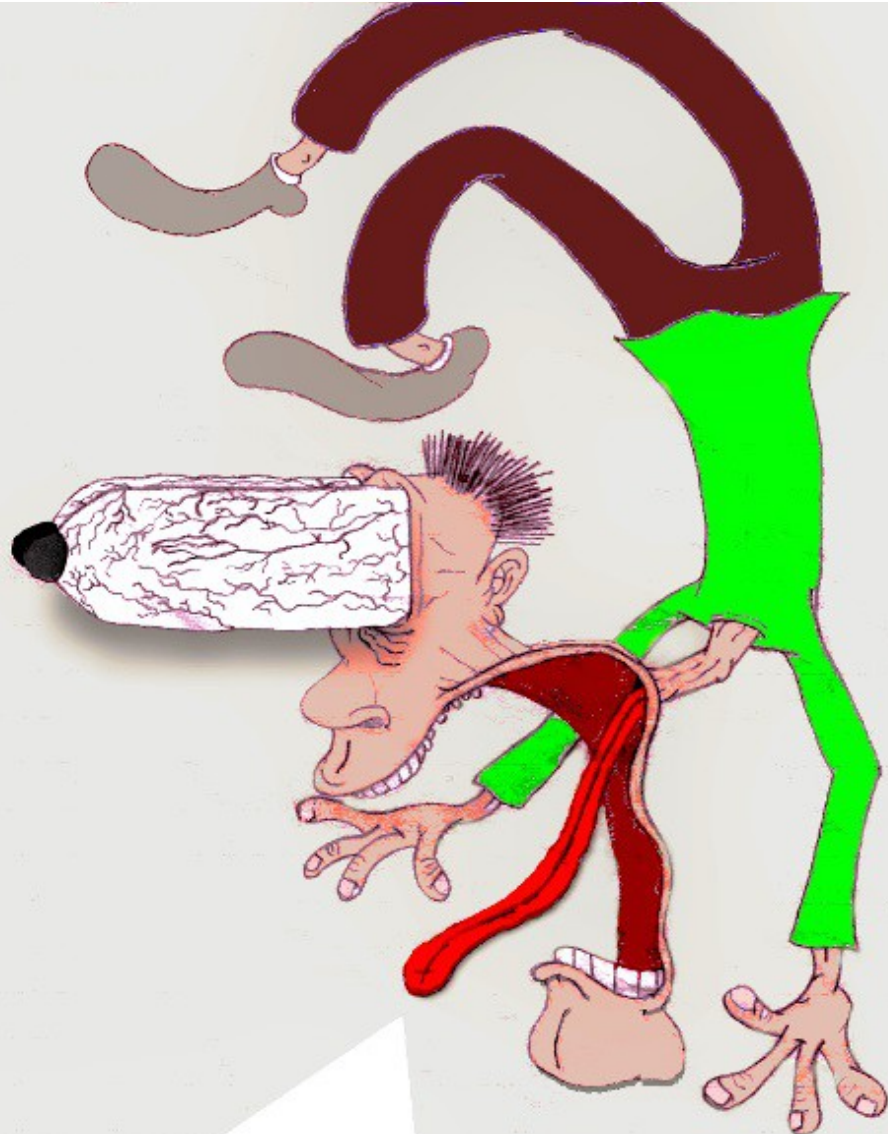


THE GREG

free indie comic magazine

issue 3





LOOK!

A Whole New Issue of Eye-Popping Comics

**Written and Drawn by
The Next Superstars of Pop Art!**

Take a LOOK and SEE for Yourself...



ASpirit's Fortitude

issue 2

U-UH... THIS WAY, RIGHT?

YEAH... I THINK THIS IS THE WAY WE CAME IN...

Flicker

Click

CAROLINE, WHY DID YOU TURN OFF THE FLASHLIGHT?

