



TOWN TALES

BY YARI ZHILIANG

About the Project:

Town Tales is a graphic novel series intended for publication as a webcomic. This modern-fantasy saga is my updated version of the fairy tale, folklore, and mythology genre. In issue one we meet our main character, Estella, as she's moving into her college dorm. She gets to know her amusing new roommate, Lily as the two go on an unexpected adventure together to find Lily's estranged mother.

TOWN TALES

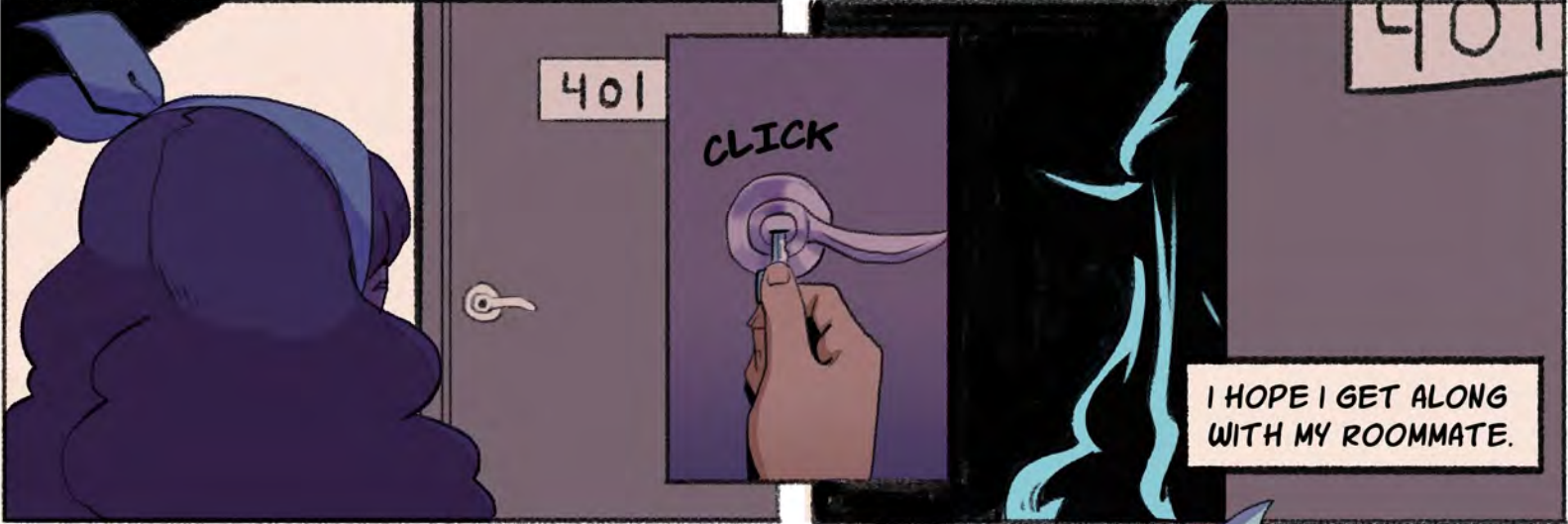
YARI ZHILIANG

MANSANA TOWN, A TOWN WHERE
PEOPLE LIVE PEACEFULLY WITH
NO CRIME OR VIOLENCE.





TODAY I'M MOVING INTO MY DORM AT BLACKHORN UNIVERSITY.



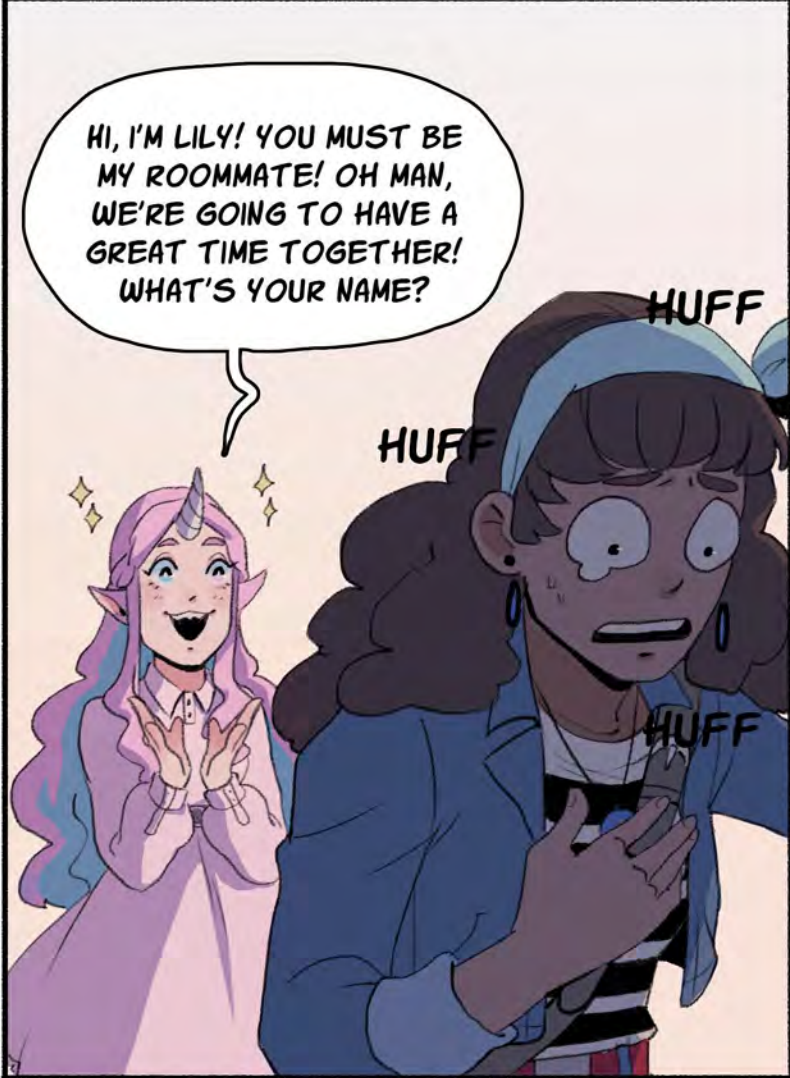
I HOPE I GET ALONG WITH MY ROOMMATE.



