



YOU KNOW, IT'S FUNNY.
I WALKED PAST IT EVERY DAY ON
MY WAY TO MY DEAD END JOB...

...YET I NEVER QUESTIONED WHY A SMALL,
SLEEPY TOWN LIKE OURS HAD A SHRINE
LIKE THIS.

THAT WAS...UNTIL I BUMPED
INTO THE OWNER ONE COLD WINTER
DAY...

I VISTED THAT SHRINE A FEW MORE TIMES AFTER THAT...THAT DAY. THEN A FEW MORE TIMES THE DAY AFTER THAT...

SHE NEVER SEEMED TO HAVE MUCH PATRONAGE SO I DID MY BEST TO PUT A LITTLE IN HER OFFERING BOX EVERY VISIT.

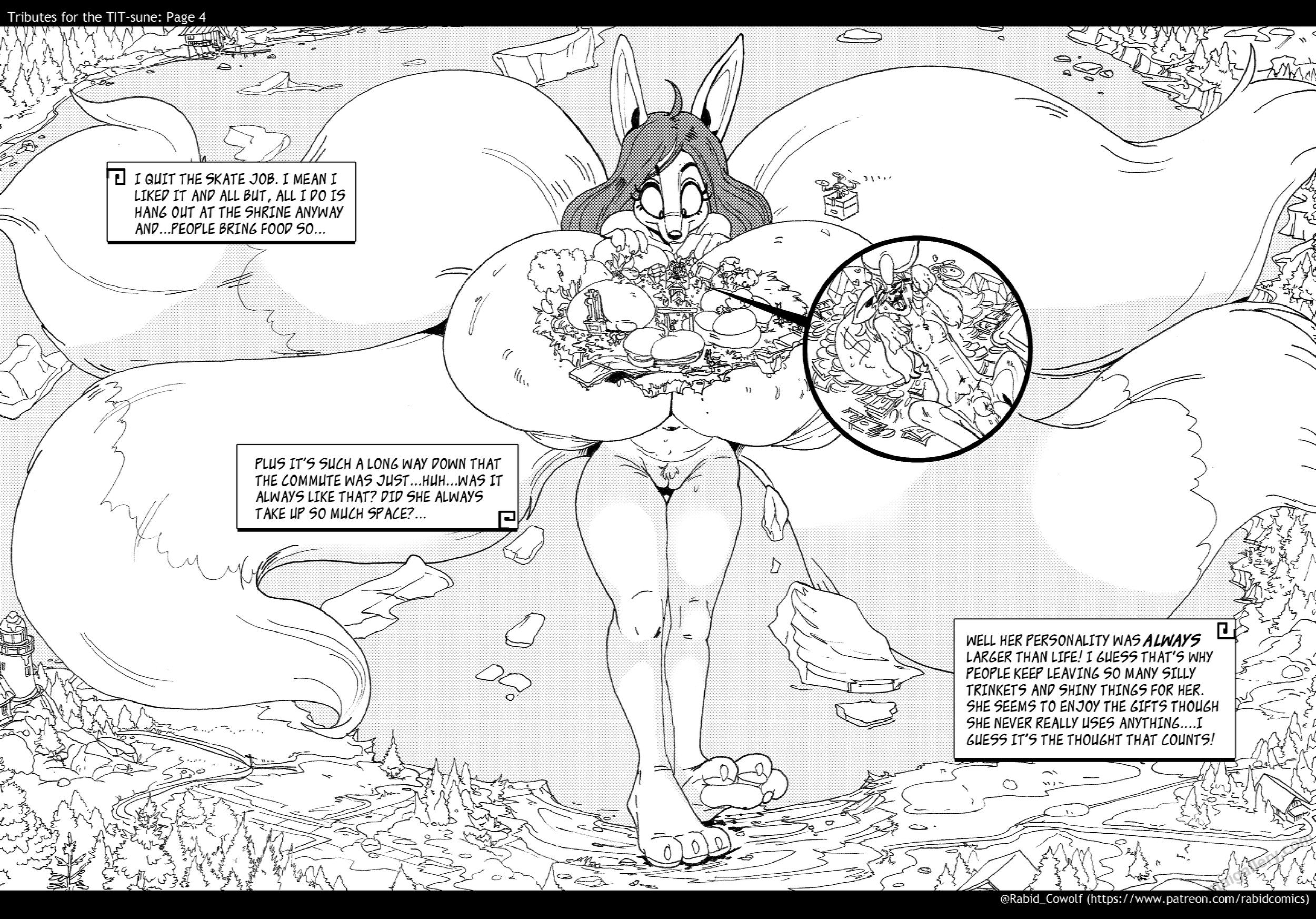
I COULDN'T PUT MY FINGER ON IT BUT SHE SEEMED DIFFERENT... JUST HAPPIER, I BET!



A FEW WEEKS LATER I QUIT MY CRAPPY JOB AND GOT A NEW ONE AT A SKATE SHOP. IT'S LESS PAY BUT...IT'S ALSO LESS STRESS.

COVERS THE BILLS. PLUS, I GET TO GROW MY HAIR OUT AND I CAN DRESS HOWEVER I LIKE. THE SHRINE MAIDEN SAID SHE LIKED MY NEW STYLE!

