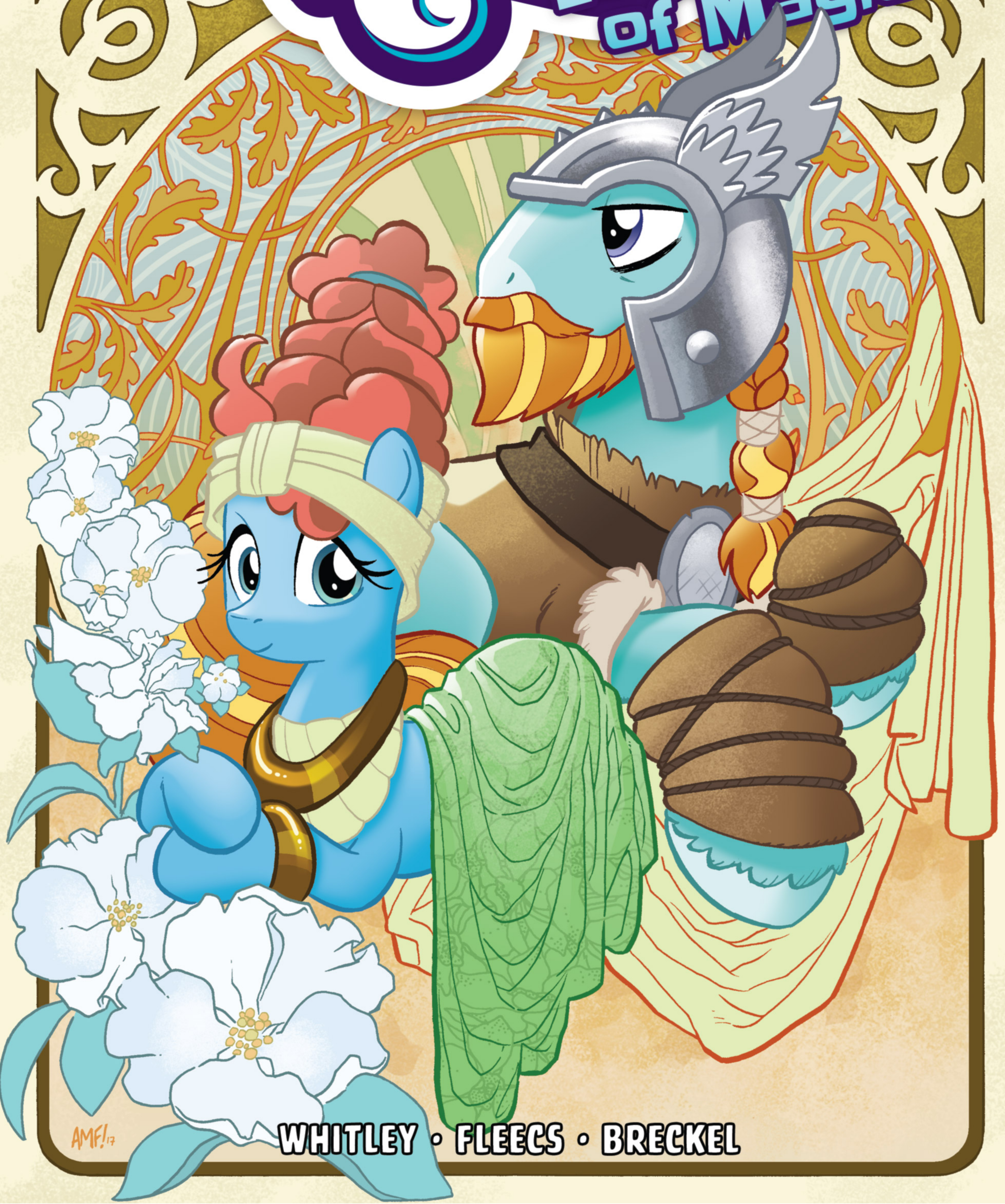


IDW
ISSUE
8
COVER A

my LITTLE PONY

Legends of Magic



AMF!17

WHITLEY • FLEECES • BRECKEL



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FAR IN THE NORTHERN LANDS OF EQUESTRIA THERE IS A VOLCANO.

AND AT THE BASE OF THIS VOLCANO IS A TOWN FULL OF THE HEARTIEST EARTH PONIES.

AND THIS TOWN IS PROTECTED BY A TEAM OF THE STRONGEST PONIES IN ALL OF EQUESTRIA. THEY ARE KNOWN AS:

THE MIGHTY HELM

AND AMONG THEIR NUMBER IS ONE OF THE MOST LEGENDARY PONIES IN ALL OF EQUESTRIA.

THE EARTH PONY WITH MUSCLE AS TOUGH AS ROCK. THE PONY THEY SAY WASN'T BORN, BUT CUT FROM THE ROCK OF THE VERY MOUNTAIN. THE STRONGEST PONY IN EQUESTRIA.

FOLK TALES TELL HOW ROCKHOOF SINGLE-HOOFEDLY SAVED THE VILLAGE.

WHEN THE VOLCANO ERUPTED, HE DUG A TRENCH TO CONTAIN THE LAVA FLOW.

WITH HIS TRUSTY SHOVEL, THERE WAS NO CHALLENGE HE COULD NOT FACE.





EVEN GETTING A CLUMSY UNICORN OUT OF A DITCH.

ALMOST THERE, FRIEND. YOU'VE GOT IT.

GAH! DON'T LET GO! I THINK I'M SLIPPING! I—



WHEW! I THOUGHT I WAS STUCK DOWN THERE! IT WAS GOING TO TAKE THEM WEEKS TO DIG ME OUT.

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT. IT ONLY TOOK ME A DAY TO DIG IT.

IT ONLY TOOK YOU A DAY TO DIG A HOLE THAT BIG?

NOT THE HOLE, FRIEND—



—THE WHOLE TRENCH.

WOW!

YOU SEE, THE VOLCANO'S BEEN A BIT NOISY OF LATE AND INSTEAD OF WAITING UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE, I THOUGHT I'D GET STARTED ON PROTECTING THE VILLAGE WHILE WE WERE WAITING.



WELL, FRIEND, WATCH YOUR STEP. YOU'D HATE TO BE IN THERE WHEN THE LAVA FILLS IT.

BE WELL.

HOLD ON A SECOND! WAIT!



YOU'RE HIM, AREN'T YOU?

WHO'S THAT NOW?



YOU'RE THE HERO OF THE MIGHTY HELM. YOU SAVED THIS WHOLE VILLAGE.

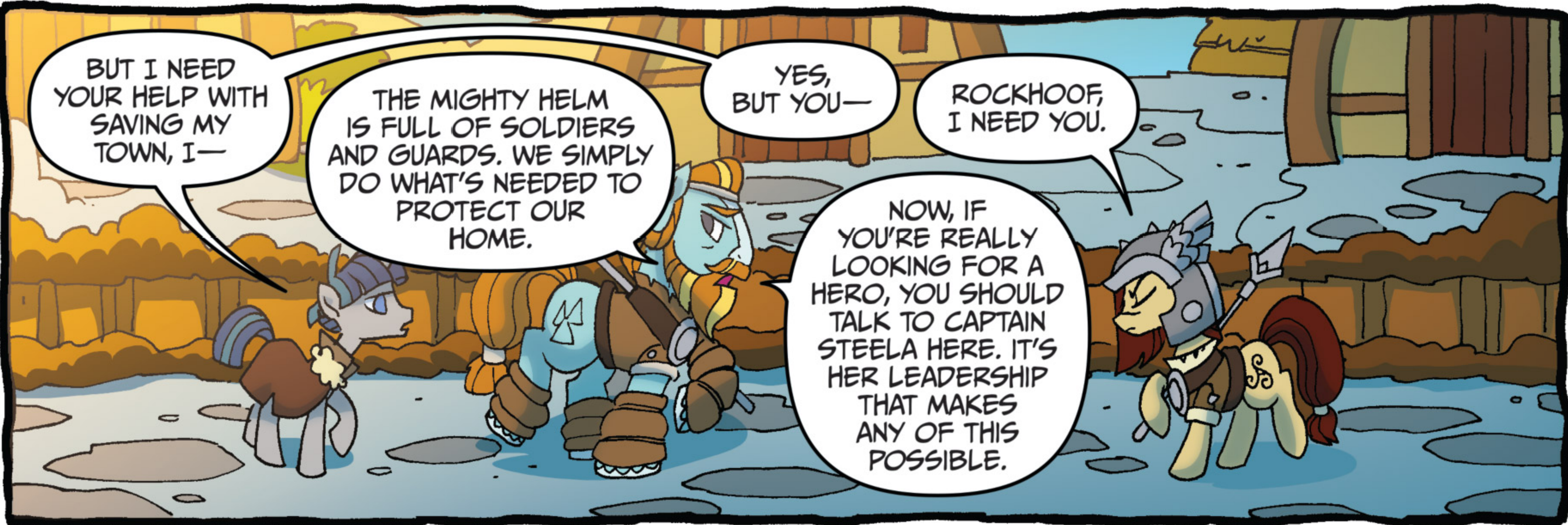
YOU'RE ROCKHOOF!



HEH HEH HEH... IS THAT WHAT THEY'RE SAYING NOW?

YOU'RE NOT?

AYE, I AM ROCKHOOF. IT'S JUST THE HERO PART I'M NOT SURE ABOUT.



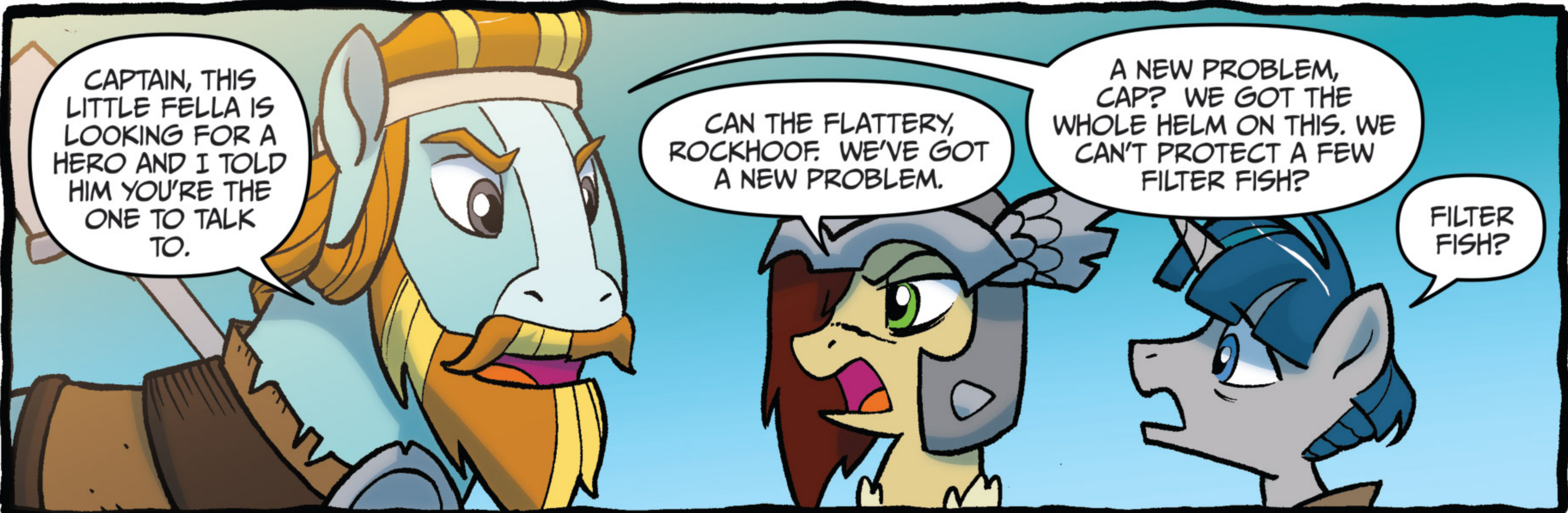
BUT I NEED YOUR HELP WITH SAVING MY TOWN, I—

THE MIGHTY HELM IS FULL OF SOLDIERS AND GUARDS. WE SIMPLY DO WHAT'S NEEDED TO PROTECT OUR HOME.

YES, BUT YOU—

ROCKHOOF, I NEED YOU.

NOW, IF YOU'RE REALLY LOOKING FOR A HERO, YOU SHOULD TALK TO CAPTAIN STEELA HERE. IT'S HER LEADERSHIP THAT MAKES ANY OF THIS POSSIBLE.



CAPTAIN, THIS LITTLE FELLA IS LOOKING FOR A HERO AND I TOLD HIM YOU'RE THE ONE TO TALK TO.

CAN THE FLATTERY, ROCKHOOF. WE'VE GOT A NEW PROBLEM.

A NEW PROBLEM, CAP? WE GOT THE WHOLE HELM ON THIS. WE CAN'T PROTECT A FEW FILTER FISH?

FILTER FISH?



MAGICAL FISH THAT KEEP OUR LAKE CLEAN. LAST YEAR SOMETHING HAPPENED AND THEY DIDN'T MAKE IT. IF THESE DON'T GET THROUGH...

OUR ONLY WATER SOURCE IS GOING TO BE COVERED IN MUCK AND MOSS.

SO IF YOU'D LET MY SOLDIER GET BACK TO WORK...



WHAT'S THE PROBLEM NOW, CAP?

LUMBER BEARS.

LUMBER BEARS! IF THAT DON'T BEAT ALL, WE ALREADY RAN OFF THE TIMBER WOLVES!

AND WITH THEM GONE THE LUMBER BEARS MOVED IN.

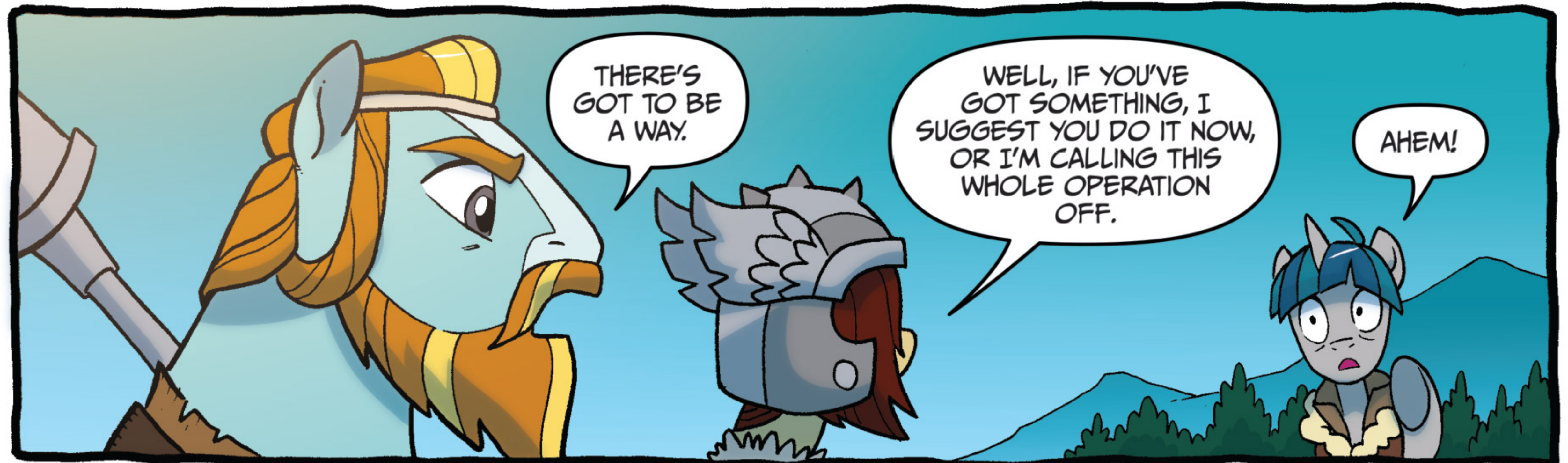


WELL, WITH THE FULL FORCE OF THE HELM WE CAN TAKE A FEW LUMBER BEARS.

IF WE HIT THEM JUST BEFORE THE FISH COME THROUGH—

I'M NOT LOSING ANY PONIES FIGHTING FOR A FEW FISH. AND THE RIVER RUNS RIGHT THROUGH THE FOREST. AS SOON AS WE TAKE ONE DOWN, IT WILL REBUILD ITSELF.

THERE'S NO WAY TO MAKE SURE THEY STAY SAFE, AND WE'RE NOT RISKING PONY LIVES.



THERE'S GOT TO BE A WAY.

WELL, IF YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING, I SUGGEST YOU DO IT NOW, OR I'M CALLING THIS WHOLE OPERATION OFF.

AHEM!



I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO TAKE A HIKE, LITTLEST UNICORN.

I... UMMM... I HAVE AN IDEA ON HOW TO SAVE THE FISH.

COULD I SEE A MAP?



HERE! THIS IS THE PERFECT PLACE FOR IT!



THE PERFECT PLACE FOR WHAT? YOU STILL HAVEN'T EXPLAINED WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO DO TO STOP LUMBER BEARS.

LET HIM TALK, CAPTAIN. I CAN SEE THE GEARS TURNING IN THAT LITTLE HEAD. WHAT'S YOUR PLAN, FRIEND?



