

"Friendships, family secrets, and a teenage boy who can turn into animals. What's not to love?"

—Gene Luen Yang, *New York Times* bestselling author of *American Born Chinese*

THE *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING SERIES

KAMI GARCIA GABRIEL PICOLO



TEEN TITANS
BEAST
BOY



TEEN TITANS
**BEAST
BOY**

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TEEN TITANS: BEAST BOY

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Burbank, CA 91505

kami:

I was a little nervous when we started working on *Beast Boy*. I've always loved Raven, and Gabriel and I had so much fun bringing her story to life in *Teen Titans: Raven*. I couldn't imagine having as much fun writing Gar. But Beast Boy is Gabriel's favorite Titan (notice the similarities in their hairstyles), and his excitement is contagious. The first time I saw Gabriel's version of Gar for this novel, I instantly knew this story would be special.

gabriel:

Everyone who follows me on social media knows how much I love Beast Boy. He's always been my favorite Teen Titan. He's a character with so much heart. Sure...he's funny and he spends a lot of time fooling around and cracking jokes, but in this book I wanted to show there was more to him than that. I started drawing Gar as part of my "Casual Teen Titans" series online, where I show the characters wearing regular clothes and doing normal, everyday teen things, like hanging out together, doing homework, and going on dates. I really wanted Gar to be relatable. I'm a sneakerhead, so he wears old-school high-tops...and his hair does look a little like mine.

Thank you for making it possible for us to bring our favorite characters to life. We hope you love reading Gar's story as much as we have loved writing and drawing it!





CHAPTER 1: SPRING BREAK AND SOUR PLUMS

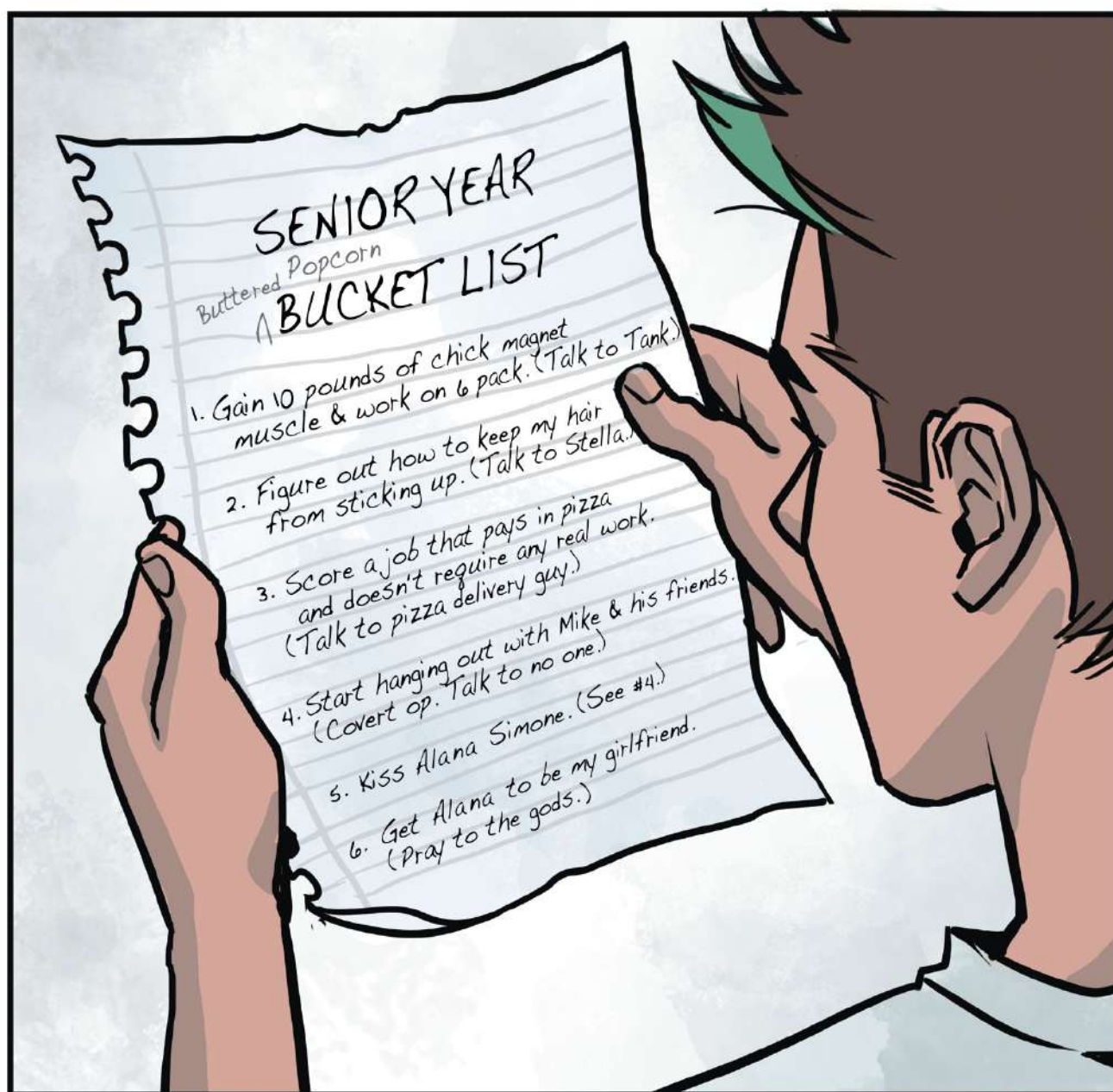
EDENTOWN,
GEORGIA



Next up, on *Stupid Stunts*,
R.J. will attempt to eat six
Japanese umeboshi plums—one
of the world's sourest foods.

Bad
idea,
R.J.



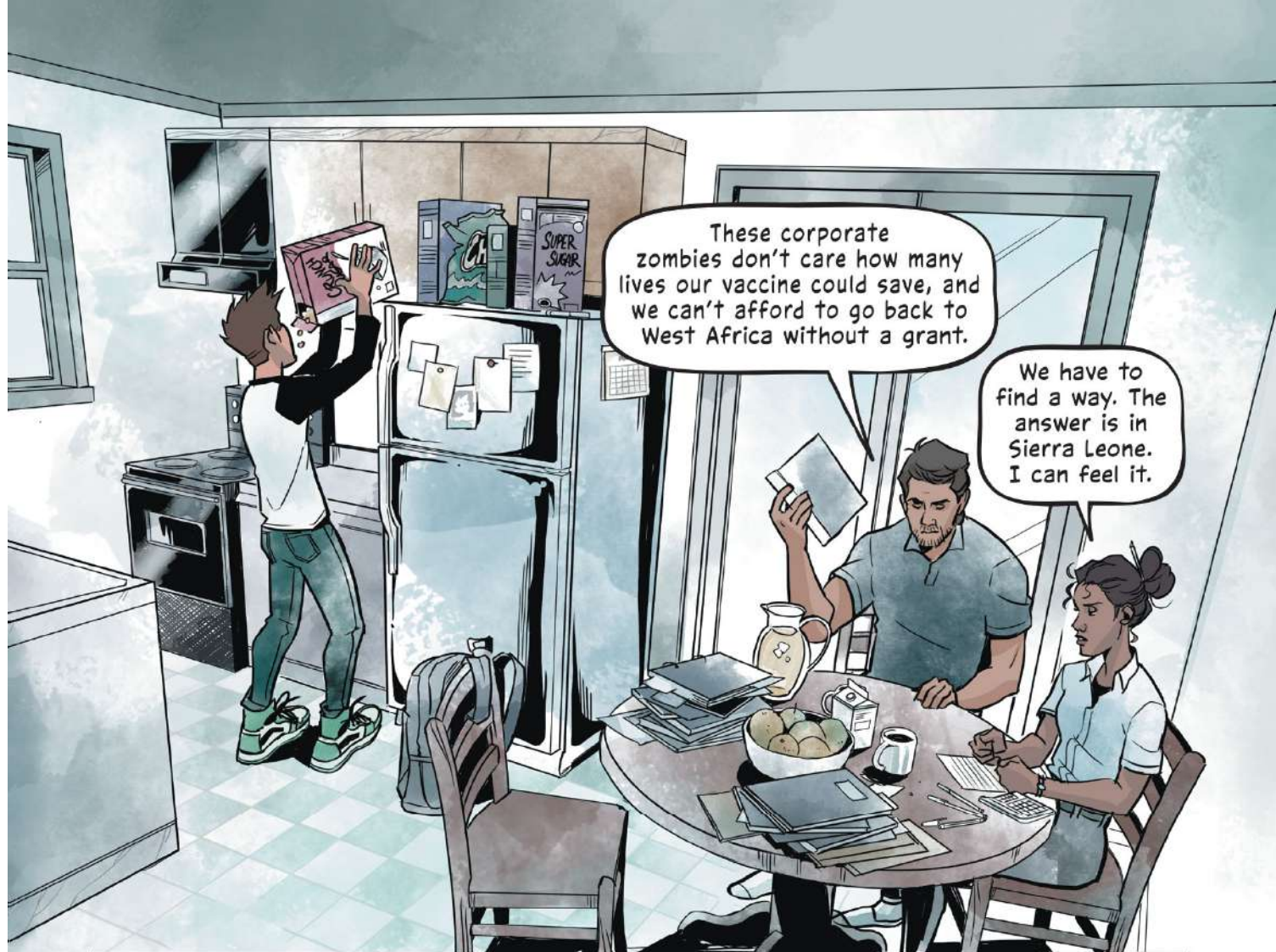


- SENIOR YEAR
Buttered Popcorn
A BUCKET LIST
1. Gain 10 pounds of chick magnet muscle & work on 6 pack. (Talk to Tank.)
 2. Figure out how to keep my hair from sticking up. (Talk to Stella.)
 3. Score a job that pays in pizza and doesn't require any real work. (Talk to pizza delivery guy.)
 4. Start hanging out with Mike & his friends. (Covert op. Talk to no one.)
 5. Kiss Alana Simone. (See #4.)
 6. Get Alana to be my girlfriend. (Pray to the gods.)









These corporate zombies don't care how many lives our vaccine could save, and we can't afford to go back to West Africa without a grant.

We have to find a way. The answer is in Sierra Leone. I can feel it.



The place with the green monkeys?

I'm surprised you remember, Gar. You were only four when we lived there.









Good lord, Garfield. Keep the mitts on!



I'm not gonna hurt you. Don't bite my hand off in front of the kids, okay?

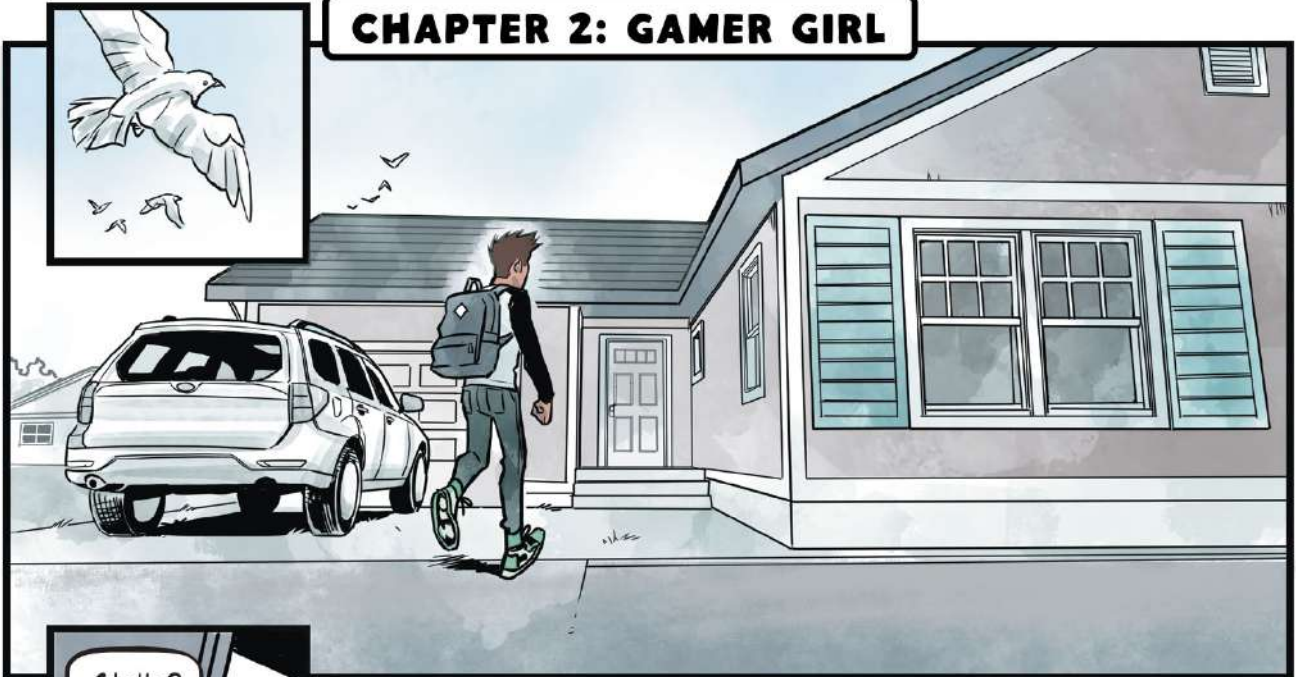


Who's gonna dress up like the Easter Bunny if Gar gets rabies?





CHAPTER 2: GAMER GIRL



Stella?

In the basement.

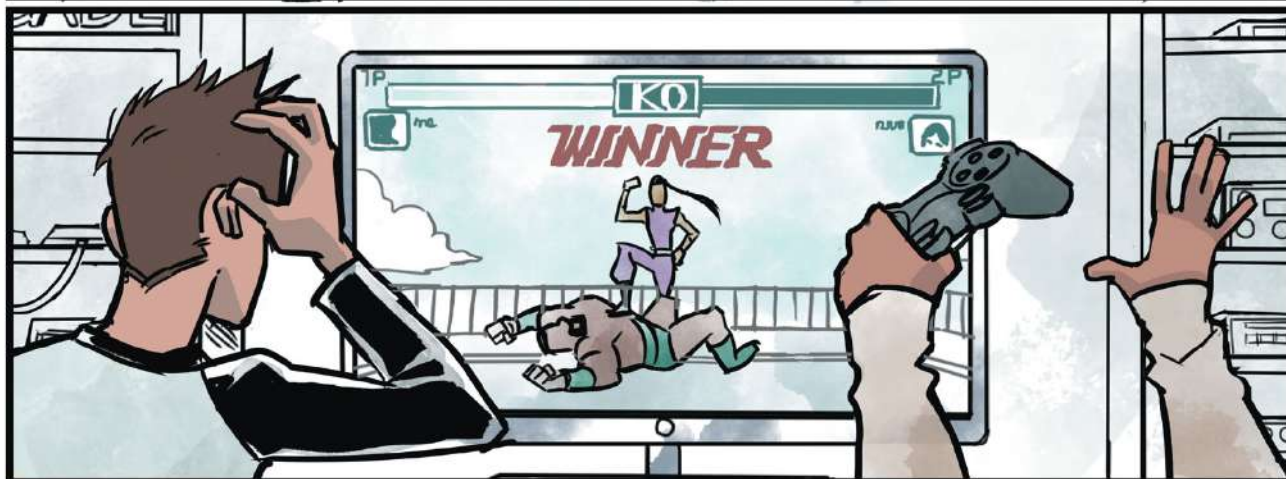
If you were watching me play live, I'm taking a break. Tune into my channel later tonight and I'll demo how to beat level four.

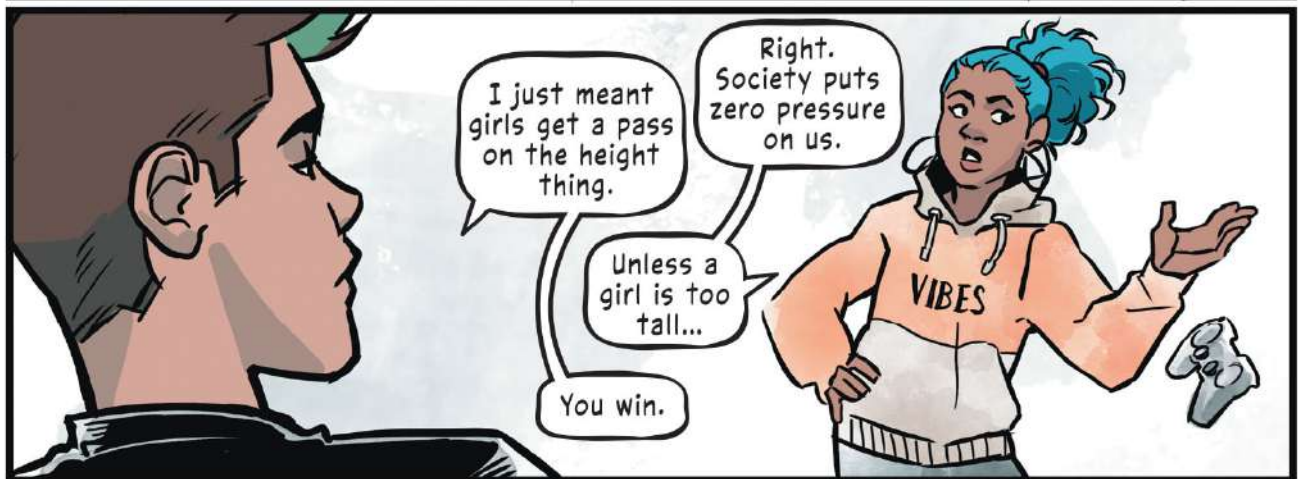


I'm offline.

I was showing my subscribers the shortcuts for level three.

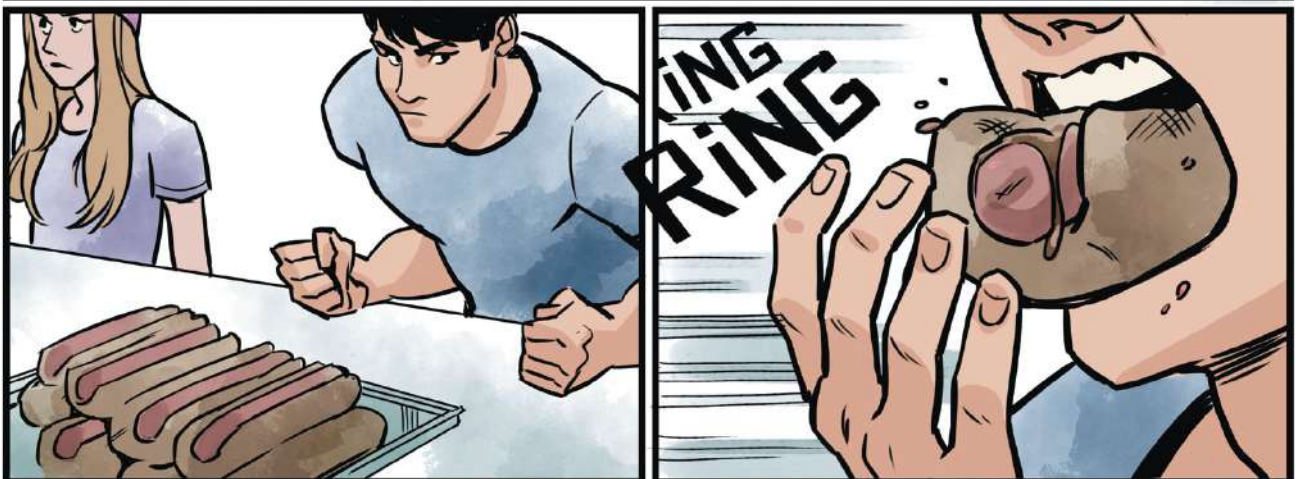






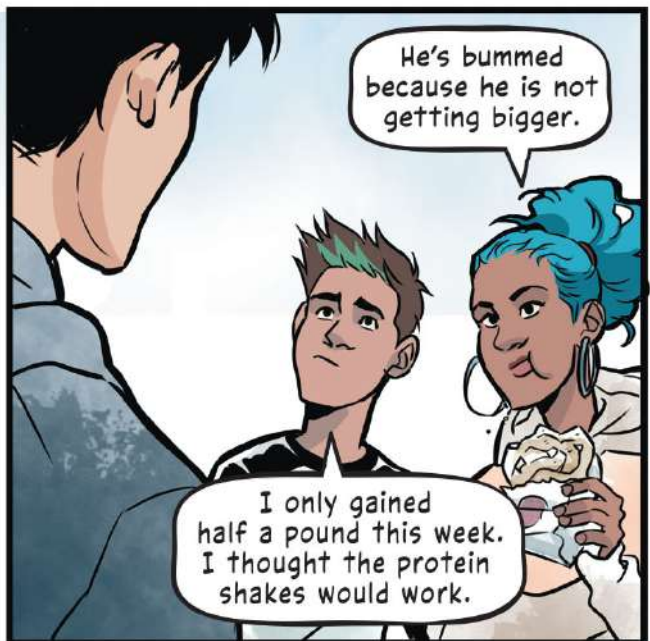






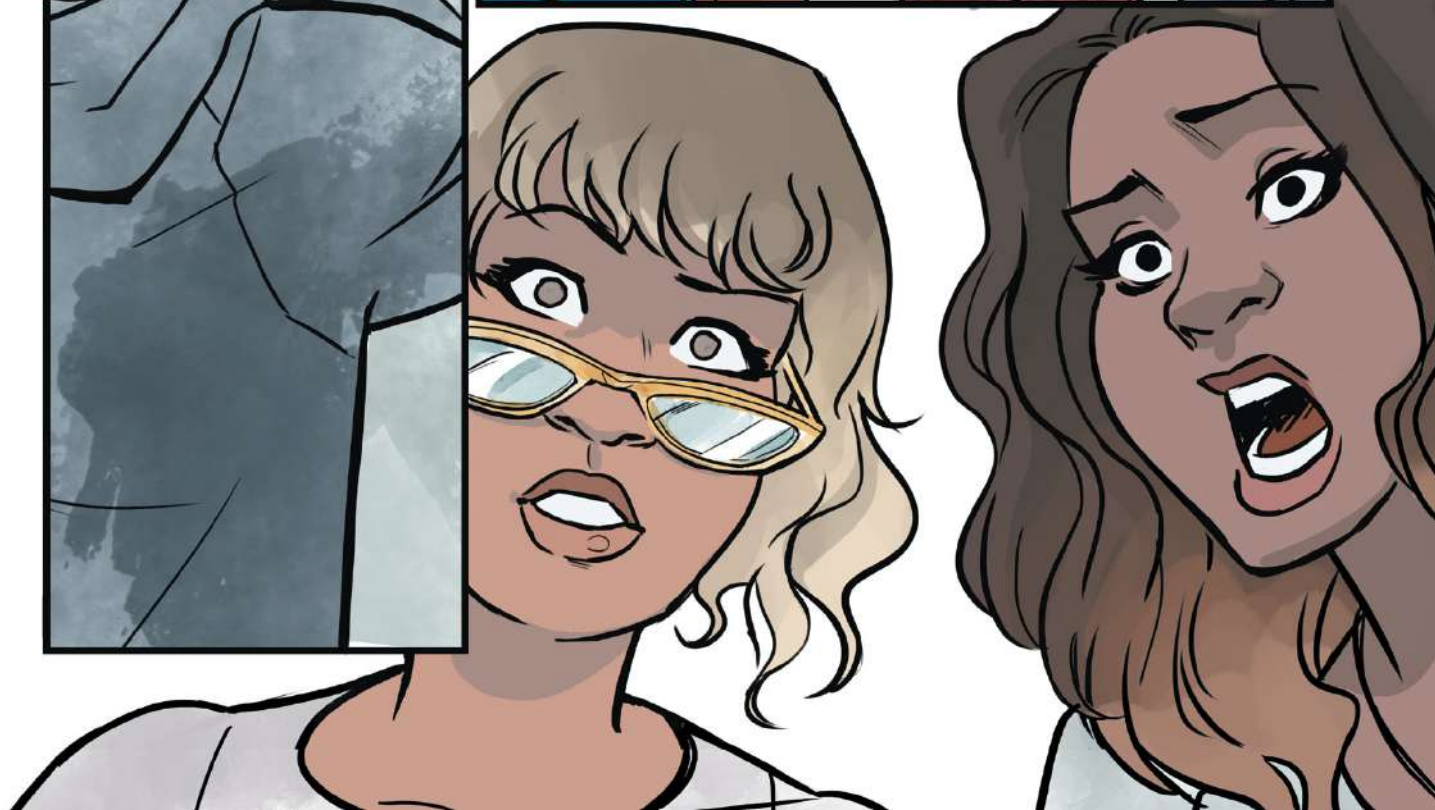
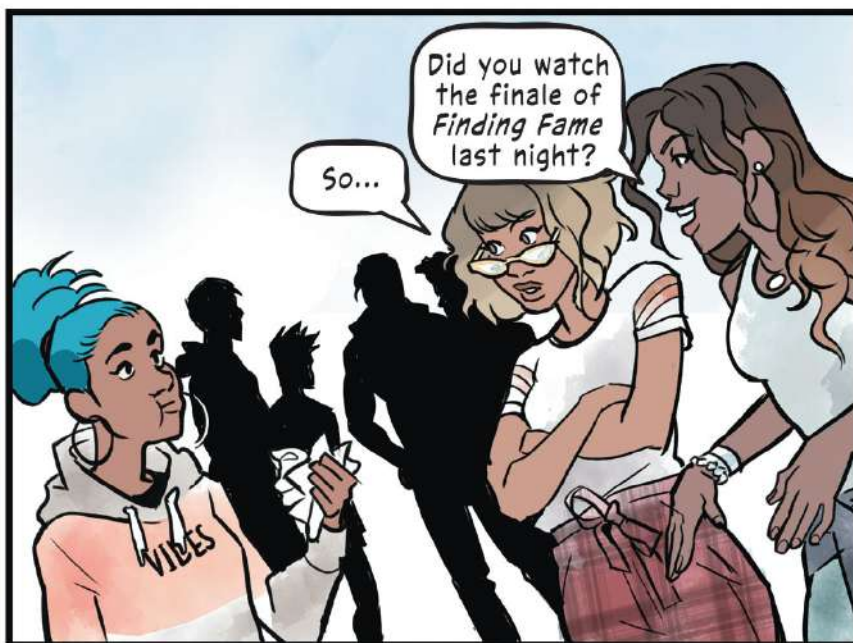


