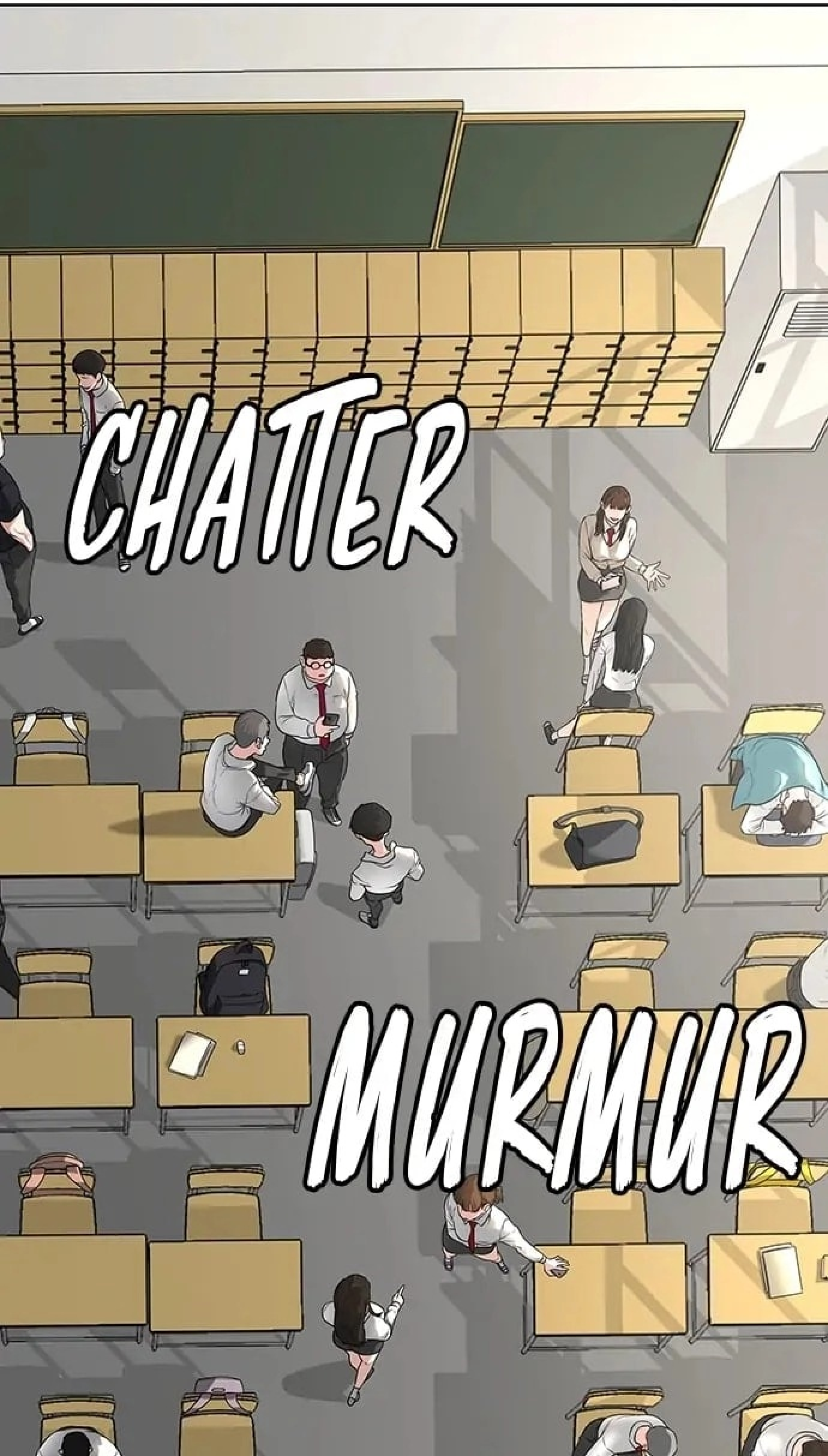
WARNING

THIS EPISODE CONTAINS
STRONG LANGUAGE THAT MAY NOT
BE SUITABLE FOR SOME READERS.

THE STORY, ALL NAMES, CHARACTERS, AND INCIDENTS PORTRAYED IN THIS SERIES ARE FICTITIOUS. NO IDENTIFICATION WITH ACTUAL PERSONS (LIVING OR DECEASED), PLACES, BUILDINGS, AND PRODUCTS IS INTENDED OR SHOULD BE INFERRED.


CHATTER
MURMUR



UGH...

...I F**CKING HATE GAMES.

PLAYING GAMES AGAIN, DOWAN?

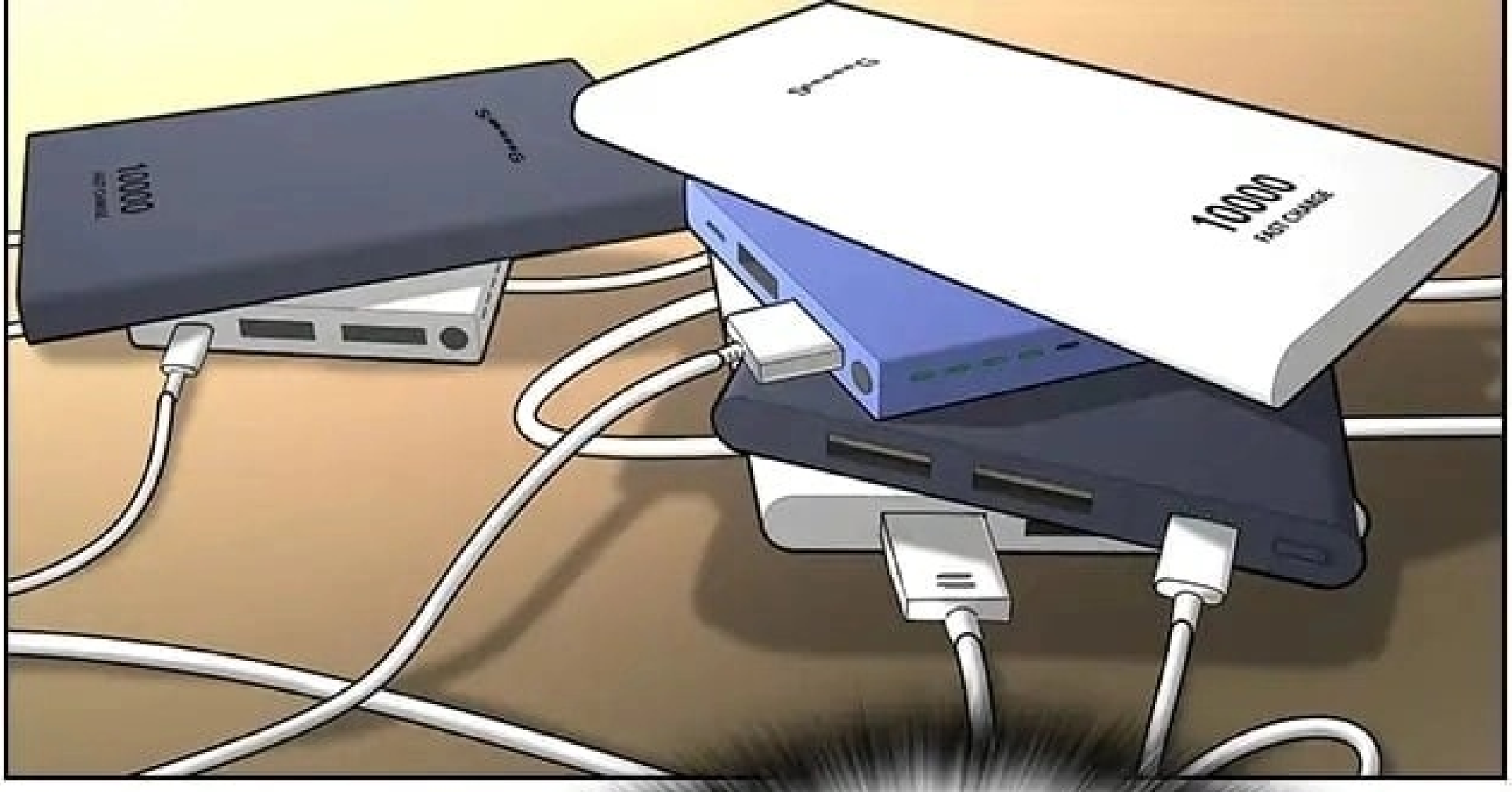
WHAT?

YOU KNOW YOU'RE AT SCHOOL, RIGHT?

HE'S A F**CKING GAME ADDICT.

ARE YOU
KIDDING ME?

HEY, LOOK AT
HIS SETUP!



YOU GUYS...

...MADE ME DO THIS!!



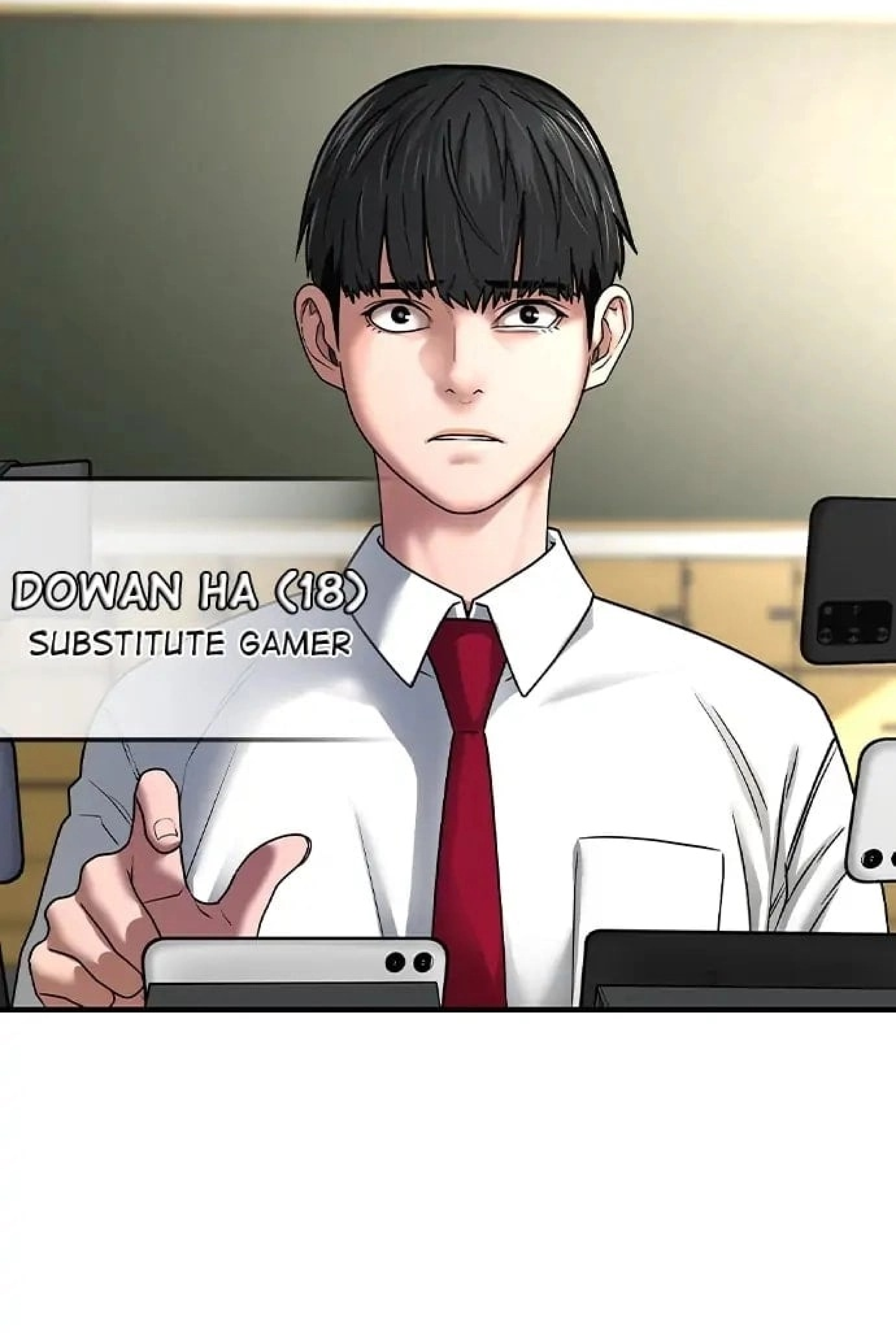
I'M A SUBSTITUTE GAMER.
I PLAY GAMES
FOR OTHER PEOPLE.

REALITY QUEST

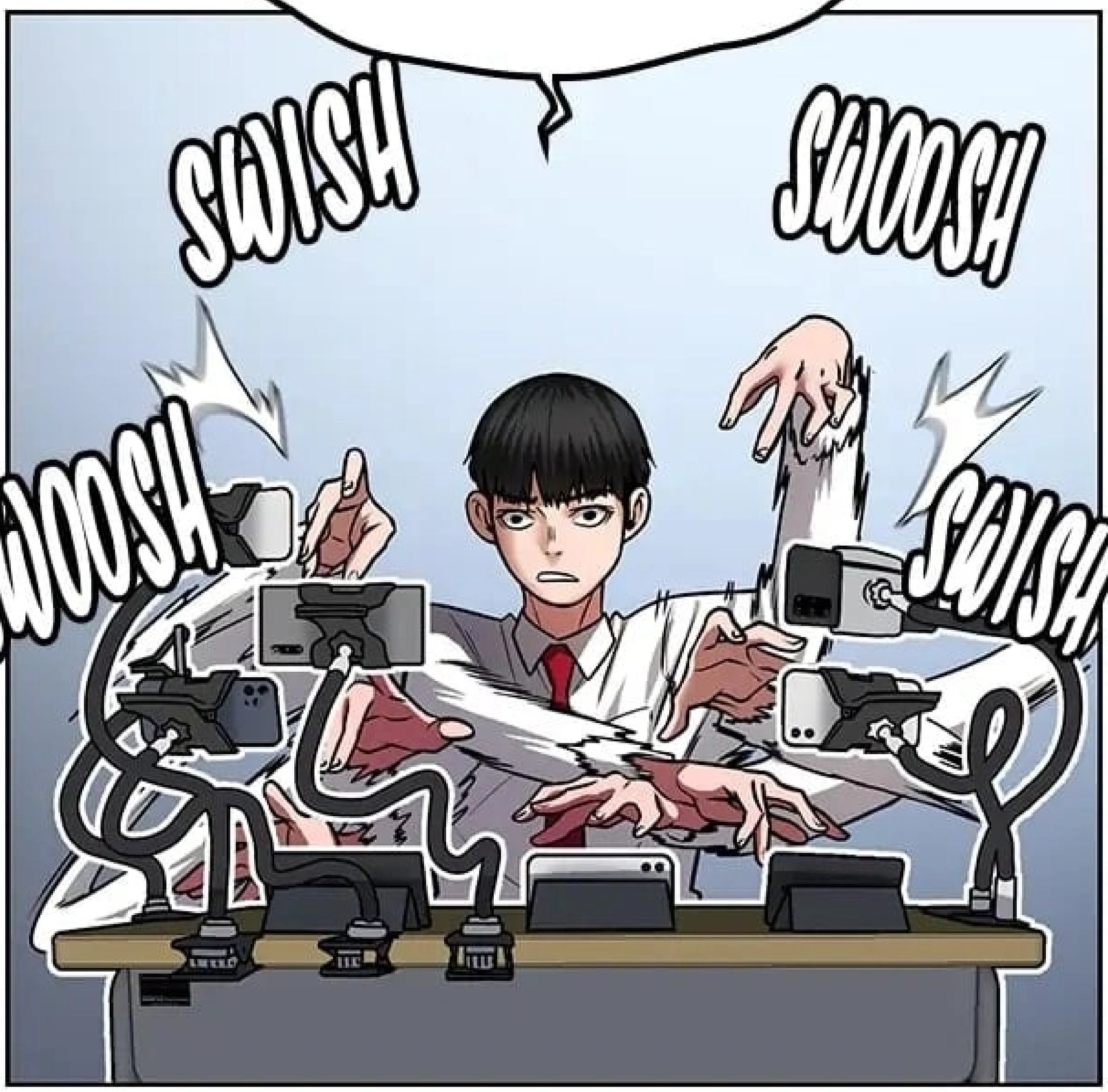
STORY BY JOOWOON LEE
ART BY TAESUNG

YLAB

UGH, I HATE DOING THIS.



UGHHH, PLEASE MAKE IT STOP.




WOW, YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT THAT!
SCOOL
WHO THE HECK SAID THAT?!

I'VE NEVER BEEN GOOD AT PLAYING GAMES.

ARIN JOO (18)

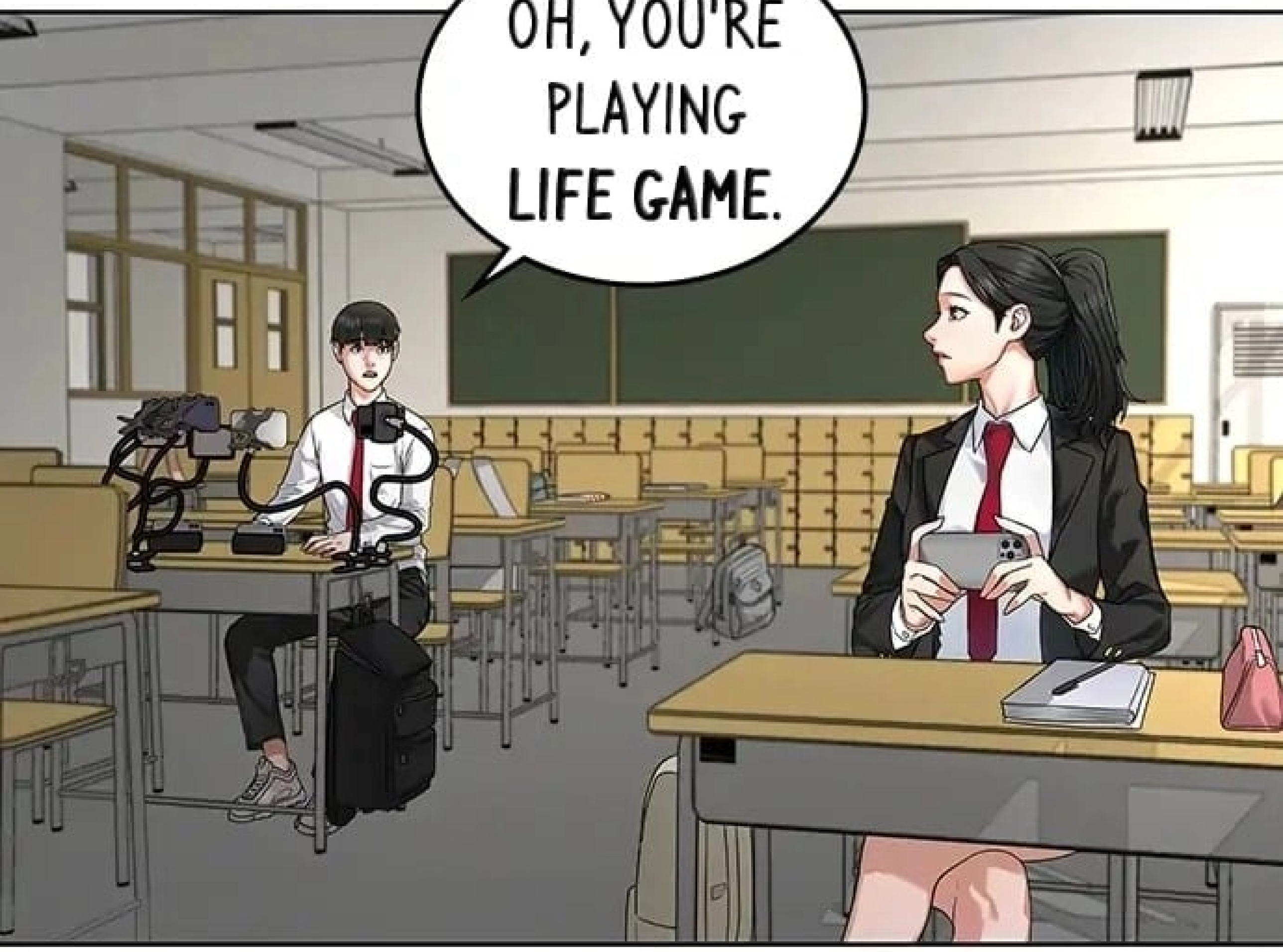
ARIN? WHAT'S THE HOTTEST GIRL IN THE GRADE DOING HERE?!

DING~



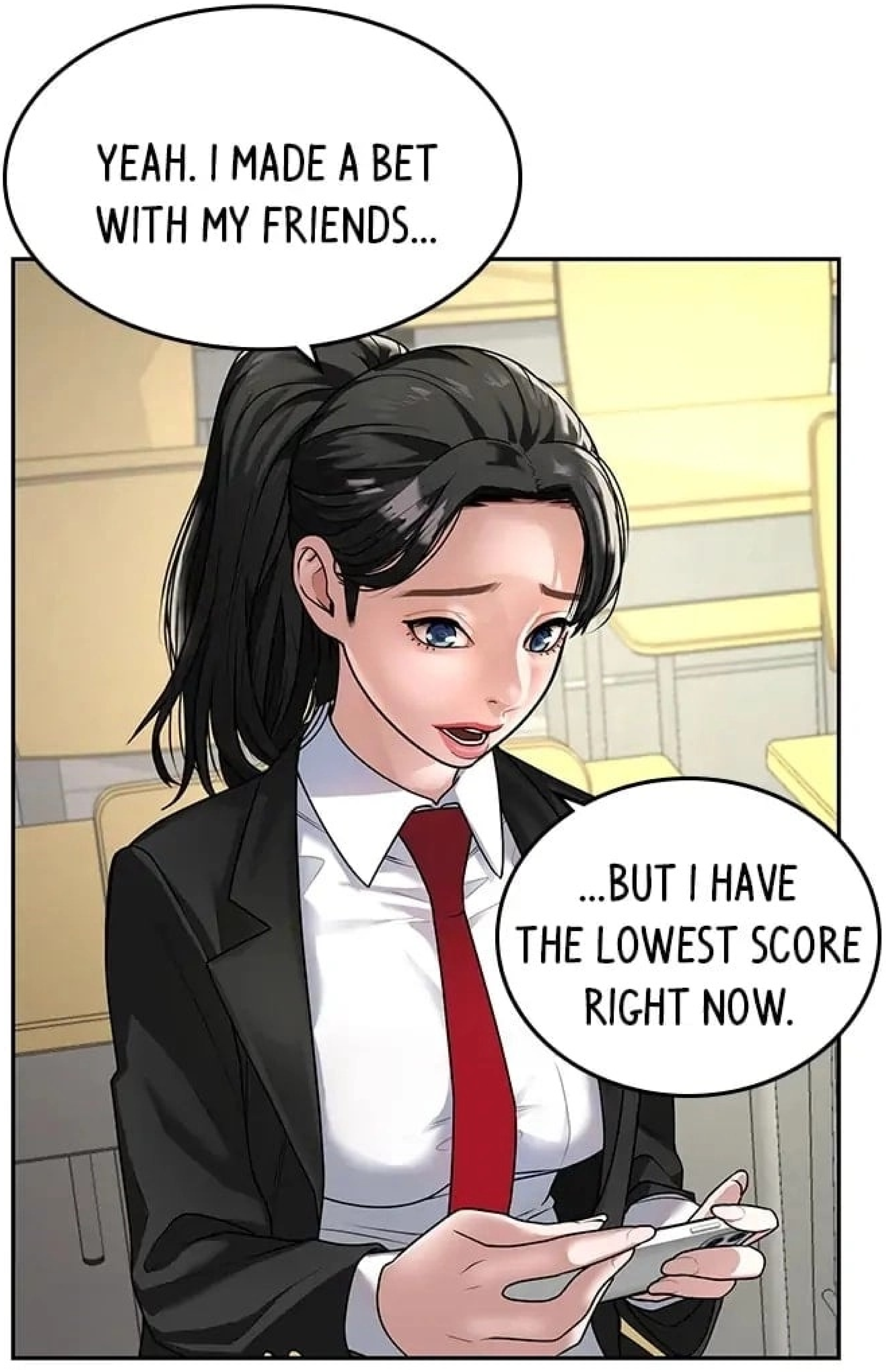
I DIDN'T KNOW
SHE PLAYED GAMES.

