

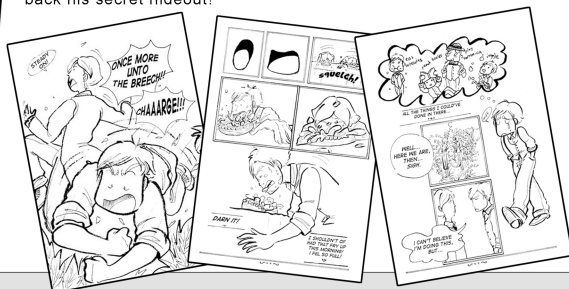
NEW TITLES FROM SWEATDROP STUDIOS:



The Adventures of Digby Hogarth

by Rebecca Burgess

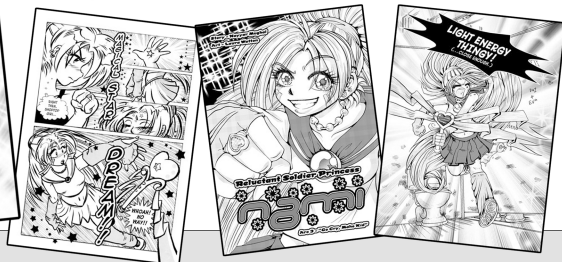
In this adventure, Digby faces his rival in a pie eating contest, so that he can win back his secret hideout!



Reluctant Soldier Princess Nami

by Laura Watton

Nami is your typical waster college girl, with little on her mind than comics and cigarettes. Suddenly she's dragged into a magical shoolgirl world of cute talking squirrel toys and stupid floaty bad girls with shrieking laughter, followed by her evil pompom tribe of Zurlies! What's a girl to do?!



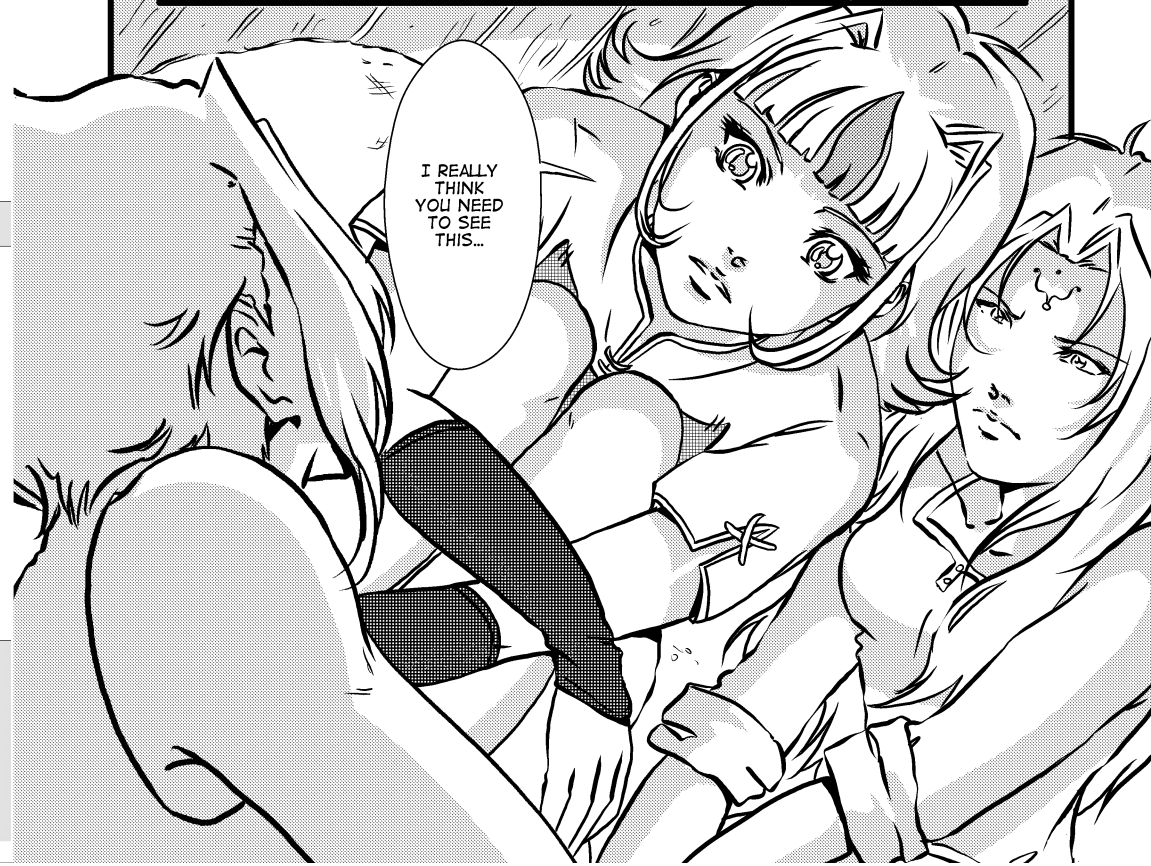
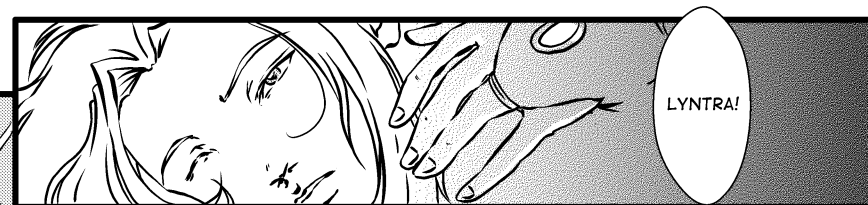
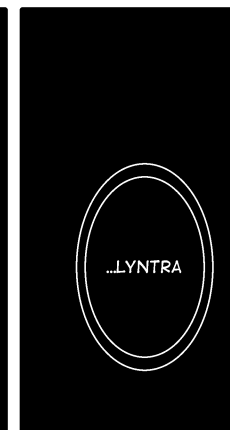
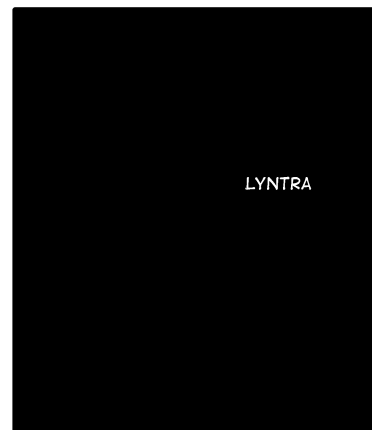
Chocoberry

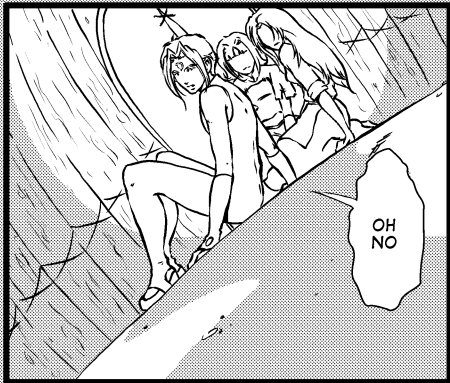
by Joanna Zhou

A super-kawaii childhood adventure! After getting lost in a supermarket, little Ken meets an unexpected companion on the cookie shelf. Together they embark on an important, and quite tasty, quest. Includes a bonus section of 4-koma strips and artist comments.

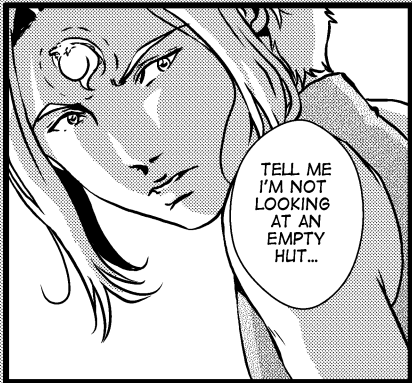


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www.sweatdrop.com

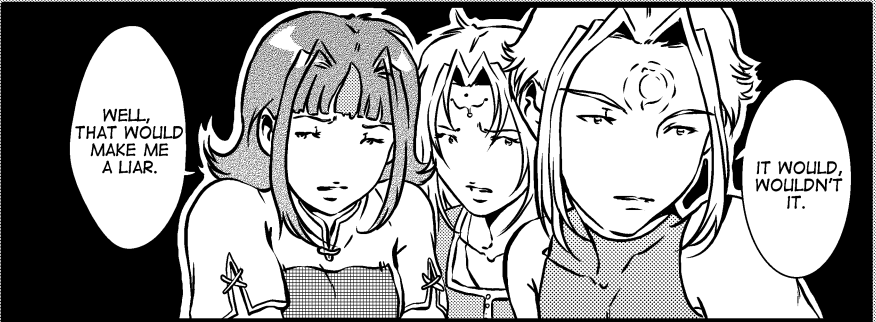




OH
NO



TELL ME
I'M NOT
LOOKING
AT AN
EMPTY
HUT...

