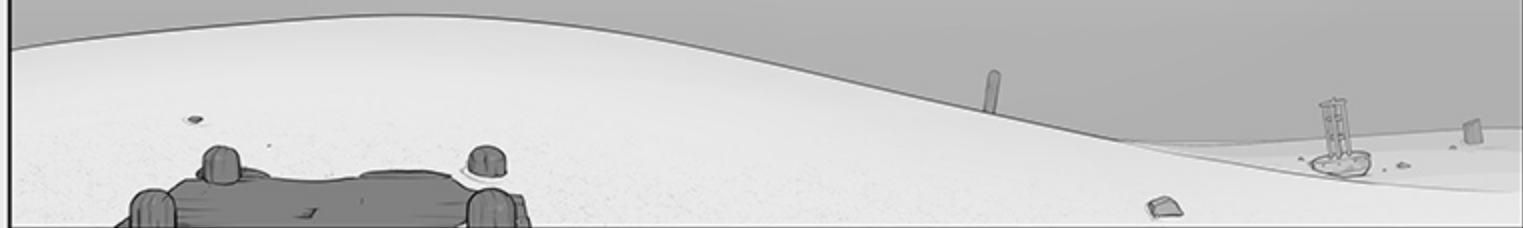


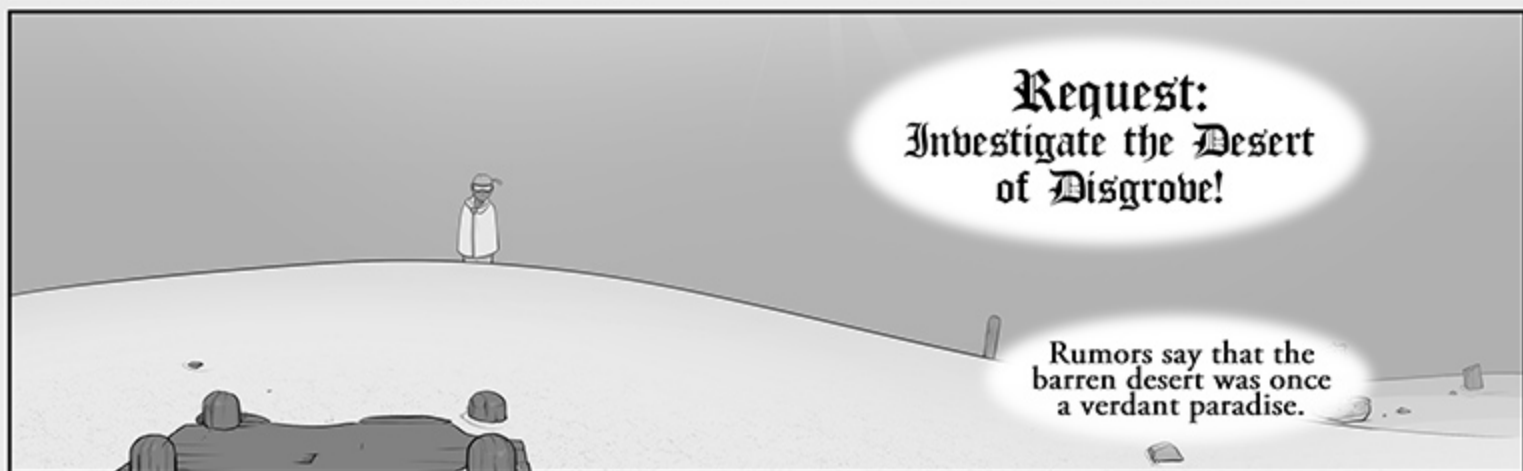
# Chapter 12

# ARBARIDUS



**Request:**  
Investigate the Desert  
of Disgrobe!

Rumors say that the  
barren desert was once  
a verdant paradise.



The cause of its  
current state surely lies  
hidden at its center.



But beware —

None who seek  
the desert's secrets  
have retur—

HUH?



WHAT?

ARE YOU  
TALKING  
TO ME?

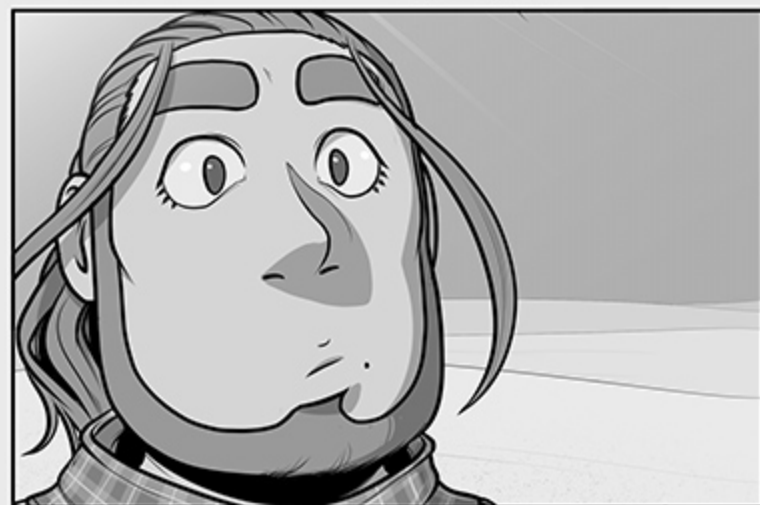
NO I'M JUST—  
DON'T WORRY  
ABOUT IT

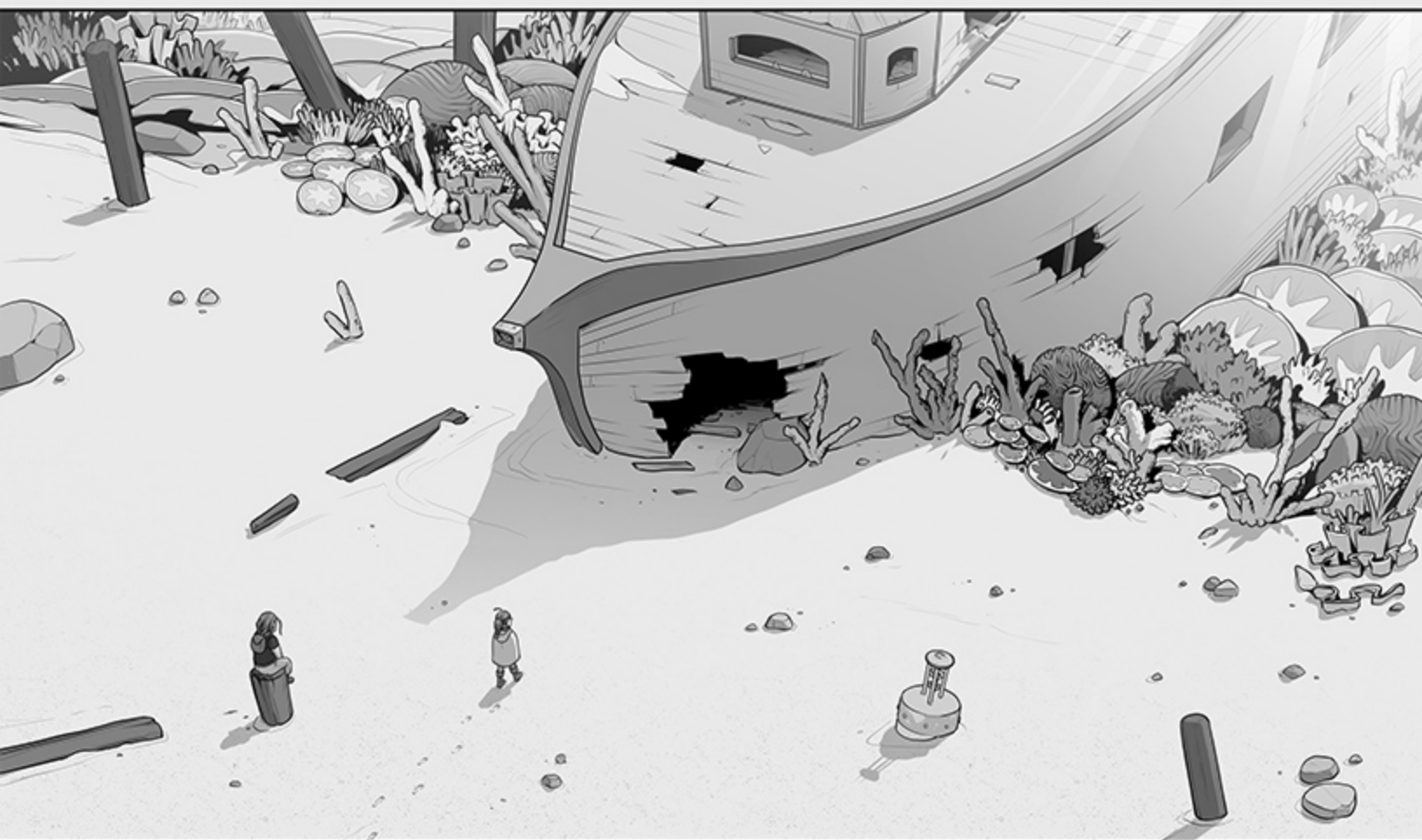


WHO WERE YOU  
TALKING TO?

