



81

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



COVER BY EVAN STANLEY

SEGA®

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

STORY SO FAR...

STORY
EVAN STANLEY

ART
MIN HO KIM

COLORS
IASMIN OMAR ATA

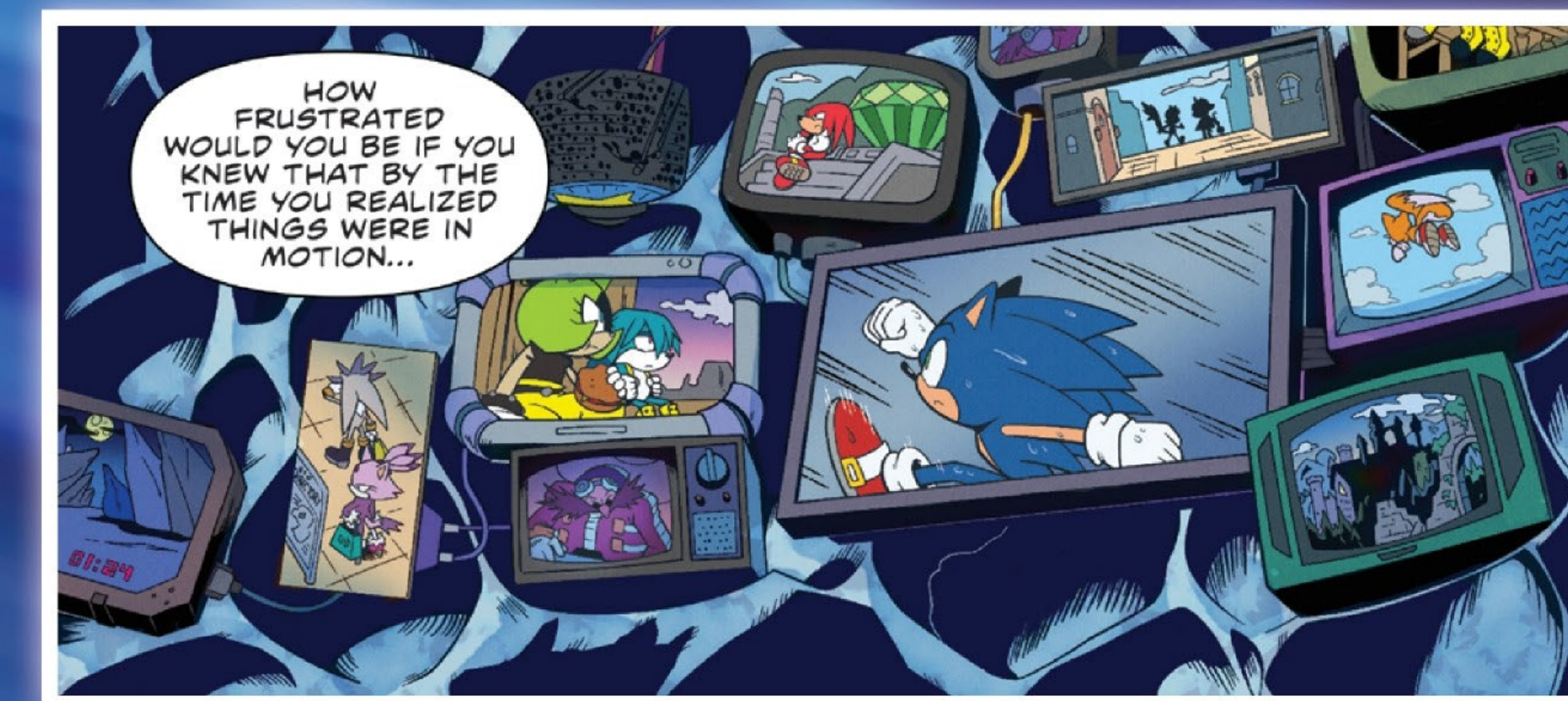
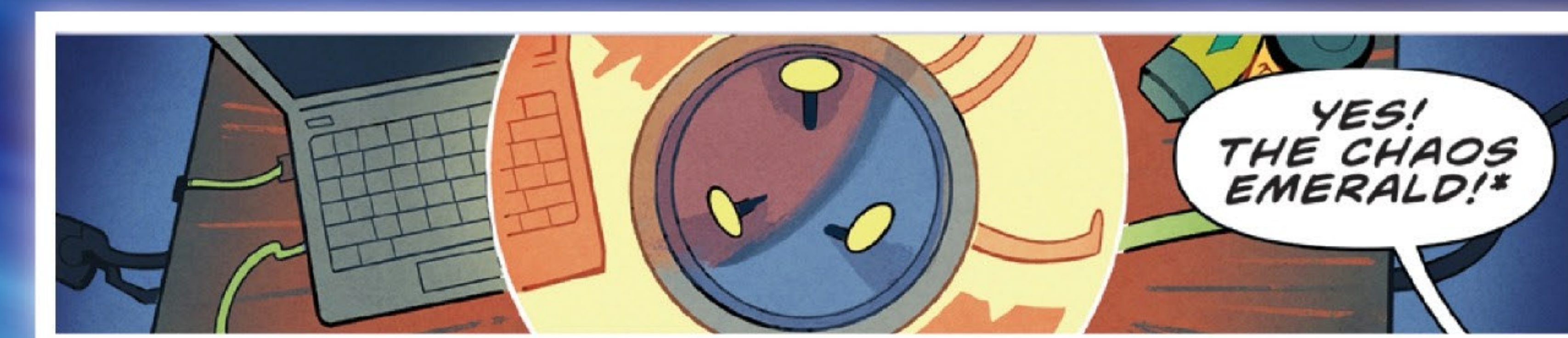
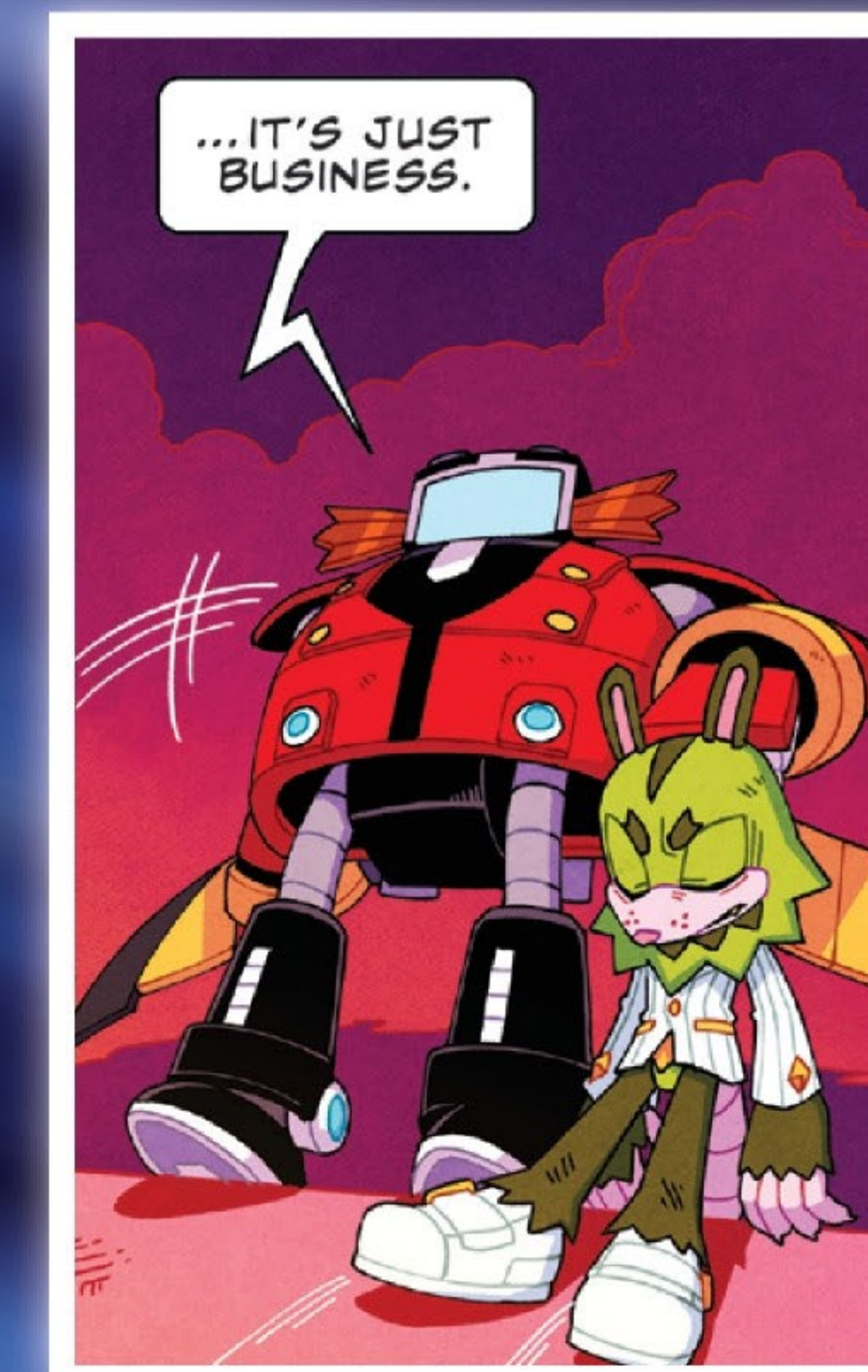
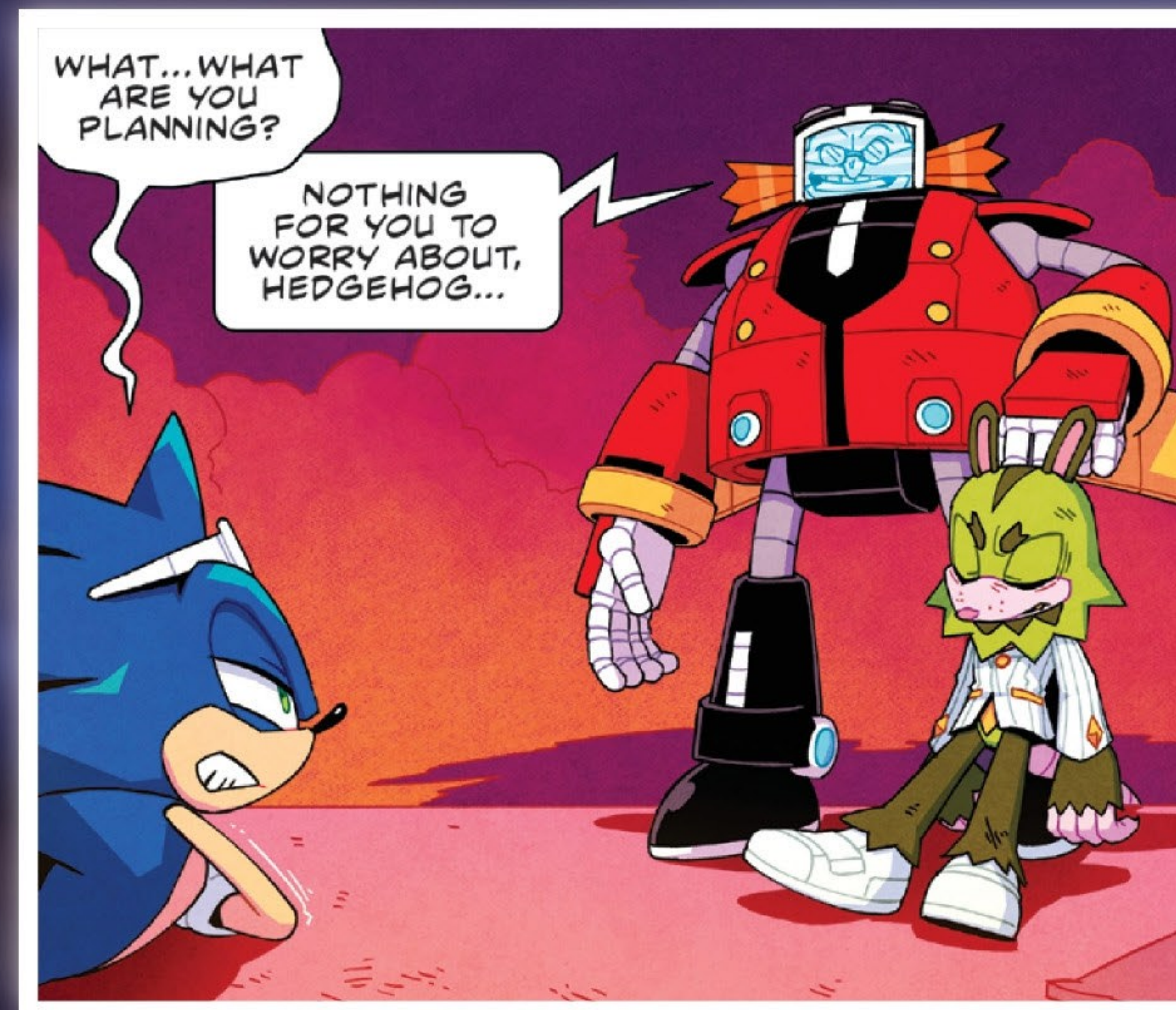
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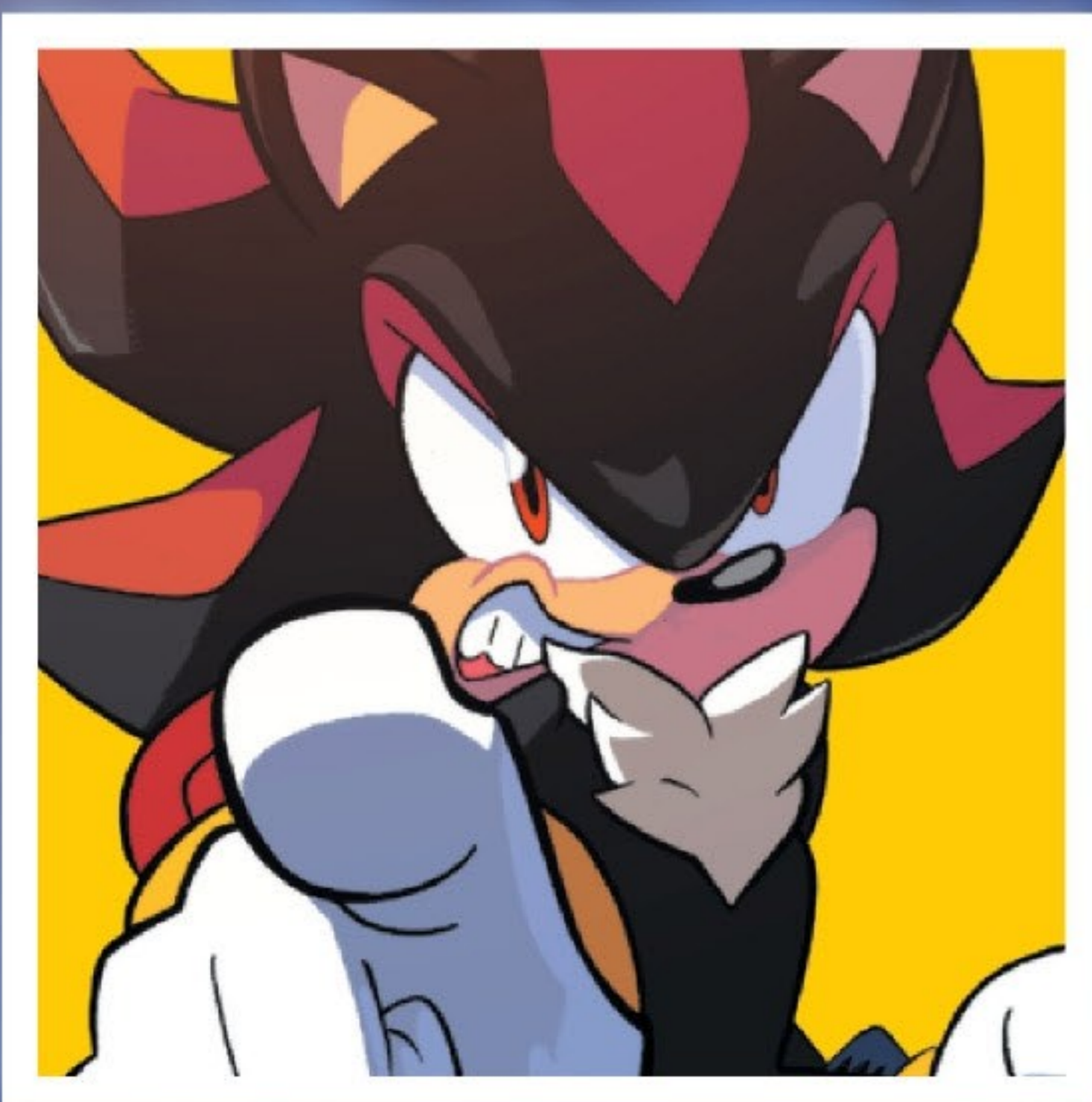
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

THE BLUE BLUR.
FASTEST THING ALIVE.



MILES "TAILS" PROWER

TECH-SAVVY SIDEKICK.
HIGH-FLYING GENIUS.



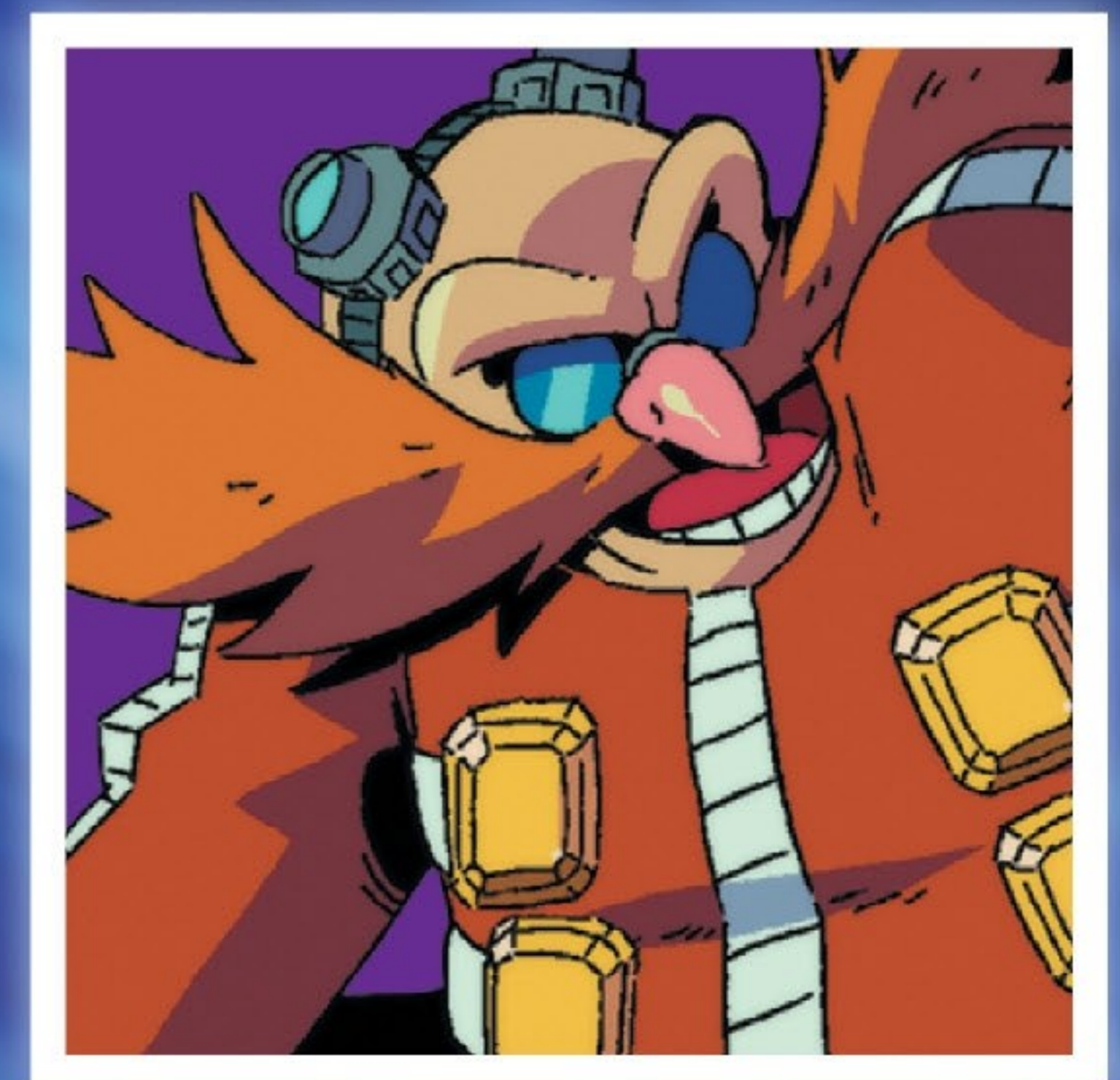
SHADOW THE HEDGEHOG

THE ULTIMATE LIFE-FORM.
SONIC'S GRIM RIVAL.



