



82

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



COVER BY MILES ARO

SEGA®

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

STORY
EVAN STANLEY

ART
GIGI DUTREIX

COLORS
VALENTINA PINTO

LETTERS
ED DUKESHIRE

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
BIXIE MATHIEU

EDITOR
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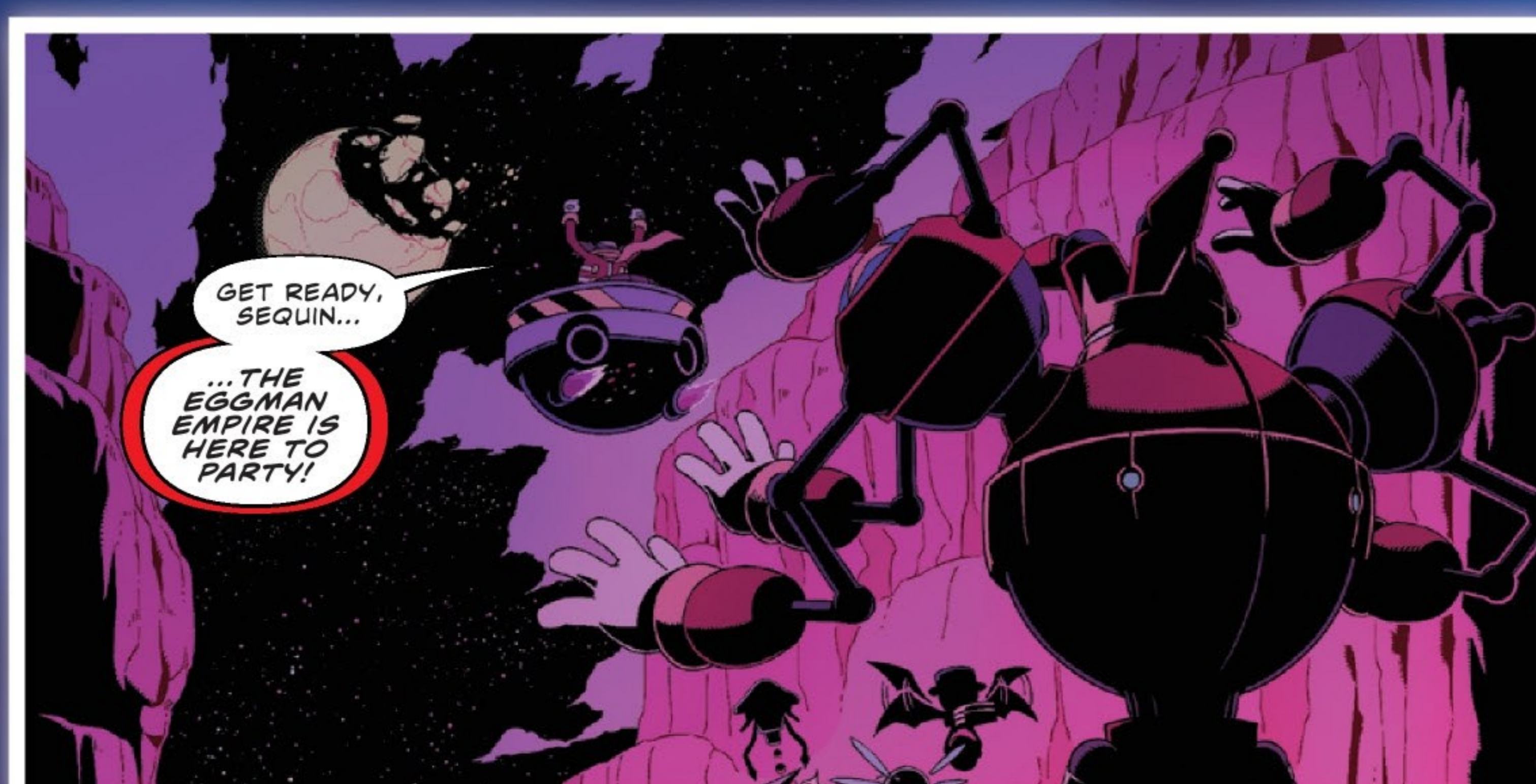
DESIGN & PRODUCTION
DARRAN ROBINSON

Special thanks to Mai Kiyotaki, Afia Khan, Michael Cisneros, Sandra Jo, Sonic Team, and everyone at Sega for their invaluable assistance.



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STORY SO FAR...





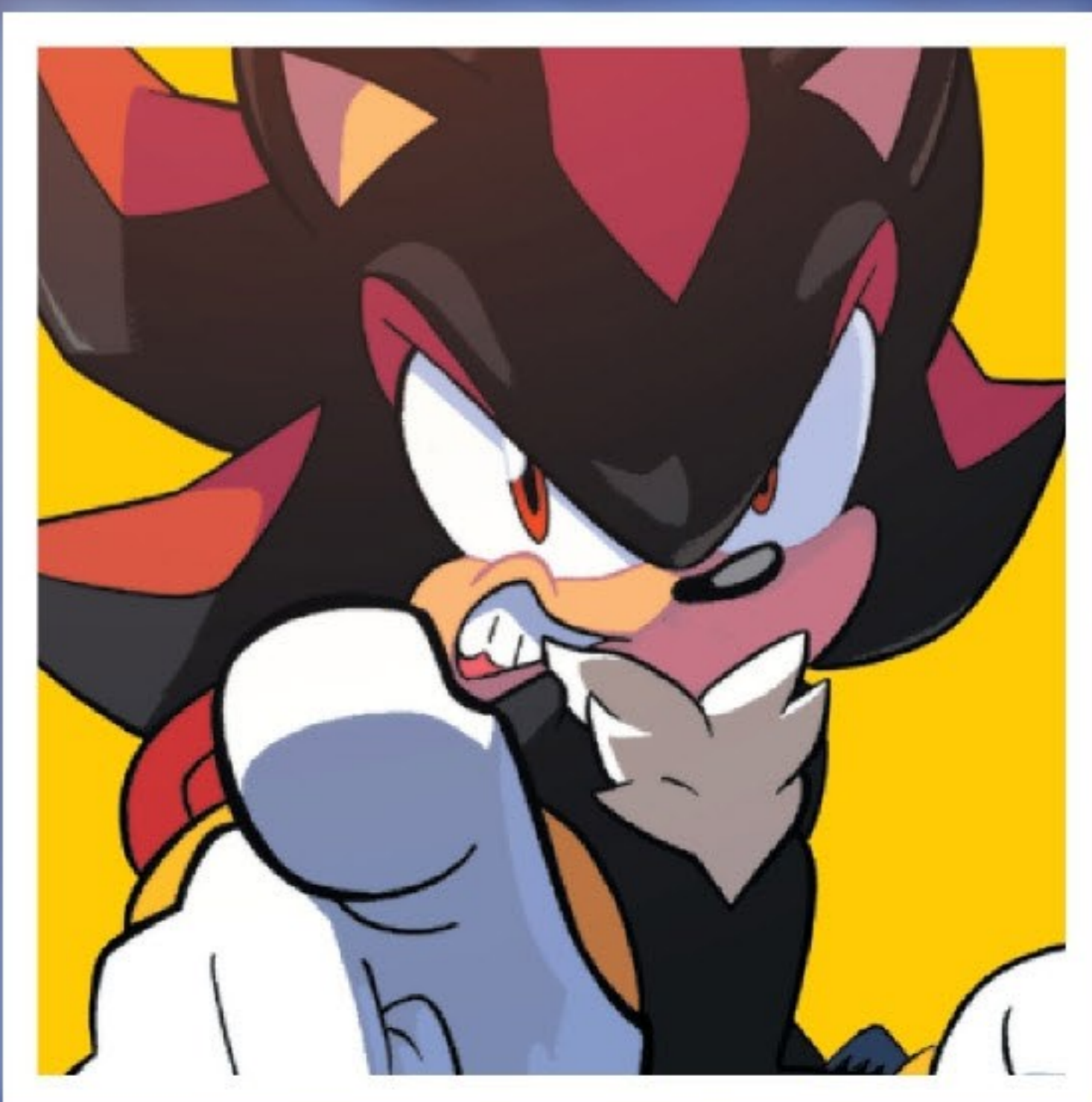
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

THE BLUE BLUR.
FASTEST THING ALIVE.



MILES "TAILS" PROWER

TECH-SAVVY SIDEKICK.
HIGH-FLYING GENIUS.



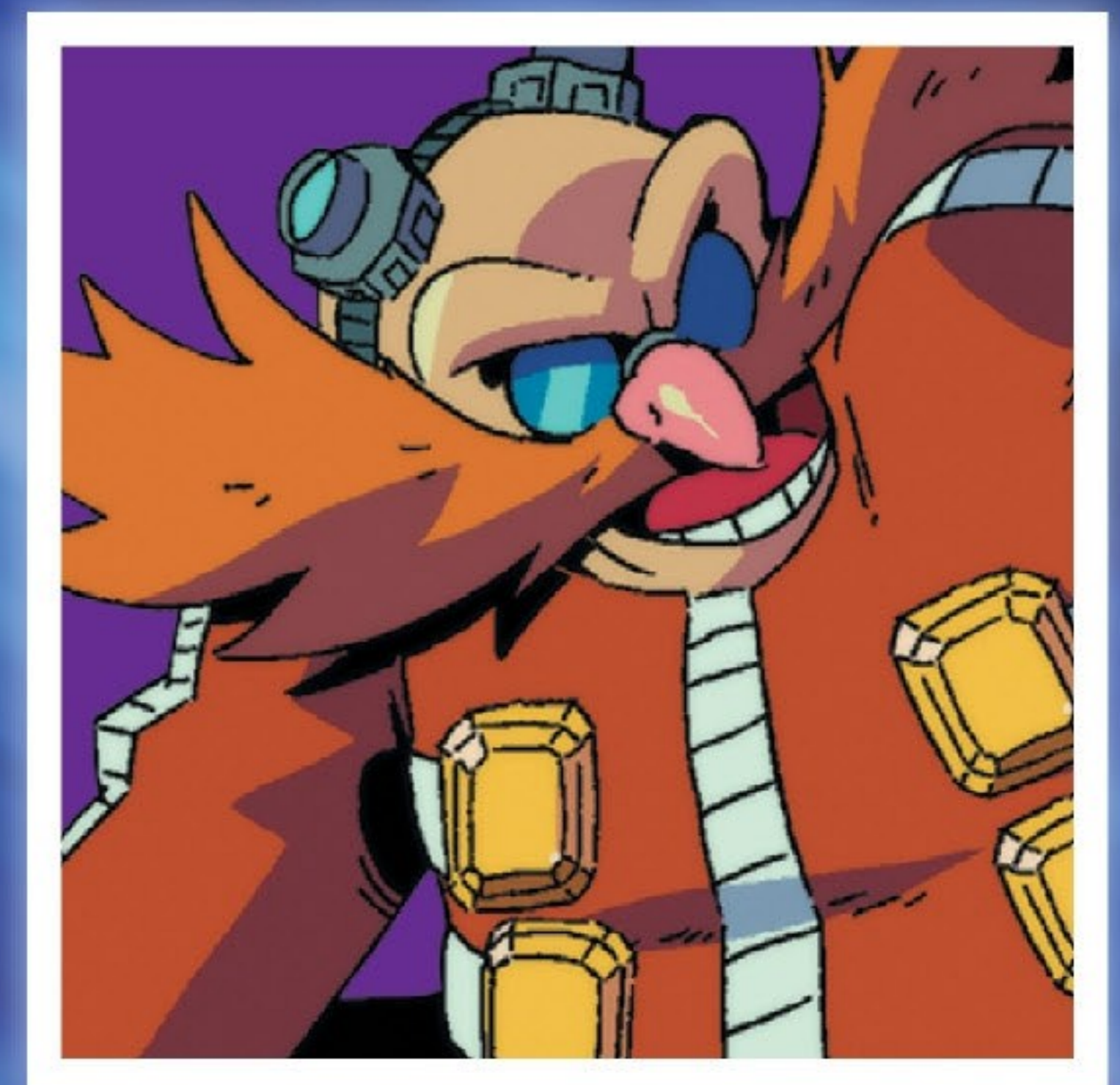
SHADOW THE HEDGEHOG

THE ULTIMATE LIFEFORM.
SONIC'S GRIM RIVAL.



ROUGE THE BAT

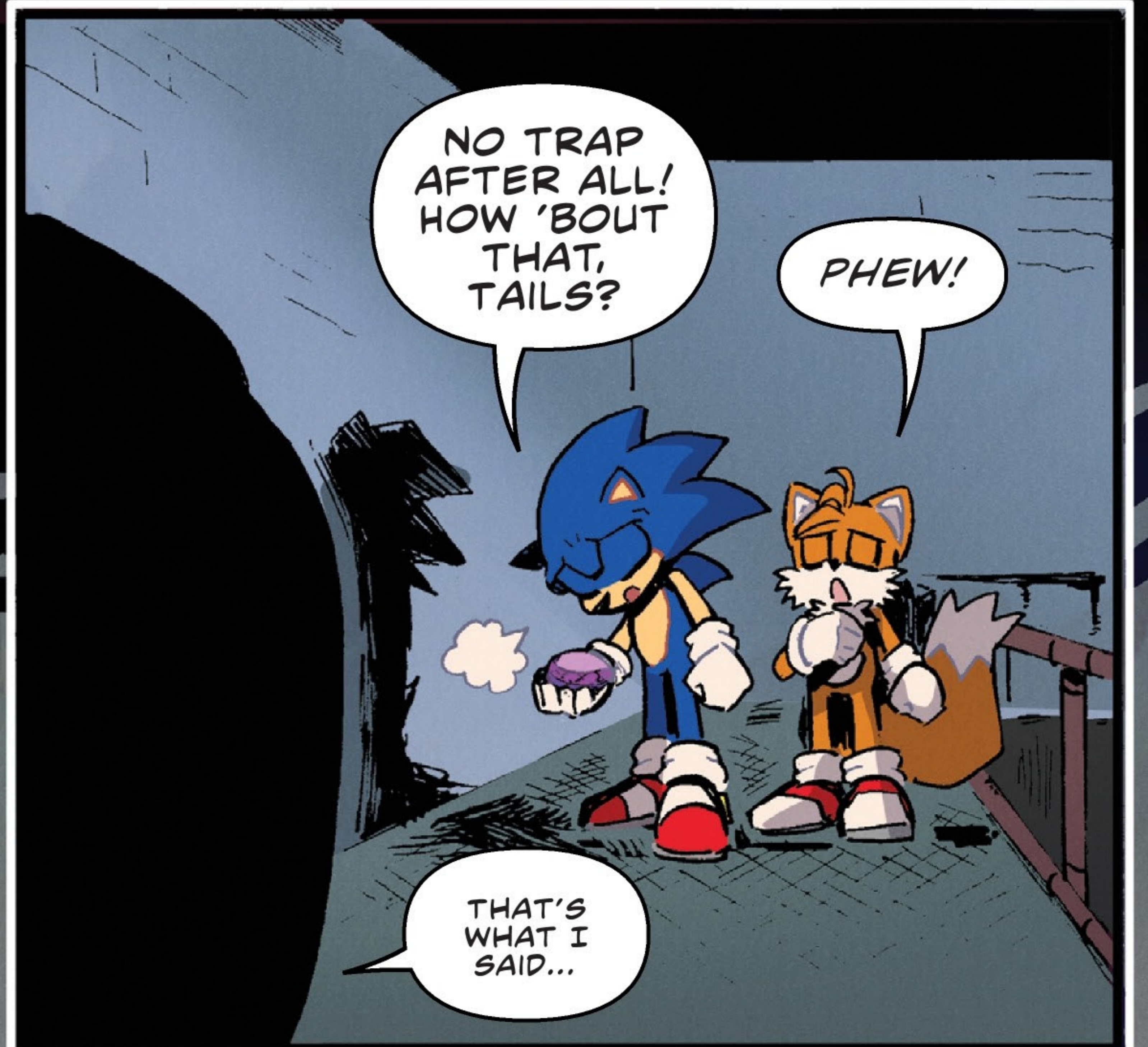
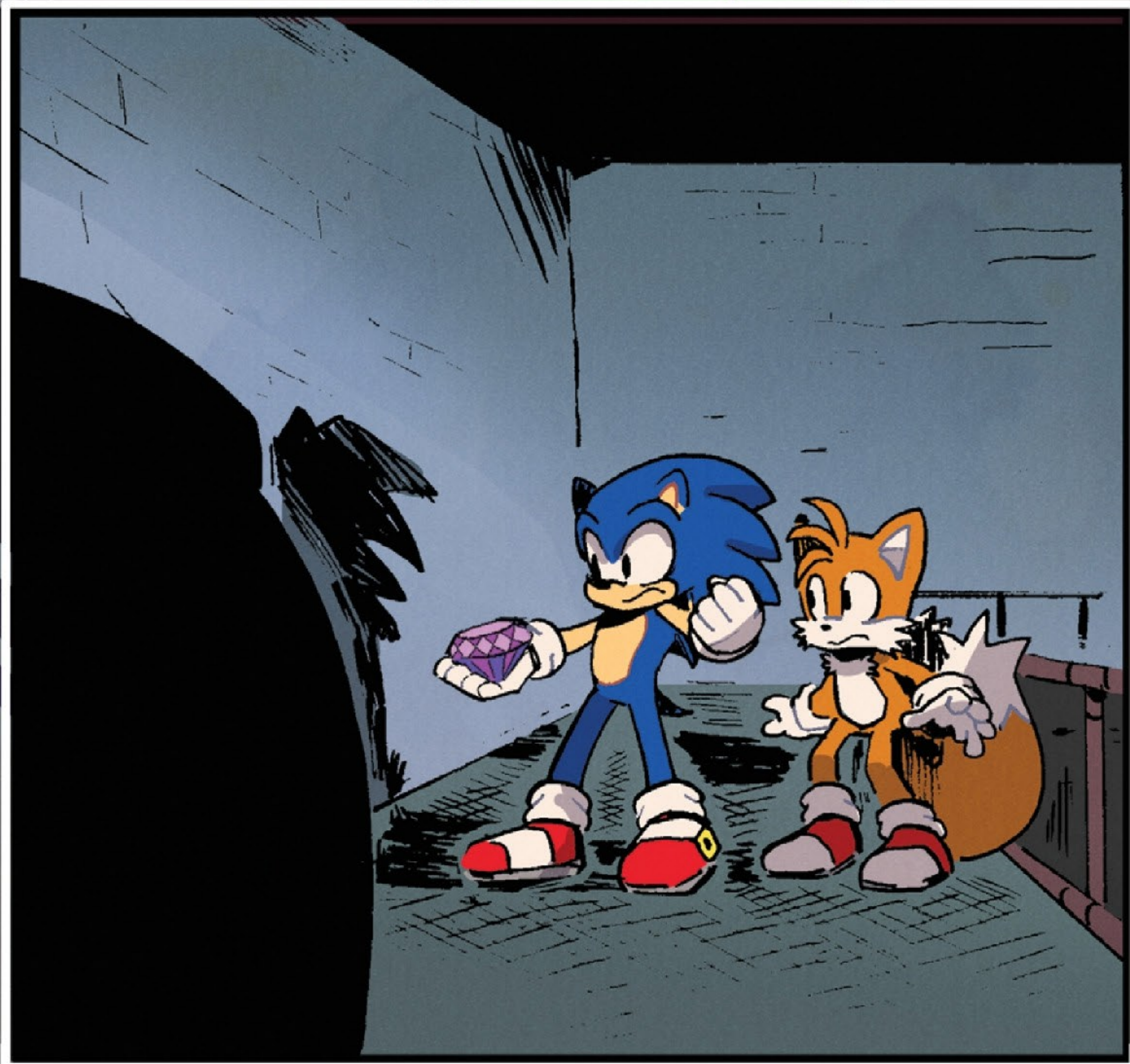
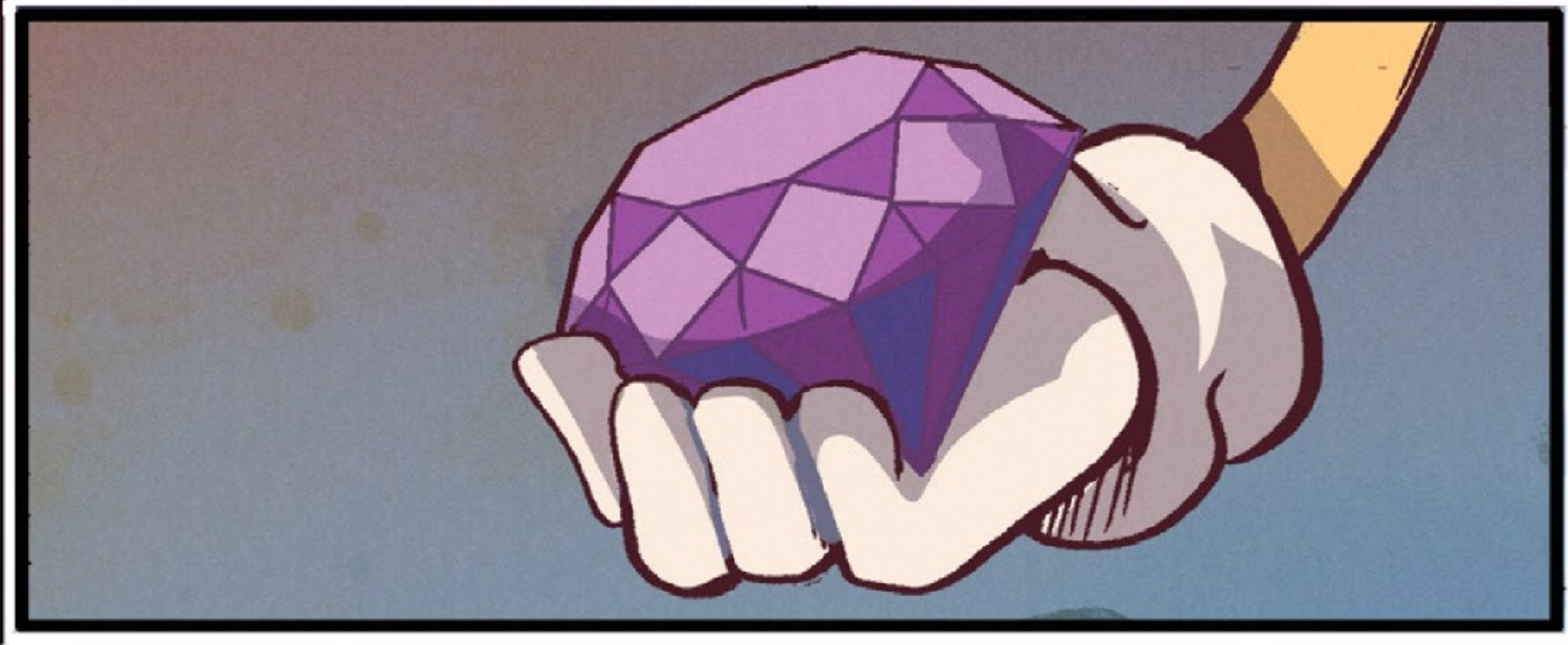
TREASURE-HUNTING SPY.
RESTORATION ALLY.



DR. EGGMAN

MAD GENIUS.
EGG ENTHUSIAST.

SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY OF SEQUIN'S OLD INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT...



NO TRAP AFTER ALL!
HOW 'BOUT THAT,
TAILS?

PHEW!

THAT'S WHAT I SAID...

SOOOO... I'M GUESSING YOUR NAME'S NOT "LUNAR."

IT'S SOLEIL. SOLEIL THE SUGAR GLIDER.

ALL RIGHT! I'M SONIC, SONIC THE HE--

I KNOW WHO YOU ARE.





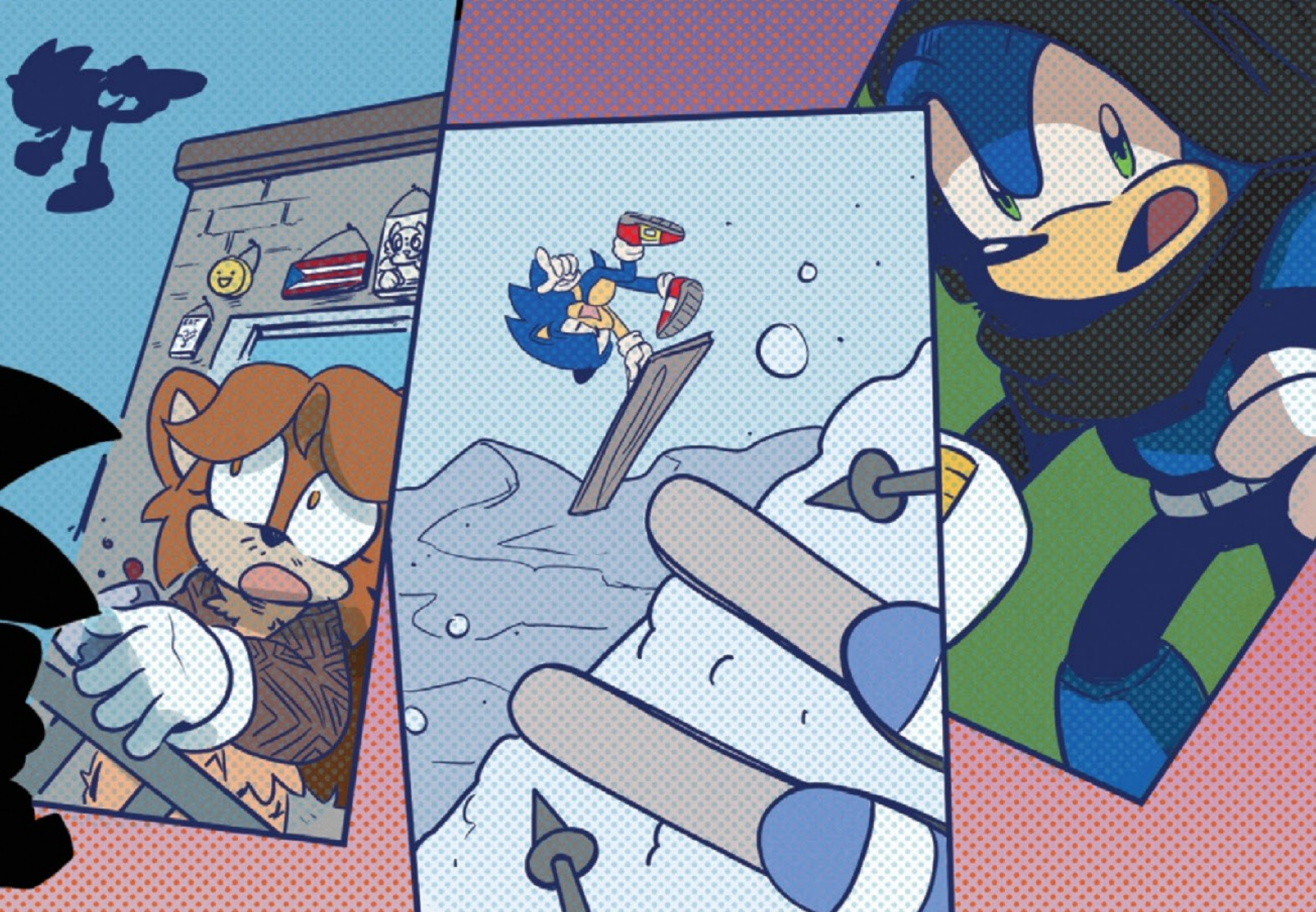
UH--
NOT IN A CREEPY WAY!!!



I-IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL, REALLY. YOU JUST KINDA... CHANGED MY WHOLE LIFE.