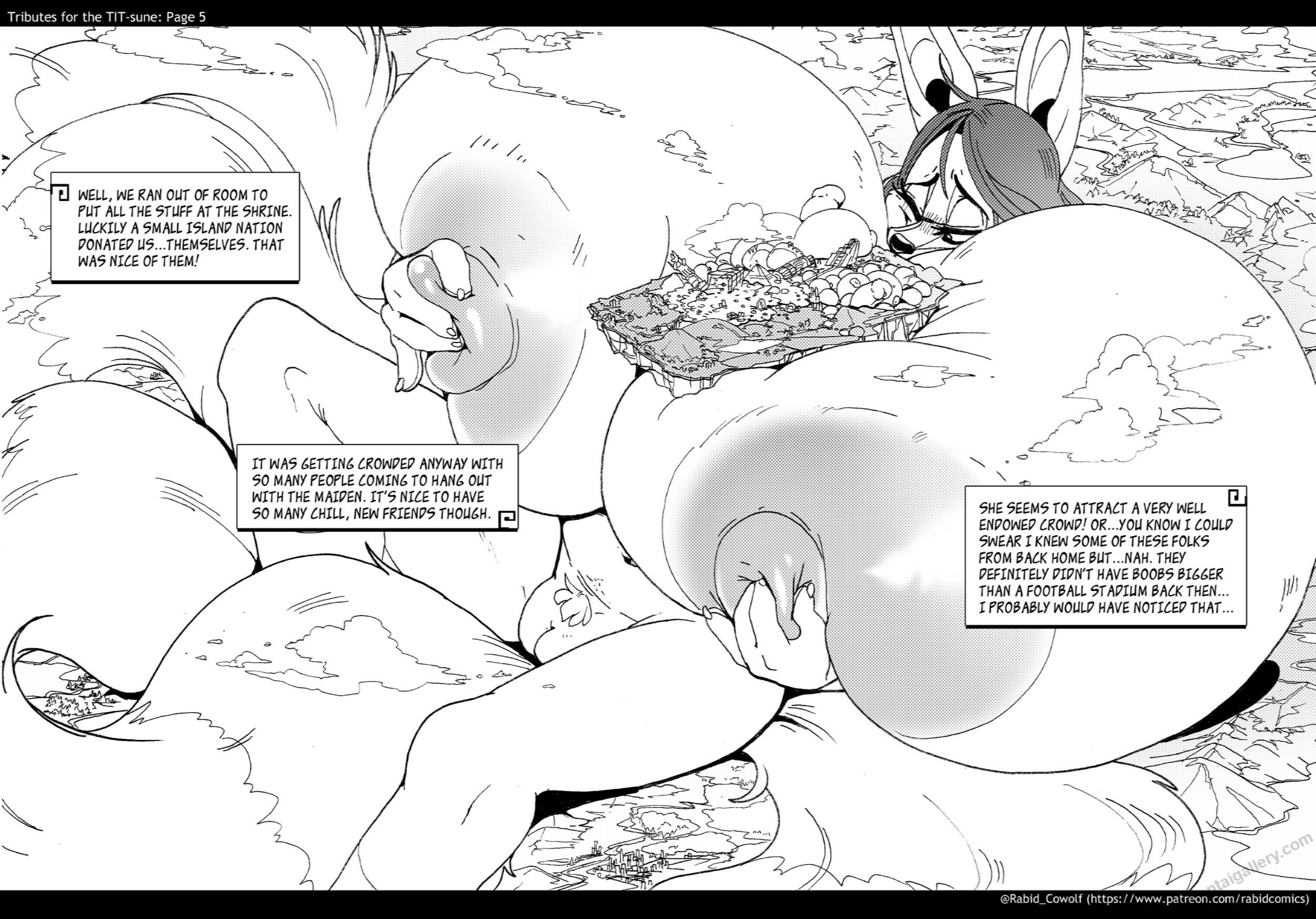
SPEAKING OF THE SHRINE, IT SEEMS LIKE MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE HANGING OUT AND LEAVING OFFERINGS EVERY DAY. IT'S BECOME A NICE LITTLE COMMUNITY!



I QUIT THE SKATE JOB. I MEAN I LIKED IT AND ALL BUT, ALL I DO IS HANG OUT AT THE SHRINE ANYWAY AND...PEOPLE BRING FOOD SO...

PLUS IT'S SUCH A LONG WAY DOWN THAT THE COMMUTE WAS JUST...HUH...WAS IT ALWAYS LIKE THAT? DID SHE ALWAYS TAKE UP SO MUCH SPACE?...

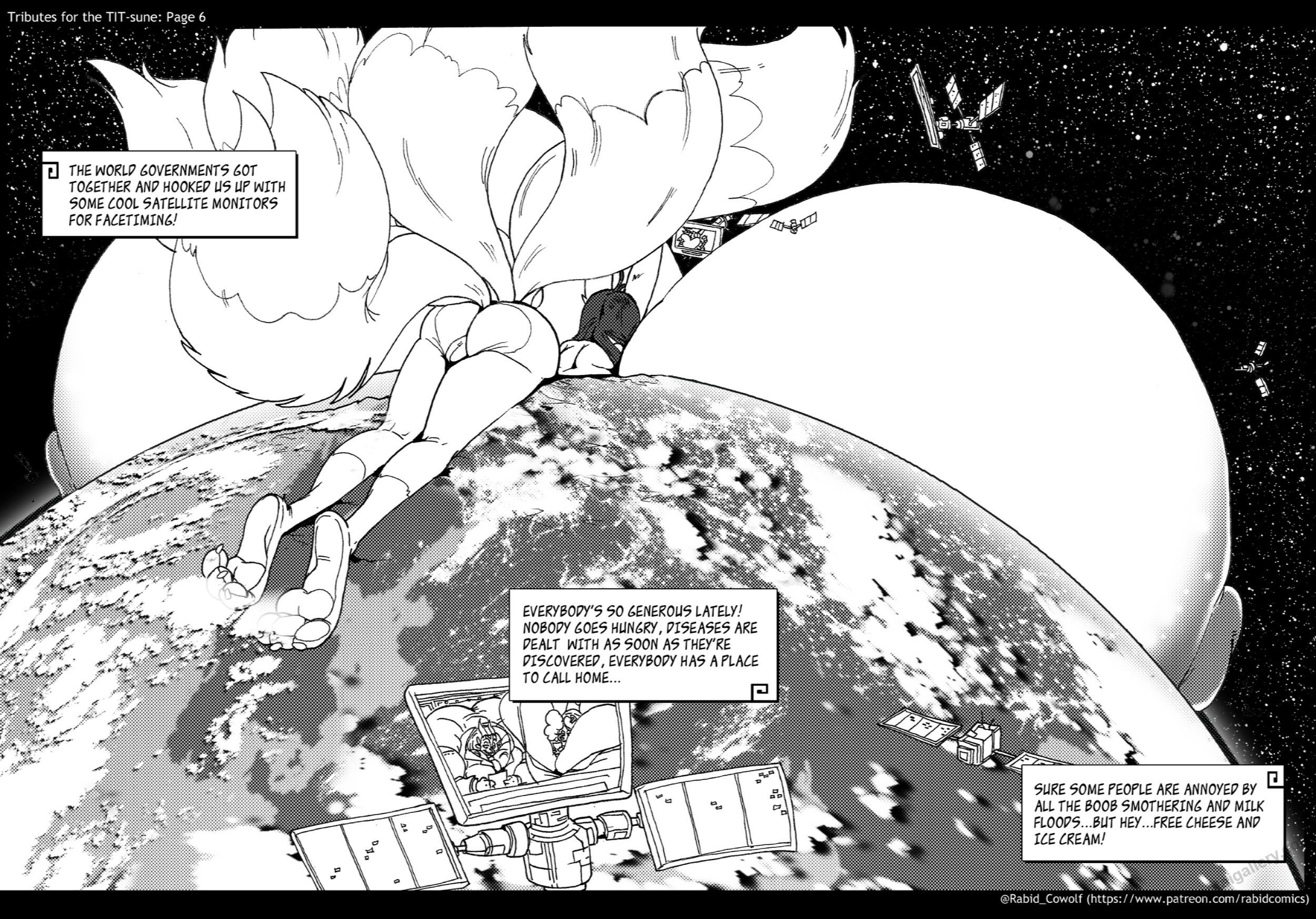
WELL HER PERSONALITY WAS **ALWAYS** LARGER THAN LIFE! I GUESS THAT'S WHY PEOPLE KEEP LEAVING SO MANY SILLY TRINKETS AND SHINY THINGS FOR HER. SHE SEEMS TO ENJOY THE GIFTS THOUGH SHE NEVER REALLY USES ANYTHING....I GUESS IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS!



