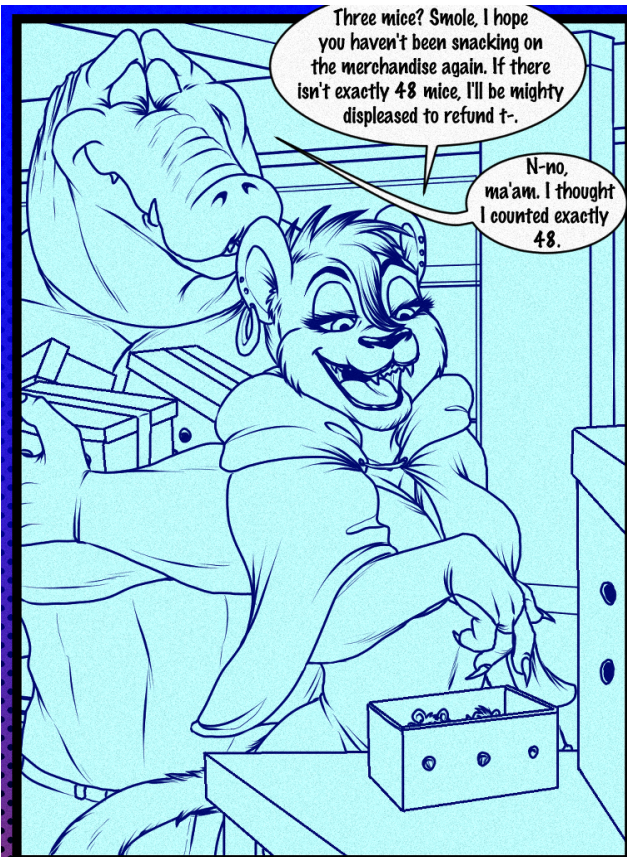


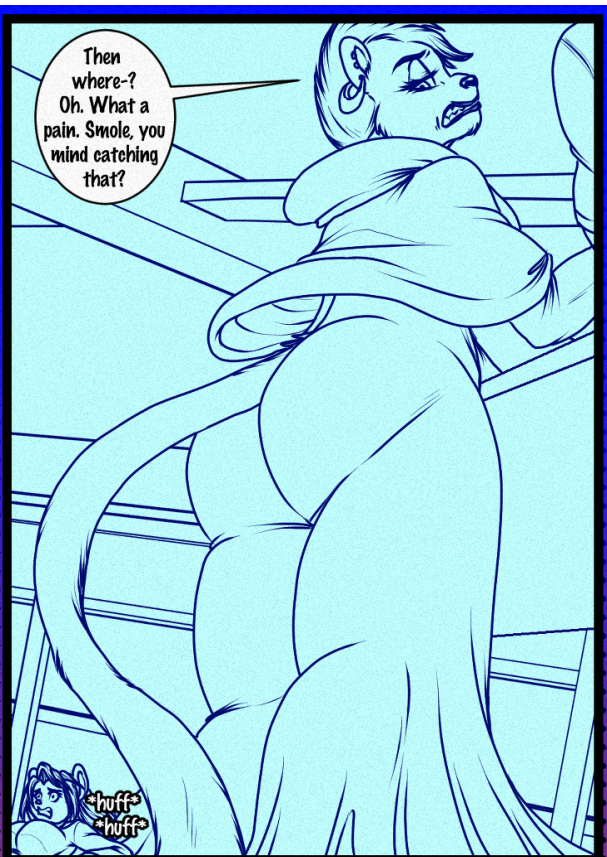
# PREDATOR PROBLEM IN ZOOTOPIA





Three mice? Smole, I hope you haven't been snacking on the merchandise again. If there isn't exactly 48 mice, I'll be mighty displeased to refund t-.

N-no, ma'am. I thought I counted exactly 48.



Then where-? Oh. What a pain. Smole, you mind catching that?

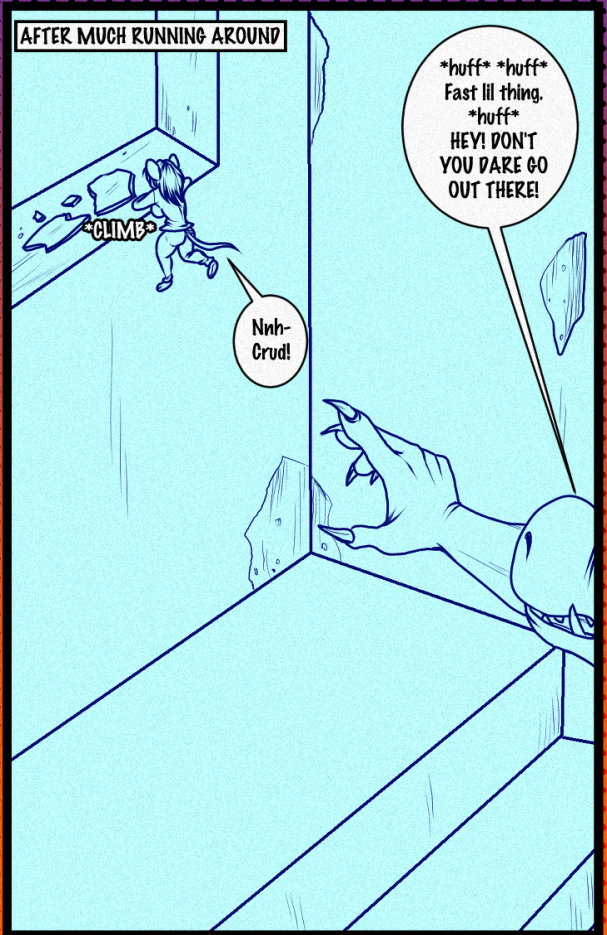
\*huff\*  
\*huff\*



Yes, ma'am! L-lemme put down these quick and I'll g-get to it.

Smole. Just. Do. IT.

R-right now.

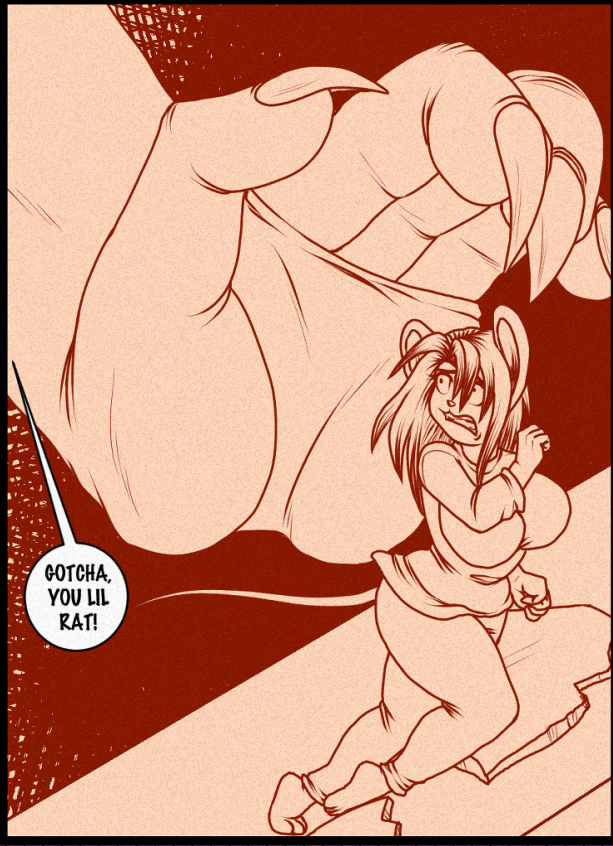


AFTER MUCH RUNNING AROUND

\*CLIMB\*

Nnh-Crud!

\*huff\* \*huff\*  
Fast lil thing.  
\*huff\*  
HEY! DON'T YOU DARE GO OUT THERE!



GOTCHA, YOU LIL RAT!



Crap! No! NO! ... shoot.

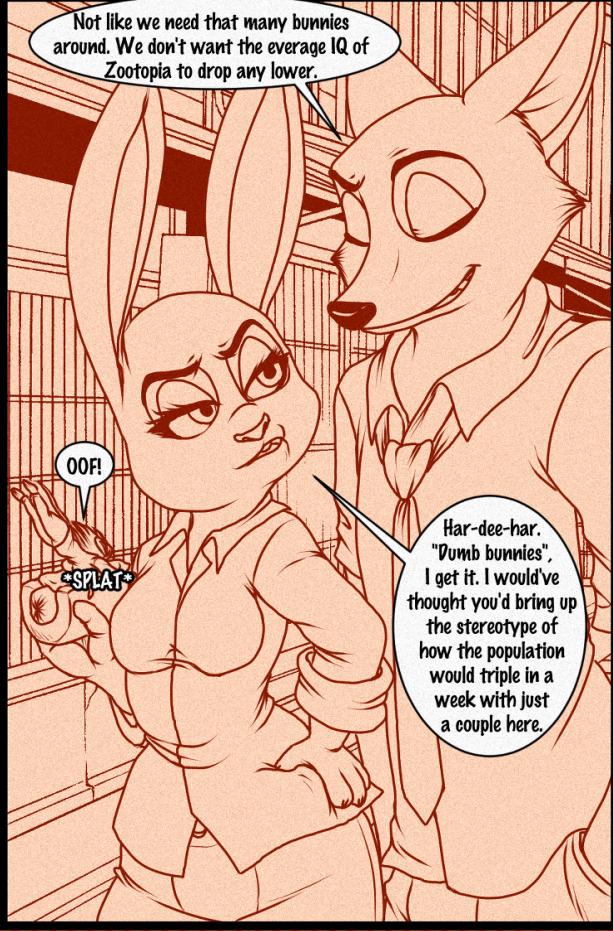
\*clinch\*

\*drop\*

Eee-!

So you're telling me you actually saw a reptile? Here? In Zootopia? Carrots, come on?

I mean, it's not THAT far out there, is it? Then again, I've not seen many bunnies here. Heck, I've not seen a cat or dog here, now that I think about it.

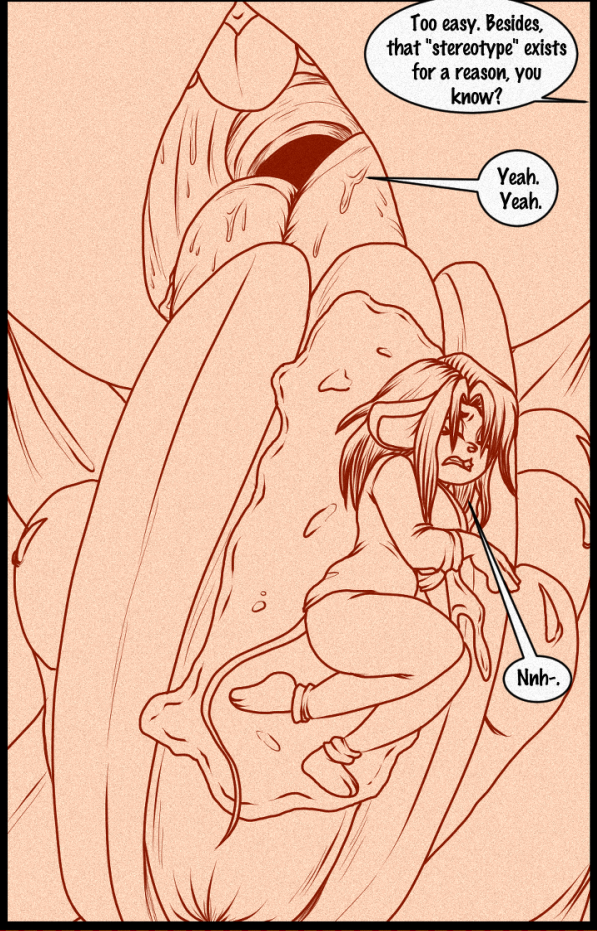


Not like we need that many bunnies around. We don't want the average IQ of Zootopia to drop any lower.

OOF!

