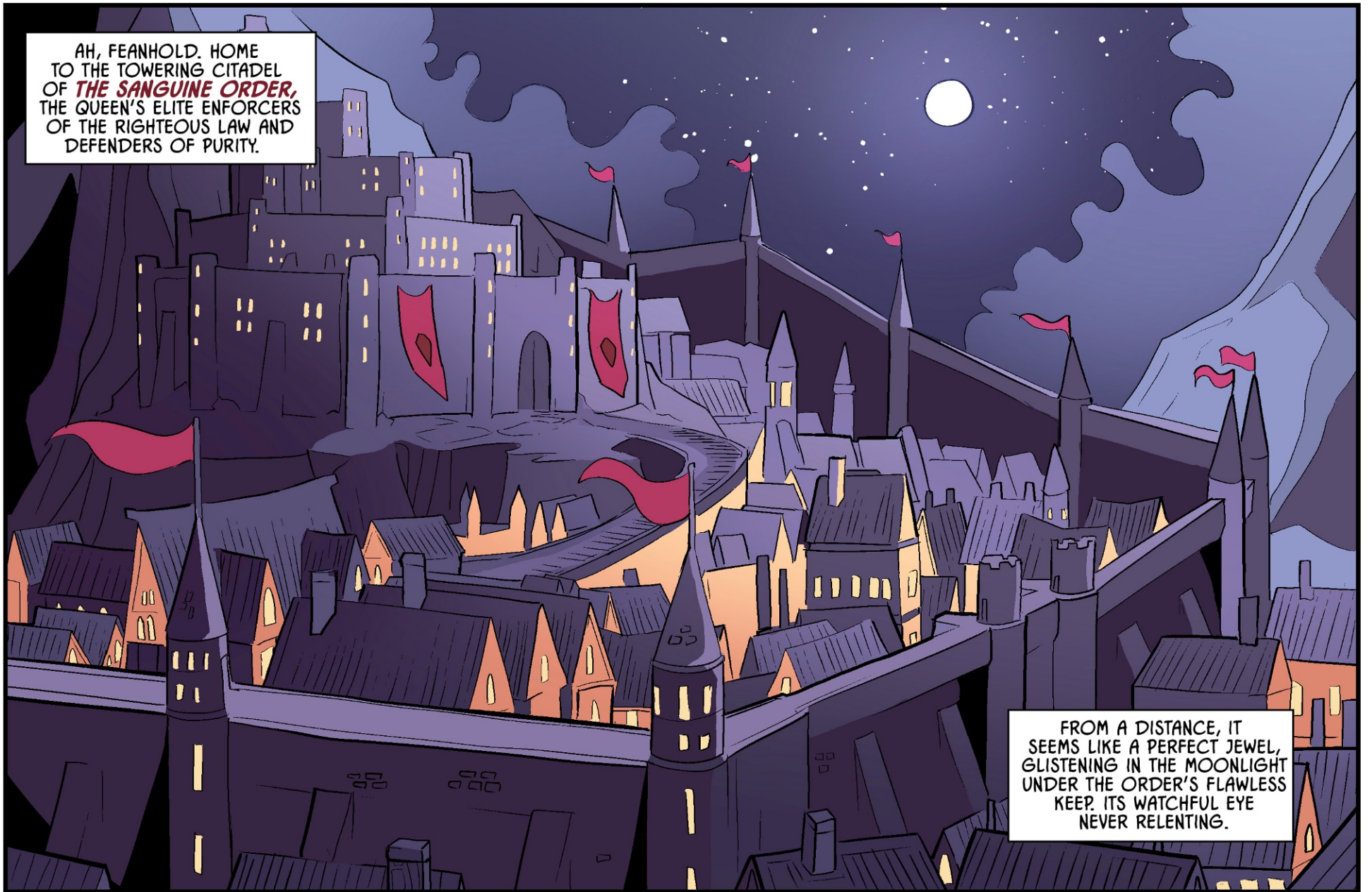


SHEATH THINE SWORD



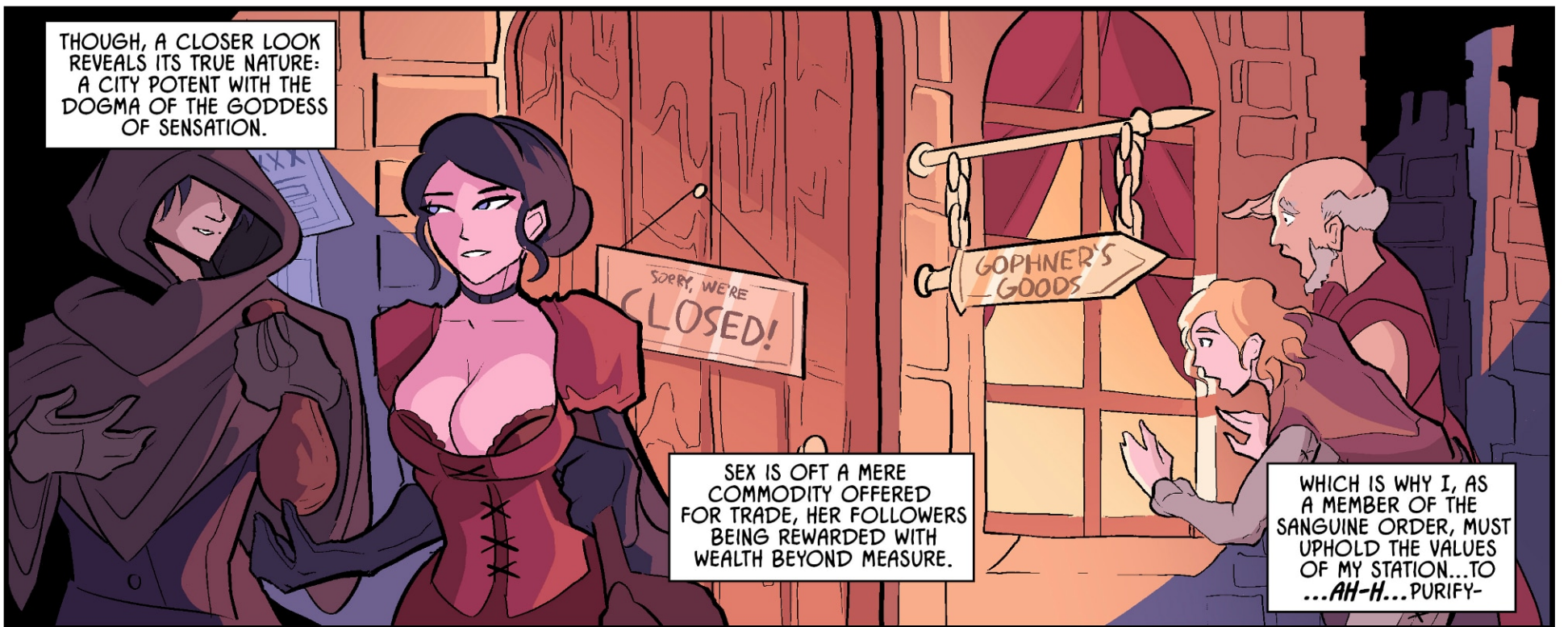
18+

A COMIC OF KNIGHTLY ADVENTURES BY SALADBEARER



AH, FEANHOLD. HOME TO THE TOWERING CITADEL OF **THE SANGUINE ORDER**, THE QUEEN'S ELITE ENFORCERS OF THE RIGHTEOUS LAW AND DEFENDERS OF PURITY.

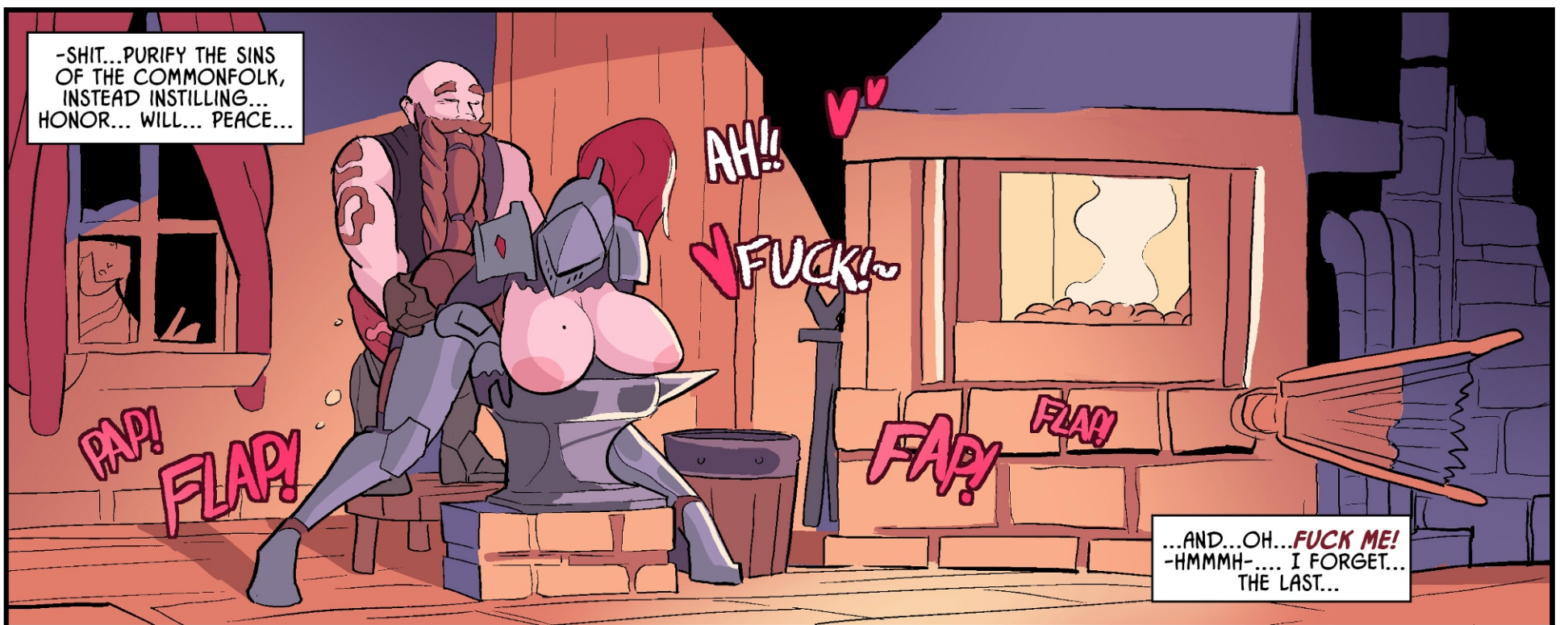
FROM A DISTANCE, IT SEEMS LIKE A PERFECT JEWEL, GLISTENING IN THE MOONLIGHT UNDER THE ORDER'S FLAWLESS KEEP. ITS WATCHFUL EYE NEVER RELENTING.



THOUGH, A CLOSER LOOK REVEALS ITS TRUE NATURE: A CITY POTENT WITH THE DOGMA OF THE GODDESS OF SENSATION.

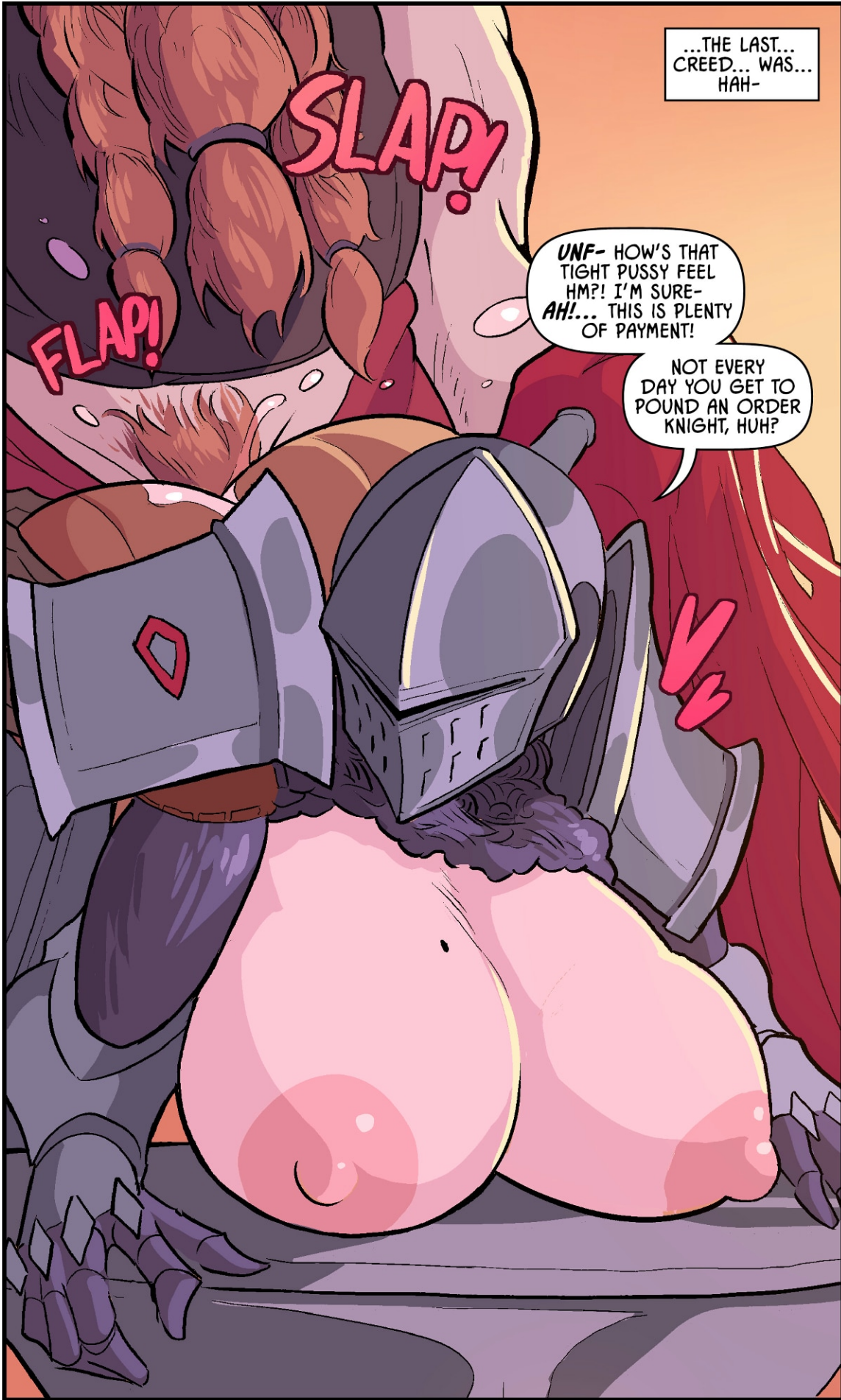
SEX IS OFT A MERE COMMODITY OFFERED FOR TRADE, HER FOLLOWERS BEING REWARDED WITH WEALTH BEYOND MEASURE.

WHICH IS WHY I, AS A MEMBER OF THE SANGUINE ORDER, MUST UPHOLD THE VALUES OF MY STATION...TO ...AH-H... PURIFY-



-SHIT...PURIFY THE SINS OF THE COMMONFOLK, INSTEAD INSTILLING... HONOR... WILL... PEACE...

...AND...OH...**FUCK ME!**
-HMMH-... I FORGET... THE LAST...



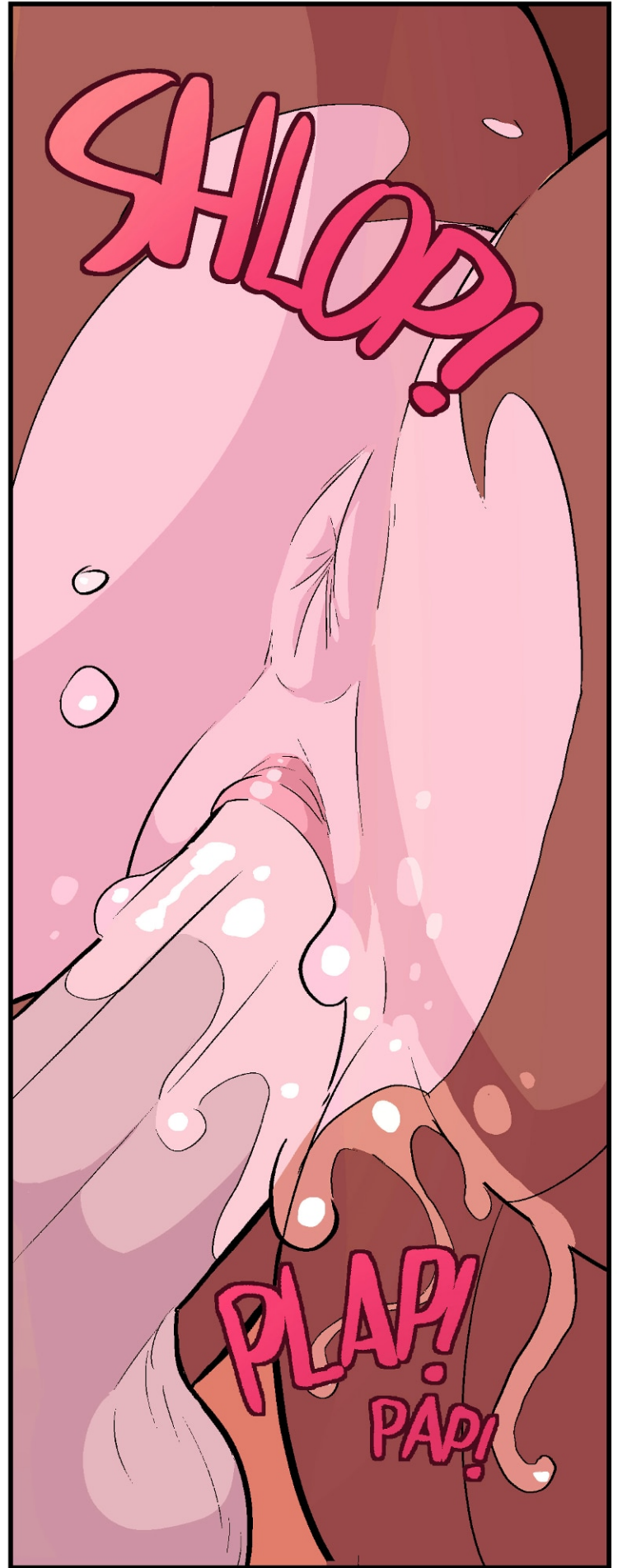
...THE LAST...
CREED... WAS...
HAH-

SLAP!

FLAP!

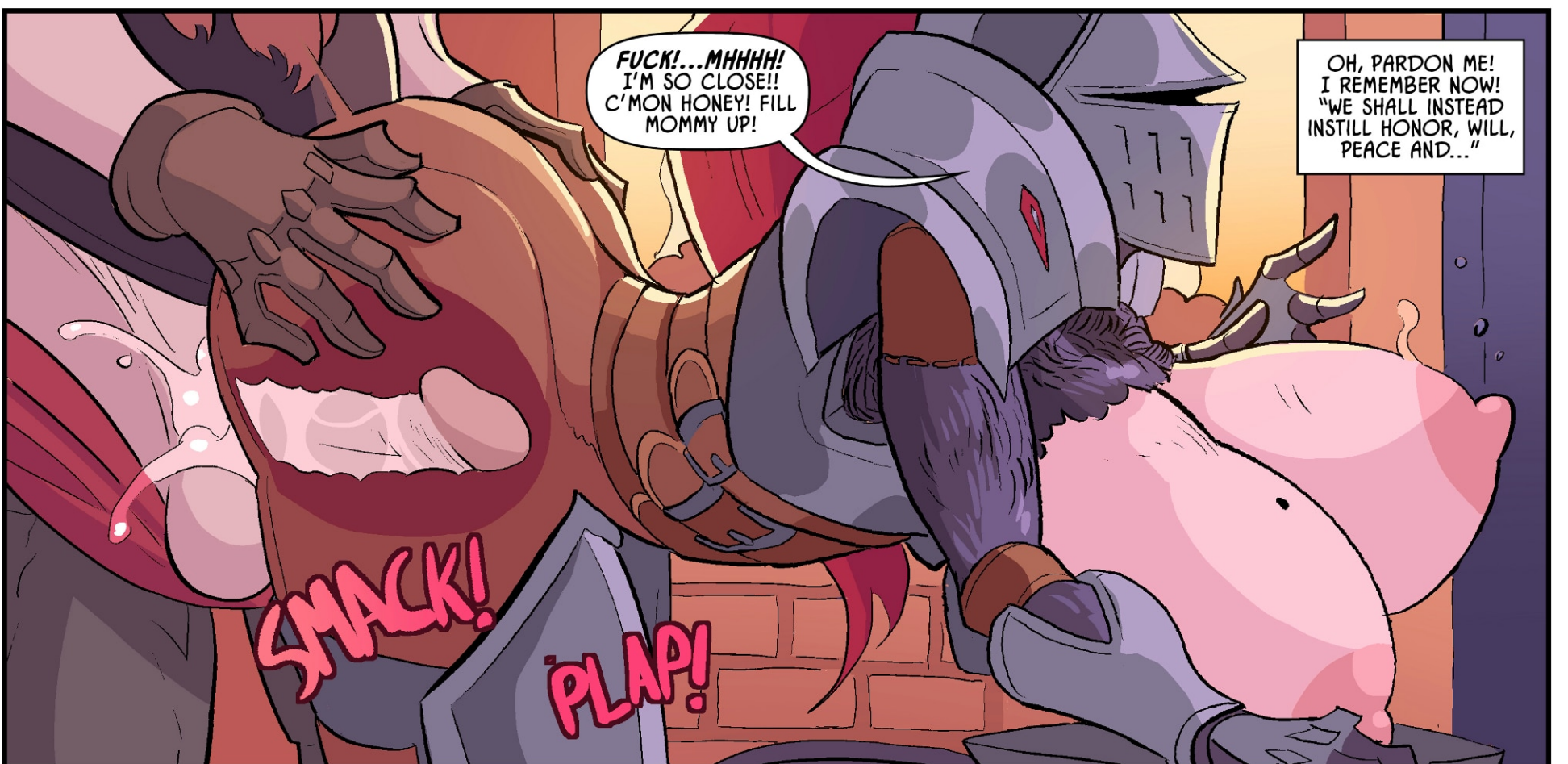
UNF- HOW'S THAT
TIGHT PUSSY FEEL
HM?! I'M SURE-
AH!... THIS IS PLENTY
OF PAYMENT!

NOT EVERY
DAY YOU GET TO
POUND AN ORDER
KNIGHT, HUH?



SHLOP!

PLAP!
PAP!

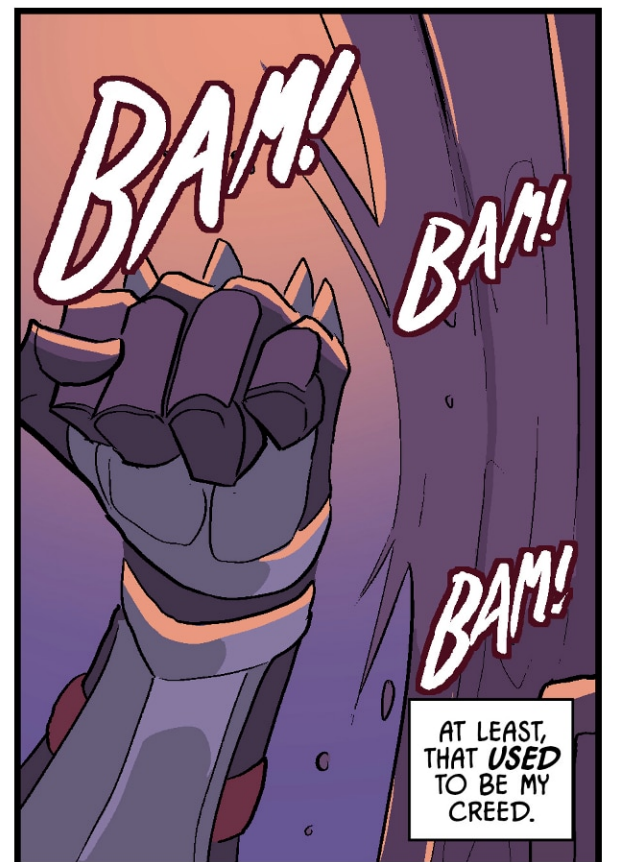
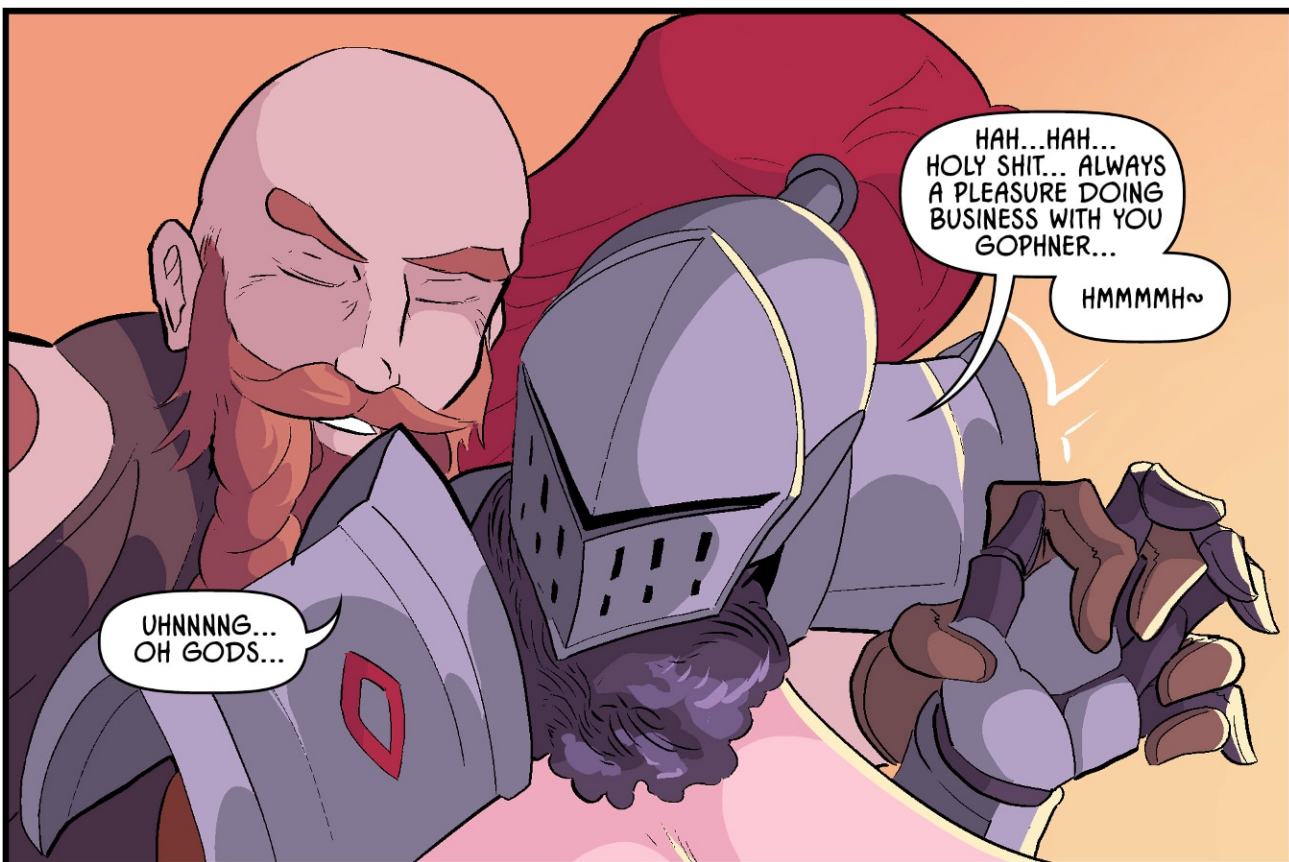
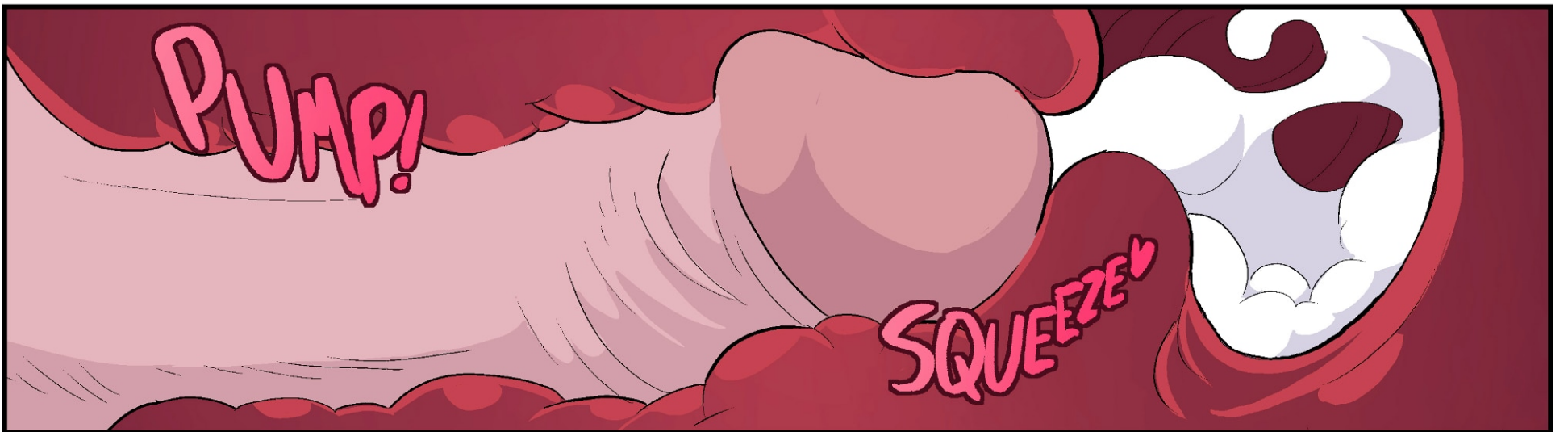
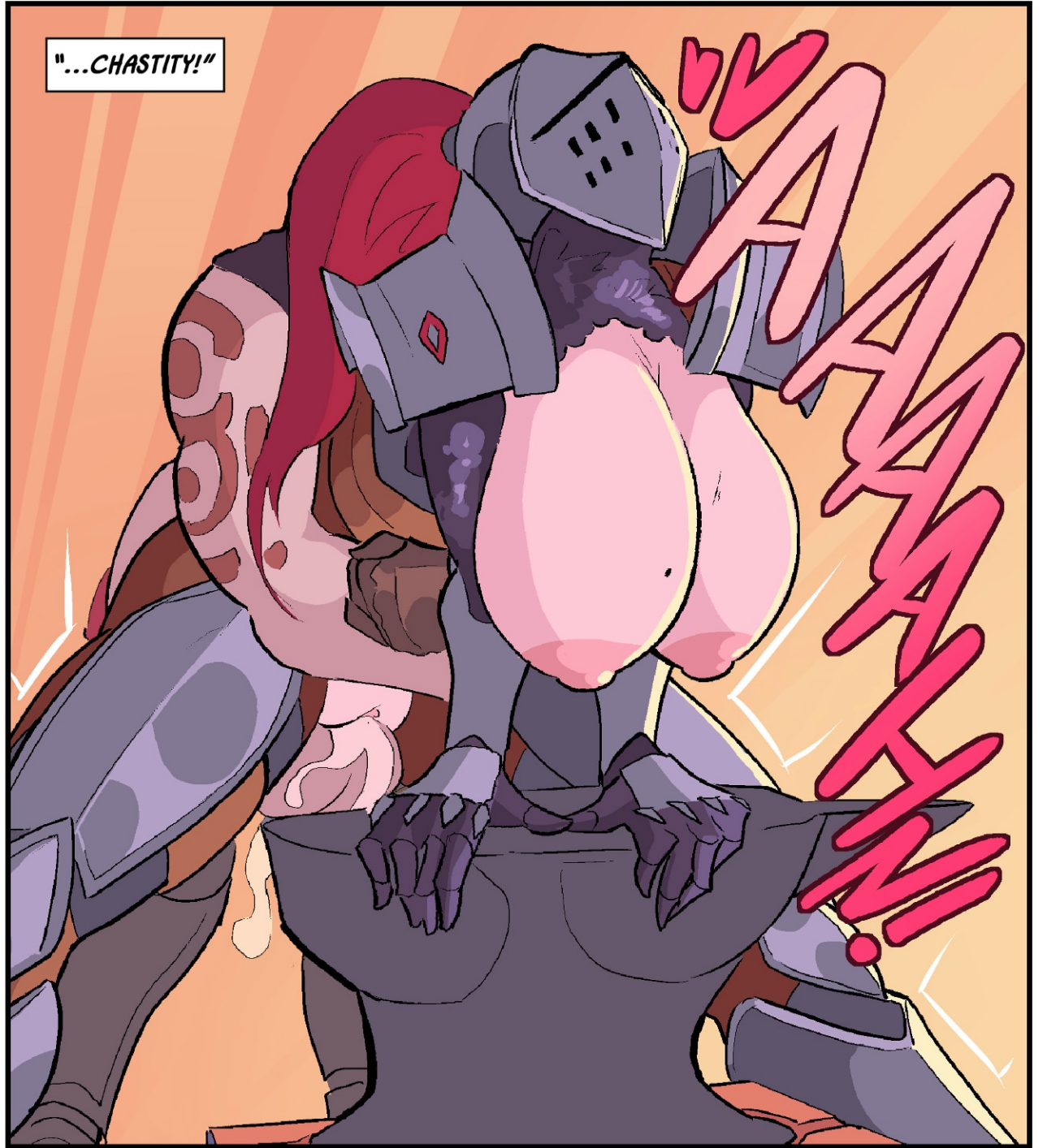


FUCK!...MHHHH!
I'M SO CLOSE!!
C'MON HONEY! FILL
MOMMY UP!

