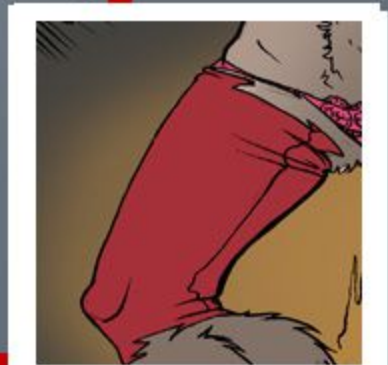
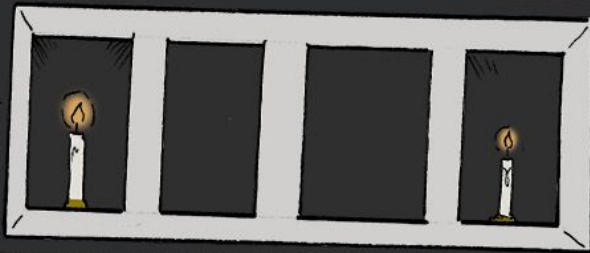


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CHRISTMAS EVE,
PAJE'S HOUSE...



AAAAHHH...
THIS IS SO NICE.
ALL THE DECOR
REALLY CAME
TOGETHER!

BUT THE FIRE IS SO DELIGHTFUL

AND YOU, YOU
LITTLE SUCKER - EVEN IF
YOU JABBED ME EARLIER
- REALLY MAKES THE
PERFECT TOUCH ON MY
TREE.

NEVER SEEN AN
ORNAMENT QUITE
LIKE IT.

OH, THE WEATHER OUTSIDE IS FRIGHTFUL

OH MY GOSH!
AND IT'S
STARTED TO
SNOW!

AND SINCE WE'VE NO PLACE TO GO
LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW




EVERYTHING IS SO BEAUTIFUL!

PAJE STEPPED OUTSIDE TO ENJOY THE SNOW - WHEN THE CLOUDS PARTED TO REVEAL A FULL MOON.



REMINDS ME OF THE ORNAMENT.. IT'S... WOW... SO BRIGHT...



NNGH... WOOLZY...



A DIZZY SPELL SUDDENLY HIT PAJE, A HOT FLASH THAT MADE THE COLD AIR FEEL NAUSEATINGLY WARM.

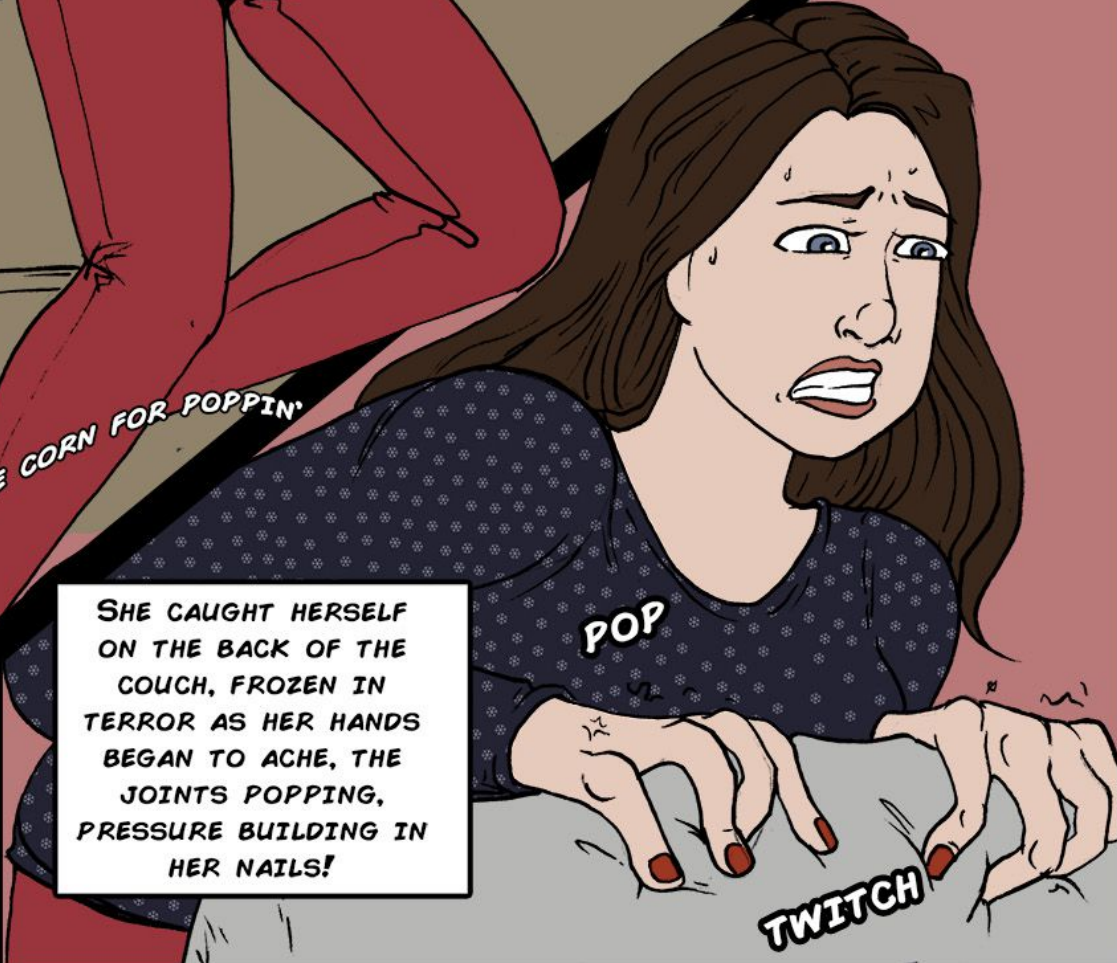
PAGE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS WRONG, BUT SHE KNEW SHE HAD TO GET BACK INSIDE...