MOST SIGHTINGS ARE SUPER BLURRY, BUT THE SONIC SPOTTER COMMUNITY HAS A FEW GOOD ONES. I'VE BEEN COLLECTING MY FAVES, AND...

THIS EXPLANATION ISN'T GOING VERY WELL, IS IT?



I'VE HEARD WORSE...?

UGH. STUPID! I'M SUCH A SCREW-UP...



NO, YOU... LOOK UP TO HIM.

YES! EXACTLY! HE'S AMAZING!

TRY IT AGAIN--FROM THE START, MAYBE?



OKAY, WELL, MY FAMILY ARE TRAVELING ACROBATS. APPARENTLY WE'RE, LIKE, THE BEST OR SOMETHING?

MY PARENTS, THEY'RE...A LOT. THEY DON'T JUST WANT THE BEST, THEY DEMAND PERFECTION.

ONE DAY... WHILE WE WERE PERFORMING... I CHOKED. THE THOUGHT OF FAILING, IN FRONT OF EVERYONE...



MY PARENTS TOOK ME OUT OF OUR ACT, SO I'VE BEEN SPENDING A LOT OF TIME ALONE. THAT'S WHEN I STARTED FINDING VIDEOS OF YOU, SONIC.

YOU DO ALL THE SAME KINDA STUFF THAT WE DO--Y'KNOW, TRICKS, TUMBLING, WHATEVER--BUT YOU DO IT OUT THERE, IN THE REAL WORLD! JUST FOR FUN!

I STARTED STUDYING YOUR MOVES, PRACTICING IN SECRET. COMING UP WITH MY OWN ROUTINES.

BUT THEN, THINGS STARTED SHOWING UP UNDER MY BED. I DON'T REMEMBER MUCH, BUT I KNOW SOME OTHER ME PUT THEM THERE...

MY PARENTS BLAMED THE VIDEOS...FOR PUTTING NEW IDEAS IN MY HEAD.

YOU SAID YOUR FAMILY TRAVELS. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN RECENTLY?

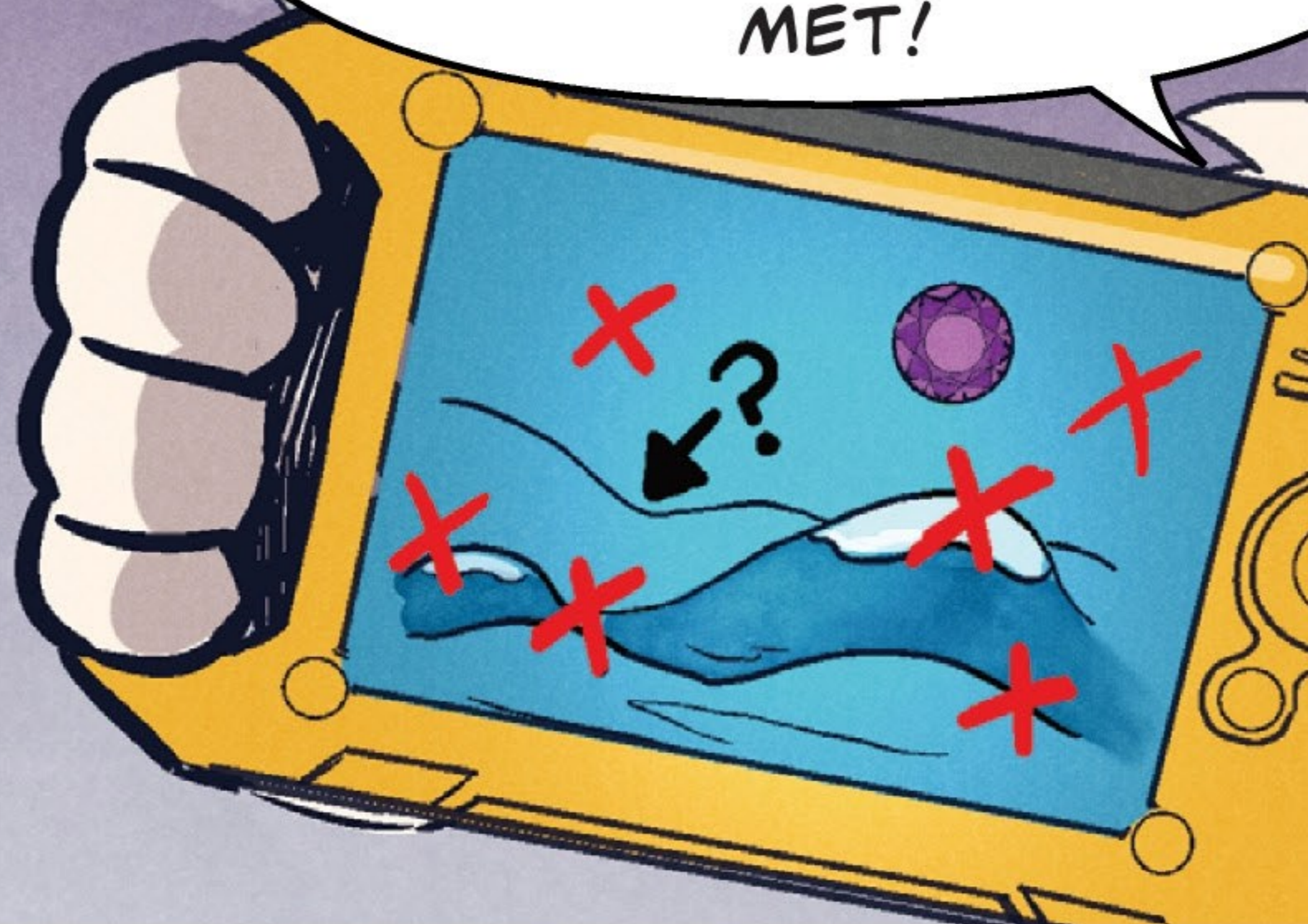
CENTRAL CITY, SEASIDE, SUNSET, THEN WE WENT TO--

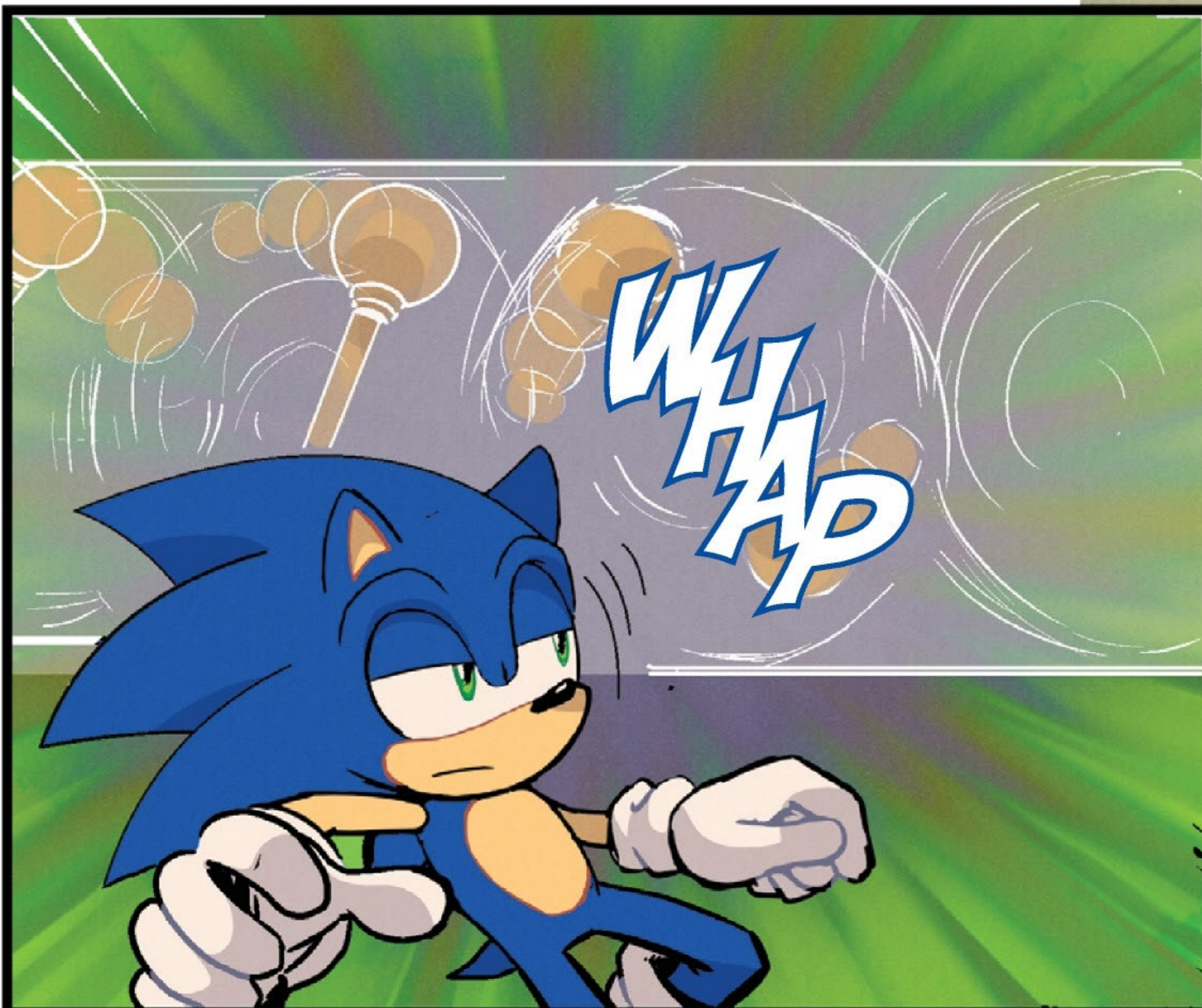
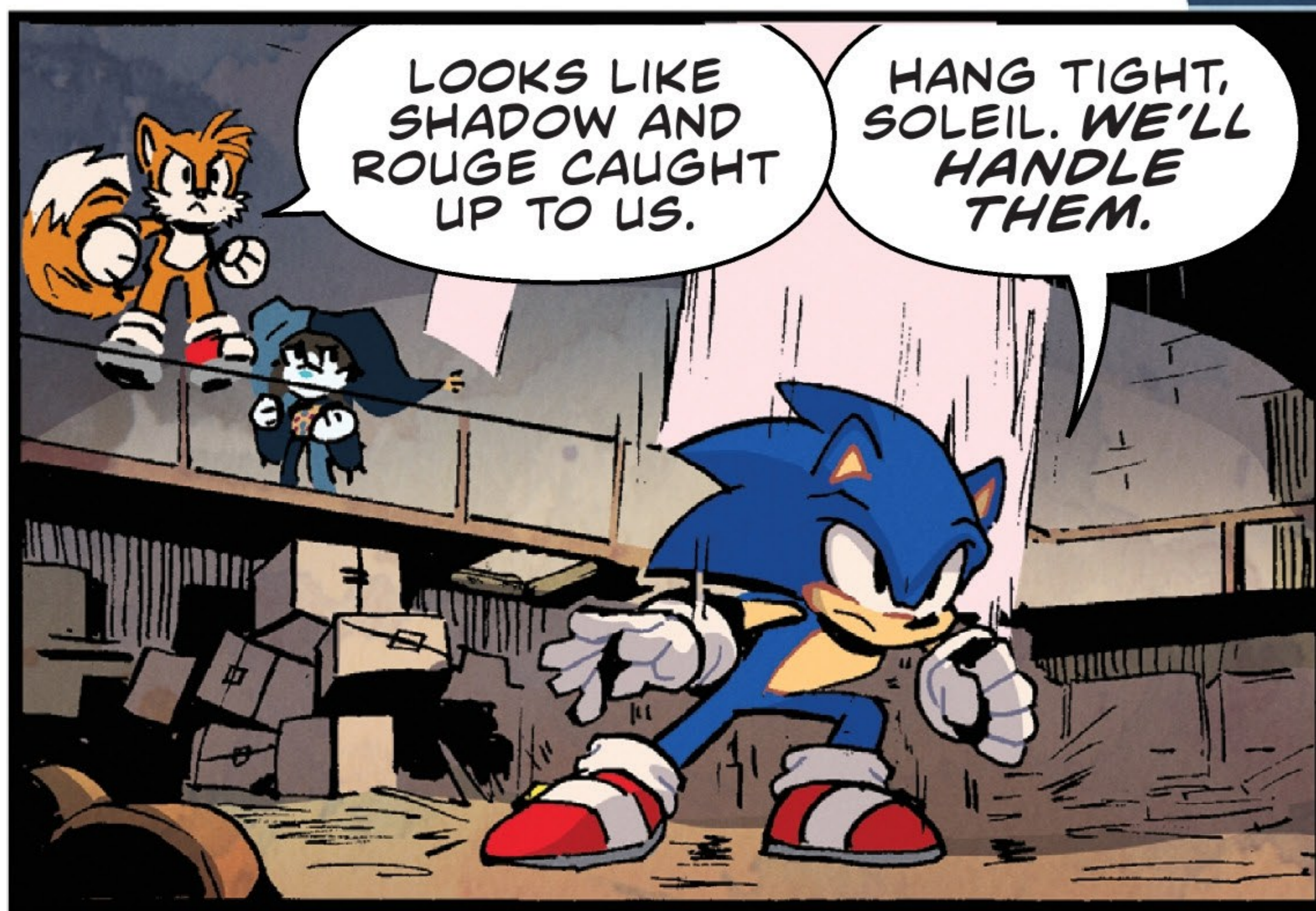
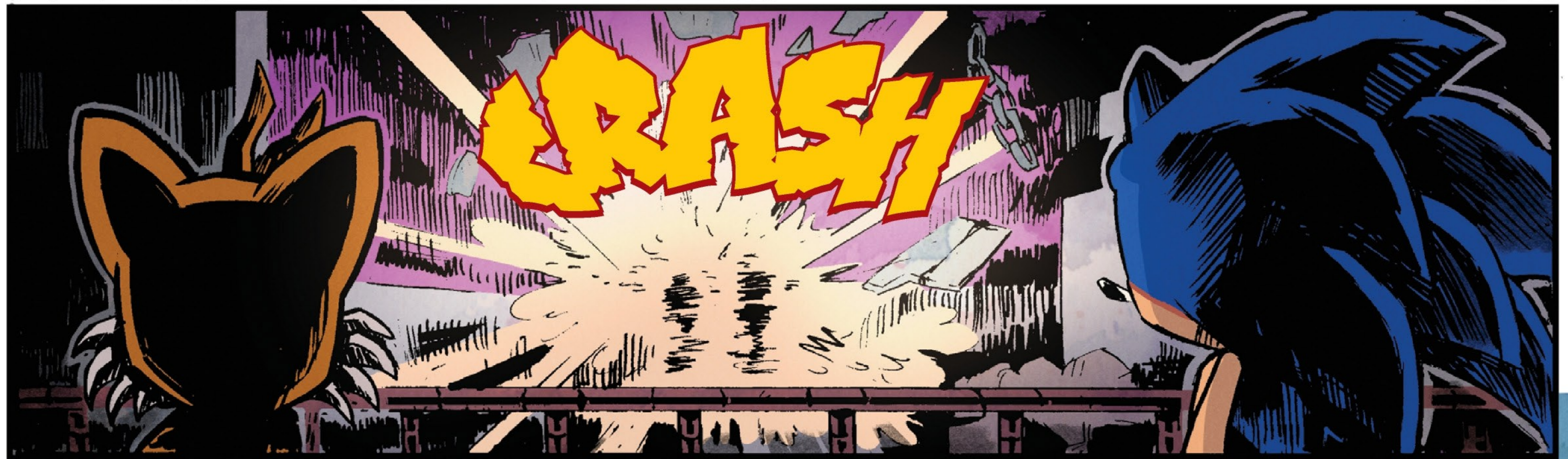
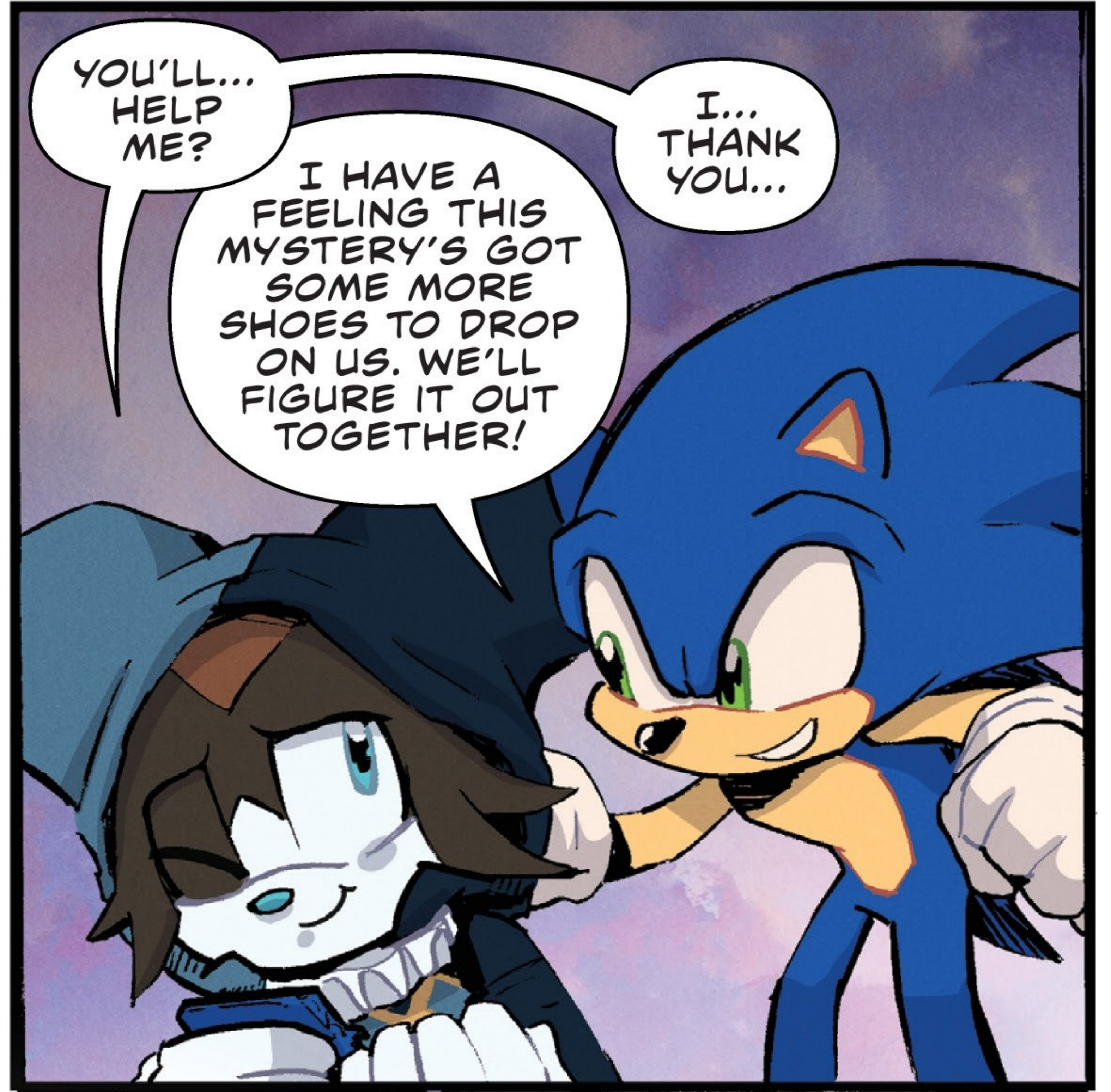
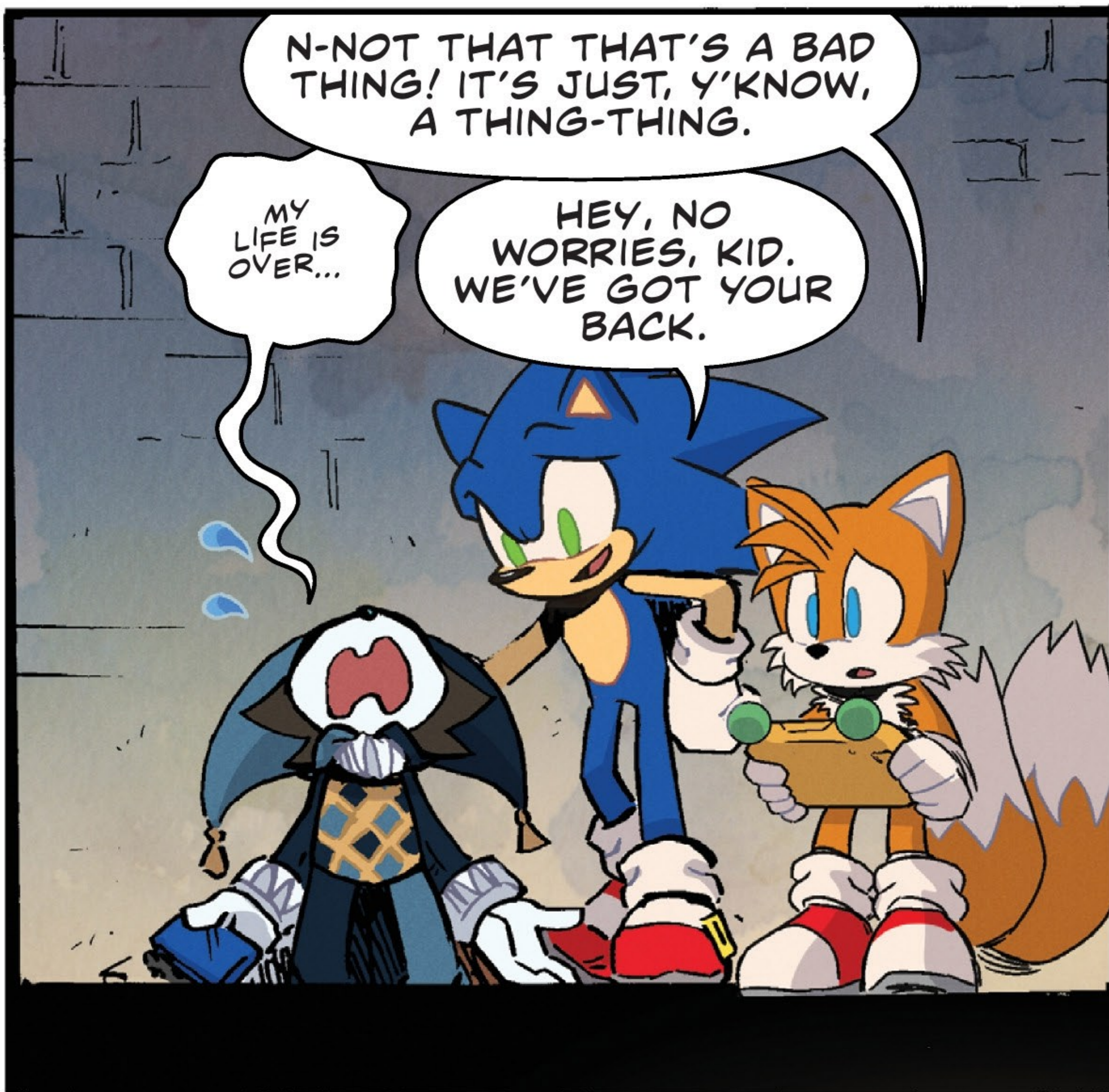
--SPAGONIA? IN THAT ORDER?

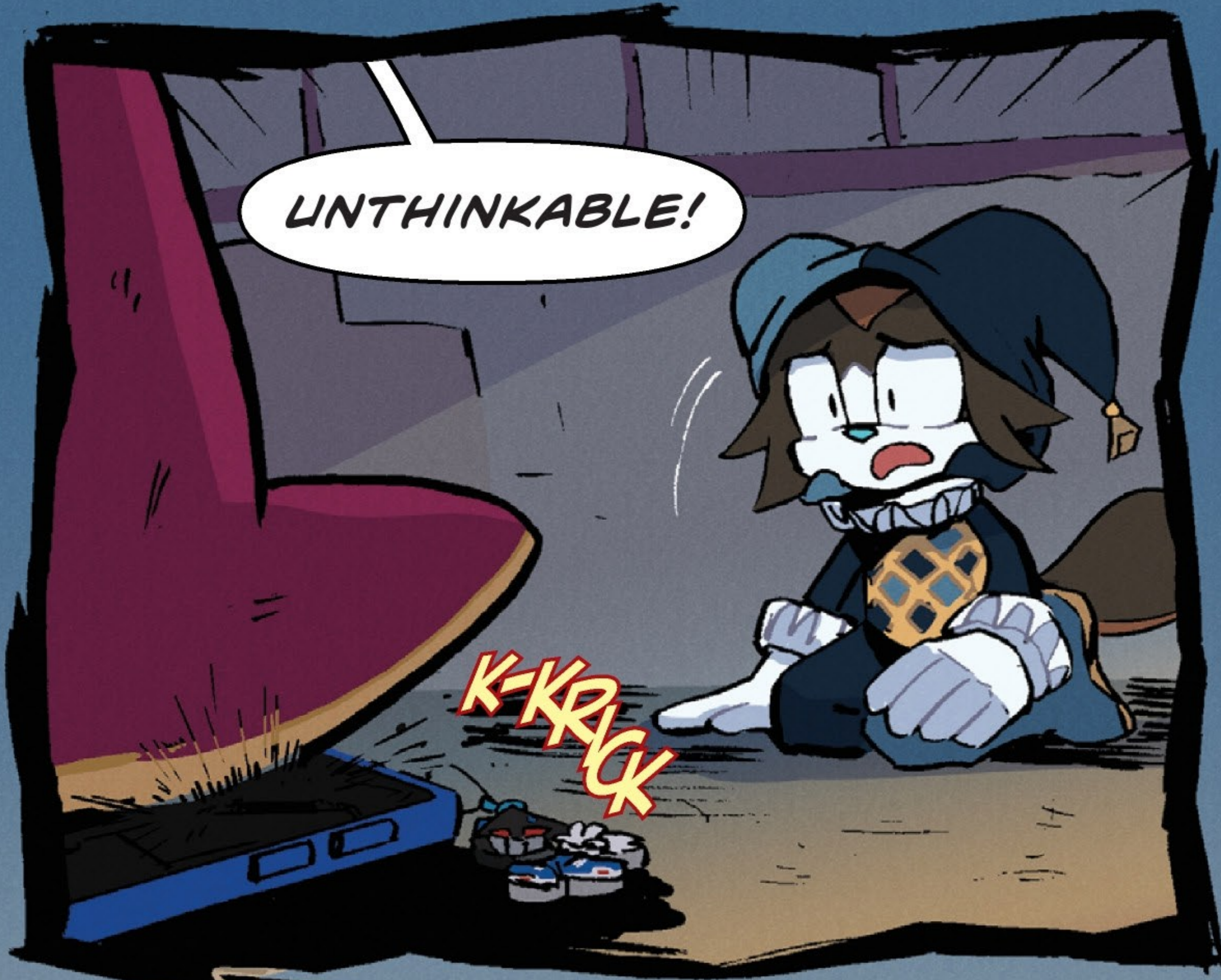
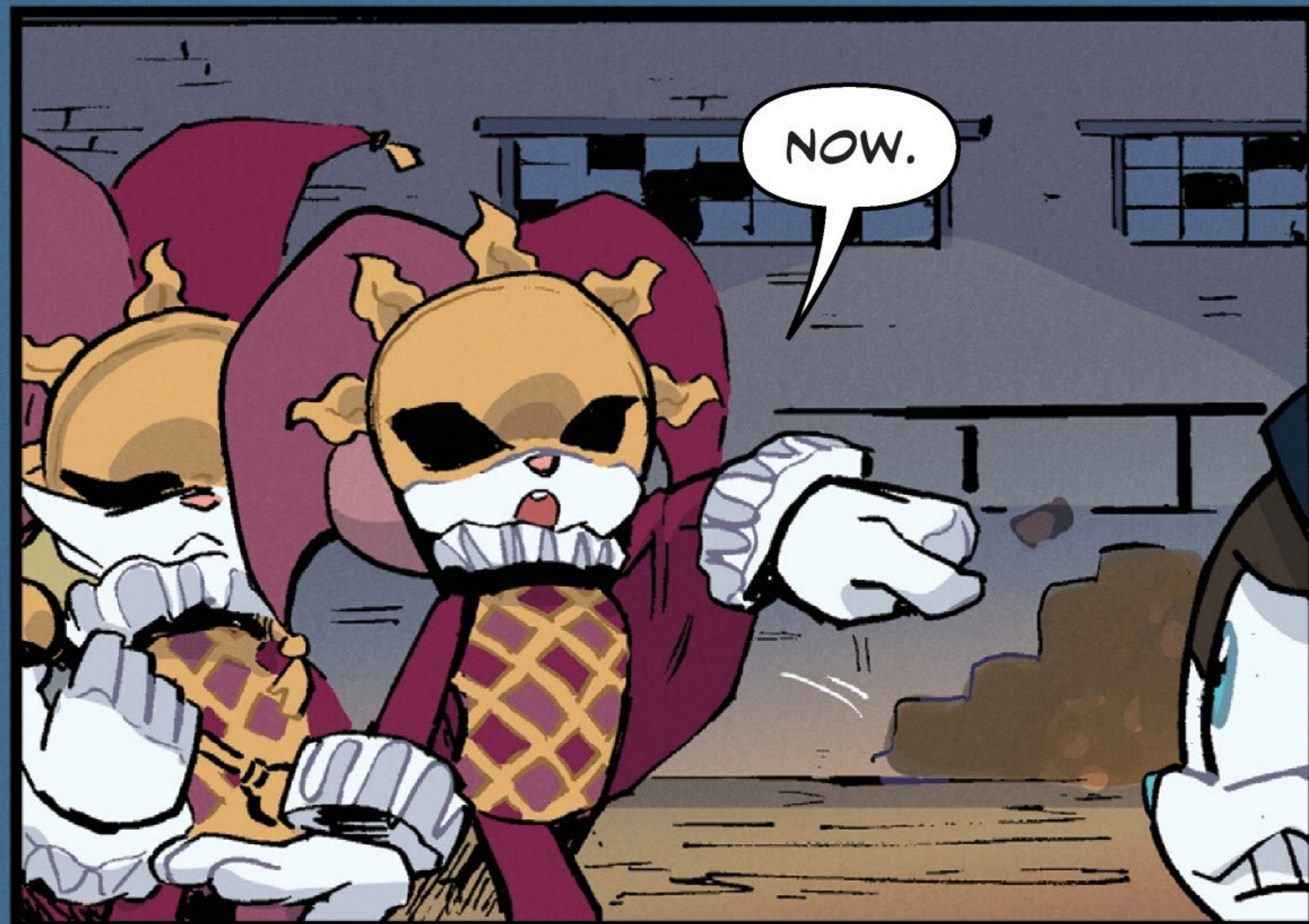
THOSE LOCATIONS MATCH UP TO THE REPORTED CHAOS EMERALD DISAPPEARANCES PERFECTLY.

