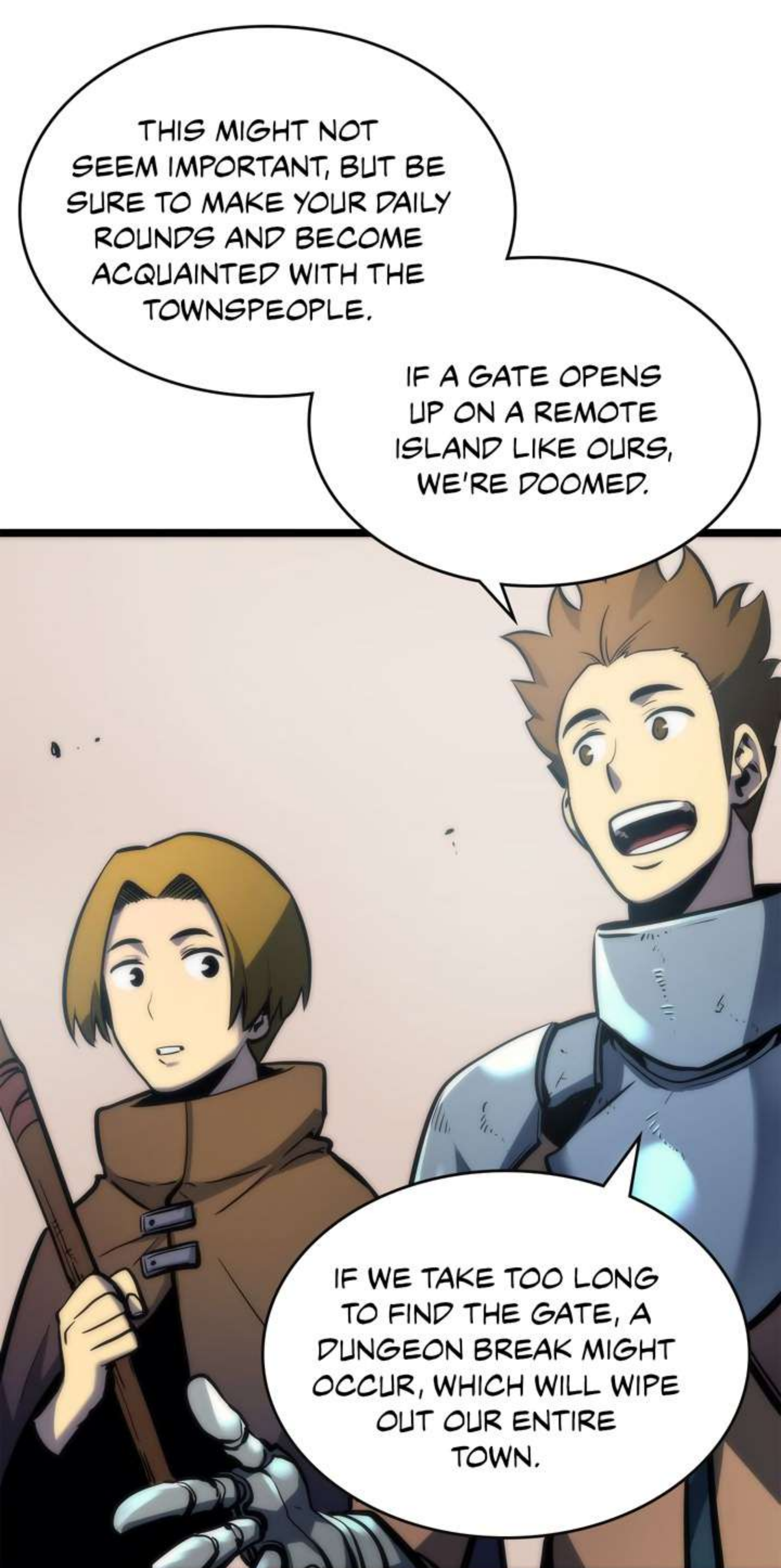




AND WHO IS THAT NEXT TO YOU? A NEWCOMER?

YES, PLEASE WELCOME THEM.



THIS MIGHT NOT SEEM IMPORTANT, BUT BE SURE TO MAKE YOUR DAILY ROUNDS AND BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH THE TOWNSPEOPLE.

IF A GATE OPENS UP ON A REMOTE ISLAND LIKE OURS, WE'RE DOOMED.

IF WE TAKE TOO LONG TO FIND THE GATE, A DUNGEON BREAK MIGHT OCCUR, WHICH WILL WIPE OUT OUR ENTIRE TOWN.



SO WE HAVE TO LOCATE THE GATE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE USING THE MANA METER...

AND CONTACT THE HUNTERS OUTSIDE THE ISLAND FOR HELP.

IT WILL TAKE THREE DAYS FOR REINFORCEMENTS TO ARRIVE.

THAT MEANS WE MUST LOCATE THE GATE WITHIN THREE DAYS OF ITS APPEARANCE.

I'M A D-RANK AND
YOU'RE AN E-RANK,
BUT WE'RE THE ONLY
HUNTERS IN THIS
TOWN. WE HAVE TO BE
RESPONSIBLE AND...



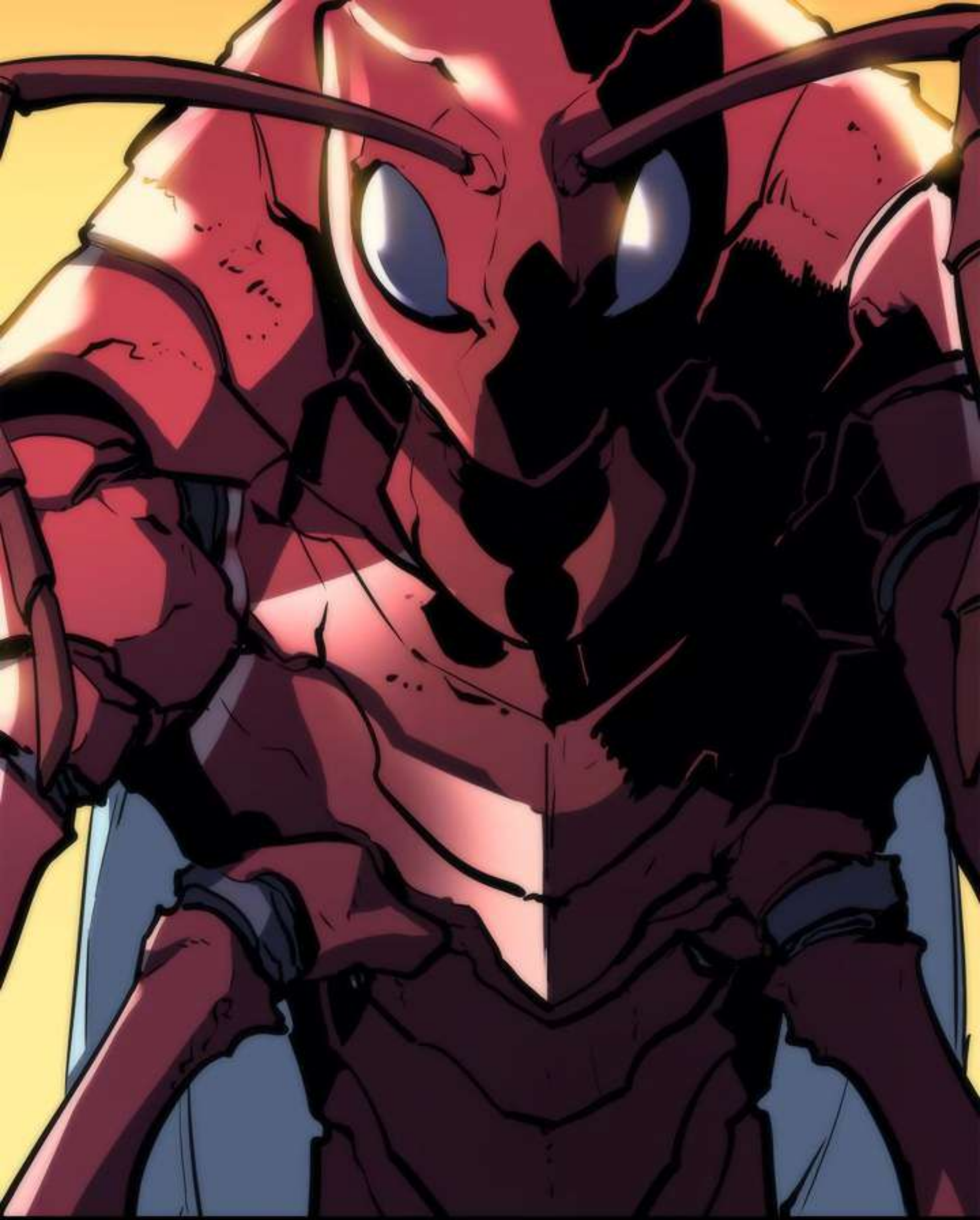
MR. NOGAWA,
LOOK OVER
THERE...

WHAT
IS THAT? A
PERSON?



WHO GOES
THERE?





