

IDW
ISSUE
1

my LITTLE PONY The MOVIE Prequel



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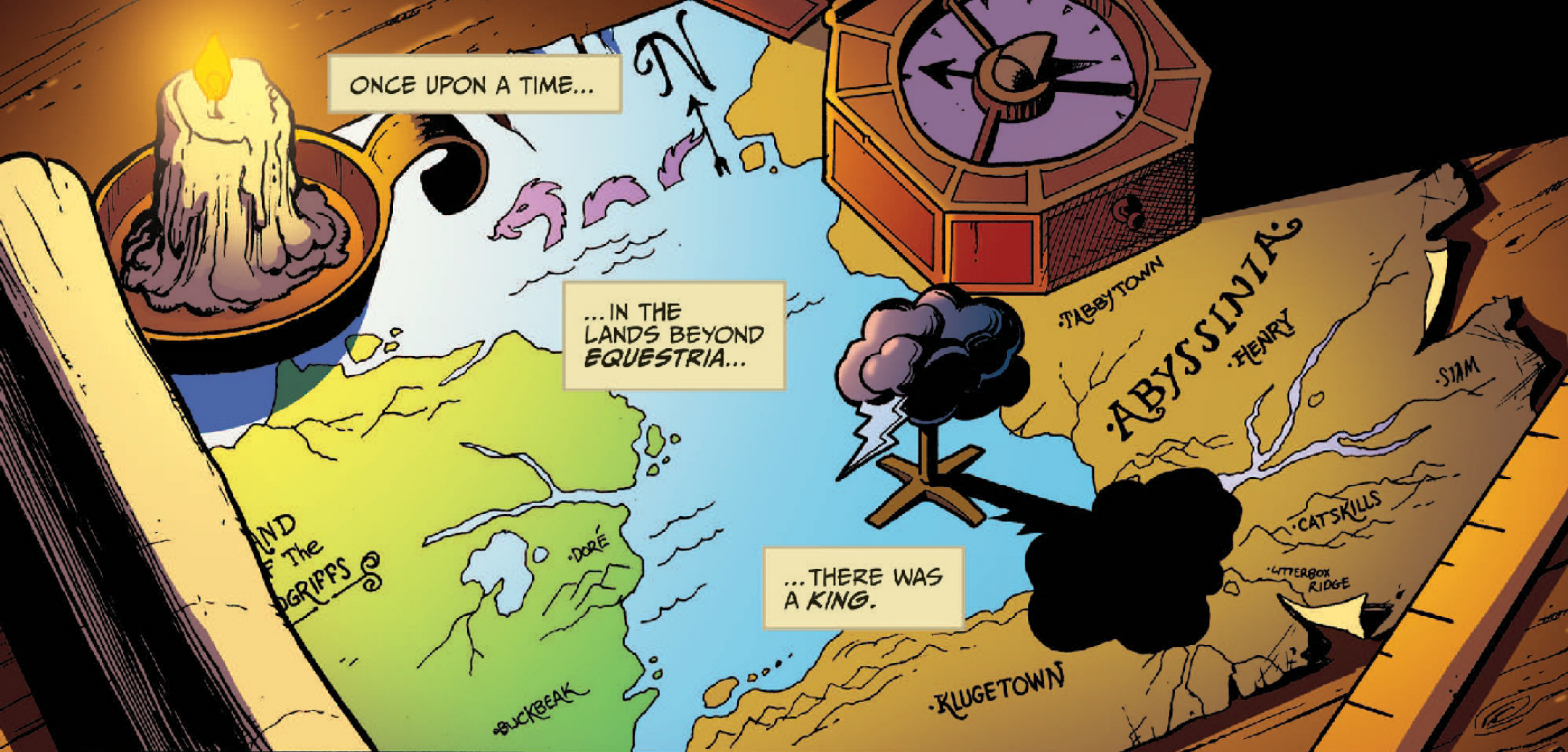
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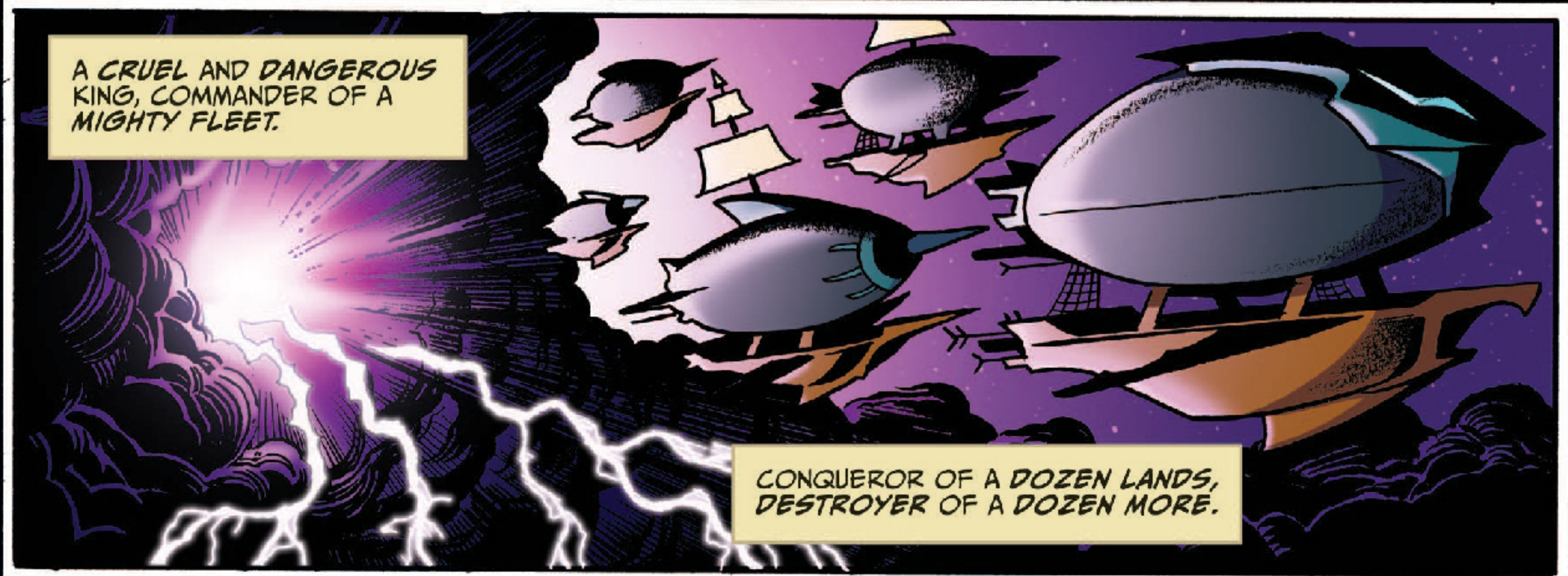
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ONCE UPON A TIME...

...IN THE LANDS BEYOND EQUESTRIA...

...THERE WAS A KING.



A CRUEL AND DANGEROUS KING, COMMANDER OF A MIGHTY FLEET.

CONQUEROR OF A DOZEN LANDS, DESTROYER OF A DOZEN MORE.



THE NAME OF THIS INVINCIBLE, IMPLACABLE FORCE OF NATURE...

...WAS THE STORM KING.

WHOA! HEY!



SEEMS KINDA UNFAIR TO HAVE SOMEBODY ELSE TELLING MY STORY!

IF WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A WHOLE ISSUE ABOUT ME, THEN I'M GONNA TELL IT!

