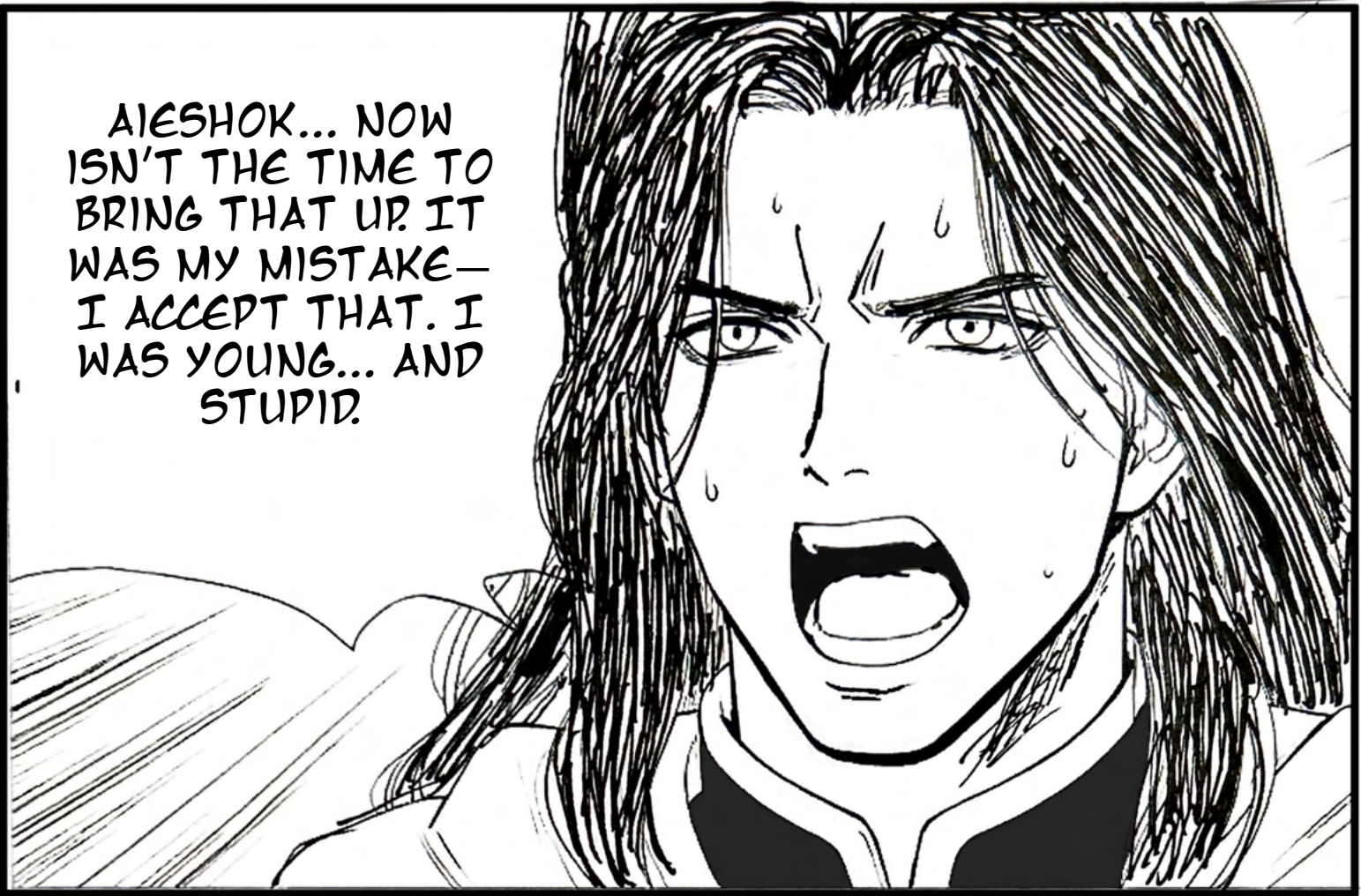


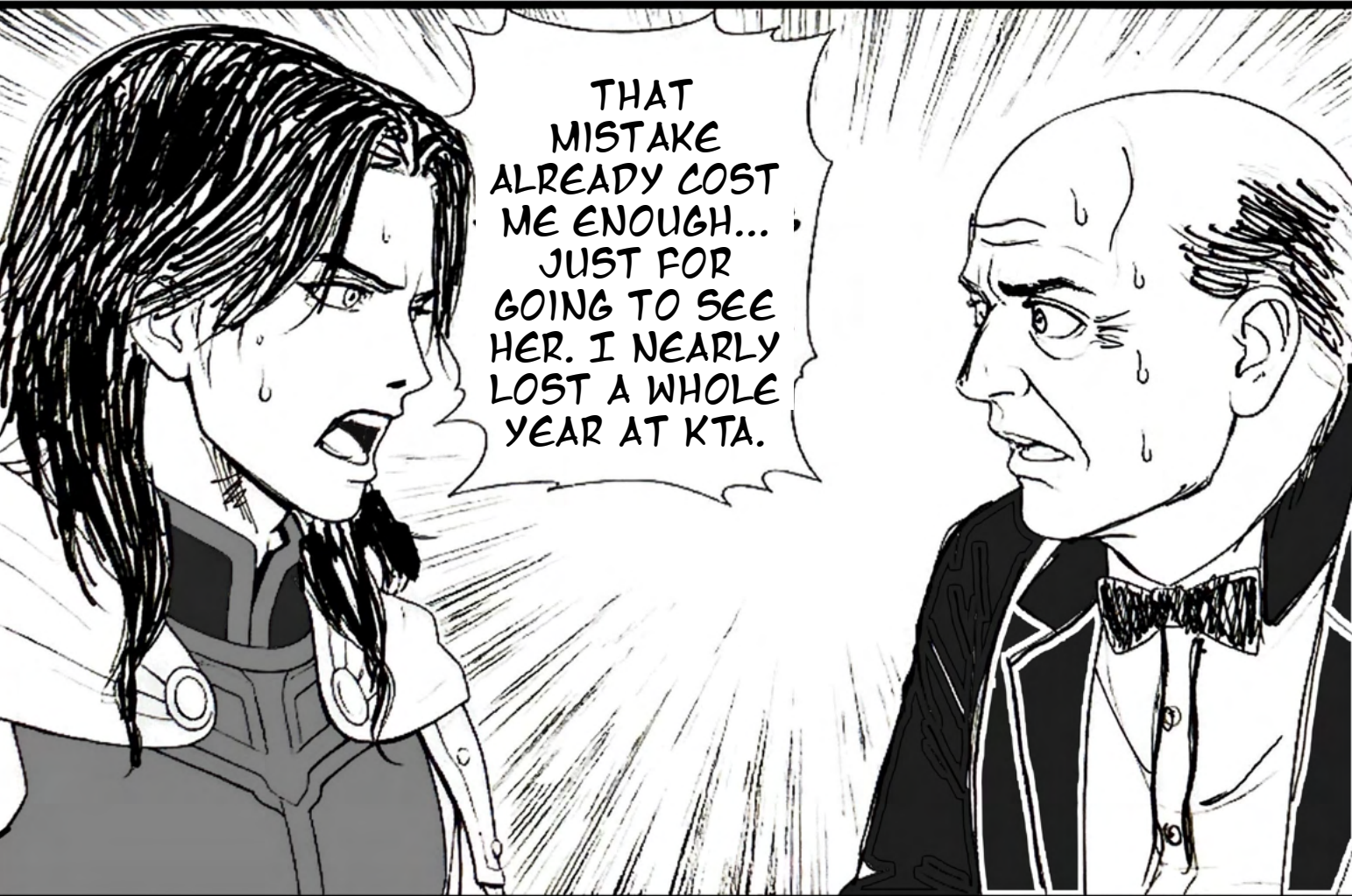
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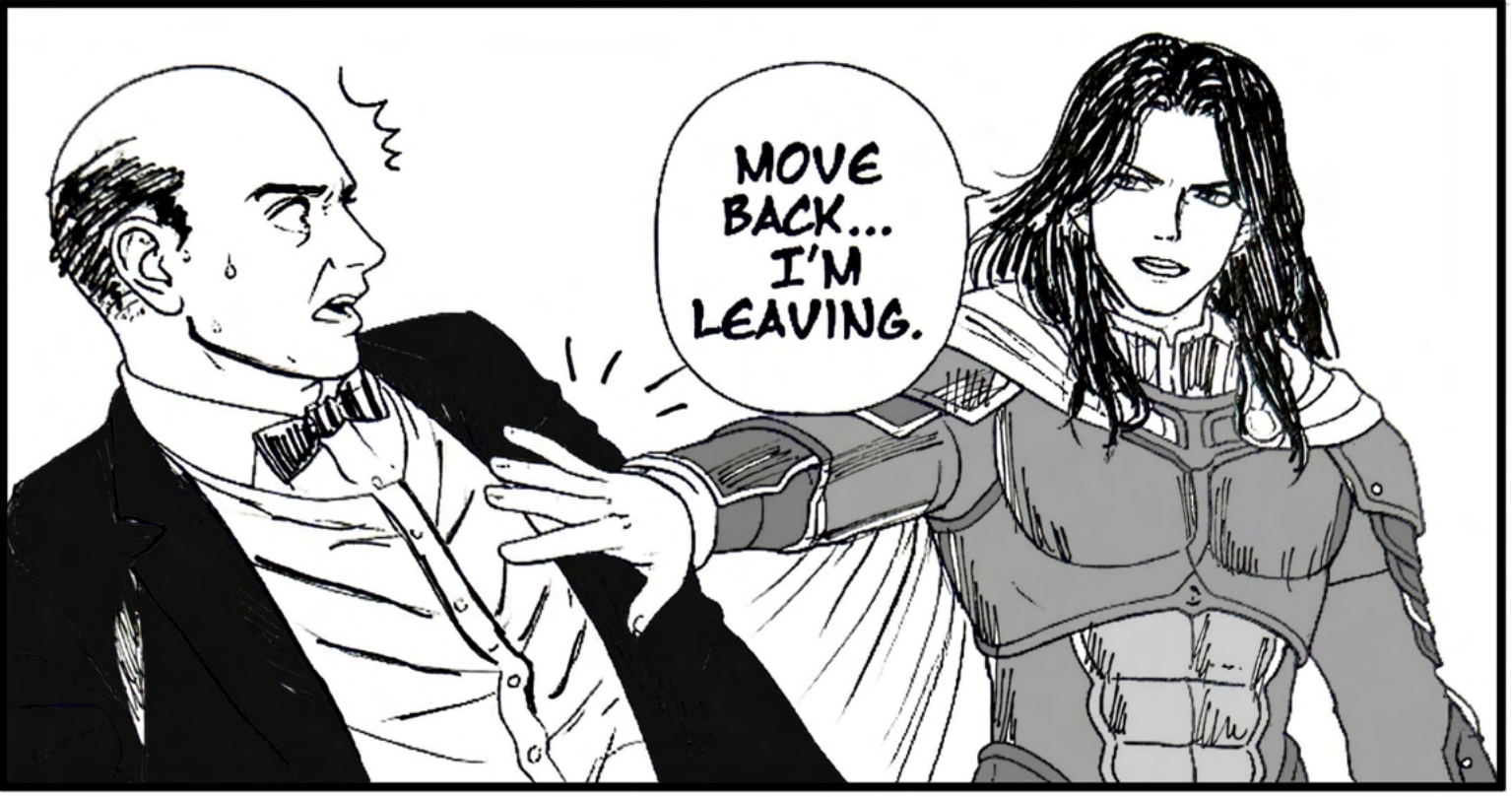


AIESHOK... NOW
ISN'T THE TIME TO
BRING THAT UP. IT
WAS MY MISTAKE—
I ACCEPT THAT. I
WAS YOUNG... AND
STUPID.

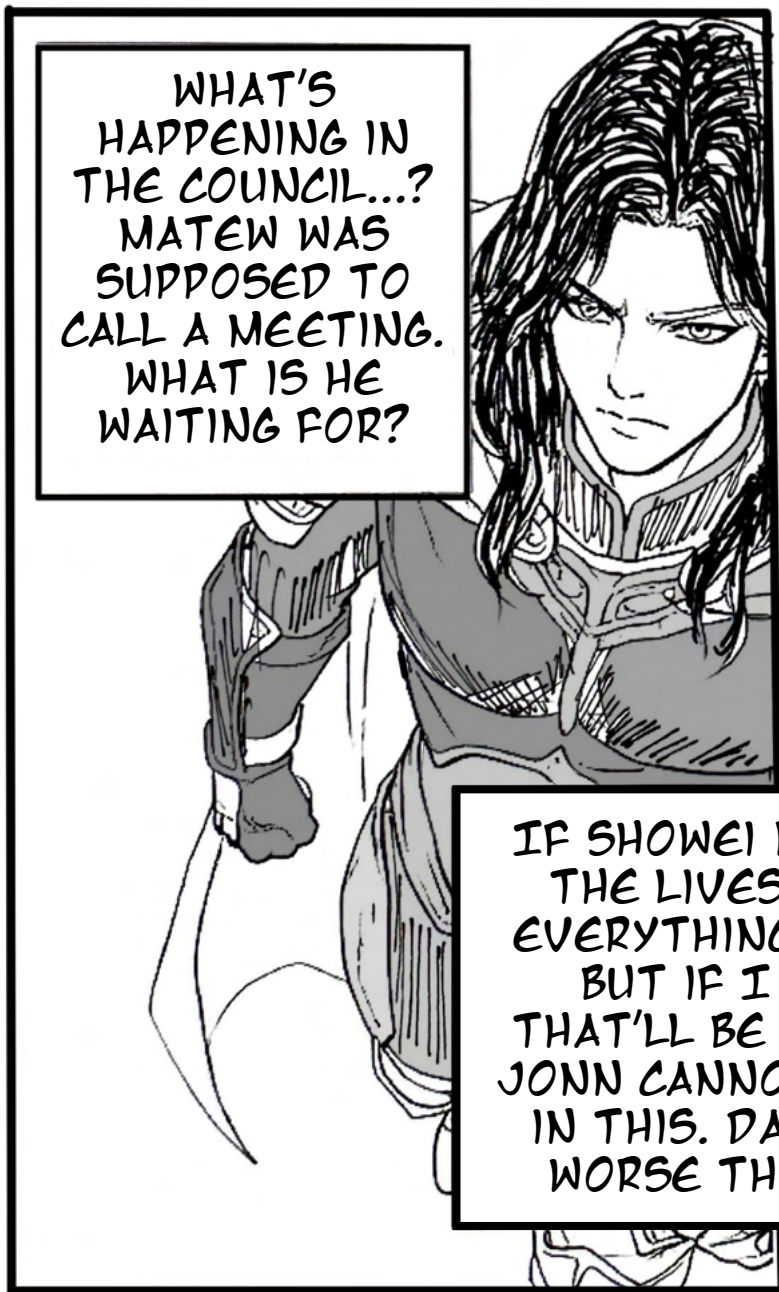


THAT
MISTAKE
ALREADY COST
ME ENOUGH...
JUST FOR
GOING TO SEE
HER. I NEARLY
LOST A WHOLE
YEAR AT KTA.

