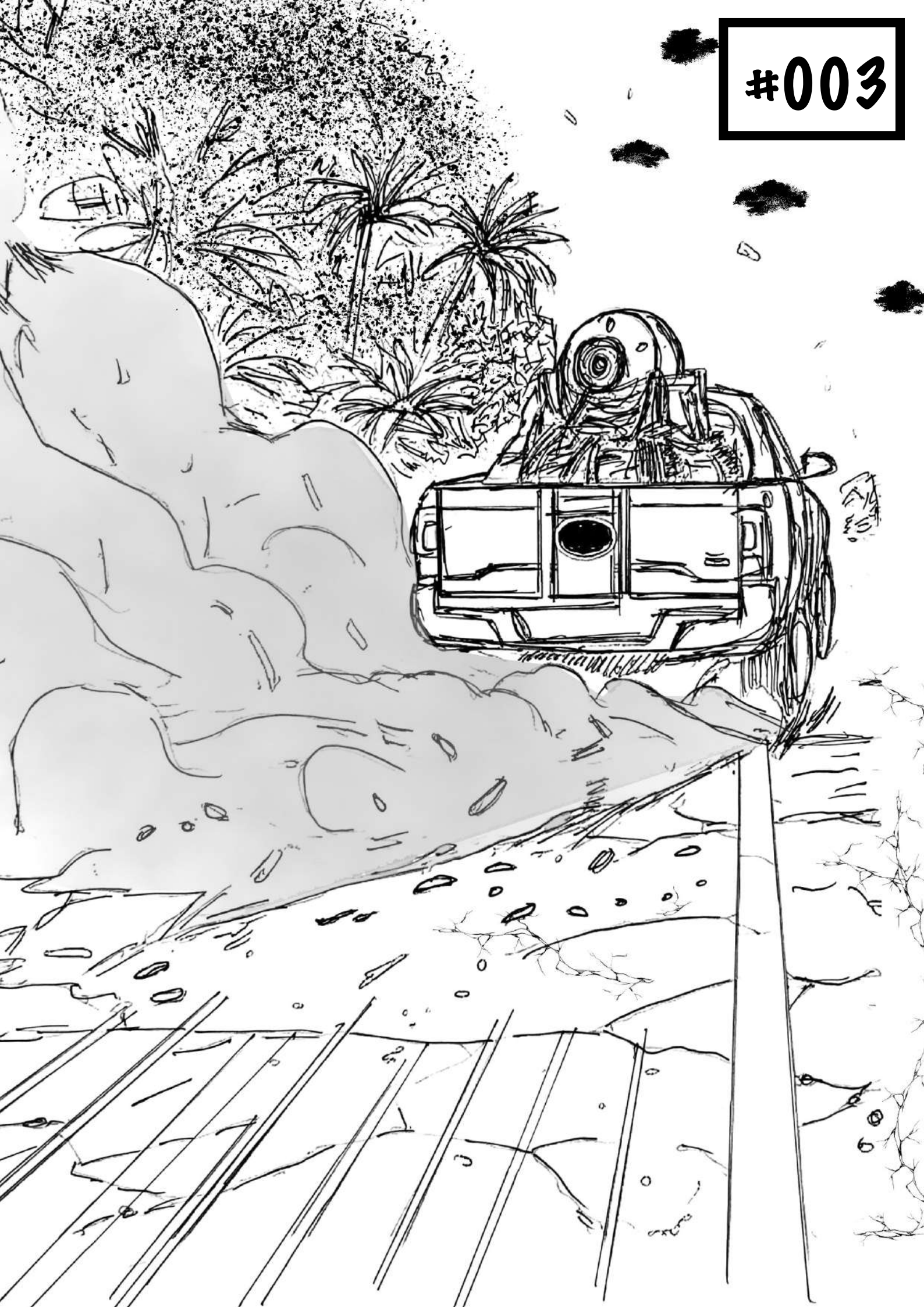
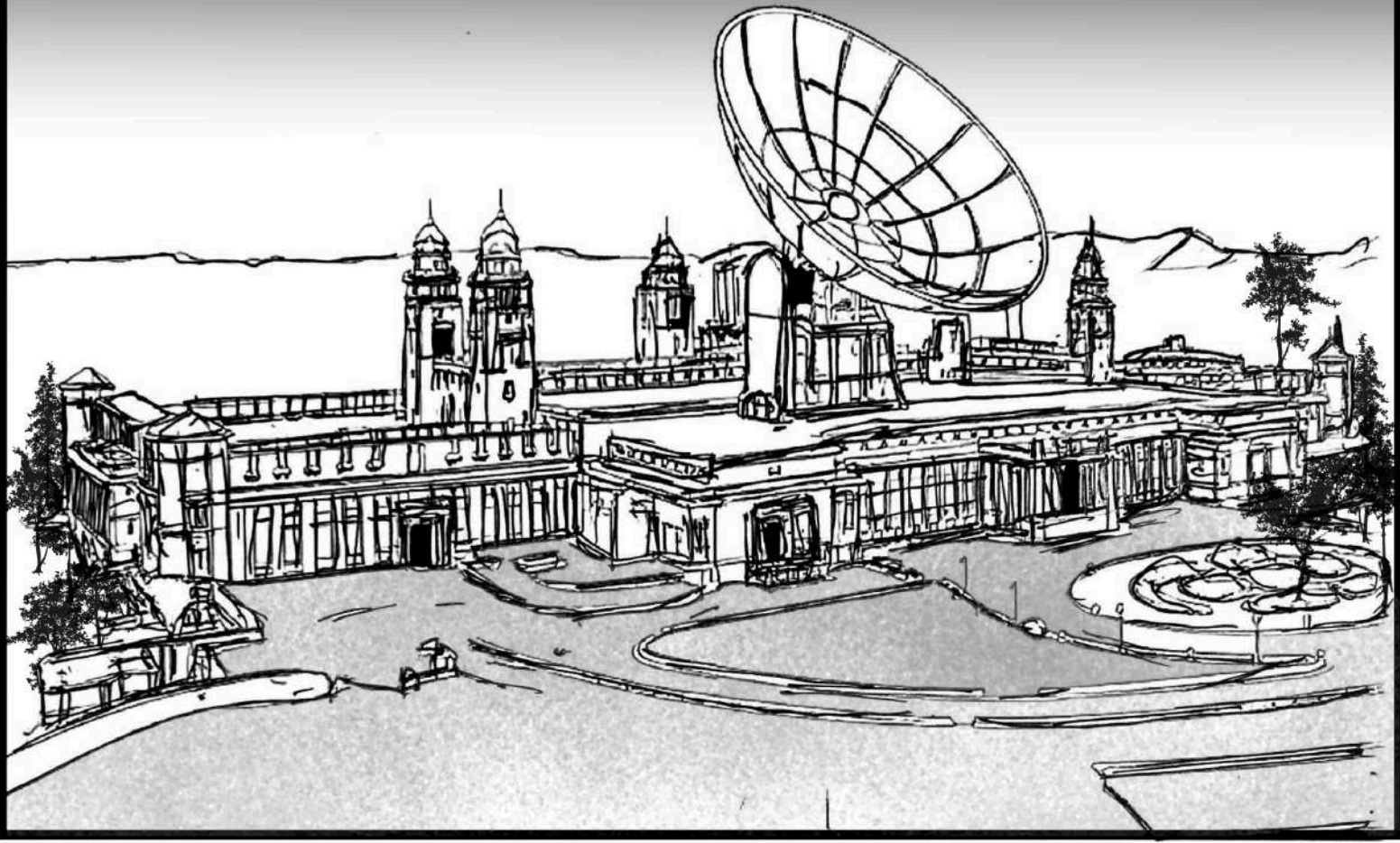
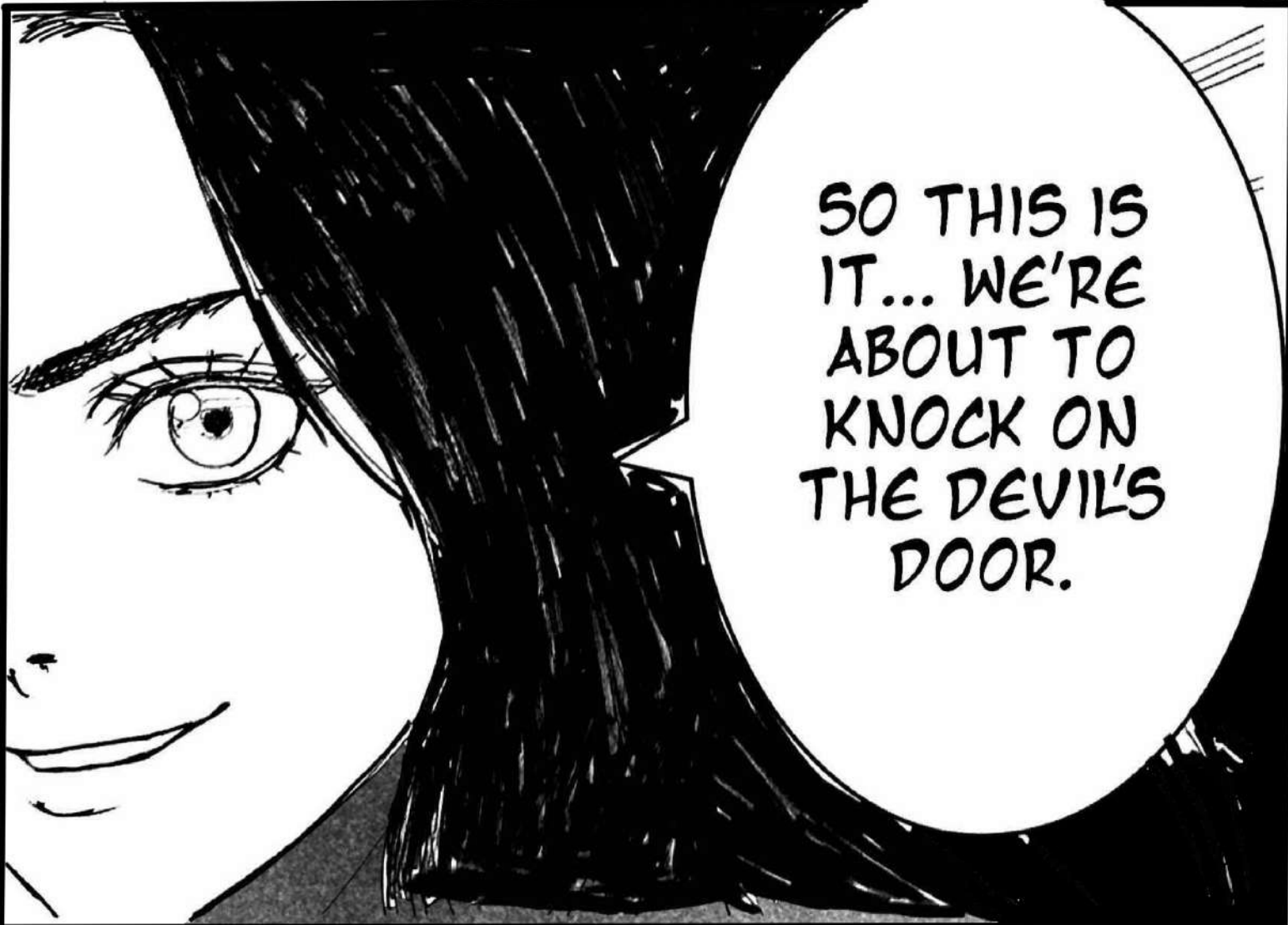
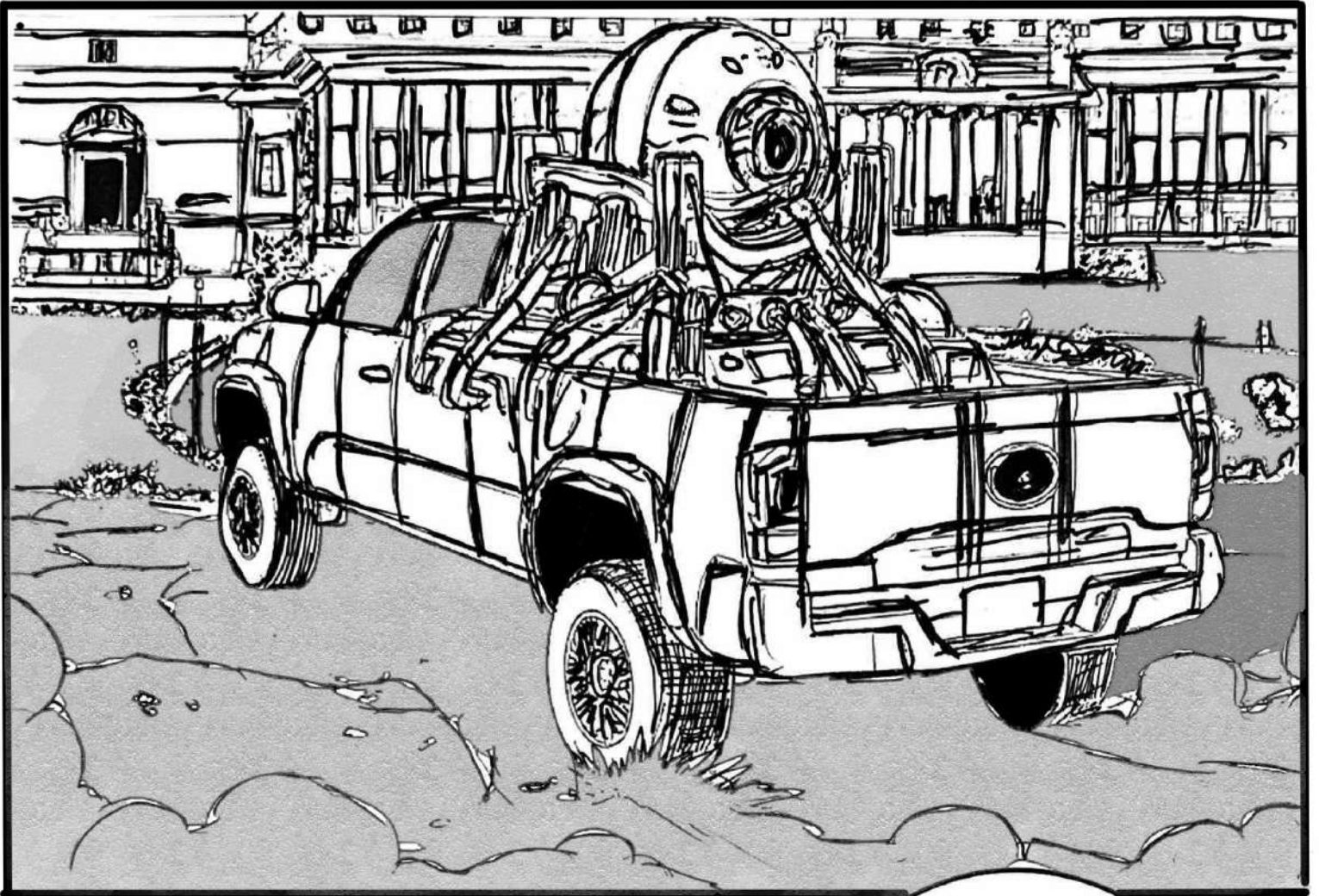