ROUGE THE BAT

TREASURE-HUNTING SPY.
RESTORATION ALLY.



DR. EGGMAN

MAD GENIUS.
EGG ENTHUSIAST.



WELCOME,
GALLANT GUESTS, TO
THE CITY OF CIRCUSES,
THE PALACE OF
PERFORMANCE...



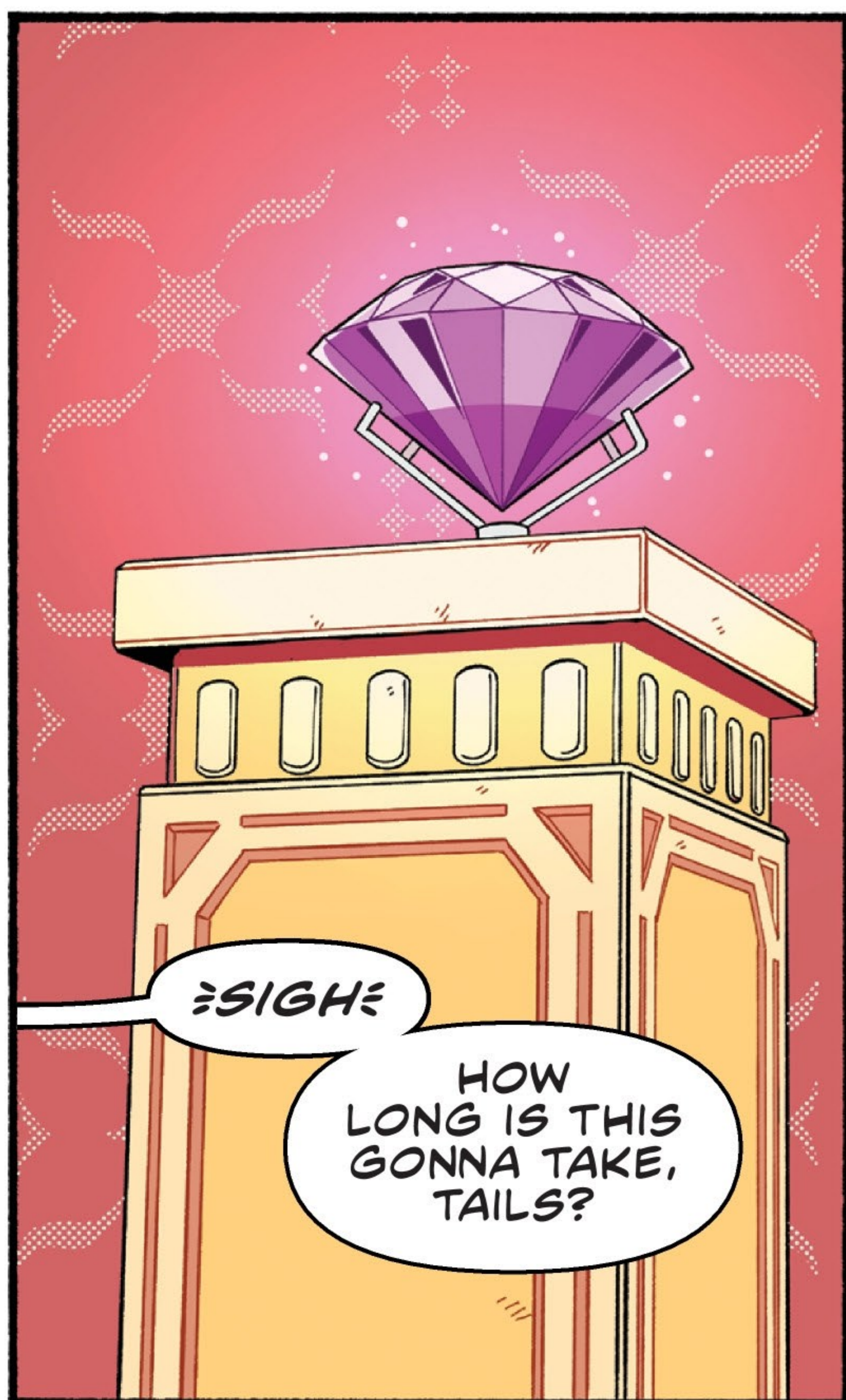
...TO THE CITY
OF SEQUIN, AND
THE GRAND
CARNIVAL!

WITH SUCH
AN OTHERWORLDLY
TREASURE AT THE CENTER
OF OUR FESTIVITIES,
THIS YEAR PROMISES TO
BE OUR GREATEST
CARNIVAL EVER!



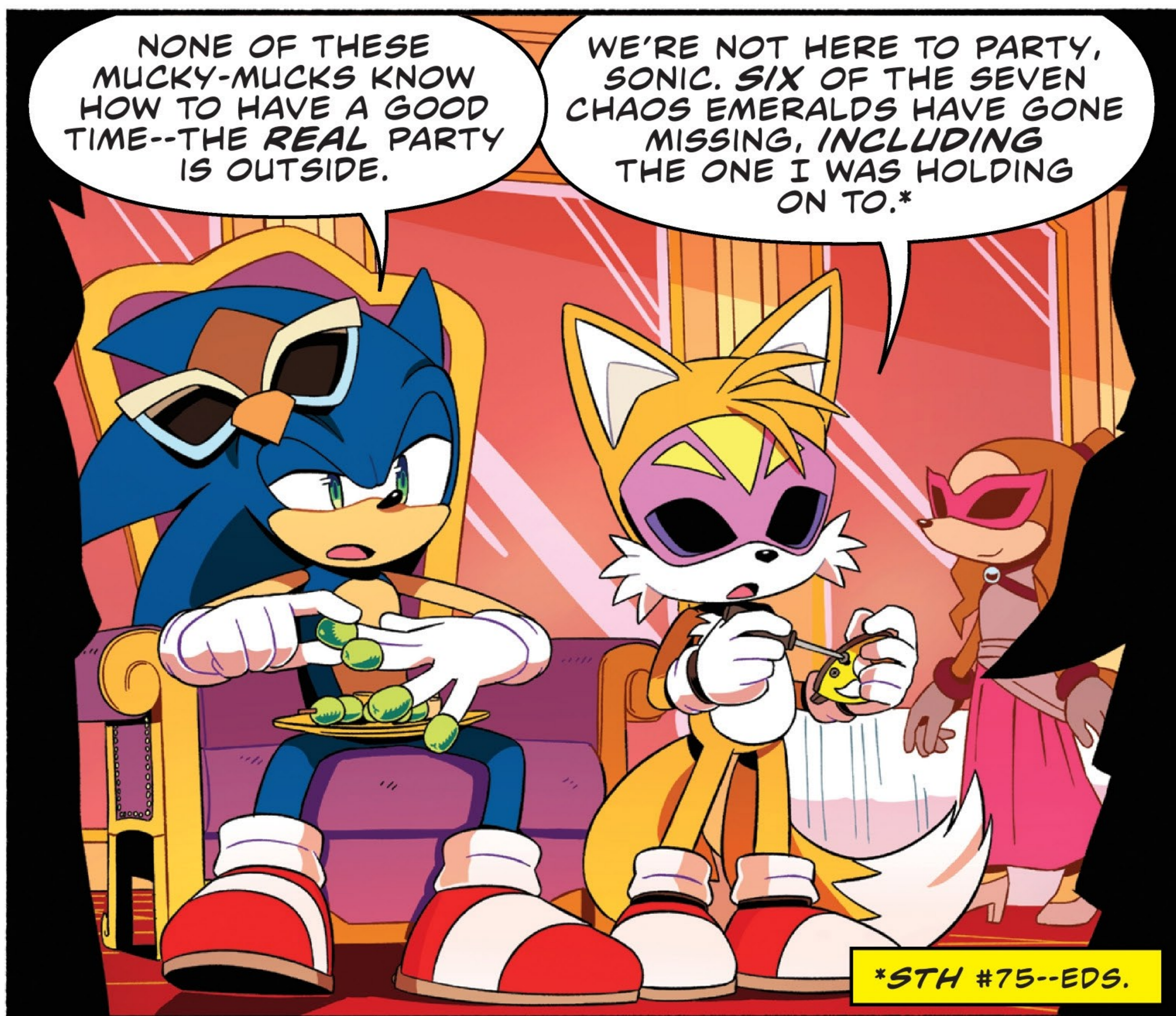
FOR ONE
NIGHT ONLY, FEAST
YOUR EYES UPON A
LEGENDARY CHAOS
EMERALD!

BY INVITATION
ONLY. NAMES WILL
BE TAKEN AT THE
DOORS.



≡SIGH≡

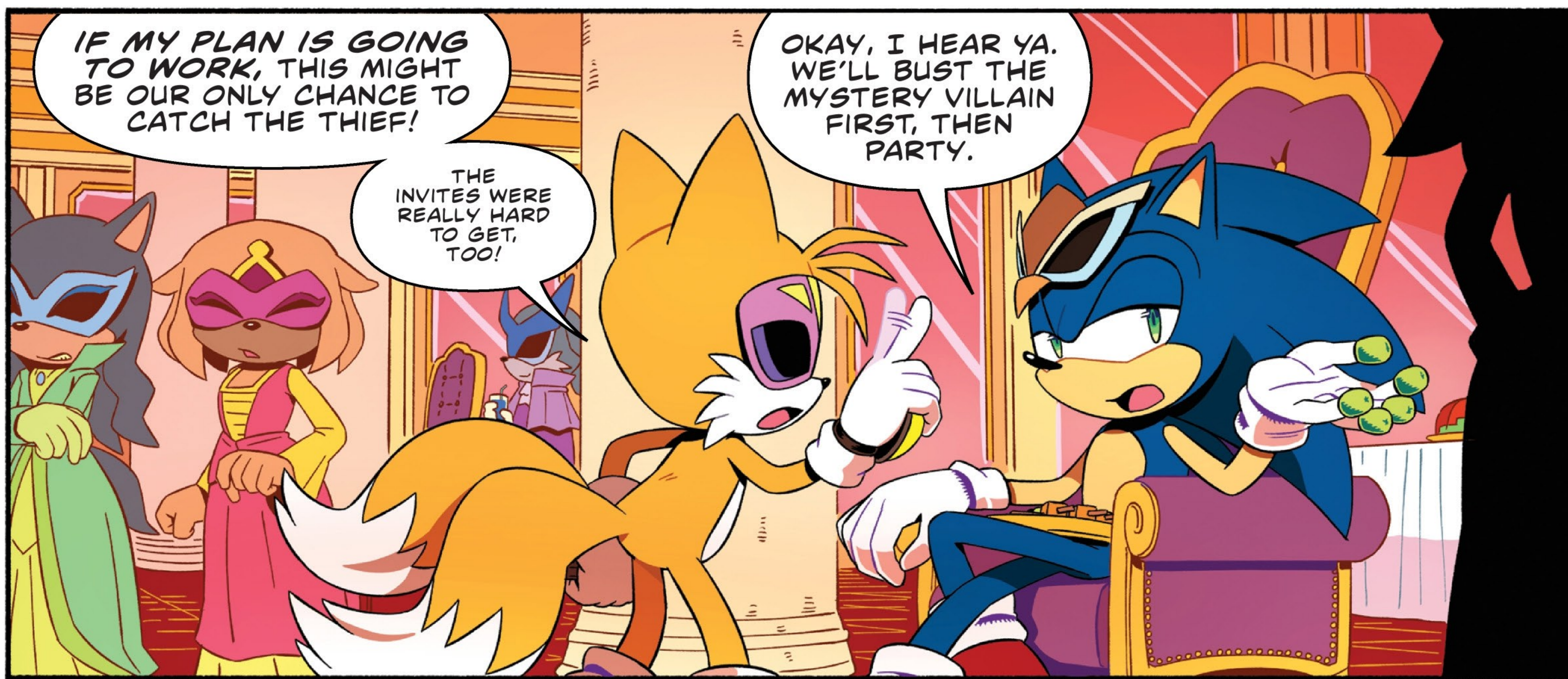
HOW LONG IS THIS GONNA TAKE, TAILS?



NONE OF THESE MUCKY-MUCKS KNOW HOW TO HAVE A GOOD TIME--THE REAL PARTY IS OUTSIDE.

WE'RE NOT HERE TO PARTY, SONIC. SIX OF THE SEVEN CHAOS EMERALDS HAVE GONE MISSING, INCLUDING THE ONE I WAS HOLDING ON TO.*

*STH #75--EDG.



IF MY PLAN IS GOING TO WORK, THIS MIGHT BE OUR ONLY CHANCE TO CATCH THE THIEF!

THE INVITES WERE REALLY HARD TO GET, TOO!

OKAY, I HEAR YA. WE'LL BUST THE MYSTERY VILLAIN FIRST, THEN PARTY.

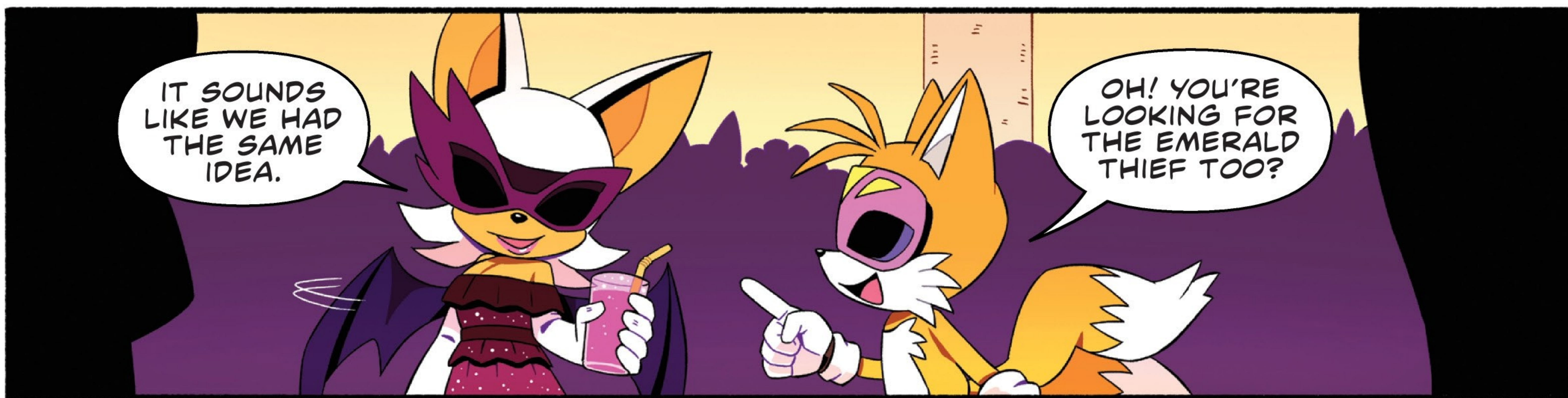


MY, MY...THEY'LL LET ANYONE INTO THIS JOINT, HUH?



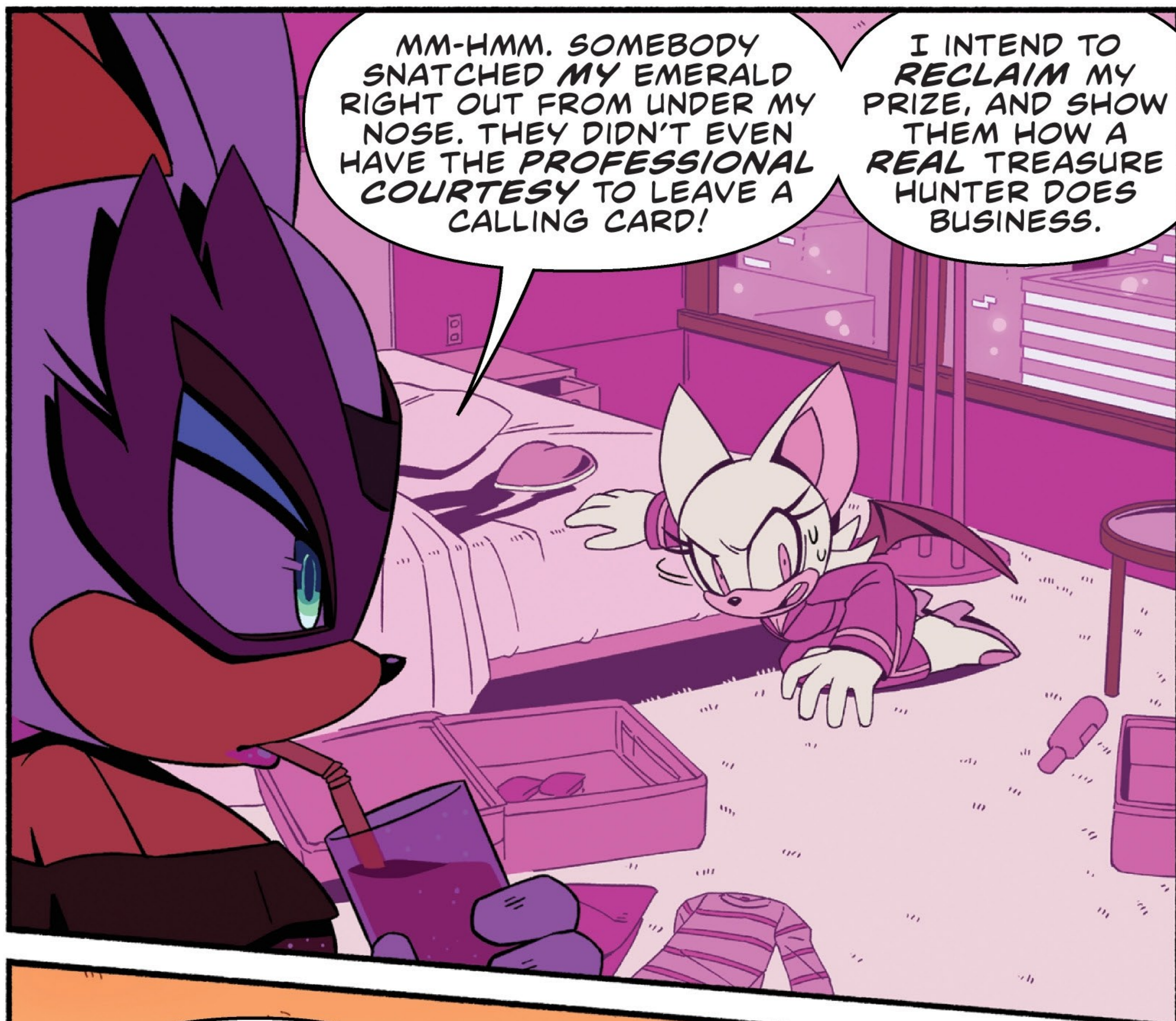
ROUGE! SHADOW!