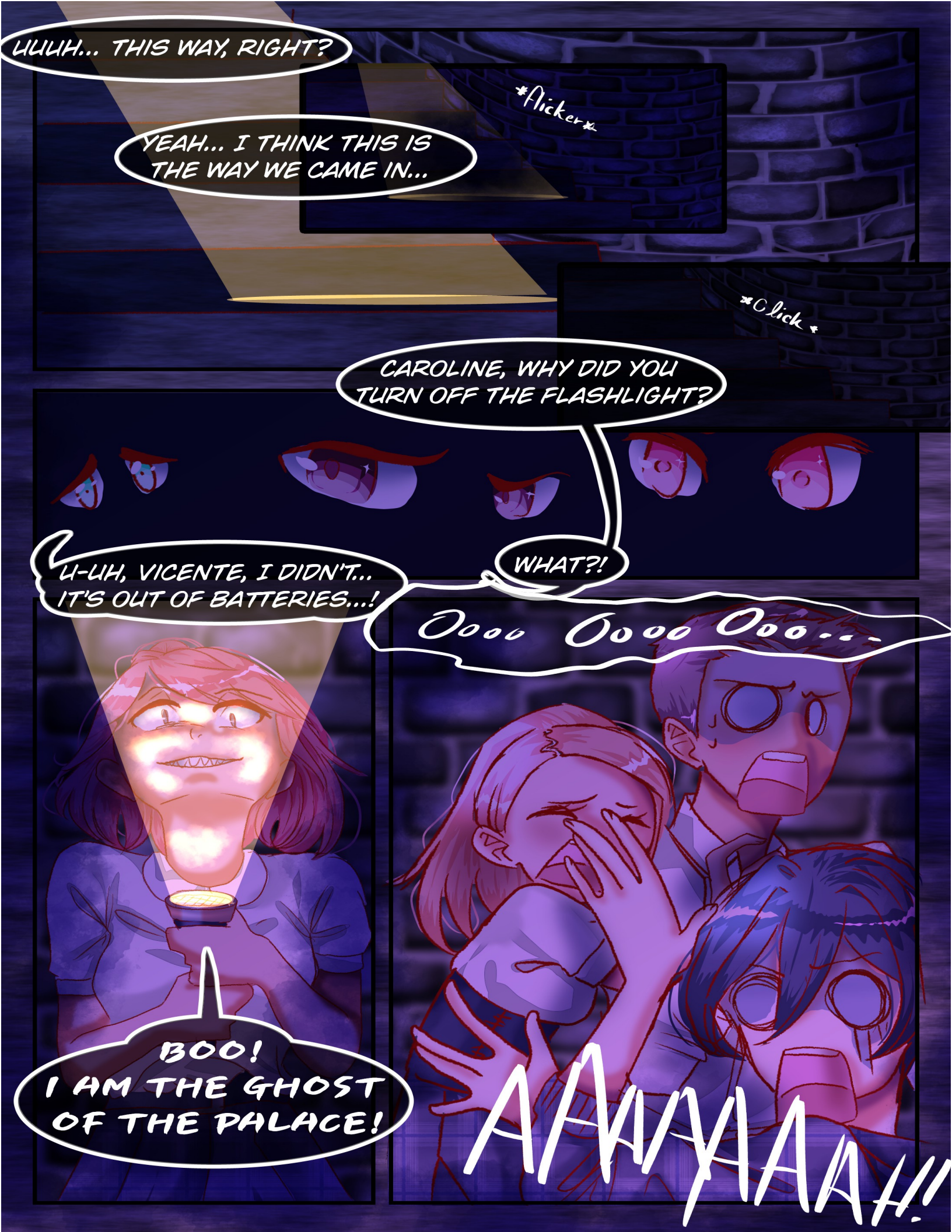
U-UH, VICENTE, I DIDN'T... IT'S OUT OF BATTERIES...!

WHAT?!

Oooo Oooo Oooo...

BOO!
I AM THE GHOST OF THE PALACE!

AAWWAAH!!





You should have seen your faces!!



They were priceless!!



...

AHK! THAT WASN'T COOL!! YOU REALLY SCARED US!



THIS PLACE IS FREAKY, AND WE REALLY SHOULDN'T BE HERE PAST CURFEW!

Come on, Caroline, loosen up! And who cares, the dorm supervisors won't come looking for us out here.



After all, this is the palace haha! ~HAUNTED~



WHATEVER. WE SHOULD HEAD BACK, WE SHOULDN'T

HAVE COME OUT HERE ON YOUR DUMB WHIM, AHKI.

Wha... HEY!

You were the one who brought it up, Vicente!

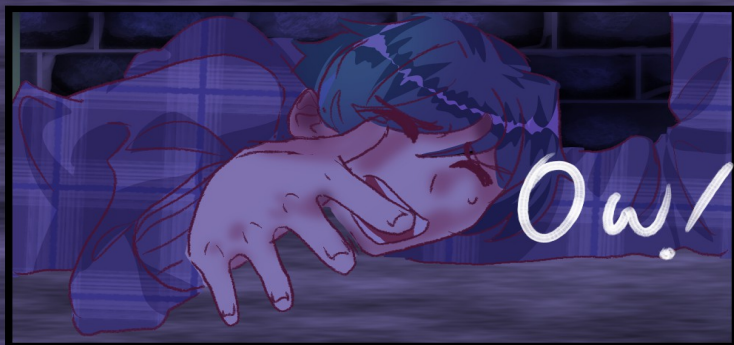
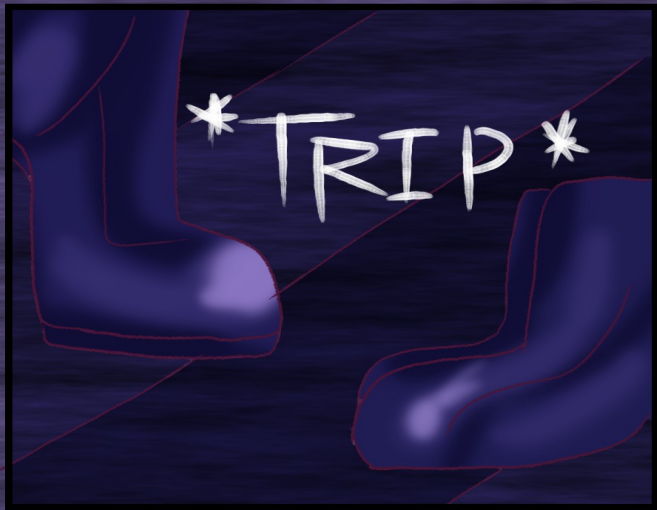
This isn't just MY dumb whim! You wanted to come too!

AHKI, I DON'T CARE WHOSE IDEA IT WAS, IT WAS DUMB, AND WE NEED

TO GET BACK TO THE DORM BEFORE SOMETHING BAD ACTUALLY HAPPENS.

GRRRRRR...







GUYS! THERE'S A SECRET PASSAGE!!



THAT WASN'T THERE BEFORE...!

**GUYS, WE NEED TO
CONTINUE TO THE ENTRANCE-!**



VICENTE!! WE DON'T HAVE TIME!

**LET'S GO! IT CAN'T FIT
DOWN THE PASSAGE!**

GUYS, THE DOOR-
WALL- WHATEVER
CLOSED BEHIND US!



Good! It means the things
can't even try to follow us!



OR IT MEANS WE'RE TRAPPED....