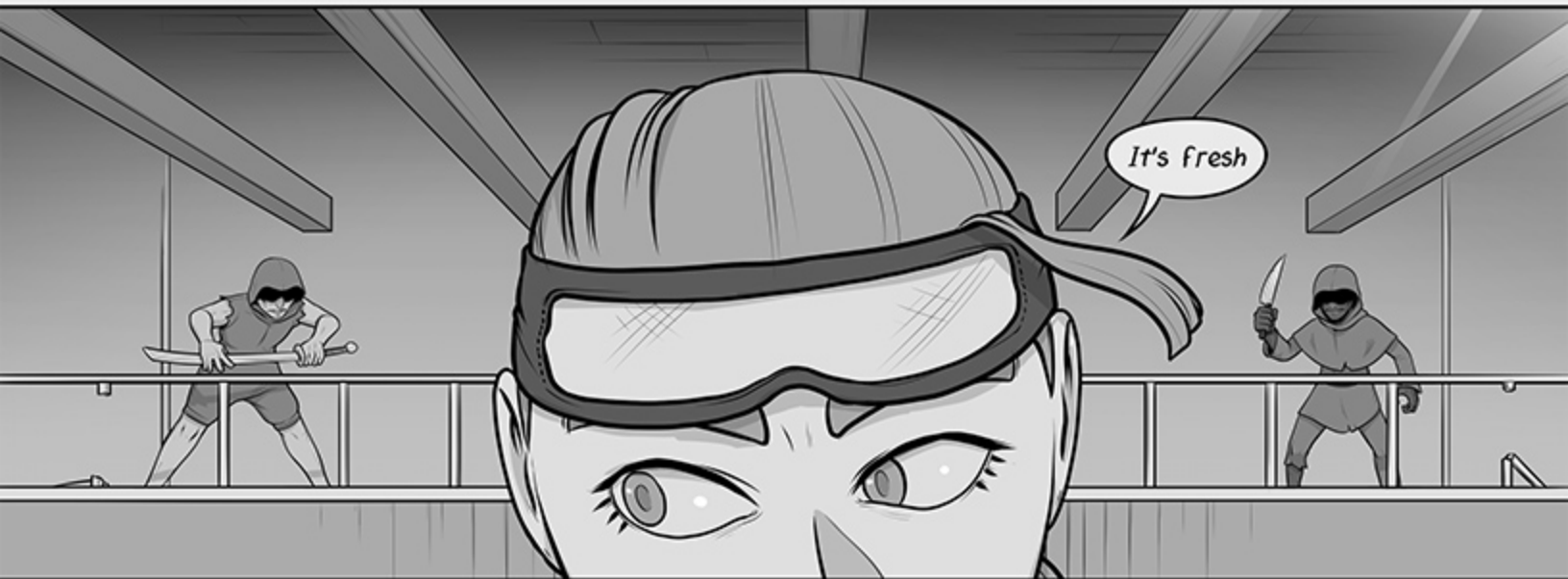
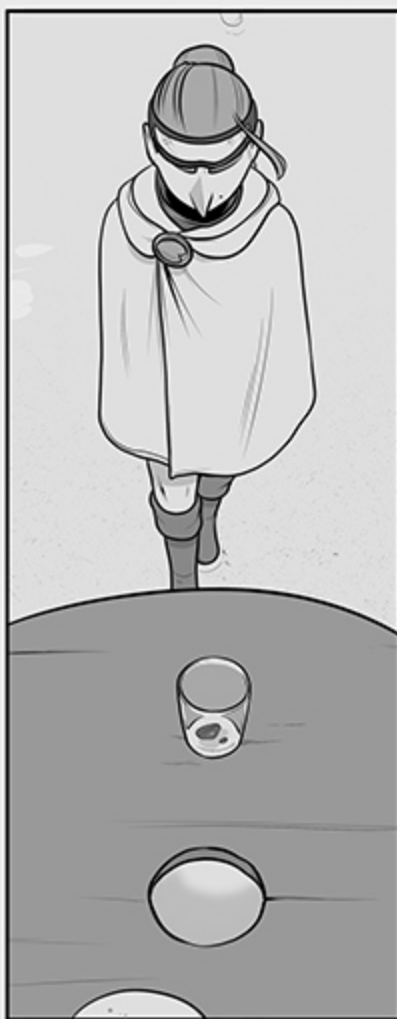
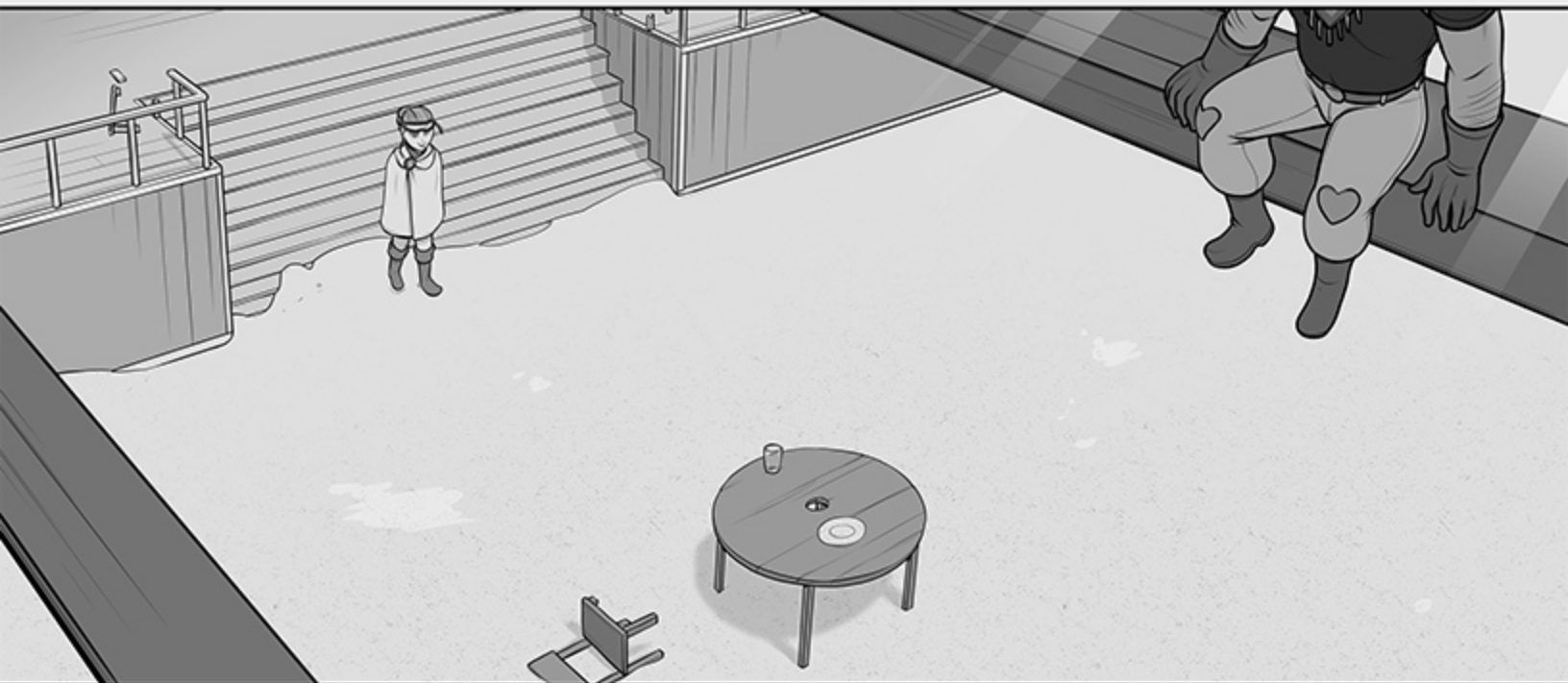
WILL YOU  
JUST COME  
DOWN H—