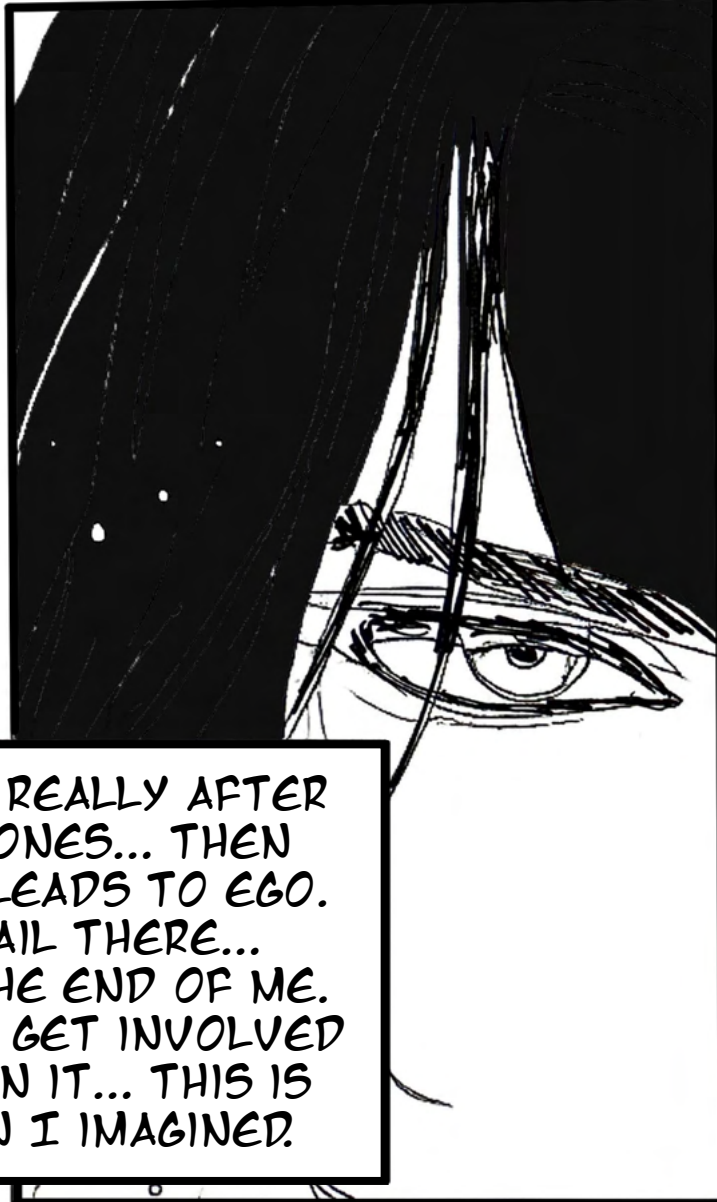




MOVE
BACK...
I'M
LEAVING.



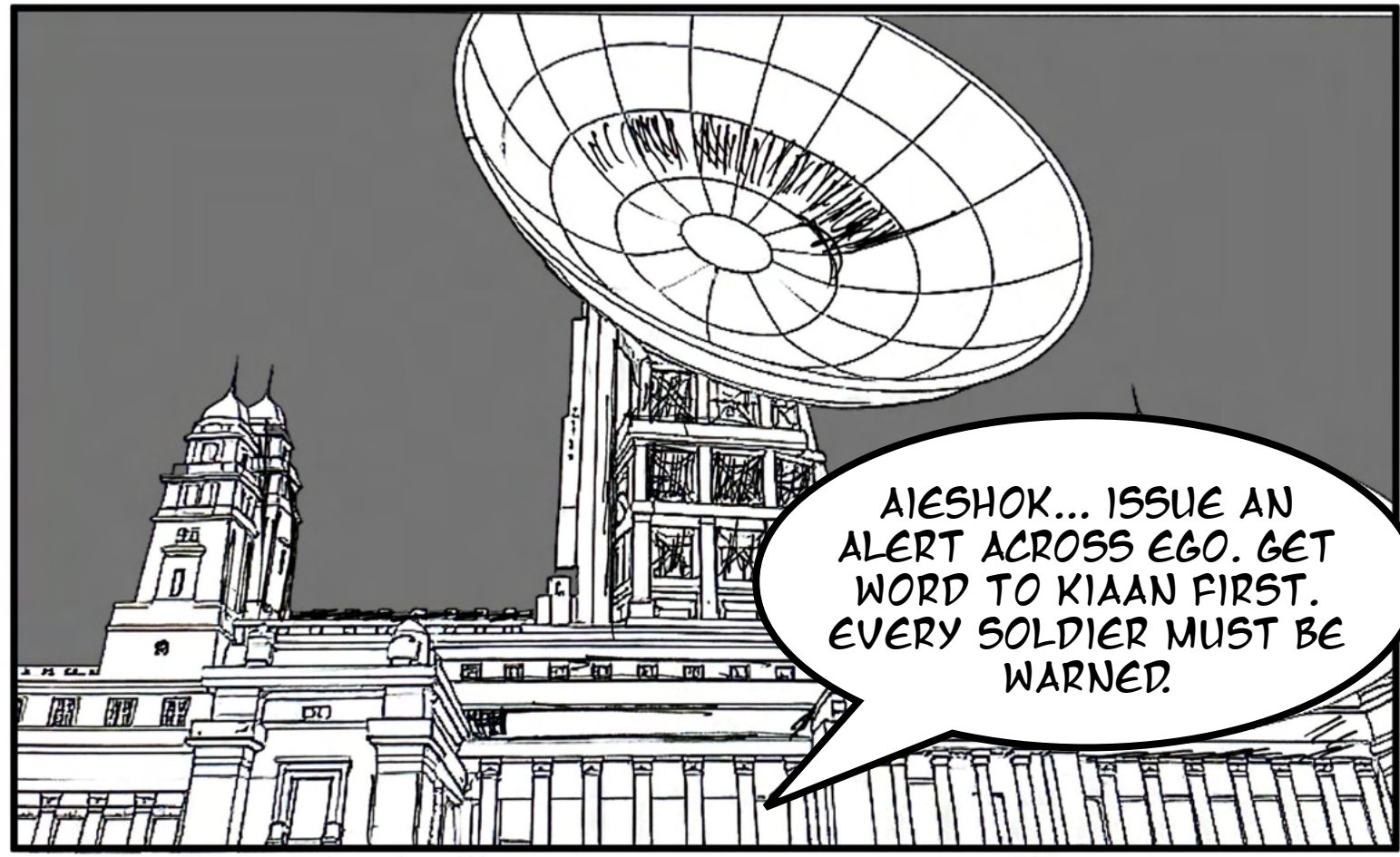
WHAT'S
HAPPENING IN
THE COUNCIL...?
MATEW WAS
SUPPOSED TO
CALL A MEETING.
WHAT IS HE
WAITING FOR?



IF SHOWEI IS REALLY AFTER
THE LIVESTONES... THEN
EVERYTHING LEADS TO EGO.
BUT IF I FAIL THERE...
THAT'LL BE THE END OF ME.
JONN CANNOT GET INVOLVED
IN THIS. DAMN IT... THIS IS
WORSE THAN I IMAGINED.

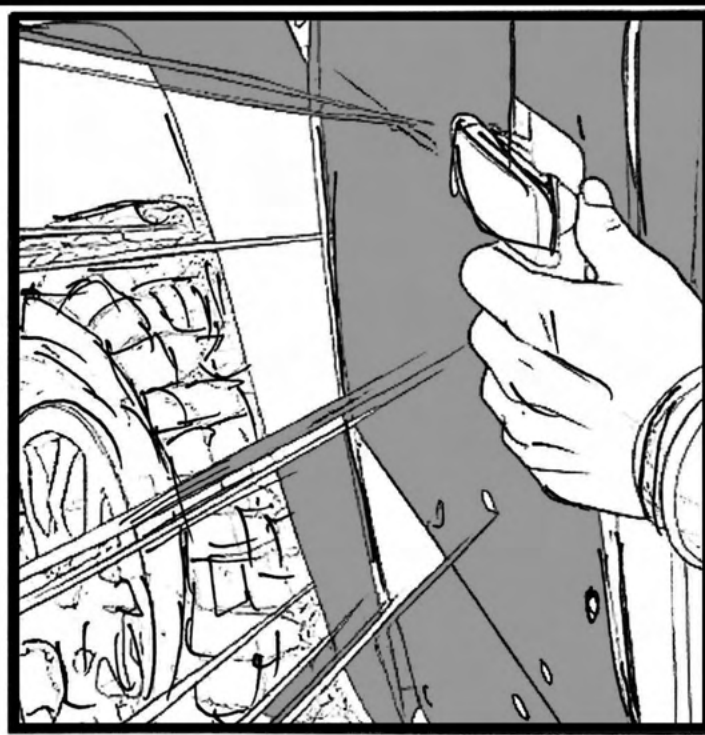
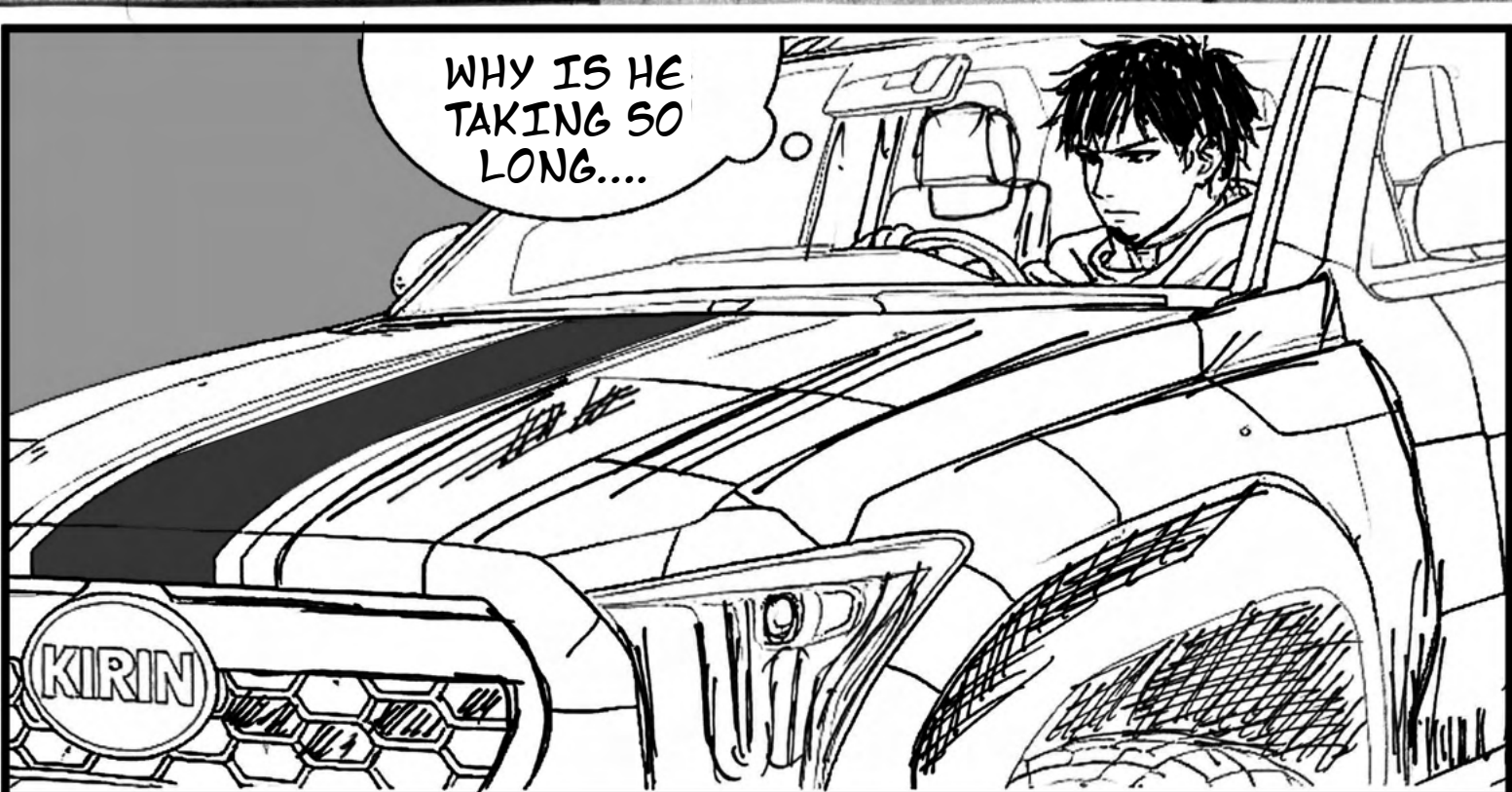


BARI... I HOPE YOU'LL BE ALRIGHT.



AIESHOK... ISSUE AN ALERT ACROSS EGO. GET WORD TO KIAAN FIRST. EVERY SOLDIER MUST BE WARNED.