DACI! CEASE!

WELL, THAT WORKED WELL,
DIDN'T IT, PRINCESS?

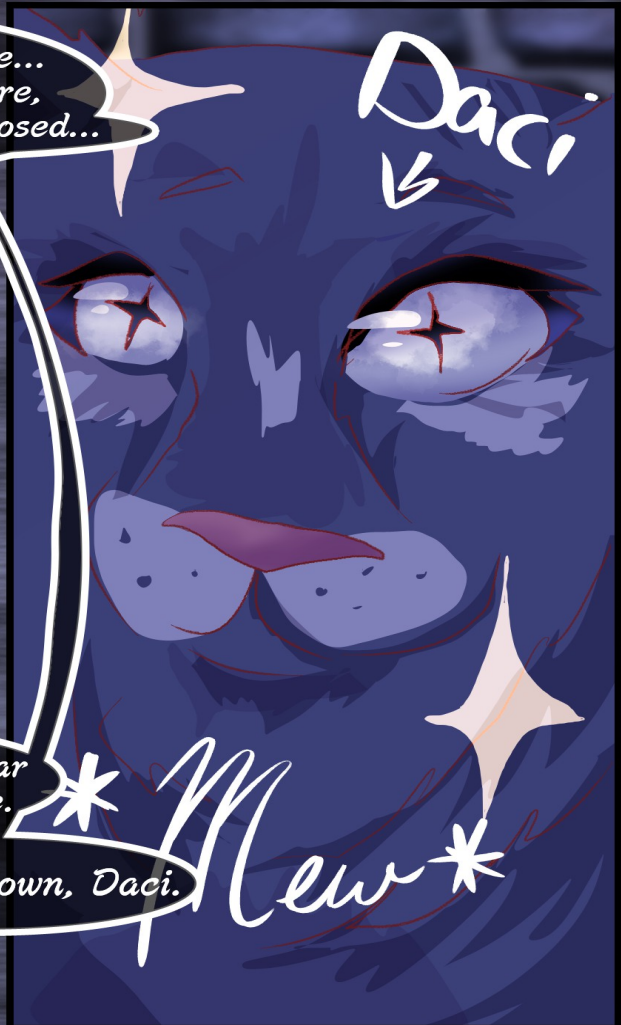


Well... they didn't leave...
this is worse than before,
Urari. They weren't supposed...

Lady Kokiro, is that...
did they find the passage
from legend...?

I fear so, Elra. I fear
we made a mistake.

And calm down, Daci.



Daci
↳

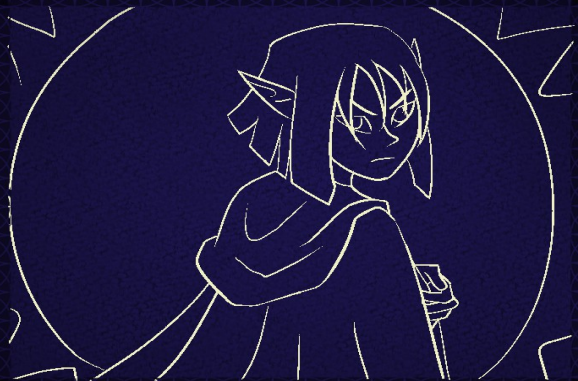
* New *



Beware the Alien!