OH, PARDON ME!
I REMEMBER NOW!
"WE SHALL INSTEAD
INSTILL HONOR, WILL,
PEACE AND..."

SMACK!

PLAP!



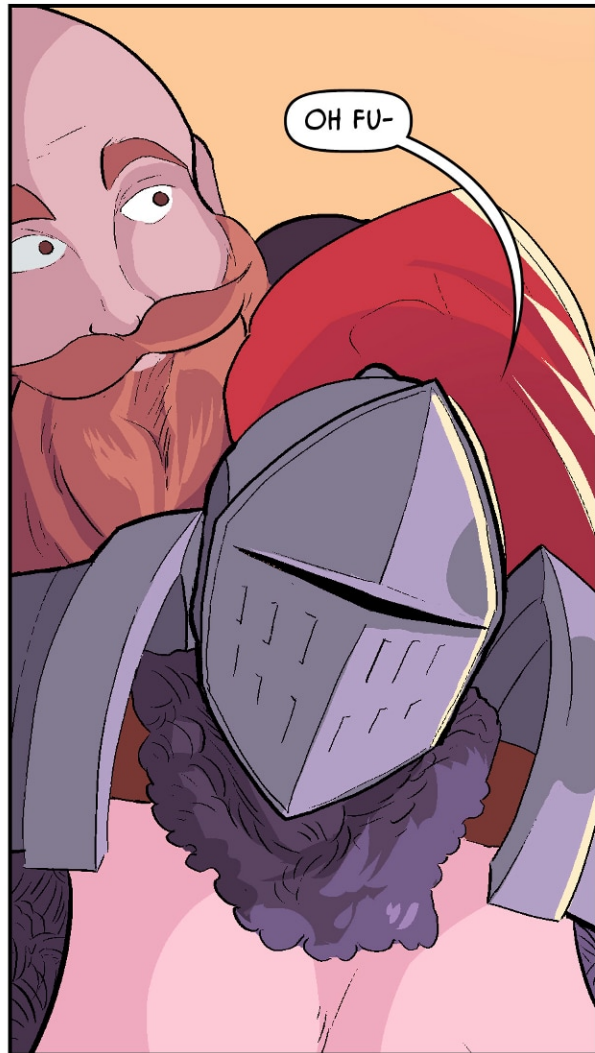


NO NEED TO WAIT... STEP BACK.

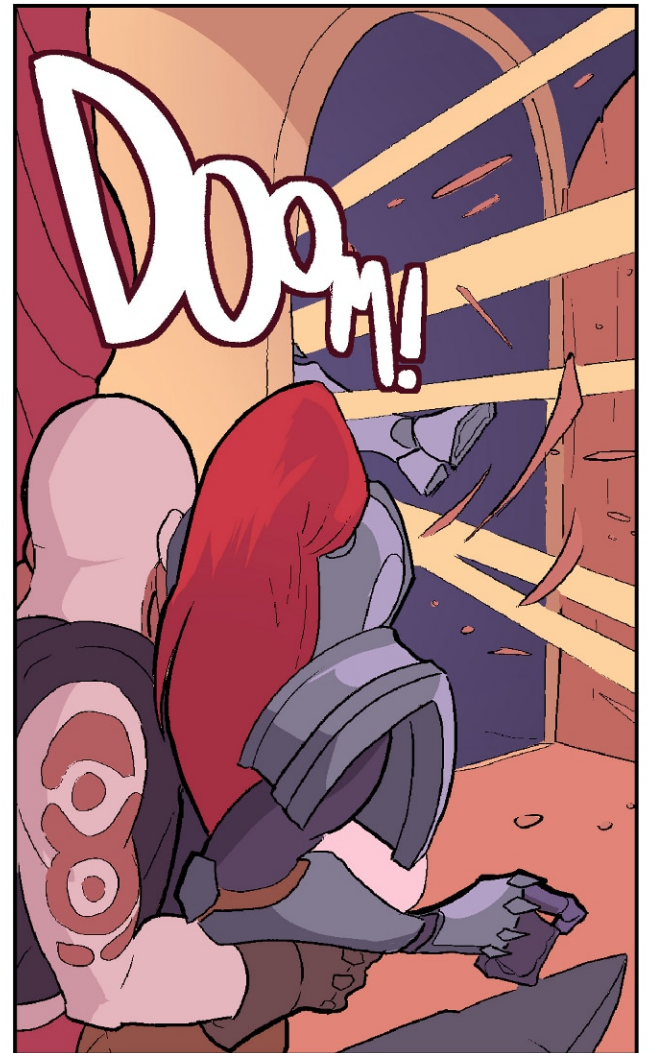
OPEN THE **FUCKING** DOOR OR I SWEAR TO THE GODS WE WILL **CHOP** IT DOWN!



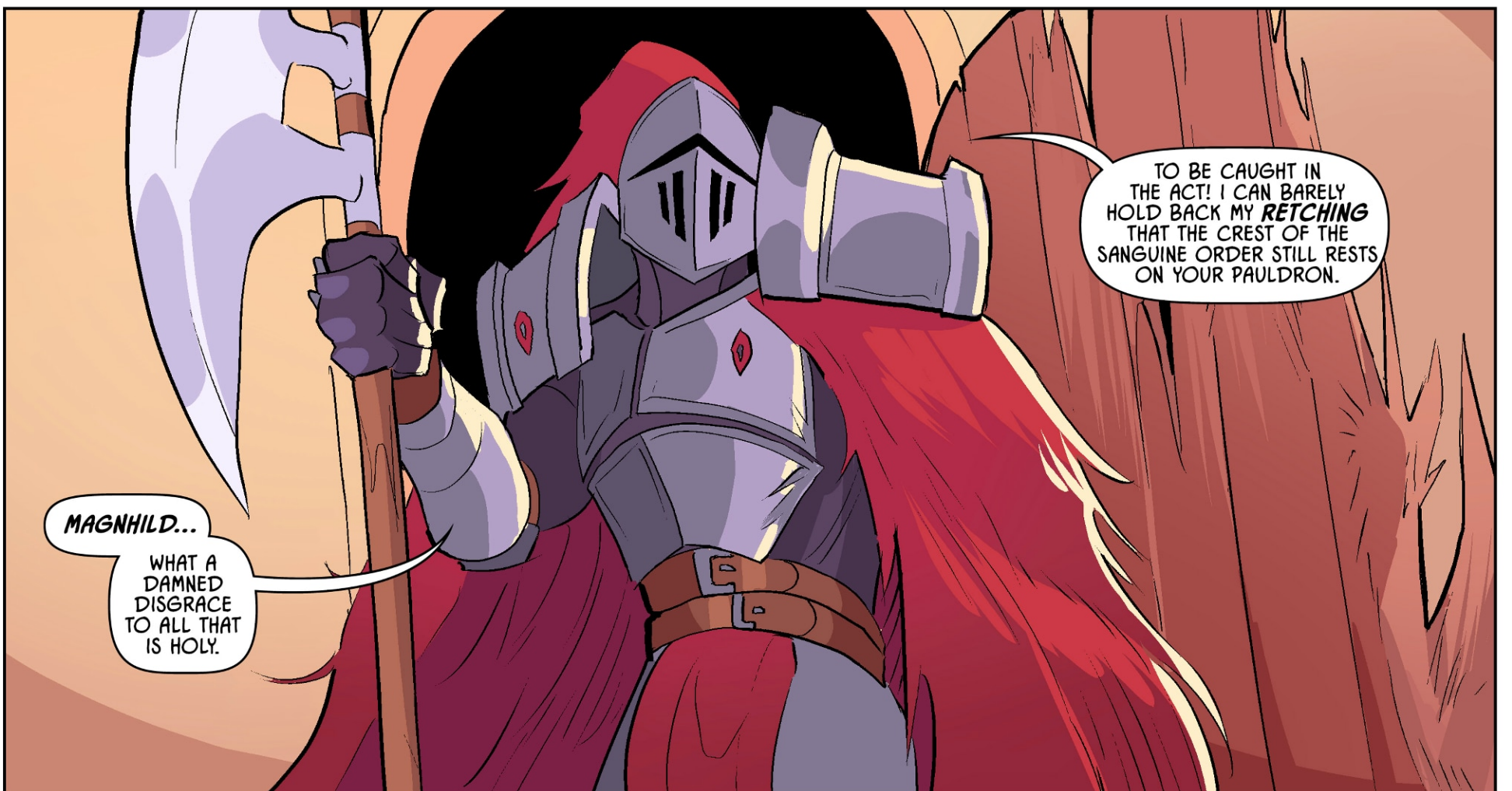
CRACK!



OH FU-



Doom!



MAGNHILD...
WHAT A DAMNED DISGRACE TO ALL THAT IS HOLY.

TO BE CAUGHT IN THE ACT! I CAN BARELY HOLD BACK MY **RETCHING** THAT THE CREST OF THE SANGUINE ORDER STILL RESTS ON YOUR PAULDRON.

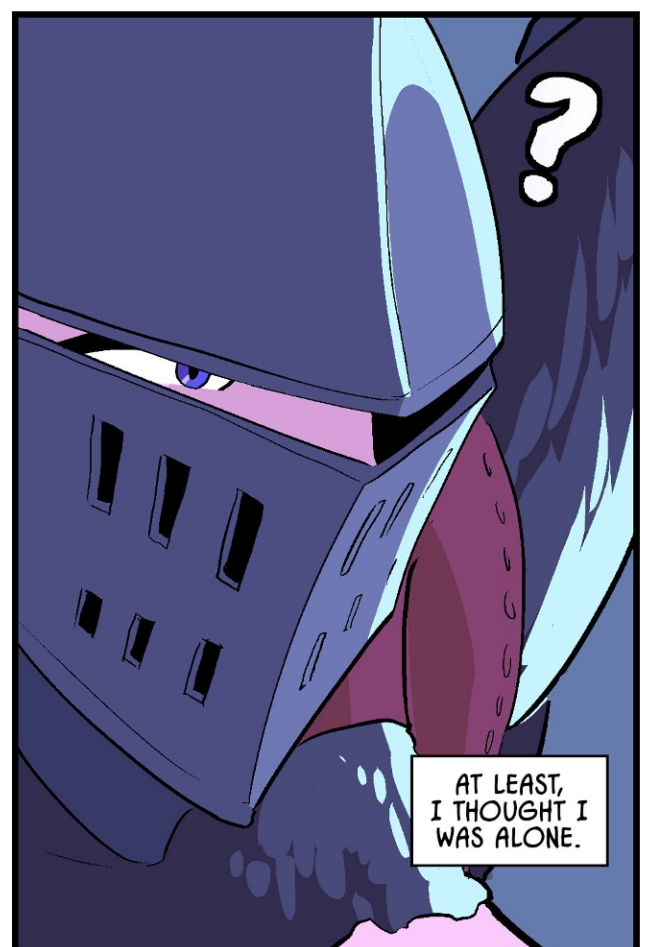
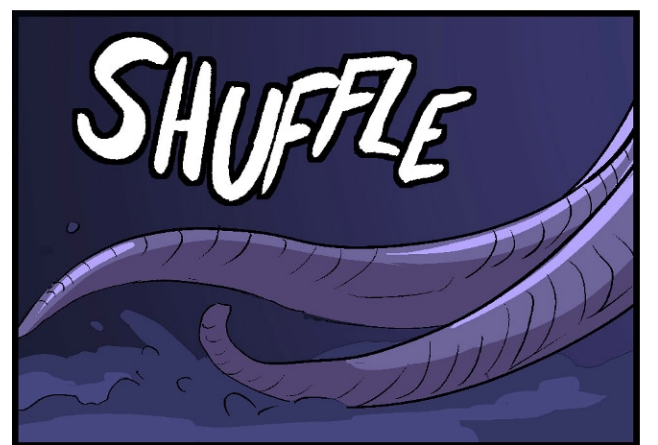


AS IT TURNS OUT...IN
SPITE OF EVERYTHING.
ALL MY TRAINING? A
'HOLY ORDER' WAS NO
PLACE FOR A SOUL
LIKE ME.

'PURIFY THE SINS
OF THE COMMONFOLK...
INSTEAD INSTILLING HONOR.
WILL. PEACE. CHASTITY.'
THAT CREED HAMMERED
INTO MY HEAD OVER AND
OVER AND OVER.



AND YET, I STILL
ALLOWED THE TEMPTATION
TO CLAIM ME. A LADY, WHO'S
LIFE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE
THE SHINING EXAMPLE OF
PURITY... NOW ALONE.



AT LEAST,
I THOUGHT I
WAS ALONE.



FOLLY IS IT, TO COMPARE THYSELF TO AN IMPOSSIBLE STANDARD.

W-WHO THE HELL ARE YOU? SHOW YOURSELF!



THINE THOUGHTS SPEAK'TH LOUDLY TO ME, THEE WHO HAST FALLEN PREY TO THINE OWN DOGMA.

A GLISTENING KNIGHT WHO ERRS FROM THE PATH, ONLY A LITTLE, IS CAST OUT AND TARNISHED, NE'ER TO BE BROUGHT TO LIGHT AGAIN. SO IT IS WRITTEN IN THE LAW OF THE SANGUINE ORDER.



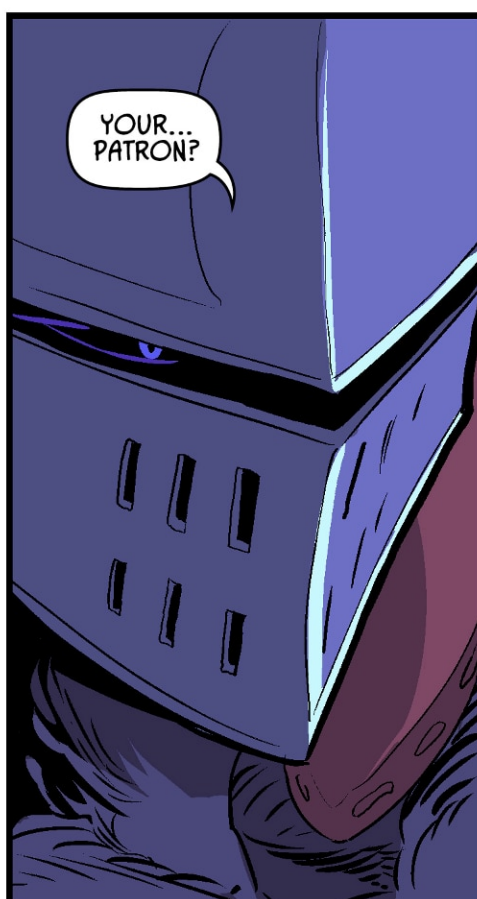
MY... THOUGHTS? HOW DO YOU KNOW...

-ACTUALLY, NO MATTER THAT, DID THE ORDER SEND SOME CREEP TO EVANGELIZE TO ME OR SOMETHING? ARE YOU HERE TO READ ME MY TRANSGRESSIONS LIKE I'M A COMMON PRISONER?

'CAUSE YEAH, I THINK I KNOW WHAT I DID WRONG.



QUITE THE CONTRARY, YOUNG ONE. MY PATRON AND I BELIEVE THEE TO BE QUITE INNOCENT.



YOUR... PATRON?



THE GODDESS OF SENSATION.



GREAT, YOU BANG *ONE* DWARF AND THE CUM GODDESS STARTS SENDING YOU SPAM MAIL.

FUCK OFF, CREEP, I'M NOT JOINING YOUR SEX CULT.



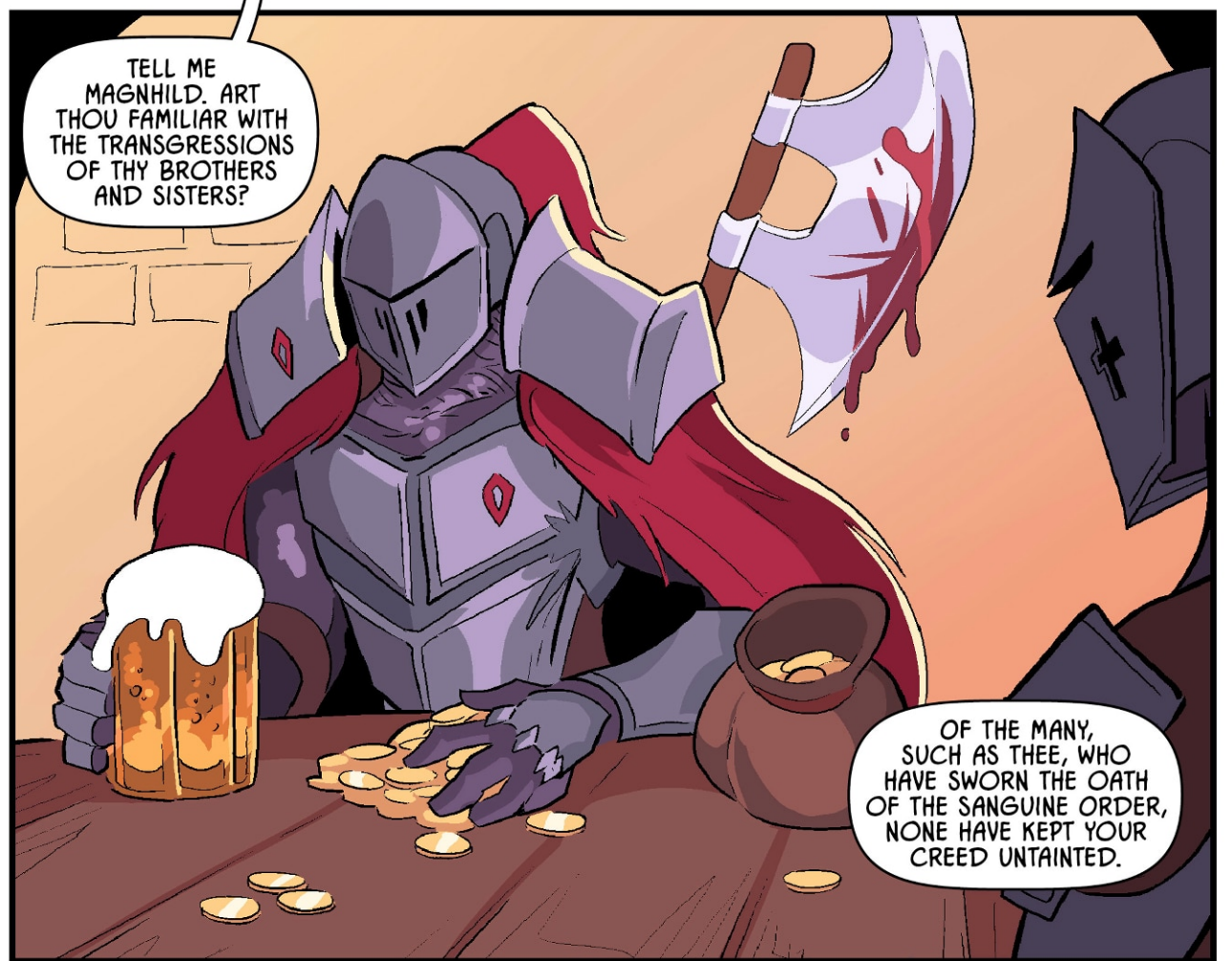
PERCEIVING MY GODDESS IN SUCH A WAY IS NARROW-MINDED.

THE GODDESS MERELY REPRESENTS THE FREEDOM TO DO WITH THINE FLESH AS THOU WISHEST.

TO NOT BE CONSTRAINED BY MAN, NOR BY GODS WITHIN ANY MANNER OF THE BODY.

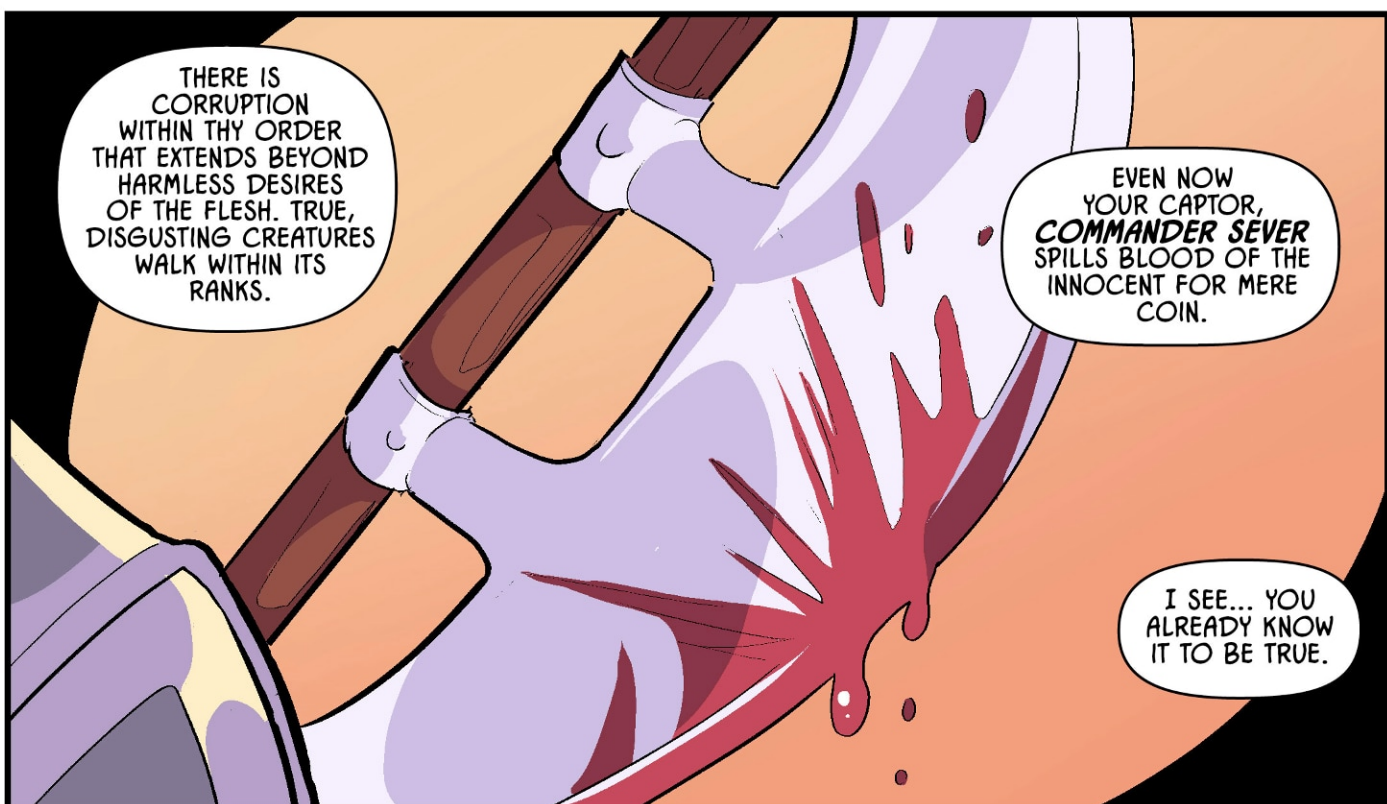


SO TOO, IS IT NARROW-MINDED TO CONSTRAIN ONE'S SELF TO THE CREED OF THE SANGUINE ORDER, SIMPLY TO PLACE THYSELF ABOVE THE 'COMMONFOLK.'



TELL ME MAGNHILD. ART THOU FAMILIAR WITH THE TRANSGRESSIONS OF THY BROTHERS AND SISTERS?

OF THE MANY, SUCH AS THEE, WHO HAVE SWORN THE OATH OF THE SANGUINE ORDER, NONE HAVE KEPT YOUR CREED UNTAINTED.



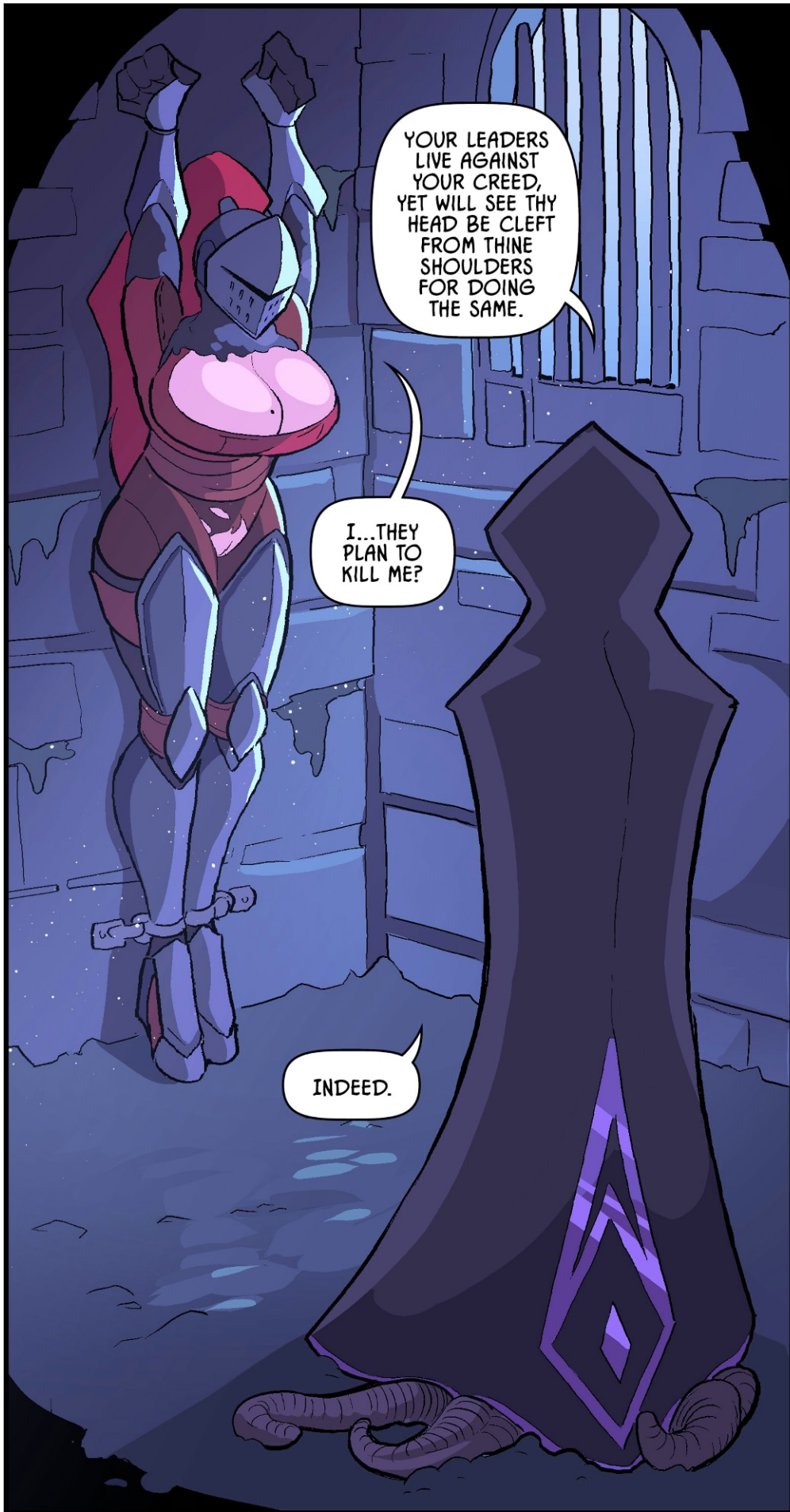
THERE IS CORRUPTION WITHIN THY ORDER THAT EXTENDS BEYOND HARMLESS DESIRES OF THE FLESH. TRUE, DISGUSTING CREATURES WALK WITHIN ITS RANKS.

EVEN NOW YOUR CAPTOR, **COMMANDER SEVER** SPILLS BLOOD OF THE INNOCENT FOR MERE COIN.

I SEE... YOU ALREADY KNOW IT TO BE TRUE.



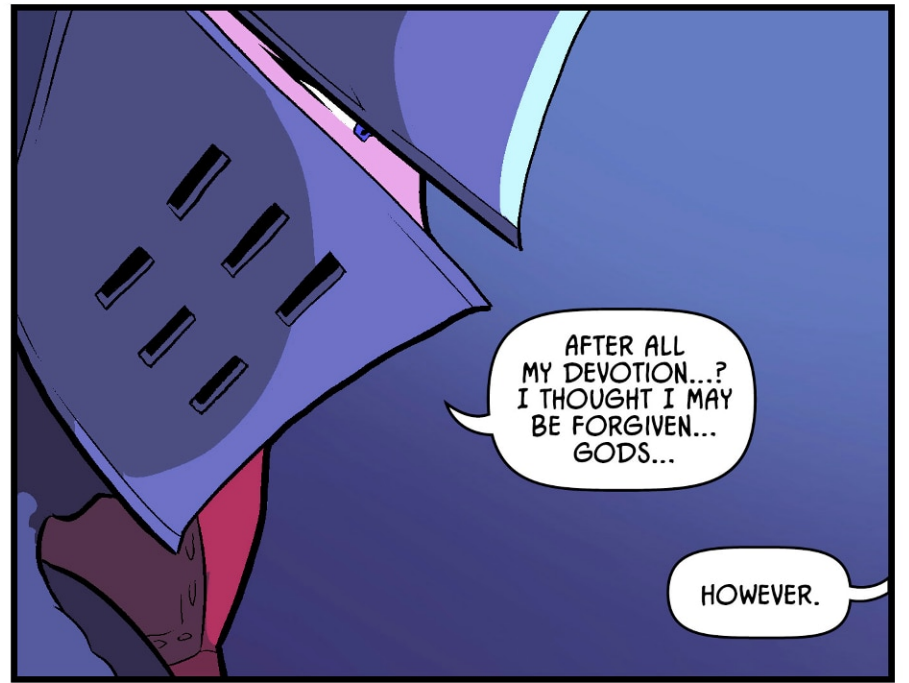
GET *OUT* OF MY HEAD.



YOUR LEADERS LIVE AGAINST YOUR CREED, YET WILL SEE THY HEAD BE CLEFT FROM THINE SHOULDERS FOR DOING THE SAME.

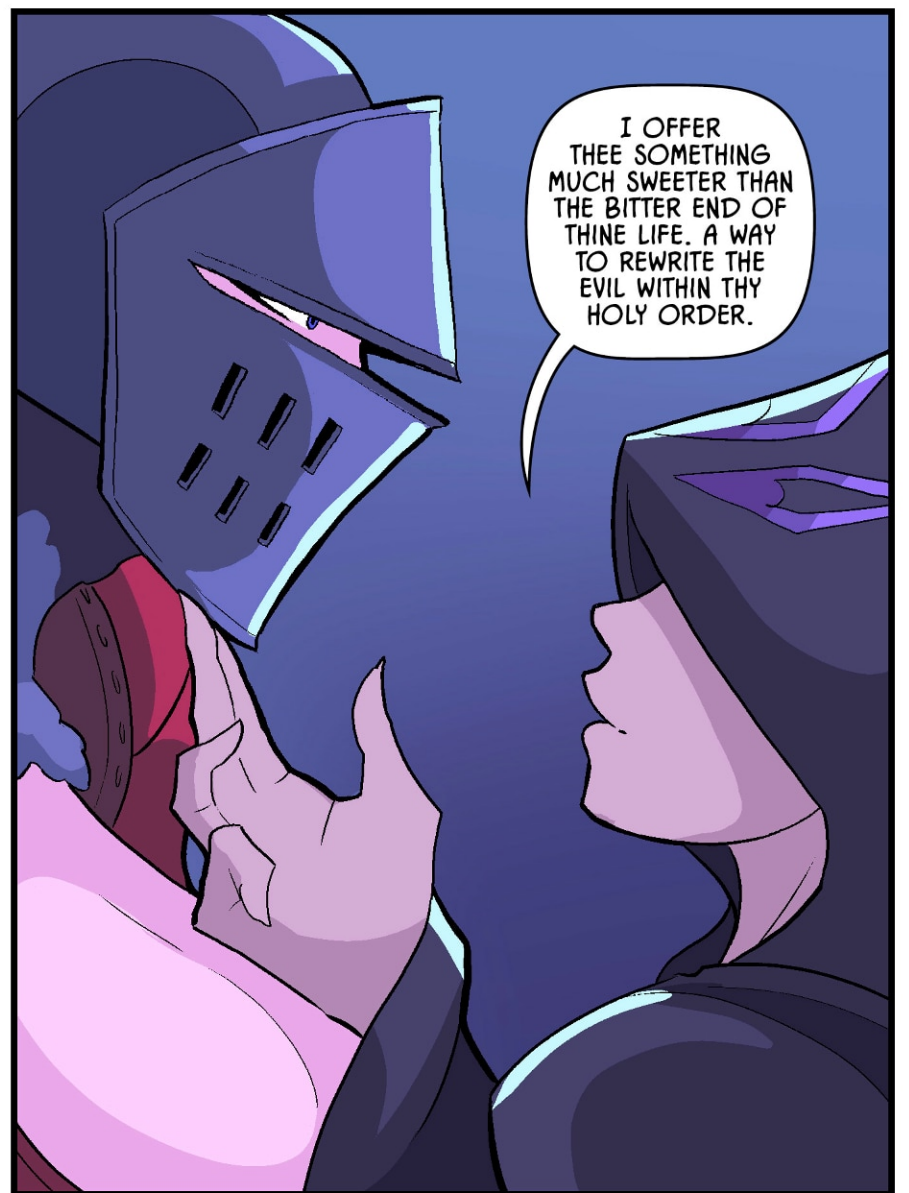
I...THEY PLAN TO KILL ME?

