



THE UNDER GARDEN

CHAPTER 14

Tournament



MAF

OLIVER M. | SERPYRA



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There is a...
Quirk that
I have.

It sometimes works like
this. Helps me heal.

Oh? That's very
convenient.



's gotta be how ya
stayed alive long enough
for me t' find ya.

Could'a done it a bit
more, no? Heal up
faster?

I don't exactly...
control it. It needs
a trigger.

's that what Serafina
wanted to do? How'd
she know?



I was hoping you
could tell me.

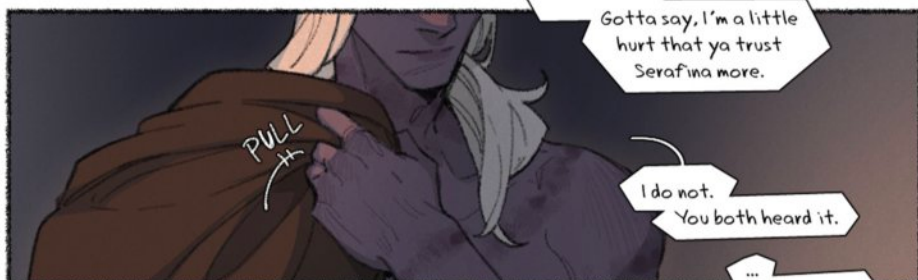
I can't.
I don't mess with
whatever witchcraft
she's got going on.

Or you, for that
matter.



Whatever she wants
with ya, it can wait
'till she gets back.

I-
Ahem.







Pleased t' meet ya
properly, this time.



...

Likewise.

Thank you,
Faldwin.

Of course!
It's-

Knock!

Knock!

Knock!







In a way, yes.





I...
I think so.

I don't think I left
anything important
behind.



Perfect.

My sister can keep
some of the books,
I'm sure.

She already has a
collection of stuff
from out there.

The rest, I can sneak
into the library.

And anything else stays
here with me!

Are...

Are you sure this
is alright?



Of course!

If anyone suspects
anything, they can just
assume I took these
myself.



They're just stories,
anyways.

I guess...

Thank you.



Don't mention it!

I'm just glad you came around to moving here.

It'll make it easier for us to hang out!

Yeah...

I think I should stay clear from the tunnels for a while, too.

Oh?

Well,

Maybe the... thing I'm looking for isn't even there to begin with

You know,

If you told me what that "thing" is, I might be able to help find it.

Yeah, yeah.

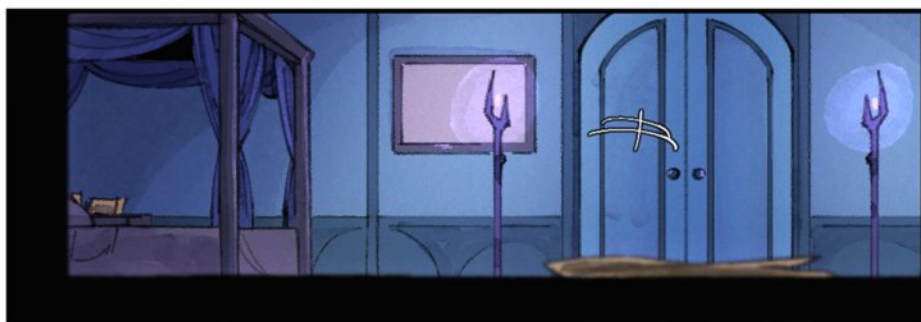
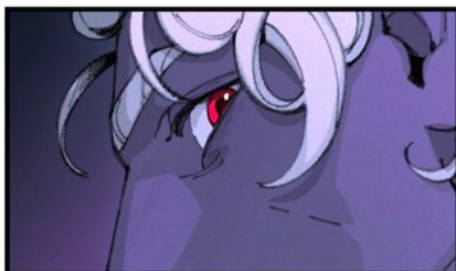
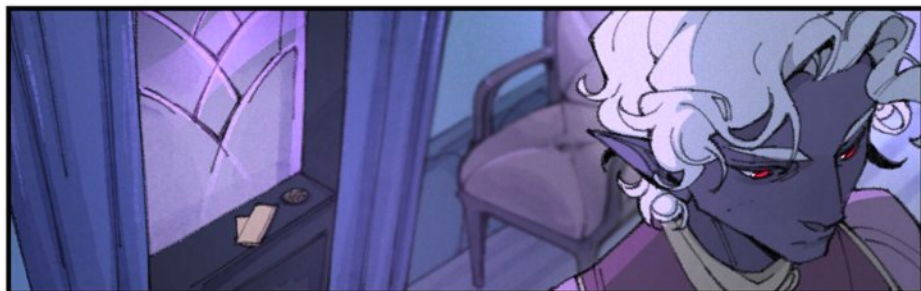
Maybe someday.

