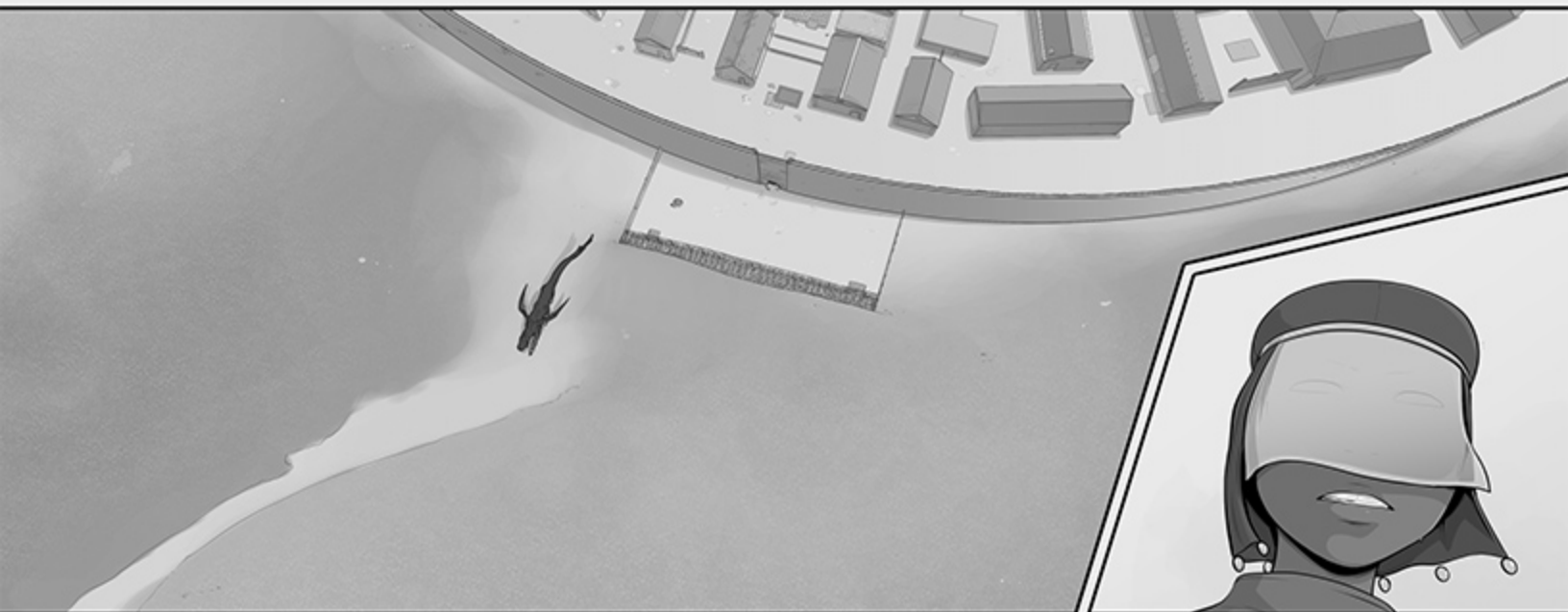
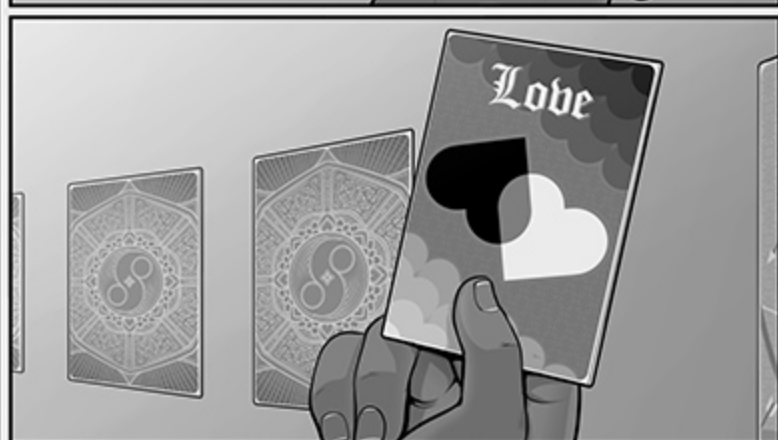
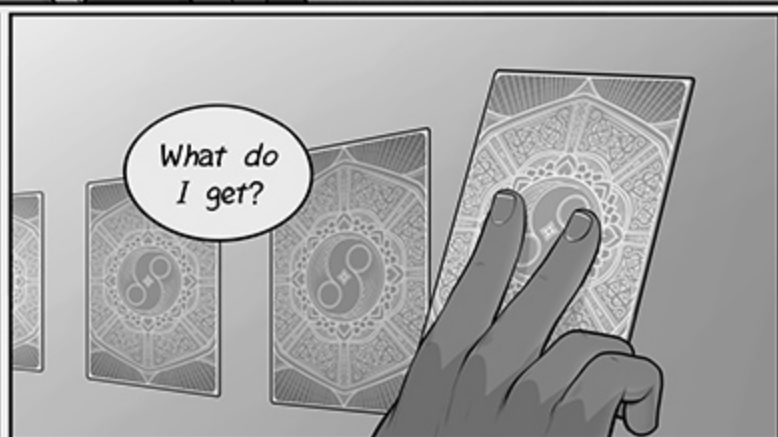


An aerial, grayscale map of a coastal region. The map shows a large body of water on the right, a winding river or path through the center, and a smaller body of water on the left. Several structures are visible: a large, circular, multi-tiered building in the upper right; a smaller, circular structure with a central tower in the lower center; and a cluster of rectangular buildings in the upper left. The terrain is depicted with varying shades of gray, suggesting different elevations or land types.

Chapter 16
DISIMPERATE





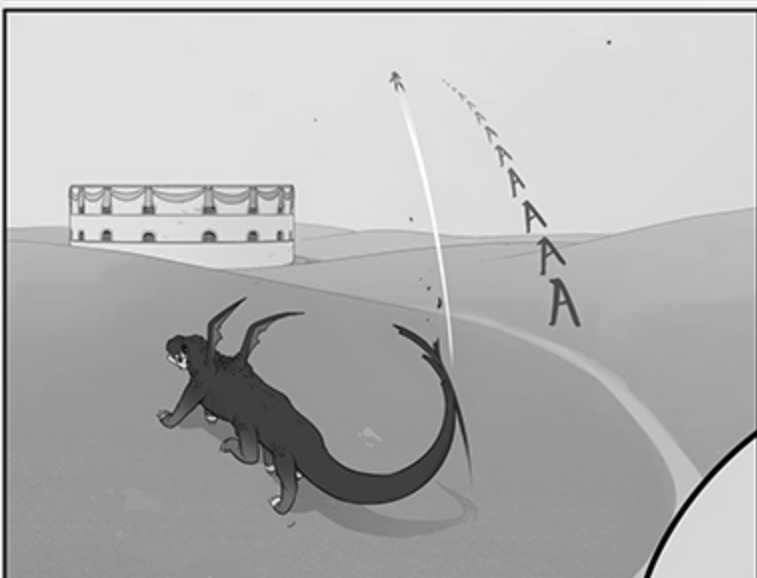
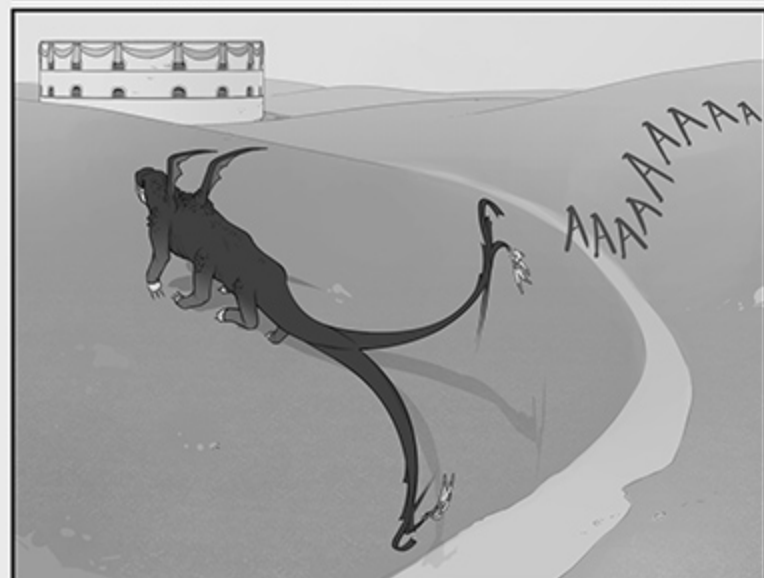


**10 MINUTES UNTIL
BACKUP ARRIVES**



Whew!

Whatcha
plan to do about
that, detective 9-



Brianne isn't really
in this one at all.