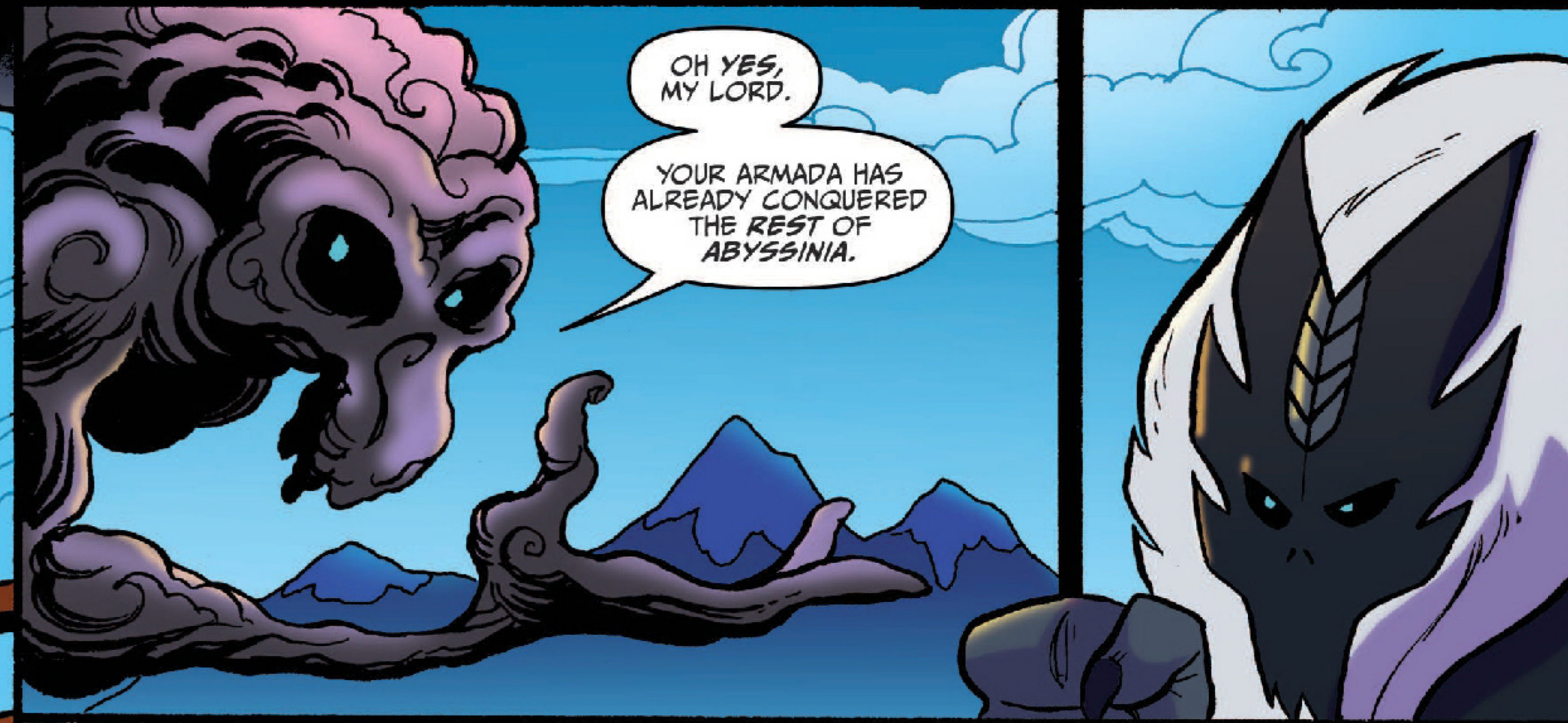
SO PLEASE, JOIN ME ON THE NEXT PAGE, WON'T YOU?

LET ME TELL YOU A STORY ABOUT—

STORM KING



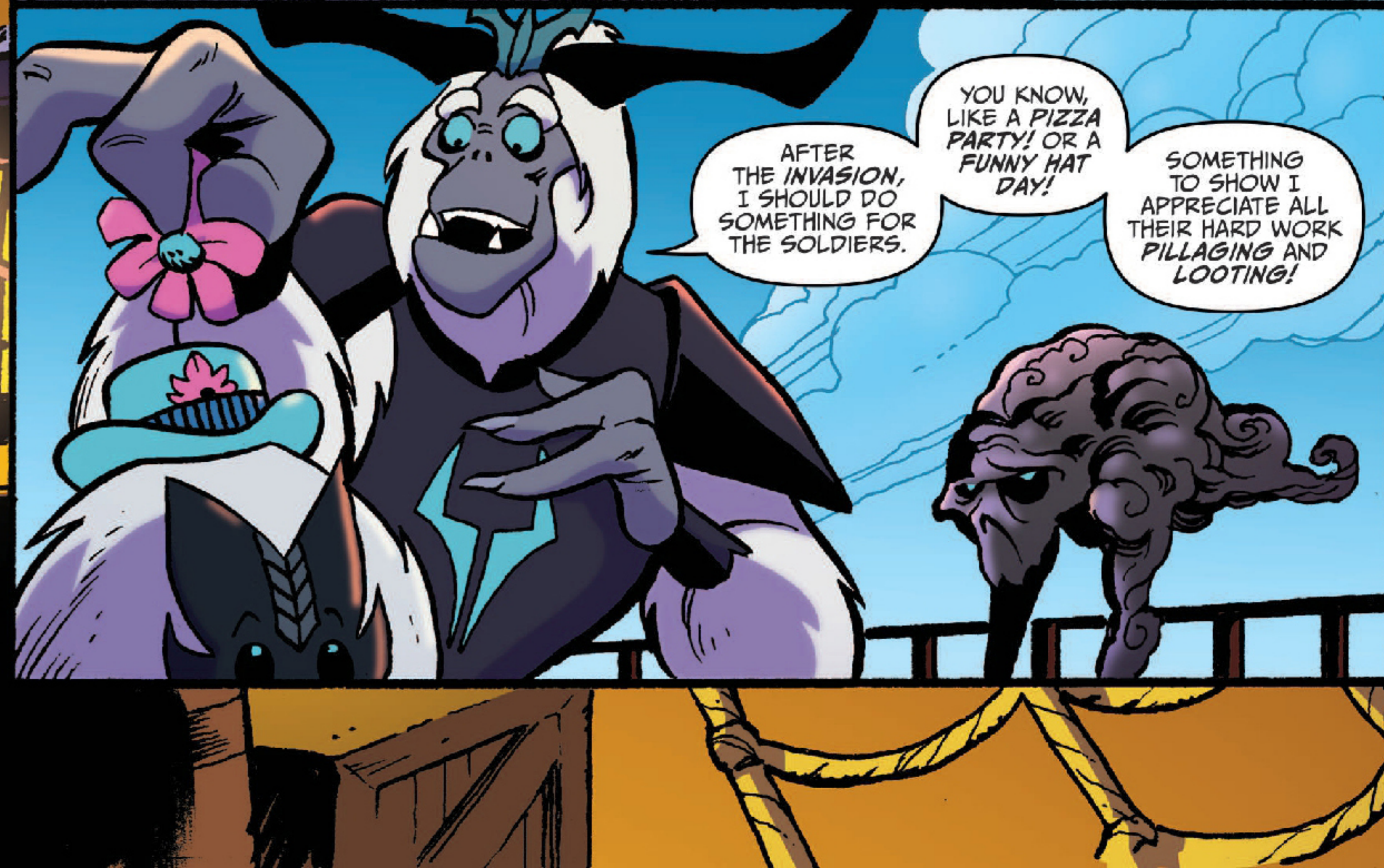
STRIFE.
MY LORD?
IS EVERYTHING
READY FOR THE
INVASION?



OH YES,
MY LORD.
YOUR ARMADA HAS
ALREADY CONQUERED
THE REST OF
ABYSSINIA.



ONLY
THE CAPITAL,
PANTHERA, STILL
STANDS...
...AND YOUR
FORCES ONLY
AWAIT YOUR
COMMAND.
GOOD,
GOOD.



AFTER
THE INVASION,
I SHOULD DO
SOMETHING FOR
THE SOLDIERS.
YOU KNOW,
LIKE A PIZZA
PARTY! OR A
FUNNY HAT
DAY!
SOMETHING
TO SHOW I
APPRECIATE ALL
THEIR HARD WORK
PILLAGING AND
LOOTING!



AS YOU SAY, MY LORD.

SHALL WE BEGIN THE INVASION?