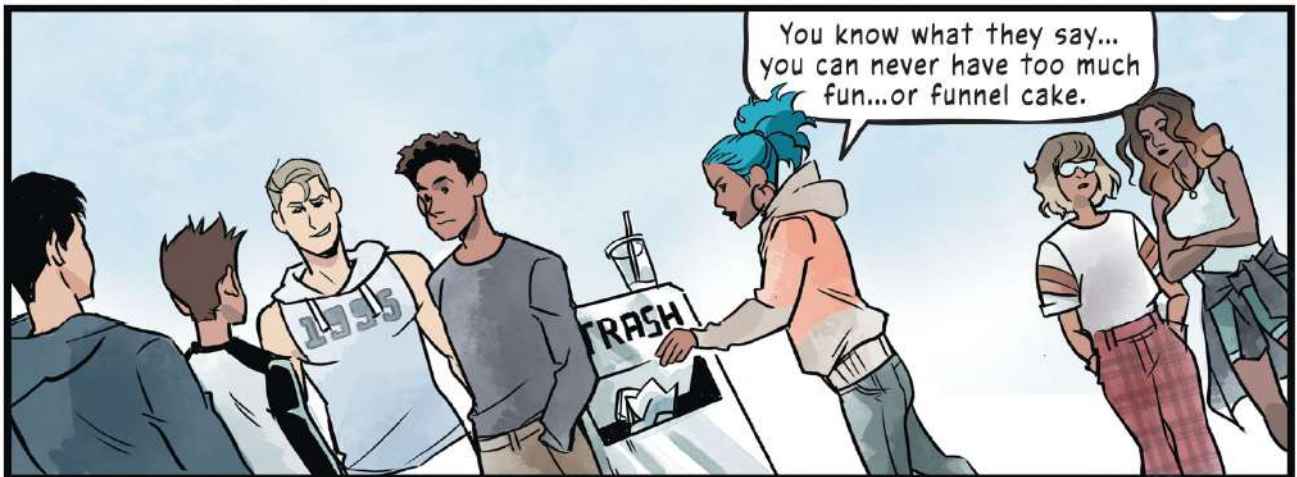




CHAPTER 3: CHOSEN ONES

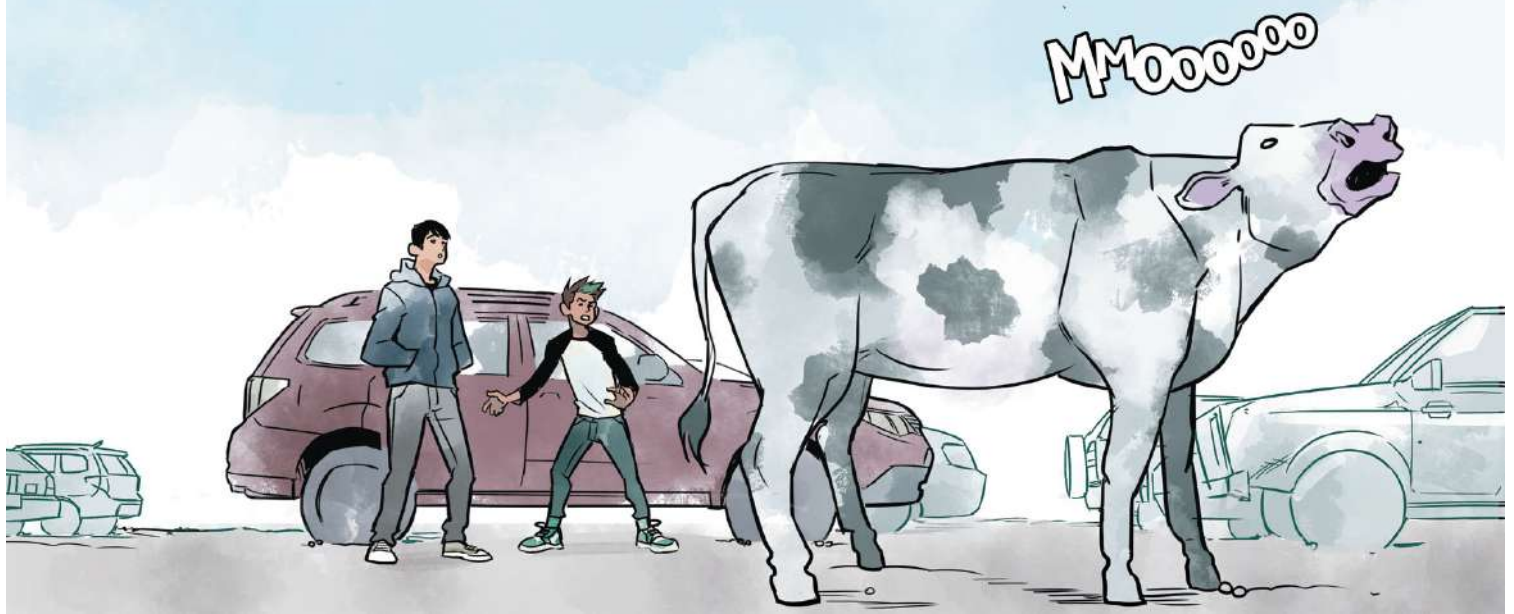


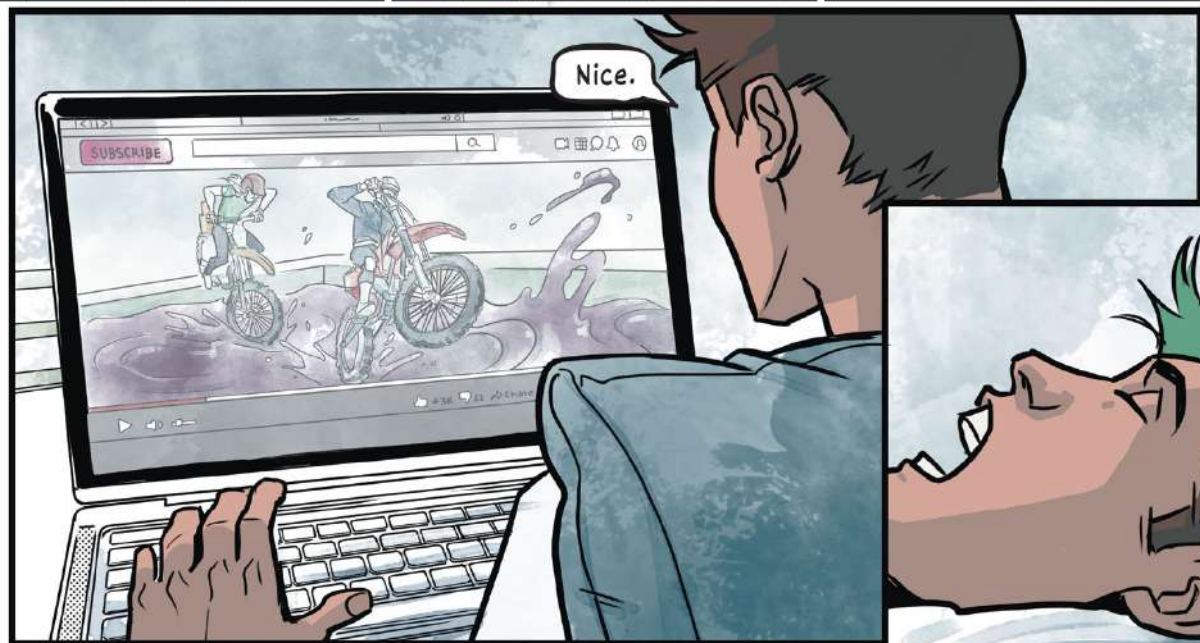










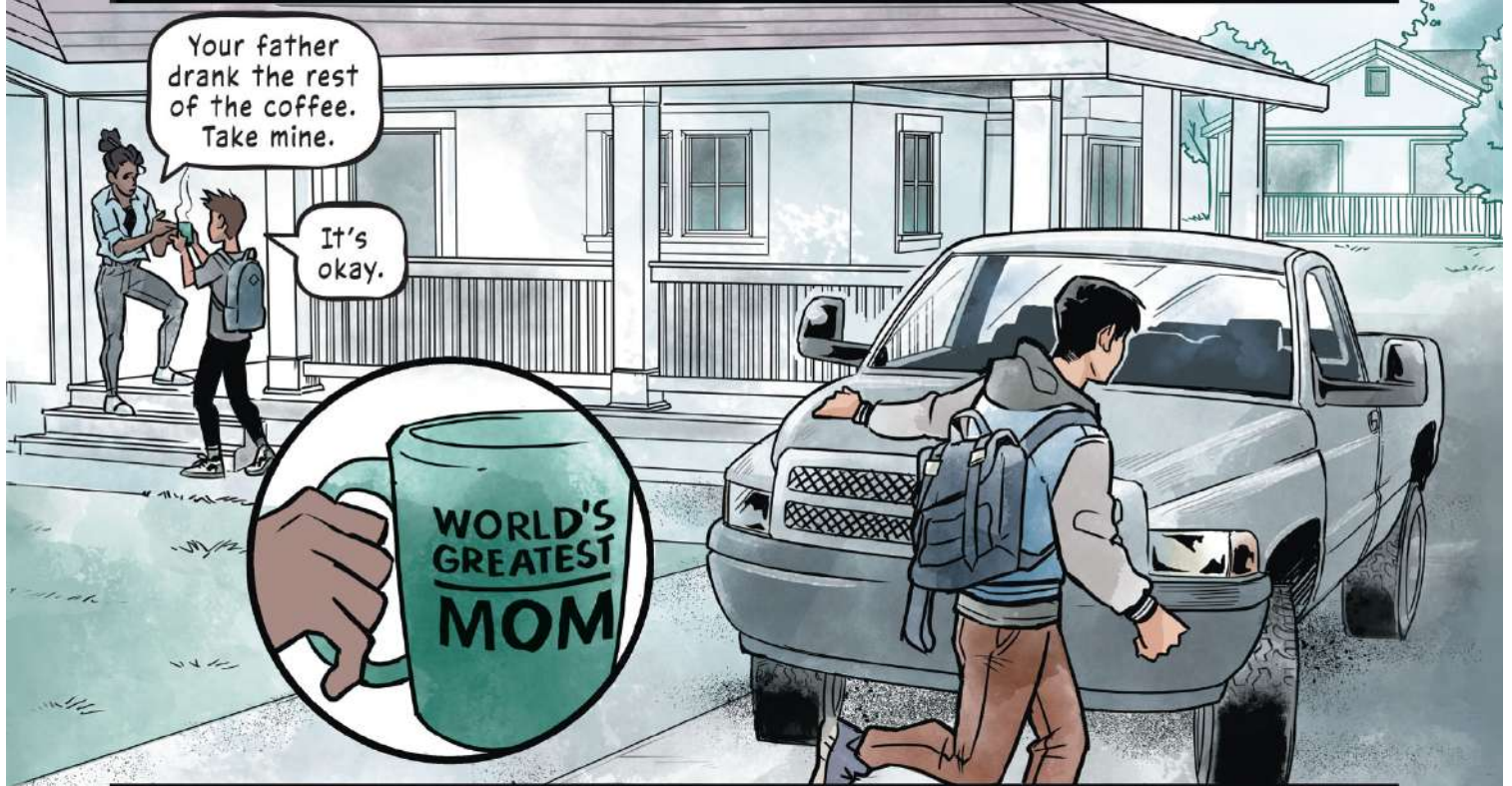


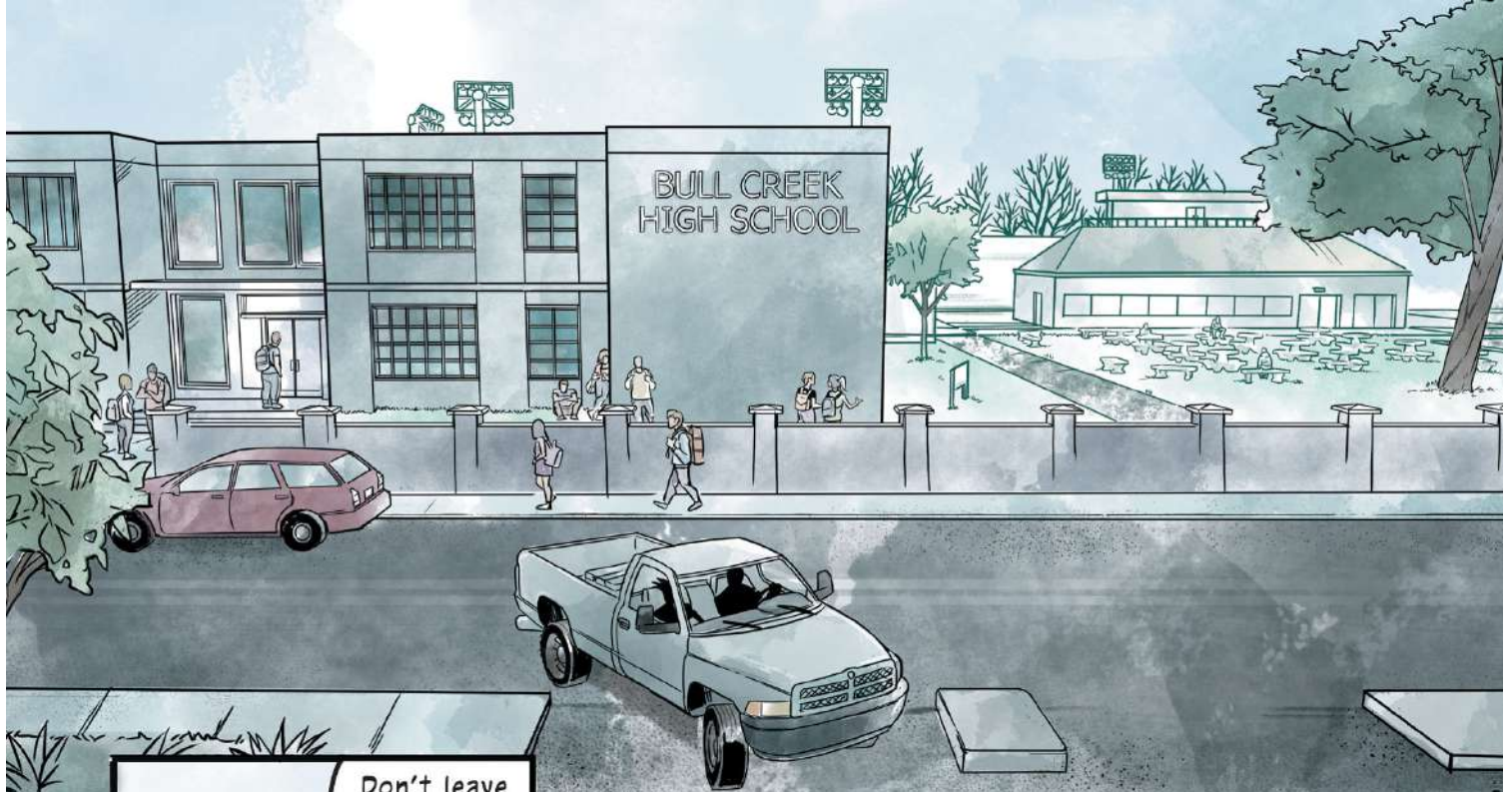


Tank asked if I ate anything that wasn't on the list. Supplements don't count...

...do they?







Don't leave that in the cup holder. I don't want anyone thinking it's mine.



This place never changes.

Yeah. But this time next year, we'll be gone.



I won't miss listening to Mike's dumbass stories in the locker room.

He seems cool.



He's not.



CHAPTER 4: LORD OF THE FLIES

BULL CREEK RANGERS

Could my supplements be keeping me from gaining weight?

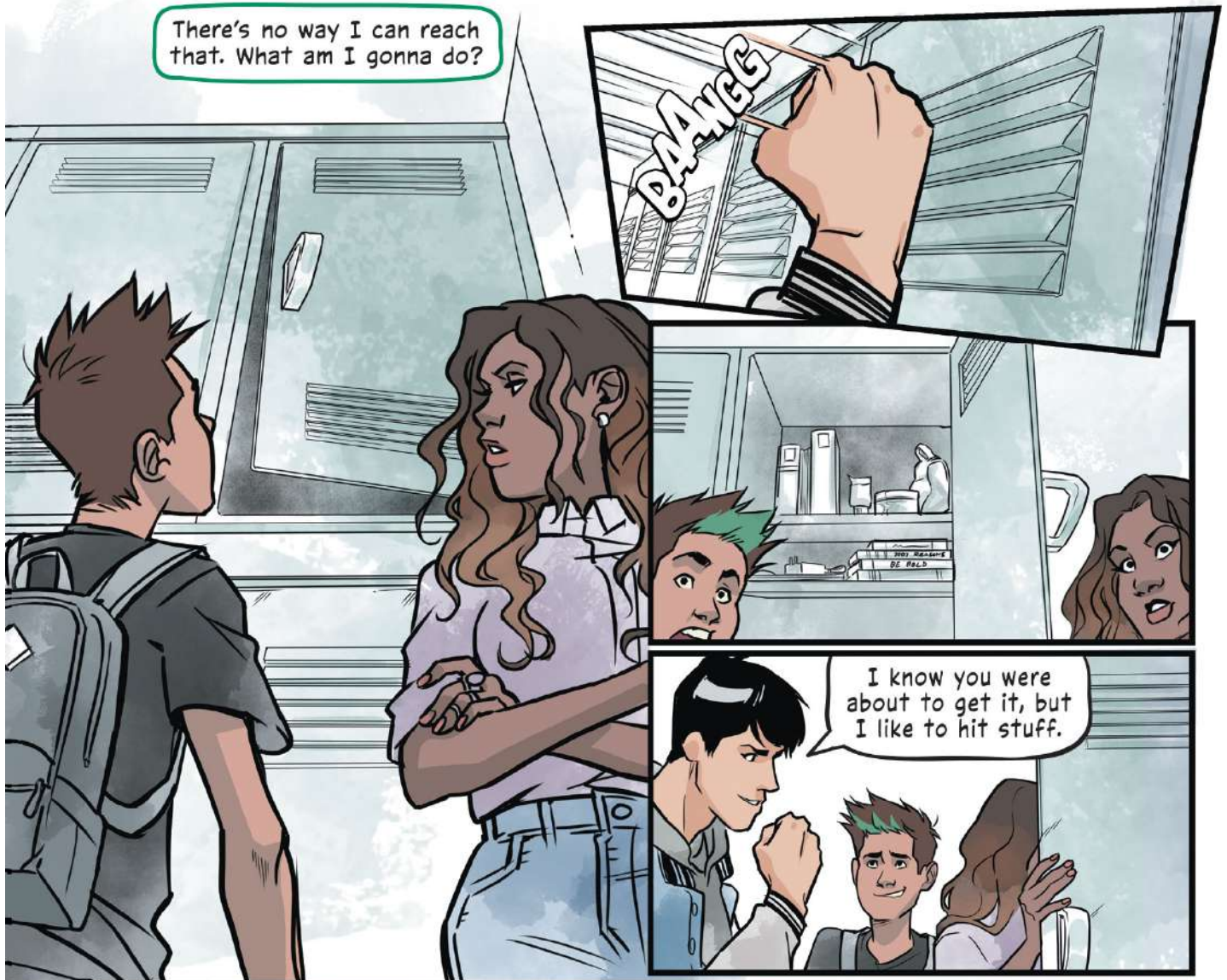
Probably not. But it depends on what's in 'em.

It doesn't matter. You need them.

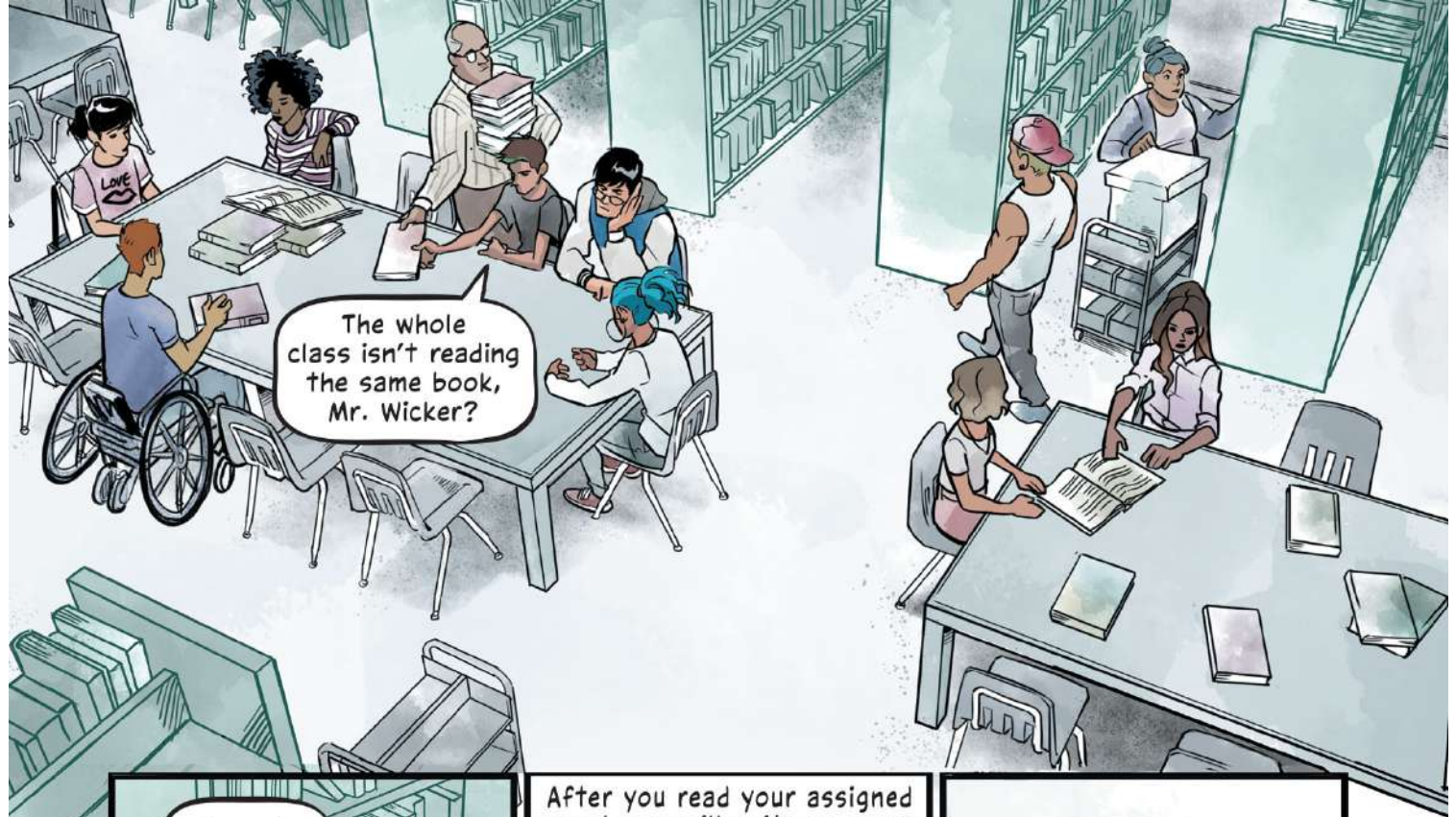
I have a nonessential amino acid deficiency, not a serious condition like diabetes.

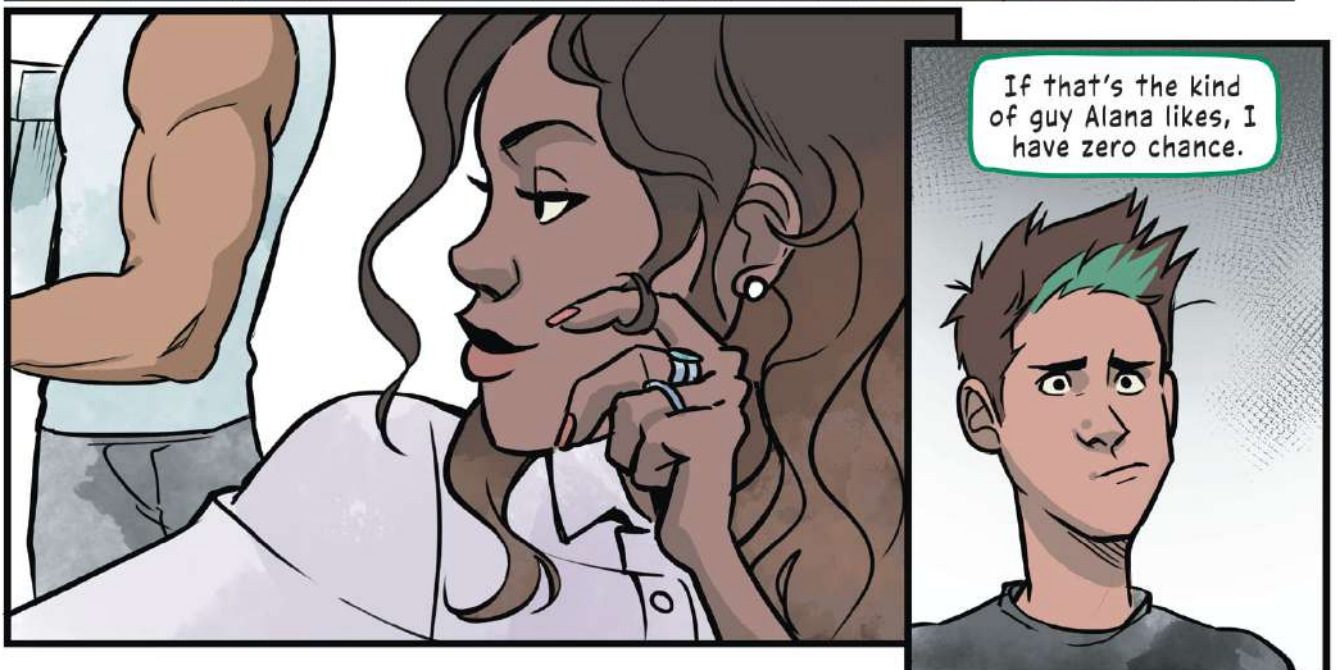
I forgot you went to medical school.