#003



CELESTIAN CENTRAL



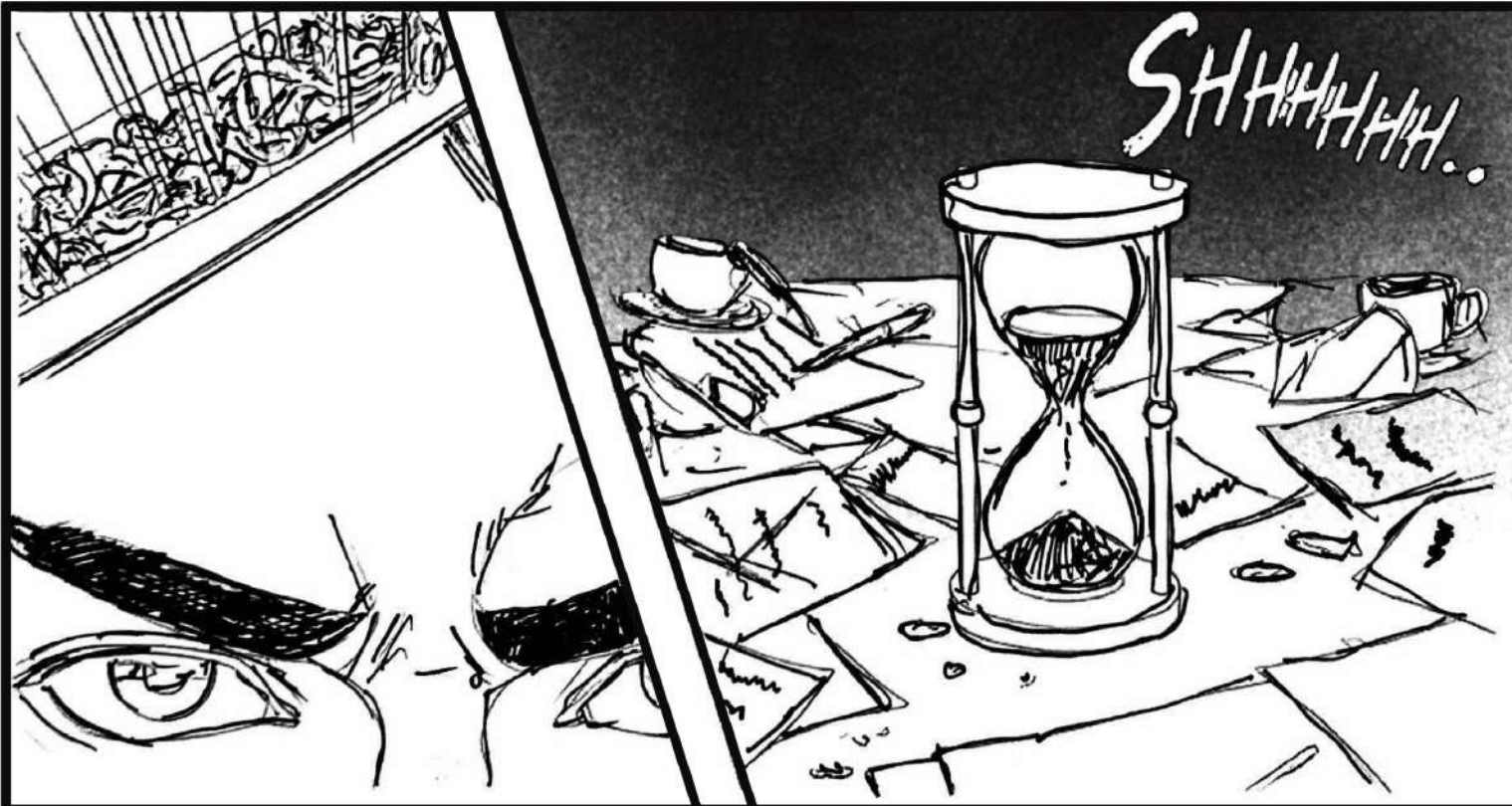
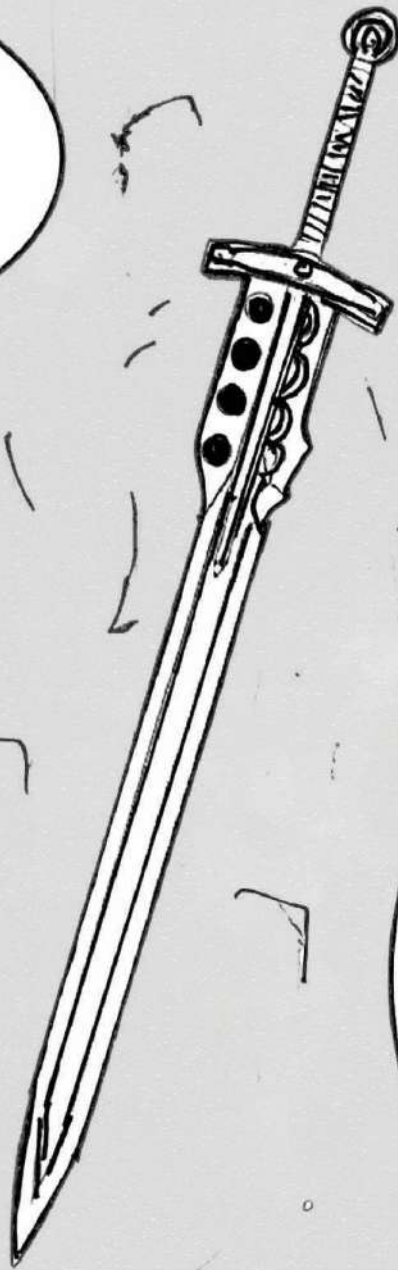


SO THIS IS
IT... WE'RE
ABOUT TO
KNOCK ON
THE DEVIL'S
DOOR.

THEY MADE
KIRIN LOOK LIKE
NOTHING MORE
THAN A SHADOW

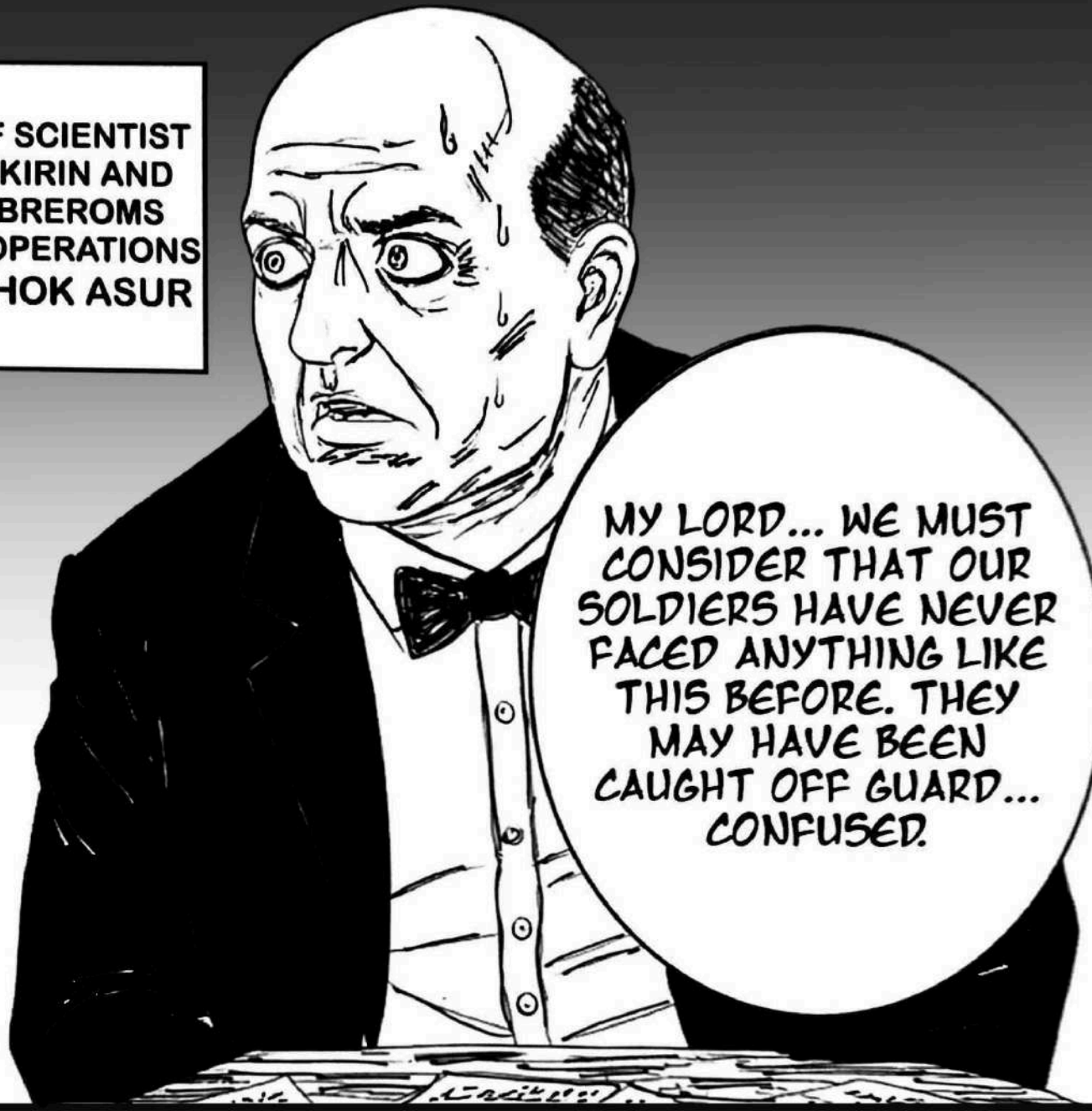
DECADES
OF TRAINING ALL
FOR NOTHING..

..OR ARE THEY
TRYING TO
BECOME ANOTHER
EDVAR? TELL ME,
AIESHOK- WHAT
DO YOU MAKE OF
THIS?