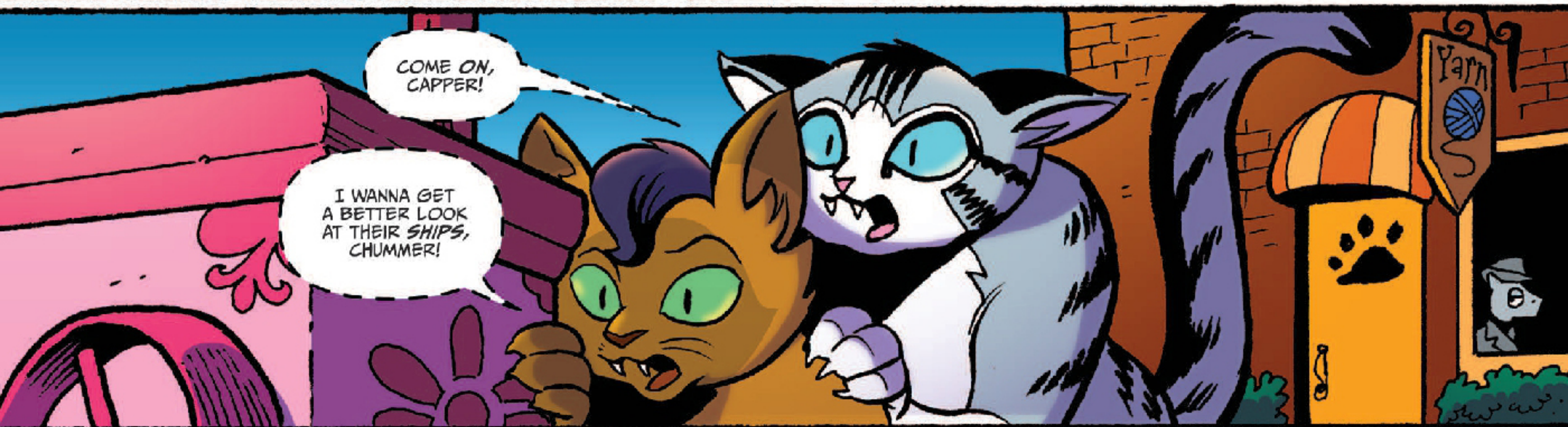
OH! RIGHT!

YEAH, LET'S HIT IT!



ONWARD, MY MINIONS!

AND MAKE ANOTHER EMPIRE FALL.



BOOM!

BOOM!

SMASH!

Helloooo?

ANYBODY HOME?

YOUR MAJESTIES.

KING AND QUEEN OF ABYSSINIA.

YOU SHOULD SURRENDER NOW.

HOPe YOU DON'T MIND ME LETTING MYSELF IN.

BUT I PRACTICALLY OWN THE PLACE ALREADY, DON'T I?





...STORM KING.

YOU HAVE CONQUERED THIS NATION.

ABYSSINIA IS YOURS.



THANKS FOR THE OFFER, BUT I'M NOT REALLY INTO THE WHOLE "RULING" THING.

YOU FOLKS CAN KEEP ABYSSINIA.

KRINK "CRUNCH"



W-WHAT?

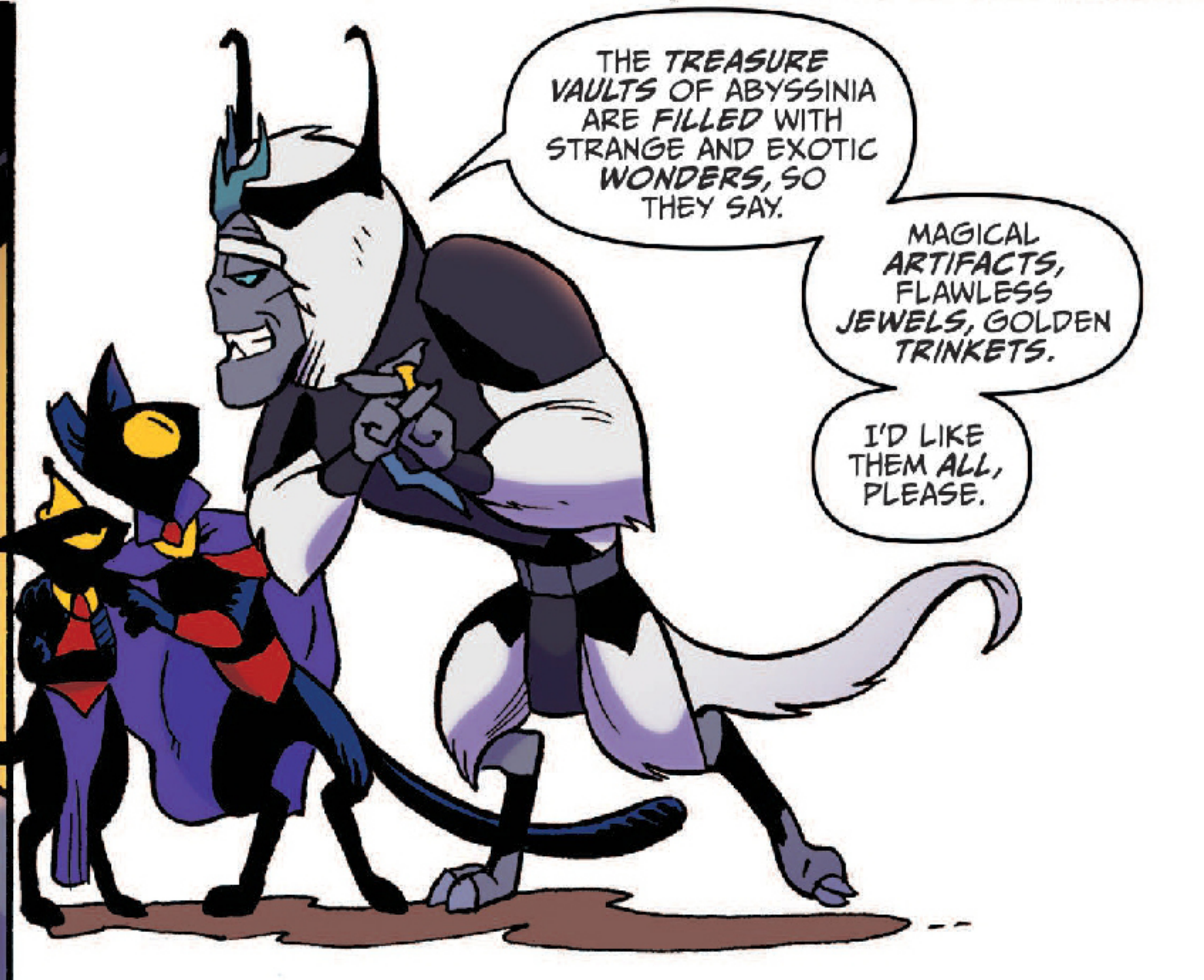
I KNOW I CALL MYSELF A "KING," BUT FRANKLY, MONARCHY JUST ISN'T MY THING.

YOU TAKE OVER ONE COUNTRY, NEXT THING YOU'RE DEALING WITH TAXES AND COMMITTEES AND RETIREMENT PACKAGES!



NO, I DON'T WANT ABYSSINIA—

—JUST ITS RICHES.



THE TREASURE VAULTS OF ABYSSINIA ARE FILLED WITH STRANGE AND EXOTIC WONDERS, SO THEY SAY.

MAGICAL ARTIFACTS, FLAWLESS JEWELS, GOLDEN TRINKETS.

I'D LIKE THEM ALL, PLEASE.





THERE WE ARE!



HAUL IT AWAY, BOYS!

DON'T FORGET: LIFT WITH YOUR KNEES, NOT WITH YOUR BACK!

COME WITH ME, YOUR MAJESTIES.



SO TELL ME:

ALL THIS GOLD AND JEWELRY AND STUFF IS GREAT, DON'T GET ME WRONG—

—BUT WHAT I'M REALLY LOOKING FOR IS SOME MAGICAL TREASURES.

YOU KNOW, CHARMS, AMULETS, STRANGE ARTIFACTS...



...NO.

ABYSSINIA HAS LITTLE USE FOR MAGIC.

YOU WON'T FIND TREASURES OF THAT KIND IN OUR VAULTS.

NO?

SO WHAT'S IN THERE?



OOH, AN OMINOUS GLOW!

THAT'S PROMISING.

NO! NOT THAT!

THAT WILL ONLY BRING RUIN!



THAT'S THE MISFORTUNE MALACHITE!

NO ONE SHOULD USE ITS POWER!



WHAT... IS IT?

I CAN SENSE... INCREDIBLE MAGIC IN IT...

INDEED, IT IS POWERFUL...

...BUT ALSO CURSED.



THE MALACHITE BRINGS BAD LUCK AND WOE TO ANY WHO POSSESSES IT.

WHOEVER HOLDS IT FOR TOO LONG, OR WHO USES ITS POWER, WILL COME TO RUIN!



REALLY?

WELL, THEN, LUCKY FOR YOU I'M TAKING IT OFF YOUR HANDS!



I APPRECIATE THE DONATIONS, FOLKS!

YOU'LL KEEP ME CONQUERING FOR YEARS TO COME!



MAKE SURE IT'S STOWED AWAY TIGHT, GUYS!

WE DON'T WANT ANYTHING SHIFTING IN TRANSIT.

COME ON, CAPPER! NOW'S OUR CHANCE!



