



Title
Author





Part V.
The Book of Elements
Volume 1





Part V.
The Book of Elements
Volume I

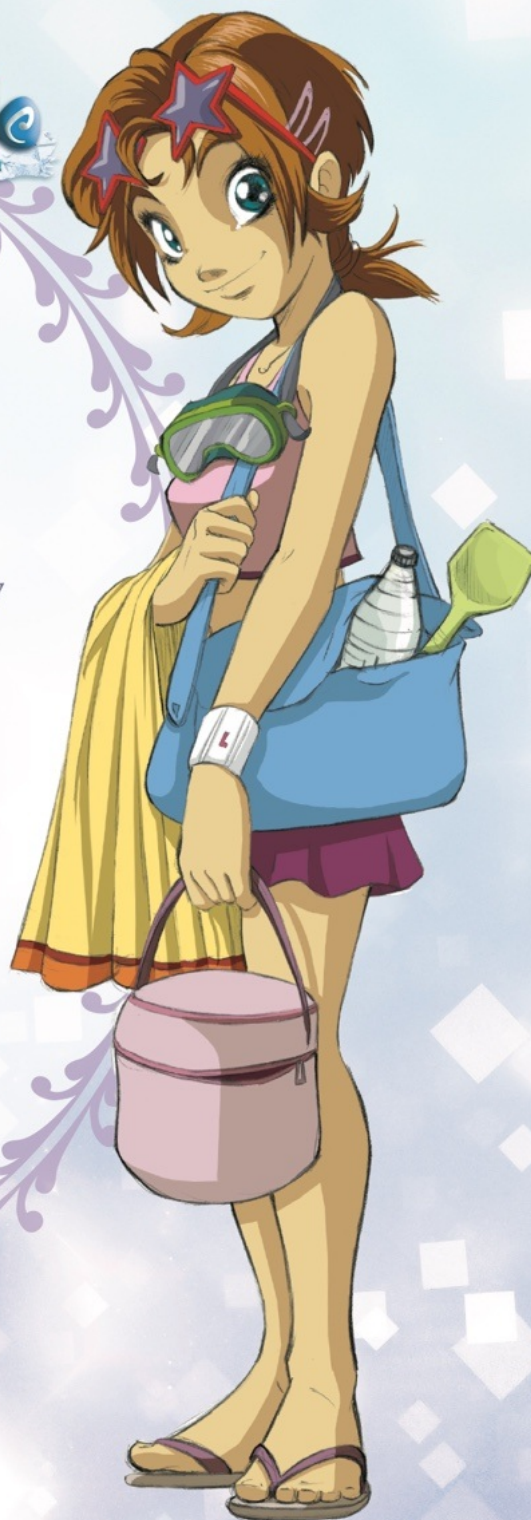
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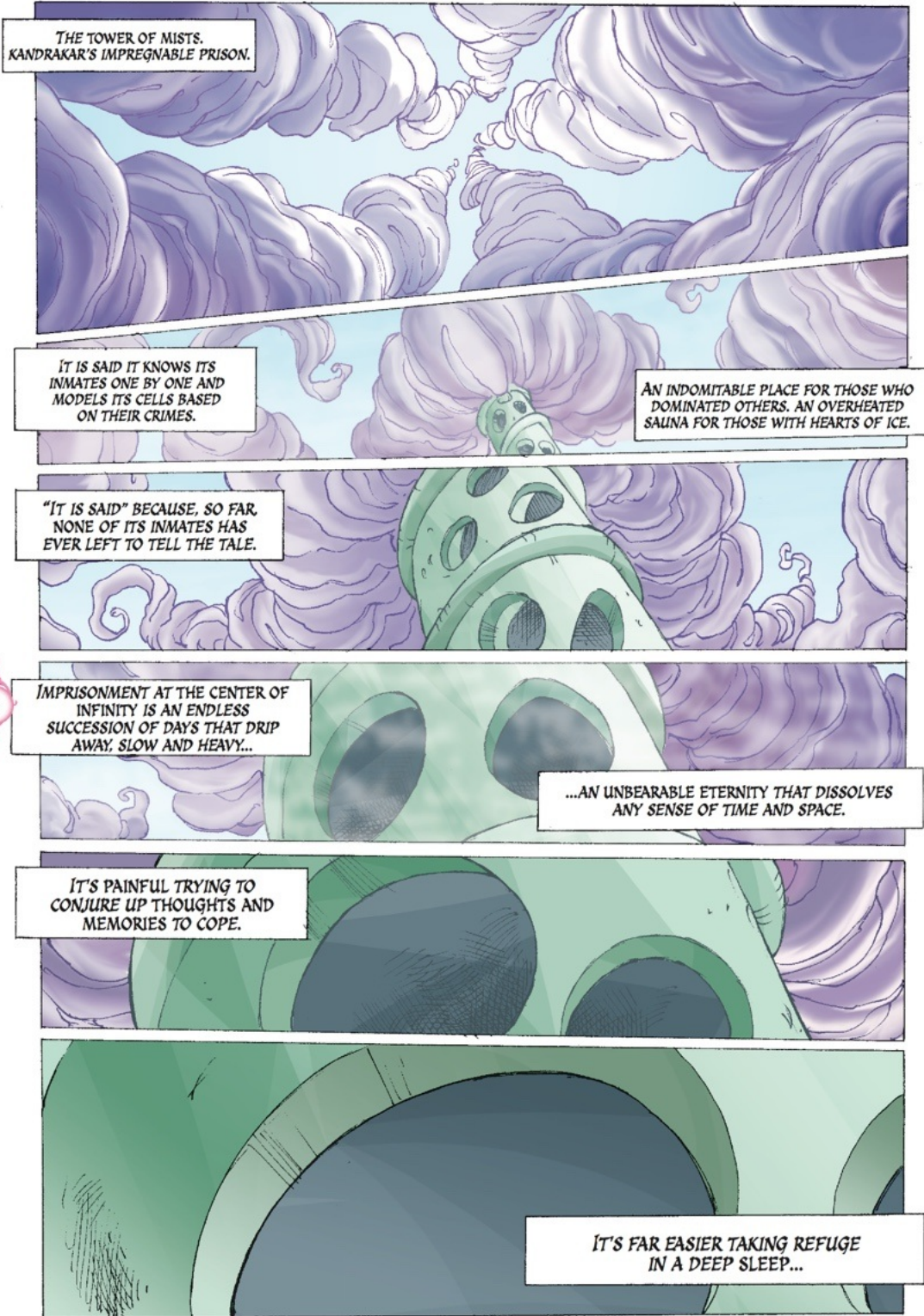


Between Dream and Reality

"A true warrior knows when she needs help."







THE TOWER OF MISTS.
KANDRAKAR'S IMPREGNABLE PRISON.

IT IS SAID IT KNOWS ITS
INMATES ONE BY ONE AND
MODELS ITS CELLS BASED
ON THEIR CRIMES.

AN INDOMITABLE PLACE FOR THOSE WHO
DOMINATED OTHERS. AN OVERHEATED
SAUNA FOR THOSE WITH HEARTS OF ICE.

"IT IS SAID" BECAUSE, SO FAR,
NONE OF ITS INMATES HAS
EVER LEFT TO TELL THE TALE.

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IMPRISONMENT AT THE CENTER OF
INFINITY IS AN ENDLESS
SUCCESSION OF DAYS THAT DRIP
AWAY, SLOW AND HEAVY...

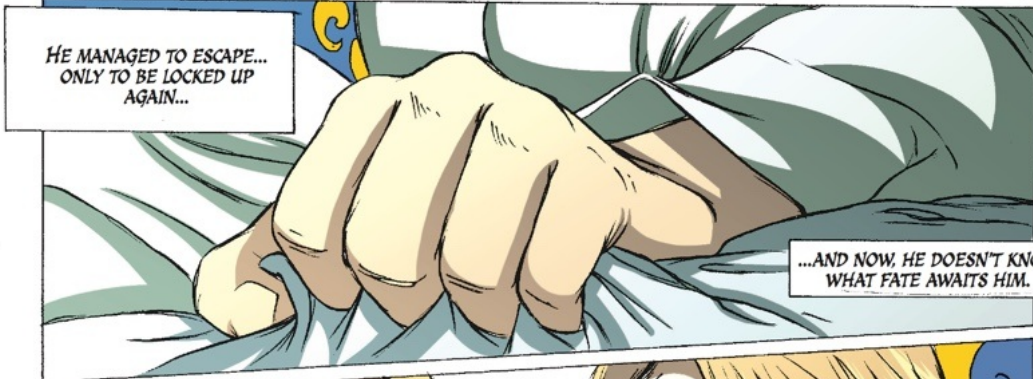
...AN UNBEARABLE ETERNITY THAT DISSOLVES
ANY SENSE OF TIME AND SPACE.

IT'S PAINFUL TRYING TO
CONJURE UP THOUGHTS AND
MEMORIES TO COPE.

IT'S FAR EASIER TAKING REFUGE
IN A DEEP SLEEP...

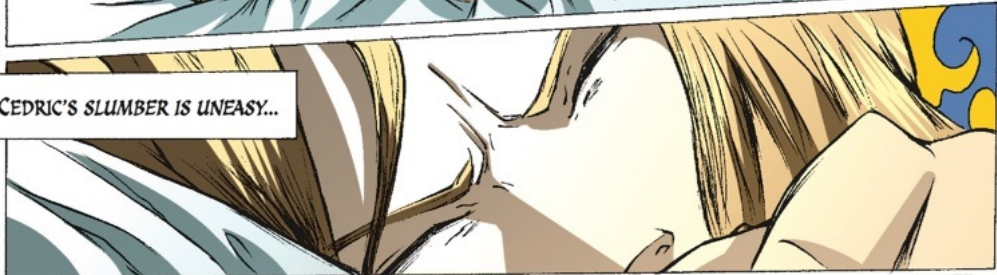


THE KING OF LIES IS NO DIFFERENT. LOCKED IN A CELL OF PAINFUL ILLUSIONS, HE SEEKS COMFORT IN DREAMS—THE EXCEPTION PROVING THE RULE IN THE TOWER'S THOUSAND-YEAR HISTORY...



HE MANAGED TO ESCAPE... ONLY TO BE LOCKED UP AGAIN...

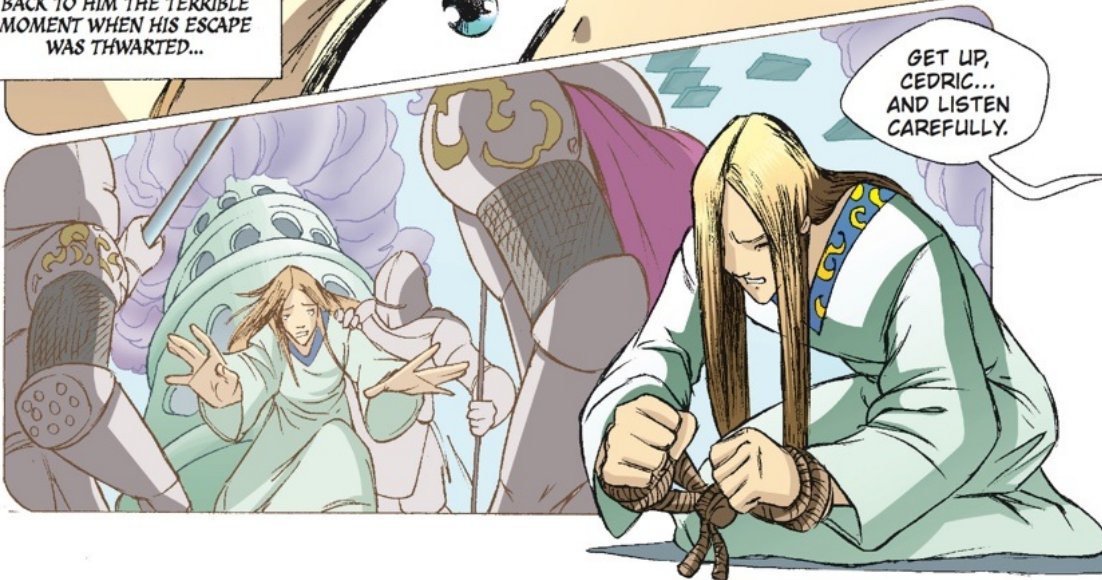
...AND NOW, HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT FATE AWAITS HIM.



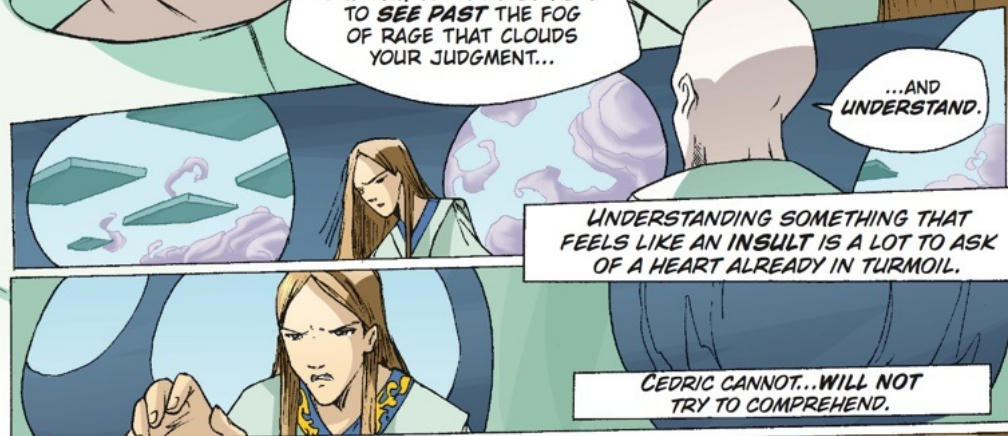
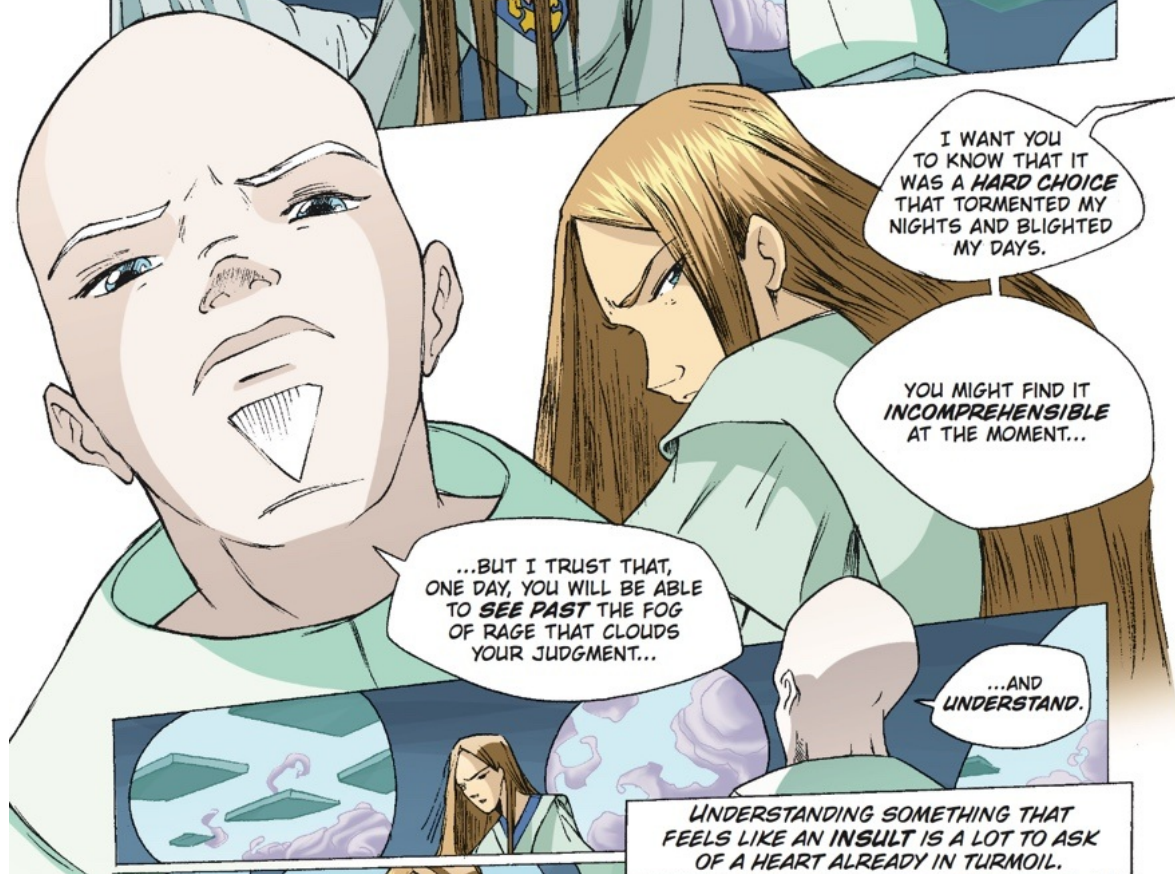
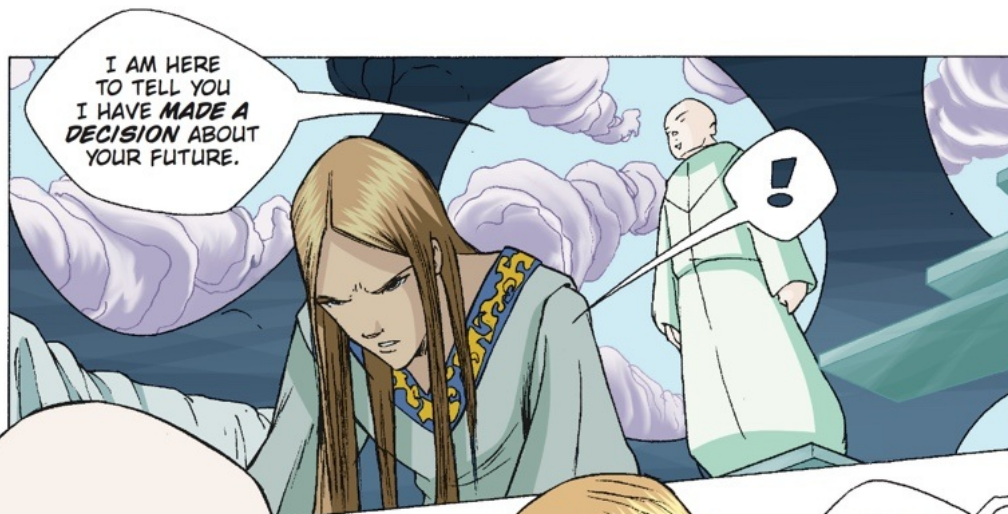
CEDRIC'S SLUMBER IS UNEASY...



...A CRUEL SLEEP THAT BRINGS BACK TO HIM THE TERRIBLE MOMENT WHEN HIS ESCAPE WAS THWARTED...



GET UP, CEDRIC... AND LISTEN CAREFULLY.





MAYBE ONE DAY, WE'LL HAVE TELESCOPES POWERFUL ENOUGH TO LET US *SEE* EVEN *FARTHER*!

...AND *THAT DAY* YOU'LL BE A GREAT *ASTRONOMER*, FAMOUS AND IMPORTANT LIKE YOUR GRANDFATHER!



LIVING AT THE OBSERVATORY IS A GOOD STARTING POINT FOR BECOMING A SCIENTIST, ISN'T IT?

YEAH... A *SCIENTIST*, SURE...



AN *ASTRONOMER*... MAYBE...



ERIC?



DAD AND I ARE READY. WE'LL GIVE YOU A LIFT WHEREVER YOU WANT.

COOL! WHADDAYA SAY, HAY LIN?



ARE YOU OKAY?

Y-YES...

"THEN LET'S GO!"

HONEY...DID I TELL
YOU WE SHOULD GET AN
ANSWER FROM *OPEN
HILL UNIVERSITY*
IN A FEW DAYS?

THEY
ACCEPTED YOUR
APPLICATION?

THEY'RE
CONSIDERING
IT...

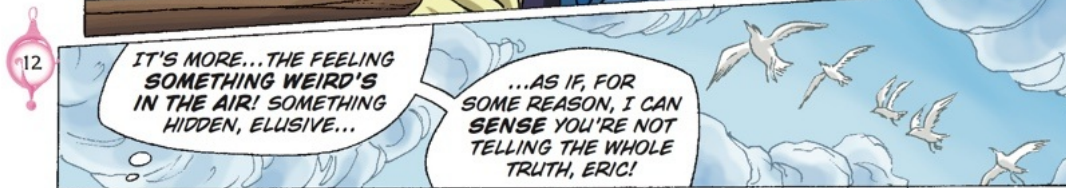
I'M
SERIOUS! LOUISE
LYNDON'S CHARM
IS RENOWNED AMONG
ACADEMICS THE
WORLD OVER...
AND I SHOULD
KNOW!

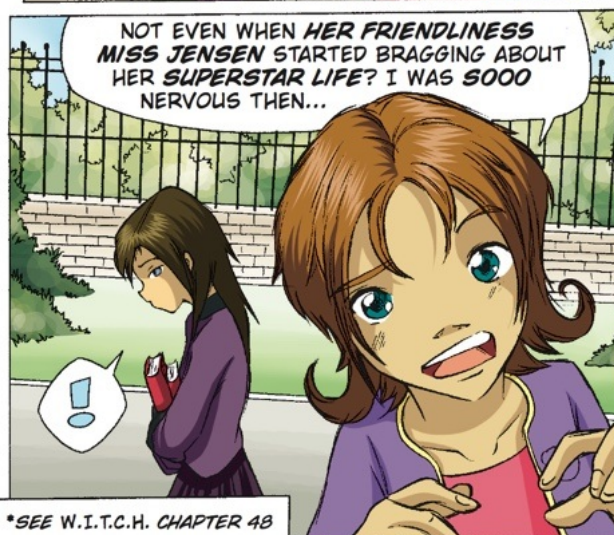
OPEN HILL...THAT'S NOT TOO FAR FROM HEATHERFIELD, RIGHT?

A FEW
HUNDRED MILES.
IT'S AN EXCELLENT
UNIVERSITY...

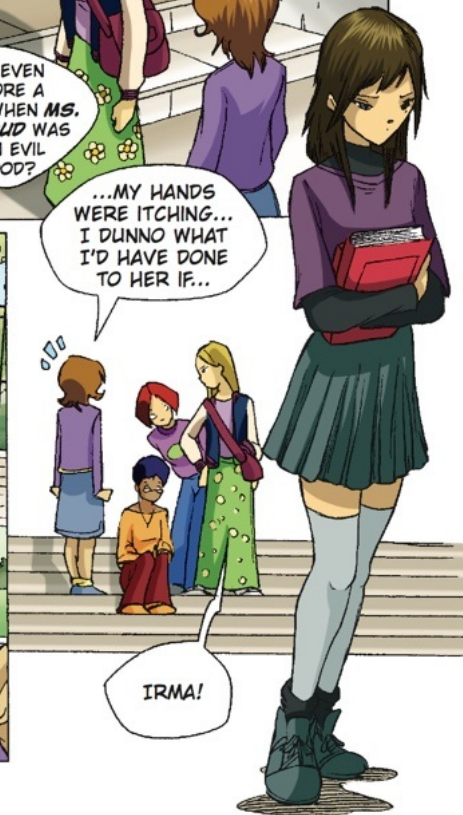
...AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT OFFERS A GENEROUS **GRANT** THAT WOULD ALLOW US TO COMPLETE THE RESEARCH WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON FOR YEARS!

DON'T MIND HIM, HAY LIN. CHARLES LIKES TO JOKE AROUND.

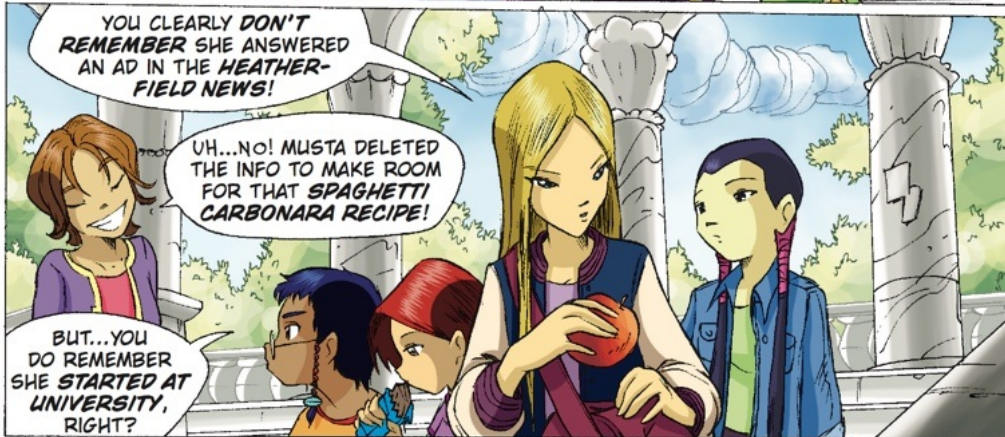




*SEE W.I.T.C.H. CHAPTER 48







EDITOR with
urgently
TEEN section

"SO ORUBE ANSWERED AN AD LOOKING
FOR A WRITER FOR A NEW MAGAZINE..."

to the current sta
d "Shows & Entertainment"
OFFERED
in INTERNSHIP at the most important
enagers" section, after a successful trial.

REQUIREMENTS
young university students attending
eared toward communication. Candidates
between 18 and 24 years old, with a high
diploma, excellent general culture
the latest IT technologies, and
communication

"IT SAID TO CONTACT
A **WILLIAM KORTER**,
EDITORIAL COORDINATOR
FOR THE HEATHERFIELD
NEWS GROUP..."

candidate
apitude test (which you
www.heaterf-news.com
the results will

HEATHERFIELD
News
William Korter
Editorial Coordinator
Heatherfield Magazine Division Worldwide
Tel. 555/5356552 Fax 555/5352553

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Priston Street,
Heatherfield

References:
Vanda
Lair
a Hale
friends.

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"ORUBE SENT HER CV..."

"...AND IN THE MEANTIME,
SHE FOUND OUT HE'S ONE
OF HER PROFESSORS!"

IT sk
Other:

Hea
with
high
look



**APTITUDE
TEST**
(TO BE ATTACHED TO CV)

- 1 You accidentally
that there will be
70s themed party
invited yet
☐ You wonder why you
☒ You grab your camera and
notebook to document the event
☐ You hate the 70s
Unbelievable!
There are still people
who want

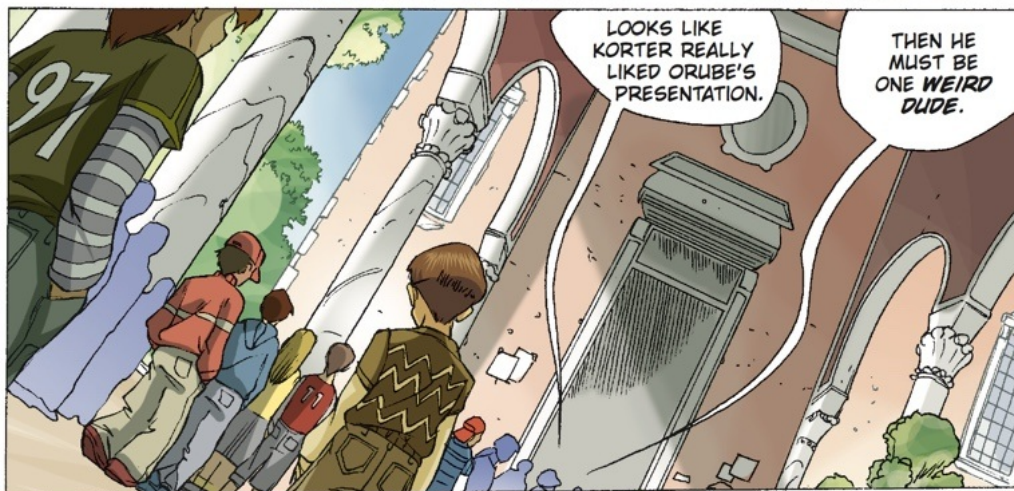
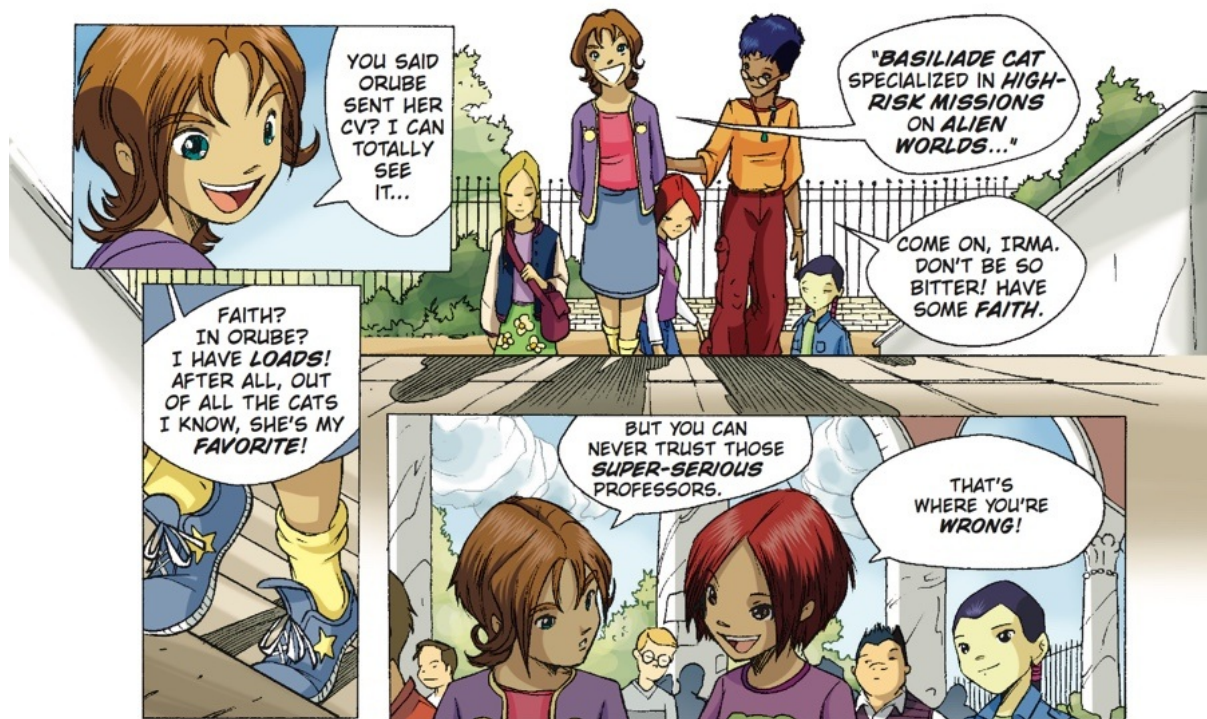
HEY...
HANG ON
A SEC!

niche
and the
also as

Joshua Str
very

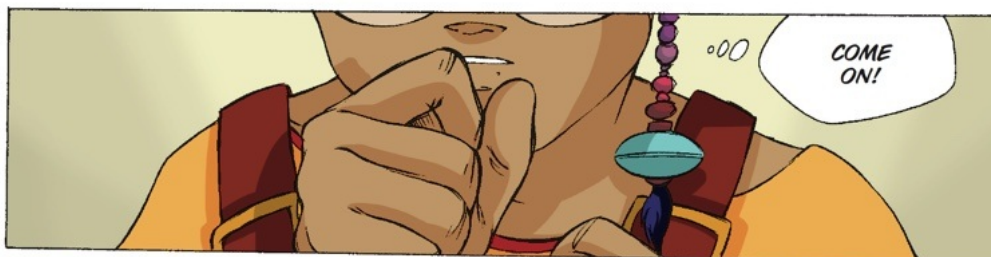
from the
harmful to
reveal any

I'd The











THE AUDITION! I'VE BEEN REHEARSING FOR WEEKS. DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE NOT WORRIED!

SURE, BUT... I DIDN'T THINK YOU WOULD BE TOO...

WHAT? THOUGHT YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE AUDITIONING? SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, BUT THE SCHOOL'S GONNA BE PACKED!

THAT'S NOT IT... I JUST...



OKAY, DON'T BEAT AROUND THE BUSH. YOU THOUGHT **JENSEN'S DAUGHTER** WOULD AUTOMATICALLY GET A PLACE IN THE COURSE, DIDN'T YOU?



WELL, **BIG MISTAKE!** I'VE ALWAYS **EARNED MY SUCCESSES!**

SORRY, BUT YEAH, I DID THINK THAT...



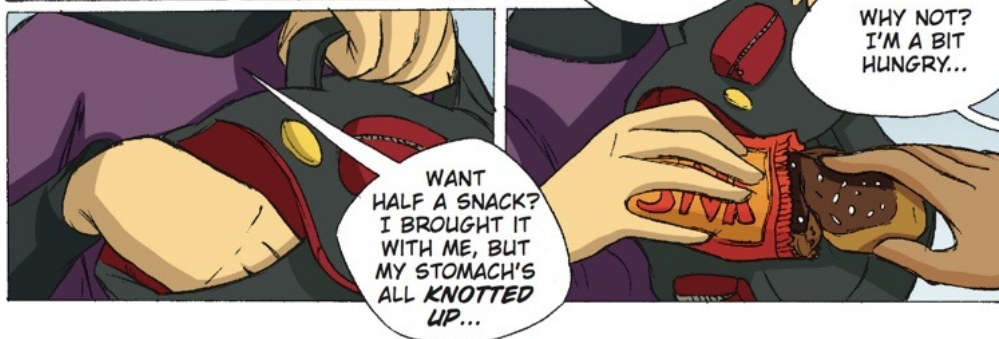
...BUT **YOUR DAD** IS ON THE **SELECTION BOARD**, RIGHT? DOESN'T THAT MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER?

ARE YOU KIDDING? IT MAKES ME EVEN MORE **NERVOUS!** HIS EYES ON ME, FULL OF **EXPECTATIONS!**



AND... I DON'T WANNA THINK ABOUT HOW **DISAPPOINTED** HE'D BE IF I DIDN'T PASS THE AUDITION.

YOU SURE ARE **WEIRD!** SOMETIMES SO **TOUGH...** THEN **SUDDENLY, SO FRAGILE...**





LATER THAT AFTERNOON

OPEN...

I SLIDE MY
FOOT ACROSS
THE FLOOR...

CLOSED...

GREAT,
TARANEE! IF
YOU WANTED TO GO
UNNOTICED, YOU'RE
DOING IT WRONG!

...WHOOOPS!

PHEEW! ♪
LOOKS LIKE
NOBODY SAW ME.
THEY'RE ALL
LOST IN THEIR
THOUGHTS...



NOBODY'S TALKING,
BUT I...I CAN
HEAR THEIR
THOUGHTS!

DON'T BE
ABSURD. SURE,
YOU HAVE
TELEPATHY,
BUT IT ONLY
WORKS WITH
W.I.T.C.H.!

YET...YET I
HEAR A BUZZ, THEN
SOMETIMES...KEY
WORDS...CLEARER
THOUGHTS...

...WHAT
IF I STARTED
TAKING TENNIS
CLASSES?

...THOSE
BOOTS WERE
CHEAPER...

YOU'RE JUST
IMAGINING THINGS.
YOU'RE TENSE, NERVOUS...
YOU'RE ABOUT TO FACE
A TOUGH CHALLENGE
AND...

YOU MEAN
IT'S NOT TRUE?
I'M MAKING IT UP?
NO, IT CAN'T BE. I
CAN'T EXPLAIN,
BUT THIS...

SALLY
CARTER!

...THIS IS
REAL!

CARTER...
COOK...IT'S
ALMOST MY
TURN, UGH!



I HAVE TO RUB THIS OFF, OR I'LL LOOK RIDICULOUS!



OUCH! NOW IT'S BURNING! I MADE IT WORSE!

IT'S USELESS, YOU KNOW. IT'S PERMANENT MARKER...



I DON'T THINK YOU'LL GET IT OFF SO EASILY!

WHAT?



DID...DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?

ACTUALLY, NO...
...I WAS JUST THINKING TO MYSELF. I NOTICED YOU WERE HAVING TROUBLE AND...

OUCH, YOU RUBBED THAT **HARD**! IT ALMOST LOOKS LIKE A **BURN**.

OH, NOT AGAIN! I HEARD HIS VOICE BEFORE HE SPOKE AND NOW...NOW THIS! WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME? I HURT MYSELF!

HERE!







AND I BET IF YOU
HADN'T COME, YOU'D
HAVE CONVINCED
YOURSELF THAT
YOU MIGHT HAVE
SUCCEEDED...



ANYWAY,
NO POINT
WORRYING
ABOUT IT
NOW...



LET'S
FACE THE
MUSIC...

AND...

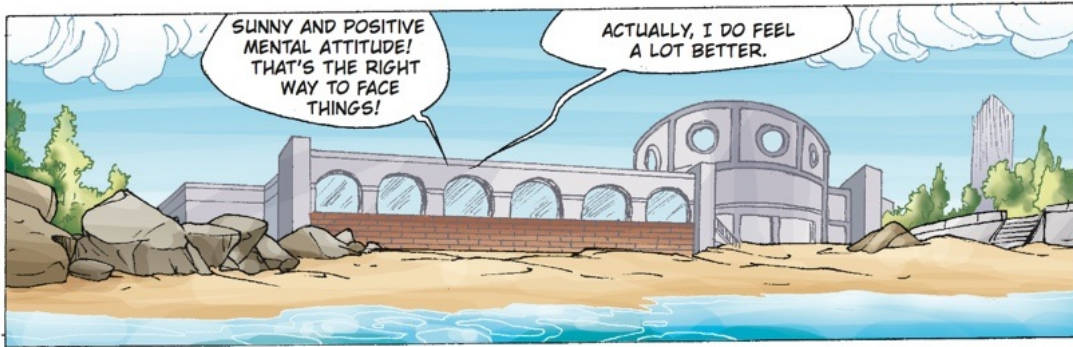


...DANCE.



SEE? NOW
YOU'RE READY
TO **KNOCK THE
SOCKS OFF**
THE BOARD!

?





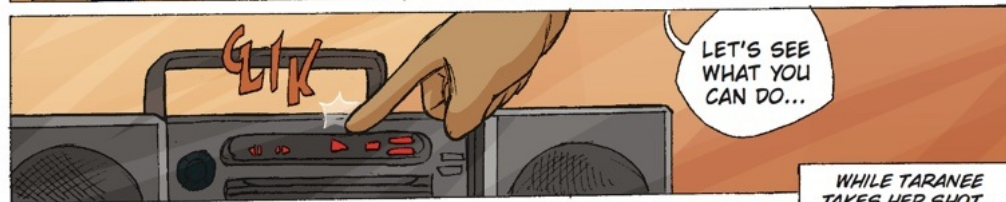
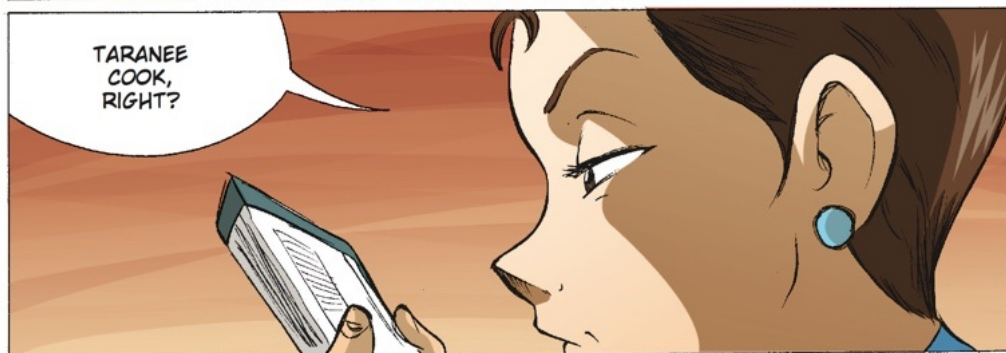
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WHILE TARANEE TAKES HER SHOT...



KANDRAKAR.
A DAY OF CELEBRATION.



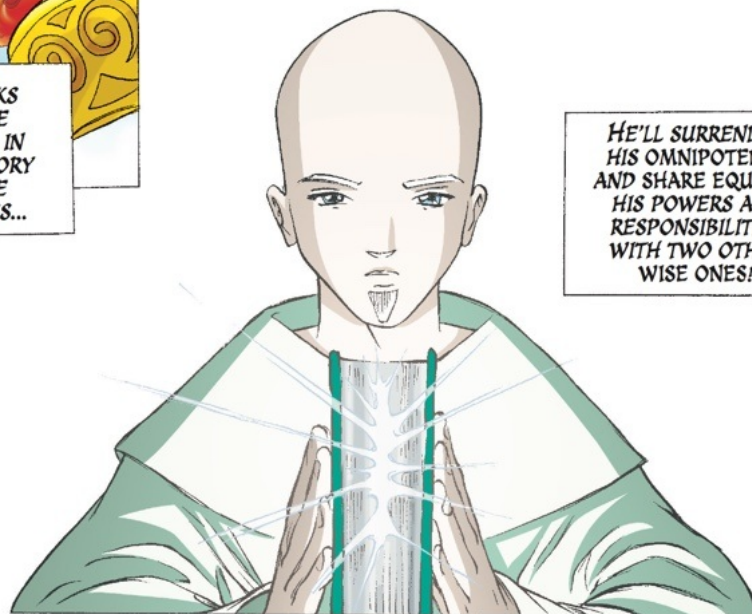
THIS PLACE IS NOT NEW TO CELEBRATIONS,
BUT TODAY'S IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT.



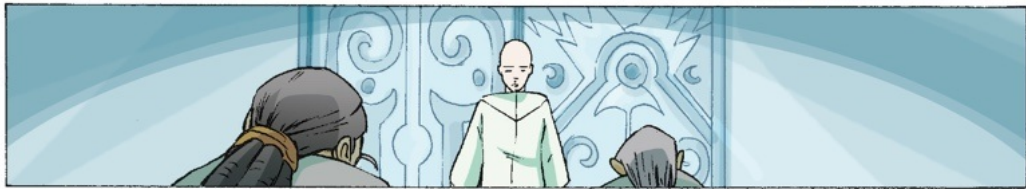
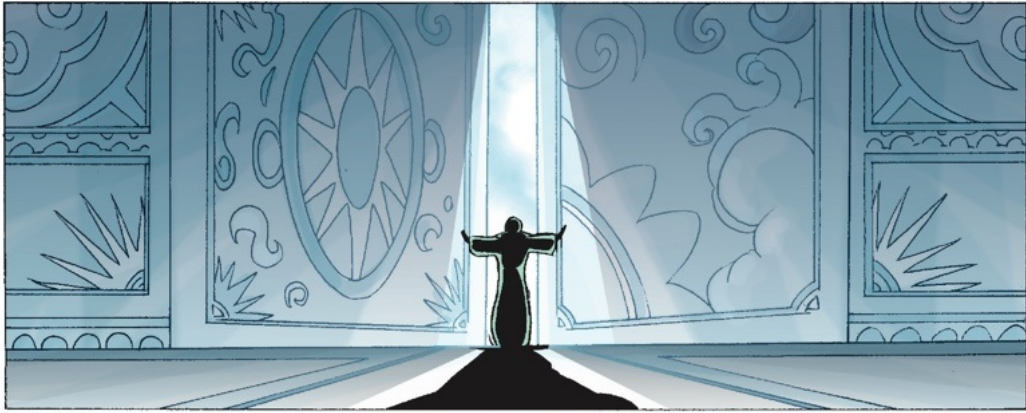
...A CHANGE WORTHY OF BEING WRITTEN IN LETTERS
OF FIRE IN THE PALACE'S BOOKS. FOR THE FIRST
TIME, AN ORACLE HAS DECIDED TO GIVE UP THE
FULL POWERS THAT HAVE ALWAYS BELONGED
TO THE LORD OF KANDRAKAR.



IT MARKS
A HUGE
CHANGE IN
THE HISTORY
OF THE
FORTRESS...



HE'LL SURRENDER
HIS OMNIPOTENCE
AND SHARE EQUALLY
HIS POWERS AND
RESPONSIBILITIES
WITH TWO OTHER
WISE ONES!







LIKE ONE WHO,
FOR THE **FIRST**
TIME, KNOWS HE
IS **NOT ALONE**
CARRYING A
GREAT BURDEN...

...**RELIEVED**
AND **HOPEFUL**..
THAT IS HOW
I FEEL,
SISTER YAN
LIN!

THANK YOU
FOR BEING WILLING
TO **SHARE** THIS
WEIGHT WITH
ME...

...AND
THANK YOU
ALL, WISE
ONES, FOR
HAVING
ACCEPTED
MY
DECISION!

IF, IN
THE EYES
OF **THE**
WORLD, THE
DIVISION
OF POWER
MAY SEEM
WEAK...

...IN THE
EYES
OF **THE**
SPIRIT, IT
APPEARS AS
STRENGTH!

HE JUST
KEEPS
TALKING...

OUCH!

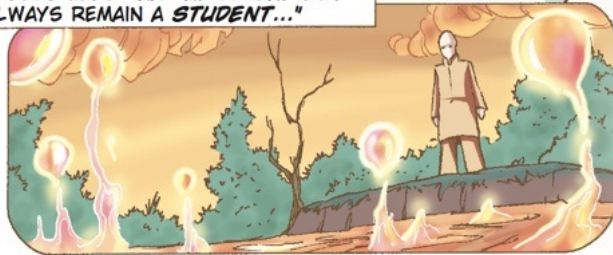


FROM NOW ON, I WILL BE ABLE TO RELY ON THE PERSPECTIVE AND SUPPORT OF TWO WISE COUNSELLORS AS WORTHY OF BEING CONSIDERED **TEACHERS** AS I AM.

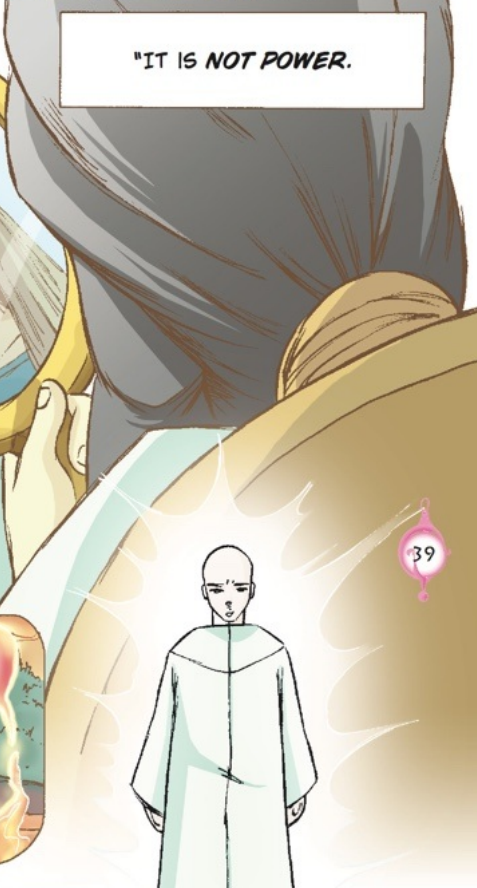
"WHAT I WENT THROUGH TAUGHT ME THAT IT IS **NOT** ONE'S ROLE THAT MAKES A PERSON IMPORTANT.



"A **REAL TEACHER** IS SOMEONE WHO RECOGNIZES THAT HE OR SHE WILL ALWAYS REMAIN A **STUDENT...**"



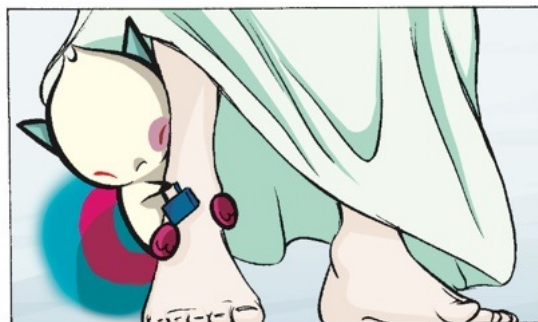
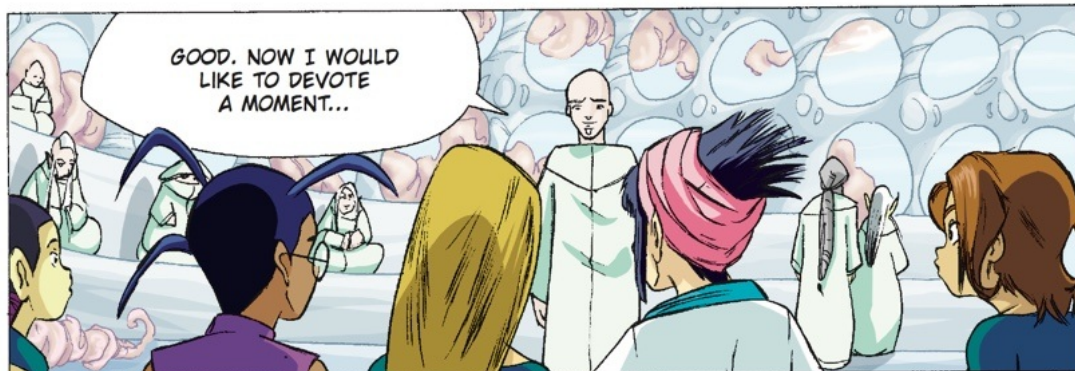
"IT IS **NOT POWER.**

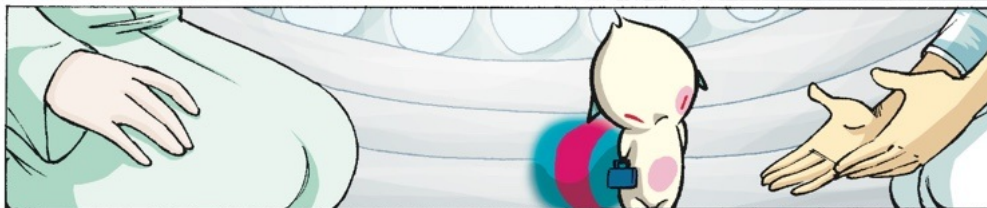
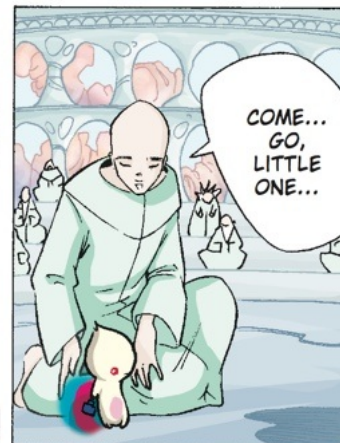
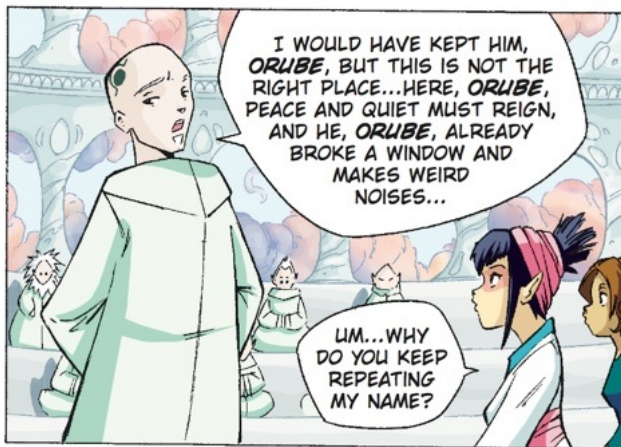


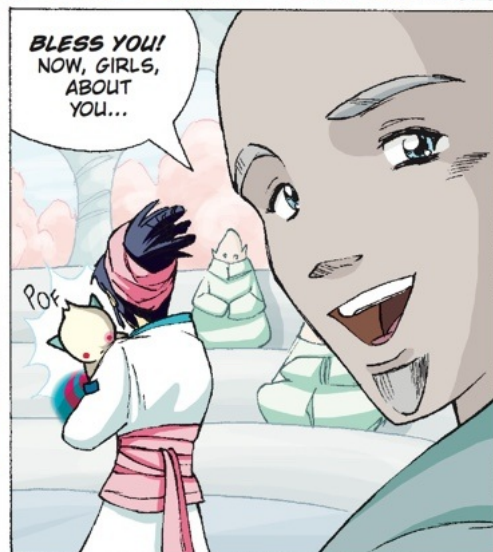
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...AND IS AWARE THAT THEY **NEVER STOP LEARNING!**







AHA! HERE WE GO. I WONDER
WHAT SURPRISE OUR CHATTY
ORACLE HAS GOT FOR
US THIS TIME!



