

A CHILD!?!



SO, AFTER GRADUATING COLLEGE,
TOBIAS FRETCHMAN AND I,
TYSON CRAWING-

CONTINUED TO LIVE TOGETHER
IN A HOUSE WE RENTED.

I WAS BUILDING A CAREER AS A COOK
BY WORKING AT MY FAMILY'S RESTAURANT.



AND TOBIAS WAS WORKING AT HIS FAMILY'S
WINERY, OBTAINING HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE
MANAGING THE PLACE AND MAKING WINE.



WE STRENGTHENED OUR
BONDS WITH EACH OTHER'S
FAMILY, LEARNING ABOUT
THEIR FAMILY BUSINESS,



AND WE SPENT OUR TIMES OFF
TOGETHER-RELAXING, GOING
OUT TO PLAY SPORTS, ENJOYING
OUR HOBBIES AND LEISURE.



IT WASN'T LONG AGO THAT
WE DECIDED TO BUILD OUR
OWN HOME ON A PIECE OF LAND
BY THE LAKE WE PURCHASED
USING TRUSTED PROPERTY.



I WOULD TALK WITH THE MANAGER
WHENEVER I VISITED THE SITE DURING
VACATION AND BETWEEN JOBS
TO DISCUSS ABOUT THE FINE DETAILS.



AND TOBIAS WOULD
HELP OUT CARRYING
BUILDING MATERIALS
AND USING THE HAMMER.



THEN ONE NIGHT...

I'M HOME!

THANKS FOR
PREPARING
DINNER!

OH!

YOU DIDN'T BUY
TAKE-OUT? COOL!

YOU DID A
GREAT JOB!

YOUR FAMILY
TAUGHT ME
WELL.



IT TASTES
RATHER GOOD, BUT...

THE SERVING SIZE
AND PRESENTATION
IS WAY TOO MUCH.

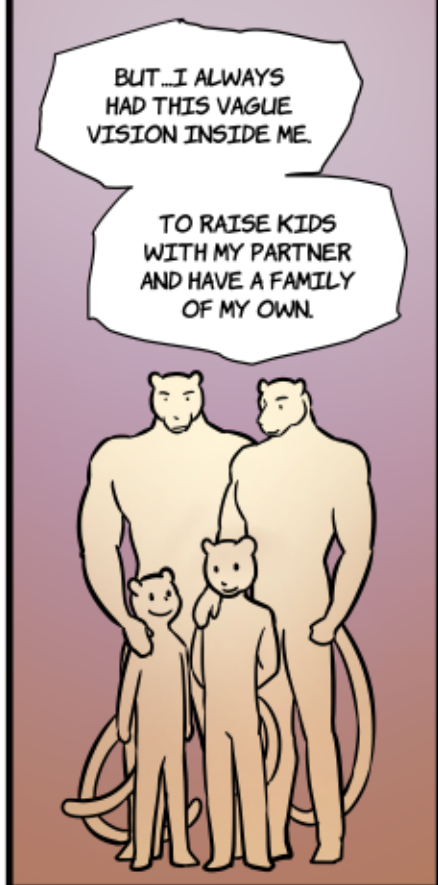
DIG IN. YOU
MUST BE
STARVING.


AFTER WE'RE
DONE, I WANT
TO TALK TO
YOU.

MM...TALK?
ABOUT WHAT?










I'M SCARED...
TO BE HONEST.




I'VE HEARD MORE
GAY COUPLES
ARE HAVING KIDS
OF THEIR OWN.

BUT I DON'T THINK
THE SOCIETY IS
REALLY READY TO
ACCEPT US...



BEING GAY ISN'T
A REASON TO
GIVE UP.

I'LL PUNCH THE FACES
OF PEOPLE WHO PICK
ON OUR KID FOR
US BEING GAY.



I UNDERSTAND
WHAT YOU WANT
TO SAY.

I ADMIT. I REALLY
LIKE KIDS.


IMAGINING RAISING
OUR OWN CHILD
AT OUR DREAM HOME
MAKES ME THRILLED.



A LOVING AND
CARING FAMILY
IS WHAT
MATTERS.

PARENTS
BEING HETERO
ISN'T IMPORTANT.

BUT...THINKING WHETHER
WE WILL BE GOOD PARENTS
IS ANOTHER STORY...WILL
BEING WITH US BE THE BEST
FOR THAT KID?



I CAN'T TELL
FOR SURE...

