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A Question of Scale





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A QUESTION OF SCALE 3

Roxanne Adams and Alicia Torrey, trapped on a world sixteen times too big for them, encounter other new arrivals, face more giants, and confront new mysteries!

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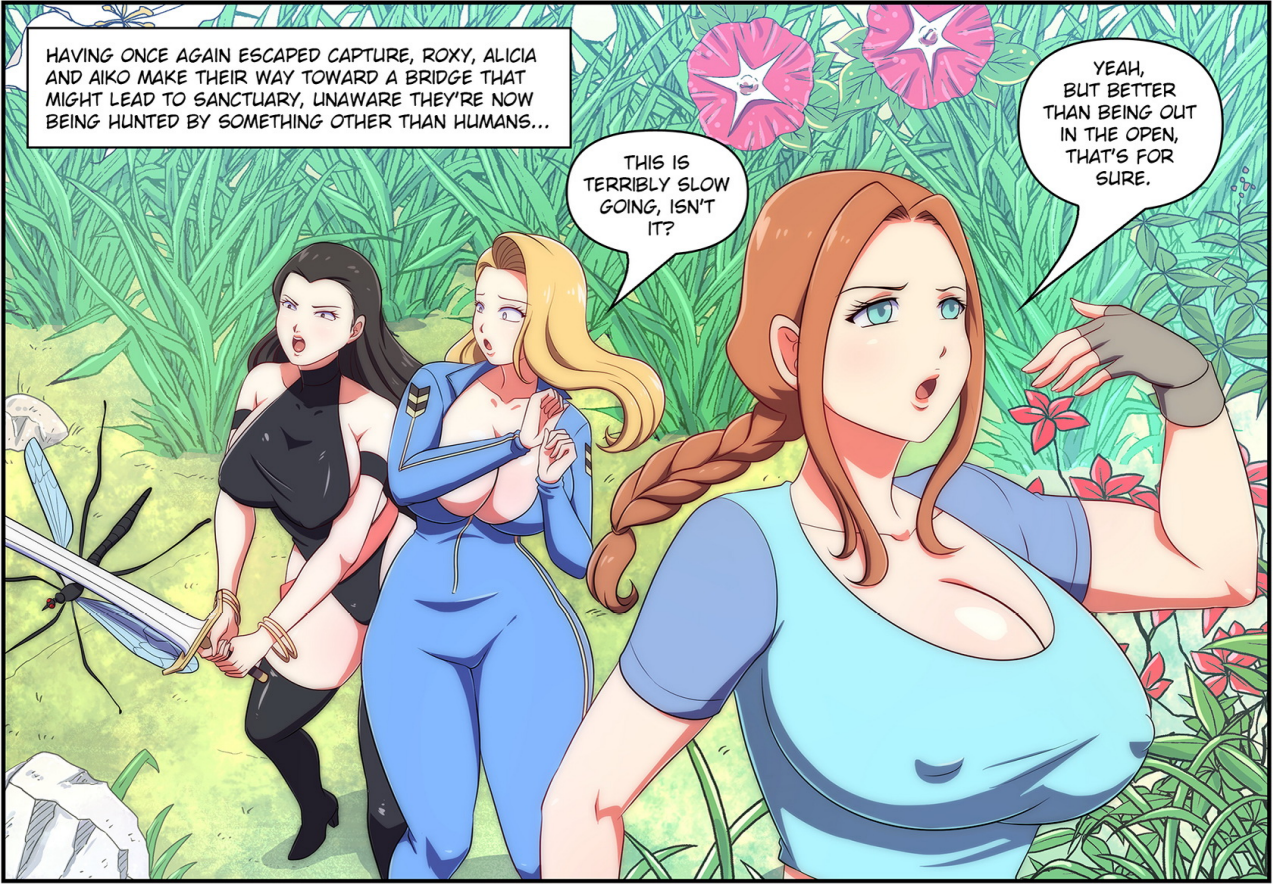
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HAVING ONCE AGAIN ESCAPED CAPTURE, ROXY, ALICIA AND AIKO MAKE THEIR WAY TOWARD A BRIDGE THAT MIGHT LEAD TO SANCTUARY, UNAWARE THEY'RE NOW BEING HUNTED BY SOMETHING OTHER THAN HUMANS...

THIS IS TERRIBLY SLOW GOING, ISN'T IT?

YEAH, BUT BETTER THAN BEING OUT IN THE OPEN, THAT'S FOR SURE.



WELL, THERE'S THE BRIDGE, BUT I'M NOT SURE I LIKE HOW EXPOSED WE'RE GOING TO BE UP THERE WHEN WE TRY TO CROSS IT.

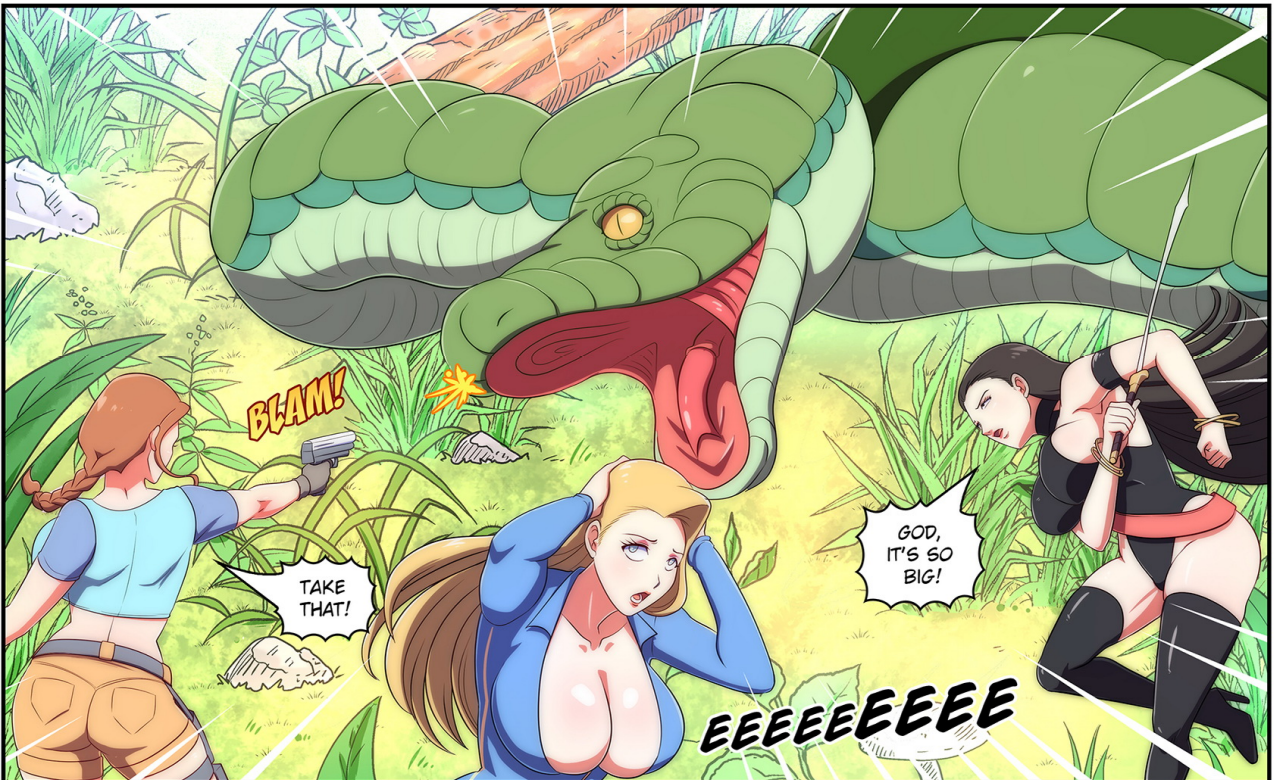
WELL, I'M NOT SWIMMING, THAT'S FOR DAMN SURE.

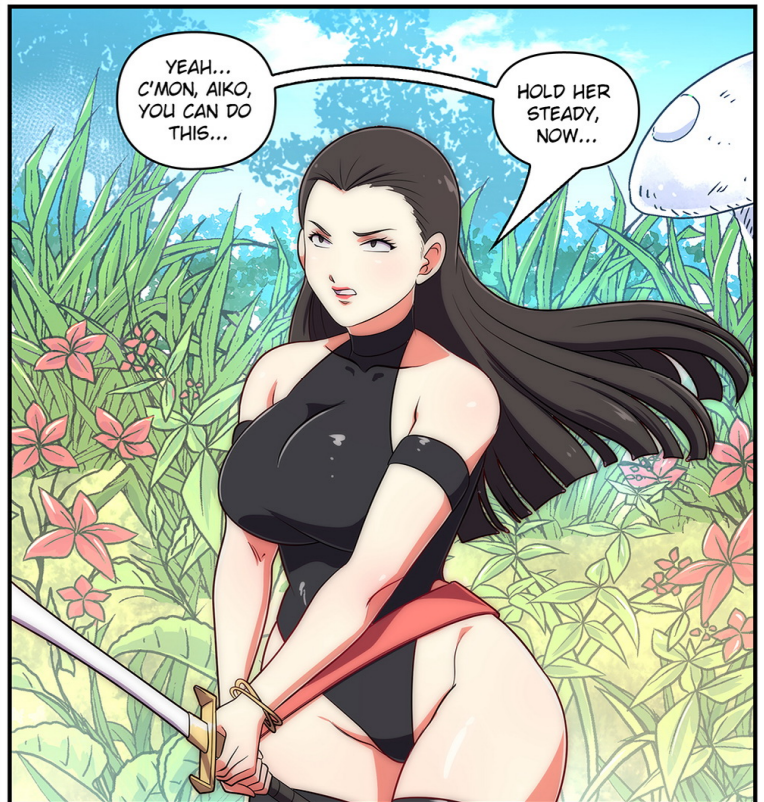
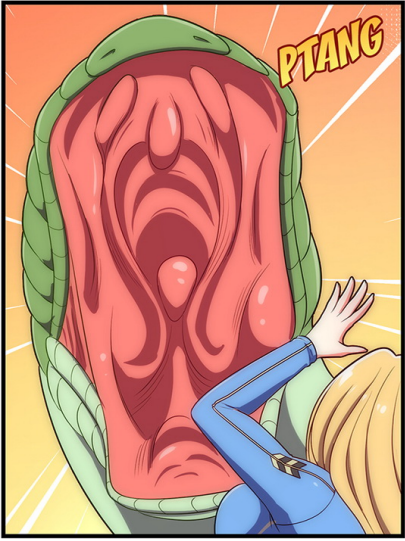
LET ME SEE IF I CAN GET A BETTER VIEW FROM ON TOP OF THIS LOG.



LET ME SEE WHAT I CAN-

EEEEEE!

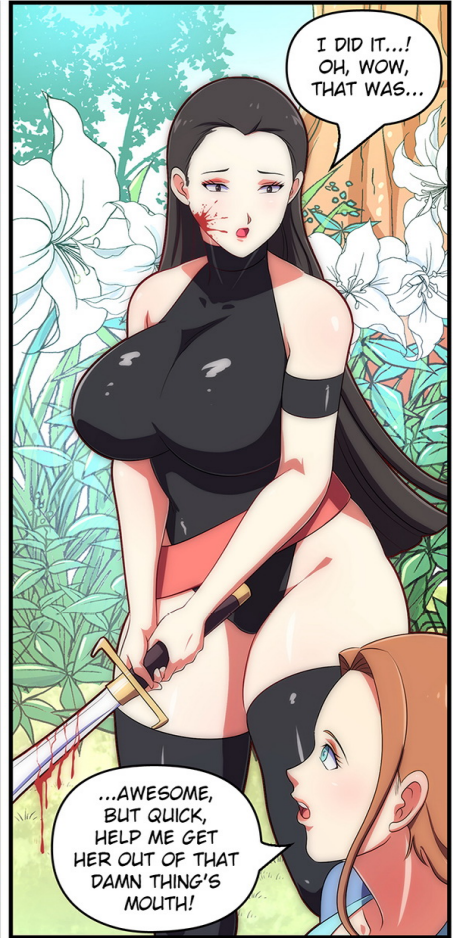






KAIYEEEE!