IT'S SIMPLE. YOU CAN'T GUARD THE RIVER IN THE FOREST, SO WE MOVE THE RIVER OUT OF THE FOREST.



SORRY, CAP. HE'S OBVIOUSLY LOOPY.

CAN WE GET BACK TO WORK NOW?

WAIT!



YOU CAN'T STOP THE LUMBER BEARS BECAUSE THE RIVER GOES THROUGH THE FOREST.

IF YOU DIG A NEW PATH FOR THE RIVER, THEN WE CAN DIVERT IT TEMPORARILY AWAY FROM THE FOREST.

AND IF THE BEARS COME OUT OF THE FOREST, THEY'LL BE EASIER TO TAKE ON.



CAN YOU DIG THAT FAST?

YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A PONY PUTS A CHALLENGE IN FRONT OF ME.

REMEMBER THE OAT BOAT?



OKAY, LITTLE GUY, SHOW HIM WHERE TO DIG.

NOW, I HAD READ THE LEGEND OF ROCKHOOF, BUT I ALWAYS FIGURED IT WAS AN EXAGGERATION. BUT BEFORE I KNEW IT, THERE WAS A WIDENING TRENCH LEADING AWAY FROM THE FOREST AND TOWARD THE TOWN.

I HAD NEVER SEEN ANYPONY MOVE LIKE THAT PONY MOVED WHEN HE WAS DIGGING.

AS FOR ME, I KNEW THAT IF THE RIVER CHANGED OVER TOO SOON, WE'D BE KNEE DEEP IN LUMBER BEARS BEFORE THE FISH EVER GOT HERE, SO I MADE A MAGICAL WALL TO KEEP THE RIVER FROM PUSHING ITS WAY INTO THE TRENCH.

AND CAPTAIN STEELA KEPT WATCH, MAKING SURE NO LUMBER BEARS WANDERED UP TO ATTACK US WHILE WE WERE WORKING.

BE HONEST WITH ME, KID. YOU REALLY THINK THIS IS GONNA WORK?

—AND WHAT IF THEY'RE EARLY?

IF MY CALCULATIONS ARE CORRECT AND ROCKHOOF IS AS FAST AS HE THINKS, THEN—

WHY?

BECAUSE THEY'RE EARLY. THAT'S OUR SIGNAL!

ROCKHOOF!

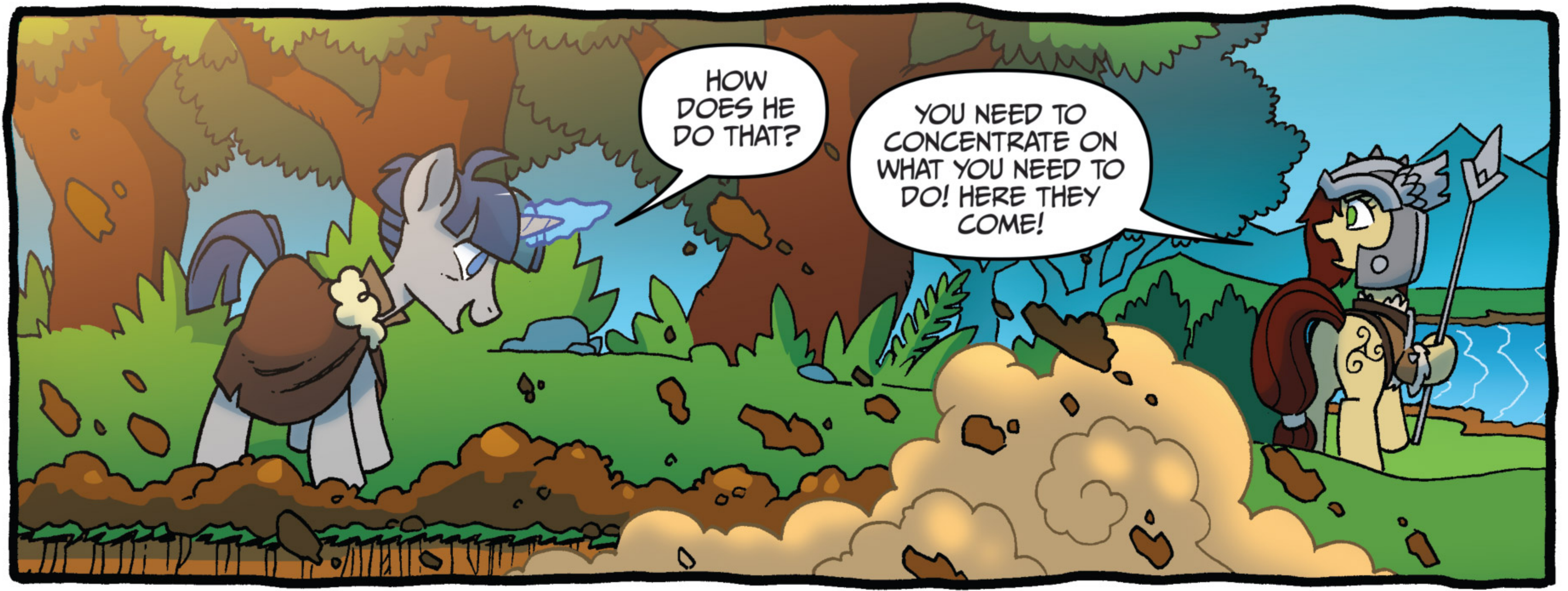
OH NO! I CAN'T LET THE WALL DOWN YET, ROCKHOOF IS STILL DIGGING!

HUH?

DOUBLE TIME, ROCKHOOF! THEY'RE ALMOST HERE!

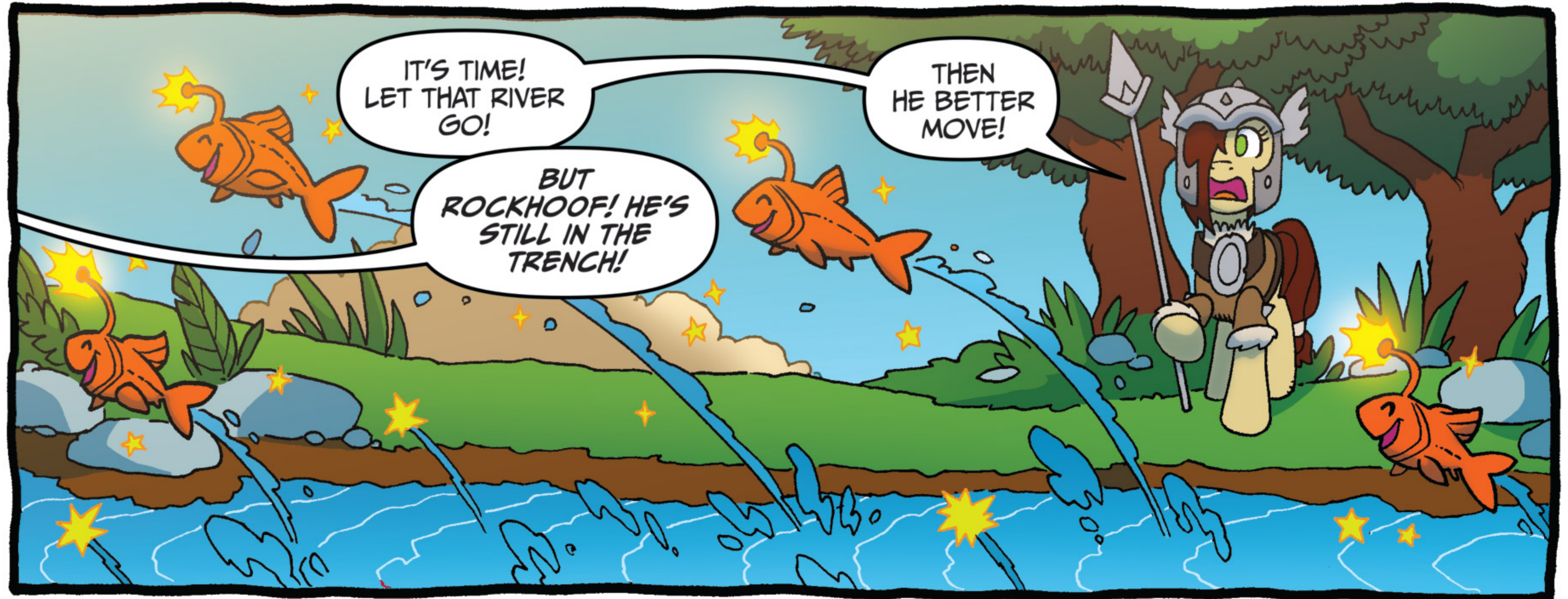
WELL, SUPPOSE IT'S TIME TO DO WHAT I DO BEST.





HOW DOES HE DO THAT?

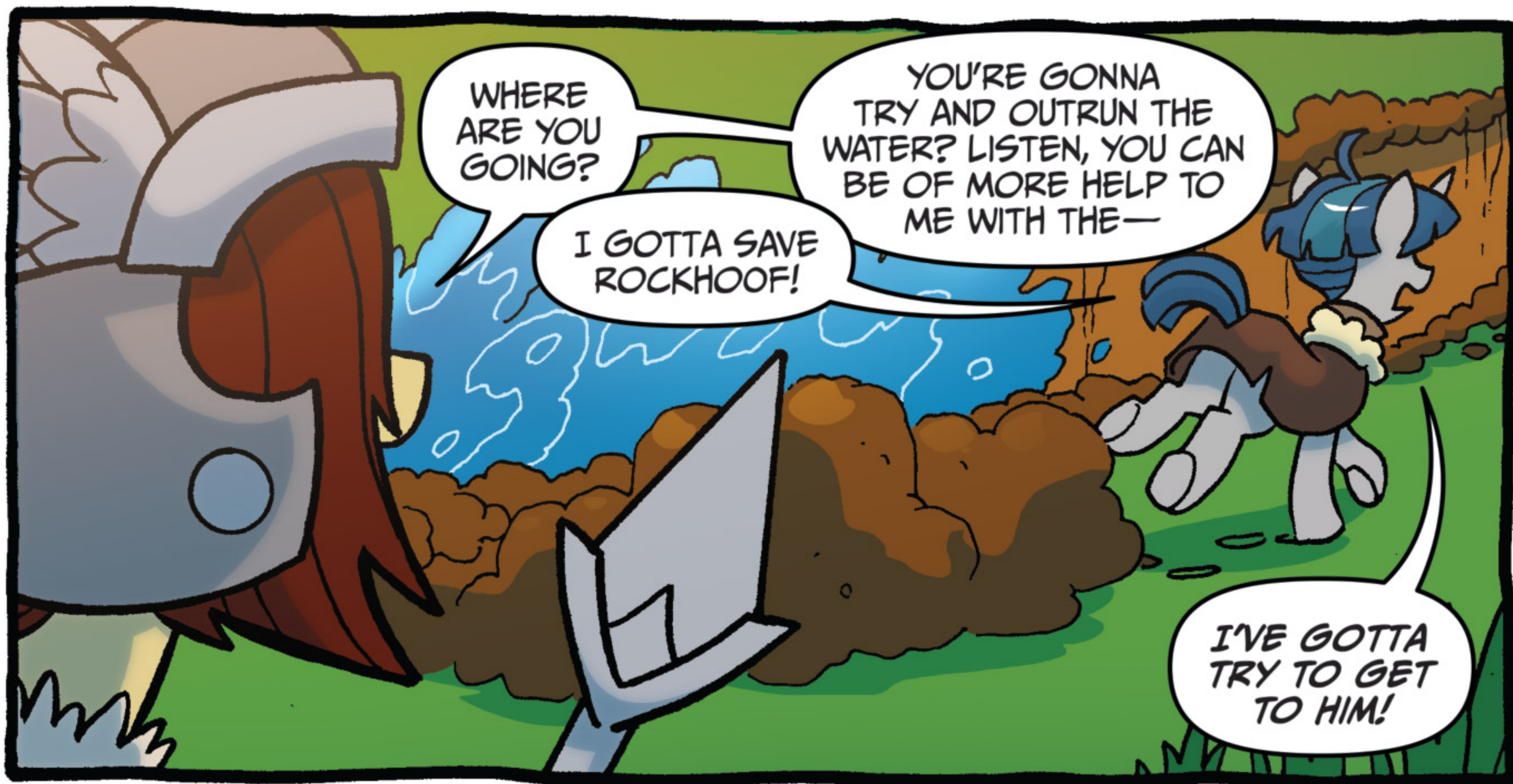
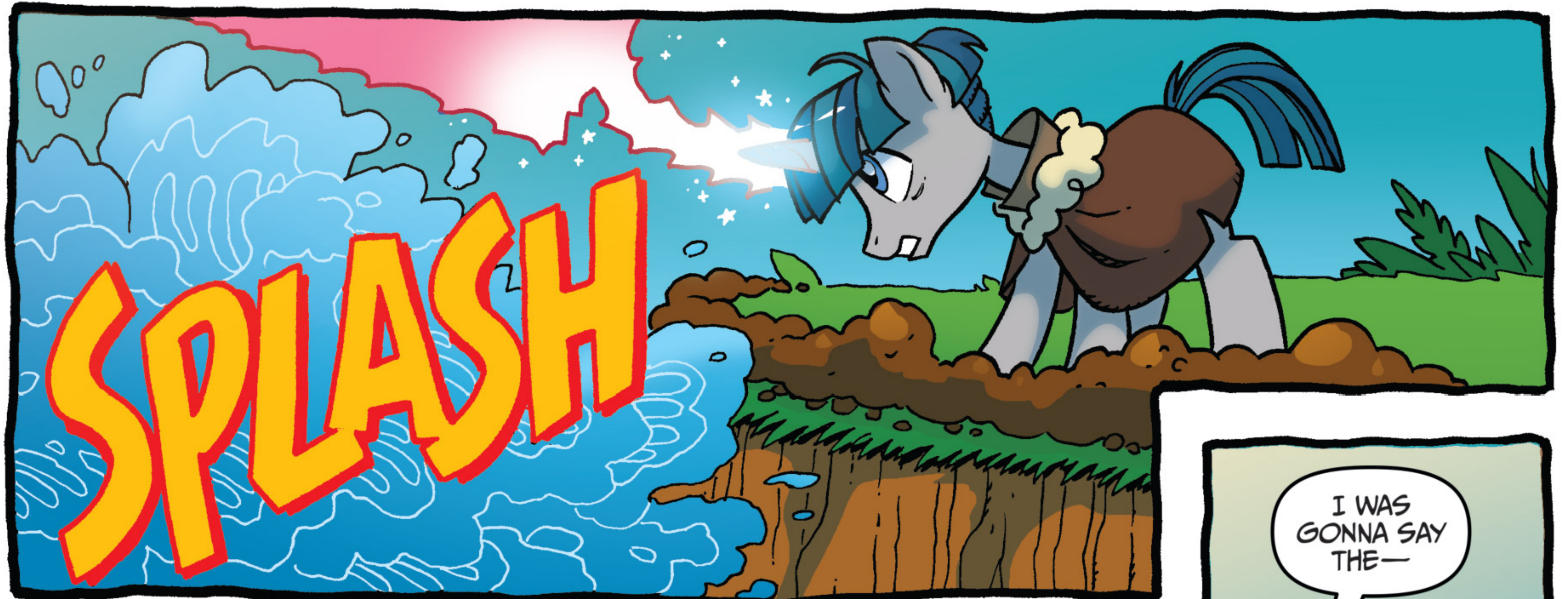
YOU NEED TO CONCENTRATE ON WHAT YOU NEED TO DO! HERE THEY COME!



IT'S TIME! LET THAT RIVER GO!

THEN HE BETTER MOVE!

BUT ROCKHOOF! HE'S STILL IN THE TRENCH!



WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

YOU'RE GONNA TRY AND OUTRUN THE WATER? LISTEN, YOU CAN BE OF MORE HELP TO ME WITH THE—

I GOTTA SAVE ROCKHOOF!

I'VE GOTTA TRY TO GET TO HIM!



I WAS GONNA SAY THE—

GROOOOHHH!

—SIGH LUMBER BEARS.



DIDN'T TAKE YOU FELLAS LONG.

WELL, BRING IT ON THEN.



ROCKHOOF!



ALMOST THERE...

ROCKHOOF!



KYA!



ROCKHOOF! GET OUT OF THERE!



MADE IT!

THOUGH I DIDN'T REALLY THINK THROUGH MY EXIT STRATEGY HERE...



GOTCHA!



COME ON!



WELL, SHOVEL OL BUDDY, LOOKS LIKE WE DID IT ONE LAST—

—SHOVEL? WHAT ARE YOU...



WE MADE IT!
SHOVEL, WE'RE
STILL ALIVE!

HOLD ON
TIGHT! YOU'RE
MUCH HEAVIER THAN
WHAT I'M USED TO
LIFTING WITH
MAGIC.



NOW DON'T YOU GO
FALLING ON THOSE FISH,
ROCKHOOF! WE JUST DID ALL
OF THIS TO SAVE 'EM.

YES, MA'AM. THEY
SURE ARE BEAUTIFUL,
BUT I'D RATHER SEE
THEM FROM—

—CAP,
LOOK OUT!



BUCK!



CRASH!



NOW...

