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RACHEL SMYTHE

LORE OLYMPUS

VOLUME FIVE



LORE
OLYMPUS

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RACHEL SMYTHE

LAYOUTS BY
EDWIN VAZQUEZ



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To Persephone

CONTENT WARNING
FROM RACHEL SMYTHE



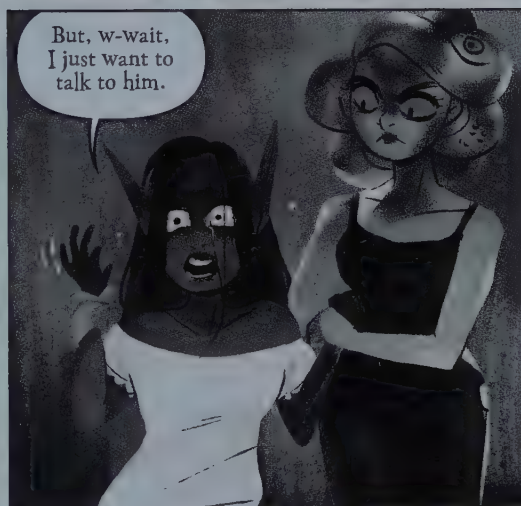
Lore Olympus regularly deals with themes of physical and mental abuse, sexual trauma, and toxic relationships.

Some of the interactions in this volume may be distressing for some readers. Please exercise discretion, and seek out the support of others if you require it.

PREVIOUSLY ON LORE OLYMPUS

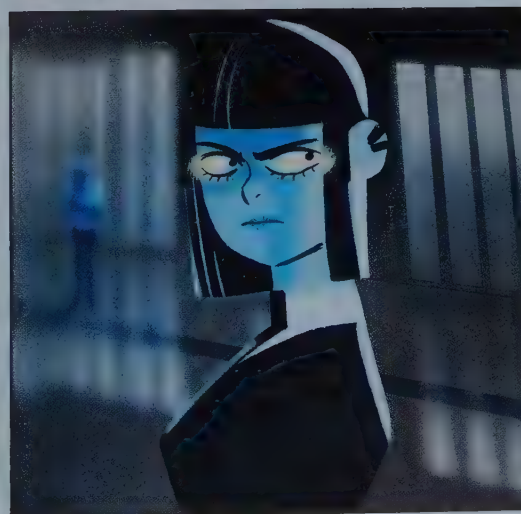


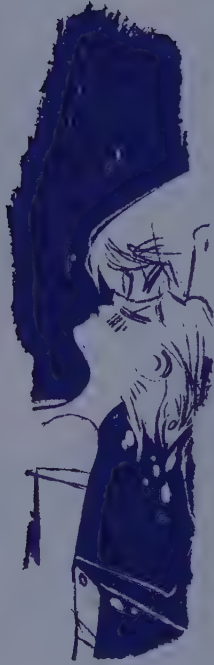
You're suspended until further notice.



I need--I need to apologize.


Not today.





EPISODE 103: MELTDOWN

I'm really mad at you.



Are you going to fire me?

...

I don't know yet.

It depends on how
Hades wants to handle it.

But for now, you're suspended
and we'll contact you in a few days.



...

What happened, Minthe?

You know what happened.
You were there, you saw it.

I saw, but I don't
understand why you did it.

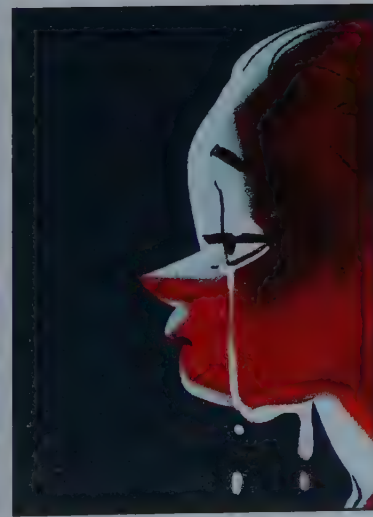
You know that's not okay, right--?



Of course I know that!



If I knew why I acted that way,
we wouldn't be here.





You'll work it out, you always do.



Come on now--chin up. If you cry too much, you'll get wrinkles.

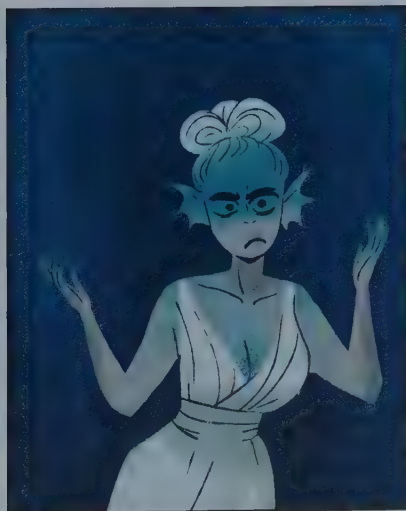


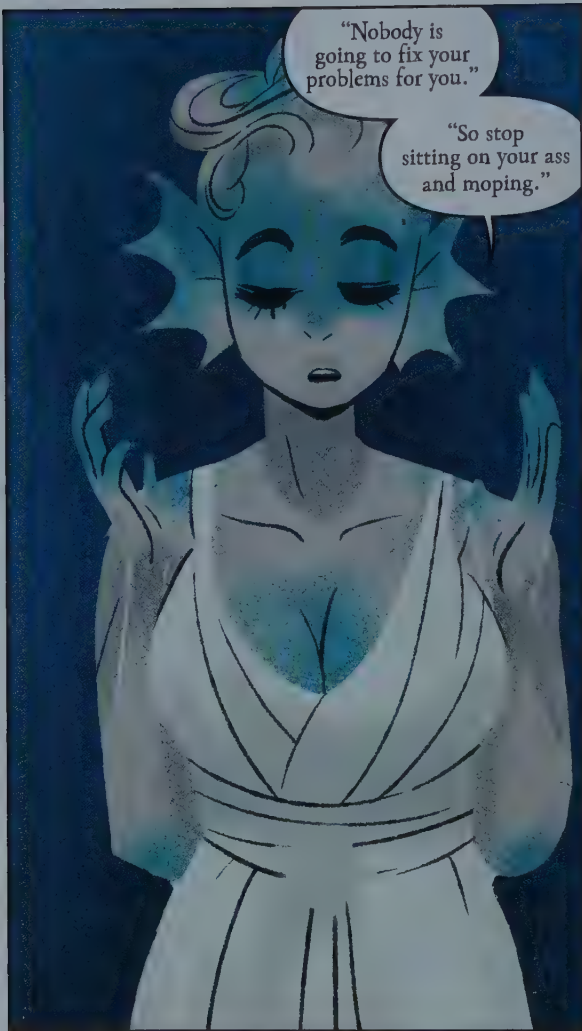
Gods, why did you come over?

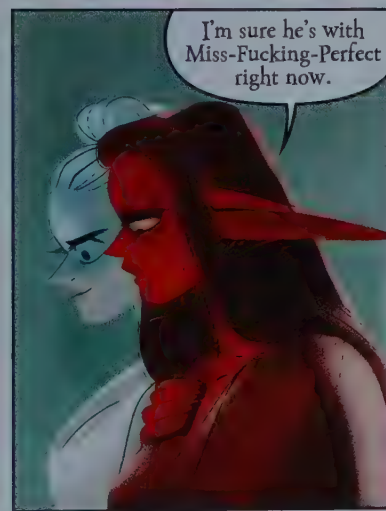
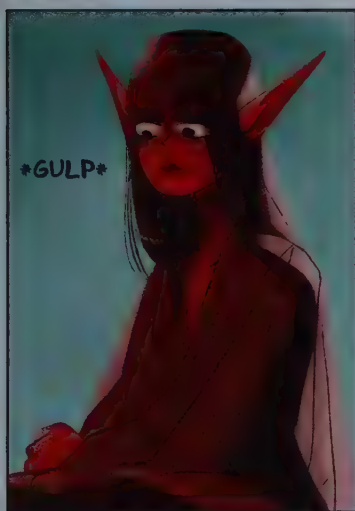
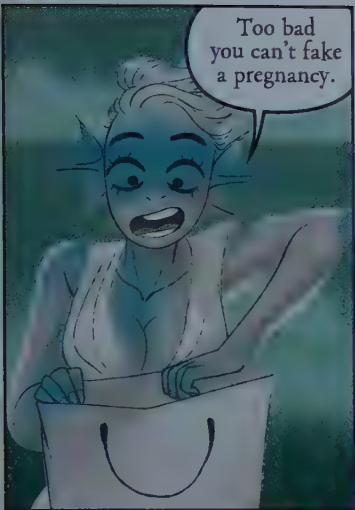
I'm going to tell you what my mother always told me.

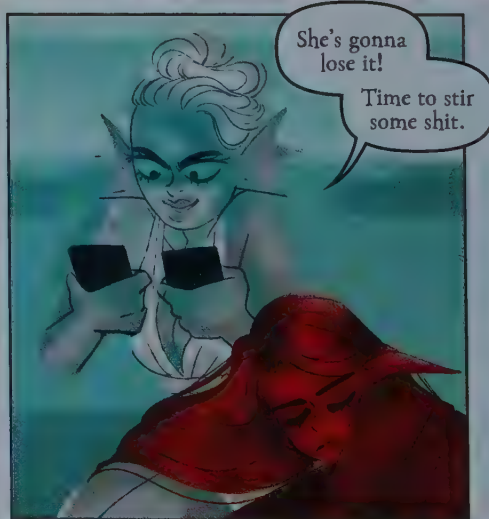
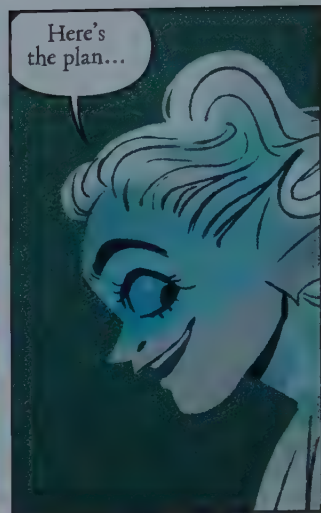


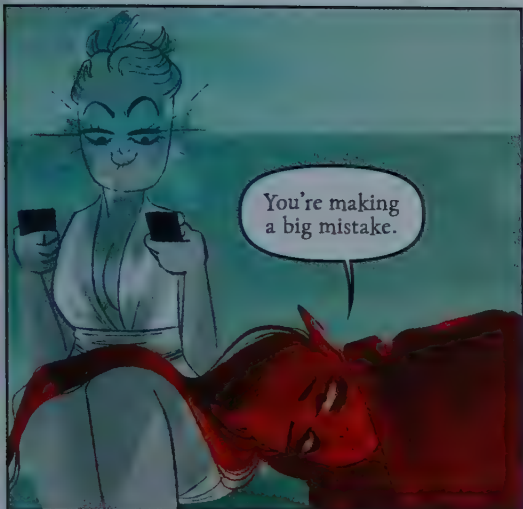
"Stop being a little bitch and share the bathroom with your sisters?"











You're making a big mistake.

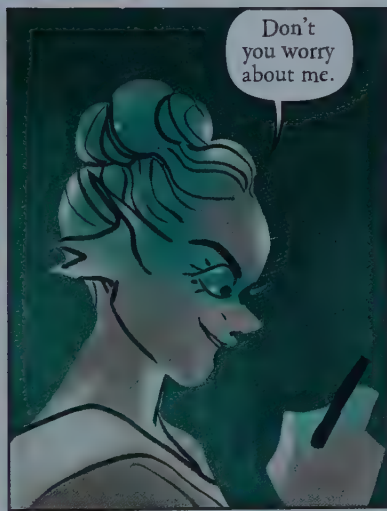


What do you think, are Zeus and Hades the same size?

AH! GROSS!!



Don't do this, Hera will figure out it was you.



Don't worry about me.



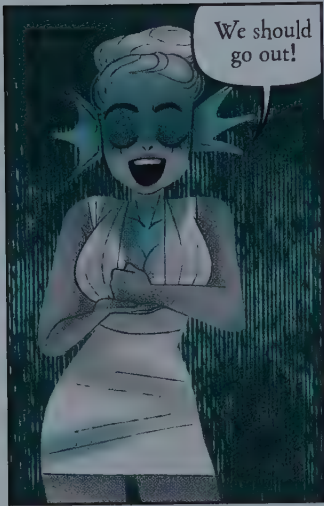
And done!



I only wish I could see the look on her face. I'm a genius.



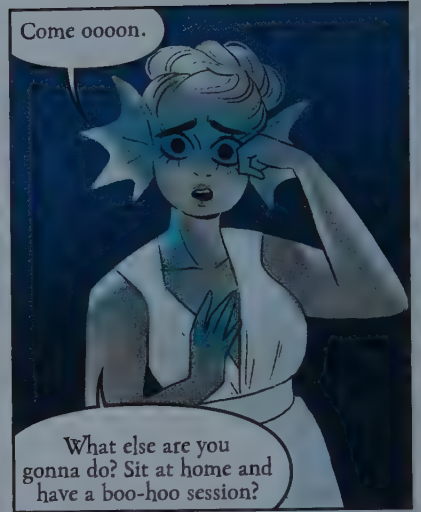
...You idiot.



We should go out!



You've got to be kidding. I can't, I just want to sleep.



Come ooon.

What else are you gonna do? Sit at home and have a boo-hoo session?



Go on, go fix up whatever this is.



And then we can go dancing and take lots of photos.



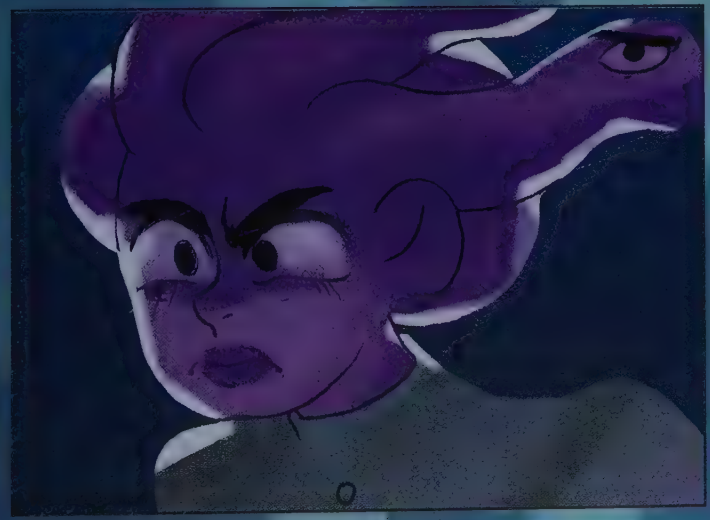
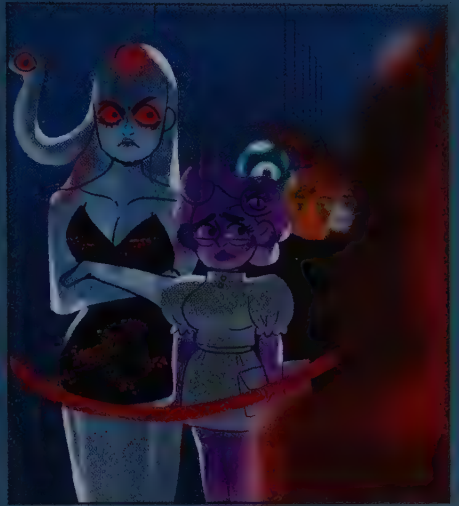
Make Hades a li'l jealous.



I-I don't think that's going to work--

Up-up-up.







MINTHE!

YOU'RE
HORRIBLE!
MY SISTER TOLD ME
WHAT YOU DID!

I DON'T SEE HOW YOU
CAN BE OUT HAVING A
GOOD TIME!

BACK OF
THE LINE!

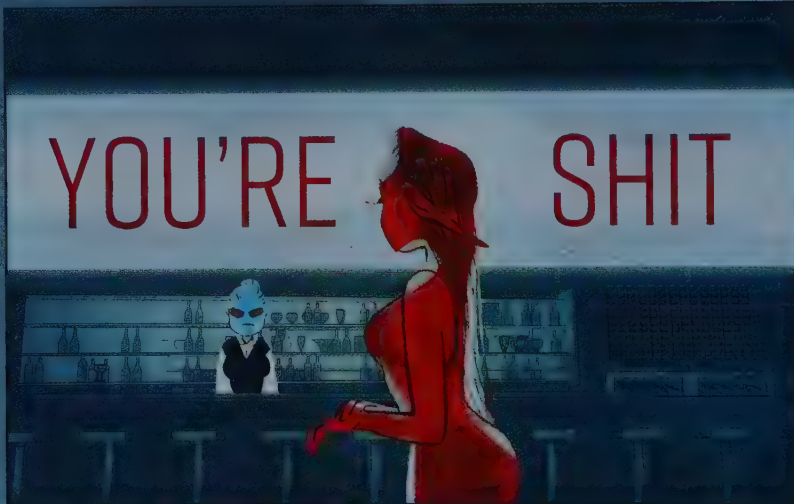
THIS CLUB
IS STUPID
ANYWAY!

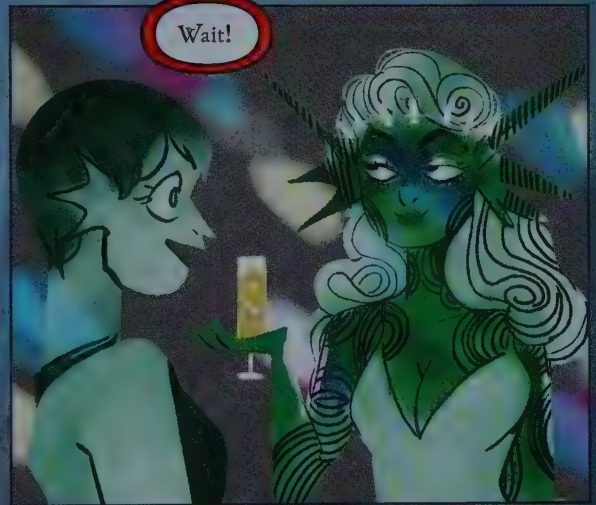


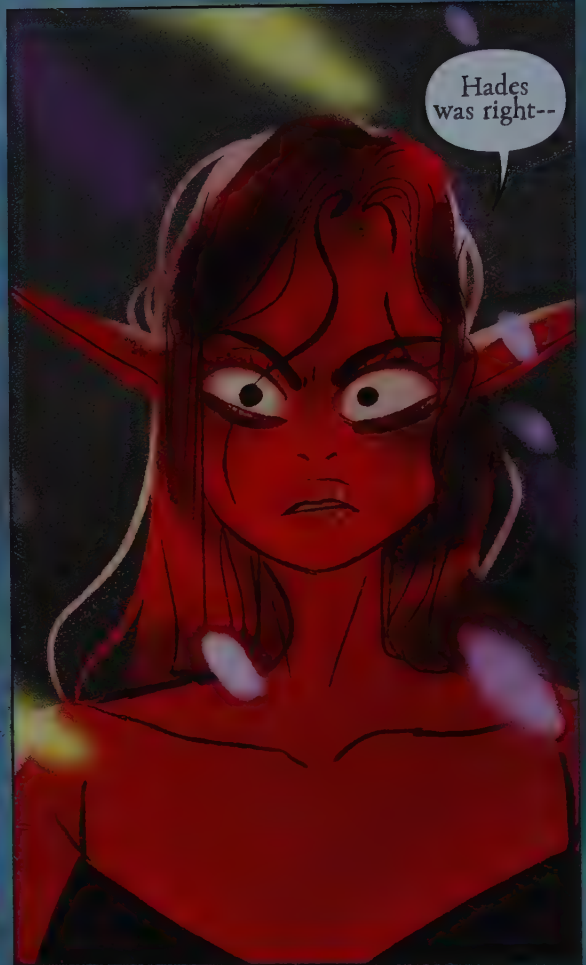
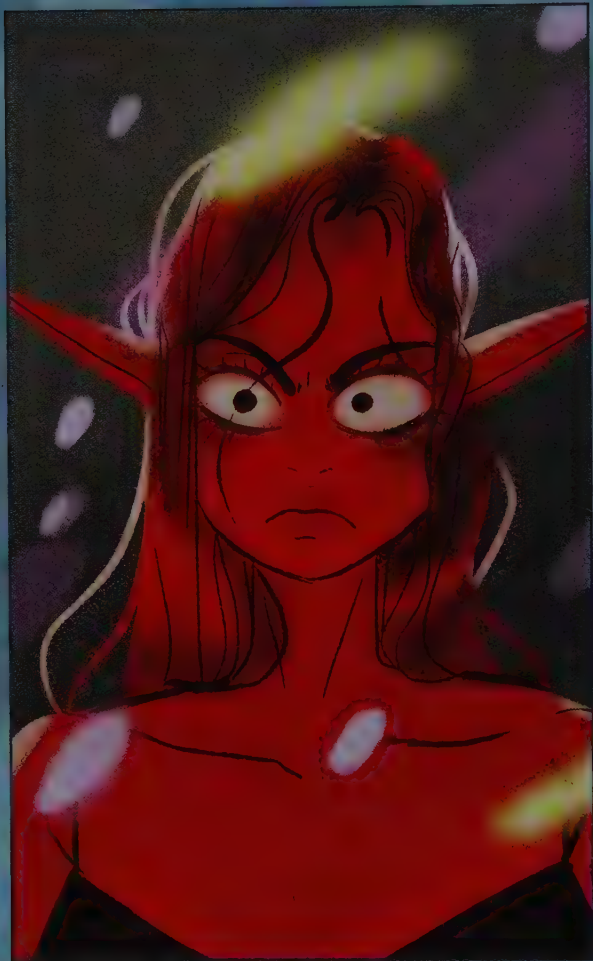
Later, loser!

Take your
tragic ass
home!









Hades
was right--

You're not
my friend.

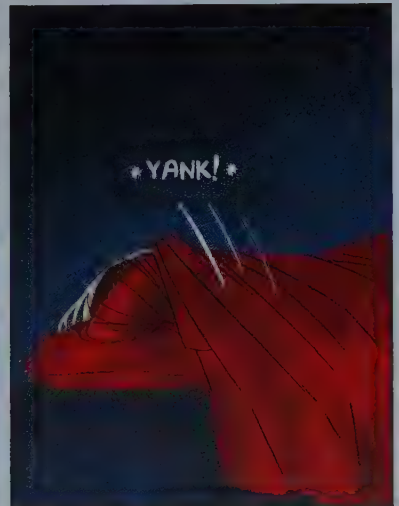
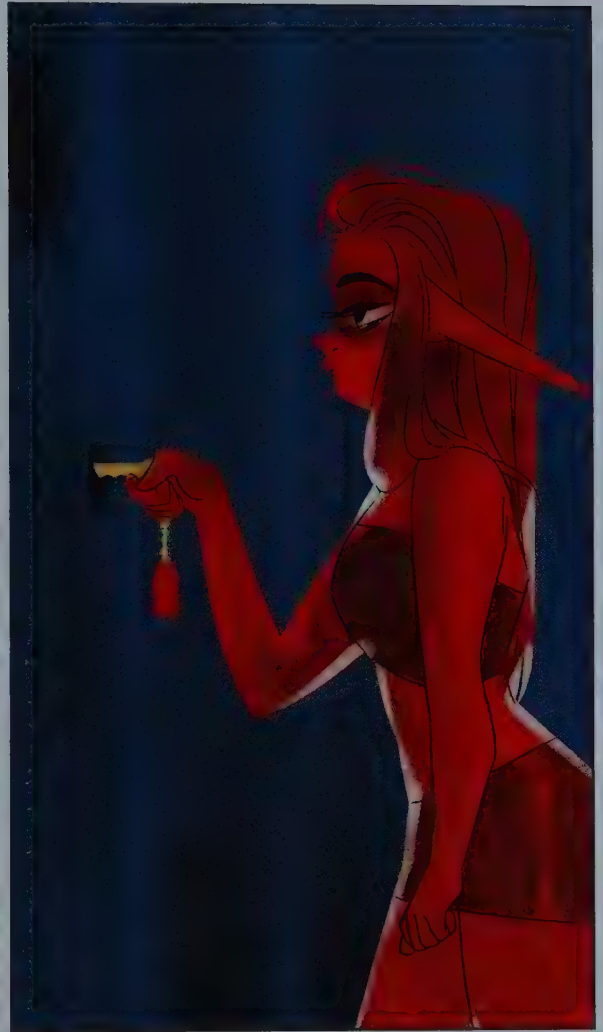


EPIISODE 104: NOT ENOUGH



FRIDAY

DRINKS
DRINKS
DRINKS



SATURDAY

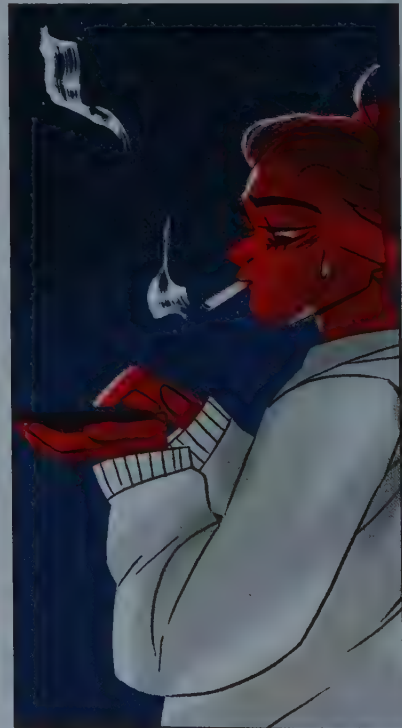
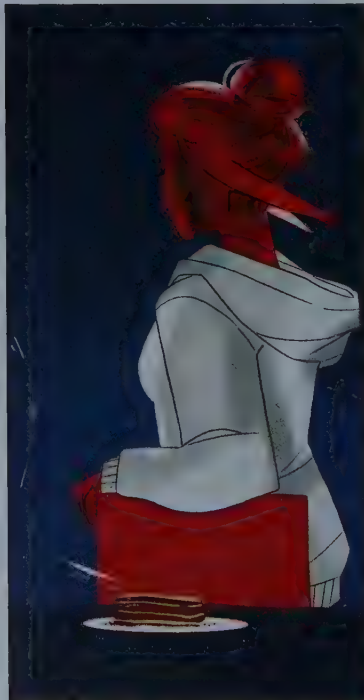
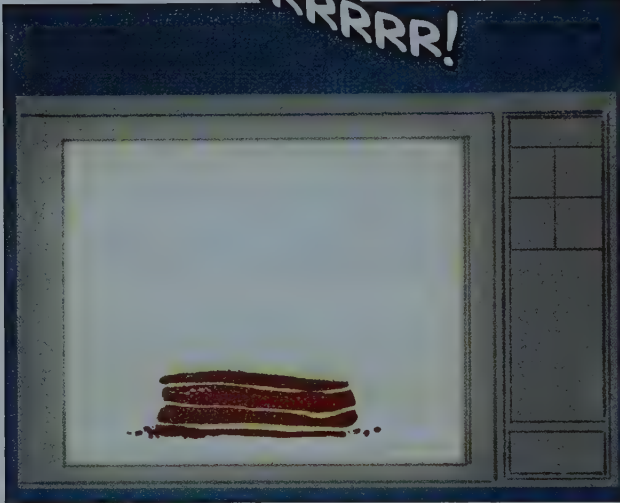


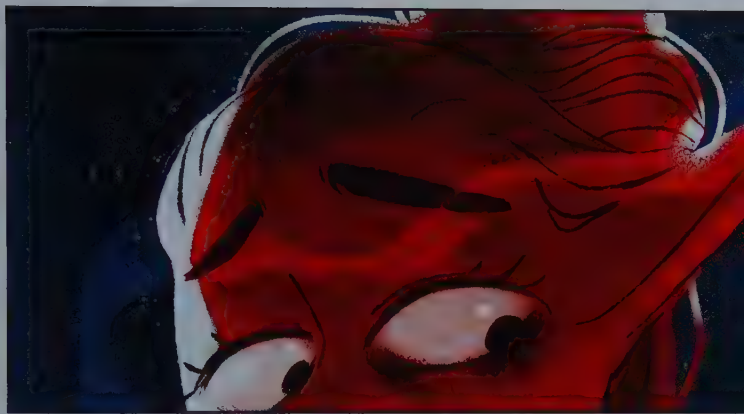
SUNDAY



MONDAY

WIIIRRRRRRRR!







... Do you want to come over?



Now? Is that okay?



Yeah, if you don't mind.

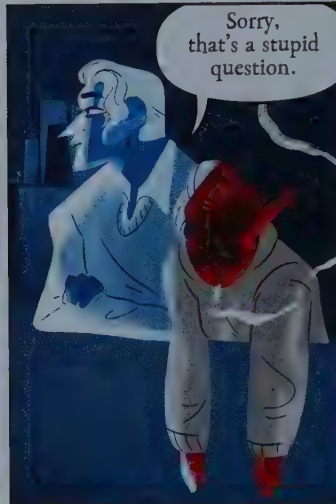
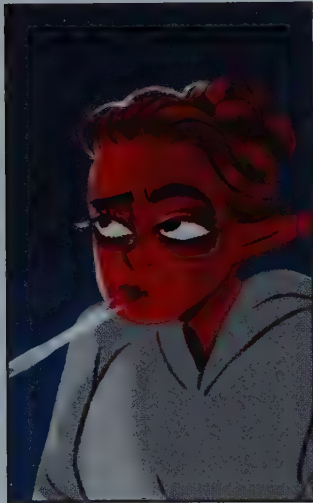


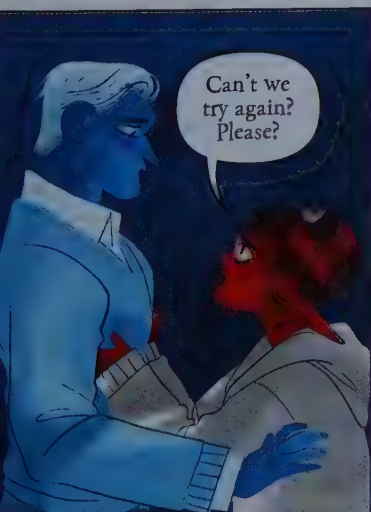
I just need to grab a shower. But I won't be long.

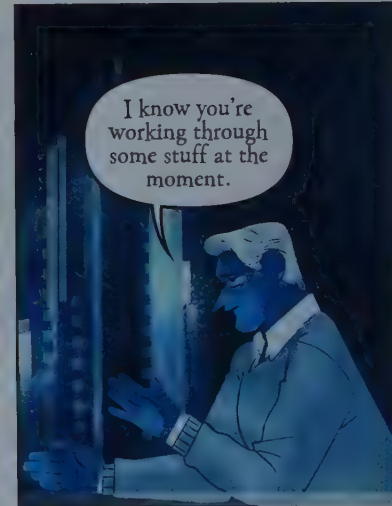


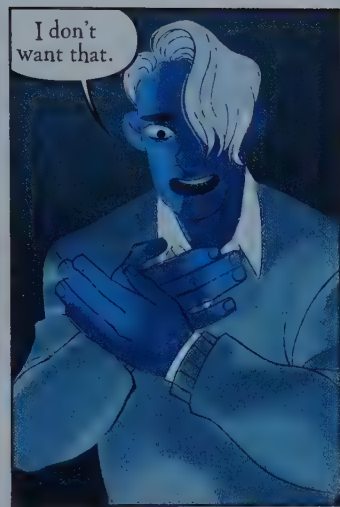
See you soon.

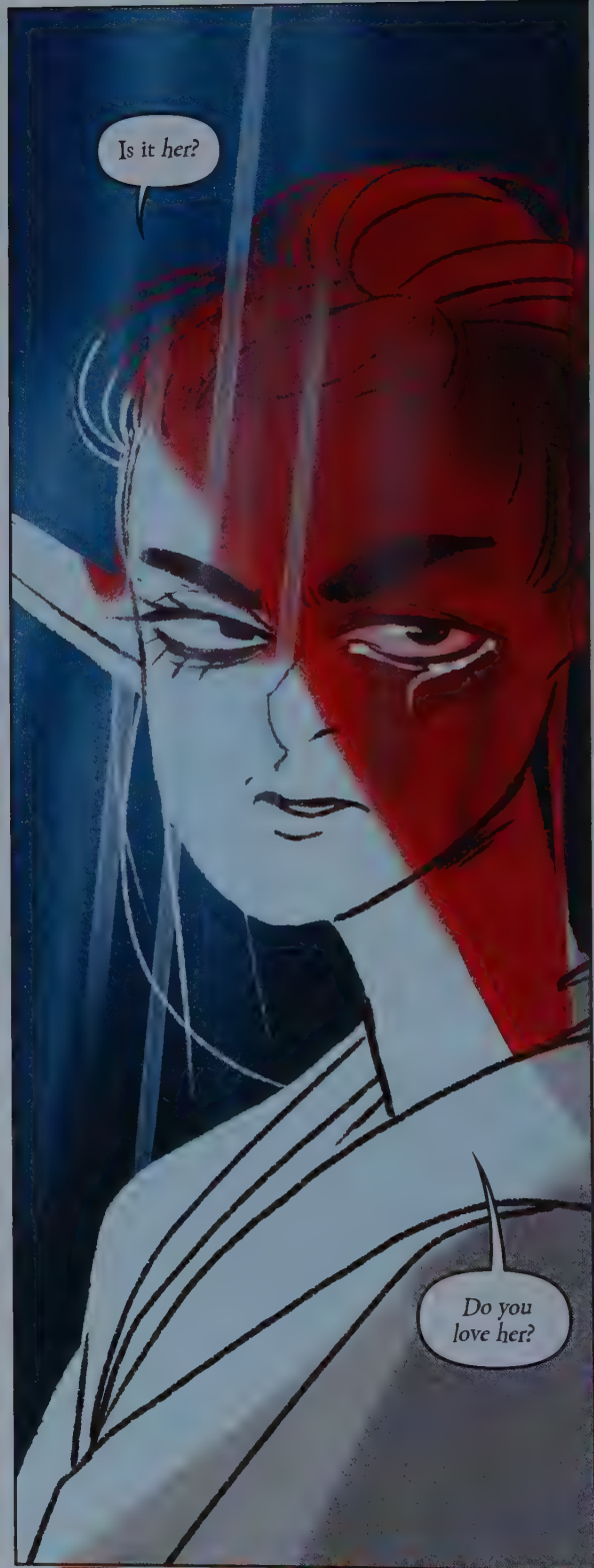
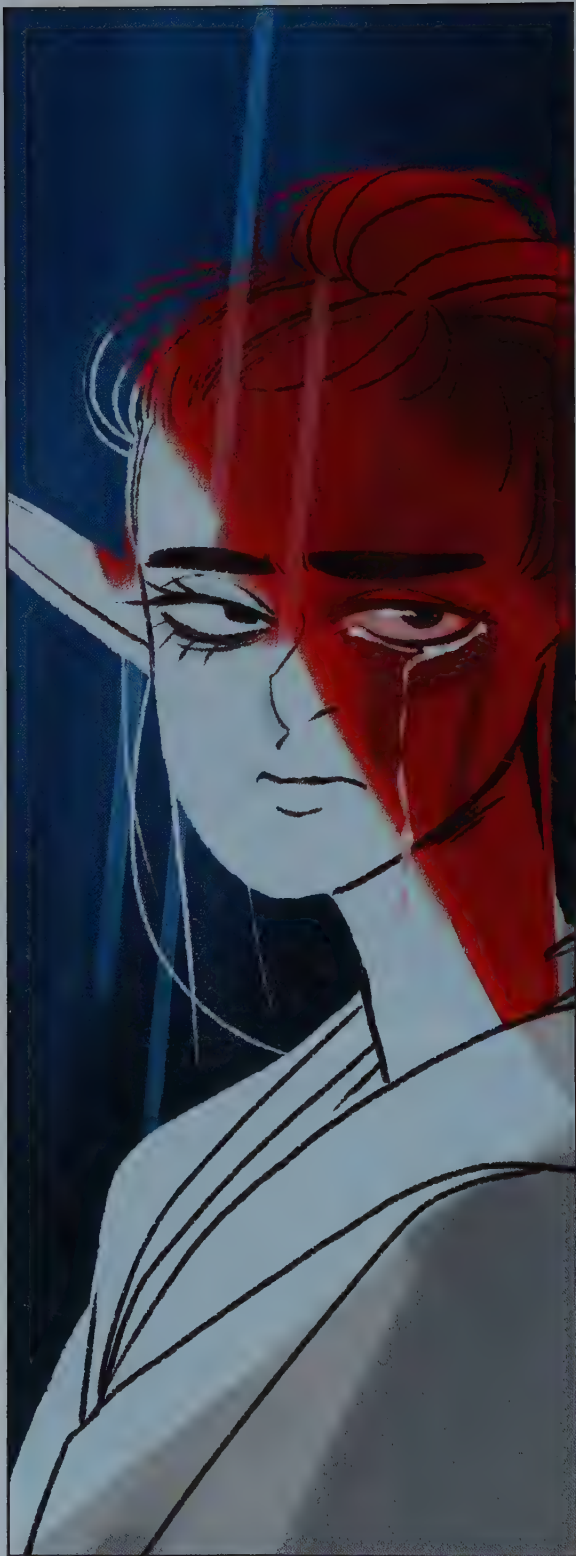








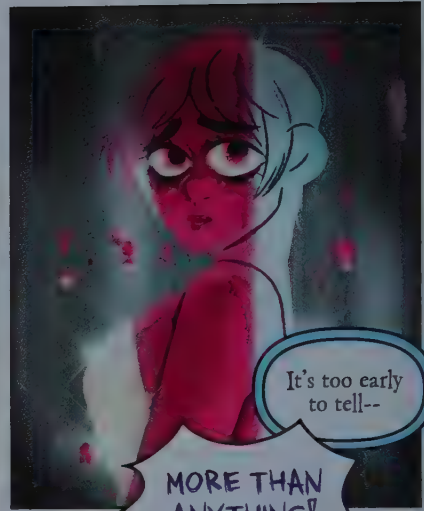






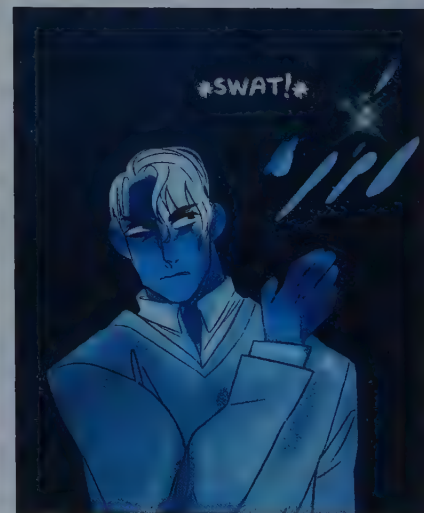
EPISODE 105: GOODBYE

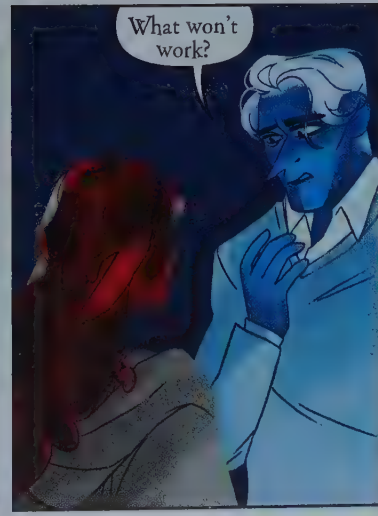
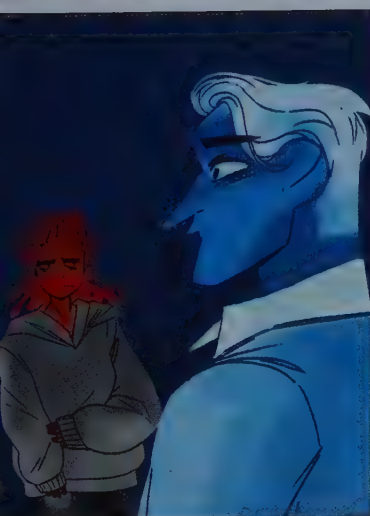
Do I love her?

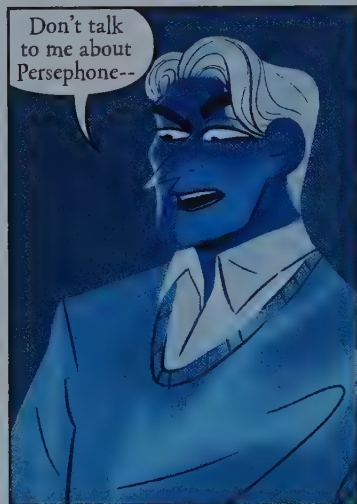


It's too early to tell--

MORE THAN ANYTHING!









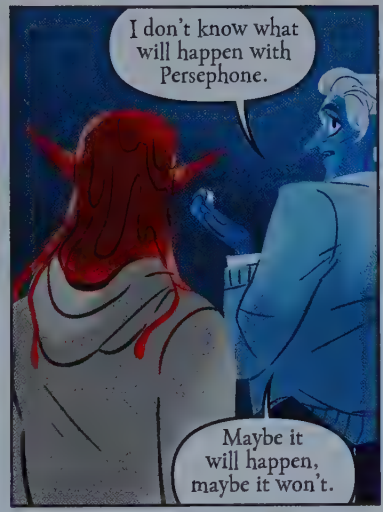
It's only a matter of time before you disappoint her.



You'll be back.



Because we are the same.



I don't know what will happen with Persephone.

Maybe it will happen, maybe it won't.



Maybe I'll meet someone new.

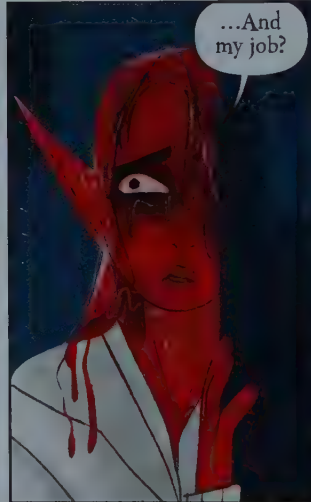
Maybe I might simply be alone...

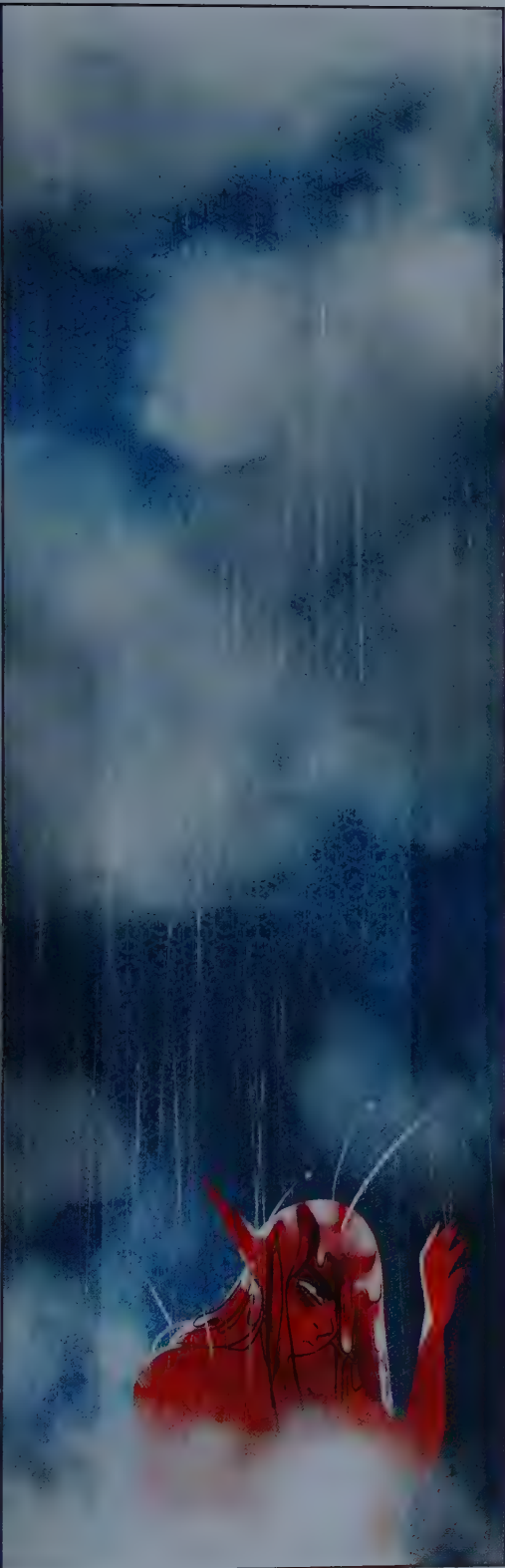


What I do know is that we are done.



...And that I'm getting my clothes.





KNOCK!



KNOCK!

KNOCK!

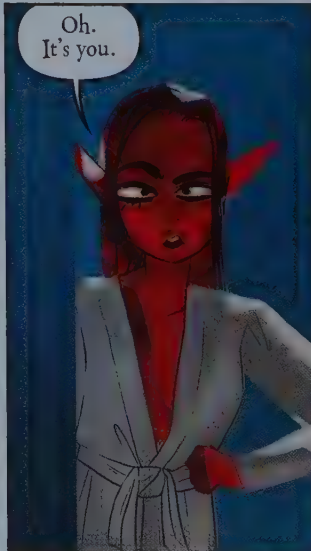
KNOCK!



STOP
KNOCKING
!!!



I knew you'd
come back, but I
didn't think it would
be so soon!



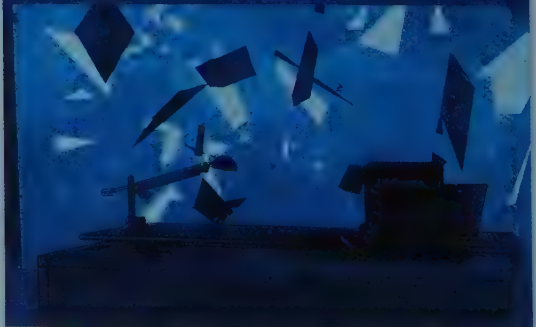
Oh.
It's you.

