



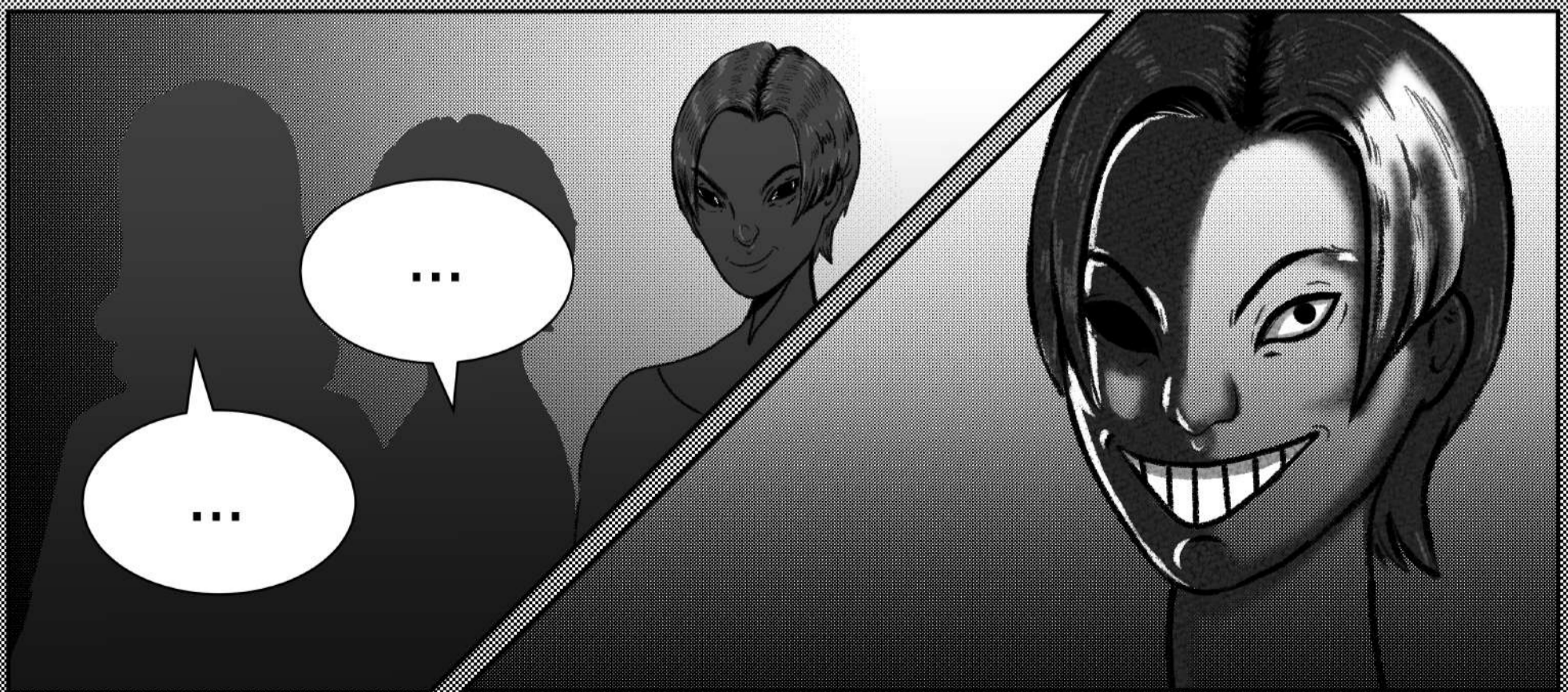
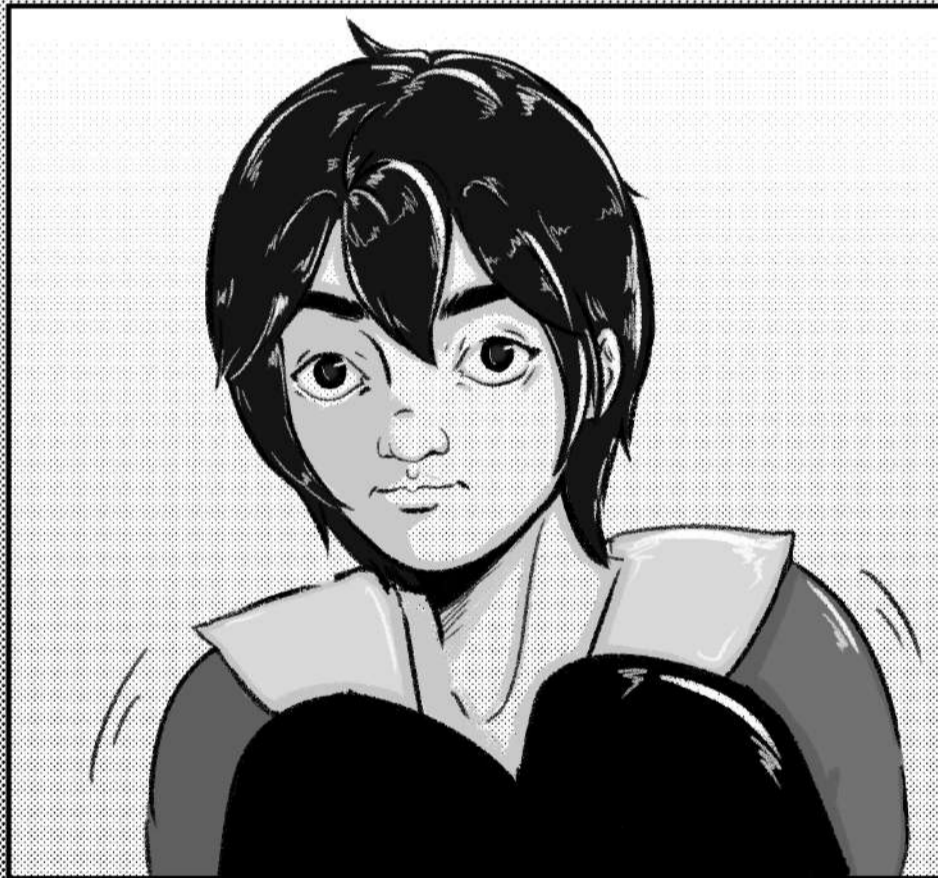
LYUDMILA ASRYAN

# MALEFICARUM



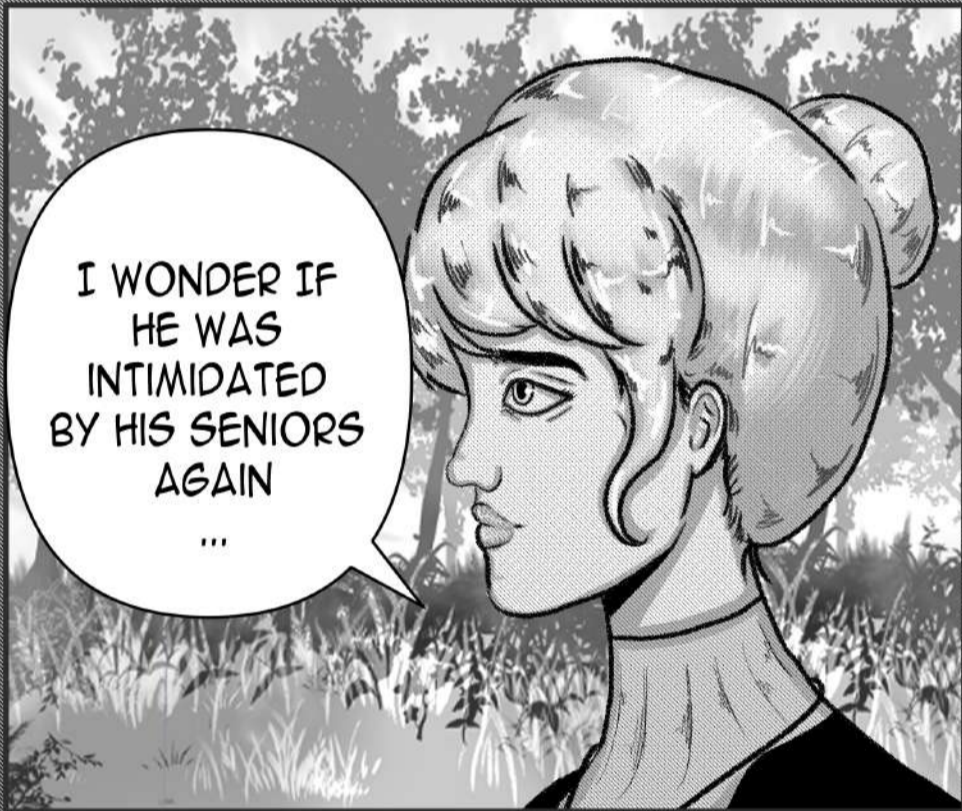
# GELDERLAND, CHURCH ORPHANAGE



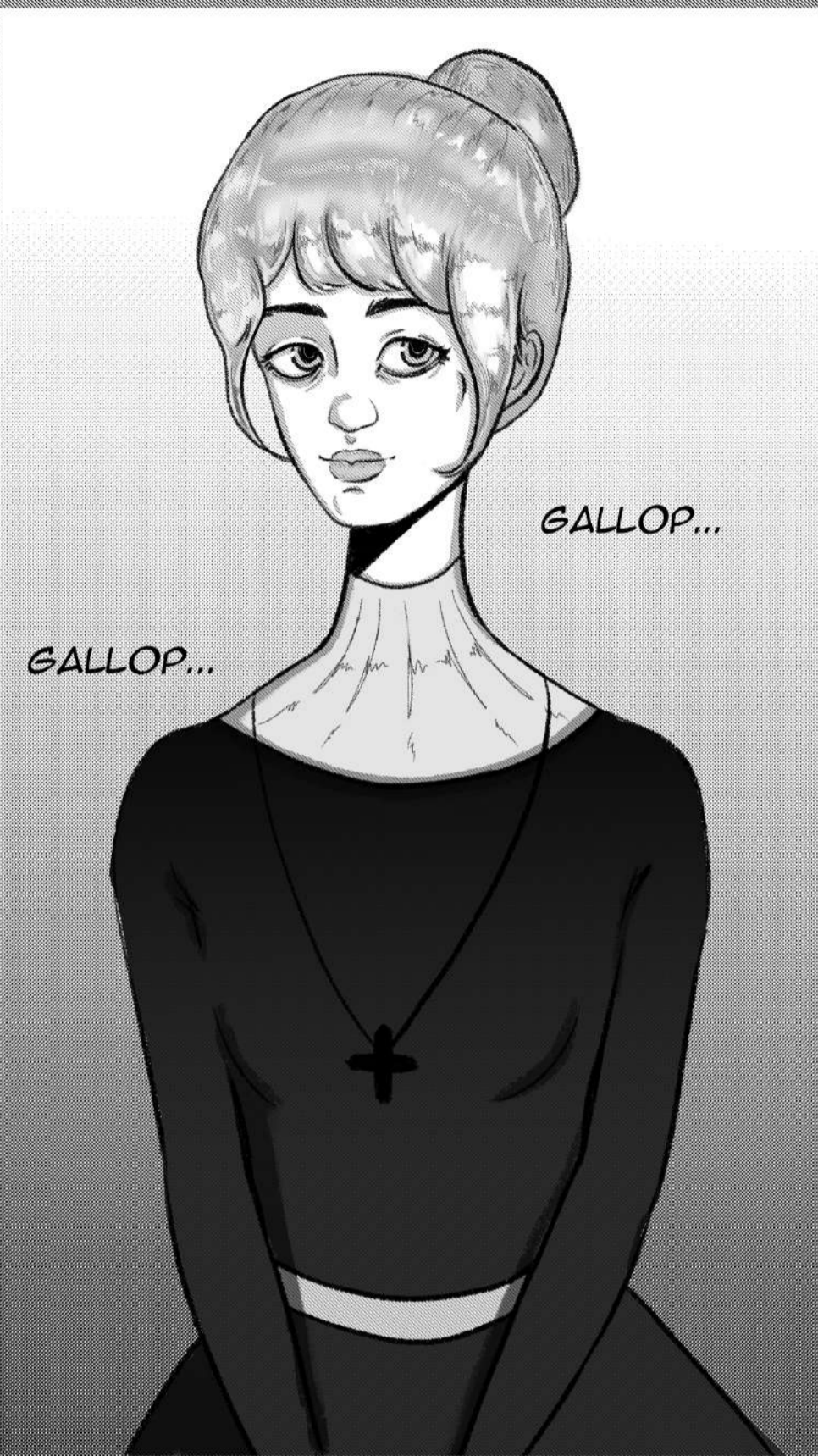




DO NOT  
RUN AWAY PLEASE...  
I WISH TO TALK!



I WONDER IF  
HE WAS  
INTIMIDATED  
BY HIS SENIORS  
AGAIN  
...



GALLOP...

GALLOP...



WHOA...

WHOA...



GOOD AFTERNOON, MISS LILLIAN!

GOOD AFTERNOON, MR PHILIP!

I AM GLAD WE COULD MEET THIS TIME.



I AM AFRAID NO, MISS. AS YOU MAY KNOW, THE CHURCH KEEPS ME OCCUPIED THESE DAYS.

ARE YOU HERE FOR LONG SIR?

OH... OF COURSE. MAYBE THE NEXT TIME THEN?...



HAPPY TO HEAR YOU ENJOYED THE RIDE, LADY ELIZABETH.

DESPITE ALL OF YOUR EFFORT, PHILIP, HORSE CARIAGGES WERE NOT INVENTED FOR THESE ROADS ...

UGH... I HAVE ARRIVED FINALLY.



I BELIEVE YOU HAVE EVERYTHING READY.

LADY ELIZABETH! WE WERE EXPECTING YOU. WELCOME TO OUR MANSION.



NEXT TIME

THEN...



PANTS...

PANTS...



WHY DOES THIS ALWAYS HAPPEN TO ME?



AAARGH!

?



EXCUSE ME, I HAVE HEARD A LOUD SOUND. WAS IT YOU?