WAIT! YOU CAN'T!

WE HAVE NOTHING LEFT!

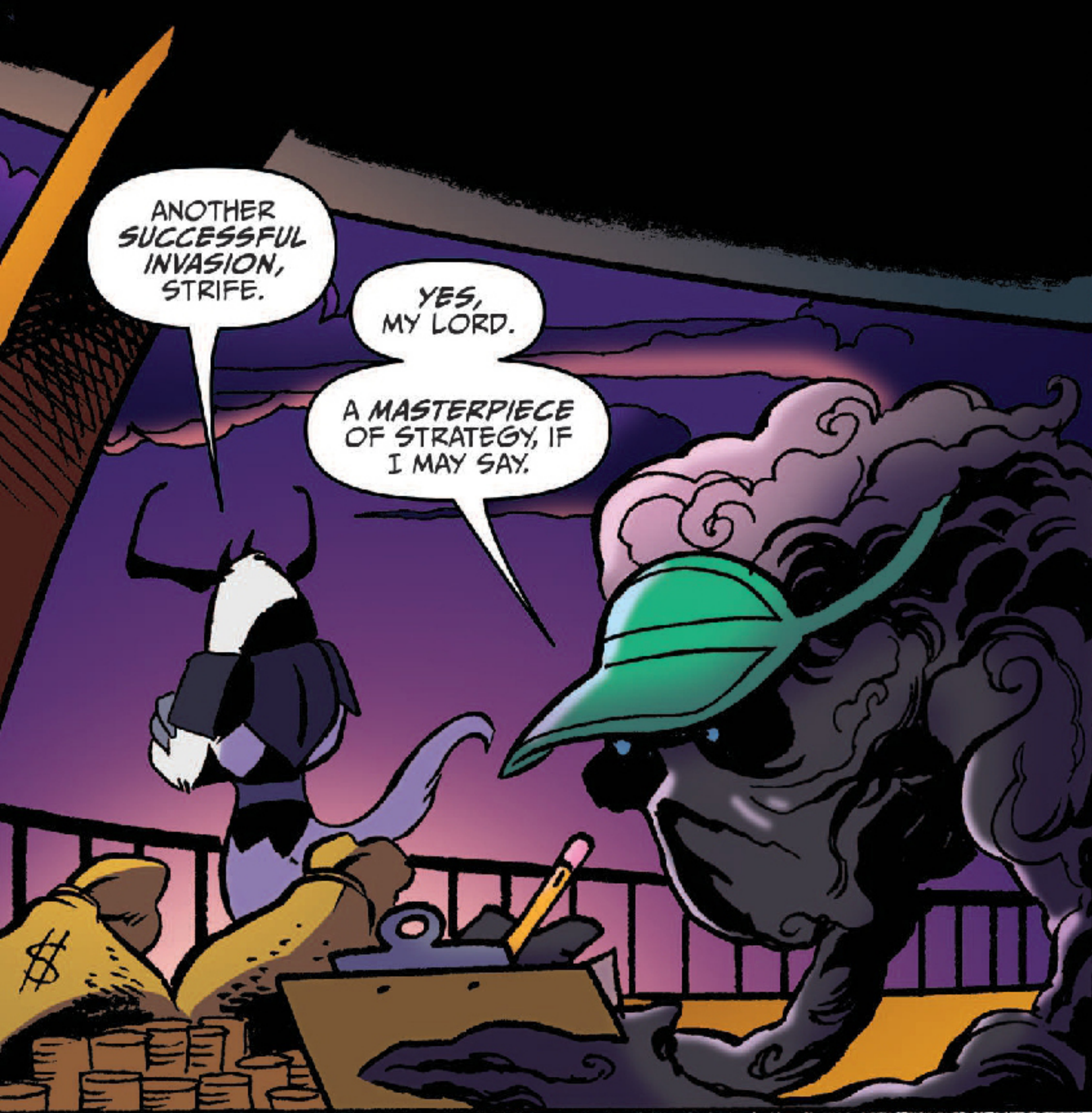
WHY HAVE YOU DESTROYED ABYSSINIA?



BECAUSE IT WAS NEXT ON MY LIST.

Pjng





ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL INVASION, STRIFE.

YES, MY LORD.

A MASTERPIECE OF STRATEGY, IF I MAY SAY.



ANOTHER COUNTRY PLUNDERED OF ITS RICHES.

THEY'RE BARELY EVEN A CHALLENGE ANYMORE.

AND DO YOU YOU KNOW WHY?



BECAUSE I HAVE NO FRIENDS.

FRIENDSHIP IS A WEAKNESS.

A LIABILITY.



FRIENDS DISTRACT YOU. MAKE YOU WEAK.

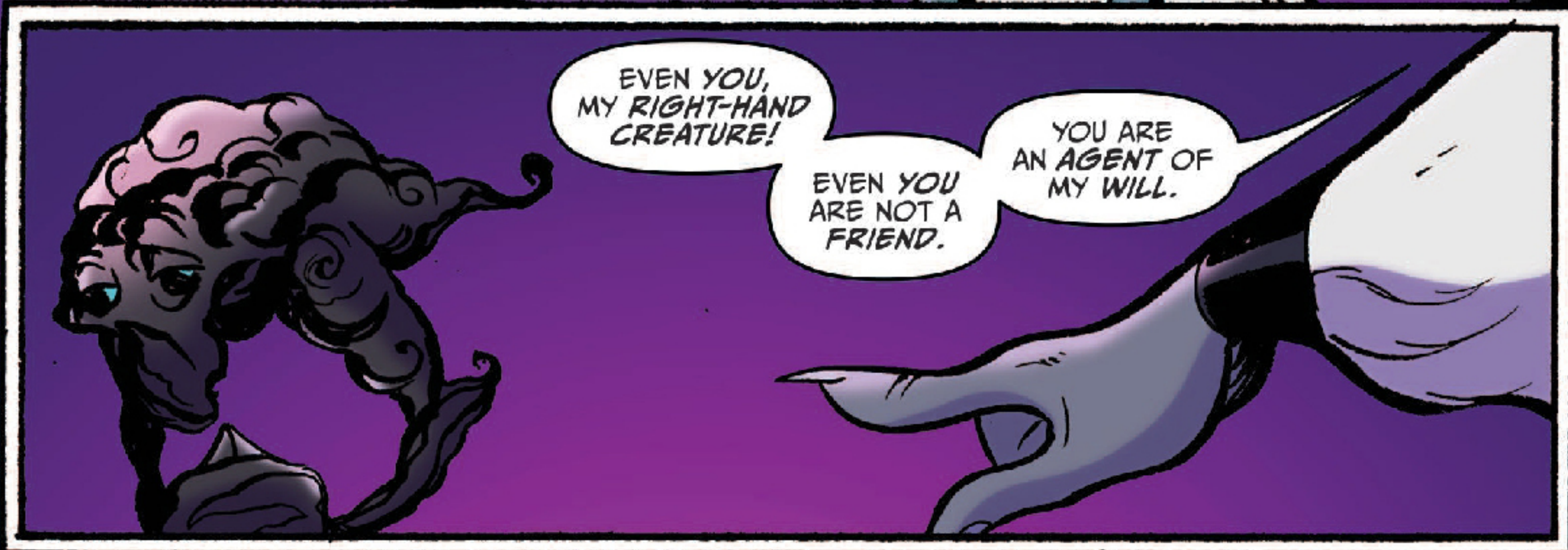
FRIENDS CAN BETRAY YOU, MAKE YOU FORGET YOUR GOALS.

I HAVE SOLDIERS, COMMANDERS, WORKERS—

BUT NO FRIENDS.

WHICH MEANS NOBODY WILL ASK ME TO SACRIFICE MY AMBITIONS.

MY GOALS ARE MY OWN.



EVEN YOU,
MY RIGHT-HAND
CREATURE!

EVEN YOU
ARE NOT A
FRIEND.

YOU ARE
AN AGENT OF
MY WILL.



YOU SERVE ME NOT
OUT OF SOME MISGUIDED
SENTIMENTALITY OR IMAGINED
CAMARADERIE...

...BUT BECAUSE
YOU KNOW I WILL WIN,
IN THE END.