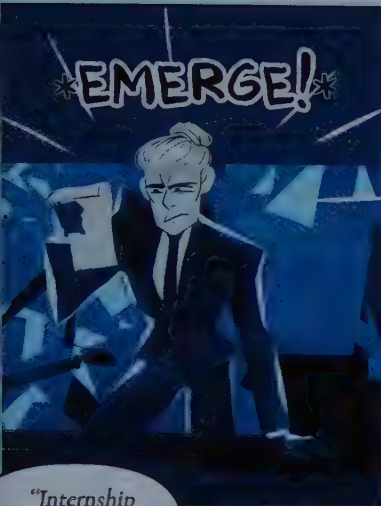


What do
you want?

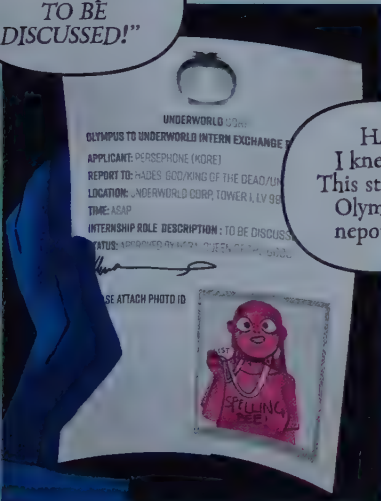
FRIDAY

RUMMAGE





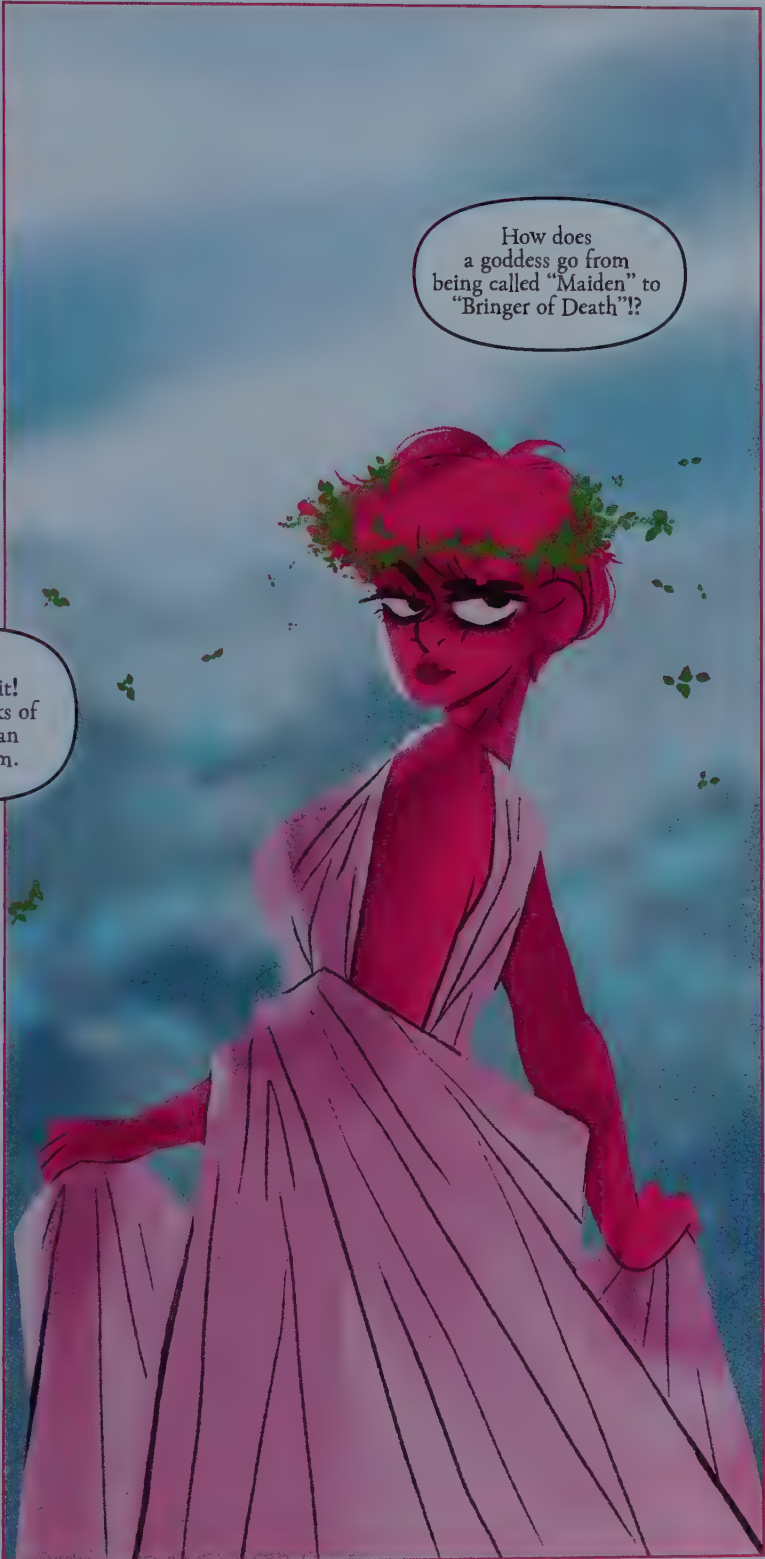
"Internship role description: TO BE DISCUSSED!"



HA!
I knew it!
This stinks of
Olympian
nepotism.



"Kore."



How does
a goddess go from
being called "Maiden" to
"Bringer of Death"!?

Persephone is seriously suspect...



It looks like I only have one option...



To break into Artemis's house and dig for dirt on Persephone!



KNOCK!

KNOCK!

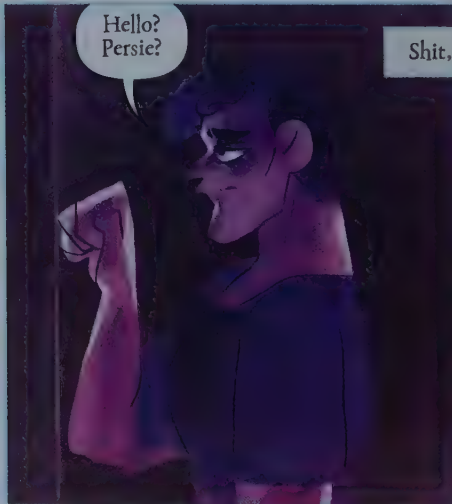


KNOCK!

KNOCK!

KNOCK!

Hello?
Persie?



Shit, it's Apollo!?





Did you
get my
messages?

Are you
ready to go?

I've got a
really nice date
planned for us.



Guess
she's not
home.

That's
weird.



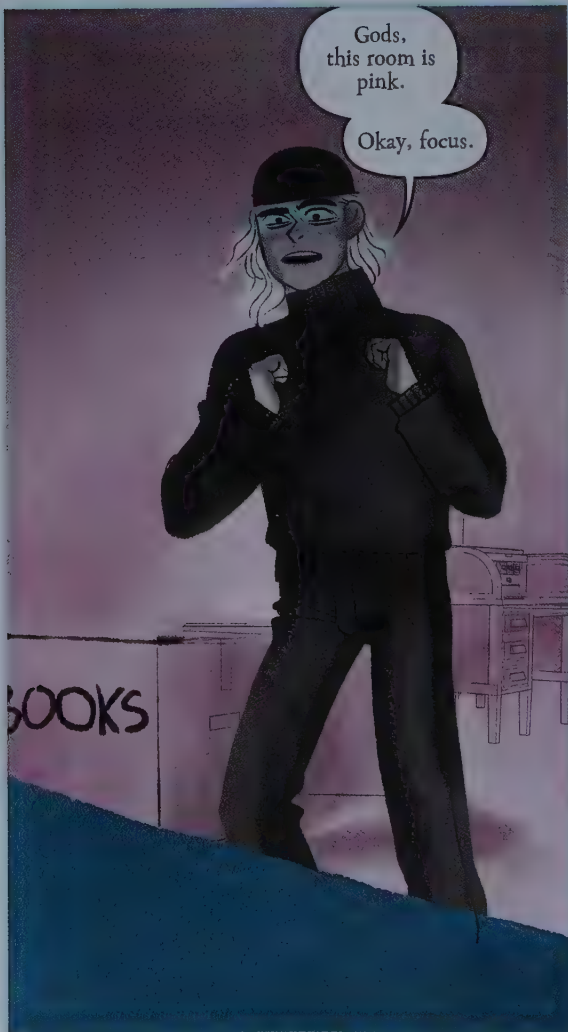
SHUFFLING AWAY SOUNDS

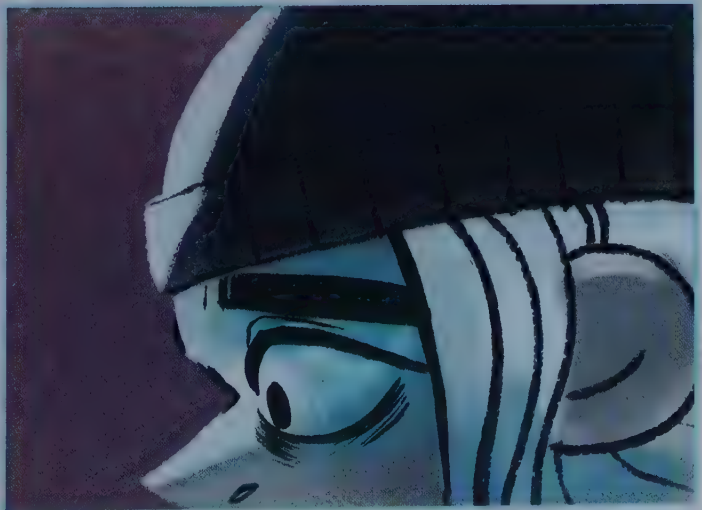
UNDERBREATH

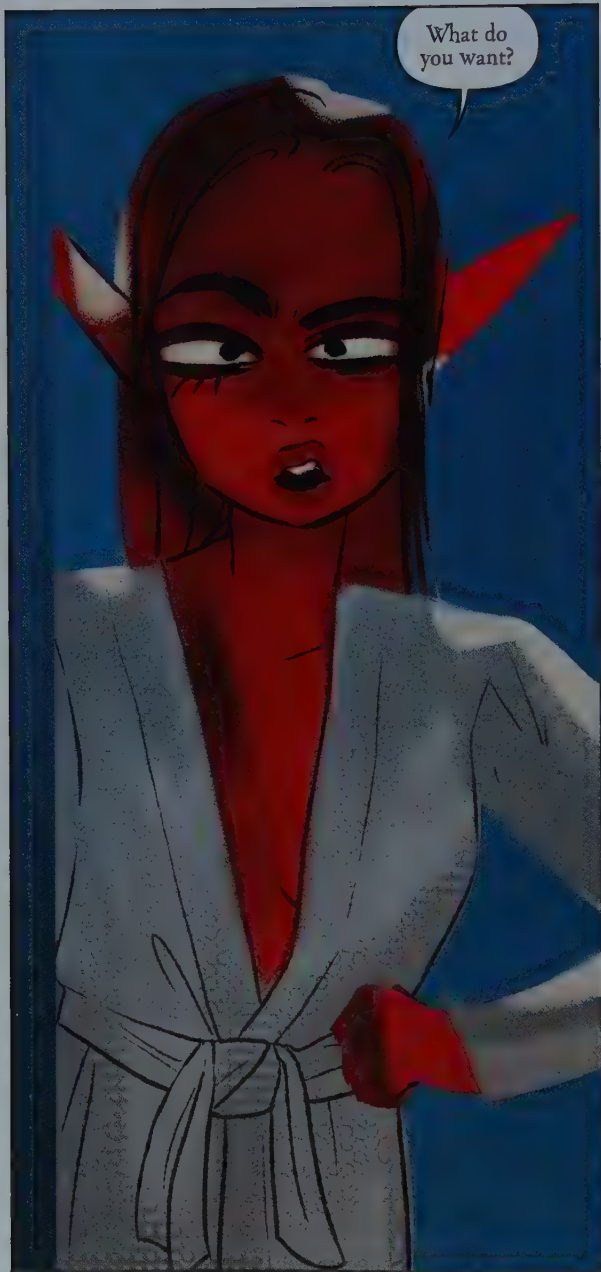
OH MY GODS.
She's dating
Apollo.



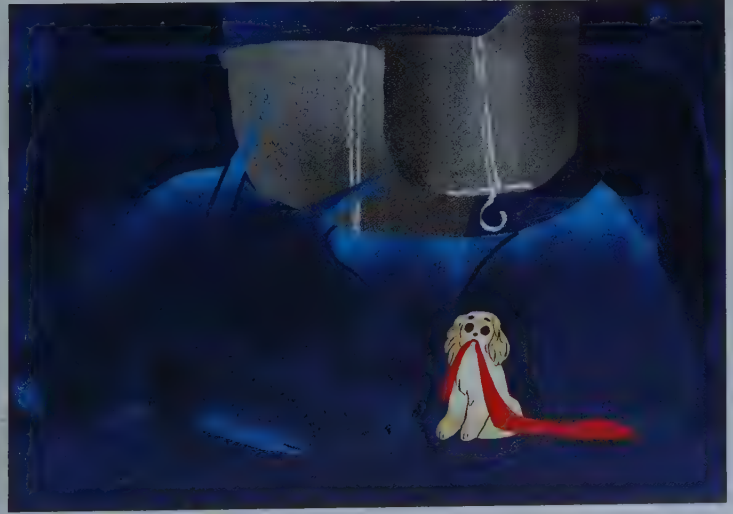
That was a
close one. Better
get started.

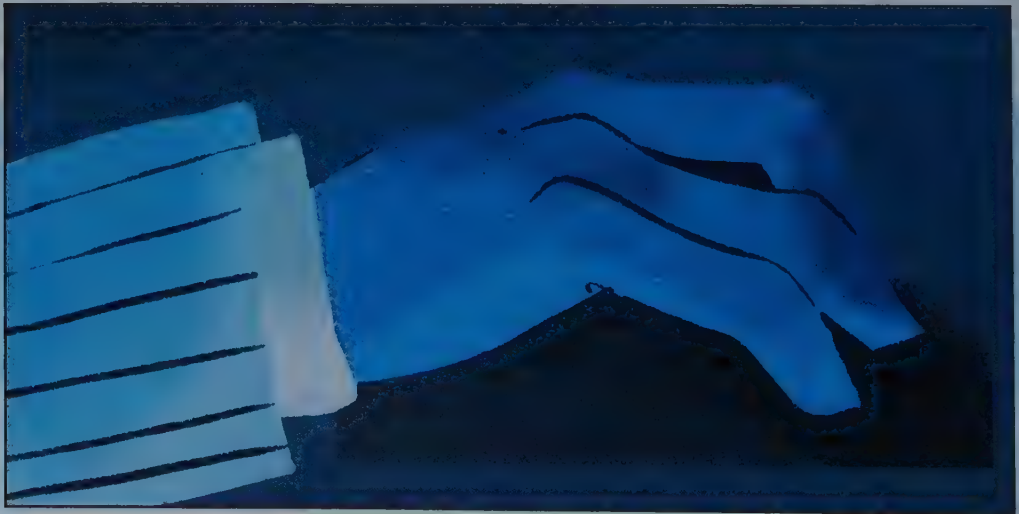


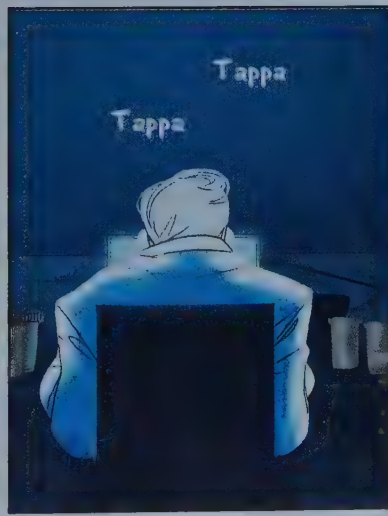




Persephone isn't who she presents herself to be.









6 a.m.,
huh?



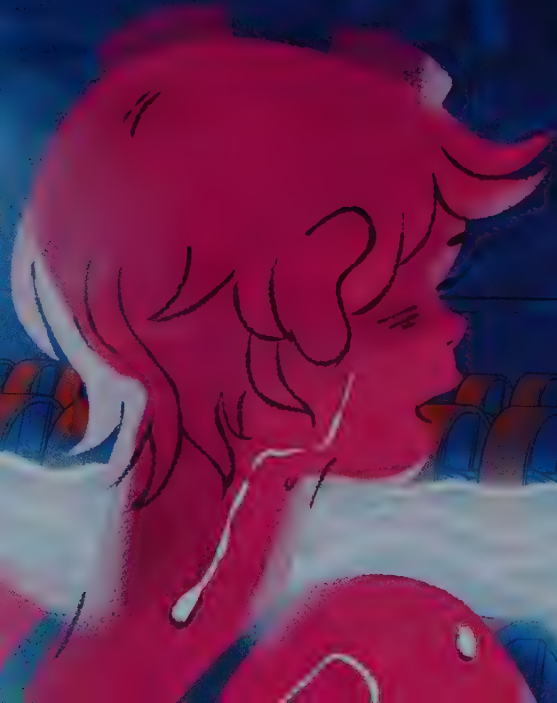
I've got
time for a swim
before work
"officially starts."







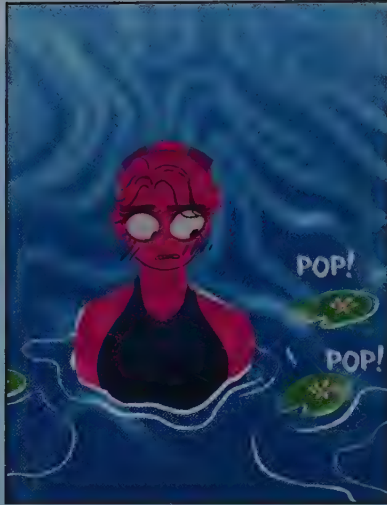
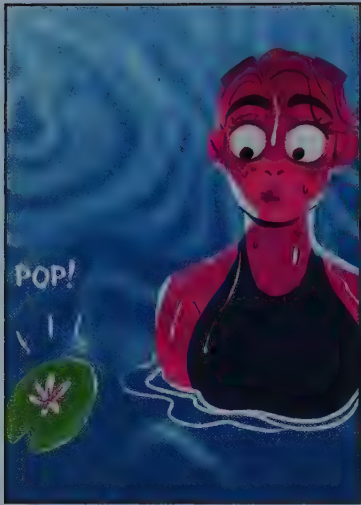
Hold on,
I'll come
over.





Good
m-morning.





(Emitting a high-pitched whine that only dogs can hear.)



Persephone.



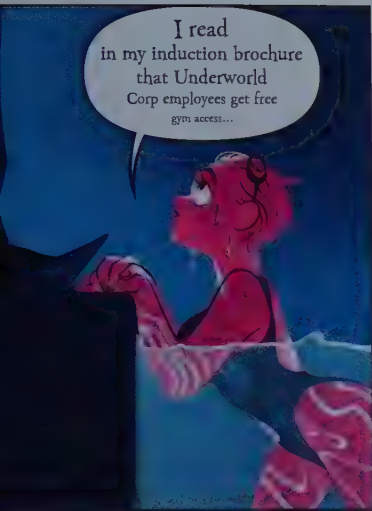
W-what are you doing here?

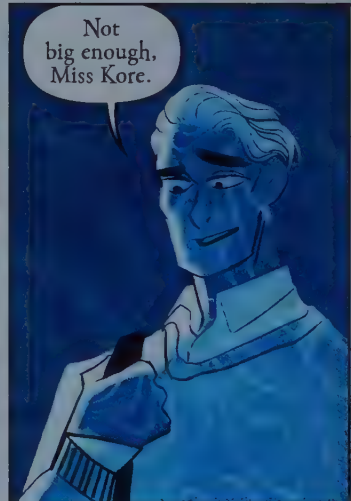


Oh!

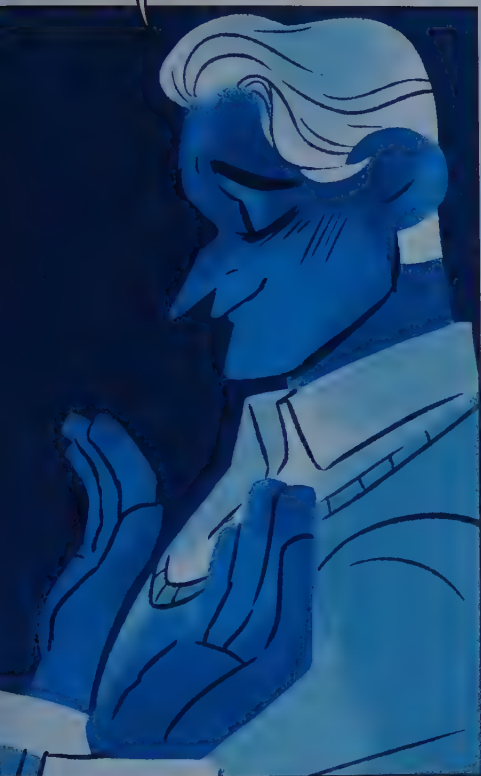
Well, today is my first official day of work.

A-and I was a bit nervous.





Like I said, please stay. I assure you, I'm fine.



Don't be nervous about today. You'll do great.



See you later.

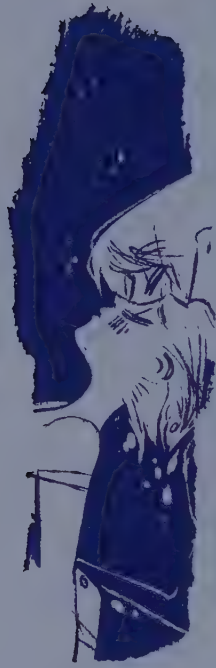
Have a nice day...



That was fast--

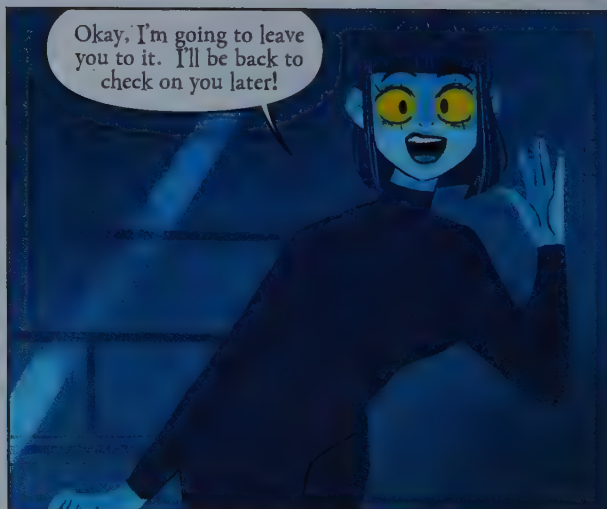
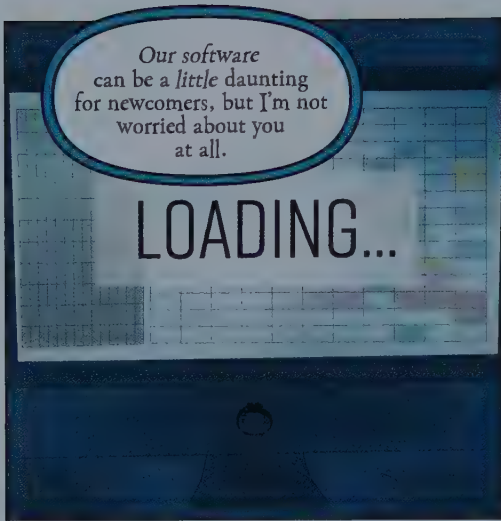
SHUT UP!

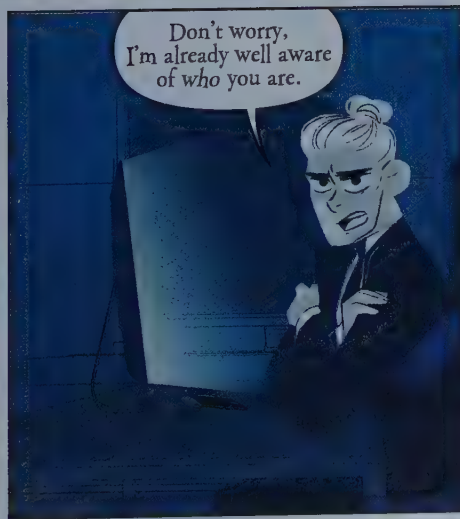
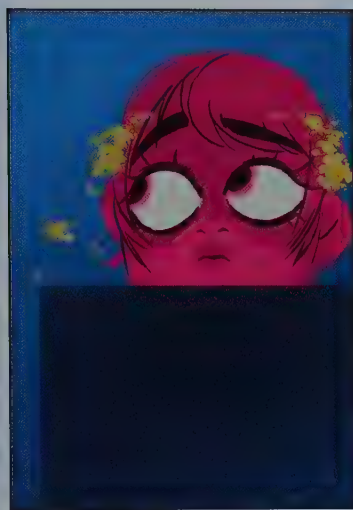
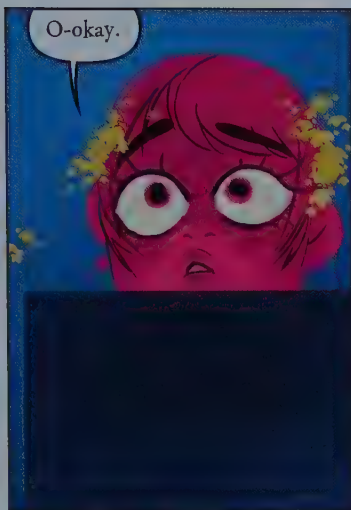




EPISODE 106: BUSINESS AS USUAL







Weirdo.



Okay, I can do this.



Just try clicking something.



Um, Than--

No.



If you were actually qualified for this job, you wouldn't need to ask.



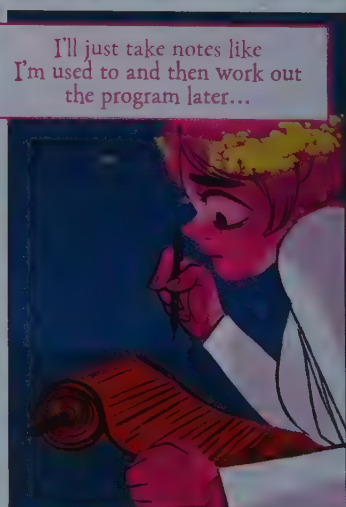
Don't be silly. Of course I'm qualified.

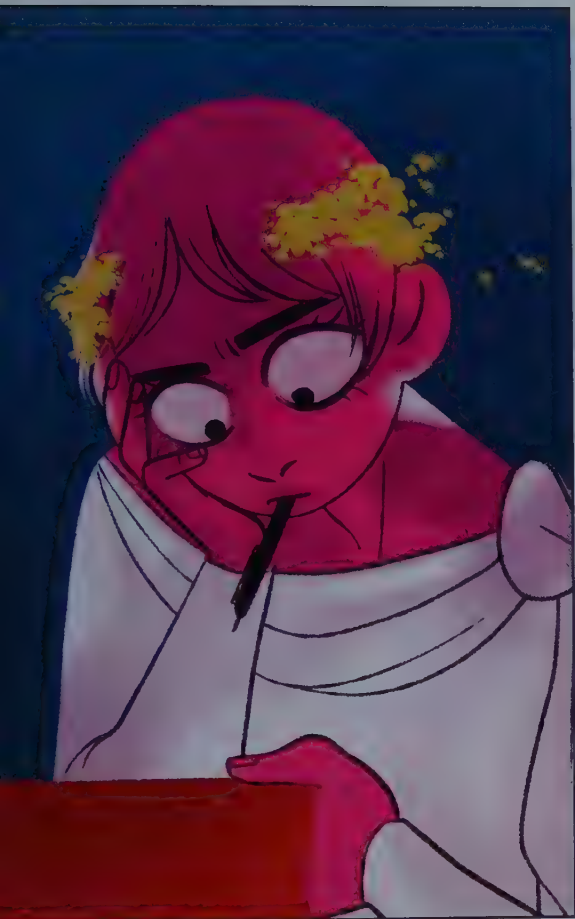


Oh my Gods, I'm not qualified.



I'll just take notes like I'm used to and then work out the program later...





How are you getting on?

Still getting used to things, I see.

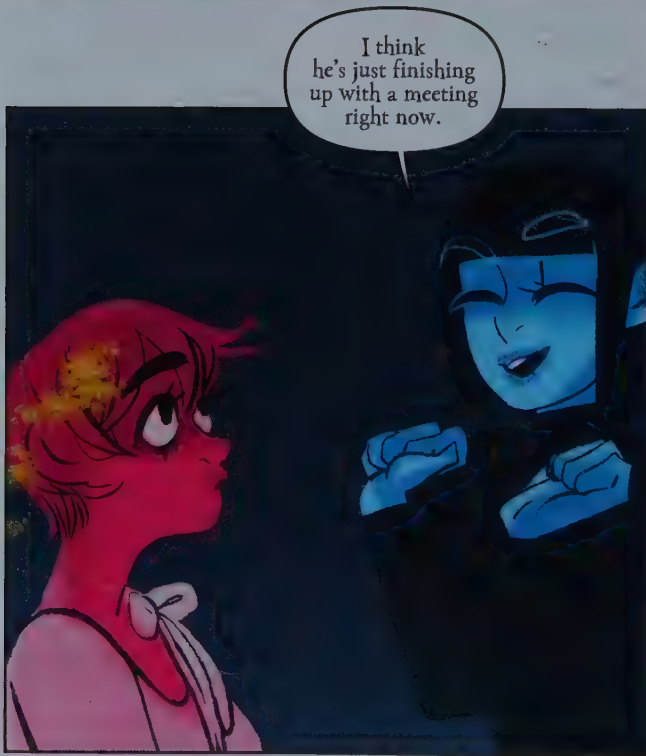
Now, we normally expect this amount to be completed at this stage of the day.



But I have every faith you'll be able to catch up.



Right, right.



It's her...

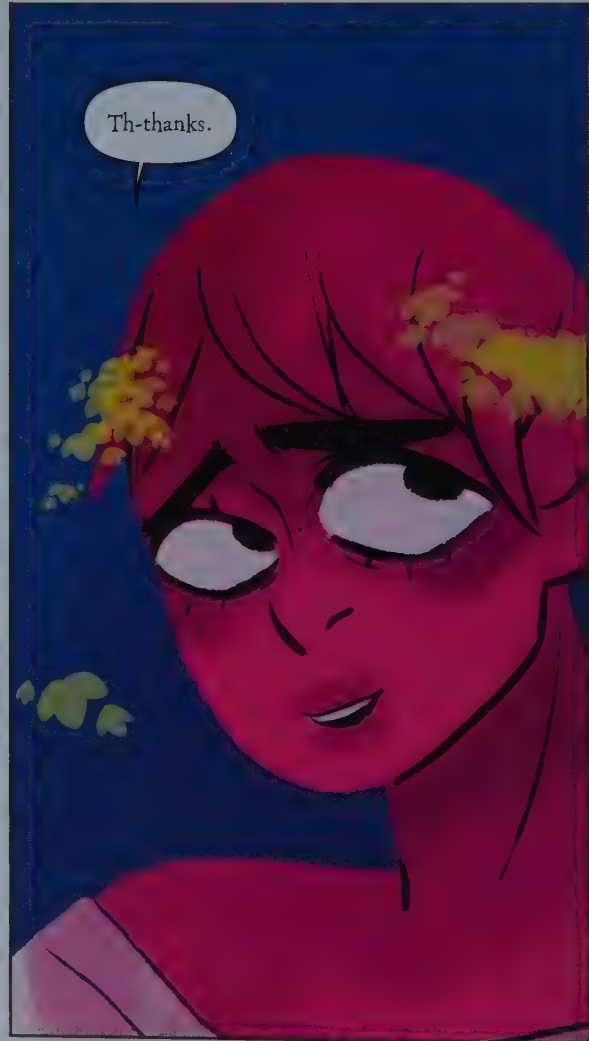


Just be cool.
Don't make it weird.



I just want to turn around
and not deal with this.







Yeah, whatever.



I think that concludes our meeting today...



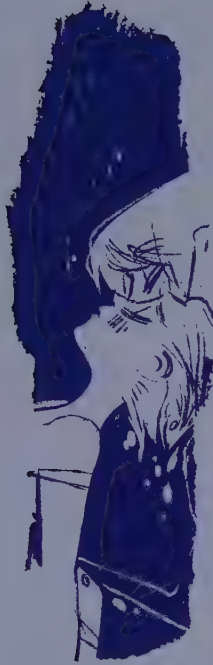
But I have to ask--



--what's with the balloons?

Each to their own, but they're kinda distracting. That's all I'm saying.





EPIISODE 107: SPECIAL TREATMENT



It's her birthday...



It's her birthday,
and I had no idea.

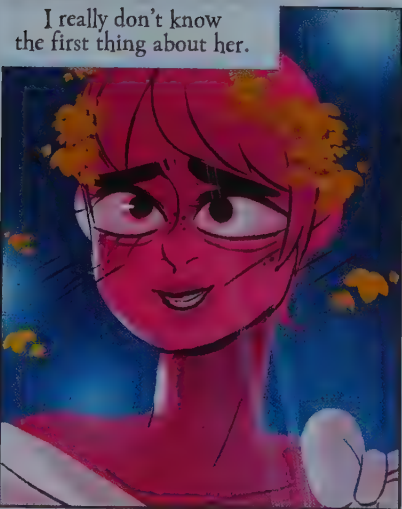


It's your birthday...
Why didn't you say anything this morning?

SQUEAK

SQUEAK

SQUEAK



I really don't know
the first thing about her.



Oh no, please don't worry about it. I don't like to make a big deal out of it.

SQUEAK

SQUEAK

SQUEAK

YANK!



SQUEAK

SQUEAK

SQUEAK

SQUEAK

It seems like a significant day for you.



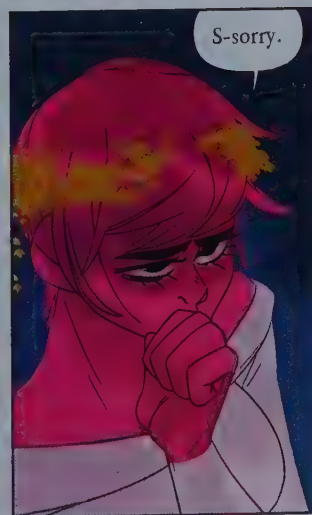
It's the first day of Spring--

Can you help me untie this!?

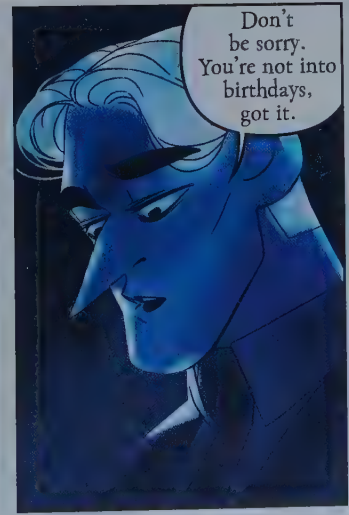
The knot is really tight.

SQUEAK

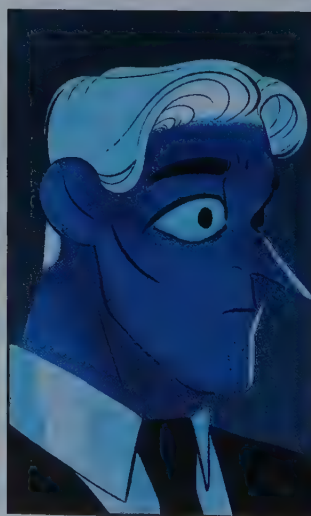
SQUEAK

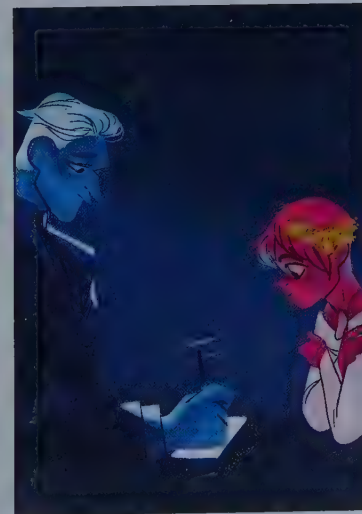
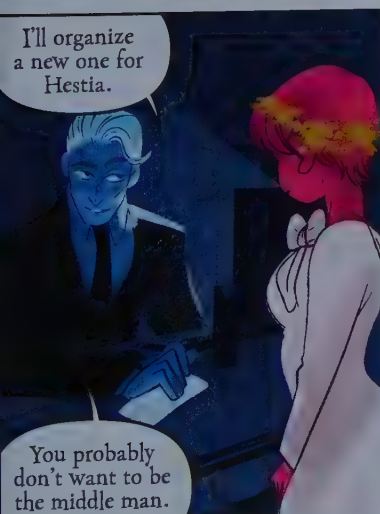


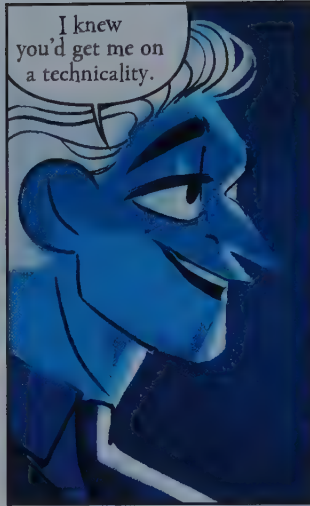
S-sorry.

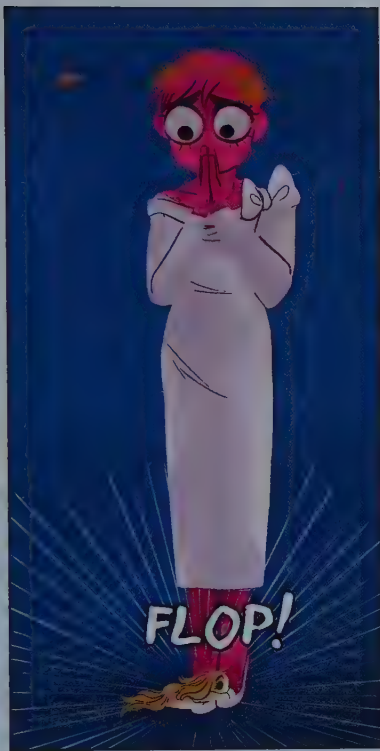


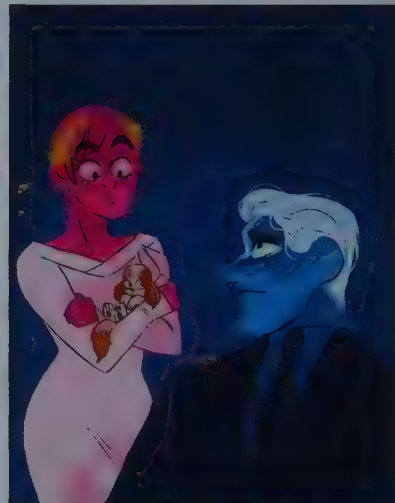
Don't be sorry. You're not into birthdays, got it.

















Are you sure this is okay?



Yeah, the bank isn't very romantic.



Not that I've spent a lot of time in a bank to know it's not romantic...

It's not romantic, I promise.

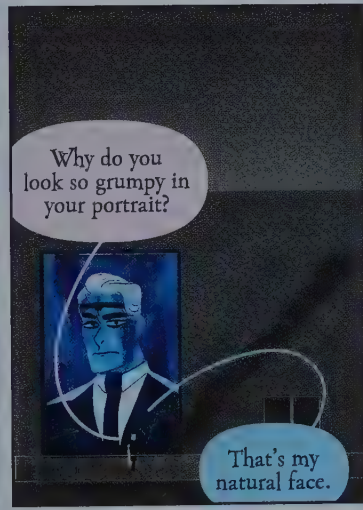


This way.

Don't we have to wait in line?



Snort
No.

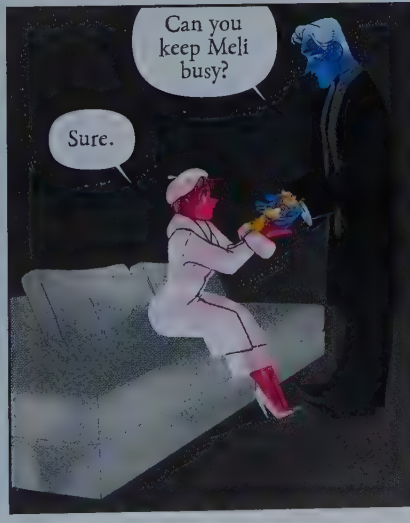


Why do you look so grumpy in your portrait?

That's my natural face.



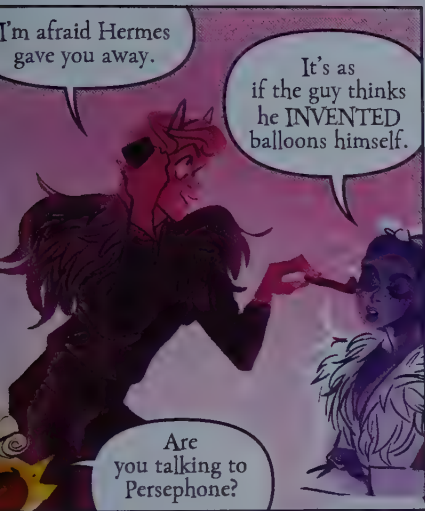
Take a seat. I'm going to talk to the branch manager.



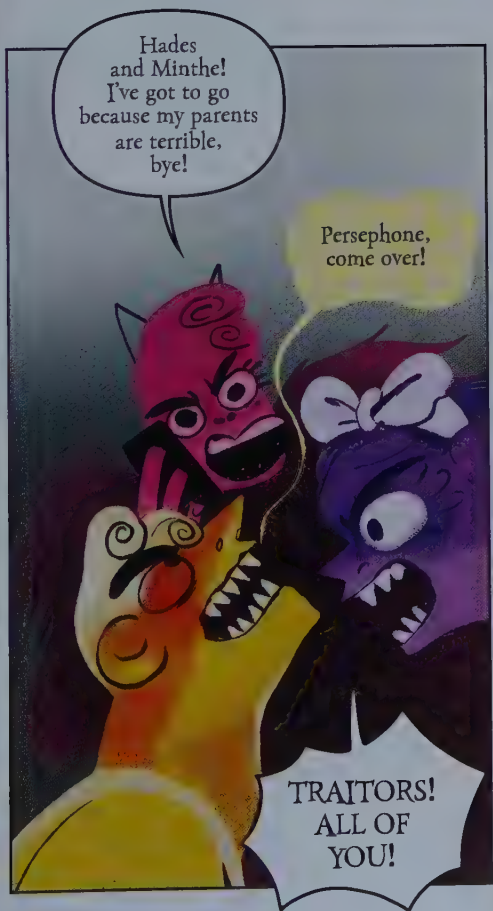
Can you keep Meli busy?

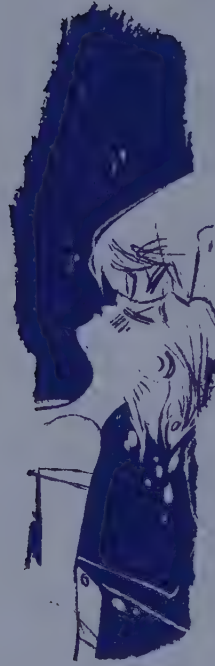
Sure.





Can--I--please--talk--to--Persephone?

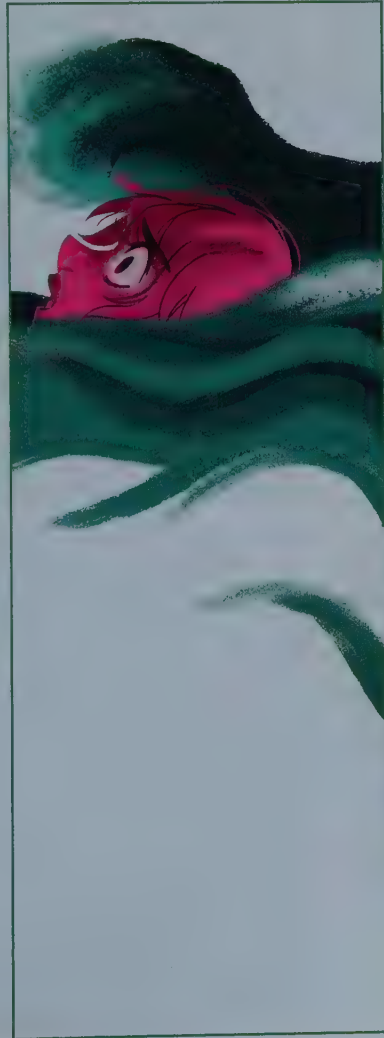




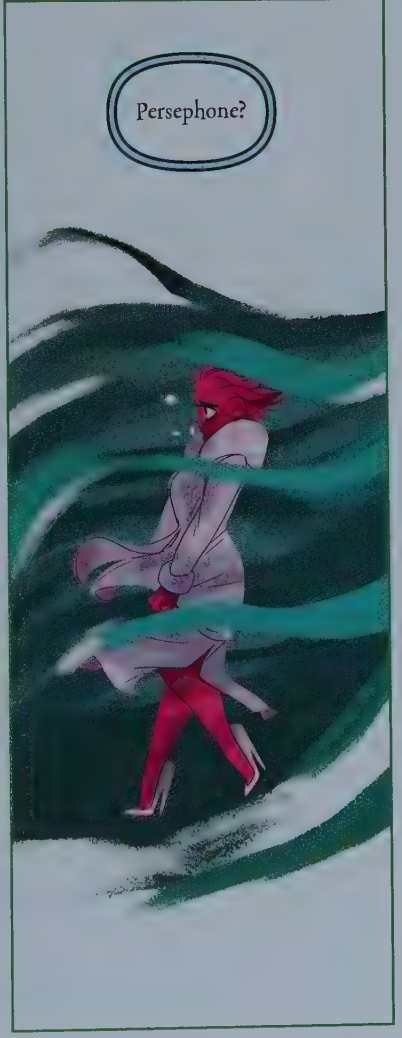
EPISODE 108: BREAKUPS AND BIRTHDAYS

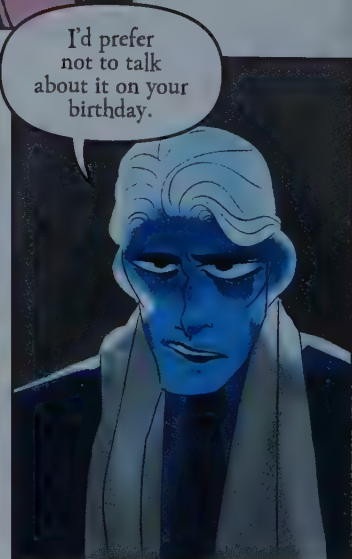
They broke up...?

