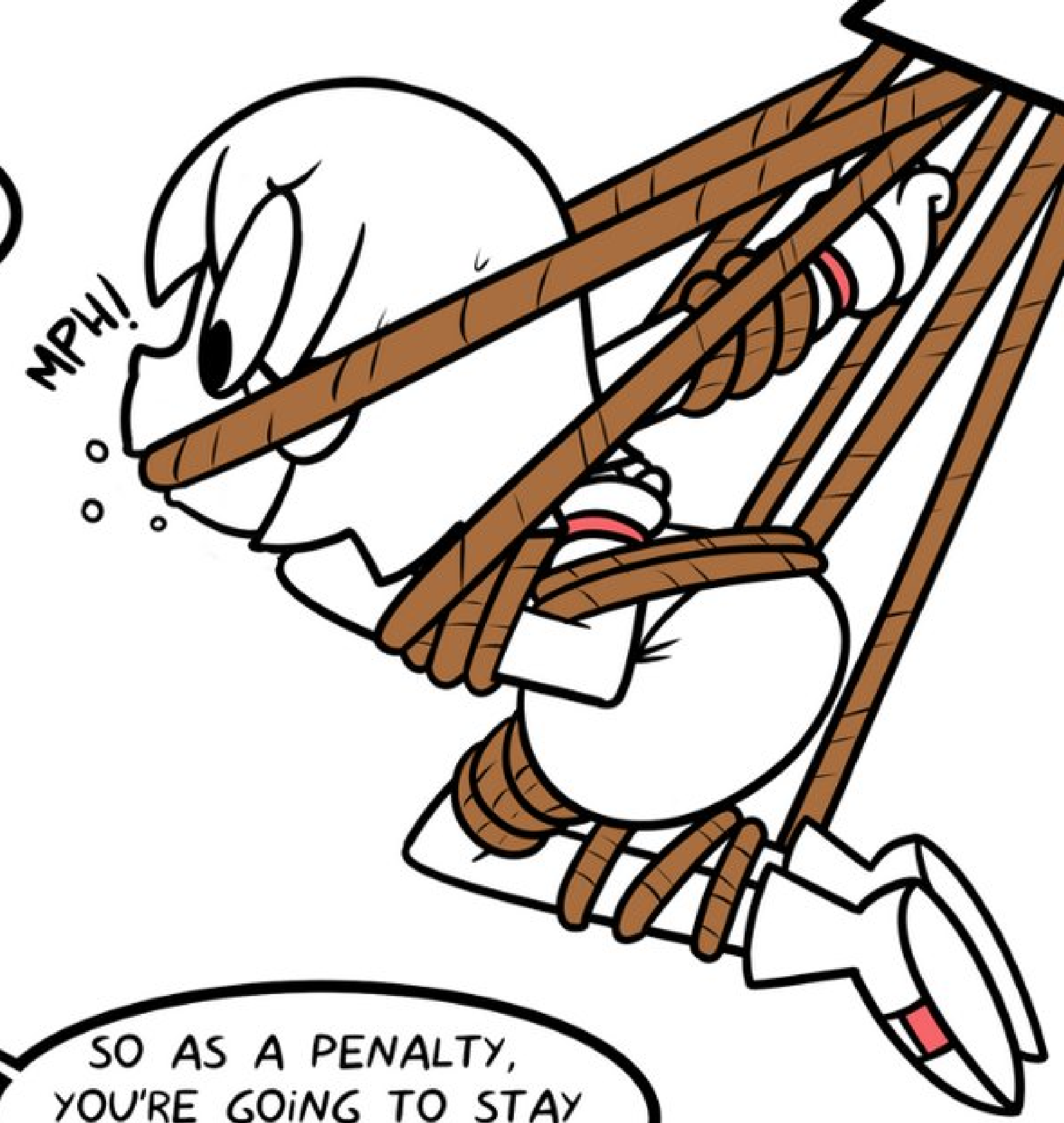


PLEASE SAY
YES...!!!





OH BUT,
YOU DIDN'T LOSE,
YOU CHEATED!



SO AS A PENALTY,
YOU'RE GOING TO STAY
UP THERE FOR 12
ROUNDS

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SO, ARE
YOU TWO READY
TO PLAY?

MONIQUE,
WE ARE GOING TO
NEED A PLAN...



I SAY WE
JUST PLAY

I'M
READY!

MONIQUE!



LOOK, FOR ONCE,
THE CREATURE I SUMMONED
AND WHO'S TRYING TO HAVE THEIR
WAY WITH ME IS NOT SOME
HORRIBLE ABOMINATION,
BUT A CUTE BOY

I'M GOING
TO RELISH IN THE
OCCASION!

...