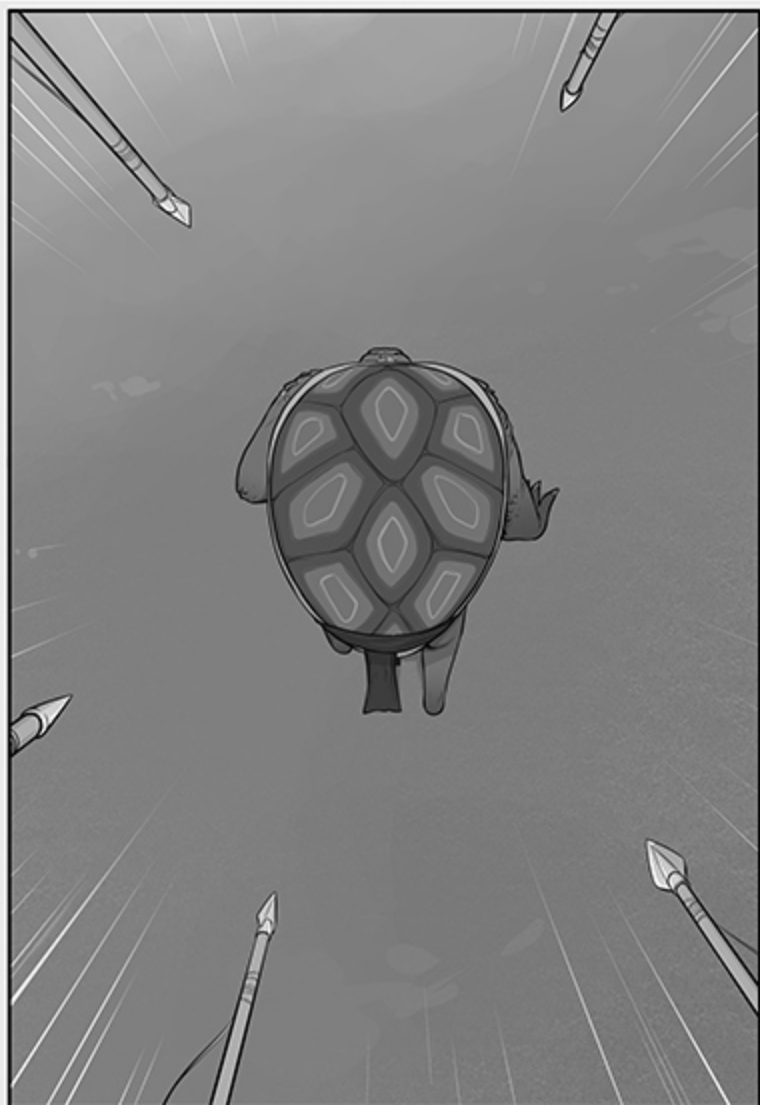


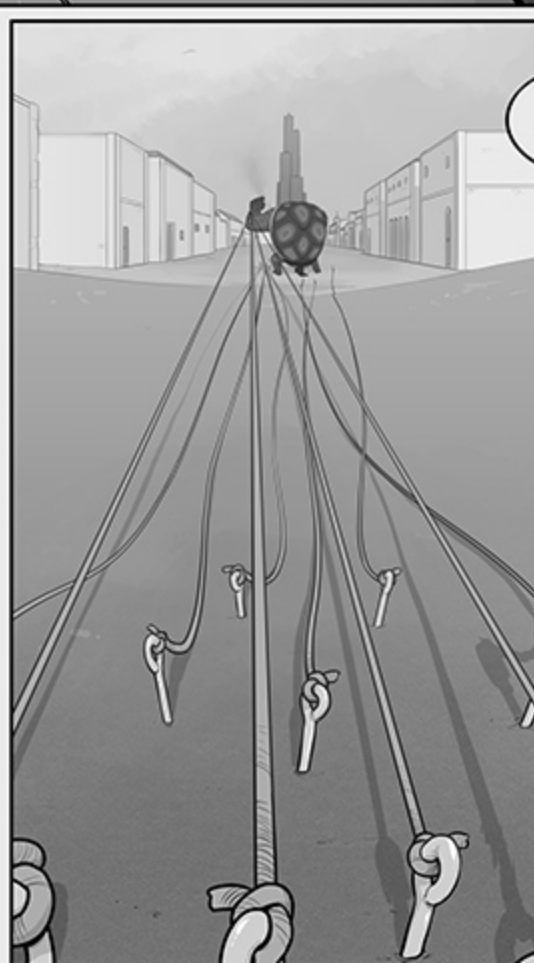
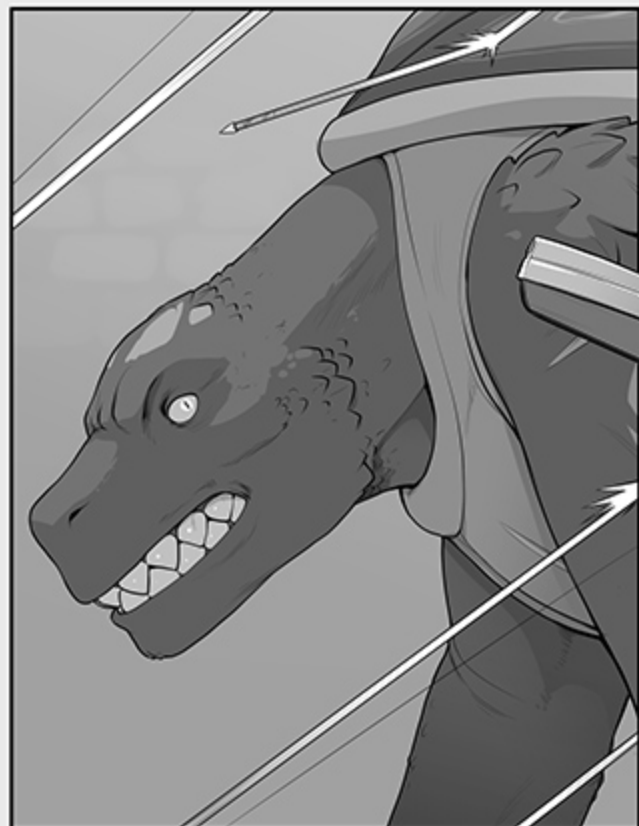
Well, only
one thing
to do.



Later.







First, Our ranged fighters distract him.



You would try to hold me with twigs and twine?



That will give us time to set up two obstacles



The tower is an insult to all monstrosity

Yet you would impede me?

This is really just a profit deal.



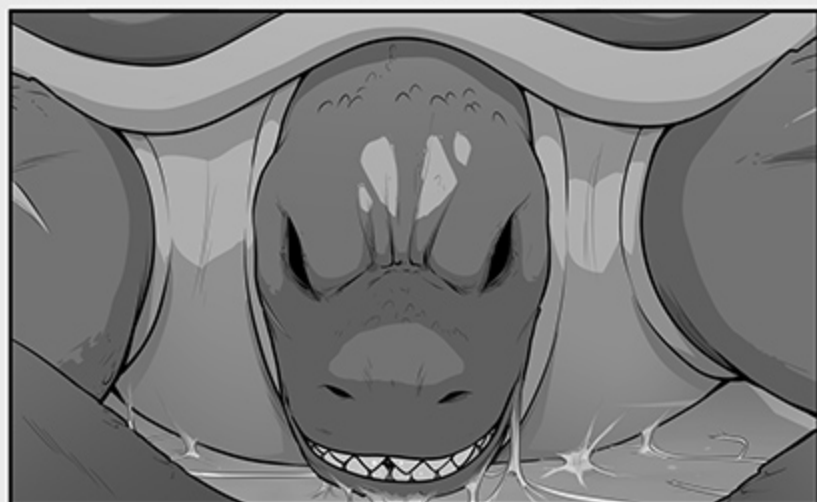
The one right in front of him...



Your pathetic littl barrier-

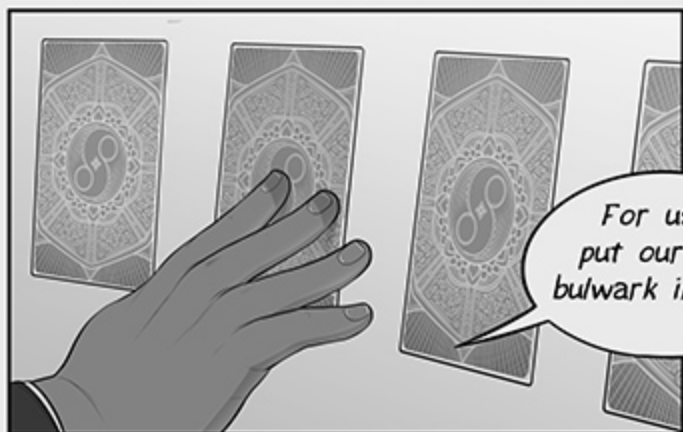
...And the obstacle he can't see.



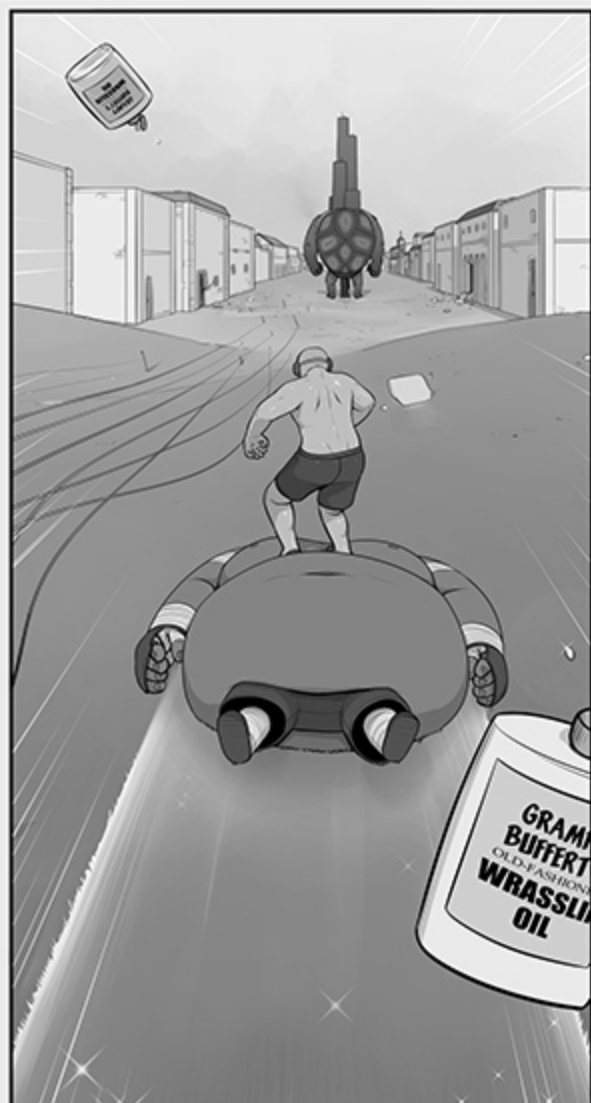
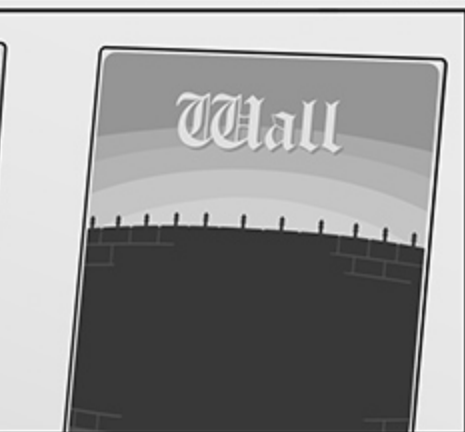