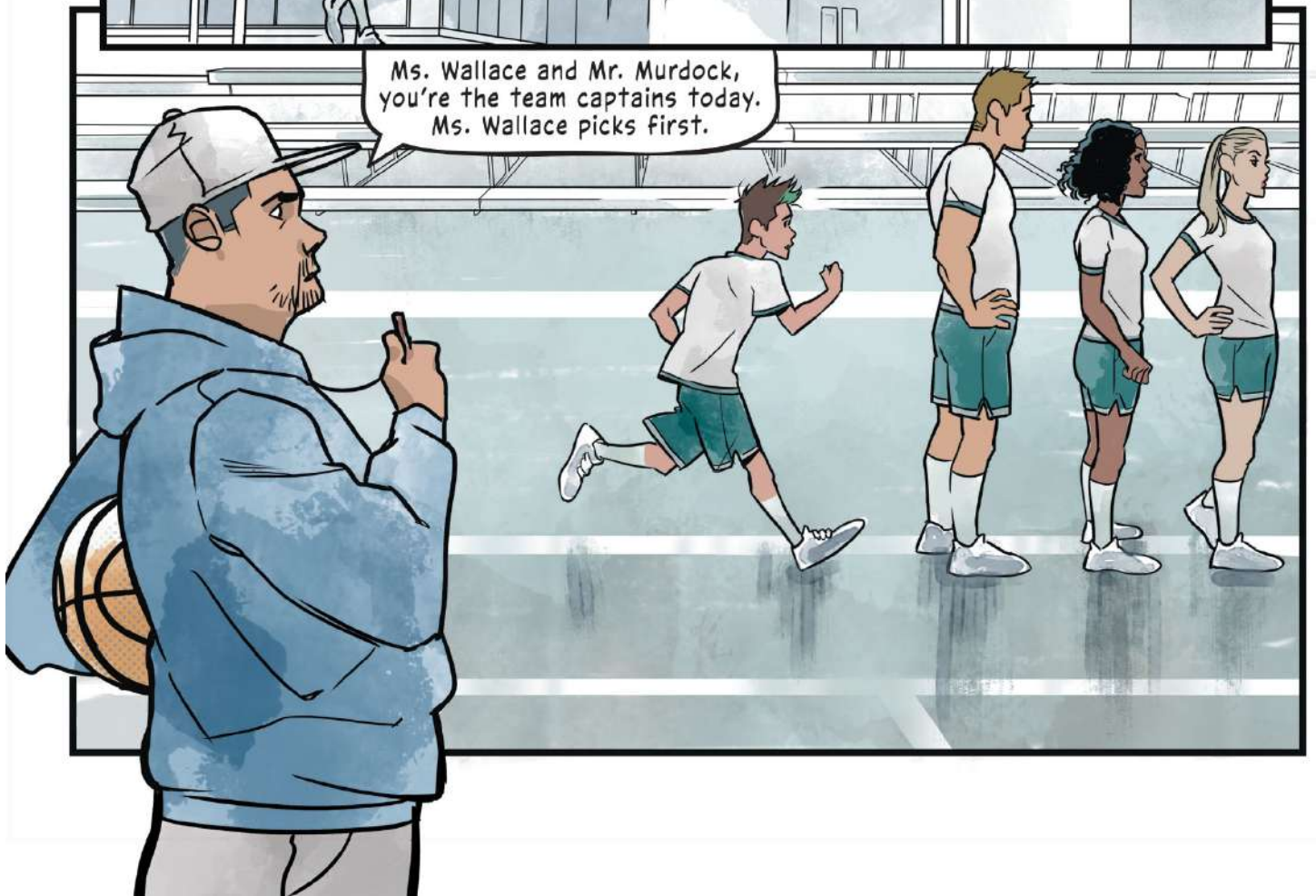


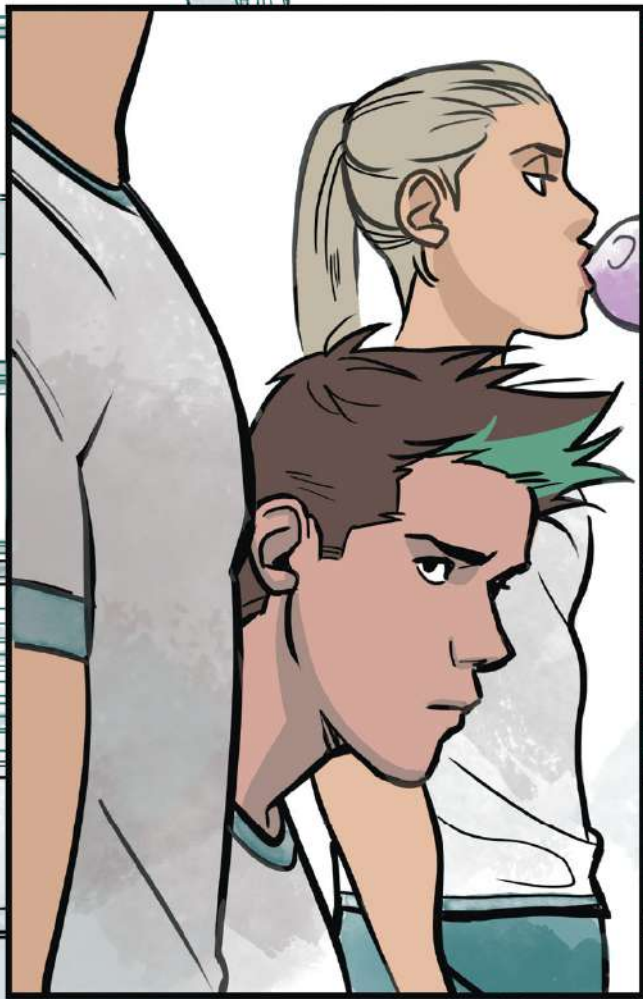




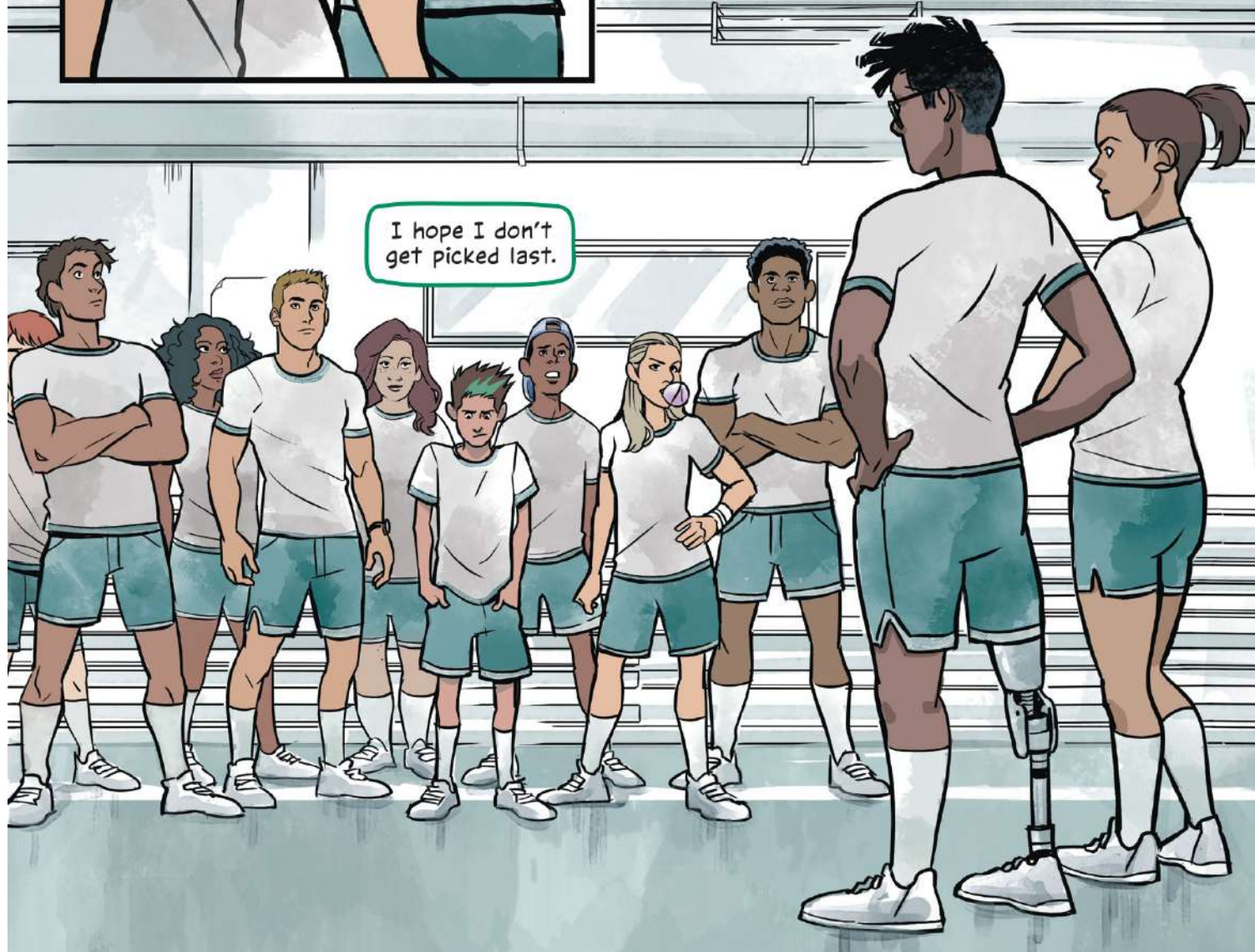


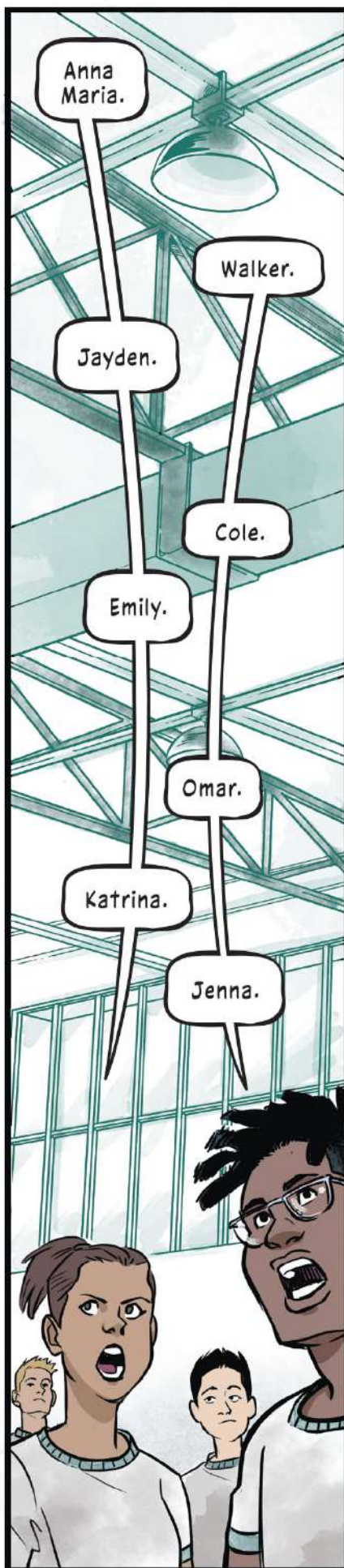


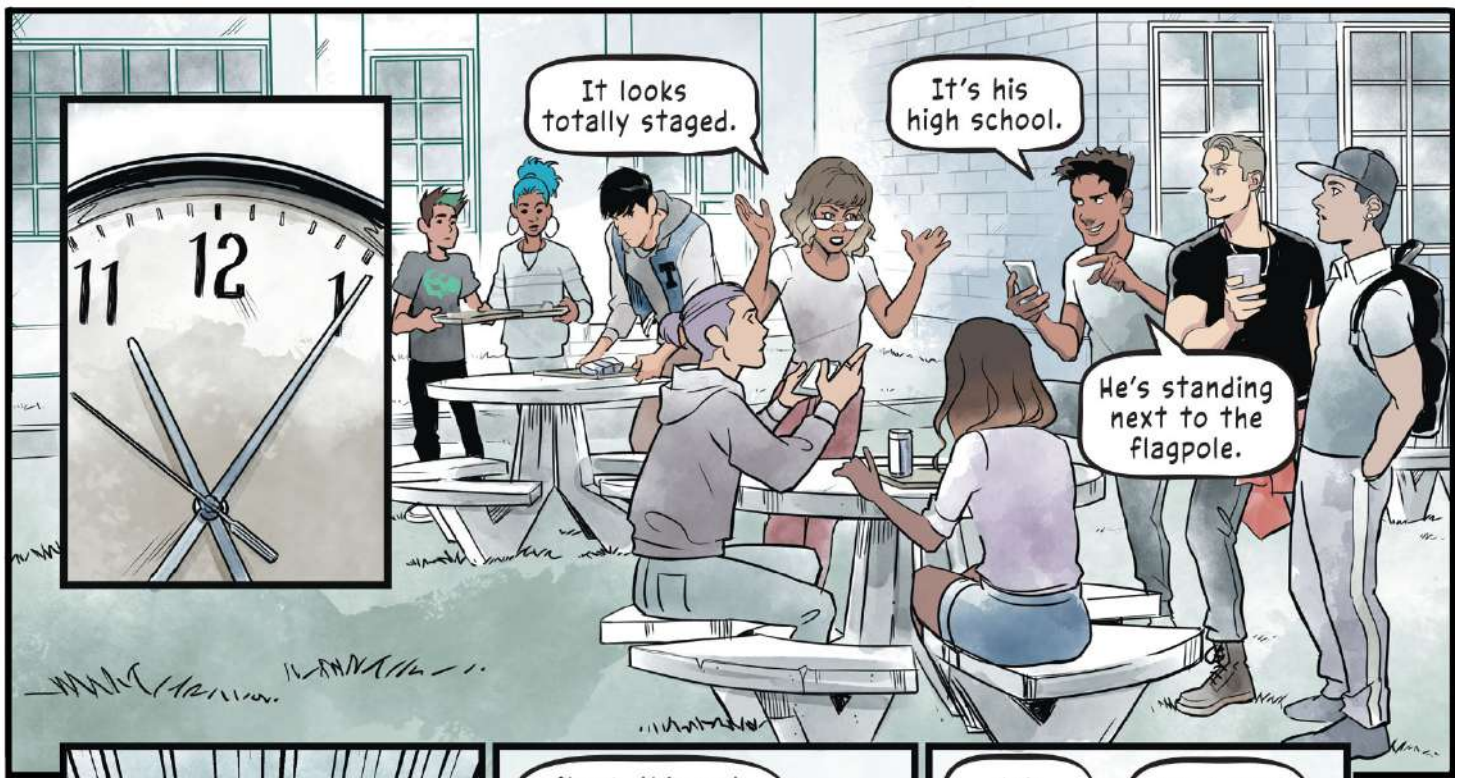


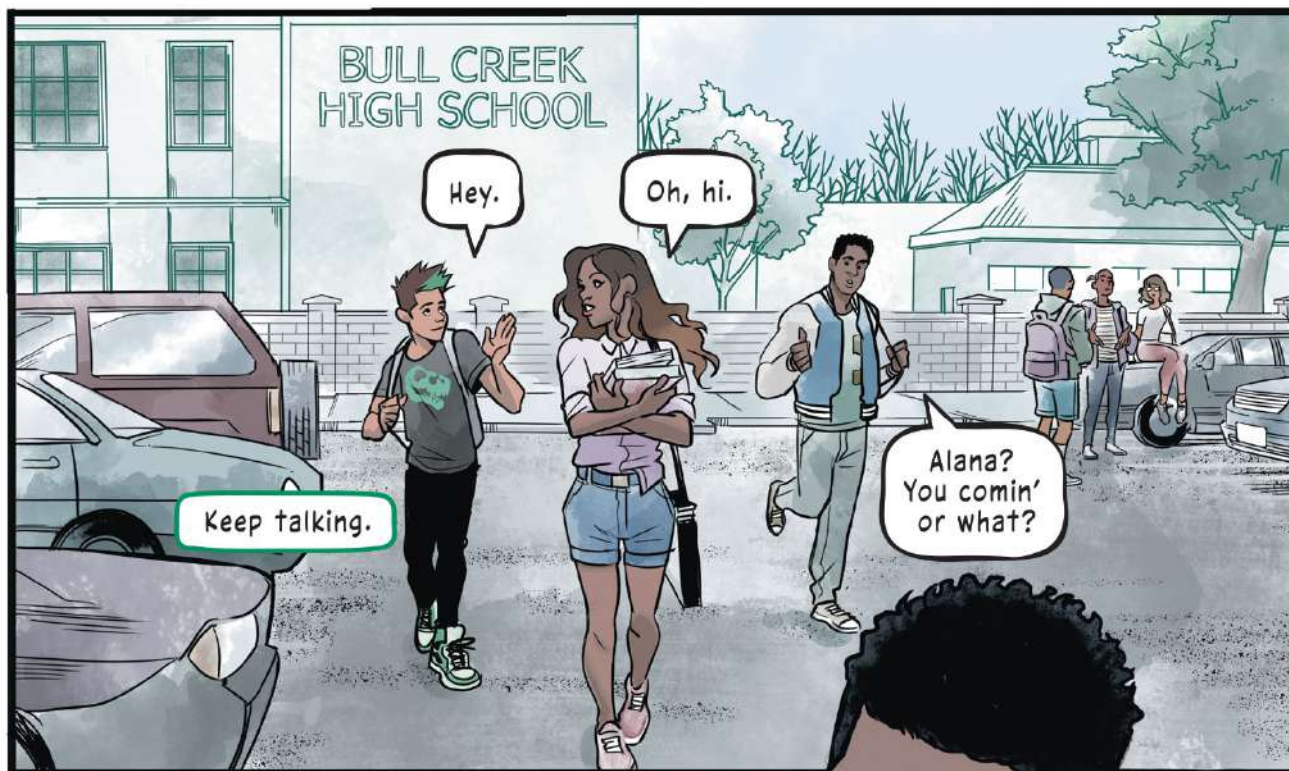


I hope I don't
get picked last.

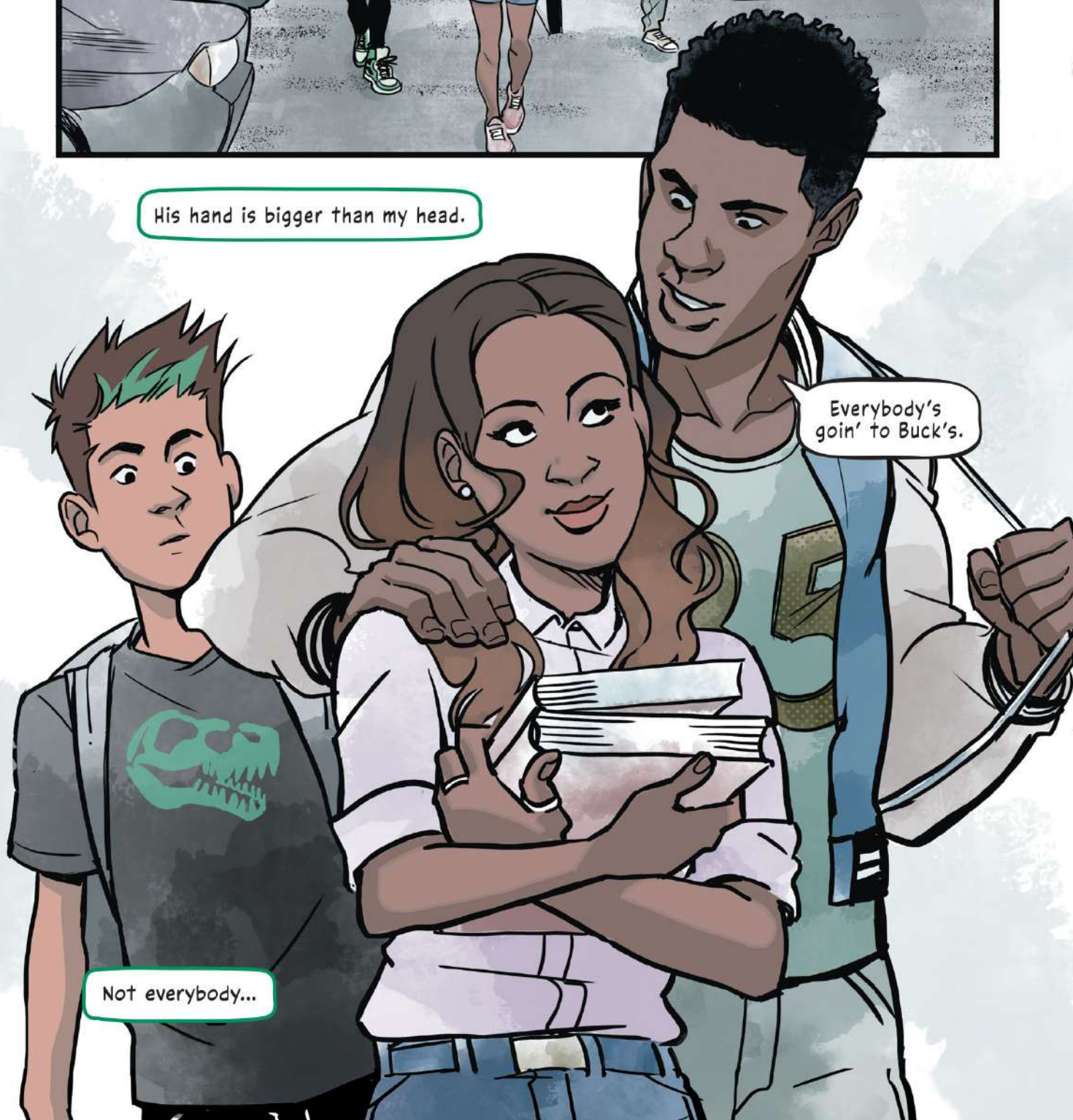






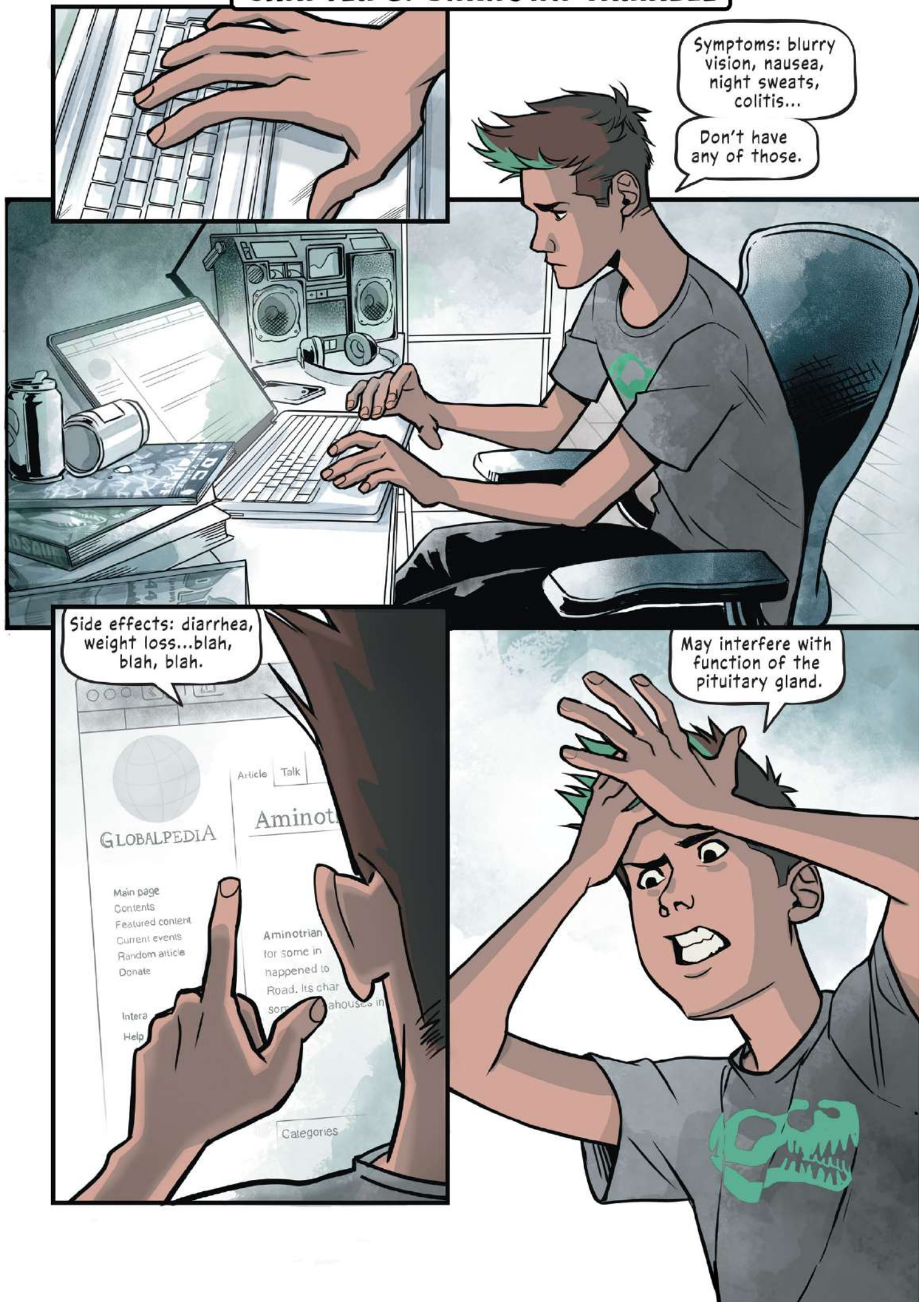


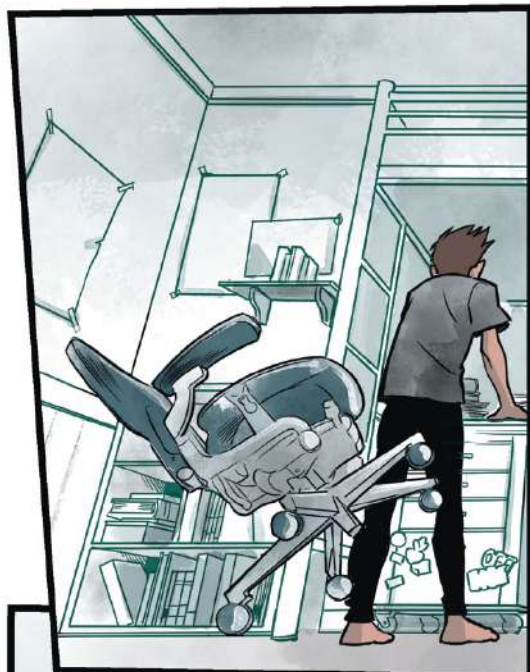
His hand is bigger than my head.





CHAPTER 5: UNKNOWN VARIABLE

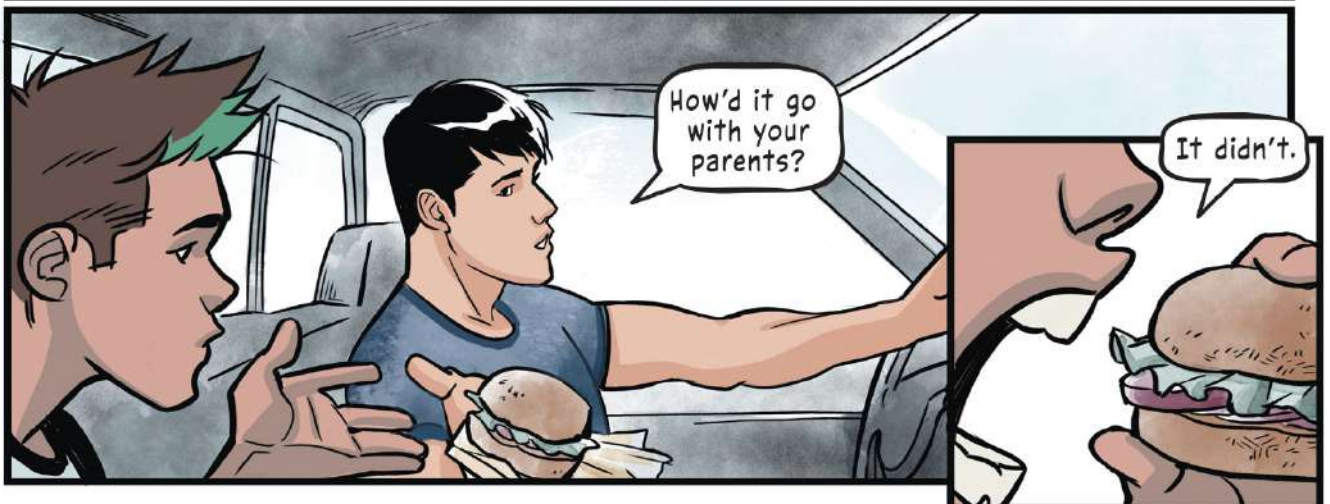






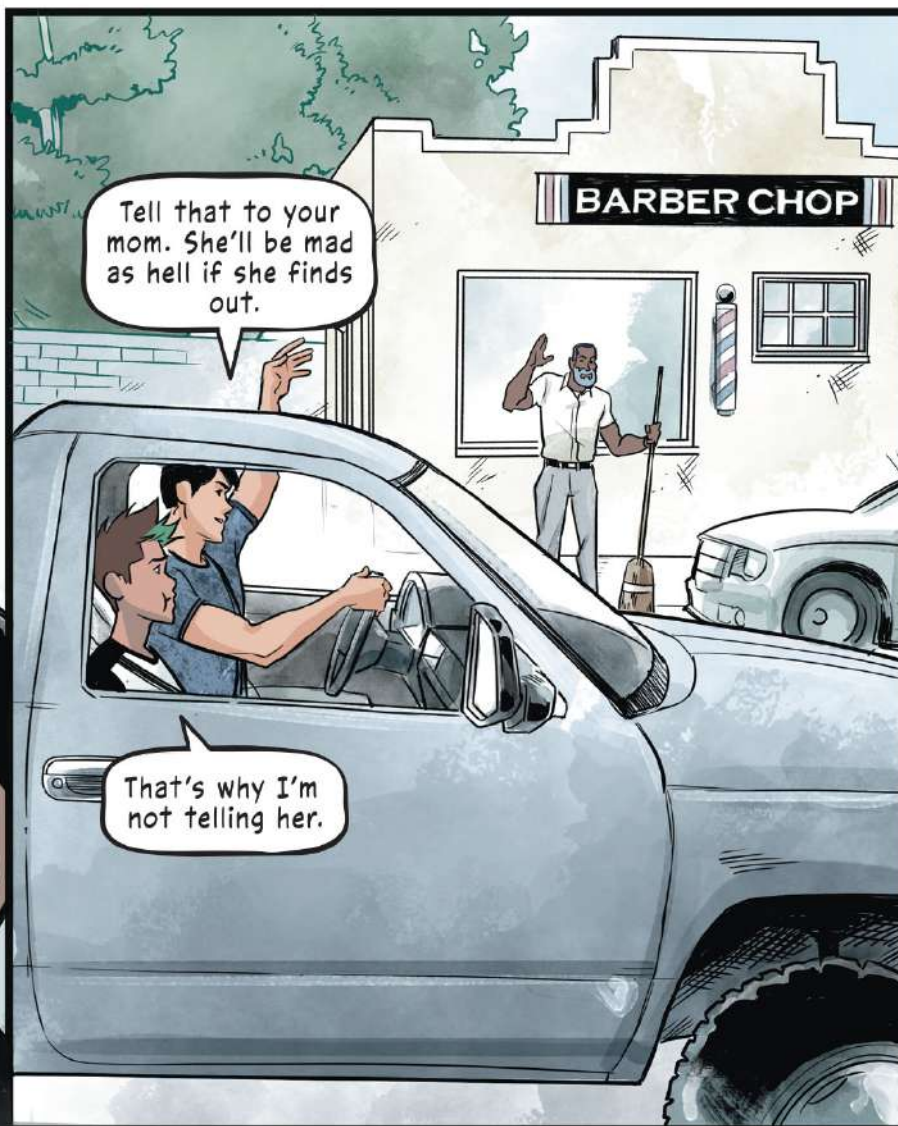




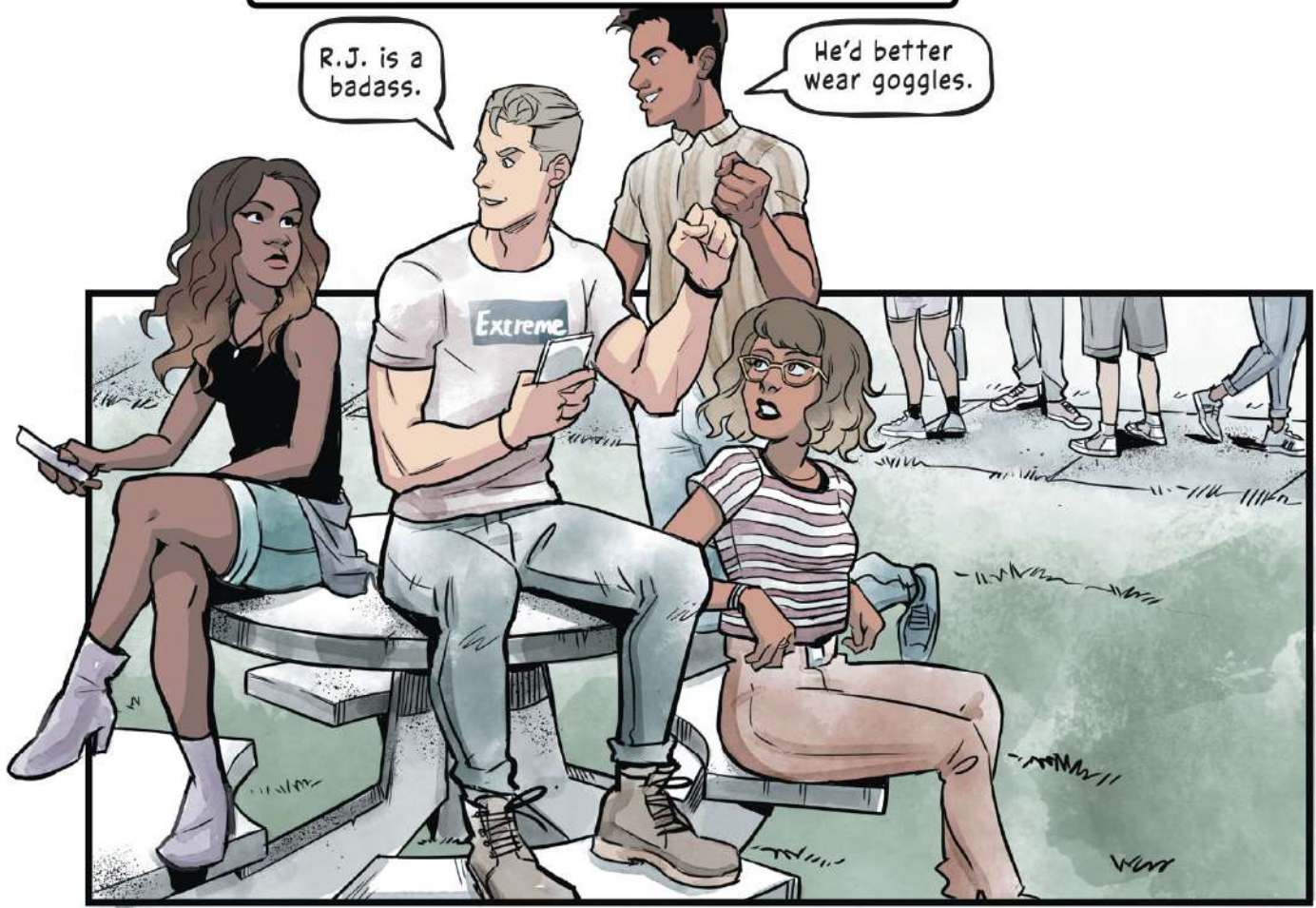




I'm not blowing off medication, like insulin or antidepressants. It's a supplement.



CHAPTER 6: CAROLINA REAPER







My stomach
doesn't feel
so good. I'm
gonna hurl.

FAAART



R.J.'s the man. Let's see how
many people eat a Reaper
after watching that.







Nobody's getting me out of anything.



What are we gonna do?

Help him.



Are you guys trying to kidnap me?

We need to come up with a plan.

We have exactly eight hours and forty-four minutes to become experts on the Carolina Reaper.

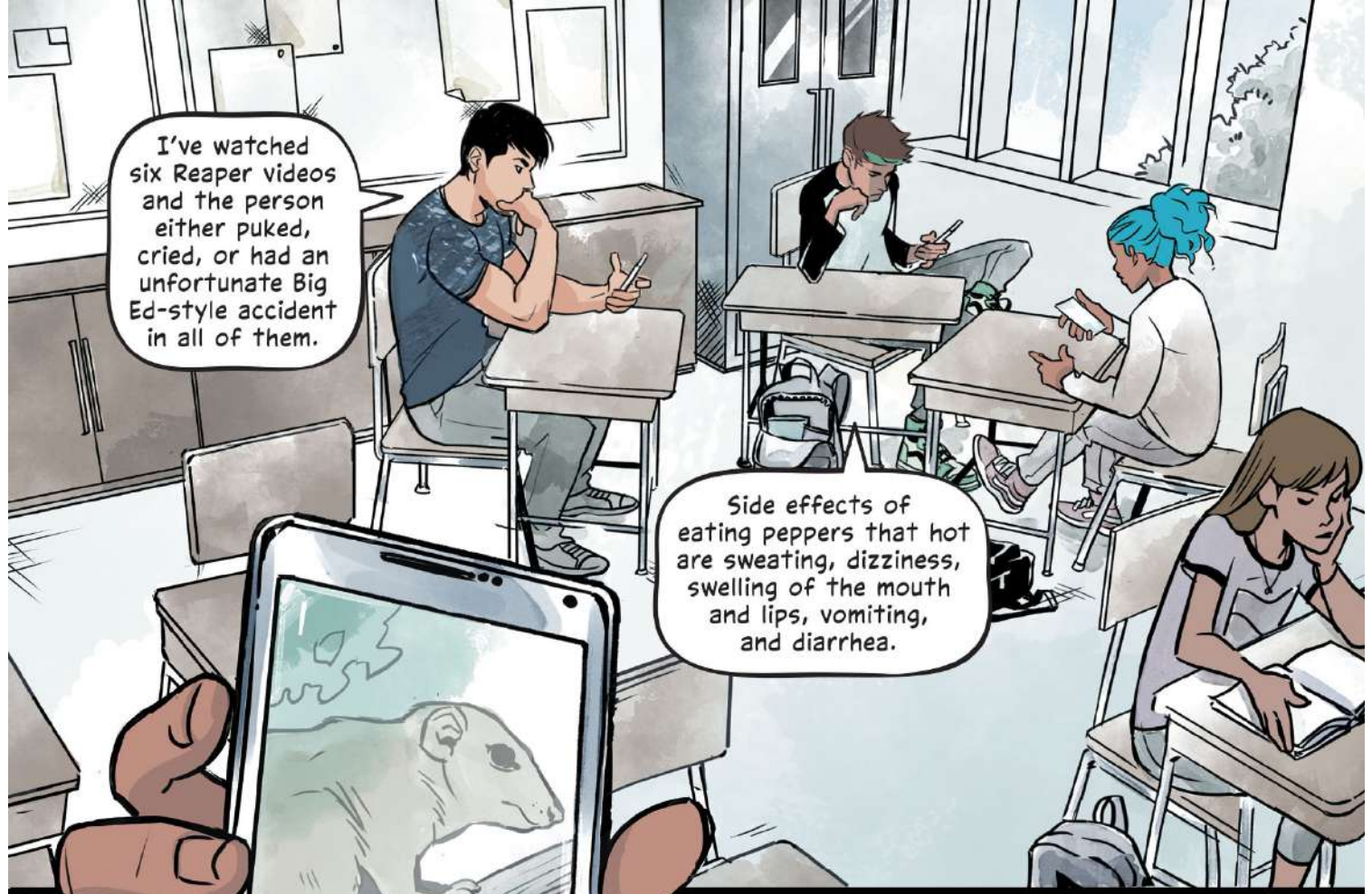


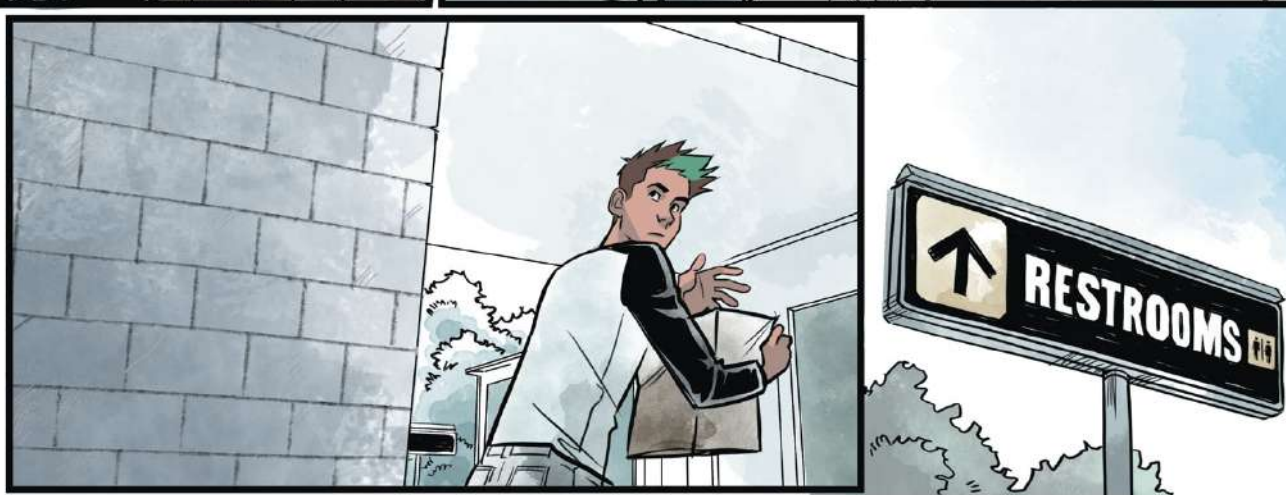
So you're not pissed at me anymore?

Of course we're pissed.



But we're also your friends.





CHAPTER 7: FIGHT OR FLIGHT



It's not too late to bail.

I didn't put on disposable underwear for nothing.



Check it out. He showed.

Get up here, Garfield. We saved you a seat.



Heard somebody's trying to win a free rib plate.



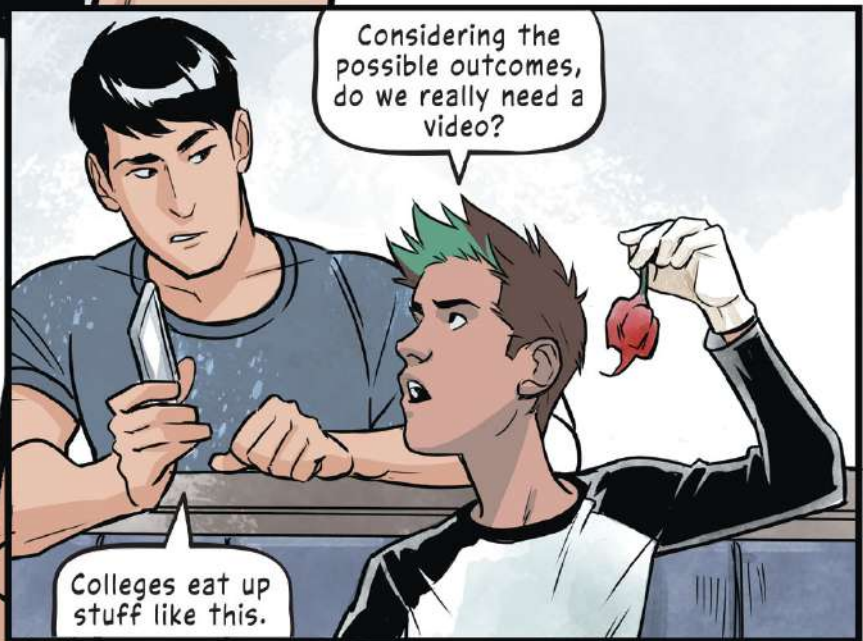
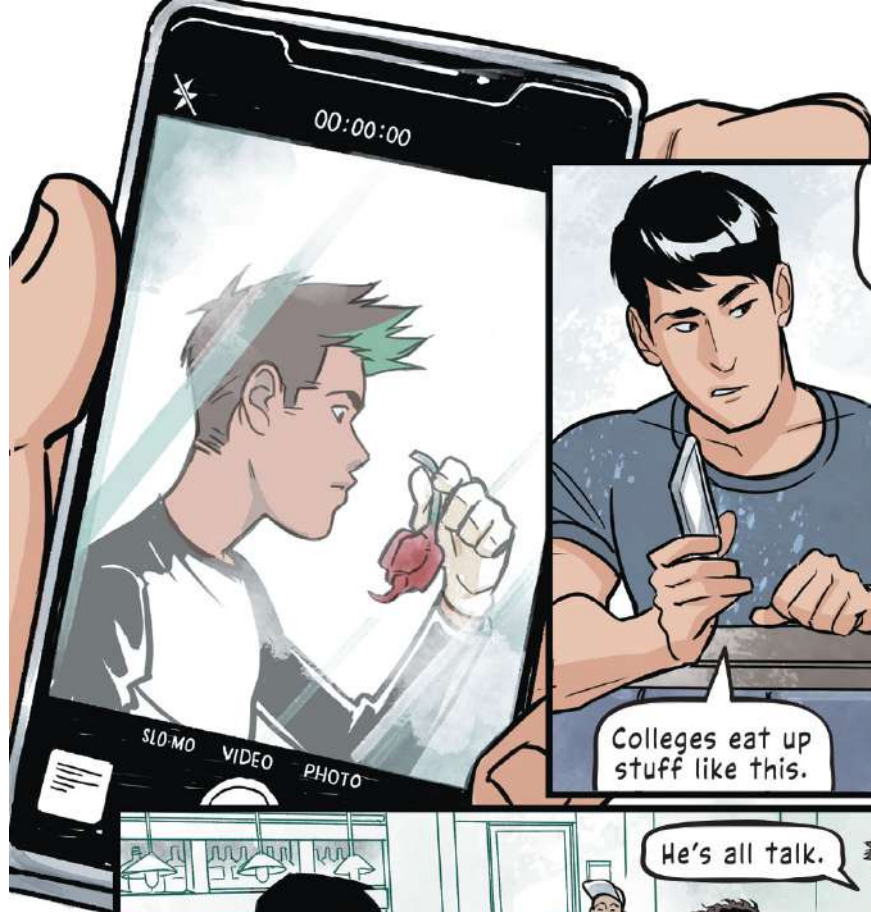
Thanks, Gus. But could I swap the milk for water?

