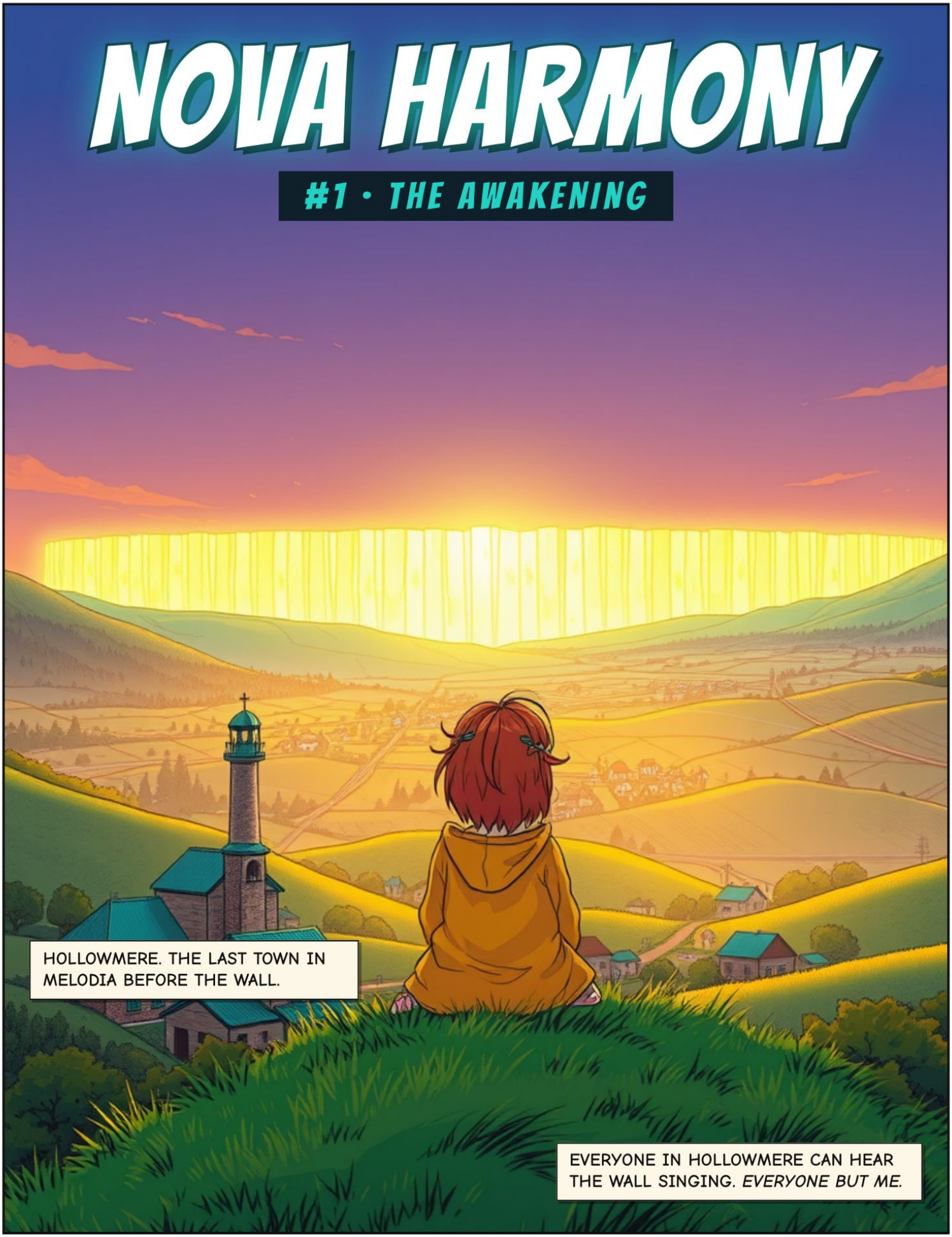
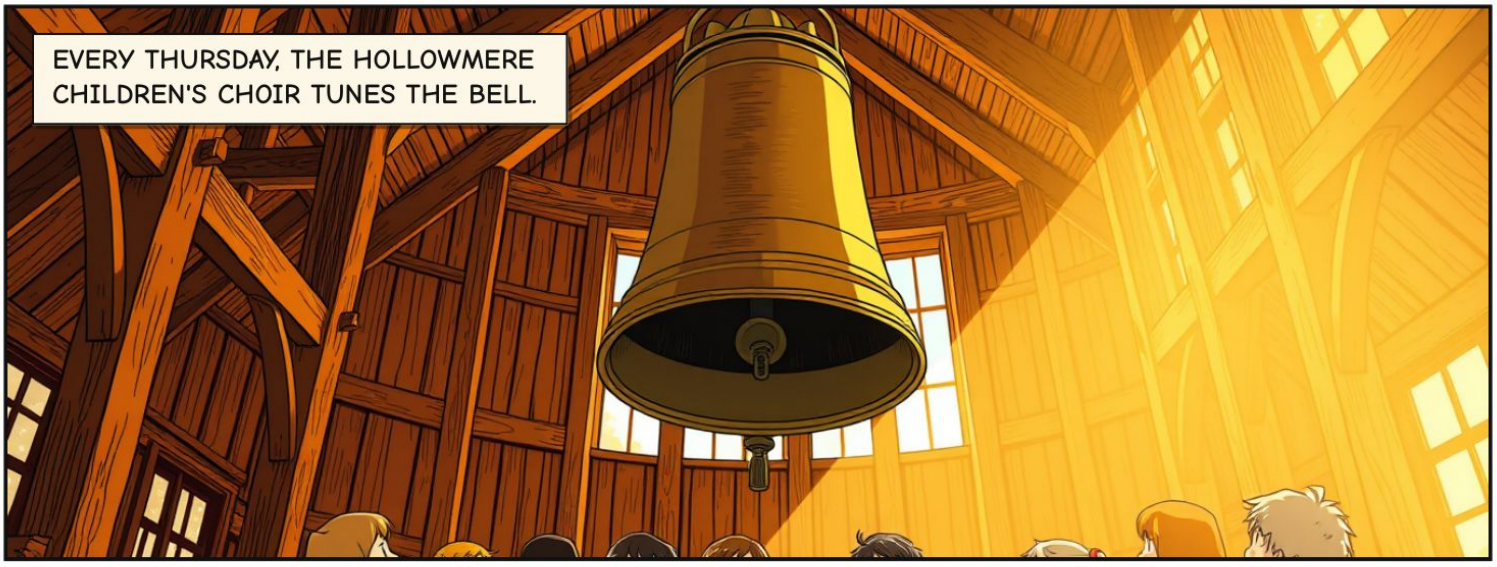
