

SINA GRACE • SIOBHAN KEENAN • CATHY LE

Ghosted ⁱⁿ L.A.™

എ VOL. 2 എ



SINA GRACE • SIOBHAN KEENAN • CATHY LE

Ghosted *in* *L.A.*™

VOL. 2

BOOM!
BOX™



| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Ross Richie..... | CEO & Founder |
| Joy Huffman..... | CFO |
| Matt Gagnon..... | Editor-in-Chief |
| Filip Sablik..... | President, Publishing & Marketing |
| Stephen Christy..... | President, Development |
| Lance Kreiter..... | Vice President, Licensing & Merchandising |
| Arun Singh..... | Vice President, Marketing |
| Bryce Carlson..... | Vice President, Editorial & Creative Strategy |
| Kate Henning..... | Director, Operations |
| Spencer Simpson..... | Director, Sales |
| Scott Newman..... | Manager, Production Design |
| Elyse Strandberg..... | Manager, Finance |
| Sierra Hahn..... | Executive Editor |
| Jeanine Schaefer..... | Executive Editor |
| Dafna Pleban..... | Senior Editor |
| Shannon Watters..... | Senior Editor |
| Eric Harburn..... | Senior Editor |
| Matthew Levine..... | Editor |
| Sophie Philips-Roberts..... | Associate Editor |
| Amanda LaFranco..... | Associate Editor |
| Jonathan Manning..... | Associate Editor |
| Gavin Gronenthal..... | Assistant Editor |
| Gwen Waller..... | Assistant Editor |
| Allyson Gronowitz..... | Assistant Editor |
| Ramiro Portnoy..... | Assistant Editor |
| Shelby Netschke..... | Editorial Assistant |
| Michelle Ankleby..... | Design Coordinator |
| Marie Krupina..... | Production Designer |
| Grace Park..... | Production Designer |
| Chelsea Roberts..... | Production Designer |
| Samantha Knapp..... | Production Design Assistant |
| José Meza..... | Live Events Lead |
| Stephanie Hocutt..... | Digital Marketing Lead |
| Esther Kim..... | Marketing Coordinator |
| Cat O'Grady..... | Digital Marketing Coordinator |
| Breanna Sarpy..... | Live Events Coordinator |
| Amanda Lawson..... | Marketing Assistant |
| Holly Aitchison..... | Digital Sales Coordinator |
| Morgan Perry..... | Retail Sales Coordinator |
| Megan Christopher..... | Operations Coordinator |
| Rodrigo Hernandez..... | Operations Coordinator |
| Zipporah Smith..... | Operations Assistant |
| Jason Lee..... | Senior Accountant |
| Sabrina Lesin..... | Accounting Assistant |

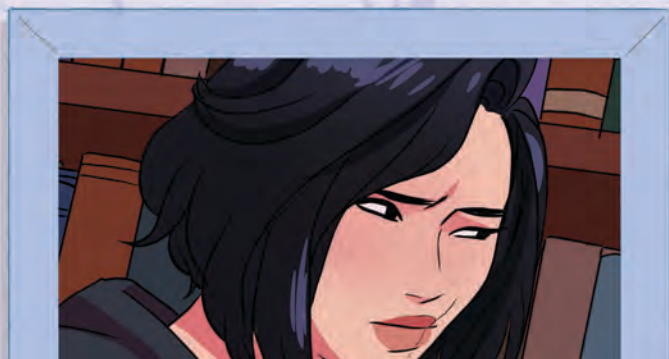
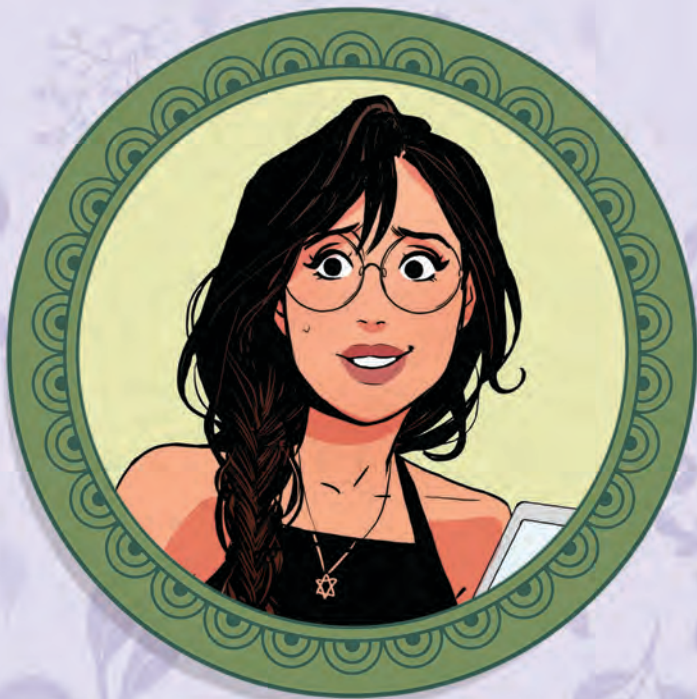
BOOM! BOX™

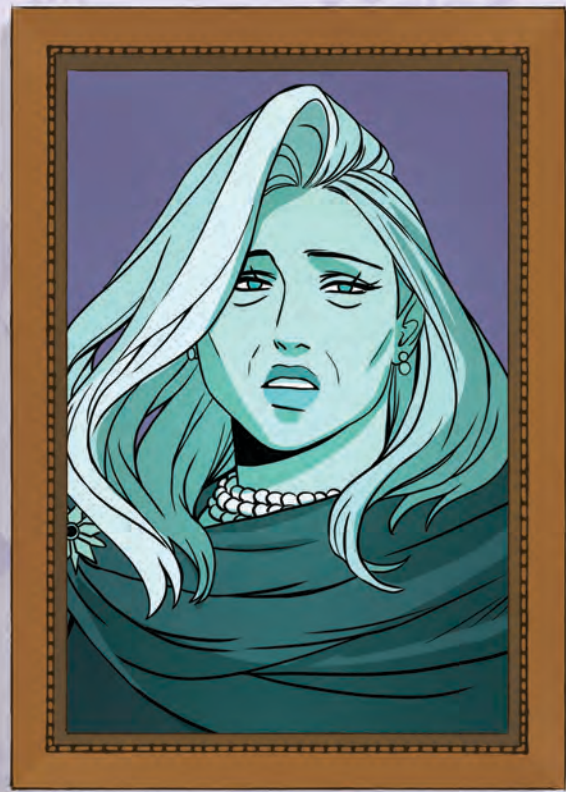
GHOSTED IN L.A. Volume Two, August 2020. Published by BOOM! Box, a division of Boom Entertainment, Inc. Ghosted in L.A. is™ & © 2020 Sina Grace. Originally published in single magazine form as GHOSTED IN L.A. No. 5-8.™ & © 2019, 2020 Sina Grace. All rights reserved. BOOM! Box™ and the BOOM! Box logo are trademarks of Boom Entertainment, Inc., registered in various countries and categories. All characters, events, and institutions depicted herein are fictional. Any similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, events, and/or institutions in this publication to actual names, characters, and persons, whether living or dead, events, and/or institutions is unintended and purely coincidental. BOOM! Box does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork.

BOOM! Studios, 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90036-5679. Printed in China. First Printing.

ISBN: 978-1-68415-541-5, eISBN: 978-1-64144-707-2









Created & Written by..... **Sina Grace**

Illustrated by..... **Siobhan Keenan**
With**Sina Grace**

Colors by..... **Cathy Le**

Letters by..... **DC Hopkins**

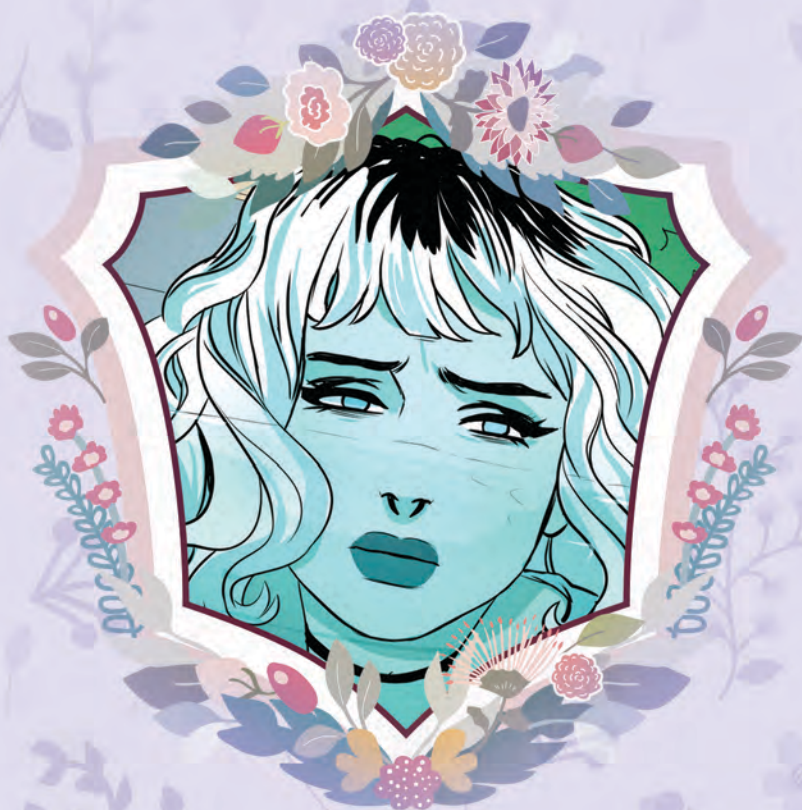
Cover by **Siobhan Keenan**

Series and Collection Designer..... **Michelle Ankley**
Assistant Editor **Allyson Gronowitz**
Editor..... **Shannon Watters**

The Bechdel Cast is a Production of iHeartRadio. All rights reserved. Used with permission.



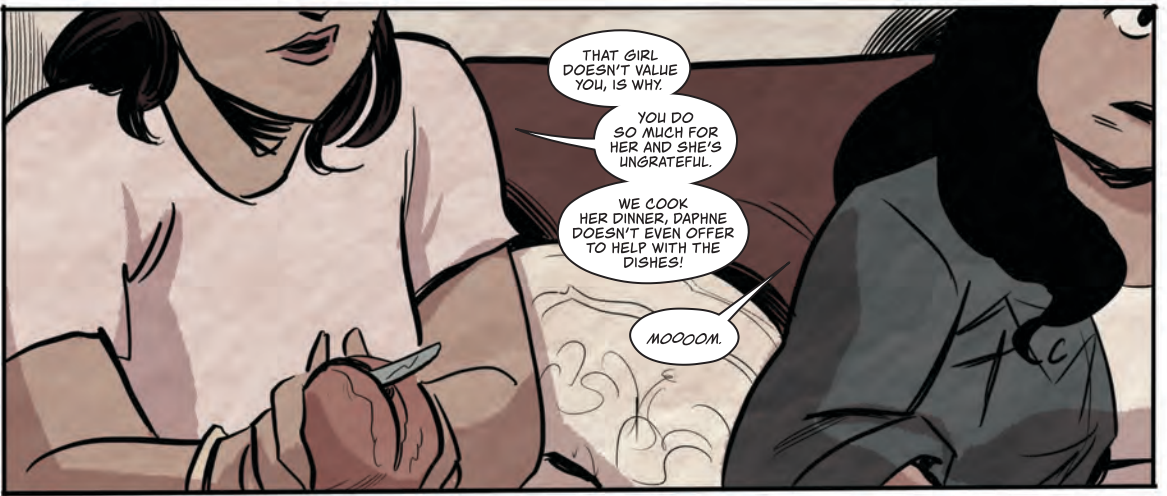
Chapter Five



MISSOULA, MONTANA
THE DAY KRIST AND DAPHNE
HAD THEIR BIG FIGHT.

SLAM





THAT GIRL DOESN'T VALUE YOU, IS WHY.

YOU DO SO MUCH FOR HER AND SHE'S UNGRATEFUL.

WE COOK HER DINNER, DAPHNE DOESN'T EVEN OFFER TO HELP WITH THE DISHES!

MOOOOM.



DIFFERENT CULTURES!

I LOST MY TEMPER ABOUT HER AND RONNIE, AND IT BLEW UP IN MY FACE.



DAPHNE IS SO MUCH LIKE MY FRIEND NASRIN--

--EAT!

MOM!

I ALREADY CUT IT!



WHEN WE WERE IN NURSING SCHOOL TOGETHER, NASRIN ALWAYS HAD TO HAVE IT HER WAY.

IF CURFEW WAS AT NINE, SHE WANTED LIGHTS OFF AT EIGHT.

THEN, WHEN SHE MET JAMSHID DURING HIS RESIDENCY, IT WAS ALL ABOUT HIM.



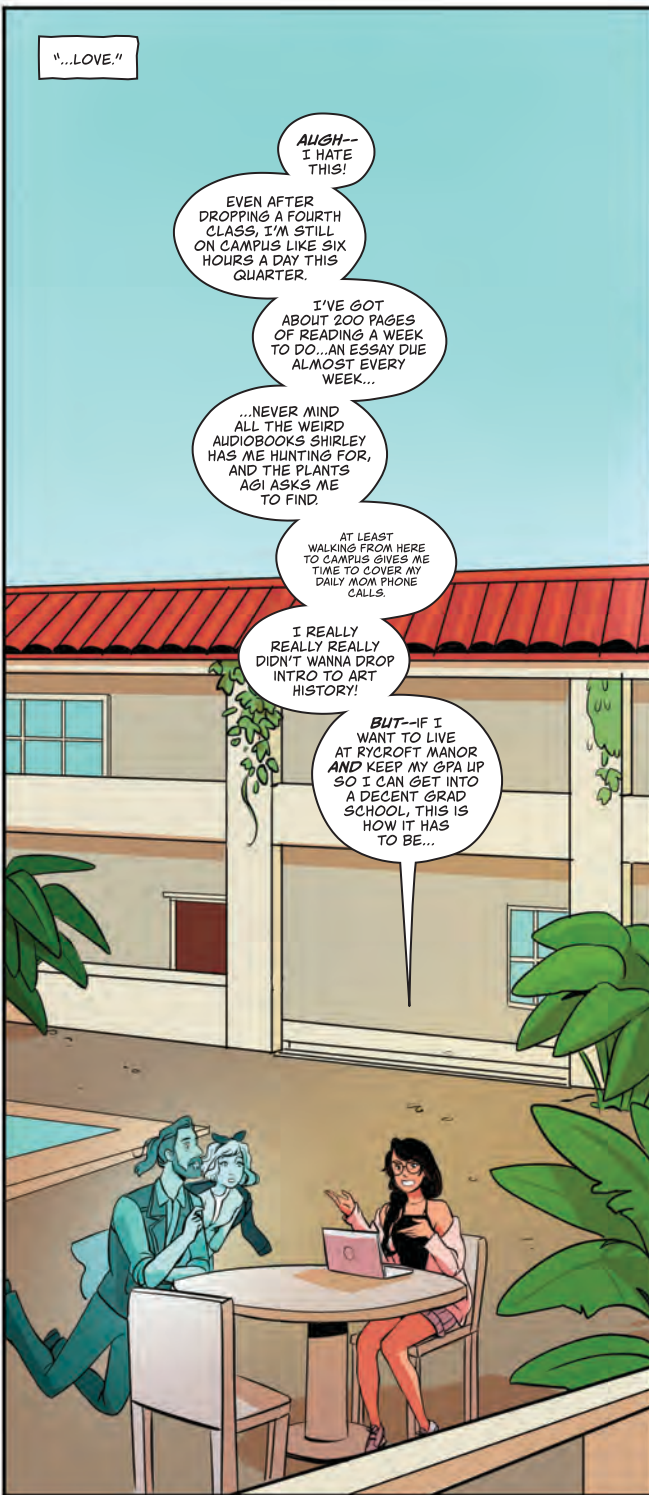
BOYFRIENDS, BEST FRIENDS, ANYTHING...

...SOME GIRLS NEED TO HAVE THEM ALL WRAPPED AROUND THEIR FINGER.



MOM, THAT'S SO REDUCTIVE I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO START...





"...LOVE."

AUGH--
I HATE
THIS!

EVEN AFTER
DROPPING A FOURTH
CLASS, I'M STILL
ON CAMPUS LIKE SIX
HOURS A DAY THIS
QUARTER.

I'VE GOT
ABOUT 200 PAGES
OF READING A WEEK
TO DO...AN ESSAY DUE
ALMOST EVERY
WEEK...

...NEVER MIND
ALL THE WEIRD
AUDIOBOOKS SHIRLEY
HAS ME HUNTING FOR,
AND THE PLANTS
AGI ASKS ME
TO FIND.

AT LEAST
WALKING FROM HERE
TO CAMPUS GIVES ME
TIME TO COVER MY
DAILY MOM PHONE
CALLS.

I REALLY
REALLY REALLY
DIDN'T WANNA DROP
INTRO TO ART
HISTORY!

BUT--IF I
WANT TO LIVE
AT RYCROFT MANOR
AND KEEP MY GPA UP
SO I CAN GET INTO
A DECENT GRAD
SCHOOL, THIS IS
HOW IT HAS
TO BE...



...DID YOU GUYS
HAVE THIS MUCH TO
DO WHEN YOU WERE
STUDENTS?

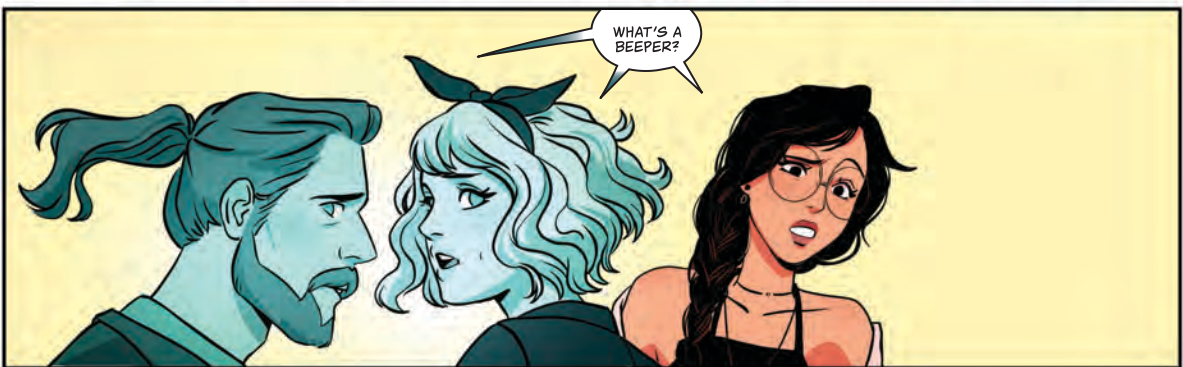
...
NO.

CERTAINLY
NOT DURING MY
FIRST MONTH OF
COLLEGE.

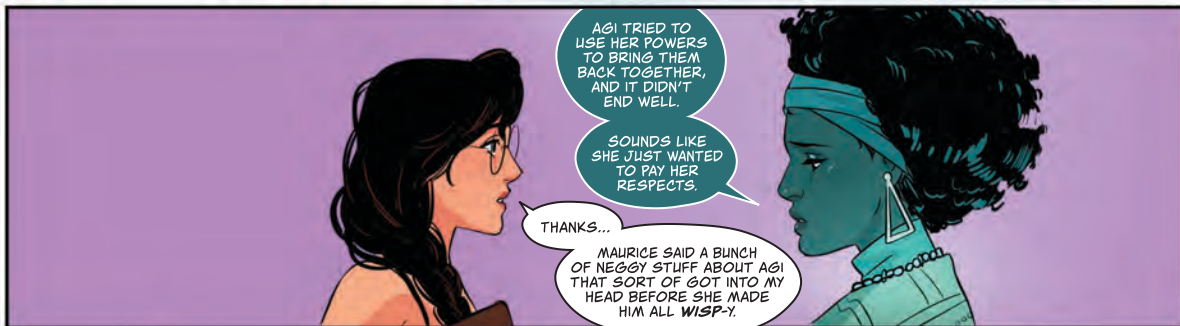


THAT DOESN'T
LEAVE YOU ANY TIME
FOR GOING OUT AND
MAKING HUMAN
FRIENDS, OR EVEN
DATING.

JUST BE
HAPPY NONE OF
YOU HAD TO DATE
IN THE TIME OF
BEEPERS.

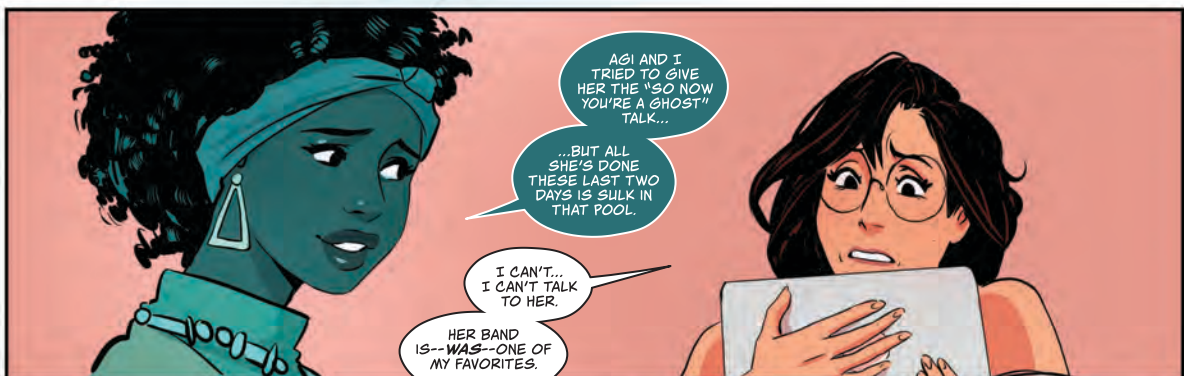


WHAT'S A
BEEPER?





HER.



AGI AND I TRIED TO GIVE HER THE "SO NOW YOU'RE A GHOST" TALK...

...BUT ALL SHE'S DONE THESE LAST TWO DAYS IS SULK IN THAT POOL.

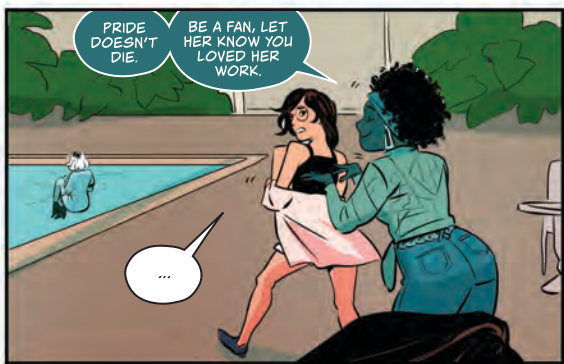
I CAN'T... I CAN'T TALK TO HER.

HER BAND IS--WAS--ONE OF MY FAVORITES.



IT'S LIKE IF ANNETTE FUNICELLO SHOWED UP ON PAM'S DOORSTEP... I CAN'T.

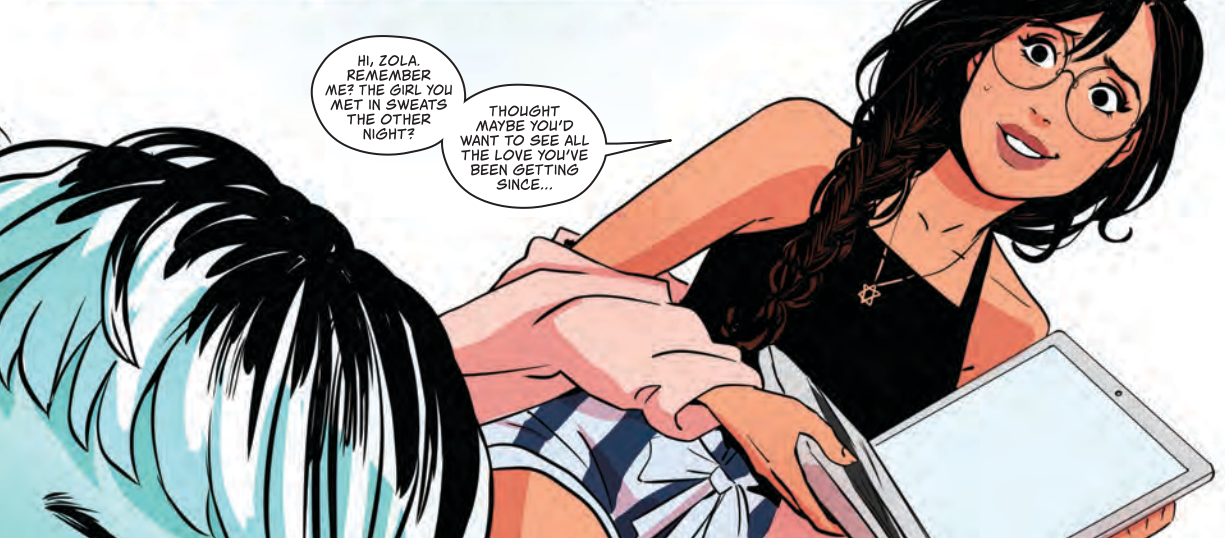
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY YOU SHOULD TALK TO HER.



PRIDE DOESN'T DIE.