GUARDIANS, SEEING YOU IN ACTION
DURING YOUR LAST MISSION
STRENGTHENED MY BELIEF
THAT YOU ARE READY FOR
SOMETHING BIG...

...A **SERIOUS**
DUTY OF HUGE
RESPONSIBILITY.



HMM...
NOTHING'S
EVER
STRAIGHT-
FORWARD,
HUH?

AND SO, WITHOUT
FURTHER ADO, LET ME
TELL YOU THAT...



...YOU WILL SOON
BE CALLED TO
GUARD **LORD**
CEDRIC!



TAKE DEEP
BREATHS,
IRMA. IT'S
JUST A
DREAM.

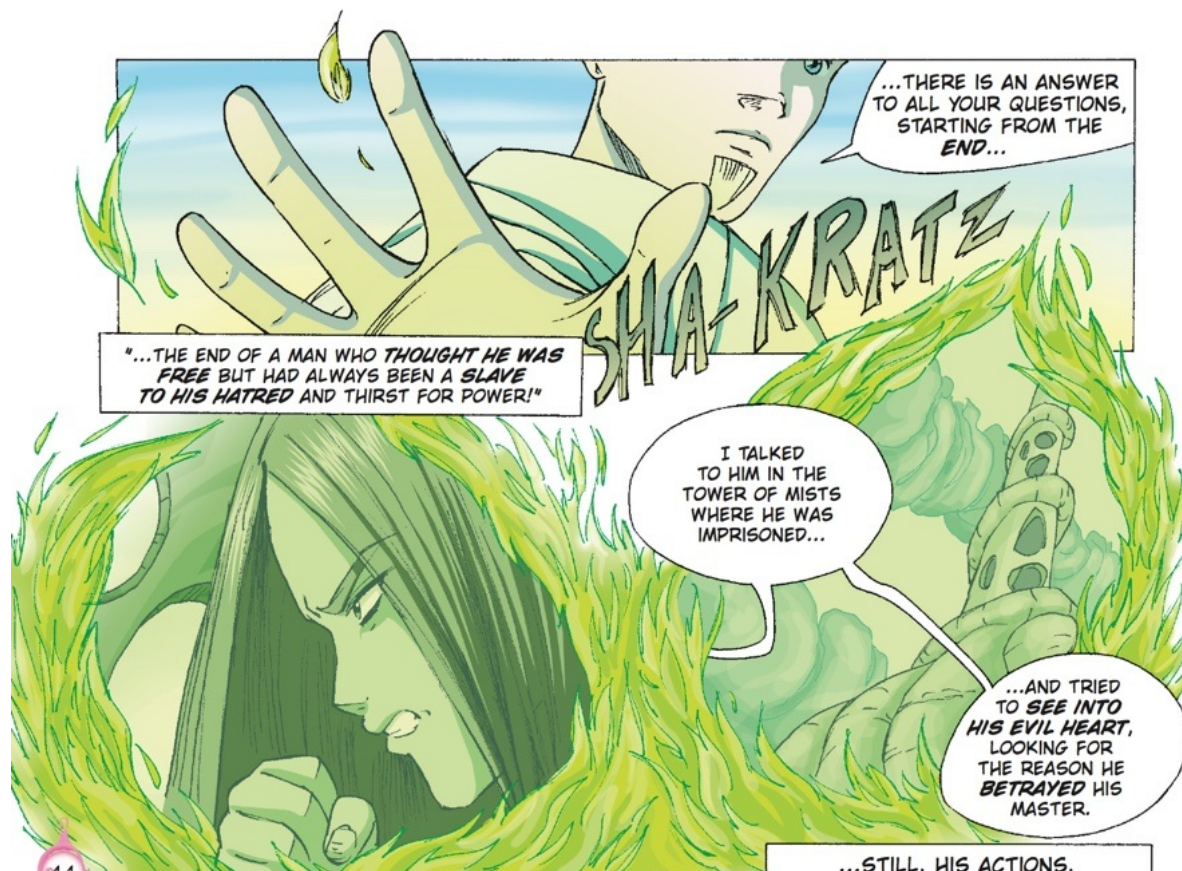
I THOUGHT
HE WAS
IMPRISONED
IN THE TOWER
OF MISTS!

FEAR NOT...

LORD
CEDRIC?
BUT HOW...?
WHERE...?

AND...
WHAT DO
YOU MEAN BY
"GUARD"?





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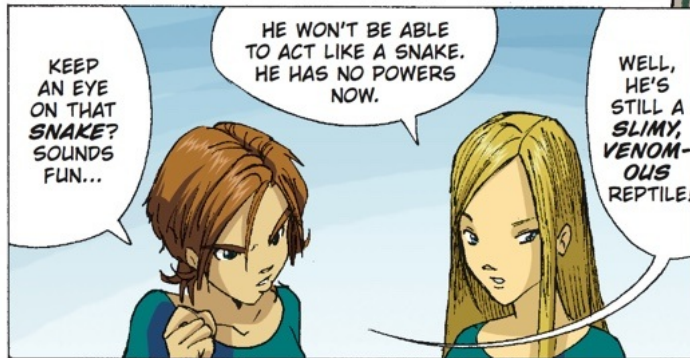


LORD CEDRIC ALREADY HAS ACCOMMODATIONS IN HEATHERFIELD, BUT BEFORE LETTING HIM GO, I TOOK AWAY HIS POWERS...

...SO HE WOULD NOT BE A DANGER TO THE CITY'S INHABITANTS.



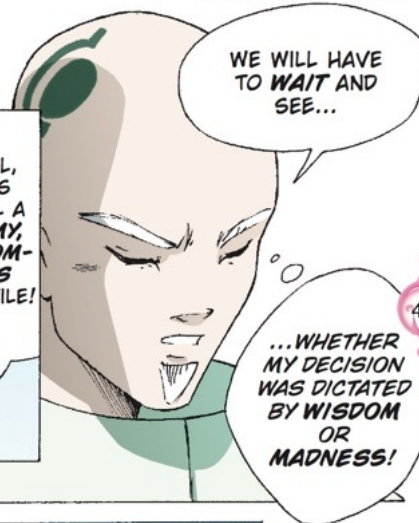
NOW...ALL I ASK OF YOU IS TO **KEEP AN EYE ON HIM** DURING THIS... **RECOVERY PERIOD...** AND TO DO SO WITHOUT HOSTILITY OR BIAS.



KEEP AN EYE ON THAT **SNAKE**? SOUNDS FUN...

HE WON'T BE ABLE TO ACT LIKE A SNAKE. HE HAS NO POWERS NOW.

WELL, HE'S STILL A **SLIMY, VENOMOUS REPTILE!**



WE WILL HAVE TO **WAIT** AND SEE...

...WHETHER MY DECISION WAS DICTATED BY **WISDOM** OR **MADNESS!**



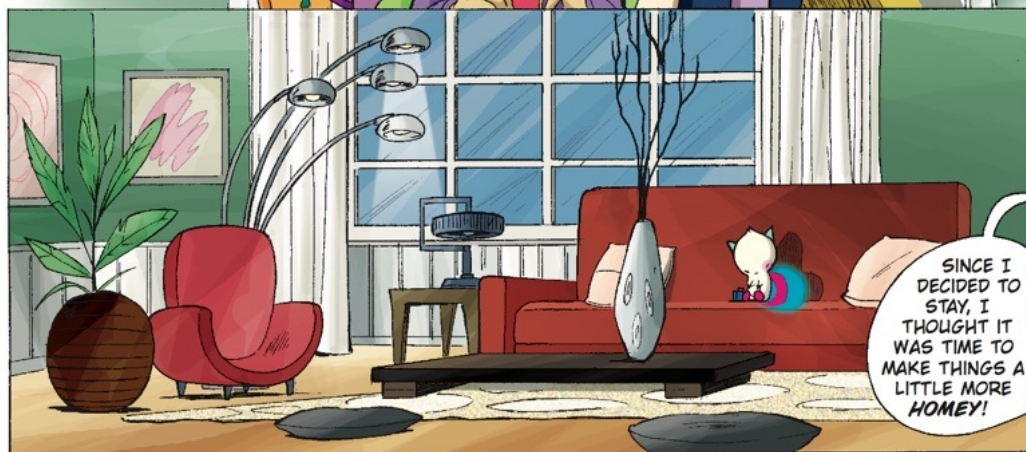
AM I DOING THE **RIGHT THING?** ARE THE GIRLS READY FOR SUCH A **DANGEROUS TASK?**

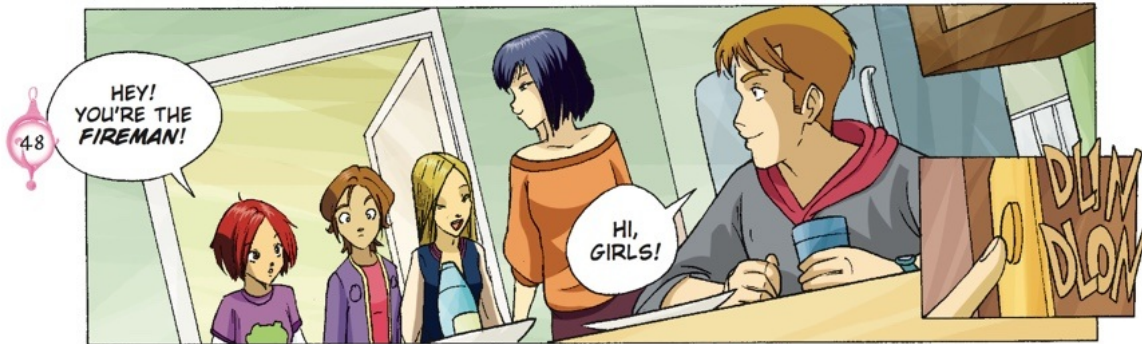


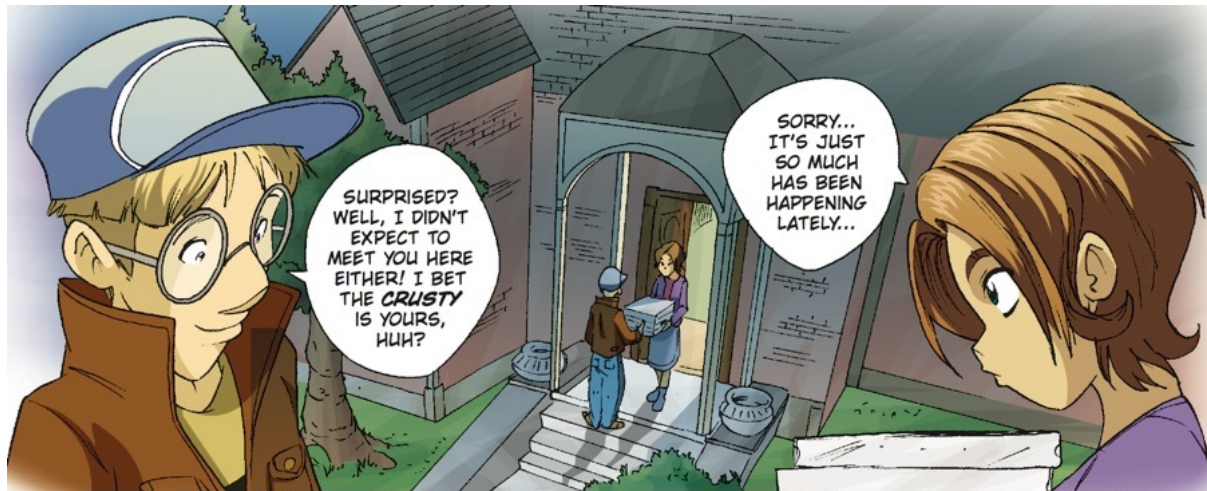
IT MIGHT PROVIDE **ROOM FOR GROWTH**, TRUE... BUT IT COULD ALSO...

SIR!









SURPRISED? WELL, I DIDN'T EXPECT TO MEET YOU HERE EITHER! I BET THE **CRUSTY** IS YOURS, HUH?

SORRY... IT'S JUST SO MUCH HAS BEEN HAPPENING LATELY...

...SO MUCH YOU NEVER HAD TIME TO ANSWER MY TEXTS. I FIGURED! WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER MUCH AT SCHOOL EITHER...

YOU SEEM... **DIFFERENT!** I DIDN'T KNOW YOU GOT A JOB.

I WANT TO SAVE UP...BUT THERE'S LOTS OF STUFF YOU DON'T KNOW! I WAS **PROMOTED** BY THE **HAPPY BEARS**...



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...AND I GOT A FRENCH **PEN PAL** NAMED **MICHELLE!**

HEH. QUITE A CHANGE FROM THOSE **USELESS LESSONS** TO A **HOPELESS PUPIL**...



WELL...WHEN I FIGURED OUT I WAS THE **HOPELESS ONE**...I THOUGHT INSISTING WOULD BE LAME.

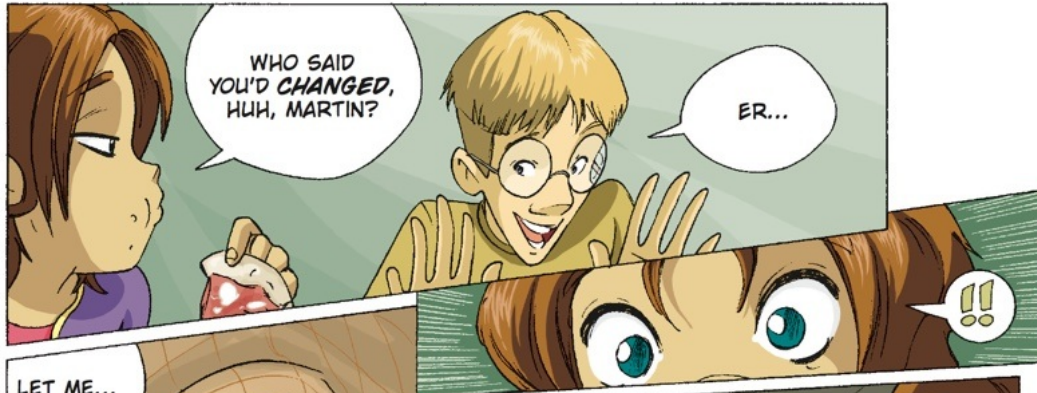


CRIPES, MARTIN! I COULD DIE OF SHAME!

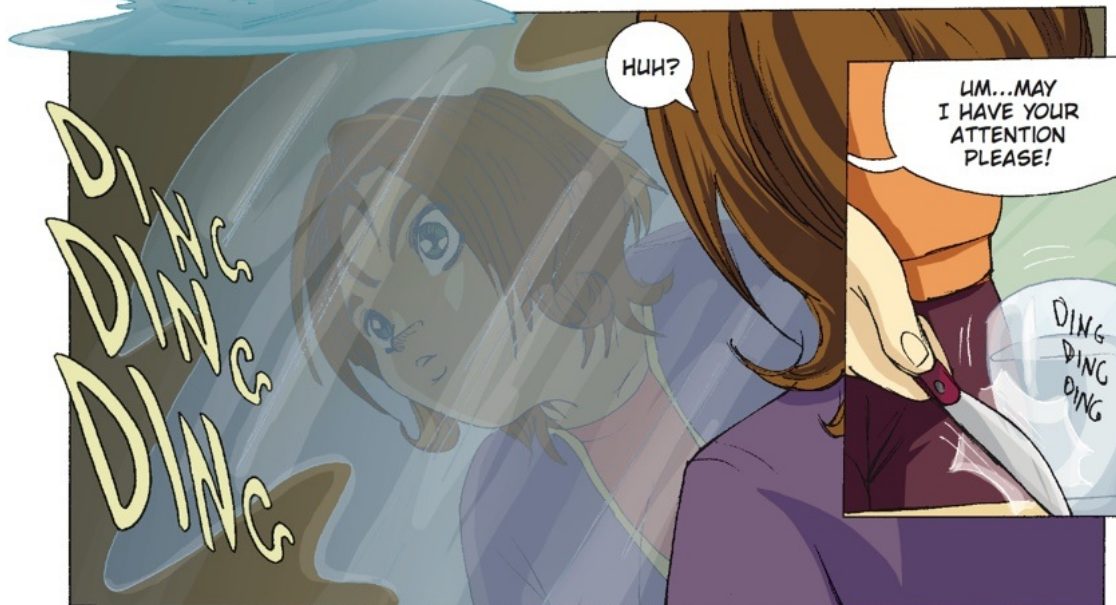
ANYWAY, MY DOOR'S ALWAYS OPEN FOR THAT PUPIL!







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I THINK IT'S TIME
TO TELL YOU WHY I
ORGANIZED THIS
DINNER...

COOKIE!
YOU'RE
MISSING THE
BEST PART!

C-COMING!



DID I REALLY
SEE THAT, OR
DID I MAKE
IT UP?



AND IF IT WAS REAL...WHAT
THE HECK WAS IT? IT
WASN'T THE REFLECTION
OF ANYTHING AROUND
HERE...

OKAY,
HERE'S
THE BIG
NEWS...



IT JUST LOOKED
LIKE AN OLD BOOK,
BUT IT WAS ENOUGH
TO GIVE ME THE
CREEPS!

I'VE BEEN
SELECTED...



...AS A WRITER FOR A
FAMOUS MAGAZINE
FOR TEENAGE
GIRLS!

YAY!
AWESOME!

HOORAY!

SO THE
INTERVIEW
WENT WELL?



I'D SAY
IT WENT
GREAT!

FANTAS-
OUCH!

BONK







"KEVIN JENSEN HIMSELF
TOLD ME THIS AFTERNOON!"

AH.

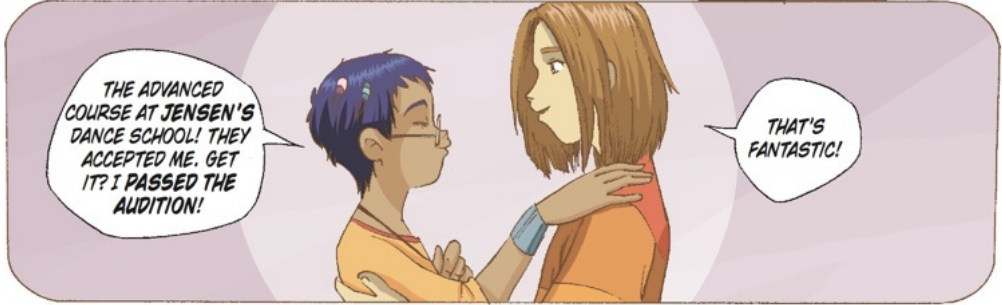


DID...DID SOMETHING
HAPPEN?



I DID IT!
I DID IT!

?



THE ADVANCED
COURSE AT JENSEN'S
DANCE SCHOOL! THEY
ACCEPTED ME. GET
IT? I PASSED THE
AUDITION!

THAT'S
FANTASTIC!



I'M
PROUD
OF YOU!
I KNEW
YOU'D
DO IT.

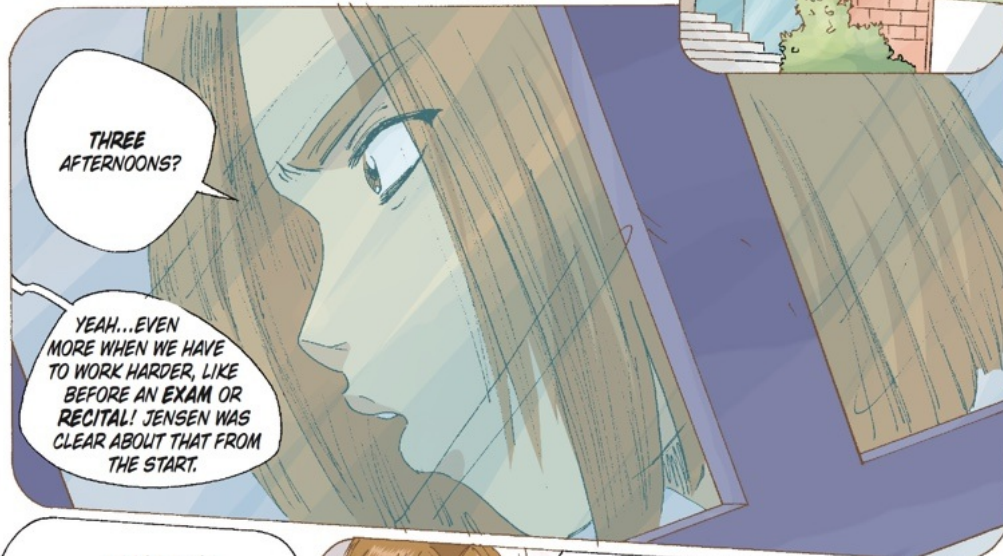


WELL, THE
HARD PART
STARTS NOW.
IT'S A SERIOUS
COMMITMENT,
AND I'M A BIT
SCARED...

I'M
SURE YOU
CAN HANDLE
IT.



I HOPE SO.
IT WON'T BE EASY
JUGGLING SCHOOL
AND HOMEWORK WITH
THREE AFTERNOONS
A WEEK AT JENSEN!



THREE
AFTERNOONS?

YEAH...EVEN
MORE WHEN WE HAVE
TO WORK HARDER, LIKE
BEFORE AN EXAM OR
RECITAL! JENSEN WAS
CLEAR ABOUT THAT FROM
THE START.



WHY DIDN'T
YOU TALK TO ME
ABOUT IT?

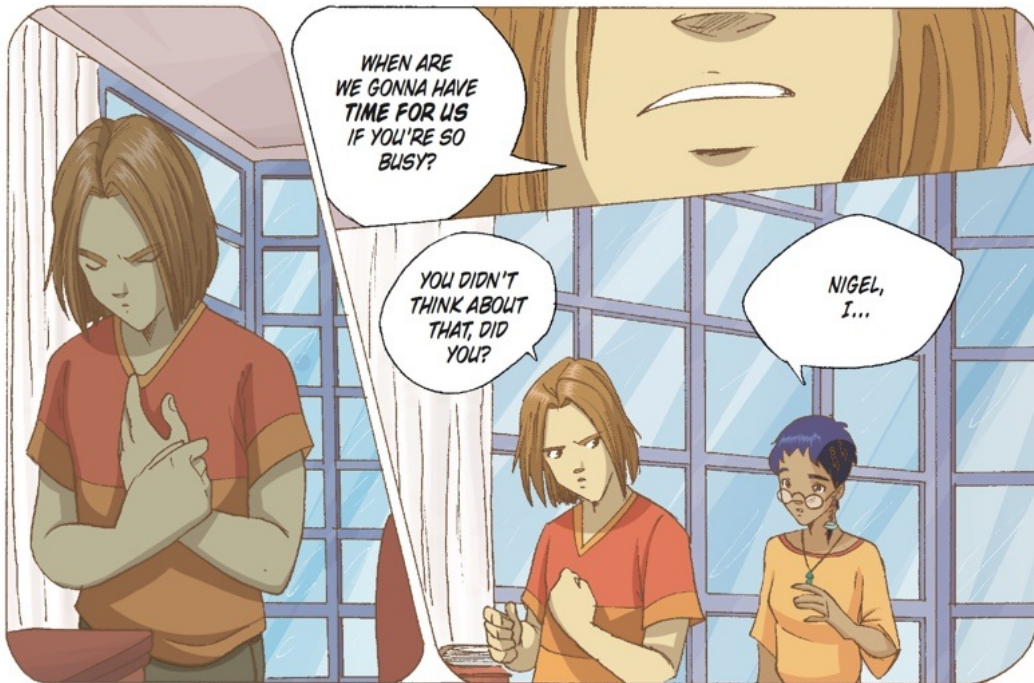
?

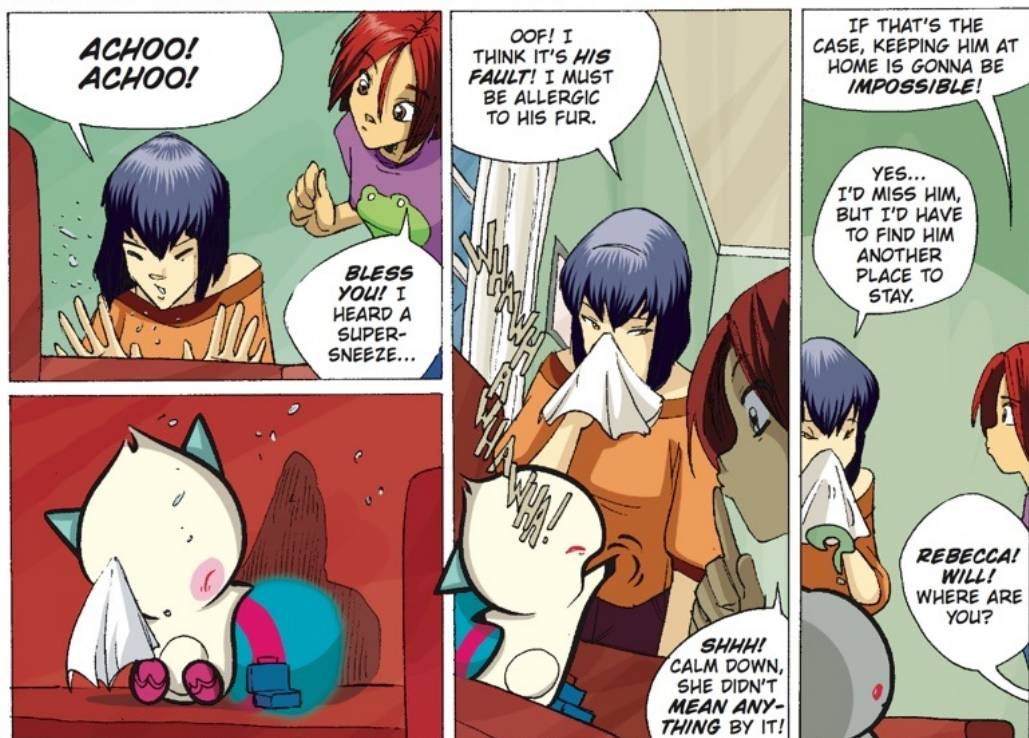


WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THIS
WOULD TAKE UP SO MUCH
OF YOUR TIME?

I DON'T...
I DIDN'T THINK
THEY'D TAKE ME...
I DIDN'T THINK...

...YOU DIDN'T
THINK ABOUT
US!







ELSEWHERE...





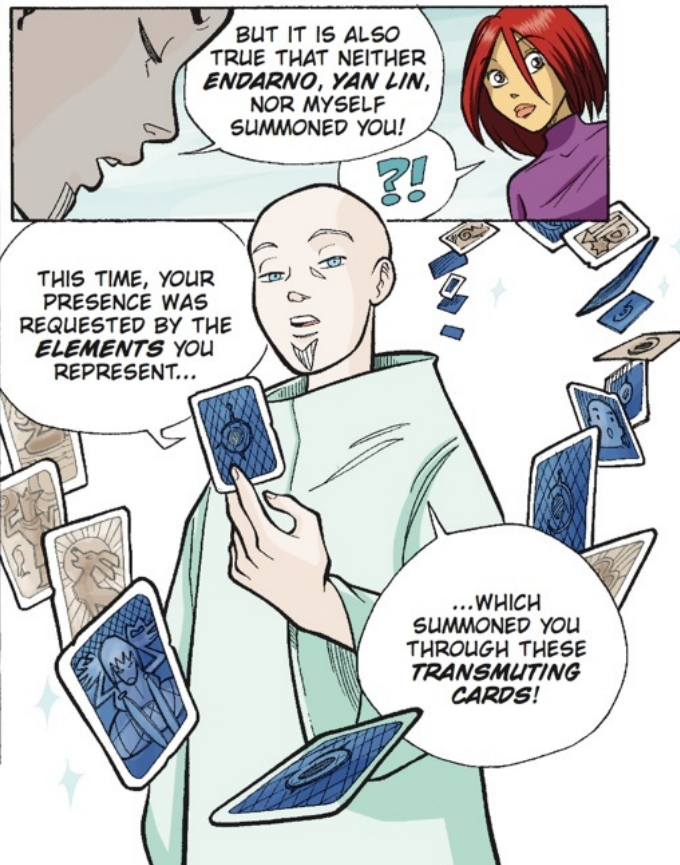














THE
ELEMENTS...

...CAN
SPEAK?



YES, THOUGH
THEY RARELY
DO SO, AND
WHEN THEY
DO, IT
SIGNIFIES
A MAJOR
EVENT.



FOR NOW, THEY
MERELY WANT TO
ASK YOU A
QUESTION. ARE
YOU READY?

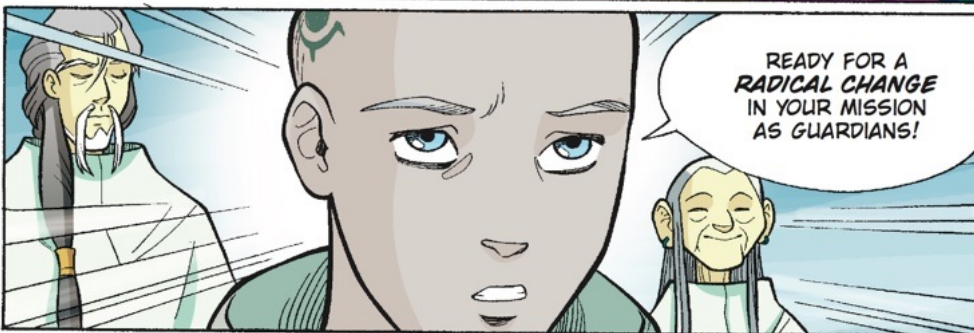
WE'RE ALL
EARS!



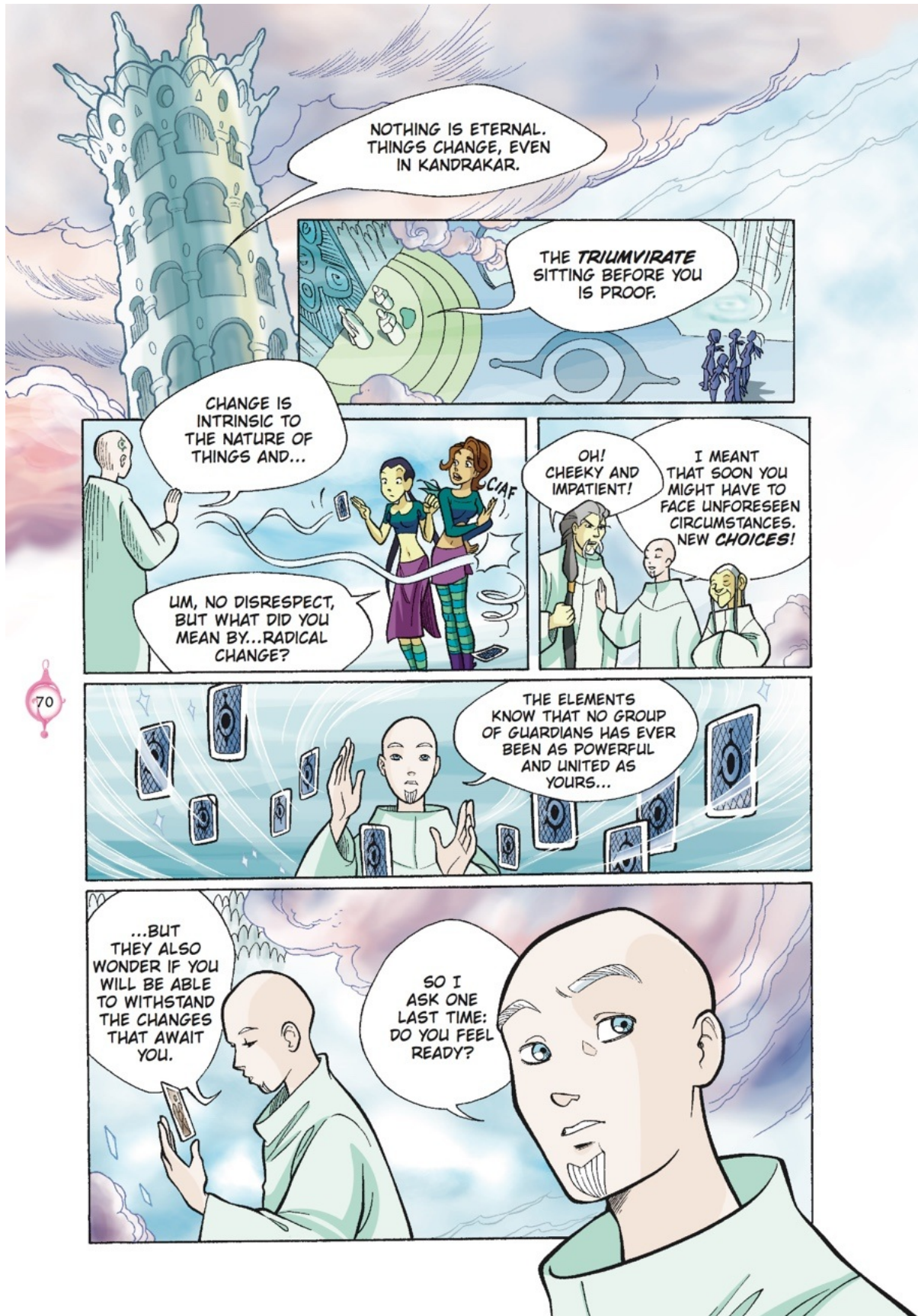
YOU
MISUNDERSTAND.
THAT WAS THE
QUESTION: **ARE
YOU READY?**

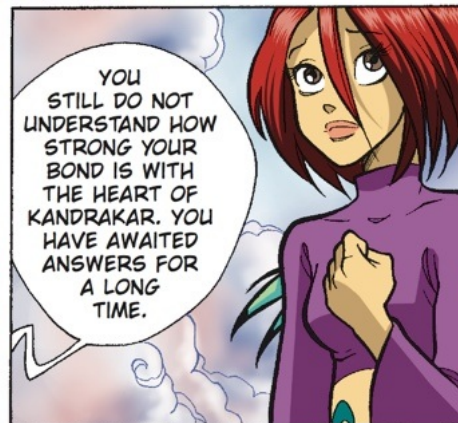


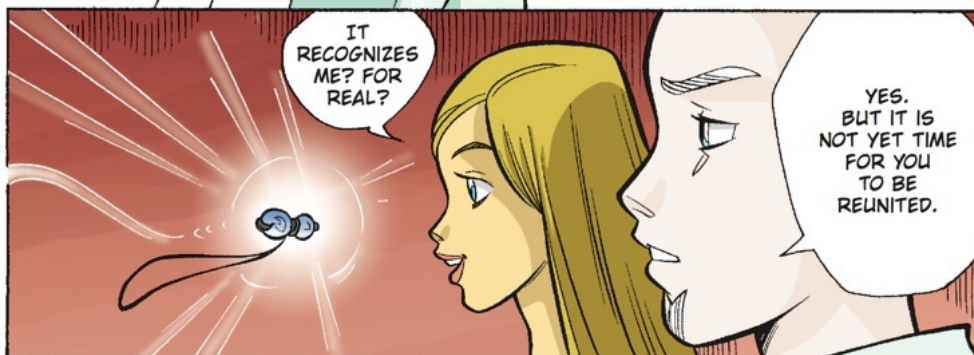
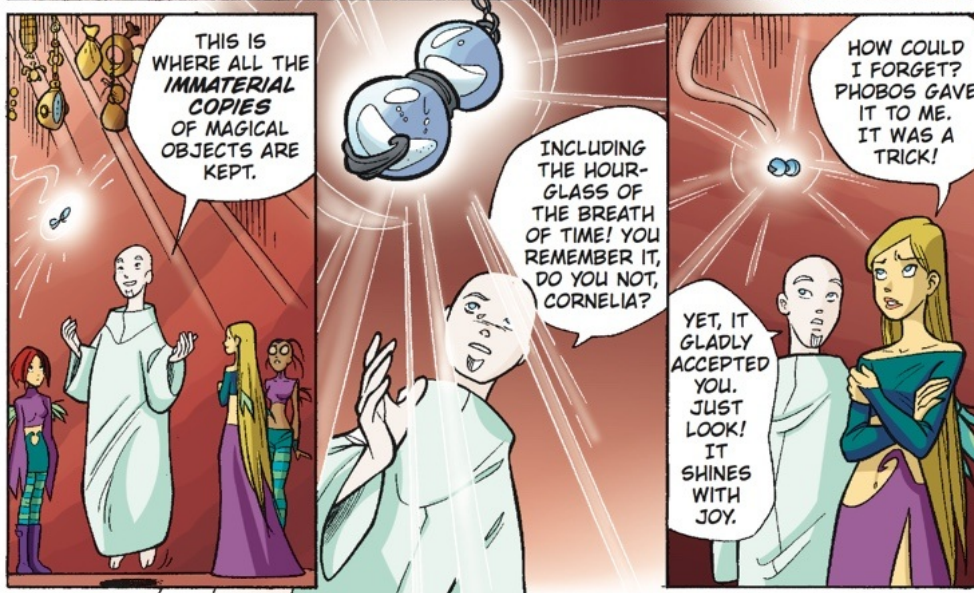
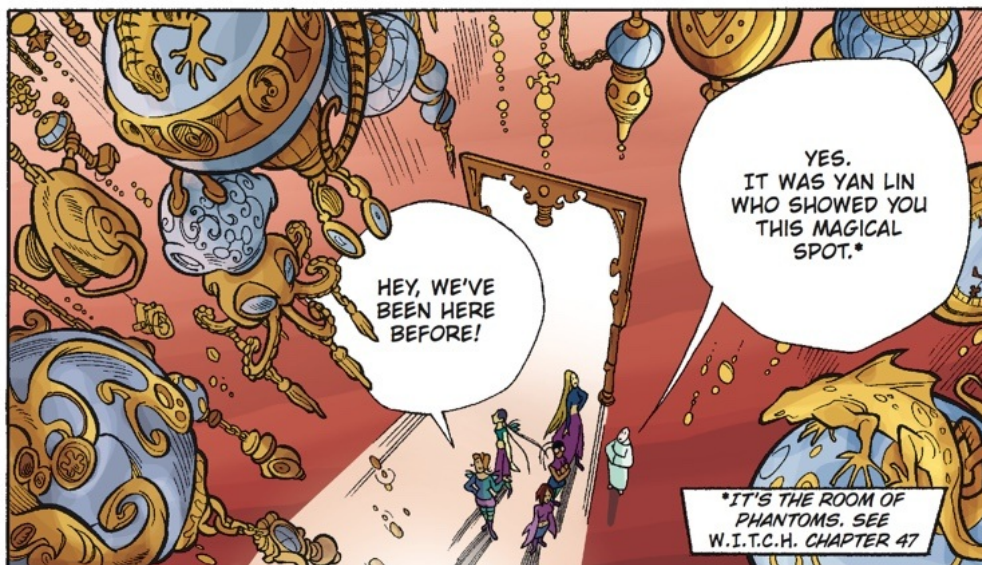
READY...
FOR WHAT?



READY FOR A
RADICAL CHANGE
IN YOUR MISSION
AS GUARDIANS!



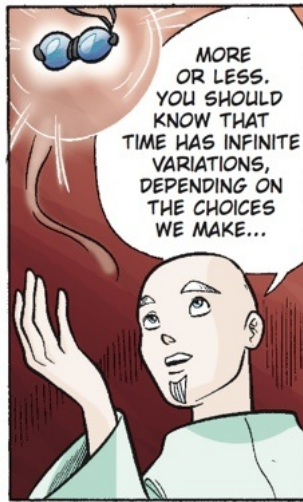






WE ARE HERE TO CONSULT IT AND ASK IT TO SHOW US THE PAST AND THE FUTURE.

LIKE IN A MOVIE?



MORE OR LESS. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT TIME HAS INFINITE VARIATIONS, DEPENDING ON THE CHOICES WE MAKE...



...AND WE'RE GONNA SEE ALL OF 'EM?

OH, NO! I DO NOT THINK I HAVE ENOUGH POPCORN!

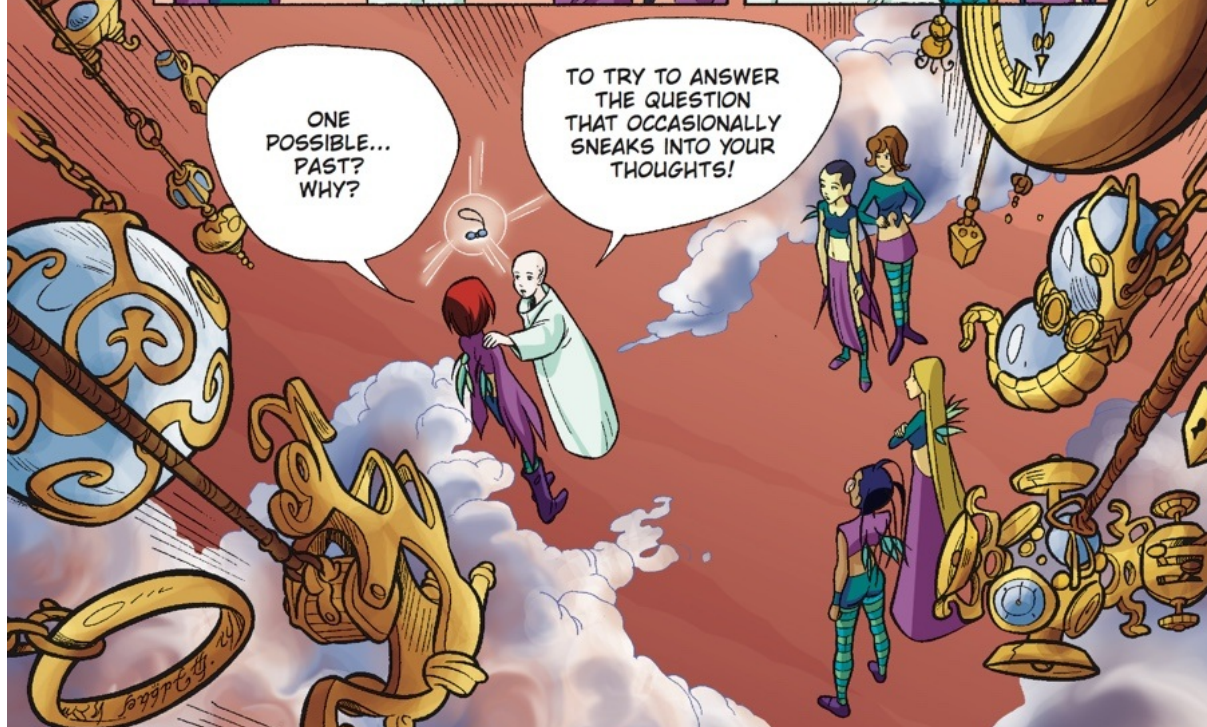


I HOPE SEEING JUST ONE **POSSIBLE PAST** WILL SUFFICE TO MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND, WILL...

Popcorn? Did... Did he make a joke?

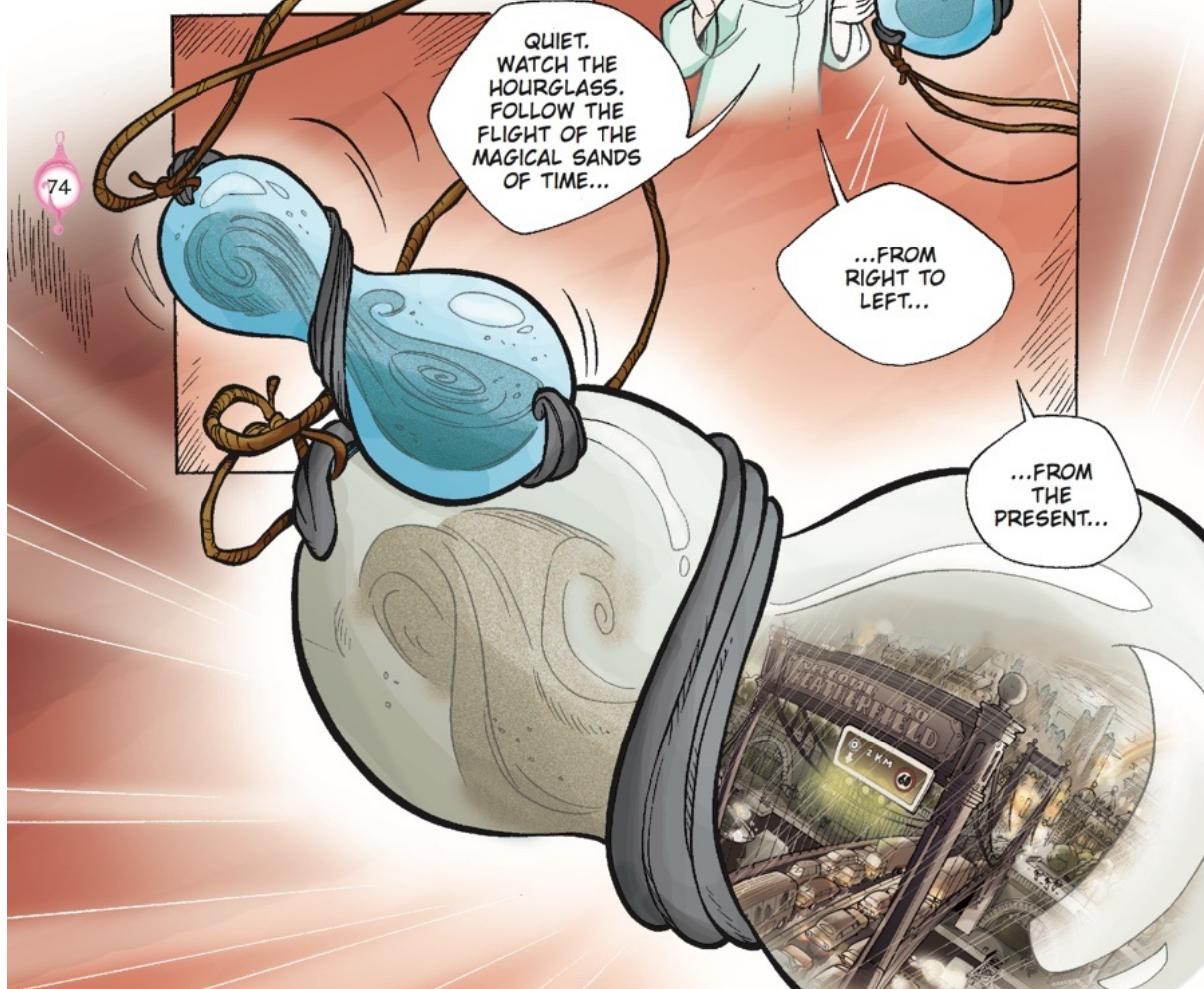
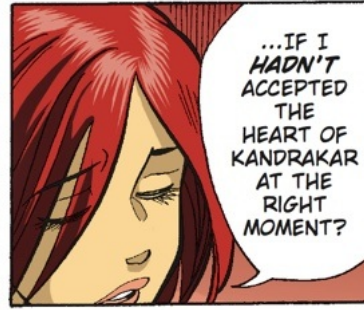


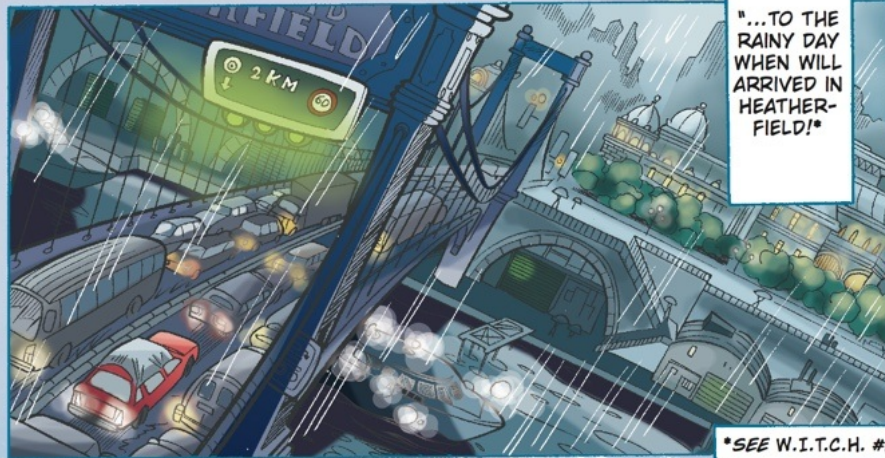
...AND THAT JUST ONE **POSSIBLE FUTURE** WILL BE ENOUGH TO VANQUISH CORNELIA AND TARANEE'S DOUBTS!



ONE POSSIBLE... PAST? WHY?

TO TRY TO ANSWER THE QUESTION THAT OCCASIONALLY SNEAKS INTO YOUR THOUGHTS!





"...TO THE RAINY DAY WHEN WILL ARRIVED IN HEATHER-FIELD!"

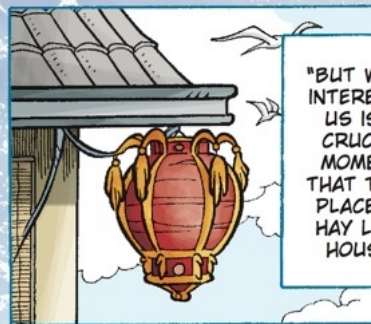
*SEE W.I.T.C.H. #1



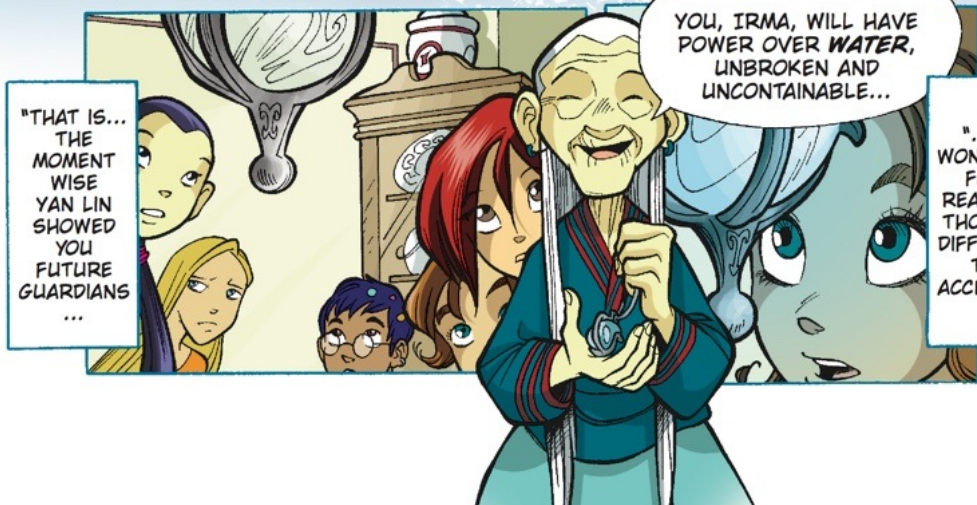
"BACK THEN, SHE COULD NOT HAVE KNOWN THAT EVIL FORCES WERE WAITING, PREPARED TO ELIMINATE HER!"



"SO WILL MET HER NEW FRIENDS, WITH WHOM SHE FORGED A SPECIAL BOND."