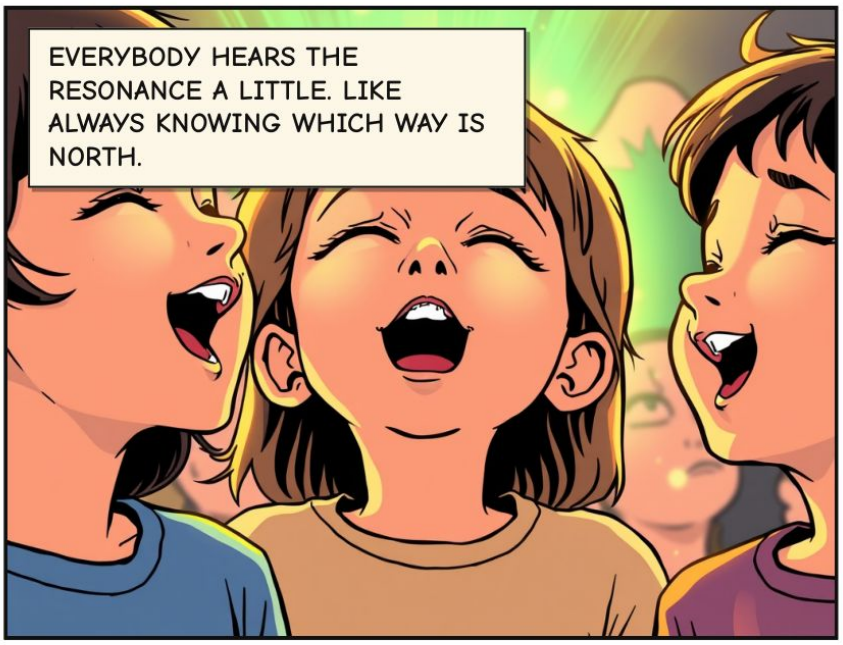
NOVA HARMONY