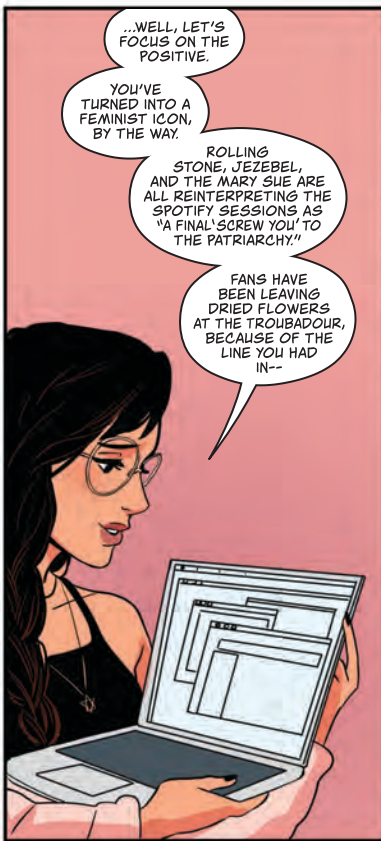
BE A FAN, LET HER KNOW YOU LOVED HER WORK.

...



HI, ZOLA. REMEMBER ME? THE GIRL YOU MET IN SWEATS THE OTHER NIGHT?

THOUGHT MAYBE YOU'D WANT TO SEE ALL THE LOVE YOU'VE BEEN GETTING SINCE...

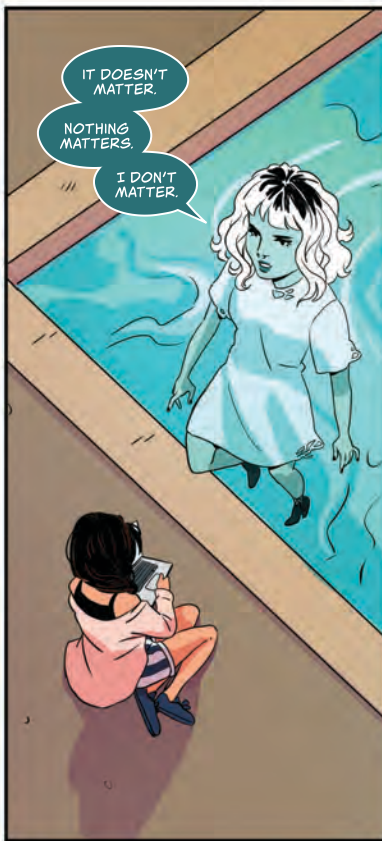


...WELL, LET'S FOCUS ON THE POSITIVE.

YOU'VE TURNED INTO A FEMINIST ICON, BY THE WAY.

ROLLING STONE, JEZEBEL, AND THE MARY SUE ARE ALL REINTERPRETING THE SPOTIFY SESSIONS AS "A FINAL SCREW YOU" TO THE PATRIARCHY."

FANS HAVE BEEN LEAVING DRIED FLOWERS AT THE TROUBADOUR, BECAUSE OF THE LINE YOU HAD IN--



IT DOESN'T MATTER.

NOTHING MATTERS.

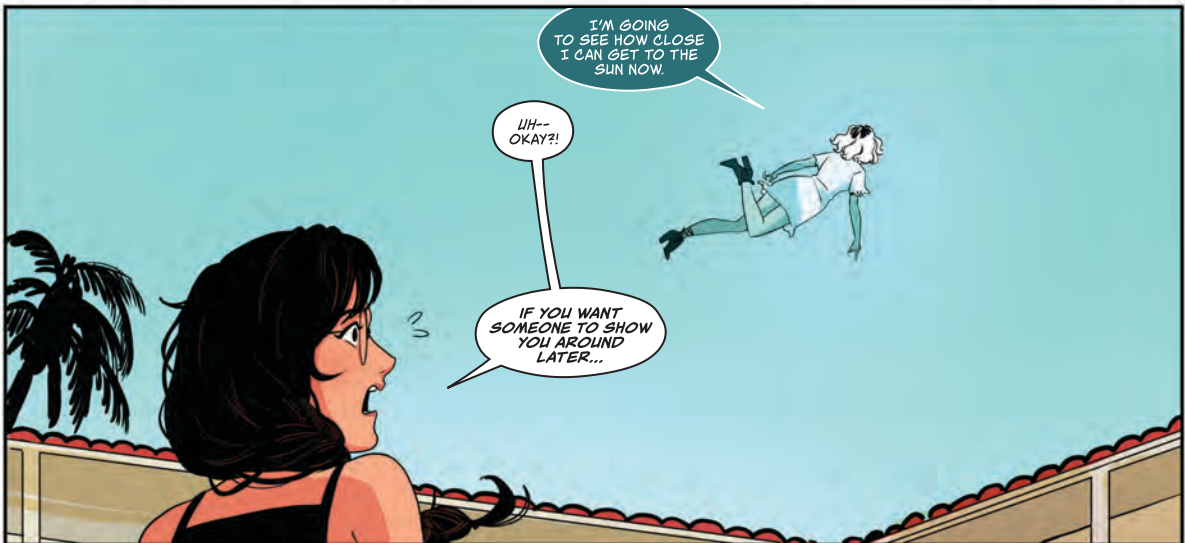
I DON'T MATTER.



OF COURSE YOU MATTER...

...NOT SO MUCH IN THE PHYSICAL SENSE ANYMORE, BUT...

...YOU MATTERED TO A LOT OF PEOPLE.



I'M GOING TO SEE HOW CLOSE I CAN GET TO THE SUN NOW.

UH-- OKAY?!

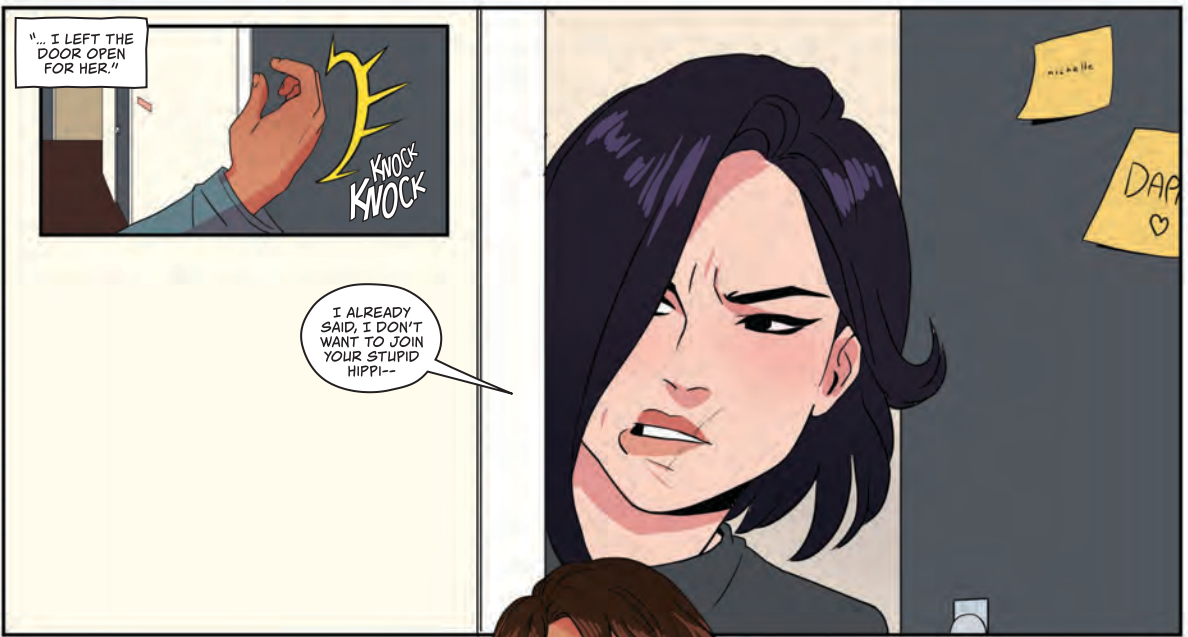
IF YOU WANT SOMEONE TO SHOW YOU AROUND LATER...



IS SHE AS COOL AS SHE SEEMS?

NOT SURE. ZOLA TESLA ISN'T QUITE AN OPEN BOOK.

BUT I DIDN'T PEE MYSELF, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY...





I'M KRISTI, DAPHNE'S BEST FRIEND FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

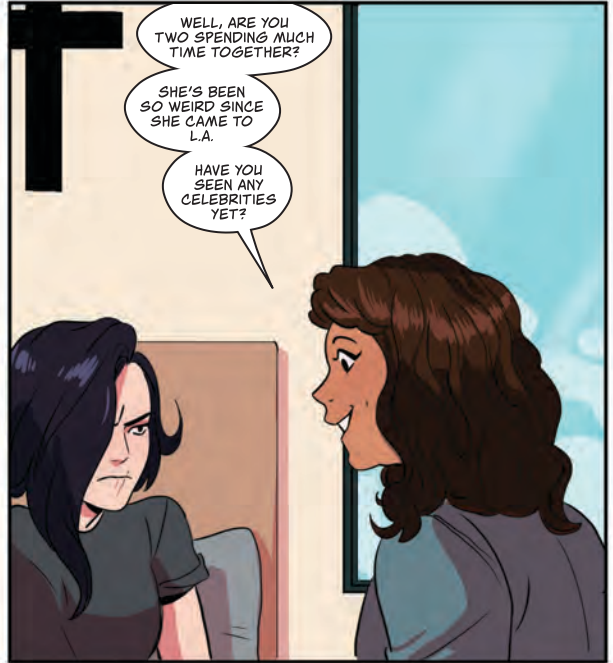
YOU MUST BE MICHELLE!

I JUST FOLLOWED SOME KIDS IN HERE. I'M FINALLY IN A CITY WHERE BEING PERSIAN MEANS I BLEND IN.

HAVE I BEEN REPLACED AS BFF BY YOU?



NO.



WELL, ARE YOU TWO SPENDING MUCH TIME TOGETHER?

SHE'S BEEN SO WEIRD SINCE SHE CAME TO L.A.

HAVE YOU SEEN ANY CELEBRITIES YET?



NO.

TO WHICH PART?

ALL OF IT.



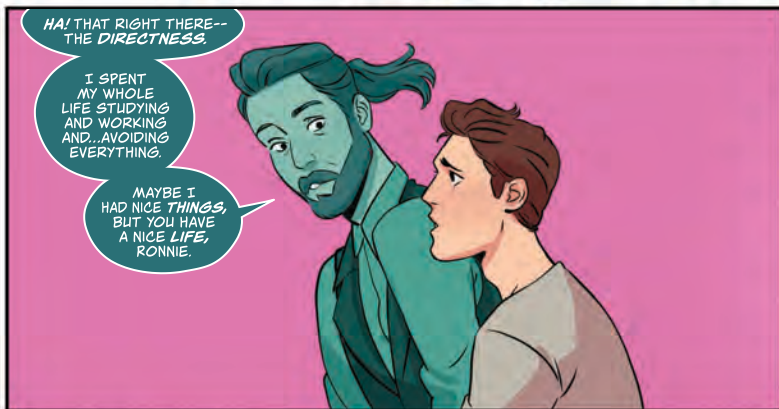
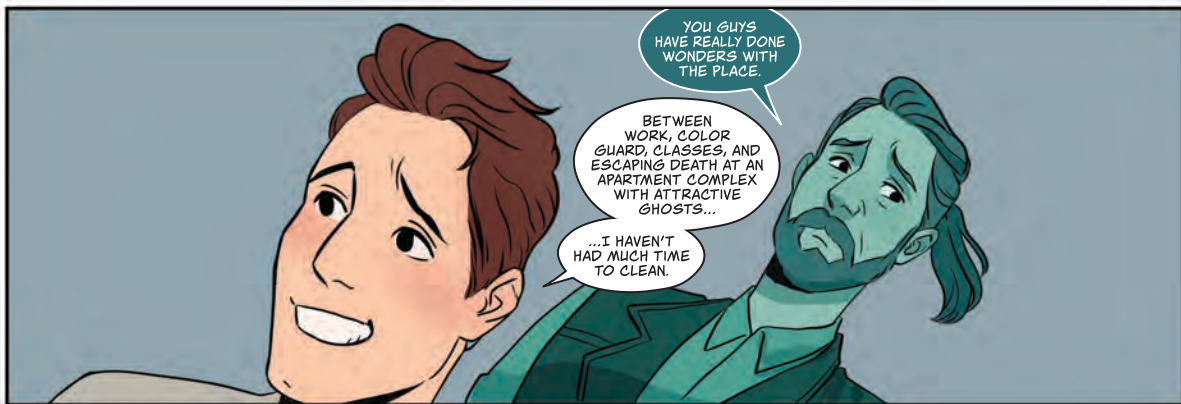
I'M GOING TO DO MY HOMEWORK NOW.

OKAY...IT WAS NICE MEETING YOU...



"...I'M GONNA FIND RONNIE AND SEE IF HE KNOWS WHAT'S UP WITH DAPHNE."

AND OVER HERE IS OUR OTHER LAUNDRY PILE.







DUDE!
YOU SAID
YOU'D BE GONE
THE WHOLE
DAY--



KRISTI!
HI.
WHAT?
I MEAN,
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?



IS DAPHNE
IN THERE? HER
ROOMMATE SAYS
SHE'S LIVING
IN SIN WITH
YOU.

UH, NO.
SHE'S NOT
HERE.



WELL, WHERE
IS SHE,
THEN?

I DON'T
KNOW. WE
BROKE
UP.



WOW,
SHE FINALLY
DUMPED
YOU?!

YOU WERE
NEVER GOOD
ENOUGH FOR HER...
I COULD ALWAYS
TELL YOU HAD ONE
EYE ON OTHER
PROSPECTS!

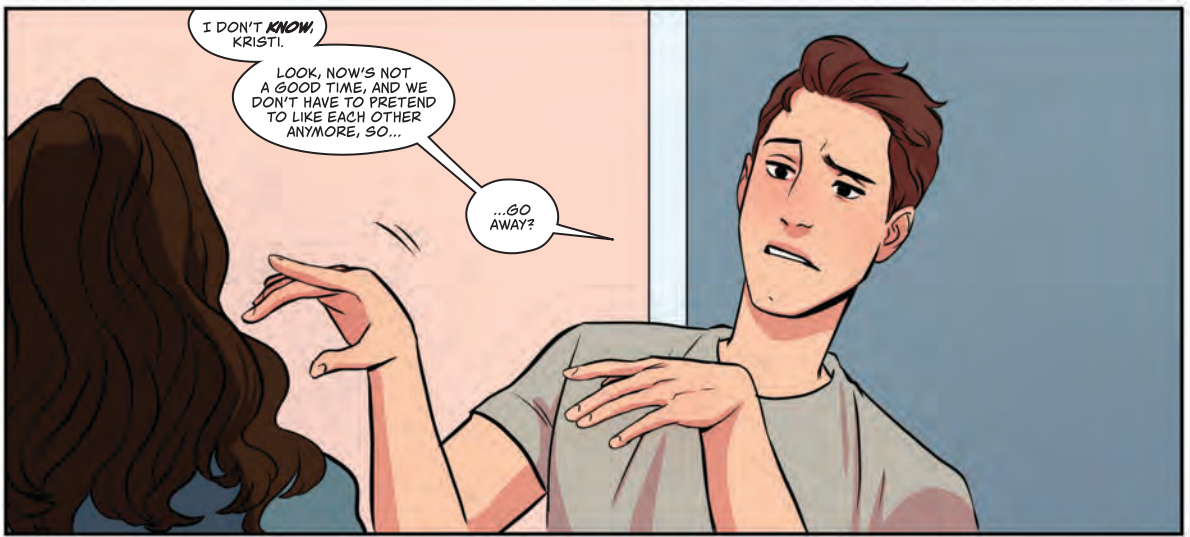


NO, THAT'S
NOT HOW IT
WENT--

--YOU NEED
TO TALK TO HER
ABOUT IT.

OKAY,
WELL, WHERE
THE HECK IS
SHE?!

I WAS ON
A BUS FOR LIKE
TWELVE HOURS WITH
NOTHING TO LOOK AT BUT
A JOAN DIDION NIGHTMARE
OF FARMLAND, ONLY TO
FIND OUT DAPHNE'S LOST
HER PHONE AND **NO**
ONE KNOWS WHERE
SHE IS.



I DON'T KNOW, KRISTI.

LOOK, NOW'S NOT A GOOD TIME, AND WE DON'T HAVE TO PRETEND TO LIKE EACH OTHER ANYMORE, SO...

...GO AWAY?

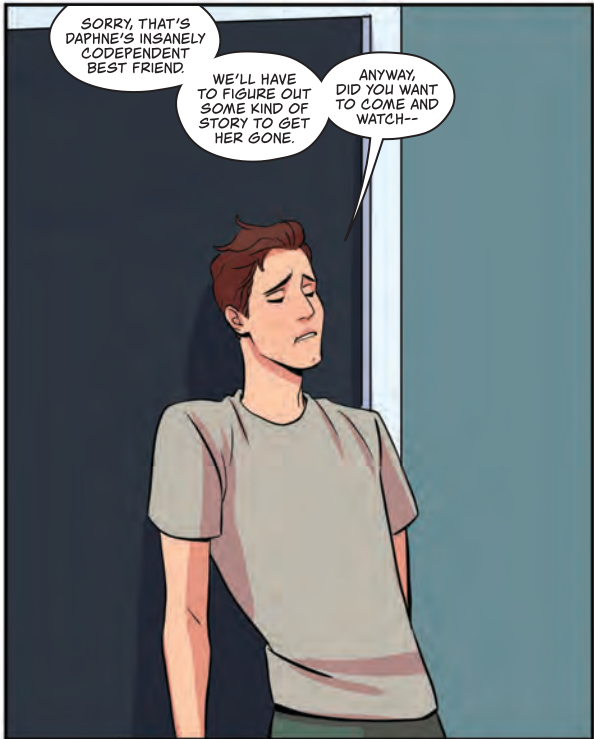


WHY ARE YOU BEING SO WEIRD?

DO YOU HAVE SOMEONE IN THERE--ARE YOU STONED?

YES. I HAD SO MUCH POT EARLIER AND NOW I'M FULL.

WELCOME TO L.A., KRISTI.



SORRY, THAT'S DAPHNE'S INSANELY CODEPENDENT BEST FRIEND.

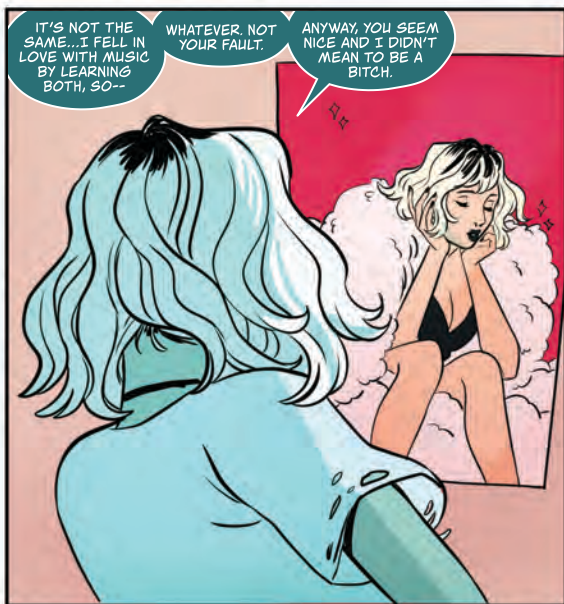
WE'LL HAVE TO FIGURE OUT SOME KIND OF STORY TO GET HER GONE.

ANYWAY, DID YOU WANT TO COME AND WATCH--



--COLOR GUARD?







EVERYONE'S USUALLY UP IN THE TV UNIT, OR RICKY'S LISTENING TO MUSIC.

I HAVEN'T REALLY VENTURED ON THIS SIDE 'CUZ MAURICE WAS A BIT...FUSSY? MAYBE PERSNICKETY IS A BETTER WORD.

HE WAS A GROUCHY GHOUL WHO AGI SENT AWAY RIGHT BEFORE YOU CAME HERE.



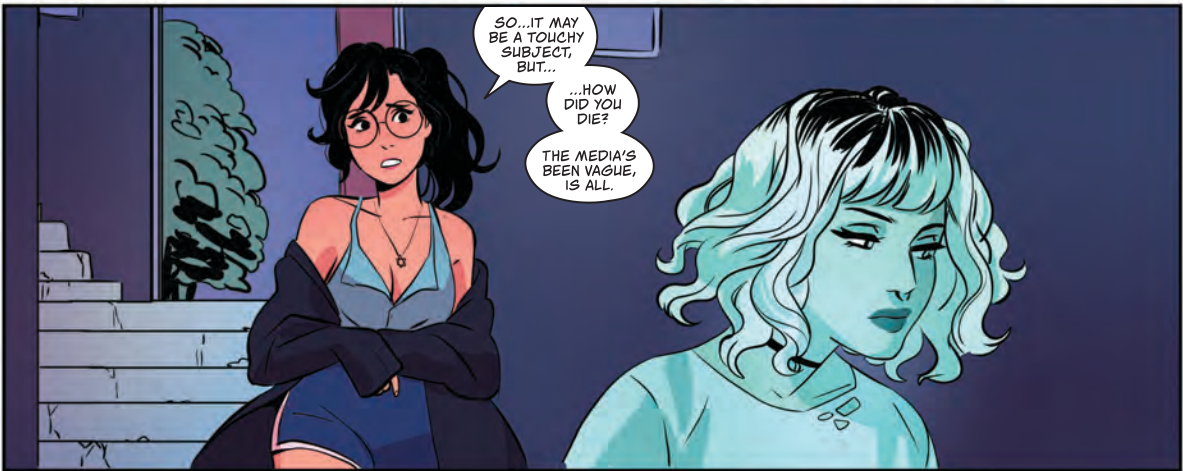
THEN THE BASEMENT WILL BE A FIRST FOR BOTH OF US.

WELL...

WHAT? AFRAID GRANNY WARBUCKS WILL BANISH US, TOO?



I'LL GO FIRST.



SO...IT MAY BE A TOUCHY SUBJECT, BUT...

...HOW DID YOU DIE?

THE MEDIA'S BEEN VAGUE, IS ALL.



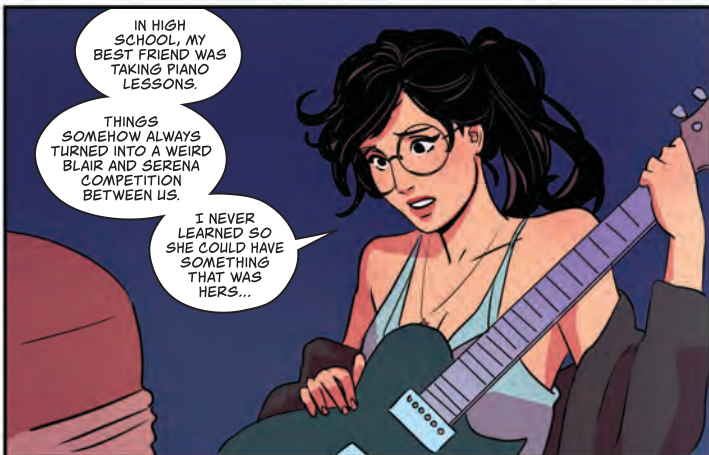
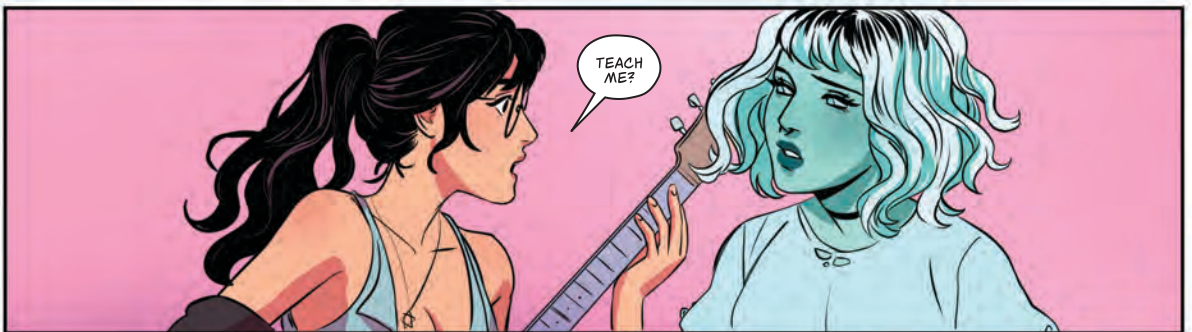
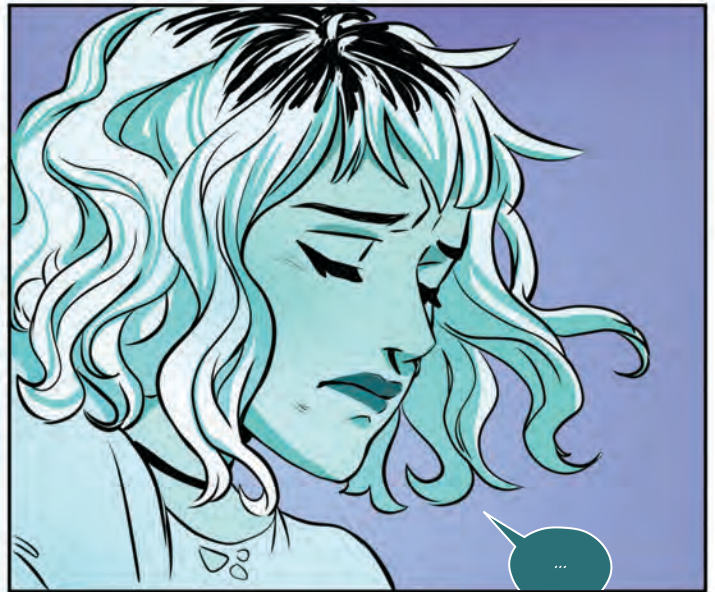
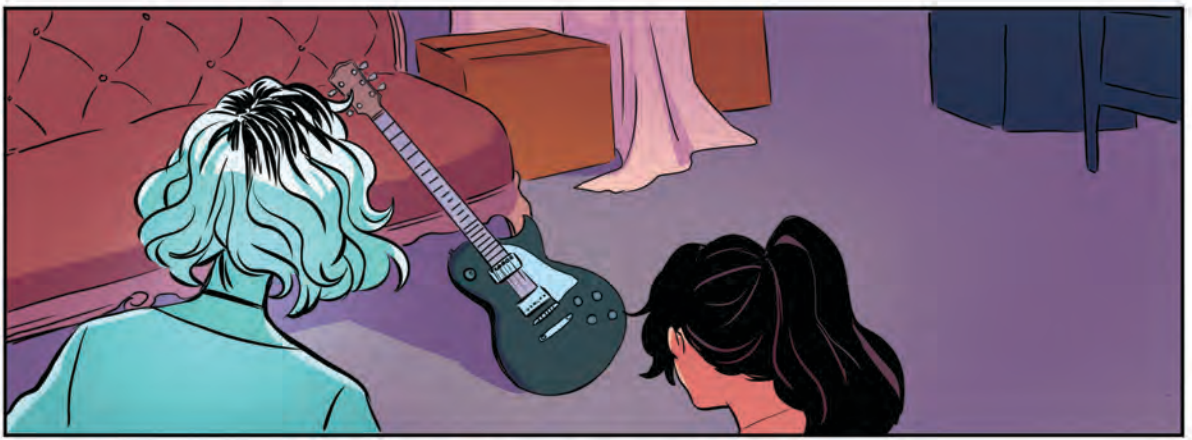
I THINK I KILLED MYSELF.



