

ISSUE
18



VEEFRIENDS

WELCOME TO
SHELLS KITCHEN



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VEEFRIENDS

ISSUE #18 SHELLS KITCHEN

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WELCOME TO
SHELLS
KITCHEN.

A LITTLE
SEAFOOD
JOINT AT
BOSTON'S
WHARF.

AT FIRST
GLANCE,
IT SEEMS
NORMAL
ENOUGH.



THERE'S A
FISH OF
THE DAY.

A 25% TIP IS
APPRECIATED.

AND THEY
RECOMMEND A
CHIANTI WITH
THE SPIFFY
SALMON.

SHELLS
KITCHEN
SEAFOOD
LOVERS
WELCOME!



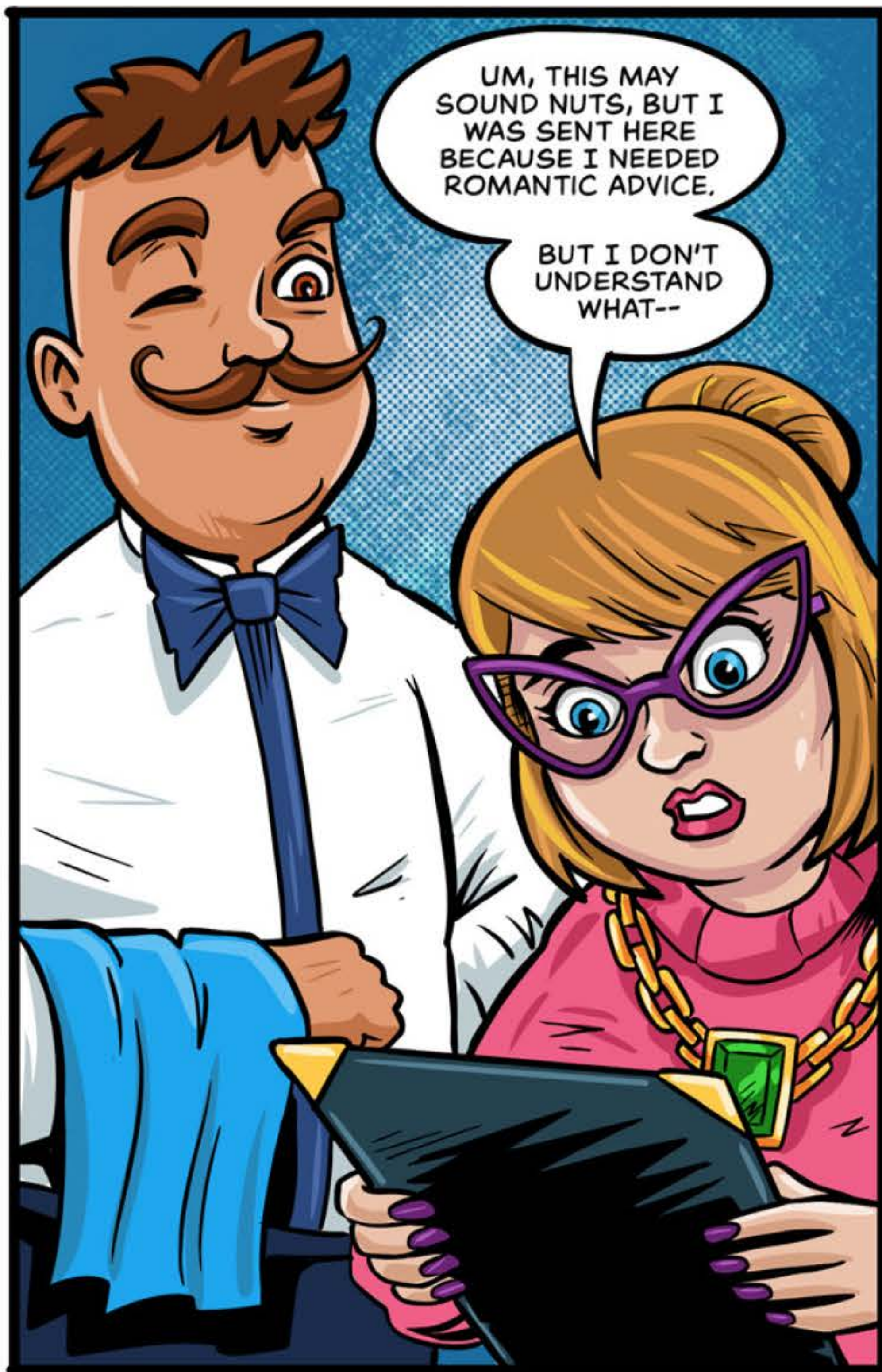
YET NOTHING HERE
IS AS IT SEEMS.

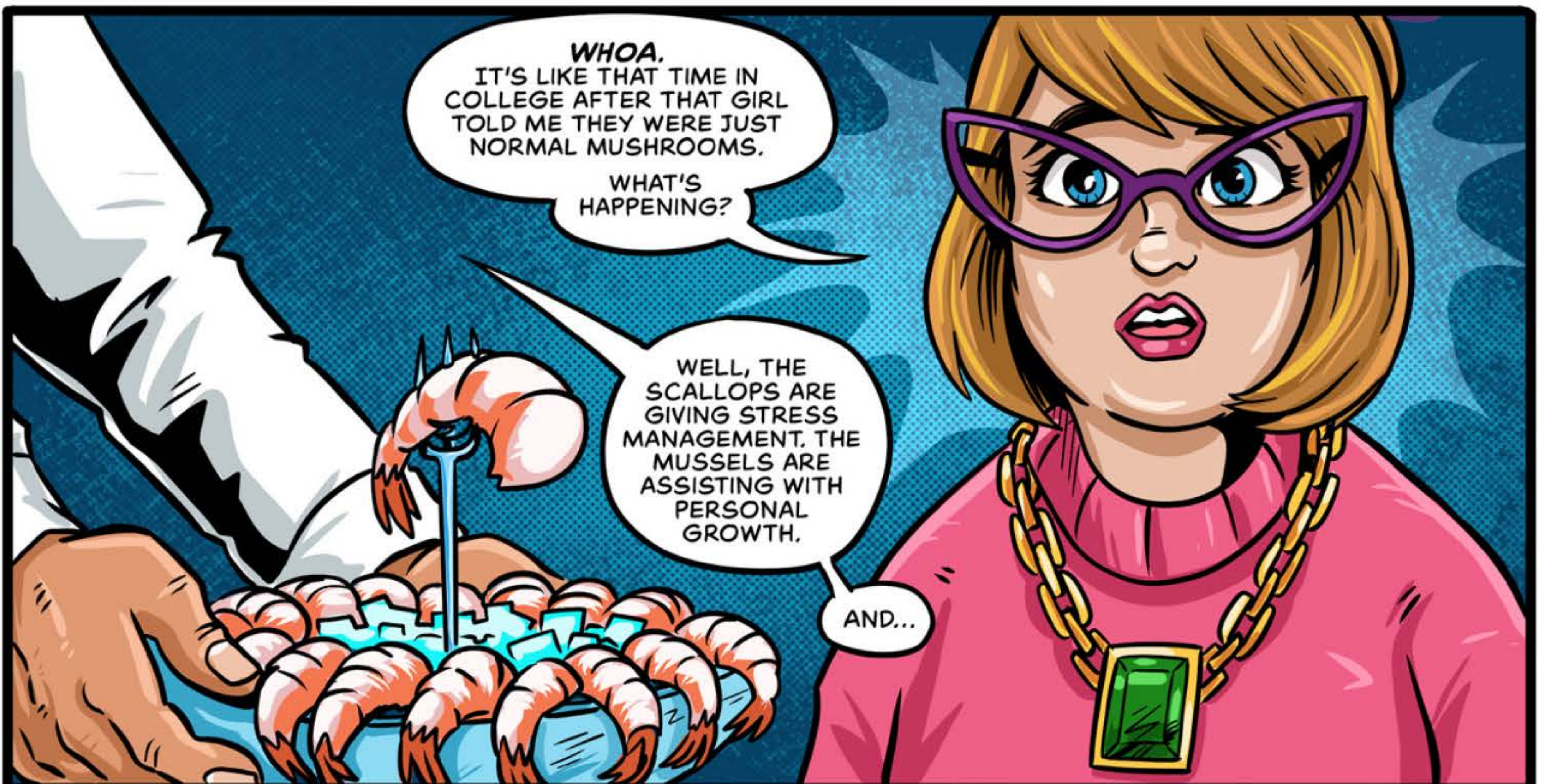
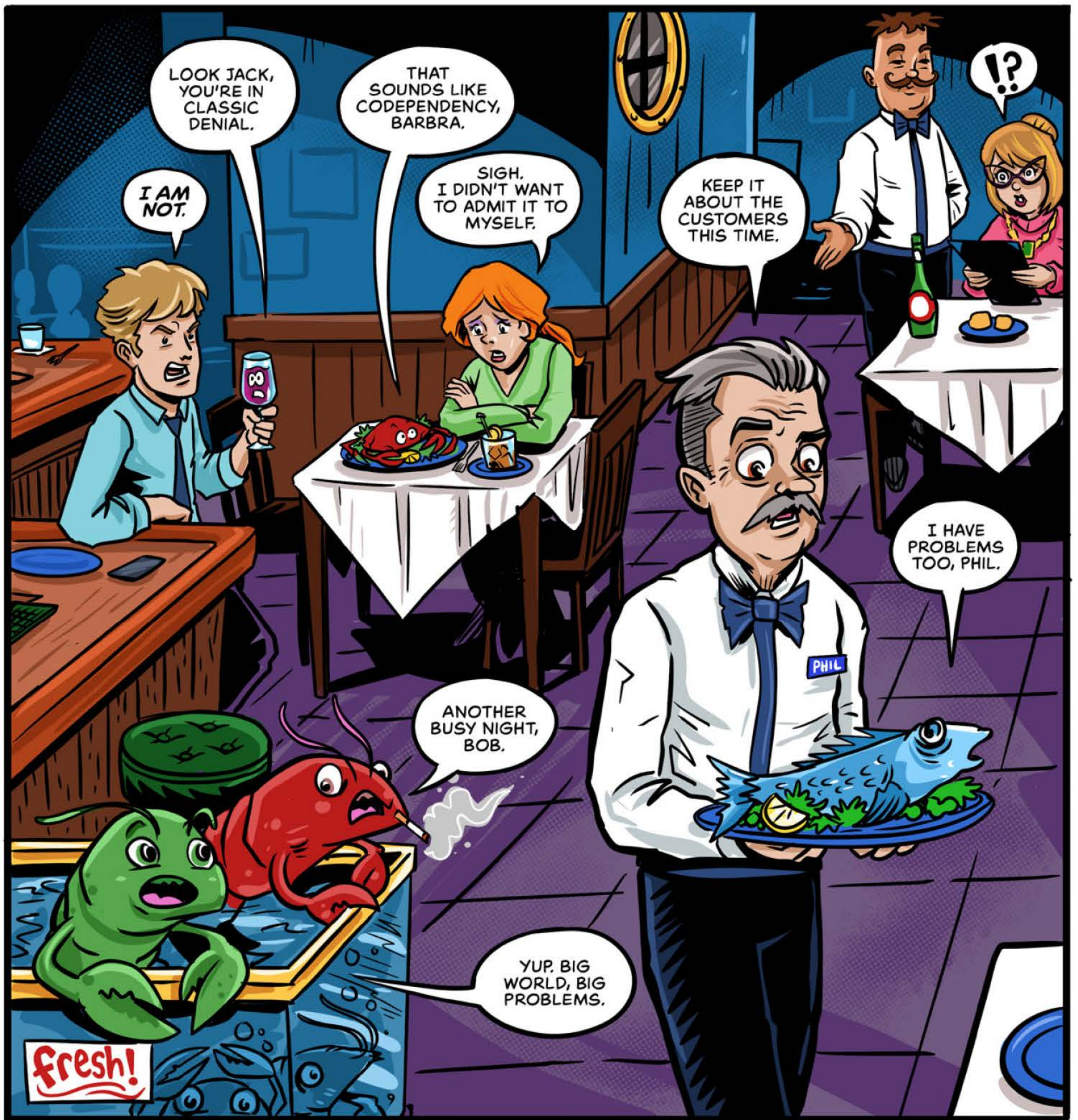
AND THEIR NEWEST
CUSTOMER IS ABOUT
TO LEARN THEIR
LITTLE SECRET.