INDEED.



AFTER ALL MY DEVOTION...? I THOUGHT I MAY BE FORGIVEN... GODS...

HOWEVER.

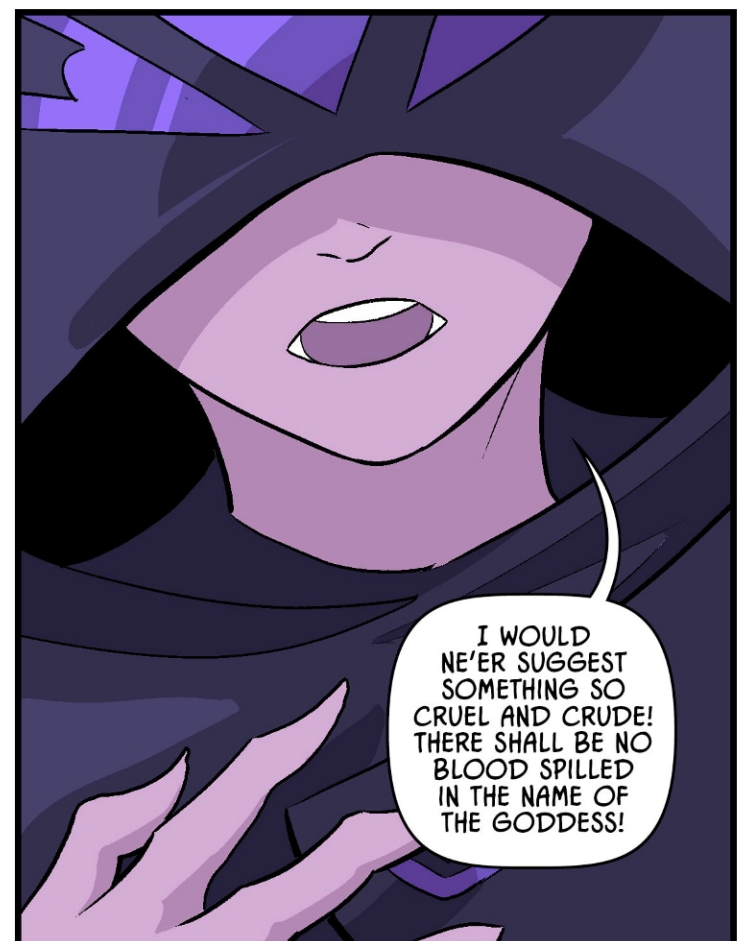


I OFFER THEE SOMETHING MUCH SWEETER THAN THE BITTER END OF THINE LIFE. A WAY TO REWRITE THE EVIL WITHIN THY HOLY ORDER.

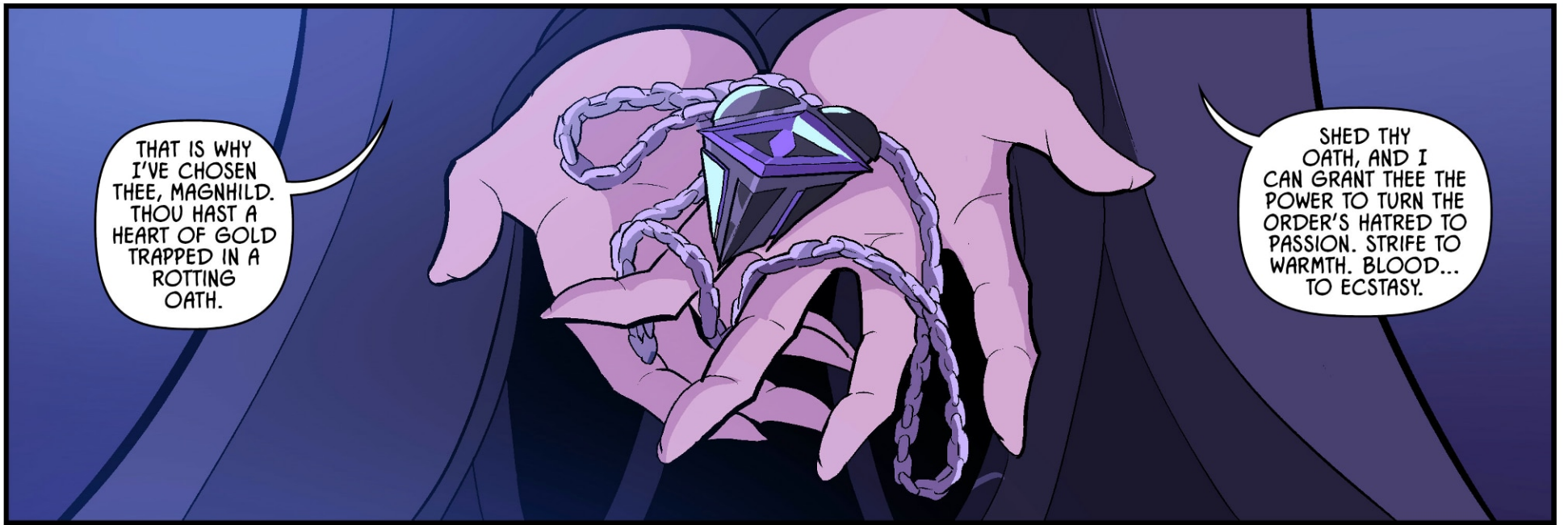


LISTEN, I STILL THINK YOU'RE A CREEP, BUT YOU'RE RIGHT. I'VE SEEN THE CORRUPTION WITH MY OWN EYES...

THOUGH IF YOU'RE PLANNING ON TELLING ME TO FIGHT THEM... KILL THEM FOR MY FREEDOM, I WON'T HELP YOU.



I WOULD NE'ER SUGGEST SOMETHING SO CRUEL AND CRUDE! THERE SHALL BE NO BLOOD SPILLED IN THE NAME OF THE GODDESS!



THAT IS WHY I'VE CHOSEN THEE, MAGNHILD. THOU HAST A HEART OF GOLD TRAPPED IN A ROTTING OATH.

SHED THY OATH, AND I CAN GRANT THEE THE POWER TO TURN THE ORDER'S HATRED TO PASSION. STRIFE TO WARMTH. BLOOD... TO ECSTASY.

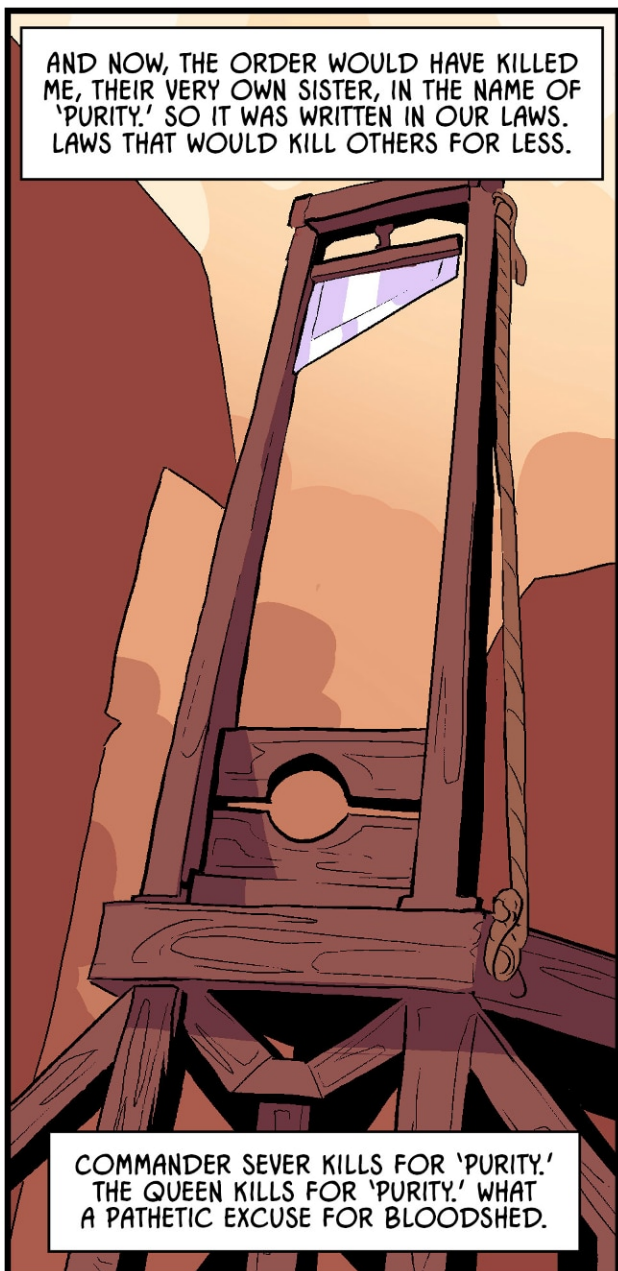


IF THOU DESIRES TO FOLLOW THE PATH OF TRUE PURITY, ILLUMINATING THE DARKNESS WITHIN THY ORDER...

...MY GODDESS REQUIRES I PERFORM A RITUAL OF COMMUNION.

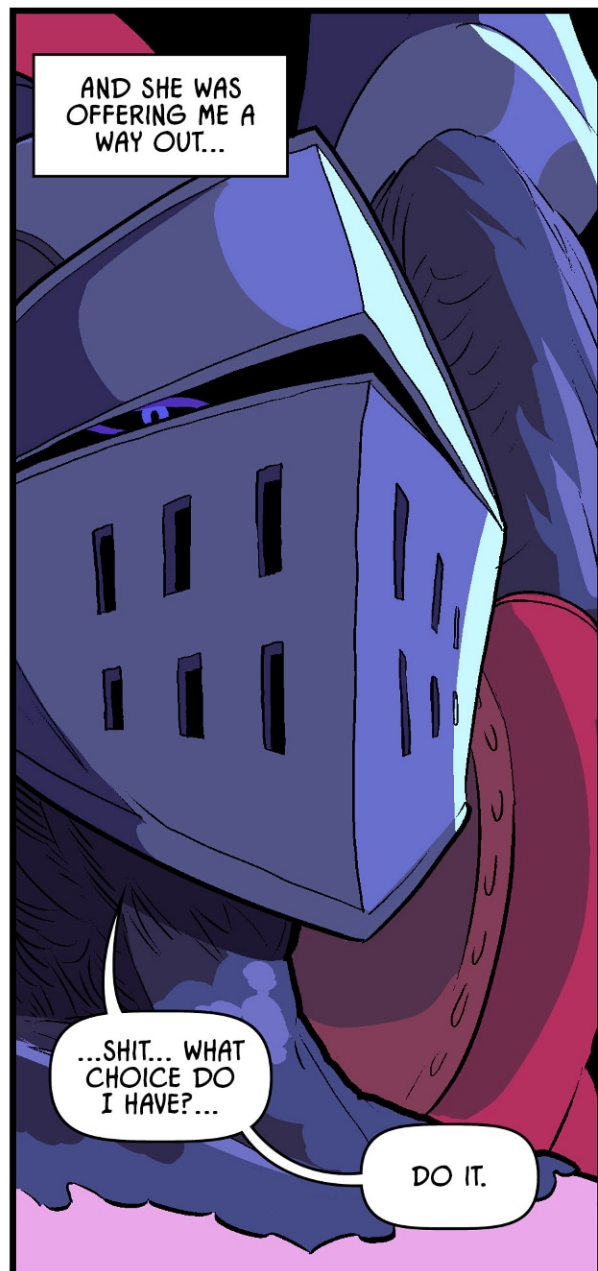
AS MUCH AS I WANTED TO DENY THE WORDS OF THE STRANGE WOMAN, SHE WAS RIGHT.

I HAD ALREADY BEEN HAVING DOUBTS IN MY FAITH, THEIR IDEAS OF 'PURITY' WERE ALWAYS TROUBLING TO ME.



AND NOW, THE ORDER WOULD HAVE KILLED ME, THEIR VERY OWN SISTER, IN THE NAME OF 'PURITY.' SO IT WAS WRITTEN IN OUR LAWS. LAWS THAT WOULD KILL OTHERS FOR LESS.

COMMANDER SEVER KILLS FOR 'PURITY.' THE QUEEN KILLS FOR 'PURITY.' WHAT A PATHETIC EXCUSE FOR BLOODSHED.



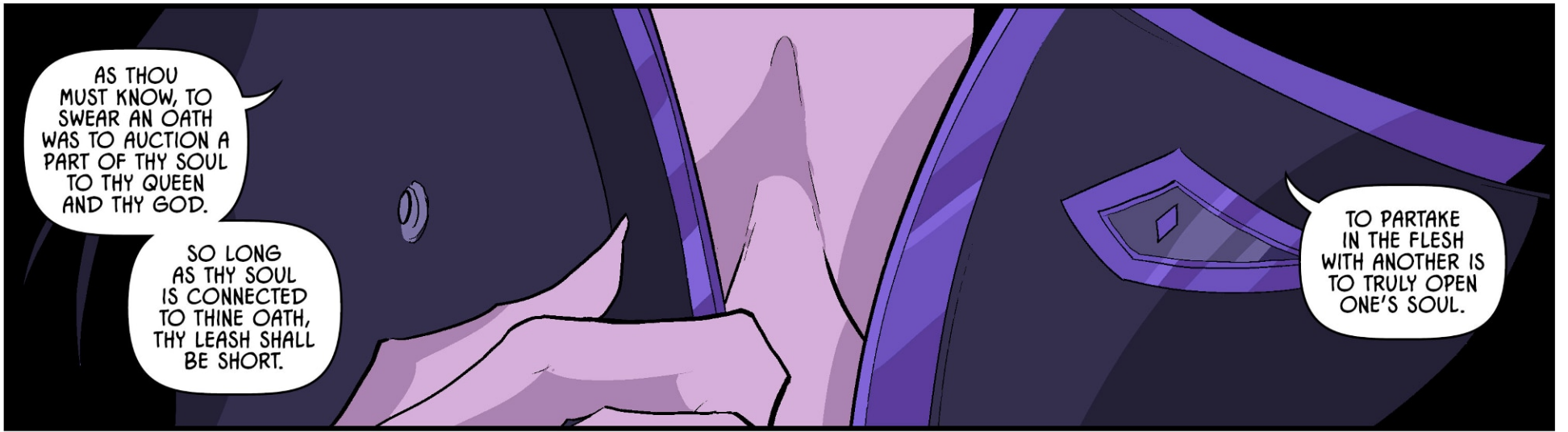
AND SHE WAS OFFERING ME A WAY OUT...

...SHIT... WHAT CHOICE DO I HAVE?...

DO IT.



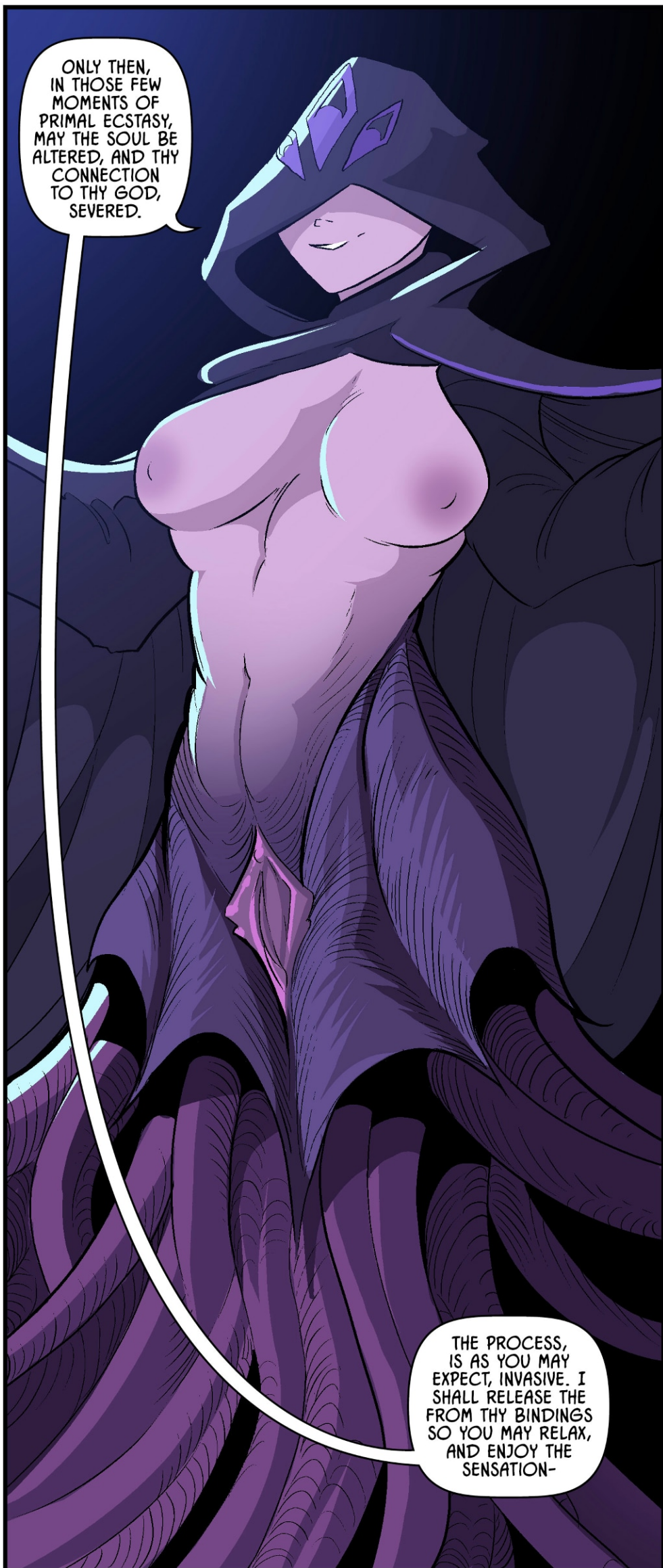
VERY WELL...



AS THOU MUST KNOW, TO SWEAR AN OATH WAS TO AUCTION A PART OF THY SOUL TO THY QUEEN AND THY GOD.

SO LONG AS THY SOUL IS CONNECTED TO THINE OATH, THY LEASH SHALL BE SHORT.

TO PARTAKE IN THE FLESH WITH ANOTHER IS TO TRULY OPEN ONE'S SOUL.



ONLY THEN, IN THOSE FEW MOMENTS OF PRIMAL ECSTASY, MAY THE SOUL BE ALTERED, AND THY CONNECTION TO THY GOD, SEVERED.

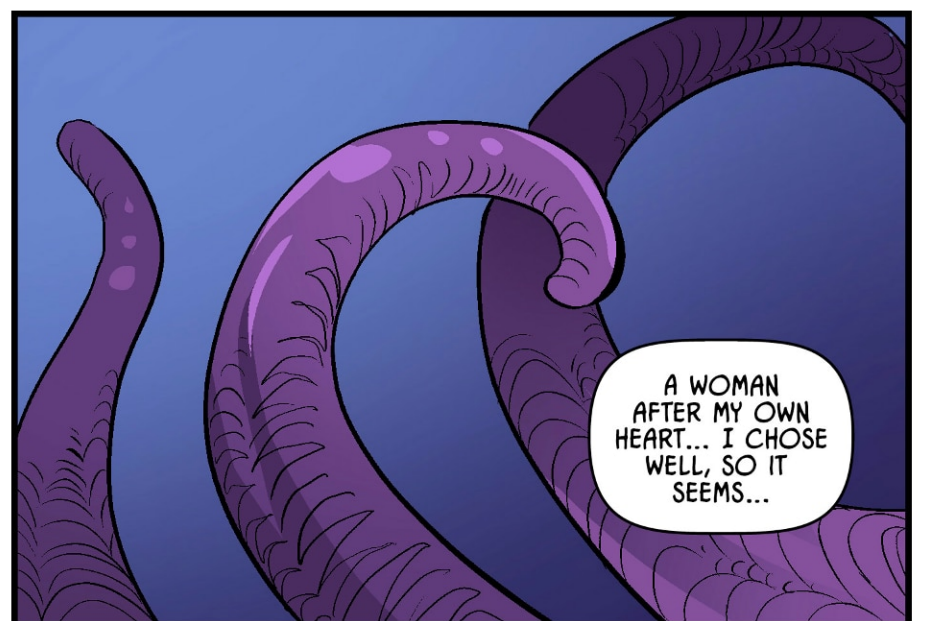
THE PROCESS, IS AS YOU MAY EXPECT, INVASIVE. I SHALL RELEASE THE FROM THY BINDINGS SO YOU MAY RELAX, AND ENJOY THE SENSATION-



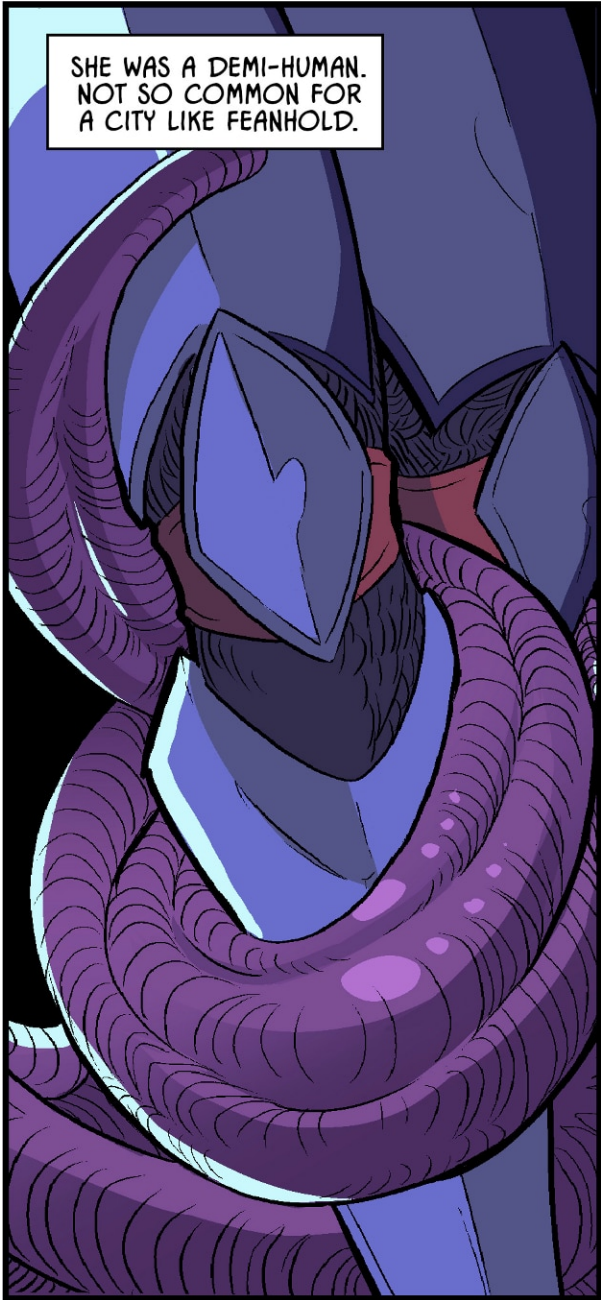
NO... KEEP THEM...



HMM?~



A WOMAN AFTER MY OWN HEART... I CHOSE WELL, SO IT SEEMS...



SHE WAS A DEMI-HUMAN.
NOT SO COMMON FOR
A CITY LIKE FEANHOLD.



HER GRIP WAS GENTLE
AND TENDER, THOUGH I
HAVE NO DOUBT SHE COULD
HAVE HELD ME DOWN LIKE
A RAGDOLL, EVEN WITH
MY STRENGTH.



THY BODY
IS WARM AND
QUIVERING...YOU
POOR SOUL,
SO MUCH
STRESS...

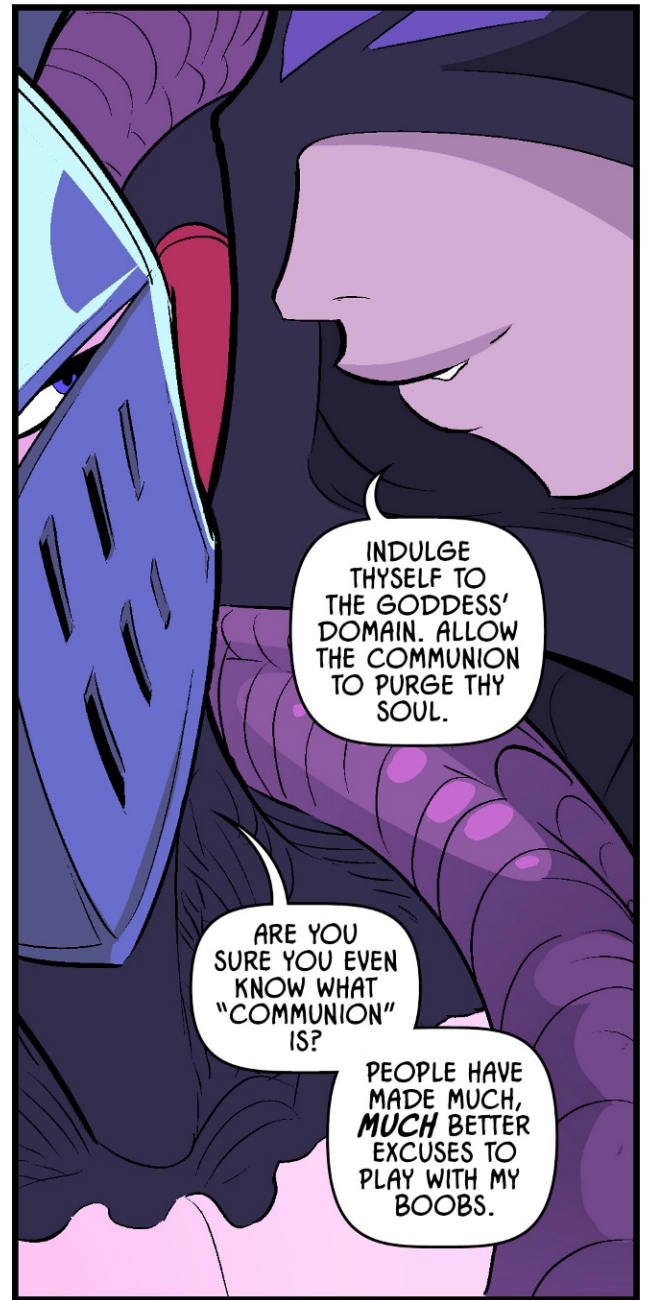


PLEASE...
LET ME TAKE
THIS BURDEN
FROM THEE.





THOU HAST NOTHING TO FEAR ANY LONGER... THE SANGUINE ORDER WILL NOT HAVE THY LIFE.



INDULGE THYSELF TO THE GODDESS' DOMAIN. ALLOW THE COMMUNION TO PURGE THY SOUL.

ARE YOU SURE YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT "COMMUNION" IS?

PEOPLE HAVE MADE MUCH, **MUCH** BETTER EXCUSES TO PLAY WITH MY BOOBS.



PLEASE MAGNHILD, THIS RITUAL IS NO LOWLY INTERCOURSE.

OUR COMMUNION IS A MARK OF GREAT FAVOR FROM THE GODDESS.

FAVOR THAT, THROUGH THIS RITUAL, SHALL SAVE THY VERY LIFE.



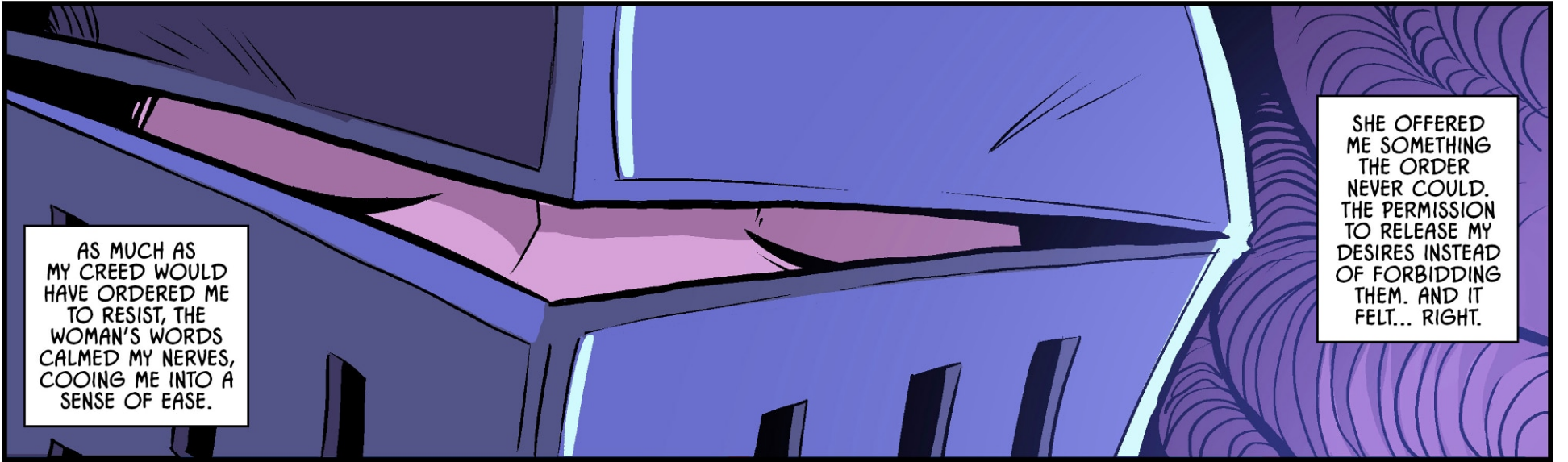
SO JUST CLOSE THY WORRYING EYES...



...AND ALLOW THYSELF TO BE SWEEP AWAY.

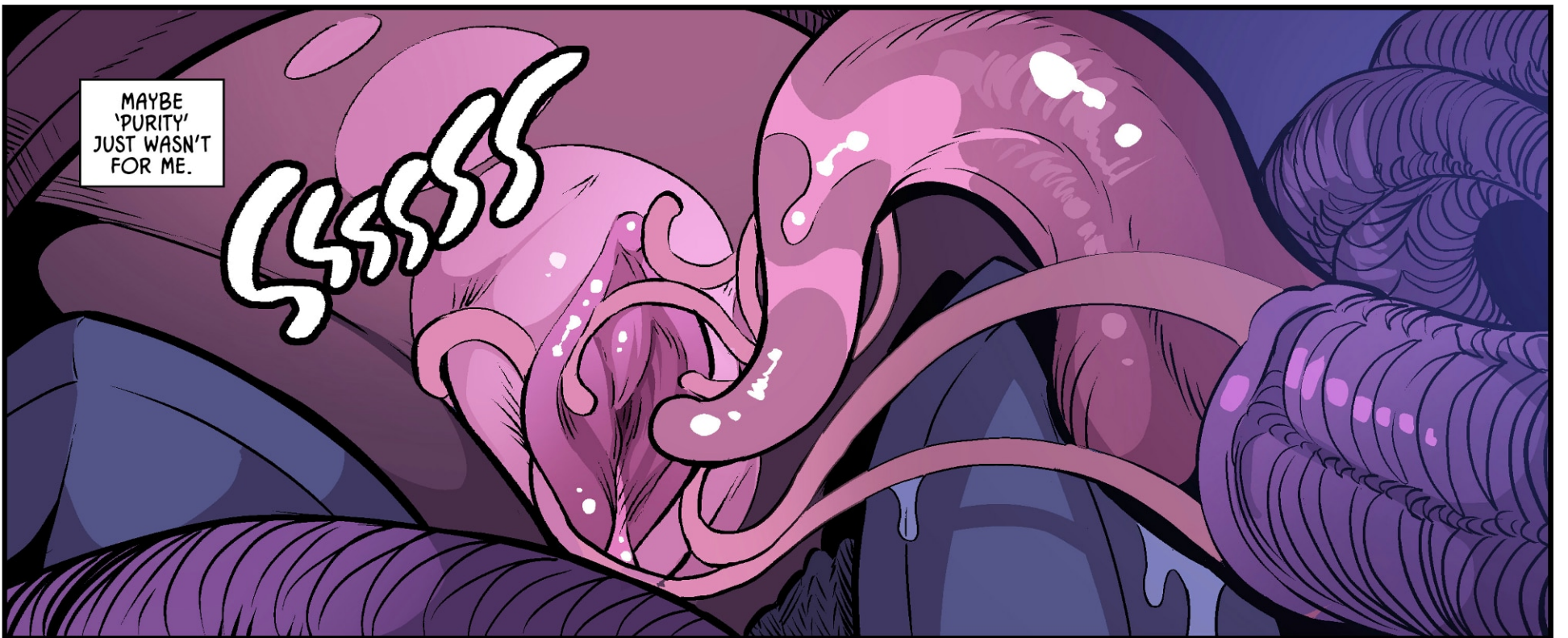


BECOME ONE WITH MY EMBRACE, AND FIND PEACE.