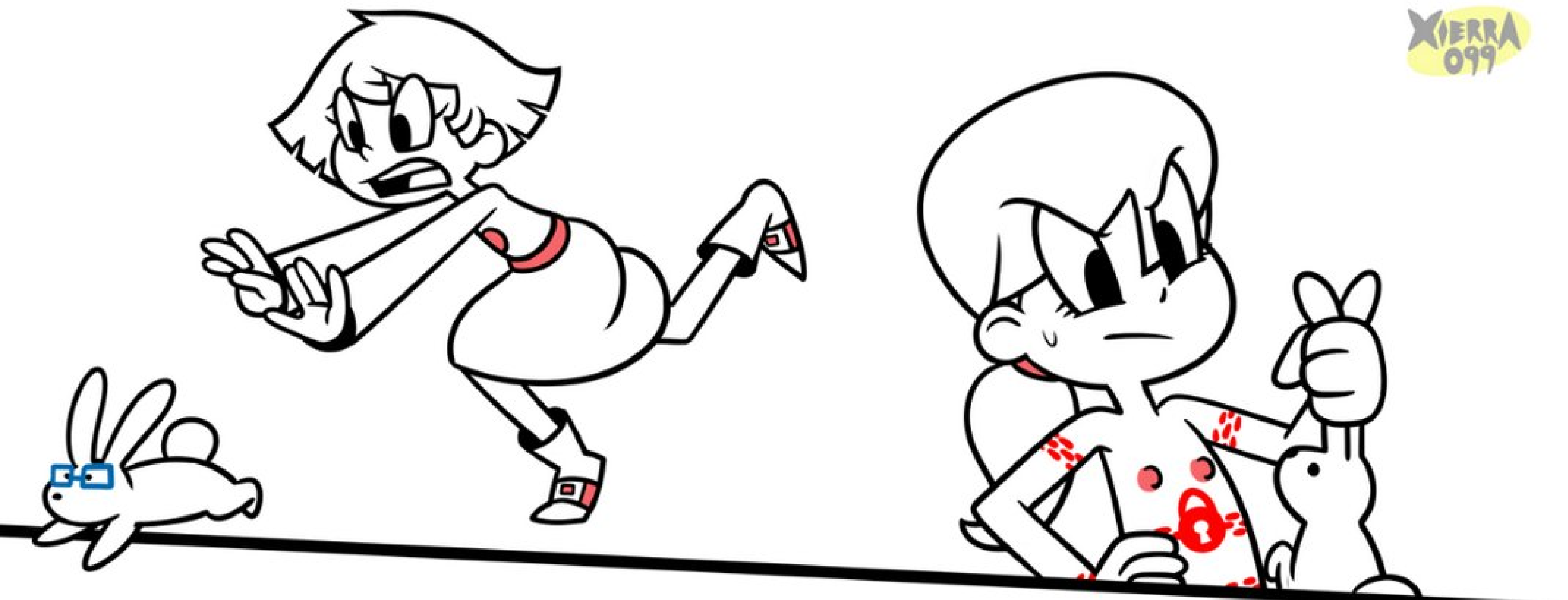


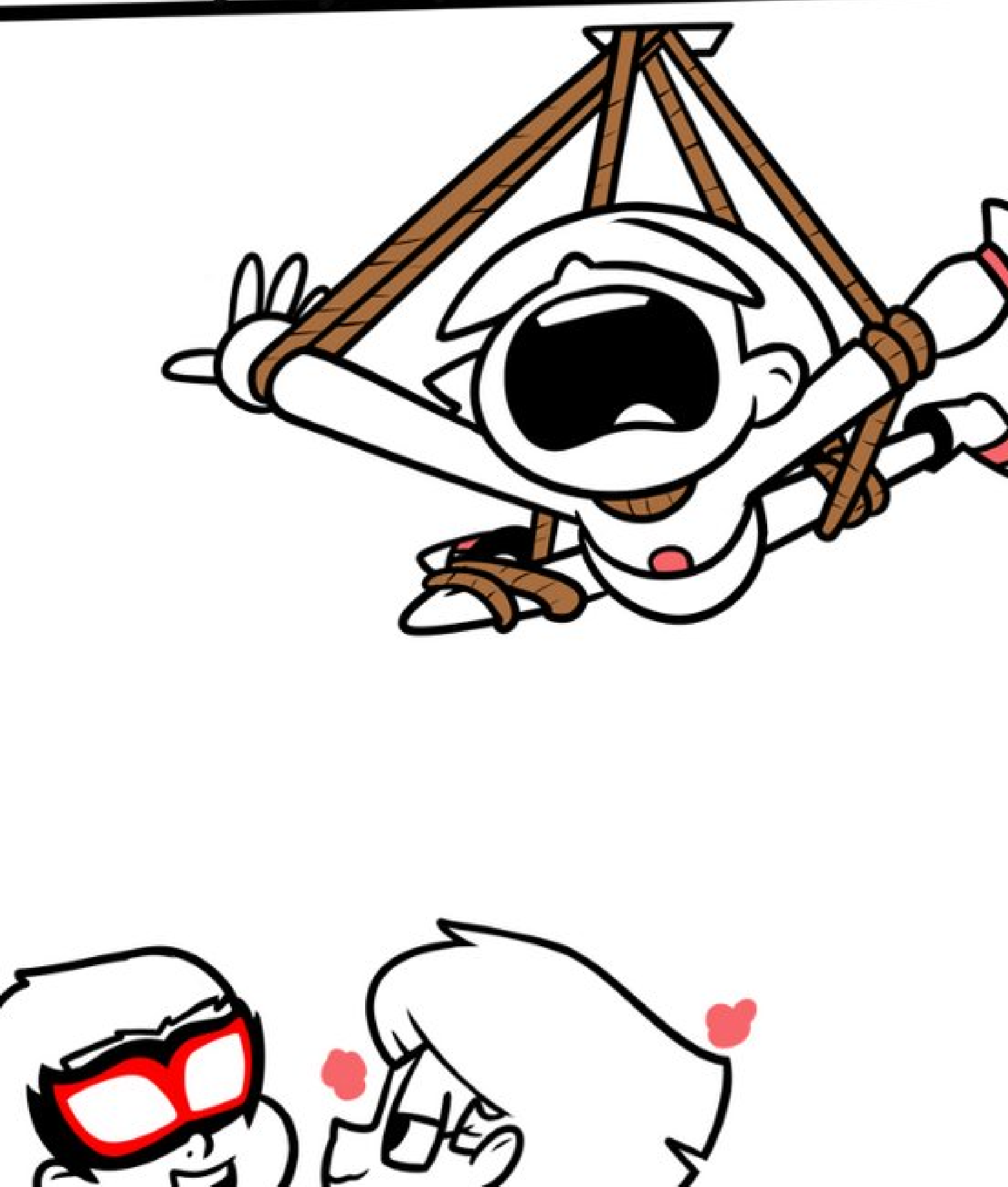
VERY WELL,
WE WILL PLAY A
FEW GAMES

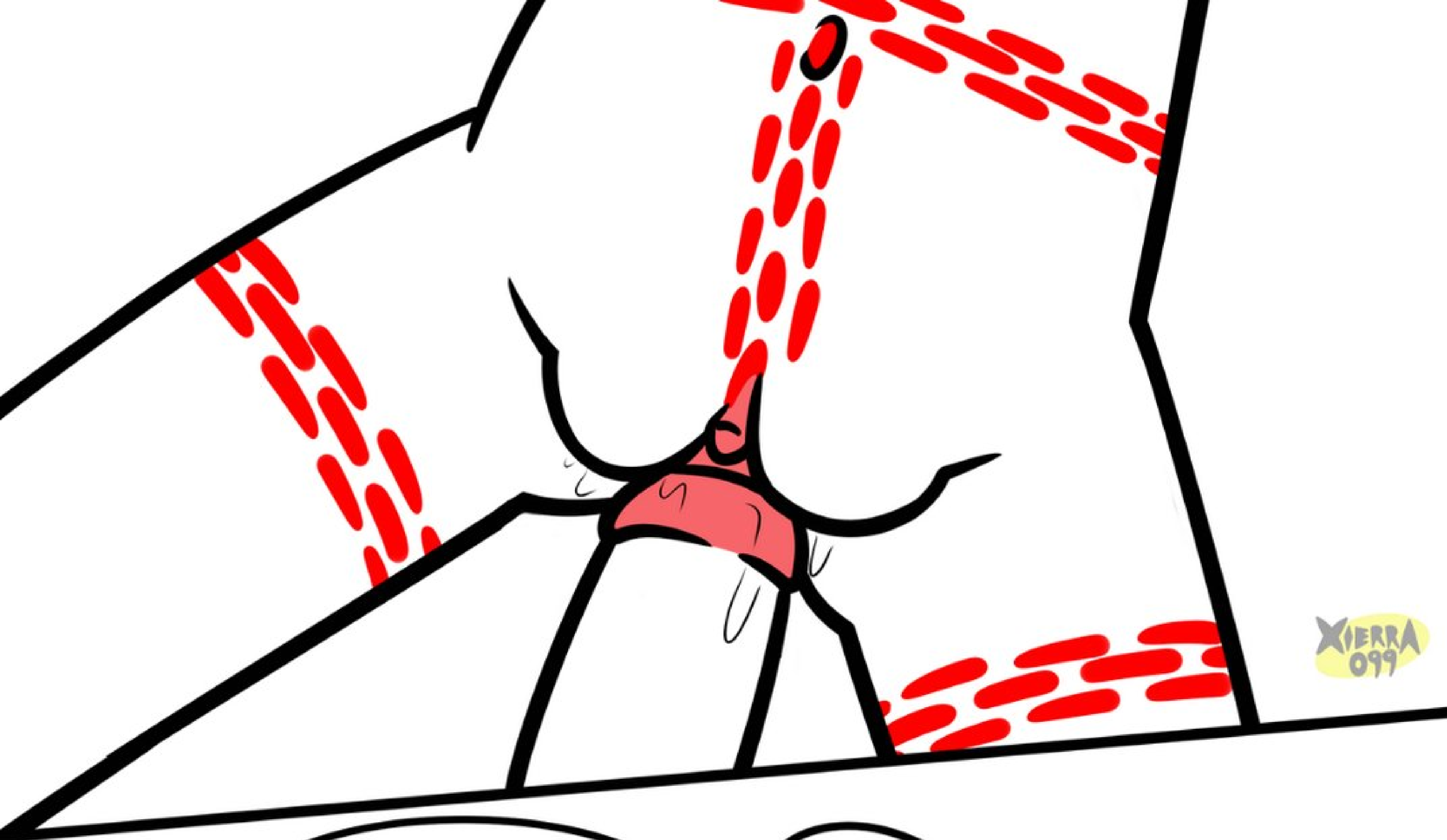


AND ANYTIME
YOU LOSE, I GET TO...
CLAIM SOME OF YOUR
ESSENCE