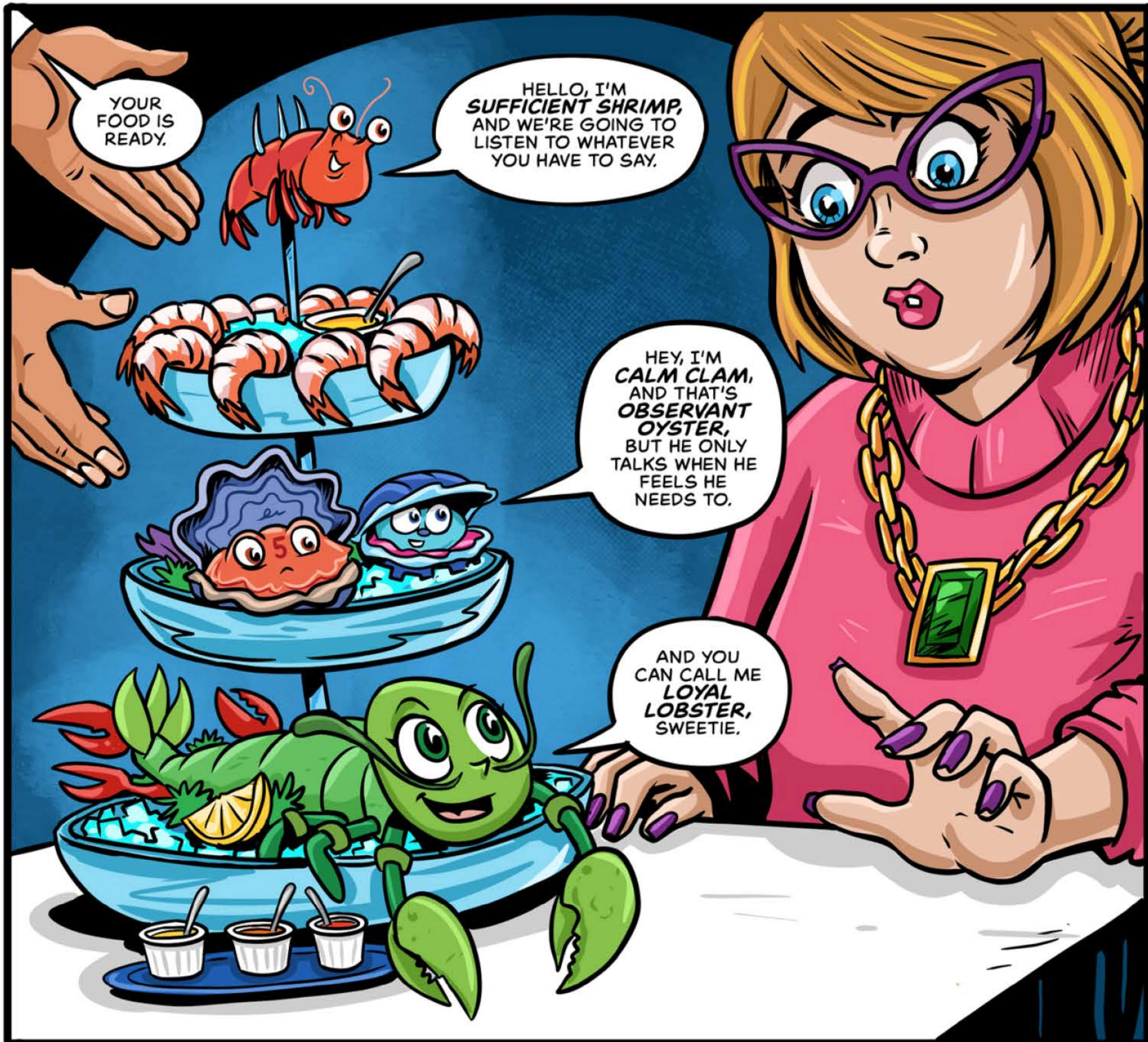


YOUR MENU,
MA'AM.

OH,
THANK
YOU.



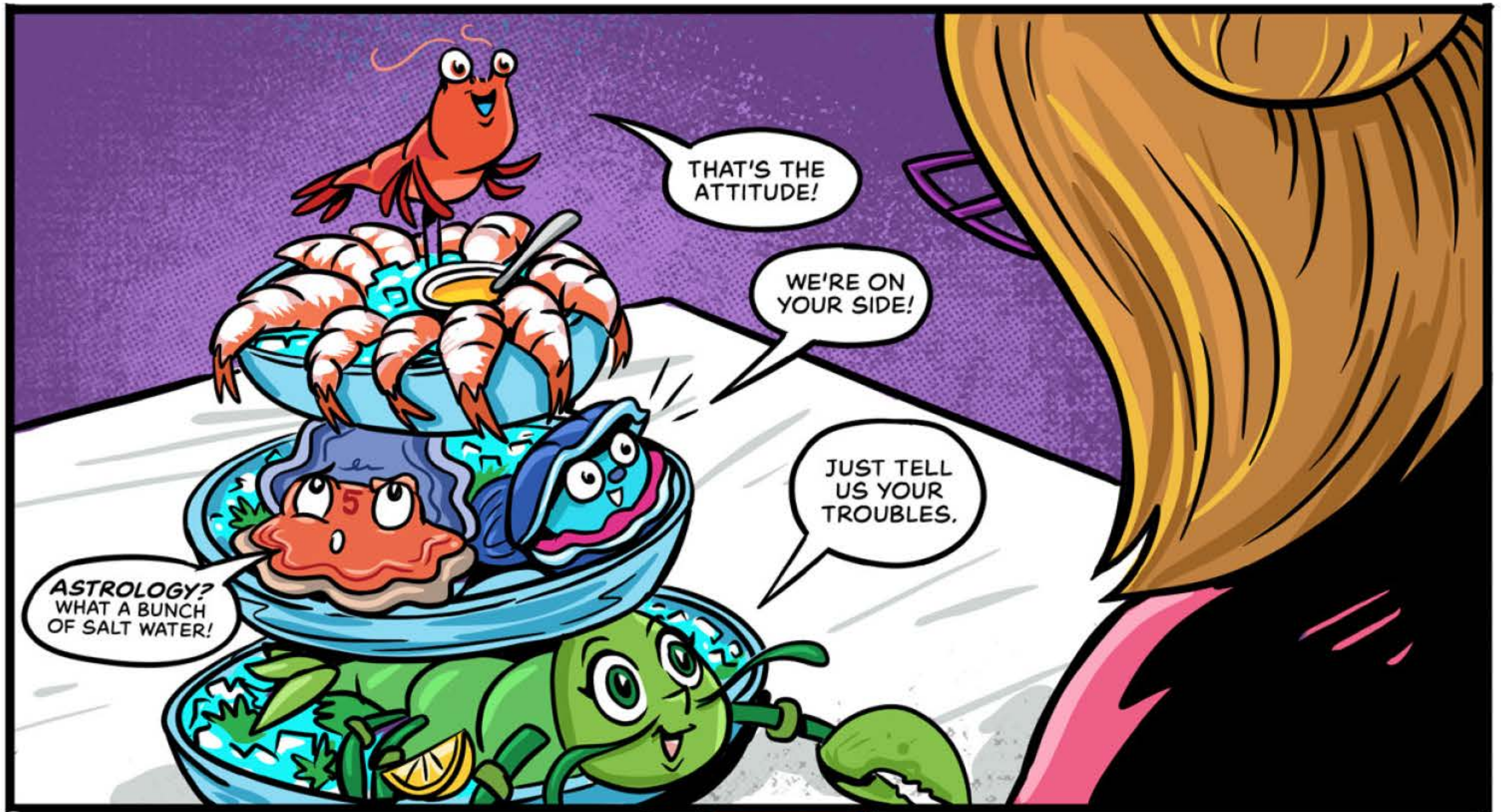






I DID PAY
200 BUCKS
FOR AN
ASTROLOGY
SESSION ONCE.

THIS CAN'T
BE WORSE.



THAT'S THE
ATTITUDE!

WE'RE ON
YOUR SIDE!

JUST TELL
US YOUR
TROUBLES.

ASTROLOGY?
WHAT A BUNCH
OF SALT WATER!



OKAY,
THIS ALL
STARTED A
YEAR AGO.

I HAD A NORMAL
JOB WITH A
YOUTUBE CHANNEL
ON THE SIDE.

I CALLED IT
CAT SIP, AND I TALKED
ABOUT MY CATS AND
INTERVIEWED OTHERS
ABOUT THEIRS.
BUT THEN...

MY CHANNEL
EXPLODED.

MY LIKES,
SUBSCRIBERS,
AND REVENUE
SKYROCKETED.

MY LIFE
CHANGED IN
THE BLINK OF
AN EYE.

AND WITH IT,
CAME THINGS I
DIDN'T EXPECT.

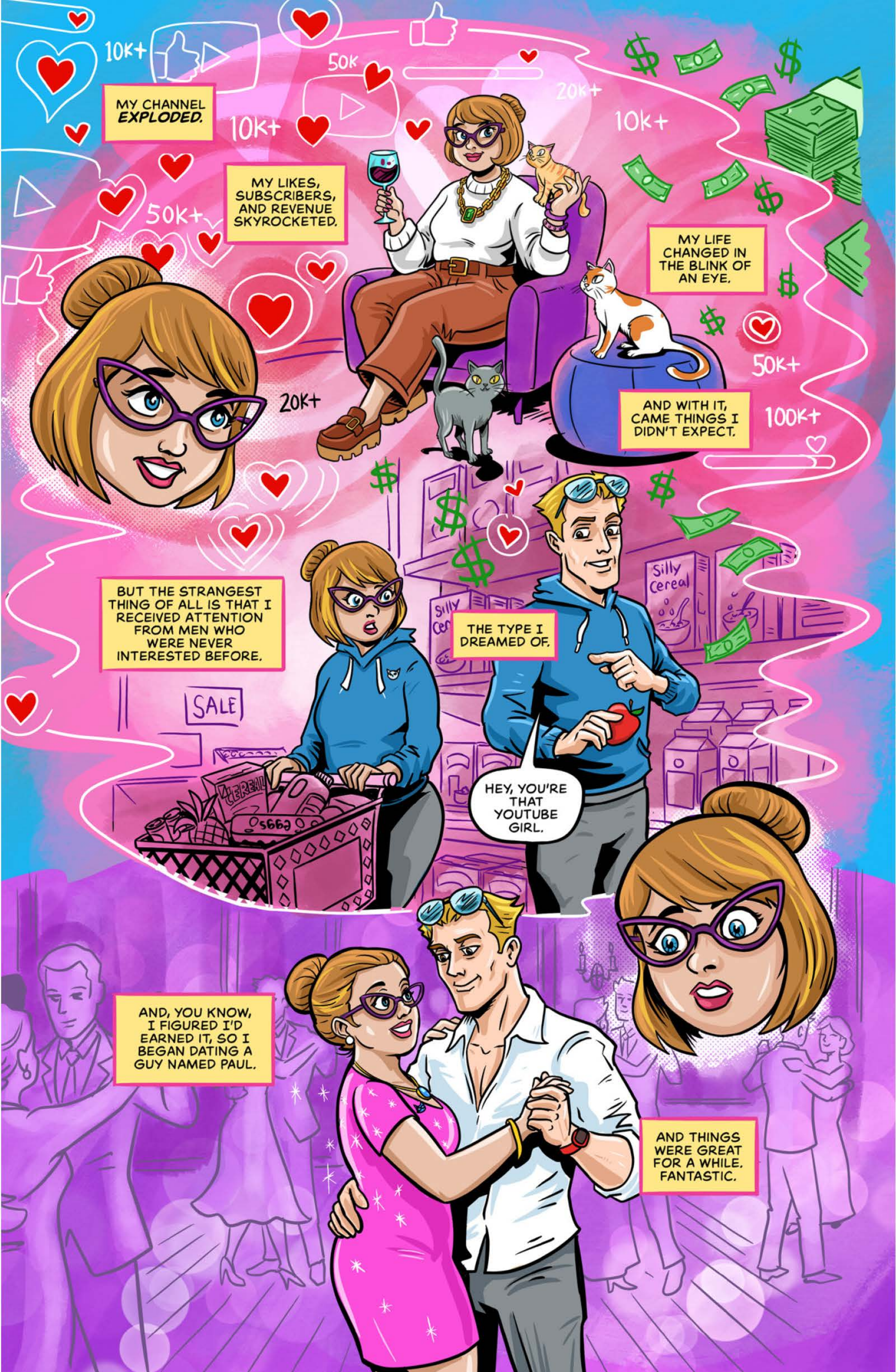
BUT THE STRANGEST
THING OF ALL IS THAT I
RECEIVED ATTENTION
FROM MEN WHO
WERE NEVER
INTERESTED BEFORE.

