

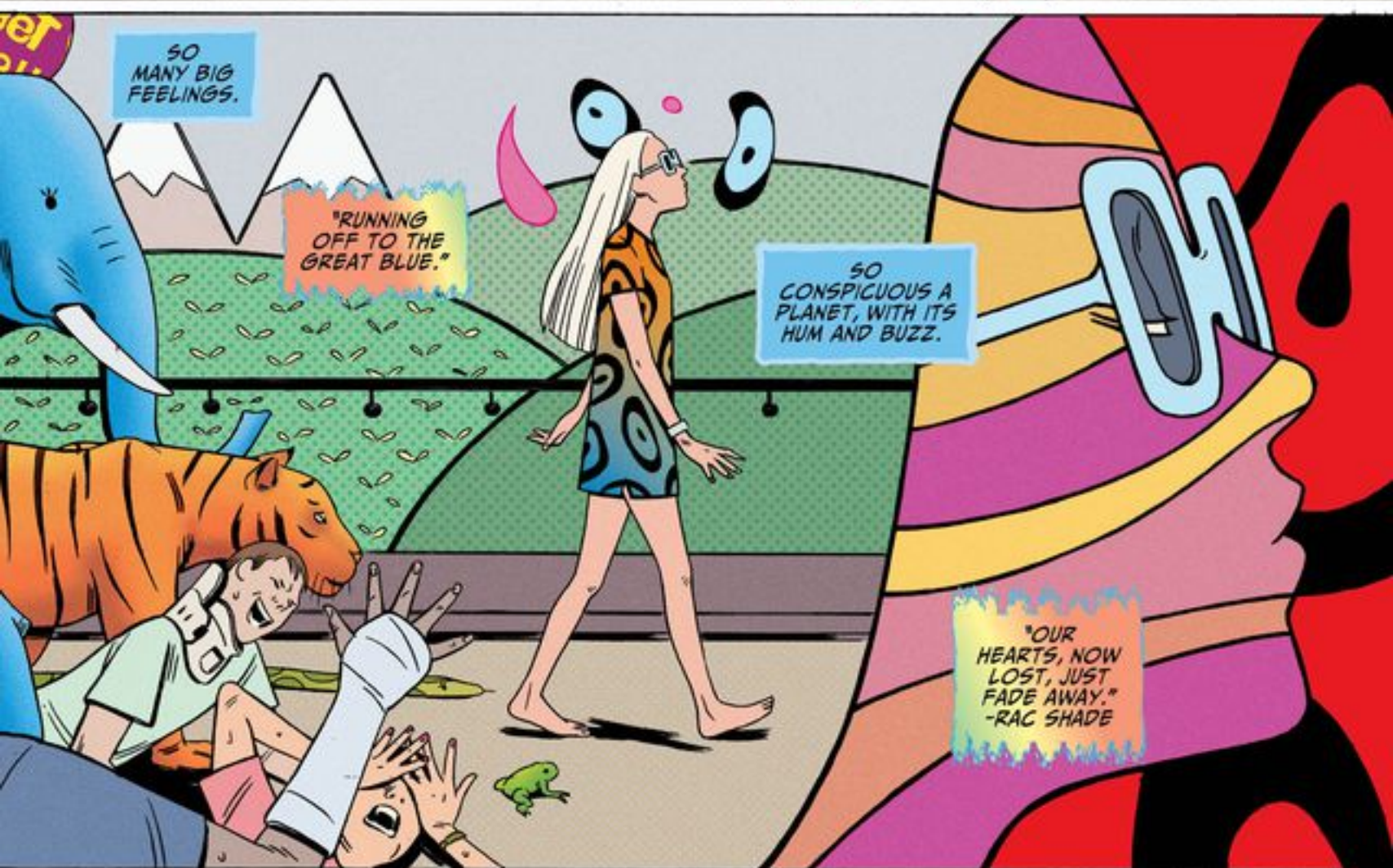




"WHERE DARK FALLS DARK DESPITE THE LIGHT..."

IT'S BRIGHT.

"...I TOUCH. I SMELL. I BREATHE. I BEAT."



SO MANY BIG FEELINGS.

"RUNNING OFF TO THE GREAT BLUE."

SO CONSPICUOUS A PLANET, WITH ITS HUM AND BUZZ.

