

Sweet Paprika





ISSUE 11

**WE'RE MADE
THE SAME**



MISS PAPRIKA...
ARE YOU SURE?
♥

ANF!

I'M SURE,
MR. ZA'ATAR...
♥

DON'T WORRY...
♥
I JUST WANT TO...

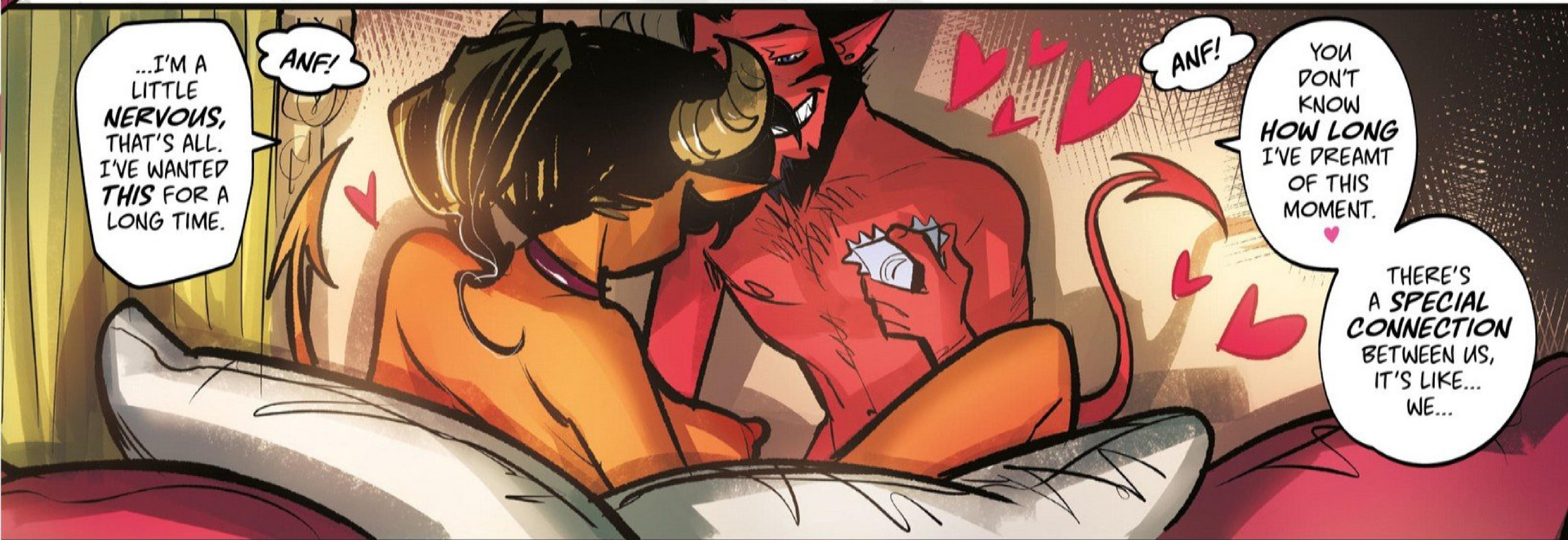
ANF!

...DON'T MOVE,
PLEASE. STAY GOOD AND QUIET!
♥

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?

YOU'RE MORE ENERGETIC THAN USUAL!

I HOPE YOU'RE NOT JUST DOING IT BECAUSE...



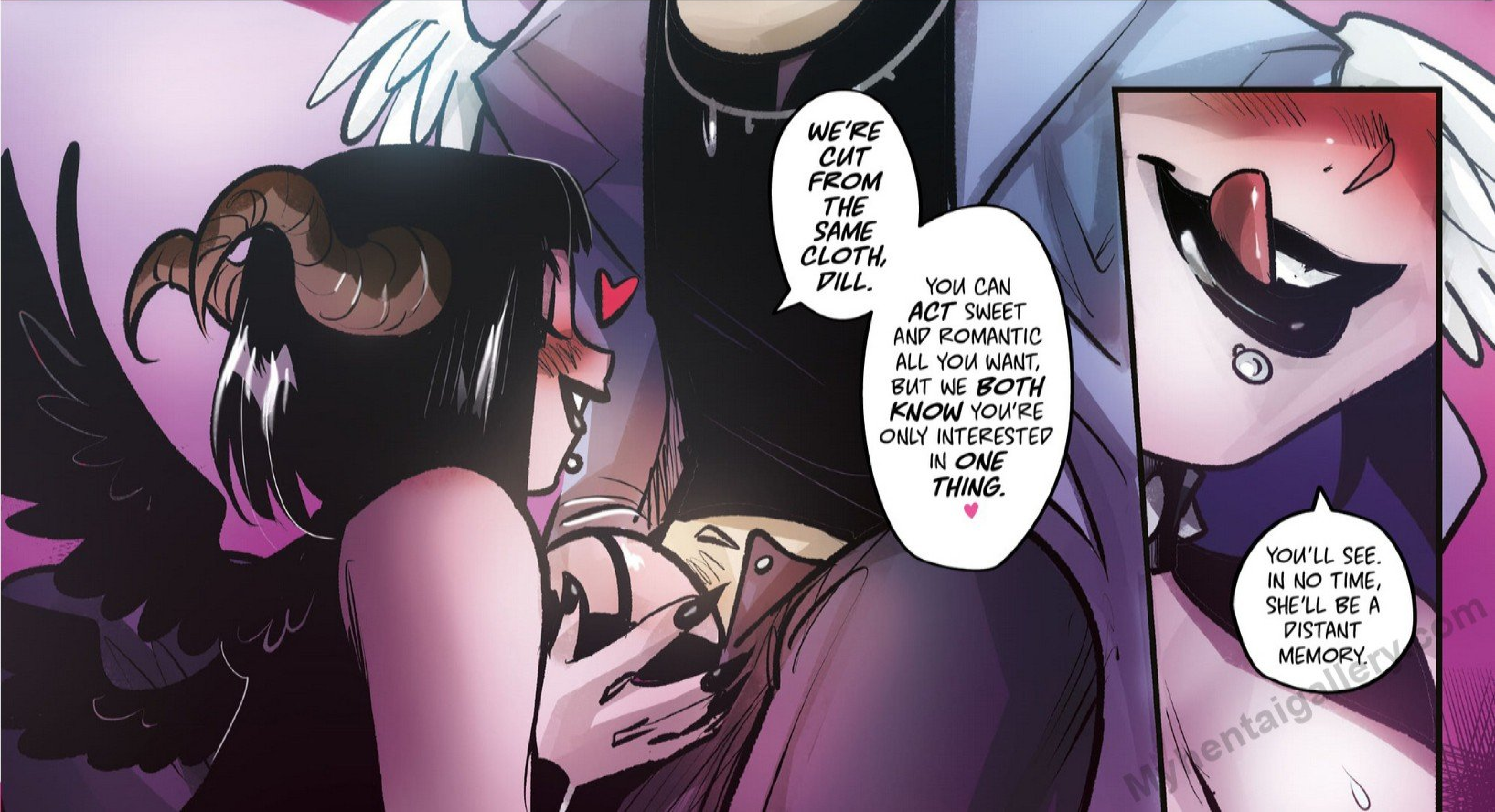
...I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS, THAT'S ALL. I'VE WANTED THIS FOR A LONG TIME.

ANF!

ANF!

YOU DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I'VE DREAMT OF THIS MOMENT.
♥

THERE'S A SPECIAL CONNECTION BETWEEN US, IT'S LIKE... WE...

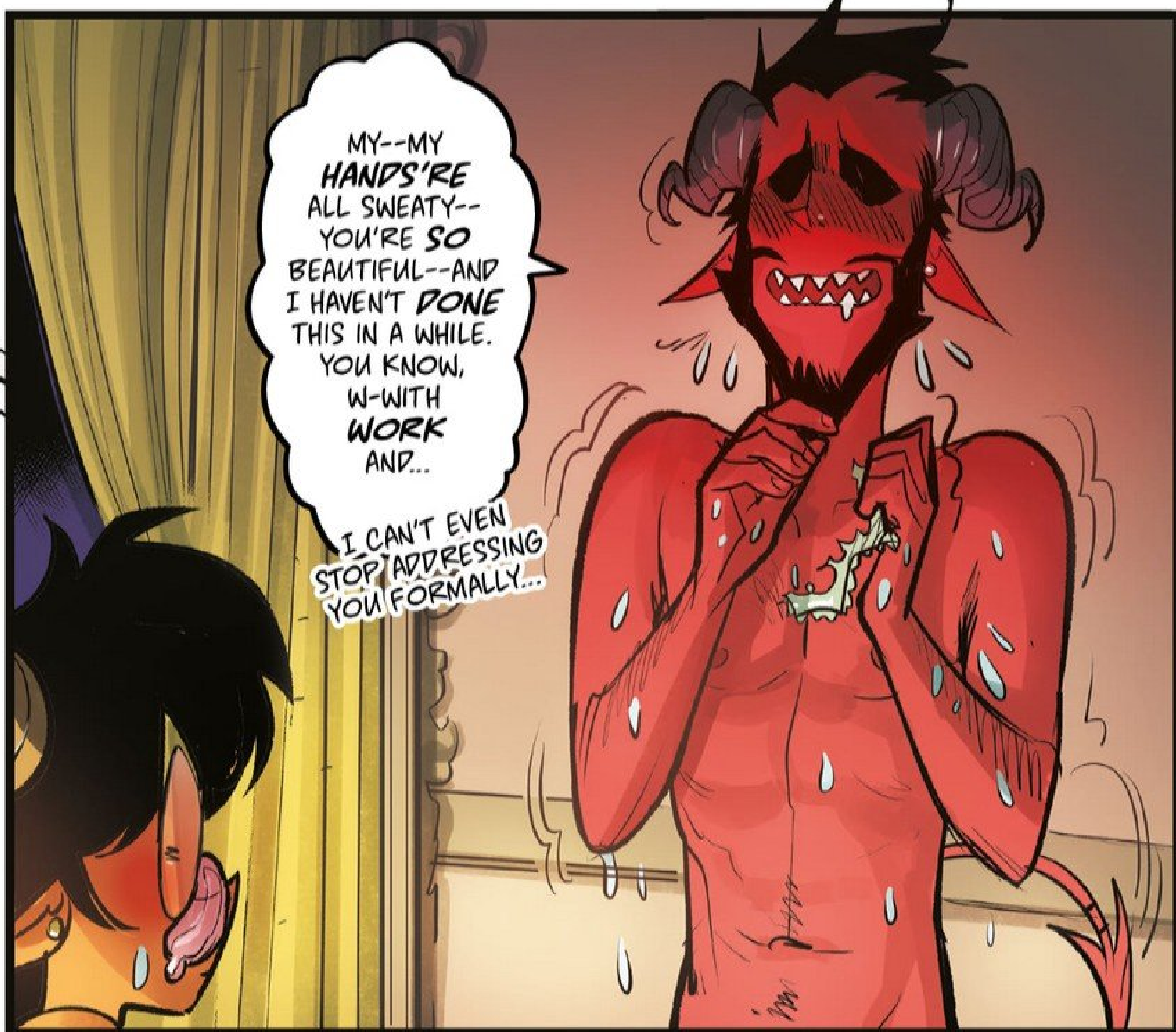


WE'RE CUT FROM THE SAME CLOTH, DILL.

YOU CAN ACT SWEET AND ROMANTIC ALL YOU WANT, BUT WE BOTH KNOW YOU'RE ONLY INTERESTED IN ONE THING.
♥



YOU'LL SEE. IN NO TIME, SHE'LL BE A DISTANT MEMORY.





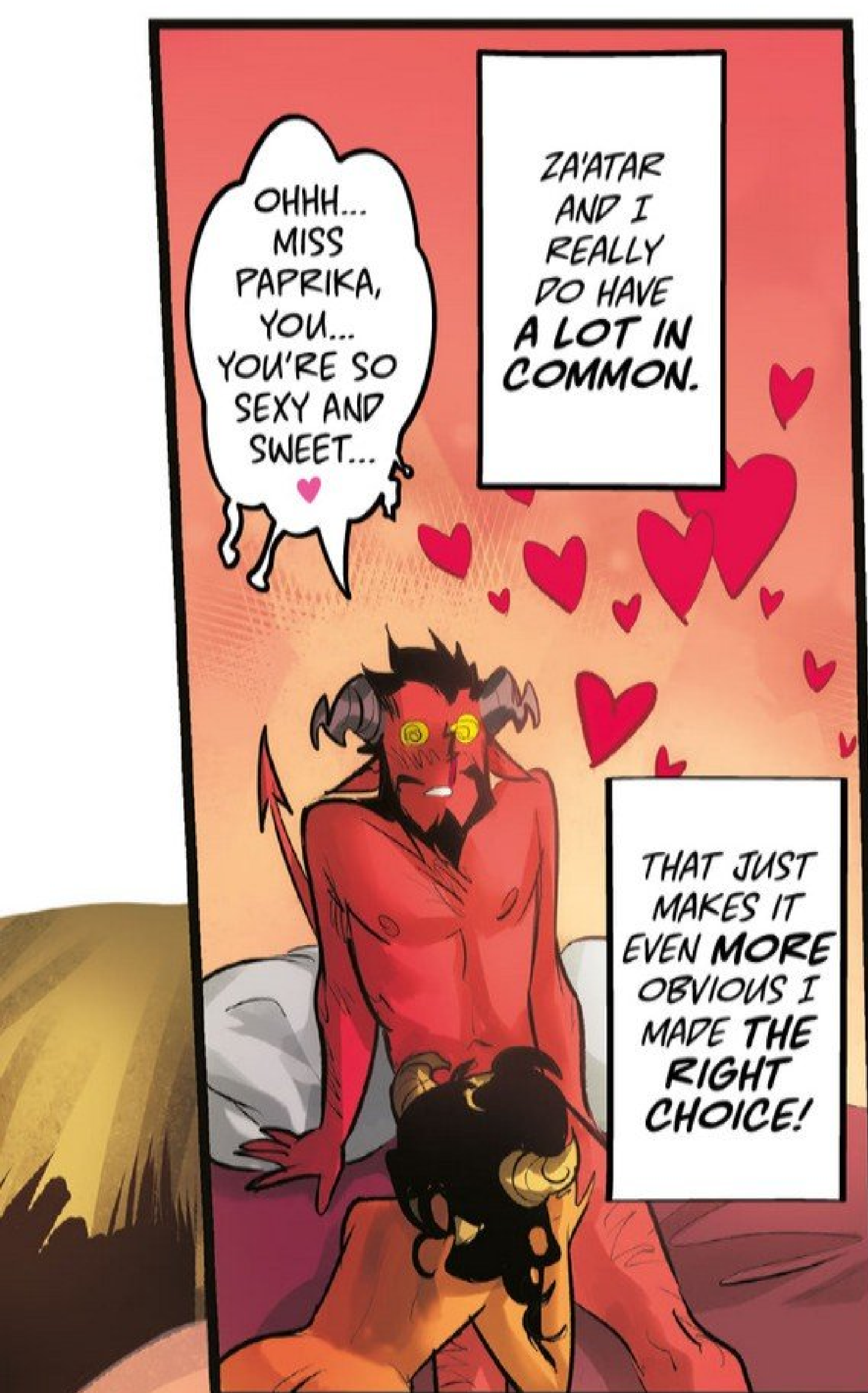
WELL...

!

YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF. I'VE HAD THE SAME FEARS FOR A LONG TIME.

SO, JUST RELAX. YOU'RE INCREDIBLY SEXY AND SWEET...

...AND MISS PAPRIKA CAN'T RESIST YOU...



OH... MISS PAPRIKA, YOU... YOU'RE SO SEXY AND SWEET...

ZA'ATAR AND I REALLY DO HAVE A LOT IN COMMON.

THAT JUST MAKES IT EVEN MORE OBVIOUS I MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE!



I MEAN, OF COURSE I DID! BUT WHY DO I HAVE TO KEEP REMINDING MYSELF? EVEN NOW?!

NO, NO-- I'M OVER IT! I'M HERE, HE'S HERE, FINALLY...AND IT'S GOING GREAT!