EVENING, BOYS.



IT SOUNDS LIKE WE HAD THE SAME IDEA.

OH! YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE EMERALD THIEF TOO?



MM-HMM. SOMEBODY SNATCHED MY EMERALD RIGHT OUT FROM UNDER MY NOSE. THEY DIDN'T EVEN HAVE THE PROFESSIONAL COURTESY TO LEAVE A CALLING CARD!

I INTEND TO RECLAIM MY PRIZE, AND SHOW THEM HOW A REAL TREASURE HUNTER DOES BUSINESS.



OF COURSE, IF THEY DON'T SHOW TONIGHT, I COULD JUST REPLACE MY OLD EMERALD...



WHAT ABOUT YOU? GONNA MAKE A PASS AT THE EMERALD? YOU CAN'T USE CHAOS CONTROL WITHOUT ONE, AFTER ALL.

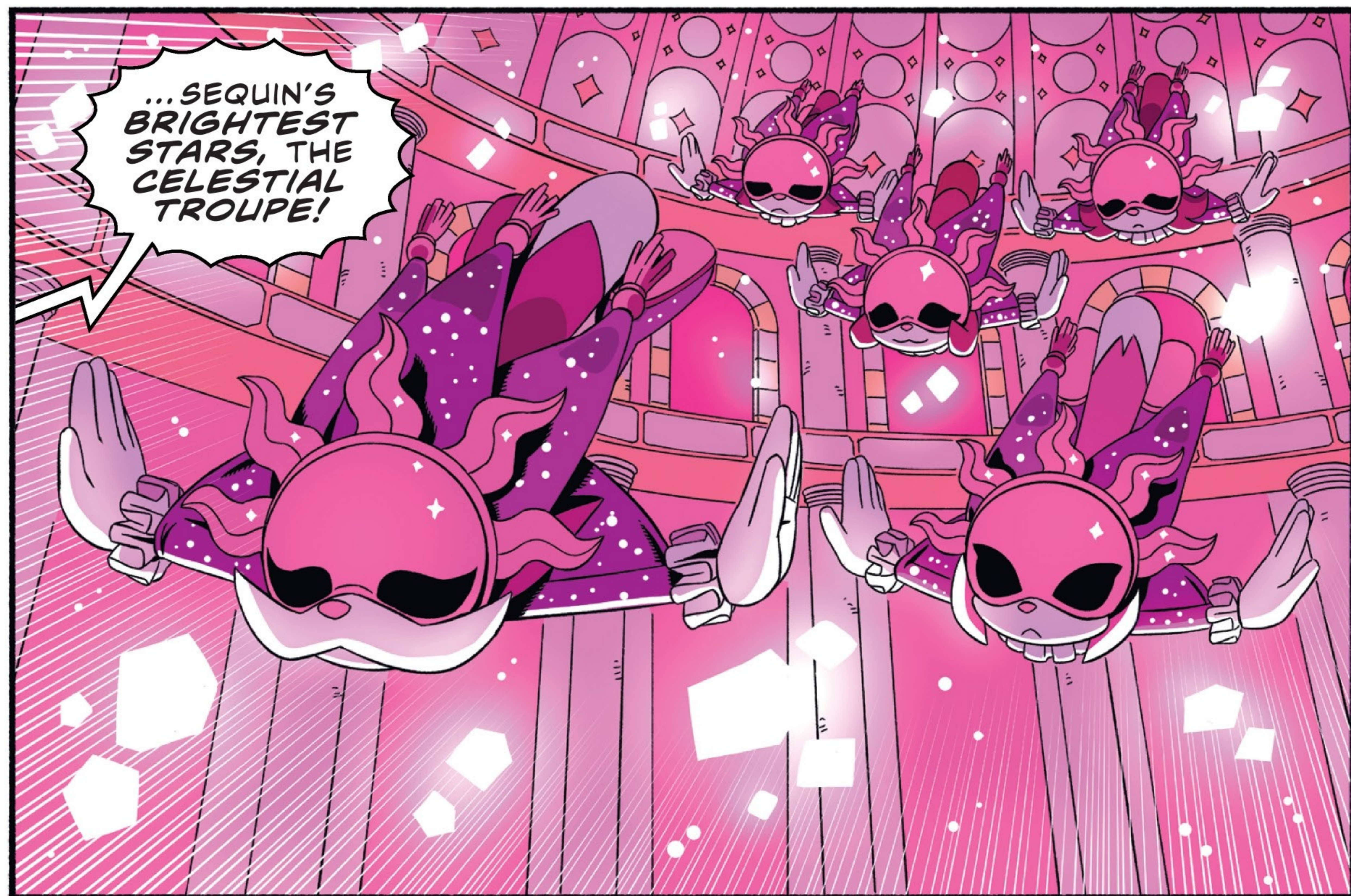
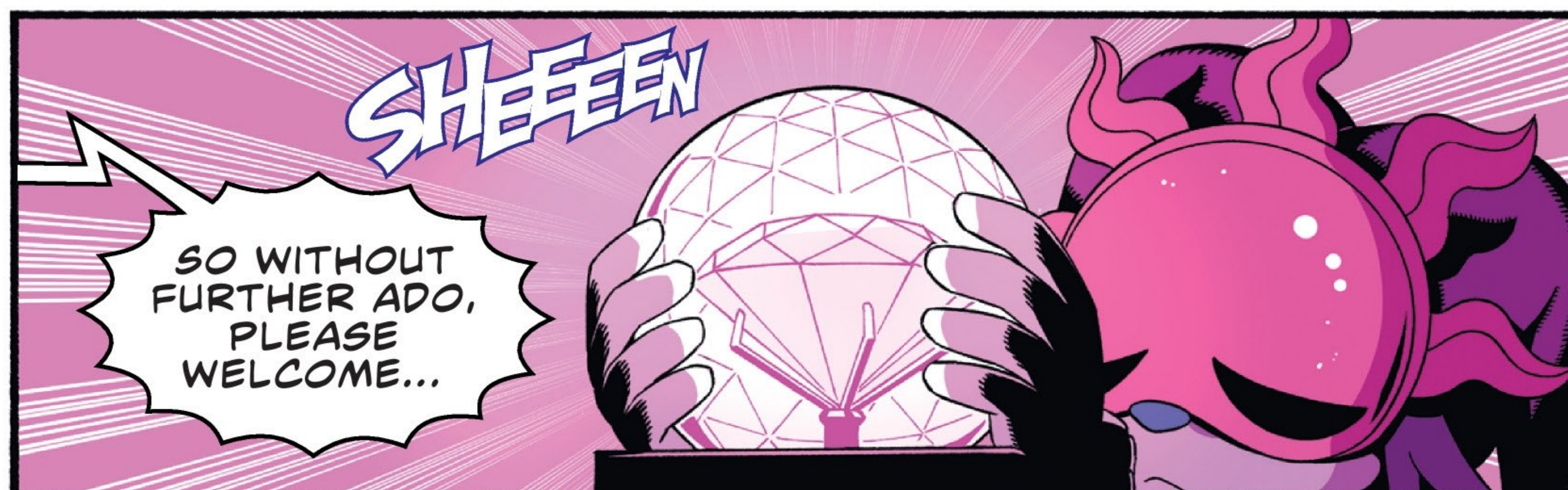
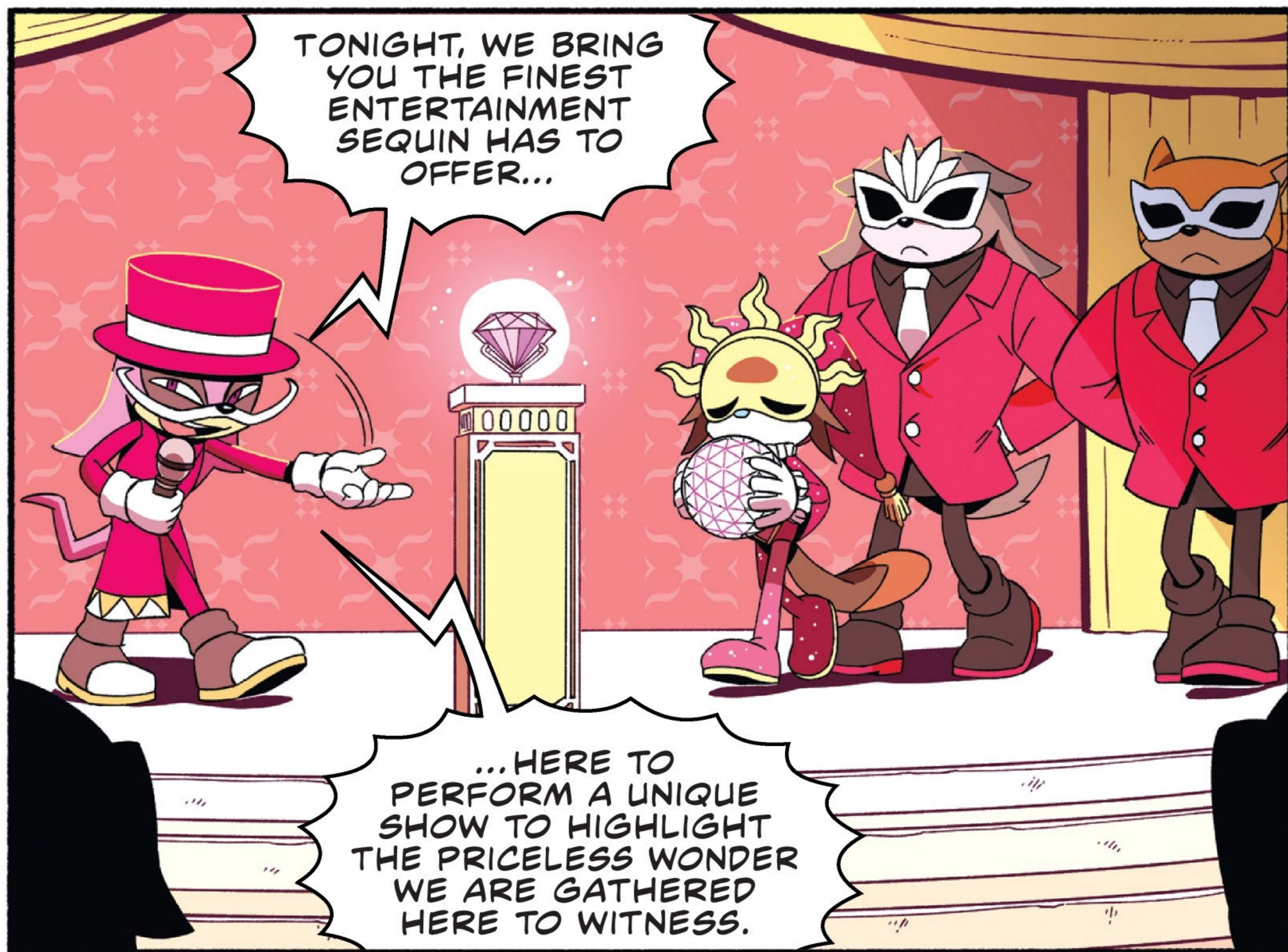
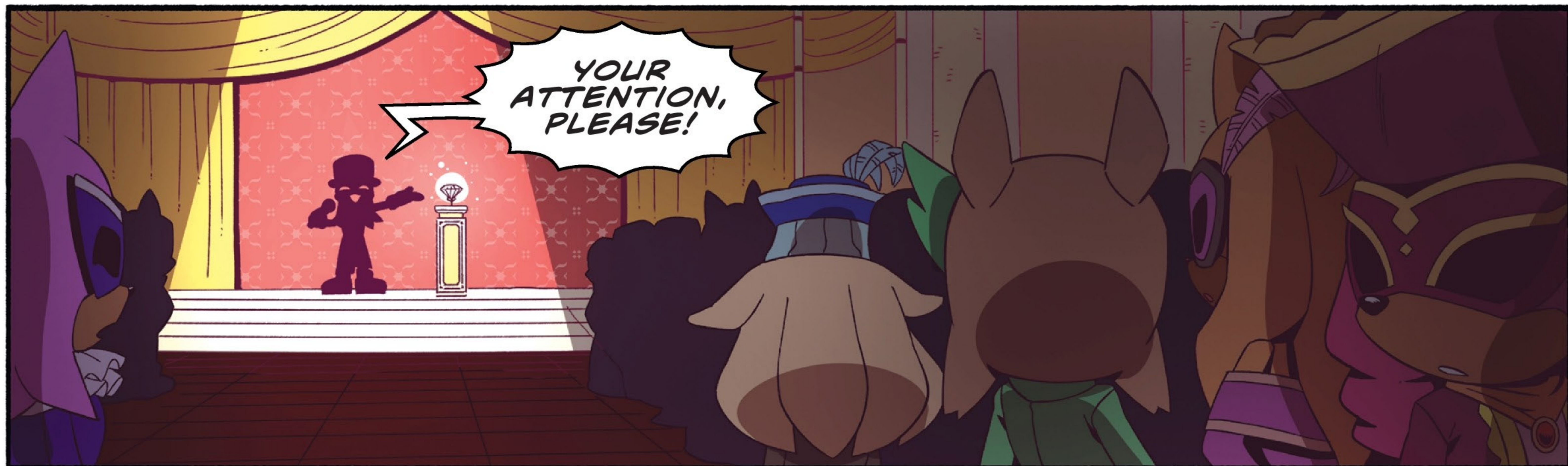
MY OWN POWER IS MORE THAN ENOUGH. THE CHAOS EMERALDS' SAFETY IS THE WORLD'S SAFETY. IF SOMEONE IS MAKING TROUBLE, I'LL STOP THEM.

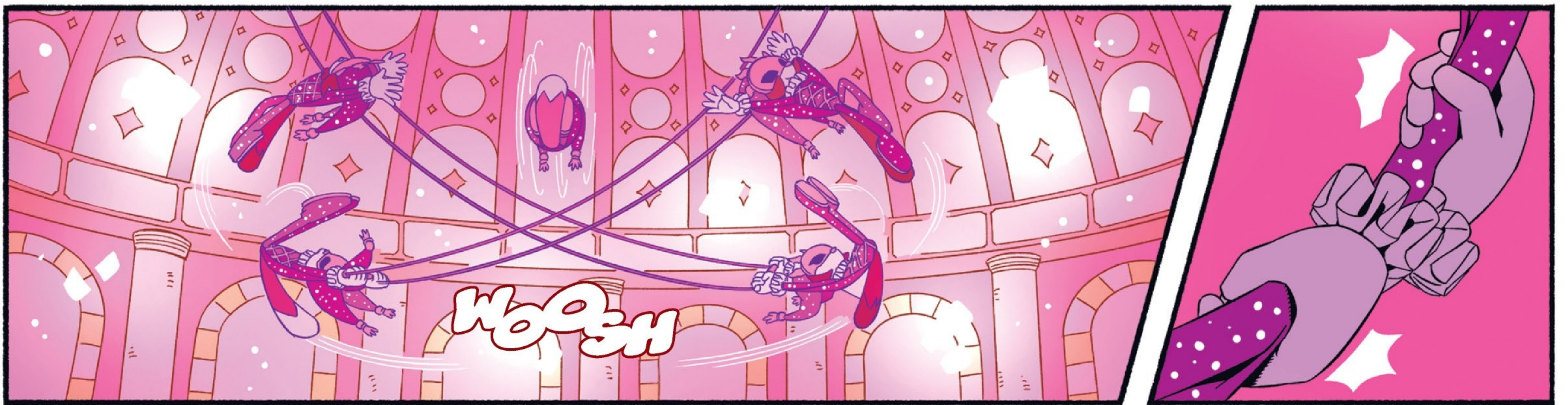
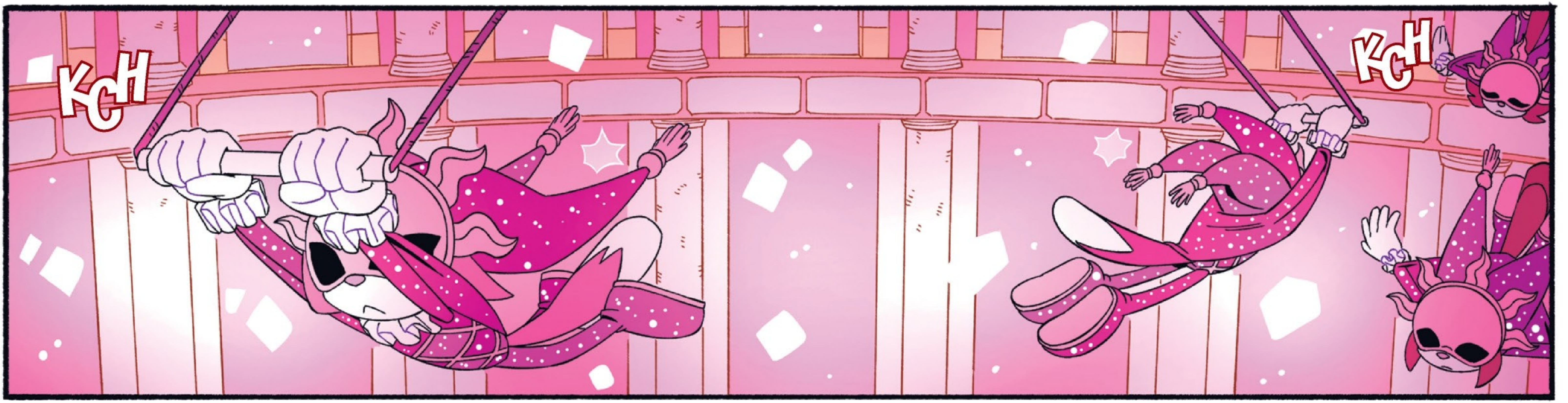
ALTHOUGH, IF THIS EMERALD DOES BECOME CONTESTED...IT WOULD BE FAR BETTER OFF IN MY CARE.