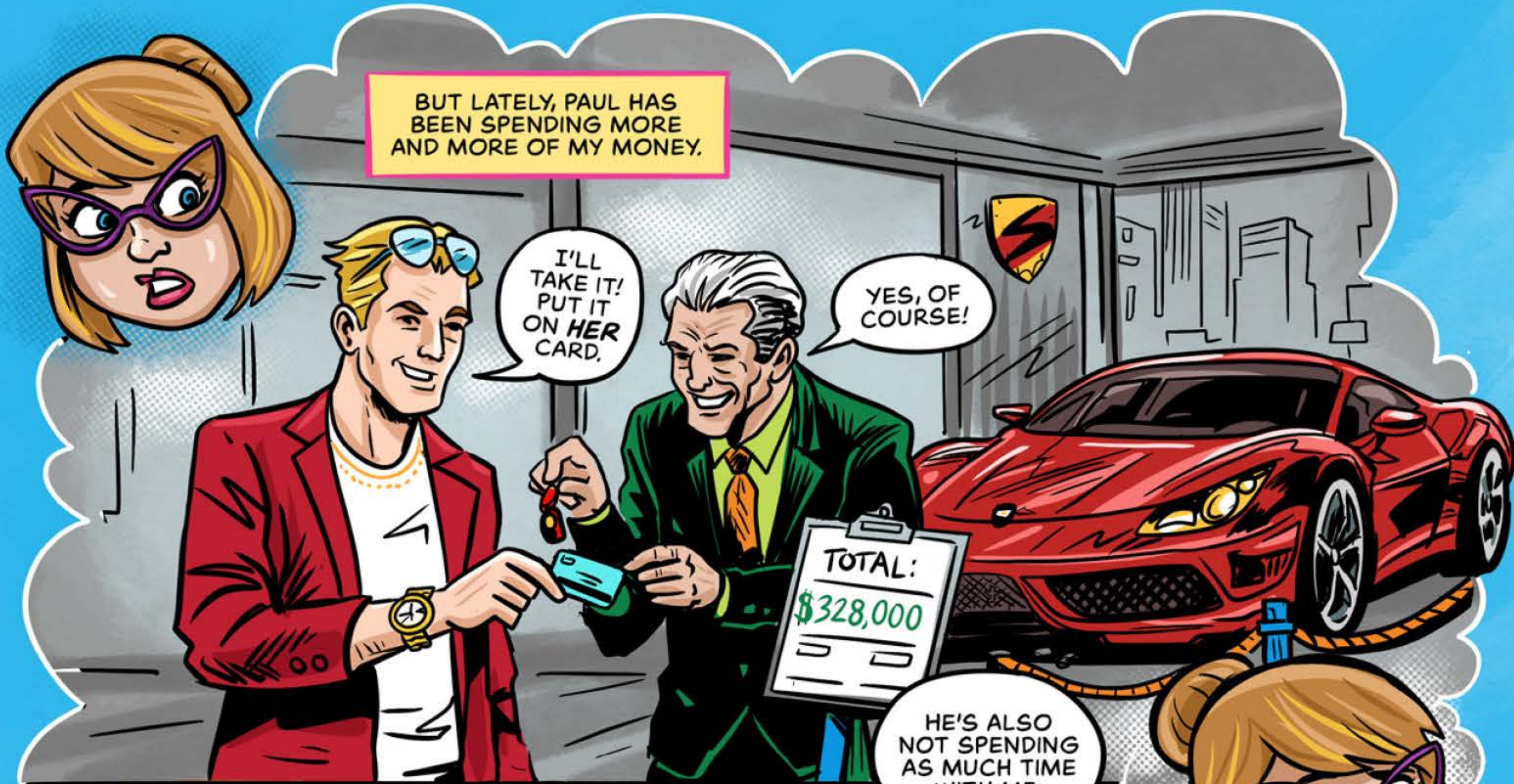
THE TYPE I
DREAMED OF.

HEY, YOU'RE
THAT
YOUTUBE
GIRL.

AND, YOU KNOW,
I FIGURED I'D
EARNED IT, SO I
BEGAN DATING A
GUY NAMED PAUL.

AND THINGS
WERE GREAT
FOR A WHILE.
FANTASTIC.





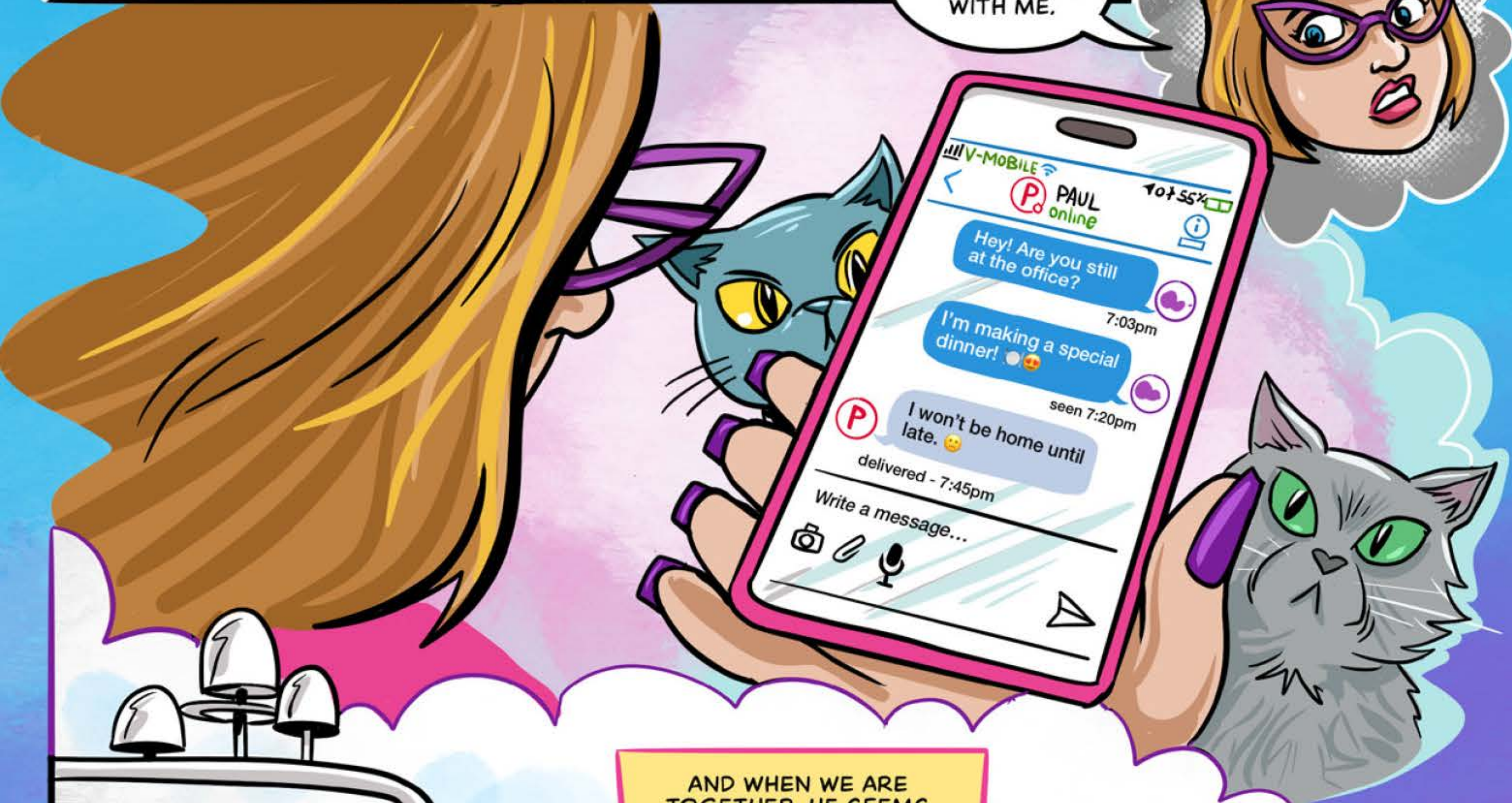
BUT LATELY, PAUL HAS BEEN SPENDING MORE AND MORE OF MY MONEY.

I'LL TAKE IT! PUT IT ON HER CARD.

YES, OF COURSE!

TOTAL:
\$328,000

HE'S ALSO NOT SPENDING AS MUCH TIME WITH ME.