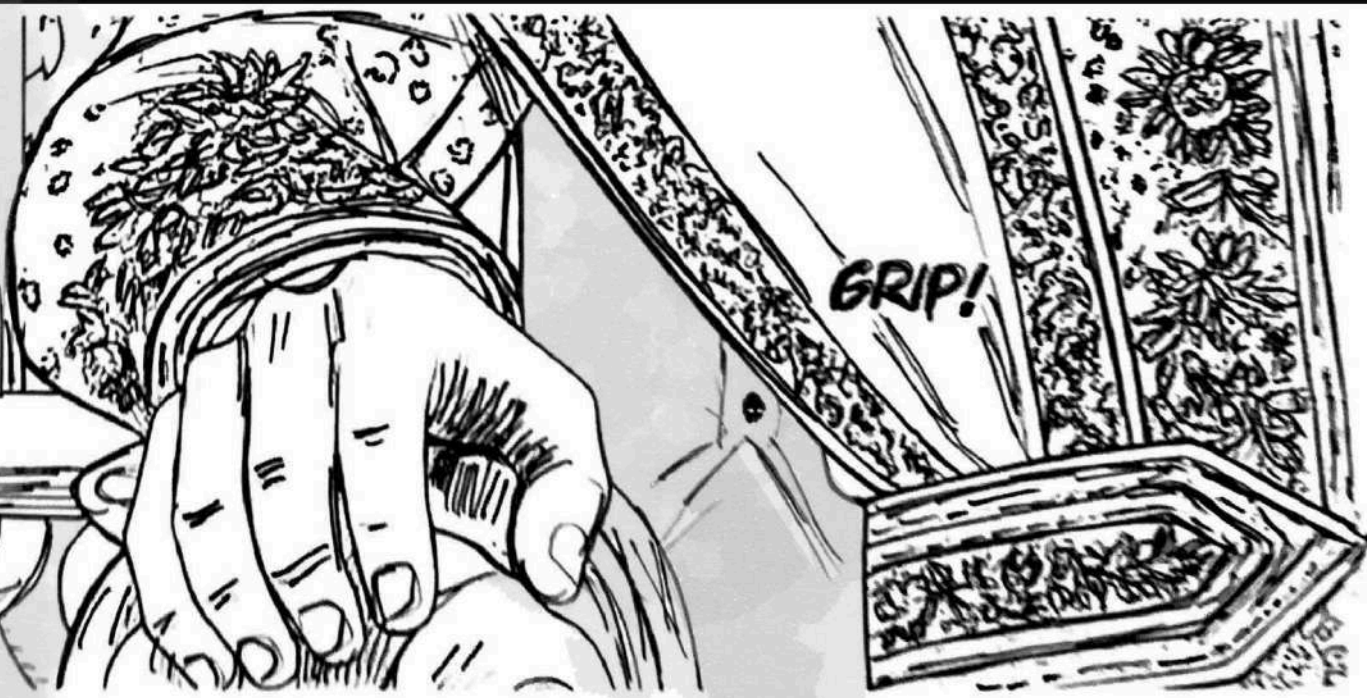


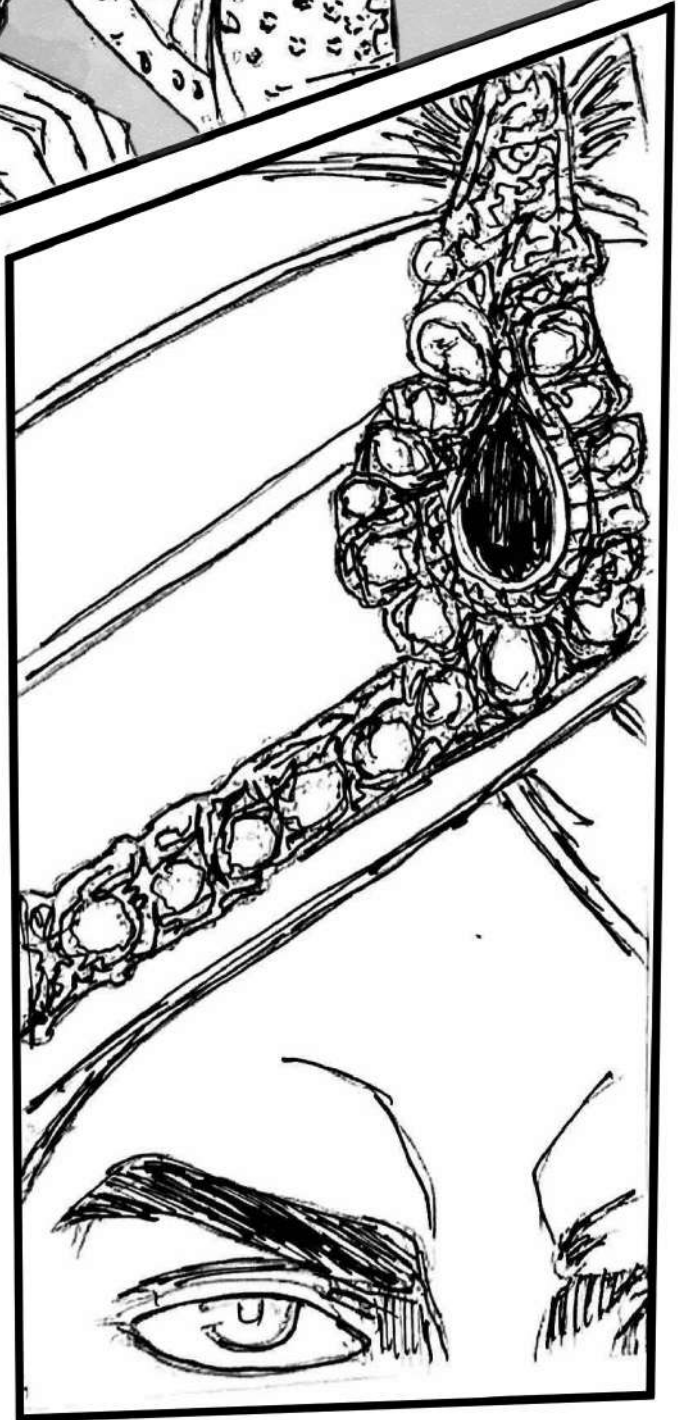
CHIEF SCIENTIST
FOR KIRIN AND
CELBREROMS
UNIT OPERATIONS
AIESHOK ASUR

MY LORD... WE MUST
CONSIDER THAT OUR
SOLDIERS HAVE NEVER
FACED ANYTHING LIKE
THIS BEFORE. THEY
MAY HAVE BEEN
CAUGHT OFF GUARD...
CONFUSED.



GRIP!

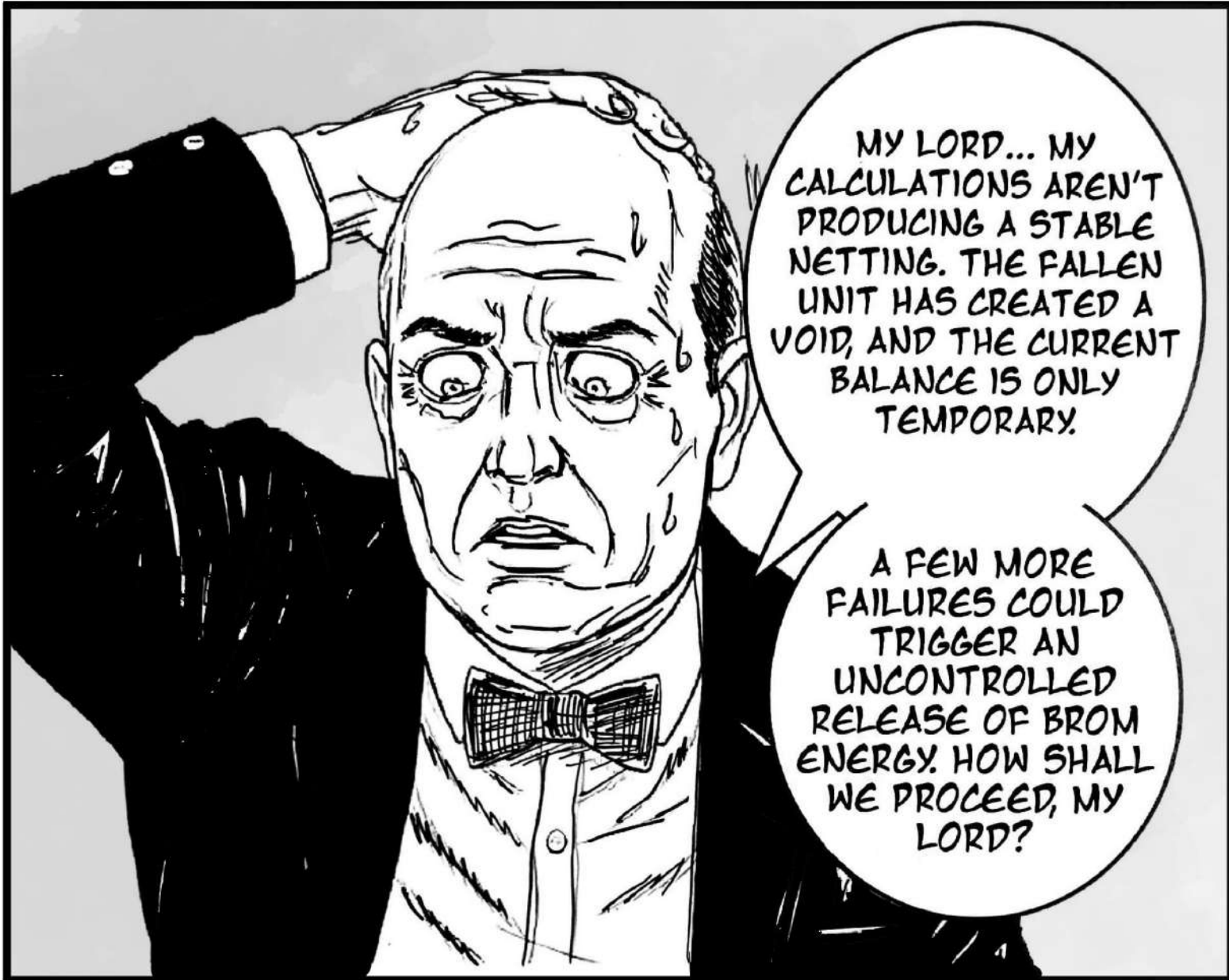




**SUPREME RULER OF
CELESTIA - MATEW FESTO**

HHMHMM





MY LORD... MY CALCULATIONS AREN'T PRODUCING A STABLE NETTING. THE FALLEN UNIT HAS CREATED A VOID, AND THE CURRENT BALANCE IS ONLY TEMPORARY.

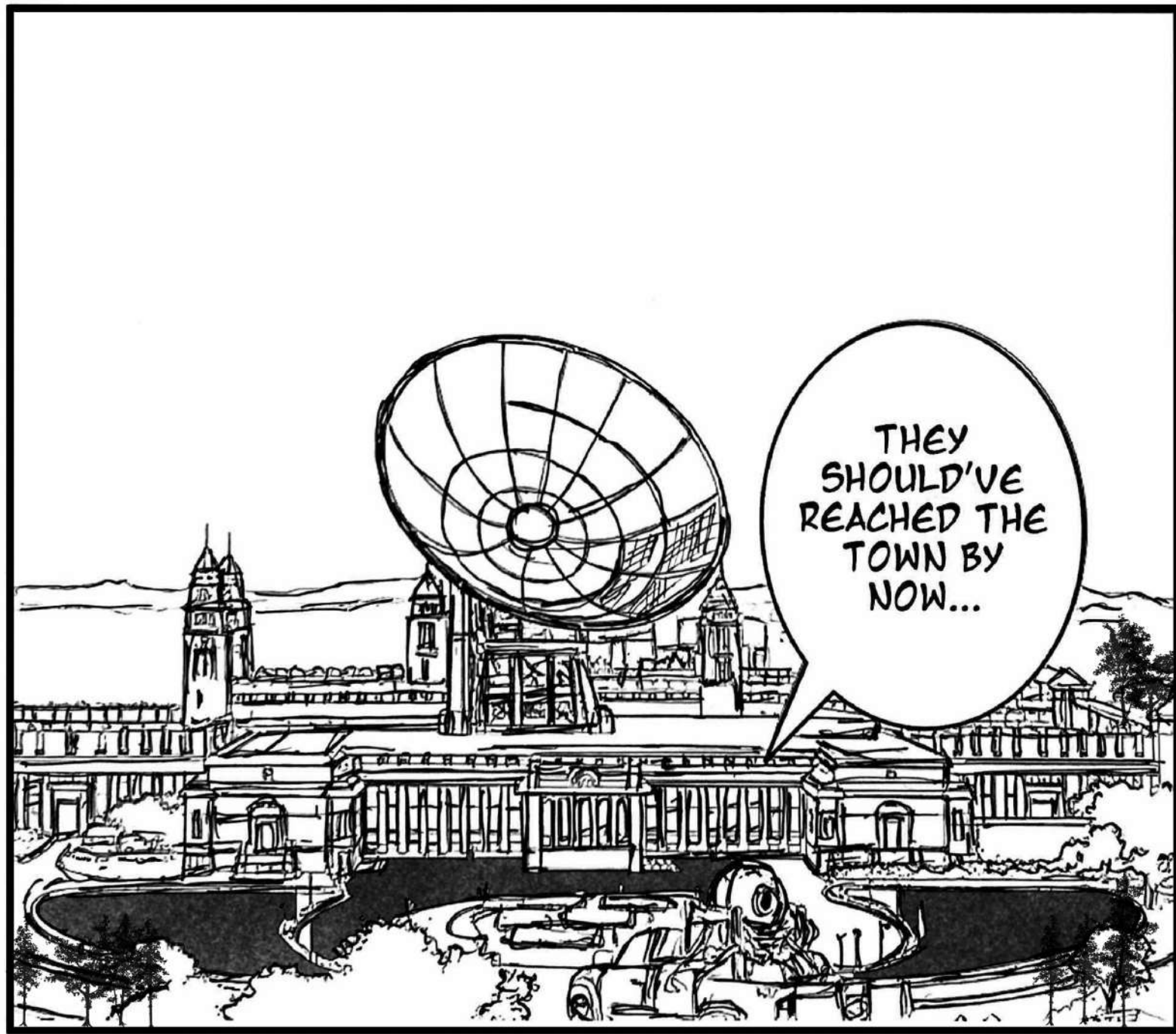
A FEW MORE FAILURES COULD TRIGGER AN UNCONTROLLED RELEASE OF BROM ENERGY. HOW SHALL WE PROCEED, MY LORD?