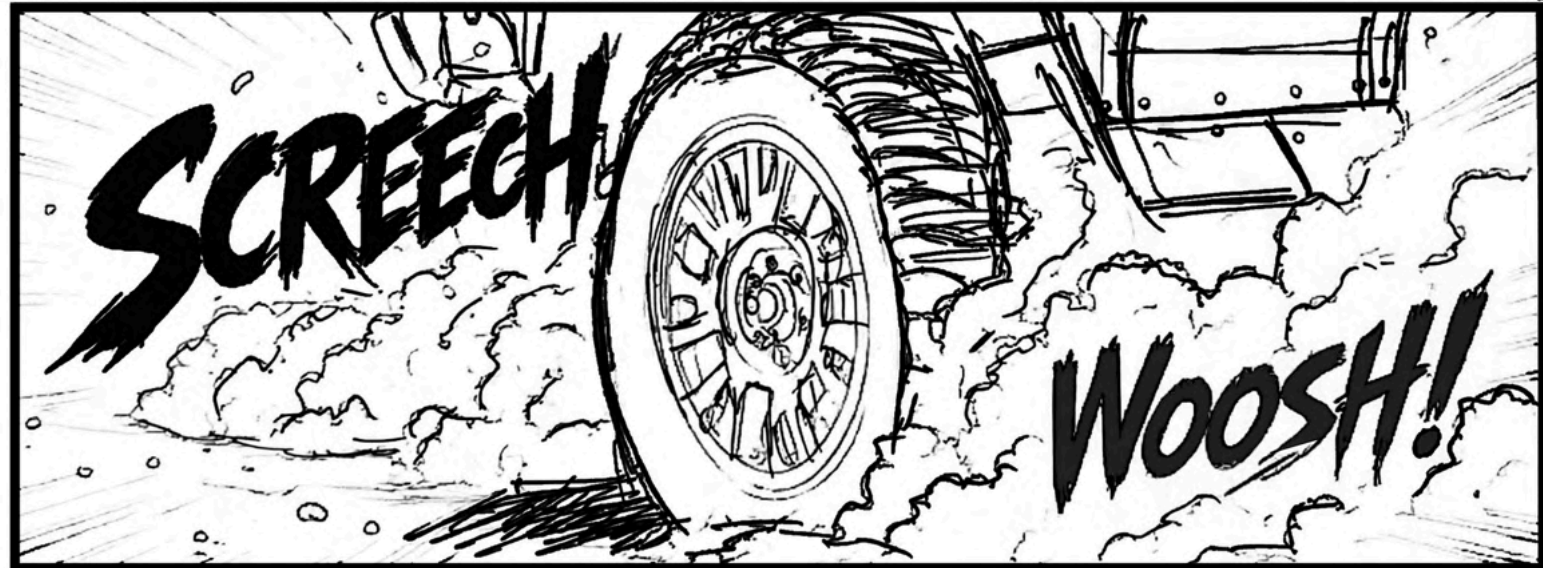




ALRIGHT..
FINE.START THE
LANTERN.WE'RE
OUT OF TIME...

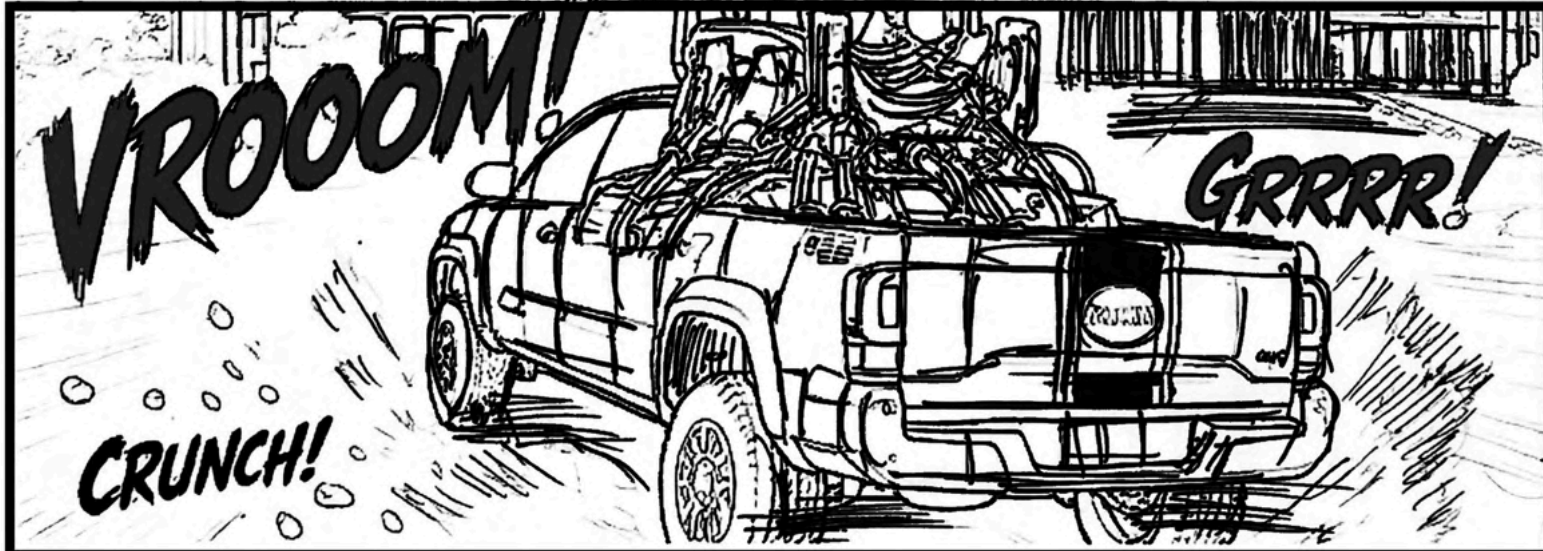


VRRMA



SCREECH!

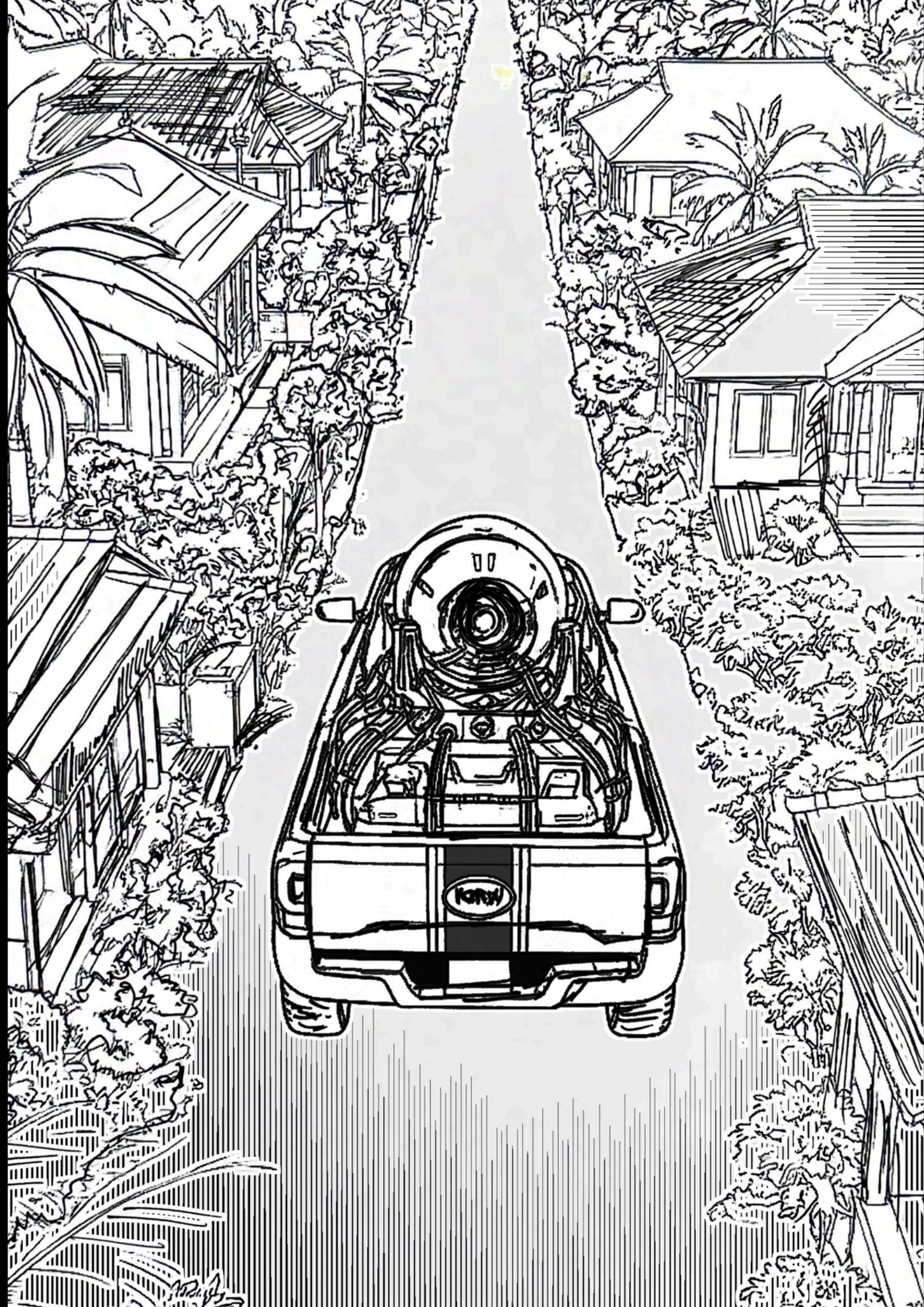
WOOSH!

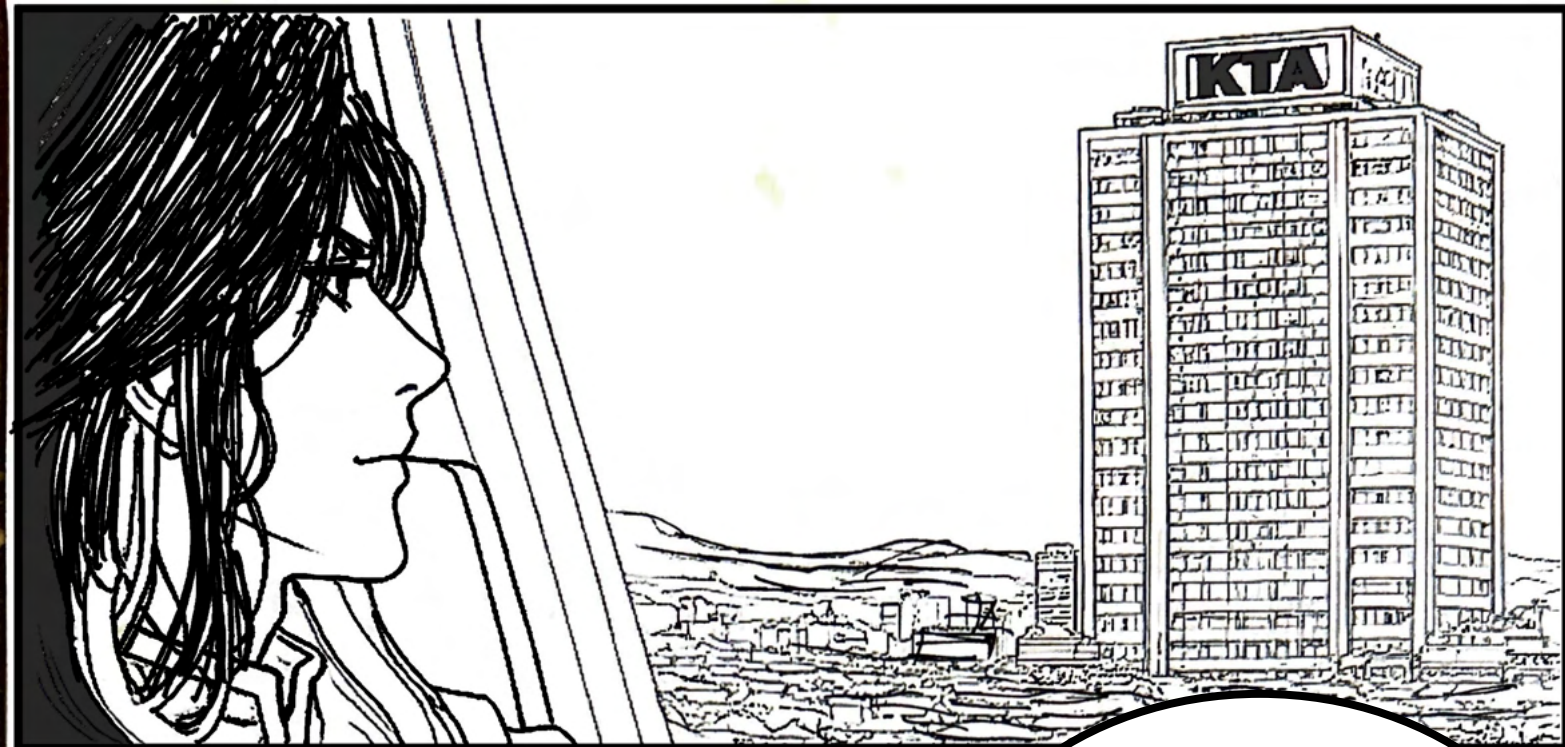


VROOOM!

GRRRR!

CRUNCH!

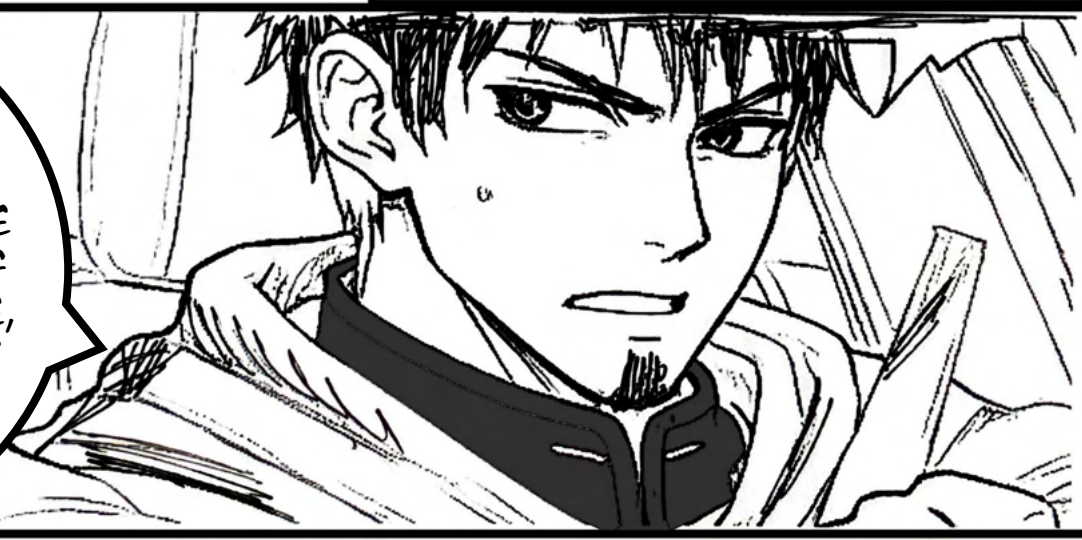




WE WERE ALWAYS TOLD WE'D ONE DAY SHAPE THE FATE OF CELESTIA... BUT NOW IT FEELS MORE LIKE A CURSE.