Guilty

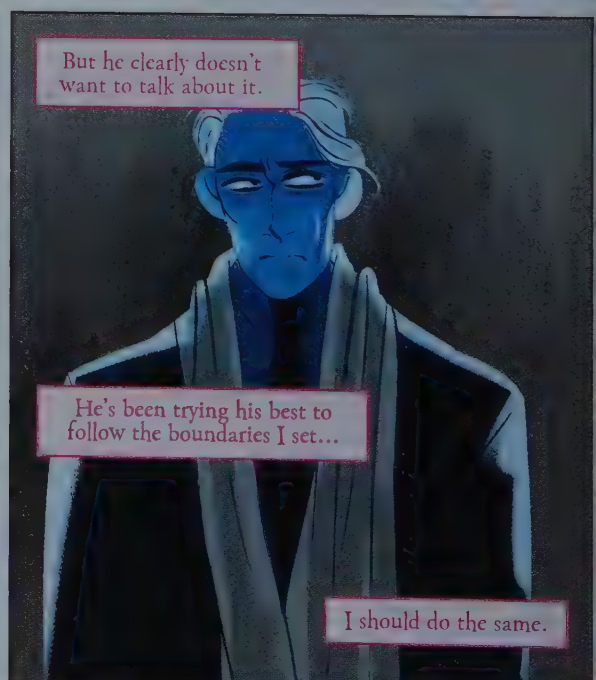
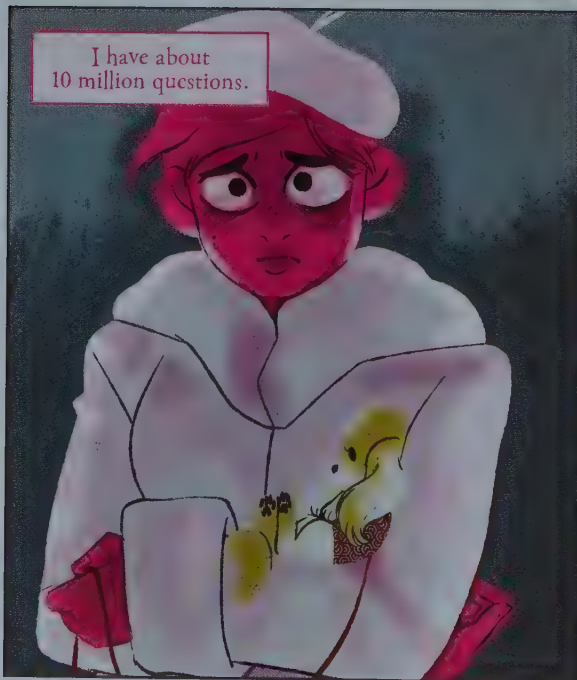


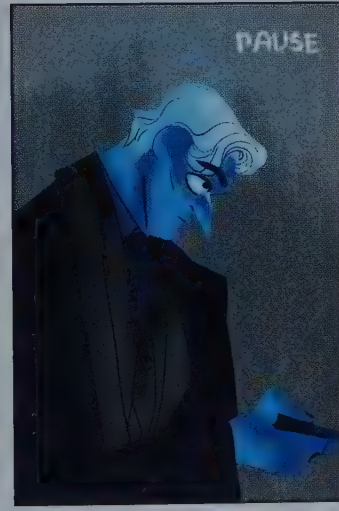
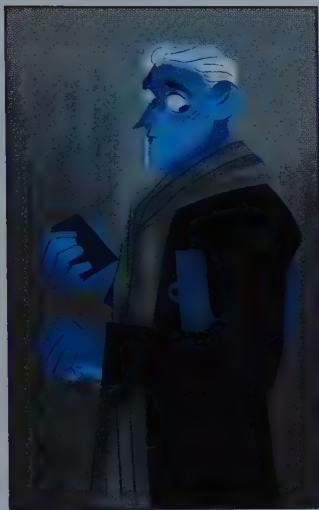
Persephone?

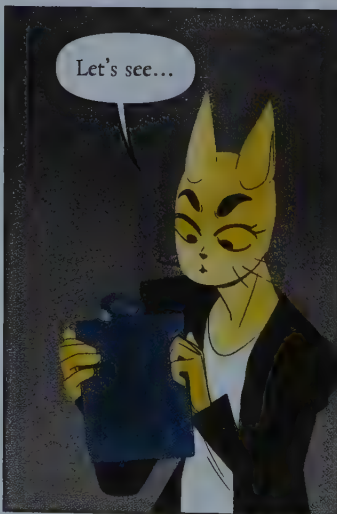


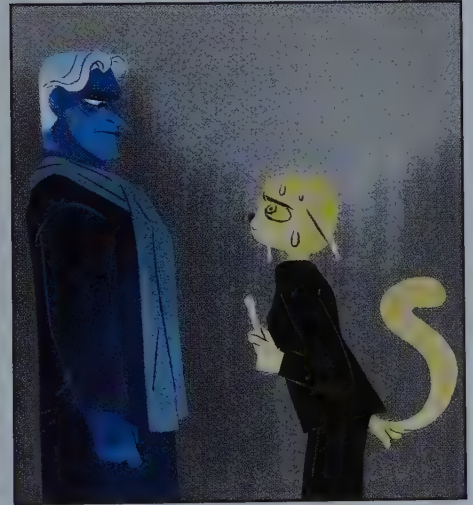
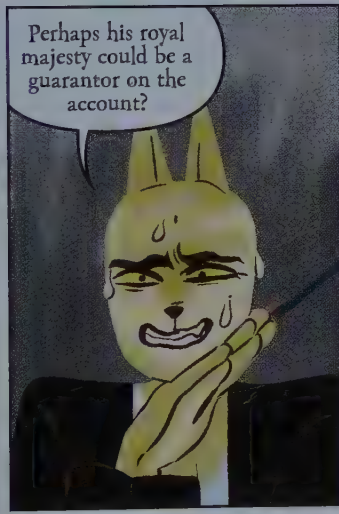
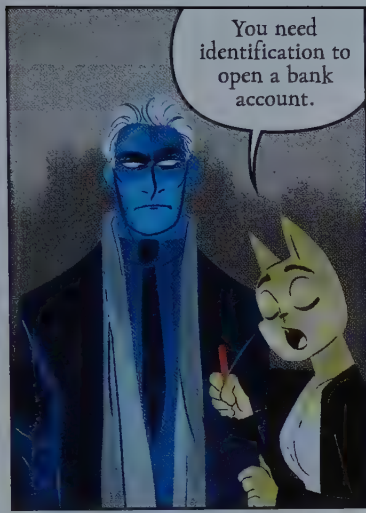












It is
the first day of
Spring after all.



It feels
weird that
I'm not there
to help.



So how long
have the two of you
been together?

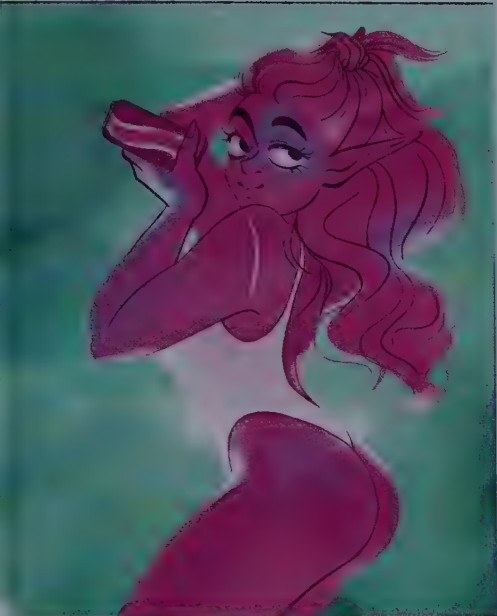


I'm fired,
aren't I?





Daphne

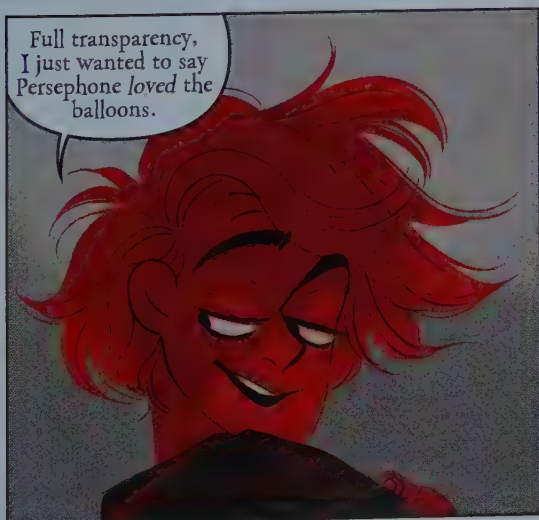
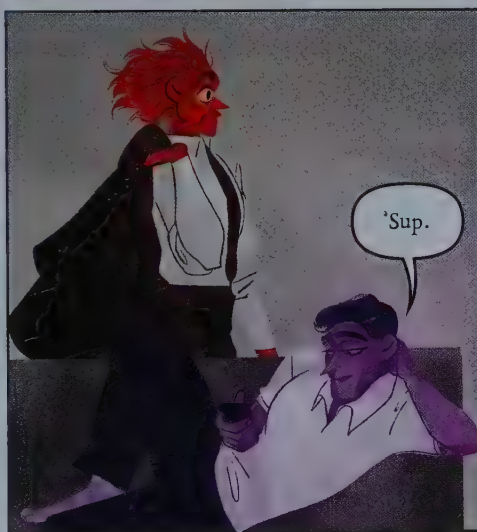


Liked by Apollo and 10,263 others

Daphne Bonus photos from my pomegranate shoot. Such a fun day! #blessed #pomegranate #pomegranatezero #NoFilter #sponsored

[View all 703 comments](#)

Apollo You spoil us.







Yay!
I win
again!

What is
that now?
50 to 0?

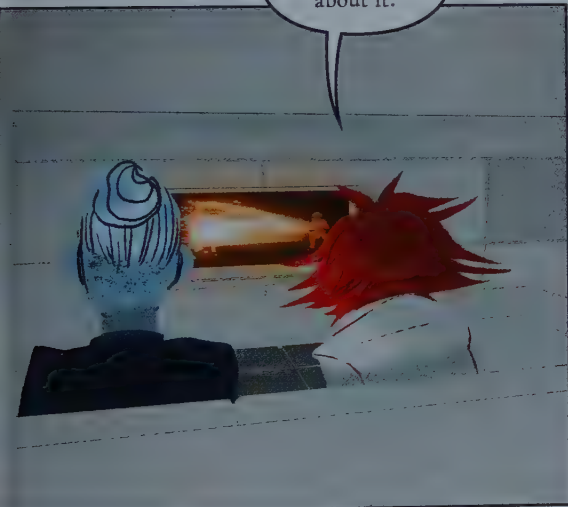
Man,
you need to
step it up.
It's almost like
you're not
trying!



I didn't realize her name used to be "Kore."

That's a very extreme name change, wouldn't you say?

Haha, yeah, I guess. I can't say I've thought about it.



I do find something odd, though.

There isn't any documentation to back up a reason for that name change either.



I did a soul audit recently.



I noticed there was a large intake of souls from the Mortal Realm shortly before Persephone moved to Olympus.





Hey,
Thanatos.

But the records are
missing--



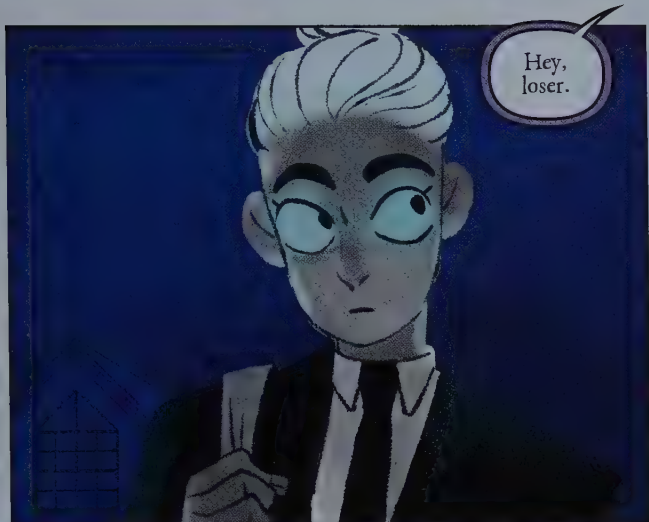
A word
to the wise.

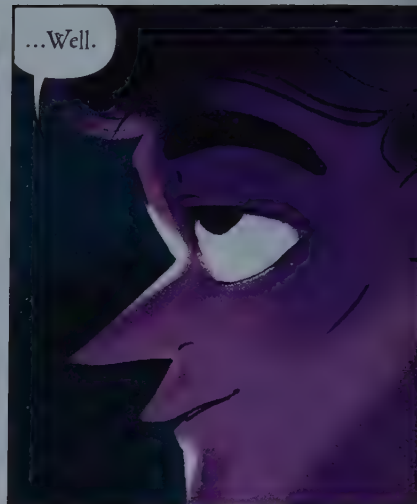


Don't fuck
with things you
shouldn't be
fucking with.



M'kay?







EPISODE 109: ROAD TRIP



Why are you pulling over?

I thought we were going to see Helios?

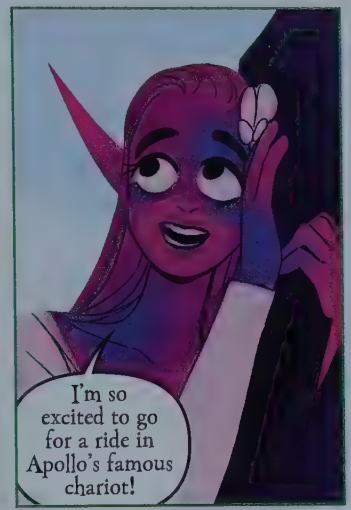


Can you get out of the front seat?







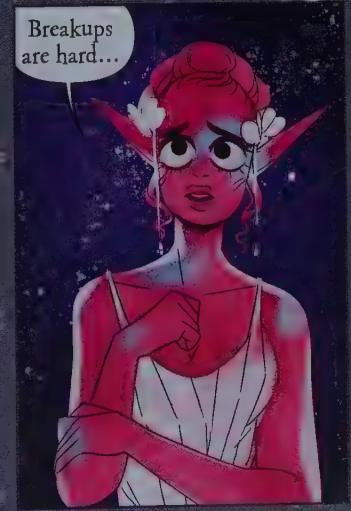
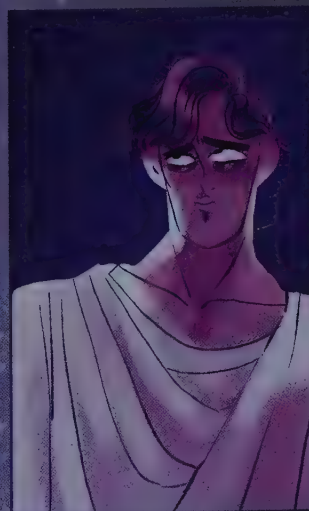
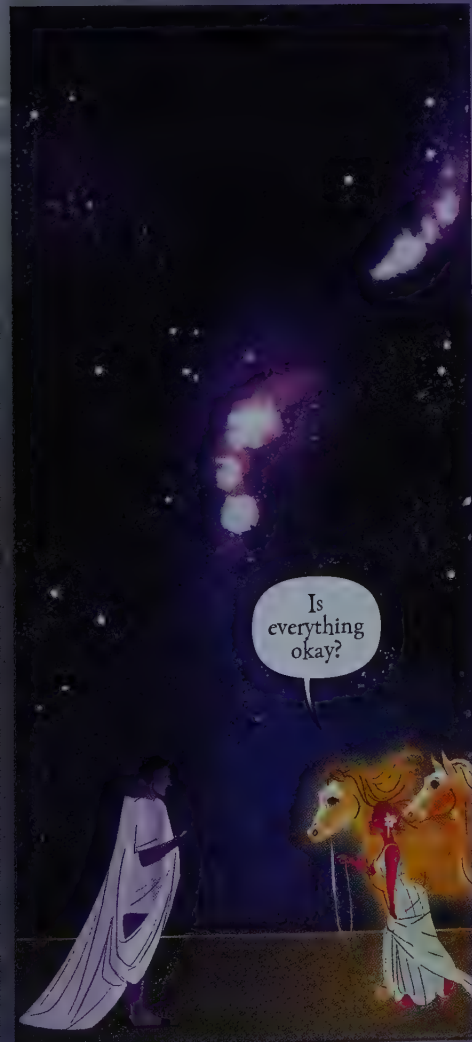
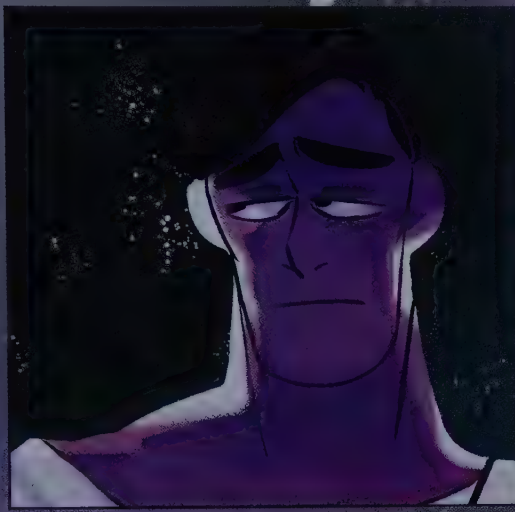




Thanatos:
This is actually the worst.

Thetis:
Take one for the team!!!









Astraeus
is coming in for
handover...



He's just
finishing up
with dusk.





Wow,
amazing!



I never
thought I'd get
up this close.

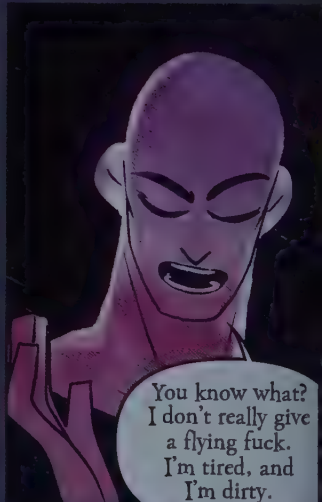
What the
fuck is this?
Did you bring the
whole squad?



Last time I
checked, I didn't
have to ask you
if I could bring
guests--



You know what?
I don't really give
a flying fuck.
I'm tired, and
I'm dirty.



P.S. He's
in a terrible mood
tonight. So good
luck dealing with
that, buddy.





Eh.



We usually give Helios a little break between shifts.



So now is a good time to go talk to him.

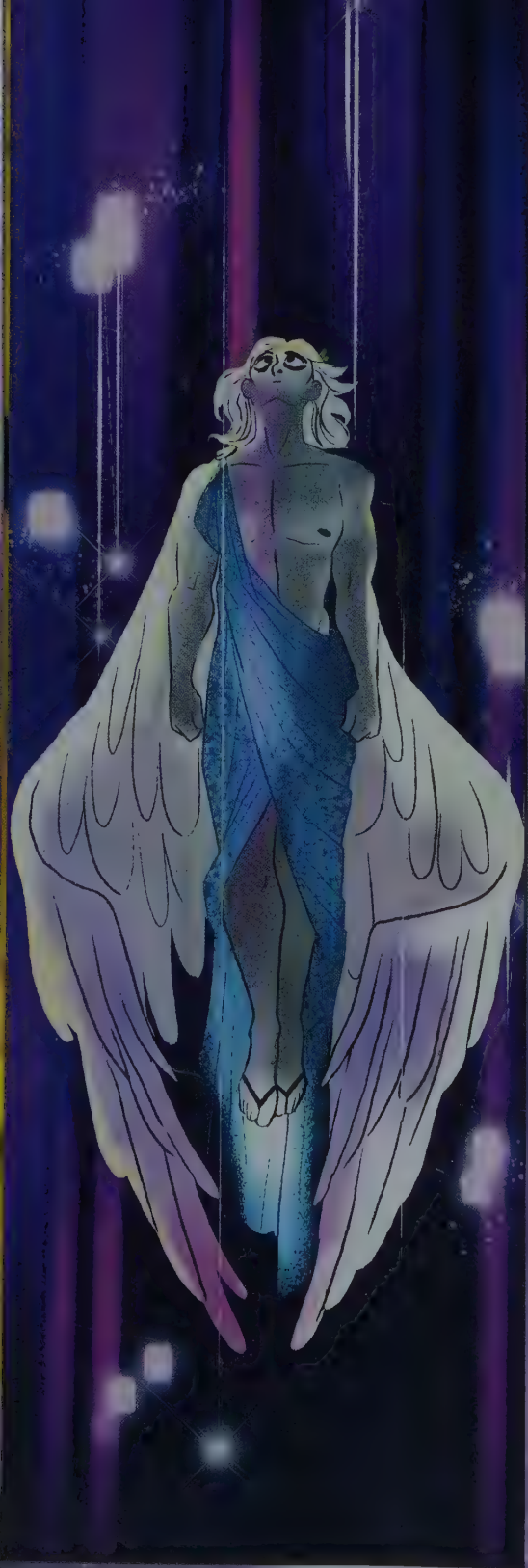


Remember, choose your questions wisely.

His heat is immense, and only those of us who are Sun Gods can withstand it.



B-be careful!



Hello?
Mr. Helios,
sir?



Tell that purple
asshole I'm still
on break.





Oh,
I'm not here
for that, sir.
I'm
Thanatos.



Thanatos?
You're Nyx's
boy...



Yes.



How
is she?
Is she still a
spitfire?



Are you
asking me
if my mother is
a spitfire?



Sigh
You new
Gods are so
uptight.

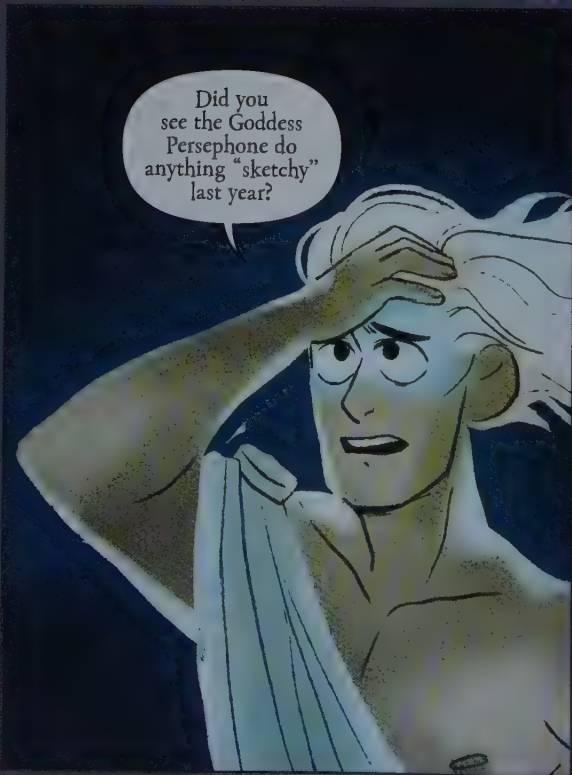


Ah, Mr. Helios, sir. I have a few questions.

YAWN!



I suppose I could answer some questions since you're not one of those insufferable Olympians.

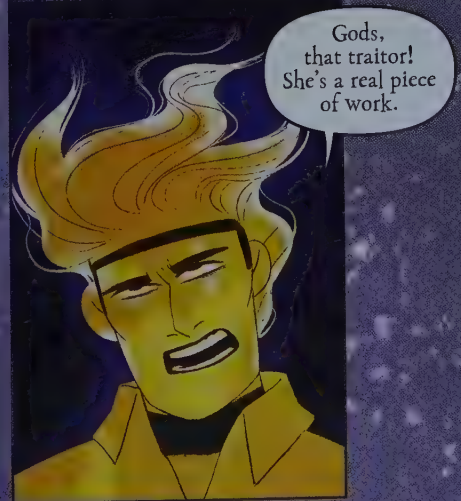



Did you see the Goddess Persephone do anything "sketchy" last year?




Persephone?

What does she look like?






That woman
tried to pay
me off.



But unfortunately for
Demeter, there isn't a lot
you can offer a man in
my situation.



She tried
to bribe you?
Could you
elaborate, sir?



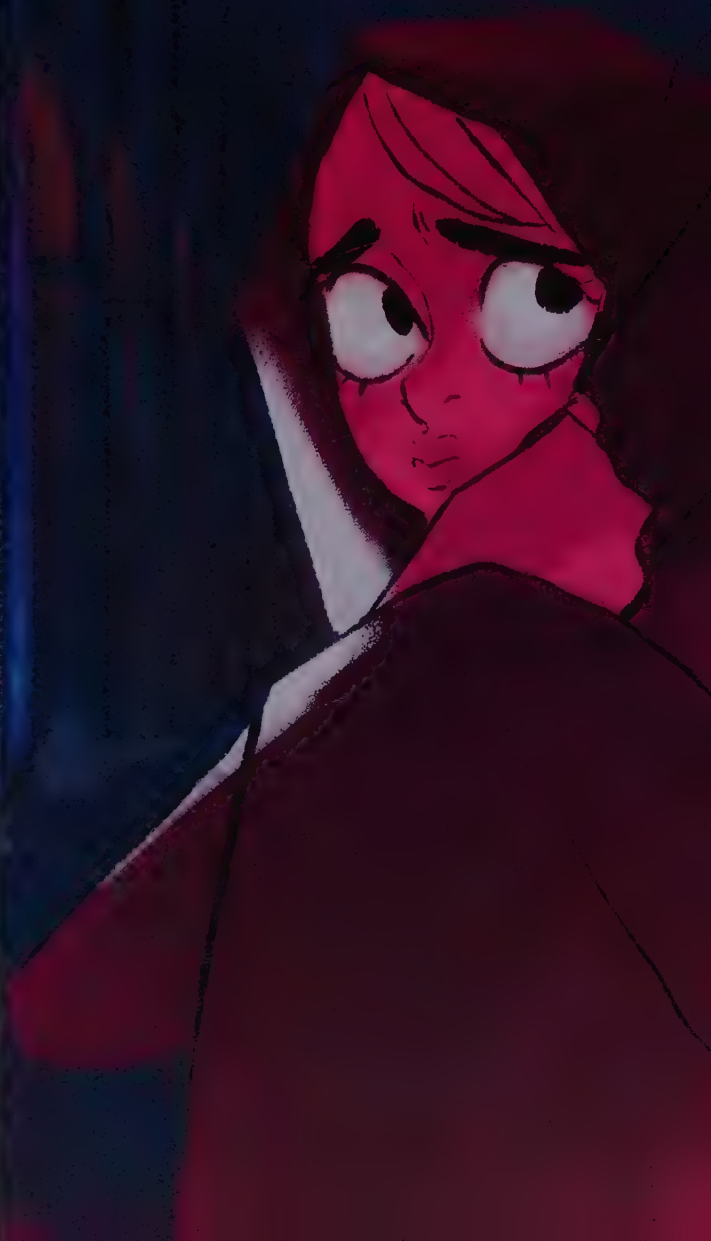
Oh,
I see.

You want
to know about
*The Bringer
of Death.*

Each and every one of us is capable of acts of wrath.



But what she did that day...



...is like
nothing I'd
seen before.











You can do this.



I don't have many coins to spare...



But at least it's a start.



TUG!



?



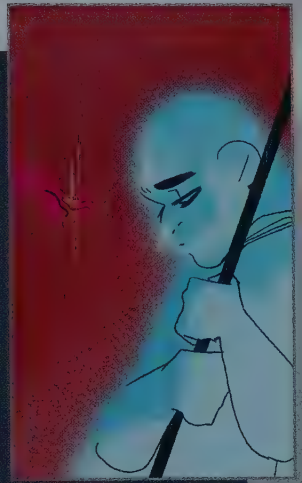
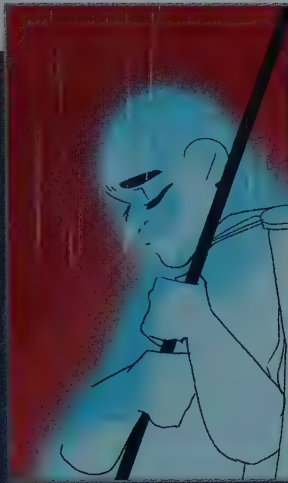
Awww.
The biggest dog with the softest steps.

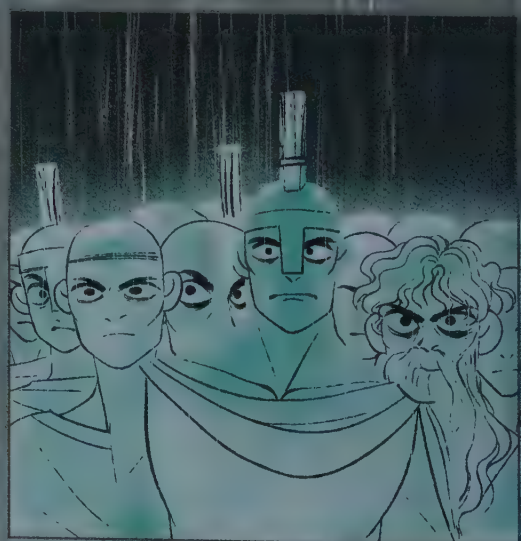
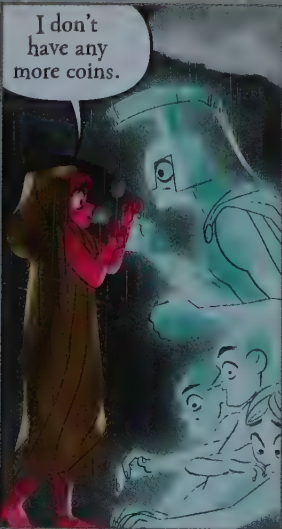


I need to do this, baby.
But I promise I won't be long.

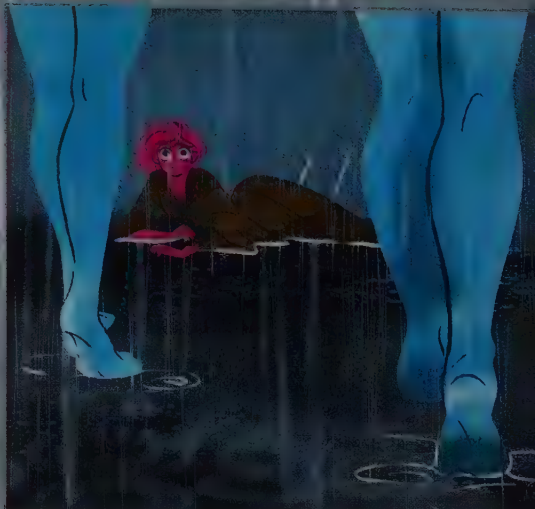
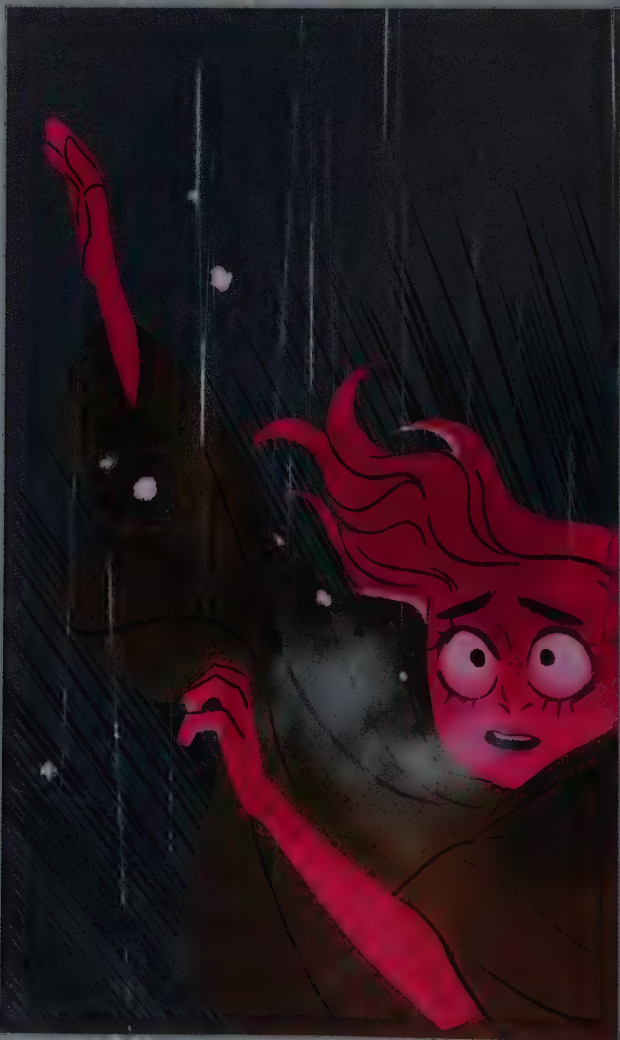


Stay...

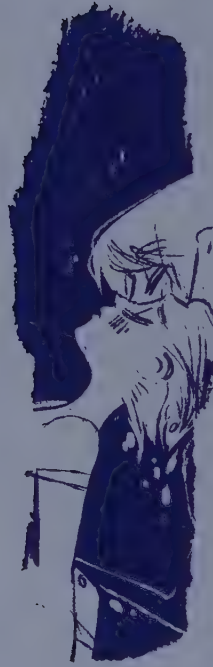












EPISODE 110:

KALEIDOSCOPE



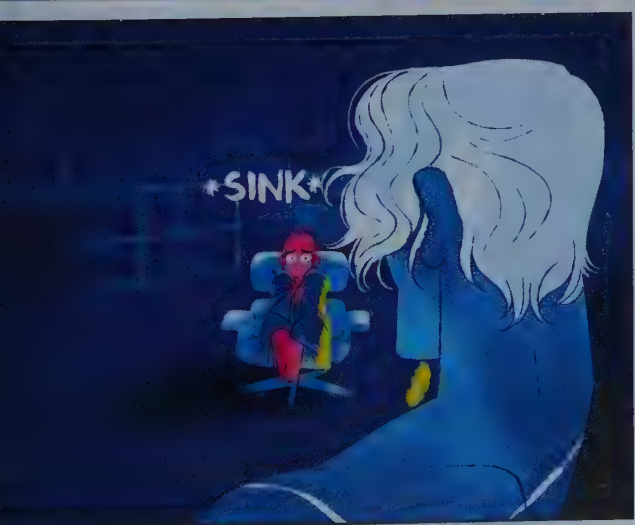
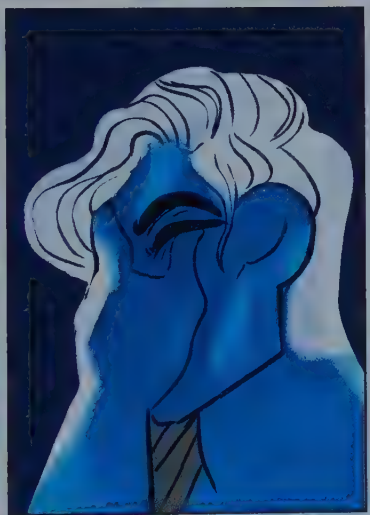
Yes, yes.
I know it's
a riot.

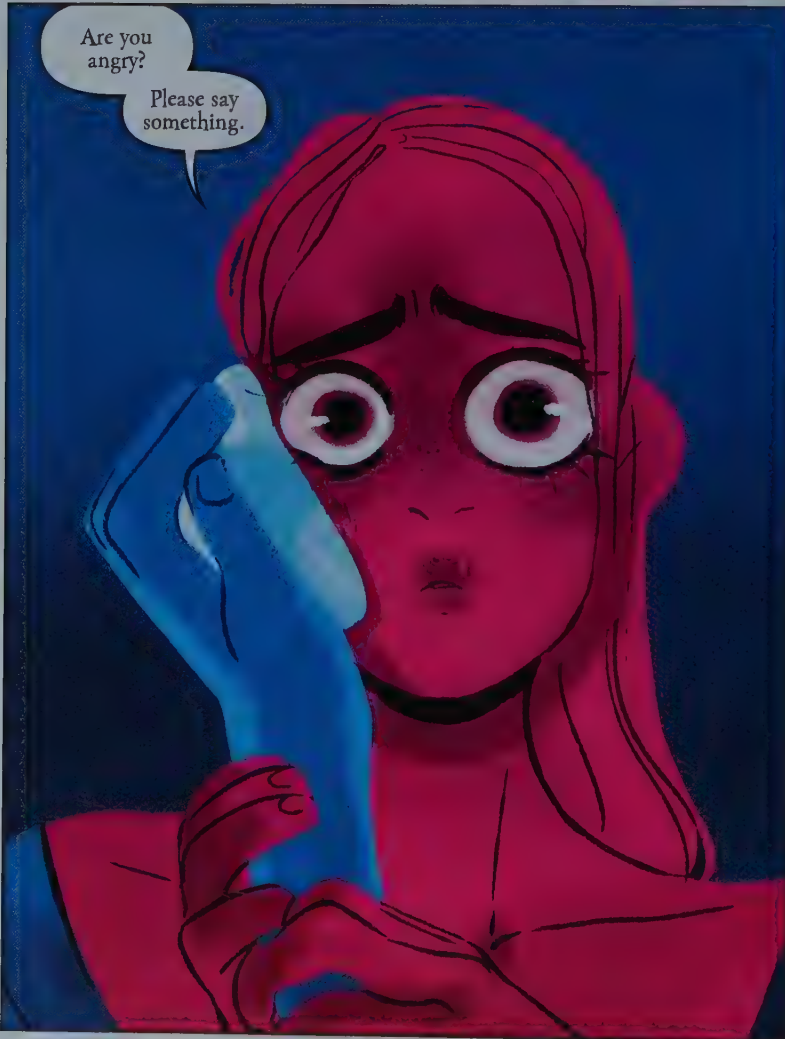


Can we get
someone
down there?

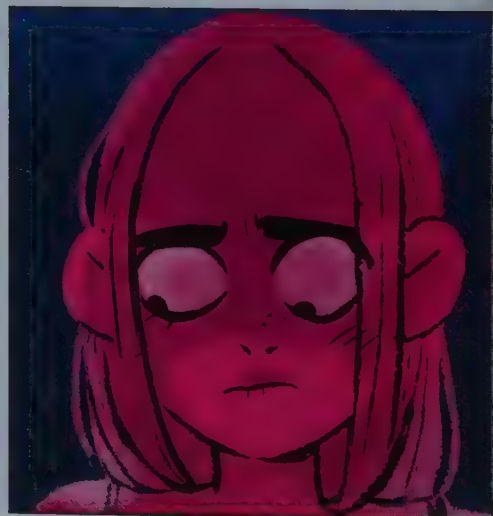


Thanks.









You caused quite the commotion down on the beach.

The least you can do is tell me why.



...I wanted to give coins to the shades who can't pay the ferryman.



You were handing out coins on the beach!?

You're right, I wouldn't approve!



I'm sorry to say this, but that's very hypocritical of you.

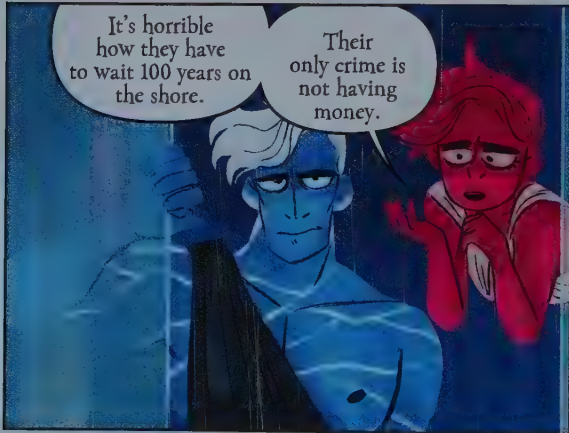


How!?

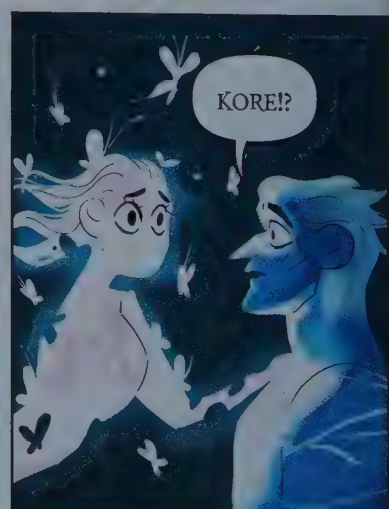


Because you asked me not to tarnish your reputation, and yet you seek to undermine mine?

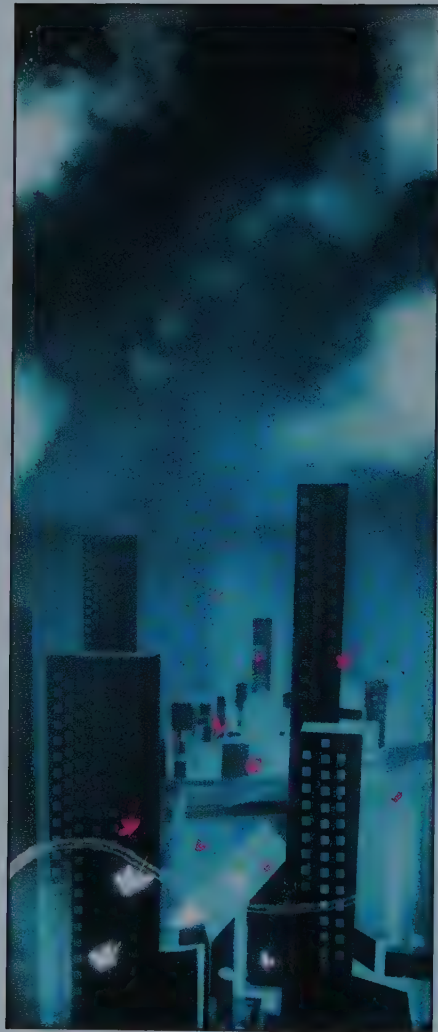
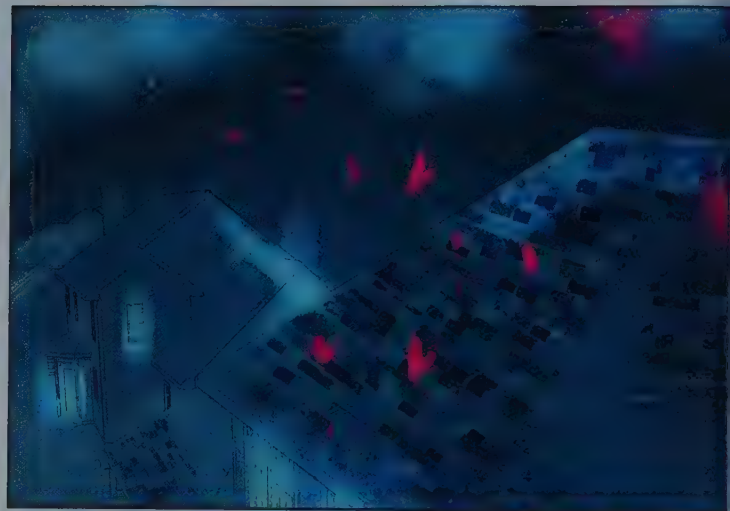


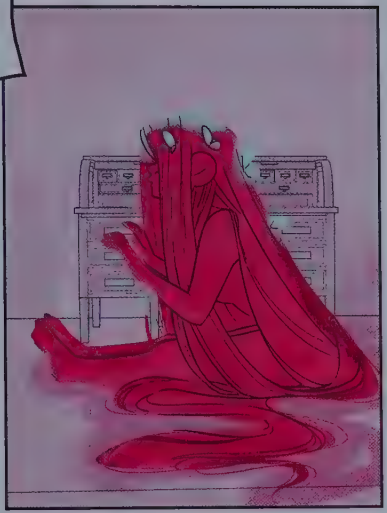
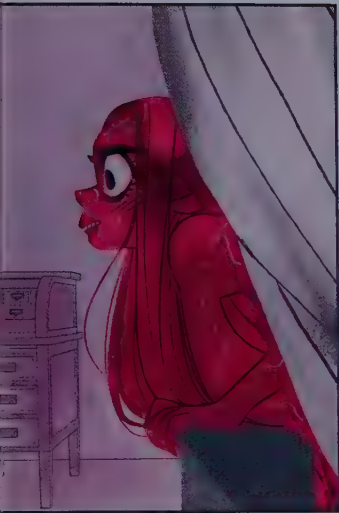


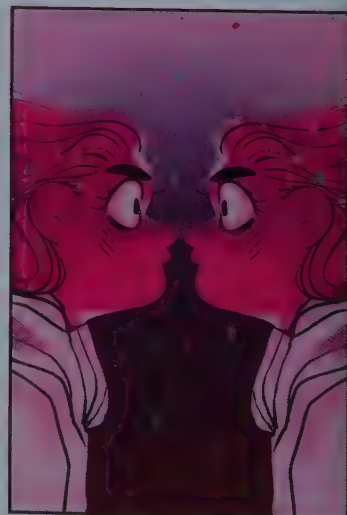
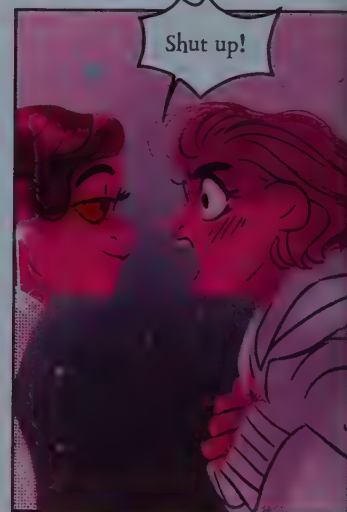
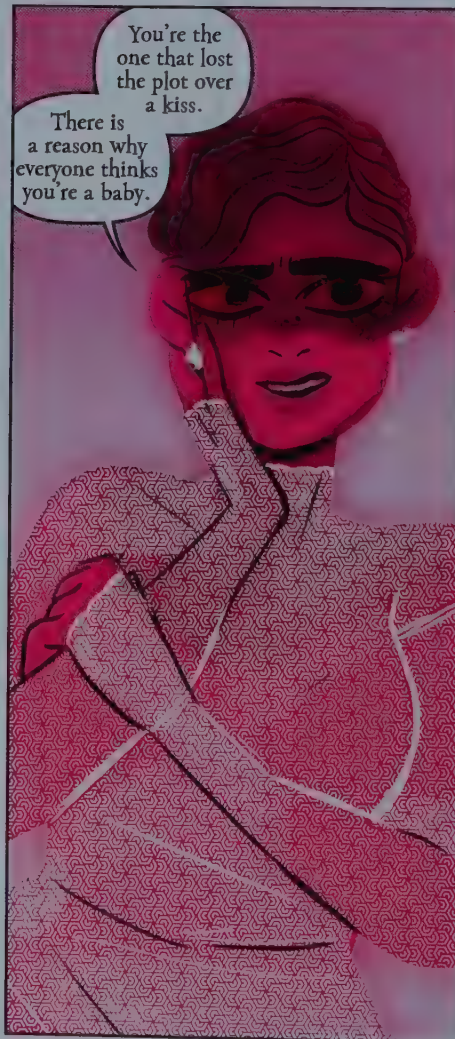
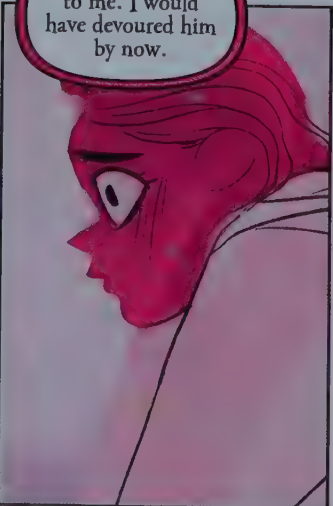
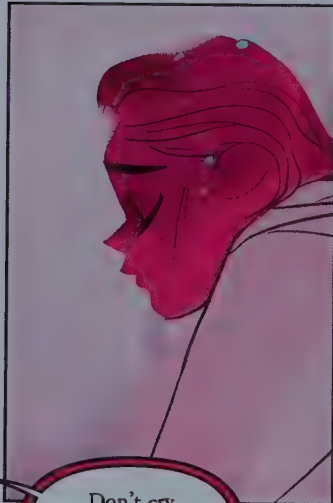
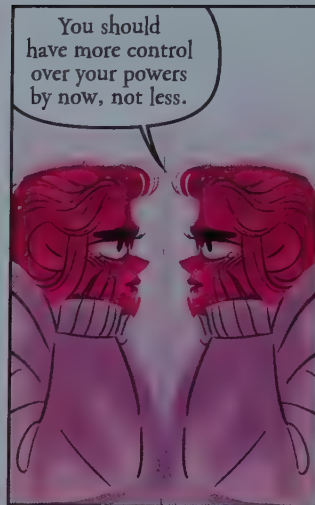


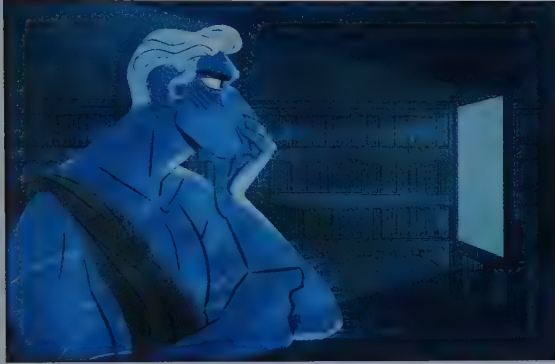












Fuckfuck
fuckfuck!