HEWO!



AAAH!



HI, I'M LILY! YOU MUST BE MY ROOMMATE! OH MAN, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A GREAT TIME TOGETHER! WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF



I'M ESTELLA,

AND PLEASE DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT EVER AGAIN.



I MAKE NO PROMISES.



COME ON IN AND UNPACK YOUR STUFF.

I TOOK THE BED NEAR THE CLOSET IF YOU DON'T MIND.



WELL, I DO NEED FRESH AIR WHILE I SLEEP.



Mr. Hop's Bookstore





WHAT HAPPENED?

ARE YOU SCARED
OF A RABBIT?

WHAT?!
NO!

I JUST NEVER
SAW A TALKING
ANIMAL BEFORE.



DON'T JUDGE ME!



ANYWAYS, IF YOU'RE
LOOKING FOR A
NOTEBOOK, THE
STATIONARY SECTION
IS ON THE SECOND
FLOOR.



YOU CAN
GO AHEAD.

I WANT TO
CONTINUE READING
A BOOK I FOUND
HERE LAST WEEK.

OKAY, I'LL
SEE YOU
LATER.







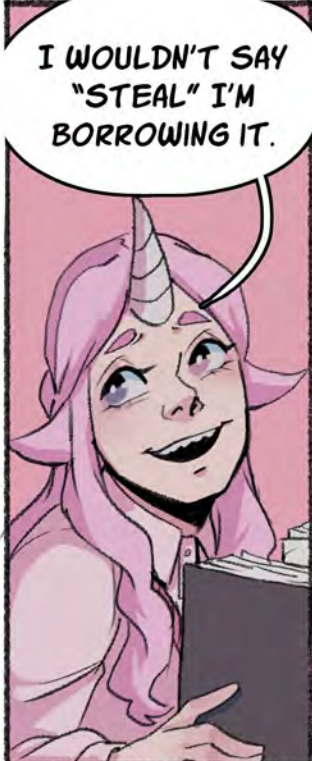
WHAT ARE YOU READING?



A JOURNAL BOOK ABOUT MONSTERS AND CREATURES.



WAIT, I NEVER SAW YOU WITH THAT BOOK BEFORE. DID YOU STEAL IT FROM MR. HOP?



I WOULDN'T SAY "STEAL" I'M BORROWING IT.



WAS IT WORTH IT?

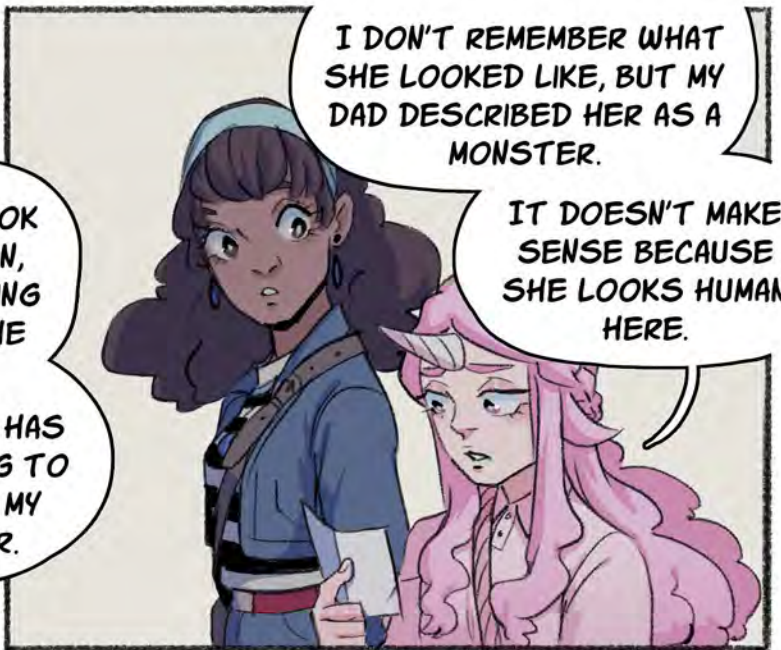
YES. I'M LEARNING SOMETHING IMPORTANT.



WHEN I WAS A KID, I ALWAYS WANTED TO FIGURE OUT WHY PEOPLE LOOK AT ME DIFFERENTLY.

I WAS HOPING THIS BOOK HAD THAT INFORMATION, BUT THE CLOSEST THING IN IT ABOUT ME ARE THE UNITAURS.

I THINK IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH MY MOTHER.



I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT SHE LOOKED LIKE, BUT MY DAD DESCRIBED HER AS A MONSTER.

IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE BECAUSE SHE LOOKS HUMAN HERE.



I HATED THE WAY HE TALKED ABOUT HER, BUT WHEN I TRIED TO ASK HIM MORE ABOUT HER AND HE AVOIDED ME.

I GOT UPSET.



FINALLY, I RAN AWAY FROM HOME.