HMMM.. AIESHOK, WHEN CAN WE EXPECT OUR SOILDERS TO REACH US..



IN TEN
MINUTES
MY LORD..

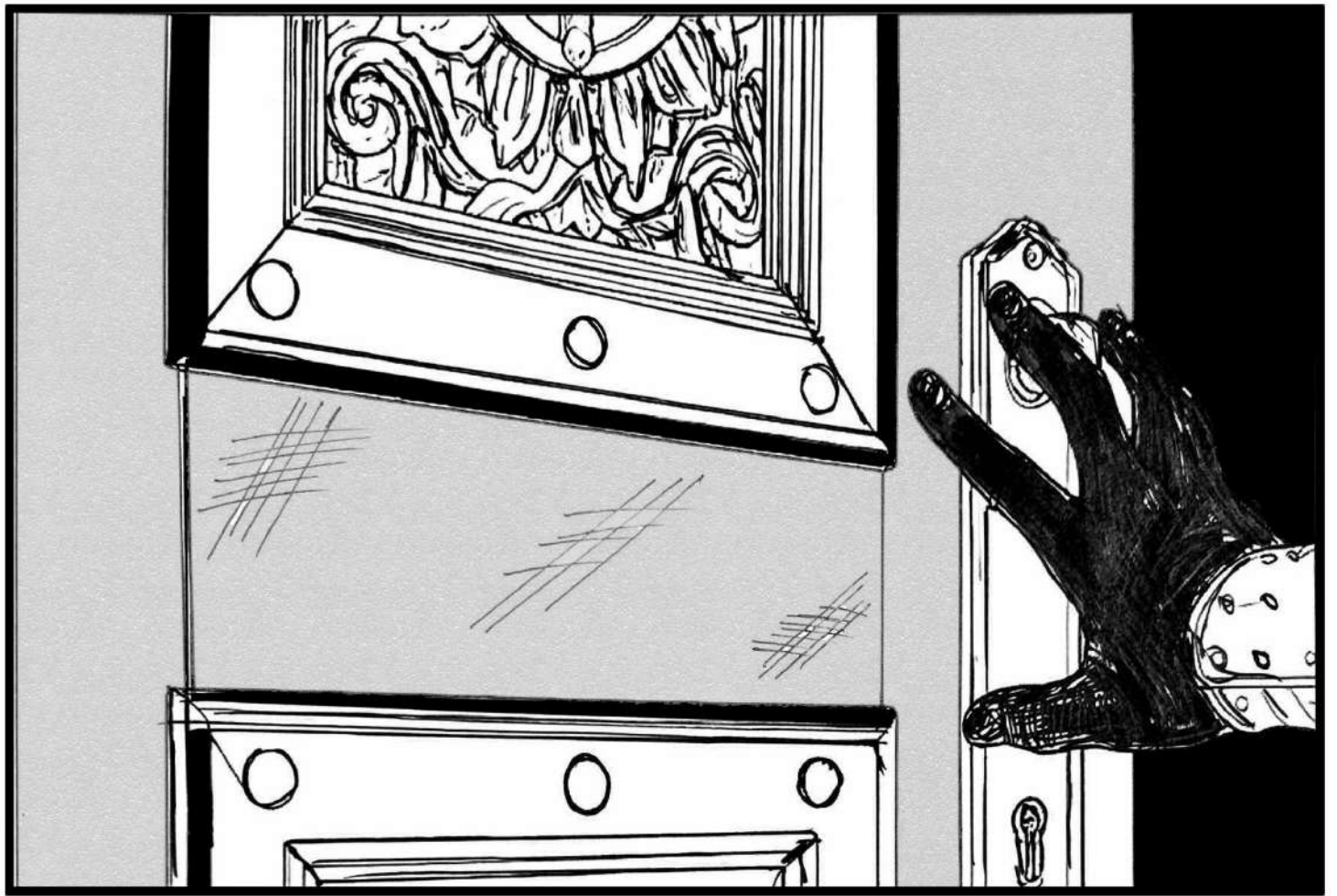


THEY
SHOULD'VE
REACHED THE
TOWN BY
NOW...



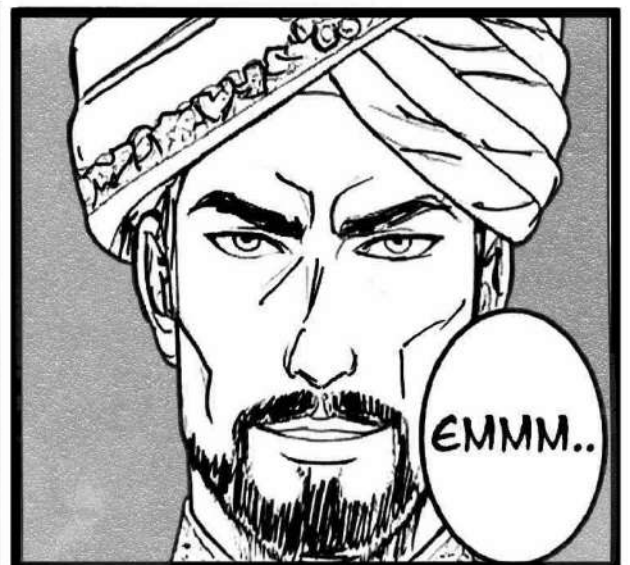
OH... YOU WERE SAYING? EVEN
IF THE NETTING IS UNSTABLE,
THE BROM ENERGY SHOULDN'T
EXCEED THE 10,000 BR LIMIT—
A LEVEL WE CAN STILL
MANAGE.

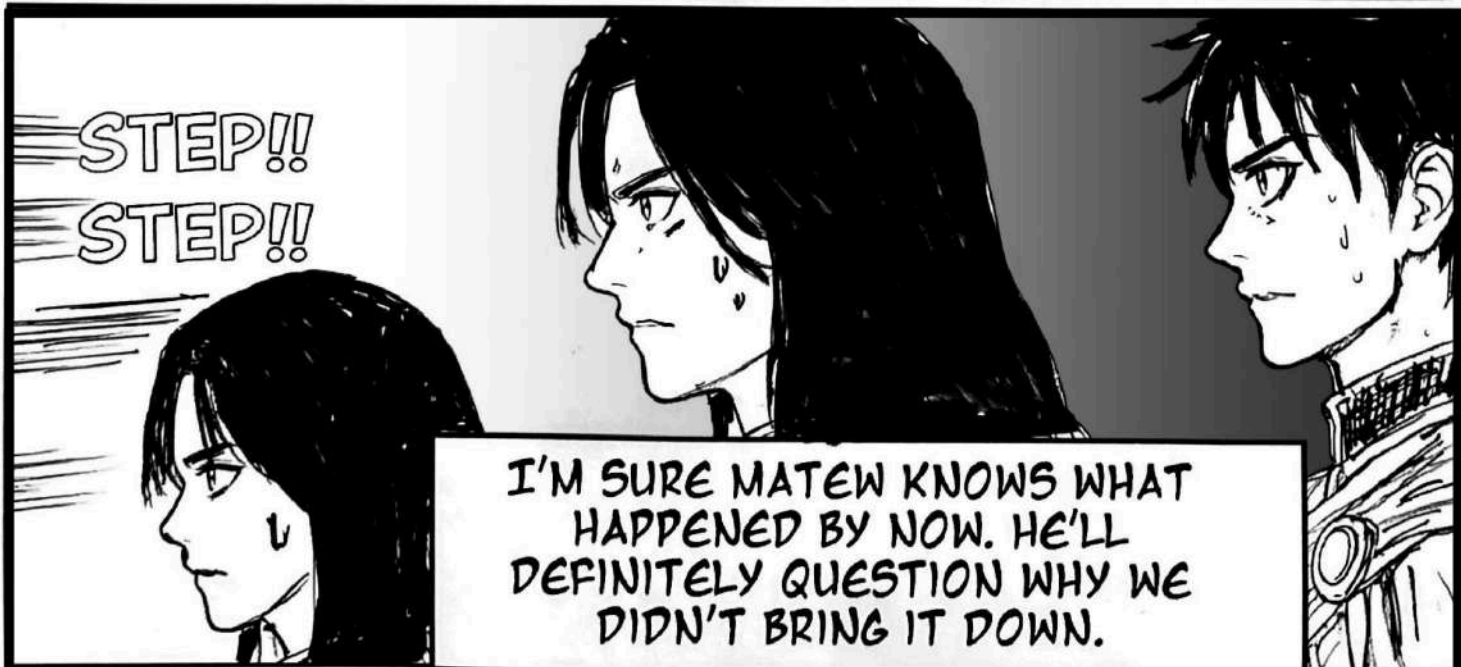
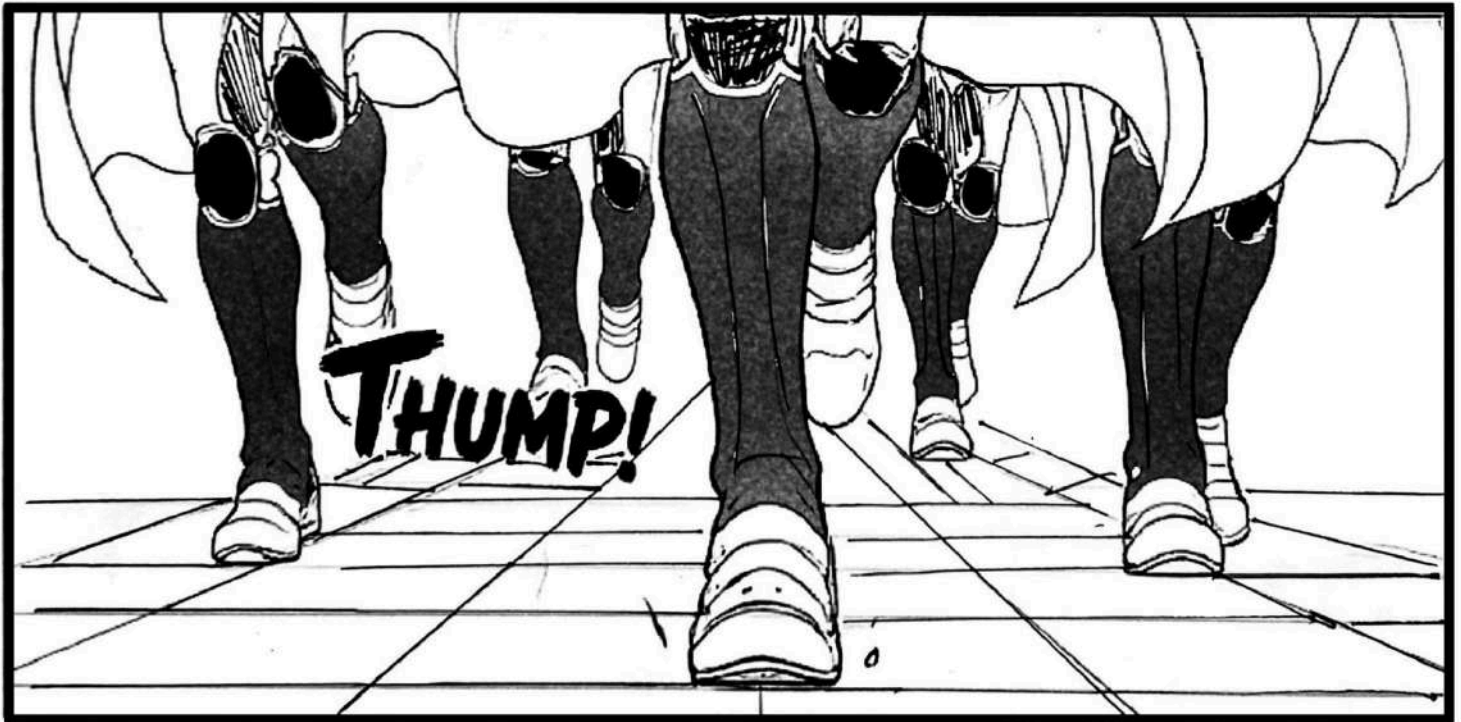
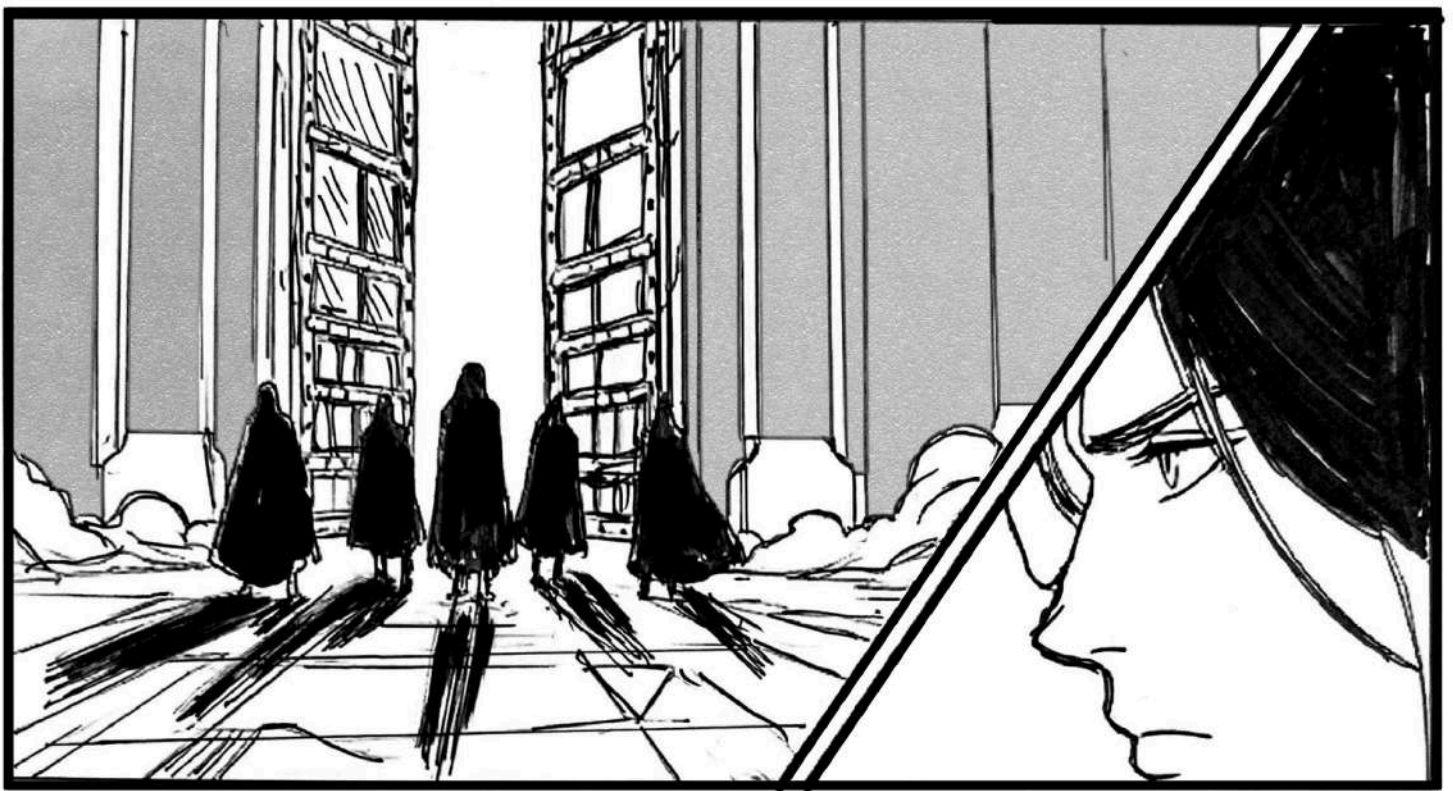
WE HAVE FAR
GREATER
CONCERNS AT THE
MOMENT. DON'T
YOU AGREE
AIESHOK? SHOULD
WE NOT FOCUS ON
THAT?