"BUT WHAT INTERESTS US IS A CRUCIAL MOMENT THAT TOOK PLACE AT HAY LIN'S HOUSE."

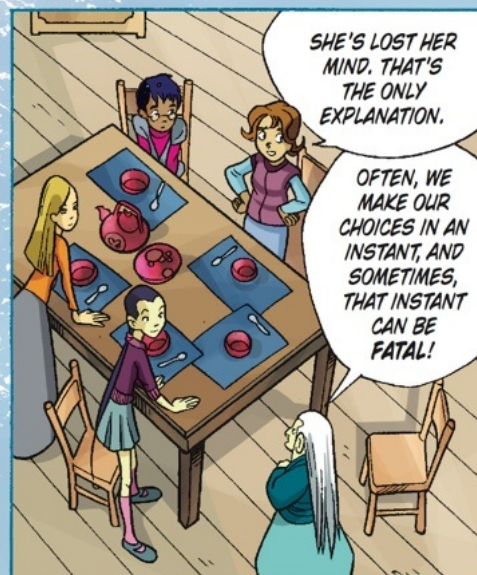


"THAT IS... THE MOMENT WISE YAN LIN SHOWED YOU FUTURE GUARDIANS ..."

"YOU, IRMA, WILL HAVE POWER OVER **WATER**, UNBROKEN AND UNCONTAINABLE..."

"...A WONDERFUL REALITY, THOUGH DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT!"

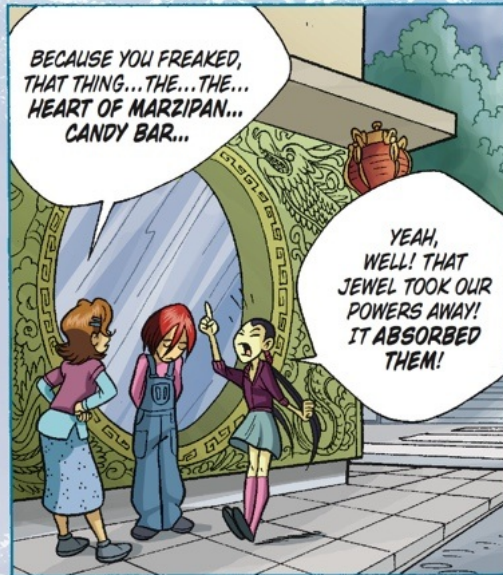






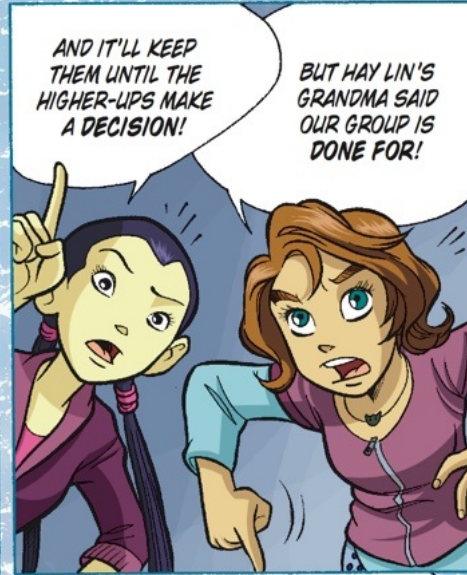


YOU'RE
HEARTLESS,
WILL!



BECAUSE YOU FREAKED,
THAT THING...THE...THE...
HEART OF MARZIPAN...
CANDY BAR...

YEAH,
WELL! THAT
JEWEL TOOK OUR
POWERS AWAY!
IT ABSORBED
THEM!



AND IT'LL KEEP
THEM UNTIL THE
HIGHER-UPS MAKE
A DECISION!

BUT HAY LIN'S
GRANDMA SAID
OUR GROUP IS
DONE FOR!



I'M SORRY.
I DIDN'T KNOW!
I DIDN'T THINK
THAT...

YOU WERE RIGHT!
WE'RE WITH YOU 100%.
RIGHT, TARANEE?



I DON'T
REALLY
GET WHAT
HAPPENED!

NOTHING!
WITH ALL DUE
RESPECT,
HAY LIN, I
THINK YOUR
GRANDMA'S
A NUT-
CASE!

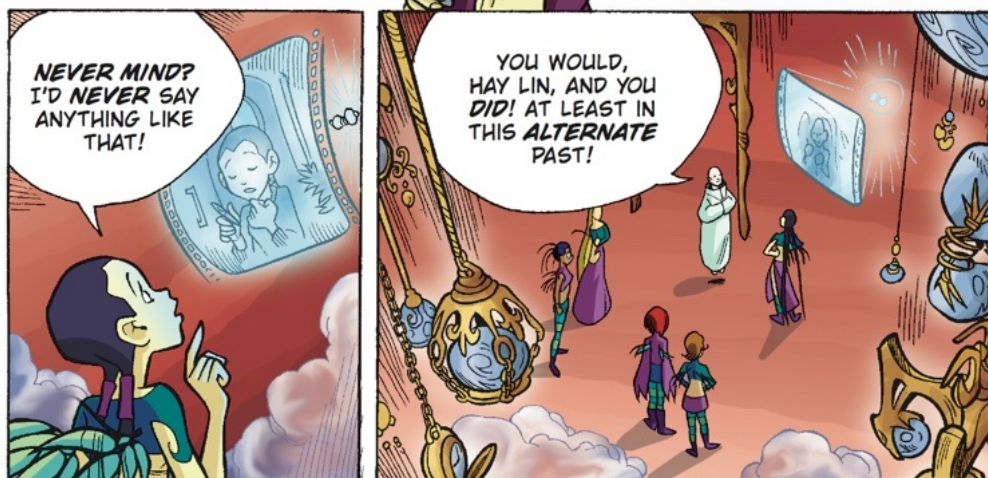


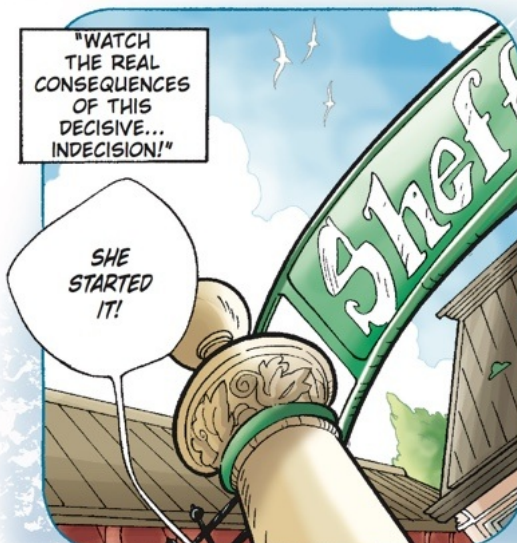
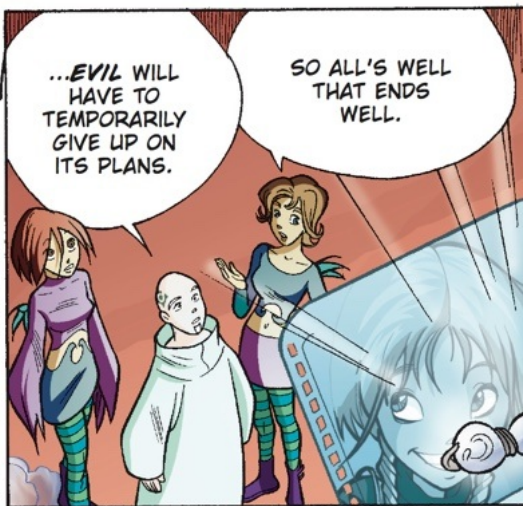
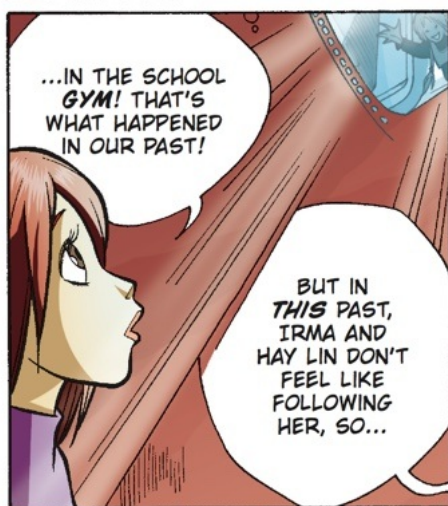
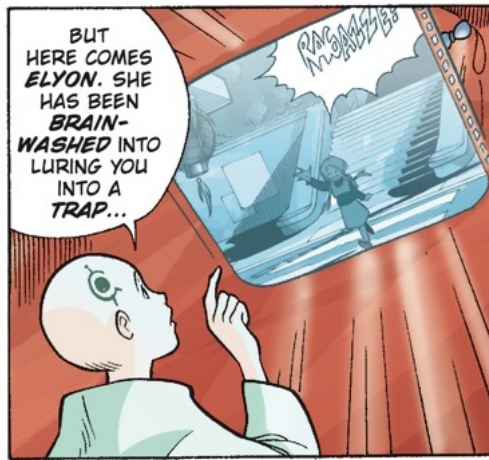
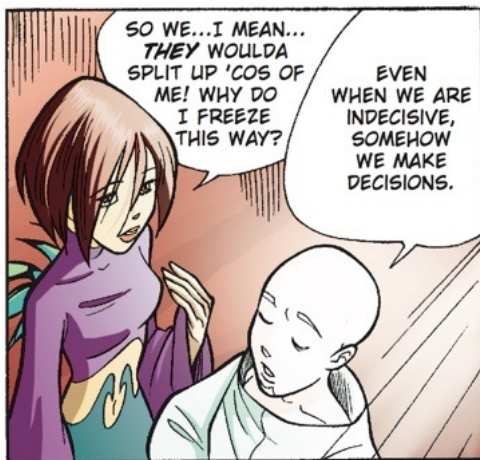
SHE TOLD US A
RIDICULOUS STORY
HOPING TO BUY US
WITH THAT SHAM
OF THE SHINY
NECKLACE!

YOU'RE
SCARED,
CORNELIA.
IS THAT IT?

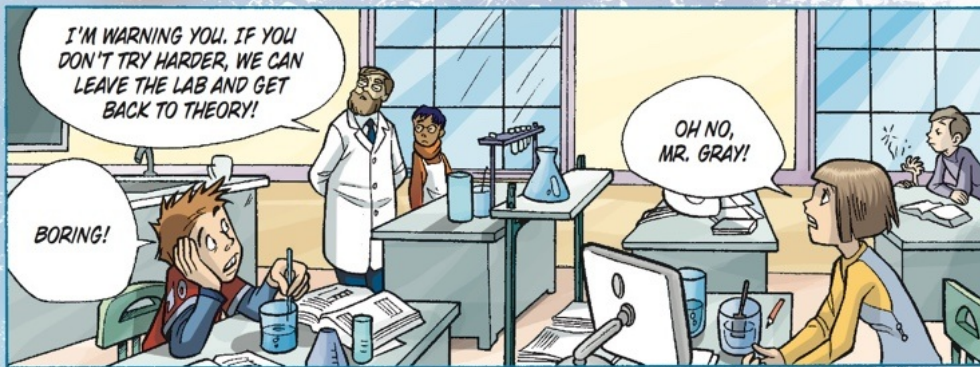


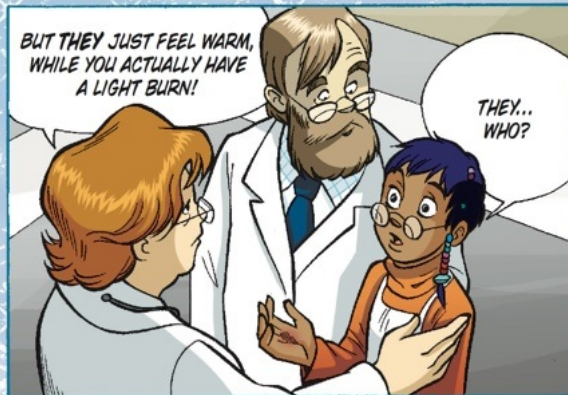
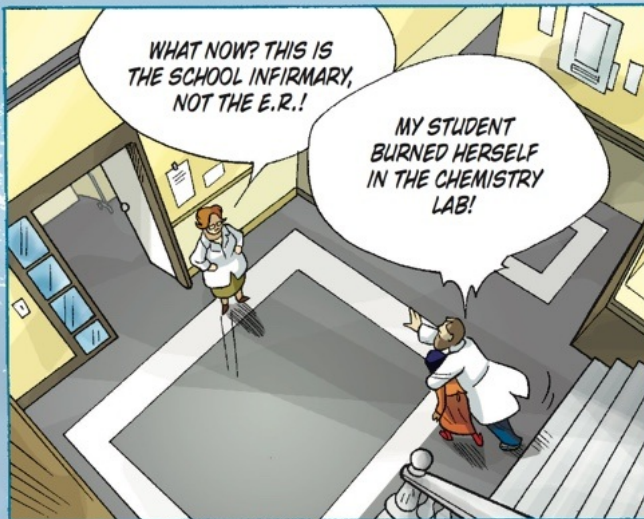
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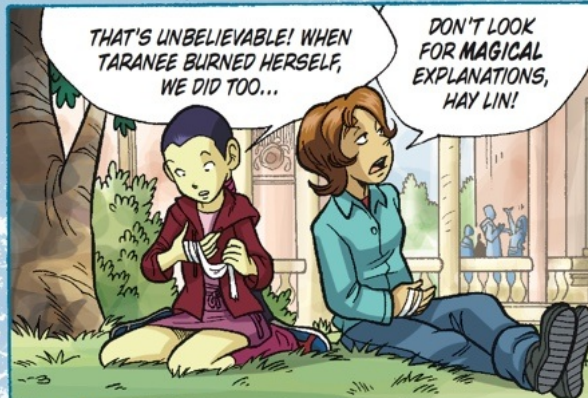
















...GET IT?
SHE DIDN'T SEE
THE TREE!



THAT'S NOT FUNNY...
POOR HAY LIN! WHEN SHE
TOLD ME, HER NOSE WAS
STILL SWOLLEN.



BESIDES, CORNELIA,
YOU SAID YOU SAW
MATT TOO, AS IF YOU
WERE WATCHING HIM
THROUGH MY EYES!

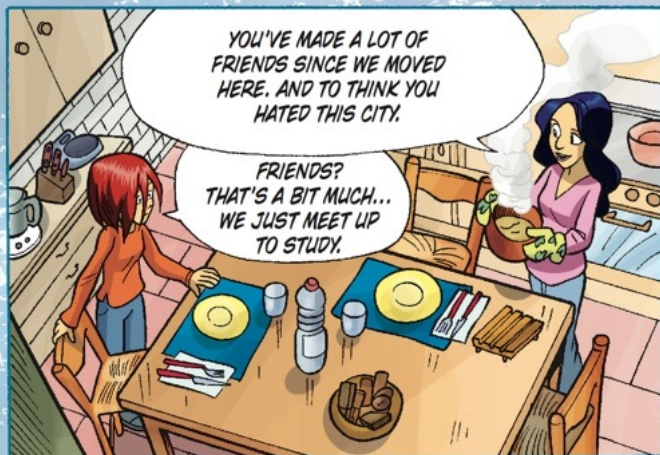


FIRST, TARANEE'S
BURN, AND NOW, THIS...
I THINK...

C'MON,
WILL!
DINNER'S
READY!



I GOTTA GO!
SEE YOU LATER
AT YOUR PLACE,
OKAY?



YOU'VE MADE A LOT OF
FRIENDS SINCE WE MOVED
HERE. AND TO THINK YOU
HATED THIS CITY.

FRIENDS?
THAT'S A BIT MUCH...
WE JUST MEET UP
TO STUDY.

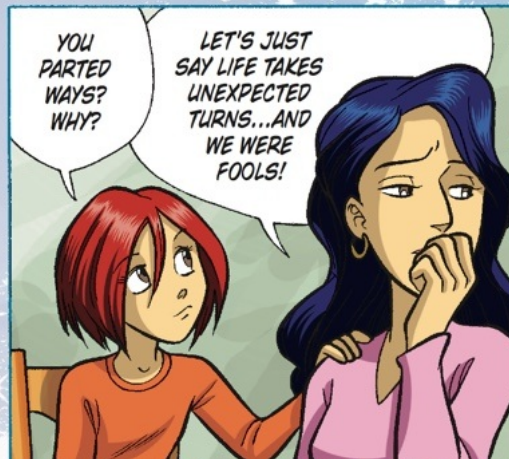




WE WERE YOUR AGE, YOU KNOW? IT WAS ALMOST AS IF WE WERE THINKING IN SYNC! THERE WAS A SPECIAL BOND BETWEEN ME AND HEATHER!



SOMETHING THAT EVENTUALLY GOT LOST IN TIME...



YOU PARTED WAYS? WHY?

LET'S JUST SAY LIFE TAKES UNEXPECTED TURNS...AND WE WERE FOOLS!



HEATHERFIELD REMINDED ME OF HER AND HER SPECIAL SMILE, THAT POSITIVE ENERGY I ALWAYS ENVIED.



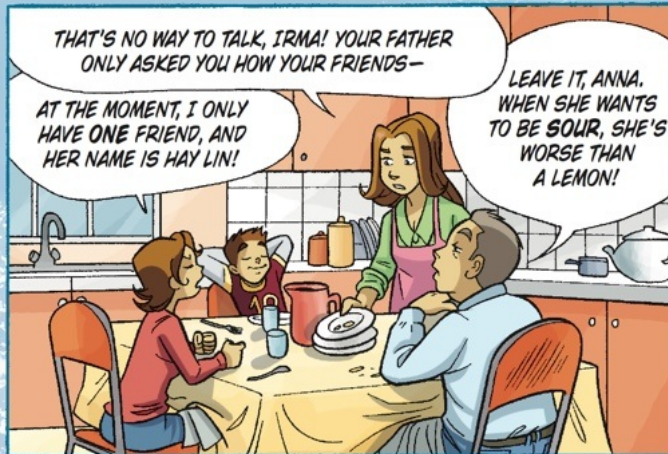
SOMETIMES ADULTS ARE EMBARRASSED TO SAY SO BECAUSE IT MIGHT SEEM SILLY...



...BUT WE'VE ALL HAD AT LEAST ONE FRIEND DEAR TO OUR HEART!



STUPID FRIENDS!



THAT'S NO WAY TO TALK, IRMA! YOUR FATHER ONLY ASKED YOU HOW YOUR FRIENDS—

AT THE MOMENT, I ONLY HAVE ONE FRIEND, AND HER NAME IS HAY LIN!

LEAVE IT, ANNA. WHEN SHE WANTS TO BE SOUR, SHE'S WORSE THAN A LEMON!

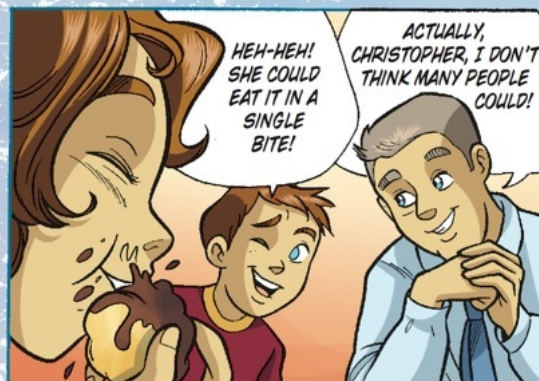


HMM...LET'S SEE IF I CAN SWEETEN HER UP!



A CAKE!

TRIPLE CHOCOLATE! TERRIBLE FOR PIMPLES BUT ABSOLUTELY DELICIOUS!



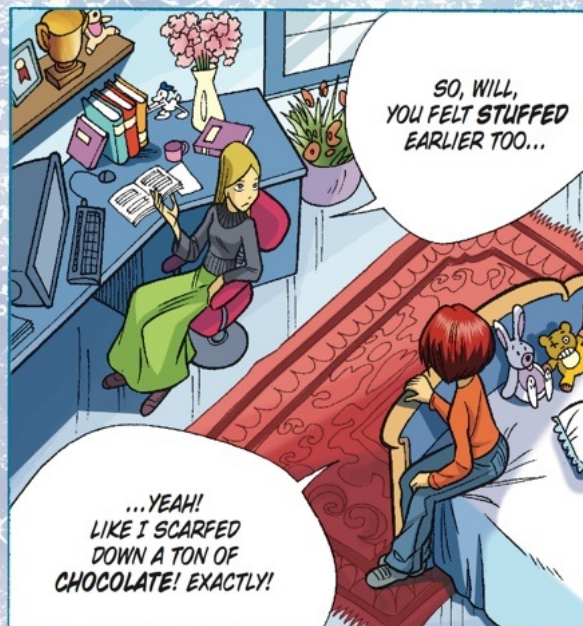
HEH-HEH! SHE COULD EAT IT IN A SINGLE BITE!

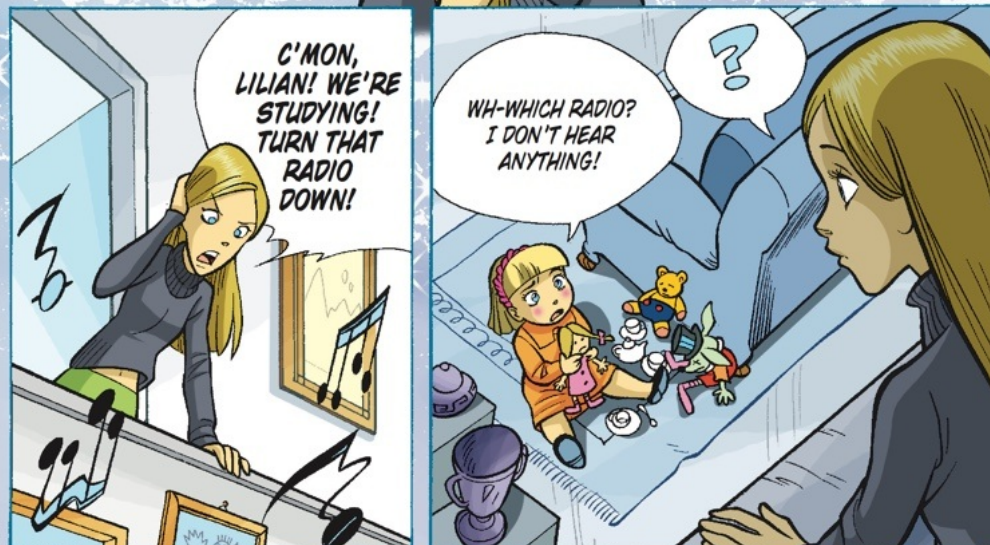
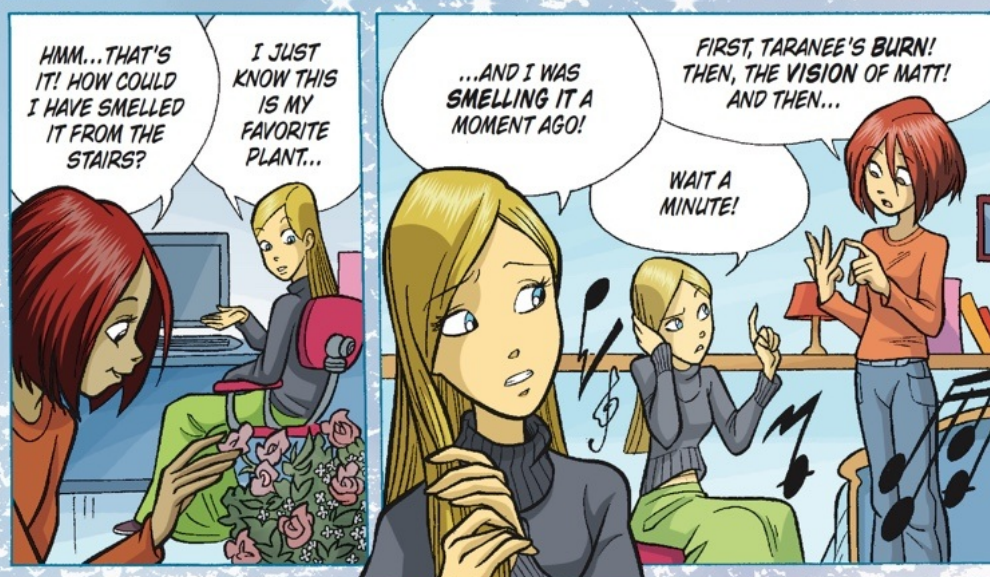
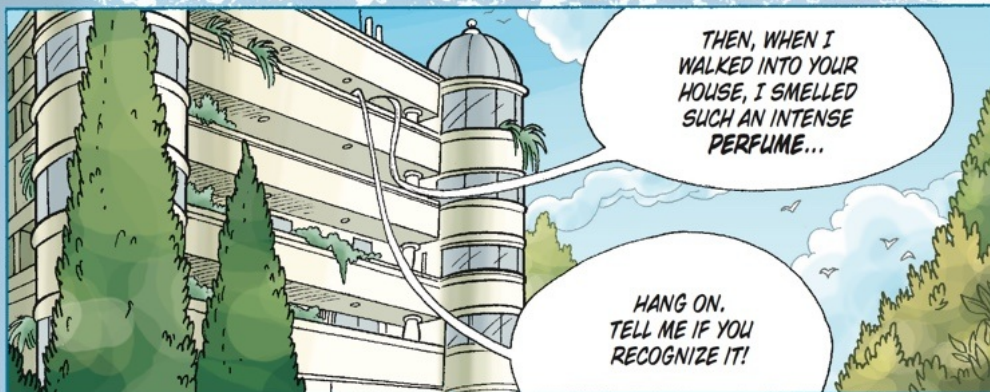
ACTUALLY, CHRISTOPHER, I DON'T THINK MANY PEOPLE COULD!

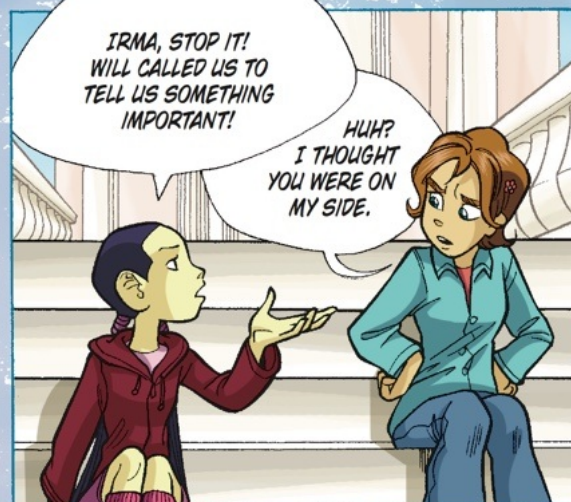
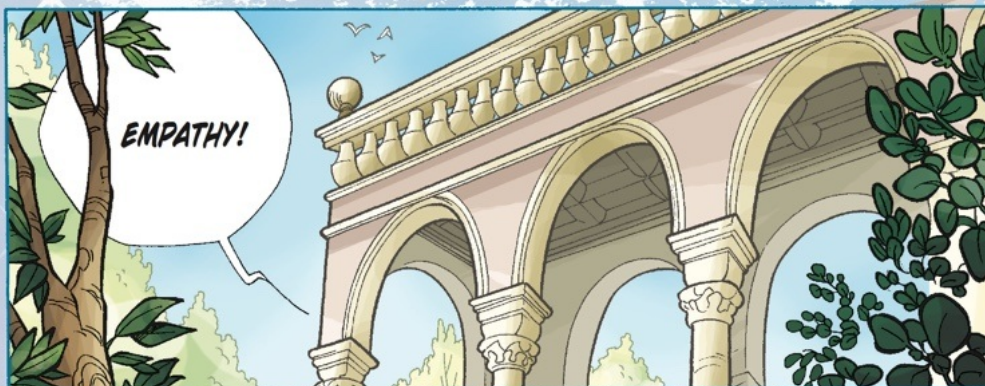


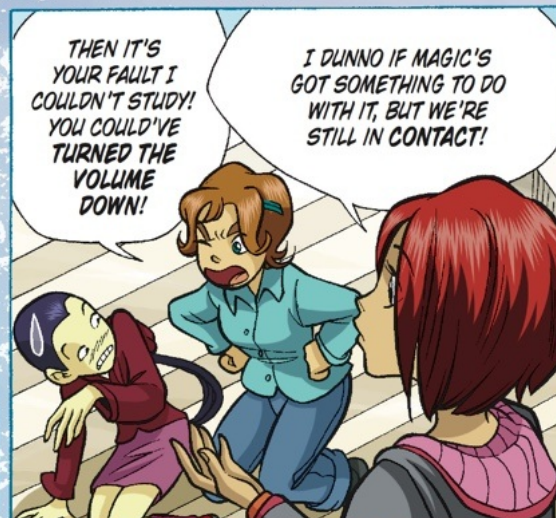
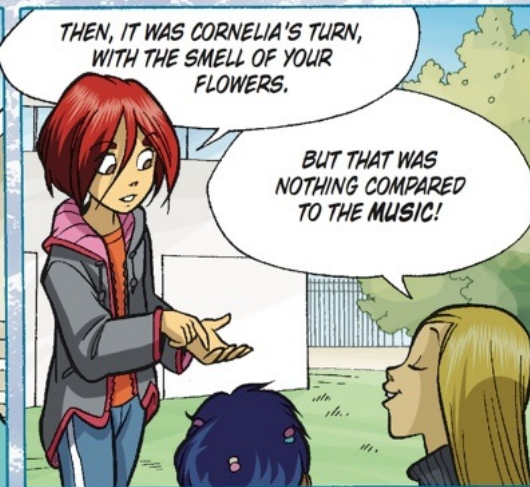
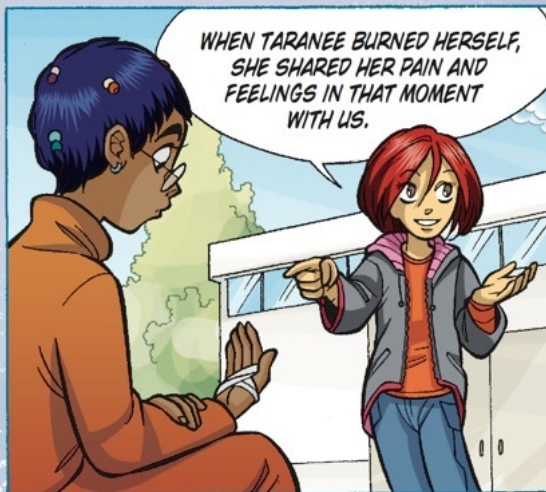
GROWL

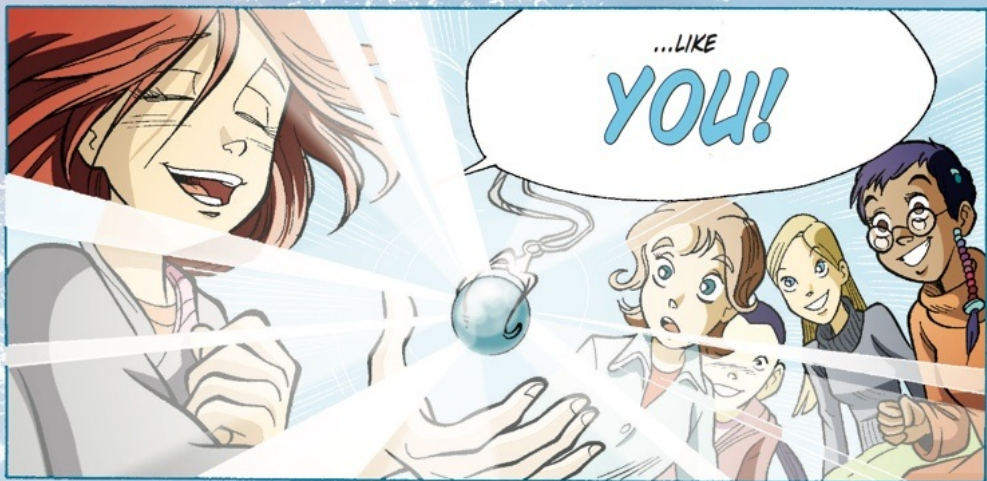
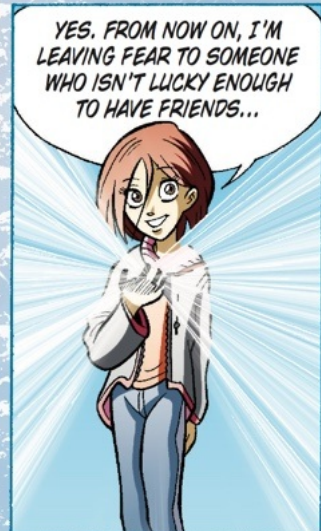
OOOH! MY BELLY! AND TO THINK I HAD A LIGHT LUNCH!

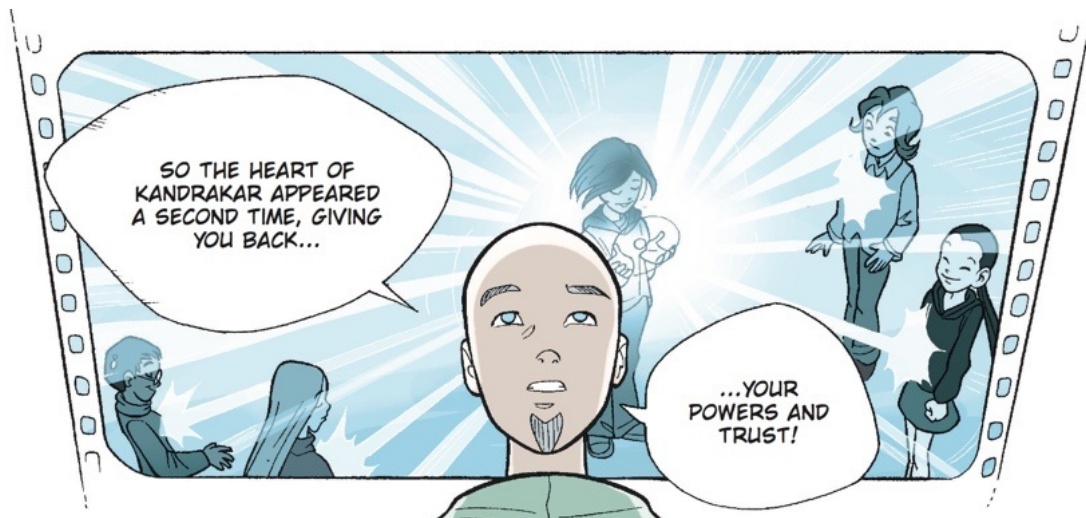


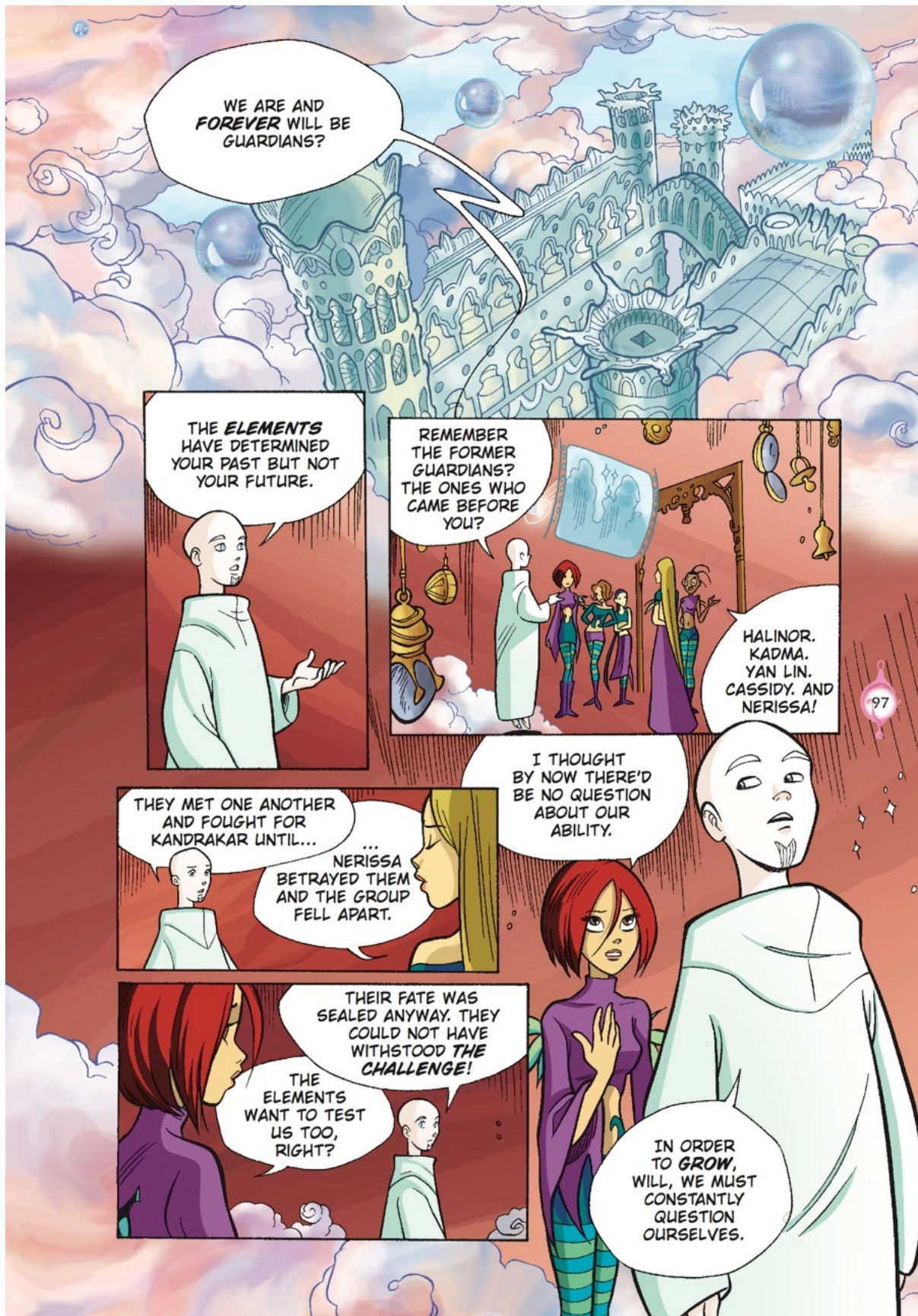














SPEAKING OF WHICH, I BELIEVE TARANEE AND CORNELIA HAVE A QUESTION.

WELL, I... WE...



SOMETIMES WE WONDER WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF...

...IF WE DECIDED TO QUIT—TO GIVE UP OUR POWERS AND EVERYTHING.



THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT? A LIFE WITHOUT MAGIC?

JUST A **NORMAL** LIFE, IRMA. WE NEVER SAID WE DON'T WANT MAGIC.



BUT WE HAVE DOUBTS, AND MAYBE THE HOUR-GLASS CAN HELP US DEAL WITH THEM.

YES. IT CAN SHOW YOU ONE OF MANY **POSSIBLE** FUTURES.



LOOK CLOSELY. THIS TIME, ITS MAGICAL SANDS WILL FLOW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT...



IN OTHER WORDS, FROM THE PRESENT...

"...TO A
POSSIBLE
FUTURE..."

OKAY, GUYS,
MUSIC OFF.
THAT'S ENOUGH
FOR TODAY.

Didja see
her? She's
so cool!

Yeah, but
where does she
get the energy?
It's like she has...

...a FIRE inside her!

YOU DID GREAT,
BUT YOU'VE GOT TO WORK
HARDER. YOU HAVE TO
FEEL THE RHYTHM!

ADAM, YOU AND ANNABEL
WILL DANCE TOGETHER
NEXT TIME, OKAY?

YES,
MRS. COOK!

JUST CALL ME TARANEE,
OKAY?

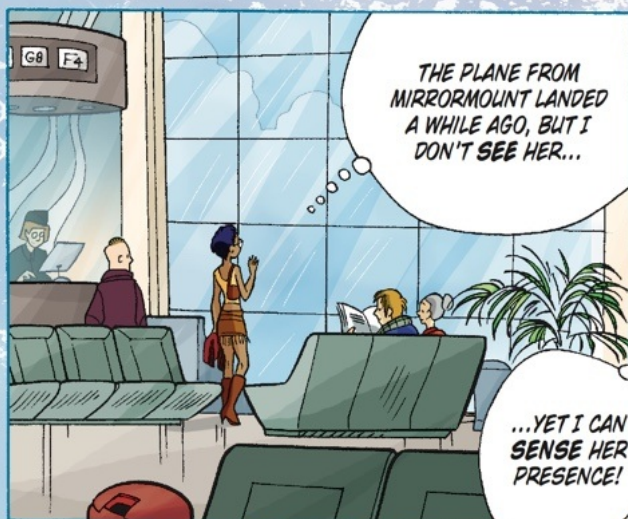
O-O-KAY!

Speaking of things
on fire...should I call
the fire brigade?

IT'S LATE! A
QUICK SHOWER,
AND I'M OFF...



"...TO THE AIRPORT!"



...YET I CAN
SENSE HER
PRESENCE!



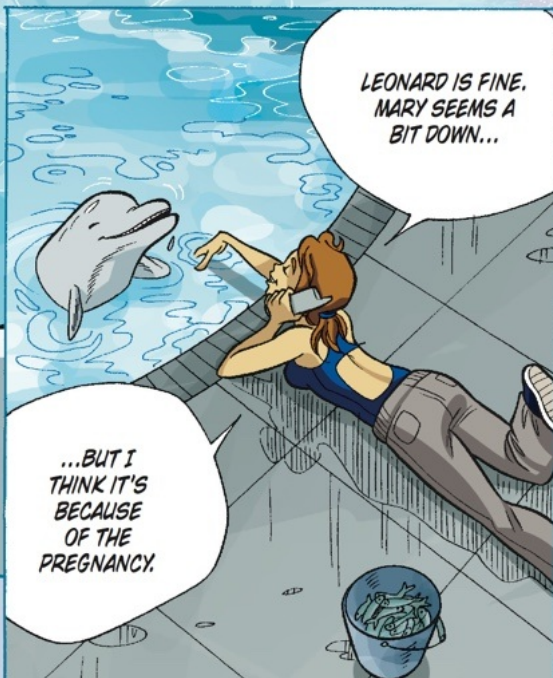
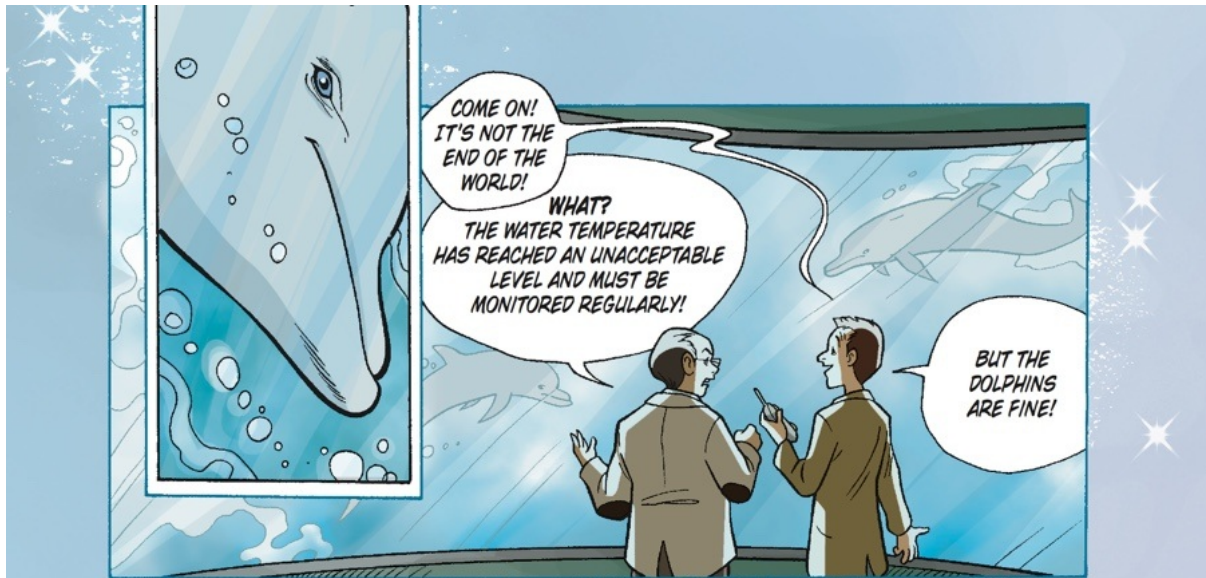
HEY! TARANEE!

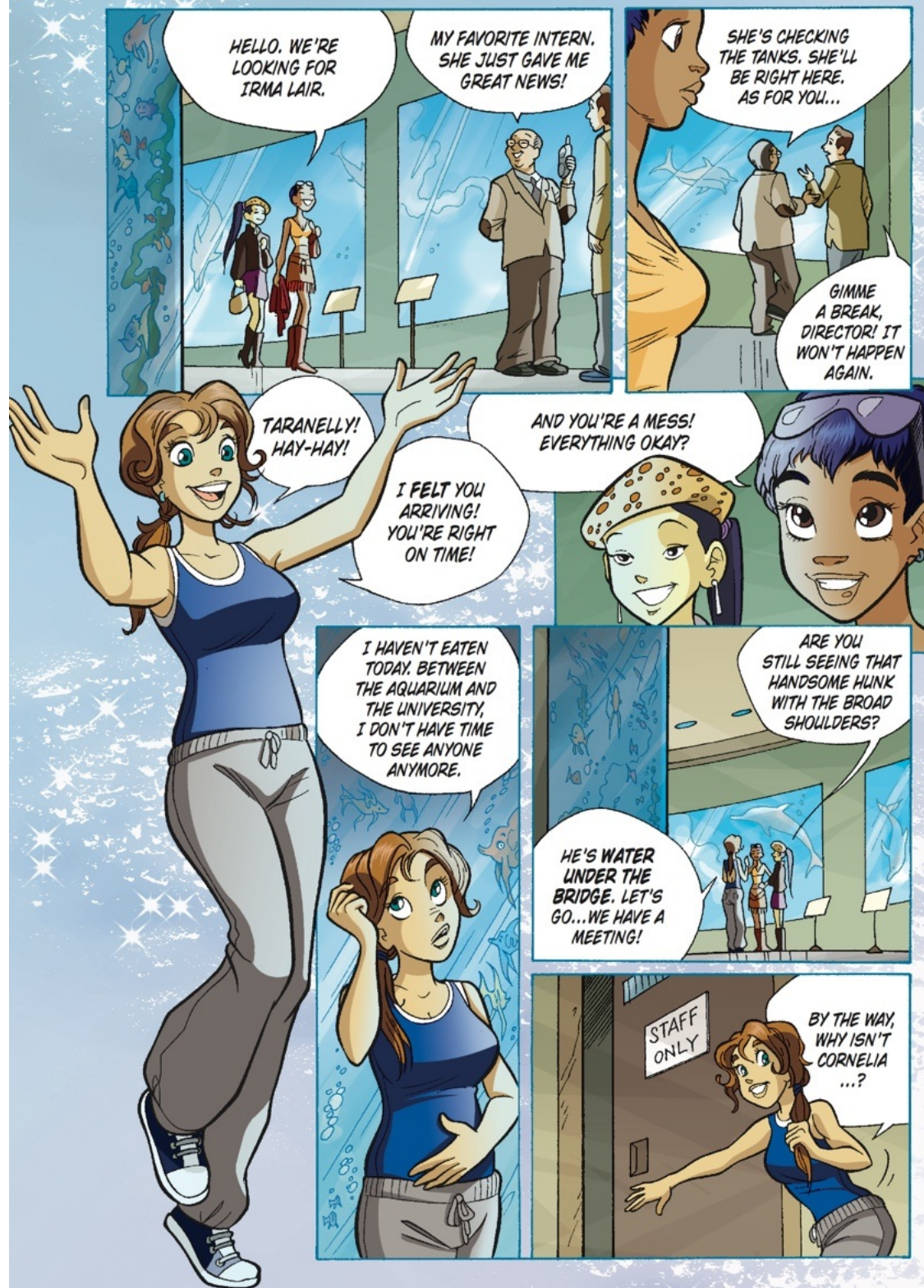
FINALLY!
ABOUT TIME!

...HAY LIN!





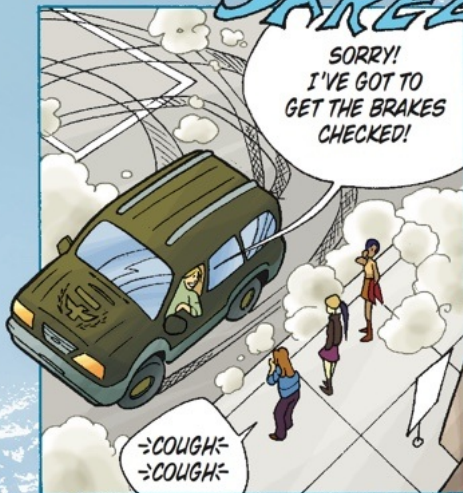




"...HERE YET?"



SORRY!
I'VE GOT TO
GET THE BRAKES
CHECKED!



HAVE YOUR HEAD CHECKED
TOO, CORNY! THAT'S NO
WAY TO DRIVE!

I WAS RUNNING
LATE AND DID MY
BEST. HOP IN!



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THERE WAS A LANDSLIDE
JUST OUTSIDE TOWN.
UPROOTED TREES! DIRT
EVERYWHERE!

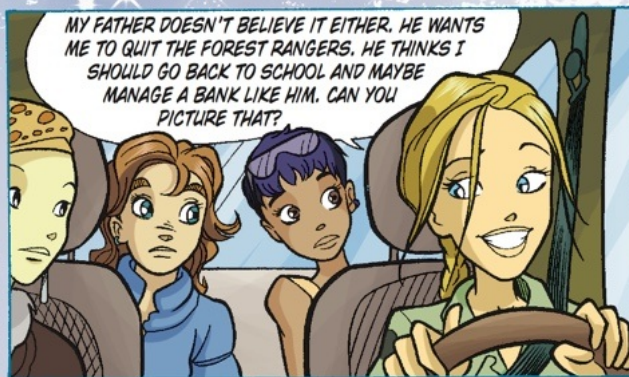
BY THE WAY,
I HOPE THIS
IS MUD ON
THE SEAT...

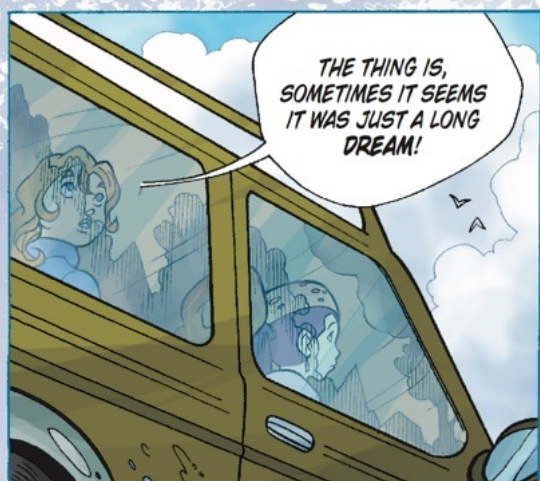


LOOK AT MISS PERFECTION NOW!
IF SOMEONE HAD TOLD ME A FEW
YEARS AGO, I WOULDN'T HAVE
BELIEVED IT!