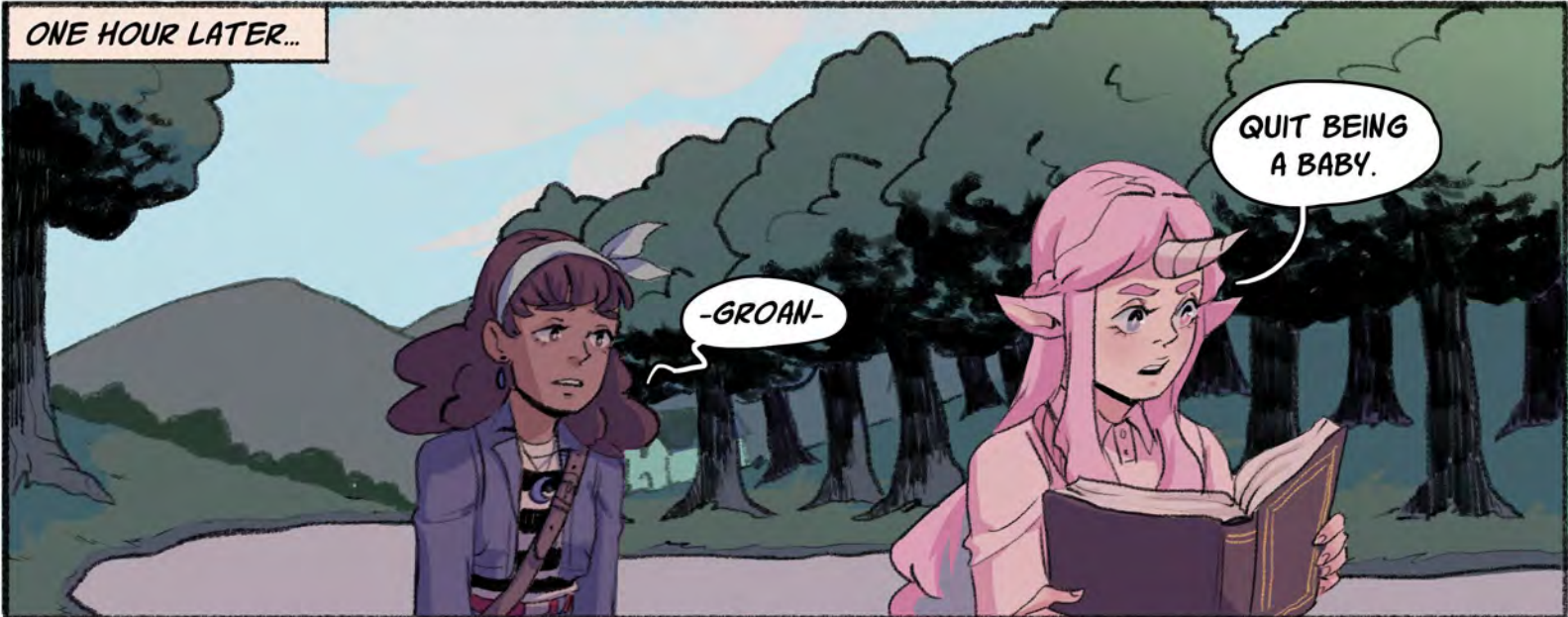
HEY, I HAVE AN IDEA! WOULD YOU COME WITH ME TO FIND MY MOM?

HUH?



THAT'S A YES!

ONE HOUR LATER...



-GROAN-

QUIT BEING A BABY.



WE'RE ALMOST THERE.



I THINK WE SHOULD LISTEN TO THE WARNING, LILY.

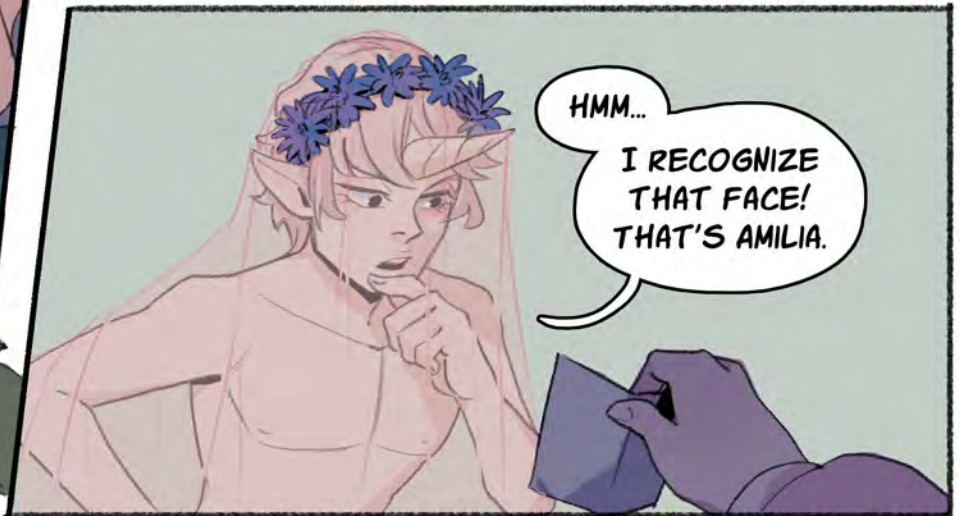


WHAT?!

I CAN'T HEAR YOU!









DO YOU KNOW HER?

WHY DO YOU CARE?



IT'S BECAUSE SHE'S MY MOTHER, AND I WANT TO FIND HER.



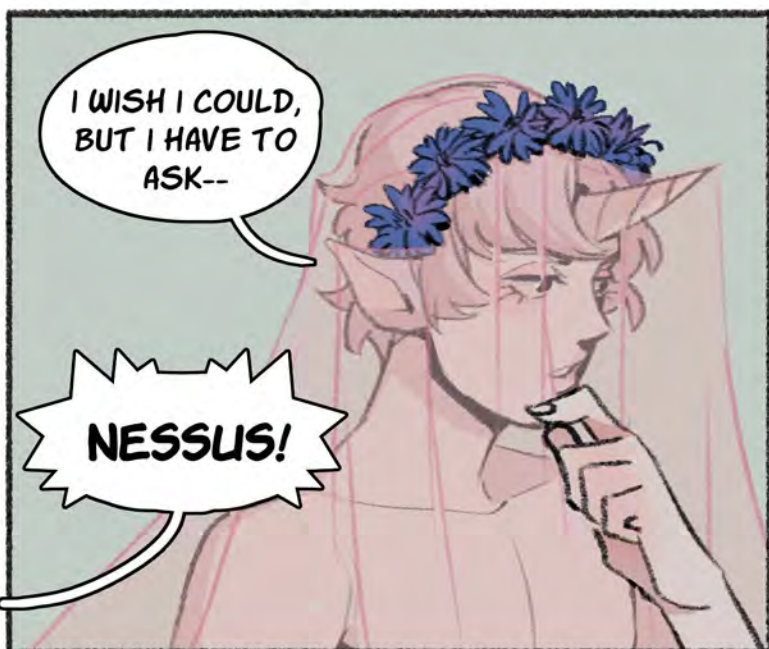
I THOUGHT YOU WERE A RANDOM KID WEARING FAKE EARS WITH A HORN GLUED ON YOUR FOREHEAD.