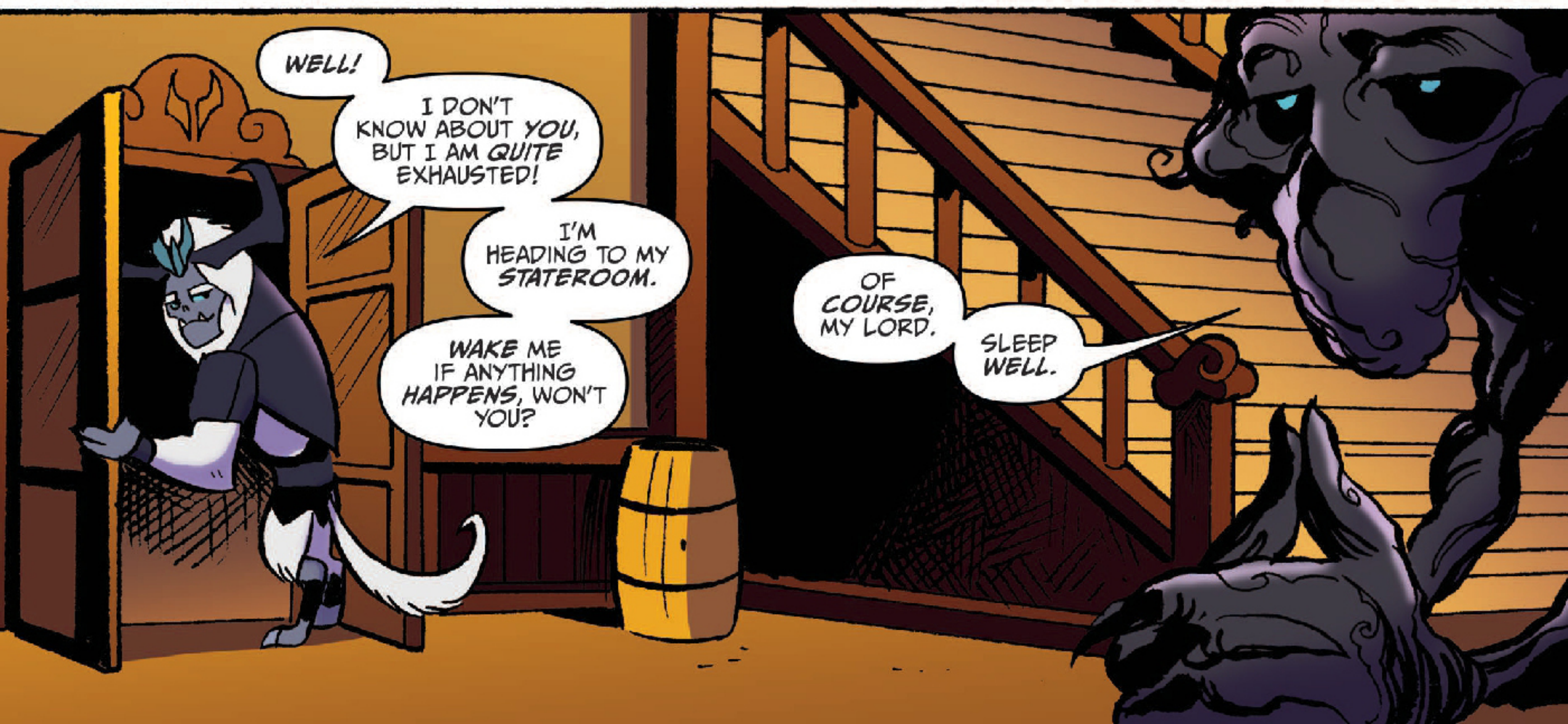
I WILL BE THE
MOST POWERFUL
CREATURE IN THE
WORLD.

AND YOU
WANT TO BE AT
MY SIDE.



...YES,
MY LORD.

I AM YOUR
SERVANT.



WELL!

I DON'T
KNOW ABOUT YOU,
BUT I AM QUITE
EXHAUSTED!

I'M
HEADING TO MY
STATEROOM.

WAKE ME
IF ANYTHING
HAPPENS, WON'T
YOU?

OF
COURSE,
MY LORD.

SLEEP
WELL.



SO THERE YOU GO, GENTLE READERS.

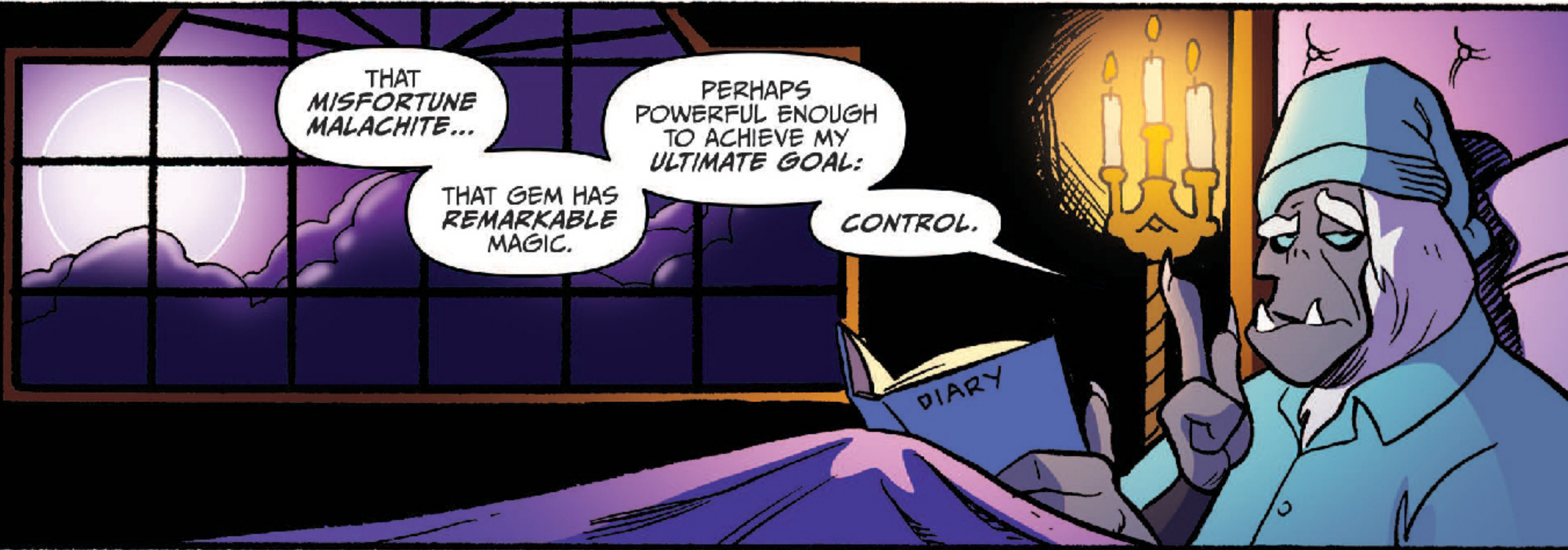
A GLIMPSE INTO THE LIFE OF THE GREAT STORM KING.



A SMALL INVASION, A LITTLE PLUNDERING...

...AND A VALUABLE MAGICAL ARTIFACT IN THE BAG.

NOT A BAD DAY.



THAT MISFORTUNE MALACHITE...

PERHAPS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO ACHIEVE MY ULTIMATE GOAL:

THAT GEM HAS REMARKABLE MAGIC.