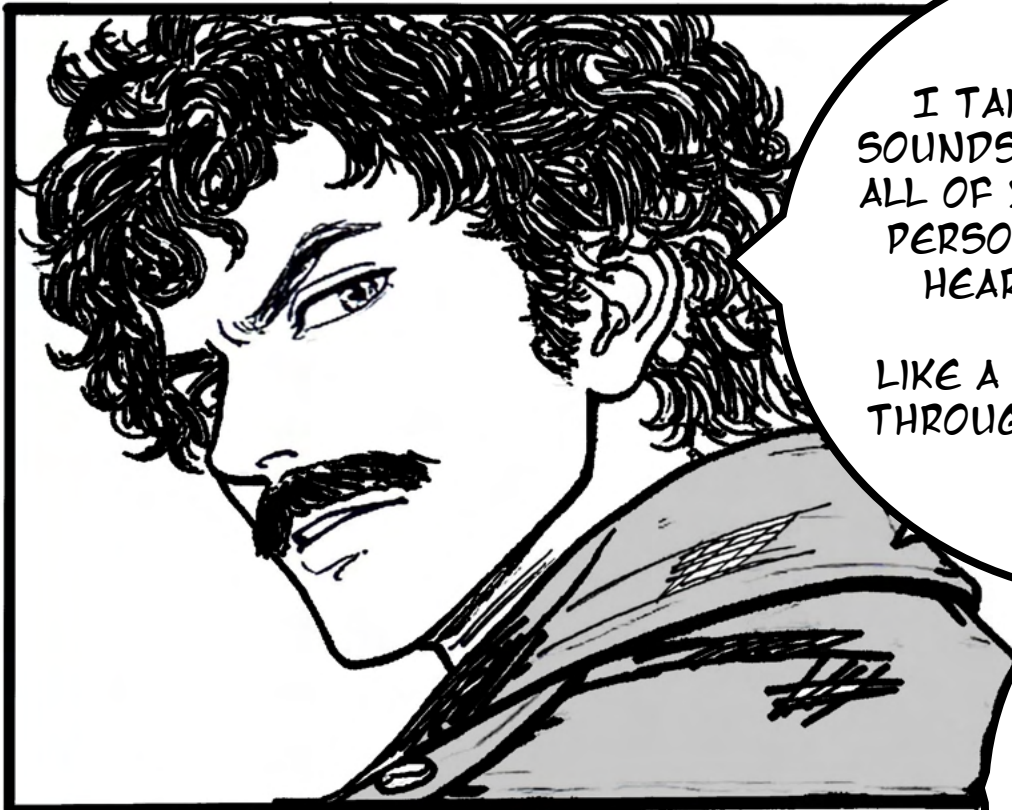


COMMANDER... I WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO DIE FOR MY PEOPLE. IF IT'S A CURSE ON ME, I'D RATHER SEE IT AS A GIFT.



CELBREEROMS

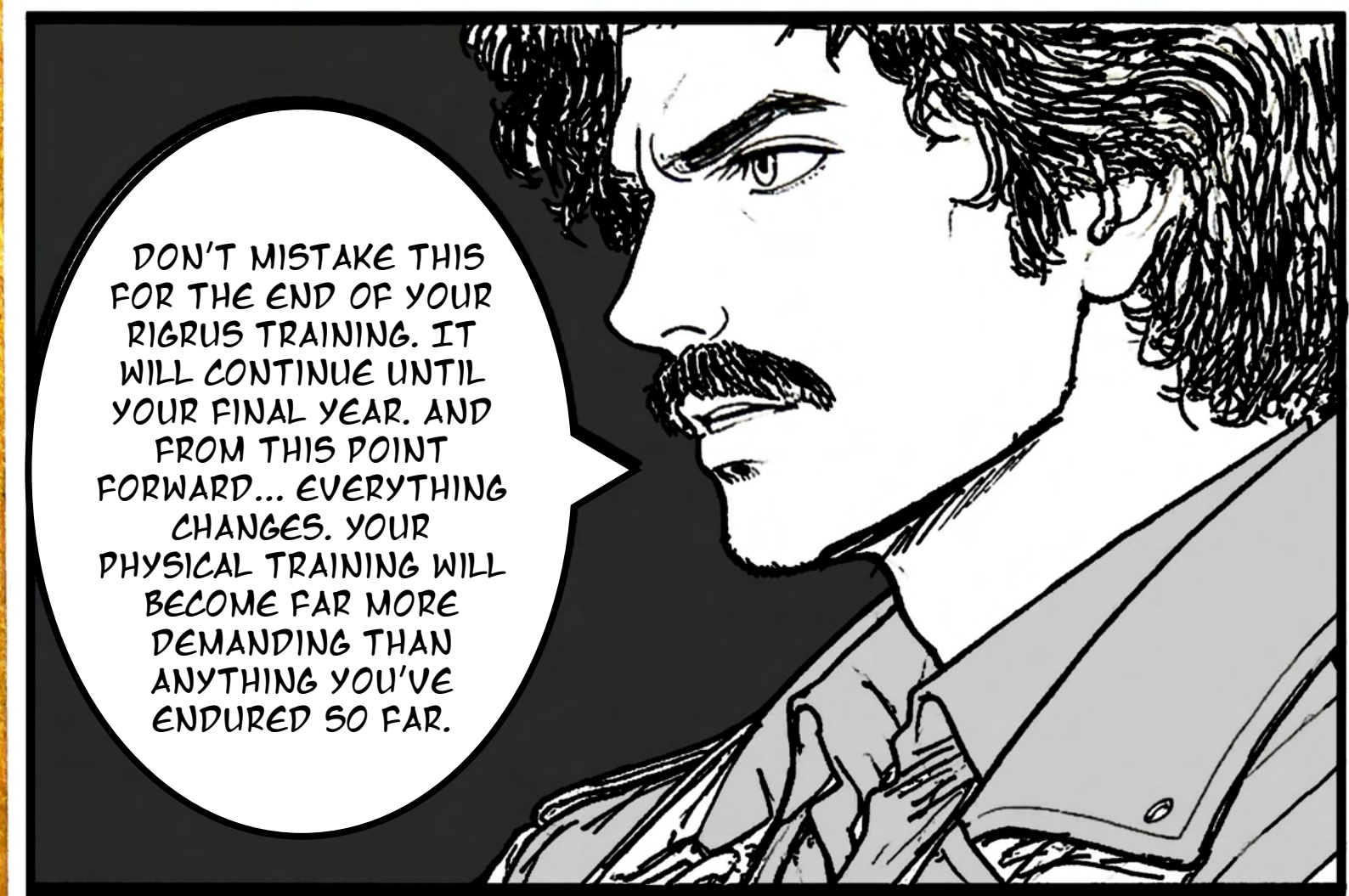
5 YEARS GO



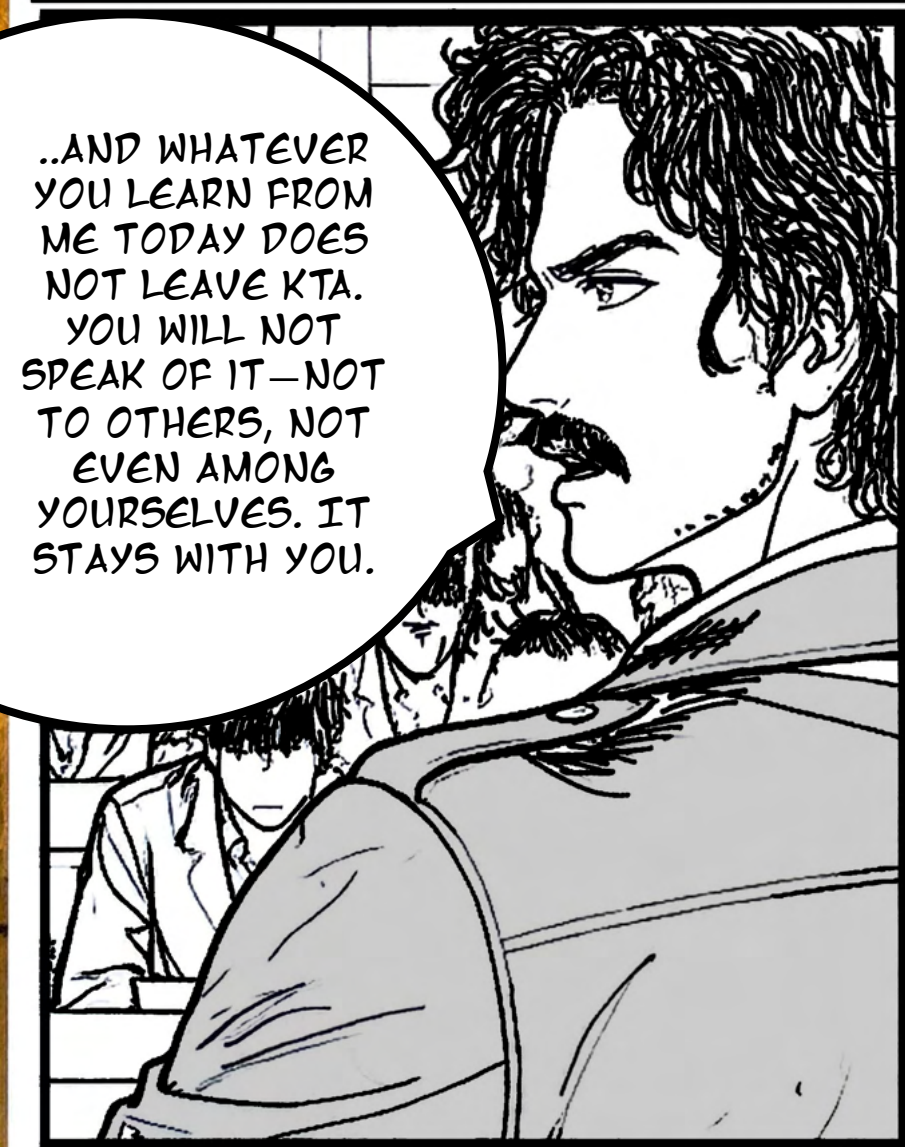
I TAKE IT THIS WORD
SOUNDS VERY FAMILIAR TO
ALL OF YOU. EVERY SINGLE
PERSON BORN HERE HAS
HEARD IT AGAIN AND
AGAIN...
LIKE A CURSE WHISPERED
THROUGHOUT YOUR LIVES.

ONLY A CHOSEN FEW
EVER COME TO
UNDERSTAND WHAT IT
TRULY IS, AND FEWER
STILL ARE CAPABLE OF
WIELDING ITS POWER.
AND IT SEEMS...
ALL OF YOU HAVE
FINALLY PROVEN
YOURSELVES WORTHY
OF KNOWING

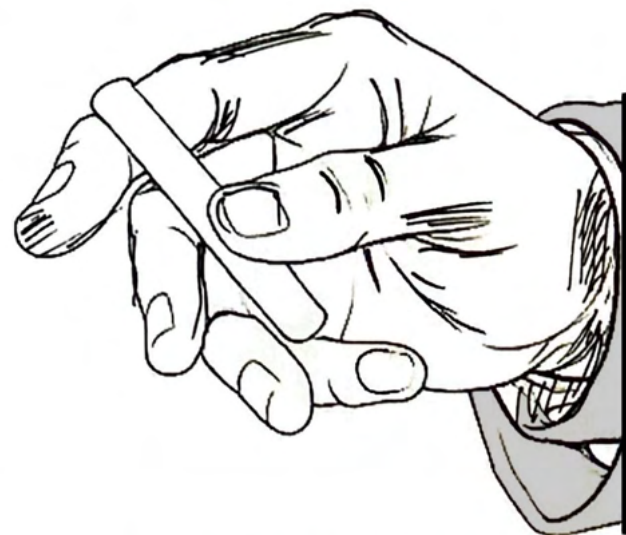




DON'T MISTAKE THIS FOR THE END OF YOUR RIGRUS TRAINING. IT WILL CONTINUE UNTIL YOUR FINAL YEAR. AND FROM THIS POINT FORWARD... EVERYTHING CHANGES. YOUR PHYSICAL TRAINING WILL BECOME FAR MORE DEMANDING THAN ANYTHING YOU'VE ENDURED SO FAR.



..AND WHATEVER YOU LEARN FROM ME TODAY DOES NOT LEAVE KTA. YOU WILL NOT SPEAK OF IT—NOT TO OTHERS, NOT EVEN AMONG YOURSELVES. IT STAYS WITH YOU.