WELL, WE RAN OUT OF ROOM TO PUT ALL THE STUFF AT THE SHRINE. LUCKILY A SMALL ISLAND NATION DONATED US...THEMSELVES. THAT WAS NICE OF THEM!

IT WAS GETTING CROWDED ANYWAY WITH SO MANY PEOPLE COMING TO HANG OUT WITH THE MAIDEN. IT'S NICE TO HAVE SO MANY CHILL, NEW FRIENDS THOUGH.

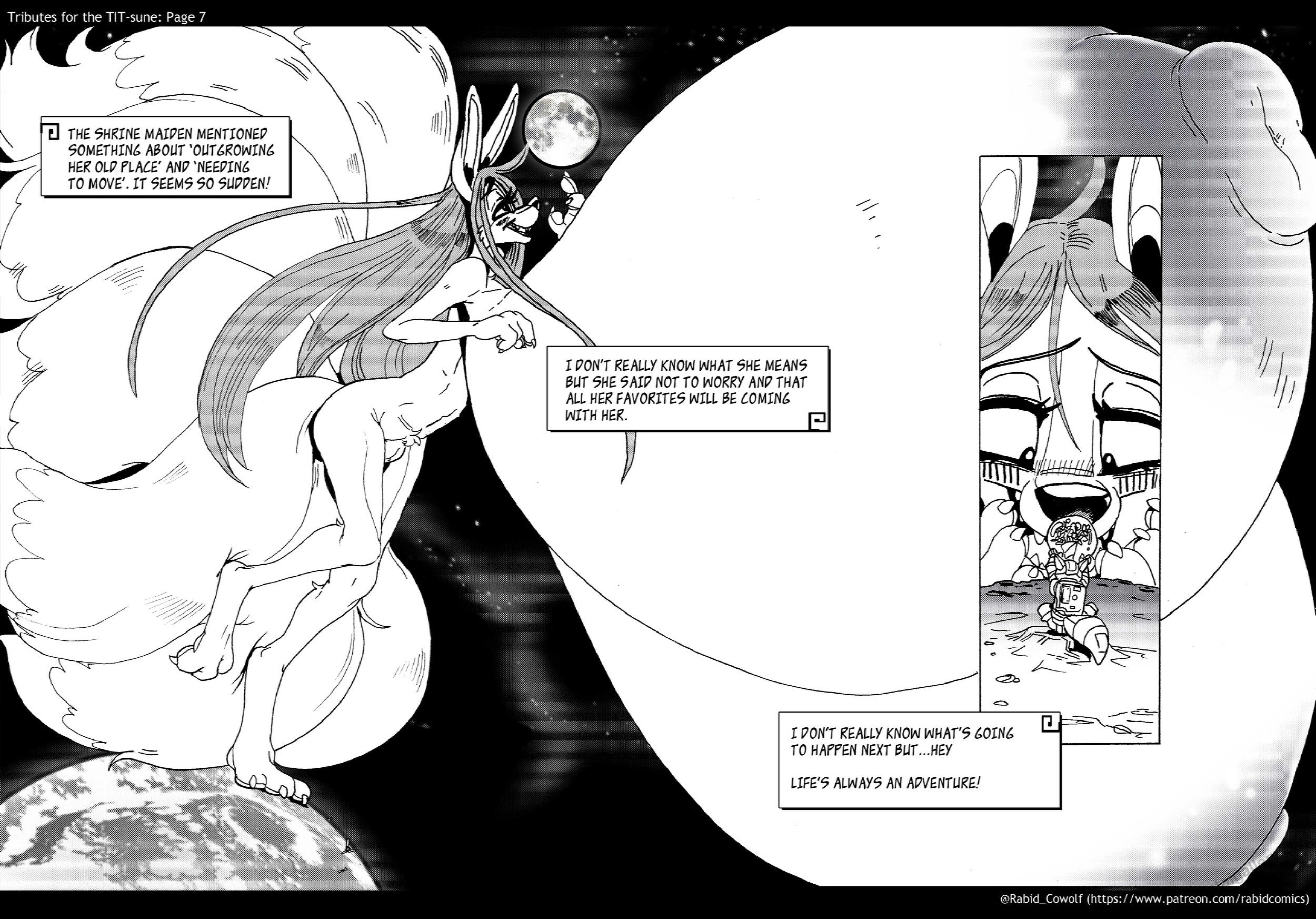
SHE SEEMS TO ATTRACT A VERY WELL ENDOWED CROWD! OR...YOU KNOW I COULD SWEAR I KNEW SOME OF THESE FOLKS FROM BACK HOME BUT...NAH. THEY DEFINITELY DIDN'T HAVE BOOBS BIGGER THAN A FOOTBALL STADIUM BACK THEN... I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE NOTICED THAT...



THE WORLD GOVERNMENTS GOT TOGETHER AND HOOKED US UP WITH SOME COOL SATELLITE MONITORS FOR FACETIMING!

EVERYBODY'S SO GENEROUS LATELY! NOBODY GOES HUNGRY, DISEASES ARE DEALT WITH AS SOON AS THEY'RE DISCOVERED, EVERYBODY HAS A PLACE TO CALL HOME...

SURE SOME PEOPLE ARE ANNOYED BY ALL THE BOOB SMOTHERING AND MILK FLOODS...BUT HEY...FREE CHEESE AND ICE CREAM!