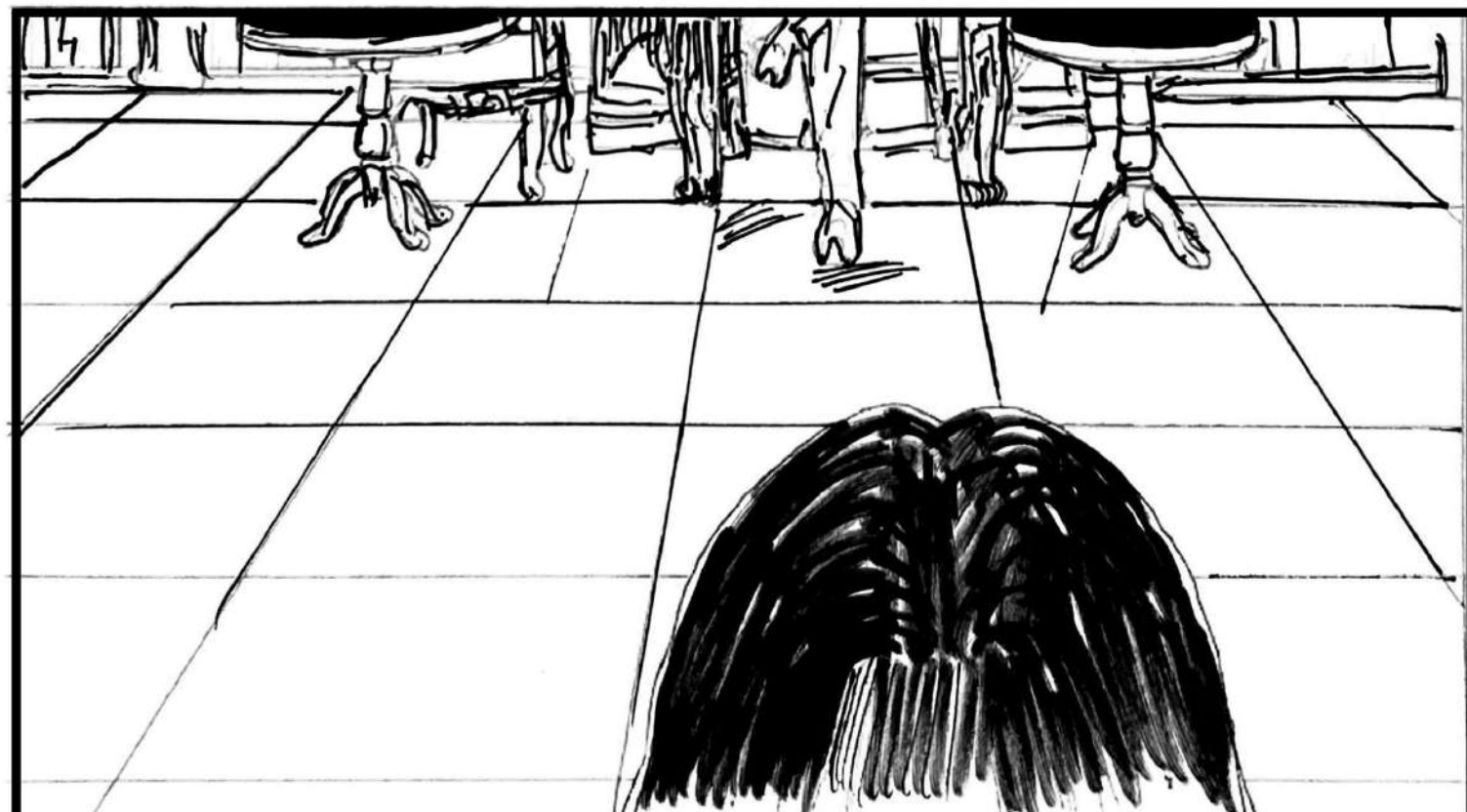
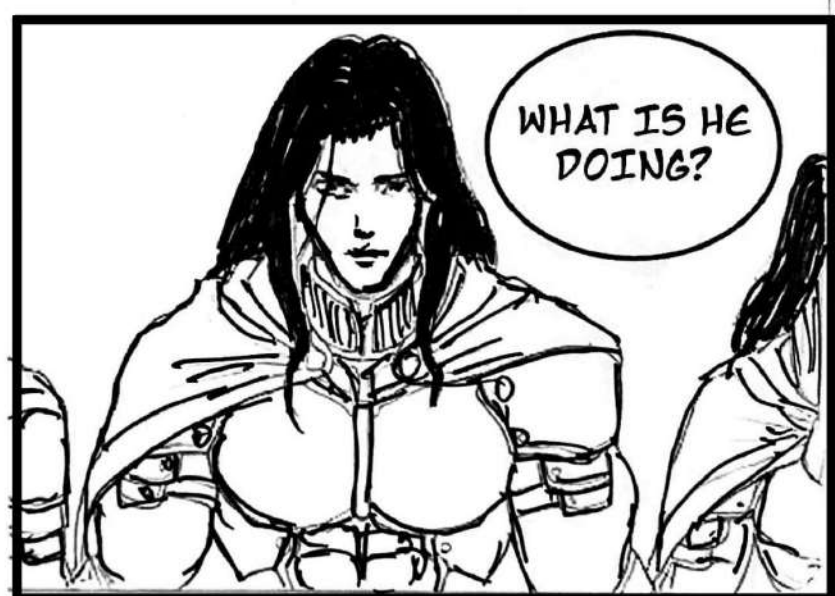
KRAAAASH!

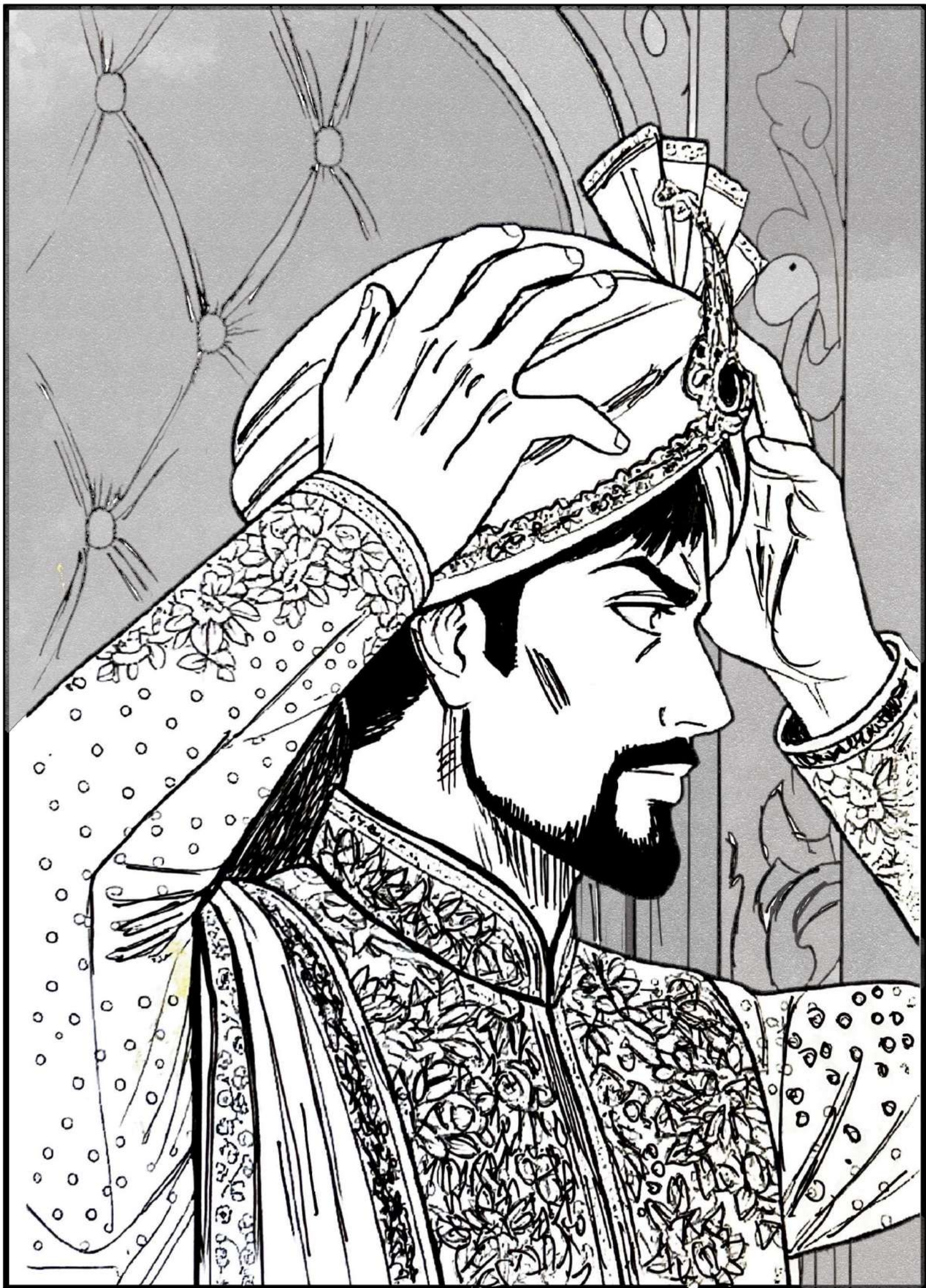
WHOOOSH!