\*SPLAT\*

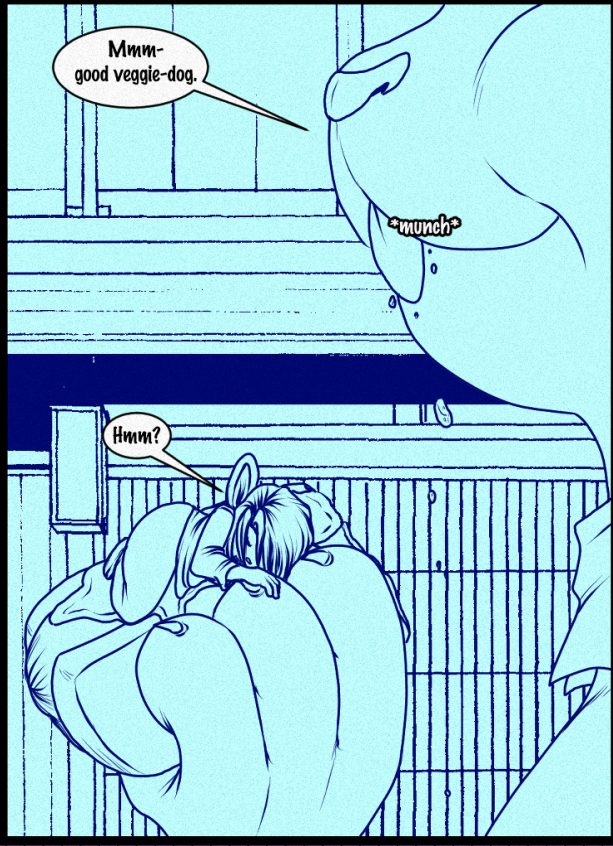
Har-dee-har. "Dumb bunnies", I get it. I would've thought you'd bring up the stereotype of how the population would triple in a week with just a couple here.



Too easy. Besides, that "stereotype" exists for a reason, you know?

Yeah. Yeah.

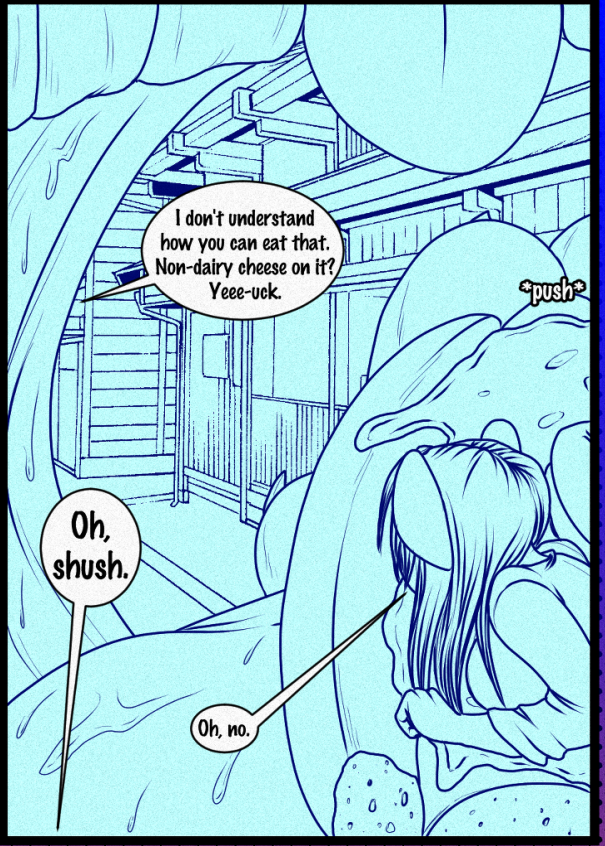
Nnh-



Mmm-good veggie-dog.

\*munch\*

Hmm?

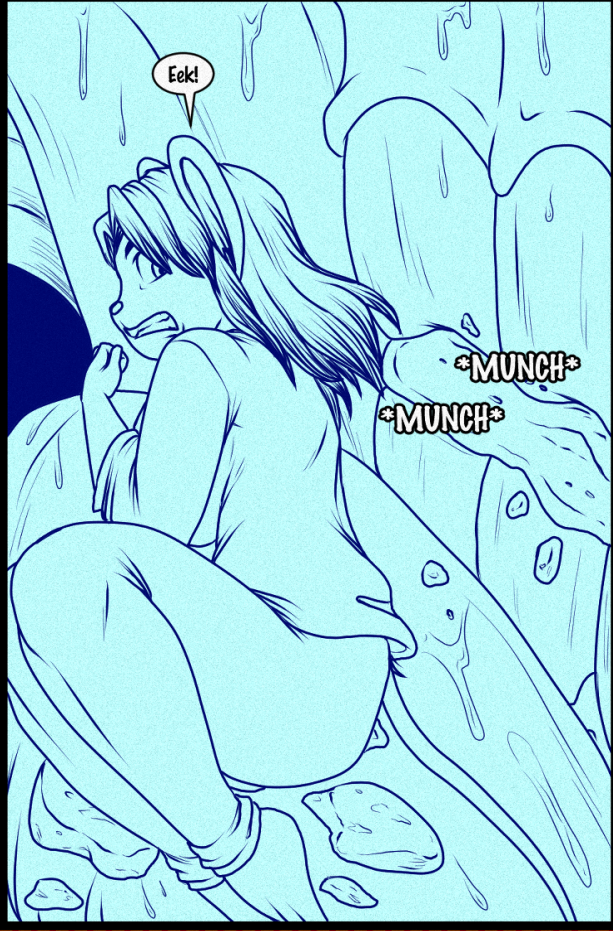


I don't understand how you can eat that. Non-dairy cheese on it? Yeee-uck.

\*push\*

Oh, shush.

Oh, no.



Eek!

\*MUNCH\*

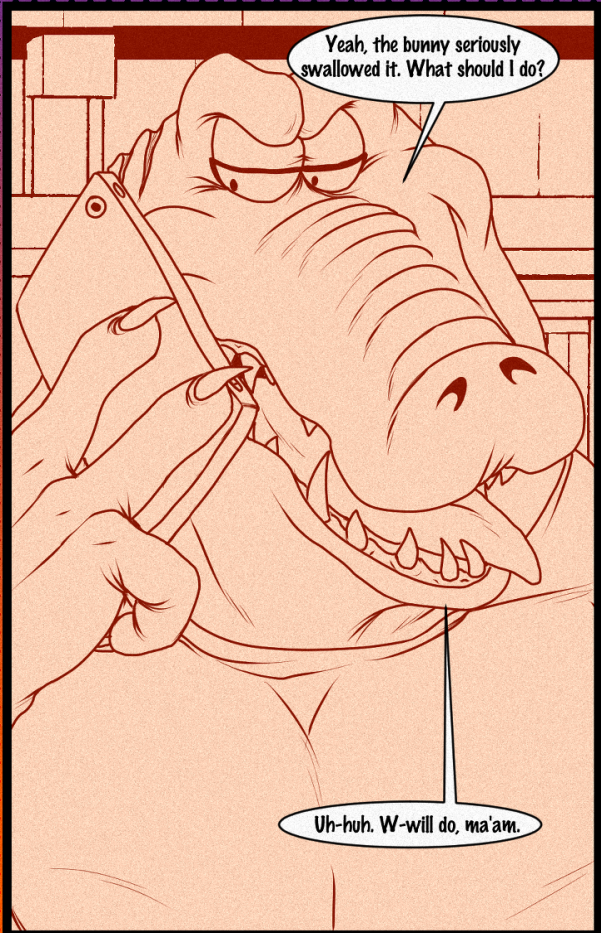
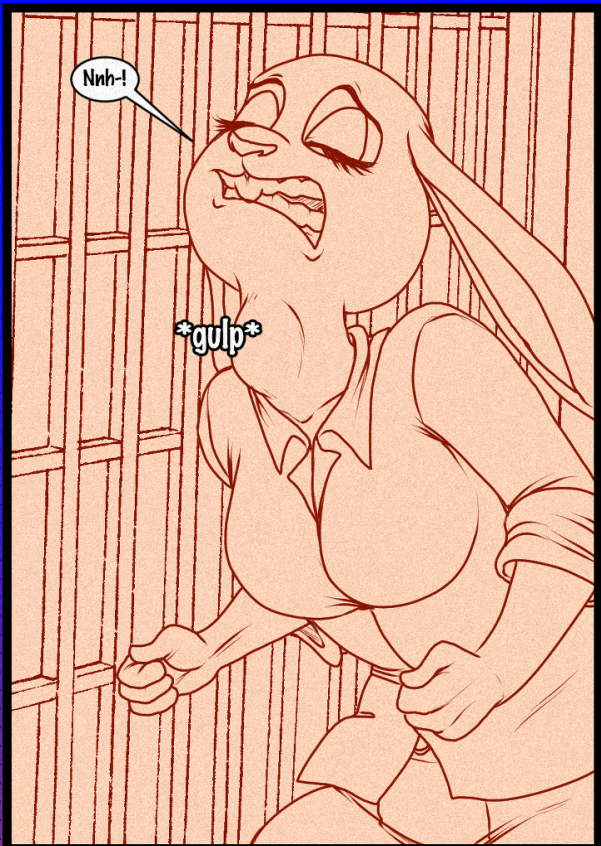
\*MUNCH\*

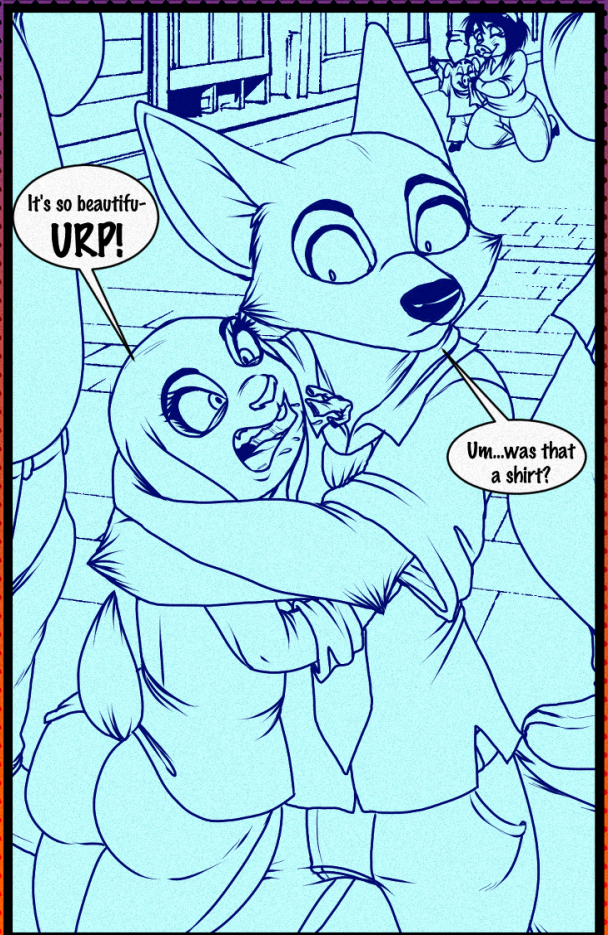
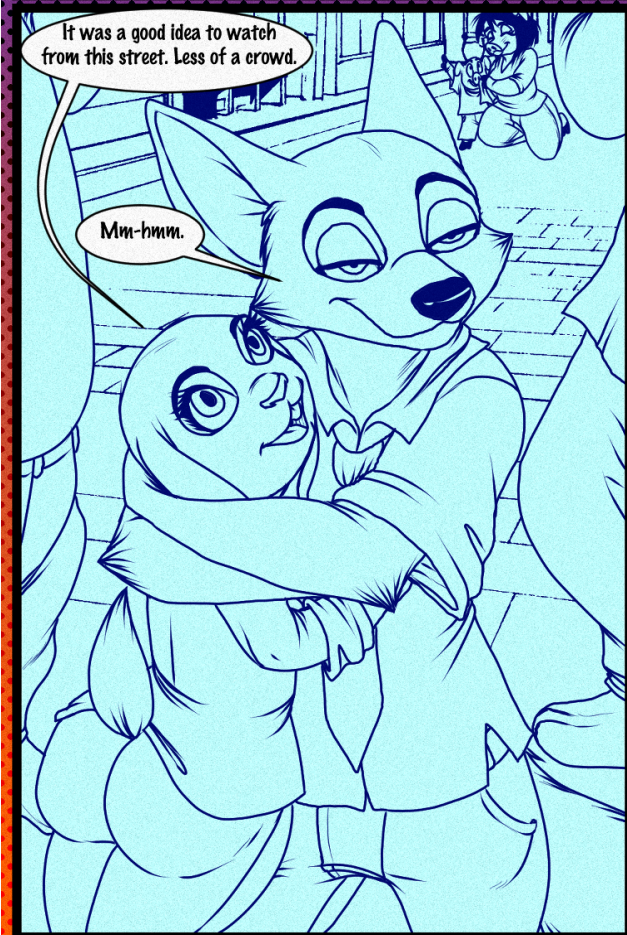
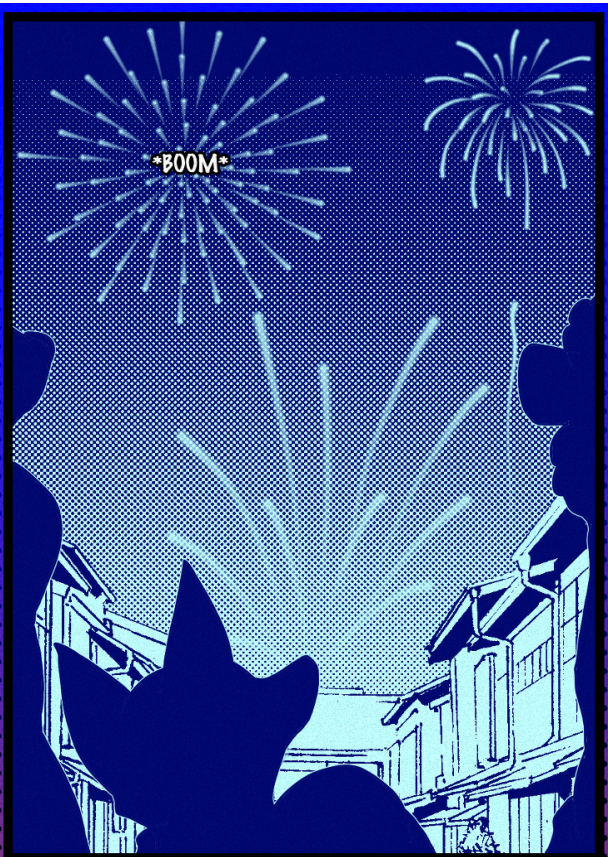


CRUD! HEY! STOP SWALLOWING!