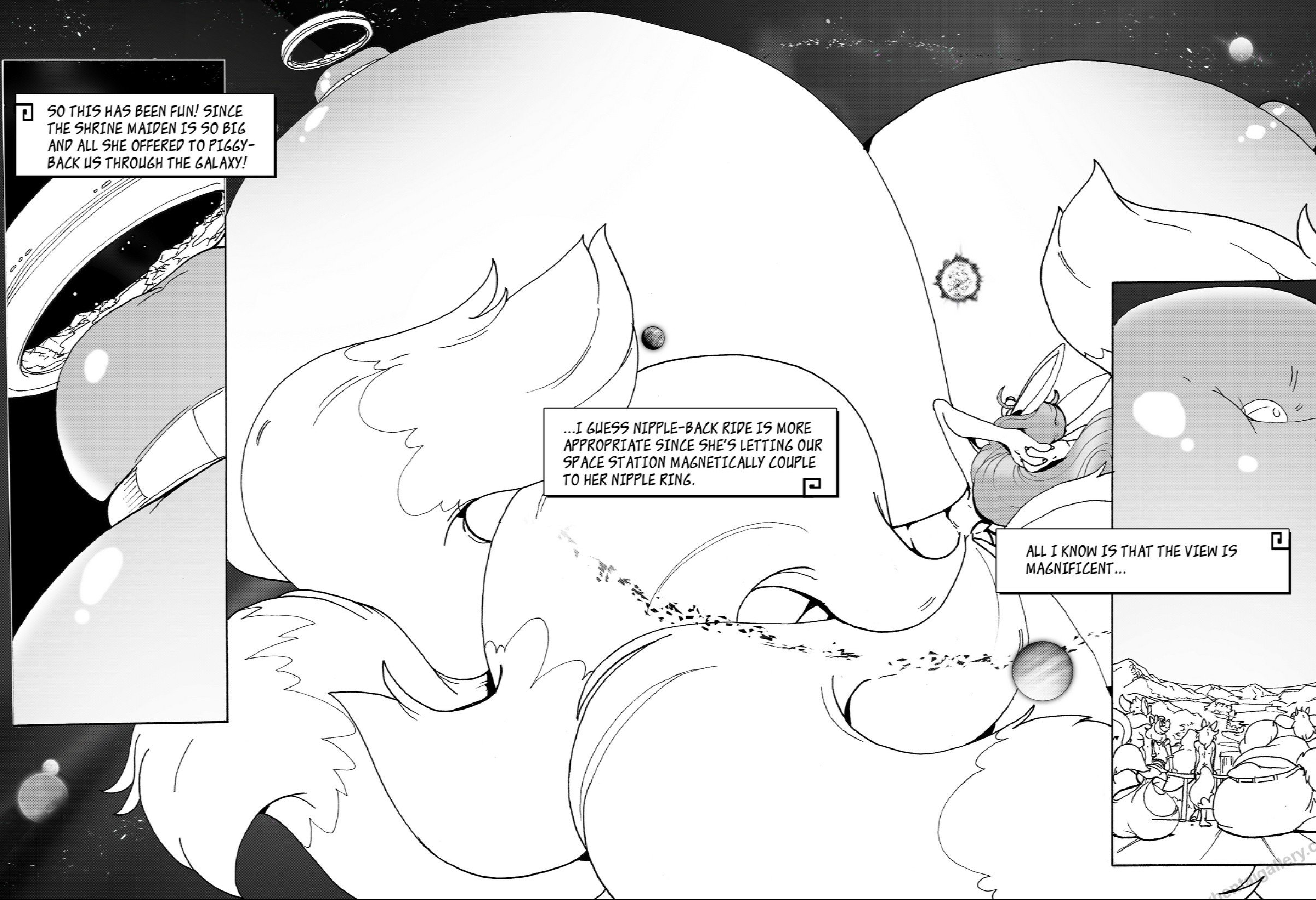
THE SHRINE MAIDEN MENTIONED
SOMETHING ABOUT 'OUTGROWING
HER OLD PLACE' AND 'NEEDING
TO MOVE'. IT SEEMS SO SUDDEN!

I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT SHE MEANS
BUT SHE SAID NOT TO WORRY AND THAT
ALL HER FAVORITES WILL BE COMING
WITH HER.

I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT'S GOING
TO HAPPEN NEXT BUT...HEY

LIFE'S ALWAYS AN ADVENTURE!

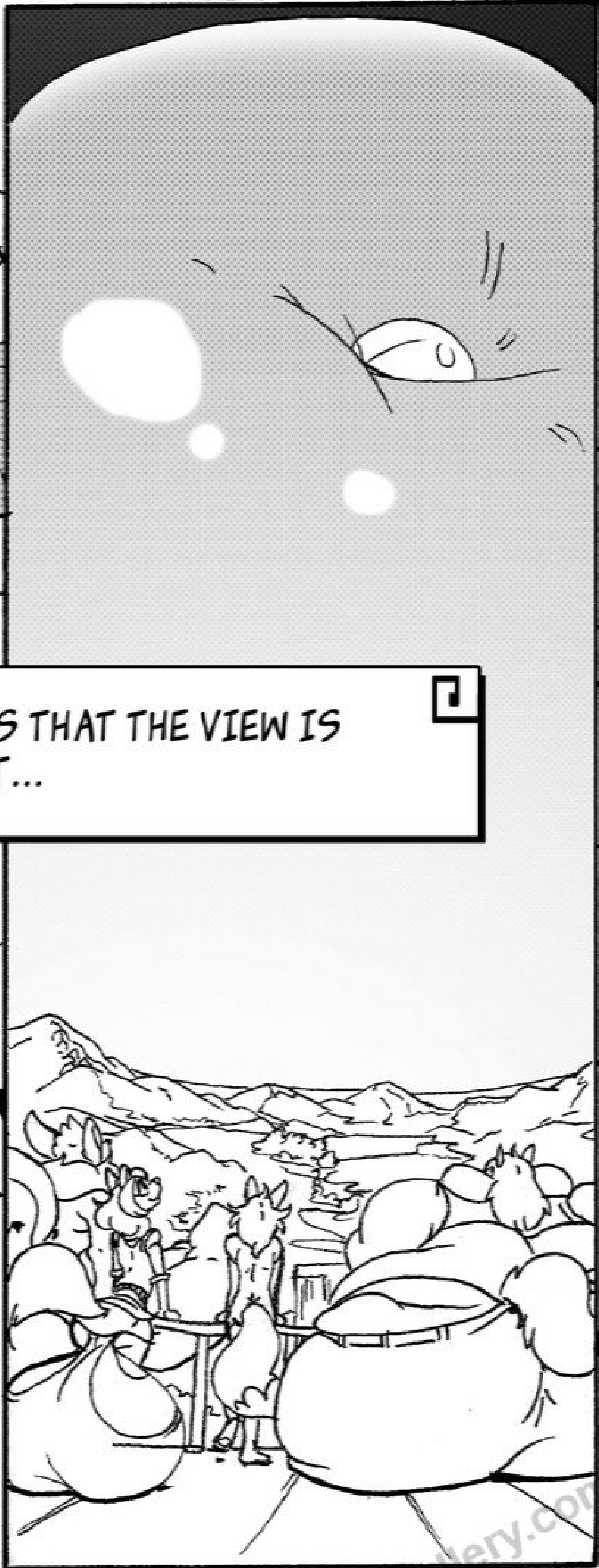




SO THIS HAS BEEN FUN! SINCE THE SHRINE MAIDEN IS SO BIG AND ALL SHE OFFERED TO PIGGY-BACK US THROUGH THE GALAXY!