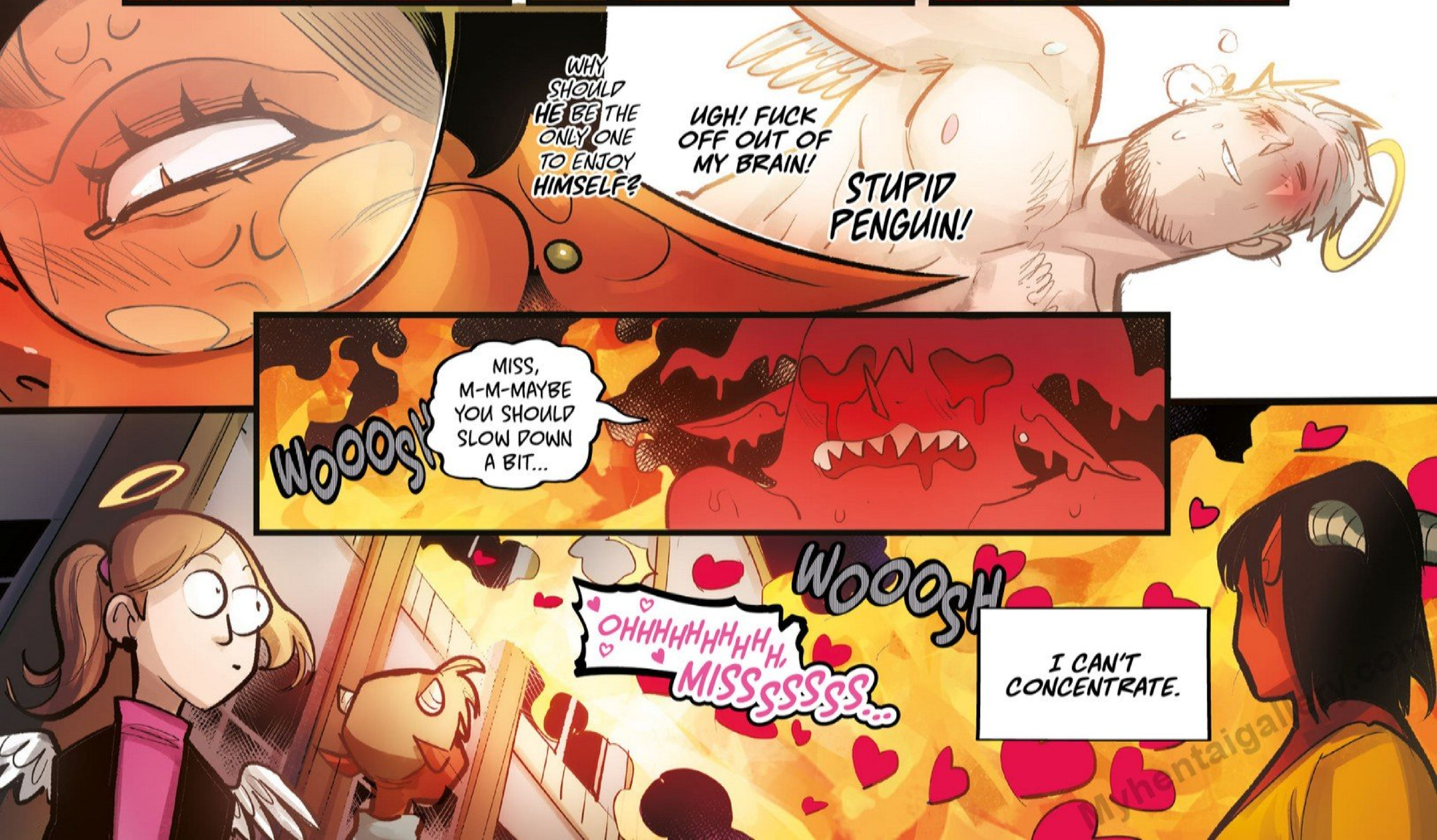
AH... AH...



AS IF HE'S EVEN THINKING ABOUT ME AT ALL!

I BET HE'S ALREADY CHOKING ON ANISETTE'S BIG BOOBS!

I-IF YOU KEEP BEING SO ENERGETIC...!



WHY SHOULD HE BE THE ONLY ONE TO ENJOY HIMSELF?

UGH! FUCK OFF OUT OF MY BRAIN!

STUPID PENGUIN!



Wooshy

MISS, M-M-MAYBE YOU SHOULD SLOW DOWN A BIT...

OH H H H H H H H H H H, MISS S S S S S...

Wooshy

I CAN'T CONCENTRATE.



...

MISS--
I MEAN,
PAPRIKA--
**YOU'VE BEEN
WONDERFUL.**
NOW THAT I'M
RELAXED, LET
ME DO IT ALL.
YOU'LL
SEE I'M--

BETTER
NOT.
SORRY.



WHAT?
IS...
SOMETHING
WRONG?

WE'RE JUST
GETTING
STARTED.
IS THIS **MY
FAULT?**



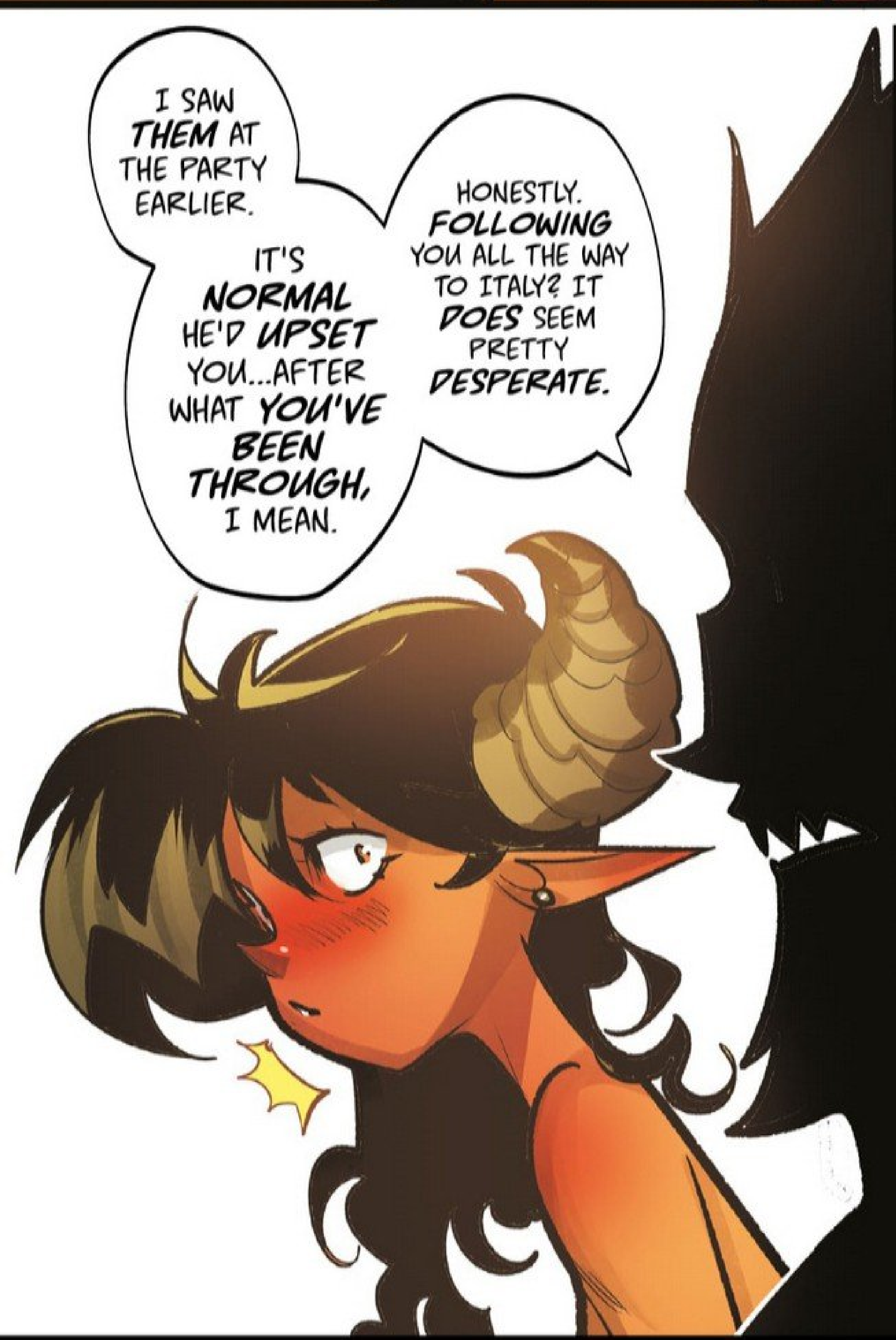
OH, NO.
IT'S **NOT**
YOU. ~~~UM~~~
IT'S **NOT**
YOU. I'M
HAVING FUN!
REALLY!
I JUST...

...I'VE
HAD **SUCH**
A LONG DAY.
I DIDN'T
REALIZE
HOW **TIRED**
I WAS!

CAN WE
PICK UP
WHERE
WE LEFT
OFF **TO-
MORROW?**



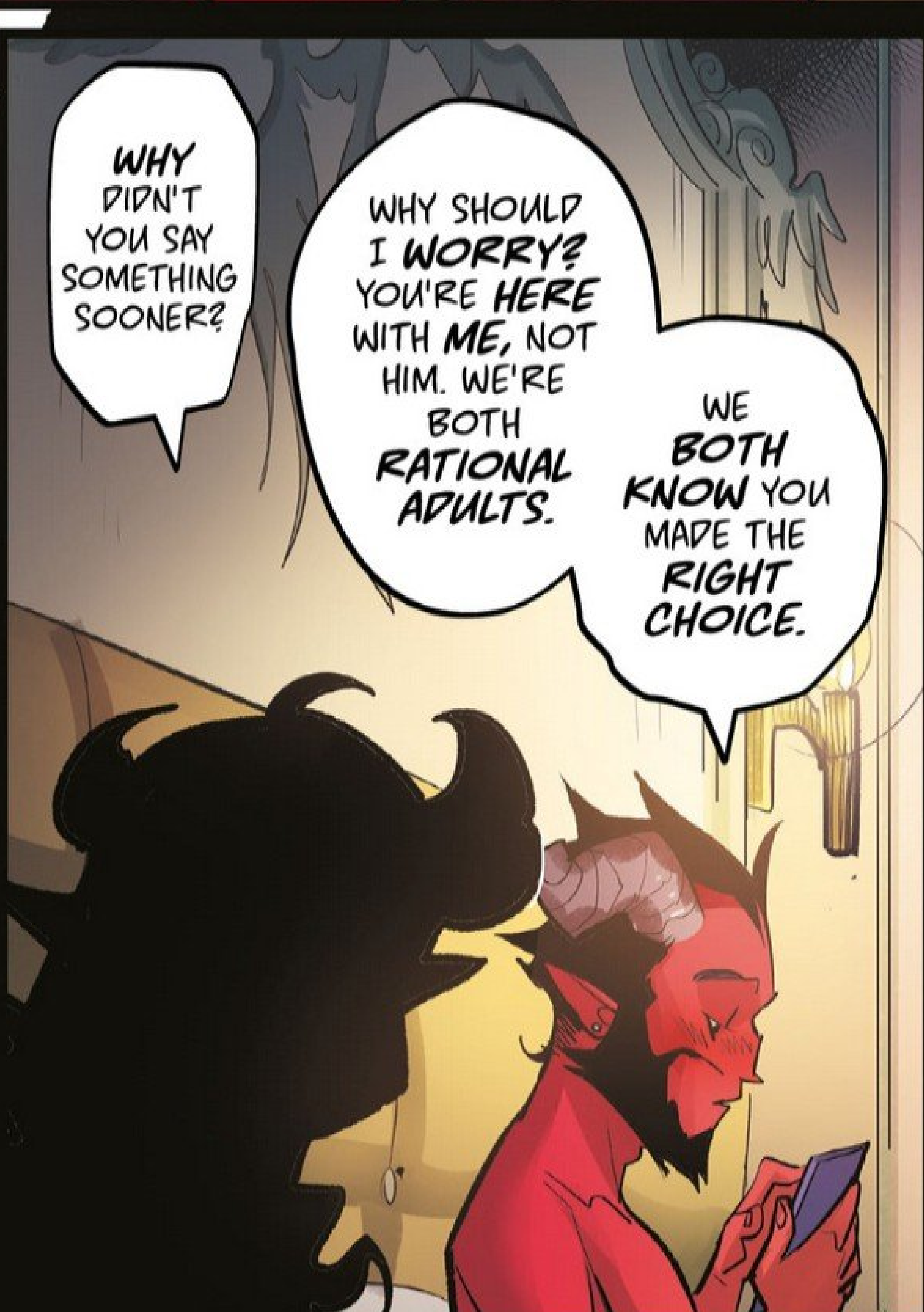
YOU'RE
THINKING
ABOUT
DILL AND
ANISETTE,
AREN'T
YOU?



I SAW
THEM AT
THE PARTY
EARLIER.

IT'S
NORMAL
HE'D **UPSET**
YOU...AFTER
WHAT **YOU'VE**
BEEN
THROUGH,
I MEAN.

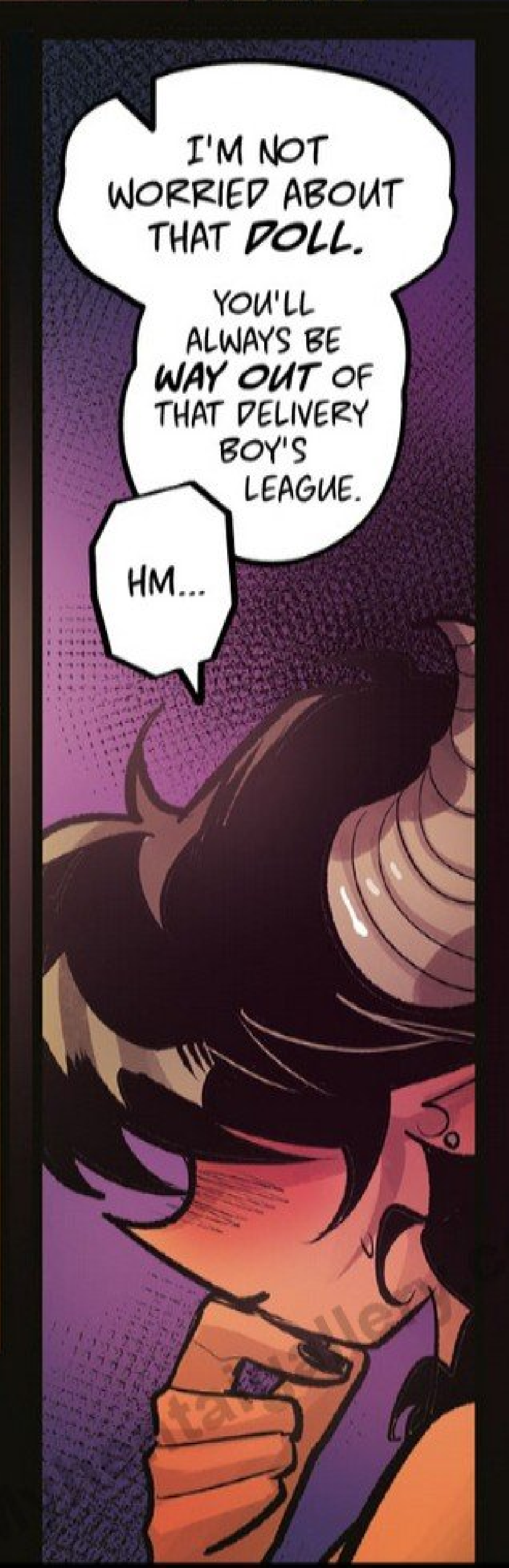
HONESTLY,
FOLLOWING
YOU ALL THE WAY
TO ITALY? IT
DOES SEEM
PRETTY
DESPERATE.



WHY
DIDN'T
YOU SAY
SOMETHING
SOONER?

WHY SHOULD
I **WORRY?**
YOU'RE **HERE**
WITH **ME**, NOT
HIM. WE'RE
BOTH
RATIONAL
ADULTS.

WE
BOTH
KNOW YOU
MADE THE
RIGHT
CHOICE.



I'M NOT
WORRIED ABOUT
THAT **DOLL.**

YOU'LL
ALWAYS BE
WAY OUT OF
THAT DELIVERY
BOY'S
LEAGUE.

HM...



WHEN WE MET, I KNEW WE WERE MADE FOR EACH OTHER.

TWO WINNERS WHO JUST **DON'T MIX** WITH CERTAIN KINDS OF... **LOW-LEVEL INDIVIDUALS.**

OTHER THAN TO RELIEVE SOME STRESS, AT LEAST.



WHAT'S DEVELOPING BETWEEN US IS **SPECIAL.**

IF YOU'RE NERVOUS BECAUSE OF DILL, LET ME RELAX YOU...



TO-TOMORROW, FOR SURE! BU- BUT **GOOD-NIGHT** FOR NOW...



'NIGHT.



ZA'ATAR'S ABSOLUTELY RIGHT. AND I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN IT.

DILL IS... WELL, HE'S JUST **"TOO DILL"** FOR ME.

I'M MISS PAPRIKA! **RESIDENT DRAGON** OF INFERNUM PRESS! THE C.C.O. OF EVERYONE'S NIGHTMARES!

I EAT PEOPLE LIKE DILL FOR **BREAKFAST!**

HE'S SO **LOW** ON THE FOOD CHAIN, HE DOESN'T EVEN DESERVE TO **BREATHE MY AIR!**

HEAVEN'S EXPRESS



WITH
ZA'ATAR? IT'S
COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT.

WE'RE
MADE THE
SAME. WE'RE
POWER-
HUNGRY
WARRIOR
DEMONS!

THE SCOURGES
OF OUR
UNDERLINGS--
I MEAN
EMPLOYEES!

WE'RE THE
PERFECT
COUPLE!

I MEAN,
I DIDN'T
FEEL
FI-FIRE-
WORKS
LIKE WITH
DILL...

AND WHEN
ZA'ATAR
TALKED
ABOUT DILL
LIKE THAT,
IT'S LIKE
SOMETHING
CAME
OVER ME!

BUT, HEY! IT WAS
JUST A BRIEF
MOMENT OF
CONFUSION!
MAYBE I HAVE
MELLOWED A
BIT OVER THE
PAST FEW
MONTHS...BUT
NOT TOO MUCH.

I'M STILL
THE SAME
DIABOLICAL
DEVIL IN CHARGE.
COMPASSION?
ME?



THIS WEIRD
FEELING
WILL FADE IN
NO TIME.
I'M SURE
OF IT.



TODAY...THE MARKET IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. SO, WE'VE ORGANIZED A PANEL FOR THE **SPICE IT UP!** FILM.

THERE'LL BE **Q&A**, **EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS**, PLUS **TOP INFLUENCERS**, AND **JOURNALISTS**.

YOU FOLKS GET THE SAME **SPECIAL TREATMENT** AS THE PROS, SO HERE'S YOUR **GOODIE BAG!**

THERE'S A **COPY OF SPICE IT UP!** ALONG WITH OTHER FUN LITTLE TOYS.

BAH. I'M HERE FOR **PAPRIKA!** NOT YOU!

PEPPER! UM, SHE'S ONLY SAYING THAT BECAUSE SHE **HASN'T READ IT!**



THEN THERE'S NO BETTER TIME TO GIVE IT A TRY!

AS IF **ARTEMISIO** WOULD EVER DO THAT...