AS MUCH AS MY CREED WOULD HAVE ORDERED ME TO RESIST, THE WOMAN'S WORDS CALMED MY NERVES, COOING ME INTO A SENSE OF EASE.

SHE OFFERED ME SOMETHING THE ORDER NEVER COULD. THE PERMISSION TO RELEASE MY DESIRES INSTEAD OF FORBIDDING THEM. AND IT FELT... RIGHT.

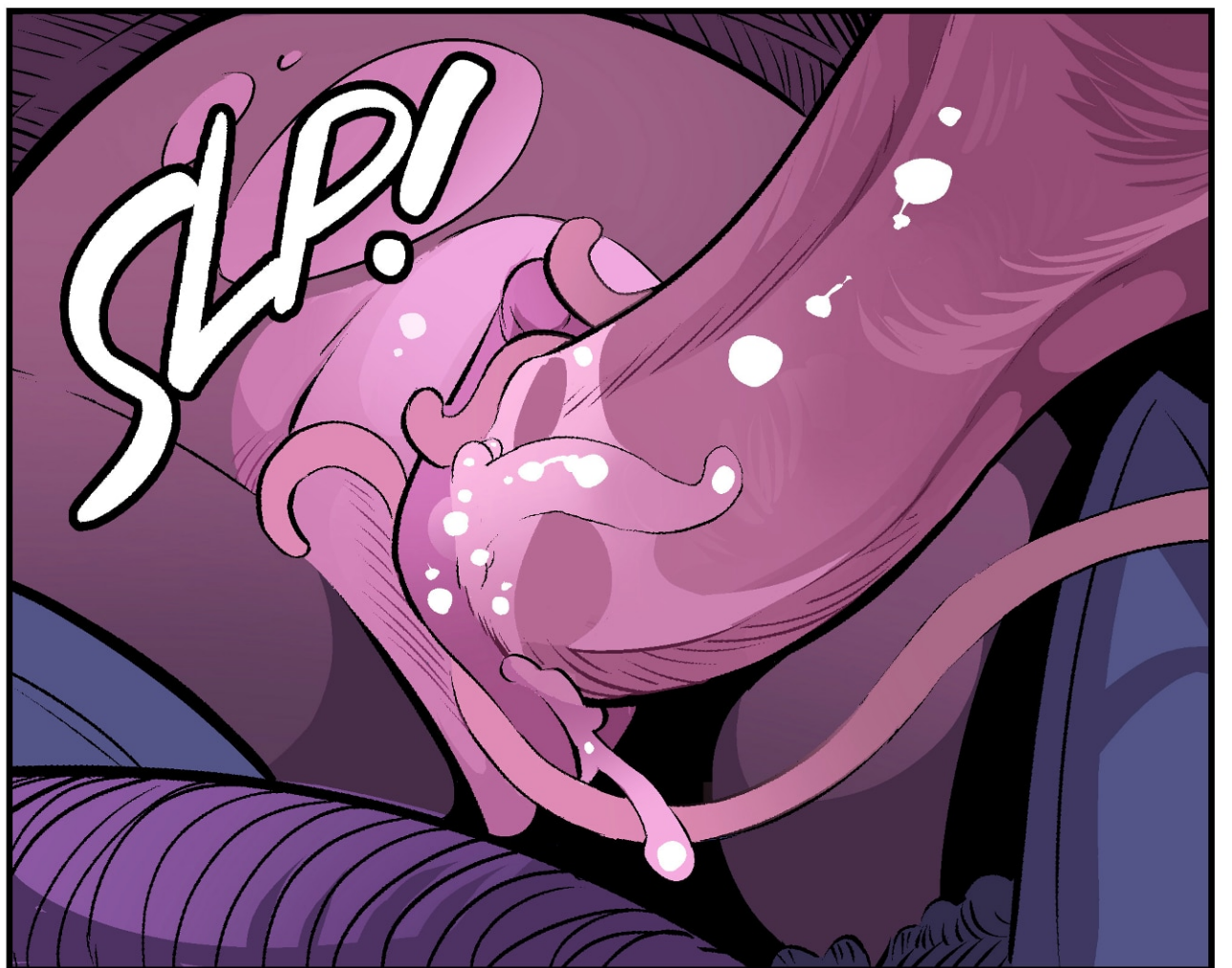


MAYBE 'PURITY' JUST WASN'T FOR ME.

SSSSSS



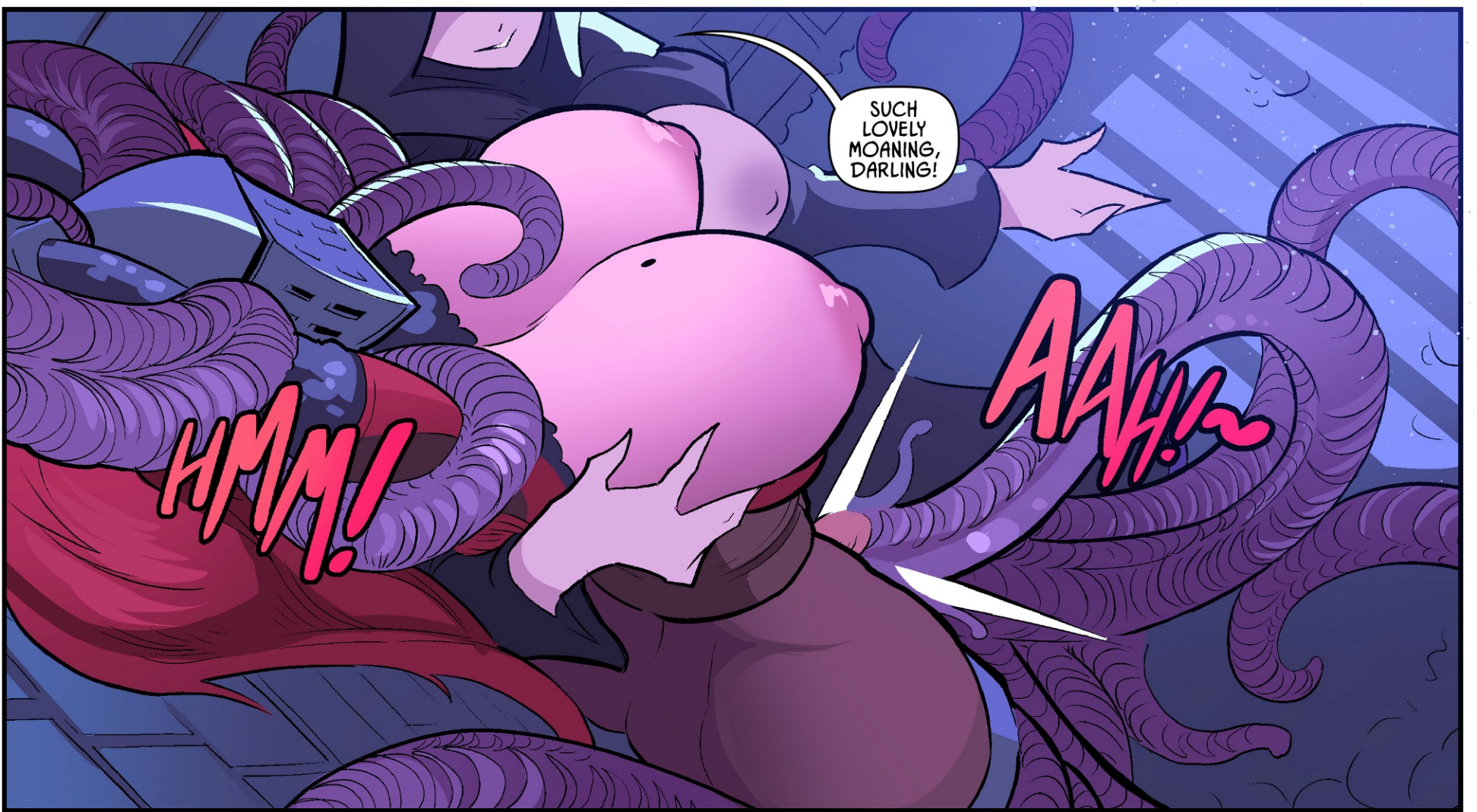
BE READY, MY GENTLE KNIGHT.

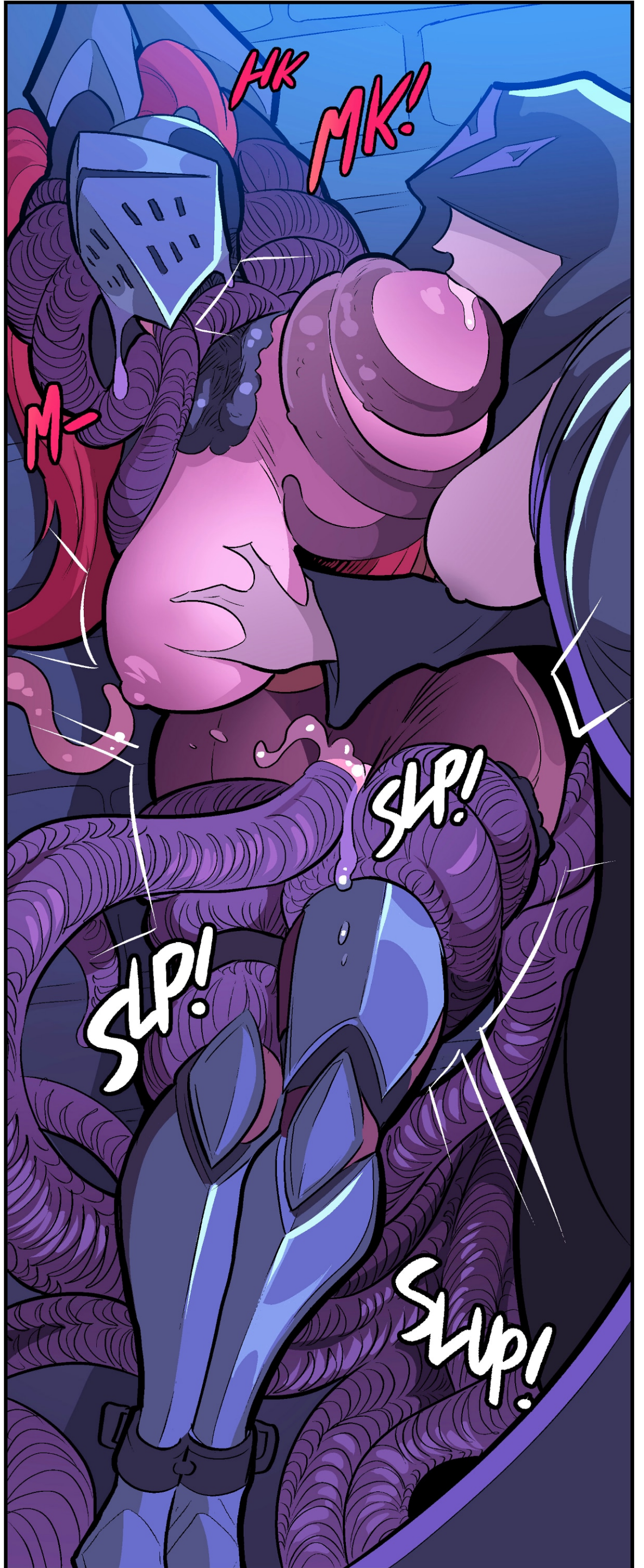


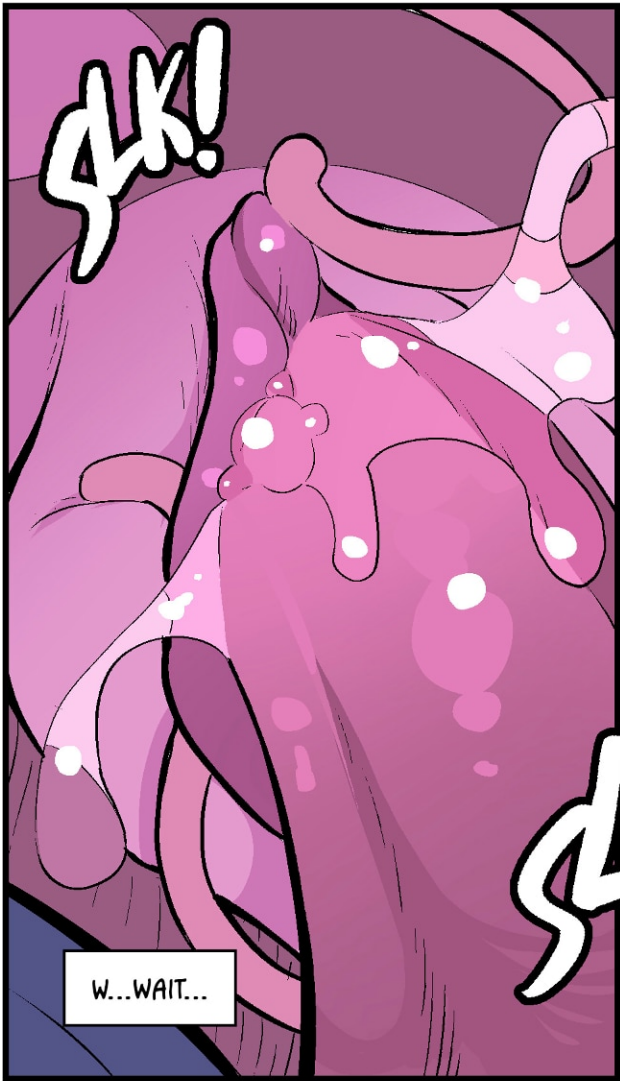
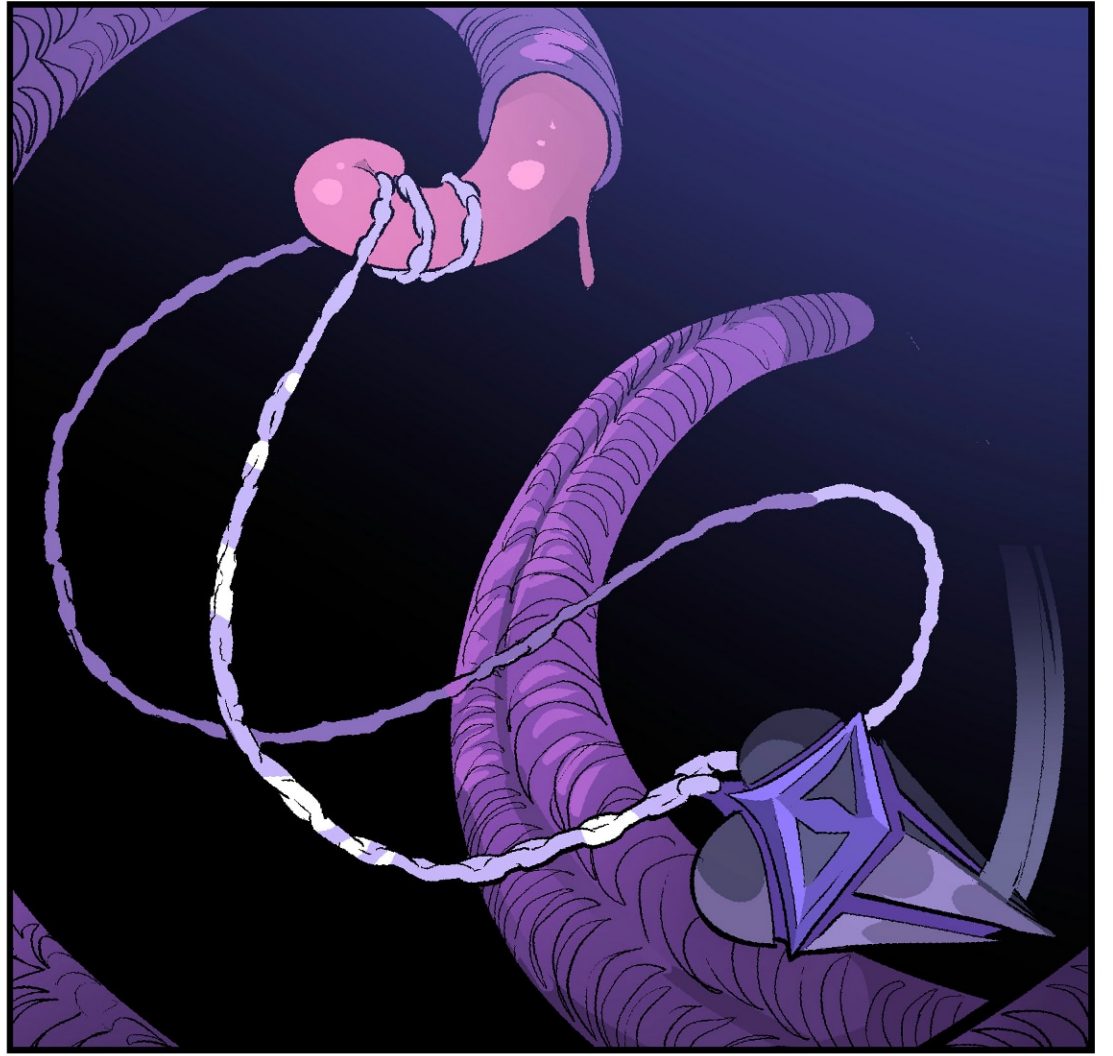
SLP!



WAAH!



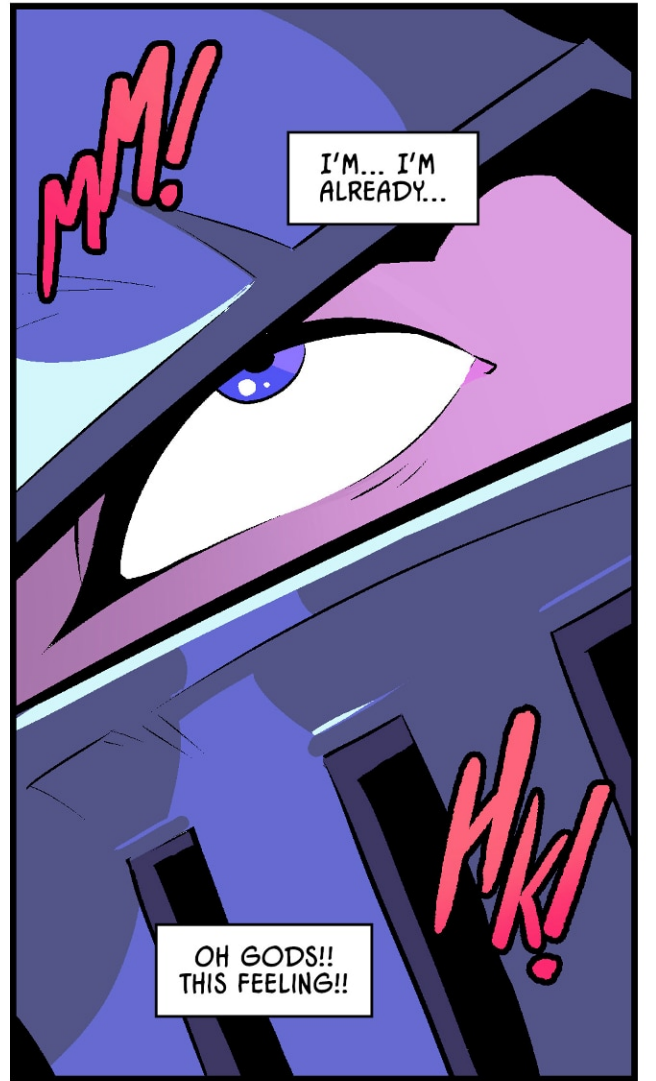




W...WAIT...

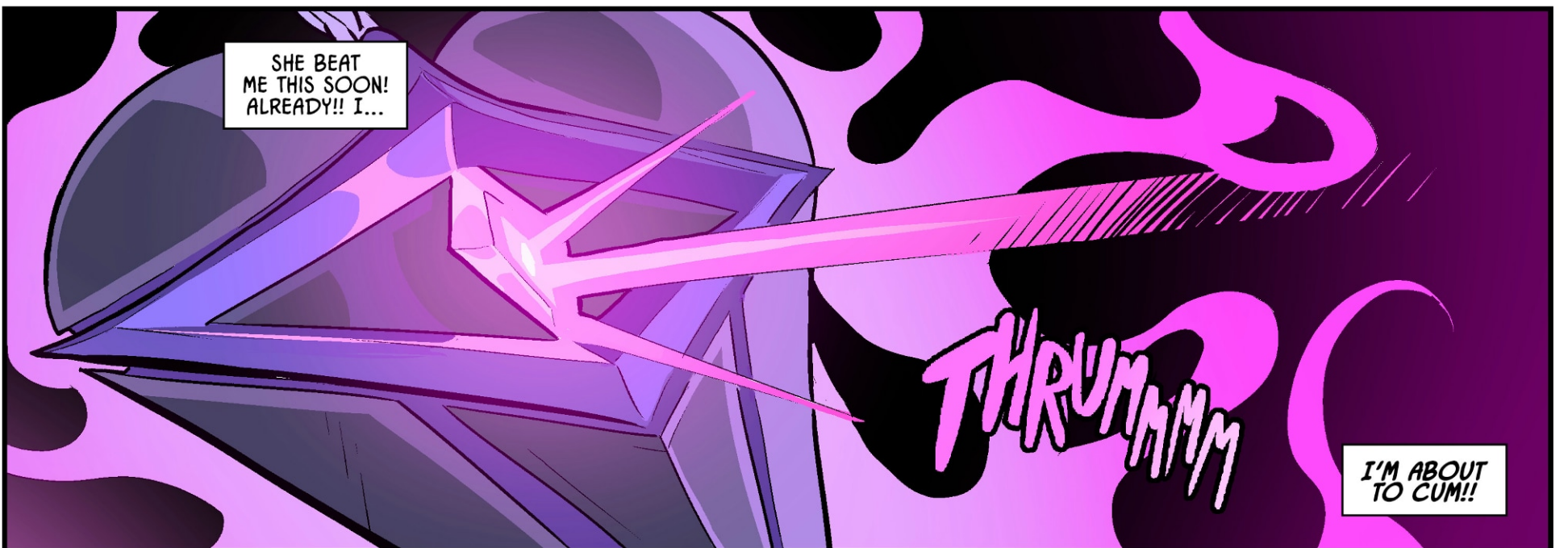


HOW... CAN SHE-?



I'M... I'M ALREADY...

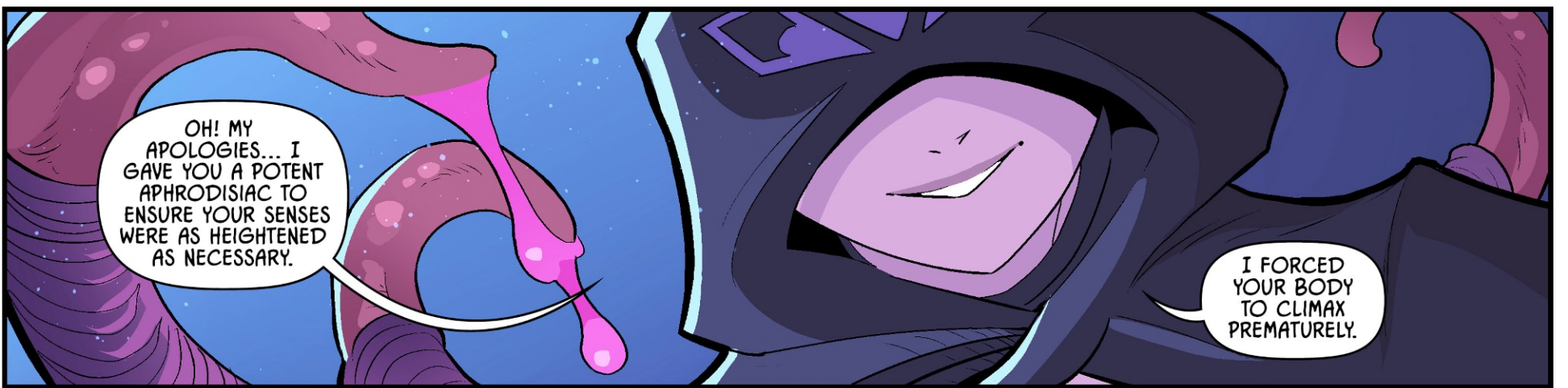
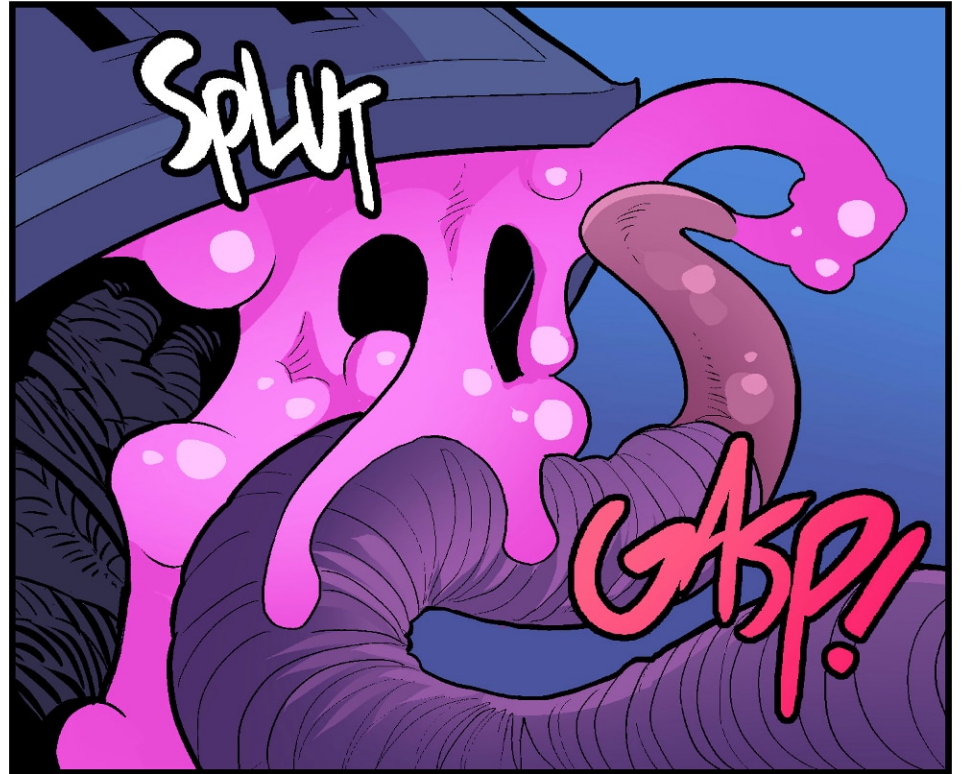
OH GODS!! THIS FEELING!!



SHE BEAT ME THIS SOON! ALREADY!! I...

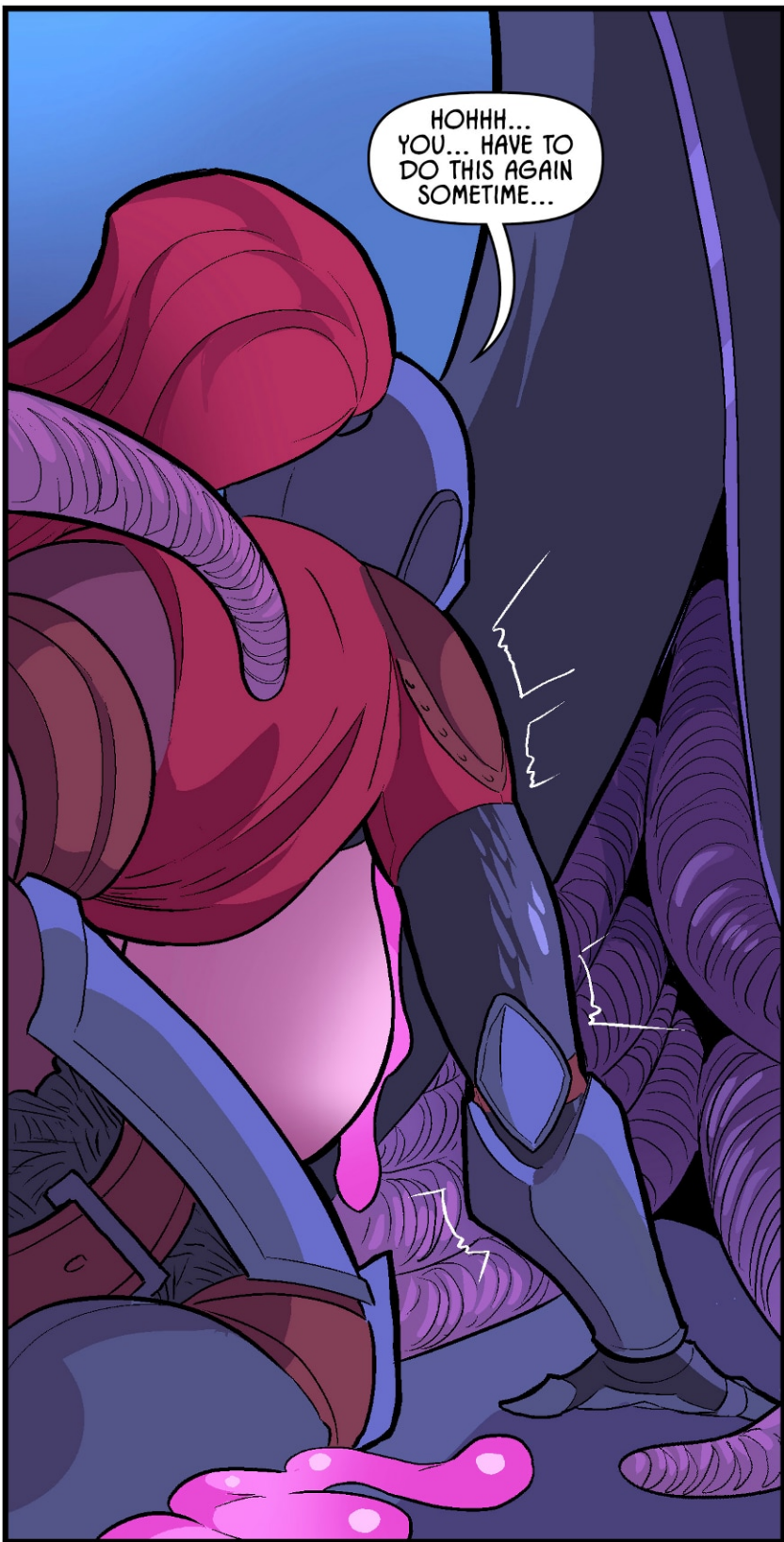
I'M ABOUT TO CUM!!