WHY
DID I KISS
HER!?



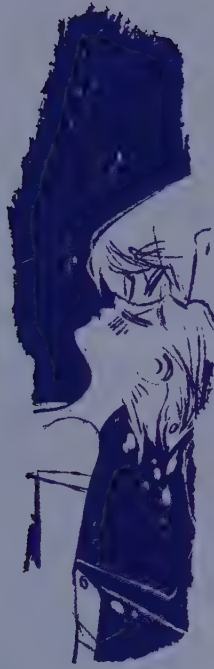
I TOLD
HER THAT
I WANTED
HER.

Fuckfuck
fuckfuck.

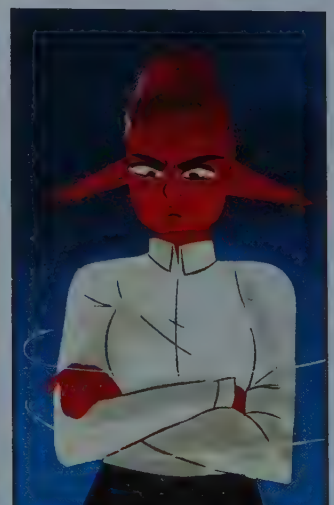
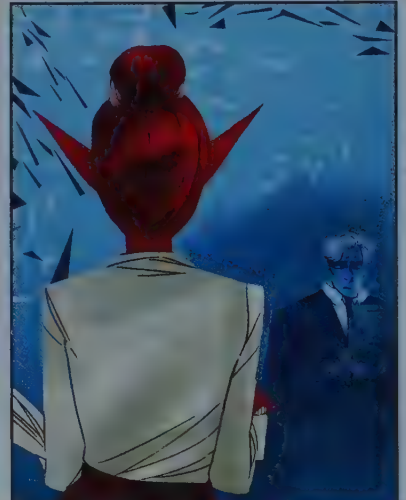
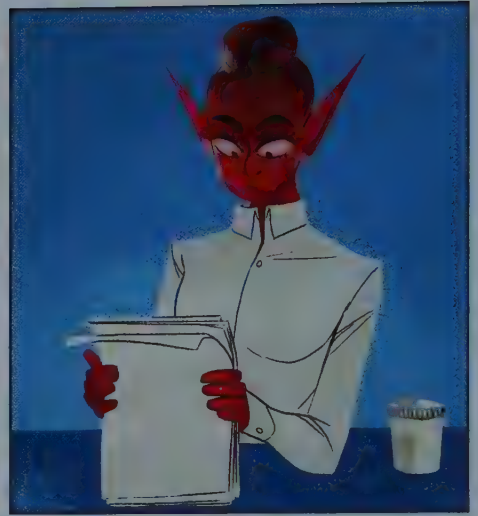


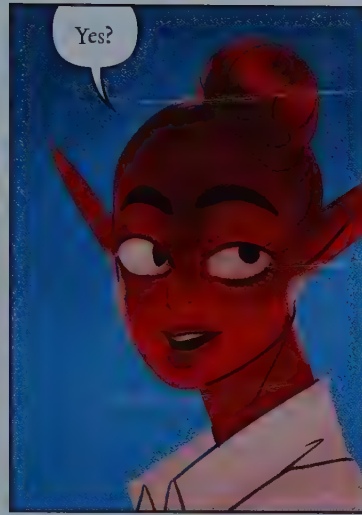
Somehow
this is your
fault.





EPISODE III: YOU TELL ME





Thetis:
How's it going?

Minthe:
Crap. I may as well be a ghost.

Thetis:
Did you try not wearing a bra?
That always works for me.

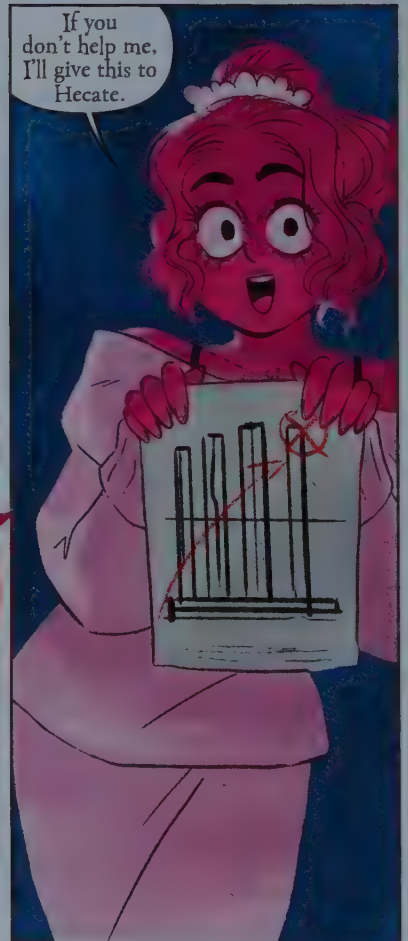
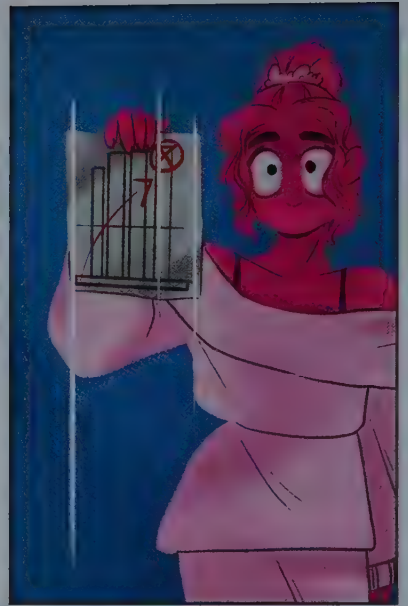
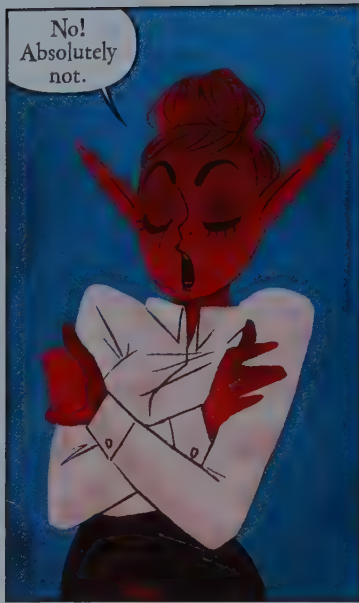
Minthe:
...

Minthe:
Any word from Thanatos?

Thetis:
Not yet...









Give me that!

This doesn't prove anything!



Check the footer. It's your own stationery.



FROM THE DESK OF HADES' PERSONAL ASSISTANT (MINTHE)



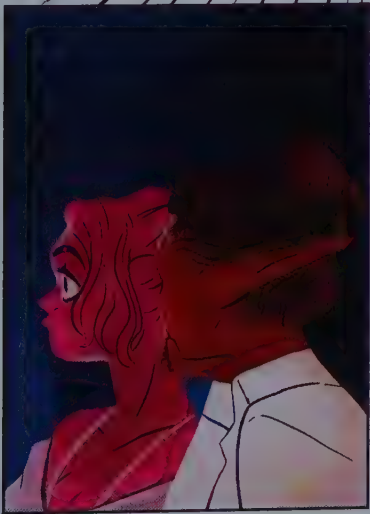
Click that one. Then wait for the pop-up.

Then create a new blank field.

Kay.

Kay.

Kay.



You know... when Hades and I first started out, he'd do anything for me...

...like he treats you now.



It's always so exciting in the beginning.

The way
he looks
at you.

He'll drop
anything
he's doing
to please
you.

...And
the gifts.



Look.

Hades
and I aren't
together. There
is no reason
for you to
do whatever
this is.



I'm sorry
that you
broke up.
I--

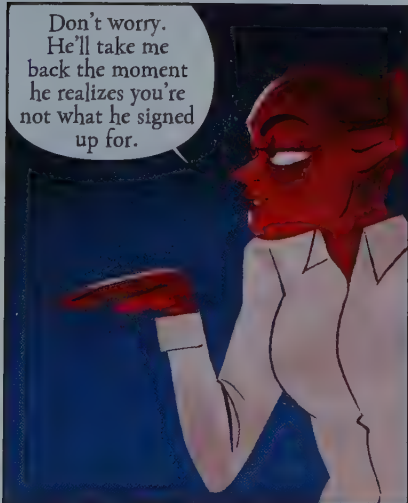


HA!

You're
not sorry
at all.



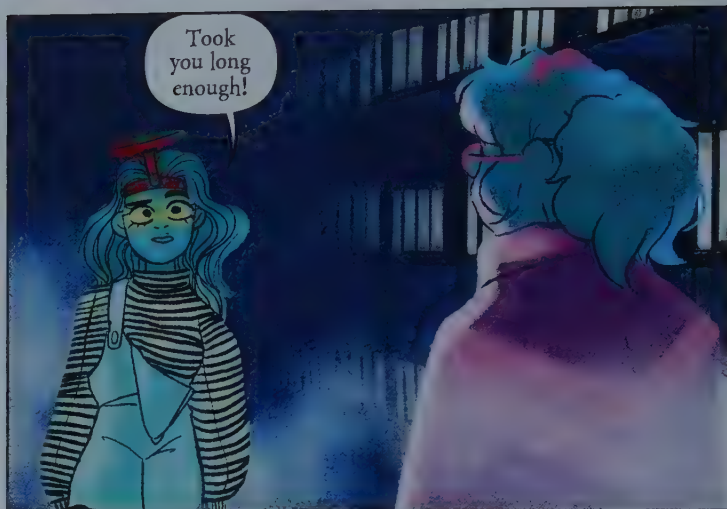
Don't worry.
He'll take me
back the moment
he realizes you're
not what he signed
up for.

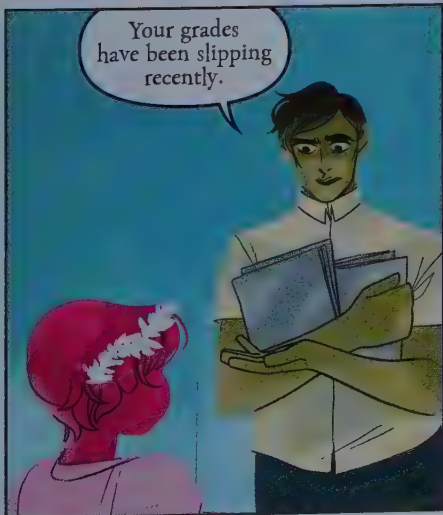
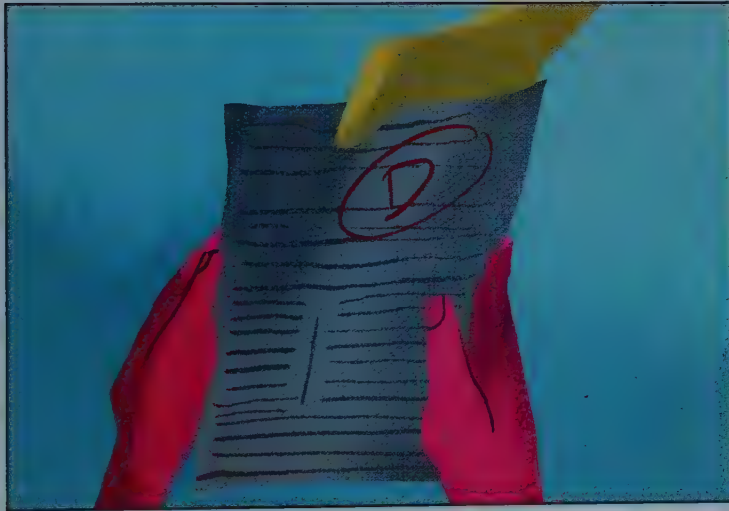


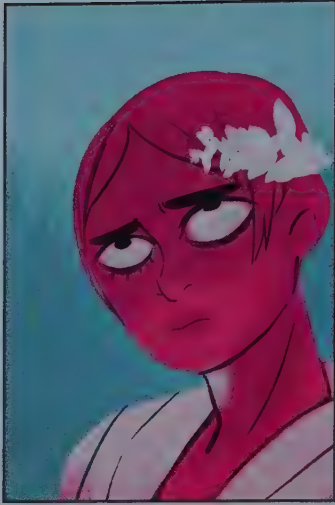
...What do
you mean
by that?

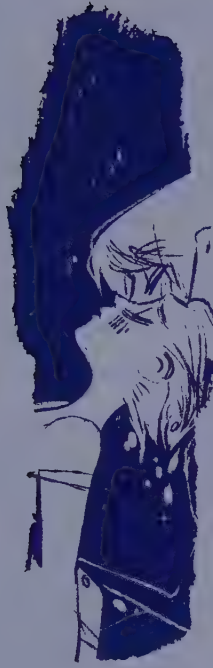










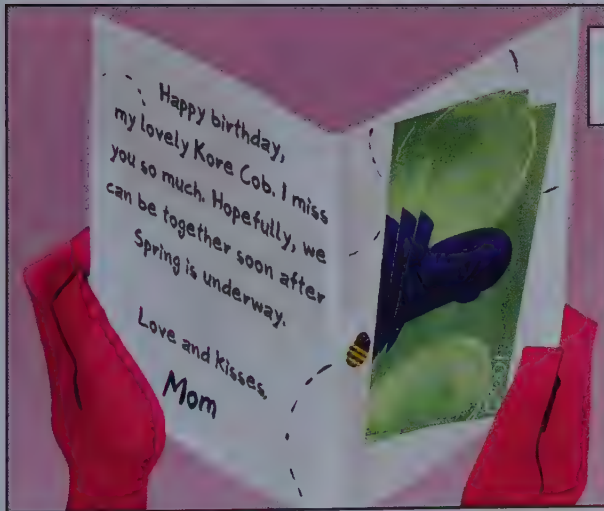
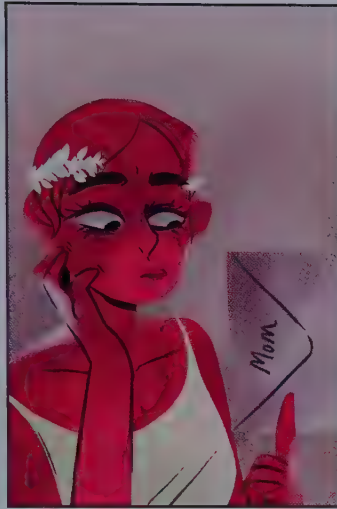


EPIISODE 112: CREATURE COMFORT

HAHAHAHA!



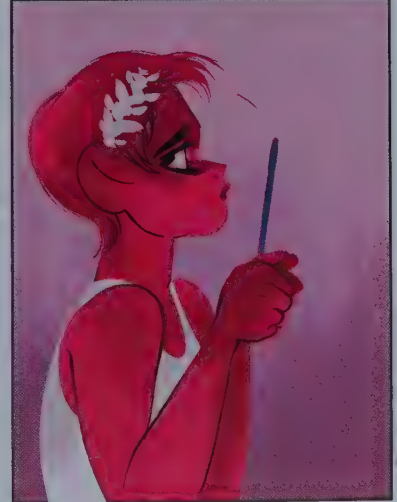
HAHAHAHAHA!

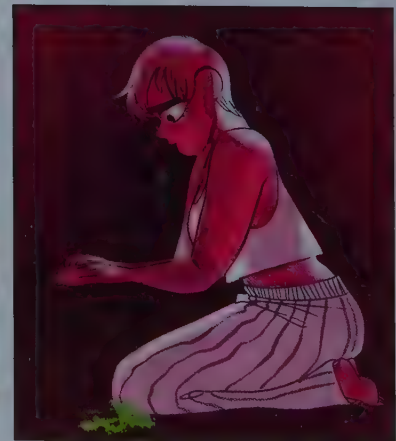
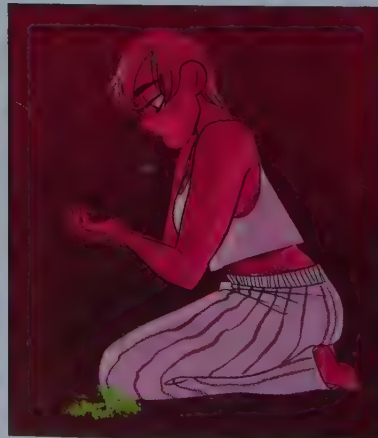


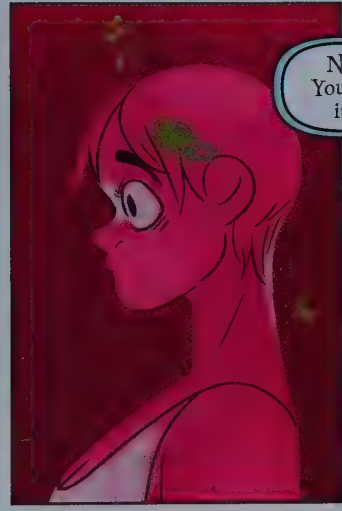
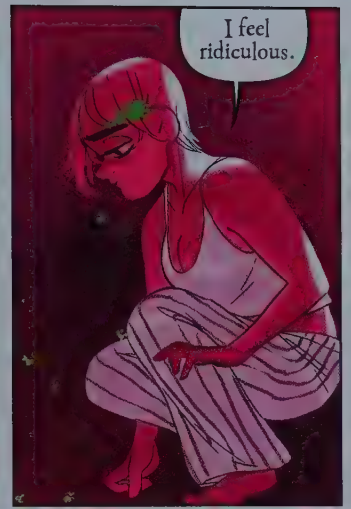
P.S. Why don't you take your friends out for a nice dinner?

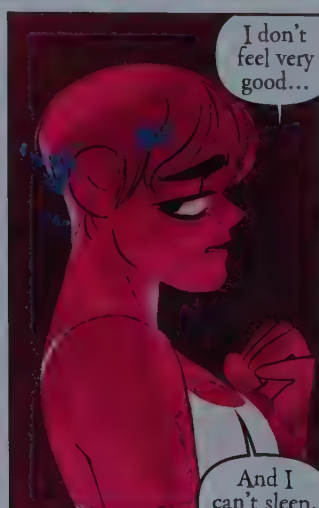
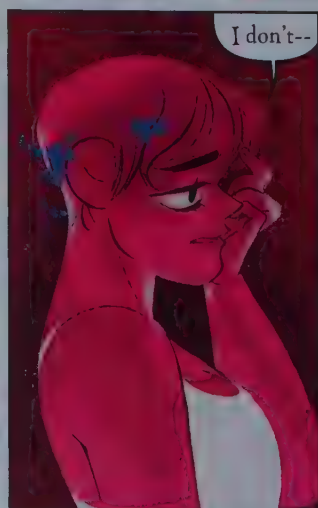
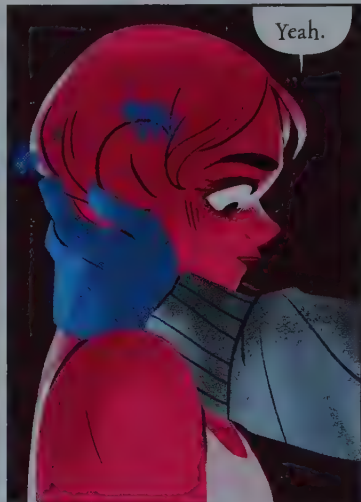
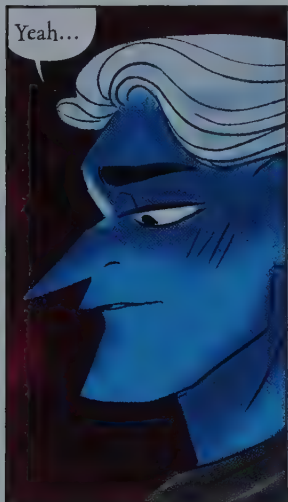


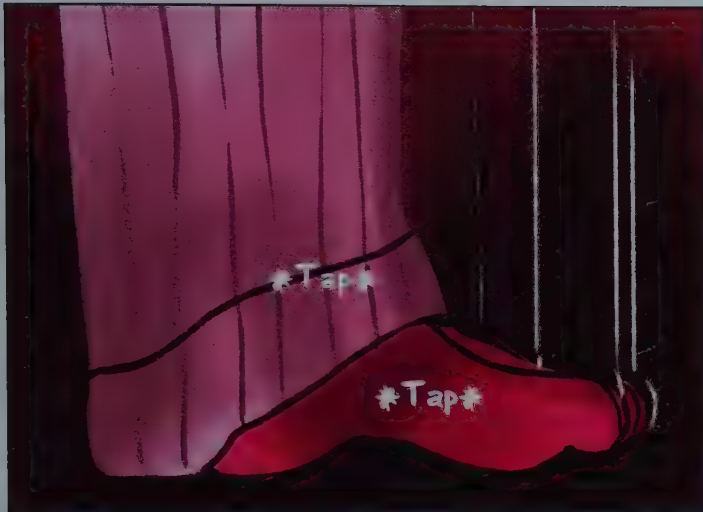
LAUGHTER!



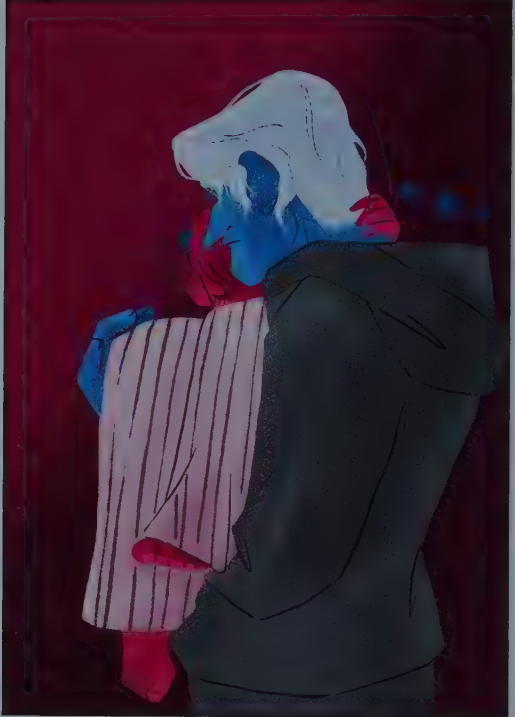




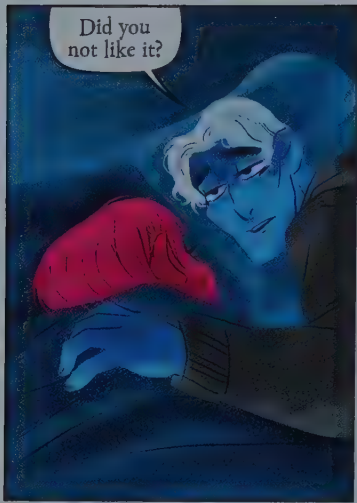




I'm sorry to hear that you're not doing well.









And sorry
for being
weird.



You're not
that weird.

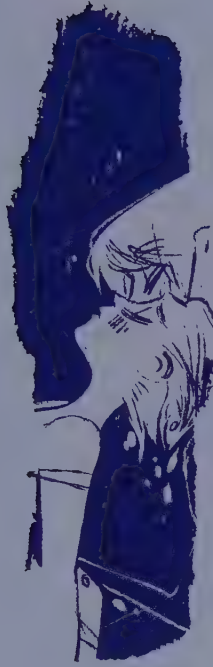


See?



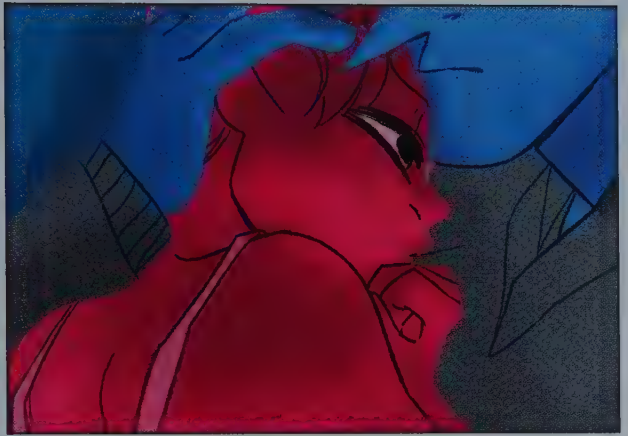
I'm really
glad you're
here.





EPISODE 113: TELL





I could get into a lot of trouble for having him here.



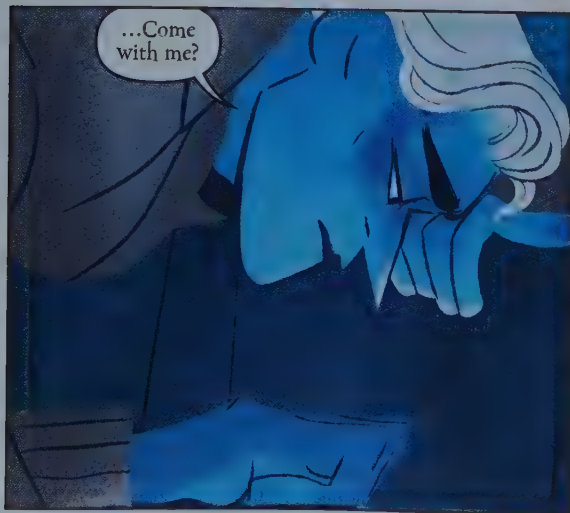
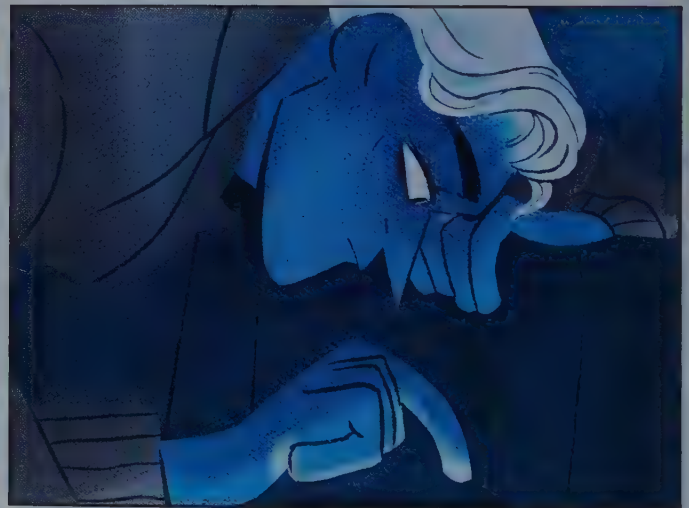
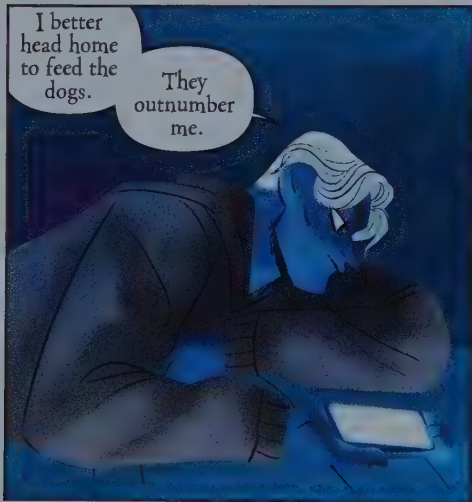
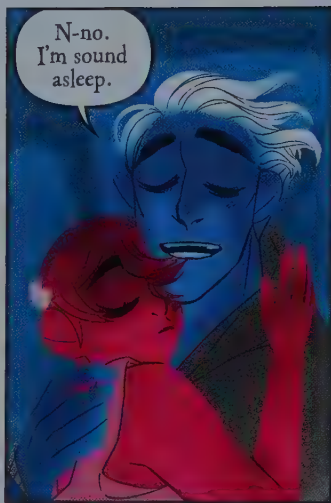
Worth it.

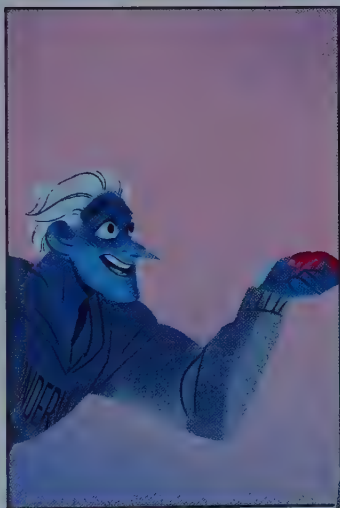
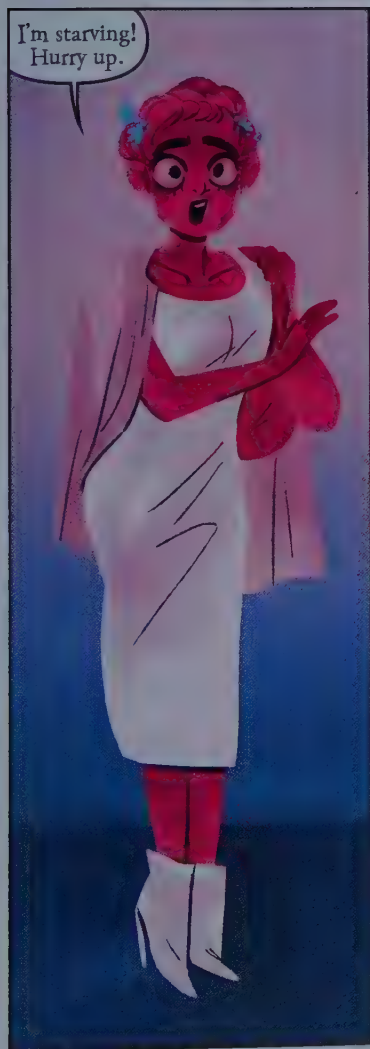


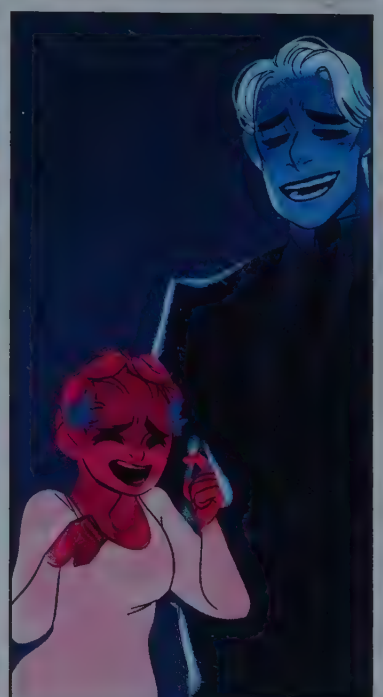
Little Goddess, you should be asleep.

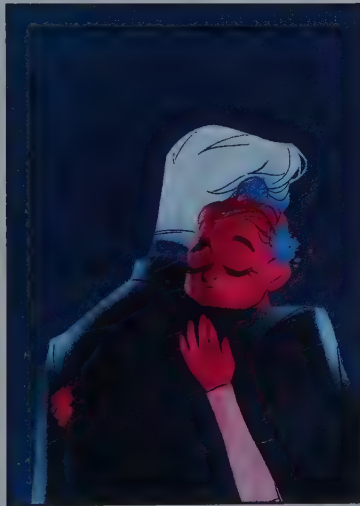


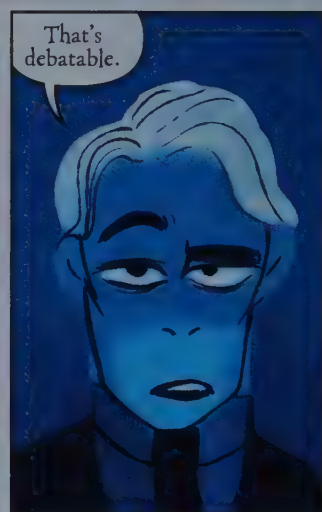
You're awake, though.

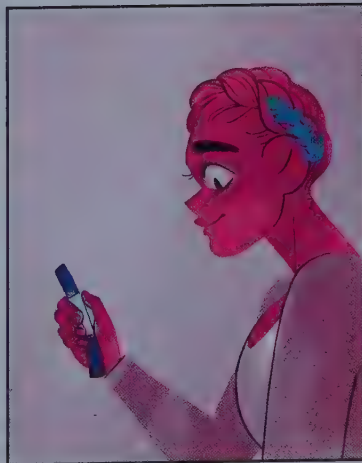
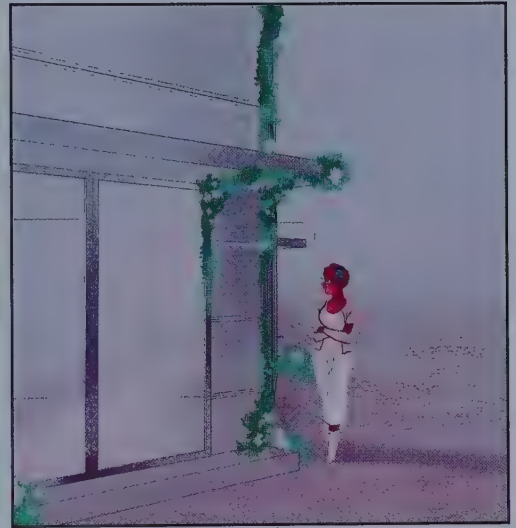


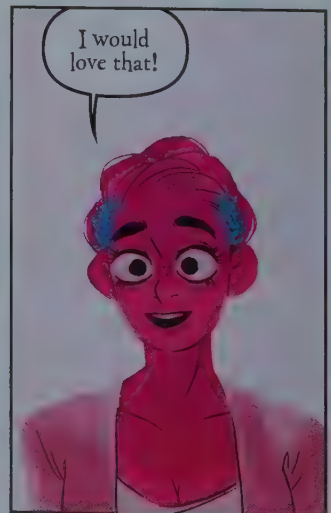
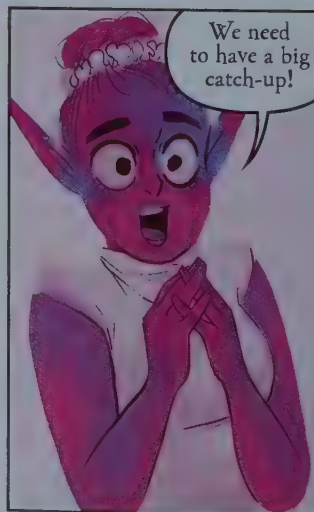
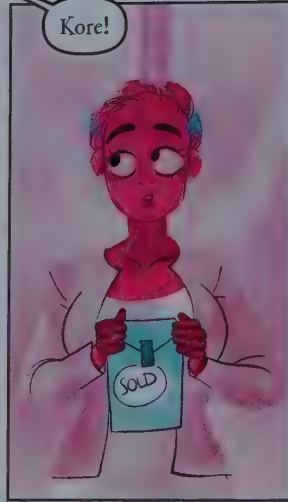


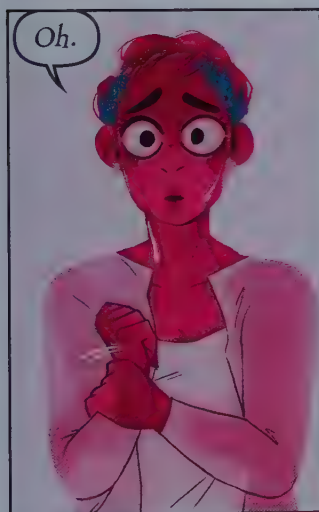


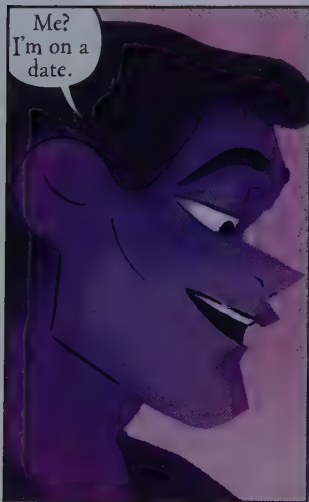


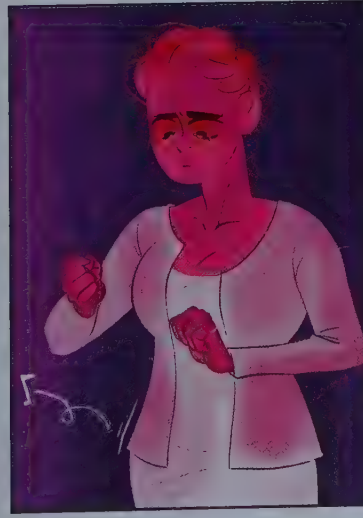
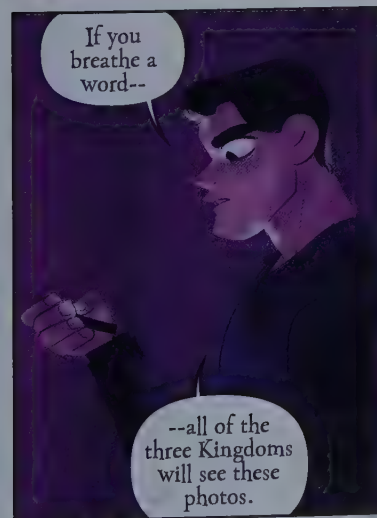
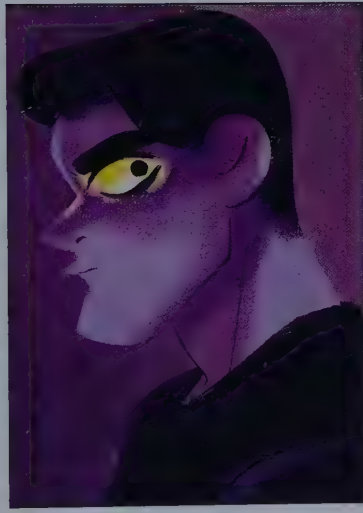
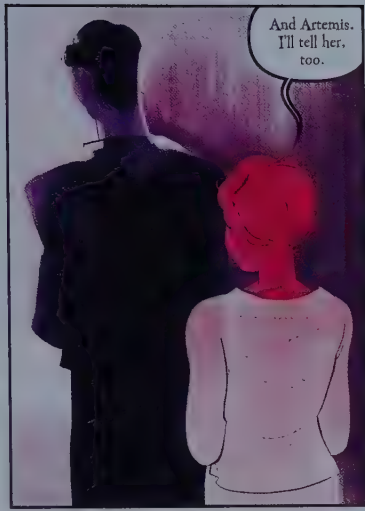












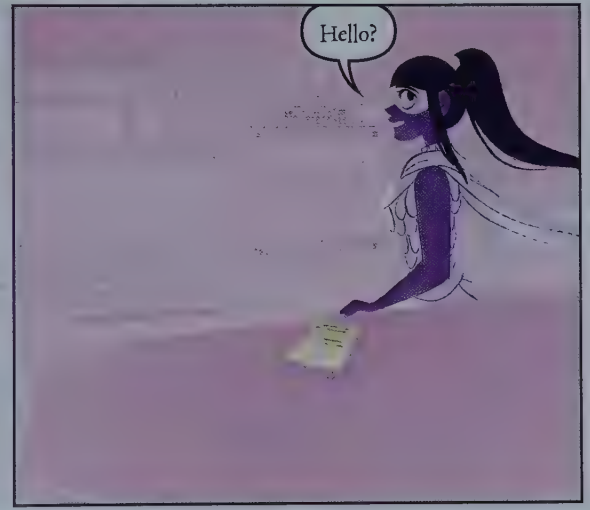
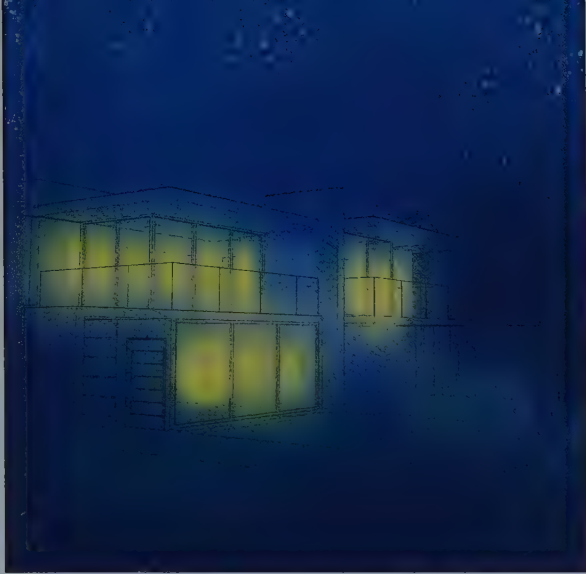


I'm just taking pictures. Relax.



Everyone will see a minor Goddess who got cold feet about her commitment to a life of celibacy.

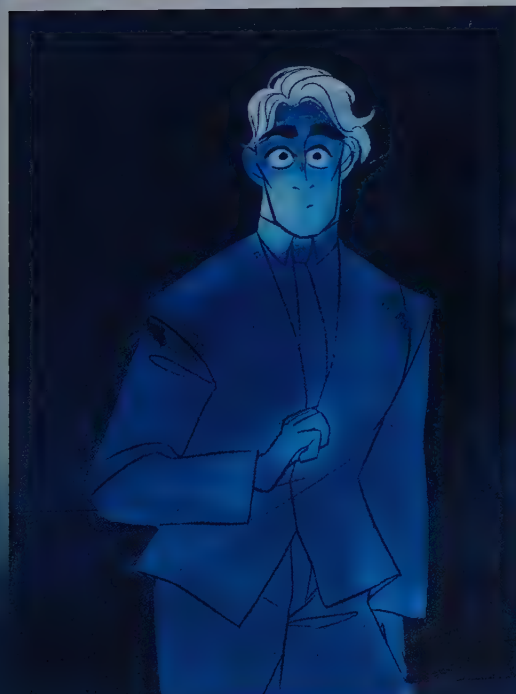
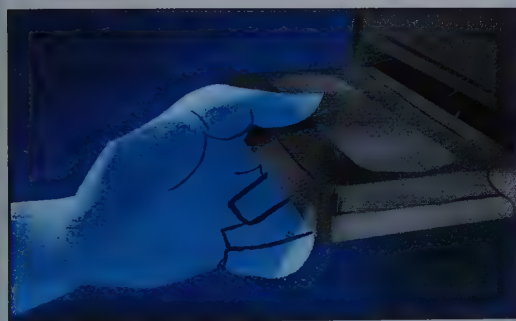




Dear Artemis,
My mother came to visit me
today, so I decided to go home
with her for a little break. See
you in a week or so.
Lots of love,
Persephone









Love Olympus

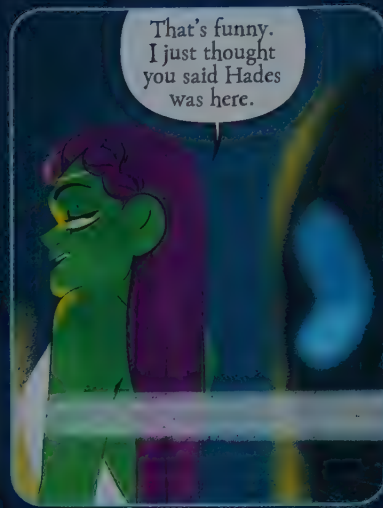
EPISODE 114: VHS



That's funny.
I just thought
you said Hades
was here.