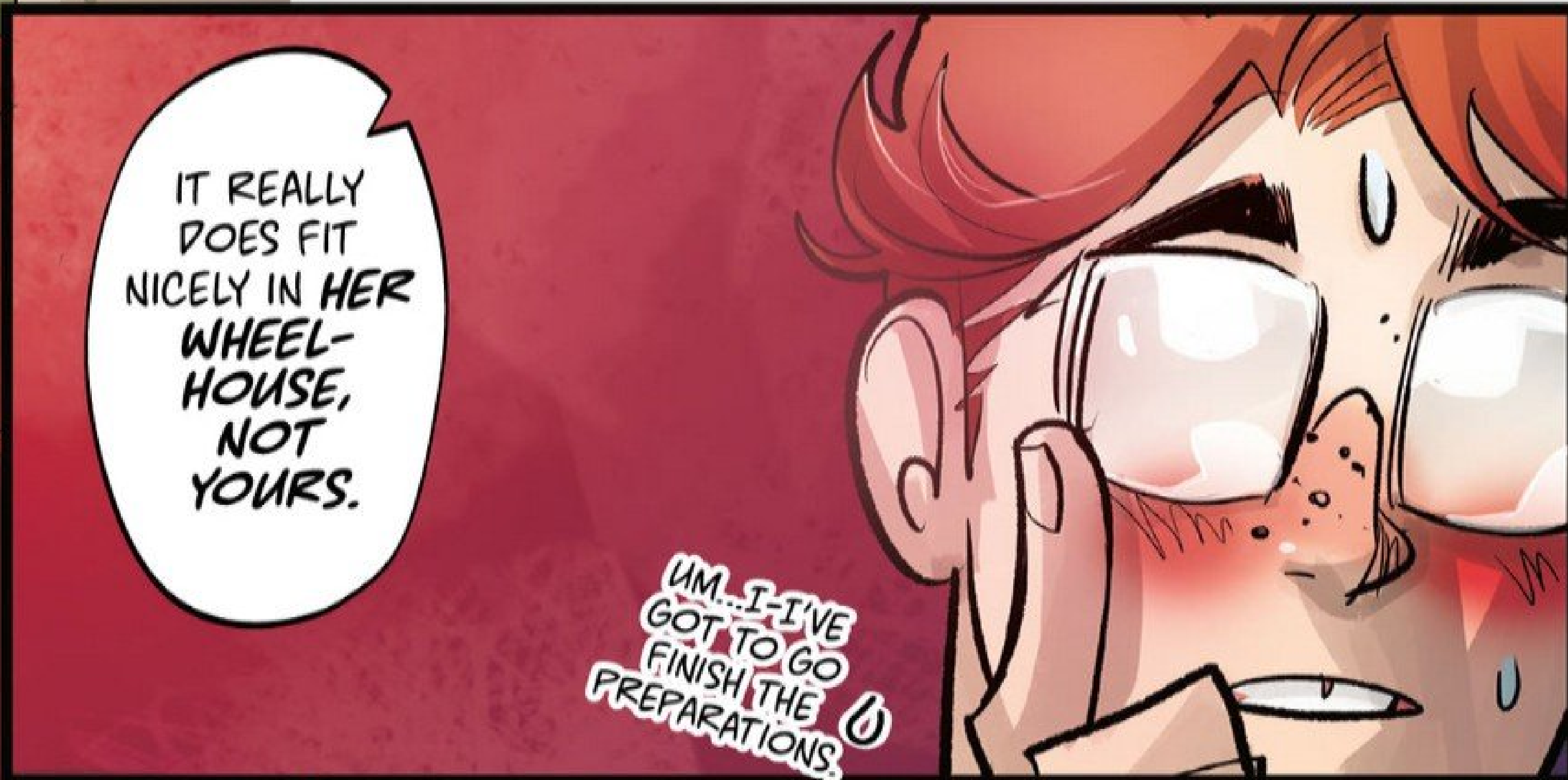
WELL, YOU SEE...I'M JUST **TOO OLD** TO BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO SUCH **ΣUMΣ "PARES,"** IF YOU WILL. BUT IF PEOPLE LIKE IT SO MUCH...

AND I HAVE STARTED IT, **BURNET!**

I NEVER CARED, SINCE IT HAD **YOUR NAME** ON IT. BUT NOW, WITH THE MOVIE? I'M INTRIGUED.

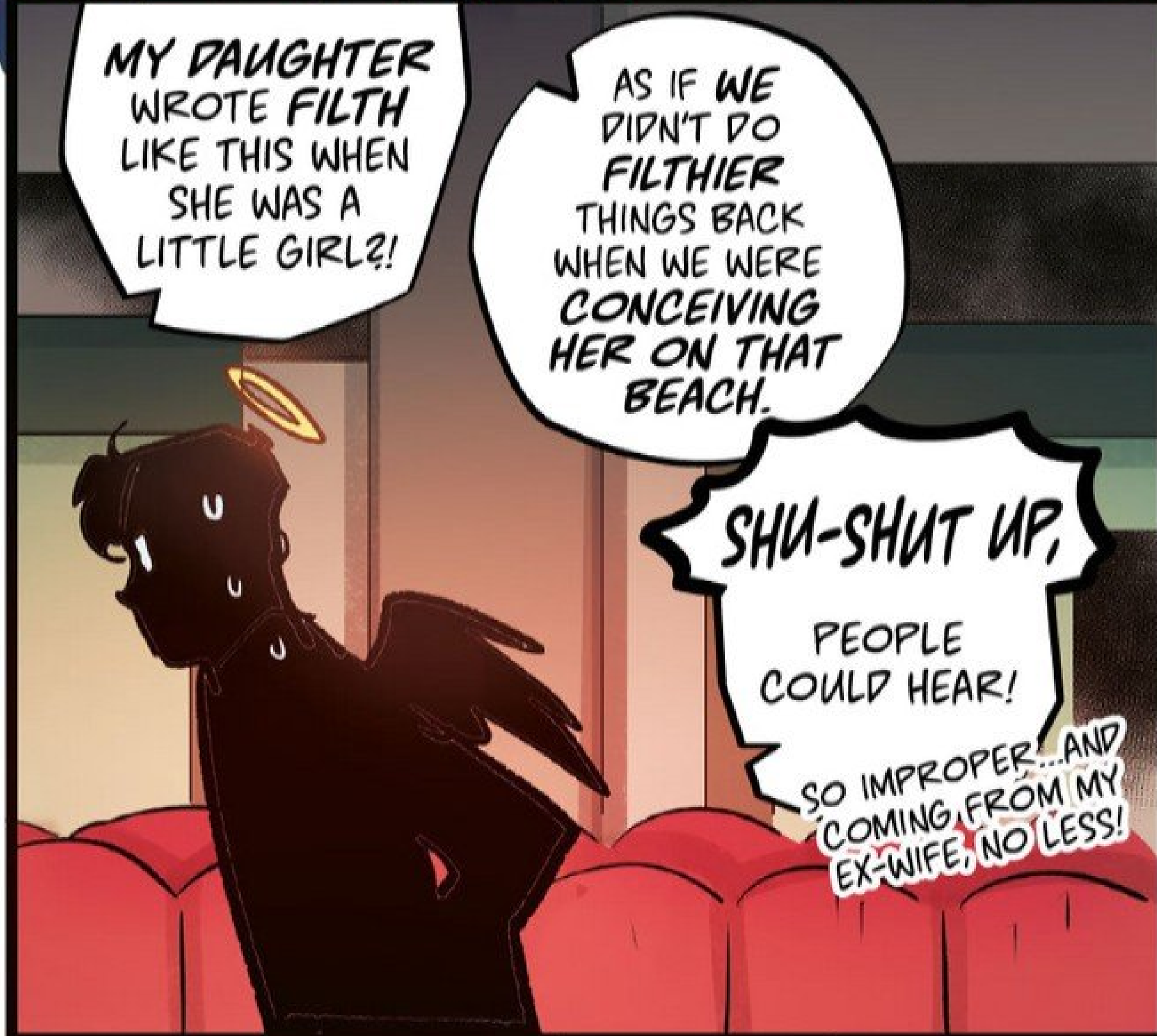
SO FAR, IT'S A **LOT** LIKE ONE OF THOSE **ROMANTIC COMEDIES** **PAPRIKA** USED TO WRITE.

MAYBE IT'S GOOD.



IT REALLY DOES FIT NICELY IN **HER WHEELHOUSE**, NOT **YOURS**.

UM...I'VE GOT TO GO **FINISH THE PREPARATIONS**



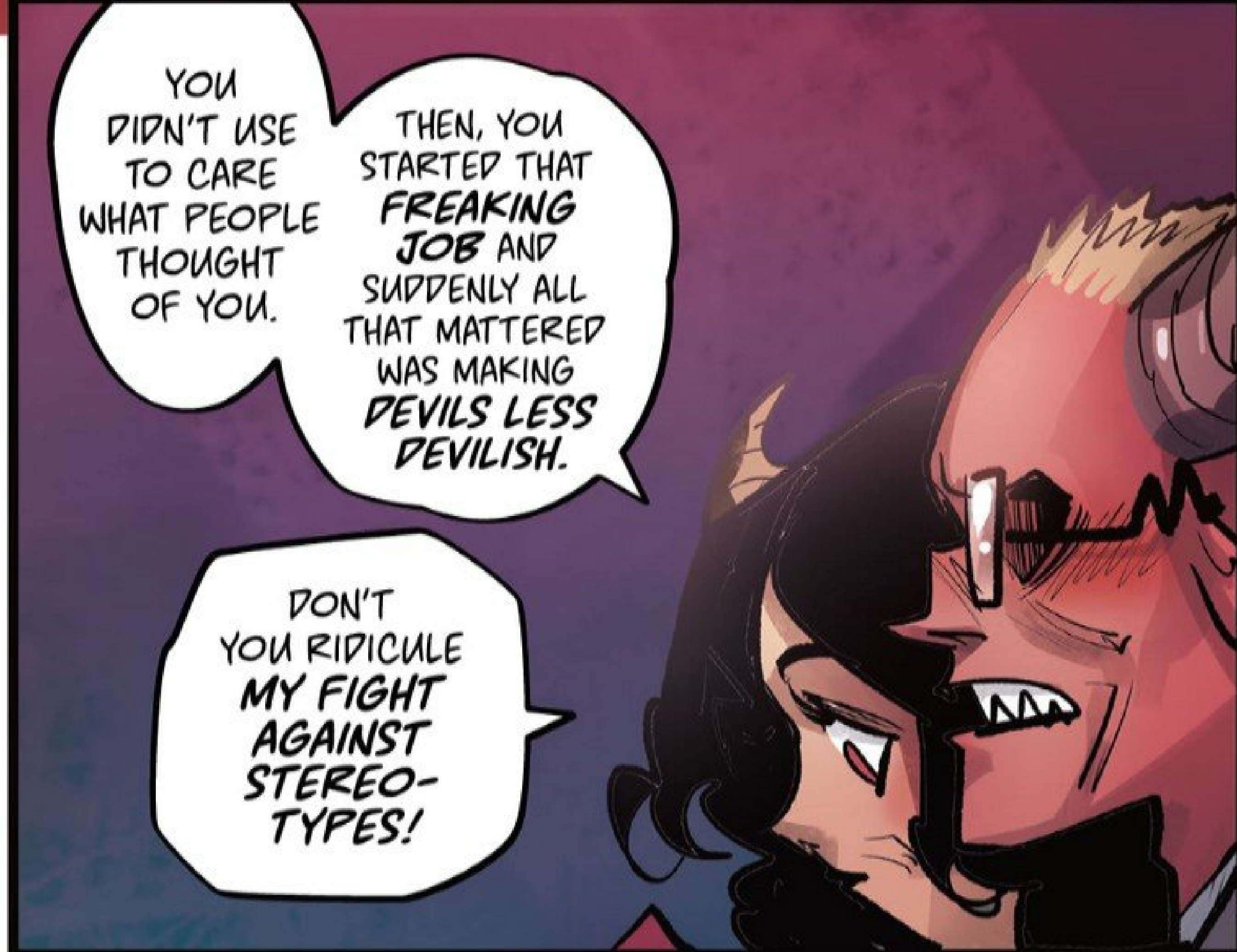
MY DAUGHTER WROTE **FILTH** LIKE THIS WHEN SHE WAS A LITTLE GIRL?!

AS IF WE DIDN'T DO **FILTHIER** THINGS BACK WHEN WE WERE **CONCEIVING** HER ON THAT **BEACH**.

SHU-SHUT UP,

PEOPLE COULD HEAR!

SO IMPROPER...AND COMING FROM MY **EX-WIFE**, NO LESS!



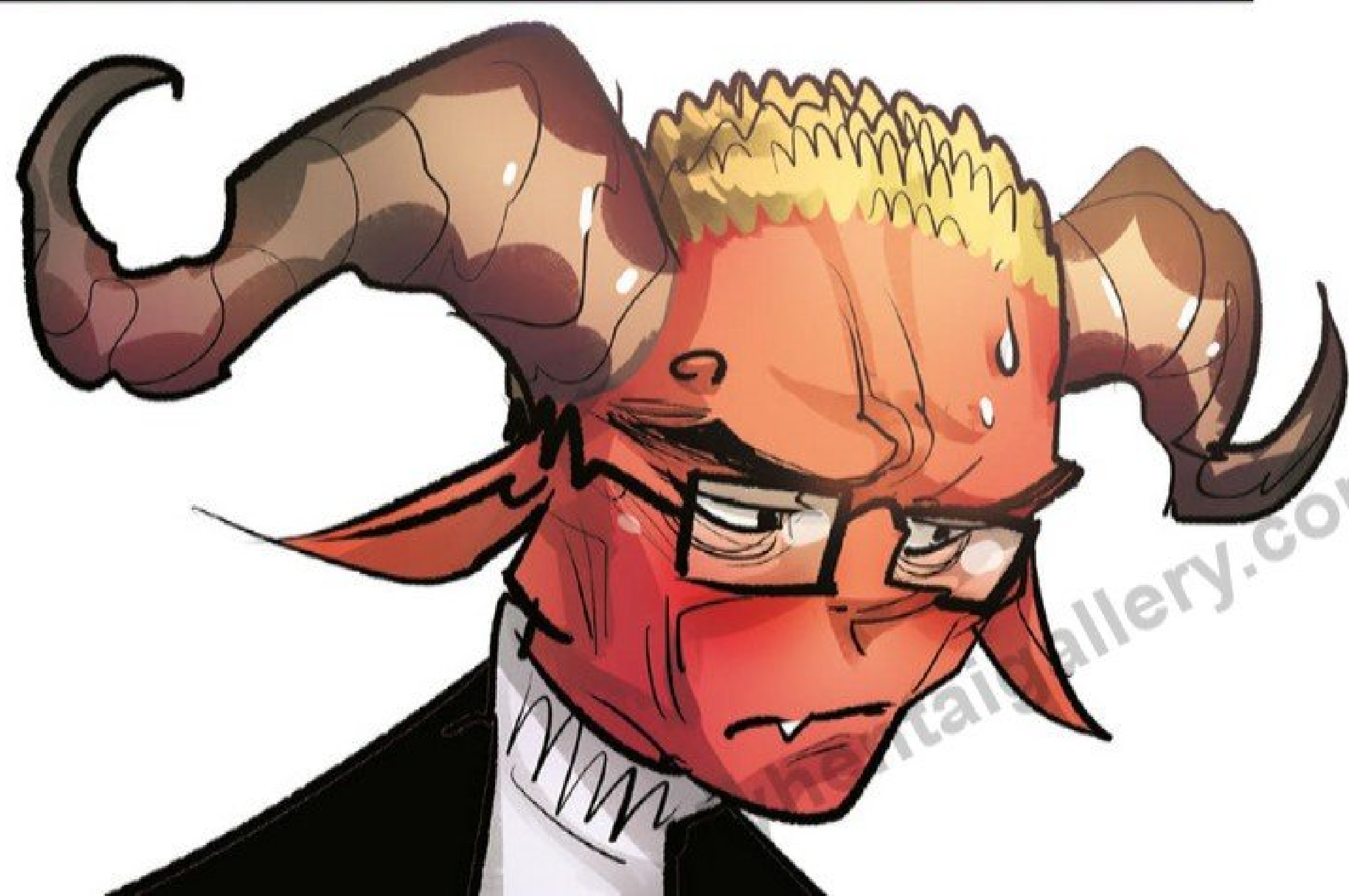
YOU DIDN'T USE TO CARE WHAT PEOPLE THOUGHT OF YOU.