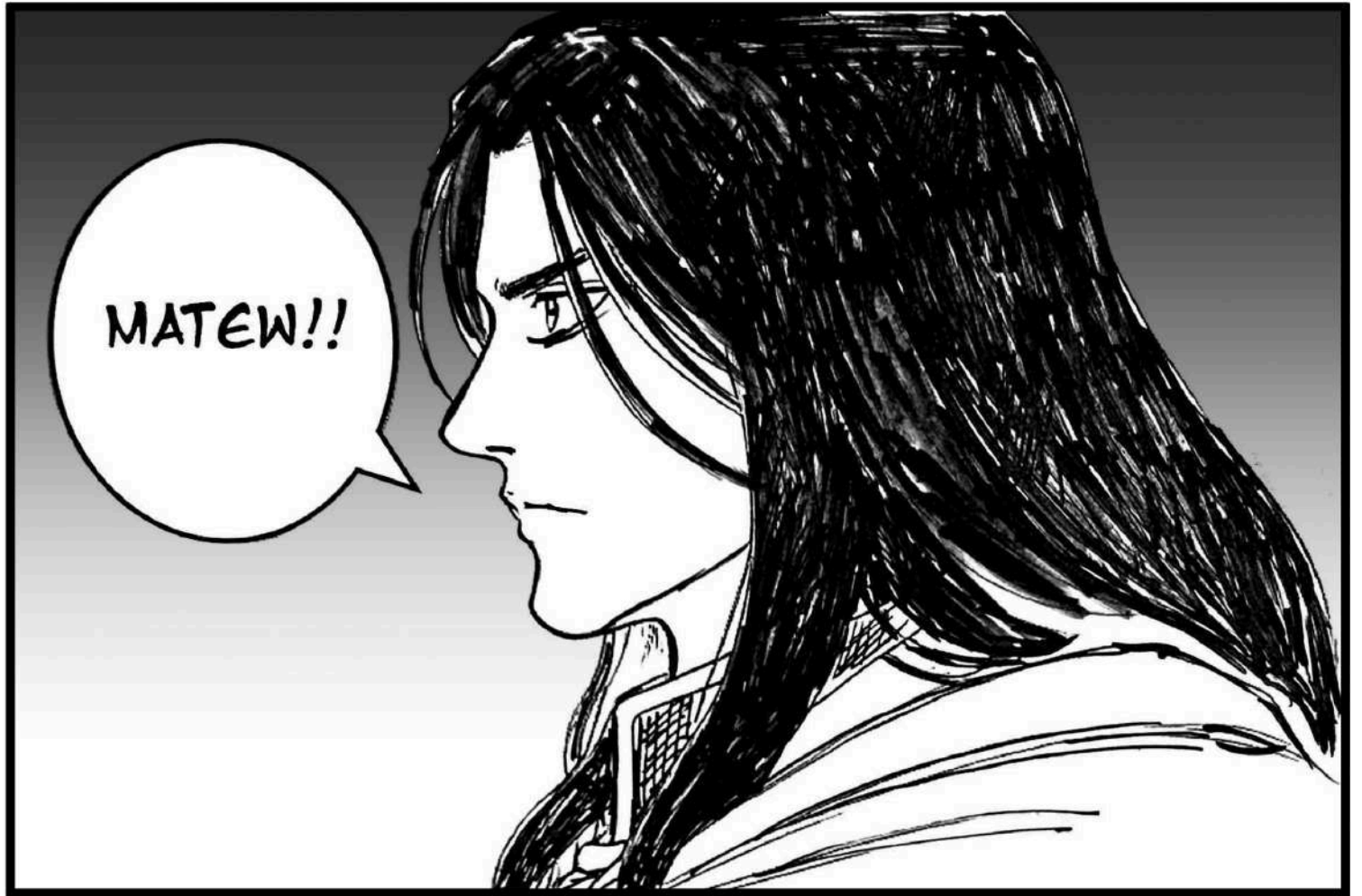












MATEW!!



HAHAHAHAHA..

WHY IS HE LAUGHING?



MATEW...WOULD
YOU MIND
TELLING US
WHAT'S
HAPPENING
HERE?

WHAT WAS
THAT GIANT
WE HAVEN'T
SEEN
ANYTHING
LIKE IT
BEFORE.





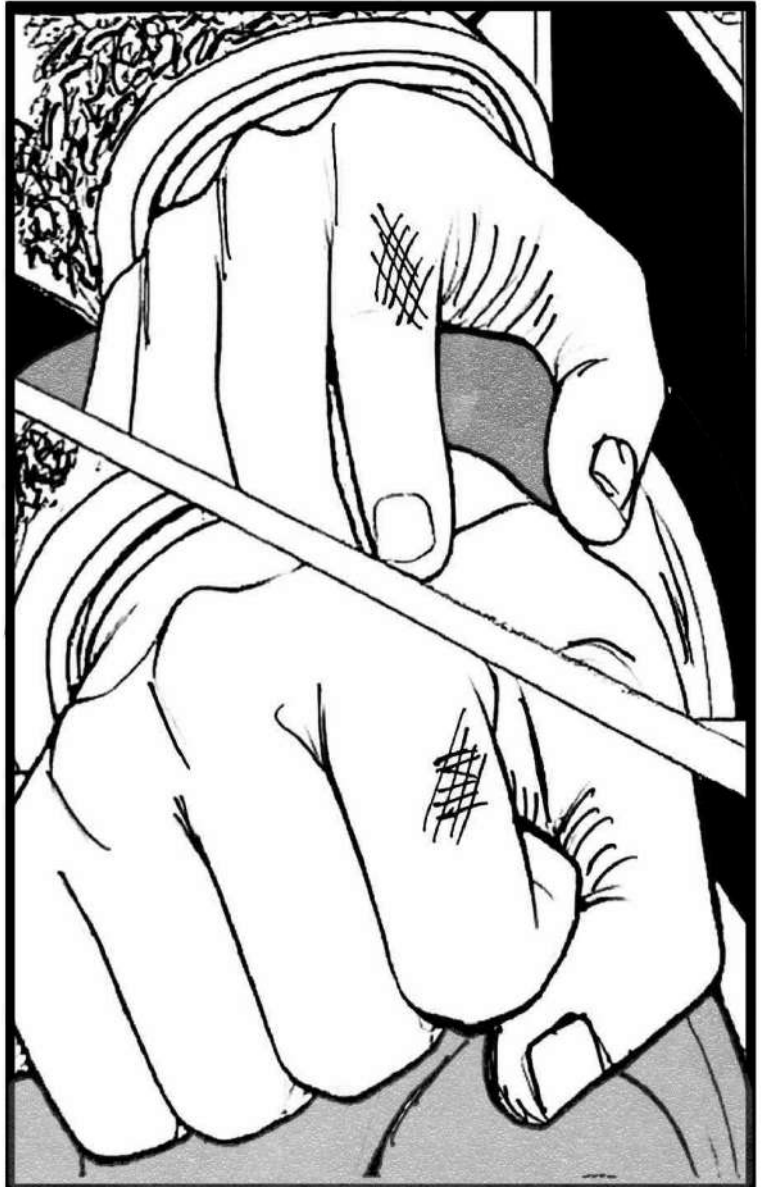
ALL THIS TIME, I
BELIEVED WE
HAD BRAVE
SOILDERS
WORTHY OF
WEILDING THE
KIRIN.

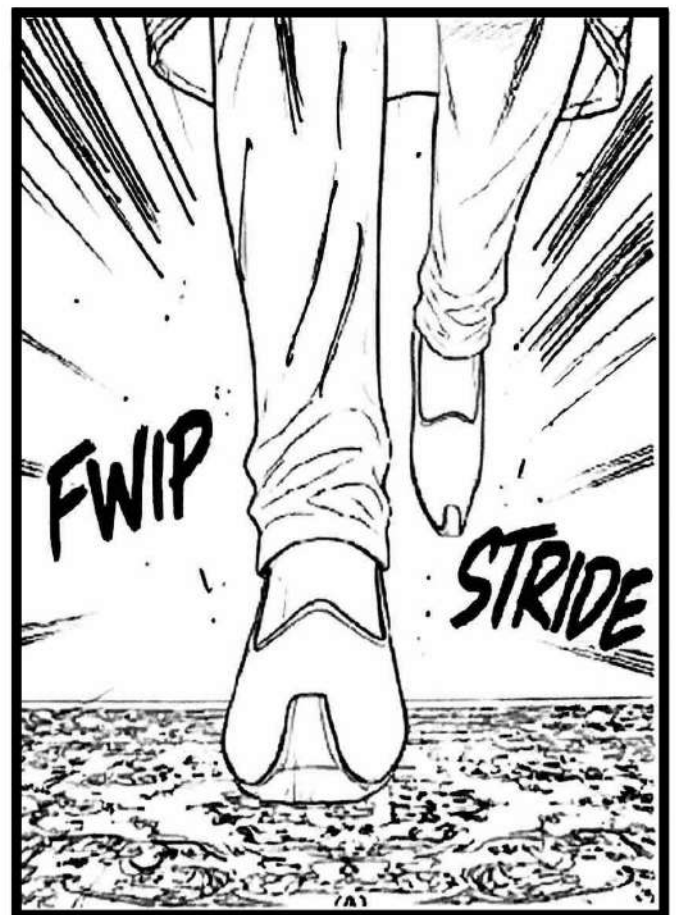


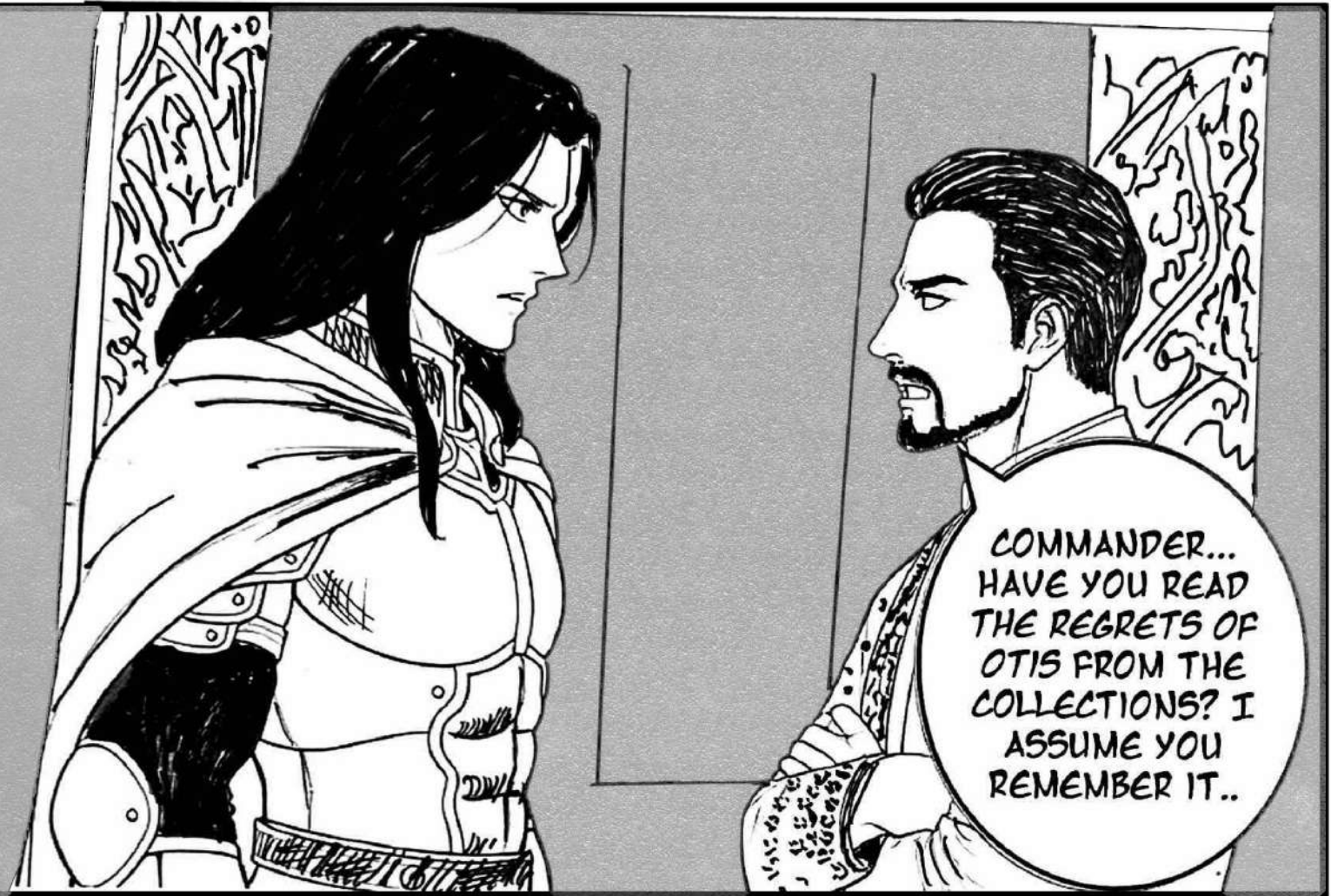
ARE YOU ALL
TRYING TO
PROVE
YOU'RE
NOT?