...GET BACK ON THE
GROUND, ROCKHOOF.
YOU'RE GONNA NEED TO
PACK IF YOU'RE GOING ON
SOME KIND OF QUEST
WITH THIS FELLA.

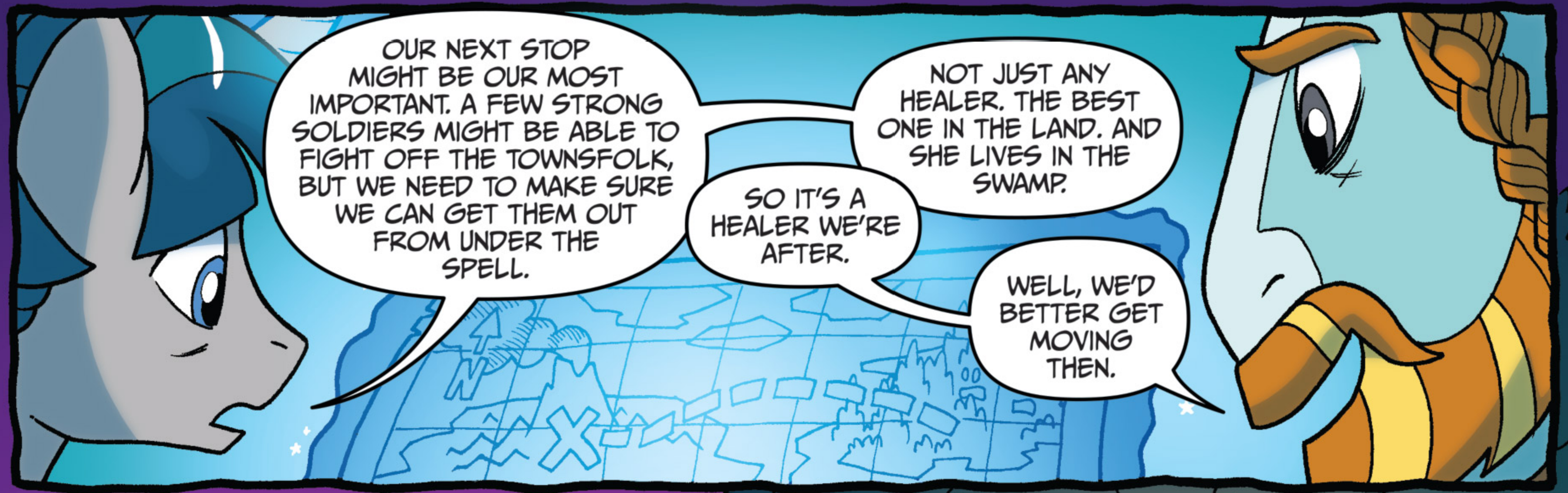


WELL, THEN, YOUNG PONY, WHICH WAY TO THIS VILLAGE WE NEED TO SAVE?

I DON'T THINK WE'RE QUITE READY TO SAVE IT YET. WE'RE GOING TO NEED SOME MORE HELP.

I SEE. IT'S AN ADVENTURING PARTY YOU'RE AFTER THEN, EH?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT.



OUR NEXT STOP MIGHT BE OUR MOST IMPORTANT. A FEW STRONG SOLDIERS MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIGHT OFF THE TOWNSFOLK, BUT WE NEED TO MAKE SURE WE CAN GET THEM OUT FROM UNDER THE SPELL.

SO IT'S A HEALER WE'RE AFTER.

NOT JUST ANY HEALER. THE BEST ONE IN THE LAND. AND SHE LIVES IN THE SWAMP.

WELL, WE'D BETTER GET MOVING THEN.

AND SO WE DID.

THIS TRIP WAS JUST AS LONG AS THE ONE I HAD UNDERTAKEN ALONE TO FIND ROCKHOOF, BUT IT SEEMED SO MUCH SHORTER.

ROCKHOOF PROVED TO BE VERY GOOD COMPANY. HE WAS ALWAYS ENCOURAGING AND QUICK WITH A JOKE.

HE WAS FULL OF STORIES ABOUT HIS TIME WITH THE MIGHTY HELM AND EVEN SEEMED EAGER TO HEAR ABOUT MY STUDIES...

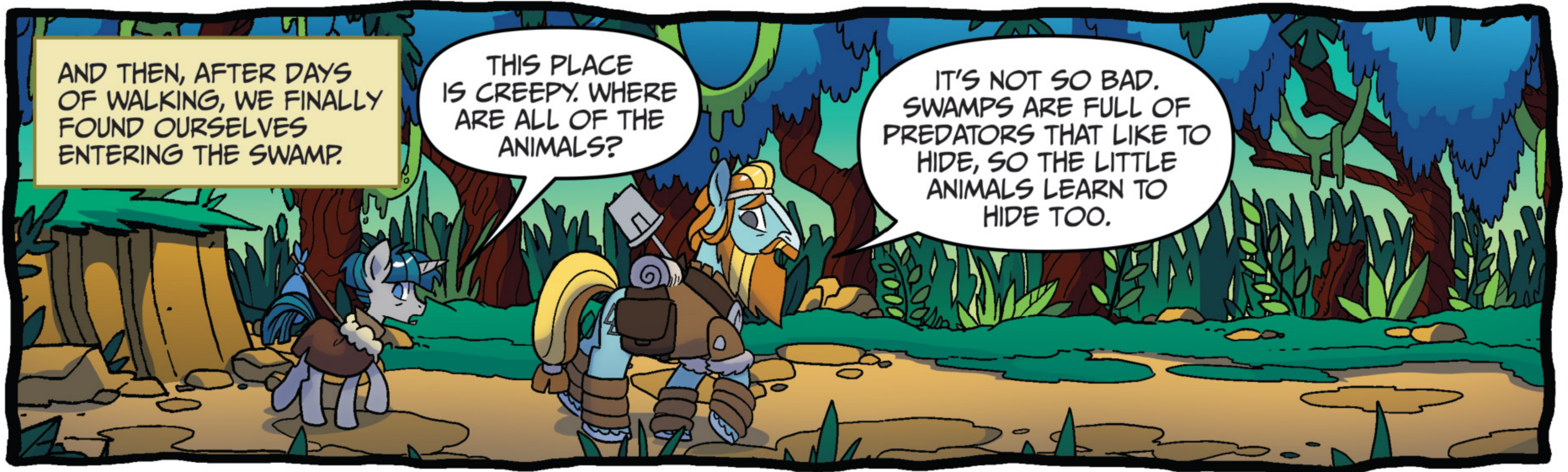
...EVEN IF HE DIDN'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND JUST WHAT I WAS STUDYING.

THE ONLY TAXING THING ABOUT ROCKHOOF WAS THAT HE NEVER SEEMED TO NEED TO REST.

EVERY MORNING, HE WAS UP WORKING OUT WHEN I AWOKE.

AND I ALWAYS SEEMED TO BE THE ONE ASKING TO TAKE BREAKS DURING THE DAY.

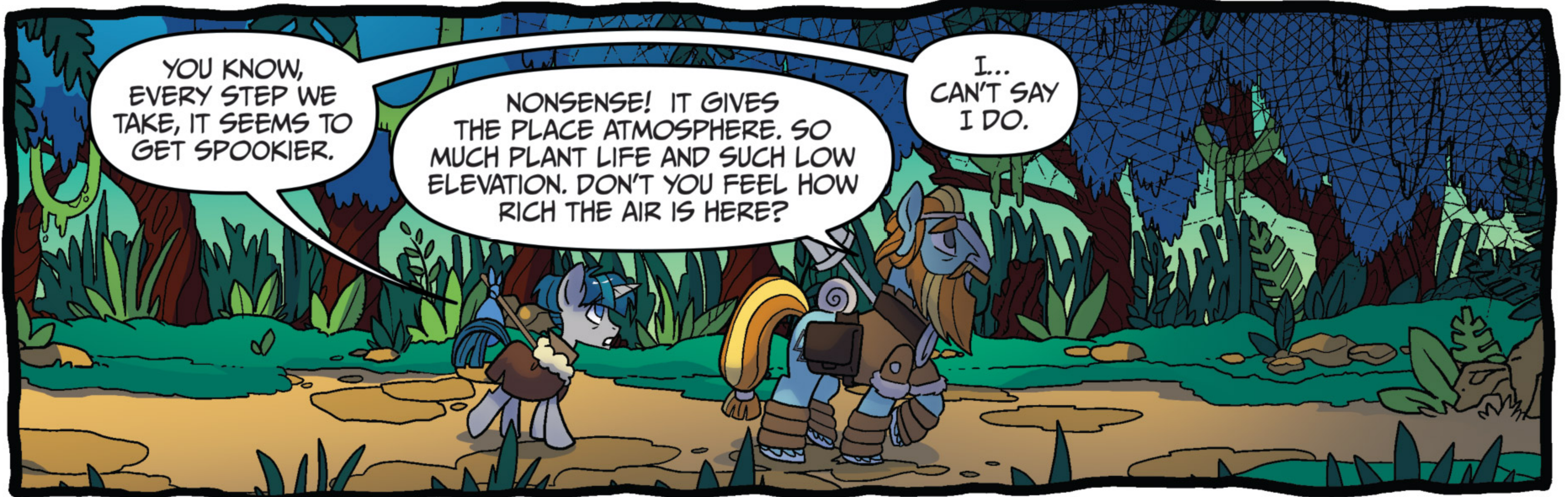




AND THEN, AFTER DAYS OF WALKING, WE FINALLY FOUND OURSELVES ENTERING THE SWAMP.

THIS PLACE IS CREEPY. WHERE ARE ALL OF THE ANIMALS?

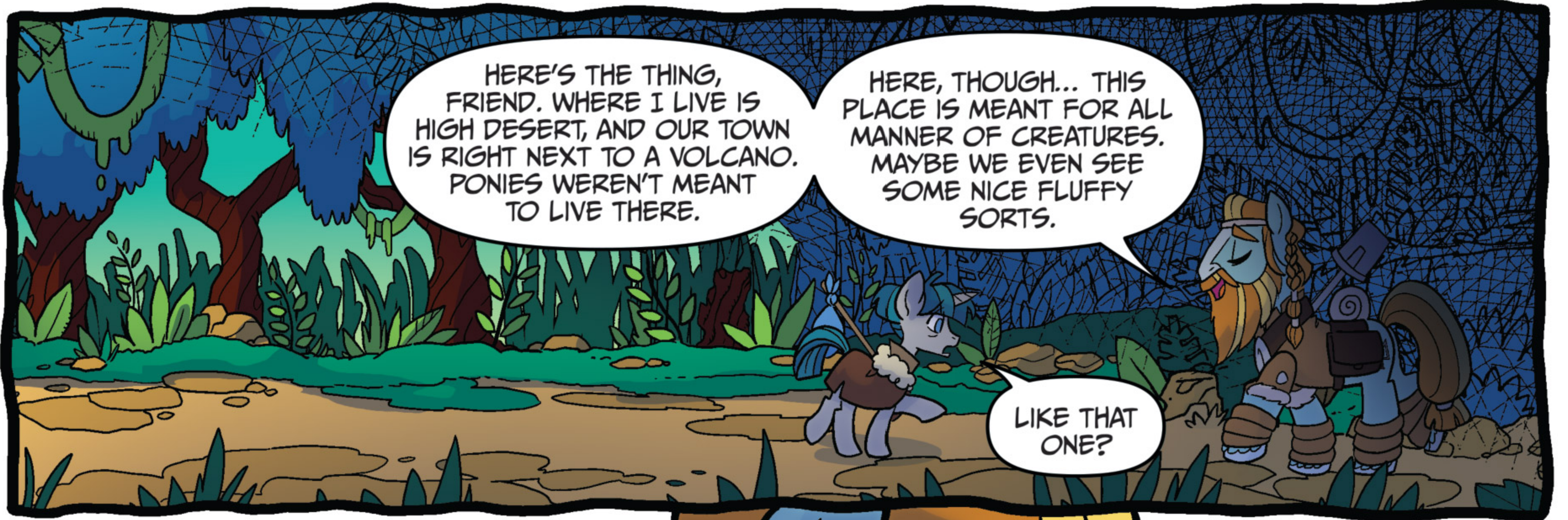
IT'S NOT SO BAD. SWAMPS ARE FULL OF PREDATORS THAT LIKE TO HIDE, SO THE LITTLE ANIMALS LEARN TO HIDE TOO.



YOU KNOW, EVERY STEP WE TAKE, IT SEEMS TO GET SPOOKIER.

NONSENSE! IT GIVES THE PLACE ATMOSPHERE. SO MUCH PLANT LIFE AND SUCH LOW ELEVATION. DON'T YOU FEEL HOW RICH THE AIR IS HERE?

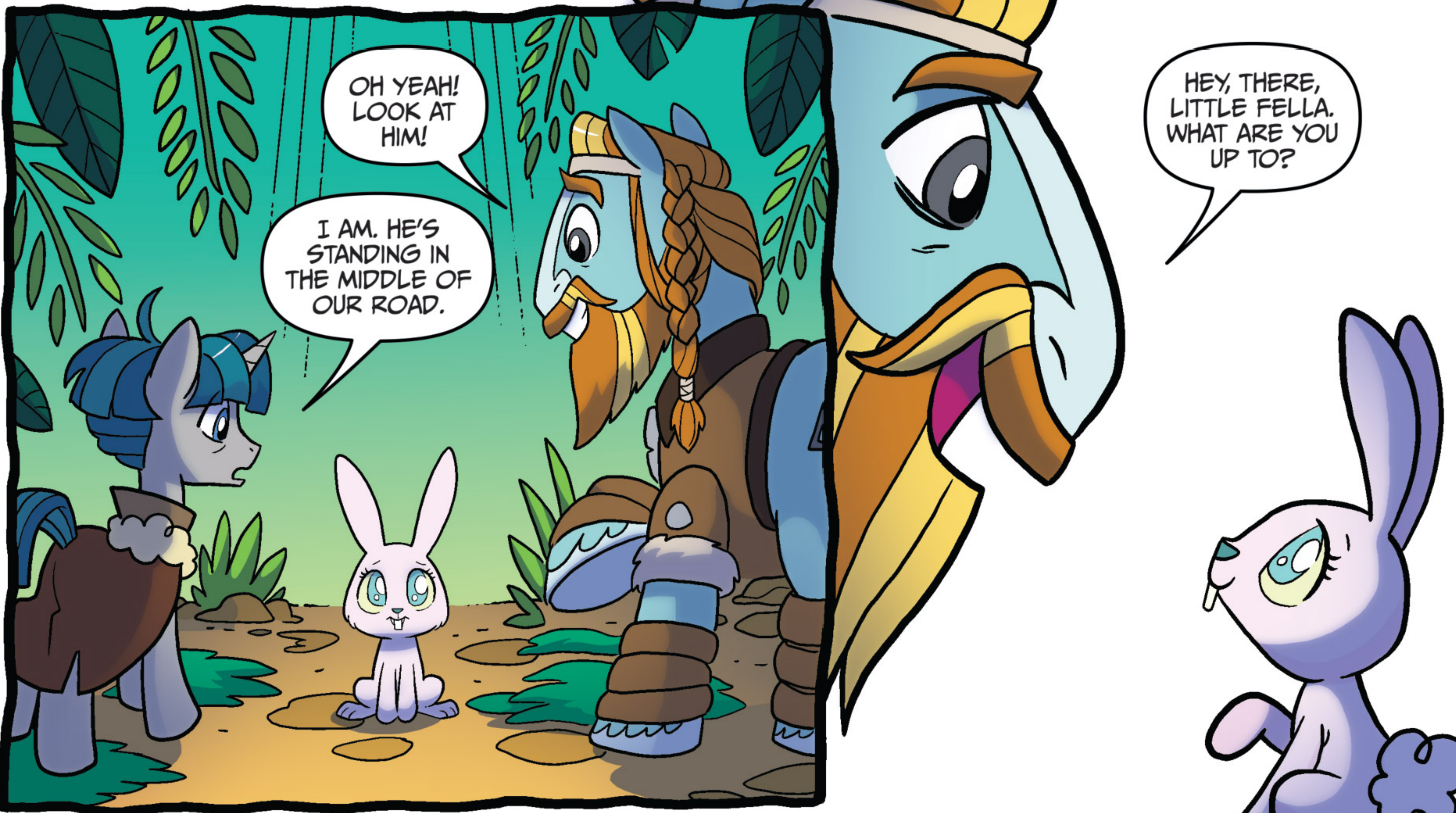
I... CAN'T SAY I DO.



HERE'S THE THING, FRIEND. WHERE I LIVE IS HIGH DESERT, AND OUR TOWN IS RIGHT NEXT TO A VOLCANO. PONIES WEREN'T MEANT TO LIVE THERE.

HERE, THOUGH... THIS PLACE IS MEANT FOR ALL MANNER OF CREATURES. MAYBE WE EVEN SEE SOME NICE FLUFFY SORTS.

LIKE THAT ONE?

