

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TRACE EFFECTS



CHAPTER 7

BACK IN THE PROFESSOR'S LAB, TRACE PREPARES TO RETURN HOME TO THE FUTURE.

I FINALLY FIXED THE TIME MACHINE!

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP, PROFESSOR PETERSON, KIT, AND EDDIE! I'LL MISS YOU!

OUR PLEASURE, TRACE!

COME BACK AND VISIT SOMETIME!

TRACE STANDS ON THE TIME MACHINE READY TO TRAVEL HOME.

A comic book panel showing a young man with dark hair, wearing a blue jumpsuit, standing on a small, wheeled platform. He is facing away from the viewer, looking towards a bright, green, wavy energy field that radiates outwards. In the foreground, the profile of a woman with dark hair and glasses is visible on the left, and the back of a man's head with dark hair is on the right. The background is a solid green color with a pattern of concentric, wavy lines.

THE PROFESSOR AND KIT RE-EXAMINE THEIR FORMULAS AND EQUATIONS.

HMM. I DON'T KNOW WHAT WENT WRONG...

YOUR DIAGRAM IS JUST MISSING THE 7TH MODULE. THIS NEEDS TO BE A SEVEN-POINT STAR TO CREATE THE PROPER SPACE-TIME MOMENTUM FIELD.

WHAT?

THIS LOOKS JUST LIKE THE DIAGRAM IN TRACE'S COMIC BOOK. SEE? RIGHT HERE WHERE THE TIME WIZARD DISCOVERS THE LEAGUE OF TIME KEEPER'S SECRET LABORATORY...

EDDIE! DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. THIS IS SERIOUS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH...

KIT, DON'T SPEAK SO SOON! I ACTUALLY THINK EDDIE IS RIGHT!

THE TIME MACHINE JUMPS TO LIFE.

TRACE, THERE'S ONE MORE MISSION BEFORE YOU CAN RETURN TO THE FUTURE!

YOU MUST FIND PAULO AT THE NATIONAL MALL IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AND HELP HIM STUDY IN THE UNITED STATES.

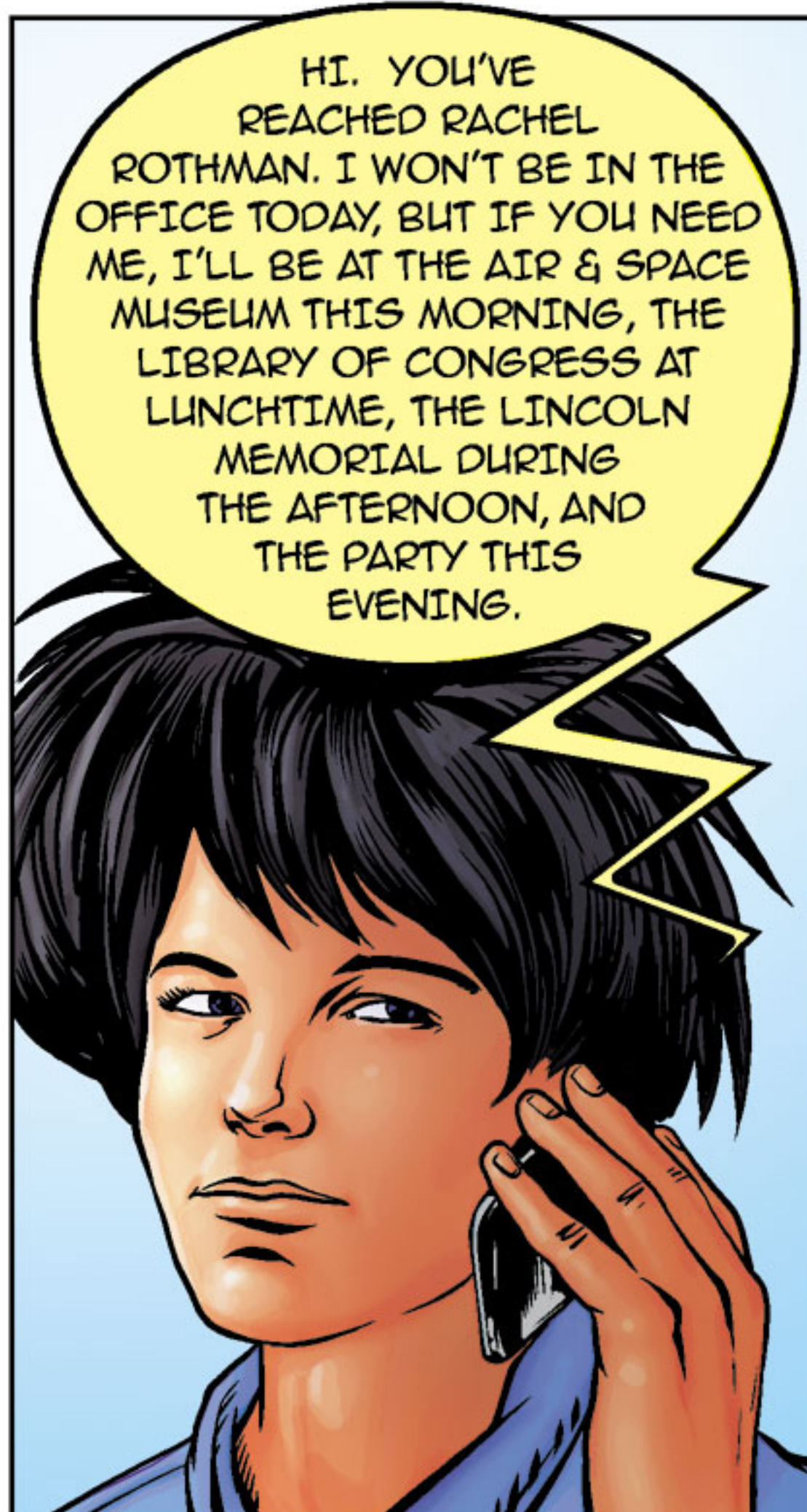
I KNOW SOMEONE IN WASHINGTON, D.C., THAT MAY BE ABLE TO HELP! I'LL GIVE YOU HER PHONE NUMBER, TRACE.

AND THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SOCIETY IS HEADED TO WASHINGTON, D.C., TOMORROW! I'M NOT GOING ON THIS TRIP. I NEED TO STAY AND HELP THE PROFESSOR.

I'LL WORK ON THE MISSING PIECE OF THE TIME MACHINE WHILE YOU'RE GONE, TRACE. GOOD LUCK!

THANKS, EVERYONE! I'LL BE BACK SOON!

TRACE ARRIVES AT THE NATIONAL MALL IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AND MEETS A STUDENT FROM BRAZIL.



**TRACE AND PAULO ARRIVE
AT THE AIR & SPACE MUSEUM.**

EXCUSE ME,
BUT DO YOU KNOW
WHERE I CAN FIND
RACHEL ROTHMAN?

I DON'T
KNOW WHO
SHE IS.
SORRY!

EXCUSE ME.
DO YOU KNOW
RACHEL ROTHMAN?