#1 • THE AWAKENING




EVERY THURSDAY, THE HOLLOWMERE CHILDREN'S CHOIR TUNES THE BELL.

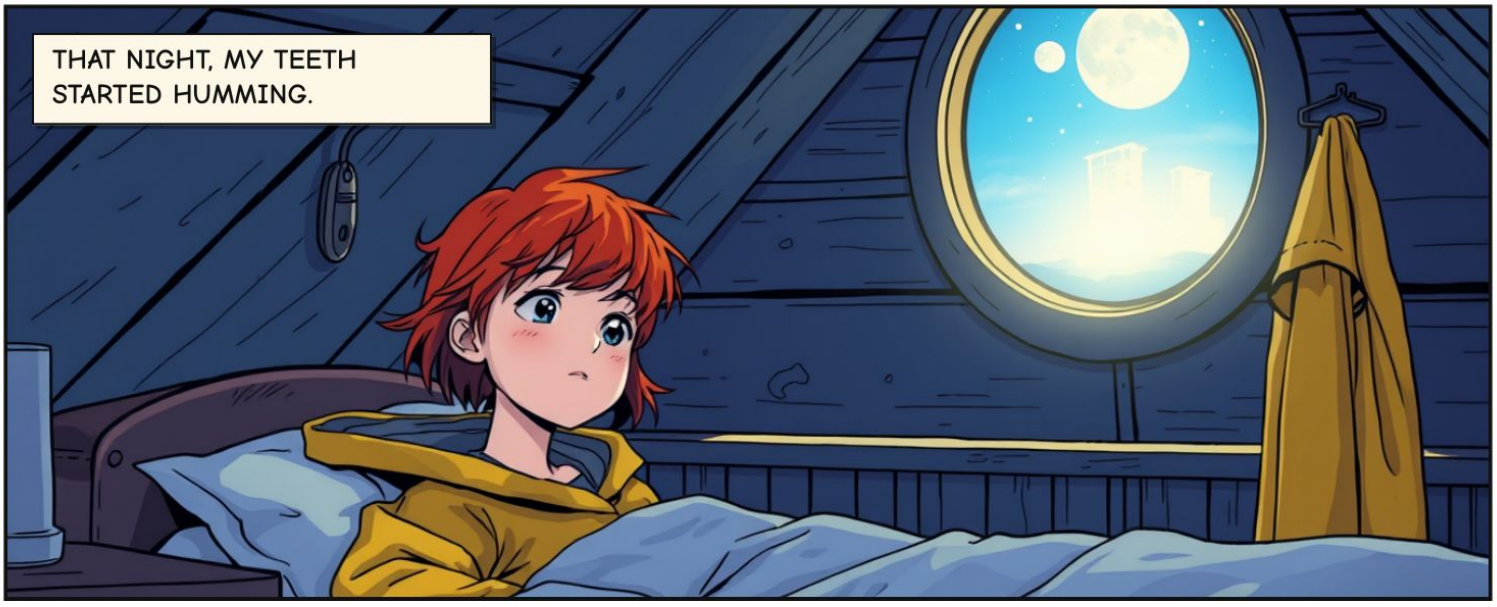

EVERYBODY HEARS THE RESONANCE A LITTLE. LIKE ALWAYS KNOWING WHICH WAY IS NORTH.

