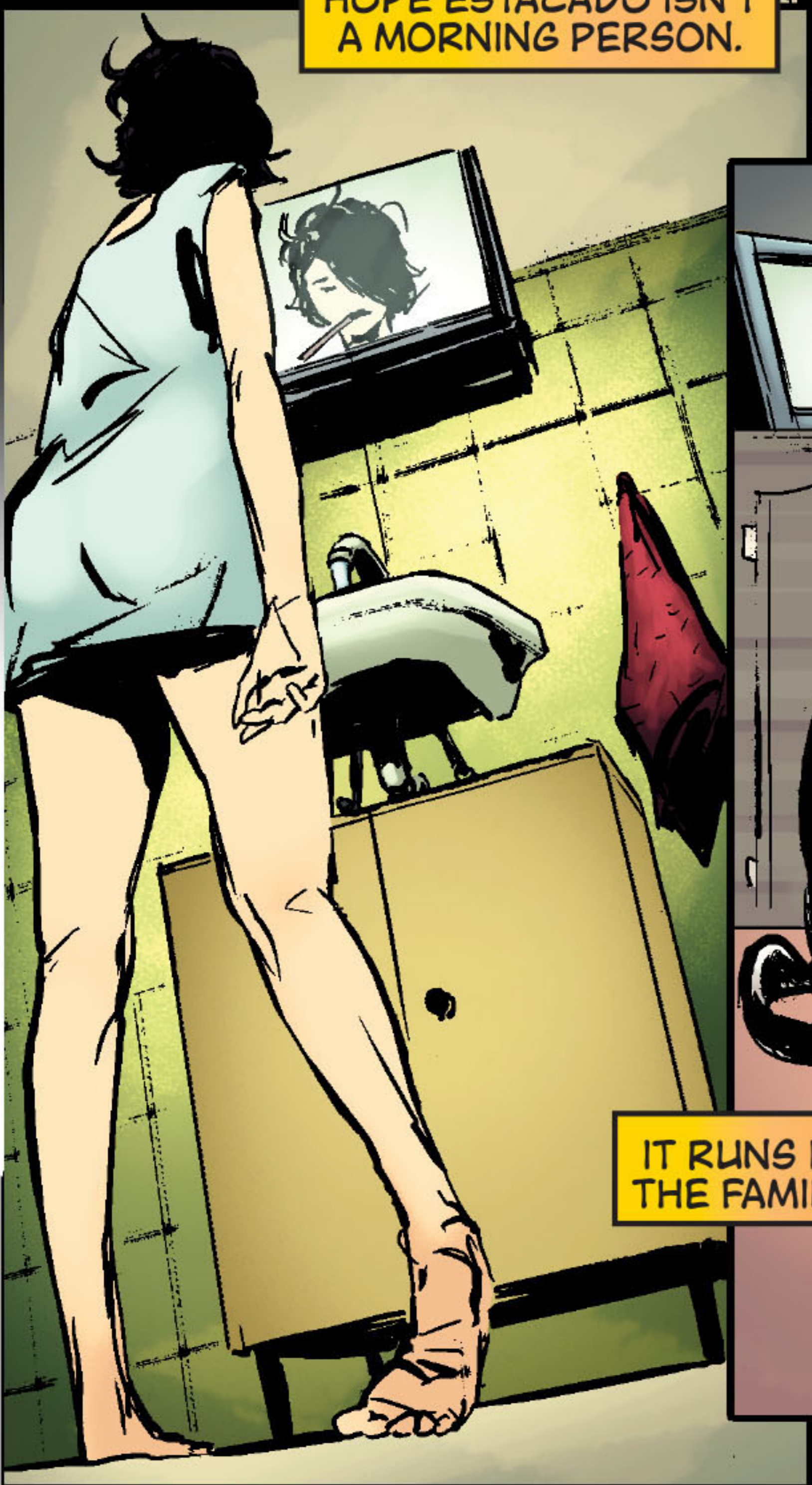




HOPE ESTACADO ISN'T A MORNING PERSON.



IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY.