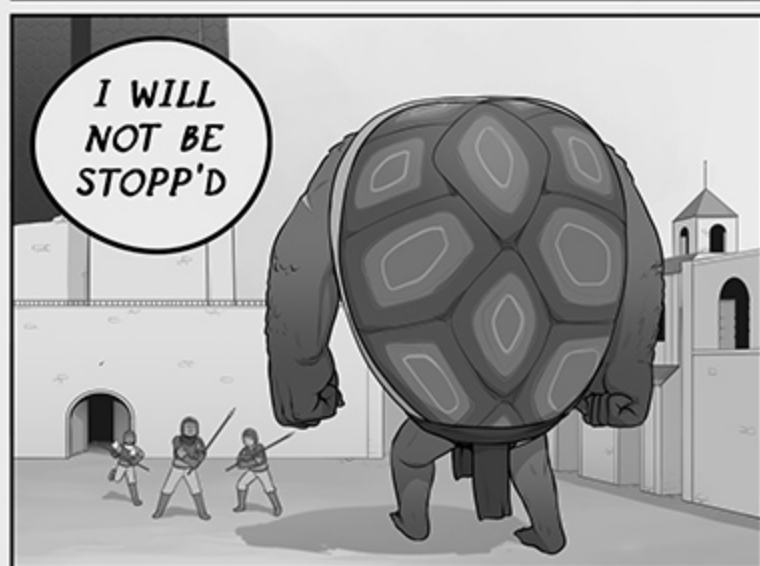


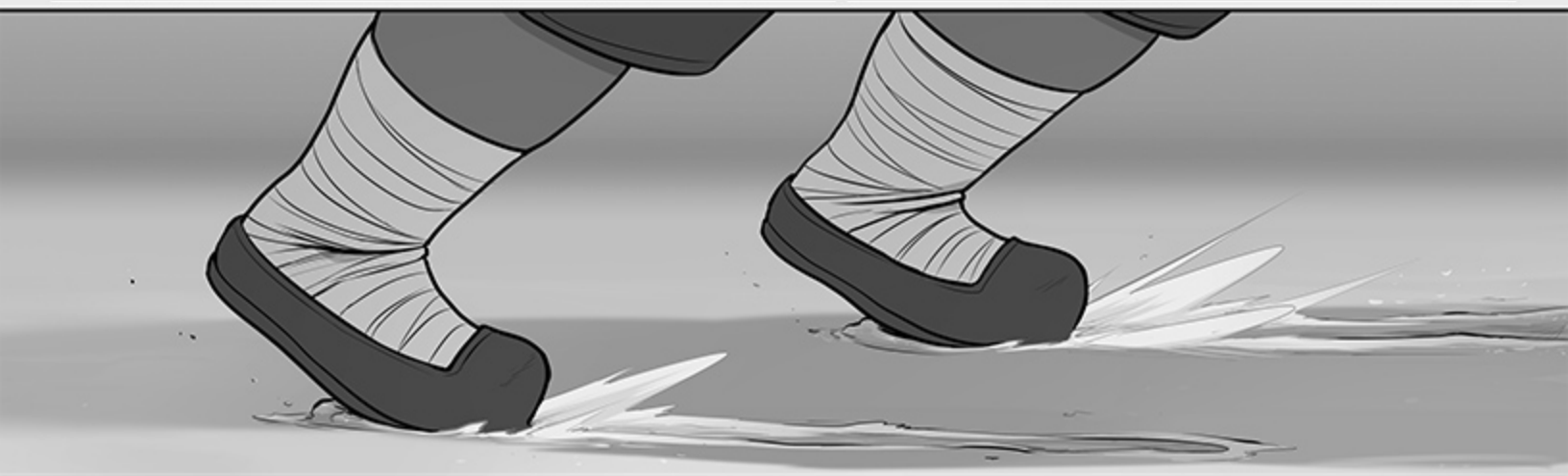
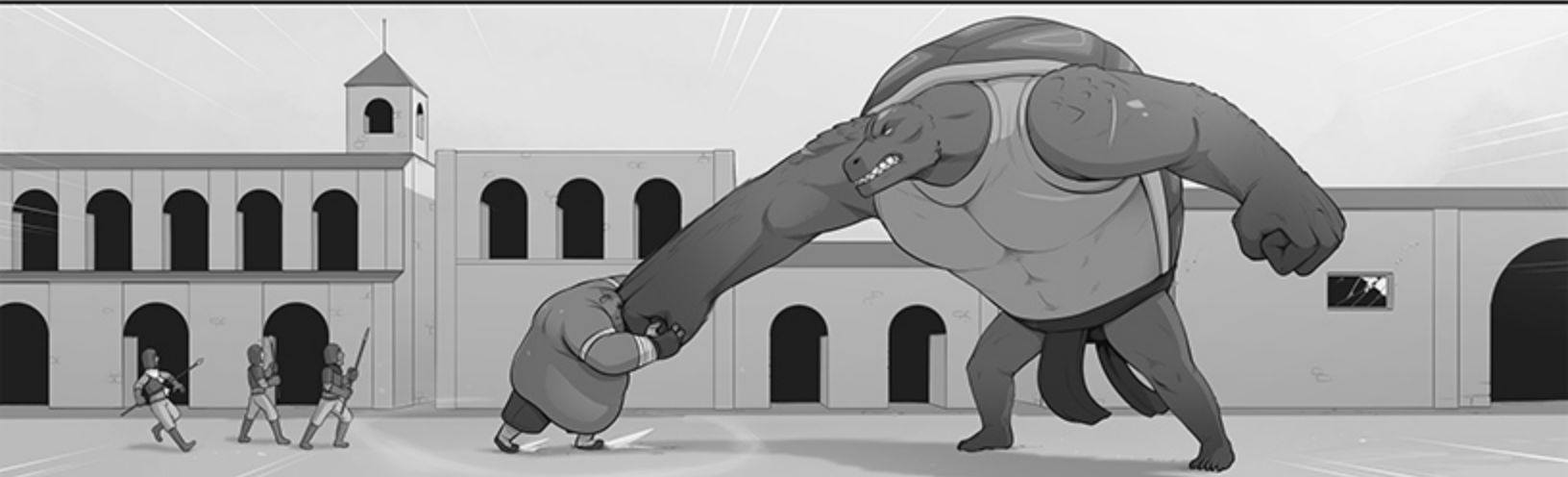
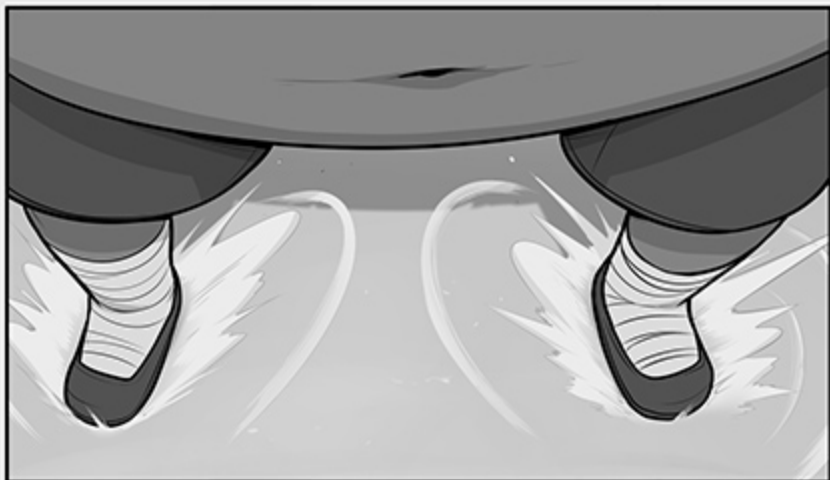
It only needs to buy enough time

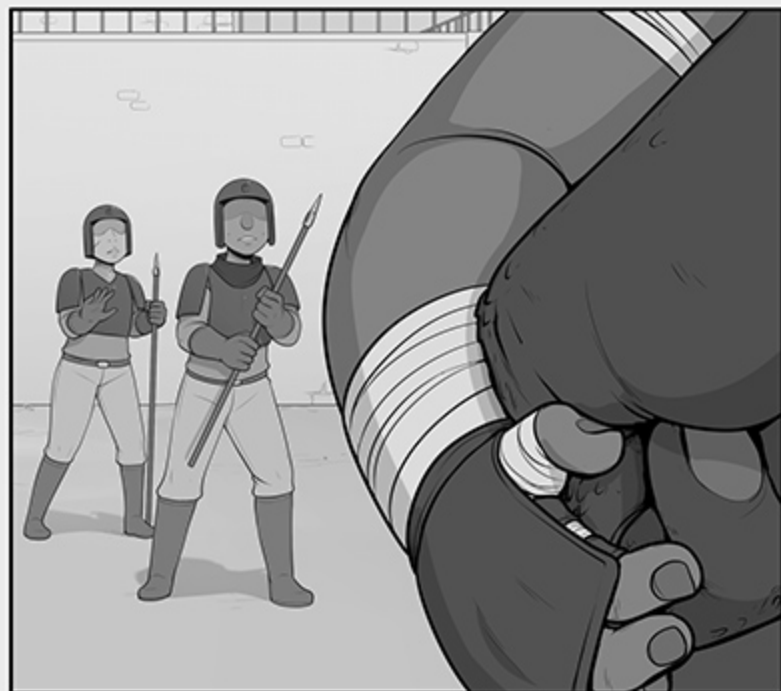


For us to put our final bulwark in place.