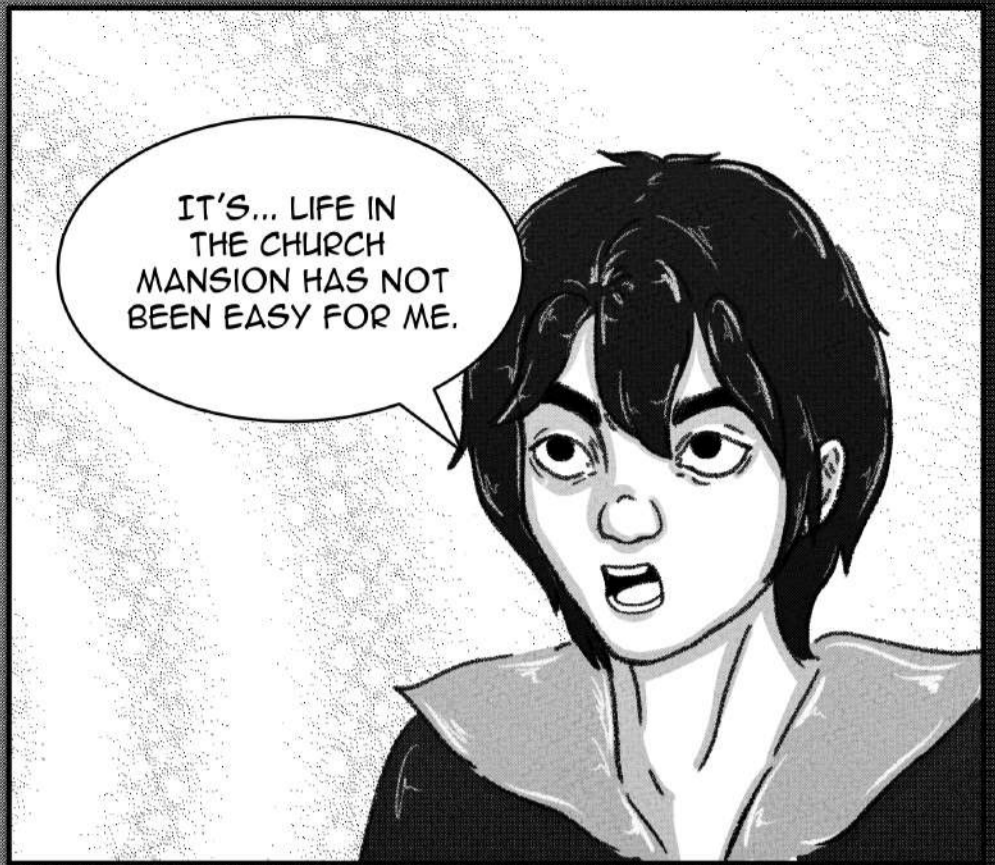
YES, YOUNG MAN... I SLIGHTLY INJURED MY HAND...



YOU ARE BLEEDING ... MAY I HELP YOU?



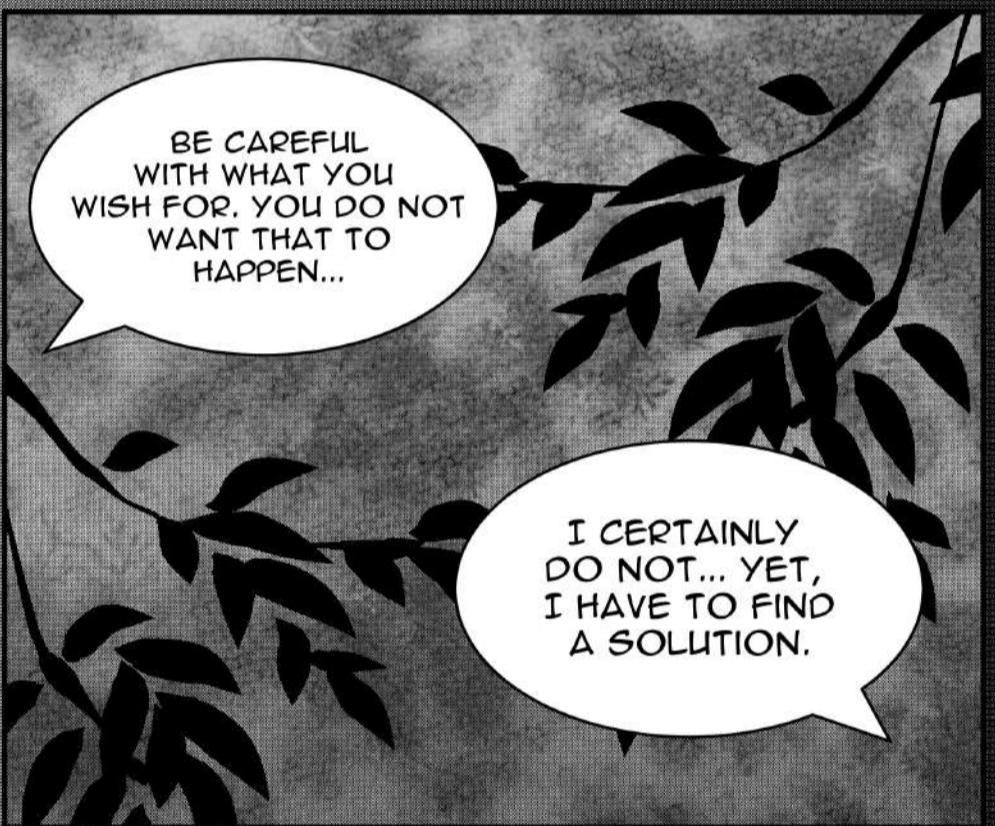
I AM FINE NOW  
...  
IS SOMETHING  
BOTHERING YOU  
YOUNG MAN?



IT'S... LIFE IN  
THE CHURCH  
MANSION HAS NOT  
BEEN EASY FOR ME.



I HATE THE  
MANSION  
AND FOLKS IN THERE,  
ESPECIALLY  
THE SENIORS.  
..  
HOW CAN THEY TREAT  
ME THIS WAY?  
I WISH ALL THIS  
PLACE  
BURNT TO ASHES!



BE CAREFUL  
WITH WHAT YOU  
WISH FOR. YOU DO NOT  
WANT THAT TO  
HAPPEN...

I CERTAINLY  
DO NOT... YET,  
I HAVE TO FIND  
A SOLUTION.



EVEN SO...  
I AM ALWAYS  
READY TO HELP YOU.  
IF YOU MAKE UP YOUR MIND  
ABOUT RUNNING AWAY  
COME TO THE HILL  
OVER THERE AT  
MIDNIGHT.

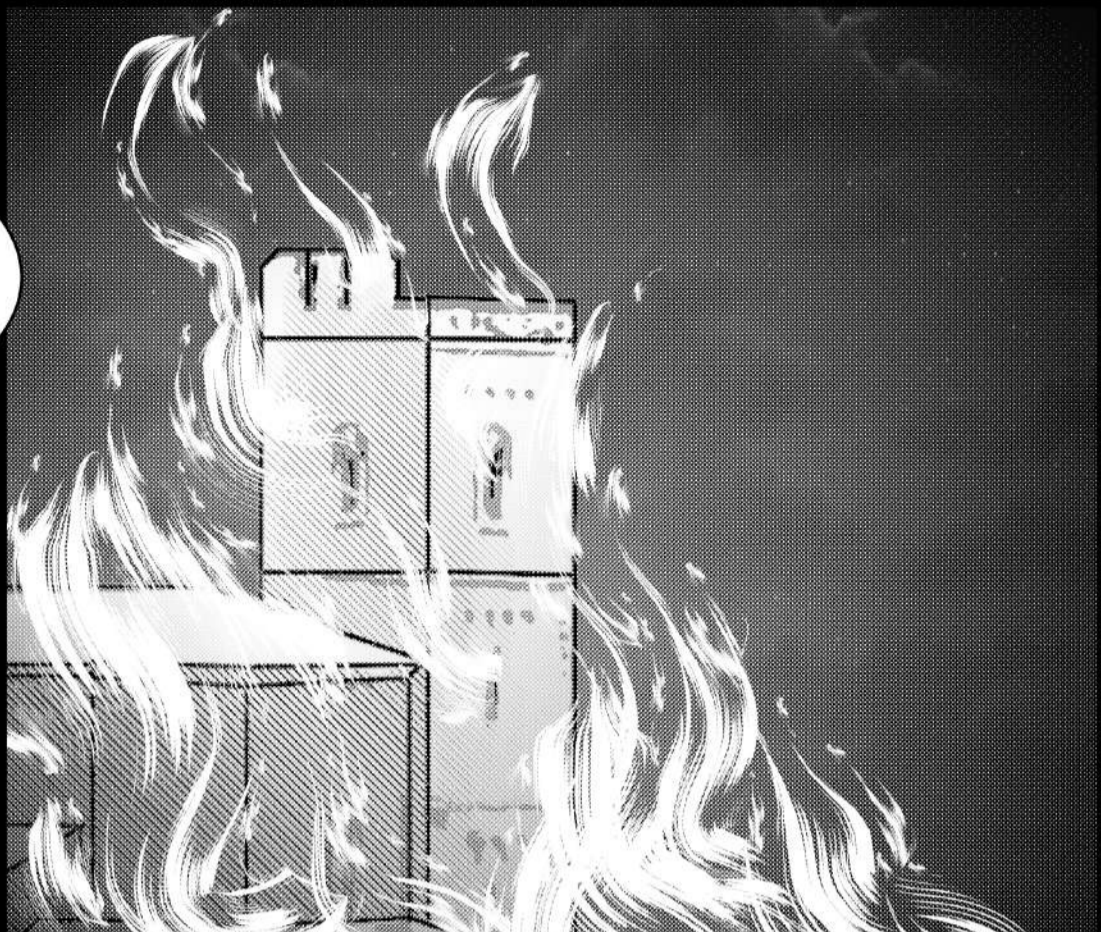






LUCAS?

WHERE DID HE LEAVE?

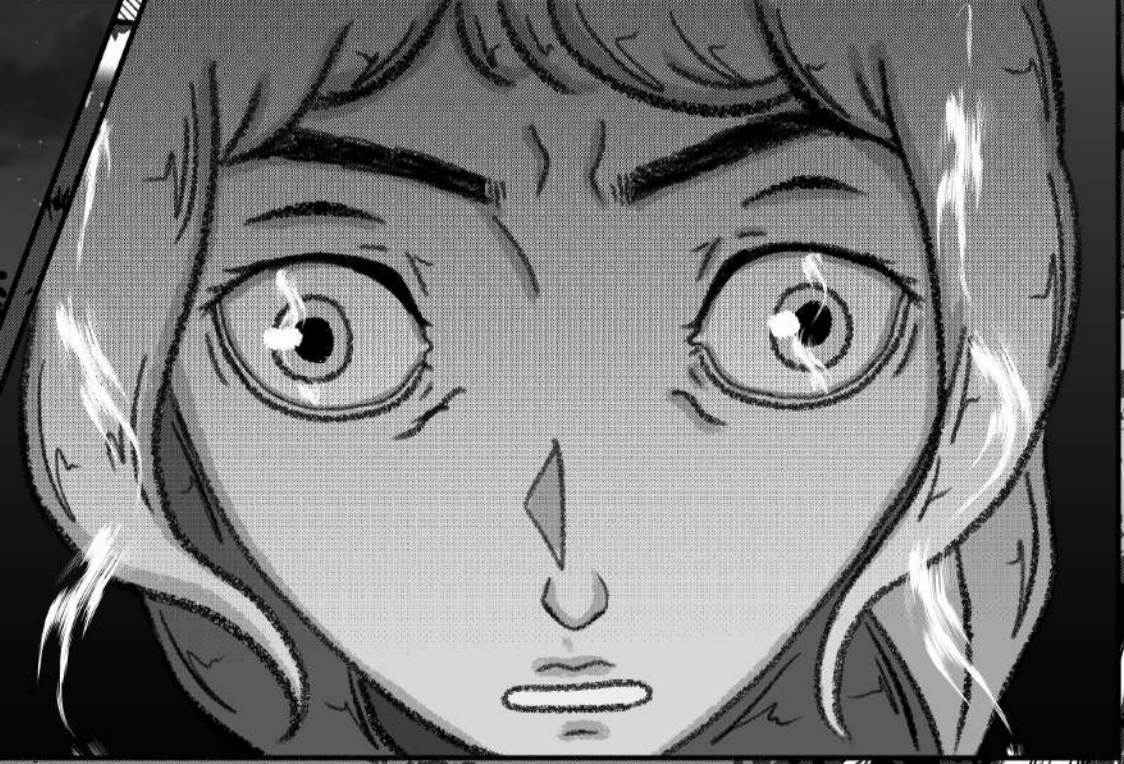


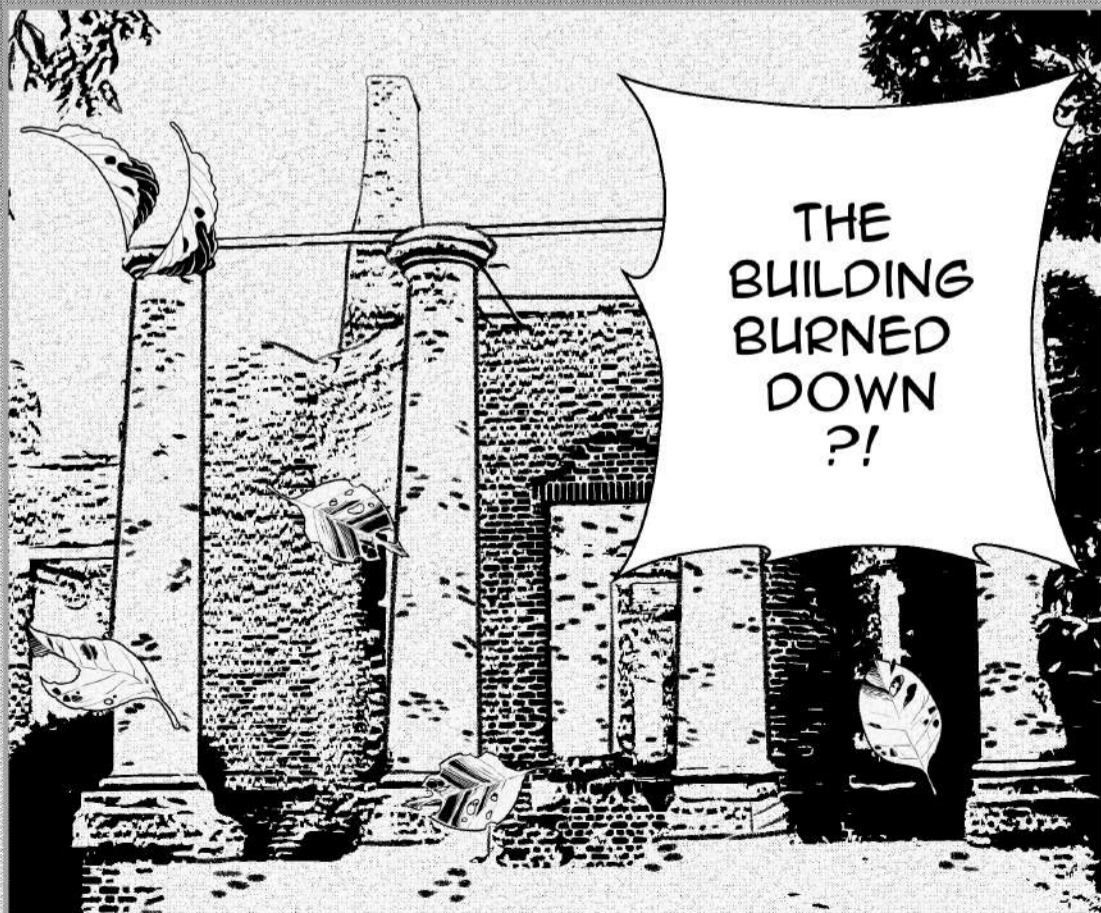
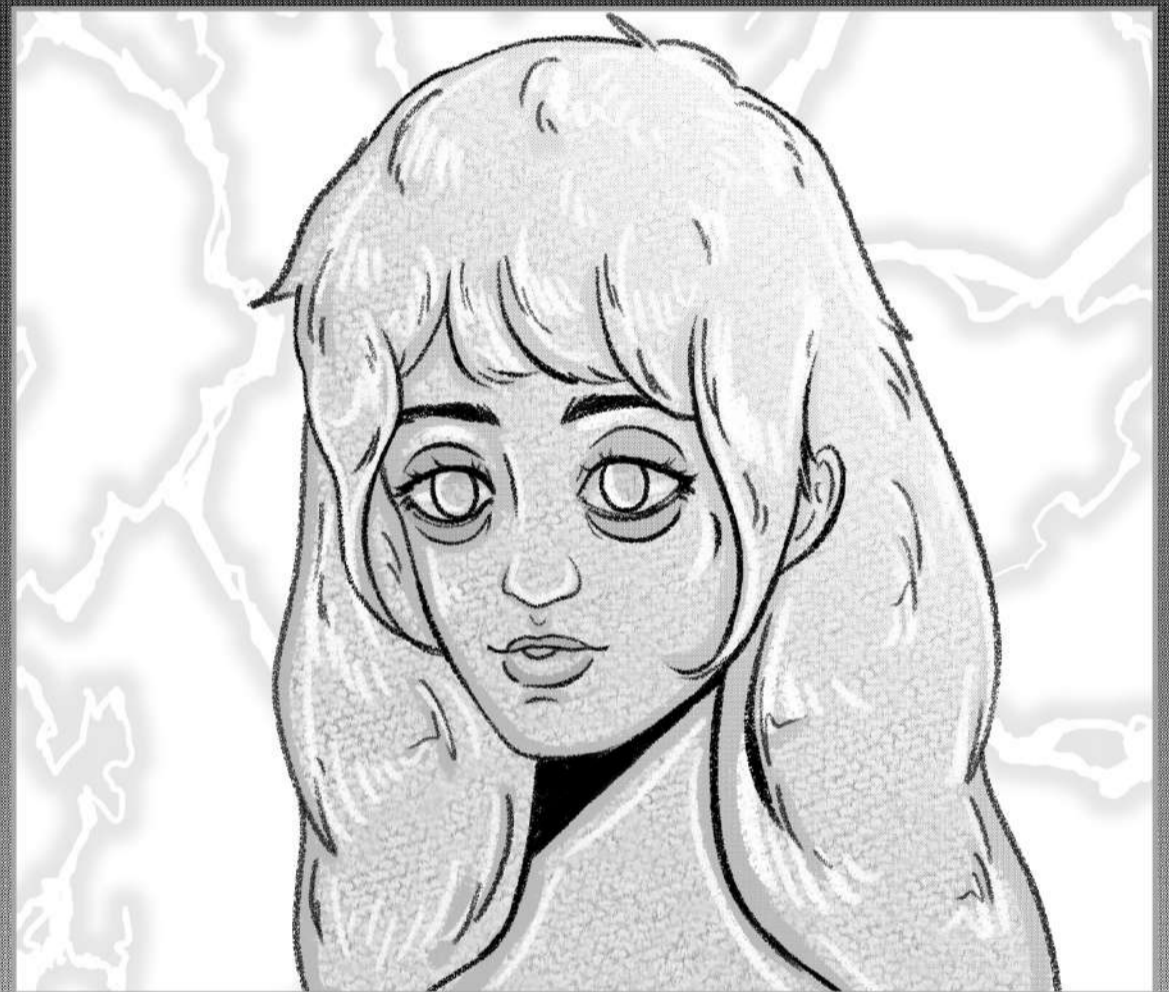
CRACKLE