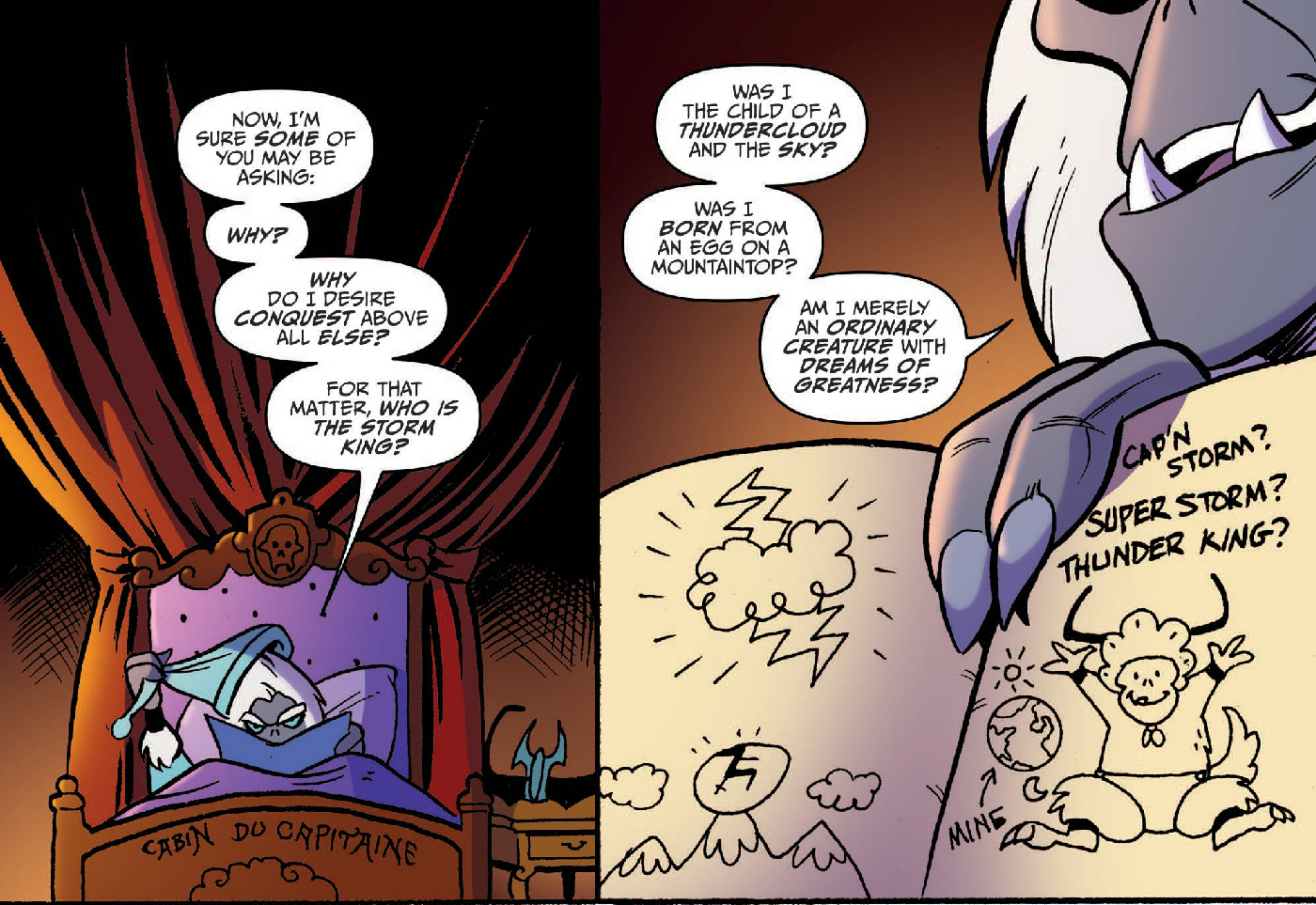
CONTROL.



ENOUGH MAGIC TO CONQUER THE WHOLE WORLD.

THAT'S ALL I'VE EVER WANTED, AND NOW...

...NOW IT'S ALMOST WITHIN MY GRASP.



NOW, I'M SURE SOME OF YOU MAY BE ASKING:

WHY?

WHY DO I DESIRE CONQUEST ABOVE ALL ELSE?

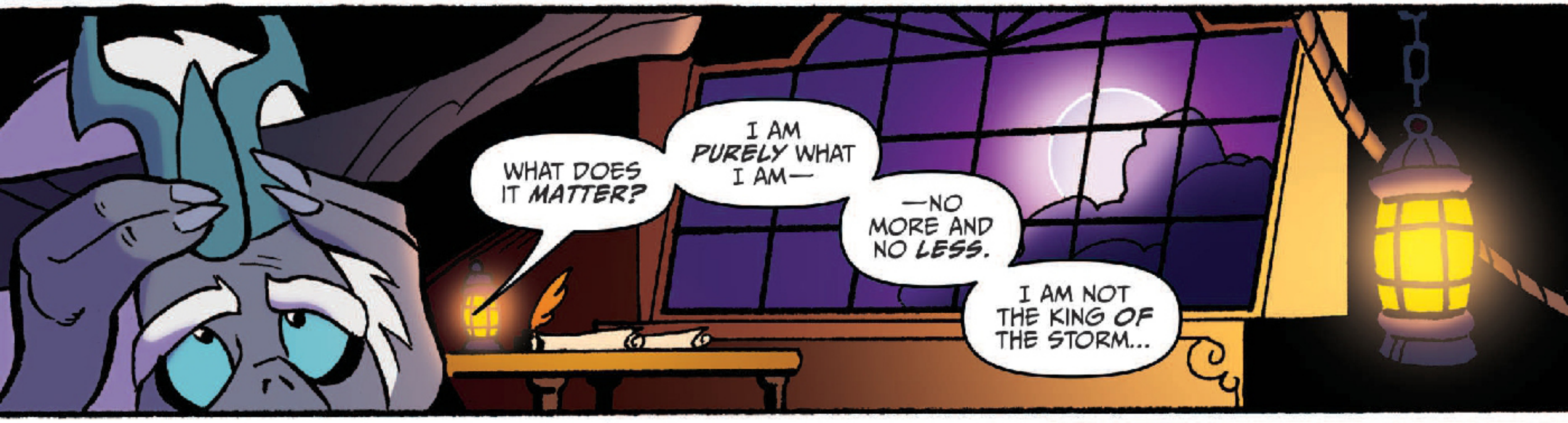
FOR THAT MATTER, WHO IS THE STORM KING?

WAS I THE CHILD OF A THUNDERCLOUD AND THE SKY?

WAS I BORN FROM AN EGG ON A MOUNTAINTOP?

AM I MERELY AN ORDINARY CREATURE WITH DREAMS OF GREATNESS?

CAP'N STORM?
SUPER STORM?
THUNDER KING?



WHAT DOES IT MATTER?

I AM PURELY WHAT I AM—

—NO MORE AND NO LESS.

I AM NOT THE KING OF THE STORM...



...I AM A KING WHO IS A STORM.

I AM A FORCE OF NATURE.

I AM GREATER THAN ANY ONE CREATURE, AND I WILL PROVE IT BY—



RUMBLE!

WHAT THE—?!



WHAT IS HAPPENING OUT HERE?



PIRATES!

WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!



YARRR!

AVAST, YE SCALLYWAGS!



TAKE THE WHEEL, BOYO!

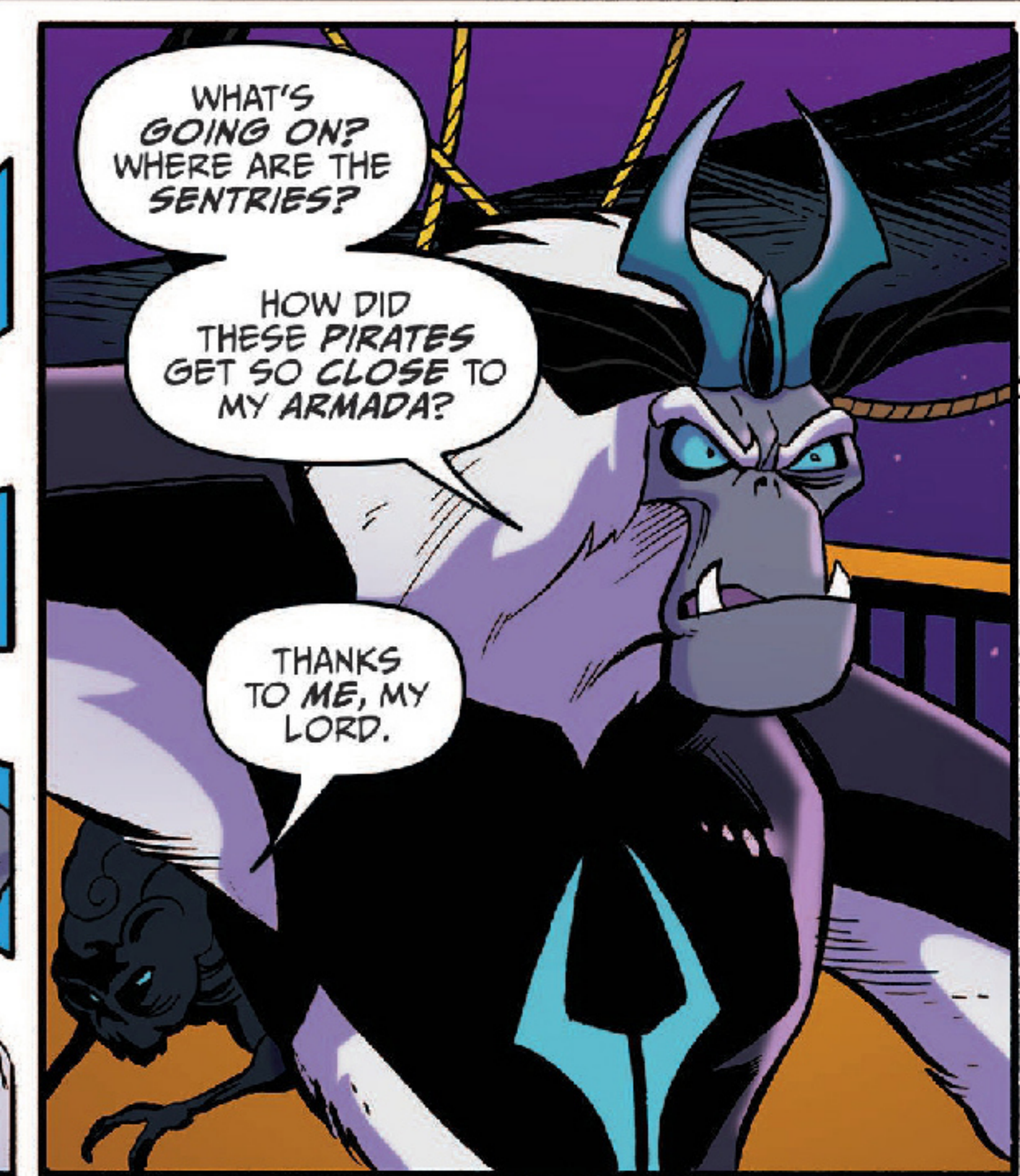
AYE-AYE!