SNICK!



I DID IT...!
OH, WOW,
THAT WAS...

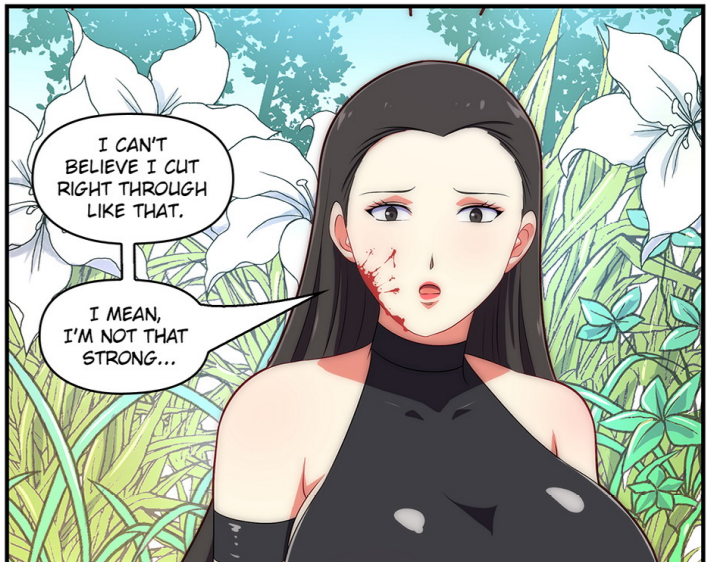
...AWESOME,
BUT QUICK,
HELP ME GET
HER OUT OF THAT
DAMN THING'S
MOUTH!



OH, GOD,
THANK YOU,
I THOUGHT I
WAS DEAD!

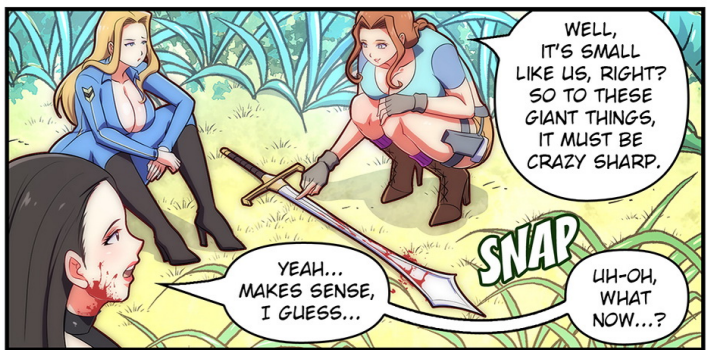
JUST GLAD
YOU'RE OKAY.
NICE SWINGING,
AIKO.

I JUST
WISH I COULD
THANK CAITLYN
FOR THAT
SWORD...



I CAN'T
BELIEVE I CUT
RIGHT THROUGH
LIKE THAT.

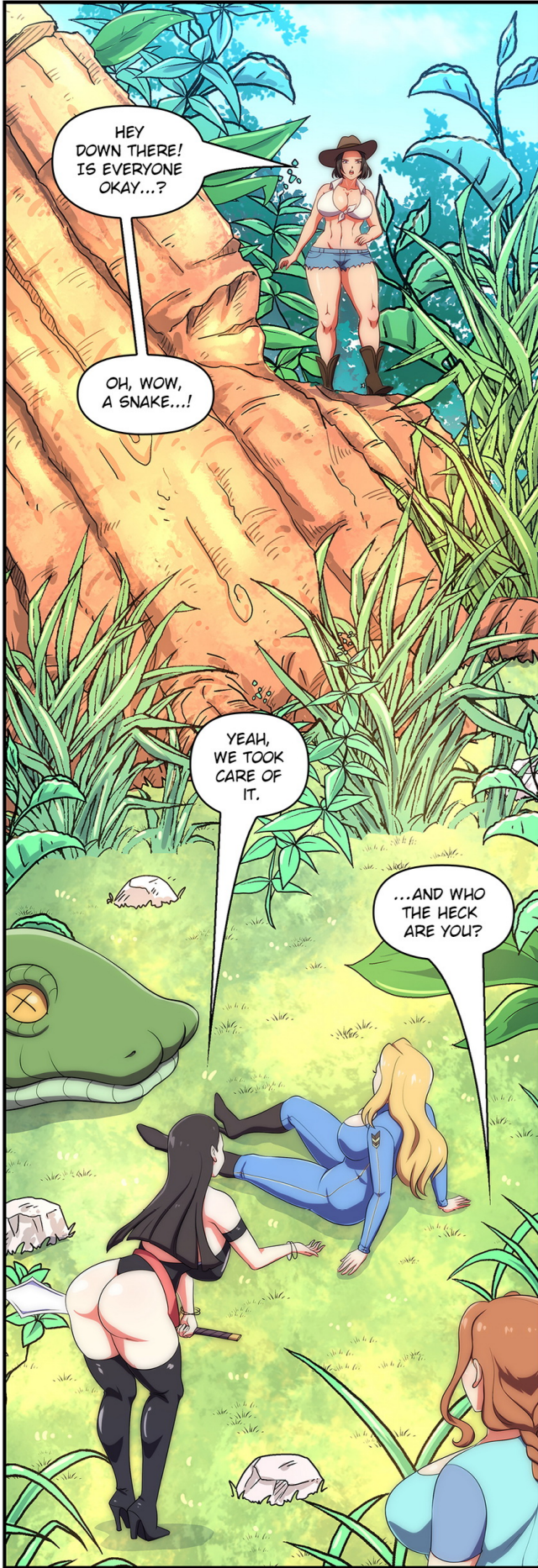
I MEAN,
I'M NOT THAT
STRONG...



WELL,
IT'S SMALL
LIKE US, RIGHT?
SO TO THESE
GIANT THINGS,
IT MUST BE
CRAZY SHARP.

YEAH...
MAKES SENSE,
I GUESS...

UH-OH,
WHAT
NOW...?



HEY DOWN THERE!
IS EVERYONE
OKAY...?

OH, WOW,
A SNAKE...!

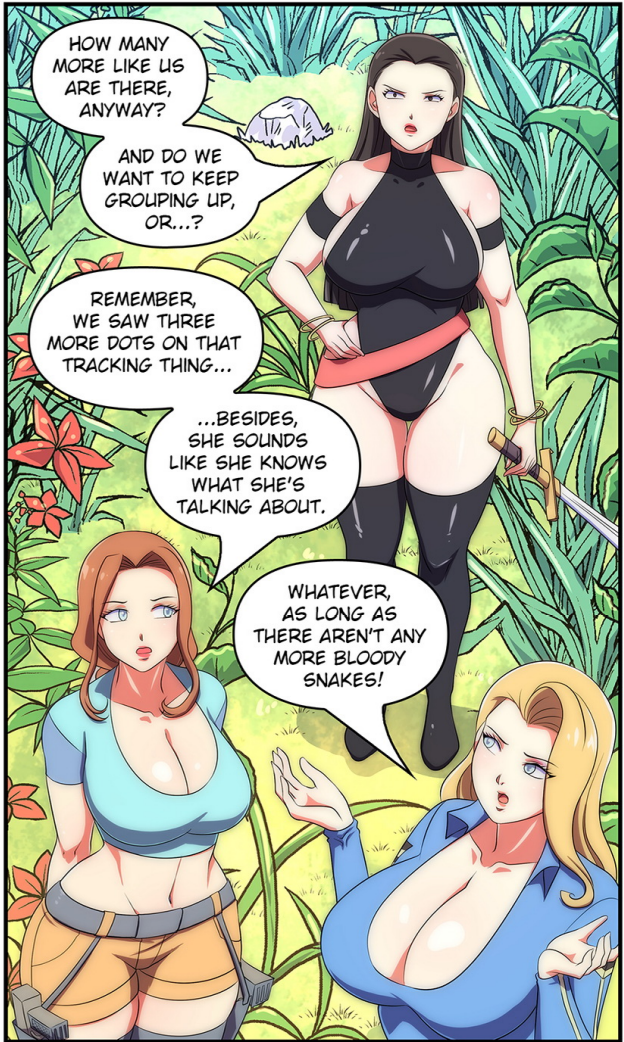
YEAH,
WE TOOK
CARE OF
IT.

...AND WHO
THE HECK
ARE YOU?



NAME'S
SYLANIA MYERS.
I'VE GOT TWO
MORE WITH ME
UP HERE.

COME ON,
YOU DON'T WANT
TO BE DOWN BY
THE WATER. ANYONE
ON THE BRIDGE CAN
LOOK DOWN AND
SPOT YOU EASILY
ENOUGH.



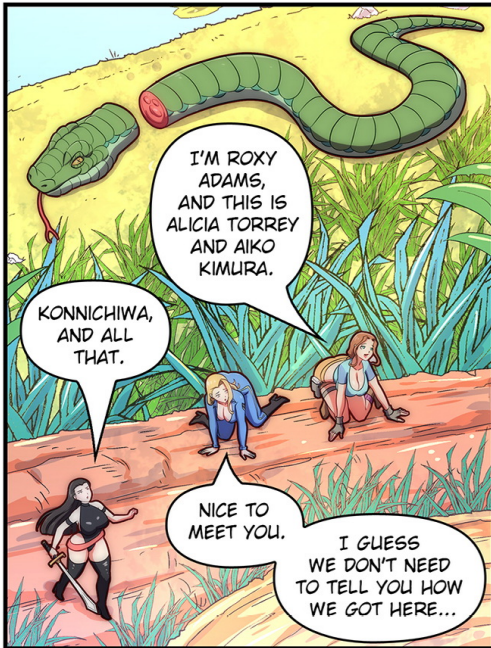
HOW MANY
MORE LIKE US
ARE THERE,
ANYWAY?

AND DO WE
WANT TO KEEP
GROUPING UP,
OR...?

REMEMBER,
WE SAW THREE
MORE DOTS ON THAT
TRACKING THING...

...BESIDES,
SHE SOUNDS
LIKE SHE KNOWS
WHAT SHE'S
TALKING ABOUT.