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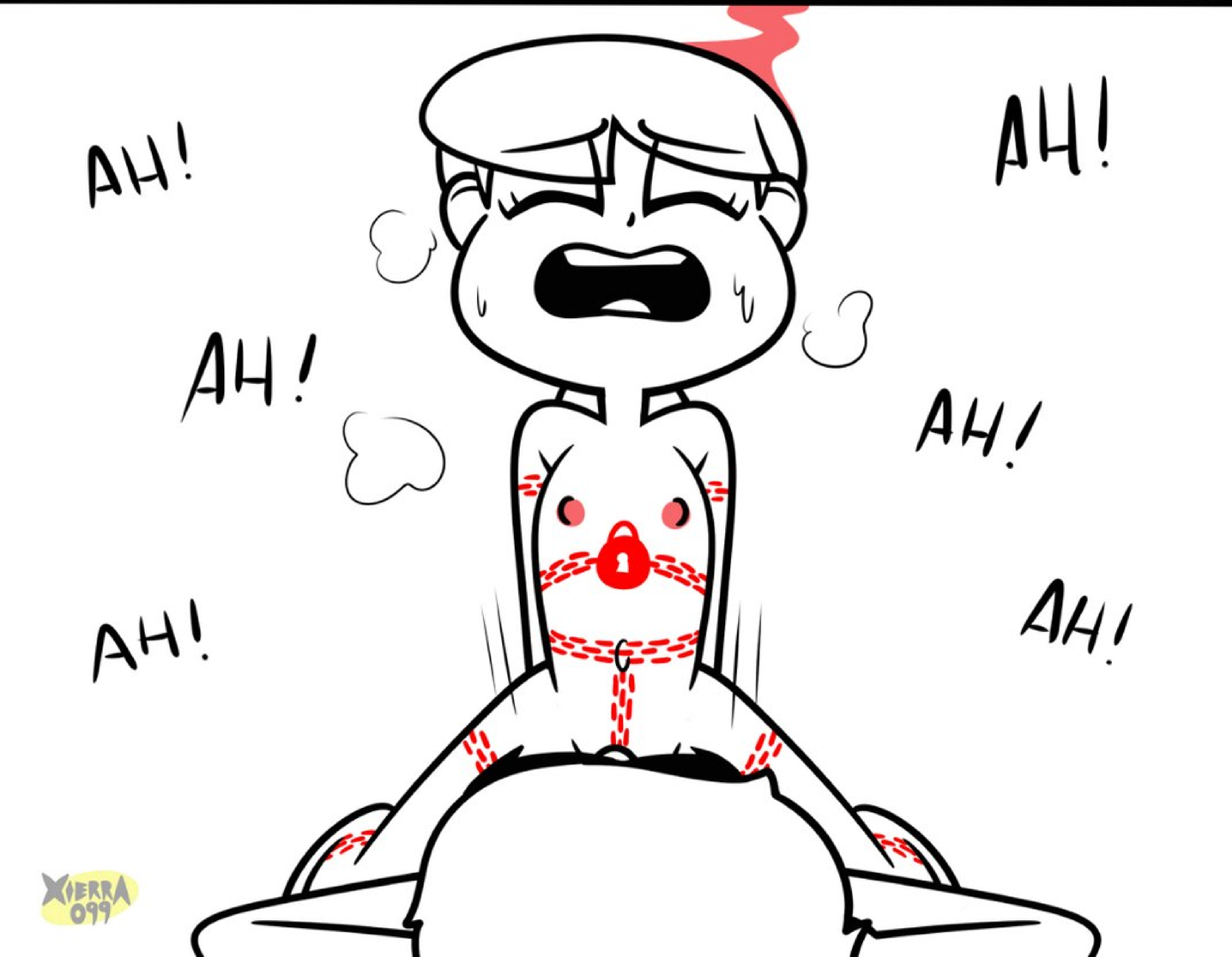
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HEH... YOU LOOK
LIKE YOU'RE STARTING
TO ENJOY YOURSELF...

MMMMHHH...

SH--
SHUT UP!

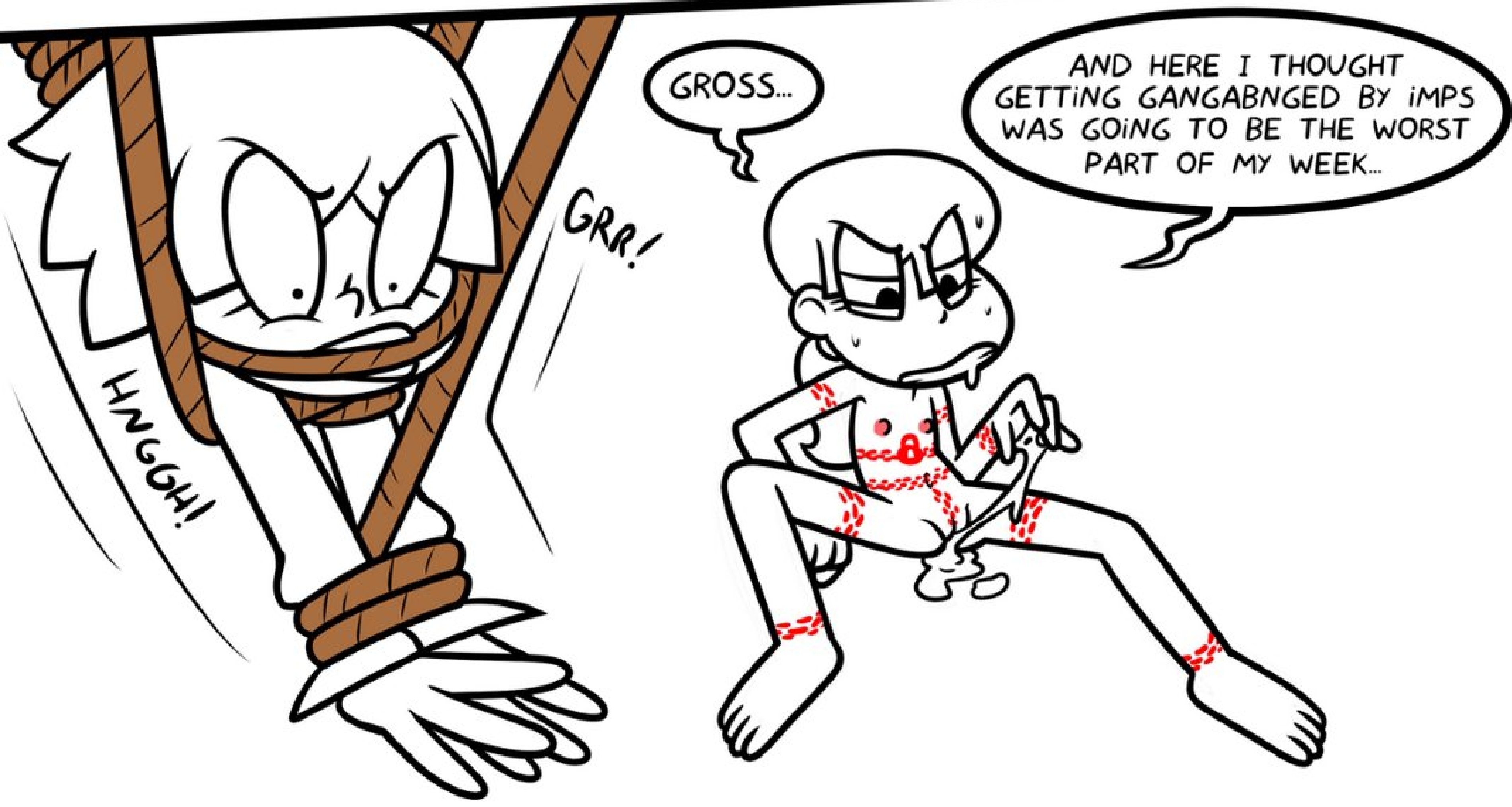
LITTLE...
CREEP...!