OUUUGH
WHAT IS WRONG
WITH ME?!

AND I BROUGHT SOME CORN FOR POPPIN'

SHE CAUGHT HERSELF ON THE BACK OF THE COUCH, FROZEN IN TERROR AS HER HANDS BEGAN TO ACHIE, THE JOINTS POPPING, PRESSURE BUILDING IN HER NAILS!



TWITCH



WHAT-WHAT IN THE HELL?!

THE LIGHTS ARE TURNED WAY DOWN LOW



WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?!?!?!?



PAGE WATCHED IN UNCOMPREHENDING SHOCK AS HER NAILS GREW LONG AND SHARP, THE POLISH CHIPPING OFF BEFORE HER FINGERS CURLED AND THICKENED, HAND STRETCHING INTO MEATY CLUBS!





EYUUGH!



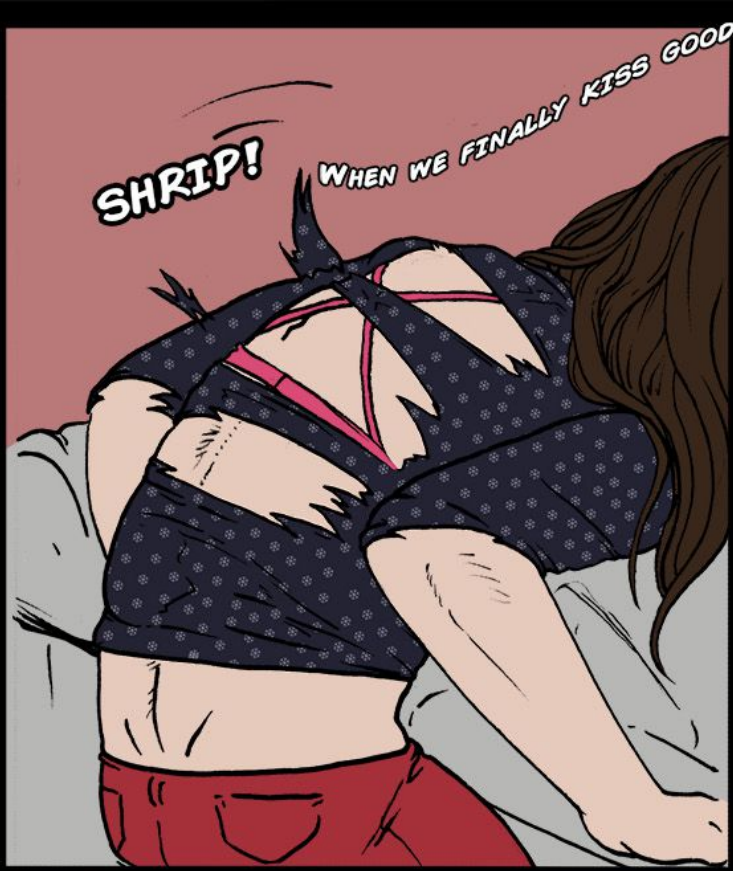
OH MY GOD- IT'S GETTING WORSE! MY ARMS!