I BET EVERY SINGLE GUY
AT THIS SCHOOL...



...HAS HAD A CRUSH ON ARIN AT SOME POINT.

OF COURSE,
I HAVE A CRUSH
ON HER TOO.



BUT I'M JUST A LOSER

BUT I'M JUST A LOSER.
SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T
EVEN KNOW ME.

T-THEN...

HMM?

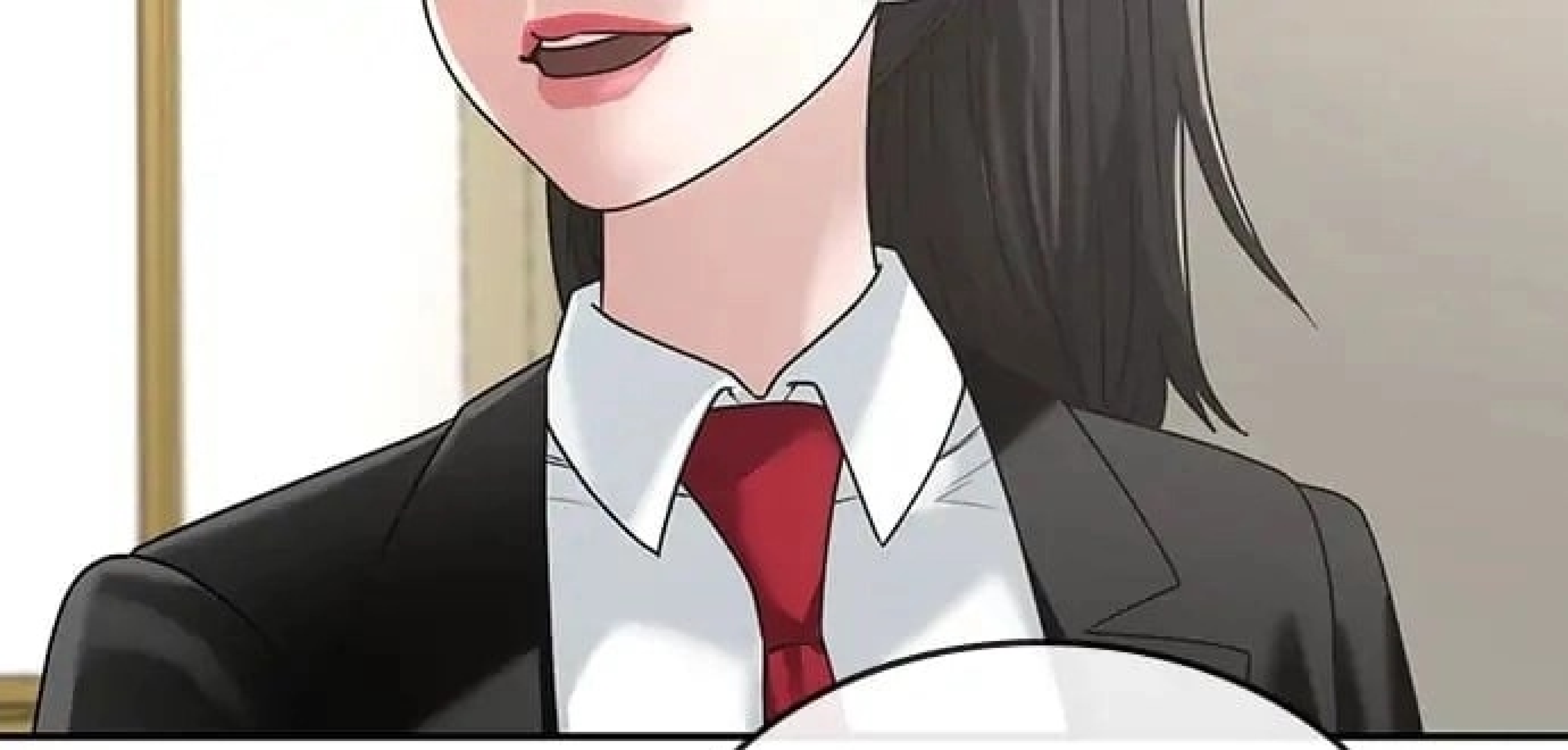
THAT'S WHY
THIS IS SO AMAZING.

...DO YOU
WANT ME TO PLAY IT
FOR YOU?

I CAN'T BELIEVE
I'M TALKING TO HER
RIGHT NOW!

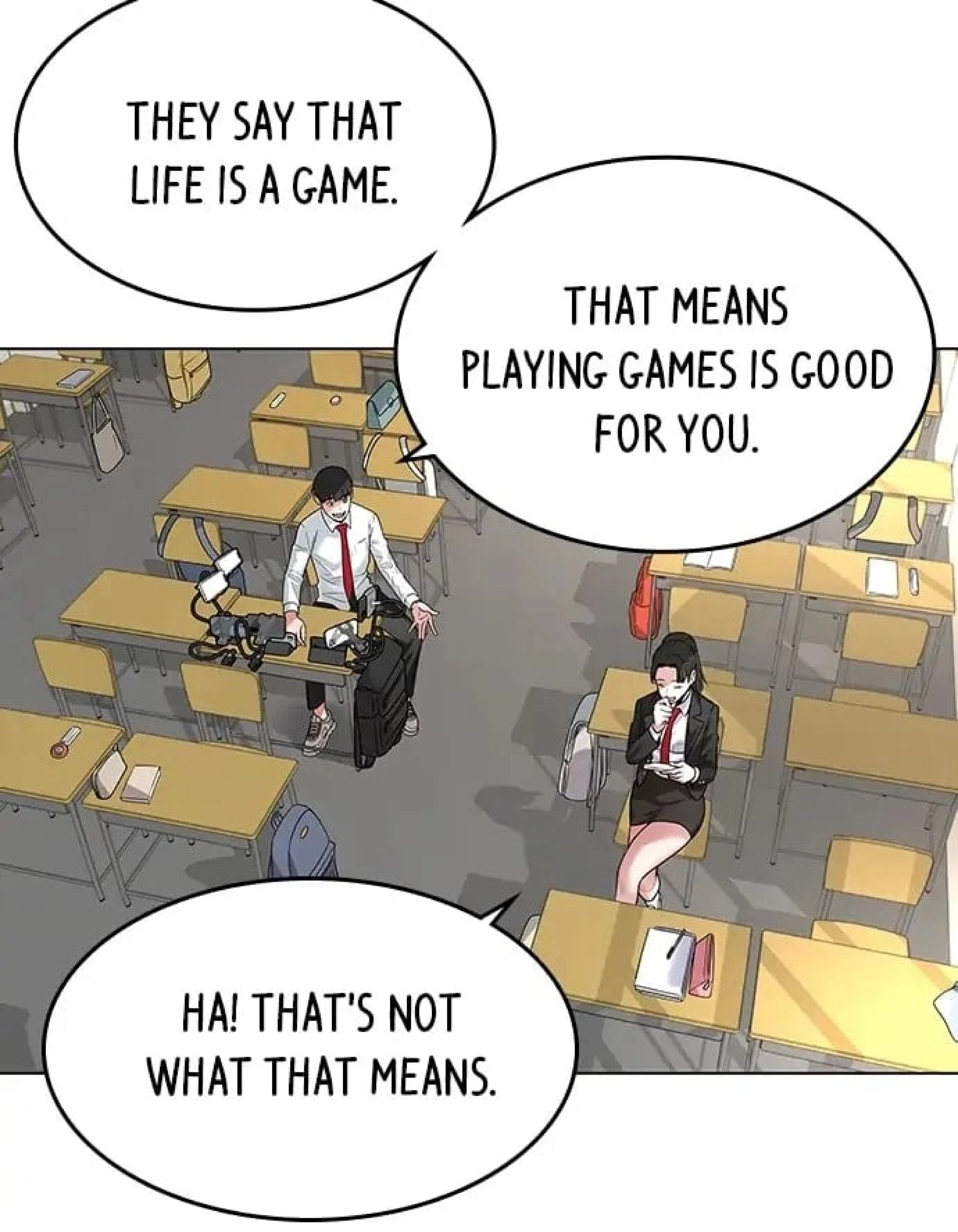
NO, IT'S FINE!

YOU SEEM
SUPER BUSY ANYWAY.



I'M JUST DOING IT FOR FUN.

I'VE NEVER TALKED WITH ARIN LIKE THIS BEFORE.



WAIT, SHE JUST LAUGHED, RIGHT?!

MAYBE I CAN
BE FRIENDS WITH HER!

WANT A REALLY
GREAT TIP? IT'S--

HEY, ARIN!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

IS HE YOUR FRIEND?

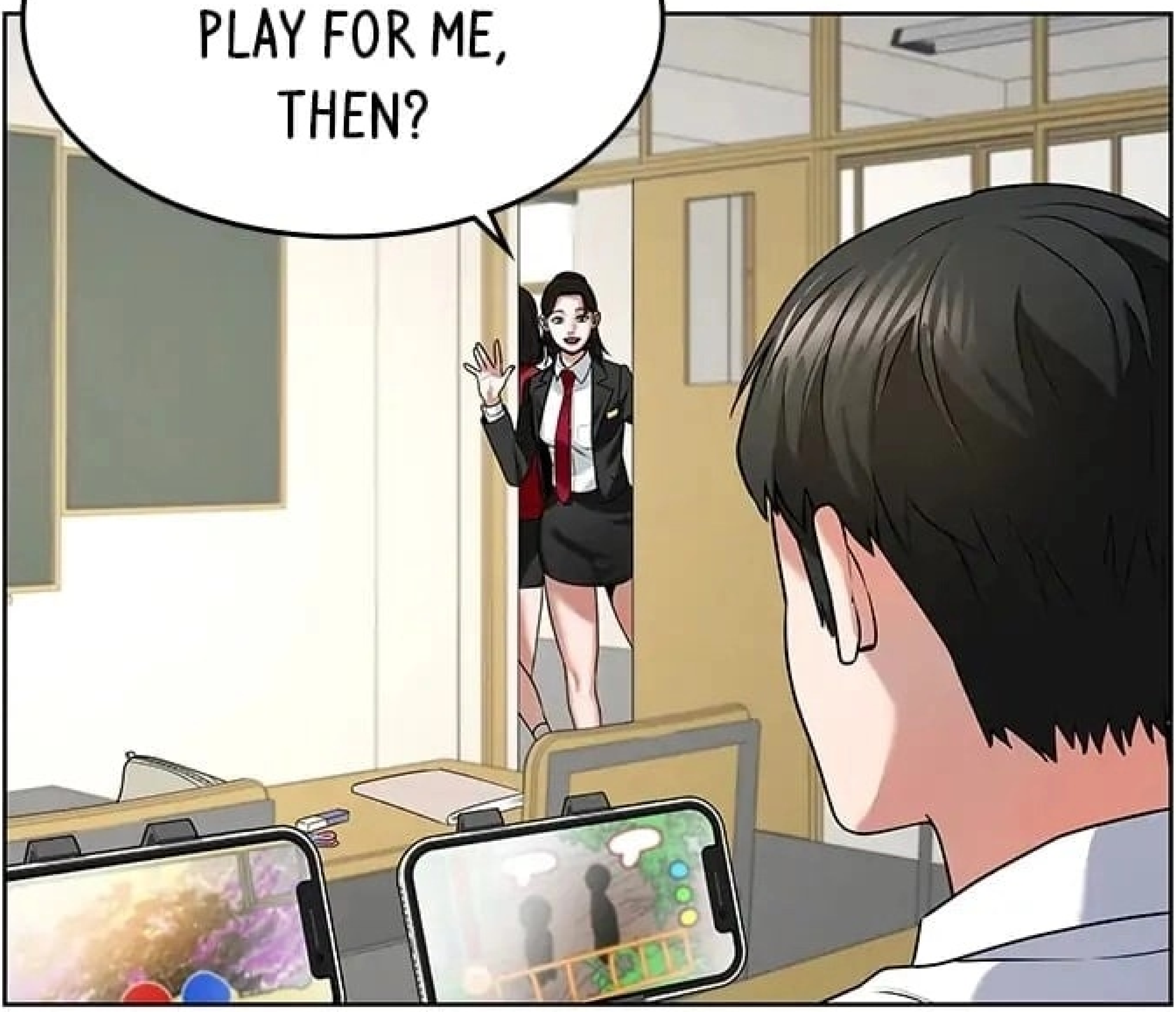
NOPE, I WAS JUST WAITING FOR YOU.

SORRY I'M LATE. EVERYONE WENT DOWNSTAIRS FOR LUNCH.

LET'S GO!

WHAT DID I EXPECT?

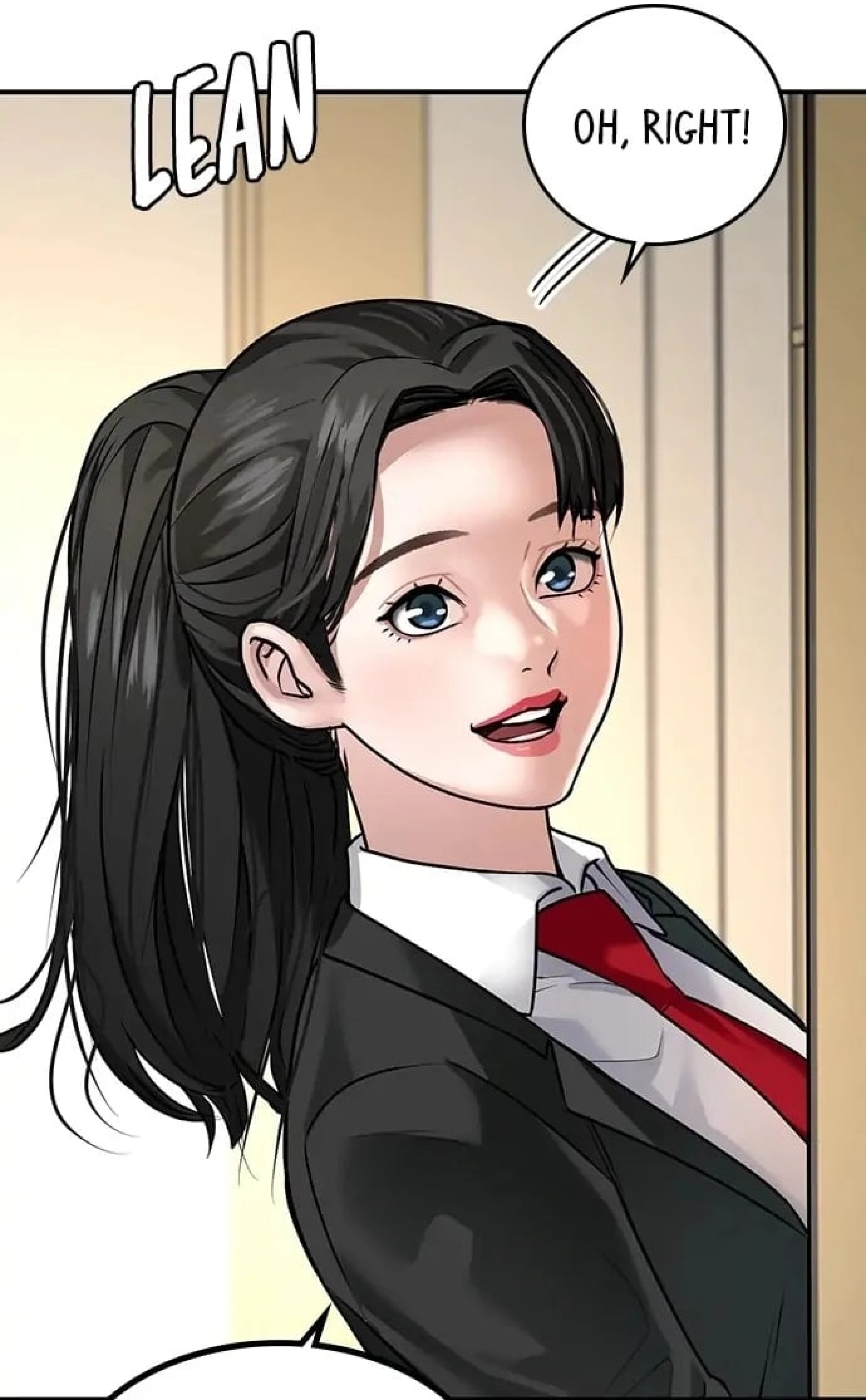
CAN YOU PLAY FOR ME, THEN?



I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN.

SHE PROBABLY

SHE PROBABLY
DOESN'T EVEN KNOW
MY NAME.



THANKS, DOWAN!

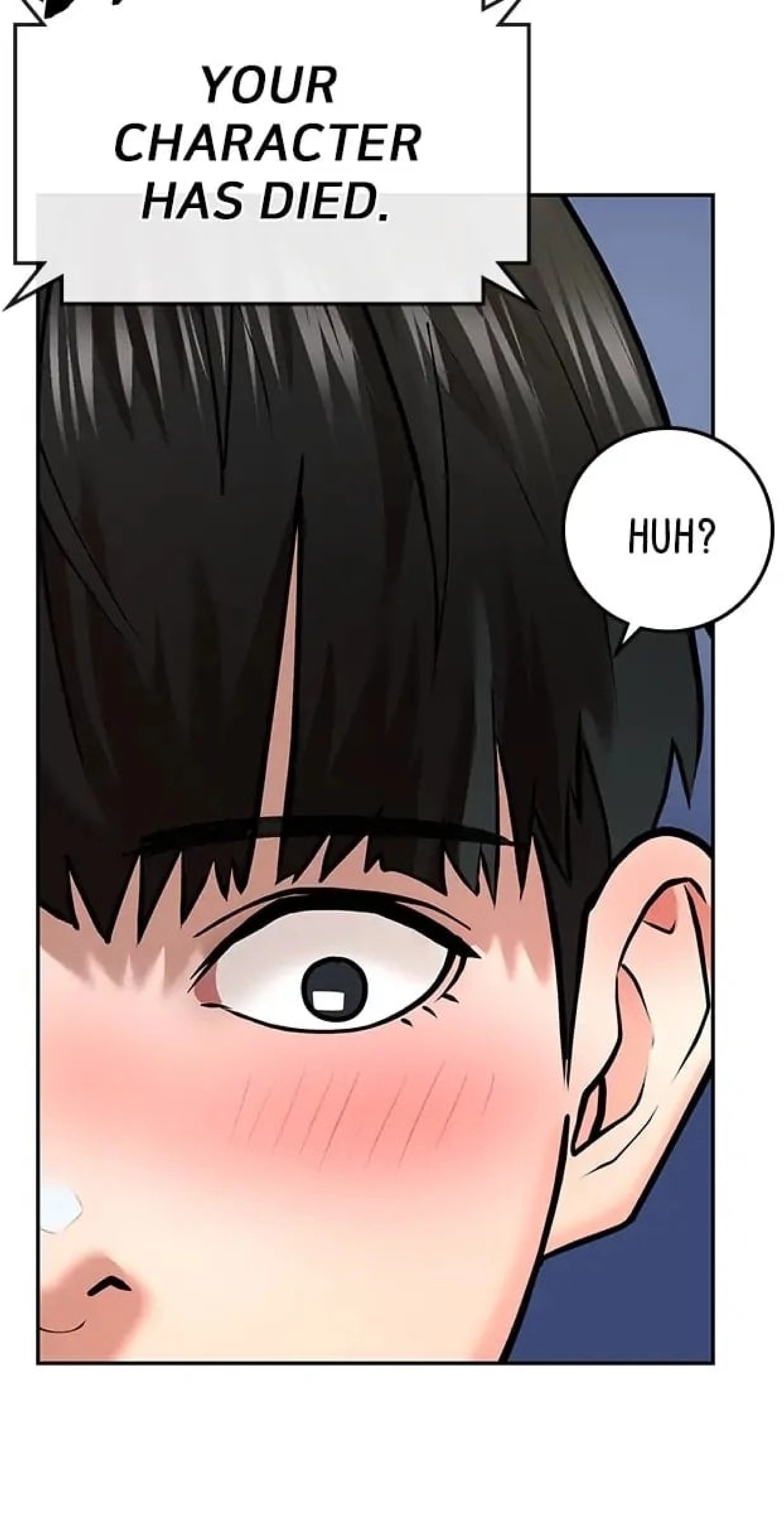
SHE KNOWS...

...MY NAME.



THAT'S THE BEST THING TO EVER HAPPEN TO ME.

DING


YOUR CHARACTER HAS DIED.
HUH?

WHAT THE...



DID MY CHARACTER
JUST DIE?

WHAAAAAAT?!

DEATH PENALTY

YOU'VE LOST
THE EXECUTIONER'S
SWORD.

NO! NOT THE
EXECUTIONER'S SWORD!

THAT WAS CHEOLWOO'S
FAVORITE WEAPON!



IF THAT JACKASS
FINDS OUT...

...HE'S GOING TO

THROW A FIT--



I TOLD YOU TO FOCUS ON MY PHONE.