The Starless Star

by Larissa Smith



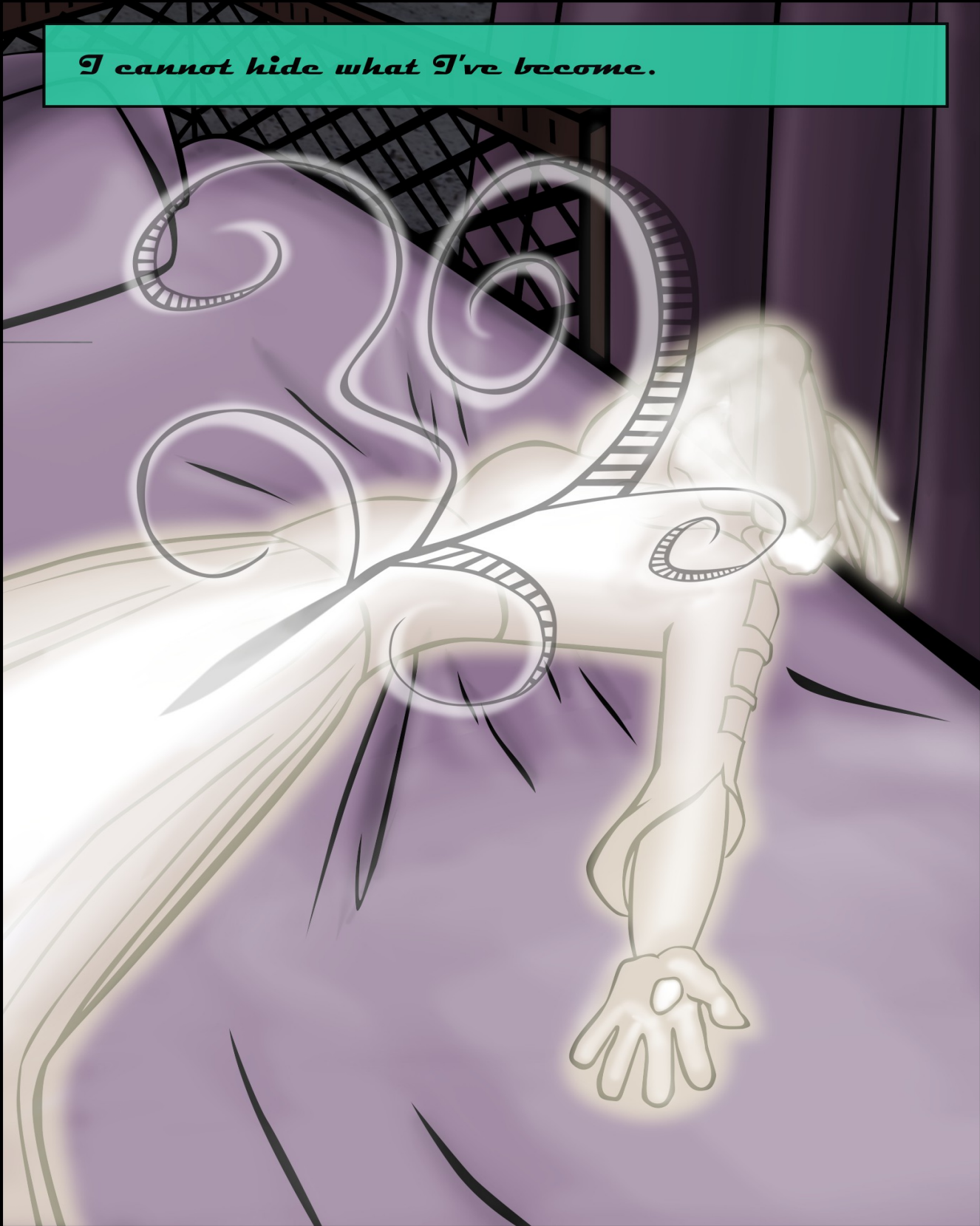


Prologue



This is my letter of resignation.

I cannot hide what I've become.





I'm known as one of your most loyal supporters.

I've followed you for years and done everything you asked, blindly.

Our prized way of life has been threatened! The only question you need ask yourself now is, will you tamely accept this treatment?

Never!

No!

We must be wise, but we will not step down!

Down with the heathens!



Strange! I thought he was meeting with the Baron of Vejavin today, but that sure isn't the Baron!

But I always knew you were holding meetings and making agreements of which I was never informed.

I followed you because I believe in the cause. I never imagined my own brother capable of fighting so passionately for it...

I don't see why I should let the Huleshi people stay here when they believe my authority to rule is an abomination against magic.

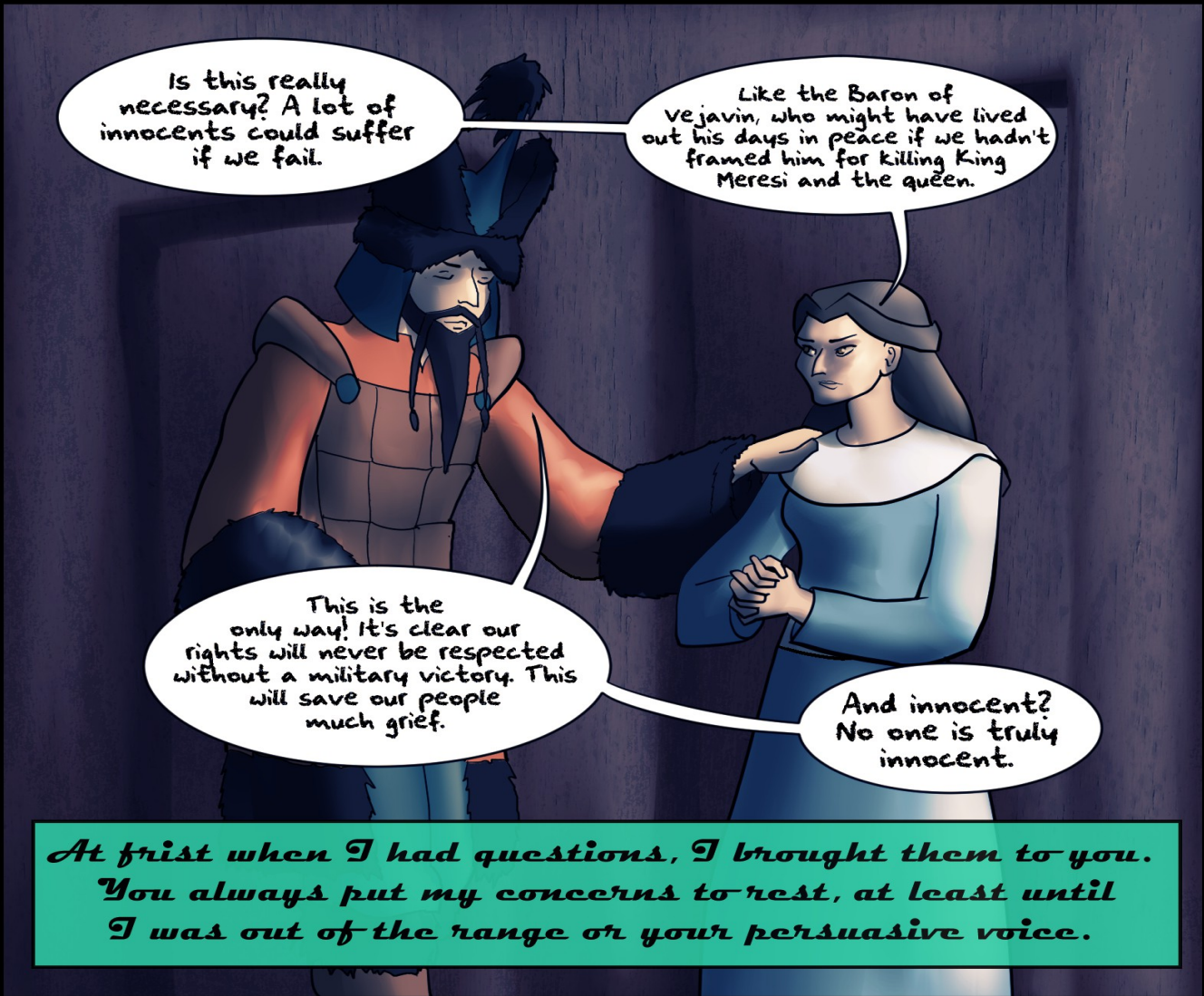
I already have a veritable war on my hands with those radicals who follow Gora.