"OUR HEARTS, NOW LOST, JUST FADE AWAY."
-RAC SHADE

I LOVE IT
HERE ALREADY.

Get
Well

SHADE

the changing girls
earth girl
made easy

CAN an
k! I HAVE
A GLASS OF
WATER ?!

TRAVELING
is
bass
MAKES ME
THIRSTY. lol

chapter 1

running off to the great blue

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THERE'S A CERTAIN POETRY TO EARTH.

YES, THIS IS MEGAN'S MOTHER.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN SHE'S WOKEN UP?

DOCTOR, YOU SAID SHE WAS BRAIN-DEAD. THAT THERE WAS NO HOPE.

WE CAN'T EXPLAIN IT. SHE'S FULLY FUNCTIONAL.



BUT WE'VE SIGNED THE PAPERS. WE WERE PULLING--

ANNA...

PLEASE COME TAKE HER AWAY.



PLEASE HURRY.



SHE'S UPSETTING THE OTHER PATIENTS.

I KNEW IT WOULDN'T BE BORING.



META. MUSEUM OF ALIEN CURIOSITIES. EARTH EXHIBIT.

YESTERDAY.

AFTER HOURS.

still ip

5GafAwk

OH, LOMA.



DEAR LPUCK. I LIKE YOU. I REALLY DO.

I LOVE THIS SHOW. "WELL, HONEY. WHAT'S A GAL TO DO?"

"YOU JUST DRIP WITH IT 'TIL EVERYTHING IS SWEET AGAIN."

GROANE

I JUST CAN'T DO THIS LONG TERM.

I OWE SOME BAD PEOPLE SOME MONEY.



LEPUCK, WHAT DO YOU THINK THE OVER/UNDER IS ON EARTH SURVIVING TO THE NEXT AGE?

I CAN'T KEEP A JOB.

I'VE NEVER UNDERSTOOD EARTH'S APPEAL.

I HAVE ALIEN LOVERS ON THE SIDE.

I HEAR THERE ARE A LOT OF BIG FEELINGS THERE.

OVERRATED PLACE, I THINK.

QUIT IT.

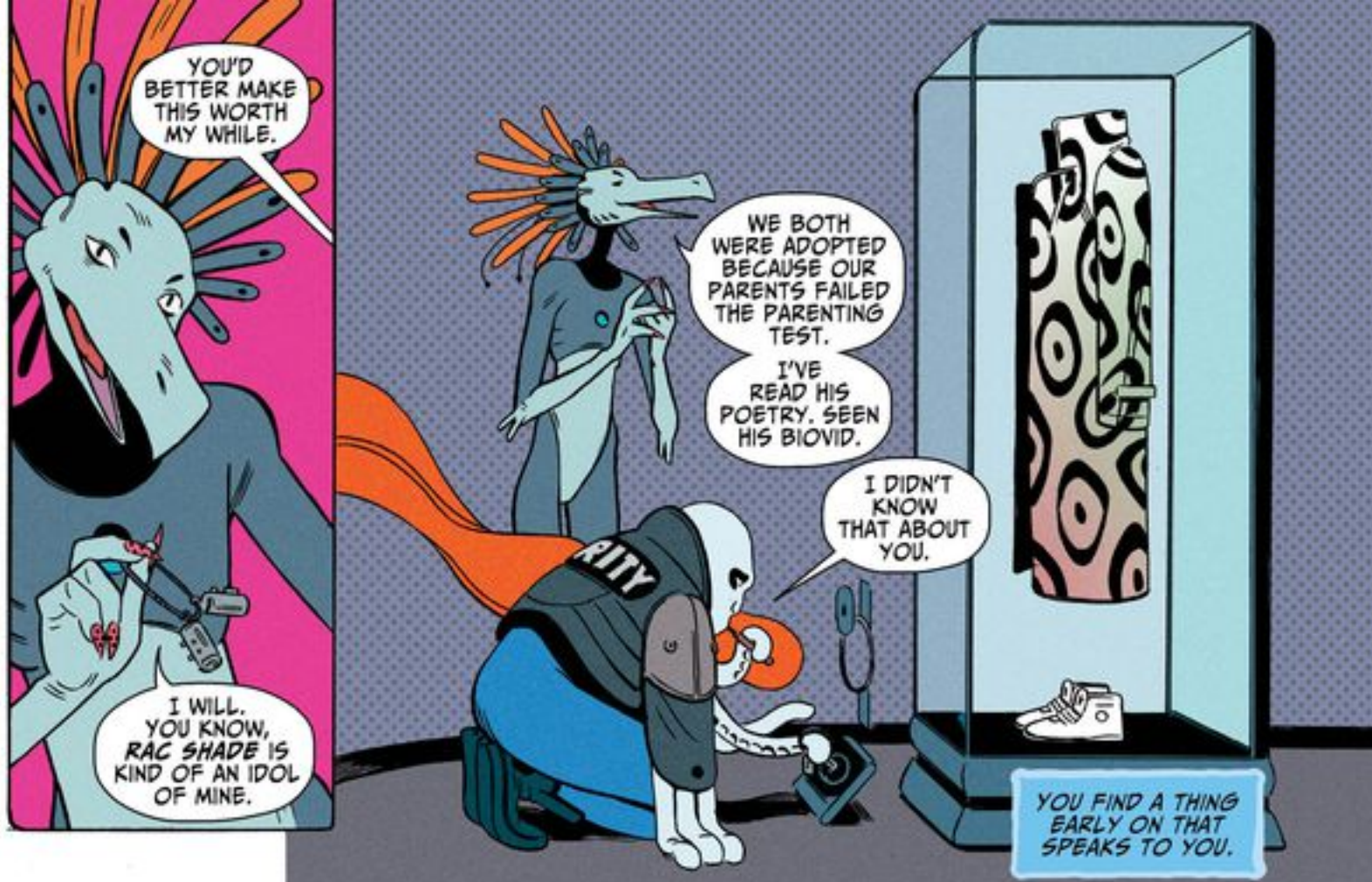
DON'T YOU THINK IT'D BE FUN TO TRY IT ON?