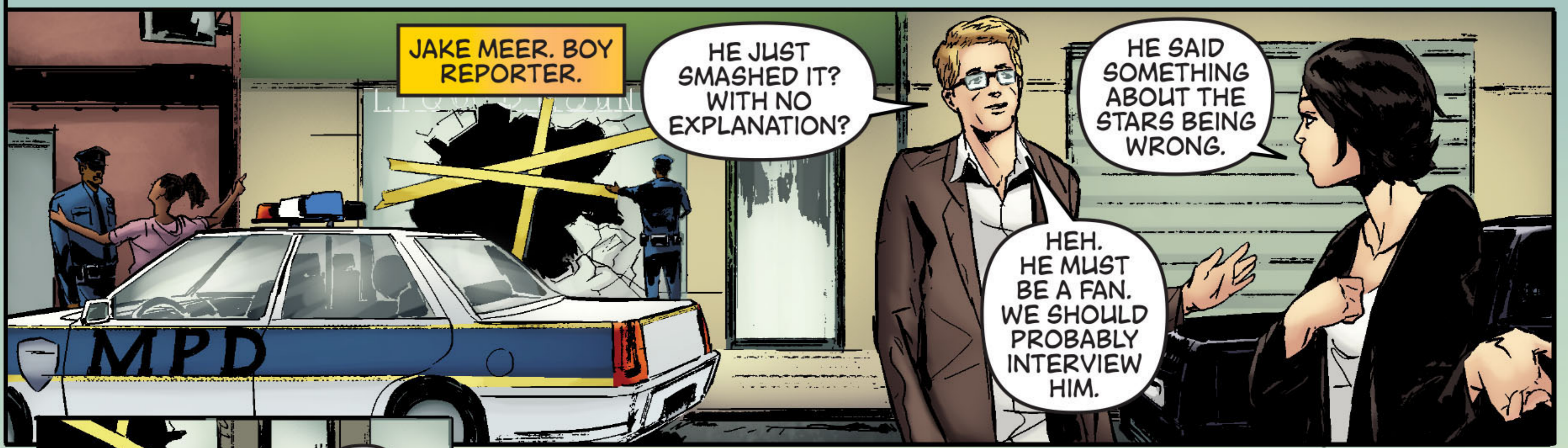


BUT EVERY DAY SHE GETS UP, GETS HER GAME FACE ON...

...AND HEADS OUT  
TO FACE THE WORLD.







JAKE MEER. BOY REPORTER.