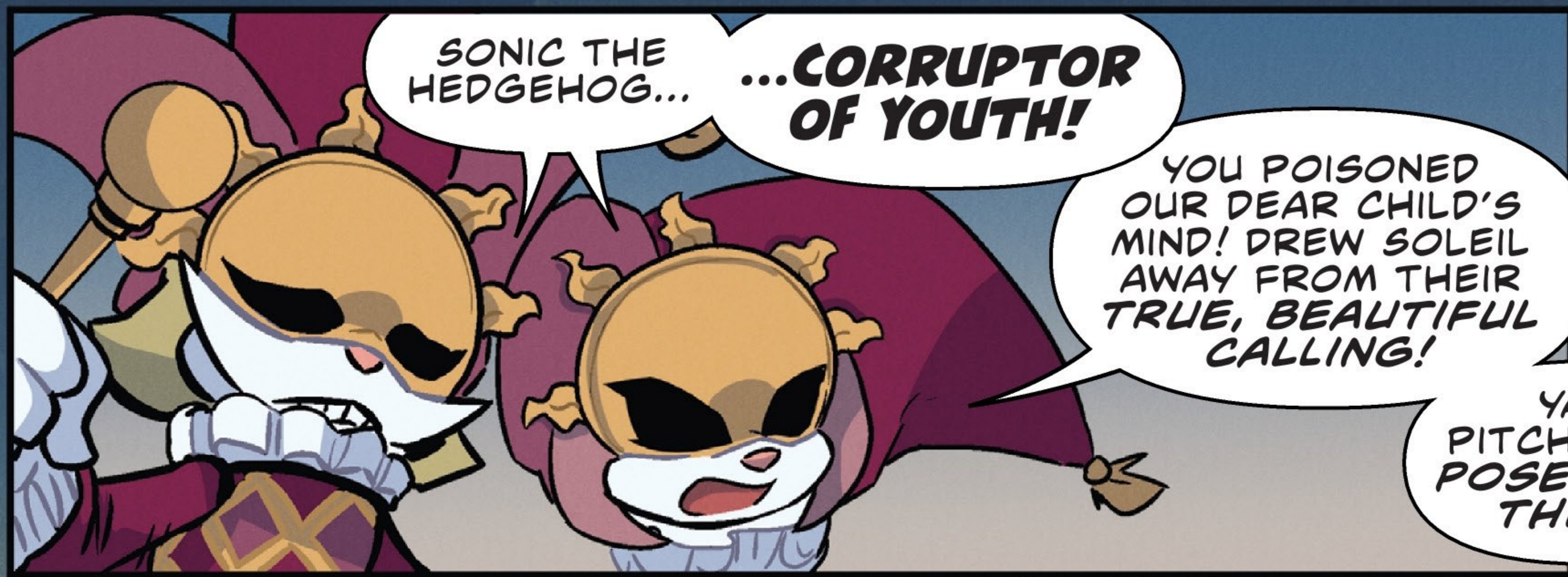
YOU THINK THAT I...

PSYCHOLOGY ISN'T MY FORTE, BUT I'D GUESS THAT **STRESS** LED YOU TO SUBCONSCIOUSLY DEVELOP AN ALTER EGO OF SORTS AS AN OUTLET, THIS "LUNAR" CHARACTER THAT WE MET!









SONIC THE HEDGEHOG...

...CORRUPTOR OF YOUTH!

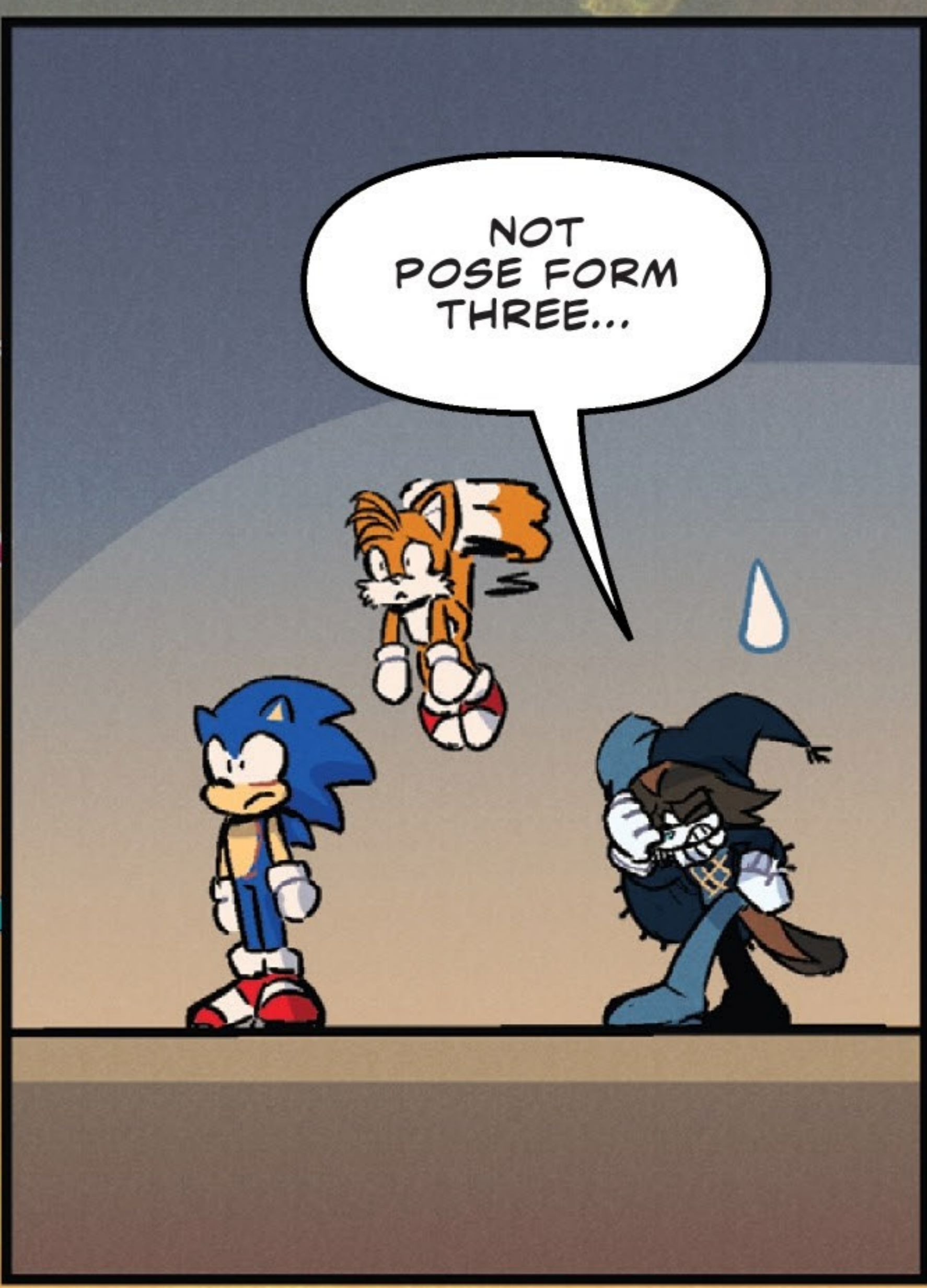
YOU POISONED OUR DEAR CHILD'S MIND! DREW SOLEIL AWAY FROM THEIR TRUE, BEAUTIFUL CALLING!

YAW, PITCH, ROLL! POSE FORM THREE!

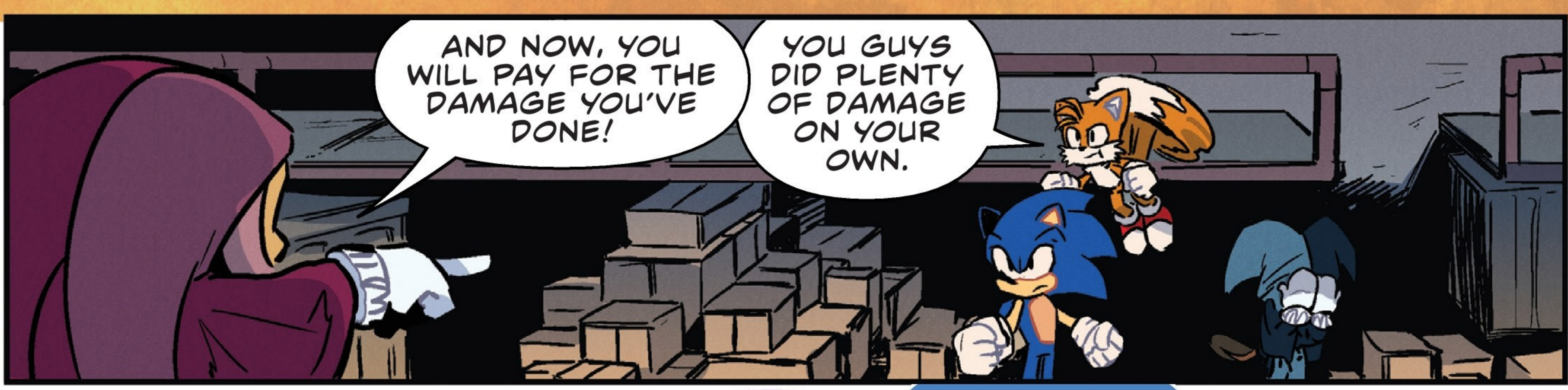


FOR YOUR CRIMES, YOU WILL FEEL OUR TRUE POWER!

OUR PERFECT ART... ACROBATTLE!



NOT POSE FORM THREE...



AND NOW, YOU WILL PAY FOR THE DAMAGE YOU'VE DONE!

YOU GUYS DID PLENTY OF DAMAGE ON YOUR OWN.



DON'T MEDDLE IN FAMILY MATTERS, CHILD.

I DON'T LET PEOPLE HURT MY FRIENDS!

I LEAVE FOR FIVE MINUTES, AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENS...



I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO TAKE YOUR TOYS AWAY UNTIL YOU ALL LEARN TO BEHAVE.



!GASP! MY JUGGLING BALLS!

FORGET YOUR BALLS-- LUNAR TOOK THE CHAOS EMERALD!

MEANWHILE, IN THE CITY ABOVE...

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR HERE, ROUGE?

MY TREASURE HUNTER'S INTUITION IS TELLING ME THAT THIS "LUNAR" WON'T GO QUIETLY. ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS KEEP OUR EARS OPEN AND POUNCE WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF.

AND I'D RATHER DO THAT REFRESHED, WOULDN'T YOU?

AND...?

NOW, SHADOW, WE WAIT.

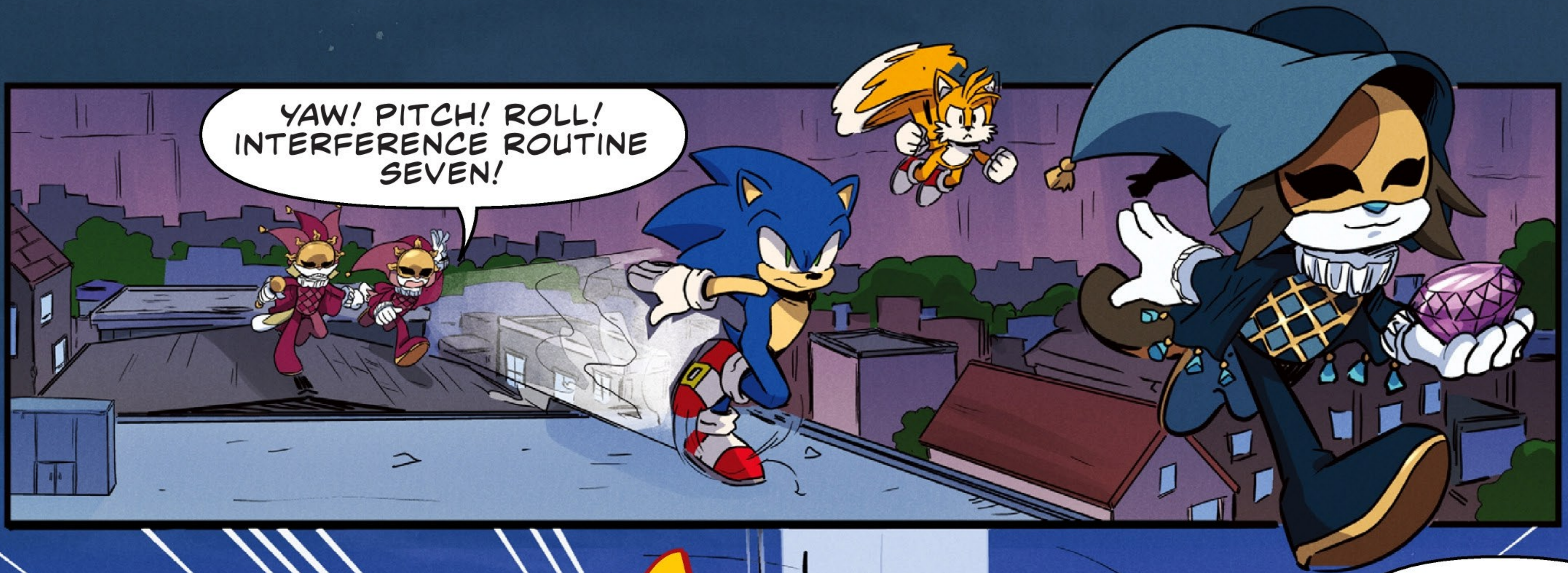
BESIDES, SEQUIN IS FAMOUS FOR ITS CAFÉS. I'VE BEEN DYING TO TRY ONE!

YOU MUST BE JOKING. A CHAOS EMERALD WAS STOLEN RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE, AND YOU'RE MORE INTERESTED IN SAMPLING THE LOCAL CUISINE?

MY NOSE? I HAPPEN TO REMEMBER YOURS BEING THERE TOO, MISTER PERFECT.

I'D RATHER NOT LEAVE THIS UP TO YOUR INTUITION. I'LL MAKE MY OWN LUCK.

HAVE FUN BEING STUBBORN BY YOUR LONESOME, THEN. I'LL EAT A CROISSANT FOR YOU!



YAW! PITCH! ROLL!
INTERFERENCE ROUTINE
SEVEN!

TEACH THEM
OUR FAMILY'S
STRONGEST
VALUE...

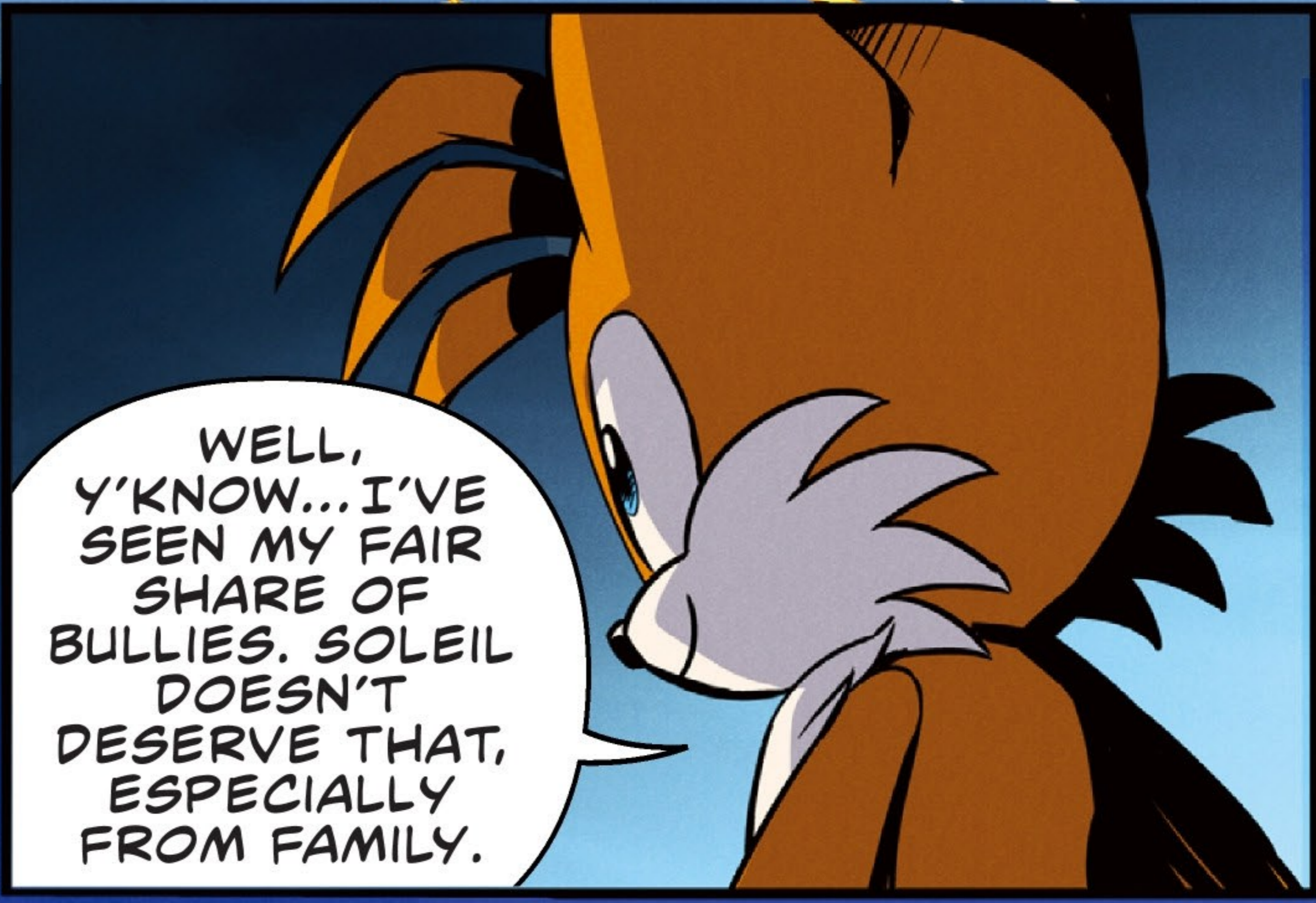
...RAW DAMAGE
OUTPUT!

CRASH

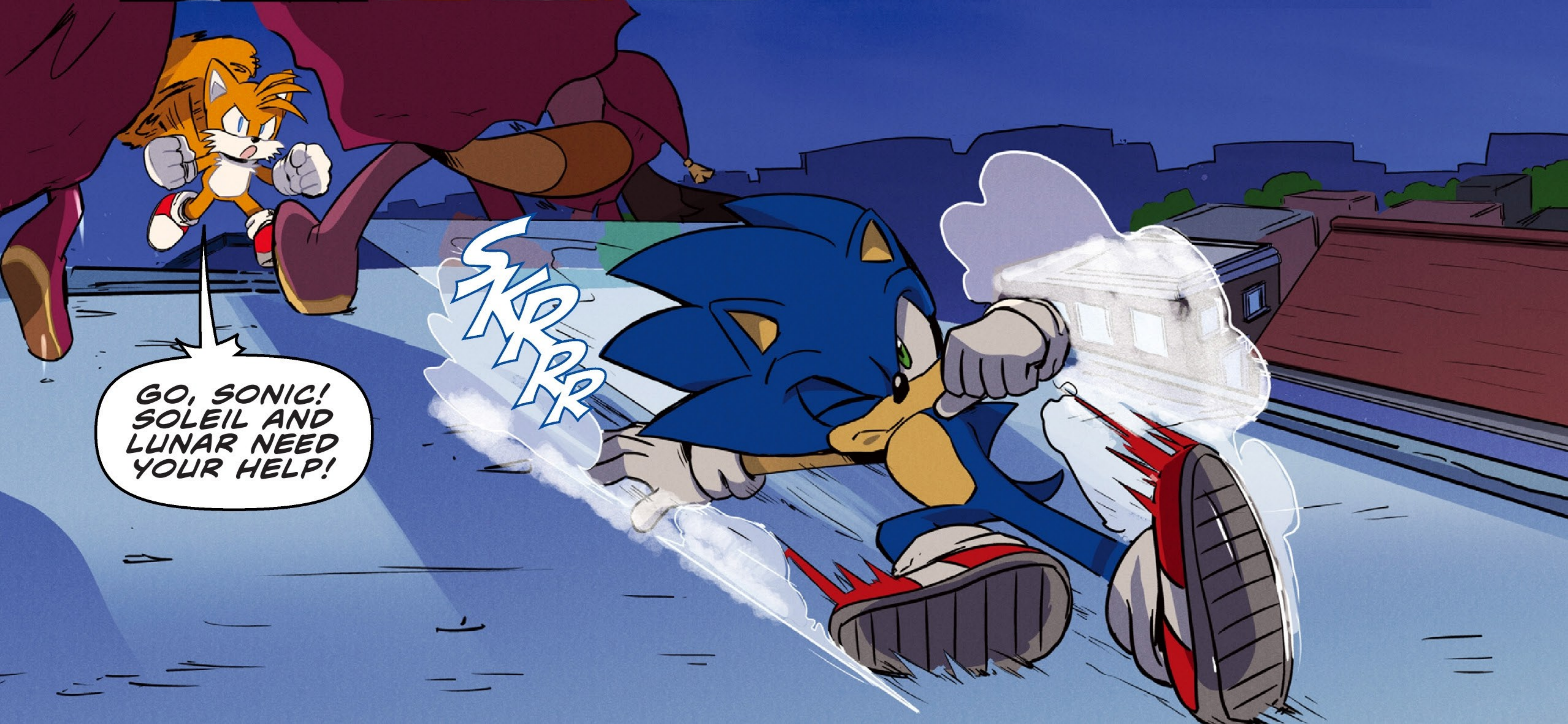


GO! I'LL SLOW THESE
GUYS DOWN!

OKAY! YOU'RE
REALLY GETTING
INTO THIS ONE,
HUH, BUD?