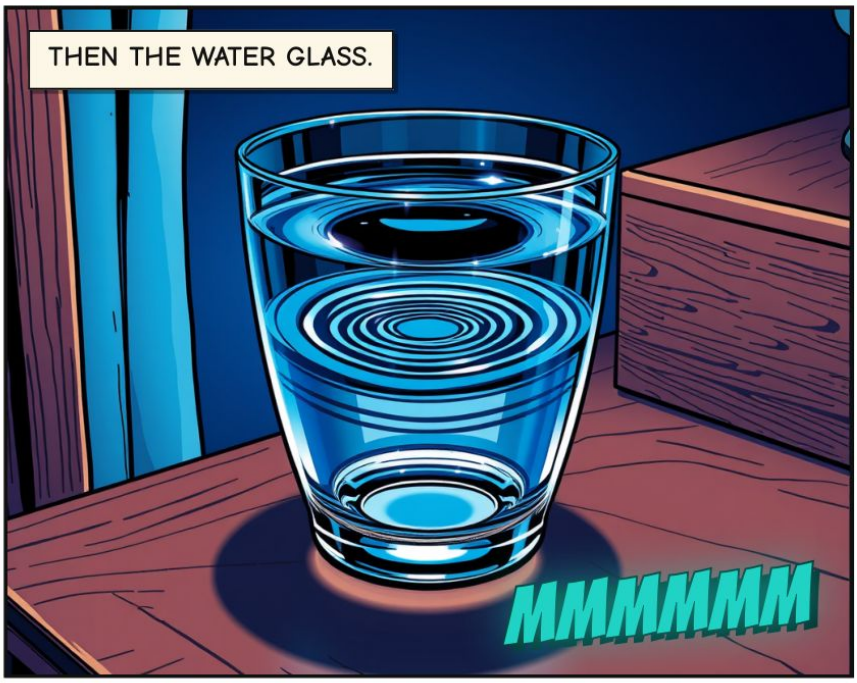

EVERYBODY BUT ME.


TAVI. JUST... HUM *QUIETLY,* DEAR.


I WASN'T EVEN *HUMMING.*


ROUGH PRACTICE?
MRS. FENN TOLD ME TO HUM QUIETLY. I WASN'T EVEN *HUMMING!*
THEN YOU'RE ALREADY A NATURAL.
YOU'RE NOT FUNNY.
SOMEDAY YOU'LL HEAR IT, TAV. THE WALL *SINGS.*
YOU SAY THAT EVERY DAY.
BECAUSE ONE DAY I'LL BE *RIGHT!*


THAT NIGHT, MY TEETH STARTED HUMMING.


THEN THE WATER GLASS.
MMMMMMM


NOBODY ELSE IN THE HOUSE WOKE UP.


OMMMMMM...
THAT WAS THE FIRST SOUND I EVER HEARD THAT NOBODY ELSE DID.


THEN THE HORNS.
HRRAAAWWNN
THE WALL—!
EVERYBODY *INSIDE!* NOW!
DAX WAS ON THAT WALL.
TAVI CALDER, YOU GET BACK HERE!
I DIDN'T.


AND THEN THE SILENCE CAME THROUGH.
NO CRASH. NO ROAR. JUST... *LESS.*


DAX—!