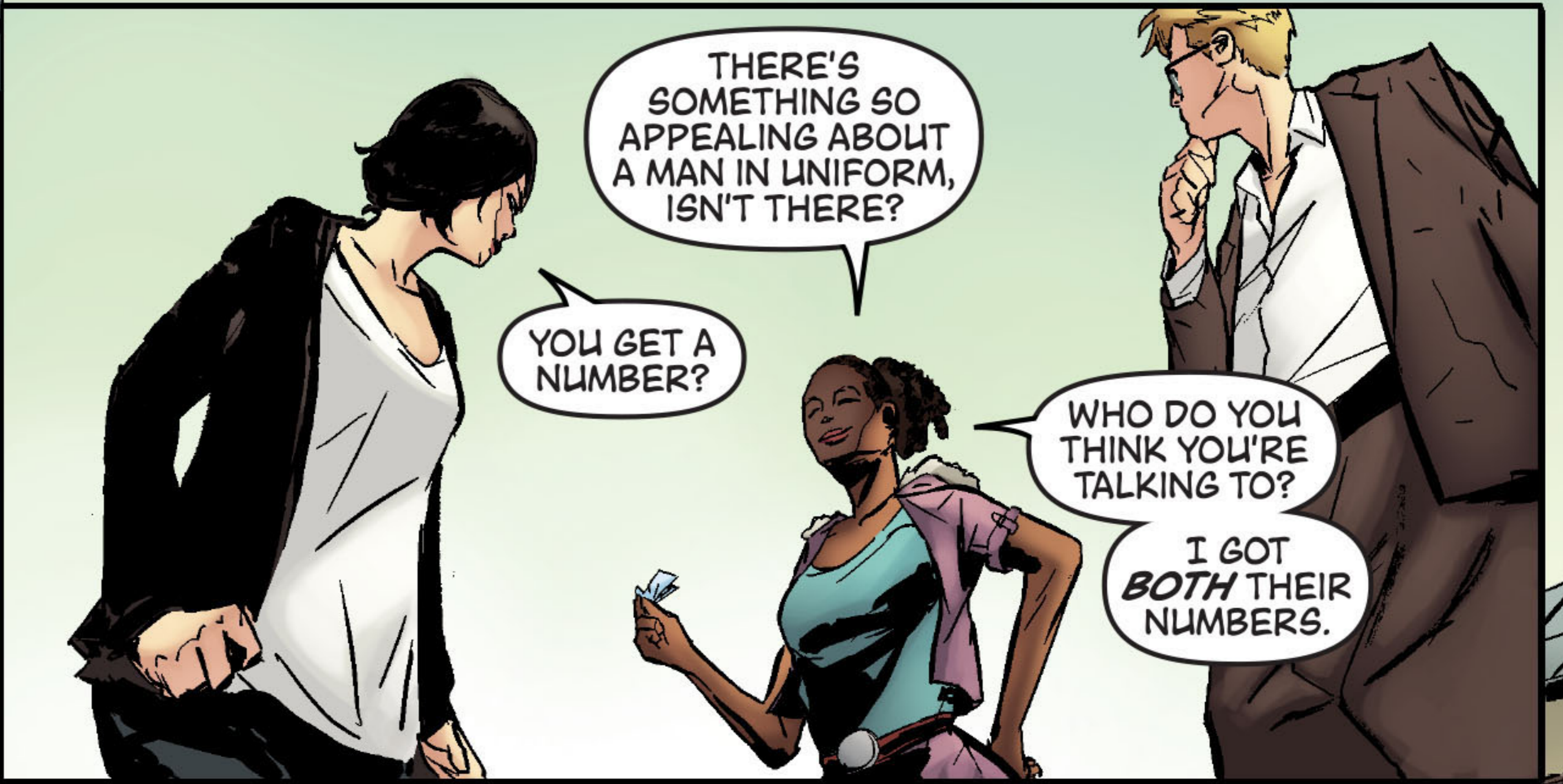
HE JUST SMASHED IT? WITH NO EXPLANATION?

HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT THE STARS BEING WRONG.

HEH. HE MUST BE A FAN. WE SHOULD PROBABLY INTERVIEW HIM.



ACTUALLY, DO YOU THINK THE COPS WOULD LET US?



THERE'S SOMETHING SO APPEALING ABOUT A MAN IN UNIFORM, ISN'T THERE?

YOU GET A NUMBER?

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TALKING TO?

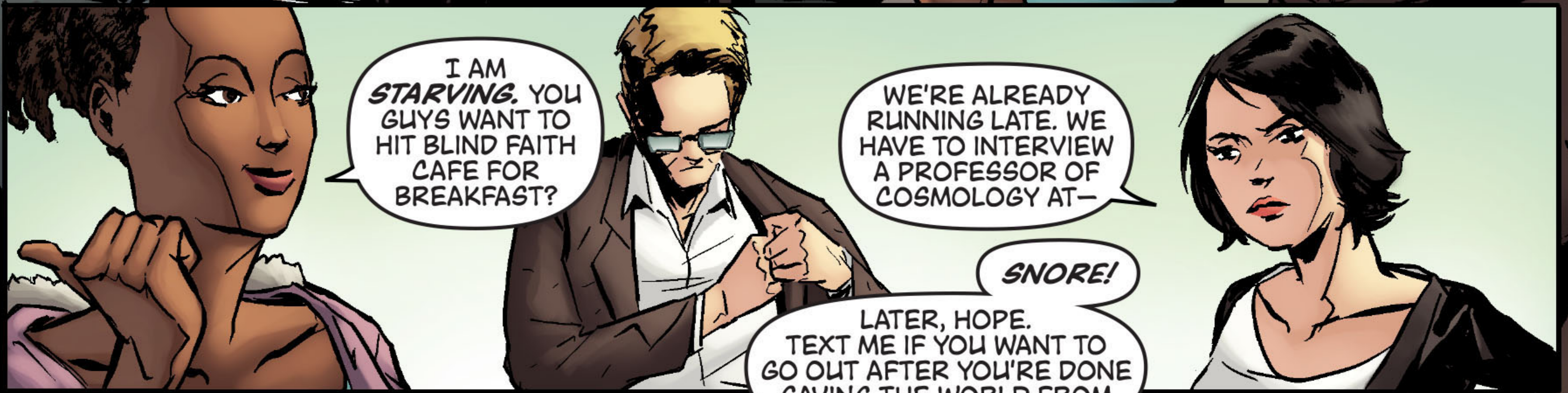
I GOT BOTH THEIR NUMBERS.