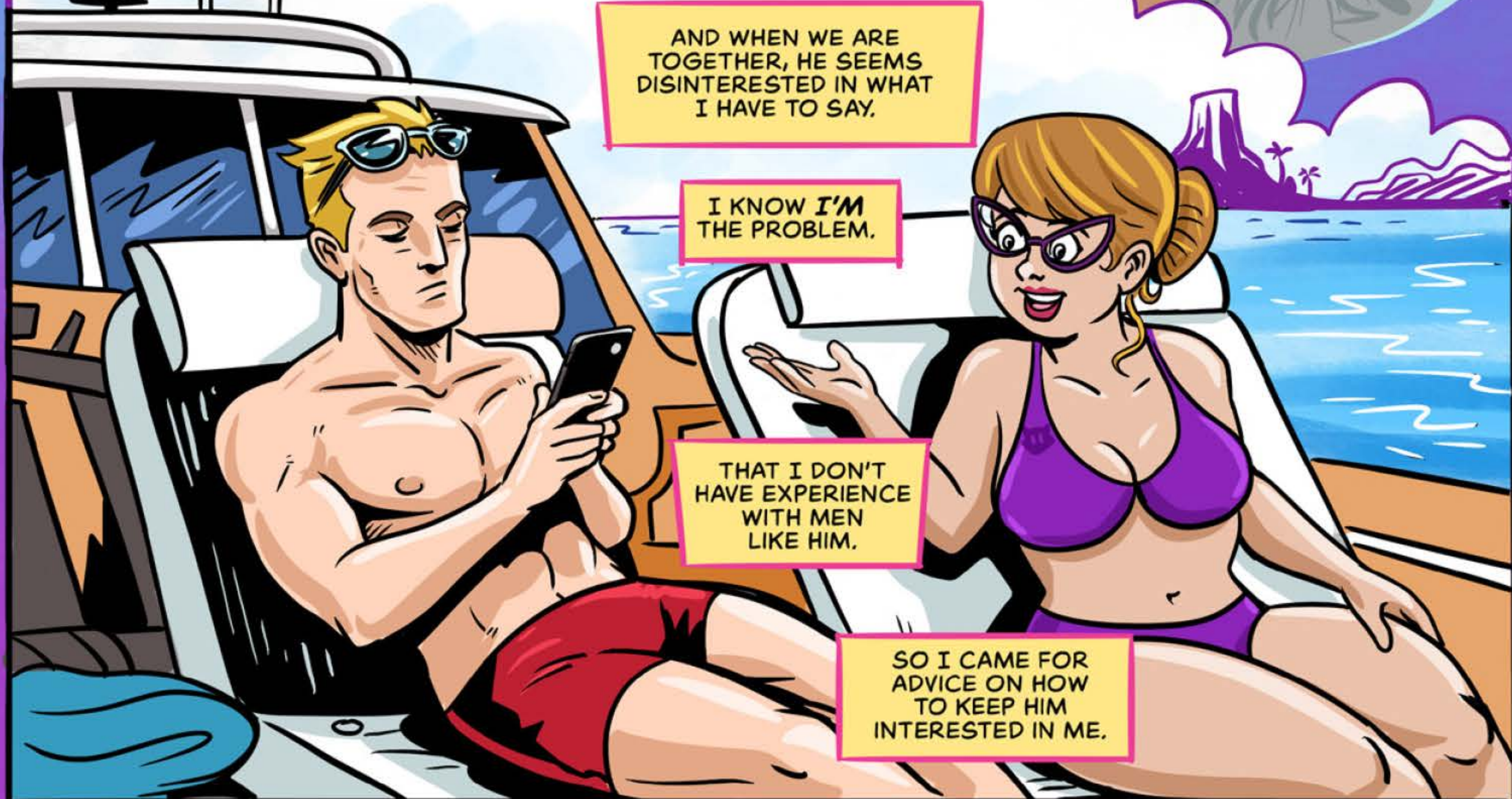


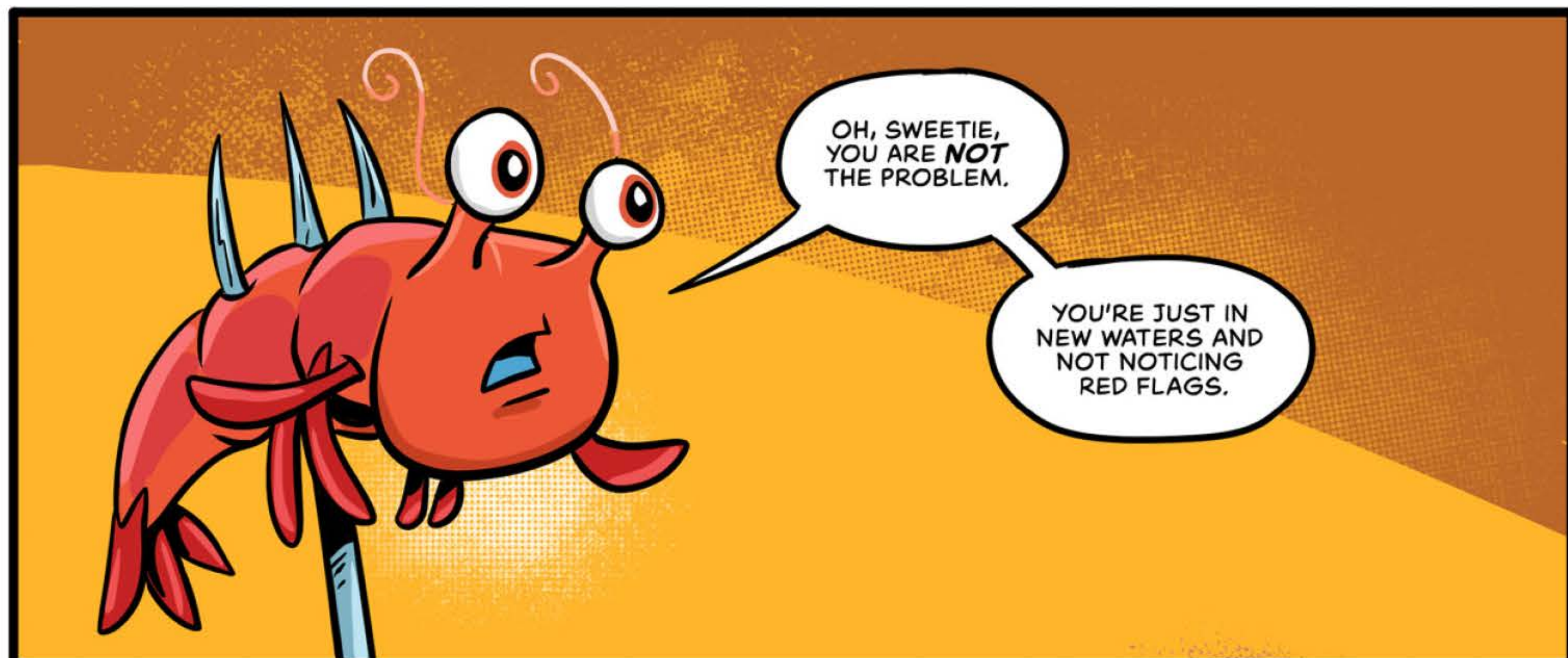
AND WHEN WE ARE TOGETHER, HE SEEMS DISINTERESTED IN WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.

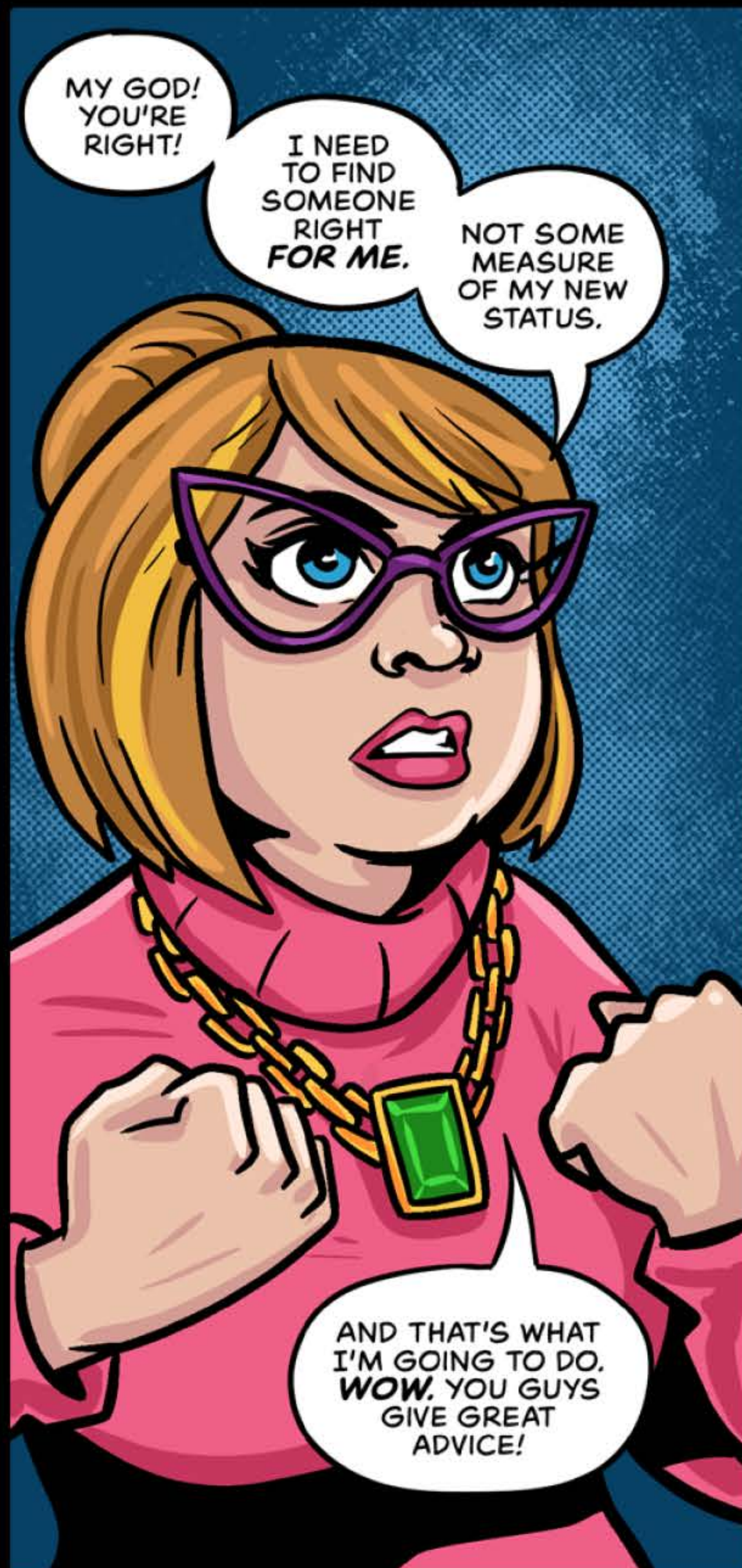
I KNOW I'M THE PROBLEM.

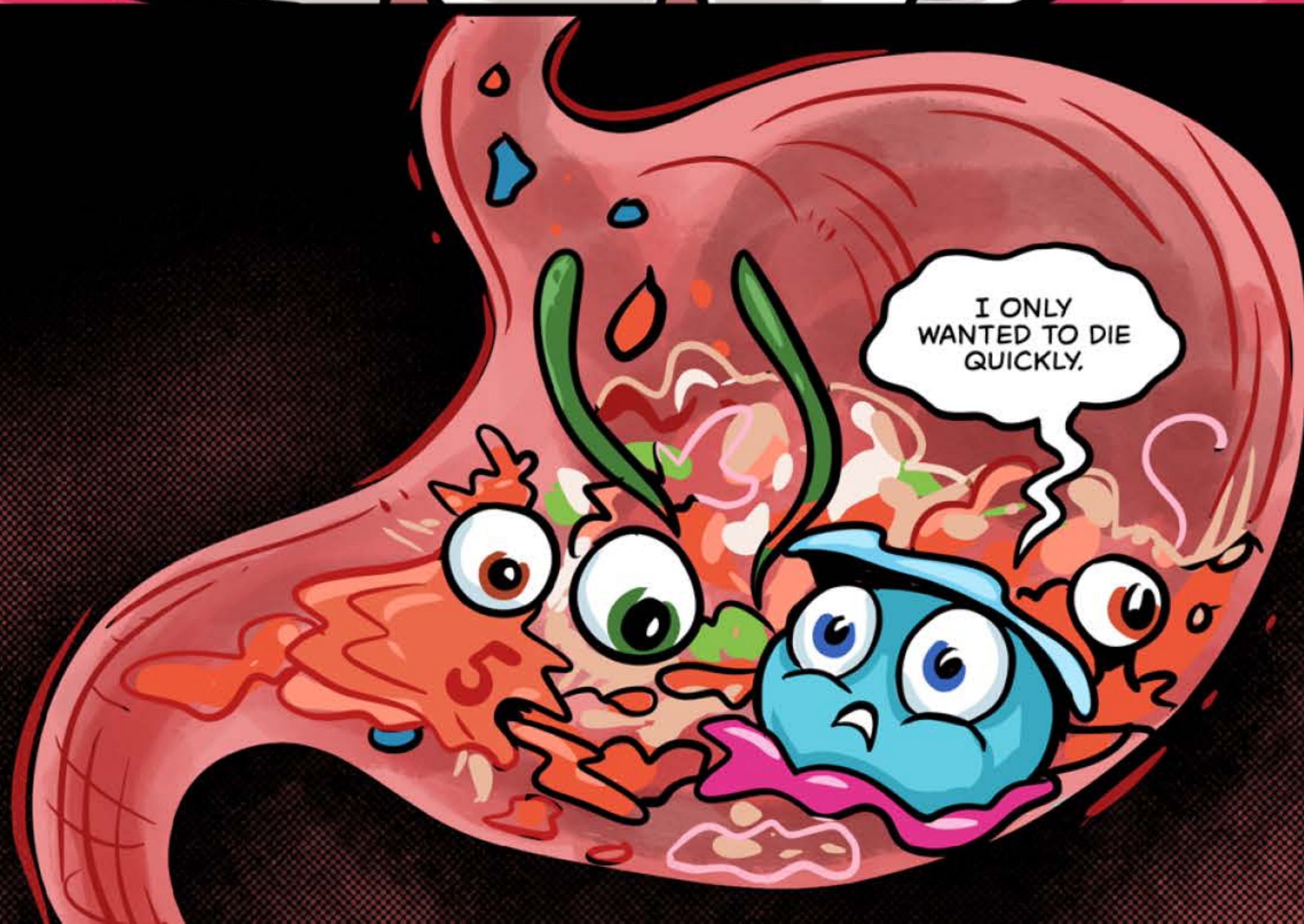
THAT I DON'T HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH MEN LIKE HIM.

SO I CAME FOR ADVICE ON HOW TO KEEP HIM INTERESTED IN ME.