CHEOLWOO MIN (18)

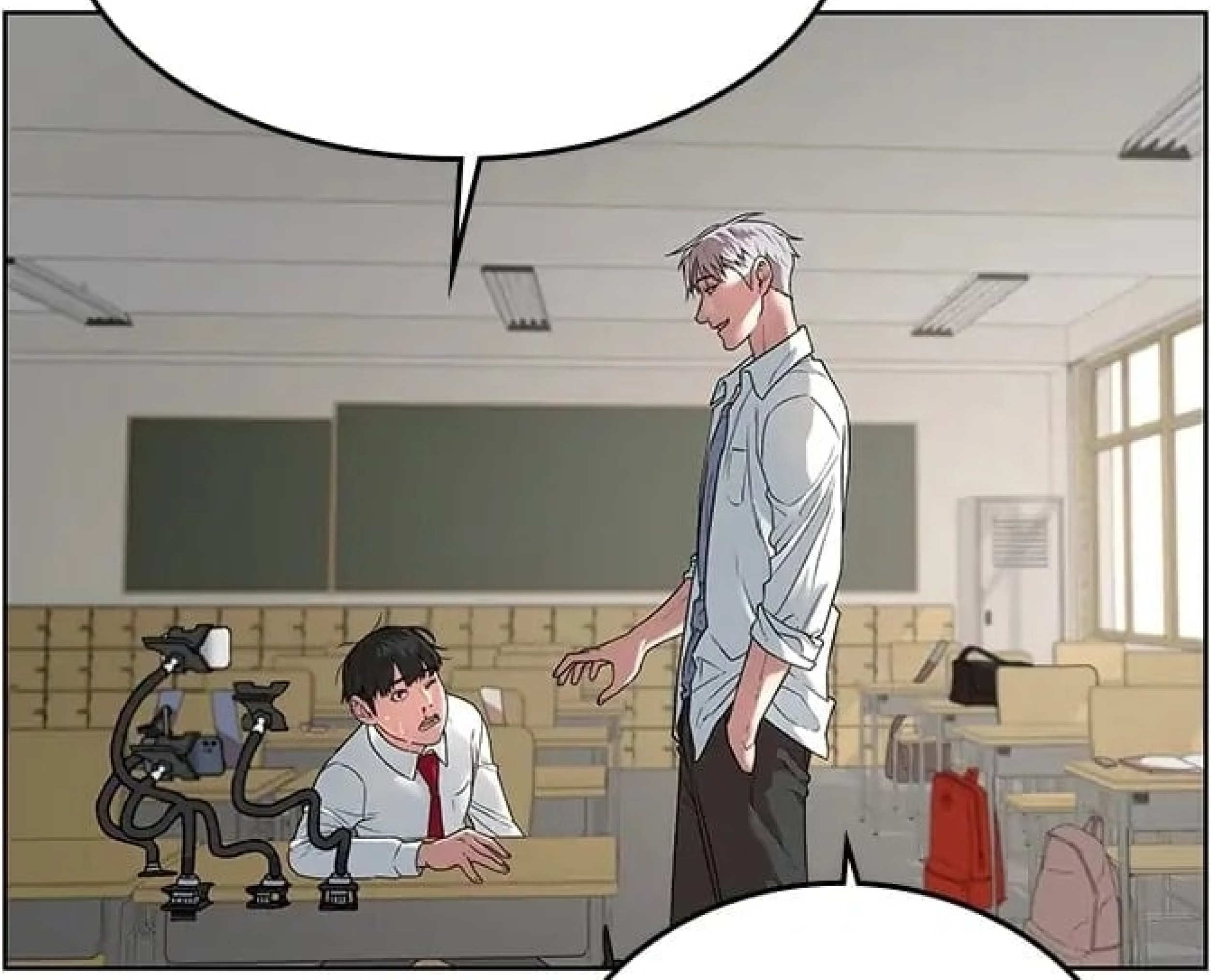
I-I'M SORRY, CHEOLWOO.

PRESS



I'M SCREWED.

I'LL GIVE YOU MINE!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME--



OH, REALLY?
I SHOULD HAVE SAID
THAT SOONER.

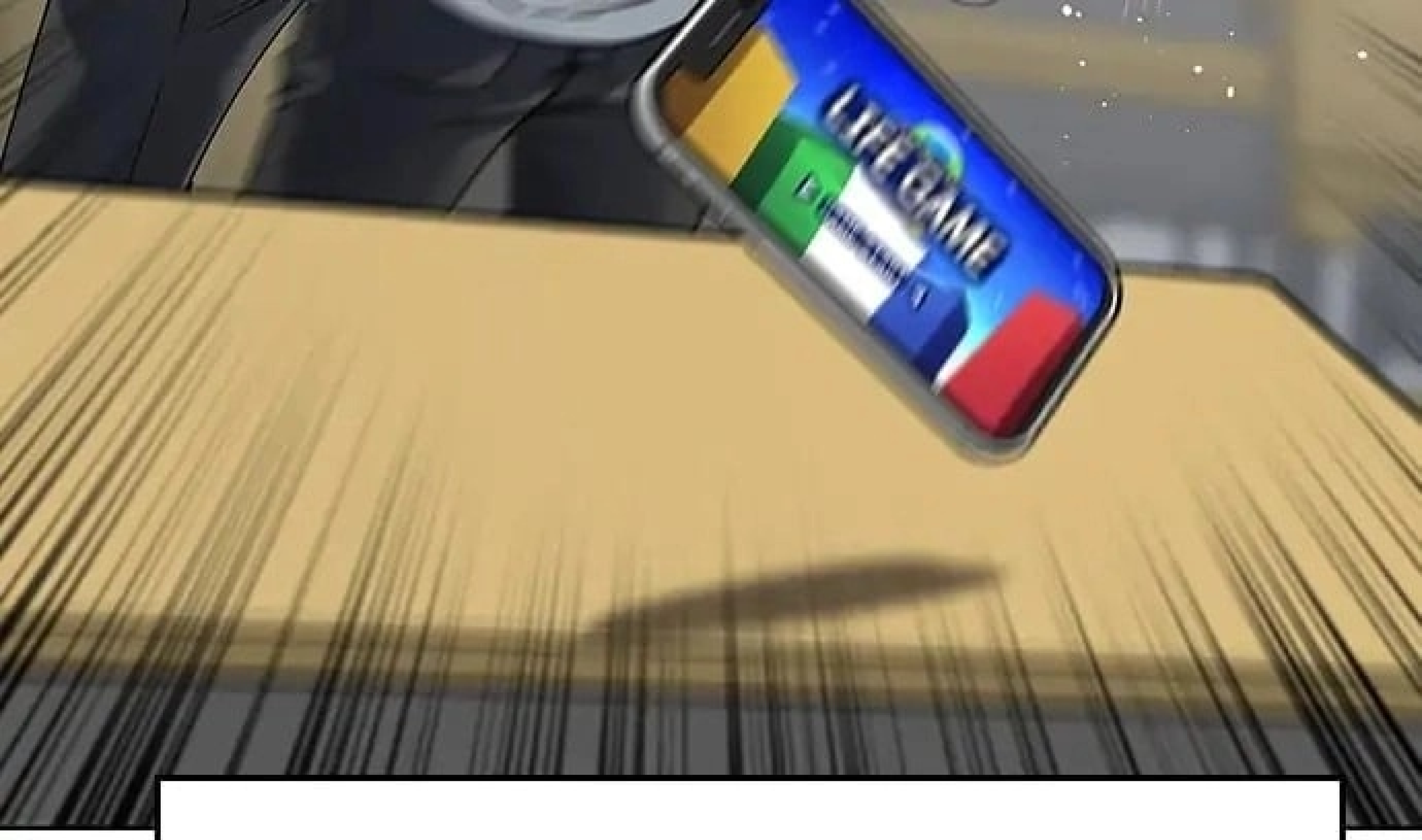
BUT...

...YOU STILL LOST
MY DAMN ITEM.

HERE WE GO
AGAIN.

EVERY TIME THIS HAPPENS...

SLAP



...I WONDER IF PEOPLE LIKE HIM THINK THAT LIFE IS A GAME.

SEE, HE LOVES BEATING UP PEOPLE WHO ARE WEAKER

PEOPLE WHO ARE WEAKER THAN HIM...



...AND SHOWING OFF HIS STRENGTH.

THAT'S HOW HE
CLIMBS THROUGH THE RANKS
OF THIS SCHOOL.



TO PEOPLE LIKE HIM...

...I'M JUST A
TRASH MOB...



...FOR THEM
TO HUNT.

COME ON,
DOWAN.

YOU ONLY HAD ONE JOB.

OH, RIGHT.

I STARTED *LOST RPG* AGAIN RECENTLY.


BUT MY ITEMS ARE SO CRAPPY THAT I CAN'T KILL ANYTHING.


SO, I WANT YOU TO GET ME THE *FIRE KING SWORD* IN A WEEK.
?!

Y-YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT?

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO

GET A LEGENDARY ITEM
IN A--

YOU LOST MY ITEM,
BECAUSE YOU WERE TALKING
TO ARIN, RIGHT?

HA! SO YOU
HAVE A LITTLE CRUSH,
HUH?

ALL RIGHT.
HOW ABOUT THIS?



IF YOU CAN'T
GET ME THE ITEM OVER
SPRING BREAK...

...I'M GONNA STRIP YOU NAKED IN FRONT OF ARIN...

...AND BEAT THE CRAP OUT OF YOU.



?!

HAHAHAHA!
HAHAHAHA!
HAHAHAHA!

YO, WANNA GO FOR SOME DRINKS WITH SOME OF THE GIRLS?

ARE THEY HOT?

THAT A**HOLE.



UGH.


AUTO-BATTLE MODE

SCREW HIM.

50
9,130,789,567
SHOP INVENTORY SKILL QUEST
AUTO-BATTLE MODE
REGION 1 OF THE SWAMP OF VOID
Normal Zone
SELF



SCREW THIS GAME, TOO!





I HATE PLAYING GAMES...

...AS A SUBSTITUTE GAMER.



I'M ACTUALLY

TOTALLY ADDICTED.

I WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE BULLIES OVER SPRING BREAK...



...AND MOM'S OUT ON A BUSINESS TRIP ABROAD.

THAT MEANS IT'S GAME TIME!

YOU WANNA KNOW WHY I'M SO RELAXED?





THAT'S BECAUSE...

...I'VE REACHED THE HIGHEST LEVEL IN LOST RPG!!

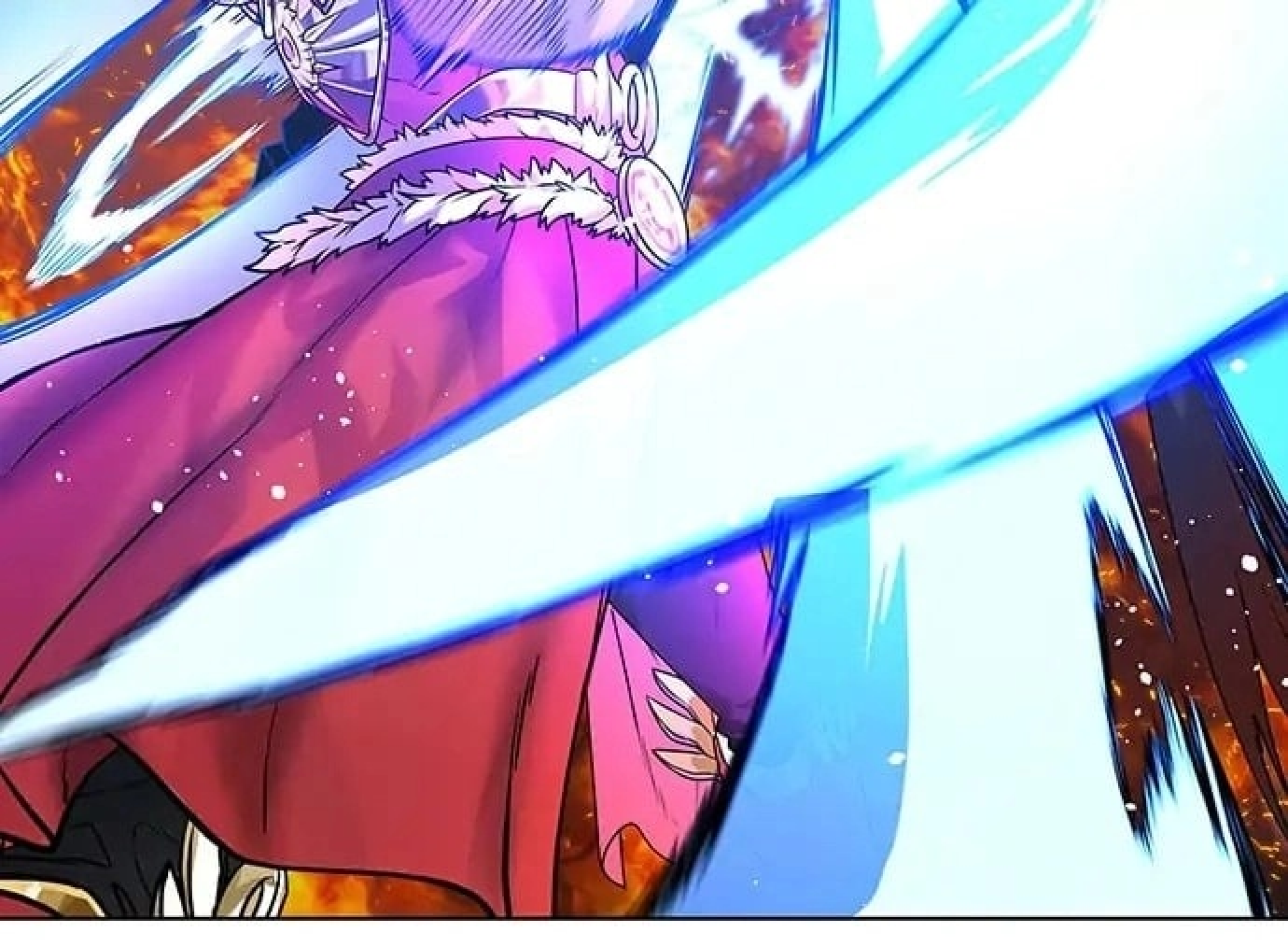


I STOPPED PLAYING BECAUSE THE GAME GOT TOO EASY FOR ME.

I MAY BE A LOSER

IN REAL LIFE...

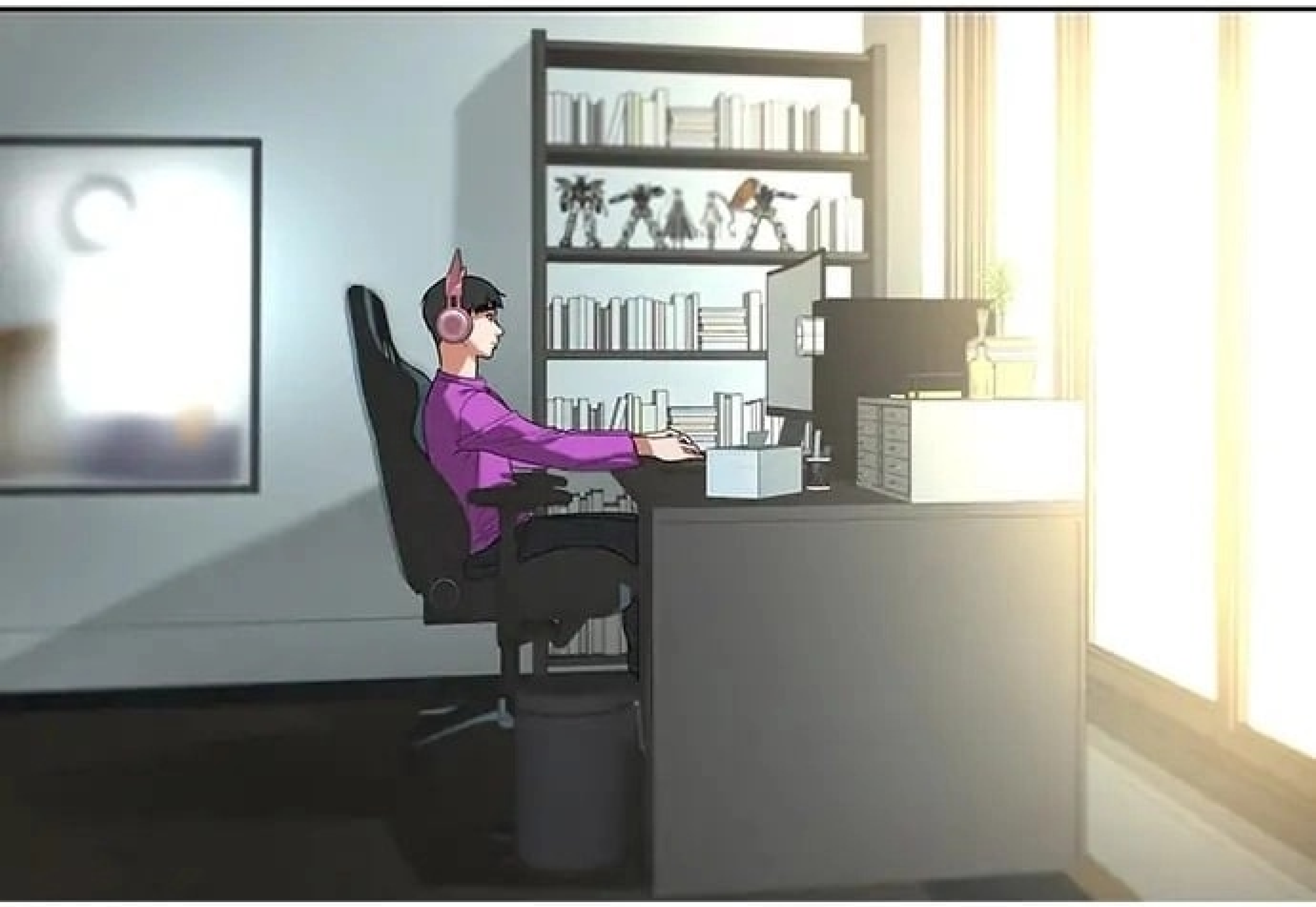
A THOUSAND PUNCHES!



...BUT I'M TOTALLY AMAZING
WHEN I'M PLAYING GAMES.

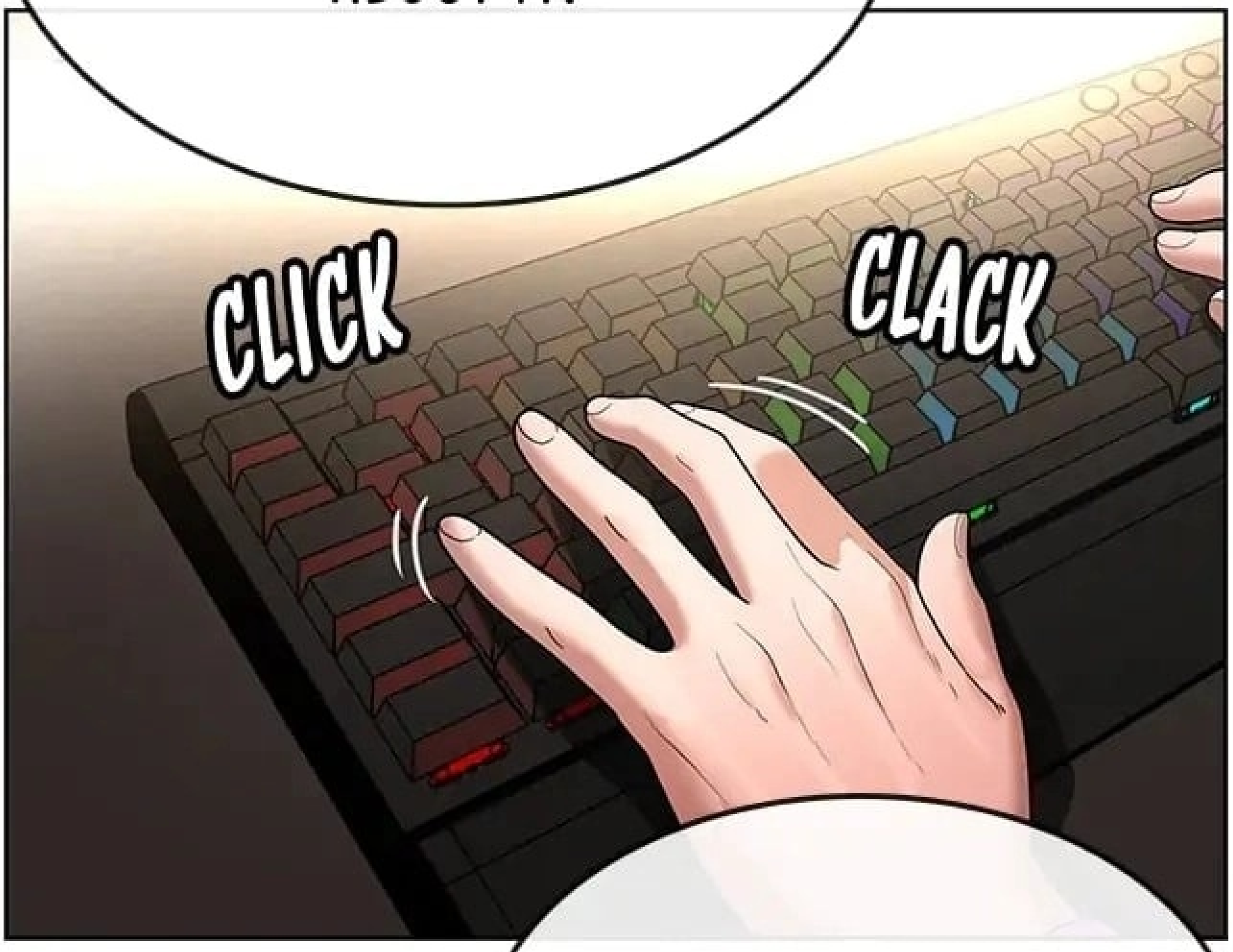
IF MY LIFE WAS LIKE

A GAME, TOO...



...WOULD I BE A DIFFERENT PERSON?

WHATEVER.
I'M WASTING MY TIME THINKING ABOUT IT.



LET'S JUST GET THE SWORD AND—

HUH?

6 8000 0000 / 5100 00000

FIRE KING MAGMAROSE

YOU DIED.

DARK CHOCOLATE PIE

?!

I DIED?! NO WAY!

I SUDDENLY GOT A FOREBODING FEELING...



...AND THAT FEELING...

SEVERAL CHANGES WERE MADE TO PROVIDE A BETTER GAMING EXPERIENCE FOR THE PLAYERS.