Please veder-mene, let us show you the Huleshi people of Ve javin and my barony are different from those others. We only want peace.

...when it was just a tool.



I see no choice but to take up arms. The Peacemaker Baron must become a warrior.



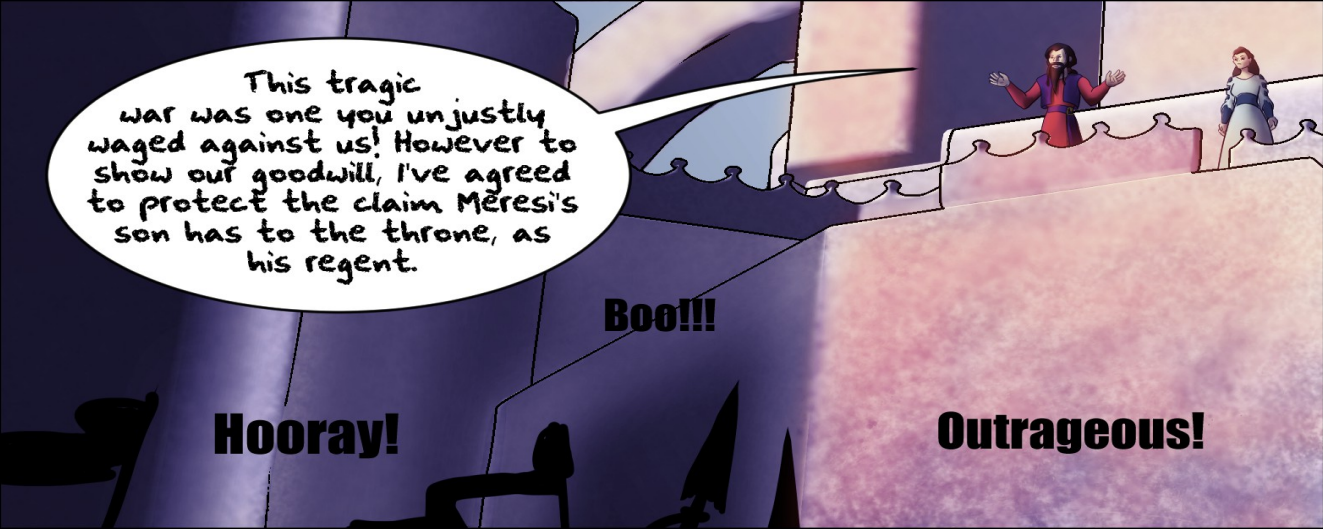
Is this really necessary? A lot of innocents could suffer if we fail.

Like the Baron of vejavin, who might have lived out his days in peace if we hadn't framed him for killing King Meresi and the queen.

This is the only way! It's clear our rights will never be respected without a military victory. This will save our people much grief.

And innocent? No one is truly innocent.

At first when I had questions, I brought them to you. You always put my concerns to rest, at least until I was out of the range of your persuasive voice.