STREEETCH

LET IT SNOW. LET IT SNOW. LET IT SNOW

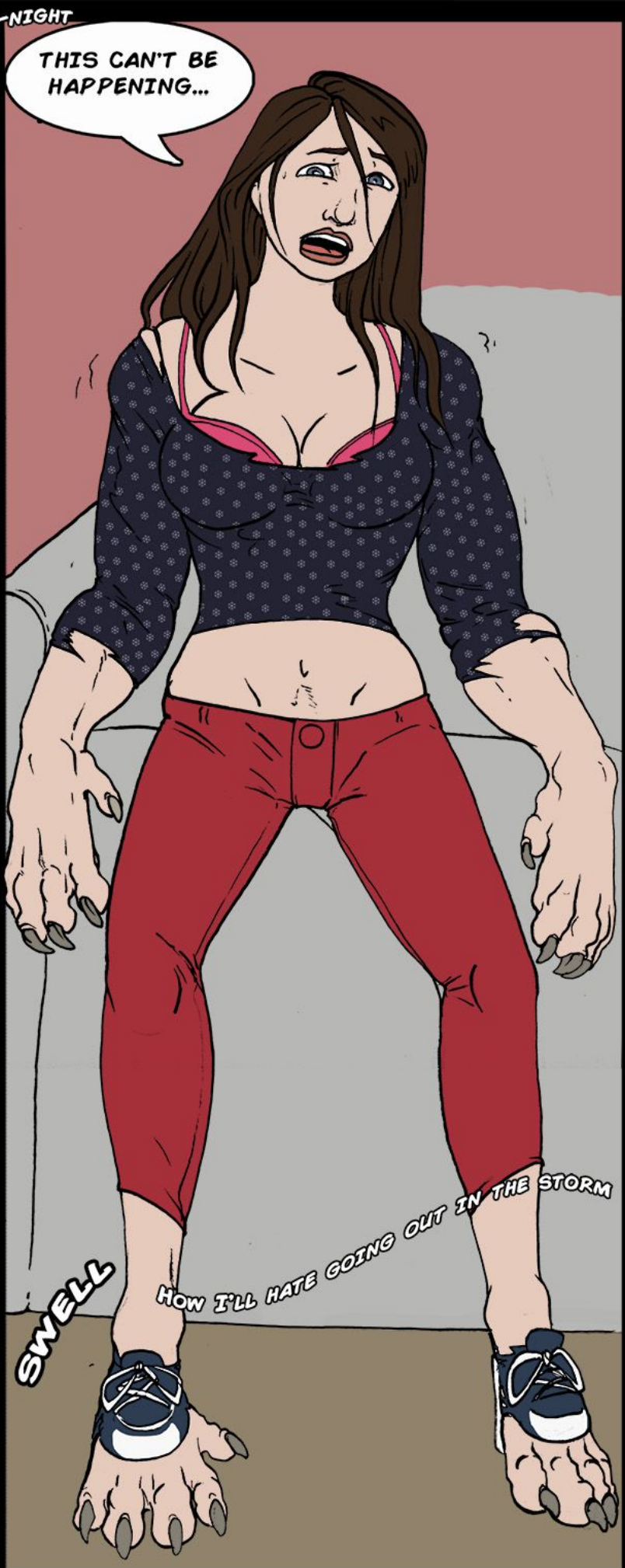
BULGE

RIP



SHRIP!

WHEN WE FINALLY KISS GOOD-NIGHT



THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING...