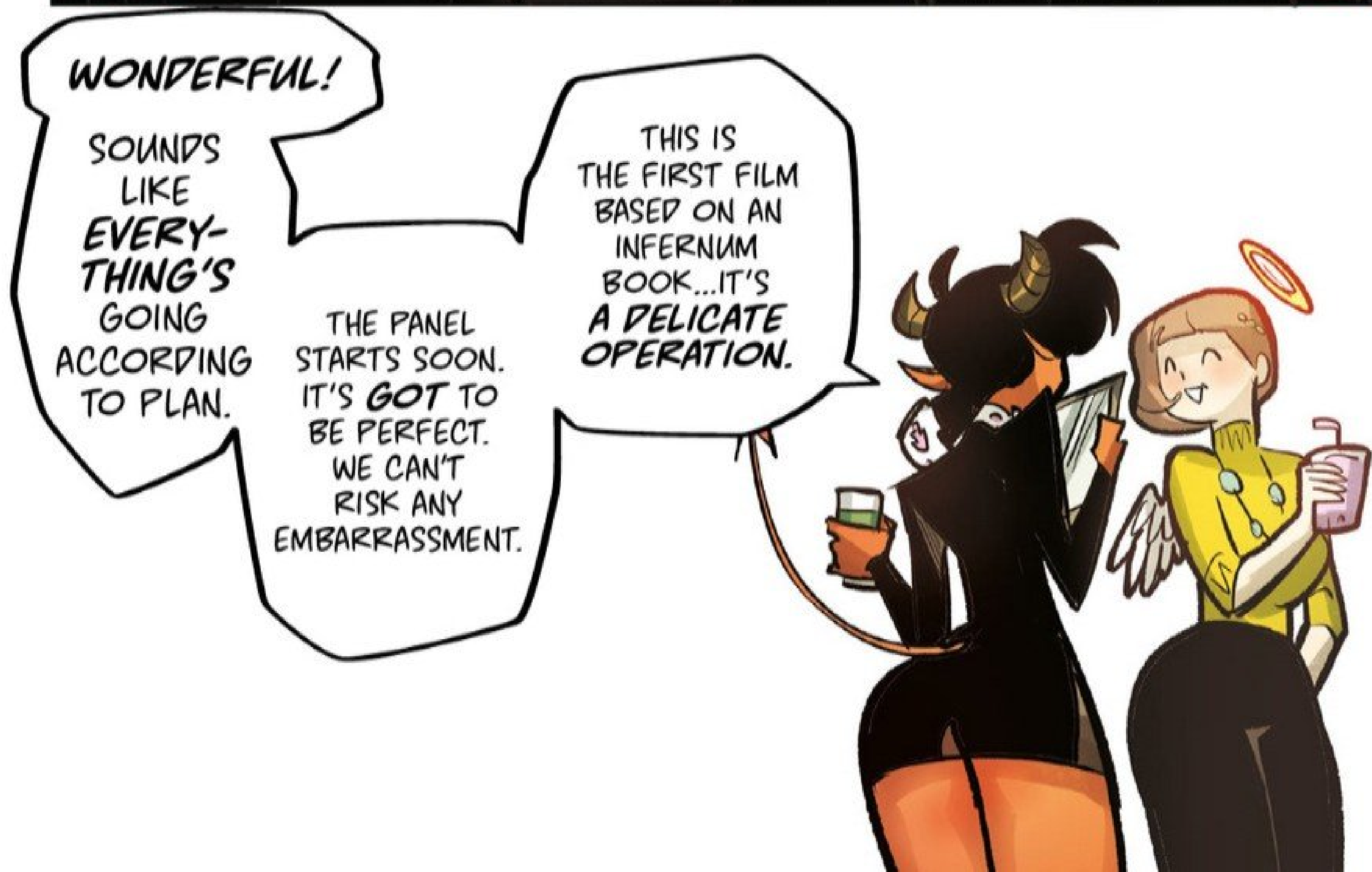
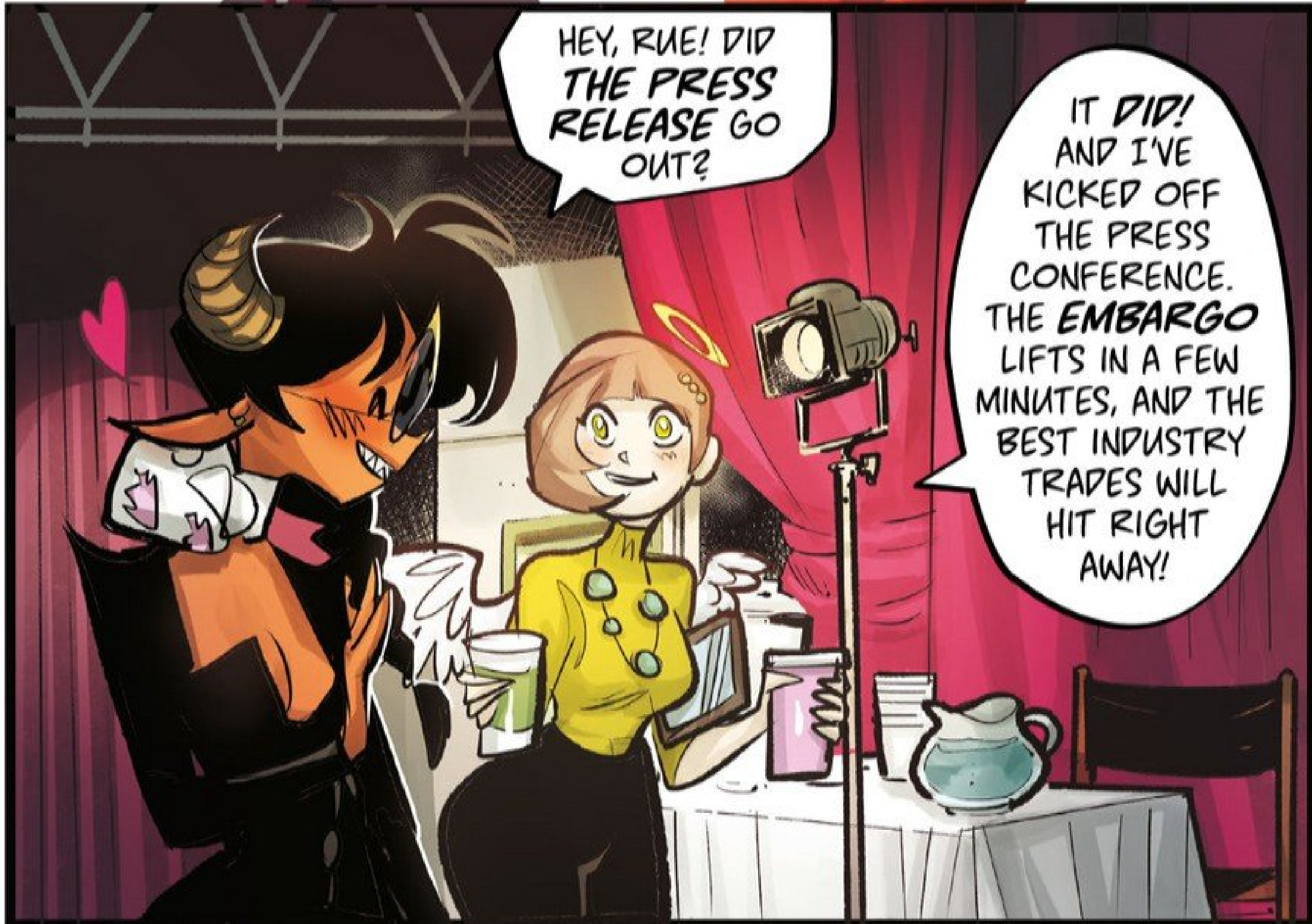
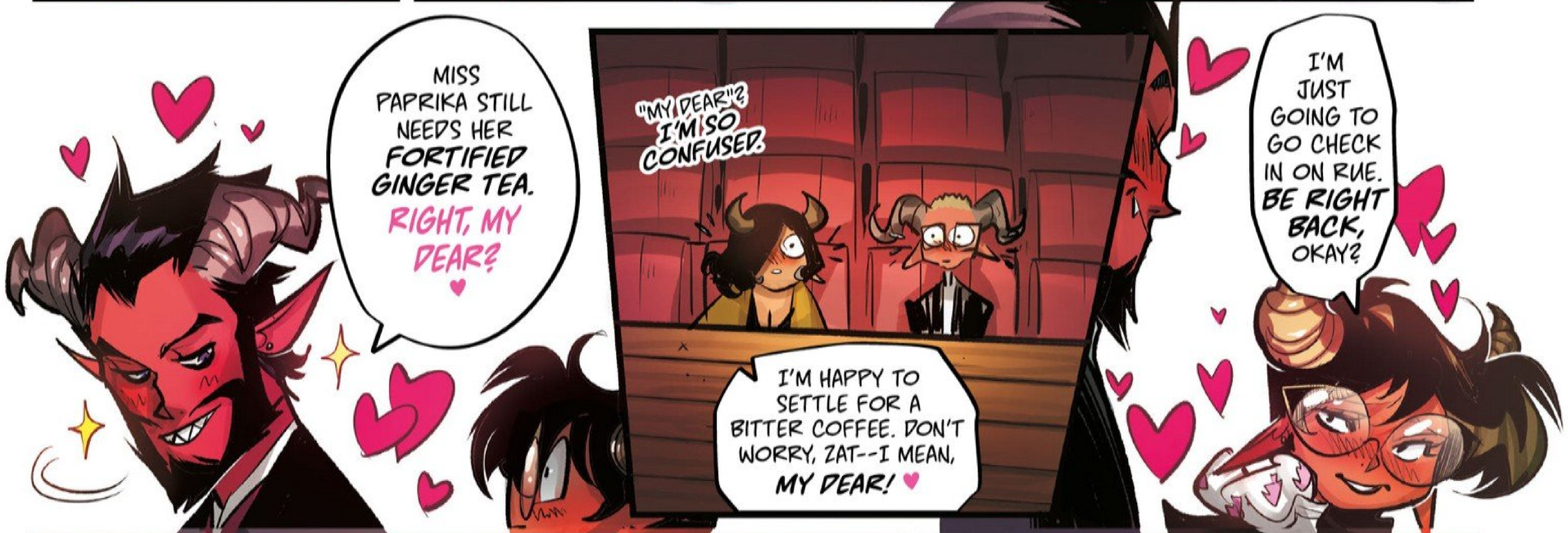
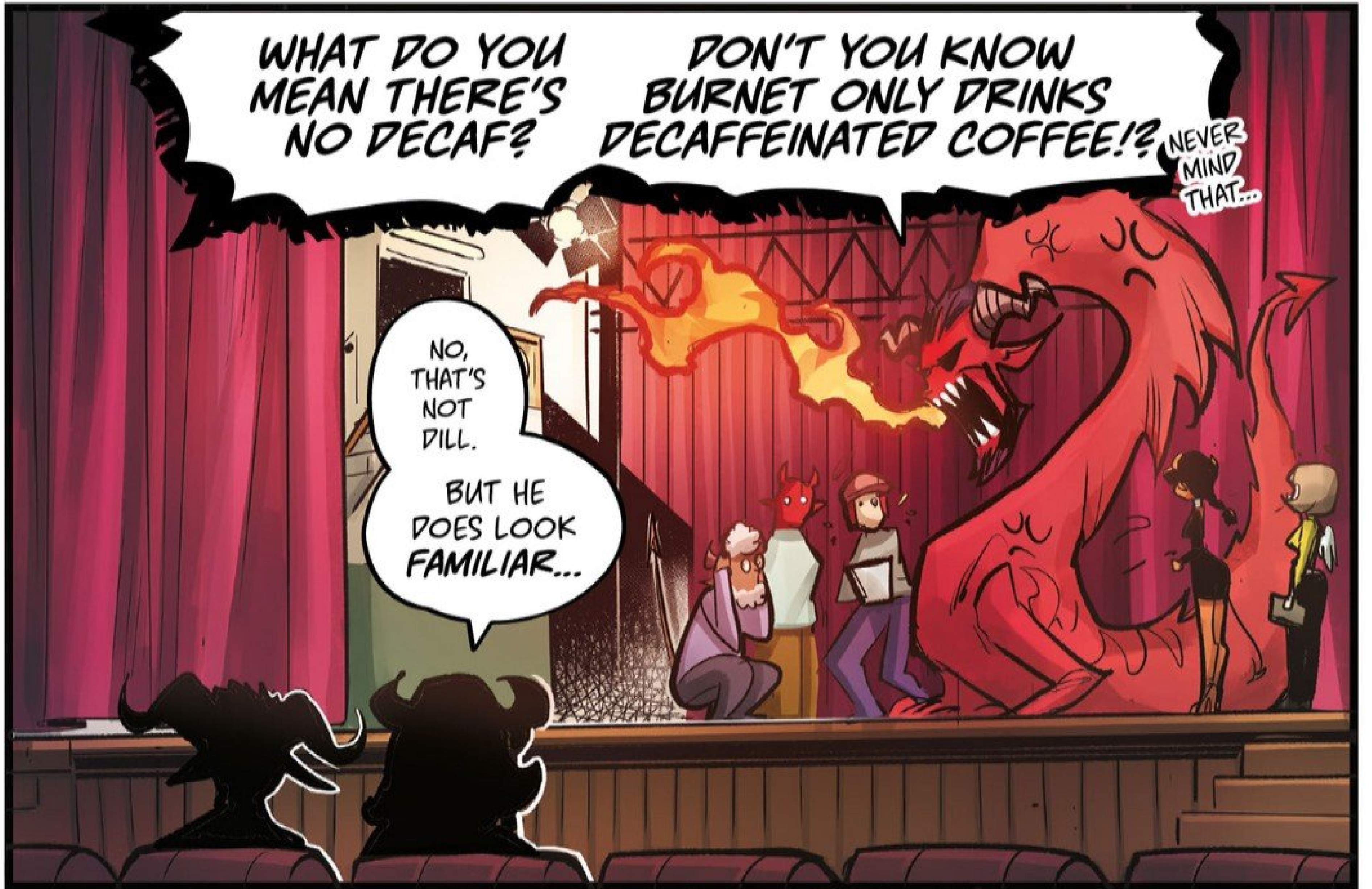
THEN, YOU STARTED THAT **FREAKING JOB** AND SUDDENLY ALL THAT MATTERED WAS MAKING **DEVILS LESS DEVILISH**.

DON'T YOU **RIDICULE** MY **FIGHT** AGAINST **STEREOTYPES!**

IT CAME FROM A **FAIR PLACE**. BUT YOU WERE **OBSESSED** WITH OTHER PEOPLE'S **JUDGMENT**, AS IF THAT MADE YOU **SUCCESSFUL** AND NOT YOUR **TALENT**.

BUT WHATEVER. YOU NEVER FULLY **IMPROVED** WITH **SHAME**. SO I **GUESS** YOU'RE **FINE**.







IT SEEMS LIKE YOUR RELATIONSHIP'S GOTTEN PRETTY FIERY TOO, HUH?

HIS EYES WERE SHINING WHEN YOU TWO WERE TALKING THIS MORNING.

OH, PLEASE. QUIT THE ACT. DILL PROBABLY TOLD YOU EVERYTHING ALREADY.

WHA-WHAT?!



I VERIFIED IT.

DILL WAS YOUR "+1" LAST NIGHT.

YOU SIMPLY CAN'T NOT KNOW.



I-I CAN EXPLAIN...

NO NEED. I KNOW WHAT DILL'S LIKE WHEN YOU GET TO KNOW HIM.

ALL HIS PUPPYDOG WAYS. YOU JUST WANTED TO...

...HELP HIM, AND I DON'T BLAME YOU.



I'VE FALLEN FOR HIS SCHTICK MYSELF.

FORGOTTEN HOW SHALLOW HIS IS, OR HOW DIFFERENT WE ARE.

BUT ZA'ATAR--WITH HIM, EVERYTHING JUST FEELS "RIGHT," YOU KNOW?

HE'S JUST AS ARROGANT AND COMBATIVE AS YOURS TRULY.

HE'S WHAT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED.



MISS PAPRIKA, MAY I...?

YOU HAVE TO.

AND KILL THE "MISS." PLEASE.

SO...IF ZA'ATAR IS WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED, WHY ARE YOU STILL HERE PINING?



WHAT IF...WHAT IF WHAT YOU WANTED THEN IS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT YOU WANT NOW? MAYBE YOU'VE CHANGED?

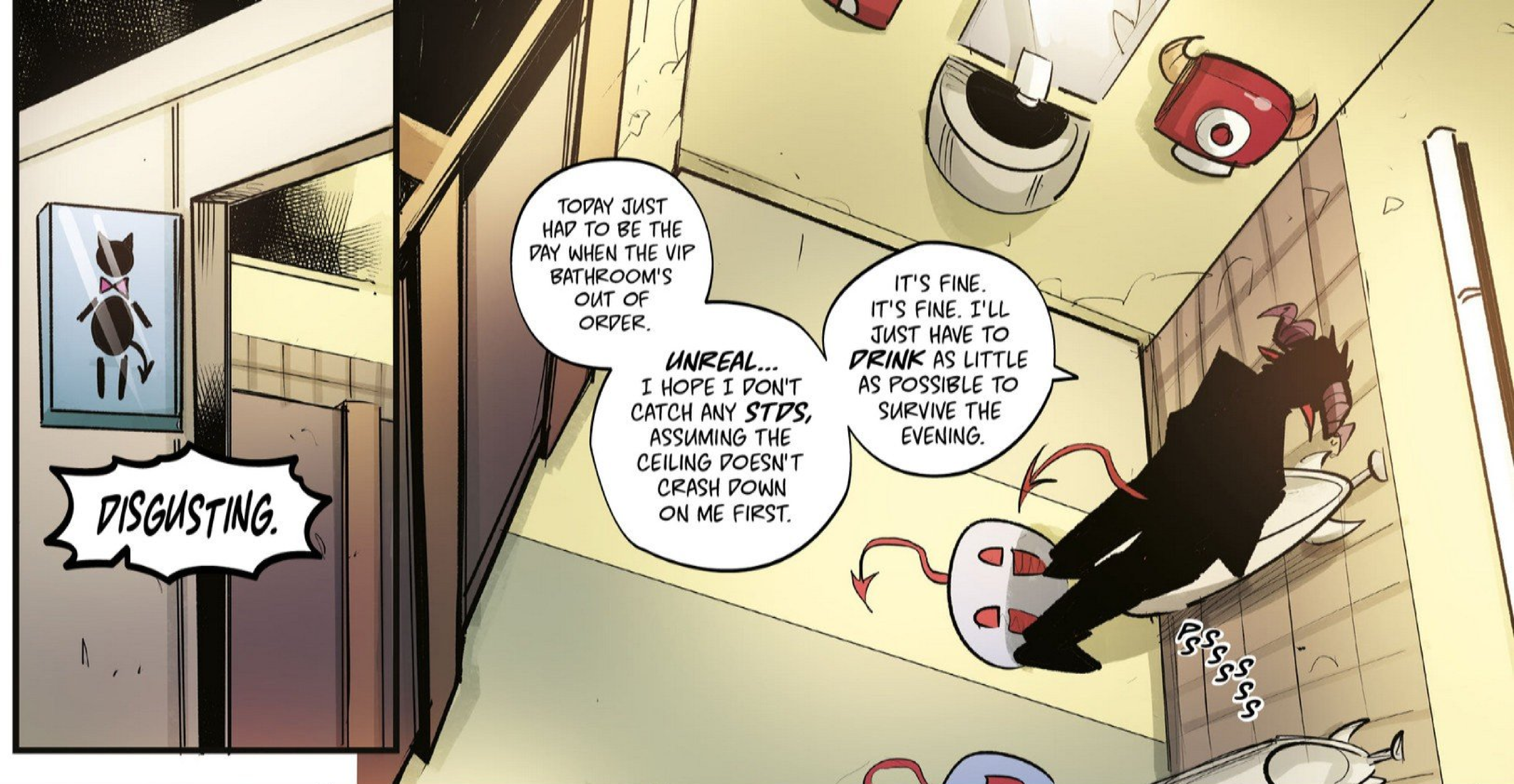
YOU REMEMBER THAT DAY AT THE PIZZERIA, DON'T YOU? WITH NORI? YOU HAD TO FIGURE OUT WHAT KIND OF PERSON YOU WANTED TO BE.

