The Inversion Convergence


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A Document on Corrupted “Nightmare’s” manipulation of Nightmare and Corruption of the Tree and Dreamtale

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Color Key:

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Lime - FSIQ, Intelligence
Red - Strategy, Planning, Tactics
Yellow - Deception, Unpredictability
Cyan - Manipulation, Social Engineering, Psychological Warfare
Green - Reasoning, Thinking, Insight, Analysis, Social Intelligence
Pink - Emotional Intelligence, Adversity
Blue - Foresight
Magenta - Field Skills, Adaptability

Category Descriptions

- FSIQ: FRI, PSI, VCI, VSI, WMI. PSI and WMI can be grouped as CPI depending on the case
- Intelligence: Crystallized, Fluid
- Planning: Contingency, Coverage, Intricacies, Invincibility, Preparation Process, Versatility
- Strategy: Building, Complexity, Flexibility (aka Adaptability), Fortitude (aka Success Rate), Logistics
- Tactics: Management, Potency, Synergy
- Deception: Acting Skills, Fabrication, Information Control, Misdirection, Sophistry (aka Verbal Deception + Bluffing)
- Unpredictability: Behavioral Volatility, Cognitive Volatility, Creativity, Unconventionality
- Manipulation: Direct, Indirect, Emotional, Logical, Mass, Coercion
- Social Engineering: Aura, Charisma, Communication, Influence Building, Leadership, Resource Allocation
- Psychological Warfare: Abusing Insecurities, Demoralization, Emotional Inducement, Mind Control, Reinforcements
- Reasoning: Deductive, Inductive, Abductive
- Insight: Cold Reading, Intuition, Memory, Observation, Perception
- Analysis: Data, Description, Deviation
- Social Intelligence: Awareness, Cognition, Intuition
- Emotional Intelligence: Facilitation, Perception, Understanding, Engagement, Management, Realization
- Thinking: Abstract, Application, Convergent, Divergent, Holistic, Metacognition
- Adversity (AQ/AC): Discipline, Stress Tolerance, Perseverance, Impulse Management, Mental Fortitude
- Foresight: Anticipation, Prediction, Preclusion
- Field Skills: Information Gathering, Formulation Speed, Social Integration, Risk Assessment, Safeguarding, Setting Trap, Multitasking



Context:

The tree of feelings is the origin of all emotions; it produces feelings—whether positive or negative—that are sent to every universe and multiverse.

Without the existence of the tree, all beings would be incapable of feeling anything at all.

The entity that took control of Nightmare's body is said to embody the very concept of negativity, the root of all negative thoughts.

It is as ancient as time itself, meaning every negative thought that has ever occurred or will occur is actively monitored and influenced by this being.

It serves as the voice in the back of your mind whenever you experience any form of negative emotions or thoughts.

Nim is the original guardian of the tree of feelings.

She fused with the tree, creating dream and passive nightmare to protect it after being mortally injured, as she was connected to the tree.

He's also capable of being able to perform the same level of feats without haxs (meaning that wherever he scales with his hax, he scales even higher without them)

Passive Nightmare:



Passive Nightmare is a being created from pure negative energy after Nim was attacked and severely wounded, along with Dream, to protect the tree (which was now also Nim) as its guardian, preventing any human or monster from touching the tree.

He was created to defend the negative side of the tree, the exact opposite of Dream, who was created to protect the positive side.