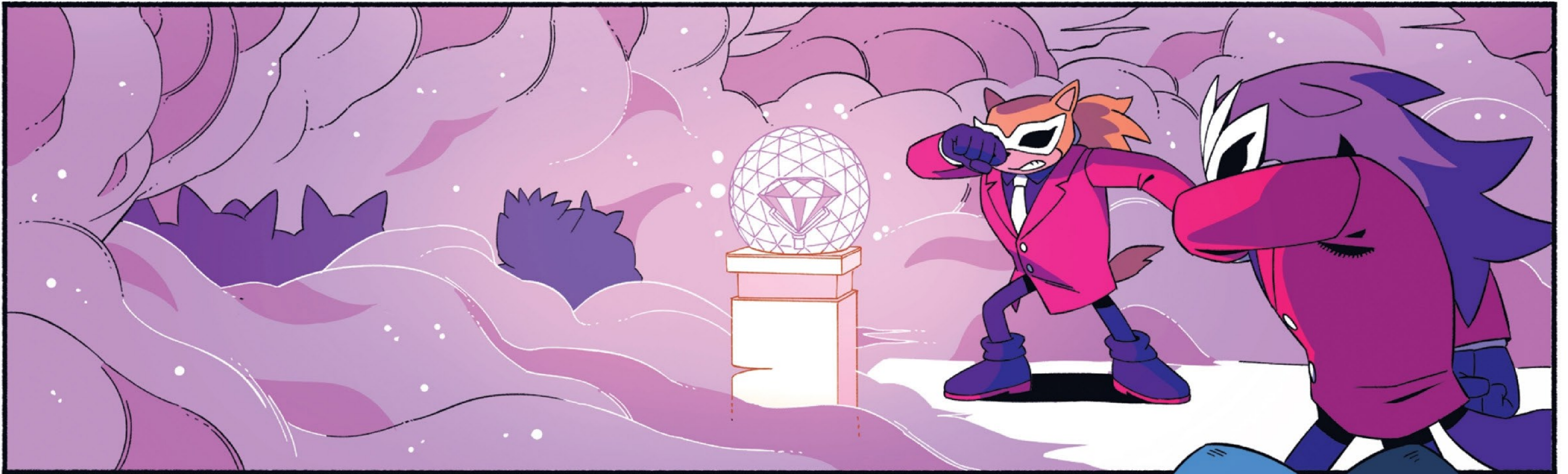
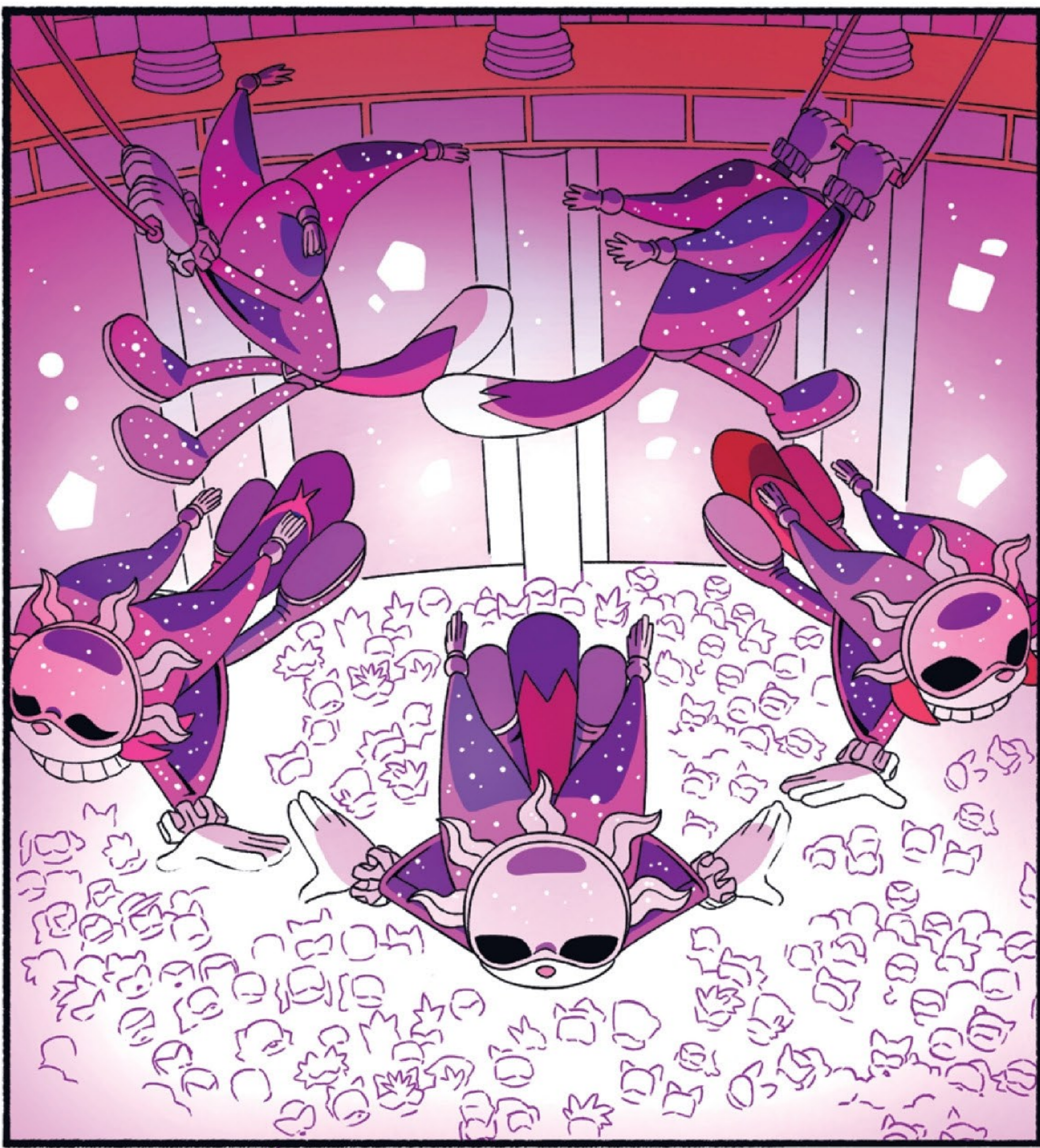


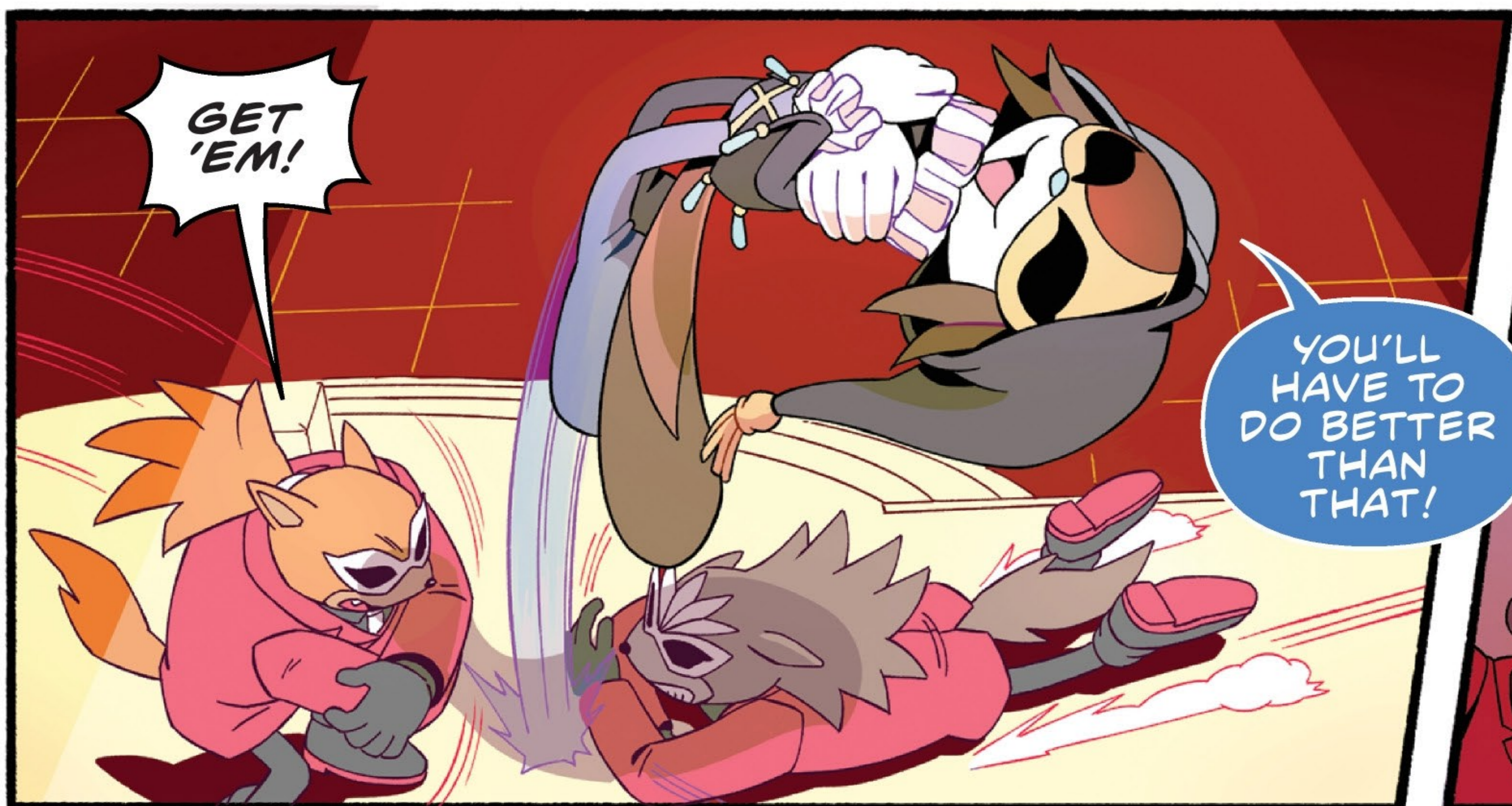
REALLY? YOU DIDN'T COME FOR THE PARTY?

...

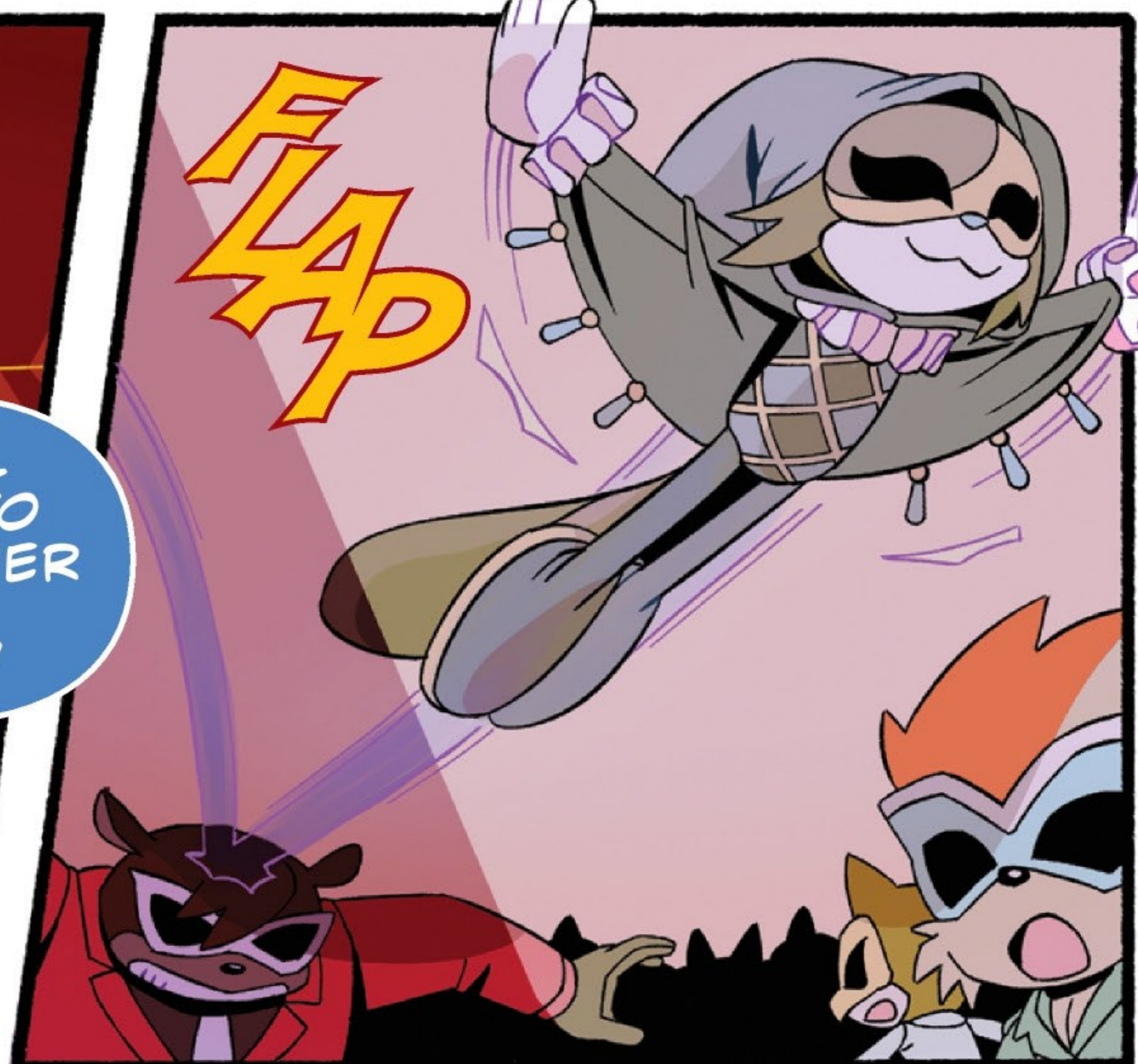








YOU'LL HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT!



ANY TIME YOU'D LIKE TO GET SCHOOLED AGAIN, JUST LET ME KNOW!



FINALLY!

C'MON--IT'S TOO CROWDED TO RUN IN HERE!



CRASH

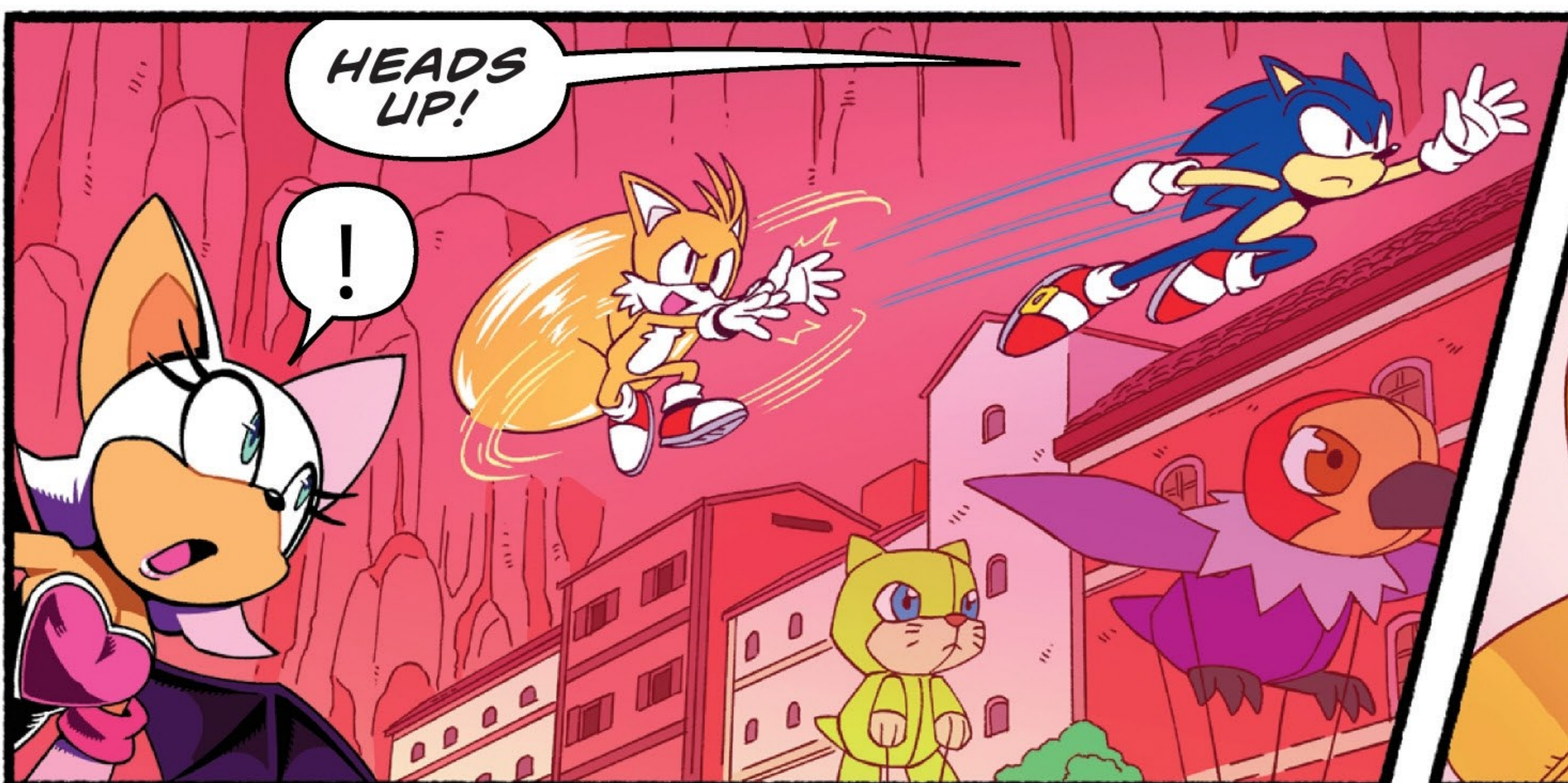
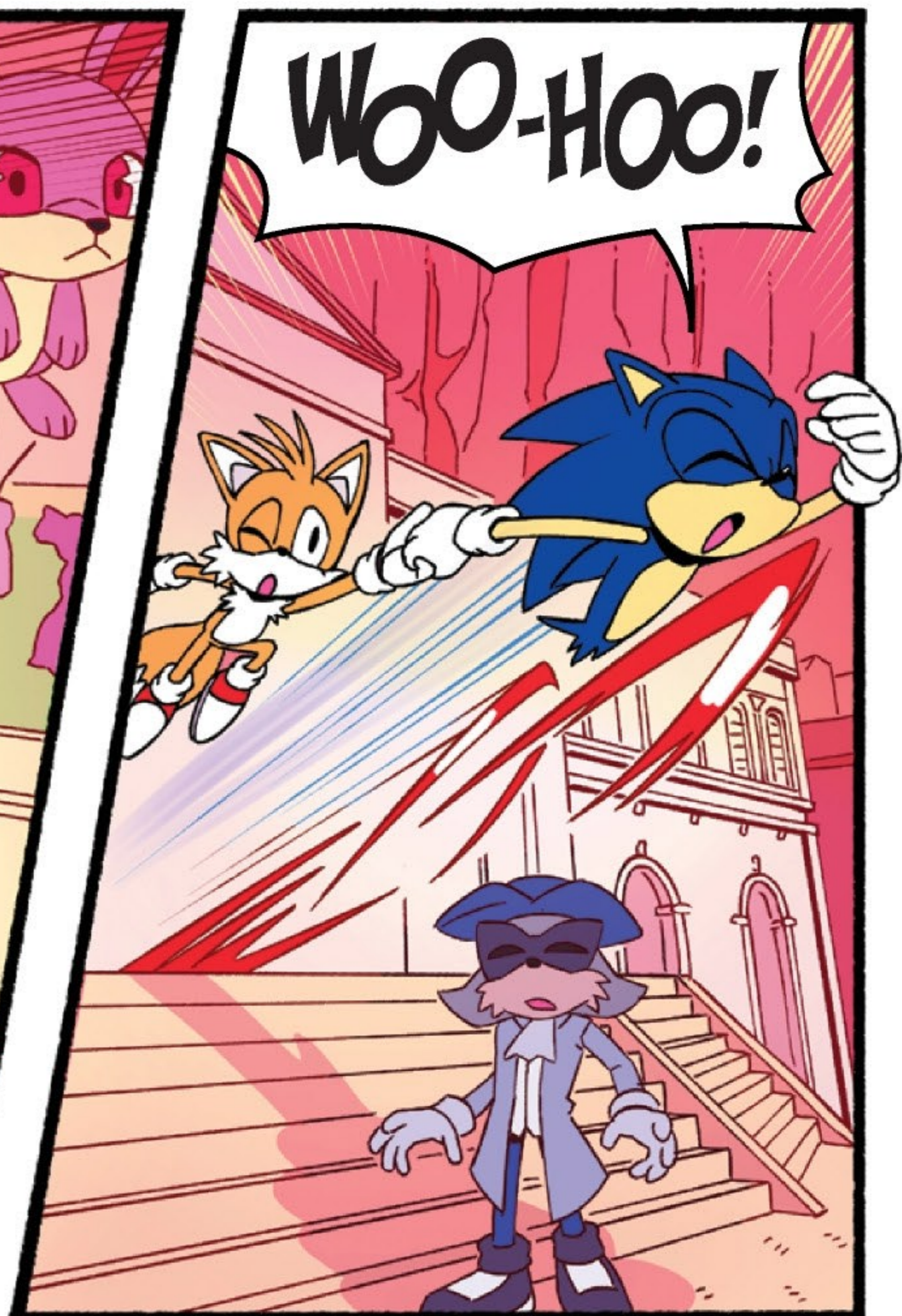