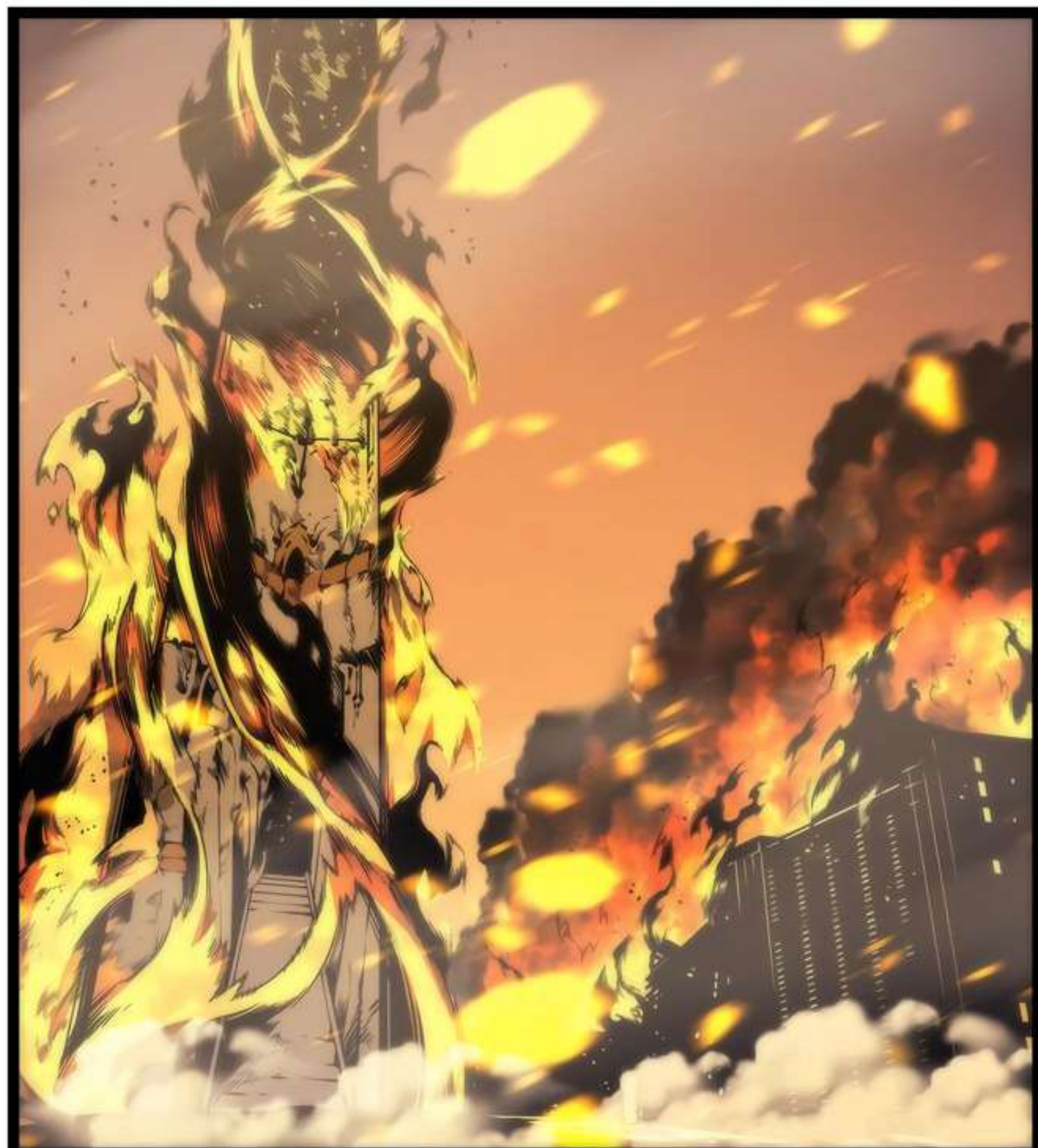
Solo Leveling


Art · DUBU(REDICE STUDIO)

Original Novel · Chugong

Story · h-goon


81






EVER SINCE
MY INTELLIGENCE
STAT INCREASED, THE GAP
BETWEEN THE NUMBER OF
SHADOWS I CAN EXTRACT AND
THE NUMBER OF SHADOWS
I CAN PRESERVE
HAS GROWN.

[NUMBER OF EXTRACTABLE SHADOWS: 127/820]
[NUMBER OF PRESERVED SHADOWS: 127/155]



IF I COULD EXTRACT
THESE DEMONS,
I'D HAVE A HUGE
ARMY BY NOW. WHAT
A SHAME.



IT'LL BE
INEFFICIENT FOR
ALL OF MY SOLDIERS
TO FOLLOW ME
AROUND.



FROM
THIS POINT ON, I
HAVE TO OPERATE
WITH EFFICIENCY.



WE'RE GOING
TO SPLIT UP
INTO...

...SIX GROUPS
IN TOTAL.



TEAM TUSK



TEAM IGRIS



TEAM IRON



TEAM TANK



HIGH-ORCS
TEAM B

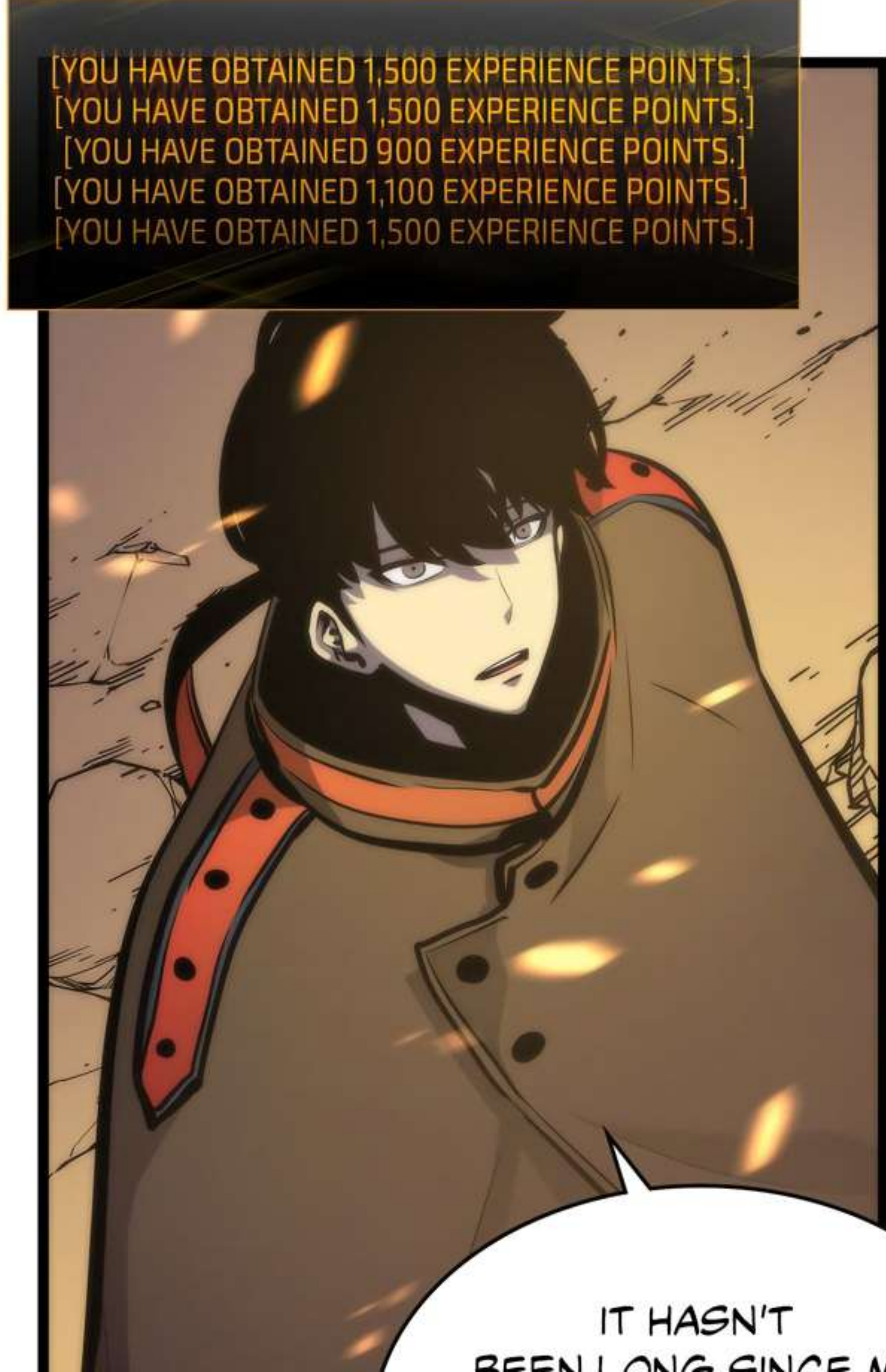


HIGH-ORCS
TEAM A

YOU
HAVE TWO
TASKS.

ONE, SPLIT UP
AND DEFEAT EVERY
ENEMY YOU COME
ACROSS.

TWO,
REPORT TO ME
WHEN YOU FIND THE
ENTRY PERMIT FOR
THE NEXT FLOOR.



BEEN LONG SINCE MY
SOLDIERS DISPERSED,
YET I'M ALREADY GAINING
SO MANY EXPERIENCE
POINTS.

THIS IS
CONVENIENT. I DON'T
NEED TO WASTE MY TIME
RUNNING AROUND
ANYMORE.



AS LONG
AS MY SHADOW
SOLDIERS DON'T GET
DESTROYED, I WON'T
HAVE TO USE ANY OF
MY MANA EITHER.

BUT MY MAGES
AND INFANTRYMEN WILL
STRUGGLE A BIT, SINCE
ALL THE DEMONS ON
THIS FLOOR ARE
HIGH-RANKING.



I'LL HAVE
TO USE POTIONS
TO CONSTANTLY
RECHARGE MY
MANA.