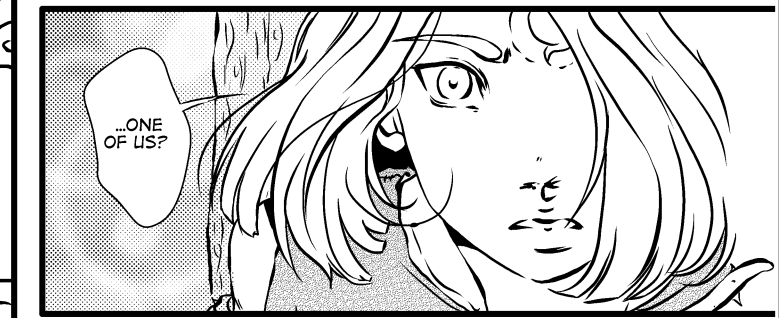
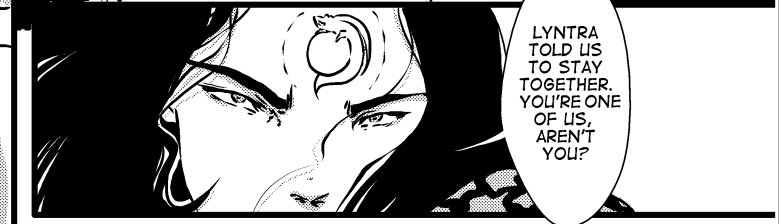
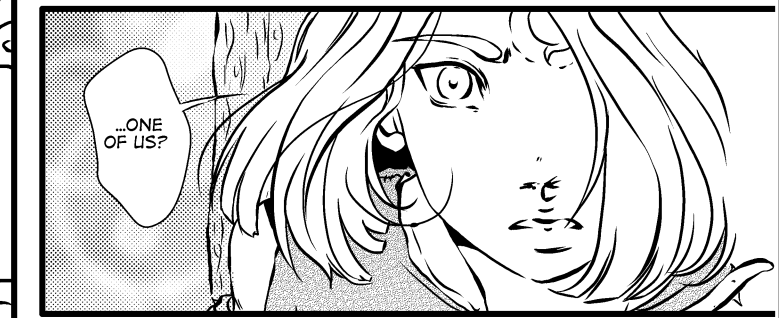
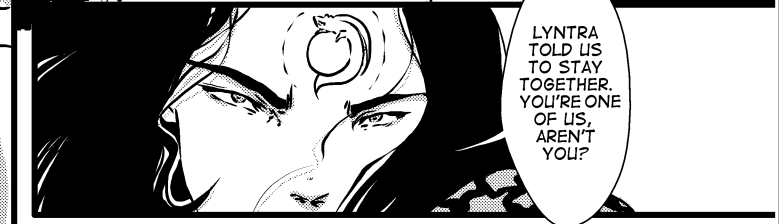
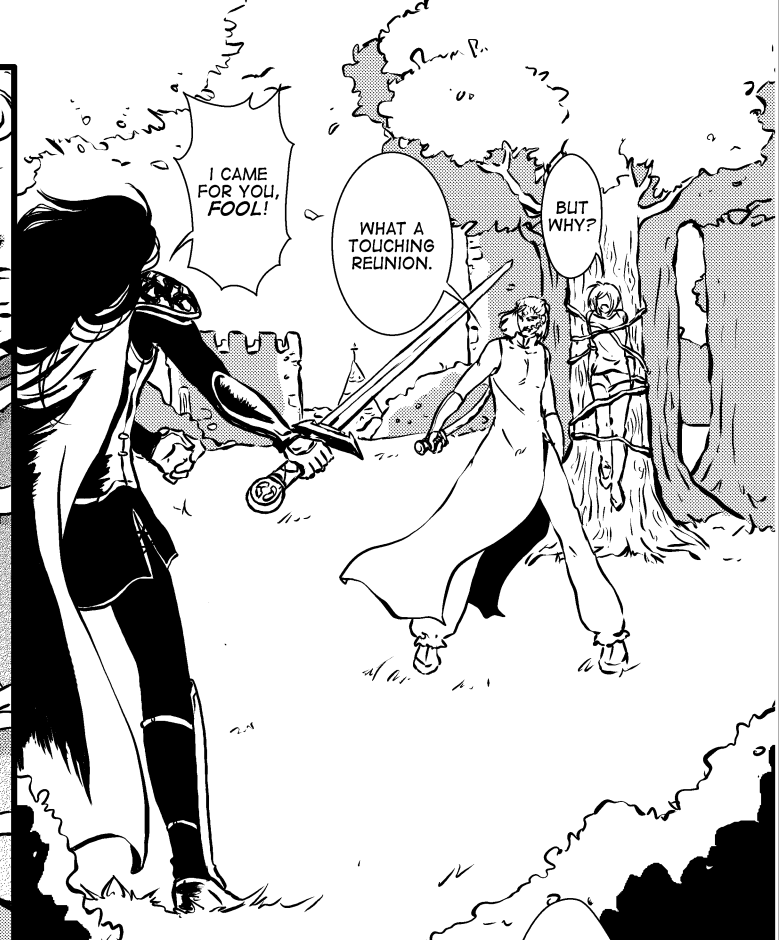
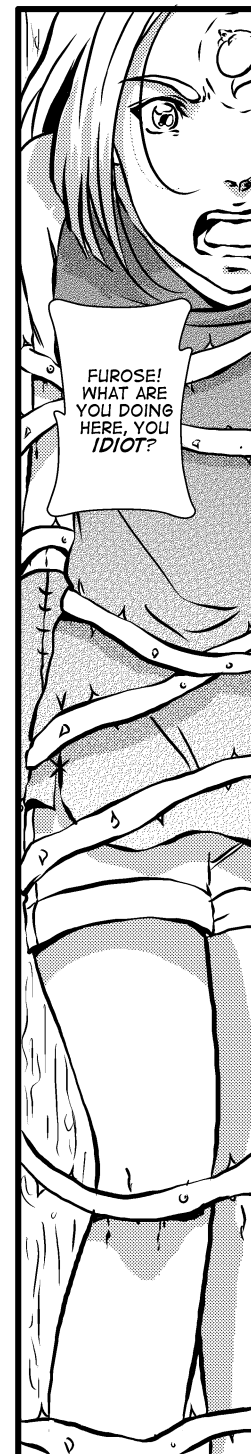
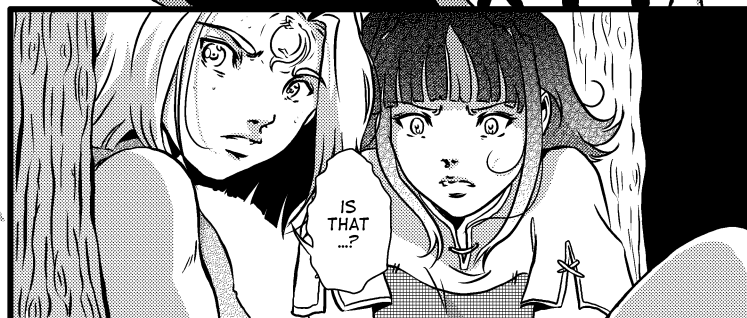
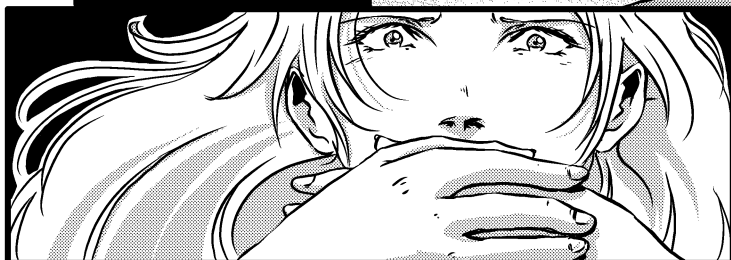
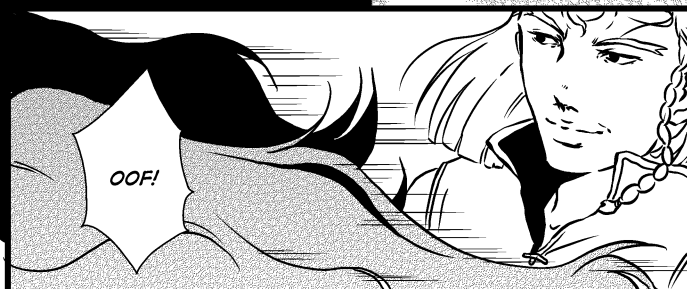


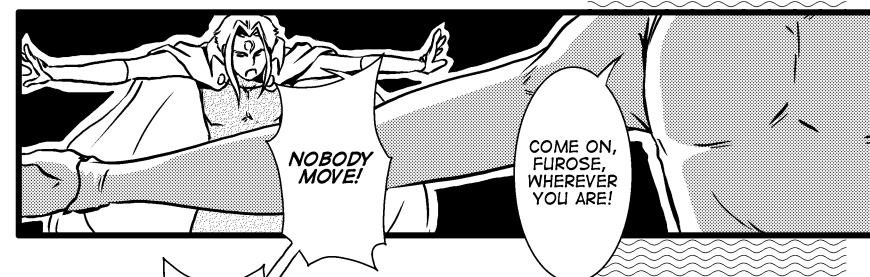
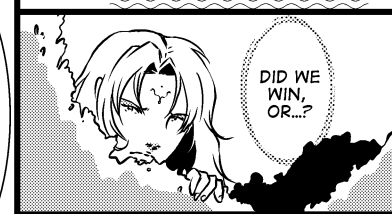
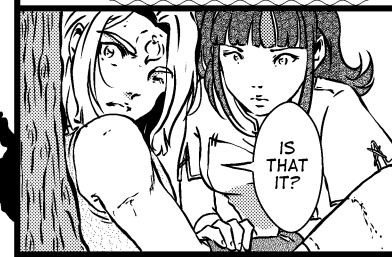
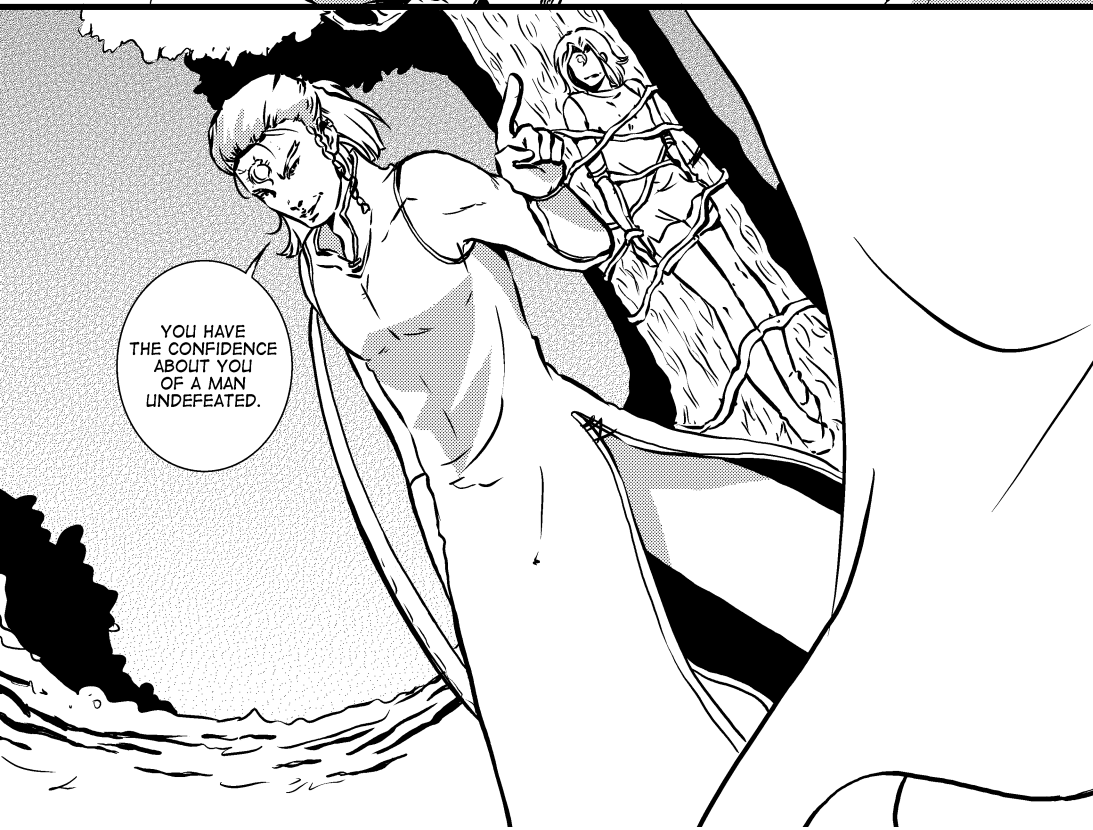
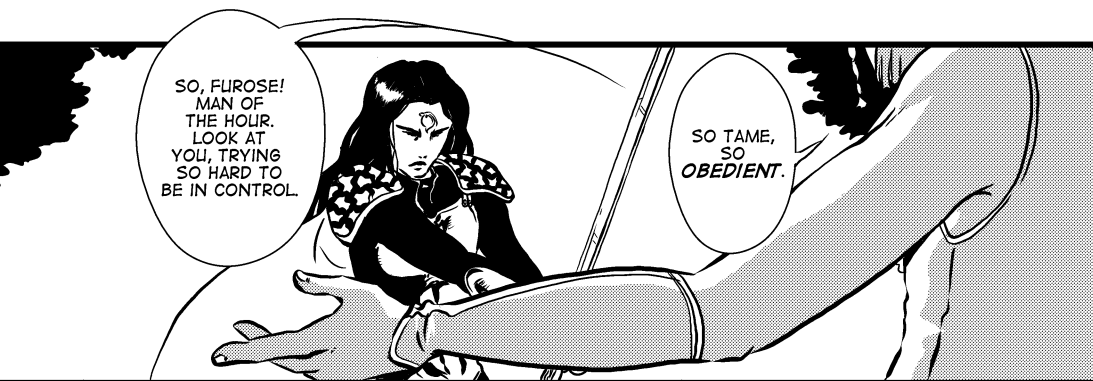
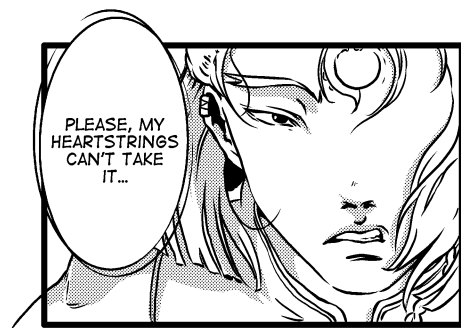
WELL,
THAT WOULD
MAKE ME
A LIAR.