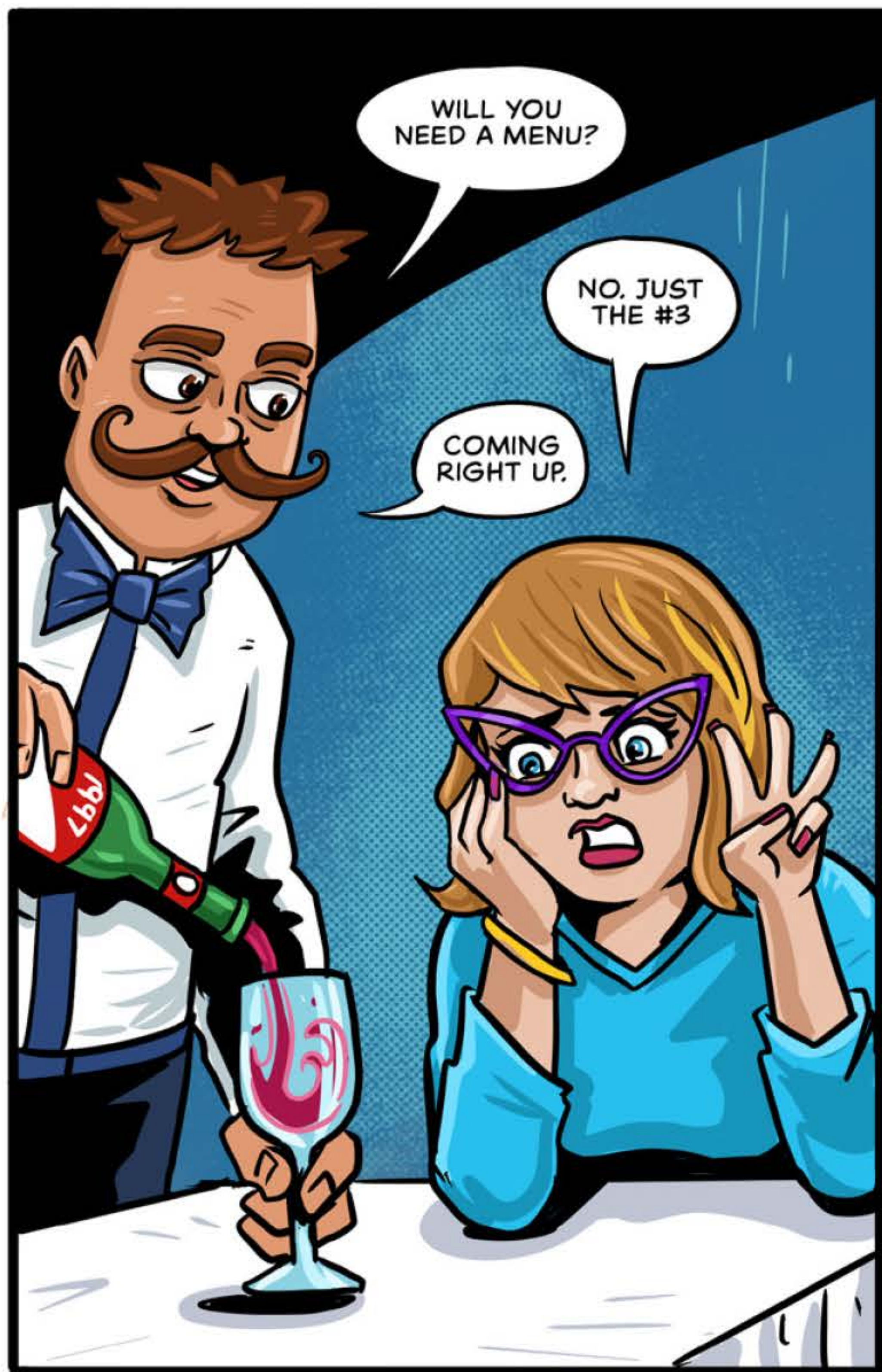


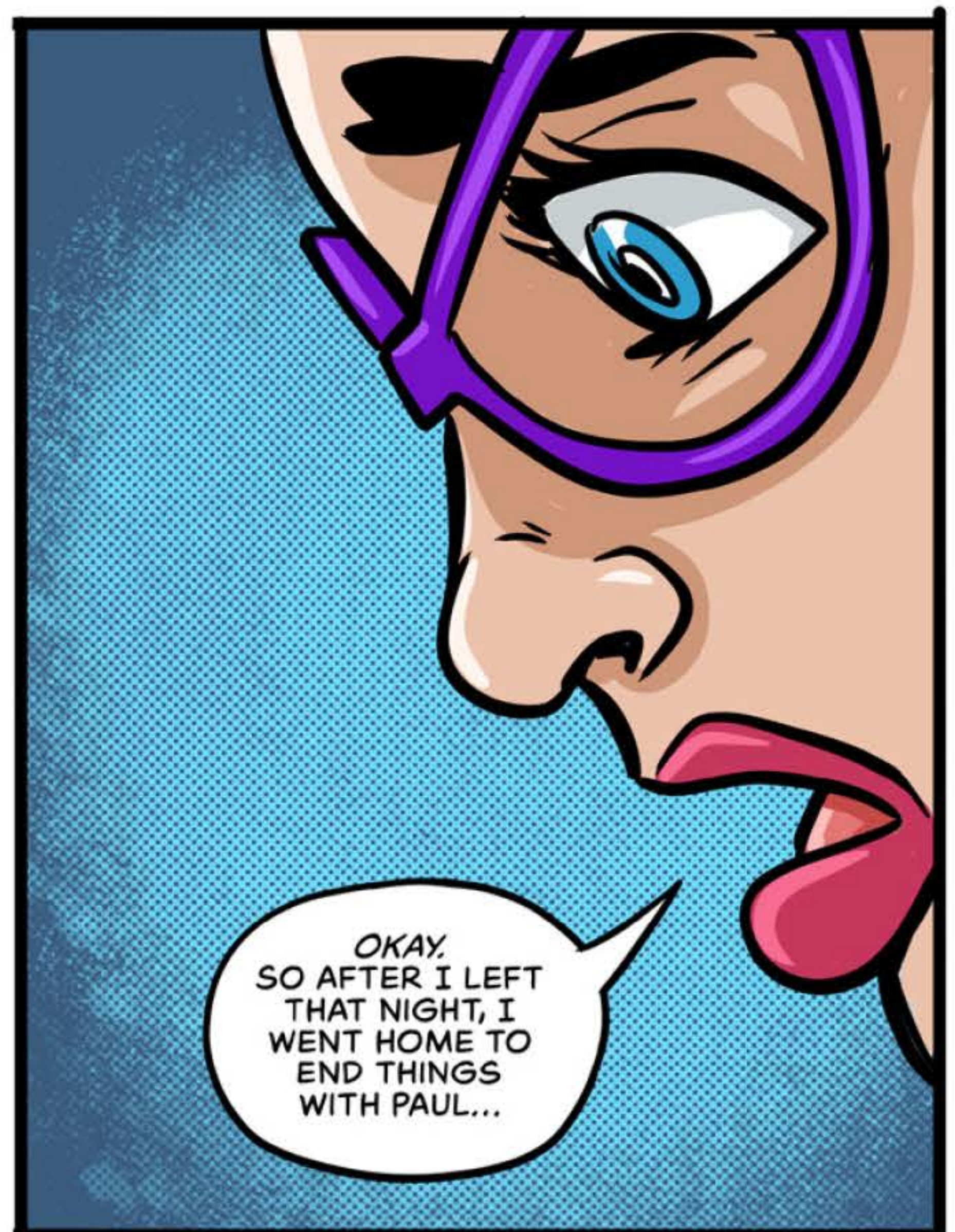
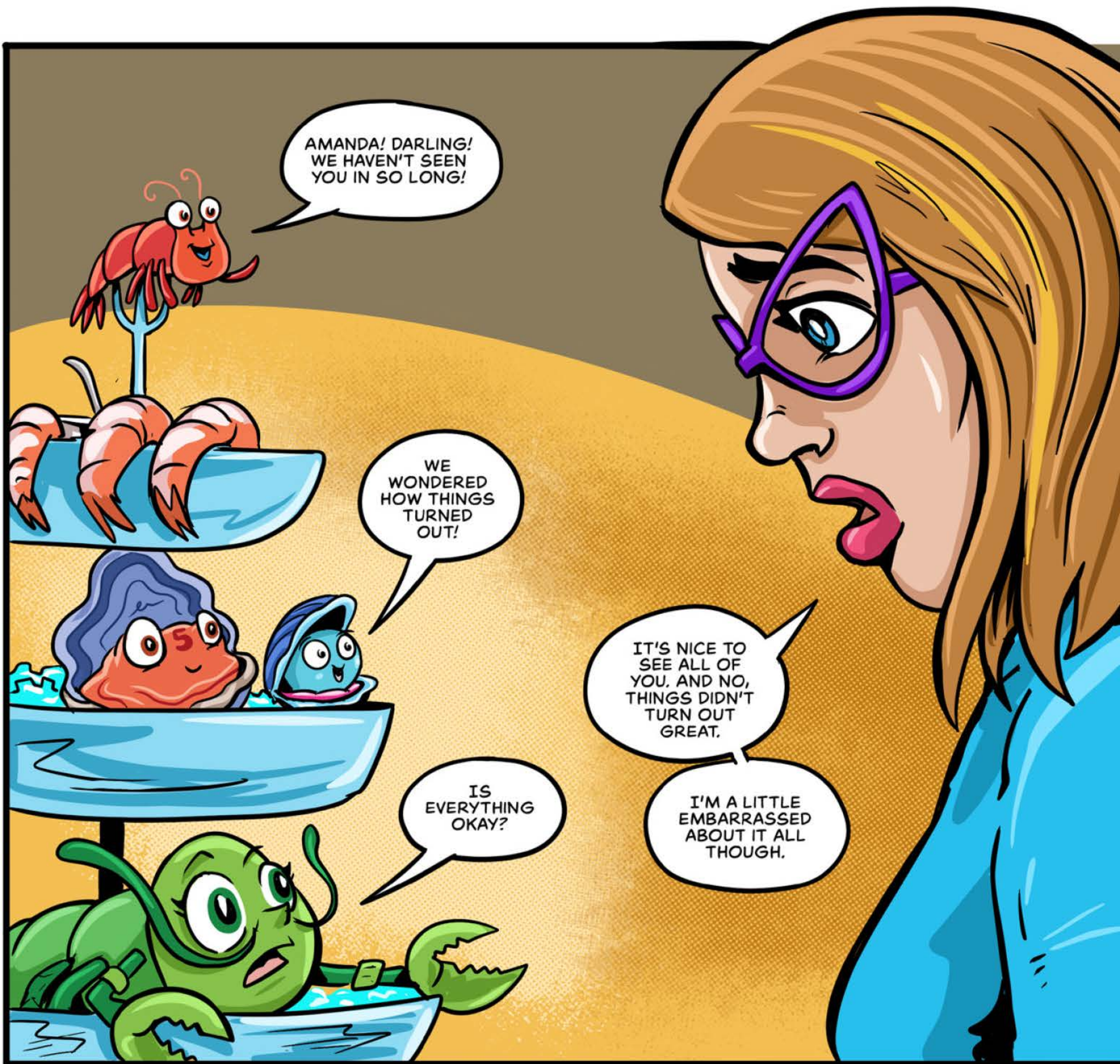


A black and white comic-style illustration. A hand is shown from the top right, holding a pen and writing on a dark notebook. The notebook is open, and the title 'SHELLS KITCHEN' is written in a bold, stylized font. In the top left corner, a fork and knife are visible. The scene is set on a table with a textured surface.

SHELLS KITCHEN

**ONE YEAR
LATER.**





BUT HE-- WELL,
HE PUT ON
THE CHARM.

I'M SORRY, BABY.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
I HAVEN'T BEEN
PRESENT.

I'LL BE
BETTER.

AND PAUL
CAN BE...
CONVINCING.

BUT HE ALSO
PROPOSED A
SOLUTION TO
OUR PROBLEMS.

I HAVE AN
IDEA ON
HOW WE CAN
RECONNECT.

PAUL SUGGESTED HE
START APPEARING ON
MY PODCAST.

THAT WAY WE
DID SOMETHING
TOGETHER.

I THOUGHT
IT WAS A
GREAT IDEA.