He is.

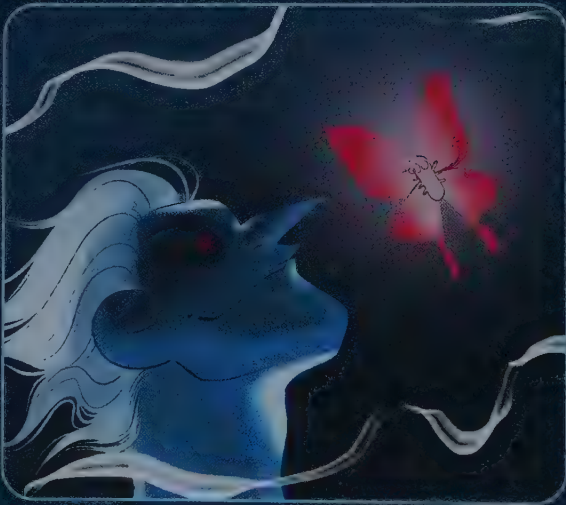
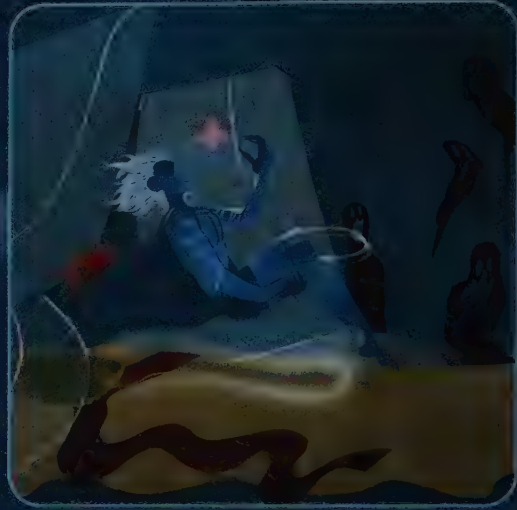
WHAT!?

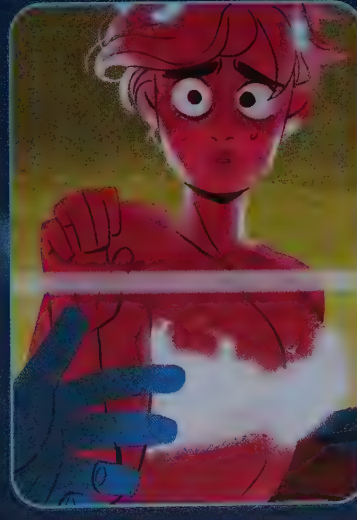
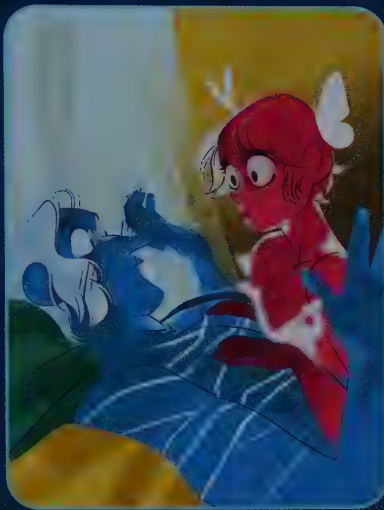




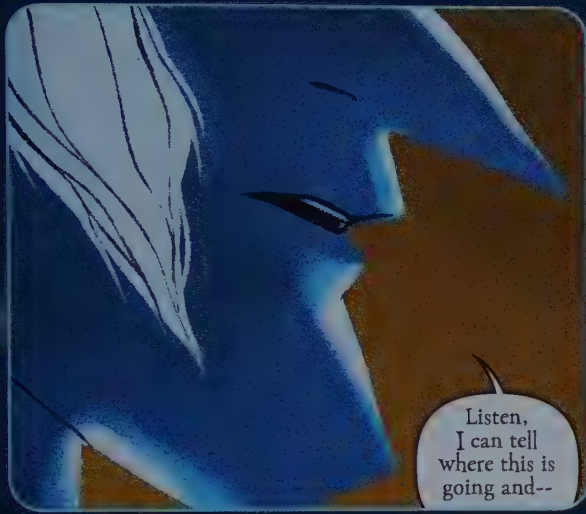












Listen,
I can tell
where this is
going and--



Let's say
they died,
but it wasn't
their fault--



I can't--



But it's not fair,
their friends and
families miss
them--

I can't
bring mortals
back from the
dead.

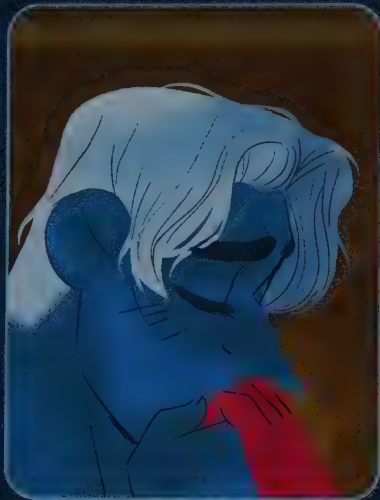


Please!
You're the
only one who
can help me!



I can't...

I'm sorry.



Tell your friend not to fret. Mortals are a dime a dozen.



Sigh
Thank you for listening...



FOOTSTEPS



I have to go!

Wait!
I still don't know who you are!



Goodbye!



Hello, Aidoneus.



D-Demeter?

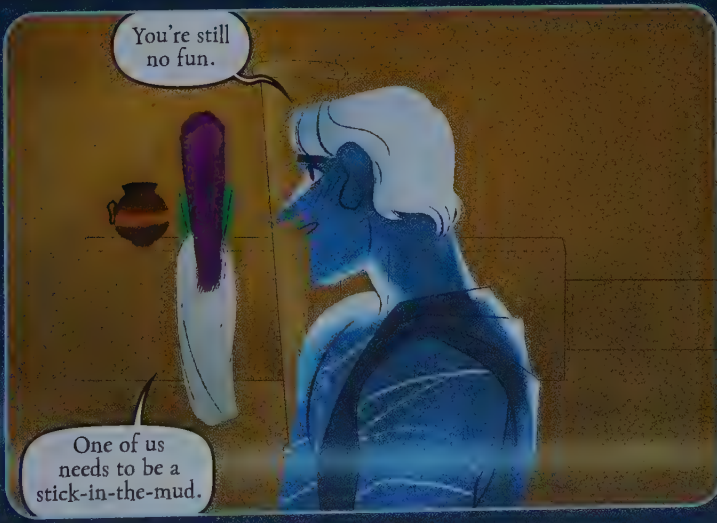


#Hic#

Have a drink with me.



If you mean a large amount of coffee so you can sober up and take your blue ass home, then yes!



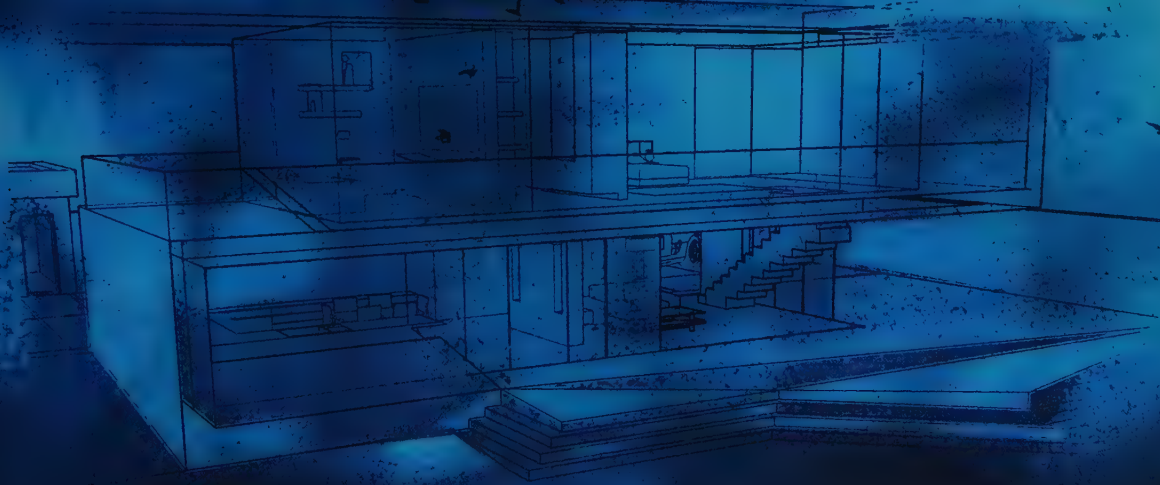
You're still no fun.

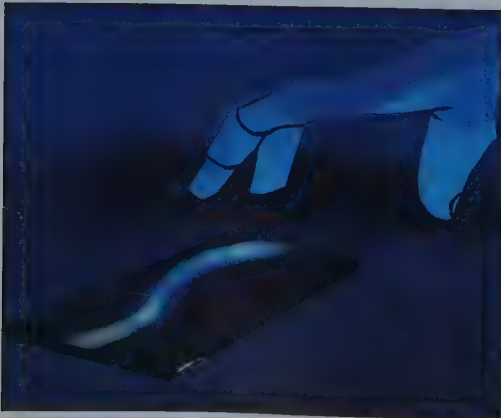
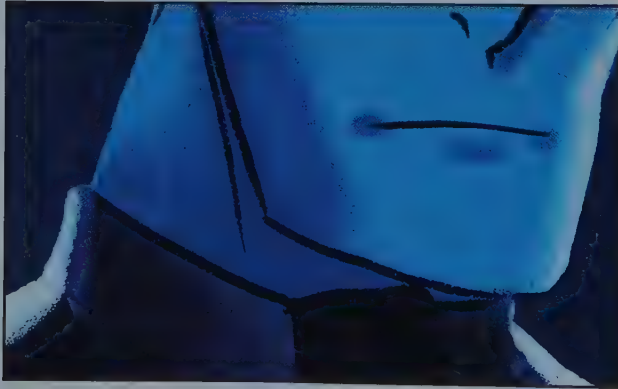
One of us needs to be a stick-in-the-mud.





WHAT!?





*The number you have dialed is
no longer in service.*



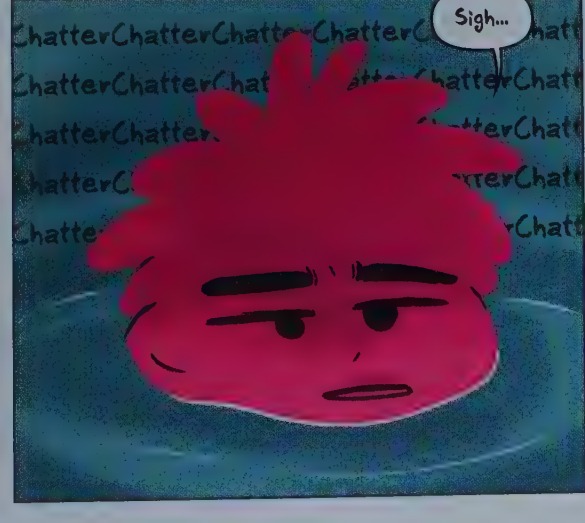


EPIISODE 115: THE BRINGER OF DEATH

How does the Goddess of Spring become the Bringer of Death?

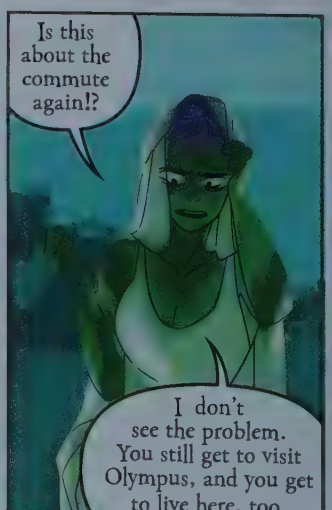
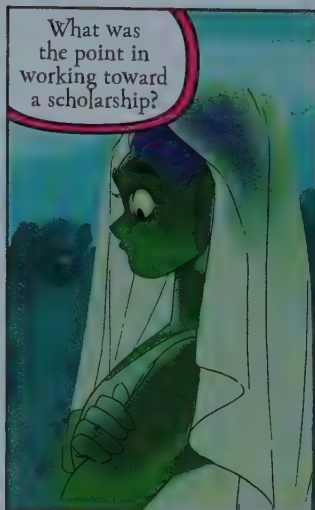
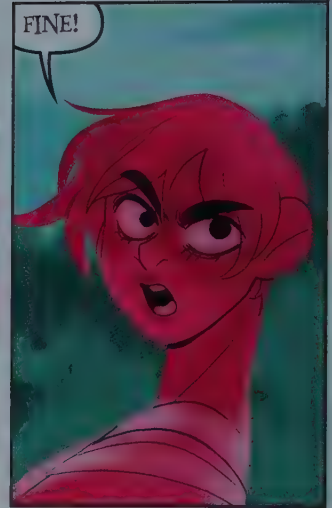
I will tell you how.

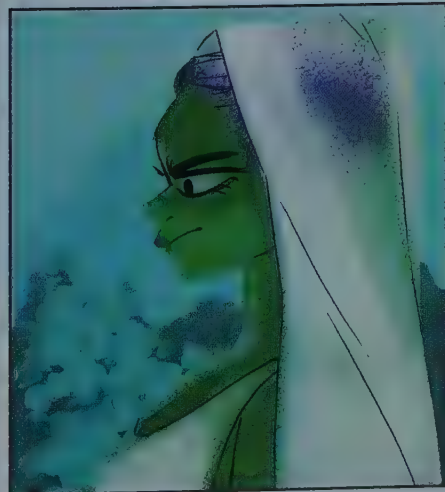
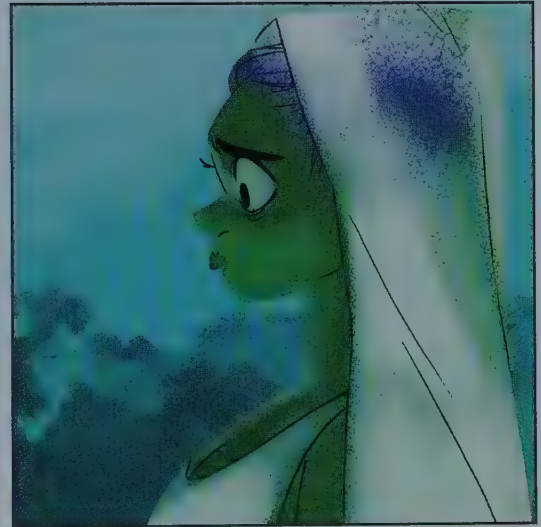


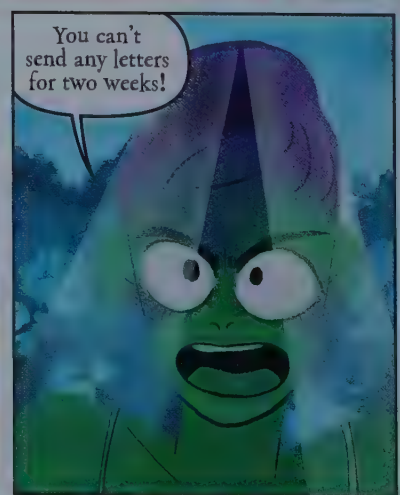




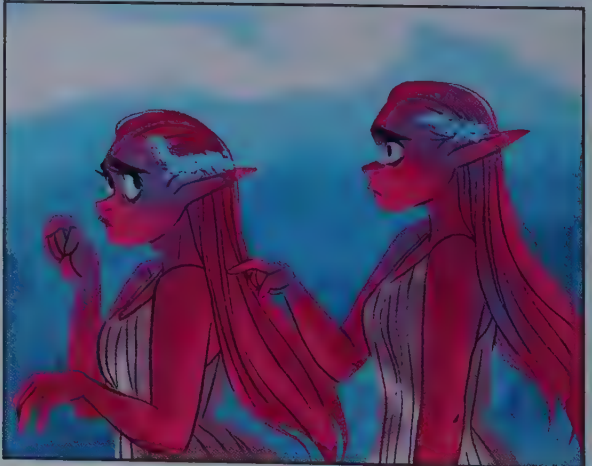
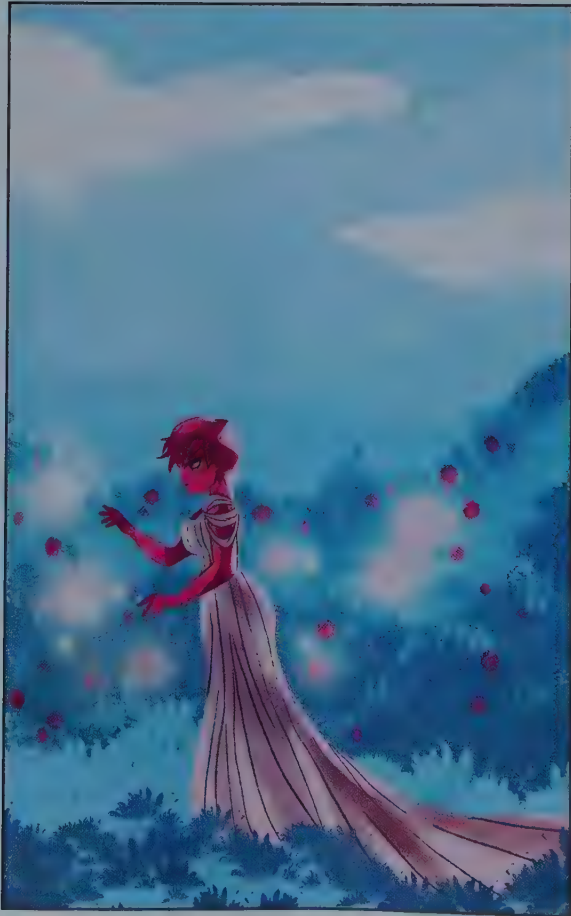


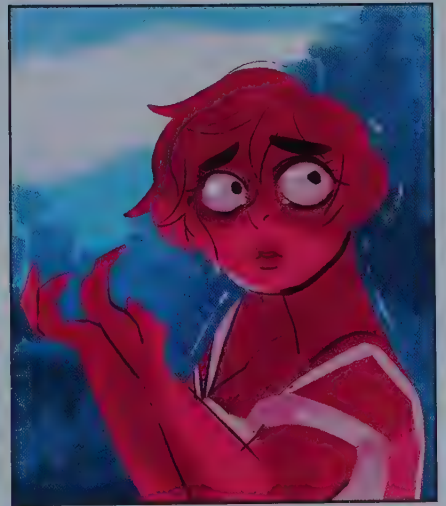


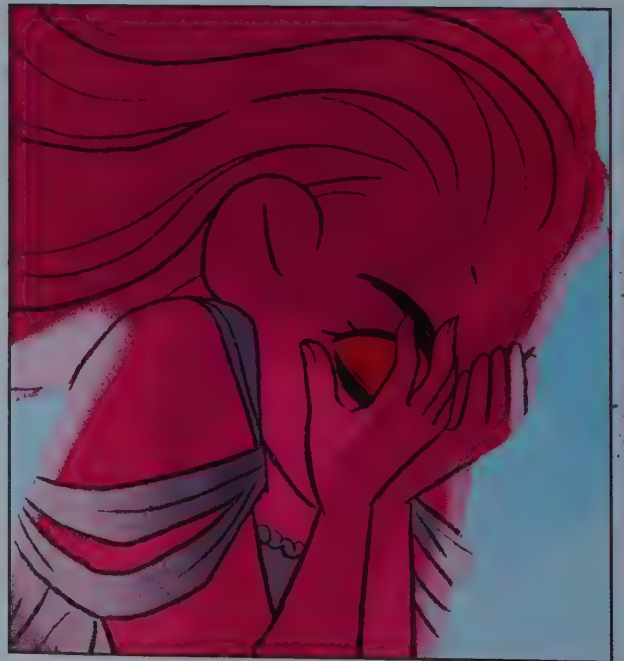
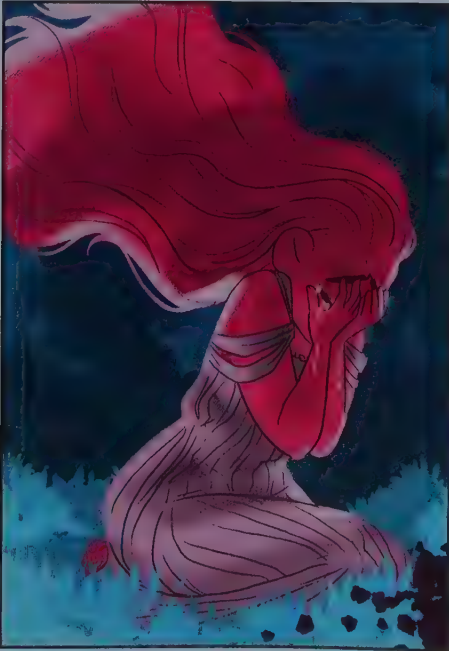












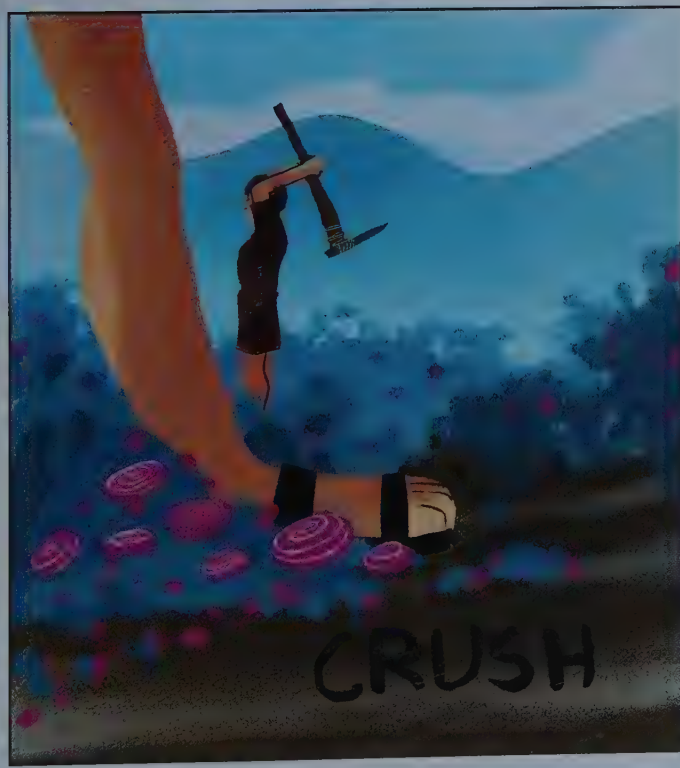
DIG!



YANK!



CRUSH



STOP!



MORTALS,
THIS LAND
IS SACRED.
WHY DO YOU
DEFILE IT?



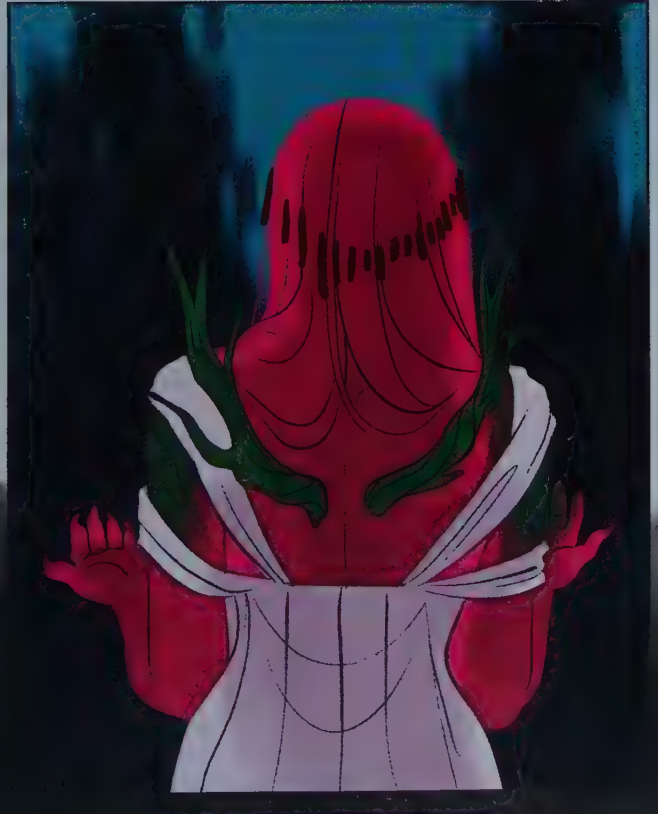
FOR EVERY
FLOWER YOU
UPROOT HERE,
THE LIFE
OF A NYMPH
ENDS.



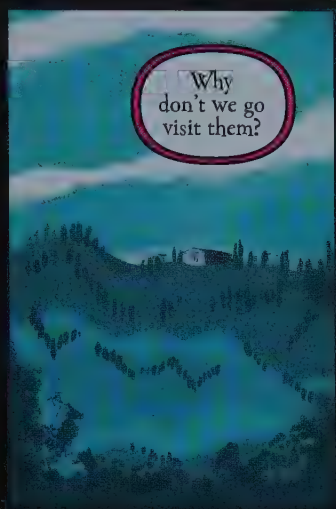
YOU HOLD
MY SISTER'S
CARCASS IN
YOUR ARMS.

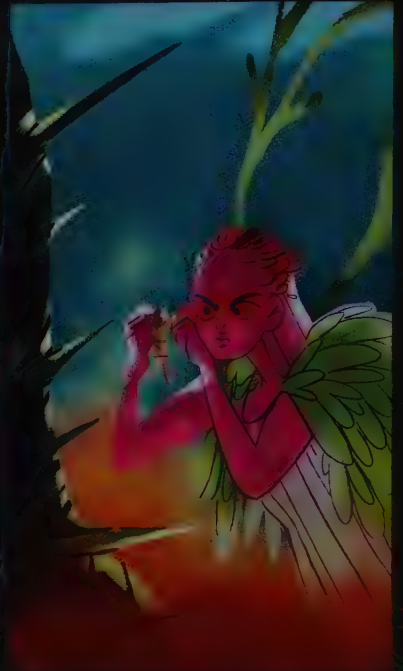
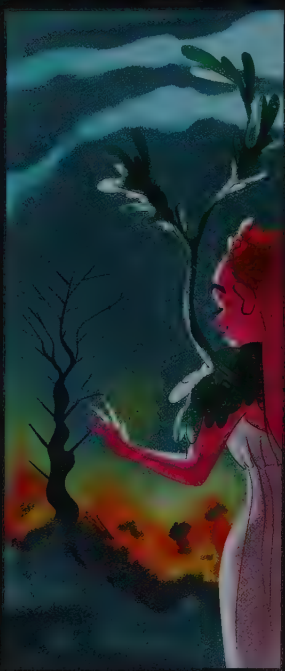
GODDESS,
WE DIDN'T
KNOW--











One by one...



Persephone laid waste to the villagers.

Her wrath was endless...

She did it
all without
permission.

And Demeter
covered it up!

Helios saw
the whole
thing.

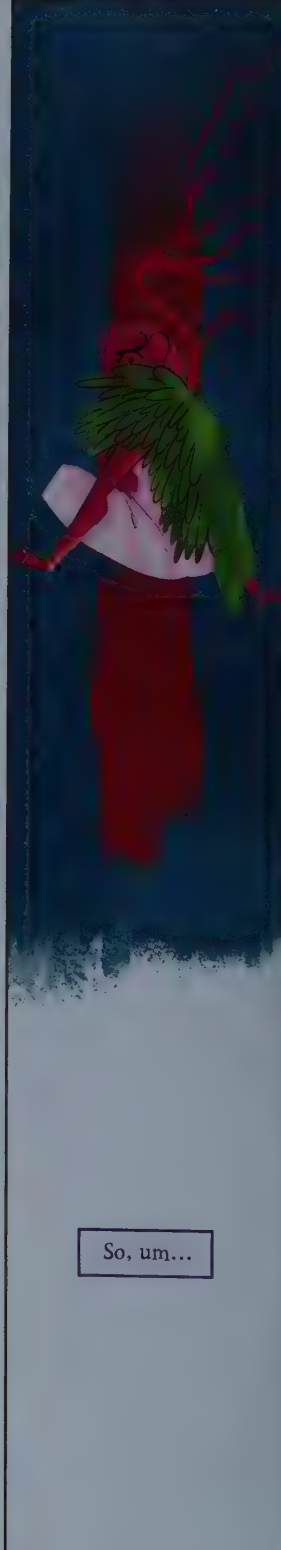
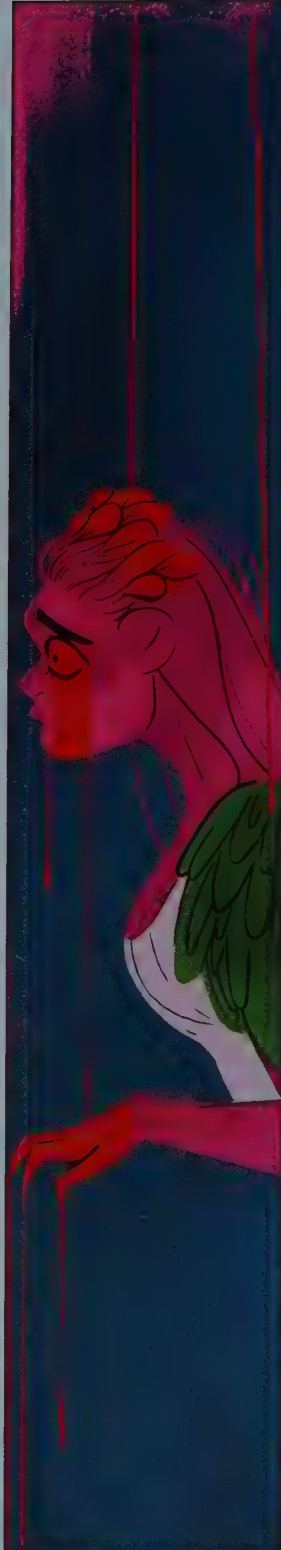
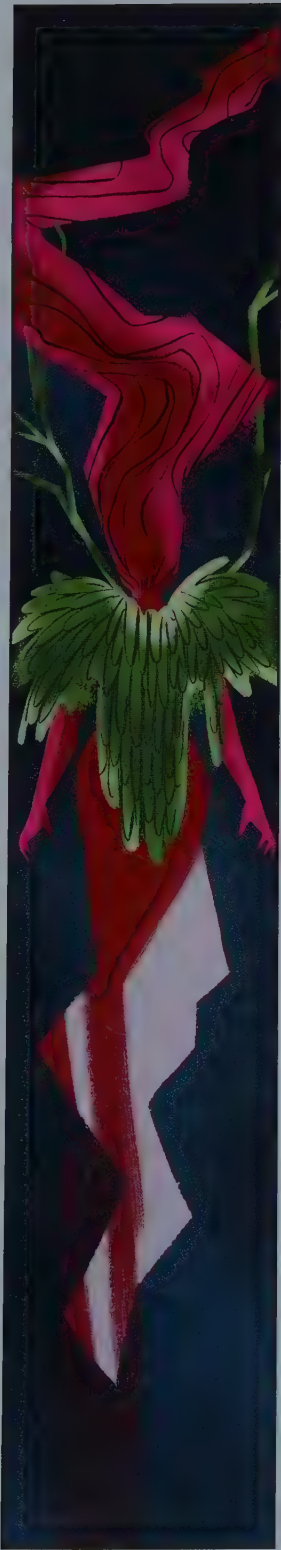


That is
a very serious
accusation.

And if
it's true...



...Persephone
will need
to face the
consequences.



So, um...

If what they're saying is true...



That means all that stuff happened right under my nose.



Am I that out of the loop?

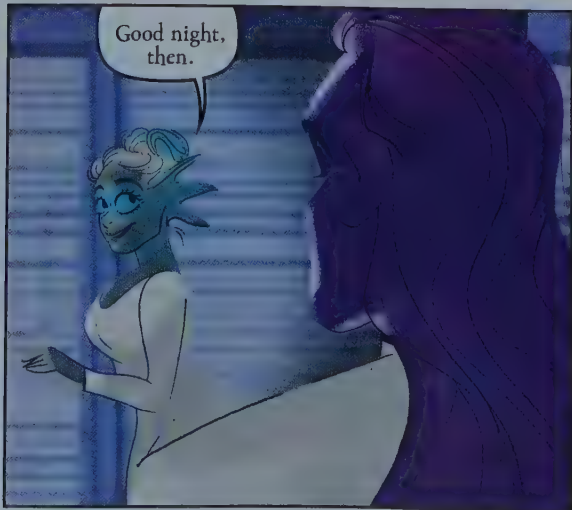
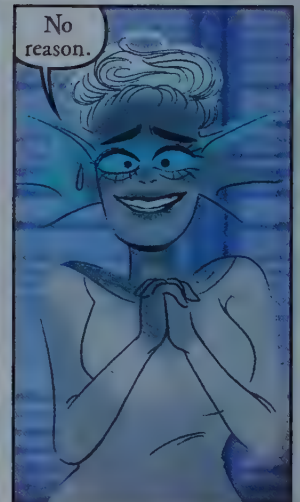
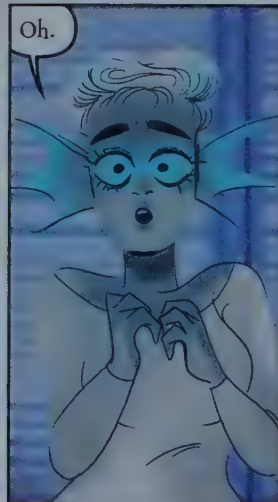
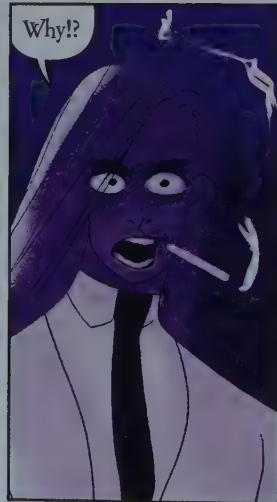
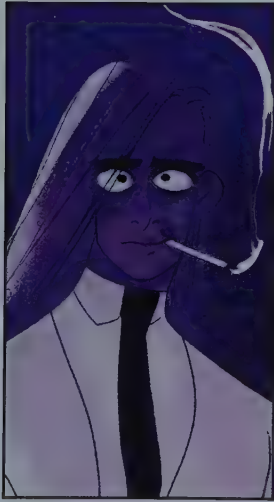


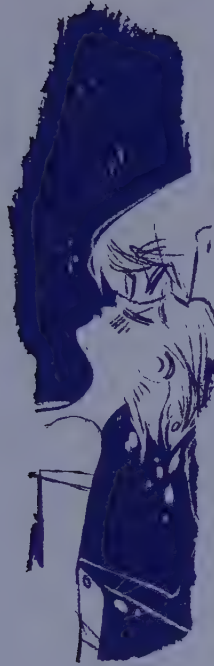
!?



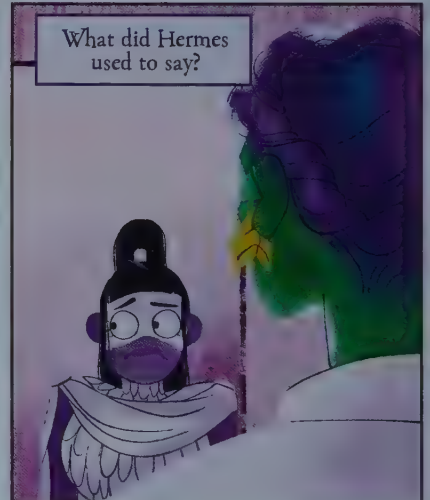
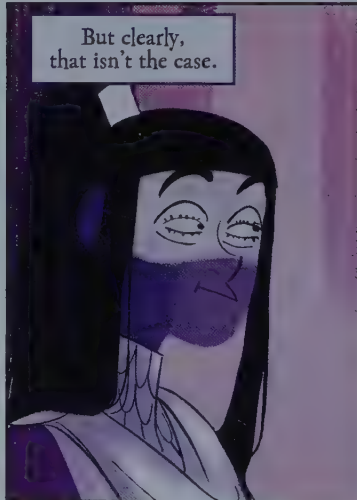
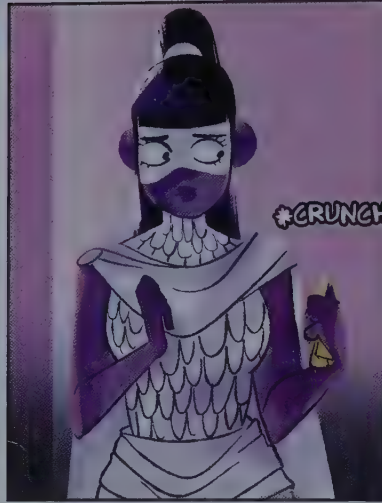
You're still here?



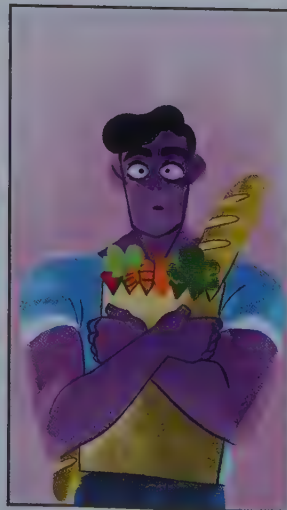





EPISODE 116: IN PLAIN SIGHT











W-what are you doing here?




The real question is: What are you doing here?



Artemis, does your brother often come and go like this?

What I mean is-- nice to see you.



That's not what we agreed on.



Apollo, come.



Let me look at you.









I've watched
this tape over
and over again.

None of
this is making
any sense.



Why in
Gaia's name
would Persephone
want to bring mortals
back from the
Underworld?



And why isn't
her phone in
service?



Maybe she's
having second
thoughts.





No, she wouldn't cut me out like that.



CRASH!



Something's not right.

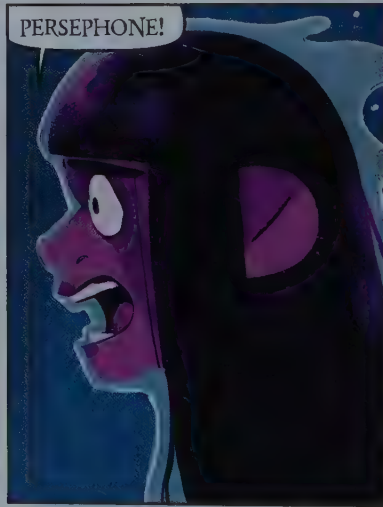
What was that?

CRASH!

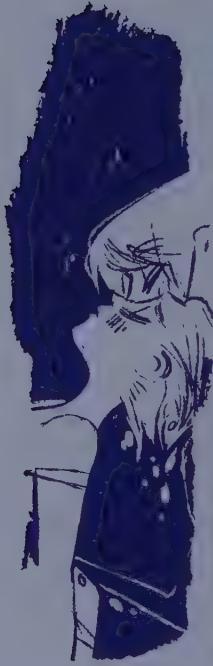


CRASH!

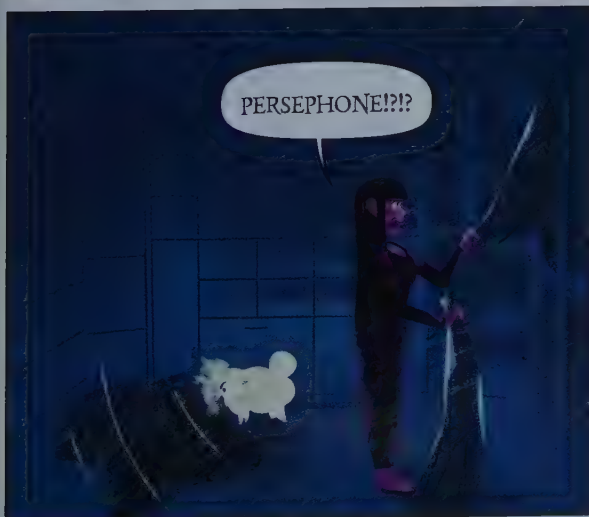






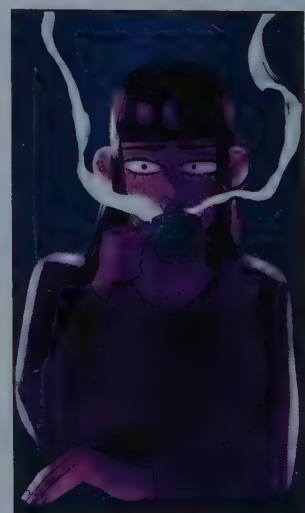
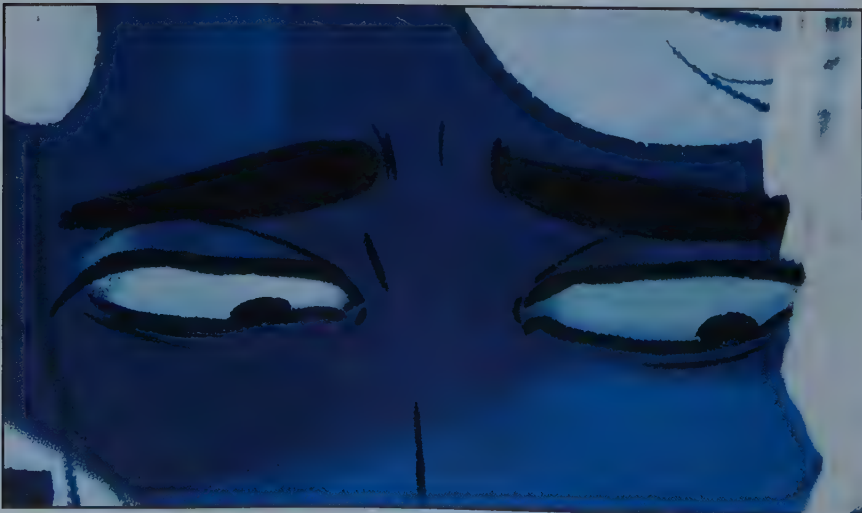
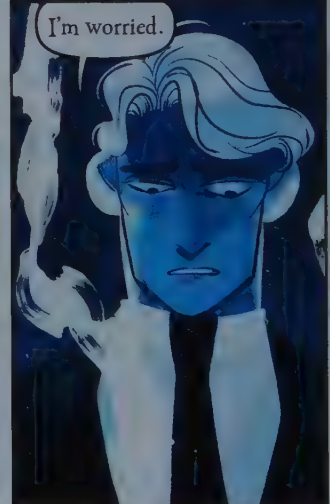


EPISODE 117: THE SEARCH





SLURRRP!!!



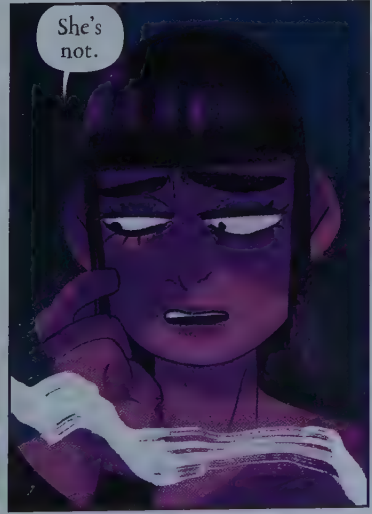
When I got home earlier this evening, I found this note.



Oh! So she's in the Mortal Realm with her mother.



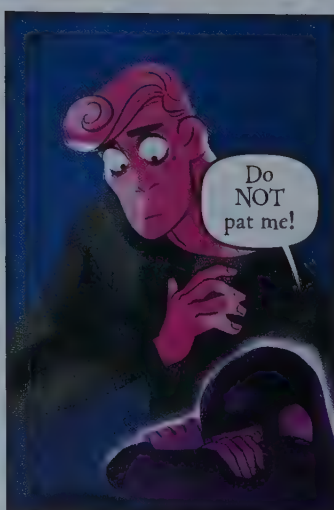
She's not.

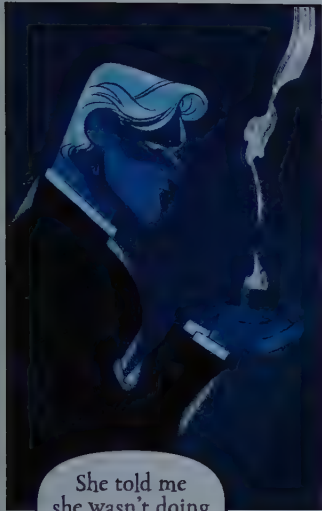


Demeter came to the house... wanting to see Persephone.



Clearly, they're not together.





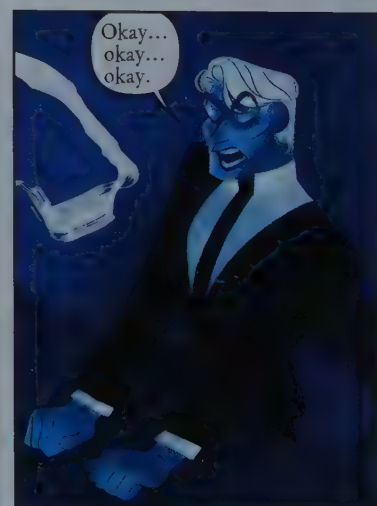
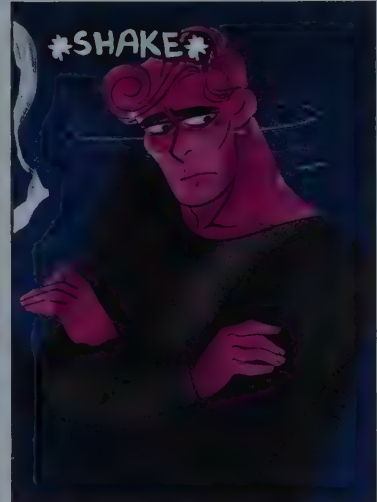
She told me she wasn't doing very well.



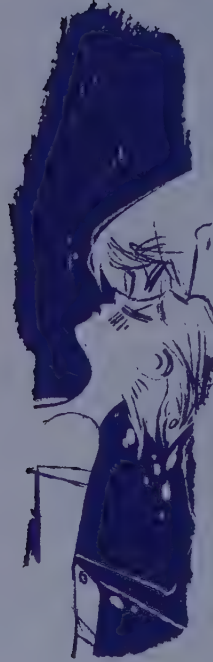
What are you saying? She's always happy.