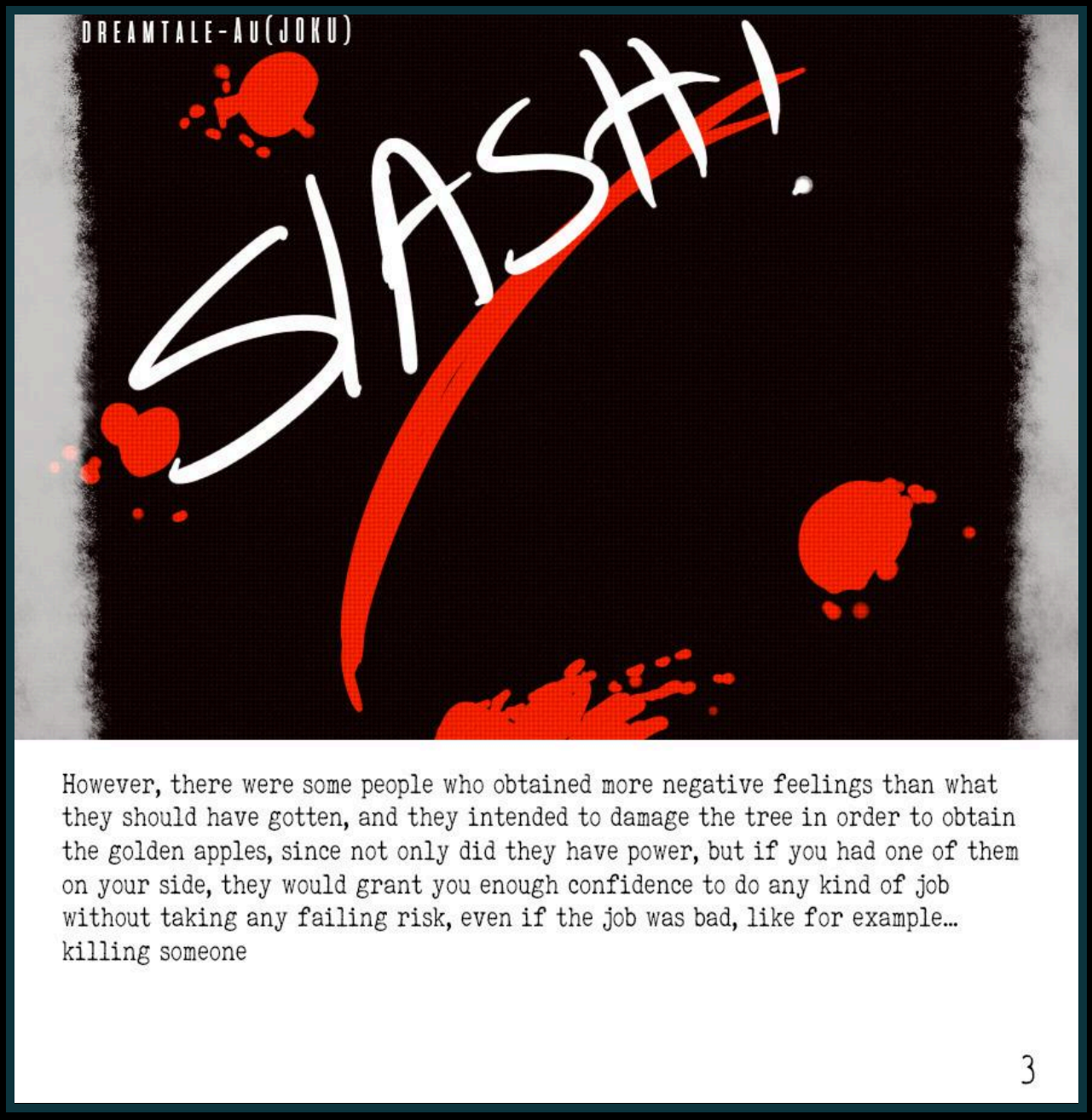
<u>This is something that'll be very important, so make sure that you keep it in your mind, because this will be the root cause of everything that happens next</u>

Phase 1: The Attack



The tree is said to be the source of everyone's emotions, so if the tree dies, emotions die. (Keep this in mind)