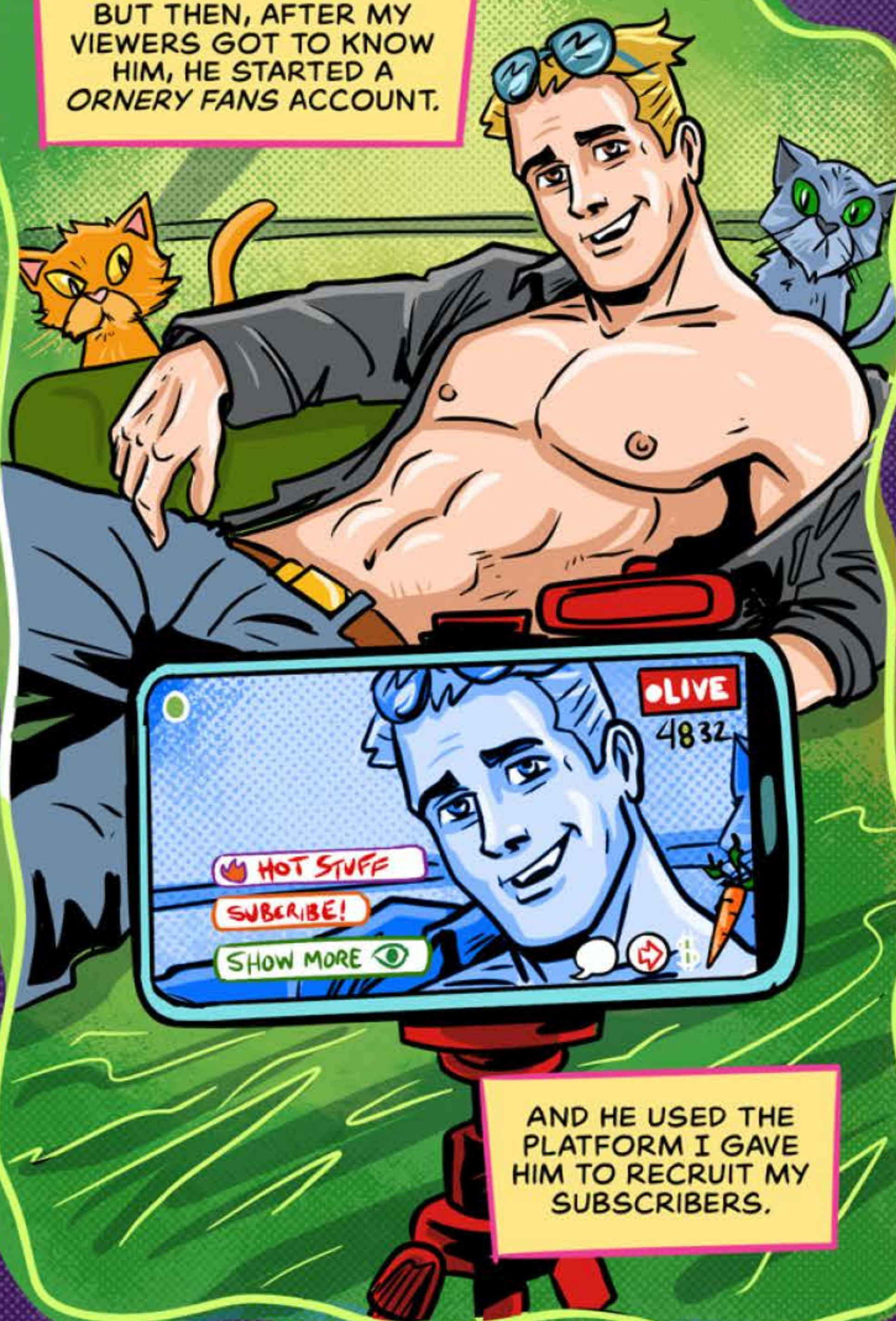
AND SO HE CAME
ON THE SHOW FOR
A FEW MONTHS.

OLIVE

CAT SIP!
WITH
PAUL



BUT THEN, AFTER MY VIEWERS GOT TO KNOW HIM, HE STARTED A ORNERY FANS ACCOUNT.



AND HE USED THE PLATFORM I GAVE HIM TO RECRUIT MY SUBSCRIBERS.

BUT WORST OF ALL, HE BEGAN TO CHANGE.



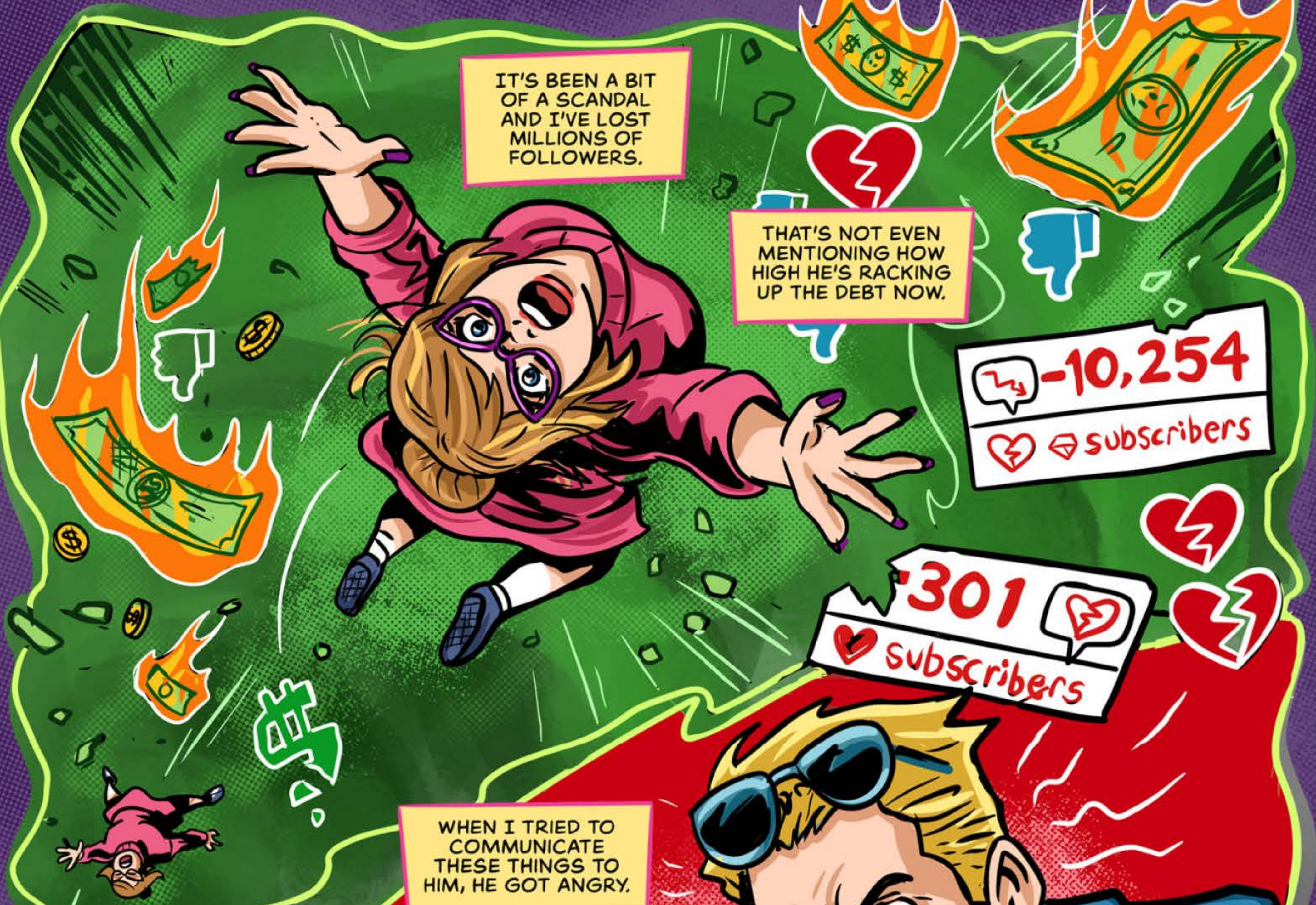
HE DRANK MORE.

HE WRECKED TWO CARS IN THREE MONTHS.



AND THERE WERE SOME EMBARRASSING PUBLIC INCIDENTS.





IT'S BEEN A BIT
OF A SCANDAL
AND I'VE LOST
MILLIONS OF
FOLLOWERS.

THAT'S NOT EVEN
MENTIONING HOW
HIGH HE'S RACKING
UP THE DEBT NOW.

-10,254
subscribers

301
subscribers

WHEN I TRIED TO
COMMUNICATE
THESE THINGS TO
HIM, HE GOT ANGRY.

YOU DON'T
TELL ME
WHAT TO
#\$*@'N
DO!

I FEEL
TRAPPED.

THINGS I
WORKED FOR ARE
SLIPPING AWAY.

AND I'M TOO
AFRAID TO ASK
HIM TO LEAVE.

WHAT
SHOULD
I DO?

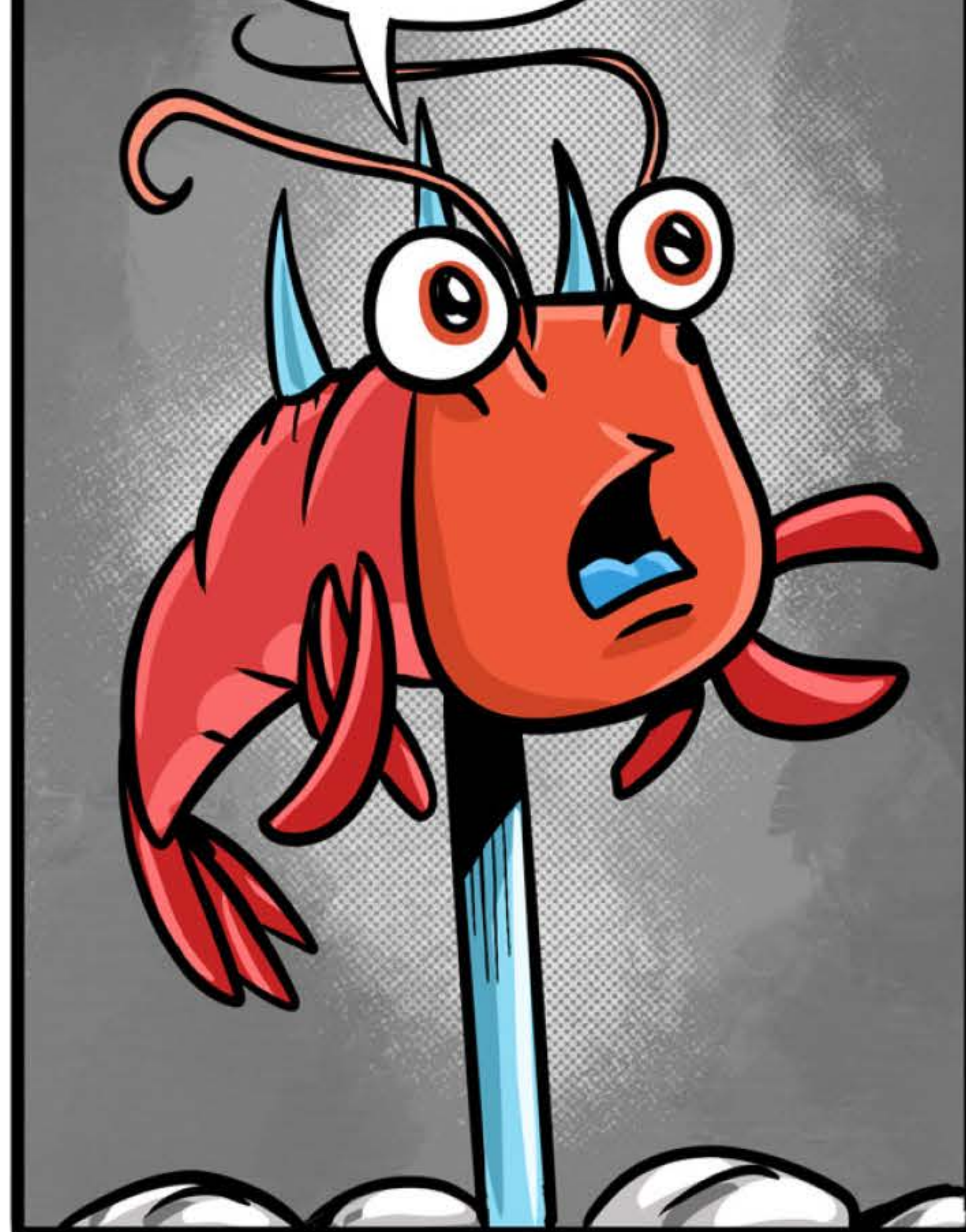
OH, SWEETIE.
I'M SO SORRY.

BUT YOU'RE PAST
THE POINT WHERE
HOW YOU END IT
MATTERS.

WE KNOW IT'S
HARD, BUT YOU
NEED TO
DUMP HIM.