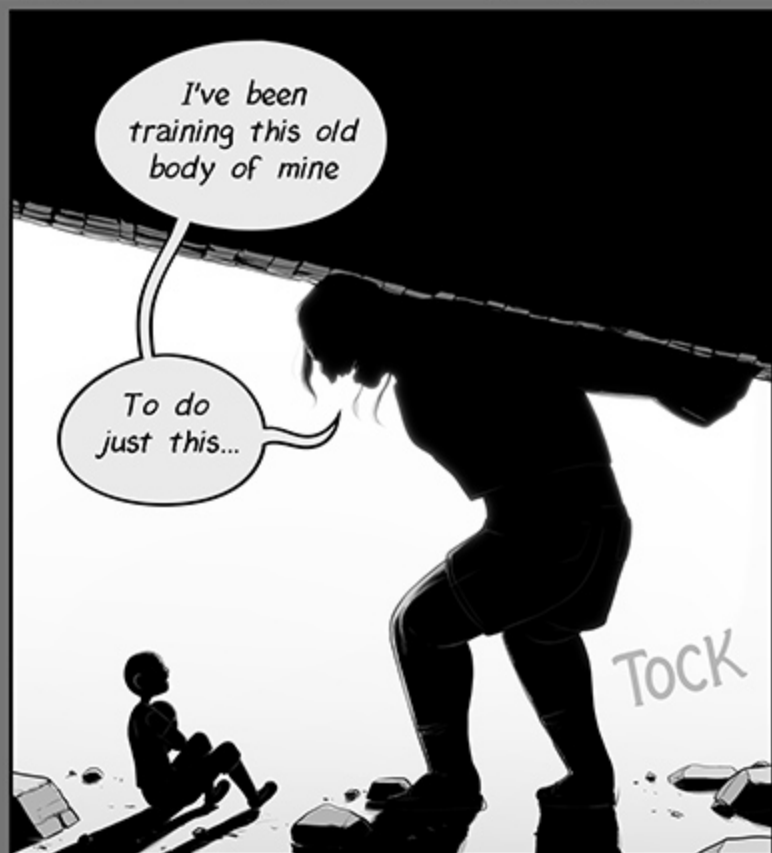








Walter



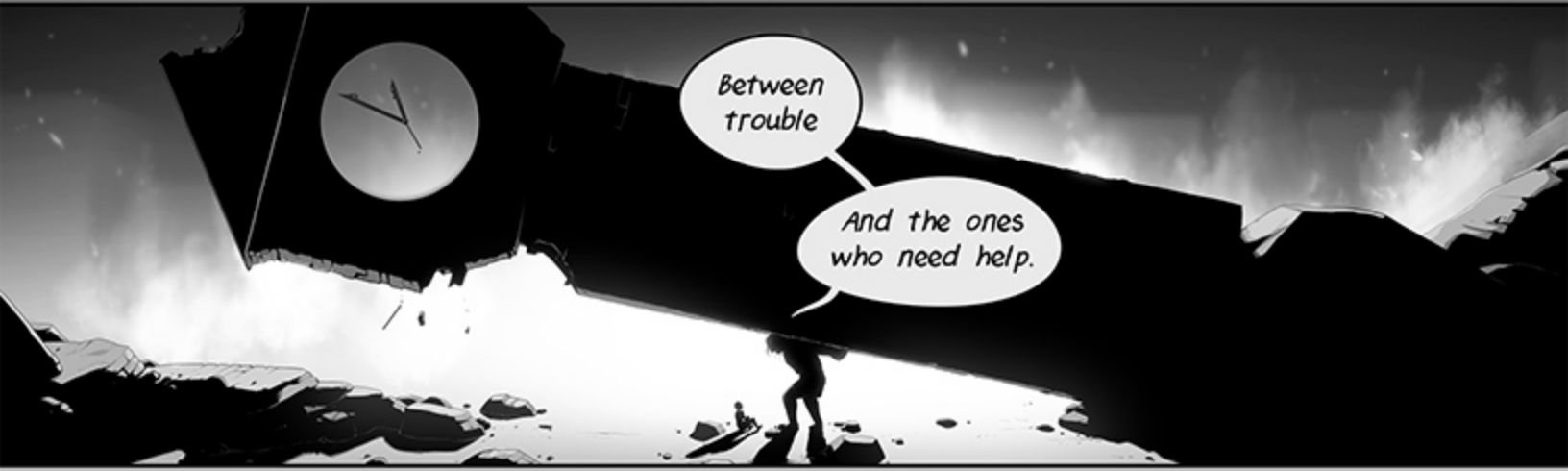


TICK

People like me,

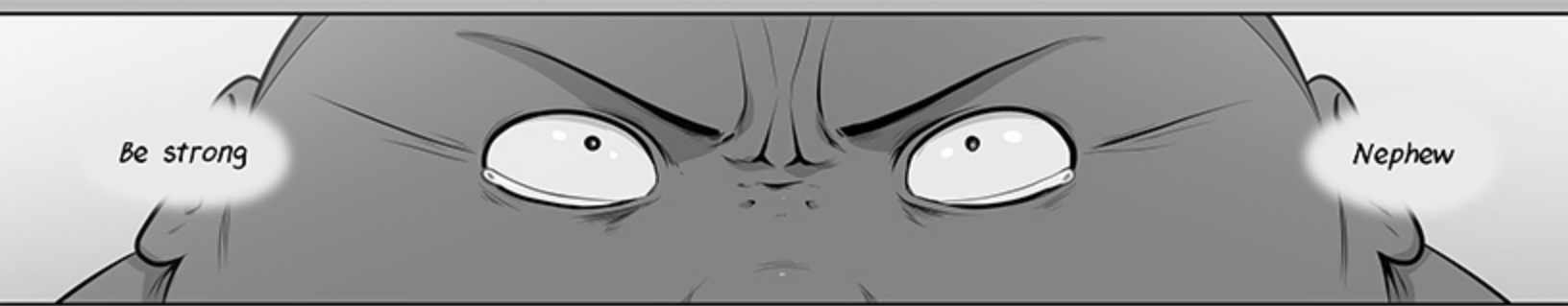
The best end we could ever hope for is to become an unbreakable wall

TOCK



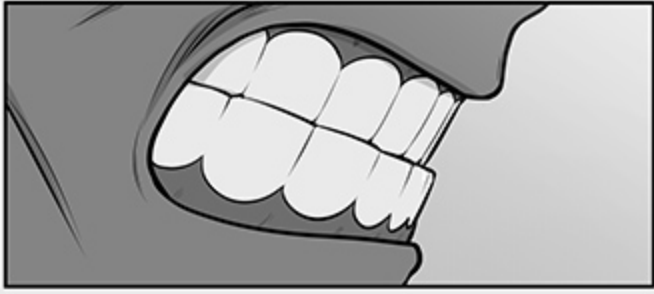
Between trouble

And the ones who need help.

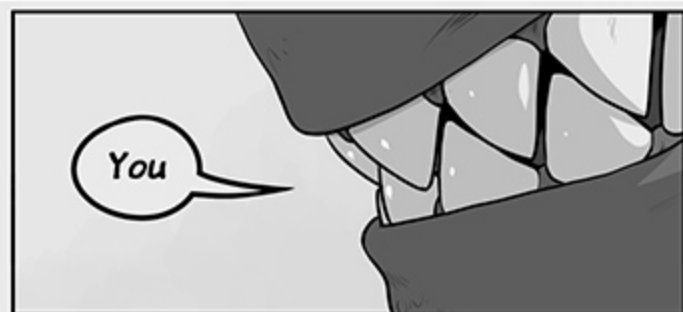
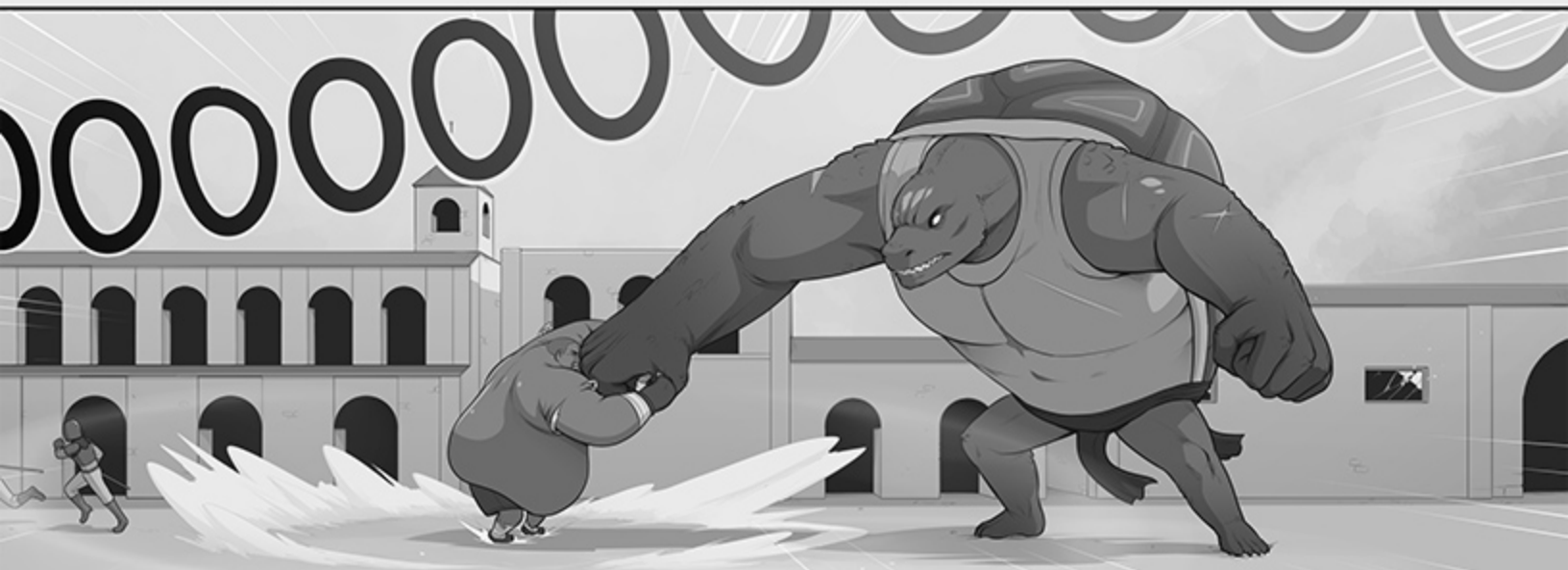


Be strong

Nephew



HWOOOOOOO



I WILL

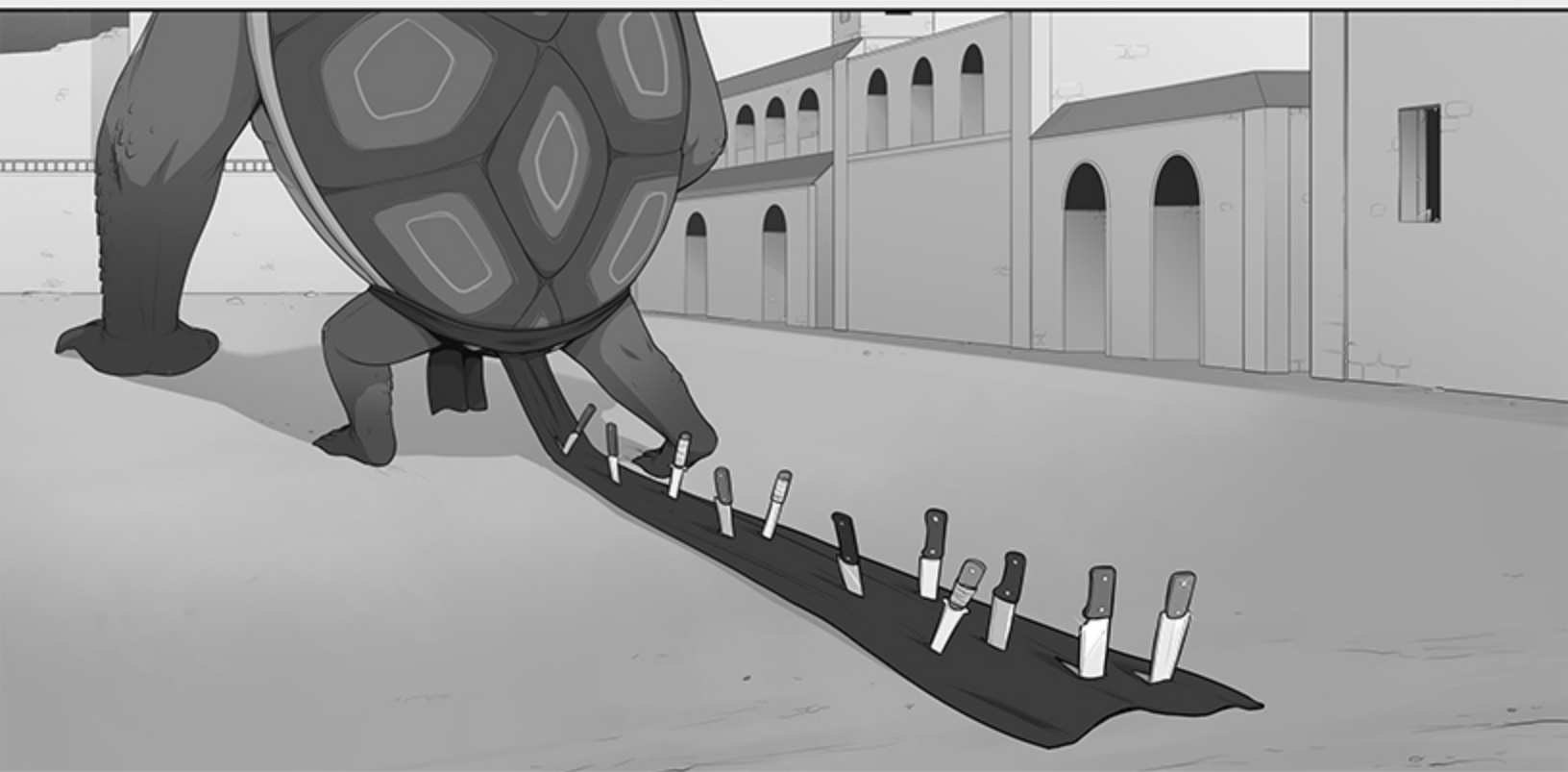
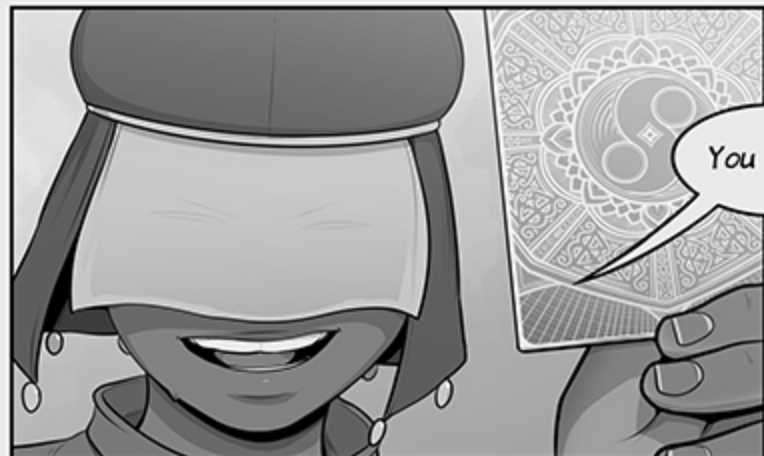
**CRUSH YOUR
INHIBITORS**