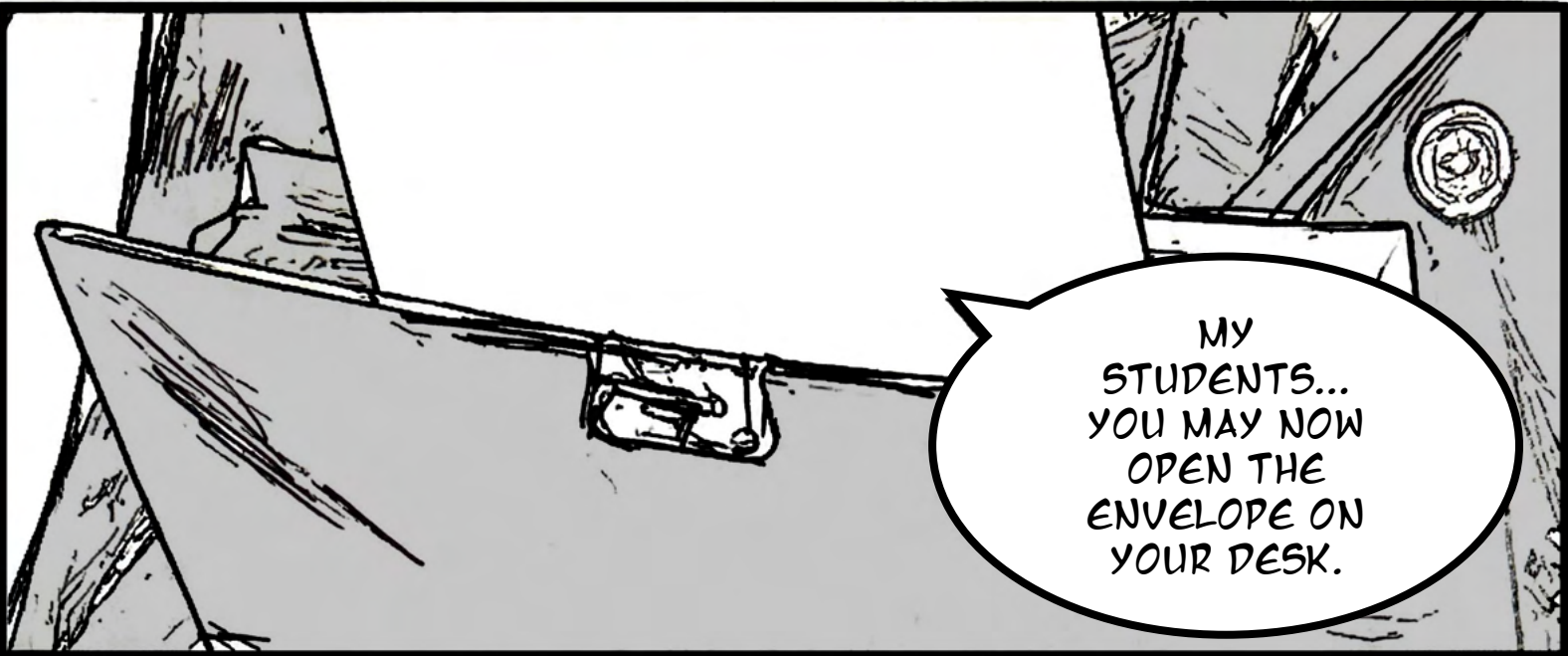
YOUR FOUR YEARS OF TRAINING WERE NOT ONLY TO MAKE YOU STRONG, BUT TO PREPARE YOU MENTALLY... TO PROTECT THE SECRETS OF THE KIRIN.



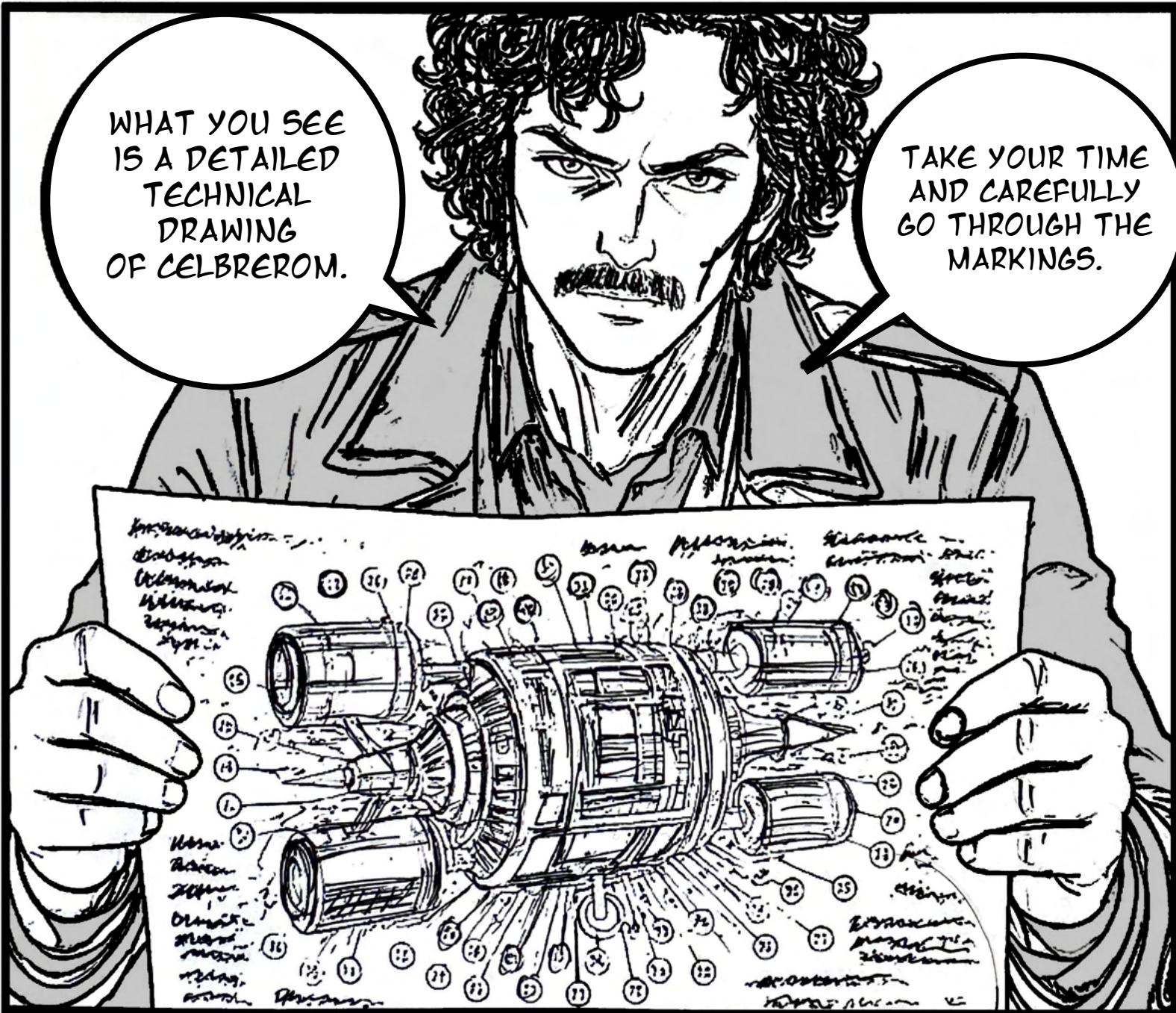
IF EVEN A SINGLE WORD ABOUT THE KIRIN REACHES THE OUTSIDE WORLD... YOU WILL BE EXECUTED BEFORE YOUR PEERS. REMEMBER THAT. AND IF ANY OF YOU DOUBTS YOUR ABILITY TO KEEP THIS SECRET...

LEAVE THE KTA NOW...



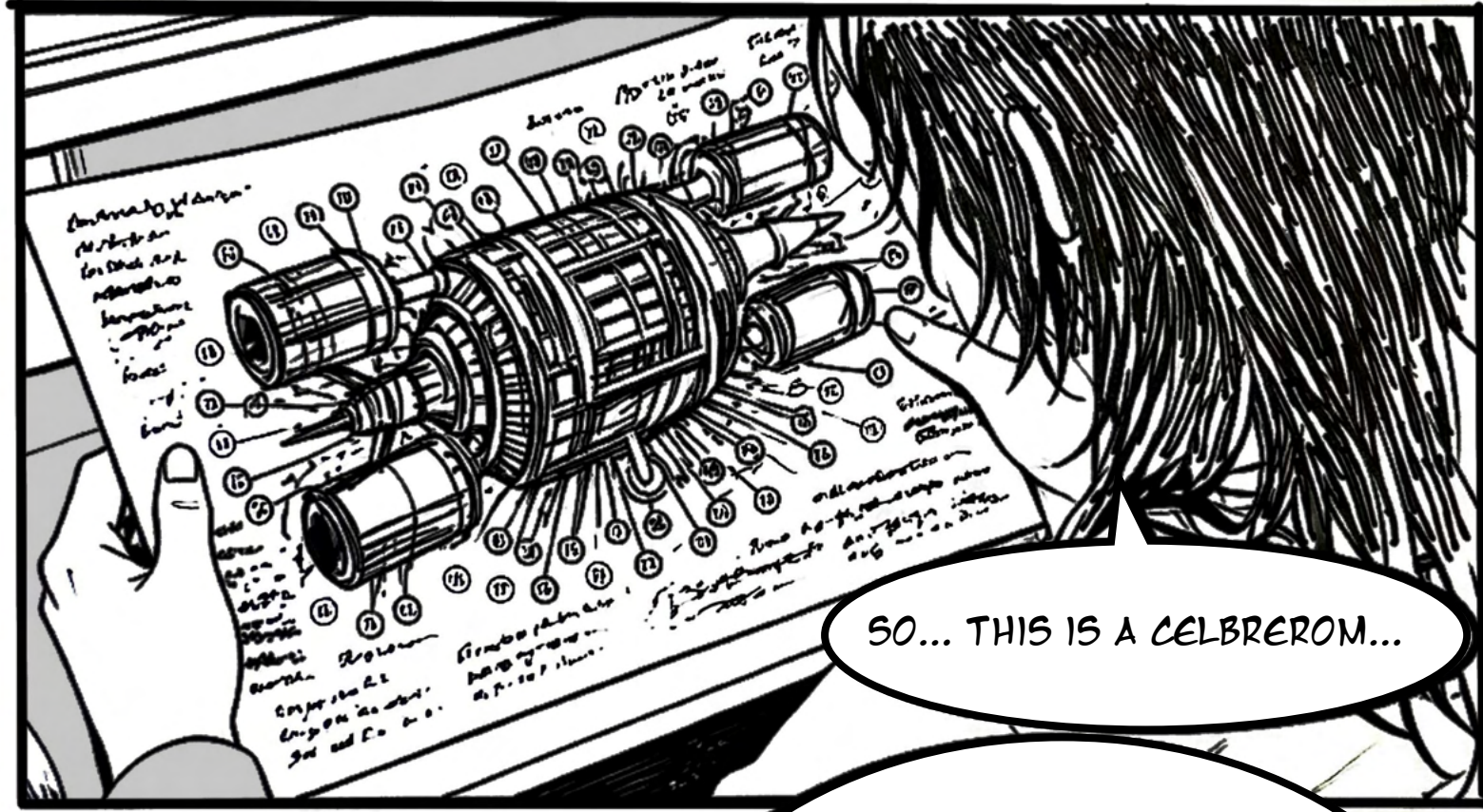
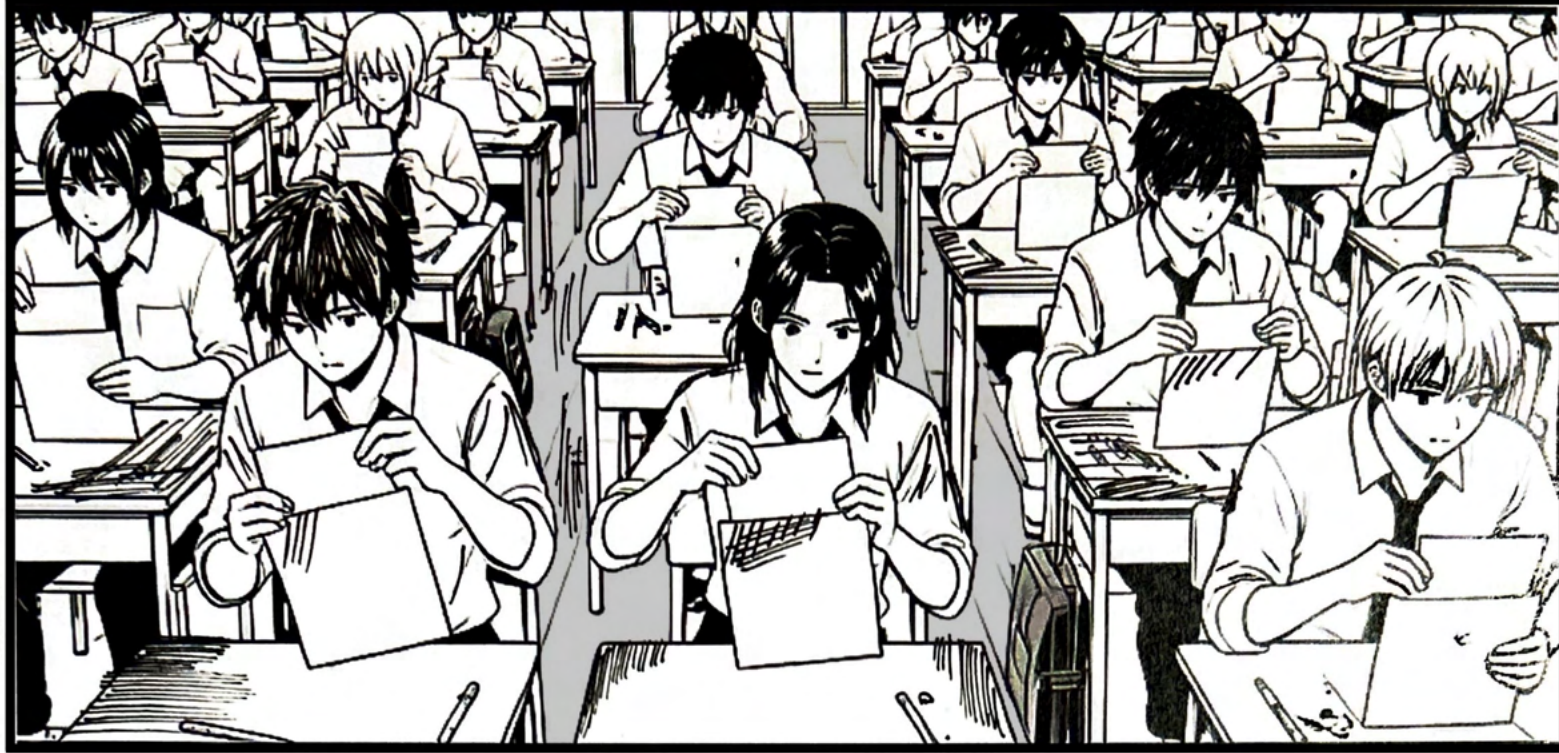


MY STUDENTS... YOU MAY NOW OPEN THE ENVELOPE ON YOUR DESK.



WHAT YOU SEE IS A DETAILED TECHNICAL DRAWING OF CELBREROM.