IT'S REALLY NOT YOU.



COME ON. OVERRIDE THE SECURITY SO I CAN TOUCH IT.

IT'S ME. LOMA.



YOU'D BETTER MAKE THIS WORTH MY WHILE.

WE BOTH WERE ADOPTED BECAUSE OUR PARENTS FAILED THE PARENTING TEST.

I'VE READ HIS POETRY. SEEN HIS BIOVID.

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT ABOUT YOU.

I WILL. YOU KNOW, RAC SHADE IS KIND OF AN IDOL OF MINE.

YOU FIND A THING EARLY ON THAT SPEAKS TO YOU.



IT BECOMES YOUR GUIDING STAR.

A POET WHO WENT TO EARTH TO FIGHT THE MADNESS.

A BEDTIME STORY MEANT TO MAKE YOU LOOK UNDER THE BED.



SOMETHING BRILLIANT AND TRUE. CLOSE TO THE BONE.

"THE MAN HAS A SMILE LIKE A PALE AFTERNOON..."



"...AND HOLDS IN HIS HAND AN IMPROBABLE MOON..."

GOOD-BYE, LEPUCK.

"...A GRAVE, A CRY, AN INVISIBLE LOOM."

"THAT WEAVES WHAT'S LEFT WHEN YOU'VE LEFT TOO SOON."

IT INFORMS AND MOLDS YOUR EVERY MOMENT.

AND LEADS YOU TO THE DAY THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING.

WHEN I GREW UP I WANTED TO BECOME A SHADE RECRUIT.

I WOULD BE LOMA SHADE.

EVERYONE LAUGHED. "THAT SAD OLD POET?"

THE PROJECT HAD BEEN DISCONTINUED.

SO I'VE HAD TO IMPROVISE.