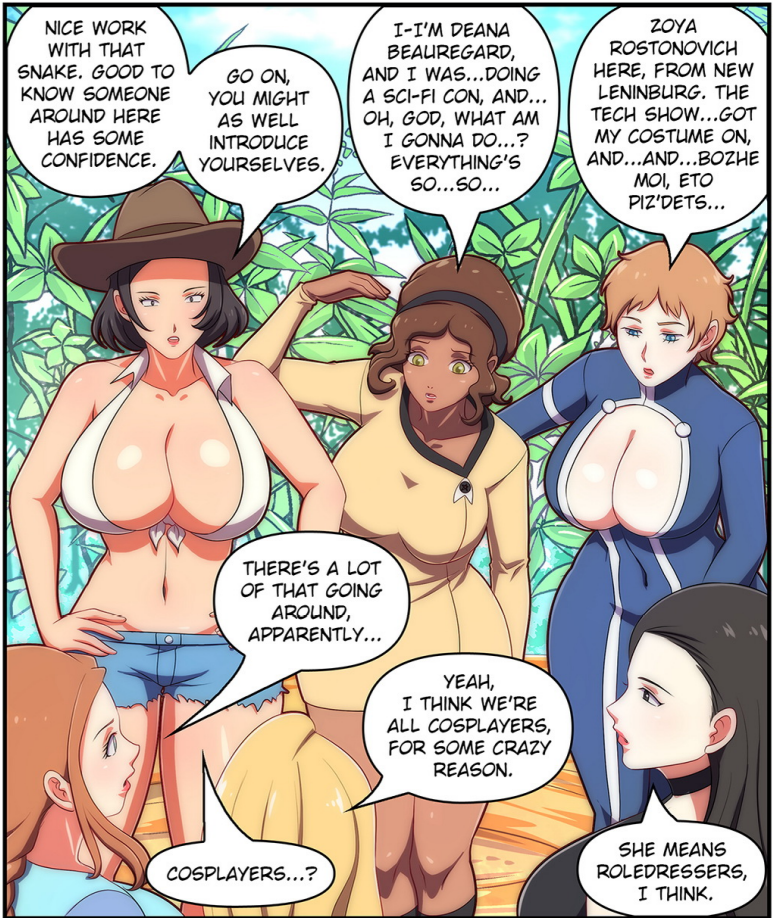
WHATEVER,
AS LONG AS
THERE AREN'T ANY
MORE BLOODY
SNAKES!



I'M ROXY ADAMS, AND THIS IS ALICIA TORREY AND AIKO KIMURA.

KONNICHIWA, AND ALL THAT.

NICE TO MEET YOU. I GUESS WE DON'T NEED TO TELL YOU HOW WE GOT HERE...



NICE WORK WITH THAT SNAKE. GOOD TO KNOW SOMEONE AROUND HERE HAS SOME CONFIDENCE.

GO ON, YOU MIGHT AS WELL INTRODUCE YOURSELVES.

I-I'M DEANA BEAUREGARD, AND I WAS...DOING A SCI-FI CON, AND... OH, GOD, WHAT AM I GONNA DO...? EVERYTHING'S SO...SO...

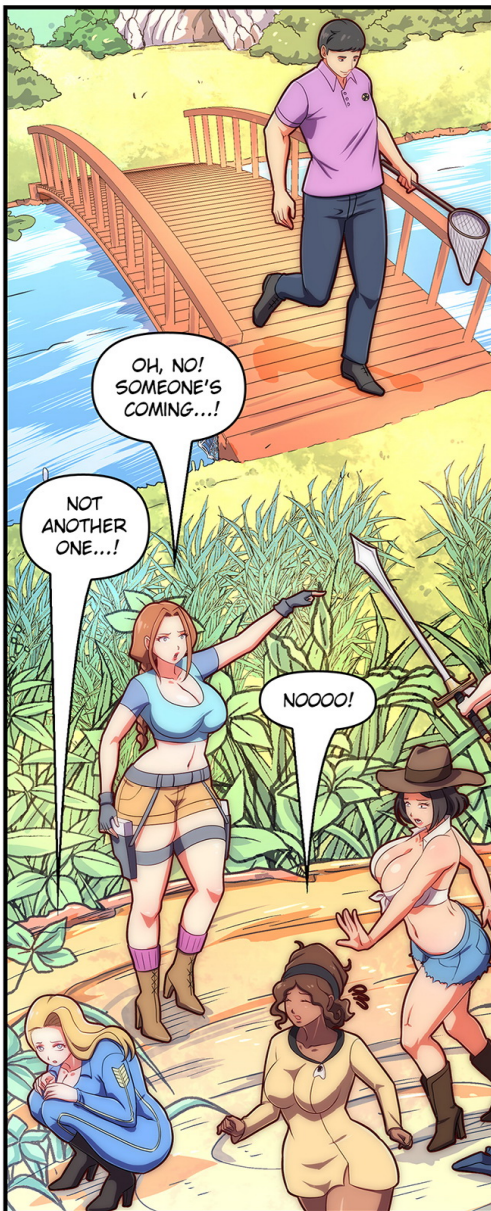
ZOYA ROSTONOVICH HERE, FROM NEW LENINBURG. THE TECH SHOW...GOT MY COSTUME ON, AND...AND...BOZHE MOI, ETO PIZ'DETS...

THERE'S A LOT OF THAT GOING AROUND, APPARENTLY...

YEAH, I THINK WE'RE ALL COSPLAYERS, FOR SOME CRAZY REASON.

COSPLAYERS...?

SHE MEANS ROLEDRESSERS, I THINK.



OH, NO! SOMEONE'S COMING...!

NOT ANOTHER ONE...!

NOOOO!

WAIT, DON'T RUN, HE'LL SEE...!



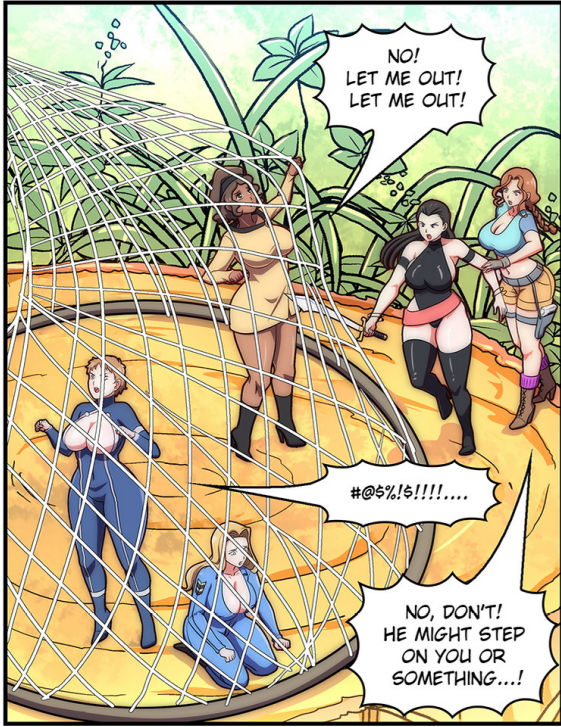
AH! IT'S MY LUCKY DAY!

QUICK, SCATTER...!

GET UP, QUICK!

NOOO, DON'T LET HIM GET ME...!

BLYAT, GET AWAY! I'M TRYING TO HIDE HERE...!



NO!
LET ME OUT!
LET ME OUT!

#@\$%!&!!!!....

NO, DON'T!
HE MIGHT STEP
ON YOU OR
SOMETHING....!



WELL, WELL,
LET'S SEE WHAT
I'VE CAUGHT!

NOOOO...!



MMM,
SO MANY
CHOICES...

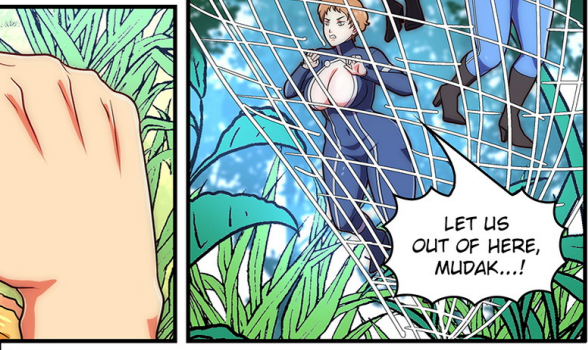
NOOOO....

I WANT
TO GO
HOME...

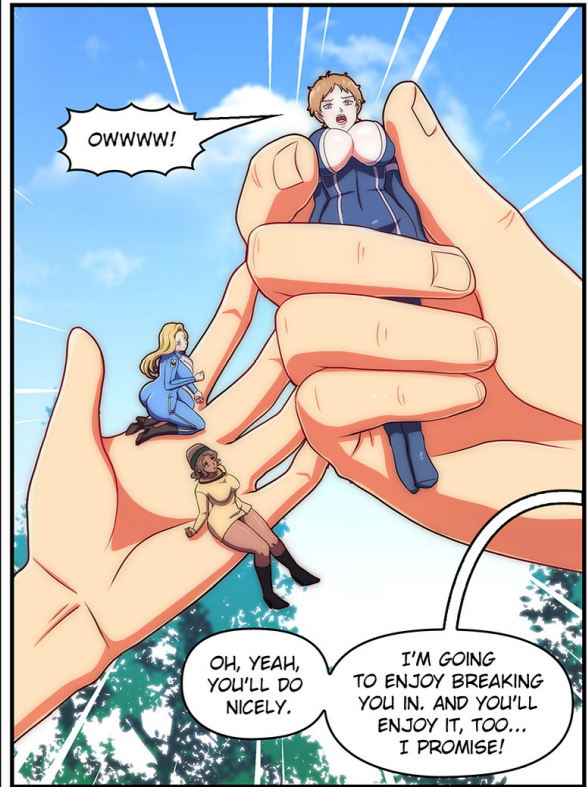
PUT US
DOWN, YOU
MONSTER!

AH,
A SPLUNKY
ONE!

LET'S SEE
WHAT YOU
FEEL LIKE...



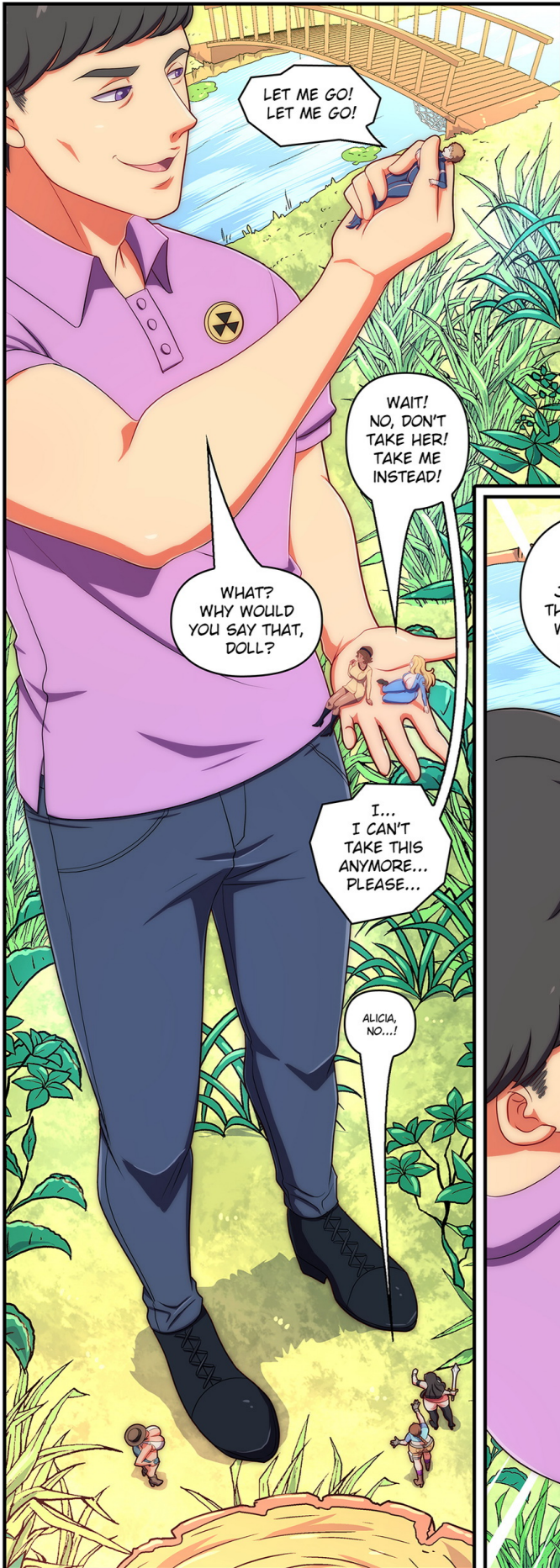
LET US
OUT OF HERE,
MUDAK...!