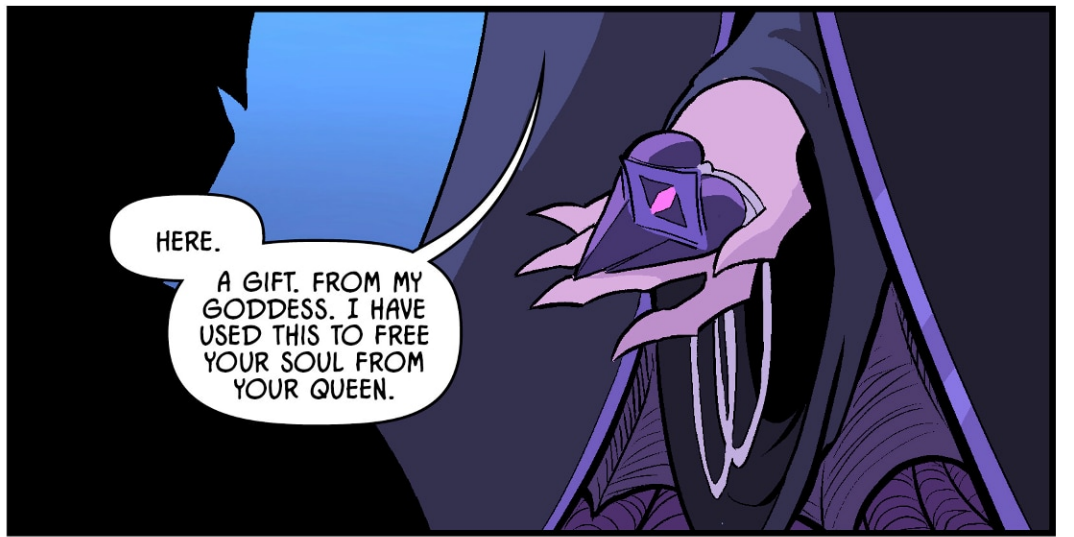




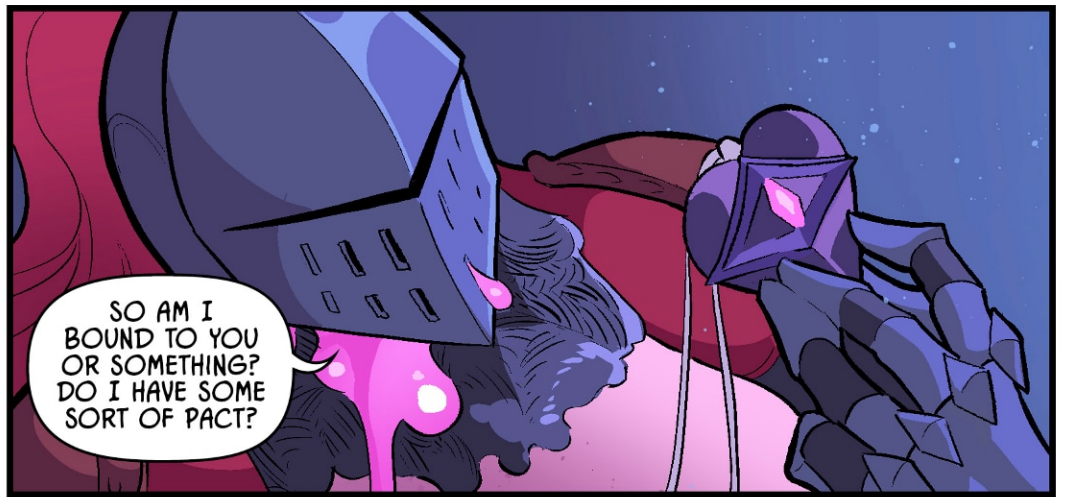
EASY THERE, MY WARRIOR.



HOHHH... YOU... HAVE TO DO THIS AGAIN SOMETIME...



HERE.
A GIFT. FROM MY GODDESS. I HAVE USED THIS TO FREE YOUR SOUL FROM YOUR QUEEN.



SO AM I BOUND TO YOU OR SOMETHING? DO I HAVE SOME SORT OF PACT?



HAH! NONSENSE!
THOU ART NO LONGER BEHOLDEN TO ANYONE. NOT ME, NOR THE GODDESS. YOU ARE YOUR OWN WOMAN.



BUT WITH THIS... SHOULD YOU CHOOSE, YOU CAN NOW DO TO OTHERS, WHAT I HAVE DONE TO THEE.

FOR YOU, SEVERING YOUR OATH WAS ONE OF YOUR GREATEST DESIRES, BUT FOR THOSE IN YOUR ORDER...
TO SEVER THEIR OATH WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC TO THEIR STATION.

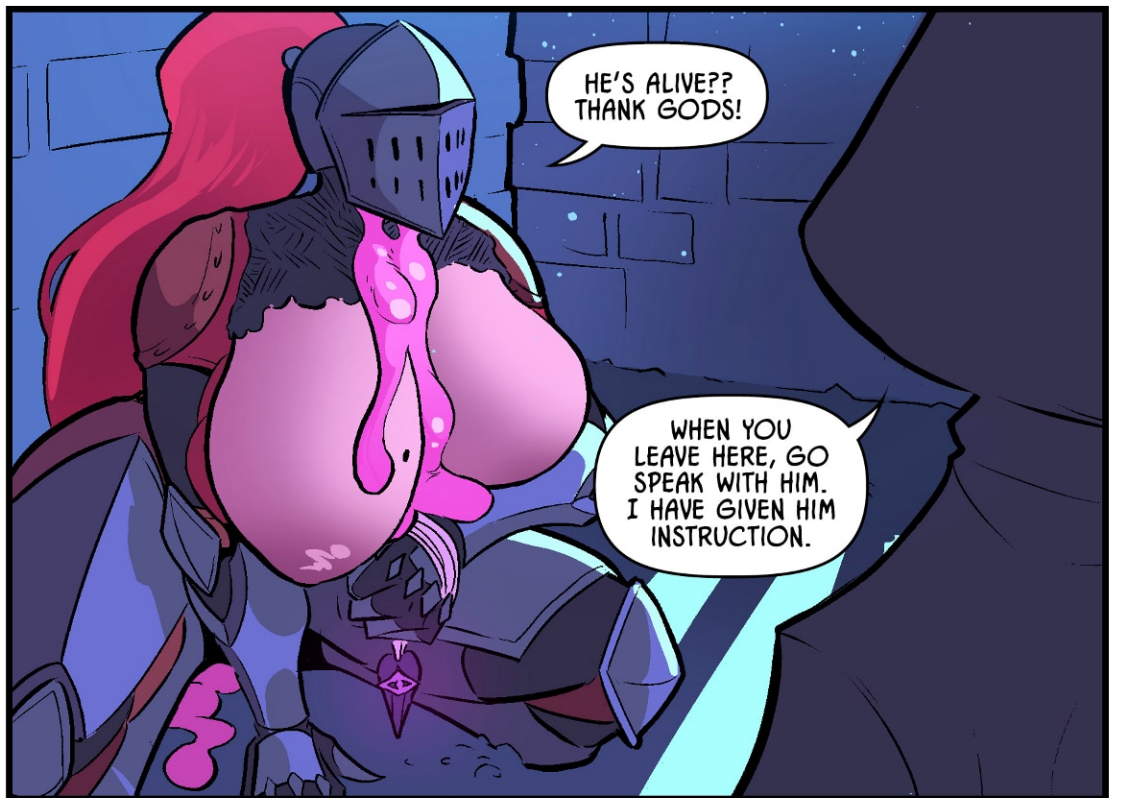


THEY WOULD BE FOREVER DISHONORED BY PARTAKING IN THE FLESH WITH ONE WHO POSSESSES AN ARTIFACT OF THE GODDESS.

THEY WILL HAVE WISHED THAT YOU HAD WRESTLED THEM WITH A SWORD INSTEAD OF WITH THY BODY.



I HAVE... ALSO ENSURED GOPHNER'S SAFETY.



HE'S ALIVE?? THANK GODS!

WHEN YOU LEAVE HERE, GO SPEAK WITH HIM. I HAVE GIVEN HIM INSTRUCTION.

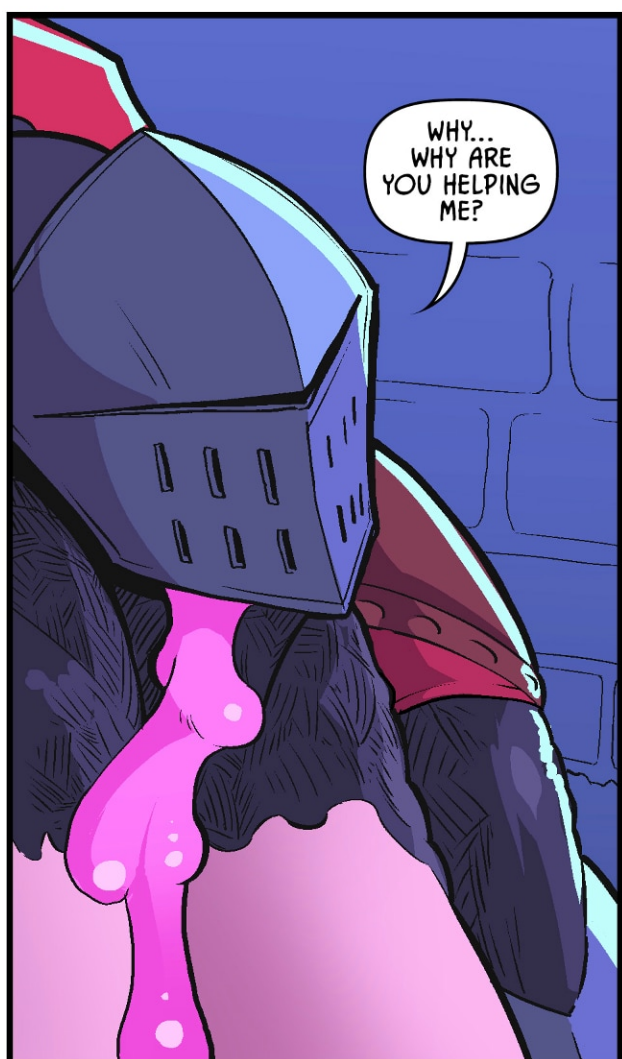


SIGH

I'M SURE I MADE HIS LIFE A GREAT DEAL HARDER BY ROPING HIM INTO THIS...

OF COURSE.

THIS IS ALL GOING SO FAST... MAY I ASK SOMETHING?

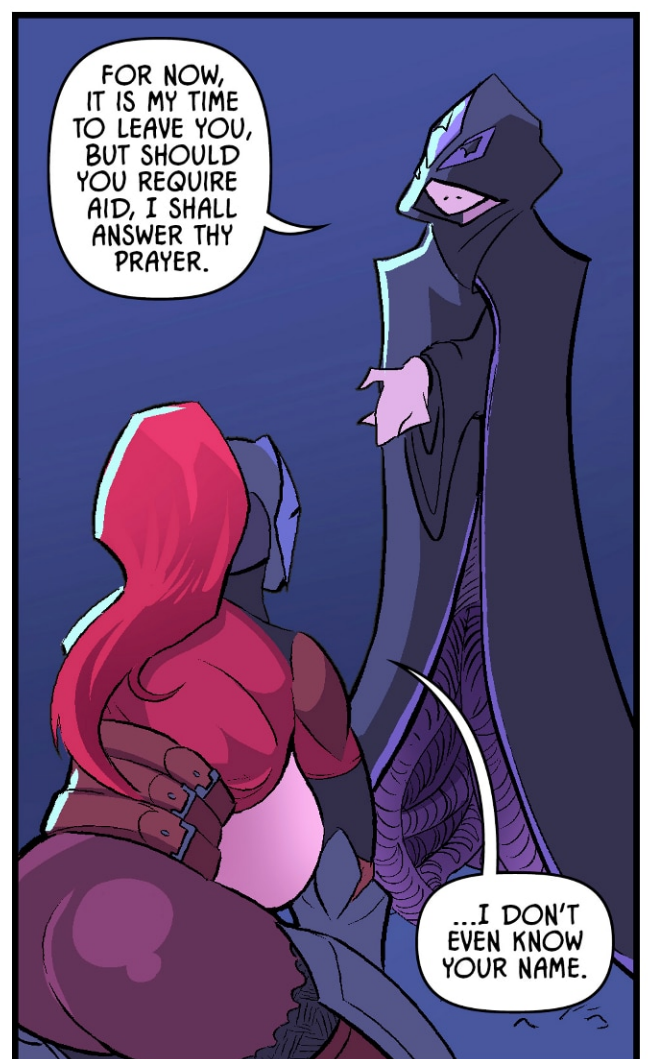


WHY... WHY ARE YOU HELPING ME?



THE GODDESS BELIEVES THAT YOU WILL DECIDE TO DISMANTLE AN ENTIRE ORDER AS ONE WOMAN.

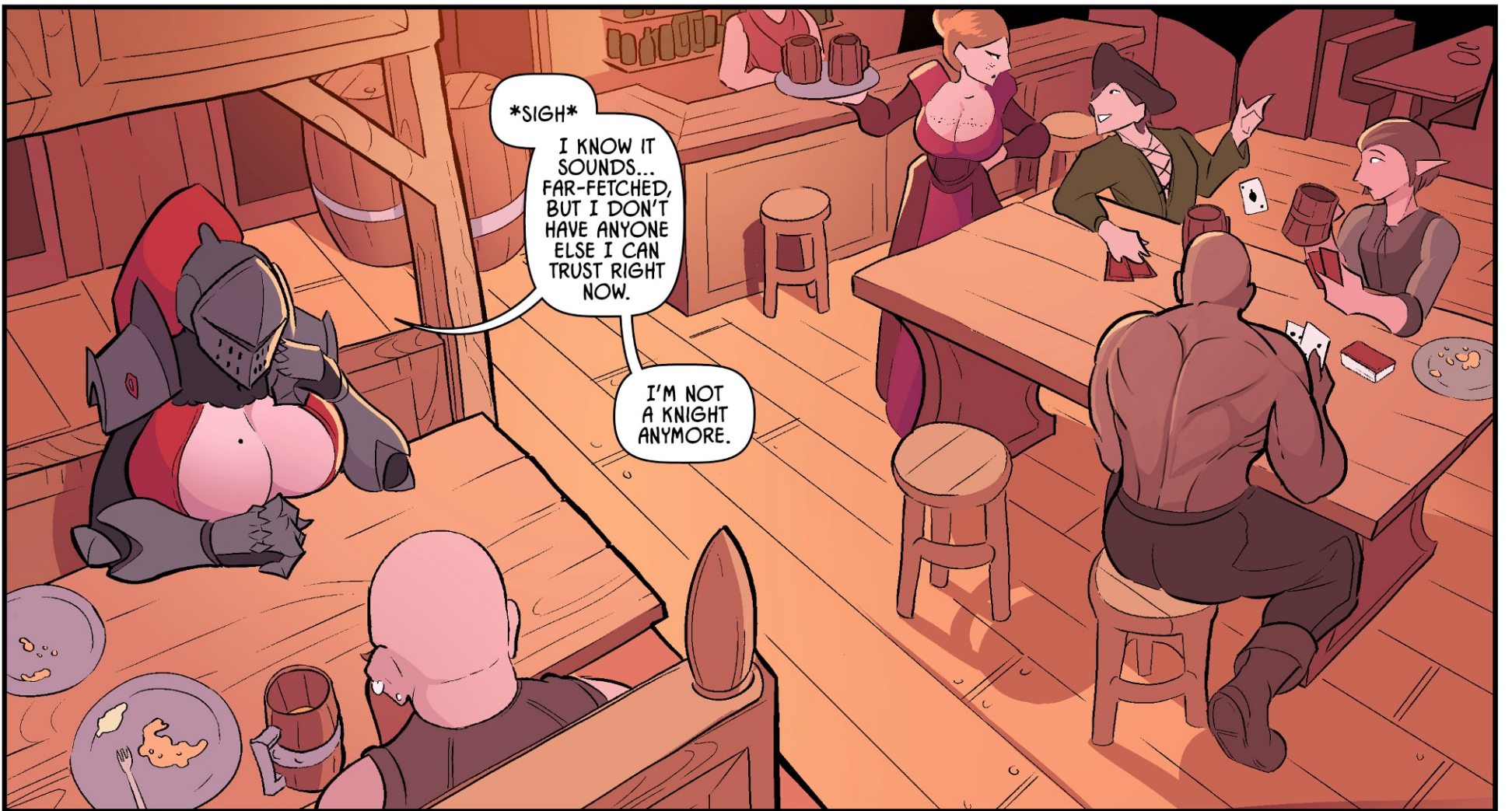
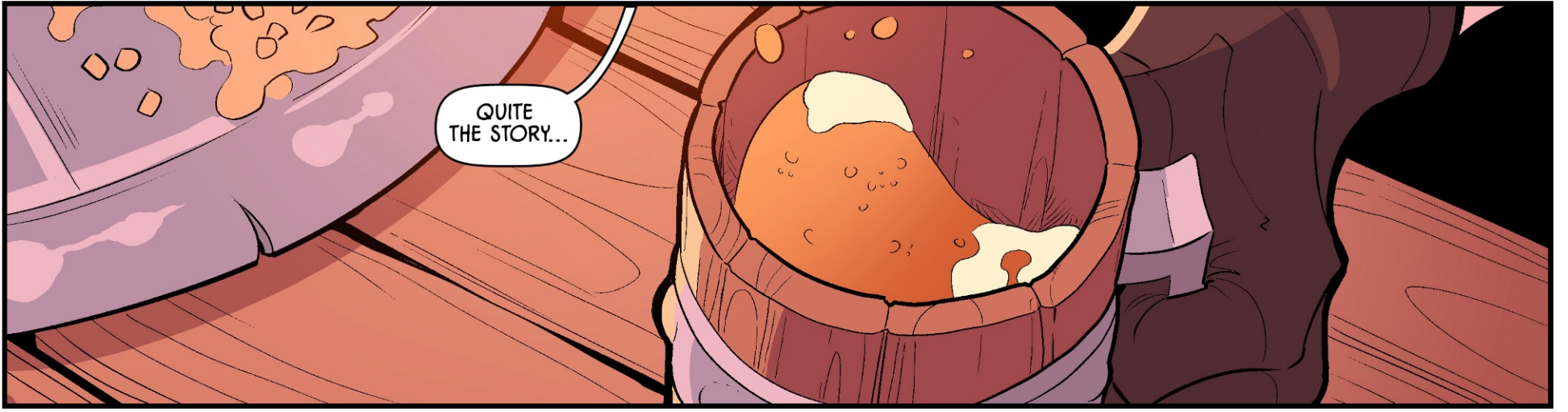
BUT I'M HELPING YOU BECAUSE I BELIEVE SOME DESERVE BETTER THAN THE LOT LIFE HAS GIVEN THEM.

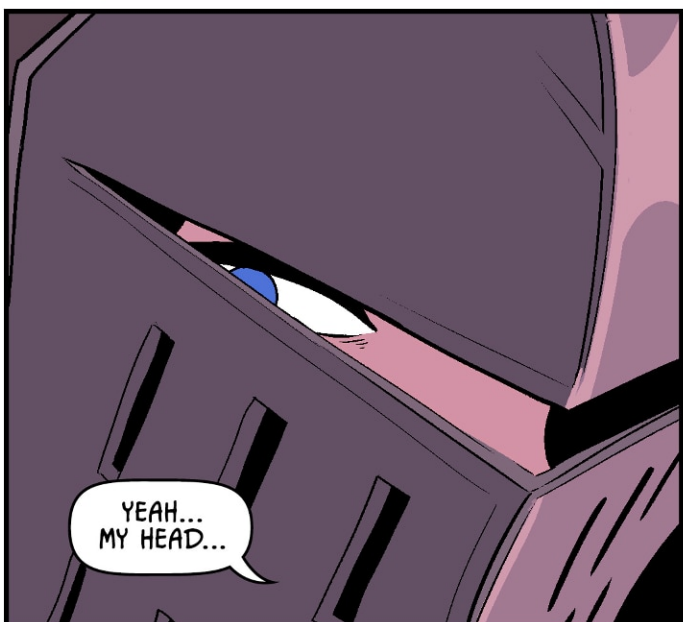
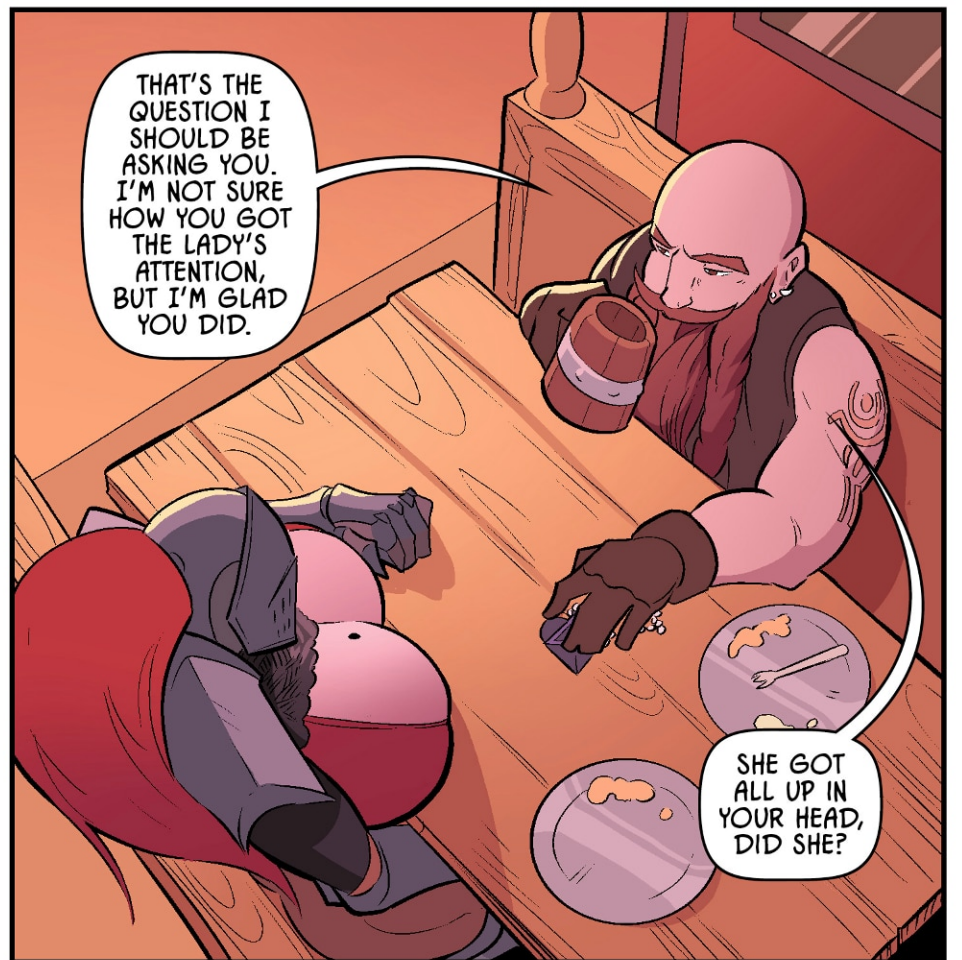
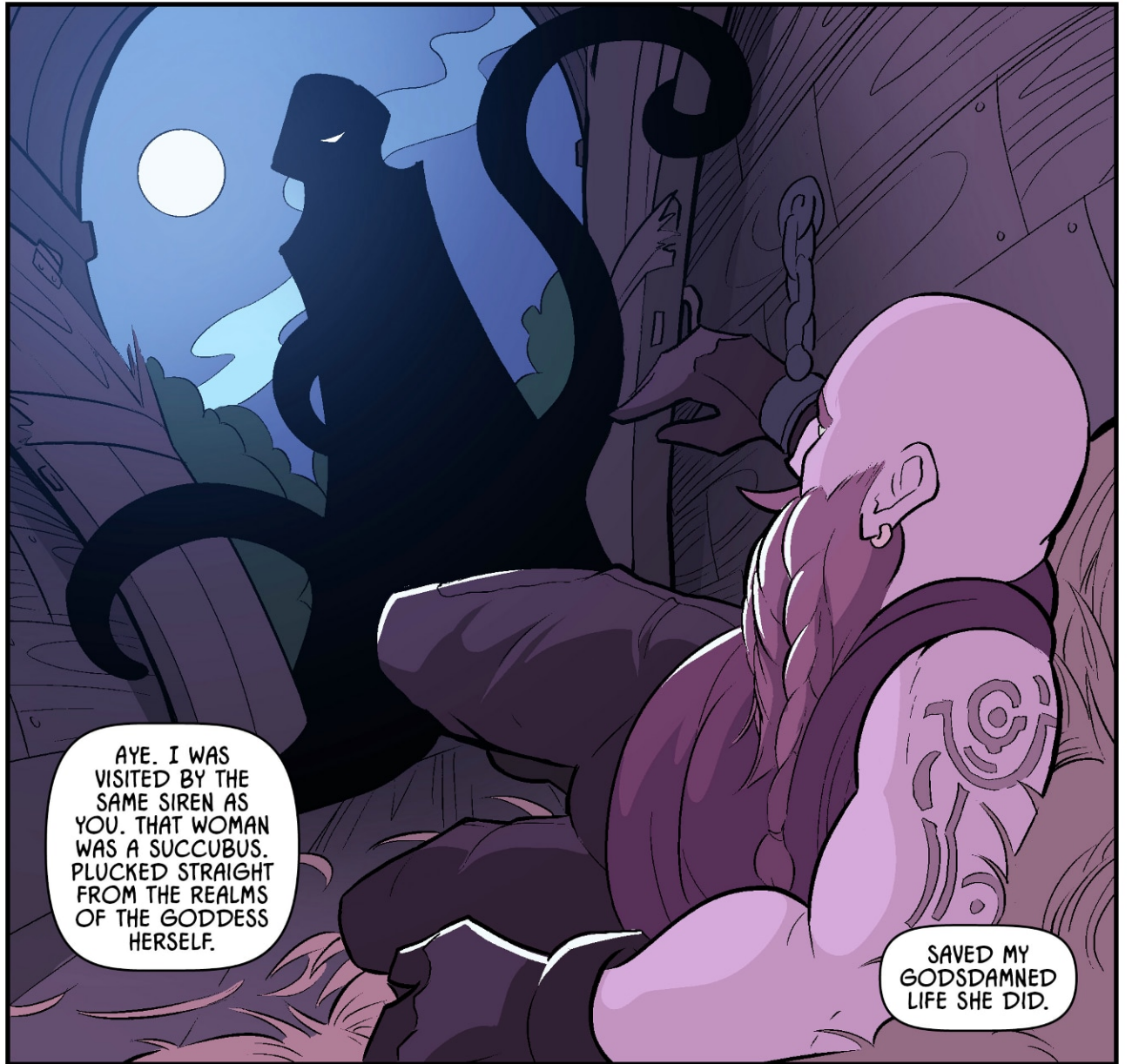
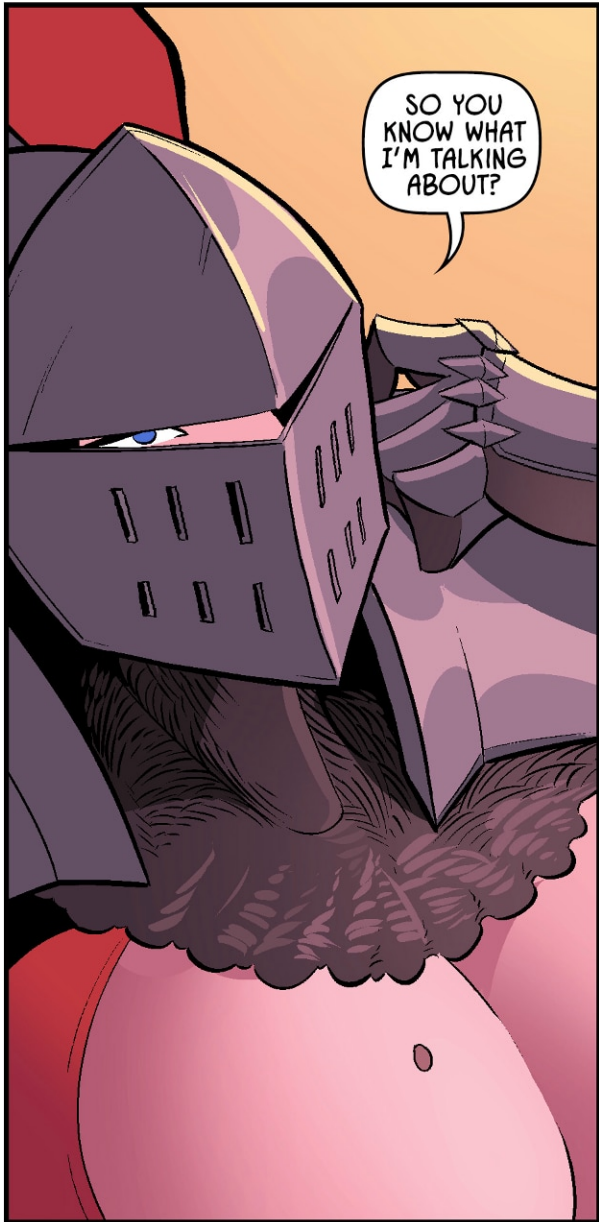


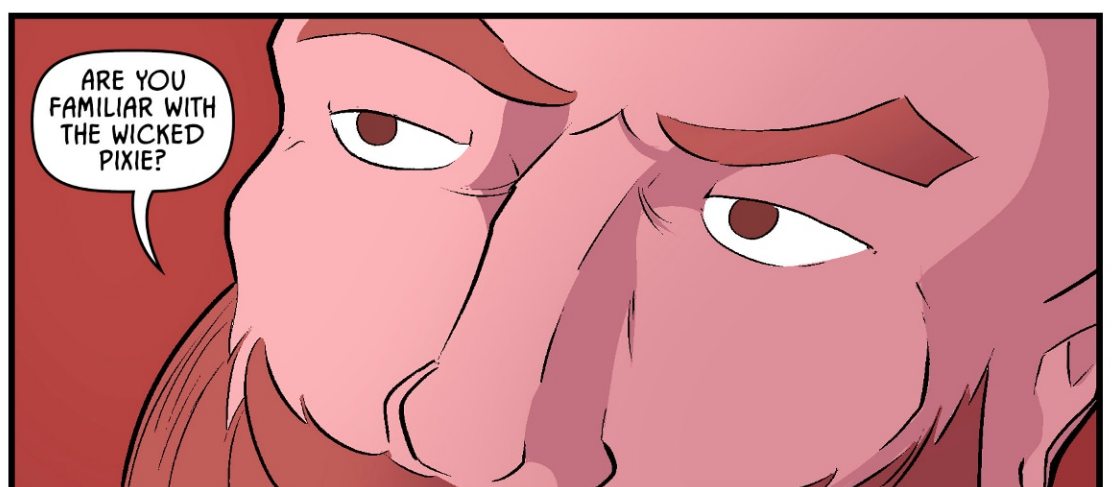
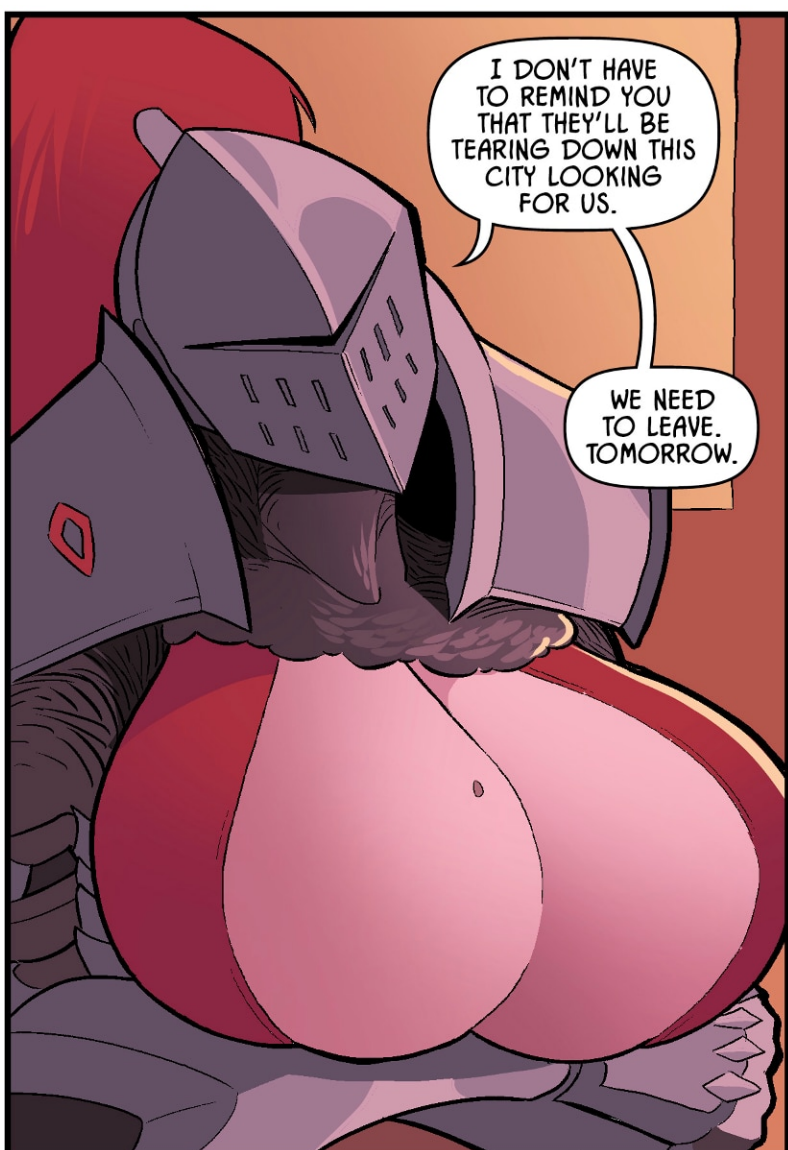
FOR NOW, IT IS MY TIME TO LEAVE YOU, BUT SHOULD YOU REQUIRE AID, I SHALL ANSWER THY PRAYER.