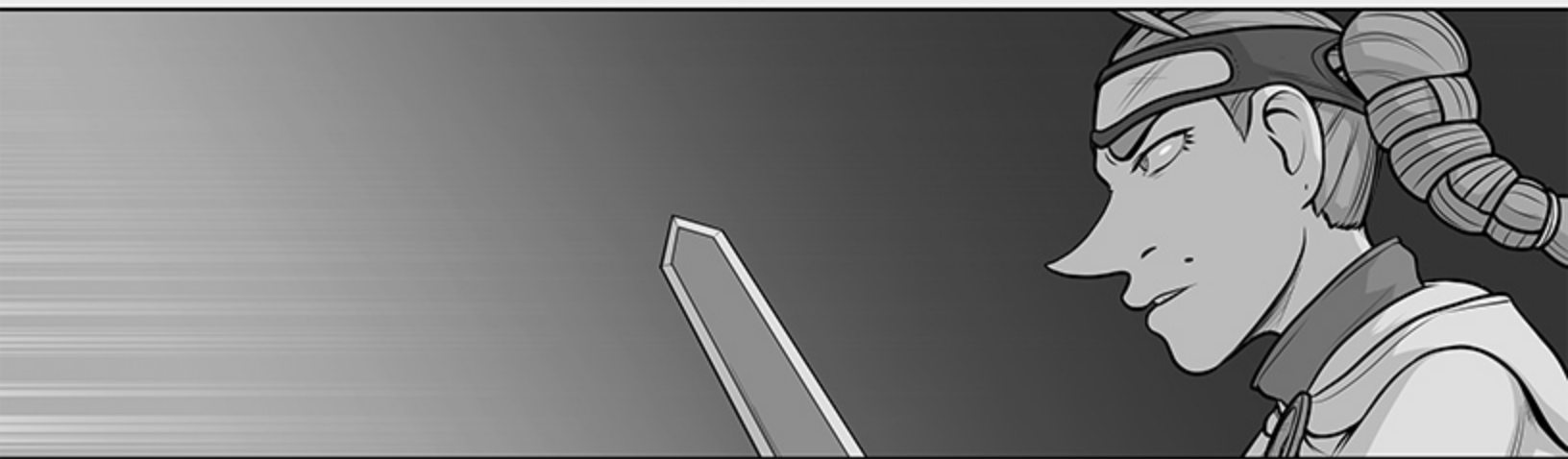
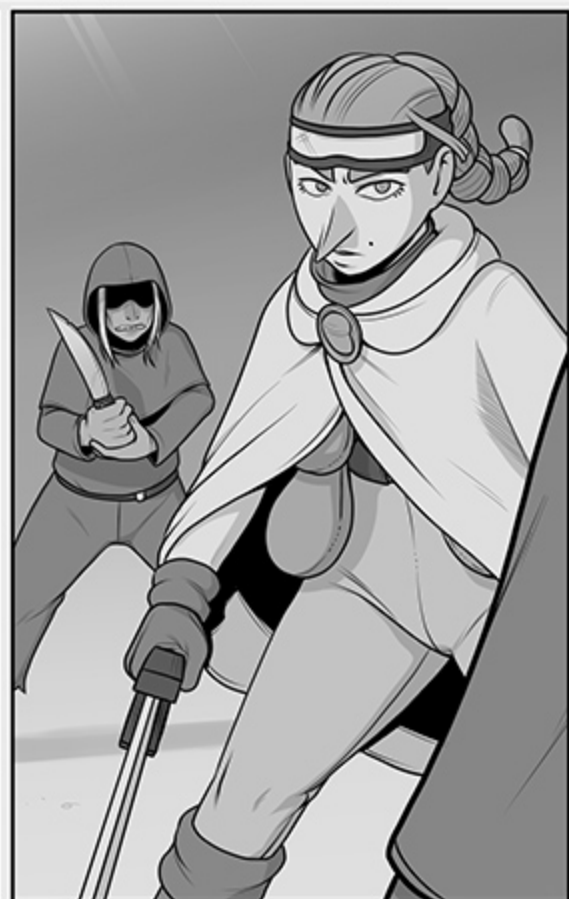
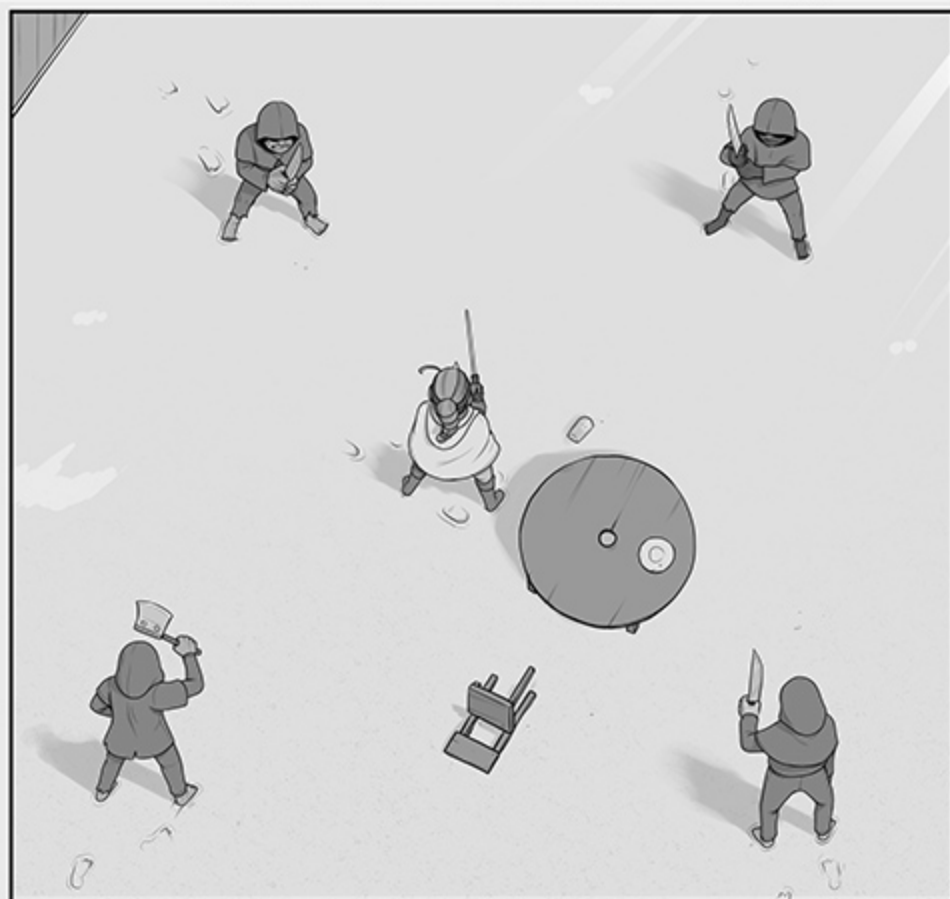