**FREE ALL OF
MONSTERTY**

AND I

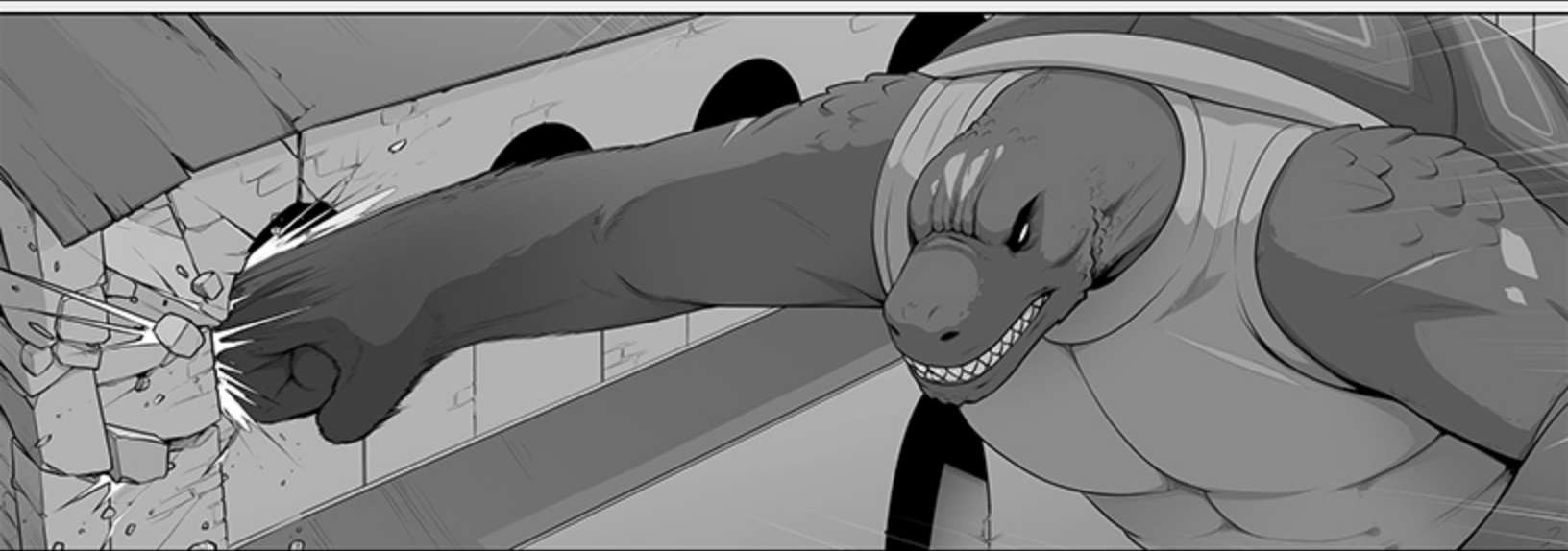
WILL

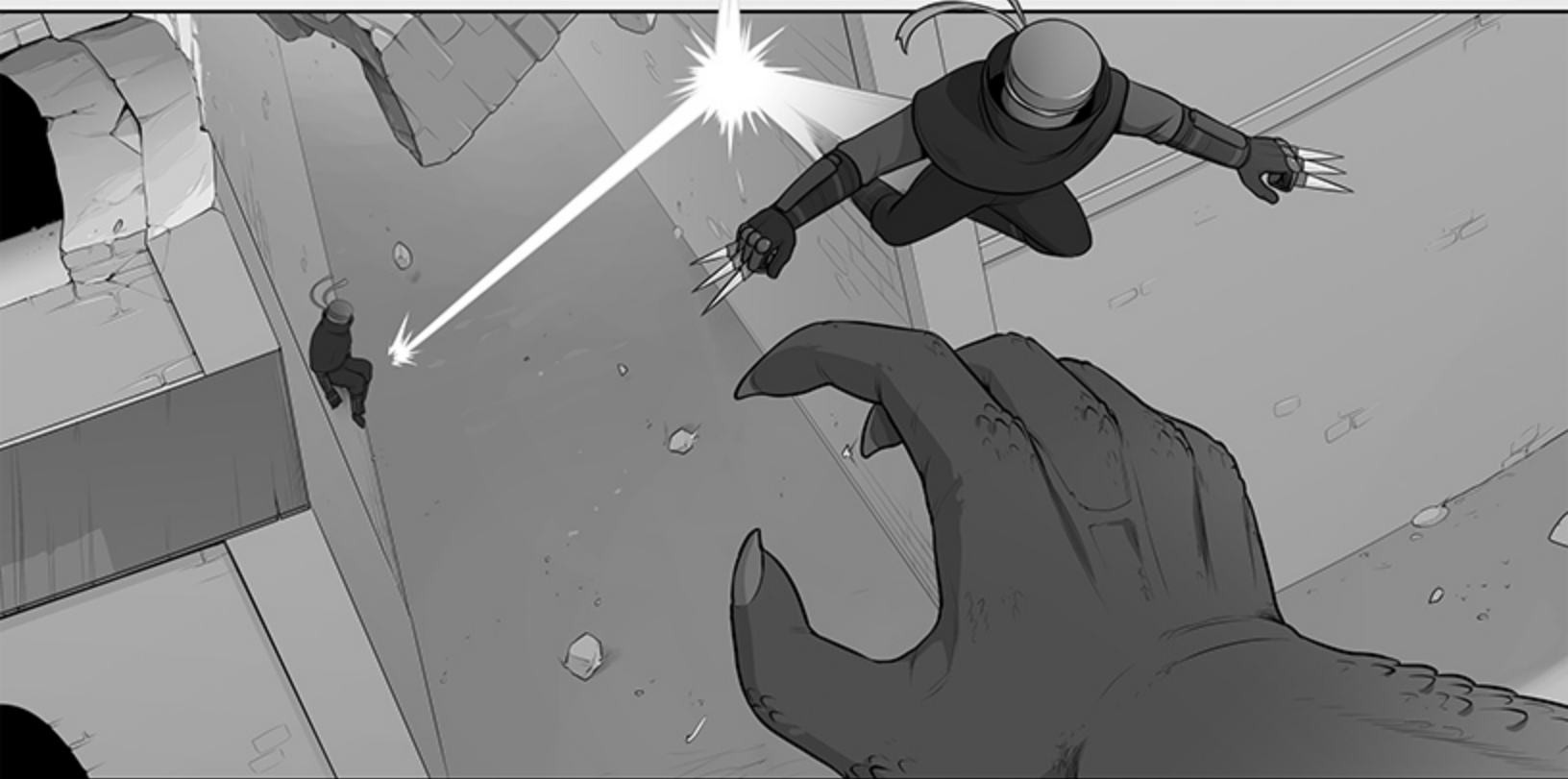
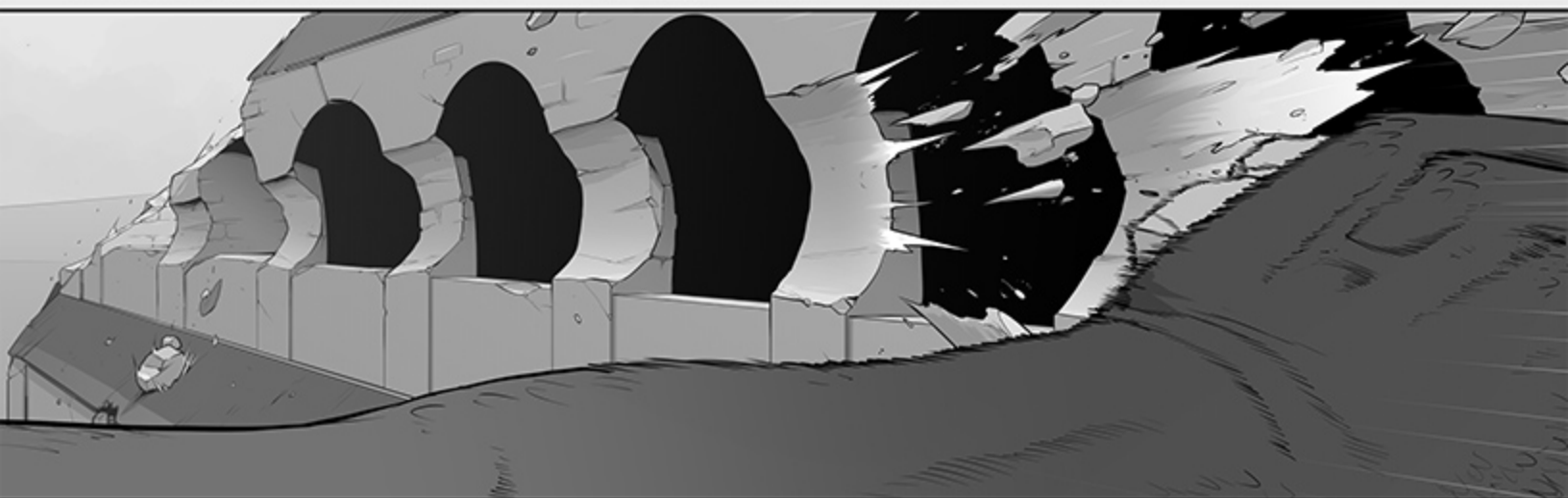
WIN!