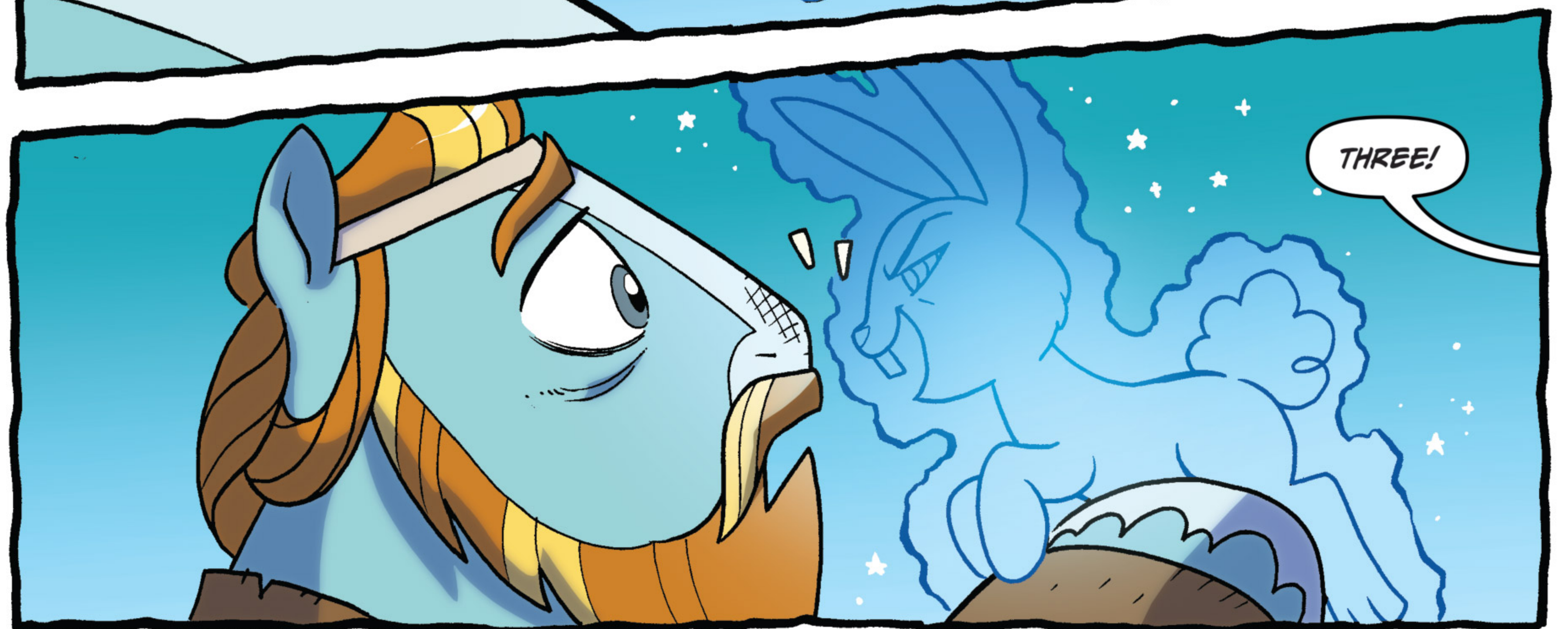
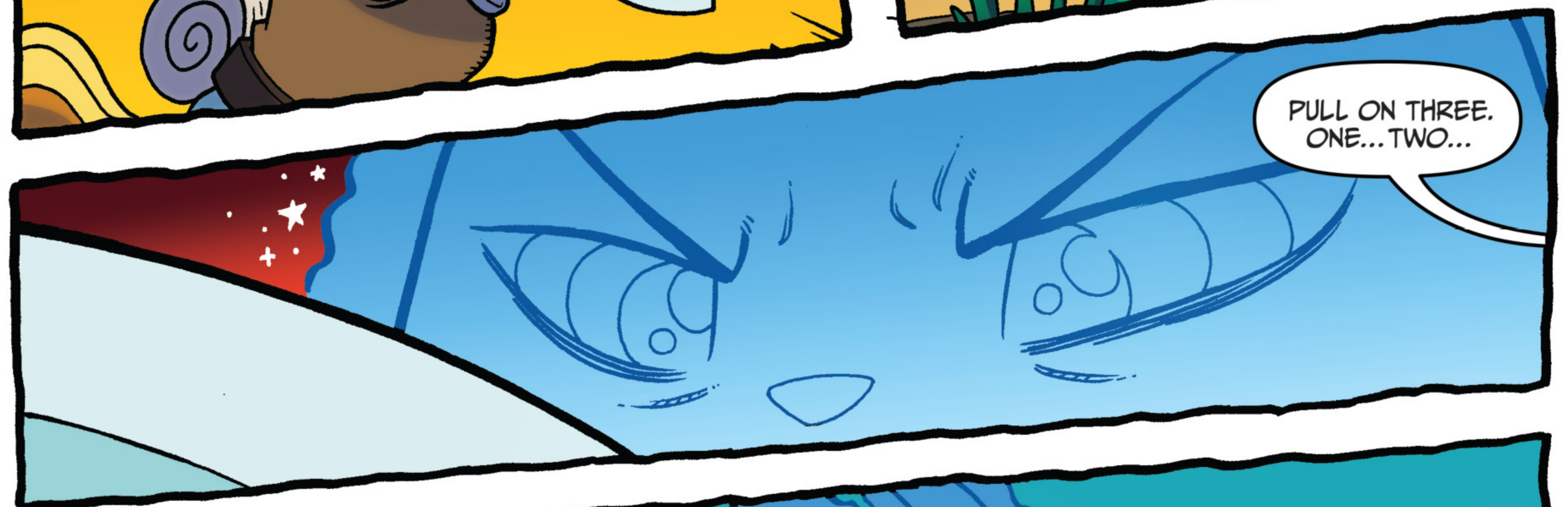
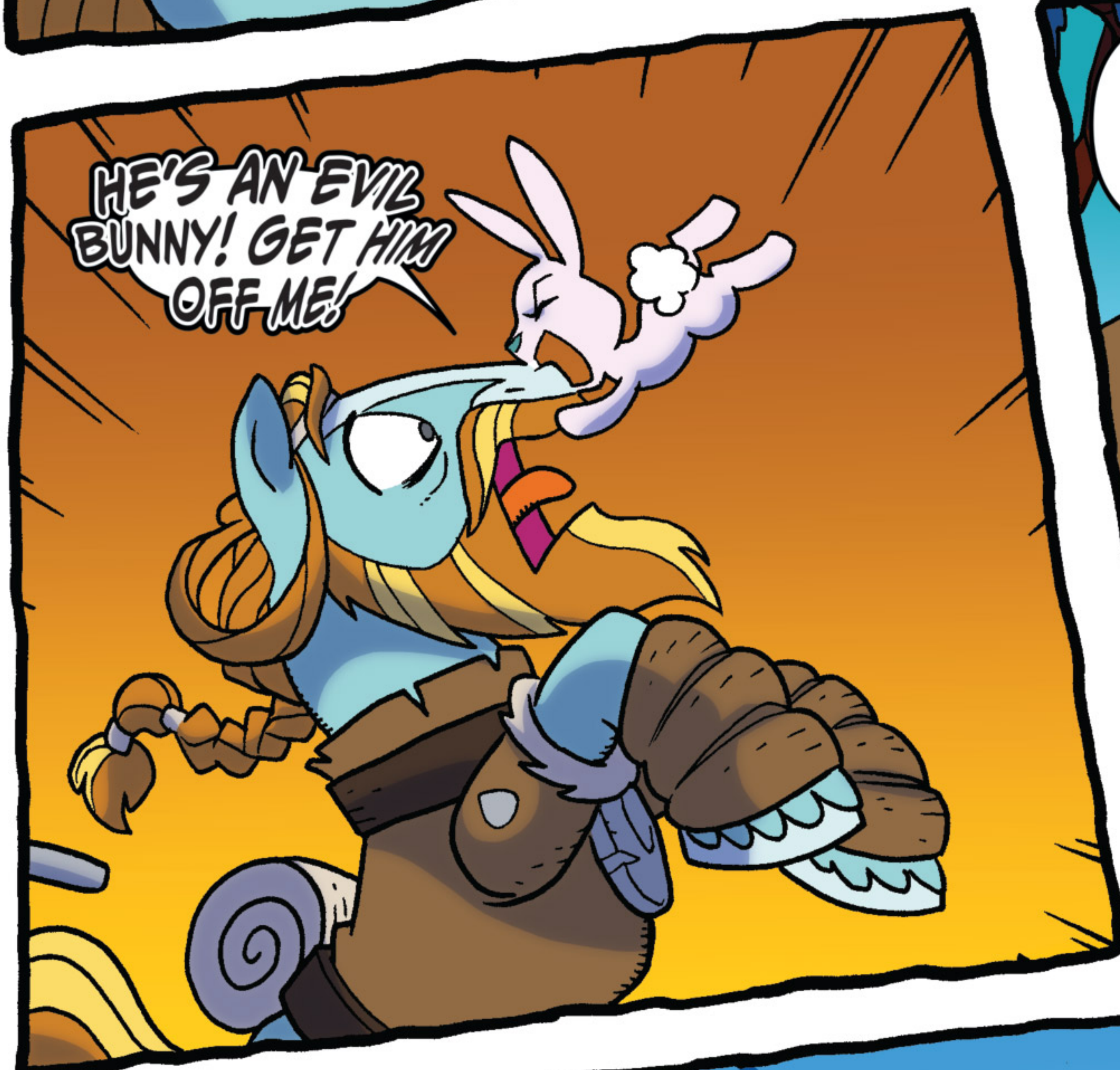
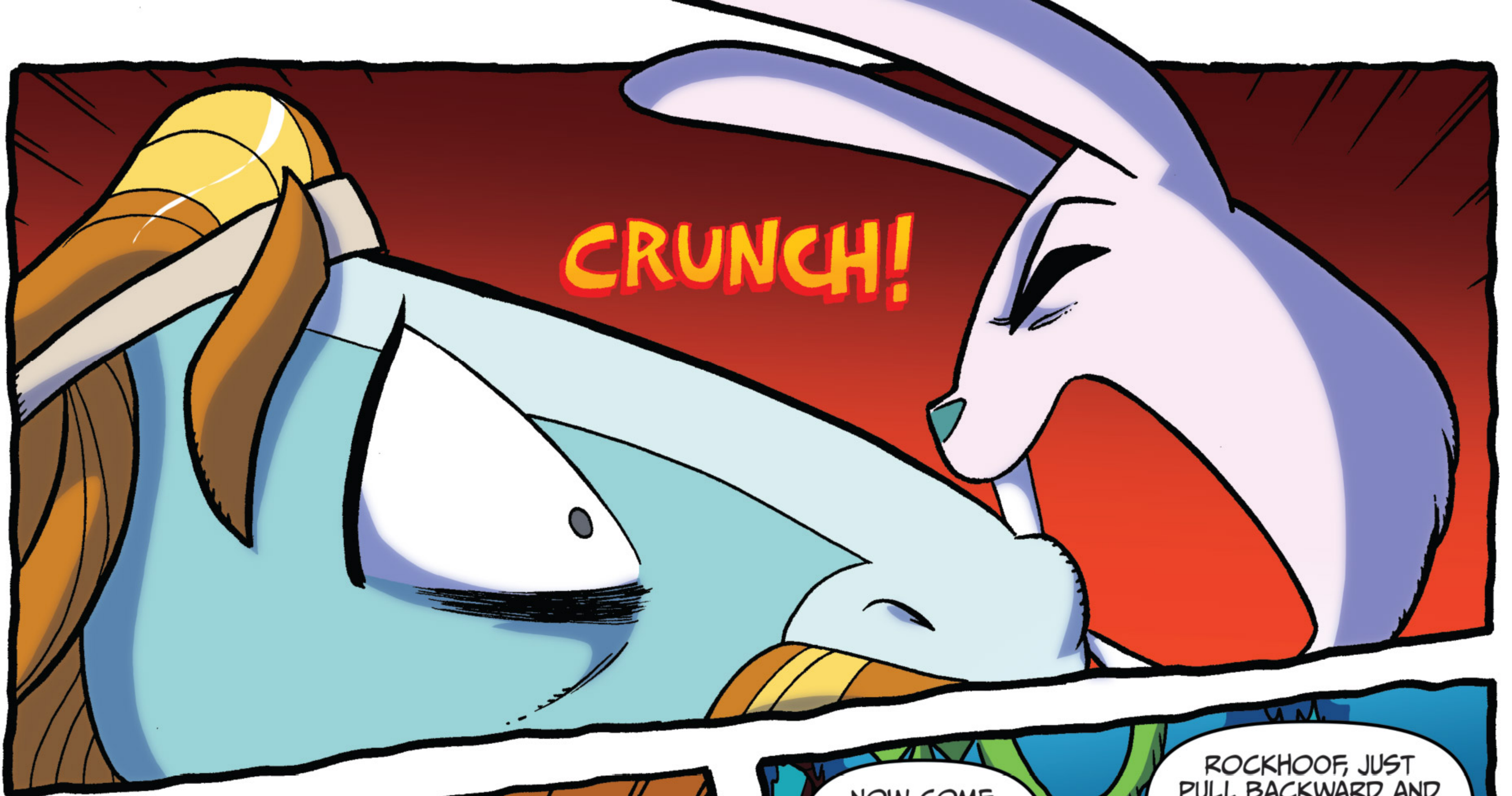


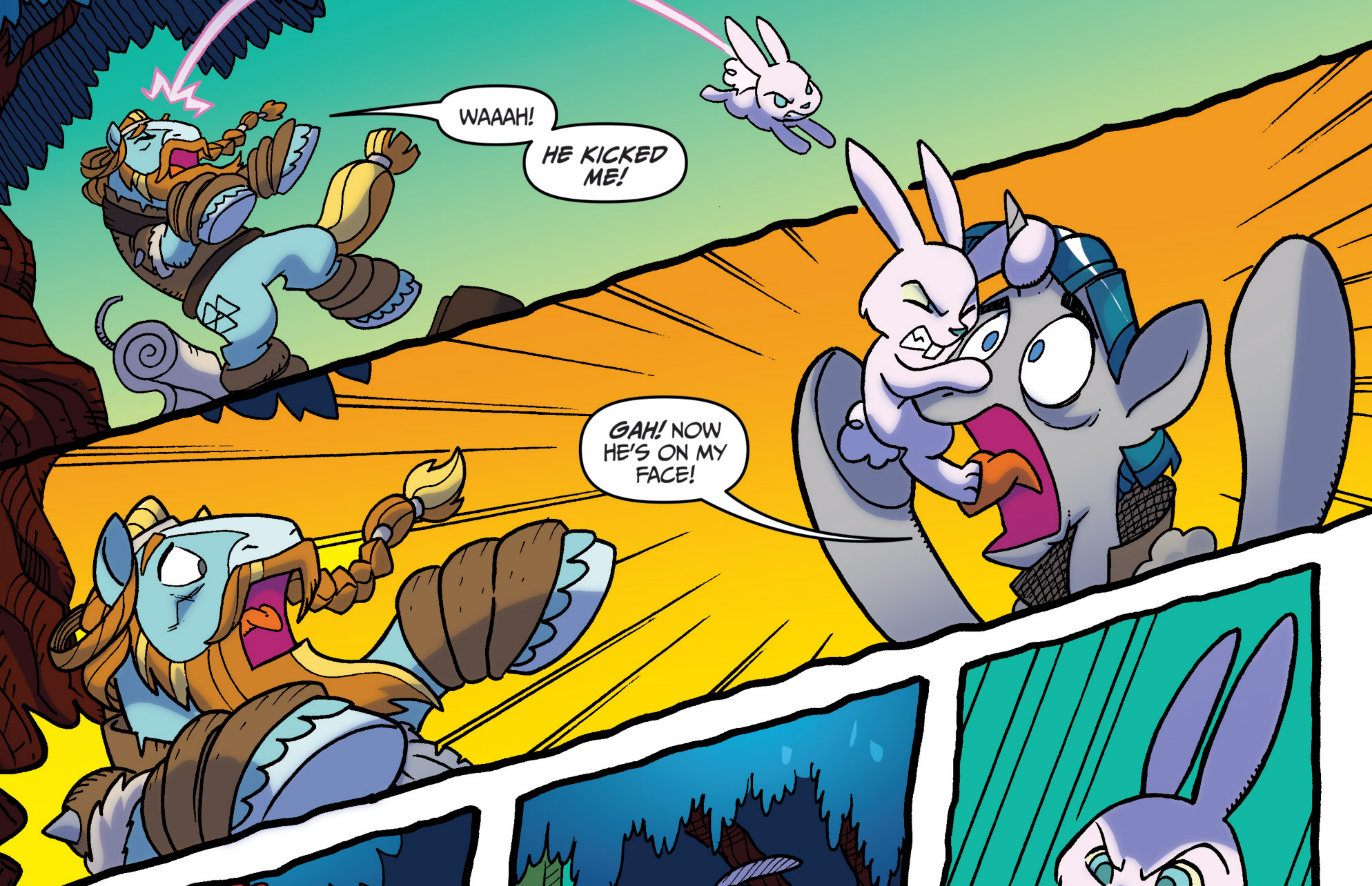
OH YEAH! LOOK AT HIM!

I AM. HE'S STANDING IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR ROAD.

HEY, THERE, LITTLE FELLA. WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?