OH MY GOD, I'M SO SOR--

NO BIG. MEMORY'S STILL KIND OF HAZY ABOUT IT ANYWAY--

--OH.





FINGERS LIKE THAT. PRESS WITH YOUR TIPS.

IT HURTS TO PRESS THIS HARD.



YOU GET CALLUSES FAST.

STRUM UP AND DOWN.

AM I ROCK STAR NOW?

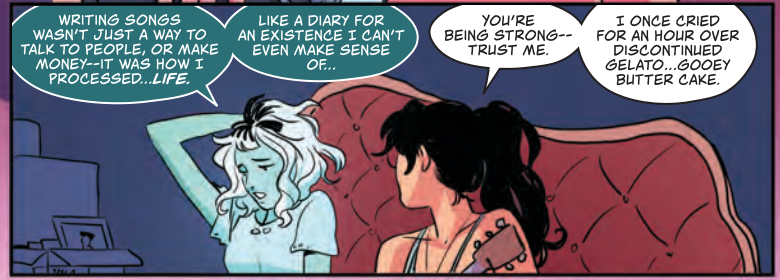


JUST ABOUT. LEARN THE G, A, AND D CHORDS... THEN YOU'LL KNOW HALF OF POP MUSIC.



I ACTUALLY DON'T SOUND SO BAD-- --ZOLA?

SORRY.



WRITING SONGS WASN'T JUST A WAY TO TALK TO PEOPLE, OR MAKE MONEY--IT WAS HOW I PROCESSED...LIFE.

LIKE A DIARY FOR AN EXISTENCE I CAN'T EVEN MAKE SENSE OF...

YOU'RE BEING STRONG-- TRUST ME.

I ONCE CRIED FOR AN HOUR OVER DISCONTINUED GELATO...GOOEY BUTTER CAKE.



HEH, I'M NOT GONNA MISS ASKING IF EVERYTHING'S VEGAN.

WAIT, PAUSE A SEC...



ONE OF SHIRLEY'S BOXES...

...OH.

WAIT.

IT'S HIM.



WHO?

THE GHOST THAT WAS HERE BEFORE YOU ARRIVED-- MAURICE--HE HAD MENTIONED THIS NAME.



SEAN MUST HAVE BEEN SHIRLEY'S SON.

CLASS OF

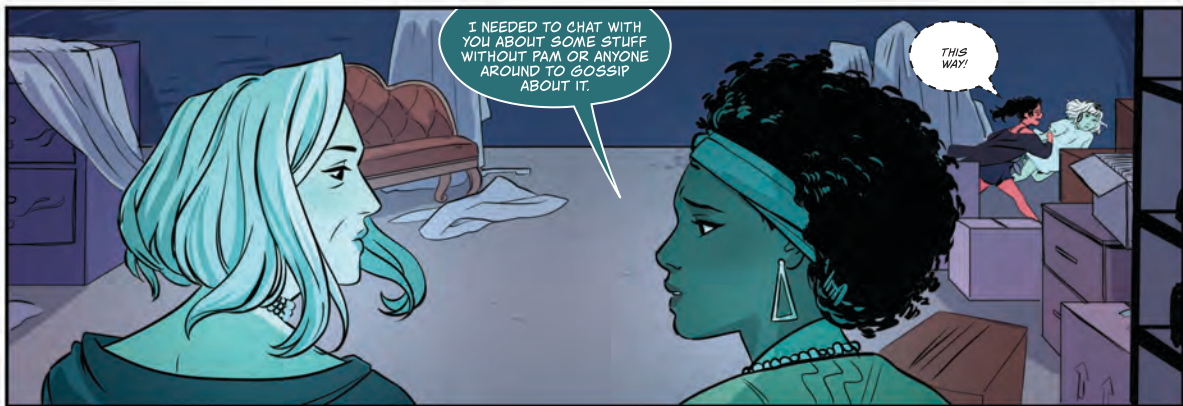


AGI HAD ME VISIT SEAN'S GRAVE...

...WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?



WHAT IS IT YOU NEEDED TO DISCUSS IN PRIVATE?





WHY ARE YOU SO CURIOUS ABOUT THIS? YOU'VE NEVER INQUIRED ABOUT MANNERS OF AFTERLIFE EXISTENCE BEFORE.

I'VE BEEN HAVING THOUGHTS, IS ALL.

IT SEEMED LIKE MAYBE YOU'D BEEN ABLE TO HELP MAURICE WITH...



...MOVING ON.



I SEE.

SHIRLEY, THERE IS NO PEACE IN MAURICE'S OBLIVION.

WHAT YOU'RE FEELING NOW...IT WILL PASS, WE ALL GO THROUGH PHASES. CHANGE CAN BRING UP NOTIONS OF UNREST.



AH, IT'S MORE THAN THAT, I--

PLEASE, LET'S NOT DISCUSS THIS MORBID TOPIC FURTHER.

=PSST=



=PSST=



DID I MESS UP BY TALKING ABOUT HER SON?

OVER HERE, YOU GOTTA SEE THIS.

THE
DOOR...

...THIS DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE ANYTHING
I'VE SEEN AROUND
THE BUILDING.

AND...
MUMPH!

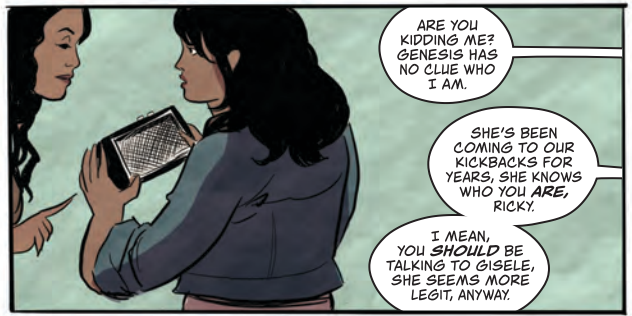
...I CAN'T
PHASE
THROUGH.





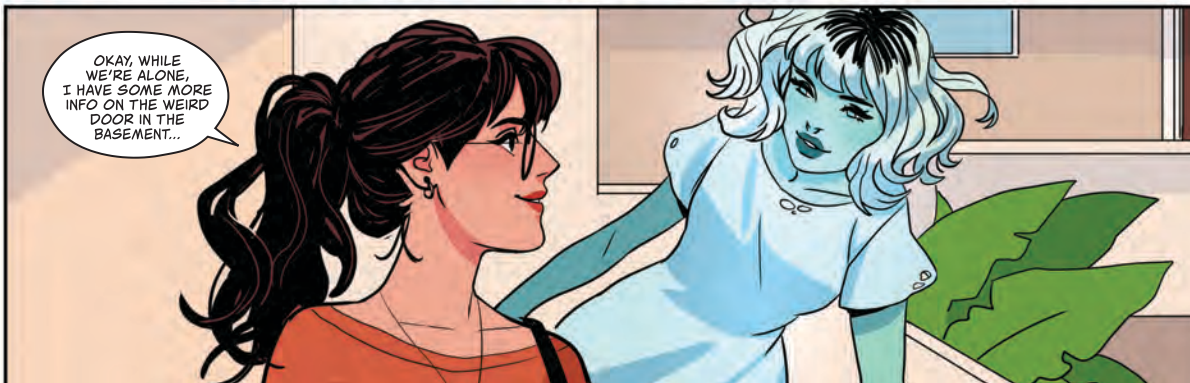
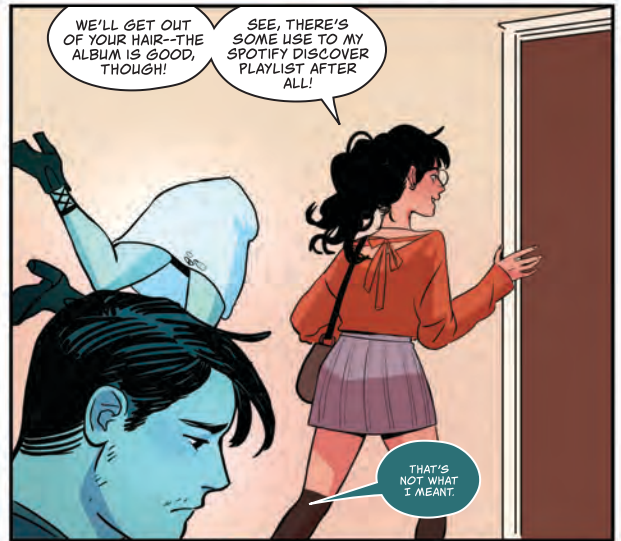
Chapter Six

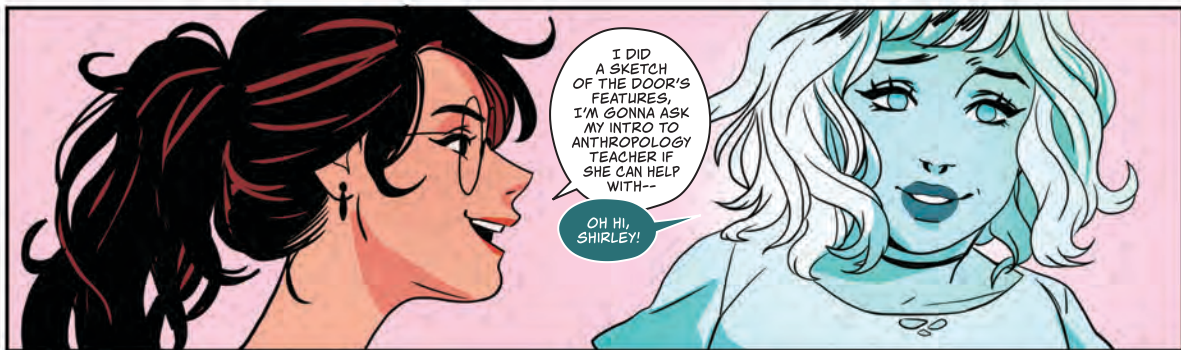












I DID A SKETCH OF THE DOOR'S FEATURES, I'M GONNA ASK MY INTRO TO ANTHROPOLOGY TEACHER IF SHE CAN HELP WITH--

OH HI, SHIRLEY!



HEY DAPHNE, ZOLA!

WAS GOING TO GRAB RICKY TO CHANGE SOME CHANNELS FOR ME...

...BUT WHILE I'VE GOT YOU, DAPHNE...



WHAT'S UP?

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT'S GONE DOWN RECENTLY, AND SOME STUFF DIDN'T SIT RIGHT WITH ME.

AGI IS A LESS-IS-MORE LADY WITH INFORMATION... BUT NOT ME.



ESPECIALLY BECAUSE IT'S MY INFORMATION TO TELL.

THE GRAVE YOU VISITED... SEAN'S...

THAT'S MY SON.

WELL, ONE OF MY SONS...

...THE ONE SHE GOT TO VISIT RYKROFT.



SEAN HAD MOVED BACK TO LOS ANGELES AFTER I DIED.

I WAS PRETTY INCONSOLOABLE LIVING--UHH, BEING WITHOUT MY FAMILY OR FRIENDS HERE. AGI TOOK A RISK AND SENT SEAN A LETTER TO COME TO RYOCROFT MANOR.

HIS HEART COULDN'T TAKE SEEING ME...LIKE THIS.



OH, SHIRLEY...

SOME OF THE RULES WE MADE AT RYOCROFT CAME FROM LESSONS LEARNED THE HARD WAY.

I DON'T ALWAYS AGREE WITH HOW AGI DOES WHAT SHE DOES, BUT SHE MEANS WELL.

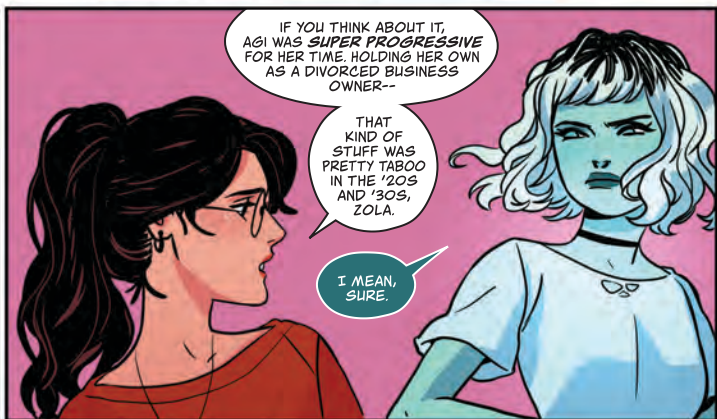


YEAH, BECAUSE PLAYING MIND GAMES WITH HER TENANTS OR FEEDING HUMANS TO 'EM IS REAL NURTURING.



ZOLA, MAURICE JUST TOLD DAPHNE THOSE THINGS TO SCARE HER--

I'M NOT GONNA MAKE EXCUSES FOR AGI, BUT YOU HAVE TO CUT HER SOME SLACK...



IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, AGI WAS *SUPER PROGRESSIVE* FOR HER TIME. HOLDING HER OWN AS A DIVORCED BUSINESS OWNER--

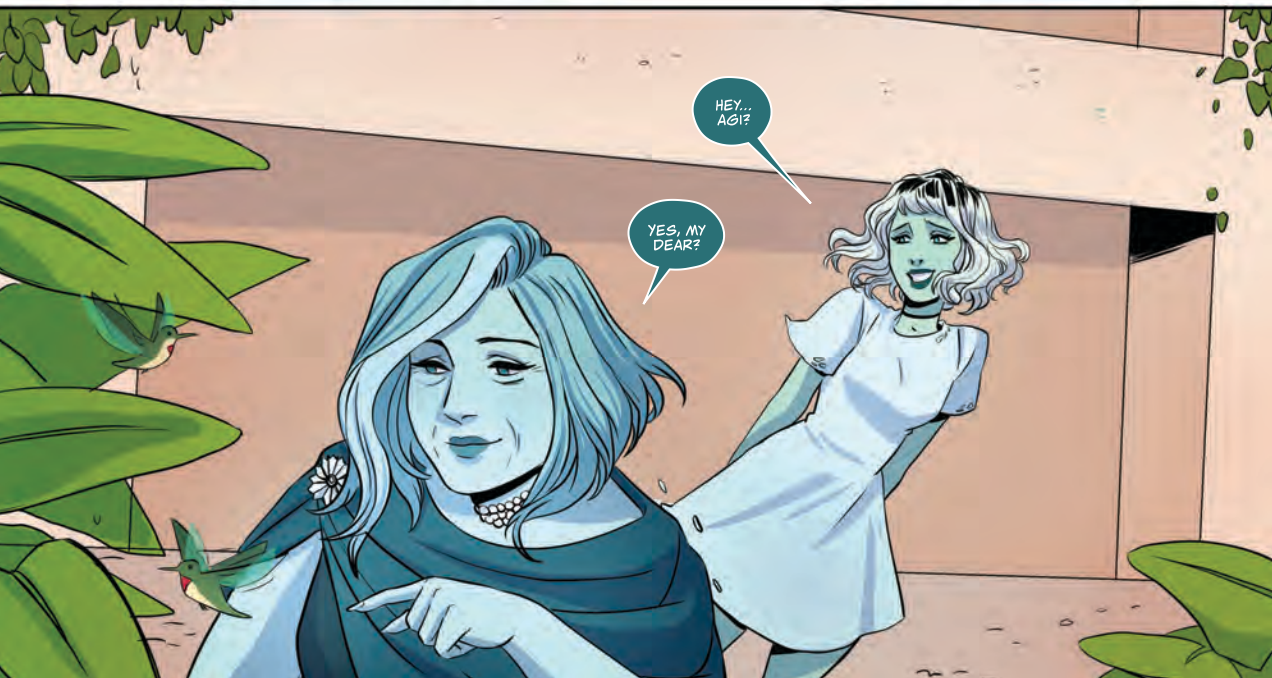
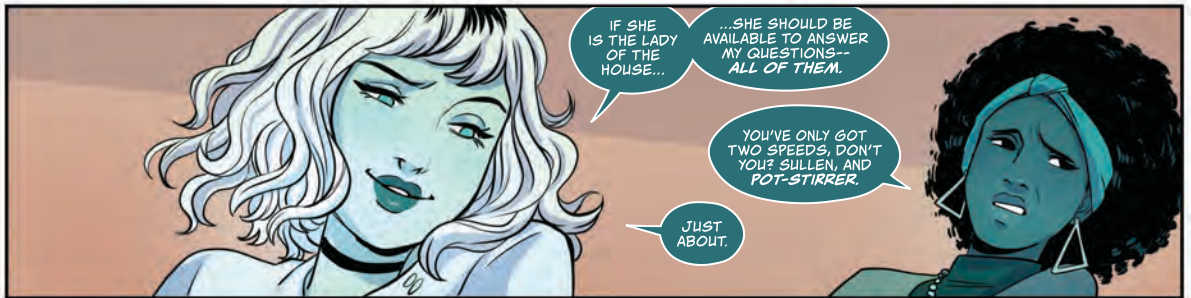
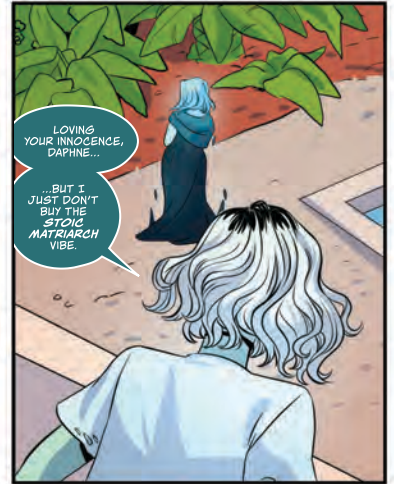
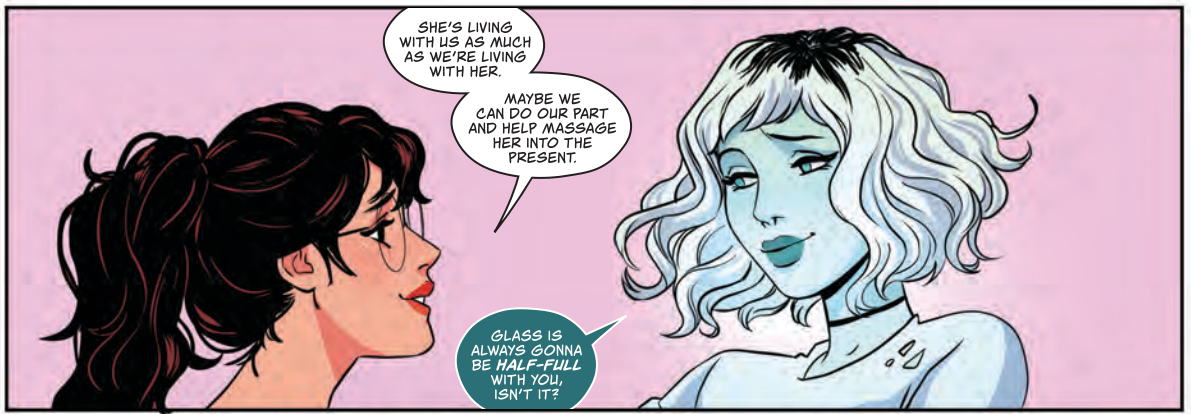
THAT KIND OF STUFF WAS PRETTY TABOO IN THE '20S AND '30S, ZOLA.

I MEAN, SURE.



I'M JUST SAYING...

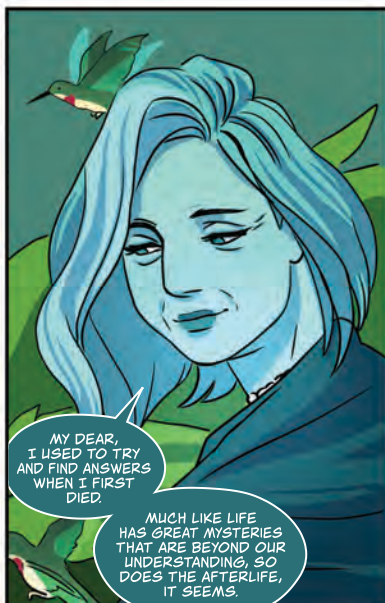
...WE'RE DEAD, NOT STAGNANT.





HOW COME WE LAND HERE--AND NOT SOMEWHERE ELSE IN L.A.?

WHY CAN'T WE LEAVE?



MY DEAR, I USED TO TRY AND FIND ANSWERS WHEN I FIRST DIED.

MUCH LIKE LIFE HAS GREAT MYSTERIES THAT ARE BEYOND OUR UNDERSTANDING, SO DOES THE AFTERLIFE, IT SEEMS.



WHEN YOU DIED--THAT WAS AROUND THE 1930S, RIGHT?



YES.

WAS RYDROFT BUILT AROUND THEN, TOO?

YOU'RE INCREDIBLY CURIOUS TODAY.



I'M MAINLY TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THE DEAL IS WITH THE WEIRD DOOR IN THE BASEMENT.



I'M GLAD YOU'RE MAKING YOURSELF AT HOME.

CONSIDER THAT DOOR TO BE ANOTHER BARRIER WE CAN'T GET THROUGH.



BUT THERE ARE ROOMS RIGHT ABOVE IT WE CAN GO THROUGH, HOW COME WE--!

I STILL HAVE SEVERAL NOTES TO TAKE FOR THE LANDSCAPER, MY DEAR.



ANOTHER TIME.

OH, NO YOU DON'T--

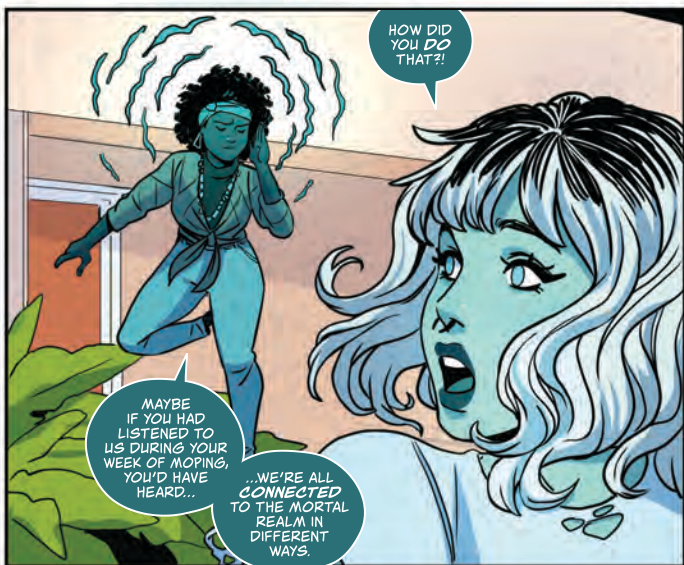


LEARN WHEN TO WALK AWAY, ZOLA.

OH!

SWOOP

SWOOP



HOW DID YOU DO THAT?!

MAYBE IF YOU HAD LISTENED TO US DURING YOUR WEEK OF MOPING, YOU'D HAVE HEARD...

...WE'RE ALL CONNECTED TO THE MORTAL REALM IN DIFFERENT WAYS.



THAT'S WHY RICKY CAN MESS WITH ELECTRONICS, BERNARD CAN LEAVE RYCROFT...

...MY THING IS MORE ON A GHOST-TO-GHOST BASIS.

WAIT...



...WE HAVE POWERS?



IN COMIC BOOK TERMS, YES.

WELL, WHAT ARE MINE, THEN?

WE DON'T EXACTLY HAVE A HANDBOOK FOR THIS STUFF...