I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!

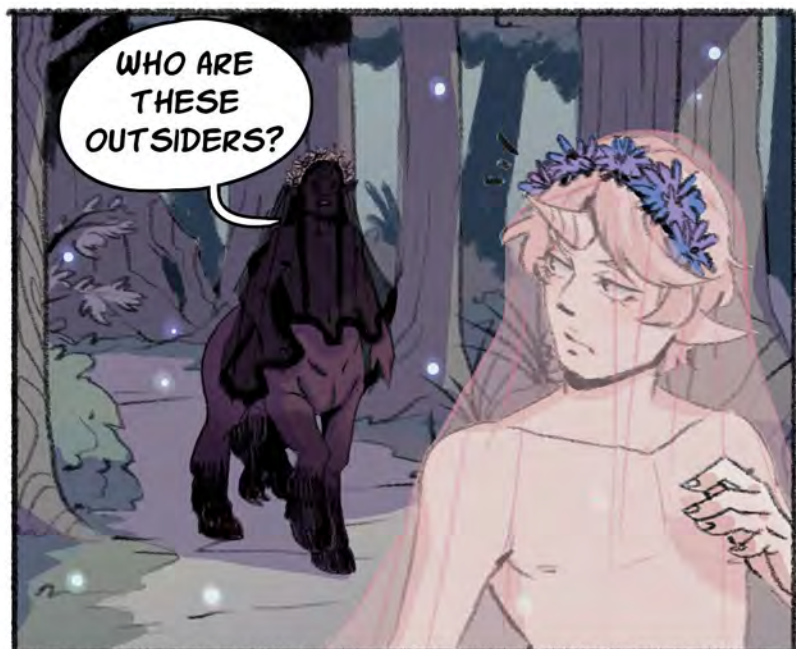
CALM DOWN!

SIR, CAN YOU PLEASE TAKE US TO AMILIA?

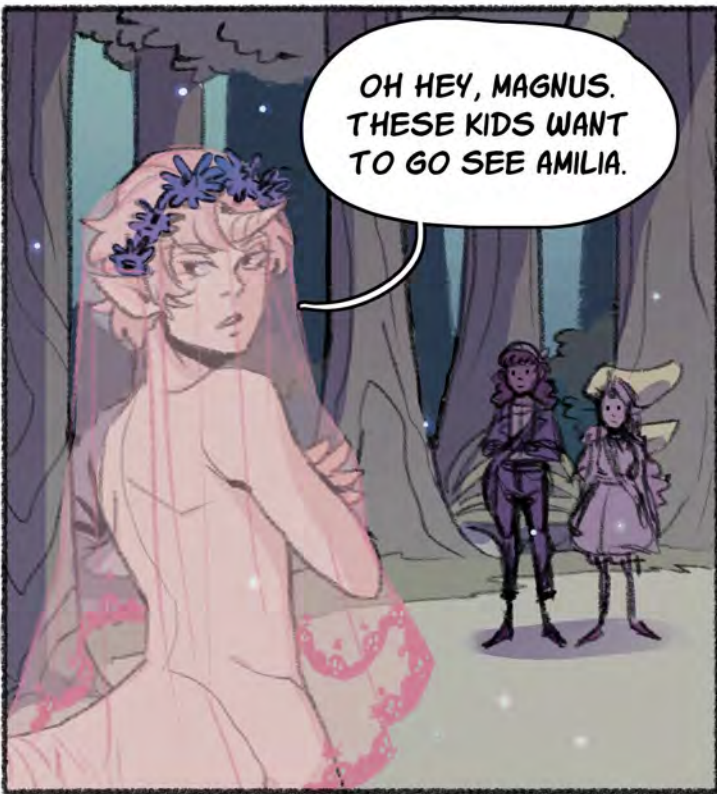


I WISH I COULD, BUT I HAVE TO ASK--

NESSUS!



WHO ARE THESE OUTSIDERS?



OH HEY, MAGNUS. THESE KIDS WANT TO GO SEE AMILIA.



AMILIA?!
NO, I WON'T ALLOW IT!