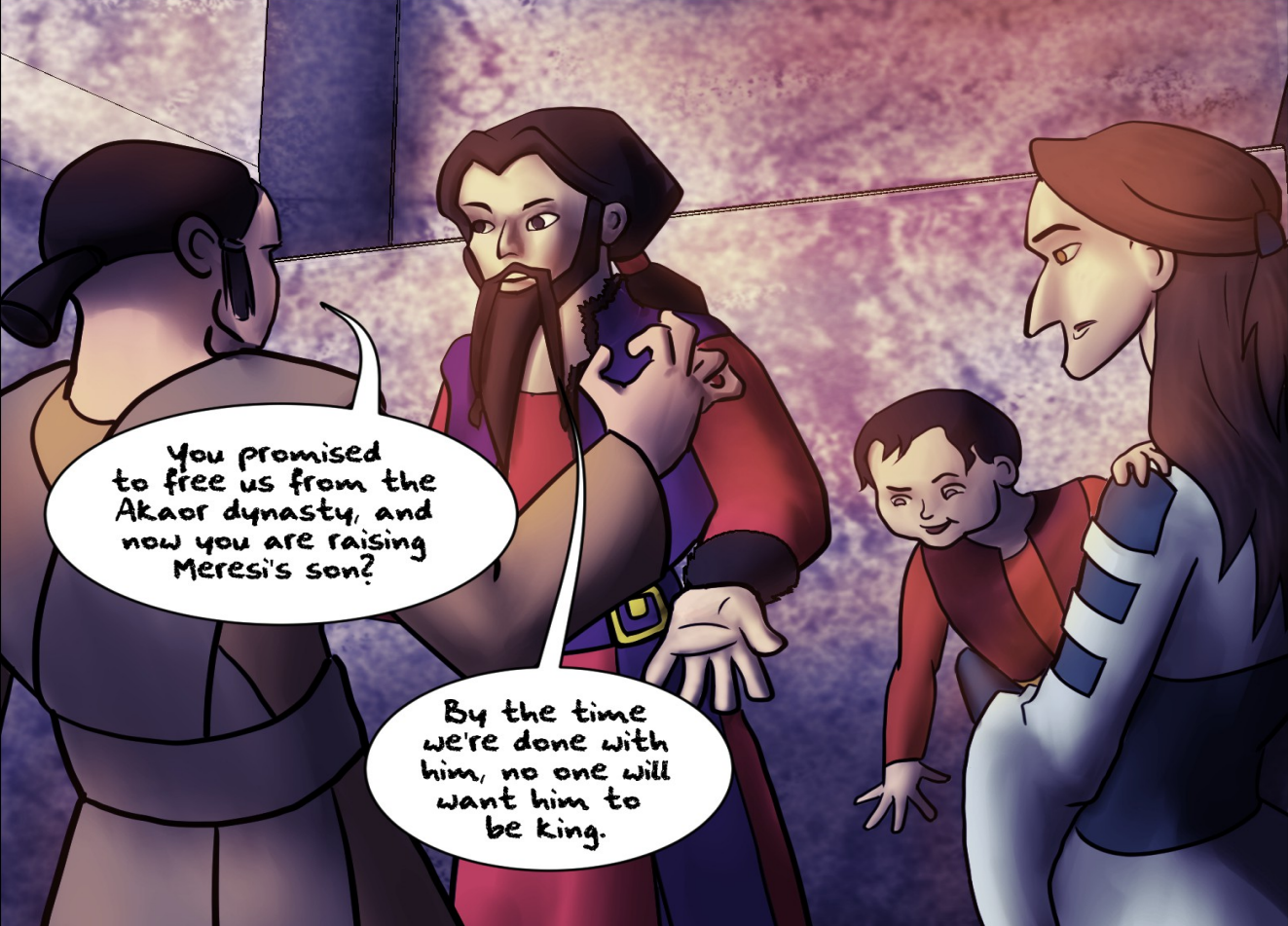


This tragic war was one you unjustly waged against us! However to show our goodwill, I've agreed to protect the claim Meresi's son has to the throne, as his regent.

Boo!!!

Hooray!

Outrageous!



You promised to free us from the Akaor dynasty, and now you are raising Meresi's son?

By the time we're done with him, no one will want him to be king.

The day I stopped asking was the day you lost me.





I sure hope you can calm him, or none of us will be getting any sleep tonight.



Now, now...

Everything will be fine, little one...



I promise.



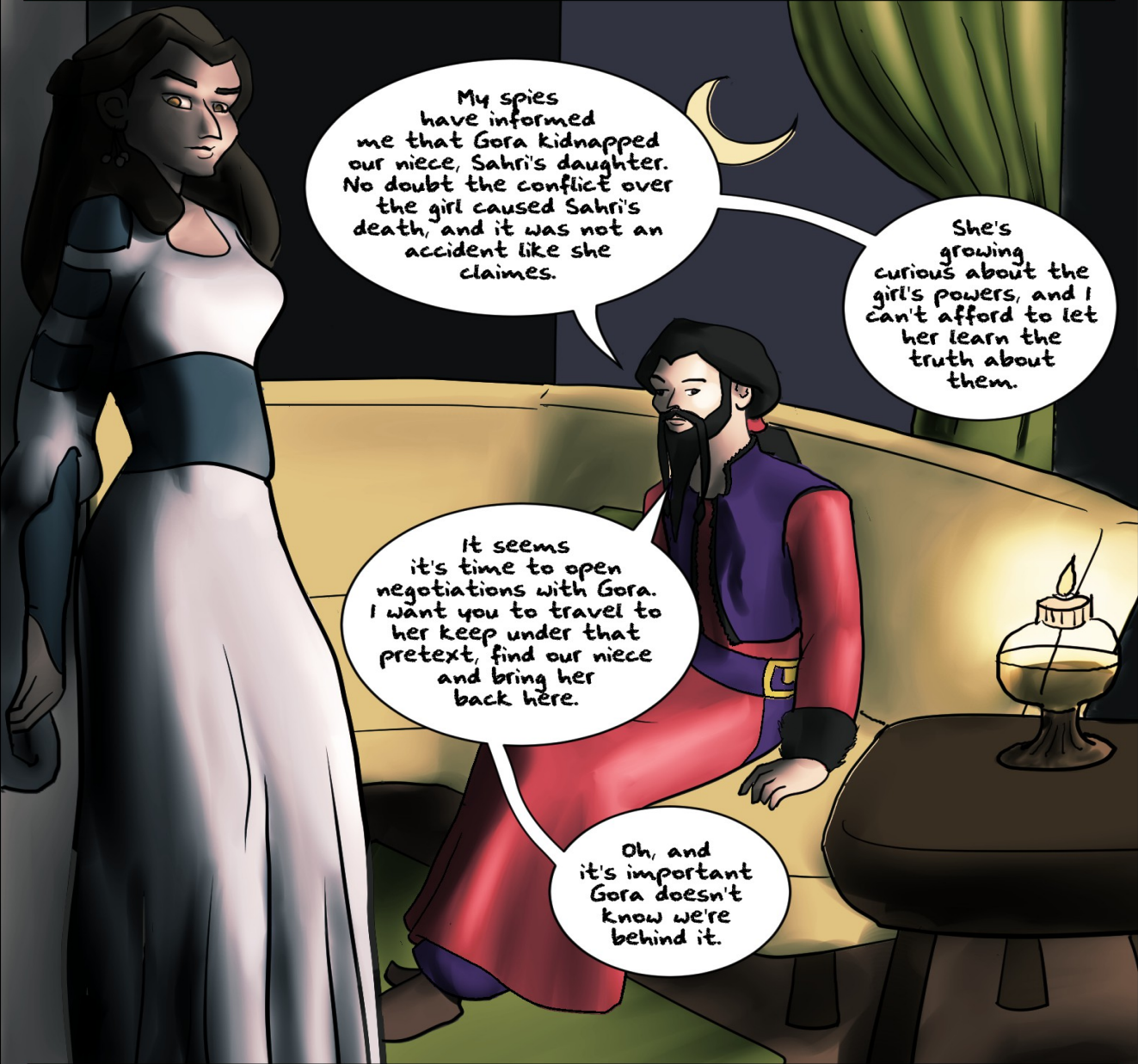
Mama!