A FEW DAYS
LATER



[SHADOW BEAST LV.24]
RANK: ELITE



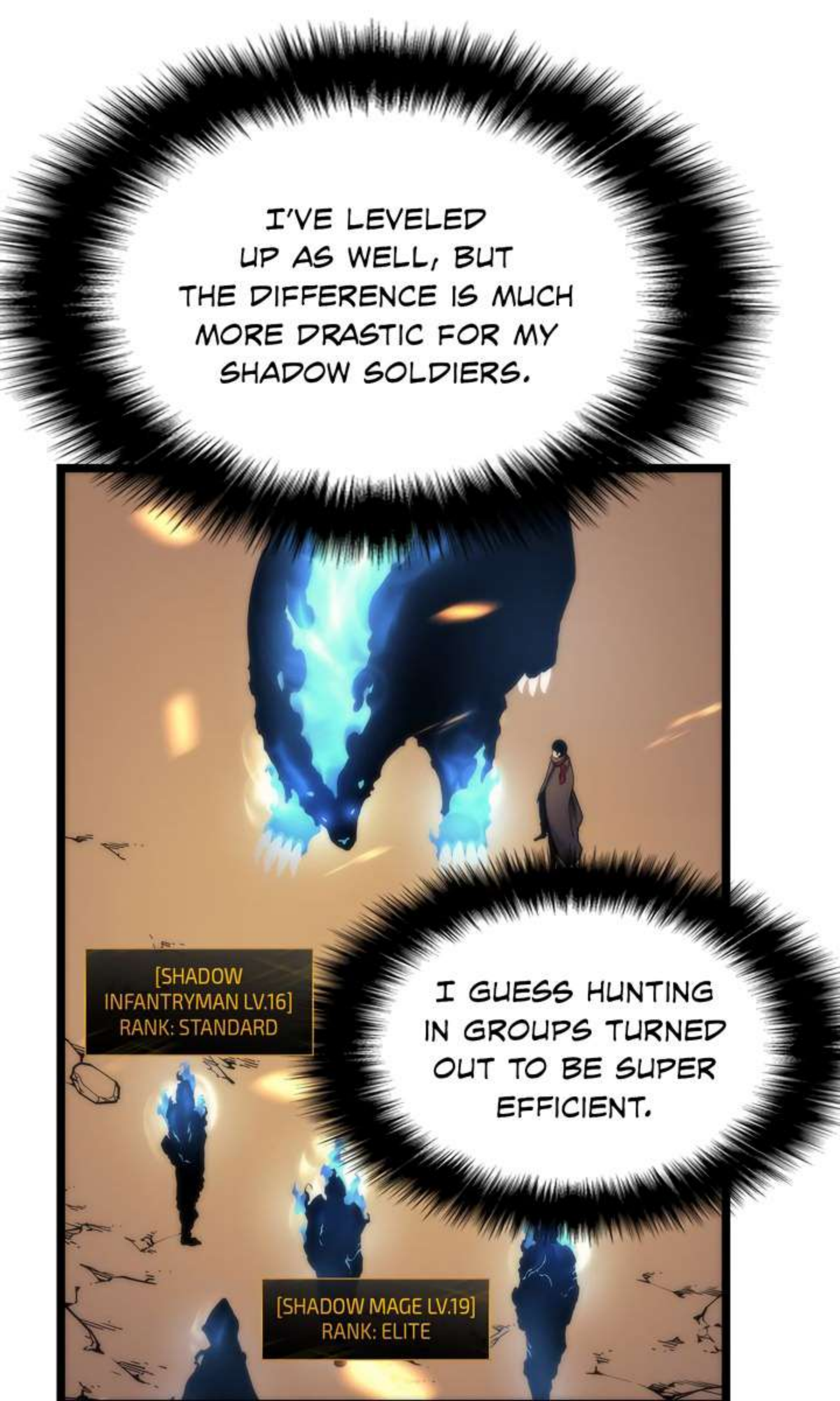
WHAT'S THIS?
TANK HAS LEVELED UP
10 LEVELS SINCE I
LAST CHECKED.

I'VE LEVELED
UP AS WELL, BUT
THE DIFFERENCE IS MUCH
MORE DRASTIC FOR MY
SHADOW SOLDIERS.

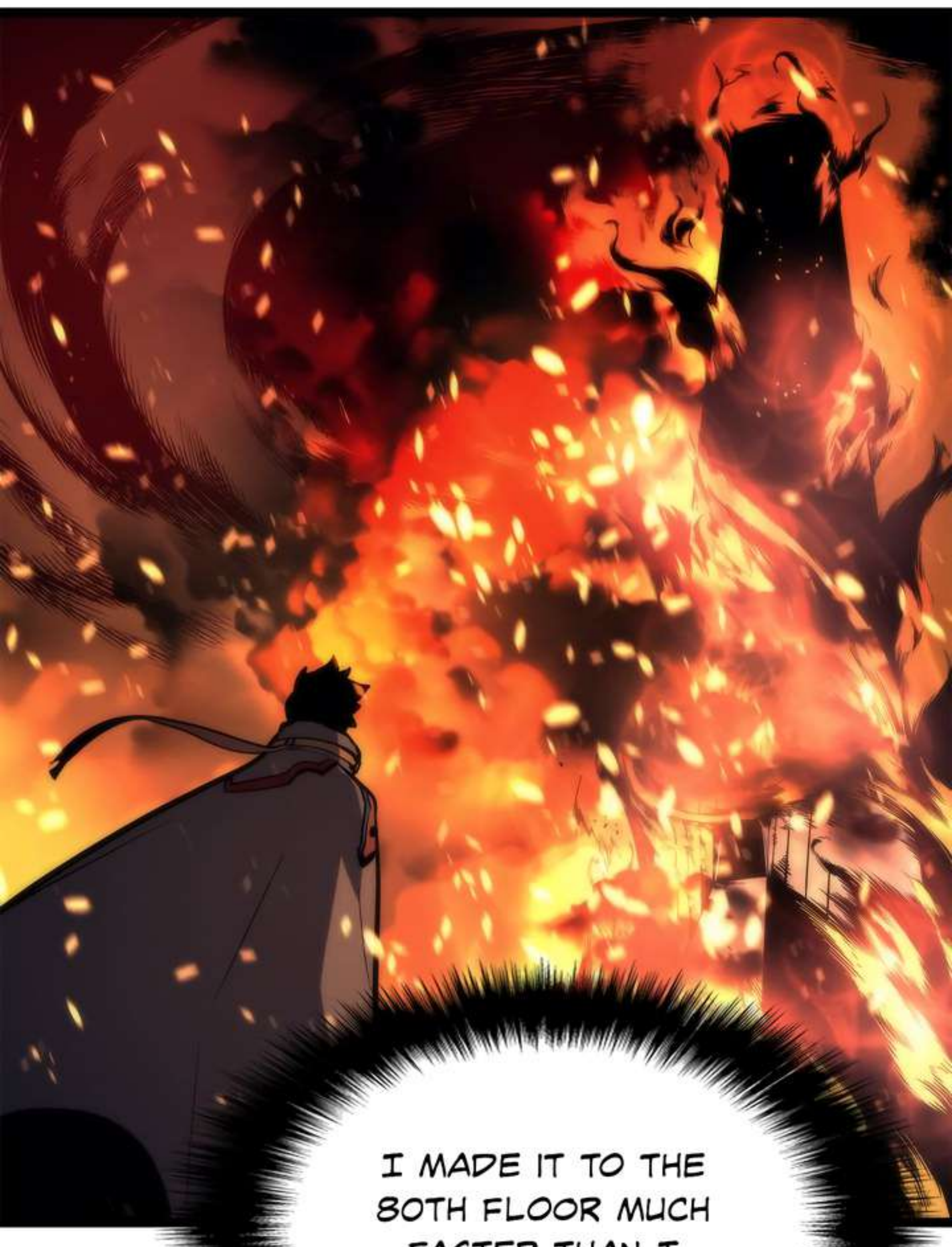
[SHADOW
INFANTRYMAN LV.16]
RANK: STANDARD

[SHADOW MAGE LV.19]
RANK: ELITE

I GUESS HUNTING
IN GROUPS TURNED
OUT TO BE SUPER
EFFICIENT.