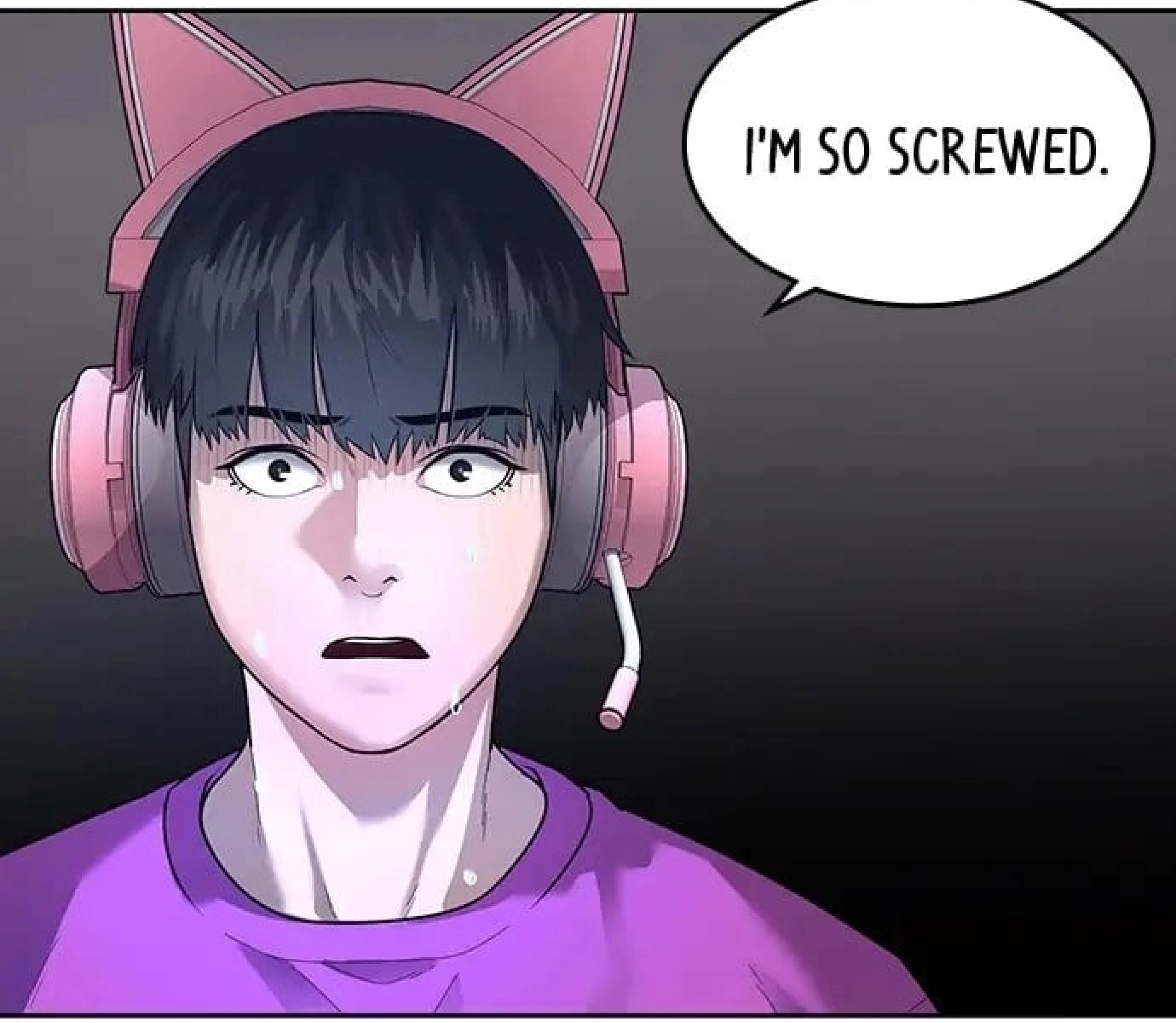
- UPDATE NOTES

- THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE LEVEL FOR PLAYERS INCREASED TO LV. 200
- DIFFICULTY LEVEL OF THE BOSS MONSTER INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY
- ITEM DROP RATES FOR LEGENDARY ITEMS OR ABOVE DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY

- ALSO, THE ERRORS REGARDING FROM BEATING BOSS MONSTER CORRECTED.

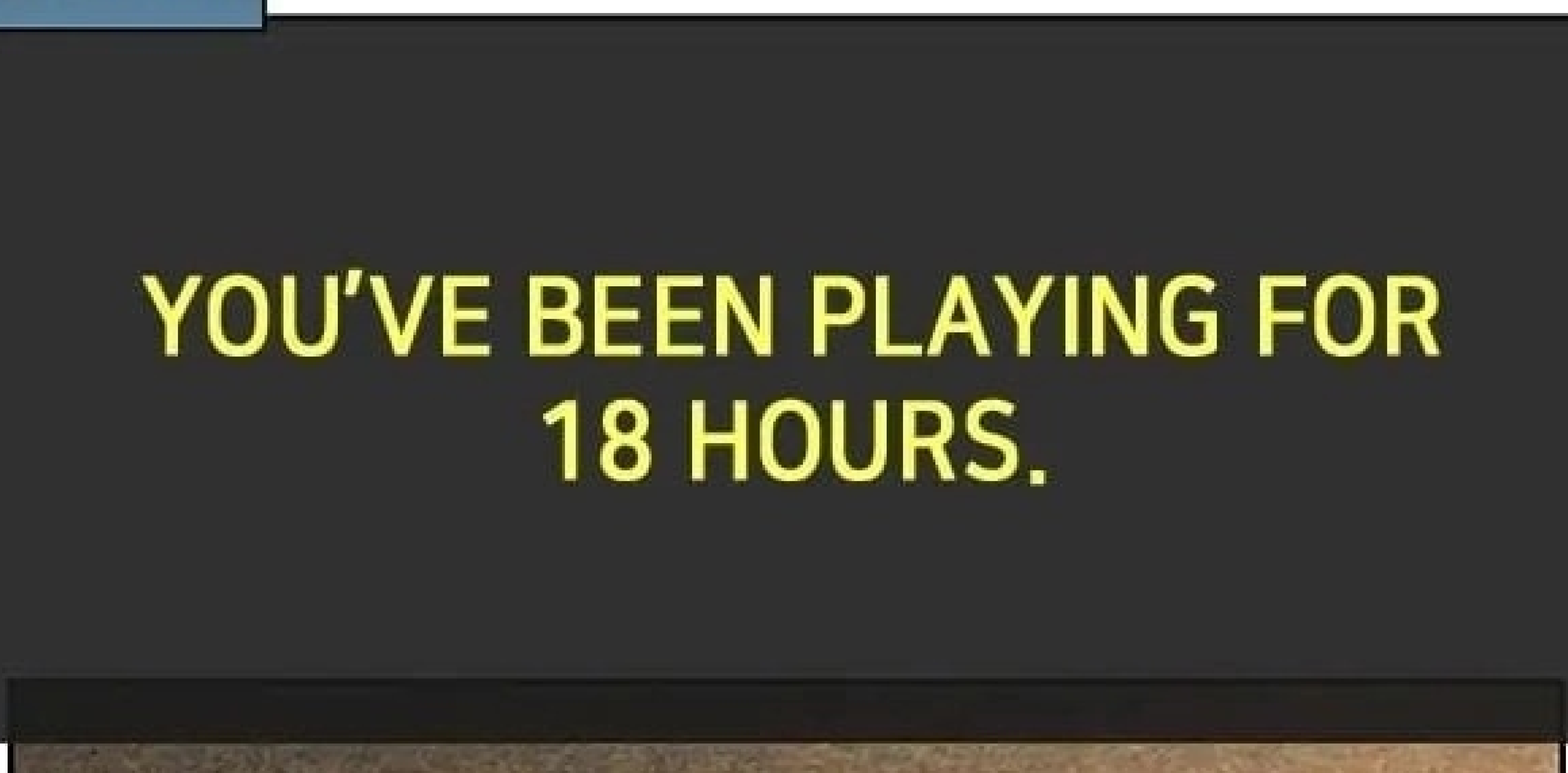
WH-WHAT?!

...TURNED OUT TO BE COMPLETELY ACCURATE.


I'M SO SCREWED.

SYSTEM

YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING FOR
18 HOURS.



A THOUSAND PUNCHES!

ALL RIGHT!
I CAN BEAT HIM NOW!

FIRE KING MAGMAROSE



I STAYED UP ALL NIGHT FIGURING OUT A WAY TO BEAT THE MONSTER.

SYSTEM

YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING FOR 37 HOURS.



I DON'T WANT
THESE CRAPPY ITEMS!

FIRE SWORD



RARE SWORD

ITEM LEVEL 100

FOR WARRIORS

BIND ON EQUIP

CAN BE AUCTIONED 10 TIMES

BASIC EFFECTS
WEAPON ATTACK +12000

ADITIONAL EFFECTS
ADDITIONAL DAMAGE +8.20%

FIRE WEAPON ATTACK +1000

SINCE THEY MADE THE GAME HARDER...

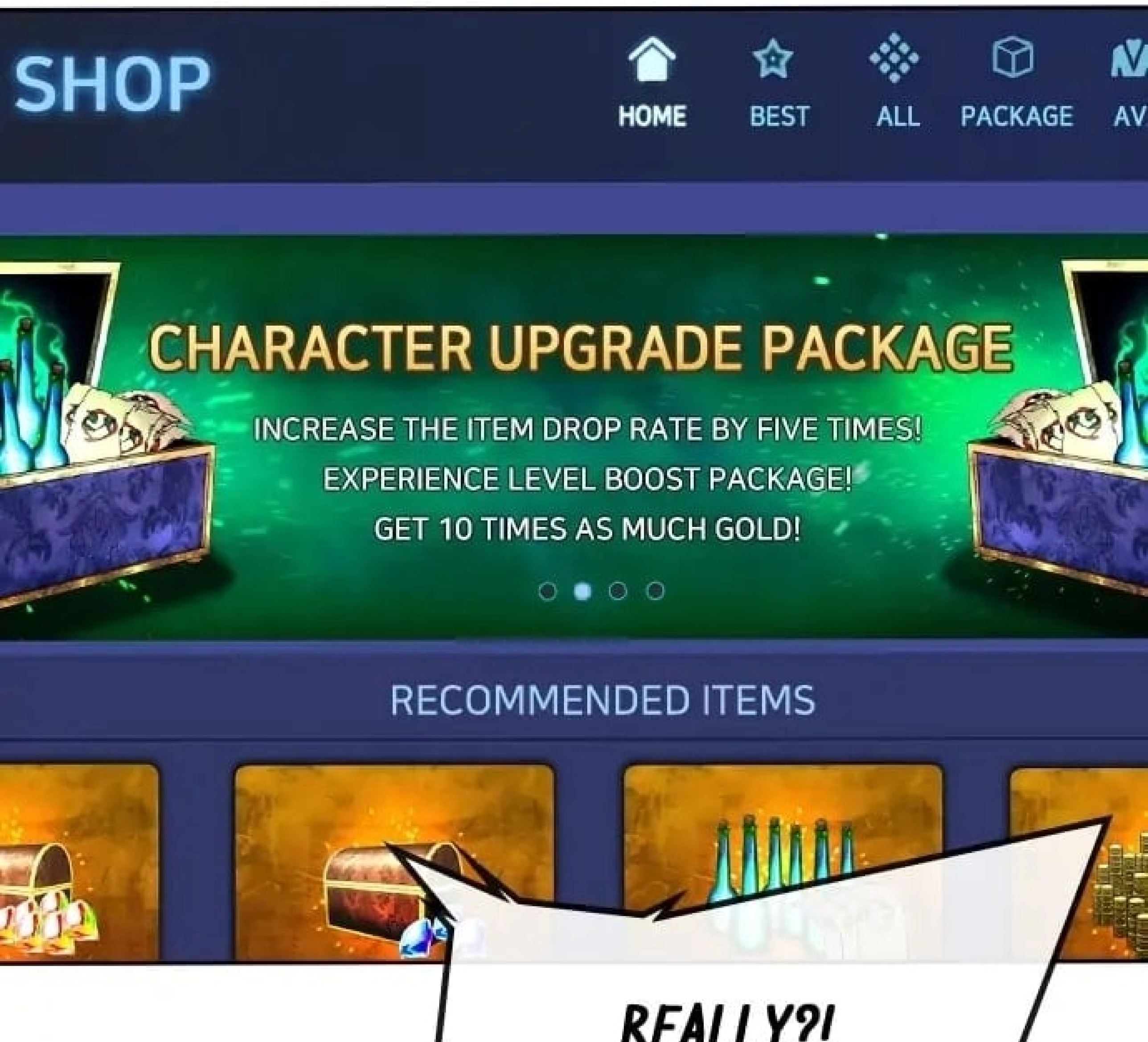
...THEY SHOULD HAVE INCREASED THE ITEM DROP RATES!



SO WHY THE HELL DID THEY LOWER IT?!

JUST WHY--!

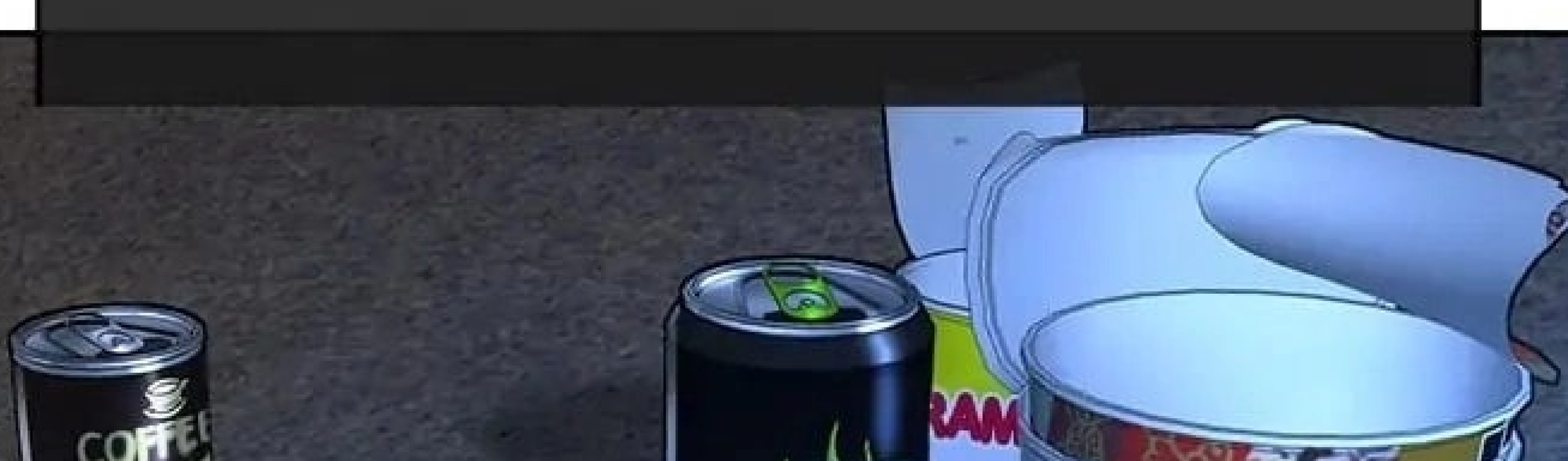
I QUICKLY FIGURED OUT WHY.



REALLY?! THEY DID IT FOR MONEY?!!

SYSTEM

YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING FOR
64 HOURS.



SLAM

COME ON!

GIFT CARD

GIFT CARD

SLAM

I SPENT ALL THE MONEY
I HAVE. BUT WHY...



...WHY ISN'T IT DROPPING?

HAA--



I'M
EXHAUSTED

EXHAUSTED...



...I FEEL LIKE
I'M GOING TO DIE.

SYSTEM

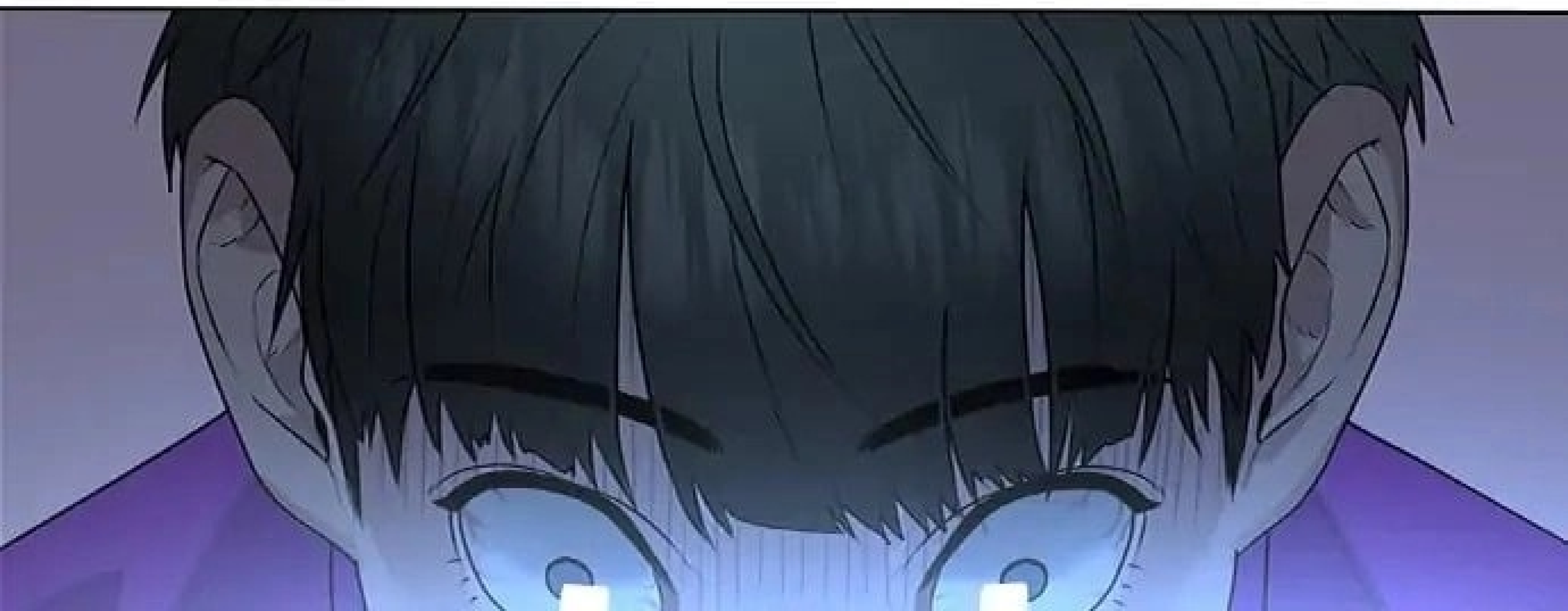
YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING FOR 144 HOURS.

?!





THE ITEM DROP RATE WASN'T
THE ONLY PROBLEM.





IT TAKES TOO LONG FOR ME TO KILL A MONSTER ALONE.

AND MY LEVEL IS TOO LOW, SO NO ONE WILL LET ME JOIN THEIR PARTY.

I ONLY HAVE
ONE DAY LEFT.



AT THIS RATE...



...F**K.



I FELL FOR
CHEOLWOO'S TRAP.



THE TIME LIMIT FOR THE PACKAGE I BOUGHT IS ALSO RUNNING OUT.

I DON'T HAVE...





...A WAY OUT ANYMORE.

THE MOMENT
I THOUGHT THAT..



?!

...A PLAYER WITH
A SUPER CRINGEY
NICKNAME...


THE DESTROYER
LV 200
WHOA...
HE JUST KILLED MAGMAROSE WITH A SINGLE BLOW!

...SHOWED UP.

LOOKING FOR A PARTY, YOU SAID?

THE DESTROYER

DARK CHOCOLATE PIE

...?

YEP

WHY IS HE TALKING LIKE THAT?

GENERAL

I NEED SOMEONE TO SERVE ME AND DISTRACT THE MONSTERS.

IS HE ACTING LIKE HE'S

SOME KIND OF KING?
WHAT A WEIRDO.

GEEZ...

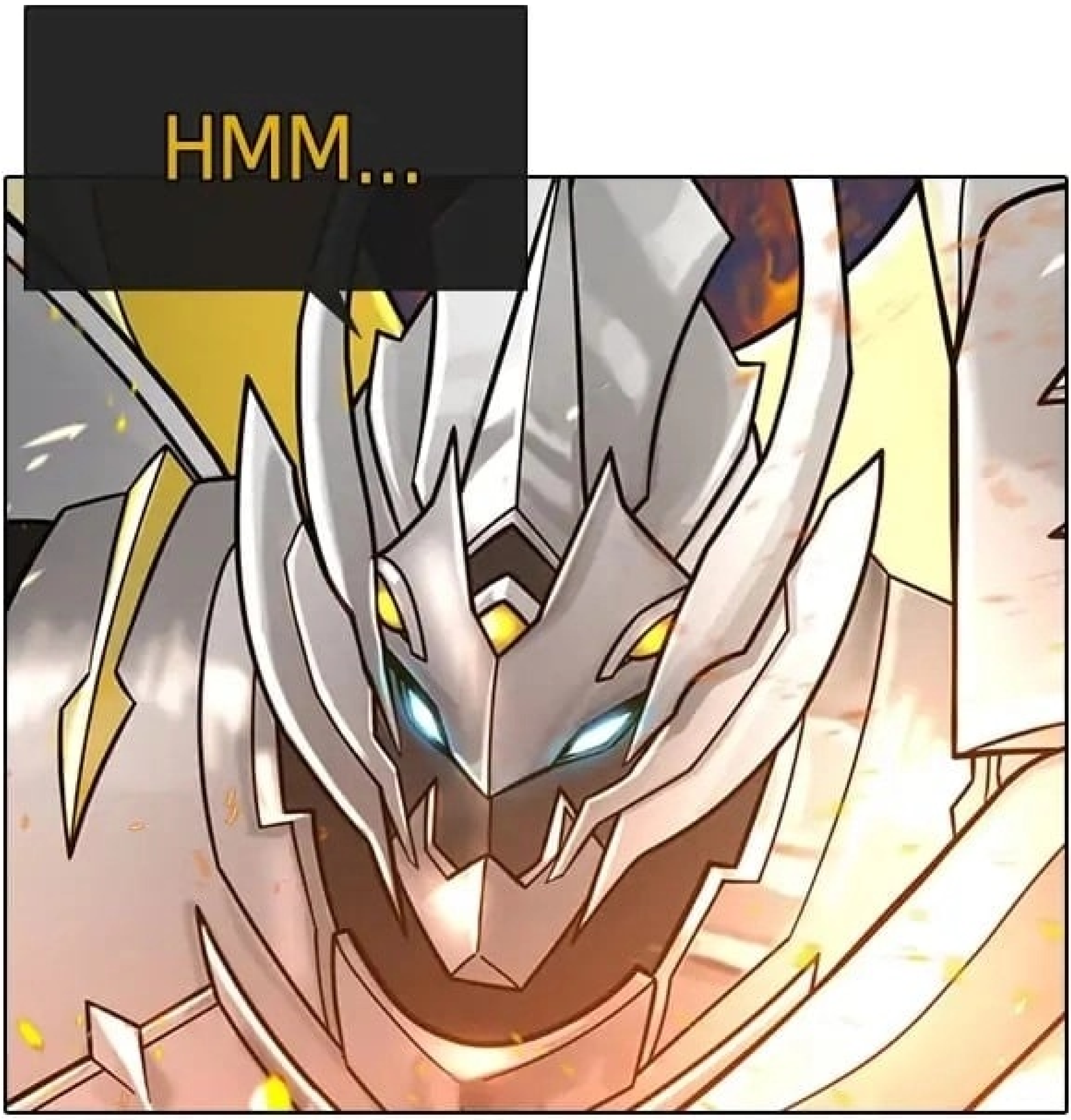
BUT HE'S A SUPER
STRONG WEIRDO!!