POW



THEY'RE STEALING MY SHIPS.

THEY'RE STEALING MY SHIPS!



WHAT'S GOING ON? WHERE ARE THE SENTRIES?

HOW DID THESE PIRATES GET SO CLOSE TO MY ARMADA?

THANKS TO ME, MY LORD.

Signature

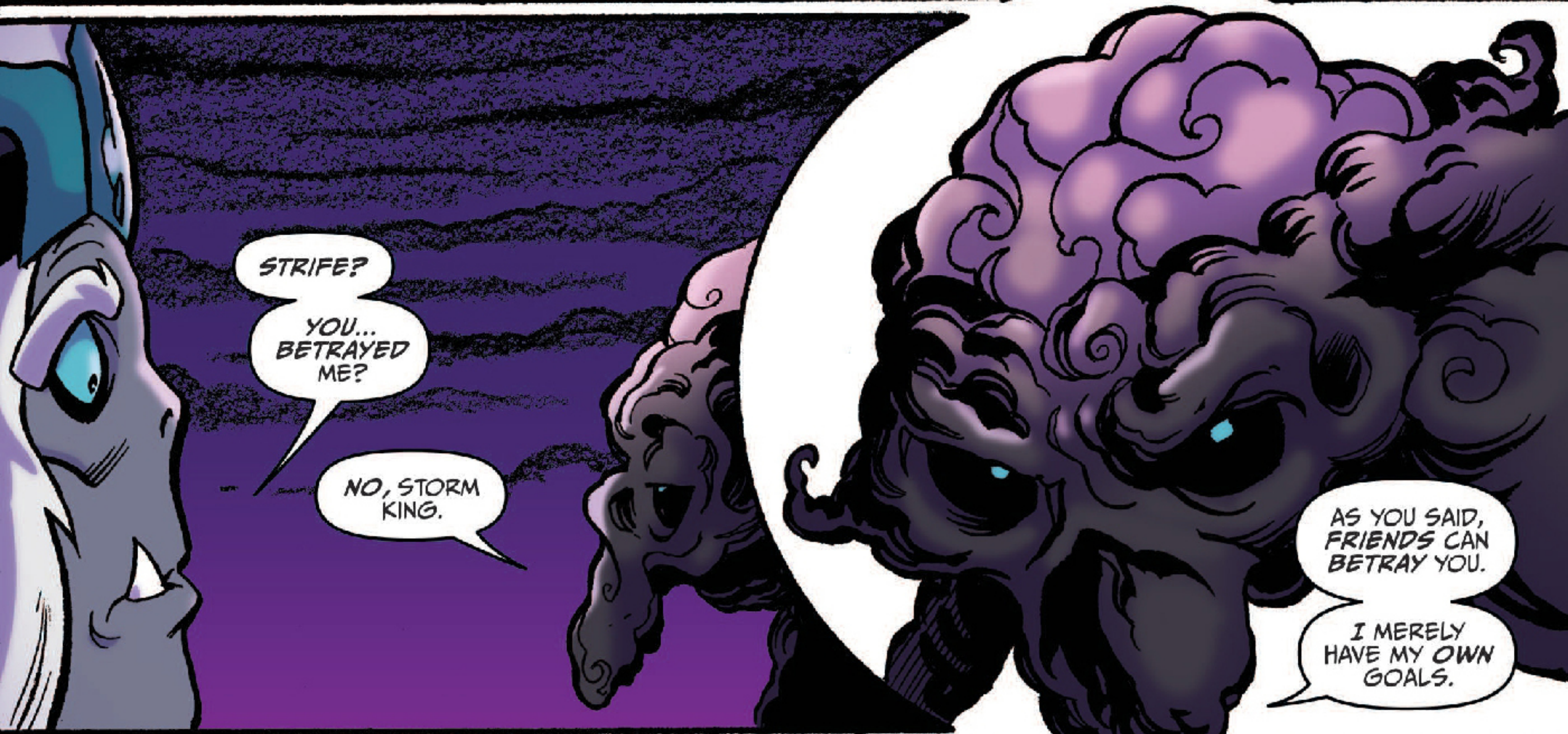


I TOLD THE PIRATES WHERE OUR FLEET WOULD BE FLYING, AND WHEN.

I THEN TOOK OUR SENTRIES OFF-DUTY, LEAVING THE ARMADA UNPROTECTED.

THESE PIRATES ARE GOING TO STEAL ALL YOUR TREASURE SHIPS...

...AT MY SUGGESTION.



STRIFE?
YOU... BETRAYED ME?

NO, STORM KING.

AS YOU SAID, FRIENDS CAN BETRAY YOU.

I MERELY HAVE MY OWN GOALS.

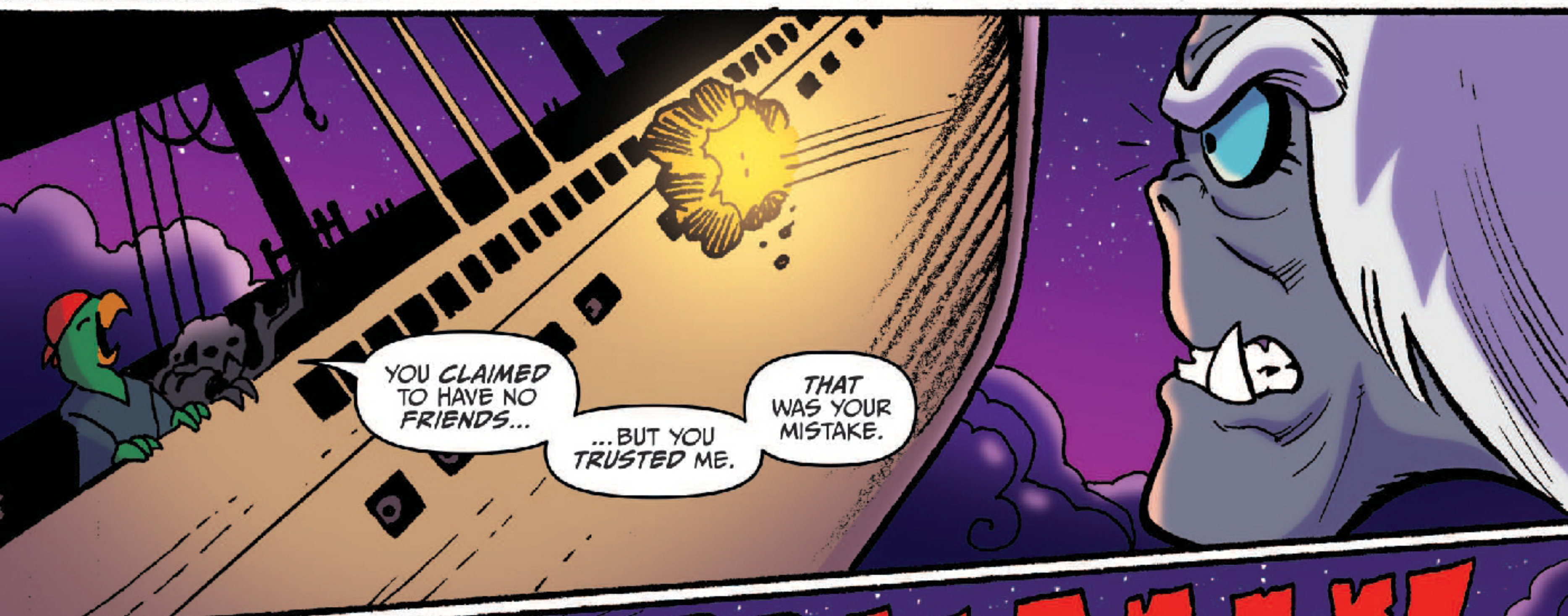


AND THEY DO NOT INCLUDE YOU.