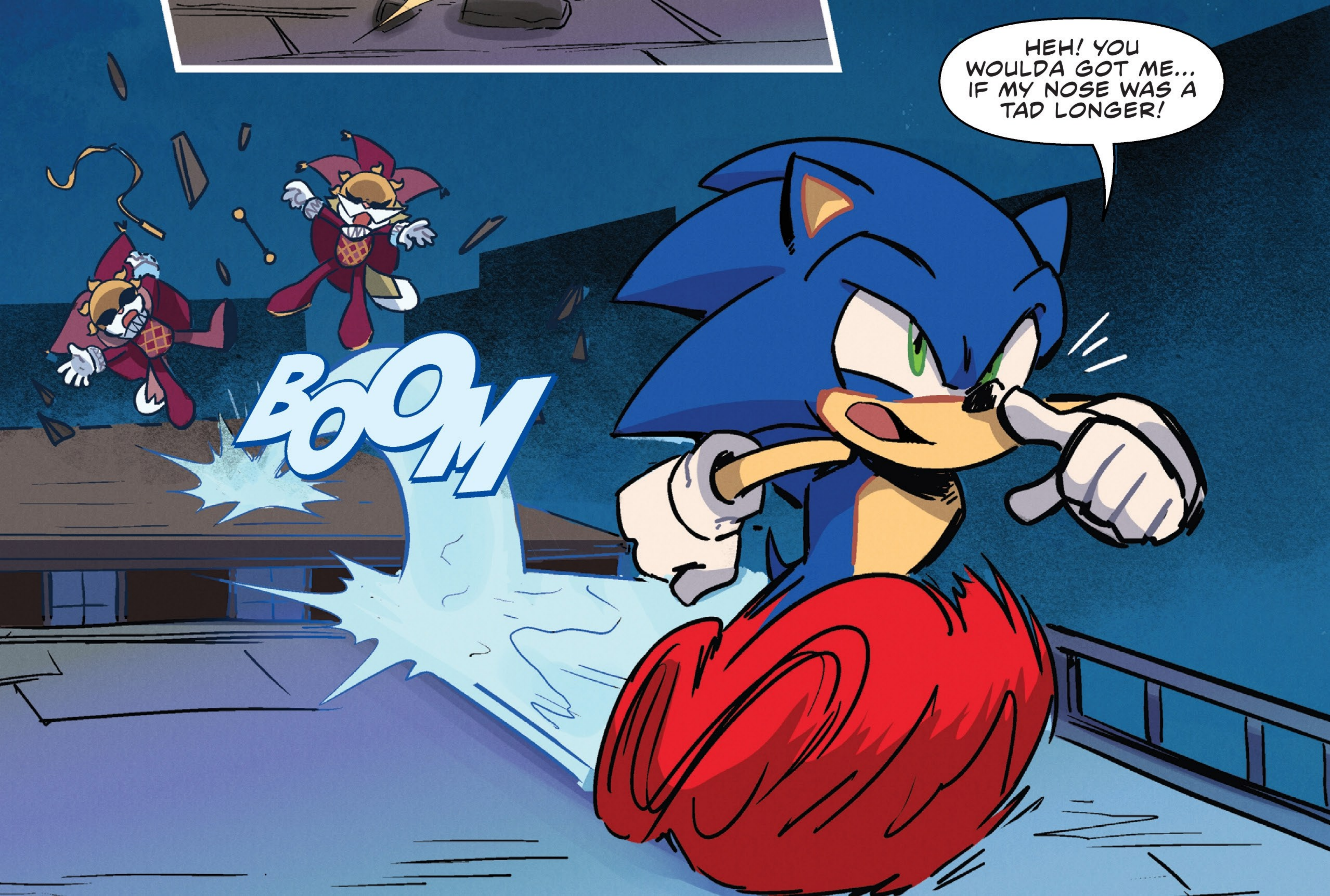
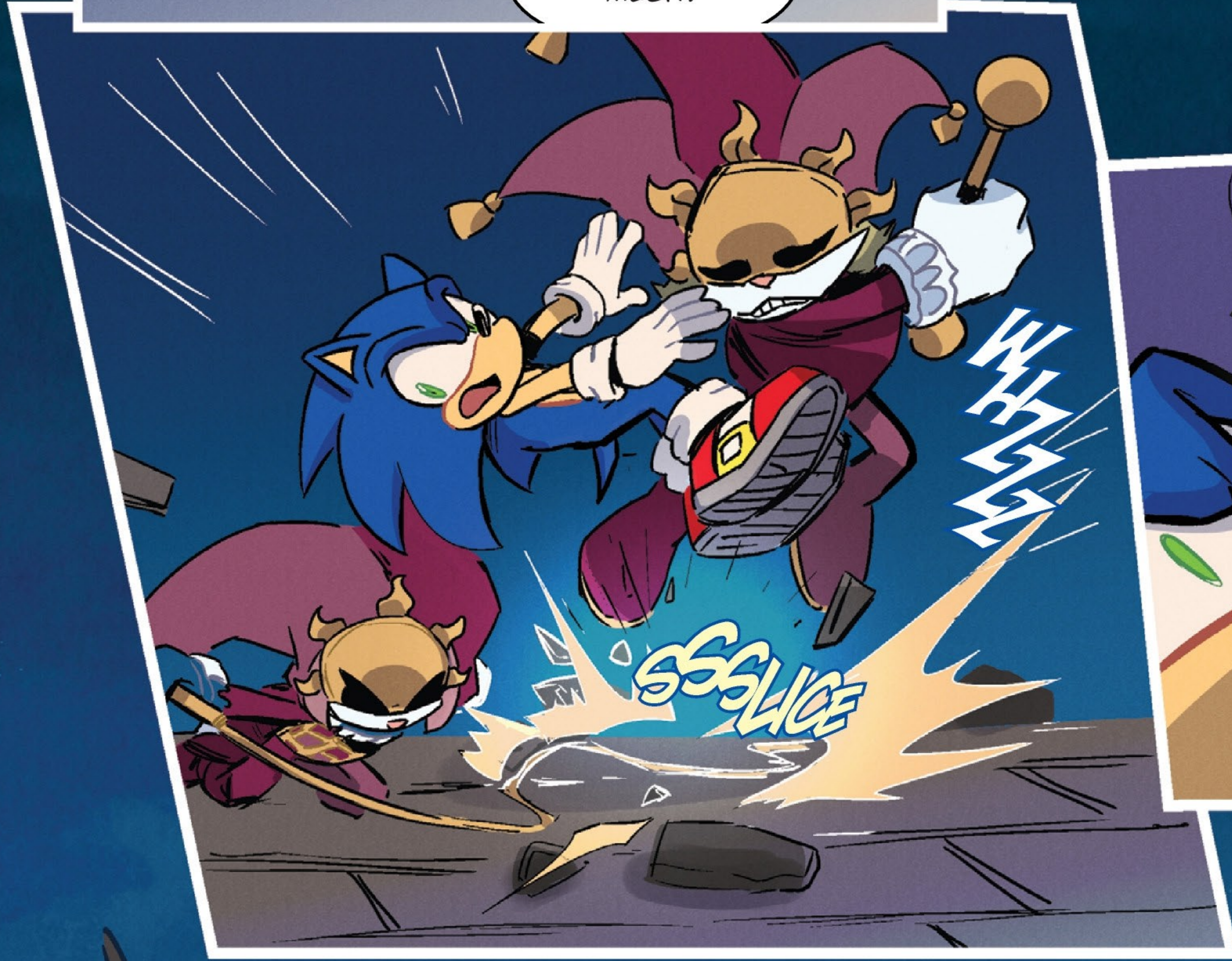
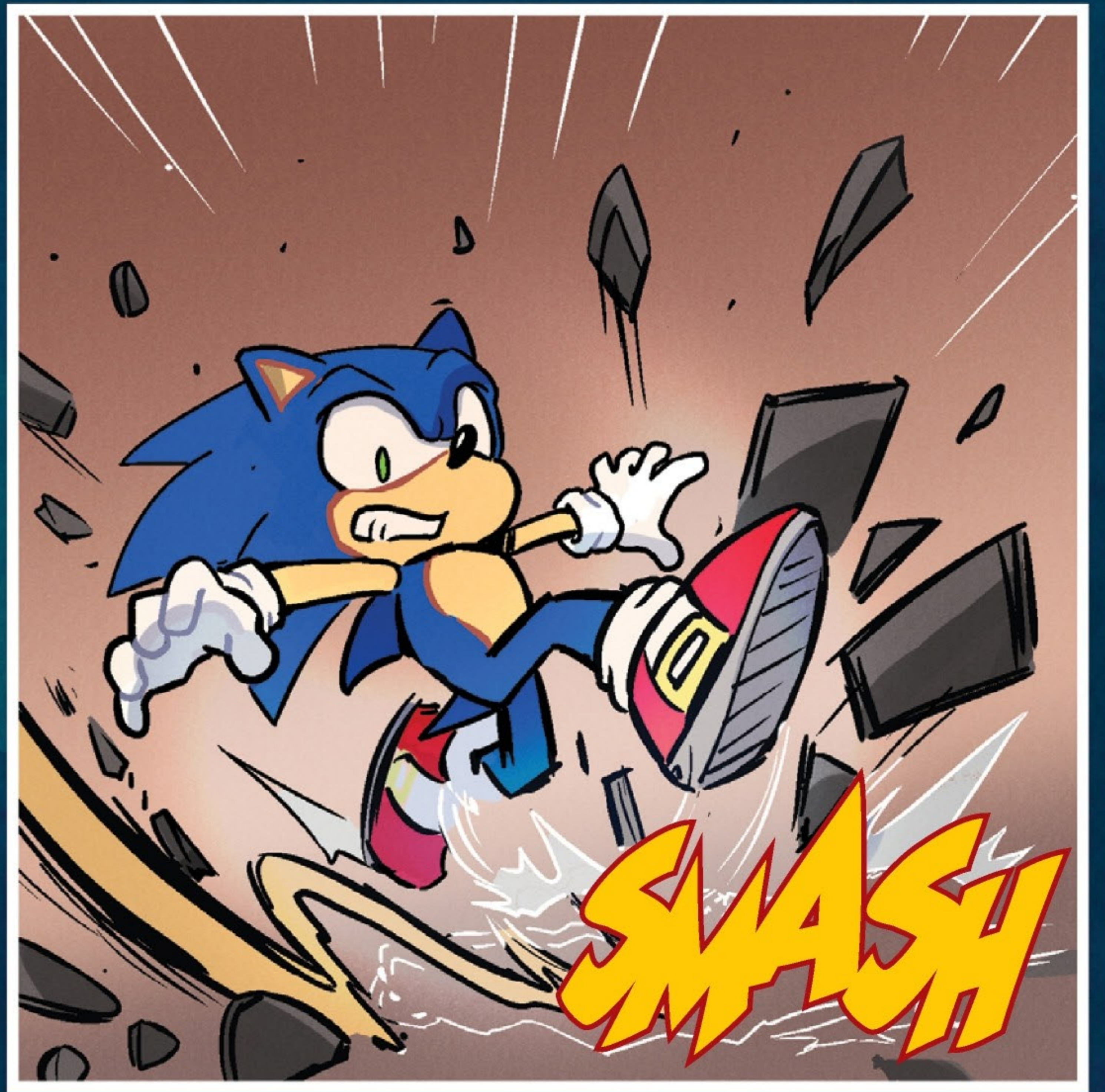


WELL,
Y'KNOW...I'VE
SEEN MY FAIR
SHARE OF
BULLIES. SOLEIL
DOESN'T
DESERVE THAT,
ESPECIALLY
FROM FAMILY.



GO, SONIC!
SOLEIL AND
LUNAR NEED
YOUR HELP!

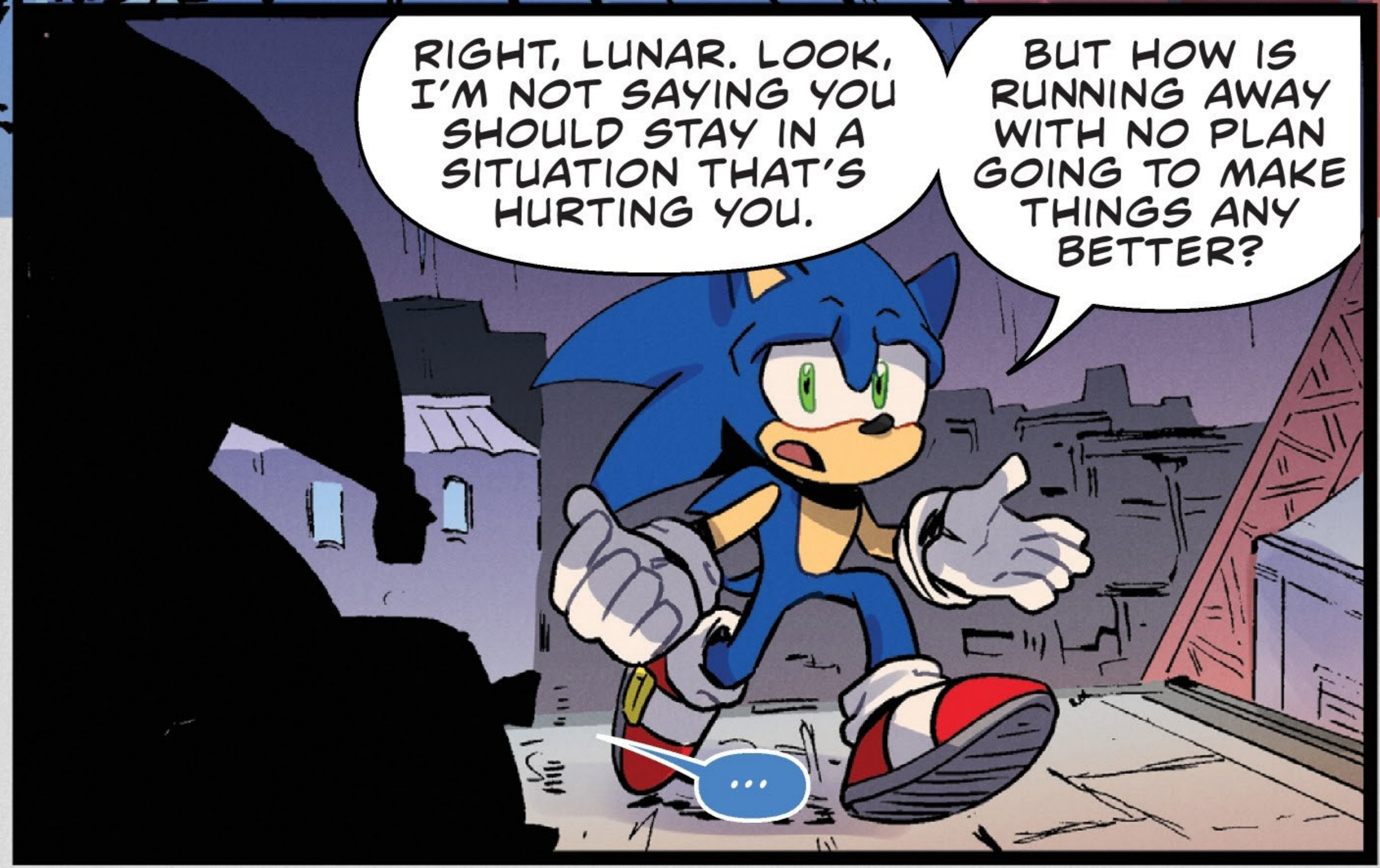
SKRRR





SOLEIL!

IT'S LUNAR, REMEMBER?



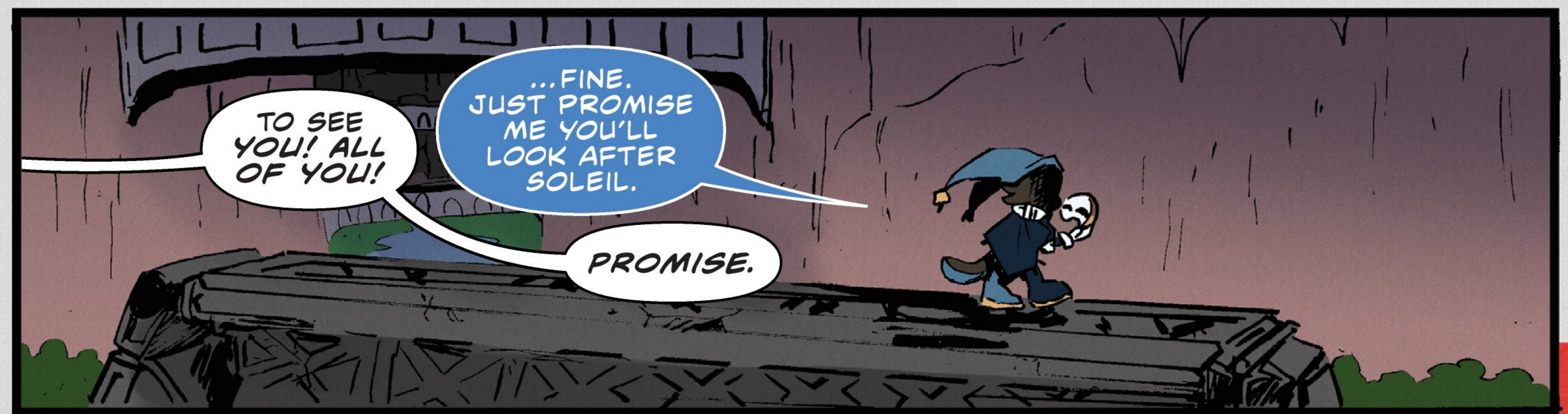
RIGHT, LUNAR. LOOK, I'M NOT SAYING YOU SHOULD STAY IN A SITUATION THAT'S HURTING YOU.

BUT HOW IS RUNNING AWAY WITH NO PLAN GOING TO MAKE THINGS ANY BETTER?



SCREEEAK

LOOK AT ALL THESE CRAZY MOVES YOU'VE BEEN PULLING OFF--YOU'RE AWESOME! YOU GOTTA GET THEM TO SEE THAT!



TO SEE YOU! ALL OF YOU!

...FINE. JUST PROMISE ME YOU'LL LOOK AFTER SOLEIL.

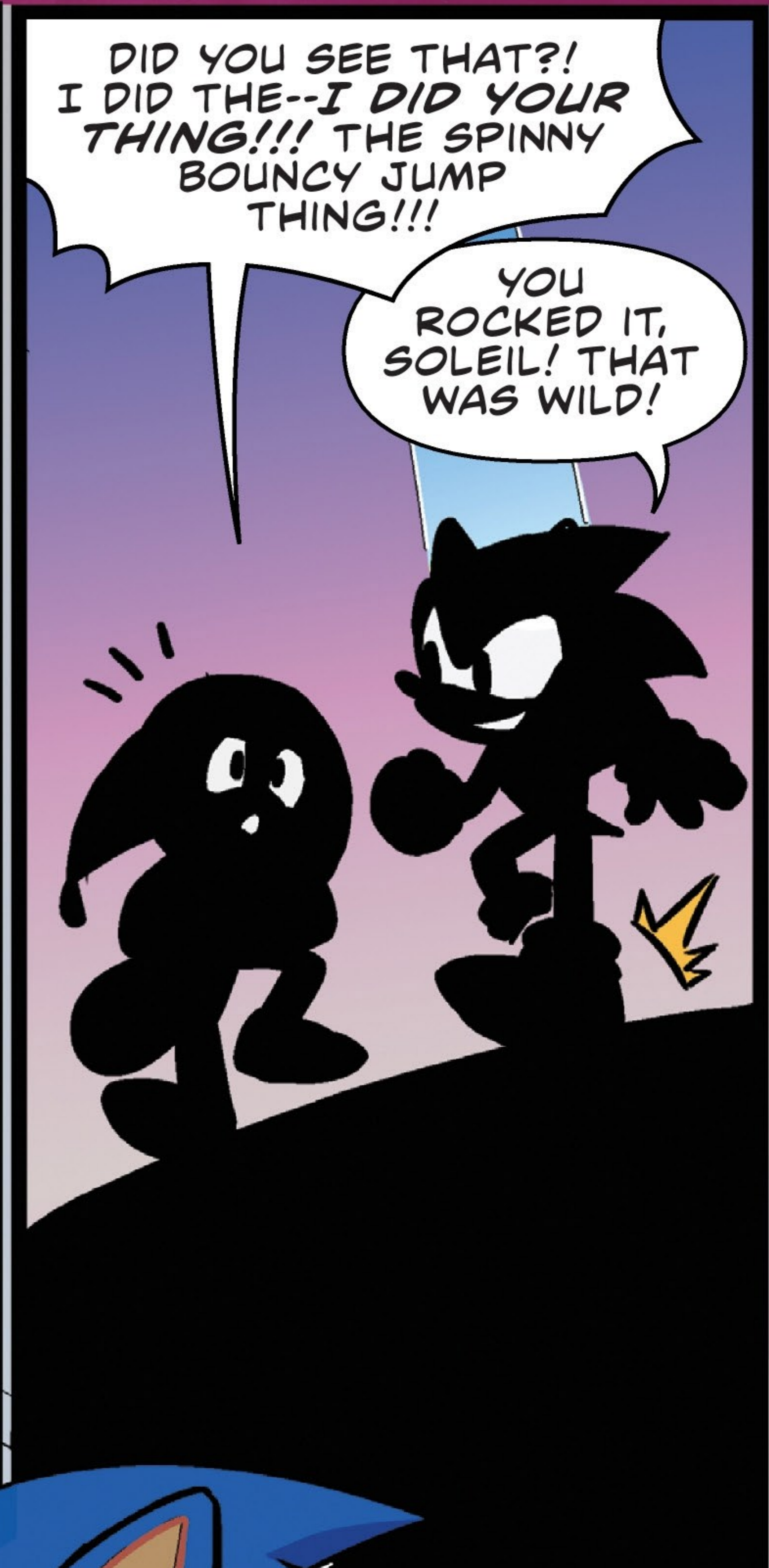
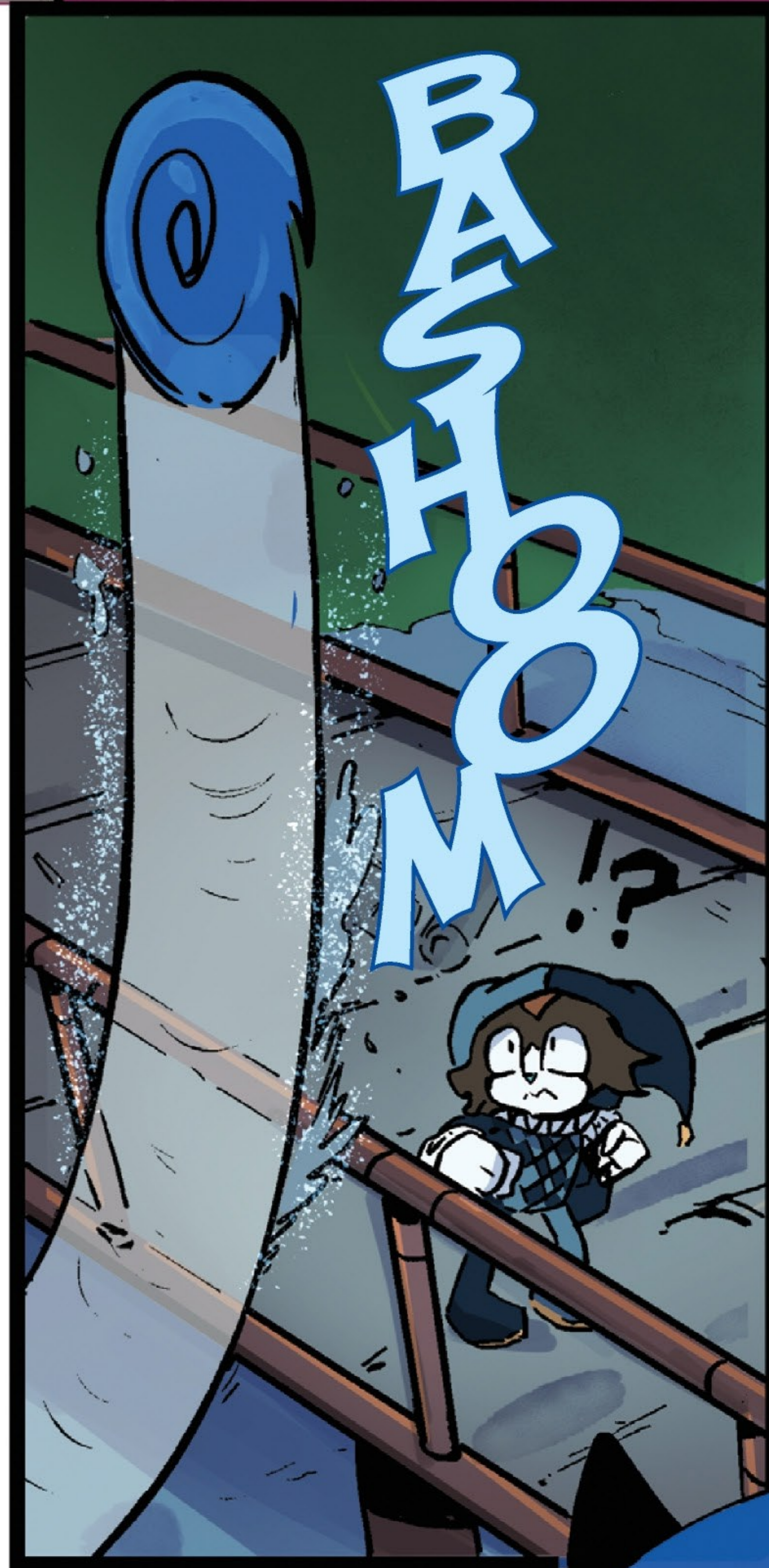
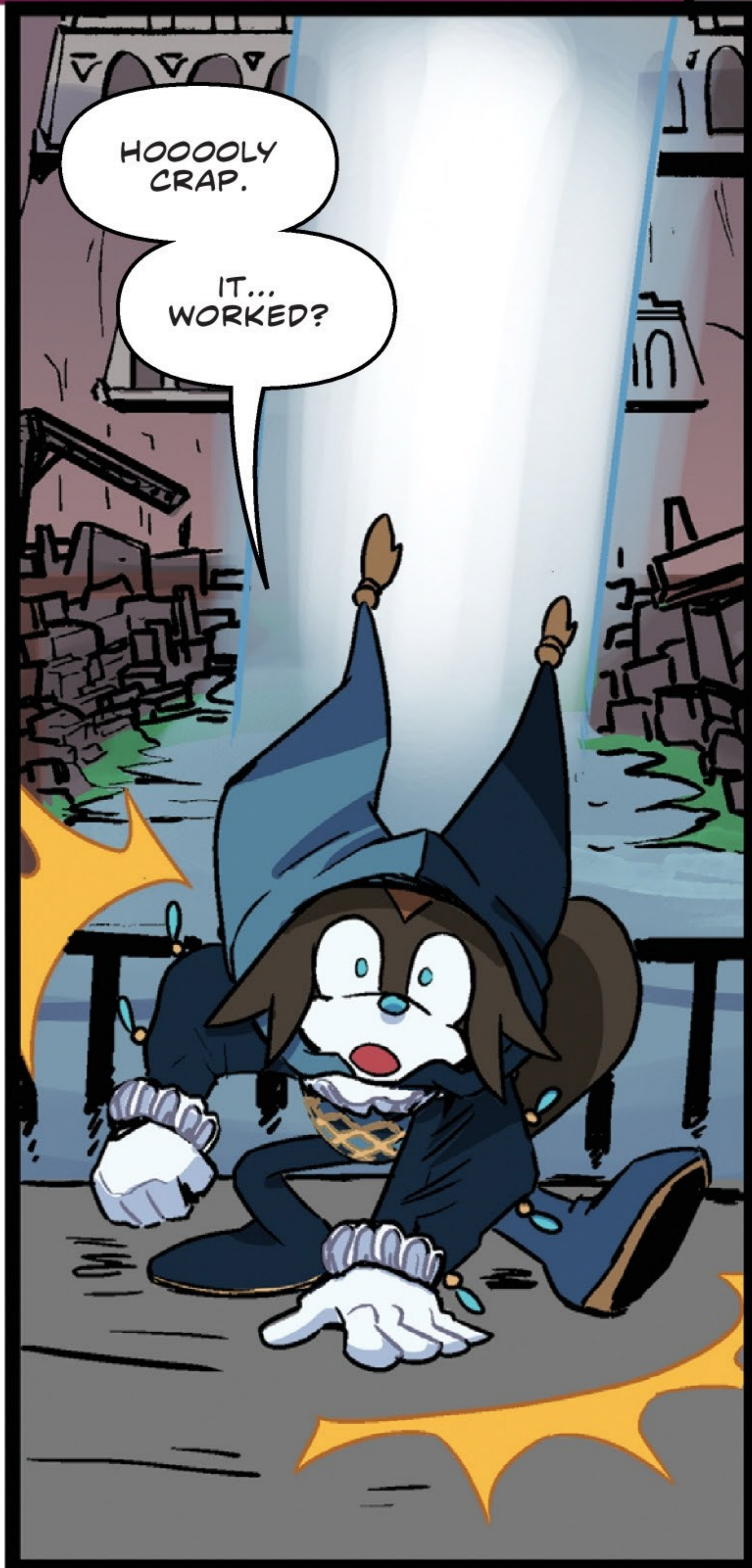
PROMISE.