AND IF YOU ASK ME? ONCE YOU'VE REALLY FIGURED THAT OUT, YOU'LL REALLY KNOW WHO YOU WANT TO BE WITH.



...WHERE'D ZA'ATAR GO?

...WHO KNOWS? HEY...



TODAY JUST
HAD TO BE THE
DAY WHEN THE VIP
BATHROOM'S
OUT OF
ORDER.

UNREAL...
I HOPE I DON'T
CATCH ANY STDs,
ASSUMING THE
CEILING DOESN'T
CRASH DOWN
ON ME FIRST.

IT'S FINE.
IT'S FINE. I'LL
JUST HAVE TO
DRINK AS LITTLE
AS POSSIBLE TO
SURVIVE THE
EVENING.

DISGUSTING.



GNIIK

?!

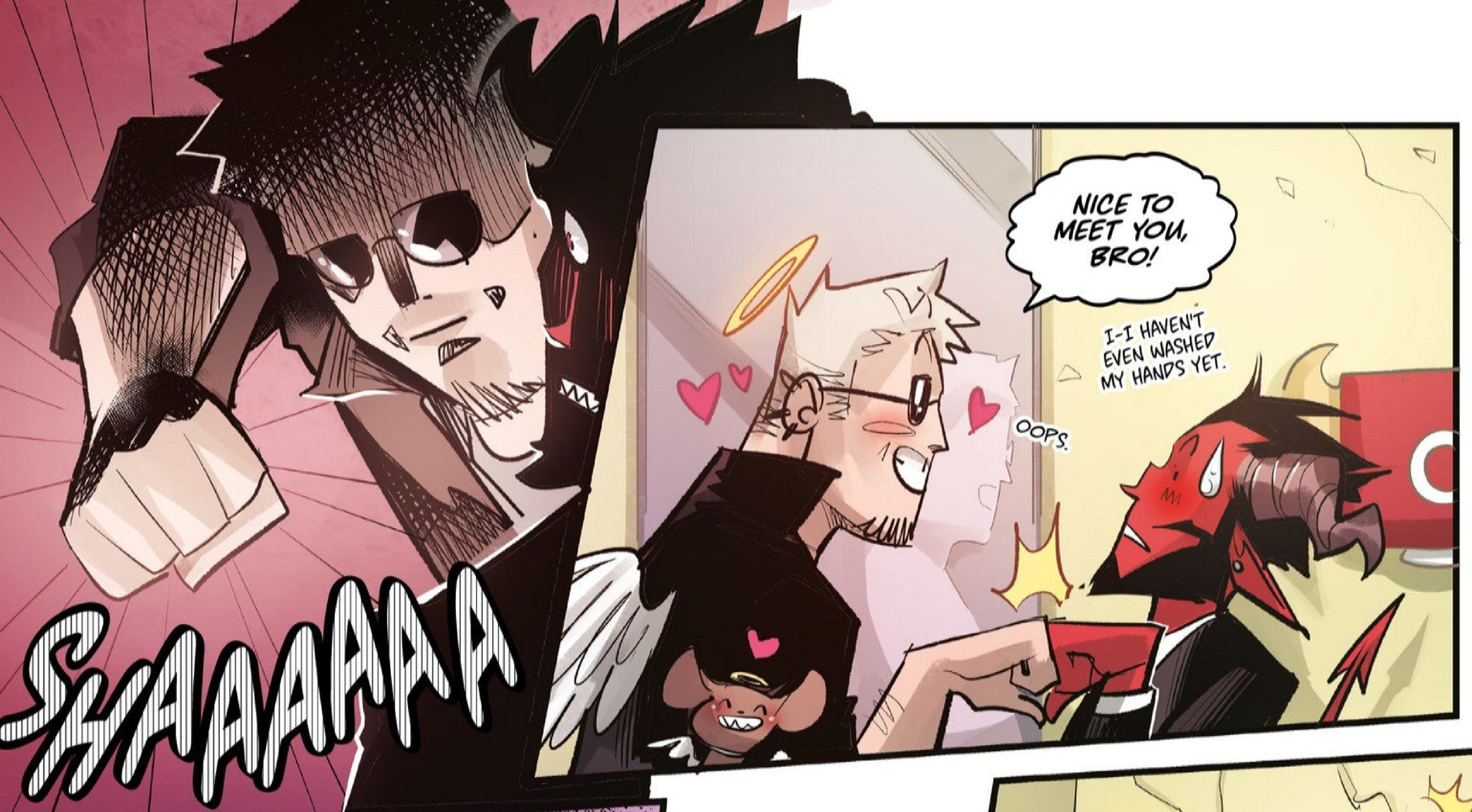
CRACK

HELLO,
ZATARIO.



FINALLY,
WE MEET
FACE TO
FACE.

YOU
DON'T KNOW
HOW LONG
I'VE WANTED
TO DO THAT.



SHAAAAA

NICE TO MEET YOU, BRO!

I-I HAVEN'T EVEN WASHED MY HANDS YET.

OOPS.



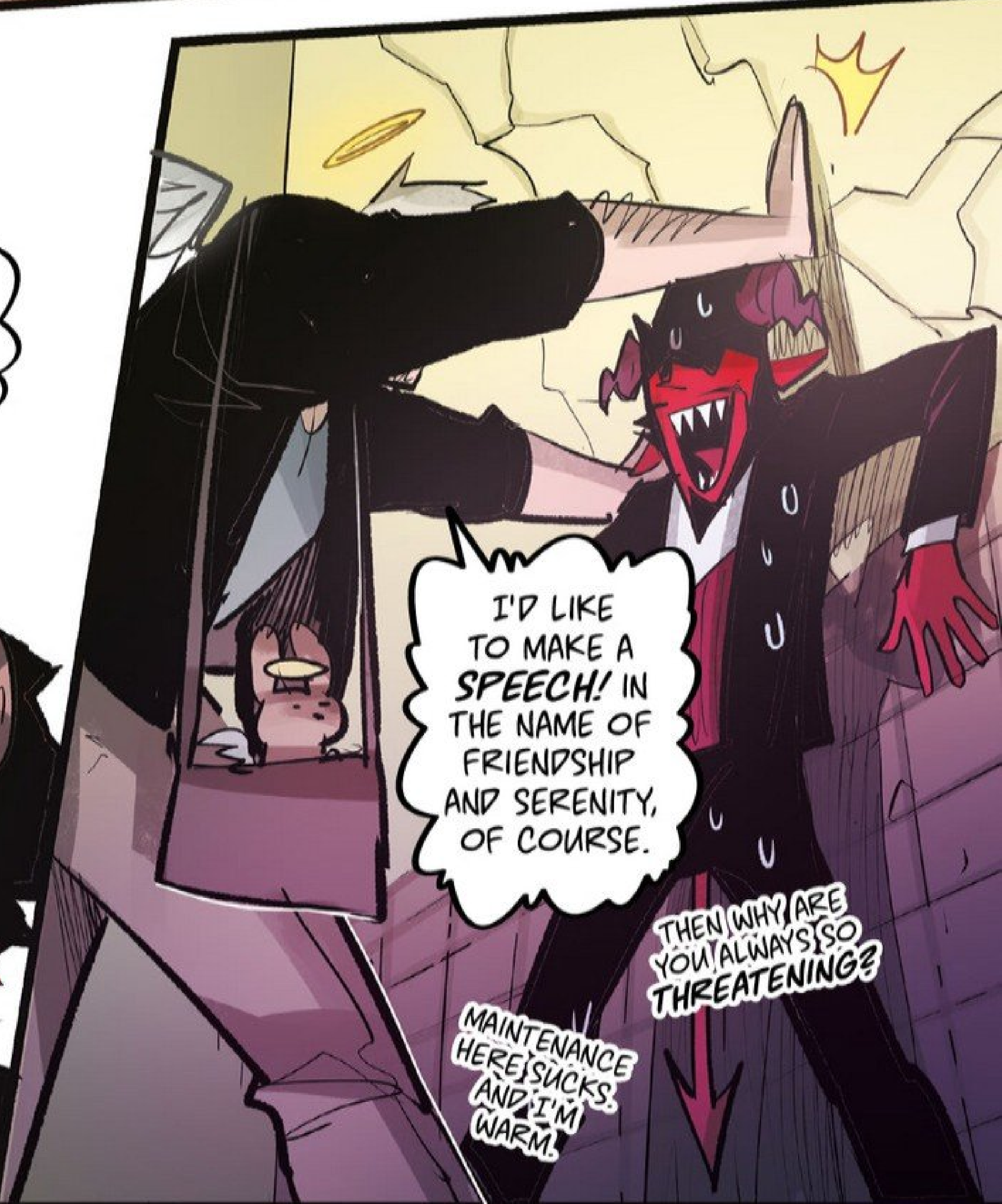
SO YOU'RE NOT JUST **STALKING** PAPRIKA. YOU'RE **STALKING ME, TOO?**

WHAT? NO, THIS IS A BATH-ROOM.

I HAD TO PEE-PEE.

"PEE-PEE." YOU'RE REALLY SOMETHING.

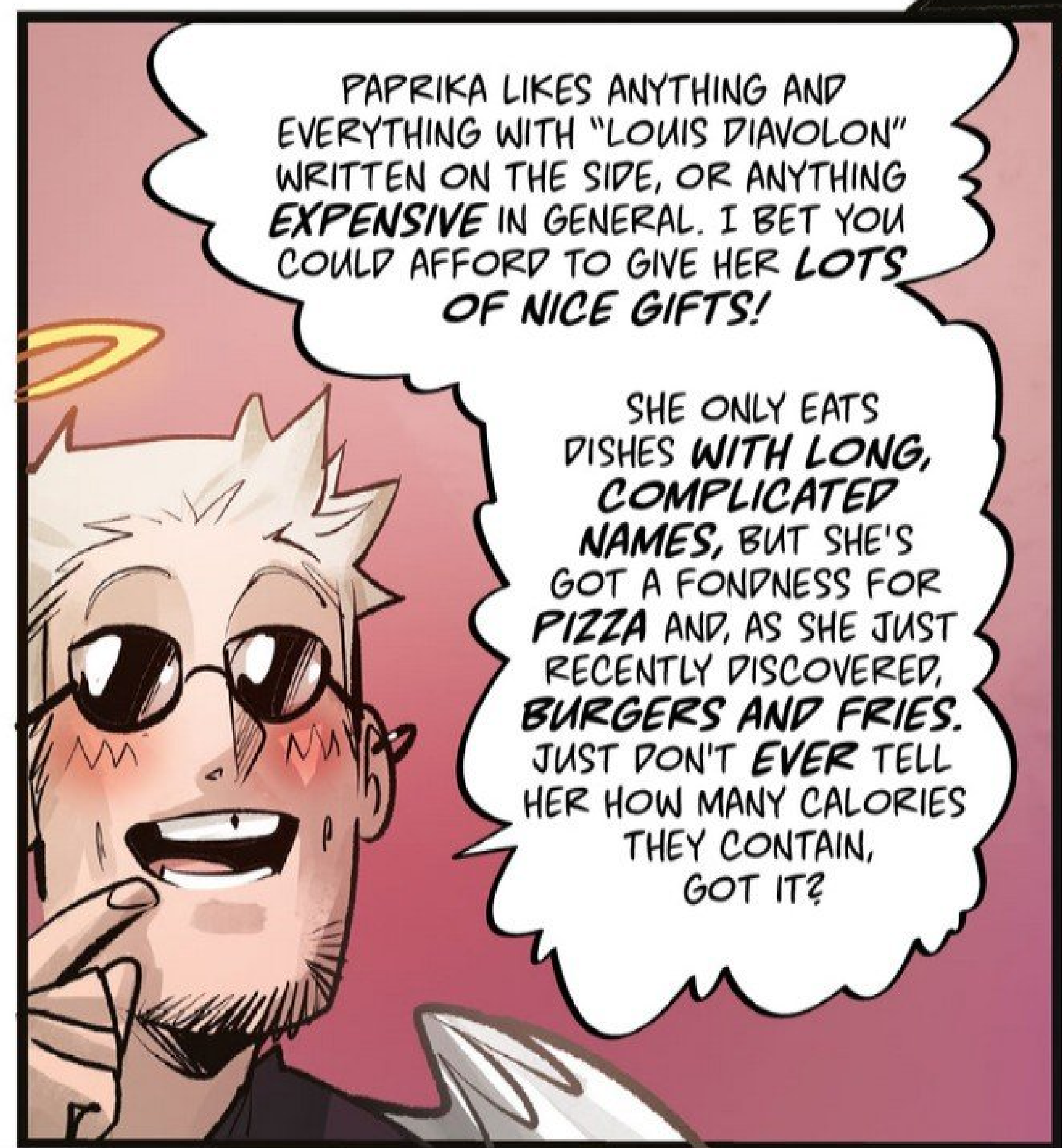
YOU KNOW WHAT?! WHILE I'M HERE...



I'D LIKE TO MAKE A **SPEECH!** IN THE NAME OF FRIENDSHIP AND SERENITY, OF COURSE.

THEN WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SO **THREATENING?**

MAINTENANCE HERE SUCKS. AND I'M WARM.



PAPRIKA LIKES ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING WITH "**LOUIS DIAVOLON**" WRITTEN ON THE SIDE, OR ANYTHING **EXPENSIVE** IN GENERAL. I BET YOU COULD AFFORD TO GIVE HER **LOTS OF NICE GIFTS!**

SHE ONLY EATS DISHES **WITH LONG, COMPLICATED NAMES**, BUT SHE'S GOT A FONDNESS FOR **PIZZA** AND, AS SHE JUST RECENTLY DISCOVERED, **BURGERS AND FRIES**. JUST DON'T **EVER** TELL HER HOW MANY CALORIES THEY CONTAIN, GOT IT?

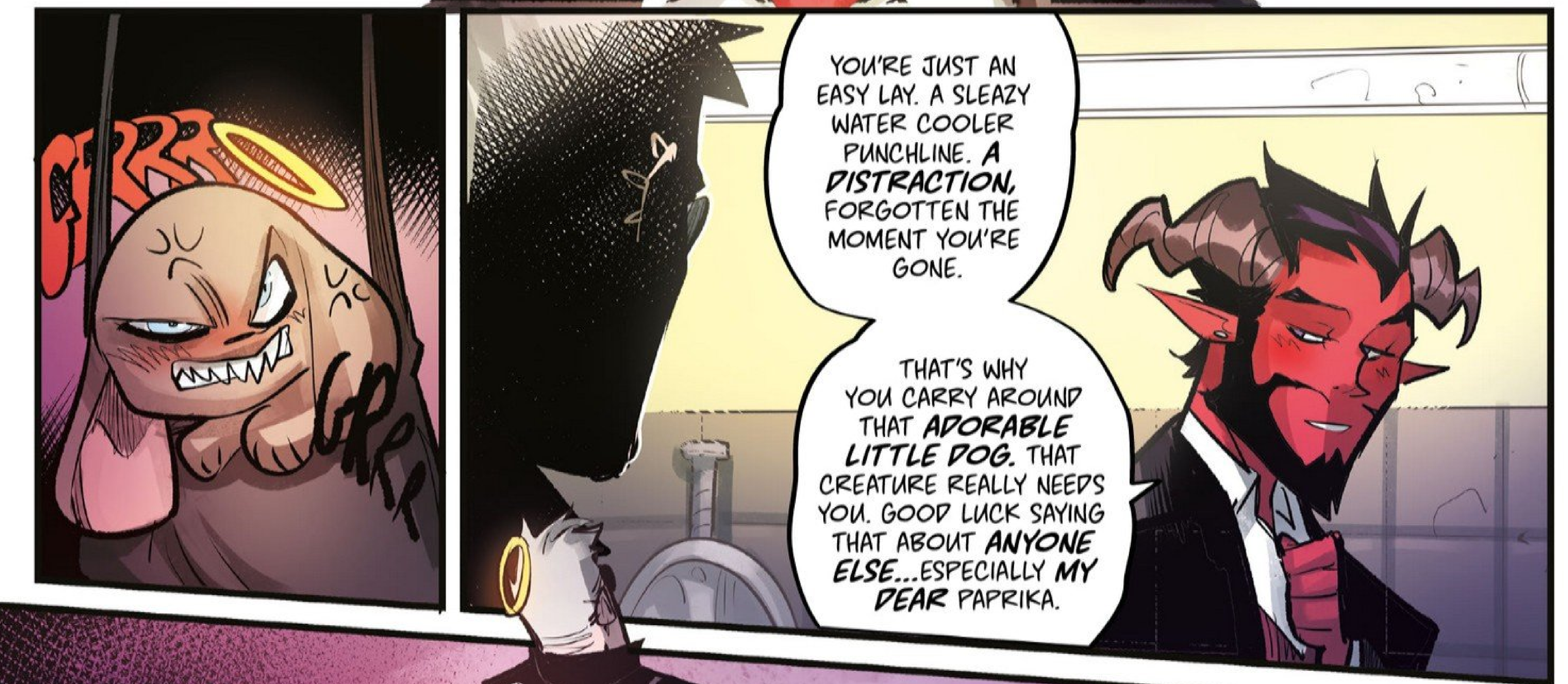
THEN, LET ME THINK...SHE LOVES **PIGGY BOOKS**. AND **SOMETIMES**, YOU SHOULD BRING HER OVER TO **TOUCH** YOU AND, YOU KNOW, **DO STUFF**. YOU DON'T ACTUALLY HAVE TO GET **CAUGHT**, BUT SHE LIKES THE **RISK!**