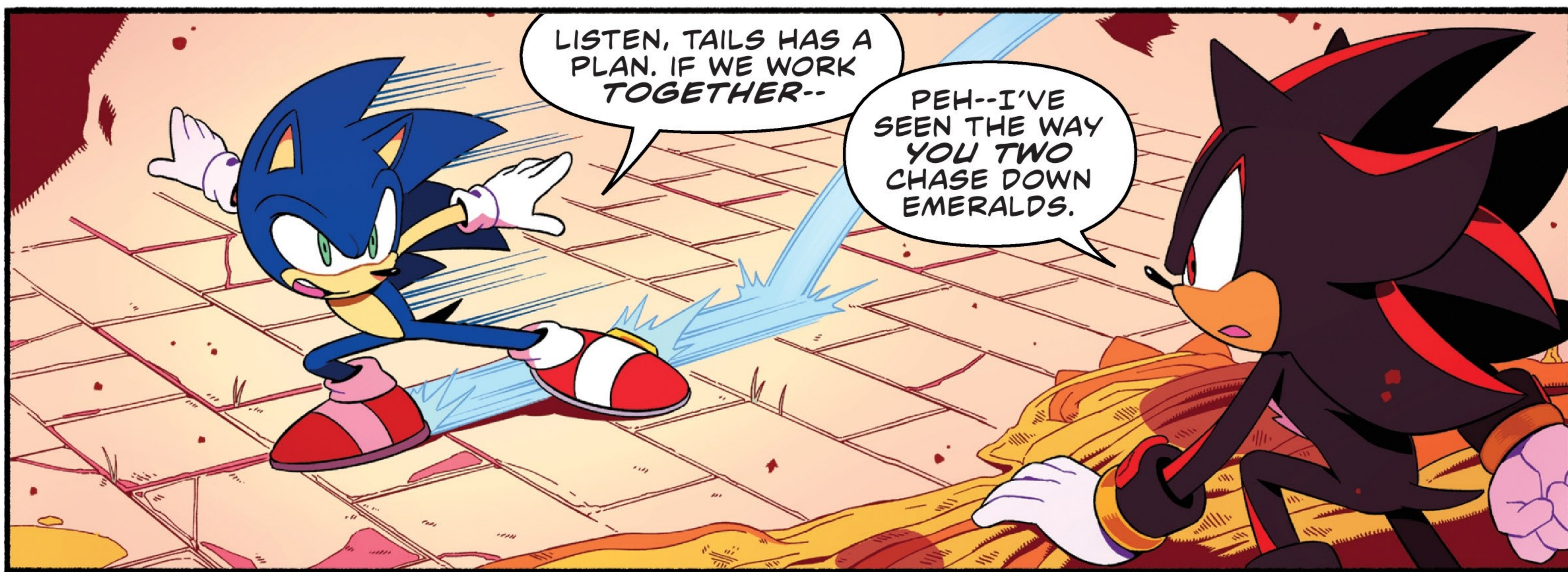
MOVE!



SORRY, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO BE FASTER THAN THAT!

ALL'S FAIR WHEN THERE'S AN EMERALD ON THE LINE.





LISTEN, TAILS HAS A PLAN. IF WE WORK TOGETHER--

PEH--I'VE SEEN THE WAY YOU TWO CHASE DOWN EMERALDS.



HEY! TAILS PUT A LOT OF WORK INTO THIS PLAN. WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOING.

DO YOU?



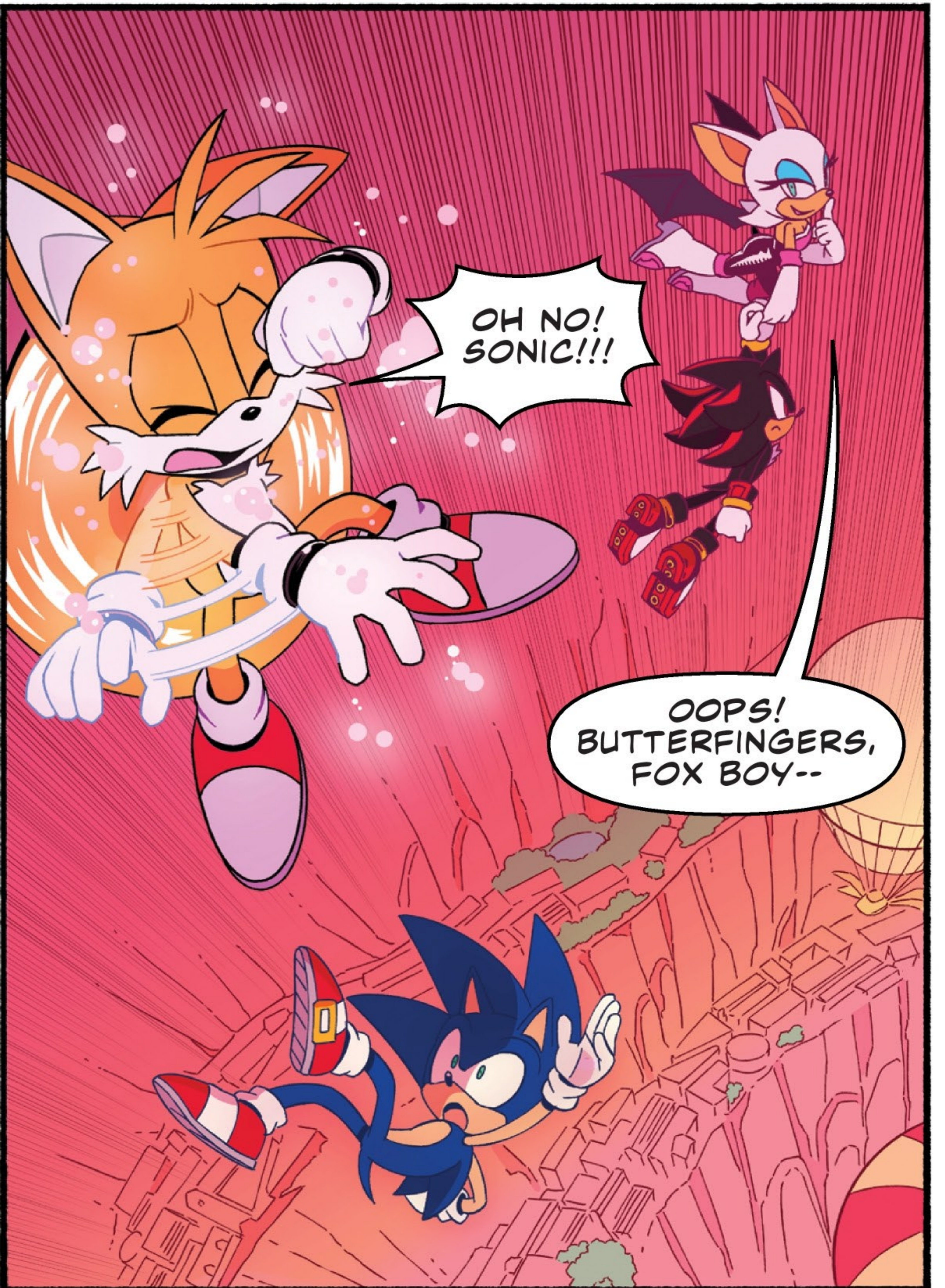
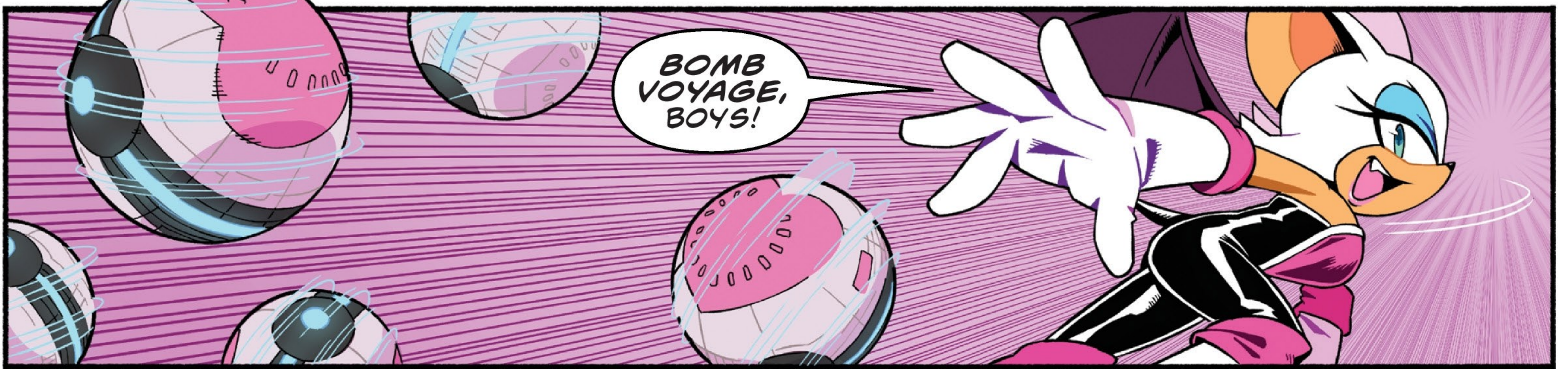
YOO-HOO--

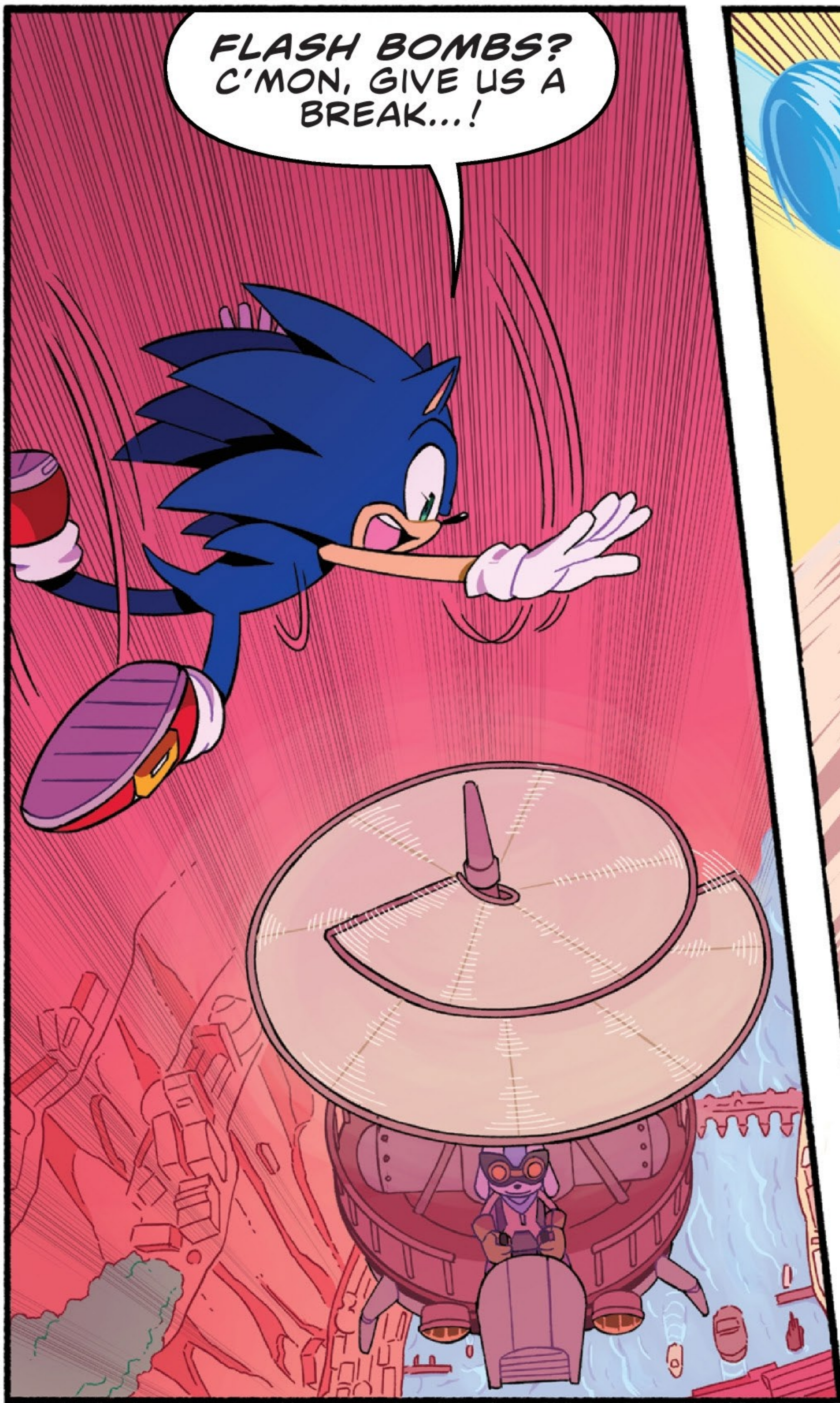


HOP



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN!





FLASH BOMBS?
C'MON, GIVE US A
BREAK...!



GAH!
WHAT IN
THE--

SORRY,
DUDE, BUT
I NEED A
LIFT!



VWRRRRR

I'LL
DEAL WITH
SHADOW,
YOU TAKE
ROUGE!



O-O-KAY!





YO, SHADOW!

YOU'RE HITCHIN' A RIDE WITH ROUGE? OH WELL, GUESS YOU FINALLY SAW THE LIGHT, AND REALIZED I'M FASTER...



HE'S BAITING YOU.

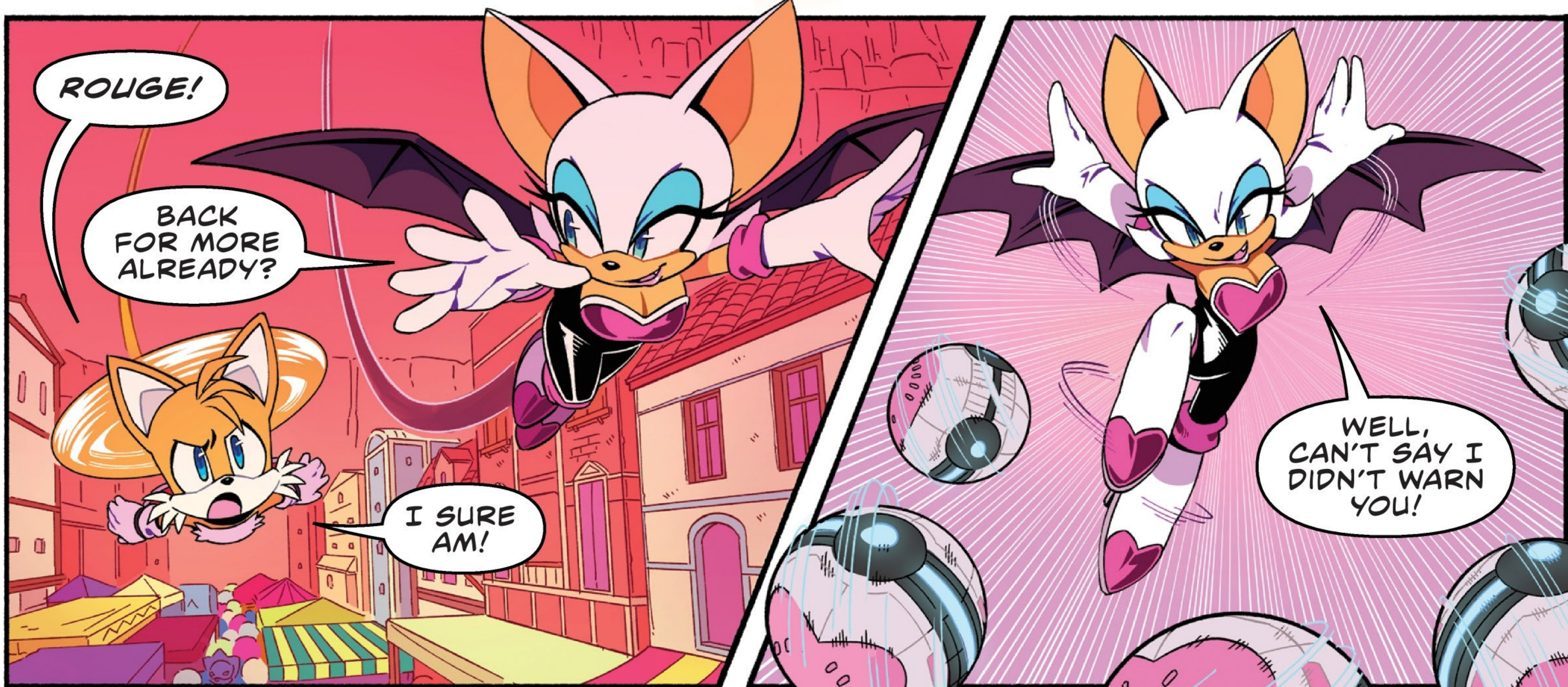
I KNOW.



FINE, YA GOT ME. BUT IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT THE ONLY WAY YOU'RE GETTING TO LUNAR AND THE EMERALD IS THROUGH ME!



VERY WELL.