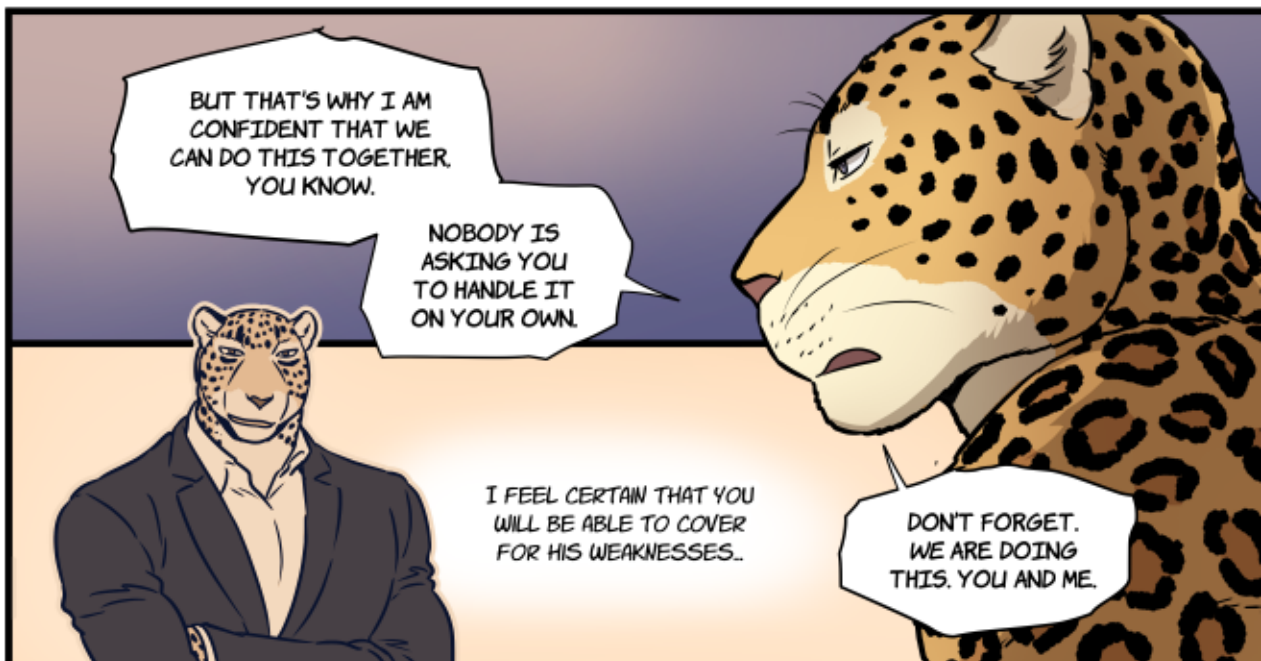


TYSON.



BEING ALWAYS RATIONAL IS ONE OF YOUR GIFTS, BUT YOU PLAY THINGS TOO SAFE.

HONESTLY, IT IRRITATES ME SOMETIMES.



BUT THAT'S WHY I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE CAN DO THIS TOGETHER, YOU KNOW.

NOBODY IS ASKING YOU TO HANDLE IT ON YOUR OWN.

I FEEL CERTAIN THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO COVER FOR HIS WEAKNESSES.

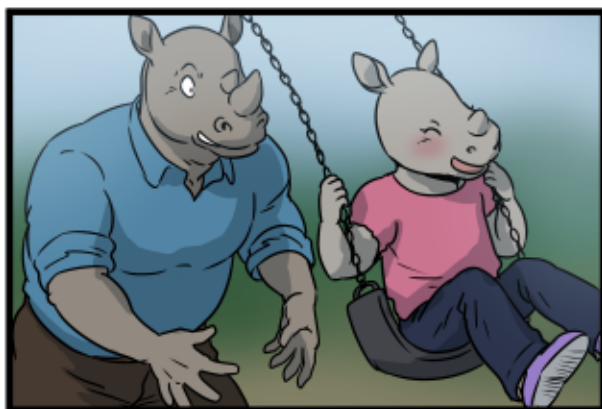
DON'T FORGET. WE ARE DOING THIS. YOU AND ME.



IF WE CAN IS THE NEXT STEP.

I WANT TO KNOW IF YOU WANT TO TAKE THE FIRST STEP.





IT WAS WHEN I WAS
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...



MY SISTER GAVE BIRTH
TO HER FIRST CHILD.
WHEN I HELD MY NIECE
IN MY ARMS--

I REMEMBER FEELING
A WARM SENSATION
SPREADING INSIDE ME.



BUT I HAVE ALREADY
REALIZED MY OWN
SEXUALITY BY THEN.



AND I HAD A VAGUE
UNDERSTANDING HOW HARD
IT WOULD BE FOR A GAY GUY
TO HAVE HIS OWN CHILD.



I DIDN'T WANT
TO FEEL JEALOUS
OF MY BELOVED
SISTER AND HER
FAMILY.



SO I TRIED TO NOT
THINK ABOUT
HAVING A
FAMILY.



I THOUGHT I FOUND
THINGS I COULD BE
ABSORBED IN,
SO I COULD LIVE
A POSITIVE LIFE...

"I WANT A CHILD."

OH, TOBIAS.
YOU ARE SO HONEST
ABOUT YOUR DESIRES.



YOUR WORDS STIRRED WHAT
WAS LINGERING INSIDE ME
THIS WHOLE TIME.

OUR SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT WAS
DEFINITELY CHANGING FROM HOW IT WAS.



AND THE BIGGEST
CHANGE WAS...



"DON'T FORGET.
WE ARE DOING
THIS, YOU AND ME."





OKAY, SO...

IF WE DECIDE
TO HAVE A CHILD—



HOW DO YOU
PLAN TO REALIZE
THAT?

ADOPTION?
SURROGACY?



YOU
REMEMBER?

WE WENT TO CATER
AT AN ORPHANAGE WITH
YOUR RESTAURANT'S
STAFFS A FEW TIMES
AS A VOLUNTEER.



YEAH.
YOU WERE
A GREAT
HELP.



MANY KIDS WERE
SCARED OF ME,
BUT SOME CAME
UP TO ME
REALLY CASUALLY.



LOOKING AT THEM,
I WAS REMINDED
THERE ARE MANY
CHILDREN WHO—

LOST THEIR
PARENTS OR WERE
ABANDONED BY
THEM WITH A
HUGE SCAR.



THINKING
ABOUT THEM
REALLY MAKES
ME MAD.

THEIR PARENTS
PROBABLY HAVE
THEIR REASONS...
BUT THEY
COULD HAVE
DONE BETTER.