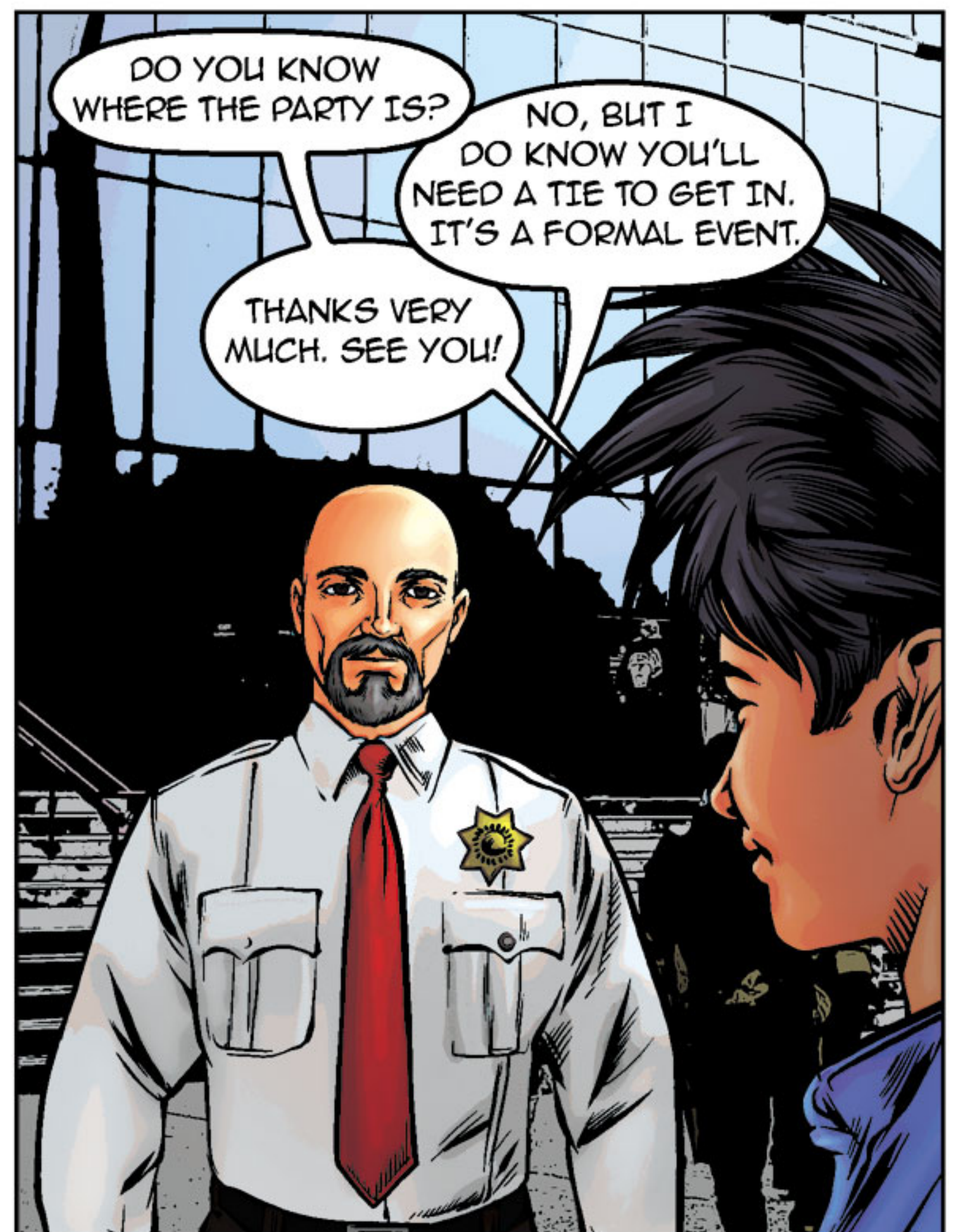
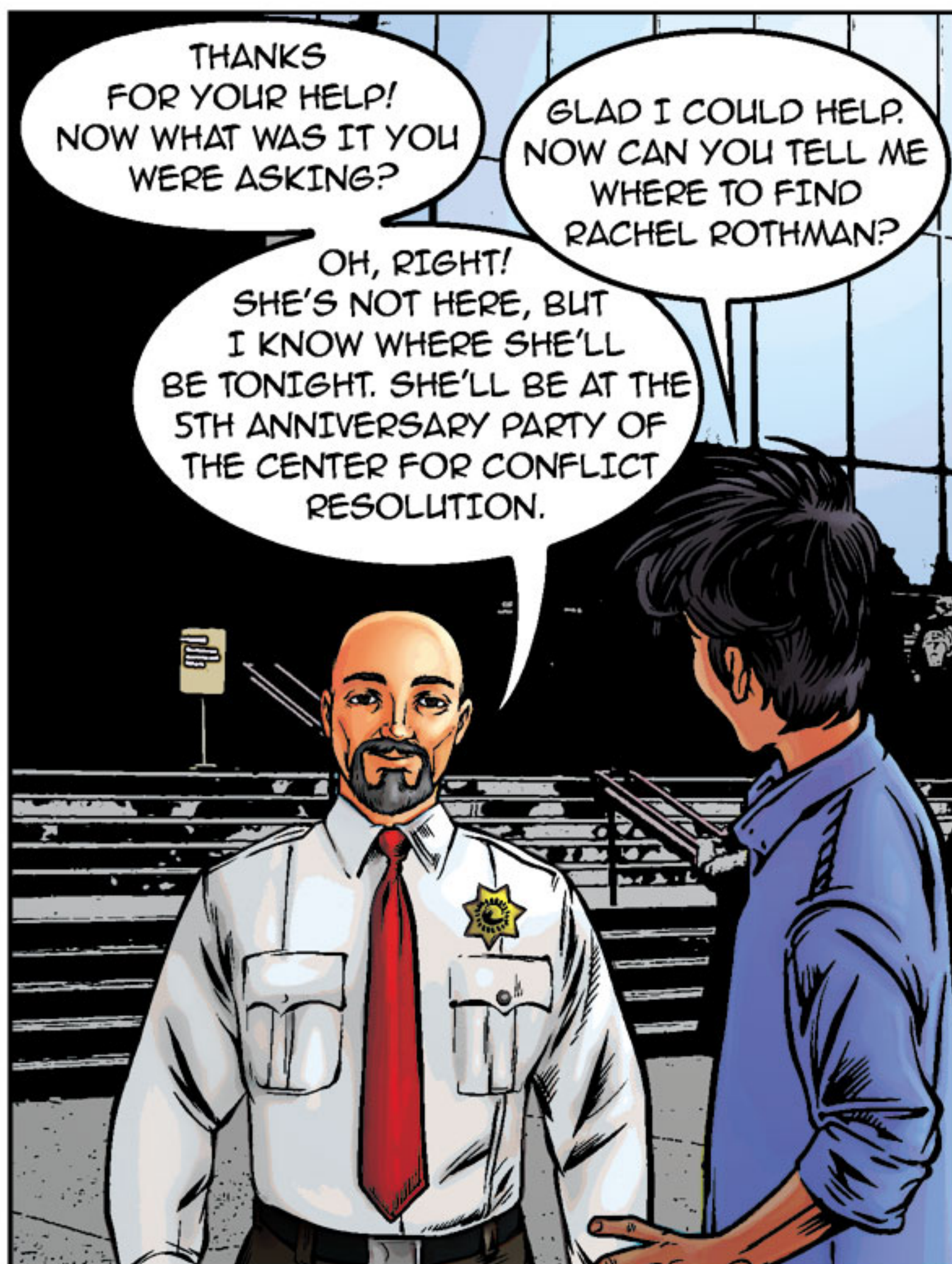
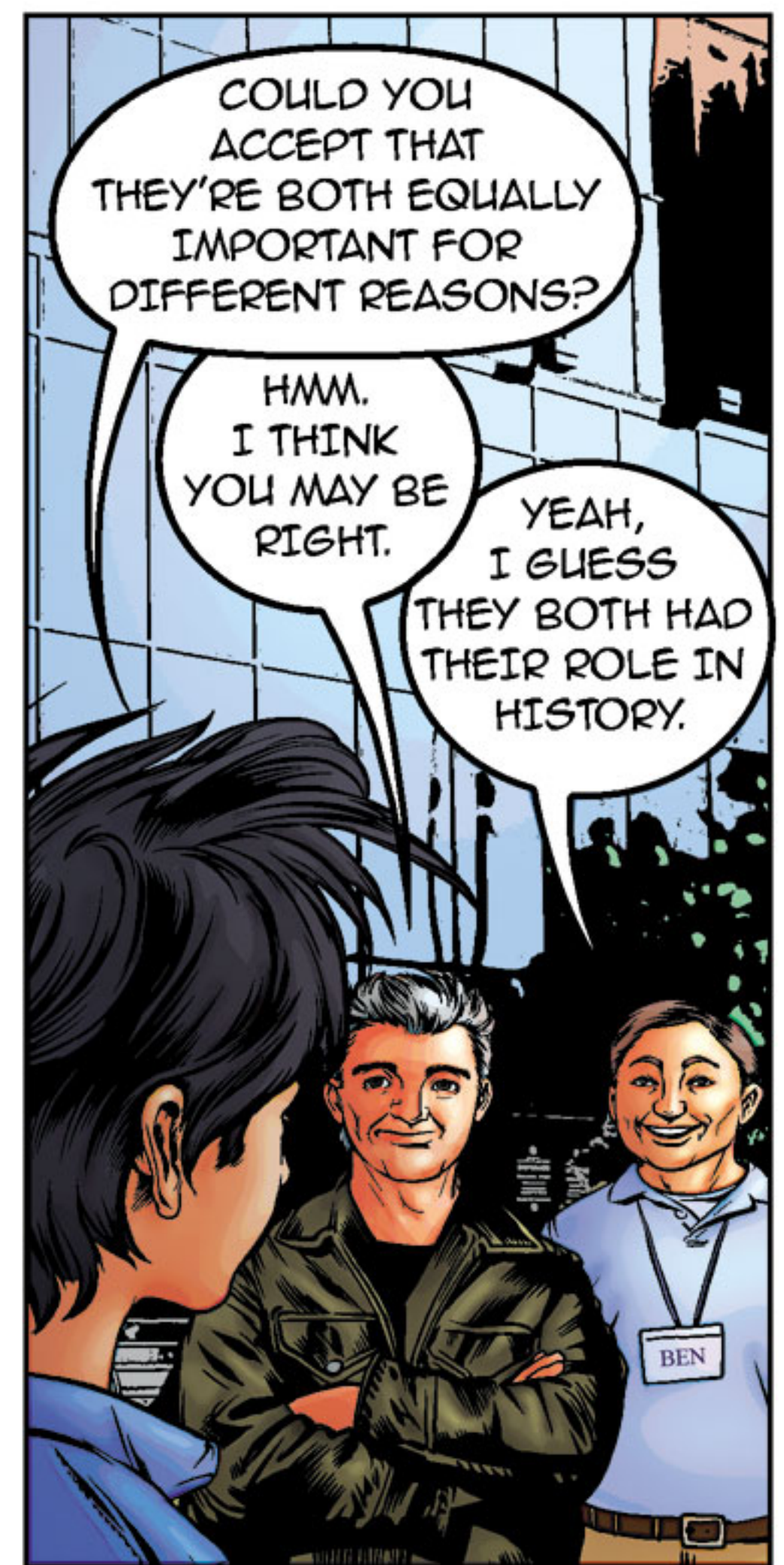
NOPE, SORRY!
WHY DON'T YOU
ASK THE GUARD?

**TRACE ASKS A SECURITY GUARD IF HE
KNOWS WHERE RACHEL ROTHMAN IS.**

I KNOW HER,
BUT I HAVE TO CALM
THESE TWO DOWN
BEFORE I CAN TALK!

AIR TRAVEL IS
THE BIGGER
ACCOMPLISHMENT!

NO WAY!
SPACE TRAVEL
IS MORE
IMPORTANT!



OUTSIDE THE AIR & SPACE MUSEUM...

TOO BAD WE DIDN'T CATCH RACHEL. LET'S SEE IF SHE'S AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. SHE'S SUPPOSED TO GO THERE NEXT.

SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN. AND LET'S KEEP OUR EYE OUT FOR NECKTIES!

TRACE AND PAULO ARRIVE AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

HI. DO YOU KNOW WHERE I CAN FIND RACHEL ROTHMAN?

SORRY, I NEVER HEARD OF HER. TRY THE LIBRARIAN AT THE DESK.

I'M LOOKING FOR RACHEL ROTHMAN.

SORRY, I DON'T KNOW HER.