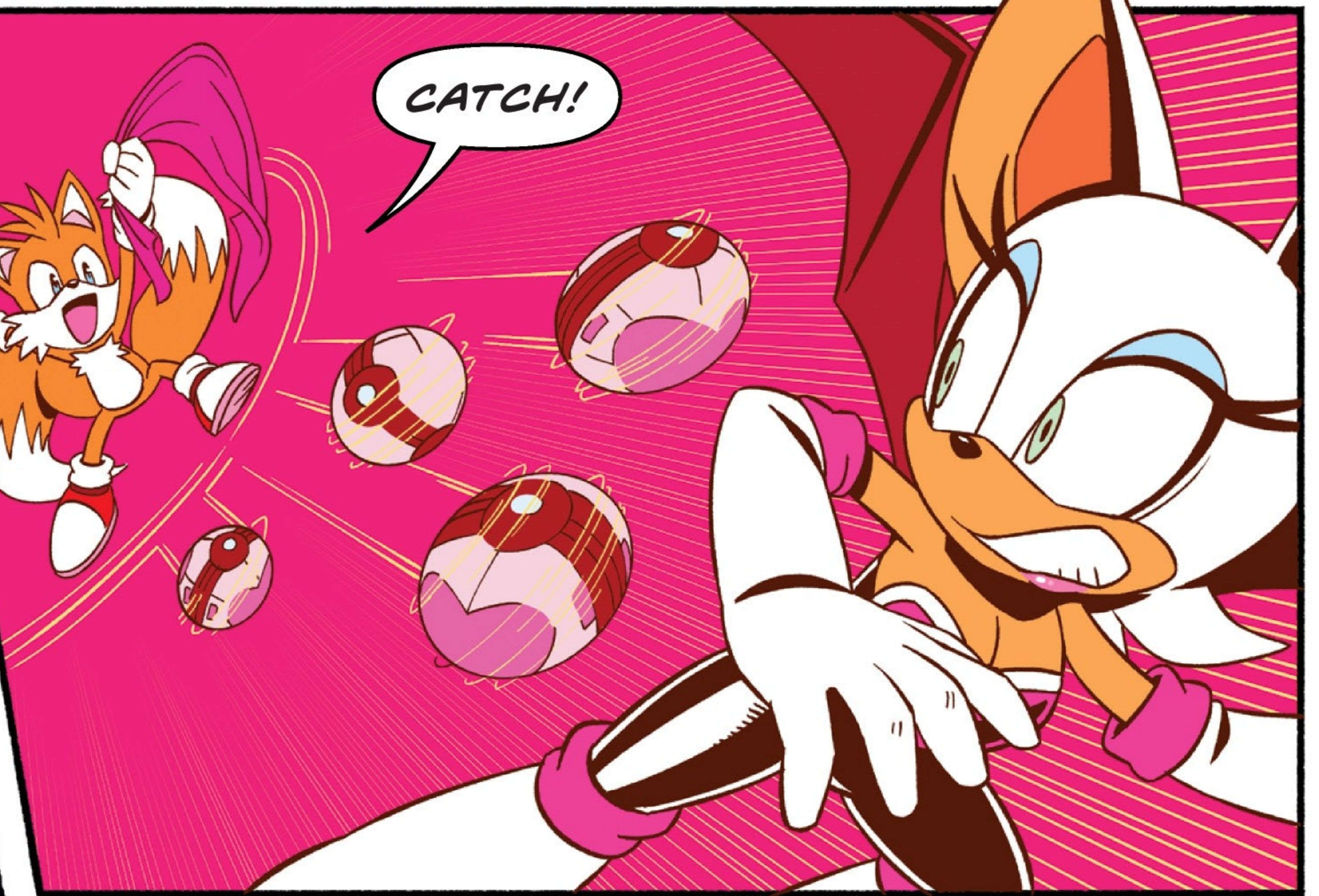
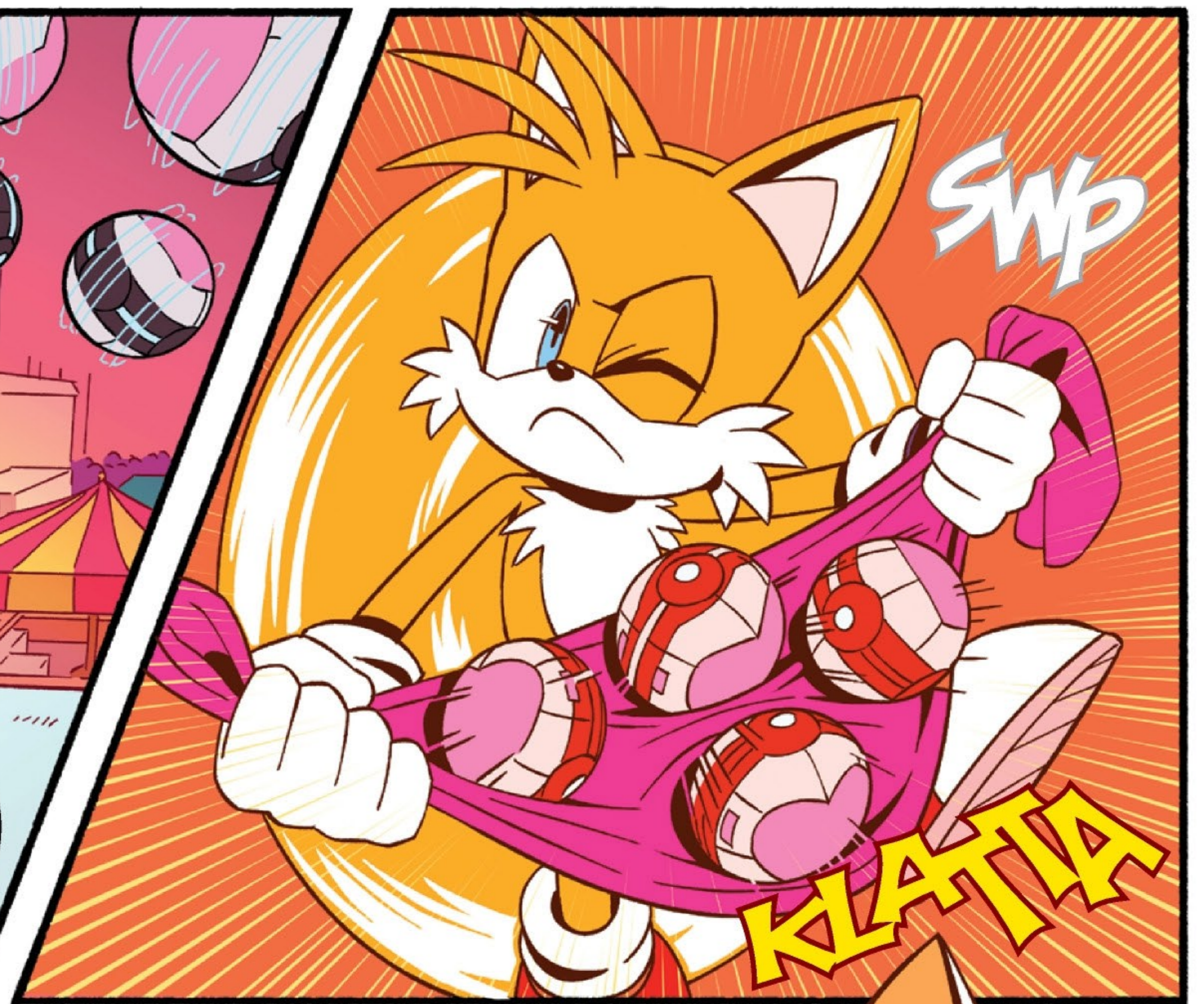
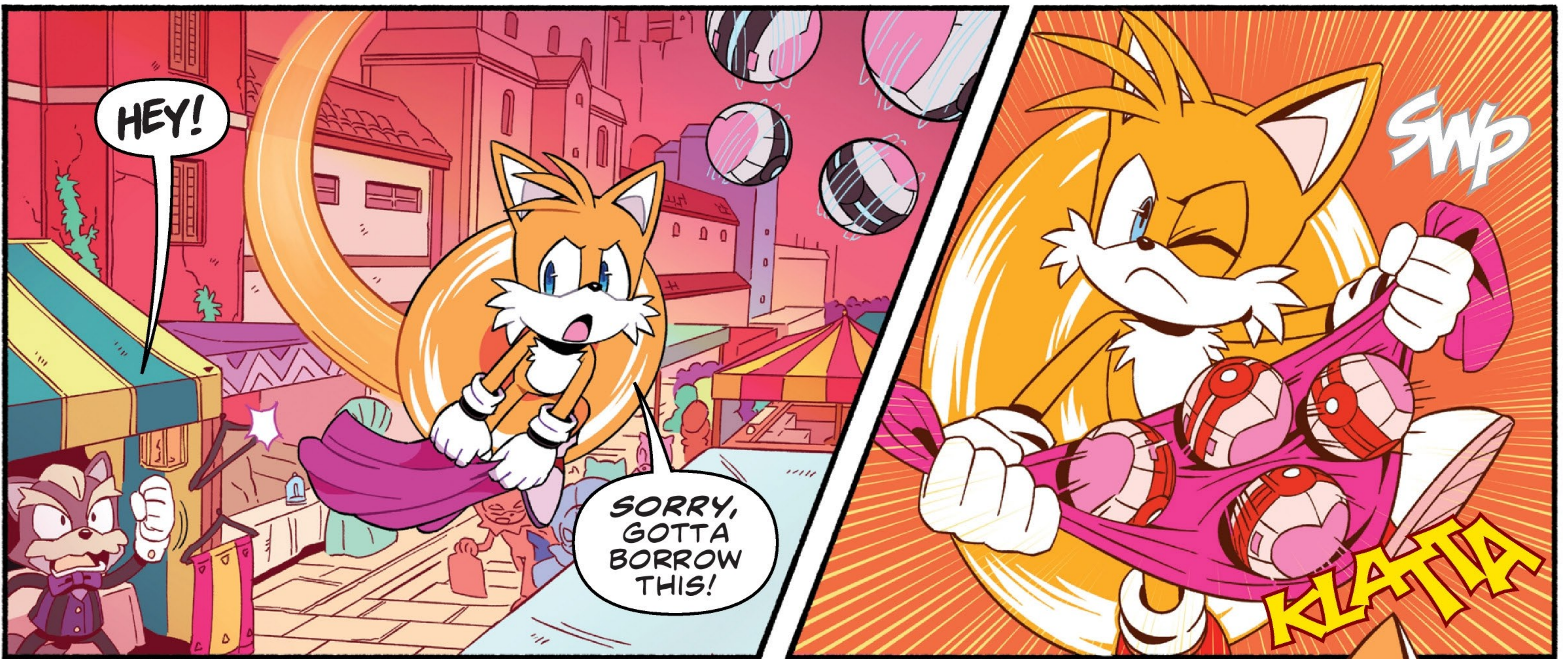


ROUGE!

BACK FOR MORE ALREADY?

I SURE AM!

WELL, CAN'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU!



FARTHER DOWN THE BRIDGE...

LOOK, AT LEAST TELL ME WHAT YOUR DEAL IS. ARE YOU BEHIND THE OTHER EMERALD THEFTS? YOU DON'T SEEM LIKE THE TAKE-OVER-THE-WORLD TYPE.

IF I REGALE YOU WITH MY ADMITTEDLY EPIC BACKSTORY, WE'LL LOSE THE MYSTERY! THE INTRIGUE! WHERE'S THE FUN IN THAT?

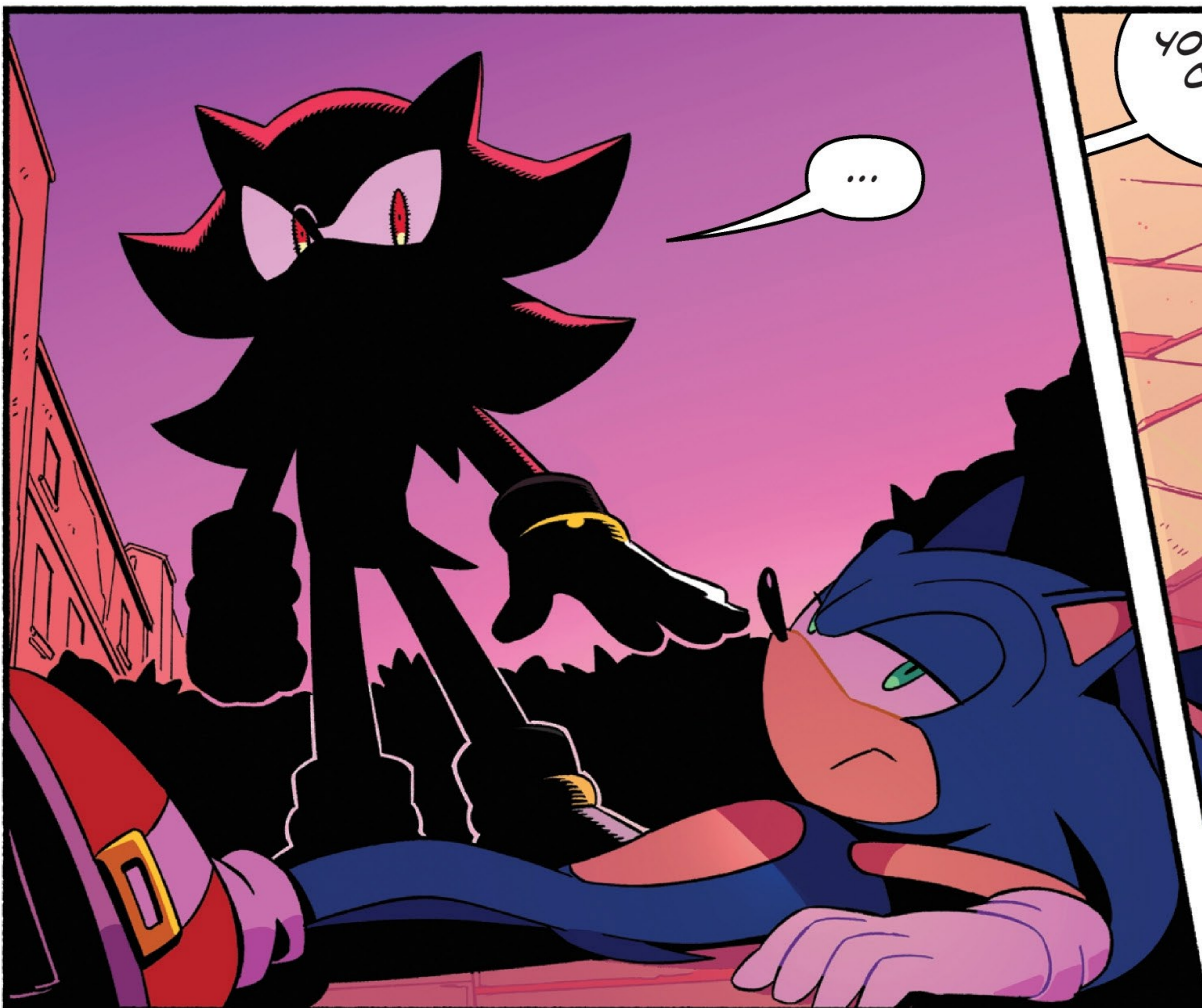
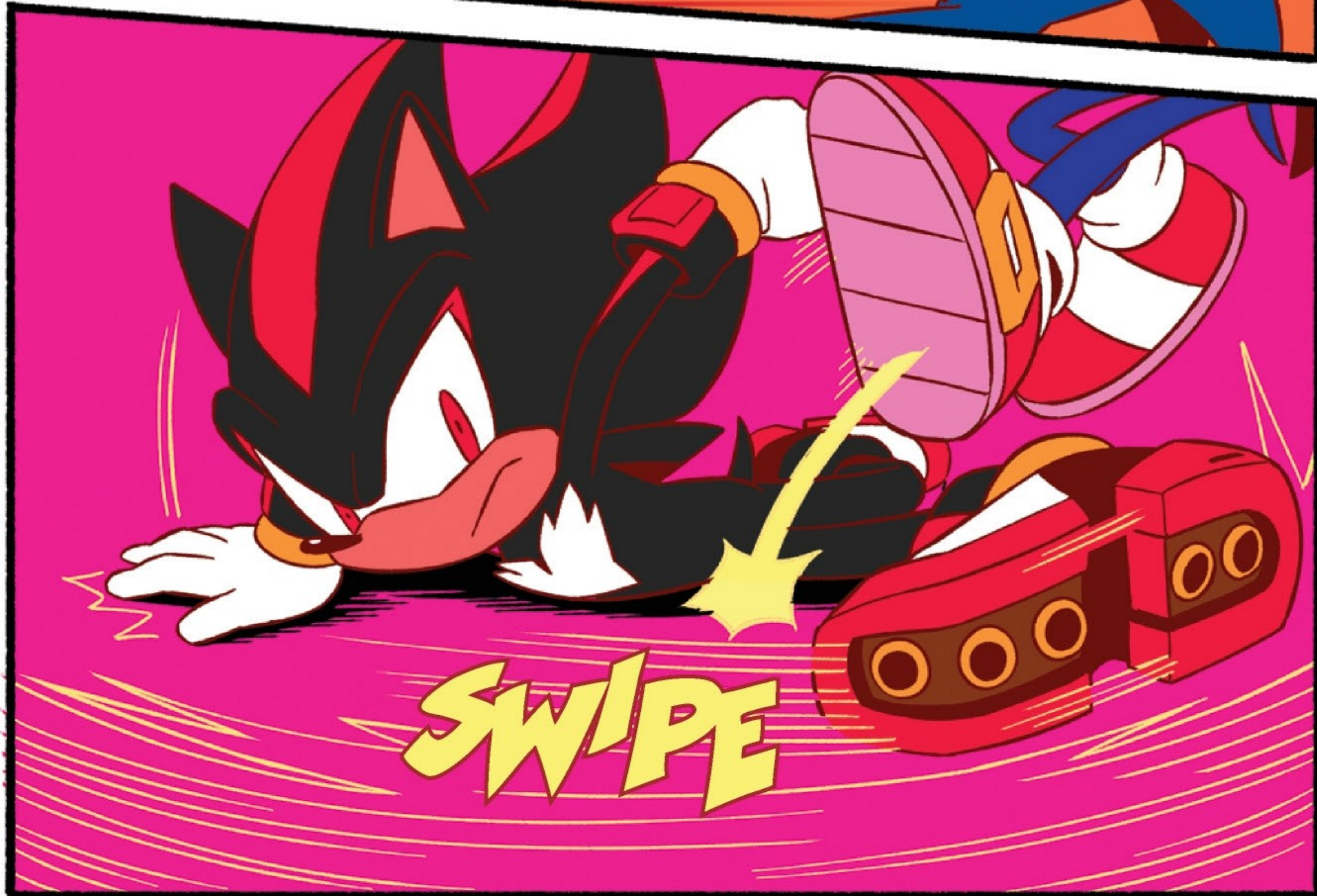
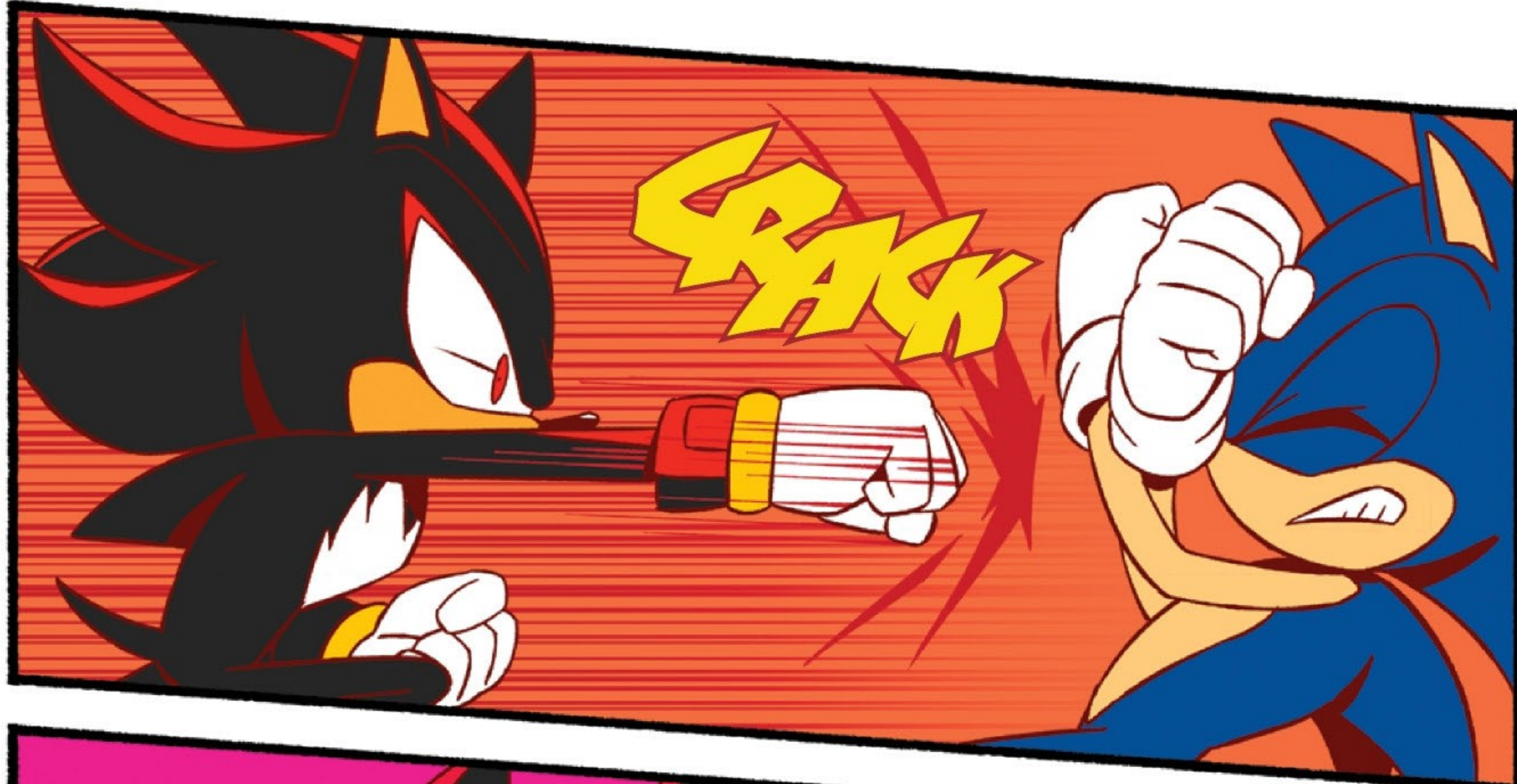
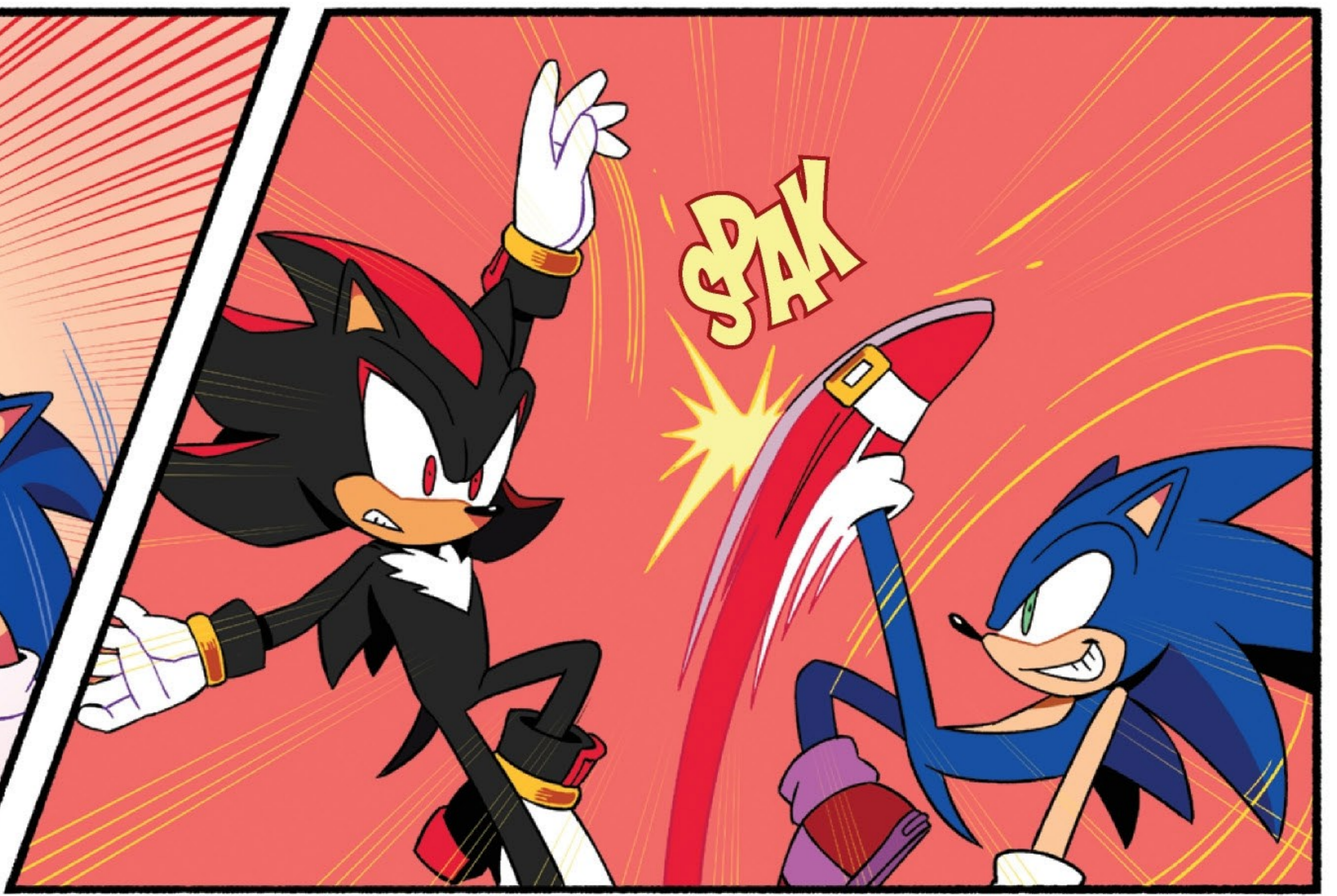
I HAVE NO INTEREST IN YOUR... "BACKSTORY!"