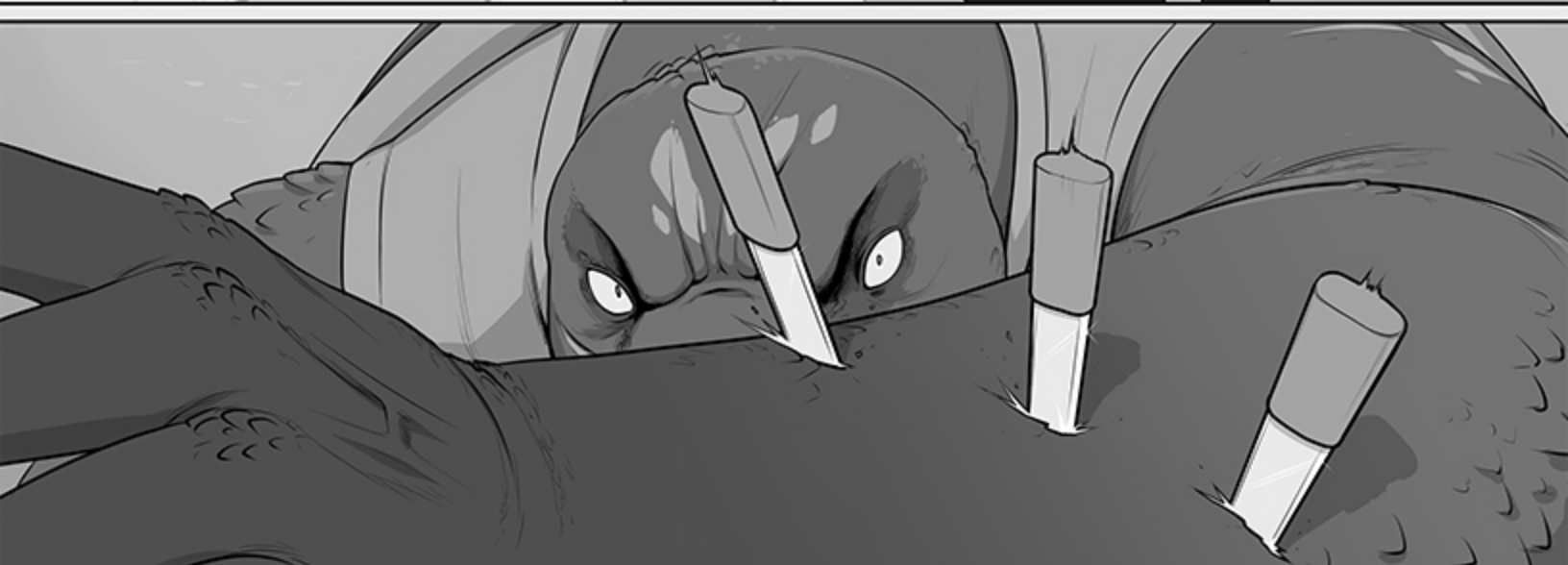


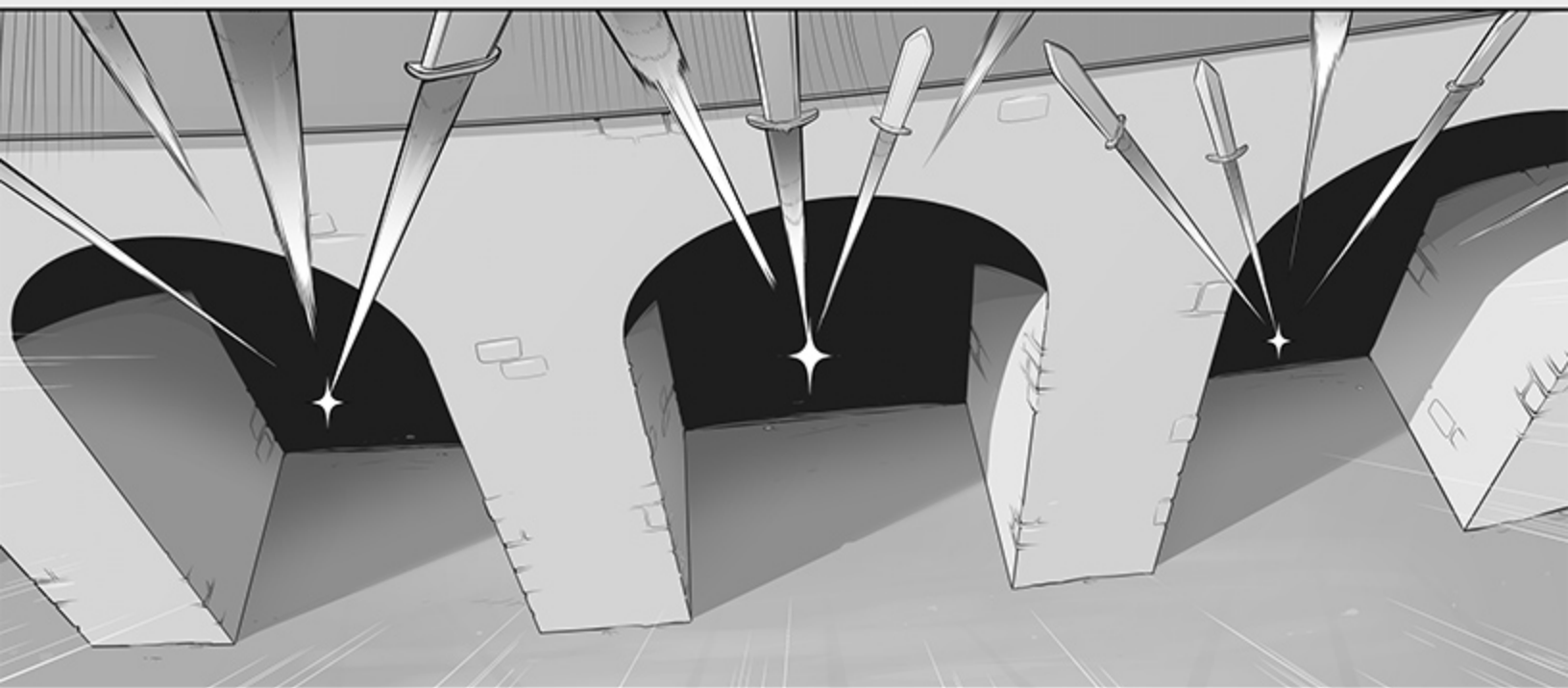
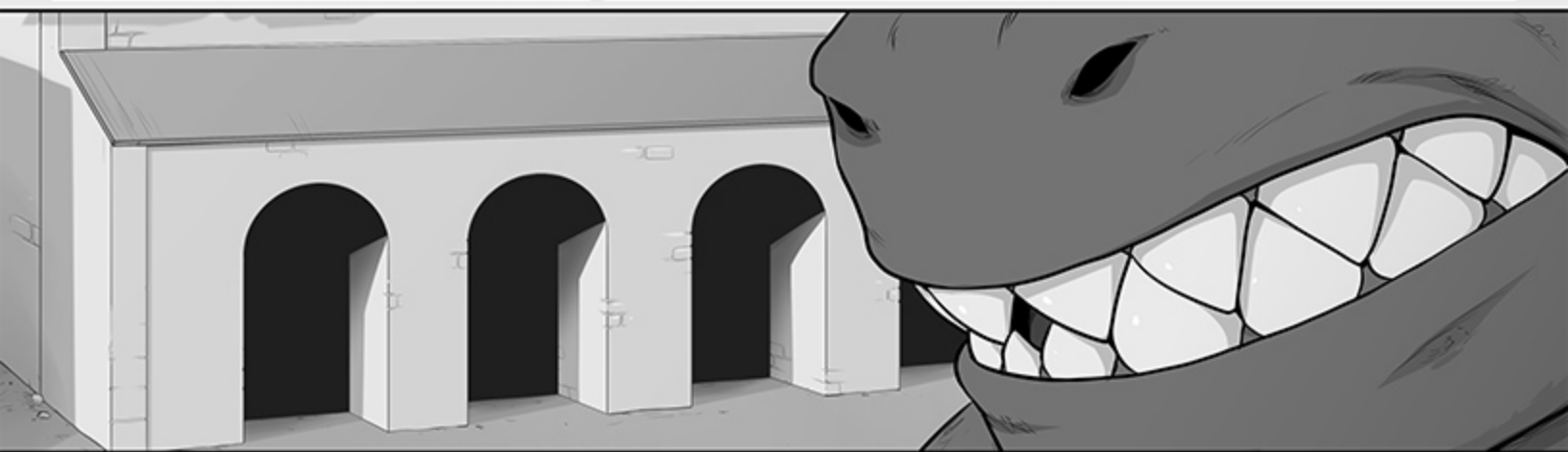