CRACKLE



HM?...

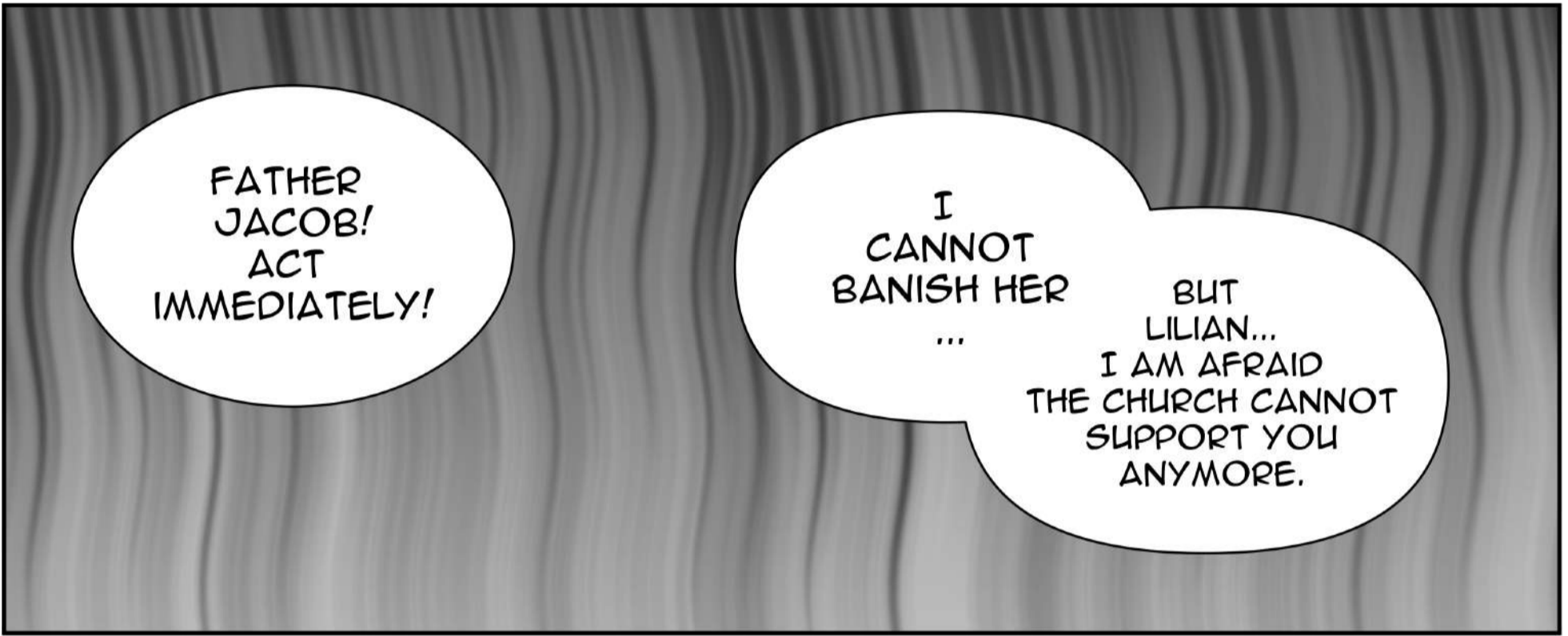
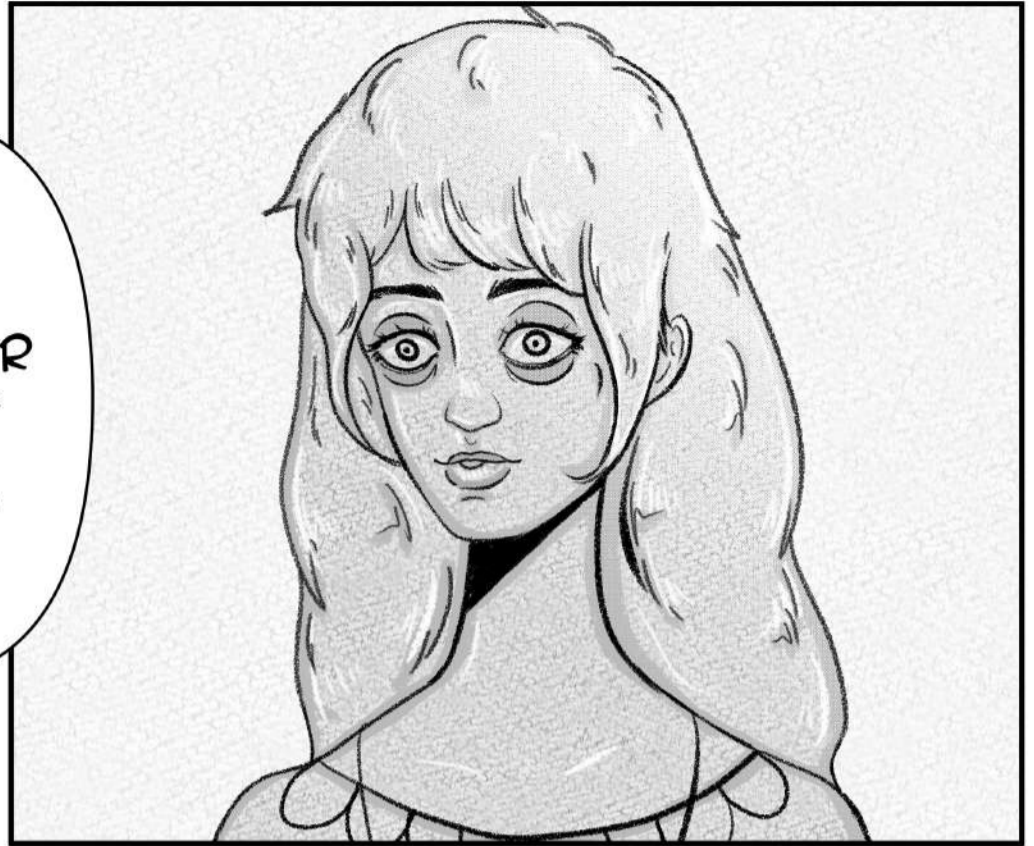






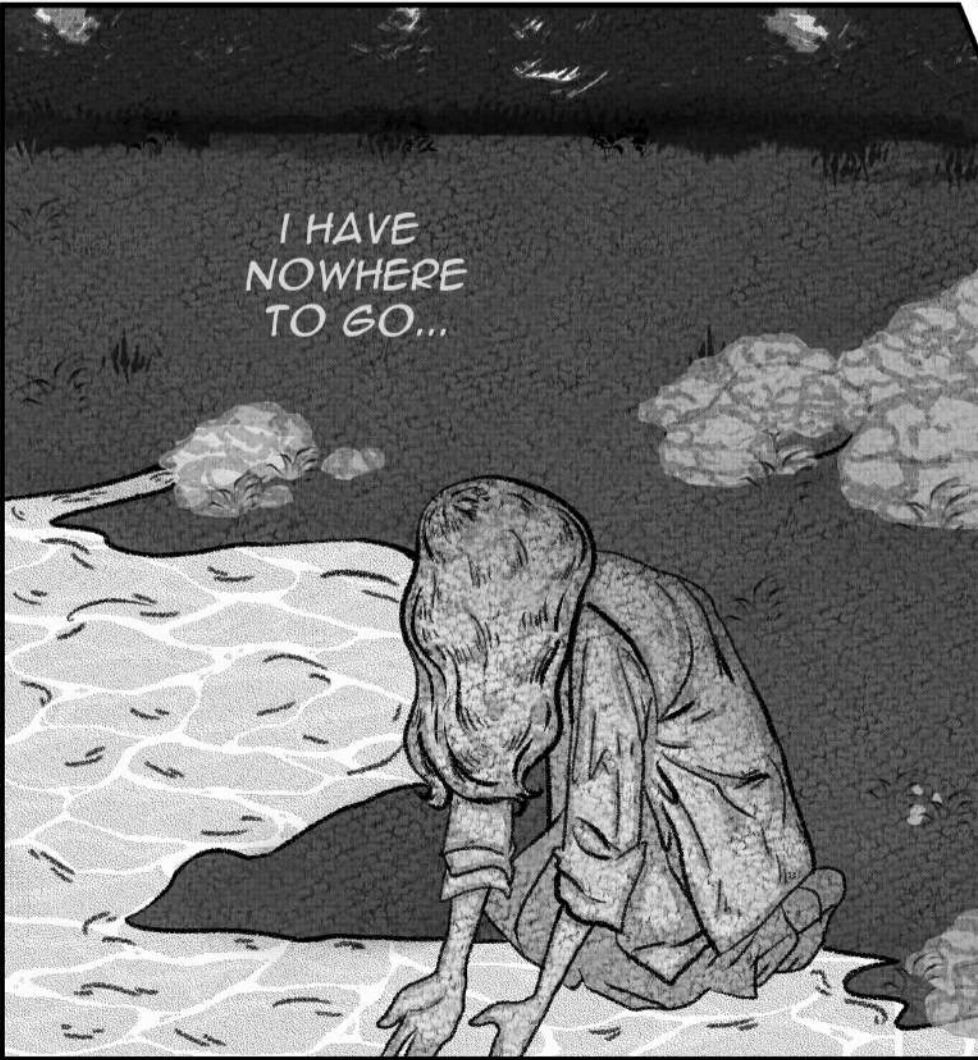


WE  
WANT HER  
OUT OF  
THE  
TOWN!

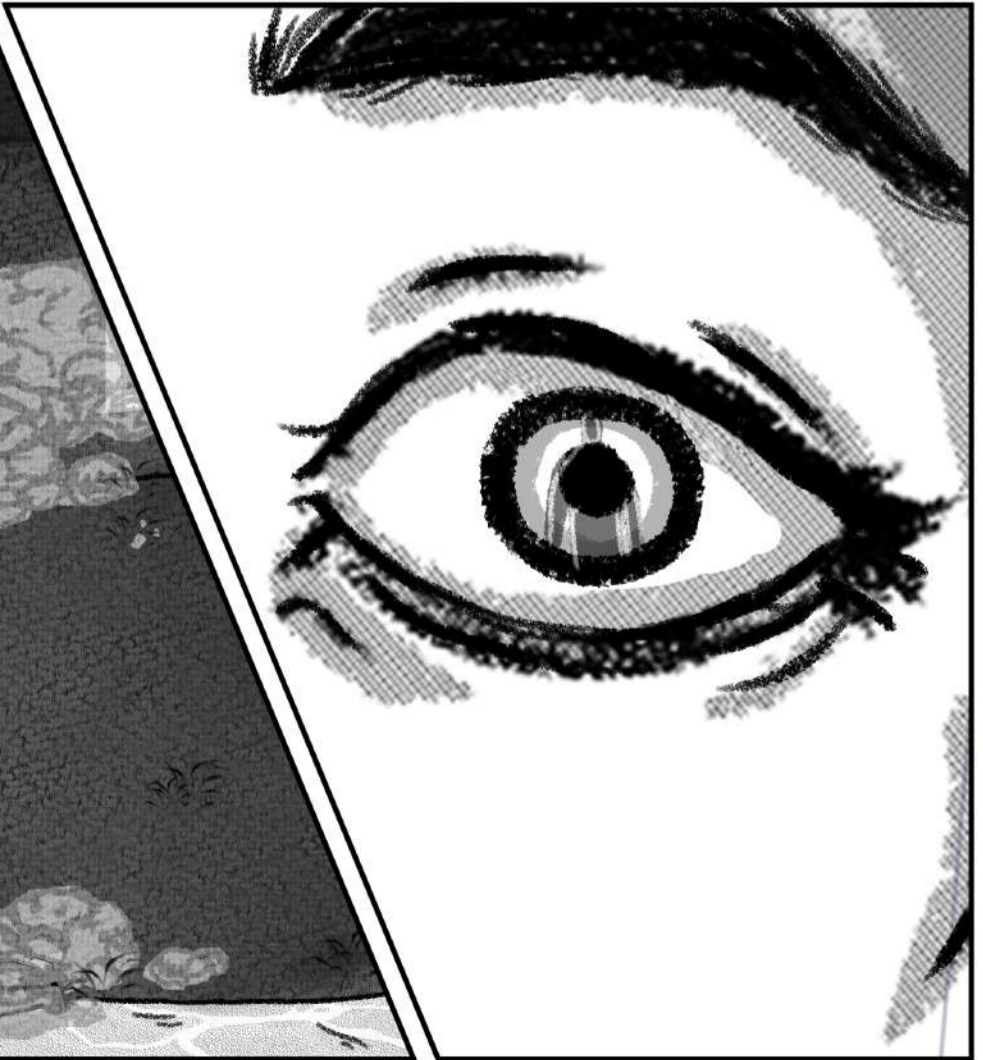


FATHER  
JACOB!  
ACT  
IMMEDIATELY!