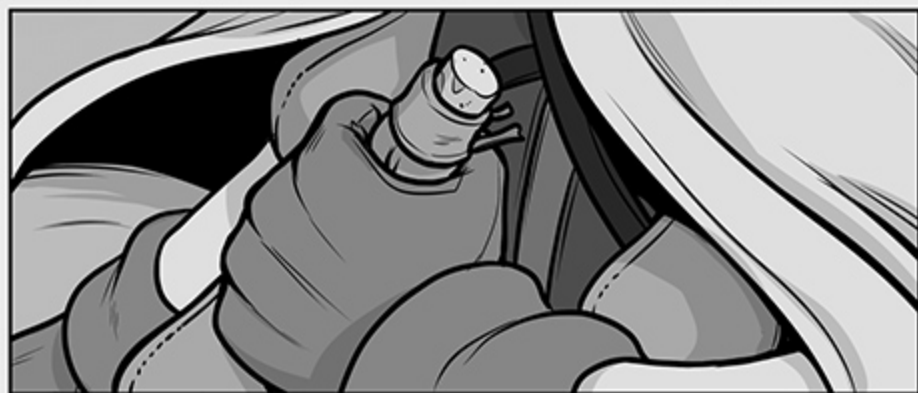




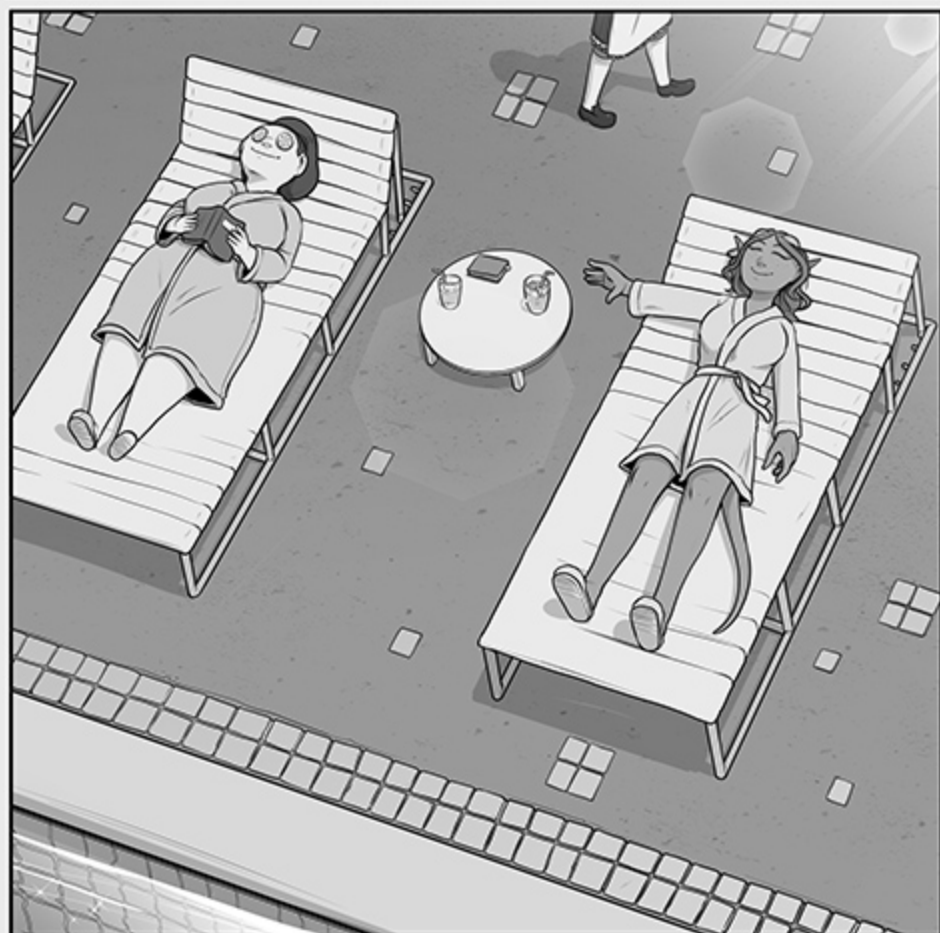


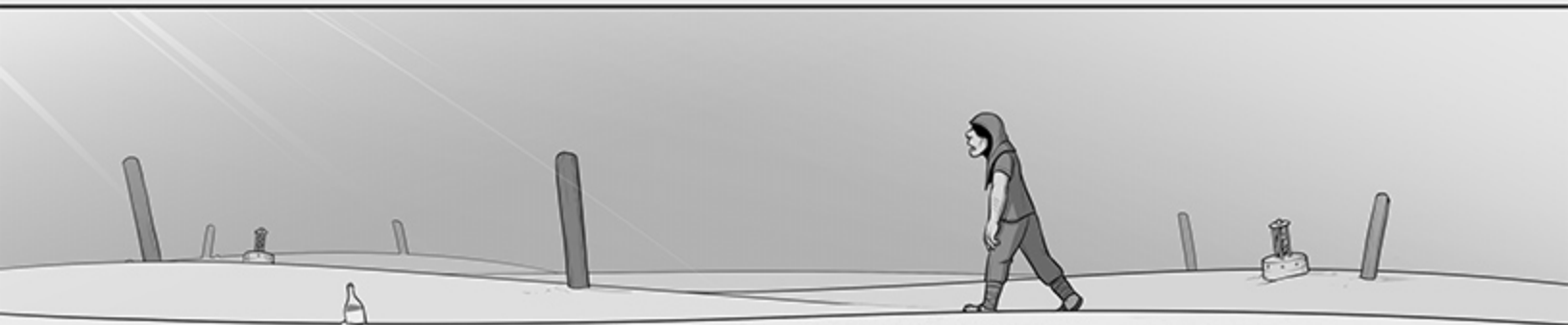






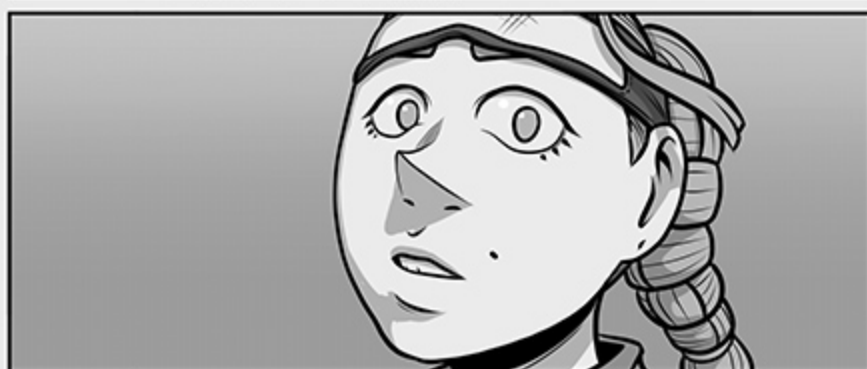




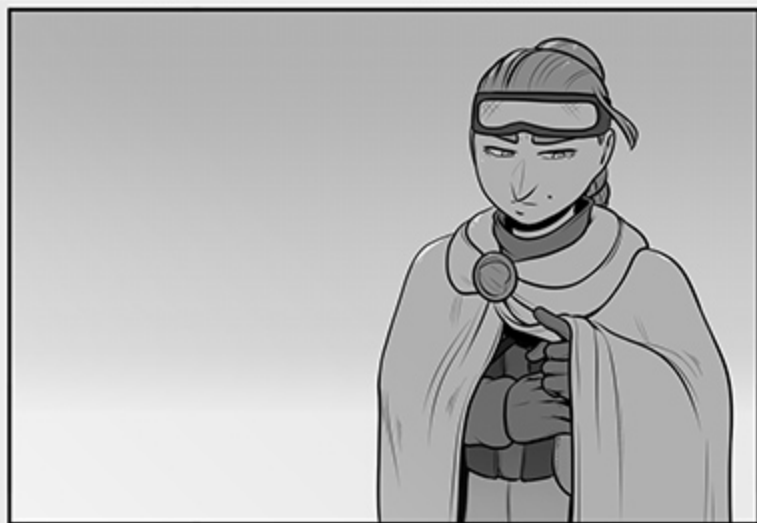


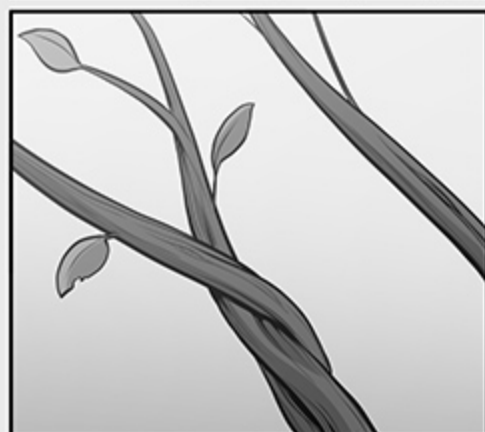
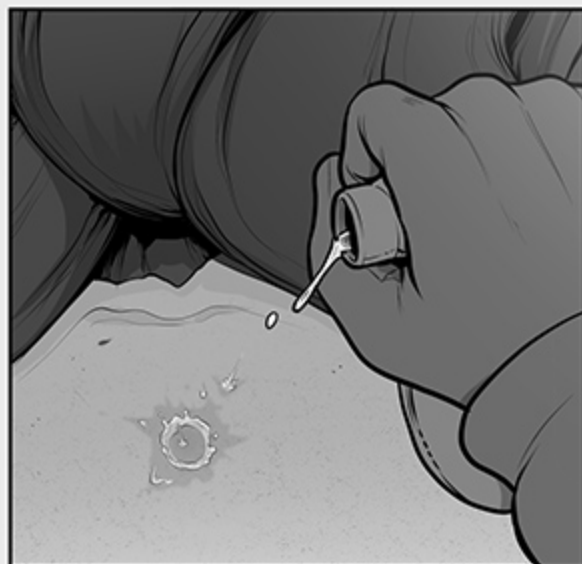






# BIG ROCK THROOOOWWW









Why did

A human  
help me



Because  
I'm a knight.

Well uh,  
not yet.

It's kind of  
a whole thing.

That water

was good

I

grew here

I drank

this lake