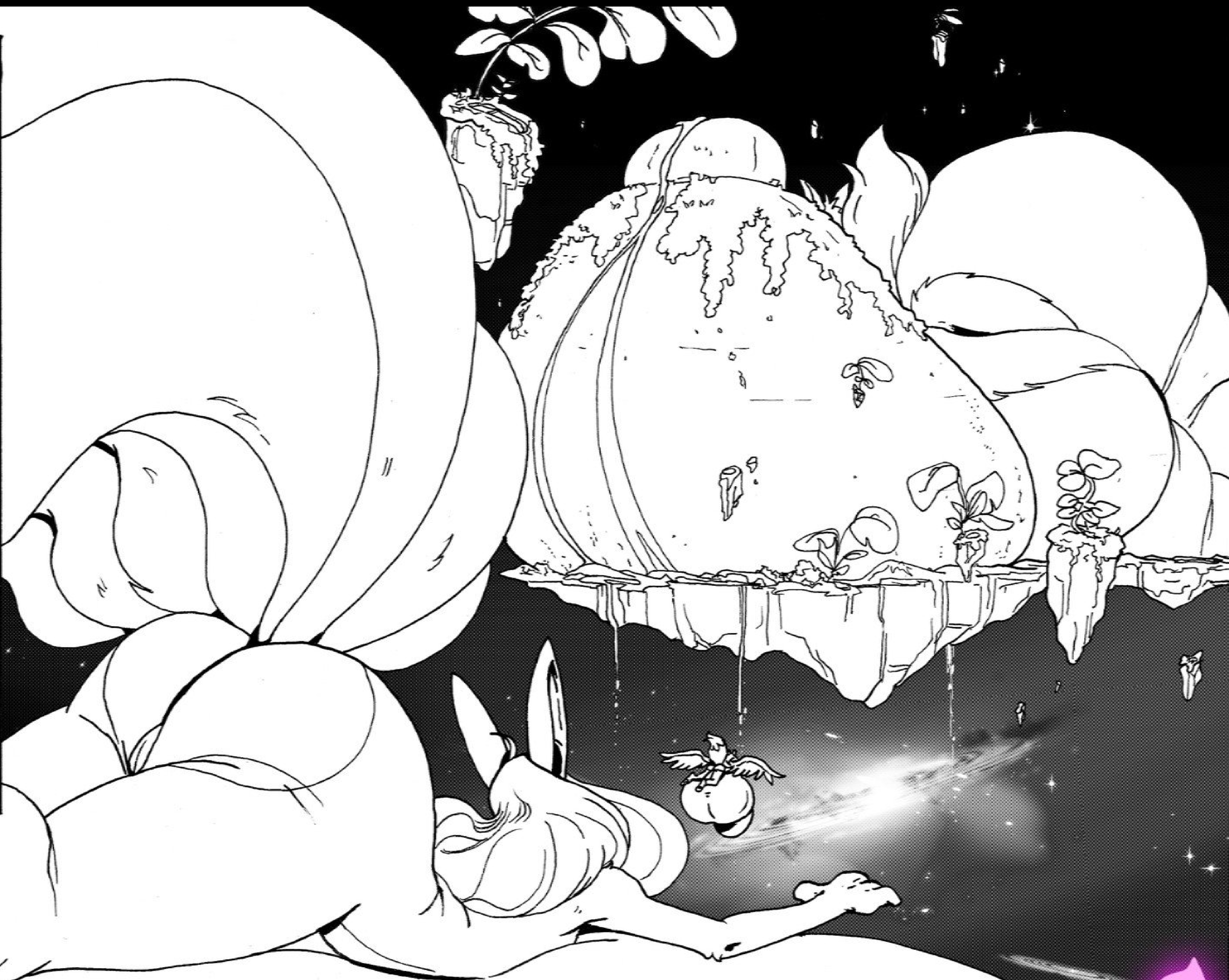
...I GUESS NIPPLE-BACK RIDE IS MORE APPROPRIATE SINCE SHE'S LETTING OUR SPACE STATION MAGNETICALLY COUPLE TO HER NIPPLE RING.

ALL I KNOW IS THAT THE VIEW IS MAGNIFICENT...





SO CHECK THIS OUT! THE MAIDEN DECKED ME OUT WITH THESE COOL WINGS! I'M...NOT ENTIRELY SURE HOW! ALSO THEY LET ME FLY AND BREATHE IN SPACE WHICH DOESN'T SEEM LIKE SOMETHING WINGS DO ...BUT GIFT HORSES AND ALL THAT!



SHE SAID SHE DIDN'T LIKE TO MAKE ALTERATIONS TO PEOPLE THAT AREN'T SECRETLY THEIR INNER MOST DESIRES... BUT ALSO THAT IT'D BE WAY MORE CONVENIENT FOR HER IF I COULD GET AROUND HER GIANT BODY ON MY OWN.