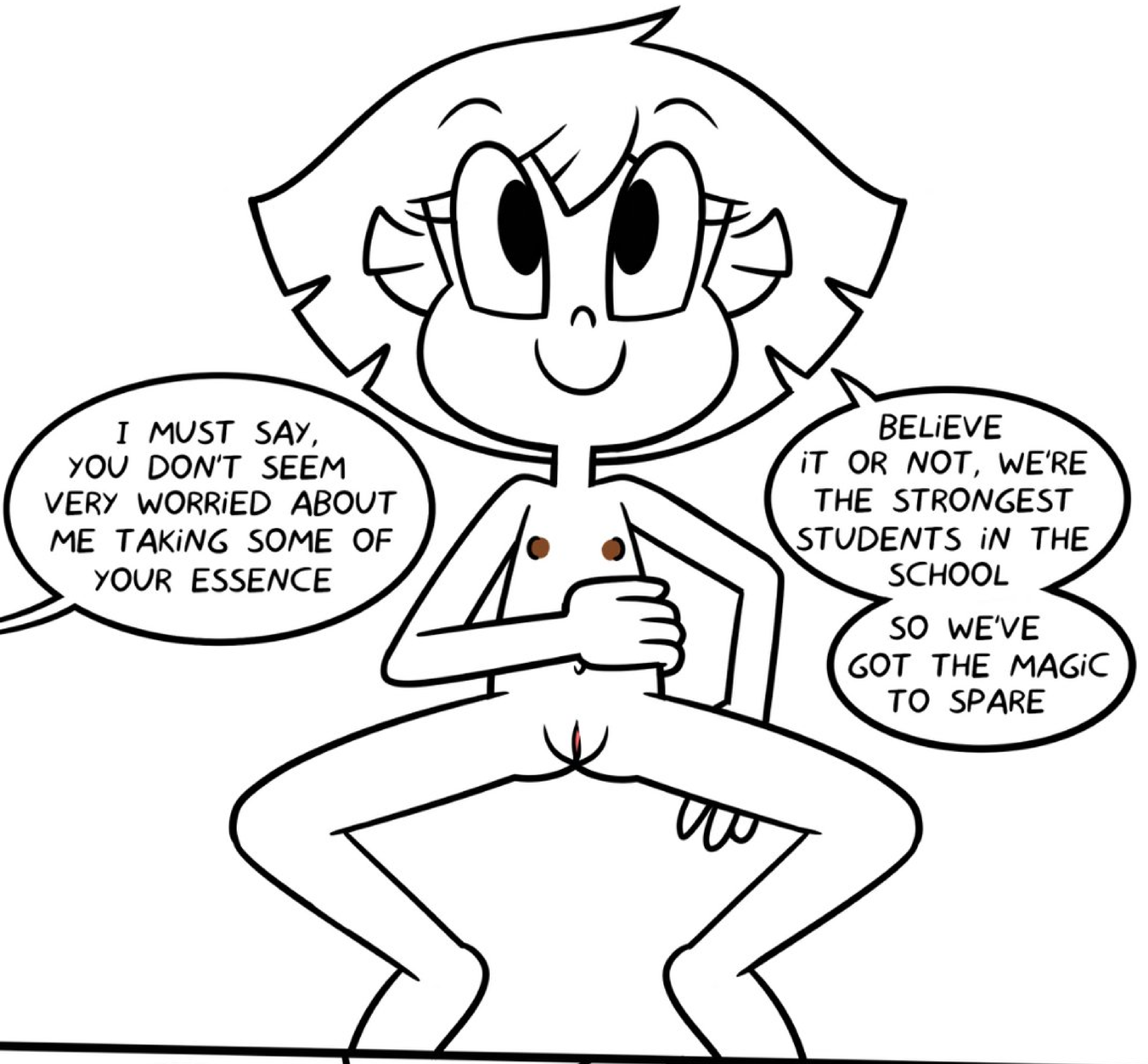






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I MUST SAY,
YOU DON'T SEEM
VERY WORRIED ABOUT
ME TAKING SOME OF
YOUR ESSENCE