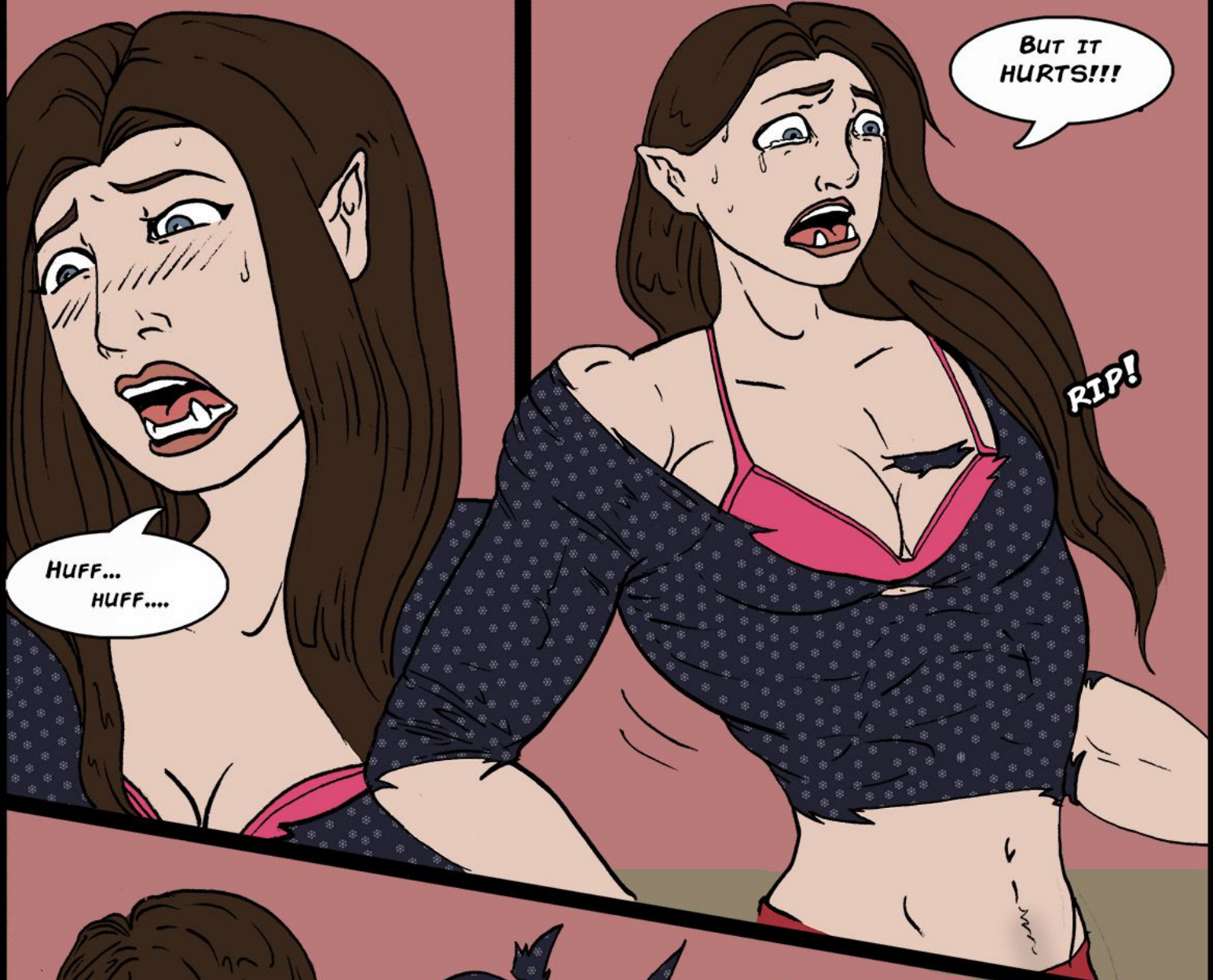


THIS CAN'T BE REAL!

ROLL

SWELL

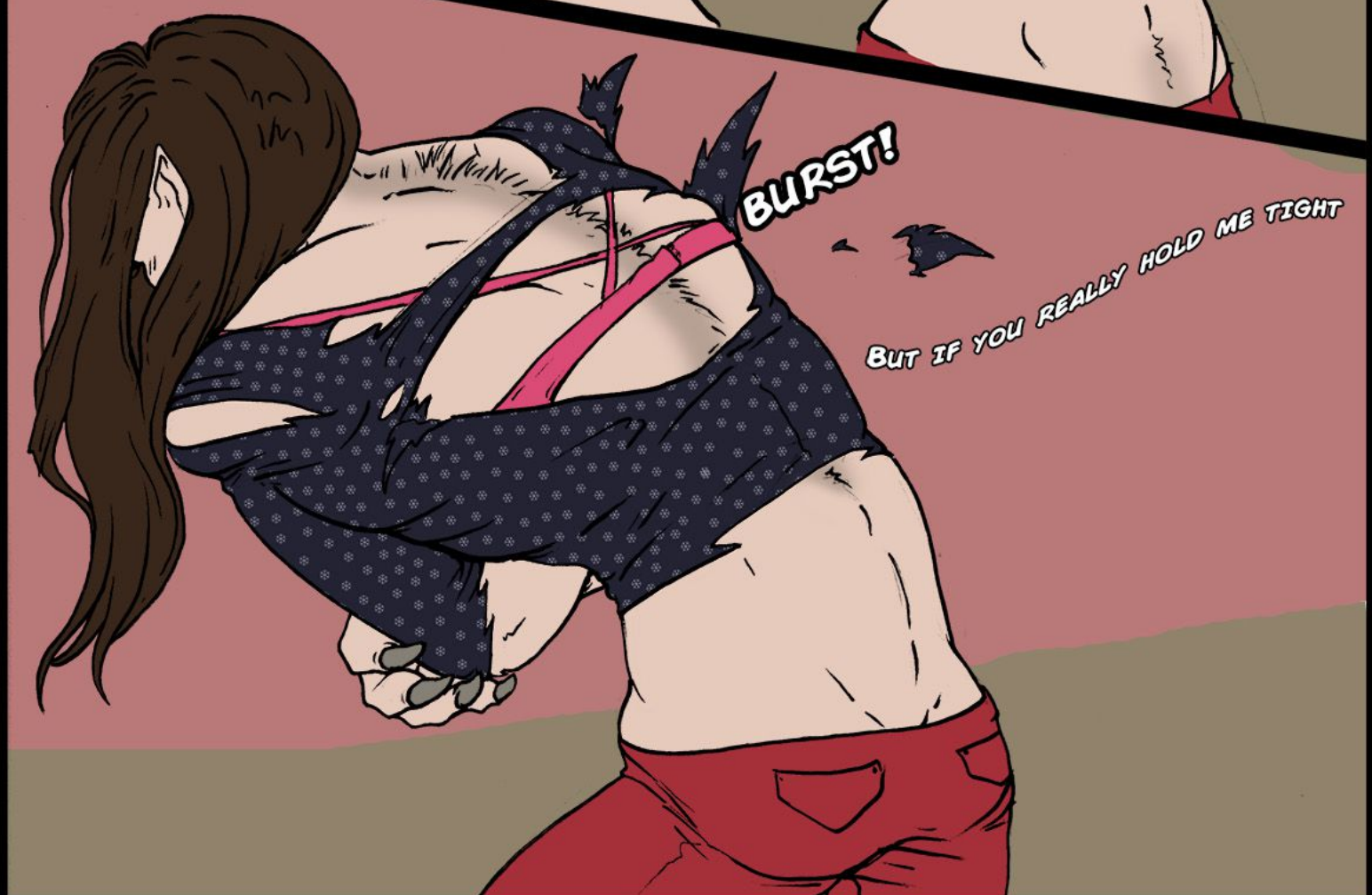
HOW I'LL HATE GOING OUT IN THE STORM



HUFF...
HUFF....