Milk cuts the heat better.

Put these on. The oil from a Reaper burns like all hell. Don't touch your eyes.



Are you doing this or what?



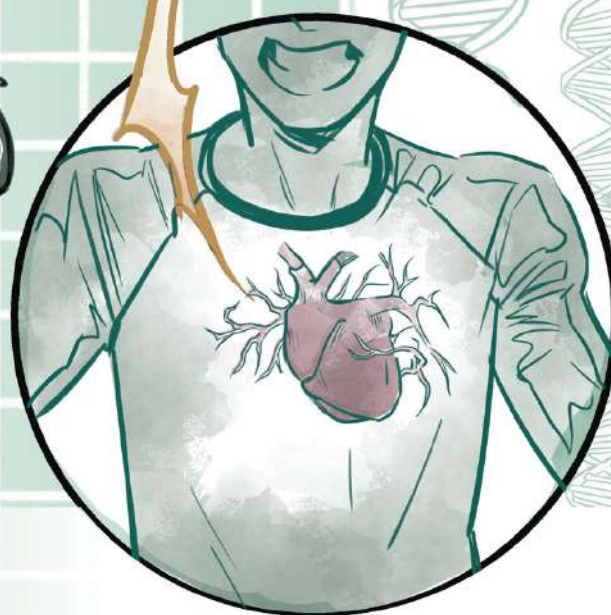




Cerebellum

Hypothalamus

Pituitary



Aorta, **Aortic Valve**
Left Atrium, Right Atrium



Common Carotid Arteries

Vertebral Arteries
Basilar Artery
Internal Jugular Vein

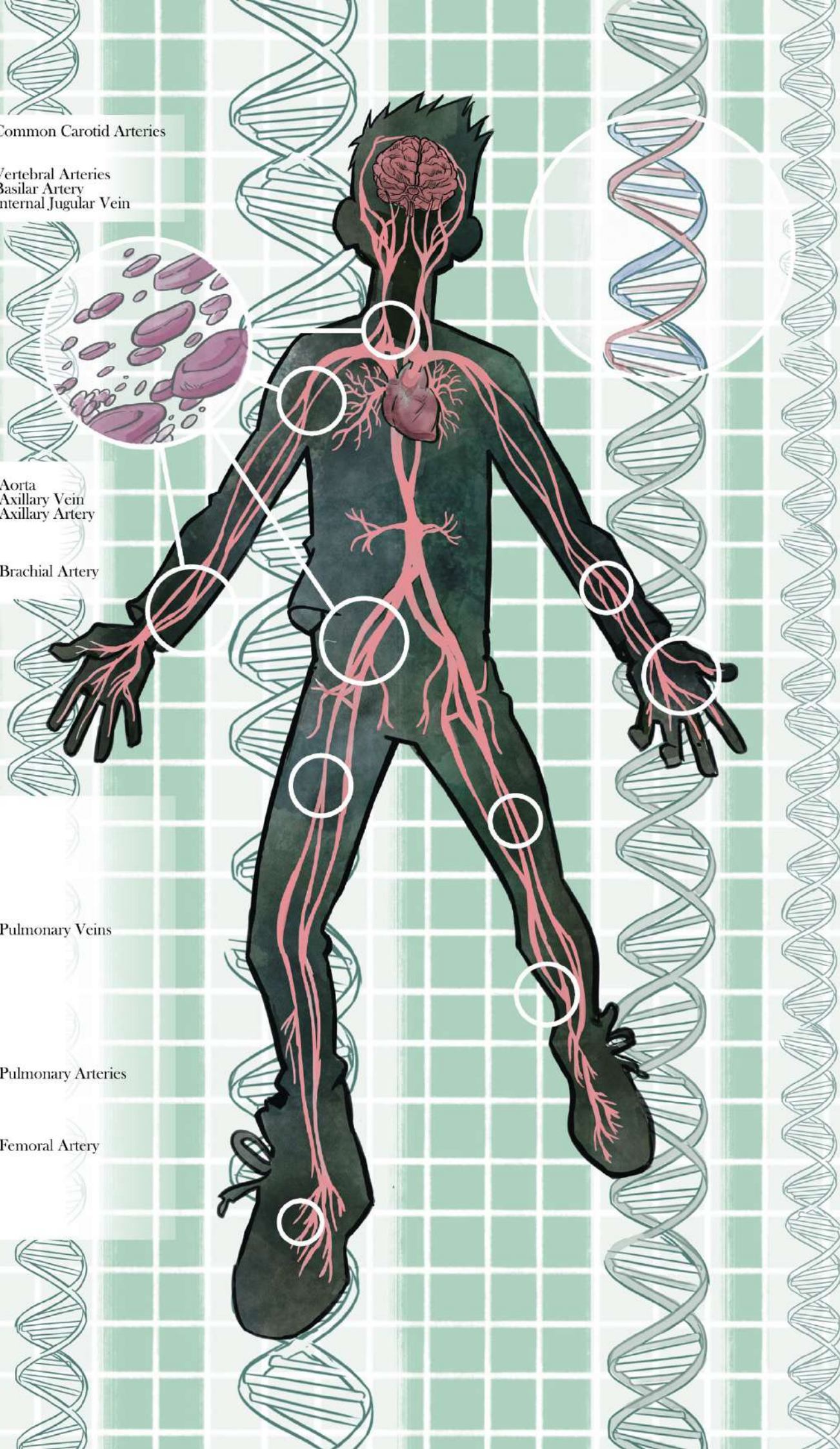
Aorta
Axillary Vein
Axillary Artery

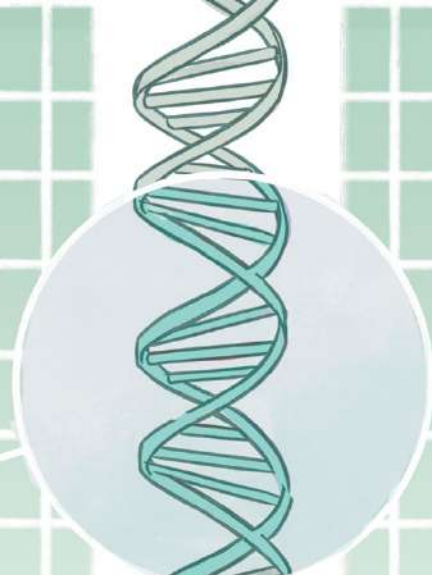
Brachial Artery

Pulmonary Veins

Pulmonary Arteries

Femoral Artery

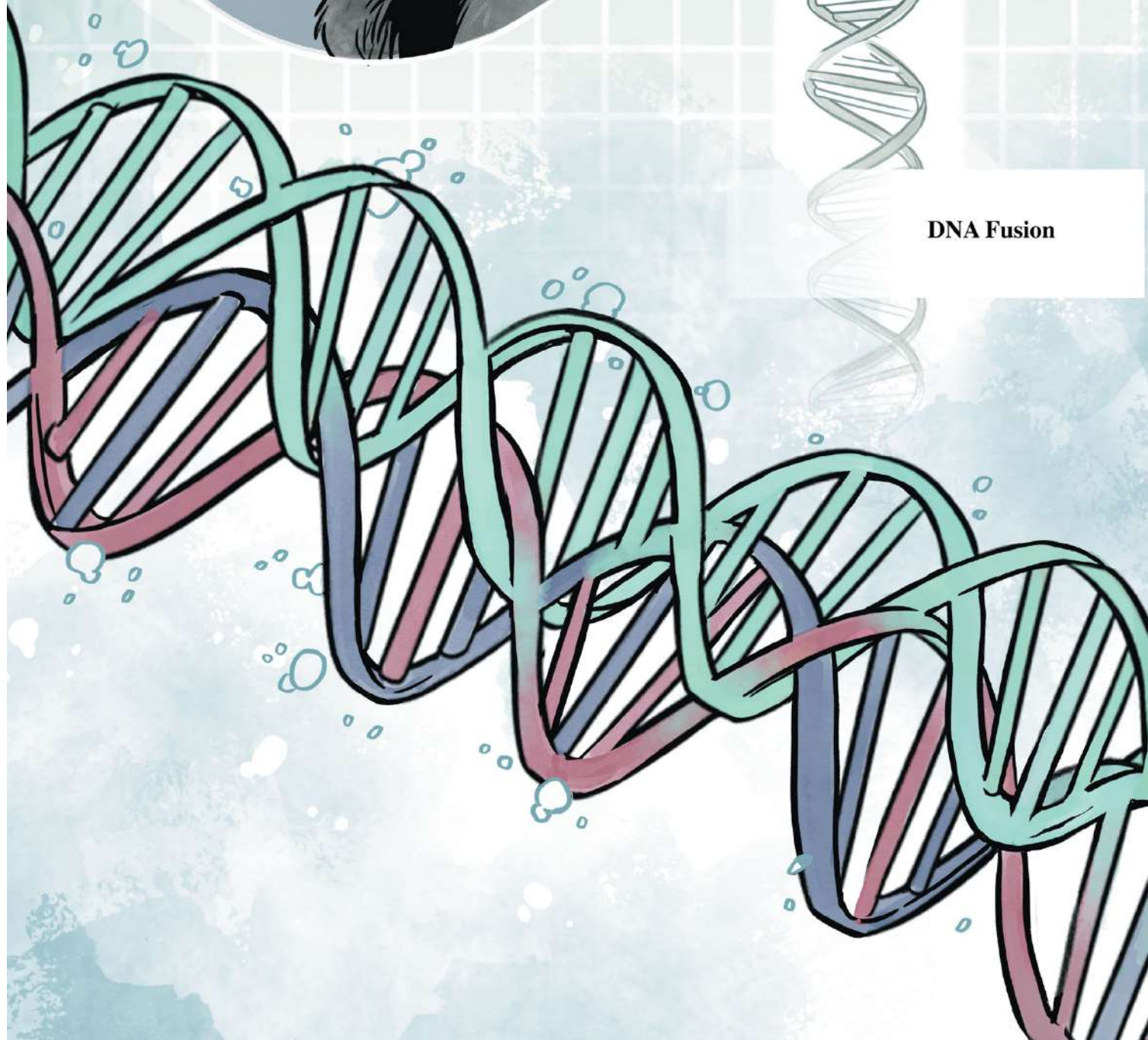




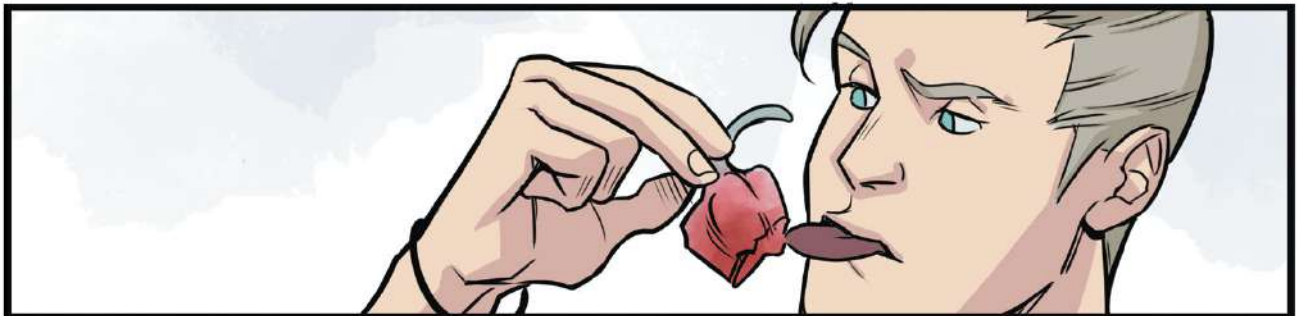
Double Helix
DNA Molecules



DNA Fusion











None of this makes sense.

Who cares? Did you hear what Rusty called me? He said I was a beast.



You guys could start calling me the Beast Boy.

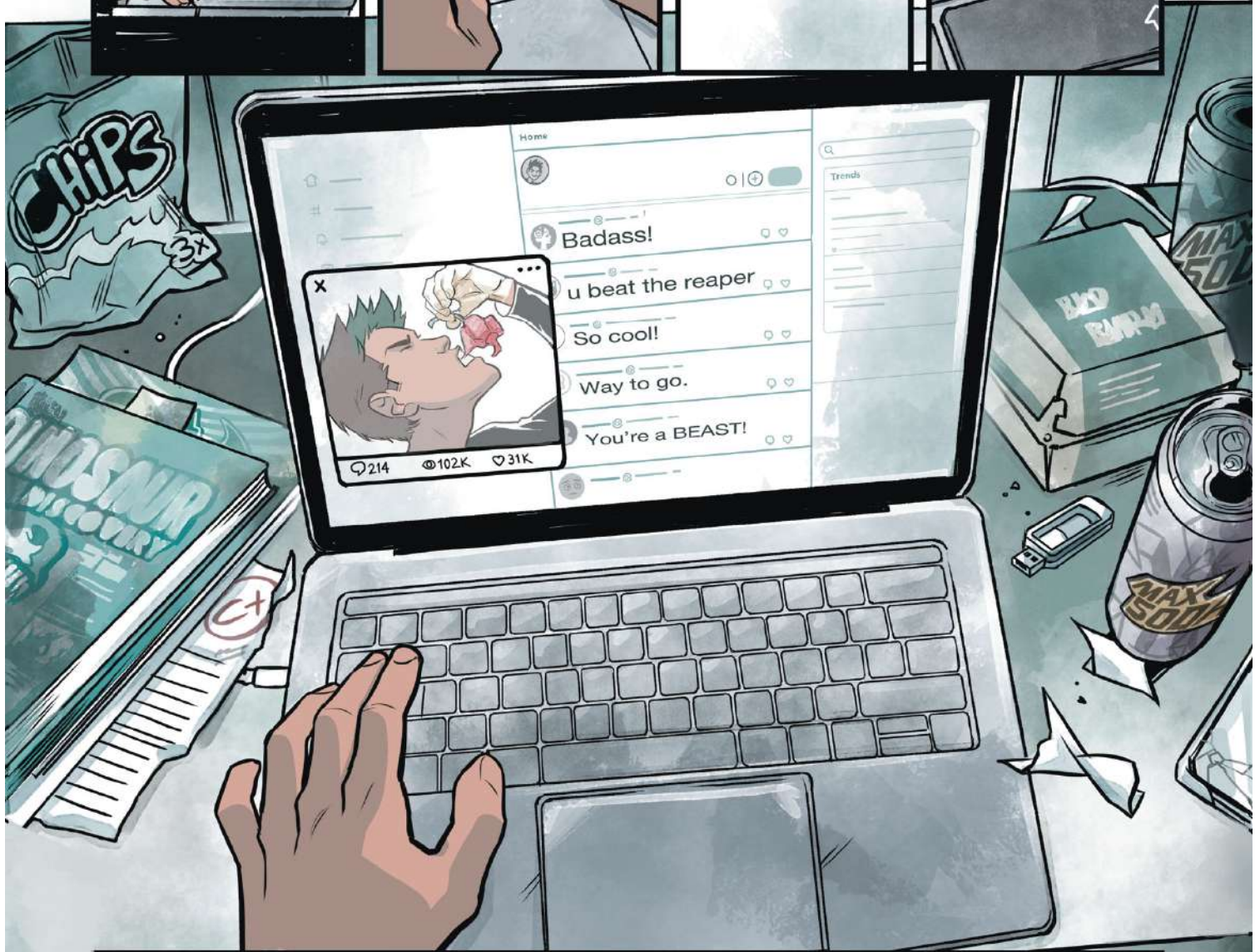


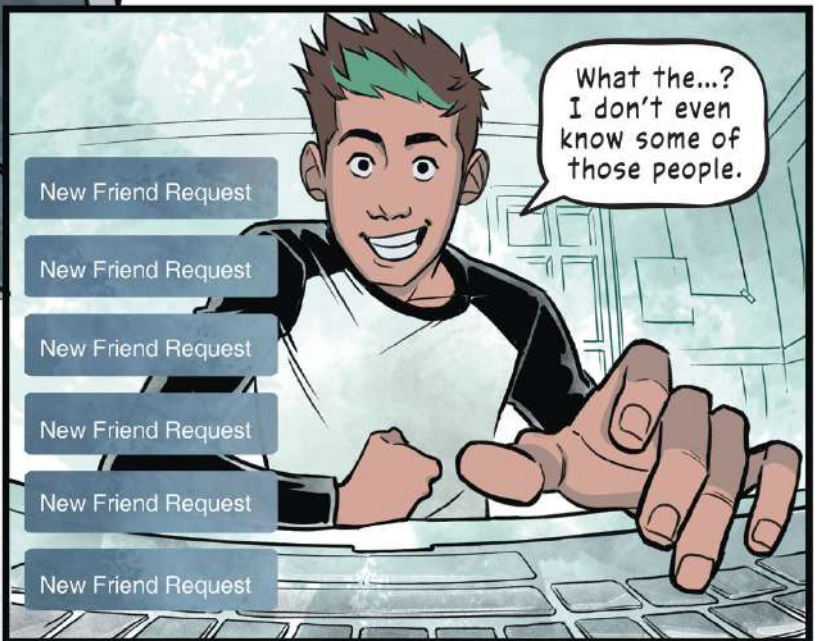
Or not.

You're right. "The Beast Boy" might be too much. It's not like I'm the Swamp Thing.

Maybe just Beast Boy.







Why does my skin
feel so tight?



And I'm starving. Maybe
it's from the pepper?



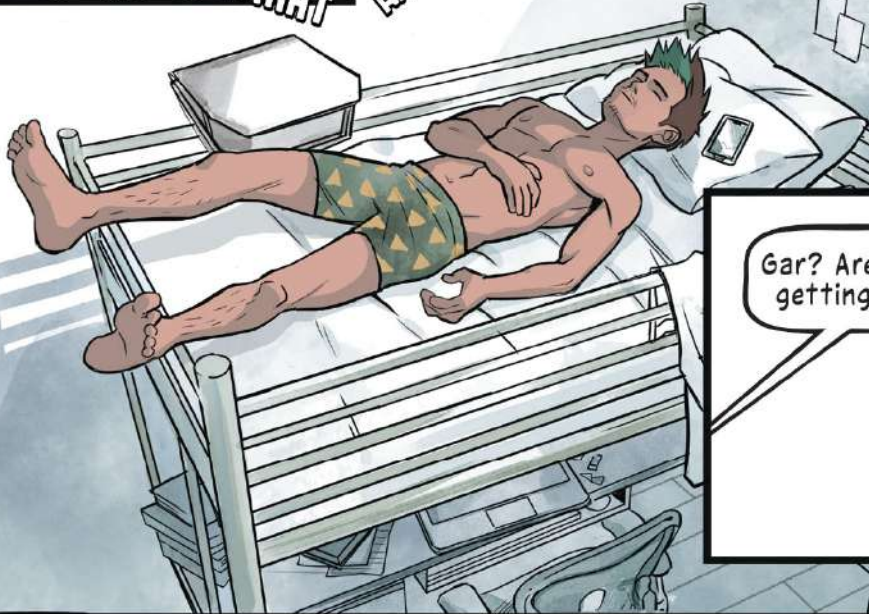
I'll lie down
for a minute.



CHAPTER 8: GAR 2.0



AAHHT
AAHHT
AAHHT



Gar? Are you getting up?



I'm up!

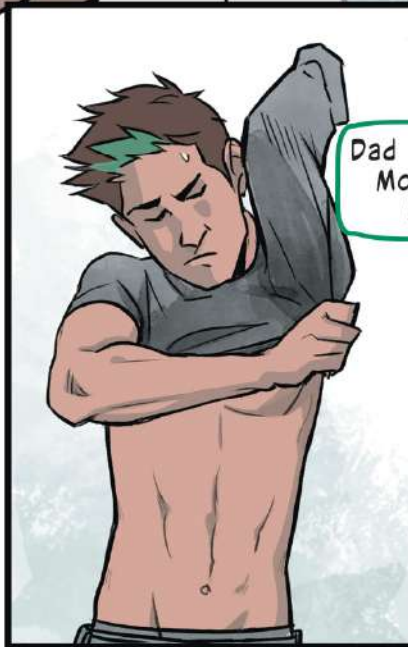


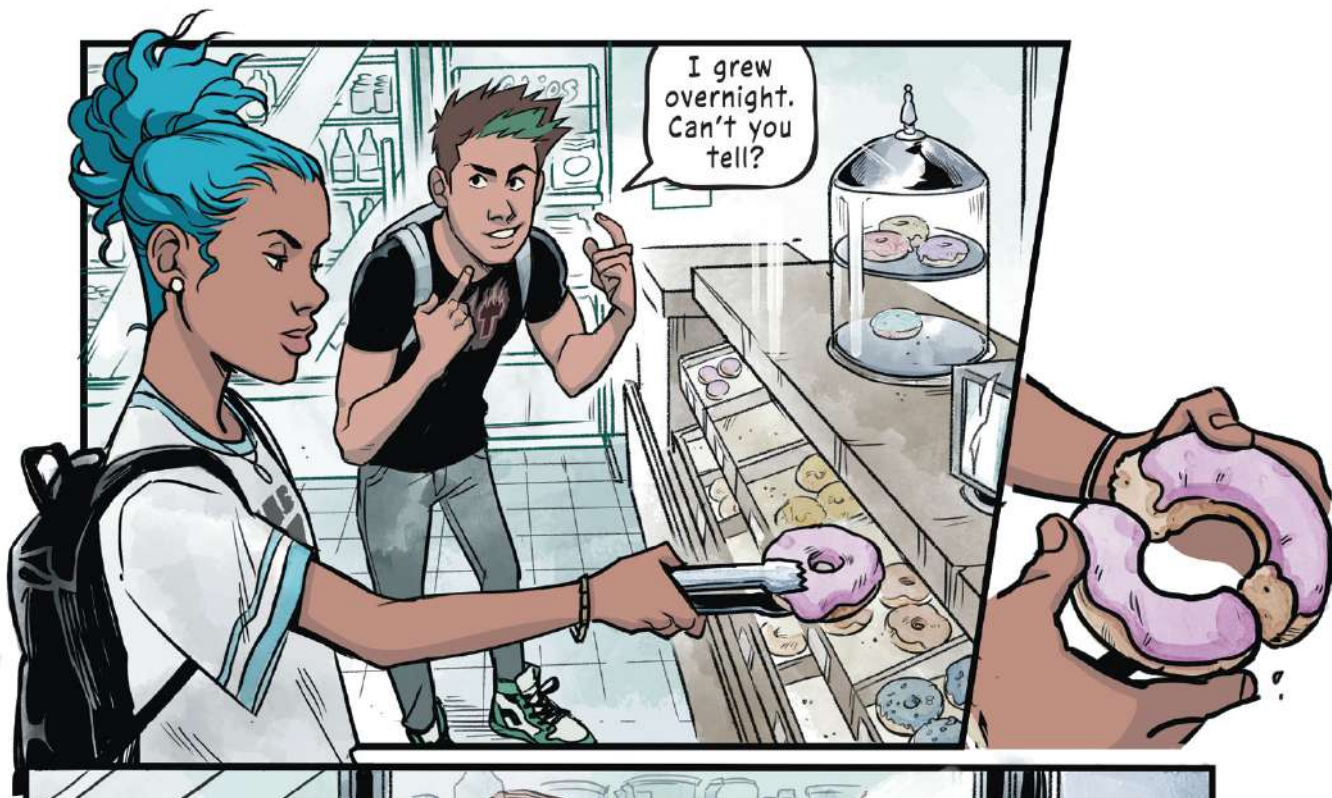
AAHHT
AAHHT



Is that what I think it is?







BULL CREEK
HIGH SCHOOL



He's a beast.
What'd I tell
you?

You can't
be serious.

The dogs
at the shelter
are more beastly
than Gar.

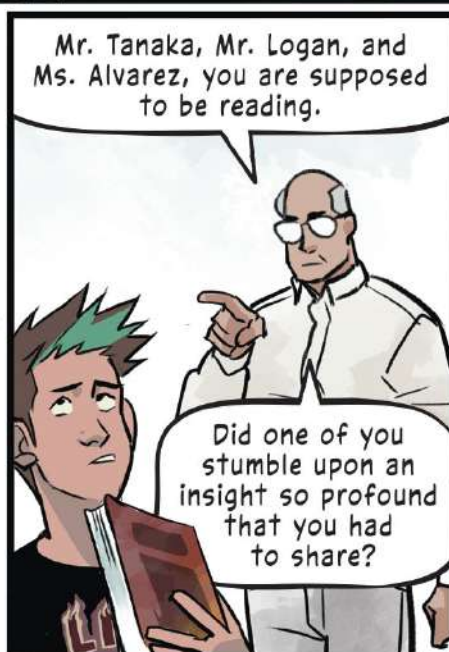


Stella's right.
I'm more of a
beast boy
than a *beast*.



Beast Boy.
That's what
I'm talking
about.







Please tell me you aren't serious.

She's only being nice because you pulled off that stunt.



Do you have to be such a hater?

I'm not the only one.



Mike coulda been looking at anybody.

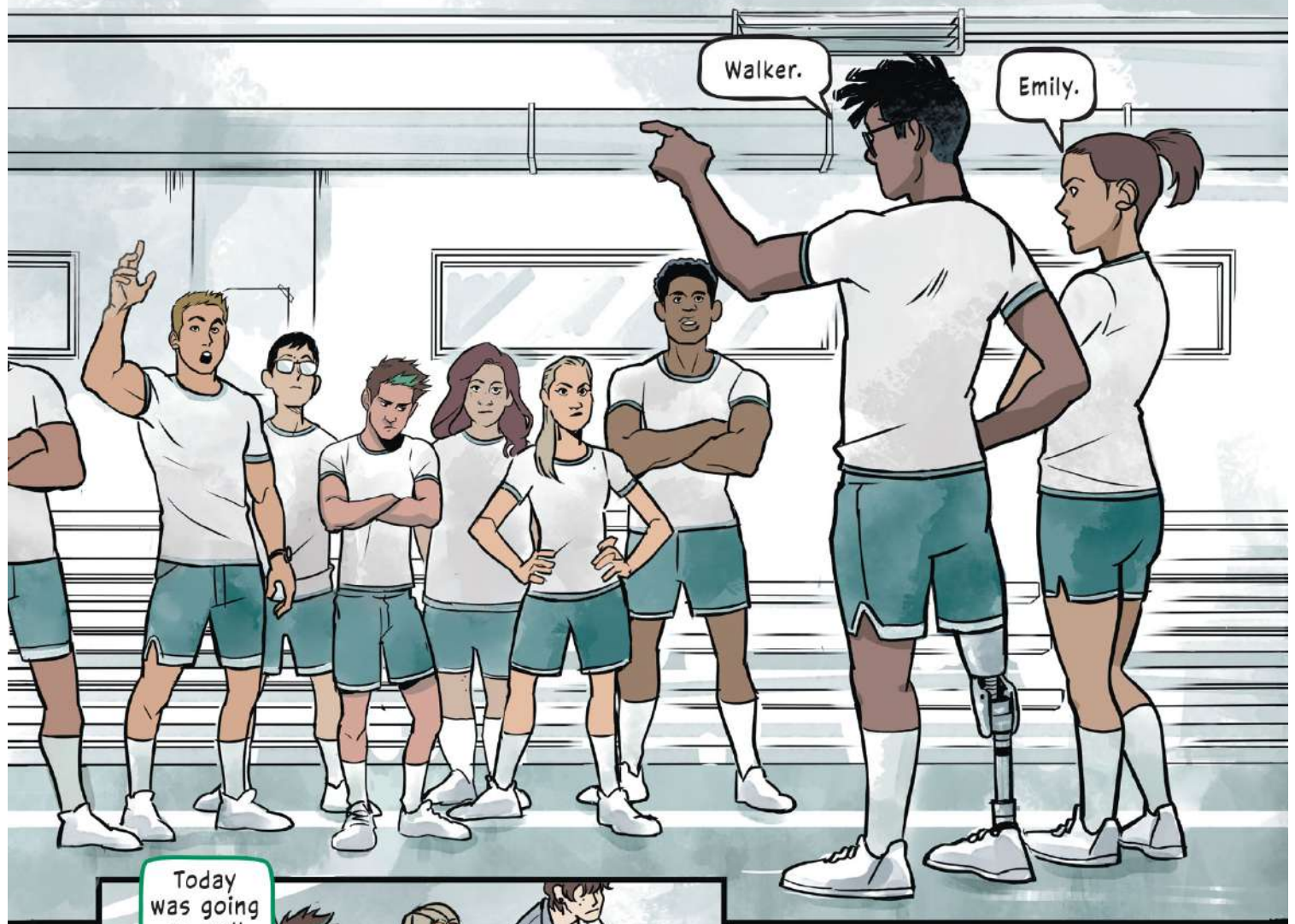
Including you.



What's her deal?

The shelter is euthanizing some of the dogs if they don't get adopted soon.





Today was going so well.



I'll take Gar.

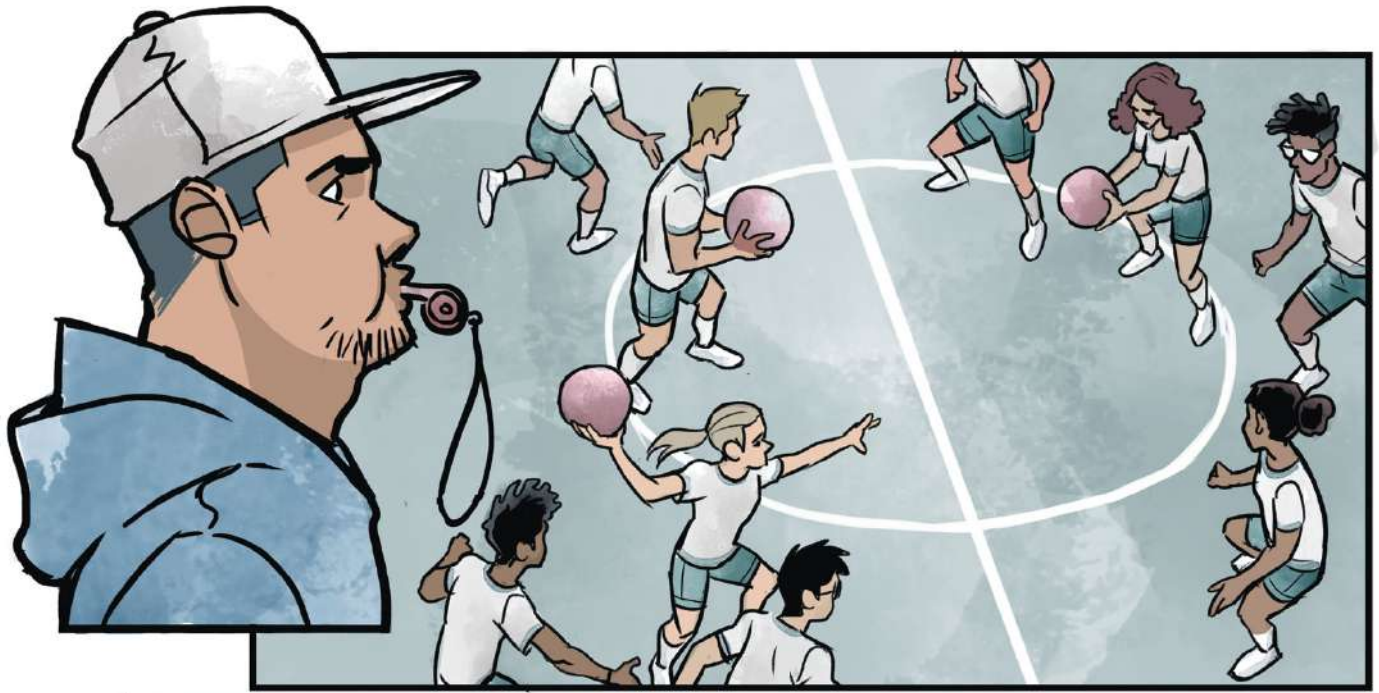


Saw your Reaper video. It was cool.