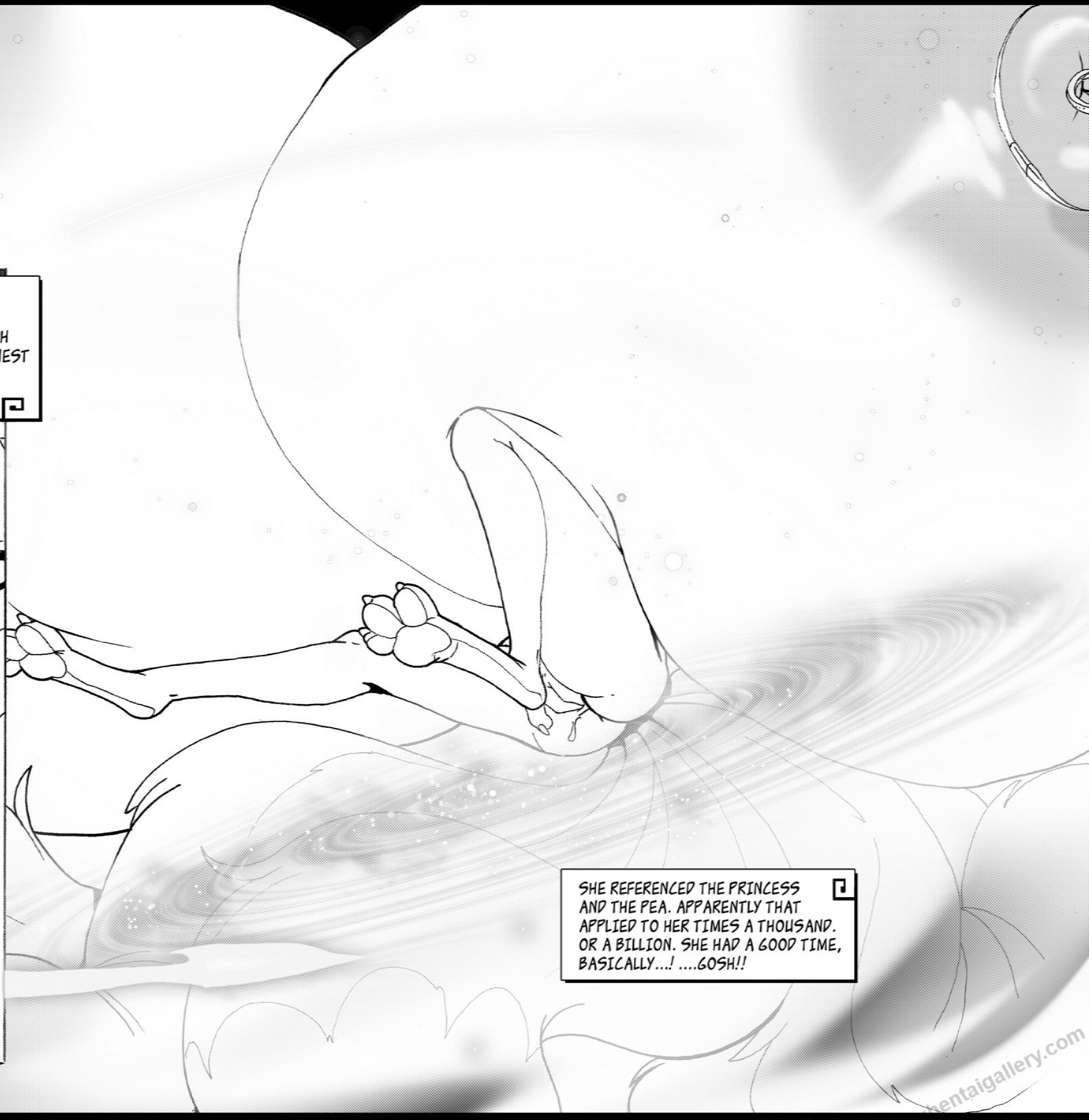
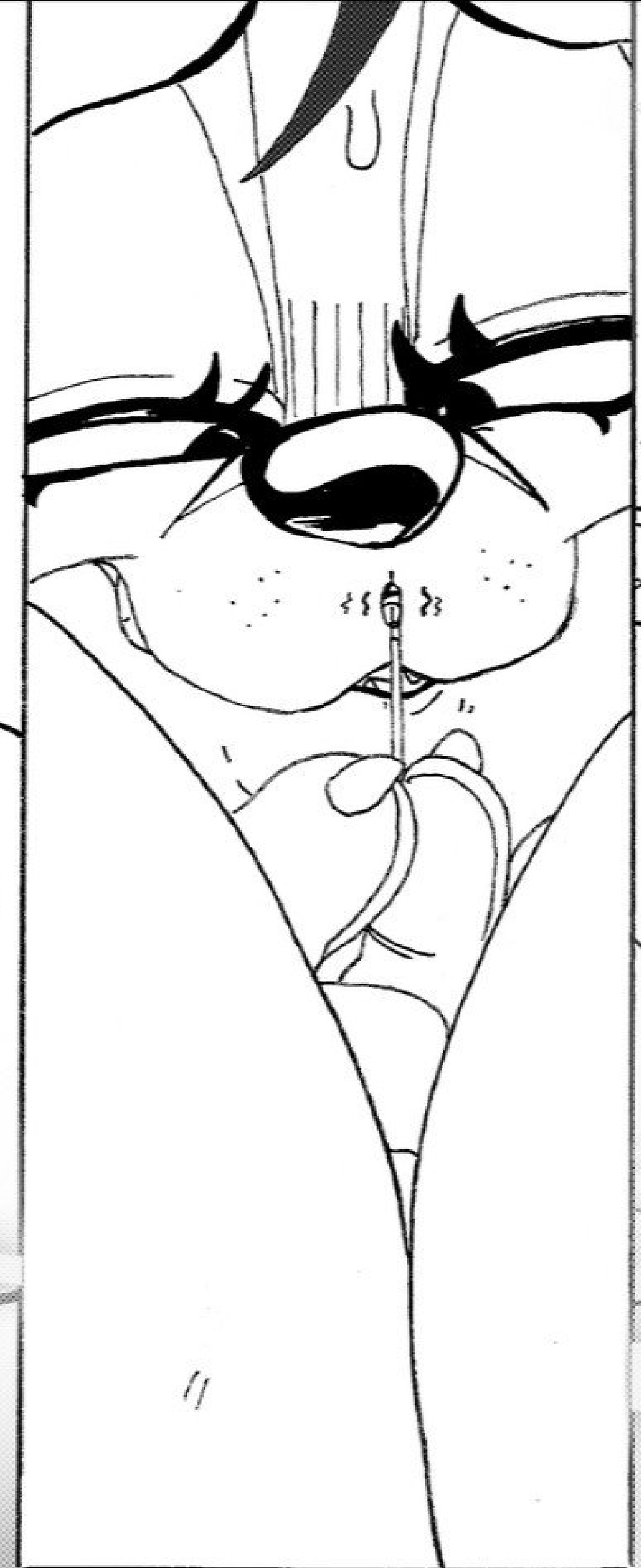
IT WAS A LONG TRIP TO "HER PLACE". WHEN WE FINALLY ARRIVED I THOUGHT SHE'D BE RELIEVED BUT SOMETHING WAS UP...



THE MAIDEN STRAIGHT UP GAVE ME A SPACESHIP! SHE SAID IT WAS FOR 'SPECIAL MISSIONS' ...I'M... TOO EMBARRASSED TO WRITE OUT THE DETAILS HERE...



...LET'S JUST SAY SHE MENTIONED HER...URGES... THAT SHE WAS... COMFORTABLE TO SHARE THEM WITH ME... I WAS FLATTERED! TO BE HONEST I KIND OF ASSUMED I'D BE ON THE SMALL SIZE FOR HER. ^^;



SHE REFERENCED THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA. APPARENTLY THAT APPLIED TO HER TIMES A THOUSAND. OR A BILLION. SHE HAD A GOOD TIME, BASICALLY...!GOSH!!

IT SEEMS THAT WHILE SHE WAS AWAY
SOMEBODY MOVED INTO HER PLACE AND
WAS MAKING HERSELF QUITE AT HOME...

THE SQUATTER WAS EATING ALL HER
STUFF AND RUINING ALL THE STUFF
SHE DIDN'T EAT! WHAT WAS SUPPOSED
TO BE A LUSH WONDERLAND HAD BEEN
TURNED TO A BARREN WASTELAND...