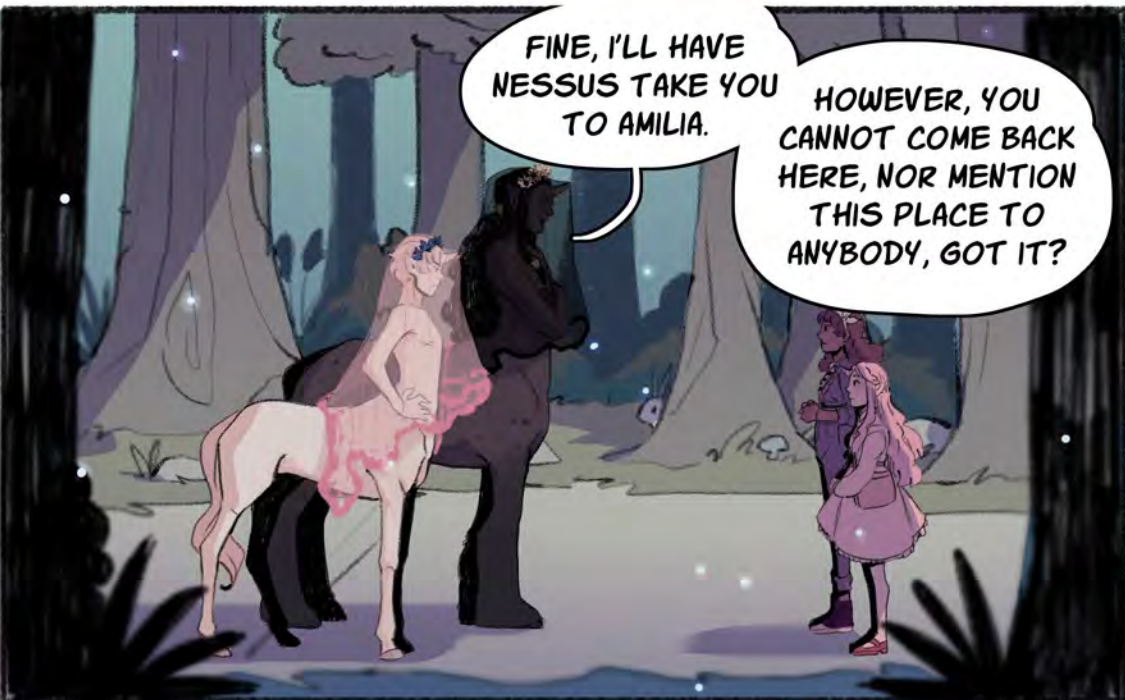


PLEASE, I NEED TO SEE MY MOTHER.
YOUR MOTHER?



THAT'S AMILIA'S DAUGHTER.
I DO THINK WE SHOULD LET THEM SEE HER. MAYBE SHE'LL FINALLY LEAVE HER ROOM.

HMM...



FINE, I'LL HAVE NESSUS TAKE YOU TO AMILIA.

HOWEVER, YOU CANNOT COME BACK HERE, NOR MENTION THIS PLACE TO ANYBODY, GOT IT?



OKAY!





HELLO?

I TOLD YOU
THAT I WANTED
TO BE LEFT
ALONE.



MOM, IT'S
ME LILY...

LILY?
YOU'RE
ALIVE?



PLEASE,
DON'T COME
ANY CLOSER.

I DON'T WANT
YOU TO SEE
MY FACE.



WHY? DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN TO
YOU?

IF I TELL YOU,
PROMISE ME YOU
WON'T FREAK OUT?

EH?



COME, SIT WITH ME.
I WANT TO TELL
YOU SOMETHING.

HEY, CAN I ASK YOU ABOUT AMILIA? WHY IS SHE THE ONLY PERSON TO LOOK HUMAN?

SHE'S NOT HUMAN ANYMORE.

SHE DRANK A POTION SO SHE COULD BE WITH A HUMAN. THE FAIRIES TOLD HER THE TOWN MAYOR COULD HELP HER, BUT IN EXCHANGE FOR HER VEIL.

HOWEVER, EVERYTHING BACKFIRED WHEN THEY HAD A BABY, AND THAT BABY HAD A HORN. THE POTION WORN OFF, AND THE MAN WAS SCARED OF AMILIA'S FACE. HE TRIED TO KILL HER, BUT SHE MANAGED TO RUN AWAY, LEAVING HER CHILD BEHIND.

WHY WAS HE SCARED OF HER FACE?

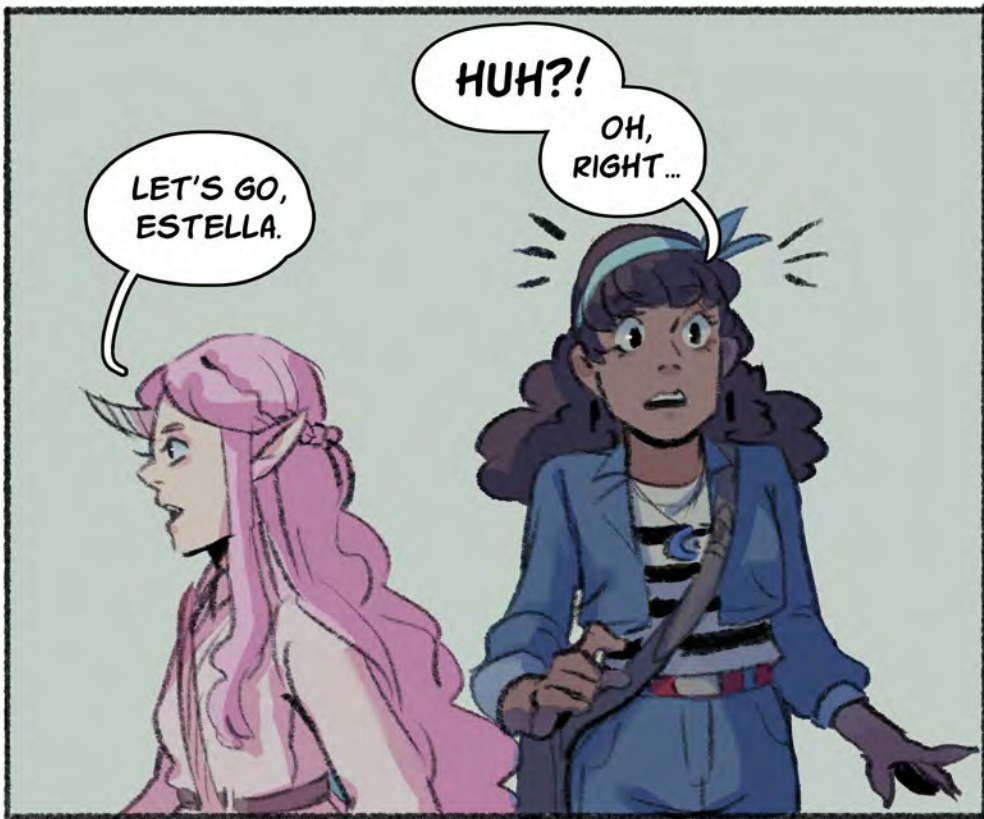


BECAUSE OF THIS.