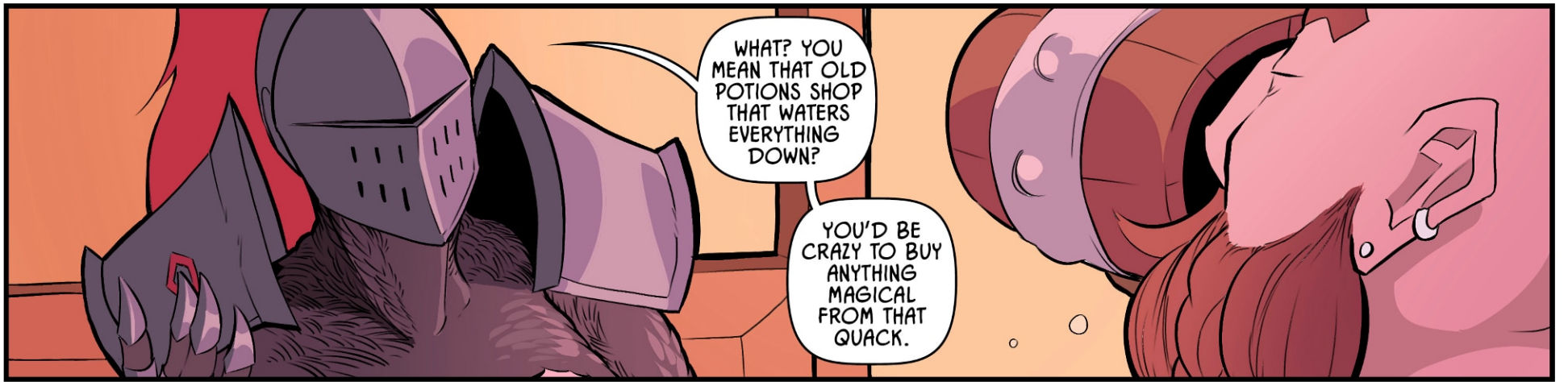
...I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOUR NAME.





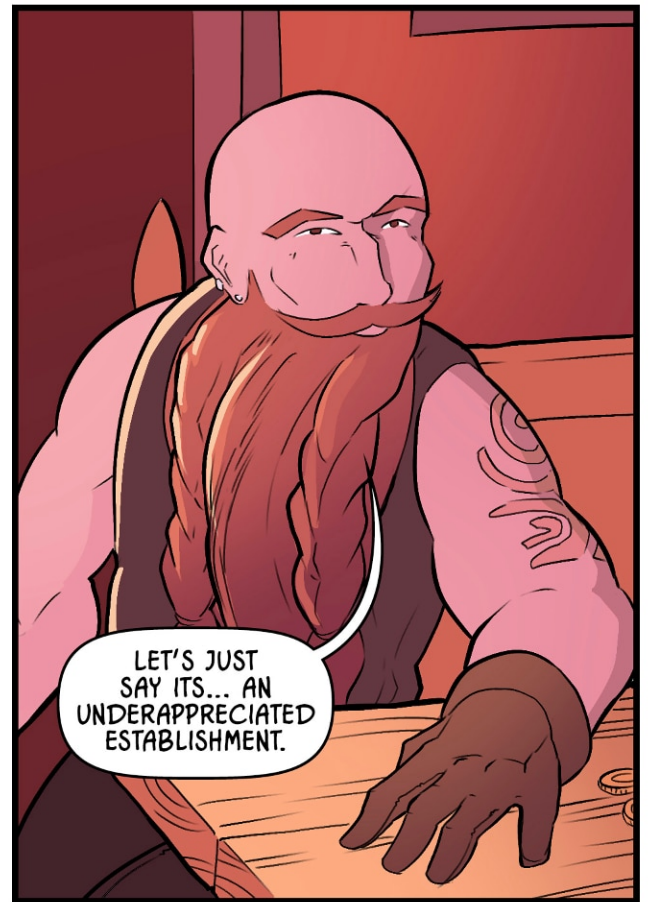
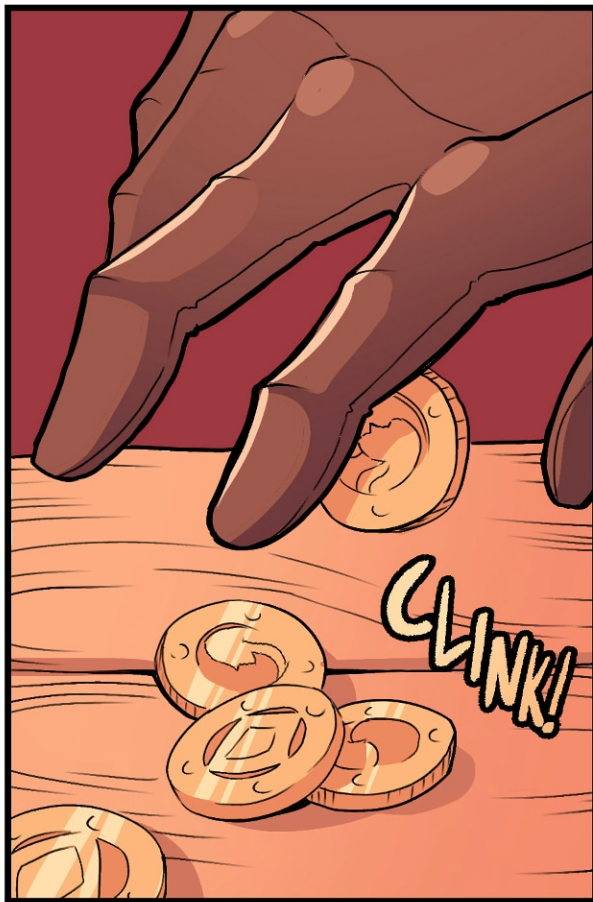
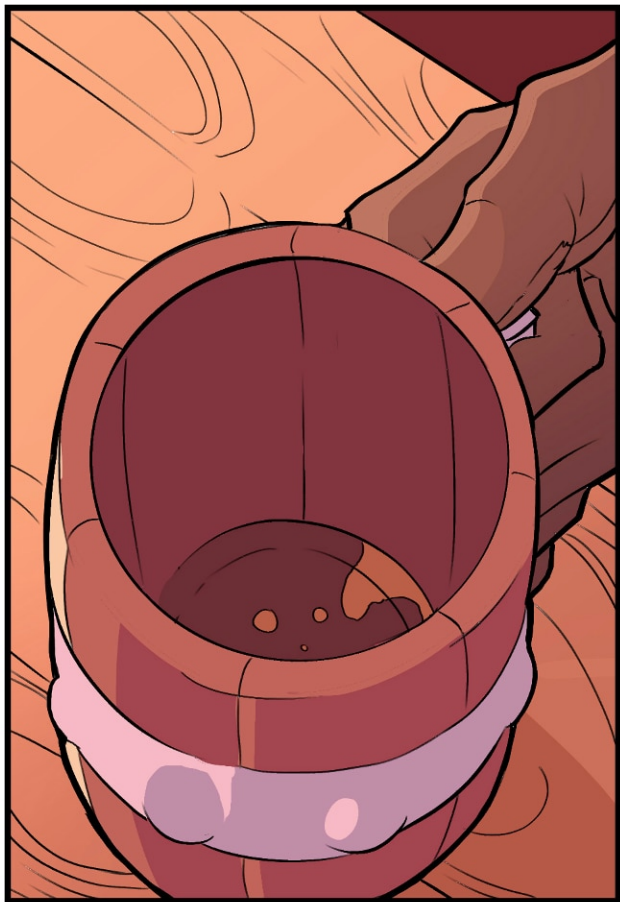






WHAT? YOU MEAN THAT OLD POTIONS SHOP THAT WATERS EVERYTHING DOWN?

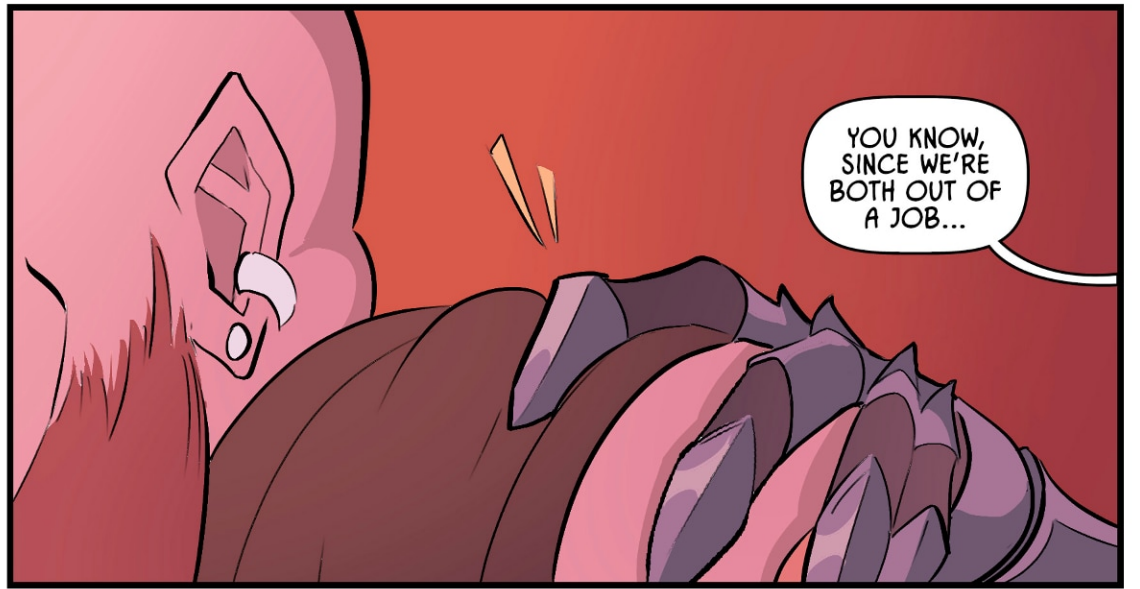
YOU'D BE CRAZY TO BUY ANYTHING MAGICAL FROM THAT QUACK.



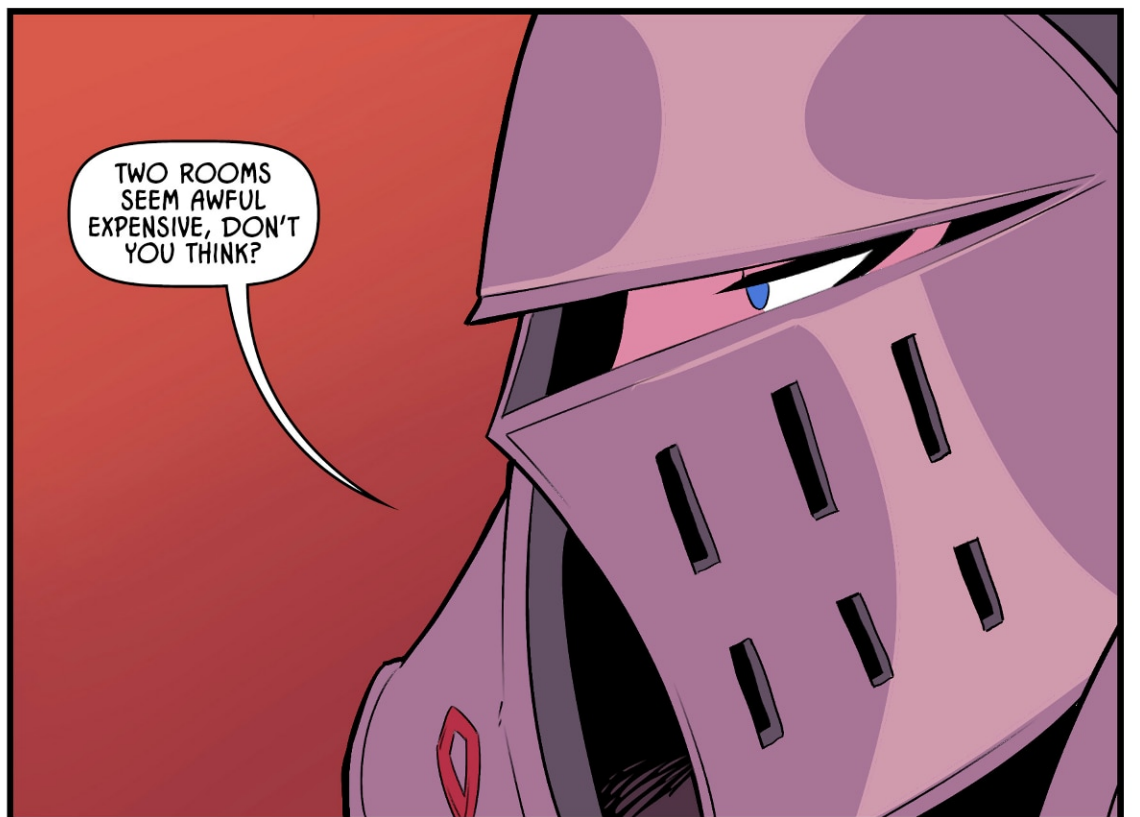
LET'S JUST SAY ITS... AN UNDERAPPRECIATED ESTABLISHMENT.



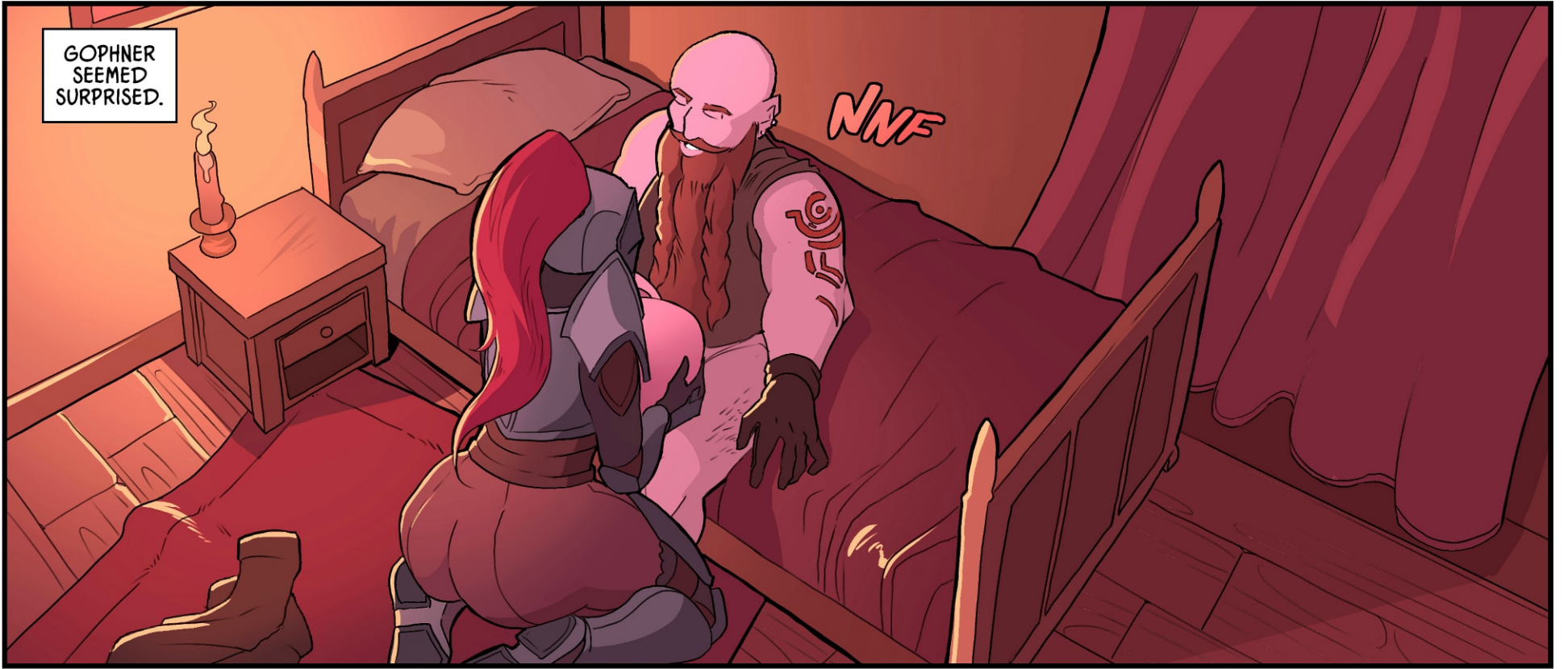
WELL, IT'S BEEN A LONG DAY. I'M OFF TO BUY MY ROOM. I'LL TELL YA ALL ABOUT IT TOMORROW.



YOU KNOW, SINCE WE'RE BOTH OUT OF A JOB...

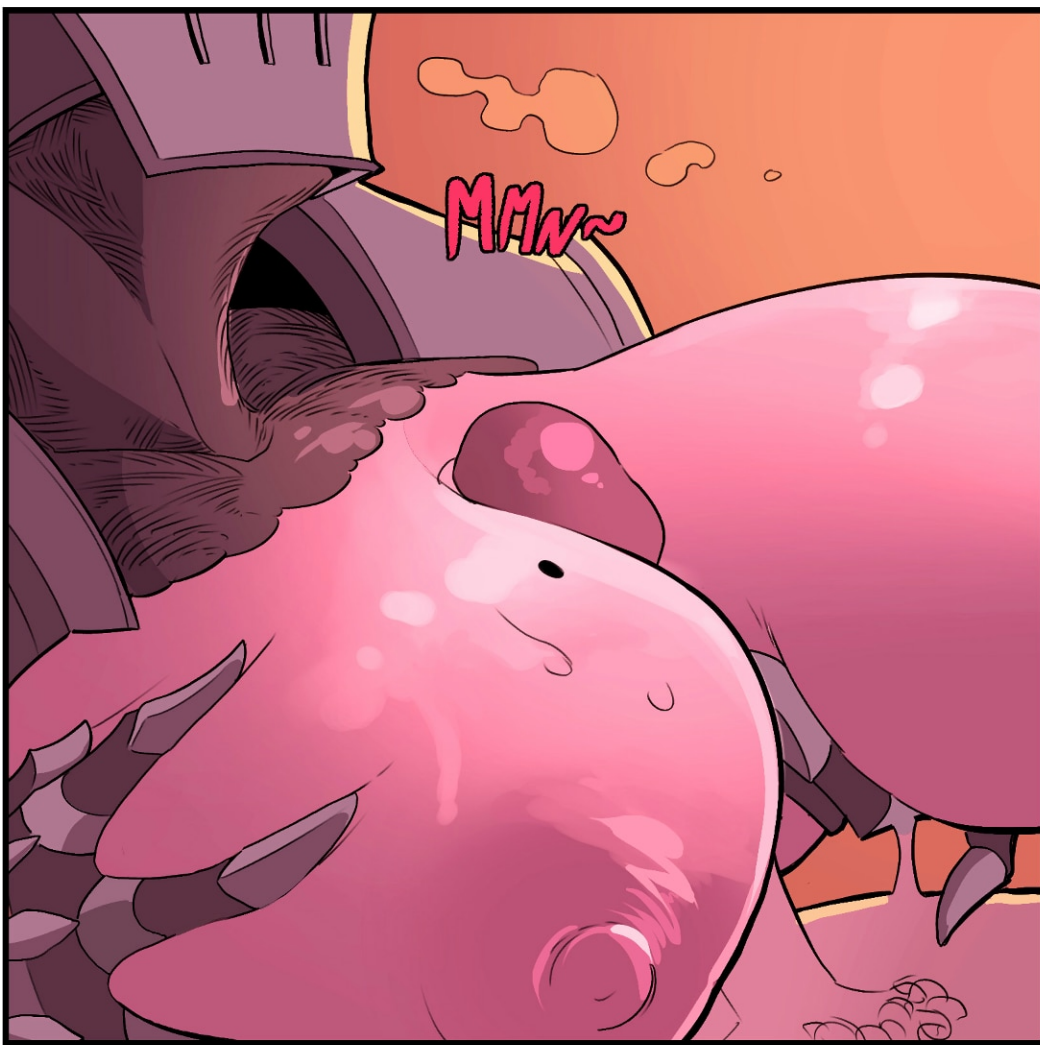


TWO ROOMS SEEM AWFUL EXPENSIVE, DON'T YOU THINK?

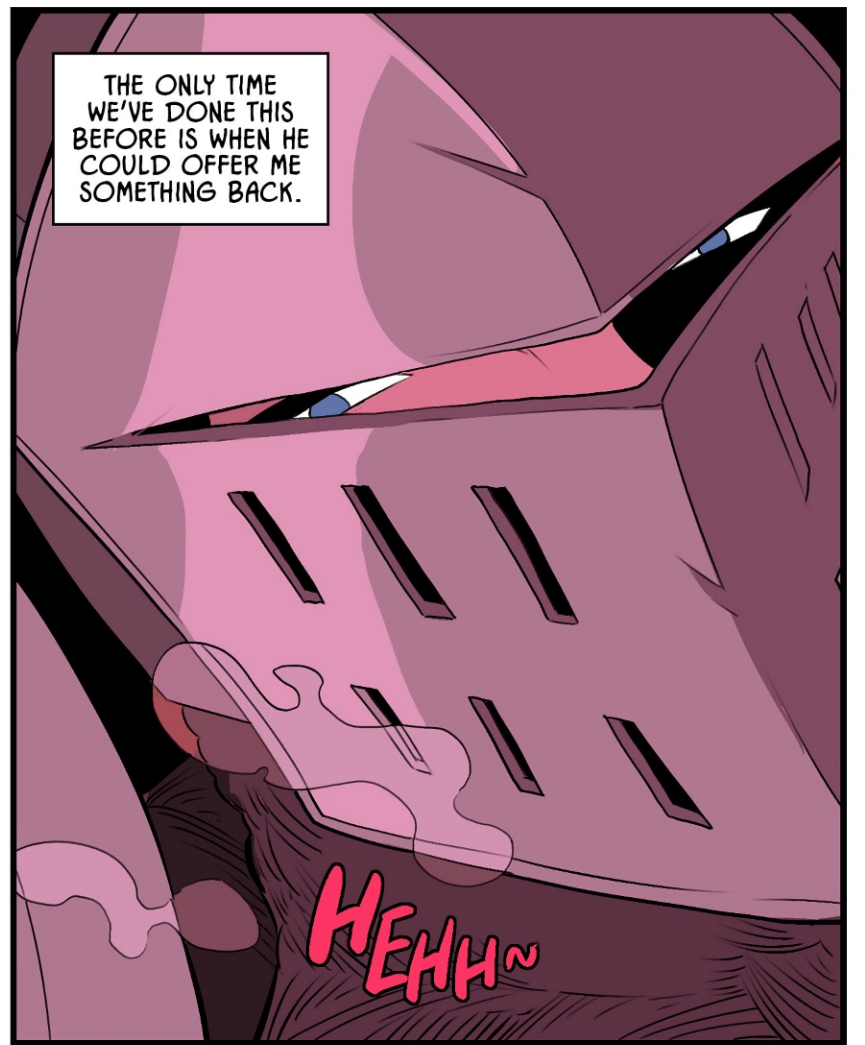


GOPHNER SEEMED SURPRISED.

NNF

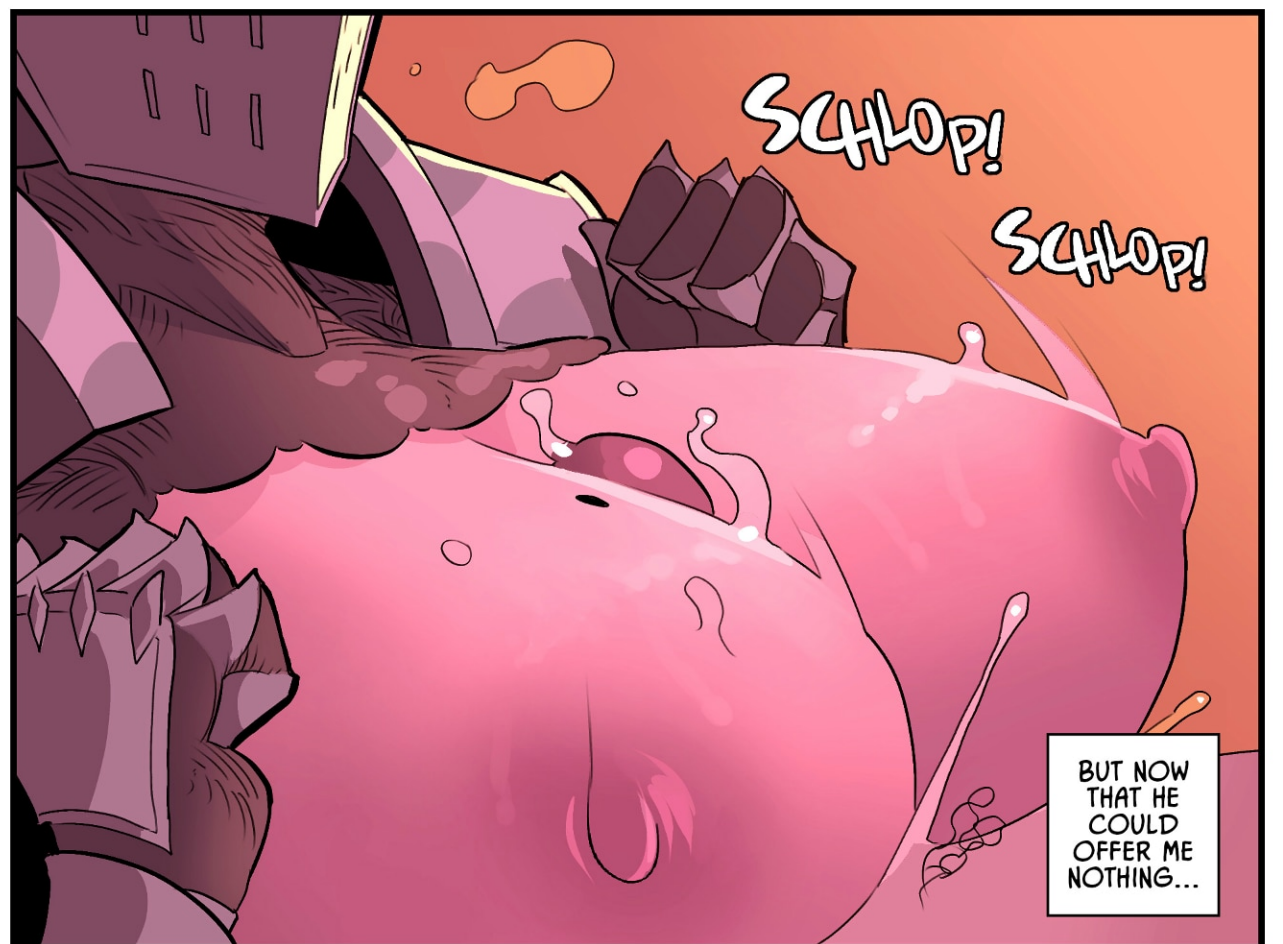


MMN~



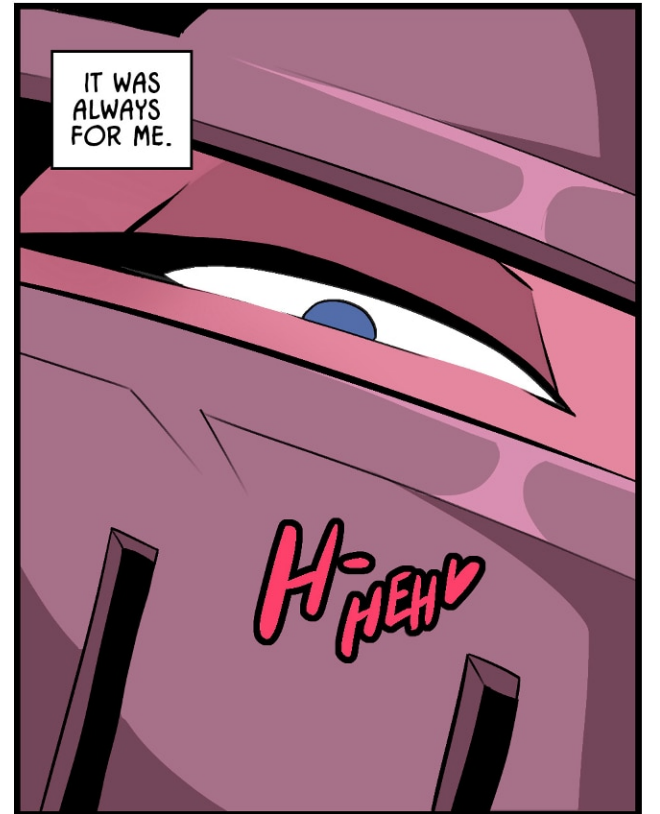
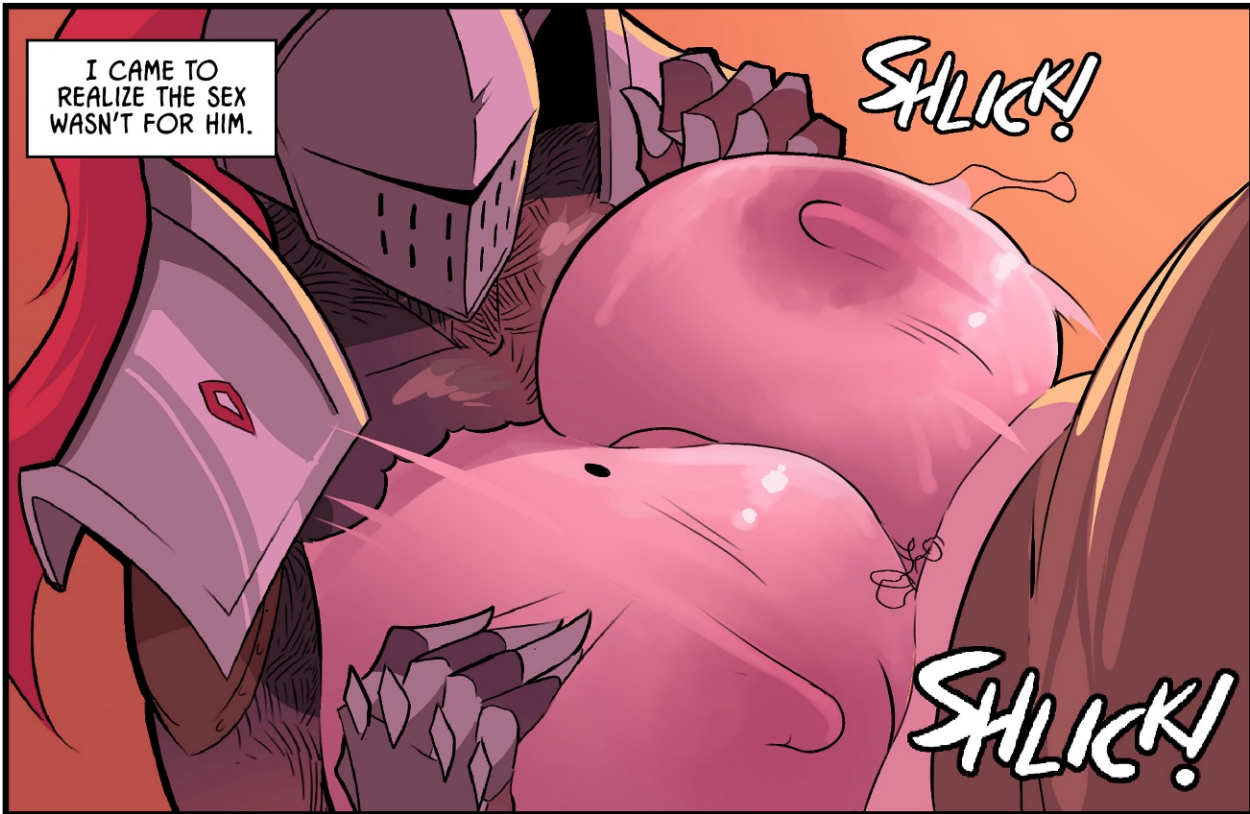
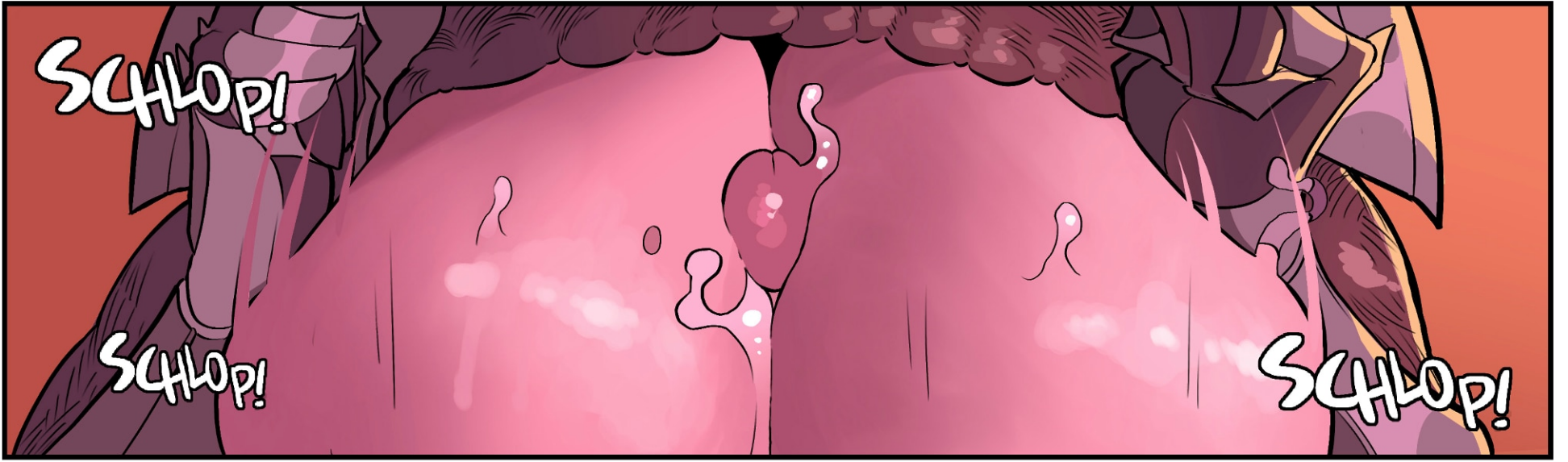
THE ONLY TIME WE'VE DONE THIS BEFORE IS WHEN HE COULD OFFER ME SOMETHING BACK.