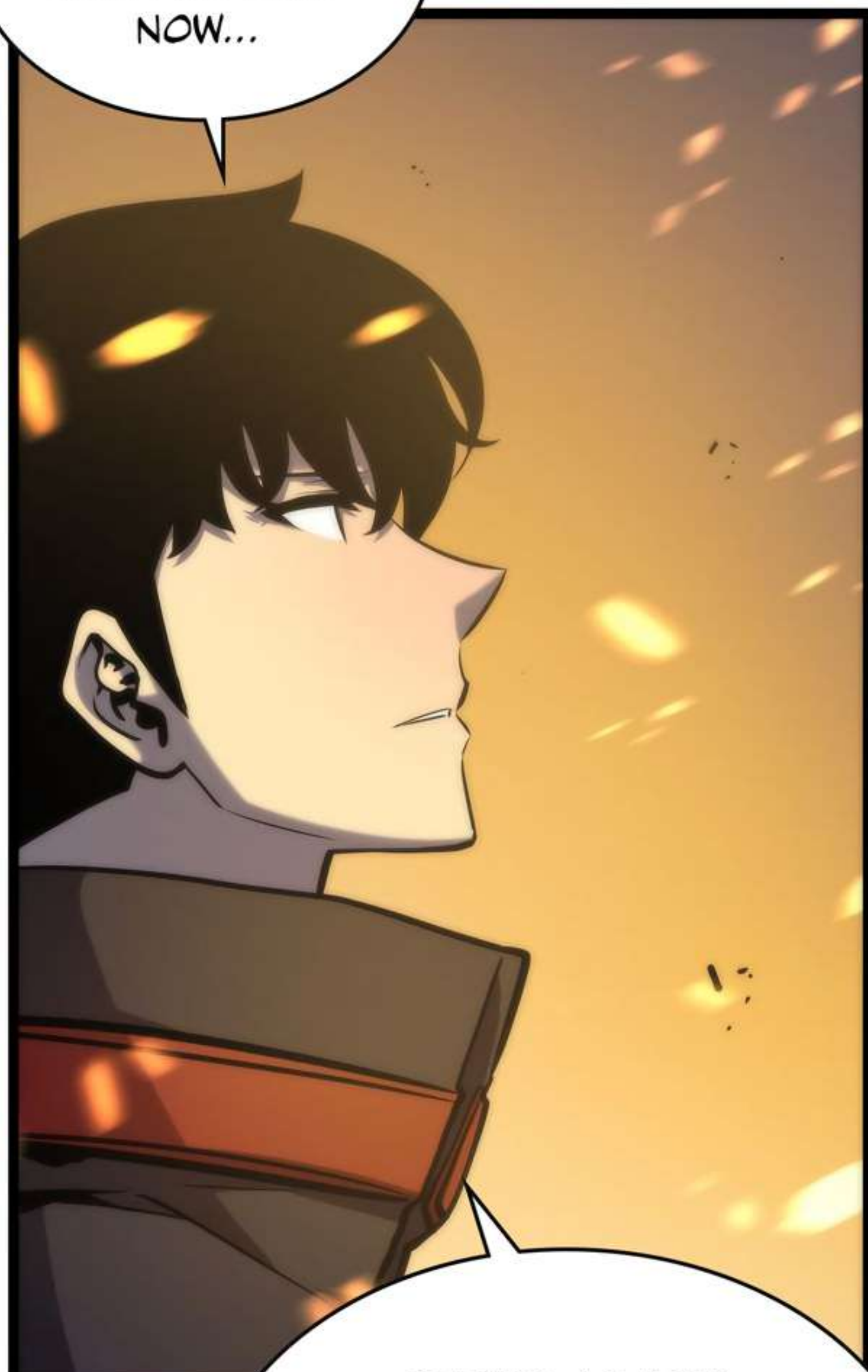


I'VE GOT 20
MORE FLOORS
TO GO.



I MADE IT TO THE
80TH FLOOR MUCH
FASTER THAN I
EXPECTED.

WE'VE BEEN ON
THE 80TH FLOOR
FOR TWO DAYS
NOW...



SEEING AS HOW
THE ENTRY PERMIT
HASN'T SHOWN UP YET...
PERHAPS THERE ARE
STRONGER DEMONS
LURKING AROUND
SOMEWHERE.

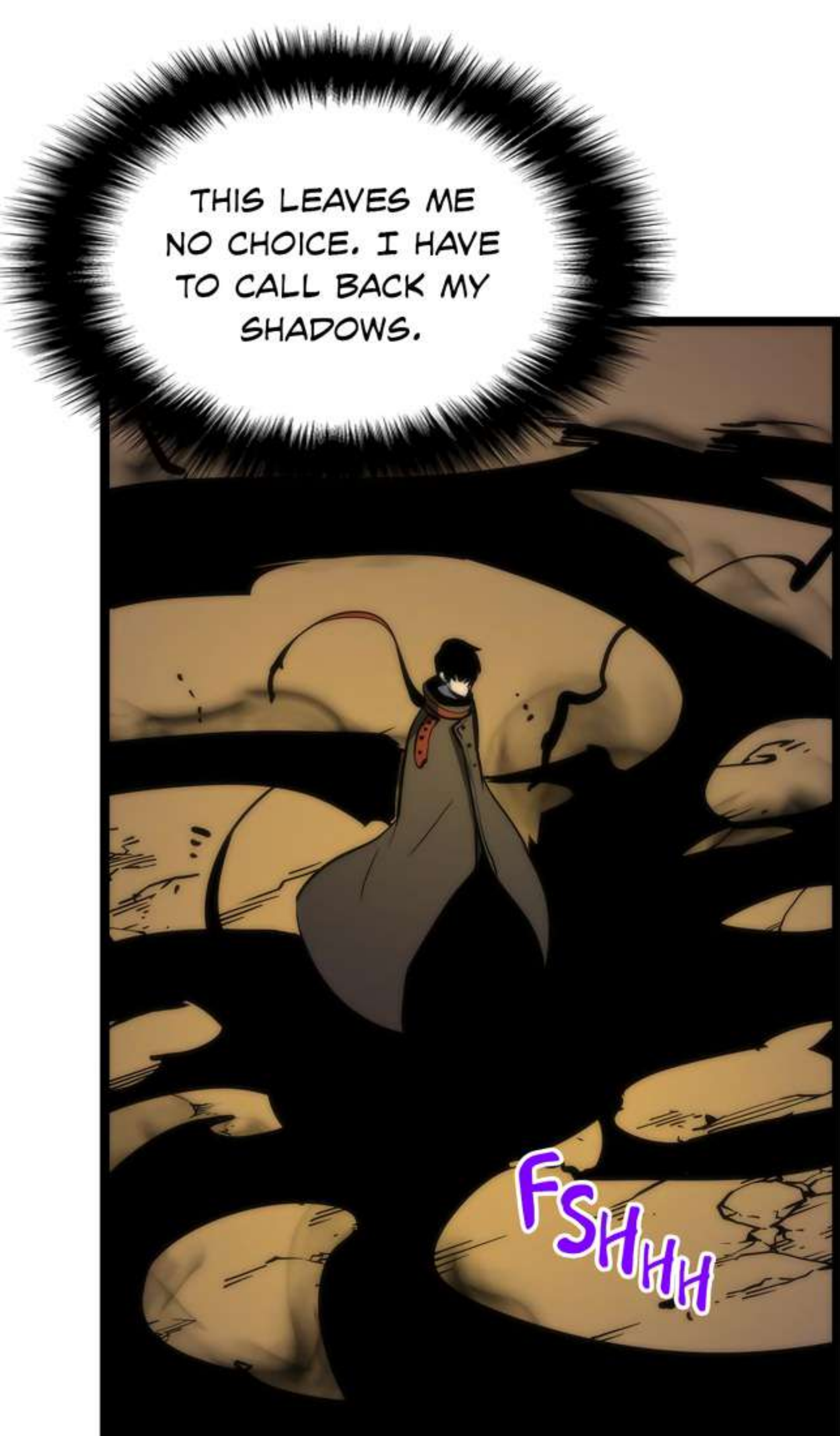




THAT MUST BE
IRON'S GROUP.

I CAN'T BELIEVE
THERE'S A DEMON
MORE POWERFUL
THAN IRON HERE.

[MP: 3,231/5,672]




THIS LEAVES ME
NO CHOICE. I HAVE
TO CALL BACK MY
SHADOWS.

FSHHH

THE NEXT
DAY,



I HAD TO WITHDRAW
MY TROOPS BECAUSE
OF THE CONTINUED
ATTACKS.



TEAM B AND IGRIS'S
GROUP HAVE SUFFERED
BACK-TO-BACK
LOSSES.

THE DEMONS ON
THIS FLOOR MUST
BE REALLY
STRONG.

BUT
SOMETHING'S
NOT QUITE
RIGHT.

TUSK'S TEAM WAS RIGHT
NEXT TO IGRIS'S TEAM,
YET THEY SKIPPED OVER
THEM AND WENT STRAIGHT
FOR THE HIGH ORCS
IN TEAM "A."

WAS IT BECAUSE
THE DEMONS WEREN'T
STRONG ENOUGH TO
DEFEAT TUSK?

THEY'RE PICKING AND
CHOOSING OPPONENTS
THEY CAN WIN AGAINST,
WHICH MEANS...

HMM...