DON'T WORRY,
MOM. I'LL COME
BACK IN ONE PIECE.

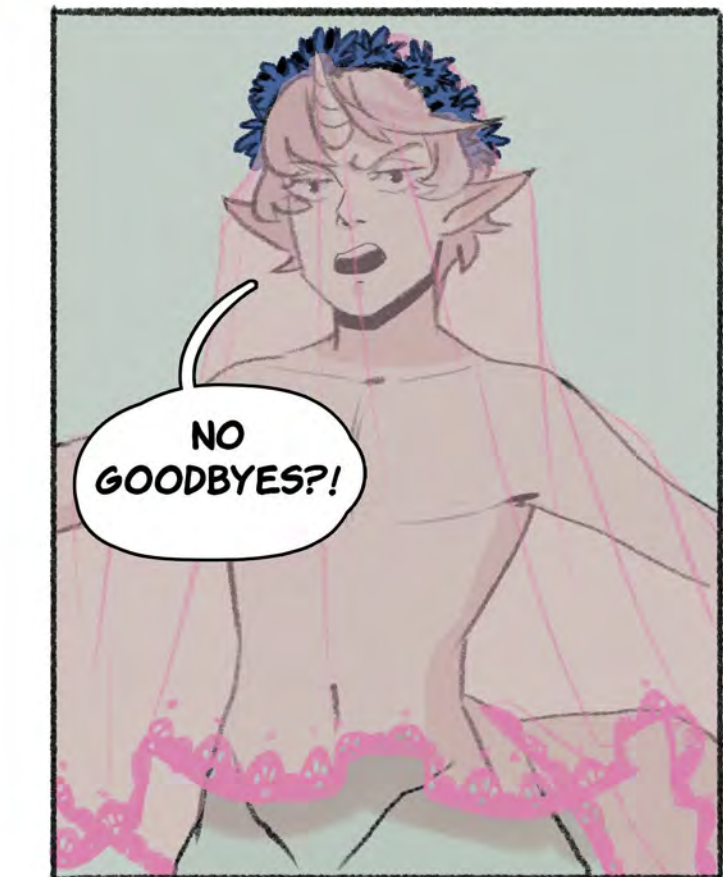


LET'S GO,
ESTELLA.

HUH?!
OH,
RIGHT...



WOW,
OKAY!



NO
GOODBYES?!



SO, WHAT NOW?

NOW, WE'RE
GOING TO VISIT
THE MAYOR.

THREE HOURS LATER...



CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE DOING THIS.

I JUST WANT TO GO TO BED AND GO TO SLEEP.

YOU CAN BACK TO THE DORM AFTER YOU HELP ME WITH THIS DOOR.



TCH
DAMN IT!



FINE, I'LL HELP.

C
R
E
A
K



YOU DIDN'T USE YOUR SPELLBOOK?

I ALWAYS USE THIS SPELL WHEN I LOCK MYSELF OUT OF MY HOUSE.

ARE THESE SOME
KIND OF TROPHIES
OR COLLECTIONS?

WHY ARE
THERE SO
MANY?

I DON'T KNOW AND
I DON'T CARE.

LET'S FOCUS
ON FINDING
THE VEIL.



FOUND IT!



ALRIGHT,
LET'S GO.



!!!

GROWL



A WOLF?

IN TOWN?!



WHAT DO
WE DO?



**B
O
O
M
!**





WHAT'S GOING ON, DAMIEN?

SHH!
I HEAR SOMEONE RUNNING.



HEY! COME BACK HERE YOU THIEVES!



LUPIN?!
WHERE WERE YOU? ARE YOU HURT?

I'M FINE,
ALTHA.



YOU BETTER FIND THEM

OR ELSE!



WHO'S THERE?

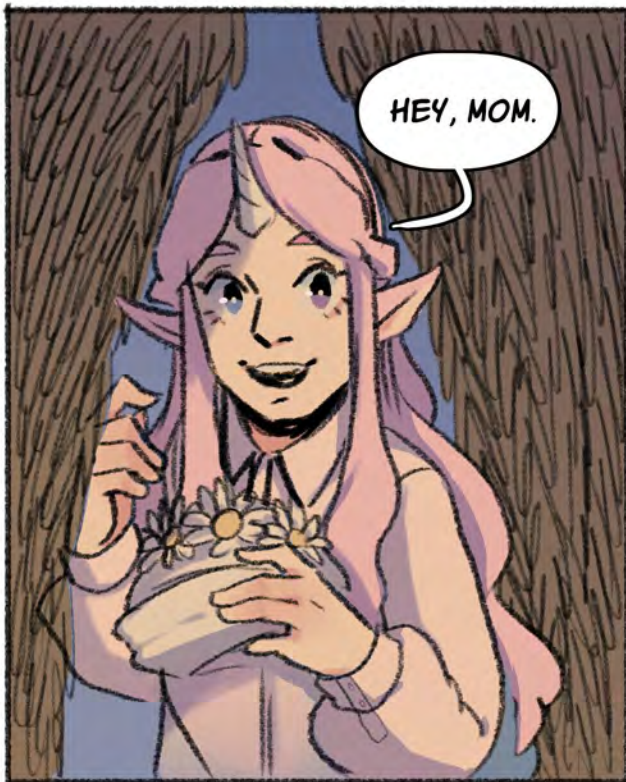


OH, IT'S JUST YOU TWO.



CAME BACK TO SAY GOODBYE?

NO, I CAME BACK TO GIVE MY MOTHER HER VEIL BACK.



HEY, MOM.