WAAAHH!
HE KICKED ME!

GAH! NOW HE'S ON MY FACE!



HUH? OH, I GUESS I SCARED HIM OFF.

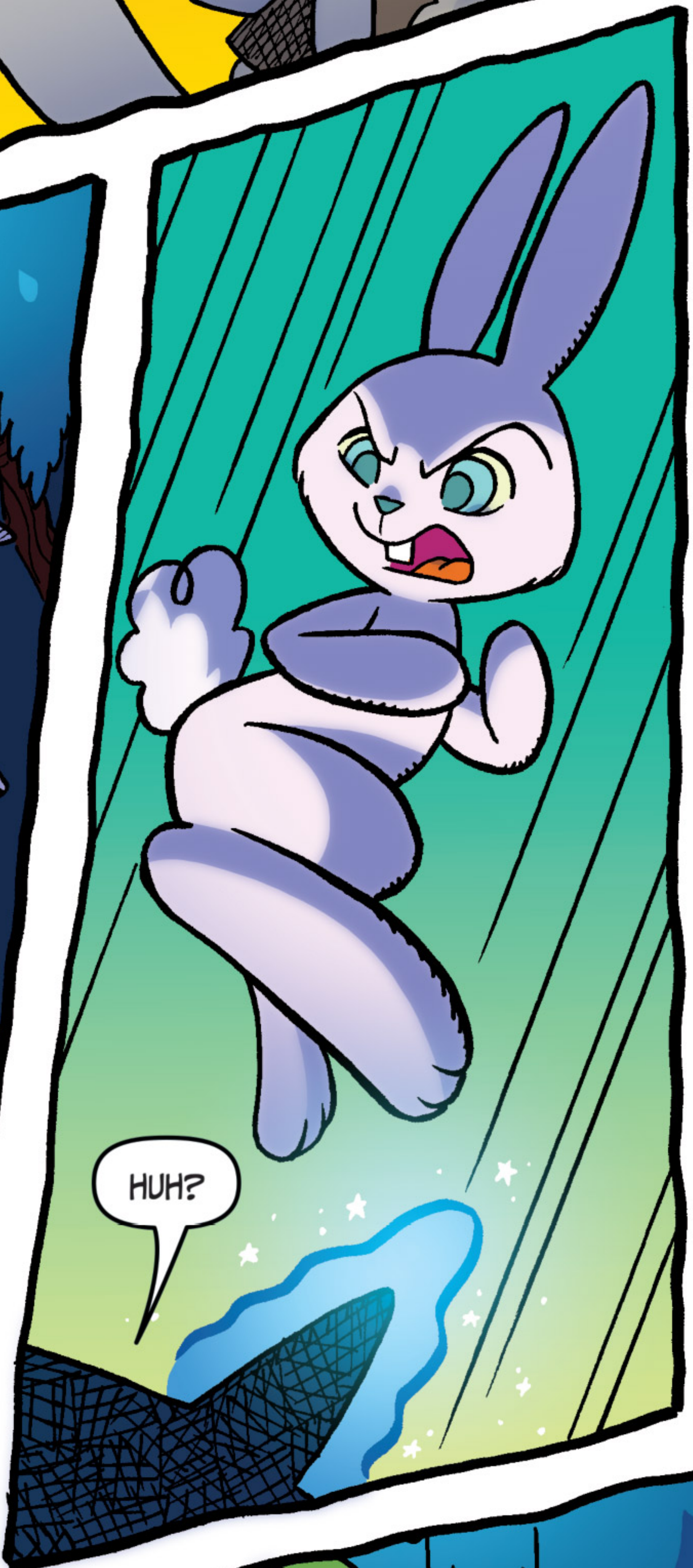
**THUNK
THUNK**

NOW THE TREE'S HITTING ME!



LOOK OUT!

ROCKHOOF? ARE YOU OKAY?



HUH?



NOT THIS TIME, LITTLE BUDDY! I CAUGHT YOU.

CHIRP
CHIRPY
CHIP
SHIP

WHAT DO YOU THINK HE'S GOING ON ABOUT?

HA! YOU KNOW, I BET HE'S CALLING REINFORCEMENTS!

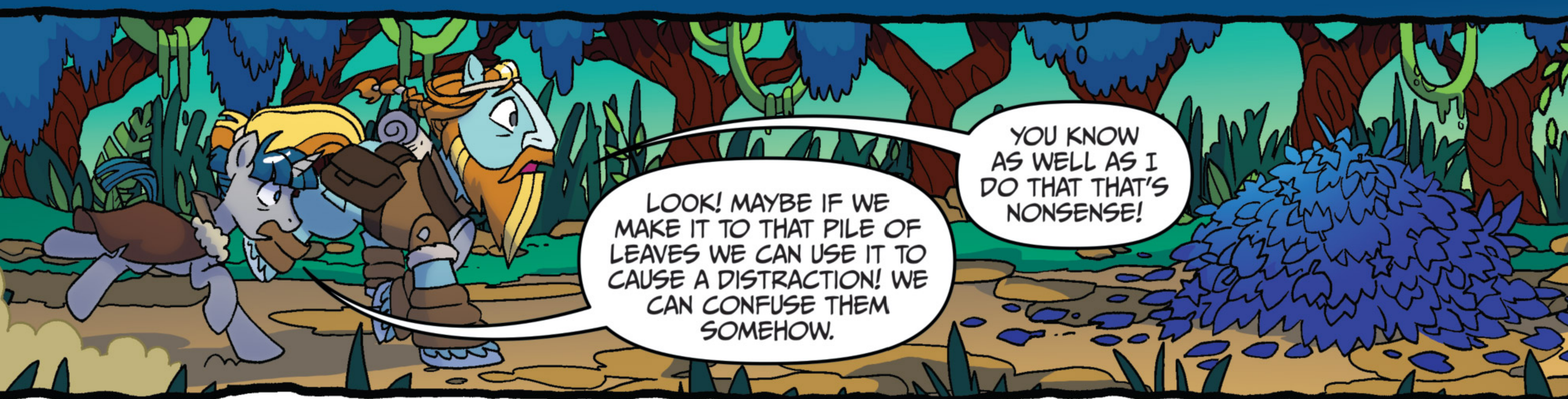
SECONDS LATER.

AAAAAAHHHHHHH!



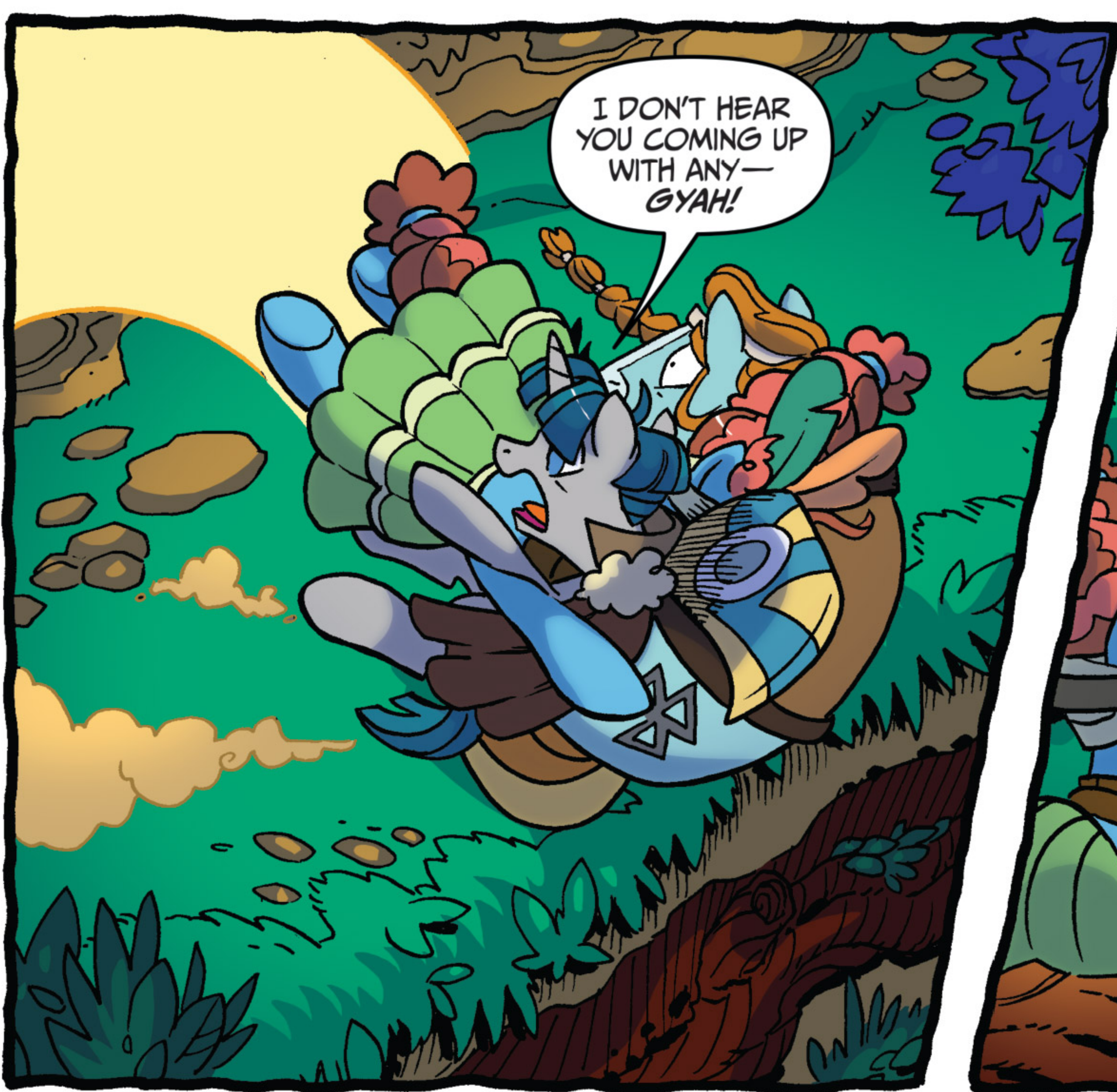
THIS SWAMP IS TRYING TO KILL US!

I JUST WANTED TO PET A BUNNY! IS THAT SO MUCH TO ASK?



LOOK! MAYBE IF WE MAKE IT TO THAT PILE OF LEAVES WE CAN USE IT TO CAUSE A DISTRACTION! WE CAN CONFUSE THEM SOMEHOW.

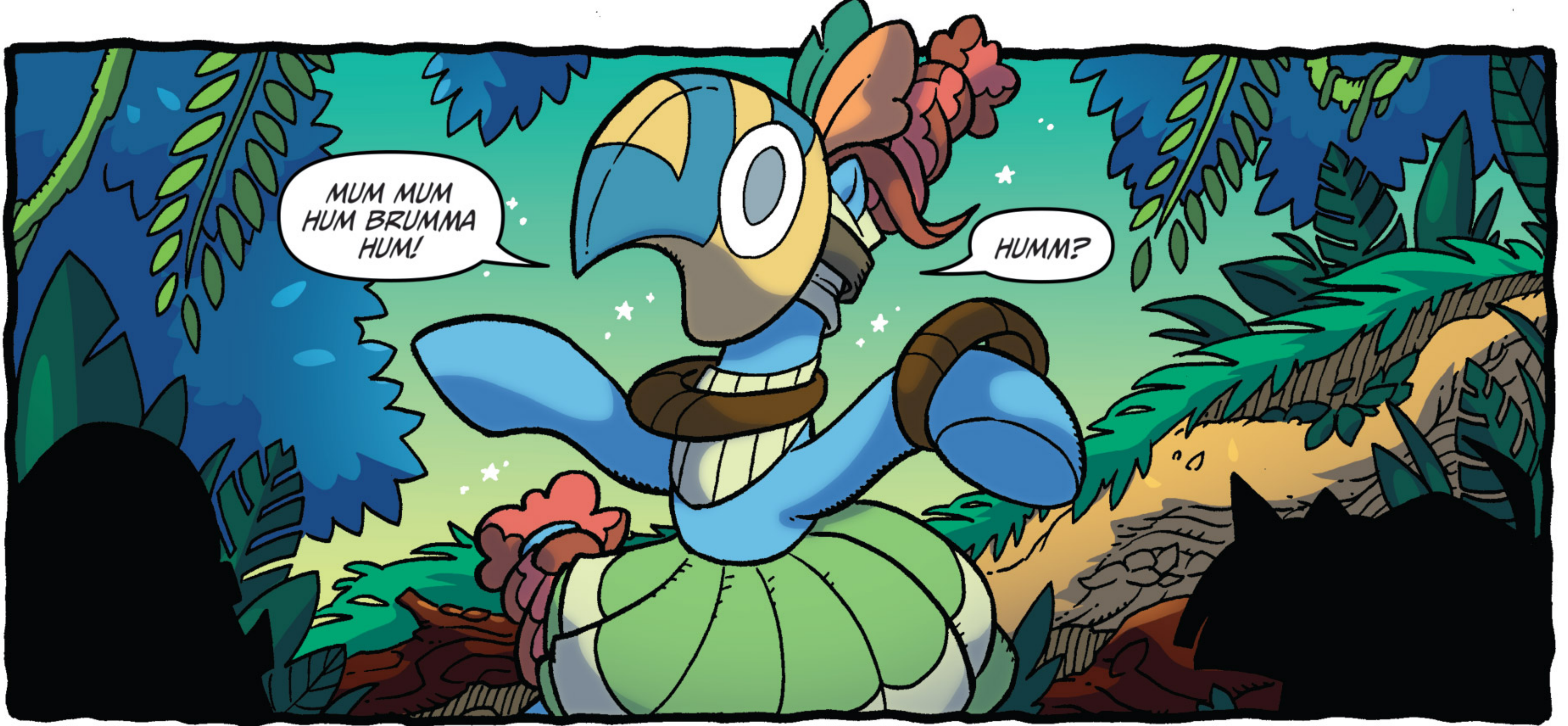
YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO THAT THAT'S NONSENSE!



I DON'T HEAR YOU COMING UP WITH ANY—
GYAH!



THUNK!



MUM MUM
HUM BRUMMA
HUM!

HUMM?



IT'S A
HIPPOGRIFF!

A
WHAT?

HALF BIRD HALF
PONY! I THOUGHT
THEY WERE A
MYTH!

HOW DO
WE FIGHT
IT?

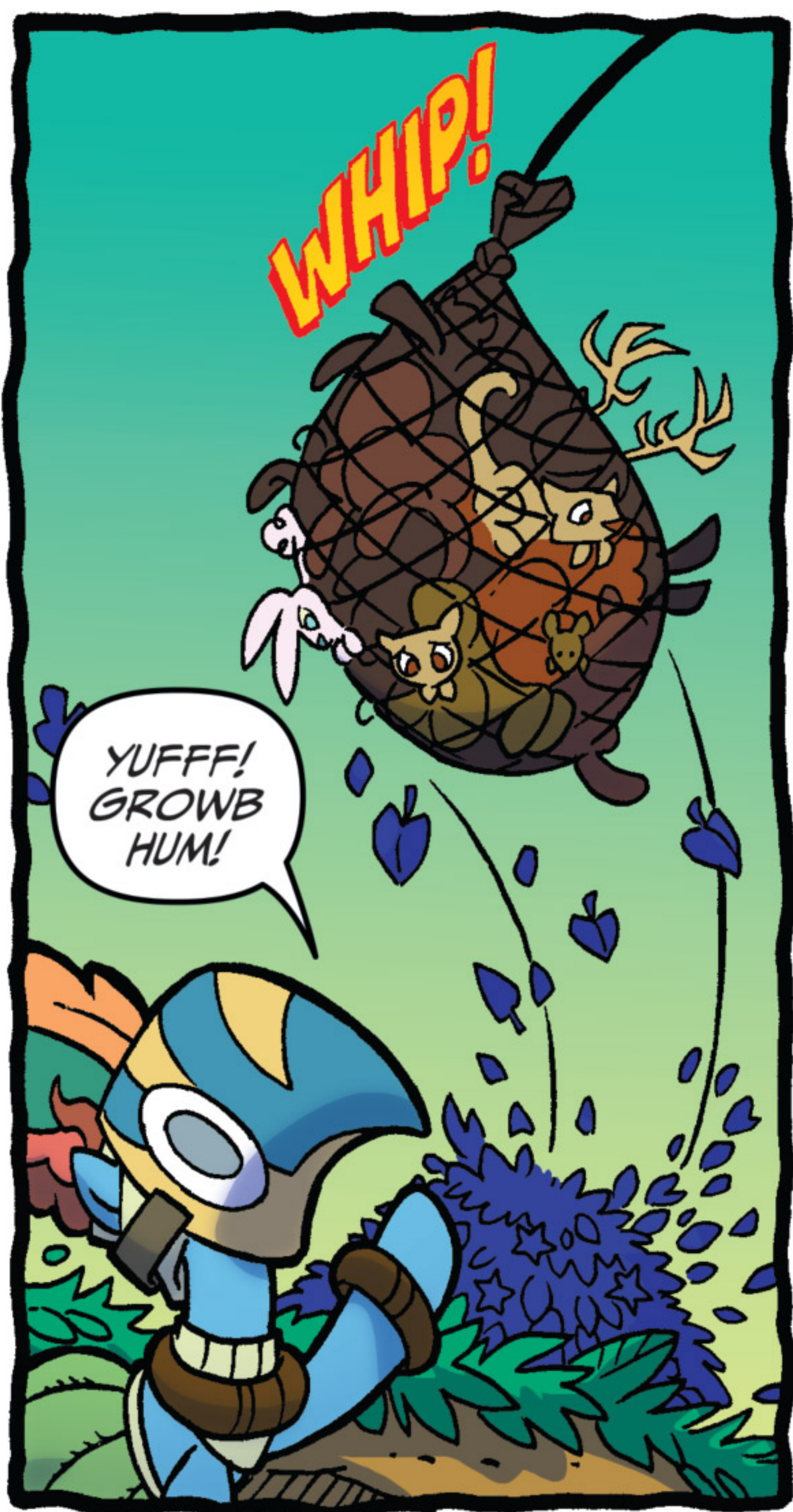


SIGH

THE
HIPPOGRIFF
JUST SIGHED
AT US.