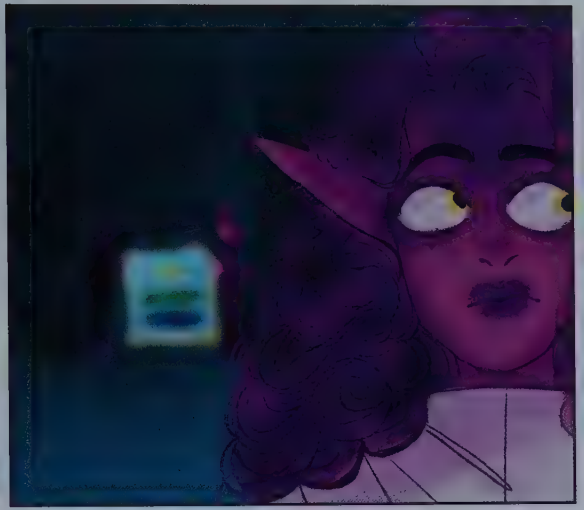
Ummm.

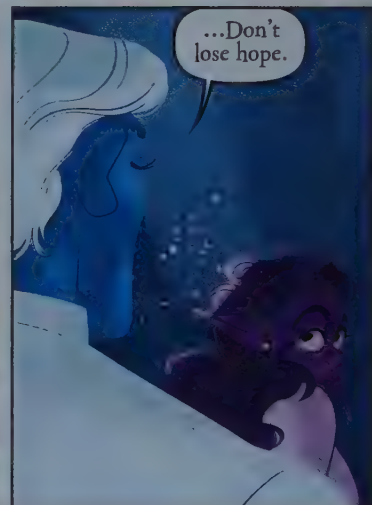


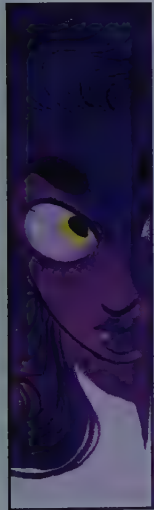
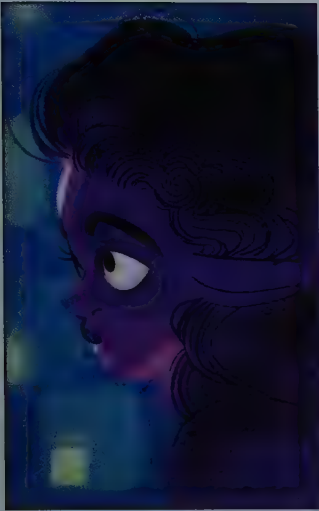


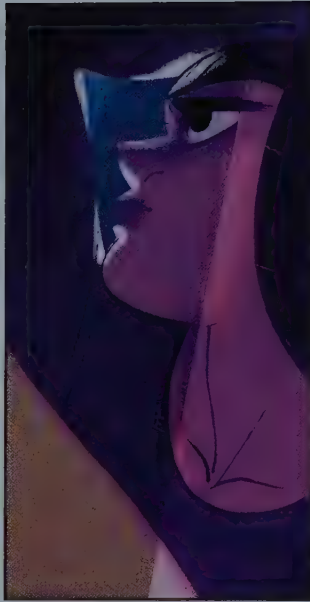


EPISODE 118: NO RESPECT

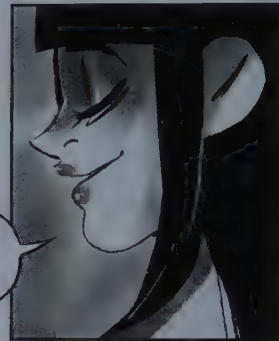




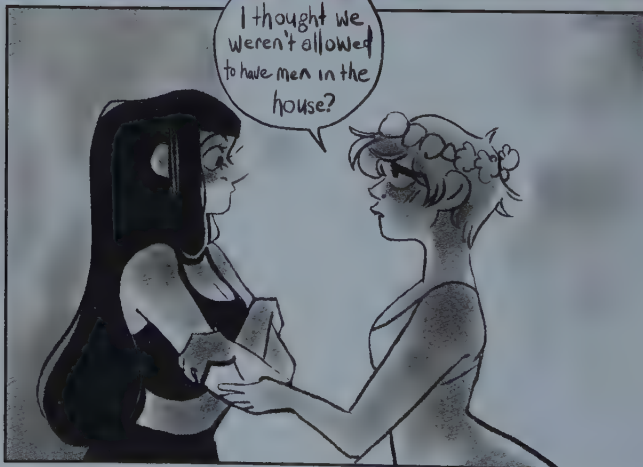




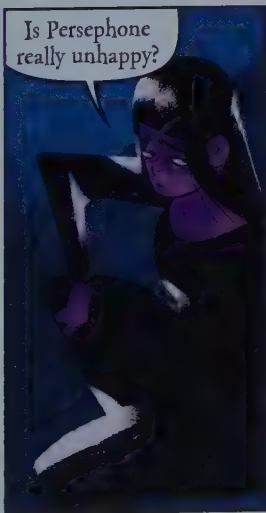
One drink and then we can go, right?

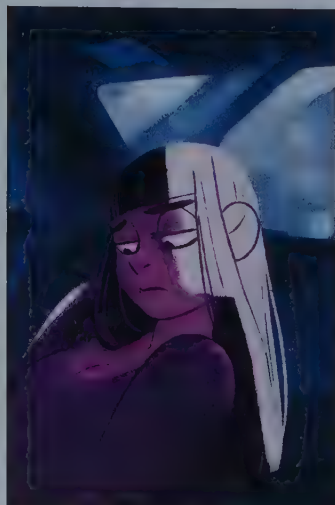


Promise.



I thought we weren't allowed to have men in the house?







Demeter is coming back tomorrow!

What am I going to do!?



Demeter is going to kill me...



Resurrect me...



And then Hestia is gonna kill me!



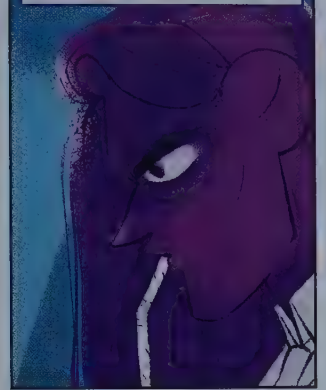
...We don't know if Persephone is missing per se.



I have an idea.



I still can't believe all that stuff happened right under my nose.



Who does Demeter think she is?



Hiding all that stuff from me...



Am I so unapproachable?



All I did was burn Demeter's crops to the ground for refusing to hide my lover...

No biggie.

No respect.

And why was Thetis on my case about talking to my brother about this?

Does she think I can't handle this situation on my own!?


It's not as if Hades is so much more capable than me!

He has completely checked out of work since he discovered Persephone existed.

Hey, drinks, drinks drinks???

Seen

Can't, busy.



Hello,
I'm home.



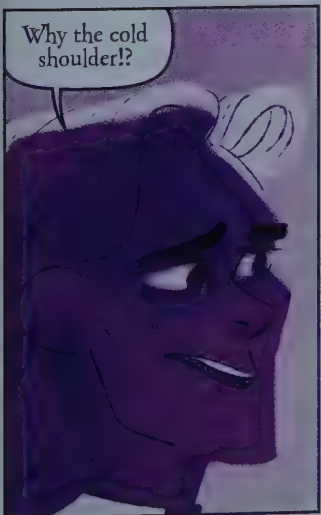
#SILENCE#




No respect...



Hey,
Princess--




Why the cold
shoulder!?



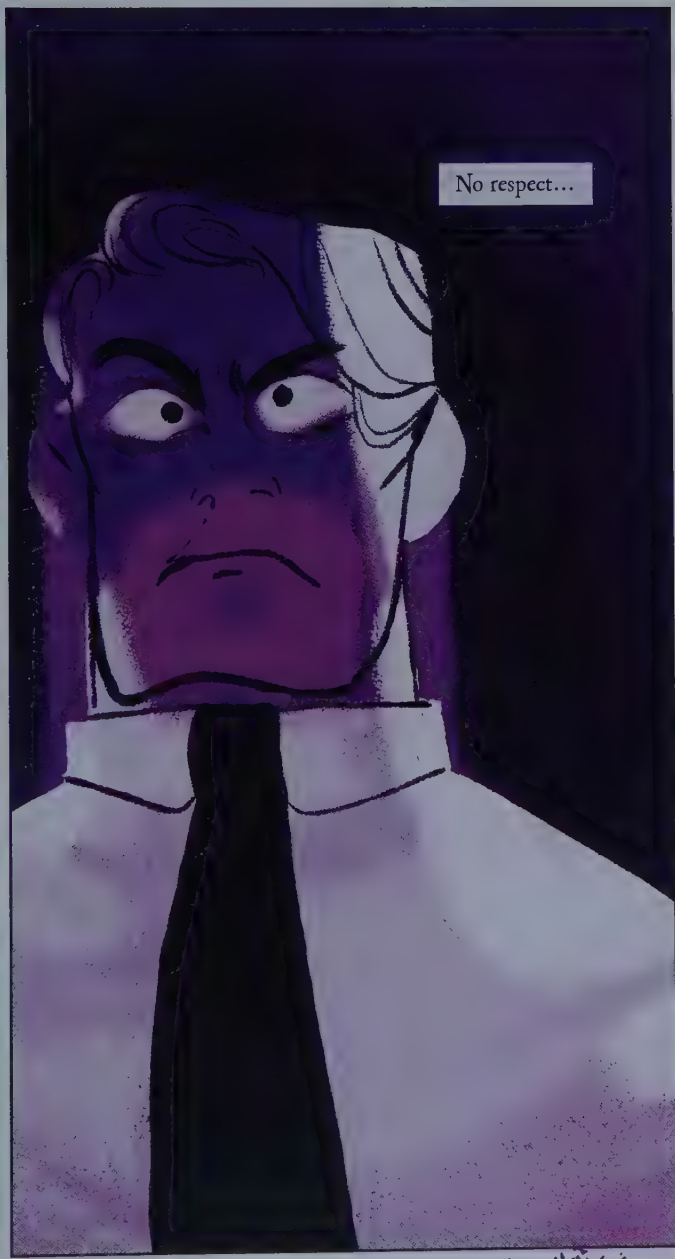
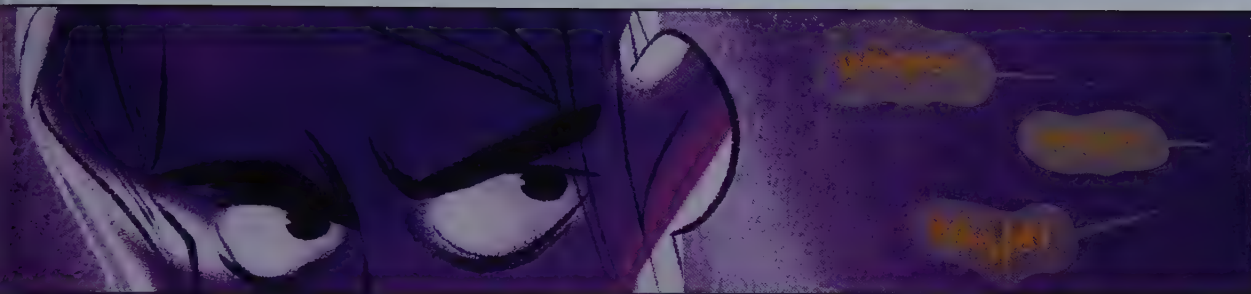
Who am I
supposed to play
with now?

You sent
my brother
away!



Sweetie...
Daddy sent your
brother away 'cause he's
a menace who saps all
of Daddy's resources.





Once, I was a Goddess.



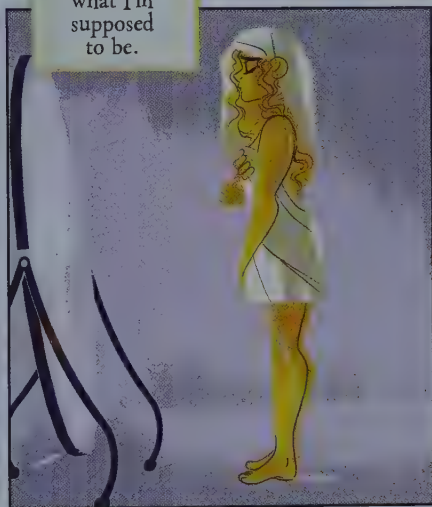
Made from starlight and
the sweetest earth.



Limitless and blessed with purpose.



But now,
I'm not sure
what I'm
supposed
to be.



I miss the Earth.



I miss my friends.



And most of all
I miss my mother.



I feel as though
I traded them all to be your
Golden Traitor.

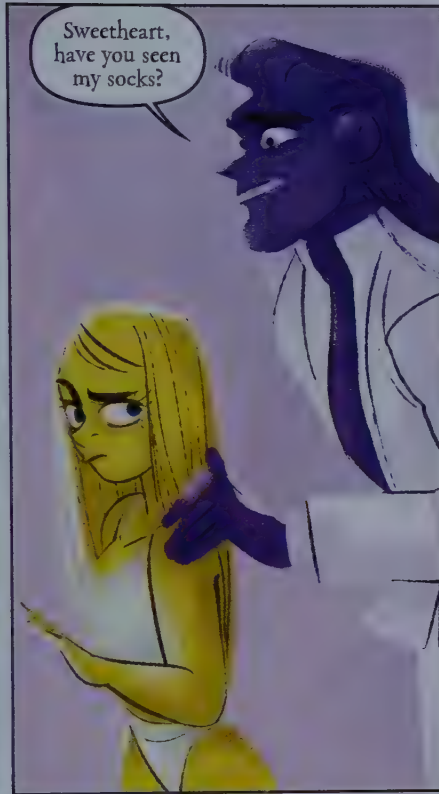


To be a fraction
of what I could have been,
all so you could feel safe.

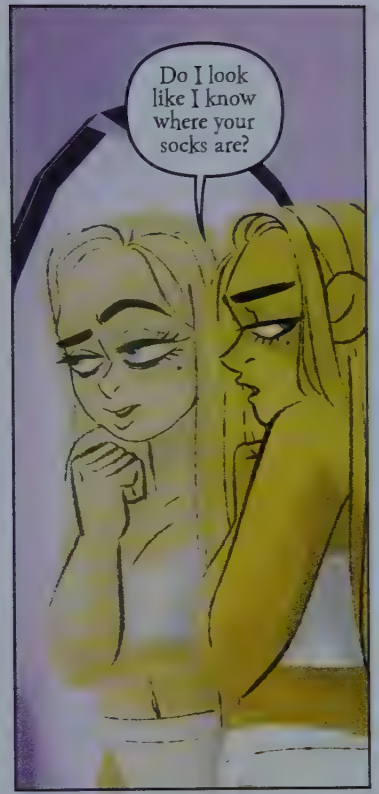
Torn asunder to be the Goddess of Marriage.



Sweetheart, have you seen my socks?



Do I look like I know where your socks are?

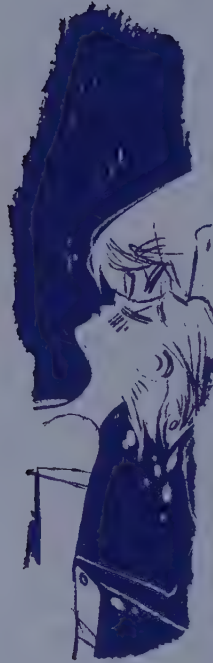


I thought you could use one of your little visions.

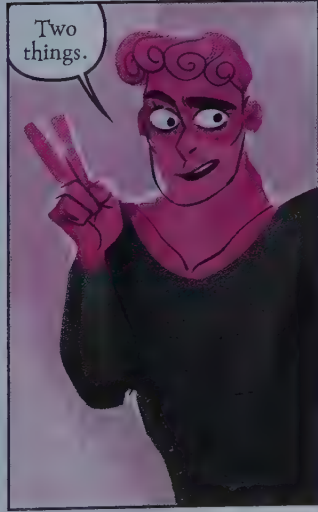
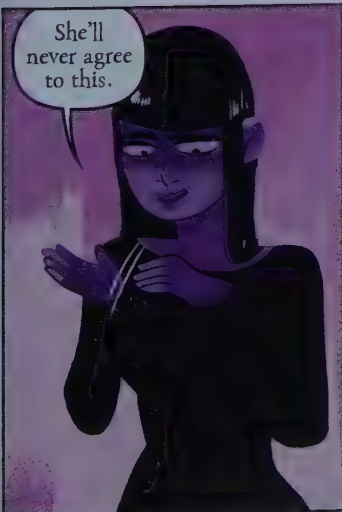


I've got a vision for you.

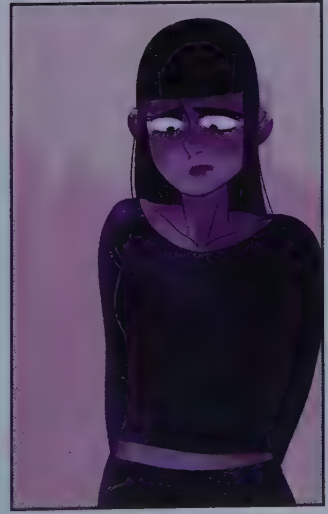
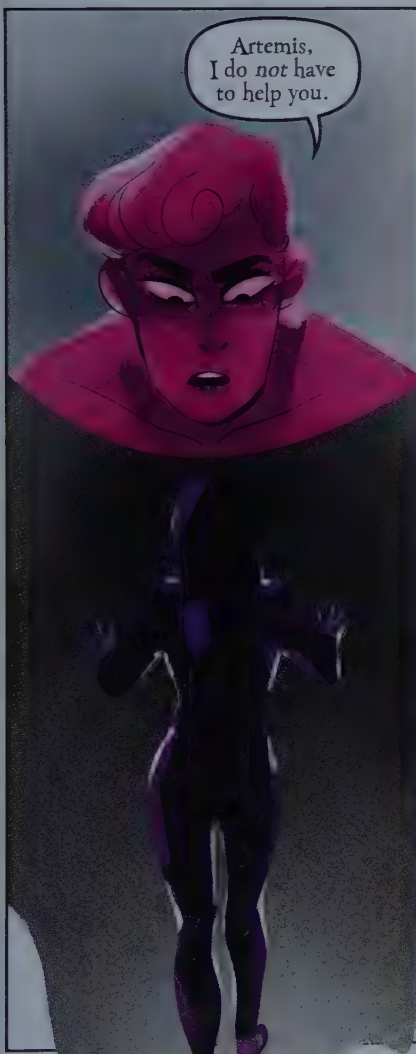




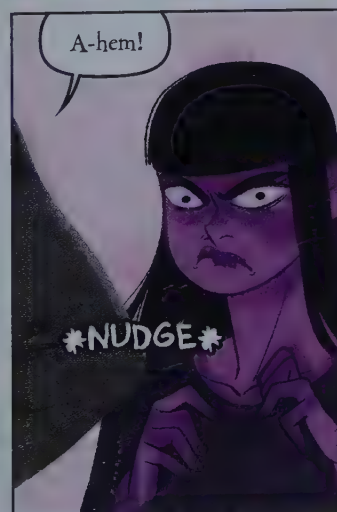
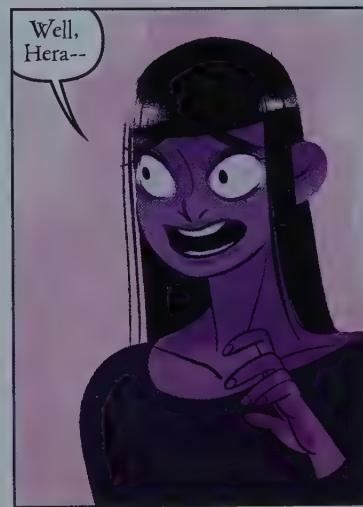
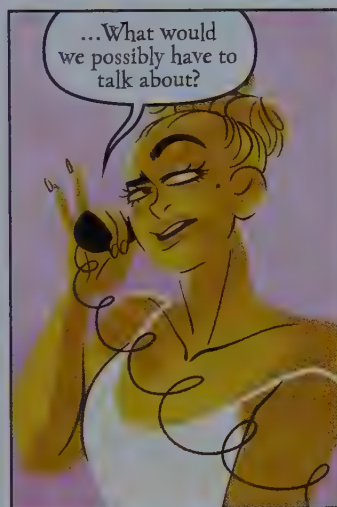
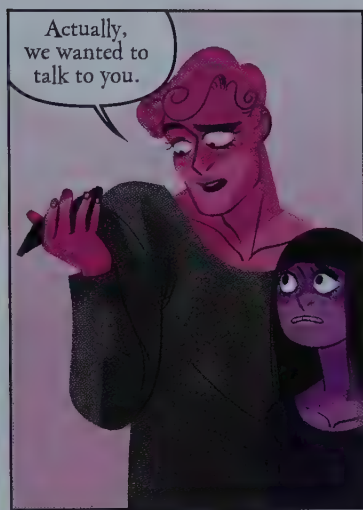
EPISODE 119: ONCE, I WAS A GODDESS

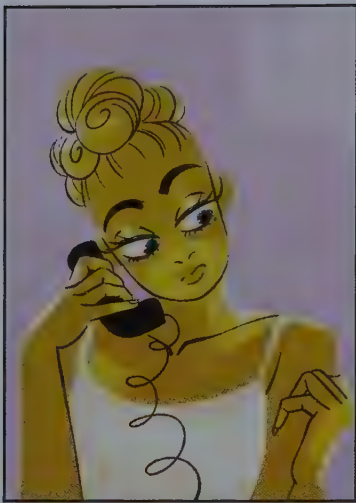








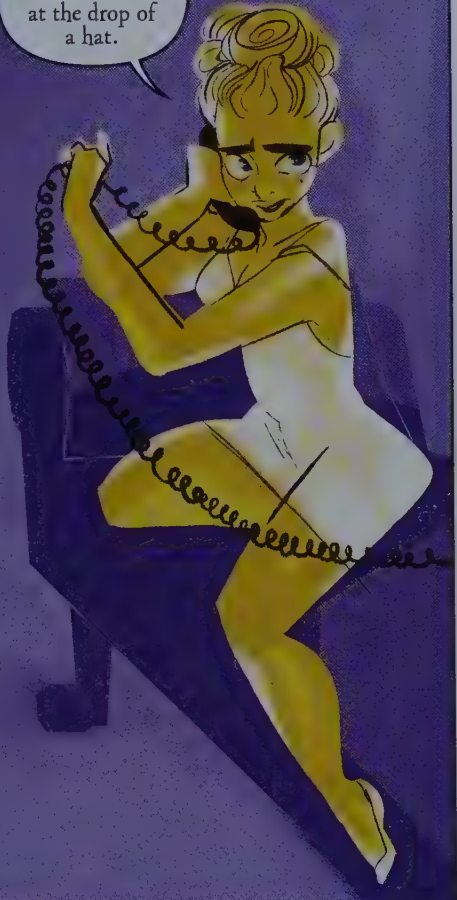




Of course
I'm not going
to tell Zeus.



He's an
arrogant buffoon
who overreacts
at the drop of
a hat.

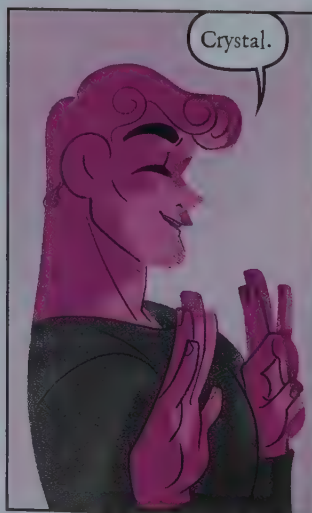
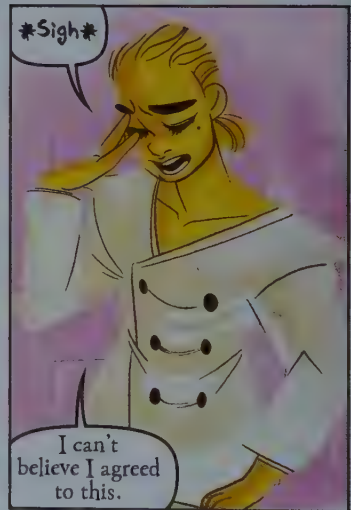


What do
you need me
to do?



THE NEXT DAY.

Gods, this place is a dump.



And if she finds out her daughter is missing, that might mean the end of any freedom for Persephone for quite some time.



But if she's still missing in a few days, you have to tell her.

That's the deal.



Deal.



Okay, let's get this show on the road.

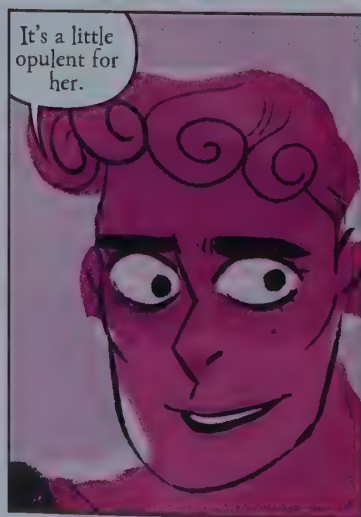




How do
I look?

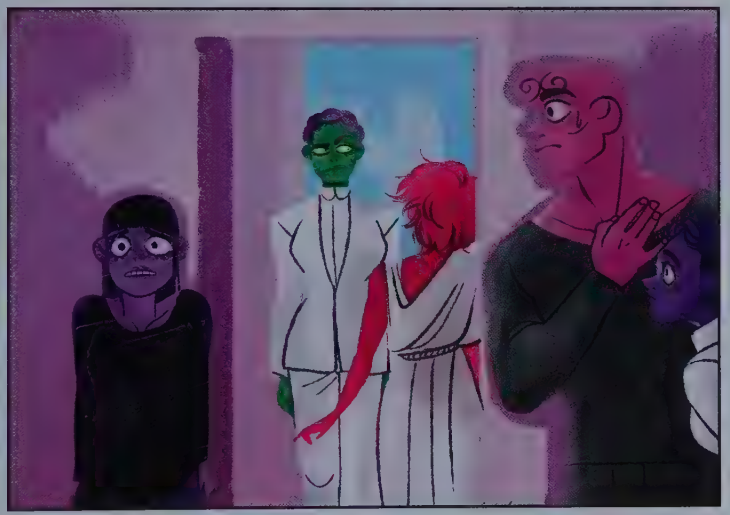
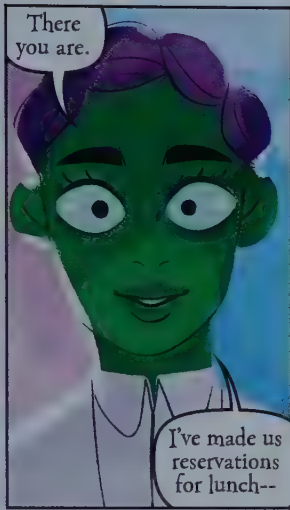


EPISODE 120: THE LUNCH DATE









So this is what passes for
a restaurant these days?







Accident...?

If you're feeling like... before, let me know.

Don't worry. I'll take a little nap if I feel that way again.

A nap?

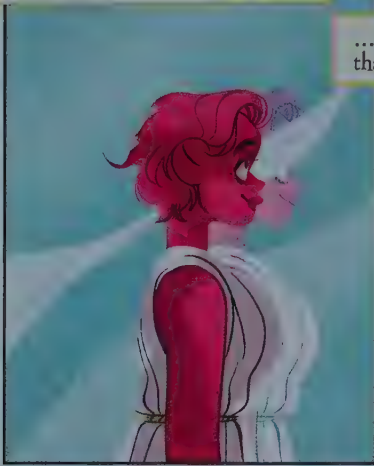
...I'm glad you're not beating yourself up anymore.

Now you can get me all caught up on your grades and school.



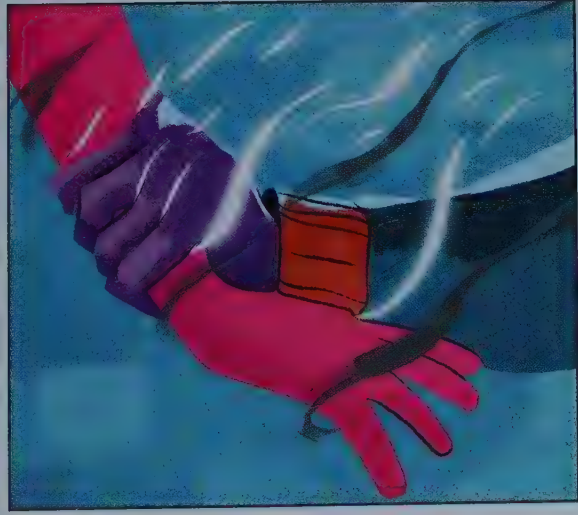


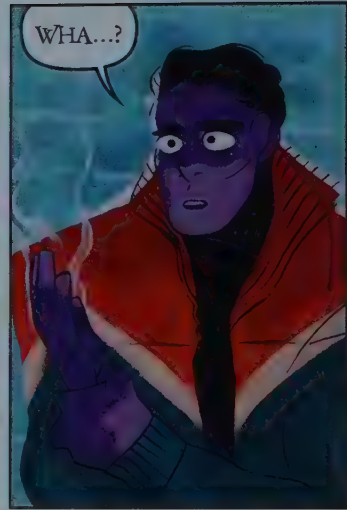
Nailed it. I had her totally fooled.



...Wonder what she meant about that accident?







H-Hera?

What you mean to say is "Your Royal Majesty."

What are you doing?

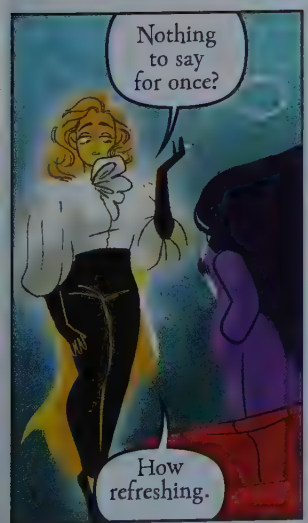
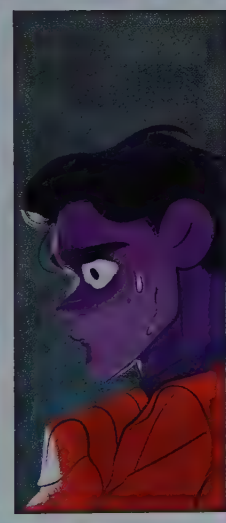
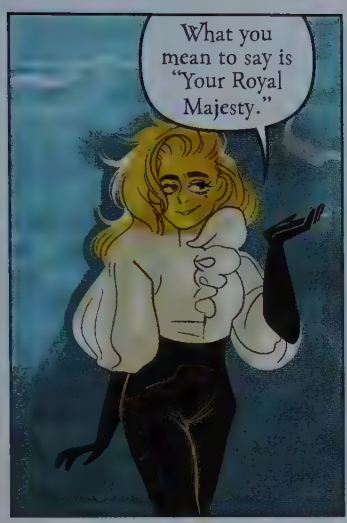
What are YOU doing?

I see you.

Nothing to say for once?

How refreshing.

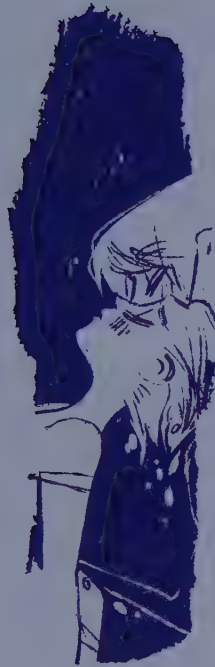
FLINCH



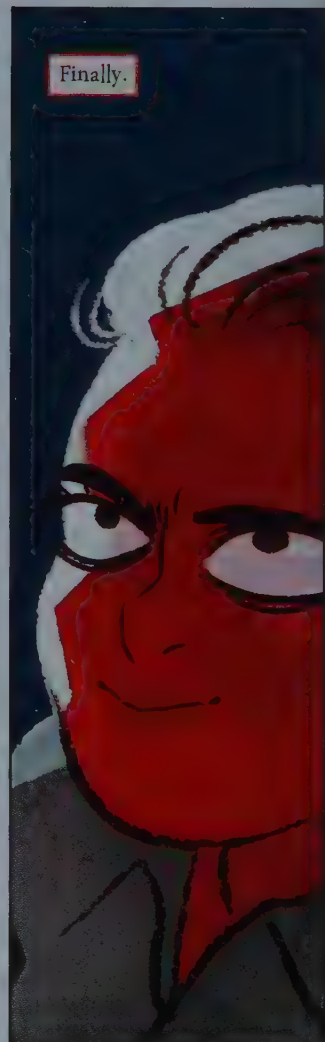
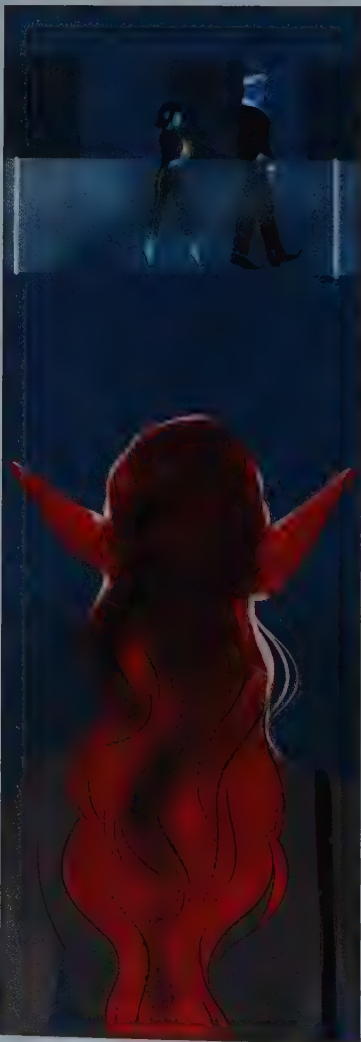
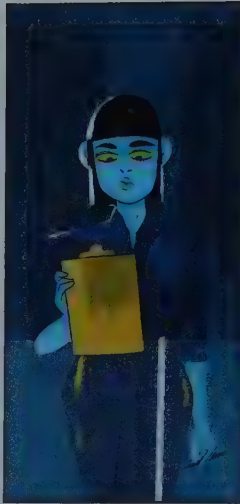
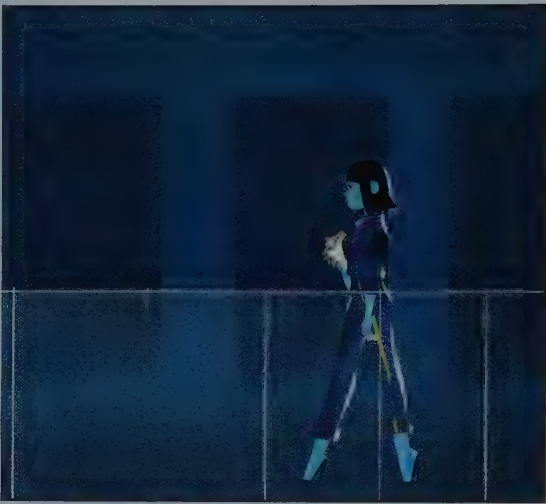


I was *right*.
Something is going on there.

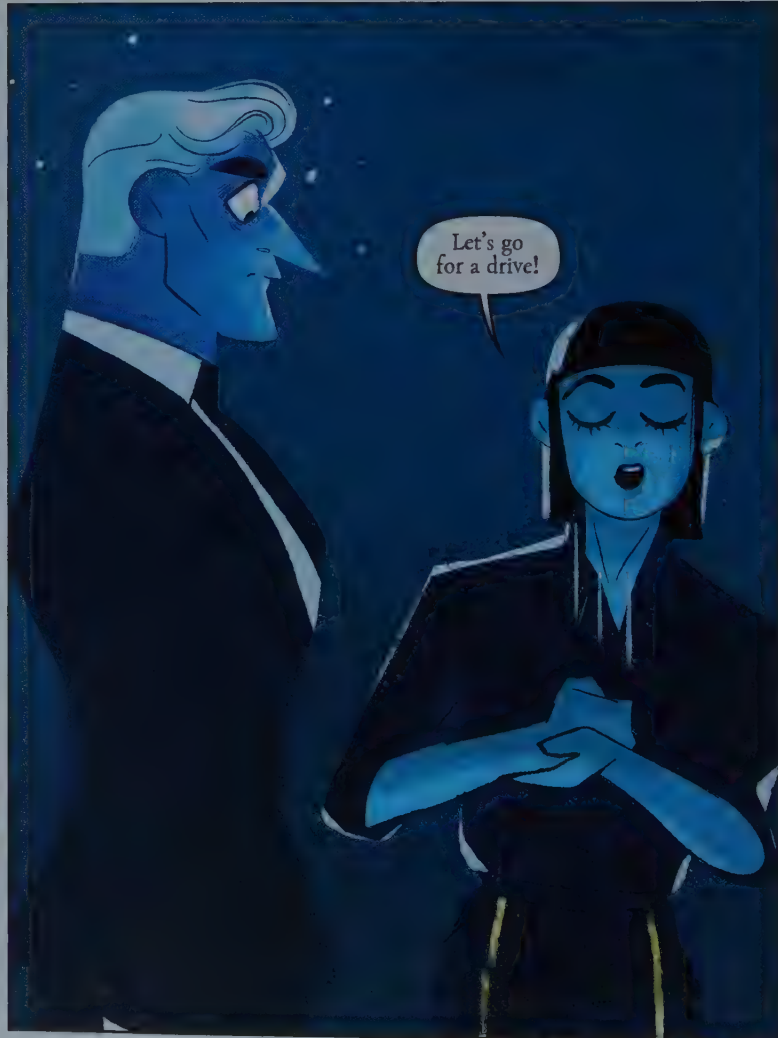


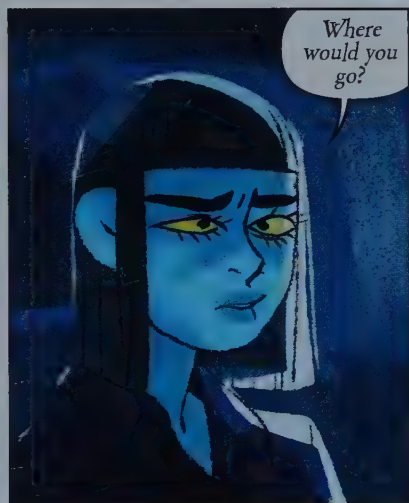
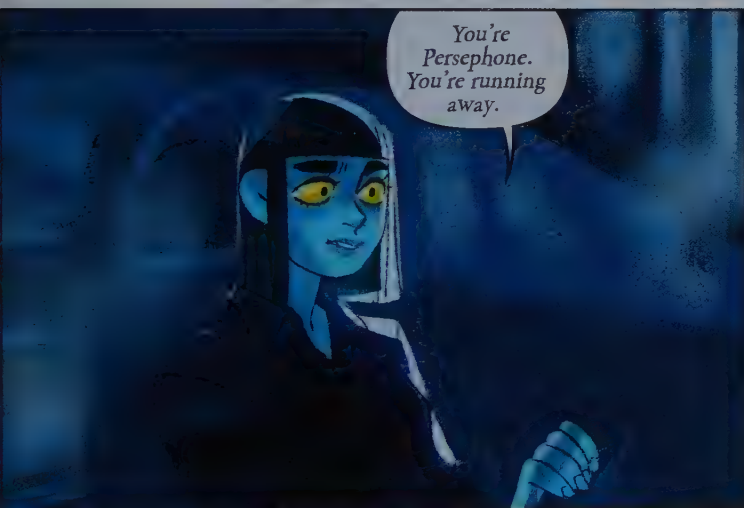


EPISODE 121: SEEN

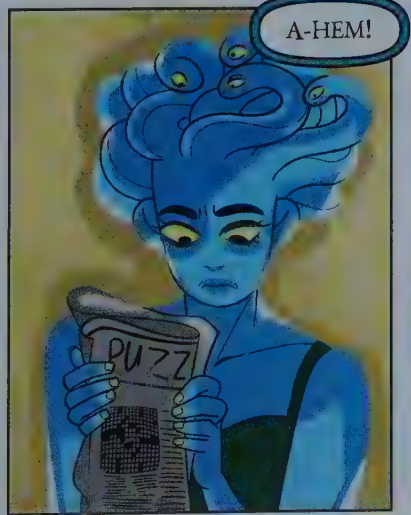
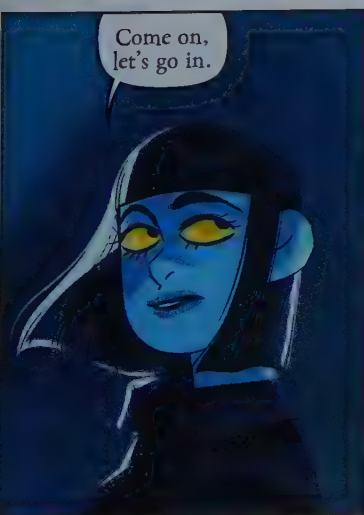


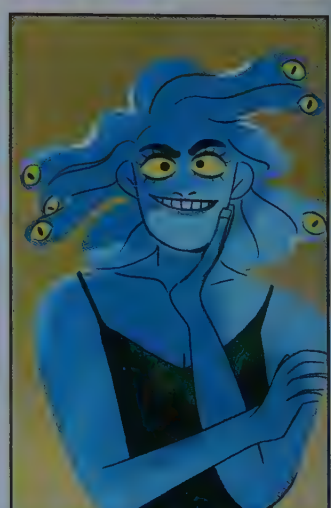
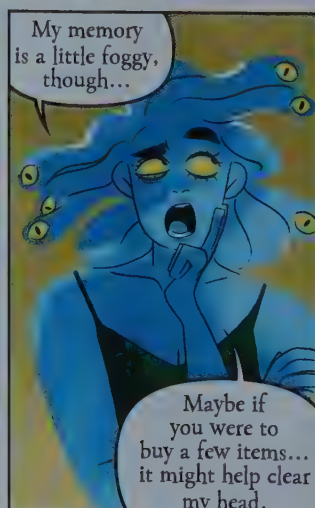


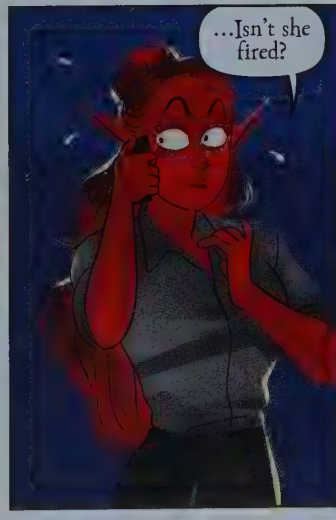
















Zeus's office.
You're speaking
with Thet--



YOUR PLAN ISN'T
WORKING!



Hades is
completely
clueless!



If your
plan backfires,
it's all on us.



Emphasis
on *your*
plan.



CLICK



...Don't panic.

PFFFT

You've got this.



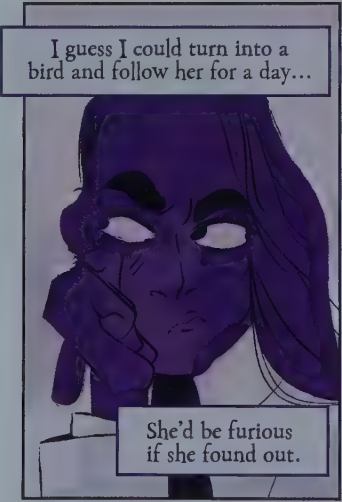
Time to go on the offensive!



She's definitely hiding something from me...



Just like everybody else, it would seem.



I guess I could turn into a bird and follow her for a day...

She'd be furious if she found out.



GRUMBLE
What does it matter!?
It's not like she has any respect for me these days.



Zeus...





Have you got a second for me?

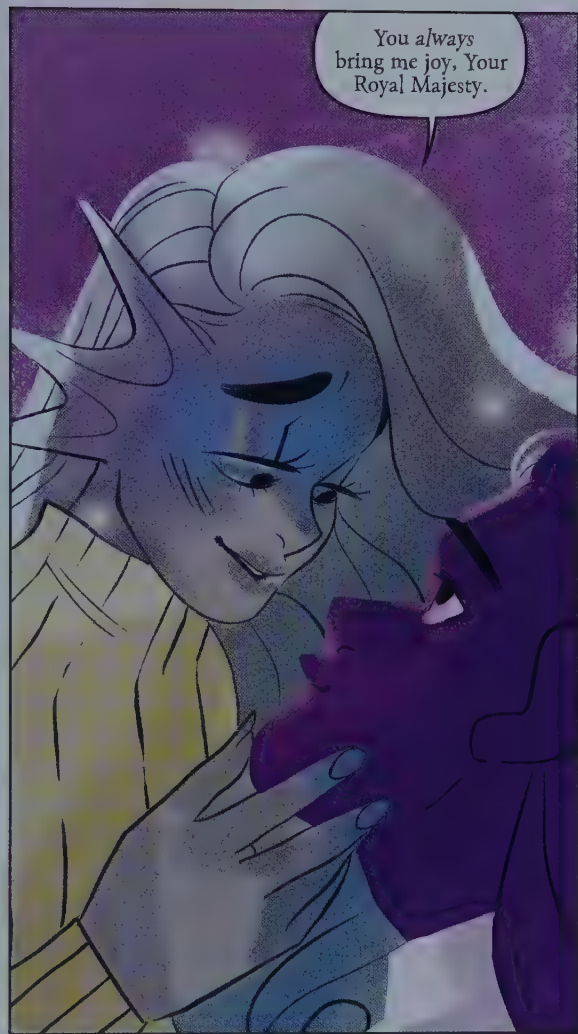
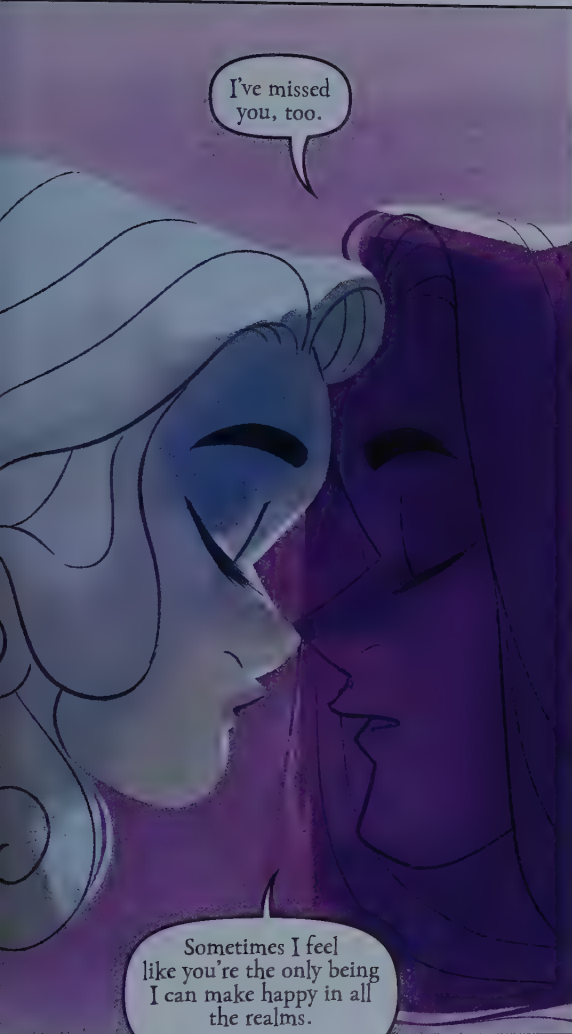


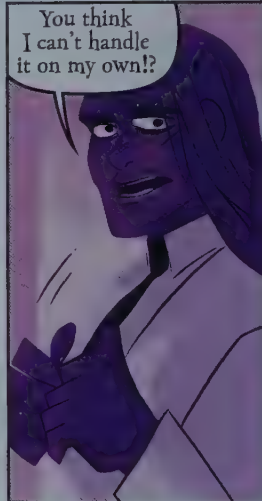
For you?
I have as many
seconds as there are
stars in the sky.