...BUT I CAN HELP YOU FIGURE IT OUT--





WOULD YOU LOOK AT THE TIME, I'VE GOTTA RUN.

KRISTI, IT'S BEEN ABOUT AS MUCH OF A PLEASURE AS TWELVE GRUELING YEARS IN SCHOOL WITH YOU HAS BEEN.

DITTO AND LIKEWISE, RONNIE.



THANKS FOR FINDING MY PHONE, KRISTI.

DAPHNE.



LOOK, I'VE BEEN TRYING OUT A NEW LIVING SITUATION BECAUSE--AS YOU'VE SEEN FROM MY ROOMMATE'S *HOSPITABLE* PERSONALITY--DORM LIFE KIND OF SUCKS.

I KEPT IT FROM YOU BECAUSE I DON'T WANT MY PARENTS TO FIND OUT...

...AND IF IT DOESN'T PAN OUT, I CAN STILL *GO BACK* TO LIVING WITH MICHELLE.



I GUESS THAT MAKES SENSE.

BUT HOW ARE YOU PAYING RENT FOR BOTH...?

WHY ARE WE PLAYING TWENTY QUESTIONS--

KRISTI, YOU'RE HERE!

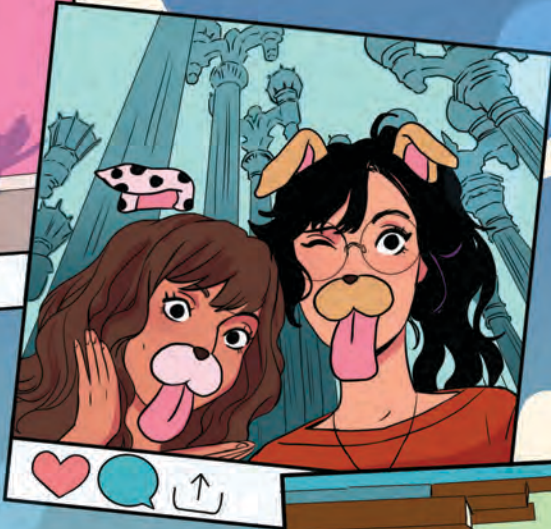


HOW LONG'S YOUR VISIT?

I CAN ONLY STAY FOR TWO DAYS...

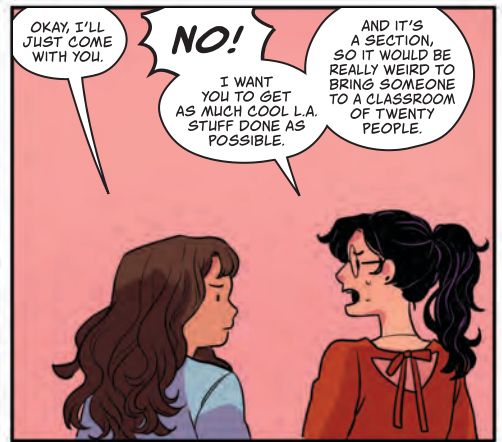
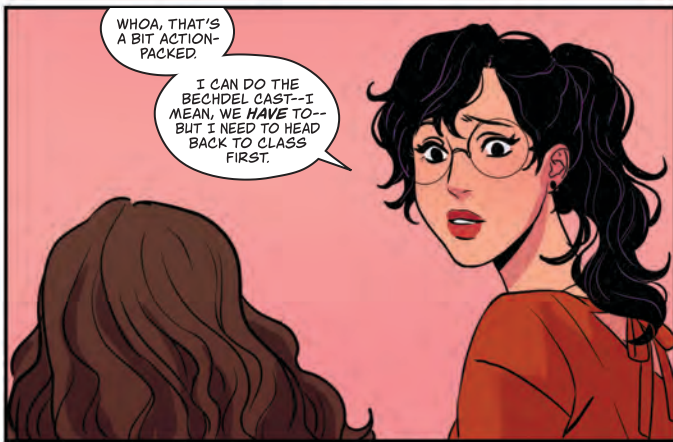
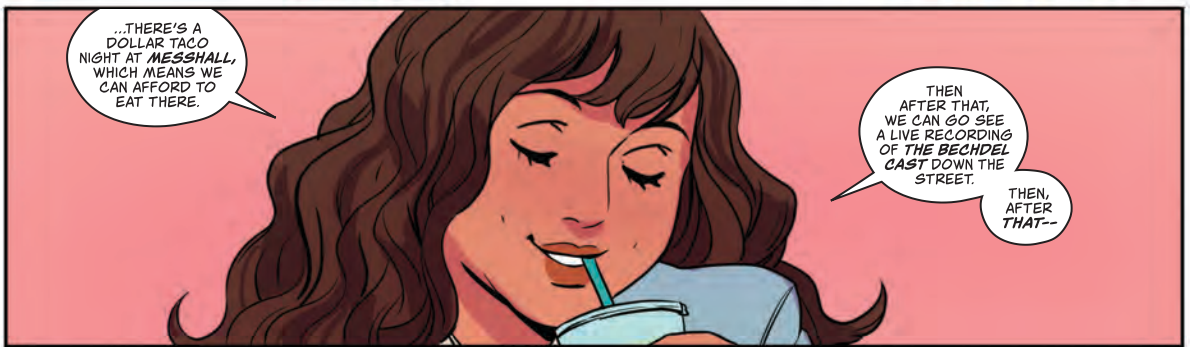
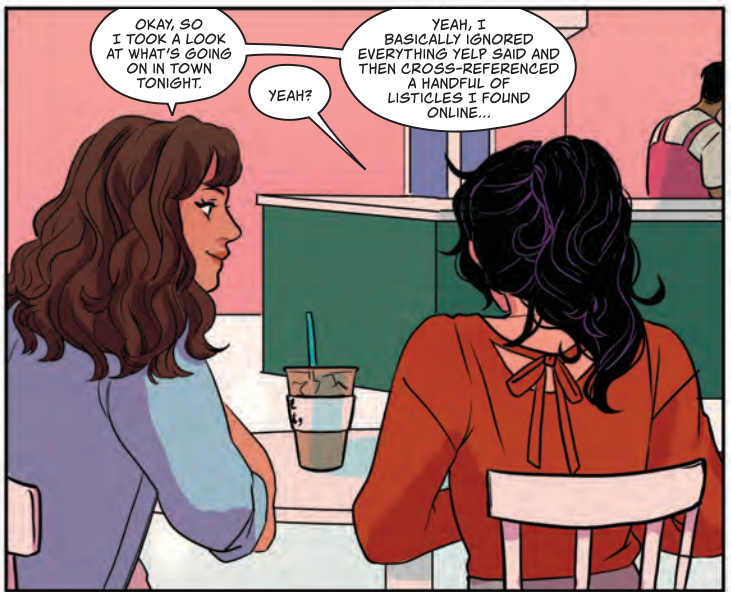
THEN WE'VE GOT TO GET GOING NOW! WE NEED TO MAKE EVERYONE BACK HOME PEANUT BUTTER AND JEALY...

"...AND FILL YOUR INSTA STORIES WITH ALL THE SIGHTS!"

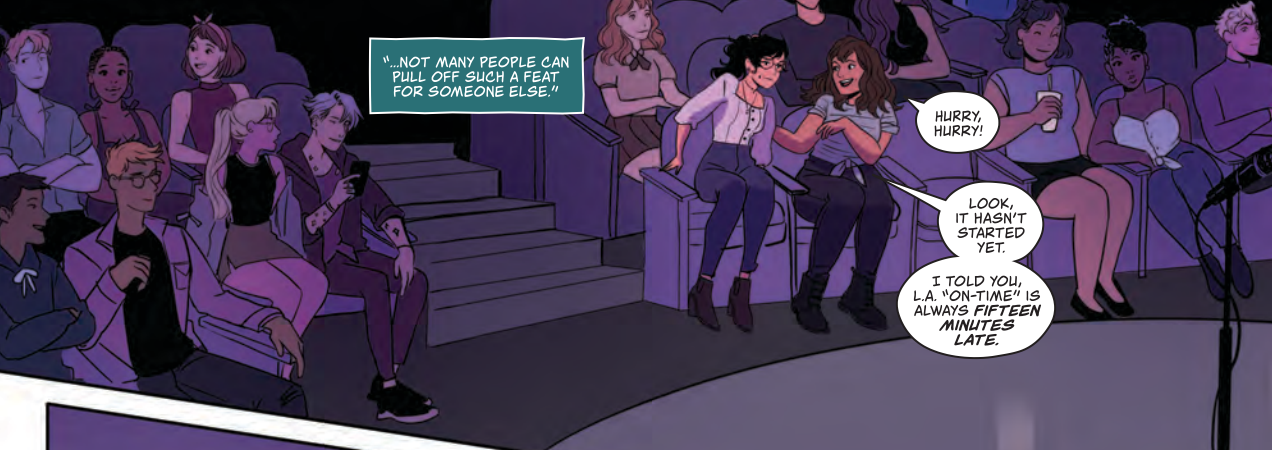












"...NOT MANY PEOPLE CAN PULL OFF SUCH A FEAT FOR SOMEONE ELSE."

HURRY, HURRY!

LOOK, IT HASN'T STARTED YET.

I TOLD YOU, L.A. 'ON-TIME' IS ALWAYS FIFTEEN MINUTES LATE.



CANDY?

WE'RE NOT AT A MOVIE-- NO!

OH WAIT-- THEY'RE COMING ON!



HI!

HI, EVERYBODY.



WELCOME TO THE BECHDEL CAST.

THE PODCAST WHERE WE EXAMINE HOW MOVIES TREAT WOMEN.

TODAY'S MOVIE IS TITANIC... AGAIN!



SO, OBVIOUSLY BILLY ZANE IS TOXIC...



HA HA HA HA





'CUZ YOU'RE
SUFFOCATING,
KRISTI!

I DON'T
WANT TO HAVE
A FRIENDSHIP
WHERE I'M TEXTING
EVERY FEELING EVERY
MINUTE OF EVERY
DAY--WITH
ANYONE!

EVERY
DECISION I
MADE USED TO
REVOLVE AROUND
IF IT WOULD
AFFECT **YOUR**
HAPPINESS,
KRISTI.

I LOVE
YOU MORE
THAN ANYTHING
IN THE WORLD,
BUT...



...I NEED SOME
DISTANCE TO FIGURE
THINGS OUT FOR
MYSELF

DO YOU
UNDERSTAND
WHAT I
MEAN--AT
ALL?





KRISTI,
PLEASE--YOU
DON'T HAVE
TO LEAVE
TONIGHT!

I HAVE AN AUNT
IN WESTWOOD, I
WON'T WASTE YOUR
TIME ANYMORE.
MY FAMILY WON'T
ABANDON ME.

I'M SO
SORRY FOR
BEING YOUR
BIGGEST
FAN--

--AND FOR
HOPING THAT THE
SILENT TREATMENT
MEANT YOU WERE
ACTUALLY BECOMING
SOMEONE HERE
IN L.A.



I'M REALLY,
TRULY, LITERALLY,
COMPLETELY, AND
UNABASHEDLY
SORRY.



To: Ronnie

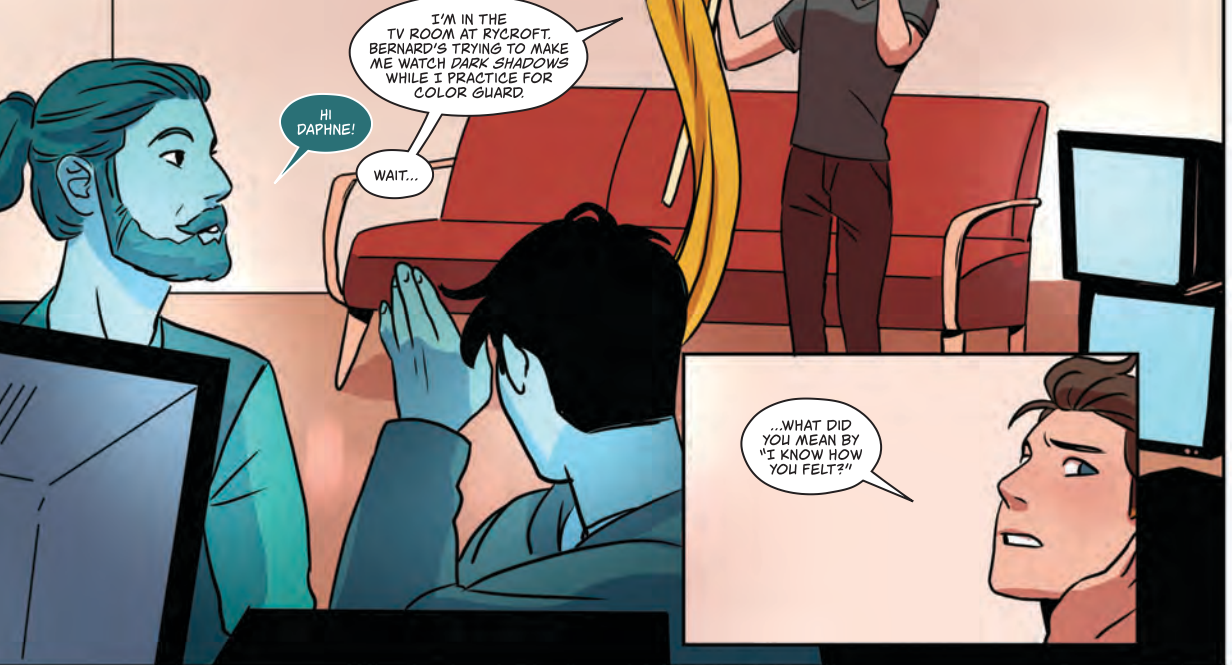
Hey, can you talk?
Stuff went down,
too much to text.

Let's just say I know
exactly how you felt
when you dumped me.

~~Don't text~~



Hi.
WHAT'S
THIS TALK
YOU TALK?





...HOW ARE WE GONNA HIDE THAT I'M LIVING WITH A BUNCH OF GHOSTS IF MY PARENTS EVER VISIT?

OH, WOULD YOU MIND CHECKING IF ZOLA NEEDS ANYTHING BEFORE I HEAD BACK?

I JUST WANNA MAKE SURE SHE'S ADJUSTING OK.

MY GOD..

WHAT?!



I KNOW YOU, IS ALL.

YOU DOTE WHEN YOU HAVE A CRUSH.

THIS IS HOW YOU GOT AFTER WE KISSED WHEN JEREMY LEVINE MADE US ALL PLAY SPIN-THE-BOTTLE.



OH, SHUT UP AND JUST CHECK IN ON HER, PLEASE!

I AM, I AM! SHE'S HIDING IN THE BATHROOM.

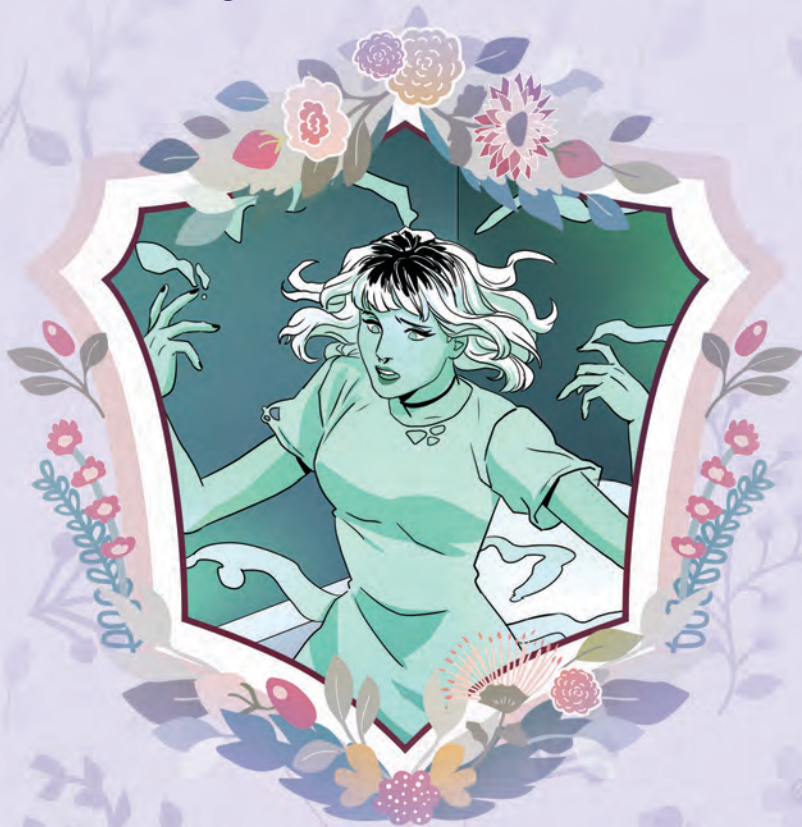
HEY, ZOLA-- NEED ANYTHING FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD...

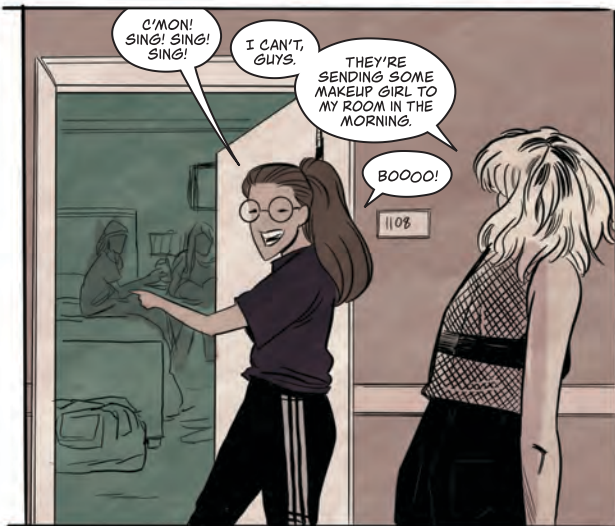
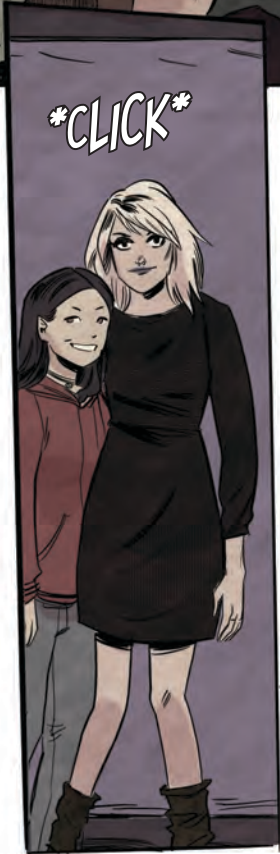
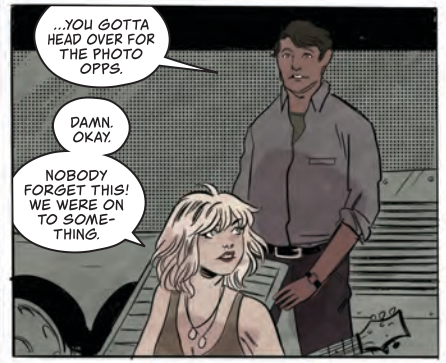
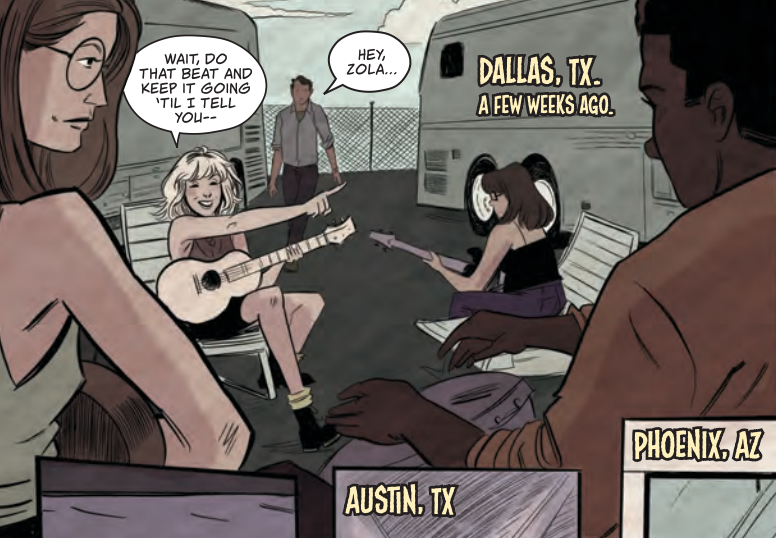


...ZOLA?



Chapter Seven







GIVE ME THAT SUMMERTIME SADNESS, ZOLA!

MAKE IT LOOK LIKE THE WORLD'S ABOUT TO END, AND YOU DON'T EVEN CARE.



PERFECT!

GOT IT IN ONE SHOT!



"YOU'RE A NATURAL!"

HI MOM.

ZOLA, HI! YOU JUST CAUGHT ME GARDENING. I'M NEARLY DONE.

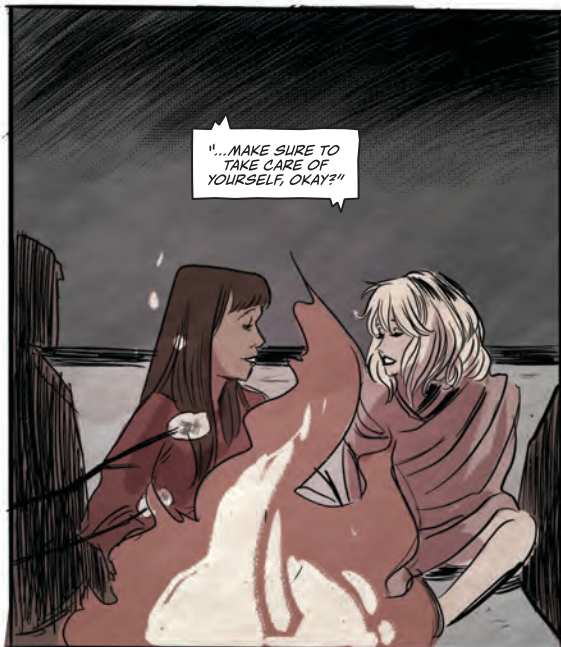
WHERE ARE YOU NOW?



ALMOST HOME, DOING A FESTIVAL TONIGHT, THEN DONE.

WELL, THEN I HAVE AN IN-STORE IN L.A., BUT AT LEAST I'LL BE IN MY OWN BED.

OH, THAT'S GREAT, DEAR...



"...MAKE SURE TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, OKAY?"

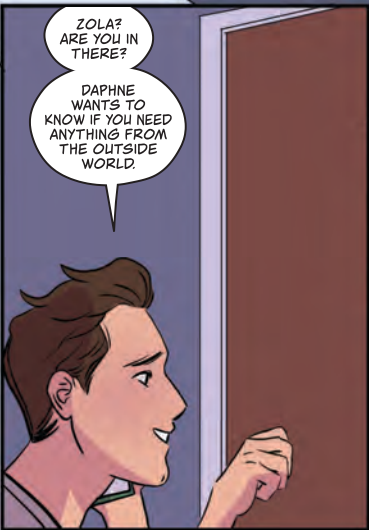




TODAY.
LIKE, RIGHT NOW.

STOP
STOP
STOP!

KNOCK
KNOCK



ZOLA?
ARE YOU IN
THERE?

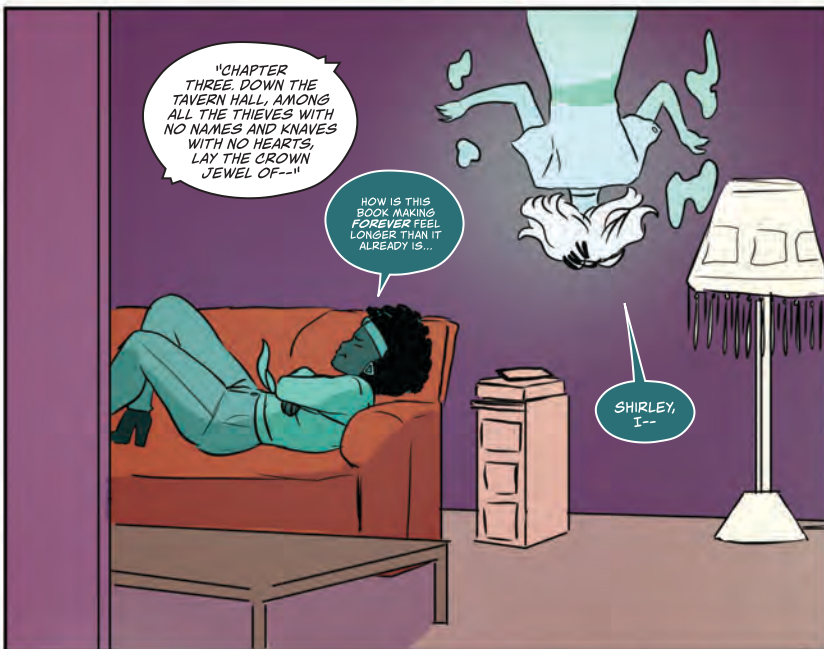
DAPHNE
WANTS TO
KNOW IF YOU NEED
ANYTHING FROM
THE OUTSIDE
WORLD.



I'M...



I'M FINE!
JUST LEAVE
ME ALONE!