OWWWW!

OH, YEAH,
YOU'LL DO
NICELY.

I'M GOING
TO ENJOY BREAKING
YOU IN. AND YOU'LL
ENJOY IT, TOO...
I PROMISE!



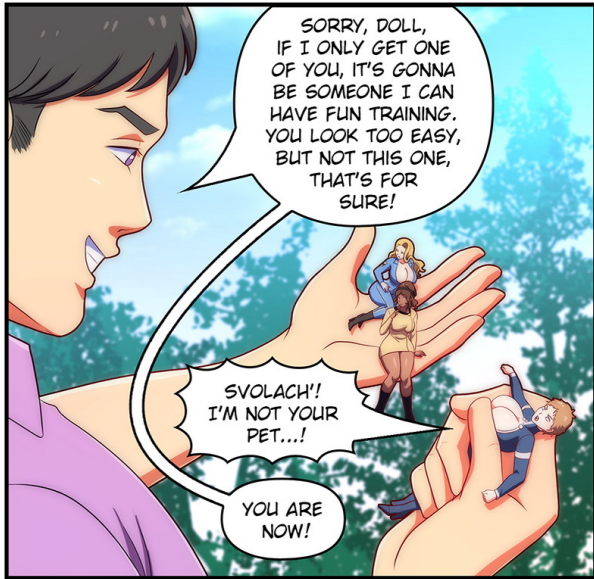
LET ME GO!
LET ME GO!

WAIT!
NO, DON'T
TAKE HER!
TAKE ME
INSTEAD!

WHAT?
WHY WOULD
YOU SAY THAT,
DOLL?

I...
I CAN'T
TAKE THIS
ANYMORE...
PLEASE...

ALICIA,
NO...!



SORRY, DOLL,
IF I ONLY GET ONE
OF YOU, IT'S GONNA
BE SOMEONE I CAN
HAVE FUN TRAINING.
YOU LOOK TOO EASY,
BUT NOT THIS ONE,
THAT'S FOR
SURE!

SVOLACH!
I'M NOT YOUR
PET...!

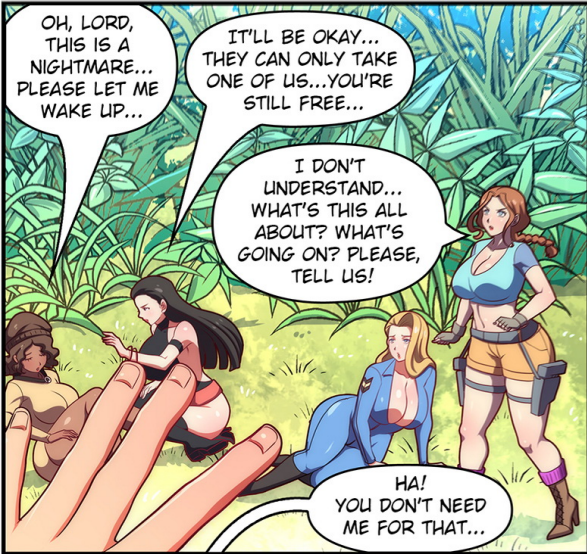
YOU ARE
NOW!



AS FOR YOU,
IF YOU REALLY
WANT TO GIVE UP,
JUST GO STAND OUT
THERE. SOMEONE ELSE
WILL BE ALONG SOON
ENOUGH, I'M SURE.

AS FOR ME,
I'VE MADE MY
CHOICE, AND
NOW...

...SO
SHOULD
YOU.

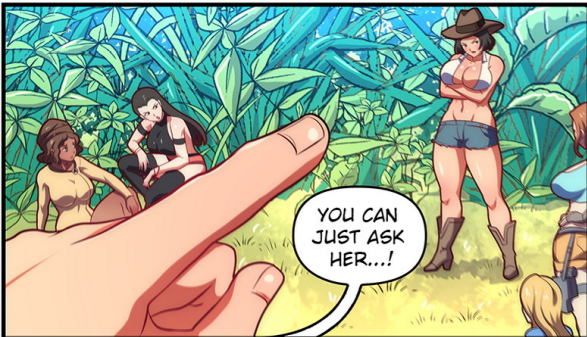


OH, LORD, THIS IS A NIGHTMARE... PLEASE LET ME WAKE UP...

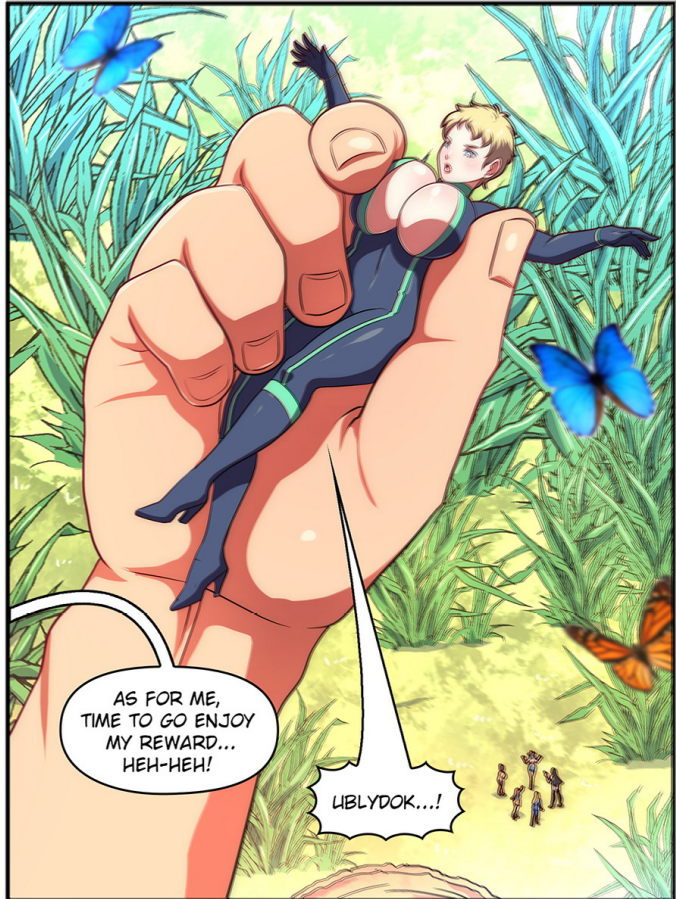
IT'LL BE OKAY... THEY CAN ONLY TAKE ONE OF US...YOU'RE STILL FREE...

I DON'T UNDERSTAND... WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? WHAT'S GOING ON? PLEASE, TELL US!

HA! YOU DON'T NEED ME FOR THAT...



YOU CAN JUST ASK HER...!



AS FOR ME, TIME TO GO ENJOY MY REWARD... HEH-HEH!

LIBLYDOK...!



OKAY, SPILL IT, SYLANIA! WHAT DID HE MEAN, ASK YOU? WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

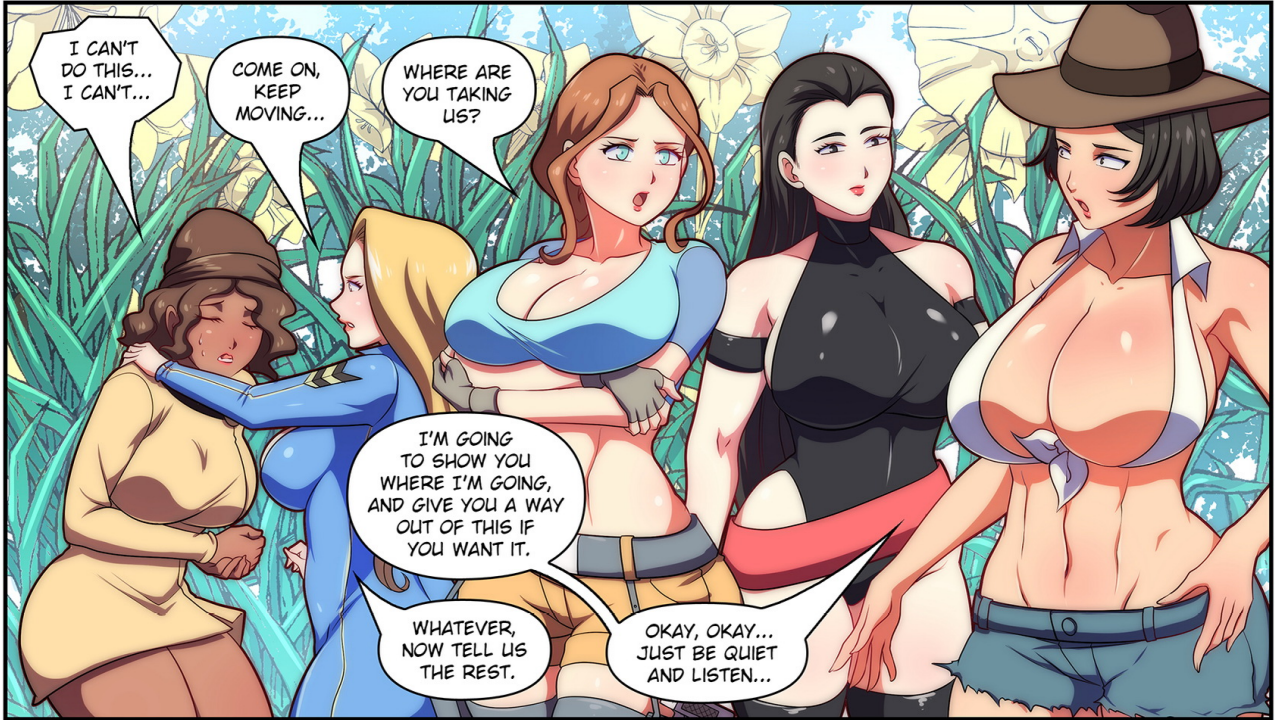
TELL US THE TRUTH, OR...!

OKAY, OKAY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO THREATEN ME...

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I KNOW, BUT WE SHOULD KEEP MOVING... ANOTHER ONE COULD BE ALONG ANY MINUTE.

YEAH, ARE YOU A... WHAT WOULD JAMIE BOND CALL IT...?

...A DOUBLE AGENT...?



I CAN'T DO THIS... I CAN'T...

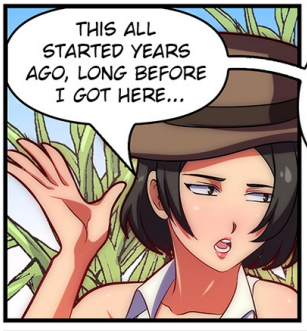
COME ON, KEEP MOVING...

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING US?

I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU WHERE I'M GOING, AND GIVE YOU A WAY OUT OF THIS IF YOU WANT IT.

WHATEVER, NOW TELL US THE REST.

OKAY, OKAY... JUST BE QUIET AND LISTEN...



THIS ALL STARTED YEARS AGO, LONG BEFORE I GOT HERE...