YOU—YOU CAN'T DO THIS!

I ALREADY HAVE, KING.



YOU CLAIMED TO HAVE NO FRIENDS...

... BUT YOU TRUSTED ME.

THAT WAS YOUR MISTAKE.



RRRAAAAH!



YOU! FOLLOW THEM!

I—I CAN'T, SIR!

SHE'S NOT TURNING RIGHT—

STRIFE MUST'VE SABOTAGED THE SHIP!



GRRR...

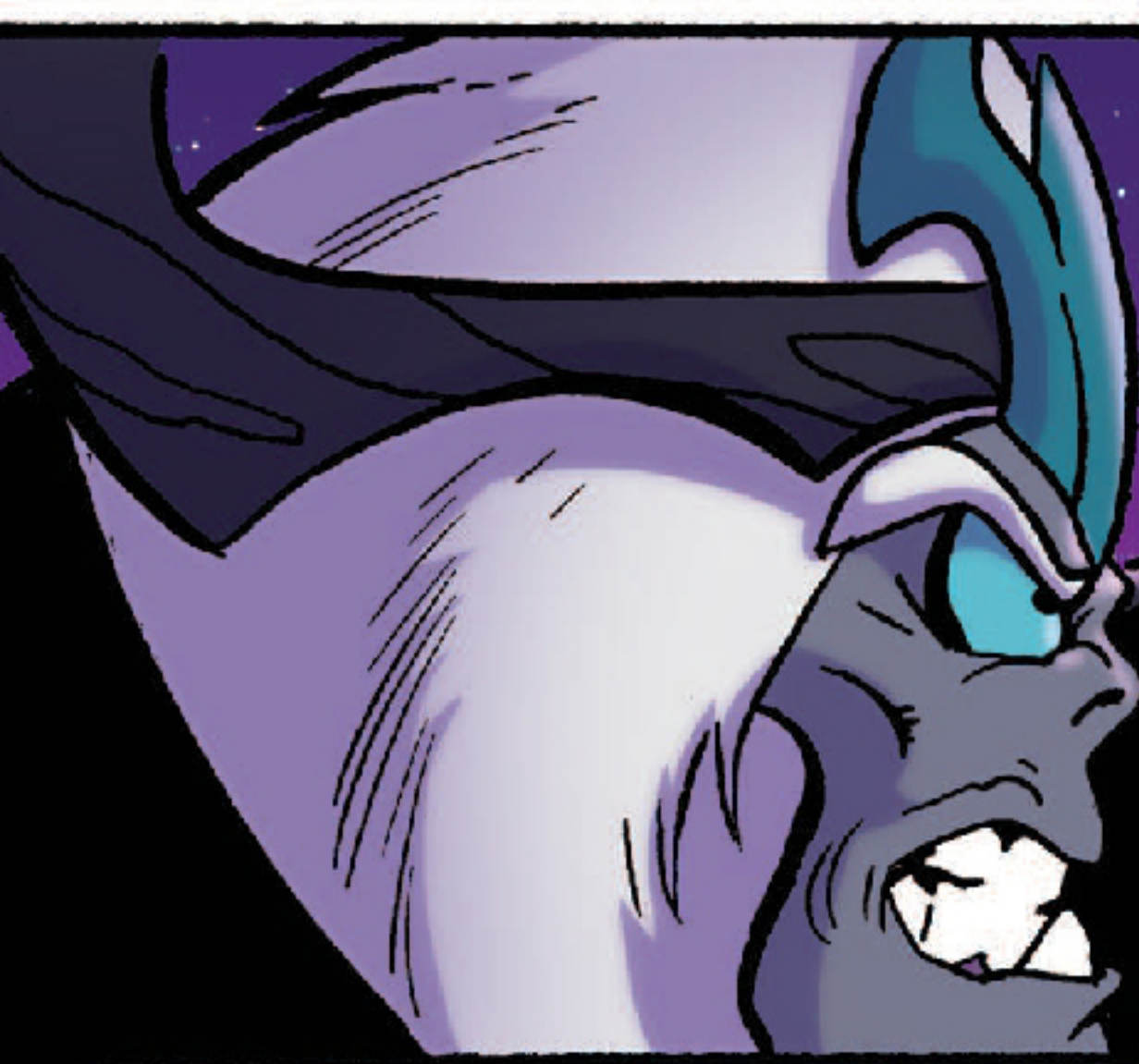


GAK!



YOU.
SMALL,
WEAK, USELESS
CREATURE.

T-THAT'S
ME!



YOU ARE TOO
COWARDLY TO
EVER ATTEMPT TO
BETRAY ME, ARE
YOU NOT?

TOO
SPINELESS TO
CONSIDER YOUR
OWN WANTS.

AREN'T
YOU?

Y-Y-Y-YOU GOT
ME PEGGED,
BOSS.



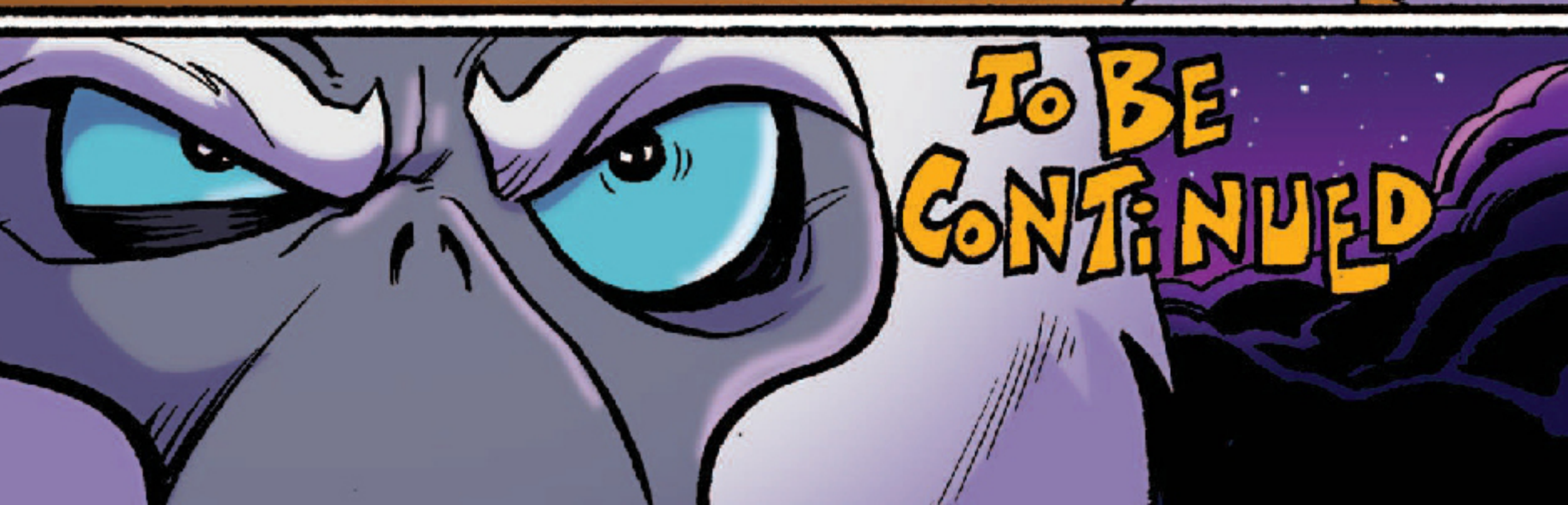
GOOD.

YOU'RE MY
NEW SECOND-IN-
COMMAND.

GET MY SHIP
REPAIRED AND
FOLLOW THOSE
PIRATES.



WE HAVE A
TRAITOR TO
CATCH.



TO BE
CONTINUED