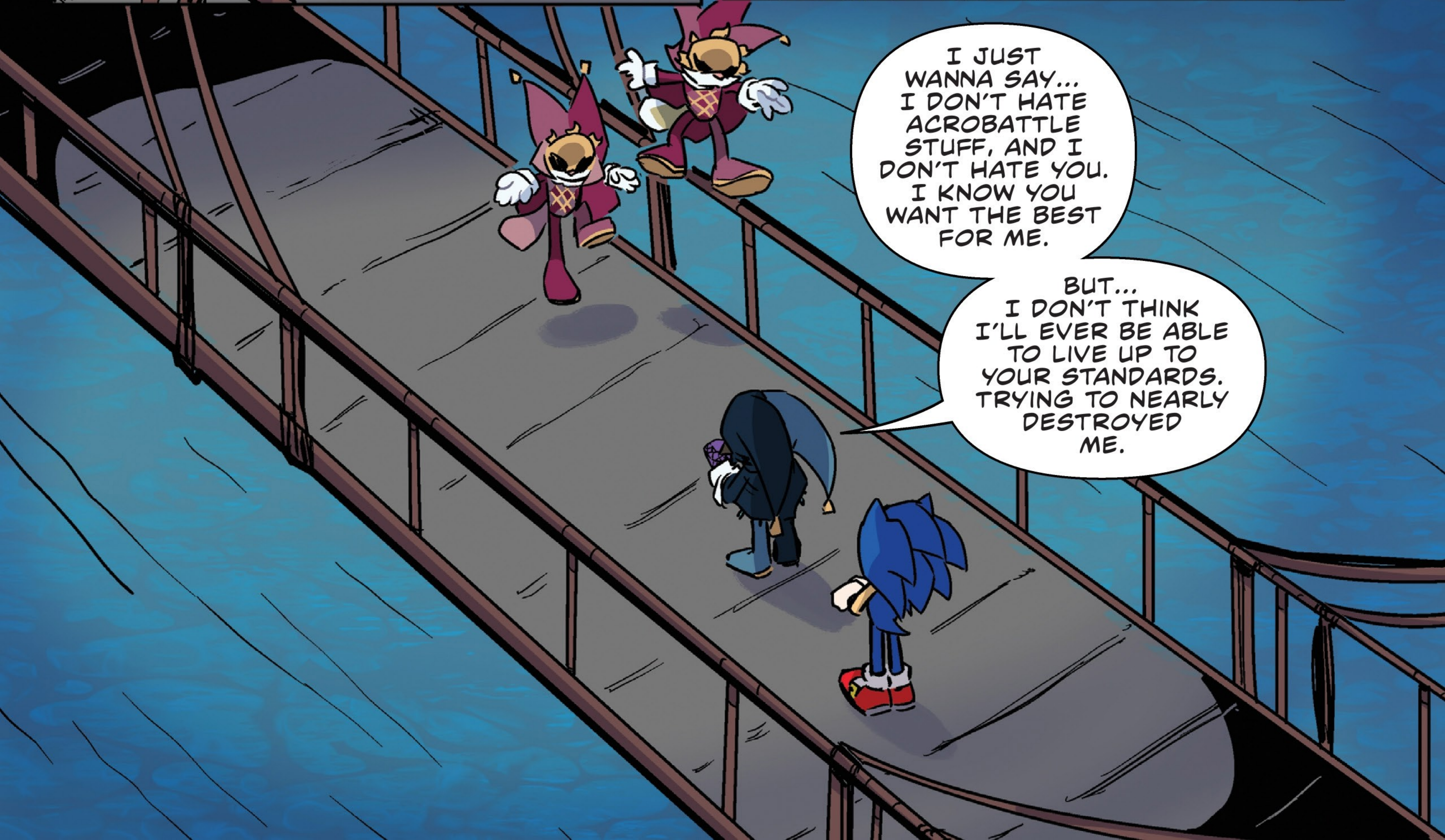
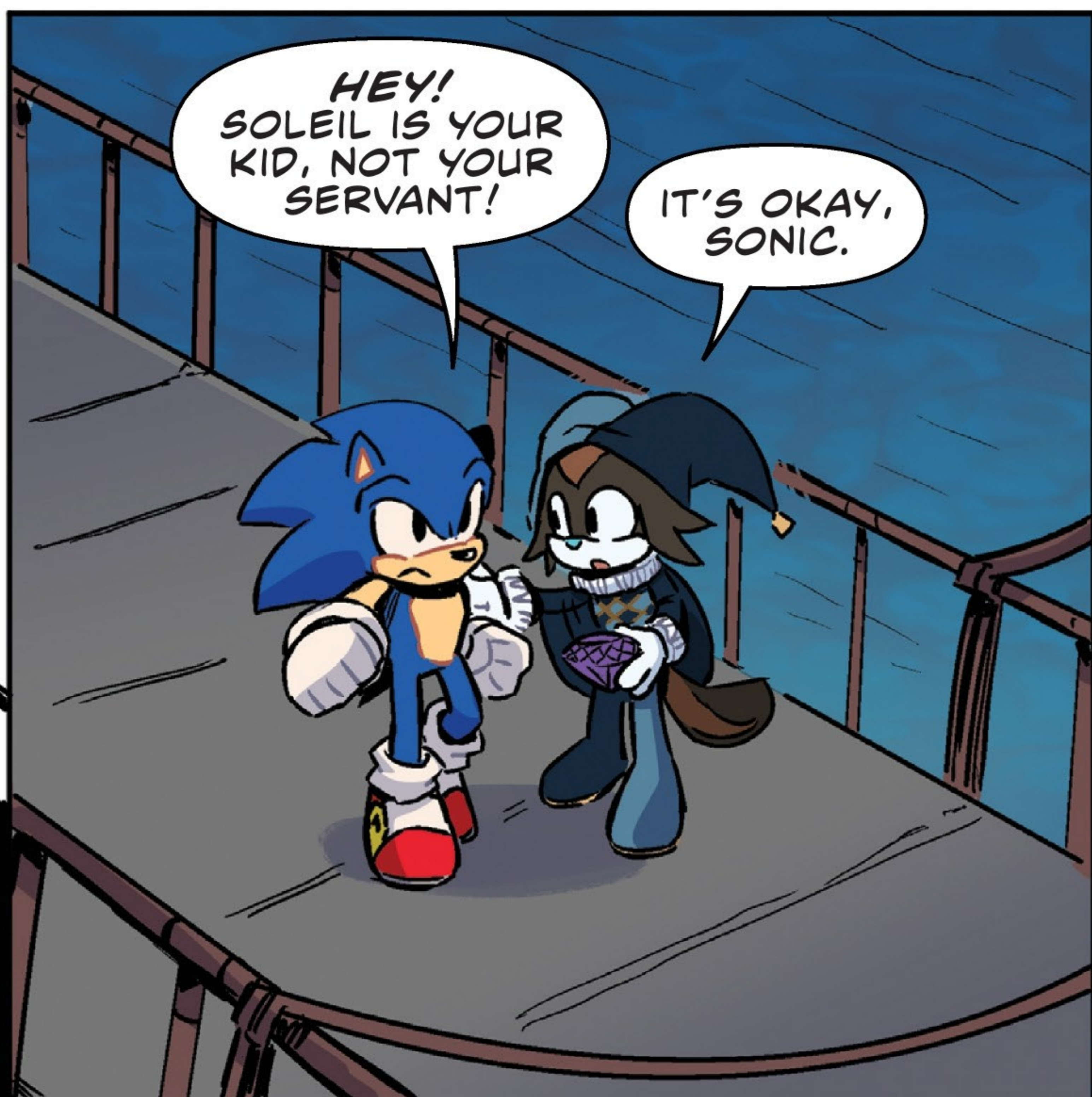
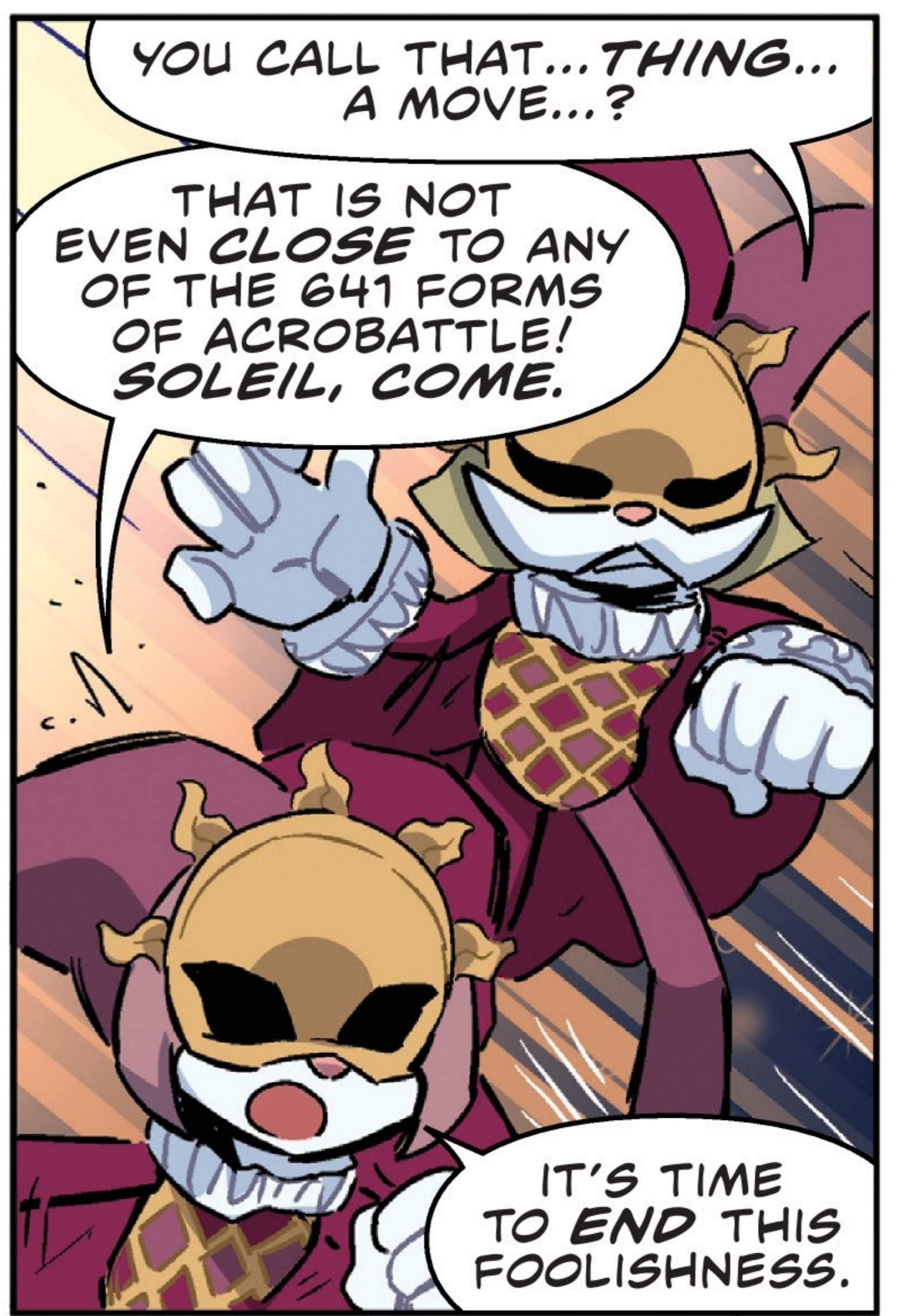


SNAP

AAH!







I'M LEARNING TO DO AMAZING THINGS. NEW THINGS. THINGS THAT ARE MINE. I'LL DO THEM NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY... BUT I'D REALLY LIKE YOU TO BE THERE TO SEE IT.



YOU WOULD REJECT OUR FAMILY'S QUEST FOR PERFECTION?!

LINTHINKAB--HUH?

MY SWEET, DO YOU NOT... AGREE?

I'M SORRY, SUGARPLUM, BUT...

I FEAR WE MAY HAVE BEEN A TOUCH... OVER-BEARING.

NO! NOT OUR PERFECT PARENTING...!

HOW COULD WE HAVE NOT SEEN? TO THINK, WE ALMOST DROVE OUR LITTLE SOLEIL AWAY...

YOU KNOW HOW THE SAYING GOES...

LOVE IS BLIND!

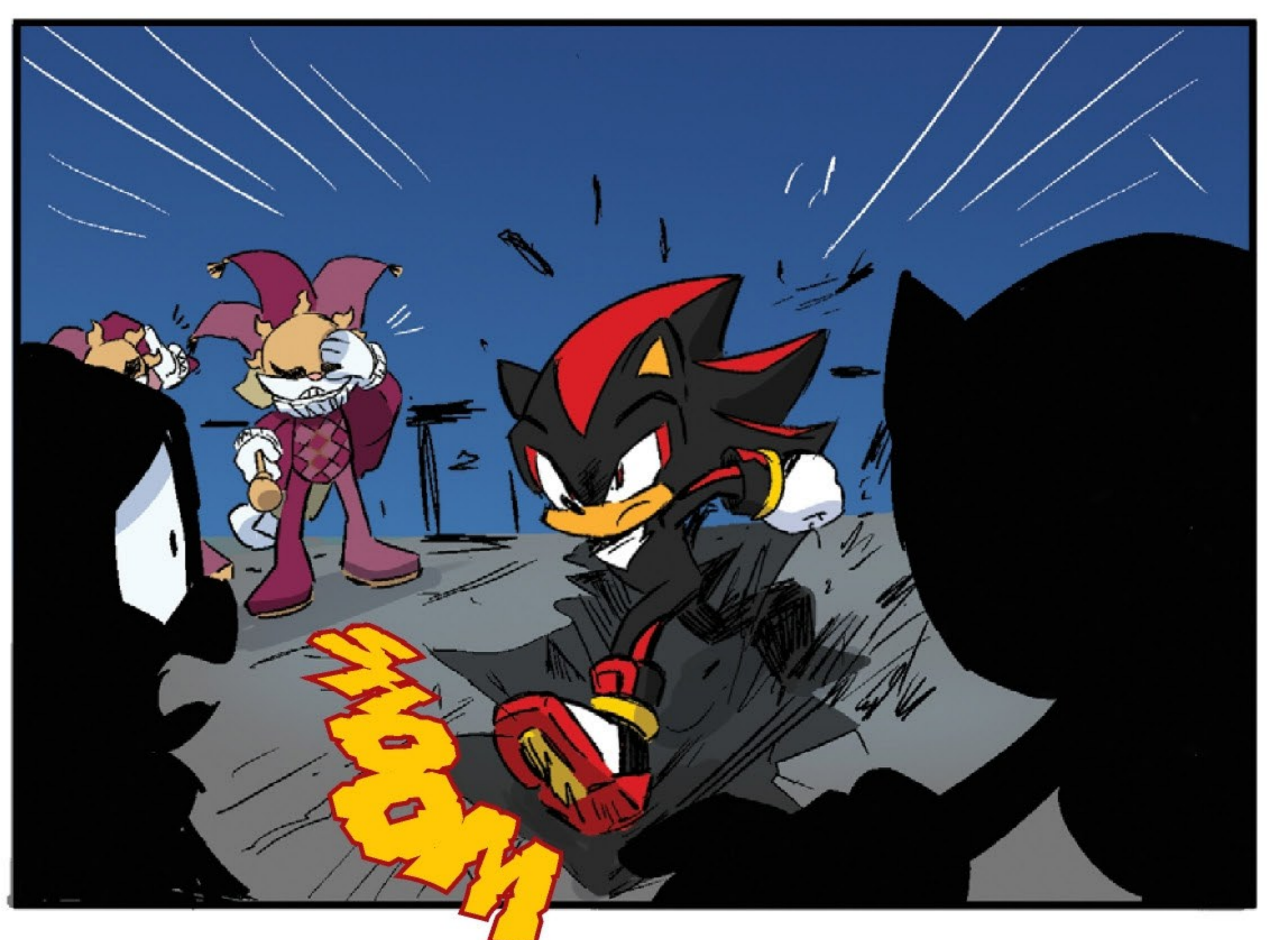
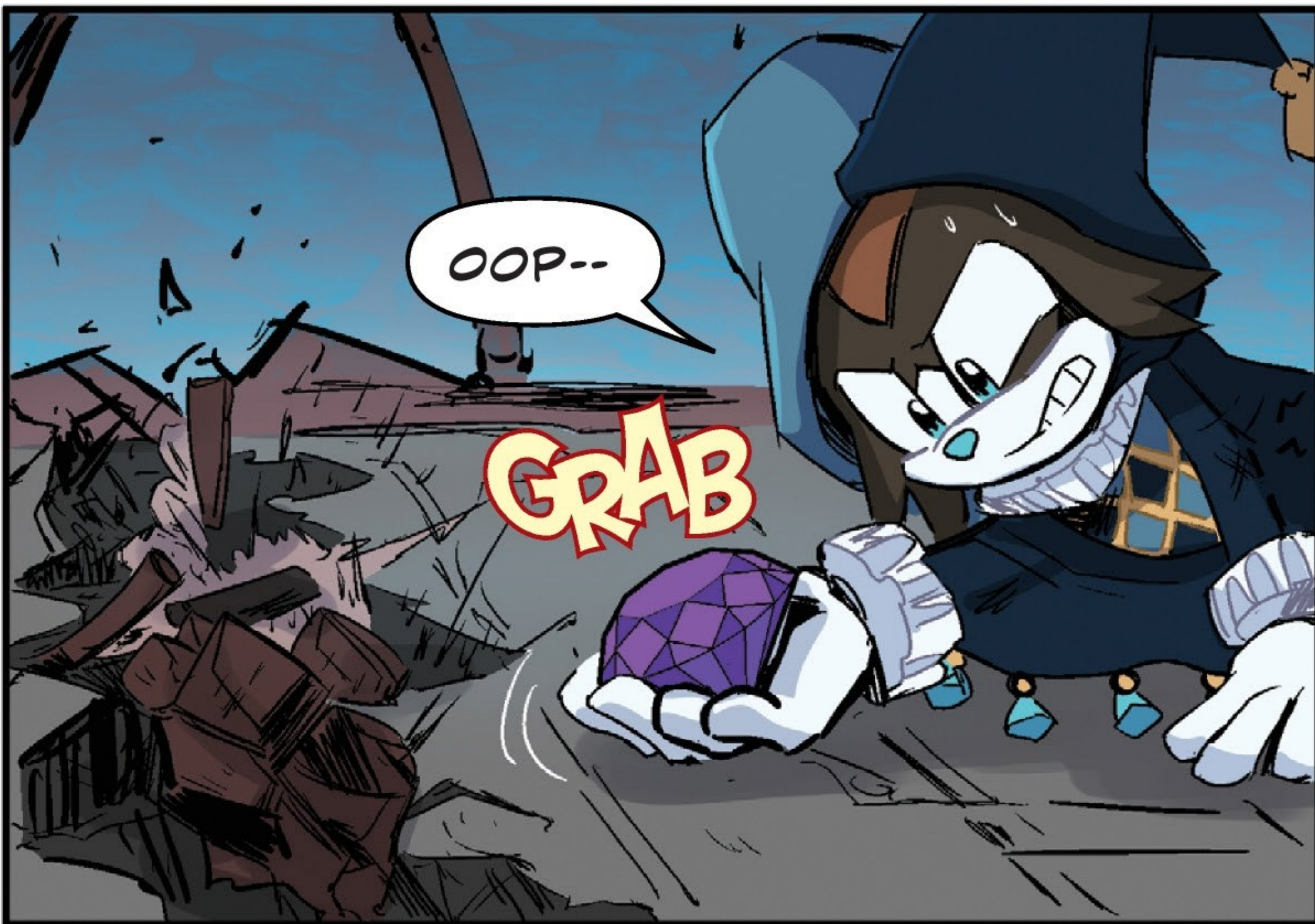
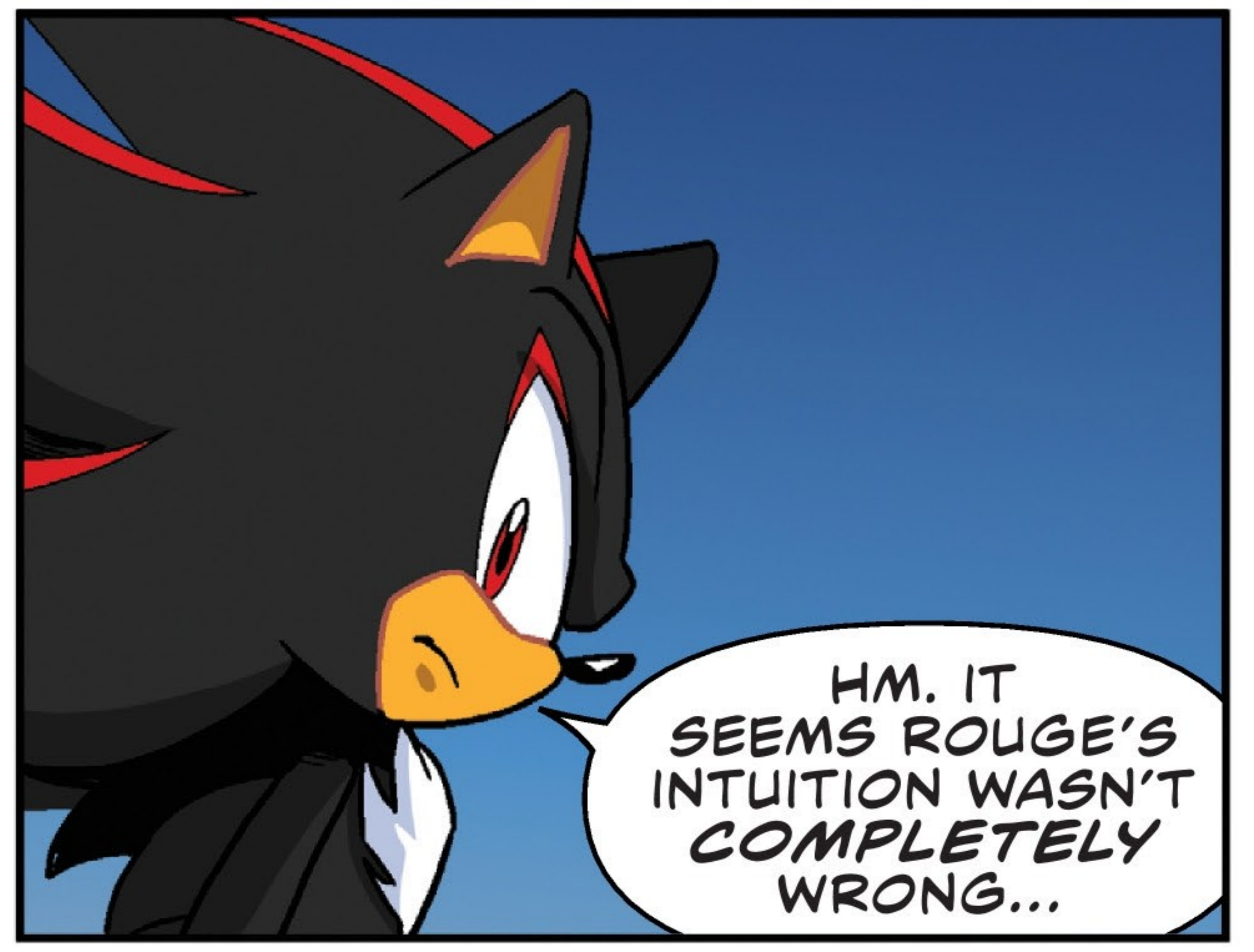
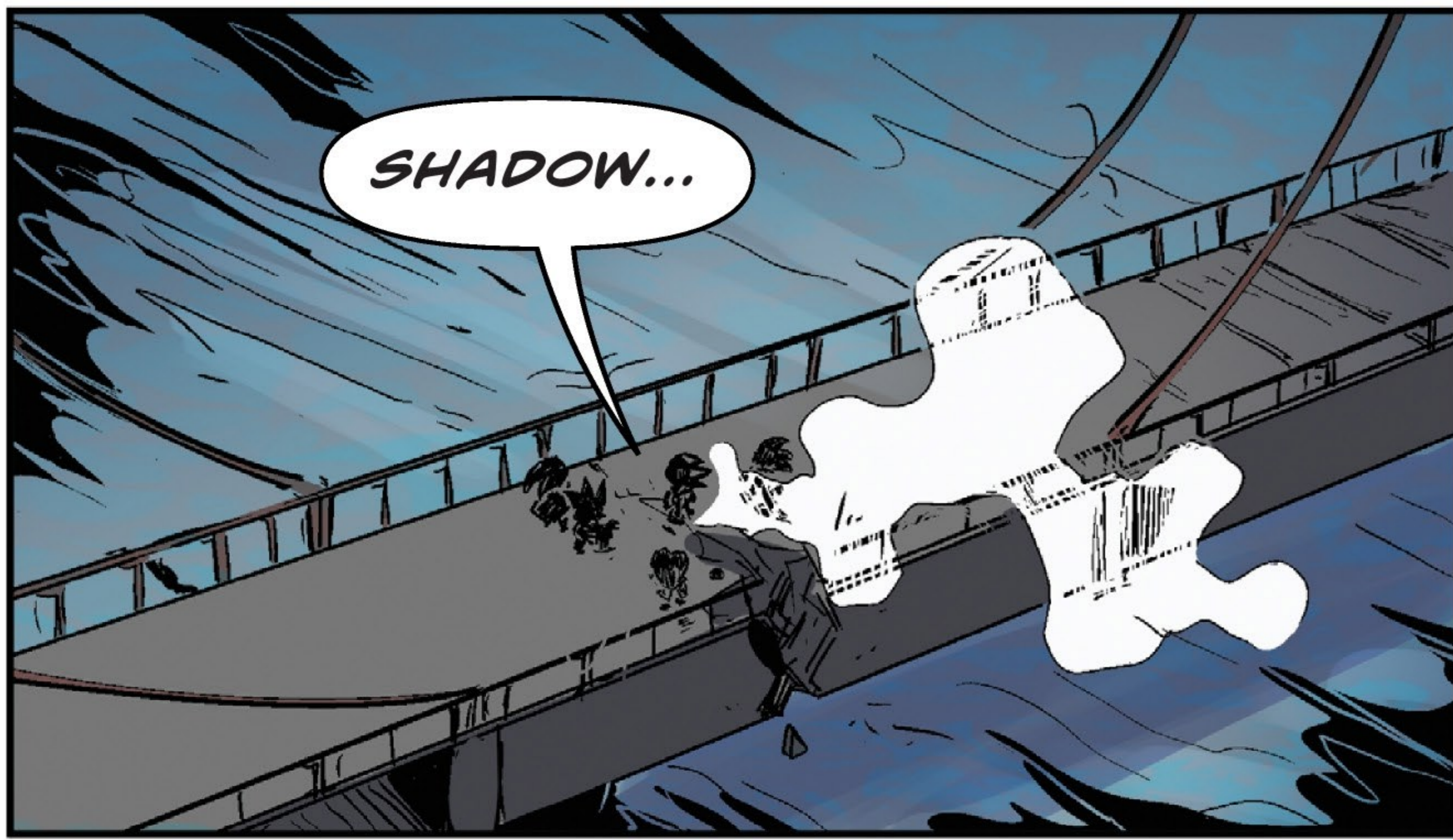
SOLEIL! AS OF THIS MOMENT...