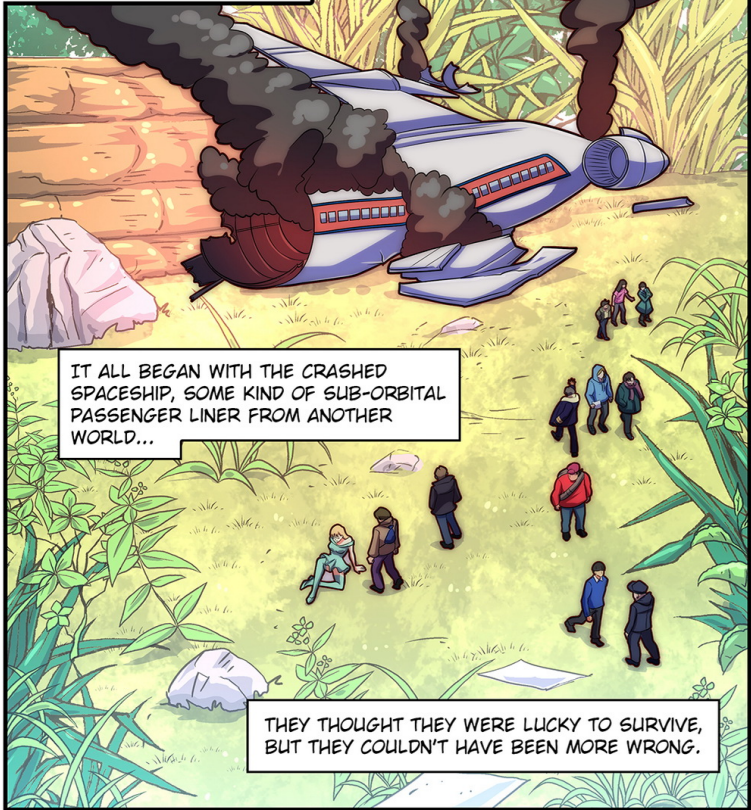


MOST OF WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SAY HAS BEEN PIECED TOGETHER FROM THINGS I'VE SEEN AND HEARD, SO KEEP THAT IN MIND. ANYWAY...



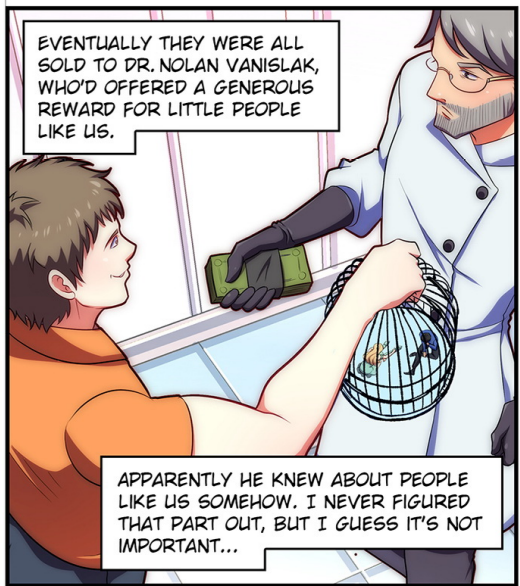
IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR THEM REALIZE HOW BIG EVERYTHING WAS...

THEY WERE TINY, AND TRAPPED IN A WORLD OF GIANTS.



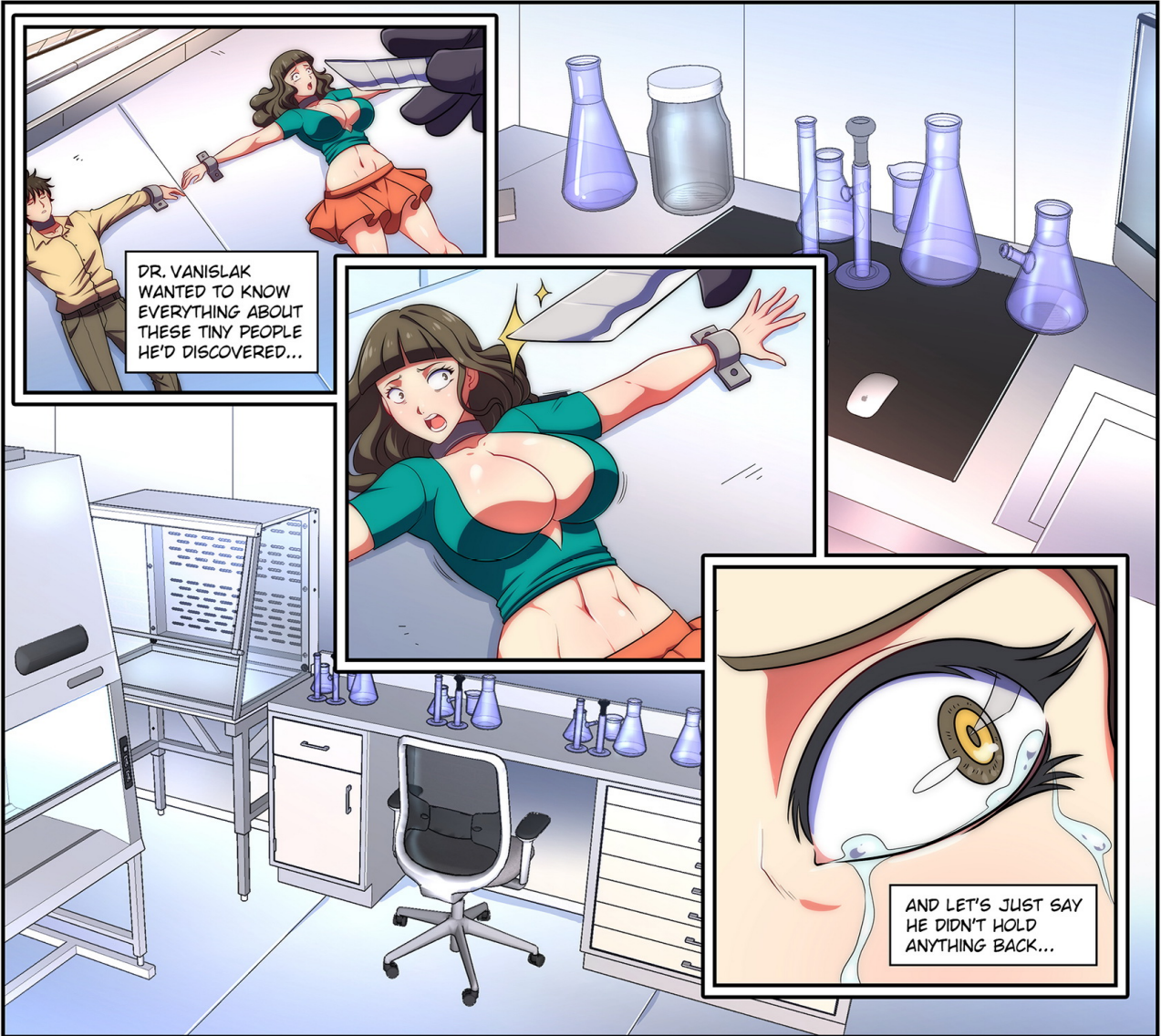
IT ALL BEGAN WITH THE CRASHED SPACESHIP, SOME KIND OF SUB-ORBITAL PASSENGER LINER FROM ANOTHER WORLD...

THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE LUCKY TO SURVIVE, BUT THEY COULDN'T HAVE BEEN MORE WRONG.



EVENTUALLY THEY WERE ALL SOLD TO DR. NOLAN VANISLAK, WHO'D OFFERED A GENEROUS REWARD FOR LITTLE PEOPLE LIKE US.

APPARENTLY HE KNEW ABOUT PEOPLE LIKE US SOMEHOW. I NEVER FIGURED THAT PART OUT, BUT I GUESS IT'S NOT IMPORTANT...



DR. VANISLAK WANTED TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT THESE TINY PEOPLE HE'D DISCOVERED...

AND LET'S JUST SAY HE DIDN'T HOLD ANYTHING BACK...

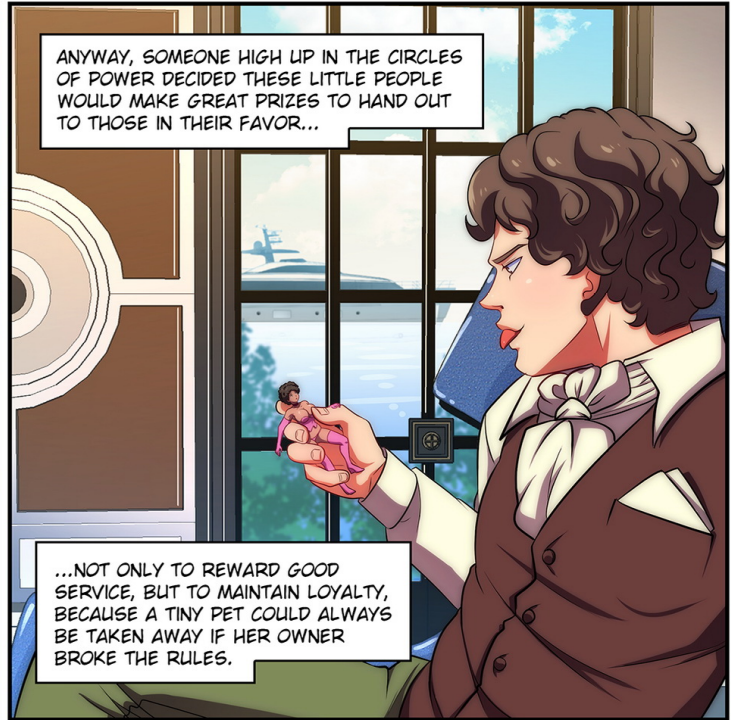
AND LET'S JUST SAY HE DIDN'T HOLD ANYTHING BACK...



WORD OF THE GOOD DOCTOR'S EXPERIMENTS GOT OUT, AND THE GOVERNMENT GOT INTERESTED...

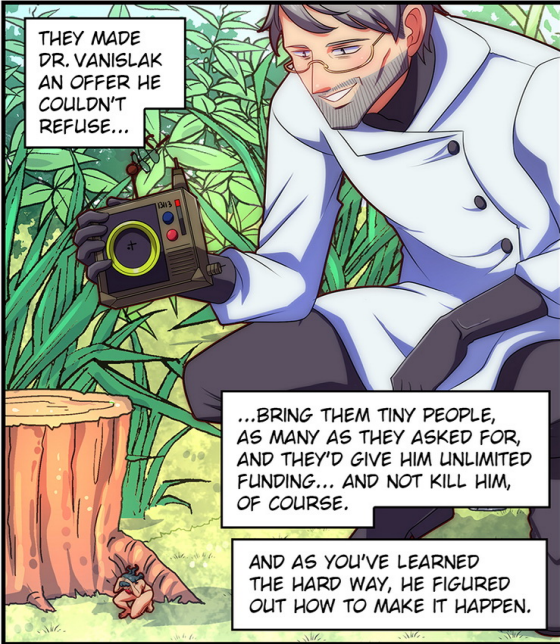
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE WHERE YOU COME FROM, BUT ON THIS WORLD THE STATE CONTROLS PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING...

...AND THE HIGHER YOU ARE IN THE POWER STRUCTURE, THE BETTER YOUR REWARDS.



ANYWAY, SOMEONE HIGH UP IN THE CIRCLES OF POWER DECIDED THESE LITTLE PEOPLE WOULD MAKE GREAT PRIZES TO HAND OUT TO THOSE IN THEIR FAVOR...

...NOT ONLY TO REWARD GOOD SERVICE, BUT TO MAINTAIN LOYALTY, BECAUSE A TINY PET COULD ALWAYS BE TAKEN AWAY IF HER OWNER BROKE THE RULES.



THEY MADE DR. VANISLAK AN OFFER HE COULDN'T REFUSE...