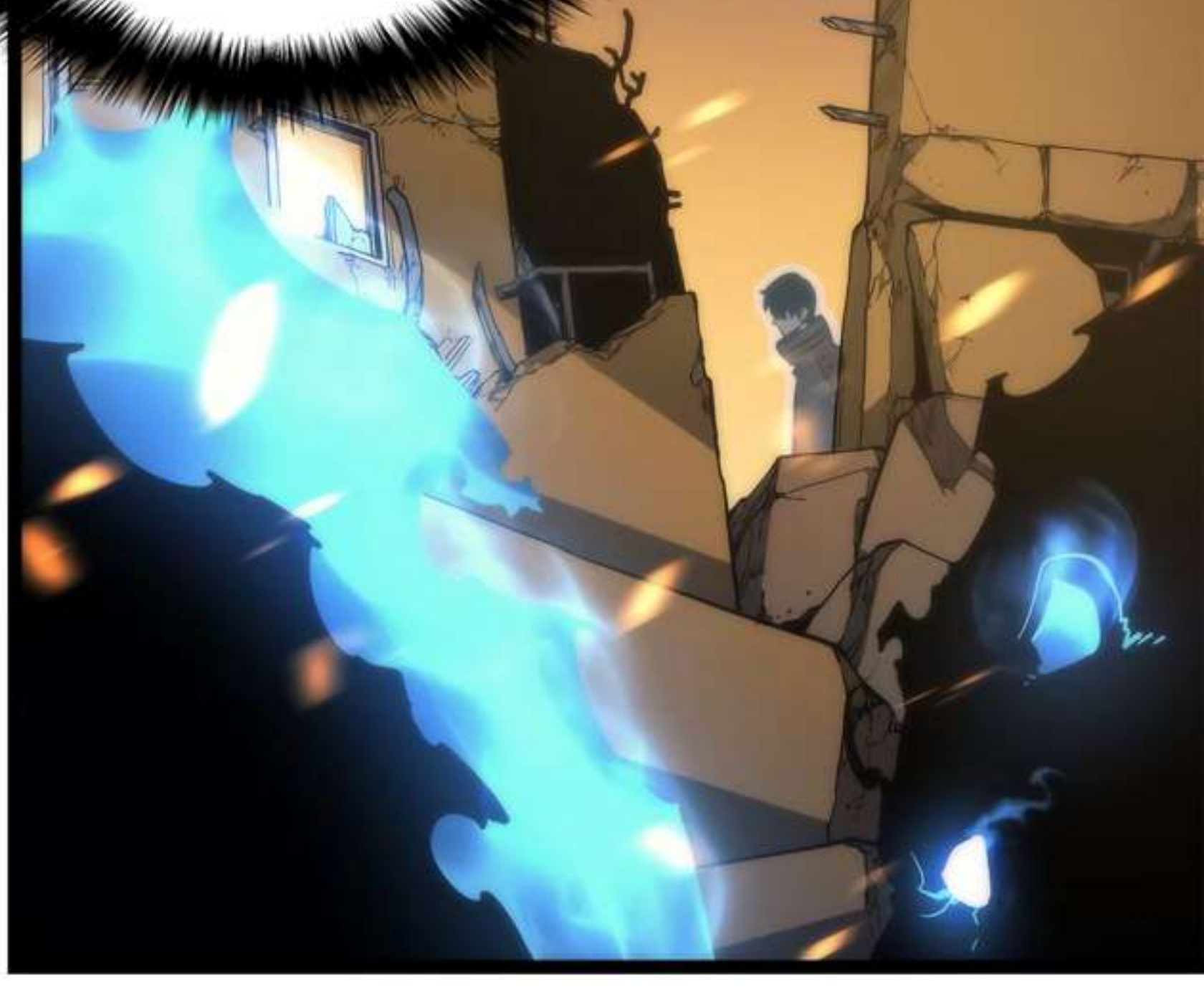
...THEY'RE SMART
ENOUGH TO IDENTIFY
THEIR OPPONENTS'
WEAKNESSES.

THEY ATTACKED THE
HIGH ORCS OF TEAM
"B" ON PURPOSE
BECAUSE...

...THEIR NEXT
TARGET IS...

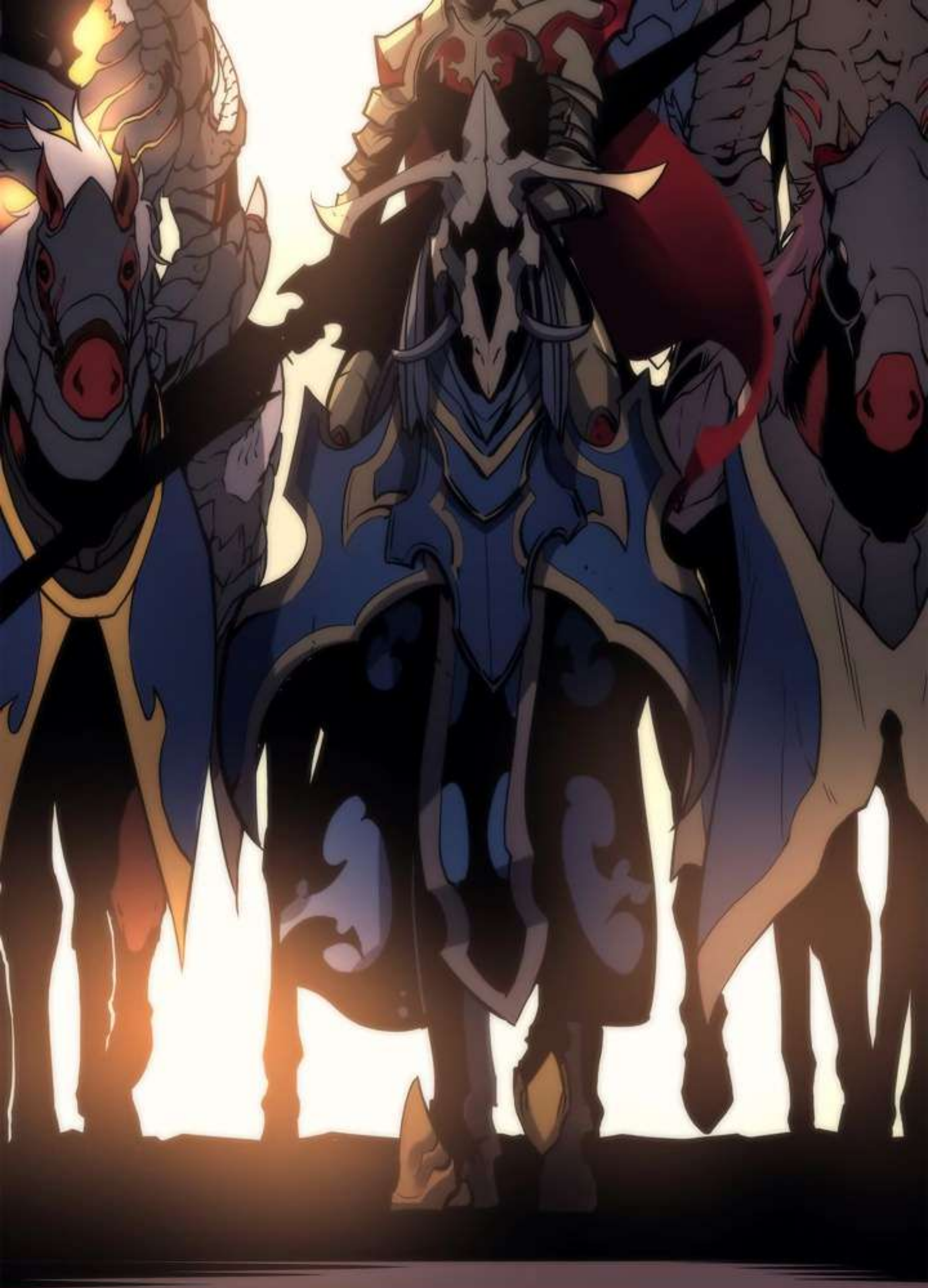


THIS HAS TO
BE THEIR NEXT
DESTINATION.



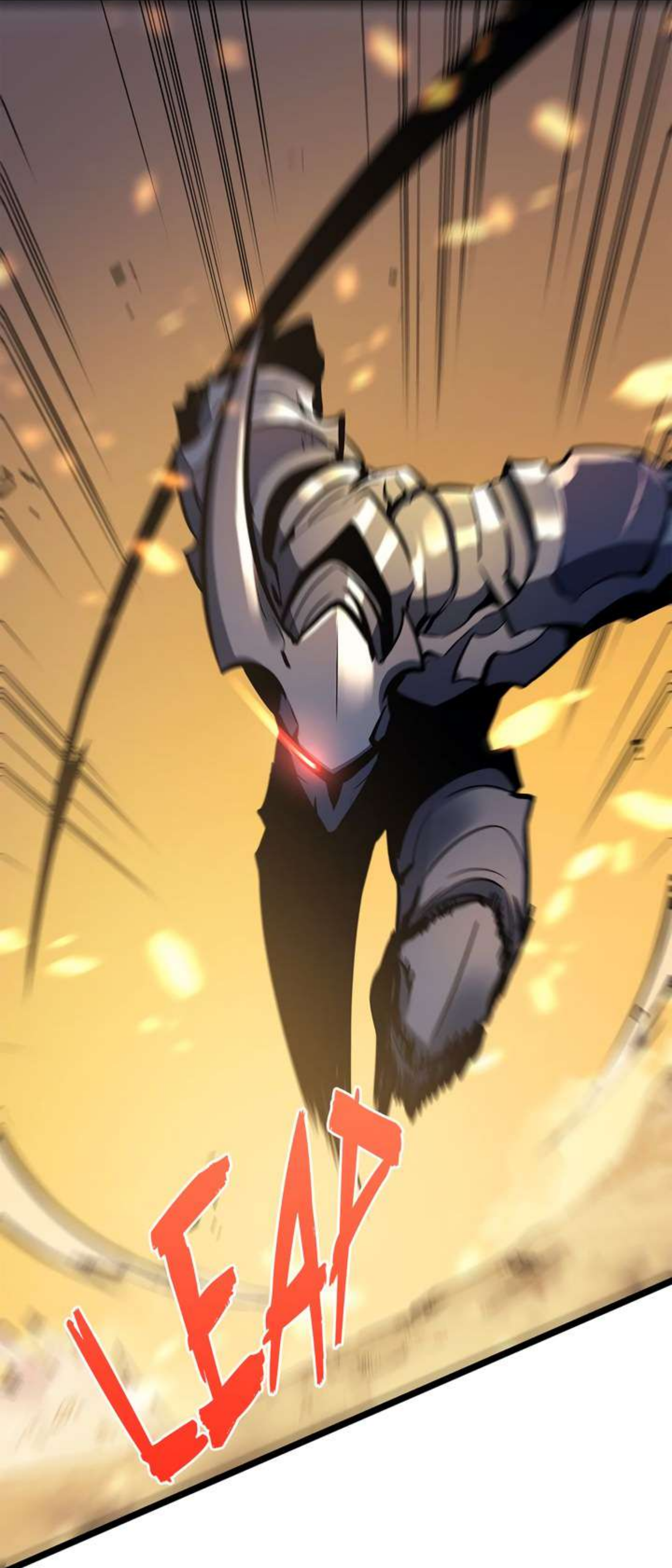
...THERE THEY
COME.