\*GLURK\*

\*GLURK\*





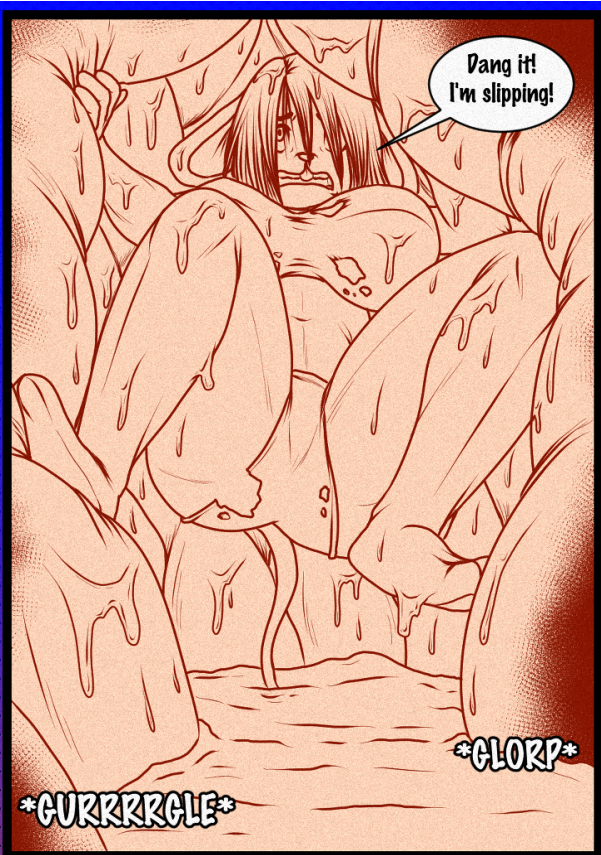


Don't be silly. Also, I think there was something wrong with that veggie-dog. Ugh-

Maybe I should ask it to stop messing with my date.

N-nick! Stop being weird.

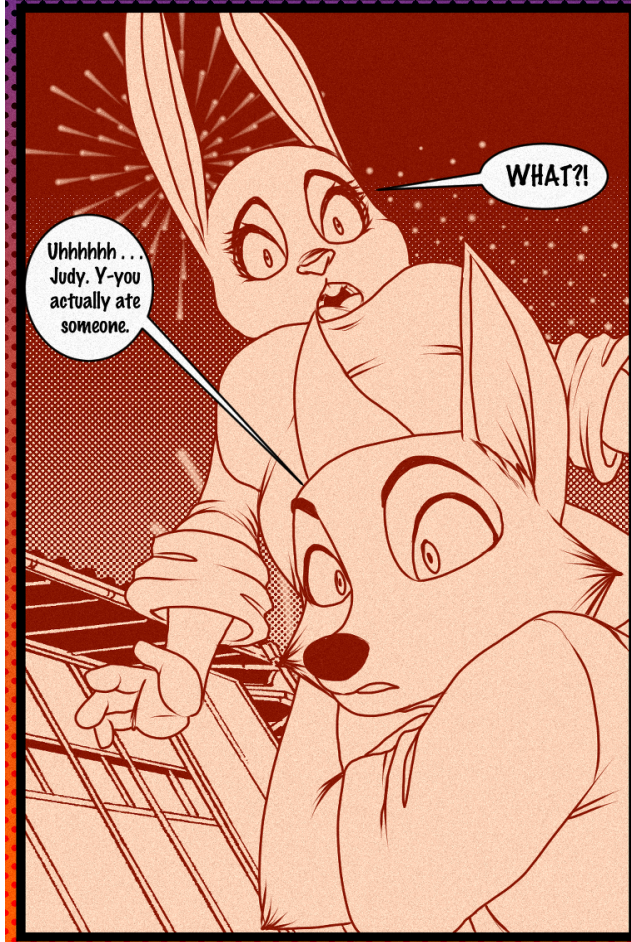
It does sound ill though. Maybe you need some water or-.



Dang it! I'm slipping!

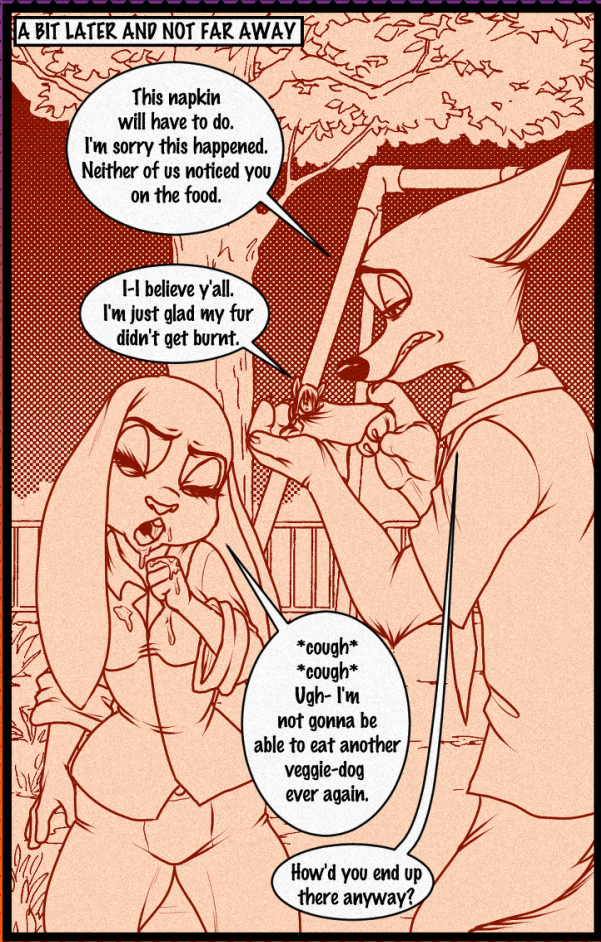
\*CURRRGLE\*

\*GLORP\*



Uhhhhh... Judy. Y-you actually ate someone.

WHAT?!



A BIT LATER AND NOT FAR AWAY

This napkin will have to do. I'm sorry this happened. Neither of us noticed you on the food.

I-I believe y'all. I'm just glad my fur didn't get burnt.

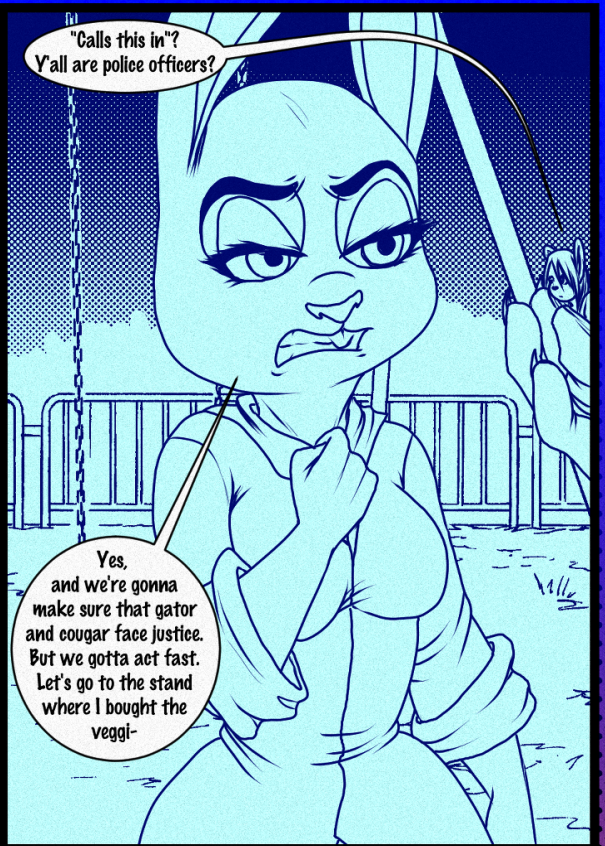
\*cough\*  
\*cough\*  
Ugh- I'm not gonna be able to eat another veggie-dog ever again.

How'd you end up there anyway?



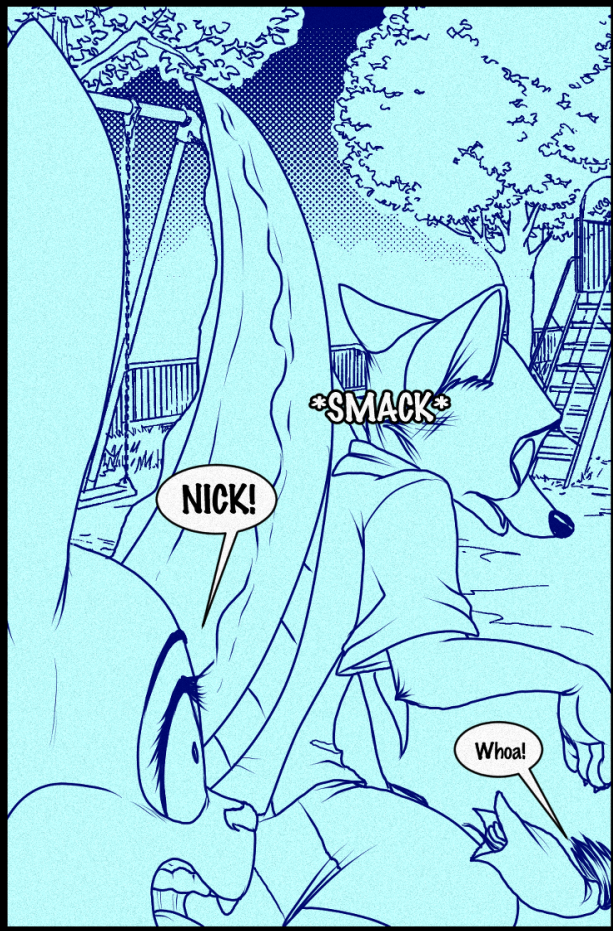
To be honest, I'm not entirely sure about everything, but I fell into the food when I ran away from this cougar and gator. They had other rodents in boxes th-that...Oh, dang, I know they're in danger, but I have no idea what building I fell from. I-I need to call the police. They gotta-

Calm down, miss. Maybe we can retrace our steps, while Judy calls this in.



"Calls this in"? Y'all are pollee officers?

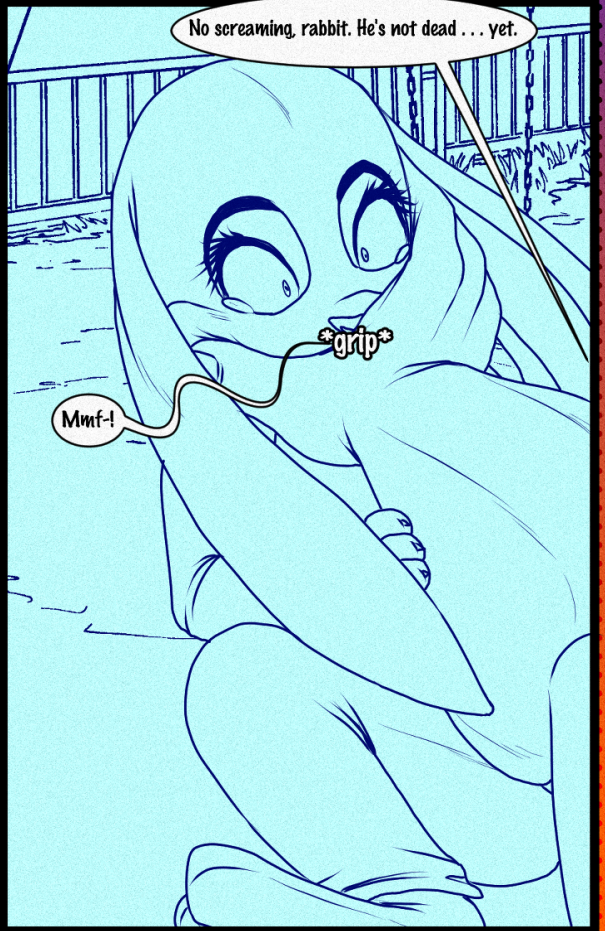
Yes, and we're gonna make sure that gator and cougar face justice. But we gotta aet fast. Let's go to the stand where I bought the veggi-



NICK!