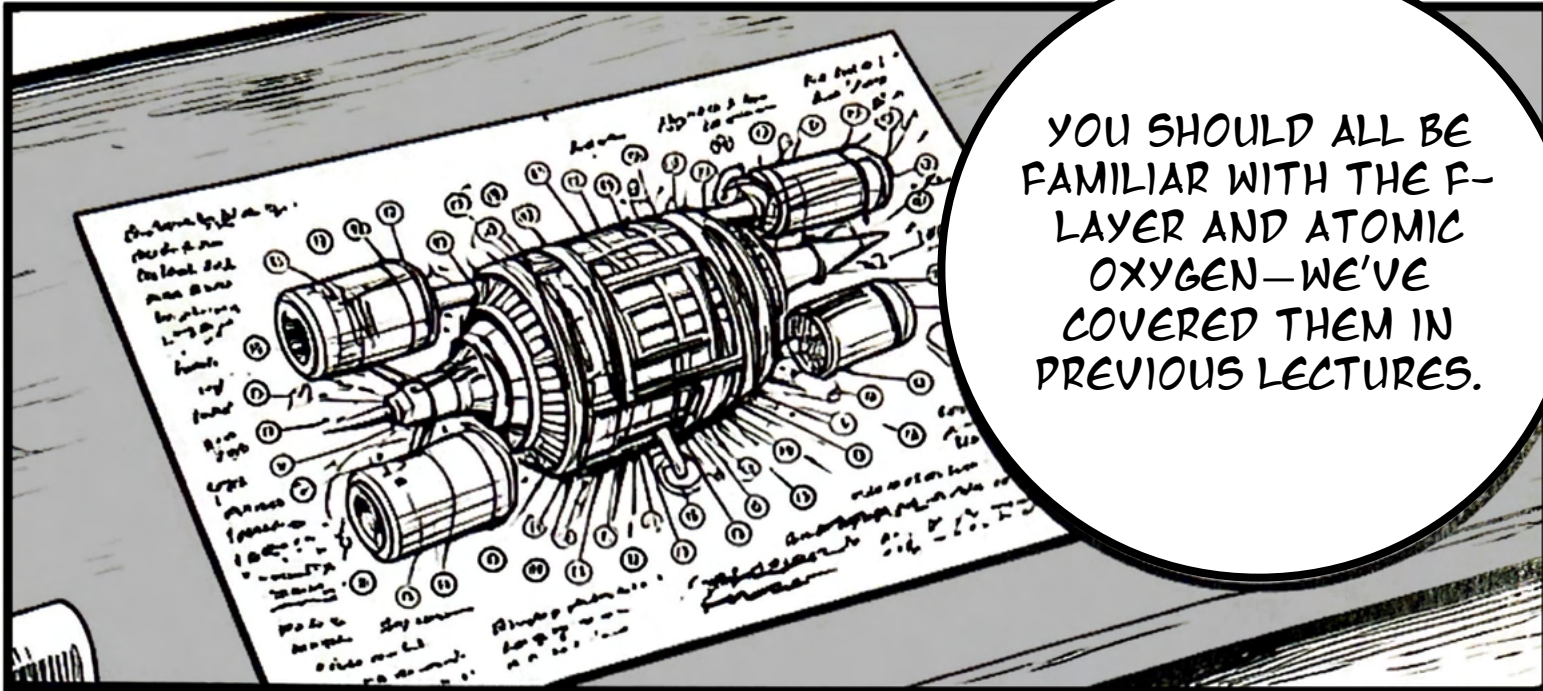
TAKE YOUR TIME AND CAREFULLY GO THROUGH THE MARKINGS.



SO... THIS IS A CELBREROM...



THEY'RE MASSIVE ORBITAL DEVICES BUILT FOR ENERGY CONVERSION. THEY OPERATE AT AN ALTITUDE OF APPROXIMATELY 200 KILOMETERS, WITHIN THE F-LAYER OF THE IONOSPHERE— WHERE ATOMIC OXYGEN AND CHARGED PARTICLES REACH PEAK VOLATILITY.

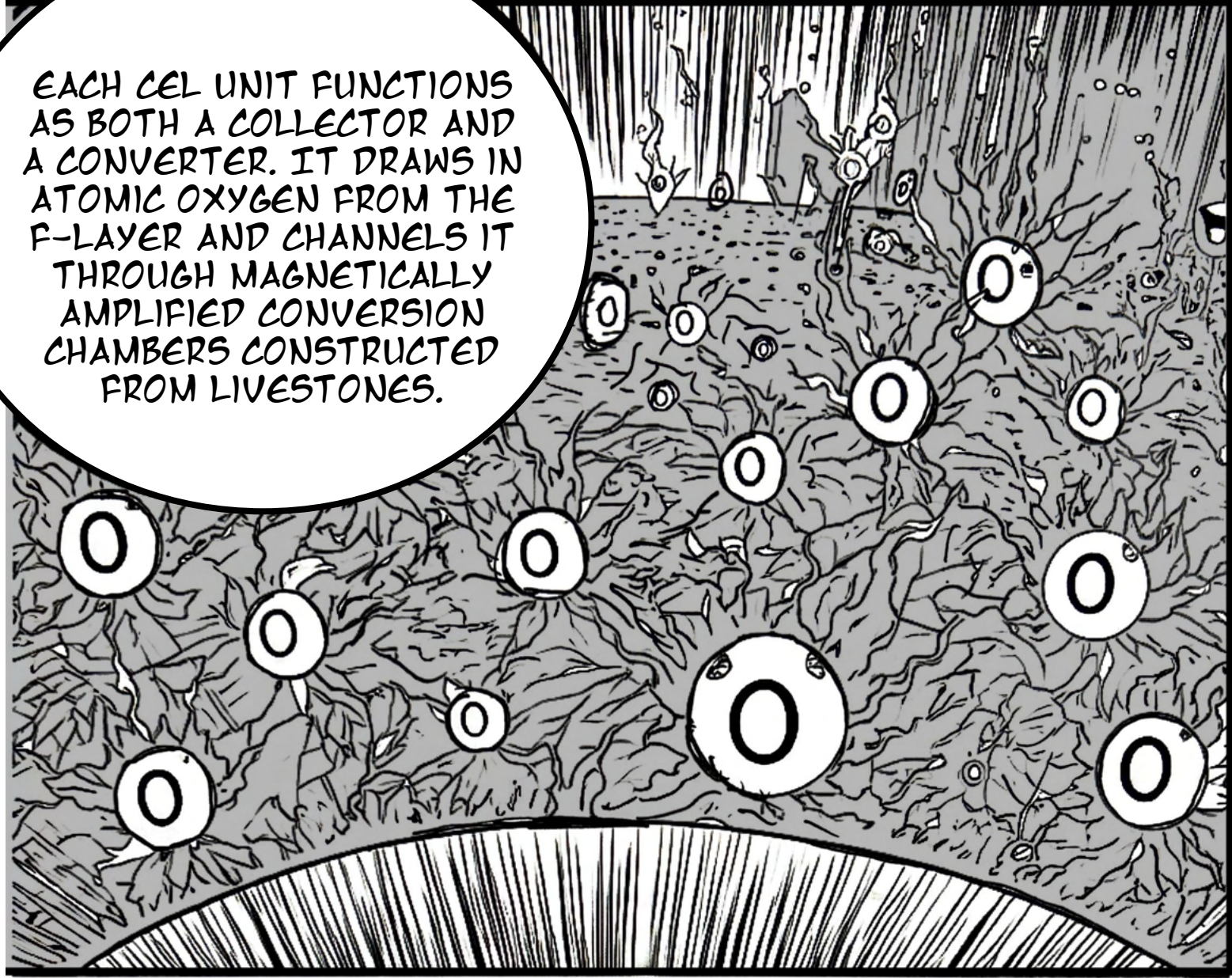


YOU SHOULD ALL BE FAMILIAR WITH THE F-LAYER AND ATOMIC OXYGEN—WE'VE COVERED THEM IN PREVIOUS LECTURES.



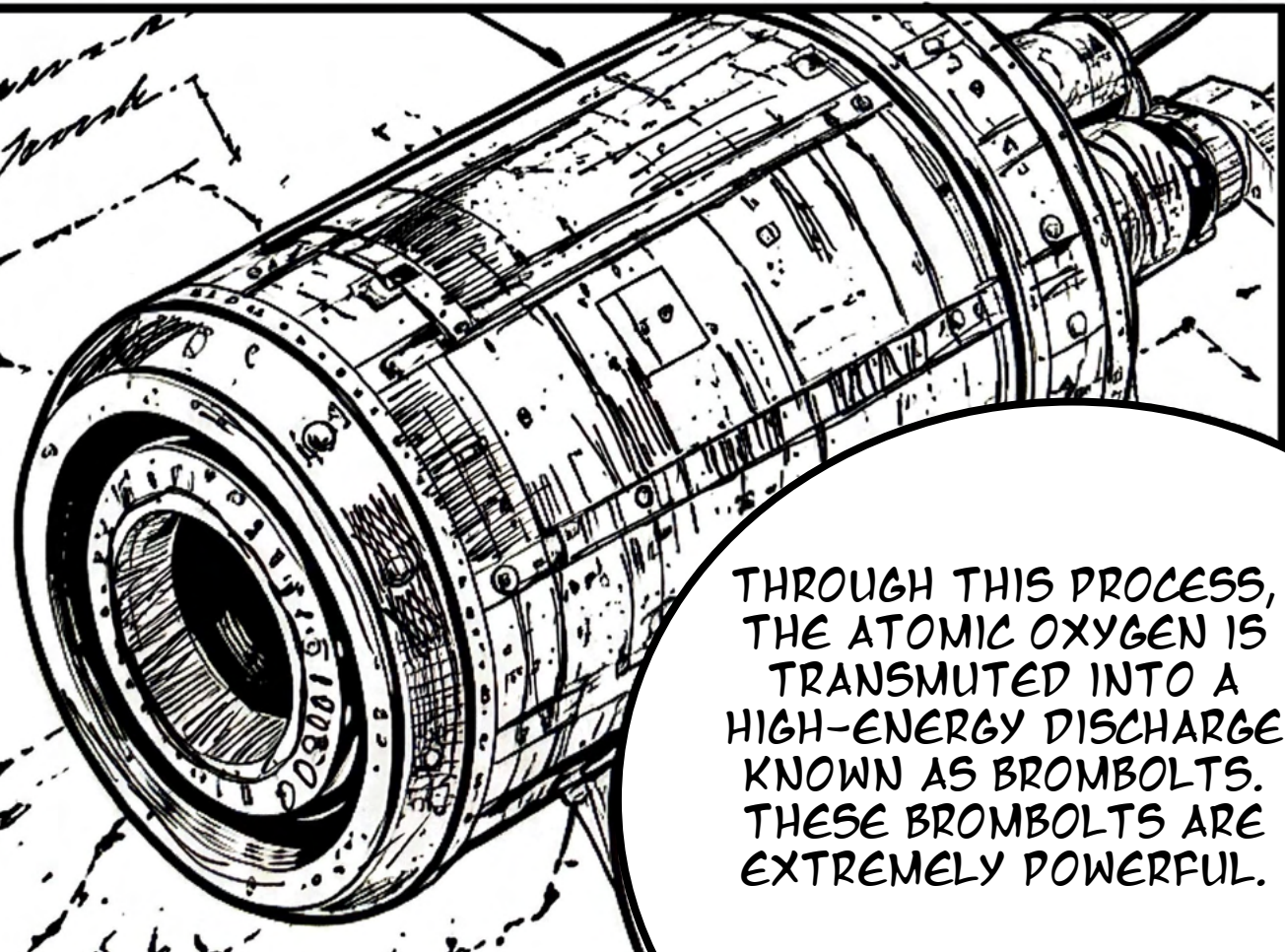
THE F-LAYER IS DOMINATED BY A VOLATILE AND HIGHLY REACTIVE FORM OF ATOMIC OXYGEN—A SUBSTANCE THAT CANNOT EXIST IN STABLE CONDITIONS NEAR THE PLANET'S SURFACE!!

EACH CEL UNIT FUNCTIONS AS BOTH A COLLECTOR AND A CONVERTER. IT DRAWS IN ATOMIC OXYGEN FROM THE F-LAYER AND CHANNELS IT THROUGH MAGNETICALLY AMPLIFIED CONVERSION CHAMBERS CONSTRUCTED FROM LIVESTONES.