I  
CANNOT  
BANISH HER  
...  
BUT  
LILIAN...  
I AM AFRAID  
THE CHURCH CANNOT  
SUPPORT YOU  
ANYMORE.

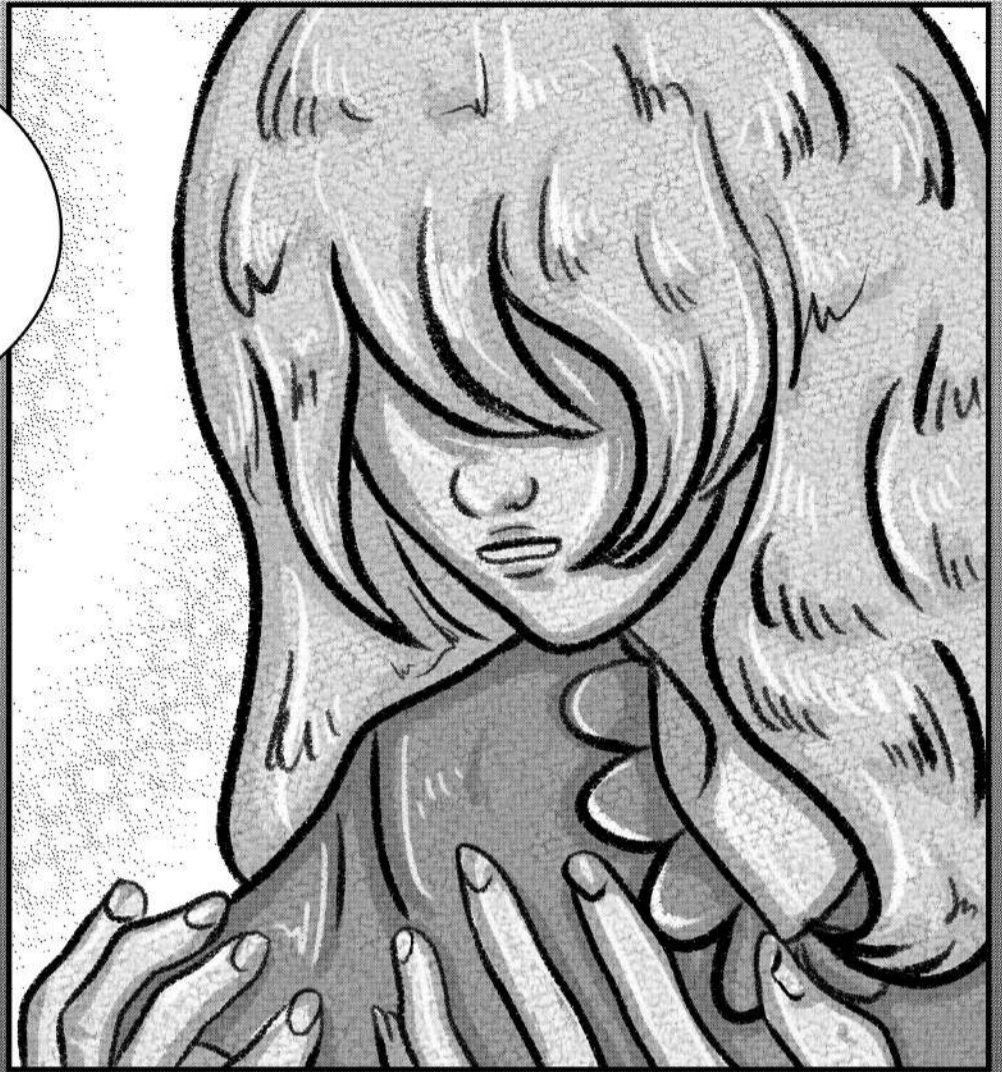


I HAVE  
NOWHERE  
TO GO...





LOOK WHO IS HERE!  
AREN'T YOU THAT BANISHED GIRL?



WHAT HAPPENED?  
CAN'T YOU TALK?

WE WILL MAKE HER TALK.



AGHHHH!!!



AGHHHH!!!



AAARGH!  
I CAN'T  
SEE!



HAA?



THIS WHORE!  
SHE MADE  
ME BLIND!



EVERYTHING IS  
IN A FOG...  
I CAN'T SEE!  
SHE DID THIS TO ME!

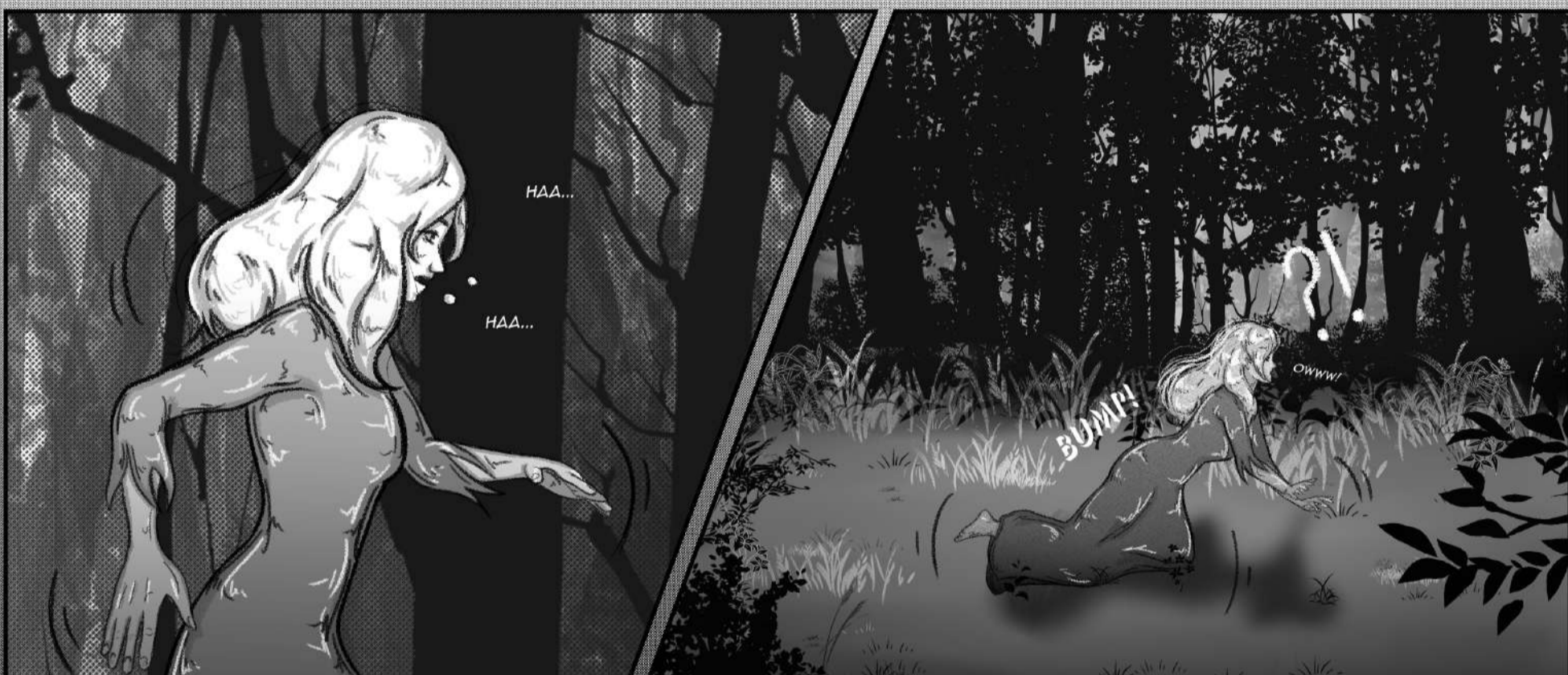
SHE IS A WITCH!  
THERE IS ONE  
IN THE WOODS!



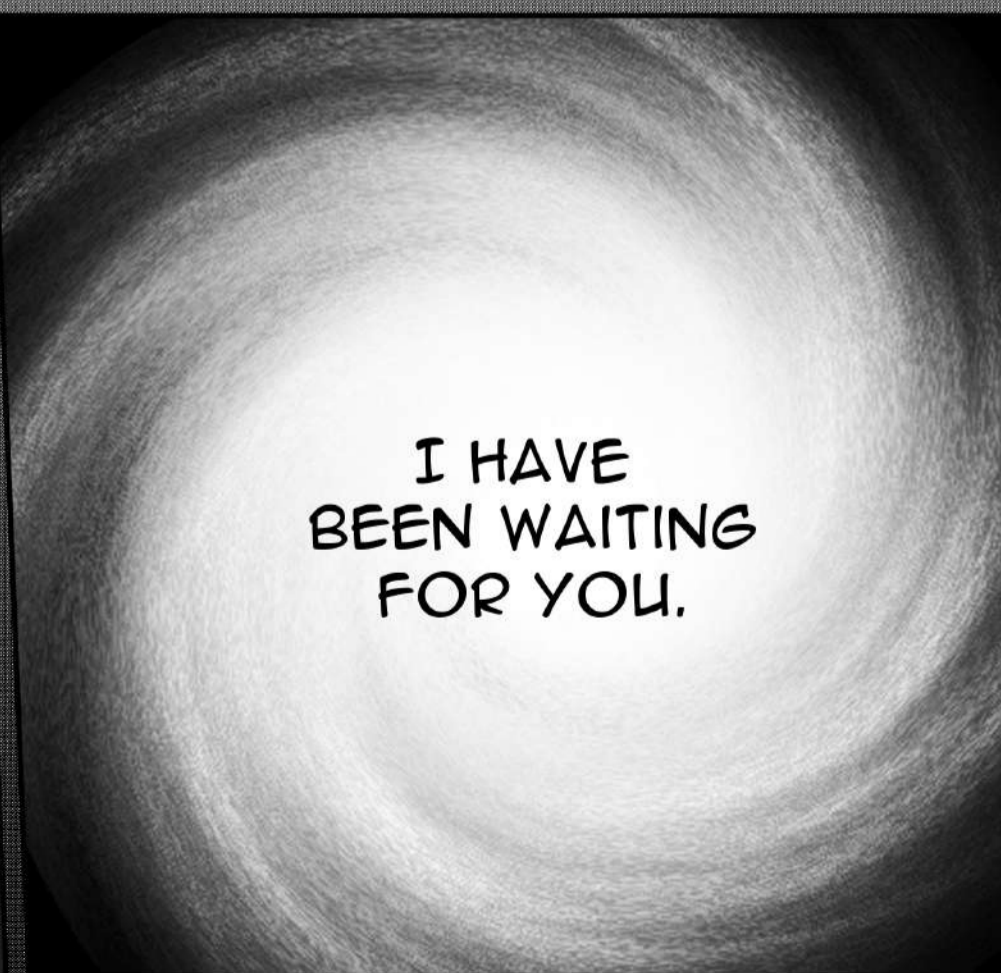
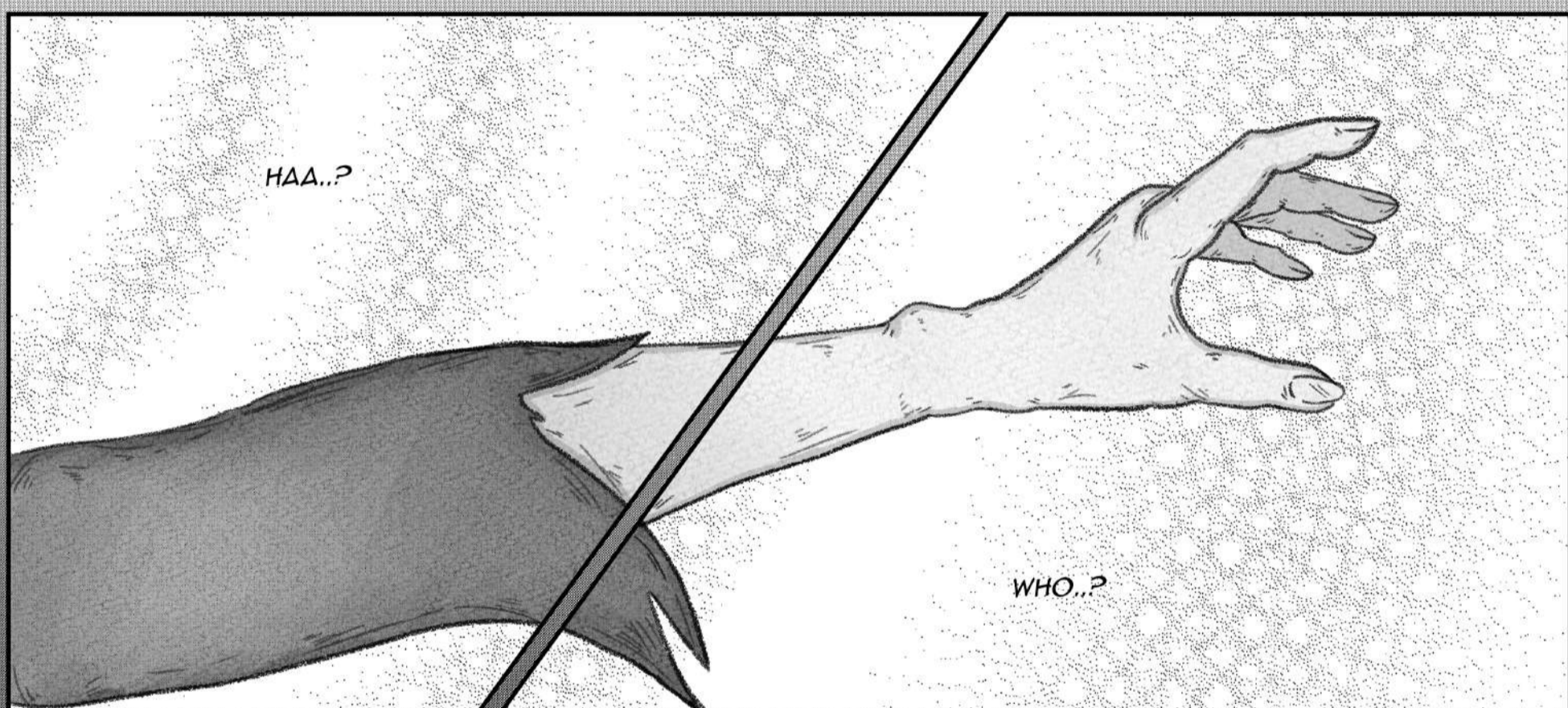
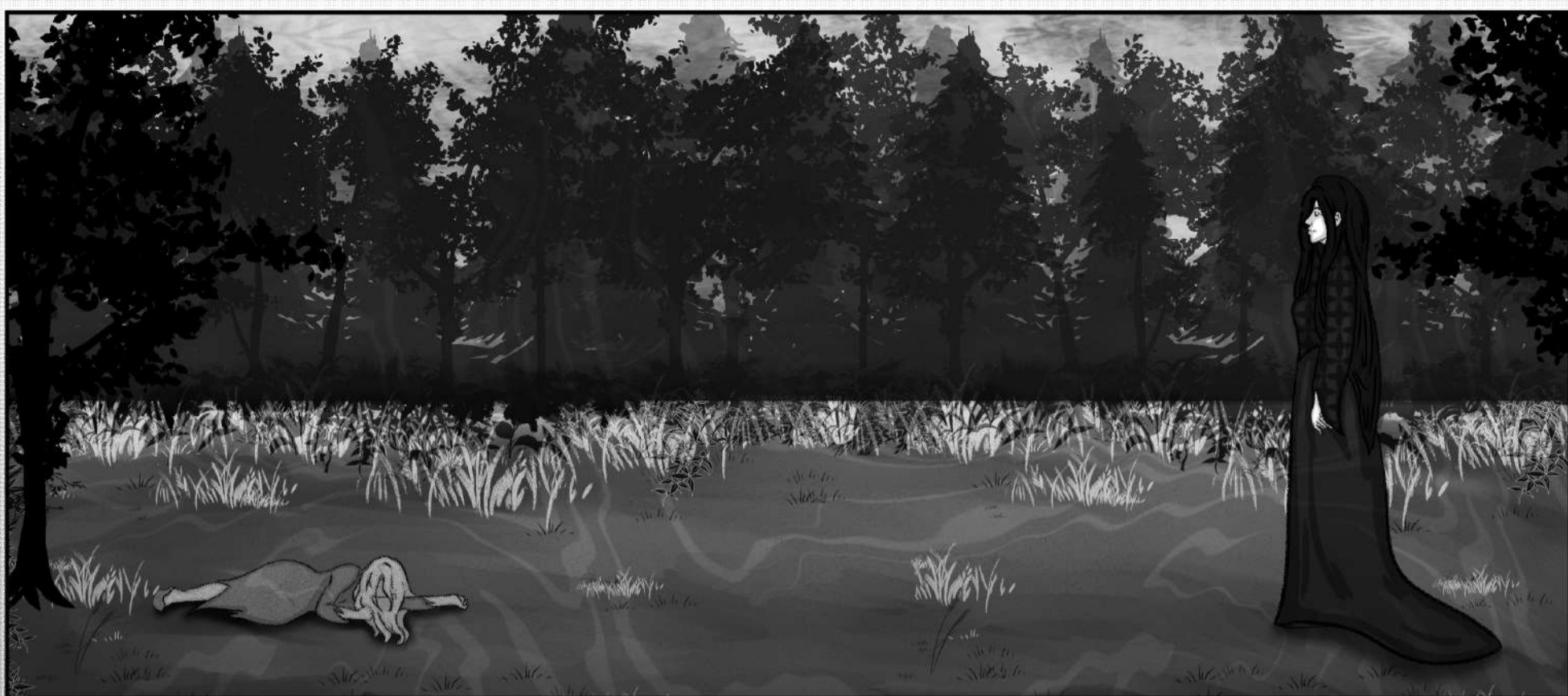
HAAH...  
HAAH...