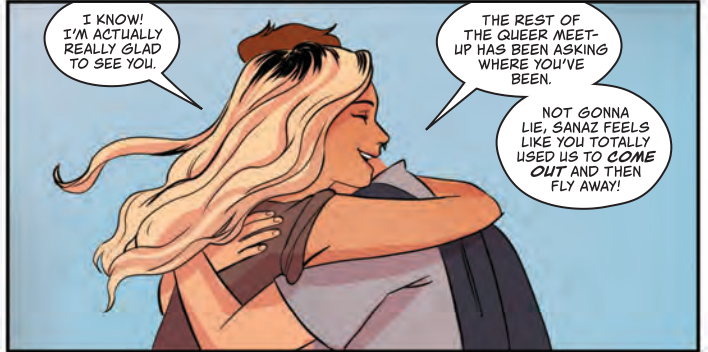
THE NEXT DAY.



RONNIE--
HEY!



OH MY GOSH,
EDIE! HI! IT'S
BEEN--



I KNOW!
I'M ACTUALLY
REALLY GLAD
TO SEE YOU.

THE REST OF
THE QUEER MEET-
UP HAS BEEN ASKING
WHERE YOU'VE
BEEN.

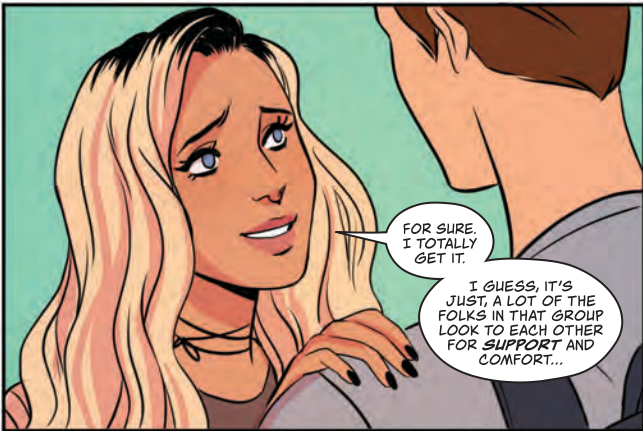
NOT GONNA
LIE, SANAZ FEELS
LIKE YOU TOTALLY
USED US TO COME
OUT AND THEN
FLY AWAY!



AW, IT'S
NOT LIKE THAT
AT ALL.

I GOT KIND
OF CAUGHT UP
IN SCHOOLWORK
AND WORK WORK
AND COLOR
GUARD...

...THINGS
GOT KINDA
HECTIC.



FOR SURE.
I TOTALLY
GET IT.

I GUESS, IT'S
JUST, A LOT OF THE
FOLKS IN THAT GROUP
LOOK TO EACH OTHER
FOR SUPPORT AND
COMFORT...



...NOT ALL
OF THEM HAVE
PEOPLE TO TURN TO,
OR A COMMUNITY
OUTSIDE OF US...
Y'KNOW?

YEAH.



I'M GOING THAT
WAY, BUT HOPEFULLY
YOU CAN MAKE IT
TO TONIGHT'S
MEETING...

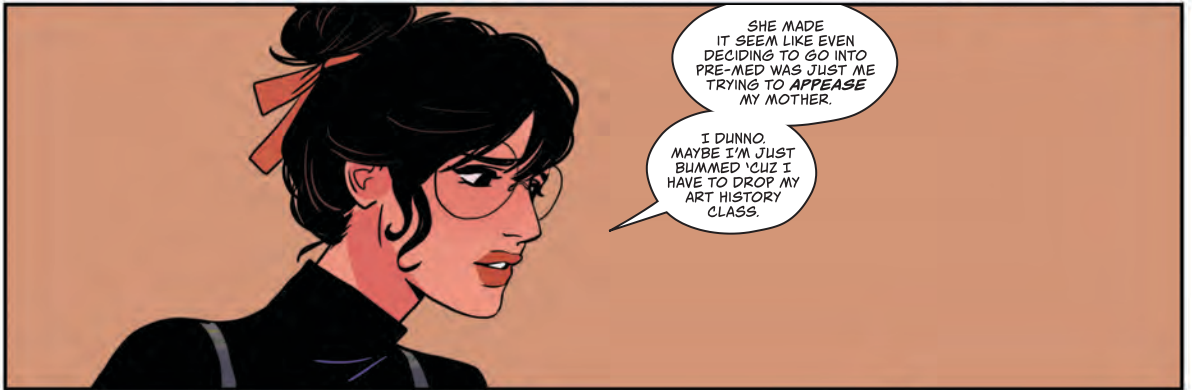




KRISTI PUT A WORM IN YOUR HEAD, DIDN'T SHE?

I THOUGHT TURKEY LURKEY GOT GOOD AND PROPERLY CANCELLED LAST NIGHT.

IT'S NOT AS SIMPLE AS THAT.



SHE MADE IT SEEM LIKE EVEN DECIDING TO GO INTO PRE-MED WAS JUST ME TRYING TO APPEASE MY MOTHER.

I DUNNO. MAYBE I'M JUST BUMMED 'CUZ I HAVE TO DROP MY ART HISTORY CLASS.

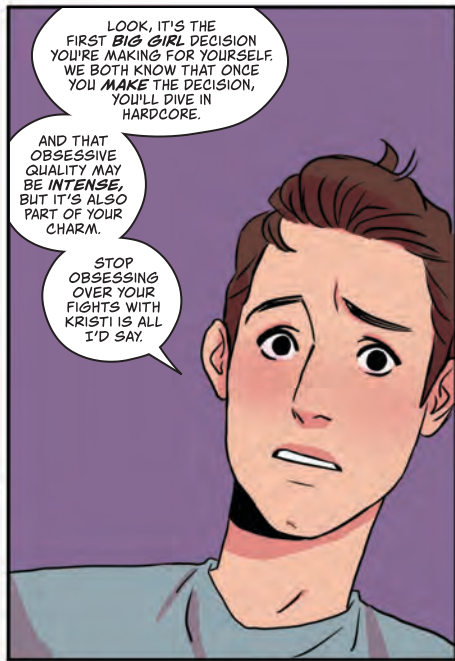


CAN'T IT BE BOTH? YOU *DO* LOVE YOUR MOM...

...AND YOUR PEOPLE-PLEASING CAN GO TO EXTREMES...

...BUT IT DOESN'T NECESSARILY HAVE TO CONFLICT WITH WHAT YOU LIKE STUDYING.

THAT'S WHAT I'M SAYING! BUT BEING HERE IN L.A. MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'M ALWAYS MAKING THE WRONG DECISION.



LOOK, IT'S THE FIRST **BIG GIRL** DECISION YOU'RE MAKING FOR YOURSELF. WE BOTH KNOW THAT ONCE YOU **MAKE** THE DECISION, YOU'LL DIVE IN **HARDCORE**.

AND THAT **OBSESSIVE** QUALITY MAY BE **INTENSE**, BUT IT'S ALSO PART OF YOUR **CHARM**.

STOP OBSESSING OVER YOUR **FIGHTS** WITH KRISTI IS ALL I'D SAY.

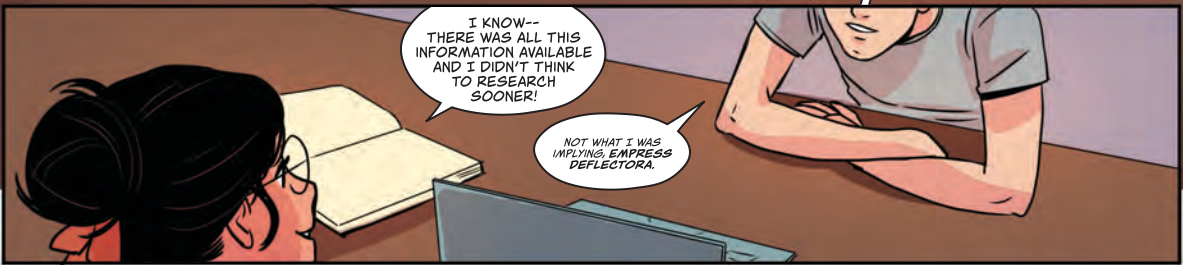


SPEAKING OF OBSESSING...

...LOOKIT WHAT I FOUND!



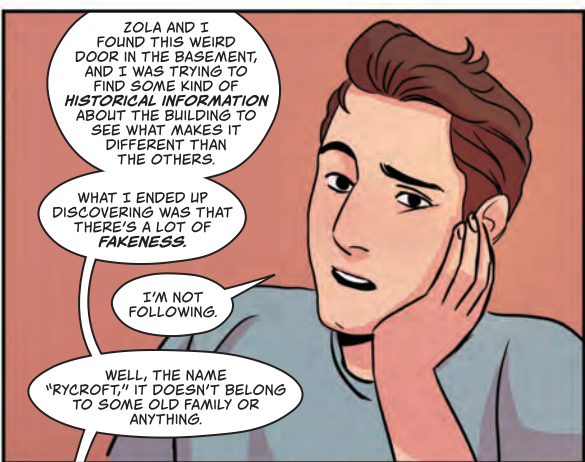
RYCROFT HAS HISTORY.



I KNOW-- THERE WAS ALL THIS INFORMATION AVAILABLE AND I DIDN'T THINK TO RESEARCH SOONER!

NOT WHAT I WAS IMPLYING, EMPRESS REFLECTORA.

YEEESH, DAPHNE...

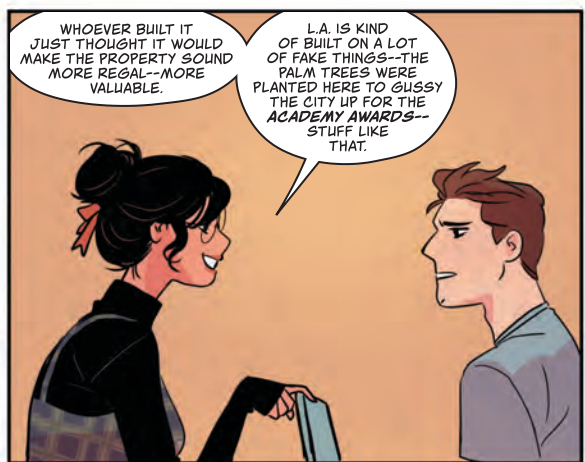


ZOLA AND I FOUND THIS WEIRD DOOR IN THE BASEMENT, AND I WAS TRYING TO FIND SOME KIND OF HISTORICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE BUILDING TO SEE WHAT MAKES IT DIFFERENT THAN THE OTHERS.

WHAT I ENDED UP DISCOVERING WAS THAT THERE'S A LOT OF FAKENESS.

I'M NOT FOLLOWING.

WELL, THE NAME "RYCROFT," IT DOESN'T BELONG TO SOME OLD FAMILY OR ANYTHING.



WHOEVER BUILT IT JUST THOUGHT IT WOULD MAKE THE PROPERTY SOUND MORE REGAL--MORE VALUABLE.

L.A. IS KIND OF BUILT ON A LOT OF FAKE THINGS--THE PALM TREES WERE PLANTED HERE TO GLOSSY THE CITY UP FOR THE ACADEMY AWARDS--STUFF LIKE THAT.



AT SOME POINT IN THE '60S, RYCROFT MANOR BECAME A DESIGNATED HISTORIC MONUMENT.

THEN RECORDS KIND OF DRY UP..

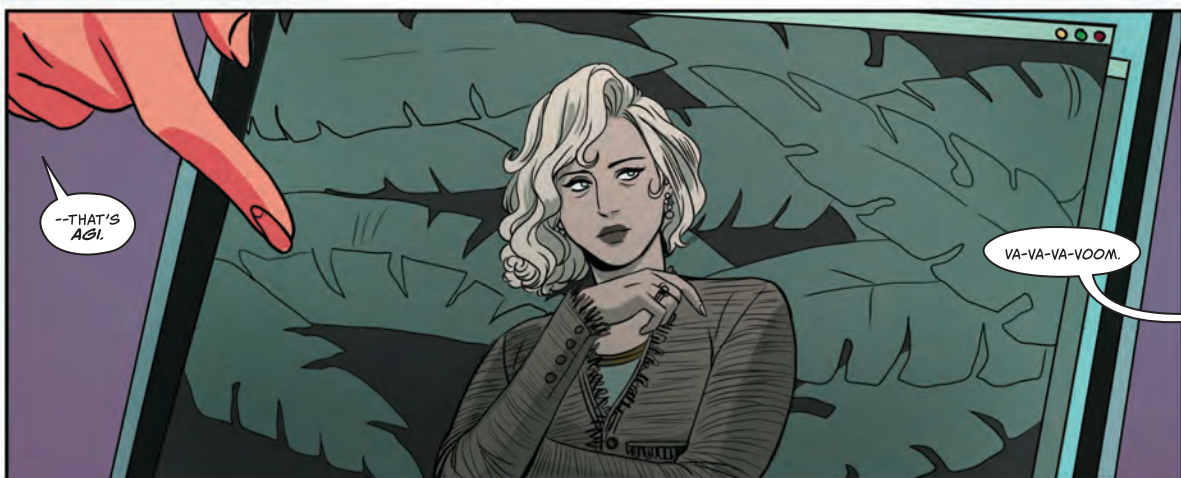
RYCROFT HAS HISTORY.



SO THAT'S WHY THERE AREN'T A BUNCH OF PEOPLE SNIFFING AROUND TRYING TO SCOOP UP RYCROFT MANOR.

EXACTLY.

CHECK THIS OUT--



--THAT'S AGI.

VA-VA-VA-VOOM.



SHE WAS MARRIED TO A BIGSHOT DIRECTOR--THEY MET WHEN SHE WAS ACTING IN SILENT FILMS.

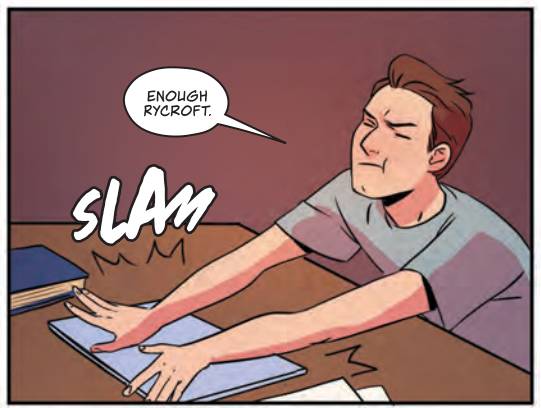
HE RAN OFF WITH SOME OTHER ACTRESS, AND IT'S AROUND THEN THAT AGI BOUGHT RYCROFT HERSELF.



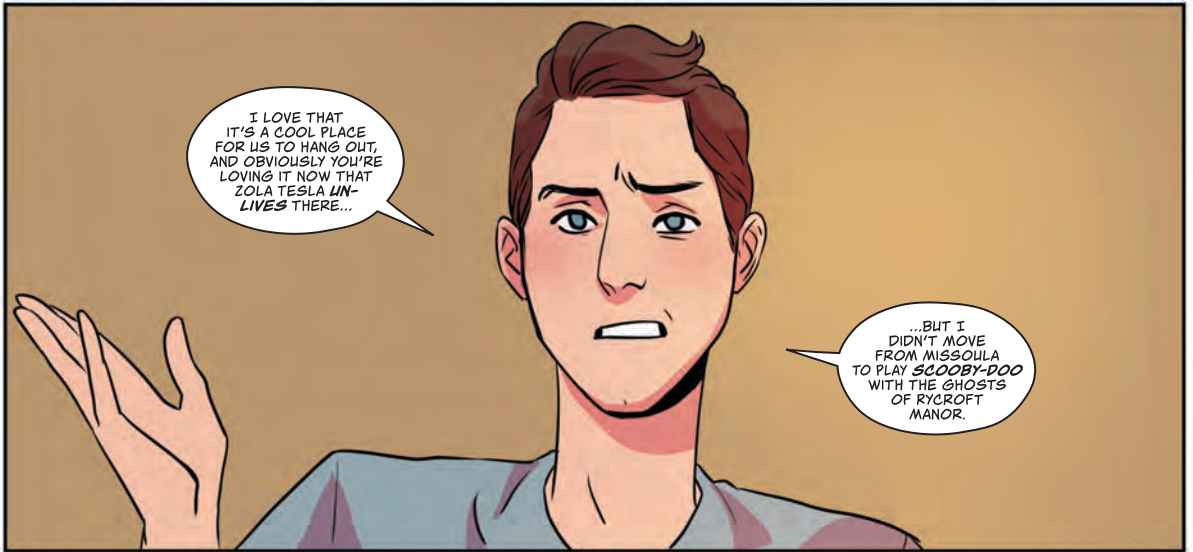
I GUESS SHE MUST HAVE DIED THERE, AND WAS HAUNTING THE BUILDING TO KEEP PEOPLE AWAY?



THERE MAY ACTUALLY BE SOMETHING TRULY WRONG WITH THAT NYMPHOMANIAC.

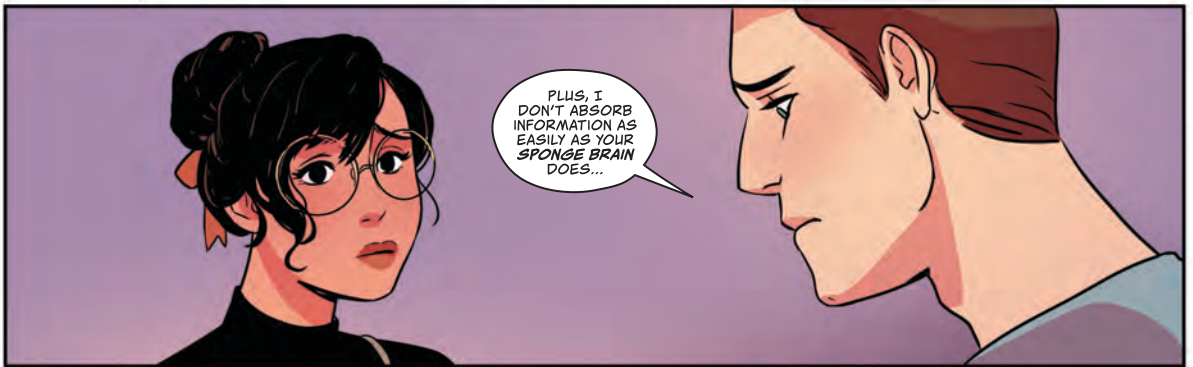


ENOUGH RYCROFT.



I LOVE THAT IT'S A COOL PLACE FOR US TO HANG OUT, AND OBVIOUSLY YOU'RE LOVING IT NOW THAT ZOLA TESLA LIVES THERE...

...BUT I DIDN'T MOVE FROM MISSOULA TO PLAY *SCOOBY-DOO* WITH THE GHOSTS OF RYCROFT MANOR.



PLUS, I DON'T ABSORB INFORMATION AS EASILY AS YOUR *SPONGE BRAIN* DOES...



...SO I NEED THIS TIME TO ACTUALLY STUDY.

OKAY I'M SORRY...

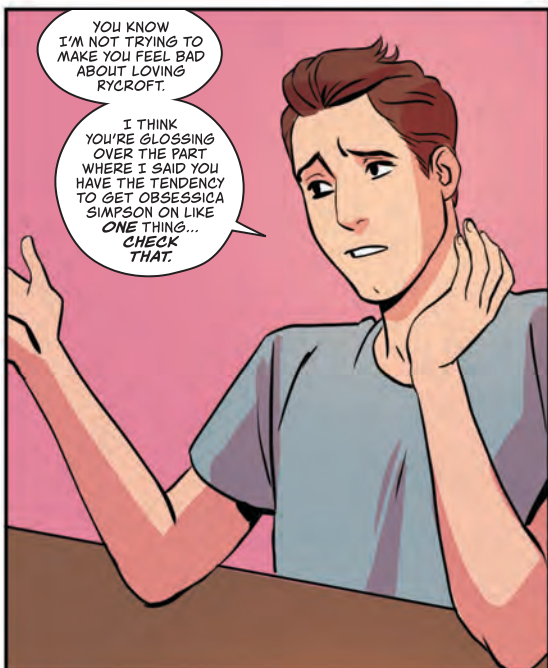
...IT'S JUST...



IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE SHAMING MY EXPRESSION HERE.

DAPHNEEE...

I'M JUST SAYING, I'M SHOWING INTEREST IN SOMETHING I FOUND ALL ON MY OWN--



YOU KNOW I'M NOT TRYING TO MAKE YOU FEEL BAD ABOUT LOVING RYCROFT.

I THINK YOU'RE GLOSSING OVER THE PART WHERE I SAID YOU HAVE THE TENDENCY TO GET OBSESSICA SIMPSON ON LIKE ONE THING... CHECK THAT.



FINE, I'LL DEDICATE SOME OF MY OBSESSIVE QUALITIES AND GET TO THE SQUARE ROOT OF MY OWN NEUROSES.

BUT RYCROFT IS STILL SUPER COOL AND FASCINATING AND YOU'RE SHAMING ME.



I'M NOT SHAMING YOU!

QUIT BEING SUCH A DISTRACTION, SHAME-Y WINEHOUSE...



"... AND LET'S GET BACK TO WORK!!"

HEY, SHIRLEY--

ICK.

WHAT THE FRICK HAPPENED HERE?!

WE SPENT ALL NIGHT TRYING EVERYTHING-- BREATHING, MEDITATING, TALK THERAPY-- ZOLA'S POWERS ARE GOING HAYWIRE.

I'M GETTING AGI.

NO.

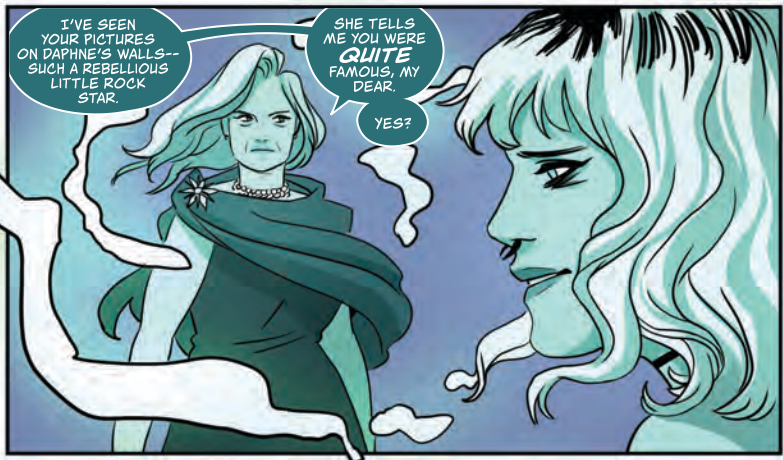
AGI'S JUST GONNA GET PISSED OFF AND TURN ME INTO A WISP LIKE THAT GUY... MORRIS, OR--

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

ZOLA'S BEEN HAVING A LITTLE TROUBLE MANAGING THE ON/OFF SWITCH WITH HER ABILITIES.

STEP ASIDE.

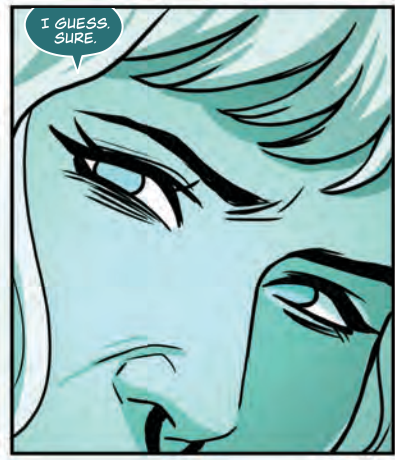
LET ME HANDLE THIS.



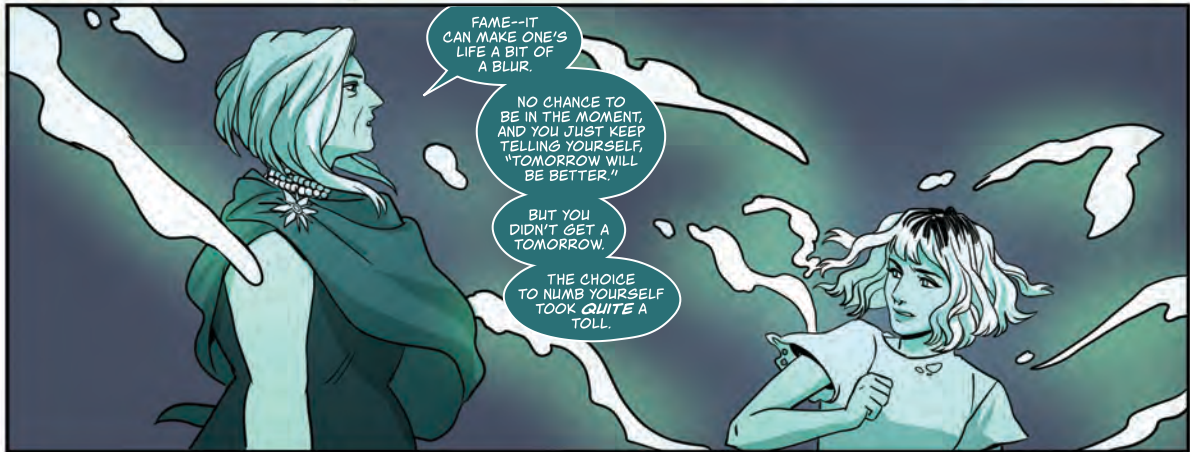
I'VE SEEN YOUR PICTURES ON DAPHNE'S WALLS-- SUCH A REBELLIOUS LITTLE ROCK STAR.

SHE TELLS ME YOU WERE **QUITE** FAMOUS, MY DEAR.

YES?



I GUESS. SURE.



