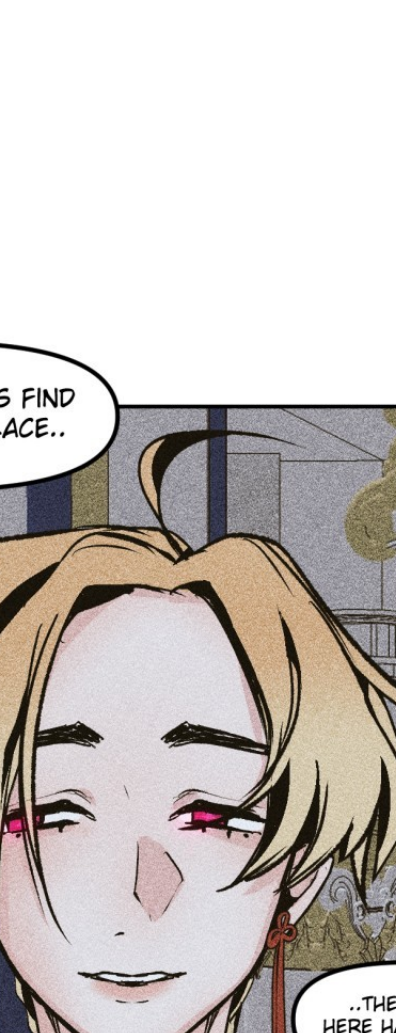


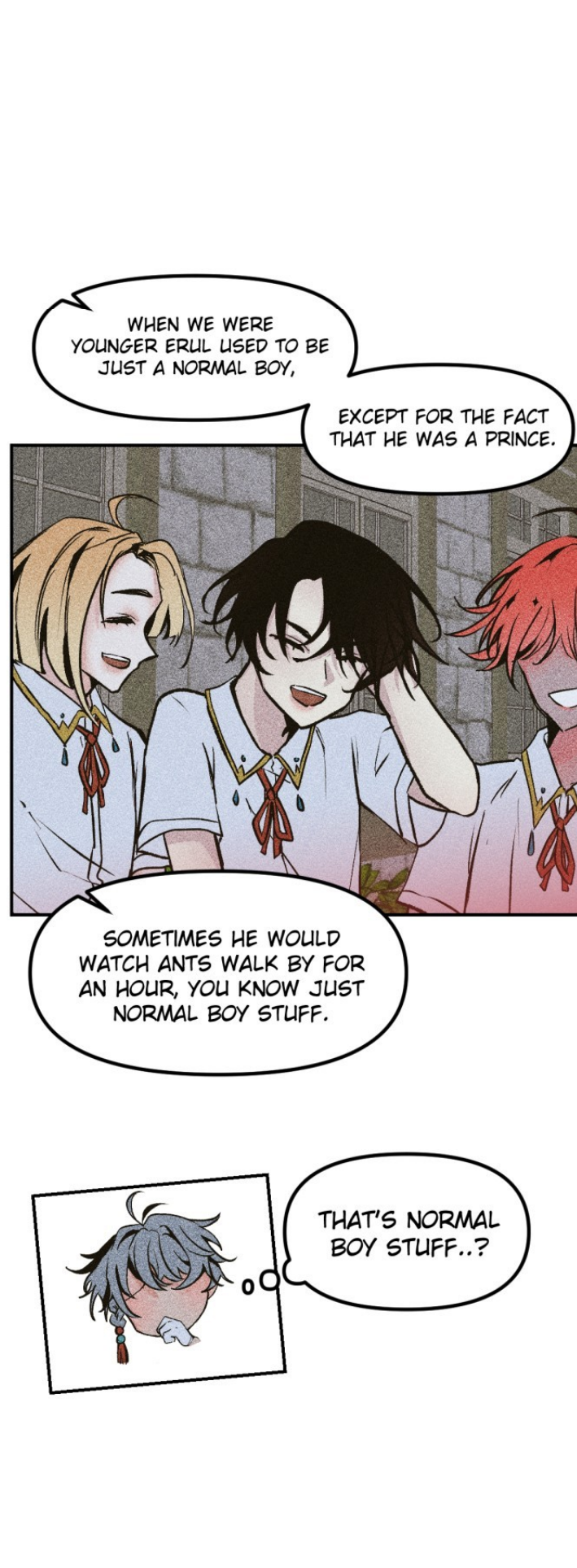


HMM...

I GUESS IT WOULD BE HARD TO ASK THE ONE IN QUESTION DIRECTLY...