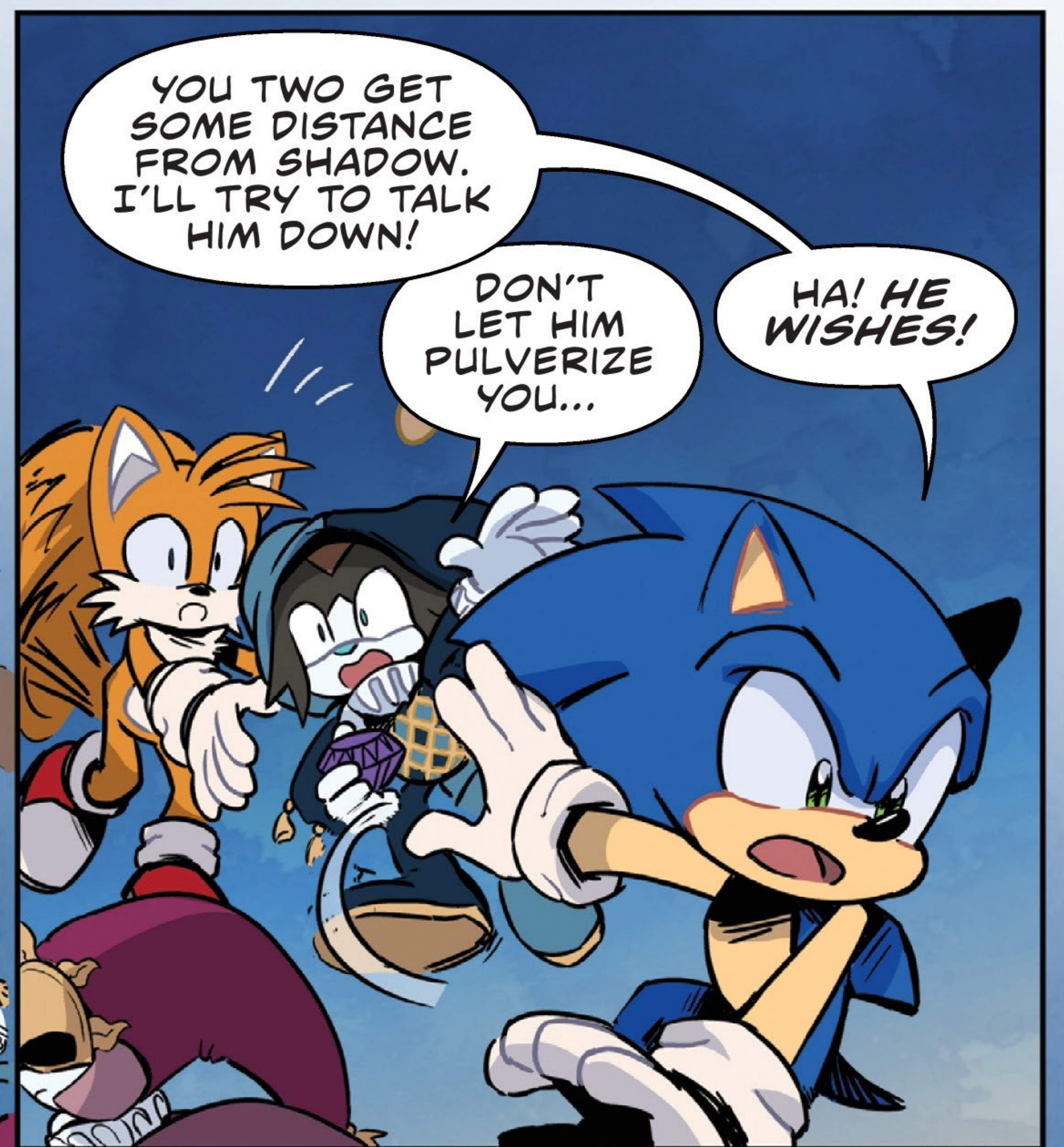
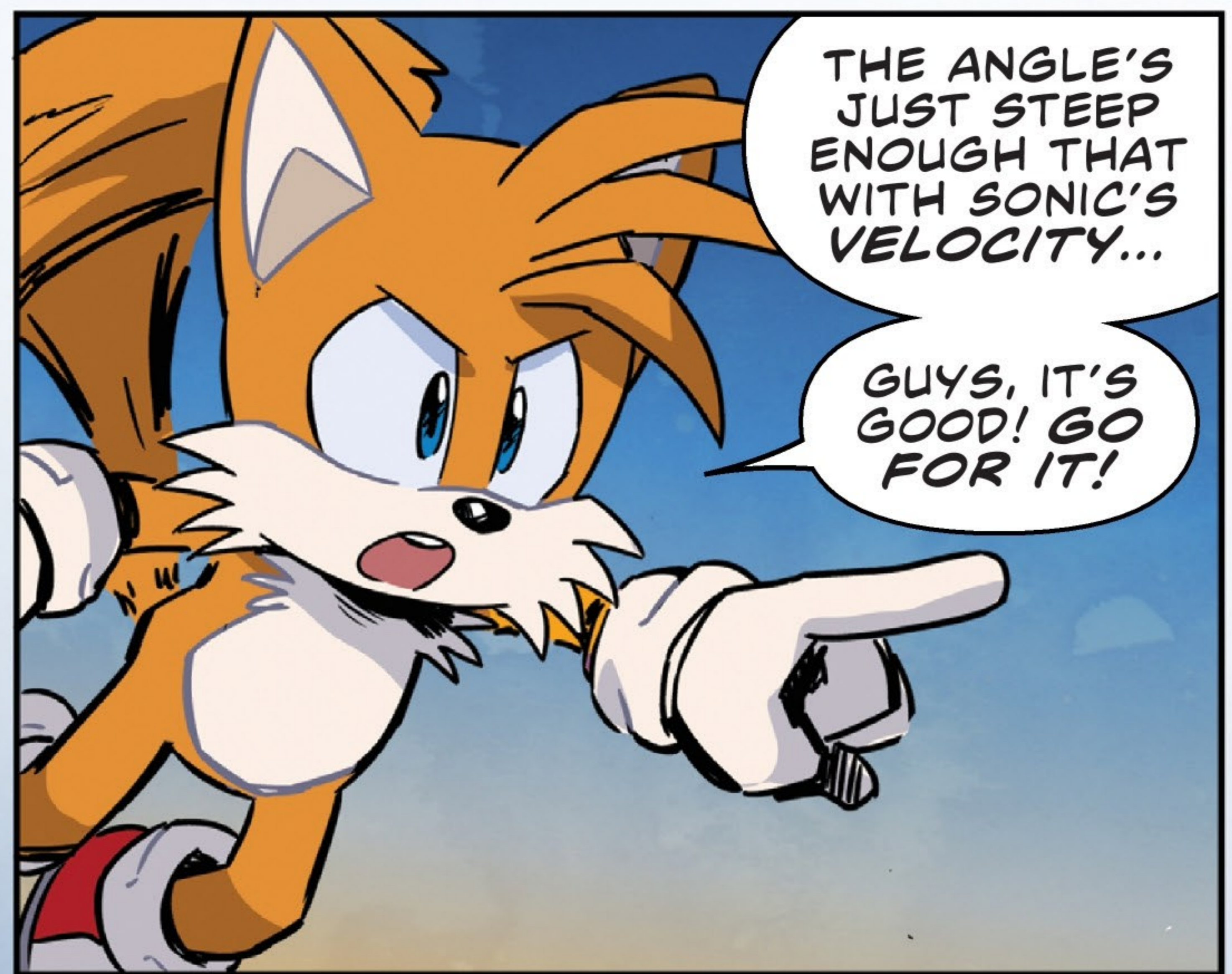
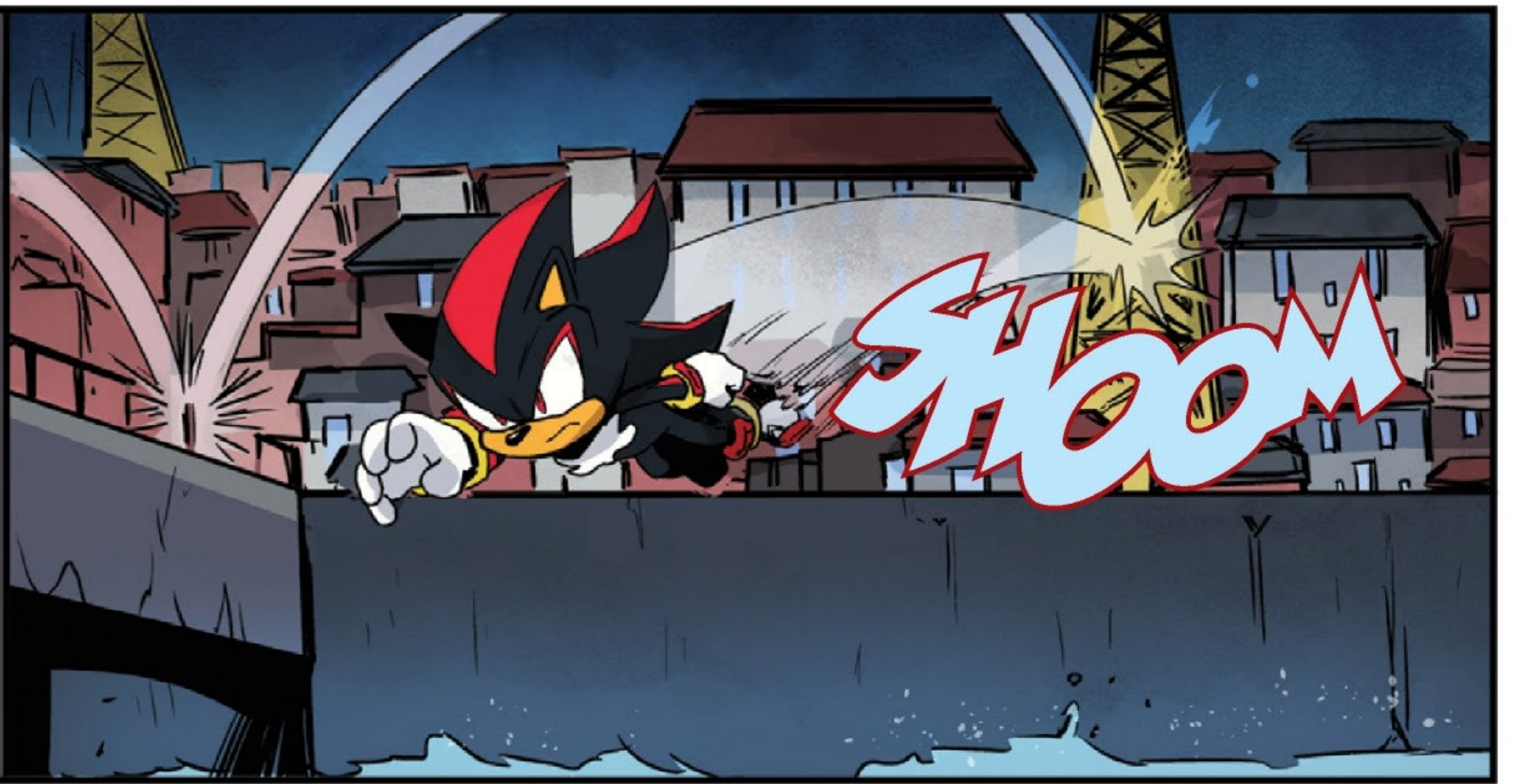
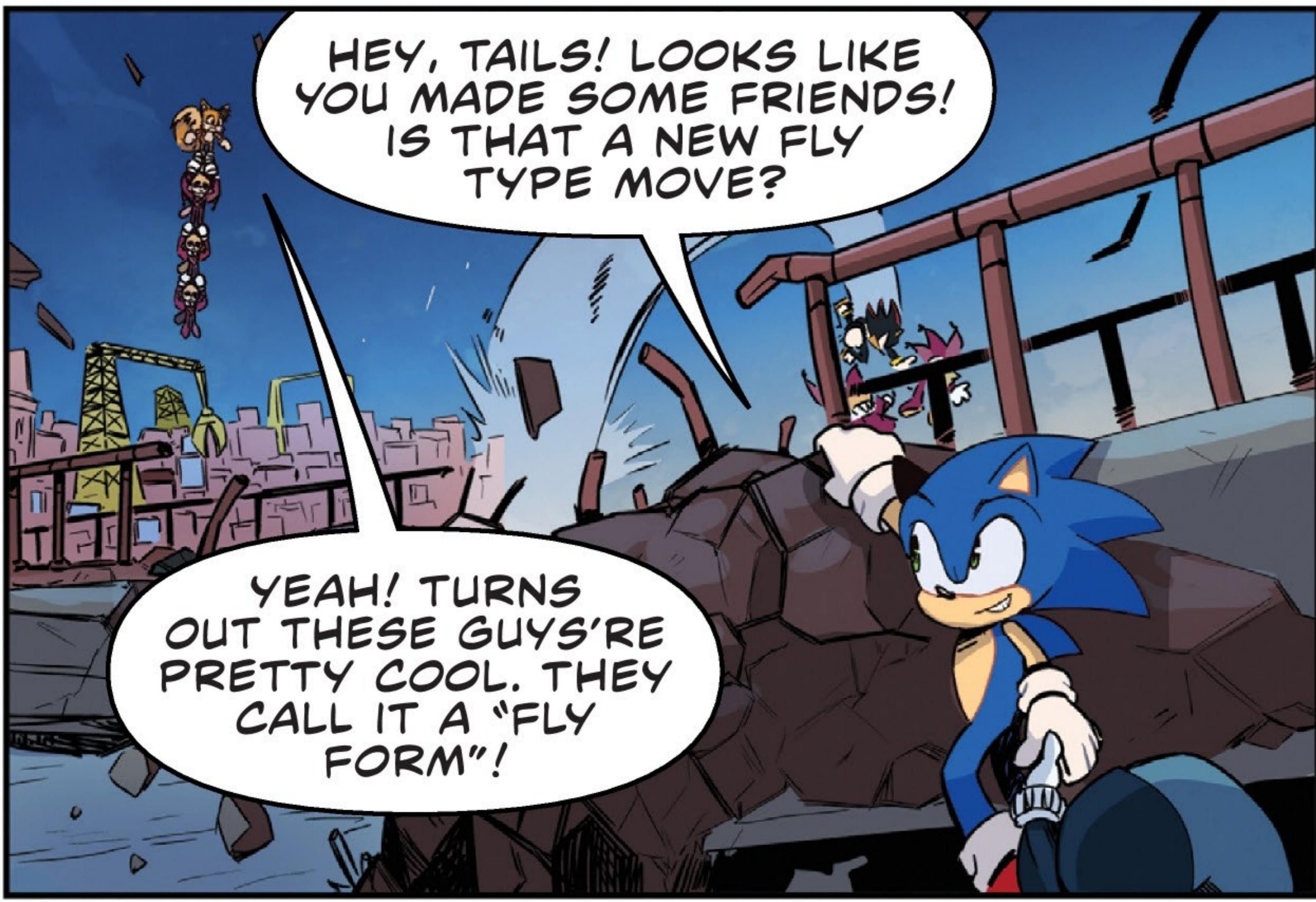
...WE'LL SUPPORT YOU WITH 110% OF OUR MIGHT!

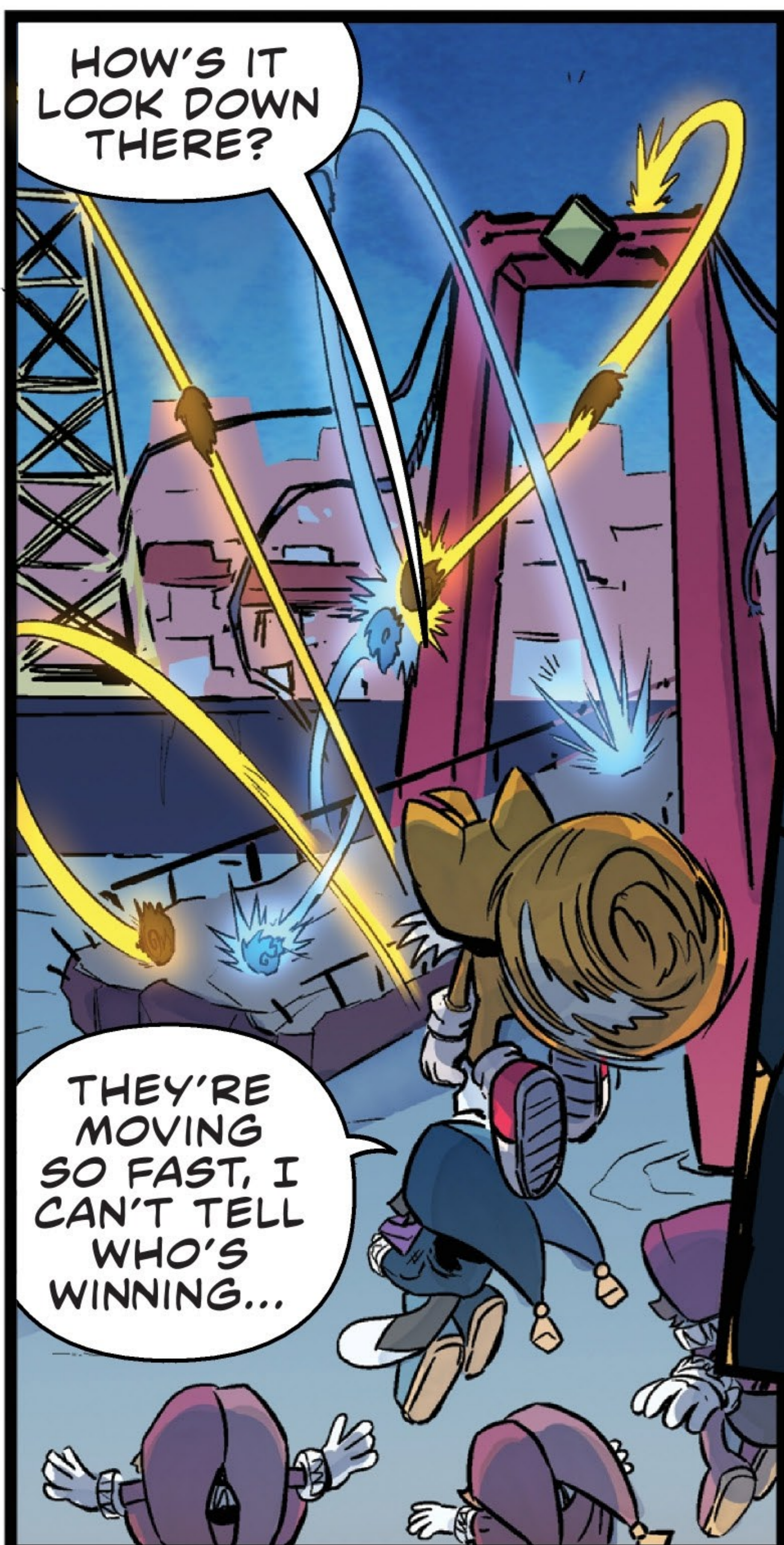
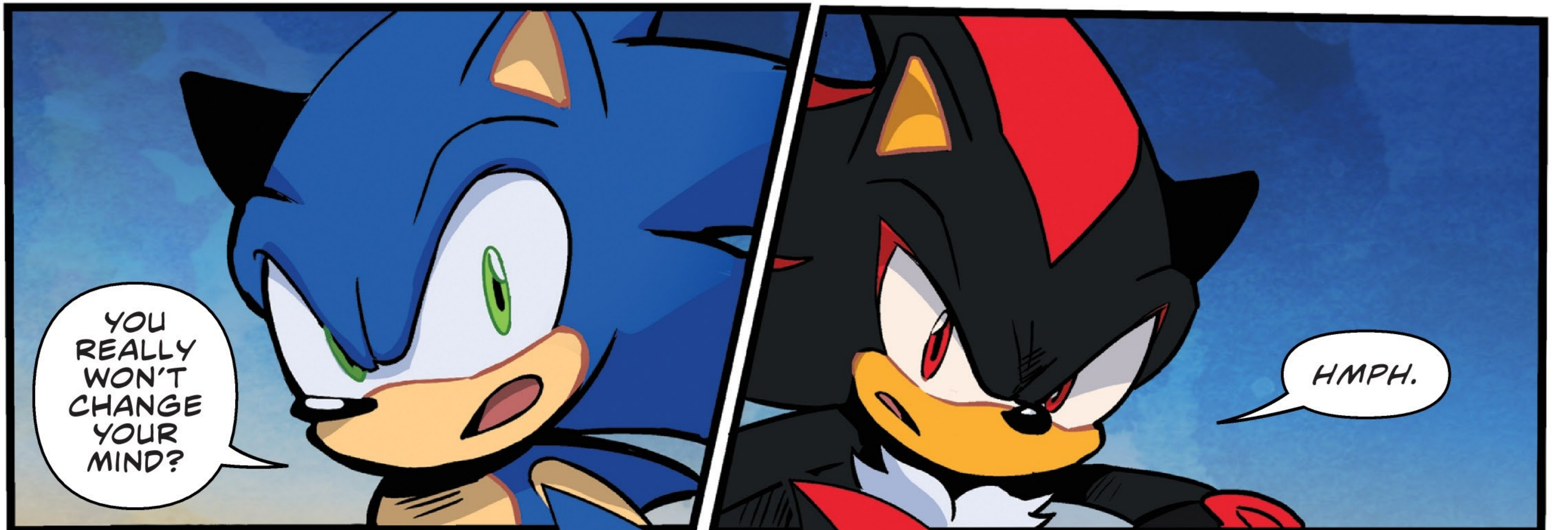
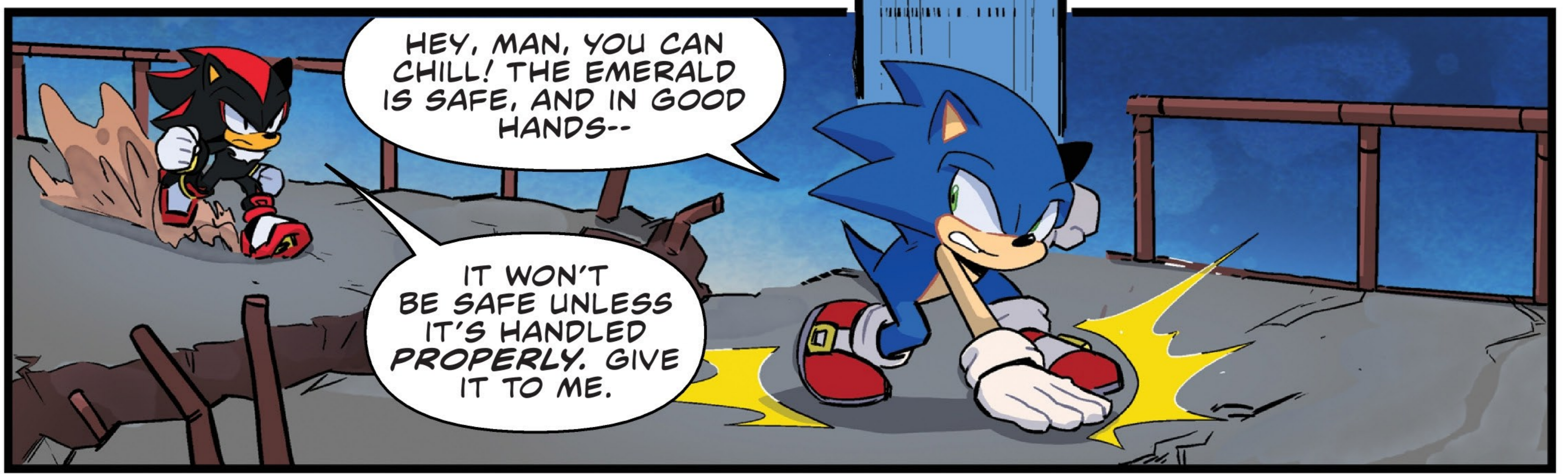
WE ♥ YOU!