THAT  
MUST BE  
WHAT HAPPENED  
TO THE MANSION!

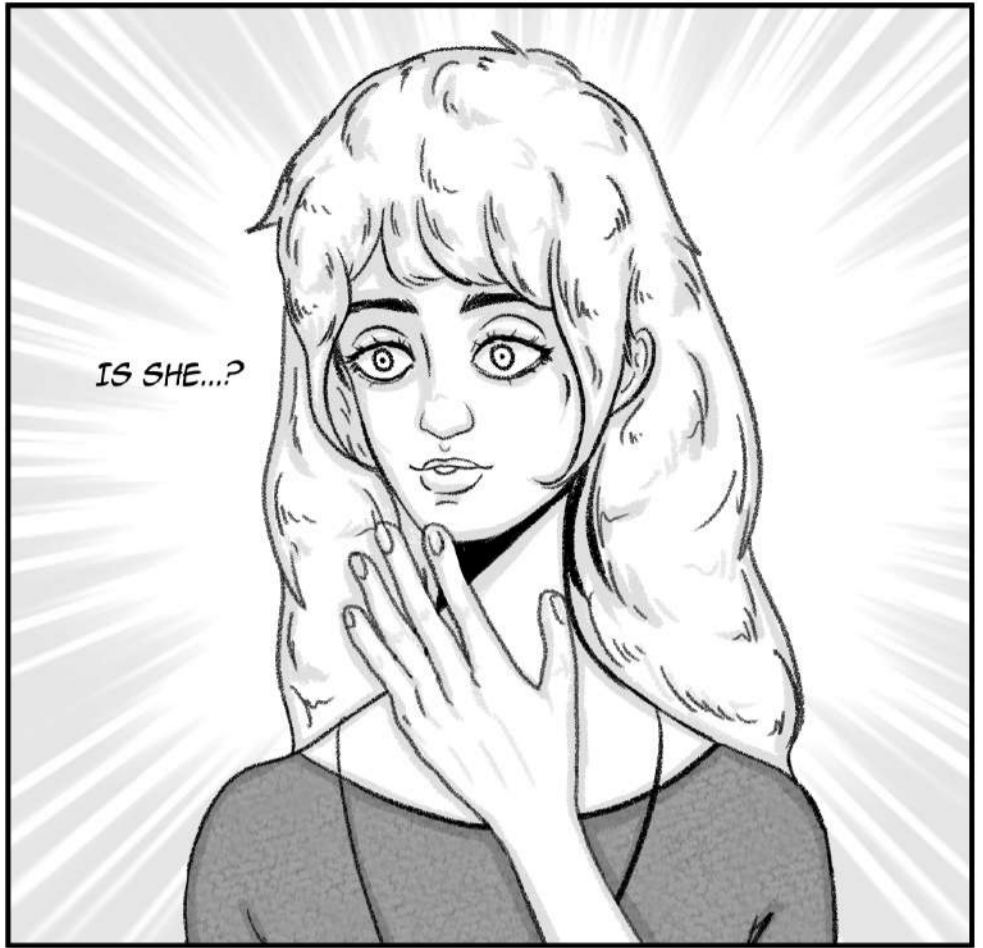
SHE BURNED  
THEM ALL!











SHE IS ABNORMALLY TALL!

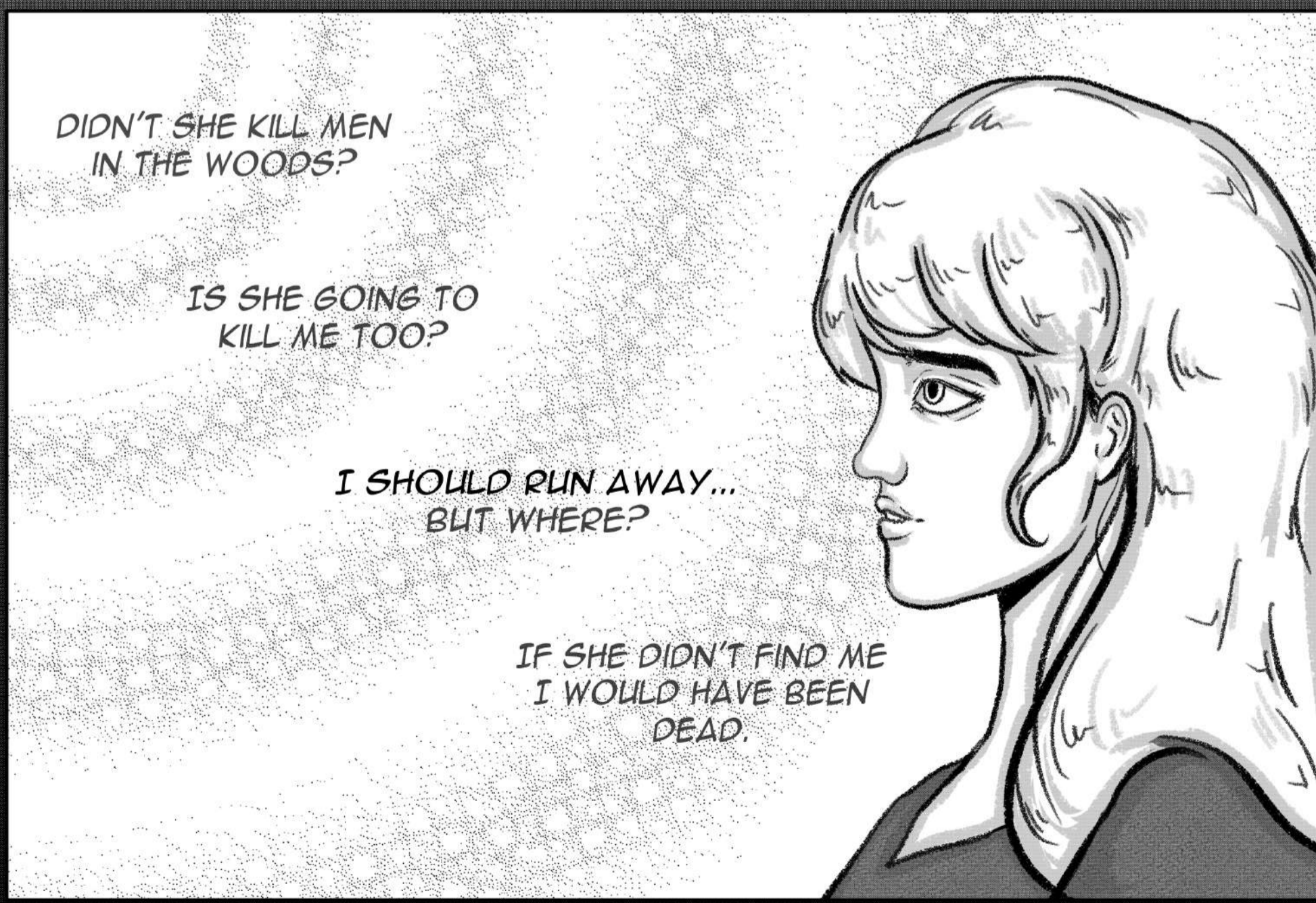


YOU SHALL LIVE  
HERE FOR  
A WHILE?

WHY  
AM I HERE?

WHERE  
IS MY CROSS?!

I MUST HAVE  
LOST IT  
IN THE WOODS!



DIDN'T SHE KILL MEN  
IN THE WOODS?

IS SHE GOING TO  
KILL ME TOO?

I SHOULD RUN AWAY...  
BUT WHERE?

IF SHE DIDN'T FIND ME  
I WOULD HAVE BEEN  
DEAD.



MY POTIONS,  
THEY HELP ME  
WITH MAGIC.

WHAT IS THIS ALL?

MAGIC?



WHY ME?  
I WILL NOT  
BE INVOLVED IN  
YOUR WICKED  
THINGS!

YOU HAVE  
NO OTHER  
CHOICE.

I WILL  
TEACH YOU  
EVERYTHING  
I KNOW.



WHY?  
AM I A WITCH  
TOO?

HOW BOLD  
OF YOU TO THINK  
THAT!

YOU ARE  
SIMPLY THE BANISHED  
GIRL I SAVED. NOW DO  
YOUR CHORES AND  
STOP INTERROGATING  
ME.



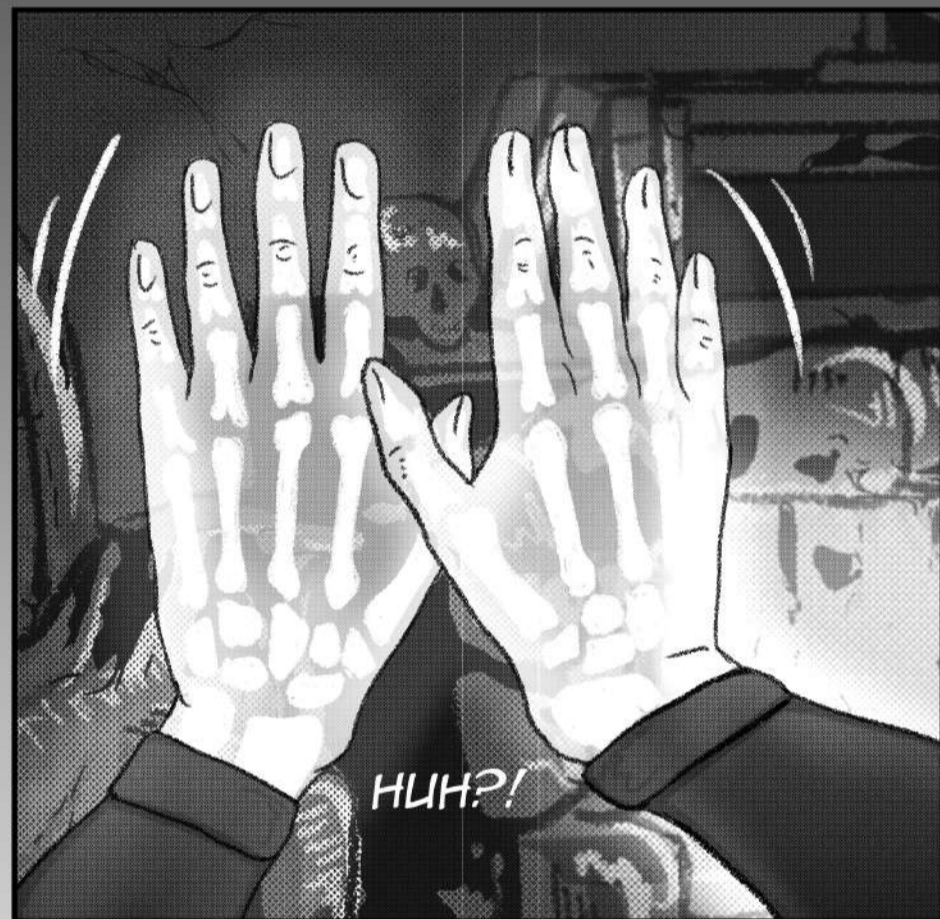
SHE KEEPS TEACHING ME  
THE WICKED MAGIC OF HERS.

IT'S BEEN WEEKS  
SINCE I AM HERE...