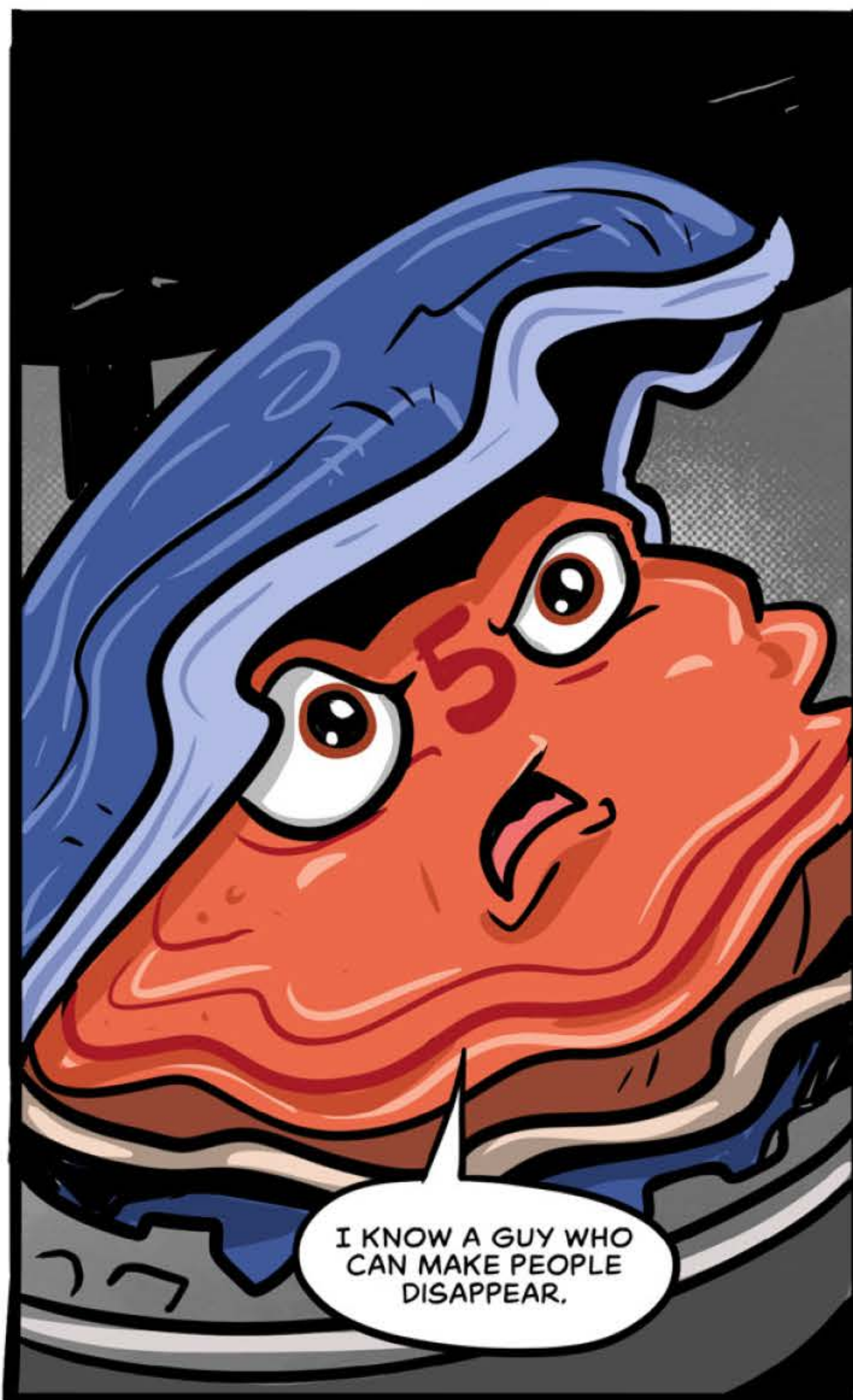
AND **SAFELY**,
IF YOU'RE AFRAID,
DON'T DO IT
IN PERSON.



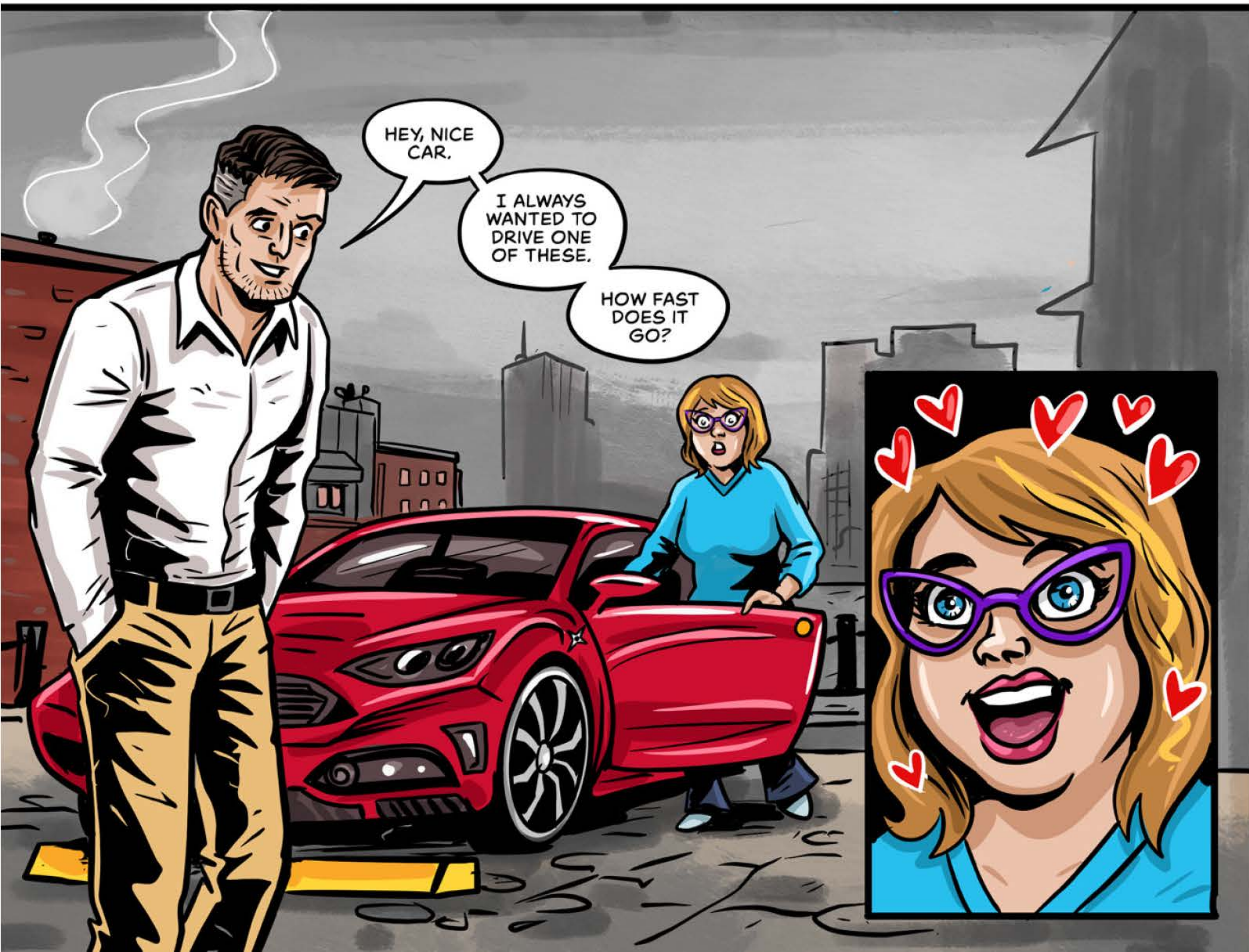
NO, HE DOESN'T
DESERVE YOUR
RESPECT ANYMORE
SINCE HE DOESN'T
RESPECT YOU.



I KNOW A GUY WHO
CAN MAKE PEOPLE
DISAPPEAR.