BELIEVE
IT OR NOT, WE'RE
THE STRONGEST
STUDENTS IN THE
SCHOOL

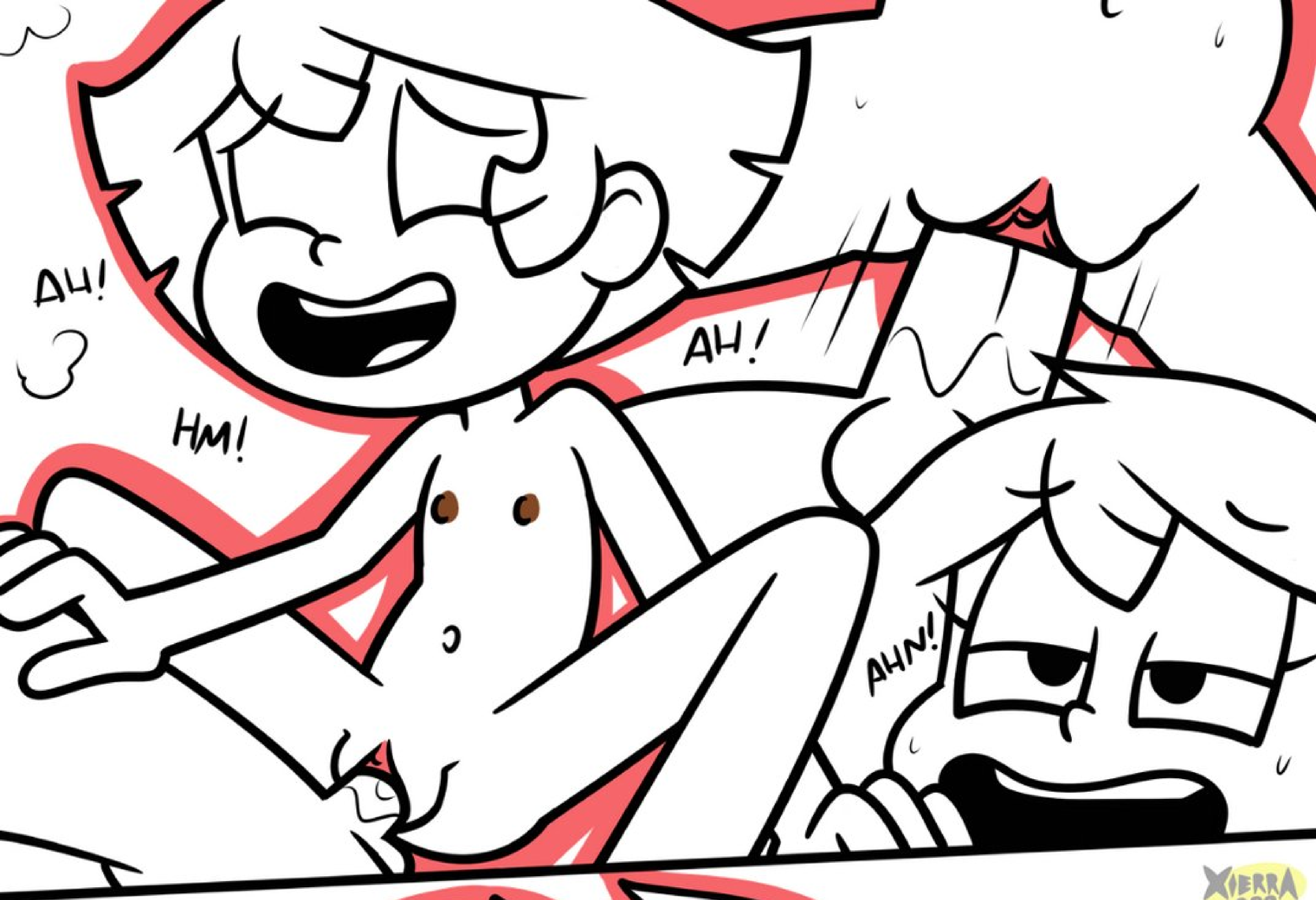
SO WE'VE
GOT THE MAGIC
TO SPARE



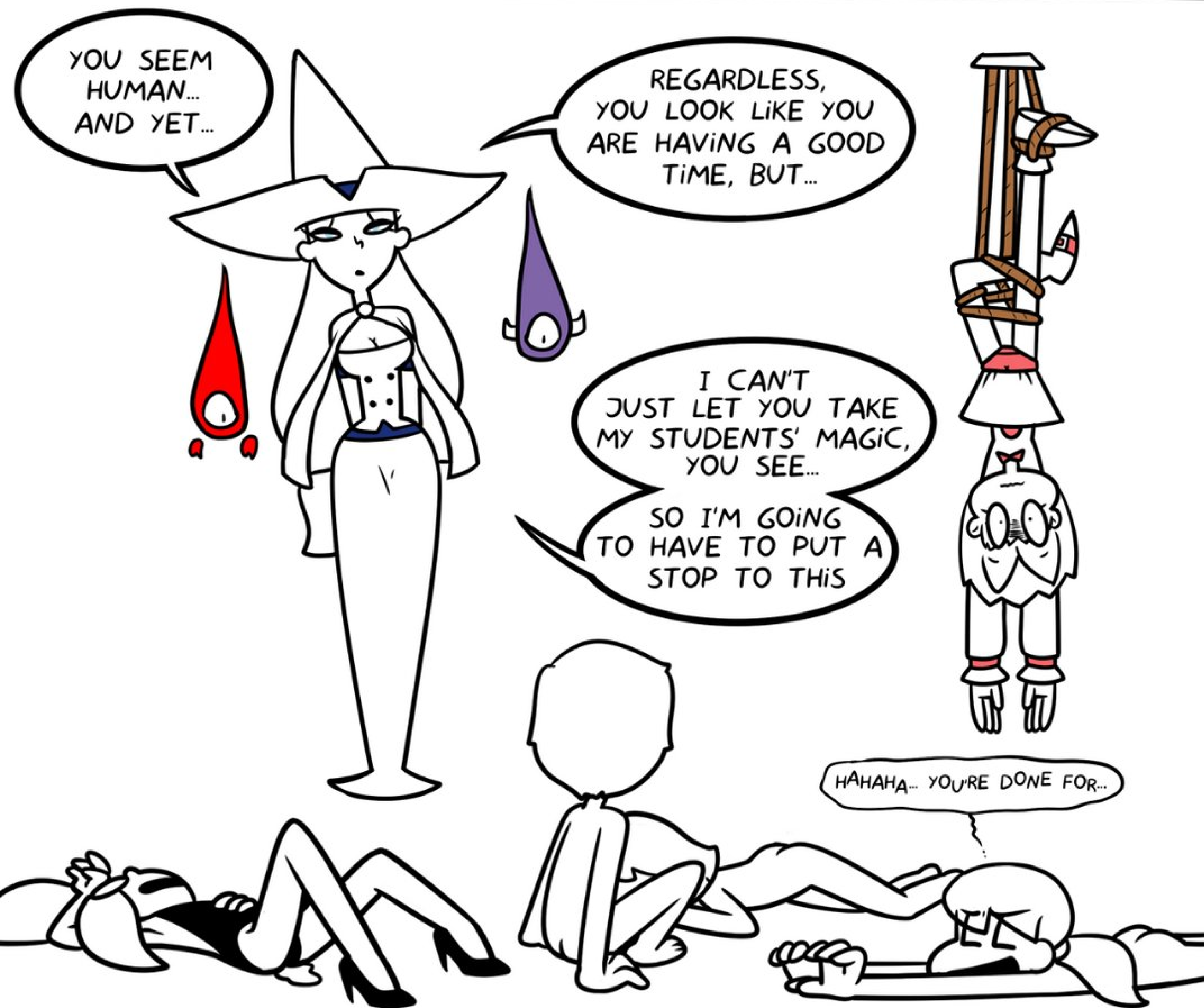
BESIDES,
WHO'S TO SAY I
WON'T GET A LITTLE
BIT OF YOUR ESSENCE
IN EXCHANGE?

HEH,
I'M AFRAID THAT'S
NOT HOW THE GAME
WORKS

AWW,
THAT'S TOO
BAD...









DON'T WORRY,
I'VE MADE
SURE NOT TO CAUSE
ANY IRREPARABLE
DAMAGE



HOWEVER,
I'M FAR FROM
BEING DONE

SO, IF YOU
WISH TO STOP ME,
YOU'LL HAVE TO
PLAY ALONG

PLACE
YOUR OWN WAGER,
SET YOUR DEMANDS,
THEN BEAT ME IN
A GAME

VERY
WELL THEN,
MY WAGER IS,
MYSELF

MAGIC, BODY,
ALL OF IT

ALL IN
ONE SINGLE
GAME

YOU WIN,
I'M YOURS

YOU LOSE,
YOU LEAVE

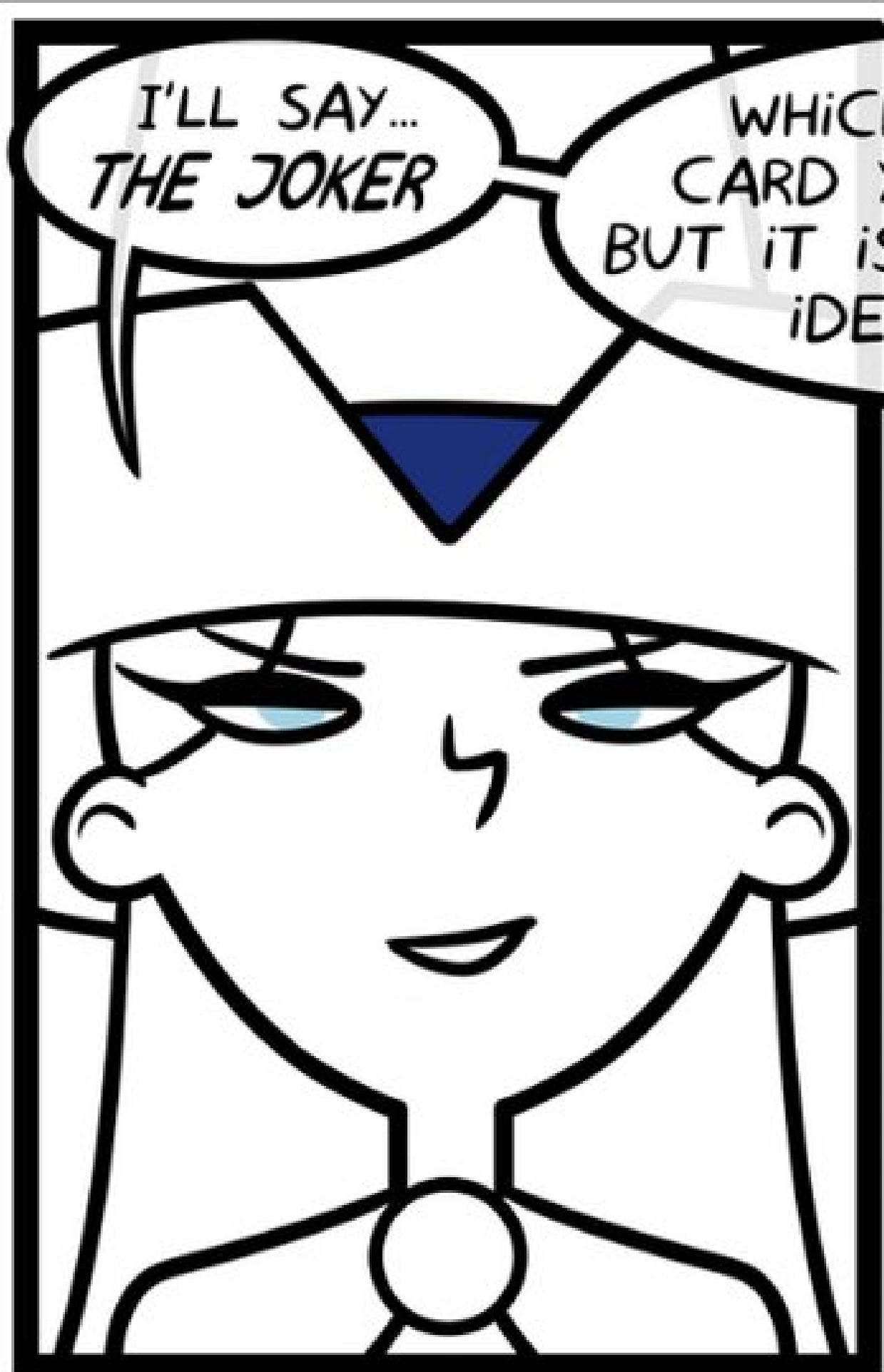


WELL, WELL,
WELL...

HOW
COULD I
SAY NO TO A
WAGER LIKE
THAT?



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BUT WHO KNOWS,
MAYBE SOME DAY SOON
WE CAN PLAY TOGETHER
AGAIN

I WOULD
LIKE THAT

MAYBE NEXT
TIME I CAN SEE
WHAT YOU'RE
HIDING UNDER THAT
MASK, TOO

HEH, HEH.
DON'T BET ON IT.
OR, MAYBE DO

Joker

I'LL BE
SURE TO HAVE
SOMETHING
GOOD WAITING
FOR YOU...