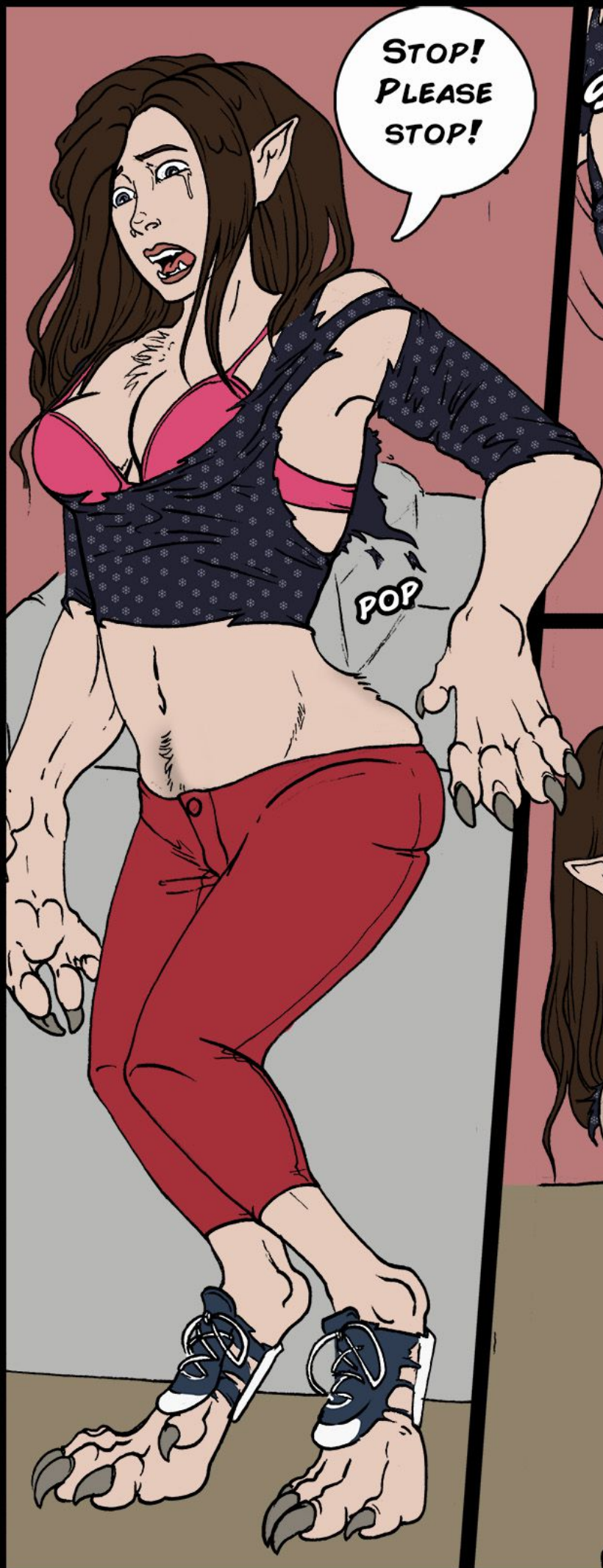
BUT IT
HURTS!!!

RIP!



BURST!