HERE'S YOUR VEIL.

THANK YOU, LILY.



HEY, DID YOU GUYS BRING THIS DISGUSTING MUTT IN HERE?!

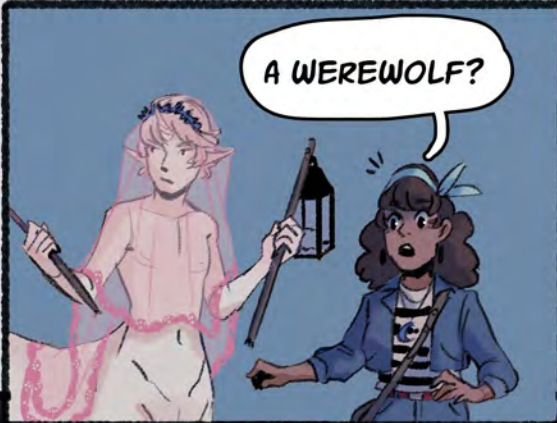
NO!



NESSUS,
WATCH OUT!



ARGH!



A WEREWOLF?



-GROWL-





ALRIGHT, FUN TIME IS OVER.



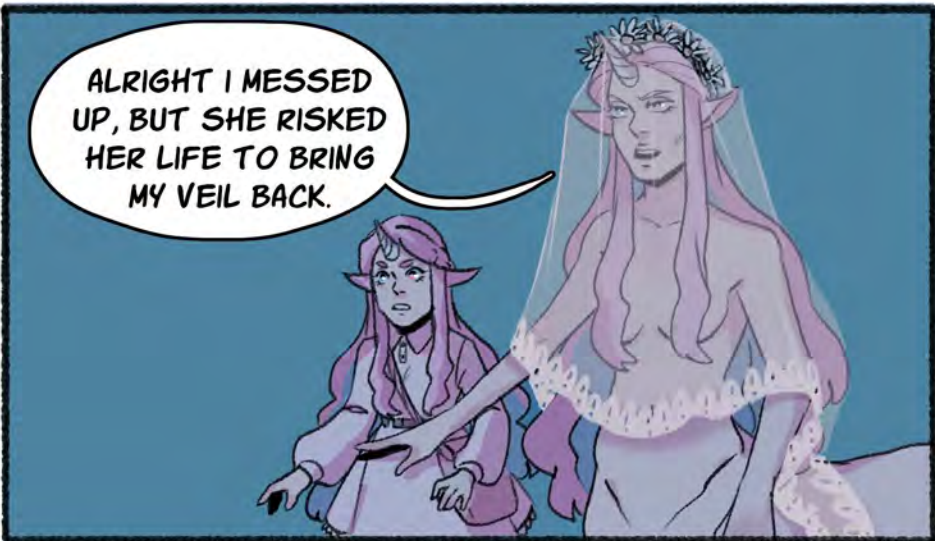
HELLO AMILIA. I SEE YOU'RE WEARING MY VEIL. I WOULD APPRECIATED IF YOU RETURN IT.

MAYOR DAMIEN? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

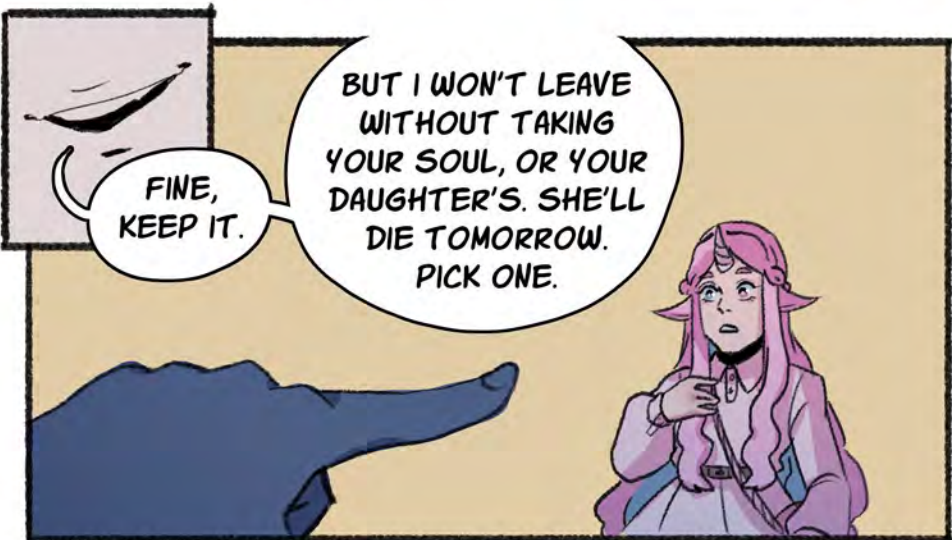
IT'S NOT YOURS ANYMORE!



I'M SORRY THAT YOU WEREN'T SATISFIED WITH THE EXCHANGE. YOU DIDN'T TELL ME THAT YOU WANTED TO START A FAMILY.