FAME--IT CAN MAKE ONE'S LIFE A BIT OF A BLUR.

NO CHANCE TO BE IN THE MOMENT, AND YOU JUST KEEP TELLING YOURSELF, "TOMORROW WILL BE BETTER."

BUT YOU DIDN'T GET A TOMORROW.

THE CHOICE TO NUMB YOURSELF TOOK **QUITE** A TOLL.



IT'S OKAY THAT YOU TOOK YOUR LIFE FOR GRANTED, DARLING.

BUT YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT THAT IT'S WHAT YOU DID.

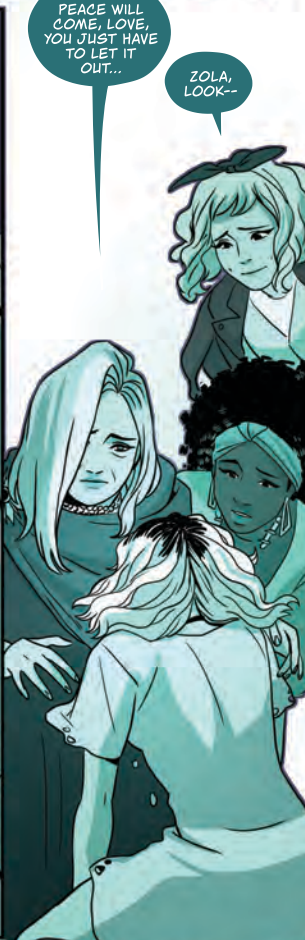
PLEASE, I DIDN'T...



...IT'S...

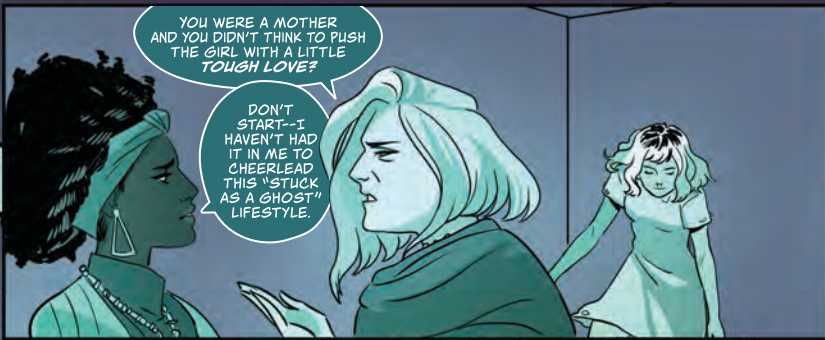
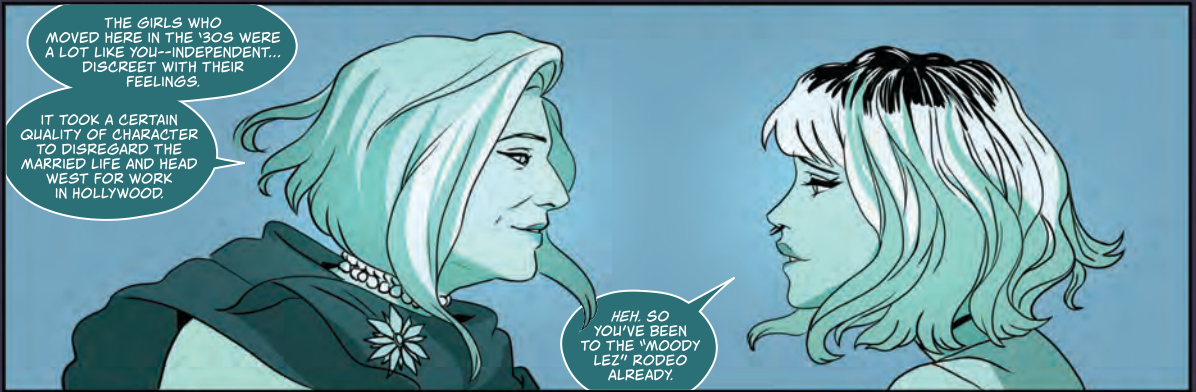
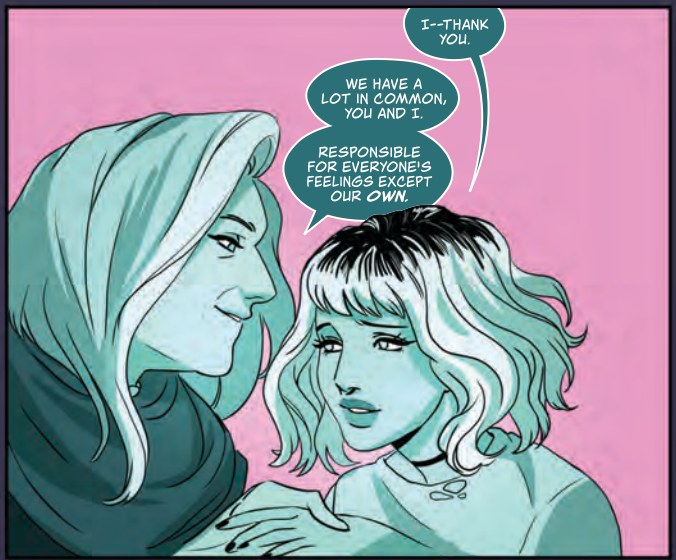


...I WAS SO LOADED I CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER THE LAST CONVERSATION I HAD WITH MY MOM.



PEACE WILL COME, LOVE, YOU JUST HAVE TO LET IT OUT...

ZOLA, LOOK--



'AND HERE I THOUGHT THERE'D BE A BIG MESS FOR US TO CLEAN UP.'

LATER THAT DAY...

HELLO? I KNOW YOU ALL ARE HOME BECAUSE YOU CAN'T PHYSICALLY LEAVE...



HEY.

OH--HI!



GOOD DAY AT SCHOOL?

IT WAS SCHOOL, SO, HELL YES!

YOU SEEM...DARE I SAY IT--

--CHIPPER?



IT'S BEEN A DAY, BUT I FEEL A LOT MORE...SETTLED NOW.

WELL, IT LOOKS QUITE GOOD ON YOU.

HI, GIRLS.



DAPHNE, HAVE YOU SEEN RONNIE TODAY?

HE MENTIONED SOMETHING ABOUT COMING HERE TONIGHT.

OH, YEAH...





"...HE'S GOT A BUNCH OF STUFF TO DEAL WITH ON CAMPUS."



AH. DARN. THANKS FOR LETTING ME KNOW. I'LL LEAVE YOU TWO ALONE.



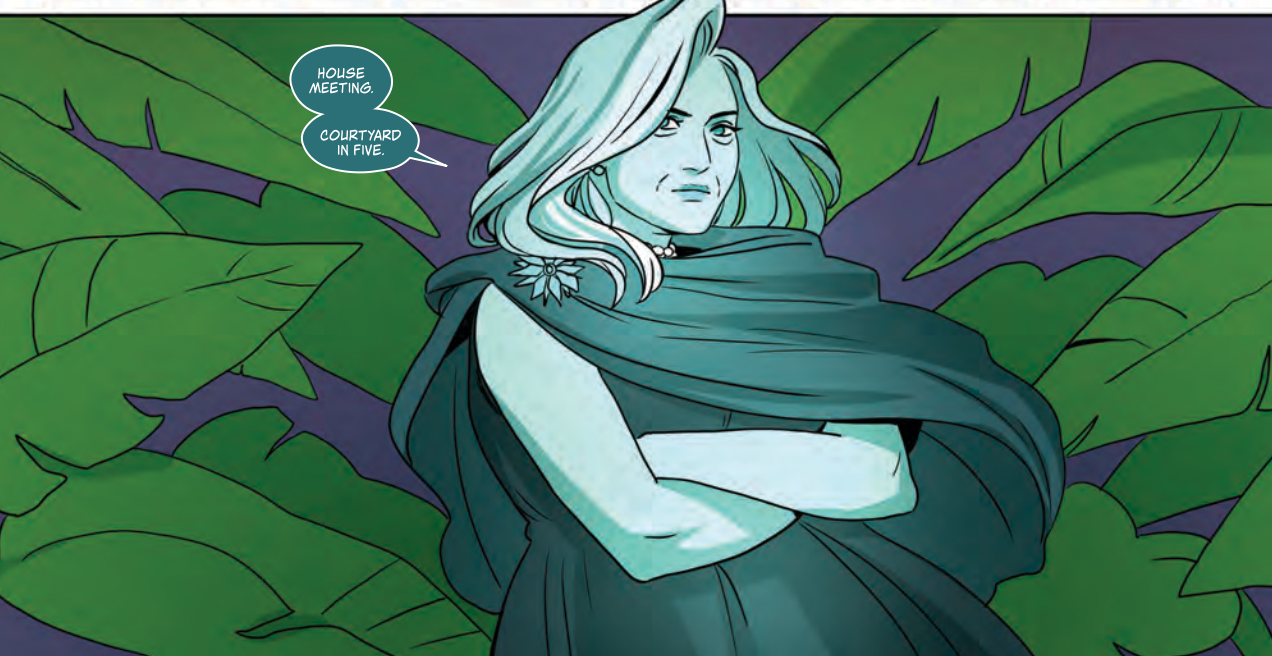
HEY, WANNA WATCH THE SUNSET WITH ME ON THE ROOF?

IT'S BECOMING MY NEW FAVORITE SPOT ON THE PREMISES.

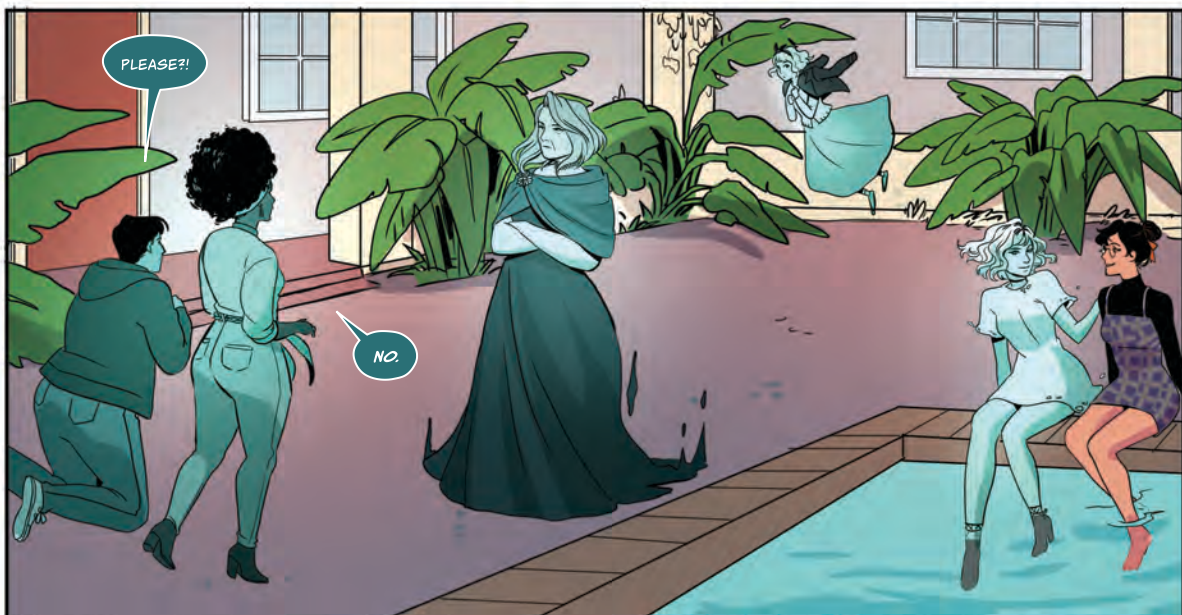


SURE, CAN YOU BRING YOUR SPEAKERS UP THERE--?

EVERYBODY-- ATTENTION PLEASE.

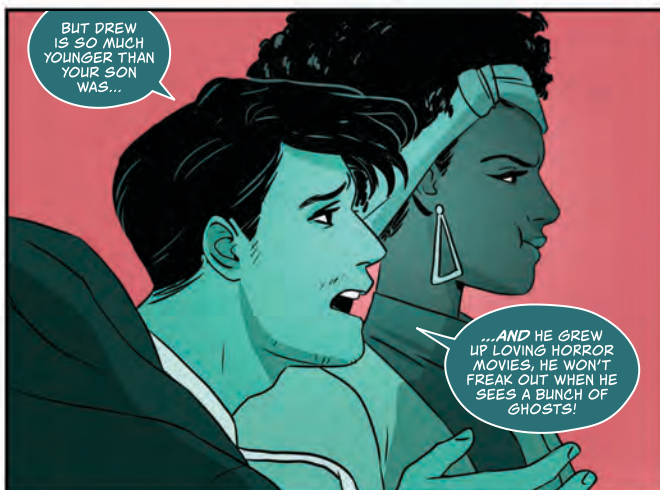


HOUSE MEETING. COURTYARD IN FIVE.



PLEASE?!

NO.



BUT DREW IS SO MUCH YOUNGER THAN YOUR SON WAS...

...AND HE GREW UP LOVING HORROR MOVIES, HE WON'T FREAK OUT WHEN HE SEES A BUNCH OF GHOSTS!



I'M NOT GONNA HELP YOU TRY AND TALK AG INTO BRINGING YOUR BROTHER HERE!

IT'S TOO RISKY FOR EVERYONE INVOLVED!



BUT DAPHNE'S BEEN WORKING OUT OKAY FOR US!

SOME HICUPS IN THE BEGINNING, BUT THAT WAS MAINLY 'CUZ OF MAURICE!

IMAGINE HOW MUCH HELP MY BROTHER CAN BE AROUND THE PLACE WITH HIS TRUCK!



RICKY, MY ANSWER IS STILL NO.

WE'VE GOT DAPHNE AND ZOLA NOW, AND THAT BOY RONNIE'S BEEN SHOWING UP TO FLIRT WITH BERNARD.



YOU'VE GOT PLENTY OF COMPANY.

THEN WHY DO I FEEL SO FRICKIN' LONELY...



SO ALL OF THAT HAPPENED WHILE I WAS ON CAMPUS?

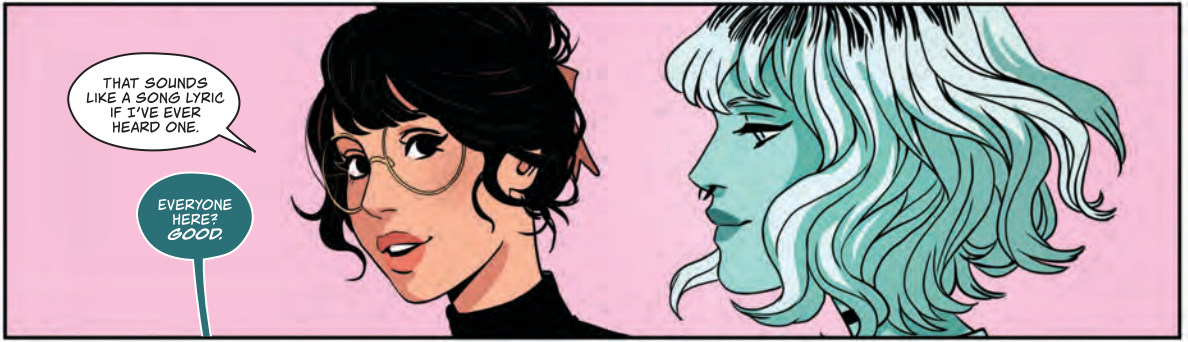
YEAH, IT WAS KIND OF SCARY, BUT AGI AND SHIRLEY GOT ME THROUGH.

HOW COME YOU'RE LOOKING A LITTLE DOWNCAST?

I'VE JUST HAD MY MIND ON THE FUTURE, WHICH FEELS KIND OF TERRIBLE TO TALK ABOUT WITH SOMEONE WHO...

IT'S OKAY, DAPHNE.

ALL I CAN SAY IS, YOU'RE ALWAYS ONLY GONNA HAVE TODAY.



THAT SOUNDS LIKE A SONG LYRIC IF I'VE EVER HEARD ONE.

EVERYONE HERE? GOOD.



I'VE CALLED EVERYONE HERE TONIGHT BECAUSE I FEEL AS THOUGH I OWE AN APOLOGY.

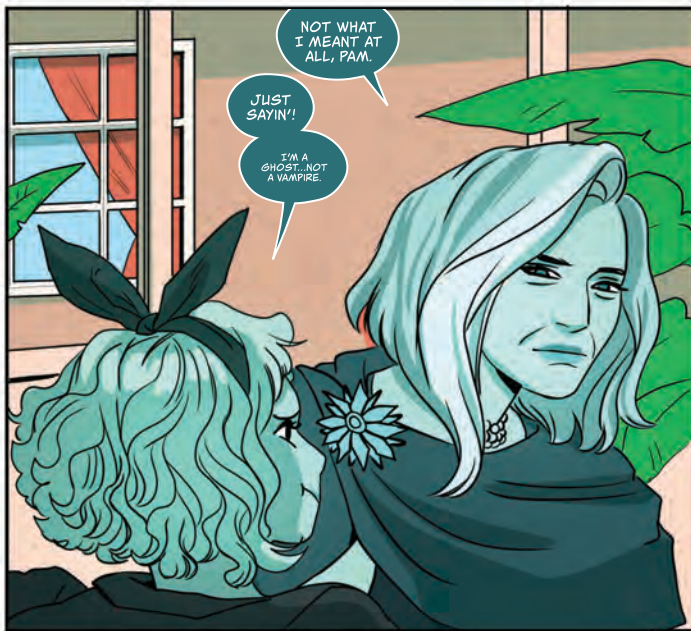


I MAY HAVE GONE ABOUT RUNNING SOME ASPECTS OF THIS BUILDING THE WRONG WAY...



LIKE GIVING MAURICE'S LINT TO ZOLA INSTEAD OF A TENURED MEMBER?

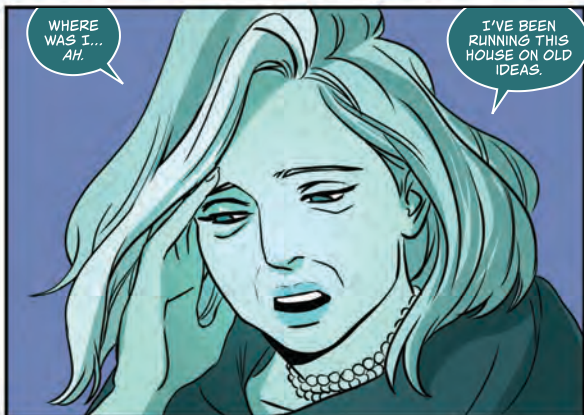
MINE GETS ZERO SUNLIGHT!



NOT WHAT I MEANT AT ALL, PAM.

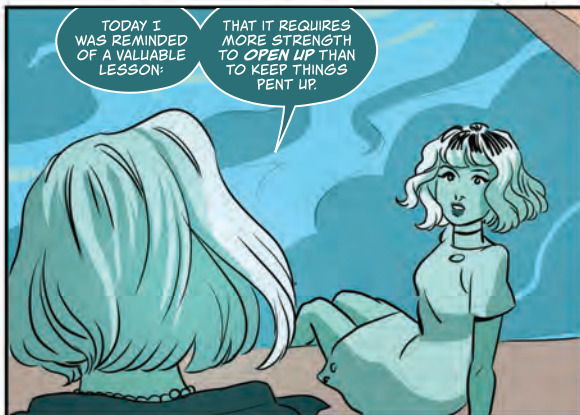
JUST SAYIN'!

I'M A GHOST, NOT A VAMPIRE.



WHERE WAS I... AH.

I'VE BEEN RUNNING THIS HOUSE ON OLD IDEAS.



TODAY I WAS REMINDED OF A VALUABLE LESSON:

THAT IT REQUIRES MORE STRENGTH TO OPEN UP THAN TO KEEP THINGS PENT UP.



THERE'S A PROBLEM BEFORE ME, AND I DON'T FEEL RIGHT MAKING THE DECISION TO SOLVE IT MYSELF.

LET ME TAKE IT FROM HERE, AGI.

EVEN TRYING TO BE TRANSPARENT, YOU'RE STILL COMING OFF REAL OBLIQUE.



I HAVEN'T BEEN HAPPY... NOT FOR A LONG TIME.

...I'VE TRIED TO UNDERSTAND WHY GOD HAS KEPT ME HERE-- WHAT MY PURPOSE IS WITHOUT FLESH, OR MY BOYS.

Y'ALL ARE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE, BUT I JUST CAN'T BE HERE LIKE THIS ANYMORE...

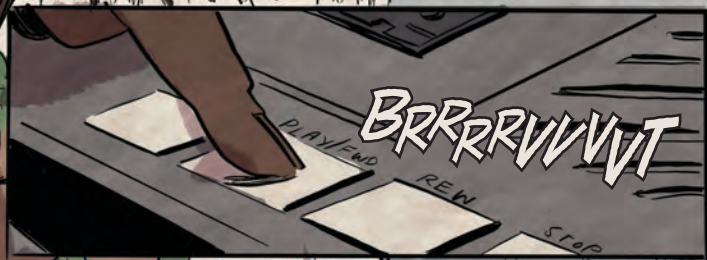
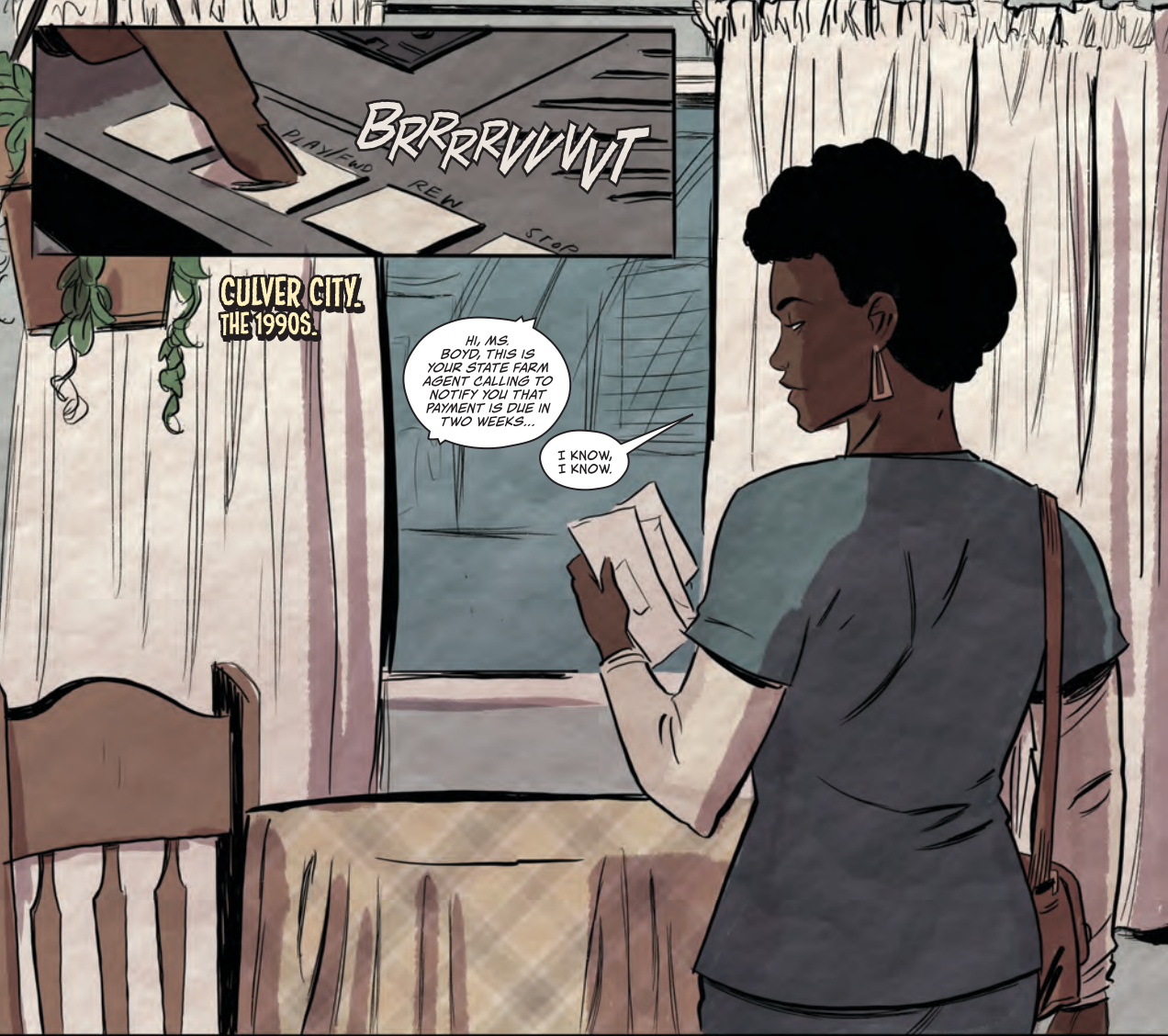


...I NEED TO MOVE ON.



Chapter Eight





**GULVER CITY,
THE 1990S.**

HI, MS. BOYD, THIS IS YOUR STATE FARM AGENT CALLING TO NOTIFY YOU THAT PAYMENT IS DUE IN TWO WEEKS...

I KNOW, I KNOW.



...CALL US BACK AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

THAT'S ALL?

KLIK



I ALREADY TOLD YOU, SHIRLEY. THE BOYS DIDN'T CALL TODAY.