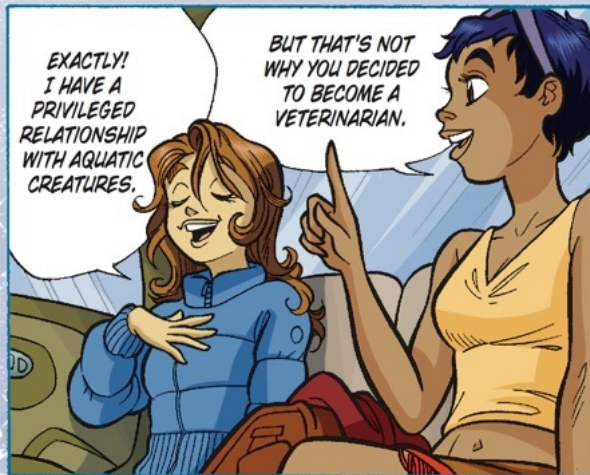
MY FATHER DOESN'T BELIEVE IT EITHER. HE WANTS
ME TO QUIT THE FOREST RANGERS. HE THINKS I
SHOULD GO BACK TO SCHOOL AND MAYBE
MANAGE A BANK LIKE HIM. CAN YOU
PICTURE THAT?

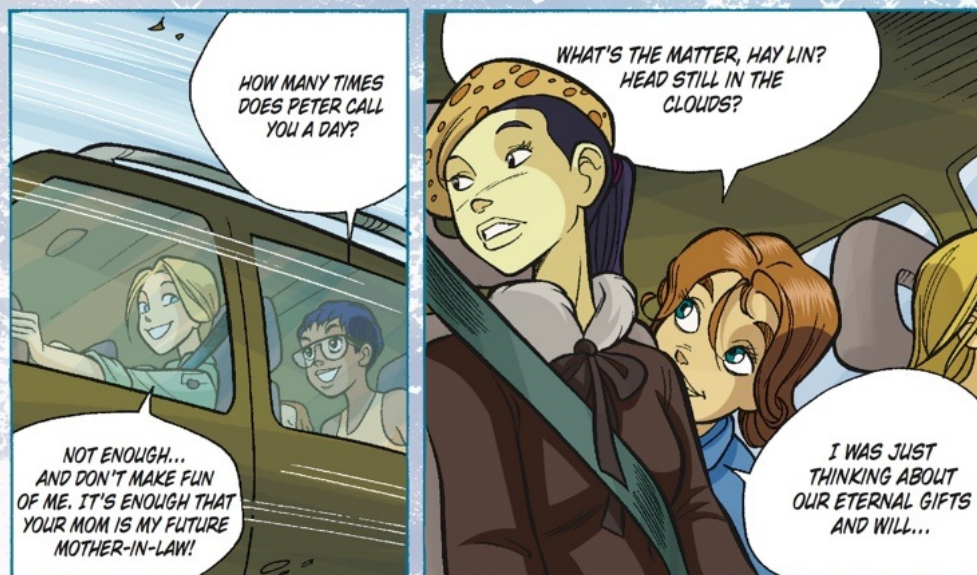
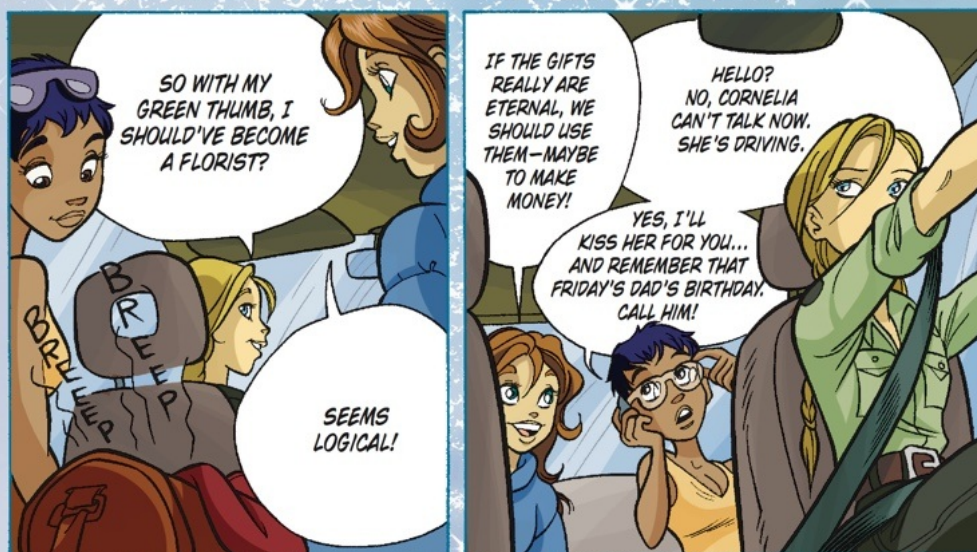






*A KIND OF MAGICAL SUBSTANCE THAT REMAINS DORMANT INSIDE GUARDIANS EVEN AFTER LEAVING THEIR ROLES.





"...SHE'S
THE ONLY ONE
WHO STILL
HASN'T FOUND
HER WAY!"

I'M IN
THE STREET!
YOU SEE?
IN THE
STREET
!



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I'M JUST TELLING YOU
TO KEEP YOUR DISTANCE,
WILL. YOU CAN'T COME
IN HERE!

ANDREW
HORNBY!



WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON?

UM...HI, IRMA.
TRY TO MAKE YOUR
FRIEND SEE
REASON...



I'M JUST DOING MY
JOB. THIS HOUSE
BELONGS
TO THE
CITY
NOW!

THAT HOUSE
WAS OURS FOR
YEARS!



YOU HAVE NO PAPERS TO PROVE IT,
AND THE GRANDDAUGHTER OF
MS. RUDOLPH, THE OWNER,
DISAPPEARED YEARS AGO.



WILL! YOU KNOW MS. RUDOLPH NEVER LEGALLY MADE THIS HOUSE OURS.

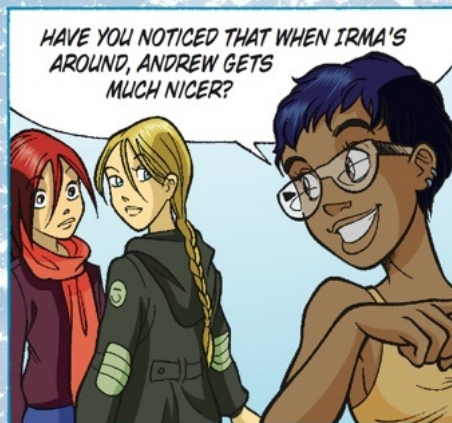
BUT IT'S LIKE SHE DID!



IF ONLY ORUBE HADN'T GONE BACK TO BASILIADE...

IT HAPPENED A LONG TIME AGO. WITHOUT KANDRAKAR'S MAGICAL SUPPORT...

...IT WAS INEVITABLE SOMEONE WOULD TAKE AN INTEREST IN THIS PROPERTY.



HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT WHEN IRMA'S AROUND, ANDREW GETS MUCH NICER?



LET US IN! I'M ASKING YOU FOR THE LAST TIME!

I-I'M SORRY! YOU'RE HERE ILLEGALLY AND...AND...



OH, VERY WELL. GET YOUR STUFF— BUT HURRY! I GOTTA SEND A REPORT TO THE OFFICE TOMORROW MORNING!



EITHER HE LIKES YOU, OR HE REMEMBERS THAT TIME YOU TURNED HIM INTO A TOAD!*

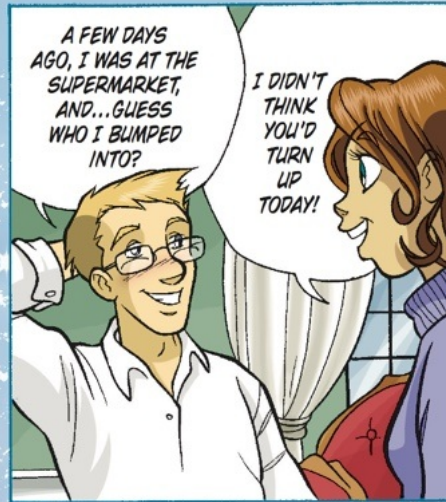
* AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. CHAPTER 2





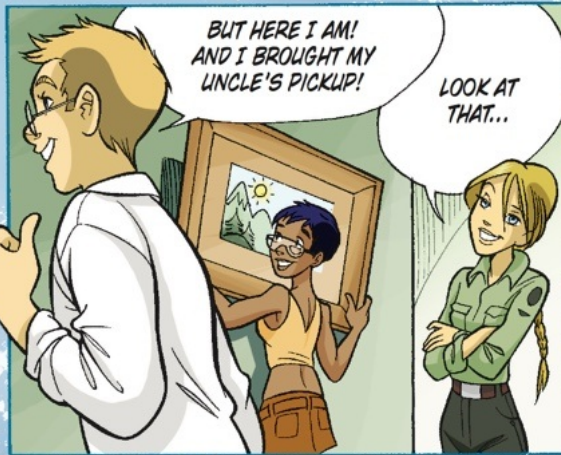
WHAT A SURPRISE!
DIDN'T YOU MOVE
TO MIDGALE?

I WORKED
THERE FOR A
BIT BEFORE
REALIZING
IT WASN'T
FOR ME.



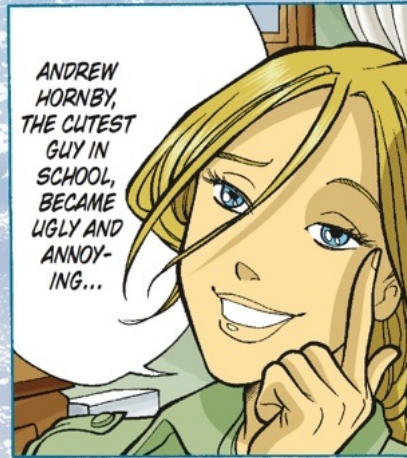
A FEW DAYS
AGO, I WAS AT THE
SUPERMARKET,
AND... GUESS
WHO I BUMPED
INTO?

I DIDN'T
THINK
YOU'D
TURN
UP
TODAY!



BUT HERE I AM!
AND I BROUGHT MY
UNCLE'S PICKUP!

LOOK AT
THAT...



ANDREW
HORNBY,
THE CUTEST
GUY IN
SCHOOL,
BECAME
UGLY AND
ANNOY-
ING...

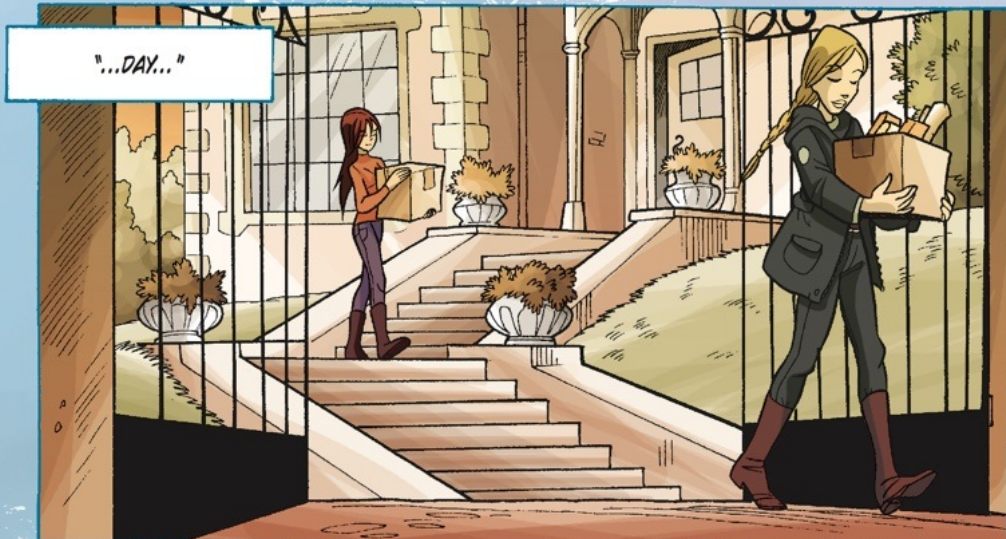


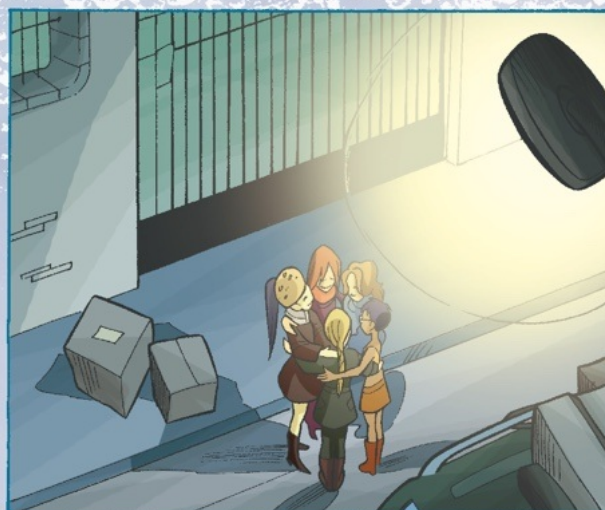
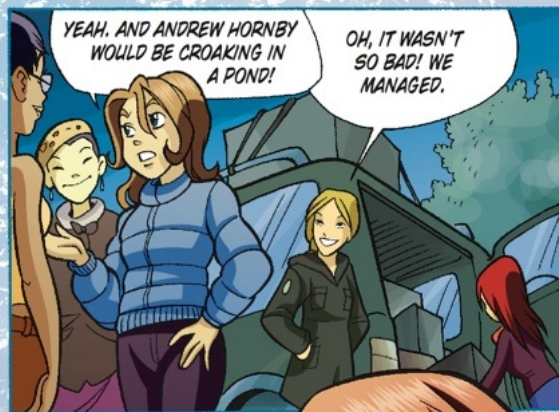
...WHILE MARTIN...

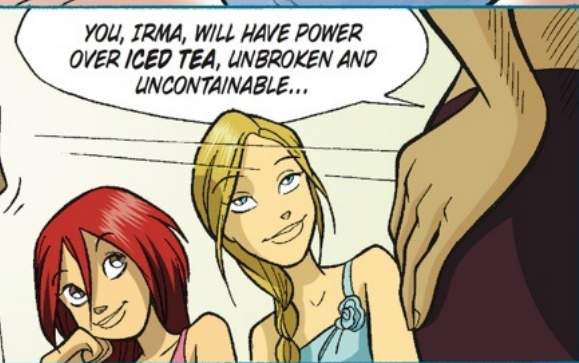
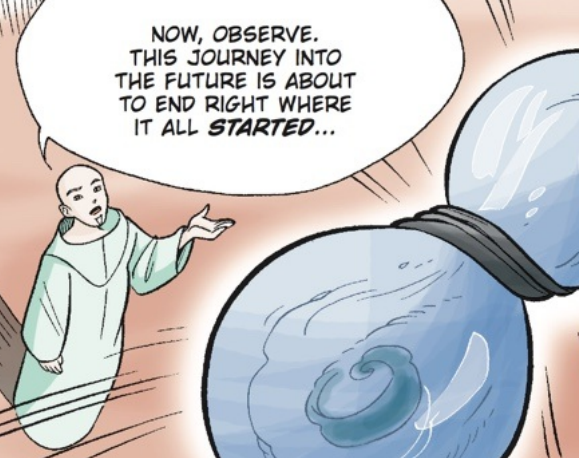
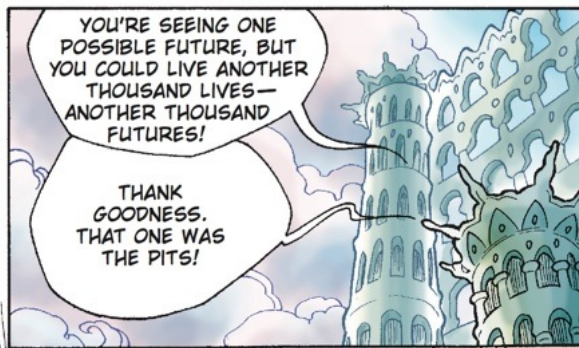
LET ME, WILL! I'M
NOT HERCULES, BUT
THIS ONE I CAN...

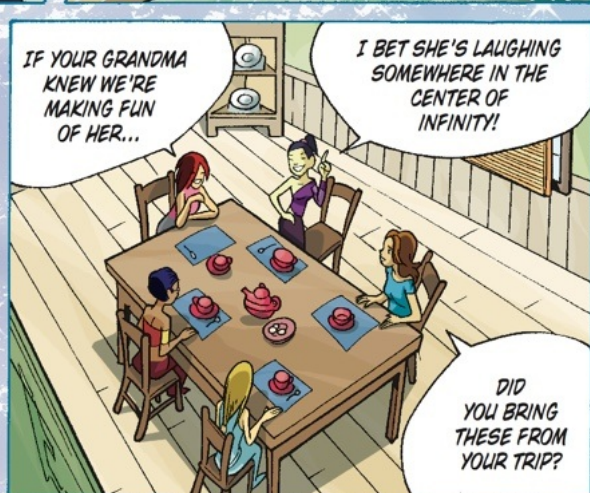
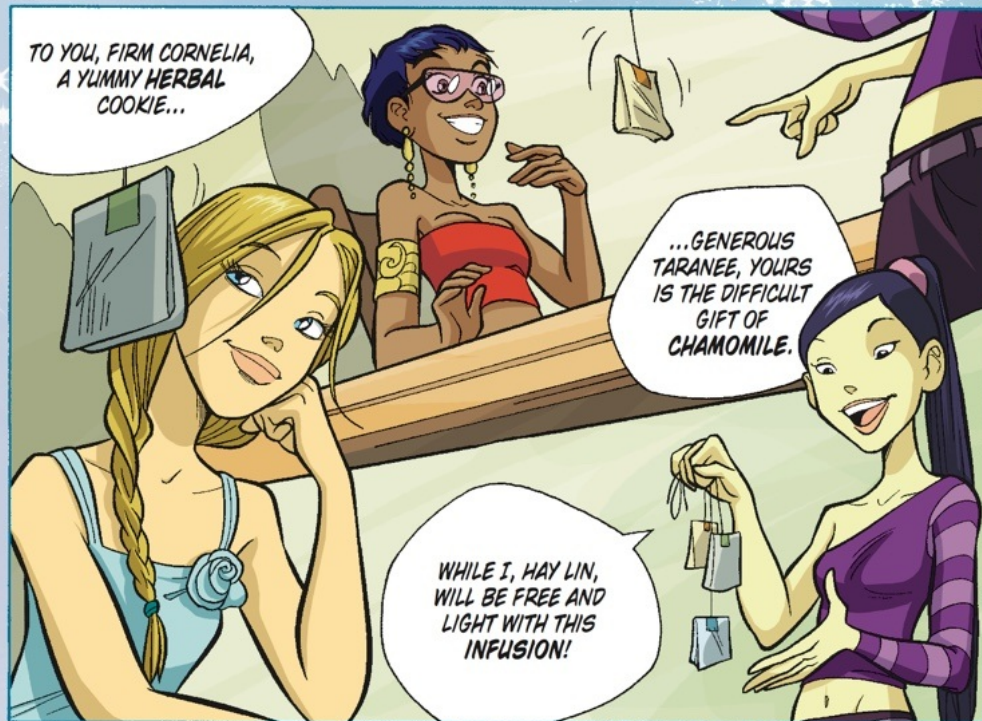


NEVER
MIND!

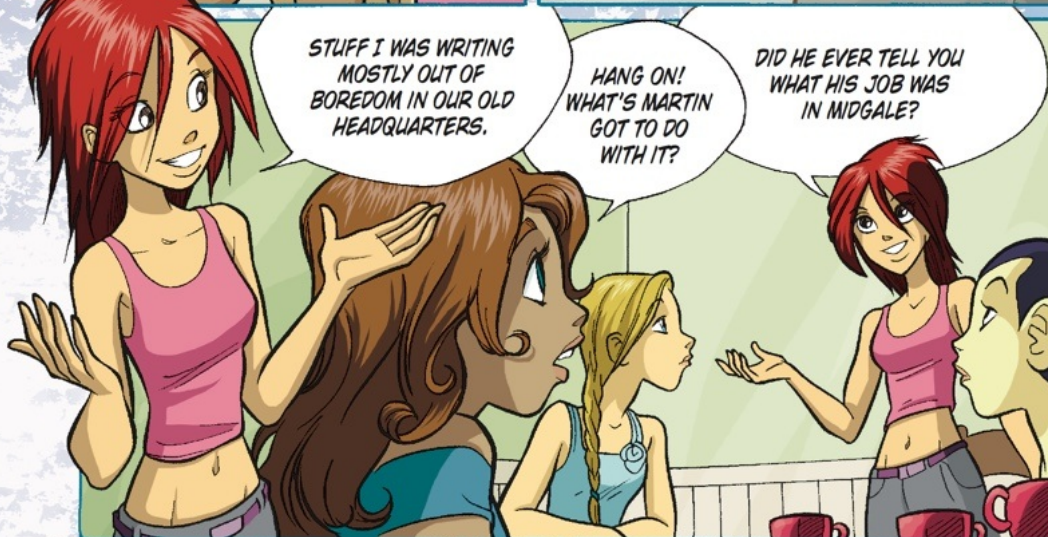
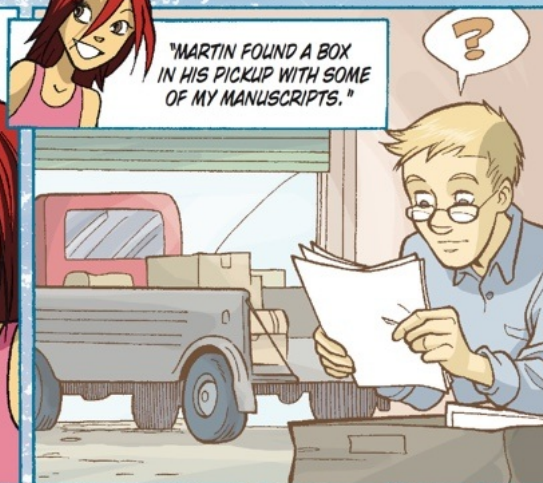
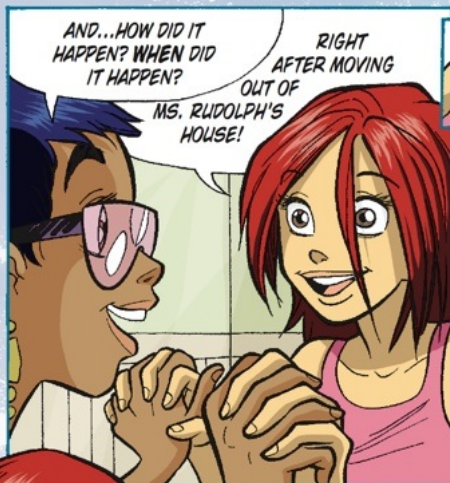


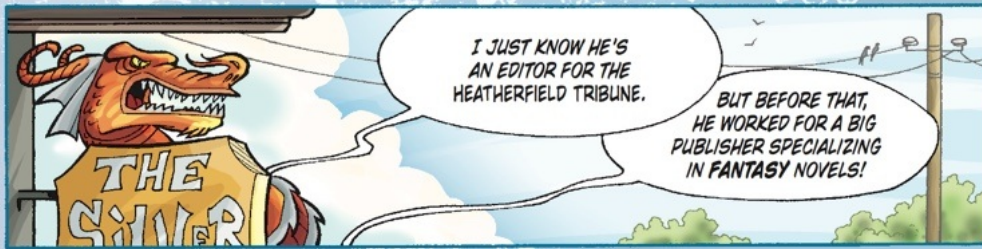


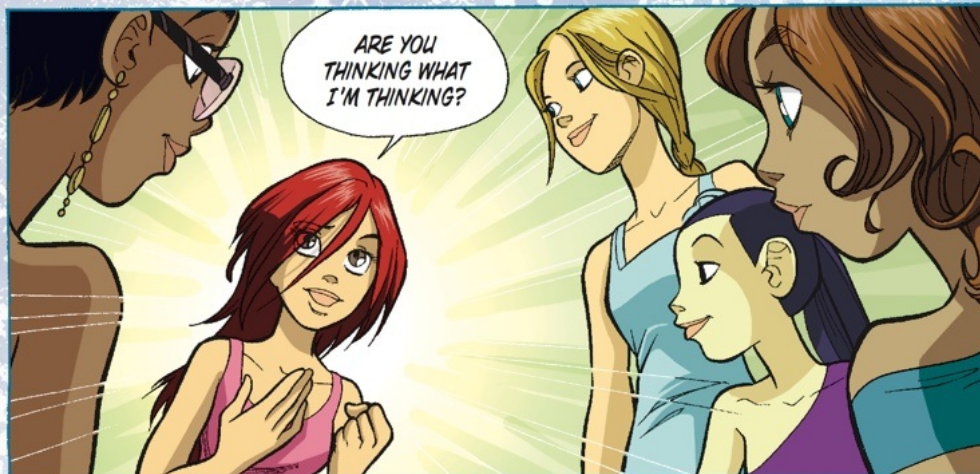
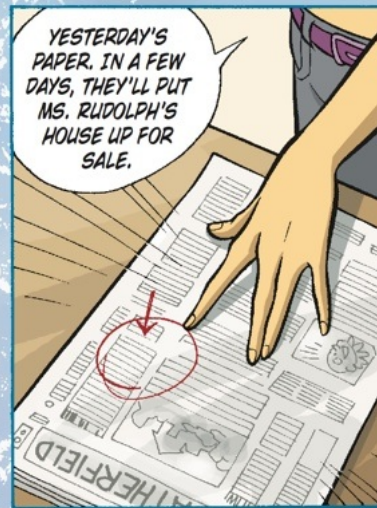
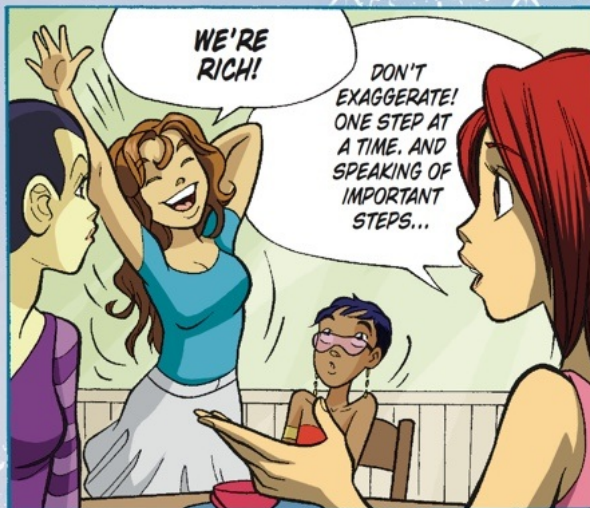
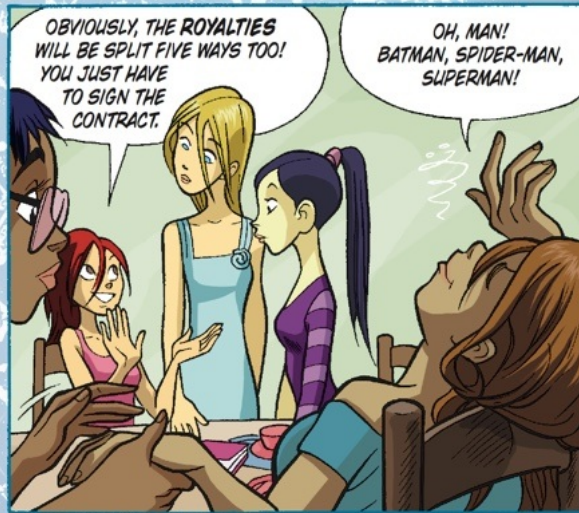










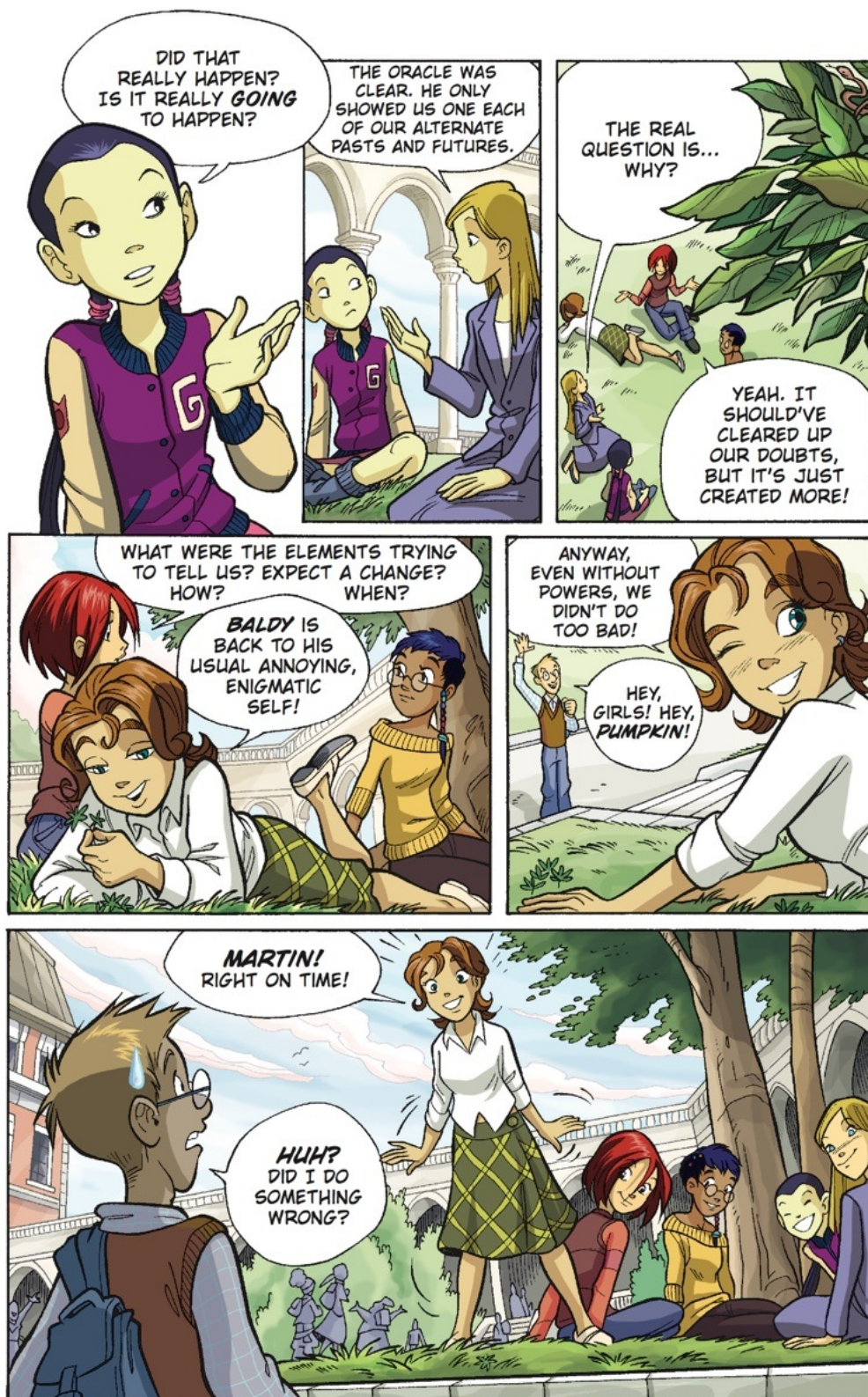


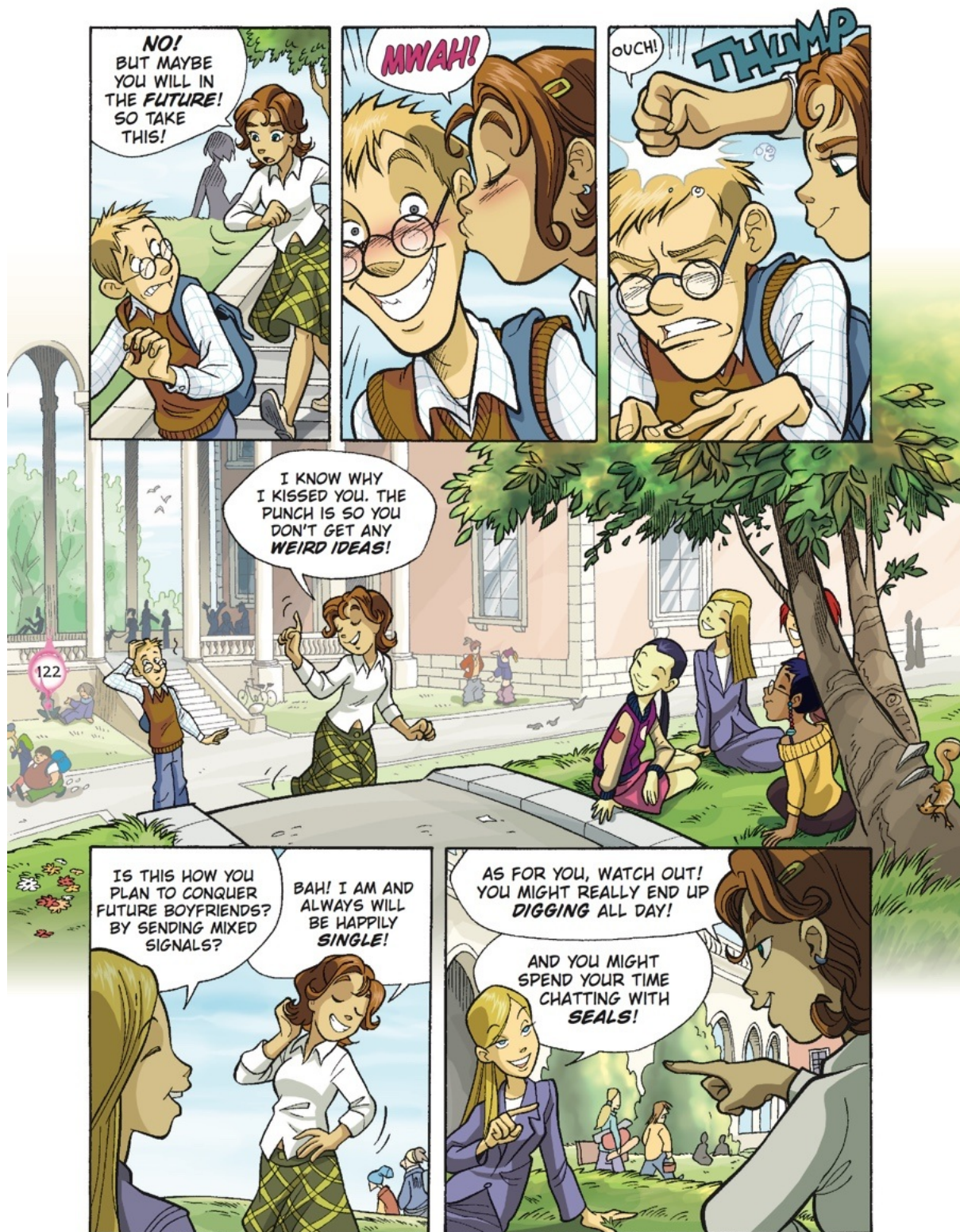
THINKING
TOGETHER!
ABOUT
FREEDOM—
POSSIBLY
LIVING
TOGETHER!
ABOUT
A NEW
BEGINNING!
A NEW LIFE!

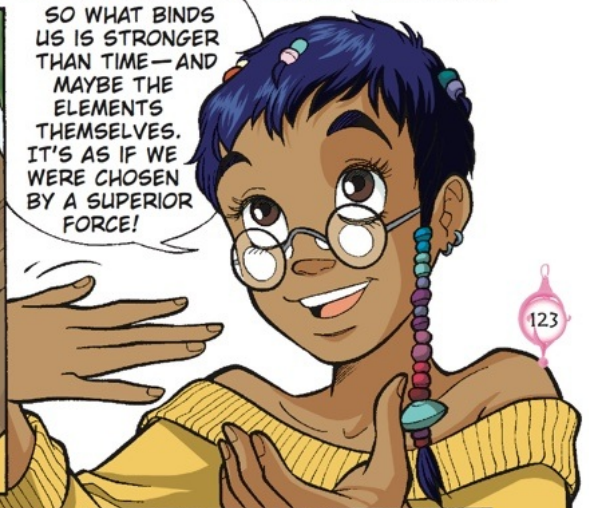
THINKING...
YES...BUT
ONCE YOU'VE
SEEN YOUR
PAST AND
YOUR FUTURE,
IT'S HARD TO
GO BACK TO
KANDRAKAR...

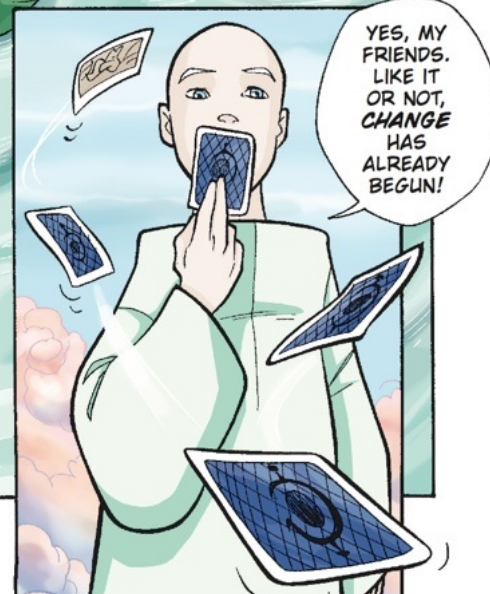
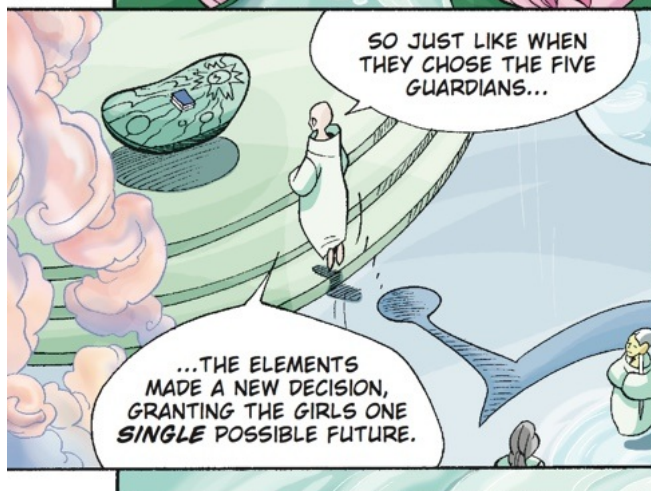
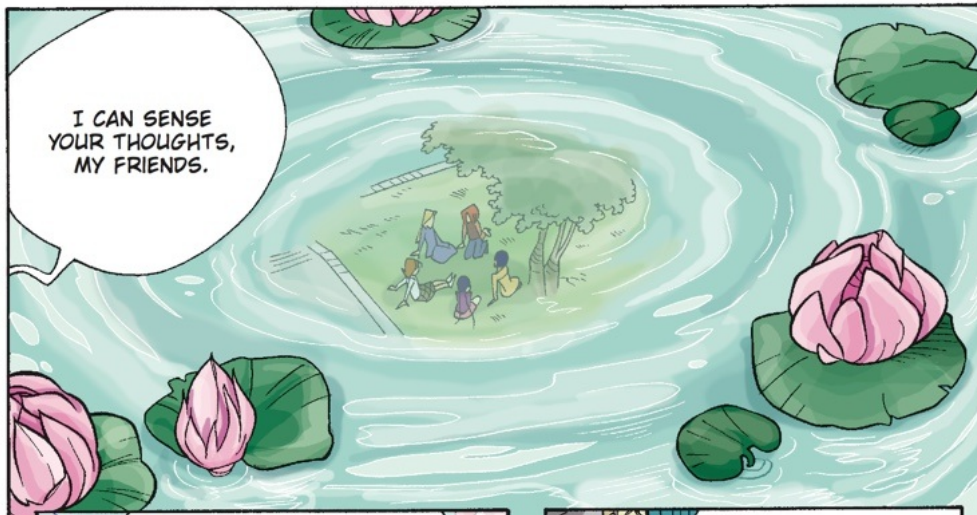
...INTO THE
ROOM OF
PHANTOMS...

...AND THE
THOUGHTS
GROW
EVEN MORE
CONFUSING
WHEN YOU
GO BACK
TO THE
PRESENT, ON
EARTH. IN
HEATHERFIELD...













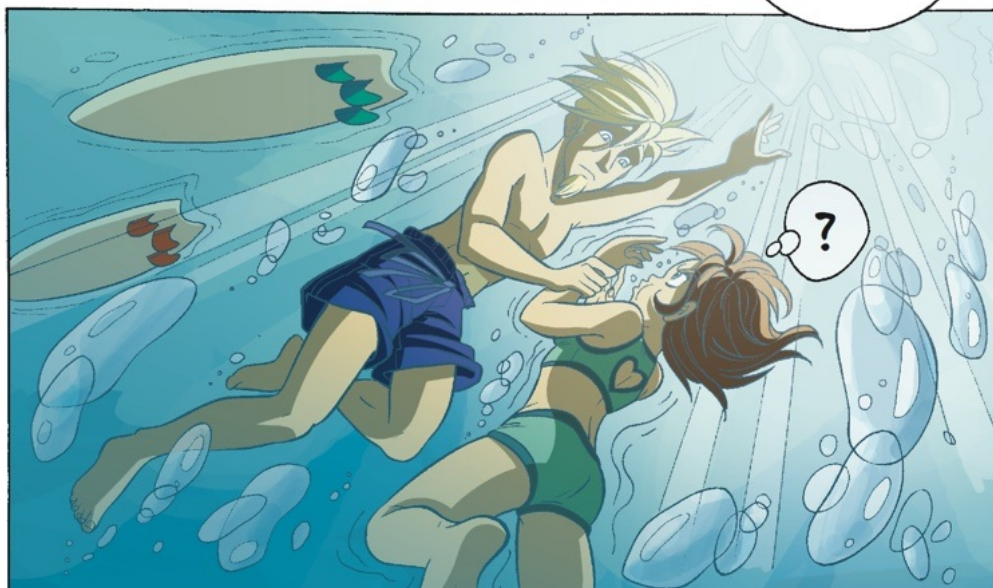
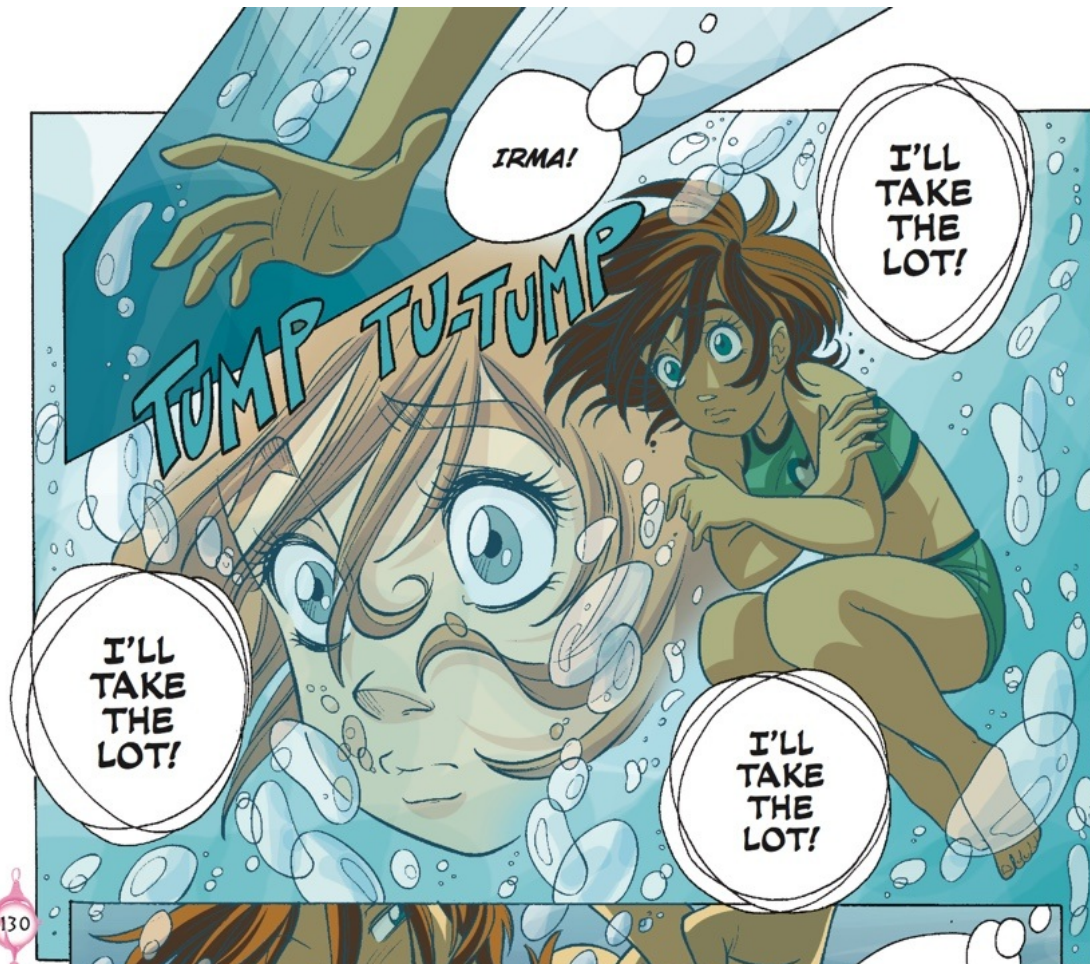


Out of Control

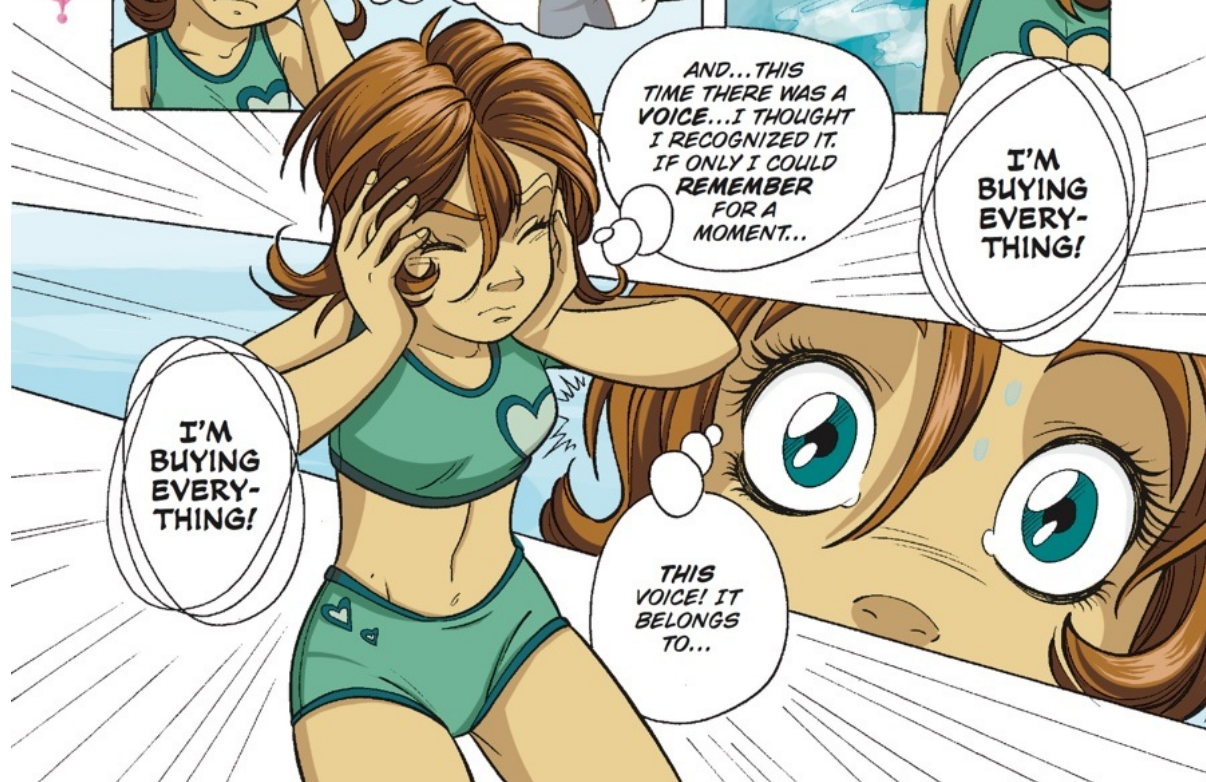
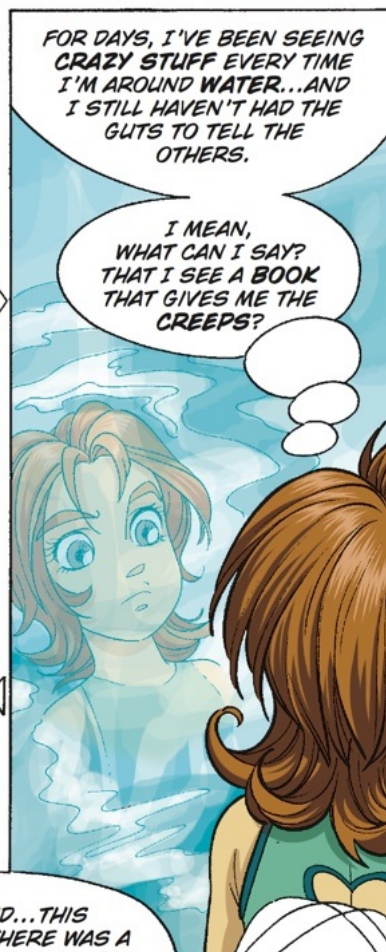
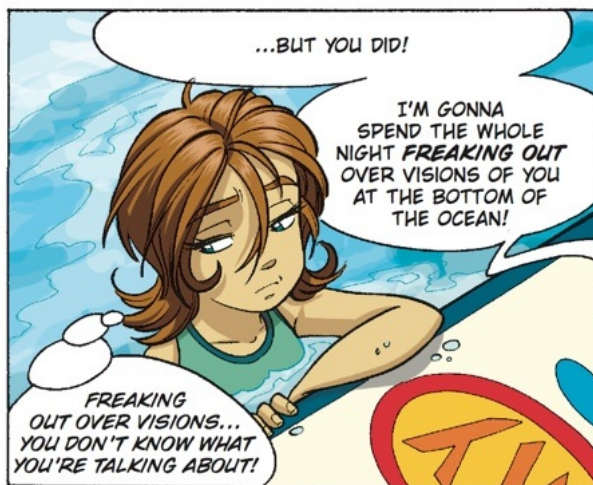
"Some people are really special,
like a comforting hug."