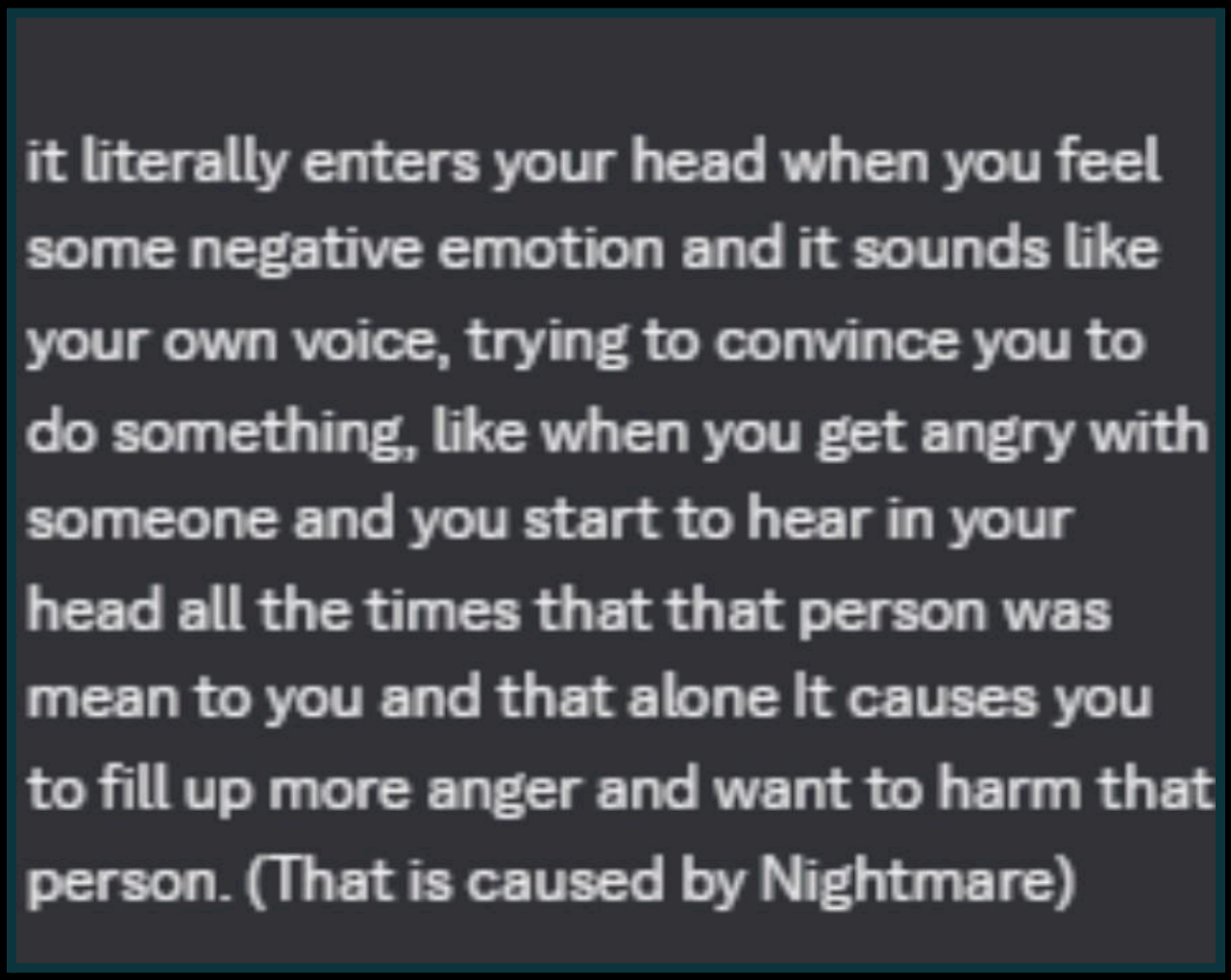
Nim was attacked by an aggressor whose negativity was far greater than what would normally be expected from an ordinary person.



This unusual level of negativity was not simply a natural reflection of the aggressor's emotions as they are stated to have more negativity than what was considered to be normal.

Therefore, Nightmare had to be manipulating them from within their mind, influencing their negative thoughts and pushing them toward acting upon those thoughts.

This is important and matters because of the fact that Nightmare is considered to be the root of all negative thoughts.



He functions as the personification of the darker impulses that exist within a being's mind—as stated by Joku—he's the inner voice that emerges inside of somebody's mind when they experience feelings such as hatred, fear, disgust, anger, or other negative emotions.

Rather than simply causing those emotions to exist, Nightmare attempts to persuade a person to act upon them while also amplifying these emotions.

In other words, whenever someone experiences a negative thought, Nightmare is there to influence it.

He essentially acts as the voice inside one's head that says, "Give in to that feeling. Act on it. Do what you are thinking about doing."

Because of this fact, Nightmare's influence extends far beyond directly controlling someone's actions.

He can manipulate a person's existing negativity, intensify it, and gradually push them toward decisions that they otherwise might not have made when they were in a more positive state of mind.