GENERAL

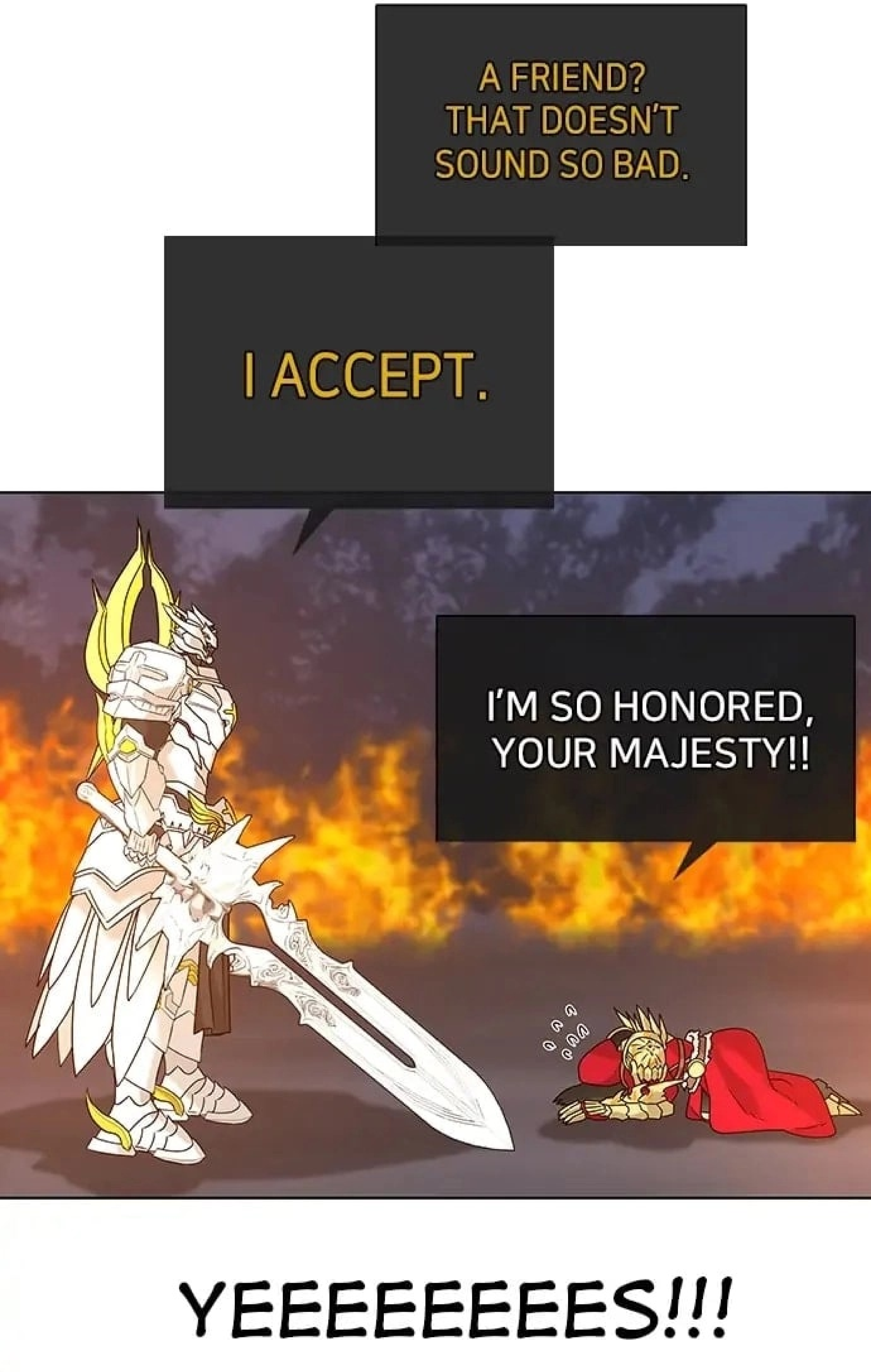
YOUR MAJESTY! I BOW AT YOUR FEET.

I OFFER MYSELF TO YOU AS YOUR LOYAL SERVANT AND FRIEND. PLEASE ACCEPT MY REQUEST TO FIGHT BY YOUR SIDE!!

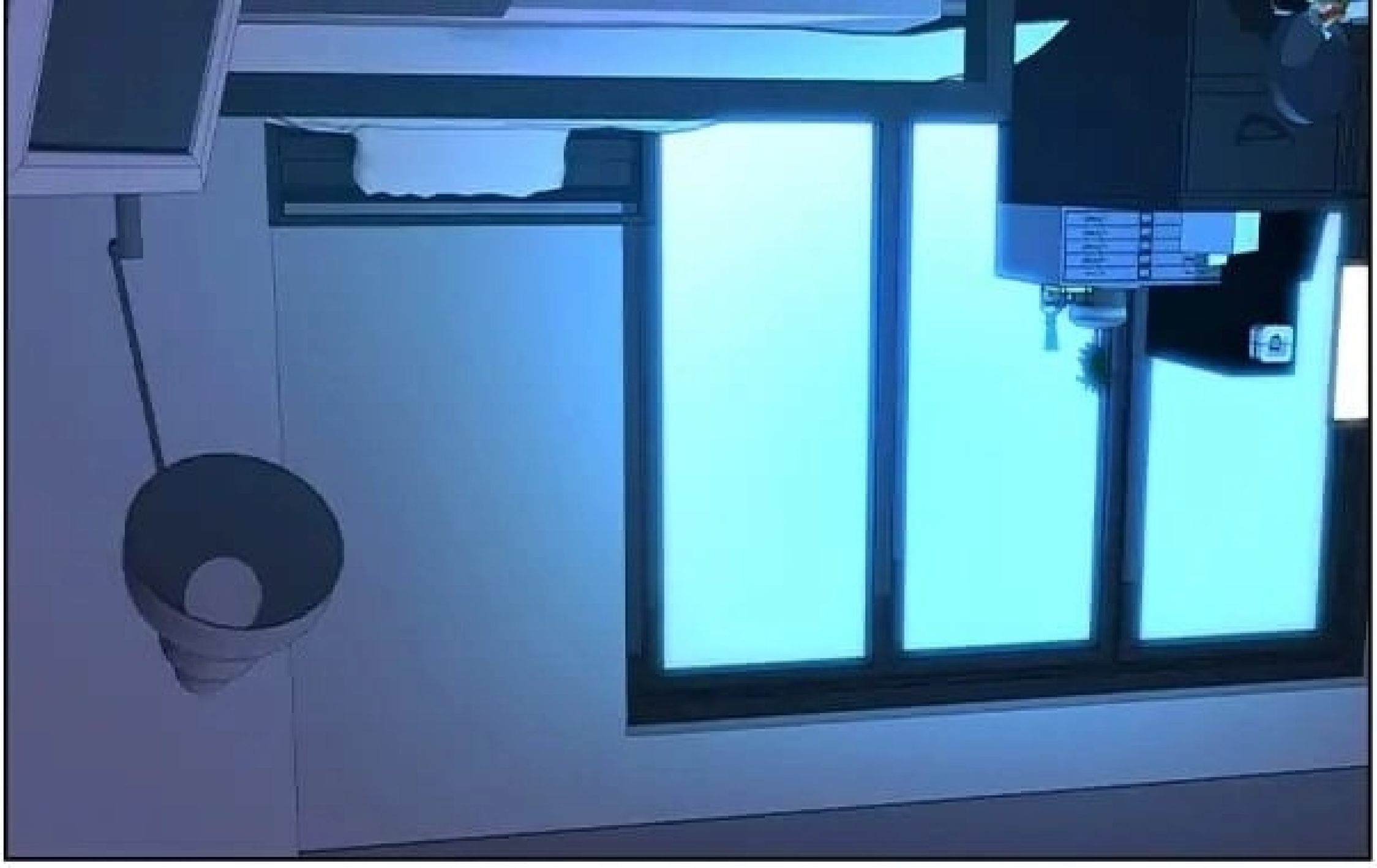
I-I NEED HIM RIGHT NOW!



PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE,
PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!


A FRIEND?
THAT DOESN'T
SOUND SO BAD.
I ACCEPT.
I'M SO HONORED,
YOUR MAJESTY!!

YEEEEEEEES!!!

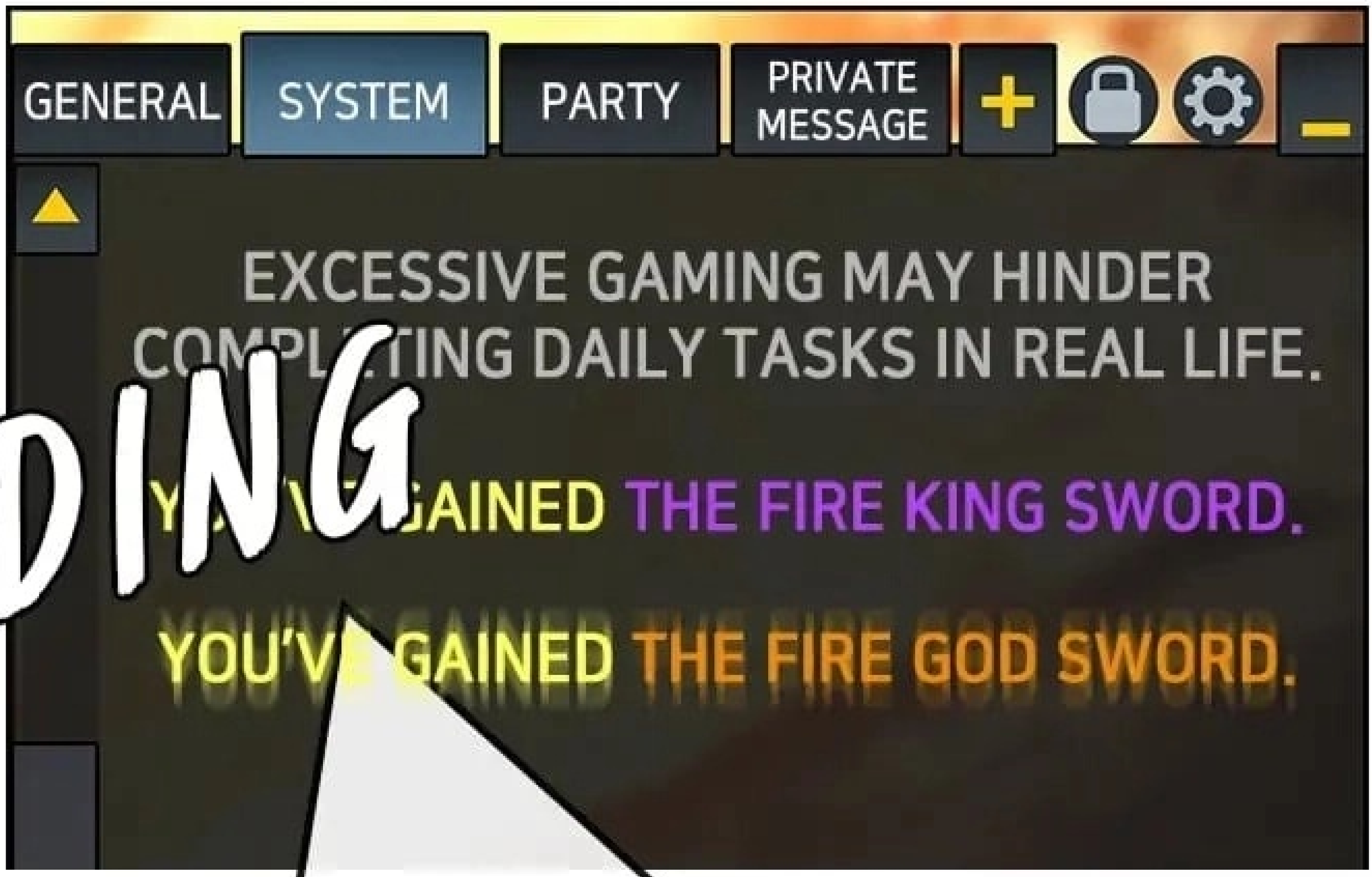




SYSTEM

YOU HAVE GAINED
THE FIRE KING SWORD.

I-I GOT IT!
THE FIRE KING SWORD!!



I GOT
TWO ITEMS?!

WAIT...

NOT *FIRE KING*,
BUT *FIRE GOD*...?

FIRE GOD

LEGENDARY SWORD

ITEM LEVEL 200 (TIER 3)

FOR WARRIORS

BIND ON EQUIP

CAN BE AUCTIONED 2 TIMES

BASIC EFFECTS
WEAPON ATTACK +42000

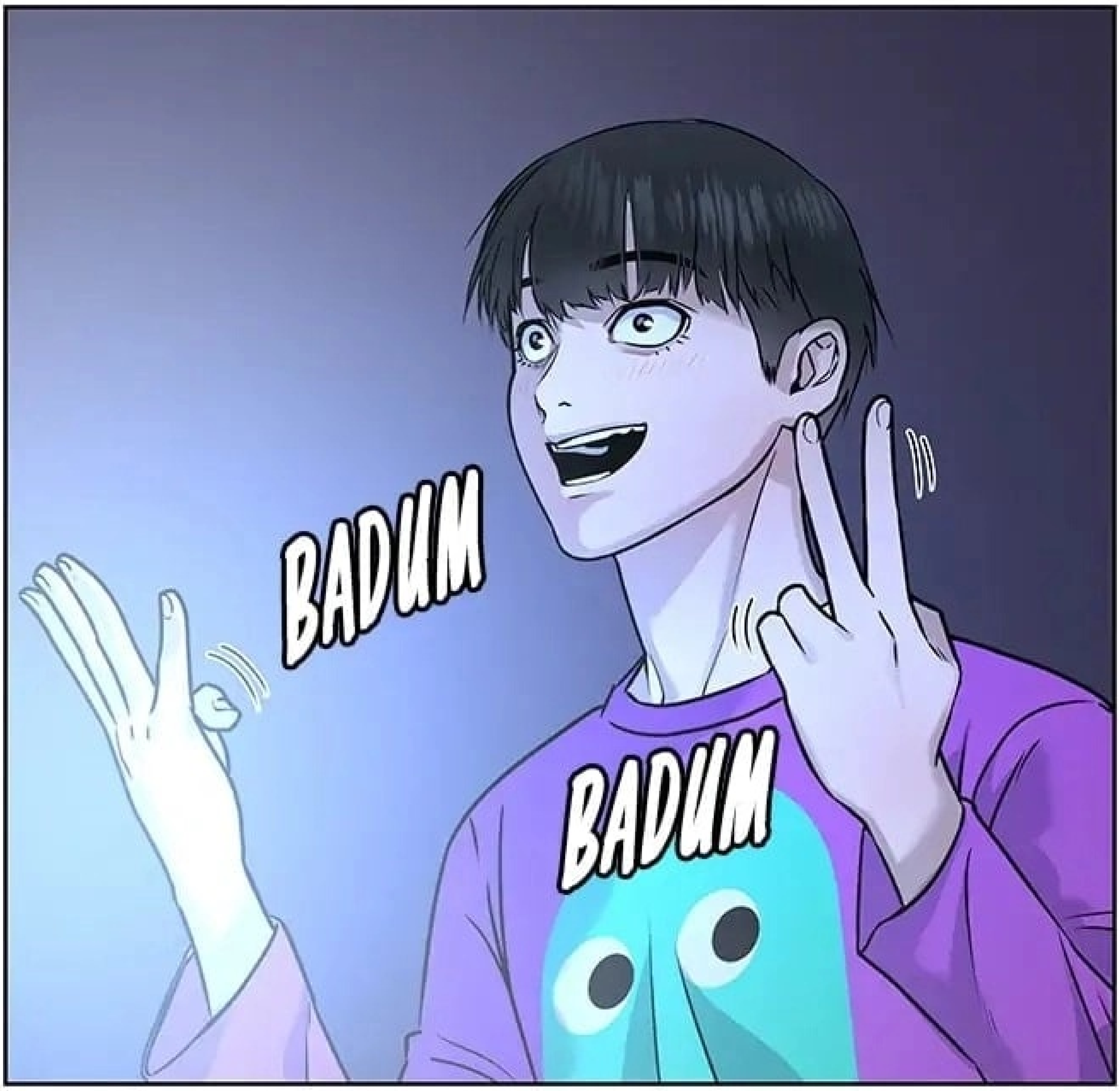
ADITIONAL EFFECTS
ADDITIONAL DAMAGE +13.20%

FIRE WEAPON ATTACK +9000
[GRAND EXPLOSION] REACH INCREASED LV+3
[STRIKE] DURATION INCREASED LV+3
[CANNIBALISM] ATTACK REINFORCED LV+
[SUPER ARMOR] COOLDOWN DECREA

BINDING E FECTS

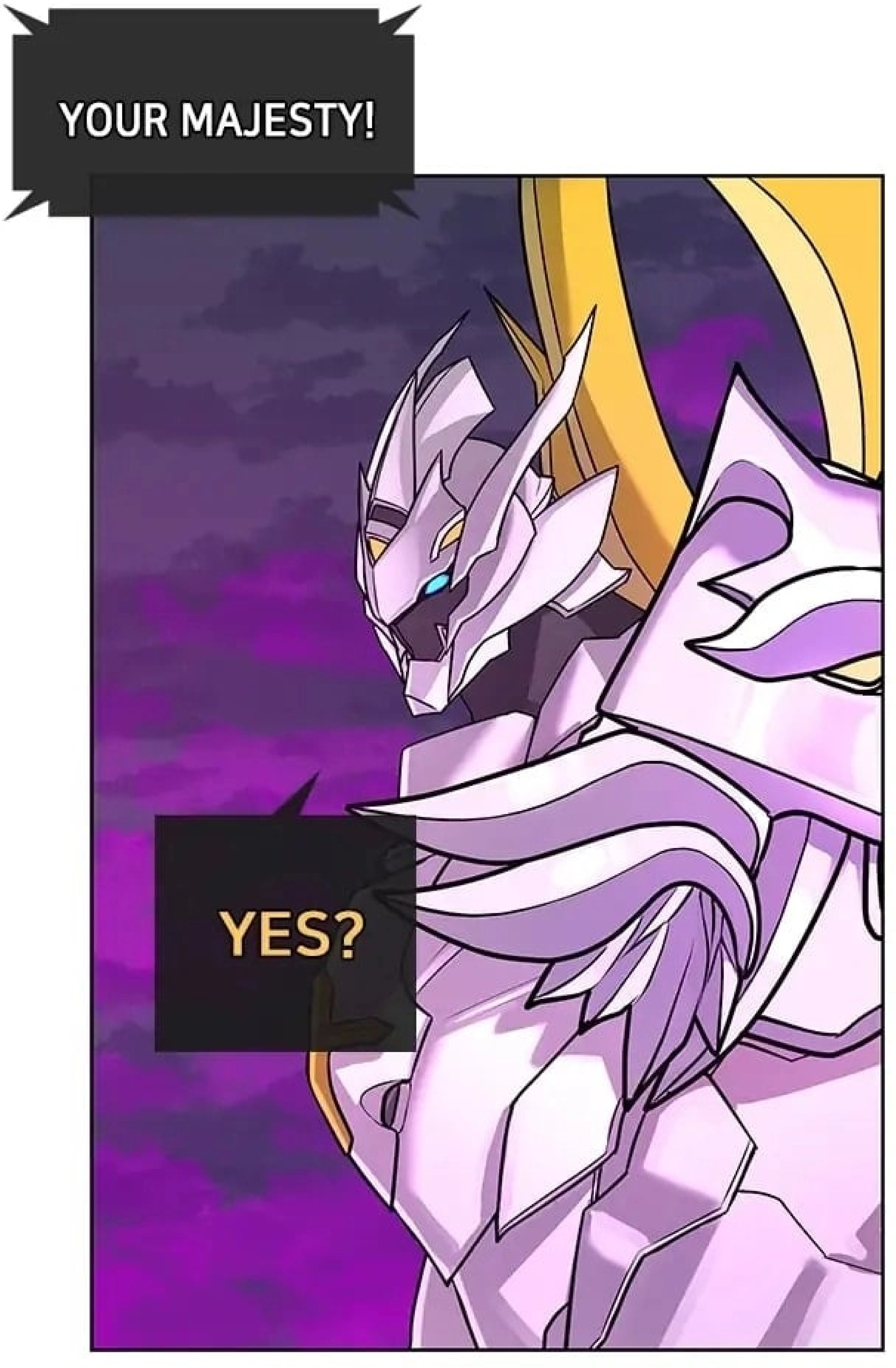
NO WAY...! THIS IS A LEGENDARY LEVEL WEAPON!!

LOOKS LIKE MY EFFORTS
ARE FINALLY PAYING OFF!



I COULD SELL THAT THING
FOR SO MUCH MONEY!


3,689,892
2,371,500
3,706,420
2,371,500
BLAST
3,706,42
2,371,500
3,706,420
2,371,500
3,689,892
2,371,500
2,371,500
3,689,892
KABOOM
3,706,420
2,371,500



LET'S NOT GET TOO GREEDY.

I GOT THESE ITEMS THANKS TO THIS WEIRDO.



HUNTING FOR THIS TILL NOW!!

GENERAL

HA, I BET HE'S ECSTATIC.

UGH, THANK GOD I GOT THAT ITEM.



MAYBE I'VE BEEN
TOO STRESSED.
I FEEL SO SLEEPY NOW.

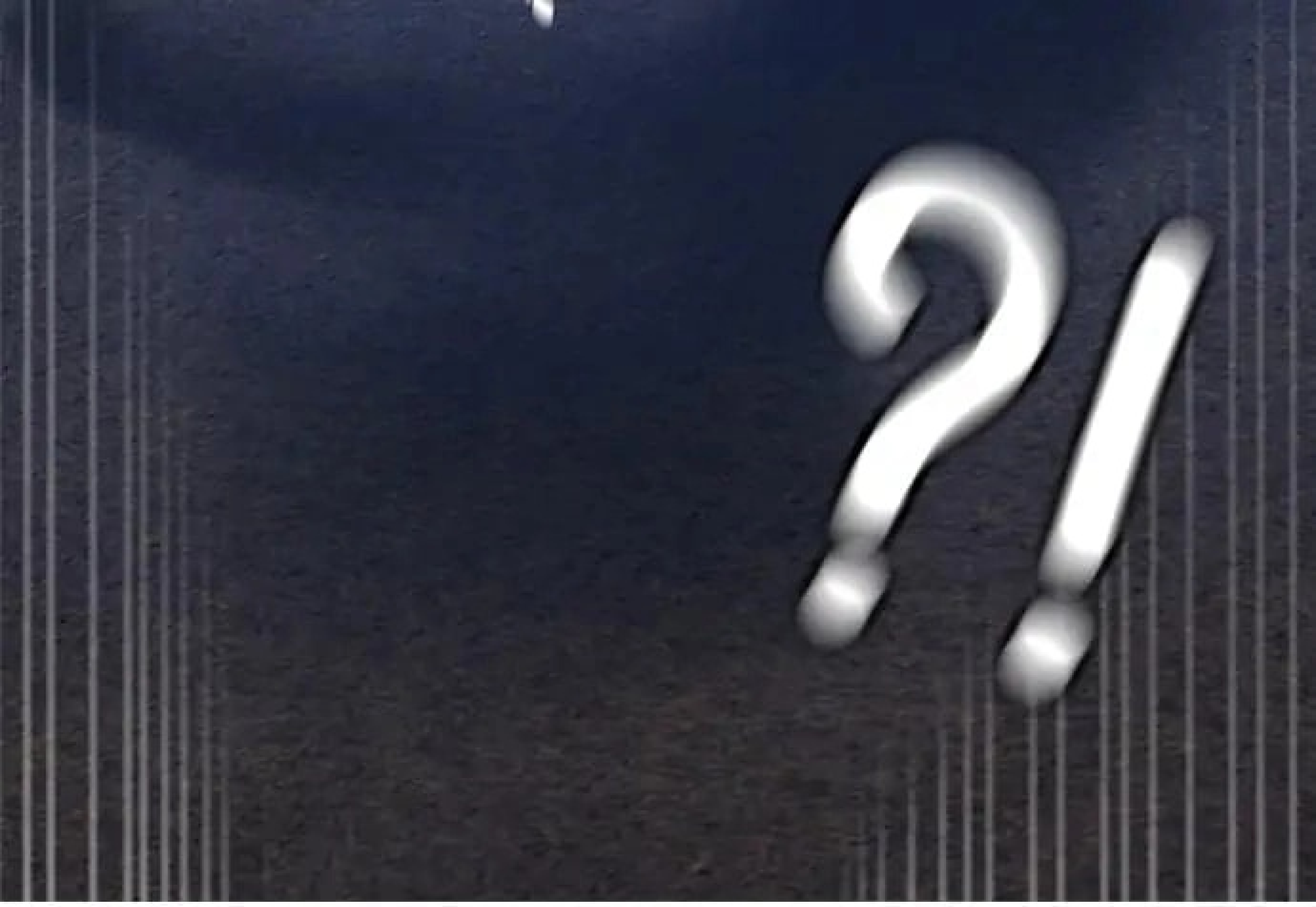
ALRIGHT!