DID YOU SEE ANYTHING WEIRD?

YOU MEAN OTHER THAN THE DISHEVELED LUNATIC RANTING ABOUT THE STARS?

OH, AND THE CRAZY HOMELESS GUY?



I AM STARVING. YOU GUYS WANT TO HIT BLIND FAITH CAFE FOR BREAKFAST?

WE'RE ALREADY RUNNING LATE. WE HAVE TO INTERVIEW A PROFESSOR OF COSMOLOGY AT—

SNORE!

LATER, HOPE. TEXT ME IF YOU WANT TO GO OUT AFTER YOU'RE DONE SAVING THE WORLD FROM INSOMNIA.



WHAT DOES SHE MEAN, "SAVING THE WORLD FROM—"

SHE MEANS IT'S BORING, JAKE.

AH.

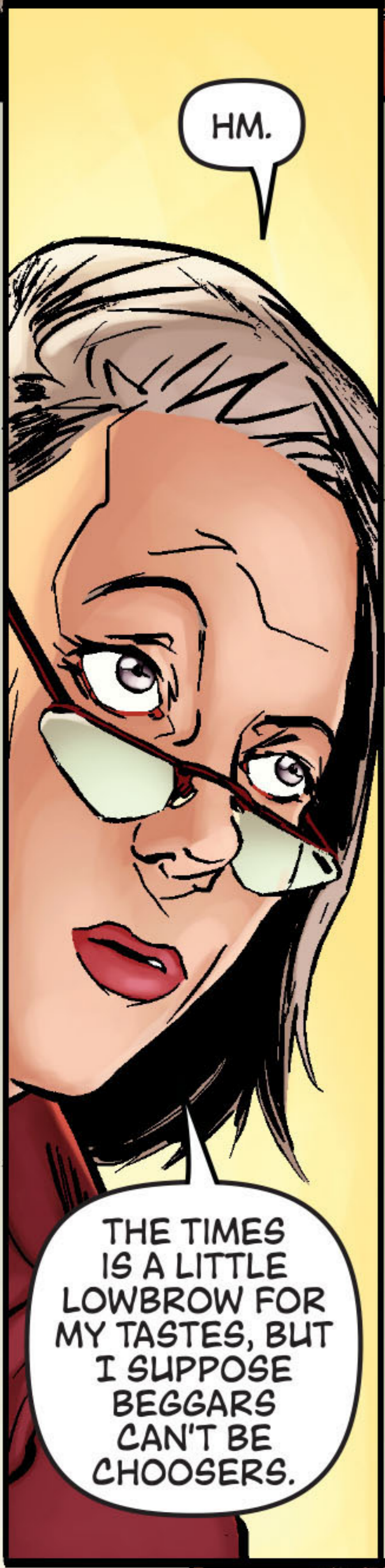
RIGHT.



PROFESSOR PATRICIA MCNAIR. NOT BORING AT ALL.

WHAT MAGAZINE DID YOU SAY YOU'RE WITH?

WE'RE WITH SCIENCE TIMES, BUT I'VE HAD FEATURES IN TIME AND VANITY FAIR.