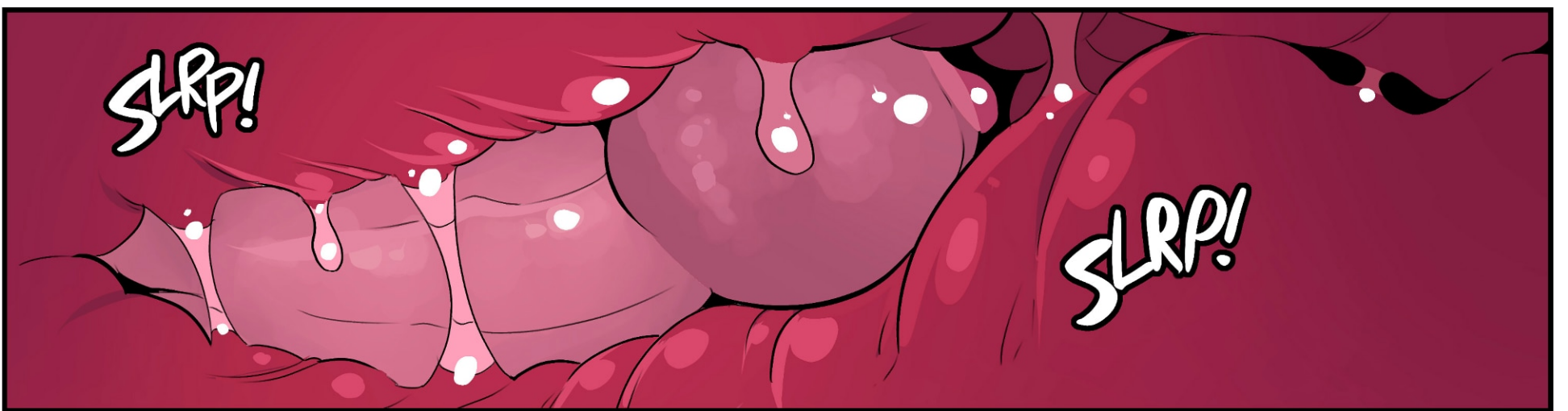
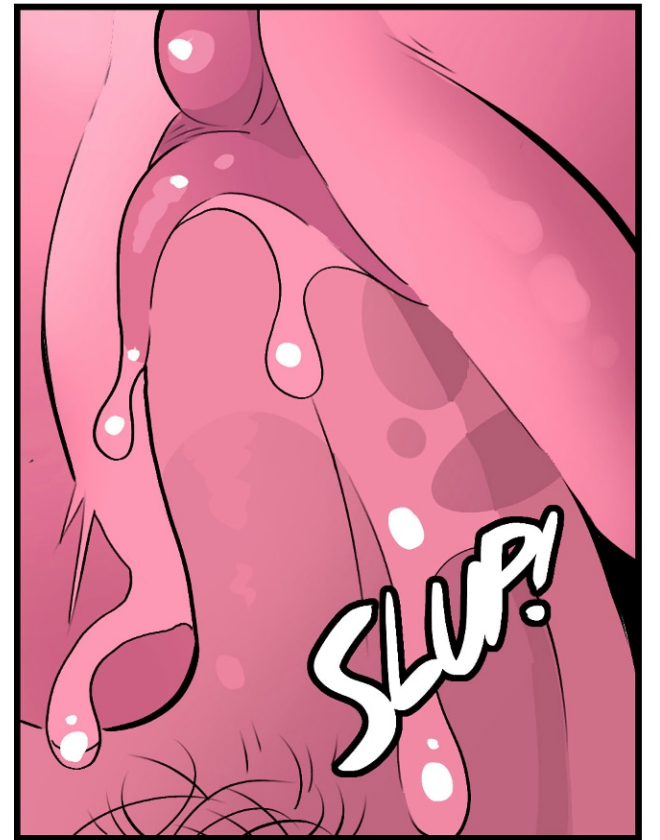
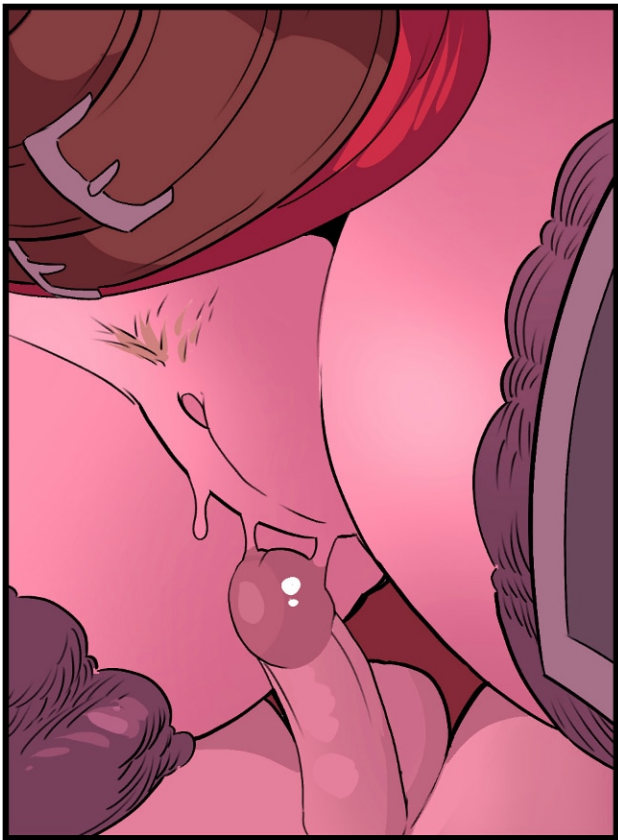
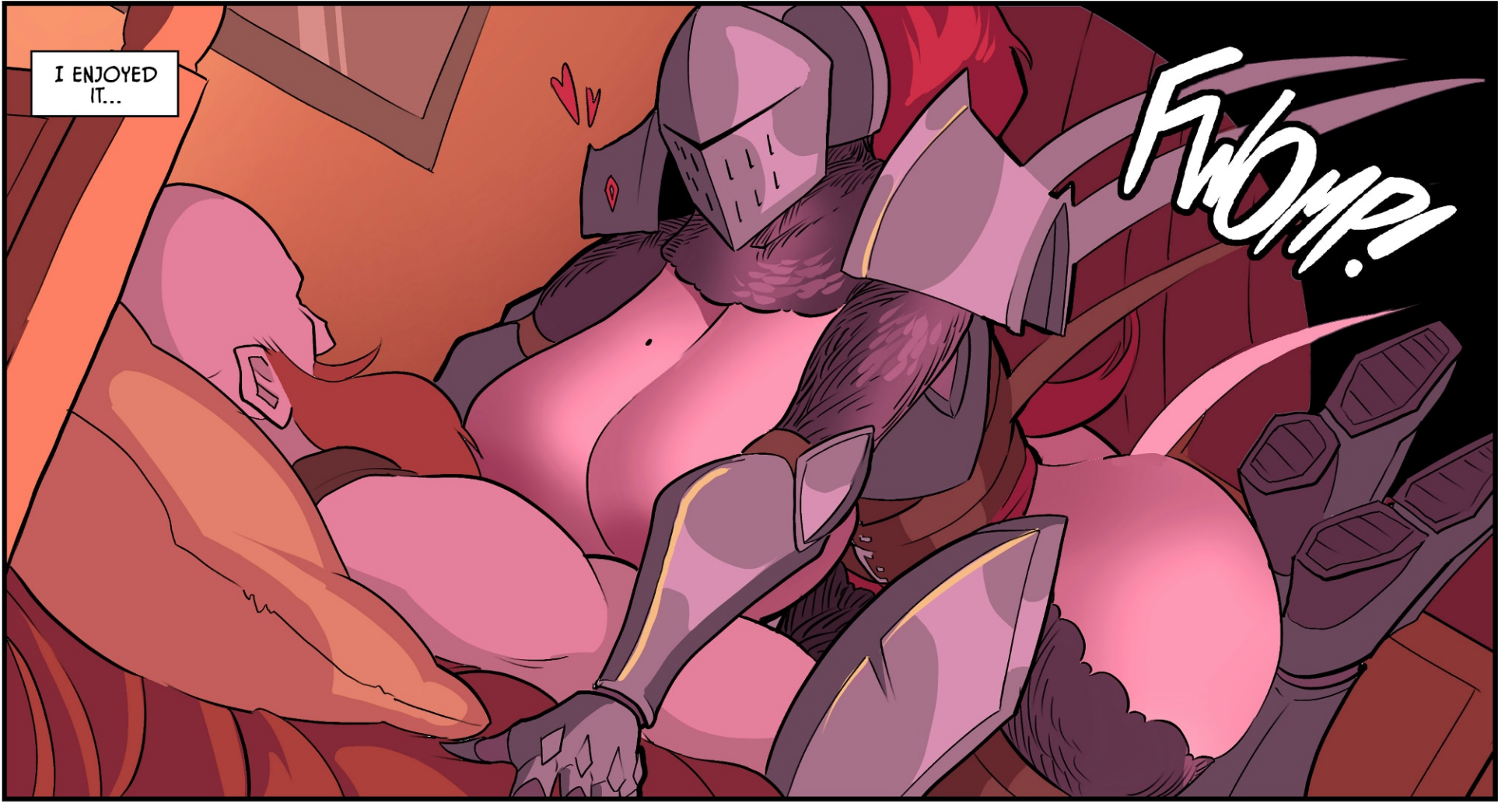
HEHH~

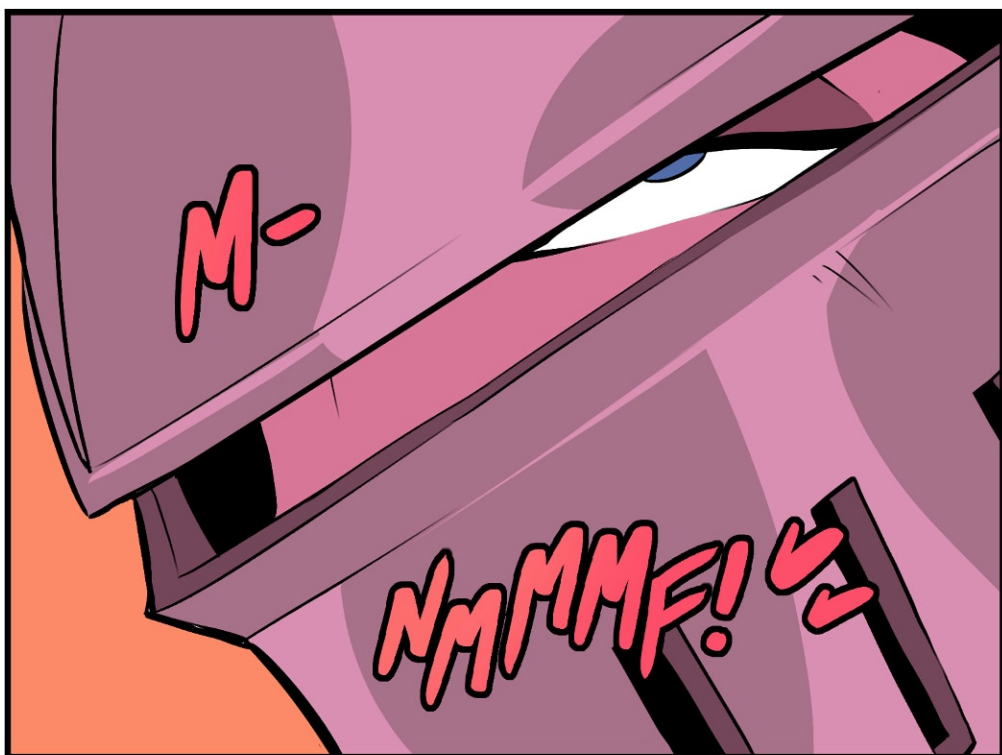
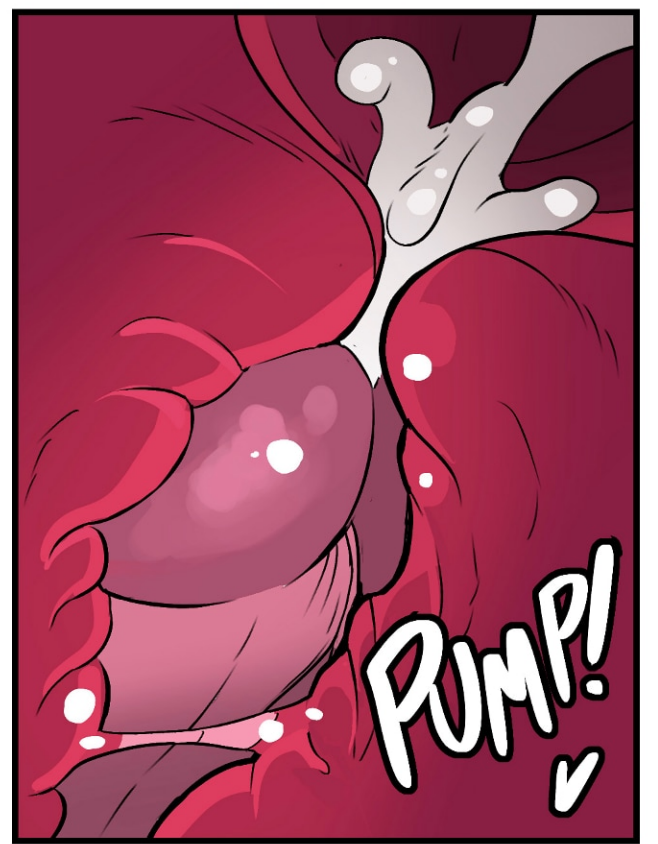
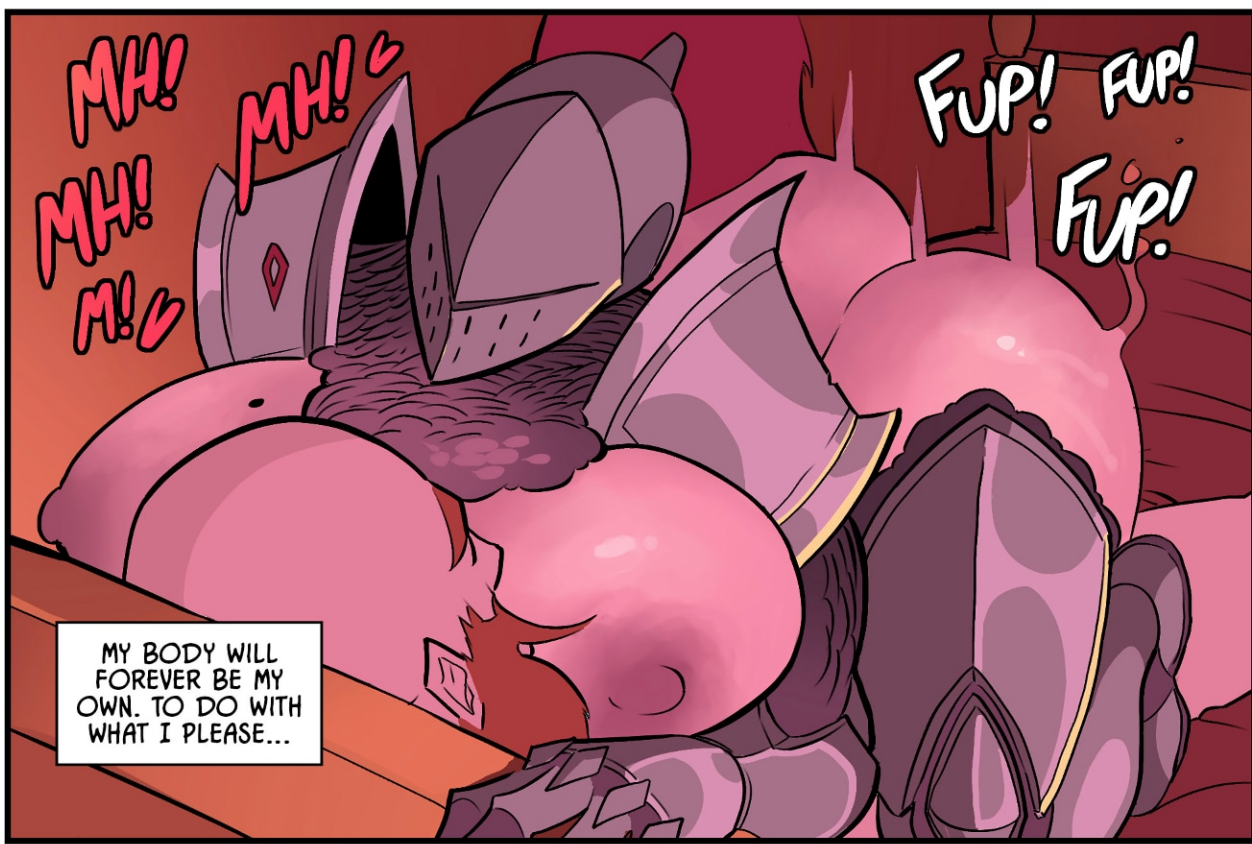
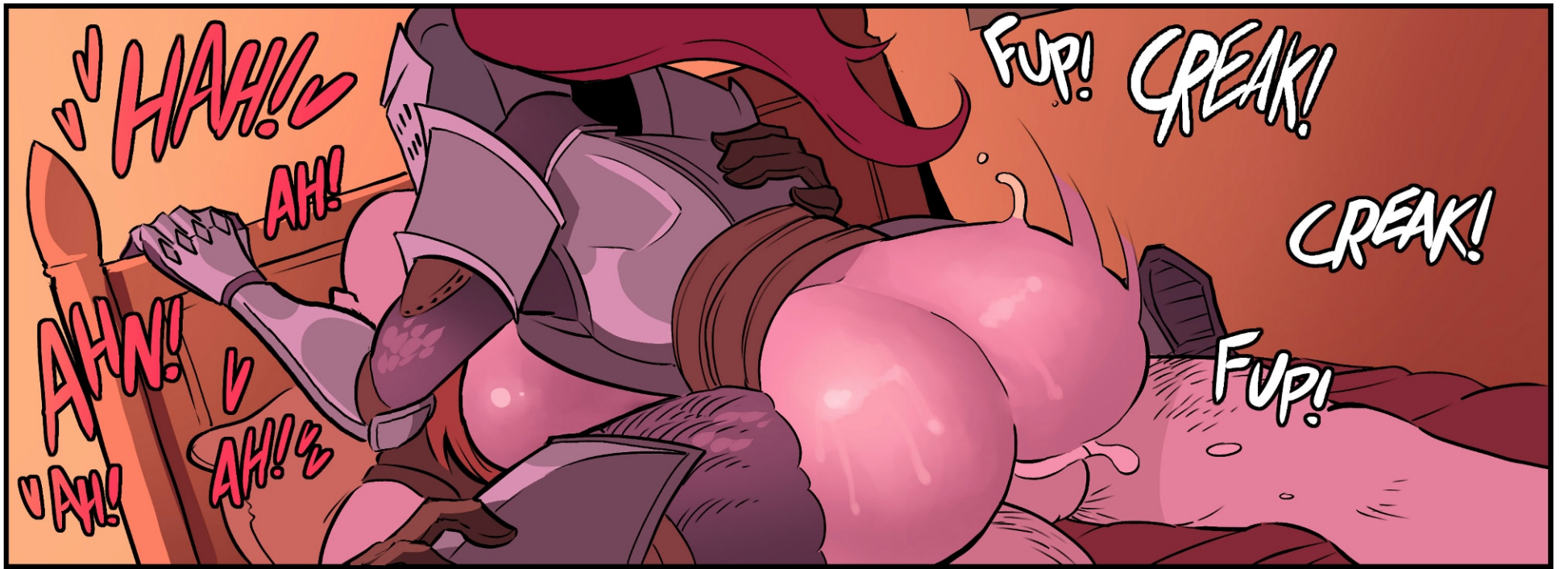


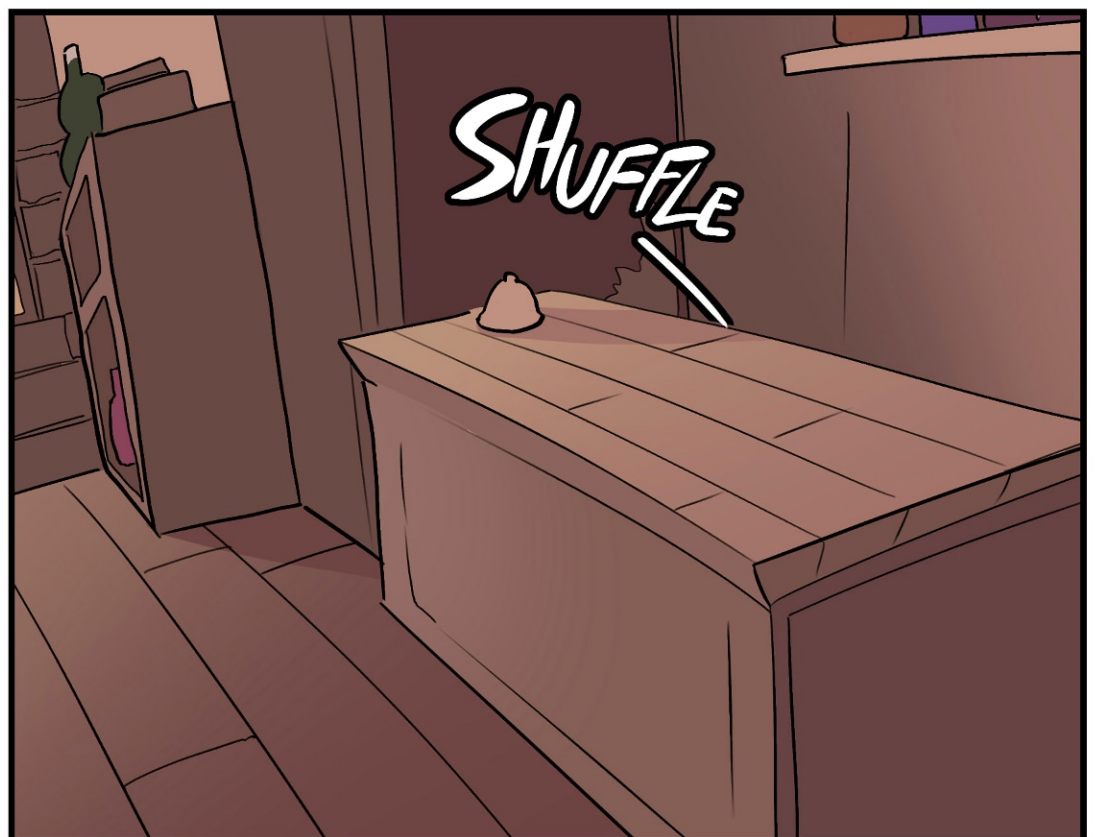
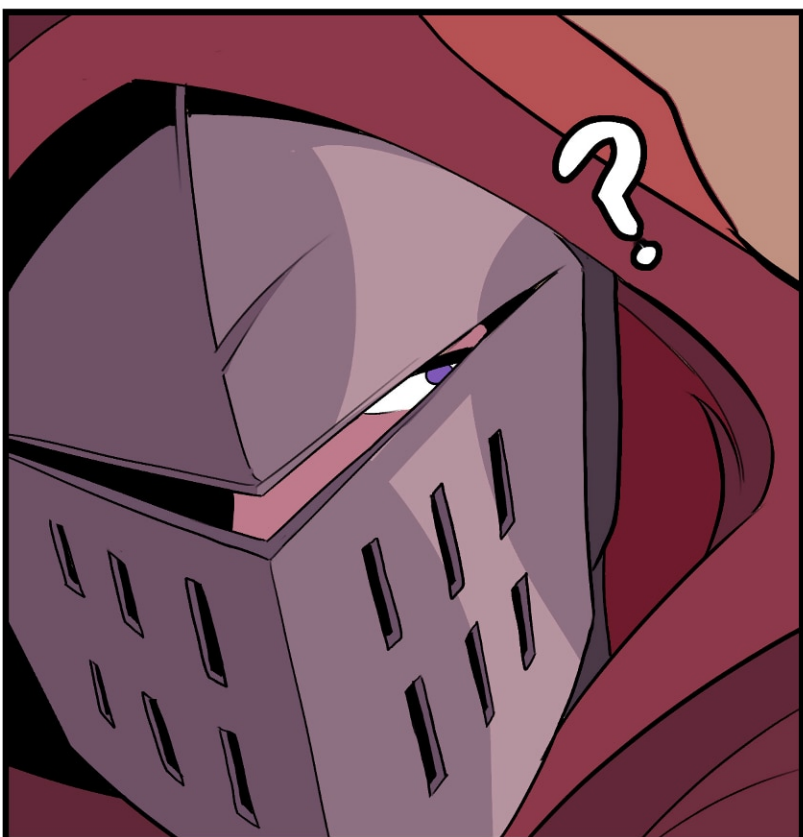
SCHLOP!
SCHLOP!

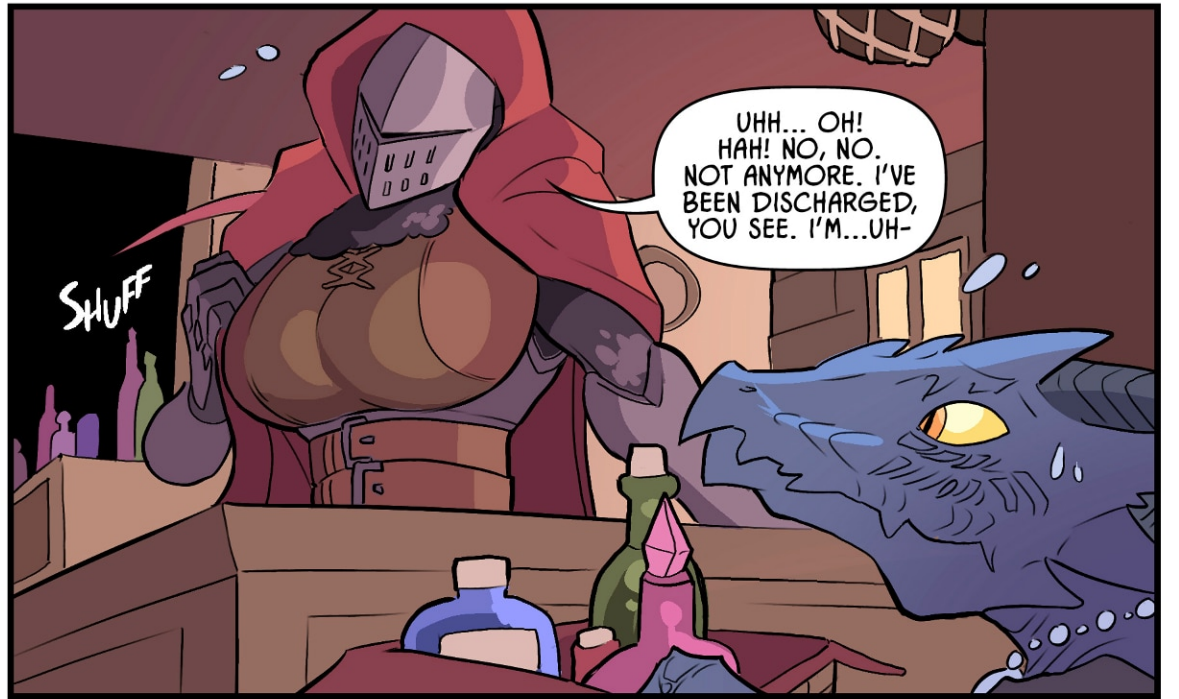
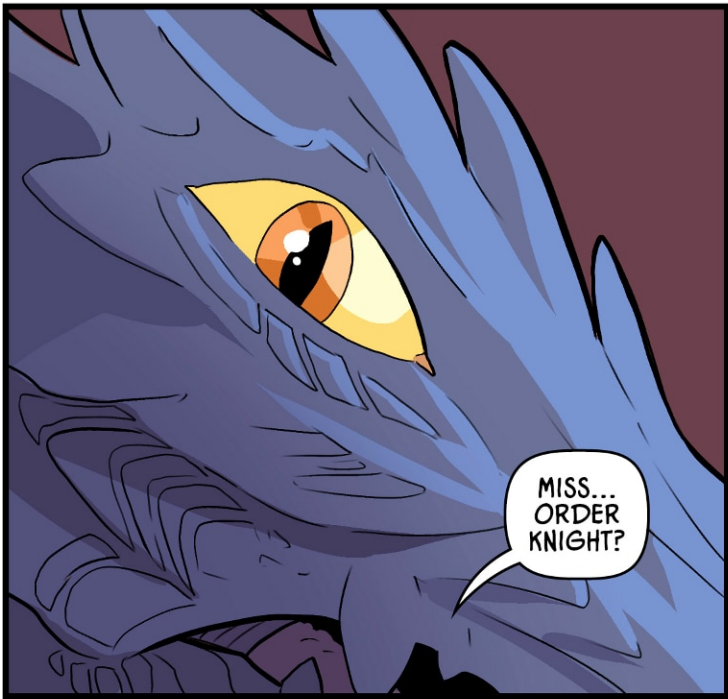
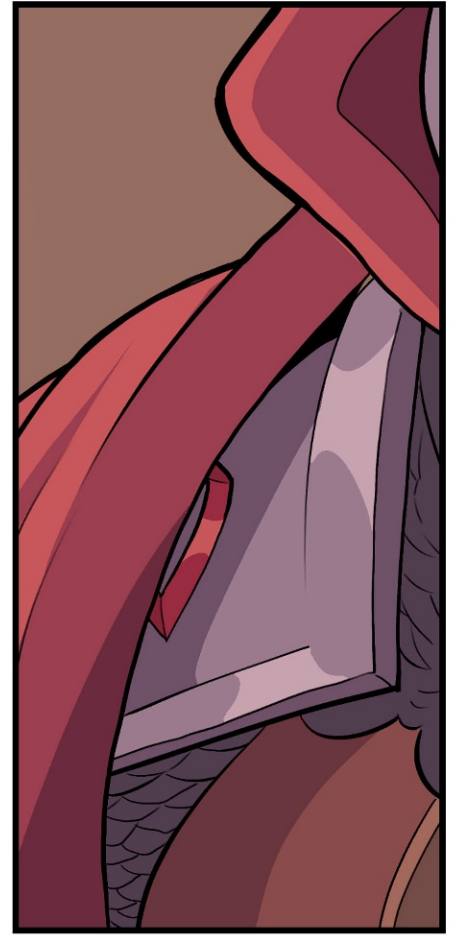
BUT NOW THAT HE COULD OFFER ME NOTHING...