Thanks, man.

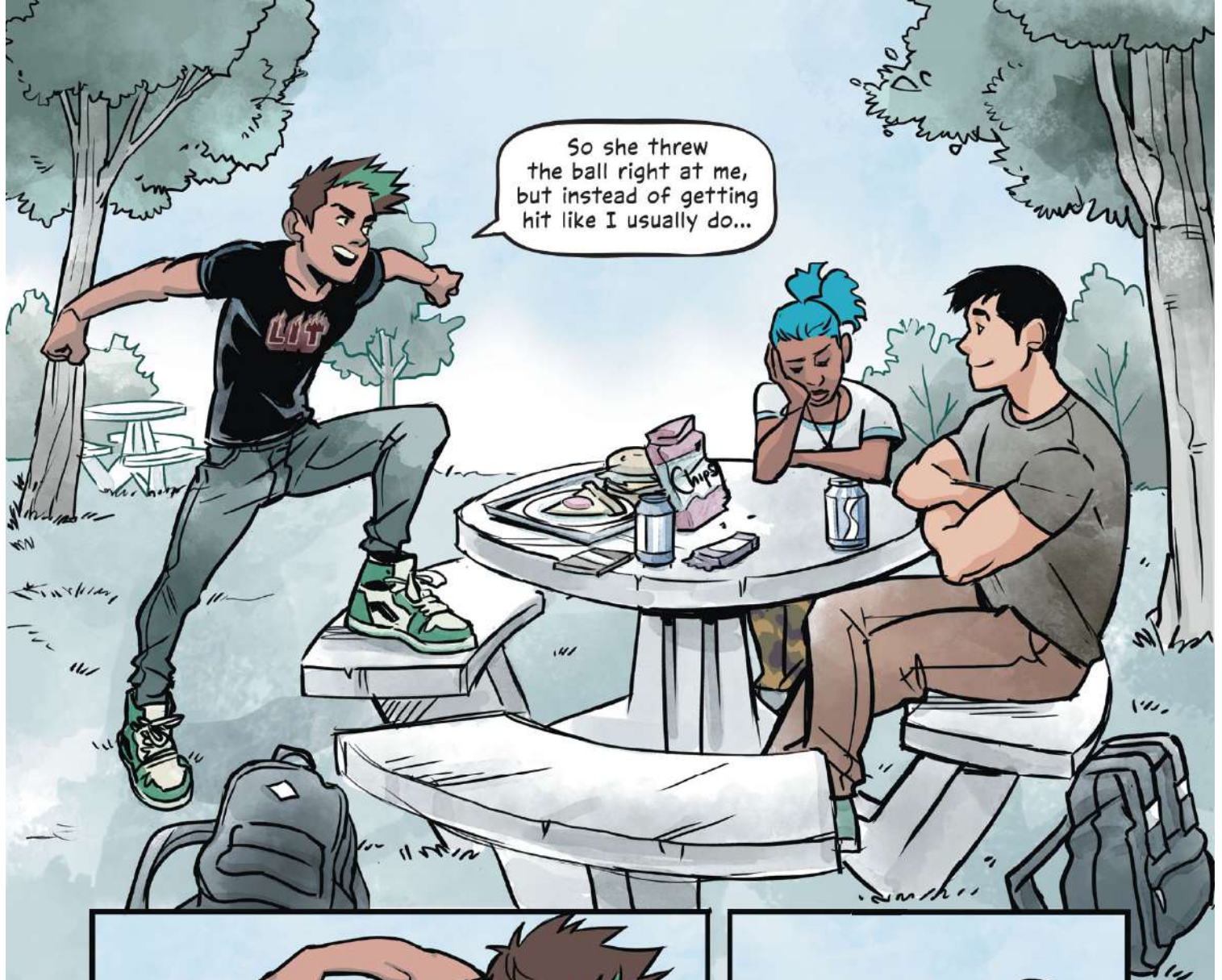


Let's play ball.









So she threw the ball right at me, but instead of getting hit like I usually do...



I jumped outta the way a second before it hit me.

And I kept doing it. I was the star player.



Tank told me about the dogs. I'm sorry.

If people had voted to make it a no-kill shelter this wouldn't be happening. But no one cares about animals.



Hey, everybody.
It's two a.m. R.J.
is attempting his
riskiest stunt yet.

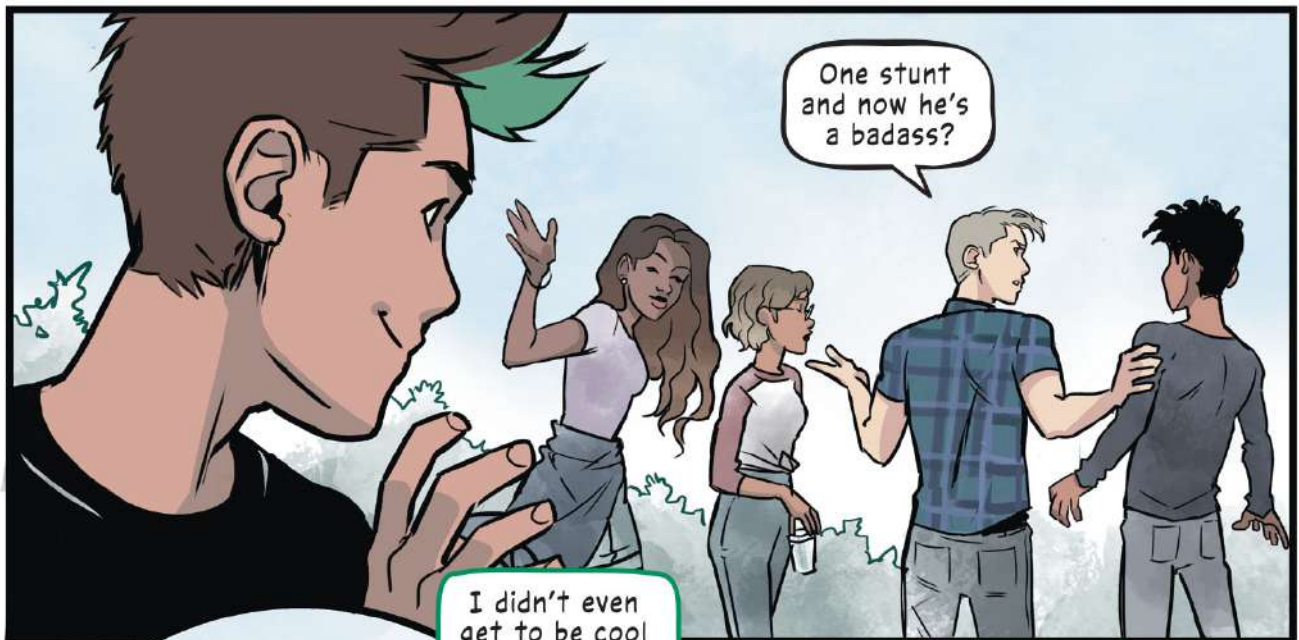
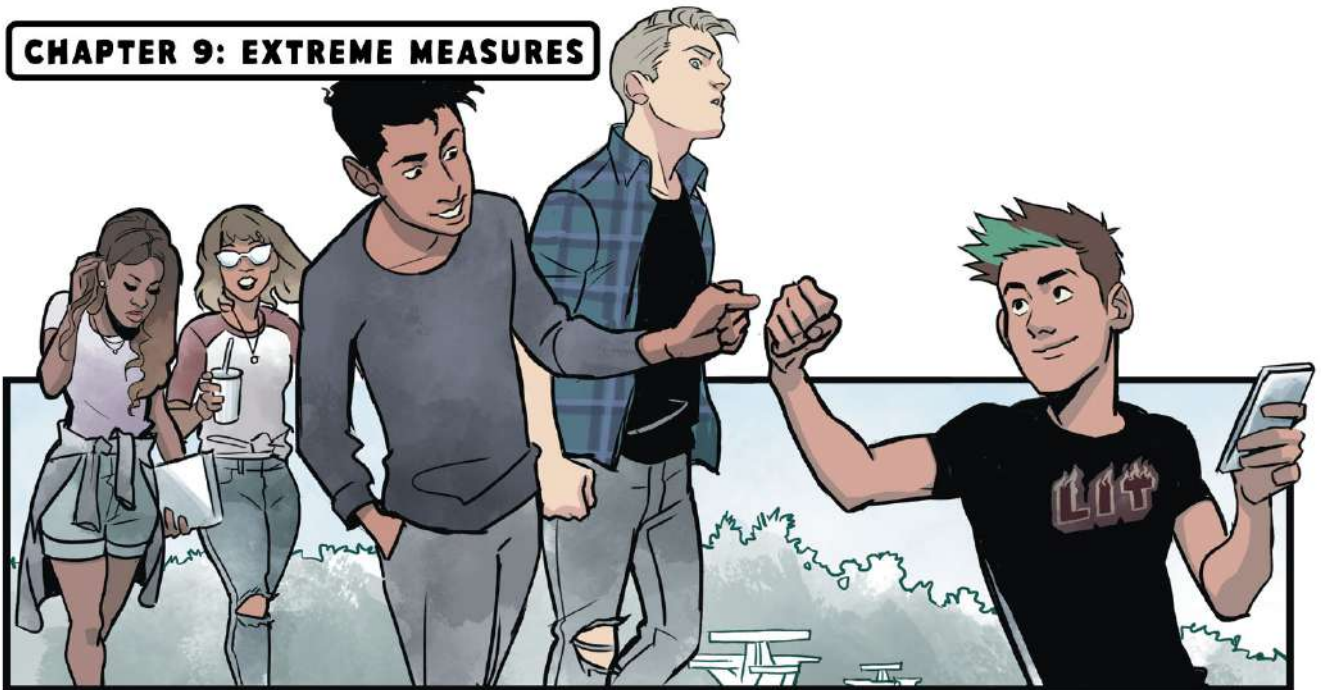


I'm at West
Kentucky State
and I'm about to
take a selfie with
the mascot.

00:46

15

CHAPTER 9: EXTREME MEASURES



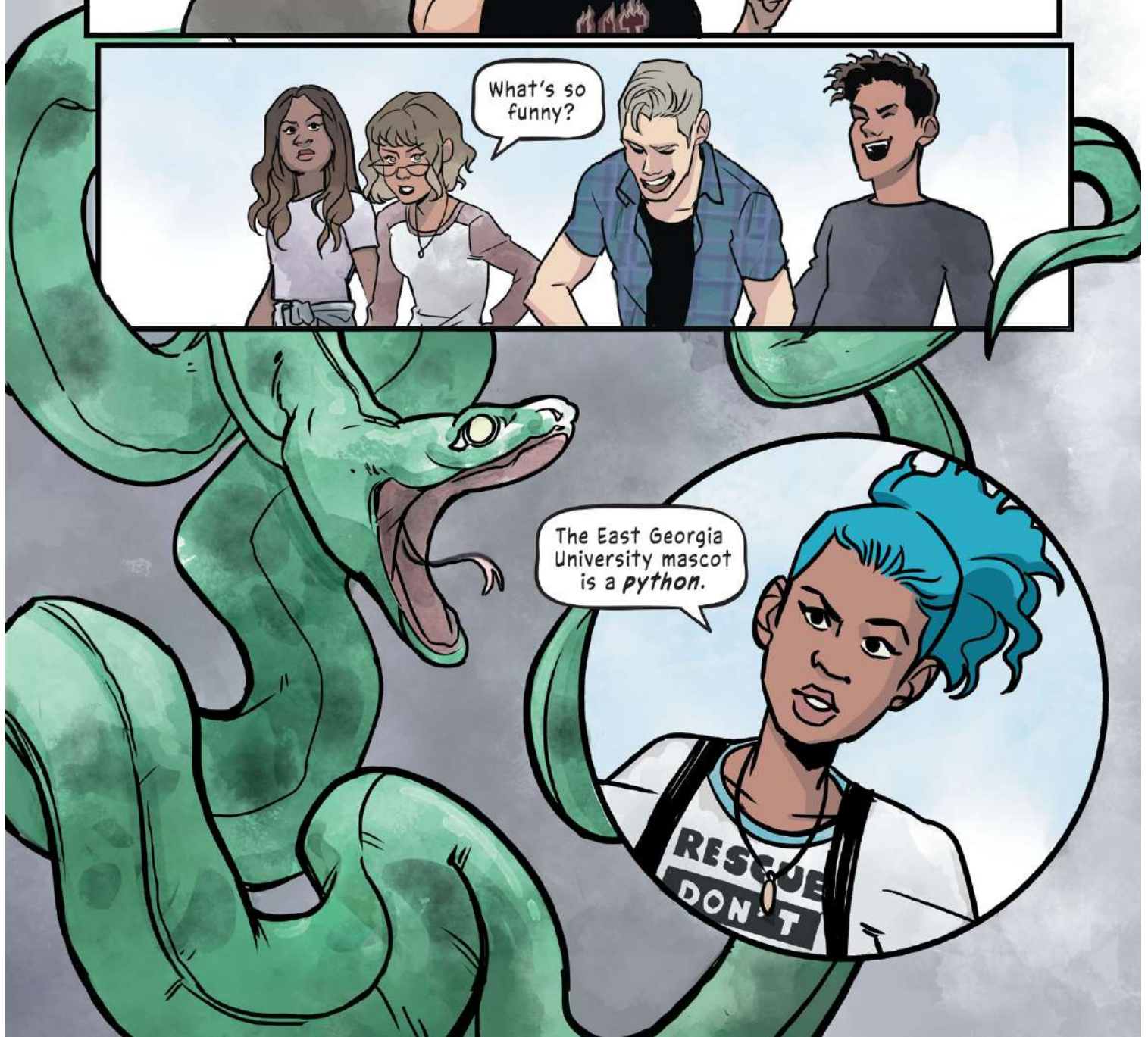
I didn't even get to be cool for a whole day.

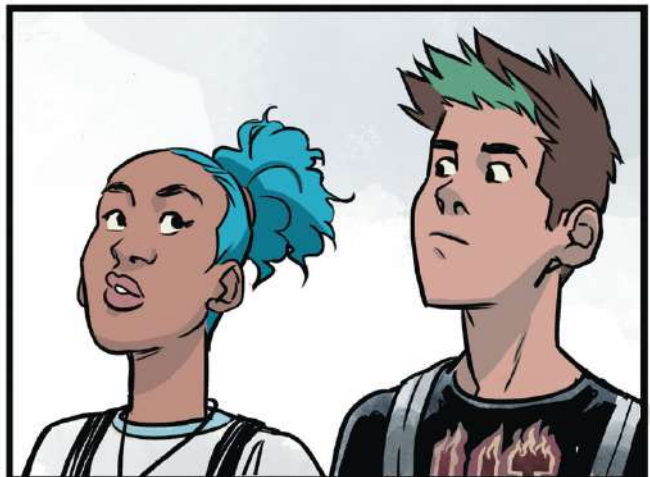


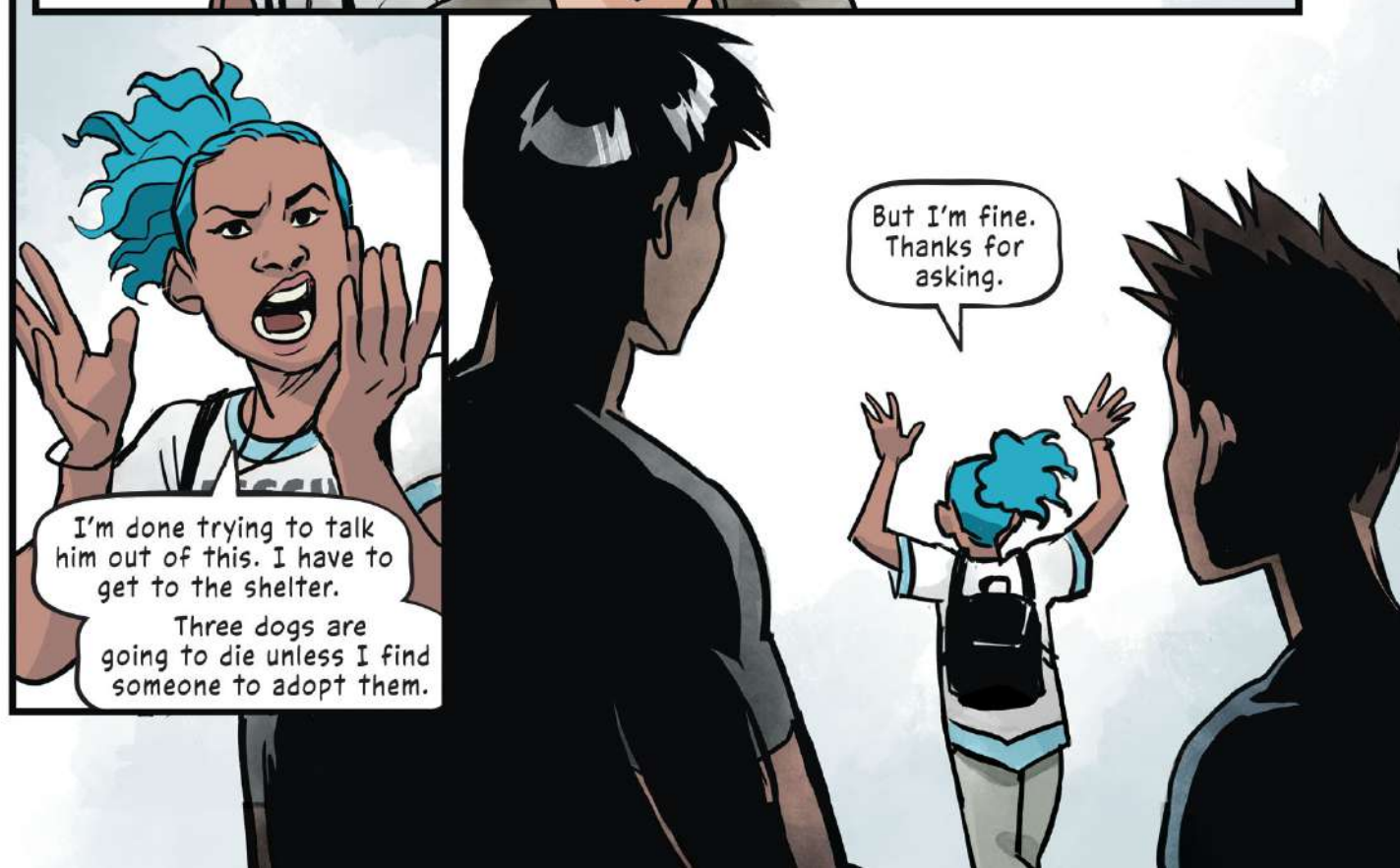
I've gotta do something epic people won't forget.



Has anyone ever taken a selfie with the mascot at East Georgia University?











CRUSH: THE EGU PYTHON



Crush?

Whatever. He's in
a tank. How hard
can it be?



3782241.jpg



Search

I'll be in and out in
ten minutes, post the
selfie, and bask in the
glow of triumph.

BIOLOGY

SCIENCE BUILDING

What if someone
from the university
sees the pic?



I need a
disguise.



ONE BUS RIDE AND
ONE HOUR LATER



Man, it's dark in
here. I've gotta
turn this thing up.



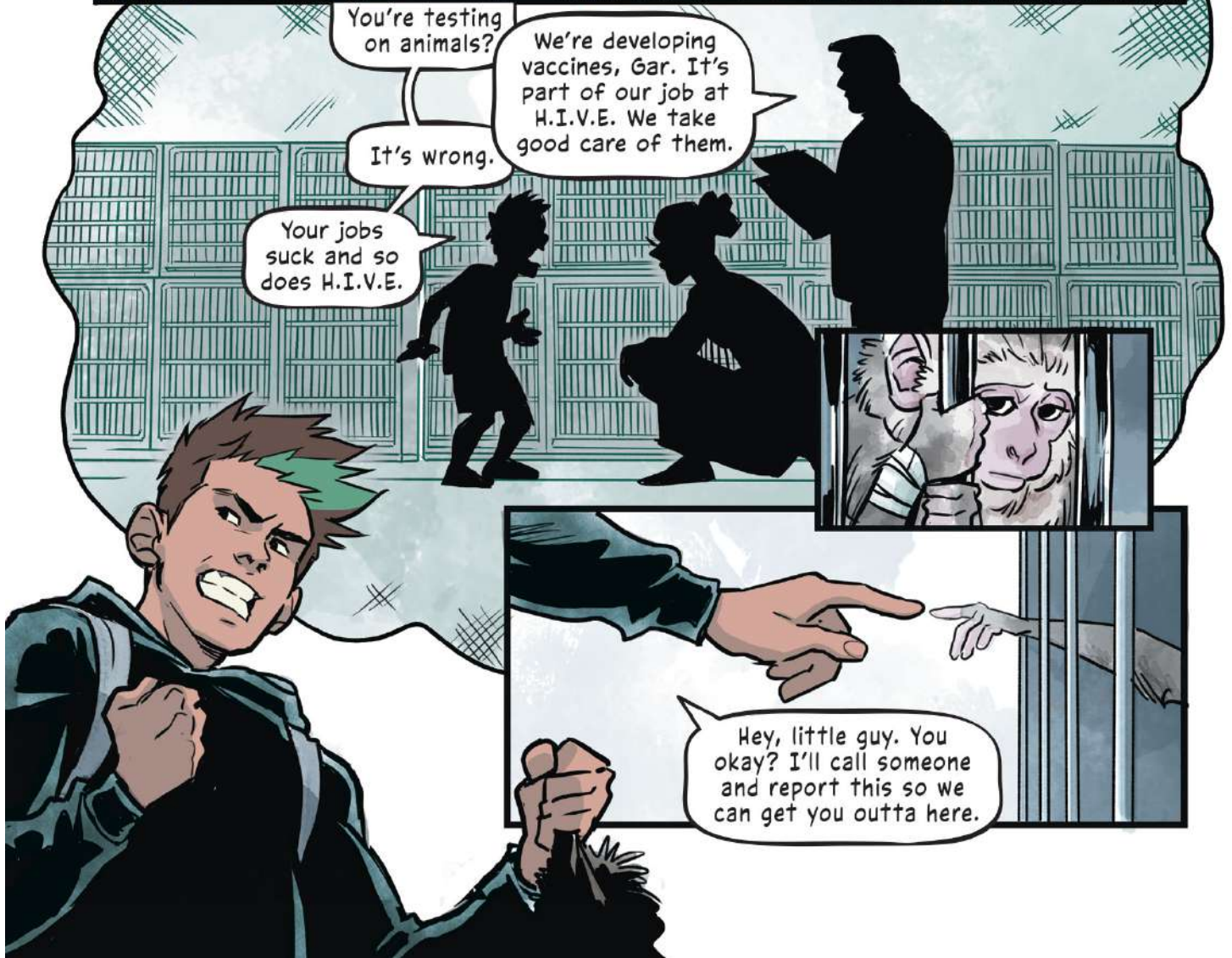
Whoa. What
just happened?
It's like I've got
night vision.

Something weird
is happening.

BIOLOGY LAB

What's
going on in
there?



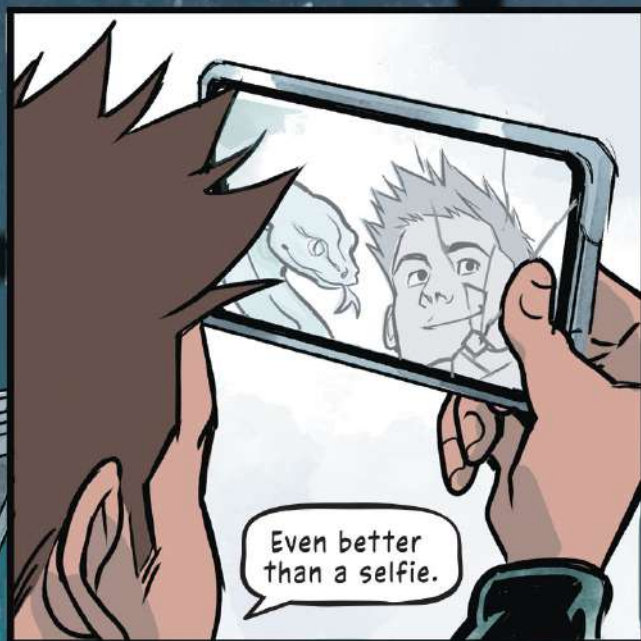


CHAPTER 10: SERIOUS CRUSH





These are killer.



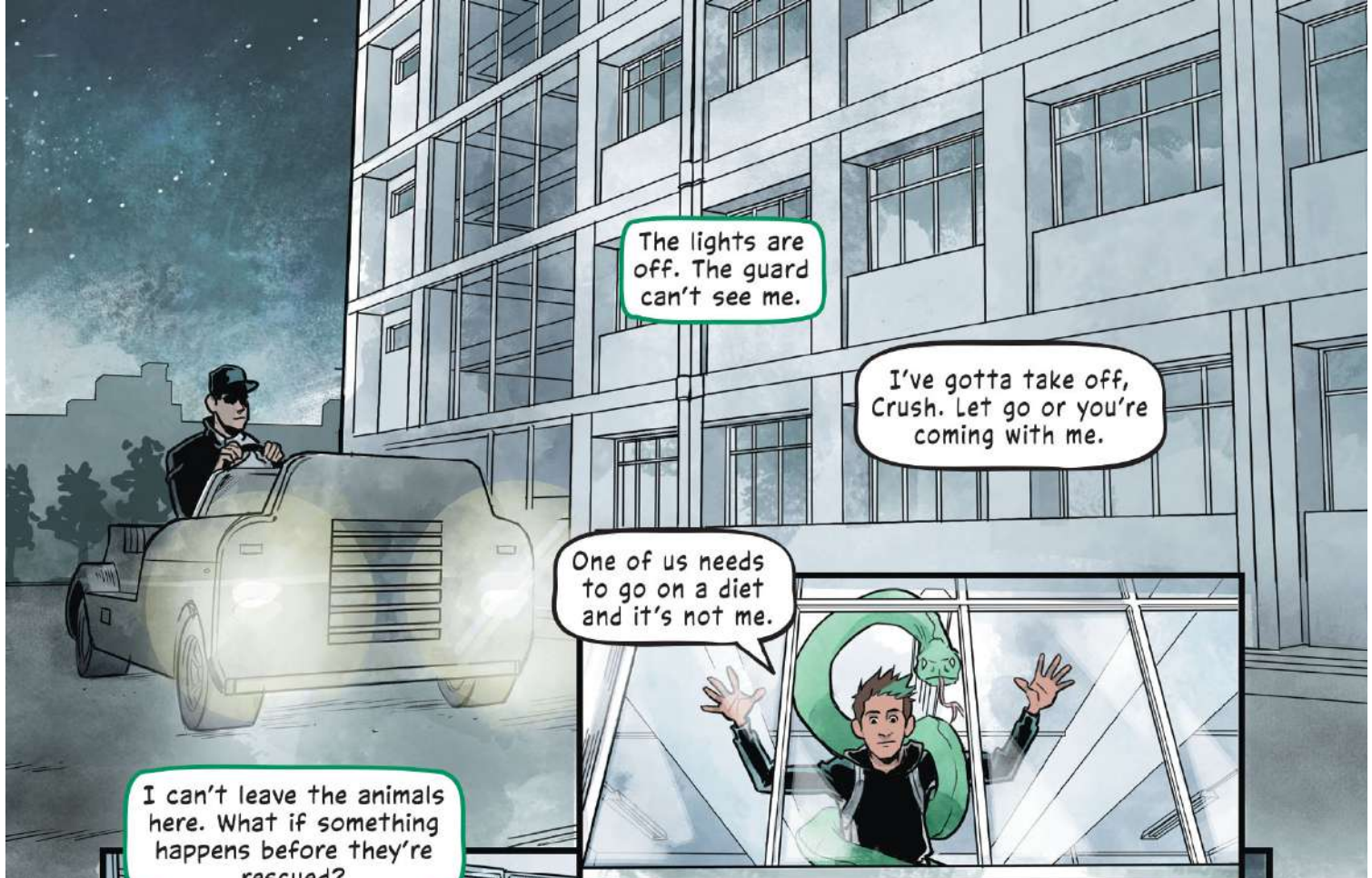
Even better than a selfie.





Come on, Crush.
Work with me.

This
is really
bad.



The lights are off. The guard can't see me.

I've gotta take off, Crush. Let go or you're coming with me.

One of us needs to go on a diet and it's not me.

I can't leave the animals here. What if something happens before they're rescued?

But I can't take them with me. Crush will turn them into midnight snacks.

I'm gonna unlock your cages and leave a door open so you can get out of the building.

What are you waiting for?
How about if I take the big snake out in the hall?