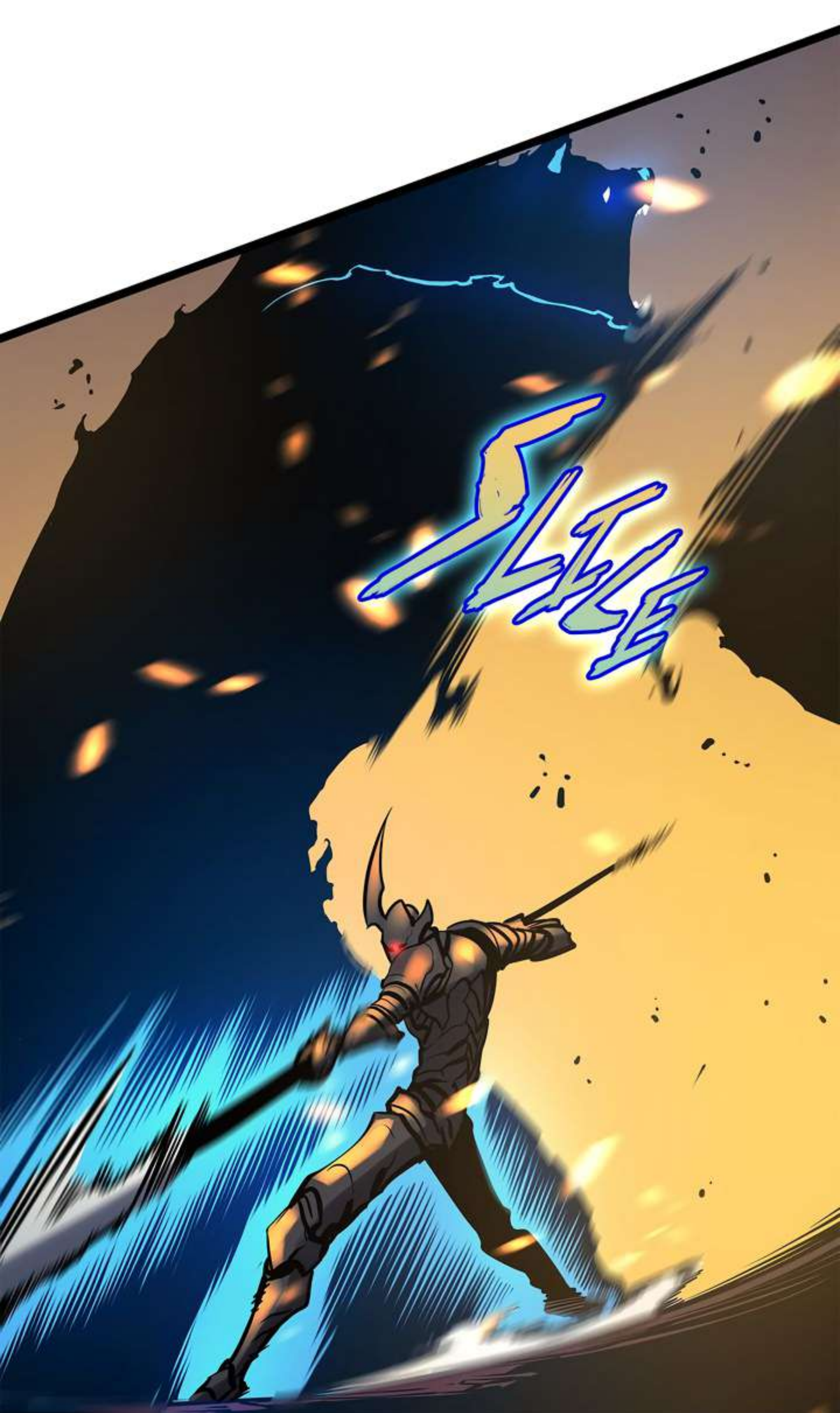


A DEMON NOBLE
AND THREE DEMON
KNIGHTS.