THAT'S THE
EXACT SAME WAY
CAPTAIN STEELA
SIGHS AT ME.

CRASH!

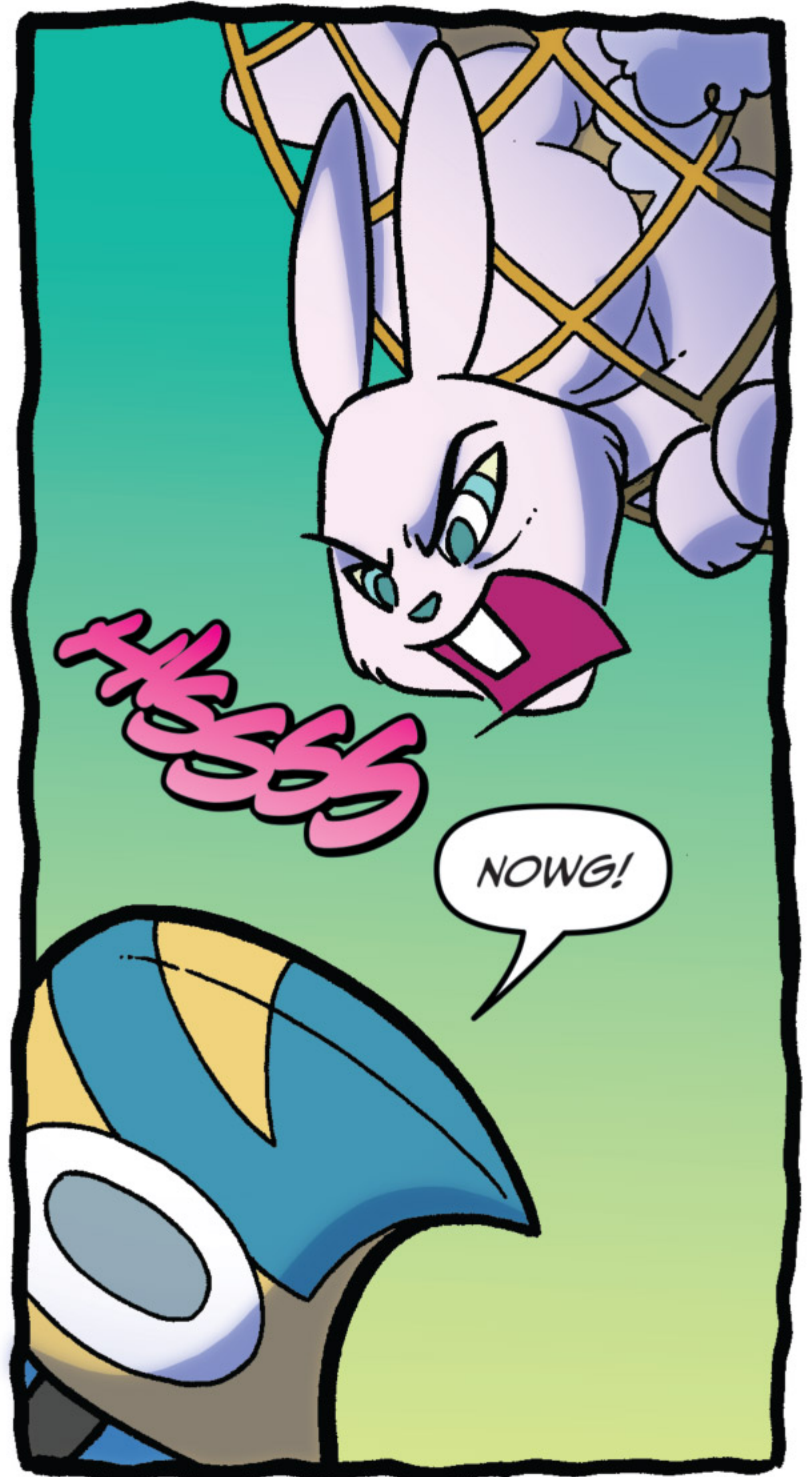


WHIP!

YUFFF!
GROWB
HUM!

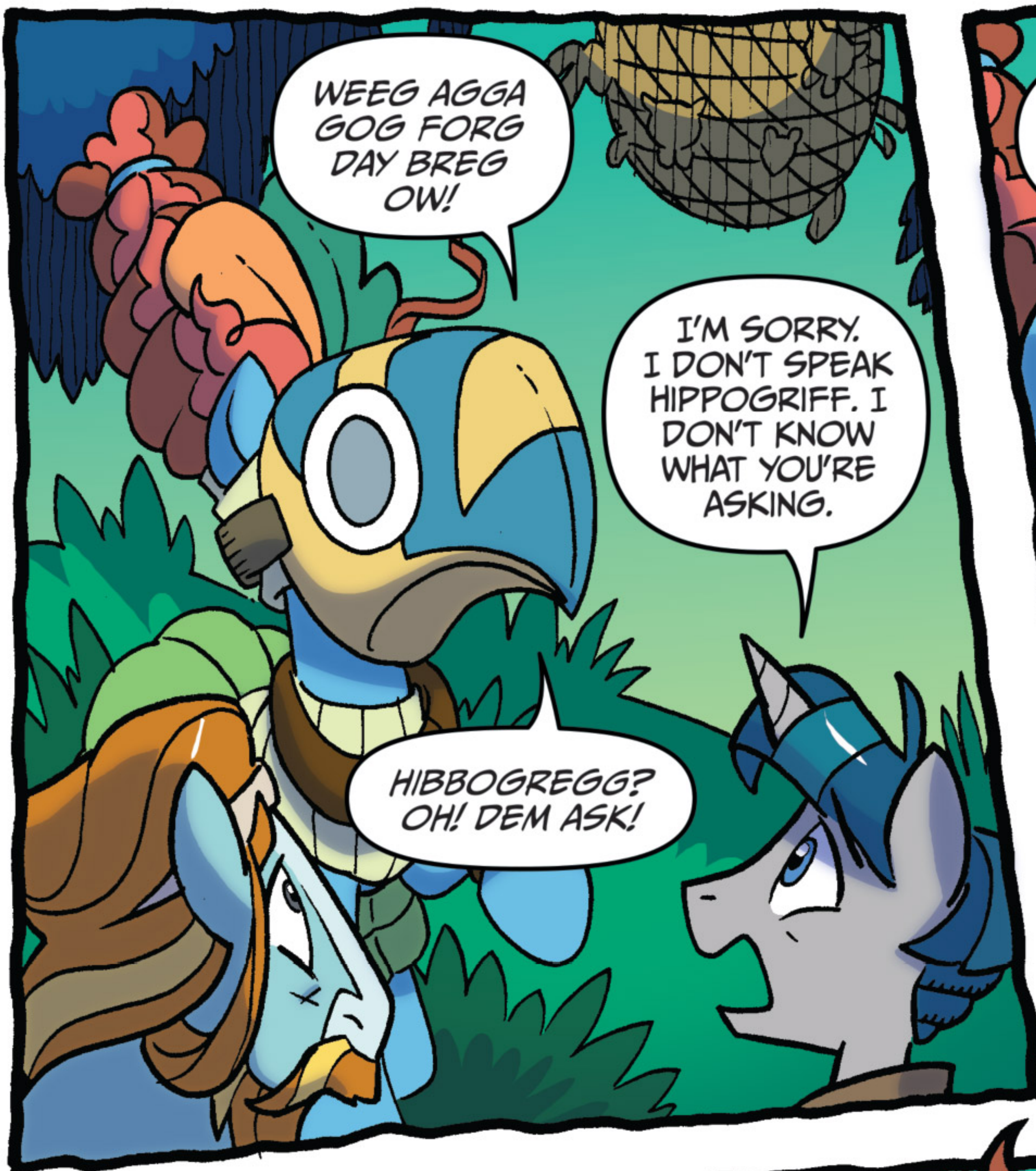


THUFF
RUGT, LOOG
A MEEG!



THUFF

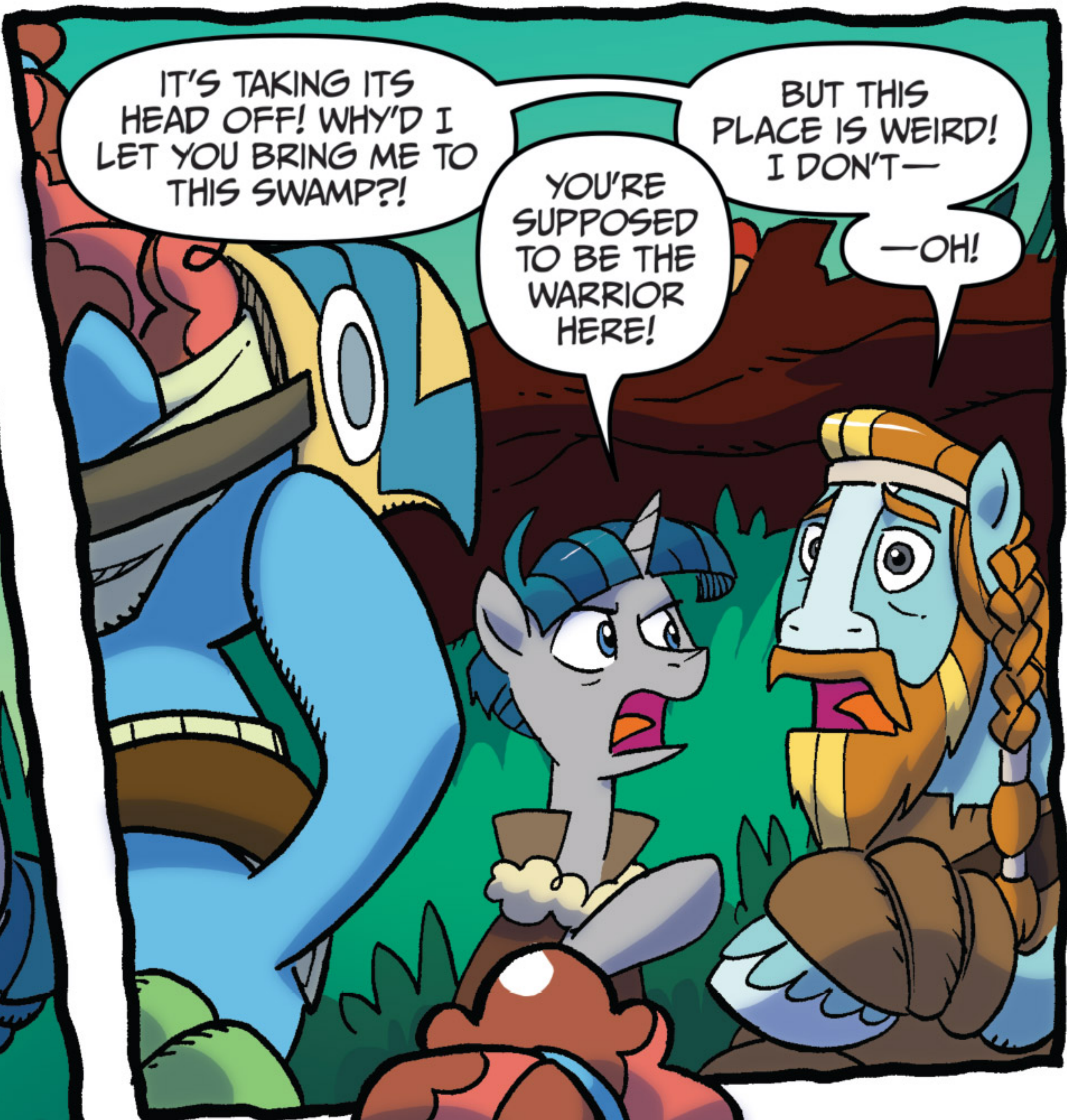
NOWG!



WEEG AGGA
GOG FORG
DAY BREG
OW!

I'M SORRY.
I DON'T SPEAK
HIPPOGRIFF. I
DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
ASKING.

HIBBOGREGG?
OH! DEM ASK!



IT'S TAKING ITS
HEAD OFF! WHY'D I
LET YOU BRING ME TO
THIS SWAMP?!

YOU'RE
SUPPOSED
TO BE THE
WARRIOR
HERE!

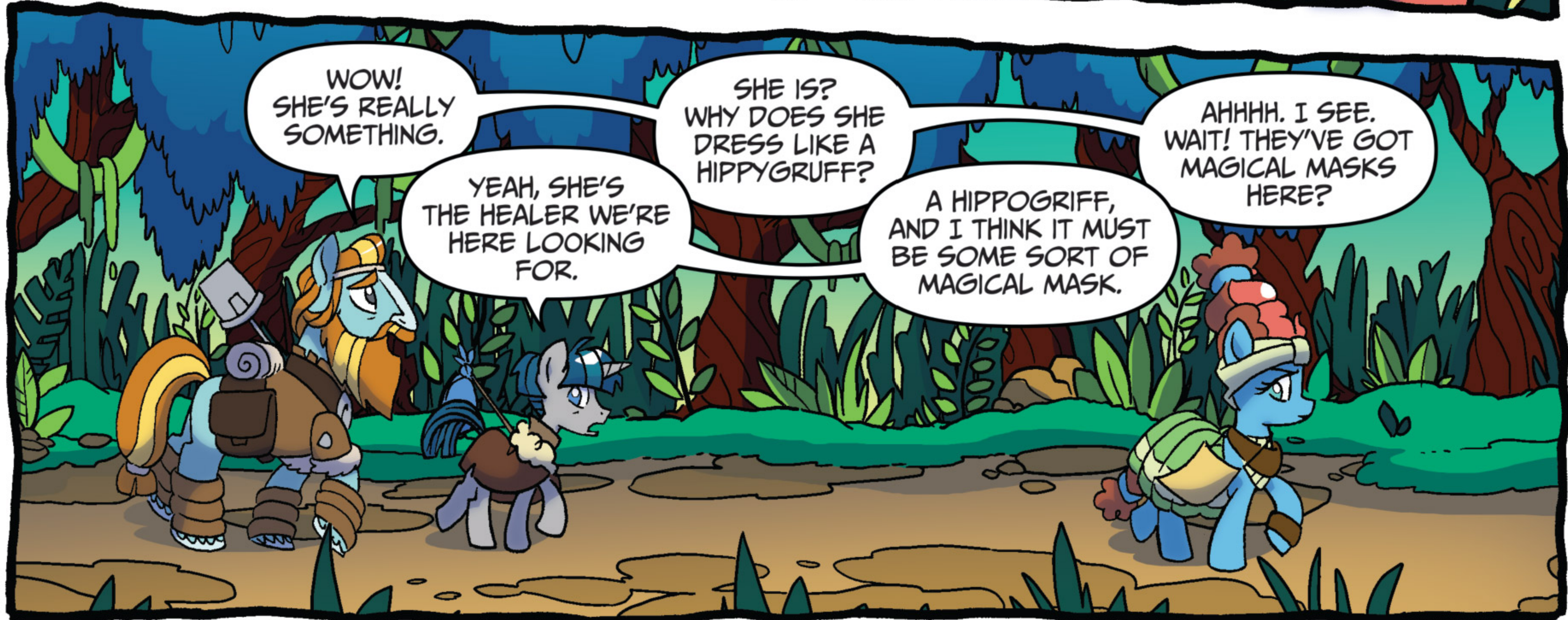
BUT THIS
PLACE IS WEIRD!
I DON'T—

—OH!



SORRY ABOUT
THAT, THE MASK MAKES
IT HARD FOR PONIES
TO HEAR ME.

I'M MAGE
MEADOWBROOK, AND
UNLESS YOU WANNA SPEND
YOUR WHOLE DAY FIGHTING
BUNNIES, I SUGGEST YOU
FOLLOW ME!