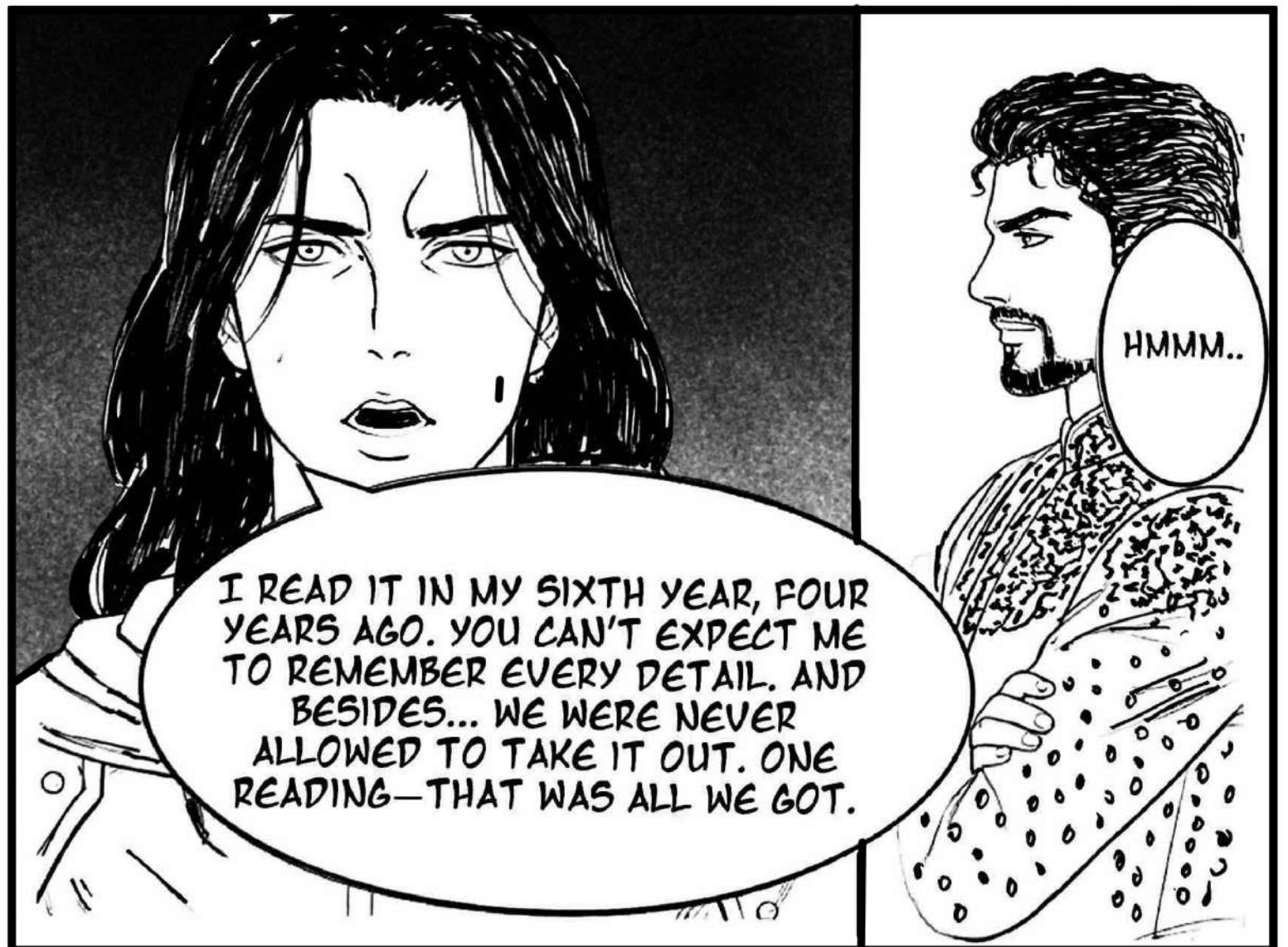
Ehmm!!





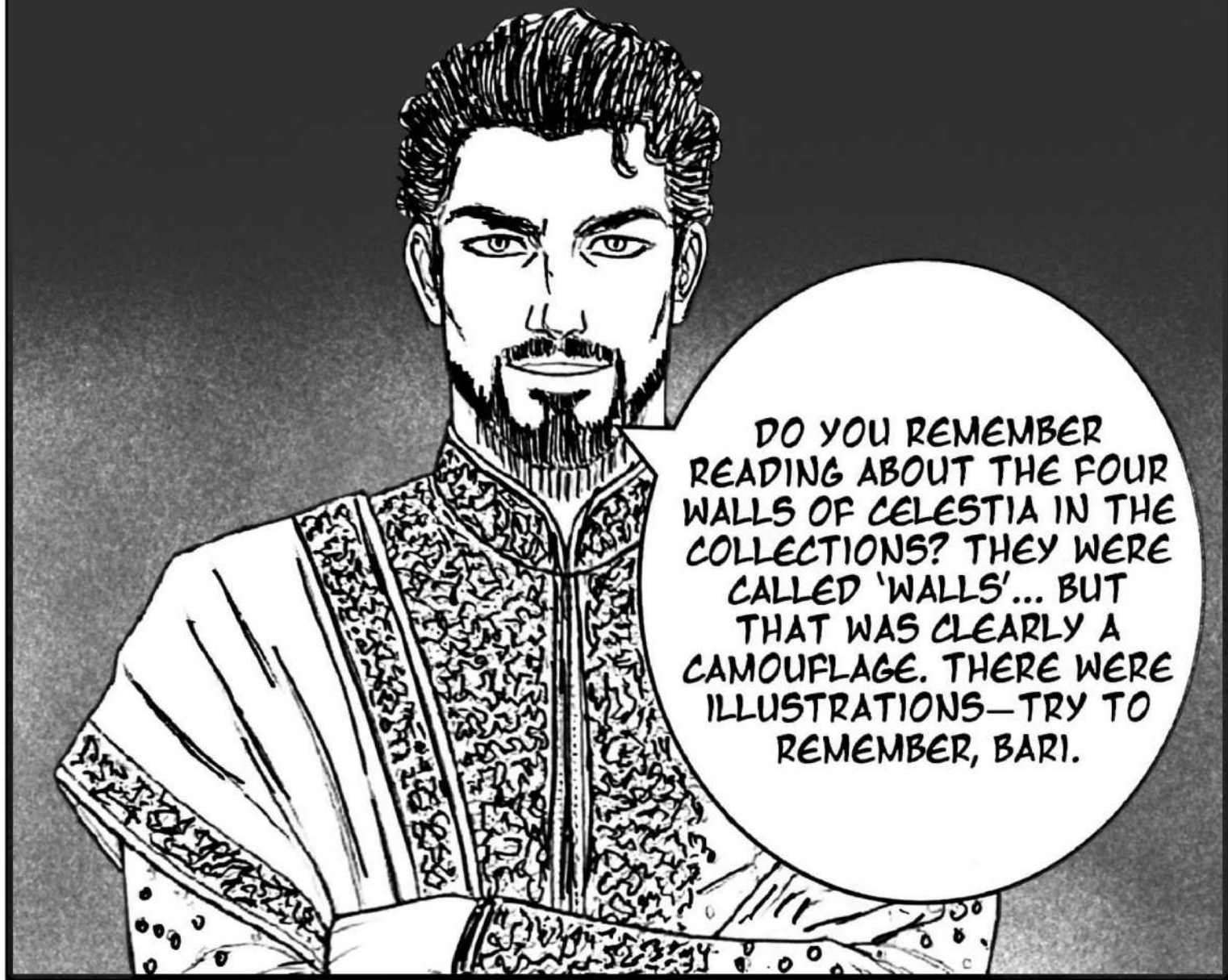


COMMANDER...
HAVE YOU READ
THE REGRETS OF
OTIS FROM THE
COLLECTIONS? I
ASSUME YOU
REMEMBER IT..



I READ IT IN MY SIXTH YEAR, FOUR
YEARS AGO. YOU CAN'T EXPECT ME
TO REMEMBER EVERY DETAIL. AND
BESIDES... WE WERE NEVER
ALLOWED TO TAKE IT OUT. ONE
READING—THAT WAS ALL WE GOT.

HMMM..



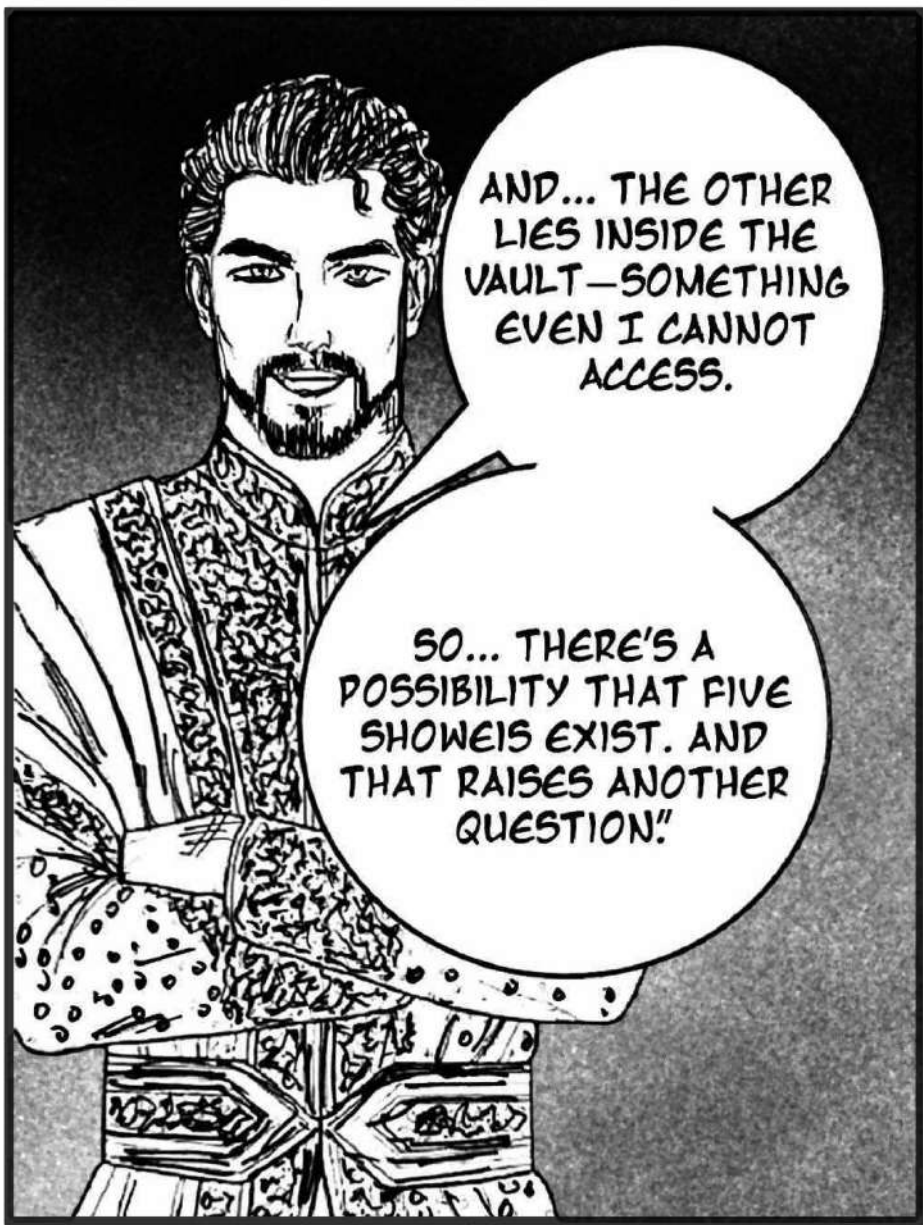
DO YOU REMEMBER
READING ABOUT THE FOUR
WALLS OF CELESTIA IN THE
COLLECTIONS? THEY WERE
CALLED 'WALLS'... BUT
THAT WAS CLEARLY A
CAMOUFLAGE. THERE WERE
ILLUSTRATIONS—TRY TO
REMEMBER, BARI.



IS HE
TALKING
ABOUT
THE
SHOWEIS?.