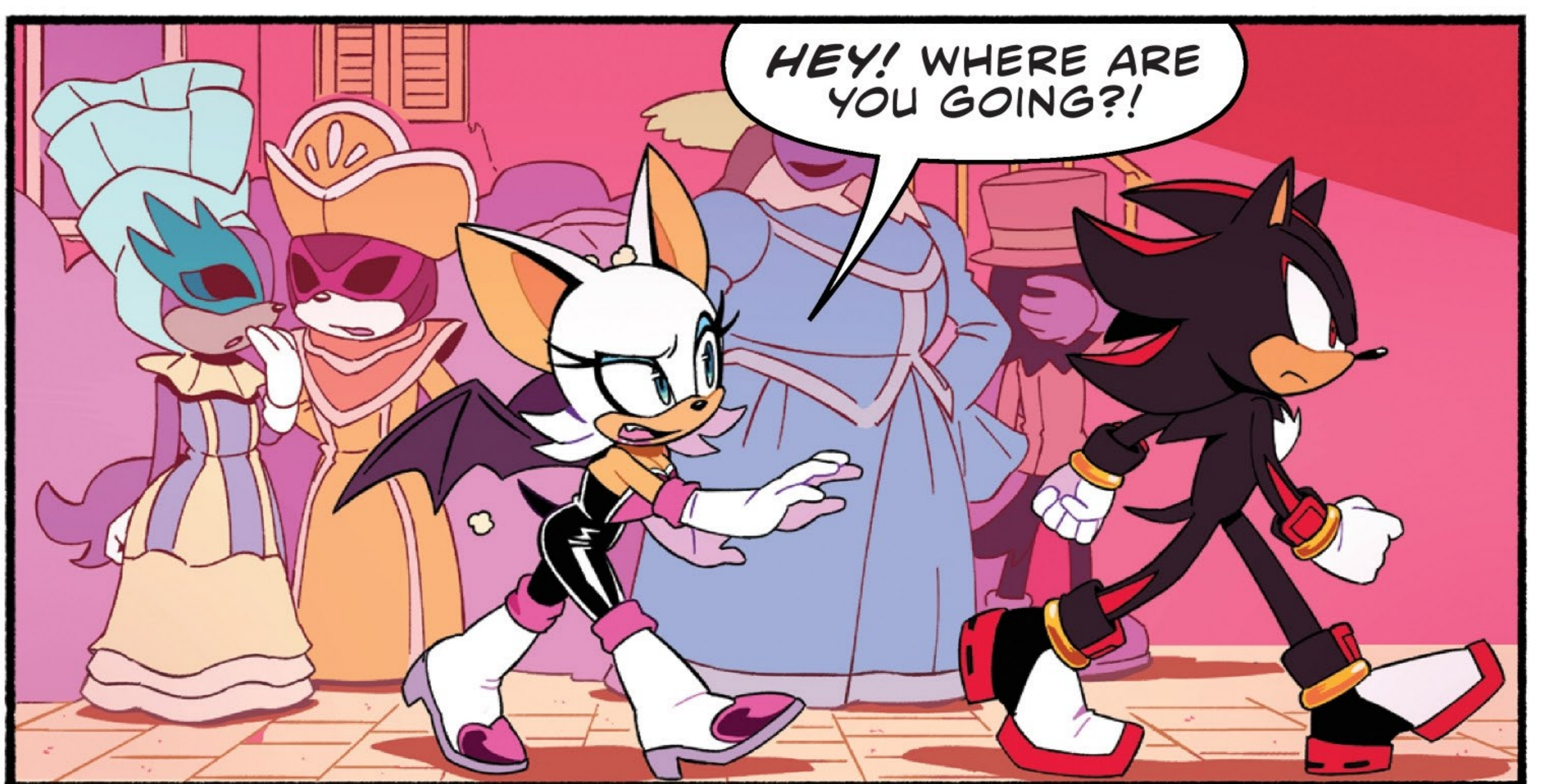
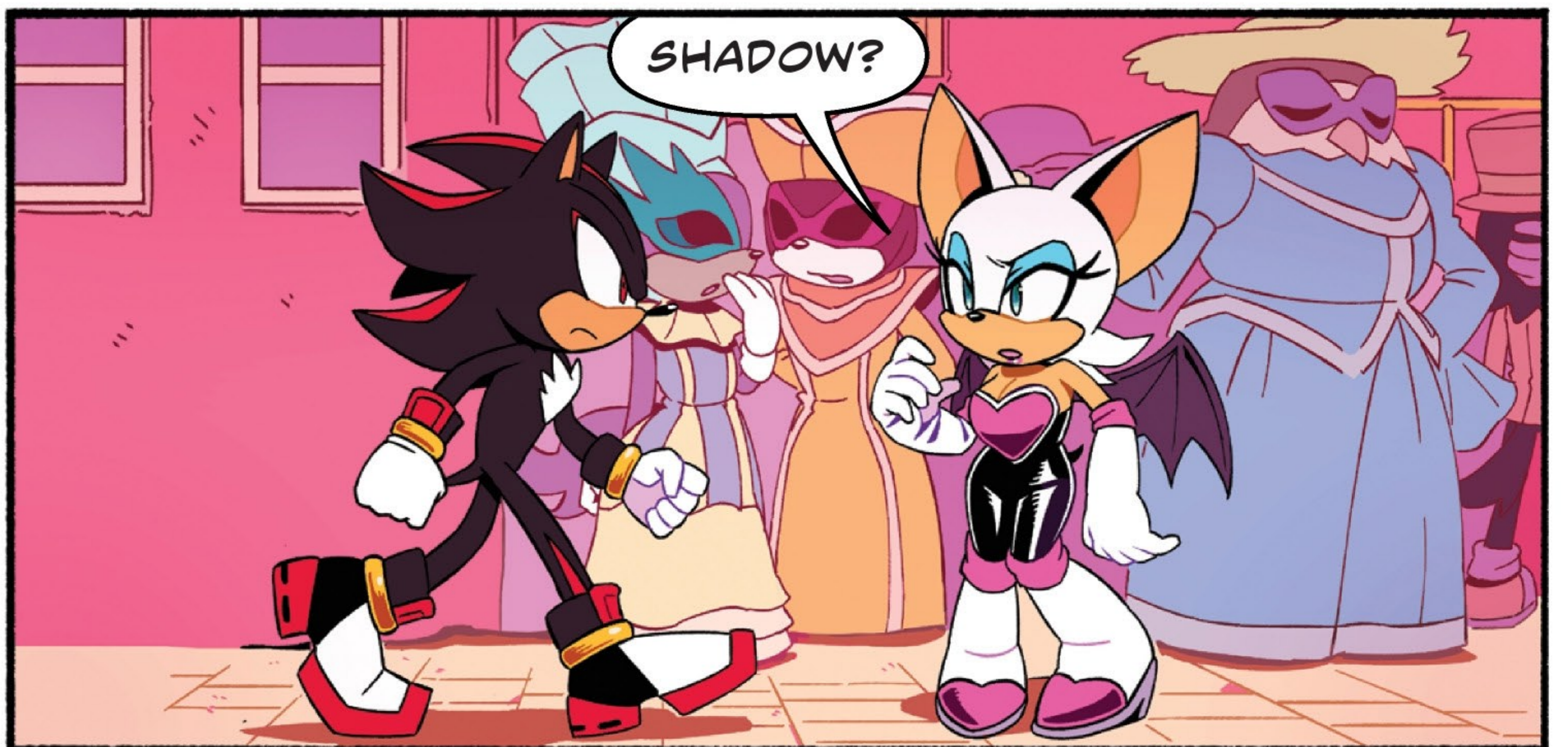
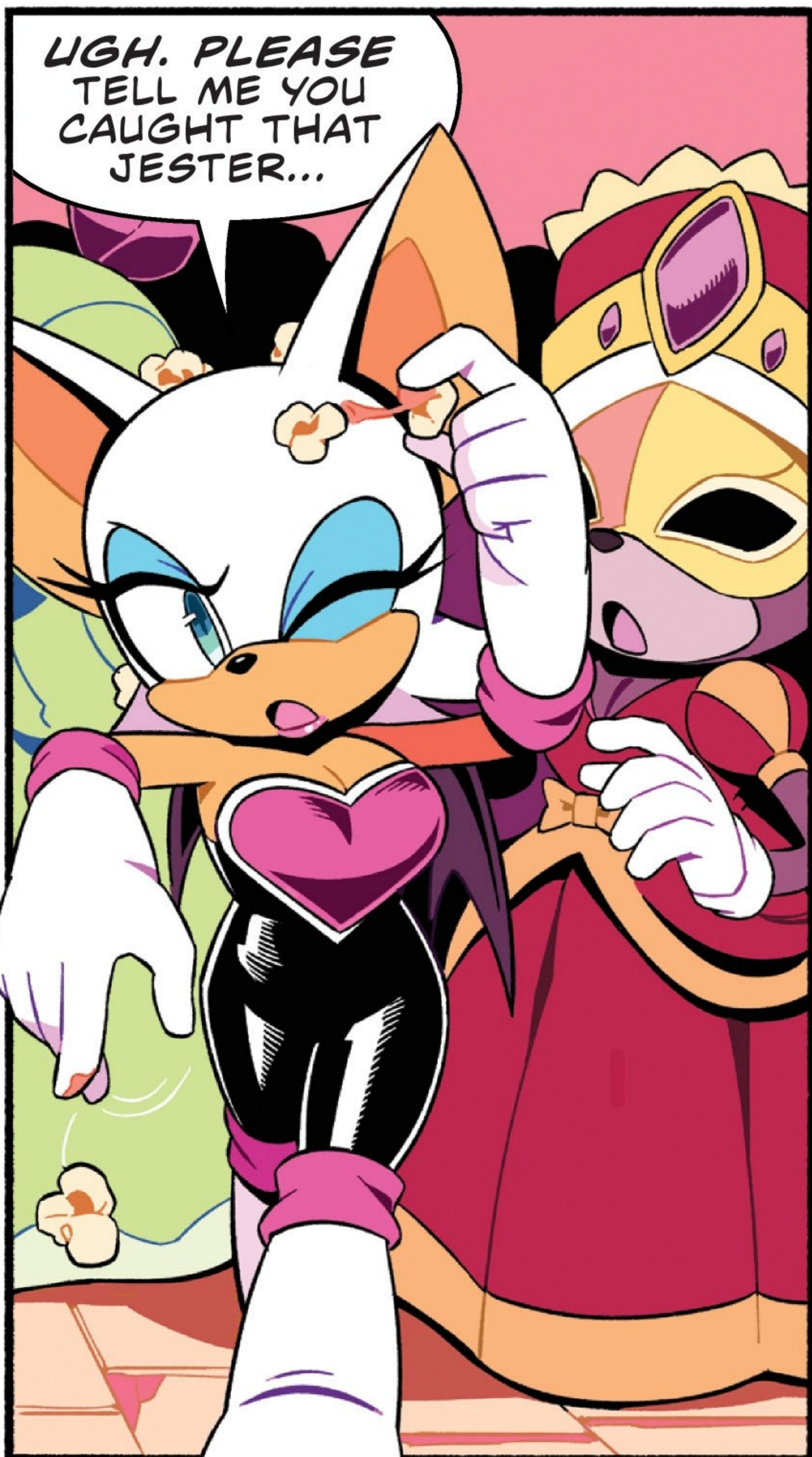
HAND OVER THE CHAOS EMERALD, OR FACE ME.

NONE OF THIS IS ADDING UP. WE NEED ANSWERS, SHADOW. LET'S FIND OUT WHO THIS KID IS, AND SEE WHAT THEY'RE GONNA DO NEXT!

I AM NOT BACKING DOWN. NOT WHEN MY QUARRY IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.

YOU CAN GET ALL THE ANSWERS YOU WANT... AFTER I'VE SECURED THE EMERALD!