SHE WASN'T BEING VERY NICE TO THE
RESIDENTS EITHER! MAKING THEM
HAUL HER GIGATONNE FRAME AROUND
ON A GOLDEN Dais...TACKY *AND* RUDE...



THE MAIDEN WENT IN TO MAKE FRIENDLY CONTACT WITH THE OVERSIZED INTERLOPER.

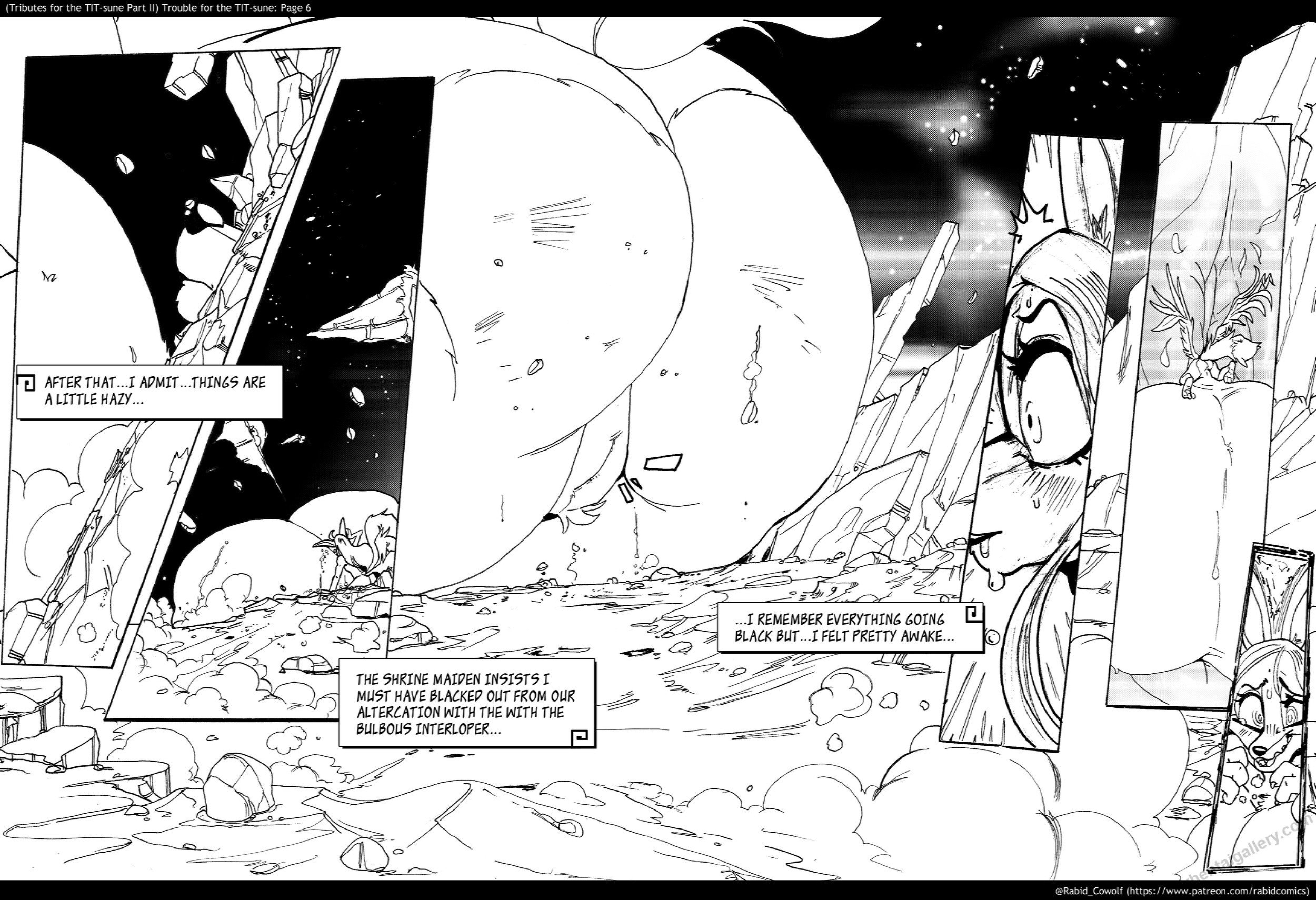


SHE KINDLY INFORMED HER THAT THIS WAS KINDA HER DOMAIN AND...THAT SHE WAS SORTA DEVOURING ALL LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE SO IT'D BE GREAT IF...



YOU COULD SAY THE NEGOTIATIONS DIDN'T START OUTWELL....





AFTER THAT...I ADMIT...THINGS ARE A LITTLE HAZY...