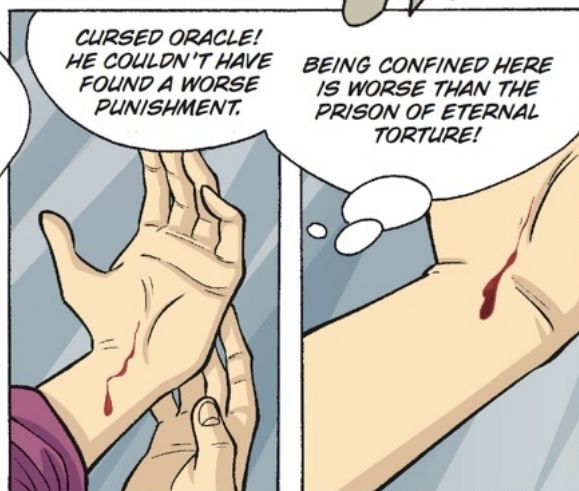
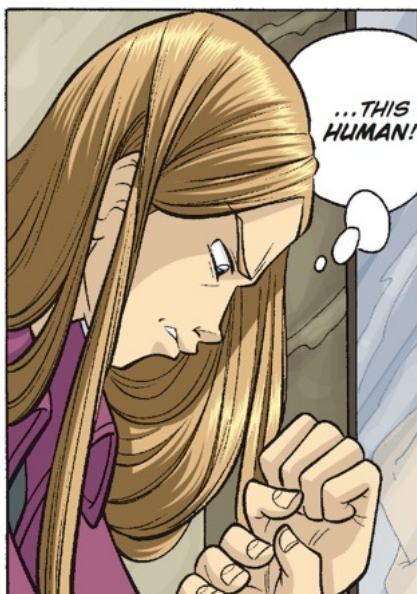


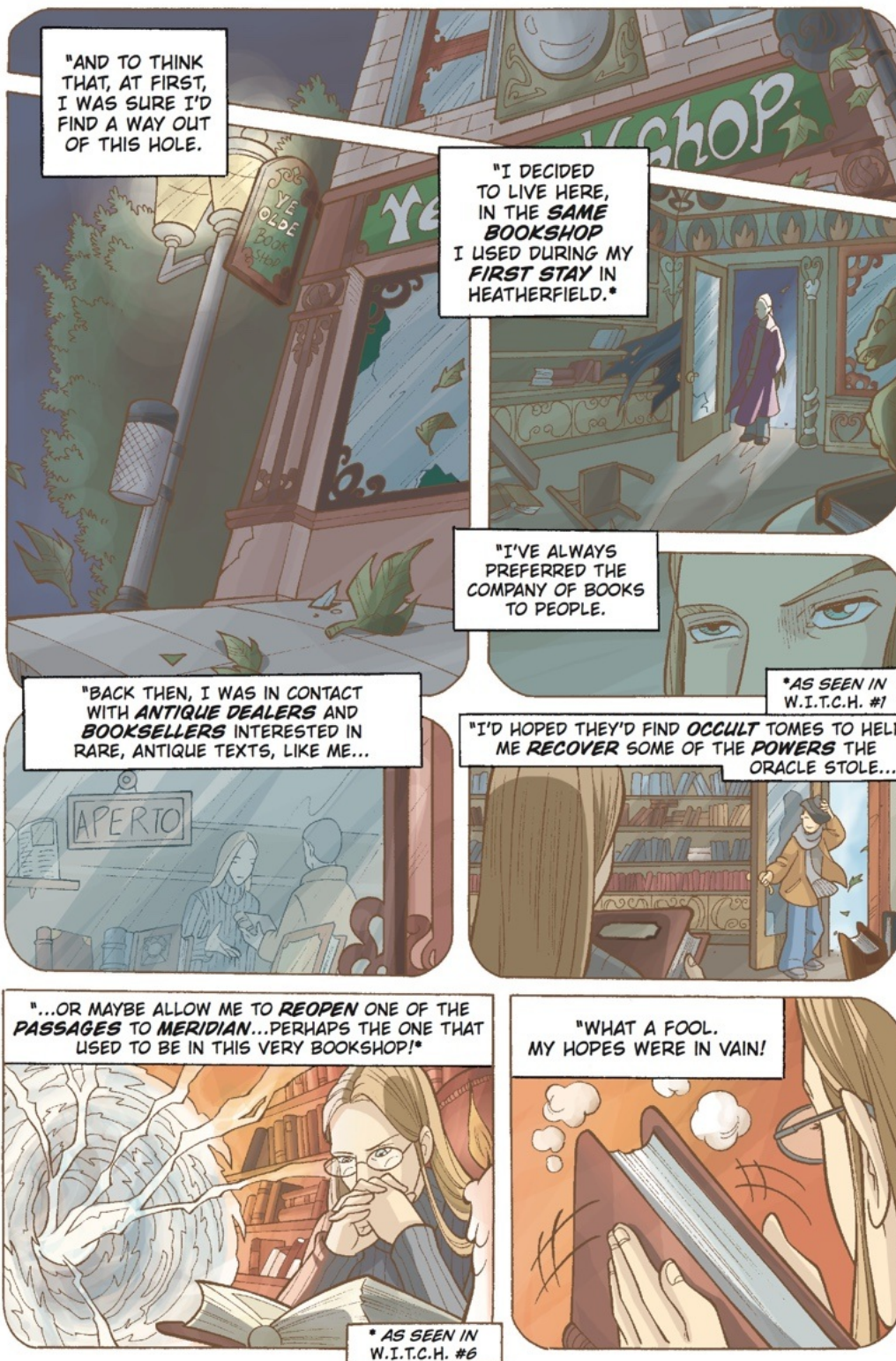












"AND TO THINK THAT, AT FIRST, I WAS SURE I'D FIND A WAY OUT OF THIS HOLE.

"I DECIDED TO LIVE HERE, IN THE **SAME BOOKSHOP** I USED DURING MY **FIRST STAY** IN HEATHERFIELD.*

"I'VE ALWAYS PREFERRED THE COMPANY OF BOOKS TO PEOPLE.

*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. #1

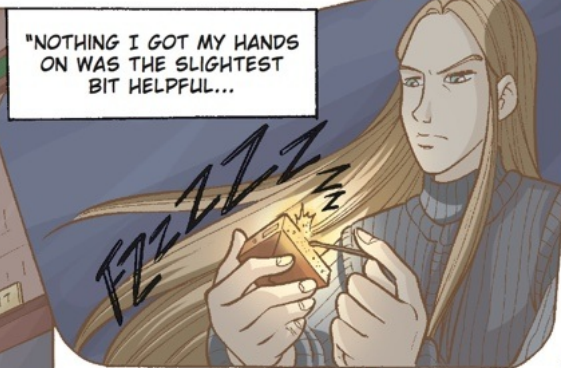
"BACK THEN, I WAS IN CONTACT WITH **ANTIQUE DEALERS** AND **BOOKSELLERS** INTERESTED IN RARE, ANTIQUE TEXTS, LIKE ME...

"I'D HOPED THEY'D FIND **OCCULT** TOMES TO HELP ME **RECOVER** SOME OF THE **POWERS** THE ORACLE STOLE...

"...OR MAYBE ALLOW ME TO **REOPEN** ONE OF THE **PASSAGES** TO **MERIDIAN**...PERHAPS THE ONE THAT USED TO BE IN THIS VERY BOOKSHOP!*

"WHAT A FOOL. MY HOPES WERE IN VAIN!

*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. #6





"ANGER TOWARD
YOU, ORACLE, AND
ESPECIALLY
TOWARD..."

"...THE FIVE
GUARDIANS WHO
KEPT THWARTING
MY PLANS!"

"EVEN IF I
NEVER RETURN TO
METAMOOR OR GET
MY POWERS BACK,
**MY TIME HERE IN
HEATHERFIELD WILL
NOT HAVE BEEN
IN VAIN...**

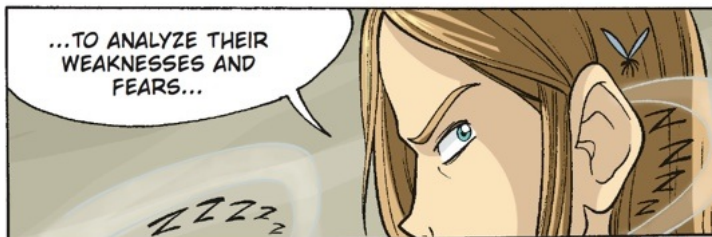
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"...BECAUSE I WILL
USE **EVERY MEANS** AT
MY DISPOSAL TO TURN
THIS FORCED EXILE..."

"...INTO MERCILESS
REVENGE AGAINST
THOSE FIVE GIRLS!"



NOW THAT I'M LIVING AMONGST THEM, I'LL HAVE TIME TO STUDY AND UNDERSTAND THEM...



...TO ANALYZE THEIR WEAKNESSES AND FEARS...



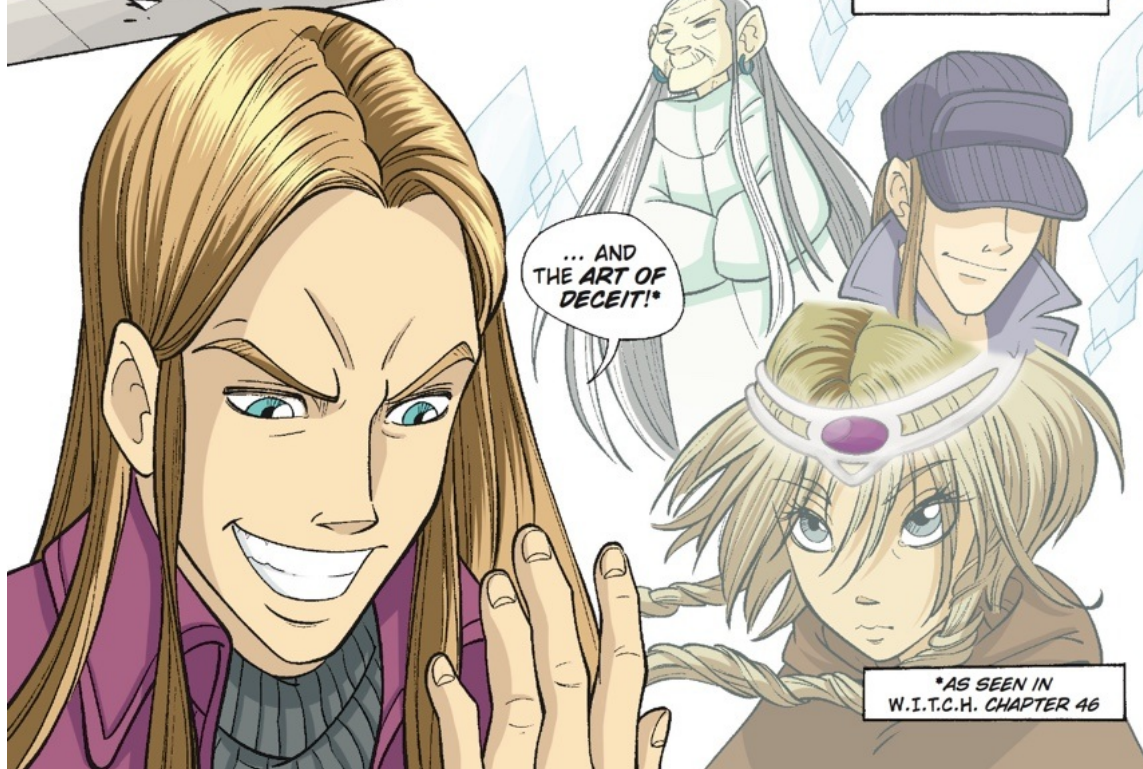
...ENABLING ME TO STRIKE THEM AT THE RIGHT MOMENT...

...CATCHING THEM COMPLETELY UNPREPARED AND DEFENSELESS!



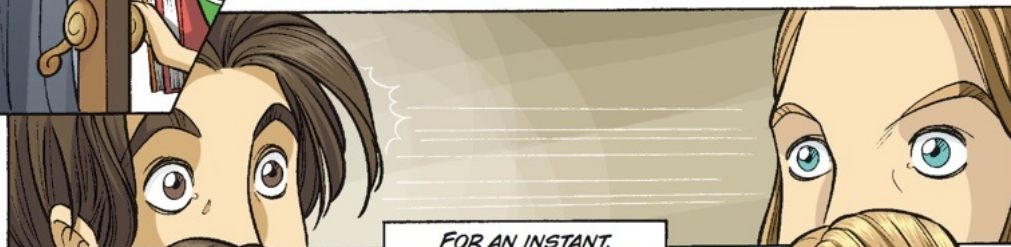
"I JUST HAVE TO PLAY **THE ROLE** OF THE HELPFUL **ASSISTANT** TO THE STUDENTS WHO'VE BEGUN VISITING MY SHOP SINCE IT REOPENED.

"AFTER ALL, I SIMPLY HAVE TO CULTIVATE **MY TWO PASSIONS**: RARE ANTIQUE BOOKS..."

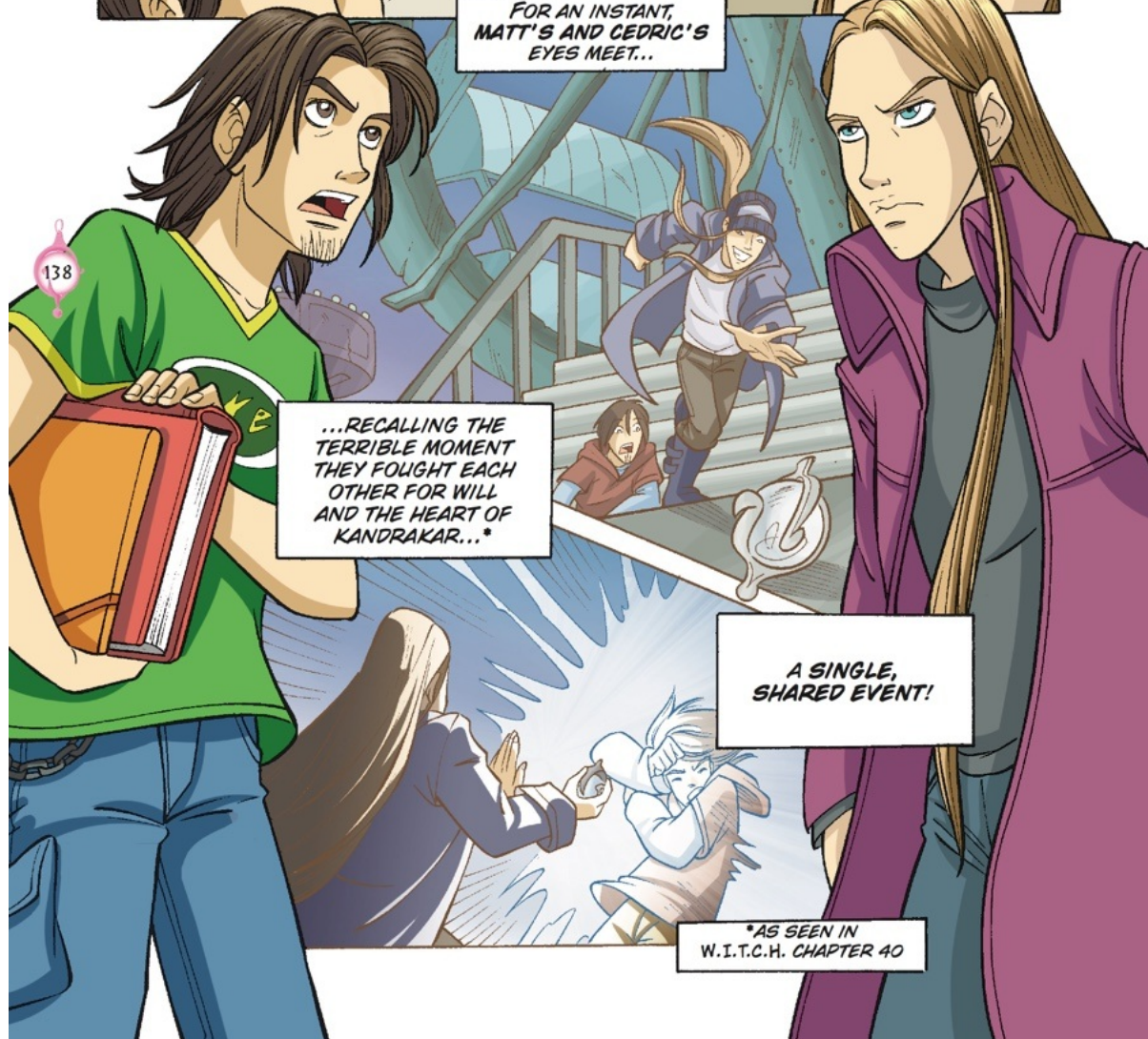


... AND THE ART OF DECEIT!"

*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H. CHAPTER 46



FOR AN INSTANT,
MATT'S AND CEDRIC'S
EYES MEET...



...RECALLING THE
TERRIBLE MOMENT
THEY FOUGHT EACH
OTHER FOR WILL
AND THE HEART OF
KANDRAKAR...*

A SINGLE,
SHARED EVENT!

*AS SEEN IN
W.I.T.C.H. CHAPTER 40

FOR CEDRIC, THAT MEMORY IS CRYSTAL CLEAR, AND IT UNLEASHES A WAVE OF HATRED TOWARD MATT...

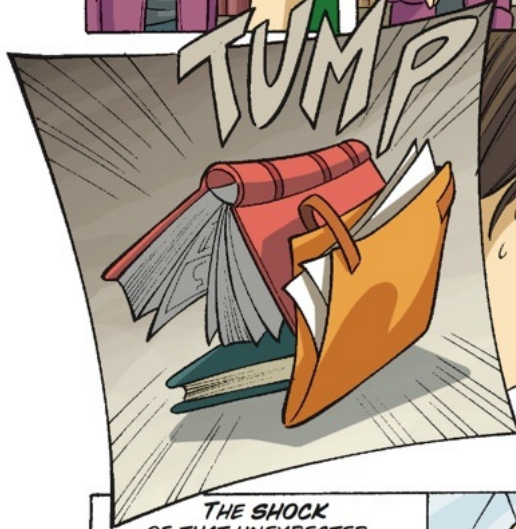
YOUNG OLSEN! LOOKS LIKE WE'RE DESTINED TO MEET AGAIN, YOU AND I.

...HATRED HE MANAGES TO HIDE BEHIND A MASK!

BUT THIS TIME I WON'T LET YOU INTERFERE!

FOR MATT, HOWEVER, THE MEMORY IS CONFUSED AND MURKY...

HUH? WHAT'S GOING ON? THAT GUY'S EYES GIVE ME THE CREEPS! I HAVE THE FEELING I'VE SEEN HIM SOMEWHERE BEFORE...



...BUT WHERE? AND WHEN?



THE SHOCK OF THAT UNEXPECTED, FRIGHTENING EXPERIENCE CLOUDS HIS MEMORY.

HELLO, YOUNG MAN. MAY I HELP YOU?

Y-YES, THANKS...I...

IT'S A STRANGE, SUSPENDED INSTANT... THAT FADES TO NORMALCY...

...AS THE INEXPLICABLE, UNEASY FEELING VANISHES!

I WAS LOOKING FOR A POETRY BOOK...



MEANWHILE...

SO AFTER A MOMENT OF **CONFUSION**, HE ACTED AS IF **NOTHING** HAPPENED?

UH-HUH!

THAT'S **CRAZY!** I'M SPEECHLESS!

JUST LIKE I WAS WHEN I STEPPED INTO THE BOOKSHOP!

I WAS LOOKING FOR SOME INFO FOR THE ARTICLE ON **URBAN LEGENDS** THAT THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE NEW MAGAZINE ASSIGNED TO ME...

...AND THE LAST PERSON **IN THE WORLD** I EXPECTED TO SEE WAS...**CEDRIC!**

BLINK

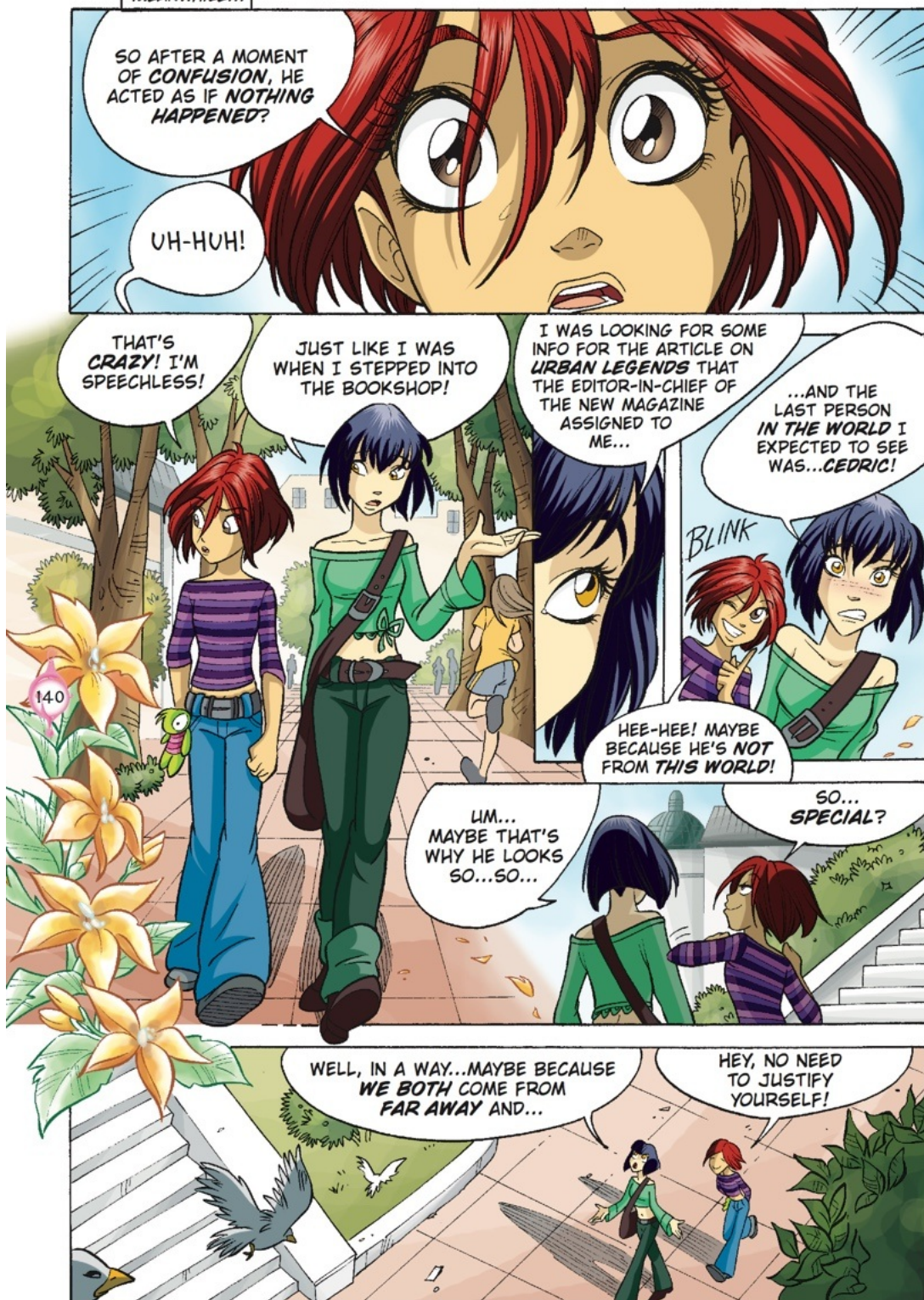
HEE-HEE! MAYBE BECAUSE HE'S **NOT** FROM **THIS WORLD!**

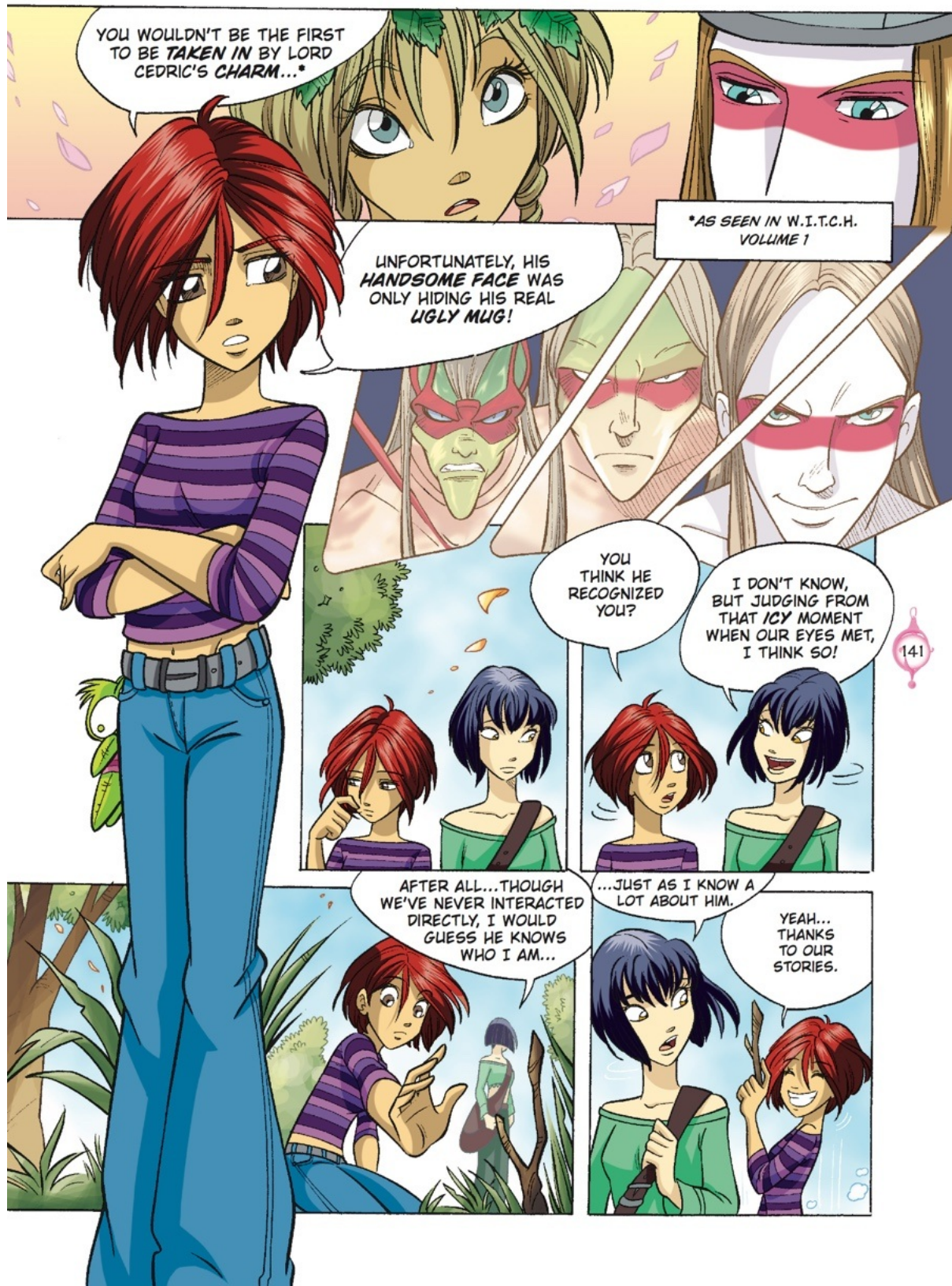
UM... MAYBE THAT'S WHY HE LOOKS SO...SO...

SO... **SPECIAL?**

WELL, IN A WAY...MAYBE BECAUSE **WE BOTH** COME FROM **FAR AWAY** AND...

HEY, NO NEED TO JUSTIFY YOURSELF!





YOU WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST
TO BE TAKEN IN BY LORD
CEDRIC'S CHARM...*

*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H.
VOLUME 1

UNFORTUNATELY, HIS
HANDSOME FACE WAS
ONLY HIDING HIS REAL
UGLY MUG!

YOU
THINK HE
RECOGNIZED
YOU?

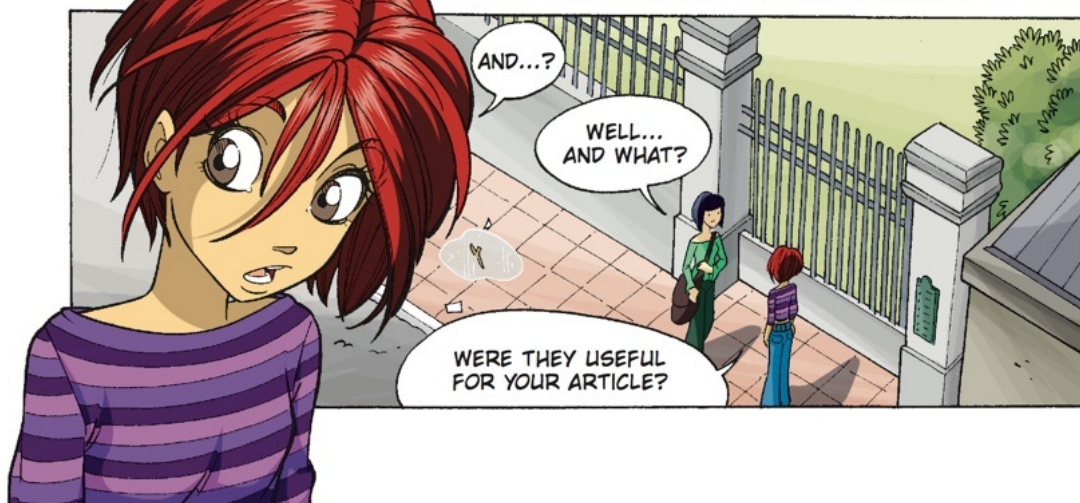
I DON'T KNOW,
BUT JUDGING FROM
THAT 'ICY' MOMENT
WHEN OUR EYES MET,
I THINK SO!

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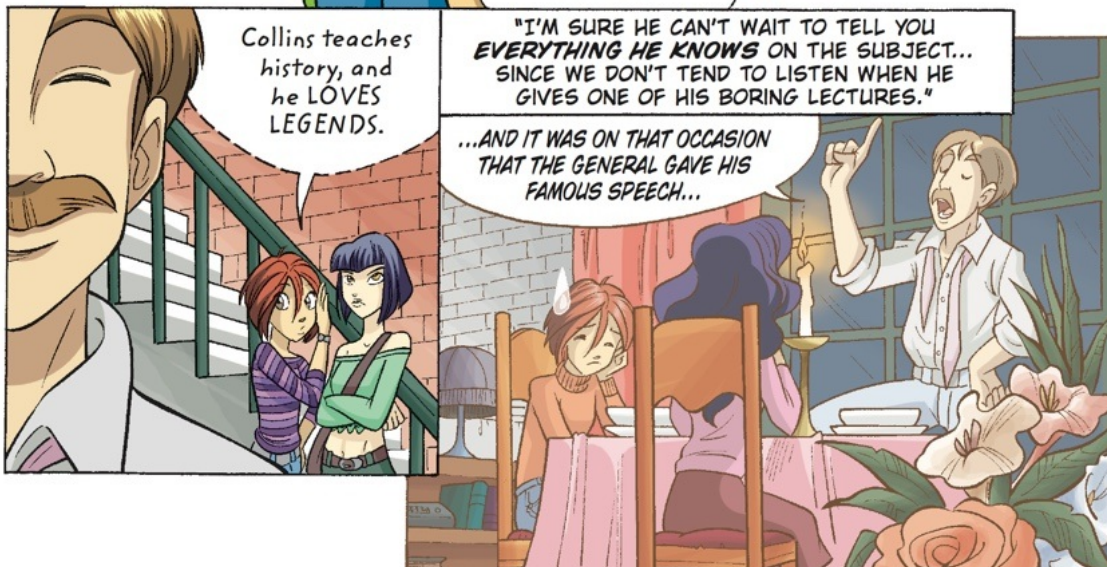
AFTER ALL...THOUGH
WE'VE NEVER INTERACTED
DIRECTLY, I WOULD
GUESS HE KNOWS
WHO I AM...

...JUST AS I KNOW A
LOT ABOUT HIM.

YEAH...
THANKS
TO OUR
STORIES.









IF YOU WANT, I CAN
ARRANGE FOR YOU TO
MEET HIM AND...



HUH?
A TEXT.



IT'S **MATT**! HE'S ASKING
IF I WANNA JOIN HIM
IN THE PARK.



OH NO, IT'S SUPER-LATE, AND
I STILL GOTTA STUDY **PHYSICS**
FOR TOMORROW!

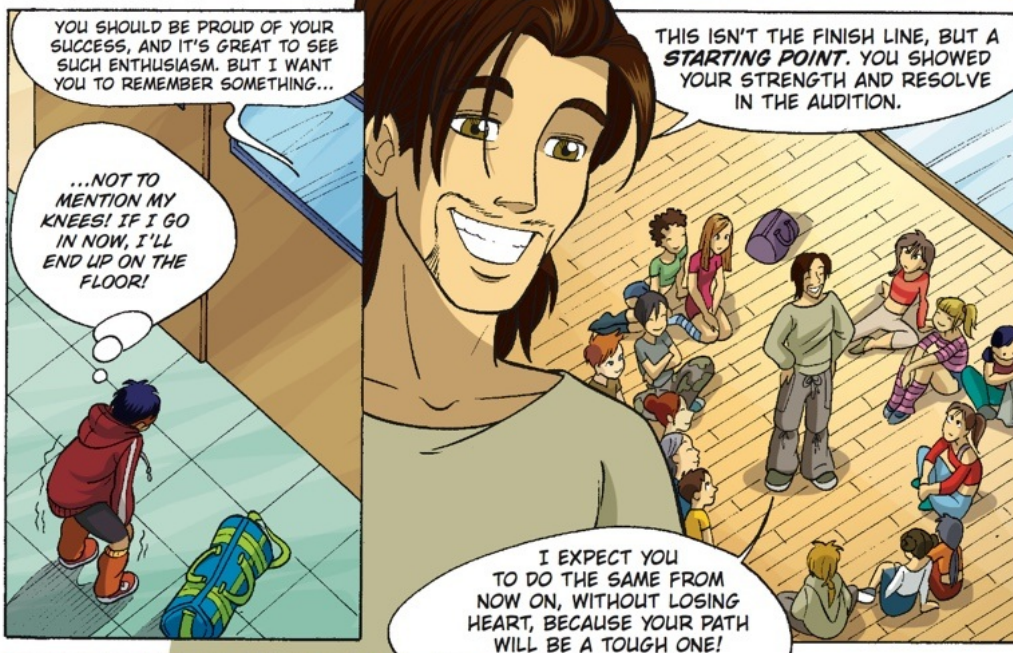


WHAT DO
I DO?

I MAY NOT
BE THE BEST PERSON
TO GIVE THIS KIND OF
ADVICE, BUT...WHAT DO
YOU EARTHLINGS
SAY?

WHEN
LOVE
CALLS...





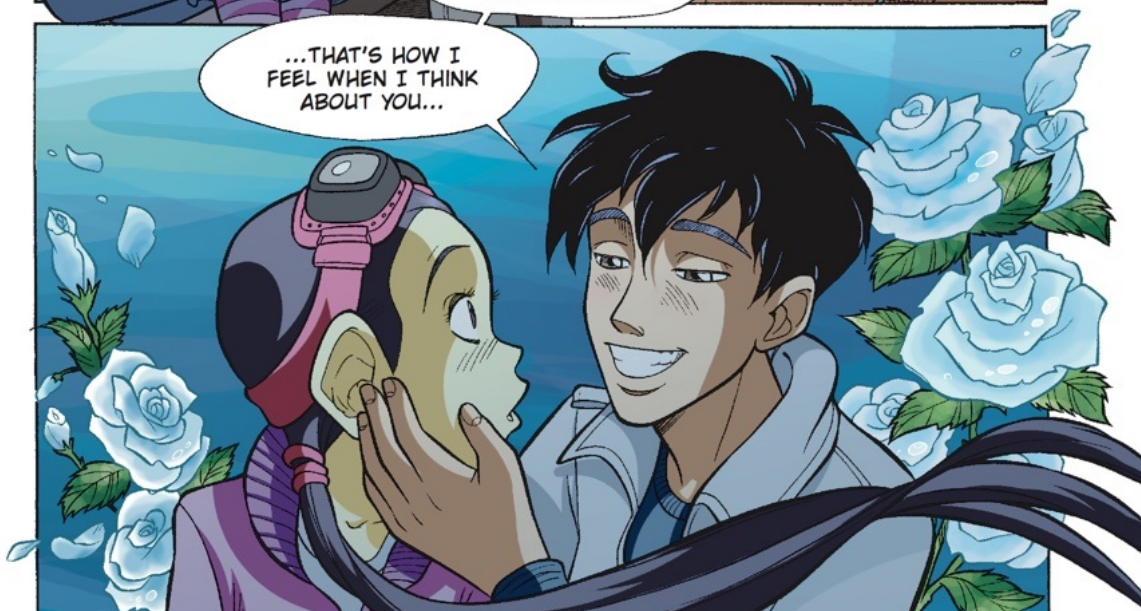
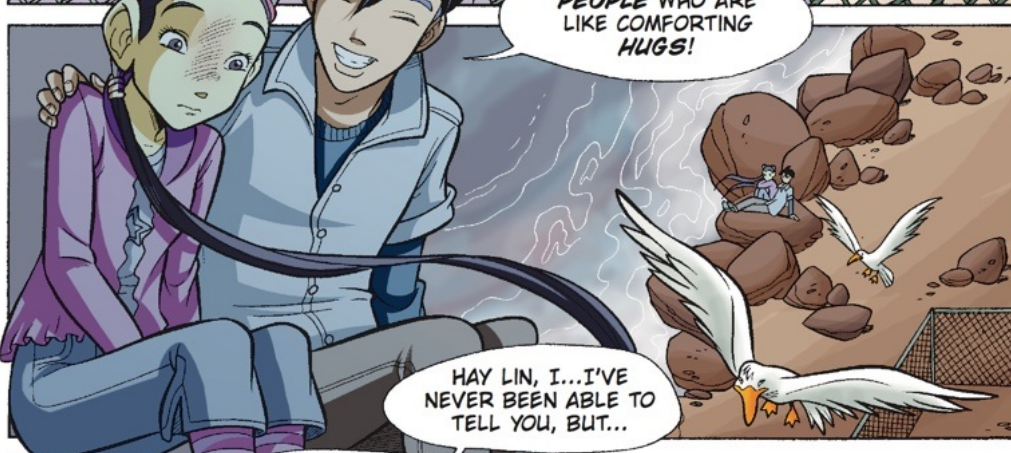
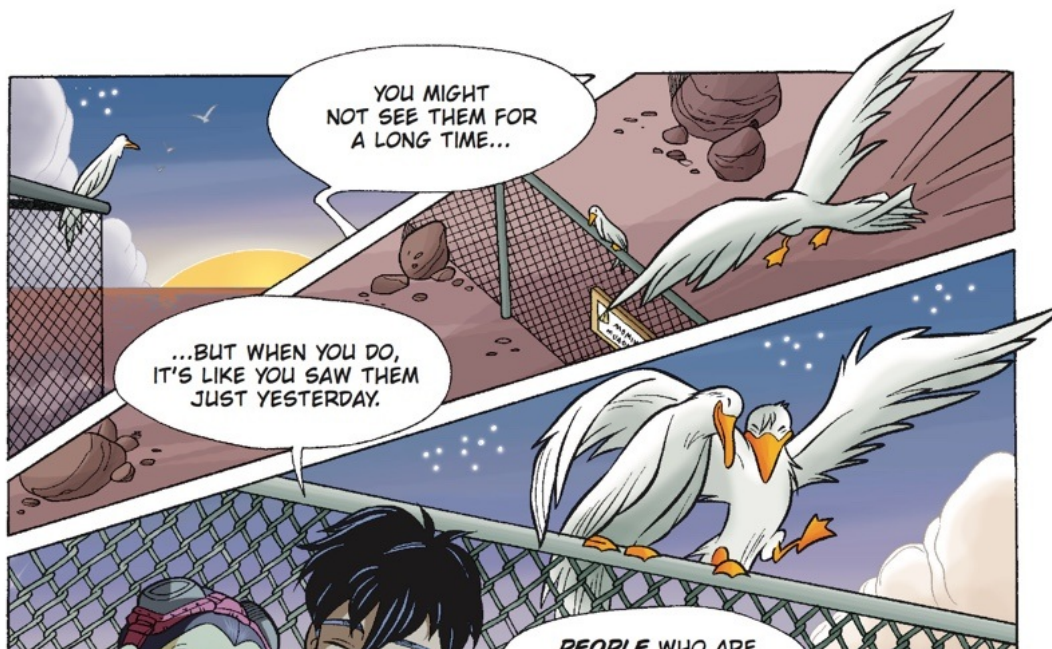
















I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO TELL YOU, HAY LIN. I NEVER WANTED THIS DAY TO COME, BUT SOMETIMES YOU'RE FORCED TO MAKE A CHOICE, AND...WELL...

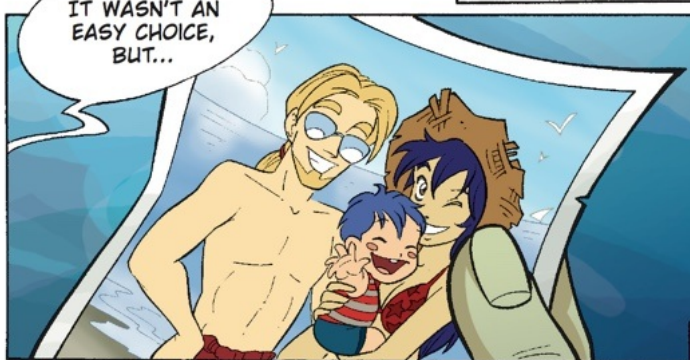


...I'VE DECIDED TO GO WITH MY PARENTS. WE'RE MOVING TO OPEN HILL.*

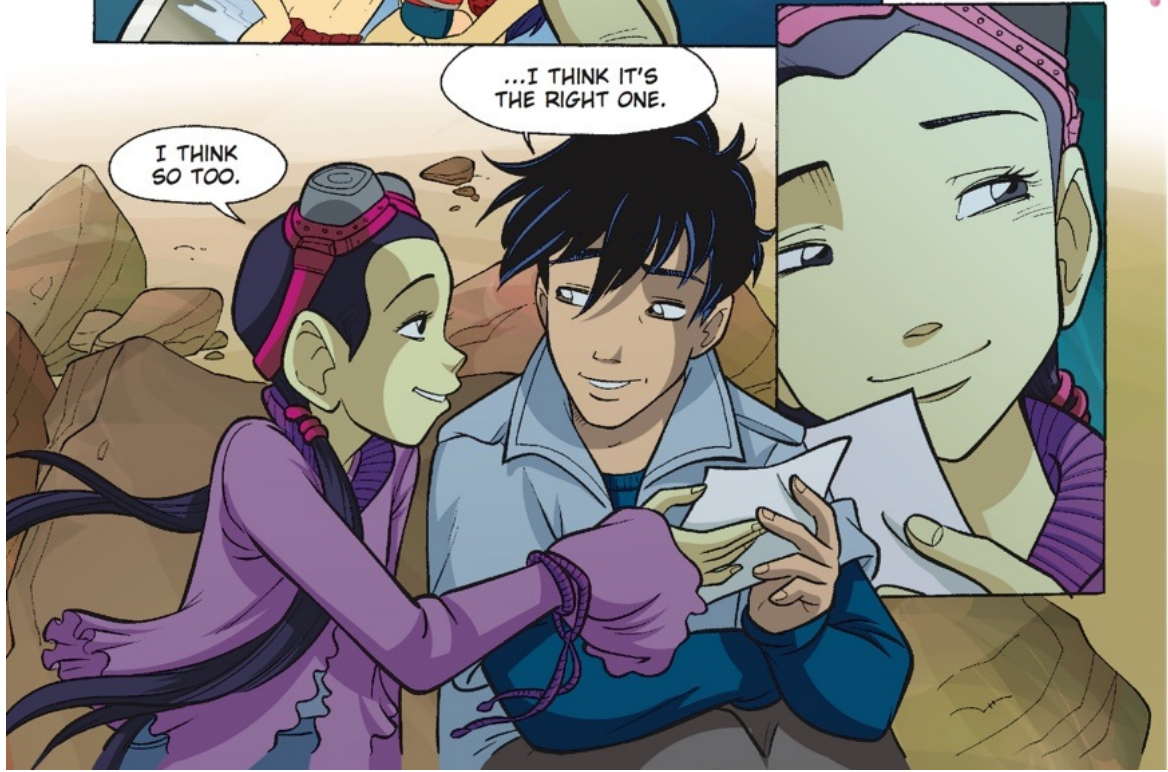
*AS SEEN IN CHAPTER 49



SO FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE I WAS LITTLE, WE'LL BE TOGETHER AGAIN... A REAL FAMILY!



IT WASN'T AN EASY CHOICE, BUT...



...I THINK IT'S THE RIGHT ONE.

I THINK SO TOO.



CHARLES AND LOUISE
NEED YOU, AND
YOU NEED THEM...
THAT'S NORMAL!
I WOULD'VE DONE
THE SAME...



WOULD I? IT'S SO HARD TO CUT
LOVE INTO SLICES...AND DECIDE
WHO GETS THE BIGGEST
HELPING.

HEY...I'M
SURE IT'S NOT
THE END OF THE
WORLD!

I MEAN, IT'S ONLY A
FEW HUNDRED MILES
TO HEATHERFIELD! WE CAN
STILL SEE EACH OTHER
SOMETIMES...



...AND WHEN WE
WANT TO FEEL CLOSE,
WE JUST GOTTA LOOK
UP AT THE SKY...

...AND THINK THAT
WE'RE WATCHING THE
SAME STARS!

I KNOW...
THAT WASN'T
VERY CONVINCING,
WAS IT?



I'M GONNA MISS YOU!

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AND SO BLOW THE WINDS OF CHANGE...



SOME DAYS ARE SO DARK, YOU HAVE TO PUT THE LIGHTS ON EARLY IN THE MORNING.

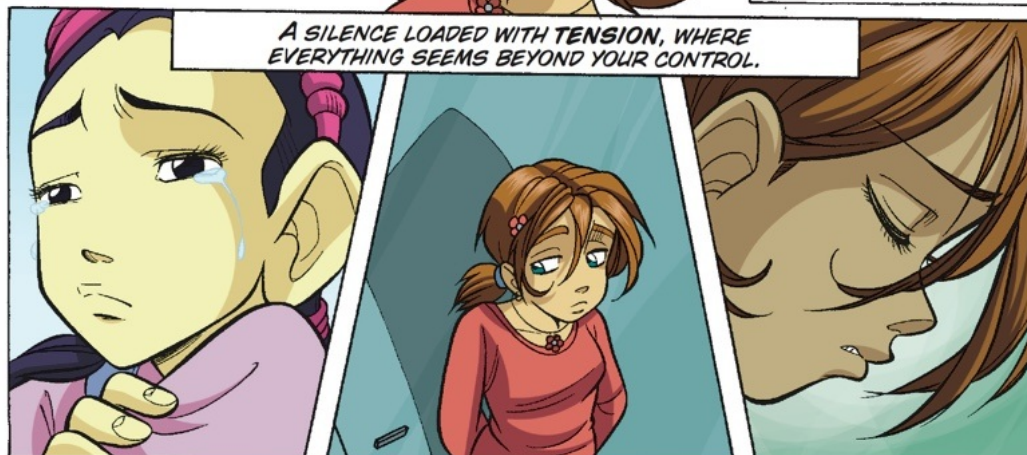
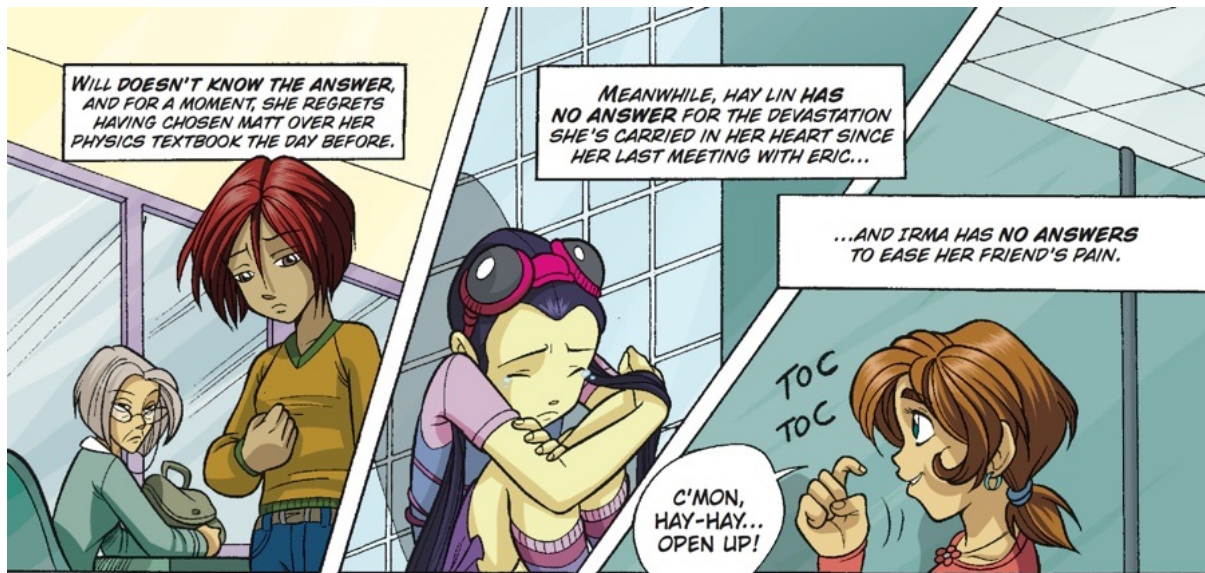
DAYS WHEN THE SKY IS GLOOMY AND THREATENING RAIN...AND YOU CAN ALMOST FEEL THE STORM BREWING INSIDE.

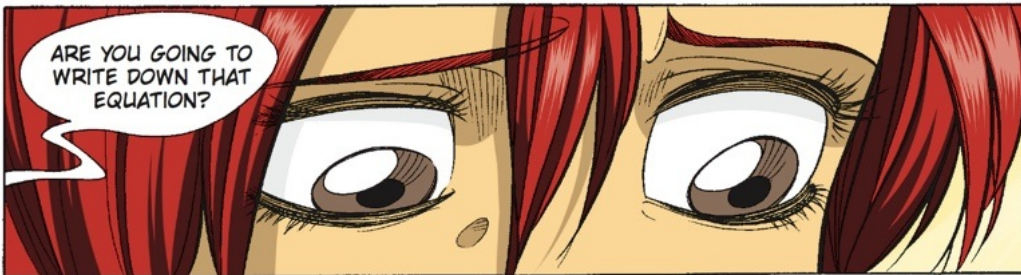
DARK DAYS THAT MAKE EVERYTHING SEEM INSIGNIFICANT.

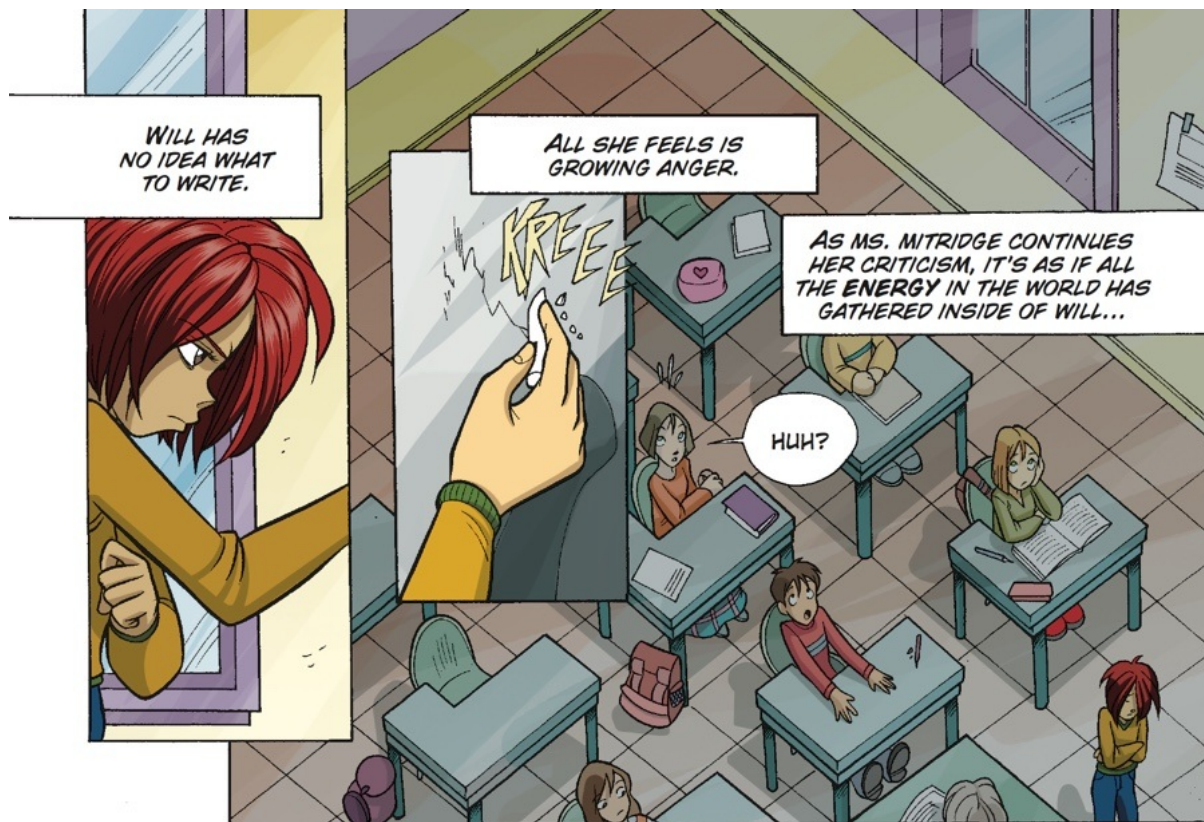
DAYS THAT LEAVE YOU SPEECHLESS, FOR WHATEVER REASON.