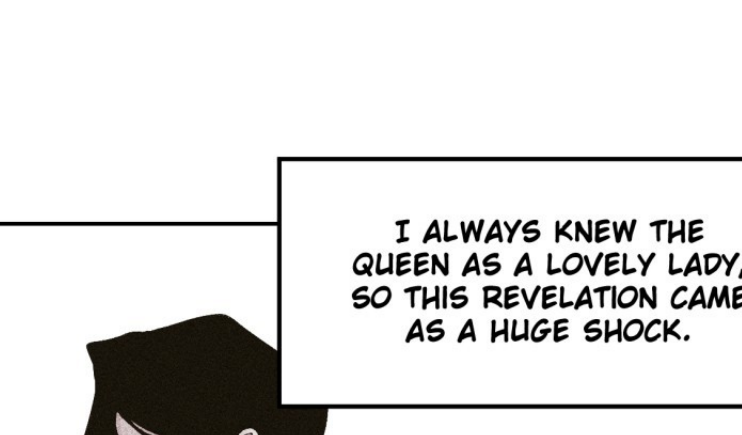


VERY WELL LET ME TELL YOU WHAT I KNOW.



BUT FIRST, LET'S FIND A DIFFERENT PLACE..

THE WALLS HERE HAVE EARS.

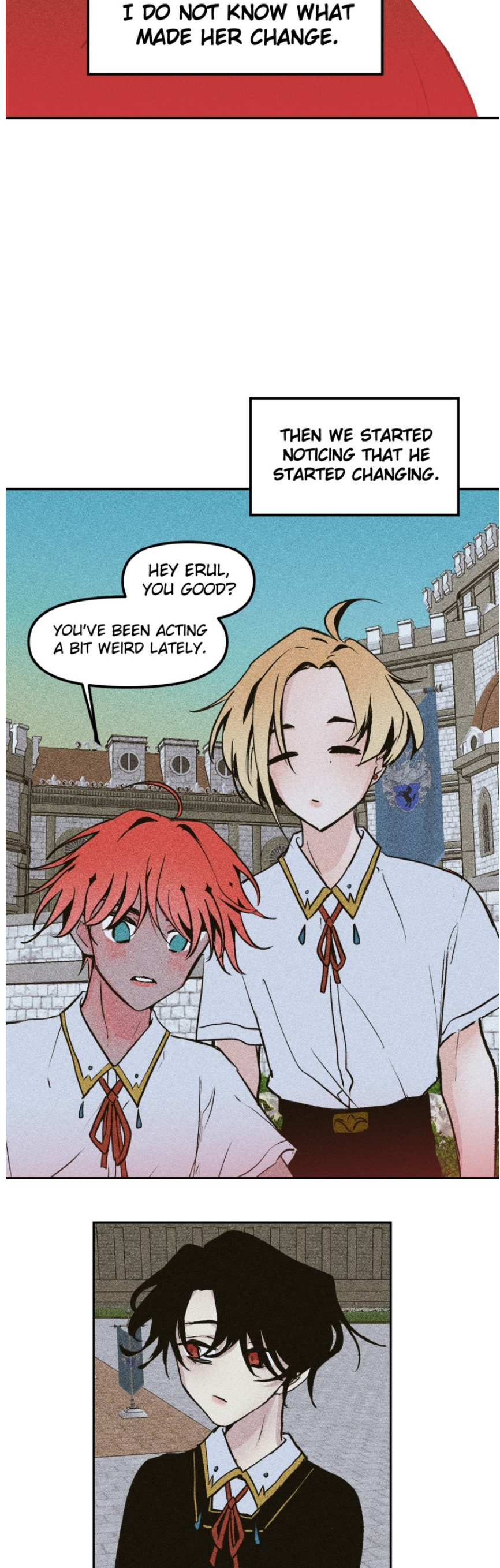


WHEN WE WERE YOUNGER ERUL USED TO BE JUST A NORMAL BOY, EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT HE WAS A PRINCE.

SOMETIMES HE WOULD WATCH ANTS WALK BY FOR AN HOUR, YOU KNOW JUST NORMAL BOY STUFF.