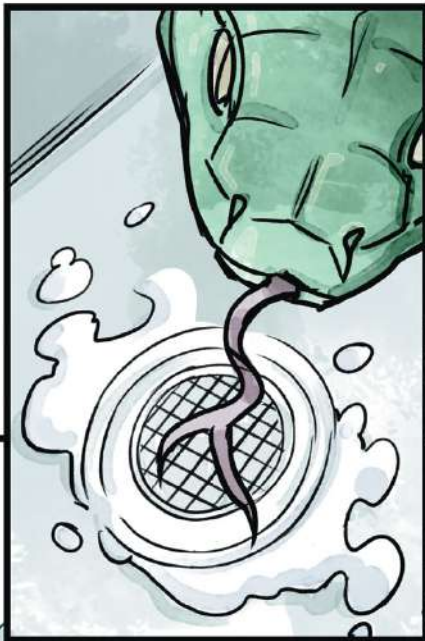


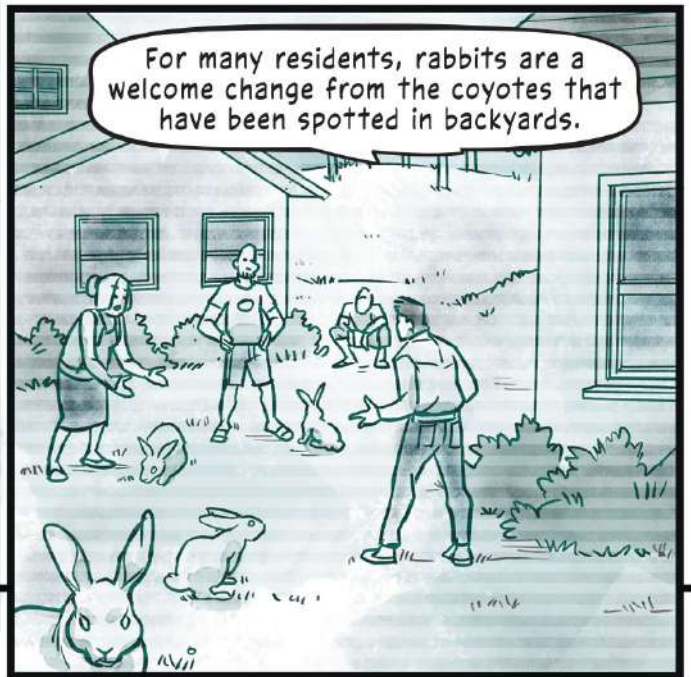


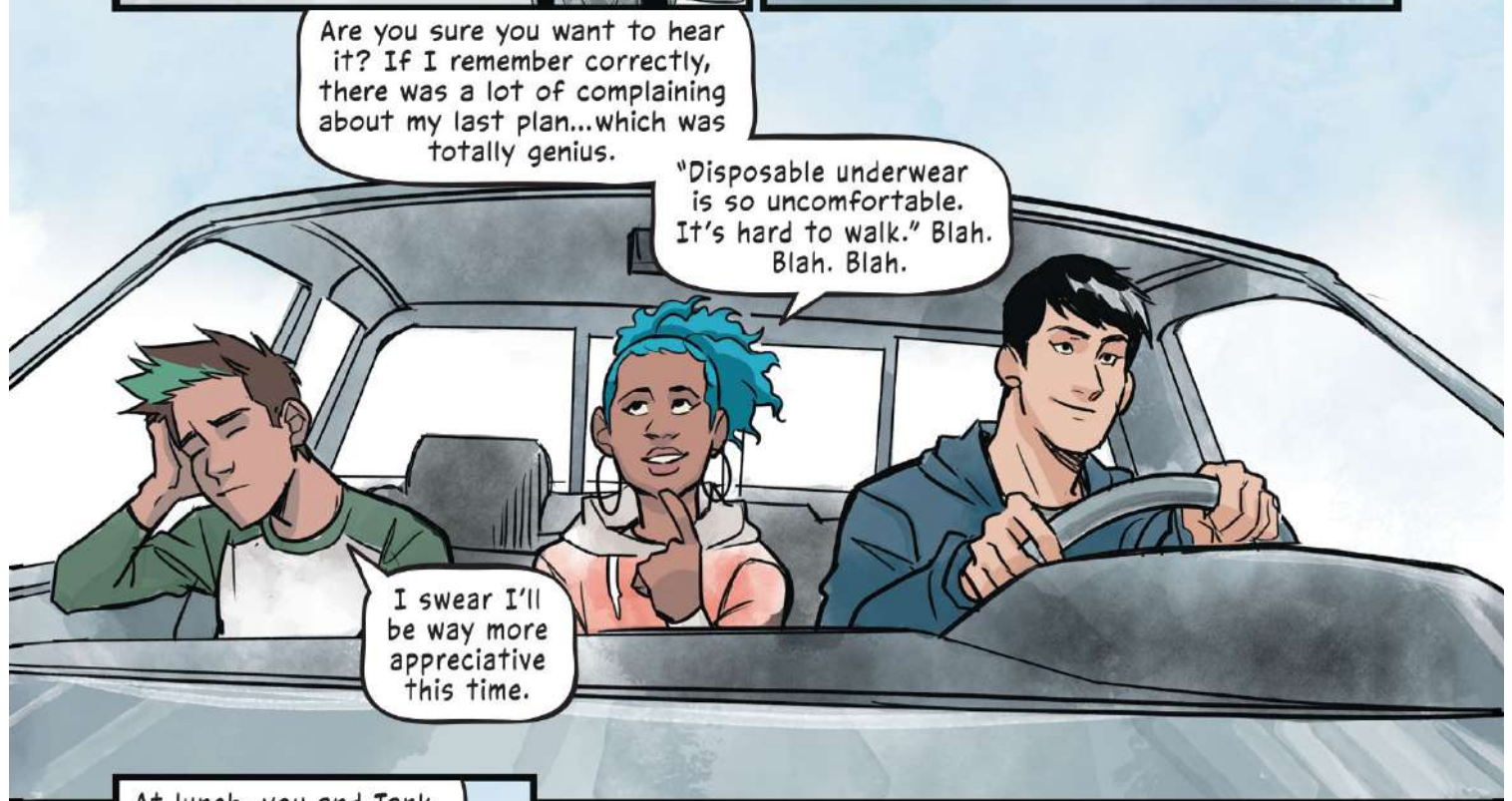
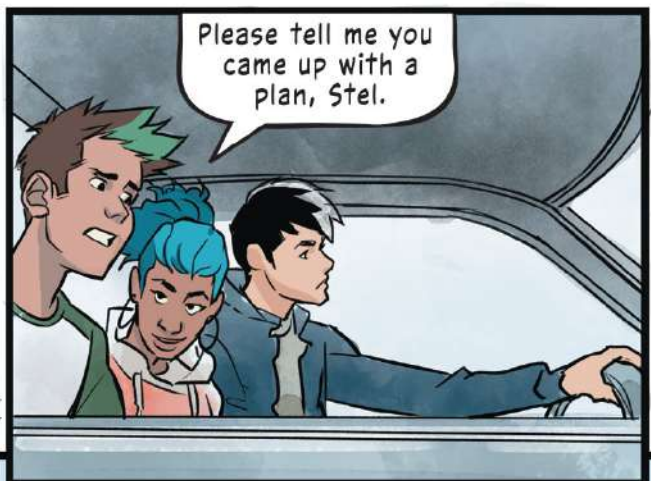
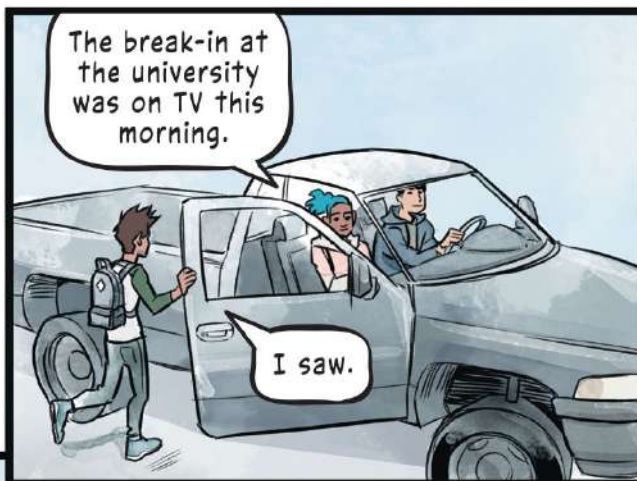
☾
GAR'S BASEMENT



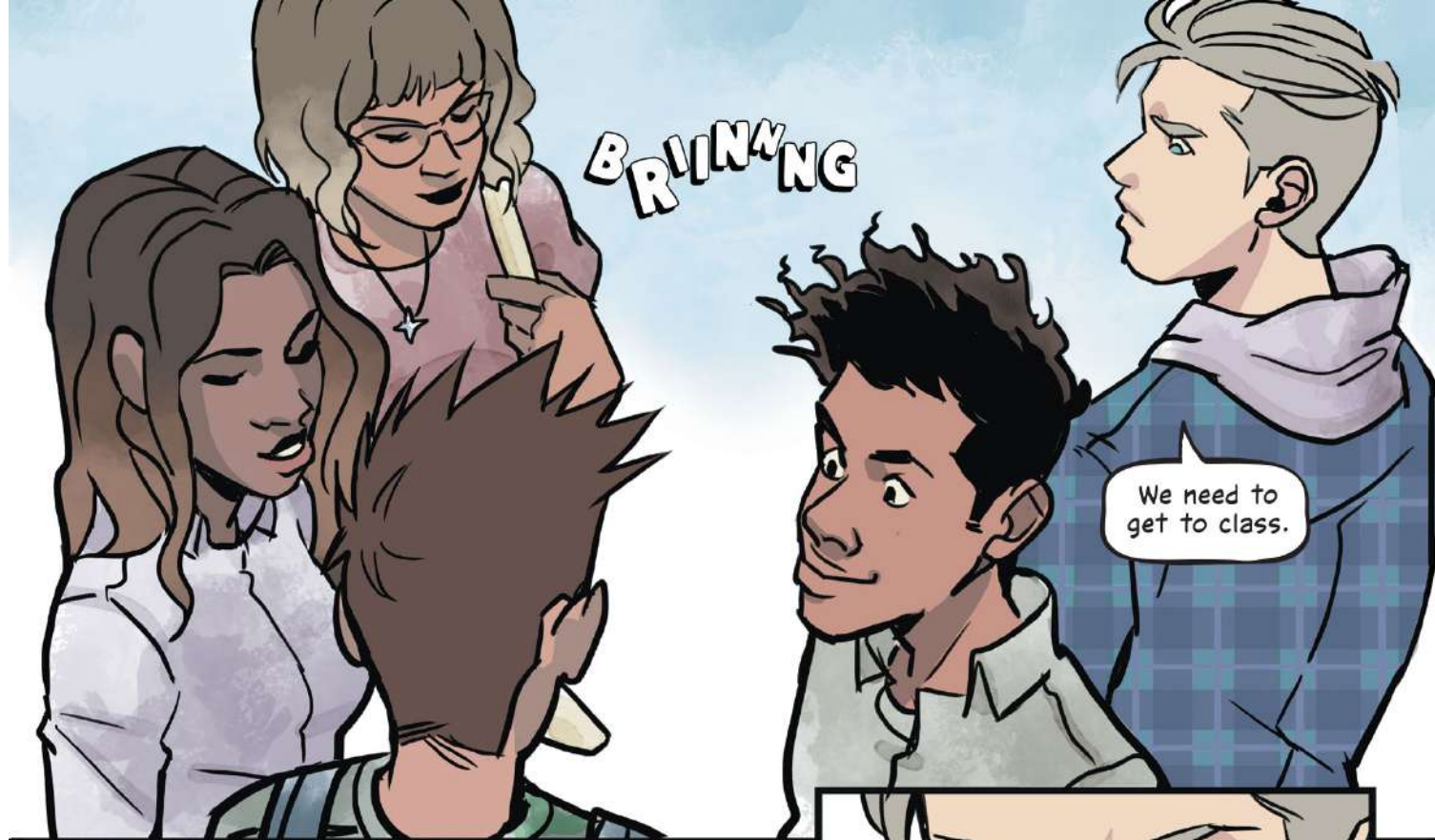












END OF FOURTH PERIOD

So what did you do with the python? People on social media are saying it was stolen.

Catch y'all later.

BR//NKG

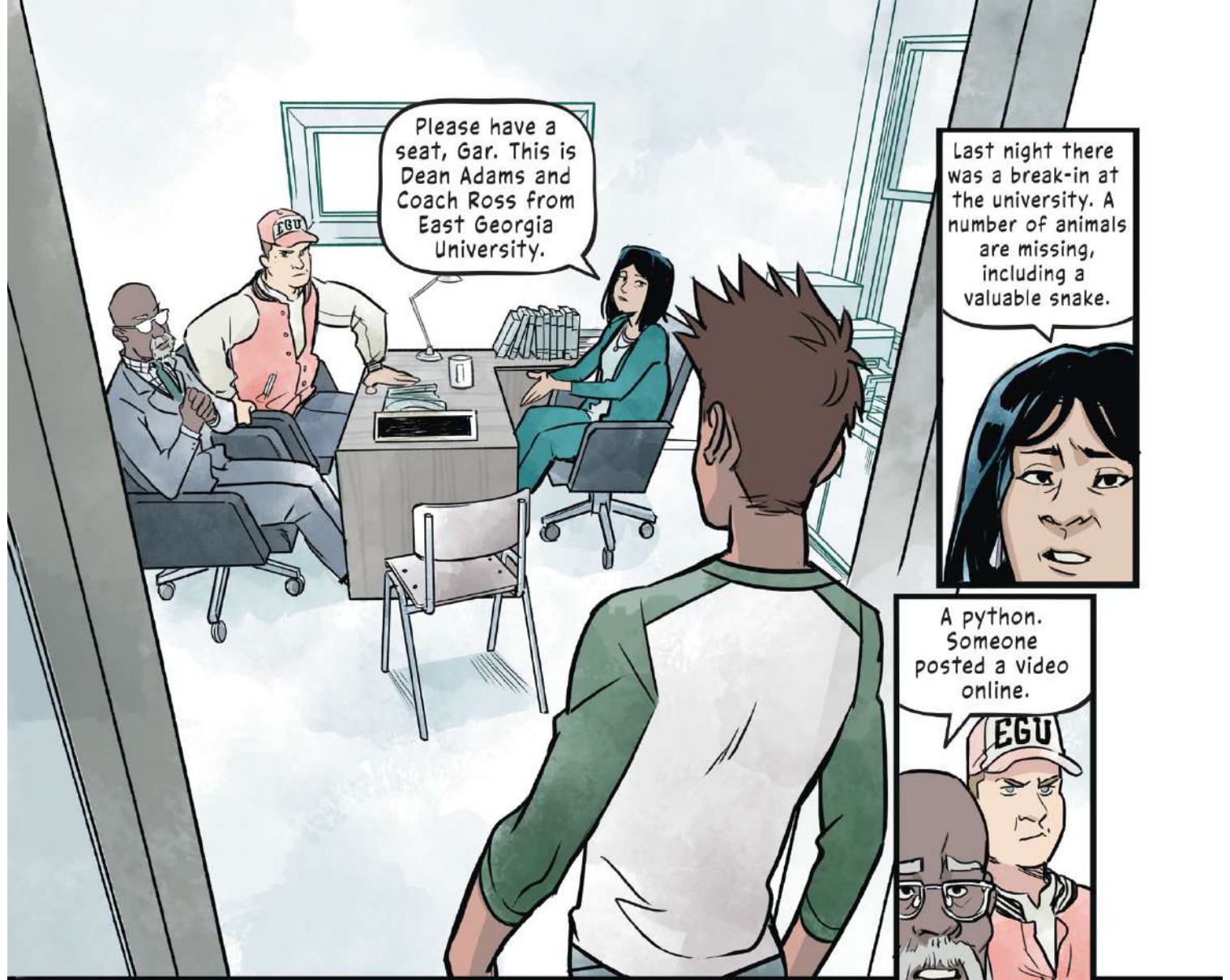
Your fifteen minutes of fame are over, Garfield.

I'd like to talk to someone about the missing snake. I know who took it.

THIRTY MINUTES LATER







Please have a seat, Gar. This is Dean Adams and Coach Ross from East Georgia University.

Last night there was a break-in at the university. A number of animals are missing, including a valuable snake.

A python. Someone posted a video online.



Would you know anything about that?



Principal Lee? You're needed in the quad immediately.



I'll be right back.

We know it was you.
A student at your
school turned you in.
We're going to press
charges.

I don't know
what you
heard, but it
wasn't me.

That's
not you?

Nope. But if it was me,
I would've taken pictures
of the lab you're using for
animal testing. You probably
don't want the newspaper
to get ahold of those.

You little-

That's enough.
He returned Crush,
unharmd. That's the
important thing.



I just blackmailed somebody.
Two somebodies.



Technically, it
was extortion.
And they
deserved it.

The E.G.U. coach said a student
from our school turned me in.
Who do you think it was?



Mike, or one
of his loser
friends.



Naw. Why
would they?

You don't get it. Popularity
is the only thing that matters
to Mike and his friends.

They want everyone to
believe there's something
special about them. All
the attention you're
getting reminds people
it's not true.



The Chosen Ones will
turn on you. It happened
to me when my gaming
channel started attracting
followers. The so-called cool
online gamers got jealous.
You need to be careful.







I'm worried about Tank.

Me too. I wonder why he's having such a hard time.



Hey, boy.

Be careful. He's—

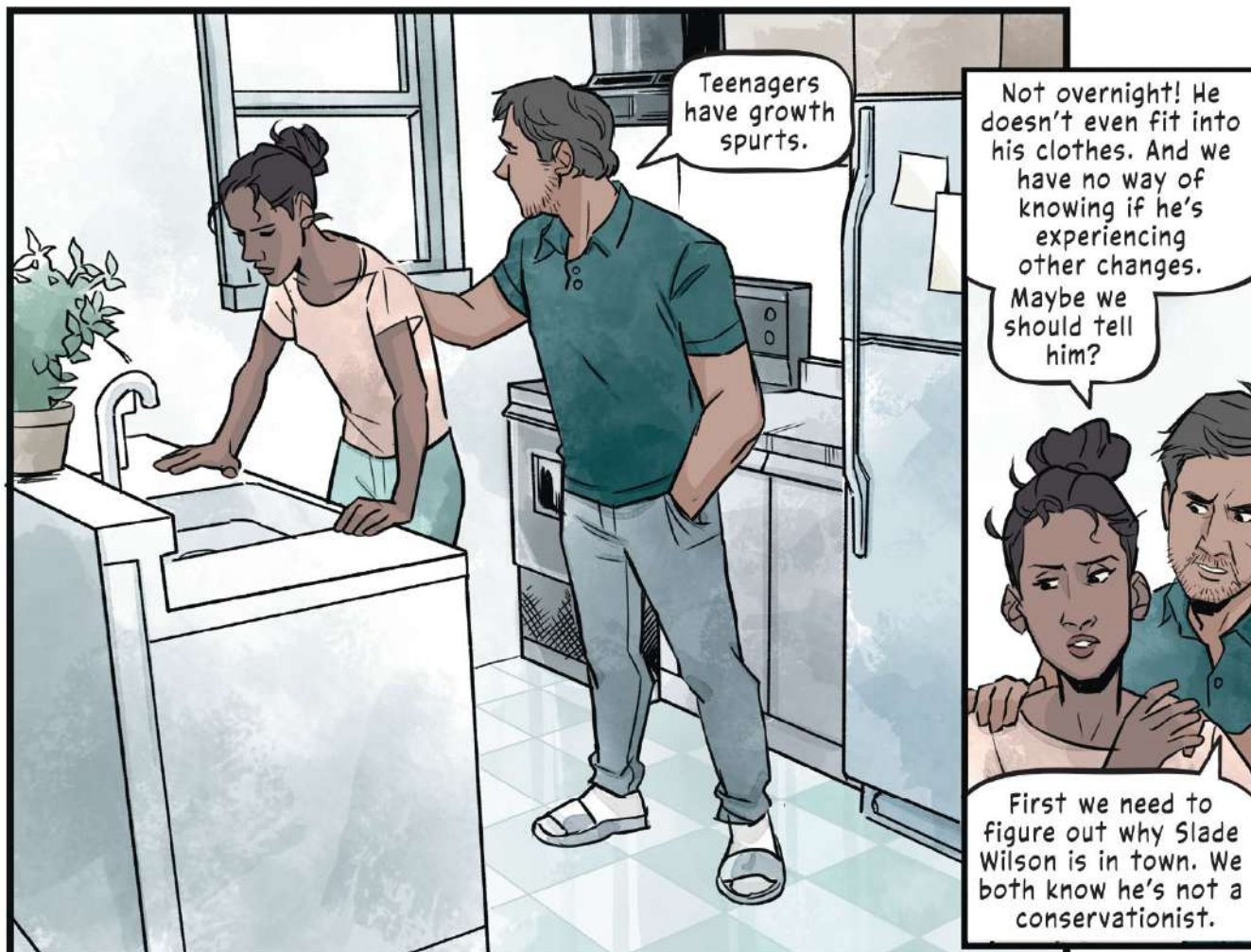


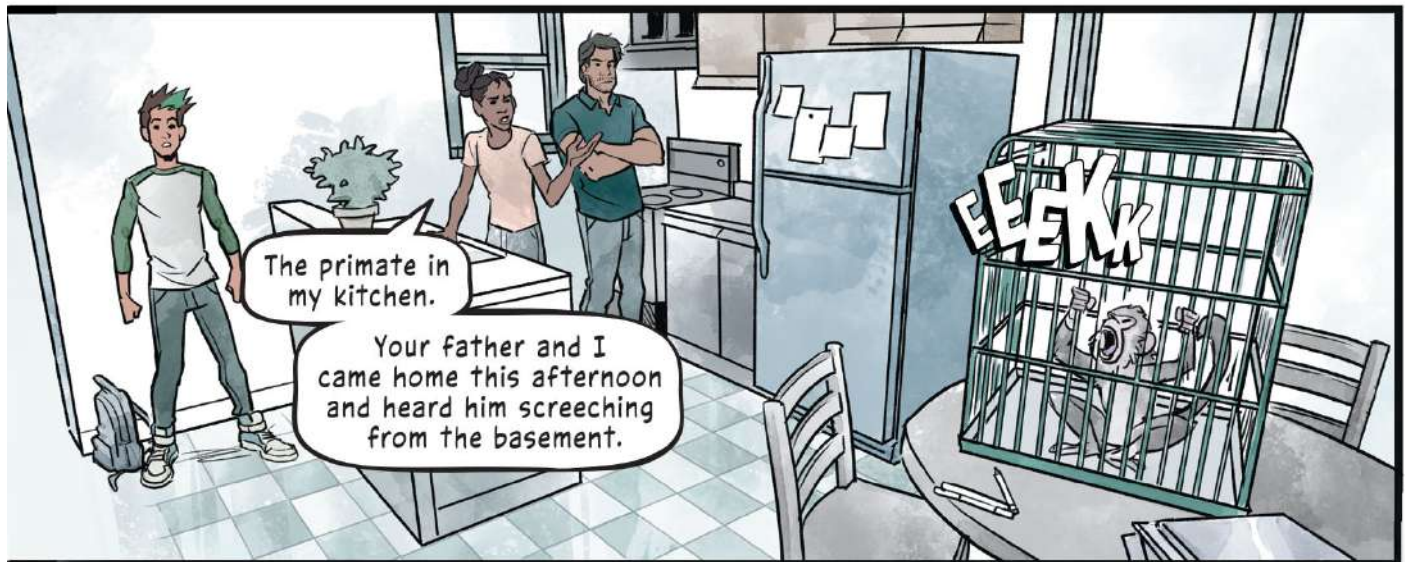
Wow. He likes you.

My supervisor always takes care of him herself. She says he's unpredictable.

Guess I'm the animal whisperer.







How did I forget about him? I'm a jerk.

Think fast or you're dead...

Stella stopped by the shelter at lunch and found him in a bag outside. It looked like someone had been experimenting on him, so I brought him home.

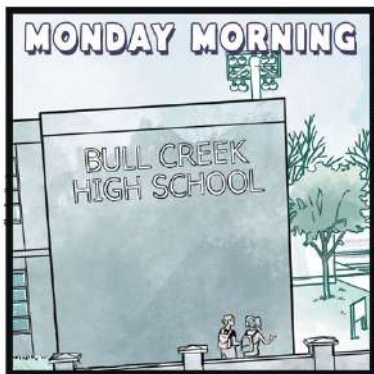


How could you possibly know that?

He had tape on his arm like the animals at your old lab.

Oh. I'll run some tests.





I can't believe your mom is letting you keep a monkey.

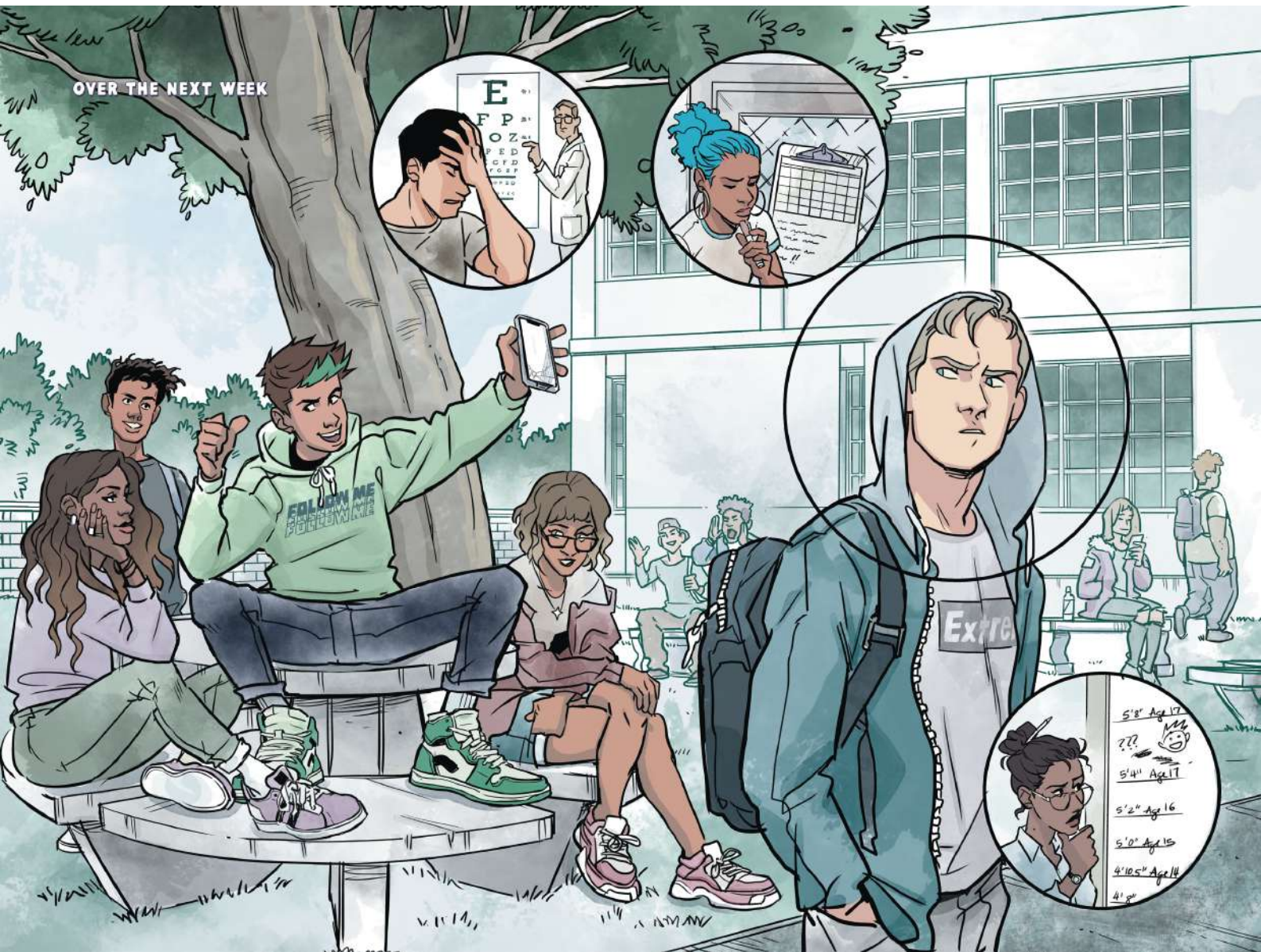
Kong. That's what I'm calling him.

She took some blood and found a bunch of chemicals in his bloodstream.

Plus, I laid the guilt on pretty thick, too.



OVER THE NEXT WEEK



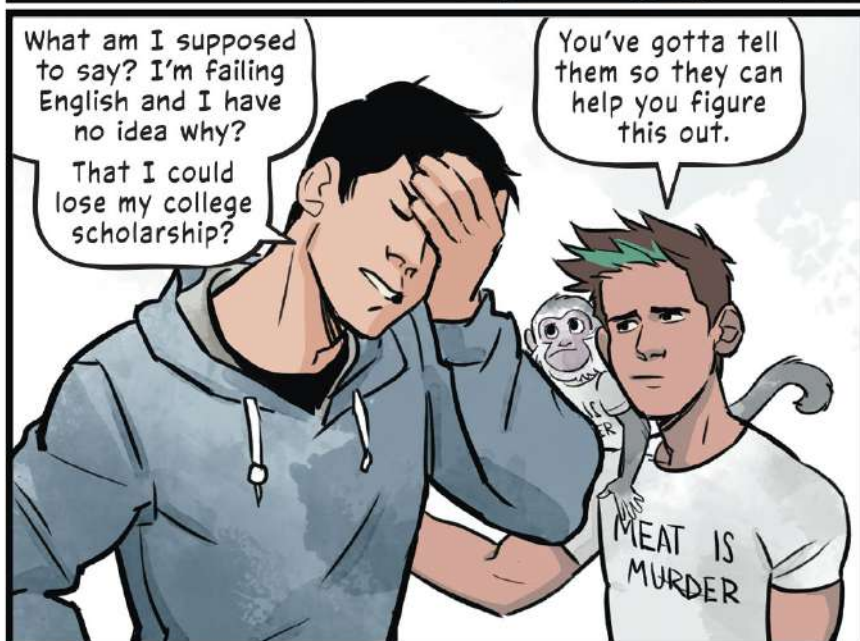
CHAPTER 13: RESCUE OPERATION

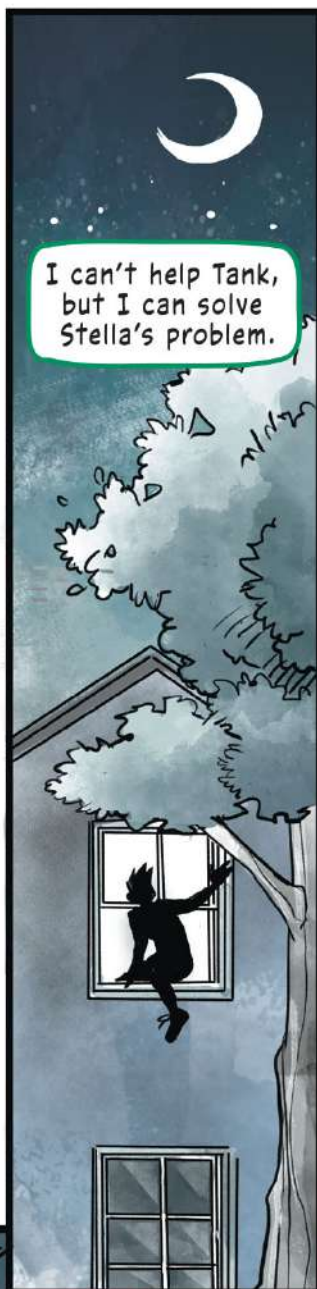


What's wrong? And don't say *nothing*, 'cuz I'm beating you and the last time that happened you had a temperature of one hundred and two.

All that effort was for nothing—the posts, the phone calls, the cute photos. None of it made any difference. The shelter is euthanizing the dogs in two days.



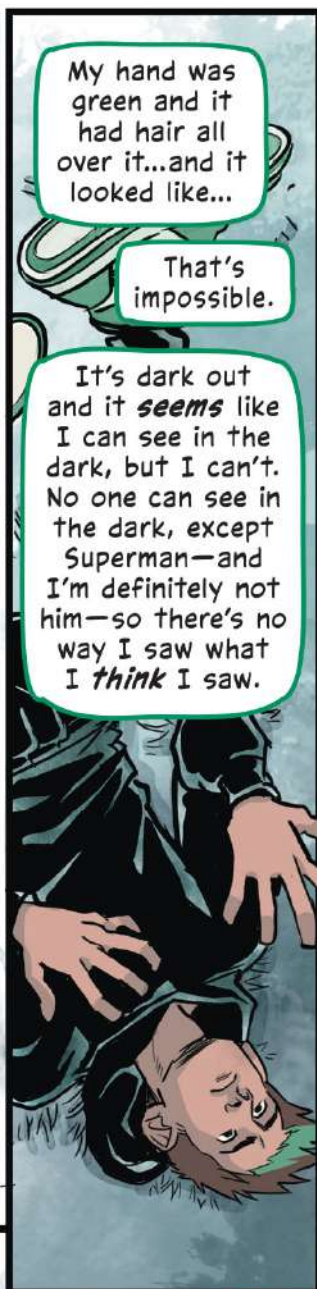
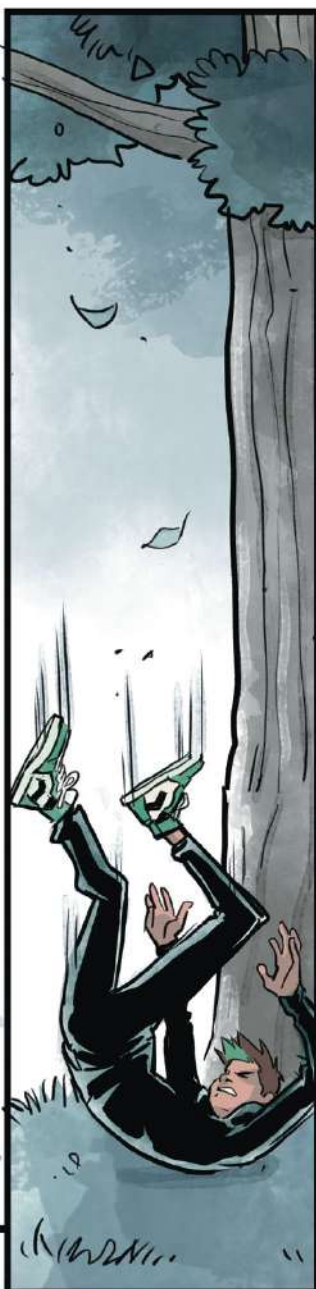




I can't help Tank, but I can solve Stella's problem.