TODAY IS ONE OF THOSE DAYS. A DAY WITHOUT ANSWERS.

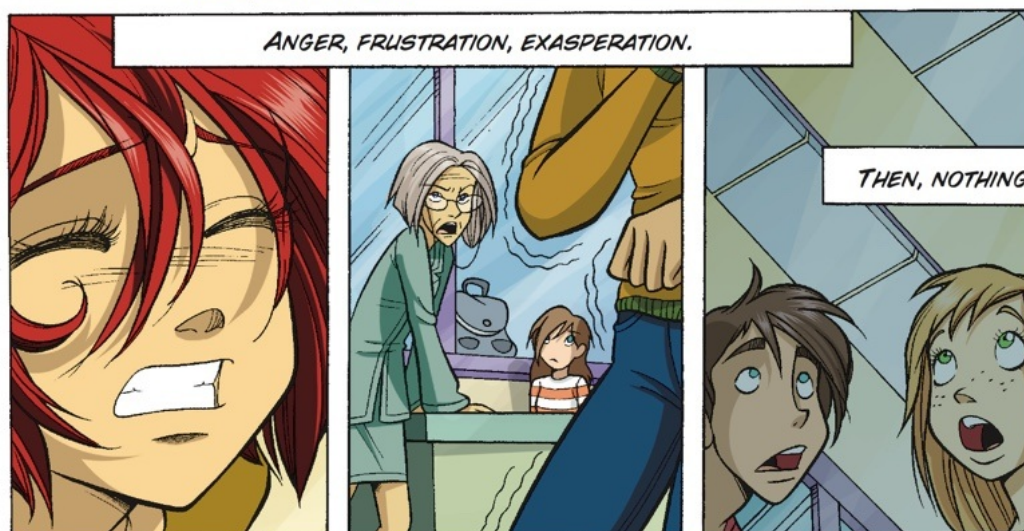
159

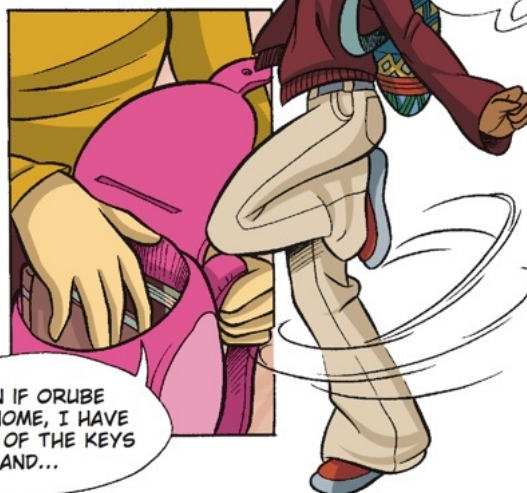
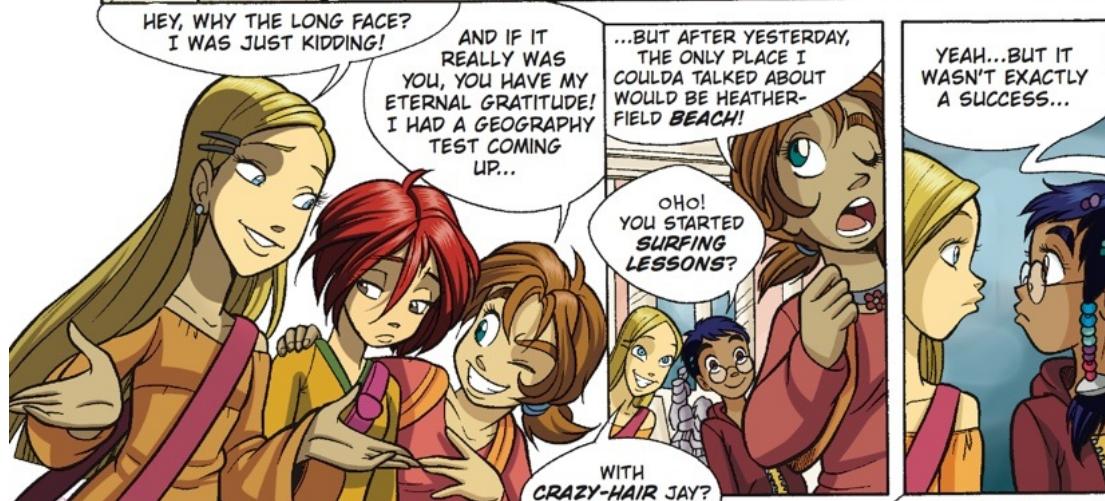






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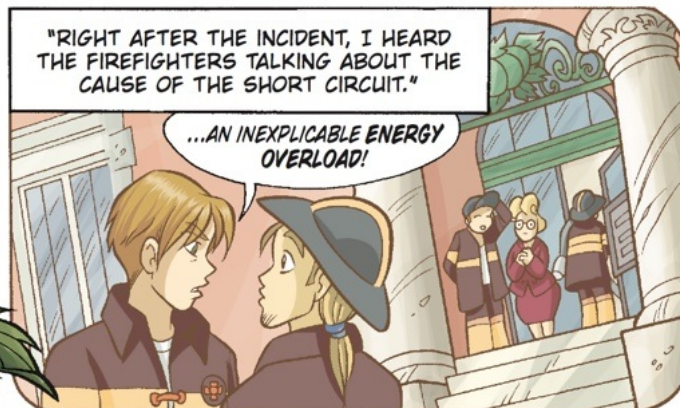
"...I REALLY THINK I'VE GOT SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TELL YOU!"

IT WAS YOU?

WELL, I'M NOT 100% SURE, BUT...



...I'M AFRAID SO...



"RIGHT AFTER THE INCIDENT, I HEARD THE FIREFIGHTERS TALKING ABOUT THE CAUSE OF THE SHORT CIRCUIT."

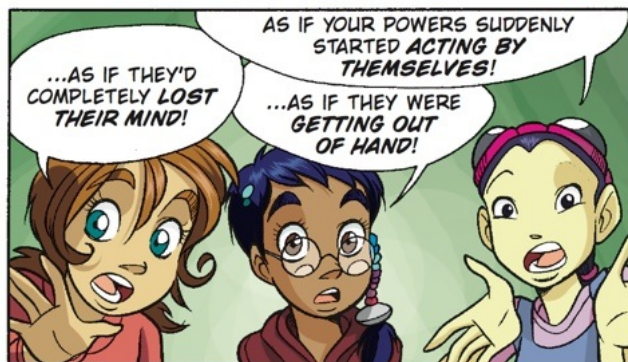
...AN INEXPLICABLE ENERGY OVERLOAD!



SURE, *INEXPLICABLE!* BECAUSE *ONLY* I KNOW ABOUT THAT WAVE OF *HEAT AND ANGER* I FELT INSIDE WHEN I WAS AT THE BLACK-BOARD!



IT WAS ME! BUT IT WAS TOTALLY *INVOLUNTARY!* TOTALLY OUT OF MY CONTROL! AS IF...



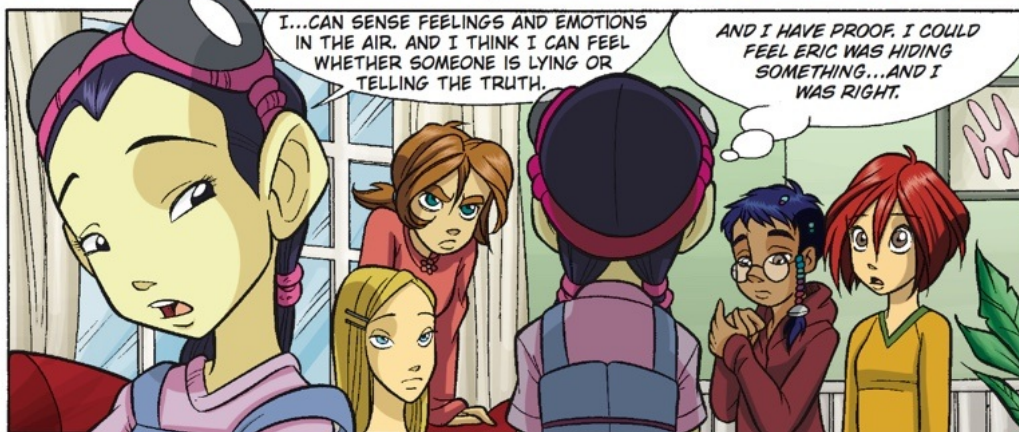
...AS IF THEY'D COMPLETELY *LOST THEIR MIND!*

AS IF YOUR POWERS SUDDENLY STARTED *ACTING BY THEMSELVES!*

...AS IF THEY WERE *GETTING OUT OF HAND!*



PRECISELY! SO YOU UNDERSTAND!

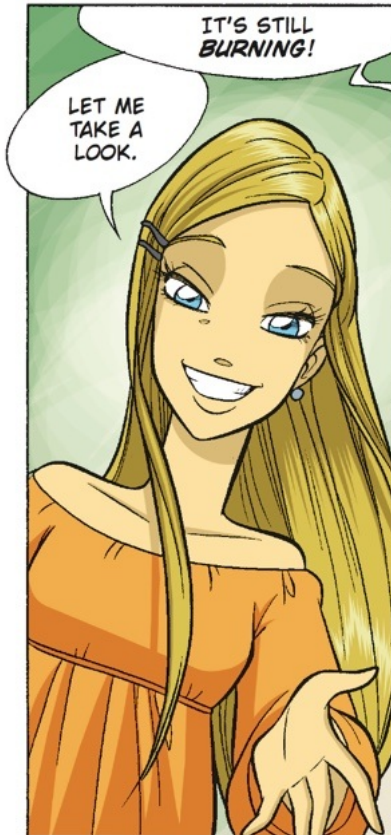




OUCH! LOOKS PAINFUL!

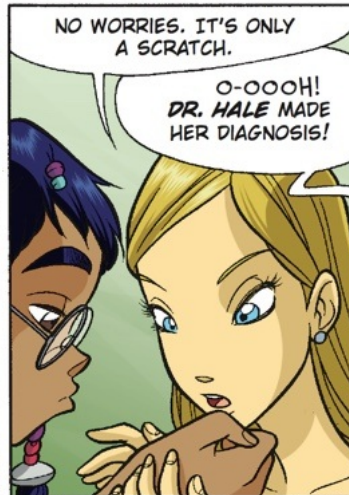
YES, BUT IT DIDN'T HELP MUCH...

IT STILL LOOKS SWOLLEN! DID YOU DISINFECT IT?



IT'S STILL **BURNING!**

LET ME TAKE A LOOK.



NO WORRIES. IT'S ONLY A SCRATCH.

O-O-O-OH! DR. HALE MADE HER DIAGNOSIS!

EVER THOUGHT OF GOING TO MED SCHOOL, CORNY? I CAN TOTALLY SEE YOU PARADING AROUND THE HOSPITAL IN GREEN SCRUBS!



IRMA!



HUH?

SHUSH!



What's she doing?

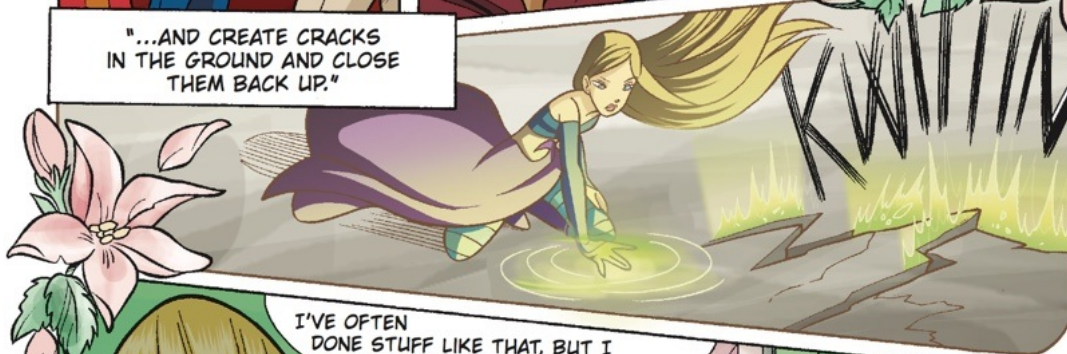
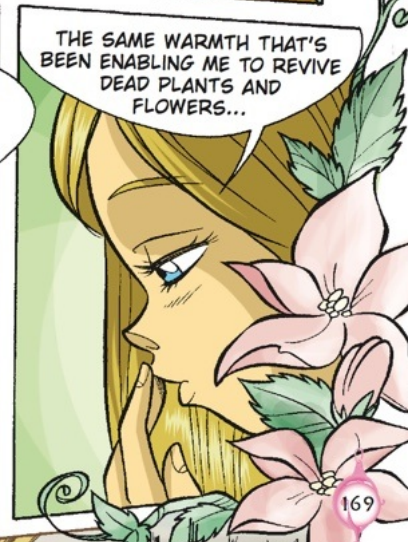
I dunno!



As soon as she touched Taranee's scratch, Cornelia shivered, then she closed her eyes and...

"...SHE HASN'T SAID
ANOTHER WORD!"

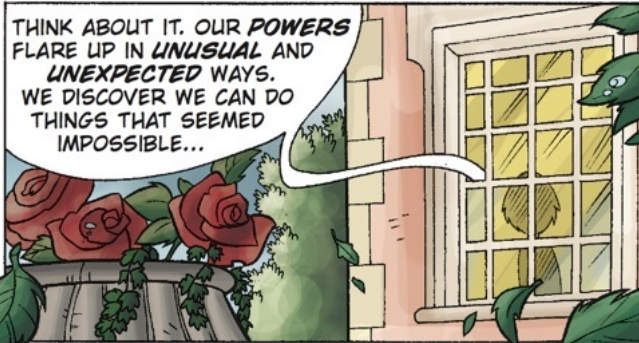




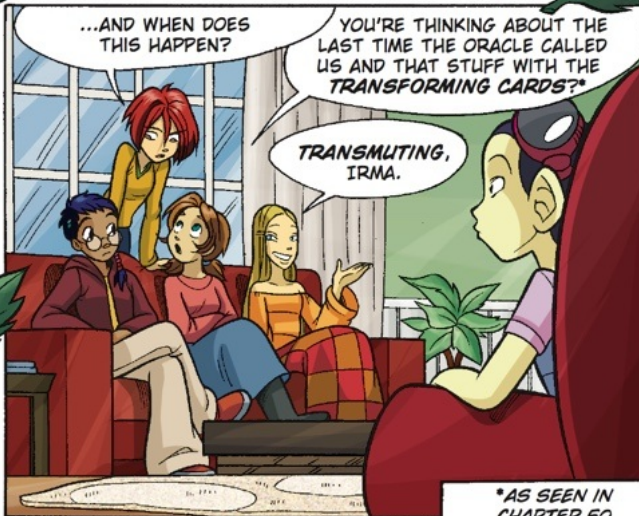


IT'S NOT FUNNY, GUYS! THERE'S SOMETHING WEIRD GOING ON.

I BET THERE'S A HIDDEN MEANING SOMEWHERE.



THINK ABOUT IT. OUR **POWERS** FLARE UP IN **UNUSUAL** AND **UNEXPECTED** WAYS. WE DISCOVER WE CAN DO THINGS THAT SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE...



...AND WHEN DOES THIS HAPPEN?

YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT THE LAST TIME THE ORACLE CALLED US AND THAT STUFF WITH THE **TRANSFORMING CARDS**?

TRANSMUTING, IRMA.

*AS SEEN IN CHAPTER 50

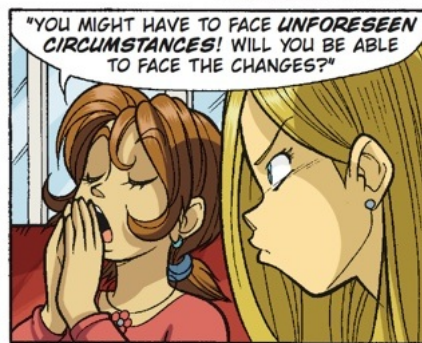


THE CARDS GIVE THE ELEMENTS A VOICE. THEY RARELY SPEAK, BUT WHEN THEY DO, IT MEANS BIG CHANGES ARE COMING.



PRECISELY. AND REMEMBER WHAT THE ORACLE SAID?

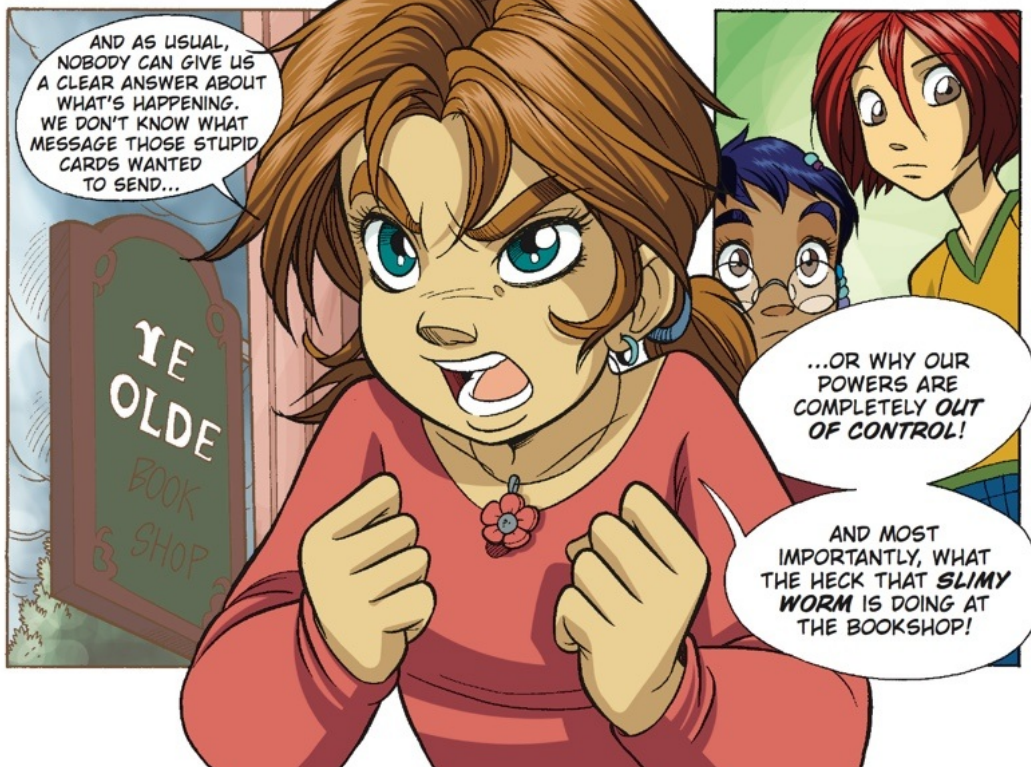
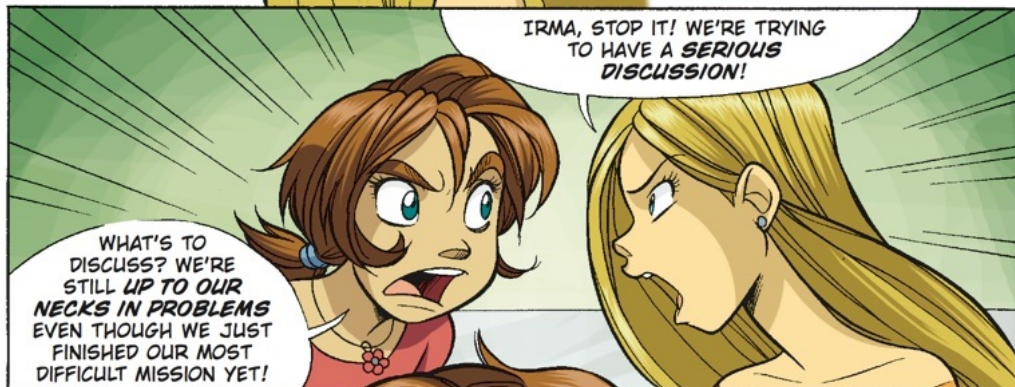
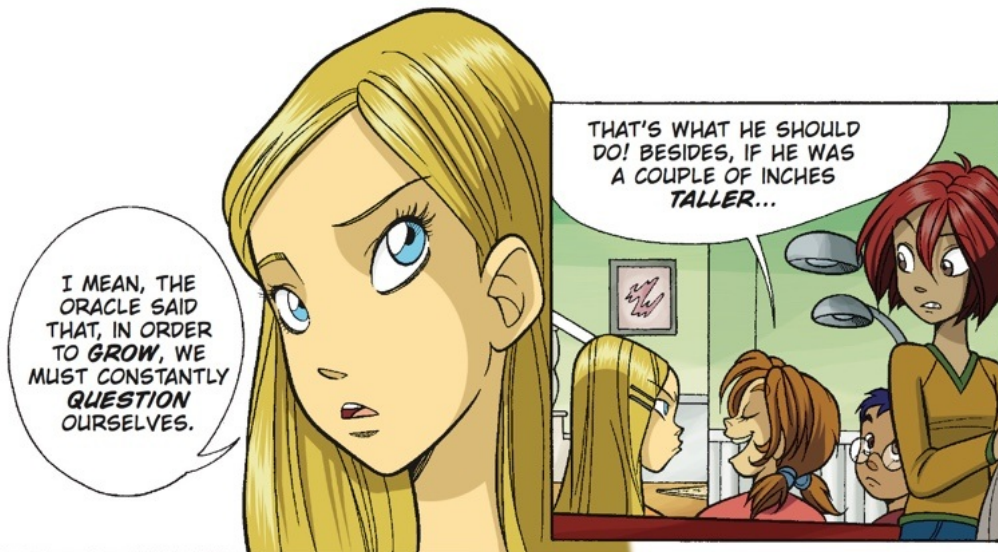
HMPH! BALDY'S ALWAYS SO **DRAMATIC**!

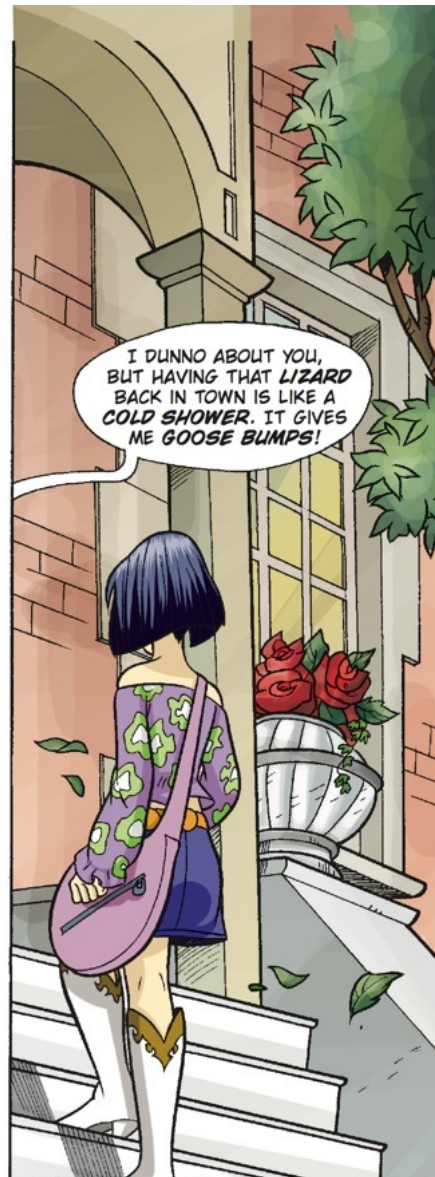


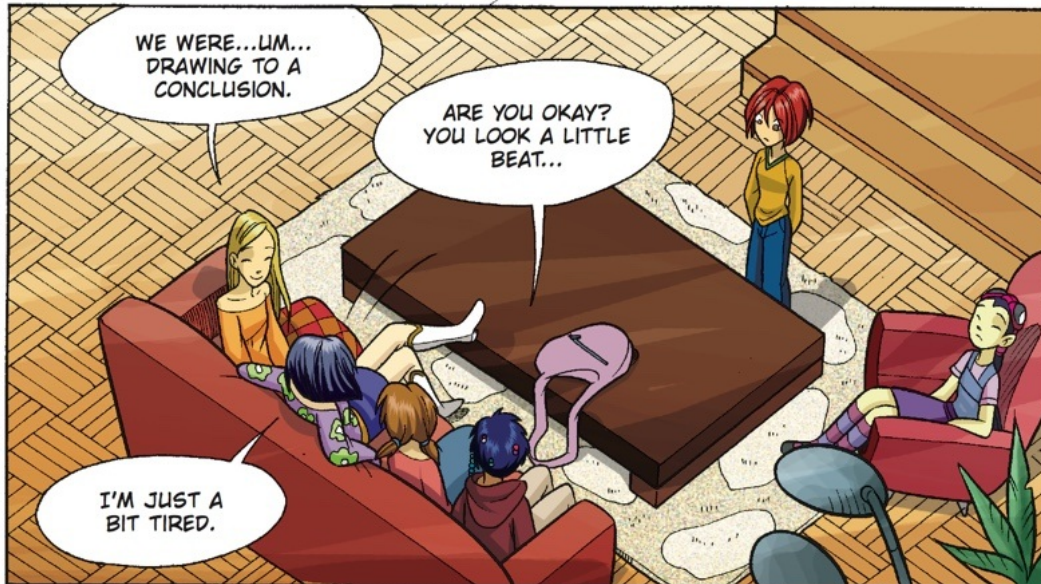
"YOU MIGHT HAVE TO FACE **UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES**! WILL YOU BE ABLE TO FACE THE CHANGES?"

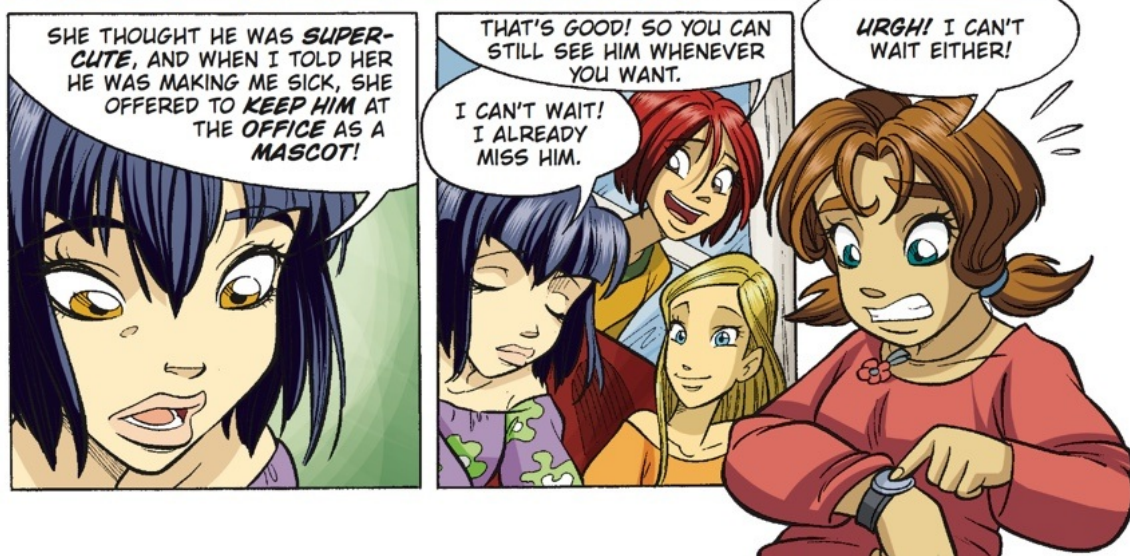
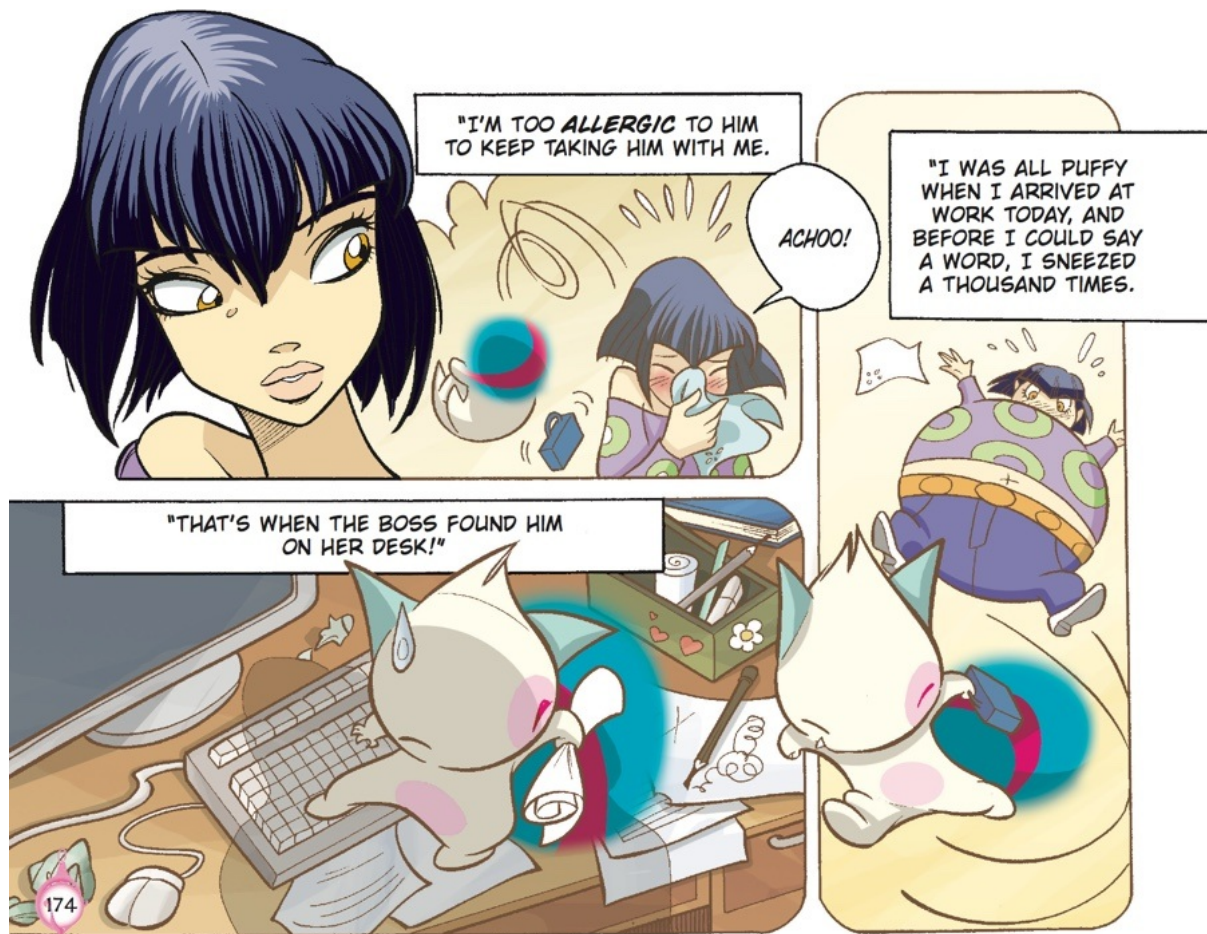


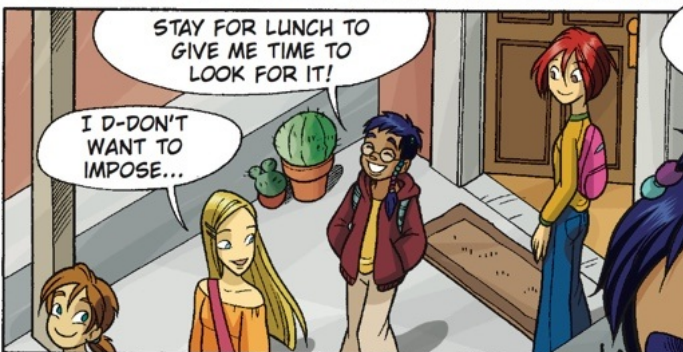
WHAT IF THE **ELEMENTS** ARE...**TESTING US**?













I TALKED TO
COLLINS, AND
IF YOU'RE STILL
INTERESTED, HE'D
BE HAPPY TO TELL
YOU EVERYTHING
HE KNOWS ABOUT
THE HISTORY OF
HEATHERFIELD!

FANTASTIC!

THEN I'LL BE WAITING
FOR YOU THIS
AFTERNOON.



AND YOU, HAY-HAY?
WHAT ARE YOUR
PLANS FOR
TODAY?



I DUNNO...
NOTHING...
GUESS I'LL
STAY HOME.



WHY NOT COME TO MY
PLACE? WE CAN WATCH A MOVIE
WHILE ORUBE AND COLLINS
TALK ABOUT HISTORY!

REALLY?
I'D LOVE TO!

IT'S JUST...I DON'T FEEL
LIKE BEING ALONE TODAY
WHILE ERIC IS BUSY
PACKING.

LISTEN TO
AUNTIE IRMA...
YOU MADE THE RIGHT
CHOICE!



"WILL'S MOM'S COOKIES WOULD MAKE EVEN A **WEeping** **WILLOW** SMILE!"

HERE YOU GO!
EXACTLY WHAT WE
NEED TO CHEER US UP
ON SUCH A GRAY DAY.

THE **SWEETEST**
MAGIC!

MMM...THANKS,
MOM!

NOW I'LL LEAVE YOU TO
YOUR EXTRACURRICULAR
HISTORY LESSON!

YOU MEAN LEAVE **THEM**. HAY
LIN AND I HAVE OTHER
PLANS!

YEAH! I WAS THINKING
OF **DRAWING**
SOMETHING FOR
ERIC...

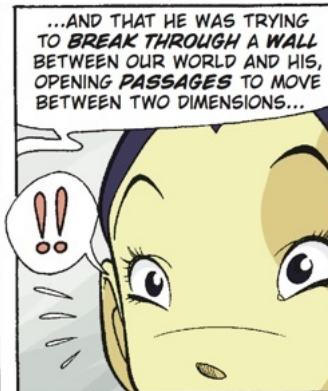
...and between us, we're
sick of lessons!

OKAY.
THEN ONLY **REBECCA** WILL
HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF
HEARING THE RIVETING
TALE OF **JONATHAN**
LUDMOORE...

...AND HIS MYSTERIOUS **BOOK**
OF ELEMENTS!

BOOK OF
ELEMENTS?

THAT'S RIGHT! AN ANTIQUE
TEXT THAT BECAME **MAGICAL**
AS LUDMOORE WROTE DOWN
HIS DISCOVERIES!





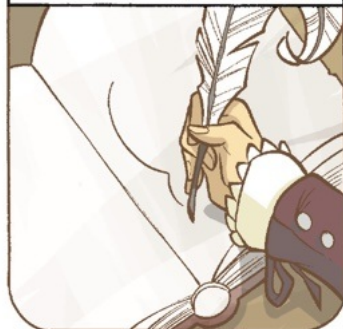


ANYWAY, TWO THINGS ARE CERTAIN ABOUT THIS MYSTERIOUS MAN. ONE, HIS PASSION FOR **MAGIC**...

"...AND HIS RESERVED, ANTISOCIAL CHARACTER, WHICH LED HIM TO RENT A HUGE VILLA OUTSIDE OF TOWN WHERE HE CONDUCTED HIS EXPERIMENTS."



"HE DISCOVERED THAT HEATHERFIELD IS BUILT ON A SPECIAL **INTERSECTION**... A PLACE WHERE **FIVE MYSTICAL ELEMENTAL FORCES** MEET."



"FROM THAT MOMENT, ALL HIS EFFORTS WERE DEVOTED TO THE AMBITIOUS ATTEMPT TO **DOMINATE THE FIVE ELEMENTS**!"



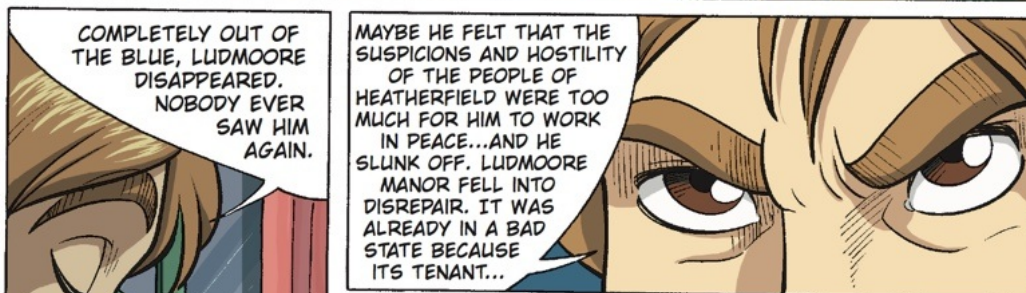
"LUDMOORE WANTED **OMNIPOTENCE**!"

"HE RECORDED HIS PROGRESS DAILY IN A BOOK..."



...THE BOOK OF **ELEMENTS**!

EXACTLY! A SPECIAL VOLUME WHICH, AS I SAID BEFORE, GRADUALLY BECAME MAGICAL AS LUDMOORE NOTED HIS DISCOVERIES. IT BECAME **SENTIENT**, A **MAGICAL CREATURE** IN ITS OWN RIGHT!





THAT'S IT? I WAS
EXPECTING A **TWIST**
IN THE **TALE!**

ALWAYS IMPATIENT,
WILL...HERE'S THE
COOLEST PART...



LEGEND HAS
IT THAT THE NIGHT
LUDMOORE DISAPPEARED,
STRANGE THINGS
HAPPENED AT
THE VILLA...



"UNUSUAL **RAYS OF**
LIGHT, LIKE FIREWORKS
OF FIVE DIFFERENT
COLORS, SHOT UP FROM
THE HOUSE AND FELL
LIKE METEORS AT **FIVE**
DIFFERENT **POINTS**
OF THE CITY.



"ONE IN THE **SEA**,
ONE ON THE NEARBY
MOUNTAIN, ONE IN
THE **SKY!**



"ONE INTO THE GROUND,
REACHING THE **FIERY**
DEPTHS OF THE
EARTH...



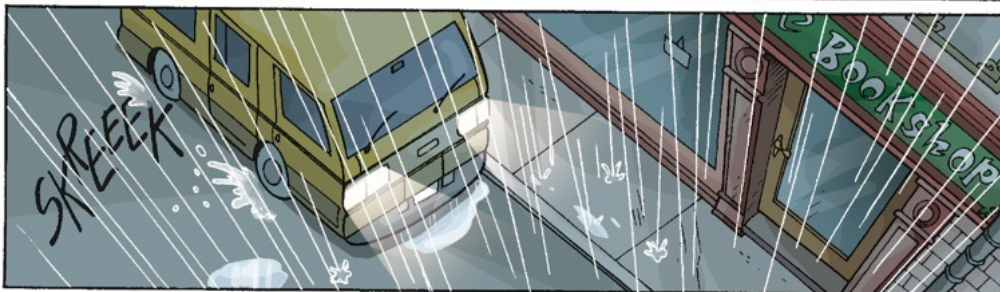
"... AND THE LAST IN A
HUGE FIELD OF **HEATHER**,
THE PLACE WHERE THE
VERY FIRST HOUSES
OF HEATHERFIELD
WERE BUILT."











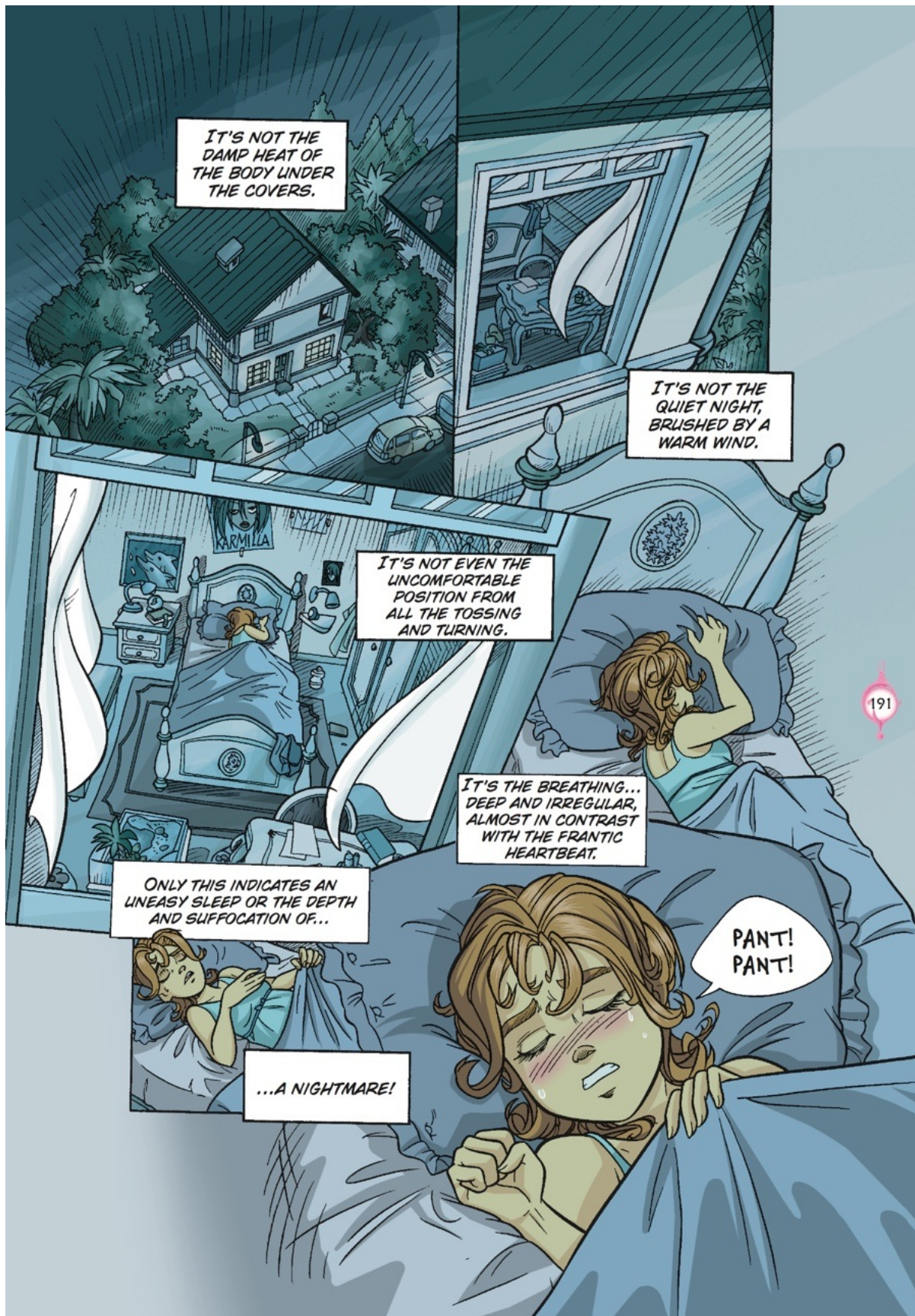




The Book's Eye

"Beautiful and melancholic. It reminds me of the garden of the Murmurers in Meridian..."





IT'S NOT THE
DAMP HEAT OF
THE BODY UNDER
THE COVERS.

IT'S NOT THE
QUIET NIGHT,
BRUSHED BY A
WARM WIND.

IT'S NOT EVEN THE
UNCOMFORTABLE
POSITION FROM
ALL THE TOSSING
AND TURNING.

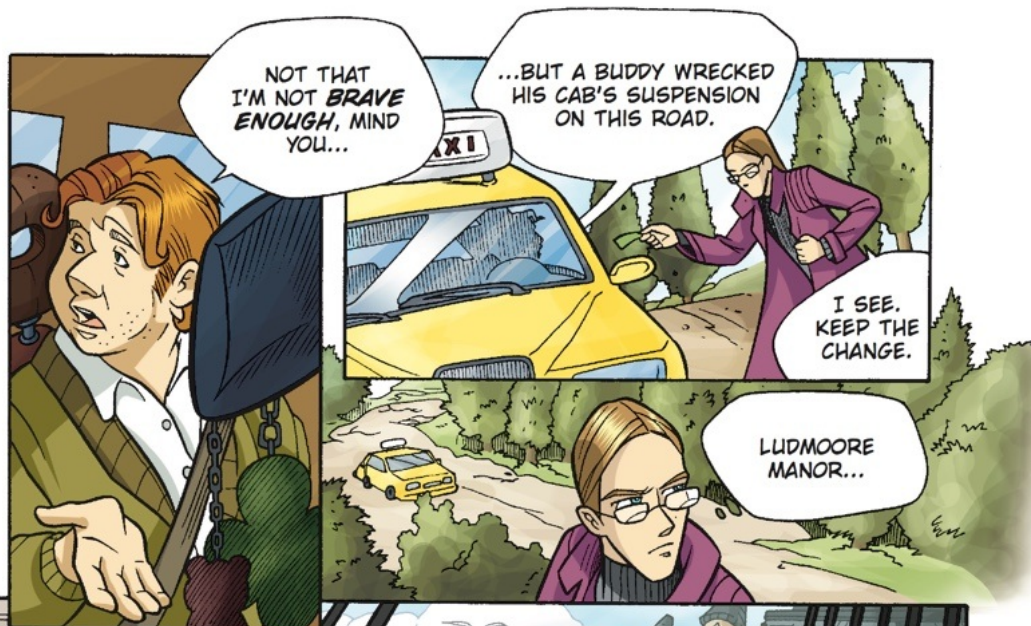
IT'S THE BREATHING...
DEEP AND IRREGULAR,
ALMOST IN CONTRAST
WITH THE FRANTIC
HEARTBEAT.

ONLY THIS INDICATES AN
UNEASY SLEEP OR THE DEPTH
AND SUFFOCATION OF...

...A NIGHTMARE!

PANT!
PANT!

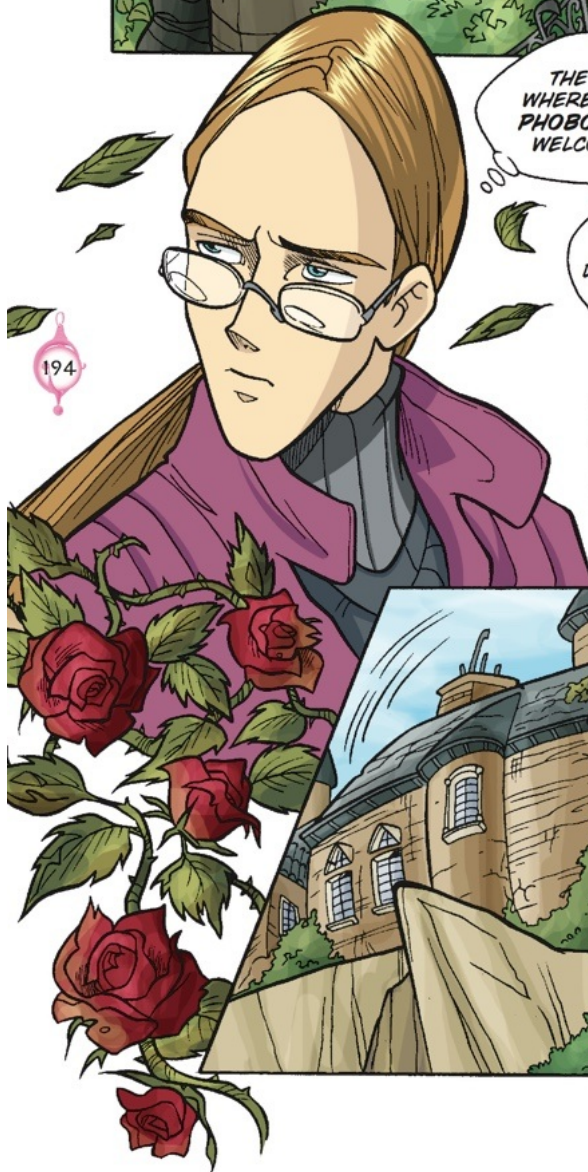






BEAUTIFUL
AND MELANCHOLIC...
IT REMINDS ME OF
THE GARDEN OF THE
MURMURERS IN
MERIDIAN...*

*CHAPTER 4



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THE PLACE
WHERE I HOPED
PHOBOS WOULD
WELCOME ME.

SO MANY
VAIN HOPES!
SO MANY BROKEN
DREAMS! ALL BECAUSE
OF W.I.T.C.H.!

IT'S
THEIR
FAULT
I FIND
MYSELF
TRAPPED IN
A WORLD
I HATE.



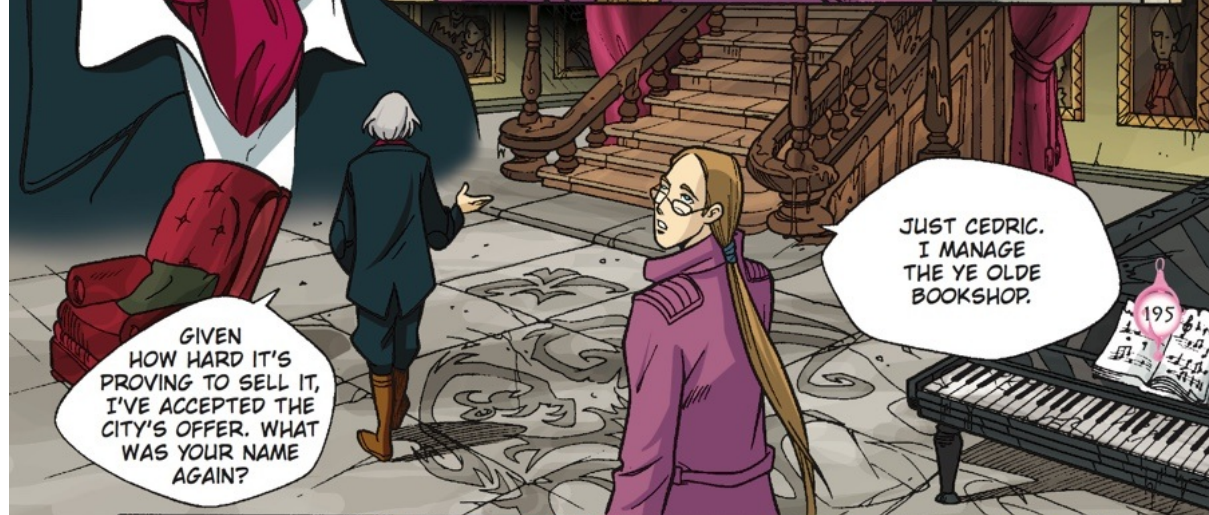
PANT!

CEDRIC IS PLAGUED WITH SIGHS,
BUT TODAY, HE ISN'T ALONE...



PLEASE COME IN...
YES, PEOPLE SAY
YOU CAN HEAR
THE VILLA
SIGH.

ACTUALLY,
THERE ARE MANY
SILLY RUMORS
ABOUT THIS
SINISTER
PLACE.