Joker

WHEN WE
PLAY AGAIN

THE
END

AS I SUSPECTED,
YOUR PROJECTS AS OF
LATE HAD BEEN SABOTAGED
(WELL EXCEPT FOR TULLY'S)

I'LL HAVE TO GIVE YOU
NEW SUMMONING ASSIGNMENTS
AT A LATER DATE

FOR NOW, I AM SIMPLY
FASCINATED TO HAVE WITNESSED
A FORM OF ENTITY UNLIKE ANY I
HAVE SEEN BEFORE

AND ALL THANKS TO
THE LOT OF YOU!
SO I'LL GIVE YOU
AN A+ AS A GROUP

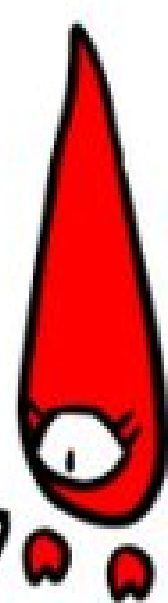
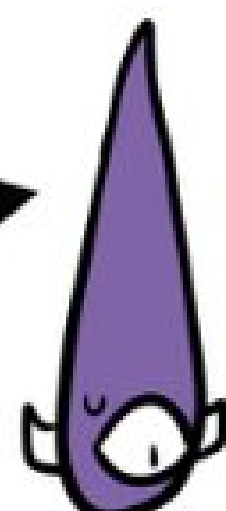
WELL, THE INFIRMARY PERSONNEL
SHOULD COME FOR YOU SHORTLY.

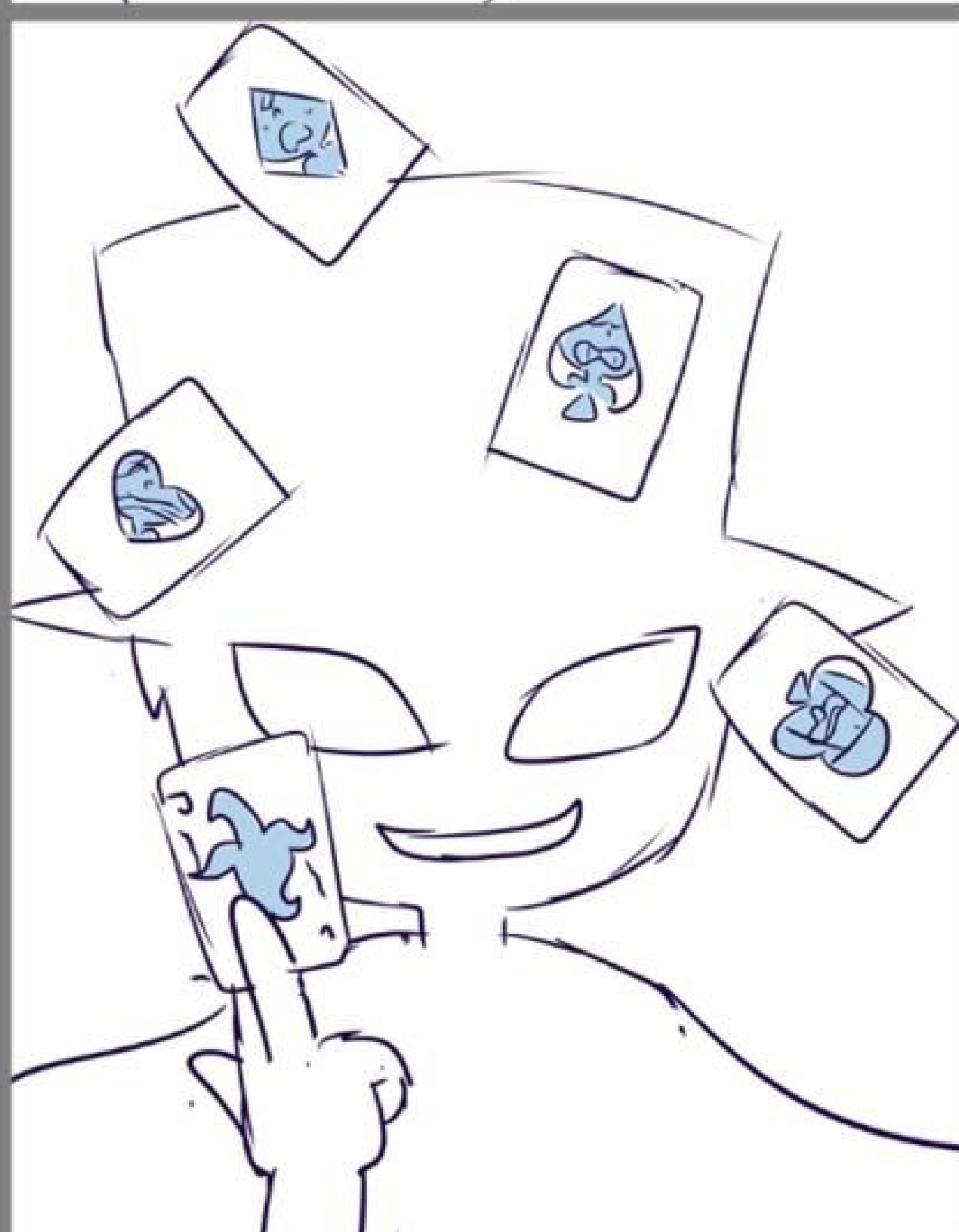
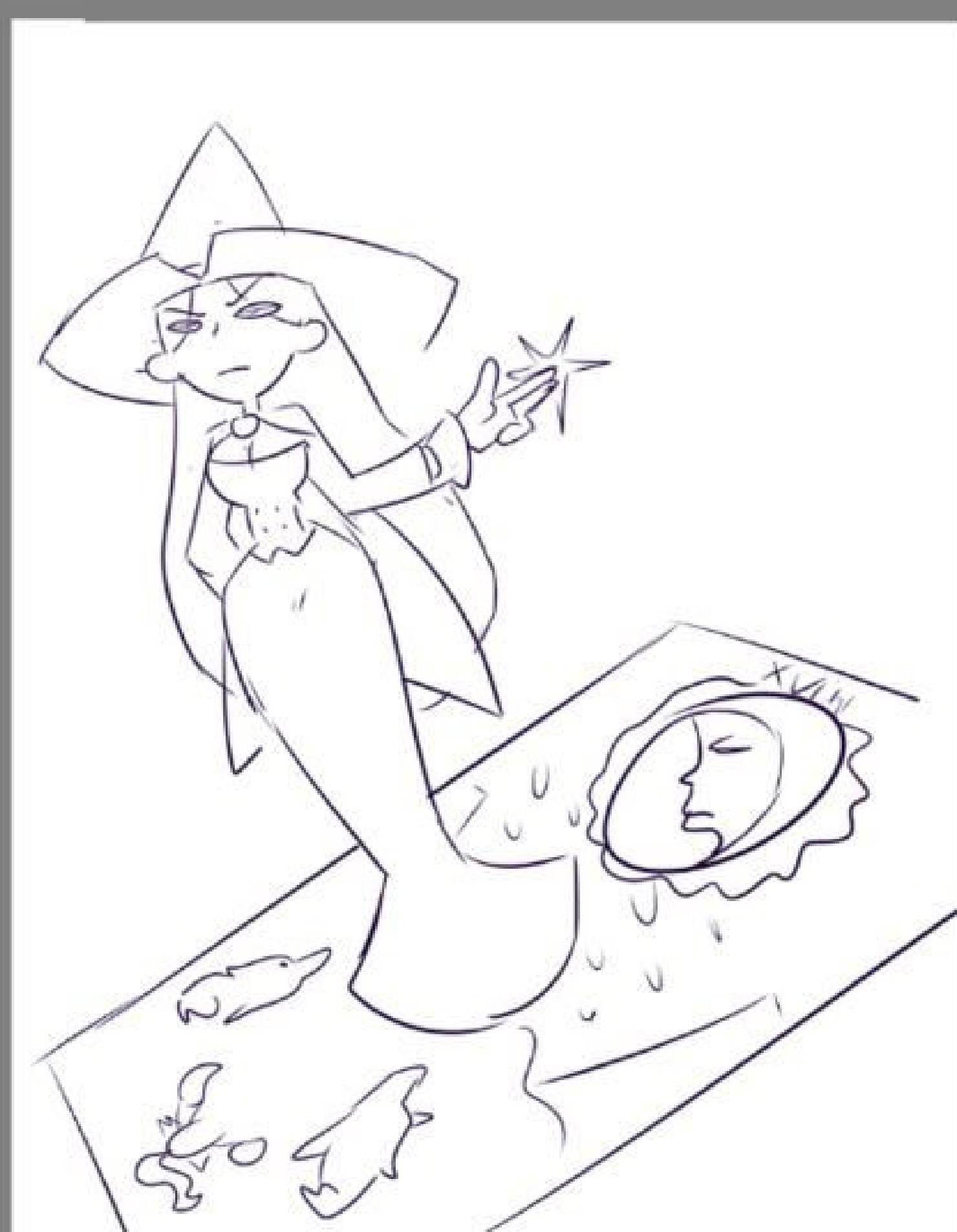
I'LL SEE YOU LATER!