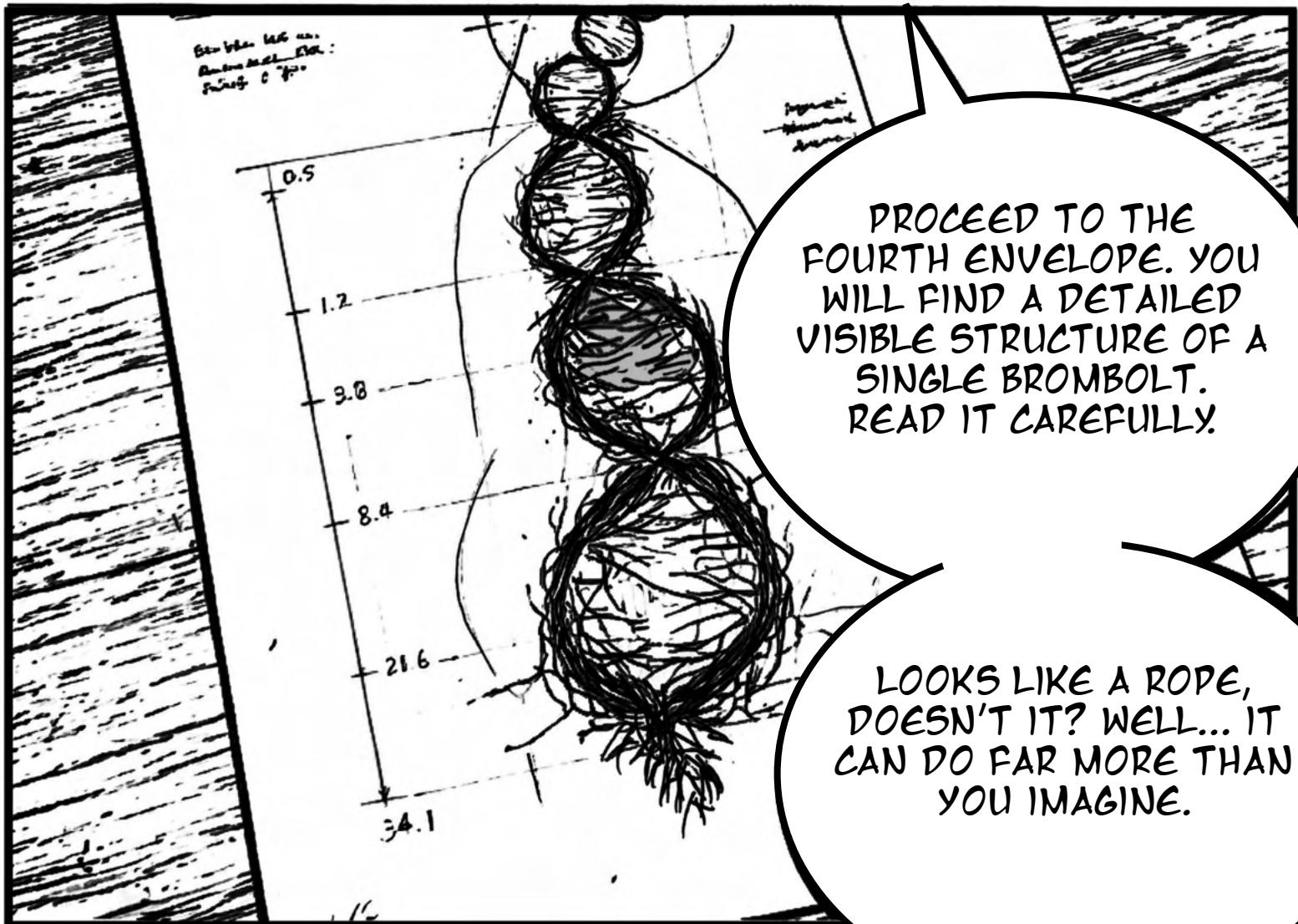
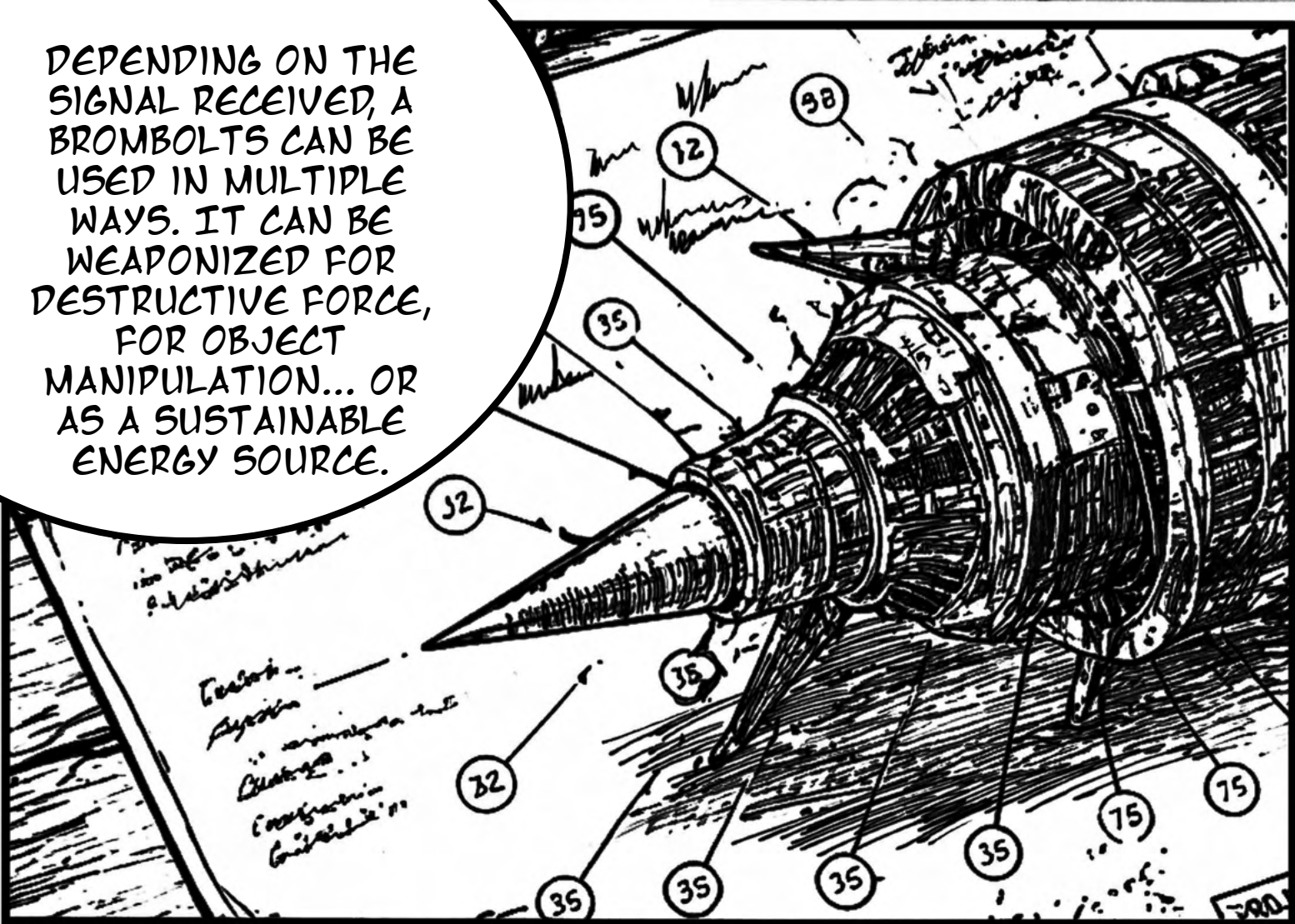
*Take. para. 2
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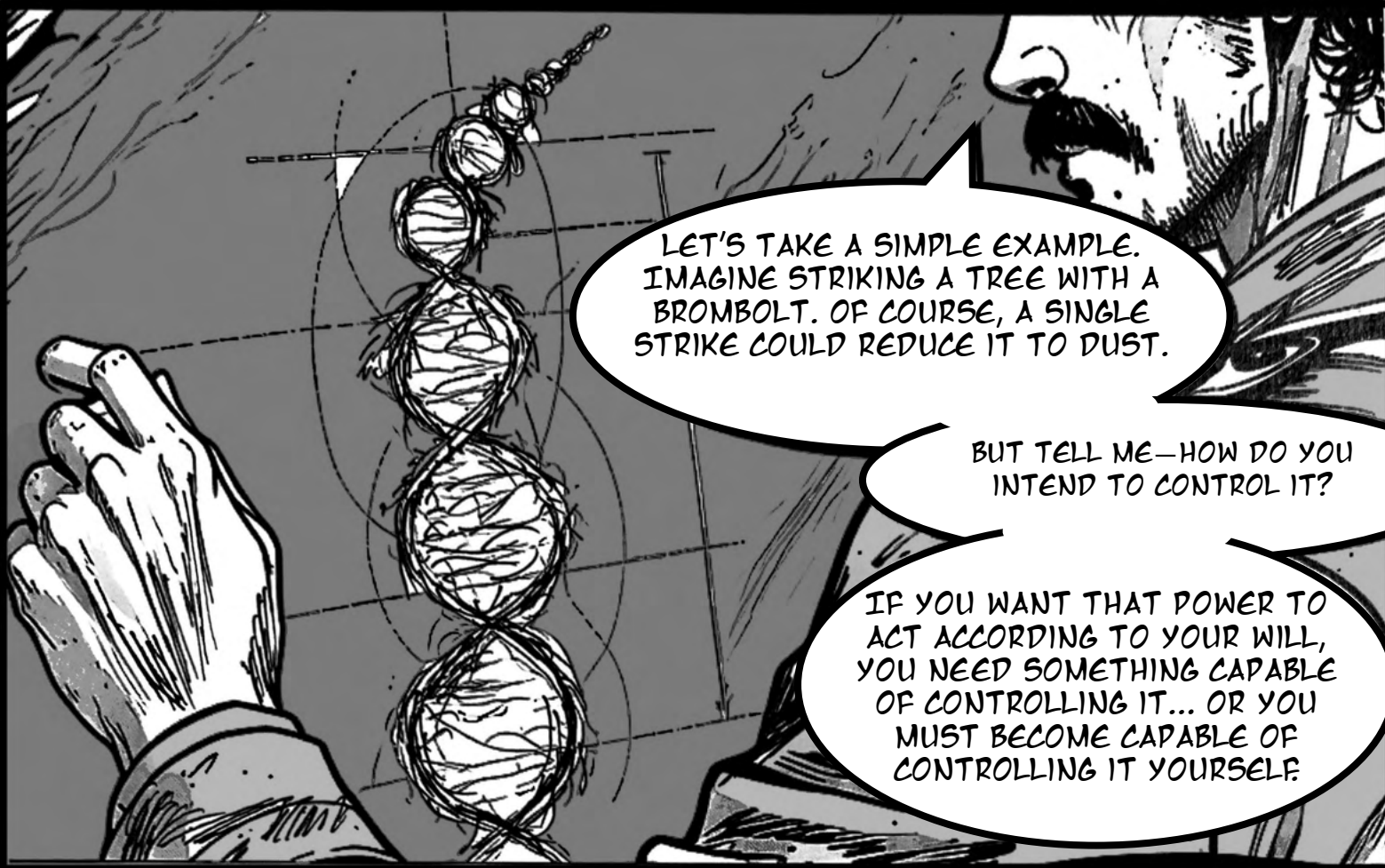
THROUGH THIS PROCESS, THE ATOMIC OXYGEN IS TRANSMUTED INTO A HIGH-ENERGY DISCHARGE KNOWN AS BROMBOLTS. THESE BROMBOLTS ARE EXTREMELY POWERFUL.

DEPENDING ON THE SIGNAL RECEIVED, A BROMBOLTS CAN BE USED IN MULTIPLE WAYS. IT CAN BE WEAPONIZED FOR DESTRUCTIVE FORCE, FOR OBJECT MANIPULATION... OR AS A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOURCE.



PROCEED TO THE FOURTH ENVELOPE. YOU WILL FIND A DETAILED VISIBLE STRUCTURE OF A SINGLE BROMBOLT. READ IT CAREFULLY.

LOOKS LIKE A ROPE, DOESN'T IT? WELL... IT CAN DO FAR MORE THAN YOU IMAGINE.



LET'S TAKE A SIMPLE EXAMPLE. IMAGINE STRIKING A TREE WITH A BROMBOLT. OF COURSE, A SINGLE STRIKE COULD REDUCE IT TO DUST.

BUT TELL ME—HOW DO YOU INTEND TO CONTROL IT?

IF YOU WANT THAT POWER TO ACT ACCORDING TO YOUR WILL, YOU NEED SOMETHING CAPABLE OF CONTROLLING IT... OR YOU MUST BECOME CAPABLE OF CONTROLLING IT YOURSELF.



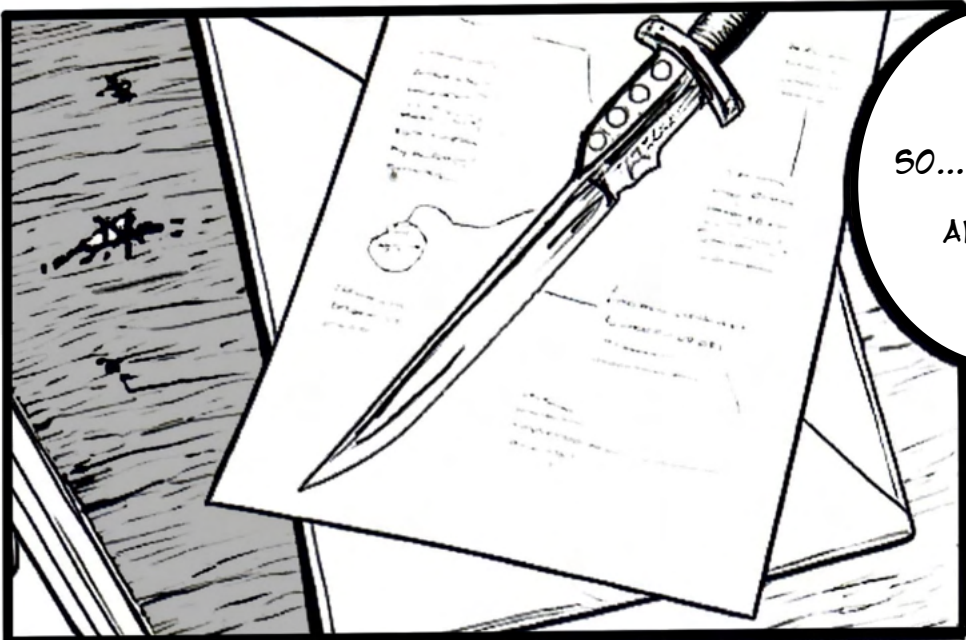
A WEAPON?