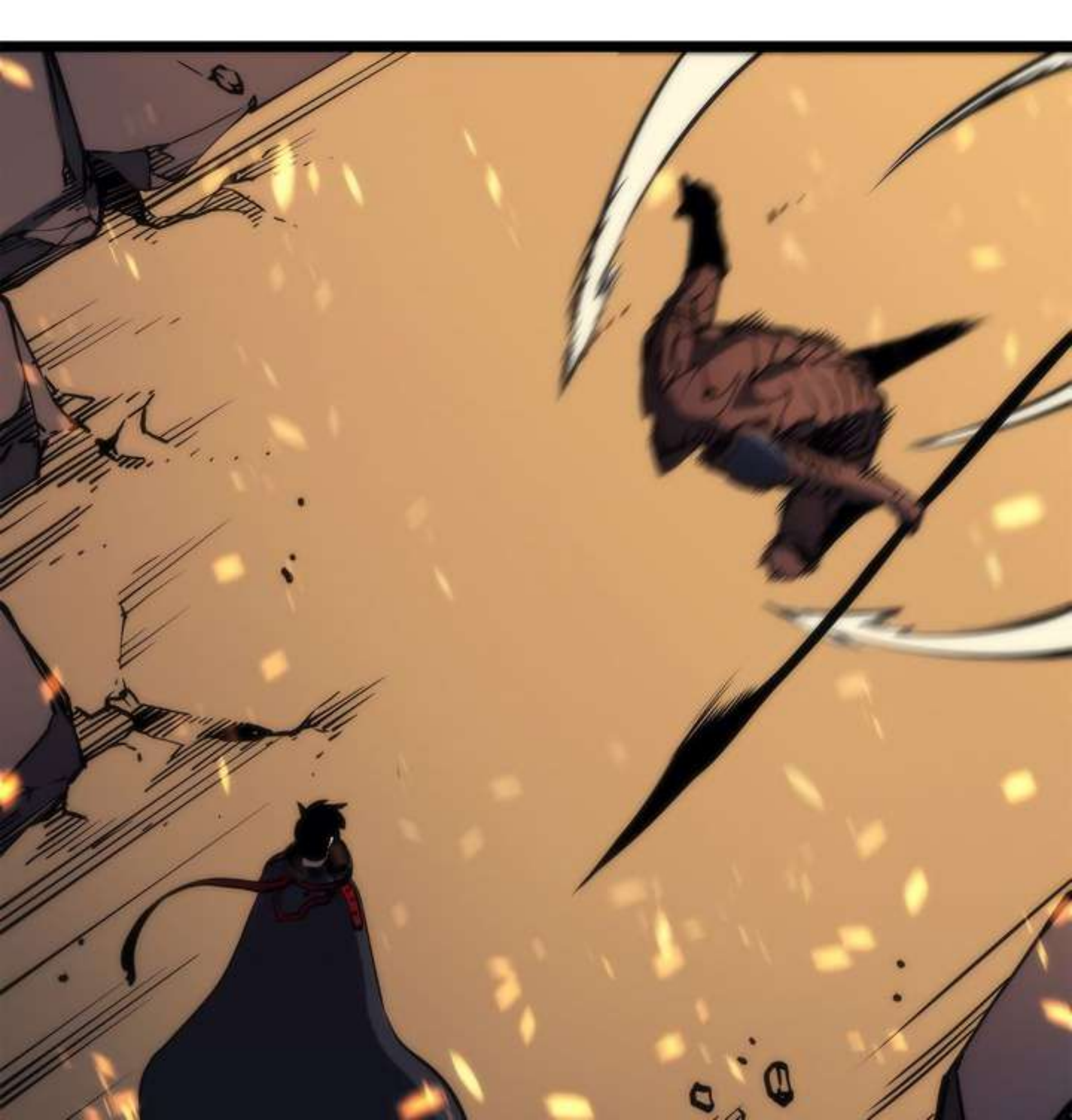


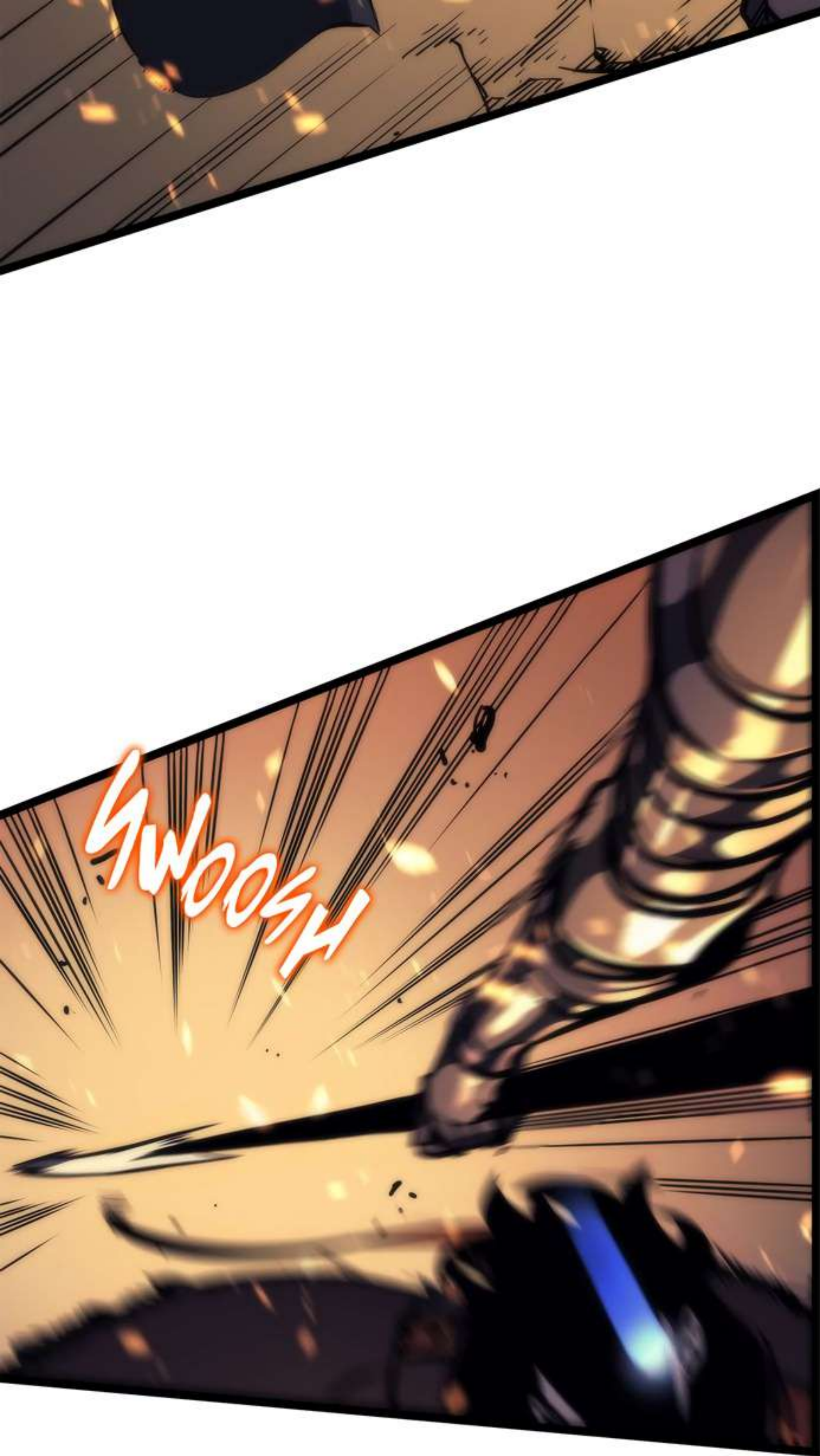


SO THIS IS
WHY MY SOLDIERS
WEREN'T ABLE TO
REGENERATE FAST
ENOUGH.