I drank away

all the green



And still

I had thirst

and

I feel

I may thirst  
forever



I can't offer  
you any lakes.

But I'm an  
adventurer.

If you liked that water,  
maybe I can help you taste  
water from all over.



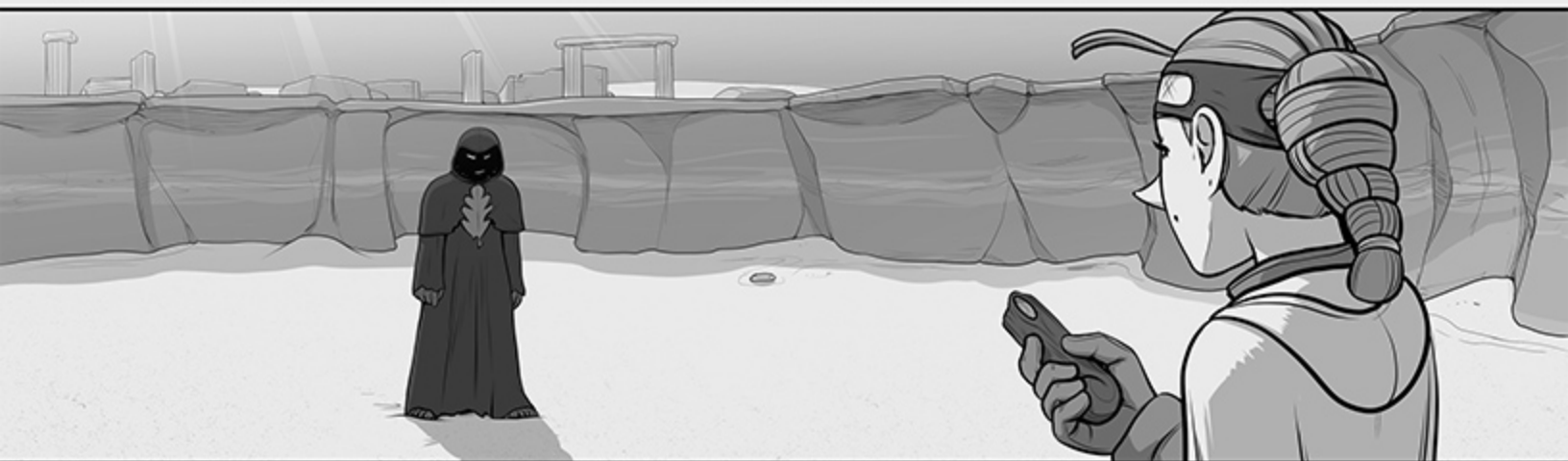
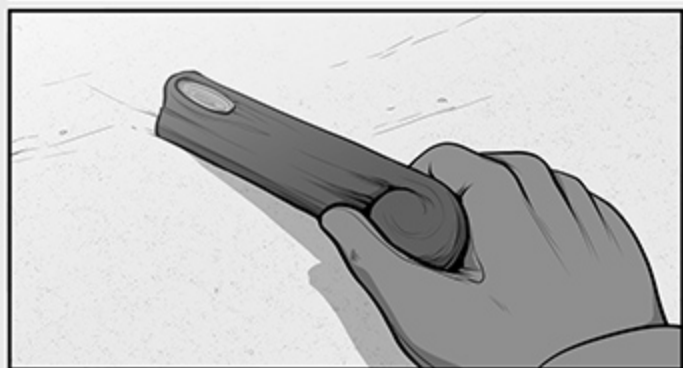
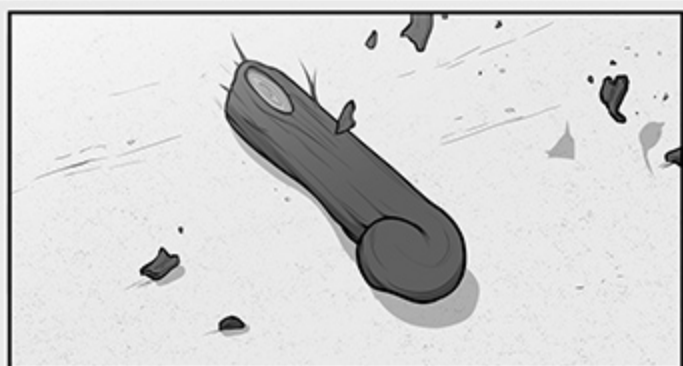
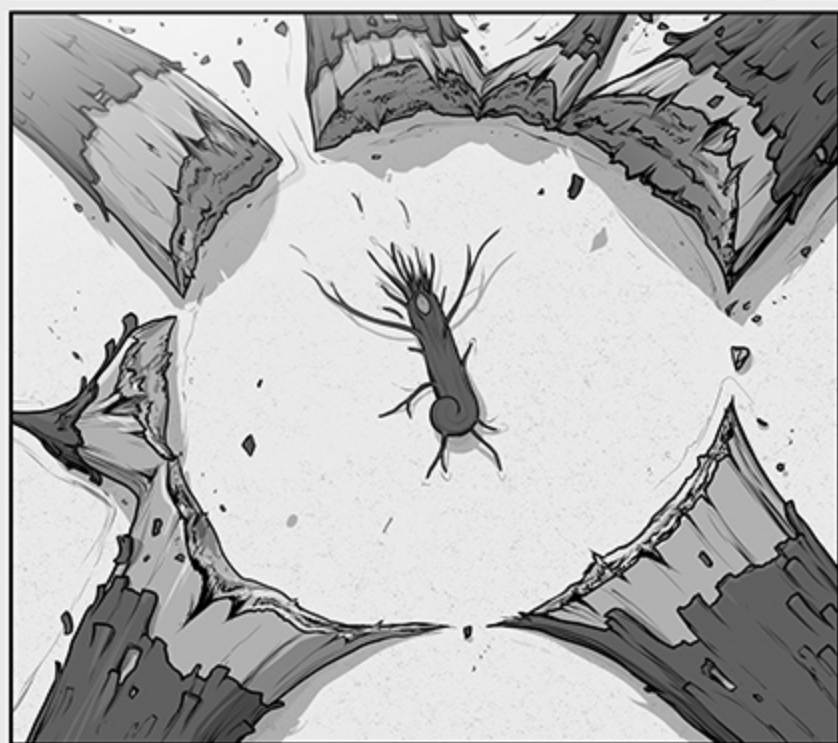
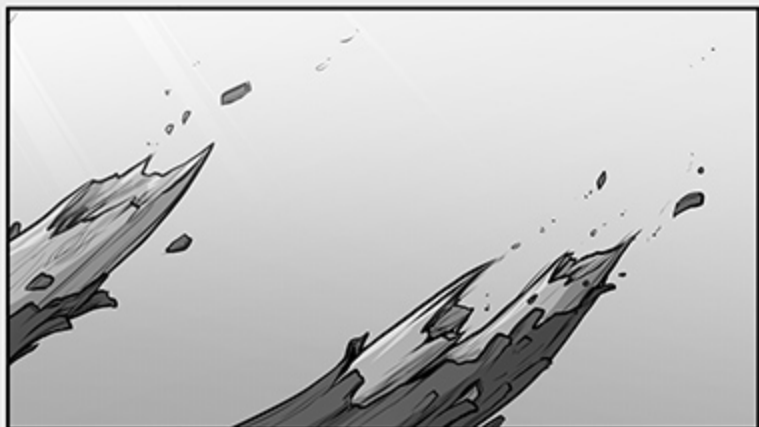
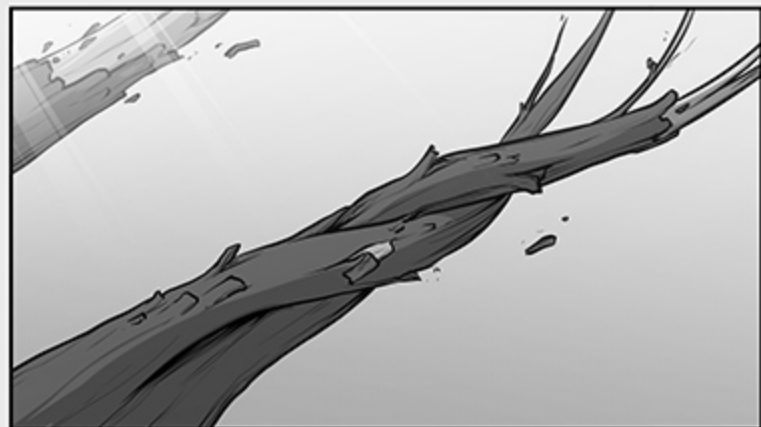
B-but you have  
to try moderation!