...BRING THEM TINY PEOPLE, AS MANY AS THEY ASKED FOR, AND THEY'D GIVE HIM UNLIMITED FUNDING... AND NOT KILL HIM, OF COURSE.

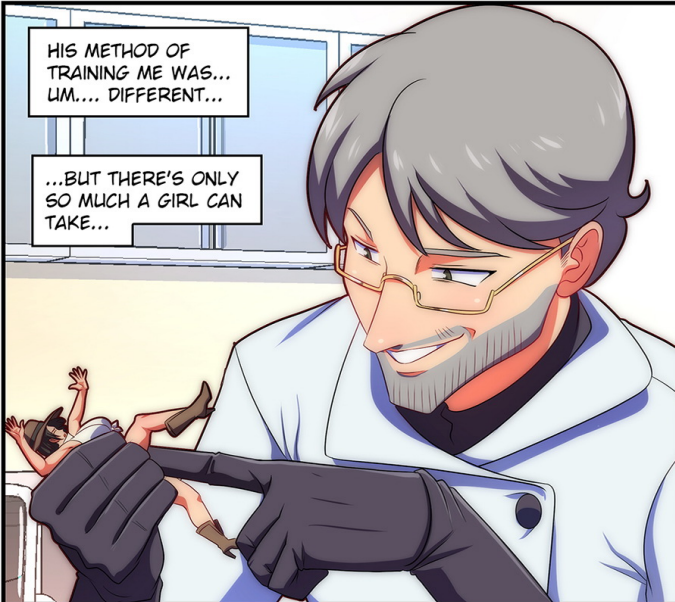
AND AS YOU'VE LEARNED THE HARD WAY, HE FIGURED OUT HOW TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.



THAT'S WHERE I COME INTO THIS. HE BROUGHT ME HERE TWO MONTHS AGO, I THINK. IT'S HARD TO TELL, EXACTLY...

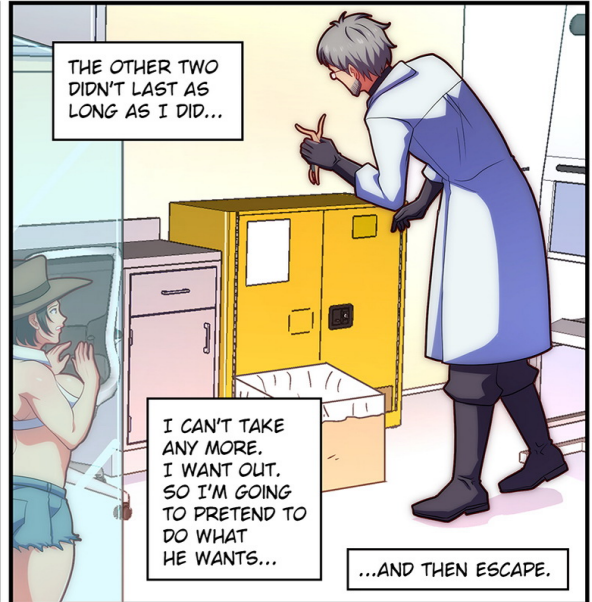
I WAS ONE OF THREE THEY LET HIM KEEP AS A REWARD. HE TRAINED US TO... TO BE HIS WRANGLERS, I GUESS YOU'D SAY.

THAT'S WHAT THE OUTFIT IS ALL ABOUT, AT LEAST...



HIS METHOD OF TRAINING ME WAS... UM... DIFFERENT...

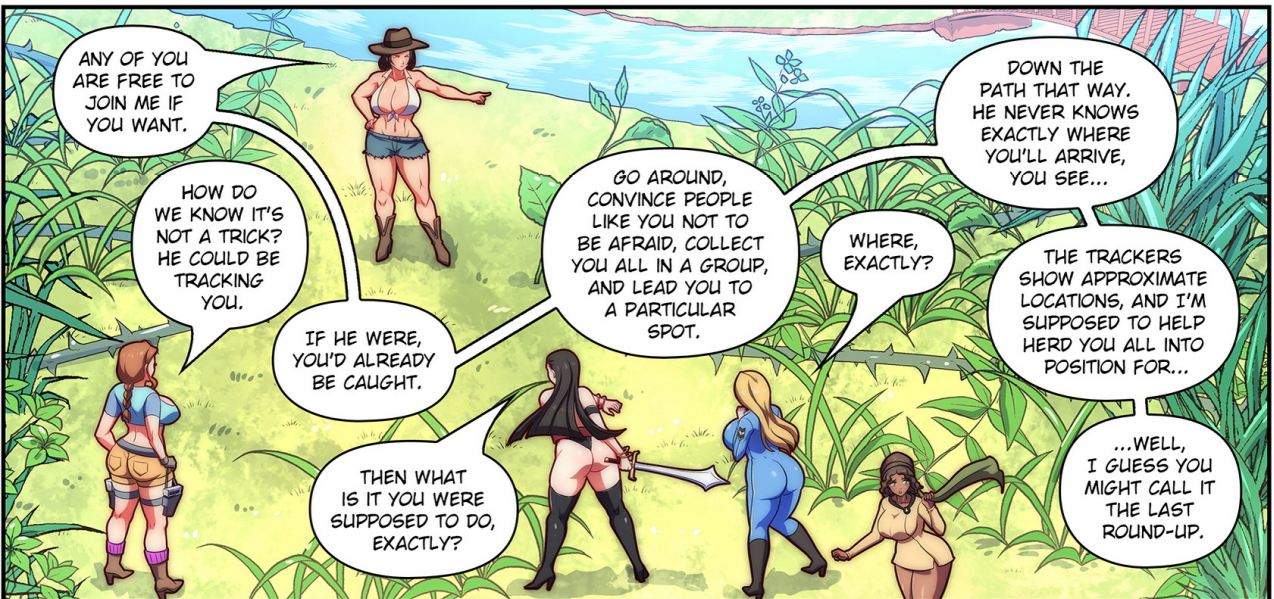
...BUT THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH A GIRL CAN TAKE...



THE OTHER TWO DIDN'T LAST AS LONG AS I DID...

I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE. I WANT OUT. SO I'M GOING TO PRETEND TO DO WHAT HE WANTS...

...AND THEN ESCAPE.



ANY OF YOU ARE FREE TO JOIN ME IF YOU WANT.

HOW DO WE KNOW IT'S NOT A TRICK? HE COULD BE TRACKING YOU.

IF HE WERE, YOU'D ALREADY BE CAUGHT.

THEN WHAT IS IT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO DO, EXACTLY?

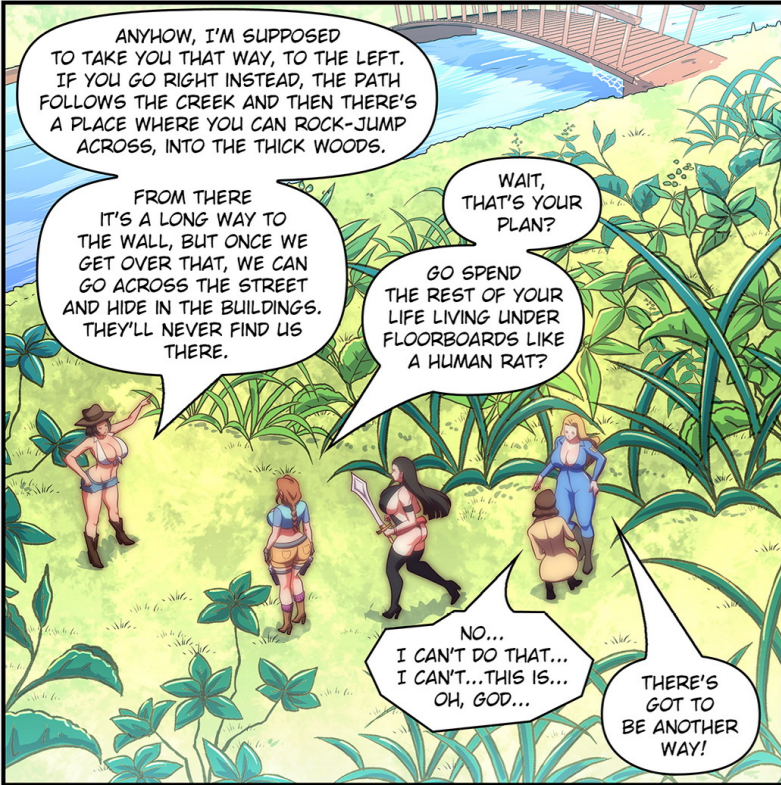
GO AROUND, CONVINCE PEOPLE LIKE YOU NOT TO BE AFRAID, COLLECT YOU ALL IN A GROUP, AND LEAD YOU TO A PARTICULAR SPOT.

WHERE, EXACTLY?

DOWN THE PATH THAT WAY. HE NEVER KNOWS EXACTLY WHERE YOU'LL ARRIVE, YOU SEE...

THE TRACKERS SHOW APPROXIMATE LOCATIONS, AND I'M SUPPOSED TO HELP HERD YOU ALL INTO POSITION FOR...

...WELL, I GUESS YOU MIGHT CALL IT THE LAST ROUND-UP.



ANYHOW, I'M SUPPOSED TO TAKE YOU THAT WAY, TO THE LEFT. IF YOU GO RIGHT INSTEAD, THE PATH FOLLOWS THE CREEK AND THEN THERE'S A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN ROCK-JUMP ACROSS, INTO THE THICK WOODS.

FROM THERE IT'S A LONG WAY TO THE WALL, BUT ONCE WE GET OVER THAT, WE CAN GO ACROSS THE STREET AND HIDE IN THE BUILDINGS. THEY'LL NEVER FIND US THERE.

WAIT, THAT'S YOUR PLAN?

GO SPEND THE REST OF YOUR LIFE LIVING UNDER FLOORBOARDS LIKE A HUMAN RAT?

NO... I CAN'T DO THAT... I CAN'T... THIS IS... OH, GOD...

THERE'S GOT TO BE ANOTHER WAY!



IF YOU'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA, I'M ALL EARS!



YEAH, I GOT A BETTER IDEA, ALL RIGHT...

...FIND A WAY OUT OF HERE AND BACK TO NORMAL SIZE!



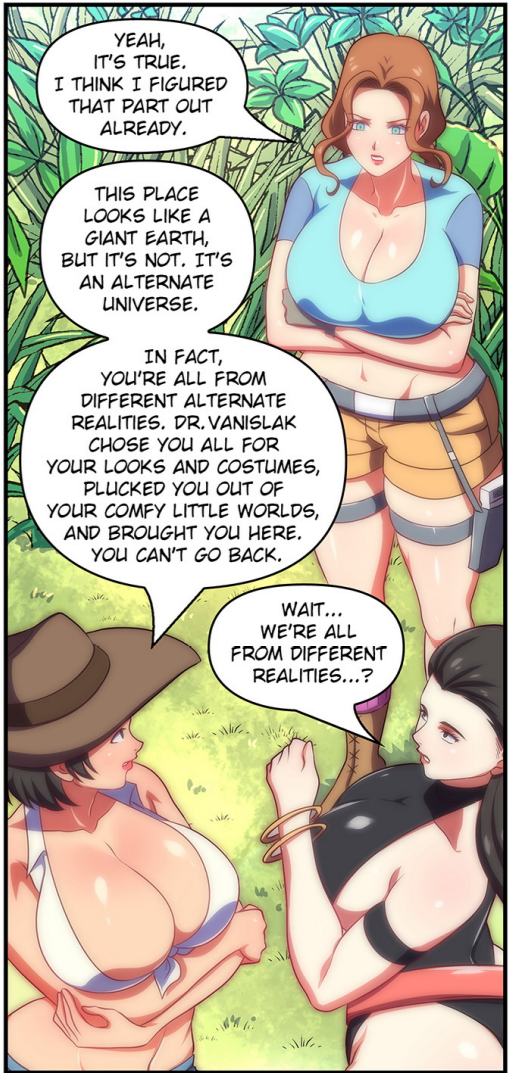
YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, DO YOU? YOU'RE ON ANOTHER WORLD NOW, AND THERE'S NO WAY BACK!