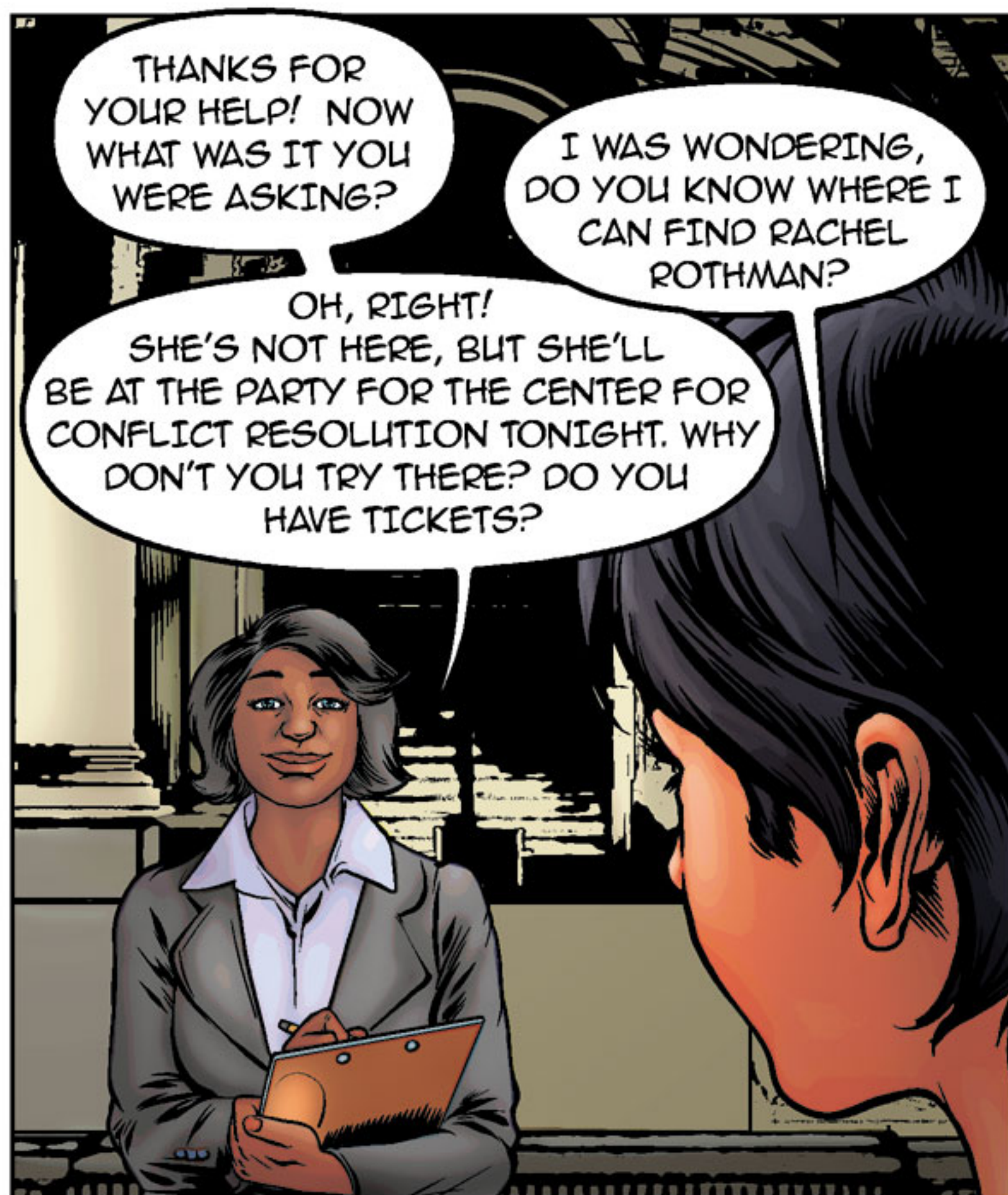
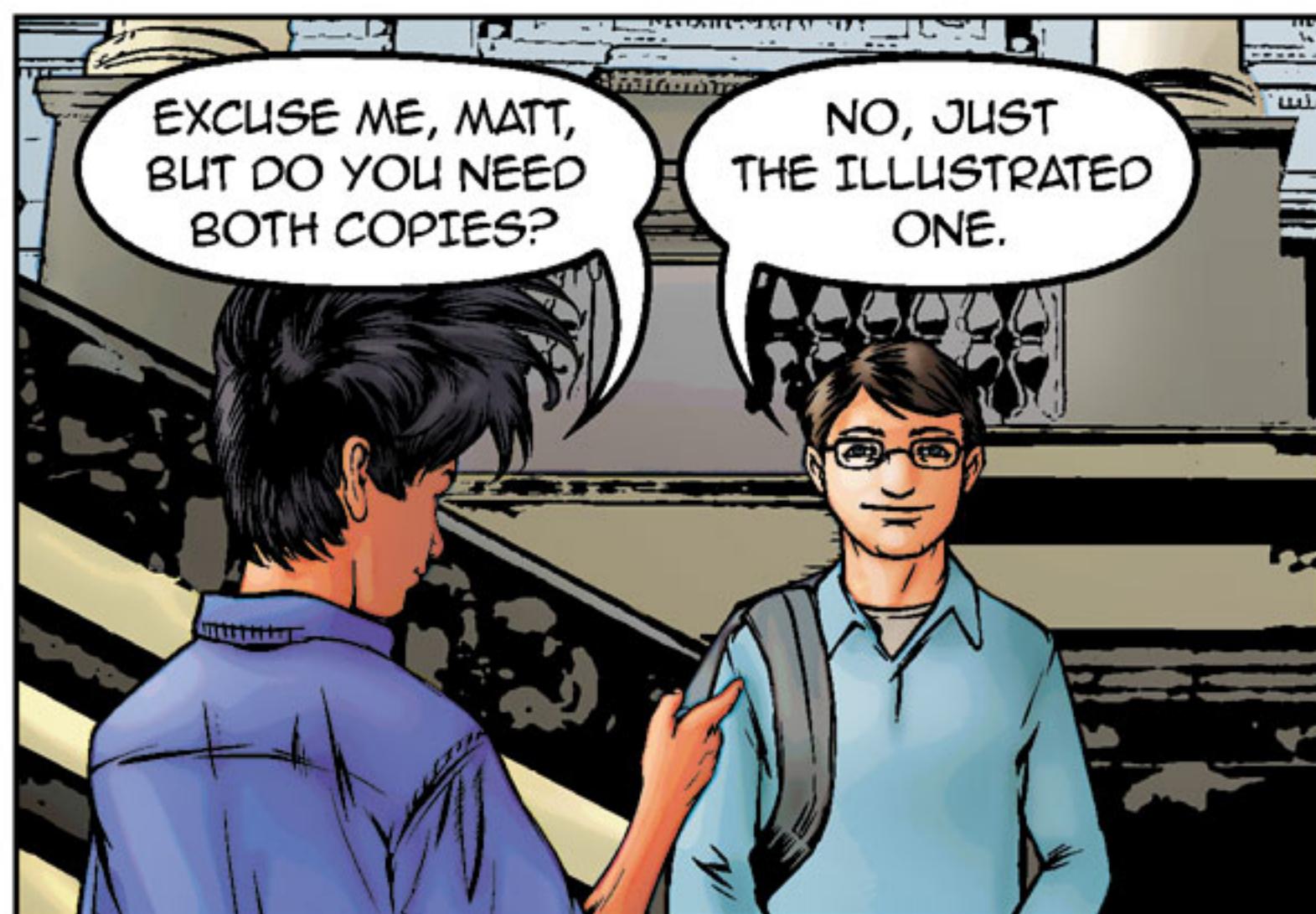
TRACE ASKS THE LIBRARIAN IF SHE HAS SEEN RACHEL ROTHMAN. HOWEVER, SHE IS IN THE MIDDLE OF SETTLING AN ARGUMENT.

I KNOW HER, BUT I HAVE TO HELP THESE TWO STUDENTS BEFORE I CAN TALK!

BUT, MATT, I CAN'T FINISH MY PAPER WITHOUT IT!

WELL I CAN'T FINISH MY ART PROJECT WITHOUT THE ILLUSTRATIONS!

BUT YOU ALREADY HAVE A COPY OF THE BOOK!



**OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY
OF CONGRESS...**

LET'S TRY AT THE
LINCOLN MEMORIAL.
RACHEL WAS GOING
THERE NEXT.

OKAY. MAYBE
WE CAN CATCH
HER THERE.

**TRACE AND PAULO ARRIVE AT THE LINCOLN
MEMORIAL AND ASK AROUND ABOUT RACHEL.**

EXCUSE ME. I'M
LOOKING FOR RACHEL
ROTHMAN. DO YOU
KNOW HER?

SORRY, I DON'T
KNOW HER. WHY DON'T
YOU ASK AROUND?

HI. I'D LIKE TO FIND
RACHEL ROTHMAN. DO YOU
KNOW WHERE SHE IS?