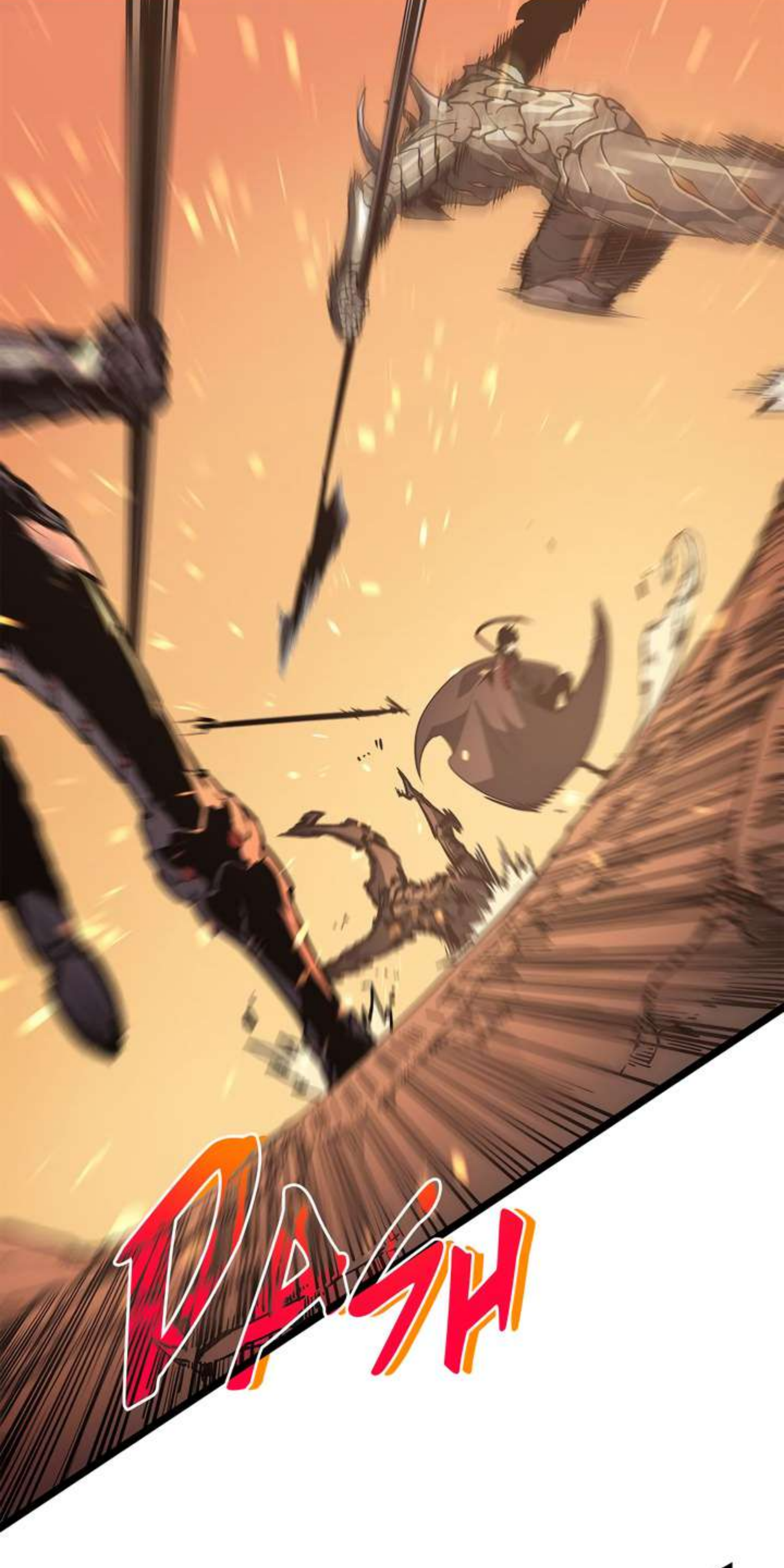


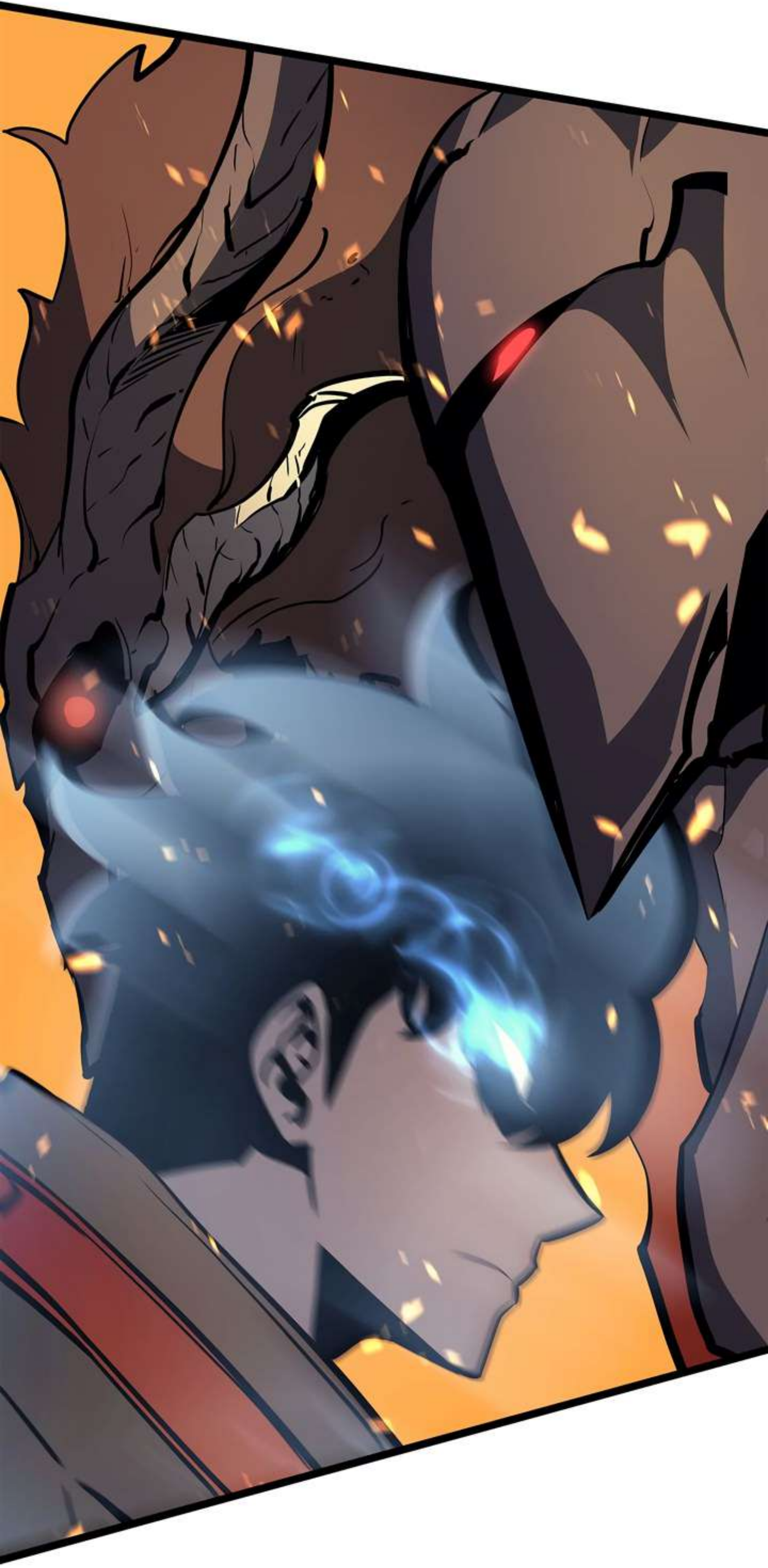
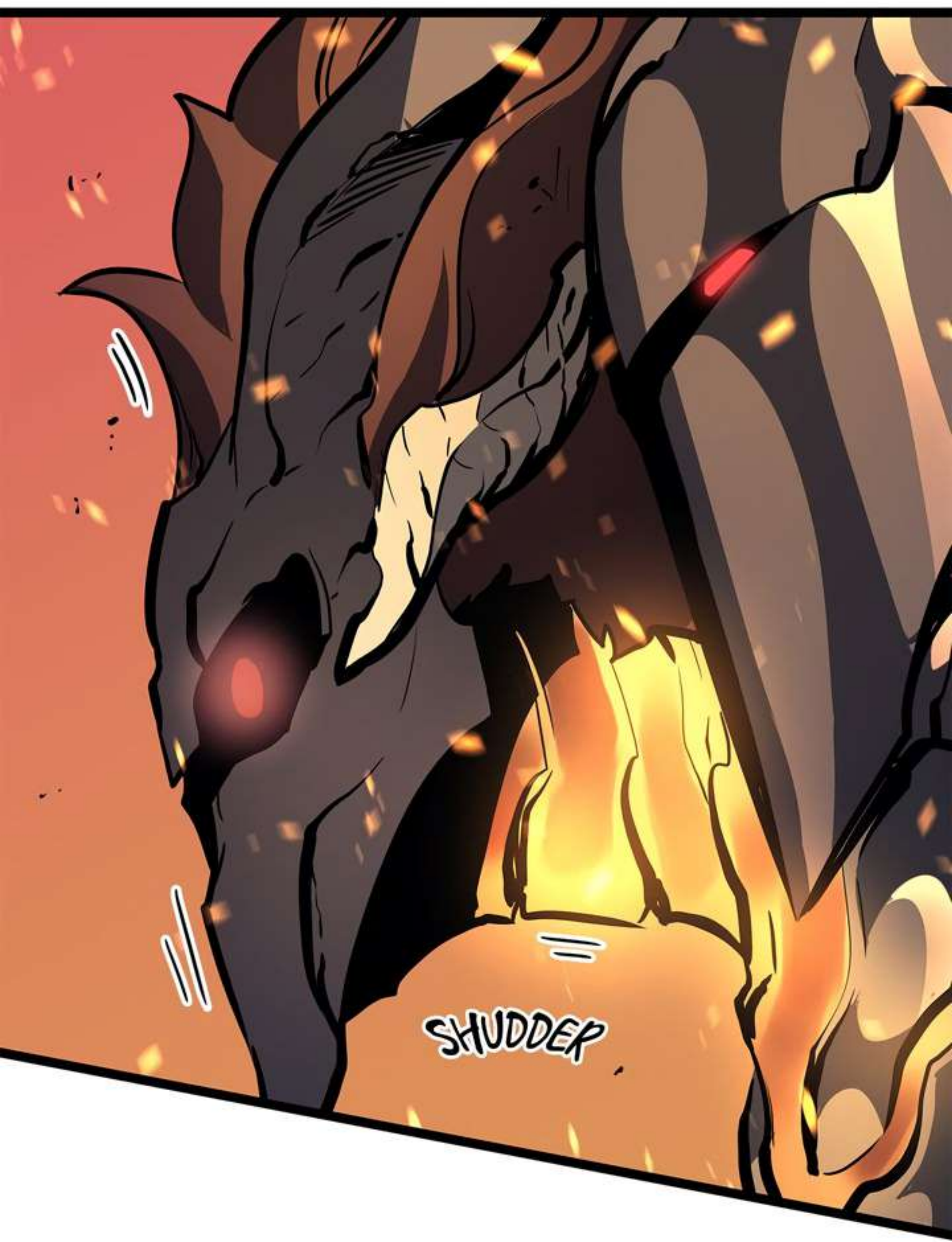
LOOKS LIKE MY
SHADOW BEASTS
DON'T STAND
A CHANCE.





[YOU HAVE DEFEATED A DEMON KNIGHT.]
[YOU HAVE OBTAINED 3,000 EXPERIENCE POINTS.]





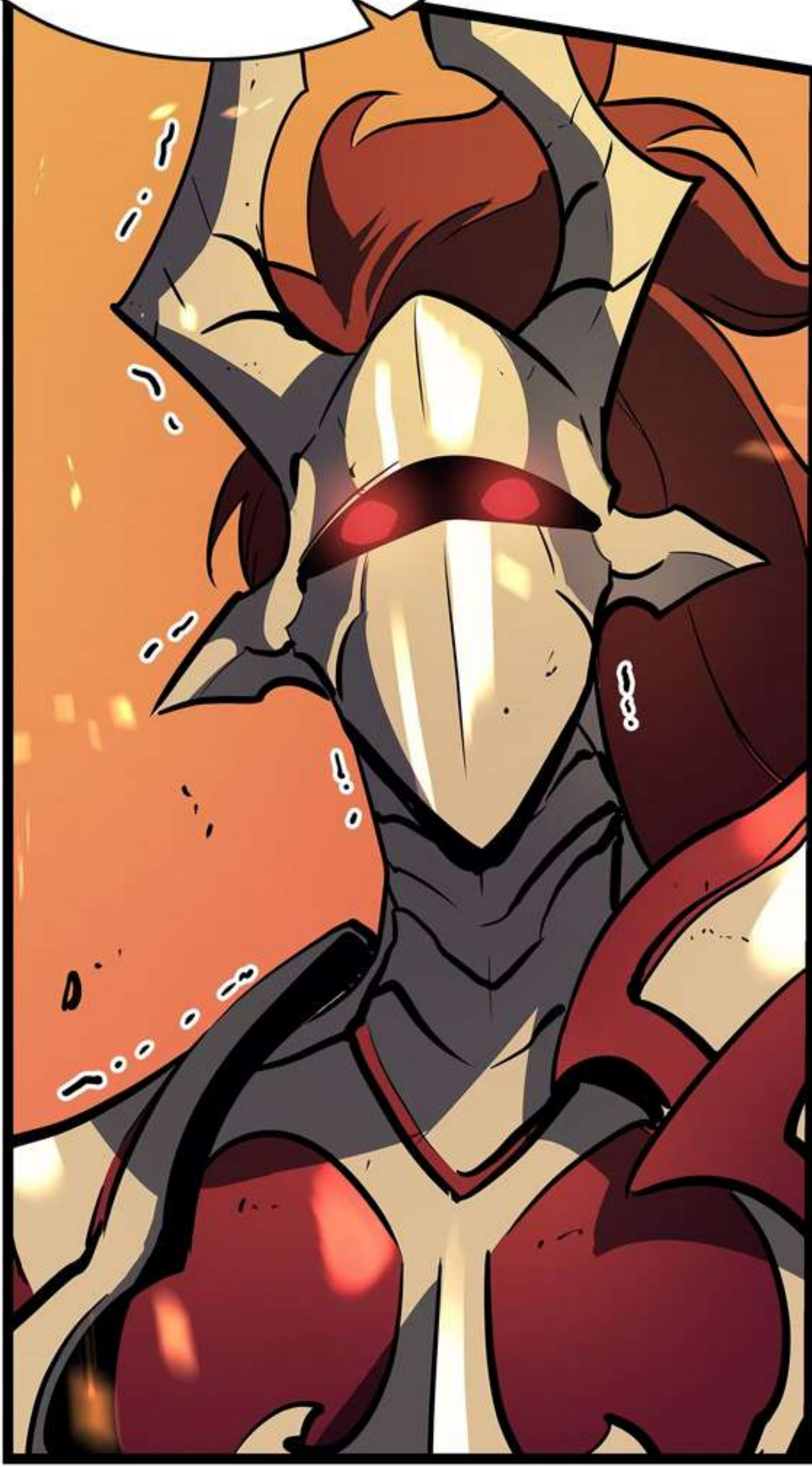
[YOU HAVE DEFEATED A DEMON KNIGHT.]
[YOU HAVE OBTAINED 3,000 EXPERIENCE POINTS.]



[YOU HAVE DEFEATED A DEMON KNIGHT.]
[YOU HAVE OBTAINED 3,000 EXPERIENCE POINTS.]



I'VE ALWAYS
WONDERED WHETHER
OR NOT A MONSTER WAS
CAPABLE OF FEELING
FEAR...



LOOKS
LIKE I HAVE
MY ANSWER
NOW.



To Be Continued...

Solo
Leveling

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