NOW THAT SPRING
BREAK IS OVER...

CREAK

...I SHOULD GET SOME SLEEP BEFORE I GO TO...

--...SCHOOL



HUH?

HUUUH?

SLEEP DEPRIVATION

NUTRIENT DEFICIENCY, AND EXCESSIVE CAFFEINE CONSUMPTION.



ON TOP OF THAT,
I GOT TOO EXCITED
SUDDENLY.



OH, SO I'M REALLY...

...DYING.

I'M DYING BECAUSE OF

EXCESSIVE GAMING!

I'M SORRY FOR LEAVING YOU BEHIND, MOM.



PLEASE DON'T BE TOO SURPRISED WHEN YOU FIND MY BODY.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M DYING BECAUSE I WAS PLAYING AS A SUBSTITUTE GAMER.



HOW PATHETIC.

BLINK

I DIDN'T WANNA DIE
WHILE PLAYING A GAME.

I JUST WANTED MY LIFE
TO BE LIKE ONE.

THUD

OH, RIGHT.

?!

SCREW YOU, CHEOLWOO! I'M GONNA HAUNT YOUR ASS!

DAMN IT, I SHOULD HAVE WRITTEN A WILL OR SOMETHING.

...

WAIT, AM I DEAD?

HOW AM I STILL THINKING—

DING

PLAYER: DOWAN HA

!!!!!!

HUH?!

ANALYZING PLAYER'S PERSONALITY AND LIFESTYLE TO ASSIGN A CLASS.

WHAT'S THIS WINDOW?

ANALYSIS
COMPLETE.

YOU'VE BEEN ASSIGNED
TO BASIC CLASS, AND
YOUR JOB IS THE
POWERLESS
SUBSTITUTE GAMER.

P-POWERLESS... WHAT?

EVENT QUEST AVAILABLE

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ACCEPT?

ACCEPT...?
WHAT IS THIS THING TALKING ABOUT?

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?

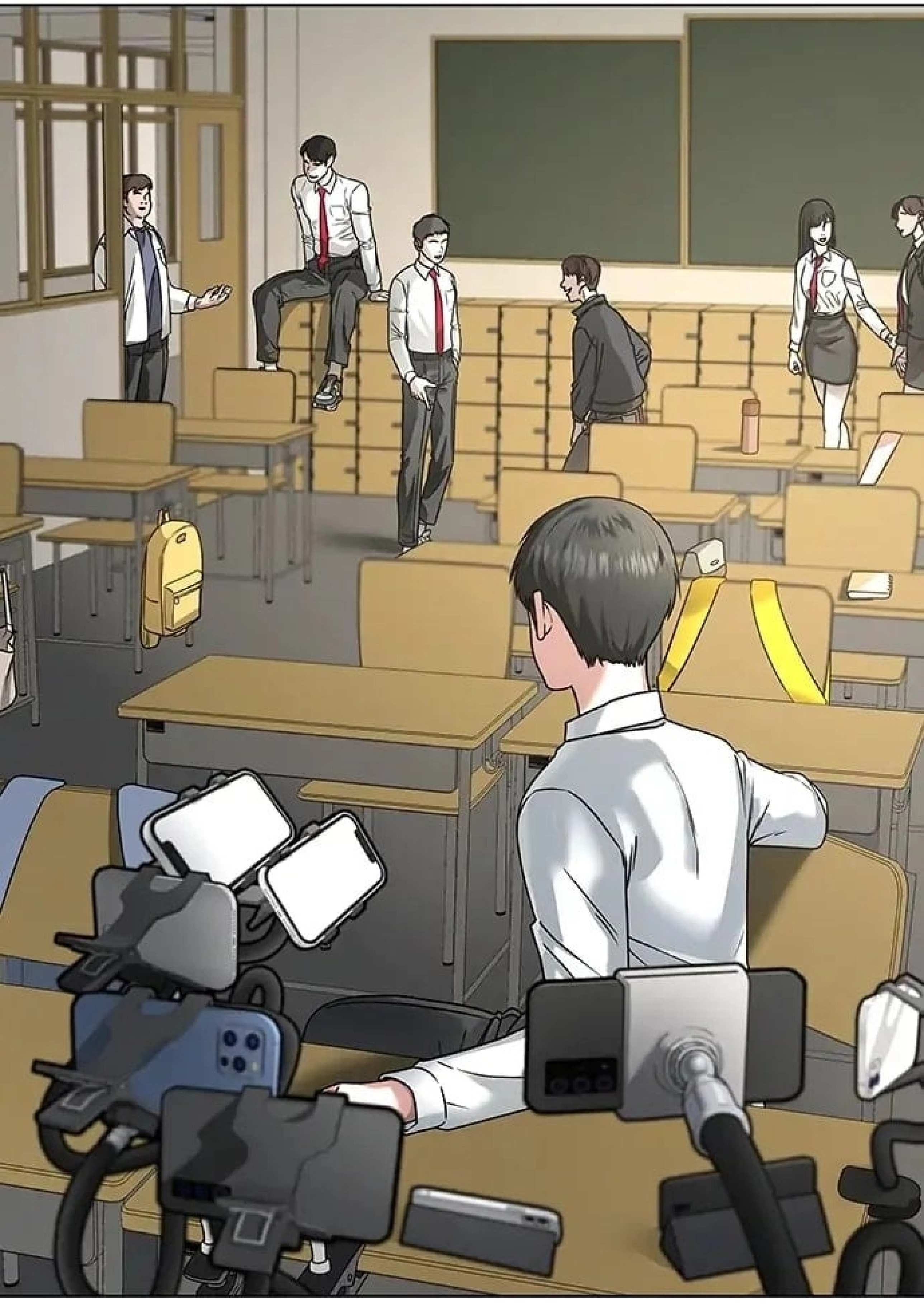
THE WORD ACCEPT
WAS RECOGNIZED IN THE
PLAYER'S MIND.
QUEST ACCEPTED.

WHAT THE--!

YOU WILL BE REVIVED
AT THE SPACE-TIME
COORDINATES SET UP
BY THE MANAGER.

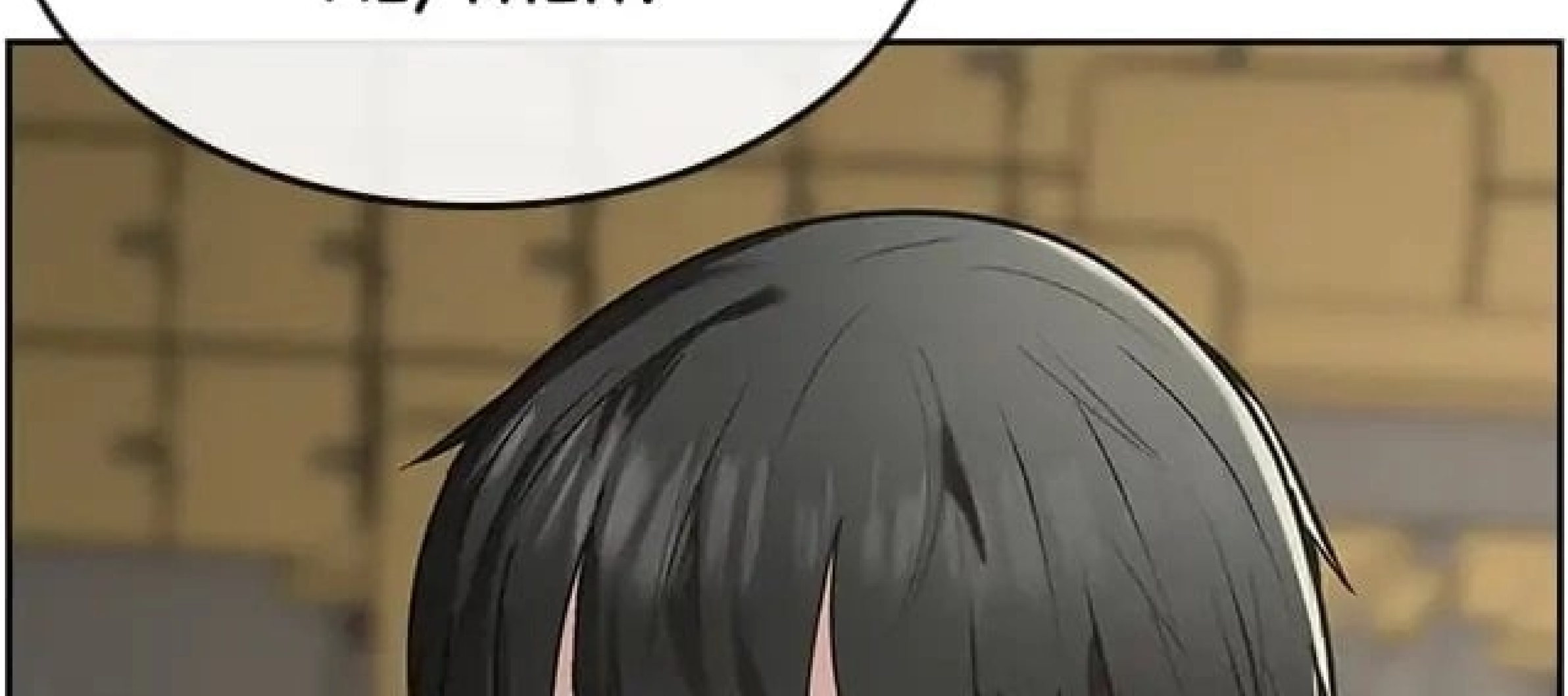

VOLT
?!


THIS IS...



...MY CLASSROOM?

CAN YOU PLAY FOR ME, THEN?



?

WAIT, THIS IS...

OH, RIGHT!
THANKS, DOWAN!

...THE DAY BEFORE
SPRING BREAK BEGAN.

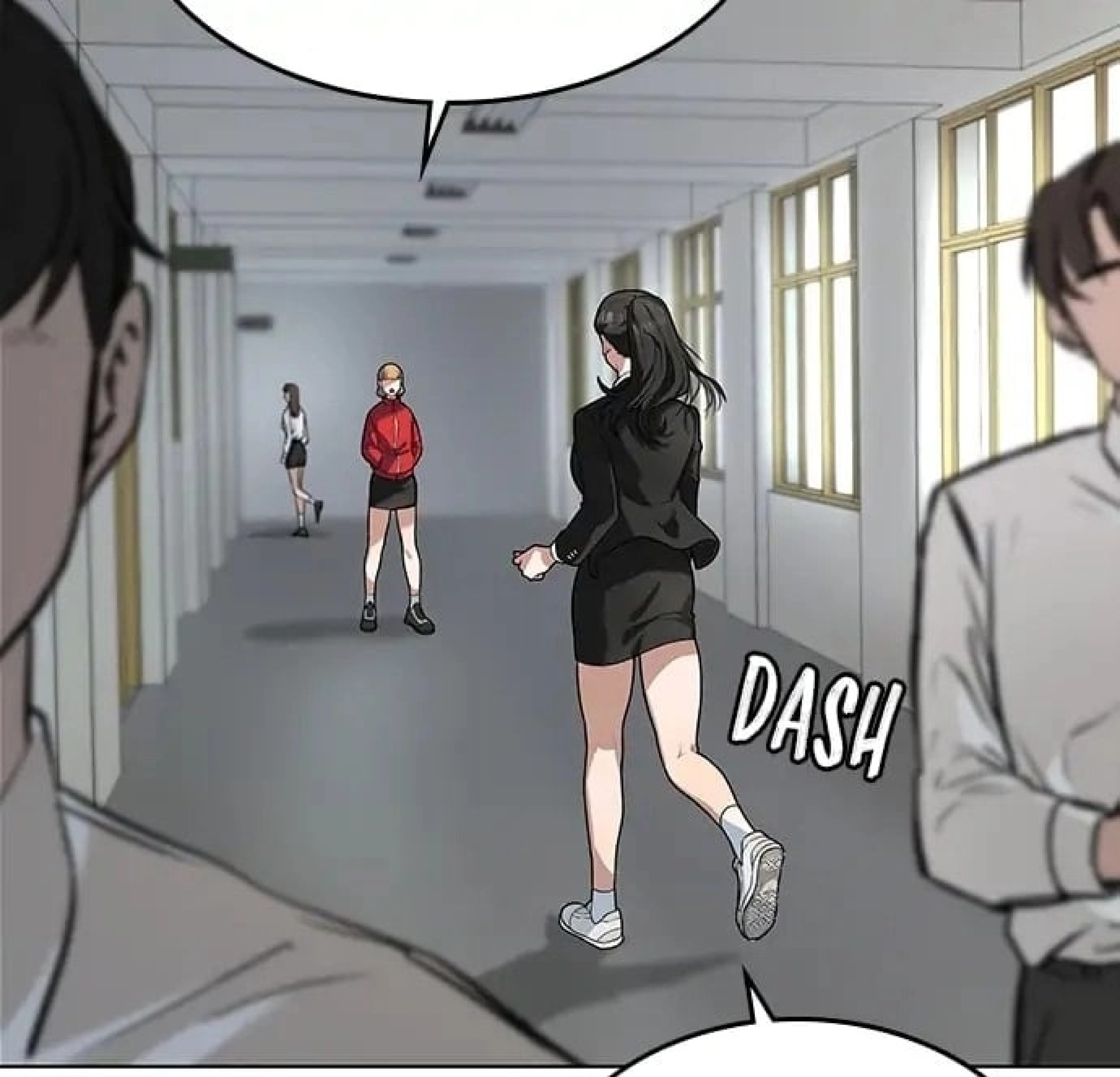
WHAT'S GOING ON?!

?

HE LOOKS A BIT UNHAPPY.

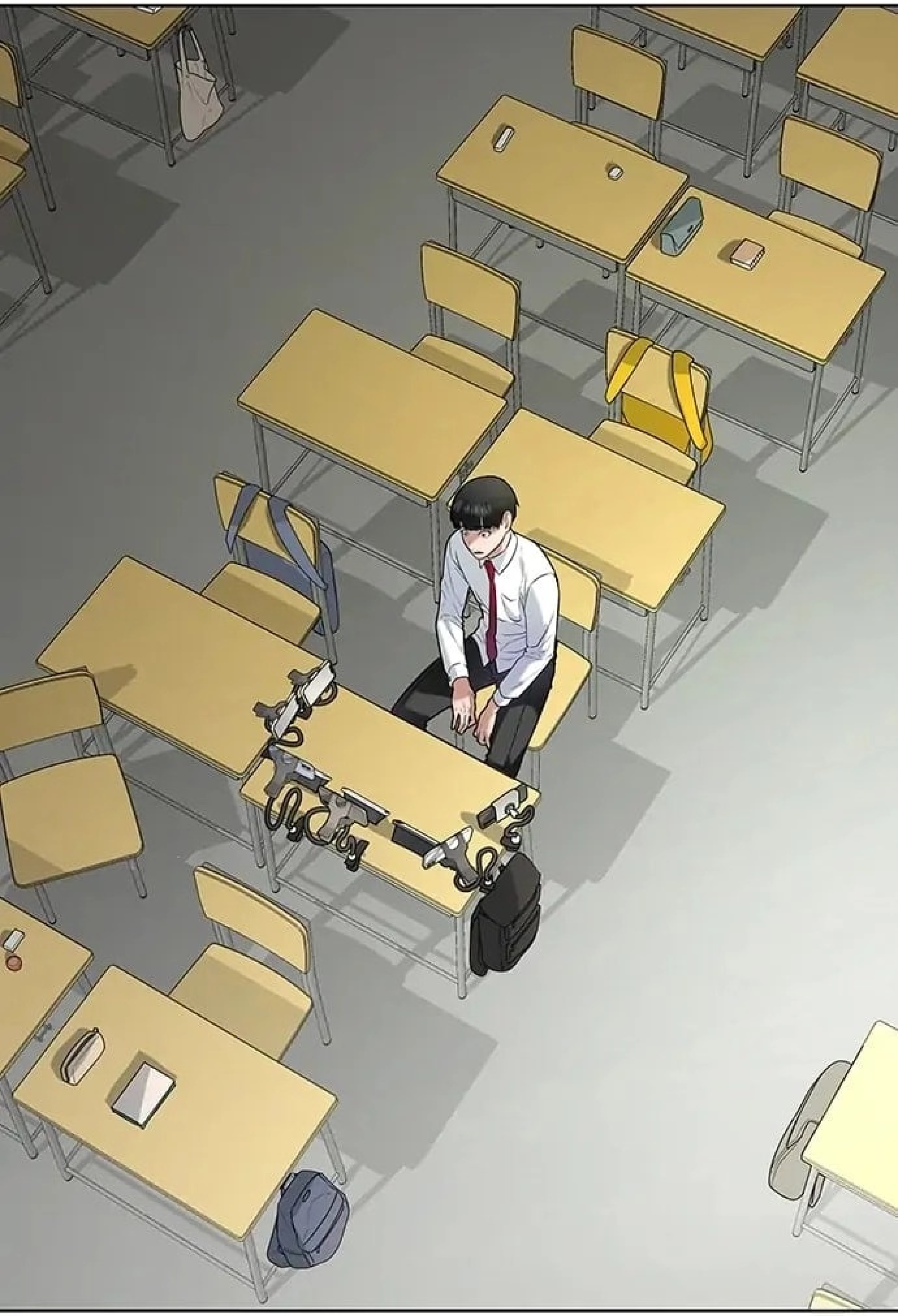
MAYBE HE REALLY IS
TOO BUSY.

ARIN, I'M STARVING.
LET'S GO!



SORRY, SORRY!

BUT I THOUGHT I DIED.



WAS IT JUST A DREAM?

BUT...



...IF I'M BEING HONEST...

?!

DETAILS

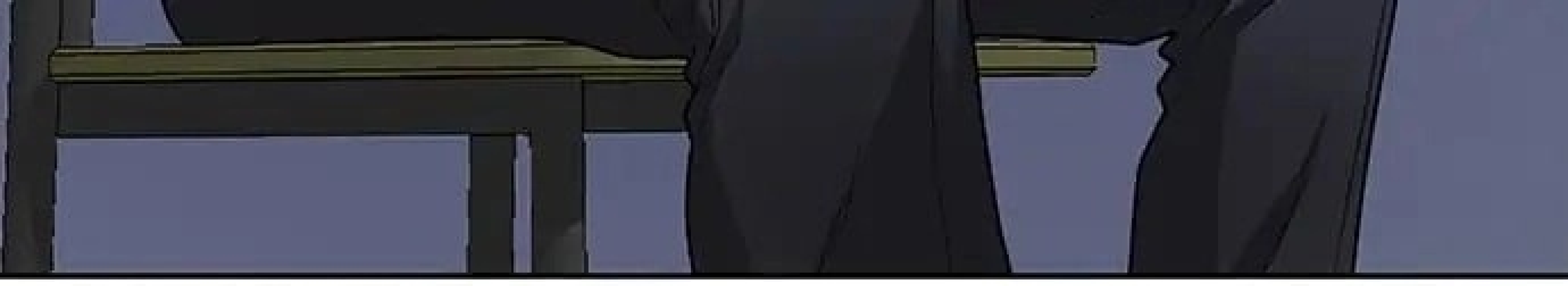
NAME: DOWAN HA
CLASS: POWERLESS SUBSTITUTE GAMER
LV.1

CURRENT STATS

HP: 1000/1000
MP: 100/100

HP
WP
ABILITY
DEFENSE
ATTACK
MP

ATTACK: 1
DEFENSE: 1
AGILITY: 1
WILLPOWER: 1



...THIS FEELS MORE LIKE A DREAM.

IT LOOKS LIKE A CHARACTER WINDOW.

DETAILS

NAME: DOWAN HA LV 1

CLASS: POWERLESS SUBSTITUTE GAMER

DAMN IT, I'M A SUBSTITUTE GAMER EVEN IN MY DREAM.

I'M "POWERLESS," TOO.

DING

POWERLESS SUBSTITUTE GAMER'S SPECIAL EFFECTS ARE BEING APPLIED.

JUMP

!

POWERLESS SUBSTITUE
GAMER'S SPECIAL EFFECTS
ARE BEING APPLIED.

AH!

ALL OF THE EXPERIENCE POINTS EARNED IN THE GAMES YOU'VE PREVIOUSLY PLAYED ARE BEING ADDED UP.

HUH? ALL OF MY EXPERIENCE POINTS?

ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT ALL OF THE GAMES THAT I'VE PLAYED...



...AS A SUBSTITUTE GAMER TOO?!

THAT WOULD BE
AN INSANE AMOUNT OF POINTS.

CALCULATING
EXPERIENCE POINTS...

CONSIDERING THIS IS
A DREAM...

...THAT'S NOT BAD
AT ALL--

DOWAN


DOWN,
YOU SHIT.

I TOLD YOU TO FOCUS ON MY PHONE.



CHEOLWOO...!

THAT'S RIGHT.



THIS IS HOW IT ALL
STARTED.

ALL BECAUSE OF YOU...





I HAD TO SUFFER SO MUCH
BECAUSE OF YOU!

HEY, DOWAN.


ARE YOU GLARING AT ME?

WOW... I KNOW
THIS IS A DREAM,
BUT HE'S STILL SCARY.

BUT WHY DOES
HE SEEM ANGRIER THAN
I REMEMBER?

ANSWER ME.