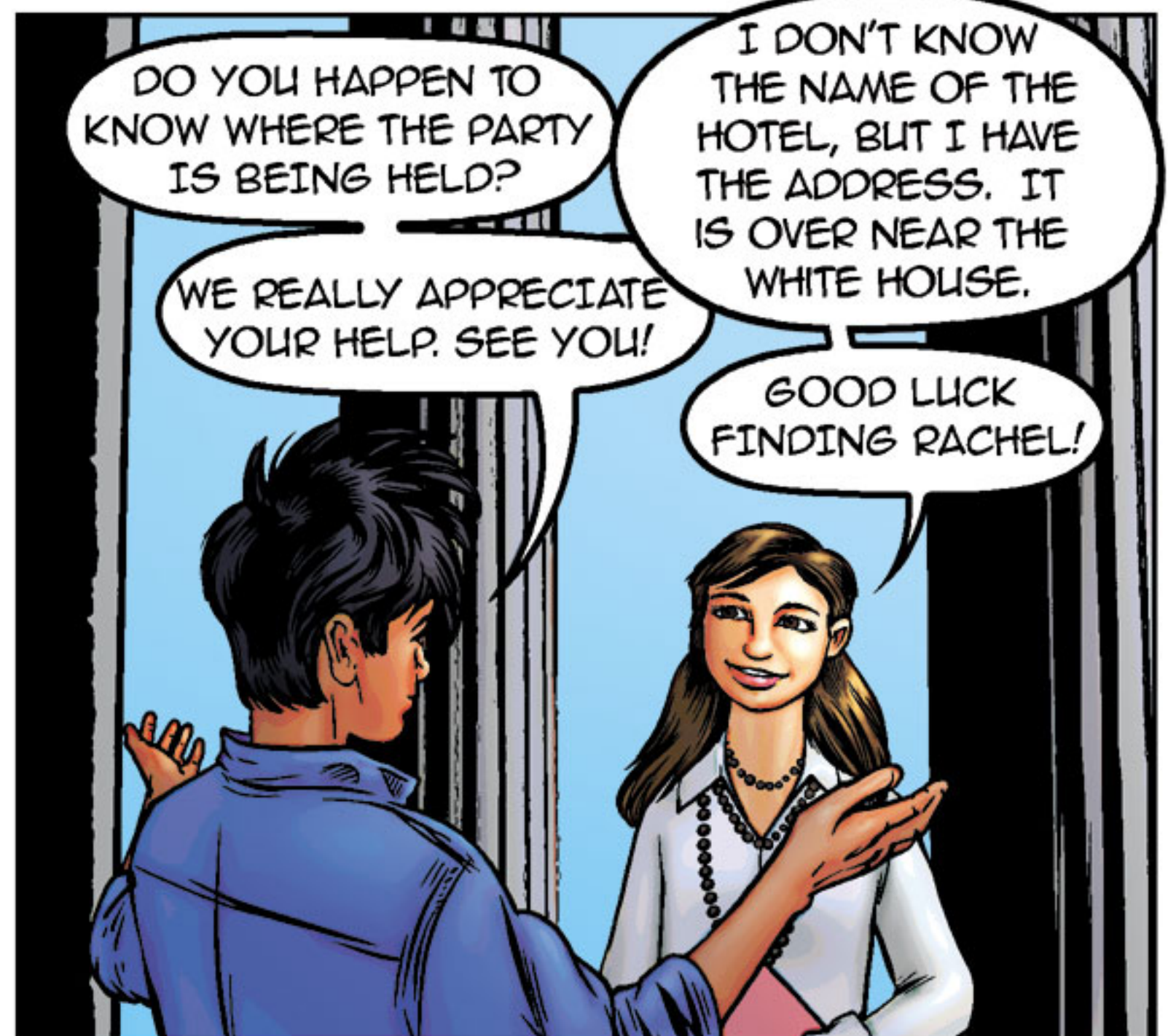
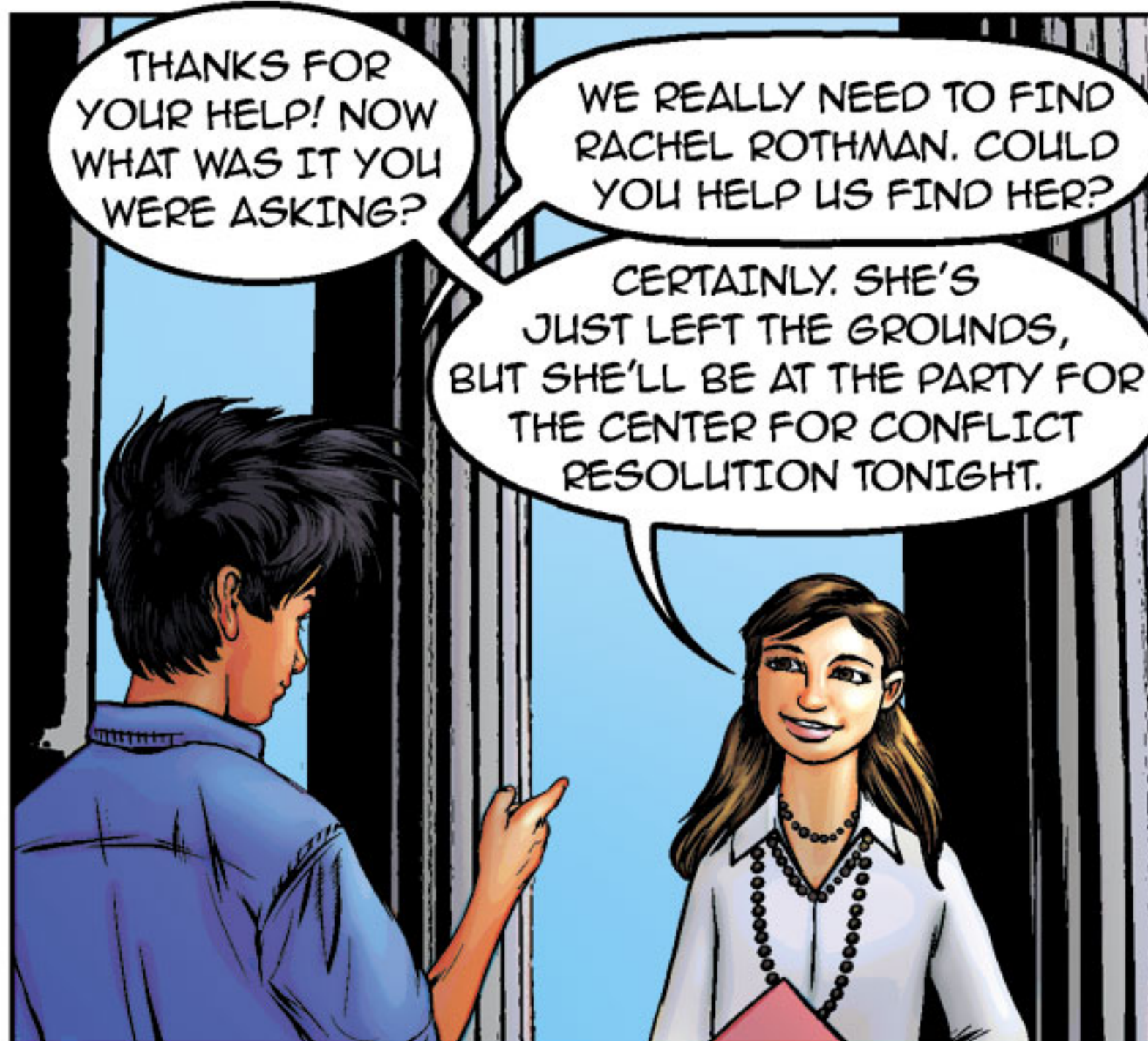
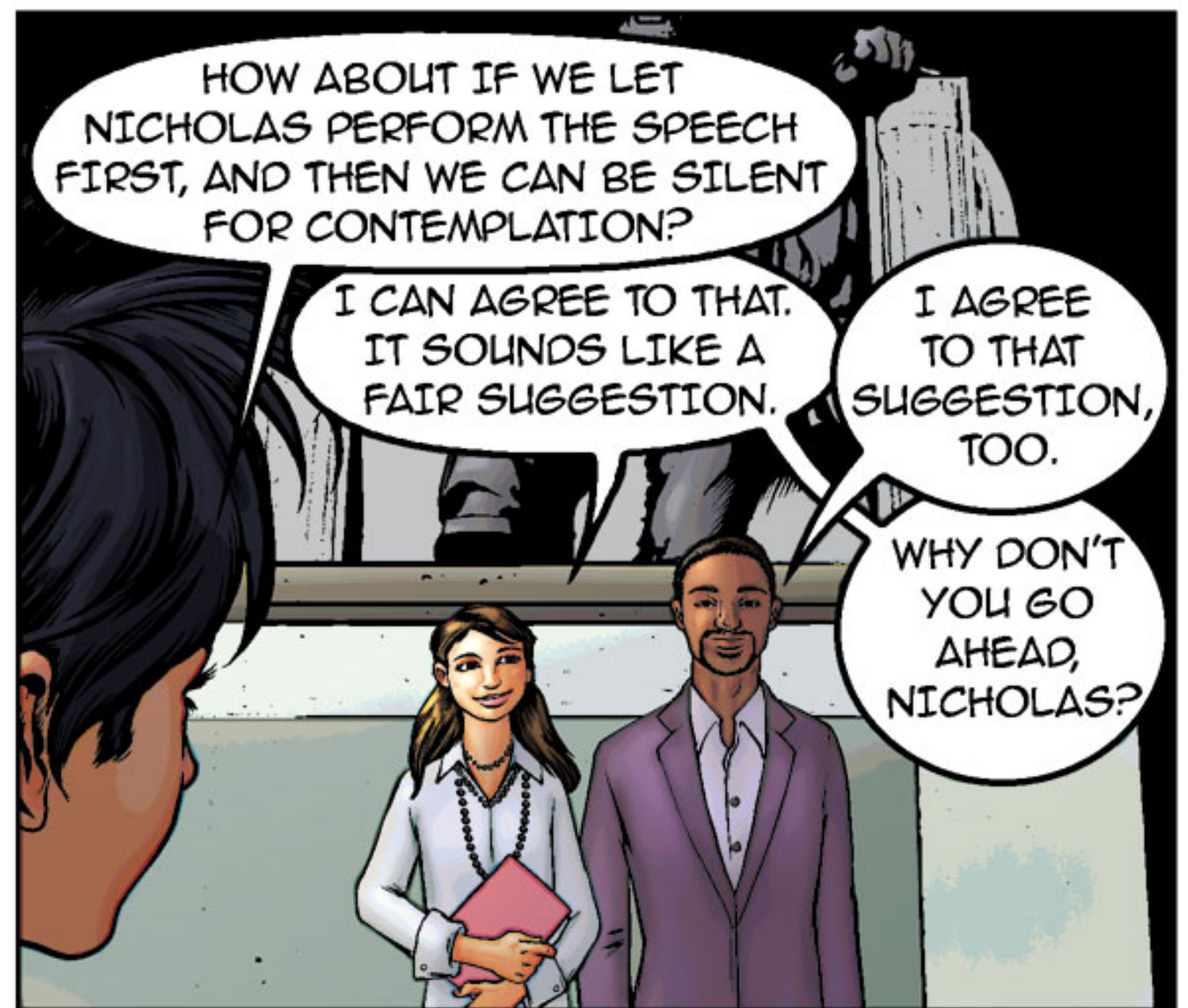