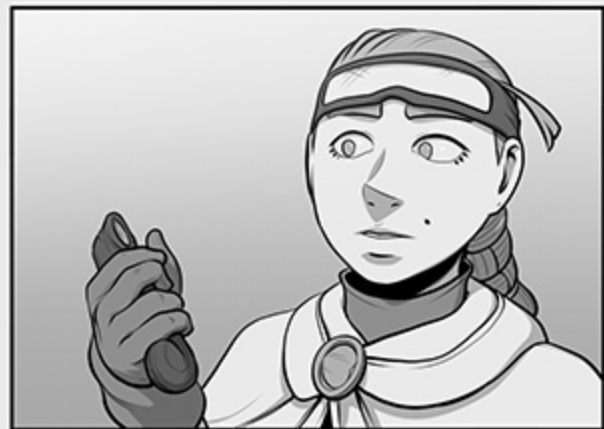
Does that uh...

sound okay?







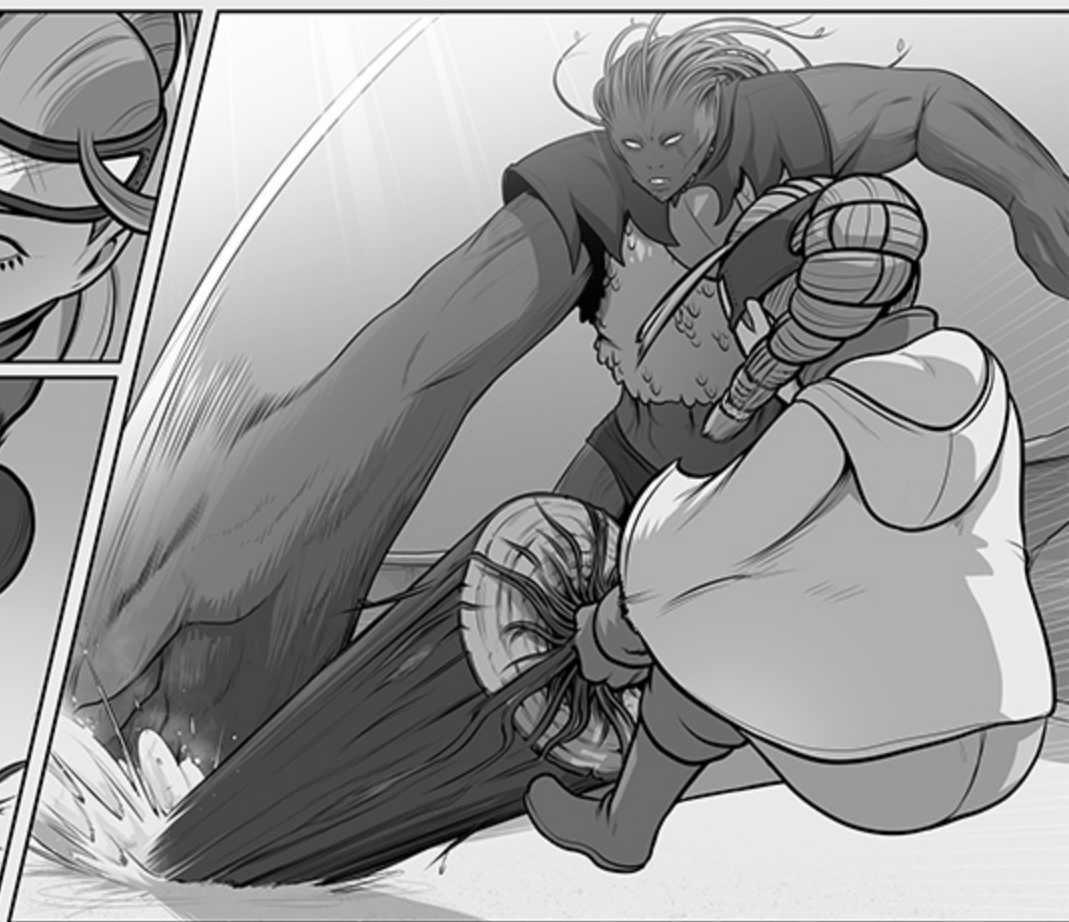
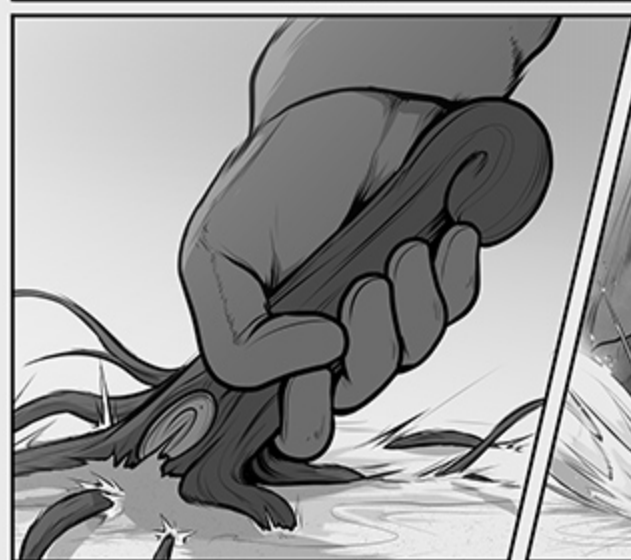
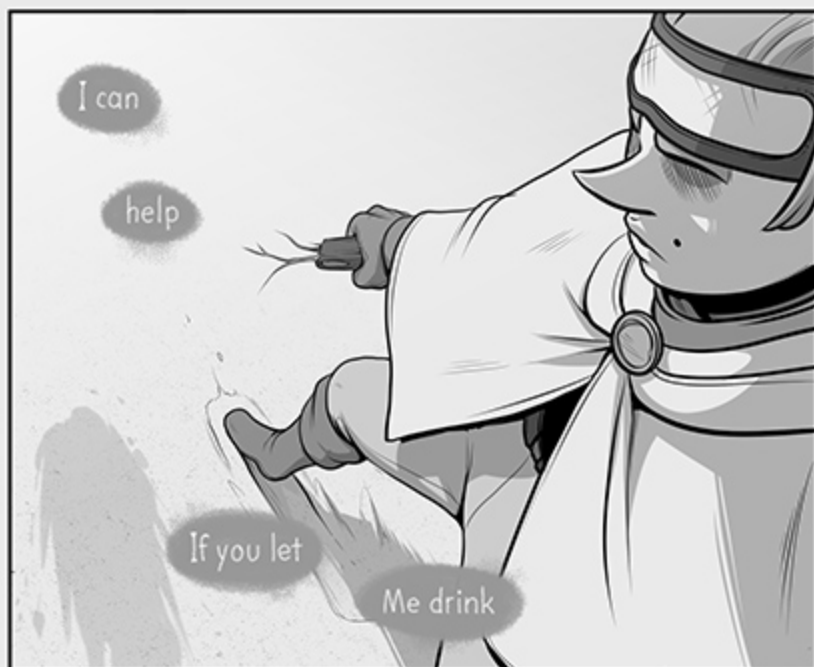