GEEZ MOM... YOU SCARED ME!



EVERY DAY, YOU COME HOME EXPECTING THE BOYS TO HAVE LEARNED SOME **MANNERS** AND CHECKED IN ON THEIR MOTHER.

EVERY DAY, THEY LET YOU DOWN.

I TAUGHT THEM **PLENTY**, MOM. THAT'S WHY THEY'RE BOTH OUT HANDLING THEIR BUSINESS IN THE WORLD.



DISRESPECTING THEIR **MOTHER** IS WHAT THEY'RE DOING. THEY DIDN'T EVEN CALL DURING THE RIOTS!

THEY KNOW THAT THE RIOTS DIDN'T COME THIS WAY.

NOW **SCOOT** AND LET ME TAKE OVER. YOU SHOULDN'T BE ON YOUR FEET!



YOU DON'T PUT NEARLY ENOUGH SALT IN YOUR FOOD.

I CAN'T WATCH YOU RUIN MY COOKING.



YOU SPEND ALL DAY TAKING CARE OF PATIENTS...

...WHO THE HELL IS GONNA TAKE CARE OF YOU?



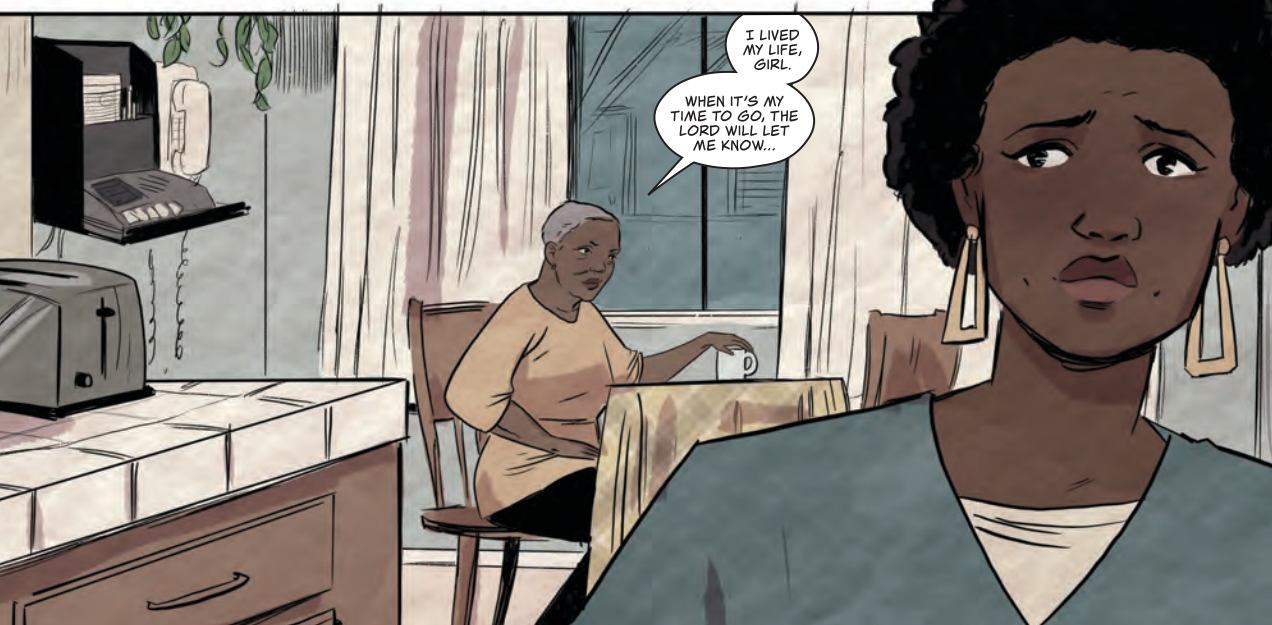
FINE. COOK DINNER.

I DON'T WANNA SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE FIGHTING WITH YOU, SO GO AHEAD AND--



MOM?

=HNGH=





"...IT'S MY TIME TO GO."

I DON'T CARE WHAT AGI SAYS ABOUT THE MATTER.

MY MIND IS MADE UP. I'M HERE TO CLEAR THE AIR, NOT BE CONVINCED OTHERWISE.



I DON'T UNDERSTAND... WHY?

CAN WE DO ANYTHING TO MAKE YOU HAPPIER HERE?

DAPHNE AND I CAN BE IN AN AUDIOBOOK CLUB WITH YOU.



IT ISN'T ABOUT ANY OF US. SHE'S MISERABLE HERE WITHOUT HER FAMILY.

IS WHAT RICKY'S SAYING TRUE, SHIRLEY?



I LOVE YOU ALL, BUT I DON'T BELONG HERE ANYMORE.

THERE'S NO GROWTH FOR ME AT RYCROFT MANOR...

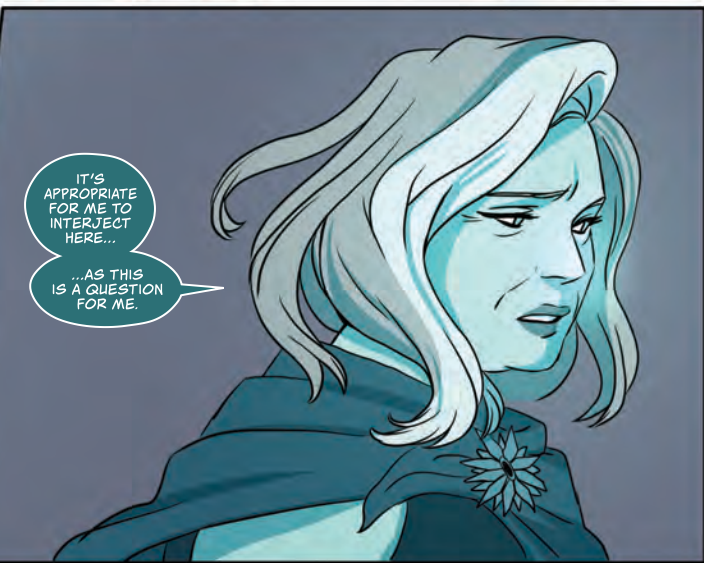
...AND I CAN'T CONTINUE BEING SO DISCONNECTED FROM THE WORLD.

I'M DONE.



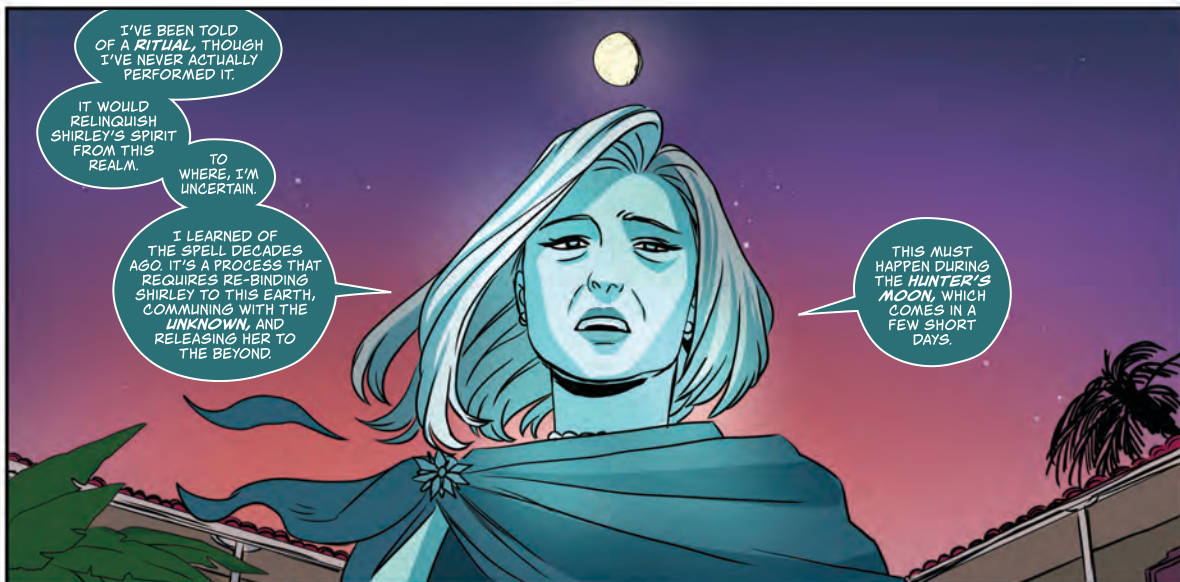
IF WE CAN'T LEAVE RYCROFT, HOW EXACTLY ARE YOU GOING TO LEAVE-LEAVE?

YEAH, IS AGI GOING TO TURN YOU INTO A WISP?



IT'S APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO INTERJECT HERE...

...AS THIS IS A QUESTION FOR ME.



I'VE BEEN TOLD OF A RITUAL, THOUGH I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY PERFORMED IT.

IT WOULD RELINQUISH SHIRLEY'S SPIRIT FROM THIS REALM.

TO WHERE, I'M UNCERTAIN.

I LEARNED OF THE SPELL DECADES AGO, IT'S A PROCESS THAT REQUIRES RE-BINDING SHIRLEY TO THIS EARTH, COMMUNING WITH THE UNKNOWN, AND RELEASING HER TO THE BEYOND.

THIS MUST HAPPEN DURING THE HUNTER'S MOON, WHICH COMES IN A FEW SHORT DAYS.



THE RITUAL WOULDN'T AFFECT ANYONE ELSE IN THE HOUSE.

THE SPELL AGI'S GOT IS GONNA BE FOCUSED SOLELY ON ME...IT'S ALL HINGED ON THE INDIVIDUAL.



SO JUST LIKE THAT, BADDABING BADDABOOM, YER GONE?



THERE IS ONE COMPLICATION.

IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE RITUAL, I REQUIRE SEVERAL INGREDIENTS...

...AND...

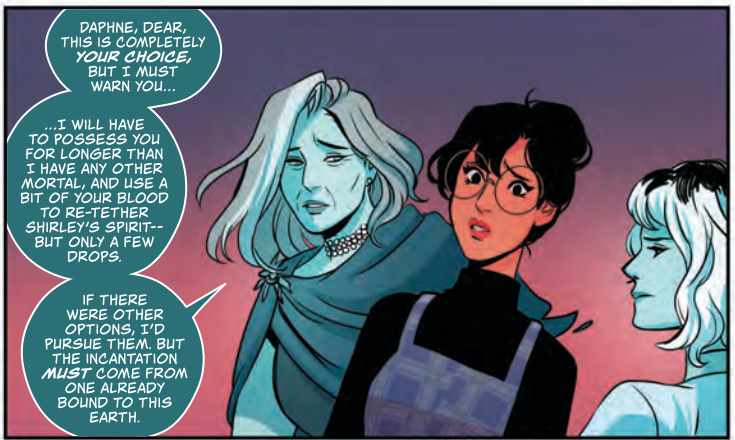
...I MUST PERFORM THE RITUAL IN A LIVE HUMAN BODY.





OH.

ME.



DAPHNE, DEAR, THIS IS COMPLETELY YOUR CHOICE, BUT I MUST WARN YOU...

...I WILL HAVE TO POSSESS YOU FOR LONGER THAN I HAVE ANY OTHER MORTAL, AND USE A BIT OF YOUR BLOOD TO RE-TETHER SHIRLEY'S SPIRIT-- BUT ONLY A FEW DROPS.

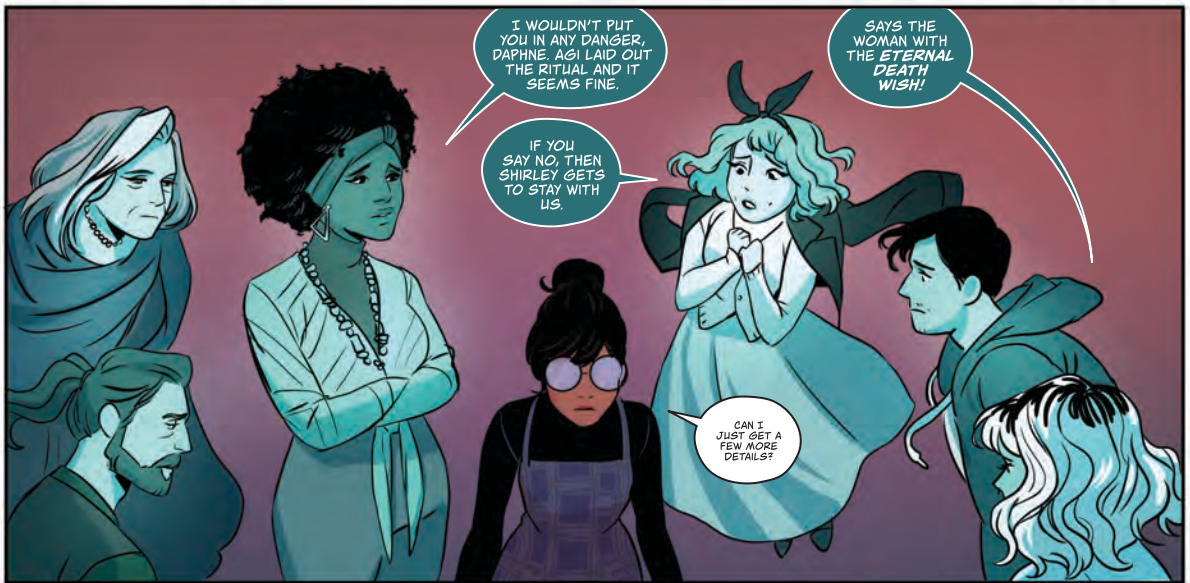
IF THERE WERE OTHER OPTIONS I'D PURSUE THEM, BUT THE INCANTATION MUST COME FROM ONE ALREADY BOUND TO THIS EARTH.



IT WOULD BRING SHIRLEY PEACE, THOUGH?

OKAY, BUTTING IN FOR A SECOND...

...THIS SOUNDS LIKE A TERRIBLE IDEA, DAPHNE.

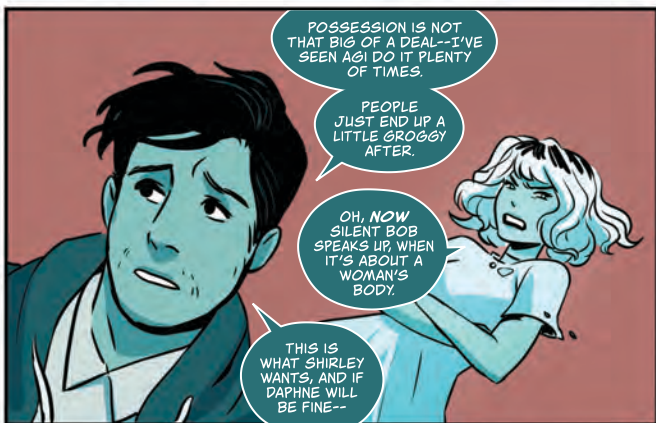


I WOULDN'T PUT YOU IN ANY DANGER, DAPHNE. AGI LAID OUT THE RITUAL AND IT SEEMS FINE.

IF YOU SAY NO, THEN SHIRLEY GETS TO STAY WITH US.

SAYS THE WOMAN WITH THE ETERNAL DEATH WISH!

CAN I JUST GET A FEW MORE DETAILS?



POSSESSION IS NOT THAT BIG OF A DEAL--I'VE SEEN AGI DO IT PLENTY OF TIMES.

PEOPLE JUST END UP A LITTLE GROGGY AFTER.

OH, NOW SILENT BOB SPEAKS UP, WHEN IT'S ABOUT A WOMAN'S BODY.

THIS IS WHAT SHIRLEY WANTS, AND IF DAPHNE WILL BE FINE--



EVERYONE-- QUIET!



SHE'S JUST DEPRESSED-- SHE'LL GET OVER IT.

I'M ALL VERKLEMT BY THE AMOUNT OF CONCERN YOU'RE SHOWING RIGHT NOW...

BUT THINK ABOUT IT THIS WAY--THE SPELL MAY NOT WORK, AND I'D STILL BE SHOWING UP FOR SOMEONE WHO'S DONE HER BEST TO TAKE CARE OF US BOTH.



THEY'RE GOING TO DOWNPLAY THE RISKS, DAPHNE. YOUR BODY WILL BE PUT IN THE MIDDLE OF AGI TRYING TO BARGAIN WITH DEATH.

DID YOU MISS THE "BLOOD" PART?

AFTER EVERYTHING YOU JUST SAW ME GO THROUGH... YOU'RE WILLING TO RISK YOUR PRECIOUS LIFE?



HAVE A LITTLE FAITH IN ME, ZOLA-- MY GUT IS TELLING ME IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO...

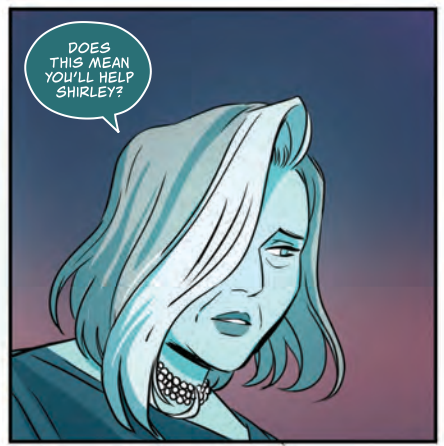
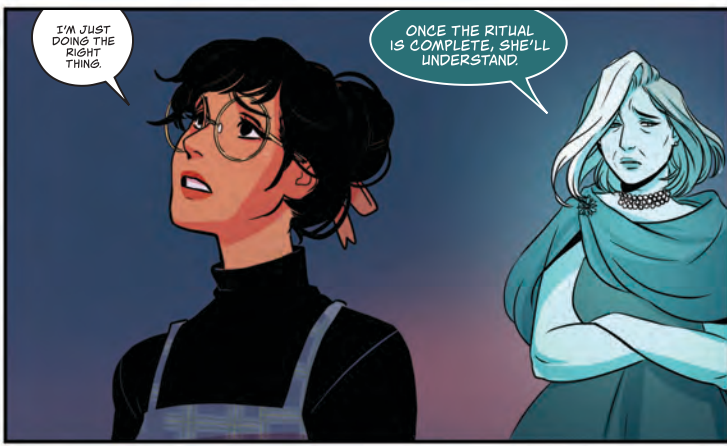
...JUST LIKE WALKING INTO RYCROFT MANOR, OR--

WHATEVER. IT'S YOUR AND SHIRLEY'S FUNERAL.



ZOLA--!

MAYBE THE GOOD VIBES IN YOUR GUT WILL HELP YOU WITH THE MAURICE NIGHTMARES.





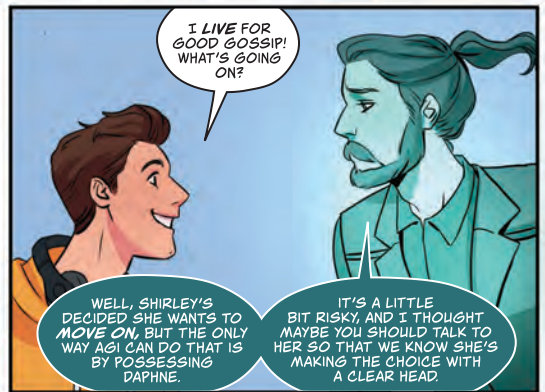
HEY, RONNIE?
MAY I COME IN?



BERNARD!
YEAH, MY ROOMMATE'S GONE TO THE GYM.
I WAS GONNA DO SOME DOG-WALKING TO MAKE EXTRA MONEY FOR THE WEEKEND, WANNA COME WITH?



I'M AFRAID I CAN'T STAY VERY LONG--I MAINLY WANTED TO TELL YOU WHAT'S HAPPENING AT RYCROFT.



I LIVE FOR GOOD GOSSIP! WHAT'S GOING ON?

WELL, SHIRLEY'S DECIDED SHE WANTS TO MOVE ON, BUT THE ONLY WAY AGI CAN DO THAT IS BY POSSESSING DAPHNE.

IT'S A LITTLE BIT RISKY, AND I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU SHOULD TALK TO HER SO THAT WE KNOW SHE'S MAKING THE CHOICE WITH A CLEAR HEAD.



DAPHNE'S A BIG GIRL, SHE'S ALL ABOUT MAKING HER OWN DECISIONS THESE DAYS.

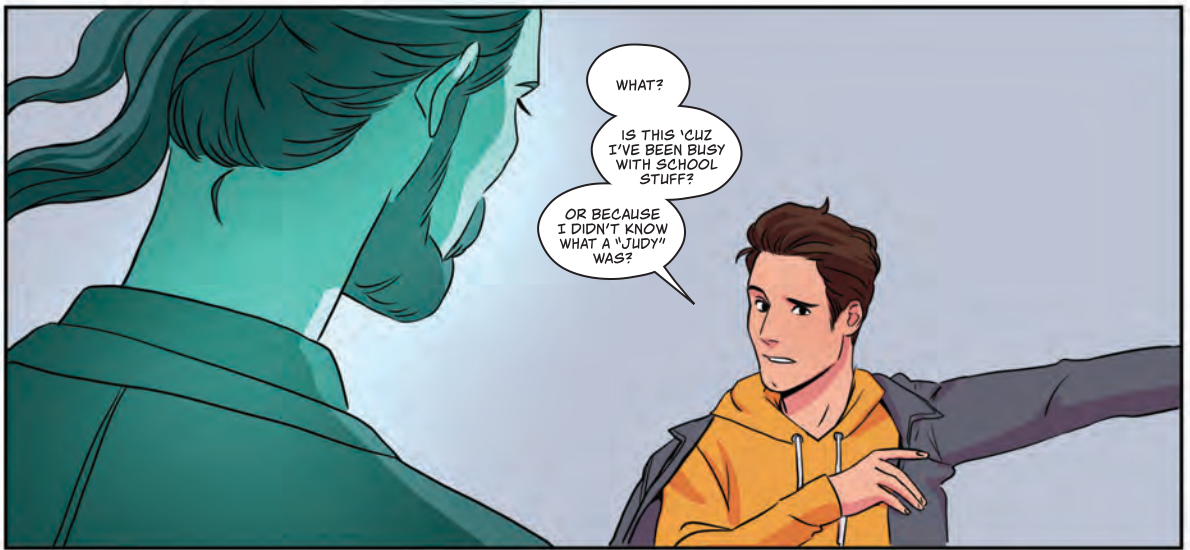
C'MON, IF WE HEAD OUT NOW, I CAN GET LIKE FIVE DOGS WALKED BEFORE BED, AND I CAN SPEND THE WEEKEND DOING SOMETHING FUN AND NOT WORRYING ABOUT MONEY--



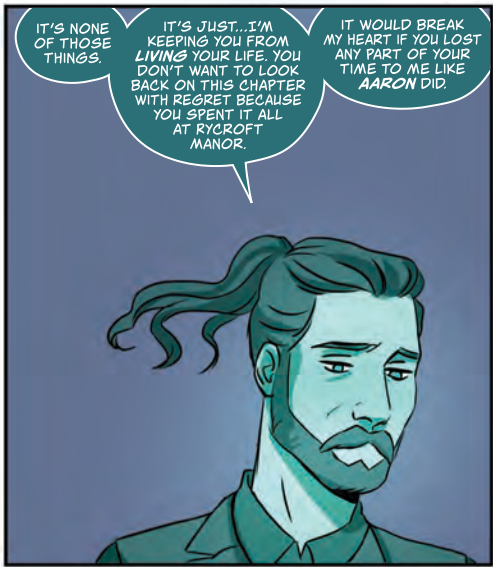
WELL...

...THERE'S ONE MORE THING...

...I DON'T REALLY THINK WE SHOULD BE HANGING OUT ANYMORE.



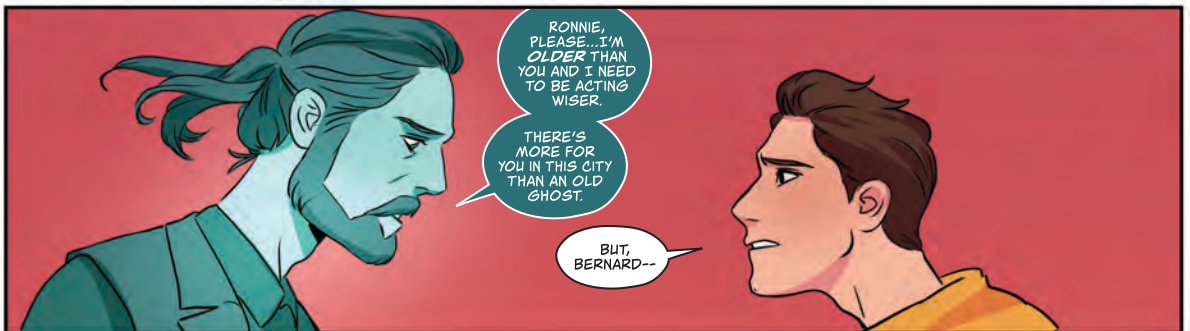
WHAT?
IS THIS 'CUZ
I'VE BEEN BUSY
WITH SCHOOL
STUFF?
OR BECAUSE
I DIDN'T KNOW
WHAT A "JUDY"
WAS?



IT'S NONE
OF THOSE
THINGS.
IT'S JUST...I'M
KEEPING YOU FROM
LIVING YOUR LIFE. YOU
DON'T WANT TO LOOK
BACK ON THIS CHAPTER
WITH REGRET BECAUSE
YOU SPENT IT ALL
AT RYCROFT
MANOR.
IT WOULD BREAK
MY HEART IF YOU LOST
ANY PART OF YOUR
TIME TO ME LIKE
AARON DID.