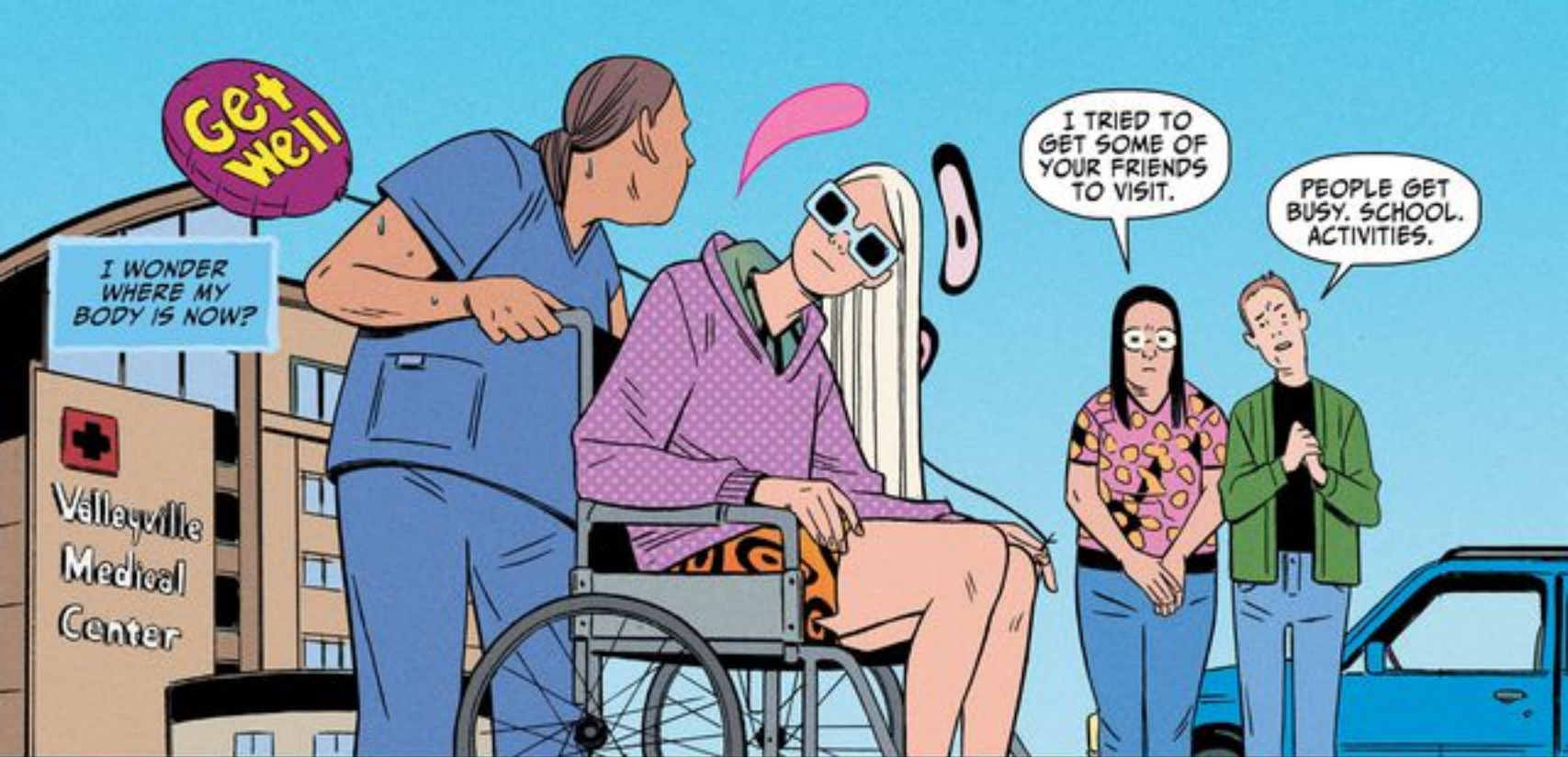
"SEEK OUT THE LIFE THAT ELUDES YOU.

"RUSH INTO ITS WALLS. SLAM INTO ITS GATES."

THE MADNESS BECKONED.

AND SUDDENLY MY DREAM IS HERE.

LOMA.



Get Well

I WONDER WHERE MY BODY IS NOW?

Valleyville Medical Center

I TRIED TO GET SOME OF YOUR FRIENDS TO VISIT.

PEOPLE GET BUSY. SCHOOL. ACTIVITIES.



WHO CARES? LOOK AT THIS PLACE.

Leaving Valleyville Come Again



YOUR OLD SYNCHRO SWIM TEAM WON REGIONALS THIS YEAR.

WE'VE GOT NEW NEIGHBORS. THEY'VE GOT A SON YOUR AGE.

EXIT 188 B
Yarrow Lake
1/2 MILE



HOLD ON.

WHAT'S THIS...?