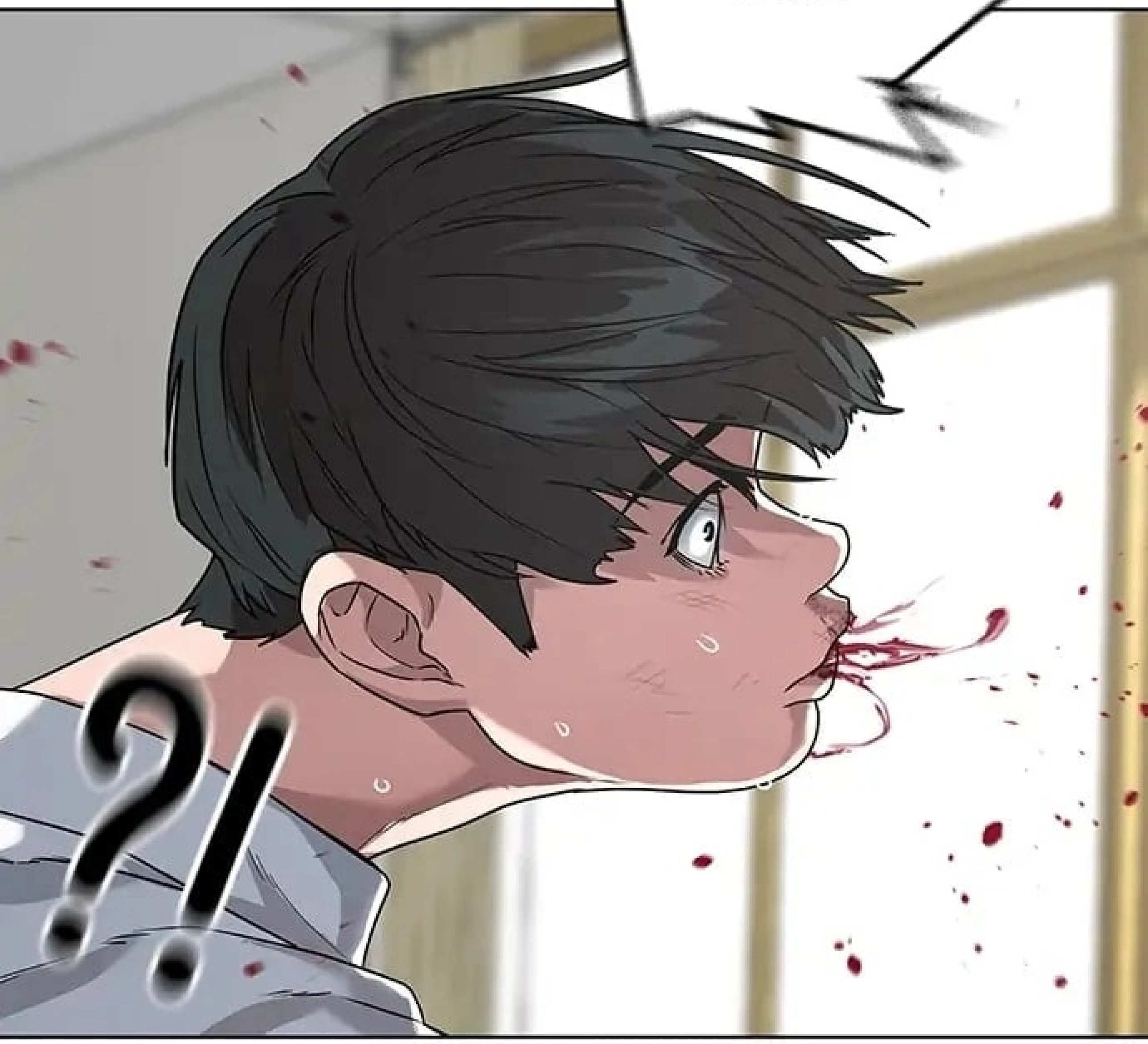
C-CHEOLWOO,
I WASN'T--

GO AHEAD, HIT ME.
THIS IS JUST A DREAM
ANYWAY.





IT WON'T HURT.



NO! IT HURTS
LIKE HELL!


WAIT, AM I NOT DREAMING?!
PUNCH!
AGH!



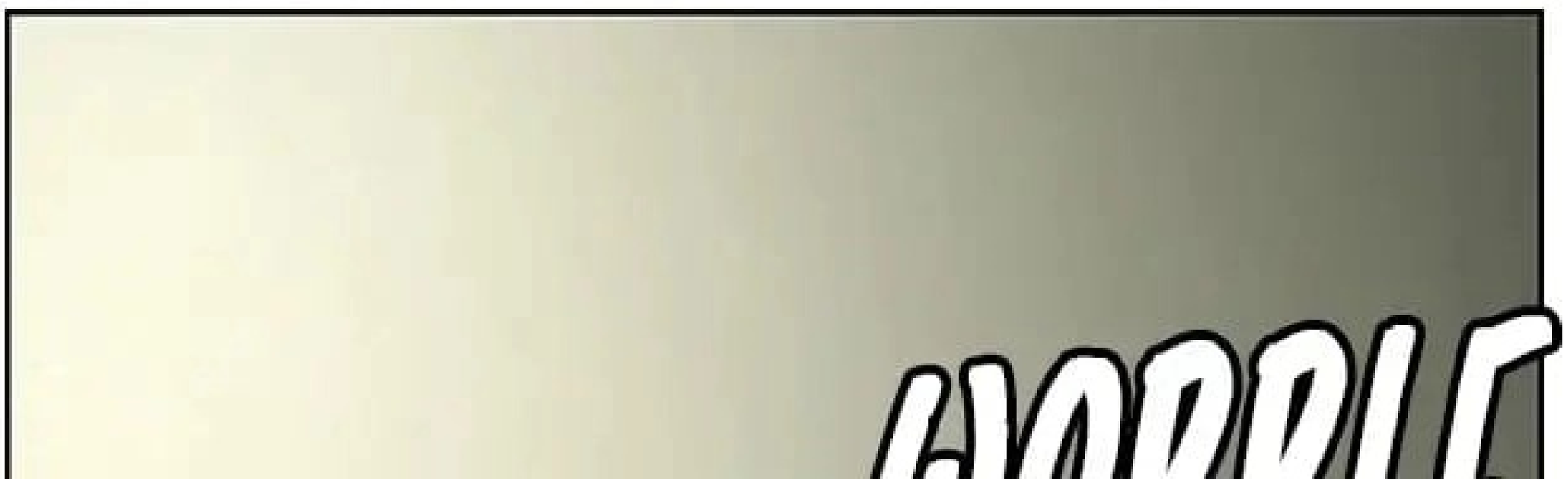



CRASH
URGH!


DAMN IT, YOU'RE REALLY
PISSING ME OFF.

I'M GONNA BEAT YOU UP UNTIL I FEEL BETTER, OKAY?

HOW LONG IS THAT GOING TO TAKE?





I MIGHT DIE
BEFORE THAT.

S

L

I

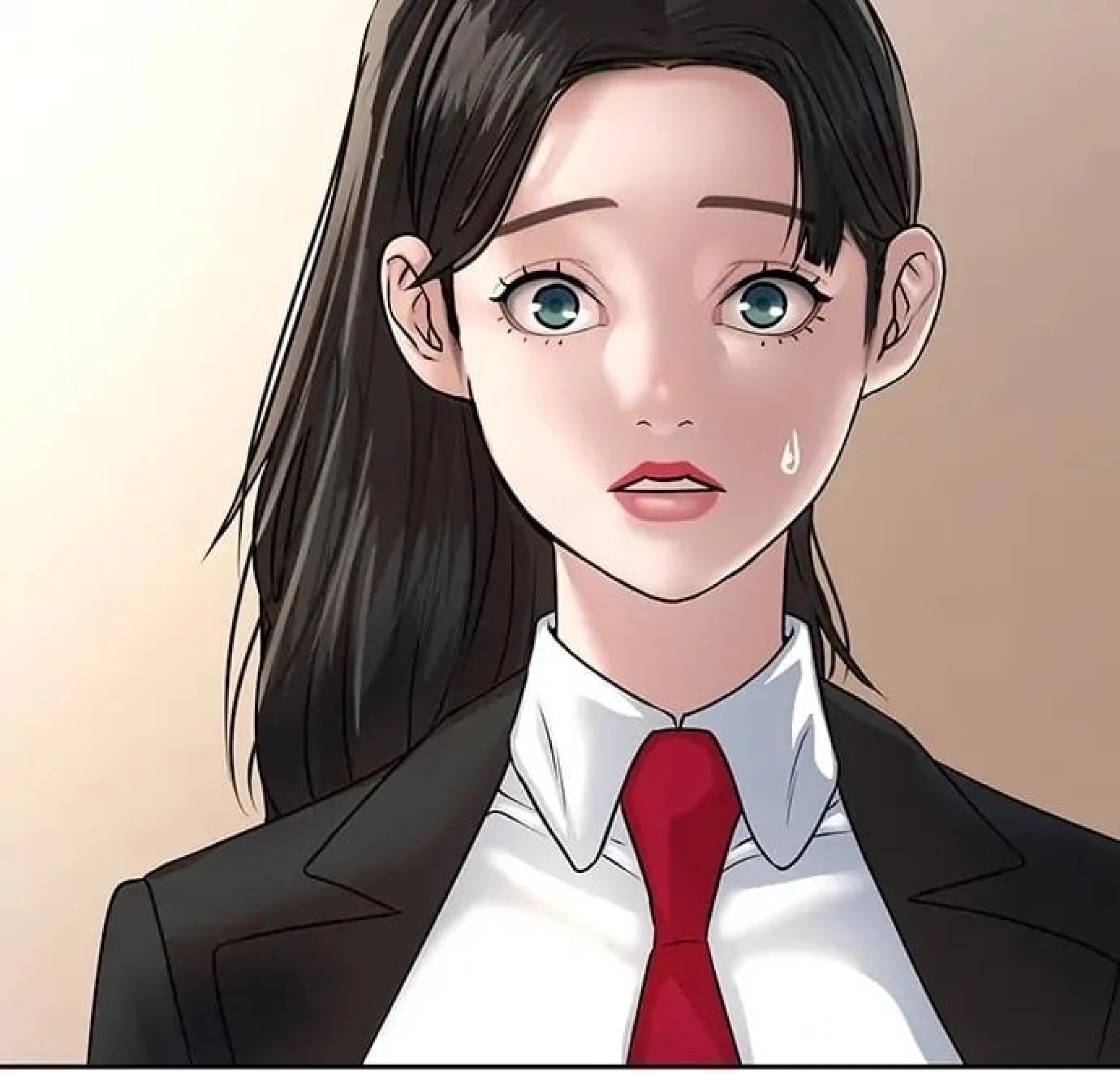
D

E

DOWAN,
I CAME TO GET MY
PHONE--

?!

HUH?



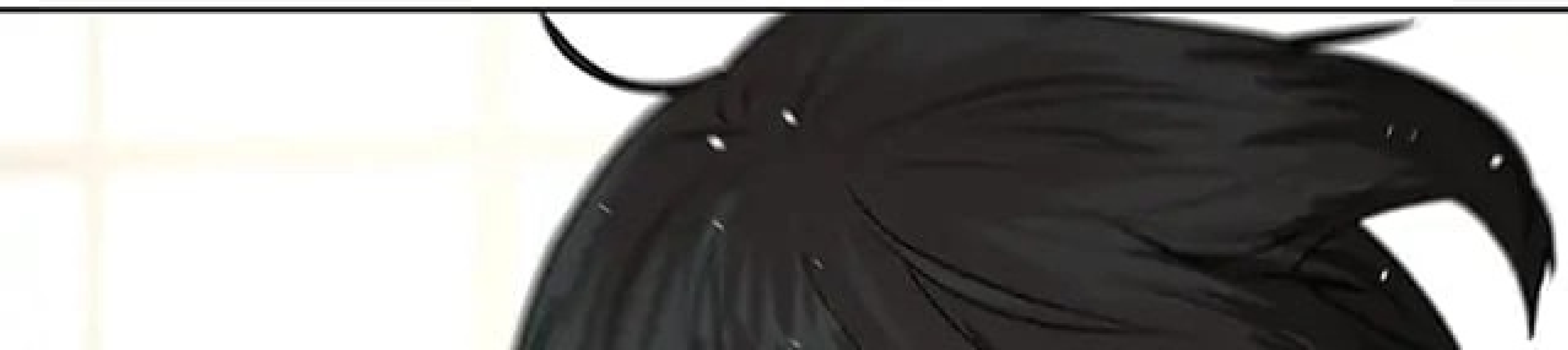
ARIN...?



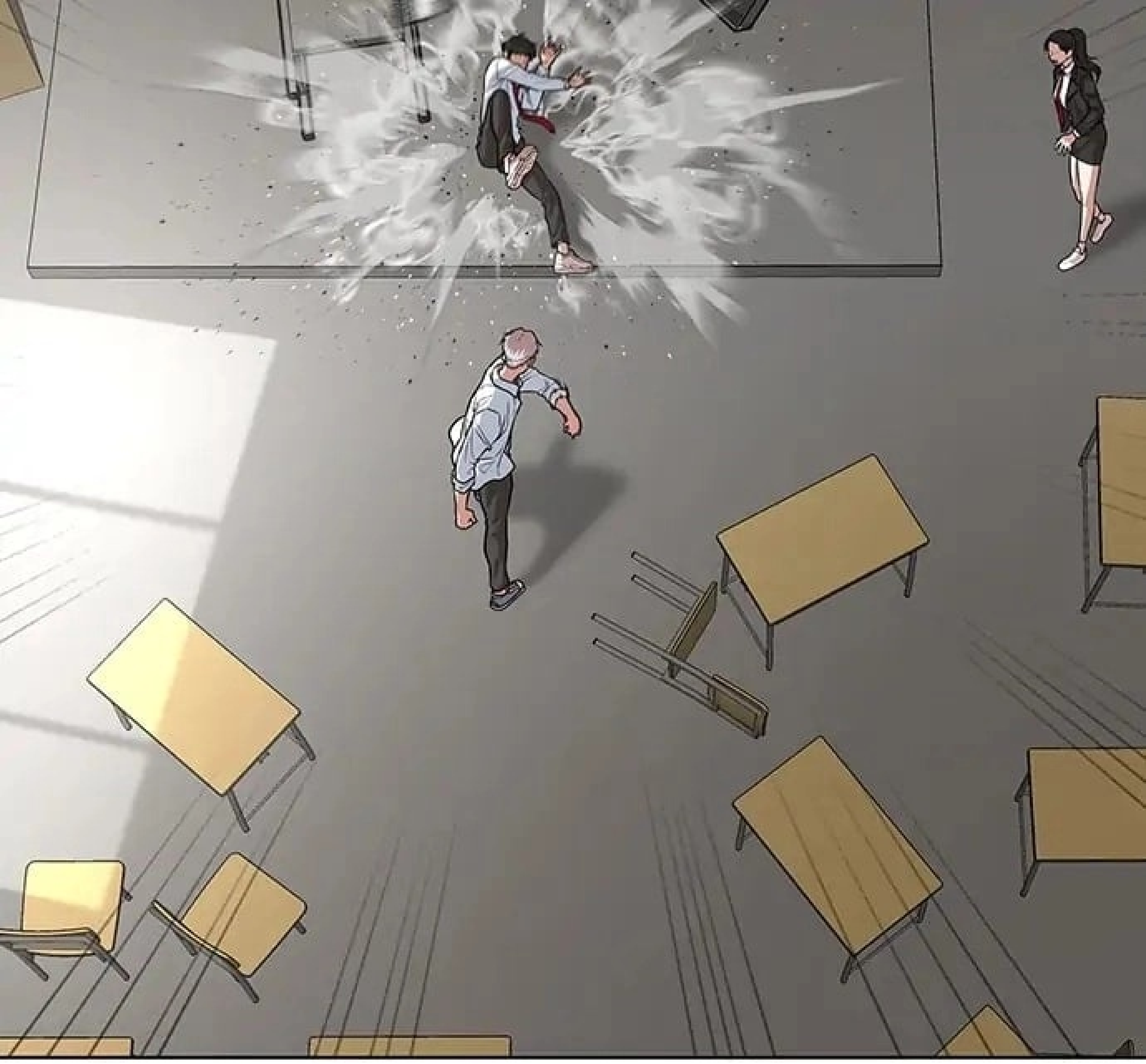


WHY DID SHE...

...COME BACK--



DOWAN!



STOP BEING DRAMATIC
AND GET UP.



THIS IS THE WORST.

GETTING BEATEN UP IN FRONT OF MY CRUSH...



...FEELS WAY WORSE THAN I IMAGINED.

I LOOK...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

STOP IT!

SMASH

PUNCH

POUND



...SO PATHETIC
RIGHT NOW.



DAMN IT, YOU'RE

ANNOYING.



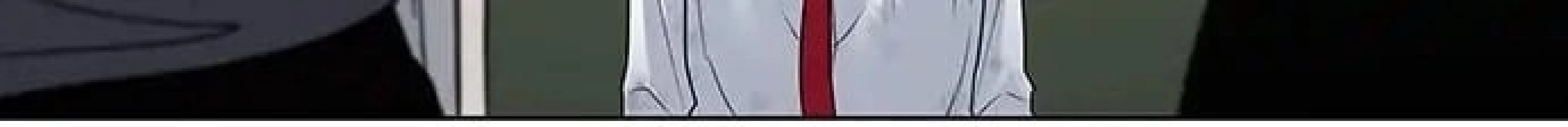
YOU THINK YOU CAN TELL ME WHAT TO DO BECAUSE YOU HAVE A PRETTY FACE?

?!

GRAB

AH!

LET GO OF ME!!
I'M GOING TO TELL
THE TEACHER!



NO, ARIN!

I NEED TO HELP HER.

MOVE.

HELP HER.

BUT HOW?

I CAN'T. HURRY.

PLEASE.

THIS IS HAPENING
BECAUSE OF ME.

HURRY.
RESCUE HER.

I CAN'T. I'M SCARED.

MOVE.

I MUST.

I CAN'T MOVE.

HURRY.

DO I JUST LEAVE HER LIKE THIS?

I CAN'T.

BUT HOW?

I SAID MOVE!

PLEASE.

I'M SCARED.

HELP HER.

I CAN'T.

HURRY!

I CAN'T MOVE.

BUT HOW?

I MUST.

I CAN'T.

RESCUE HER.

MOVE!

PLEASE.



BUT I CAN'T MOVE.

SHUT UP, YOU B*TCH.

RAISE

FISTS



I REALLY DON'T THINK I CAN...

...OFF OF HER!!


...BUT I NEED TO DO SOMETHING!!



OH...



...MAYBE...



...I NEVER STOOD A CHANCE.

DING

EXPERIENCE POINTS CALCULATION COMPLETE.

YOU HAVE THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF EXPERIENCE POINTS.



YOU'RE NOW IN THE RARE CLASS, AND YOUR JOB IS THE

PROMISING SUBSTITUTE GAMER.

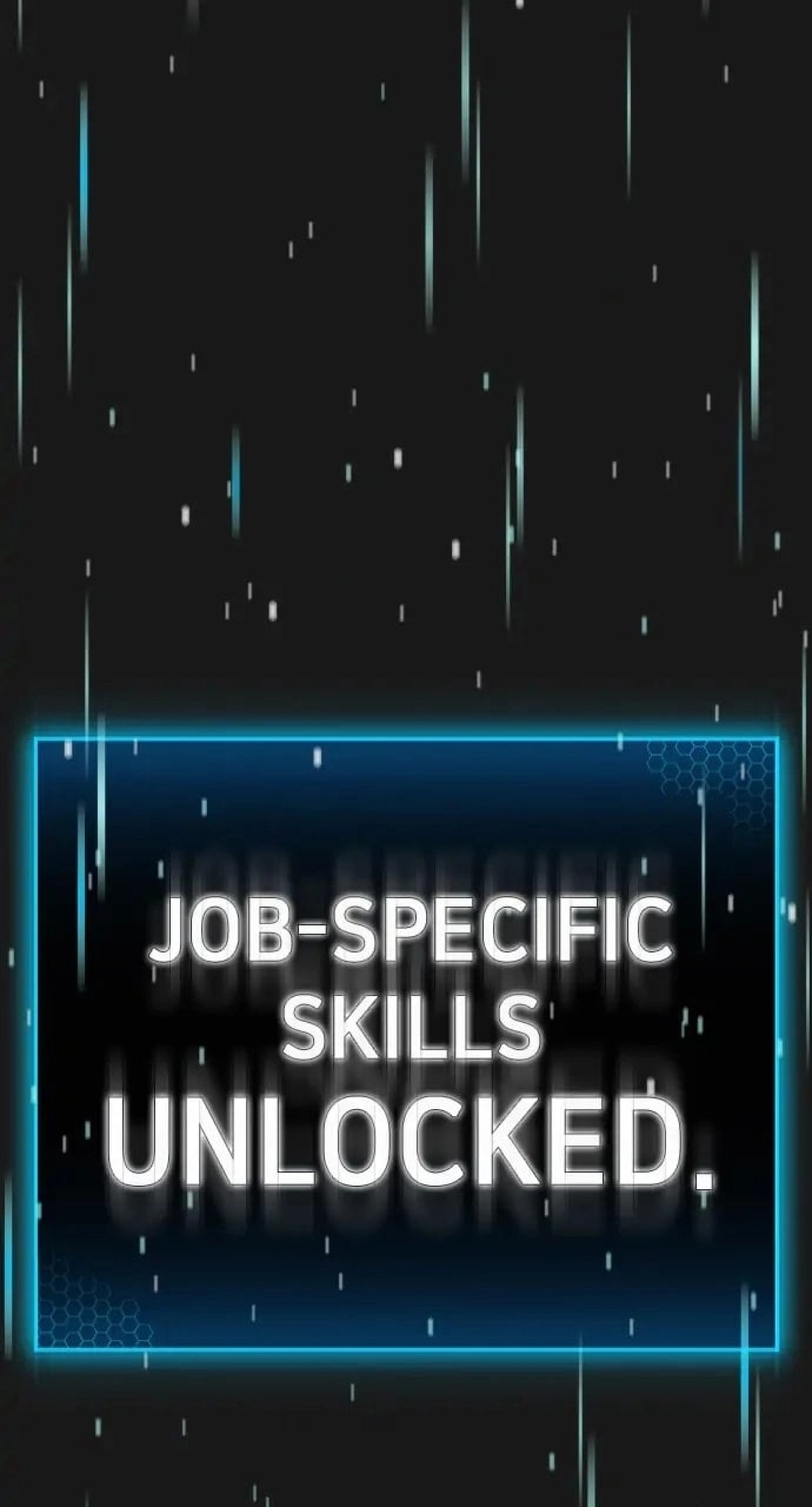
YOU HAVE THE
MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF
EXPERIENCE POINTS.

YOU'RE NOW IN THE
HERO CLASS, AND YOUR
JOB IS THE
HONORABLE
SUBSTITUTE GAMER.

YOU HAVE THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF EXPERIENCE POINTS.



YOU'RE NOW IN THE LEGENDARY CLASS, AND YOUR JOB IS THE SUPREME SUBSTITUTE GAMER.