\*SMACK\*

Whoa!

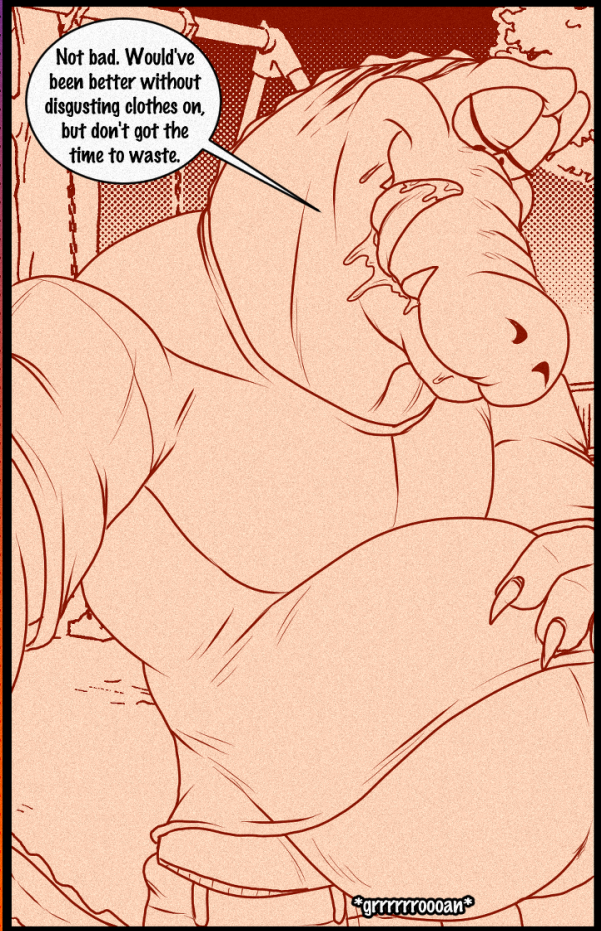
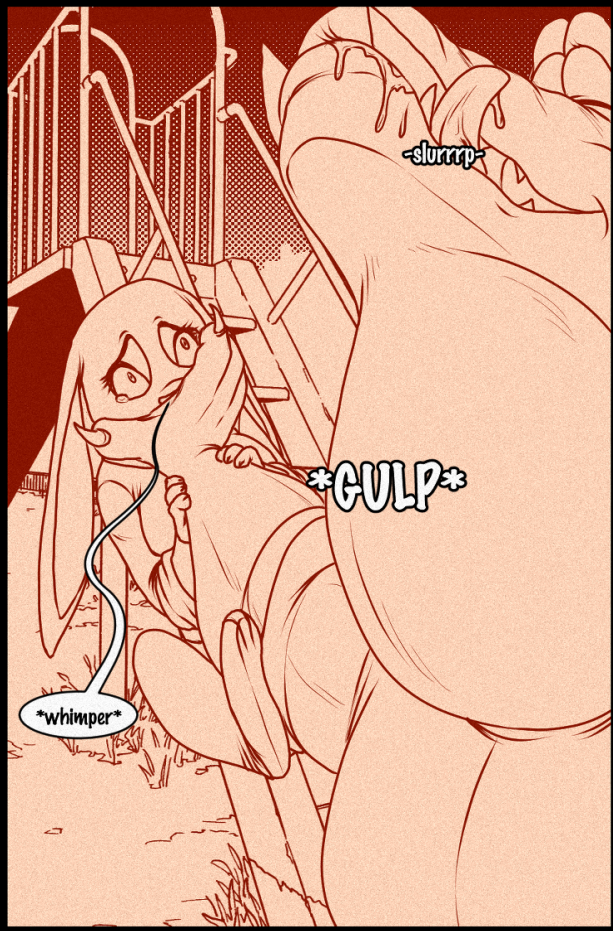
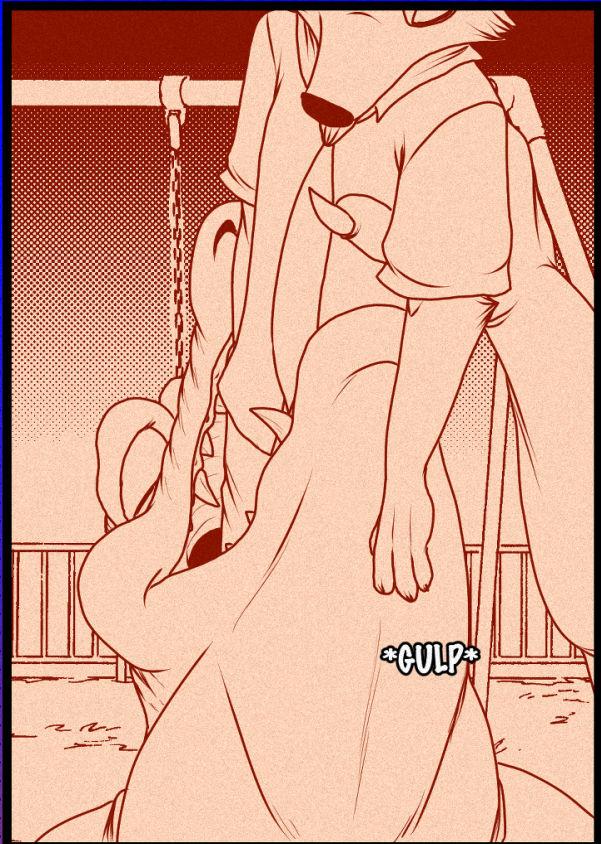


No screaming, rabbit. He's not dead . . . yet.

Mmf!

\*grip\*





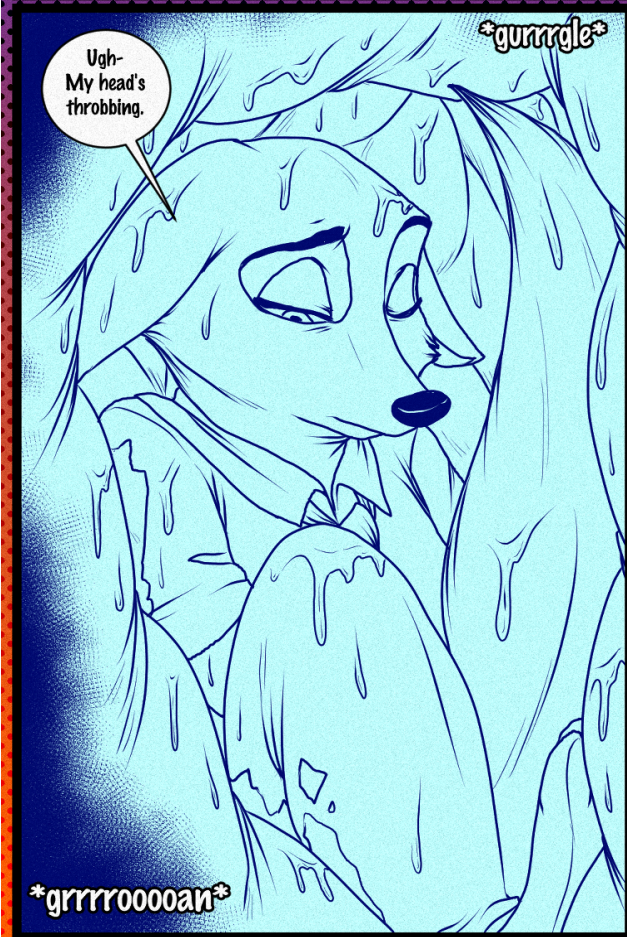


N-nick?

No need to be sad, rabbit. This is how it's supposed to be.



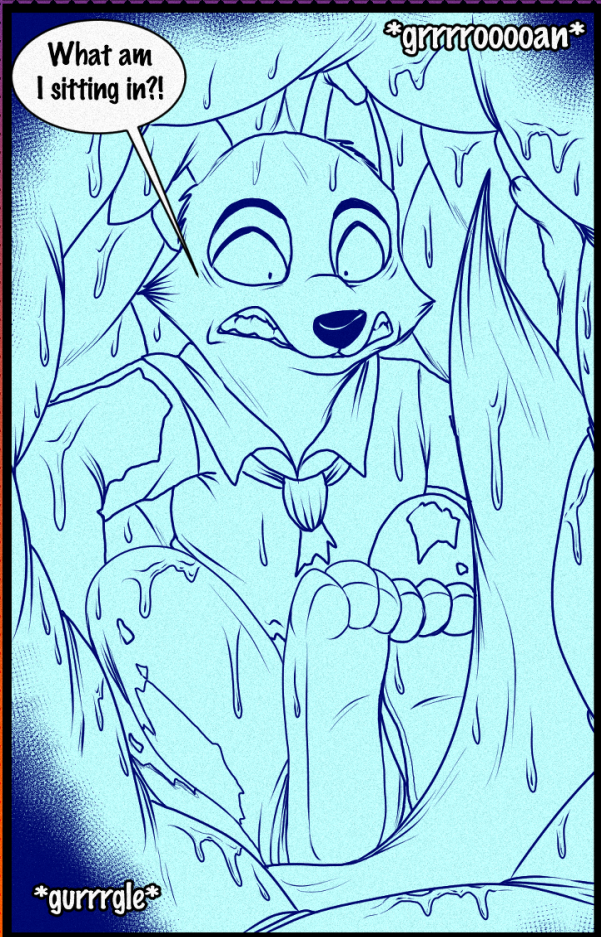
You'll be joining him. Ah-!



Ugh- My head's throbbing.

\*gurrngle\*

\*grrrrroooan\*



What am I sitting in?!

\*grrrrroooan\*

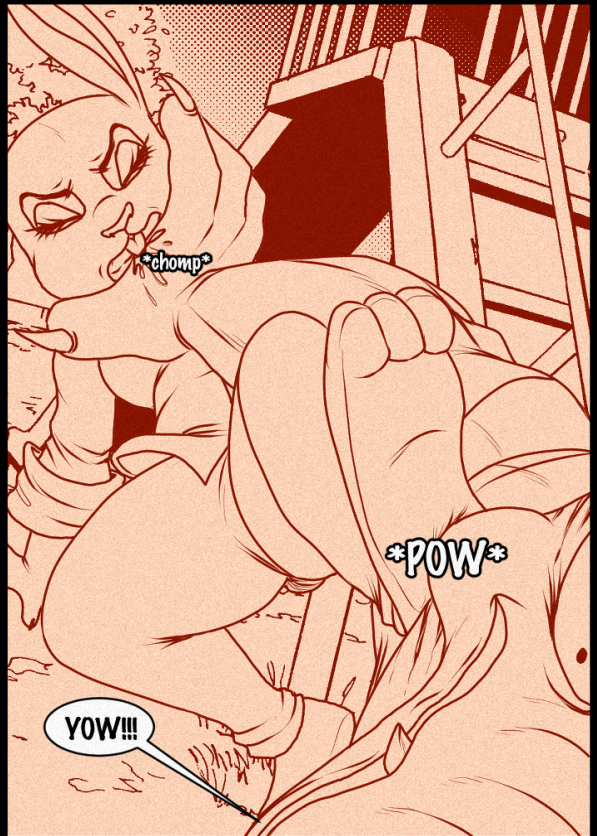
\*gurrngle\*



Shut up in there!  
... Typical prey.  
Not knowing  
their place.