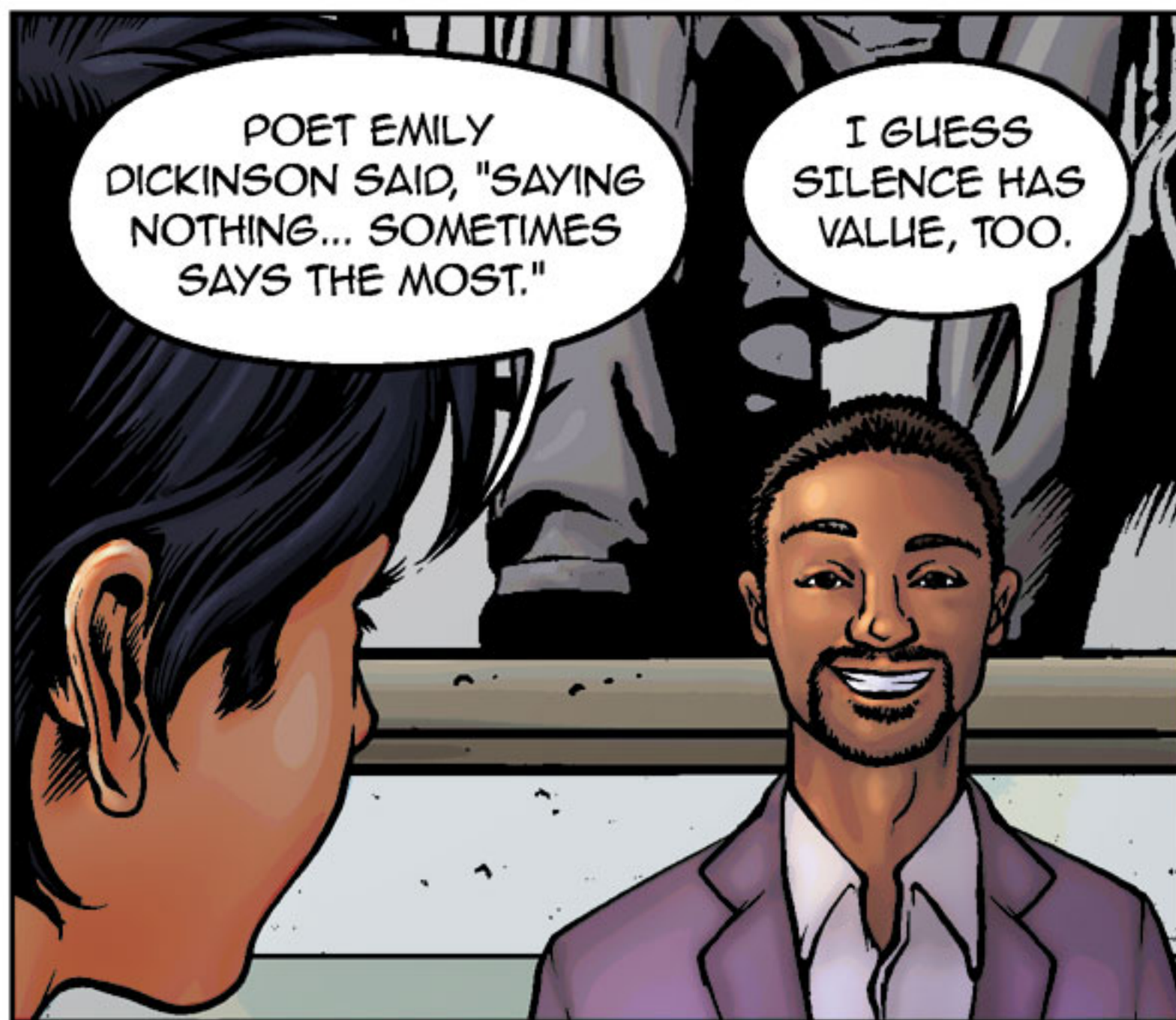
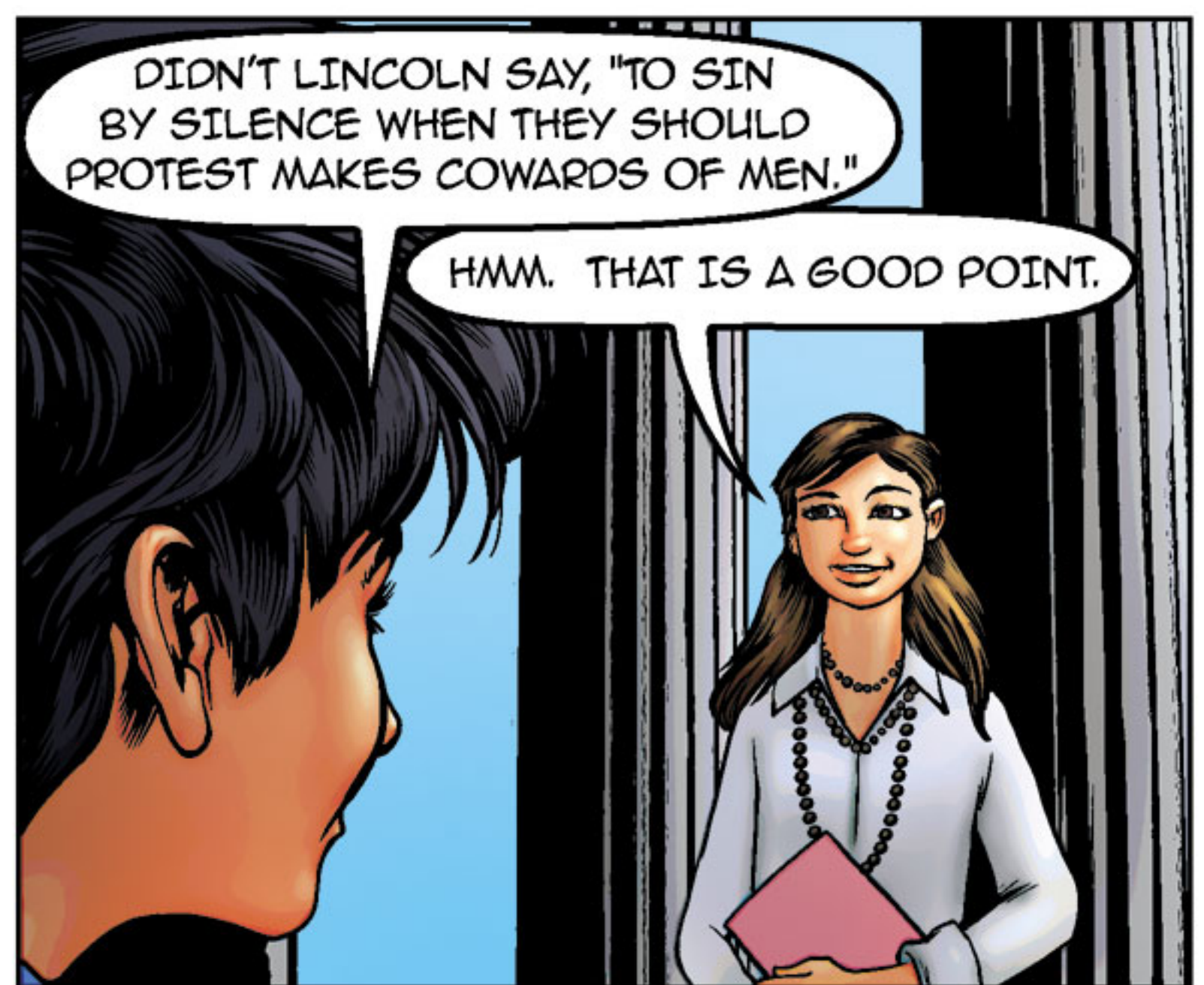
I DON'T KNOW HER.
YOU OUGHT TO ASK THE
DOCENT. SHE'S AROUND
HERE SOMEWHERE.