Alright, well

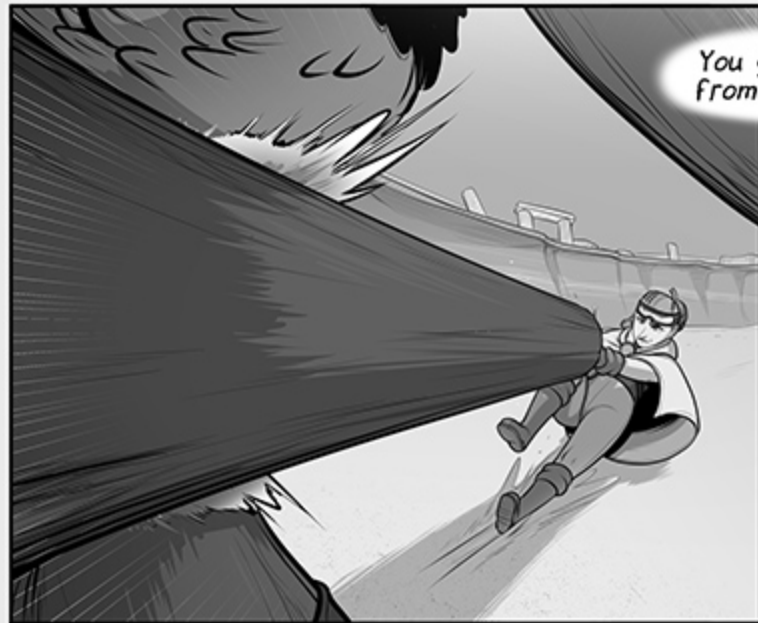
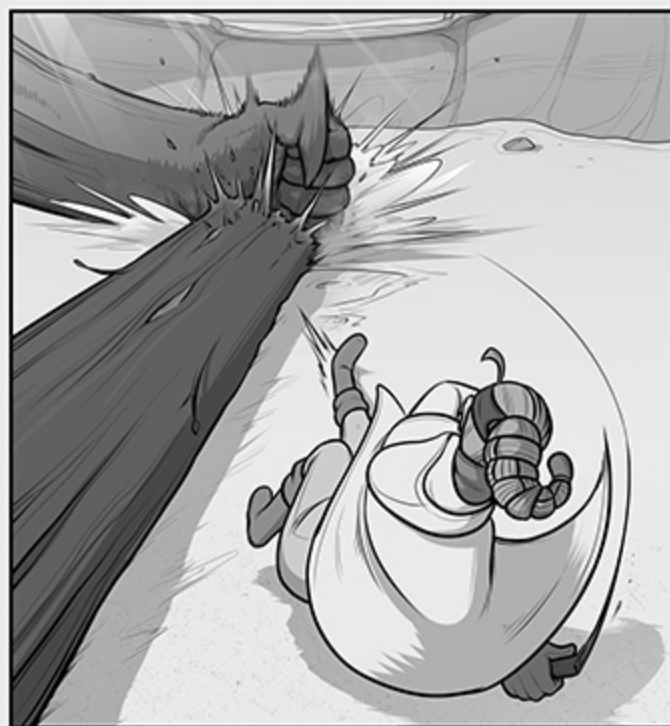


Tried diplomacy













*And you always had Aaric and Onin to leap in at a dramatic moment*



*But everyone let you learn your lessons.*



*And you grew into a real knight.*

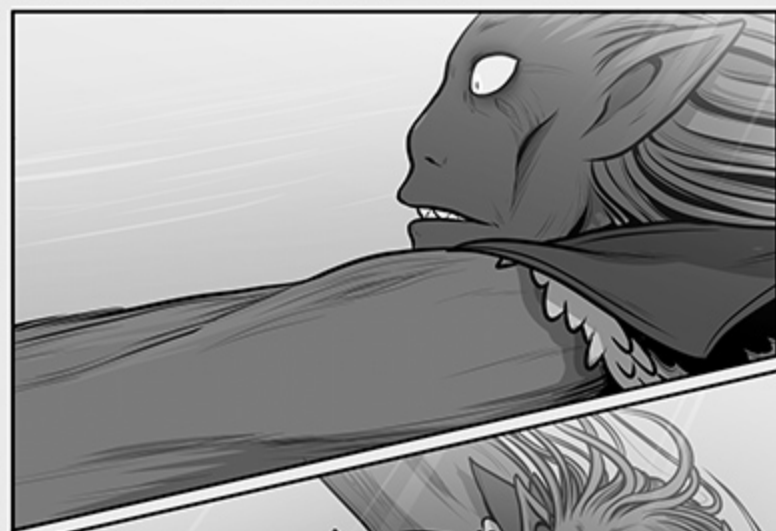
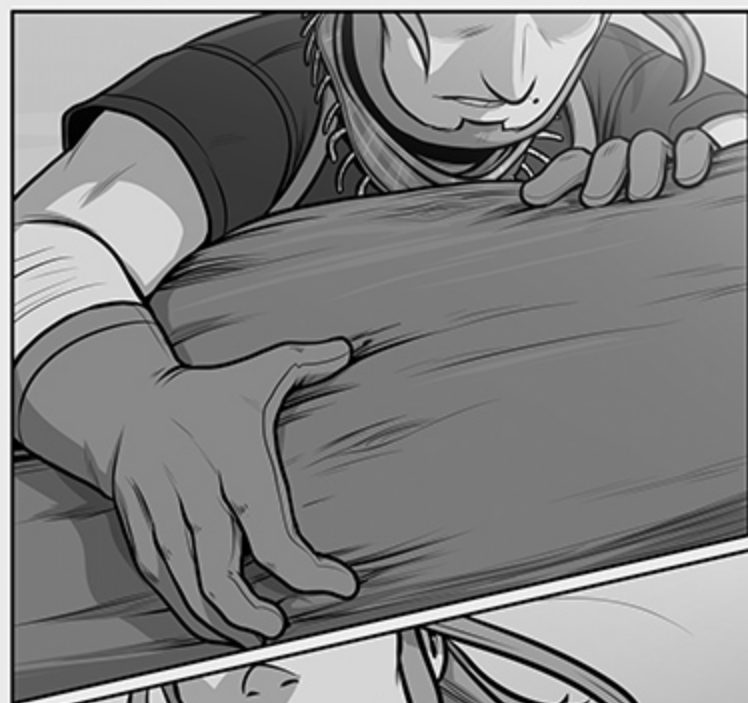