\*punch\*

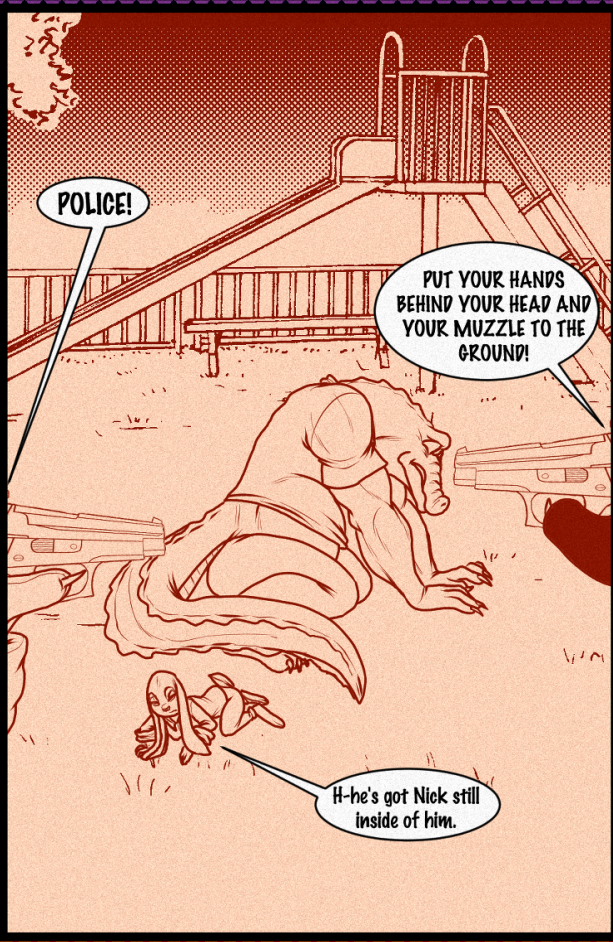
\*kick\*



\*chomp\*

\*POW\*

YOW!!!

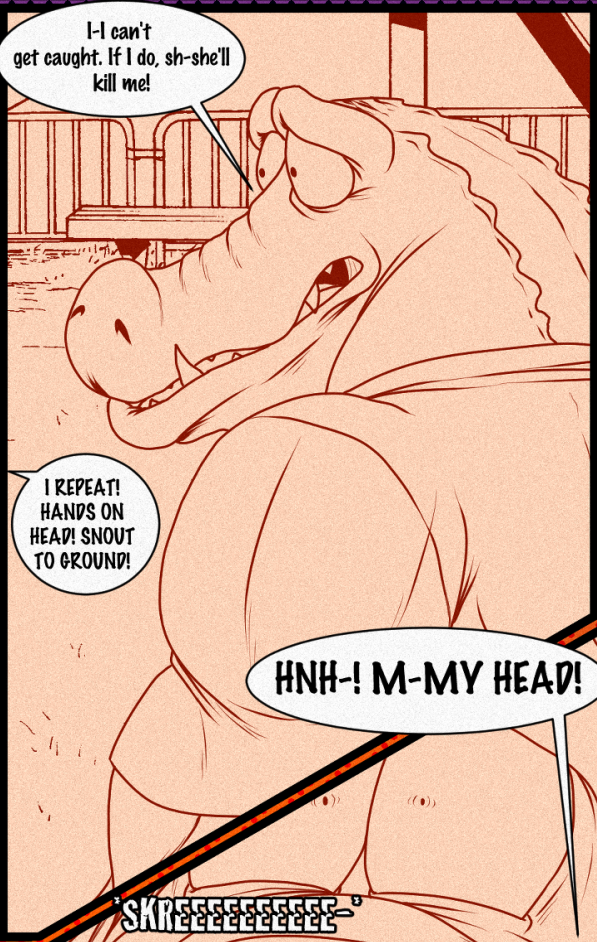


POLICE!

PUT YOUR HANDS  
BEHIND YOUR HEAD AND  
YOUR MUZZLE TO THE  
GROUND!

I-I can't  
get caught. If I do, sh-she'll  
kill me!

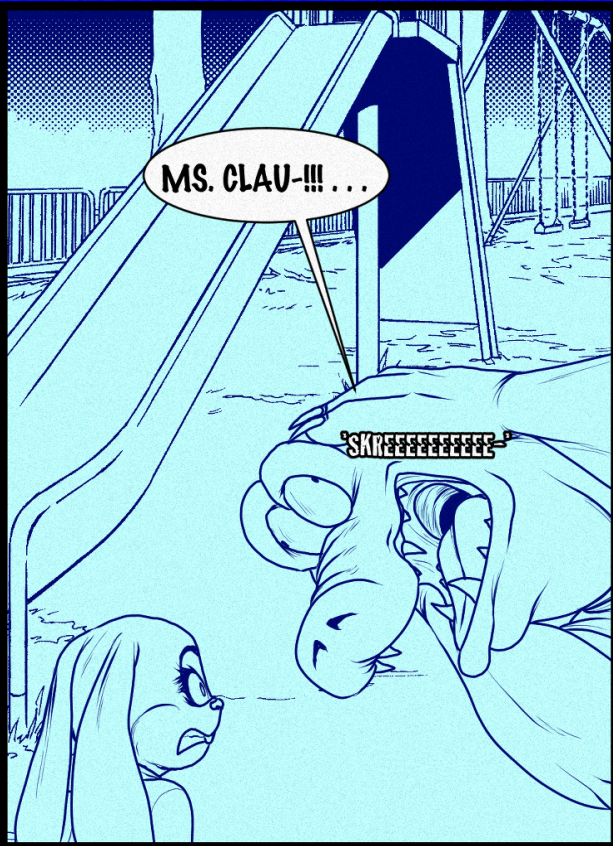
H-he's got Nick still  
inside of him.



I REPEAT!  
HANDS ON  
HEAD! SNOUT  
TO GROUND!

HNH-! M-MY HEAD!

SKREEEEEEEE



MS. CLAU-!!! . . .

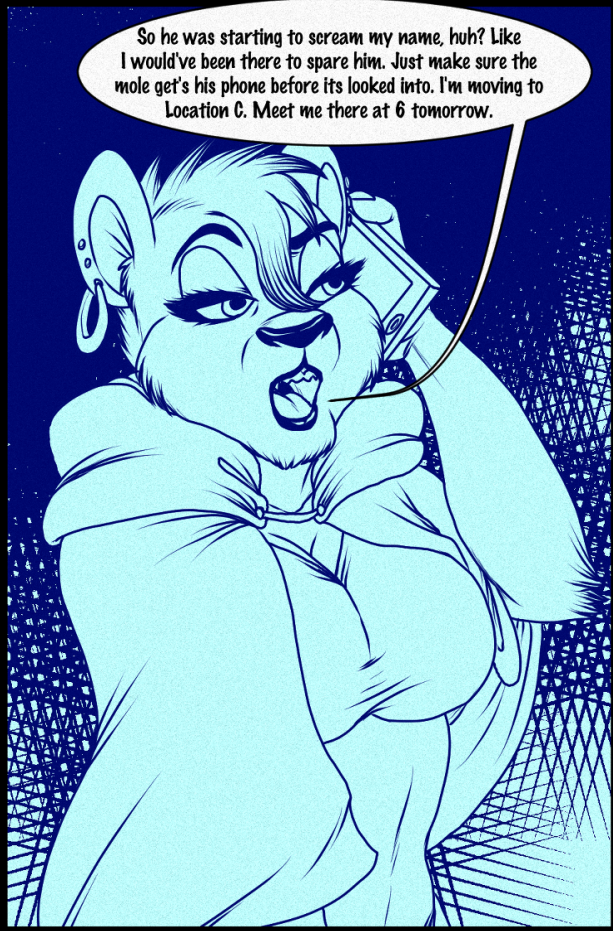
'SKREEEEEEEEEEE'



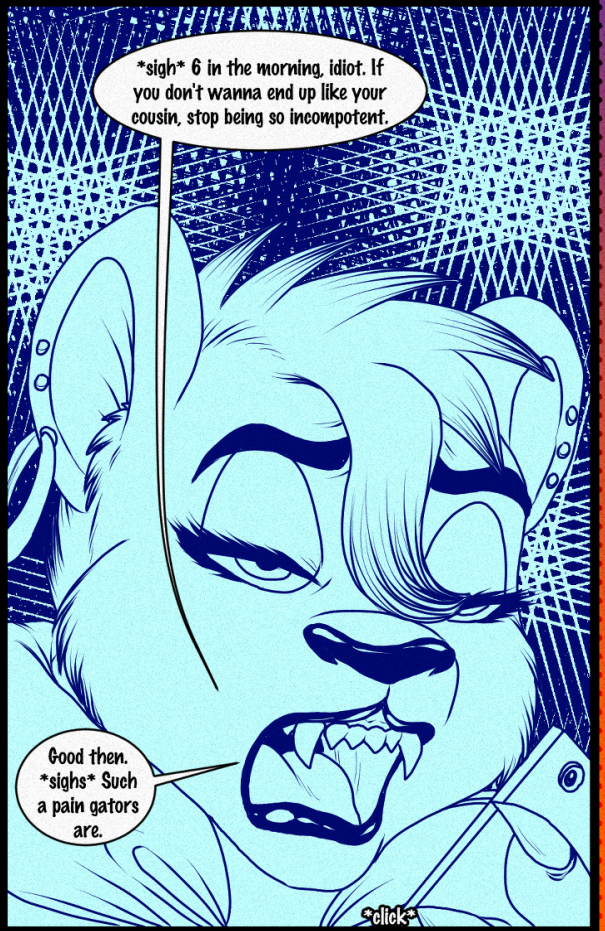
Did he just . . . ?

Yep. Ambulaaance better get here soon and gut him open.

Please! Don't approach! The scene is being investigated! Back away!



So he was starting to scream my name, huh? Like I would've been there to spare him. Just make sure the mole get's his phone before its looked into. I'm moving to Location C. Meet me there at 6 tomorrow.



\*sigh\* 6 in the morning, idiot. If you don't wanna end up like your cousin, stop being so incompetent.

Good then. \*sighs\* Such a pain gators are.

click

HOSPITAL

Carrots, no need to be so droopy eared. The burns aren't that bad. I just won't look that pretty for a while. \*chuckles\*

Be thankful that mouse was able to find those officers in time. Hopps, you don't have to file a report on what happened now, but in the morning would help.

Yes, chief. ... How'd the gator die?

Autopsy won't get to him for an hour. ... Hopps, as difficult as this is to hear, don't go looking into this. This is too close for you.

But, sir, I-

That's an order, Hopps.

Yeah, just make sure whoever looks into it has knives on 'em at all times. Glad that idiot didn't kill me before eating. Hopefully the other is as stupid as him.

Nick, don't take this so lightly.

I'm FINE. Don't get so hung up on this. They now only have to find this "Ms. Clau". Not two perps now, thankfully.

I've got a bad feeling that this is bigger than what it seems.

TO BE CONTINUED ...

# PREDATOR PROBLEM IN ZOOTOPIA

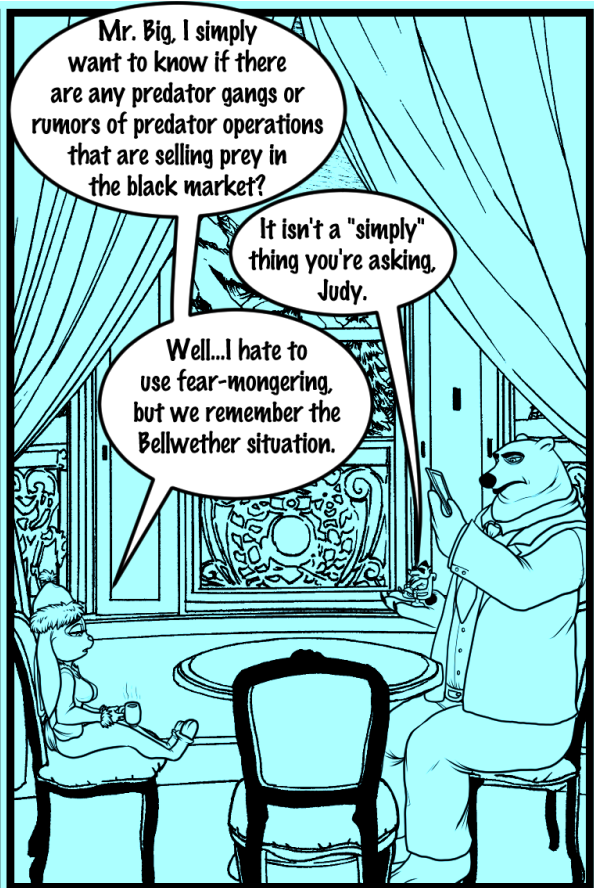




I'm glad to hear Nicky has been recovering. Things could've gone much worse.

I know, sir, but... about my question?

Yes... well, about that, it's not good business for me to talk about other mafias and gangs. Especially to a cop.