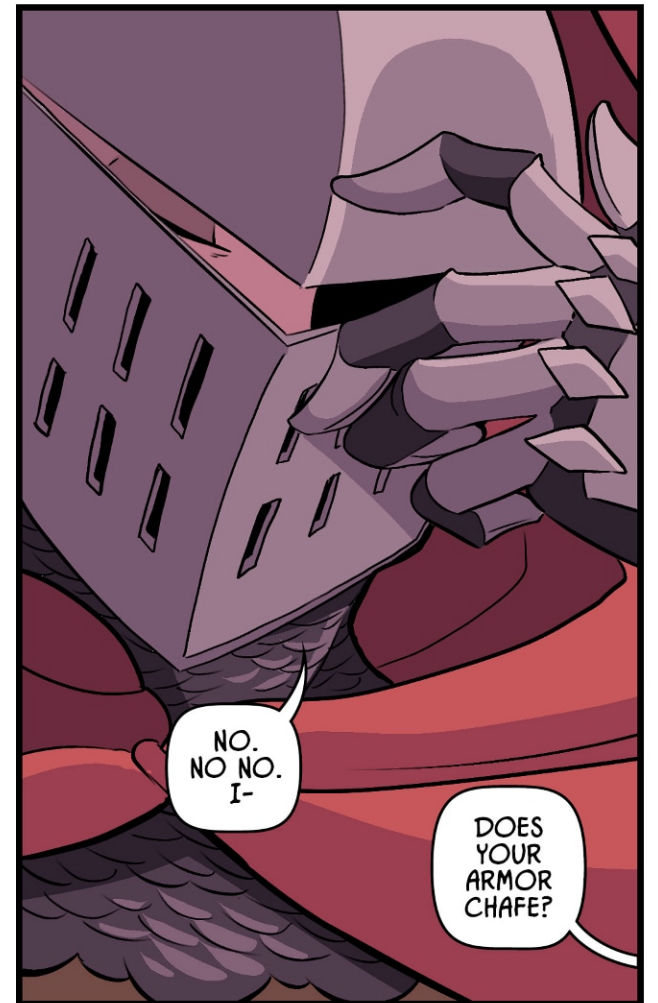
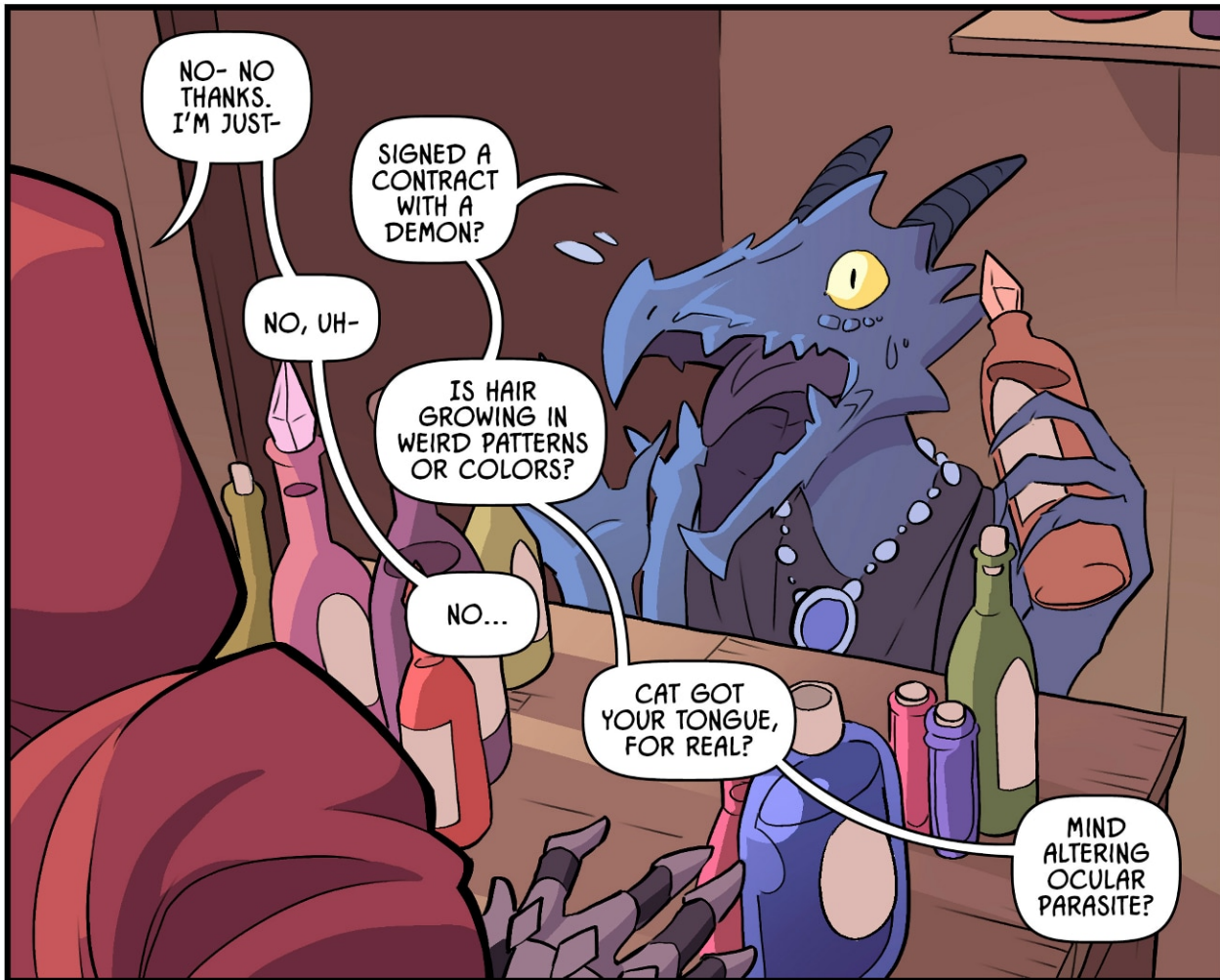


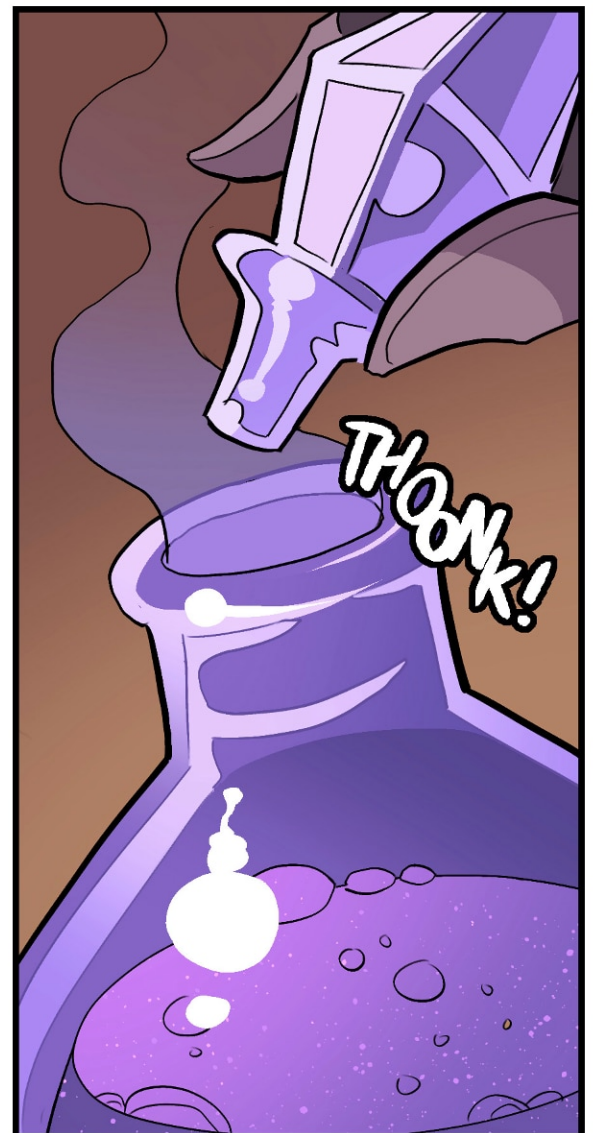
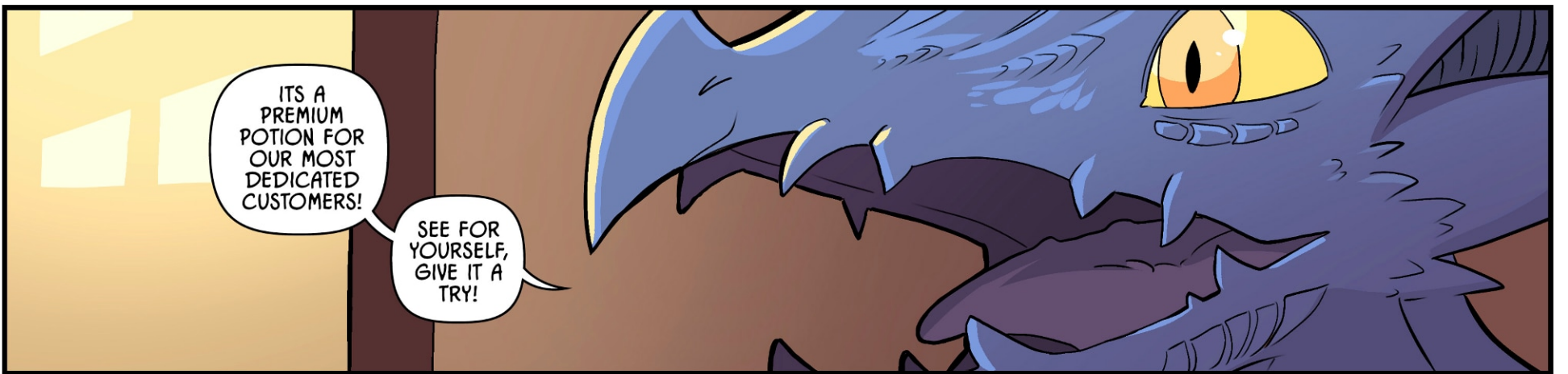
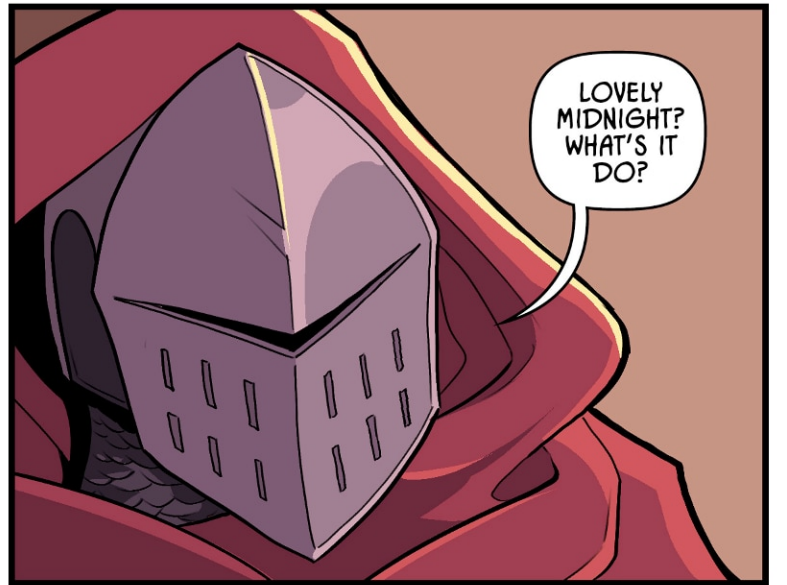


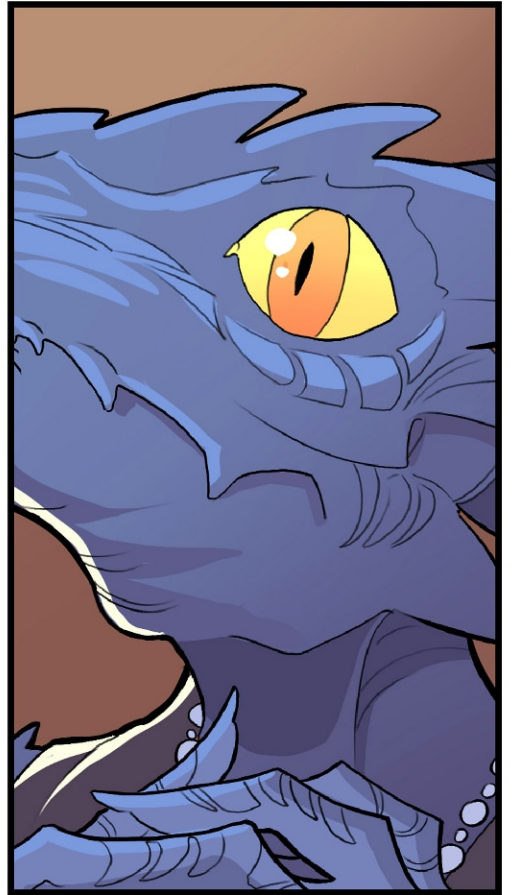
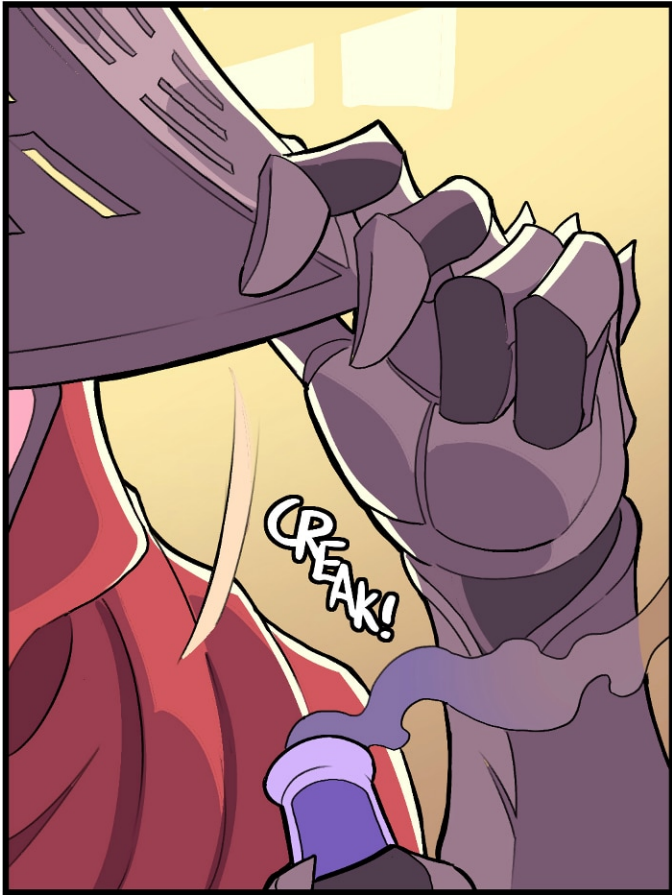


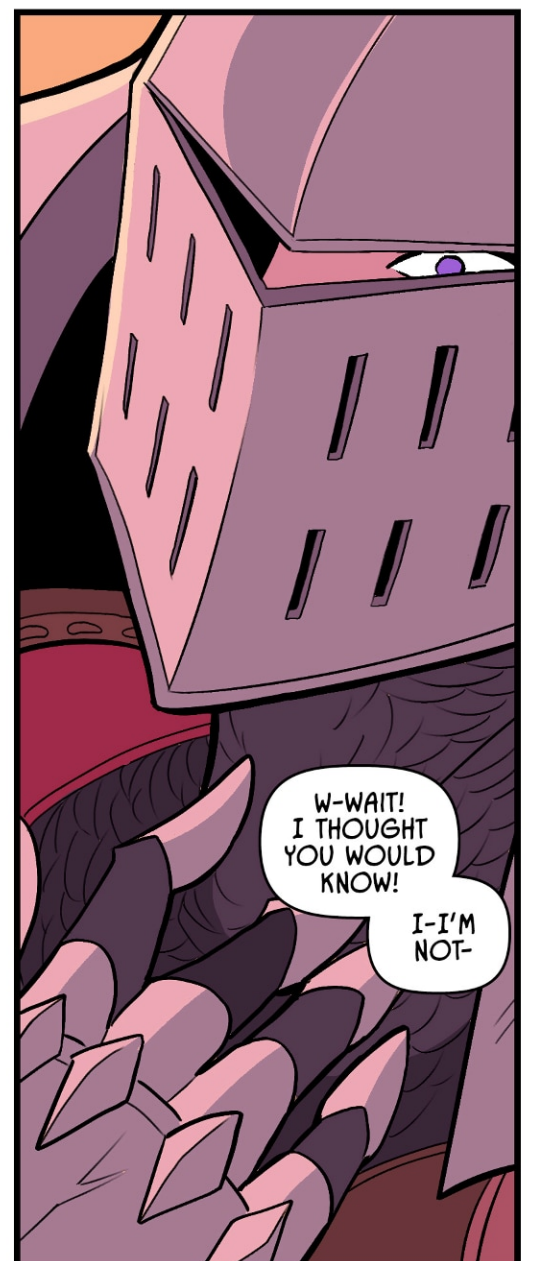
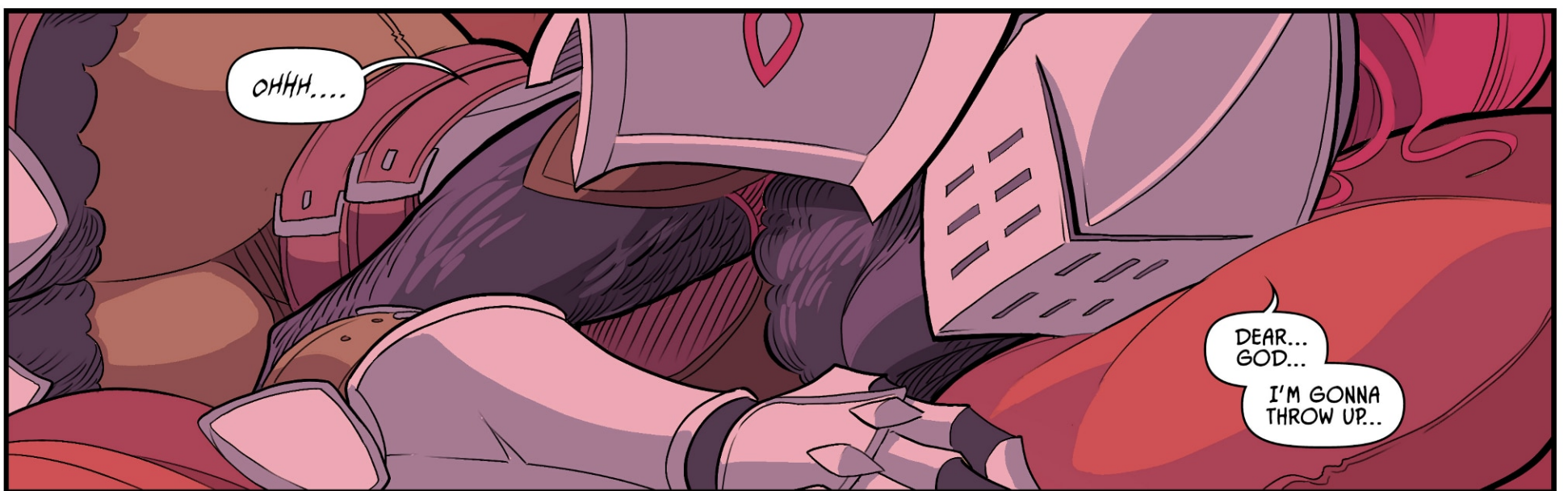
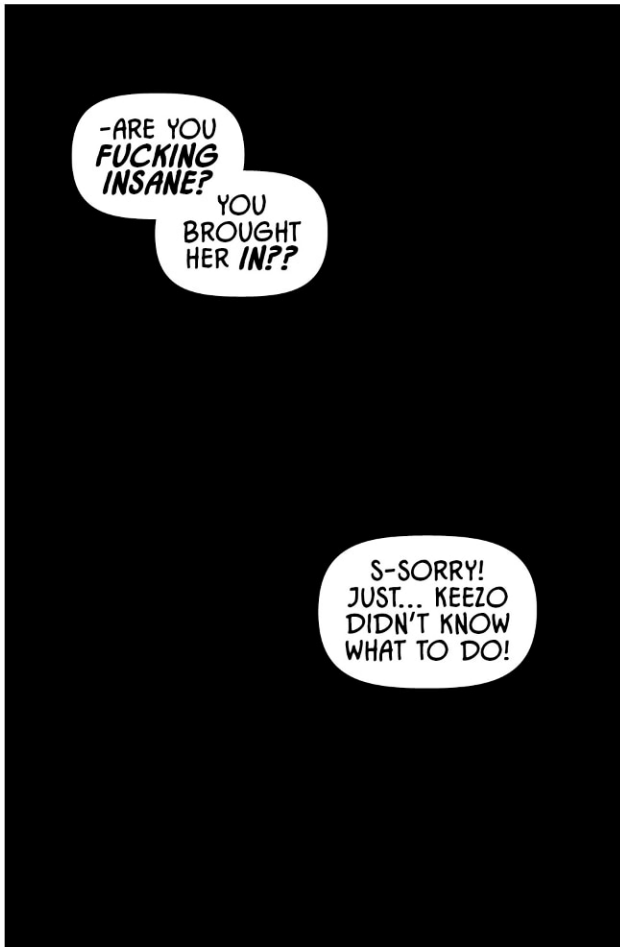








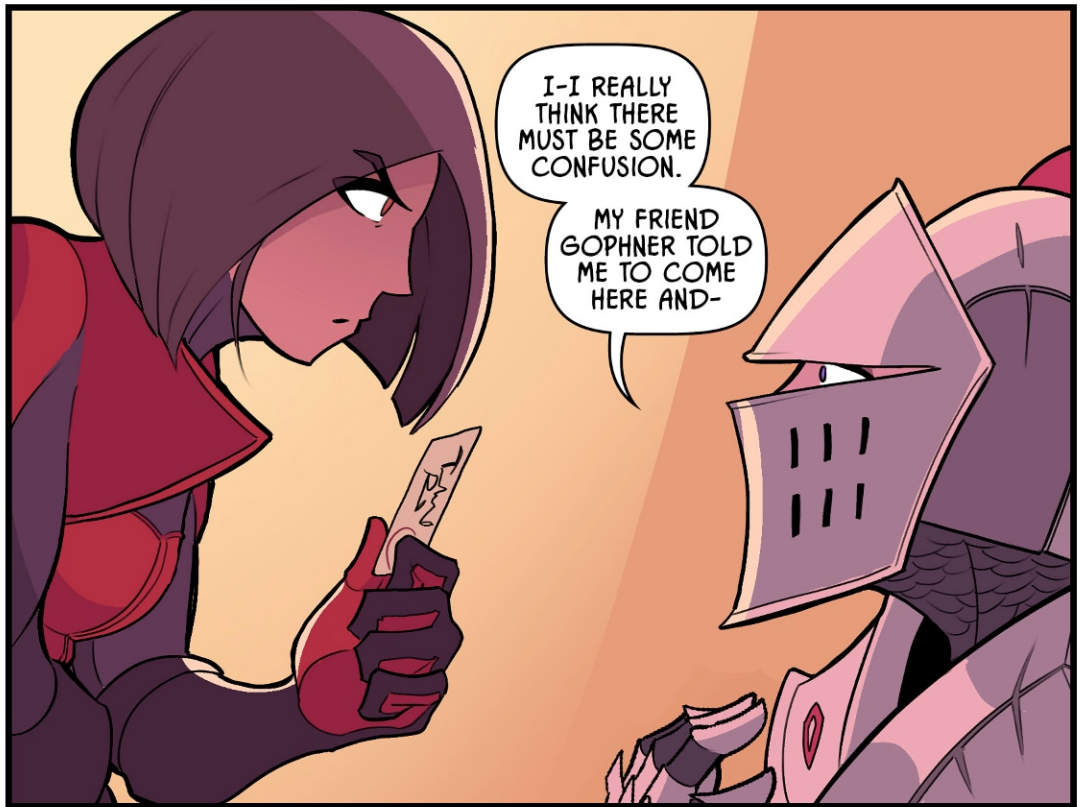






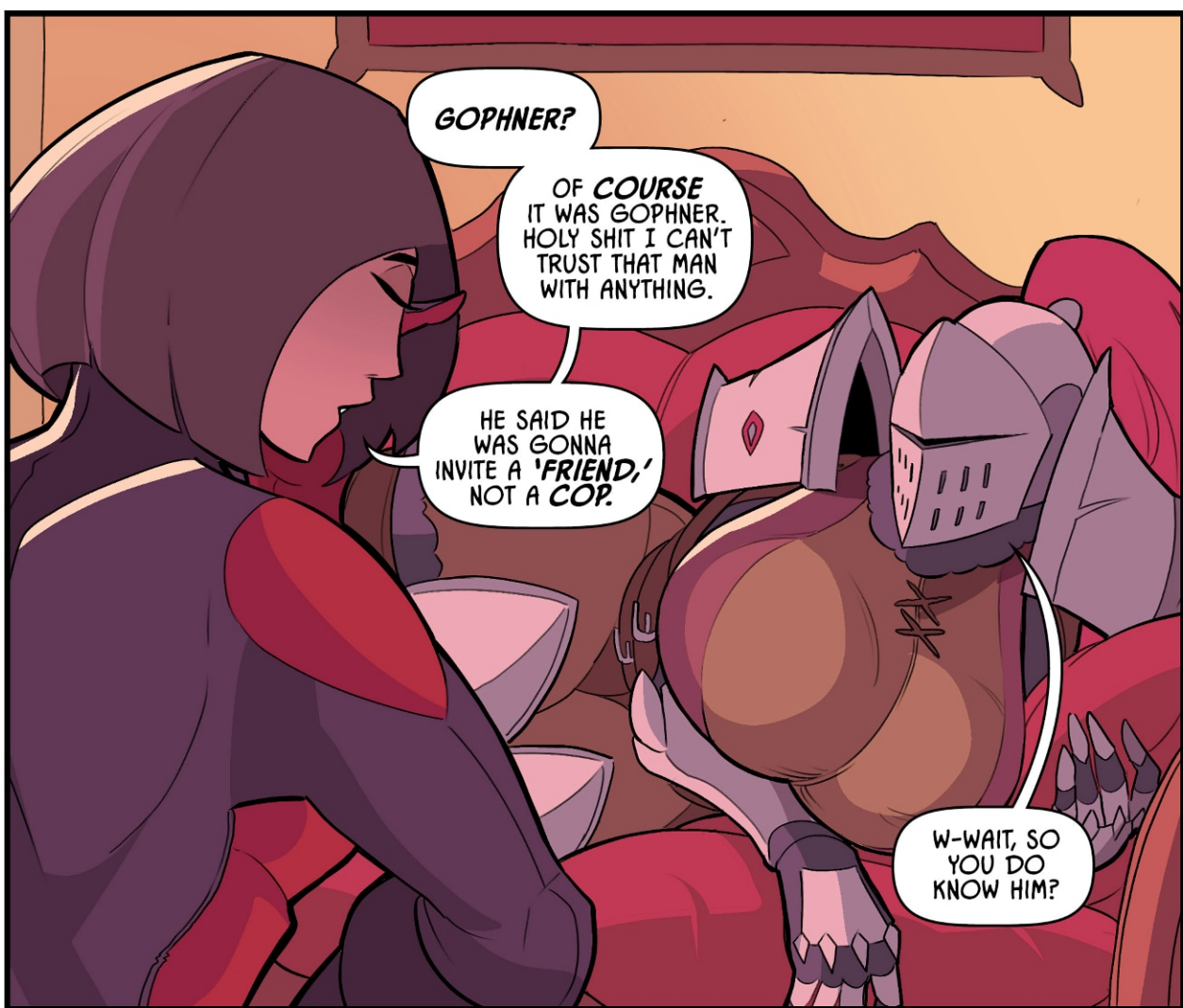
HOW THE HELL DO YOU KNOW THIS PASSWORD?

WHO'S "G??"



I-I REALLY THINK THERE MUST BE SOME CONFUSION.

MY FRIEND GOPHNER TOLD ME TO COME HERE AND-



GOPHNER?

OF COURSE IT WAS GOPHNER. HOLY SHIT I CAN'T TRUST THAT MAN WITH ANYTHING.

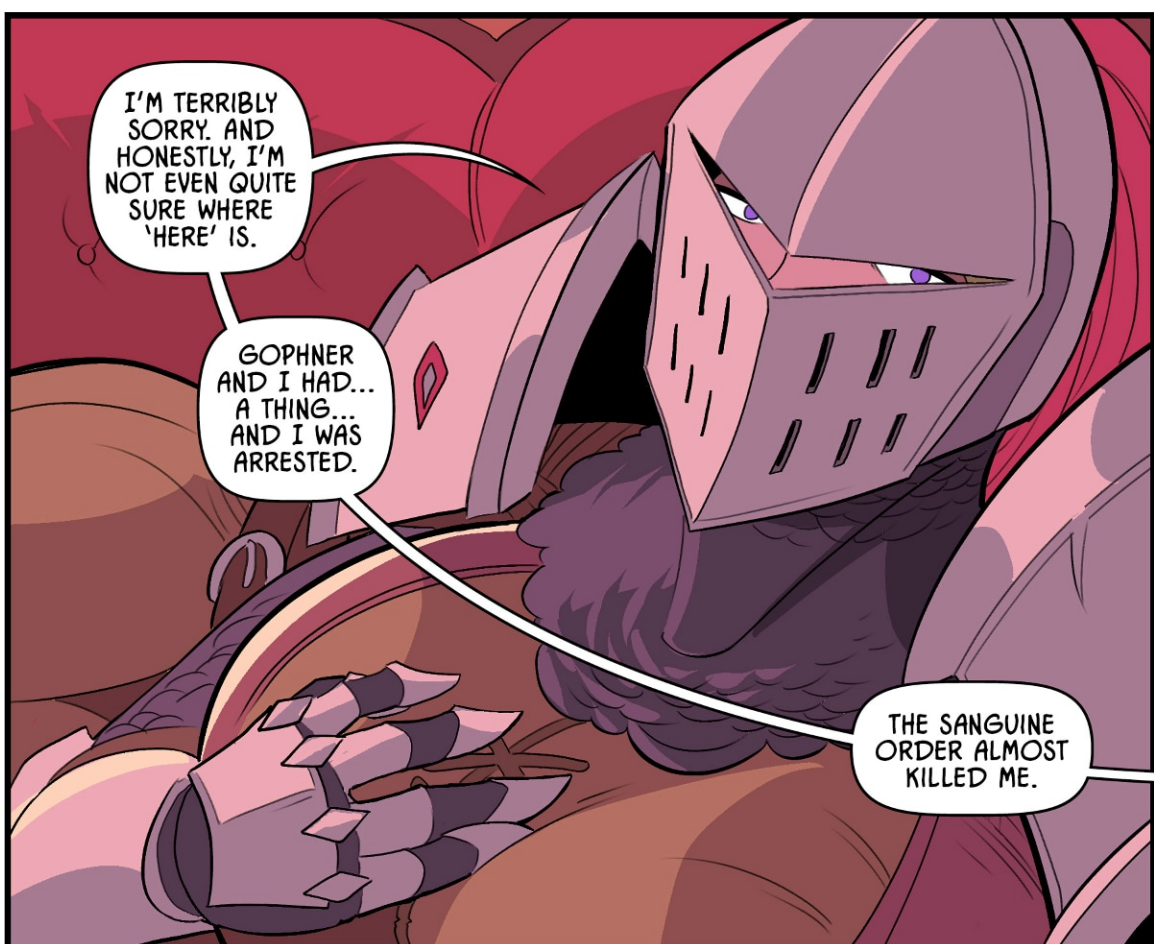
HE SAID HE WAS GONNA INVITE A 'FRIEND,' NOT A COP.

W-WAIT, SO YOU DO KNOW HIM?



OF COURSE I KNOW HIM!

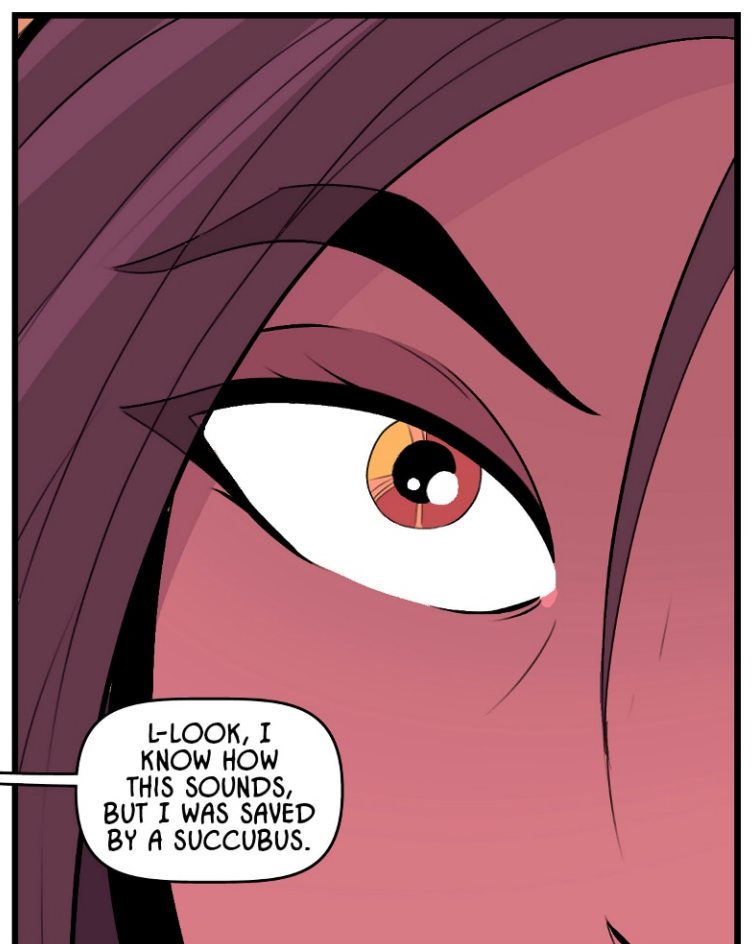
BUT I'M ASKING THE QUESTIONS HERE, LADY. WHY WOULD HE BRING YOU HERE?



I'M TERRIBLY SORRY. AND HONESTLY, I'M NOT EVEN QUITE SURE WHERE 'HERE' IS.

GOPHNER AND I HAD... A THING... AND I WAS ARRESTED.

THE SANGUINE ORDER ALMOST KILLED ME.



L-LOOK, I KNOW HOW THIS SOUNDS, BUT I WAS SAVED BY A SUCCUBUS.