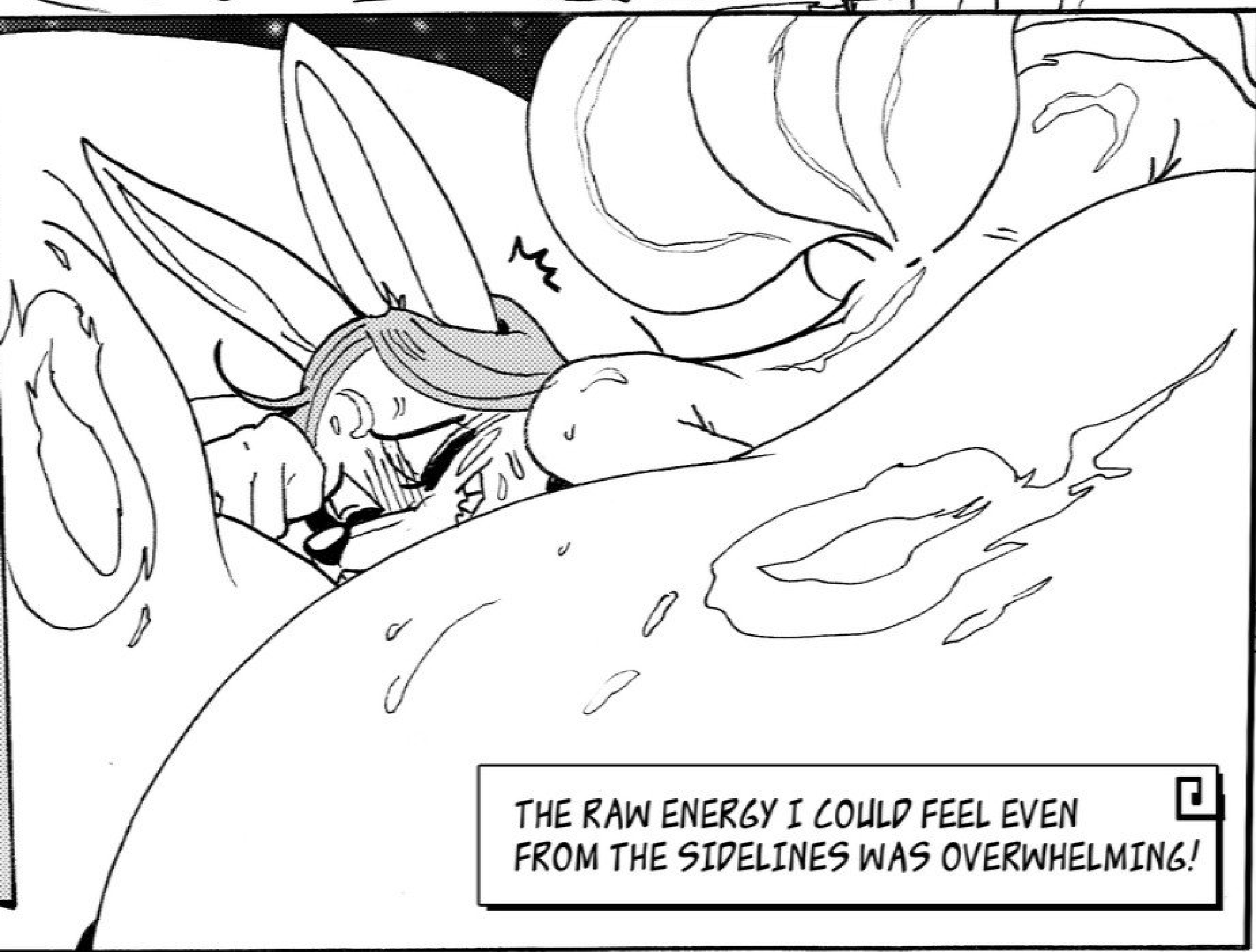
THE SHRINE MAIDEN INSISTS I MUST HAVE BLACKED OUT FROM OUR ALTERCATION WITH THE WITH THE BULBOUS INTERLOPER...

...I REMEMBER EVERYTHING GOING BLACK BUT...I FELT PRETTY AWAKE...

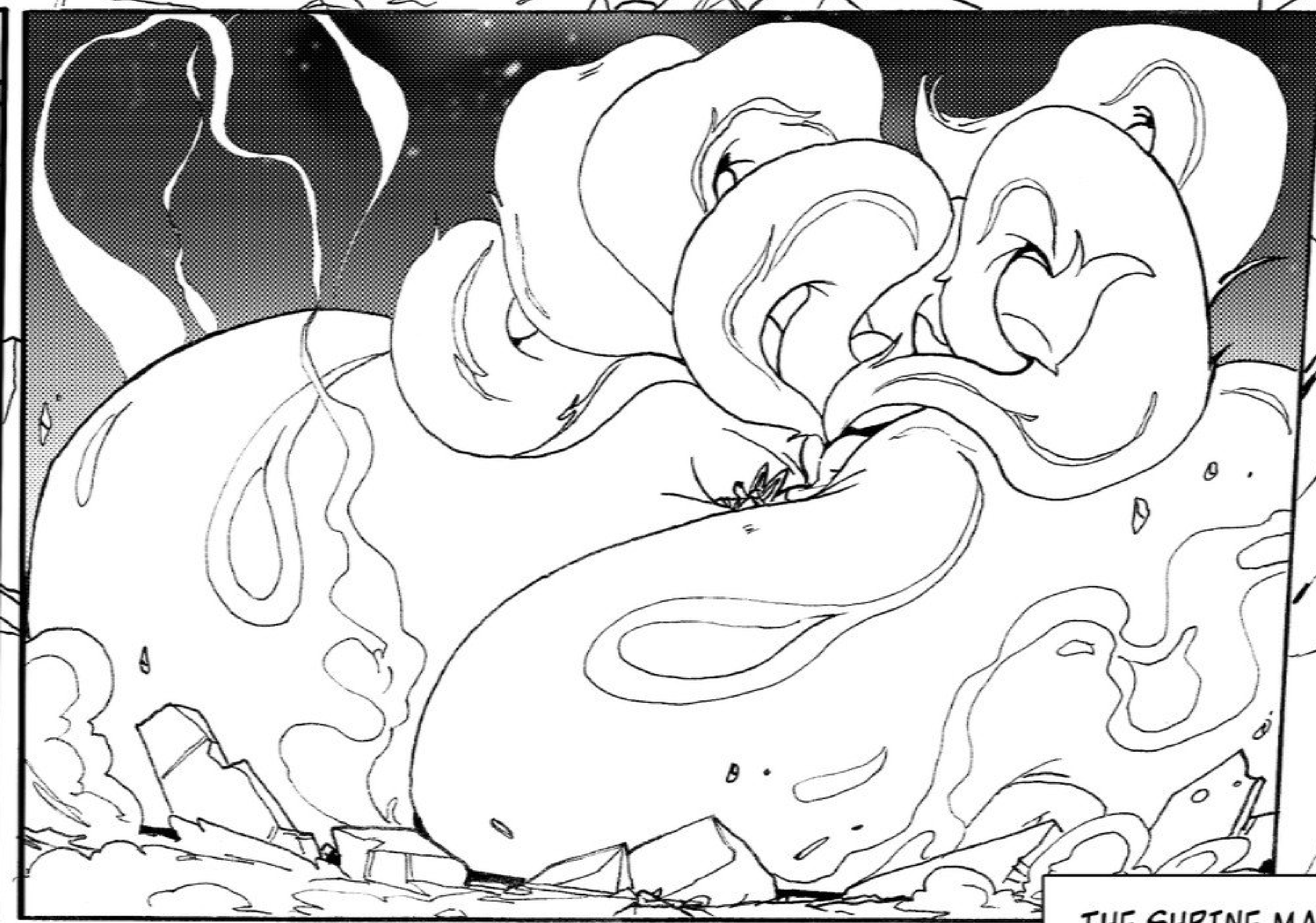


FROM WHAT I CAN TELL THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A HUGE BATTLE...

THE MAIDEN WAS PANTING FROM EXERTION AS THE GROUND QUIVERED FROM THE SHEER FORCE OF THE GODDESSES' ATTACKS!



THE RAW ENERGY I COULD FEEL EVEN FROM THE SIDELINES WAS OVERWHELMING!



THE SHRINE MAIDEN MUST BE SCARY WHEN SHE'S ANGRY...



WHO KNOWS WHAT IT WAS THAT FINALLY
PUSHED HER OVER THE EDGE...



ONE THING WAS FOR CERTAIN.
THAT WAS THE START OF
SOMETHING BIG...