IF I EVER
GET MY HANDS ON
THAT LITTLE...

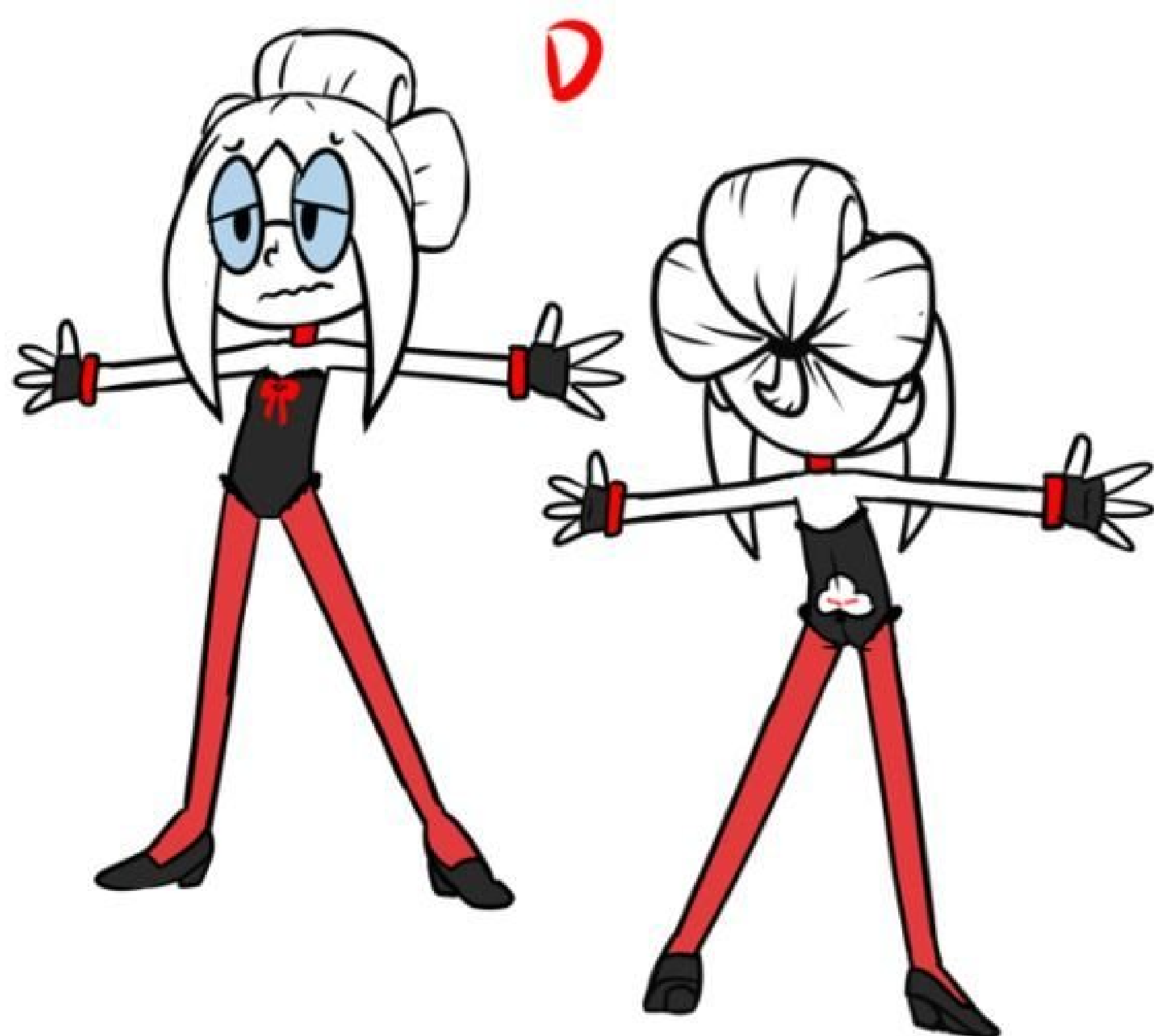
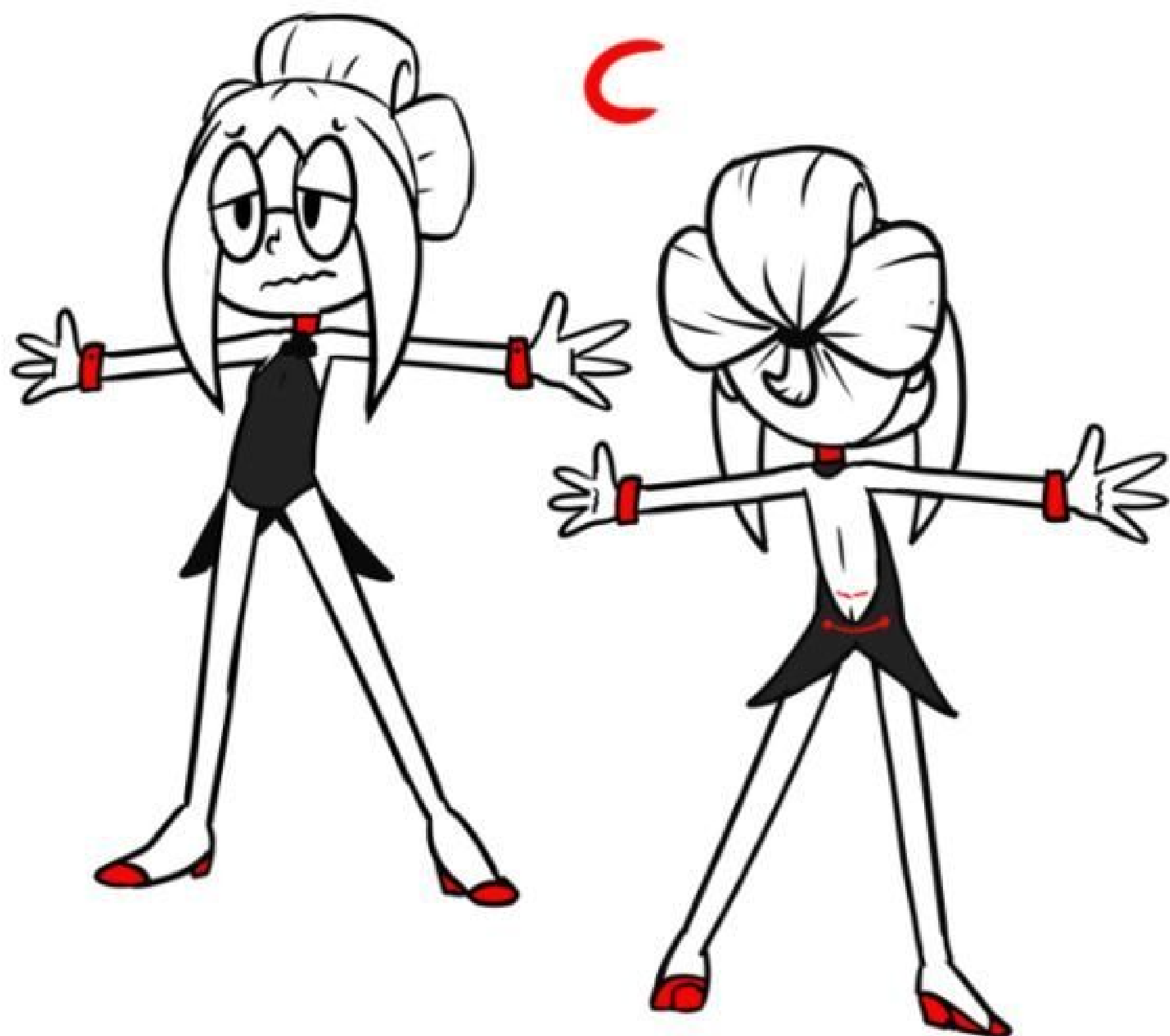
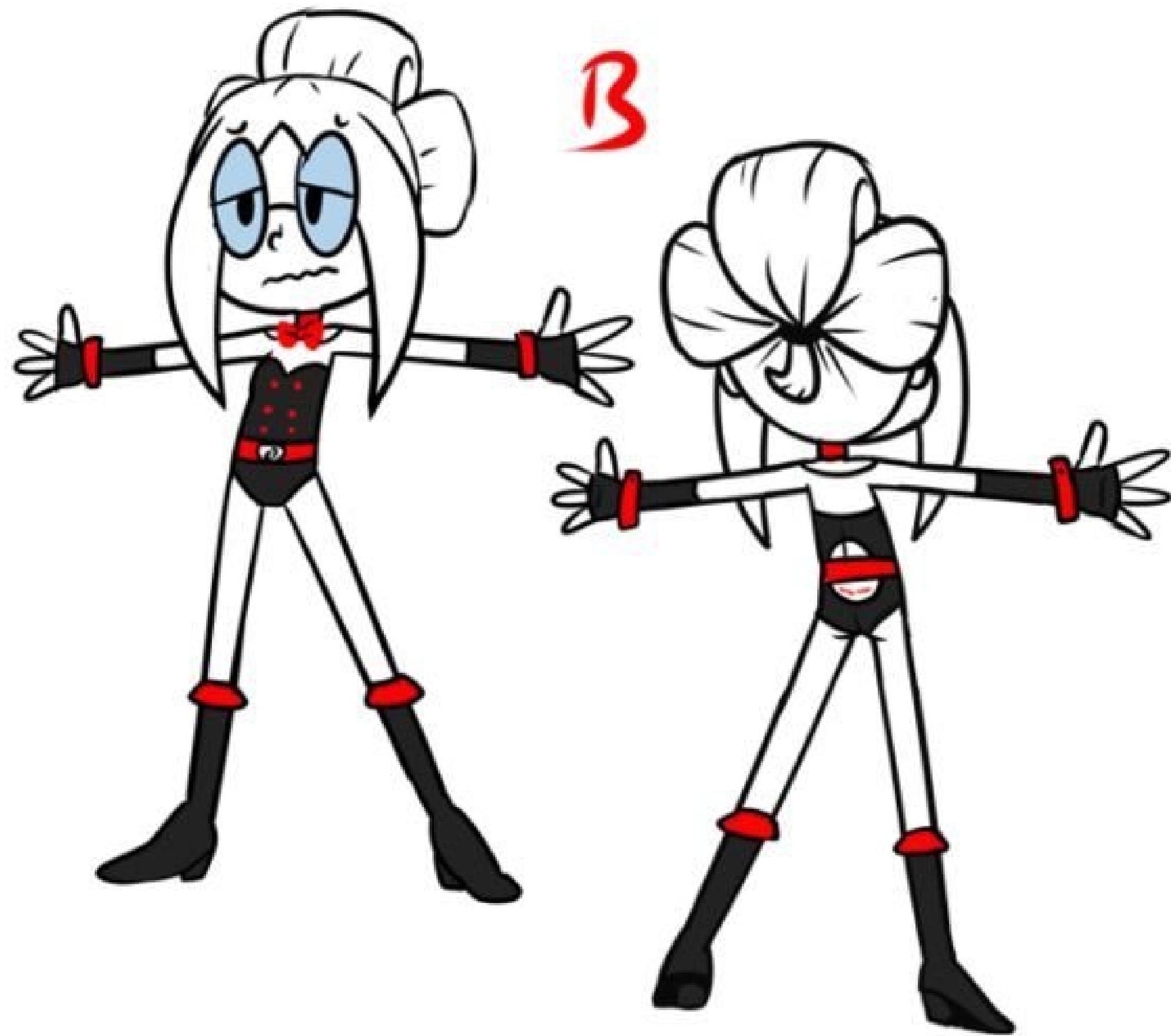