I REFUSE TO BELIEVE THAT! THERE'S GOT TO BE A WAY!

WELL, THERE ISN'T! I WAS STUCK IN THAT LAB FOR TWO MONTHS! IF THERE'S A WAY BACK HOME, I'D KNOW IT!

WAIT A MINUTE...

...WHAT DO YOU MEAN ABOUT ANOTHER WORLD?

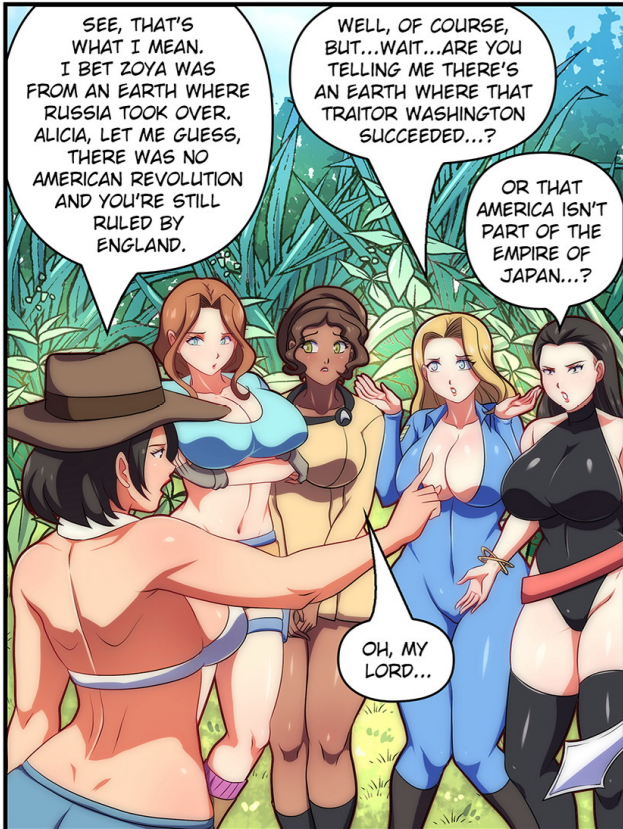
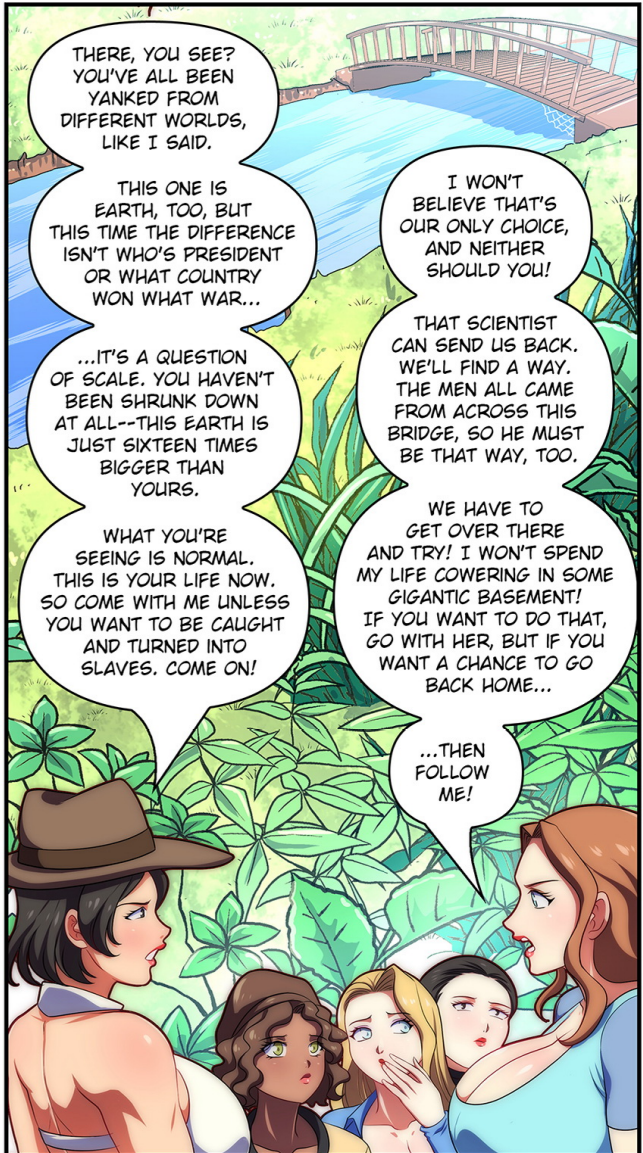
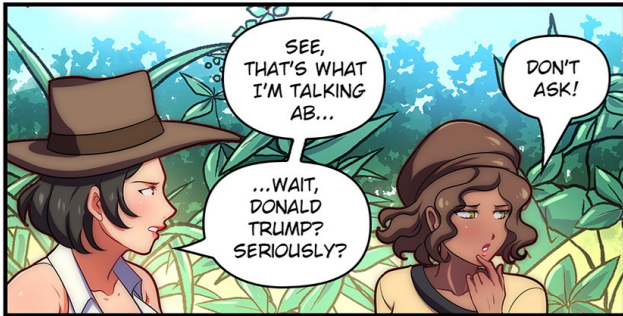
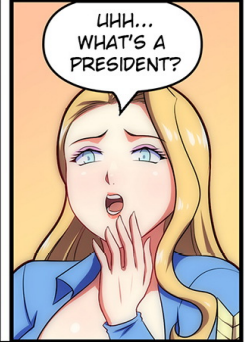
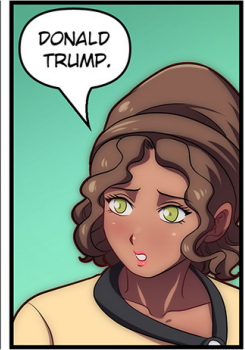
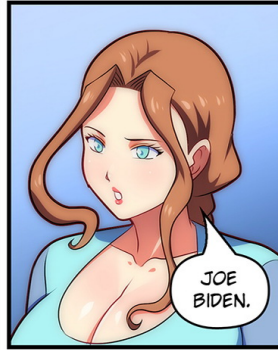
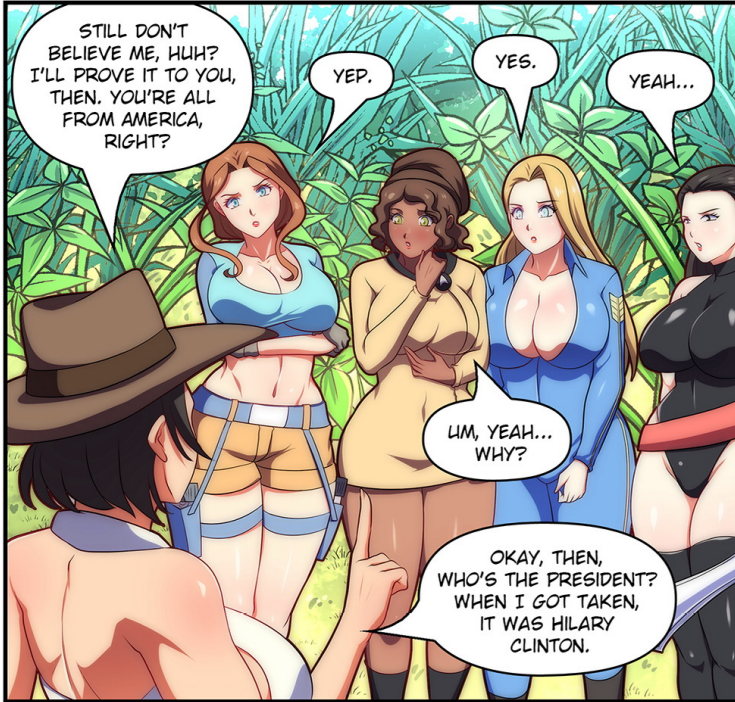


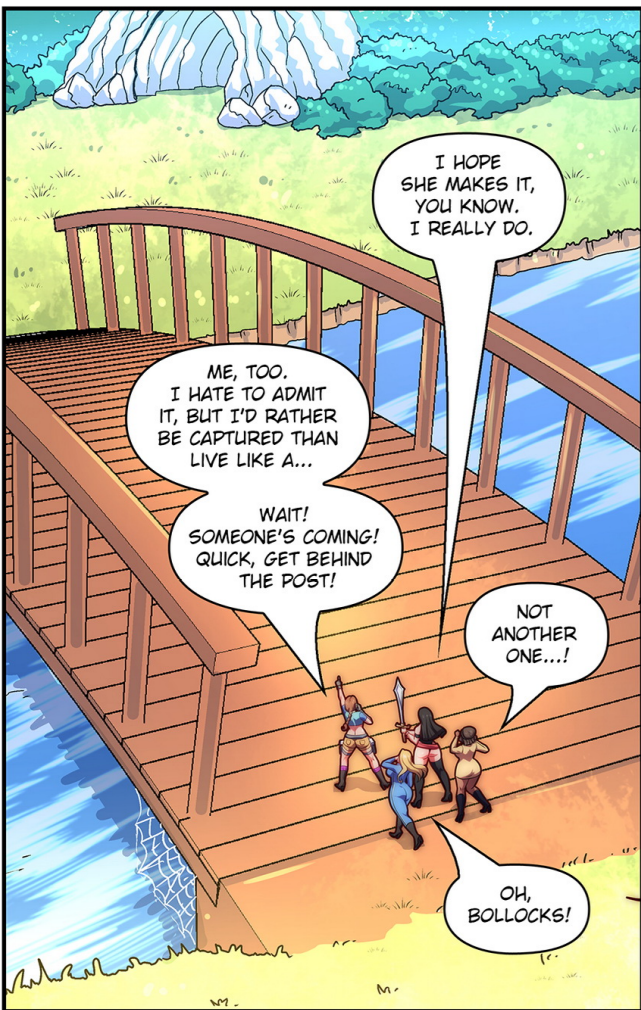
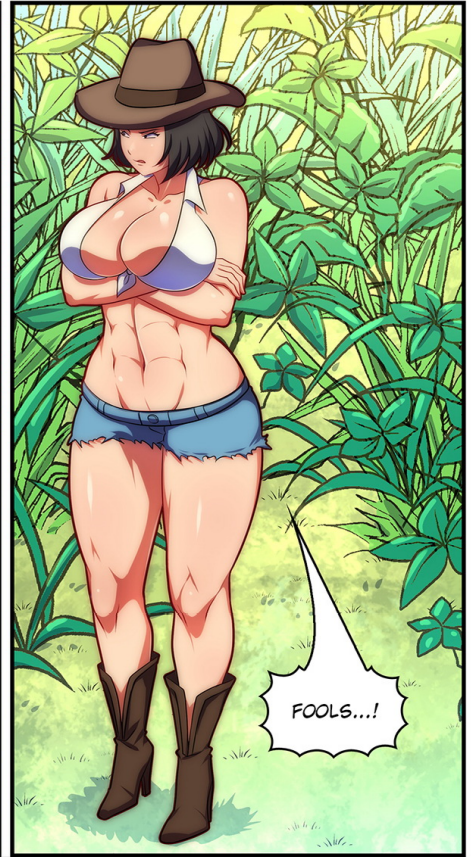
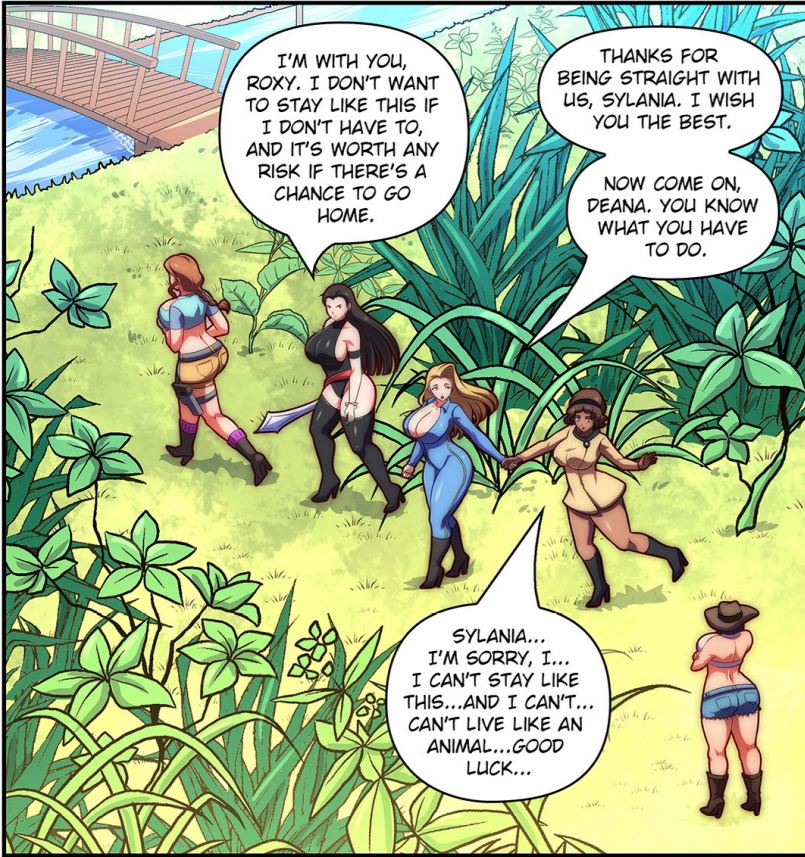
YEAH, IT'S TRUE. I THINK I FIGURED THAT PART OUT ALREADY.