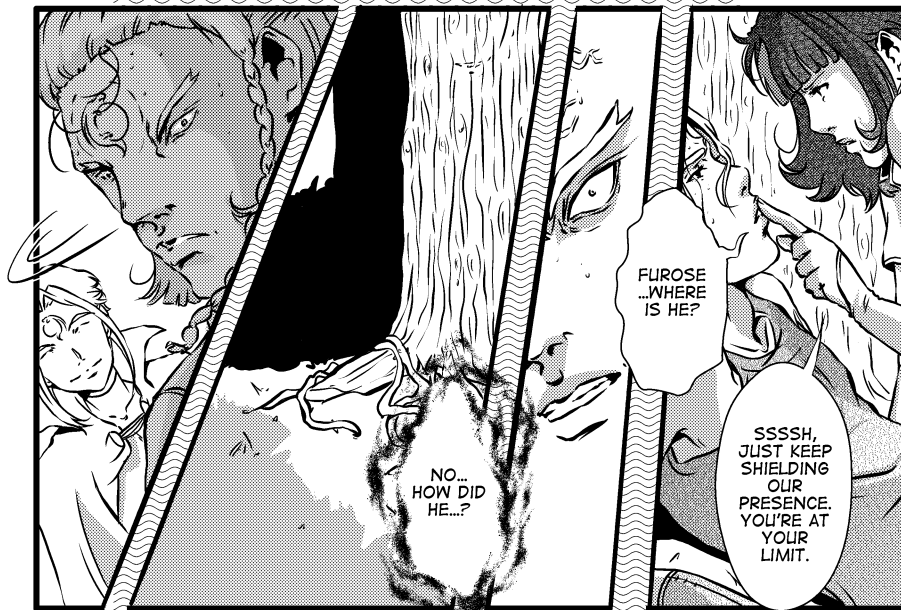
IT WOULD,
WOULDN'T
IT.



PROTUS!



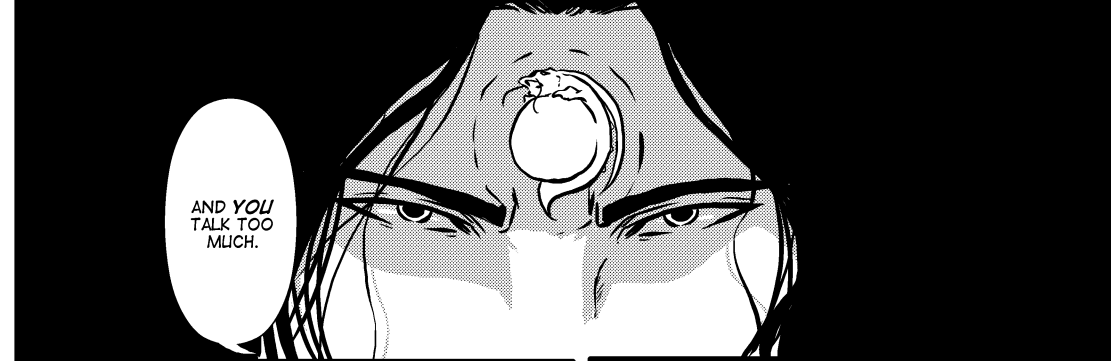




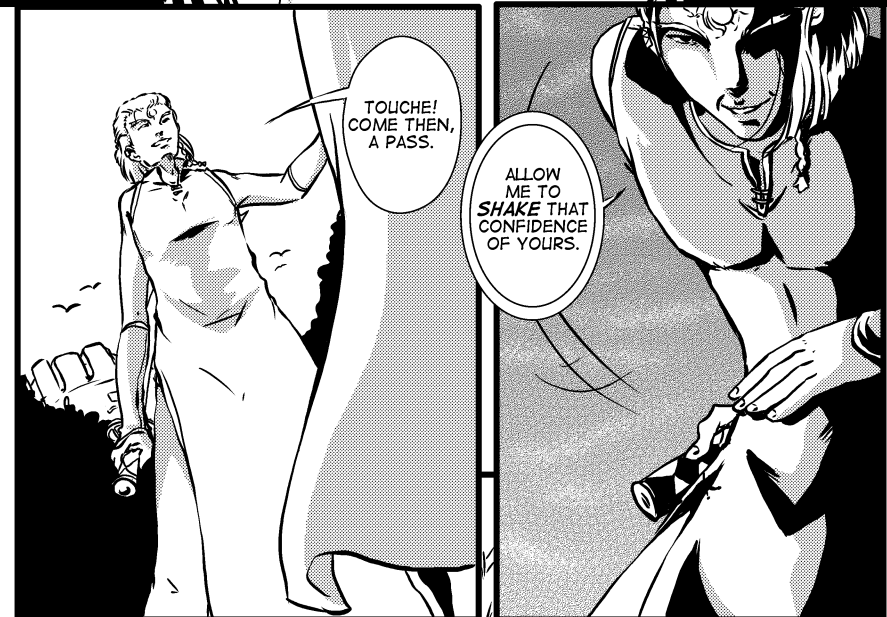
NO...
HOW DID
HE...?

FUROSE
...WHERE
IS HE?

SSSSH,
JUST KEEP
SHIELDING
OUR
PRESENCE.
YOU'RE AT
YOUR LIMIT.

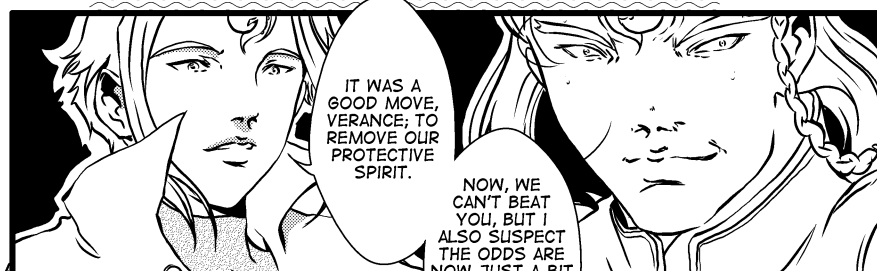


AND *YOU*
TALK TOO
MUCH.



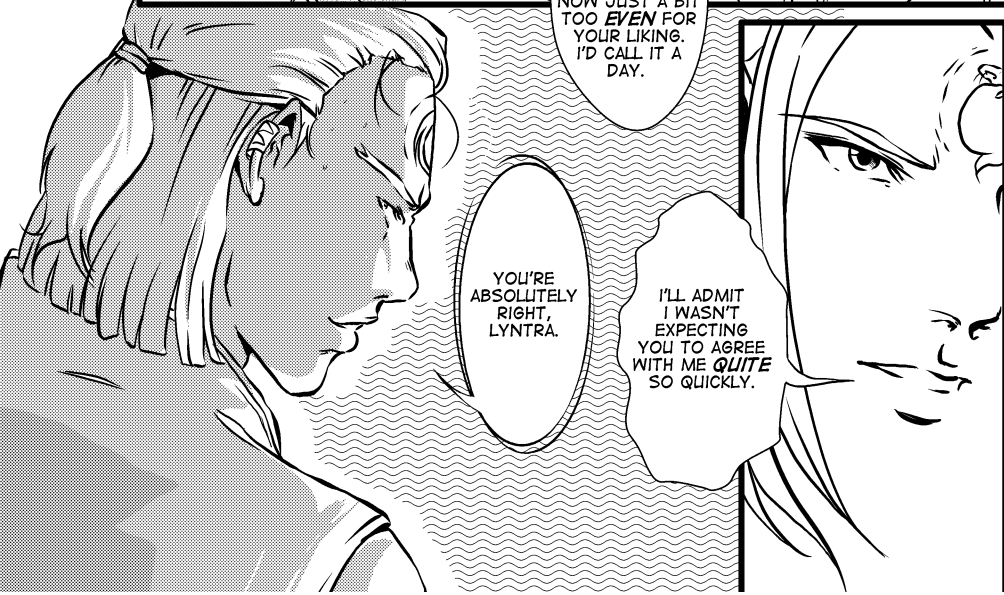
TOUCHE!
COME THEN,
A PASS.

ALLOW
ME TO
SHAKE THAT
CONFIDENCE OF
YOURS.



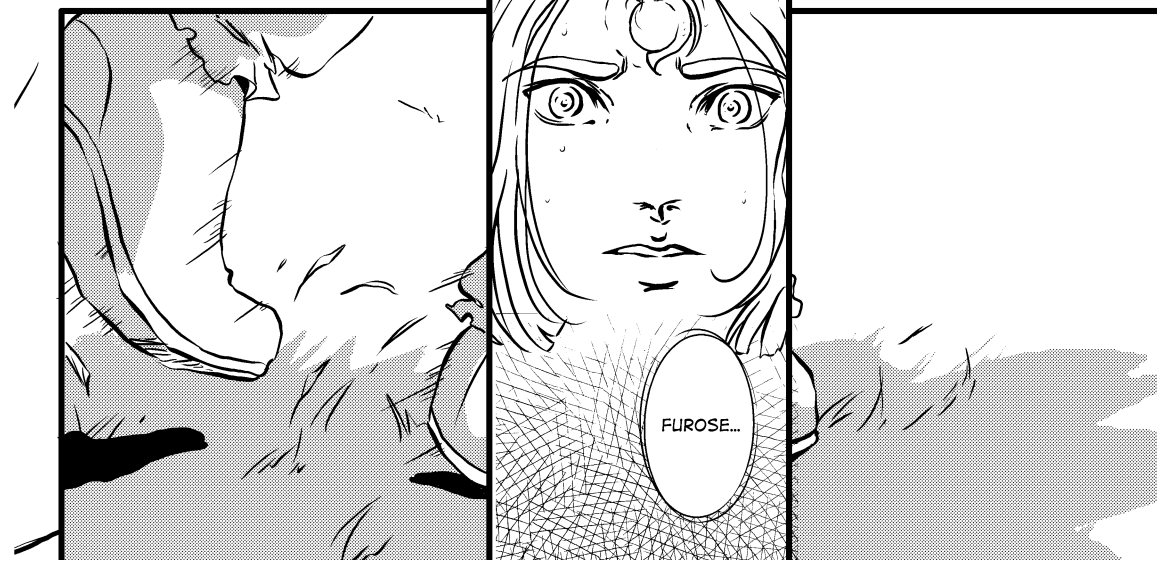
IT WAS A
GOOD MOVE,
VERANCE; TO
REMOVE OUR
PROTECTIVE
SPIRIT.