I miss you,
Zeus. I feel like
it's been so long
since we've spent
time alone.







I AM
THE
KING!

I'M THE
GOD OF
THUNDER!



I'M NOT A
BUFFOON WHO
OVERREACTS!



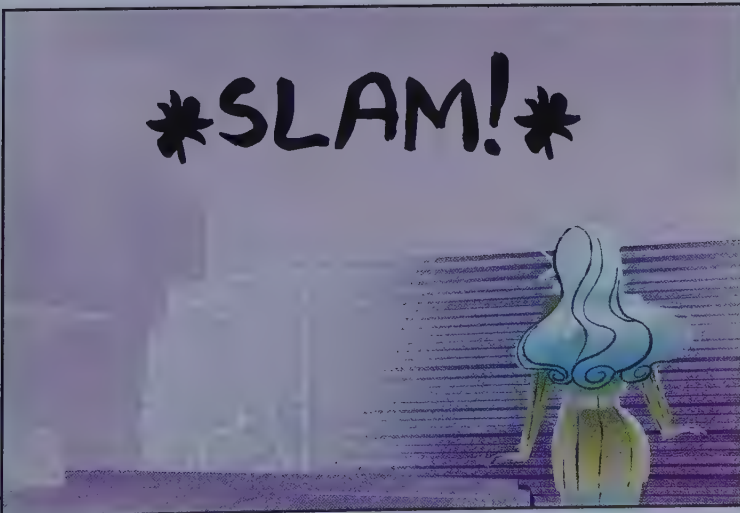
Where are
you going!?

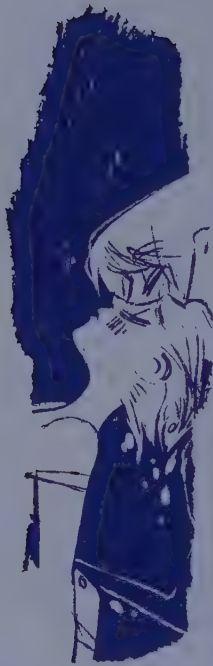


TO GET TO
THE BOTTOM
OF THIS
MYSELF!



SLAM!





EPISODE 122: COMBING THE CITY





Yikes, tough crowd.



What do you know about the Goddess Persephone?

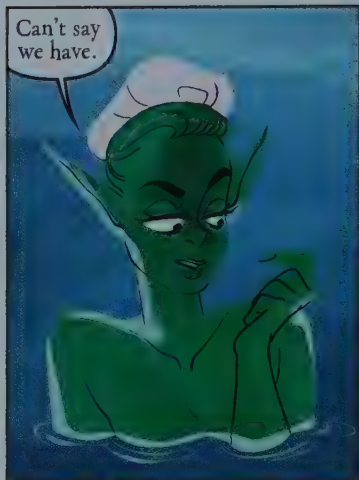


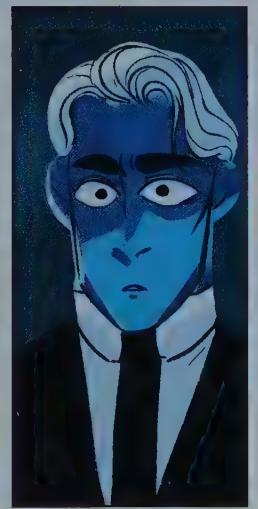
Depends. What do you wanna know?

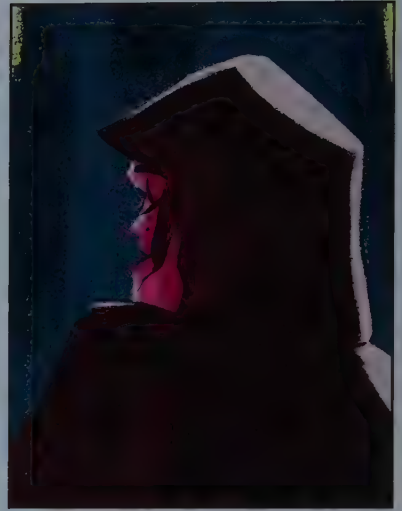


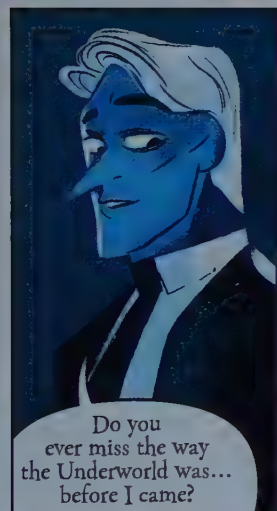
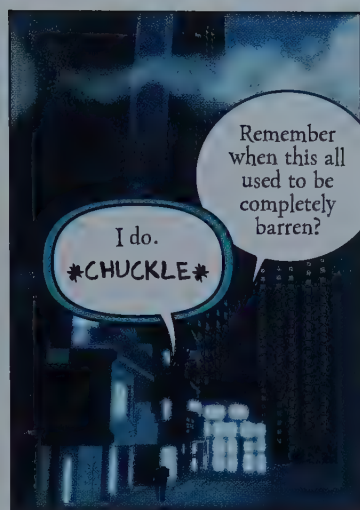
Like, did you happen to see her get super big and go on a bloodlust-fueled rampage?

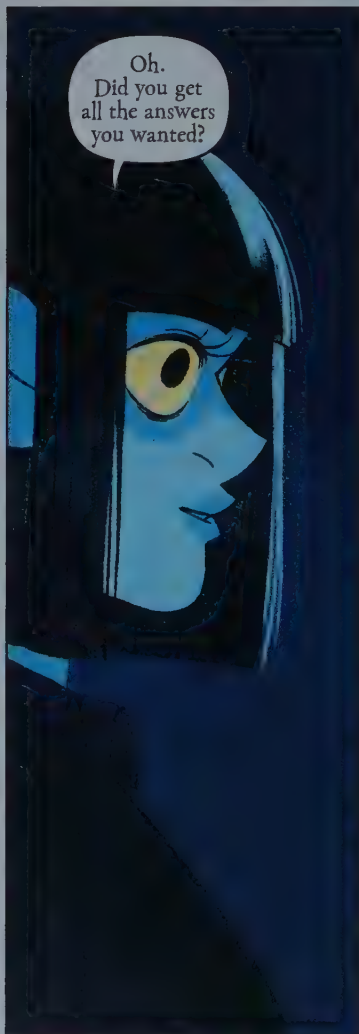












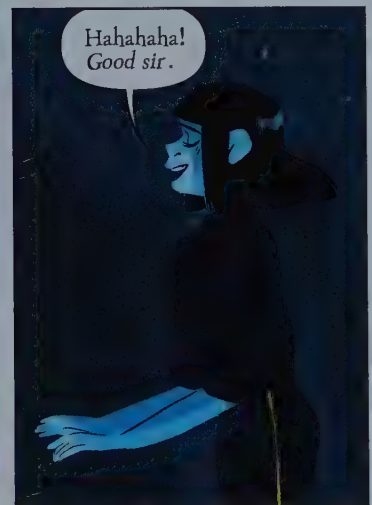





Why did
you give me
that letter?




Seriously,
what motivated
you to do that?
It's not like you to
get involved.



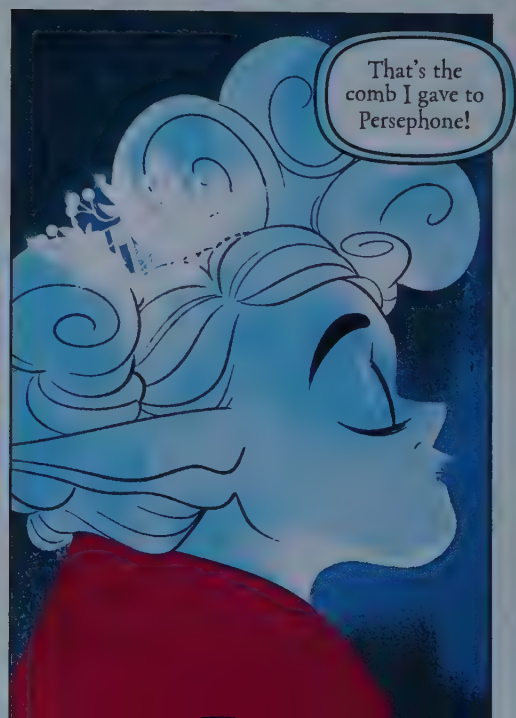
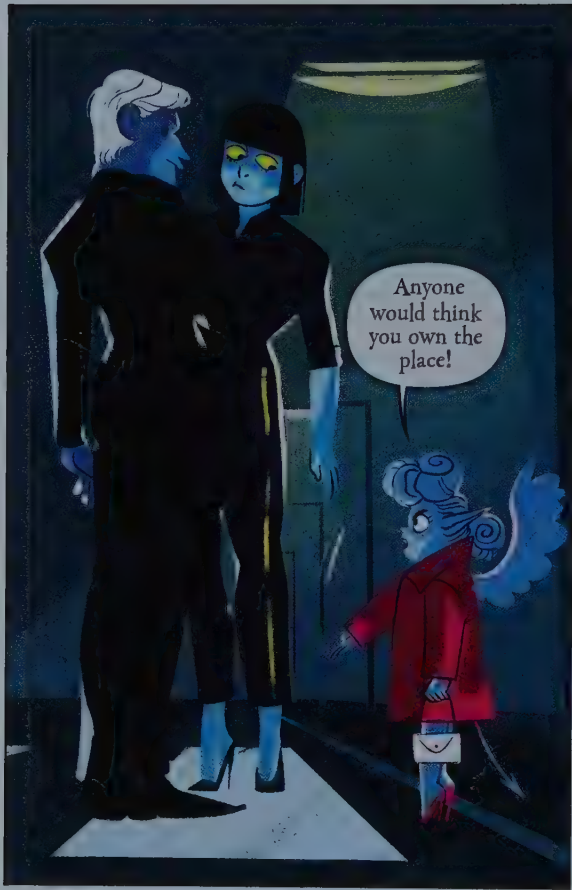
Hahahaha!
Good sir.

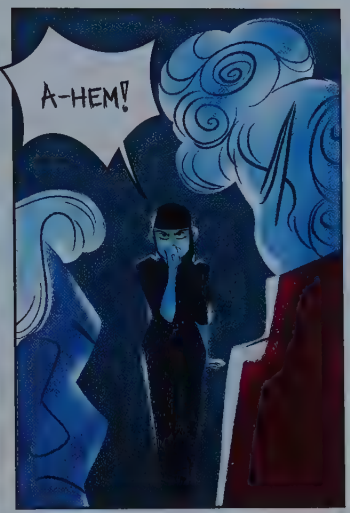


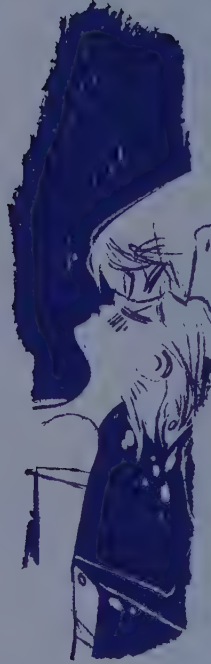
As I said,
I miss the chaos,
and the truth always
carries some, don't
you think?



CAN THE TWO OF
YOU STOP BLOCKING
THE SIDEWALK!?

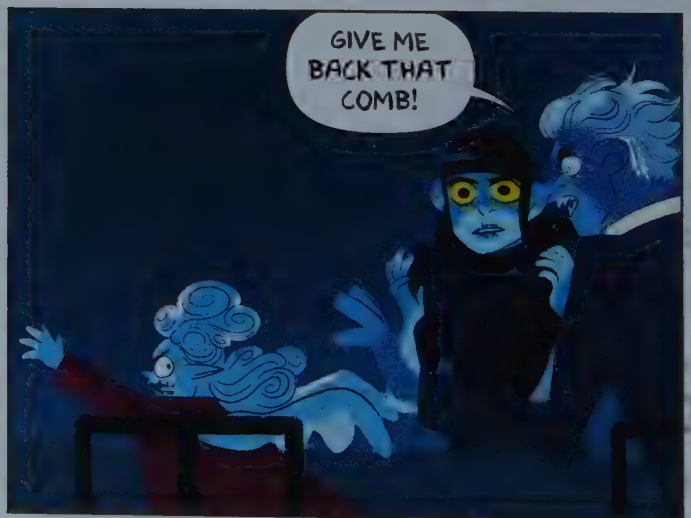
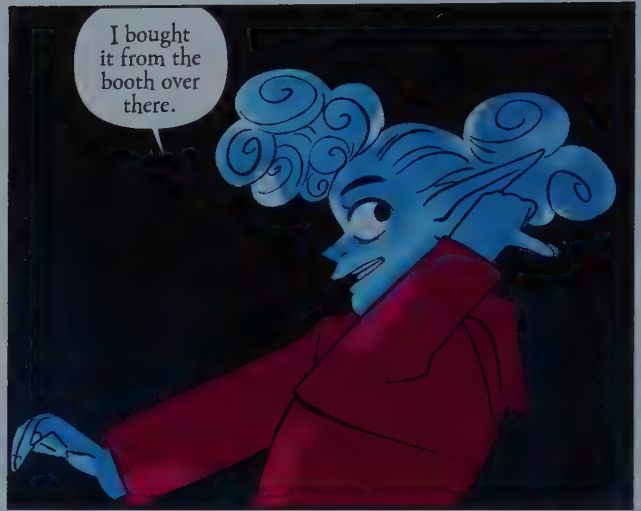






EPISODE 123: THE OWNER OF THIS COMB





Tell me about this comb.



I need to know about this comb's previous owner. Now.

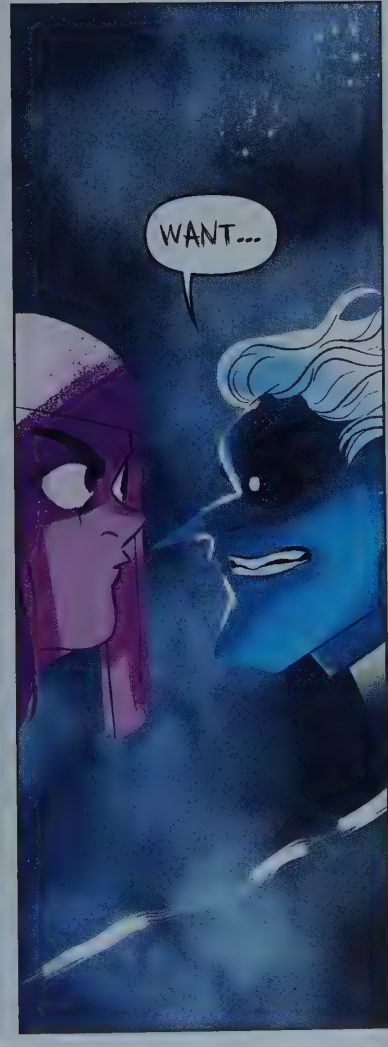
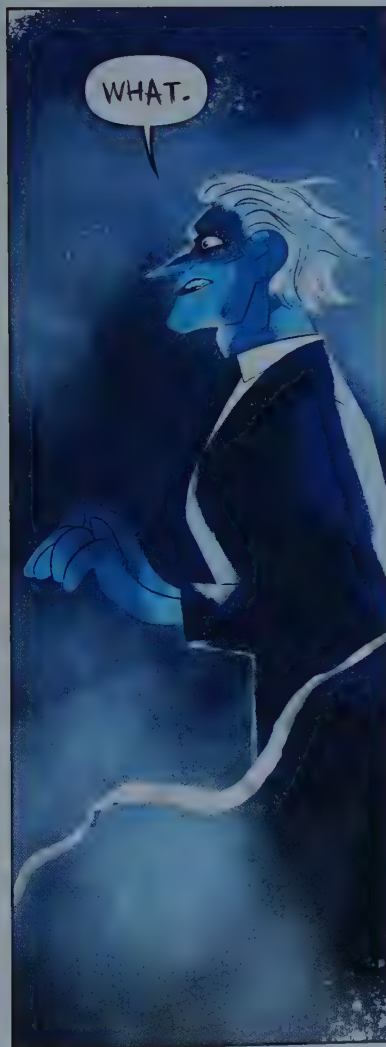


We have a privacy policy here.

PRIVACY POLICY





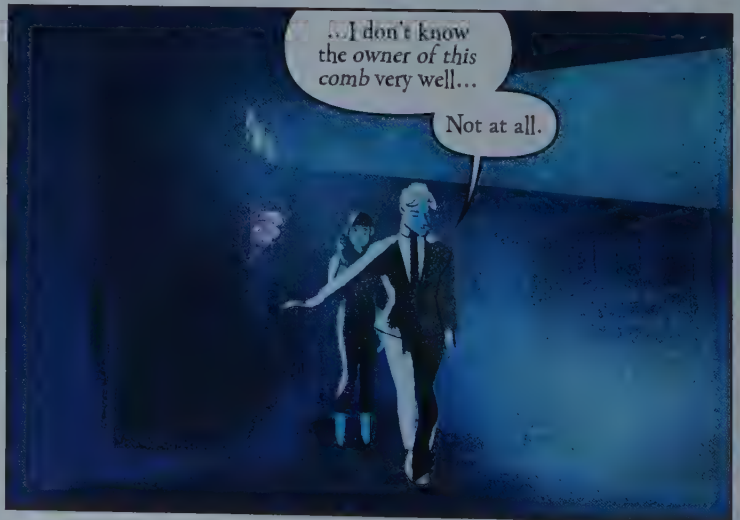




What I want to know is... is the owner of this comb safe?



Today... it's painfully clear to me...

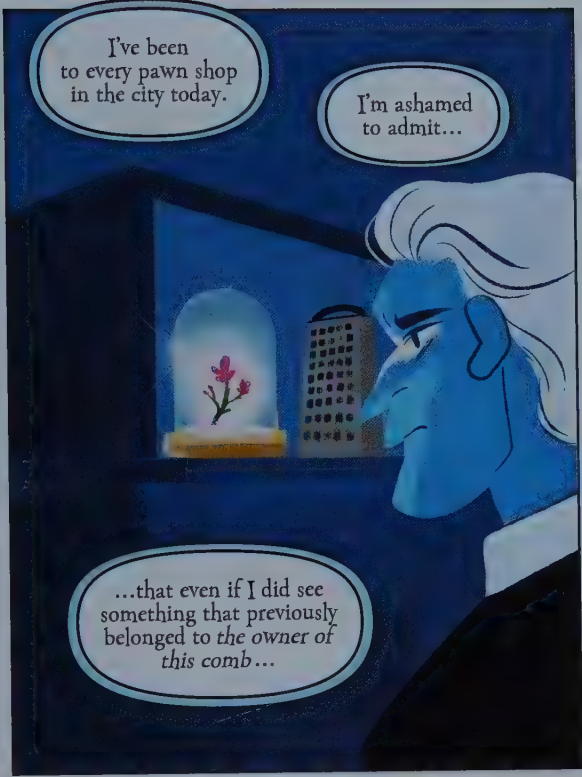


I don't know the owner of this comb very well...

Not at all.



I didn't know the owner of this comb's birthday.



I've been to every pawn shop in the city today.

I'm ashamed to admit...

...that even if I did see something that previously belonged to the owner of this comb...

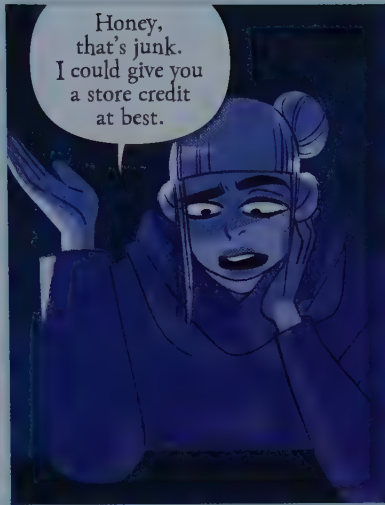


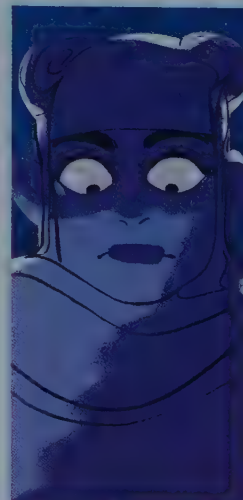
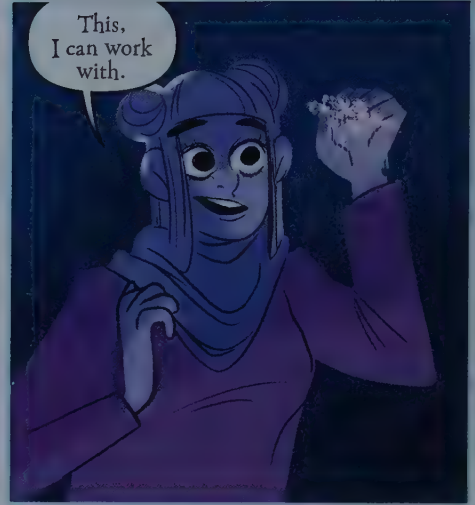
In more ways than one, the owner of the comb is a mystery to me.

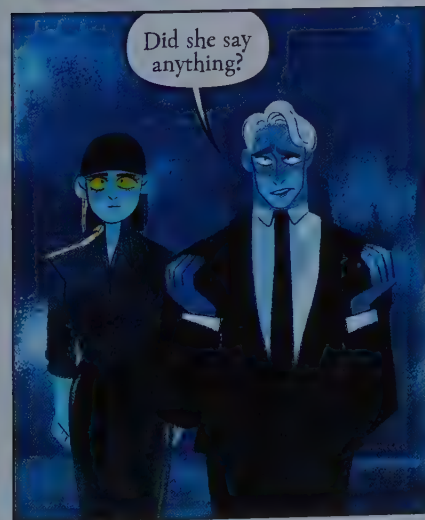
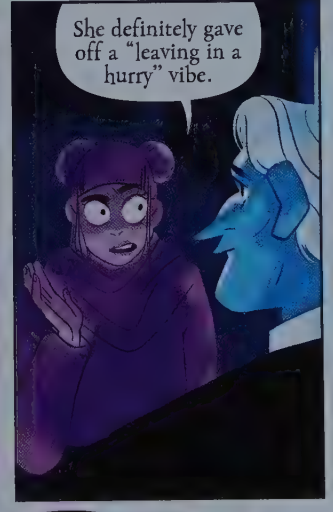
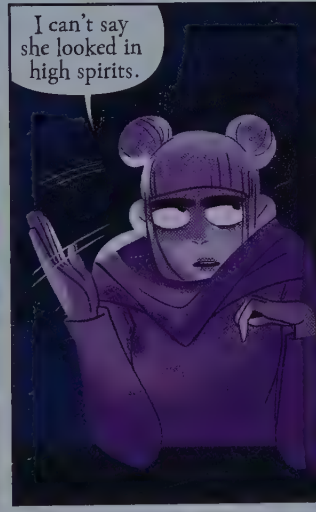



But what I do know is the owner of this comb wouldn't sell this if sh-she didn't have to!





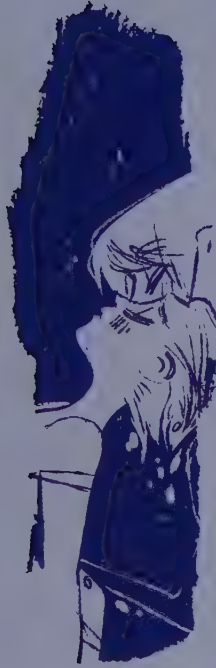




A woman with dark skin is shown in profile, facing left. She is wearing a light pink hijab and a matching long-sleeved sweater with a white strap over her right shoulder. The background is a dark, textured blue. Two speech bubbles are present: one on the left and one on the right.

The sun
never touches the
Underworld.

It's
the perfect
place.



EPISODE 124: BODY OF EVIDENCE

WHISPER

What is she
doing here?

WHISPER

She hasn't
been in the office
for weeks.

WHISPER

It
must be
something big.



Apollo, Apollo, Apollo...



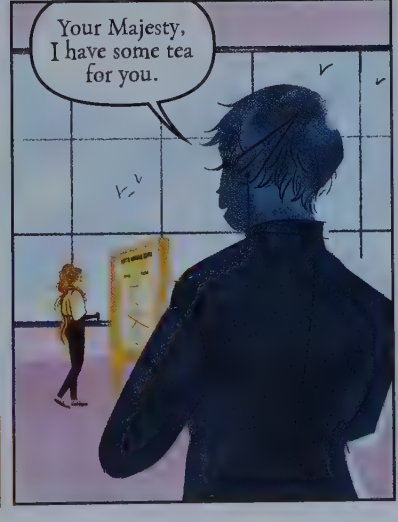
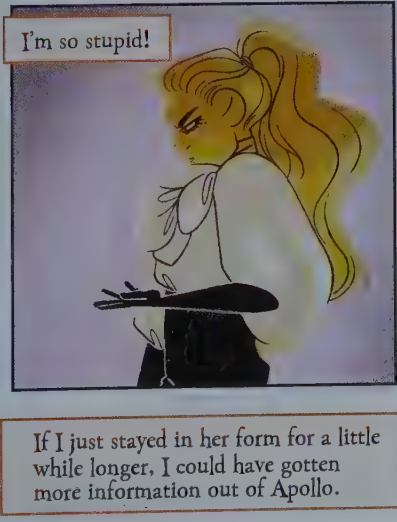
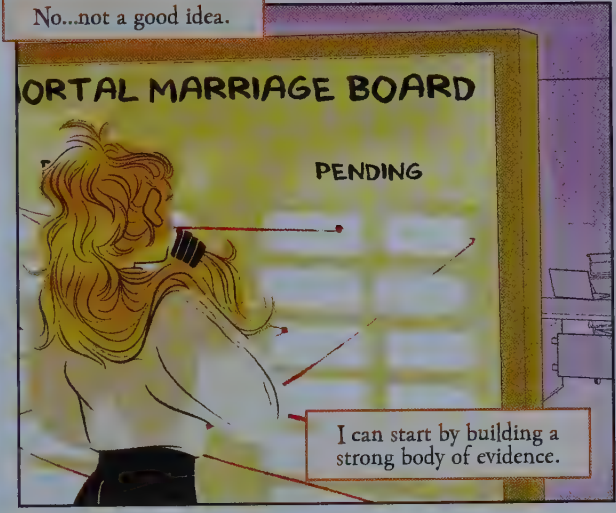
I should never have second-
guessed my visions.

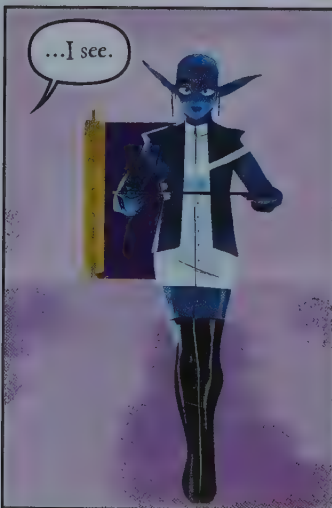
MORTAL MARRIAGE BOARD

BLESSED.

PENDING









Well, I don't need an assistant.



So, you're fired--



YOU CAN'T JUST GO IN THERE, MY LORD.



It's fine. She'll make time for me.

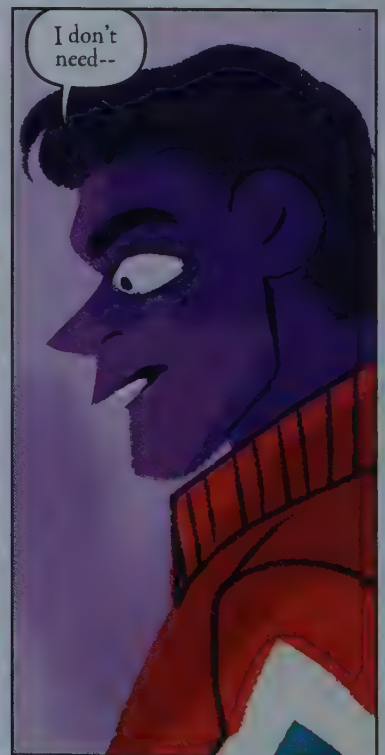
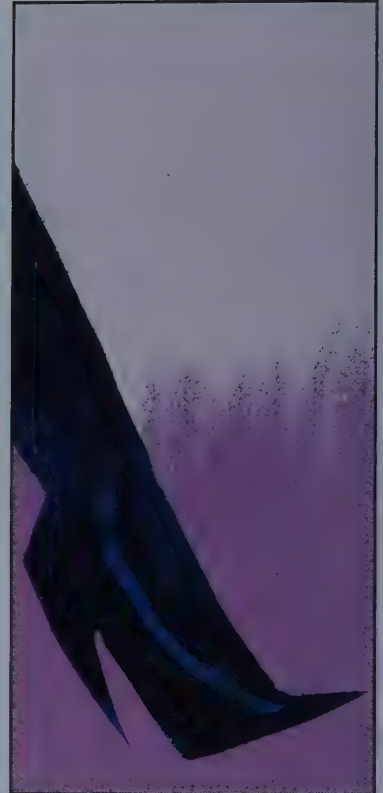
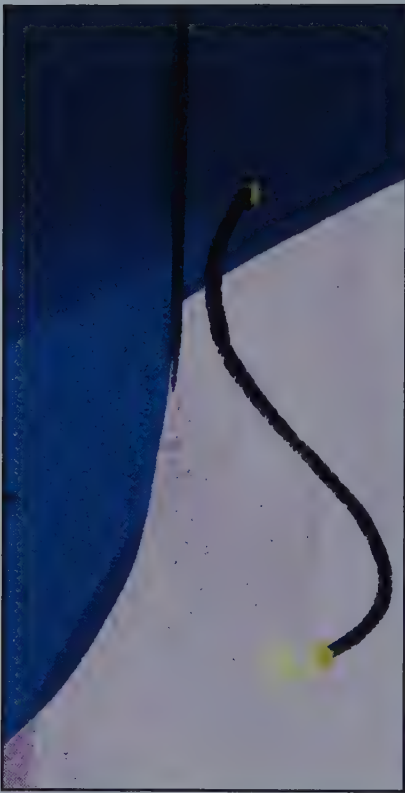


My Lord, the Queen is very specific.



I'm sorry, he barged in here.

Hera, I really need to talk to you! It cannot wait--

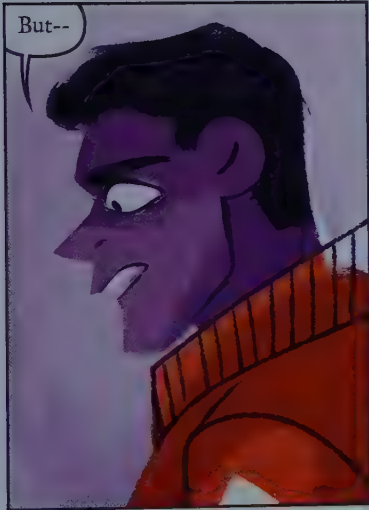




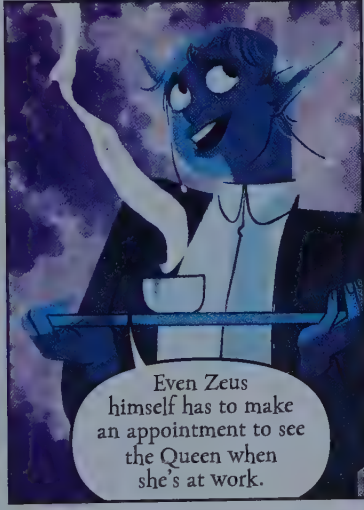
Everybody needs an appointment to speak with the Queen.



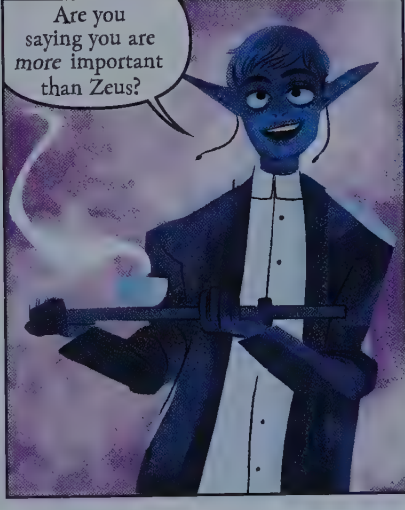
Her time is very valuable.



But--



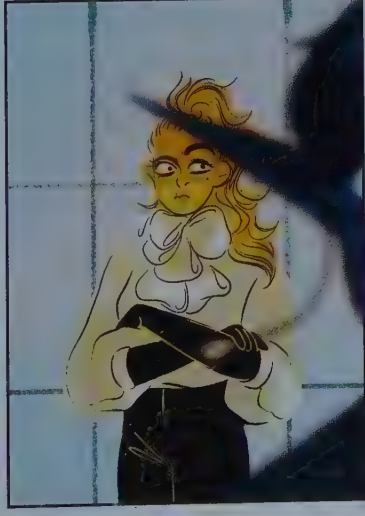
Even Zeus himself has to make an appointment to see the Queen when she's at work.



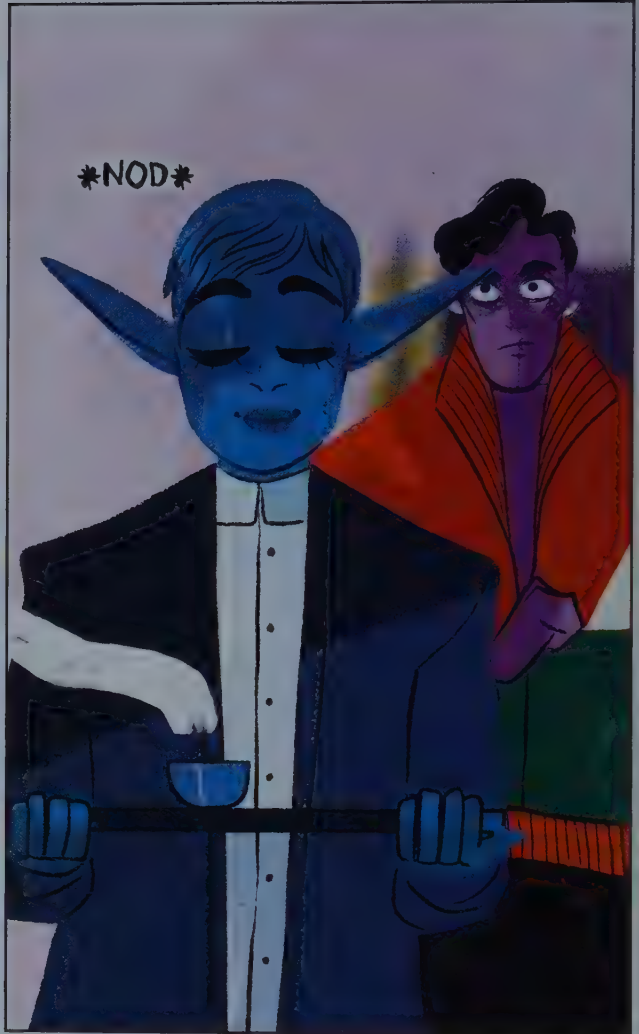
Are you saying you are more important than Zeus?

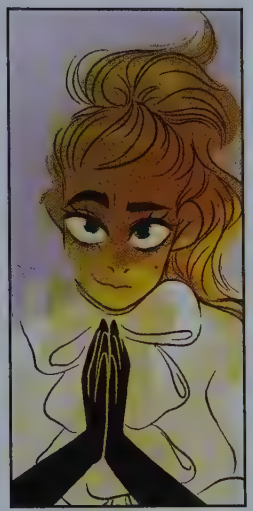


UHHHHHHHHH...

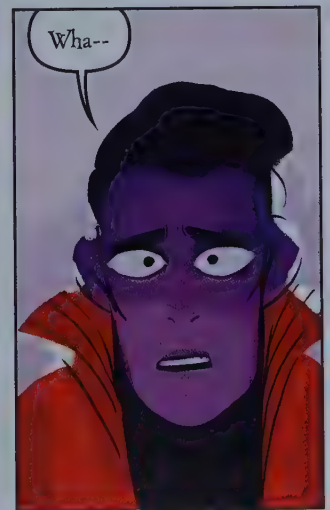
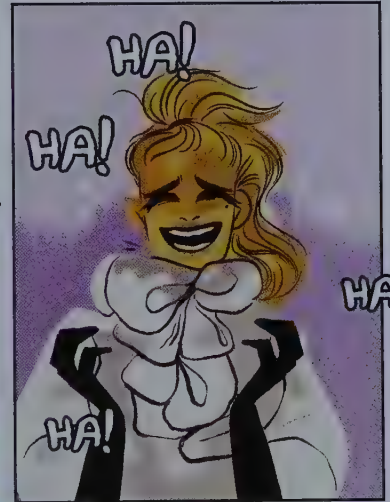
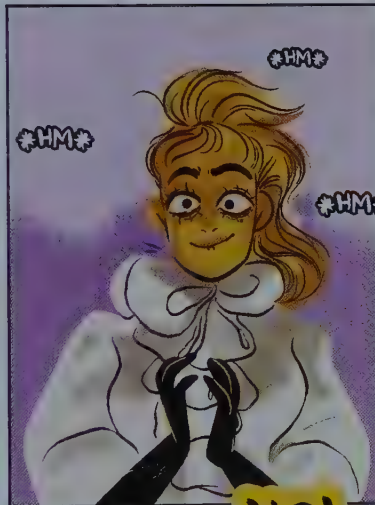
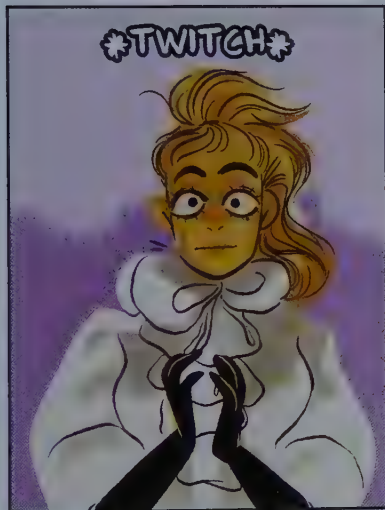
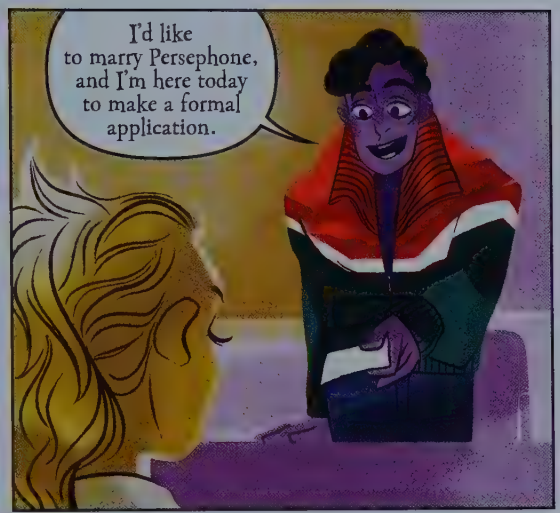


I can make an exception on this occasion.









Thank you,
I haven't laughed
that hard in a
long time.



Also,
no.

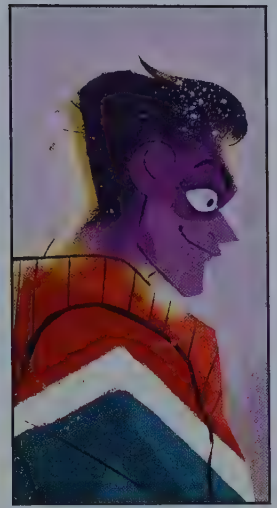


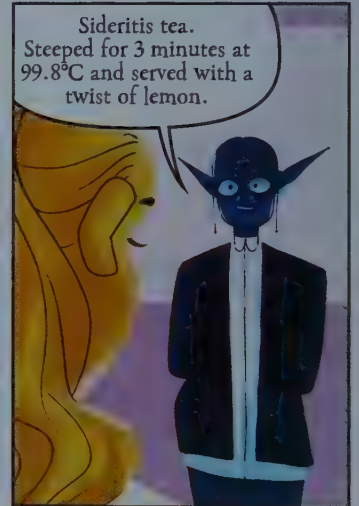
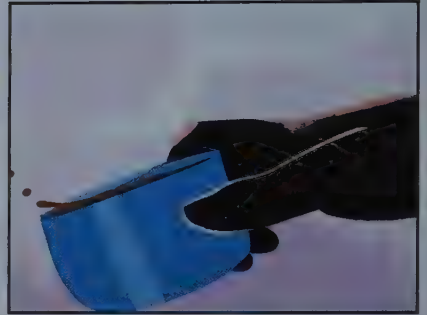
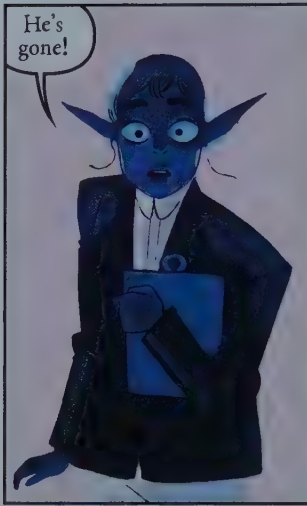
Why not!?
I need your
blessing.



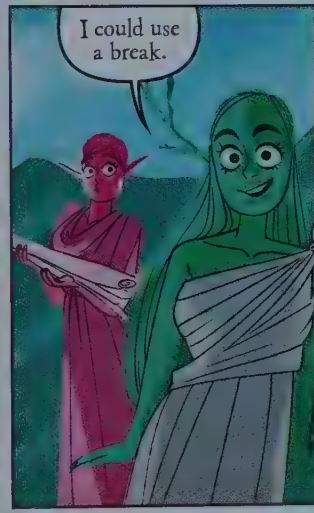
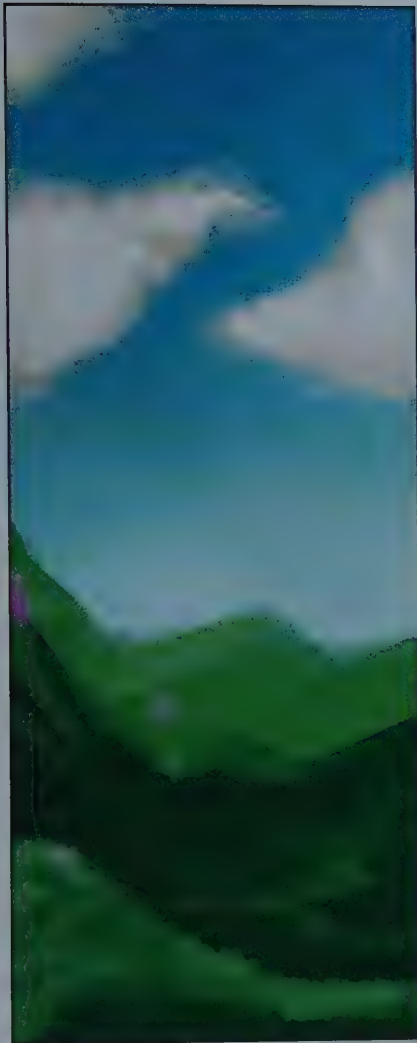
Why is no
such a difficult
word for you?

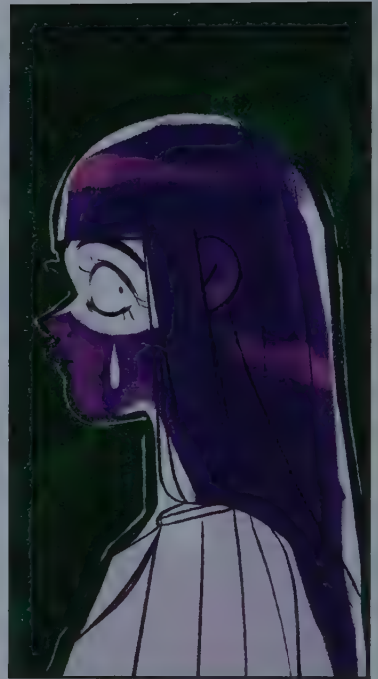
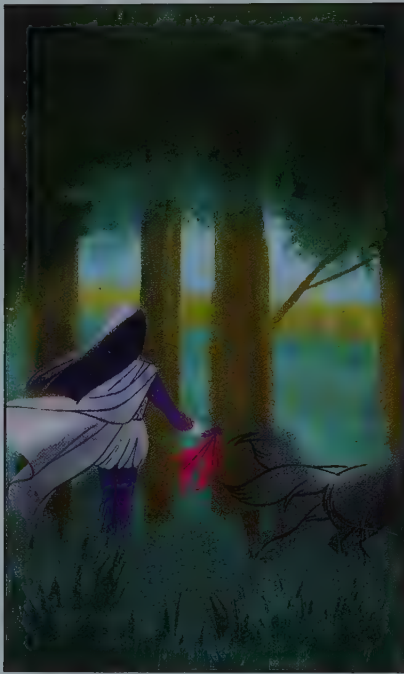






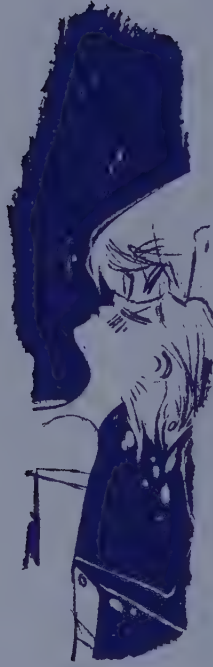
Echo.