Mr. Big, I simply want to know if there are any predator gangs or rumors of predator operations that are selling prey in the black market?

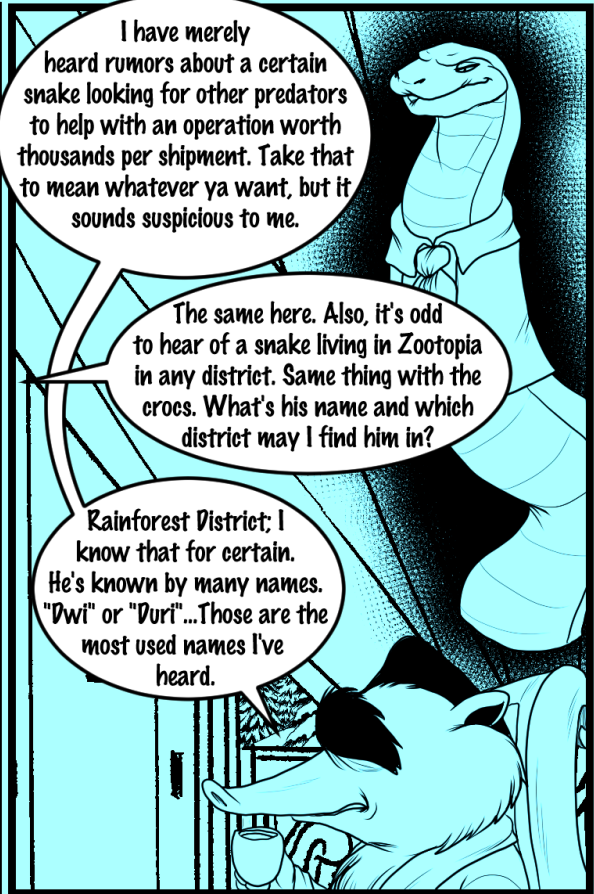
It isn't a "simply" thing you're asking, Judy.

Well...I hate to use fear-mongering, but we remember the Bellwether situation.



So many prey began to fear predators, making people suspicious of all predators whether innocent or not. Well, we've got a situation with predators wanting to ACTUALLY take advantage of prey. If everyone keeps on dragging their feet to figure out who is behind all of this, then we might have it going public and then-.

I've heard enough. \*sighs\*



I have merely heard rumors about a certain snake looking for other predators to help with an operation worth thousands per shipment. Take that to mean whatever ya want, but it sounds suspicious to me.

The same here. Also, it's odd to hear of a snake living in Zootopia in any district. Same thing with the crocs. What's his name and which district may I find him in?

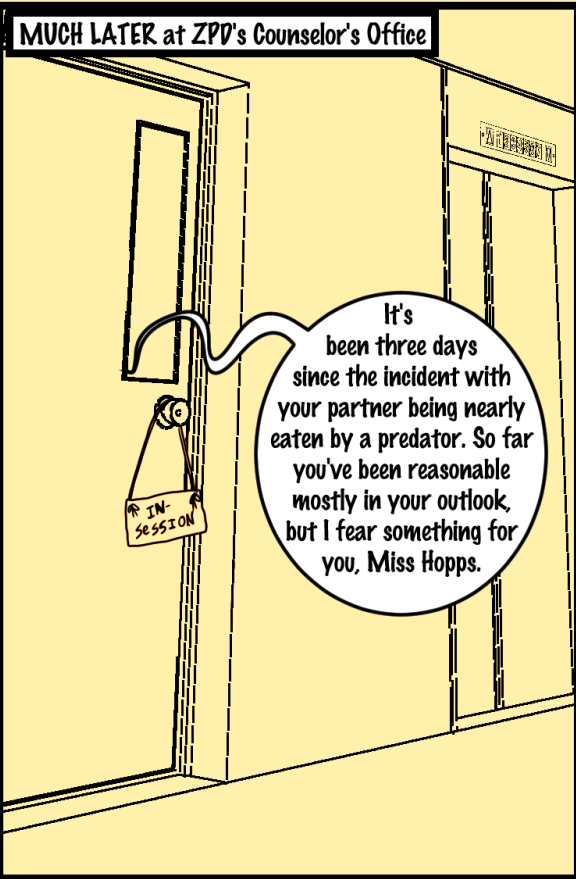
Rainforest District; I know that for certain. He's known by many names. "Dwi" or "Duri"...Those are the most used names I've heard.



Dwi or Duri? I could've sworn that croc said a name like "Ms. Claw" or something like that.

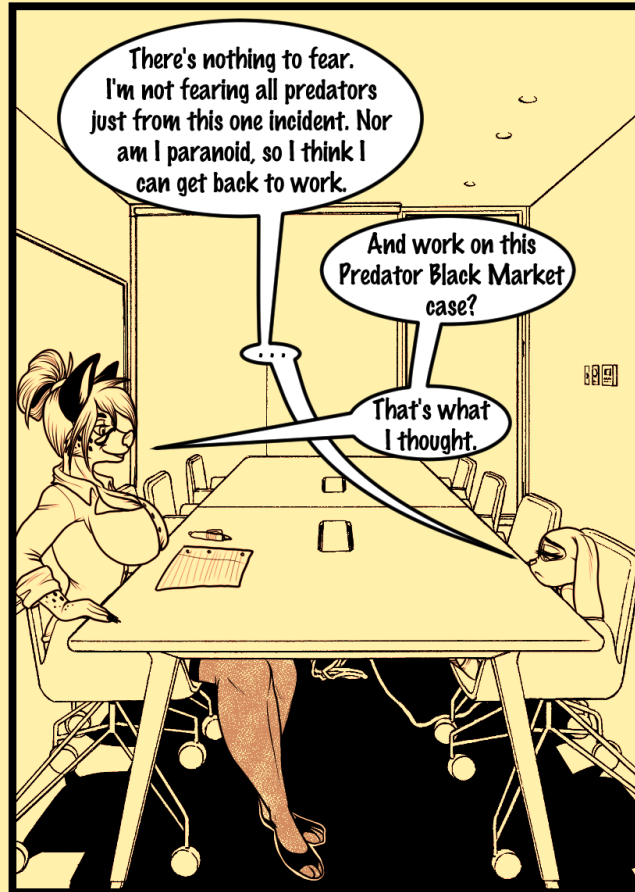
Koslov, show Judy the way out.

Va, ser.



MUCH LATER at ZPD's Counselor's Office

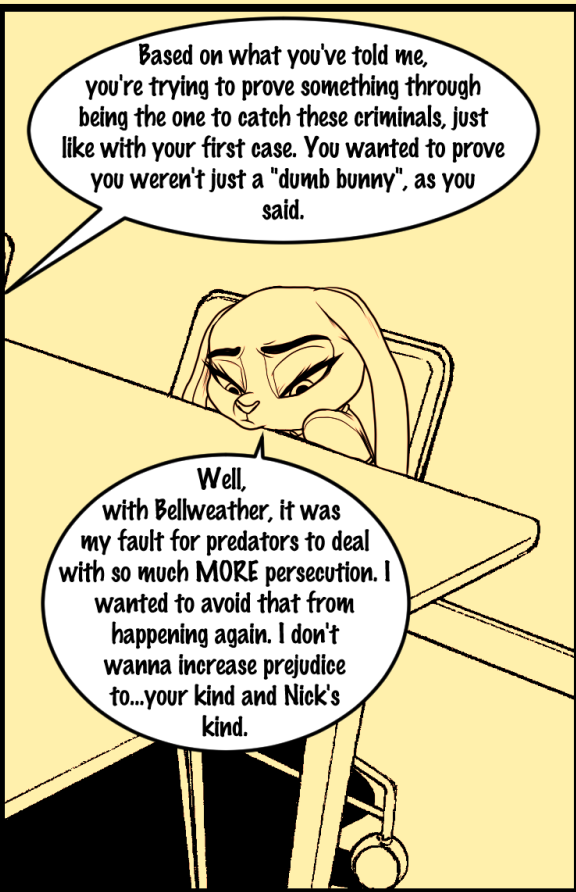
It's been three days since the incident with your partner being nearly eaten by a predator. So far you've been reasonable mostly in your outlook, but I fear something for you, Miss Hopps.



There's nothing to fear. I'm not fearing all predators just from this one incident. Nor am I paranoid, so I think I can get back to work.

And work on this Predator Black Market case?

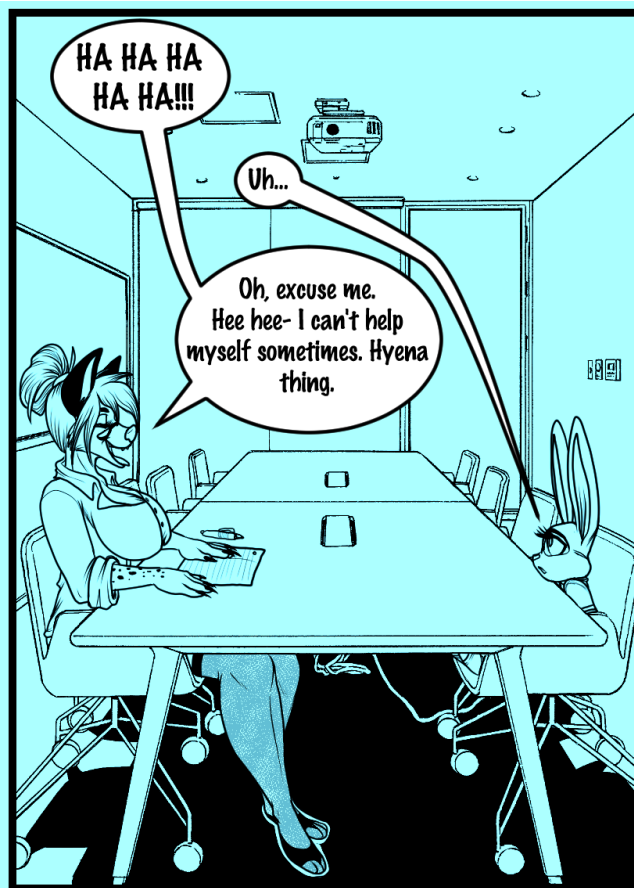
That's what I thought.



Based on what you've told me, you're trying to prove something through being the one to catch these criminals, just like with your first case. You wanted to prove you weren't just a "dumb bunny", as you said.

Well, with Bellweather, it was my fault for predators to deal with so much MORE persecution. I wanted to avoid that from happening again. I don't wanna increase prejudice to...your kind and Nick's kind.

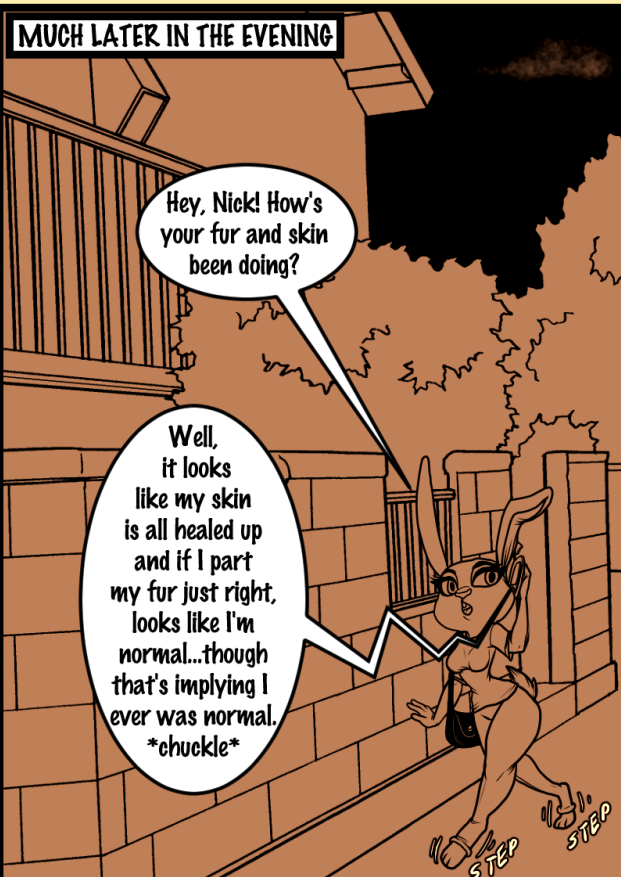




MUCH LATER IN THE EVENING

Hey, Nick! How's your fur and skin been doing?

Well, it looks like my skin is all healed up and if I part my fur just right, looks like I'm normal...though that's implying I ever was normal.  
\*chuckle\*



Listen, I had a talk today with Mr Big and the counselor.

How'd that go?

Gave me a lot to think about.