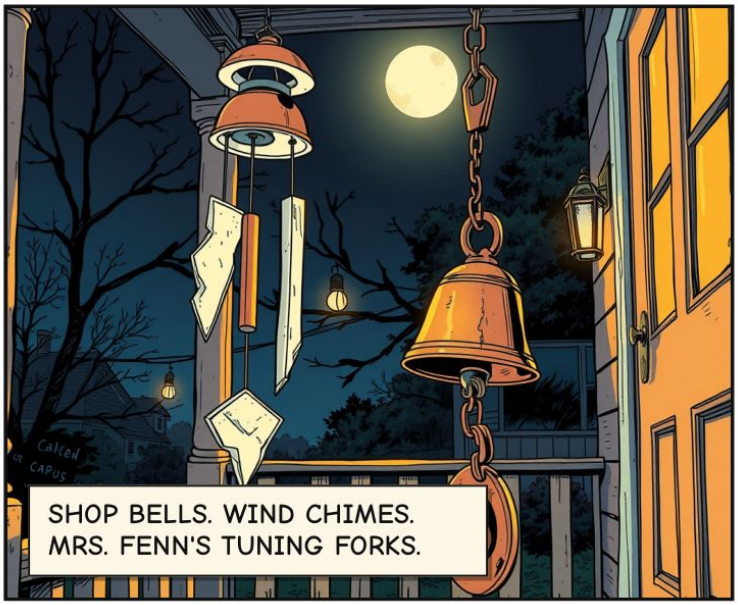

I COULDN'T HEAR MY OWN SCREAM.
BUT I COULD HEAR *SOMETHING.*


UNDER THE QUIET, A SINGLE NOTE. *MINE.*


EVERY SOUND IN THE WORLD. ALL AT ONCE.
VRRRMMMMMM


...MMMMMMMMMM!


EVERY BELL IN HOLLOWMERE CRACKED AT THE SAME MOMENT.
KRAKK


SHOP BELLS. WIND CHIMES. MRS. FENN'S TUNING FORKS.


NOBODY KNEW WHY.

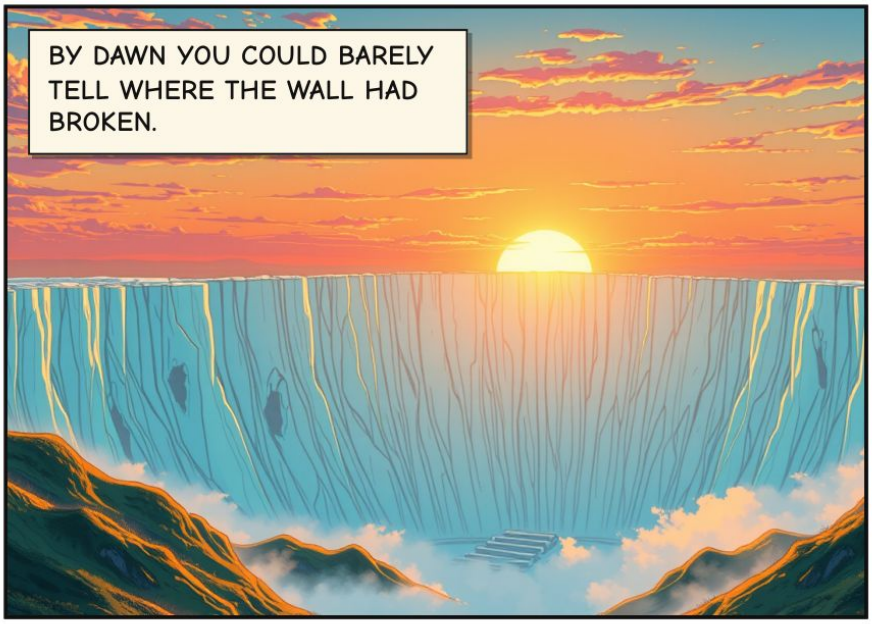

I KNEW.


FOR EVERY NOTE CREATED, SOMETHING MUST FALL SILENT.
THE LAW OF HARMONY. THEY TEACH IT IN SCHOOL. I JUST NEVER THOUGHT IT WAS ABOUT *ME.*