PREVIOUSLY ON LORE OLYMPUS:





EPISODE 125: A TREE

Ummm...



This is the location where the alleged events supposedly took place?



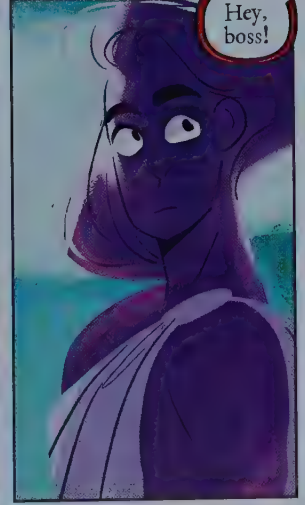
There is a big tree...
That part is true.



But it doesn't look as menacing as what was described to me.



Hey, boss!





Hermes!
It's nice to
see you.



I'm actually
scheduled to be
in your service
today.

I went to
the office to
find you, but Thetis
said you were
working off-site
today.



HEH
Right.



Hey, I got a
question
for ya.



Have you seen
Persephone around
at all?





And the whole event was undocumented.

HA!

HA!

HA!

HA!



And if that's true, more than one of the Gods are lying to me...



...which makes me very upset.



So, have you seen anything?

I can't say that I have.



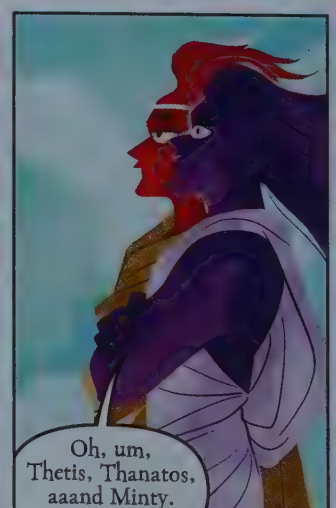
Gosh, that's such a crazy rumor.



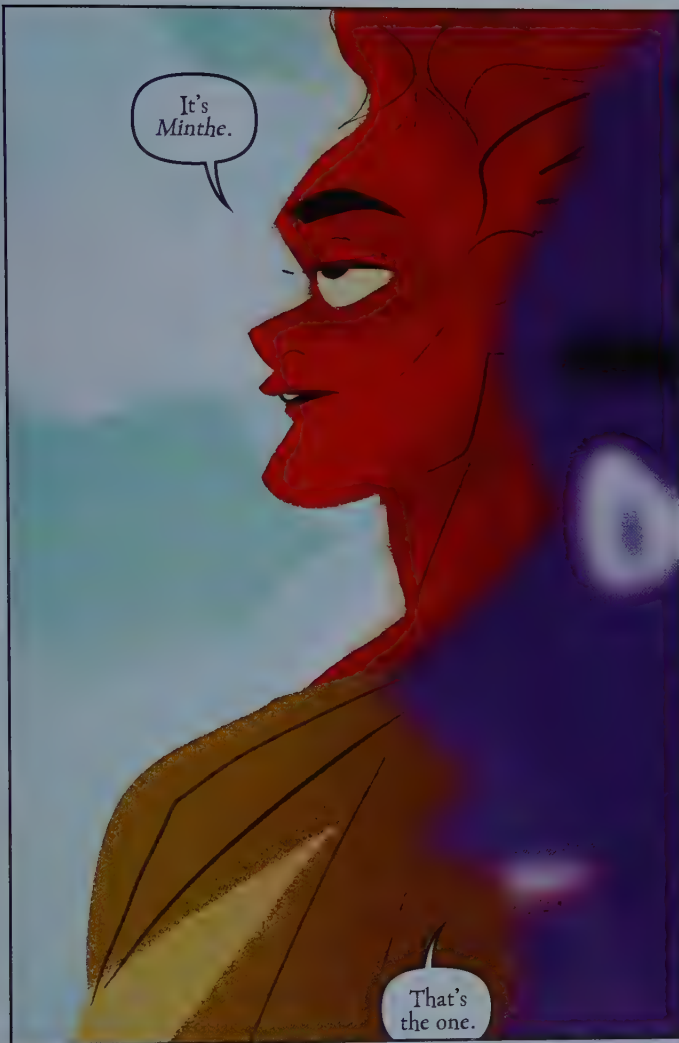
I'd love to know who told you.



Just for fun.



Oh, um, Thetis, Thanatos, aaand Minty.



It's Minthe.

That's the one.



Oh my goodness, that's so interesting.

MASKED RAGE

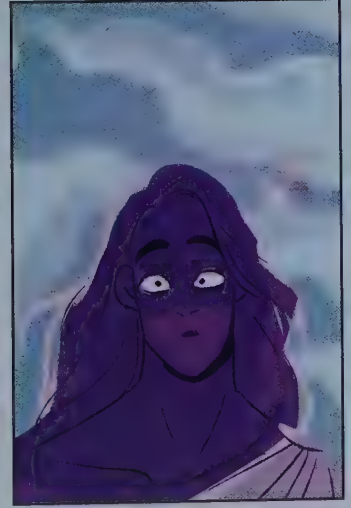


Hey, why don't I go see if I can find Persephone for you?

That would be great!



No prob.



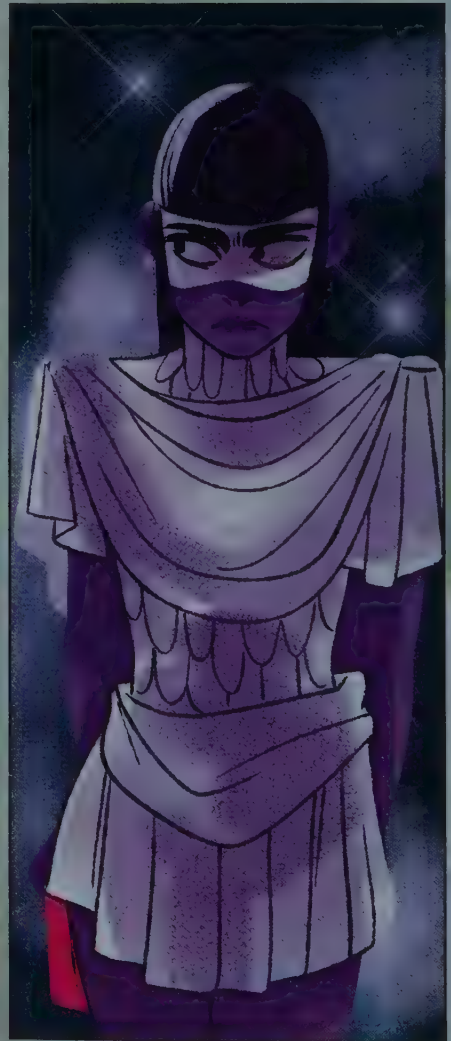
Artemis...?

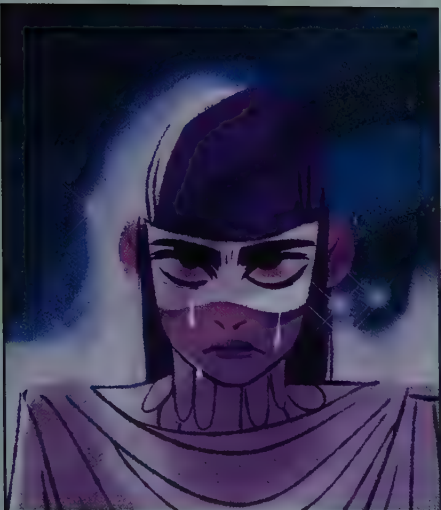


She doesn't usually
come to this area...

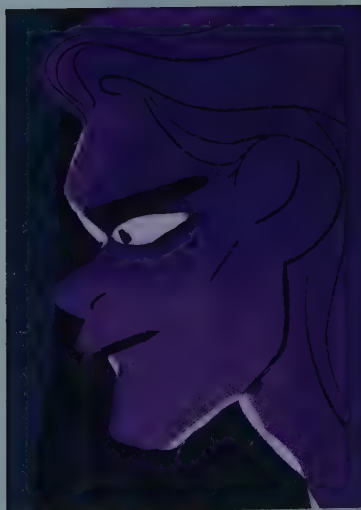








I'd
reconsider
running away if
I were you.



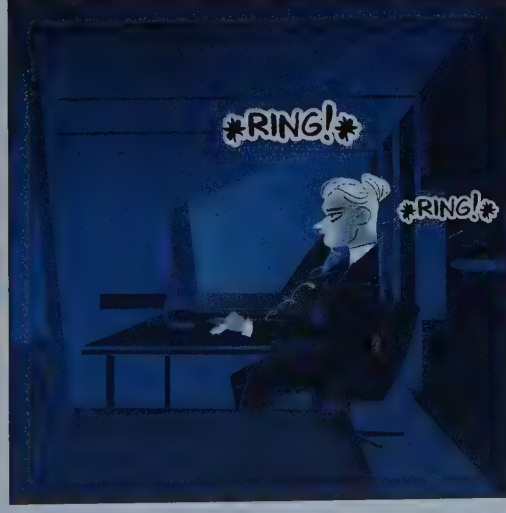
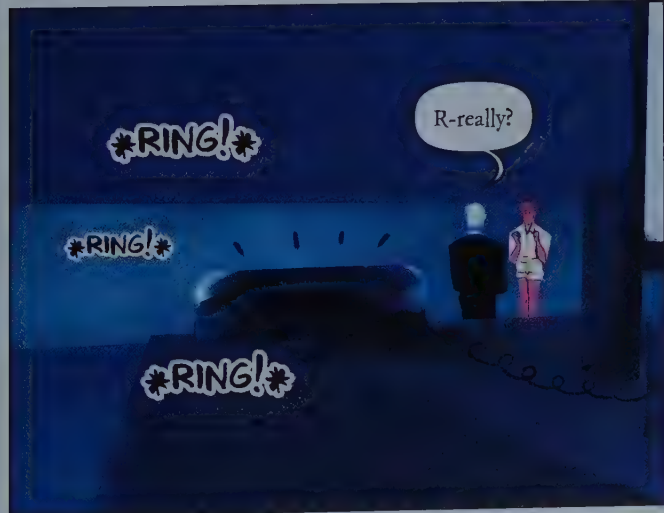
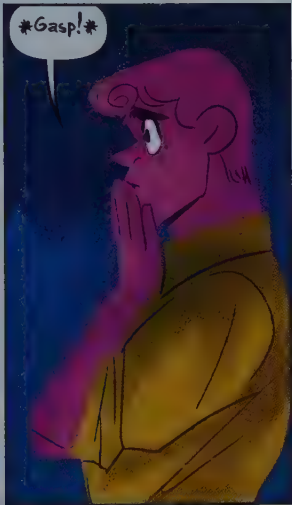


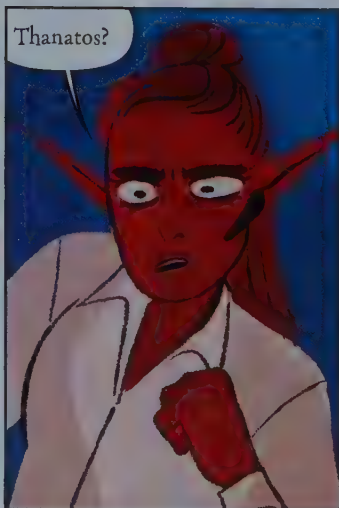
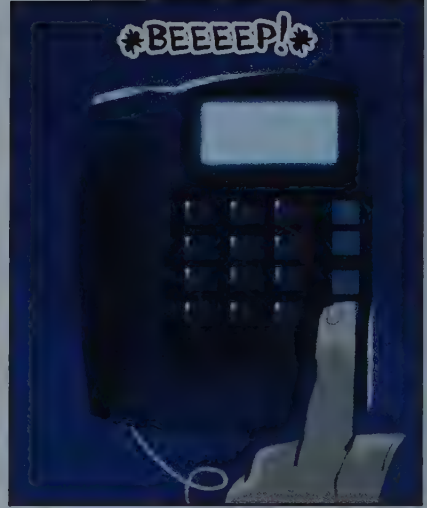


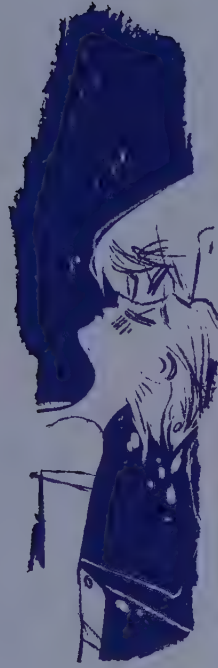




...or seems to be her friend.







EPIISODE 126: THE RUB



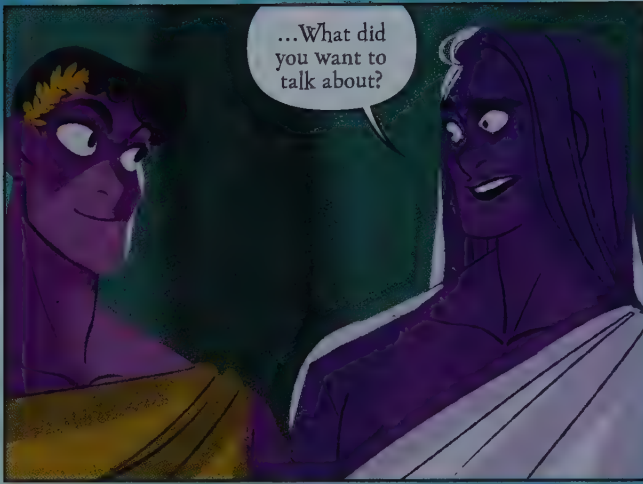
You just
couldn't drop it,
could you?











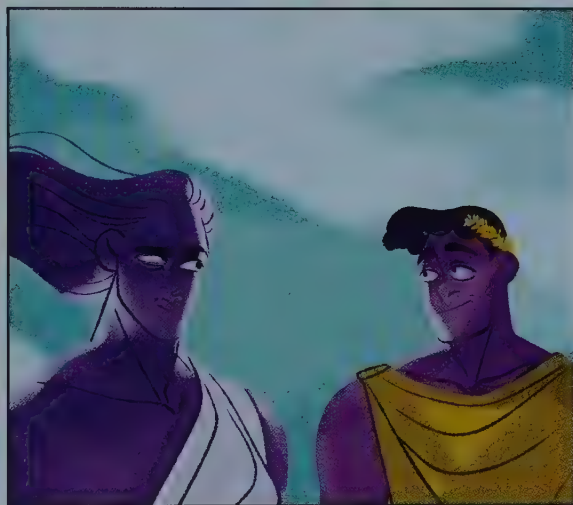
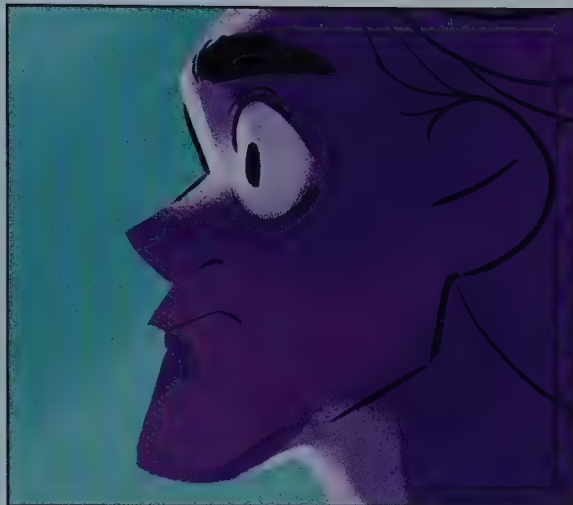
...What did you want to talk about?



I feel like I'm ready to settle down.



And I've got the perfect deity in mind!

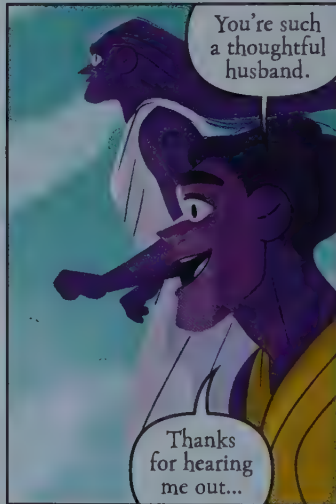
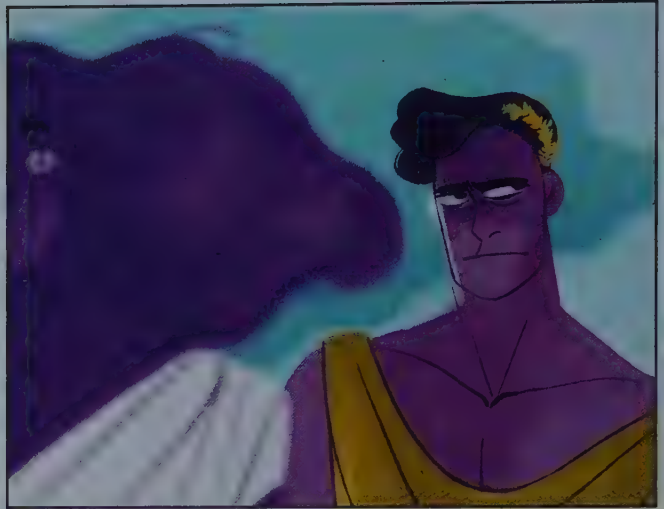




It's not a good match.

Besides, you need to talk to Hera about that sort of thing.

I don't want to step on her toes.



You're such a thoughtful husband.

Thanks for hearing me out...



...Can I offer you any assistance with whatever you're doing at this very moment?

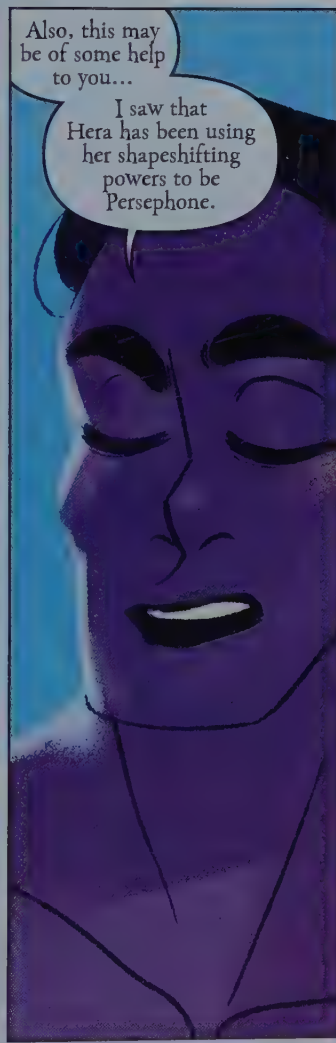


Really? Everyone's been so unhelpful.



Sigh
Apparently, Persephone has committed this massive act of wrath... without a permit.

TEETH SUCK







Have you found anything yet?

No, stop asking.



Artemis, did you find out anything?



Look, you don't know that for sure.

Besides, why would you looking for Persephone raise any red flags for Zeus?



No, I messed up. Zeus saw me.

I think-- I think he knows.

I guess you're right. But still, he was weird about it. It really threw me off.



I didn't find anything, did you?



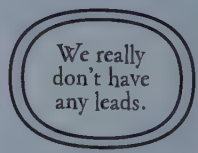
Hades found a comb of hers in the Underworld. So we think she must be somewhere in the city.

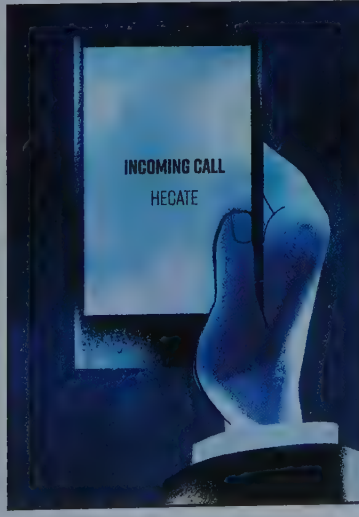
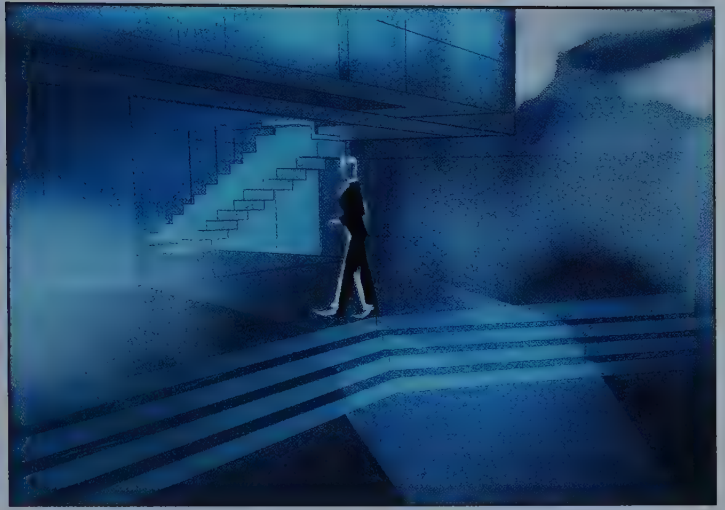


Okay--



We really don't have any leads.







GOOD EVENING AND WELCOME
TO ORACLE.

SORRY TO INTERRUPT OUR
REGULAR BROADCAST.

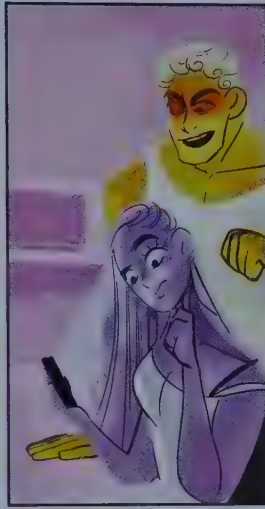
OUR GLORIOUS LEADER, ZEUS, HAS
ISSUED AN ARREST WARRANT FOR
THE GODDESS PERSEPHONE.



SHE IS WANTED FOR COMMITTING
EXTREME ACTS OF WRATH IN THE
MORTAL REALM WITHOUT A PERMIT.

FAILING TO DECLARE THESE ACTS
OF WRATH TO THE AUTHORITIES,

AND COMMITTING CONSPIRACY AND
TREASON AGAINST THE TRIARCHY.



IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION
ON THE WHEREABOUTS OF
THE GODDESS PERSEPHONE...

OR HER MOTHER, DEMETER,
PLEASE CONTACT THE ANONYMOUS
TIP LINE BELOW.





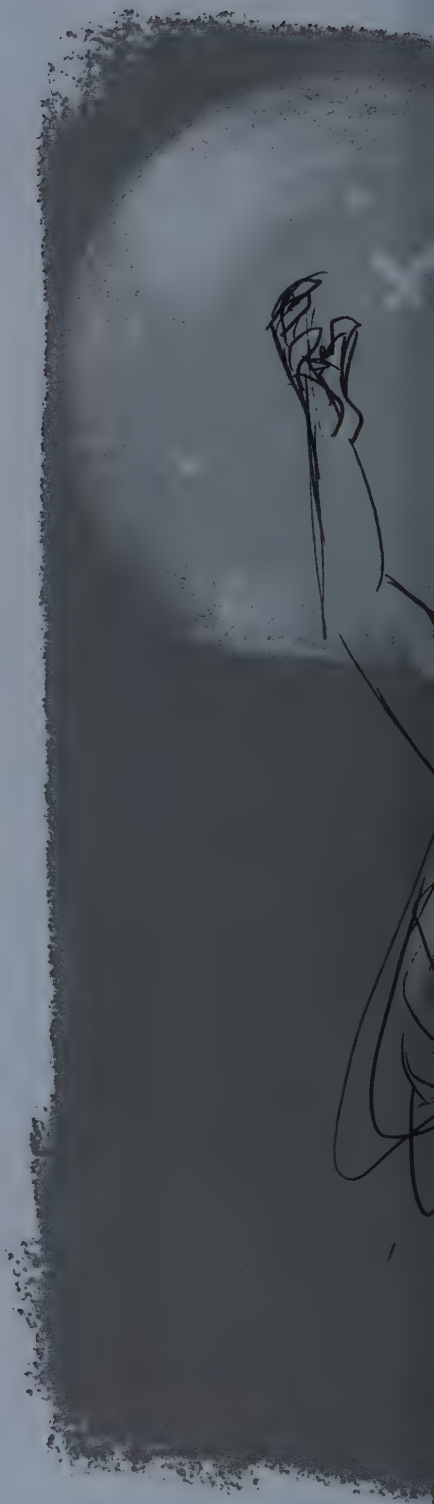
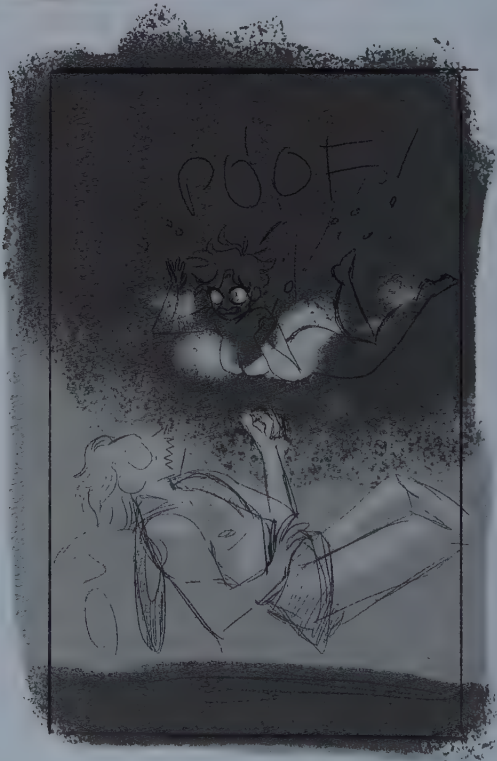
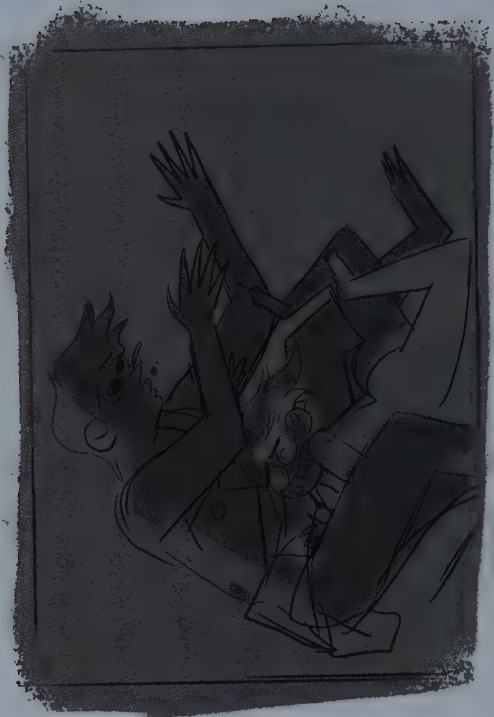
BEHIND-THE-SCENES SKETCHES AND COMMENTARY FOR

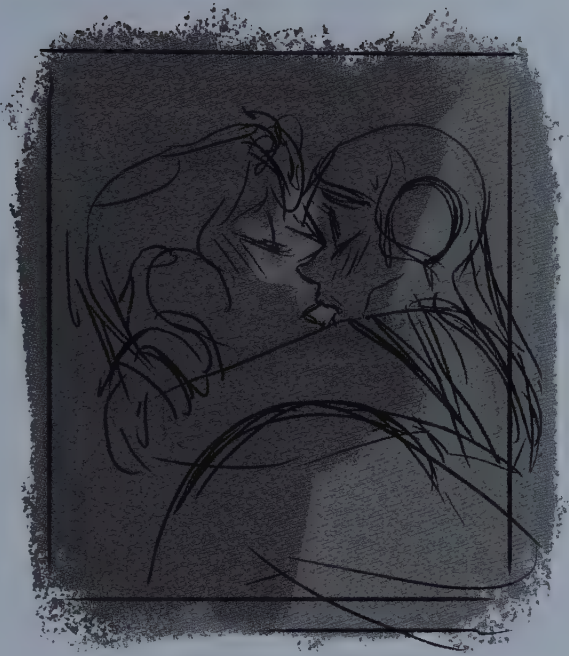
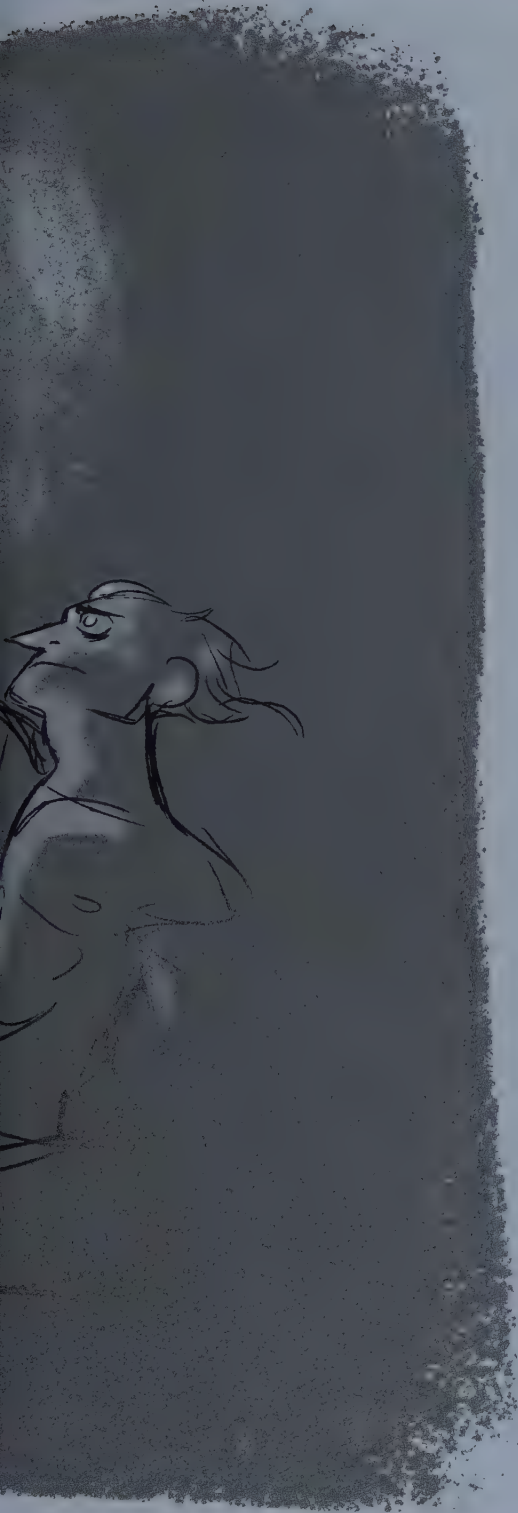
LORE OLYMPUS

Some of these episodes were created in the days leading up to the pandemic. A time that has become crystalized in my memory. I try hard not to long for the past, as there isn't any going back, but I can't help but miss those days prior to March 2020.

These episodes mark many important firsts for Hades and Persephone as their relationship deepens. Drawing these panels was some of the most fun I've had making *Lore Olympus* and, looking back on them now, they still make me feel happy. I loved when I was finally able to share these chapters with readers and share that joy with them.

I invite you to enjoy the process work for some of my favorite moments in *Lore Olympus*.

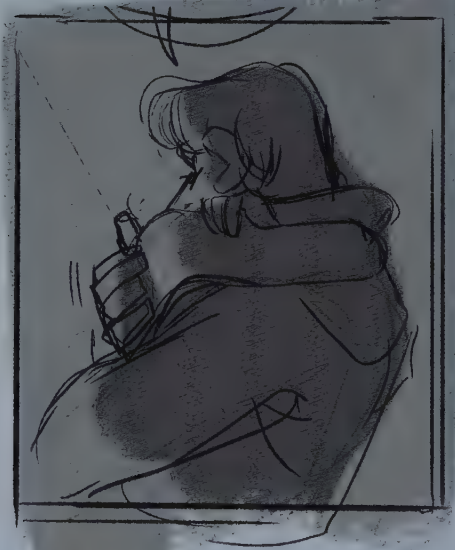
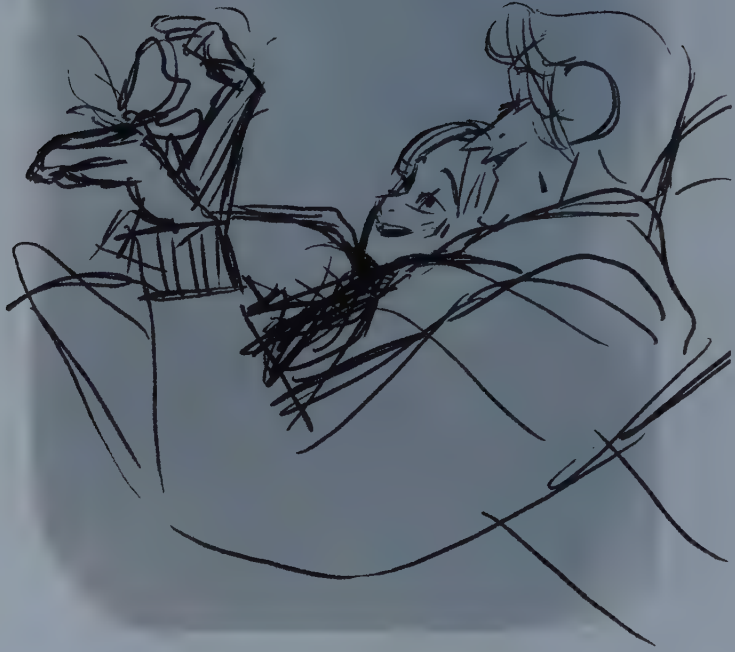


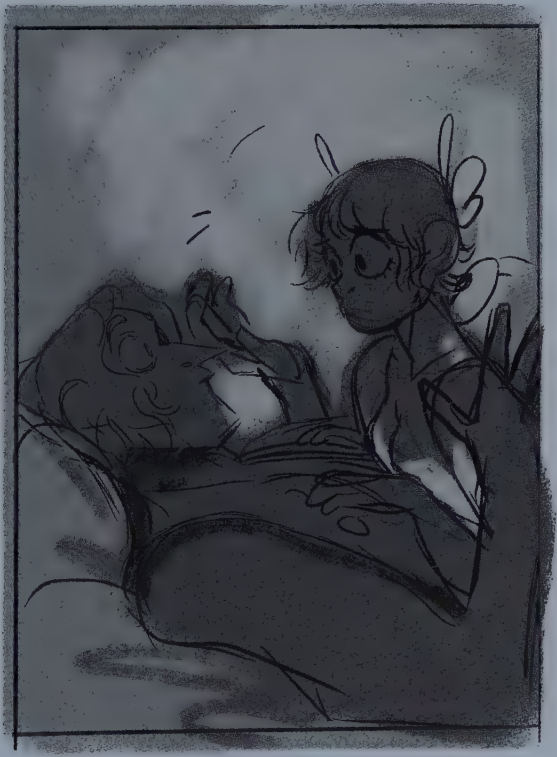






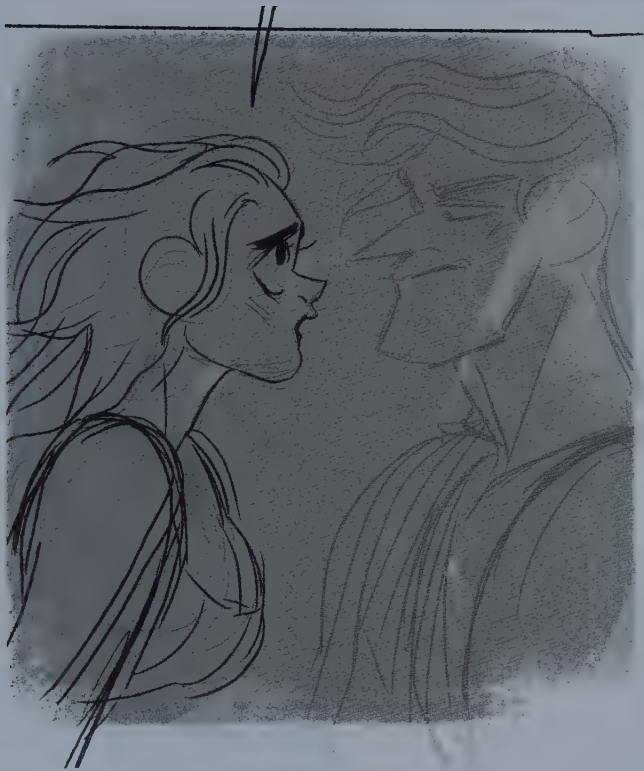
I'm really glad you're here.





~~I'm sorry, Goddess.~~
I didnt mean to
frighten you.



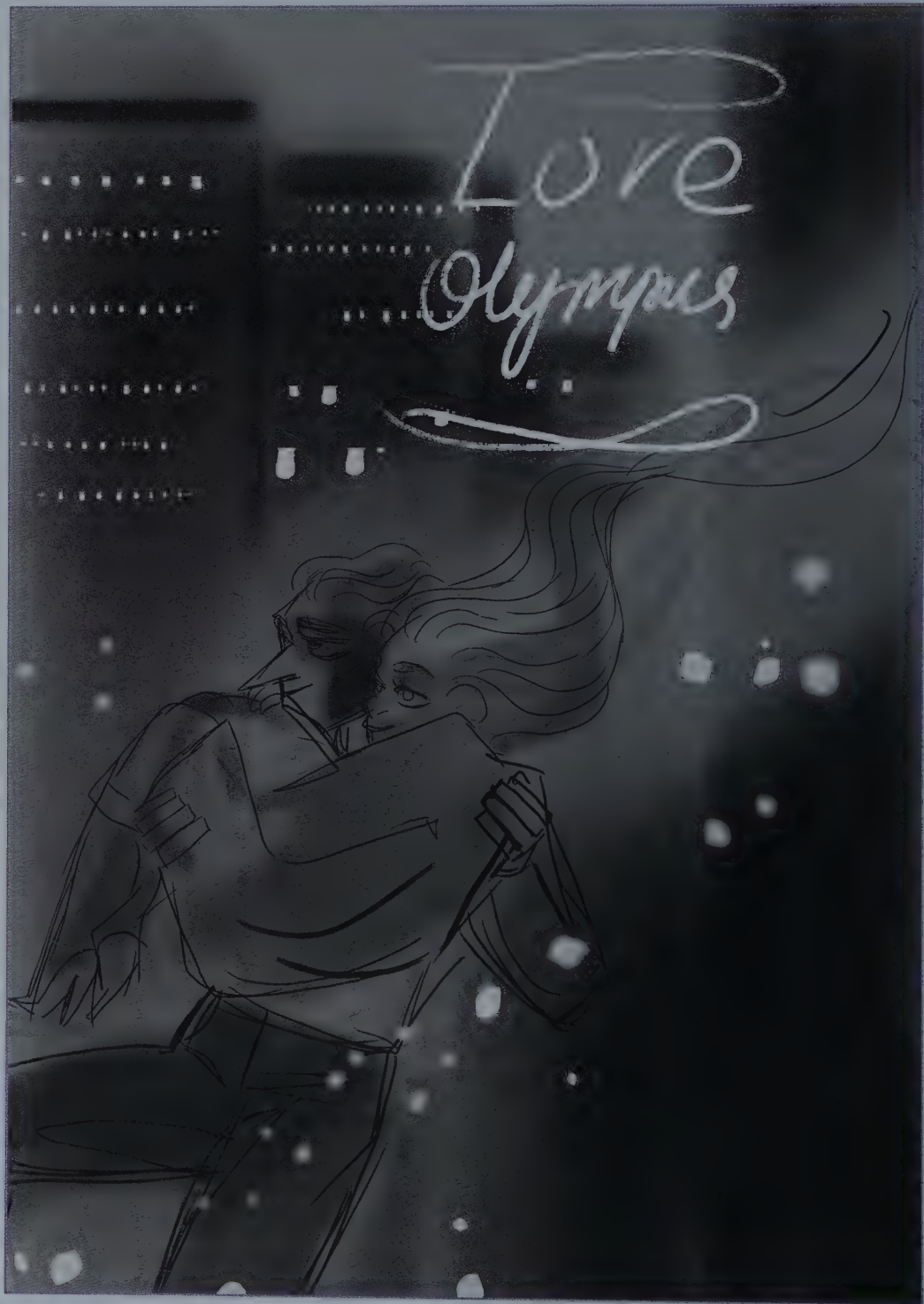




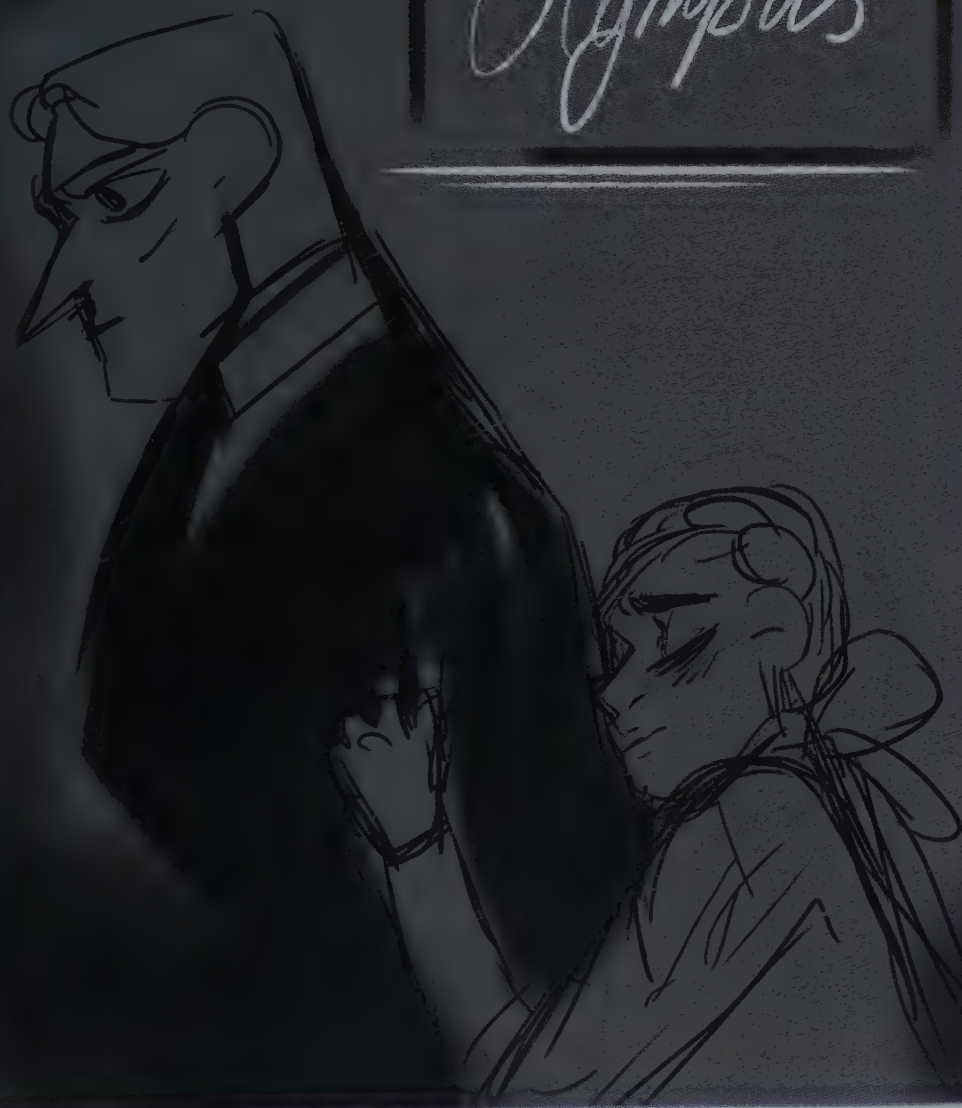
My whole life, I wanted to illustrate a book cover. How fortunate that with *Lore Olympus*, I am able to illustrate not just one book cover, but many.

And with multiple volumes of *Lore Olympus* come multiple book cover concepts. Here are my own little honorable mentions.

Love Olympus



Love
Olympus





ABOUT THE AUTHOR



RACHEL SMYTHE is the creator of
the Eisner Award-winning *Lore Olympus*,
published via WEBTOON.

Twitter: @used_bandaid

Instagram: @usedbandaid

Facebook.com/Usedbandaidillustration

LoreOlympusBooks.com

“You want to know about *The Bringer of Death*.”

It is Persephone's birthday, and she receives the ultimate gift: Hades confesses his desire for her, leading to their first kiss. But that doesn't necessarily make things easier for the goddess of spring, who is still in over her head in gossip-driven Olympus. Persephone feels intense guilt over the official break-up between Hades and Minthe, she is struggling to find her footing in her fast-paced job, and – worst of all – the shades of her past are slowly coming to light.

After an unexpected encounter with Apollo, Persephone flees into the depths of the Underworld. Concerned for her safety and determined to find her, Hades must team up with Artemis, Eros and Hera, but they're working against a ticking clock. Zeus knows about the bloody secret in Persephone's past, and now the furious king of the gods will stop at nothing to bring her to justice.

This edition of Rachel Smythe's original Eisner Award-winning webcomic *Lore Olympus* features exclusive behind-the-scenes content and brings the Greek pantheon into the modern age in a sharply perceptive and romantic graphic novel.

This volume collects episodes 76–102 of the
NO. 1 WEBTOON comic *Lore Olympus*.

RACHEL SMYTHE is the creator of the Eisner-winning *Lore Olympus*, published via WEBTOON.

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Cover design: Cassie Gonzales



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