THIS PLACE LOOKS LIKE A GIANT EARTH, BUT IT'S NOT. IT'S AN ALTERNATE UNIVERSE.

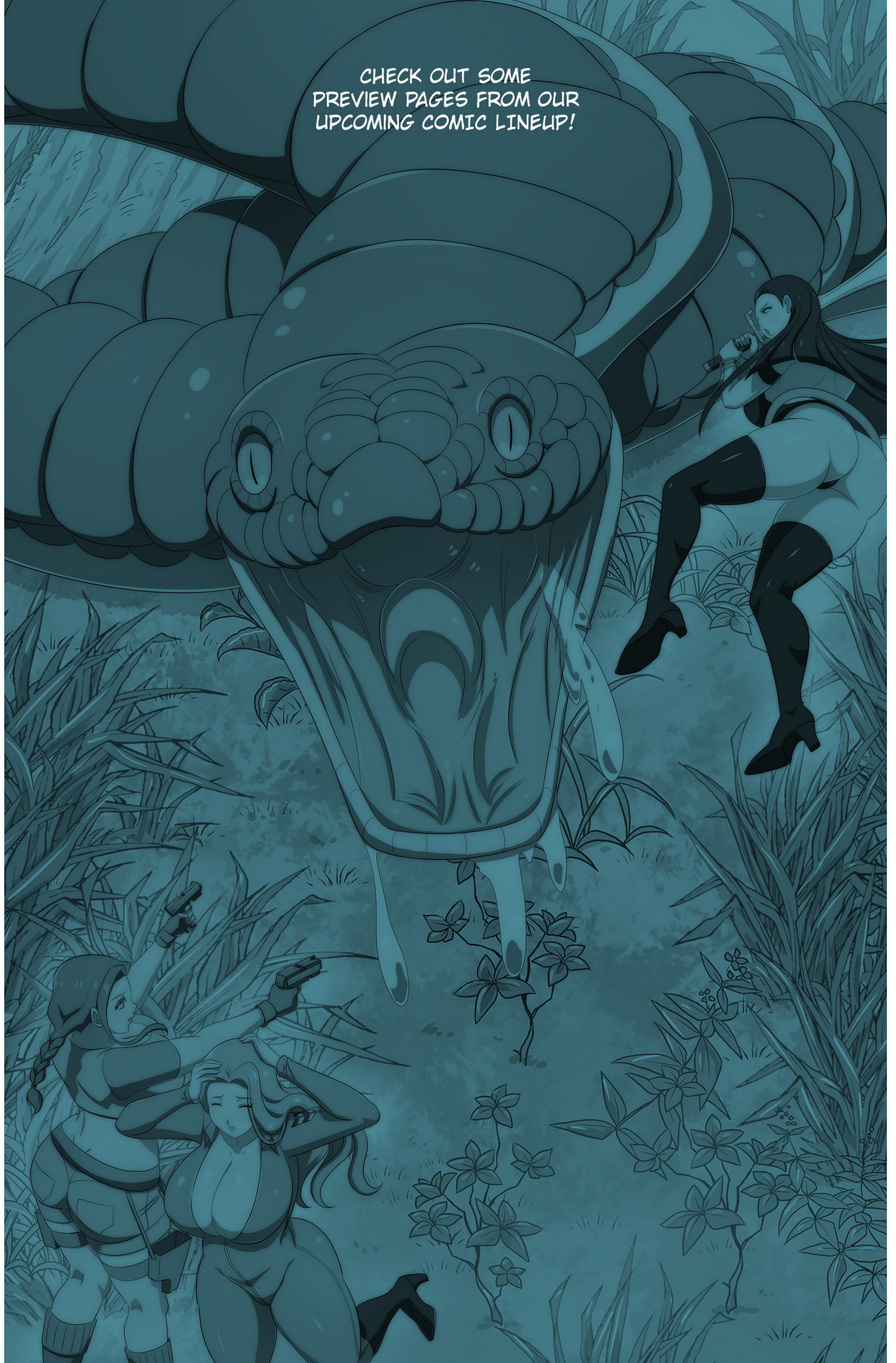
IN FACT, YOU'RE ALL FROM DIFFERENT ALTERNATE REALITIES. DR. VANISLAK CHOSE YOU ALL FOR YOUR LOOKS AND COSTUMES, PLUCKED YOU OUT OF YOUR COMFY LITTLE WORLDS, AND BROUGHT YOU HERE. YOU CAN'T GO BACK.

WAIT... WE'RE ALL FROM DIFFERENT REALITIES...?





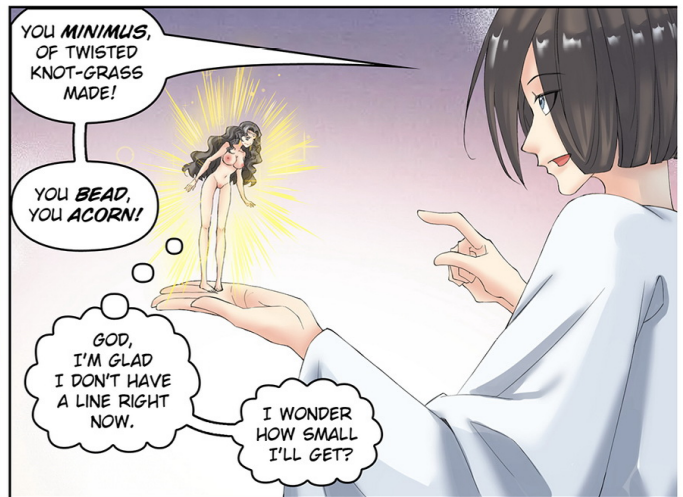
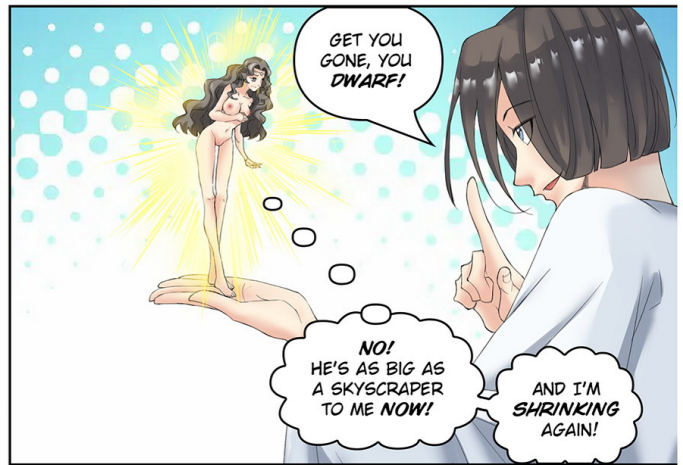
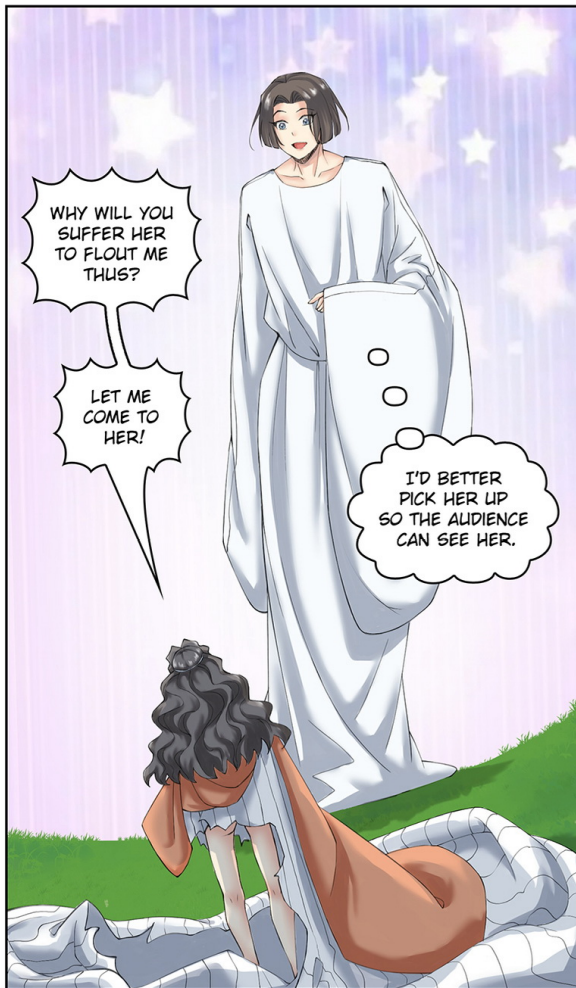
CHECK OUT SOME
PREVIEW PAGES FROM OUR
UPCOMING COMIC LINEUP!



A MIDSUMMER NIGHTMARE

AUTHOR:
MAC ROME

ARTIST:
TANG (STUDIO ARIETA)



THE LITTLE THINGS IN LIFE

AUTHOR:
KOMODO DAVE

ILLUSTRATOR:
VINCENZO PIETROPAOLO

COLORIST:
SLASHER