If only that were true--things would be much simpler!

Now, I have something very important to do. Can you be a good boy and amuse yourself for a bit?

I assumed I could wash my hands of this eventually and walk away--At least until I saw how you reacted to our half-sister's death and began to doubt if you cared enough to let me leave.



My spies have informed me that Gora kidnapped our niece, Sahri's daughter. No doubt the conflict over the girl caused Sahri's death, and it was not an accident like she claims.

She's growing curious about the girl's powers, and I can't afford to let her learn the truth about them.

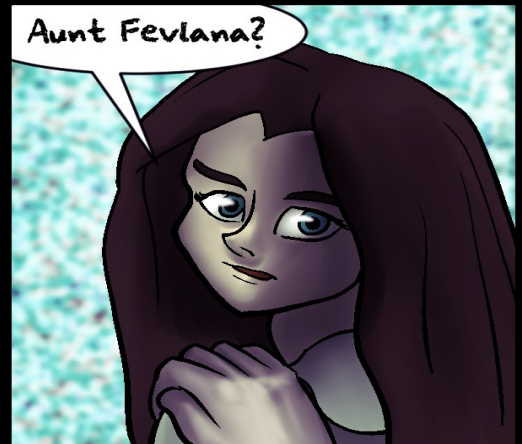
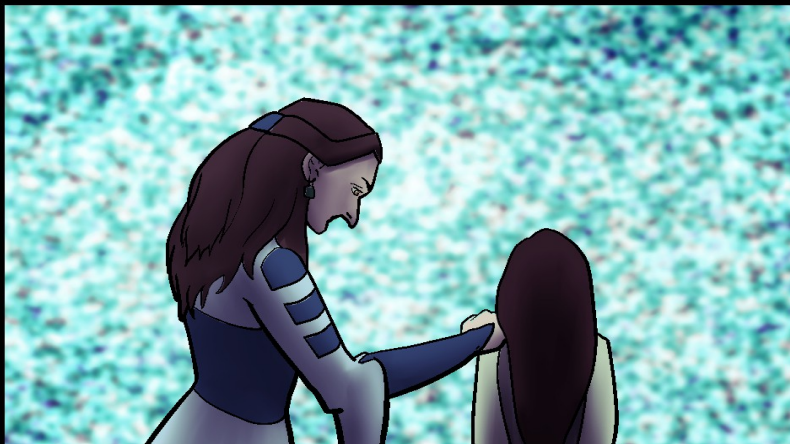
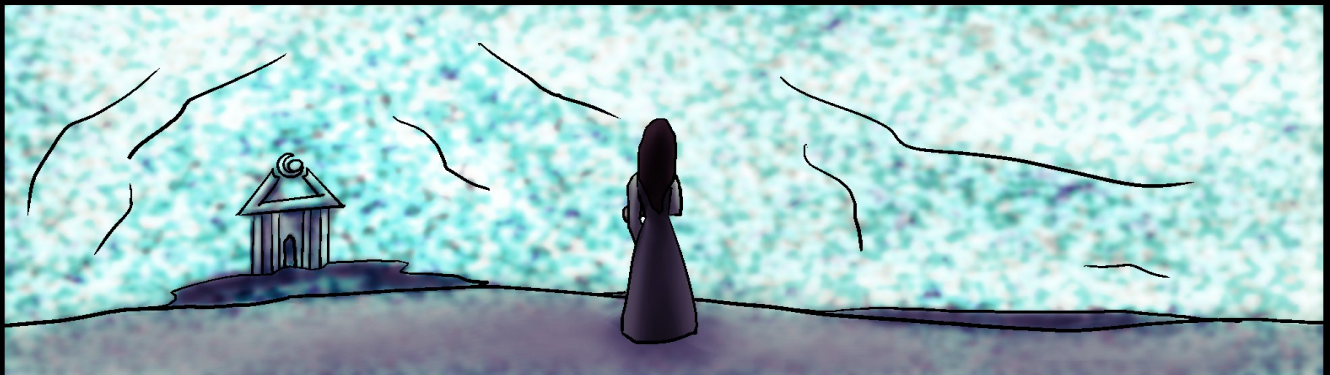
It seems it's time to open negotiations with Gora. I want you to travel to her keep under that pretext, find our niece and bring her back here.

Oh, and it's important Gora doesn't know we're behind it.

I hope I am wrong, and that it will mean something if I say that before that day, I never considered double-crossing you.







To be continued...

**Thanks For Reading Issue #3!
I'll See You Next Month In
Issue #4...**



Larissa Smith (The Starless Land)

Works as a web developer, has a film degree, and moonlights as an independent graphic novelist. Her various interests have imagination and a love of storytelling as the common denominators. She loves reading and movies and will compulsively devour anything traditionally animated (especially in the fantasy/adventure genres). Her long-time dream is to help storyboard and animate powerful stories like the ones she grew up with and loved. When she's not writing javascript or doodling on her digital drawing tablet, she can sometimes be found adventuring through parts unknown, digging around cemeteries and archives for a long-lost ancestor's information, or wiping the floor with rival civs in an empire-building strategy game.