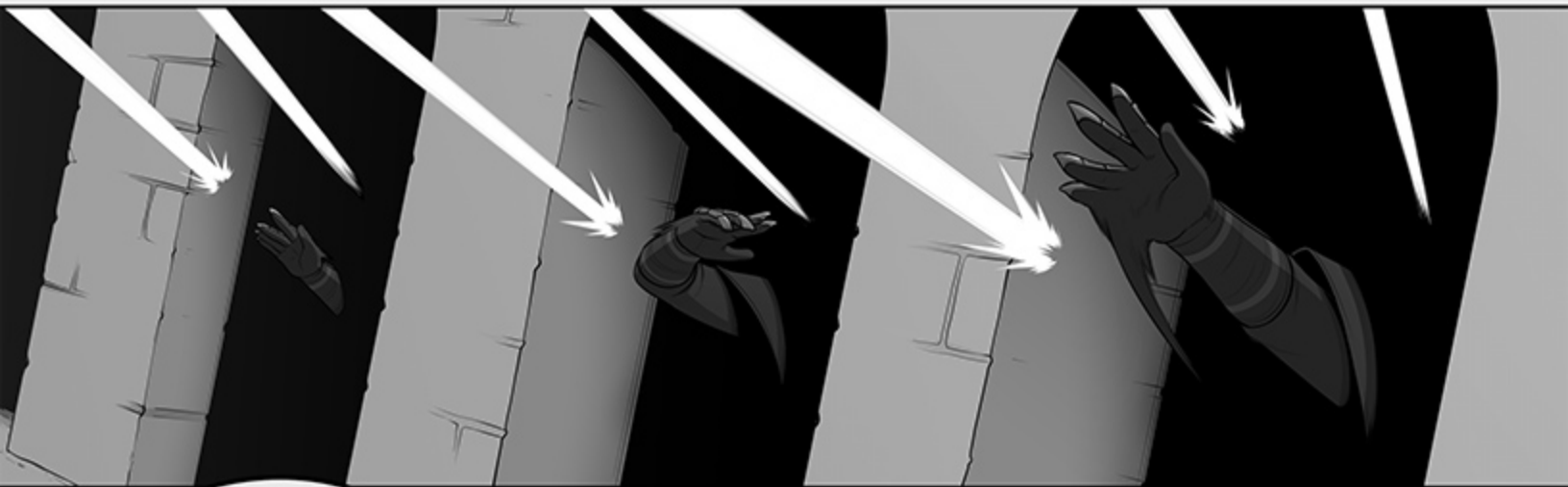
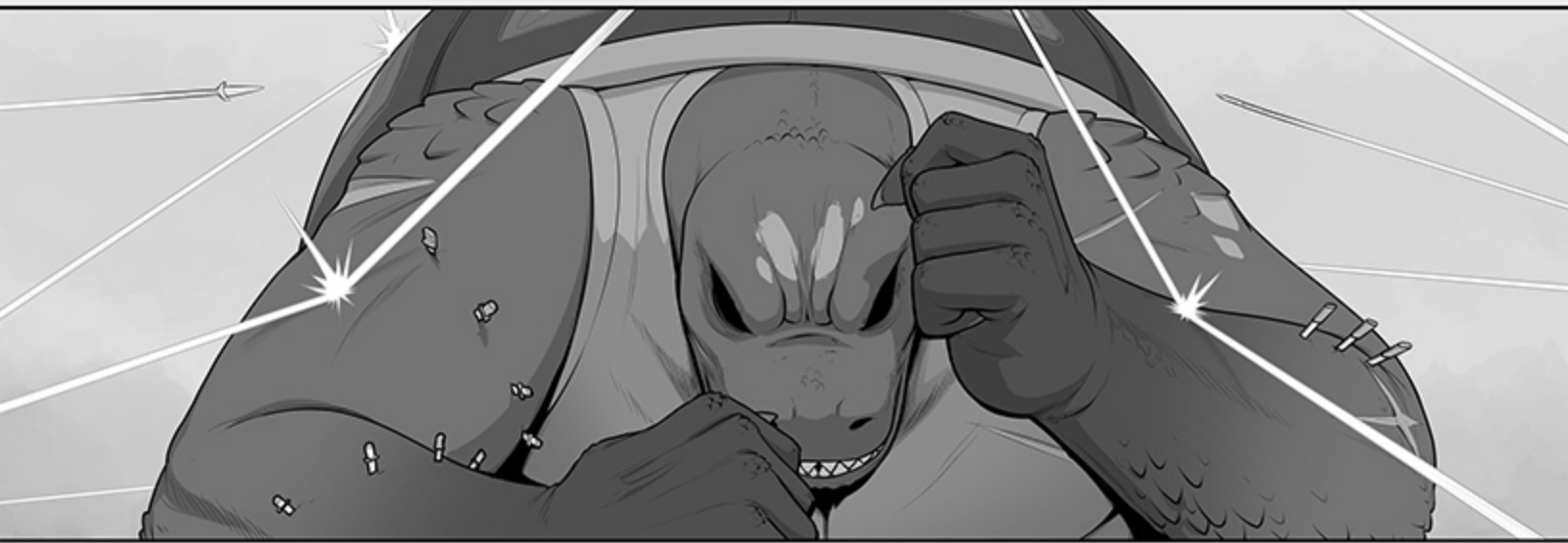
REINFORCEMENTS HAVE ARRIVED











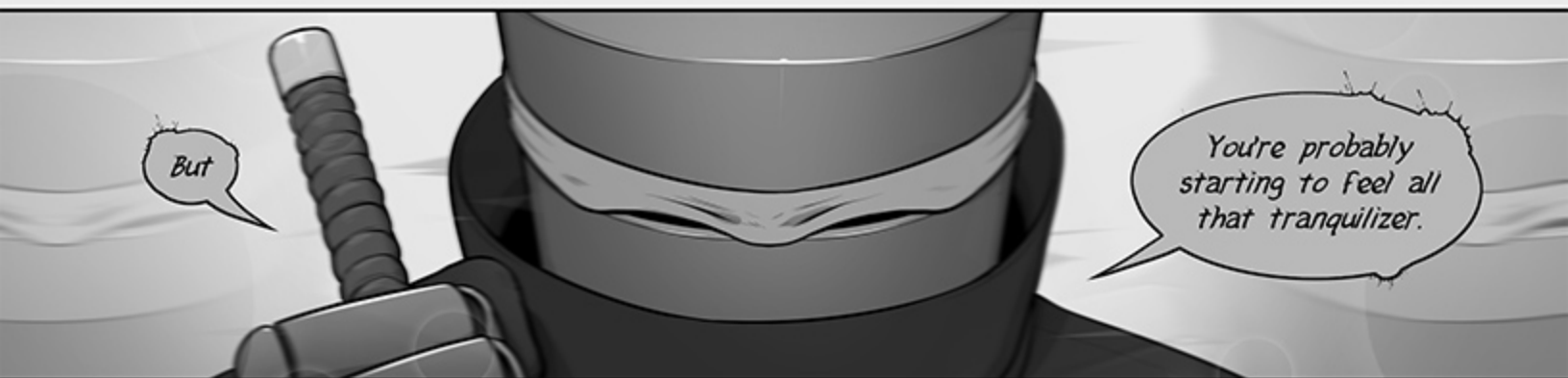




What... is
this made of?

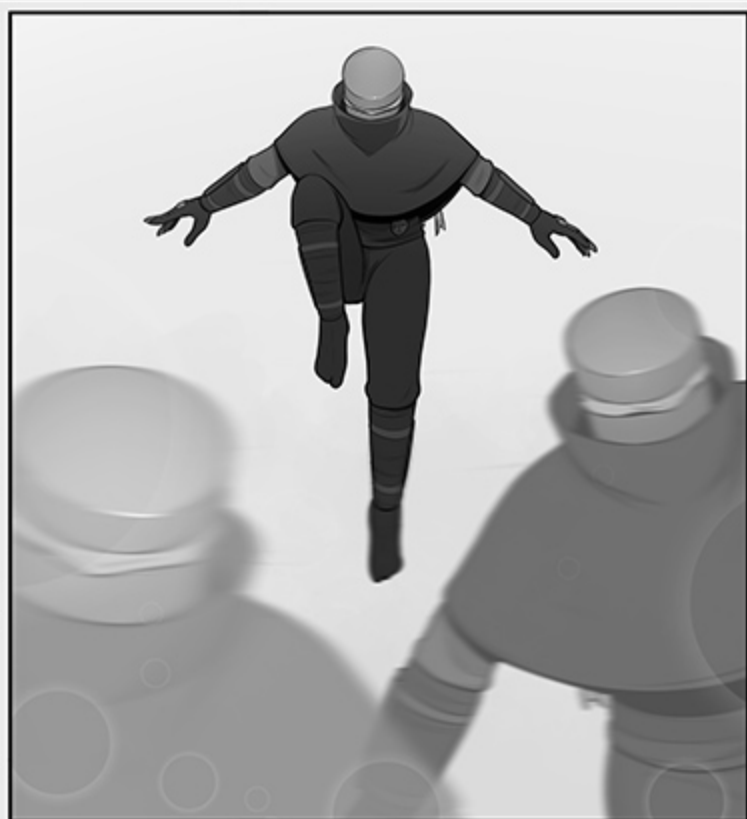


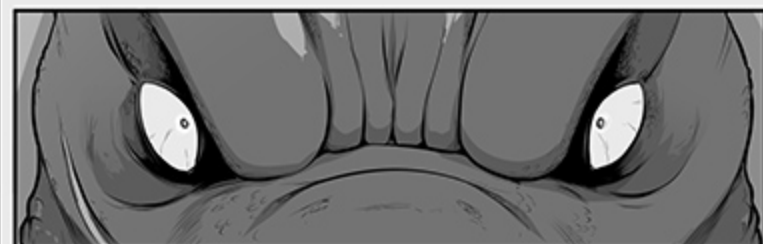
Cloth.



But

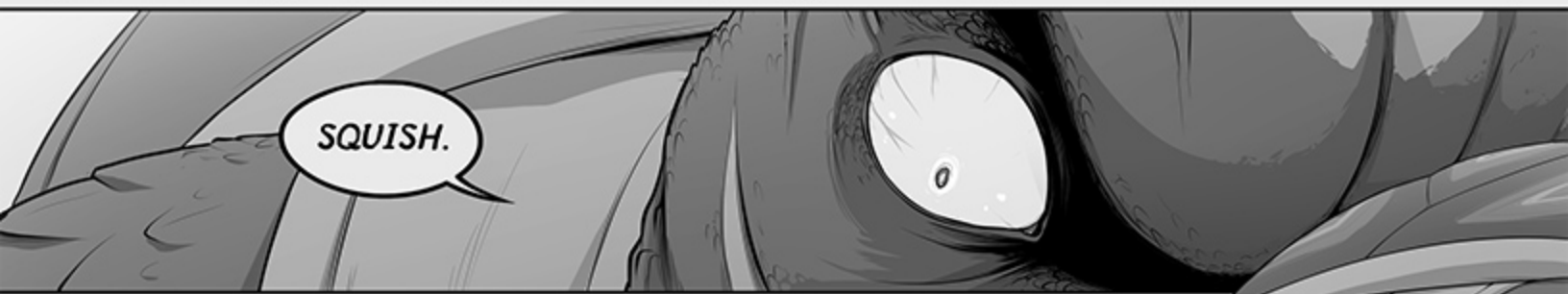
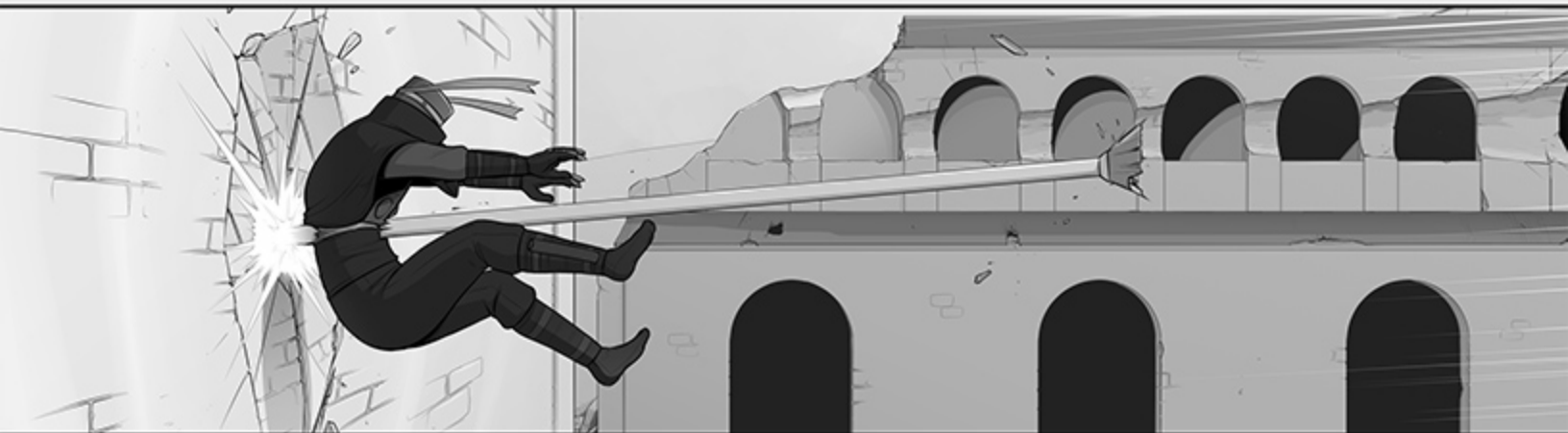
You're probably
starting to feel all
that tranquilizer.