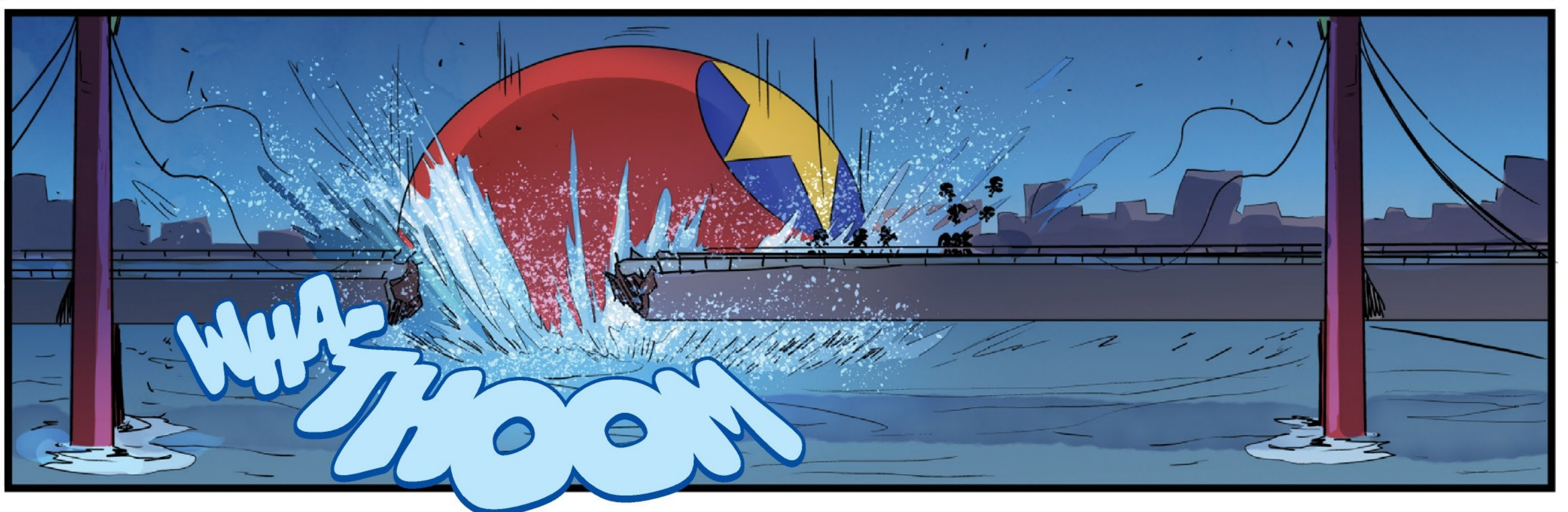
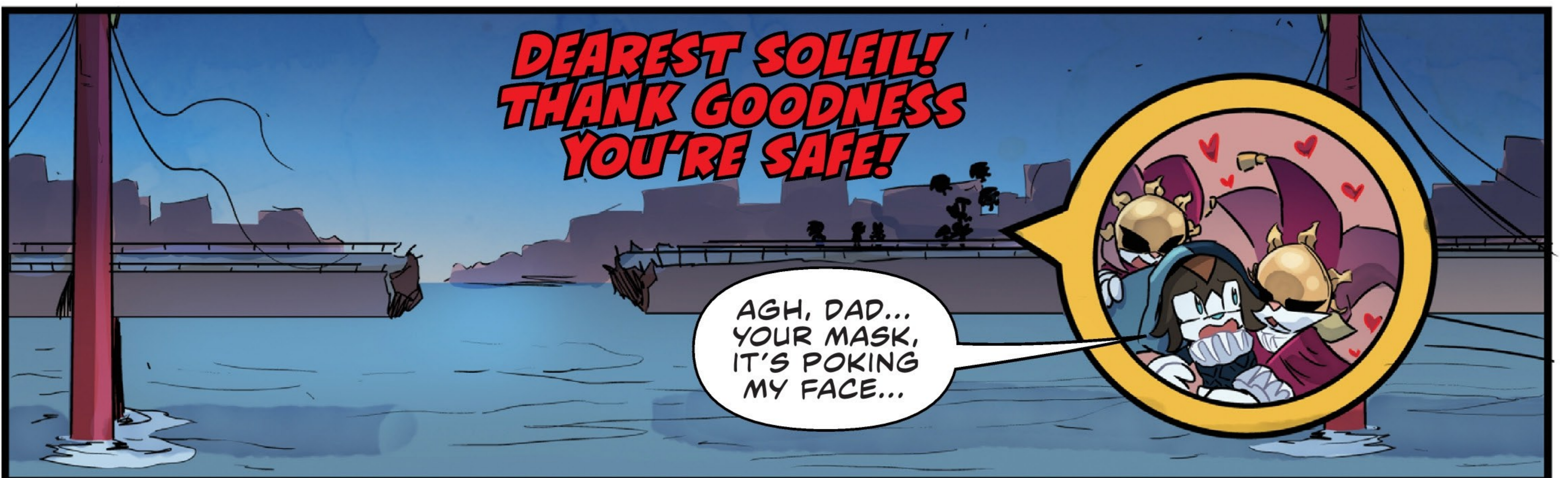
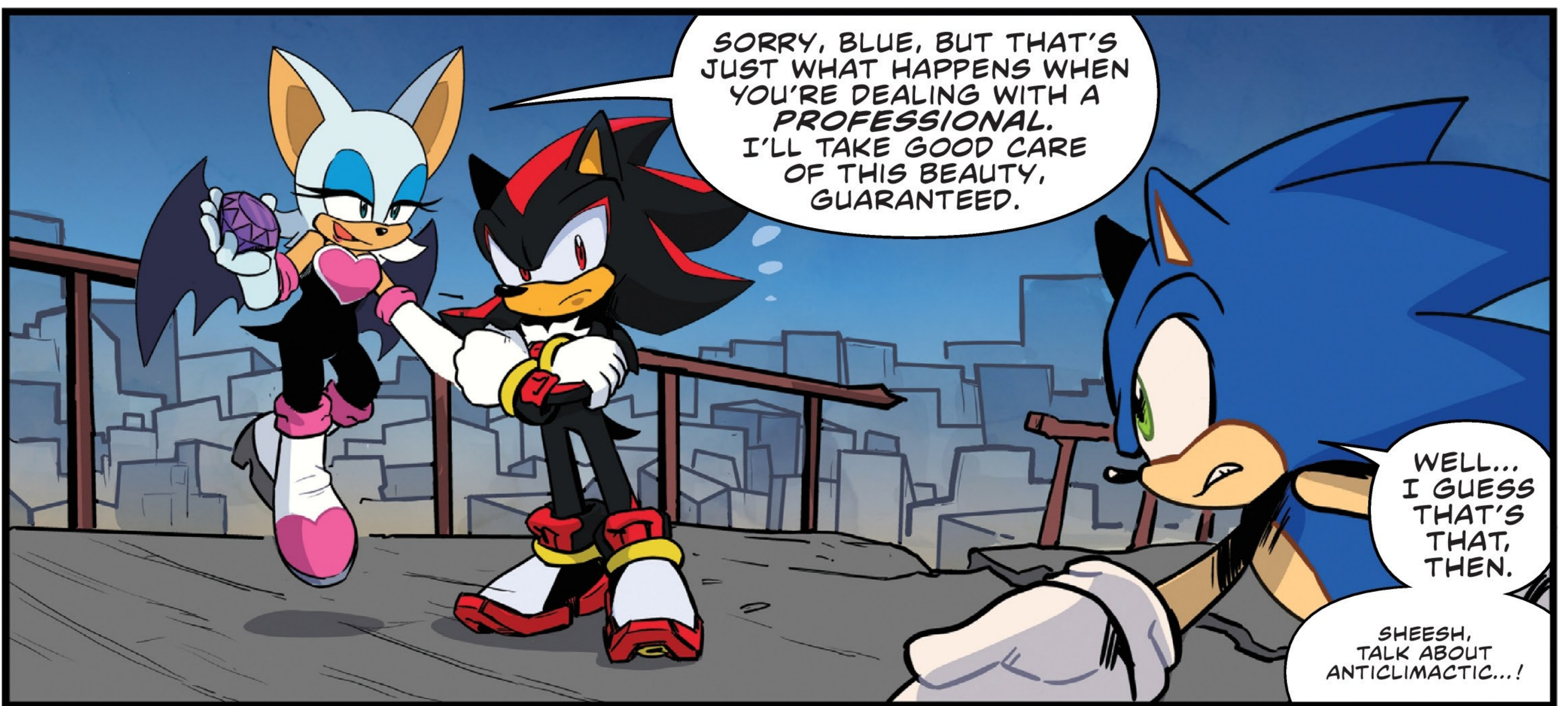
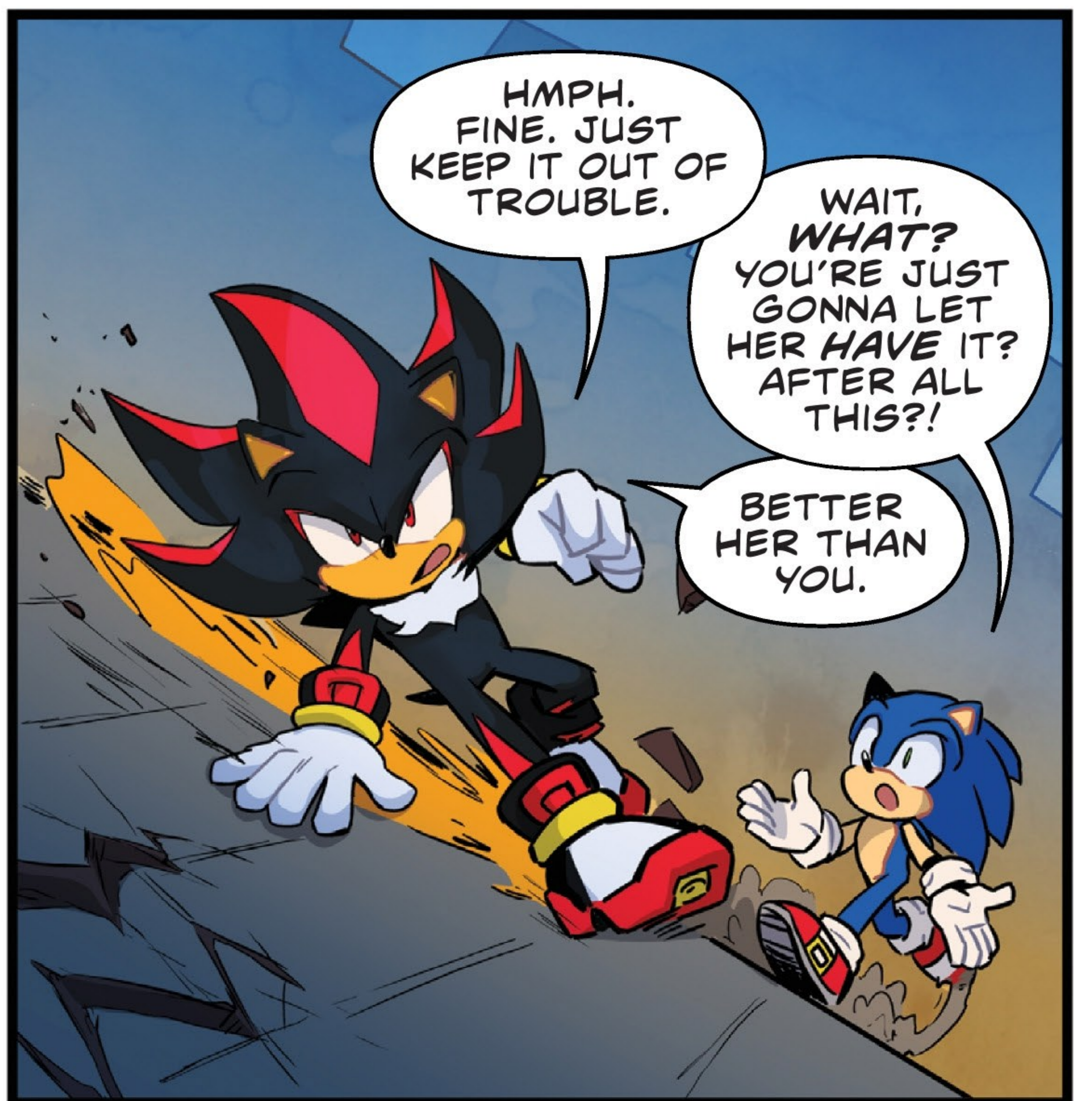










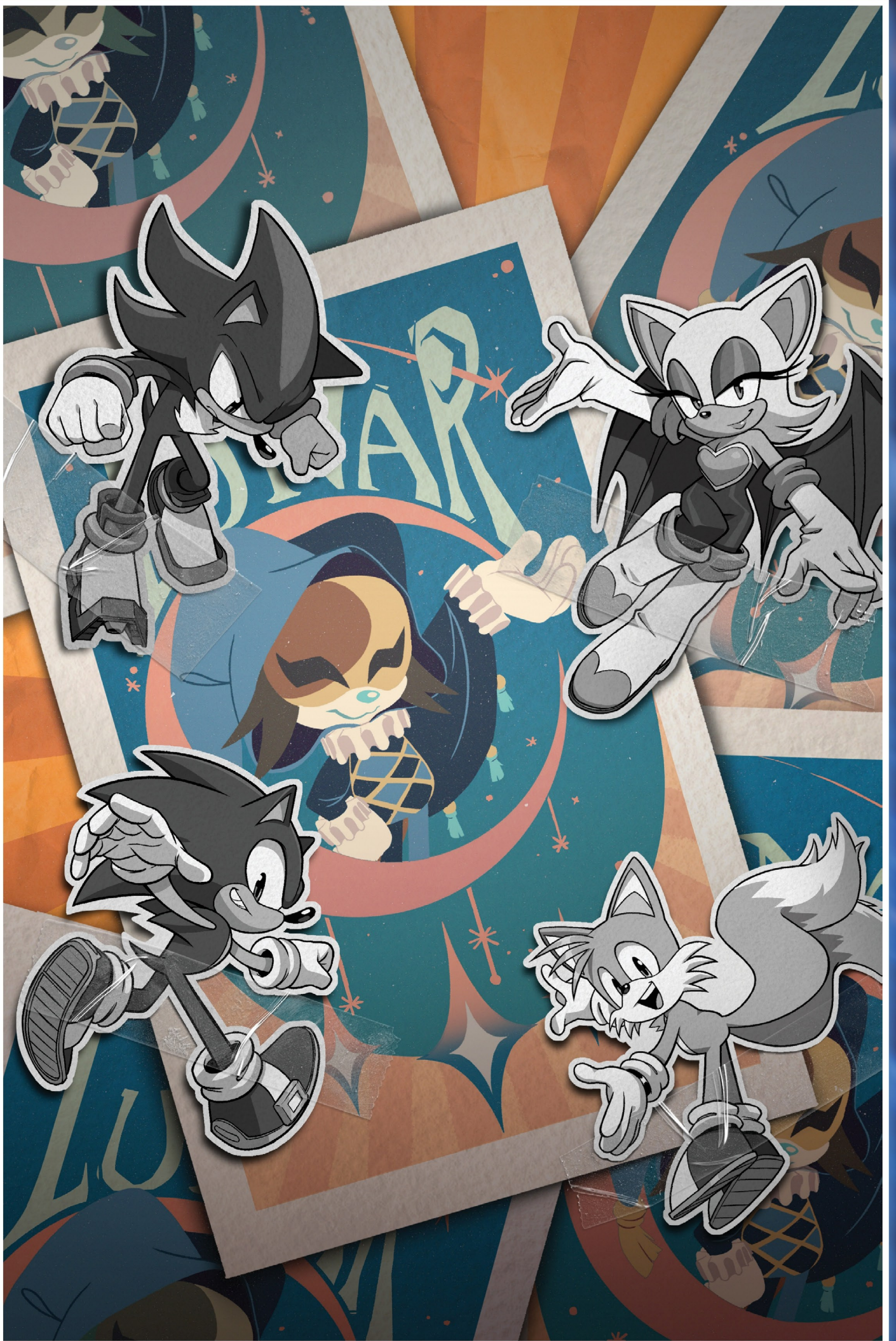




AHH... PARTY TIME.

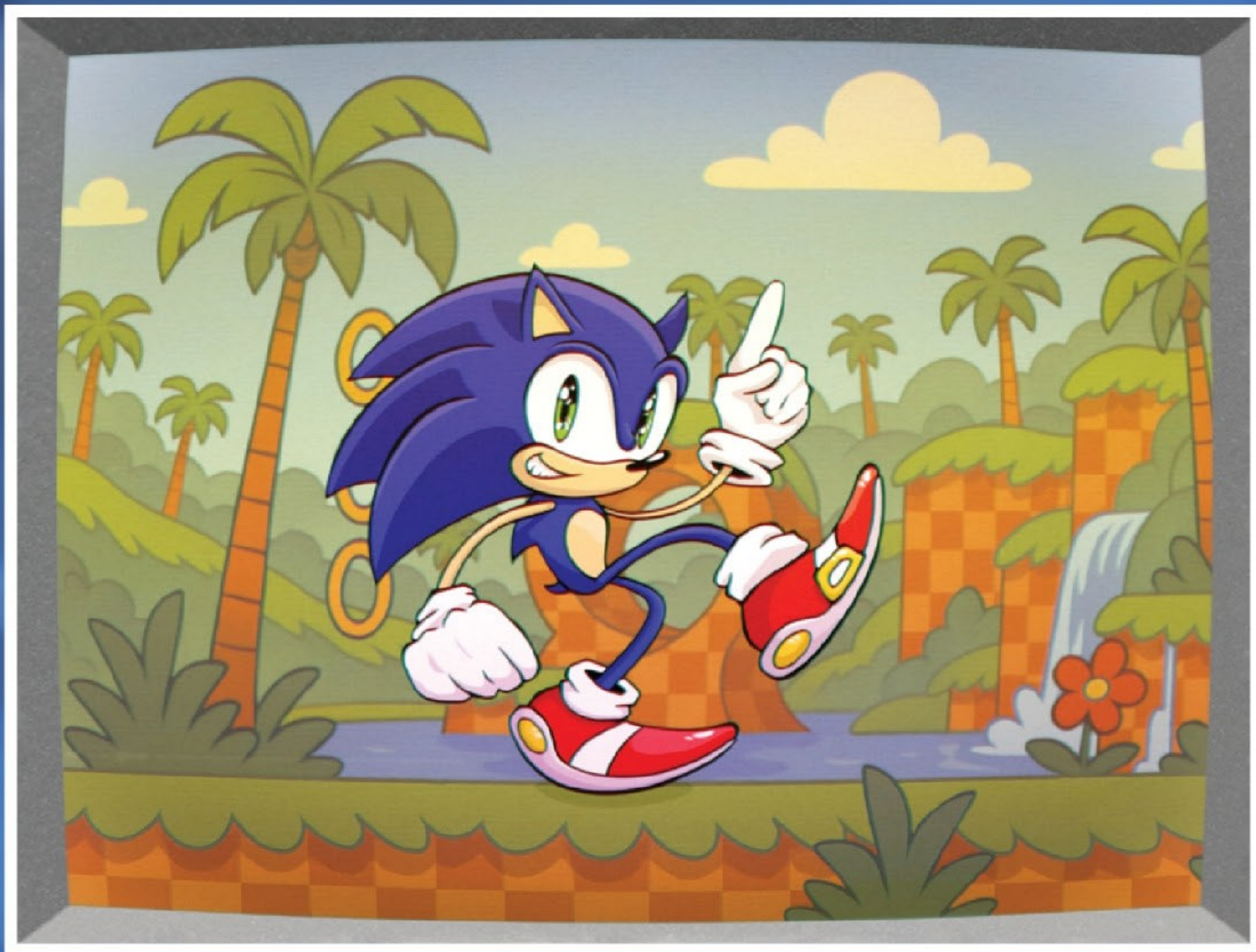
NEXT TIME:
OH NO... A PARTY.

NEXT MONTH...



SONIC LETTERS SQUAD

DOES THAT GUY EVER TAKE THE HINT? HOW DOES HE KEEP GETTING INVITED?! BEFORE SONIC AND HIS FRIENDS HAVE TO DEAL WITH EGGMAN, LET'S TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK THE TEAM WHO MADE THIS POSSIBLE—EVAN STANLEY, GIGI DUTREIX, VALENTINA PINTO, AND ED DUKESHIRE! NOW, A WORD FROM SONIC SQUAD!



ART BY BRENDON

Hey IDW Sonic crew!

After a month of serious binge reading, I'm finally all caught up! And, I've gotta say, the work you guys produce reminds me of being a kid again. The cast of characters and stories you've been able to craft are some of the most fun and interesting in the whole franchise. I've been collecting and reading Sonic comics on and off since the summer of '99, and you've got me hooked all over again!

I was never able to get my fan art published back then, but I figured I should try again for old time's sake. Thank you all for the effort and love you put into each issue! It really shows!

Warm wishes and warmer chili dogs,
Brendon

That honestly means the whole world to us! Some of us on editorial have experienced the same thing! There's something so infectiously fun about this cast of characters, and we really can't say enough how excellent our troupe of creators are! From the writers to the artists to the letterers to (hopefully) us editors, everyone does their part to bring everything to life! Thank you so much for the kind words and the excellent fan art!



ART BY NATY AJ

Hello to everyone in the Sonic IDW team! I really wanted to share this artwork I made with you guys! I love your work immensely, and it truly inspires me to continue drawing. I've always loved Sonic the Hedgehog and all the characters in the franchise, so I tried to include as many as possible in my illustration and had a lot of fun making it. Thank you for all your work!
Naty AJ A.K.A. Sailor Shark

What an incredible piece of art! You've captured such a joyous energy and really packed everyone in there! We even spy a few characters that will be making an appearance in some upcoming issues! We'll have to keep an eye on that...

Hey there! I'm Jay and I'm 15 years old! I've been a Sonic fan for about 2 years now. I take so much inspiration from everyone who works on these stories, and they give me so much motivation for projects! In fact, a far-fetched dream of mine is to maybe one day be one of the artists working on these comics, it just sounds like it would be such an amazing opportunity! Anyway, I'm loving the new story so far, and I can't wait to see where it goes. I thought I'd make some art for the newest issue! I hope you all like it!

—Jay

Yes! It's so fun to see everyone in costume—excellent work! Honestly, keep working toward your dream! It's an important time to create art, and who knows? You could be on our staff one day!



ART BY JAY



ART BY OPHIR

SONIC SQUAD, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR EVERYTHING! 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, FORMER FOES WORK TO DEAL WITH AN UNWELCOME PARTY GUEST... LEARN WHAT THAT'S ALL ABOUT IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #83!



ART BY MILES ARQ



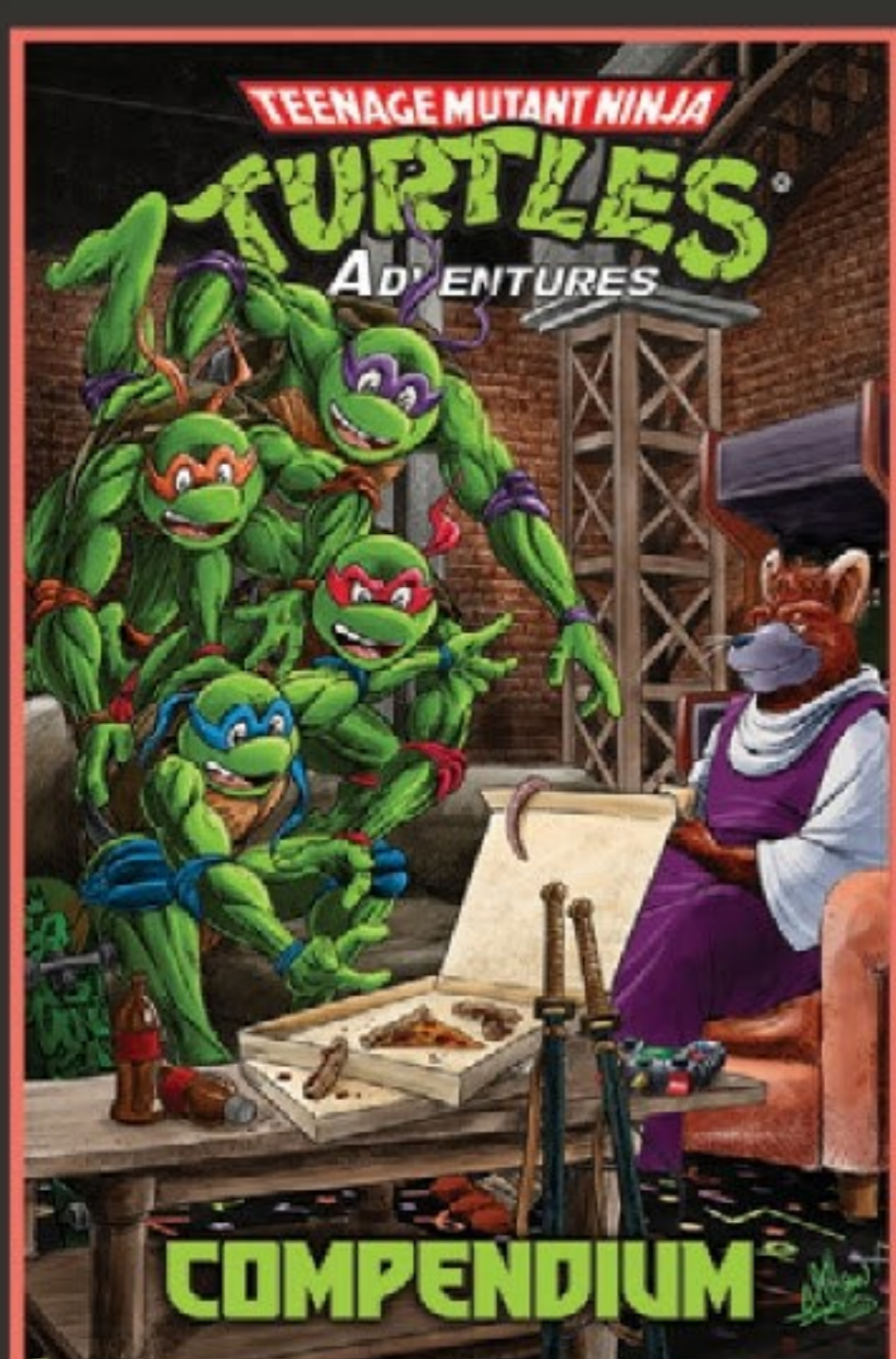
ART BY NATALIE HAINES



ART BY NATHALIE FOURDRAINE



HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



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Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Vol. 1: Return to New York + DTC Folio Edition

Classic Turtles reimagined. Essential reading for any TMNT fan.



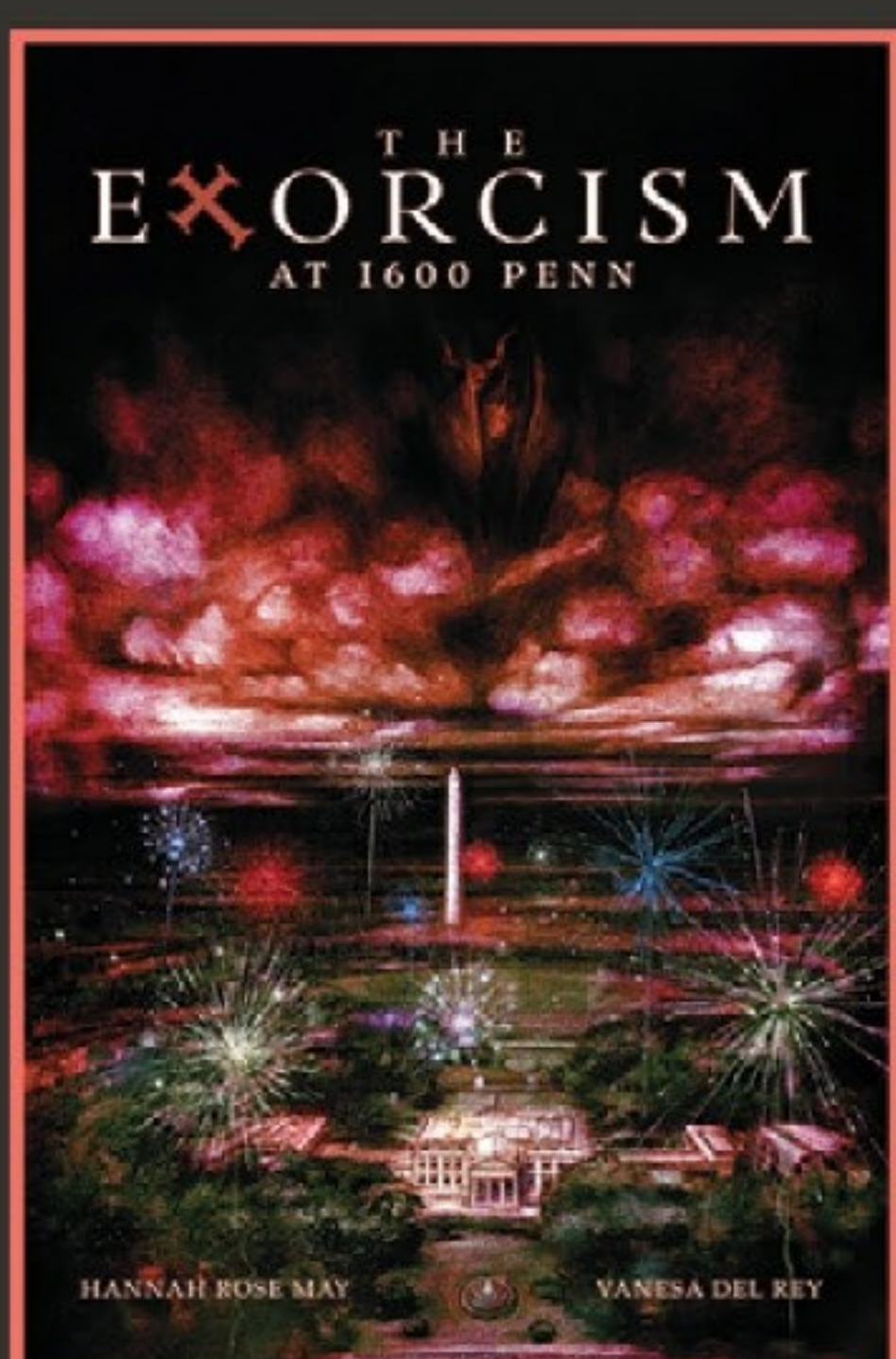
Paul Smith's Uncanny X-Men Artist's Edition

A museum-quality masterpiece for the comics art connoisseur.



Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles x Naruto

Two worlds collide in a once-in-a-lifetime crossover your anime or comics fan will never forget.



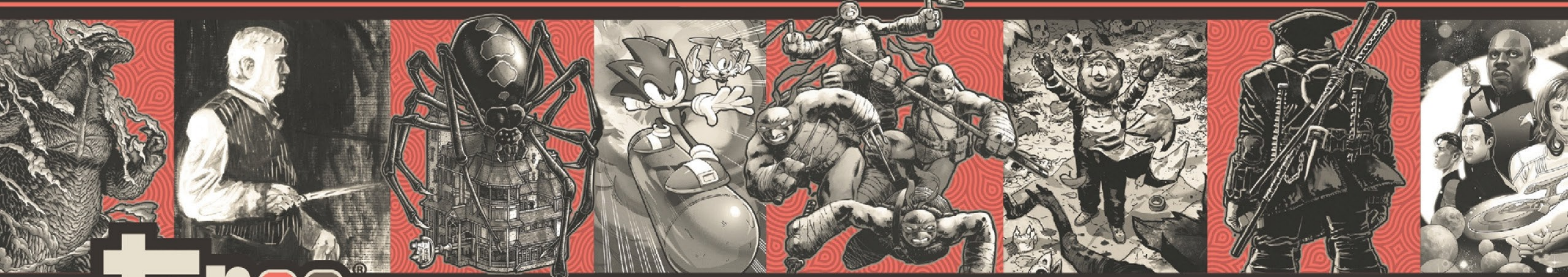
The Exorcism at 1600 Penn

A supernatural political thriller! Perfect for the horror reader who loves a twist of satire.



Sonic the Hedgehog: On The Go, Vol. 1

Fast-paced fun for gamers and readers who can't get enough of the Blue Blur.



Top Shelf
PRODUCTIONS

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

The Well by Jon Allen

Cute characters, quarter-life crises, chemical supplements, and corporate catastrophes...a must-read!

Spoons: The Little Spirits of Halloween by AJ LoCascio and Laurie A. Conley

A whimsical treat for the Halloween lover who keeps spooky season alive all year.