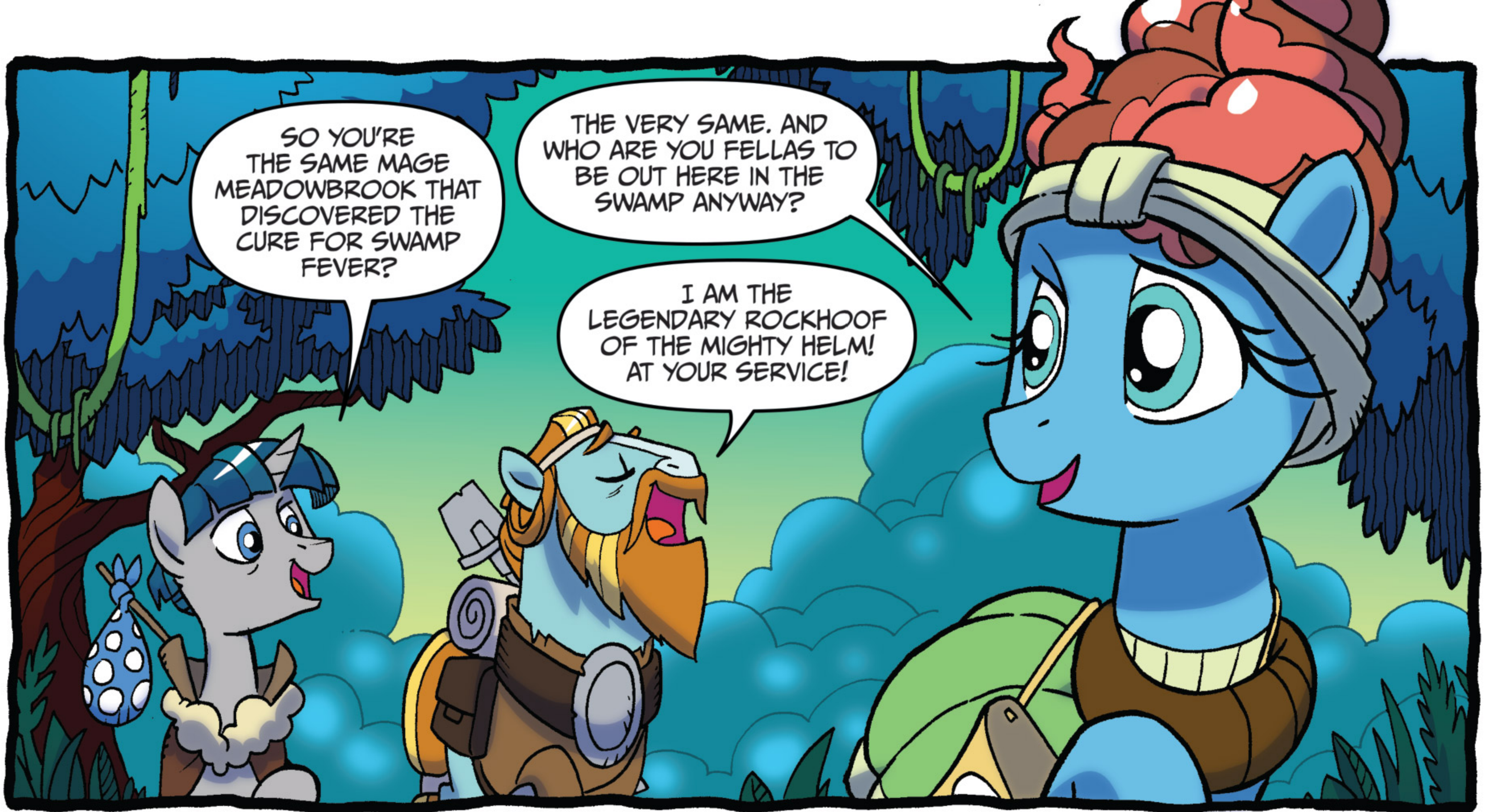
WOW!
SHE'S REALLY
SOMETHING.

YEAH, SHE'S
THE HEALER WE'RE
HERE LOOKING
FOR.

SHE IS?
WHY DOES SHE
DRESS LIKE A
HIPPYGRUFF?

A HIPPOGRIFF,
AND I THINK IT MUST
BE SOME SORT OF
MAGICAL MASK.

AHHHH. I SEE.
WAIT! THEY'VE GOT
MAGICAL MASKS
HERE?



SO YOU'RE THE SAME MAGE MEADOWBROOK THAT DISCOVERED THE CURE FOR SWAMP FEVER?

THE VERY SAME. AND WHO ARE YOU FELLAS TO BE OUT HERE IN THE SWAMP ANYWAY?

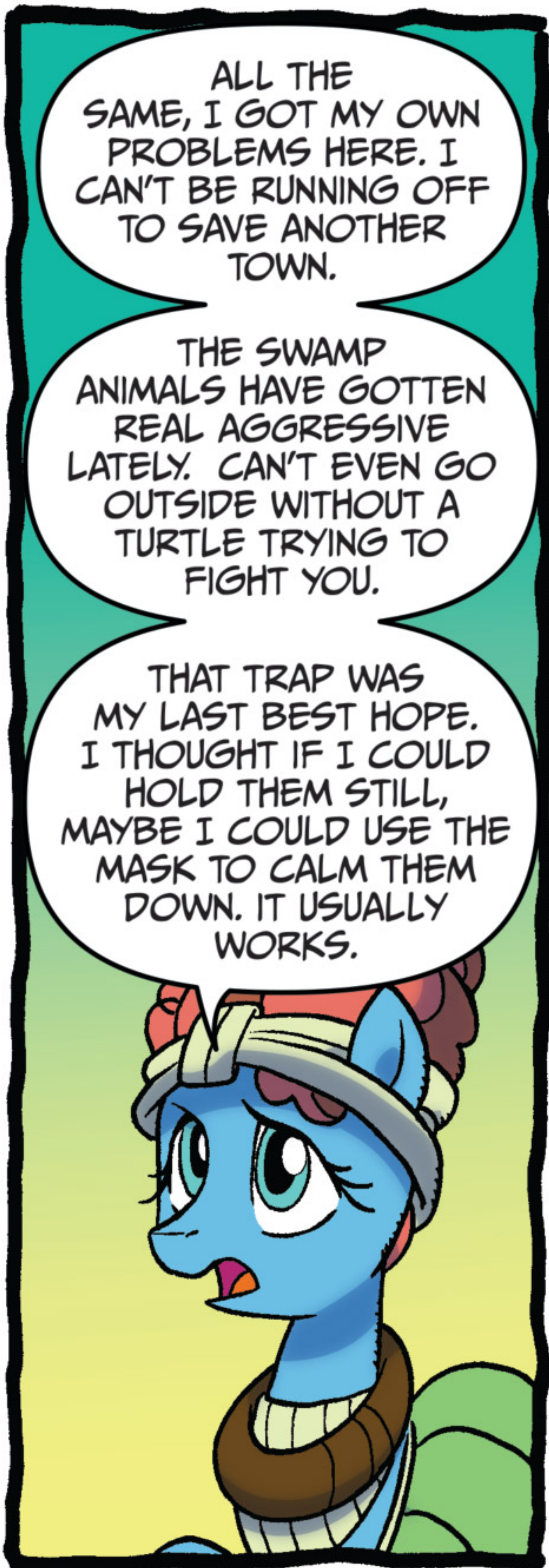
I AM THE LEGENDARY ROCKHOOF OF THE MIGHTY HELM! AT YOUR SERVICE!



THAT SURE SOUNDS IMPRESSIVE. AND WHAT ABOUT YOU?

I... WELL, I NEED YOUR HELP. THE PEOPLE OF MY TOWN ARE UNDER A SPELL, AND I THINK I MIGHT NEED YOUR HEALING SKILLS TO SAVE THEM.

YOUR WHOLE TOWN? THAT MUST BE ONE HECK OF A SPELL.



ALL THE SAME, I GOT MY OWN PROBLEMS HERE. I CAN'T BE RUNNING OFF TO SAVE ANOTHER TOWN.

THE SWAMP ANIMALS HAVE GOTTEN REAL AGGRESSIVE LATELY. CAN'T EVEN GO OUTSIDE WITHOUT A TURTLE TRYING TO FIGHT YOU.

THAT TRAP WAS MY LAST BEST HOPE. I THOUGHT IF I COULD HOLD THEM STILL, MAYBE I COULD USE THE MASK TO CALM THEM DOWN. IT USUALLY WORKS.



IF WE CAN HELP YOU WITH THE ANIMALS, WOULD YOU HELP ME WITH MY TOWN?

WE'RE FORMING A TRAVELLING BAND OF HEROES! EVERY GOOD PARTY NEEDS A HEALER!

NO OFFENSE, Y'ALL, BUT I SAW HOW YOU HANDLED YOURSELVES AROUND THOSE ANIMALS. I THINK I'M BETTER OFF ALONE.



WELL, SURE, MAYBE RIGHT NOW. BUT IMAGINE WHEN YOU'RE FACING AN OVERLY AGGRESSIVE ALLIGATOR! OR A GIANT ANGRY SNAKE!

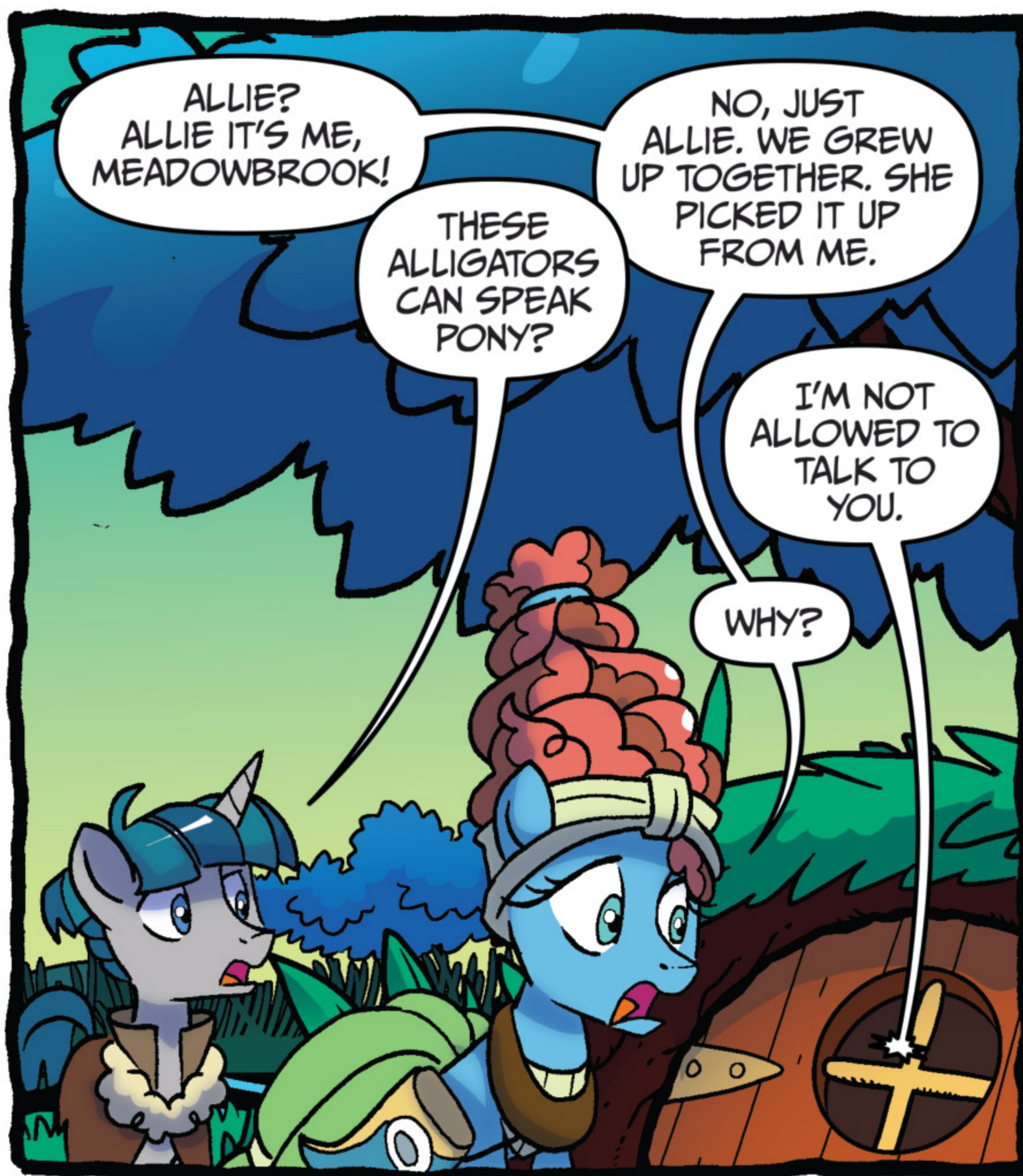
YOU'D SURE LIKE TO HAVE A GUY LIKE ROCKHOOF AROUND THEN, HUH?

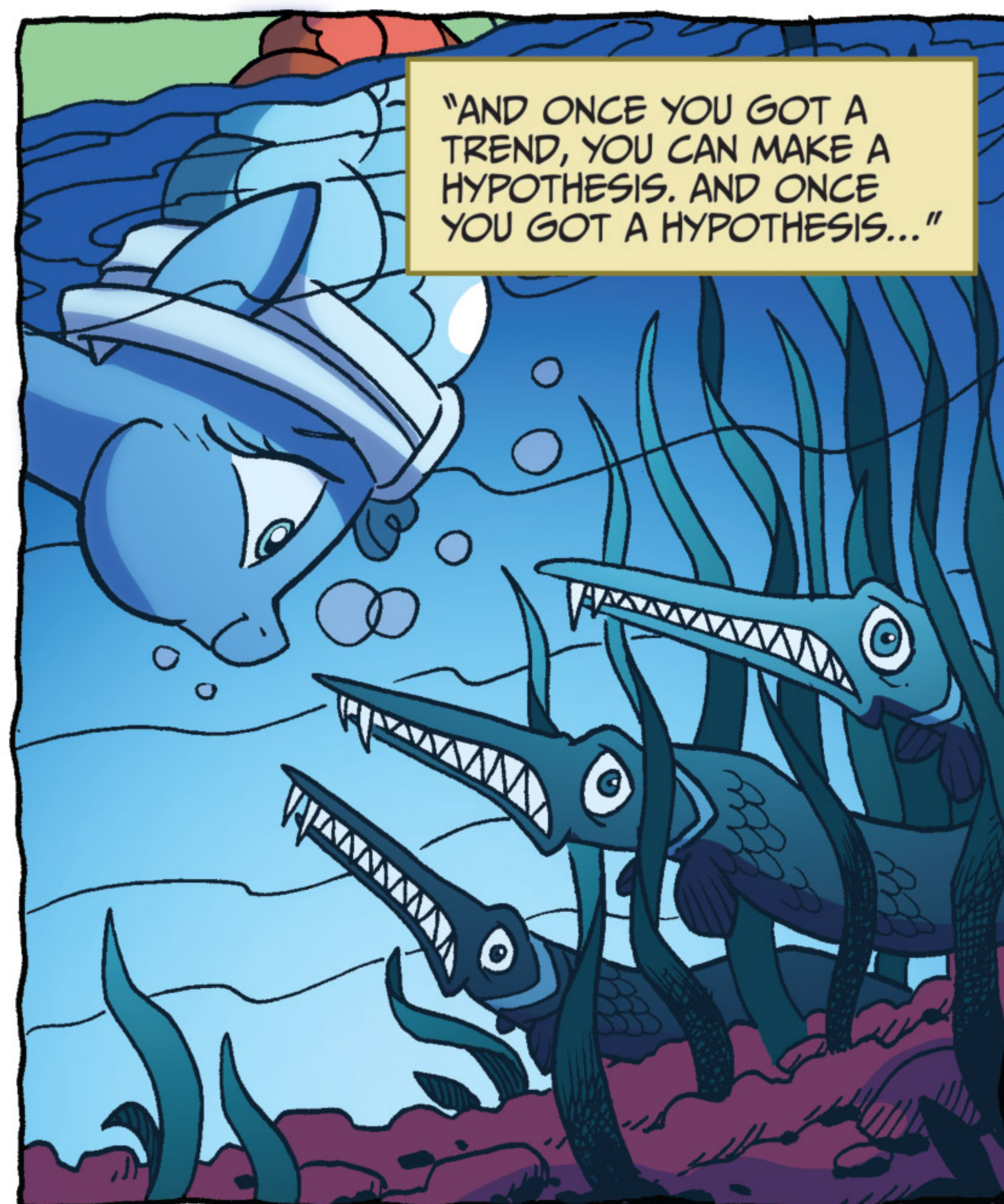
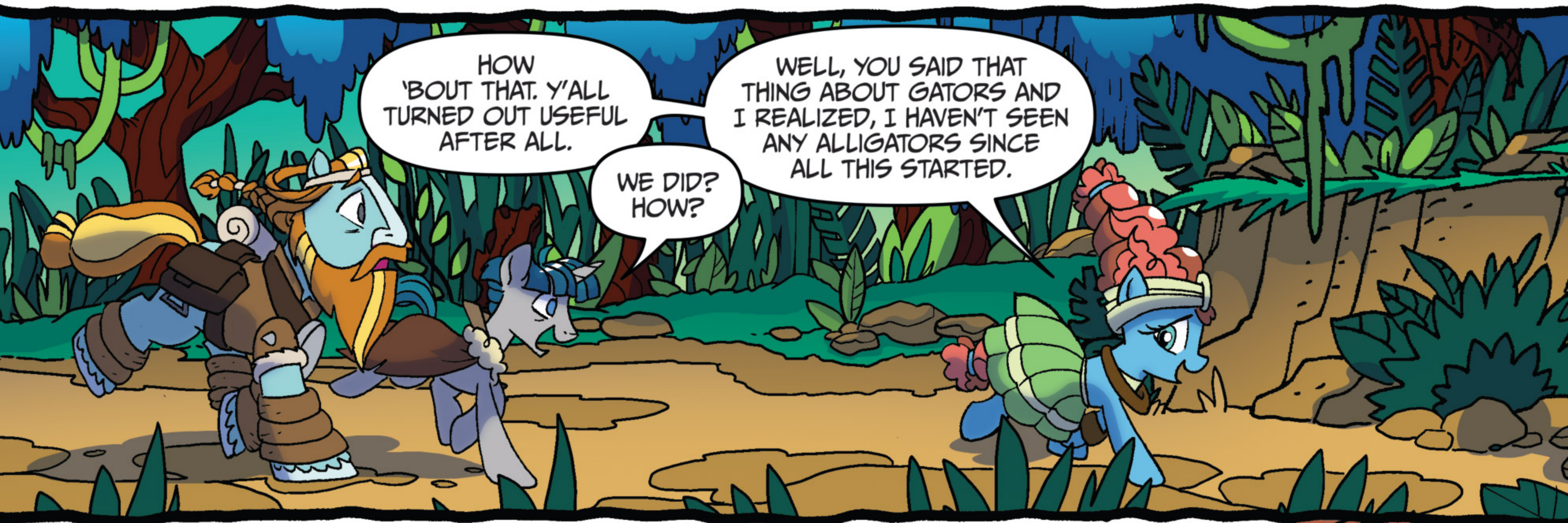
YEAH!