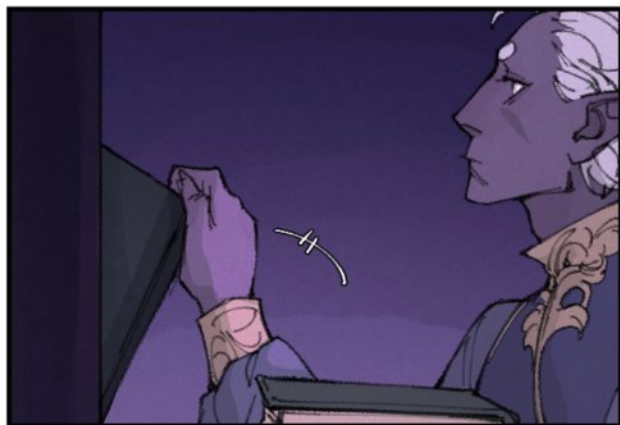
Up to you.

Imma go drop these off at my sister's.

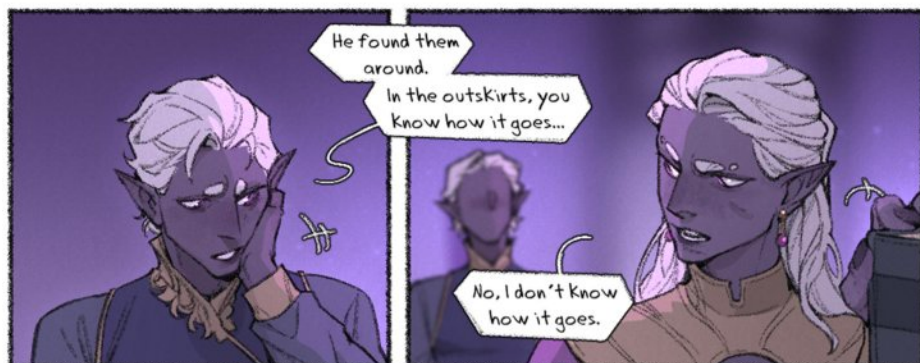
Meet you at the workshop later?

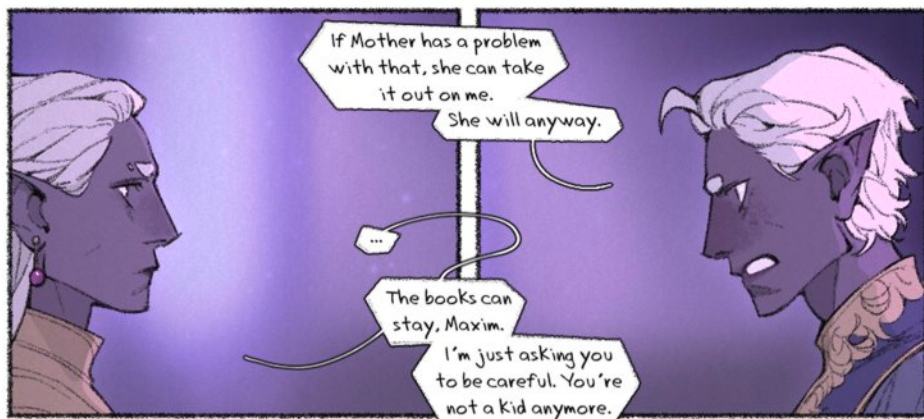
Sure.















A tournament?

Like, fightin'?

Like fighting
to death.

Ah, well, I could 'a
seen that one comin'.

's there a point to 'em?
Or just fun?

There is...
was a point
to them.



Though "fun" was a big part of it, too, I suppose.



My people - askelai, as Nita put it - can be quite...



...harsh.



Some people joined the tournaments willingly.



Most did not.



The winner, or anyone spared,
was often absorbed into one
of the clans considered more...

"reputable".

Often our fighters.