BUT IF YOU REALLY HOLD ME TIGHT



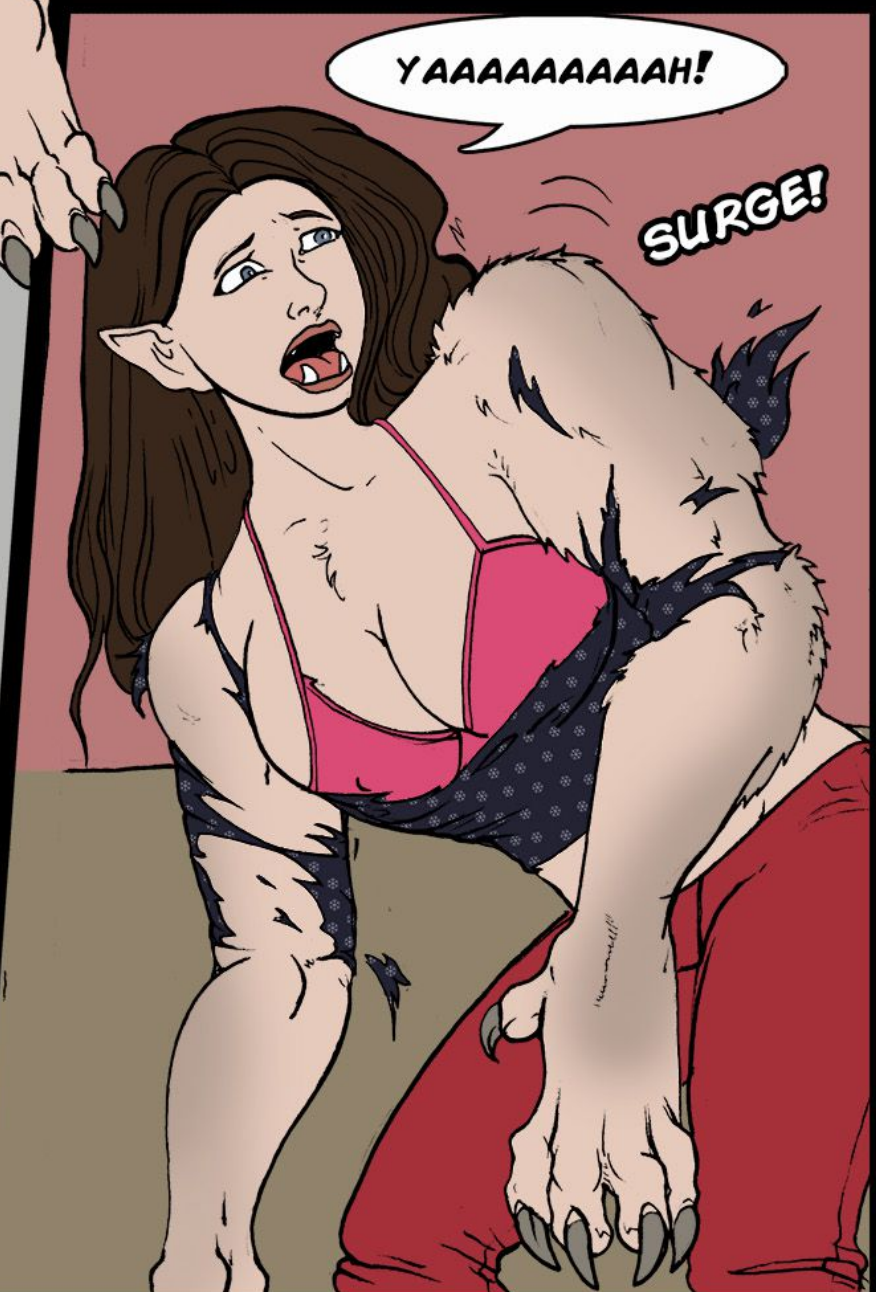
STOP!
PLEASE
STOP!