This establishes a significant implication about how Nightmare's existence functions within the story: negative thoughts, emotions, and actions are effectively within his sphere of influence and are caused by him.

Whenever a being experiences negativity, Nightmare can monitor it, interfere with it, amplify it, and manipulate said being as their own negative thoughts.

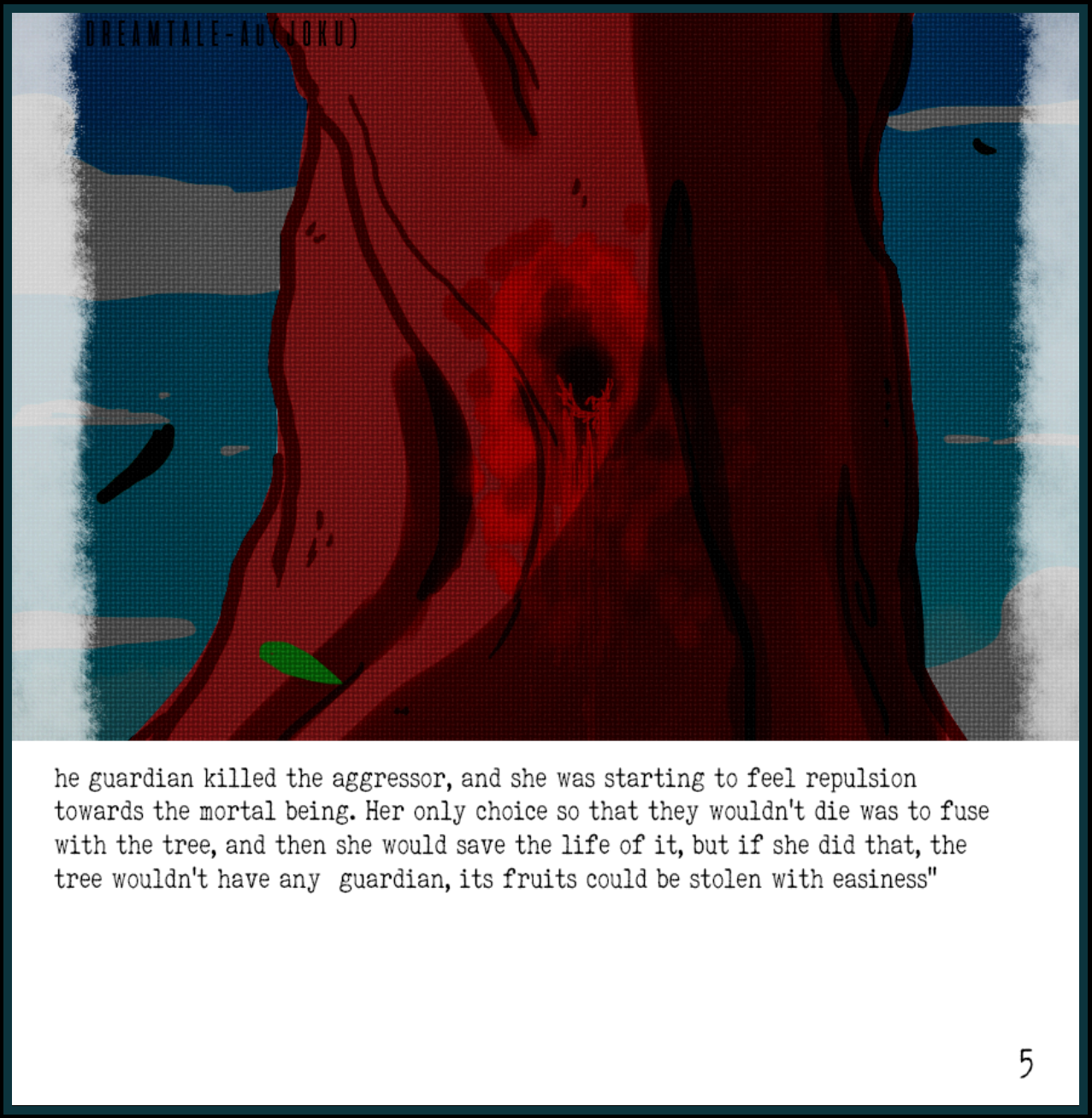
Therefore, every negative action or feeling that occurs within the story can and has to be connected to Nightmare's influence as he's the very concept of negativity.