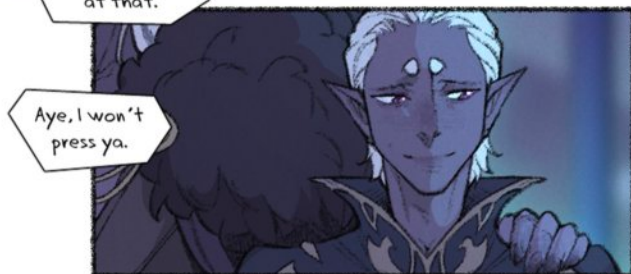
The rest, well.

A creative way to dispose
of petty criminals.

I see. Hey, if the
system works...

Maybe ya can actually
teach me a thing or two
about stage presence.

Ya ever win a
tournament?

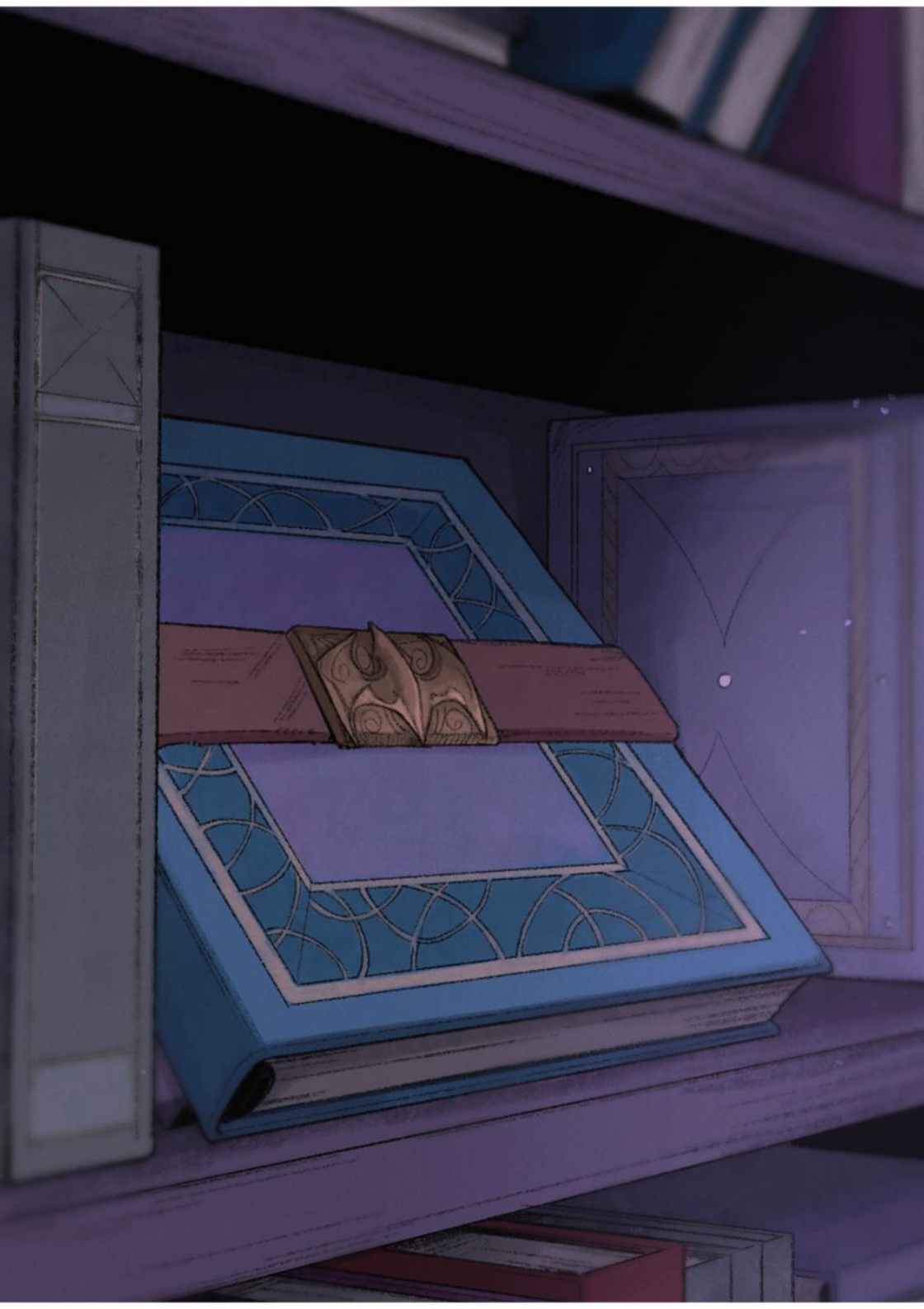




End of Chapter 14



EXTRA





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