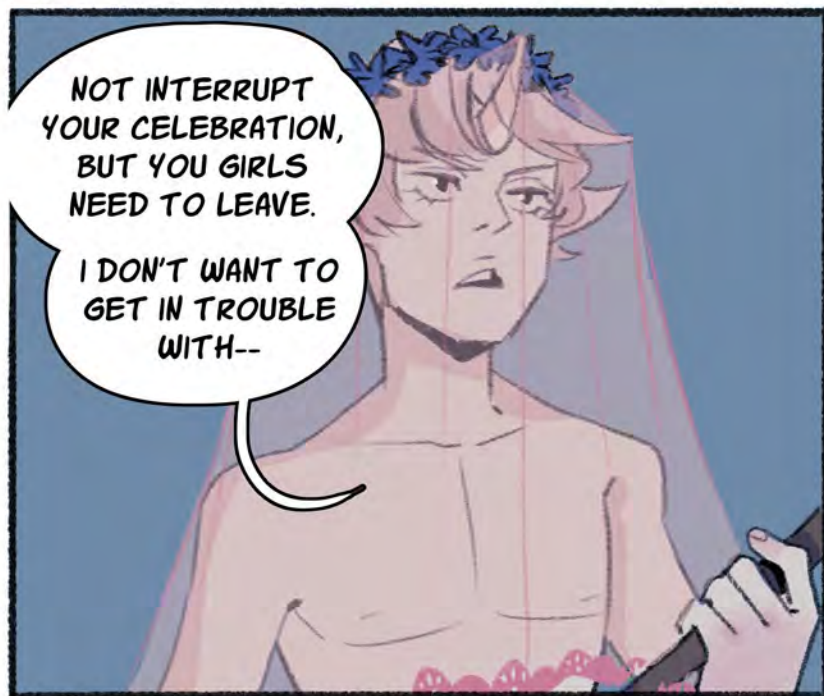
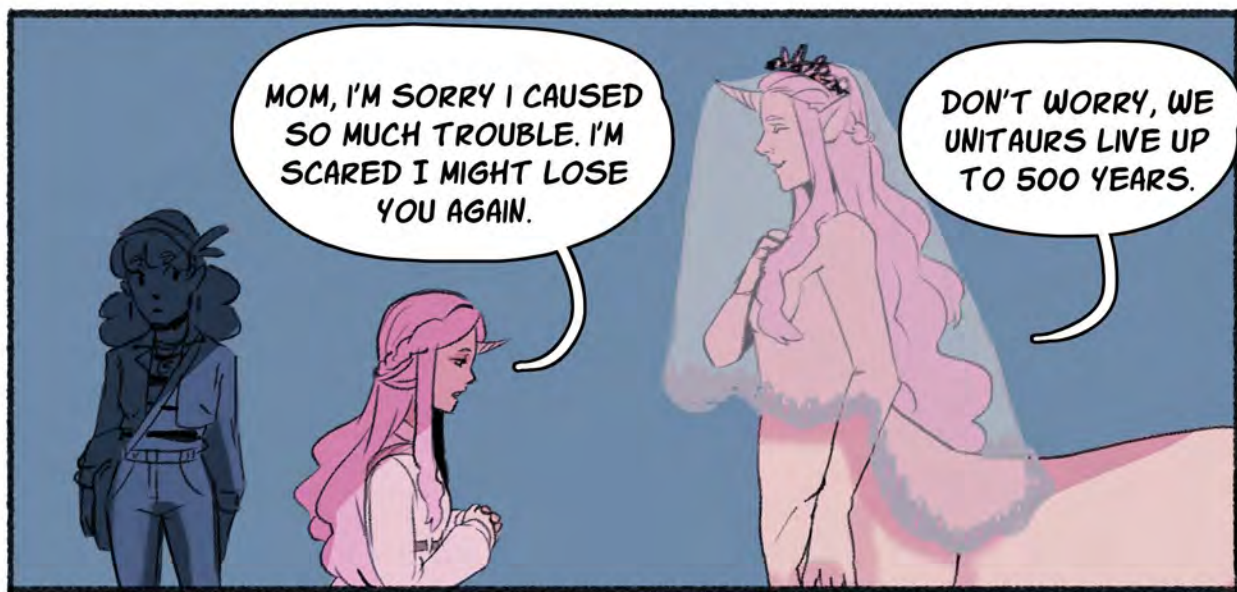
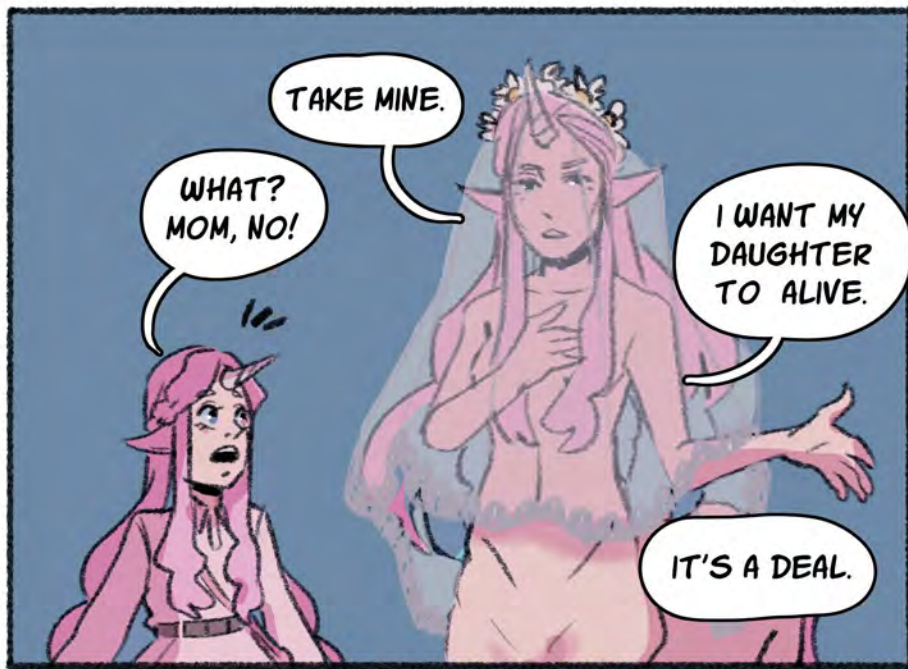


ALRIGHT I MESSED UP, BUT SHE RISKED HER LIFE TO BRING MY VEIL BACK.



FINE, KEEP IT.

BUT I WON'T LEAVE WITHOUT TAKING YOUR SOUL, OR YOUR DAUGHTER'S. SHE'LL DIE TOMORROW. PICK ONE.



MEANWHILE...



OH, YOU
GUYS ARE
BACK.