He does not necessarily need to directly control someone like a puppet. Instead, he can exploit the negative emotions that already exist within them, acting as their supposed "inner voice" during moments of fear, anger, hatred, disgust, or despair.

He takes those feelings and encourages the individual to follow them to their logical extreme.

This is exactly what happened with Nim.

After Nim killed the aggressor, she was placed in an extremely difficult situation.



She was forced to make a decision while being overwhelmed by negative emotions, particularly feelings of disgust and fear of losing the tree, came up with the idea of fusing with the tree—as it's stated her life was connected to it, so if she dies, the tree dies.

Nim in this moment was therefore caught between her responsibility to protect the tree and the overwhelming negativity influencing her decision-making.

If she had followed the path that her fear and disgust were pushing her toward, however, the consequences would have been disastrous.

The tree would have been left unguarded.

And that precisely was the outcome Nightmare wanted to avoid and had to avoid—or, more accurately, the outcome he wanted to manipulate into a larger plan while having to play it safe.

Under the influence of her fear, which had been amplified by Nightmare acting as the voice within her mind, Nim began searching for another solution.



She eventually conceived the idea of gathering both positive and negative energies around her together and using them to create two separate beings.

One would be composed of positive energy: that being Dream.

And the other would be composed of negative energy: Passive Nightmare.



Two light beings made with pure positive and negative energy, the little gold being was known as Dream since he was a dreamer, and his brother, the dark purple being, was called Nightmare, only because he was the complete opposite of Dream. The guardian gave them two human bodies so that they could take them, empty bodies. But the energies were so big , and since there were just a few escape routes, the bodies started to swell more and more, until they exploded. It was very disgusting. The guardian had to think fast, she had to fuse as soon as posible, so she explored with her mind other universes to find some vessel that she could copy and that it was suitable for those guardians. She found a small skeleton in a universe called "Underswap", his name was Sans.

She hurried and copied the form of that skeleton into two empty replicas in front of the light energies, who took the bodies quickly, filling them with life. This time, the energy had many escape routes due to the numerous holes that a skeleton could have, so it was under control. The guardian (Now mother of the new guardians) fused with the tree.

The purpose of creating these beings was to establish new guardians capable of protecting the tree in her place.

On the surface level of things, this is Nim attempting to solve the problem herself.

She recognizes that the tree requires protection and concludes that creating beings specifically designed to embody positive and negative energies could provide the necessary guardians.

However, the idea itself was heavily influenced by the negative emotions that Nightmare had amplified within her.

Once Nim had decided to create Dream and Passive Nightmare, another problem immediately presented itself.

The beings required bodies.

Nim attempted to use human bodies as vessels for the enormous amounts of energy contained within Dream and Passive Nightmare.

However, the bodies she selected were incapable of containing that much power.

The energy was simply too great.

As a result, the human bodies could not withstand the pressure created by the energy inside them, causing the bodies to explode.

This created another problem for Nim.

She now had the beings she wanted to create, but she did not have suitable vessels capable of containing their energy.

With time becoming increasingly important and with the possibility that she would not find appropriate bodies before the tree was left vulnerable, Nim began searching for another solution.

She used her mind to explore other universes, searching for beings whose bodies might be capable of containing the immense amounts of energy necessary to create her new guardians.

During this search, she encountered Underswap.

There, Nim discovered Swap Sans.

His skeletal body provided exactly what she needed.

Rather than being limited by the same physical restrictions as a human body, a skeleton could allow the immense energy contained within Dream and Passive Nightmare to flow through the body much more freely and exit at the same time.

Nim therefore used Swap Sans's body as a reference.

Using that reference, she created two copies that could serve as suitable vessels for the beings she had created.

Unlike the human bodies she had previously attempted to use, these skeletal bodies were capable of allowing the energy to flow through them without immediately being destroyed.

The problem of finding suitable vessels was therefore solved.