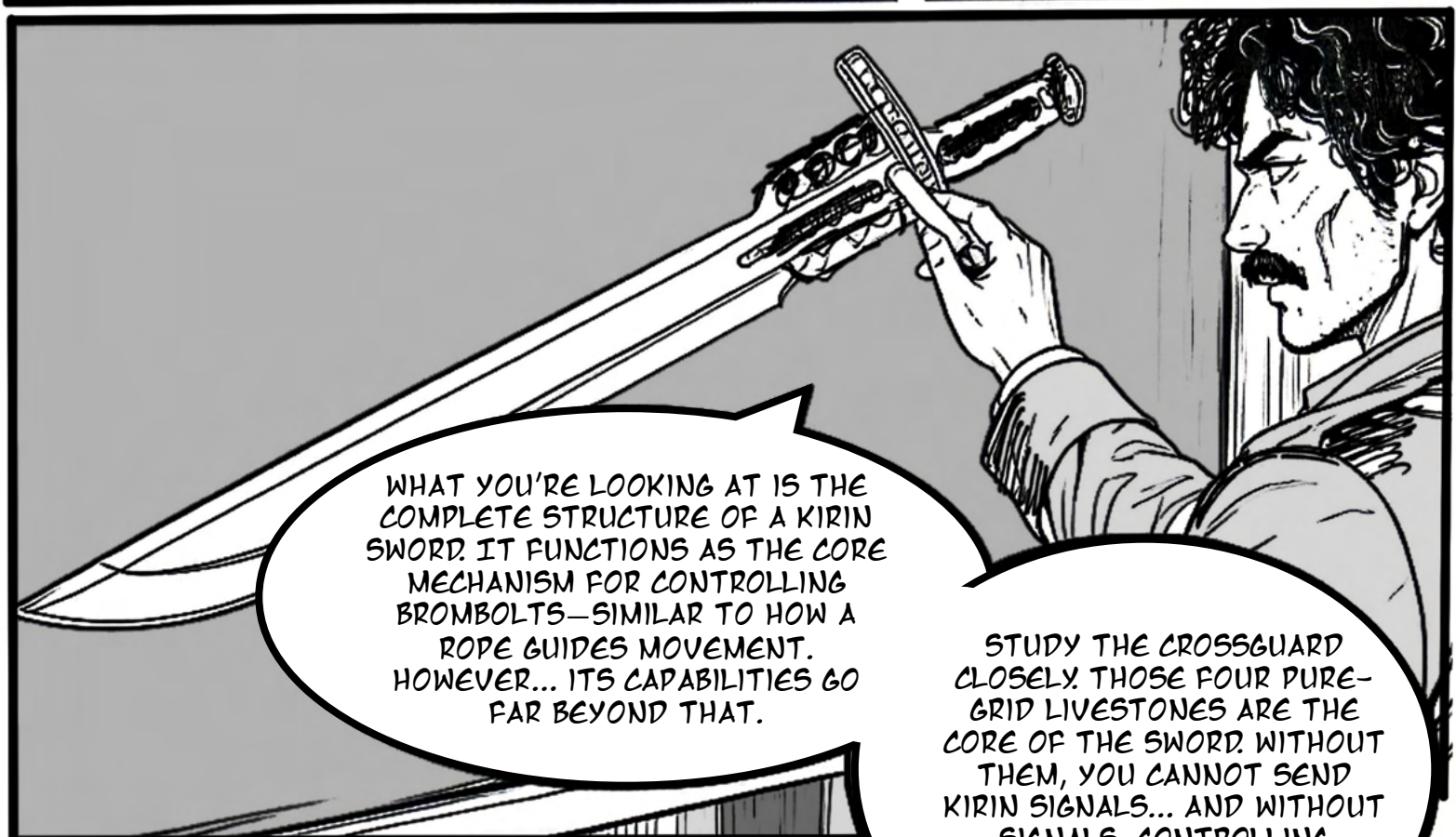
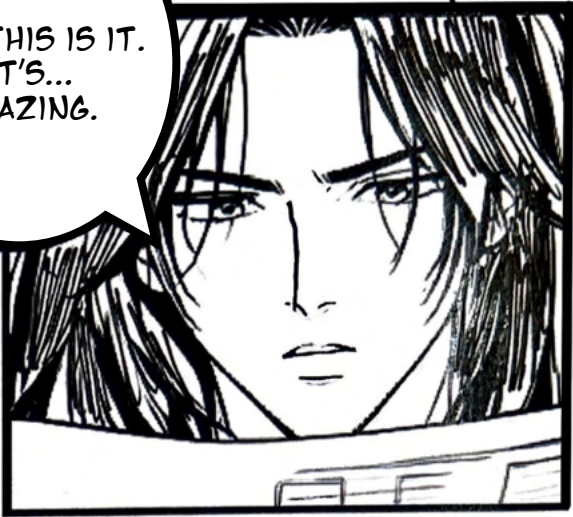
OF COURSE, A WEAPON CAN ASSIST—SOMETHING LIKE A SWORD, HAMMER, OR AXE CAN BE USEFUL.

THIS IS WHERE THE KIRIN SWORD COMES INTO PLAY. IT SERVES AS THE MOST COMMON AND STANDARD WEAPON.

GIVE ME A MOMENT. I'LL DRAW IT ON THE BOARD. IN THE MEANTIME, TAKE OUT THE EIGHTH PAGE FROM YOUR ENVELOPE.



SO... THIS IS IT.
IT'S...
AMAZING.



WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING AT IS THE COMPLETE STRUCTURE OF A KIRIN SWORD. IT FUNCTIONS AS THE CORE MECHANISM FOR CONTROLLING BROMBOLTS—SIMILAR TO HOW A ROPE GUIDES MOVEMENT. HOWEVER... ITS CAPABILITIES GO FAR BEYOND THAT.

STUDY THE CROSSGUARD CLOSELY. THOSE FOUR PURE-GRID LIVESTONES ARE THE CORE OF THE SWORD. WITHOUT THEM, YOU CANNOT SEND KIRIN SIGNALS... AND WITHOUT SIGNALS, CONTROLLING BROMBOLTS IS IMPOSSIBLE.



WE WILL COVER ABOUT THE SWORDS IN DETAIL LATER. FOR NOW, CONCENTRATE ON THE FUNDAMENTALS AND THEIR PURPOSE.

THE NEXT TIME WE MEET, I EXPECT YOU TO KNOW EVERY PART OF THE WEAPONS.

KIRIN SIGNAL CONTROL IS NOT SOMETHING YOU ACQUIRE OVERNIGHT. IT REQUIRES PRECISION—PERFECT SIGNALS PRODUCE PERFECT RESULTS. FOR SOME, IT TAKES MONTHS... FOR OTHERS, YEARS. THOUGH A FEW EXCEPTIONAL SOLDIERS HAVE ACHIEVED IT WITHIN WEEKS.

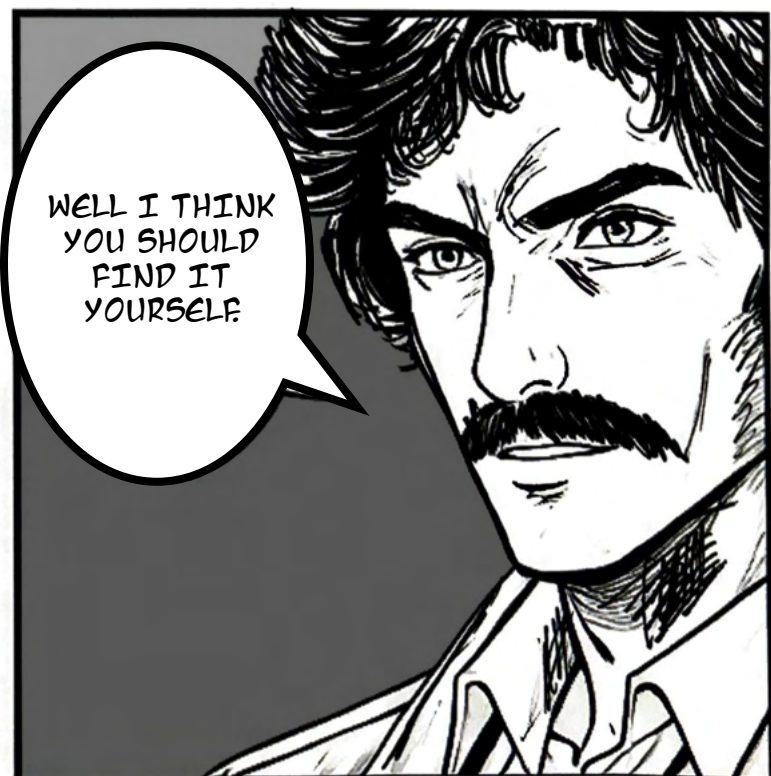


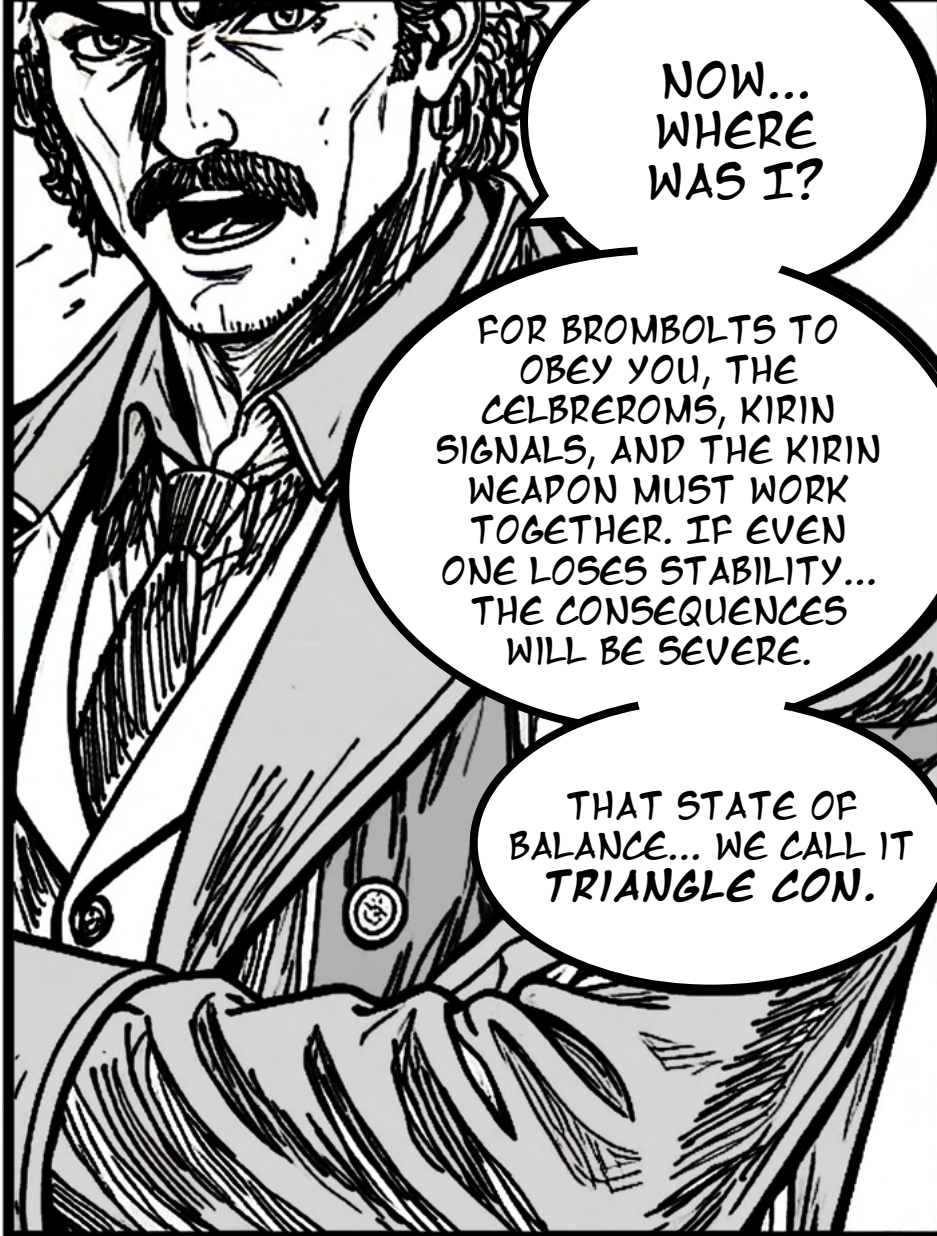
IN SIMPLE TERMS, THE CELBREROMS, THE KIRIN SWORD, AND THE KIRIN SIGNALS MUST ALL WORK IN HARMONY. ONLY THEN WILL THE BROMBOLTS RESPOND TO YOUR COMMAND.

HOW IS IT POSSIBLE TO DO IN JUST FEW WEEKS



WELL I THINK YOU SHOULD FIND IT YOURSELF.





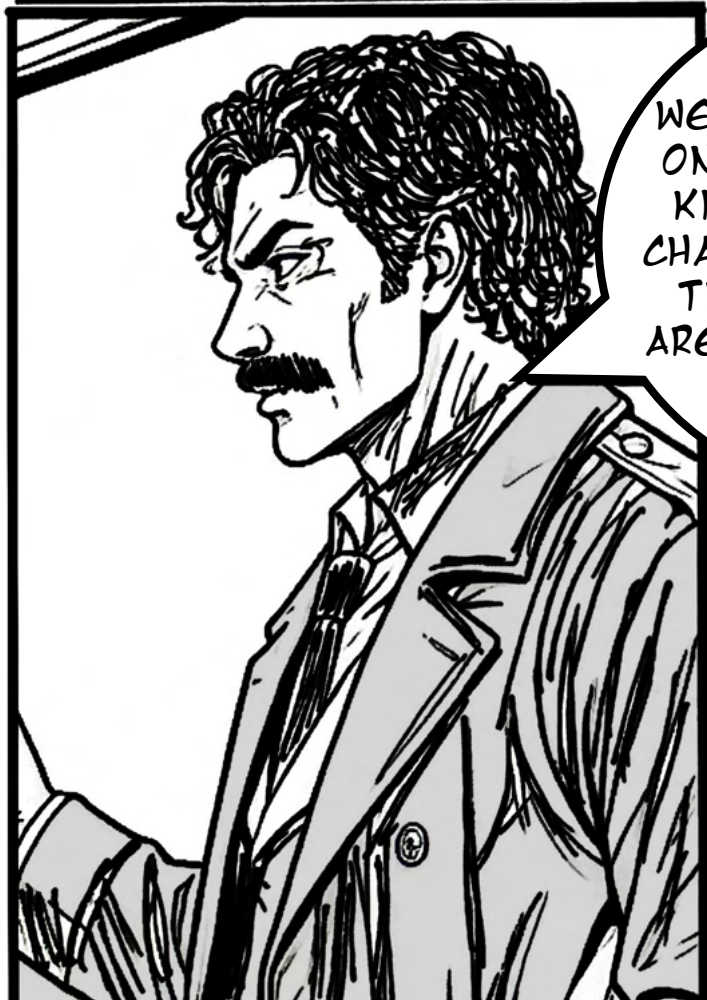
NOW...
WHERE
WAS I?

FOR BROMBOLTS TO
OBEY YOU, THE
CELBREROMS, KIRIN
SIGNALS, AND THE KIRIN
WEAPON MUST WORK
TOGETHER. IF EVEN
ONE LOSES STABILITY...
THE CONSEQUENCES
WILL BE SEVERE.

THAT STATE OF
BALANCE... WE CALL IT
TRIANGLE CON.



SO... IF WE BREAK THE
TRIANGLE CON, WHAT
HAPPENS?



WELL... FIRST OF ALL,
ONCE YOU BECOME A
KIRIN SOLDIER, THE
CHANCES OF BREAKING
THE TRIANGLE CON
ARE RELATIVELY LOW..

UNLESS YOU
ATTEMPT TO USE
SOMETHING LIKE A
HALF SPHERE... OR
SOMETHING EVEN
MORE POWERFUL.

BREAKING THE
TRIANGLE CON
DEPENDS ENTIRELY ON
THE CEL PATTERN—IT
CHANGES BASED ON
HOW THE USER WIELDS
THE KIRIN. I'LL
EXPLAIN CEL PATTERNS
IN A MOMENT...

TO BE CONTINUED

CEL
PATTERN?
?