UHH, I'M
ALREADY DOING
THAT FOR
MYSELF?
AND IT'S
NOT LIKE YOU'RE
MISLEADING ME...
I JUST ENJOY
SPENDING MY
TIME WITH
YOU.

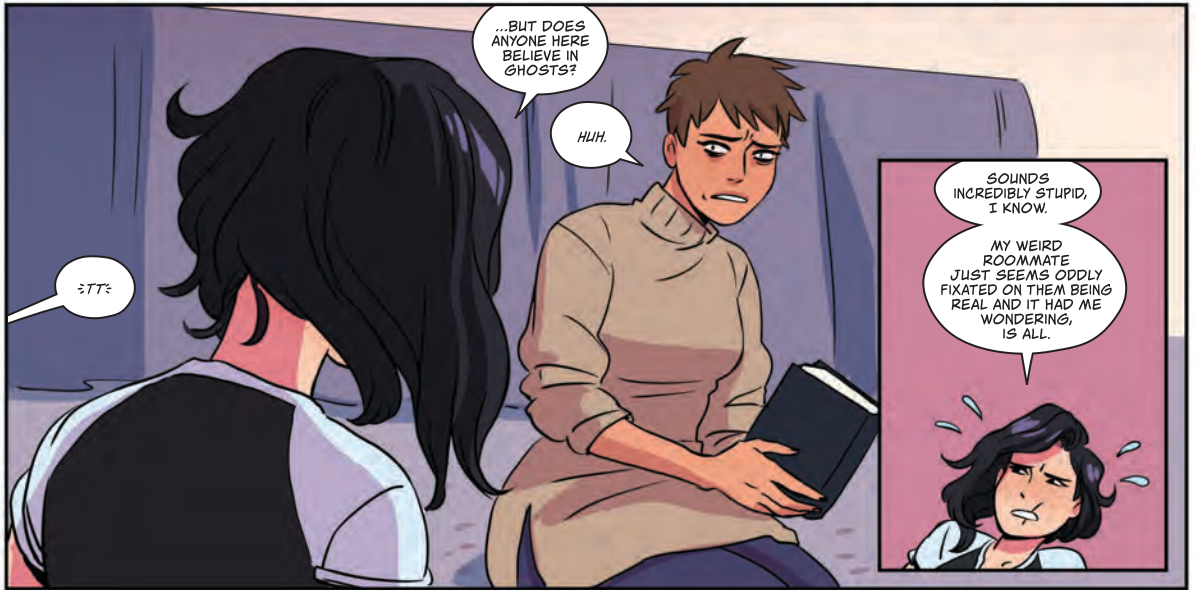


RONNIE,
PLEASE...I'M
OLDER THAN
YOU AND I NEED
TO BE ACTING
WISER.
THERE'S
MORE FOR
YOU IN THIS CITY
THAN AN OLD
GHOST.
BUT,
BERNARD--



I'M
SORRY.
YOU NEED
TO MOVE
ON.

"ACTS 2:38, PETER
SAID: 'REPENT, AND BE
BAPTIZED TO RECEIVE
THE GIFT OF THE
HOLY SPIRIT...'"





"...LET'S PRAY FOR HER LOST SOUL."

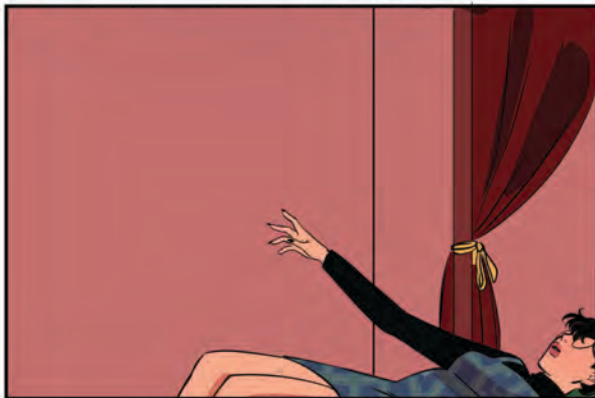
ARE YOU READY, LOVE?

AS READY AS I'LL EVER BE.



ALRIGHT THEN.

--



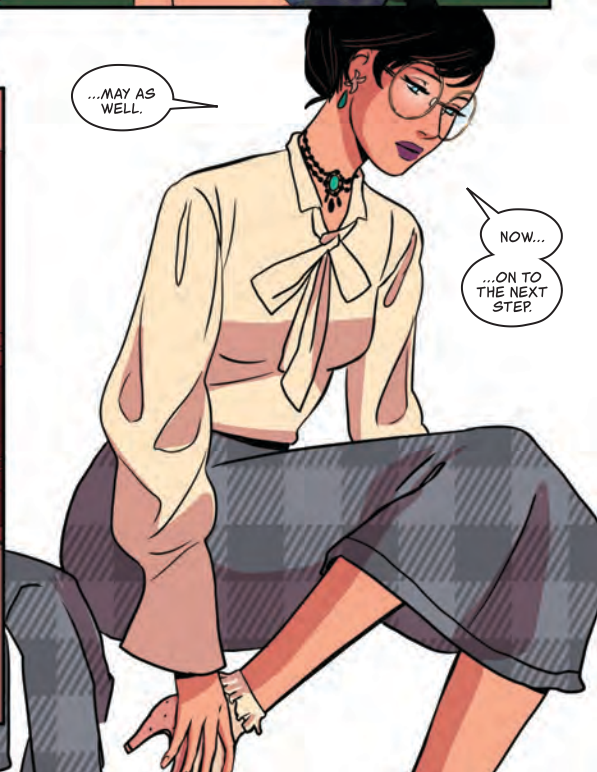
!!!



IT'S BEEN SOME TIME SINCE I'VE BEEN IN A YOUNG WOMAN'S BODY.

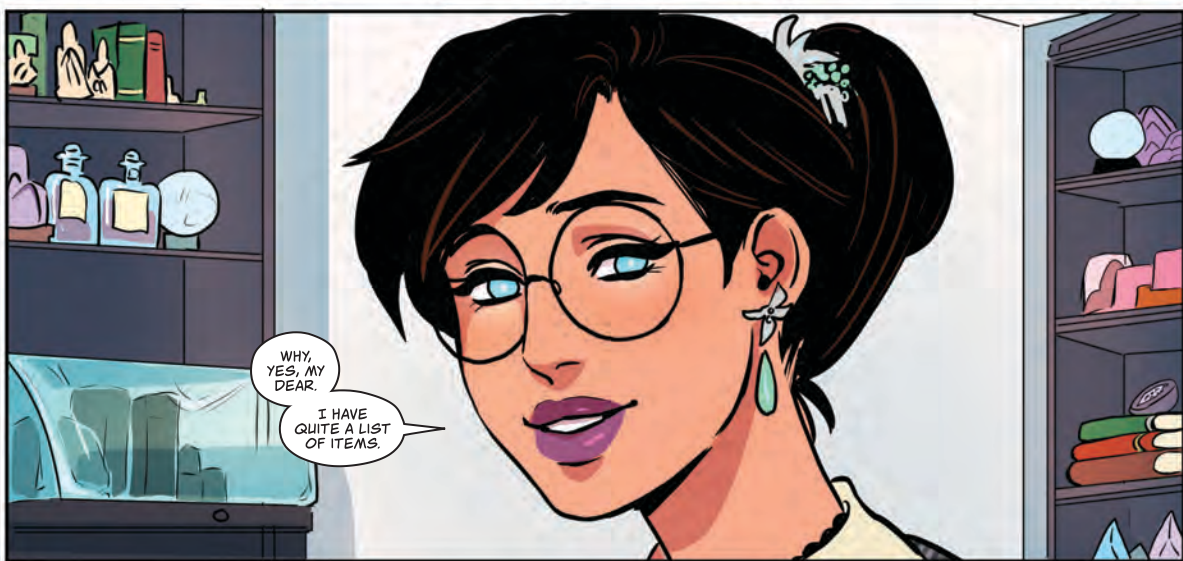
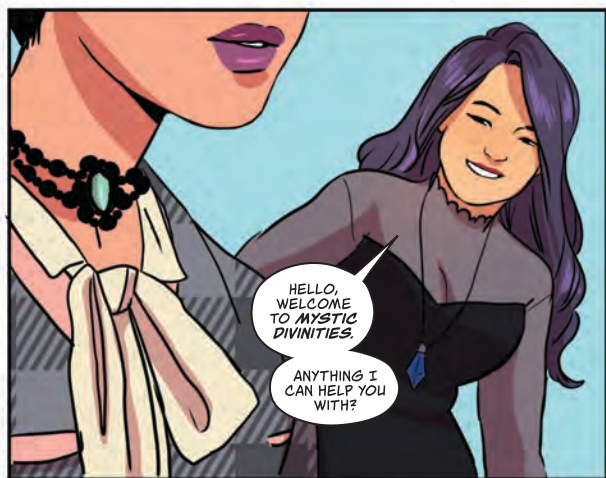


WHILE I'M IN IT...



...MAY AS WELL.

NOW...
...ON TO THE NEXT STEP.





I THINK THAT'S THE LAST OF WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR.

FROM HERE, YES.

I'VE GRAVE SOIL TO RETRIEVE YET.



I KNEW I FORGOT TO PUT SOMETHING ON THIS WEEK'S ORDERS!

YOU'RE QUITE AMUSING!

DO YOU RUN THIS SHOP?



SORTA. IT'S A FAMILY BUSINESS, BUT I MANAGE MOST OF THE DAY-TO-DAY.

AH.



YOUR GRANDMOTHER WOULD BE QUITE PROUD OF YOU IF SHE SAW HOW WONDERFULLY HER DAUGHTER BROUGHT YOU UP IN THIS WORLD.

ALL OF YOU... SUCH AMUSING WOMEN.

UHH...



"...OKAY?"

HAVE YOU EVER MEDITATED BEFORE, SHIRLEY?



IF YOU MEAN BEING BORED OUT OF MY MIND WATCHING "ALL IN THE FAMILY" RERUNS, THEN YES.

BUT NOT IN THE PROPER SENSE, NO.



FOR THE SAKE OF THIS RITUAL, I'D LIKE YOU TO CLEAR YOUR THOUGHTS.

I'M SURE ALL YOU CAN THINK ABOUT IS WHAT HAPPENS NEXT...

...BUT TRY TO RELAX. ATTEMPT TO SIMULATE SLOW BREATHING EXERCISES.



EASIER SAID THAN DONE, AGI.

I KNOW, MY LOVE...

...ARE YOU READY?

YEAH...



...I AM.



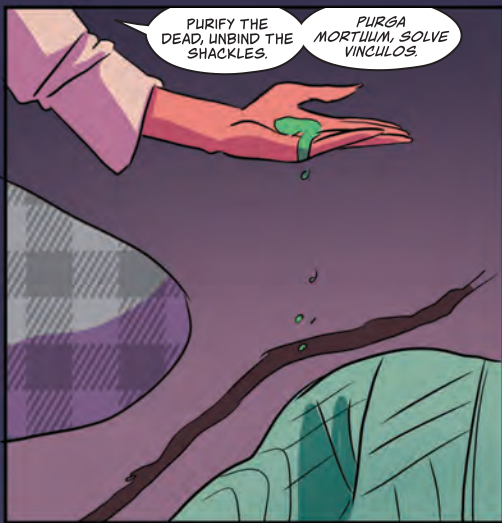
FROM EARTH WE ARE BORN AND TO EARTH WE RETURN.

EX TERRA NATI SUMUS, ET TERRAM RECURRIMUS.



FROM DEATH, LIFE-- AND FROM LIFE, DEATH.

EX MORTE VITA, ET EX VITA MORS.



PURIFY THE DEAD, UNBIND THE SHACKLES.

PURGA MORTUUM, SOLVE VINCULOS.



I SUMMON AND ABJURE THE PSYCHOPOMP, THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL...

ADVOCO ET ADIURO ILLUD ψυχοπομπός, מלאך...



...FERRY THIS LOST SOUL FROM OUR WORLD INTO THE NEXT.

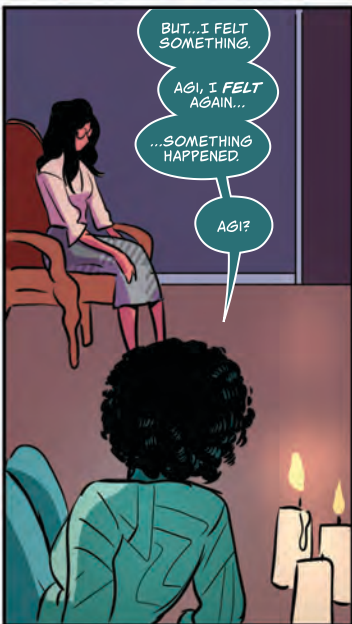
EX MUNDO NOSTRO DEINDE, FER HANC ANIMAM.

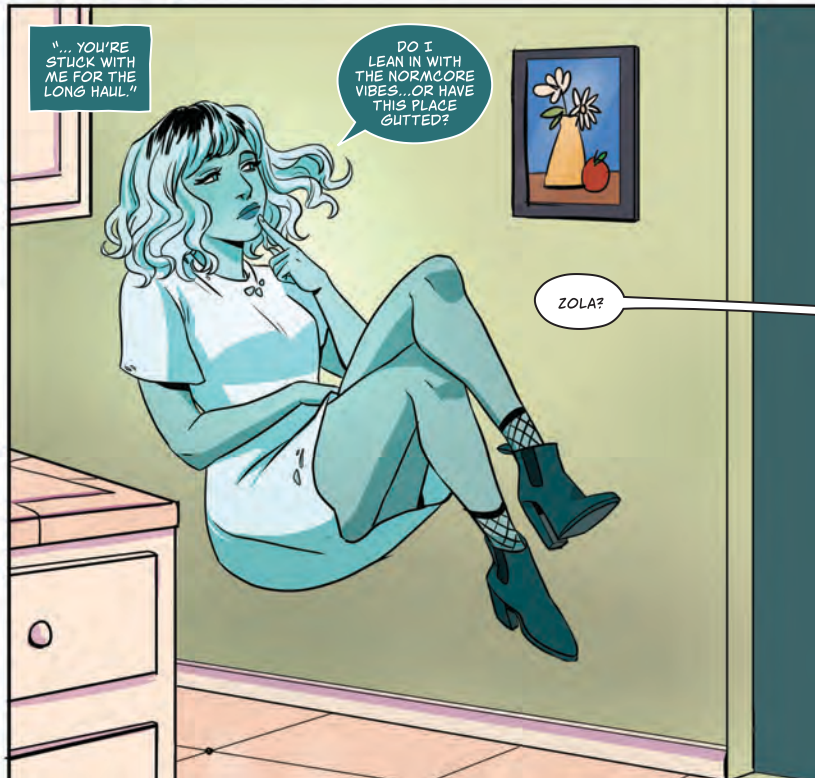
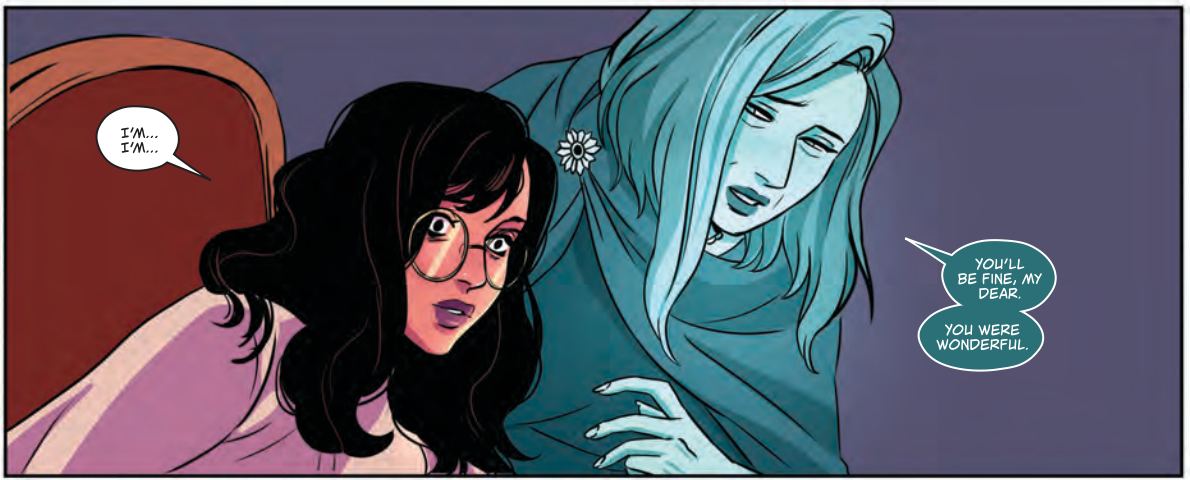


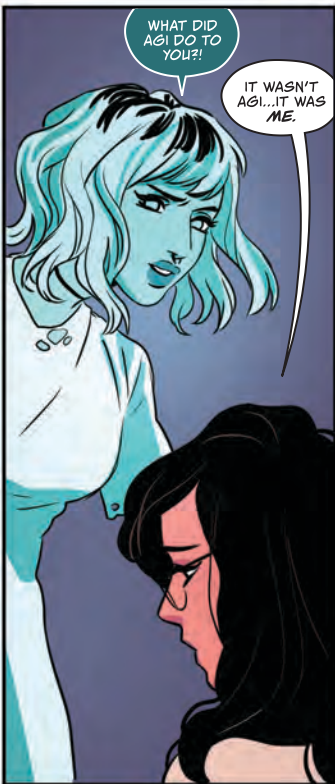
EXSOLVE EAM.

RELEASE HER!





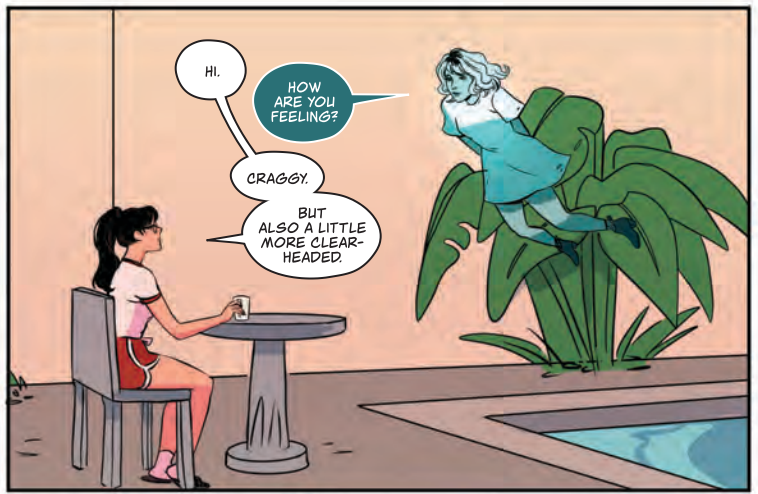






THE NEXT MORNING.

HEY.

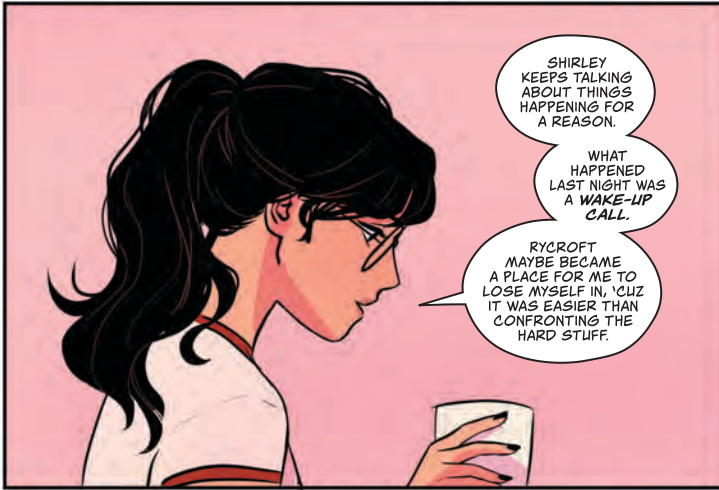


HI.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

CRAGGY.

BUT ALSO A LITTLE MORE CLEAR-HEADED.



SHIRLEY KEEPS TALKING ABOUT THINGS HAPPENING FOR A REASON.

WHAT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT WAS A WAKE-UP CALL.

RYCROFT MAYBE BECAME A PLACE FOR ME TO LOSE MYSELF IN, 'CUZ IT WAS EASIER THAN CONFRONTING THE HARD STUFF.



YOU READY TO FIND YOURSELF?

EVEN IF IT FEELS LIKE I'M CREATING A BUILD-A-BEAR FROM SCRATCH...

...YES. I AM.



BUT YOU CAN'T INFLUENCE MY JOURNEY!

WASN'T GOING TO!

I GOTTA FIND ME ON MY TERMS!

I SEE WHY THE GIRLS LIKE IT UP HERE.





YOU DON'T NEED TO KEEP ME COMPANY, BERNARD.

WHAT ELSE AM I GOING TO DO?
A WISE YOUNG MAN TOLD ME THAT THIS IS WHAT FRIENDS DO FOR EACH OTHER.



I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED.

THE RITUAL DIDN'T WORK.

IT'S NOT AS SIMPLE AS THAT. THERE WAS AN ENERGY IN THE ROOM.
SOMETHING HAPPENED.



IF THIS IS WHERE I'M MEANT TO BE, THEN I GET IT.

BUT I SWEAR TO YOU, BERNARD...

"...IT FELT LIKE THE SPELL WORKED."



TO BE CONTINUED!





Cover Gallery





Issue Five Main Cover by **Siobhan Keenan**



Issue Six Main Cover by **Siobhan Keenan**



Issue Seven Main Cover by **Siobhan Keenan**



Issue Eight Main Cover by **Siobhan Keenan**



Issue Five Variant Cover by **Sina Grace** with Colors by **Cathy Le**



Issue Six Variant Cover by **Sina Grace** with Colors by Cathy Le

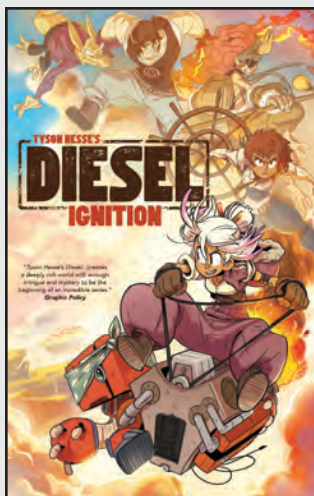


Issue Seven Variant Cover by **Sina Grace** with Colors by **Cathy Le**



Issue Eight Variant Cover by **Sina Grace** with Colors by Cathy Le

DISCOVER ALL THE HITS



Lumberjanes

Noelle Stevenson, Shannon Watters, Grace Ellis, Brooklyn Allen, and Others
Volume 1: Beware the Kitten Holy
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-687-8 | \$14.99 US
Volume 2: Friendship to the Max
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-737-0 | \$14.99 US
Volume 3: A Terrible Plan
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-803-2 | \$14.99 US
Volume 4: Out of Time
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-860-5 | \$14.99 US
Volume 5: Band Together
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-919-0 | \$14.99 US

Giant Days

John Allison, Lissa Treiman, Max Sarin
Volume 1
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-789-9 | \$9.99 US
Volume 2
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-804-9 | \$14.99 US
Volume 3
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-851-3 | \$14.99 US

Jonesy

Sam Humphries, Caitlin Rose Boyle
Volume 1
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-883-4 | \$9.99 US
Volume 2
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-999-2 | \$14.99 US

Slam!

Pamela Ribon, Veronica Fish, Brittany Peer
Volume 1
 ISBN: 978-1-68415-004-5 | \$14.99 US

Goldie Vance

Hope Larson, Britney Williams
Volume 1
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-898-8 | \$9.99 US
Volume 2
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-974-9 | \$14.99 US

The Backstagers

James Tynion IV, Rian Sygh
Volume 1
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-993-0 | \$14.99 US

Tyson Hesse's Diesel: Ignition

Tyson Hesse
 ISBN: 978-1-60886-907-7 | \$14.99 US

Coady & The Creepies

Liz Prince, Amanda Kirk, Hannah Fisher
 ISBN: 978-1-68415-029-8 | \$14.99 US

BOOM! BOX

AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL COMICS SHOP AND BOOKSTORE

To find a comics shop in your area, visit www.comicshoplocator.com

WWW.BOOM-STUDIOS.COM



Daphne Walters is loving her new life at Rycroft Manner with her ghostly roommates—but trouble is right around the corner! Rycroft's got a new resident, the musician Zola, and she's getting close to Daphne...and causing friction amongst the residents! Meanwhile, Daphne and Kristi, best friends since high school, might be the ones who can't find their way back to each other. And since trouble comes in threes, Daphne's college roommate Michelle threatens to cause trouble for Rycroft...because no one said moving to L.A. would ever be easy!

From GLAAD Award-nominated writer Sina Grace (*Iceman*) and illustrator Siobhan Keenan (*Jem and the Holograms*) comes the next chapter in the hit series about friendship, love and living your (after) life to the fullest.

"... another fun and enthralling read."
—*Word of the Nerd*

"...a great example of how comics are so much more than the superheroes everyone tends to think of."
—*Major Spoilers*

"*Ghosted in L.A.* has hit its stride as both a character drama and low-key supernatural thriller."
—*Comicbook.com*

BOOM!
BOX™