**TRACE APPROACHES THE DOCENT AND ASKS
HER IF SHE KNOWS RACHEL ROTHMAN. HOWEVER,
SHE IS HAVING AN ARGUMENT WITH AN ACTOR.**

I KNOW WHERE SHE IS, BUT
I'M RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A
CONVERSATION NOW.

IT'S A SPEECH!
IT WAS MEANT TO BE
SAID ALOUD!

IT WAS SAID ALOUD!
THERE'S NO NEED FOR
YOU TO DO IT, TOO!



**OUTSIDE THE
LINCOLN MEMORIAL...**

WE'D BETTER GO TO THAT PARTY!
IT'S OUR LAST CHANCE TO
INTRODUCE YOU TO RACHEL!

WE'D
BETTER GET
THERE QUICKLY!
IT'S GETTING
LATE!



**TRACE AND PAULO
ARRIVE AT THE PARTY.**

WELCOME! UH-OH.
DO YOU HAVE A TIE?



THANK YOU.
PLEASE SIGN THE
GUEST BOOK, AND
YOU CAN GO IN.



HAVE A GREAT
EVENING!



**TRACE ASKS THE PARTY GUESTS
IF THEY KNOW RACHEL ROTHMAN.**

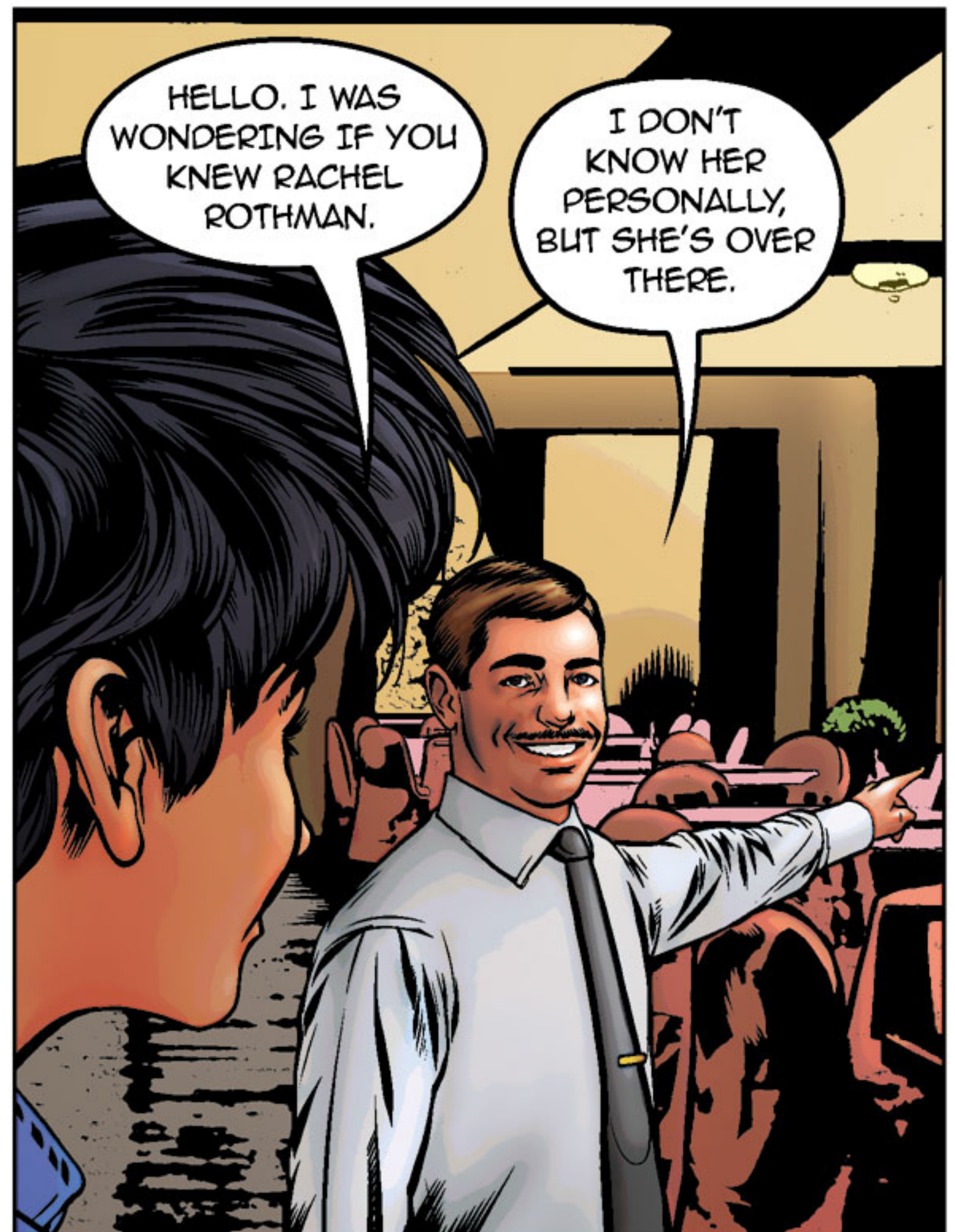
EXCUSE ME. DO
YOU KNOW RACHEL
ROTHMAN?

SORRY,
I'VE NEVER HEARD
OF HER. WHY DON'T YOU
ASK AROUND?



HELLO. I WAS
WONDERING IF YOU
KNEW RACHEL
ROTHMAN.

I DON'T
KNOW HER
PERSONALLY,
BUT SHE'S OVER
THERE.



**TRACE FINALLY FINDS
RACHEL ROTHMAN!**

SORRY TO INTERRUPT.
ARE YOU RACHEL ROTHMAN?

PAULO IS
VISITING FROM BRAZIL.
MY FRIEND KIT SAYS YOU MIGHT
BE ABLE TO HELP HIM.

PAULO WANTS TO COME
BACK TO STUDY. HE'S INTERESTED
IN AMERICAN HISTORY AND
PEACE STUDIES.

THAT'S ME. WHY ARE
YOU LOOKING FOR ME?

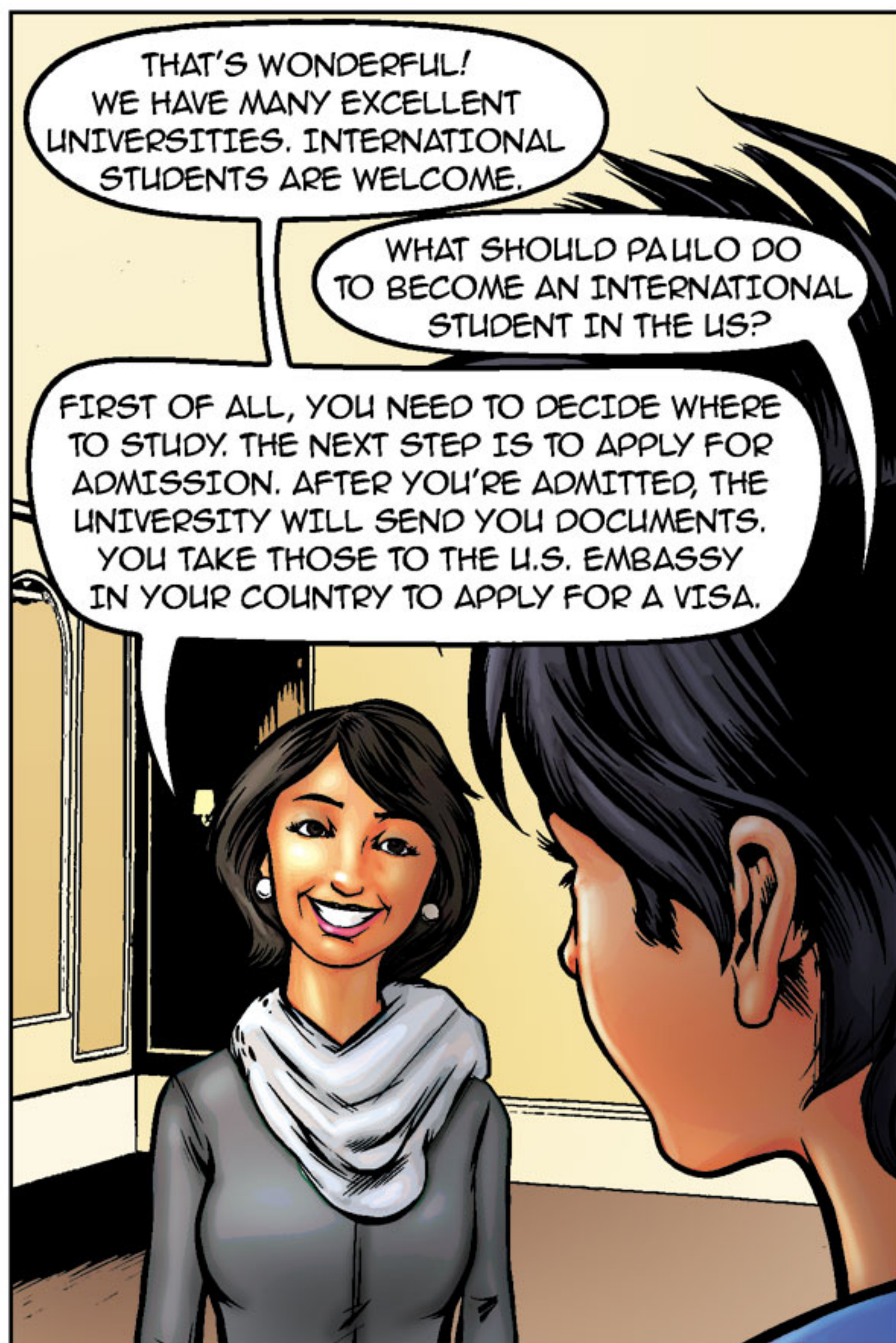
WELL, I AM AN INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT ADVISER. I HOPE I CAN HELP.



THAT'S WONDERFUL!
WE HAVE MANY EXCELLENT
UNIVERSITIES. INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS ARE WELCOME.

WHAT SHOULD PAULO DO
TO BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT IN THE US?

FIRST OF ALL, YOU NEED TO DECIDE WHERE
TO STUDY. THE NEXT STEP IS TO APPLY FOR
ADMISSION. AFTER YOU'RE ADMITTED, THE
UNIVERSITY WILL SEND YOU DOCUMENTS.
YOU TAKE THOSE TO THE U.S. EMBASSY
IN YOUR COUNTRY TO APPLY FOR A VISA.



THAT'S VERY HELPFUL! I NEED TO
LEAVE, BUT I'M SURE THERE'S MORE
FOR PAULO TO LEARN.

BYE, TRACE!
YOU'VE BEEN GREAT.
LET ME KNOW IF YOU EVER
COME TO BRAZIL!



**TRACE BORROWS PAULO'S PHONE AGAIN
AND CALLS PROFESSOR PETERSON.**

HELLO, PROFESSOR.
I HAVE COMPLETED THE LAST
MISSION! IS THE TIME MACHINE FIXED?
SHOULD I HEAD BACK TO THE
UNIVERSITY CAMPUS?