What the—



My hand was green and it had hair all over it...and it looked like...


That's impossible.

It's dark out and it *seems* like I can see in the dark, but I can't. No one can see in the dark, except Superman—and I'm definitely not him—so there's no way I saw what I *think* I saw.


TWENTY MINUTES LATER




Other people see really well at night, too. And lots of people get stronger and more athletic when they have a growth spurt. It just *seems* like I'm way more athletic now because I started in the negative ability range.




I could test out my strength right now.




If it was locked.



You remember me, don't you? I'm gonna get you outta here.



That's right. We're buddies.



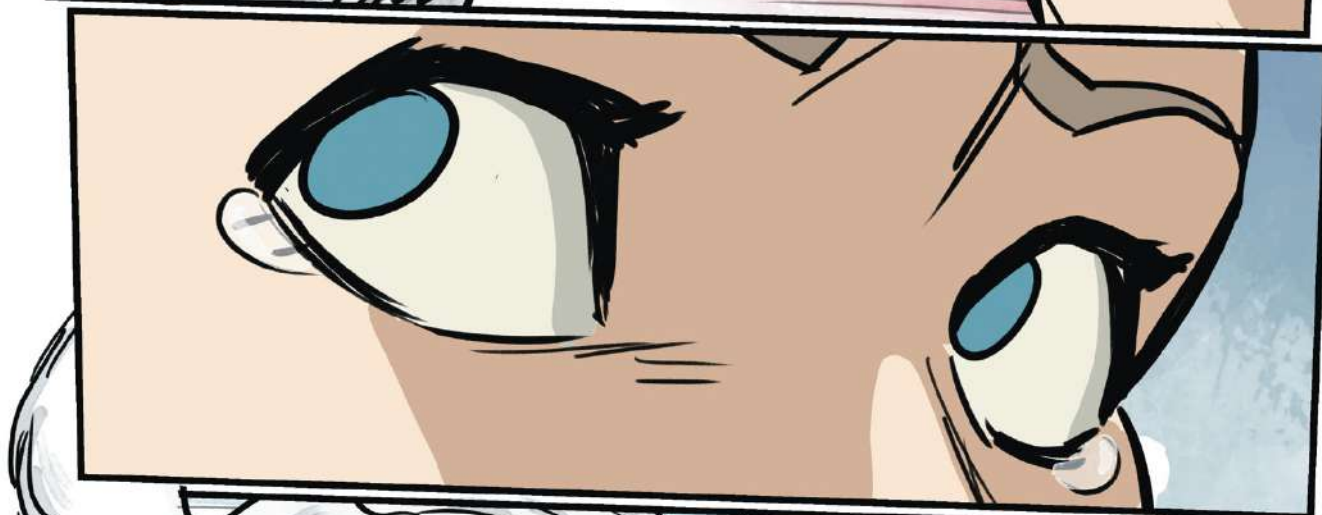
They should keep leashes back here.

Guess I shoulda planned this out a little better. But I'm saving their lives. That's what counts.

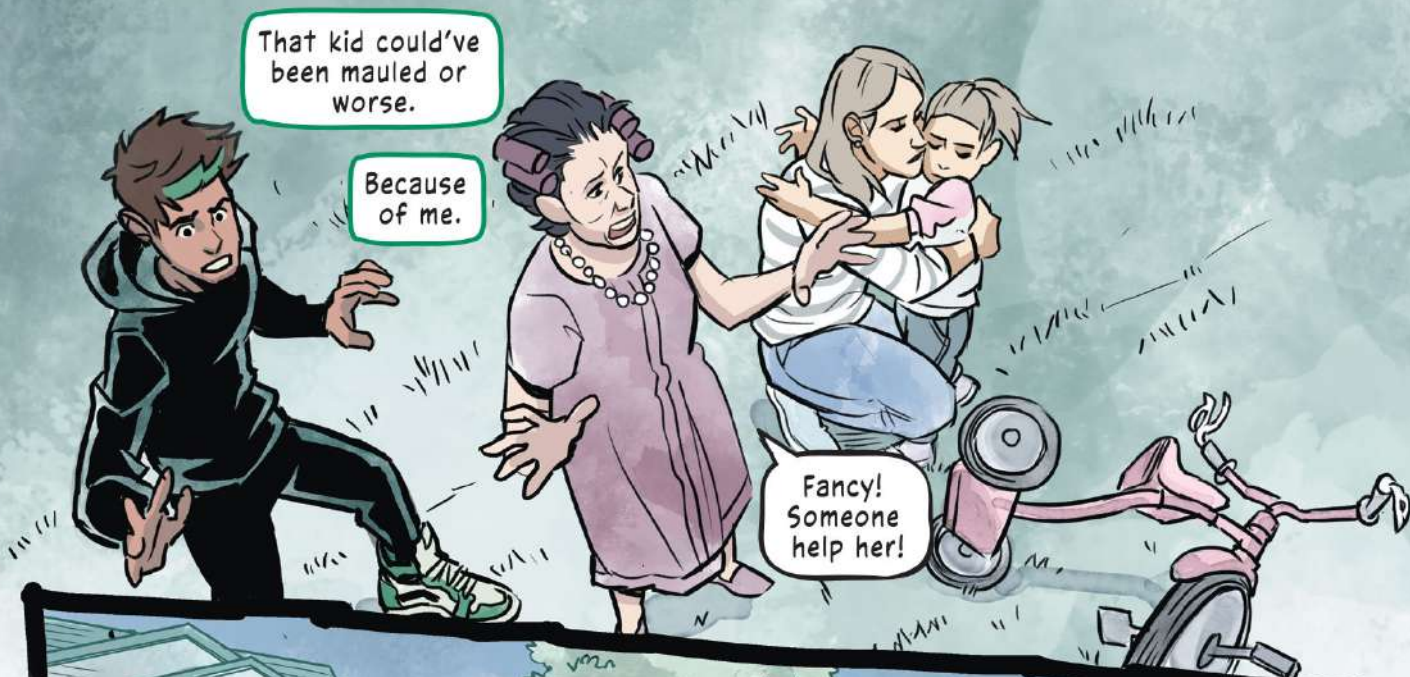


Aw...come on. I just rescued you. Where's the dodgeball speed when I need it?





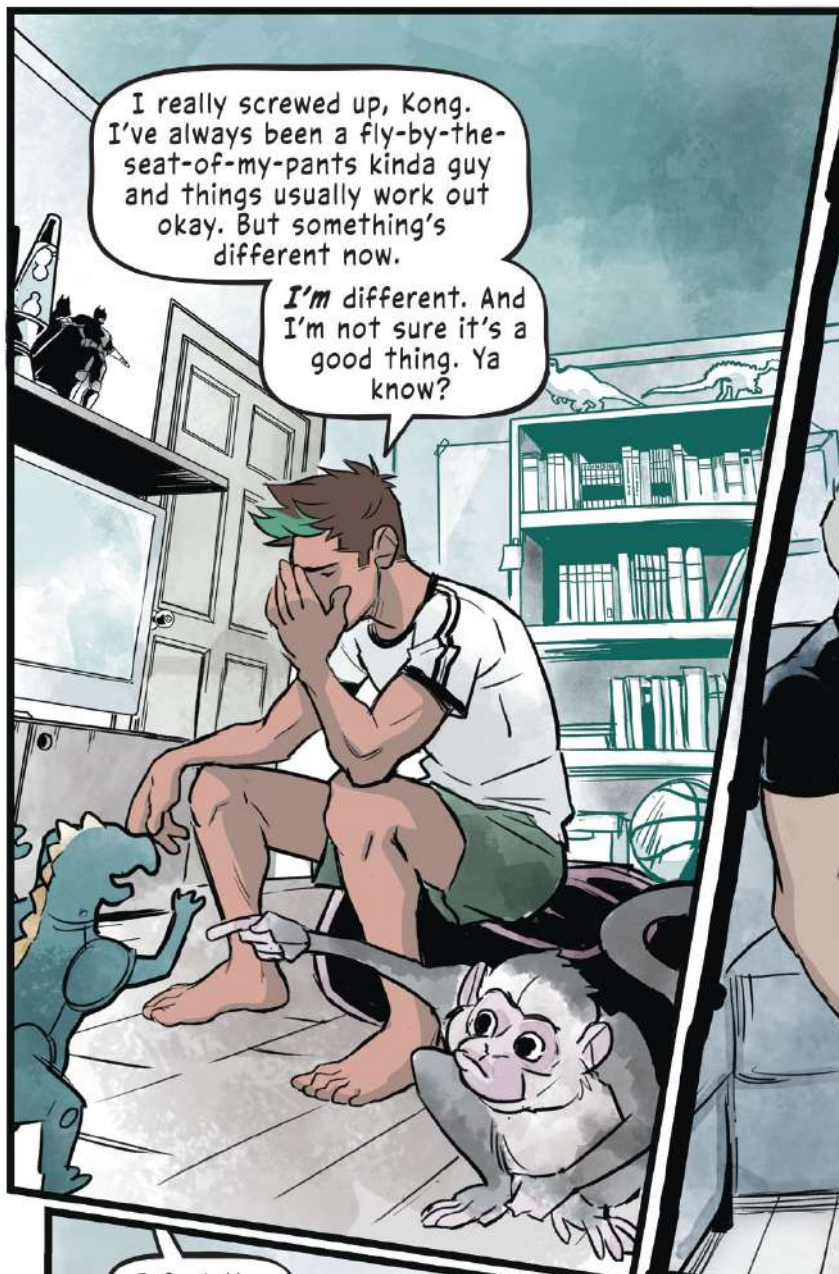




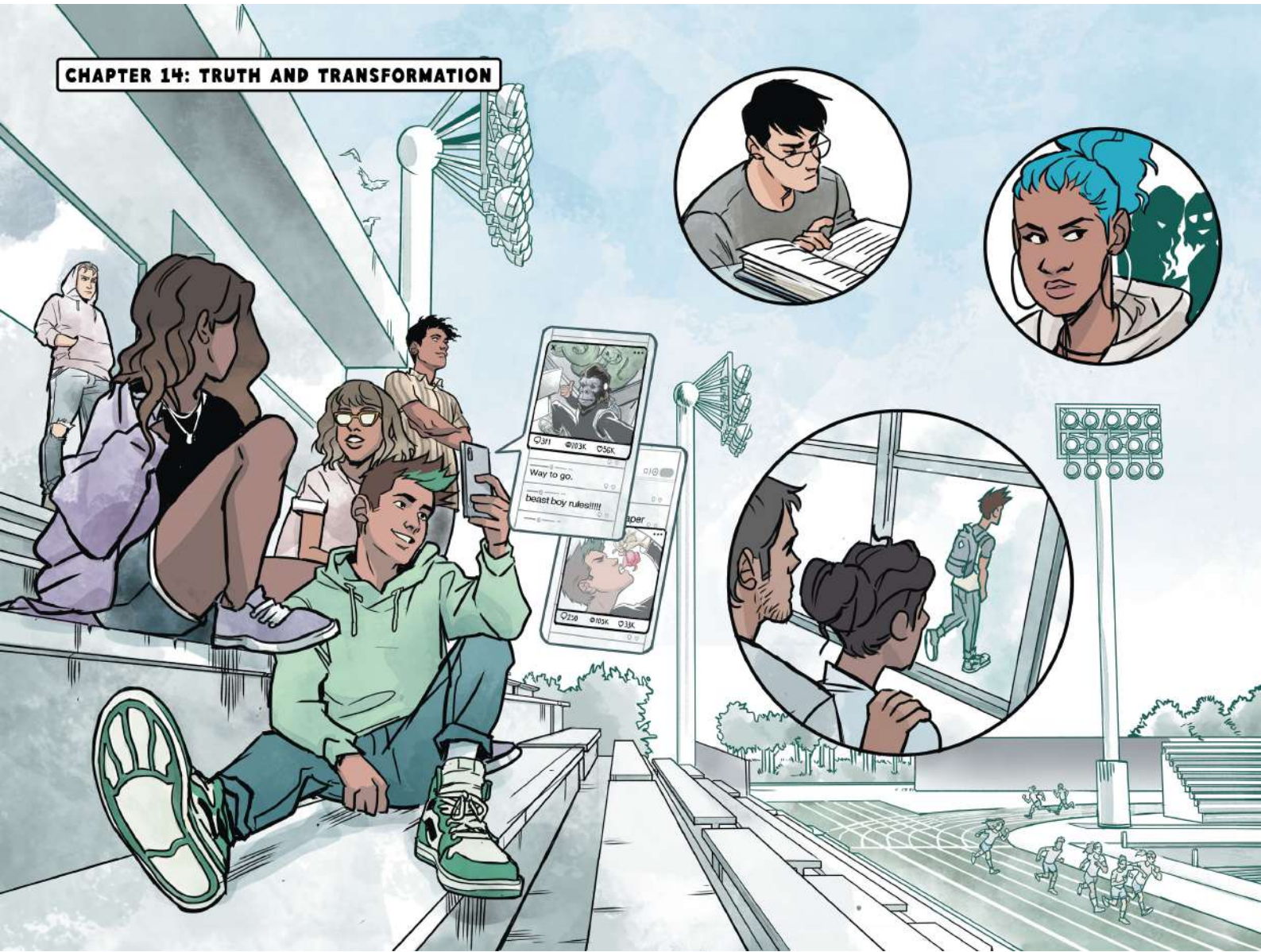


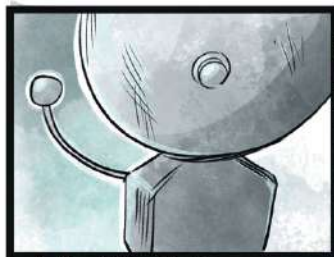
That would be amazing.





CHAPTER 14: TRUTH AND TRANSFORMATION





TWO WEEKS LATER

For somebody who's supposed to be studying *coyotes*, you spend a lot of time watching *people*.



If you're some kinda perv, you'd better back off.

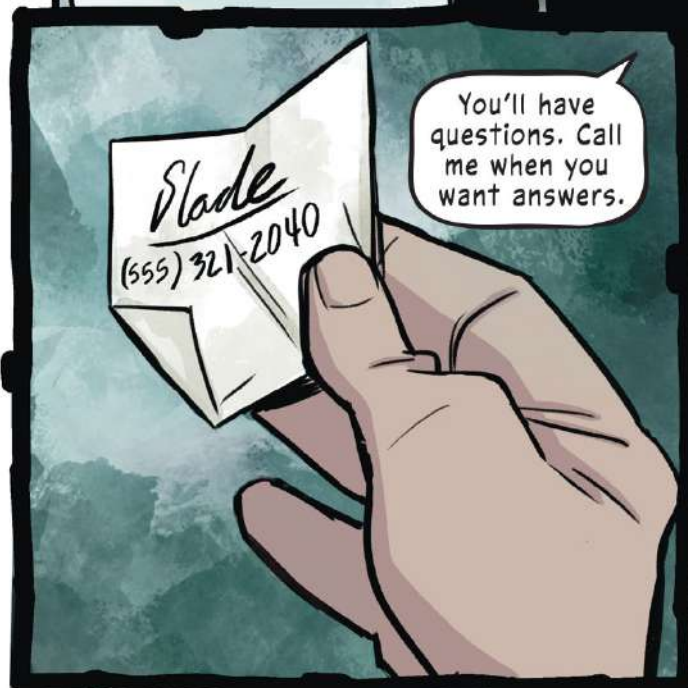



Do I look like a perv, kid?

You don't look like a conservationist.



Fair enough.
I worked with your parents at H.I.V.E. and I know what's going on with you. Dealing with your gift must be scary, but H.I.V.E. works with special kids like you.



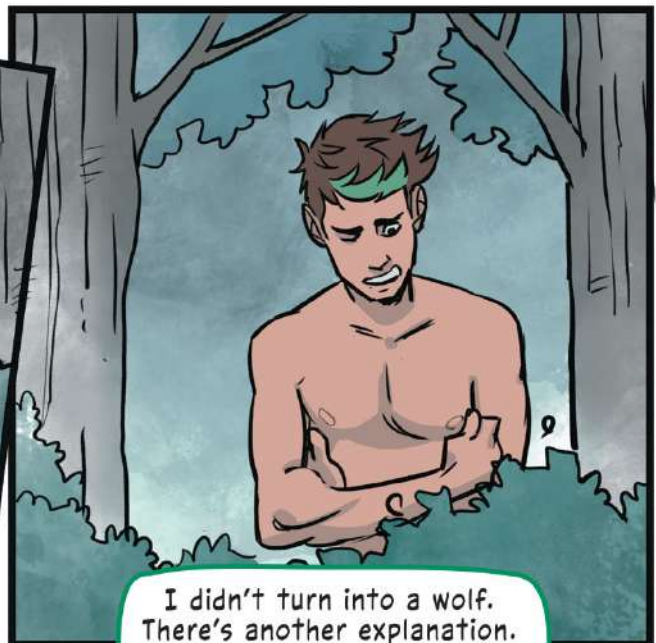


What if that guy Slade is telling the truth and H.I.V.E. is more than just a viral research center? Would my parents lie to me?

This isn't real...it can't be. 'Cuz that would mean my feet turned into—

It's not possible. I'm asleep or hallucinating...

Shi—



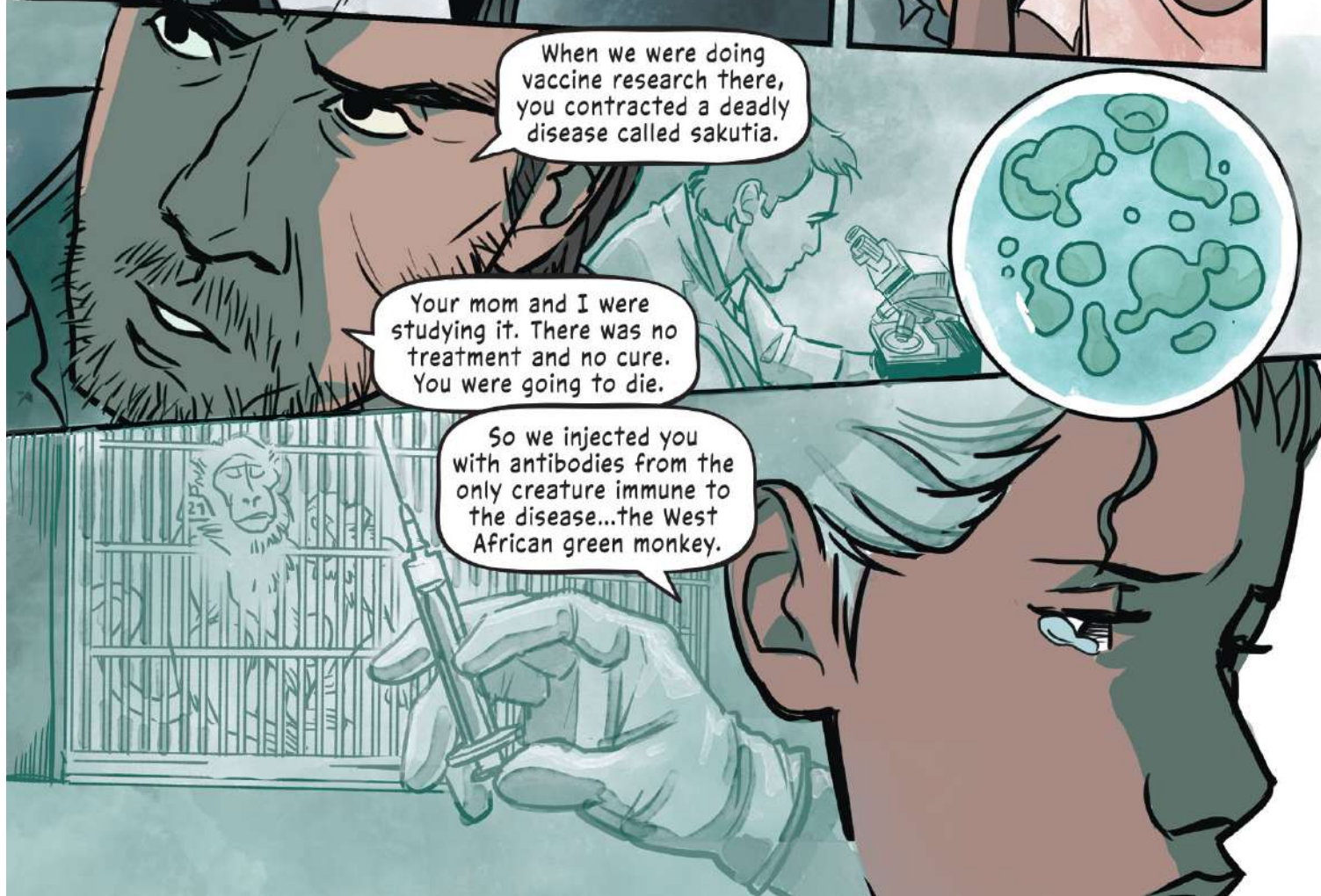
I didn't turn into a wolf. There's another explanation. Maybe somebody drugged me—like that creeper Slade—and I was hallucinating. Or I'm in a parallel universe.



THIRTY MINUTES LATER









We were trying to save your life. We had no idea if it would work, but it did. Your system produced antibodies that destroyed the sakutia cells. So we started giving you Aminotrianidol to boost the antibodies.



You told me they were *supplements* and I stopped taking them. Did you know what would happen?
How could you do this to me?



We had no choice. It was a life-and-death situation.



EDENTOWN MEADOWS PARK
TEN MINUTES LATER

My whole life is a lie. What if they knew the wolf thing would happen and they lied about that, too? Maybe they know how it works.

Hey.

Say something.

What's up?

Are you coming to the bonfire?

I forgot it was tonight.

'Cuz nobody invited me.

He's so cute.

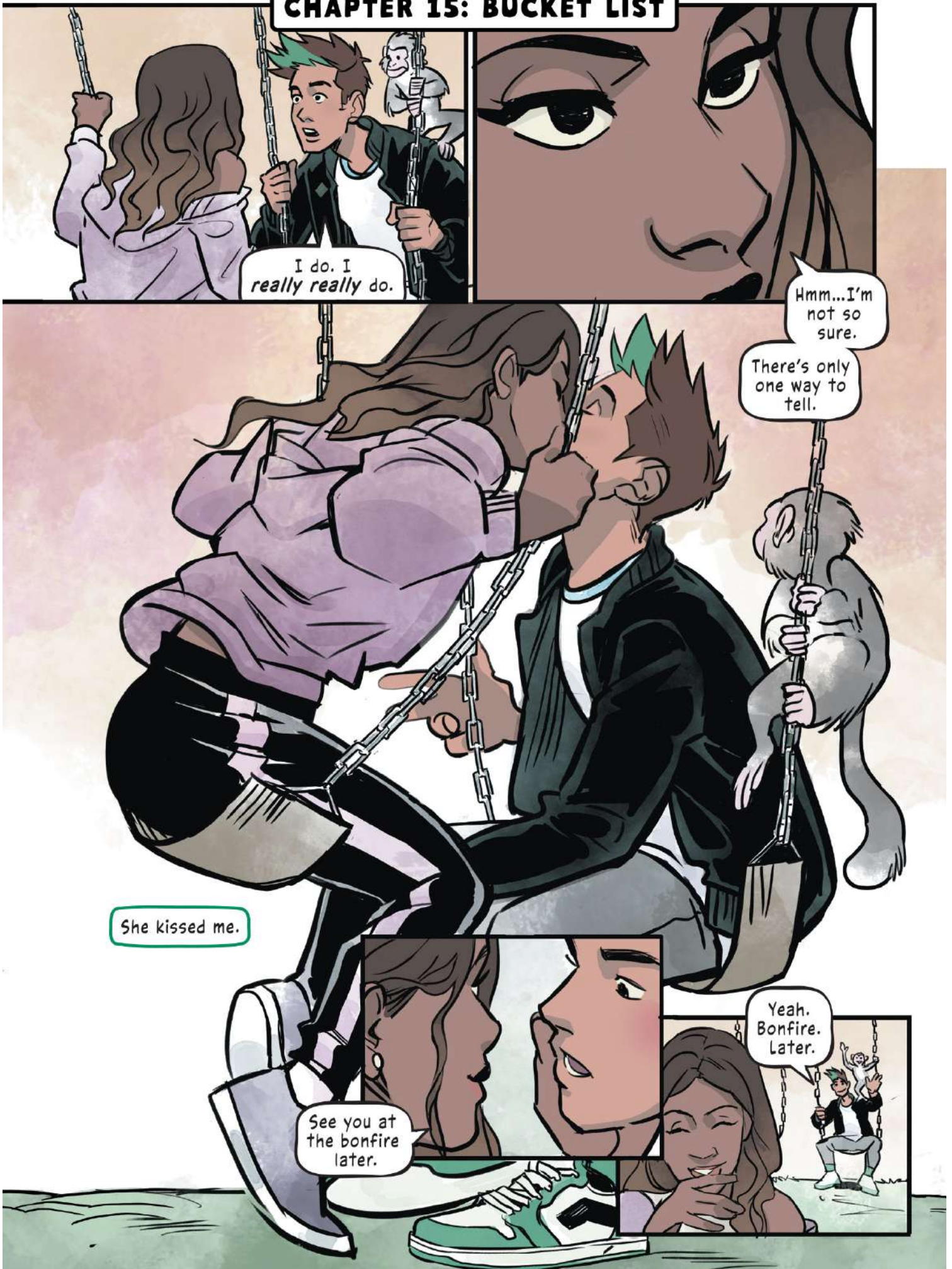
Come so we can hang out.

Stay cool.

It doesn't matter if she smells like strawberries and she's so close that you could lean forward and kiss her right now.

You don't want to hang out with me?

CHAPTER 15: BUCKET LIST



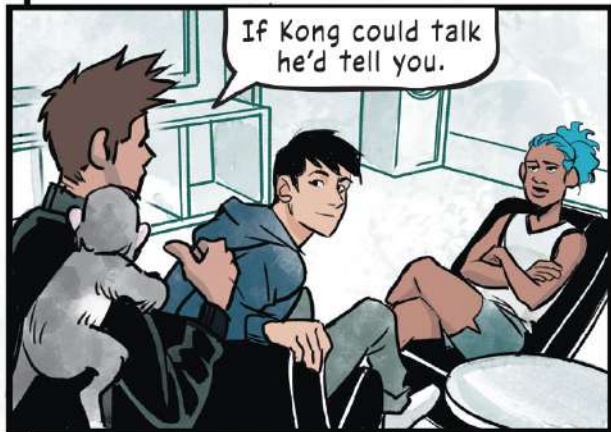
STELLA'S HOUSE

You'll never guess what I was doing ten minutes ago.

Kissing Alana. She kissed me and it wasn't a little peck on the cheek. It was a legit kiss.



If Kong could talk he'd tell you.



Why are you doing this to yourself? Alana doesn't care about you.



I'm not stupid. I know she's only into me 'cuz of the videos. She's not exactly my dream girl either.





Then why bother?

You don't understand how it feels to be on the outside looking in. I've spent years trying to get Alana and her friends to notice me. Now I'm sitting at *their* table.



And Alana kissed *me*.

I know the popularity thing won't last. I just wanted to see how it felt to be the guy who did more than crack jokes. Guess that's pathetic.



No one's judging you. We just want to make sure you're okay.

I am.

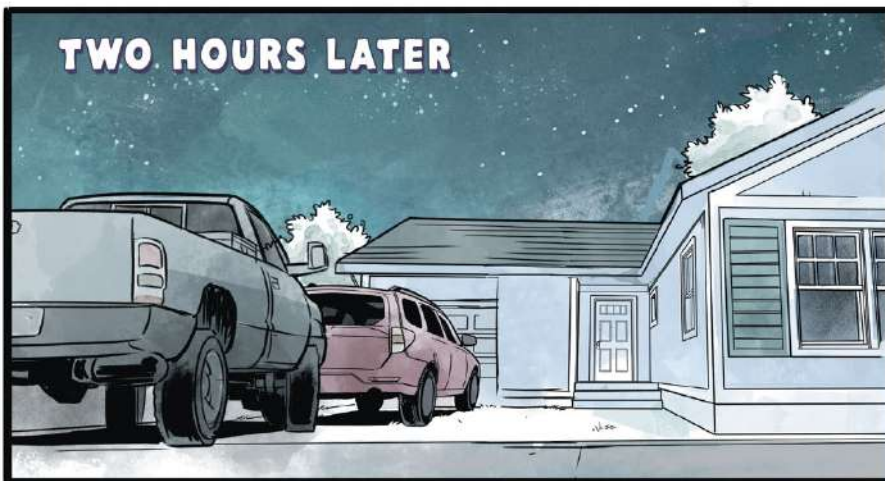
While we're on the subject of being okay...I took some tests and I know why I'm having trouble with *Atlas Shrugged*.



Why?



TWO HOURS LATER



I've gotta get going.

We're coming, too.



We are?



I'd rather eat dirt, but he can't go alone. He's been doing too many stupid things lately and I don't trust Alana or her friends.



EDENTOWN FOREST PARK







You shoulda
let me hit him.

Next time.
It gives you
something to
look forward to.



What's
wrong with
Kong?

Hold on.

That's not
a dog.