NOW, WE
CAN'T BEAT
YOU, BUT I
ALSO SUSPECT
THE ODDS ARE
NOW JUST A BIT
TOO *EVEN* FOR
YOUR LIKING.
I'D CALL IT A
DAY.

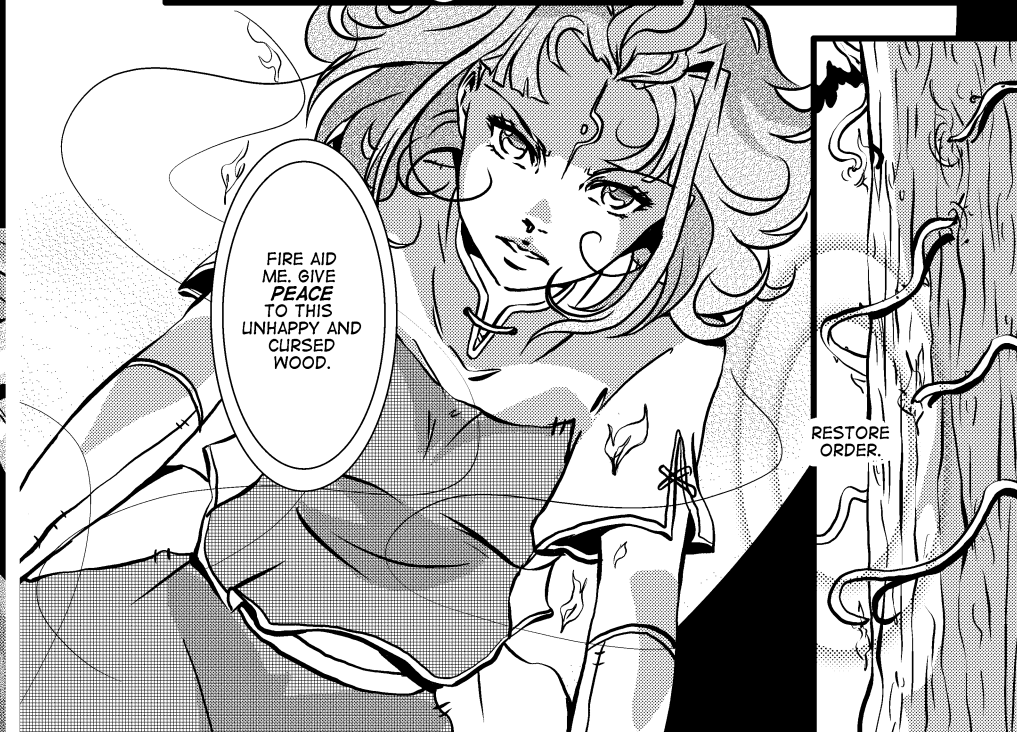
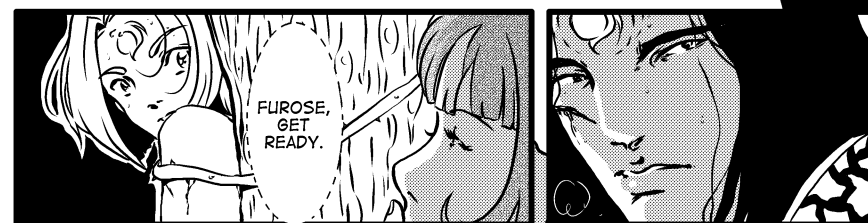
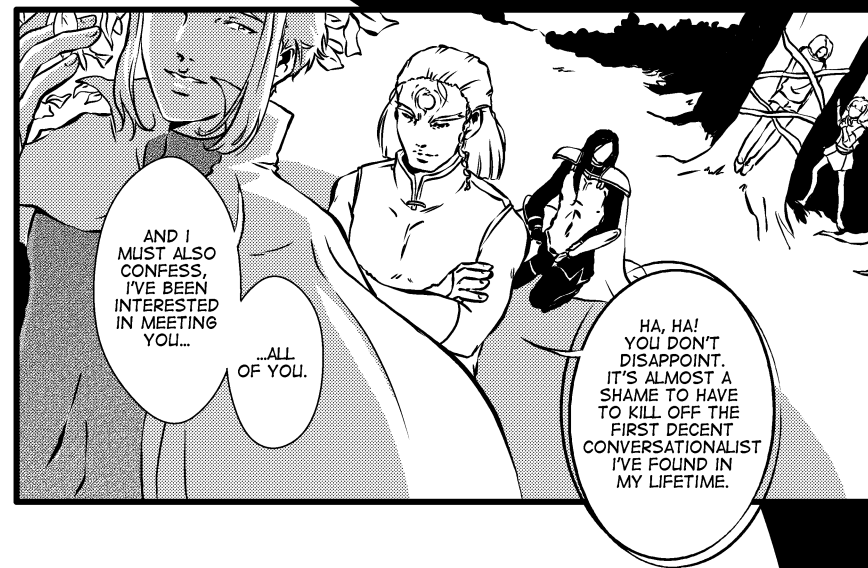
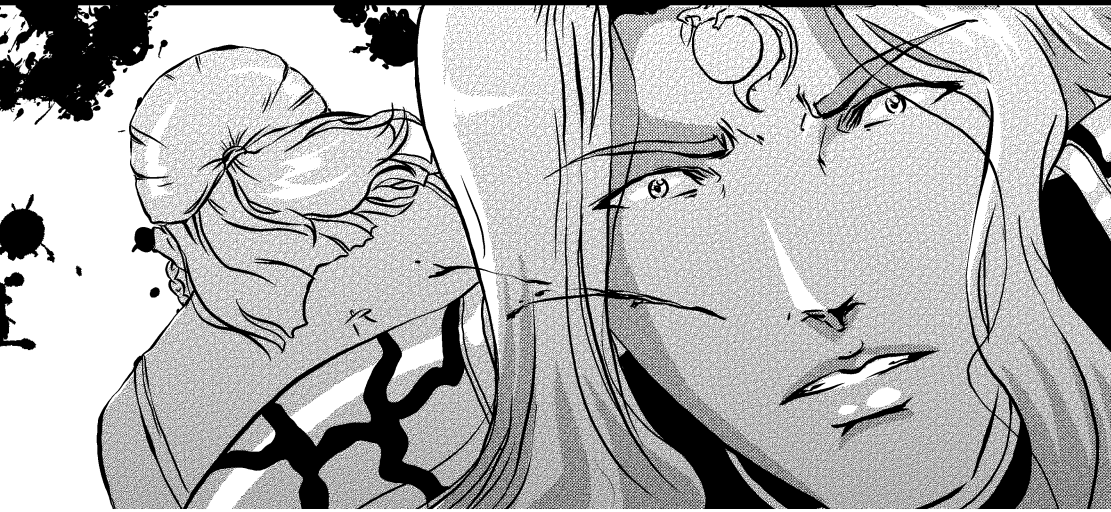
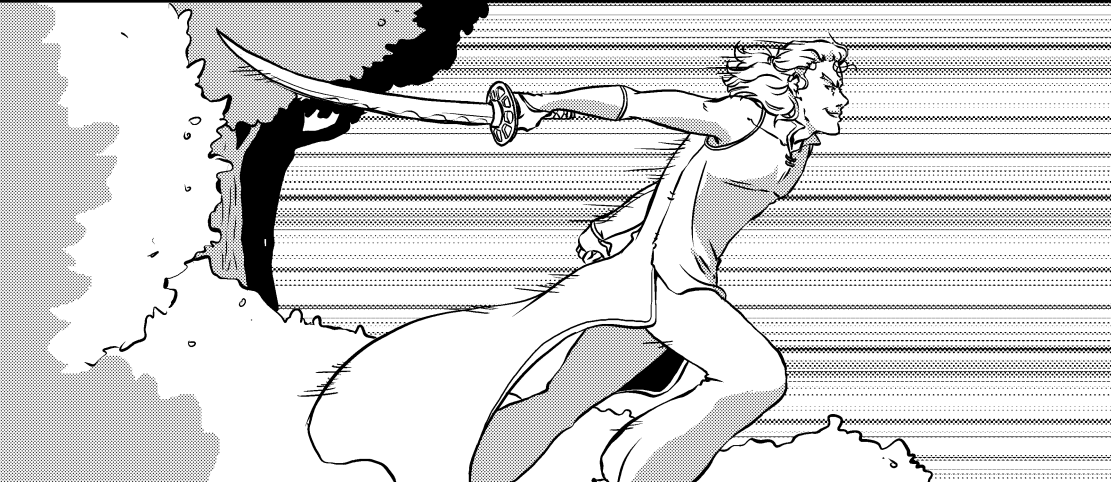
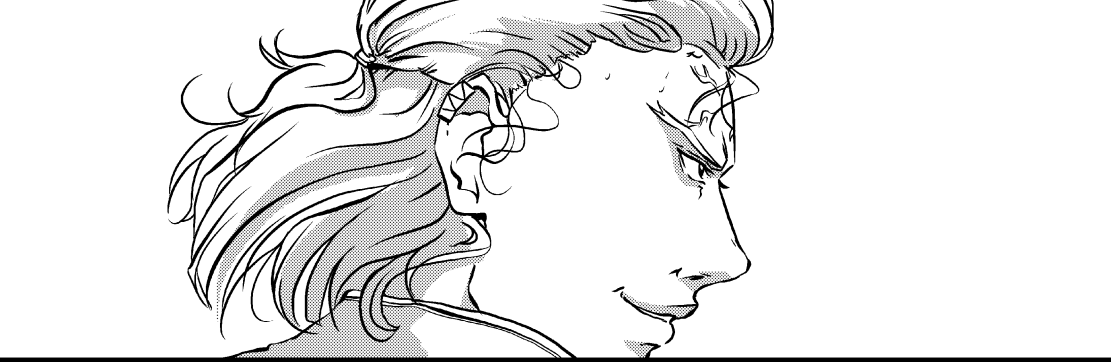