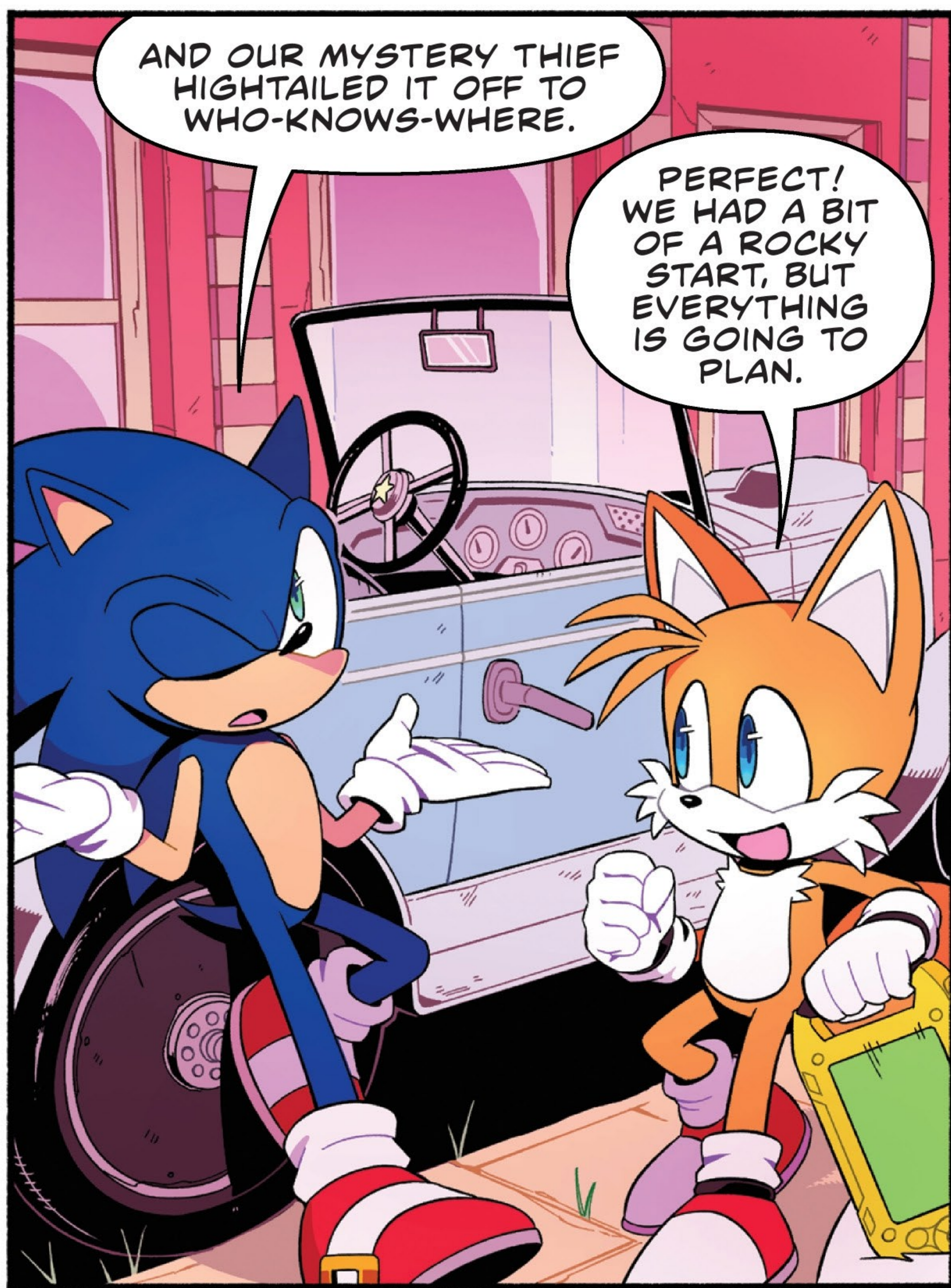






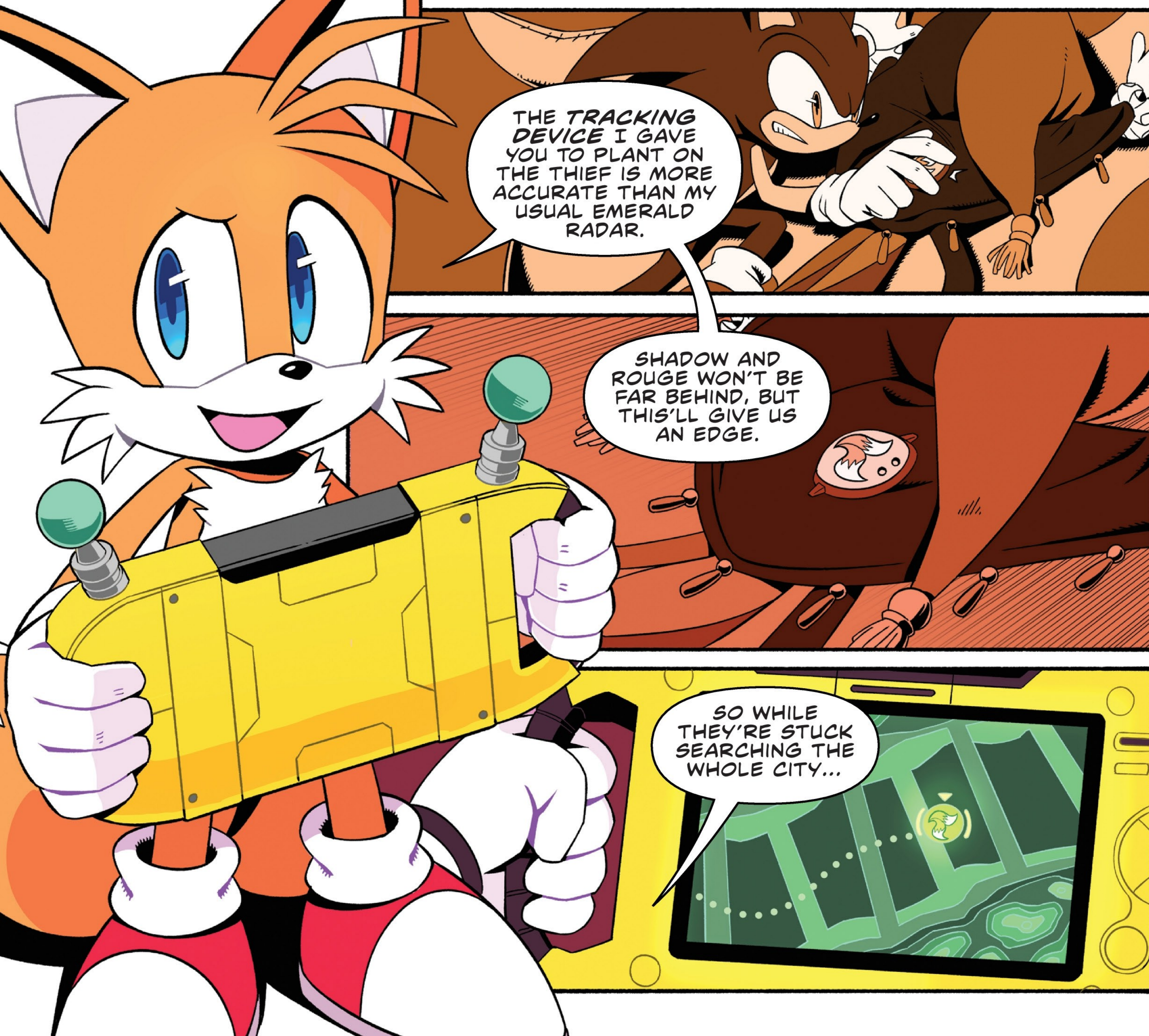
THERE YOU ARE! SHADOW DIDN'T GIVE YOU TOO MUCH TROUBLE, DID HE?

EH, NOTHING I CAN'T HANDLE. HE JUST STORMED OFF WITH ROUGE.



AND OUR MYSTERY THIEF HIGHTAILED IT OFF TO WHO-KNOWS-WHERE.

PERFECT! WE HAD A BIT OF A ROCKY START, BUT EVERYTHING IS GOING TO PLAN.



THE TRACKING DEVICE I GAVE YOU TO PLANT ON THE THIEF IS MORE ACCURATE THAN MY USUAL EMERALD RADAR.

SHADOW AND ROUGE WON'T BE FAR BEHIND, BUT THIS'LL GIVE US AN EDGE.

SO WHILE THEY'RE STUCK SEARCHING THE WHOLE CITY...

"...WE CAN GO RIGHT TO THE SOURCE."

THIS IS IT.

HMM. COZY.

TREAD LIGHTLY. THIS ISN'T JUST ABOUT FINDING THE CHAOS EMERALD. I WANNA FIND OUT WHY THEY TOOK IT, AND WHAT THEIR MASTER PLAN IS! WELL, IF THEY HAVE ONE.

RIGHT.

CLANK-
CLANK-
KATANK

SCREEEAK

THERE YOU ARE!

END OF THE LINE, LUNAR. WE'RE GETTING OUR ANSWERS NOW.

CLANK



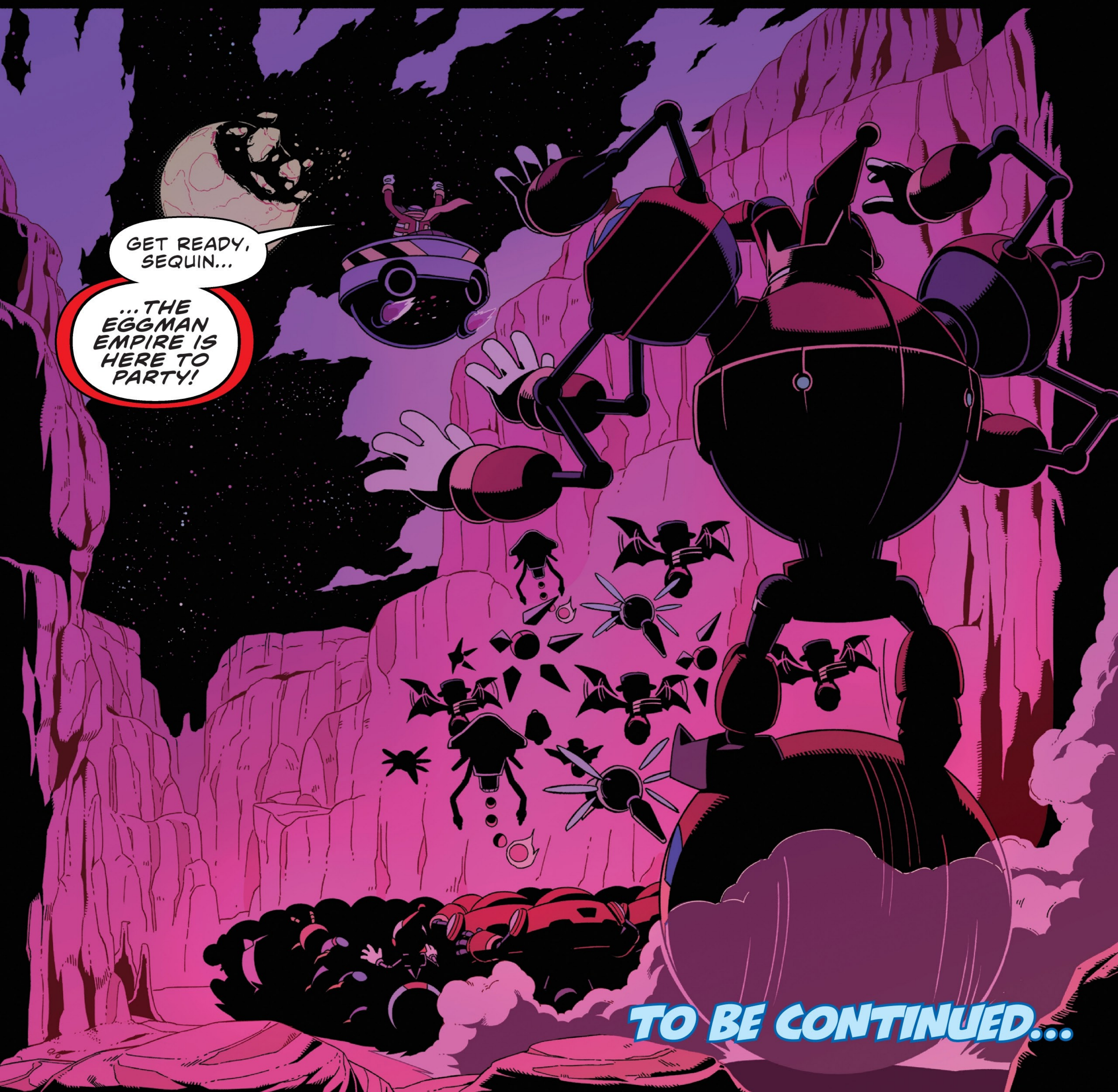


MEANWHILE...

THERE IT IS.



ONLY A FEW MORE HOURS NOW.

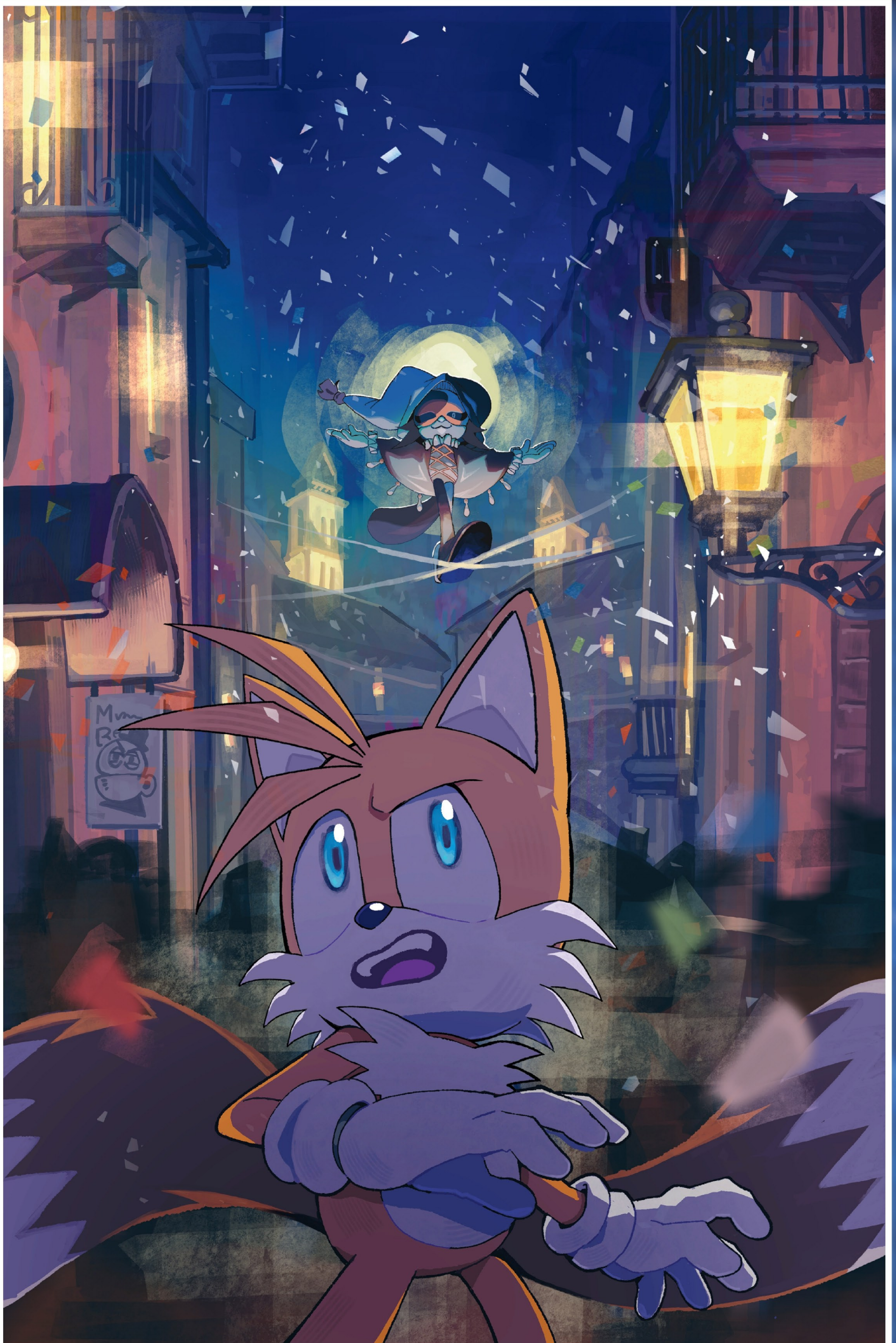


GET READY, SEQUIN...

...THE EGGMAN EMPIRE IS HERE TO PARTY!

TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT MONTH...



SONIC LETTERS SQUAD

THAT SCOUNDREL! THAT RAPSCALLION! THAT...SEEMINGLY INNOCENT KID? SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT HERE...SONIC AND FRIENDS NEED TO INVESTIGATE! BUT BEFORE THEY DO, LET'S TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK THE TEAM WHO MADE THIS POSSIBLE—EVAN STANLEY, MIN HO KIM, IASMIN OMAR ATA, AND ED DUKESHIRE! NOW, A WORD FROM SONIC SQUAD!



ART BY AMANDA

Hey, guys! My name is Amanda! I first got into Sonic in 2021, and have since loved keeping up with the IDW Sonic comics! I've especially enjoyed all the love Shadow has gotten this year and last year, and I can't wait to see him show up again in the comics! I hope you enjoy this Shadow and Rouge fan art drawing I made! Keep being awesome, IDW!

Well, Amanda, we clearly listened! We're also big fans of Shadow and Rouge over here, so we're super excited to have them back in the comics! With the massive success of the movie, we're glad more people are starting to understand the tragic beauty of Shadow, which means all the more reason to tell stories about him! You keep being awesome, and thank you so much for the fantastic art!

My name is Bumi, I am 6 years old. I live in Australia. I've been a fan of Sonic since I was 5. My favourite character is Shadow. He is powerful, cool and strong. I drew his picture for you guys. I hope you like it.

It's lovely to meet you, Bumi! We love the way you drew Shadow, although he doesn't seem too happy to be so high up in space! Thank you for your amazing drawing!



ART BY BUMI



ART BY NAUTICAL NOVA

Hi there! I'm Nautical Nova. I absolutely adore the Sonic comics! Out of all of them Scrapnik Island is one of my favorites, so I spent the last ten months working on this Mecha Sonic costume! I hope we get to see the Scrapniks again someday!

Oh, Mecha Sonic Mark II, my sweet! I hope everything is well! Seriously though, this is so cool! The amount of effort you put in really shows, especially with that amazing headpiece! Thank you for sharing!

ART BY XAVIER



SONIC SQUAD, YOU CONTINUE TO BLOW US AWAY WITH YOUR TALENT! DON'T FORGET TO SEND YOUR ART AND LETTERS TO LETTERS@IDWPUBLISHING.COM, AND MAKE SURE TO MARK THEM "OKAY TO PRINT"! AND JOIN THE IDW SONIC COMICS SQUAD ON FACEBOOK! NEXT MONTH, A FOE TURNS INTO...A FAN? COULD THIS POSSIBLY EXPLAIN STEALING THE EMERALD?! READ MORE IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #82!



ART BY EVAN STANLEY



ART BY GIGI DUTREIX



ART BY NATHALIE FOURDRAINE



VIEW FROM THE

BACK PAGE

WHY DO YOU LOVE COMICS?

It's an important question, especially since you're currently holding a comic in your hands, whether it's a physical or digital copy. Me? I love comics because it's one of the most personal storytelling experiences someone can have. It's your choice how long you spend analyzing the artwork on each and every panel. It's your choice how the art leaps out of the panels and comes to life in your imagination. It's your choice how long you linger on every sentence and sound effect, and how those lines and onomatopoeias are delivered in your head. At the end of the day, everyone gets the same comic, but everyone experiences the story differently.

Here at IDW Publishing, we really do care about comics and the talented people who pour their creativity into every page. We want to offer you comics that not only give you escapism from the ordinary, but also help inspire your own imagination. And this year, we truly are publishing a comic for every type of fan.

If you want to experience the thrills of terror, the horror imprint IDW Dark has you covered (and potentially hiding under your covers) with hits like **BENEATH THE TREES WHERE NOBODY SEES: RITE OF SPRING**, all-new black-and-white tales from **THE TWILIGHT ZONE**, and the original **BLOOD HONEY**. Or maybe you want something lighter and more uplifting? Comics like **MONSTER HIGH: HOUSE HAUNTERS** and **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG** are ready to deliver fun with positive messages.

And that's barely scratching the surface of what this month has to offer. Captain Kirk is back from the dead in the epic new series **STAR TREK: THE LAST STARSHIP**, while **STAR TREK: VOYAGER—HOMECOMING** promises to give fans the final resolution they've been waiting decades to witness. The action-packed **TMNT: CASEY JONES** gives the fan-favorite character his first solo series in more than 30 years, while the acclaimed duo of Jason Aaron and Juan Ferreyra present the incredible finale of their **TMNT** run before the next era arrives. The jawsome mutants from the '90s return for new adventures in **STREET SHARKS**. And **GODZILLA's** innovative Kai-Sei Era continues to make its massive impact, with the launch of **STARSHIP GODZILLA** right around the corner in October.

So, why do you love comics? We hope every IDW comic you read answers that question for you.

Gregg Katzman
Senior Publicity Manager



ON SALE SEPTEMBER 3RD