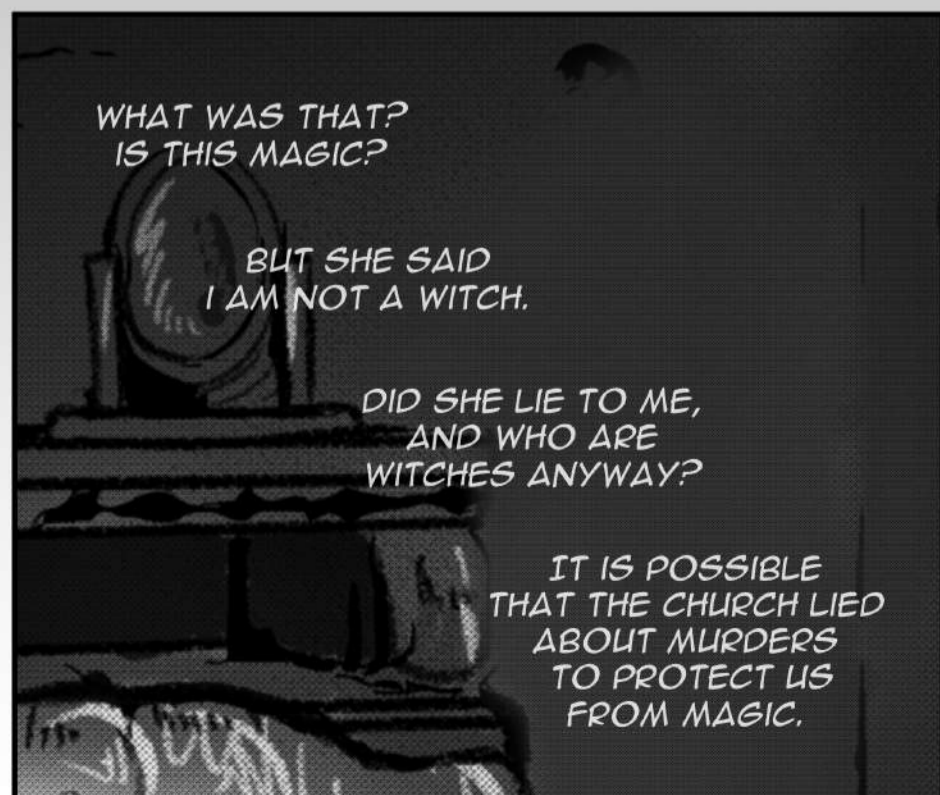


SHE SAID I CAN  
USE MY  
HANDS TOO.

BUT IT  
DOESNT WORK.



HUH?!

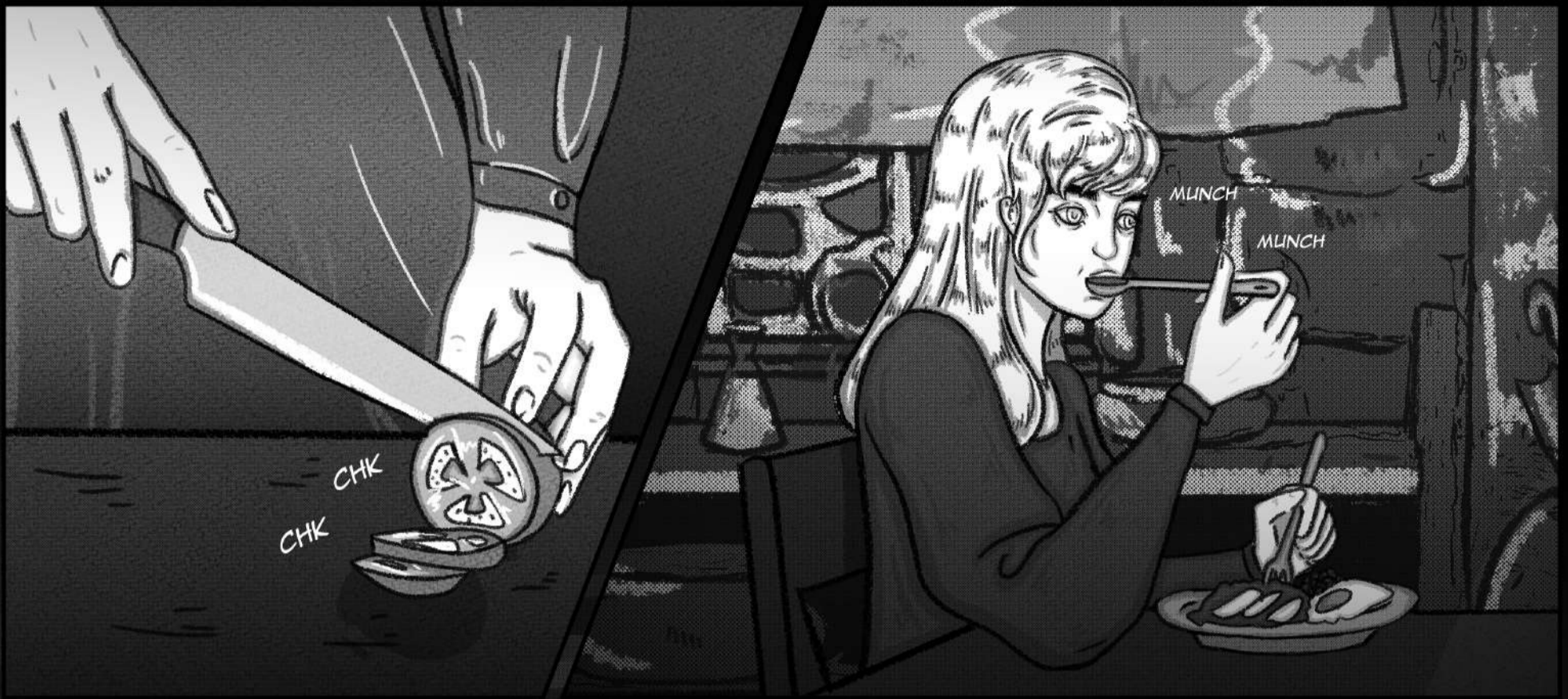


WHAT WAS THAT?  
IS THIS MAGIC?

BUT SHE SAID  
I AM NOT A WITCH.

DID SHE LIE TO ME,  
AND WHO ARE  
WITCHES ANYWAY?

IT IS POSSIBLE  
THAT THE CHURCH LIED  
ABOUT MURDERS  
TO PROTECT US  
FROM MAGIC.



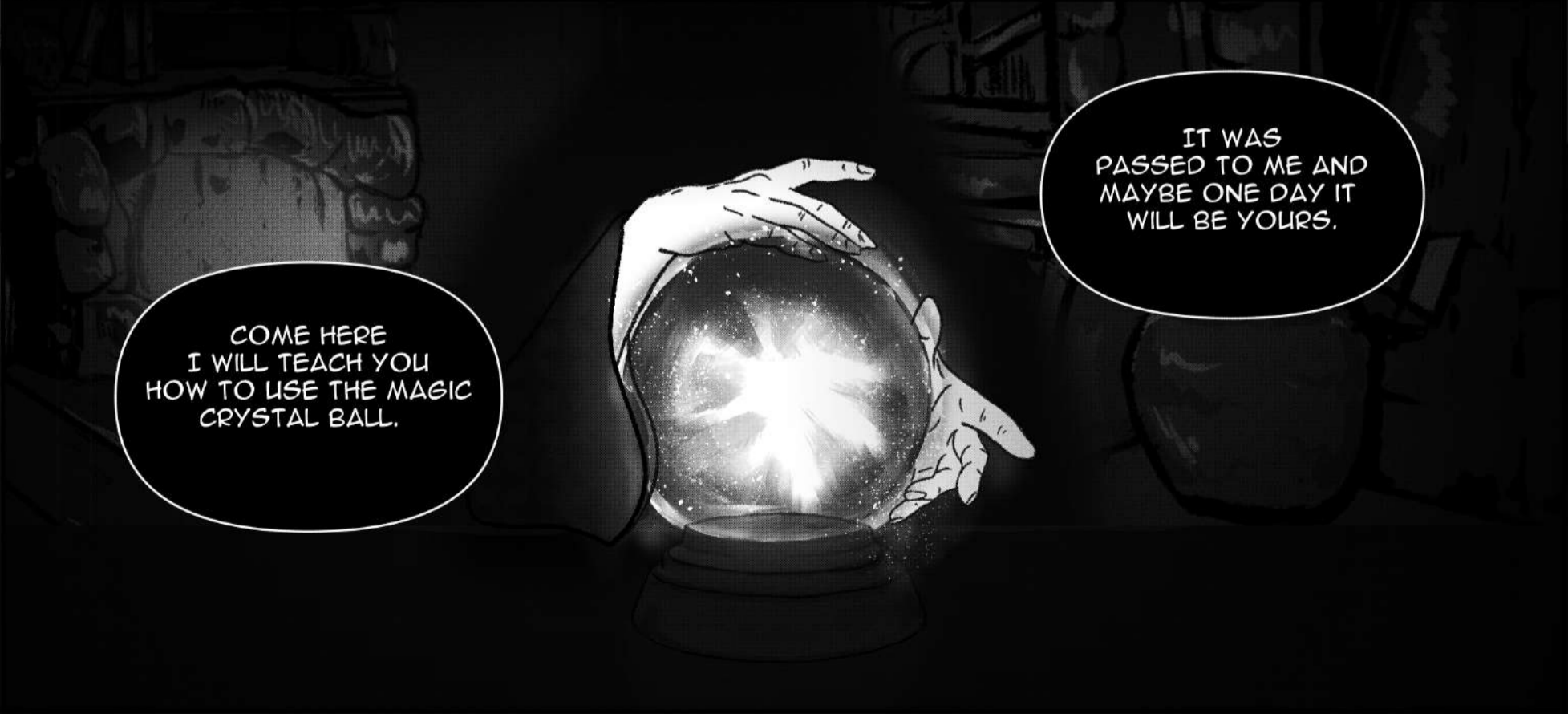
WHY WON'T YOU JOIN ME?

NOW WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT... I HAVEN'T SEEN HER EATING.

I WILL LEAVE SOON. I AM QUITE BUSY NOW. AND...



I DONT EAT THAT FOOD.



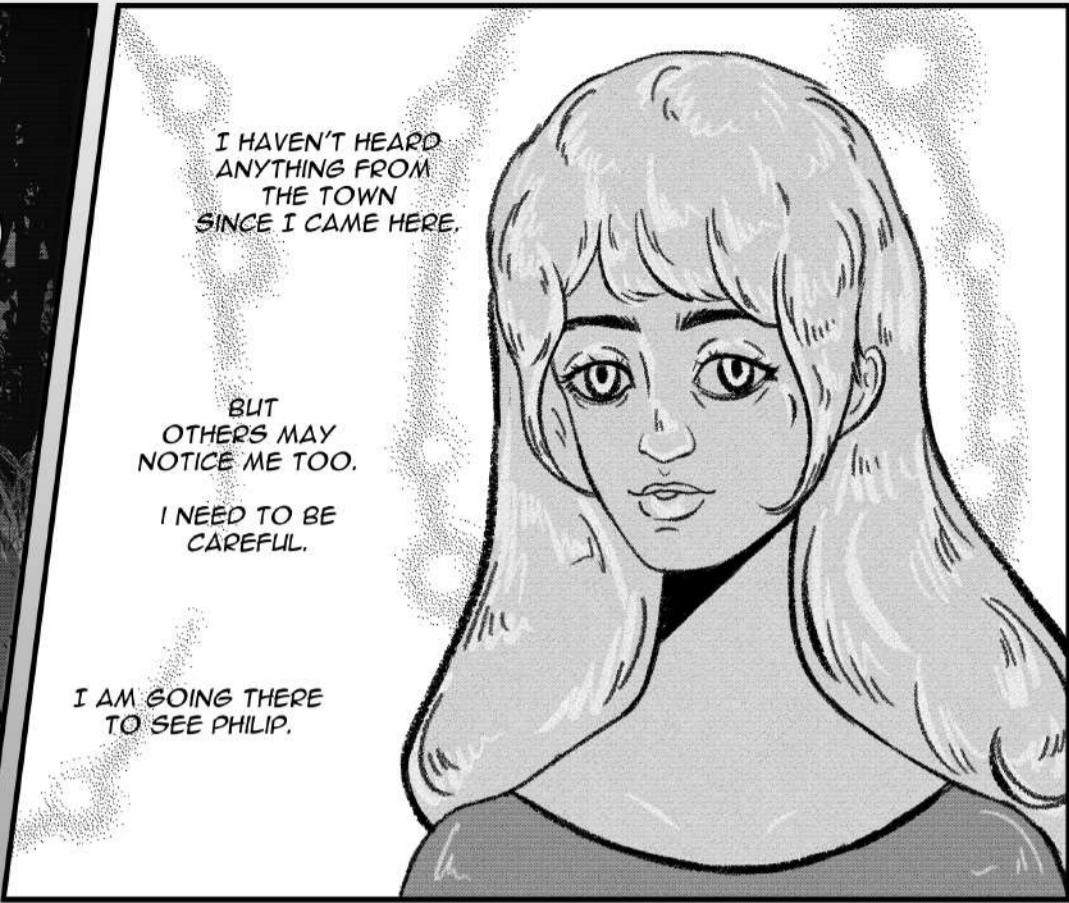
COME HERE I WILL TEACH YOU HOW TO USE THE MAGIC CRYSTAL BALL.

IT WAS PASSED TO ME AND MAYBE ONE DAY IT WILL BE YOURS.



THE TOWN WAS SOMEWHERE IN THIS DIRECTION.

I LEFT WITHOUT TELLING HER, BUT SHE WAS OUTSIDE... I HOPE I CAN RETURN BEFORE HER.



I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING FROM THE TOWN SINCE I CAME HERE.

BUT OTHERS MAY NOTICE ME TOO.

I NEED TO BE CAREFUL.

I AM GOING THERE TO SEE PHILIP.



YES! I WAS RIGHT... IT IS HERE.



I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES! MISS LILIAN?





WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? AFTER EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED, I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU EVERYWHERE AND THERE WAS NO SIGN OF YOU... BUT HERE YOU ARE. HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?

FORGIVE ME... I SHOULD HAVE WARNED YOU, BUT THERE WAS NO TIME. I HAD TO RUN. I LIVE IN THE WOODS NOW.



NO.

YOU WERE ALL ALONE IN THE WOODS?



THERE IS A WOMAN IN THE WOODS. SHE SAVED ME AND GAVE ME A PLACE TO STAY. BUT SHE ISN'T AN ORDINARY WOMAN.



HOW ARE YOU NOW? I AM CERTAIN YOU ARE NOT GUILTY. PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY FORGOTTEN ABOUT INCIDENT.

YOU MUST BE FRIGHTENED NOW. BUT I PROMISE, IF YOU STAY WITH ME NO ONE WILL HURT YOU ANYMORE. THINK ABOUT IT.



YES, I WILL.



FWMP!...

WELL, WELL...

WASN'T I CLEAR WHEN I SAID YOU SHOULDN'T LEAVE THE HOUSE?



I KNEW THAT YOU WOULDN'T ALLOW ME, BUT I HAD TO DO IT.