Elisabeth Birch (A Spirit's Fortitude)

Before you ask, I go by Uni because of inside joke among friends. I'm an aspiring artist in the manga/anime genre who is obsessive in pursuing fantasy, sci-fi and all in between in my art and stories! I'm very detailed in all I do, especially world building in fiction, and can't wait to be friends with all of you!

Brooke Newhart (Front Cover Art)

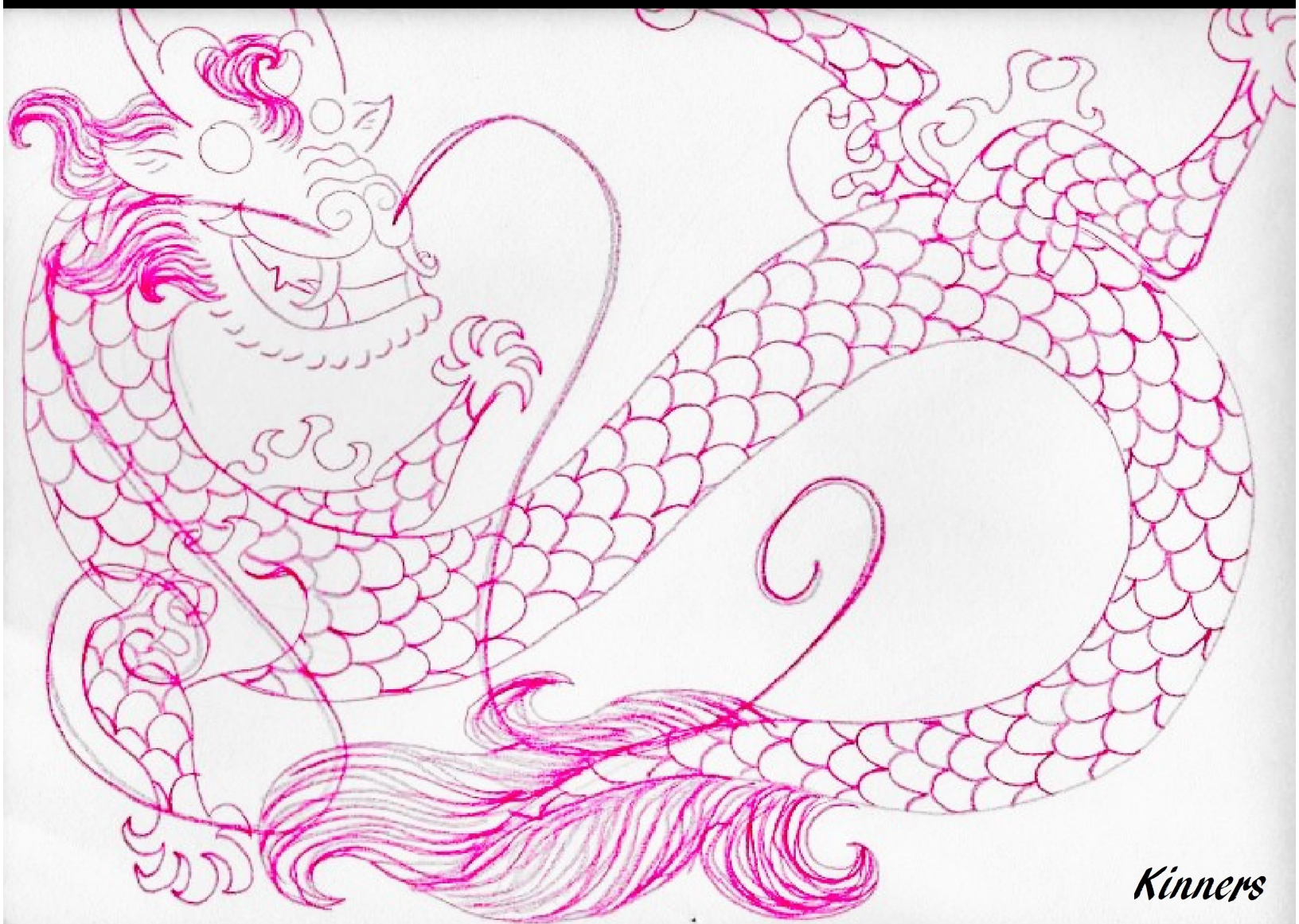
The world's least favorite cranky hermit, stays in her room in an unmotivated daze, surrounded by dirty laundry and empty bowls of guacamole. Dreams of living in the woods, painting, gardening, surrounded by cats. A fateful tinder match introduced her to the Greg, and her mission to throw her artwork in everyone's face began.

Amanda Lund (Back Cover Art)

Known to friends and wolves as Kinners, has aspired to be a writer ever since she met an old dragon as a child who told her stories. She has dutifully idolized Star Wars and fangirled over ne'er-do-wells from a young age. Between classes she tries to make sense of the stories in her head by writing them down and talking about them incessantly, preferably to a captive audience such as a good friend or a family member. She likes rain, chocolate, animals, and nature. She was put into contact with Greg by his auntie, whom she saw on exhibit at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park.

Anthony Dayne Applegate (Editor)

Is in truth the mouthpiece of Zooty Coot, an ancient and relatively obscure trickster deity. It is through Anthony that Zooty has performed such miraculous accomplishments as the founding of the motion picture factory Stolen Runabout Studios--for which Anthony has acted as the figurehead writer and director on several novelty films. The Greg personally selected Anthony to be the Editor of this publication because of his proven loyalty to an anthropomorphic animal overlord. If any of our readers feel a considerable amount of sorrow over Anthony's unusual situation, please send some supportive and encouraging emails to anthonydayneapplegate@gmail.com



Kinners