GIVEN
HOW HARD IT'S
PROVING TO SELL IT,
I'VE ACCEPTED THE
CITY'S OFFER. WHAT
WAS YOUR NAME
AGAIN?

JUST CEDRIC.
I MANAGE
THE YE OLDE
BOOKSHOP.



AH! I'VE HEARD
OF IT FROM
THAT FELLOW IN
PERTHWEST...

A COLLEAGUE. HE
TOLD ME YOU HAVE
SOME INTERESTING
BOOKS TO SELL.

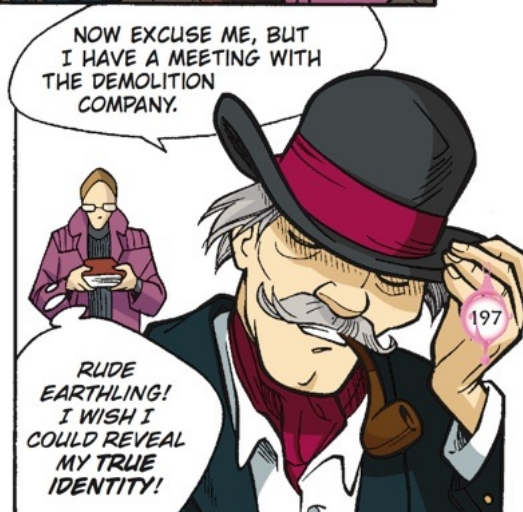


THAT'S RIGHT.
SPEAKING OF SIGHS,
IF YOU DON'T LIKE
DUST, I SUGGEST
HOLDING YOUR
BREATH...



...BECAUSE
WHEN HE WALKED
IN HERE, YOUR
FRIEND ALMOST
CHOKED!

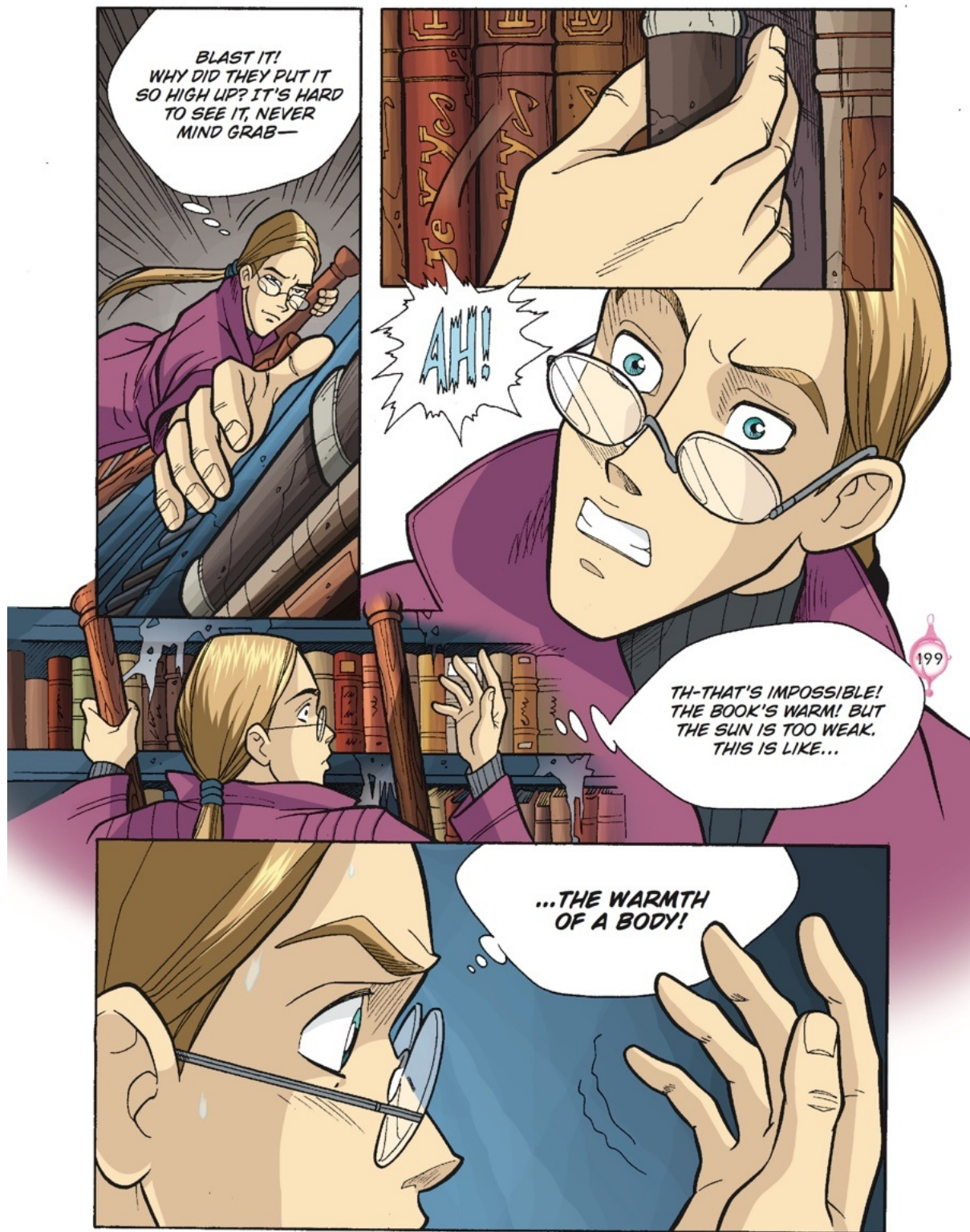


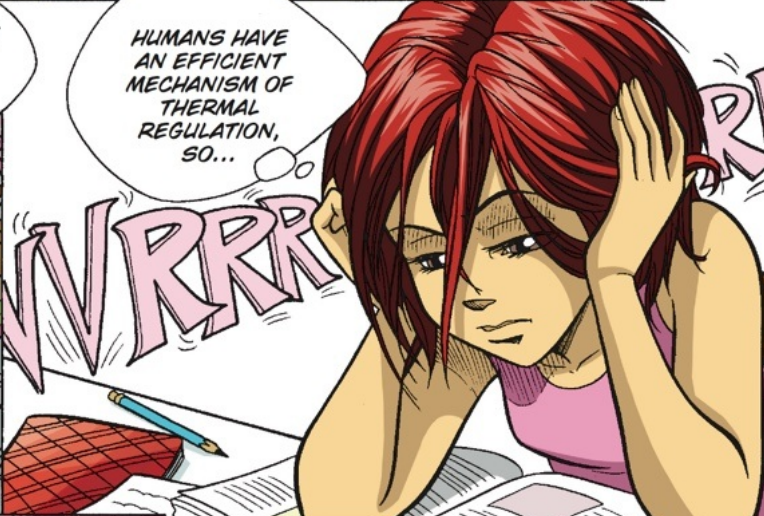
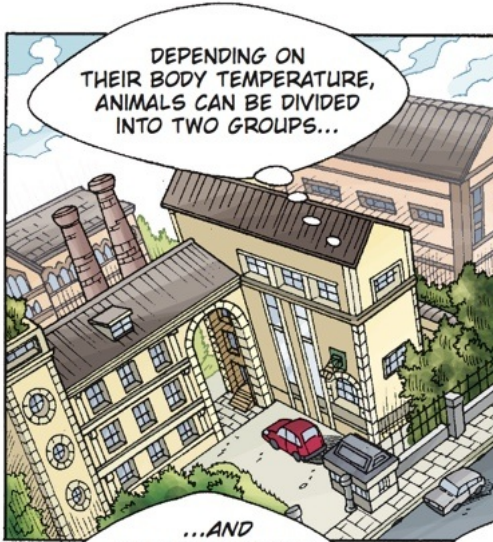


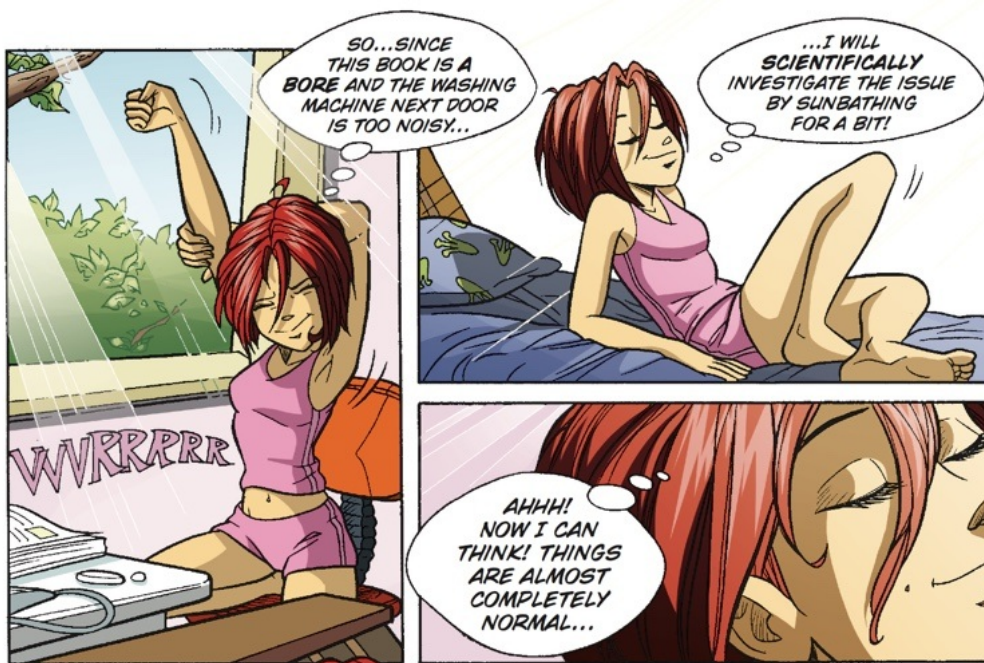


...SHINING ON A SINGLE BOOK?







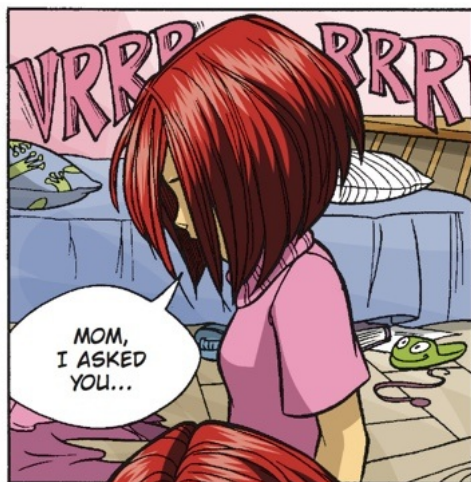


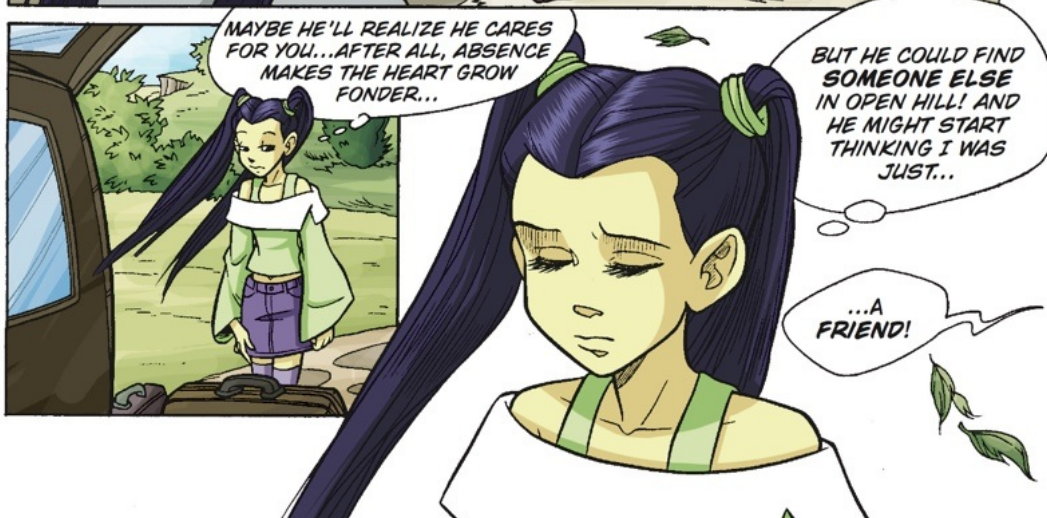
*AS SEEN IN
W.I.T.C.H. CHAPTER 5!

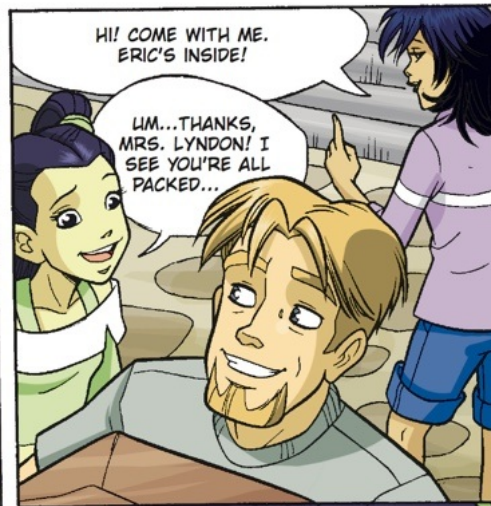






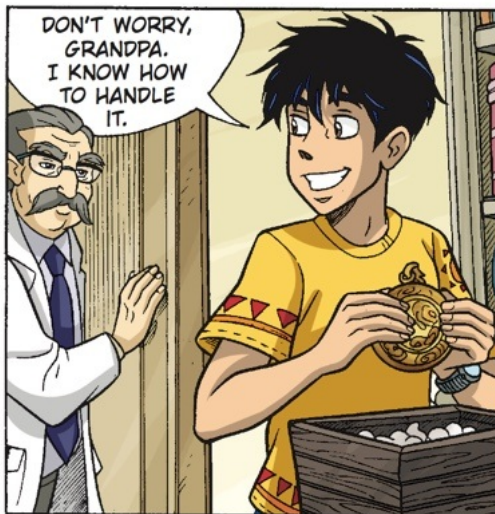


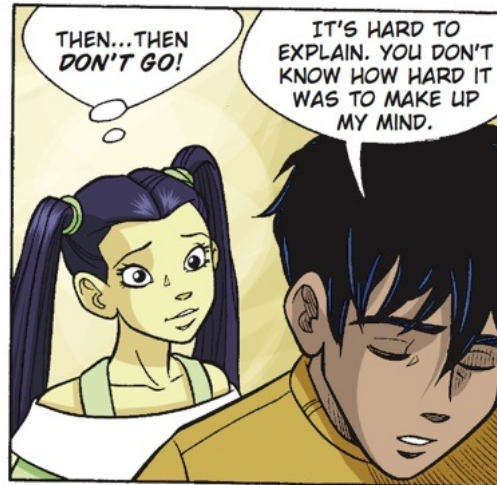
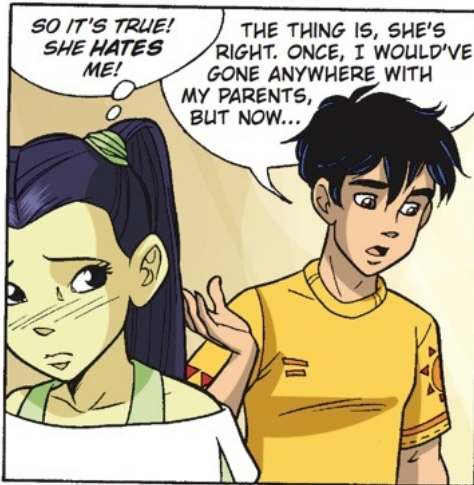


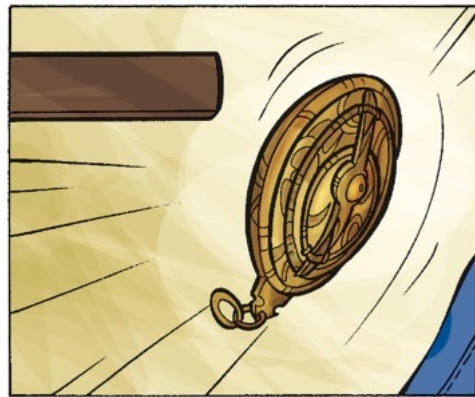


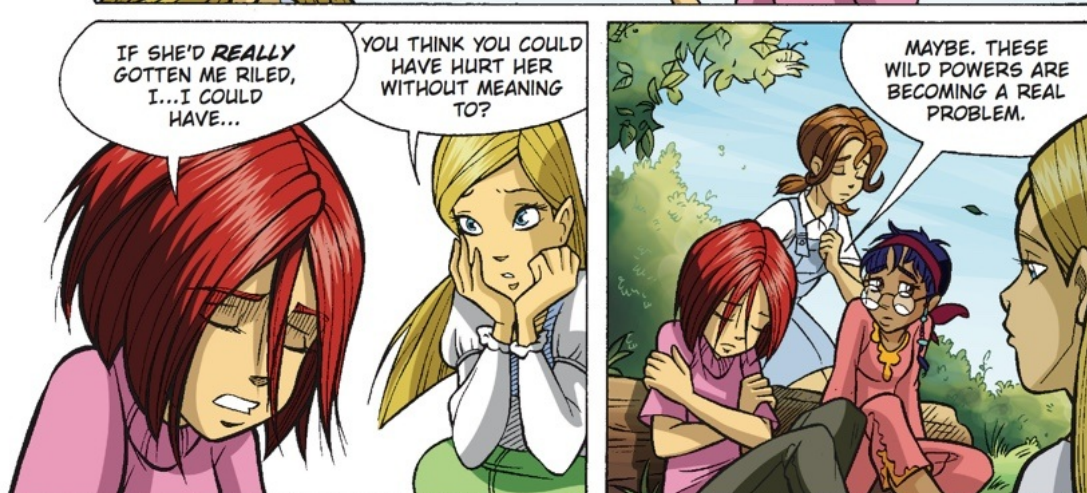
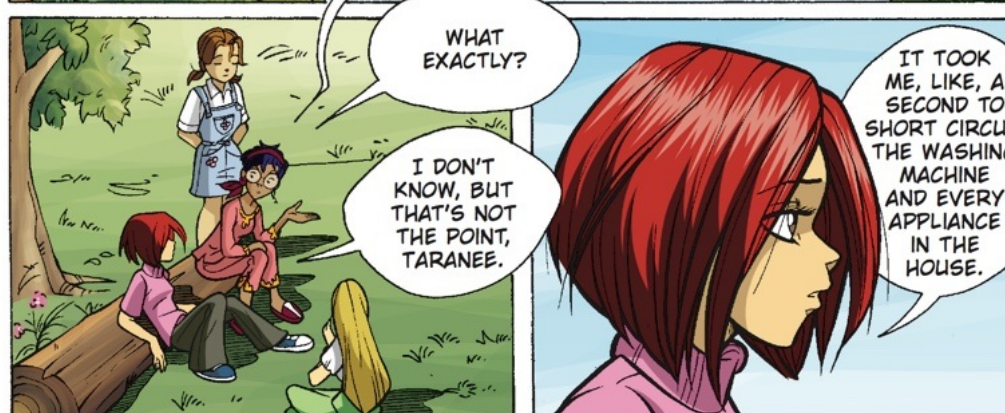
*CHAPTERS 44 AND 45

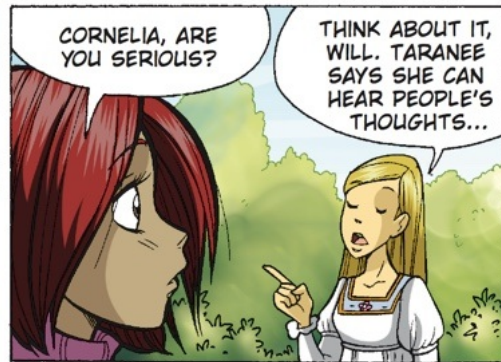


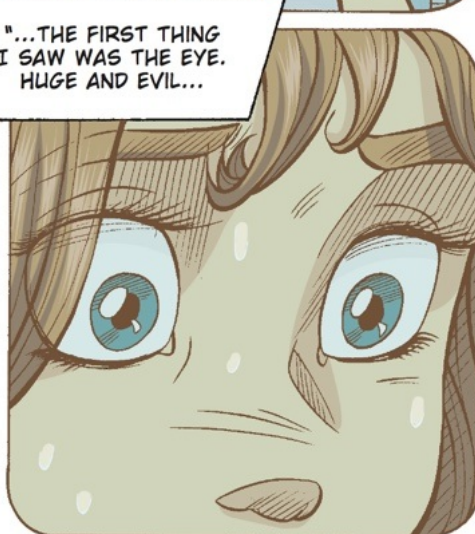














"...IT WAS FLYING OVER A SURREAL PLACE, A KIND OF CITY FULL OF OBJECTS. IT WAS LOOKING FOR SOMETHING... OR *SOMEONE!*"



"THEN IT DOVE DOWN! IT ATTACKED ONE OF THOSE OBJECTS..."



"...SNATCHING IT BETWEEN ITS IMMENSE BLACK WINGS."

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A... GUITAR?

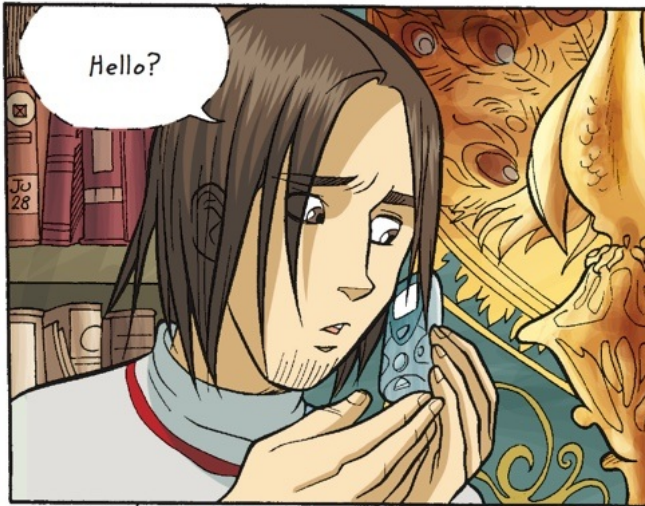


PFFT!

WHAT'S SO FUNNY? YOU THINK SO, BUT IT LEFT ME WITH A TERRIBLE FEELING!



A GUITAR!



Hello?



Yes, of course I'm okay! What's going on? I...



Sorry, I can't talk right now. I'm checking some books. I'll call you later, okay?

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SO?

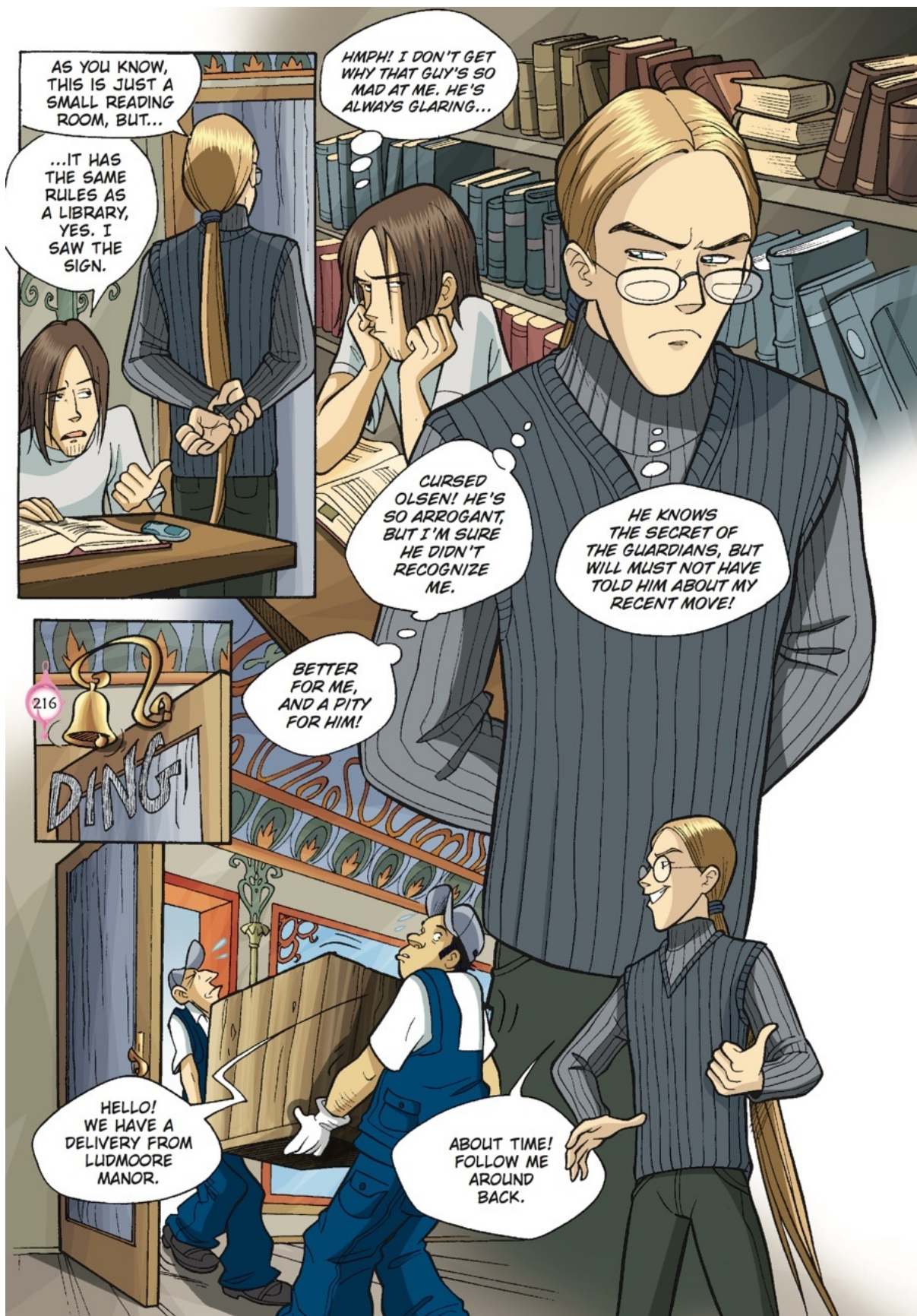
I SOUNDED RIDICULOUS AS USUAL!



AS IF NIGHTMARES WEREN'T ENOUGH, NOW WE HAVE **FORTUNE-TELLING SINKS** TOO!

I'M SORRY! BUT I NEVER SAID MATT'S NAME!





AS YOU KNOW, THIS IS JUST A SMALL READING ROOM, BUT...

...IT HAS THE SAME RULES AS A LIBRARY, YES. I SAW THE SIGN.

HMPH! I DON'T GET WHY THAT GUY'S SO MAD AT ME. HE'S ALWAYS GLARING...

CURSED OLSEN! HE'S SO ARROGANT, BUT I'M SURE HE DIDN'T RECOGNIZE ME.

HE KNOWS THE SECRET OF THE GUARDIANS, BUT WILL MUST NOT HAVE TOLD HIM ABOUT MY RECENT MOVE!

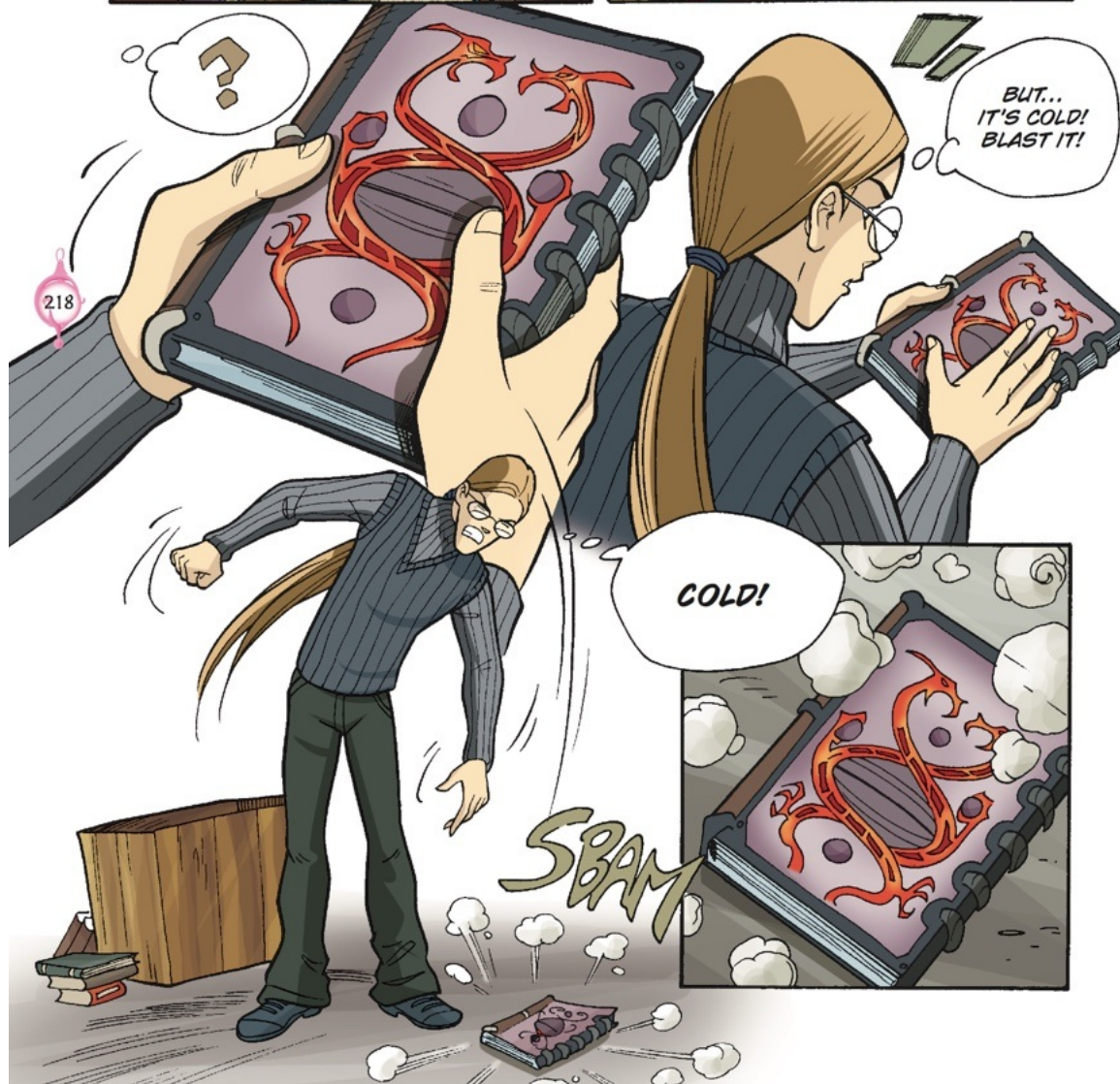
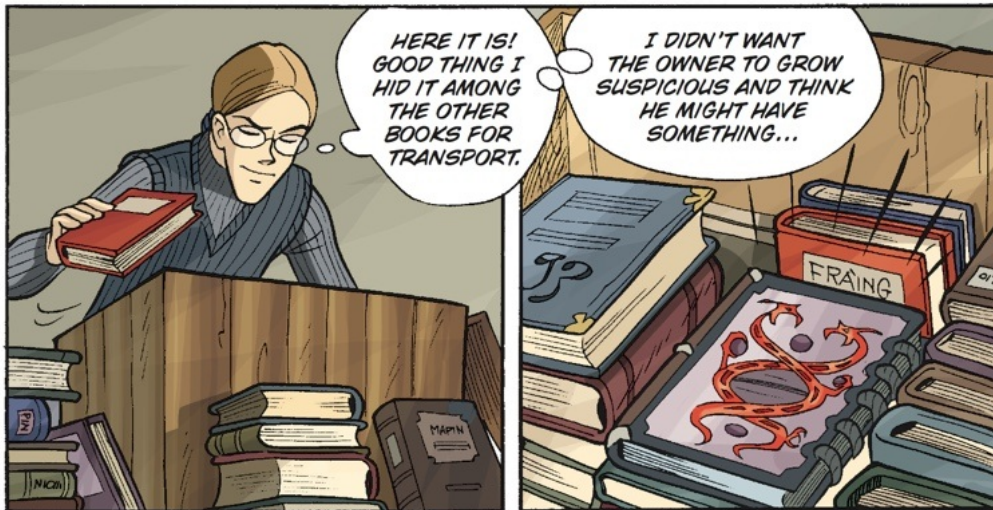
BETTER FOR ME, AND A PITY FOR HIM!

216

HELLO! WE HAVE A DELIVERY FROM LUDMOORE MANOR.

ABOUT TIME! FOLLOW ME AROUND BACK.







FOR
A MOMENT
I THOUGHT...
I HOPED...

WHAT WAS
I THINKING?
HOW COULD I
BELIEVE IT MIGHT
BE SOMETHING
DIFFERENT?

ONCE, I
WAS THE KING
OF ILLUSIONS,
AND NOW...NOW
I'M BLINDED
BY THEM!

EVEN THIS OLD
WALL...I LEFT IT
AS IT WAS, HOPING
THAT SOMEDAY IT
COULD ONCE AGAIN
BECOME...

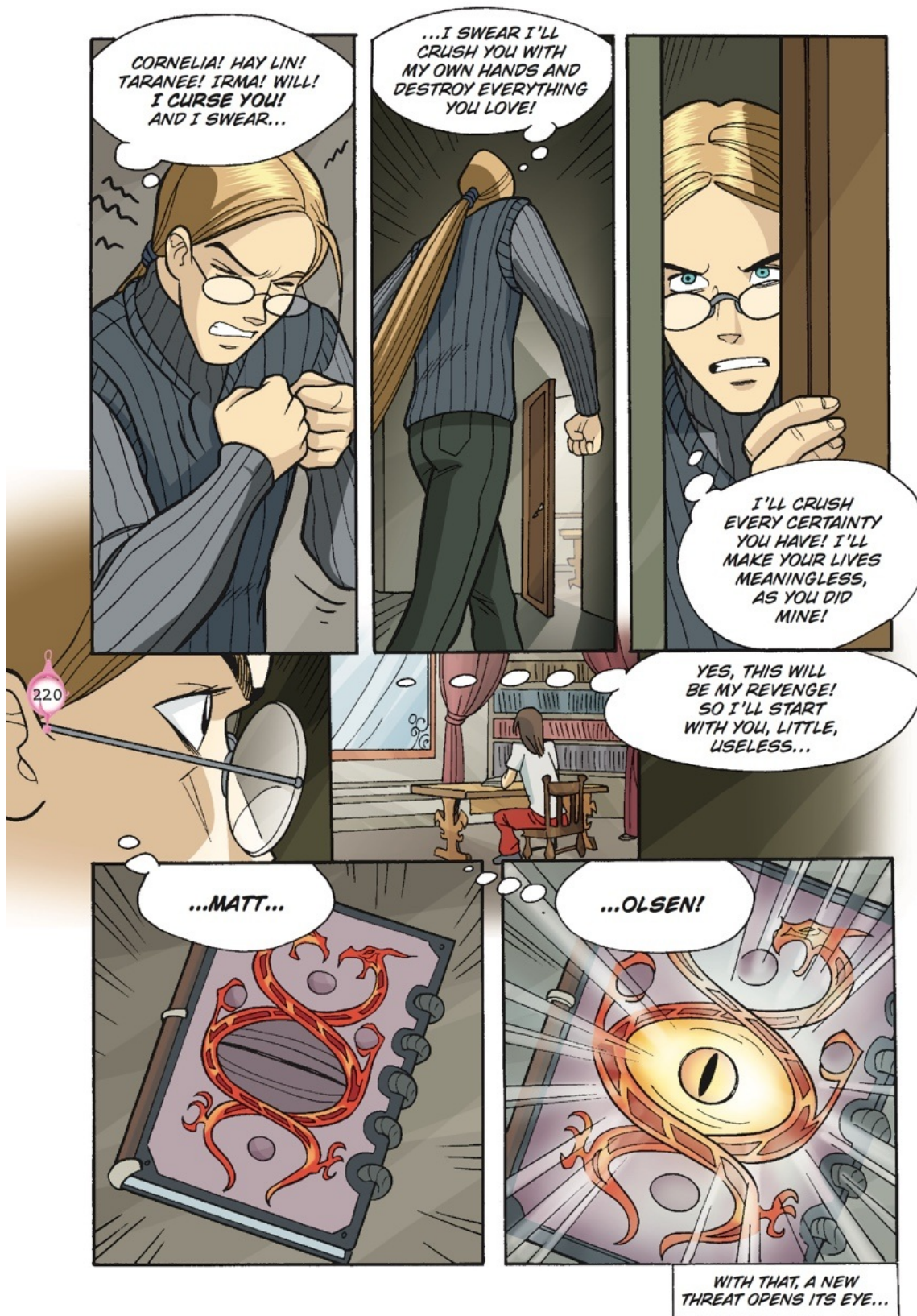
...AN
INTERDIMENSIONAL
PASSAGE TO
MERIDIAN! A DOOR
TO TAKE ME...

...HOME!

FRUUMP

TUMP

SBAM











OTHER DOUBTS, ANOTHER SCENARIO.
AT YE OLDE BOOKSHOP.

WE'RE
CLOSED!

I KNOW
WE'RE USUALLY
OPEN ON SUNDAY
MORNING, BUT WE GOT
SOME NEW BOOKS AND
ARE CLOSED...

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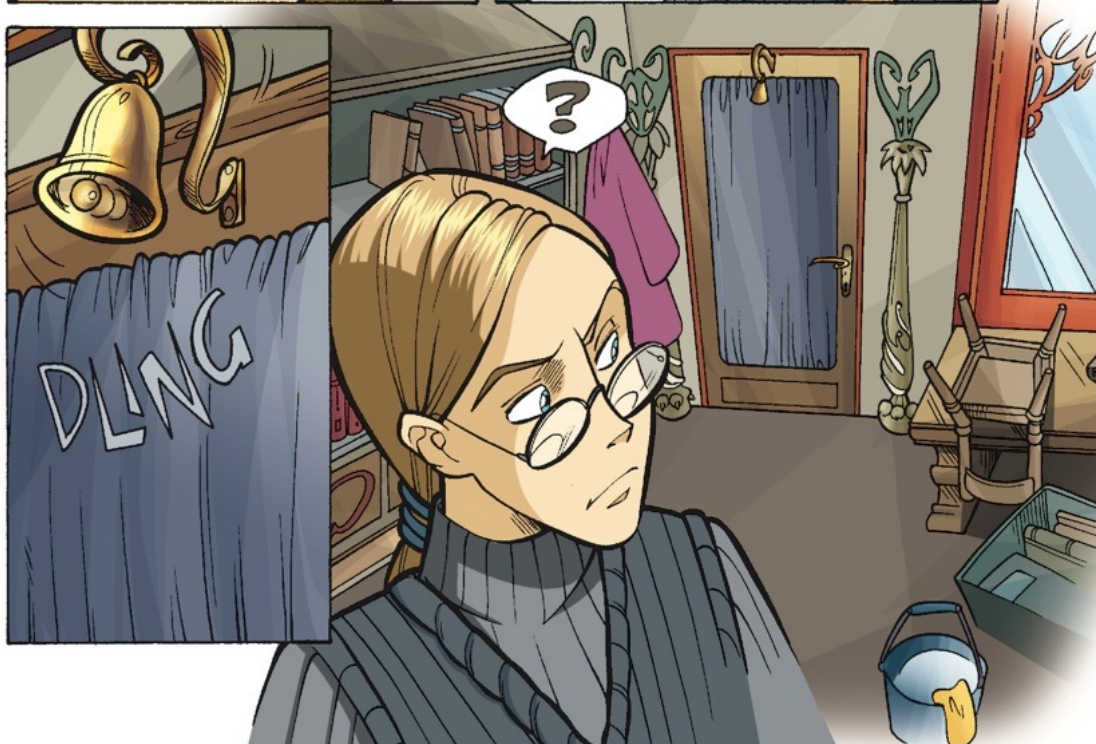
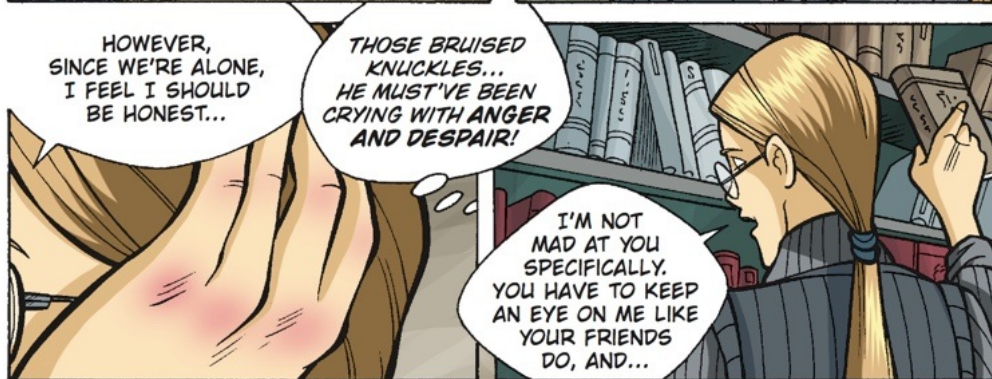
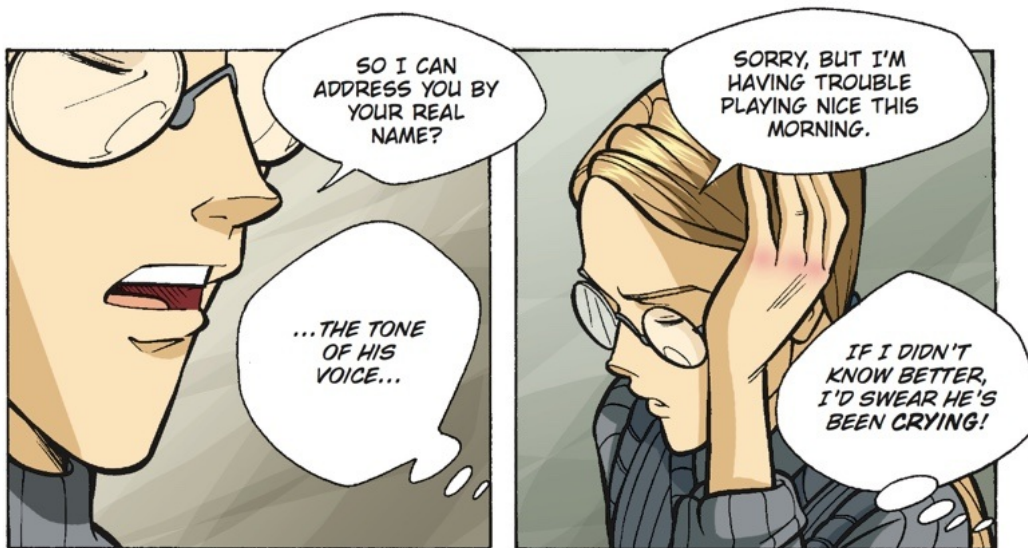
...FOR
INVENTORY.

HMM...GOOD. I WISH
I COULD SAY I'M GLAD TO
SEE YOU, MISS REBECCA...
WHAT WAS IT?
RUDOLPH?

ORUBE.

ORUBE! OF COURSE.
AFTER ALL, I HAVE
NO CUSTOMERS
TODAY...

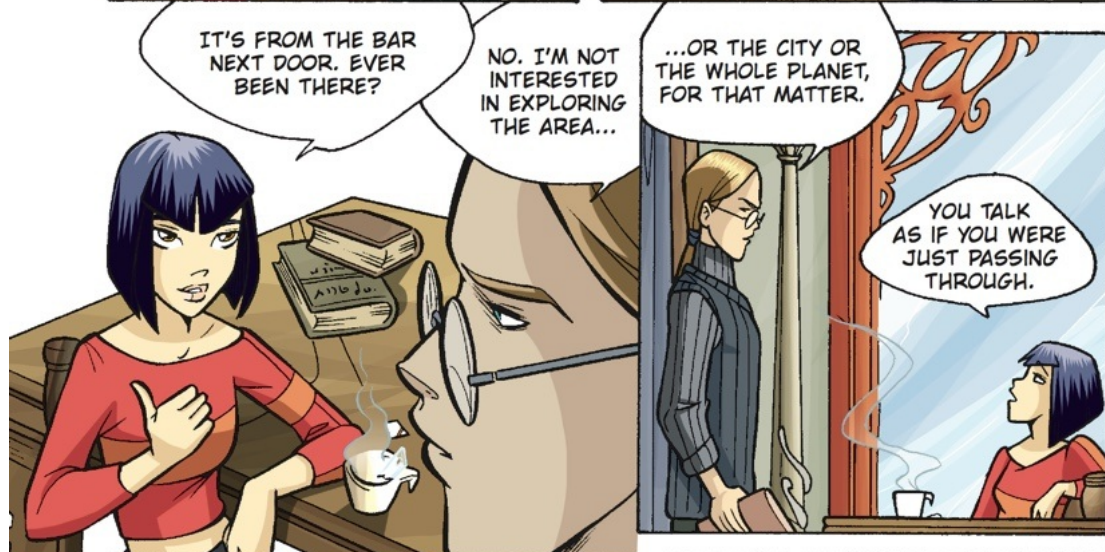
HIS EYES...



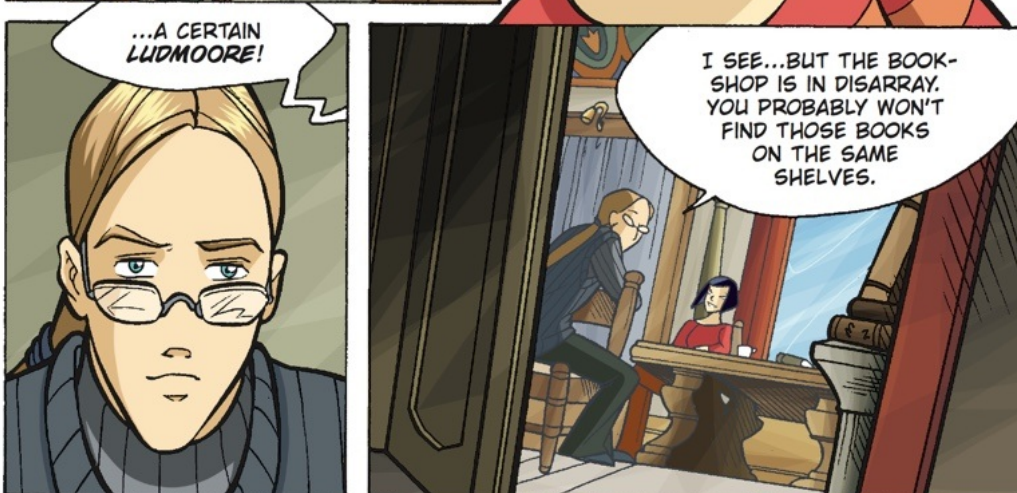


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HOW ABOUT THIS.
LET ME RETURN THE
FAVOR OF THE
CAPPUCCINO
...



...AND I'LL MAKE TIME TO
LOOK FOR THE BOOKS
YOU WANT AND SET
THEM ASIDE. OKAY?

OKAY!



LADIES FIRST. THE ONLY
THING I APPRECIATE
ABOUT HUMANS IS
POLITENESS.

ABOUT HUMANS
FROM WHICH
CENTURY?

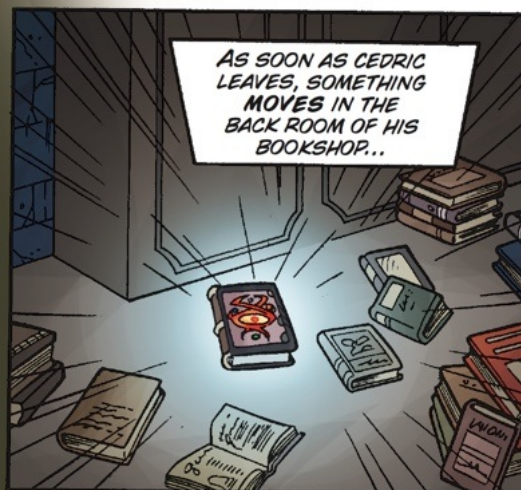


FAIR POINT. BUT SPEAKING
OF THE PAST, TELL ME
ABOUT THIS...WHAT
DID YOU CALL HIM?

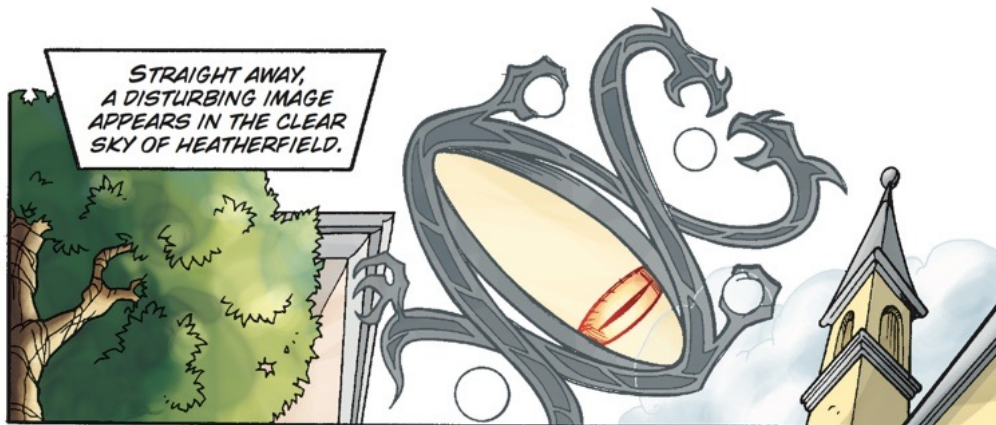
LUDMOORE...



JONATHAN
LUDMOORE!



AS SOON AS CEDRIC
LEAVES, SOMETHING
MOVES IN THE
BACK ROOM OF HIS
BOOKSHOP...



STRAIGHT AWAY,
A DISTURBING IMAGE
APPEARS IN THE CLEAR
SKY OF HEATHERFIELD.



A HUGE EYES LOOMS
OVER THE CITY!
IT OBSERVES.
IT MOVES.

IT'S LOOKING
FOR SOMETHING.
OR MAYBE...