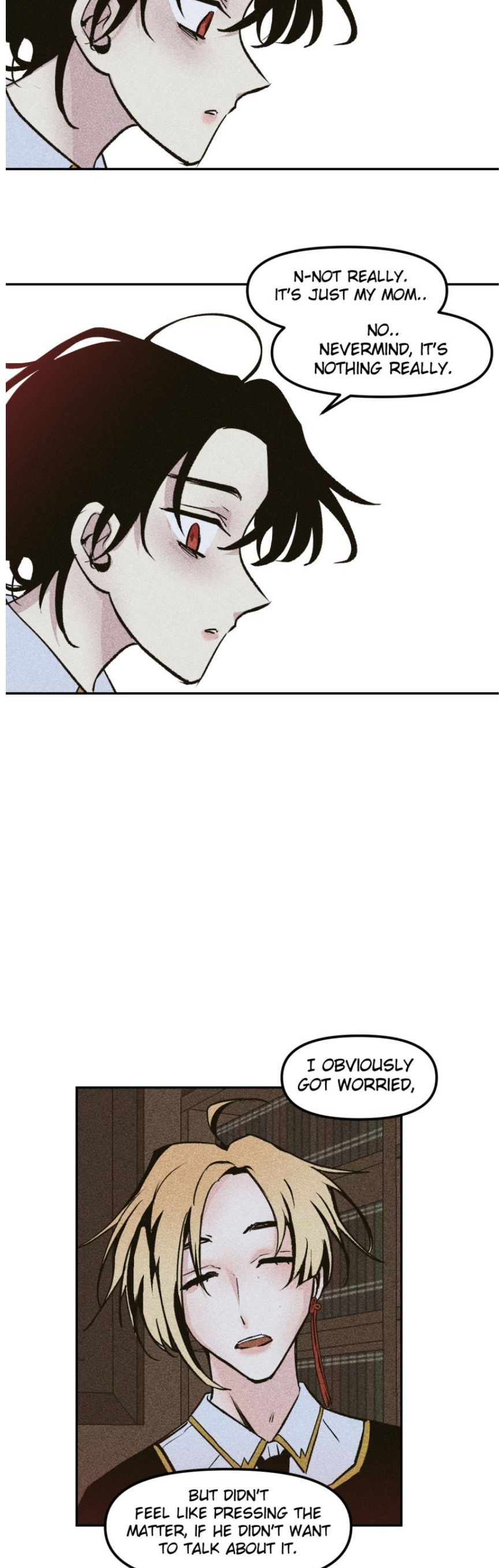


THAT'S NORMAL BOY STUFF..?



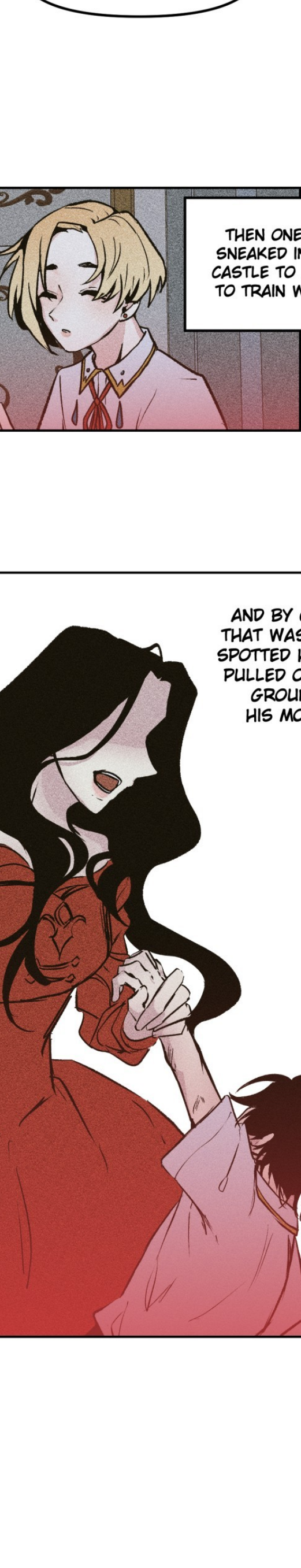
I ALWAYS KNEW THE QUEEN AS A LOVELY LADY, SO THIS REVELATION CAME AS A HUGE SHOCK.

I DO NOT KNOW WHAT MADE HER CHANGE.



THEN WE STARTED NOTICING THAT HE STARTED CHANGING.

HEY ERUL, YOU GOOD? YOU'VE BEEN ACTING A BIT WEIRD LATELY.



...

N-NOT REALLY, IT'S JUST MY MOM.. NO.. NEVERMIND, IT'S NOTHING REALLY.



I OBVIOUSLY GOT WORRIED, BUT DIDN'T FEEL LIKE PRESSING THE MATTER, IF HE DIDN'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT.



THEN ONE DAY I SNEAKED INTO THE CASTLE TO ASK HIM TO TRAIN WITH ME.



AND BY CHANCE, THAT WAS WHEN I SPOTTED HIM BEING PULLED OVER THE GROUND BY HIS MOTHER.

I SAW BRUISES ON HIS ARMS AND IT LOOKED LIKE HE WAS IN PAIN.



BUT HE STAYED SO.. ...SO SILENT.



I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG IT WAS GOING ON FOR. I ALSO DON'T KNOW WHY THE KING DIDN'T DO ANYTHING...

ALL I KNOW IS THAT HE WAS RELUCTANT TO TELL US ABOUT IT.



I BELIEVE HIS FEAR OF WOMAN WAS CAUSED BY HIS MOTHER.

MAYBE...

IT WAS BETTER TO NOT HAVE KNOWN ABOUT THIS AT ALL.

BUT JUST ONE MORE THING...

THEN...

...DID HE KILL HIS OWN MOTHER?