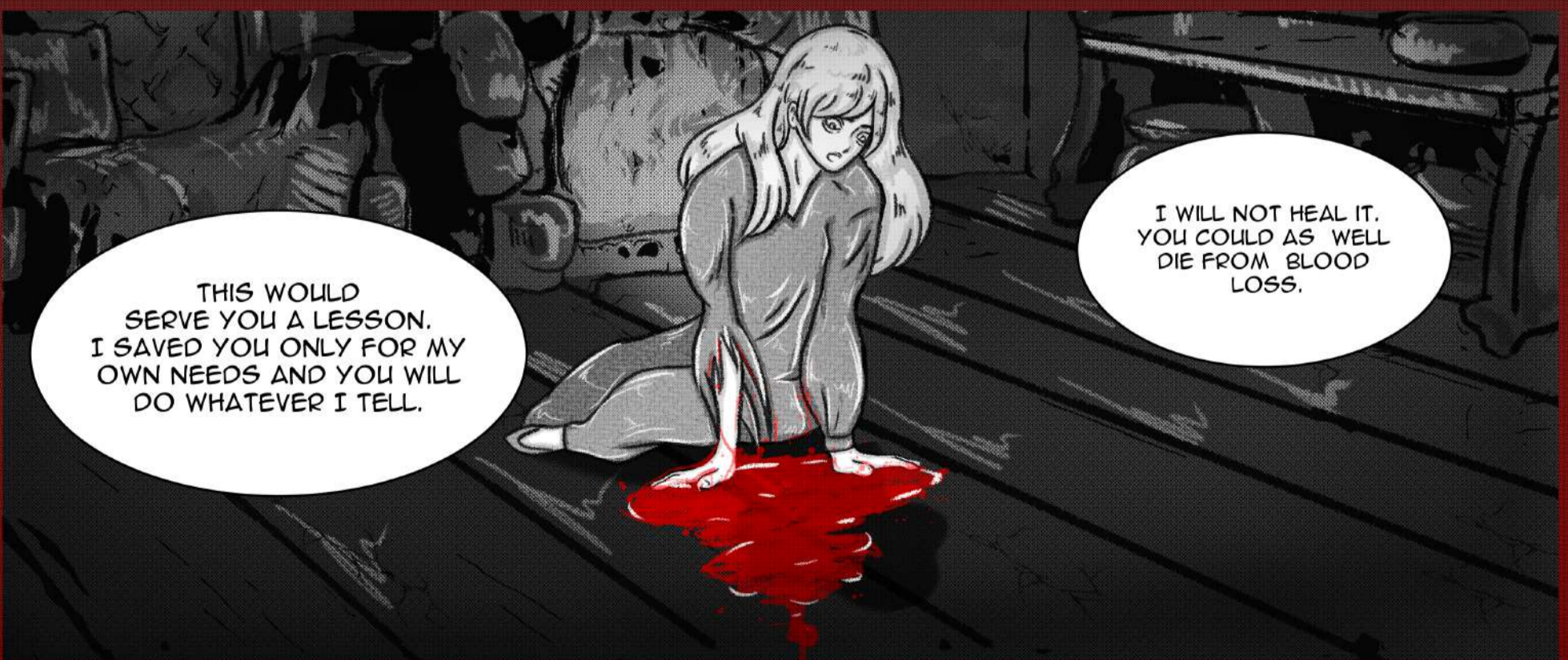
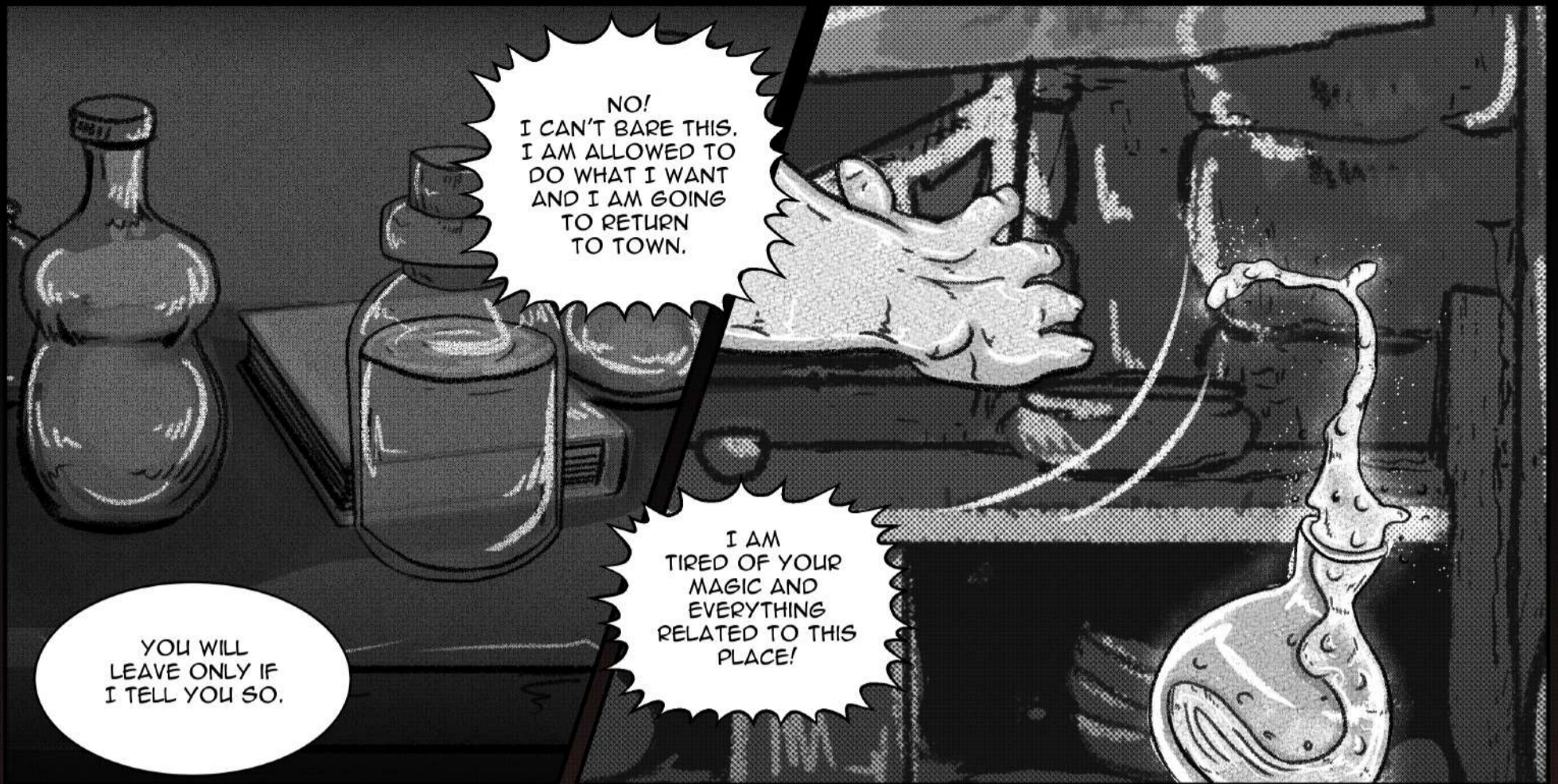
YOU HAD TO IGNORE MY WORDS AND RUN TO THAT FLIMSY GUY FROM THE TOWN?!



HOW DID YOU KNOW?!

DO NOT FORGET WHO YOU ARE TALKING TO. YOU ARE WELL AWARE OF WHAT I AM CAPABLE OF.

YES! I AM! BUT YOU SHOULDN'T UNDERESTIMATE ME! I AM NOT THE TIMID GIRL WHO NEEDED TO BE SAVED. I AM STRONG NOW! AND I HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO LEAVE THIS PLACE.





I SHALL LEAVE YOU ALONE NOW... YOU MAY WISH TO CONTEMPLATE ON YOUR BEHAVIOUR.



I NEED TO ESCAPE FROM HER.

I HAVE KNOWN SHE WAS RUTHLESS BUT...

HOW COULD SHE DO THIS TO ME?



I KNOW ABOUT THE SECRET ROOM!

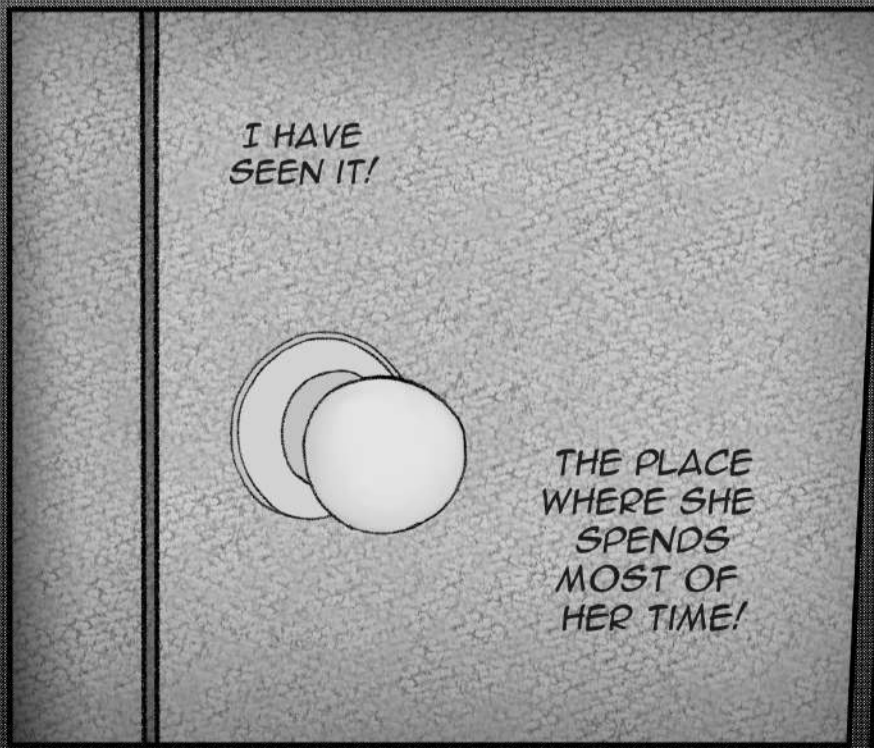


I MUST FIND SOMETHING IN THERE.

SOMETHING THAT WILL HELP ME TO ESCAPE.

TAP

TAP



I HAVE SEEN IT!

THE PLACE WHERE SHE SPENDS MOST OF HER TIME!



FOUND IT!



CRAAAACK...



HUH?!  
ARE THESE  
PEOPLE?

IT CANT BE!



HE IS  
DEAD!

LUCAS?!

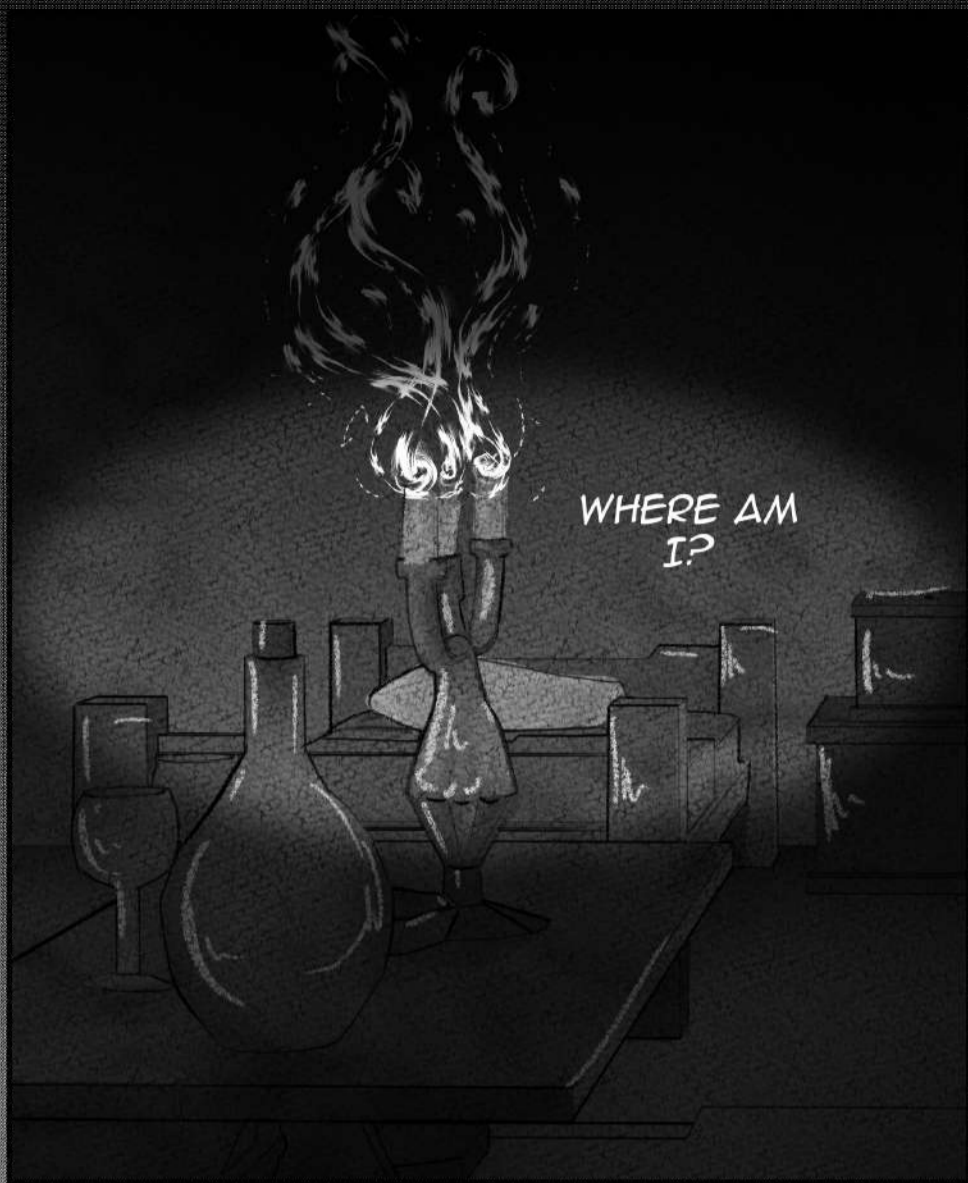


WHAT  
SHOULD  
I DO?

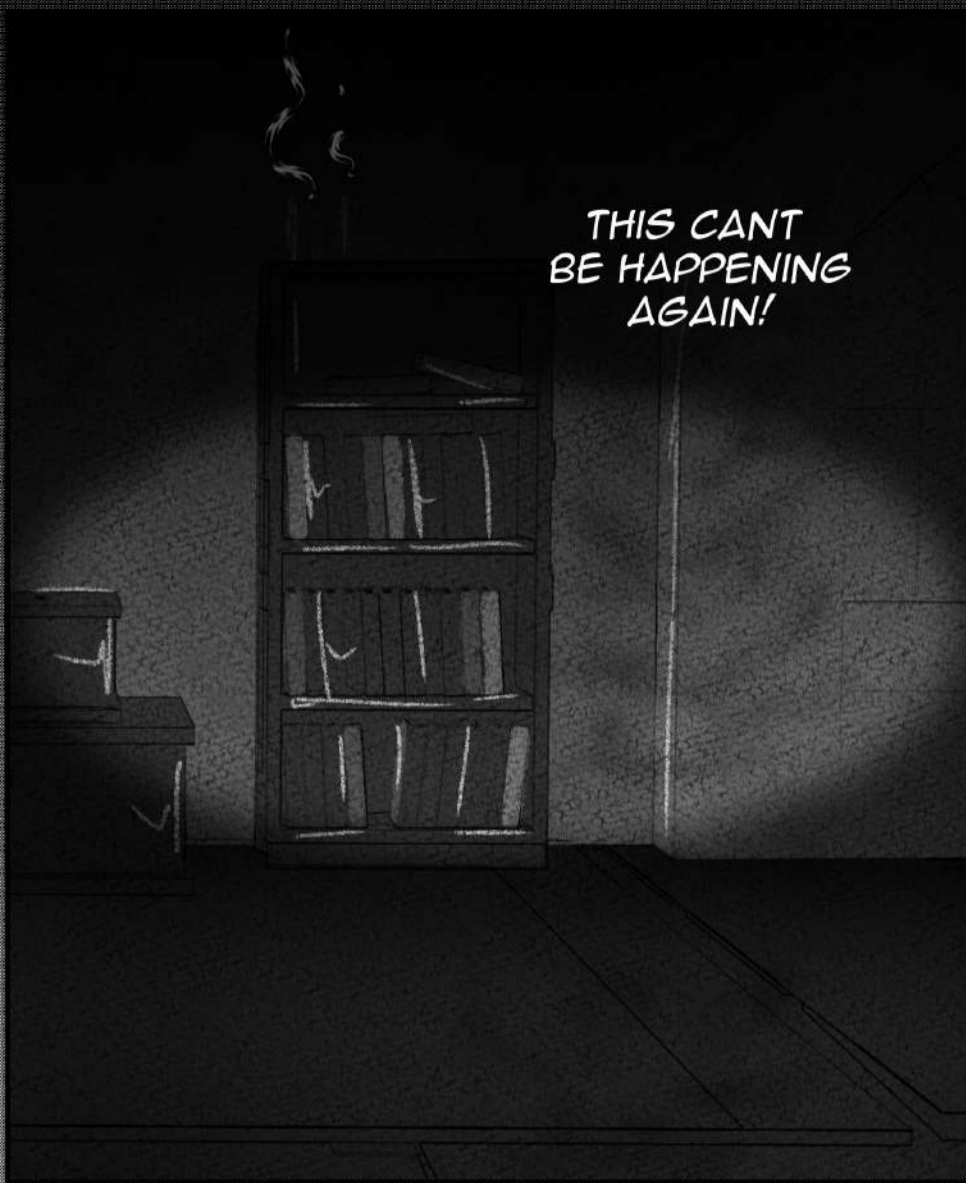
I NEED  
TO  
RUN!