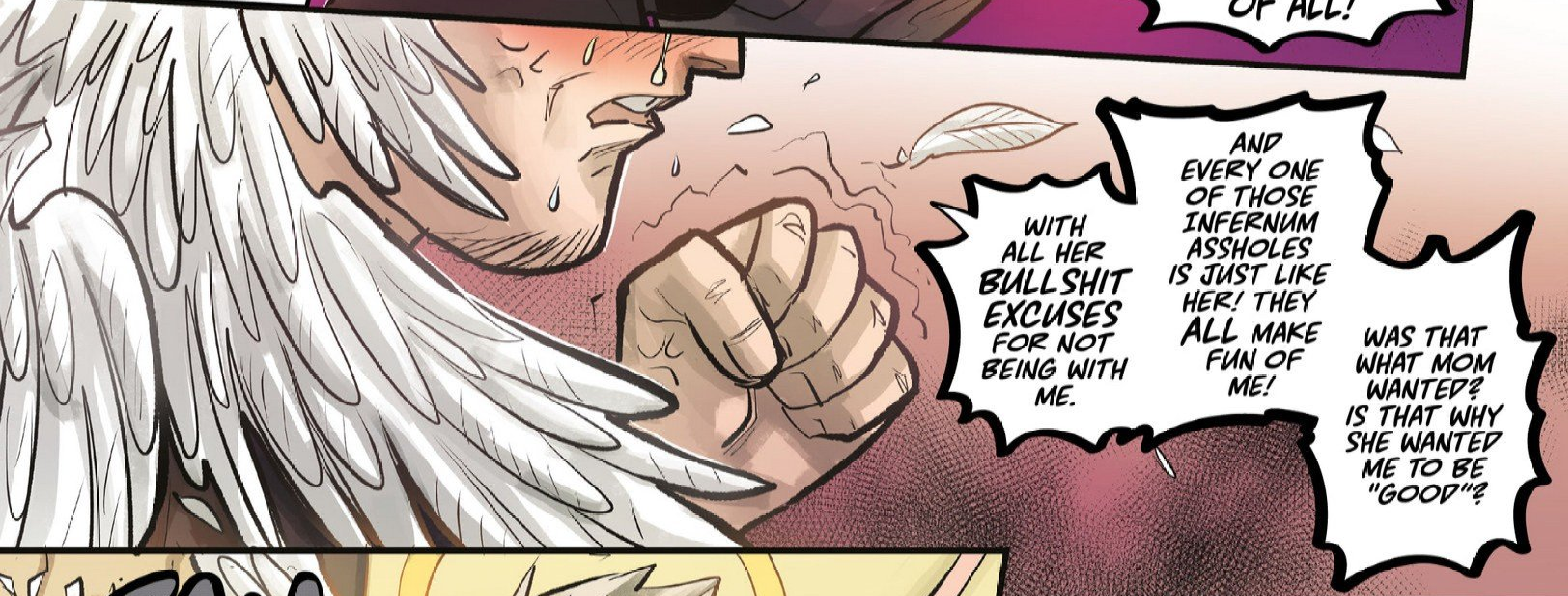
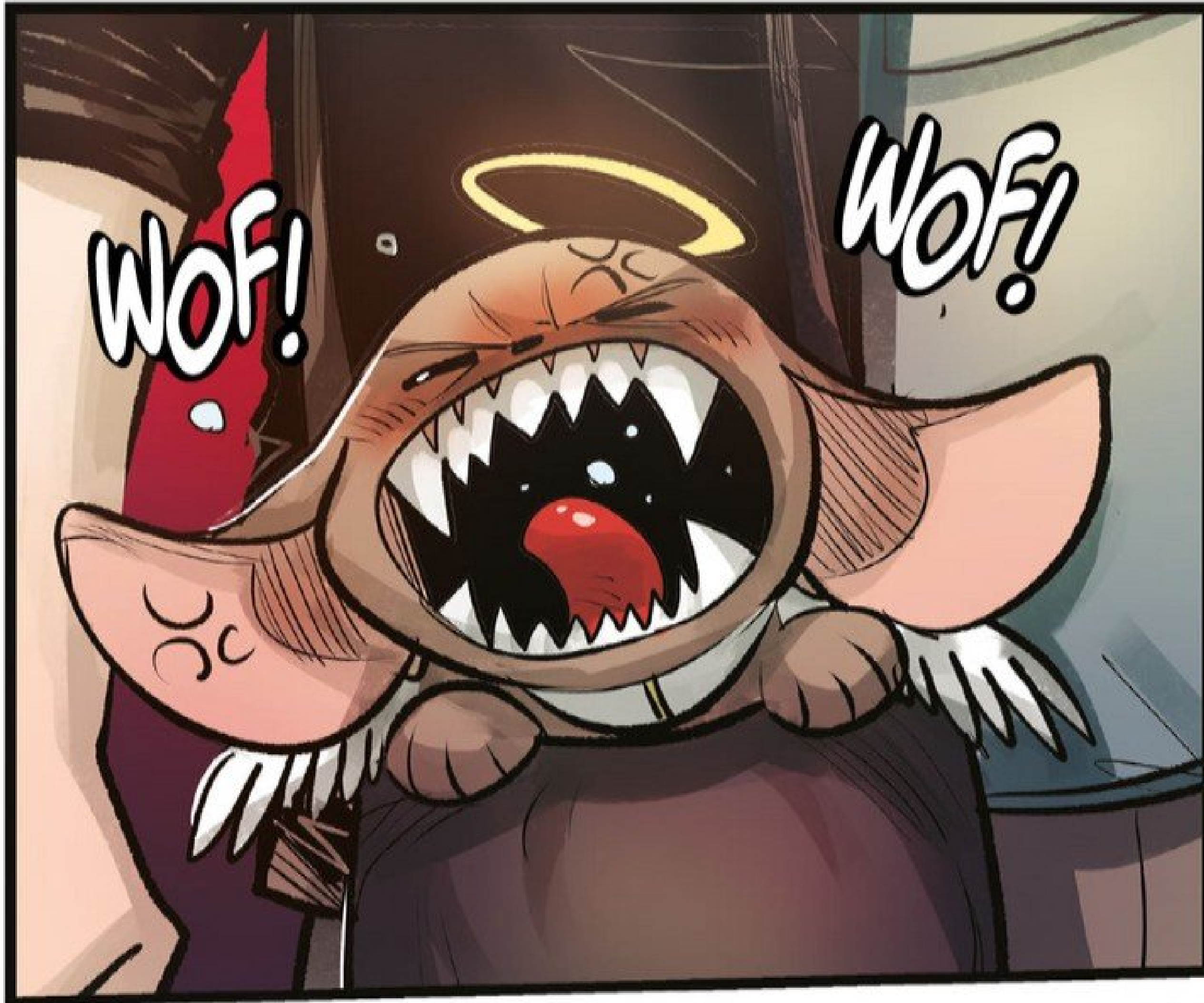
WHA-WHAT ARE YOU...

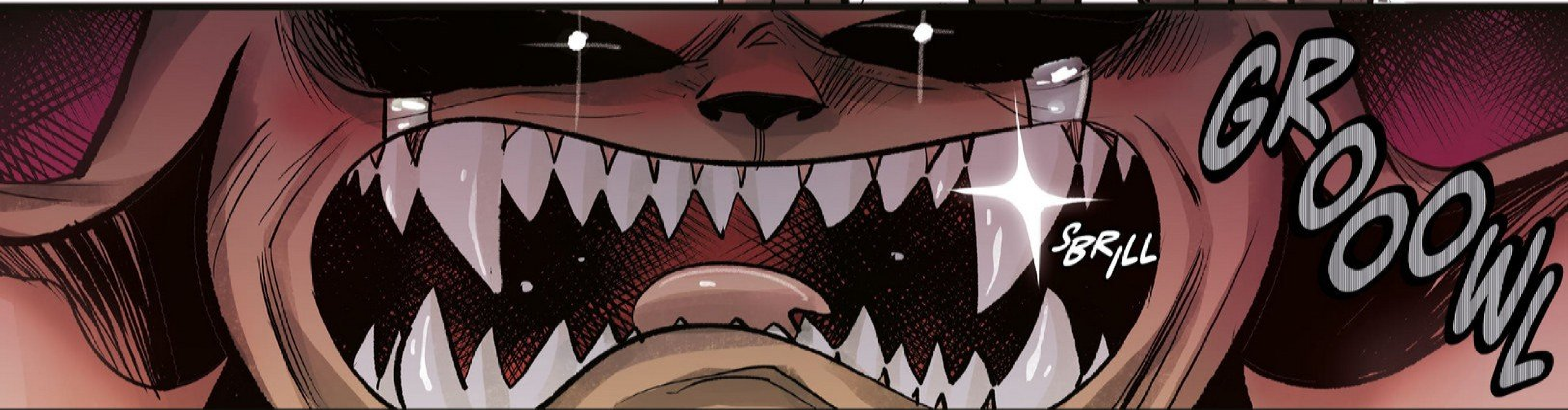
ACTUALLY... **THIS BATHROOM** WOULDN'T BE A BAD SPOT, YOU KNOW? WHAT ELSE...



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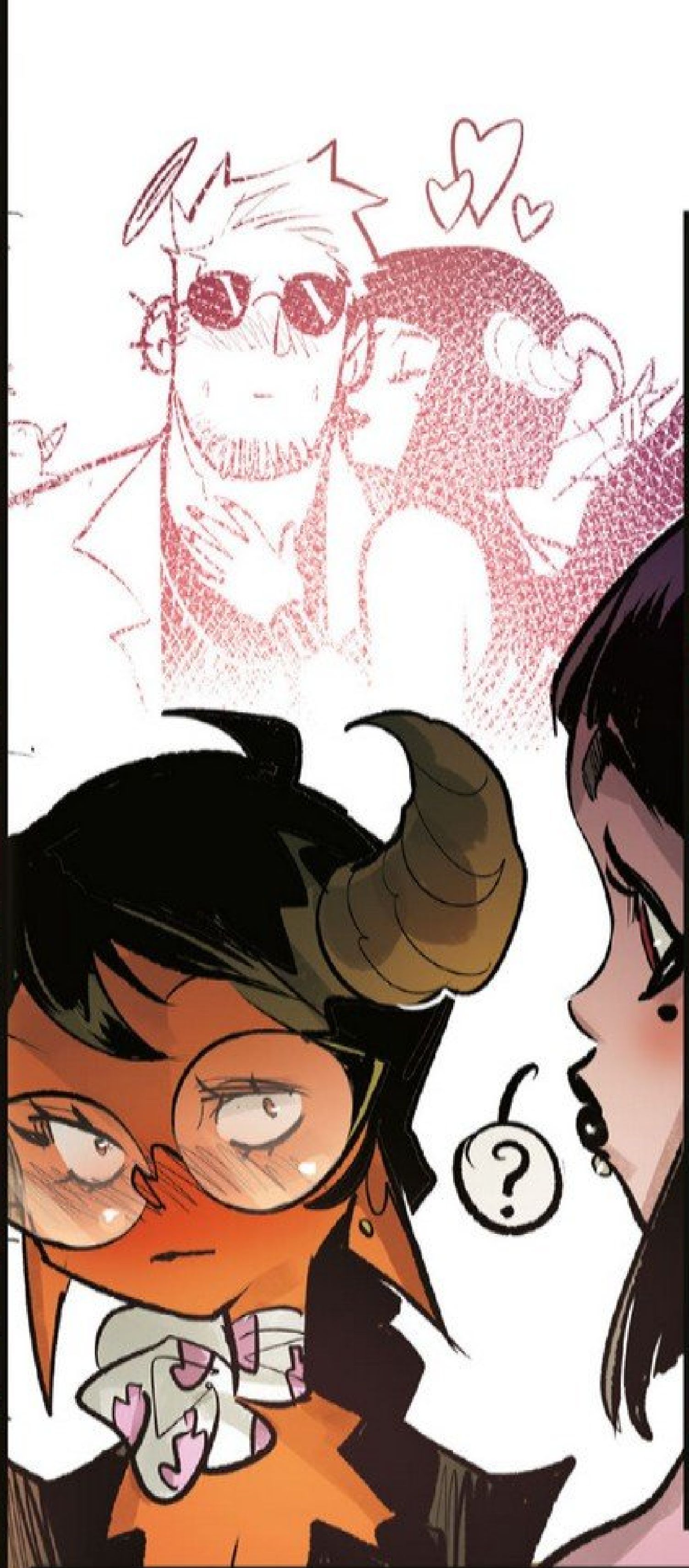






THE HALL IS FULL.

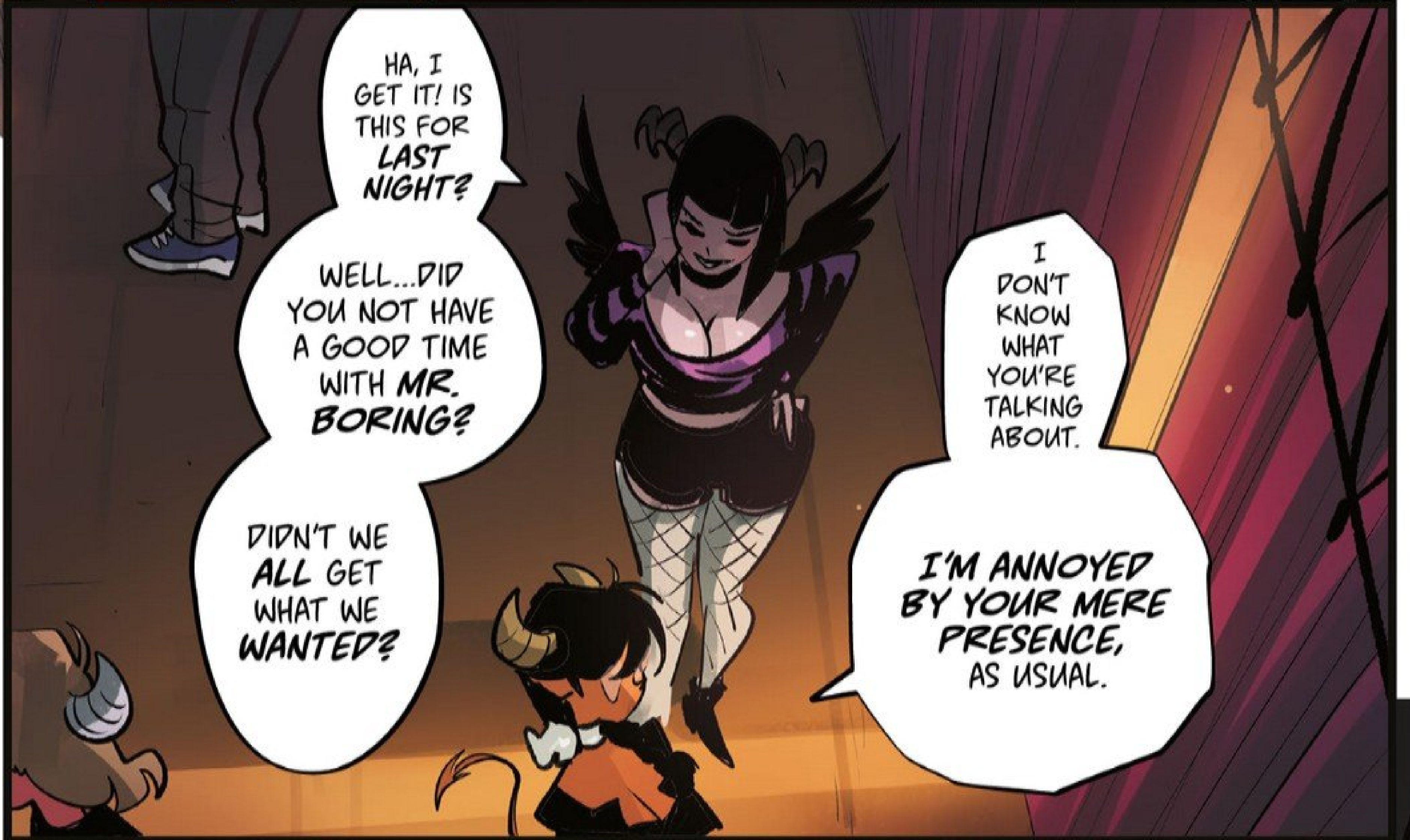
LIKE TOTALLY FULL.



WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING AT, PRETTY?

YOU GOT A CRUSH ON ME?

GET IN LINE.