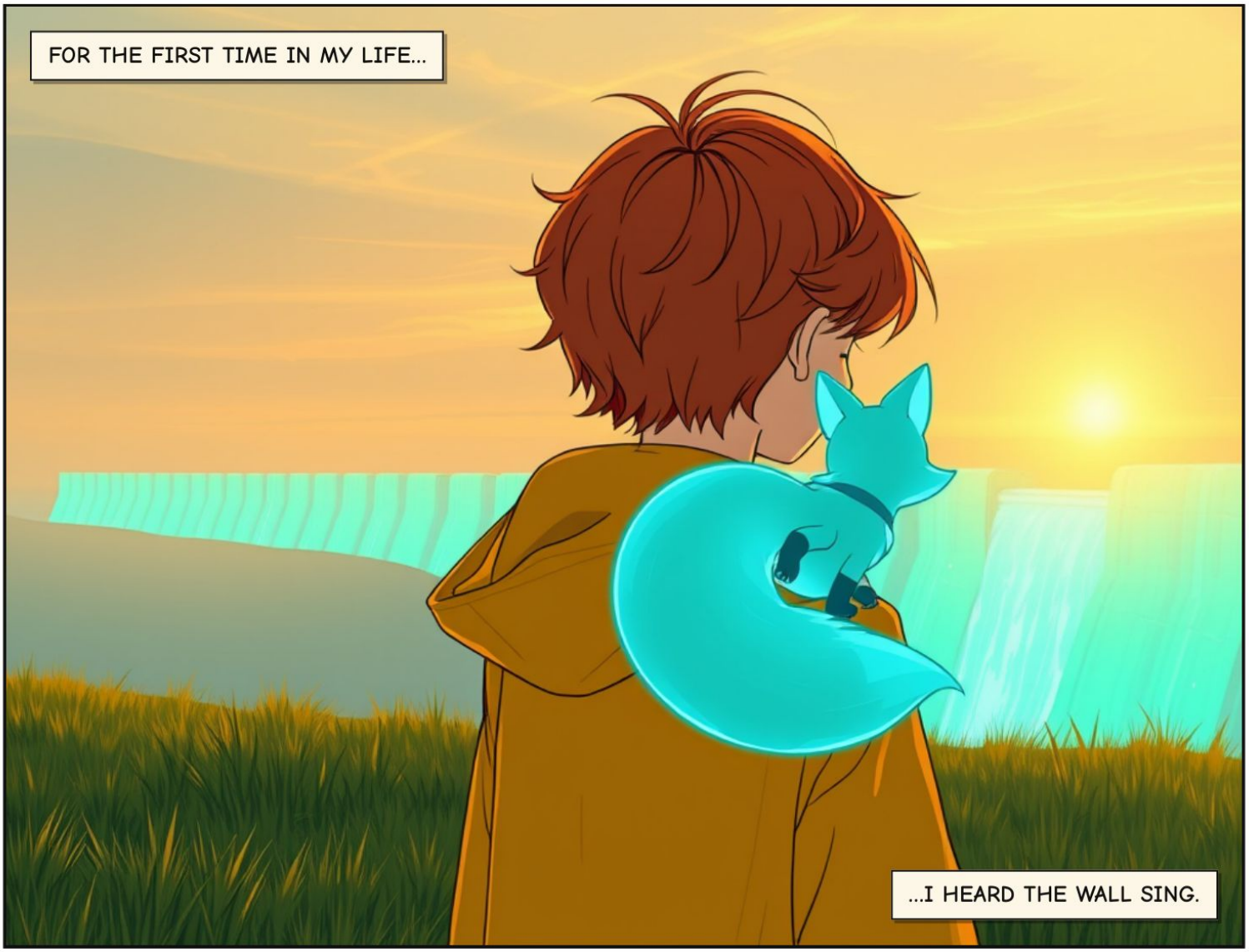

SHE CAME OUT OF THE LIGHT LIKE SHE'D BEEN STANDING THERE ALL ALONG.
I CAN'T— IT WON'T *STOP*—
BREATHE.
TIIINNG
MATCH ME. SLOWER. THAT'S IT.
...OKAY.


SHE CLOSED THE BREACH IN ELEVEN SECONDS. I COUNTED.
WARDEN— SHE'S UNHEARING! ALWAYS HAS BEEN. SHE CAN'T EVEN *SING!*
UNHEARING DON'T DO *THAT.*
TAV. YOU *CAME.*
YOU'RE AN IDIOT.
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
FOURTEEN.
LATE. AND LOUD. ... *INTERESTING.*


IN ALL THAT NOISE,
SOMETHING GOT LEFT OVER.
MM?
...HEY THERE.
MMMMMM
...YOU CAN HEAR ME?
IT WAS HUMMING MY NOTE.







NEXT ISSUE **FIRST BOND**