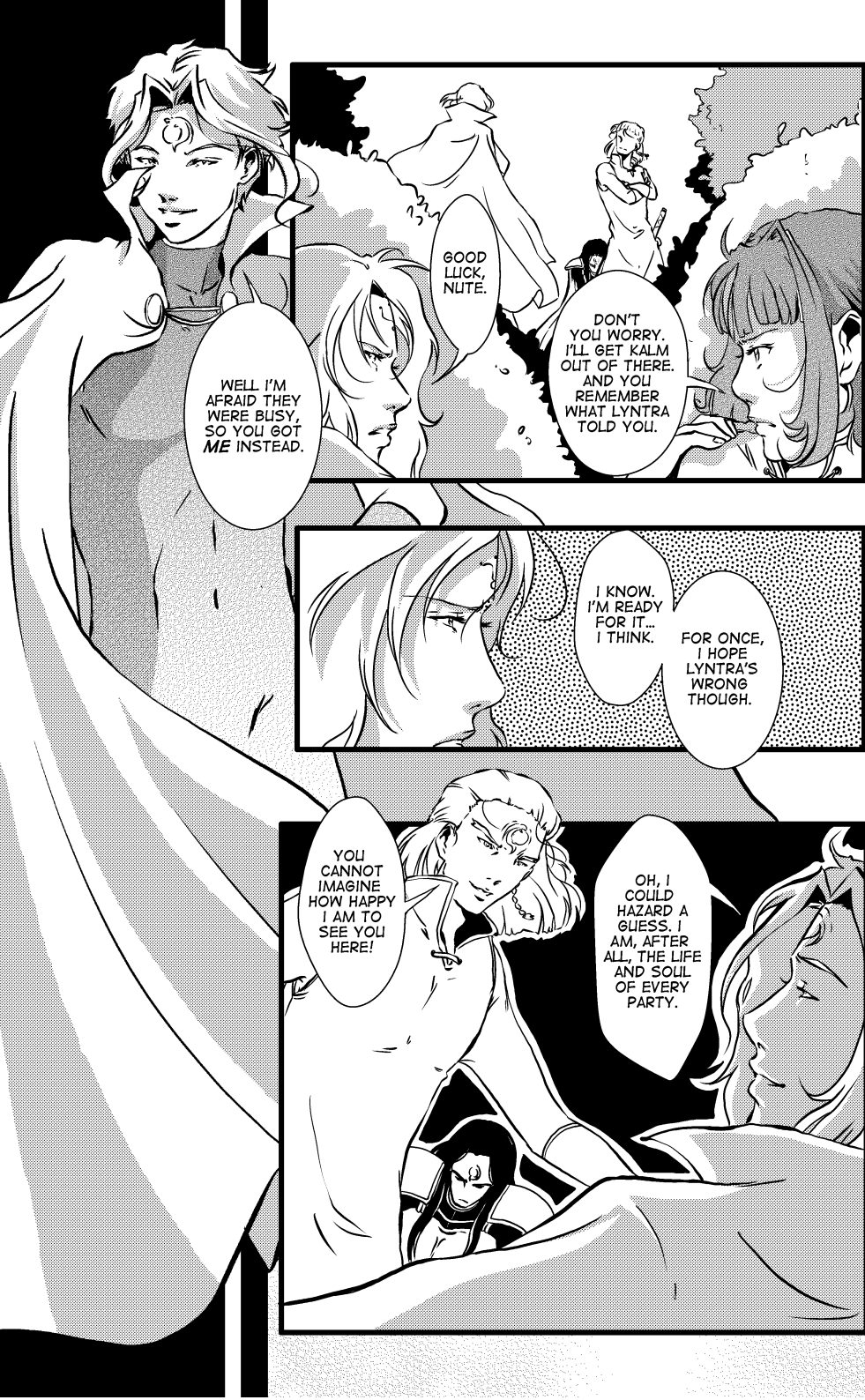
YOU'RE
ABSOLUTELY
RIGHT,
LYNTRA.

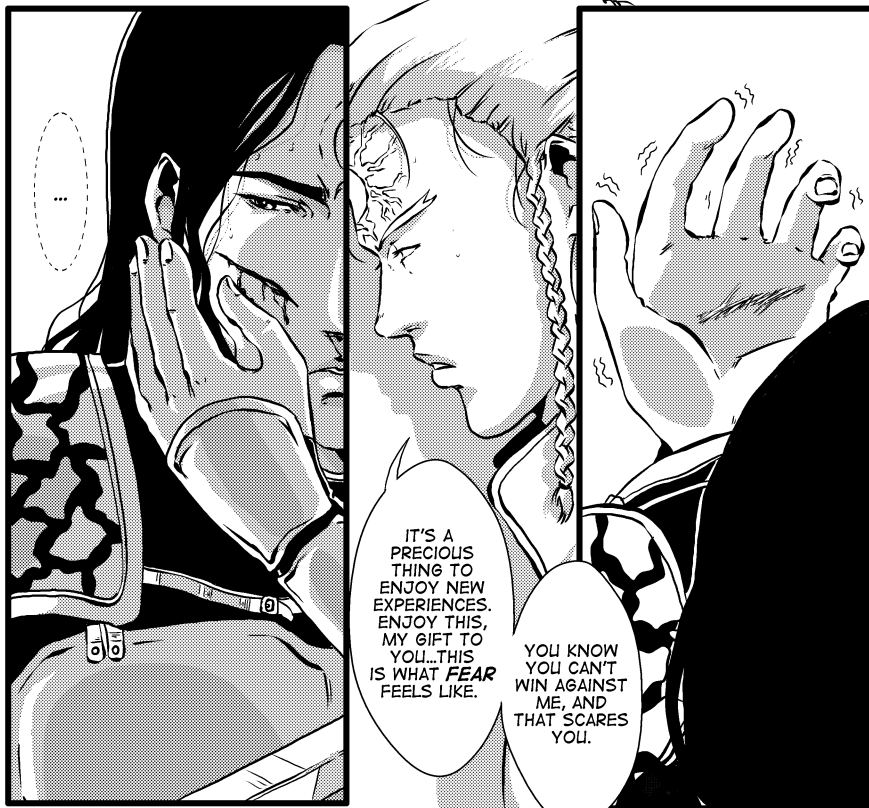
I'LL ADMIT
I WASN'T
EXPECTING
YOU TO AGREE
WITH ME *QUITE*
SO QUICKLY.



FUROSE...

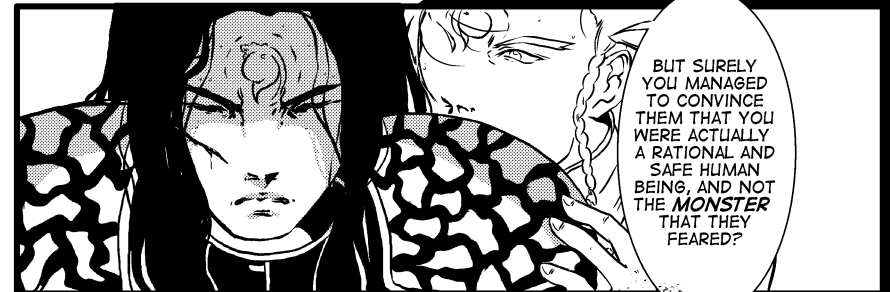




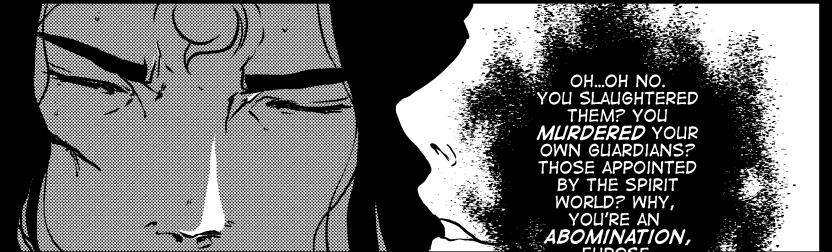


IT'S A
PRECIOUS
THING TO
ENJOY NEW
EXPERIENCES.
ENJOY THIS,
MY GIFT TO
YOU...THIS
IS WHAT **FEAR**
FEELS LIKE.

YOU KNOW
YOU CAN'T
WIN AGAINST
ME, AND
THAT SCARES
YOU.



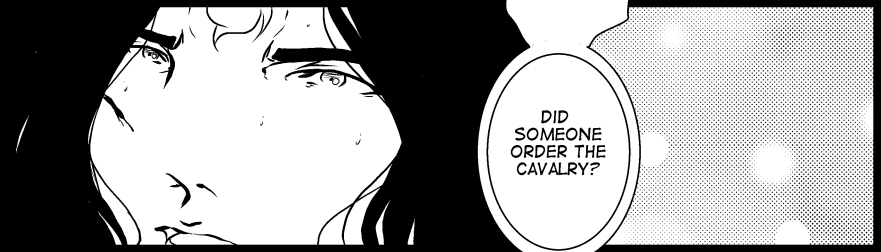
BUT SURELY
YOU MANAGED
TO CONVINCE
THEM THAT YOU
WERE ACTUALLY
A RATIONAL AND
SAFE HUMAN
BEING, AND NOT
THE **MONSTER**
THAT THEY
FEARED?



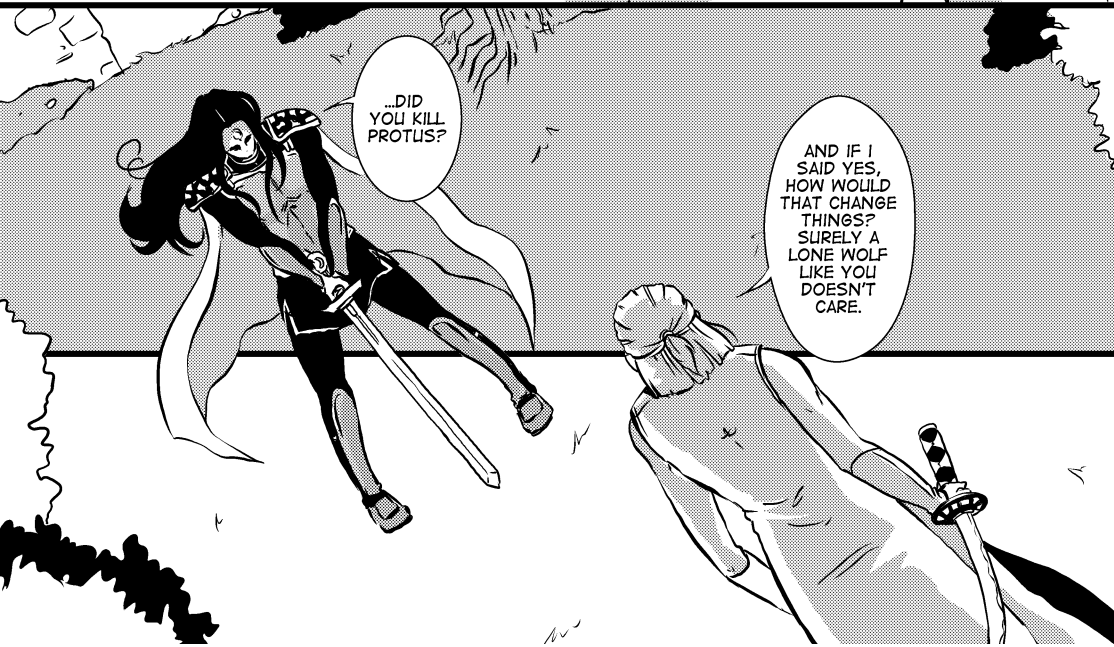
OH...OH NO.
YOU SLAUGHTERED
THEM? YOU
MURDERED YOUR
OWN GUARDIANS?
THOSE APPOINTED
BY THE SPIRIT
WORLD? WHY,
YOU'RE AN
ABOMINATION,
FIROSE.



FIROSE.
DON'T GIVE
UP NOW.



DID
SOMEONE
ORDER THE
CAVALRY?



...DID
YOU KILL
PROTUS?

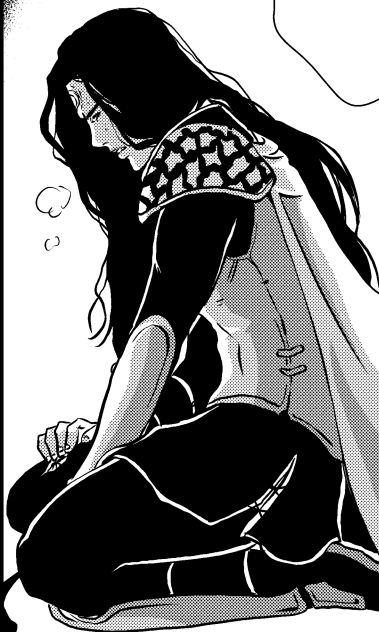
AND IF I
SAID YES,
HOW WOULD
THAT CHANGE
THINGS?
SURELY A
LONE WOLF
LIKE YOU
DOESN'T
CARE.