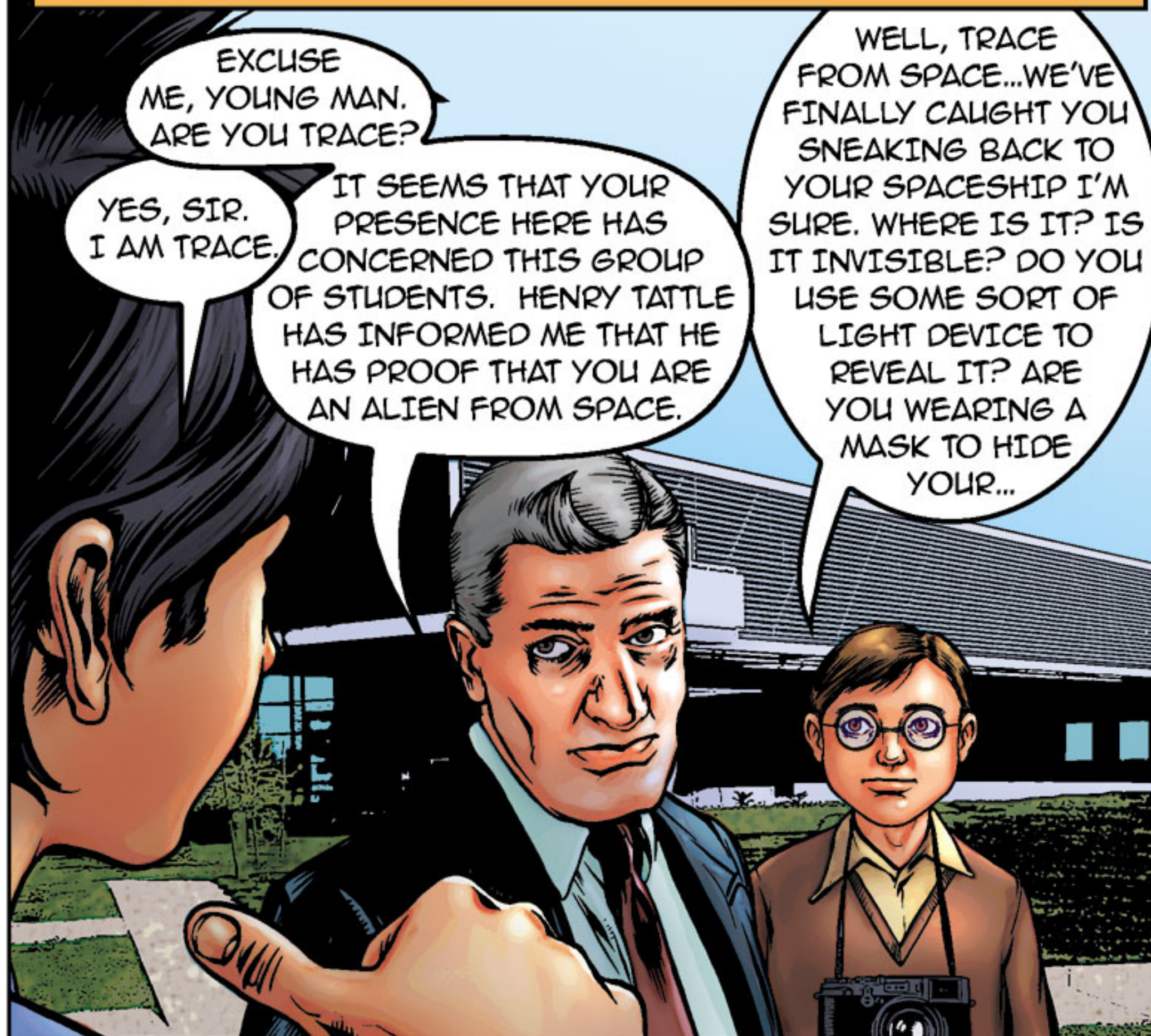
YES, TRACE! HURRY BACK.
KIT, EDDIE, AND I HAVE FIXED THE
TIME MACHINE. IT CONFIRMS THAT YOU
HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL AND THAT ALL
MISSIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED! THE
TIME MACHINE JUST ALERTED US
THAT IT IS READY TO TAKE YOU HOME
TO THE FUTURE. COME TO THE LAB
IMMEDIATELY. WE'LL SEE YOU SOON.



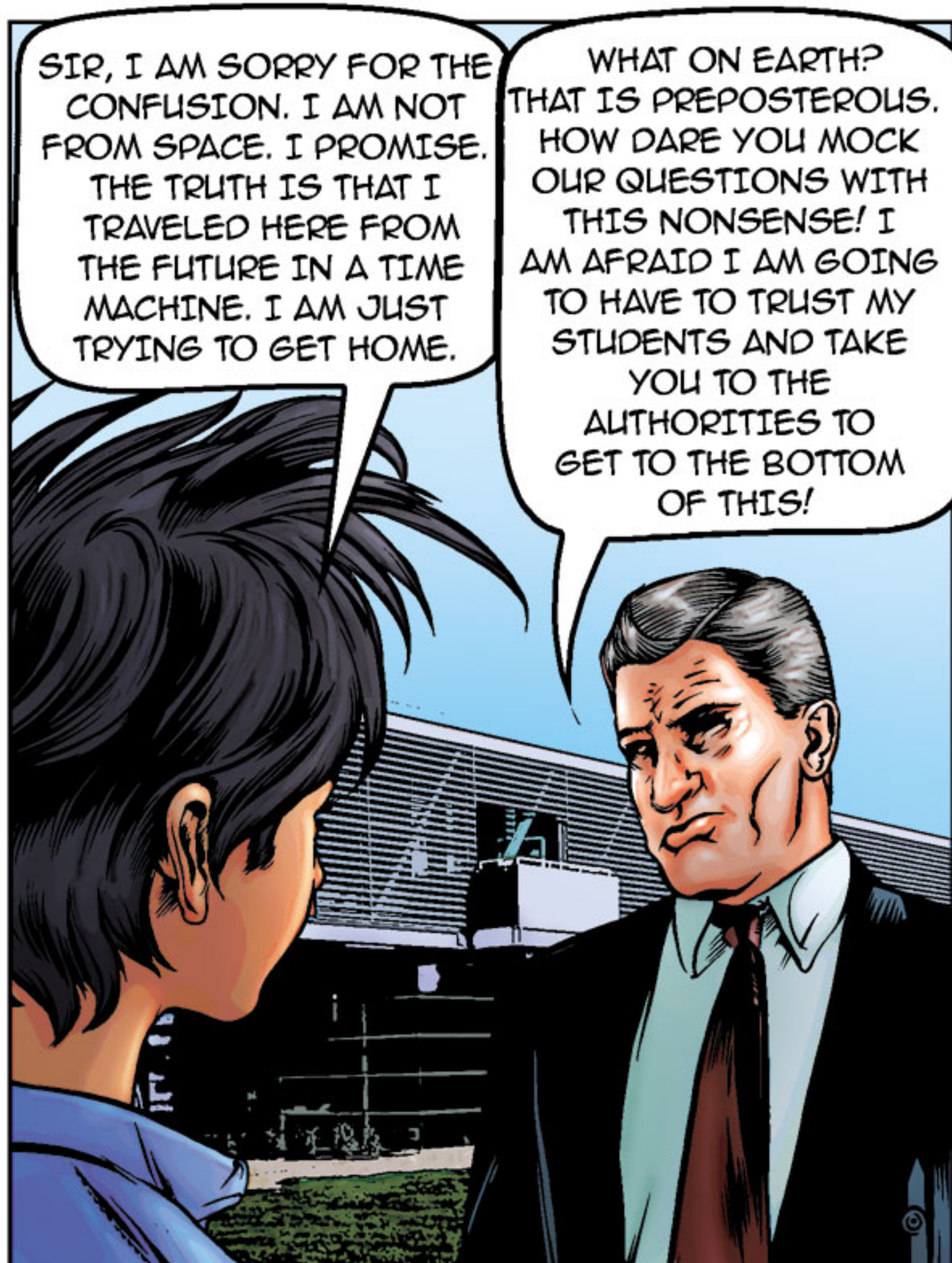
THE TIME
MACHINE IS READY
TO TAKE ME HOME...I GUESS
MY ADVENTURE IS COMING
TO AN END...



TRACE ARRIVES BACK AT THE UNIVERSITY AND IS CONFRONTED BY THE STUDENTS AND THE DEAN OF THE UNIVERSITY.



NOW I AM NOT ONE TO BELIEVE CRAZY STORIES, BUT THE PHOTOS HENRY HAS PRESENTED TO ME ARE QUITE CONVINCING. QUITE CONVINCING INDEED. THESE STUDENTS ARE ALSO SUSPICIOUS OF YOU. IT SEEMS YOU HAVE HAD A FALSE STUDENT ID, HAVE TRAVELED WITH STUDENT GROUPS YOU ARE NOT OFFICIALLY A MEMBER OF, AND HAVE ALSO INFLUENCED STUDENTS AND STAFF TO TAKE YOUR PLACES ALL OVER THE UNITED STATES. WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY IN YOUR DEFENSE?



EDDIE AND KIT ARRIVE JUST IN TIME WITH SOME SPECIAL FRIENDS.



TRACE HELPED ME LEARN TO STAND UP FOR WHAT I BELIEVE IN AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE LOCALLY. NOW HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS ARE DISCOVERING GOOD NUTRITION.



TRACE HELPED ME, TOO. HE MADE ME REALIZE THAT ANYTHING CAN BE ACHIEVED IF YOU PUT YOUR MIND TO IT. HE HELPED MY BAND ORGANIZE A CONCERT THAT RAISED MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM. NOW THE PROGRAM IS FUNDED! I WOULD HAVE NEVER CONSIDERED MYSELF AN ACTIVIST BEFORE, BUT NOW I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN ANY WAY I CAN.



TRACE HELPED THE ENVIRONMENT, TOO. TOGETHER WE HELPED MY TOWN LEARN THE VALUE BEHIND REDUCING WASTE, RECYCLING, AND REUSING VALUABLE NATURAL RESOURCES. PLUS, HE WAS A GREAT FRIEND TO ME.



I HAVE A STORY, TOO. TRACE HELPED ME CONVINCE MY FATHER TO LET ME CHASE MY ENTREPRENEURIAL DREAMS. MY FATHER LET ME ENTER A CONTEST THAT I WON! NOW I HAVE THE CHANCE TO SHARE MY IDEAS WITH THE WORLD AND BE AN INSTRUMENT FOR CHANGE.



MY STORY IS SIMPLE. TRACE SHOWED ME THAT TEAMWORK IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN PETTY RIVALRIES. I NEEDED TO OPEN MY EYES TO THE PEOPLE AROUND ME AND NEVER BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR HELP. MY BIGGEST COMPETITOR IS NOW MY GREATEST ALLY.



TRACE HELPED ME FULFILL MY DREAMS OF GOING TO SCHOOL IN THE UNITED STATES. HIS FRIENDSHIP AND GUIDANCE GAVE ME THE CONFIDENCE TO ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS. TRACE SHOWED ME THE IMPORTANCE OF SEEING BOTH SIDES. TRACE IS NOT A BAD PERSON. TRACE IS A GREAT PERSON! PLEASE HEAR OUR STORIES. PLEASE SEE BOTH SIDES.



I INDEED SEE BOTH SIDES. THESE ARE VERY CONVINCING STORIES. MORE CONVINCING I MUST SAY THAN ALIENS AND TIME MACHINES. PROFESSOR PETERSON, I SEE YOU ARE HERE TO SUPPORT TRACE. CAN YOU VERIFY THESE STORIES AS TRUE?



YES. THESE STORIES ARE TRUE. I BELIEVE THAT TRACE IS A GOOD PERSON AND THAT THERE HAS JUST BEEN A MISUNDERSTANDING.

YES. HENRY, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU IN MY OFFICE, PLEASE. WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT THIS.



THANK YOU! THANK YOU, EVERYONE. IT WAS GREAT OF YOU TO TRAVEL ALL THIS WAY JUST TO HELP ME.