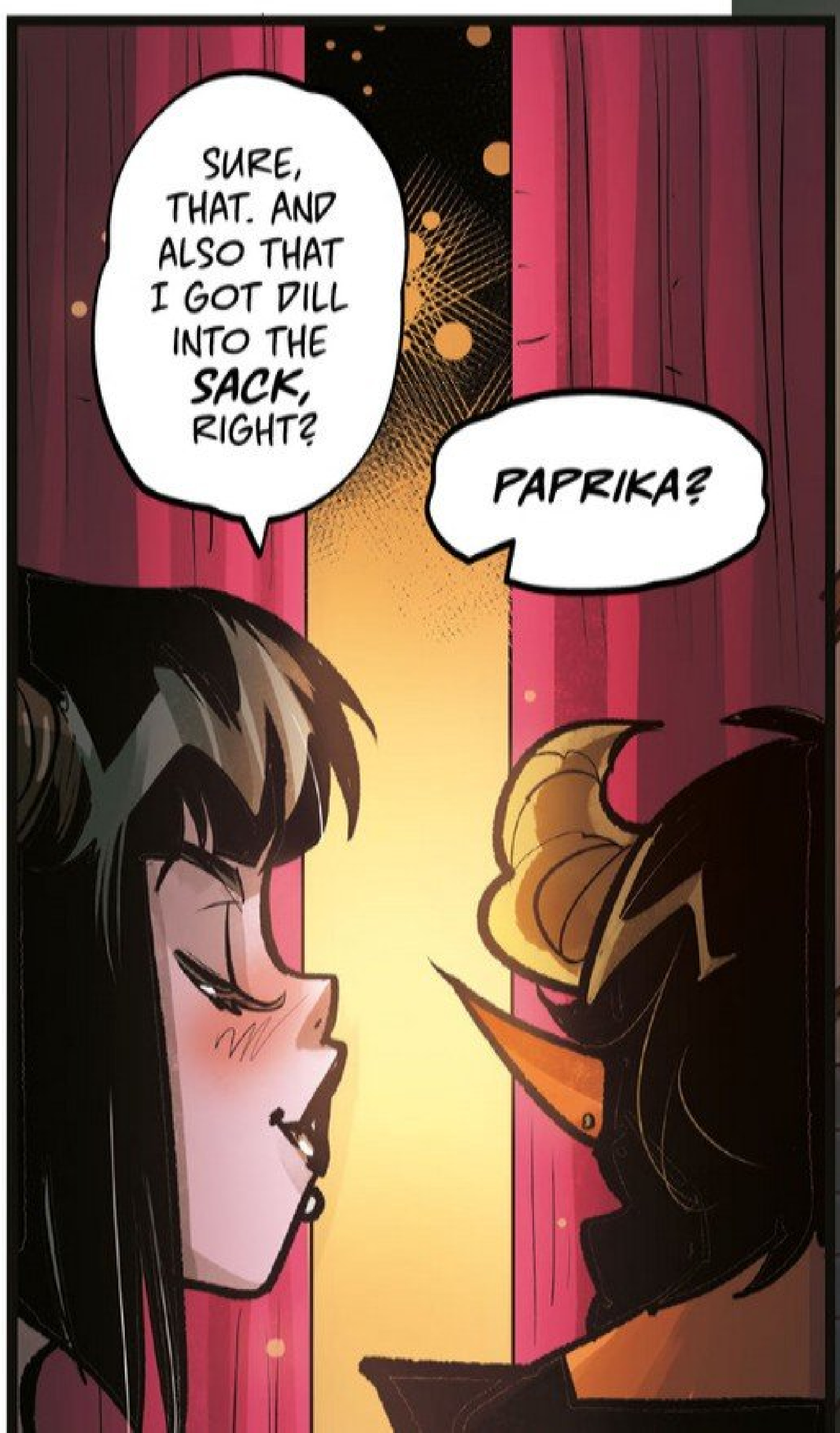
HA, I GET IT! IS THIS FOR LAST NIGHT?

WELL...DID YOU NOT HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH MR. BORING?

DIDN'T WE ALL GET WHAT WE WANTED?

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

I'M ANNOYED BY YOUR MERE PRESENCE, AS USUAL.



SURE, THAT. AND ALSO THAT I GOT DILL INTO THE SACK, RIGHT?

PAPRIKA?



WE'RE ON IN A MINUTE. AND YOUR SPEECH IS THE ONE THEY'RE ALL WAITING FOR, MY DEAR! READY?

PRE-PRETTY MUCH...

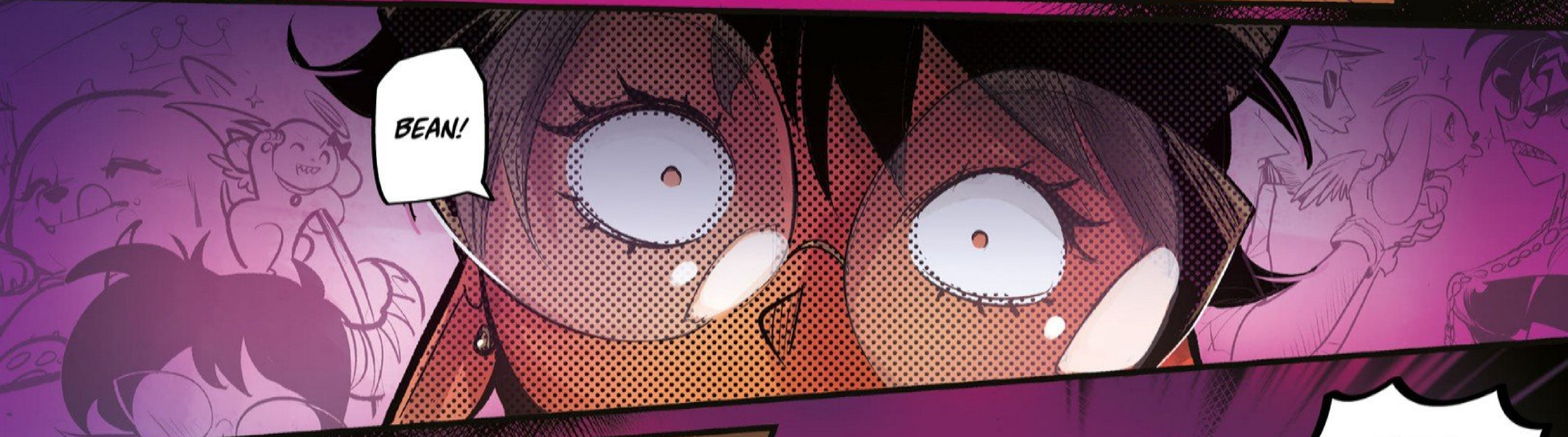


DON'T WORRY, I'LL BE RIGHT BY YOUR SIDE. NOTHING AND NO ONE COULD RUIN THIS DAY.

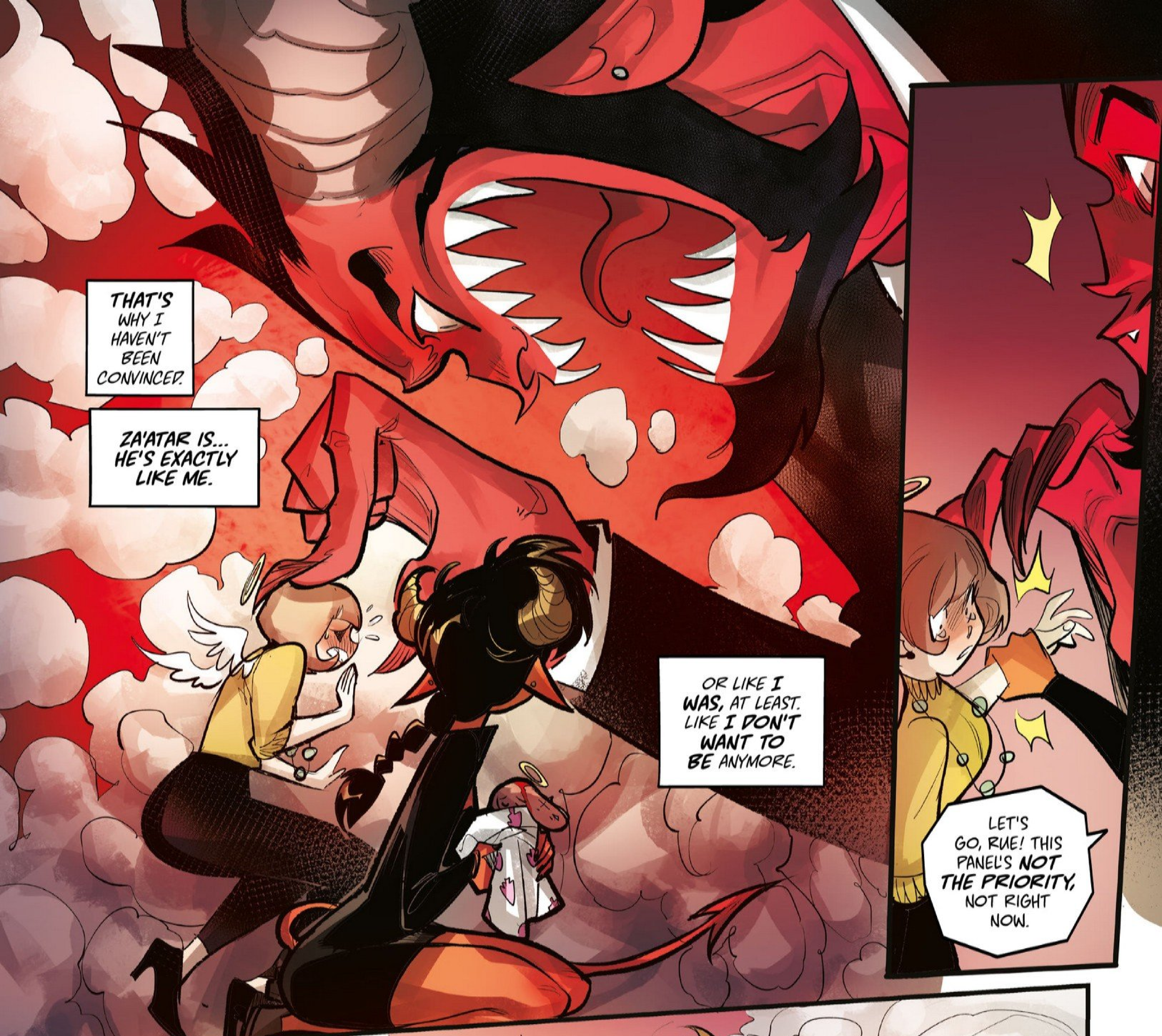
JUST NOW, I TOOK CARE OF SOME LOOSE CANNON THAT WAS LOITERING IN OUR ORBIT.

HUH?! WHO'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? U









THAT'S
WHY I
HAVEN'T
BEEN
CONVINCED.

ZA'ATAR IS...
HE'S EXACTLY
LIKE ME.

OR LIKE I
WAS, AT LEAST.
LIKE I DON'T
WANT TO
BE ANYMORE.



LET'S
GO, RUE! THIS
PANEL'S NOT
THE PRIORITY,
NOT RIGHT
NOW.



THERE
ARE MORE
IMPORTANT
THINGS IN LIFE.
AND IF ZA'ATAR
DOESN'T
UNDERSTAND
THAT? THEN
I'M SORRY,
BUT...



...IT'LL
NEVER
WORK OUT
FOR US!

!



PAPRIKA...

ART!
SO? WHAT
IS IT?



IT *SEEMS*
THERE WAS
A LITTLE...
ACCIDENT.

PAPRIKA
IS GONE.

THAT'S
NOT GOOD.
WE REALLY NEED
TO TALK.

THIS
BOOK--
I REGRET
NOT
READING IT
SOONER...



UM, I'M
SURE THE
OTHERS WILL
BE HERE
SOON!

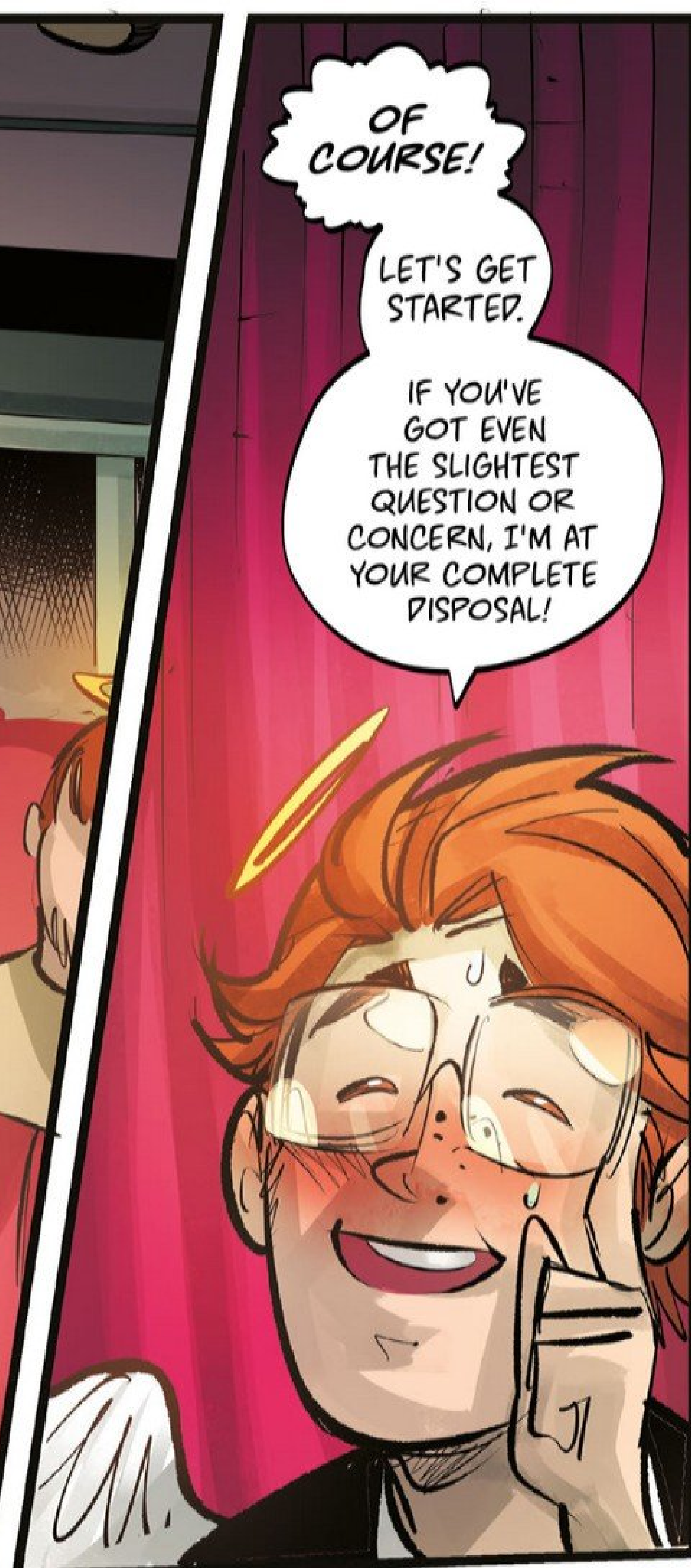
ARE
YOU **SURE**
YOU'RE NOT
MISTAKEN?

SURE.



MAYBE WE
COULD STILL
START THE
PANEL?

YOU
COULD
RUN IT,
COULDN'T
YOU?

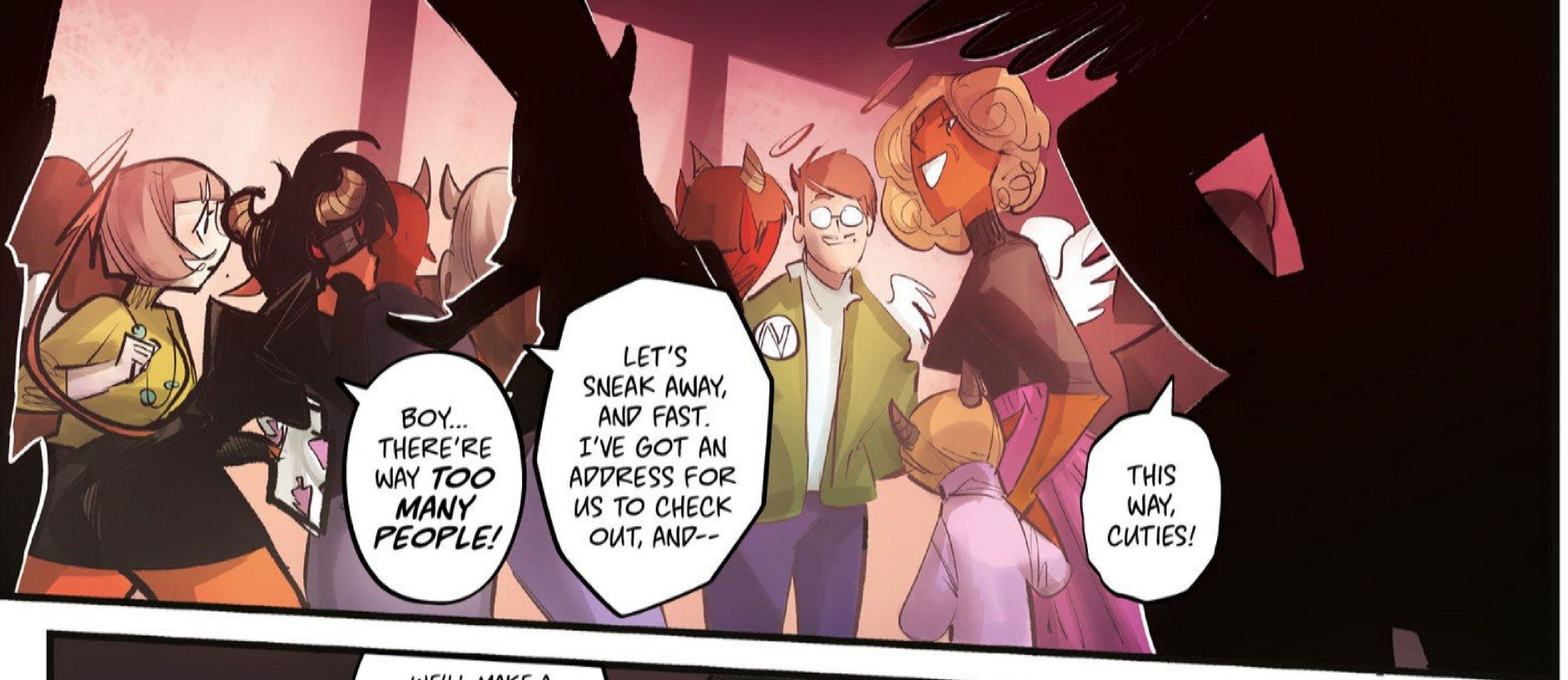


**OF
COURSE!**

LET'S GET
STARTED.