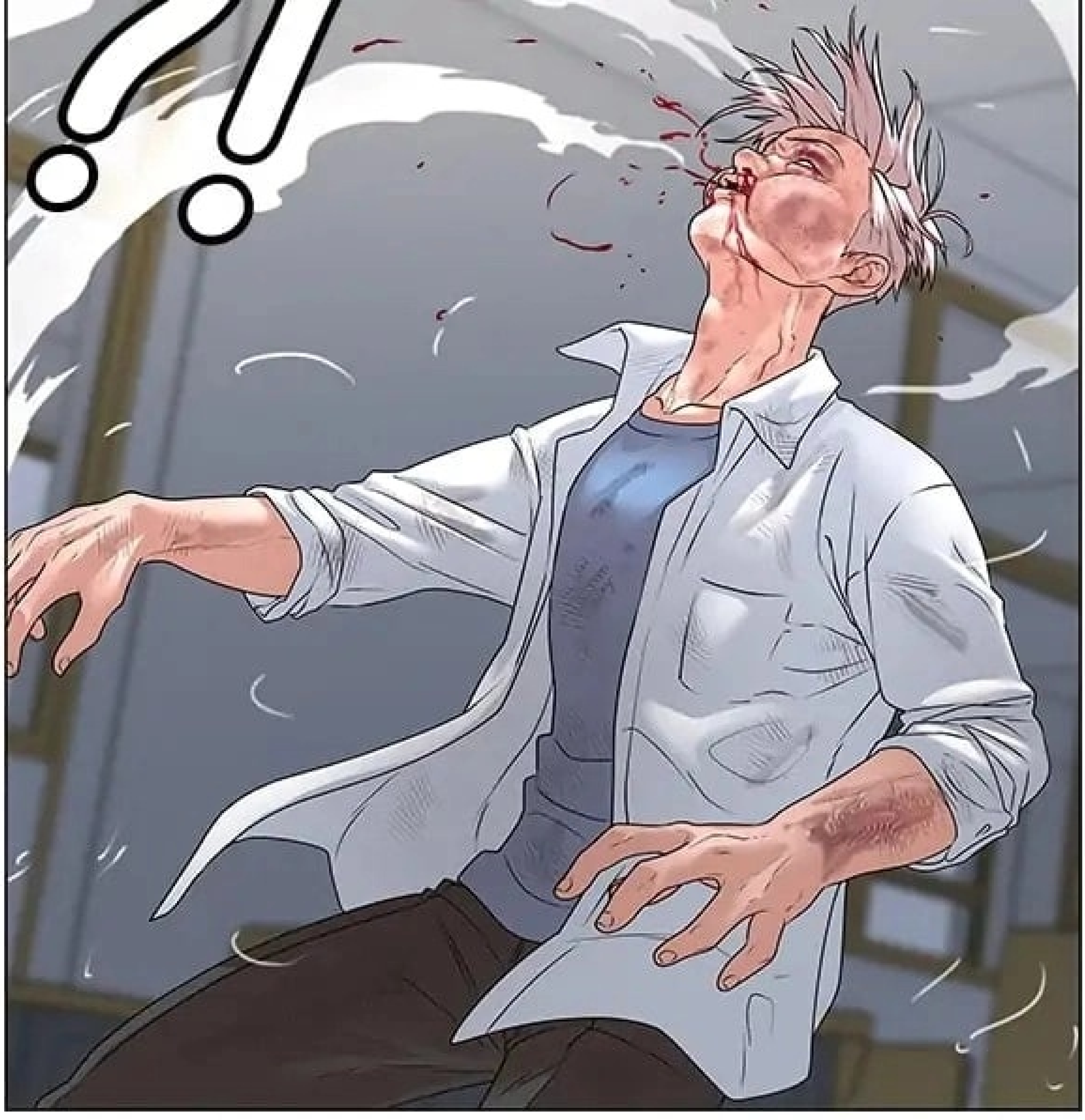

JOB-SPECIFIC
SKILLS
UNLOCKED.



A
THOUSAND
PUNCHES

BAM

16







HUH?



WAS THAT...







...A SKILL FROM THE GAME?!



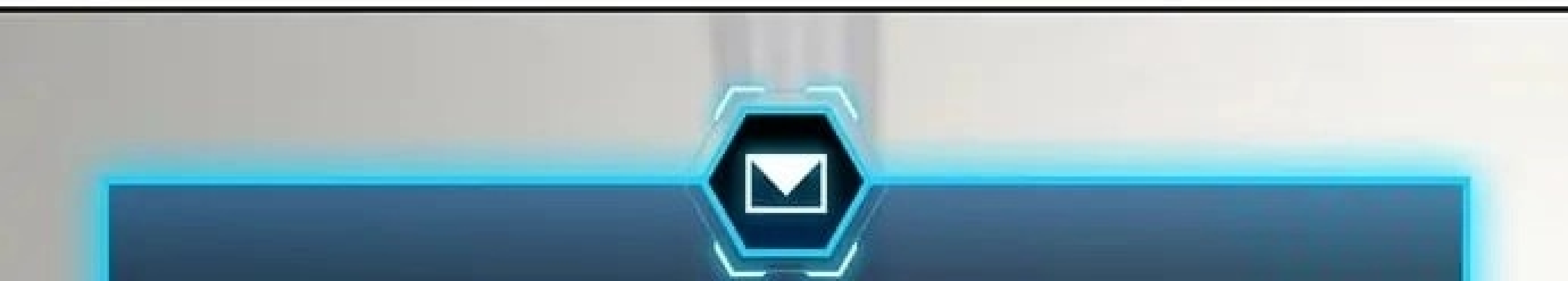


DING

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

DON'T BE SURPRISED, MY FRIEND. THIS IS MY GIFT TO YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS.

!



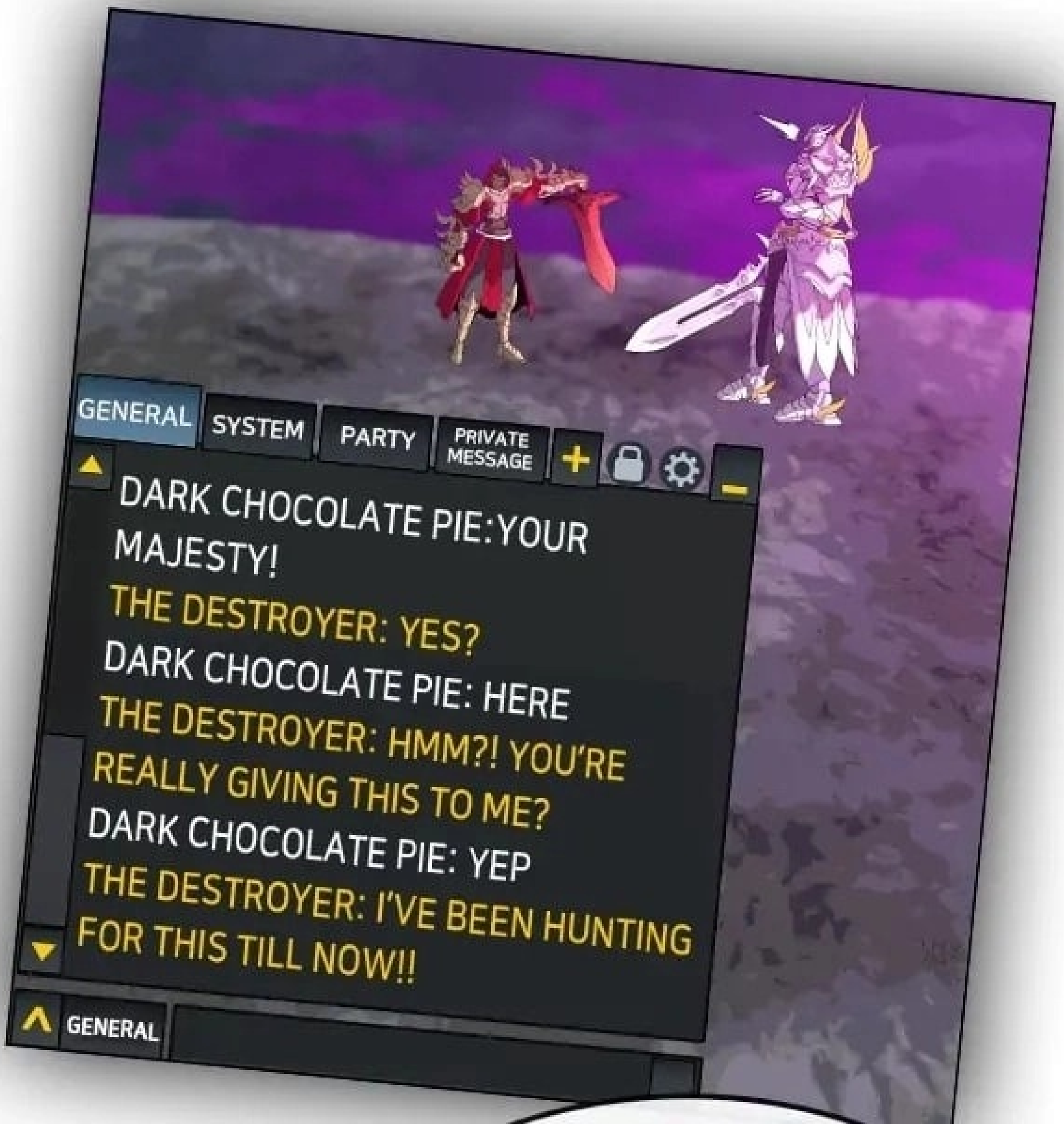
MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

DON'T BE SURPRISED, MY FRIEND. THIS IS MY GIFT TO YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS.

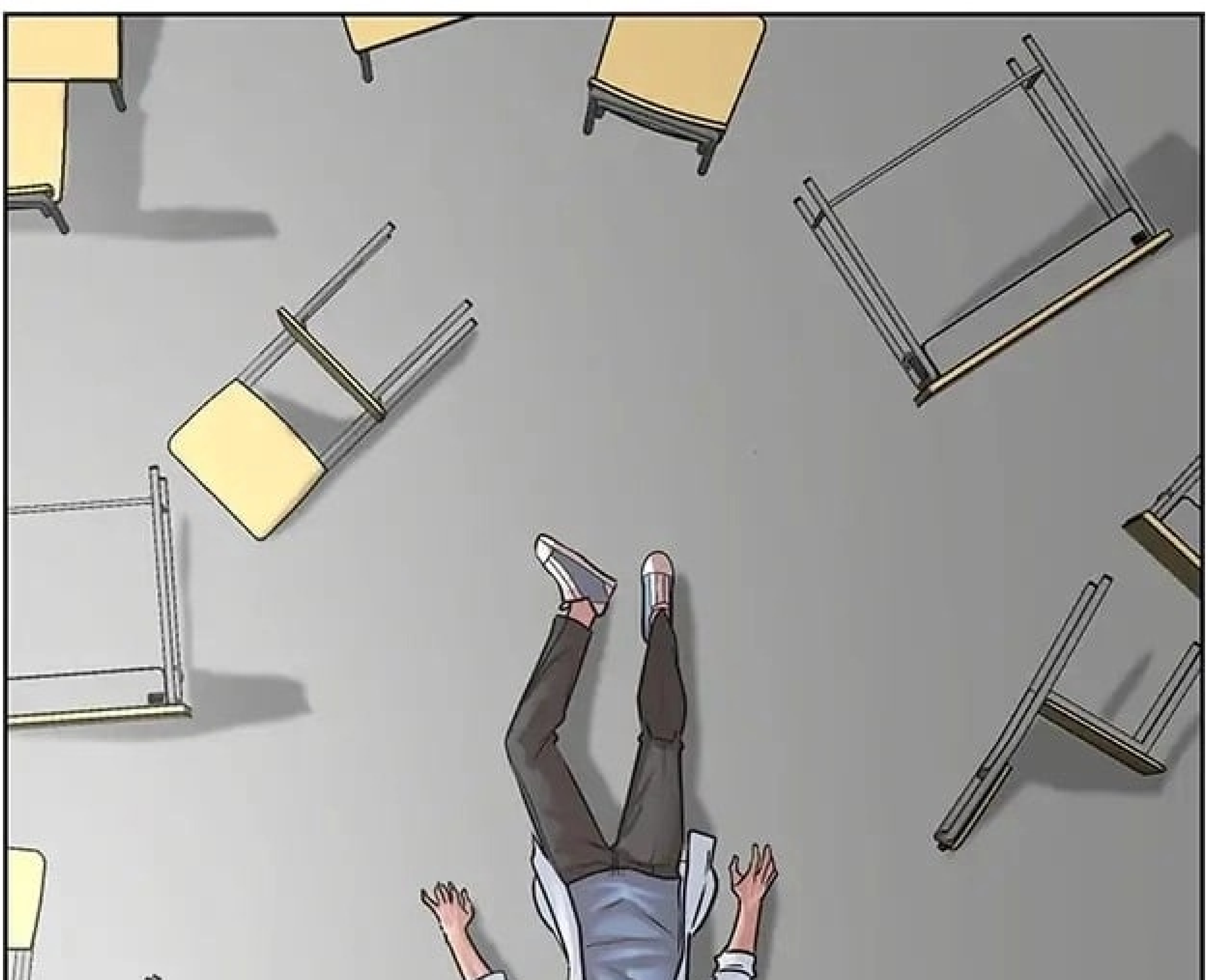
WAIT, THIS SOUNDS LIKE...

...THAT SUPER CRINGEY GUY!


THE DESTROYER
LV 200


GENERAL
SYSTEM
PARTY
PRIVATE MESSAGE
DARK CHOCOLATE PIE:YOUR MAJESTY!
THE DESTROYER: YES?
DARK CHOCOLATE PIE: HERE
THE DESTROYER: HMM?! YOU'RE REALLY GIVING THIS TO ME?
DARK CHOCOLATE PIE: YEP
THE DESTROYER: I'VE BEEN HUNTING FOR THIS TILL NOW!!
GENERAL

KINDNESS?
IS HE TALKING ABOUT HOW I GAVE HIM THE ***FIRE GOD SWORD***?



DING

MONSTER
CHEOLWOO MIN
HAS BEEN DEFEATED.

YOU'VE GAINED 200
EXPERIENCE POINTS.

CURRENT EXPERIENCE POINTS

9999999827 / 9999999999

DING

CURRENT EXPERIENCE POINTS

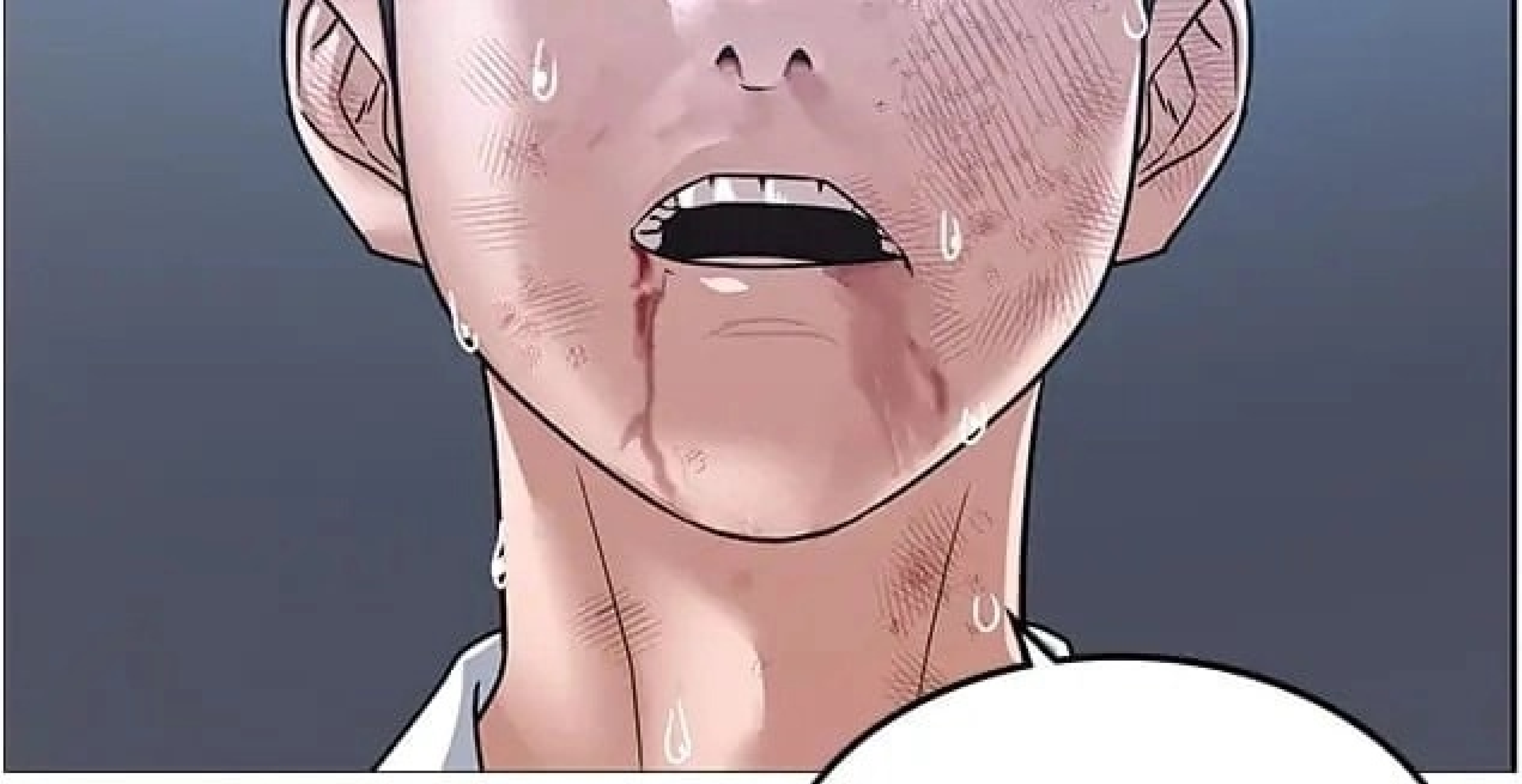
9999999827 / 9999999999

YOU HAVE THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF EXPERIENCE POINTS.

YOU'RE NOW IN THE ULTIMATE CLASS AND

YOUR JOB IS THE
SEALED SUBSTITUTE
GAMER.

WHAT THE HELL?



WHAT'S GOING ON?

I WANTED MY LIFE TO BE LIKE A GAME.


DING
DING
DING
DING
DING

AND, THAT DAY...

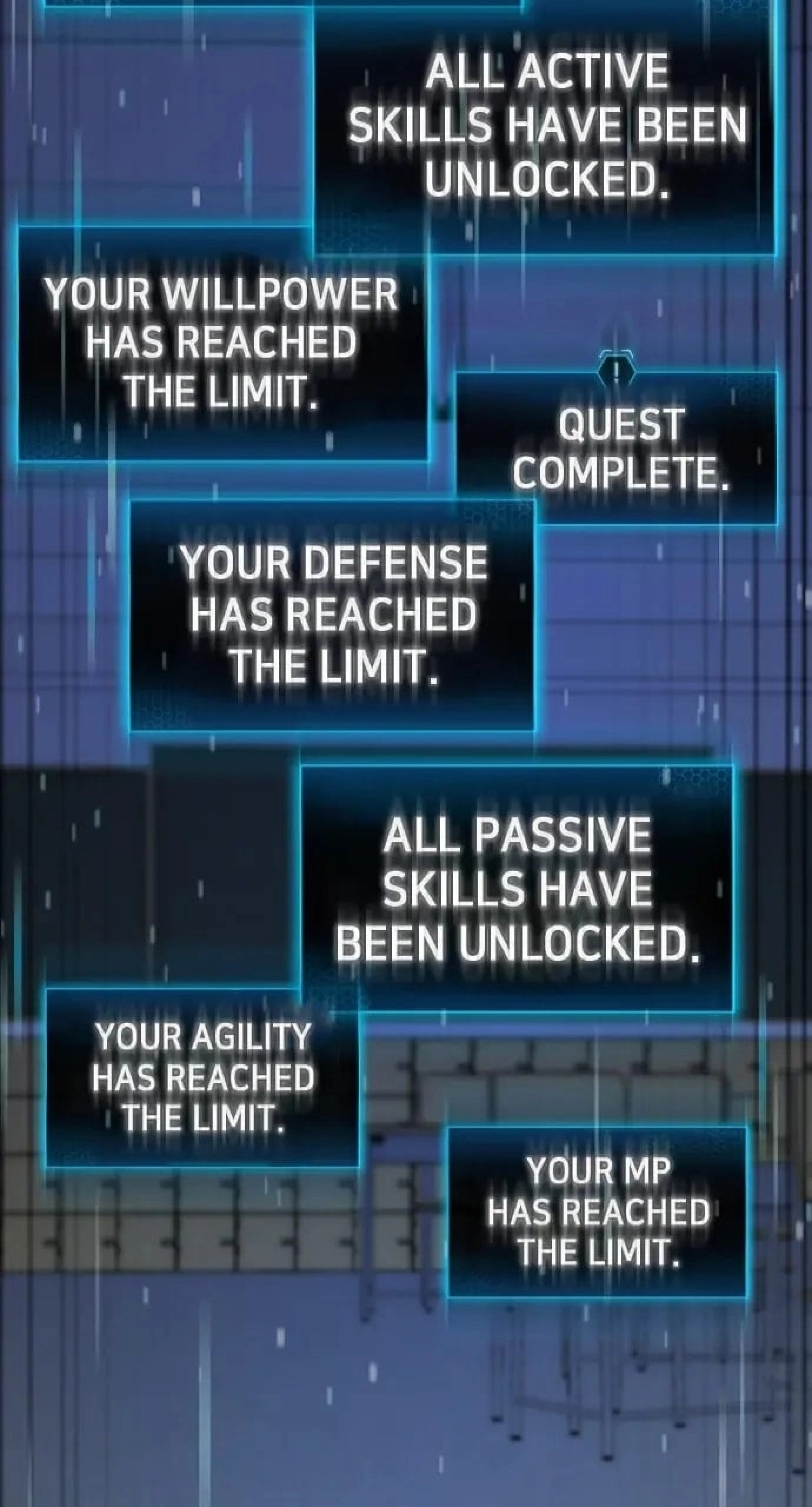
I SAID

I SAID,
WHAT THE HELL
IS GOING ON?!

YOU HAVE
REACHED THE
LAST LEVEL.

YOUR HP HAS
REACHED THE
LIMIT.

YOUR ATTACK
HAS REACHED
THE LIMIT.


ALL ACTIVE SKILLS HAVE BEEN UNLOCKED.
YOUR WILLPOWER HAS REACHED THE LIMIT.
QUEST COMPLETE.
YOUR DEFENSE HAS REACHED THE LIMIT.
ALL PASSIVE SKILLS HAVE BEEN UNLOCKED.
YOUR AGILITY HAS REACHED THE LIMIT.
YOUR MP HAS REACHED THE LIMIT.



...I GOT THE SKILLS FROM ALL OF THE GAMES I'VE EVER PLAYED.

REALITY QUEST

PRODUCER
HYUNGWUK SHIN

PRODUCED BY