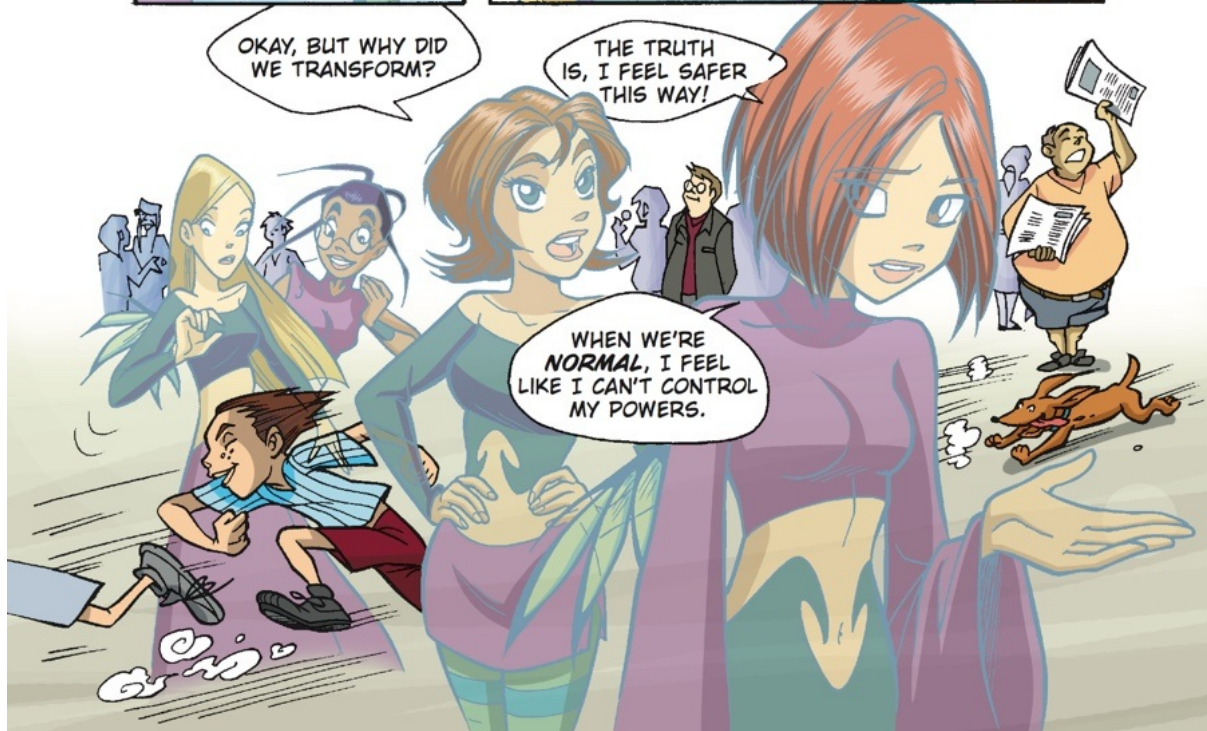
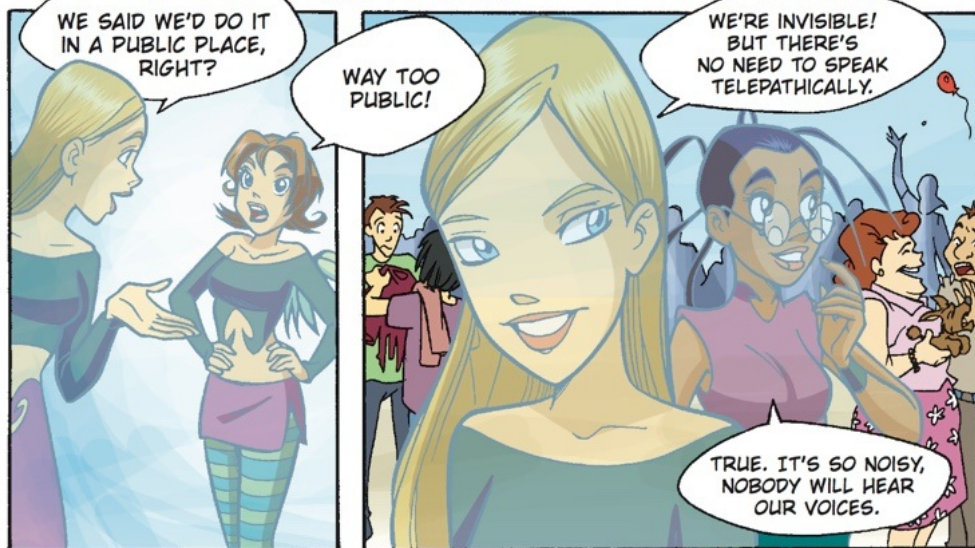
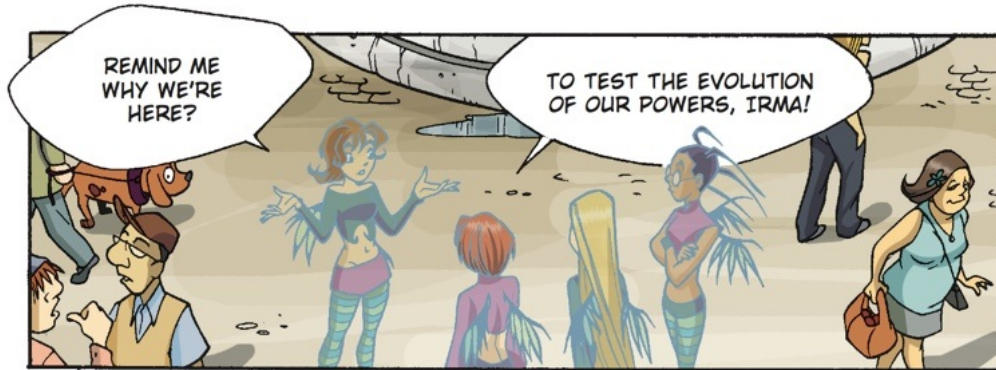
...SOMEONE!

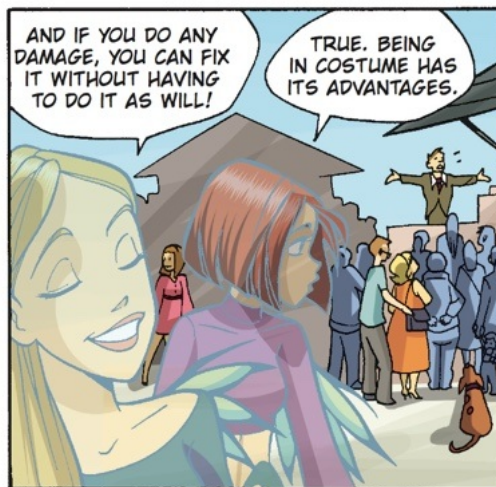


IT WATCHES WITHOUT
BEING SEEN. IT SEES
WHAT OTHERS CANNOT.
AND FINALLY...



...IT NOTICES FOUR
INVISIBLE GIRLS
IN THE CROWDED
SUNDAY MARKET.





AND IF YOU DO ANY DAMAGE, YOU CAN FIX IT WITHOUT HAVING TO DO IT AS WILL!

TRUE. BEING IN COSTUME HAS ITS ADVANTAGES.



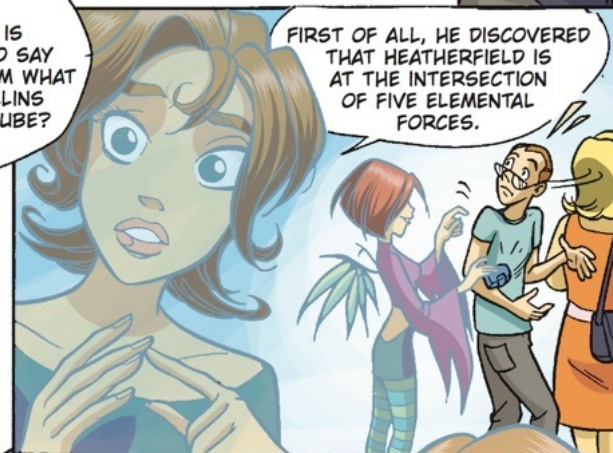
WHY ARE YOU SO GRUMPY, IRMA?



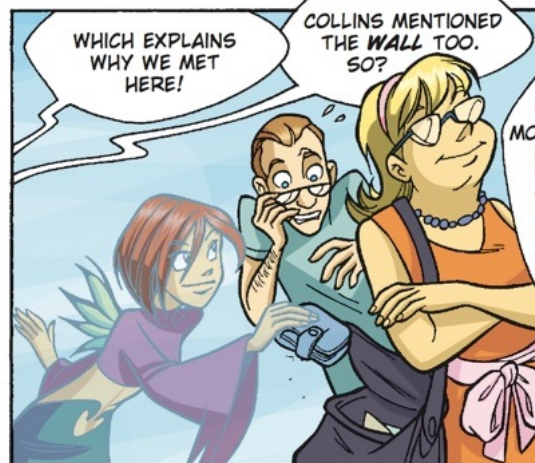
I'M JUST NERVOUS! I KEEP THINKING ABOUT THAT GUY... LUDMOORE!



WHAT IS THERE TO SAY APART FROM WHAT MR. COLLINS TOLD ORUBE?

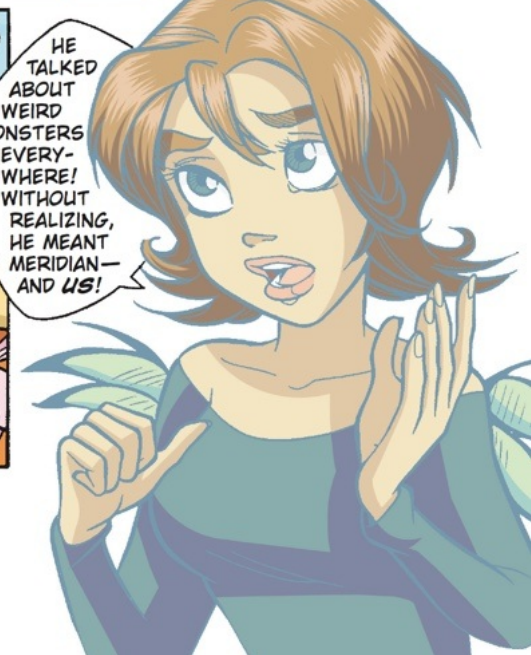


FIRST OF ALL, HE DISCOVERED THAT HEATHERFIELD IS AT THE INTERSECTION OF FIVE ELEMENTAL FORCES.

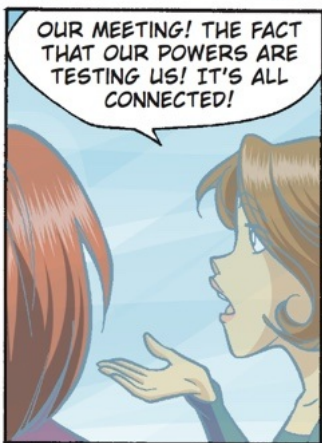


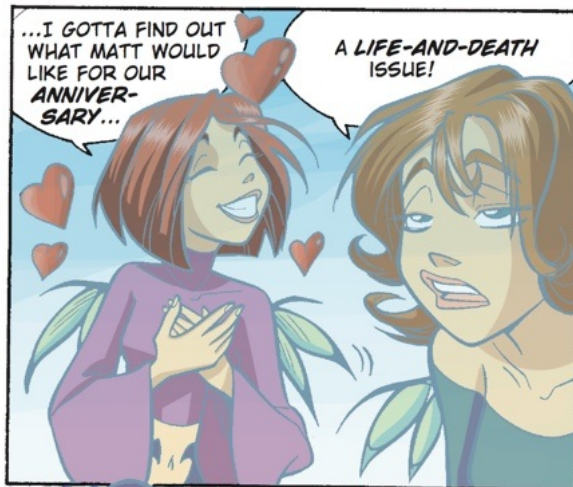
WHICH EXPLAINS WHY WE MET HERE!

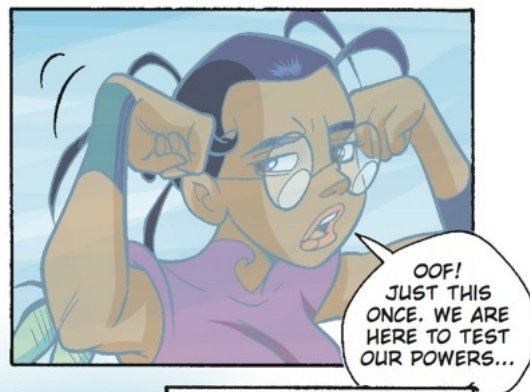
COLLINS MENTIONED THE WALL TOO. SO?

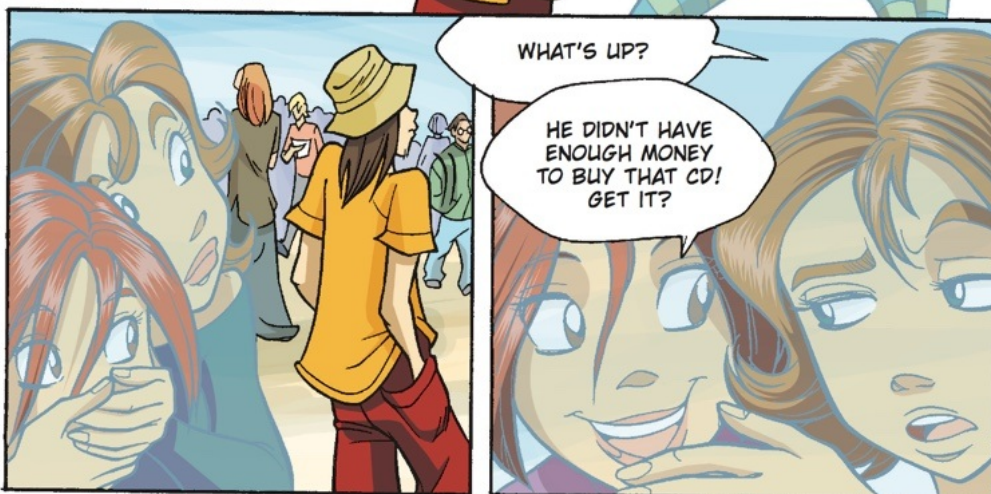


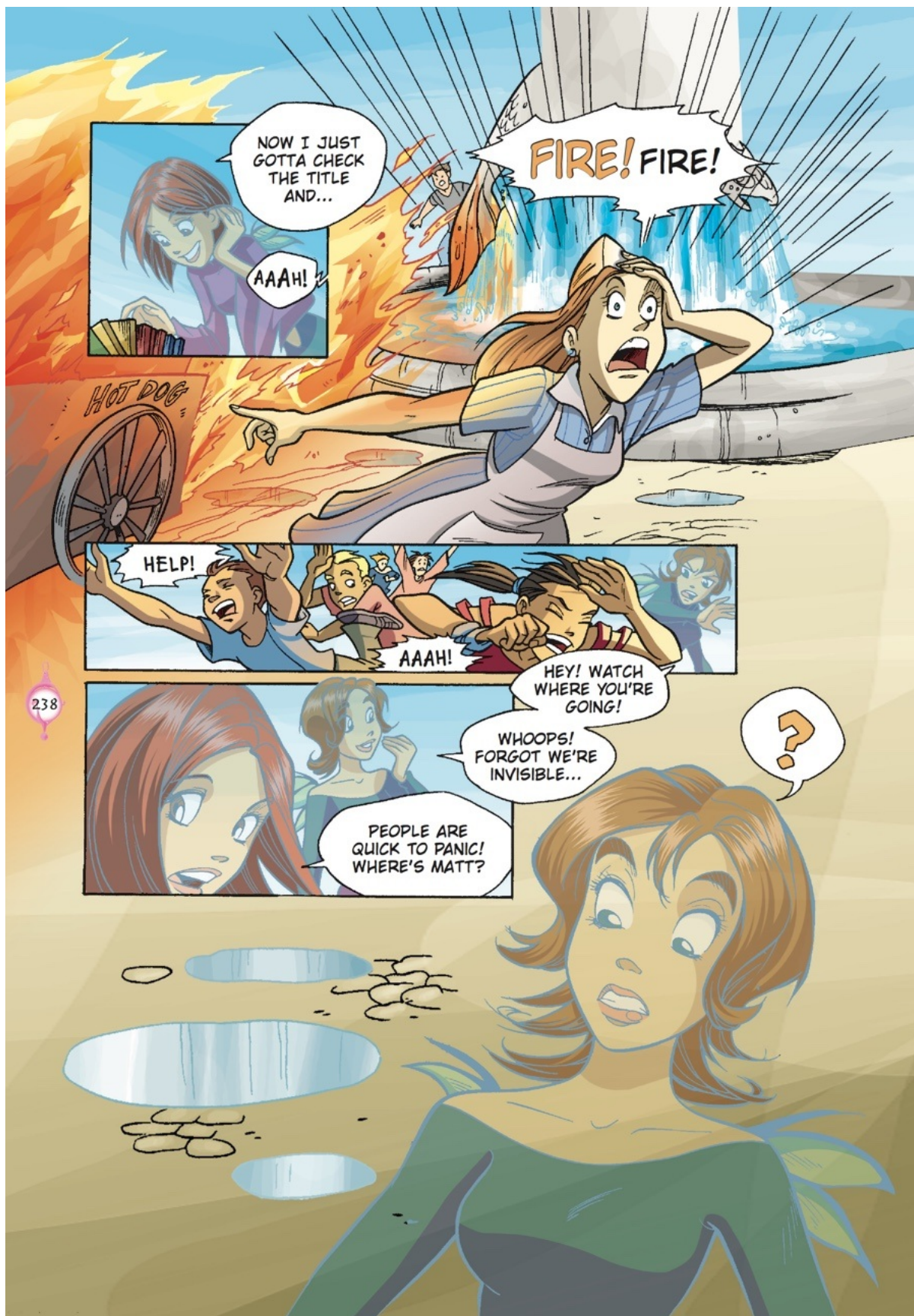
HE TALKED ABOUT WEIRD MONSTERS EVERYWHERE! WITHOUT REALIZING, HE MEANT MERIDIAN—AND US!











NOW I JUST
GOTTA CHECK
THE TITLE
AND...

AAAHH!

FIRE! FIRE!

HOT DOG

HELP!

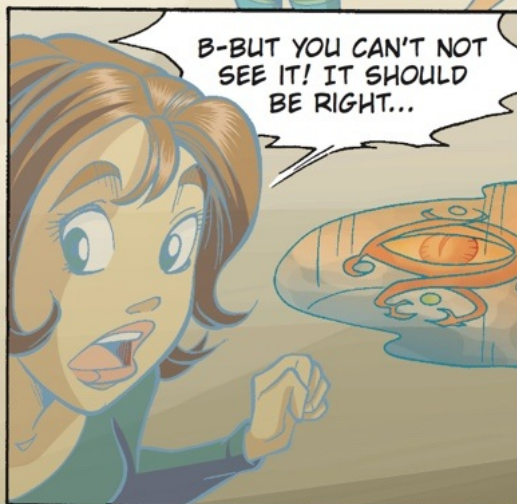
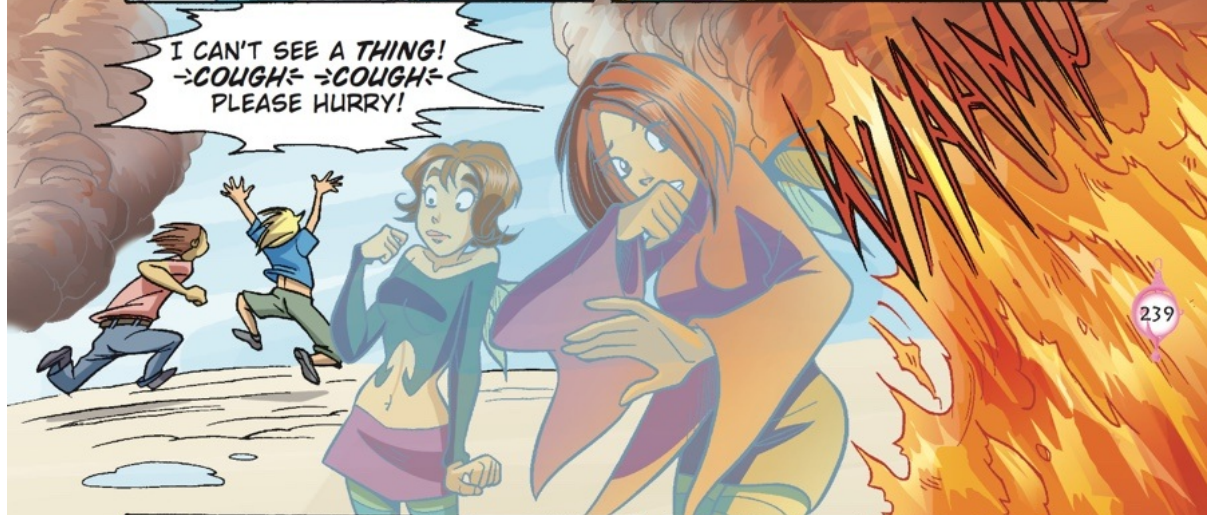
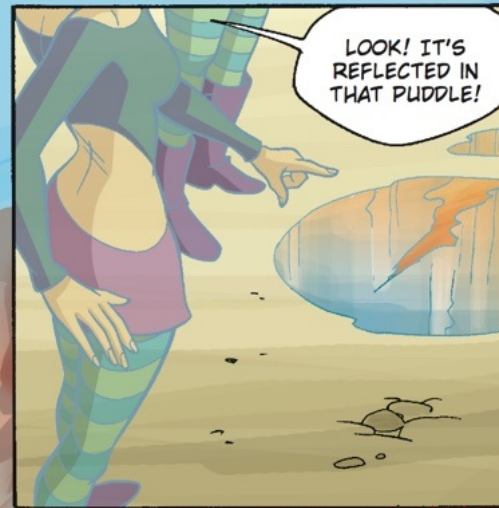
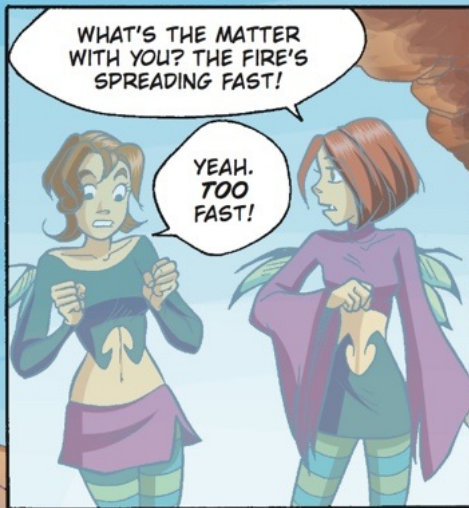
AAAHH!

HEY! WATCH
WHERE YOU'RE
GOING!

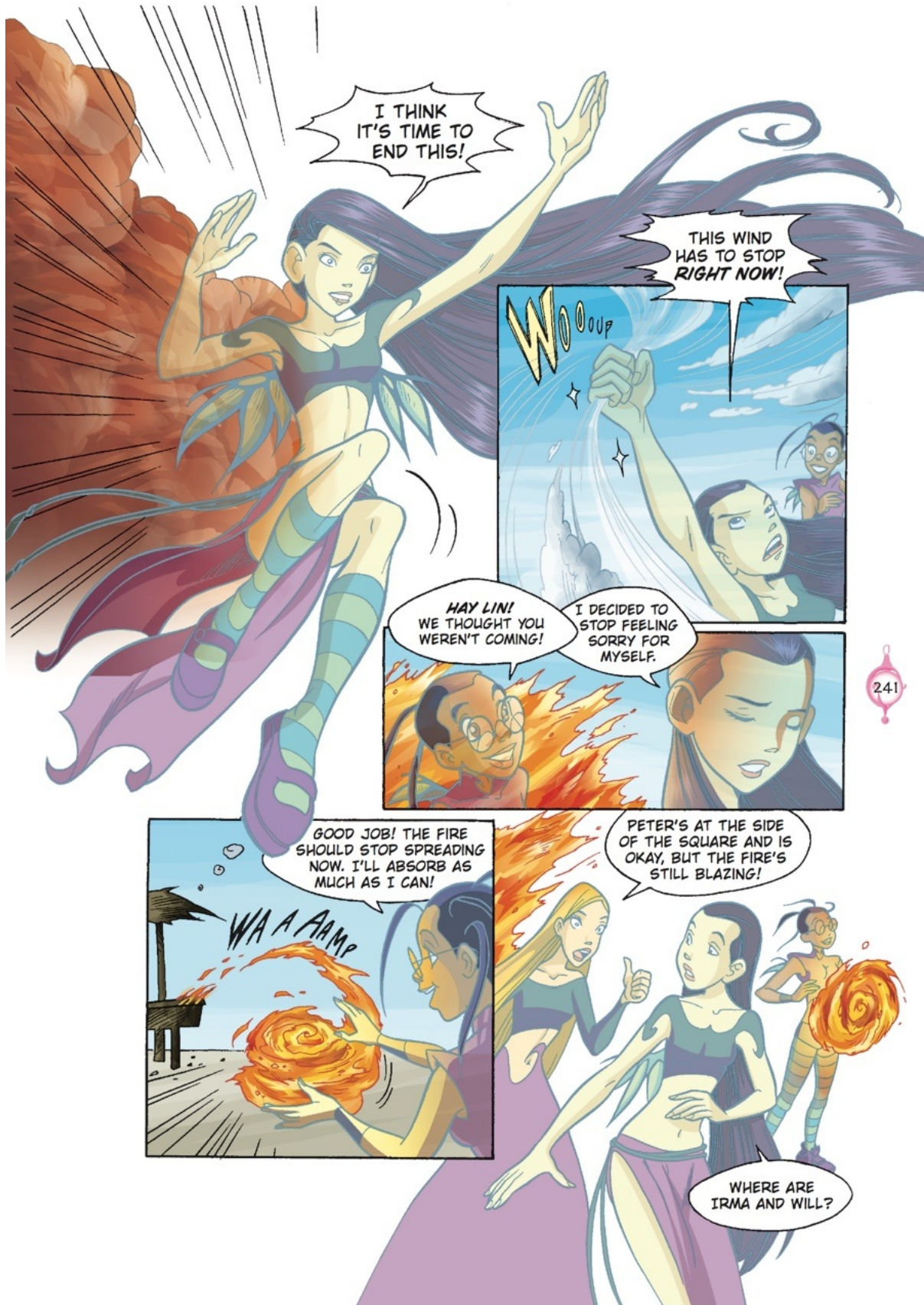
WHOOPS!
FORGOT WE'RE
INVISIBLE...

PEOPLE ARE
QUICK TO PANIC!
WHERE'S MATT?

?







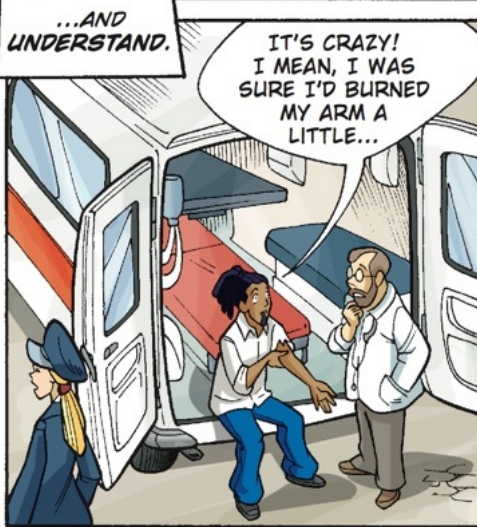


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LATER, IT'S TIME TO RECAP
THE SITUATION...



...AND
UNDERSTAND.

IT'S CRAZY!
I MEAN, I WAS
SURE I'D BURNED
MY ARM A
LITTLE...

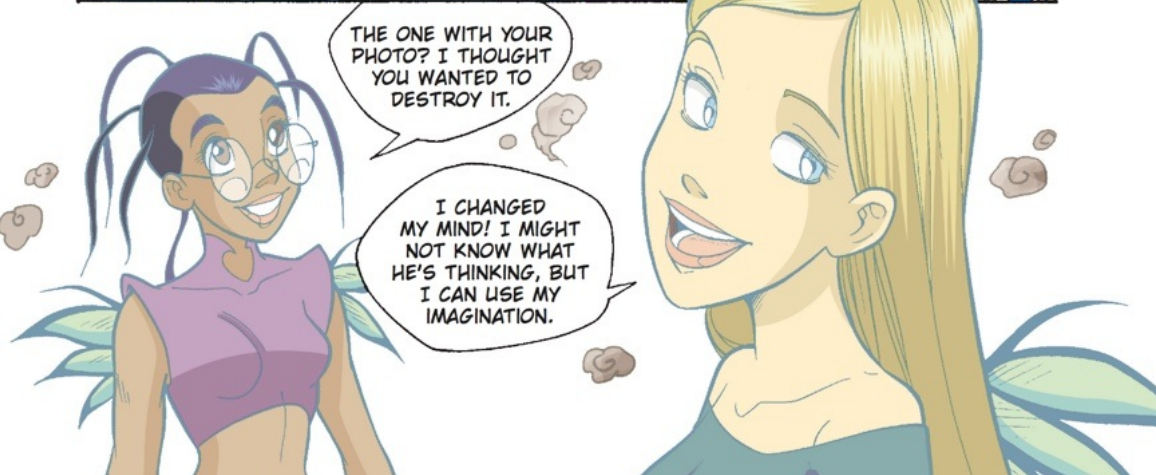


...BUT
NOW THERE'S
NOTHING!



THAT
WAS YOU,
RIGHT?

OF COURSE!
DID YOU NOTICE
PETER BOUGHT
MY MAGAZINE?

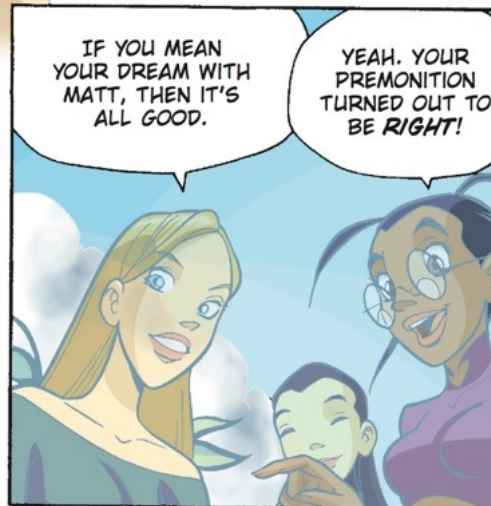
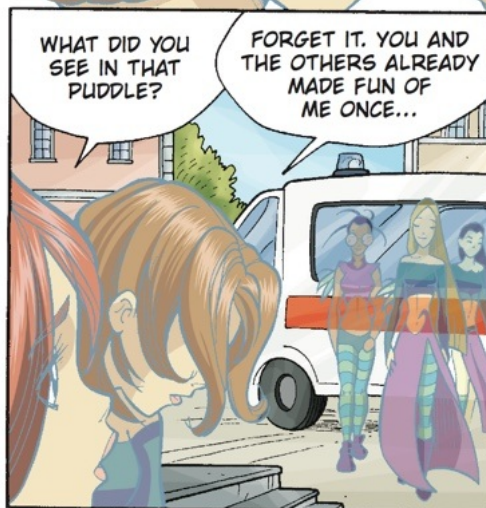
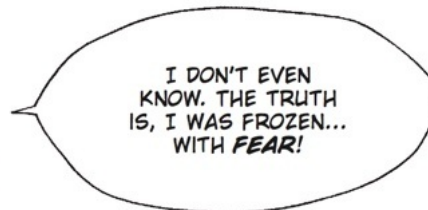


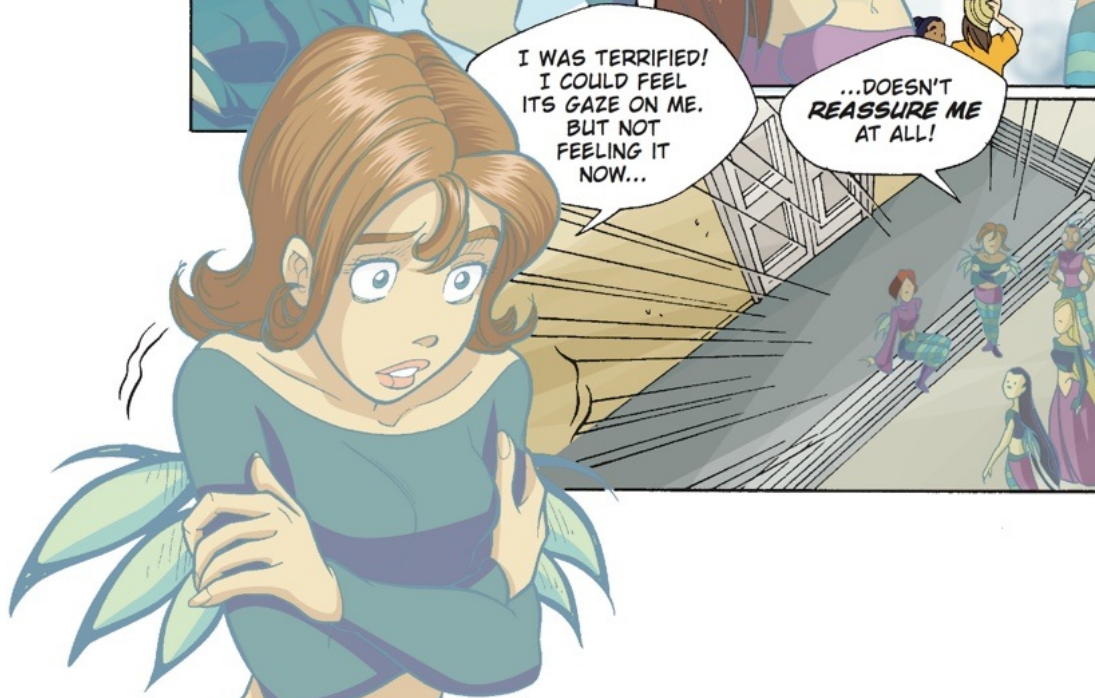
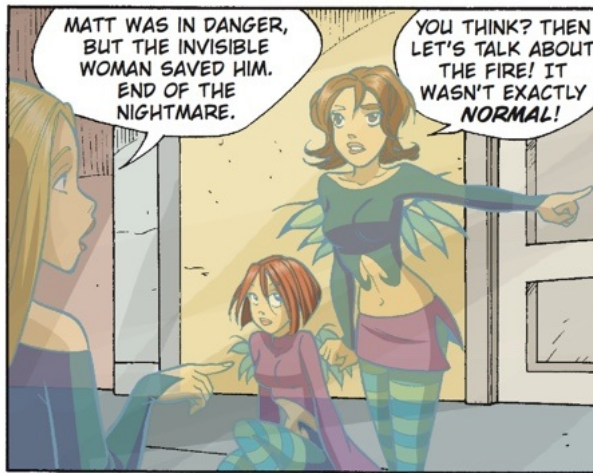
THE ONE WITH YOUR
PHOTO? I THOUGHT
YOU WANTED TO
DESTROY IT.

I CHANGED
MY MIND! I MIGHT
NOT KNOW WHAT
HE'S THINKING, BUT
I CAN USE MY
IMAGINATION.



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YES. DON'T WORRY...



...I'LL HAVE THOSE BOOKS READY FOR YOU BY TUESDAY.



NOW, IF YOU DON'T MIND, I JUST NEED YOUR NAME...

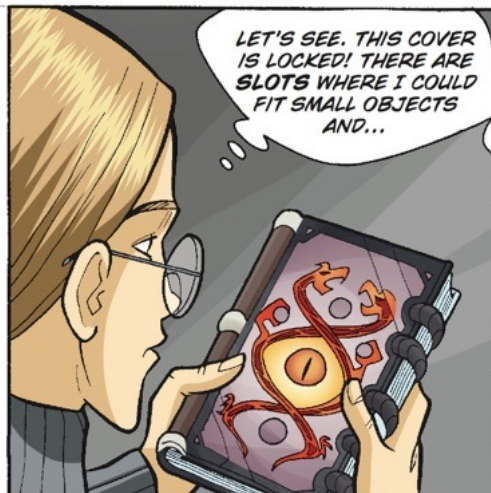
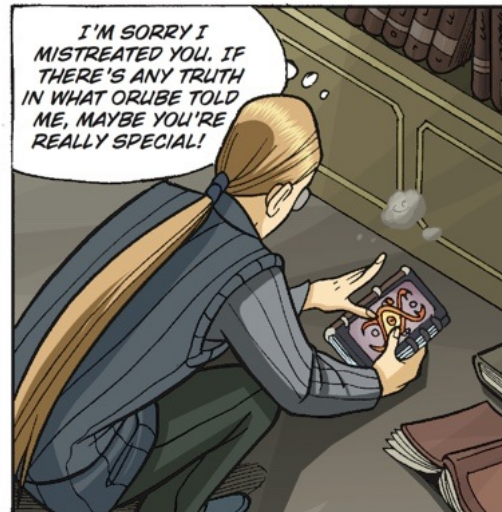
You're right. I didn't introduce myself...



...BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW ME. I'M MATT OLSEN!

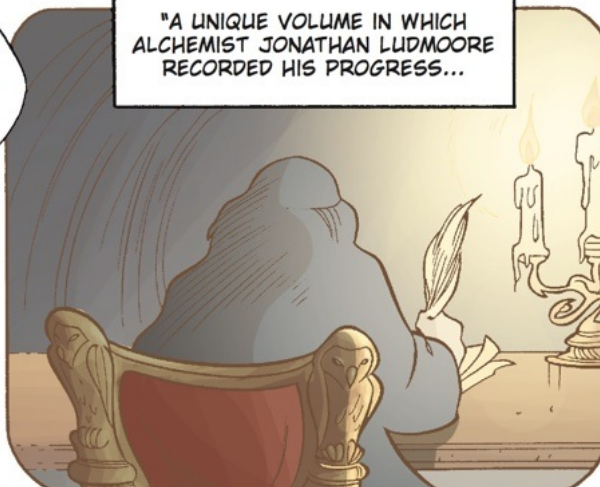


WILL MUST'VE TOLD HIM! JUST AS WELL. FROM NOW ON, WE'LL LAY OUR CARDS ON THE TABLE...





ANYWAY, THIS HAS TO BE THE FAMOUS BOOK OF EXPERIMENTS!



"A UNIQUE VOLUME IN WHICH ALCHEMIST JONATHAN LUDMOORE RECORDED HIS PROGRESS..."



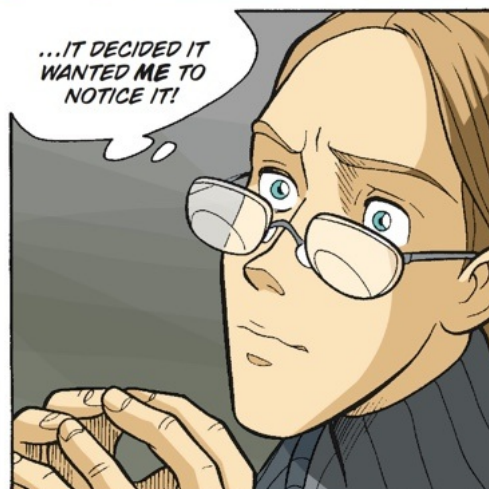
"...BUT ALSO A MAGICAL BOOK, CAPABLE OF BECOMING A SENTIENT CREATURE!"



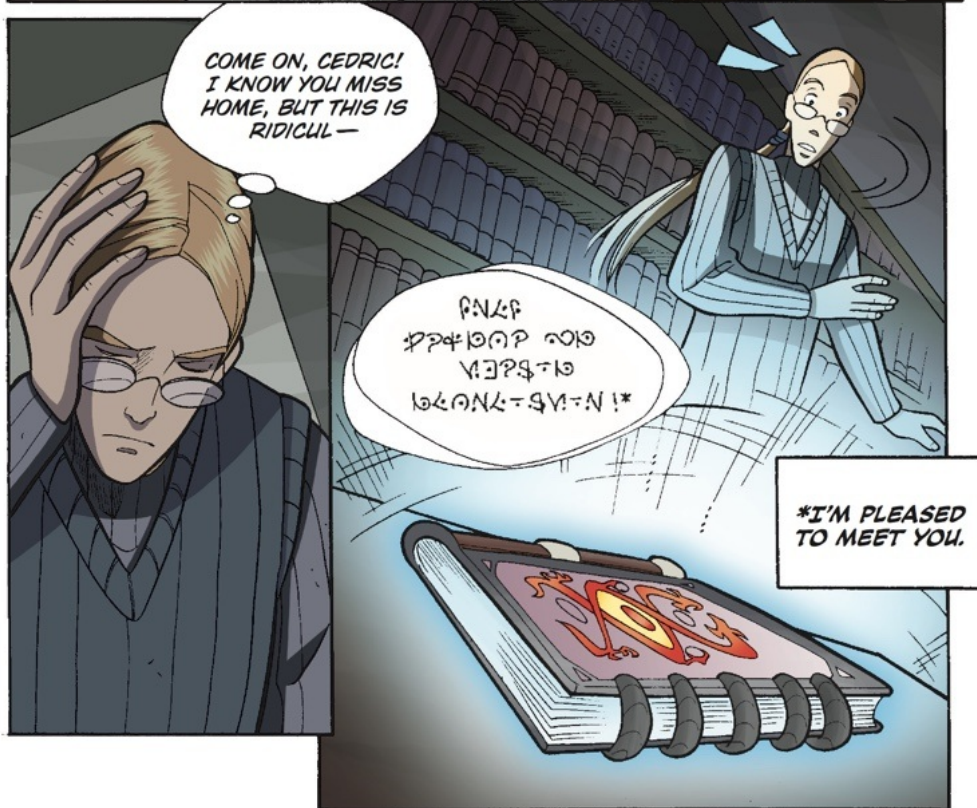
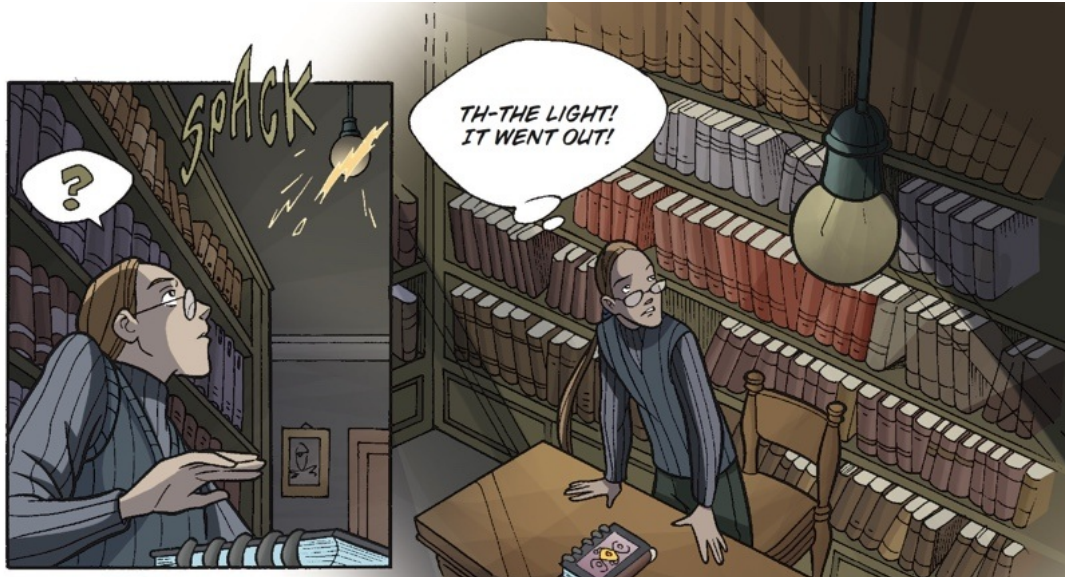
THIS COULD EXPLAIN THE SIGH I HEARD IN THE MANOR LIBRARY...



BUT IF THAT'S TRUE, I WONDER WHY, AFTER ALL THE YEARS DURING WHICH THIS BOOK HAS BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND...



...IT DECIDED IT WANTED ME TO NOTICE IT!





M-ME
TOO...

AT LEAST, I
THINK SO!

YOU CAN UNDER-
STAND ME, RIGHT?
YOU KNOW MY
LANGUAGE, LIKE I
KNOW YOURS!

YES!

SO...DO YOU HAVE
A NAME? WHO
ARE YOU?

YOU STILL
DON'T GET IT?
I'M YOUR LUCKY
CHARM, AND...

...YOU ARE
MINE!

THE END



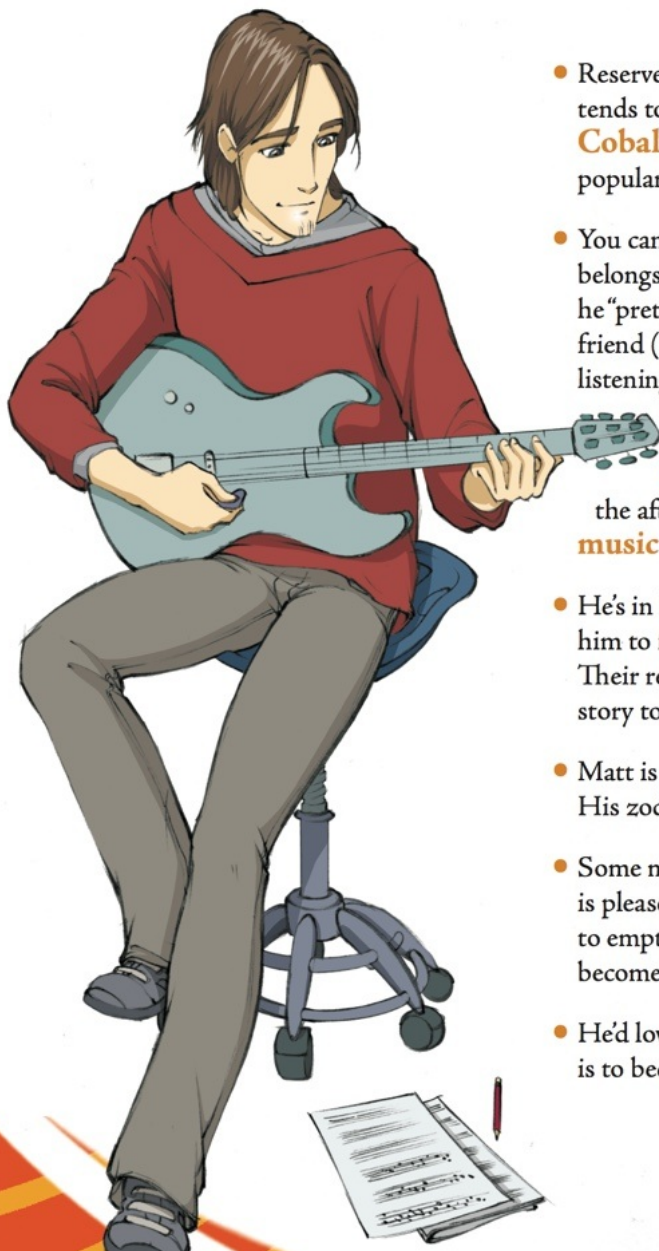
Read on in Volume 14!





Explore Matt's Room

He loves music, sports, and much more.
Let's explore Matt's room to discover his secrets.



- Reserved and pretty **shy** with girls, Matt tends to blush a lot. He's the guitarist of **Cobalt Blue**, Sheffield Institute's most popular band.
- You can find him at the **pet shop** that belongs to his grandpa, Mr. Olsen, where he "pretends" to help out, or at home with a friend (usually Joel) **playing guitar** and listening to music. He plays basketball with Peter: They're on the same team.
- He's a bit lazy and loves spending the afternoon browsing Heatherfield's **music shops** looking for rare CDs.
- He's in love with **Will**, and it was hard for him to find the courage to declare his feelings. Their relationship is at a crossroads! Read the story to find out what happened.
- Matt is a senior at Heatherfield High School. His zodiac sign is **Leo**.
- Some mornings he looks in the mirror and is pleased with his look. Other days, he'd like to empty his wardrobe, join the gym, and become like **his cousin Sean**.
- He'd love to travel the world, and his **dream** is to become a musician.

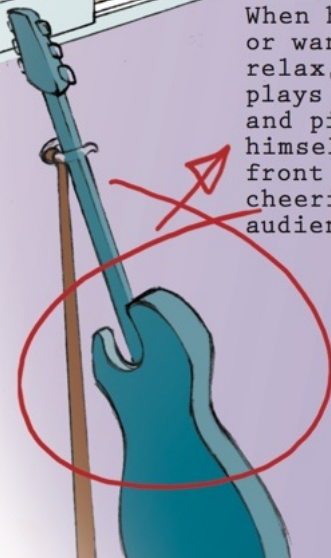


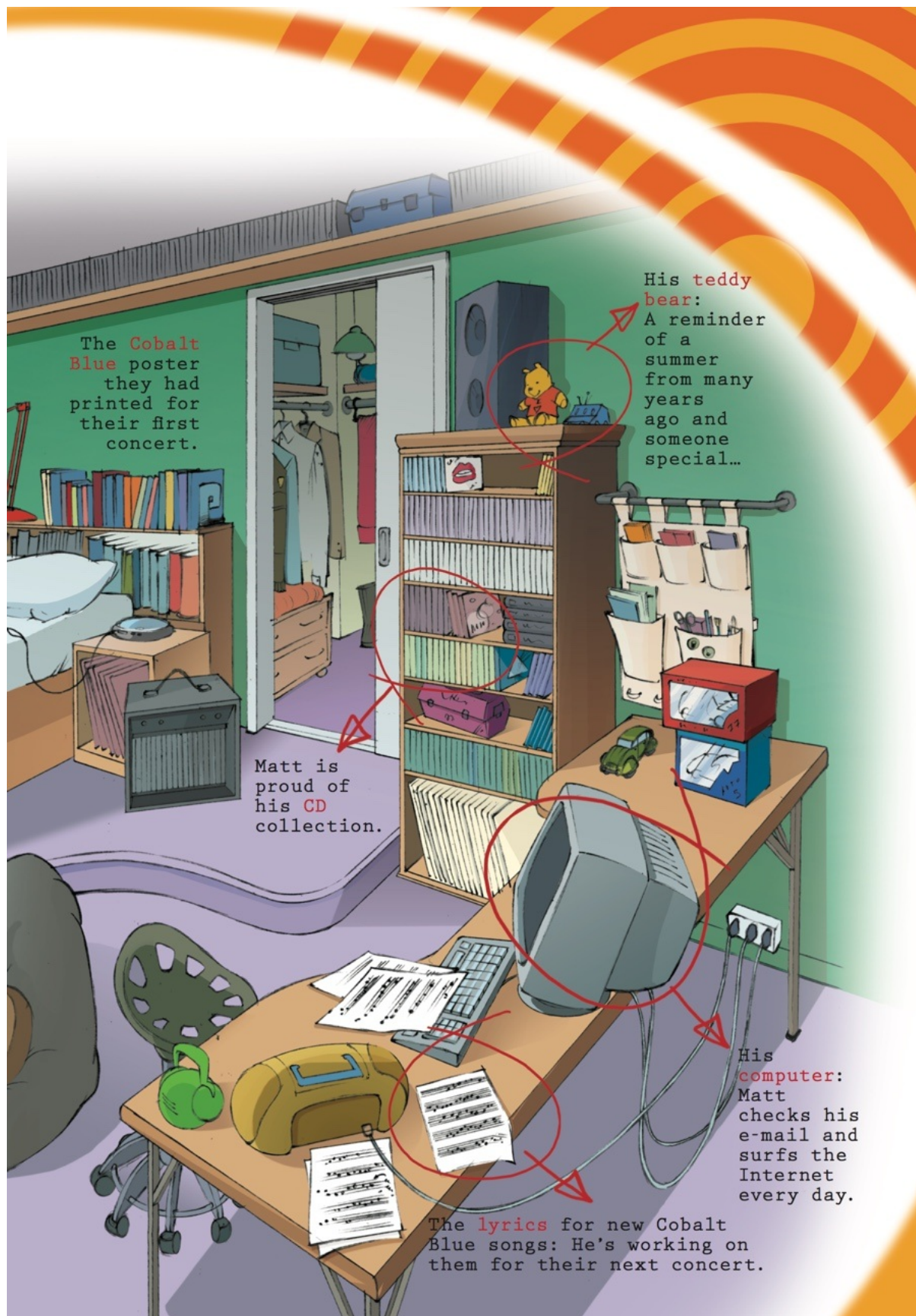
Discover Matt's Room



Matt loves
sci-fi novels.

When he's sad
or wants to
relax, Matt
plays guitar
and pictures
himself in
front of a
cheering
audience.





The Cobalt Blue poster they had printed for their first concert.

His teddy bear:
A reminder of a summer from many years ago and someone special...

Matt is proud of his CD collection.

His computer:
Matt checks his e-mail and surfs the Internet every day.

The lyrics for new Cobalt Blue songs: He's working on them for their next concert.



Part V: The Book of Elements • Volume I

13

Series Created by Elisabetta Gnone
Comic Art Direction: Alessandro Barbucci, Barbara Canepa

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