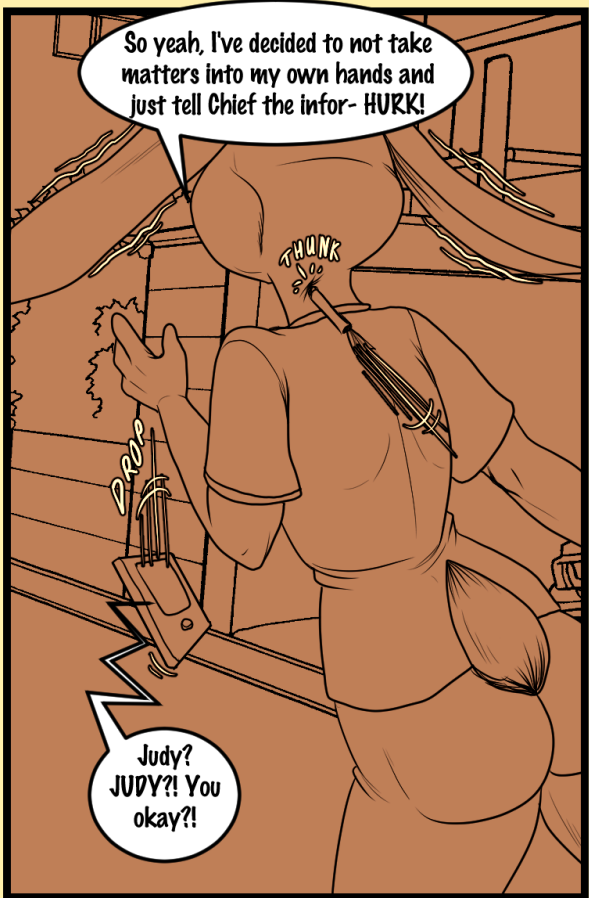
So that is the bunny that got away unharmed and assasking questions. Patricia, tranq dart, please?

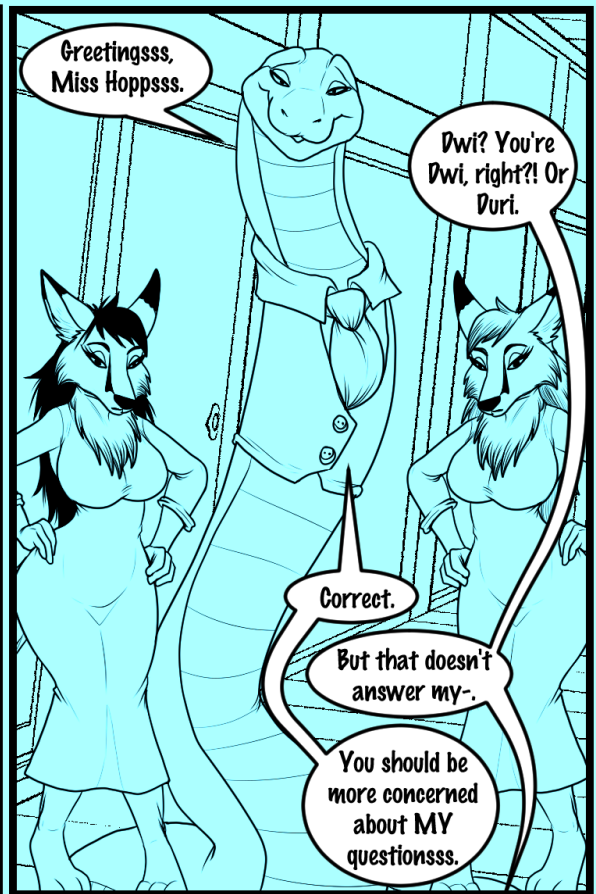
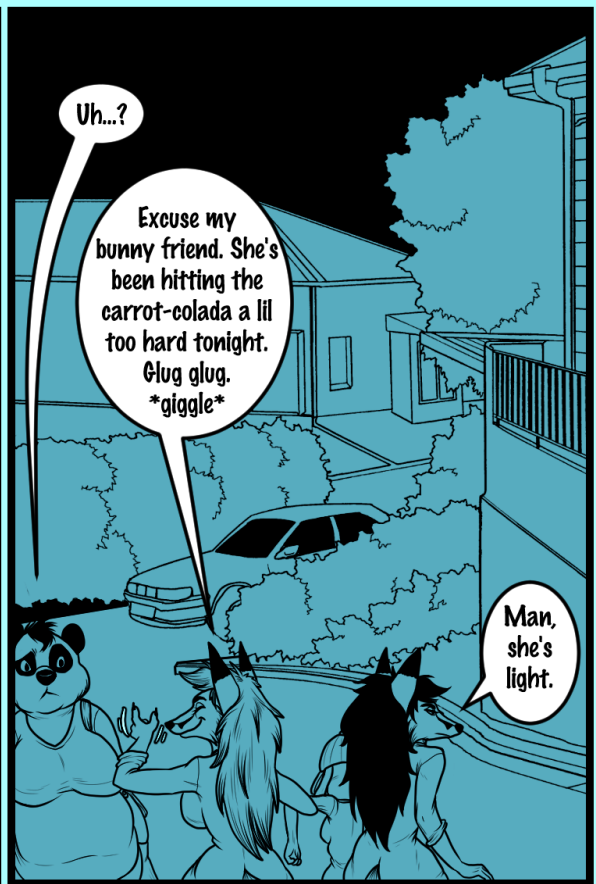


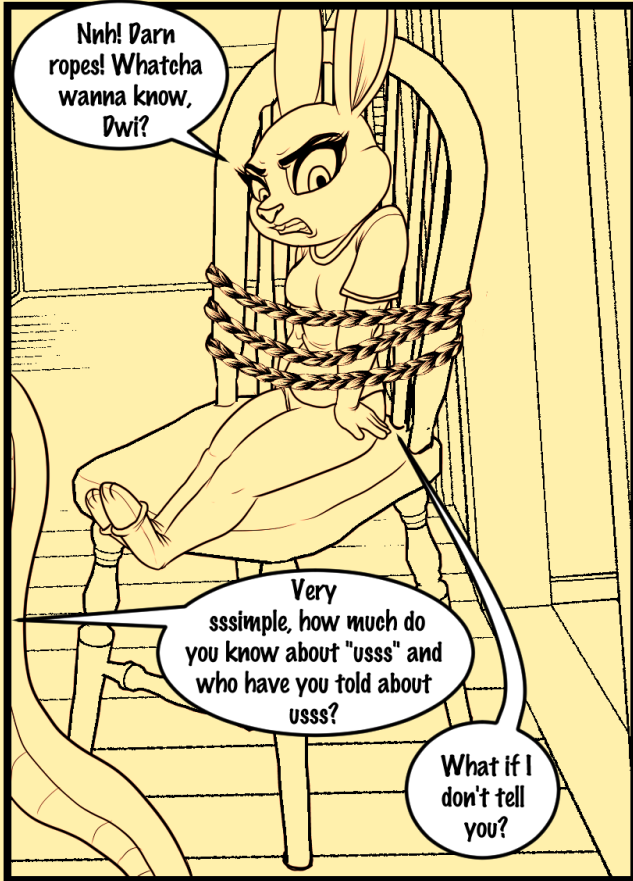
So yeah, I've decided to not take matters into my own hands and just tell Chief the infor- HURK!

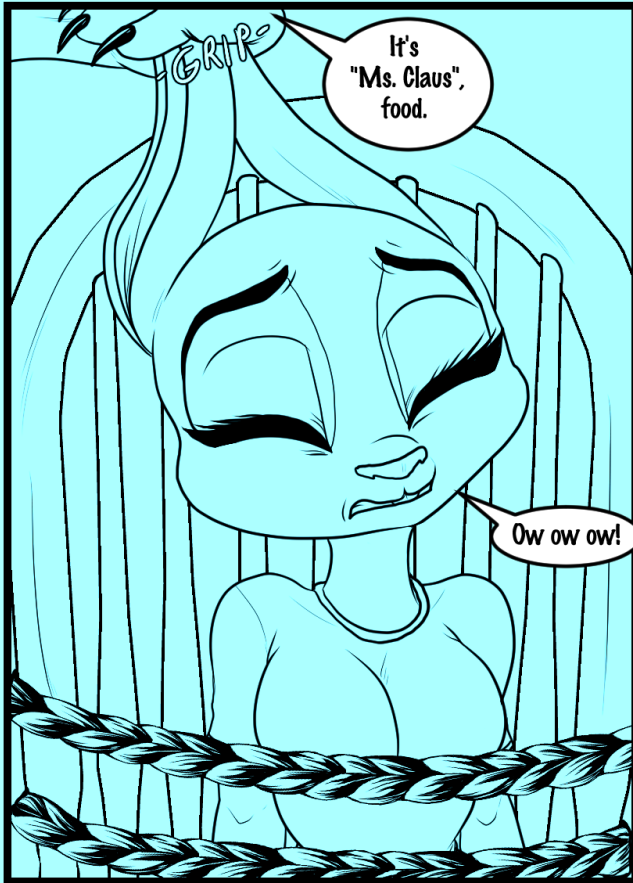
THUNK

Judy? JUDY?! You okay?!









It's "Ms. Claus", food.

Ow ow ow!



And they were looking at you that way because they know better than to waste my time compared to a dumb bunny like you. I guess it just dawned on them what they're about to witness.



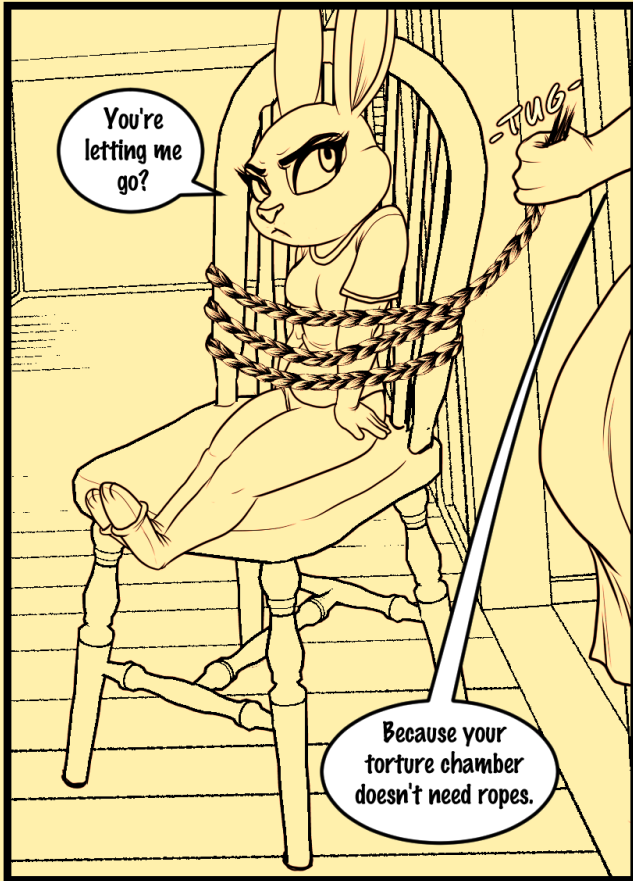
But before I do the obvious, I'll be kind and ask for you to answer his questions.

You know I won't say.



Oh, I do and did, but I'm a kind predator. And now that you've lost your chance to have this go easy on you, it's time for the torture.

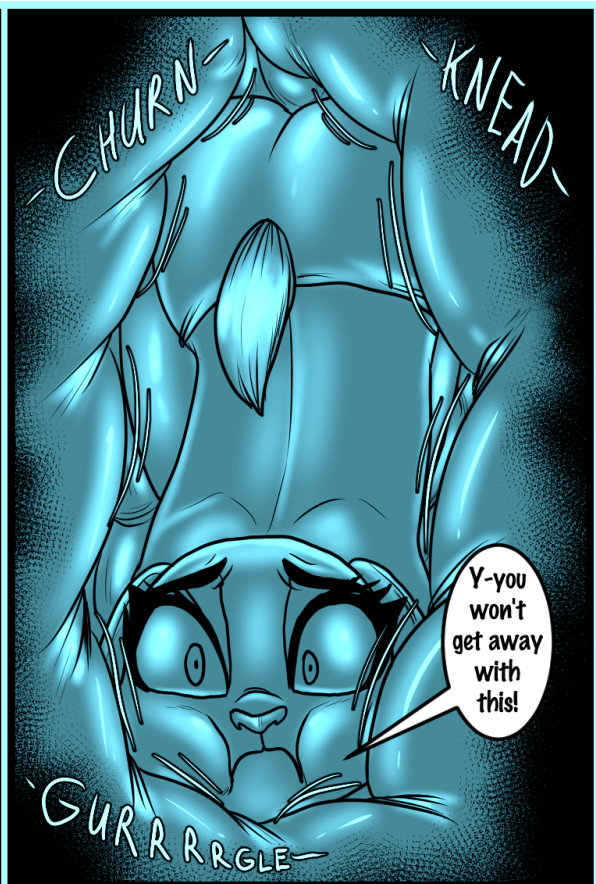
PLOP





URP!!!