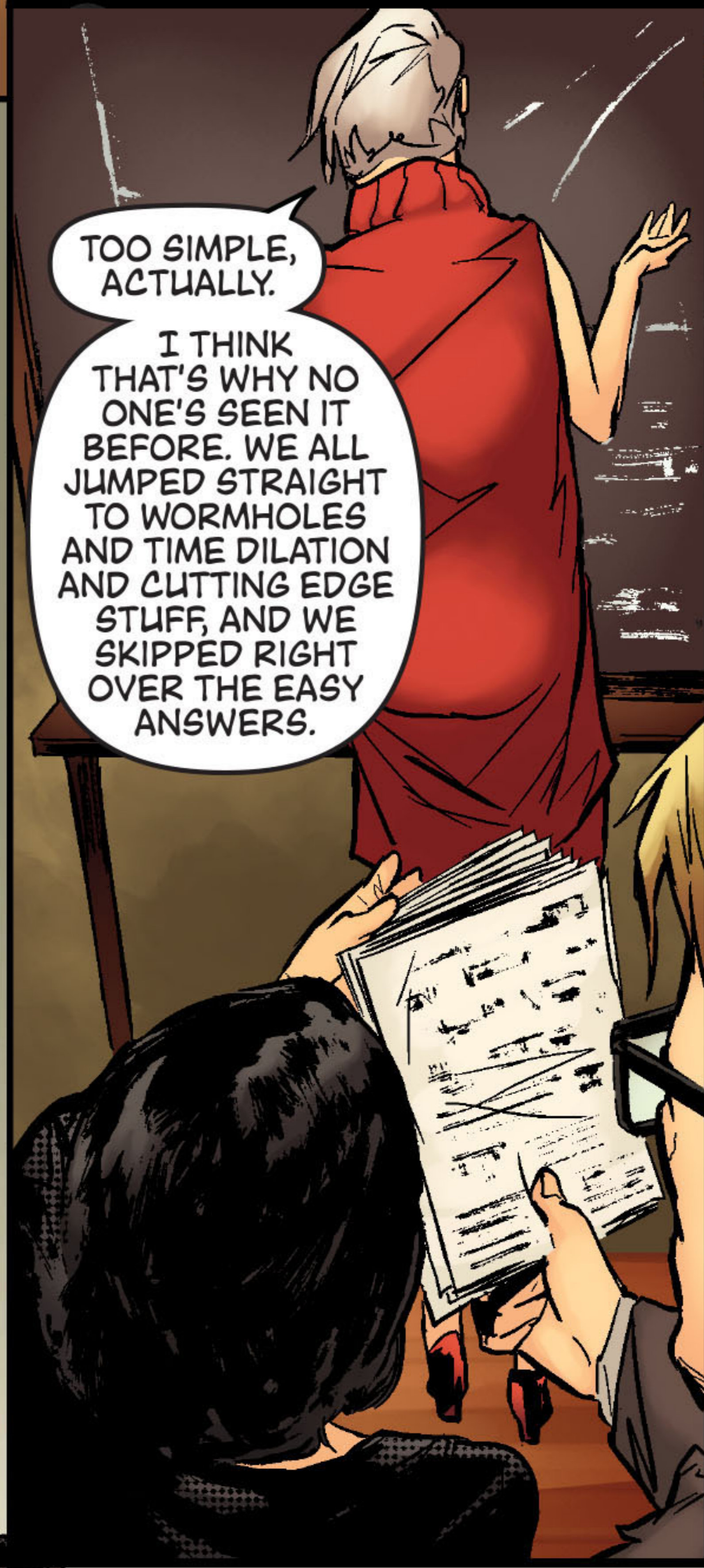


HM.

THE TIMES IS A LITTLE LOWBROW FOR MY TASTES, BUT I SUPPOSE BEGGARS CAN'T BE CHOOSERS.



IT'S SIMPLE...



TOO SIMPLE, ACTUALLY. I THINK THAT'S WHY NO ONE'S SEEN IT BEFORE. WE ALL JUMPED STRAIGHT TO WORMHOLES AND TIME DILATION AND CUTTING EDGE STUFF, AND WE SKIPPED RIGHT OVER THE EASY ANSWERS.



I WAS DOING A MATHEMATICAL EXTRAPOLATION OF A STAR CHART LEONARDO DA VINCI MADE IN 1515--

--I PLAY AROUND WITH CELESTIAL CARTOGRAPHY FOR FUN--

AND I ARBLE GARBLE SCIENCE SCIENCE JARBLE GOOBLE.



HUH.

WHAT ABOUT JARGON BLARGON FIZZEE WIZZICS BLAH BLAH BLAH?