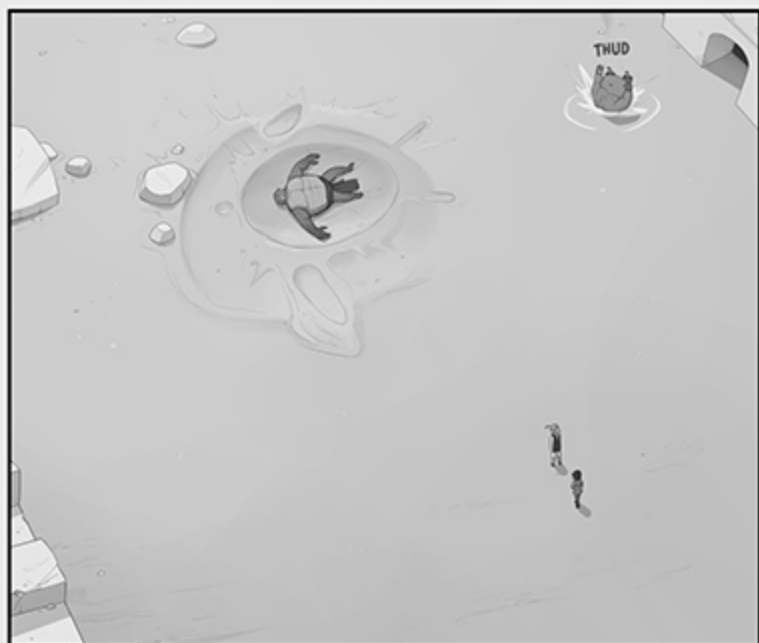
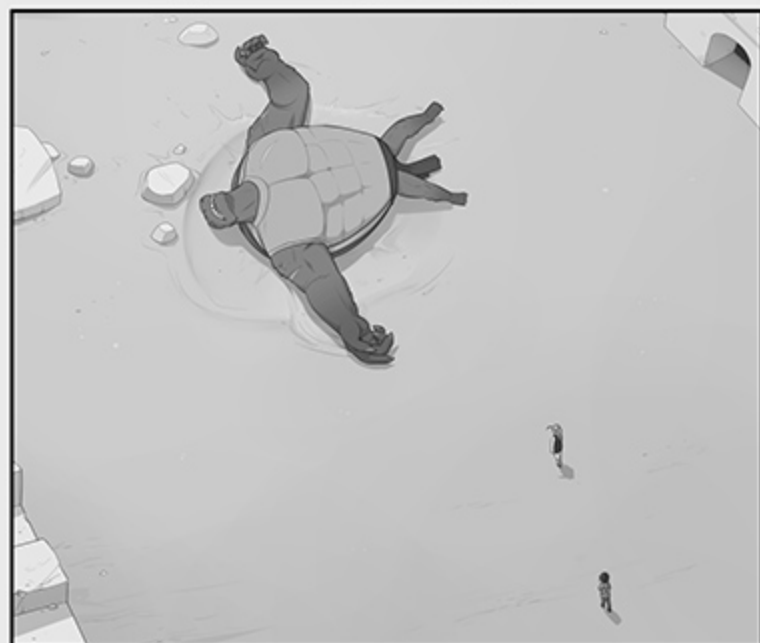


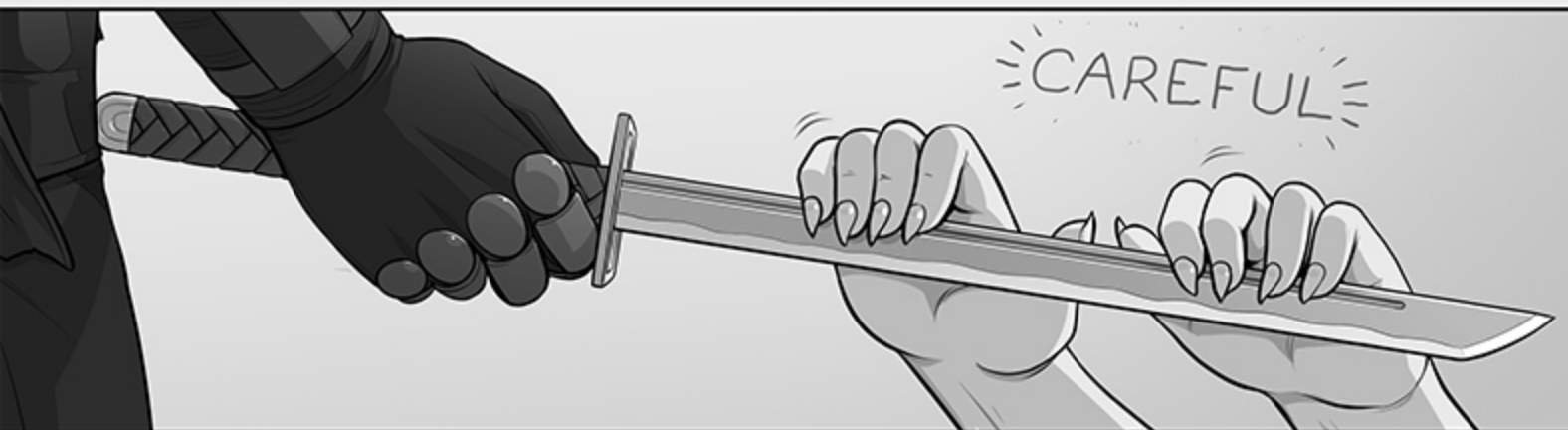


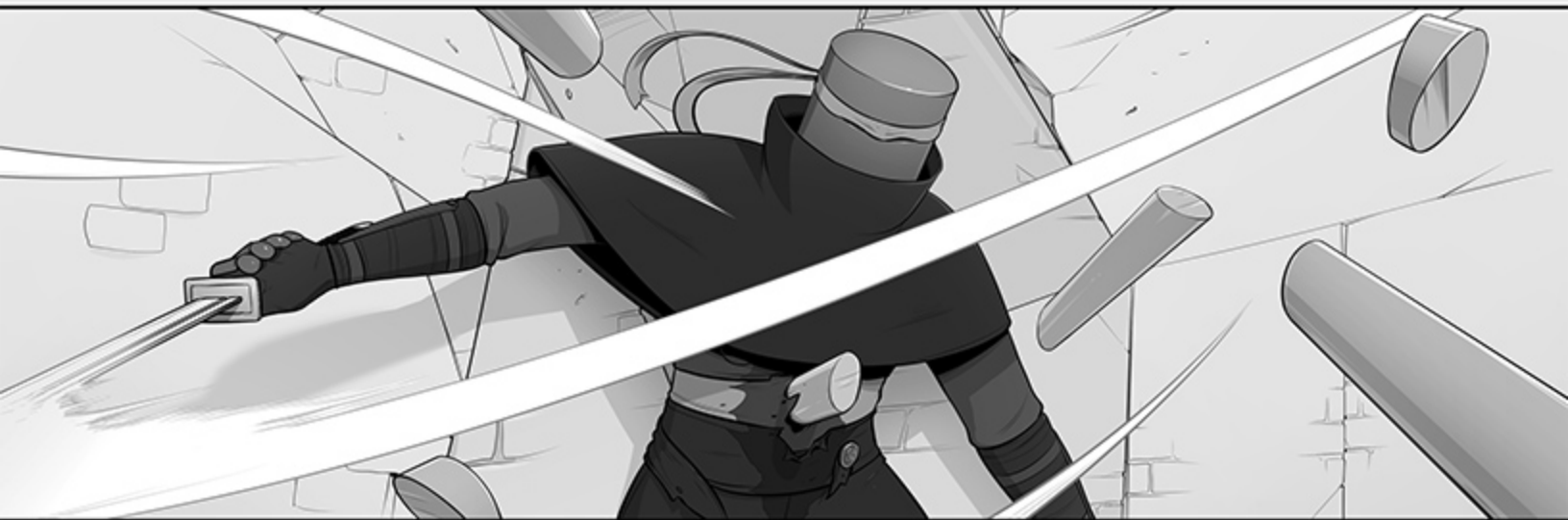




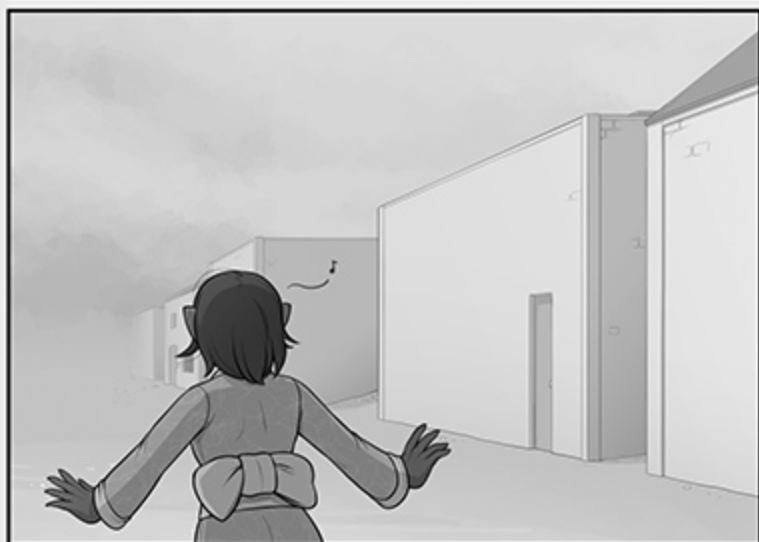












EVERYONE HATH SOMETHING TO
CONTRIBUTE TO GIANT TASKS
(DOTH I LAYETH IT ON THICK?)

Chapter 16 End

Thanks for reading!

Ironheart-Rune by Will Muzzi

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