WHERE AM I?



THIS CANT BE HAPPENING AGAIN!



?!

PHILIP!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? AND WHERE AM I?

AFTER YOU LEFT, I TRIED TO LOOK FOR YOU IN THE WOODS AND I FOUND YOU PASSED OUT ON THE COLD GROUND.

I AM GLAD YOU WOKE UP LILIAN!



HUH?!

AM I PREGNANT?!



BUT I DIDN'T SHOW ANY SIGNS!

THERE IS ONE THING WE CAN DO! WE SHOULD TAKE CARE OF YOUR BABY, LILIAN... TOGETHER.

W-WHAT SHOULD I DO?



WAS THIS  
A DREAM?

MY BABY?..



YES, LILIAN. WE CAN  
RAISE YOUR CHILD AS  
A FAMILY. I WILL  
PROVIDE YOU WITH  
EVERYTHING.

YOU ARE  
READY TO ACCEPT  
BOTH ME AND  
MY CHILD?



WHY WOULD  
YOU DO THIS?  
HOW COULD I REPAY YOU  
AFTERWARDS?  
YOU HAVE DONE MORE  
THAN ENOUGH...

I LOVE YOU,  
LILIAN AND I BELIEVE  
YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY.  
PLEASE STAY WITH ME.  
IT IS THE ONLY  
THING I WISH FOR.



IT WASN'T A  
DREAM AFTER  
ALL.

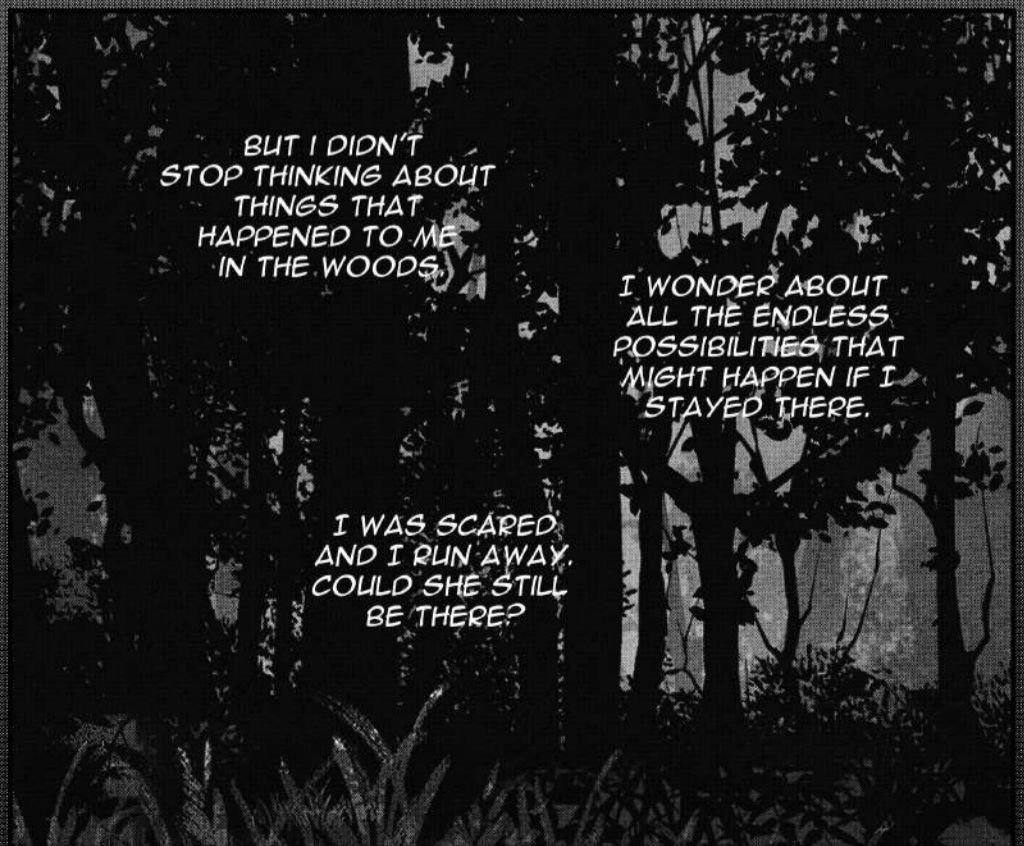
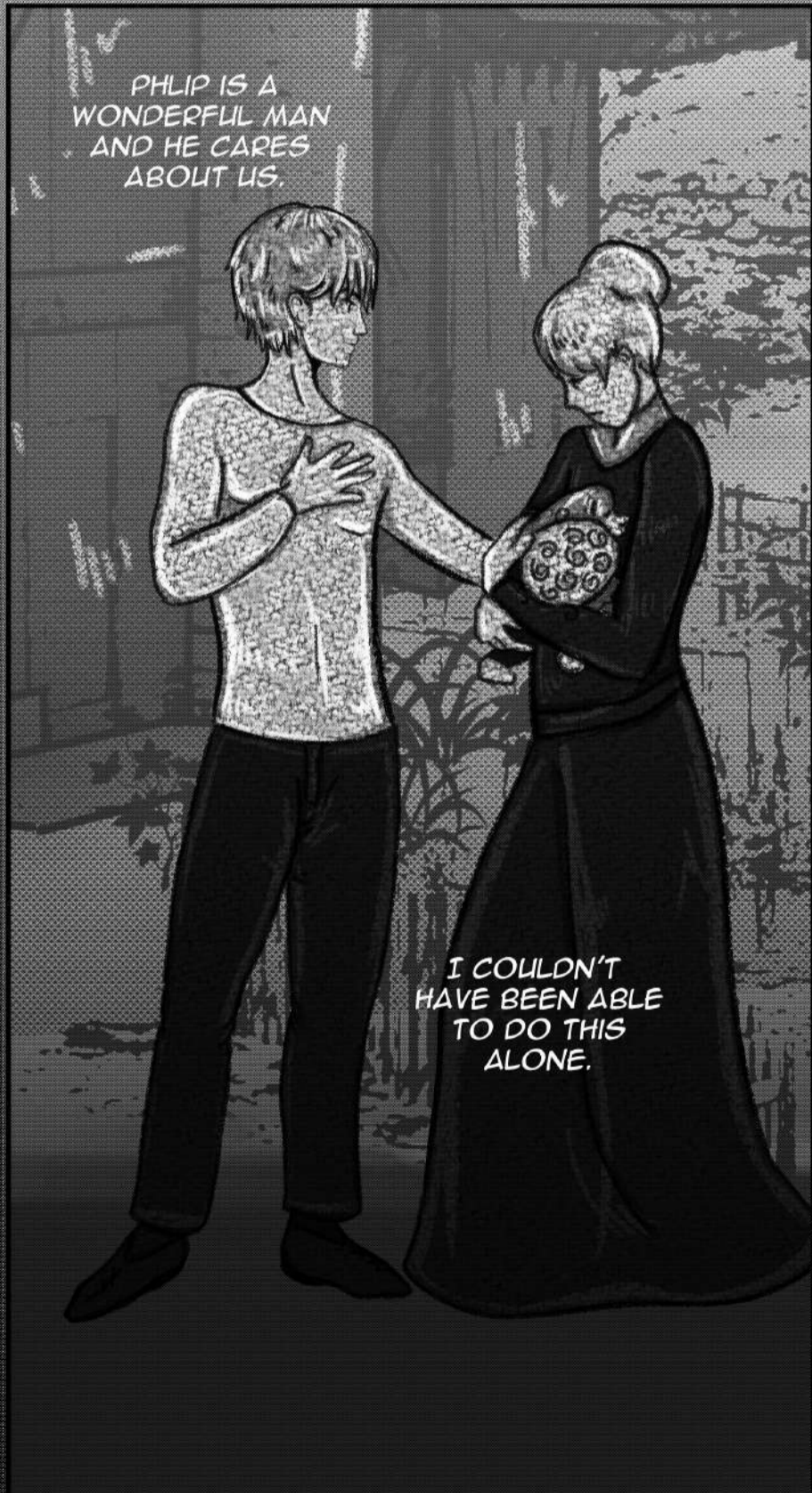
A SCAR?

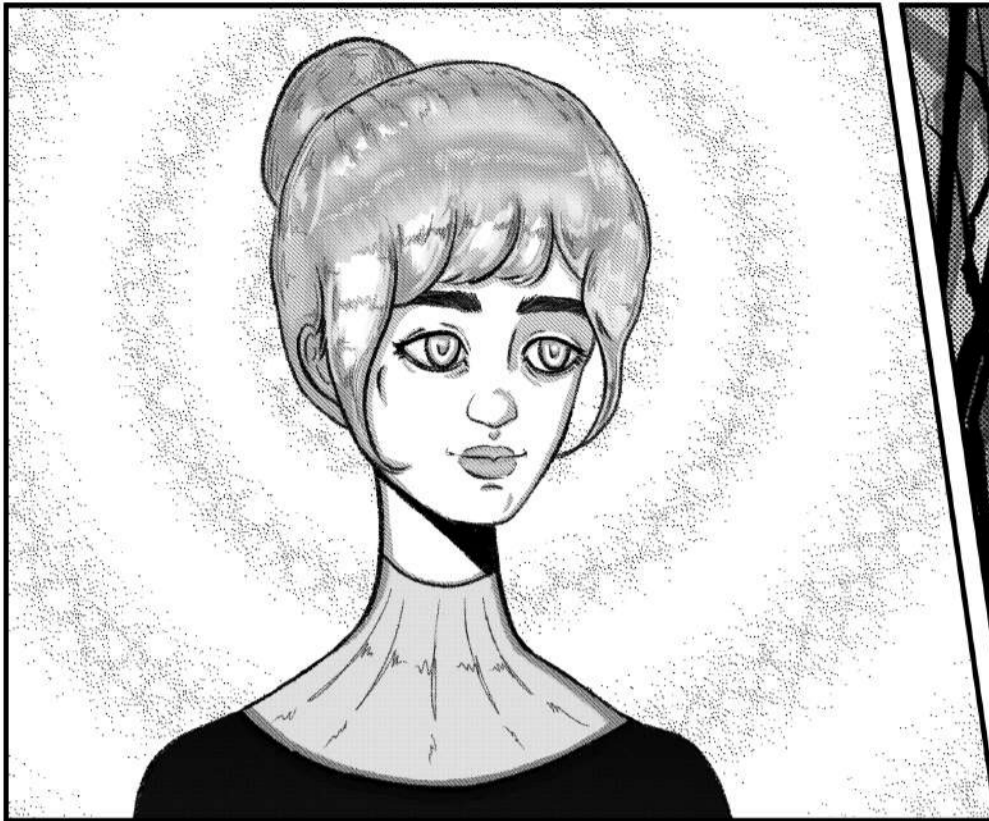


I MUST THINK  
ABOUT MY  
CHILD.

BUT WHAT'S  
NEXT?

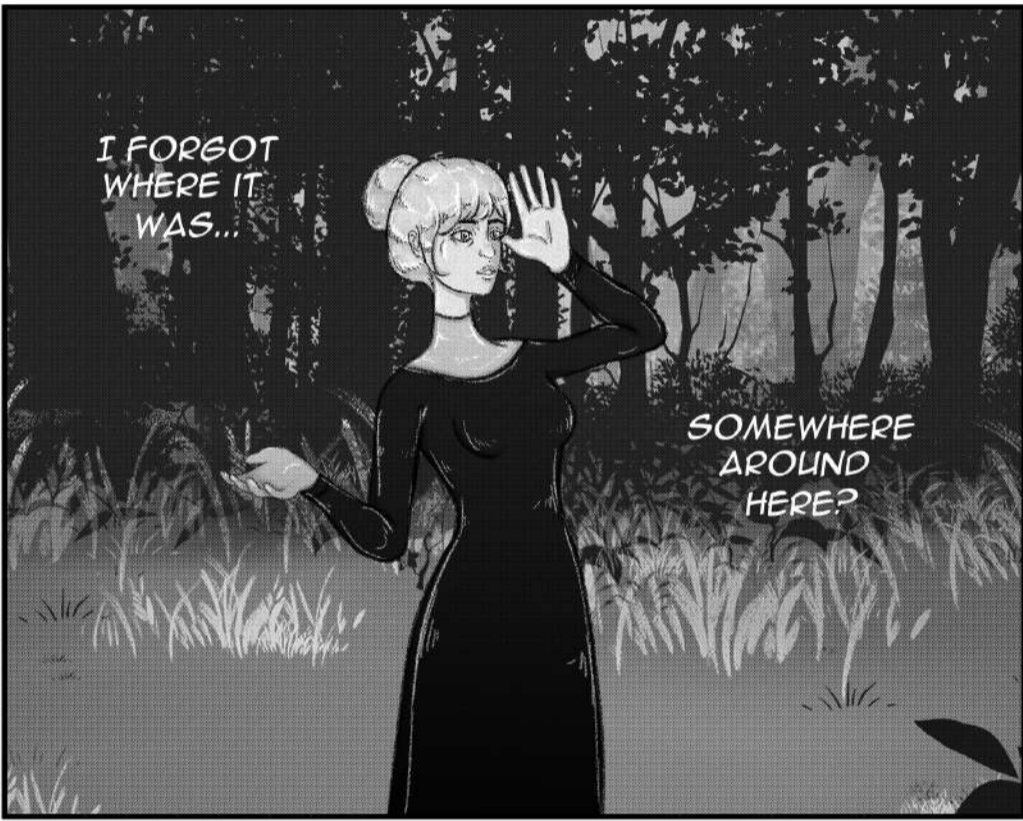






WHAT AM I DOING?

IT IS NOT LATE TO TURN BACK.



I FORGOT WHERE IT WAS...

SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE?



HM?...



The End.

PRESENTED TO THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & COMMUNICATIONS  
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA  
YEREVAN, ARMENIA

MAY 17, 2021