POP



SWELL

ALL THE WAY HOME I'LL BE WARM



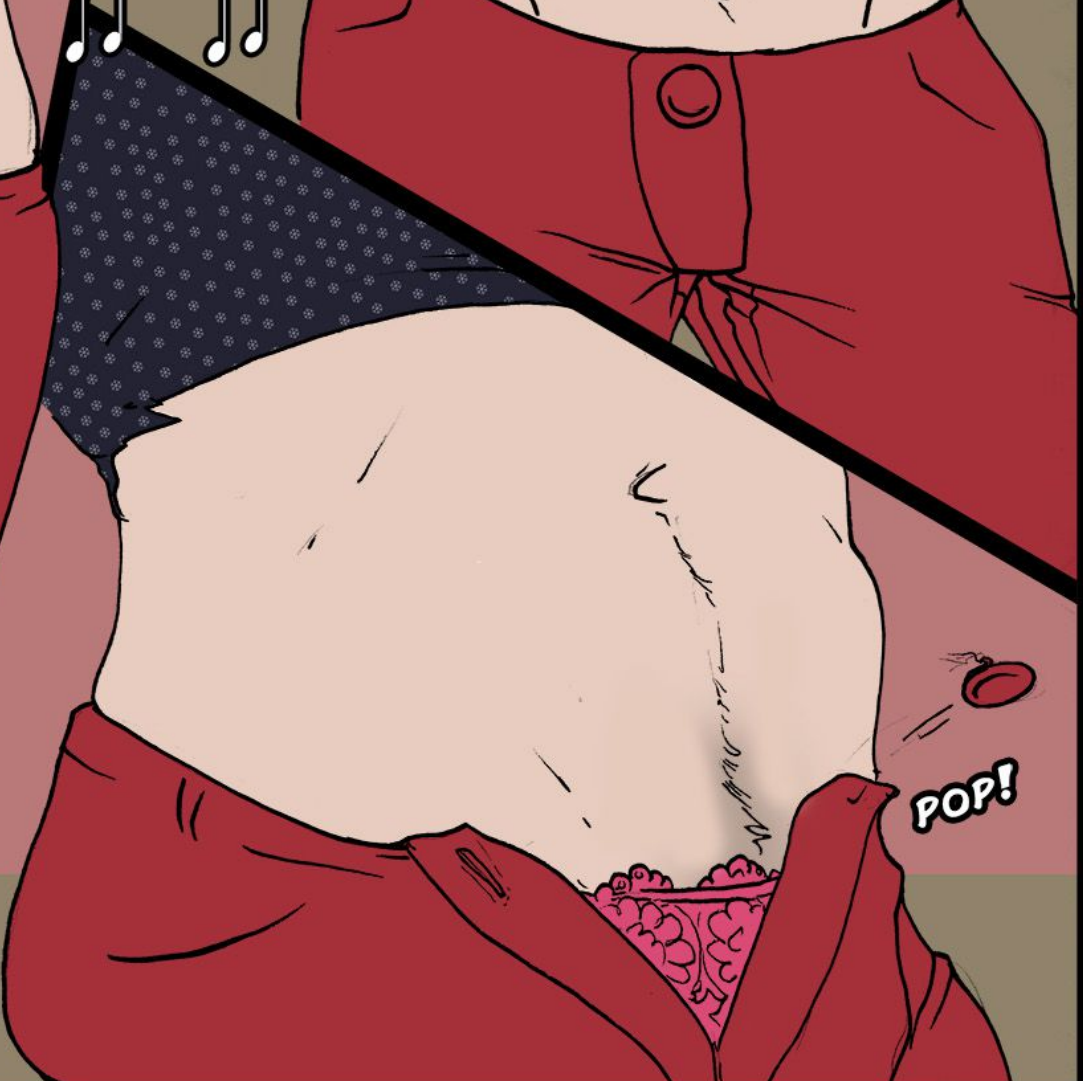
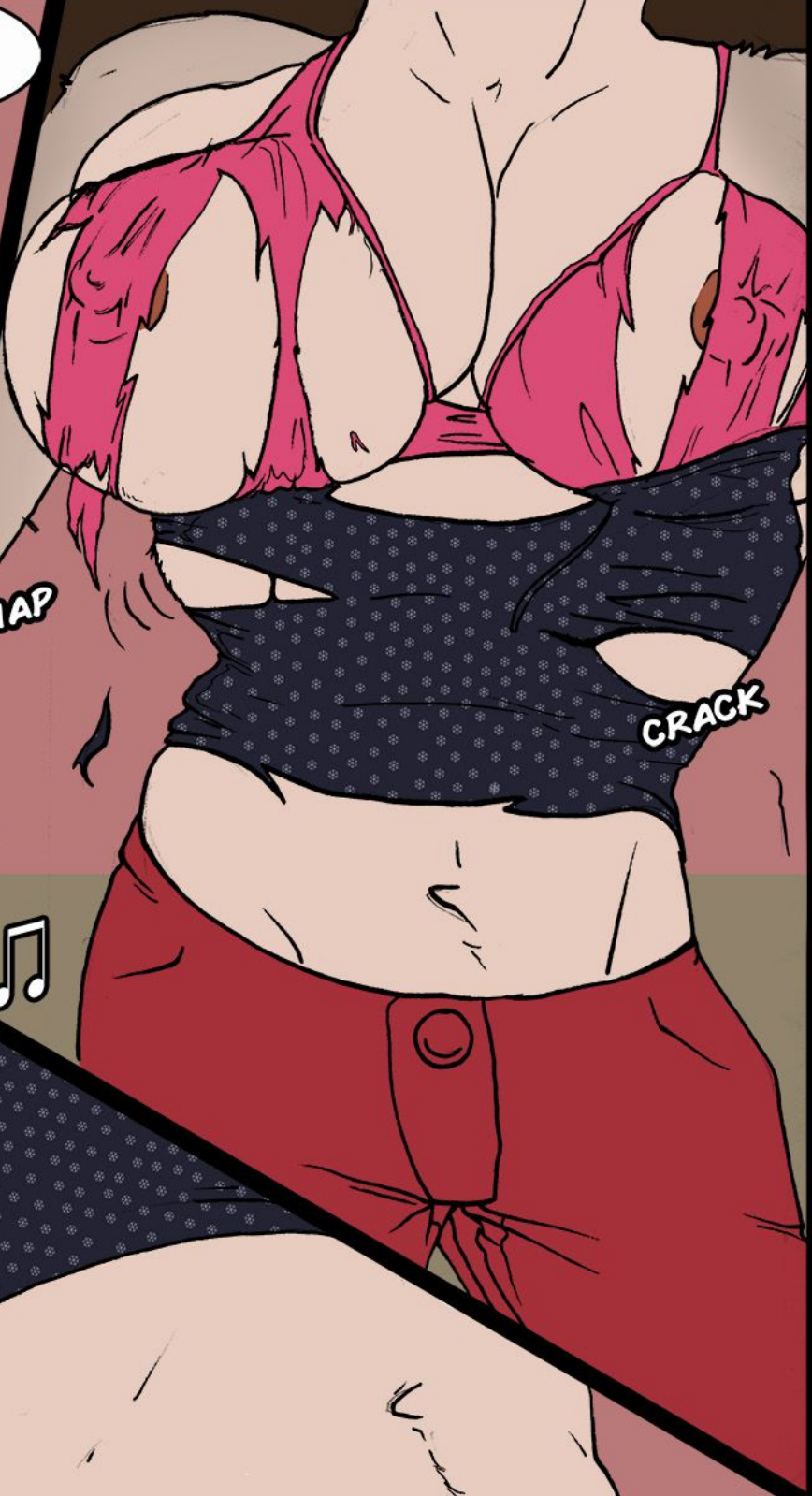
YAAAAAAAAAAH!