Now, if you don't answer the questions, I won't let you out. What do you say? Willing to talk now?



CHURN-

-KNEAD-

GURRRGLE-

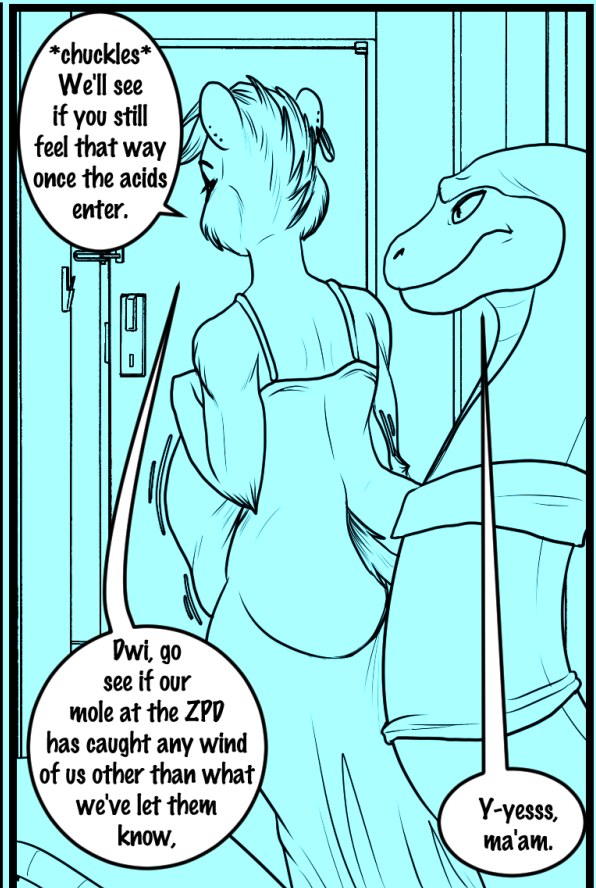
Y-you won't get away with this!



But, Hunny Bun, I've already gotten away with this. You're either going to die in there or I let out for a merciful quick death.

-PUNCH-

So I'm gonna die either way?! There's no way I'll talk now!



\*chuckles\* We'll see if you still feel that way once the acids enter.

Dwi, go see if our mole at the ZPD has caught any wind of us other than what we've let them know,

Y-yesss, ma'am.



Nice to get some fresh air like this, huh? Oh, I guess you can't get any, food. \*chuckle\* I sometimes like to just stand on the edge like this. Gives me a thrill.

\*cough\*  
\*cough\*



It's a little thing, but it helps spark the predator side of me, right ...?

Nnh-  
H-help.  
S-someone.



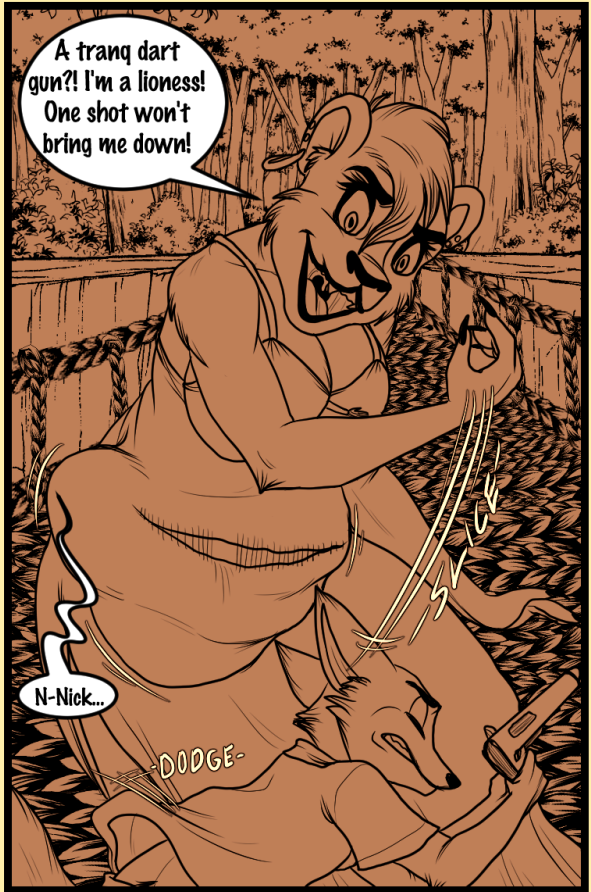
LUNGE

...Mr. Wilde?!

\*BANG\*

SLICE

SWING



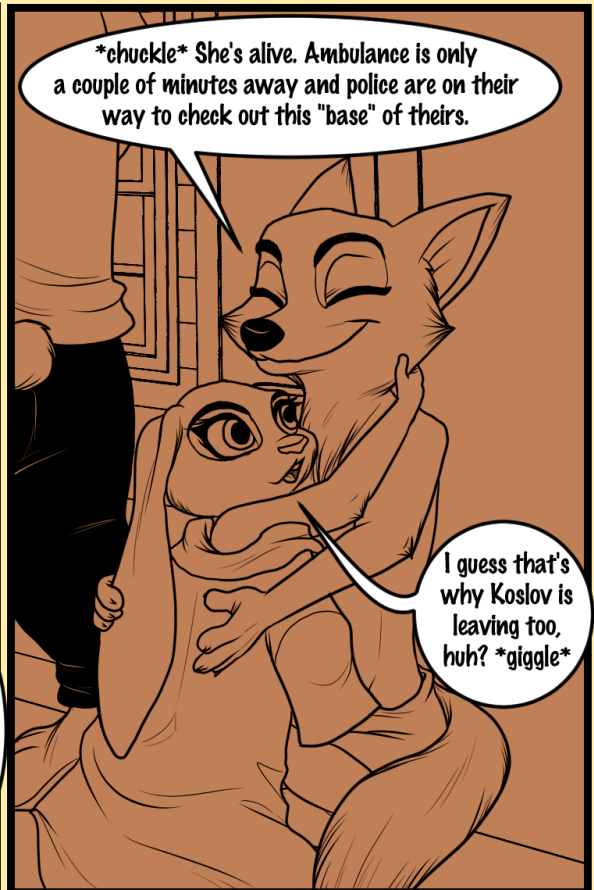
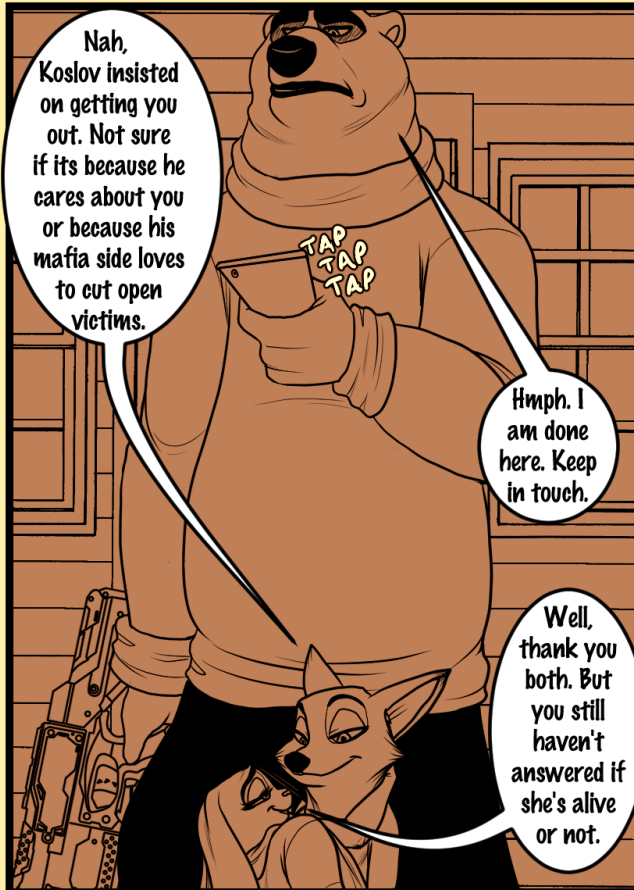
A tranq dart gun?! I'm a lioness! One shot won't bring me down!

N-Nick...

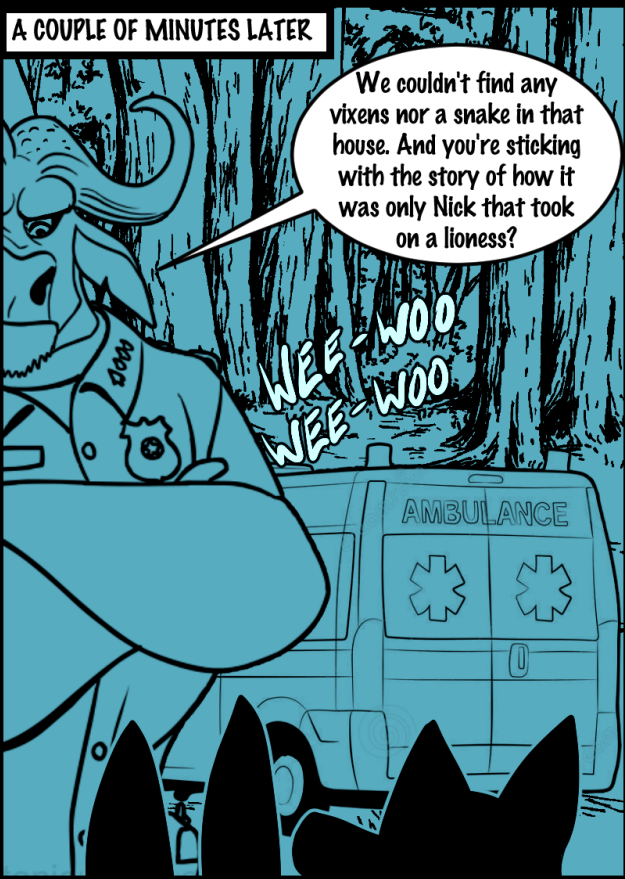
DODGE-







A COUPLE OF MINUTES LATER



We couldn't find any vixens nor a snake in that house. And you're sticking with the story of how it was only Nick that took on a lioness?

WEE-WOO  
WEE-WOO



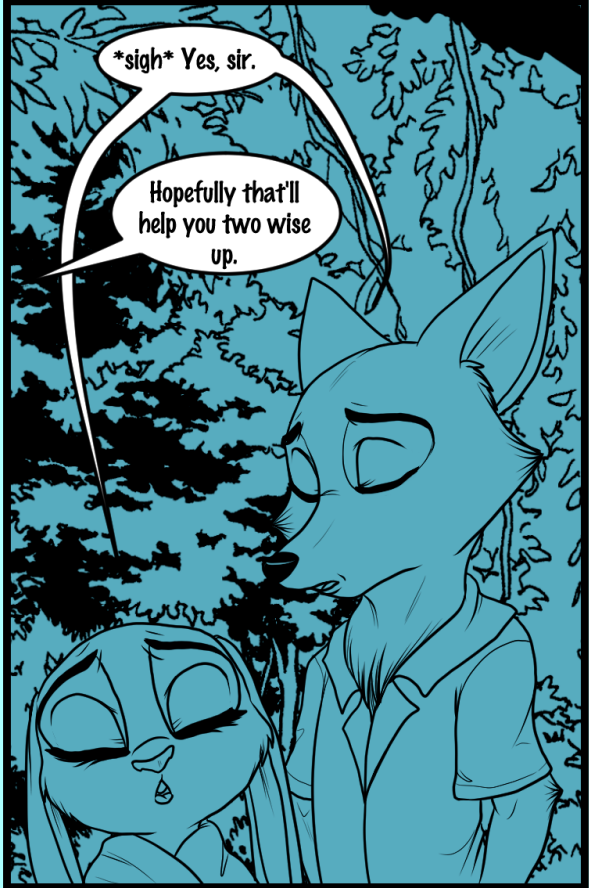
Yes, sir.

Also, I hope that none of you are getting any bright ideas about jumping in on this case. Both of you nearly got killed in less than four days!

We won't, sir.



And since none of you took proper precautions and both of you are fine, I want a report on my desk before dawn.



\*sigh\* Yes, sir.

Hopefully that'll help you two wise up.