...THANK
THE SPIRITS.

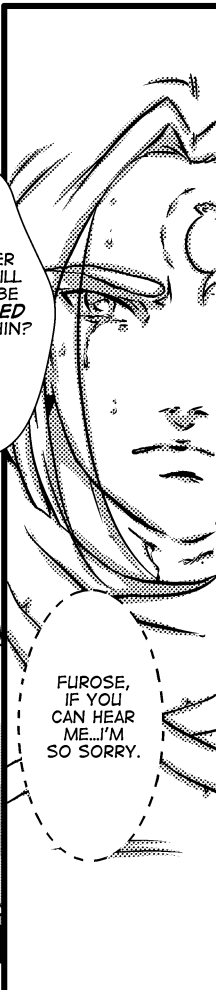


ONE MORE
MOVE LIKE
THAT AND
THE BOY
DIES.

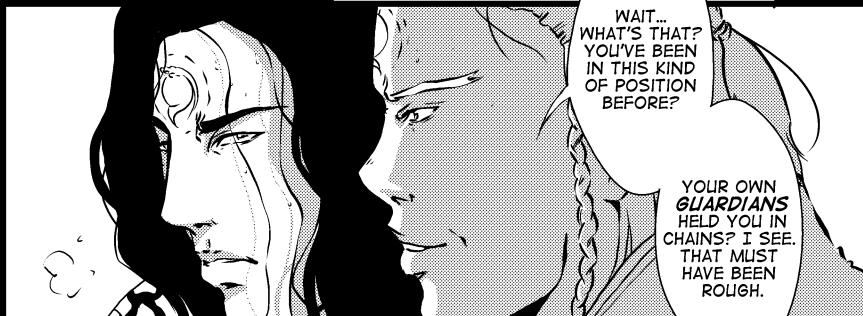


YOU'RE
LOSING A
LOT OF BLOOD,
I CAN ALMOST
SEE THAT DRAGON
SPIRIT TRYING TO
BURST OUT
OF YOU.

I WONDER
HOW IT WILL
FEEL TO BE
CONSUMED
FROM WITHIN?

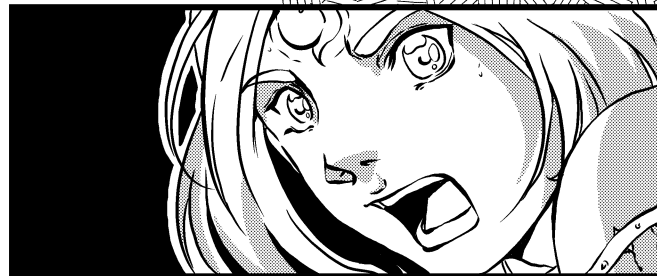


FUROSE,
IF YOU
CAN HEAR
ME...I'M
SO SORRY.



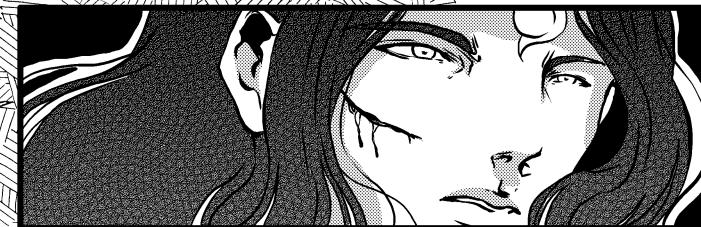
WAIT...
WHAT'S THAT?
YOU'VE BEEN
IN THIS KIND
OF POSITION
BEFORE?

YOUR OWN
GUARDIANS
HELD YOU IN
CHAINS? I SEE.
THAT MUST
HAVE BEEN
ROUGH.



HE DIDN'T,
HE **COULDN'T**!
FUROSE,
JUST **GO**,
GET OUT
OF HERE!

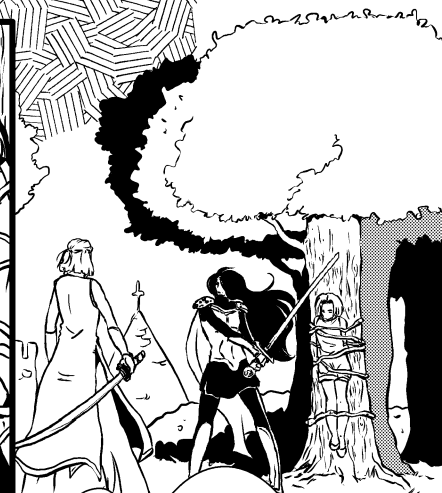
...NOT
LEAVING
YOU HERE.



COULDN'T?
UNTRUE.
AS YOUR
COMRADE
HERE IS
STARTING
TO REALISE.

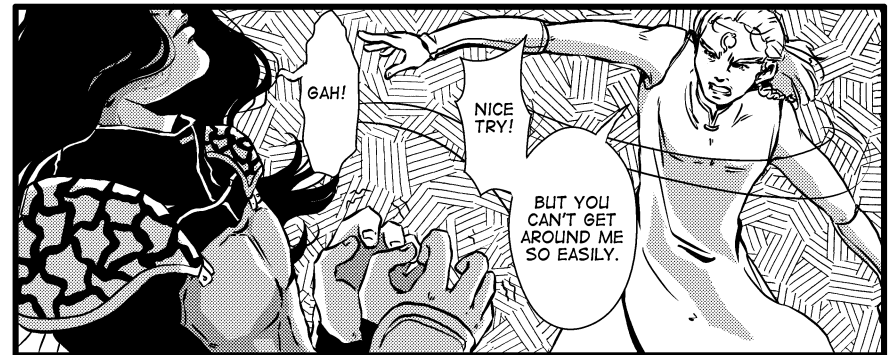
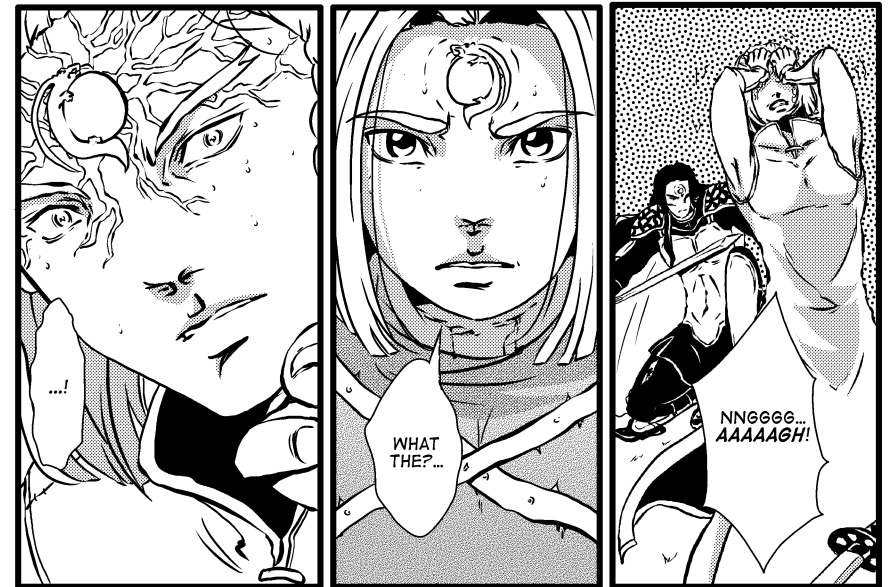
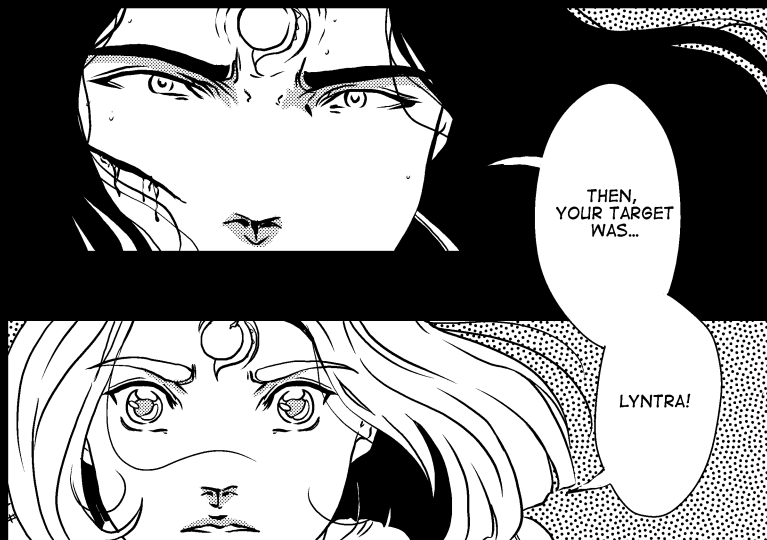