HEY, WAIT... ALLIGATORS?!

WELL, I AIN'T SEEN NONE YET, SO MAYBE—

—WAIT A MINUTE!







... YOU CAN COME UP WITH A TREATMENT!



SO IT'S ONLY THE PREY ANIMALS THAT ARE BEING AGGRESSIVE?

CLOSE. ONLY THE HERBIVORES. WHICH MEANS...?

THE PLANTS!
THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE PLANTS!



GOOD! YOU GOT IT. IT'S EITHER A PLANT OR A FUNGUS. AND I HAPPEN TO KNOW THAT THIS FUNGUS HAS ONLY BEEN GROWING HERE RECENTLY. I WAS GOING TO TRY IT IN SOME POTIONS, BUT...

... NOW IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO MAKE A POTION TO COUNTERACT IT.

AND HOW LONG WILL THAT TAKE?

IT COULD TAKE A WHILE, WHY?



BECAUSE THE ARMY OF EVIL FLUFFBALLS FOUND US!

To be continued...

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my LITTLE PONY The MOVIE Prequel

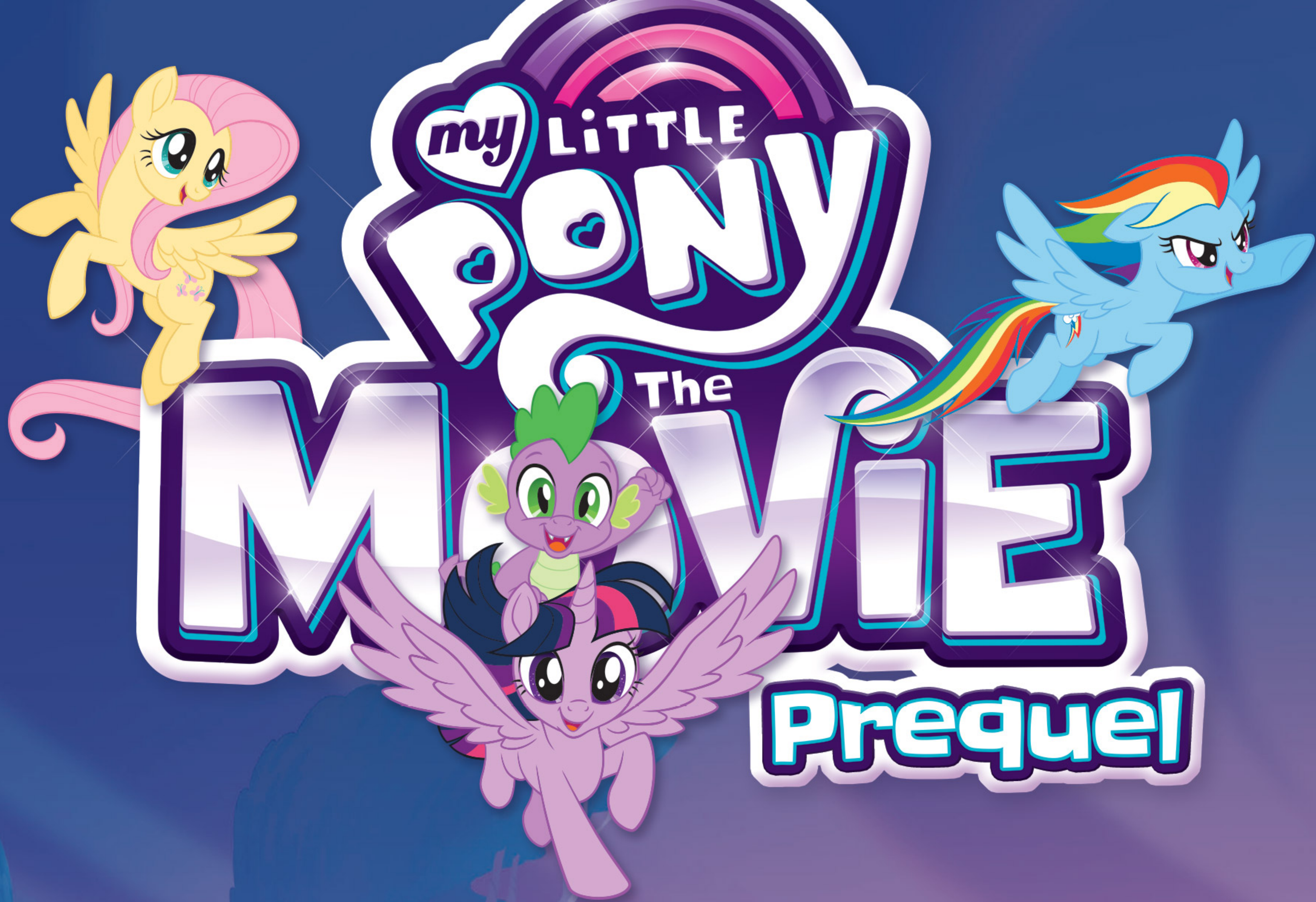


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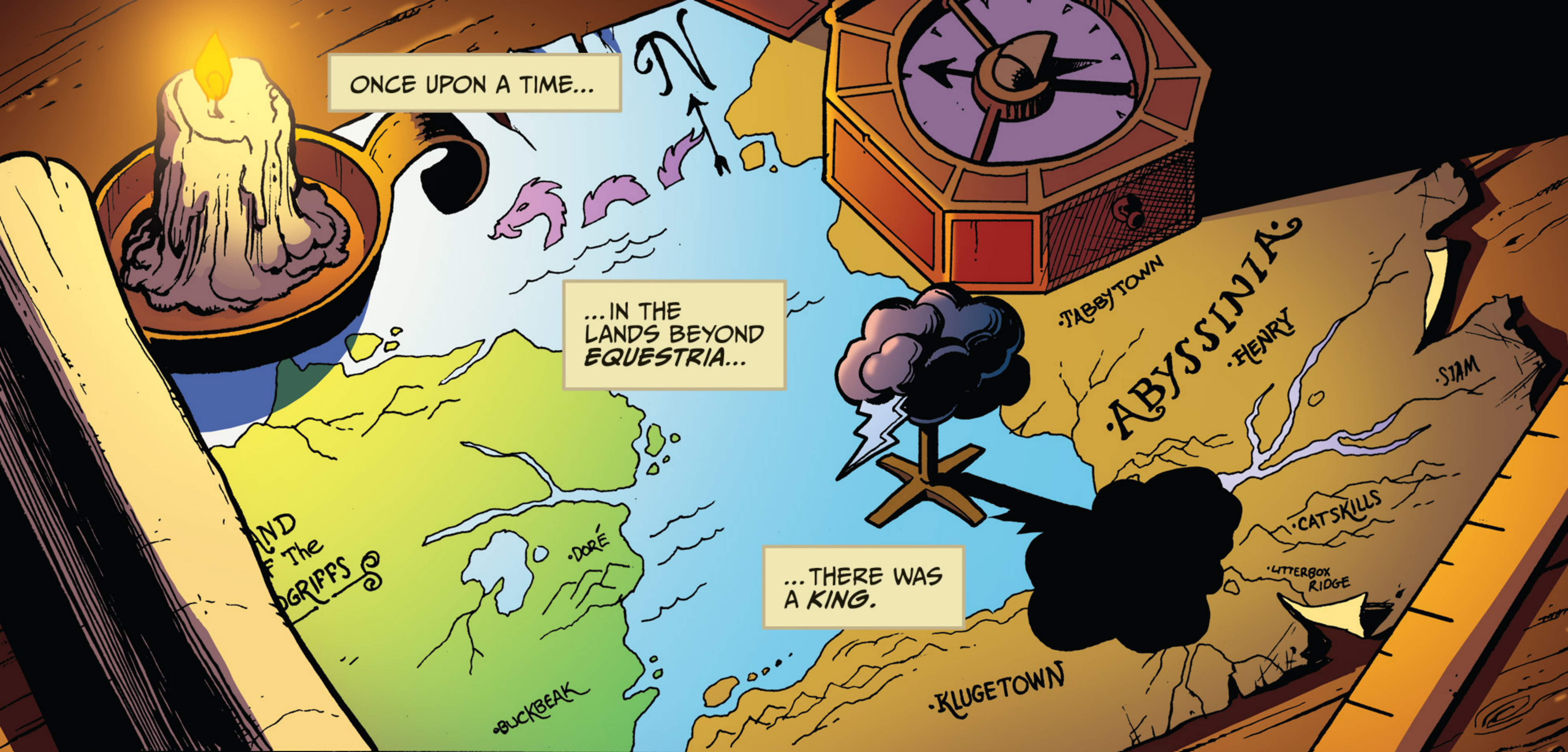
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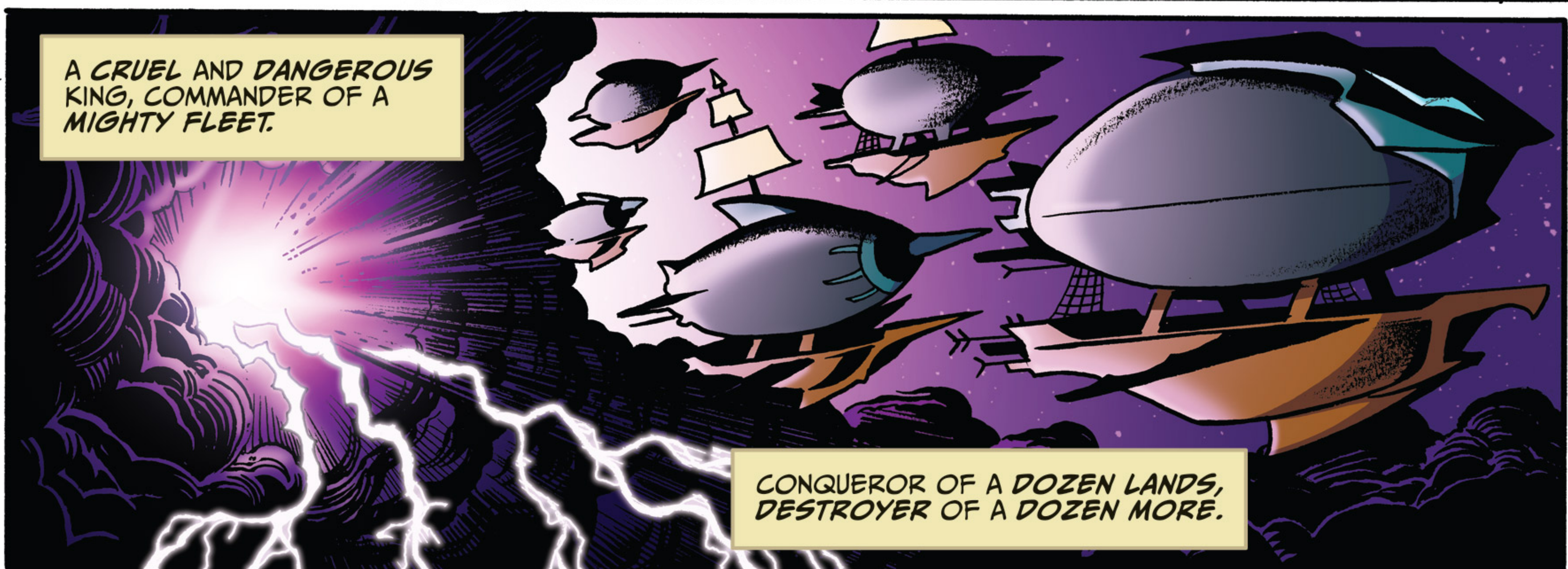
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ONCE UPON A TIME...

...IN THE LANDS BEYOND EQUESTRIA...

...THERE WAS A KING.



A CRUEL AND DANGEROUS KING, COMMANDER OF A MIGHTY FLEET.

CONQUEROR OF A DOZEN LANDS, DESTROYER OF A DOZEN MORE.



THE NAME OF THIS INVINCIBLE, IMPLACABLE FORCE OF NATURE...

...WAS THE STORM KING.

WHOA! HEY!



SEEMS KINDA UNFAIR TO HAVE SOMEBODY ELSE TELLING MY STORY!

IF WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A WHOLE ISSUE ABOUT ME, THEN I'M GONNA TELL IT!

SO PLEASE, JOIN ME ON THE NEXT PAGE, WON'T YOU?

LET ME TELL YOU A STORY ABOUT—



STORM KING

STRIFE.

MY LORD?

IS EVERYTHING
READY FOR THE
INVASION?





OH YES,
MY LORD.
YOUR ARMADA HAS
ALREADY CONQUERED
THE REST OF
ABYSSINIA.



ONLY
THE CAPITAL,
PANTHERA, STILL
STANDS...

...AND YOUR
FORCES ONLY
AWAIT YOUR
COMMAND.

GOOD,
GOOD.



AFTER
THE INVASION,
I SHOULD DO
SOMETHING FOR
THE SOLDIERS.

YOU KNOW,
LIKE A PIZZA
PARTY! OR A
FUNNY HAT
DAY!

SOMETHING
TO SHOW I
APPRECIATE ALL
THEIR HARD WORK
PILLAGING AND
LOOTING!





AS YOU SAY, MY LORD.

SHALL WE BEGIN THE INVASION?

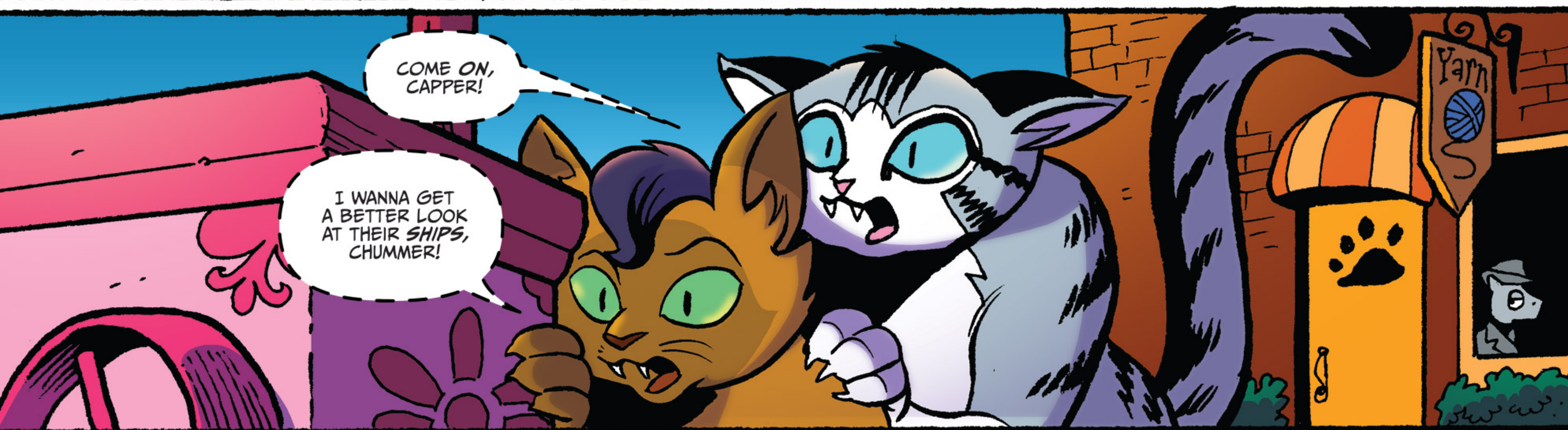
OH! RIGHT!

YEAH, LET'S HIT IT!



ONWARD, MY MINIONS!

AND MAKE ANOTHER EMPIRE FALL.



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