**BACK IN THE
PROFESSOR'S LAB...**

ALL RIGHT, TRACE.
PLEASE STAND ON THE
TIME MACHINE, AND I
WILL ACTIVATE THE
SEQUENCE.



TRACE, OUR INSTRUMENTS INFORM
US THAT YOU HAVE COMPLETED
THE TIME MACHINE'S MISSION
SUCCESSFULLY. IT ALSO LOOKS
AS IF THE TIME MACHINE HAS
BEEN COMPLETELY REPAIRED.
VIDEO FEED IS NOW AVAILABLE.

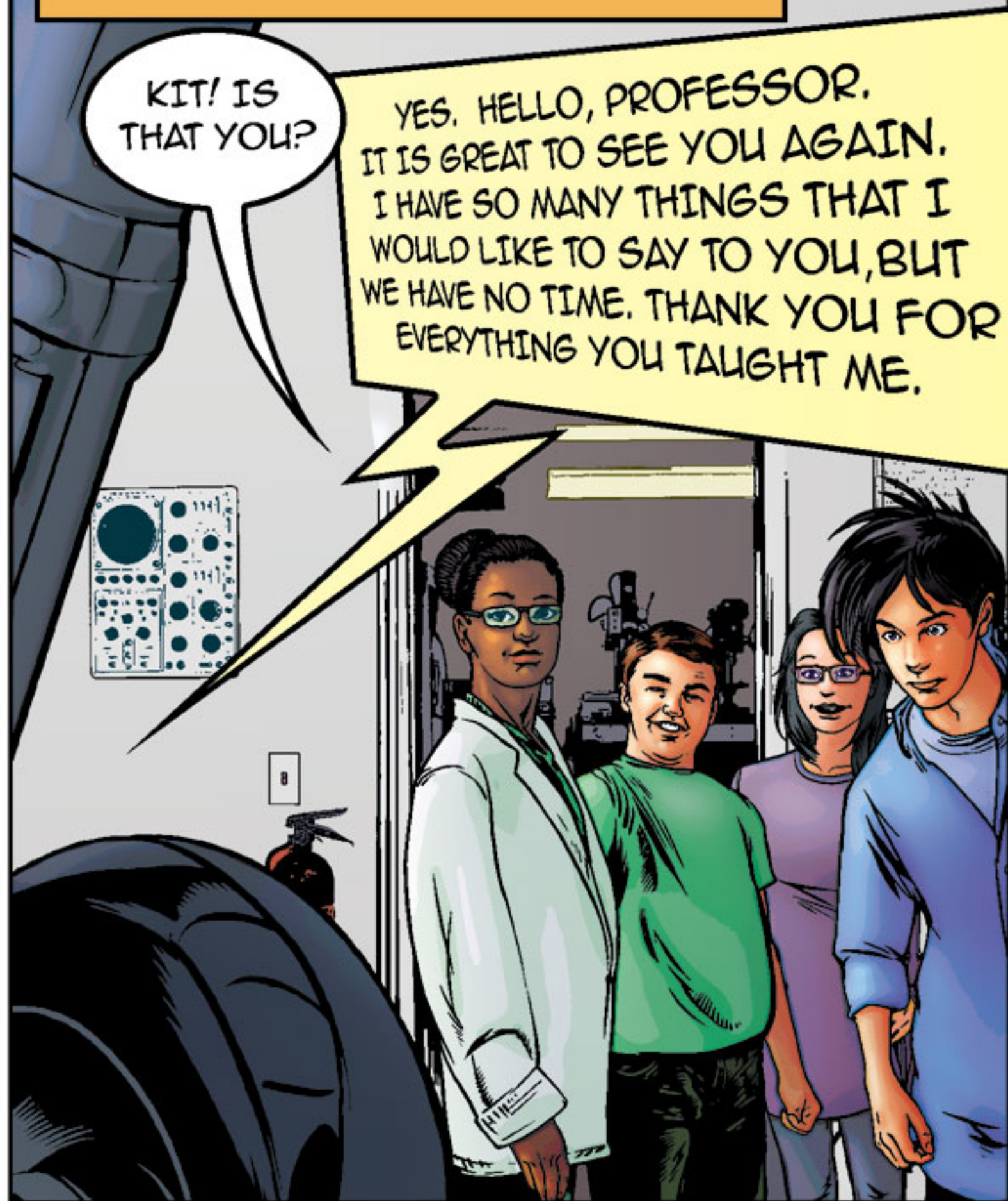


HELLO, TRACE. NICE TO SEE YOU
IN PERSON. WE ARE READY TO
BRING YOU HOME. YOU ARE A HERO
HERE, AND EVERYONE IS EXCITED
TO MEET YOU. YOUR LIFE WILL
NEVER BE THE SAME.

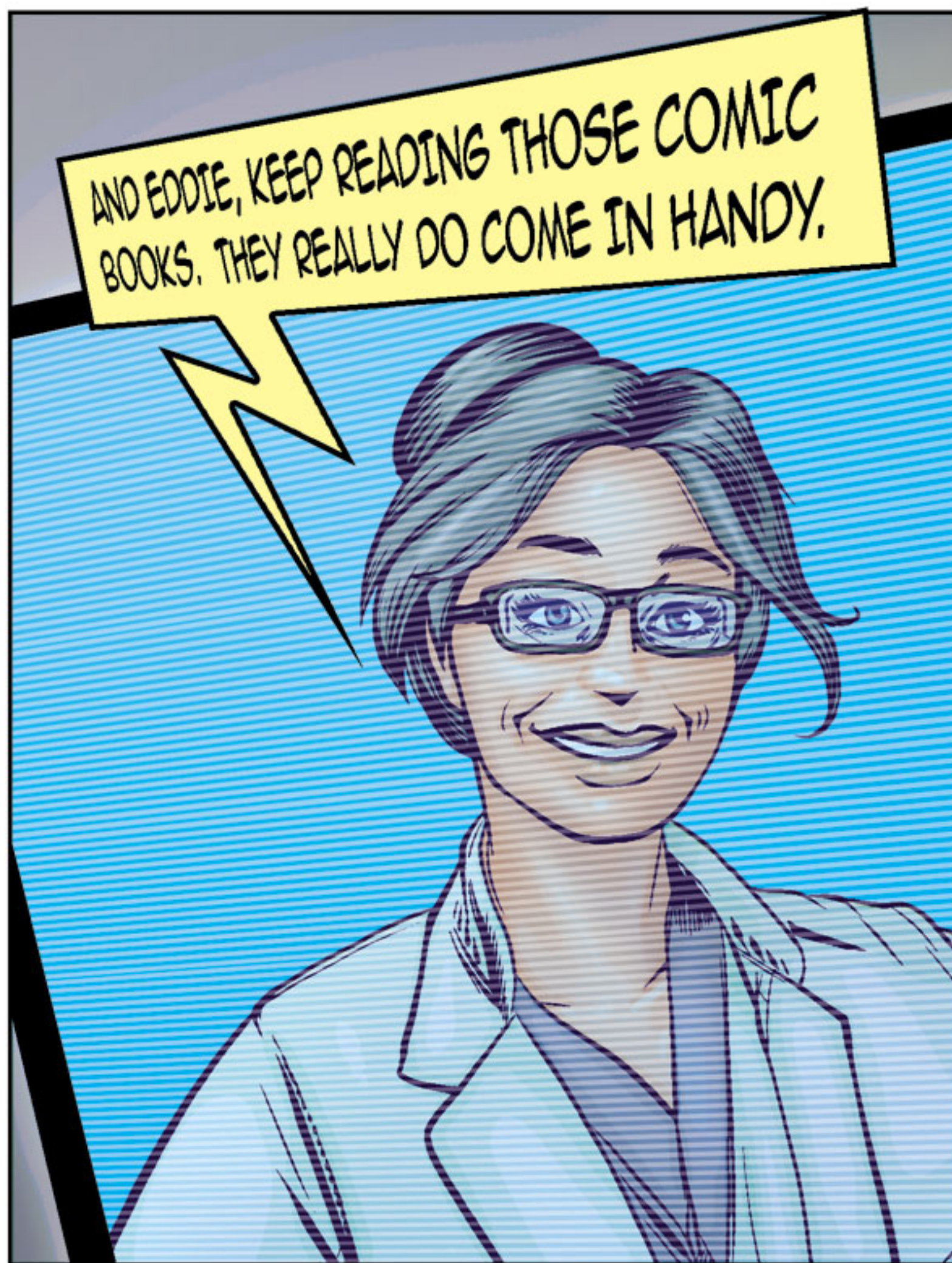
**THE PROFESSOR, KIT, AND EDDIE
CANNOT BELIEVE WHAT THEY SEE!**

KIT! IS
THAT YOU?

YES. HELLO, PROFESSOR.
IT IS GREAT TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
I HAVE SO MANY THINGS THAT I
WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO YOU, BUT
WE HAVE NO TIME. THANK YOU FOR
EVERYTHING YOU TAUGHT ME.



AND EDDIE, KEEP READING THOSE COMIC
BOOKS. THEY REALLY DO COME IN HANDY.



**THE TEAM IN THE FUTURE INITIATES
THE TIME MACHINE TRAVEL SEQUENCE.**

OKAY, HERE WE GO. INITIATING
TIME TRAVEL PAIRING SEQUENCE
EDE-2112...PAIRING COMPLETE.
TIME TRAVEL IN 5...4...3...2...1...



**JUST AS THE TIME MACHINE IS ABOUT TO
FLY INTO THE FUTURE, TRACE JUMPS OFF.**



TRACE! WHY DID YOU JUMP
OFF THE TIME MACHINE?
HOW WILL YOU GET HOME?

TRACE, DO YOU
REALIZE THAT NOW
YOU WILL NEVER BE
ABLE TO TRAVEL BACK
TO YOUR TIME? NOW
YOU WILL BE
STUCK HERE
WITH US?

IF I WENT HOME,
HOW WOULD WE GO
ON MORE ADVENTURES
TOGETHER?



WELL IT
LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE A
GOOD DEAL OF PLANNING
TO DO TOGETHER -
DON'T WE, TEAM?

WE SURE DO.



THE END?