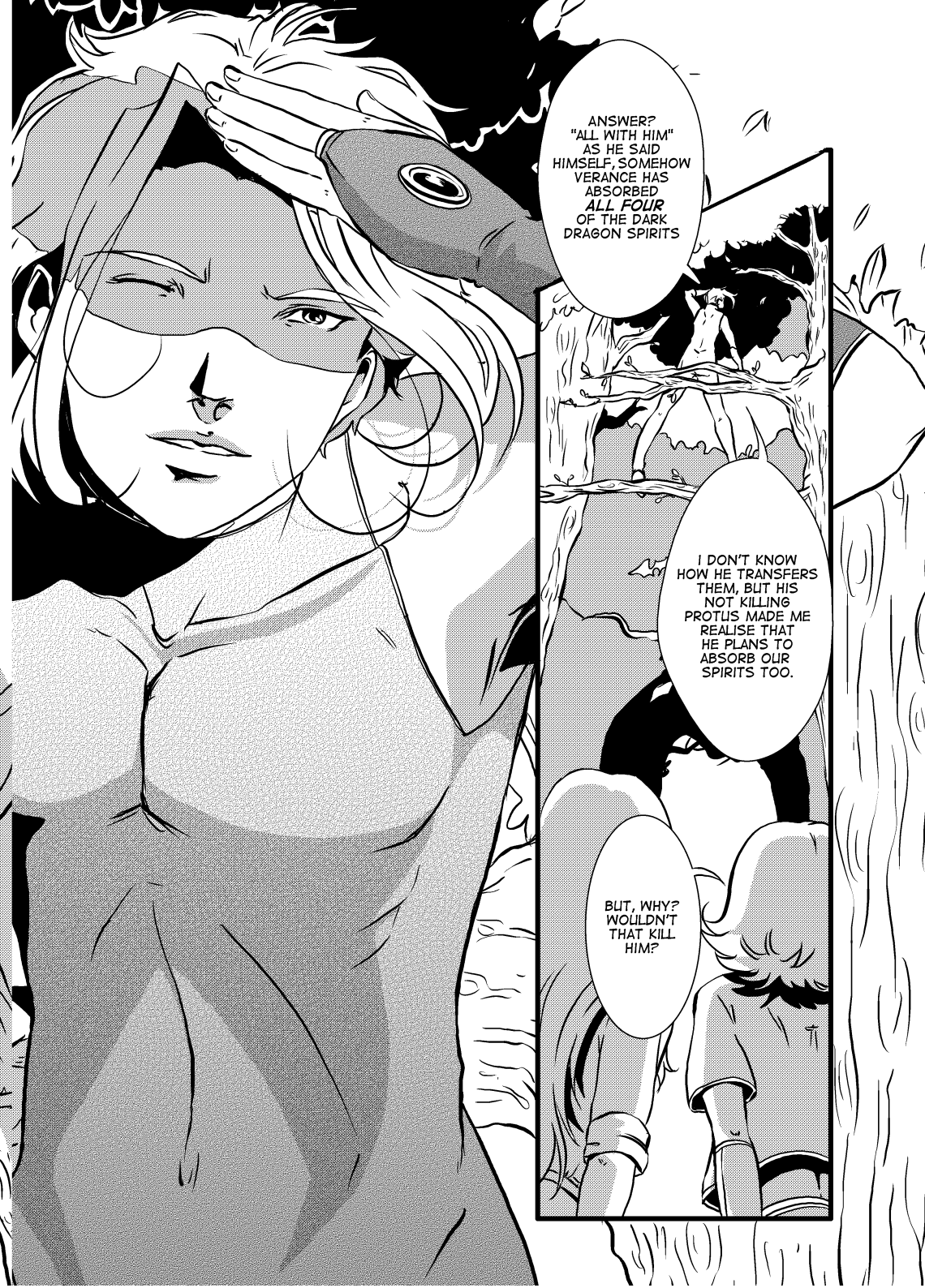
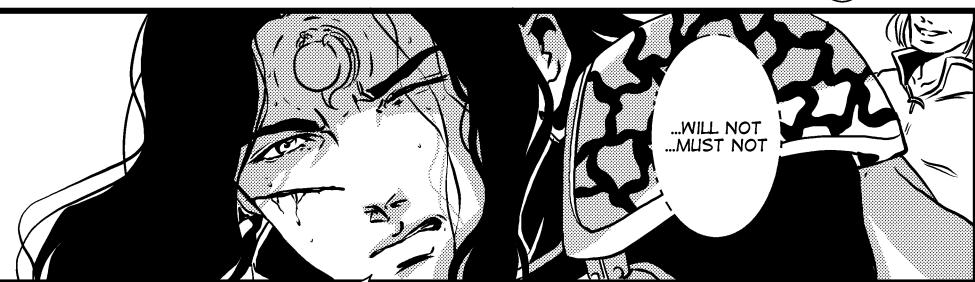
THEN, IT
IS AS LYNTRA
SAID. PROTUS
WAS NOT YOUR
TARGET.

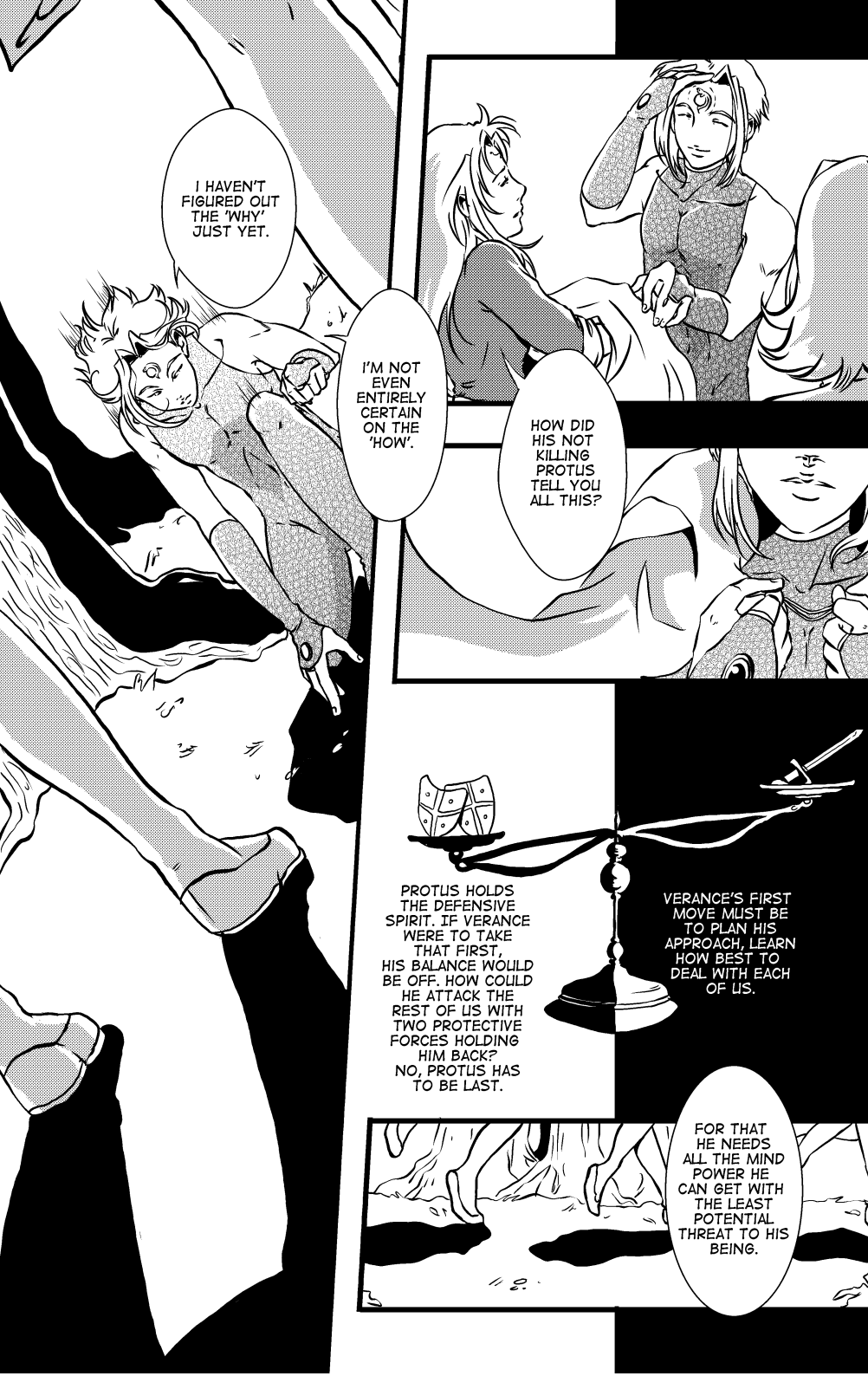


NO. NOT
YET.

NEITHER,
INCIDENTALLY,
ARE EITHER
OF YOU. BUT
THAT DOESN'T
MEAN I CAN'T
HAVE SOME
FUN WHILE
WE WAIT FOR
MY PREY TO
FALL INTO THE
TRAP YOU
CONVENIENTLY
LAID.



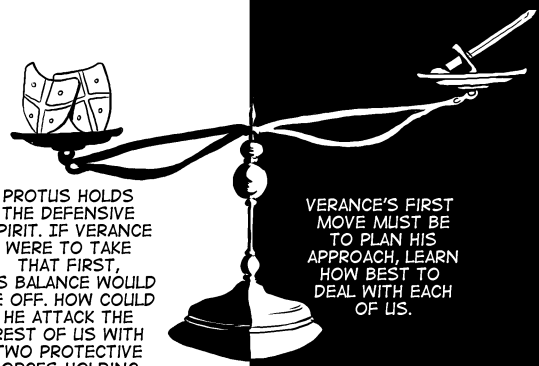




I HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT THE 'WHY' JUST YET.

I'M NOT EVEN ENTIRELY CERTAIN ON THE 'HOW'.

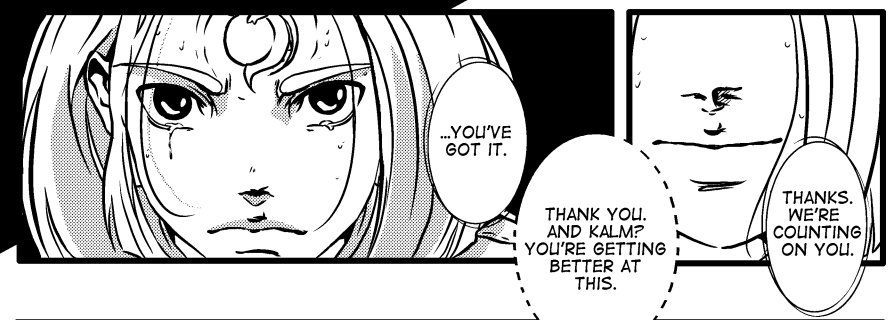
HOW DID HIS NOT KILLING PROTUS TELL YOU ALL THIS?



PROTUS HOLDS THE DEFENSIVE SPIRIT. IF VERANCE WERE TO TAKE THAT FIRST, HIS BALANCE WOULD BE OFF. HOW COULD HE ATTACK THE REST OF US WITH TWO PROTECTIVE FORCES HOLDING HIM BACK? NO, PROTUS HAS TO BE LAST.

VERANCE'S FIRST MOVE MUST BE TO PLAN HIS APPROACH, LEARN HOW BEST TO DEAL WITH EACH OF US.

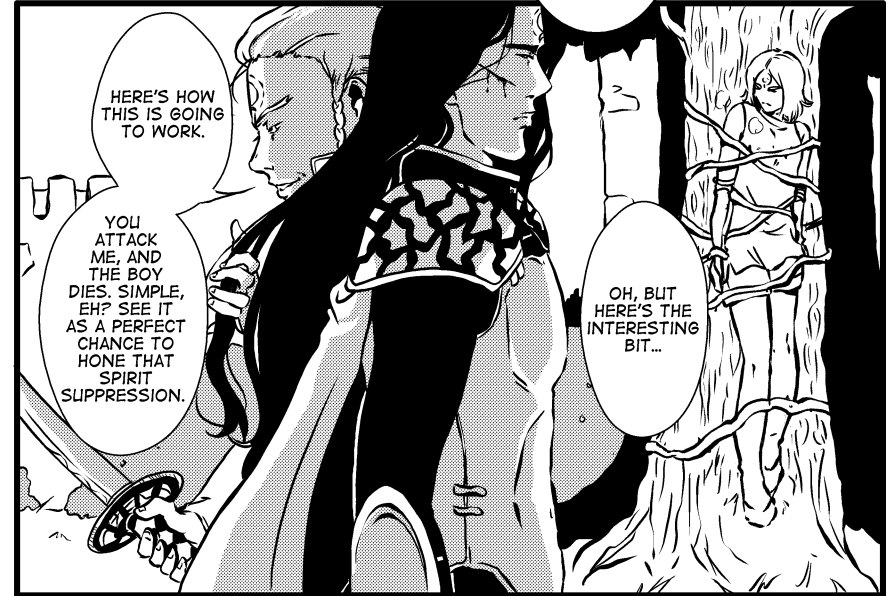
FOR THAT HE NEEDS ALL THE MIND POWER HE CAN GET WITH THE LEAST POTENTIAL THREAT TO HIS BEING.



...YOU'VE GOT IT.

THANK YOU. AND KALM? YOU'RE GETTING BETTER AT THIS.