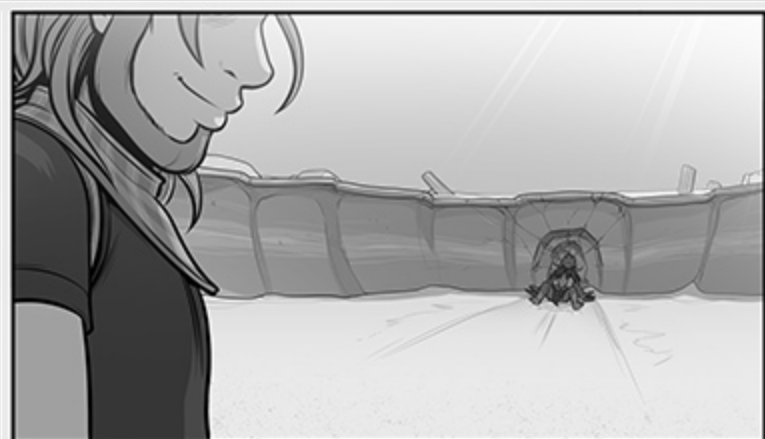
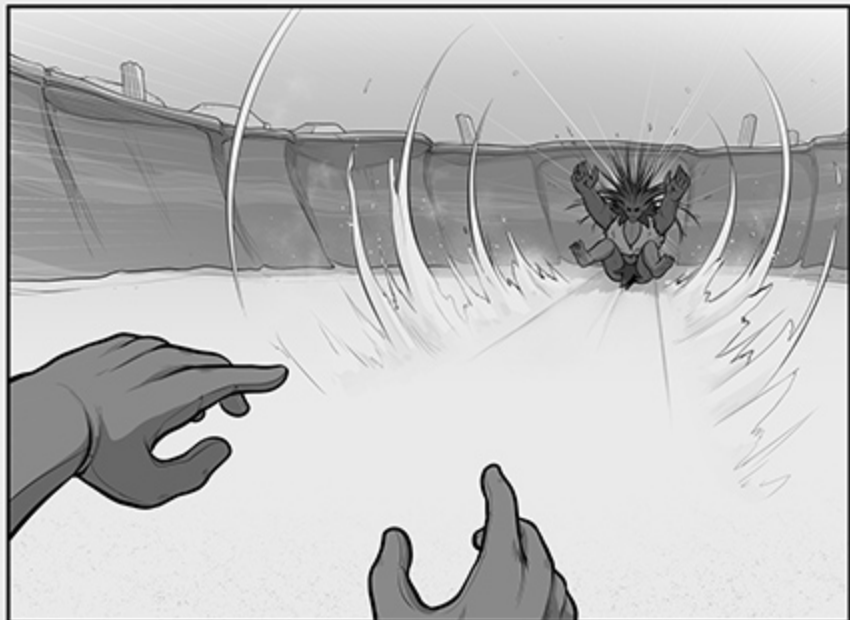
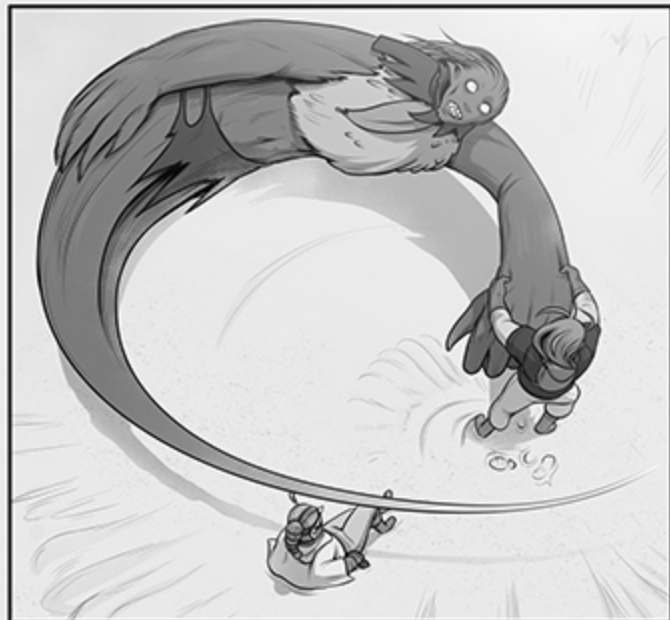
*Die with it, then.*



*You should know better than anyone,*

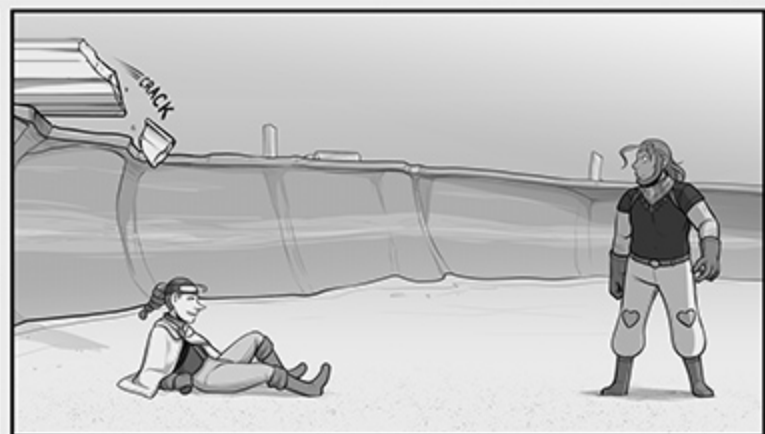
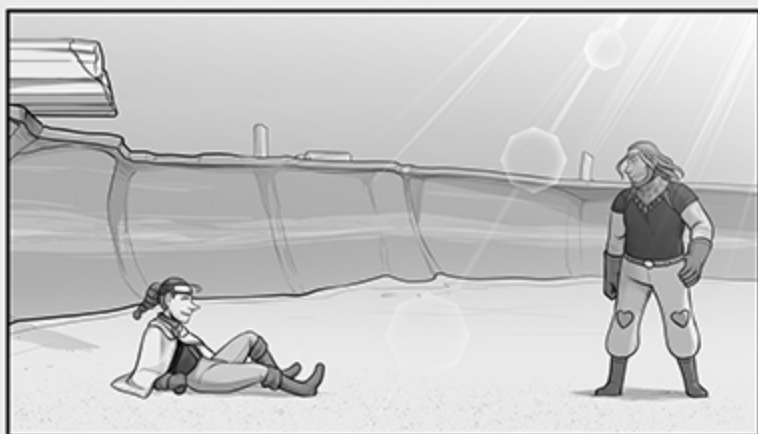
*No one's going to stop an Ironheart from helping someone in need.*



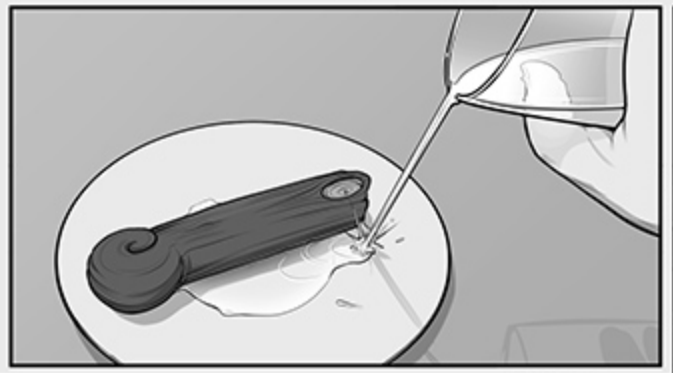


Thanks for the help, Papa.

Heh...  
Try to be a little more careful, sometimes.







MAKETH MISTAKES, BUT  
PRITHEE VALUE THINE LIFE  
OTHERS MAY'ST HELP  
YOU WITH THAT PART

Chapter 12 End



*Thanks for reading!*

*Ironheart-Rune by Will Muzzi*

*ironheart-rune.com*  
*itch.io/ironheart-rune*