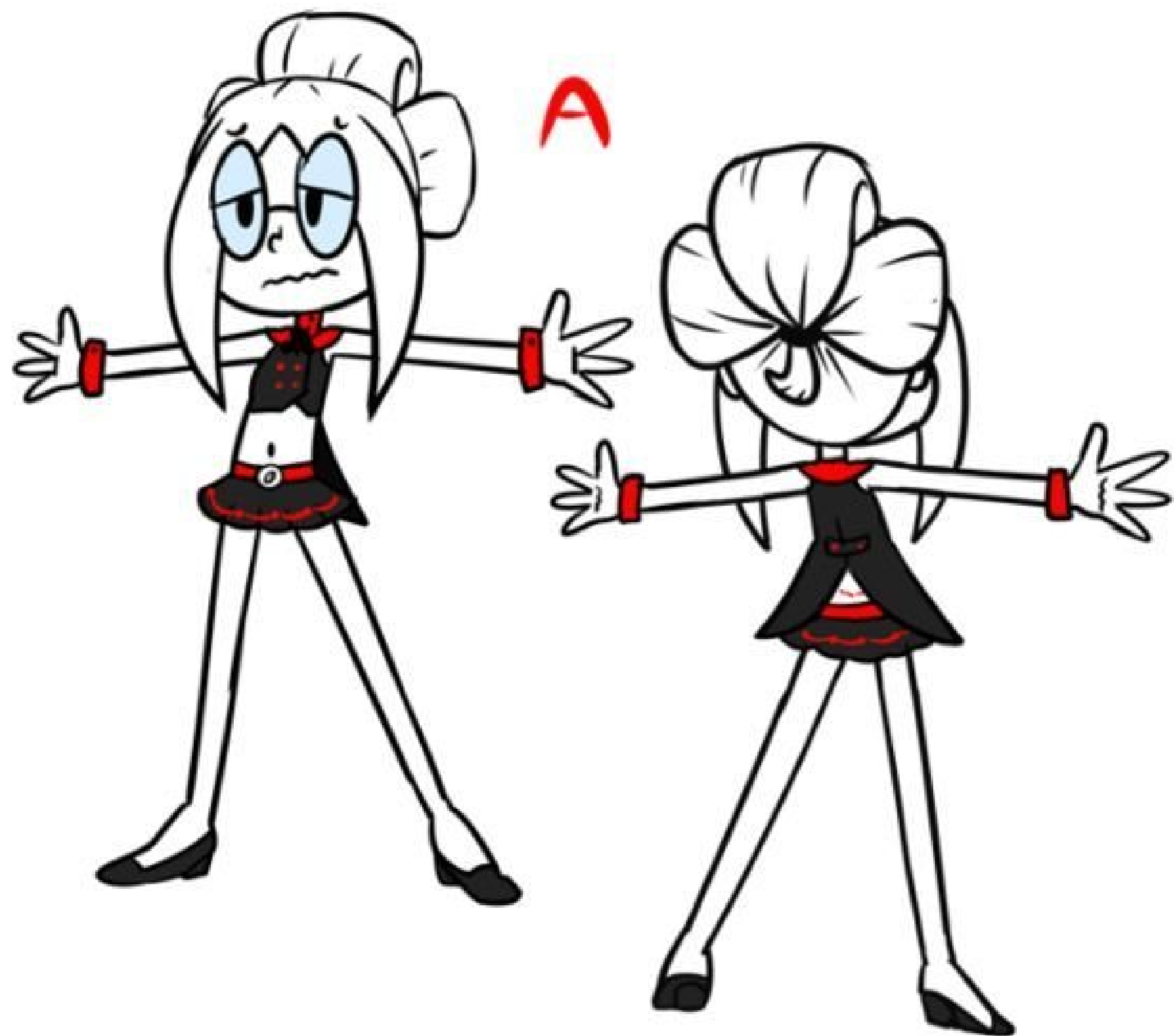
COUNT
ME OUT OF YOUR
REVENGE PLANS

I WANNA
GO TO MY
ROOM, NOW...









Joker



Joker