IF YOU'VE
GOT EVEN
THE SLIGHTEST
QUESTION OR
CONCERN, I'M AT
YOUR COMPLETE
DISPOSAL!





BOY...
THERE'RE
WAY TOO
MANY
PEOPLE!

LET'S
SNEAK AWAY,
AND FAST.
I'VE GOT AN
ADDRESS FOR
US TO CHECK
OUT, AND--

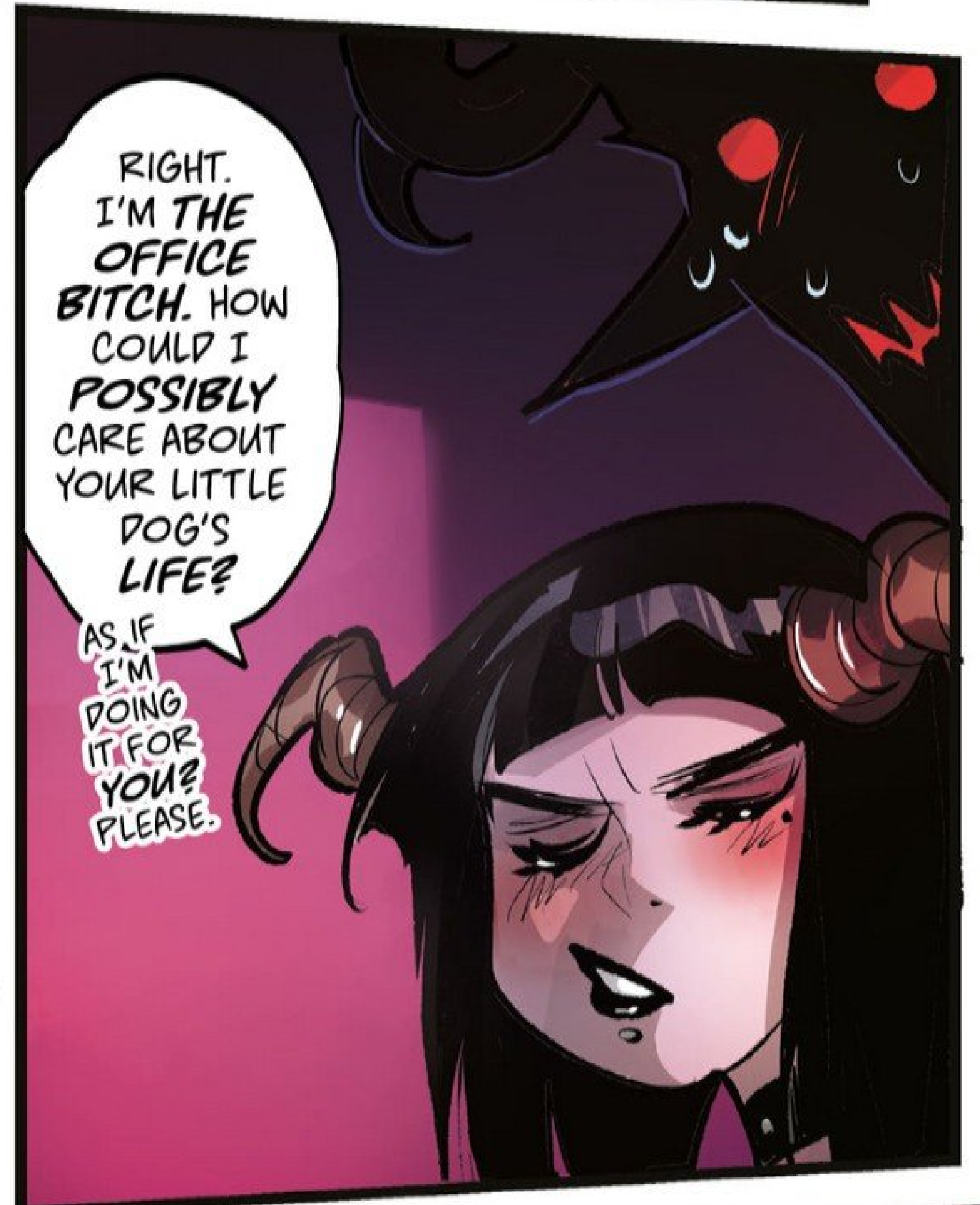
THIS
WAY,
CUTIES!



WE'LL MAKE A
WALL BETWEEN
YOU AND THE CROWD,
THANKS TO THE
INTERVENTION
OF HIS GREAT
DARKNESS...

QUICK!
GET A
MOVE
ON!

I GET
THE OTHERS...
BU-BUT
ANISETTE?



RIGHT.
I'M THE
OFFICE
BITCH. HOW
COULD I
POSSIBLY
CARE ABOUT
YOUR LITTLE
DOG'S
LIFE?

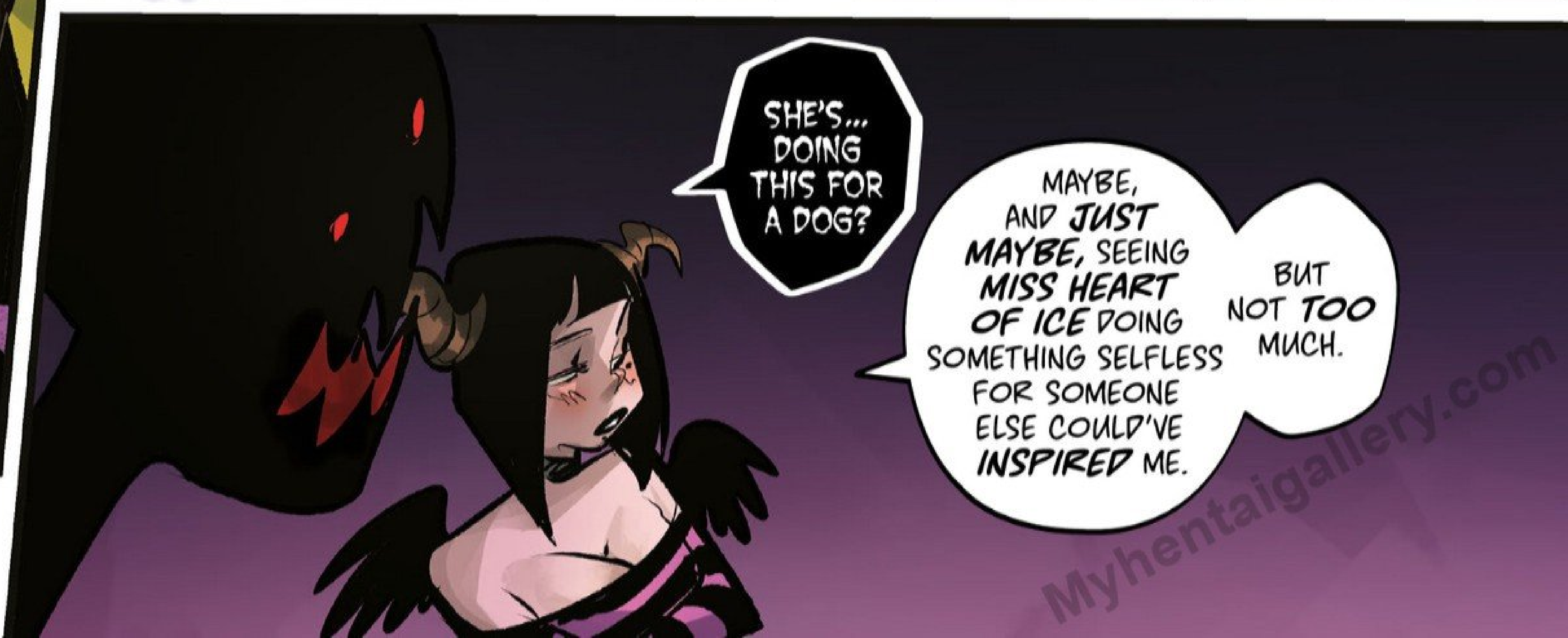
AS IF
I'M
DOING
IT FOR
YOU?
PLEASE.



FAIR
ENOUGH.
THAT
MAKES
SENSE.



THANK
YOU, BY
THE WAY!

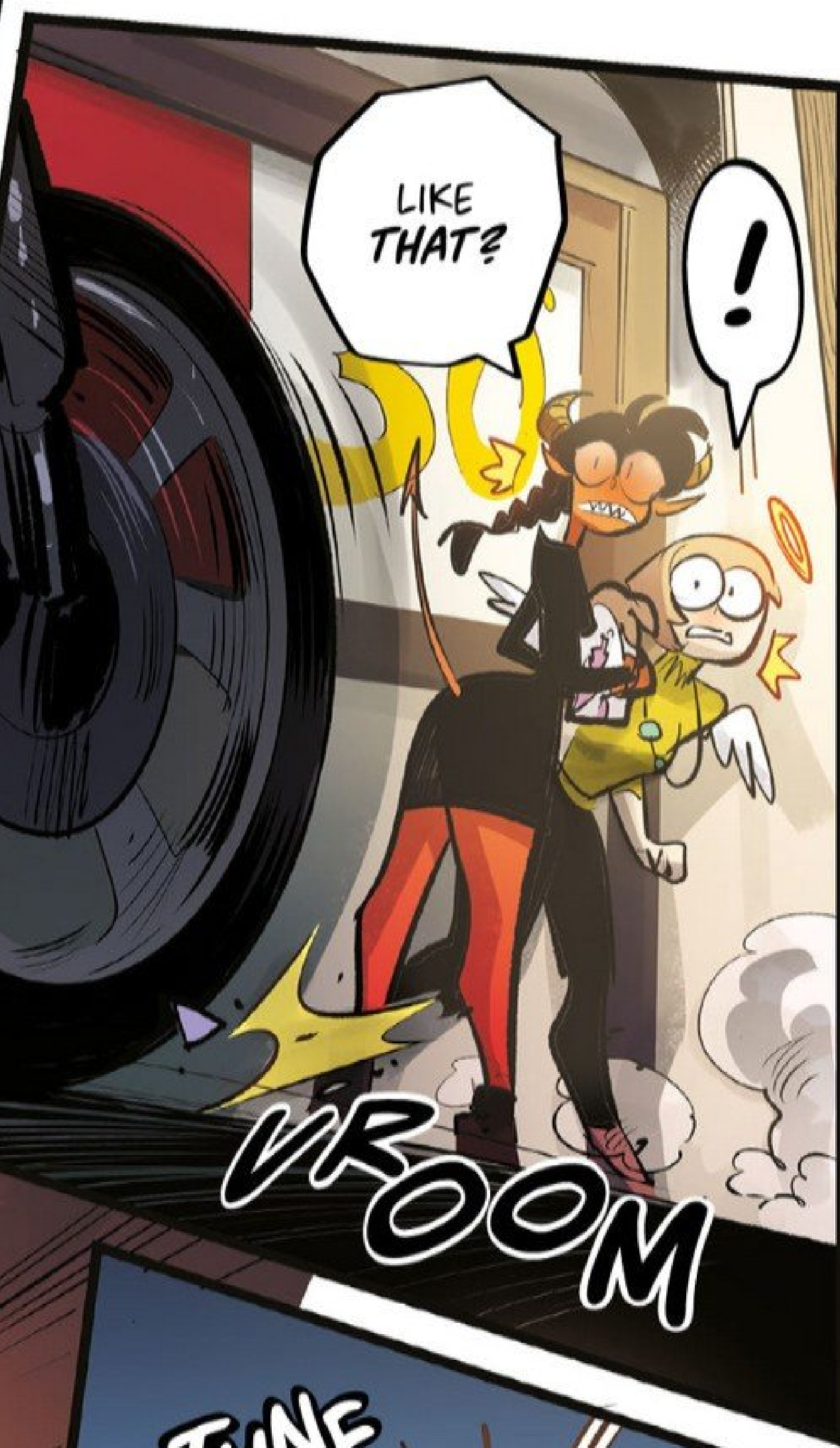


SHE'S...
DOING
THIS FOR
A DOG?

MAYBE,
AND JUST
MAYBE, SEEING
MISS HEART
OF ICE DOING
SOMETHING SELFLESS
FOR SOMEONE
ELSE COULD'VE
INSPIRED ME.

BUT
NOT TOO
MUCH.

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TO BE CONTINUED...

DRAW PAPRIKA IN YOUR STYLE (PART 2)

Here are the illustrations that Mirka has selected within the “Draw Paprika In Your Style” challenge.



KAZZIE THE KAT



@kazzie.the.kat



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DRAW PAPRIKA IN YOUR STYLE (PART 2)



ELENAMICS

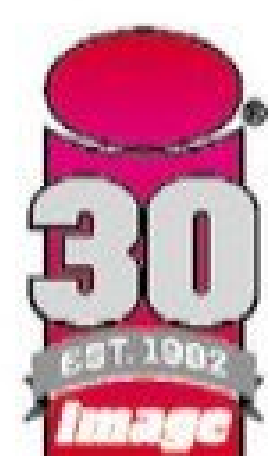


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Mirka Andolfo's

Sweet Paprika™

12
\$3.99 US



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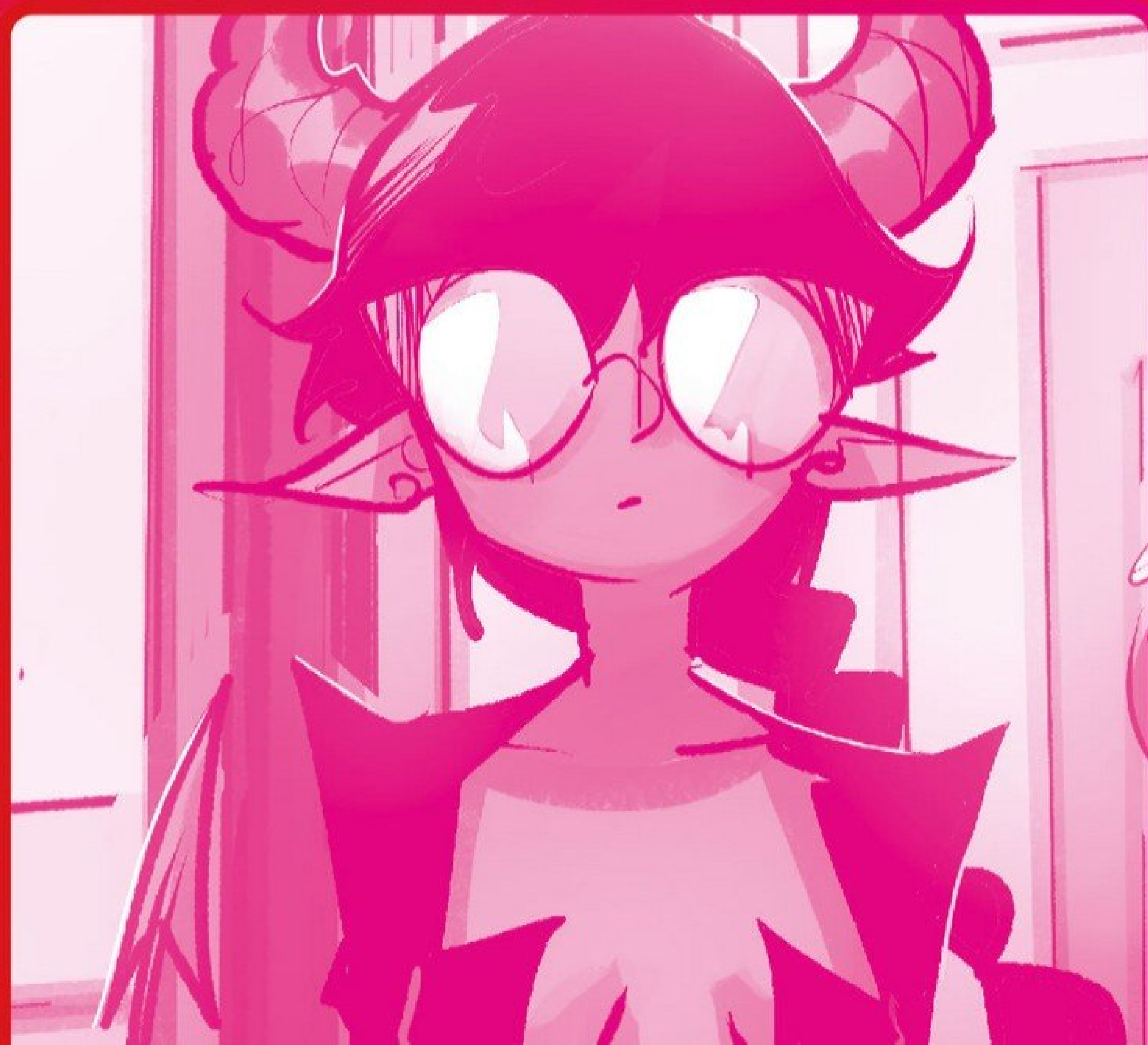
Issue 12

“THAT’S
HOW I WANT
MY LIFE”

CVR A/D • Mirka Andolfo

CVR E “HOT” • Mirka Andolfo

WHAT'S NEXT?



The time for second thoughts, insecurities, and doubts is over. Paprika has to face the future that she deserves and dreams of. But she can only do it by burying the past: her father, her ex—and her own feelings. Learning to love again will not be easy...

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