SURGE!

I'VE GOTTA...
GOTTA DO
SOMETHING!

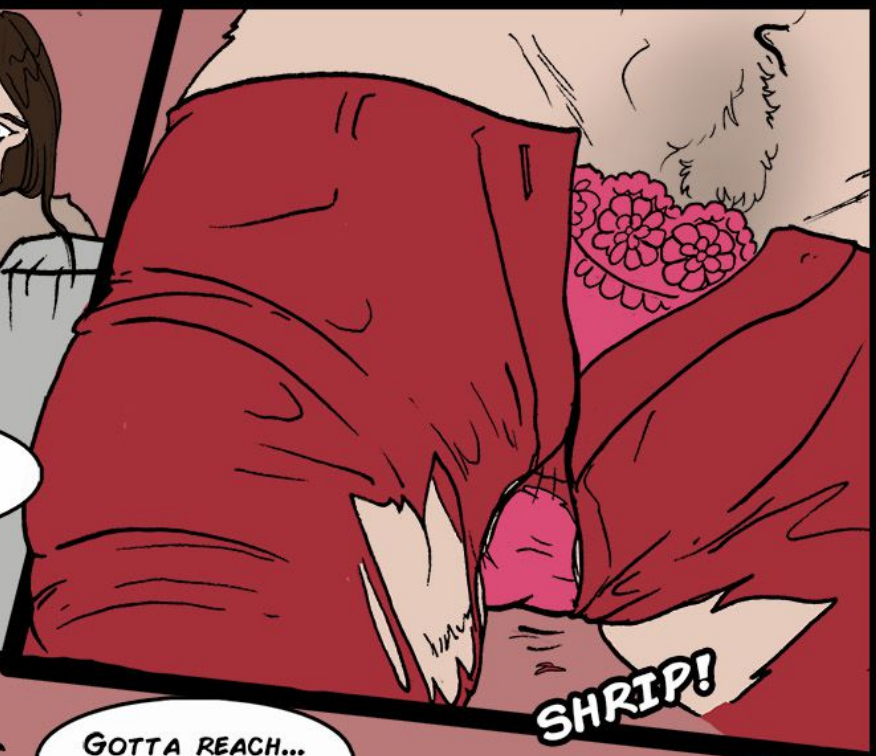


SNAP





***PANT*
MY PHONE-**



SHRIP!



**GOTTA REACH...
MANTLE...!**

AND THE FIRE IS SLOWLY DYING

**PAGE HURLED HERSELF TOWARDS
THE MANTLE, TRYING TO REACH
FOR HER PHONE, EVEN AS HER
BODY TWISTED AND CONTORTED!**

OW!
S-SIRRRRI! CALL YAL!

AND, MY DEAR, WE'RE STILL GOOD-BYE-ING

SHE TRIPPED, BANGING HER
CHIN ON THE MANTLE, BUT
SHE CAUGHT HERSELF!

YAL!
YAL -
AARRRRRH!

PAJE?
HEY, SORRY I'M
RUNNING LATE -

YEAH I KNOW
YOU'RE MAD - I'M
SORRY, I'LL BE
THERE SOON!

NO!
HELP!

SHRIP

SNAP!



I KNOW -
I KNOW - I'M
SORRY I DIDN'T
HELP WITH THE
DECORATING!

NO!
GRRROWWWL
EEP!
HELP... ME...
CHANGING!

SNAP!

VAL

BUT AS LONG AS YOU LOVE ME SO
LET IT SNOW. LET IT SNOW. AND SNOW

OH!
OH SURE - I'LL
HELP YOU PICK
OUT A CUTE
OUTFIT!

BURST

AAAARRRRGH!

LAUGHS
SUCH A DRAMA QUEEN!
LOVE YA, PAJE - BE THERE
SOON!



BEEP BEEP
SORRY, I DON'T UNDERSTAND "HERR MEEH" - SEARCH THE WEB?

SNAP!

AND, MY DEAR, WE'RE STILL GOOD-BYE-ING

RIP

AAAAHHH!

NO... CAN FEEL IT...
IN MY HEAD...





SOB

BUT AS LONG AS YOU LOVE ME SO

CRUNCH

RRROOOOAAAAARRRR!

LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW

OOOHHHHH!
YOU BETTER WATCH OUT...



HURROOOOOOOOOOOO!!!

A

VAL