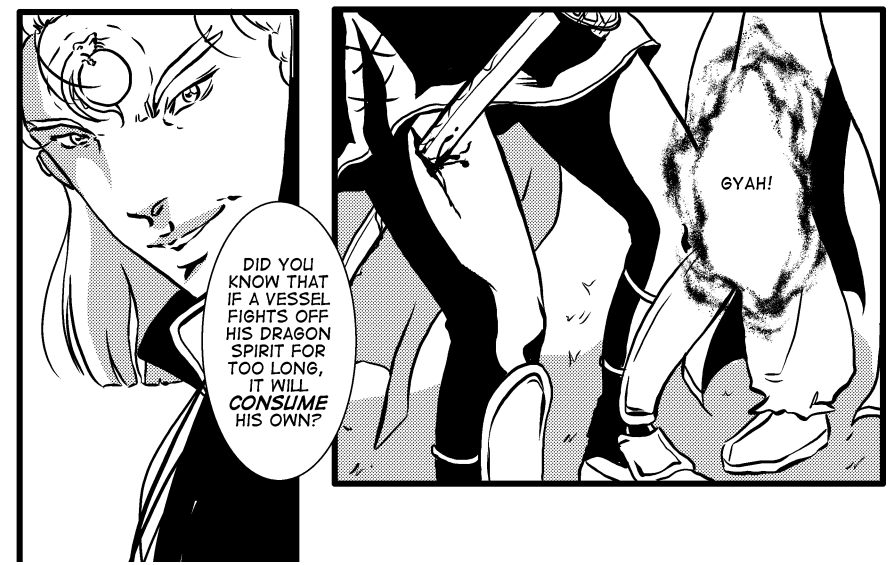
THANKS. WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU.



HERE'S HOW THIS IS GOING TO WORK.

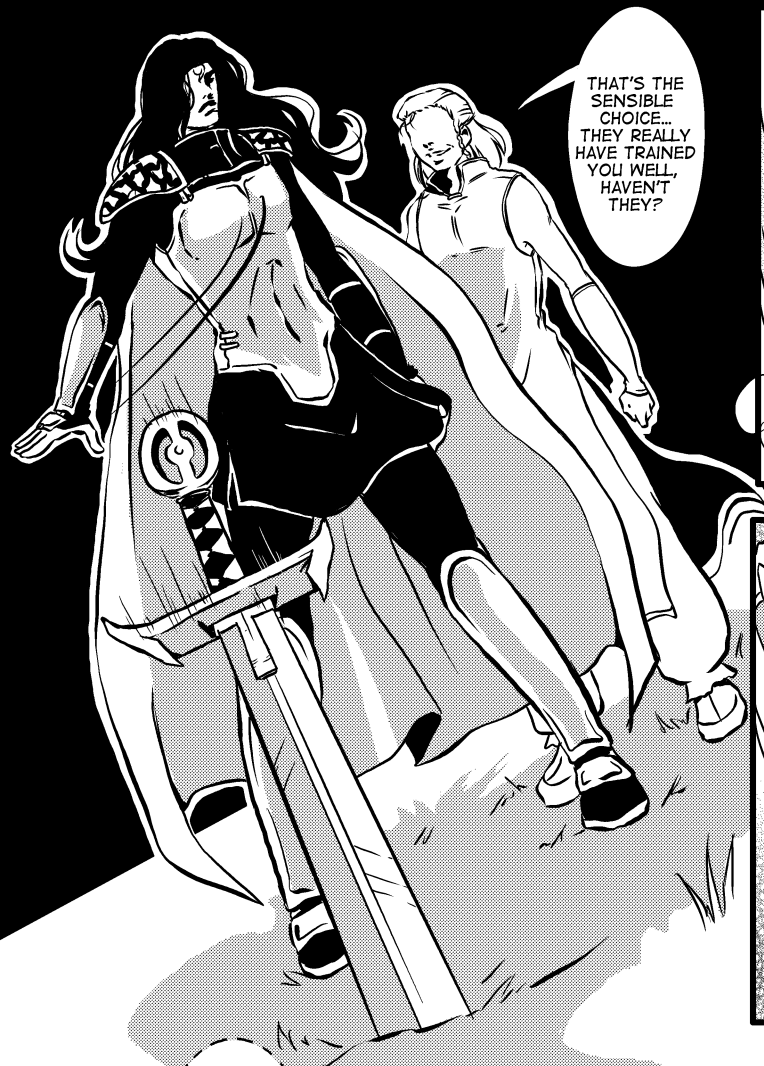
YOU ATTACK ME, AND THE BOY DIES. SIMPLE, EH? SEE IT AS A PERFECT CHANCE TO HONE THAT SPIRIT SUPPRESSION.

OH, BUT HERE'S THE INTERESTING BIT...



DID YOU KNOW THAT IF A VESSEL FIGHTS OFF HIS DRAGON SPIRIT FOR TOO LONG, IT WILL CONSUME HIS OWN?

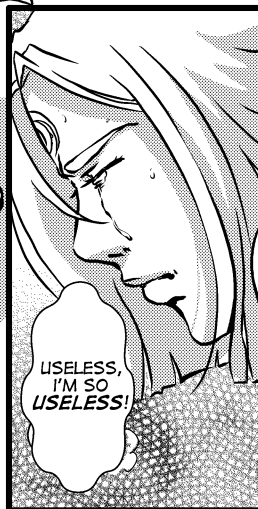
GYAH!



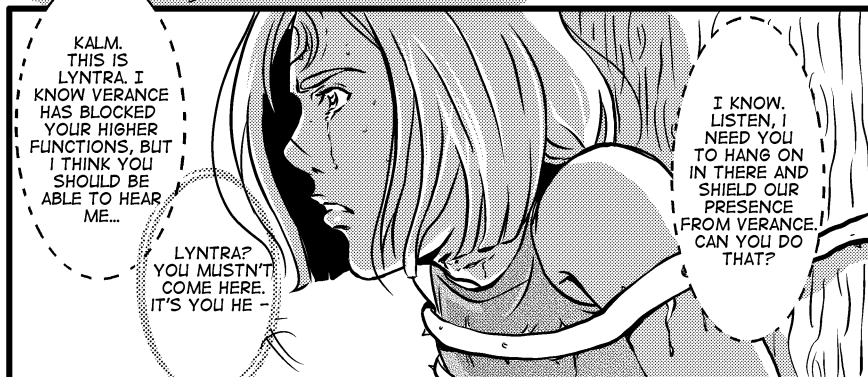
THAT'S THE
SENSIBLE
CHOICE...
THEY REALLY
HAVE TRAINED
YOU WELL,
HAVEN'T
THEY?



FUROSE...



USELESS,
I'M SO
USELESS!



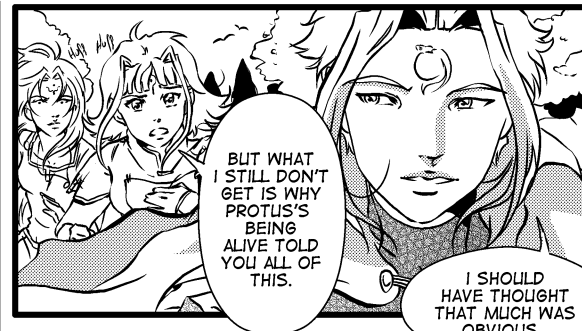
KALM.
THIS IS
LYNTRA. I
KNOW VERANCE
HAS BLOCKED
YOUR HIGHER
FUNCTIONS, BUT
I THINK YOU
SHOULD BE
ABLE TO HEAR
ME...

LYNTRA?
YOU MUSTN'T
COME HERE.
IT'S YOU HE -

I KNOW.
LISTEN, I
NEED YOU
TO HANG ON
IN THERE AND
SHIELD OUR
PRESENCE
FROM VERANCE.
CAN YOU DO
THAT?

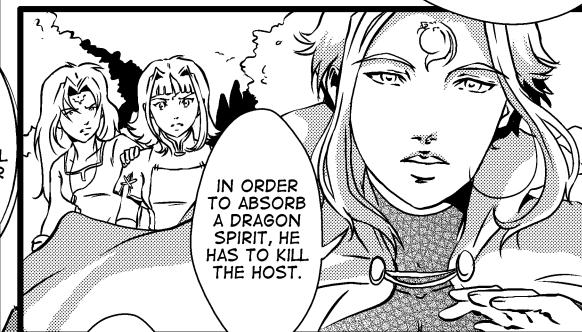


YOURS
TRULY'S
SPIRIT IS
THE LOGICAL
CHOICE FOR
STARTERS.



BUT WHAT
I STILL DON'T
GET IS WHY
PROTUS'S
BEING
ALIVE TOLD
YOU ALL OF
THIS.

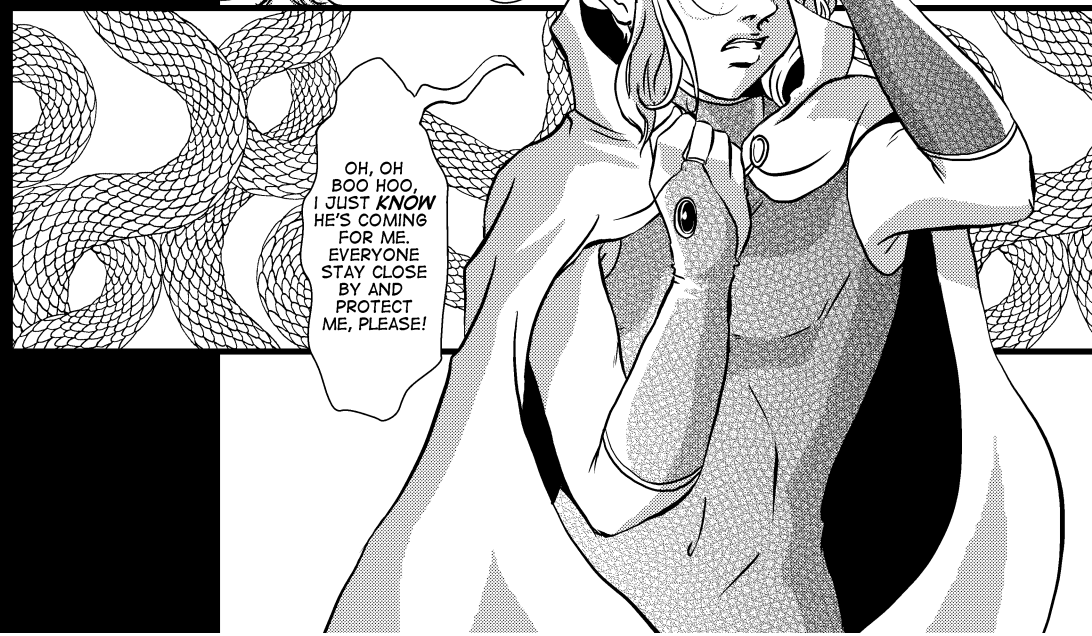
I SHOULD
HAVE THOUGHT
THAT MUCH WAS
OBVIOUS...



IN ORDER
TO ABSORB
A DRAGON
SPIRIT, HE
HAS TO KILL
THE HOST.



YOU KNEW
HE WAS
COMING TO
KILL YOU,
AND YOU
DIDN'T SAY
ANYTHING?



OH, OH
BOO HOO,
I JUST *KNOW*
HE'S COMING
FOR ME.
EVERYONE
STAY CLOSE
BY AND
PROTECT
ME, PLEASE!