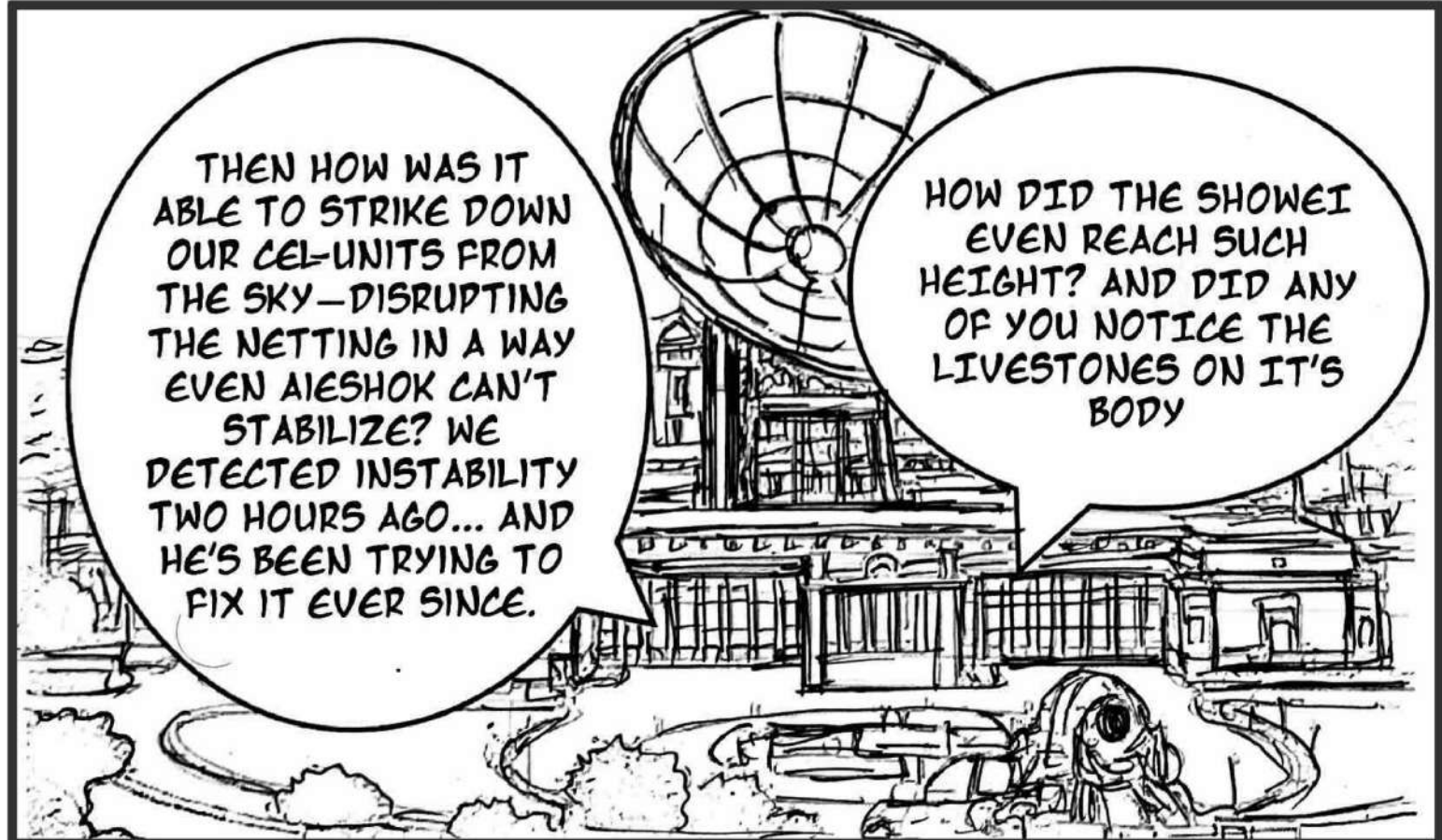


BUT THREE
OF THEM
WERE
DESTROYED
IN THE...



AND... THE OTHER
LIES INSIDE THE
VAULT—SOMETHING
EVEN I CANNOT
ACCESS.

SO... THERE'S A
POSSIBILITY THAT FIVE
SHOWEIS EXIST. AND
THAT RAISES ANOTHER
QUESTION!"

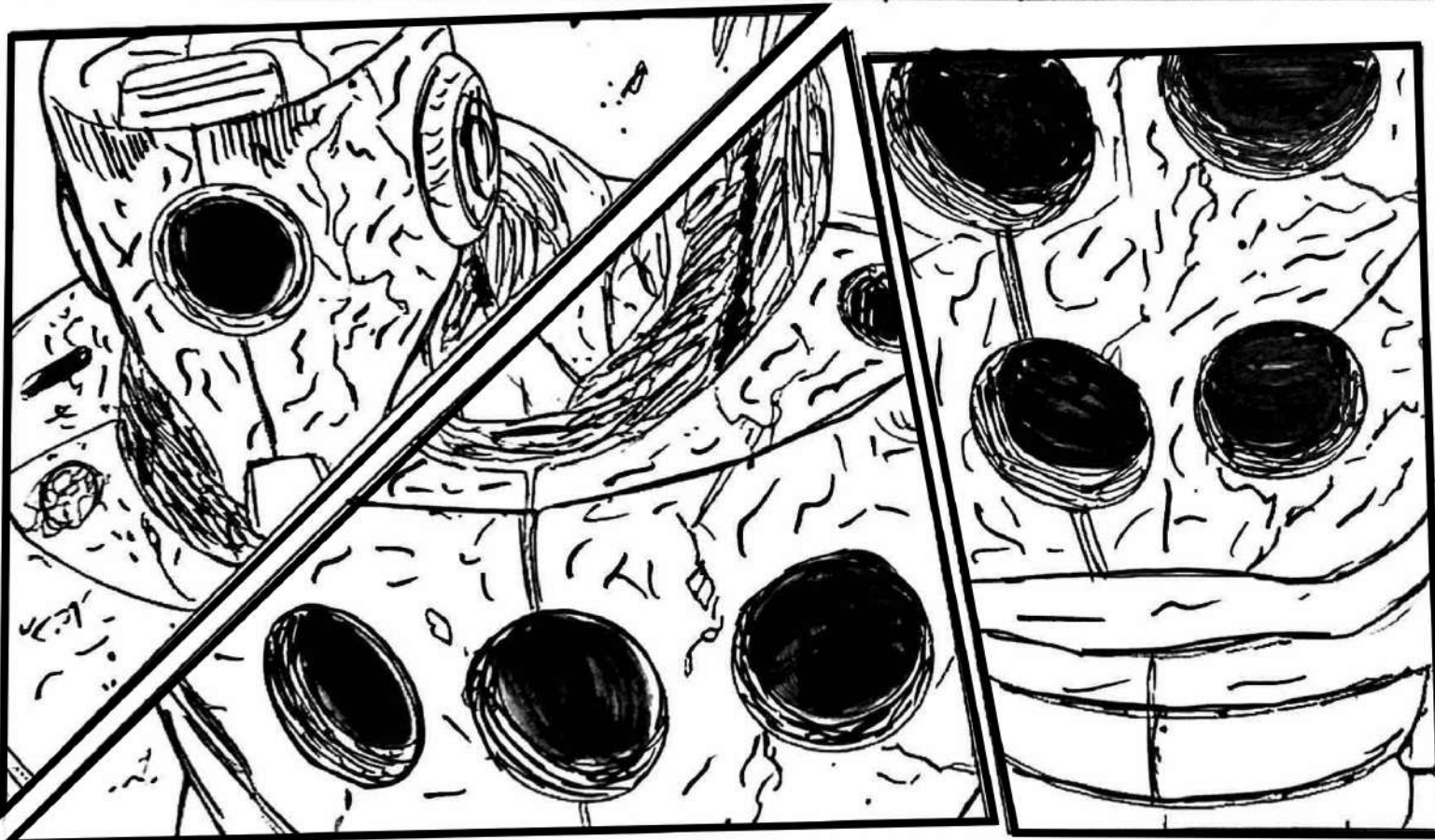


THEN HOW WAS IT
ABLE TO STRIKE DOWN
OUR CEL-UNITS FROM
THE SKY—DISRUPTING
THE NETTING IN A WAY
EVEN AIESHOK CAN'T
STABILIZE? WE
DETECTED INSTABILITY
TWO HOURS AGO... AND
HE'S BEEN TRYING TO
FIX IT EVER SINCE.

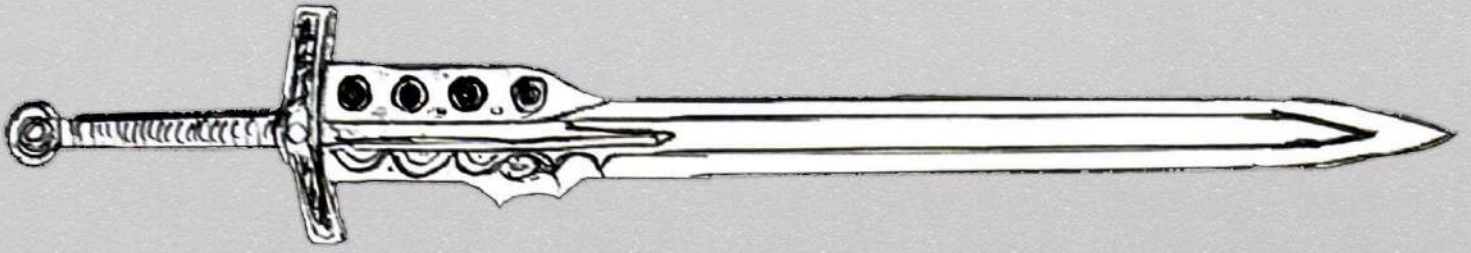
HOW DID THE SHOWEI
EVEN REACH SUCH
HEIGHT? AND DID ANY
OF YOU NOTICE THE
LIVESTONES ON IT'S
BODY

A black and white manga-style illustration of a woman's face. She has long, dark hair and wide, staring eyes. Her mouth is slightly open, and a single drop of sweat is visible on her forehead. The drawing uses heavy black ink for shading and outlines.

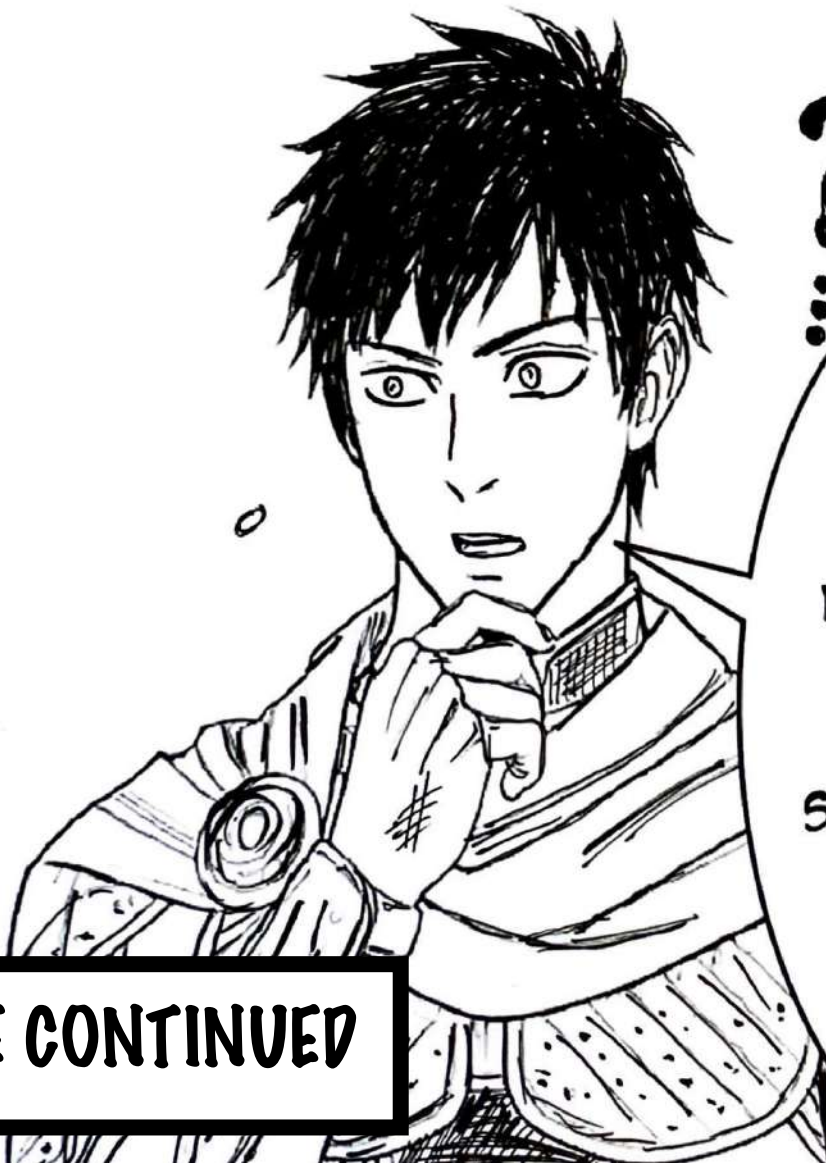
SO THAT MEANS... THOSE
HOLLOW SPACES ON ITS
BODY...

A black and white manga-style illustration of the same woman's face. Her expression is now more focused and determined. Her eyes are still wide, but the shock has subsided. The drawing style is consistent with the first panel.

THEY'RE ALL PORTS
FOR THE LIVESTONES.



THE SAME LIVESTONE THAT'S
IN OUR SWORDS- THE ONE
THAT TRIGGERS TRIANGLE CON
AND RELEASES BROM ENERGY



THE SHOWEIS
USED TO
PROTECT US...
WHY WOULD ONE
ATTACK NOW?
AND EVEN IF IT
DID, WE COULD
STOP IT-AS LONG
AS IT DOESN'T
HAVE THE
LIVESTONES.

TO BE CONTINUED