The Land Of Unfinished Dreams by Marco Ventura and Marco Ferraris

A fantastic tale of a grandfather waking up in the bedtime story he tells his grandkids.

It Rhymes With Takei by George Takei, Harmony Becker, Steven Scott, and Justin Eisinger

An inspiring, heartfelt gift from a living legend. Equal parts humor, history, and hope.

Ionheart by Lukas Kummer

This head-spinning, time-bending graphic novel is a nuclear fusion of fantasy and science fiction.

Low Orbit by Kazimir Lee

An atmospheric and profound coming-of-age graphic novel about a teen carving out her own identity.

Love Languages by James Albon

A tender, artful exploration of human connection. Ideal for the romantic on your list.

More Weight: A Salem Story by Ben Wickey

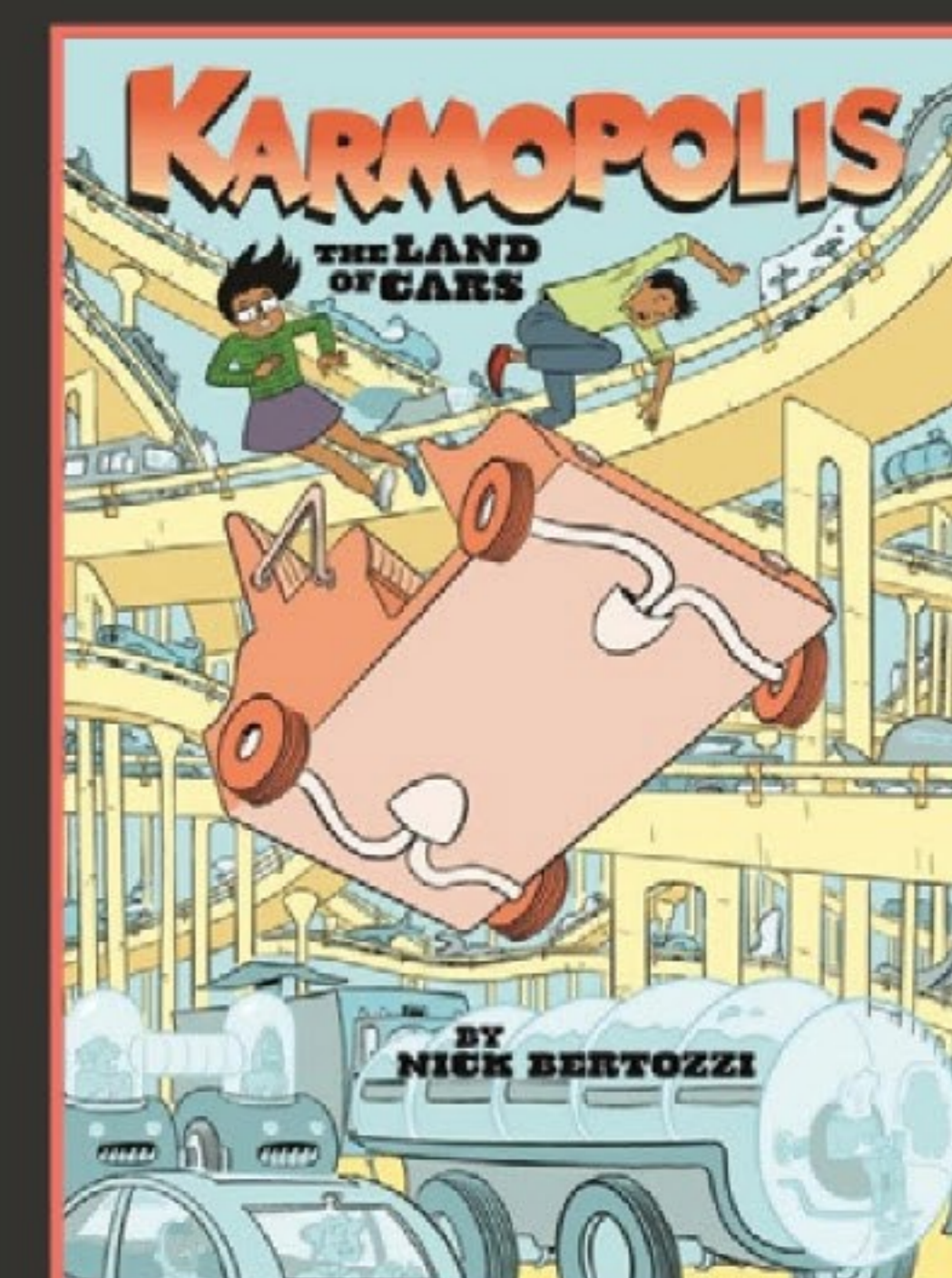
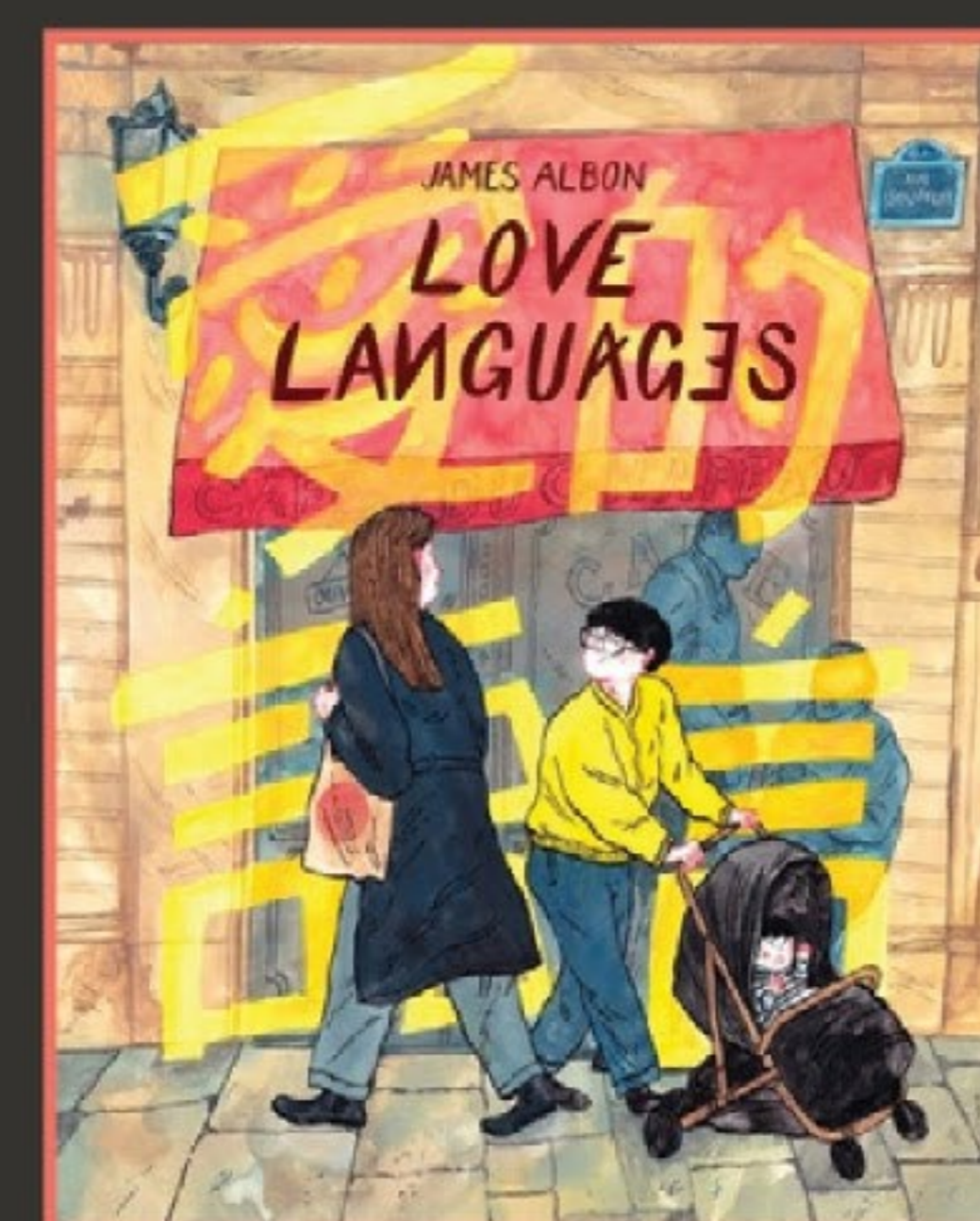
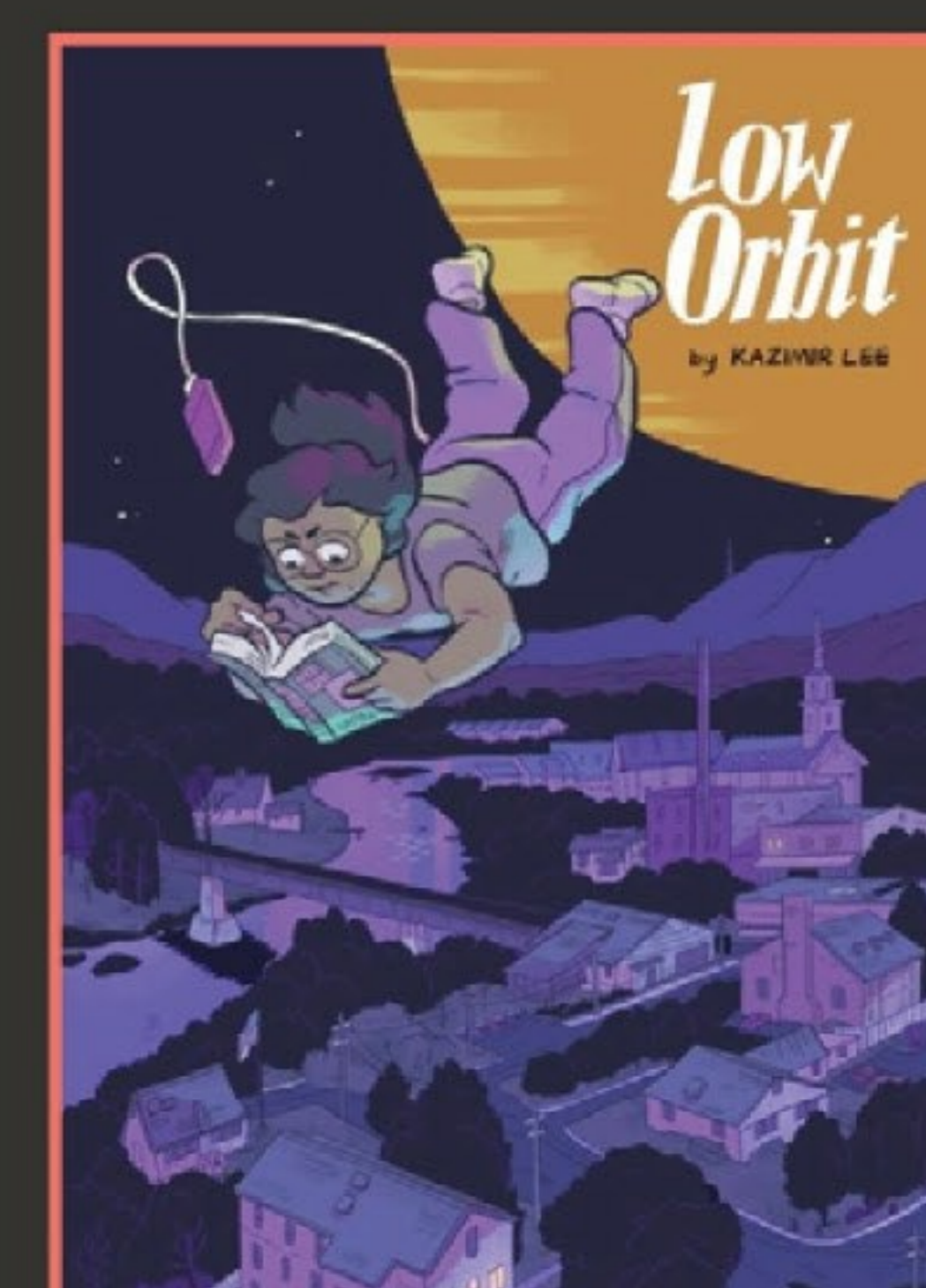
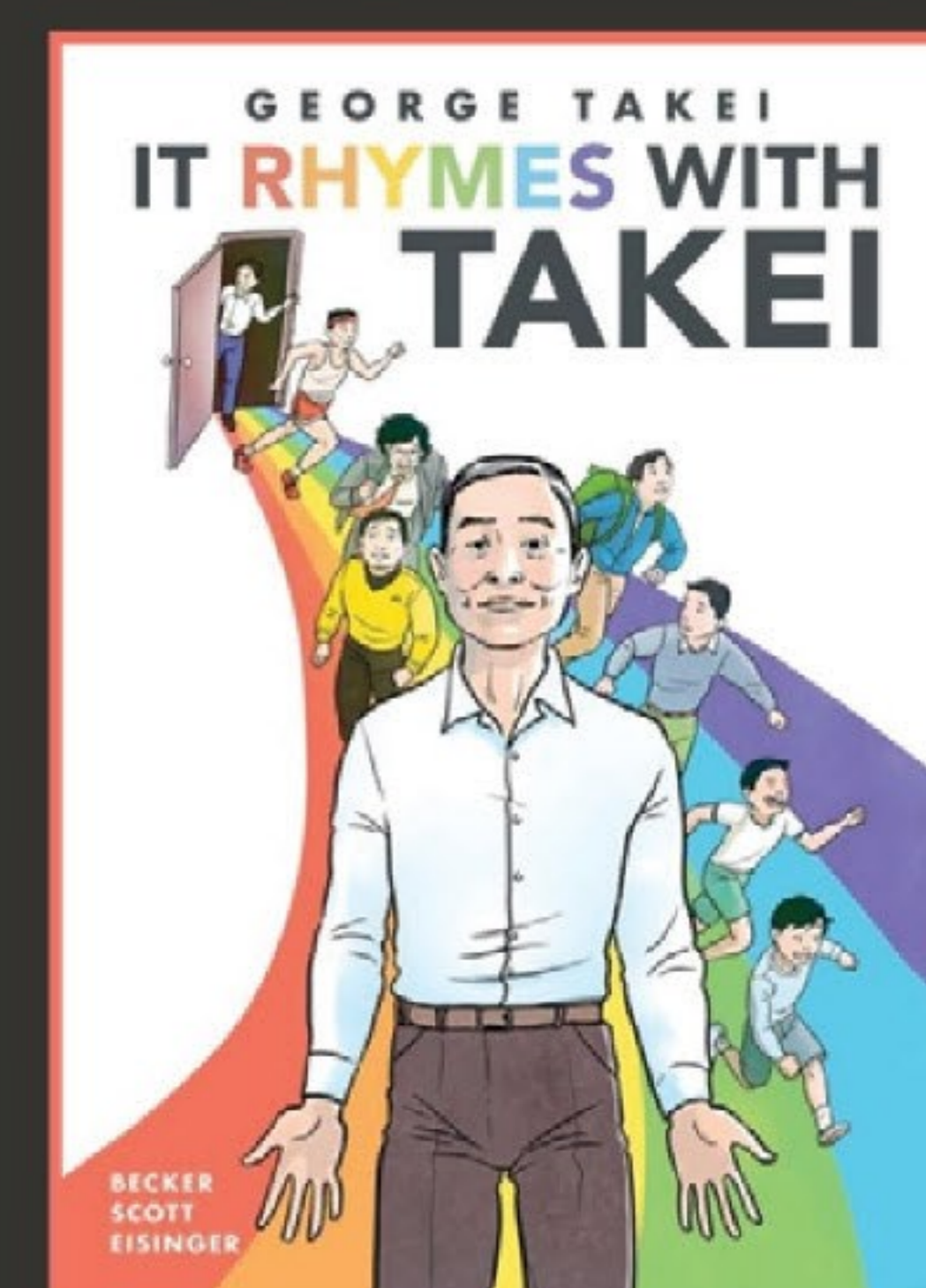
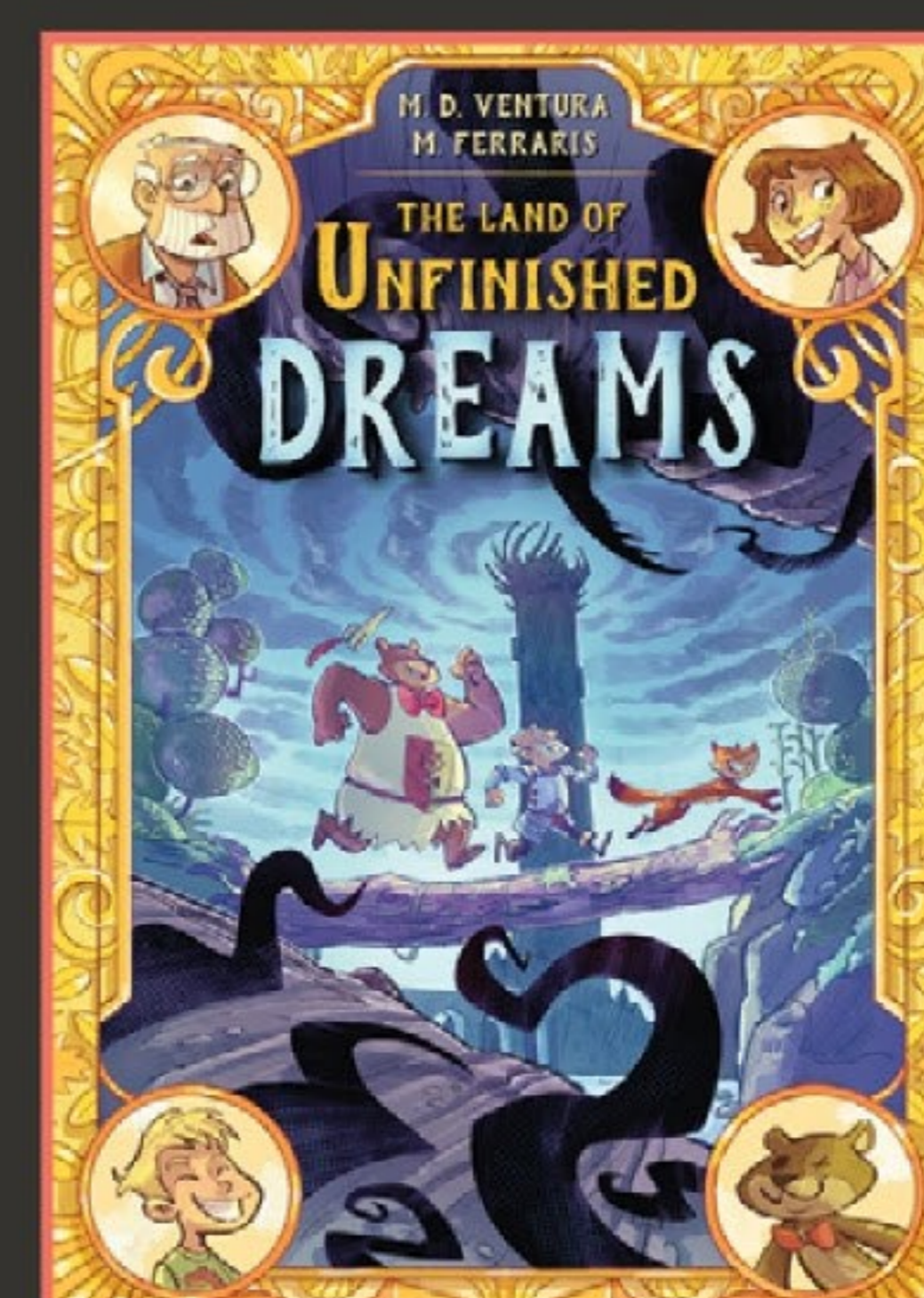
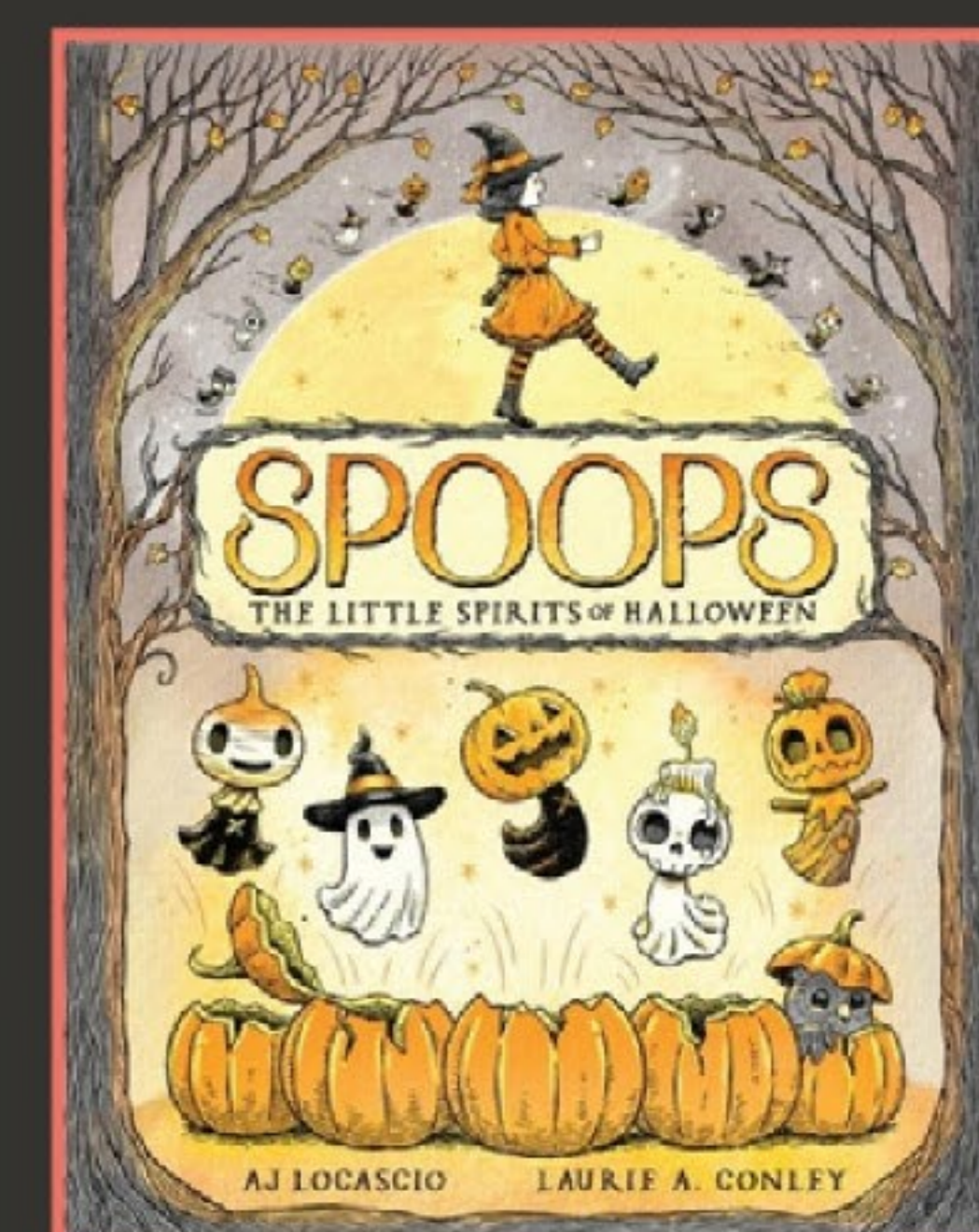
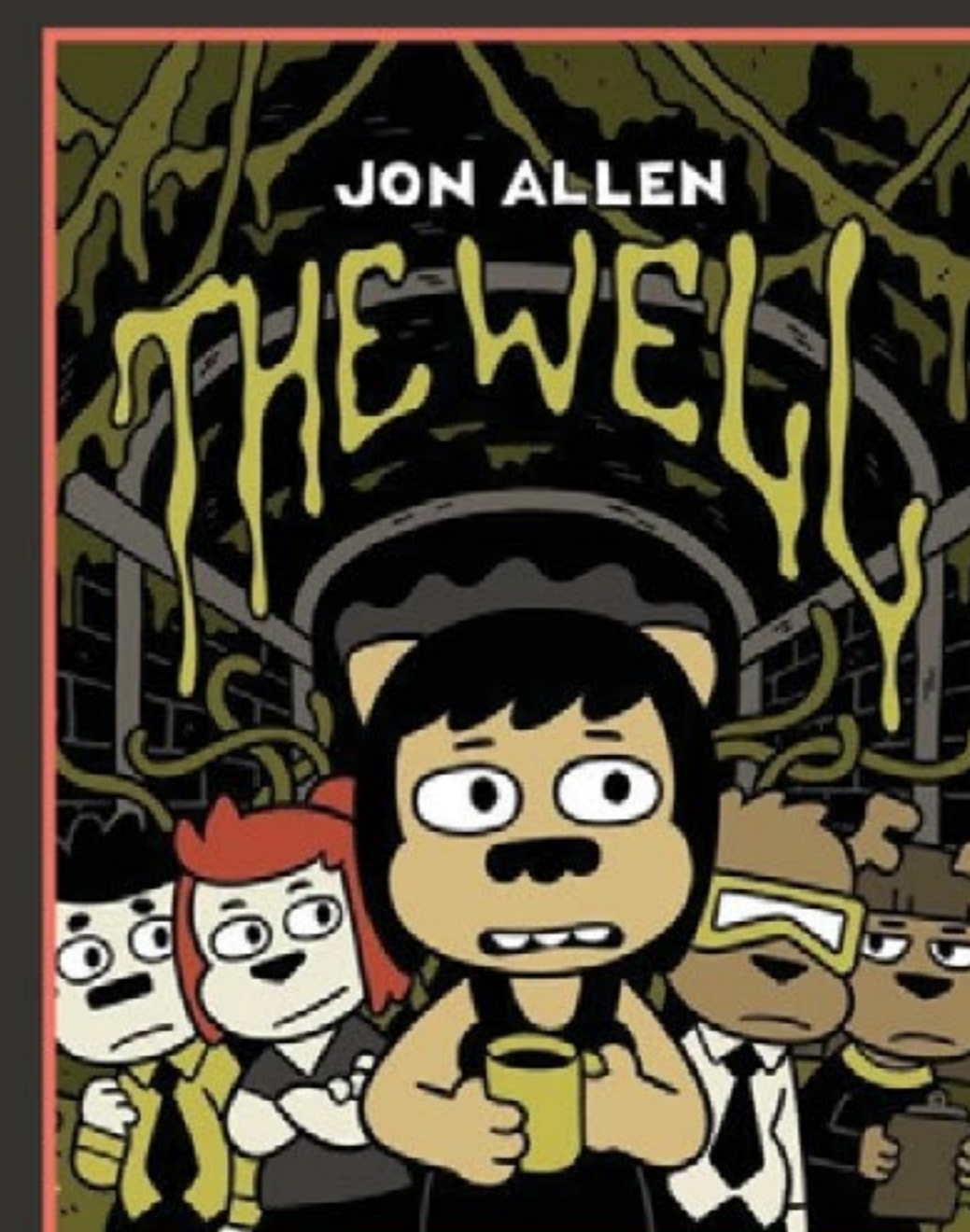
A haunting, cinematic retelling of the Salem witch trials. Perfect for history buffs and horror fans.

Dreamover by Dani Diaz

The surreal adventure of two high school freshmen, crossing the blurry borders between friendship and something more.

Karmopolis: The Land of Cars by Nick Bertozzi

Originally featured in Nickelodeon Magazine, this nutty graphic novel offers nonstop excitement, set in a fast-paced future where two kids are the stars.





SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

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