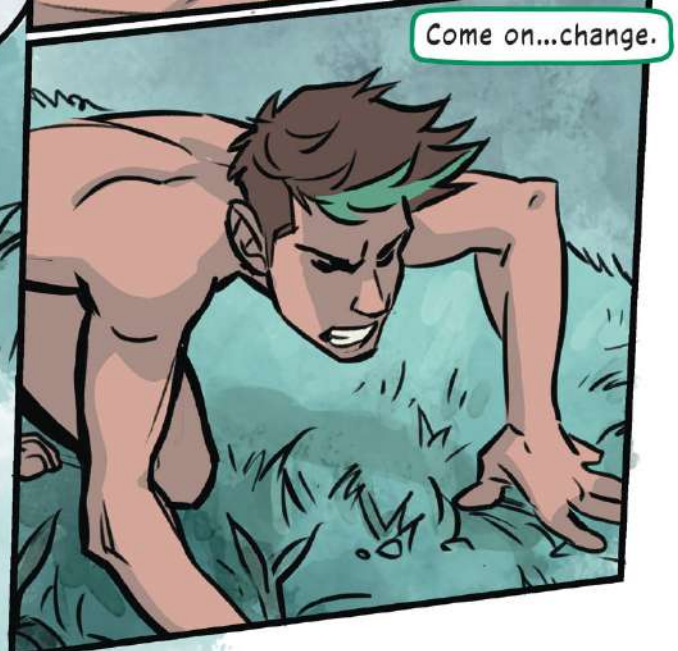
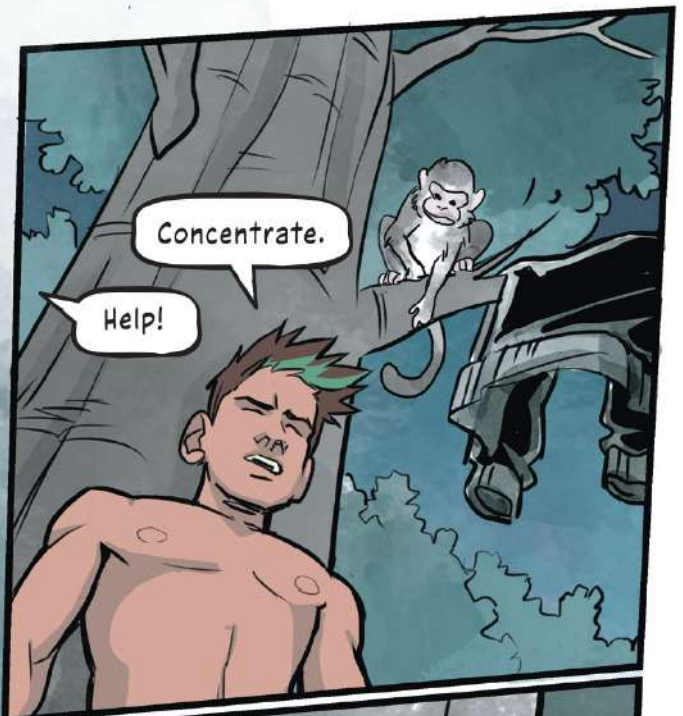
CHAPTER 16: ALPHA







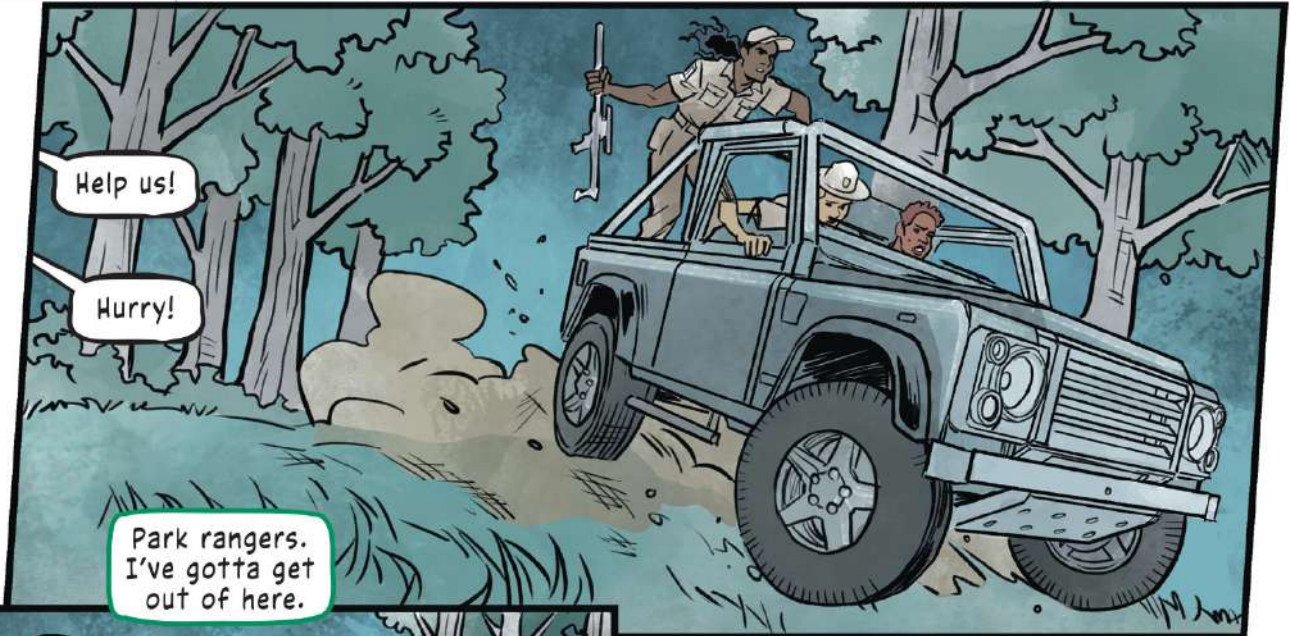


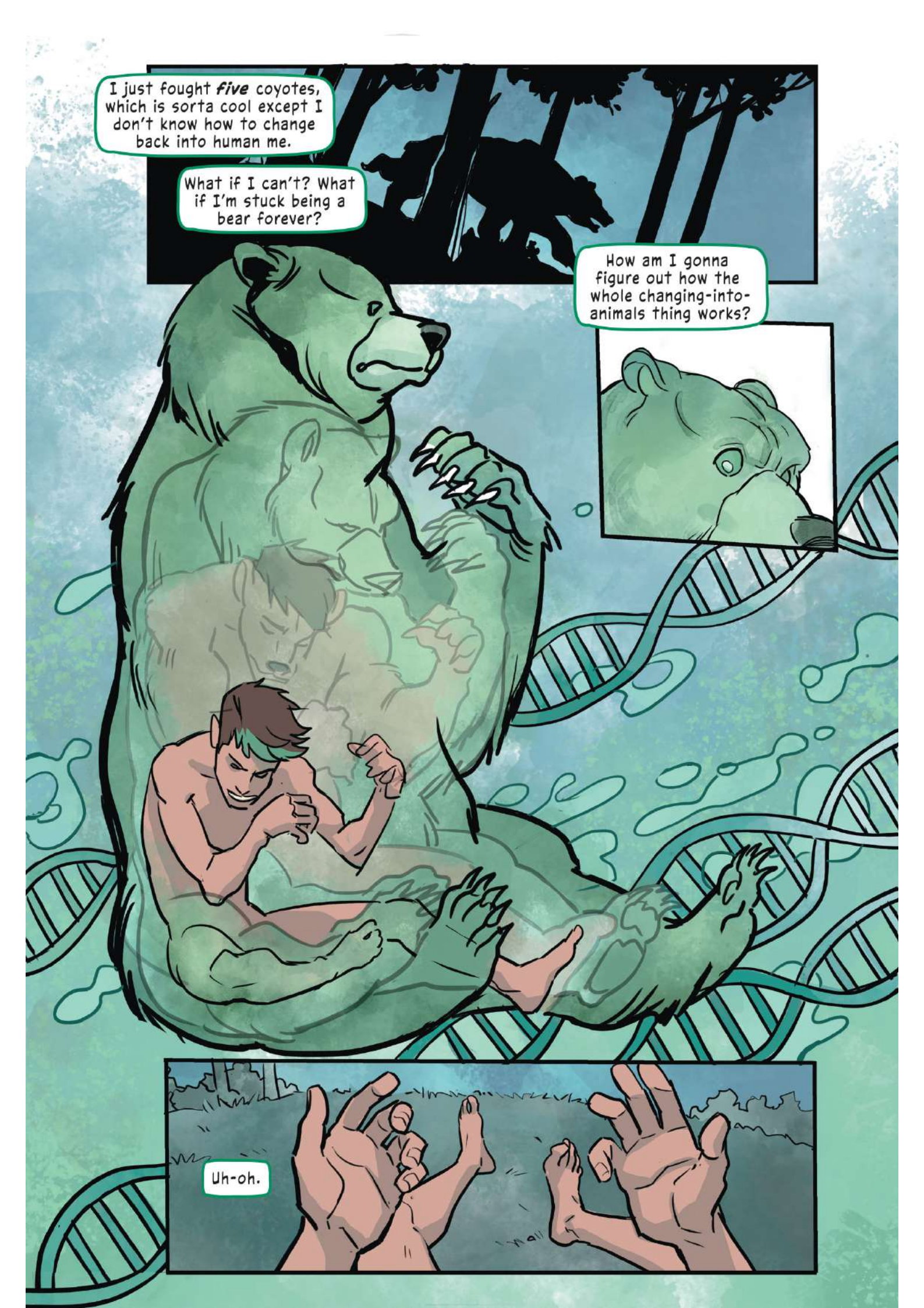












I just fought *five* coyotes, which is sorta cool except I don't know how to change back into human me.

What if I can't? What if I'm stuck being a bear forever?

How am I gonna figure out how the whole changing-into-animals thing works?

Uh-oh.

CHAPTER 17: TAMING THE BEAST

EAT HERE
GET GAS

How am I gonna live like this? What if I accidentally change in front of someone? Or at school during class? It's not like I can control it.

I need answers, but who am I supposed to ask? My parents have been lying to me for years.

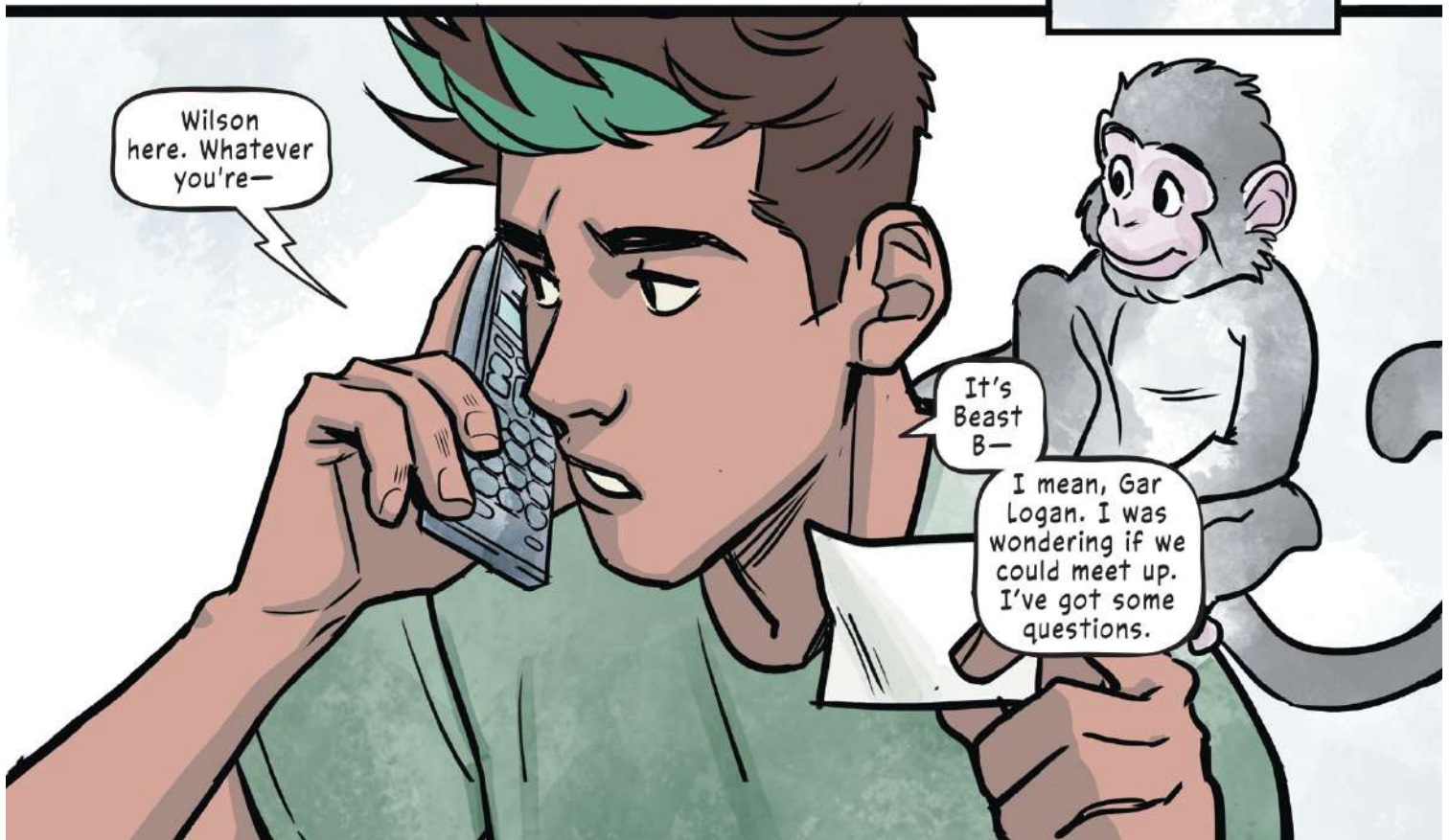
There's one person who might be able to help me.

Slade Wilson.

Right... no shirt, no shoes, and no phone. I hope Kong is okay.

Kong! Hey, buddy. You okay?

'Cuz I'm not.

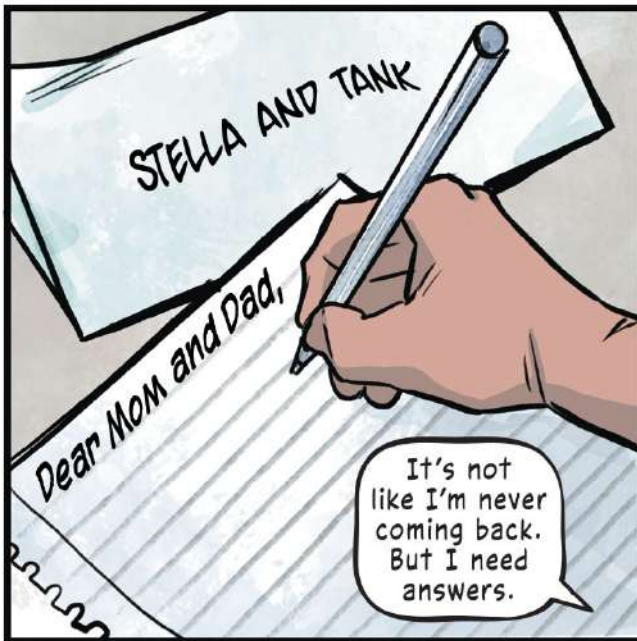




Stick to bossing people around and leave the strategizing to me.

I'm playing the long game and I need the kid to trust me.



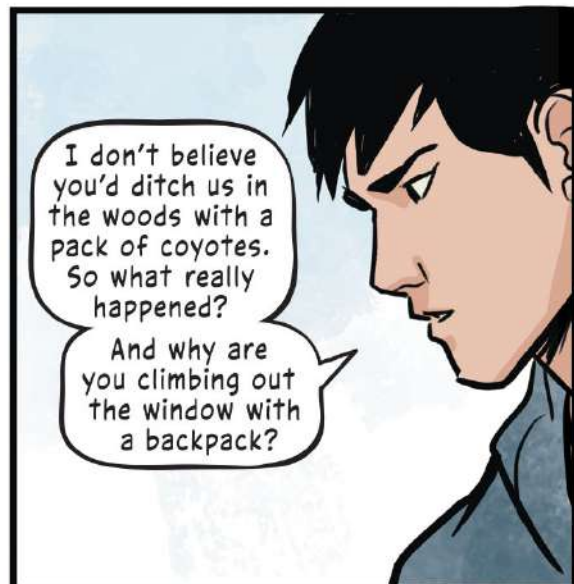




I can't tell them the truth...not yet.

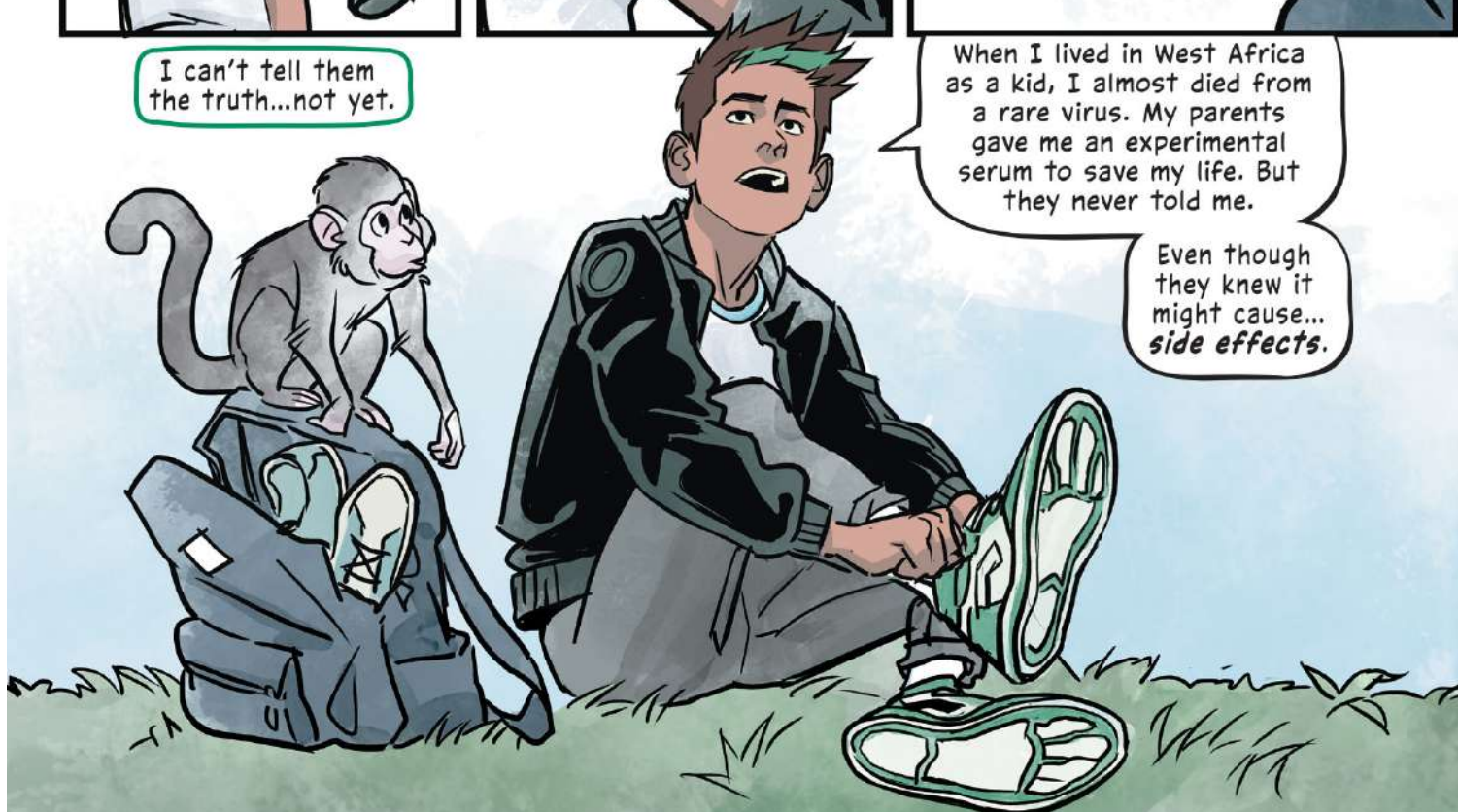


Would you believe me if I said I'm embracing a nudist lifestyle?



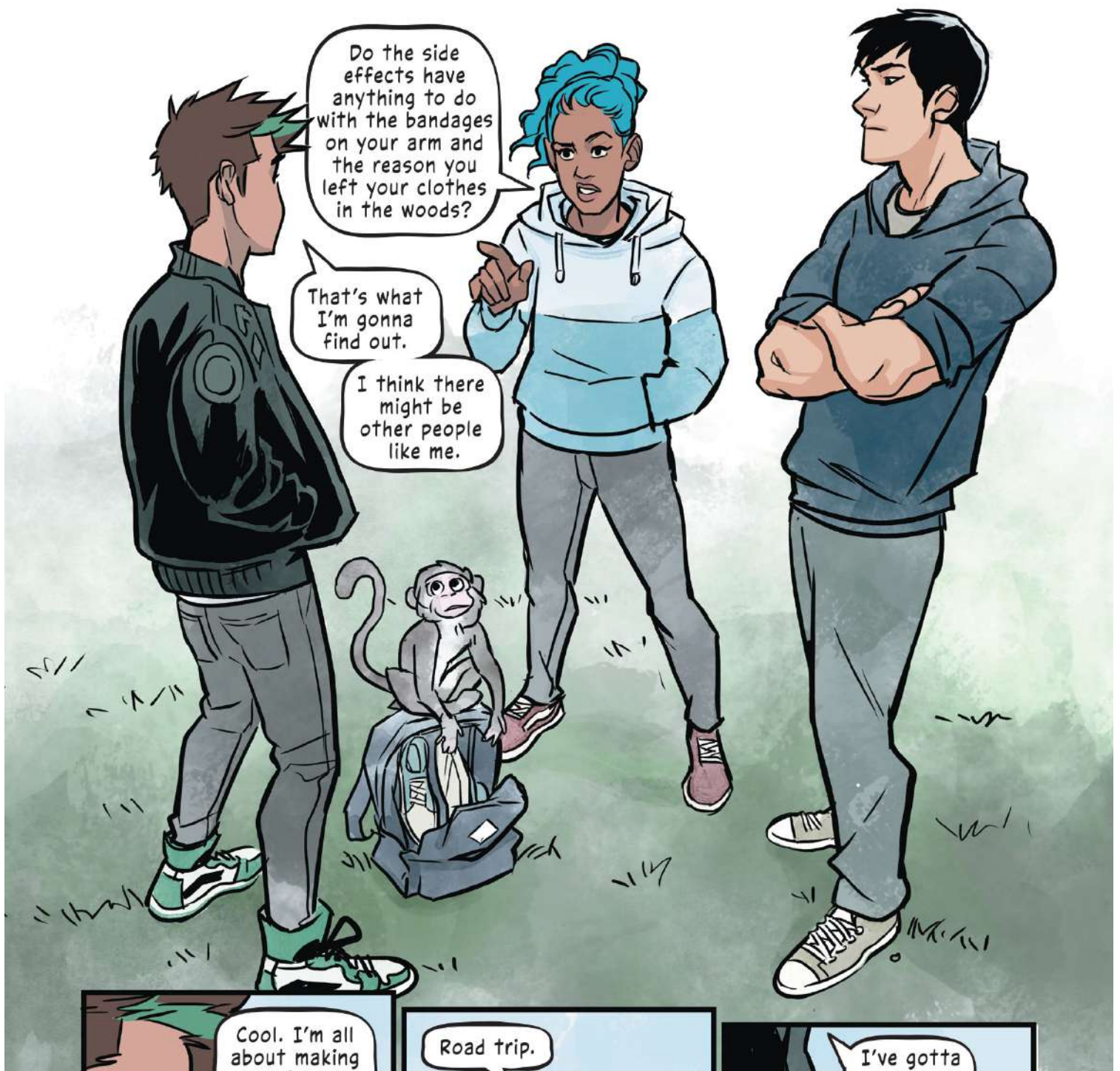
I don't believe you'd ditch us in the woods with a pack of coyotes. So what really happened?

And why are you climbing out the window with a backpack?



When I lived in West Africa as a kid, I almost died from a rare virus. My parents gave me an experimental serum to save my life. But they never told me.

Even though they knew it might cause... *side effects.*



Do the side effects have anything to do with the bandages on your arm and the reason you left your clothes in the woods?

That's what I'm gonna find out.

I think there might be other people like me.



Cool. I'm all about making new friends.

Liar.



Road trip.



I've gotta do this on my own.



Who will come up with a genius plan if you need one?

I've got you on speed dial.

Group hug.

Don't worry. I can handle this. There's a lot more to me than pulling pranks and cracking jokes.



We already knew that.

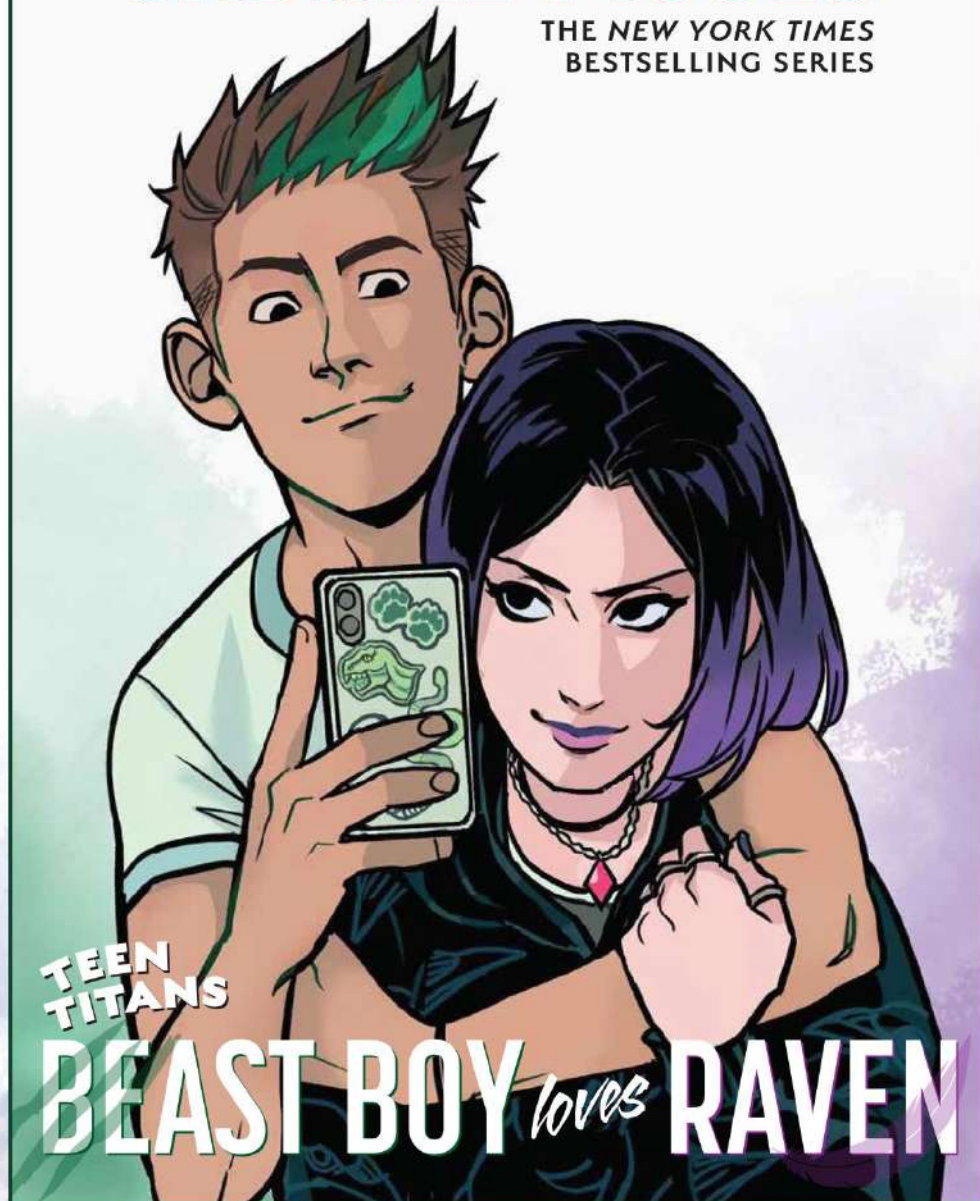




To be continued in
Teen Titans: Beast Boy Loves Raven,
coming fall 2021

KAMI GARCIA GABRIEL PICOLO

THE NEW YORK TIMES
BESTSELLING SERIES





You could've mentioned you were out of town *before* I came up here, Slade.

What am I supposed to do for two days?

Whatever teenagers do...drink overpriced coffee, go sightseeing, and post ridiculous selfies.



I don't even know what you look like. How will I find you?

I'll find you.

More information that conveys zero actual information. Perfect.

Wish I could bail. But Slade is the only person who might know how to get rid of Trigon.

Even though my father is gone, one thing won't change.

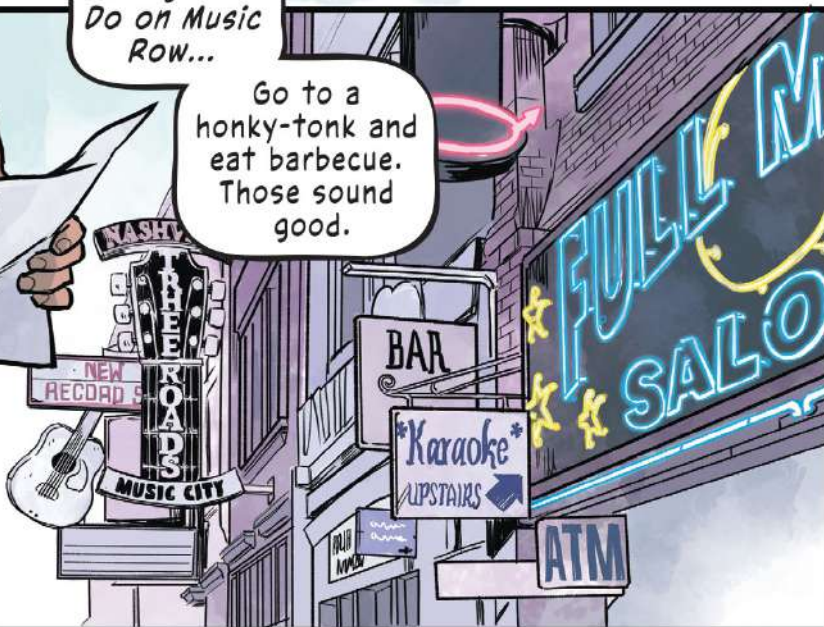
I'll still be half demon.

I've got two days to kill before I meet Slade. Might as well try to have fun.



Things to Do on Music Row...

Go to a honky-tonk and eat barbecue. Those sound good.



That could be a problem.





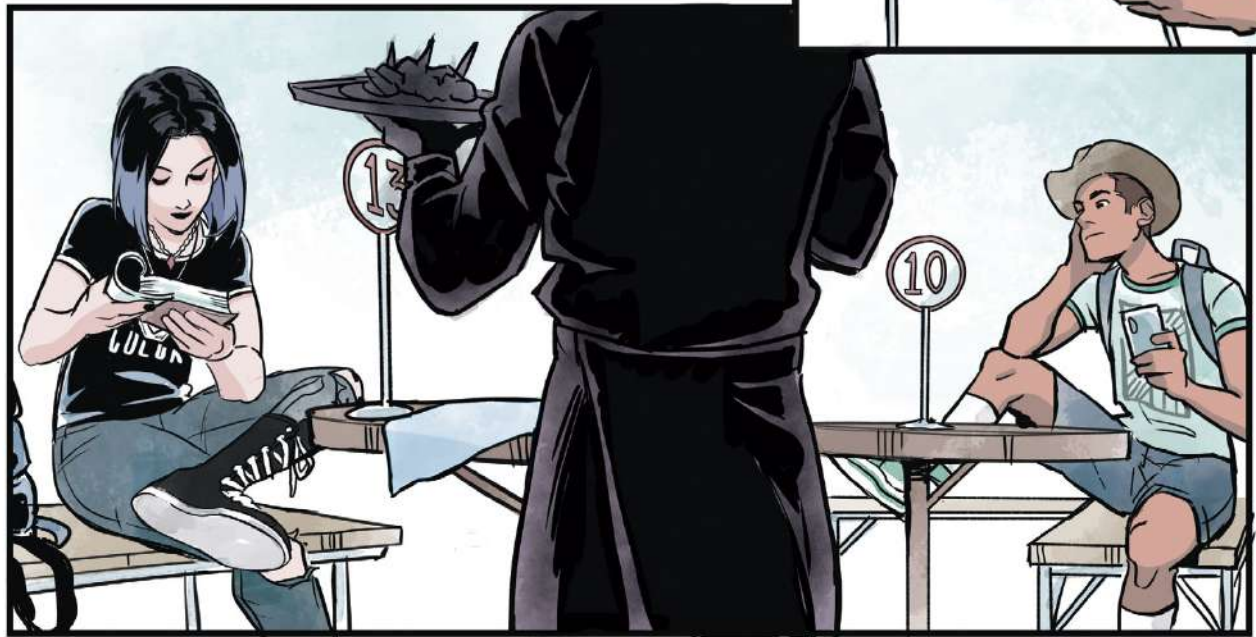
HONKY TONK



This is a funny
story...













kami garcia

is the #1 *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and international bestselling co-author of the *Beautiful Creatures* and *Dangerous Creatures* novels.

Beautiful Creatures has been published in 50 countries and translated into 39 languages.

Kami's solo series, *The Legion*, includes *Unbreakable*, an instant *New York Times* bestseller, and its sequel, *Unmarked*, both of which were nominated for Bram Stoker Awards. Her other works include *The X-Files Origins: Agent of Chaos* and the YA contemporary novels *The Lovely Reckless* and *Broken Beautiful Hearts*. Kami was a teacher for 17 years before co-authoring her first novel on a dare from seven of her students. She is a cofounder of YALLFest, the biggest teen book festival in the country. She lives in Maryland with her family.



gabriel picolo

is a Brazilian comics artist and illustrator based in São Paulo. His work has become known for its strong storytelling and atmospheric colors.

Picolo has developed projects for clients such as Blizzard, BOOM! Studios, HarperCollins, and DeviantArt.

His first graphic novel, *Teen Titans: Raven*, was a *New York Times* bestseller.



"Authentic and full of heart. *Teen Titans: Beast Boy* is a wonderful story about fierce friendship, toxic expectations, and finding your true self."

—Marieke Nijkamp, *New York Times* bestselling author of *This Is Where It Ends*

"An origin story with heart, claws, and teeth.

It's easy to fall in love with Beast Boy."

—Julie Kagawa, *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Iron Fey* series



Garfield Logan has spent his entire life being overlooked. Even in a small town like Eden, Georgia, the 17-year-old with green streaks in his hair can't find a way to stand out—and the clock is ticking. Senior year is almost over. If Gar doesn't find a way to impress the social elite at Bull Creek High School, he will never know what it's like to matter. Gar's besties, Stella and Tank, don't understand why he cares what other people think, and they miss their funny, pizza-loving, video game-obsessed friend.

Then Gar accepts a wild dare out of the blue. It impresses the popular kids, and his social status soars. But other things are changing, too. Gar grows six inches overnight. His voice drops, and suddenly, he's stronger and faster. He's finally getting everything he wanted, but his newfound popularity comes at a price. Gar has to work harder to impress his new friends. The dares keep getting bigger, and the stakes keep getting higher.

When Gar realizes the extent of his physical changes, he has to dig deep and face the truth about himself—and the people who truly matter—before his life spirals out of control.



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