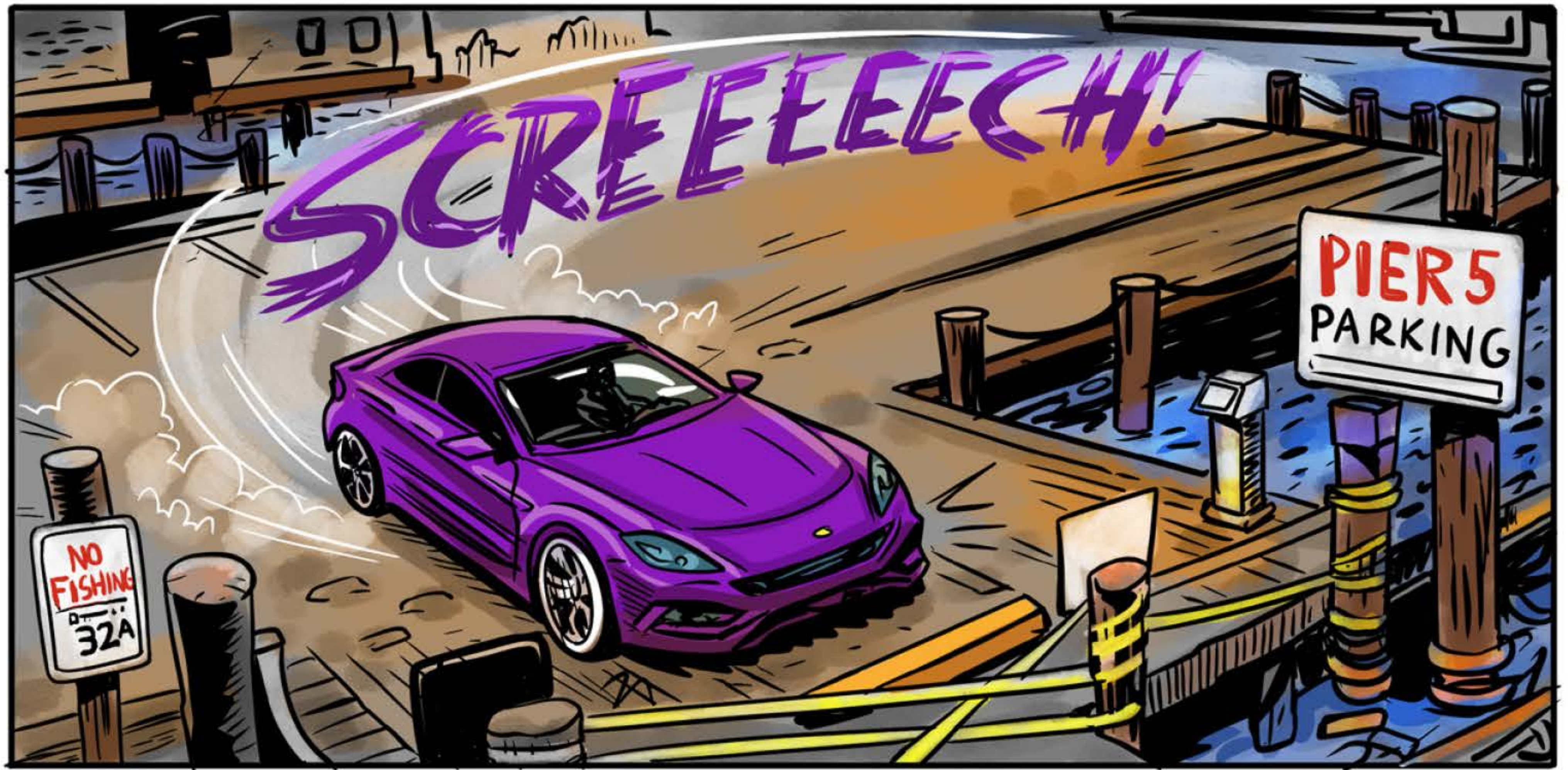


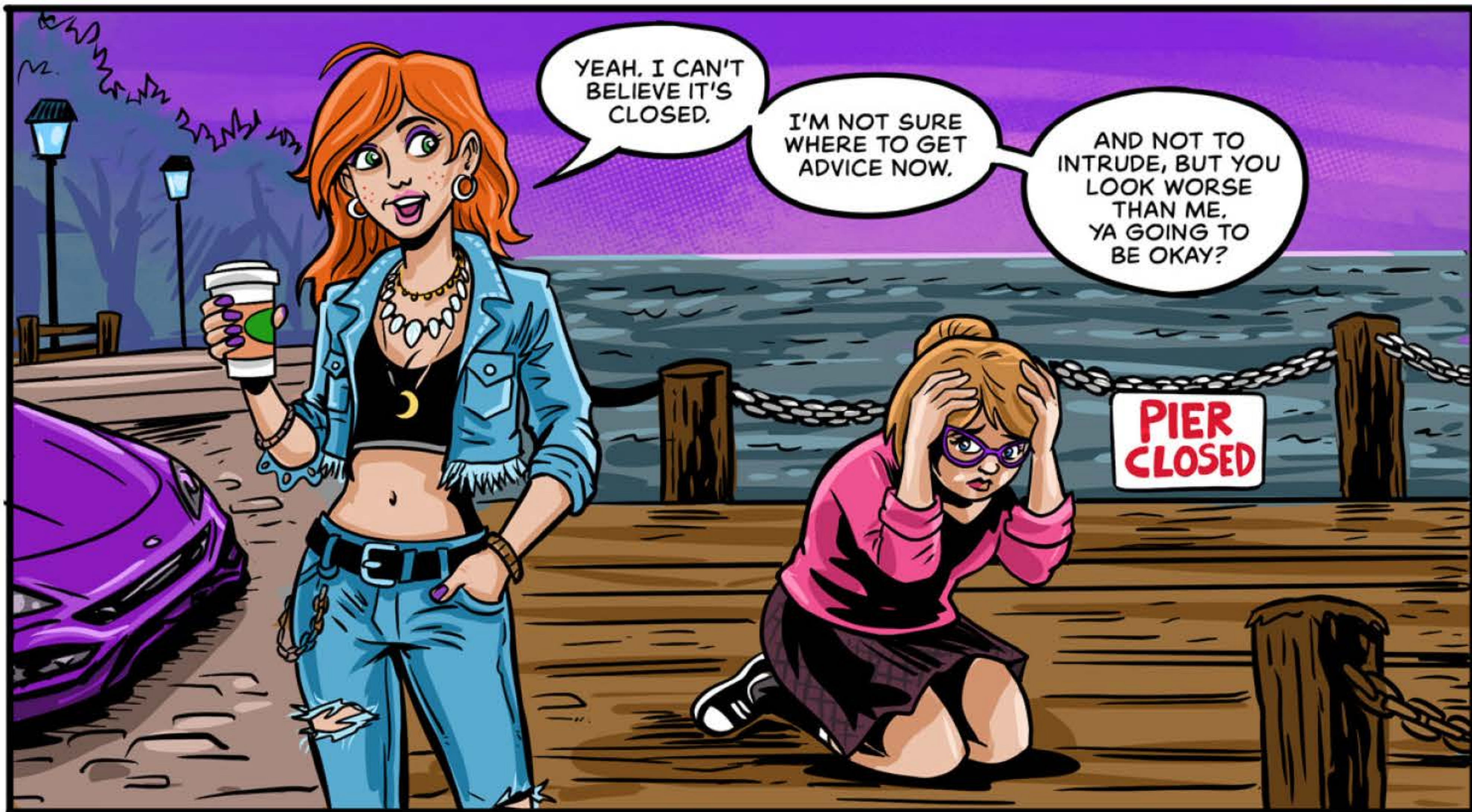


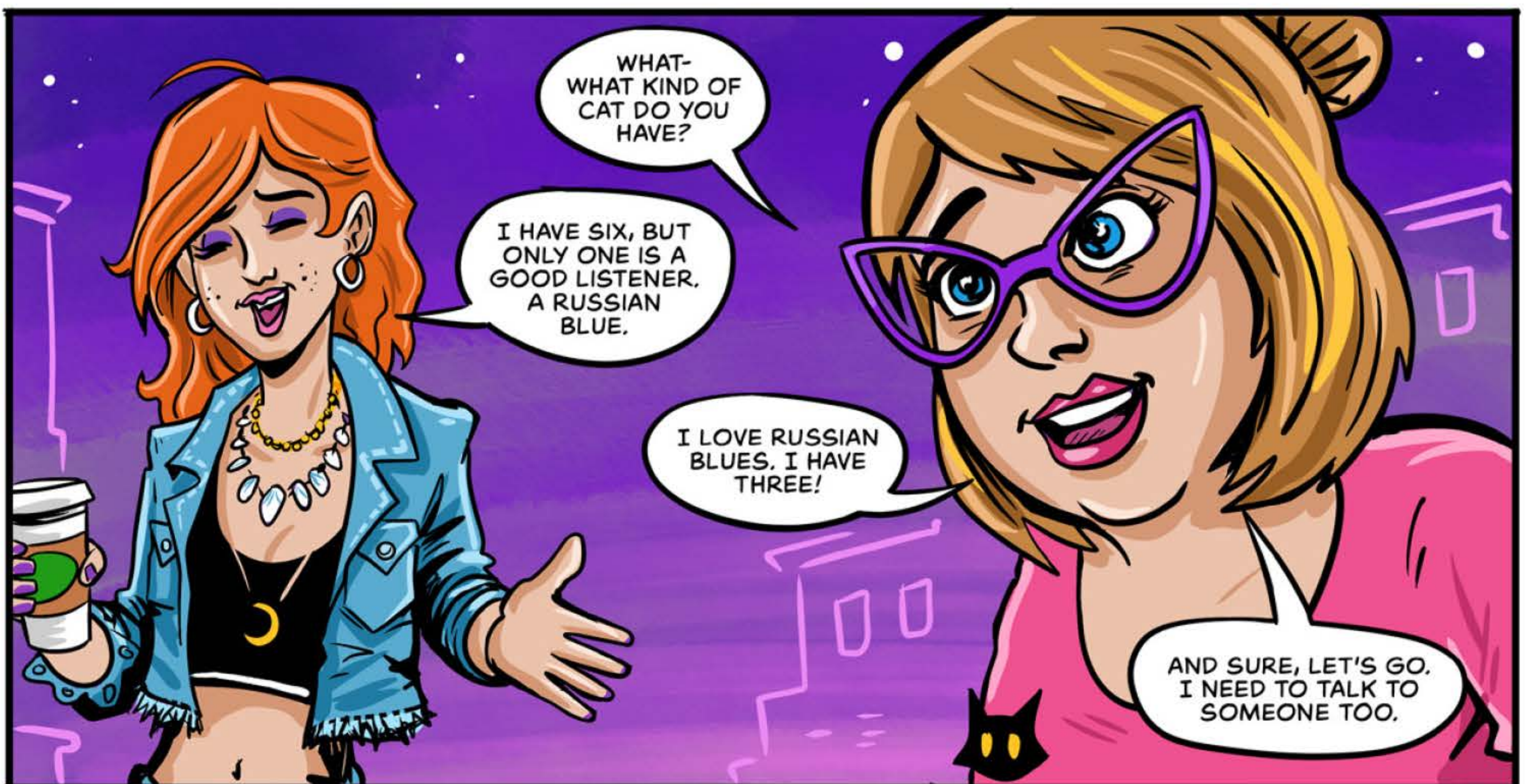
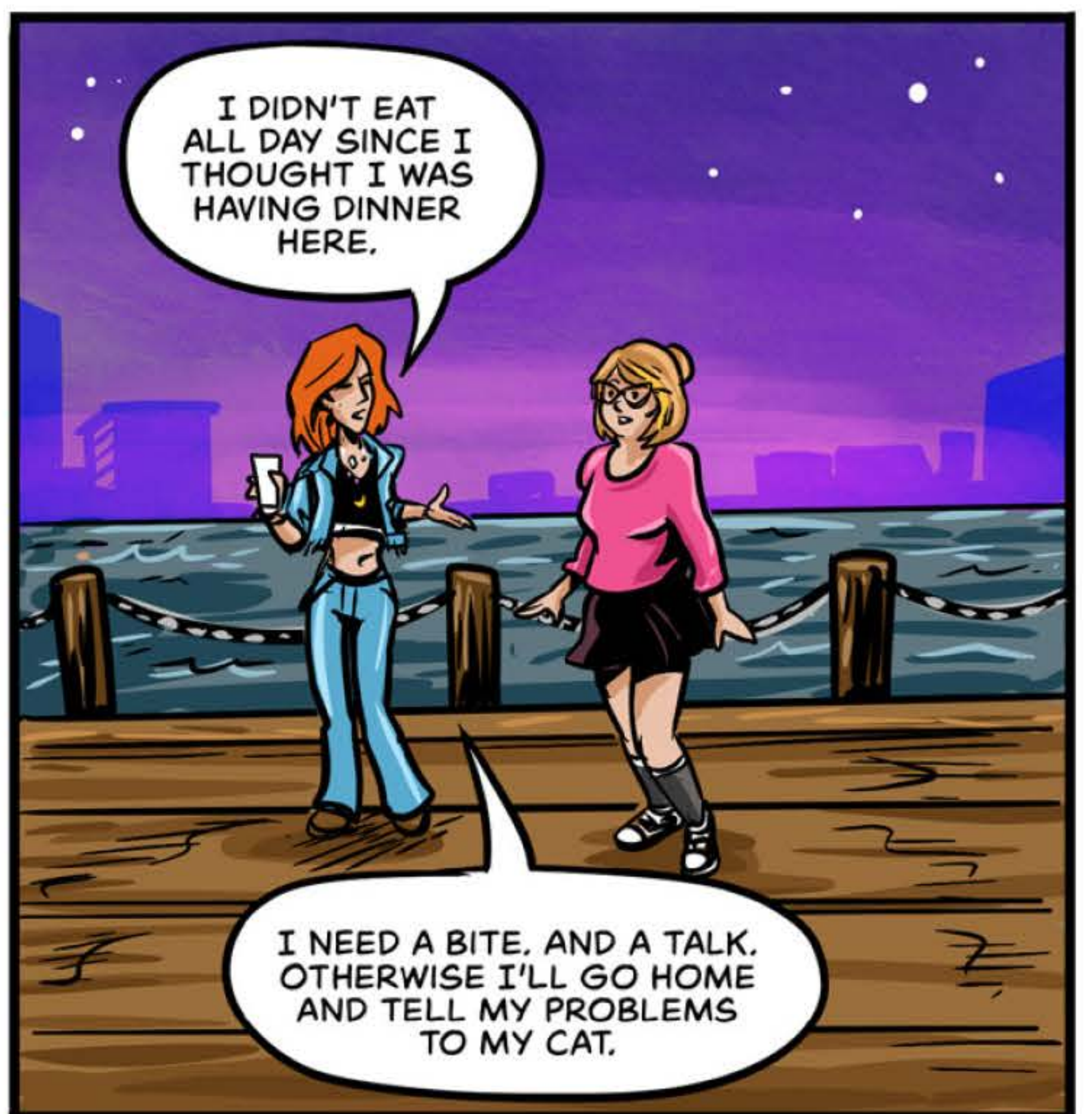
A black and white comic-style illustration. A hand is shown on the left, holding the top edge of a book. The book's cover is dark with a dashed white border. The title 'SHELLS KITCHEN' is written in a bold, italicized, sans-serif font. Below the title, a white rectangular box with a hand-drawn border contains the text 'ONE YEAR LATER.' in a bold, sans-serif font. The background features dynamic, sketchy lines and a halftone dot pattern, suggesting a sense of movement or a specific setting.

***SHELLS
KITCHEN***

**ONE YEAR
LATER.**









BUILDING CHARACTERS



Nobody saw Shells Kitchen coming... except Gary.

At our March 2025 offsite, we were joking about characters like Calm Clam and Observant Oyster when Gary pitched it, a restaurant where shellfish serve life advice from a seafood tower...and then get eaten.

We thought he was kidding. He wasn't.

It's weird, dark, and perfect, a place where every customer brings problems and the VeeFriends dish out therapy.

To write it, I called James Patrick. We go back 28 years, he gave me my first paid comic work, and he crushed this concept.

What do you think? comics@veefriends.com

— D.J. Coffman, May 2026

MEET THE MAKERS



NICK SELUK

Nick is the creator of the popular Awkward Yeti comic and author of the New York Times bestselling Heart and Brain, and its follow-ups Gut Instincts, and Body Language.

Nick pursued his lifelong dream of being a professional cartoonist after serving nine years in the corporate world as a graphic designer. In his childhood, he drew inspiration from classics like Calvin and Hobbes, The Far Side, Garfield, and The Simpsons.

His webcomic the Awkward Yeti began in late 2012, following a self-published children's book of the same name, and over the course of the next three years, spiked in popularity, reaching millions of people each week through his website and social media.

Heart and Brain, and a growing cast of organs can be found at theAwkwardYeti.com and on most social media sites including Facebook.com/awkwardyeti

Nick lives with his wife, three young kids, and a lovable, ornery old dog in the suburbs of Detroit.



JAMES PATRICK

James Patrick is an award-winning writer who's written books like Batman, Harley Quinn, Green Arrow, Star Trek, Angel, and Grimm Fairy Tales at companies like DC Comics, Image Comics, IDW Publishing, Aftershock Comics, Zenescope, and more.

He started his career by writing for Kevin Smith's Movie Poop Shoot (along with VeeFriends own D.J. Coffman) and independent books like Death Comes to Dillinger.

His creator-owned work includes the critically-acclaimed Astronaut Down, Campisi: The Dragon Incident, Monsters of Jimmy Crumb, Hero Hourly, and the smash hit Kaiju Score and its sequel, Kaiju Score: Steal from the Gods, which is currently in production to be made into a major motion picture from Sony Pictures and Escape Artists.

His proudest creations are his two kids, James and Cameron, and he lives with his two cats, Sophie and Archie.



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