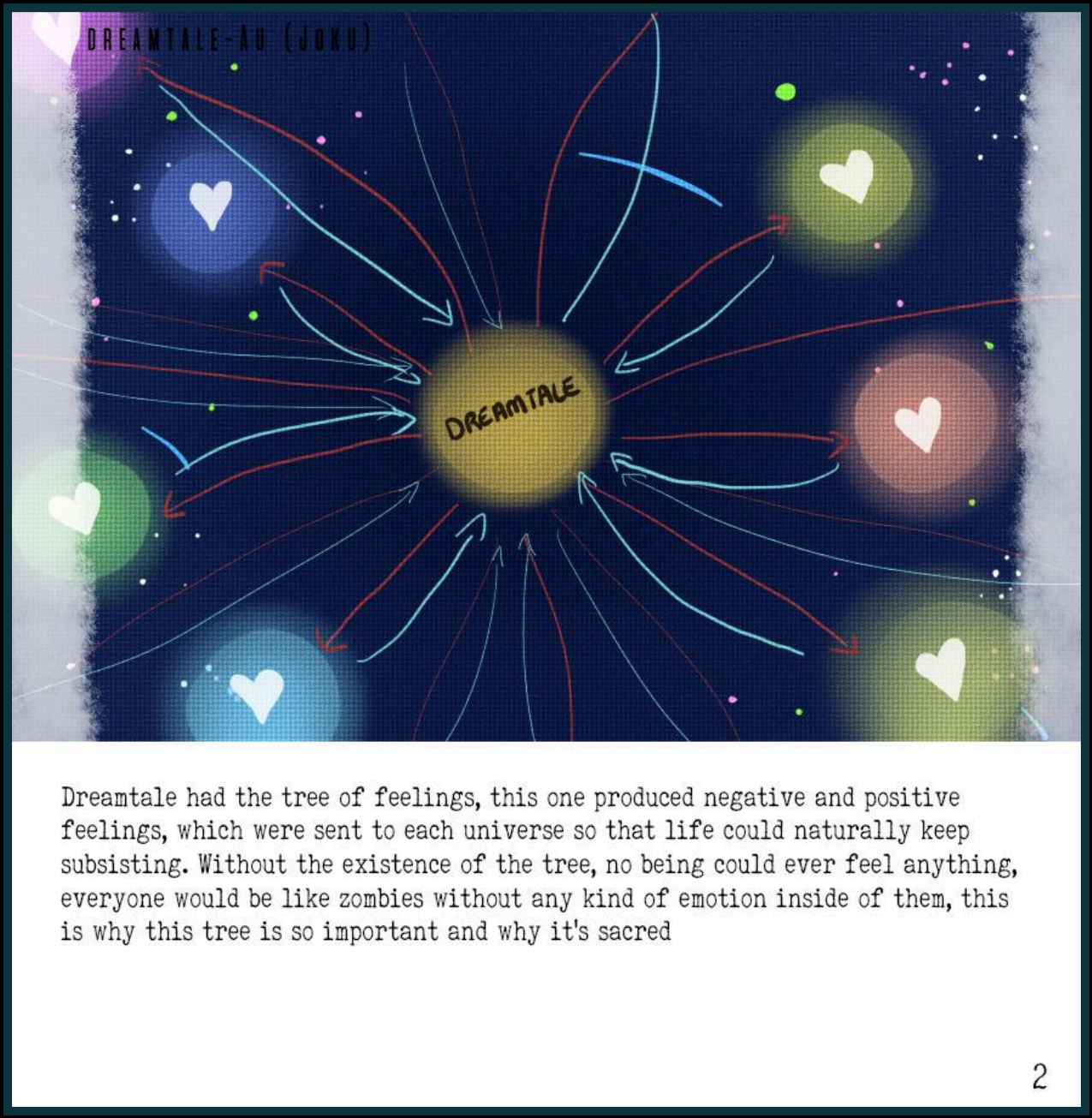
Once Dream and Passive Nightmare had successfully been given bodies, Nim could finally proceed with her original objective.

She was able to fuse with the tree.

However, this is where Nightmare's involvement becomes especially important.

Nightmare understood something that Nim also realized for emotions in general—If the tree were destroyed, Nightmare himself would effectively be destroyed as well.

Since Nightmare's existence is tied to negative emotions and thoughts, destroying the tree would effectively kill his own existence.



Nightmare therefore could not simply allow the tree to be destroyed.

He needed a way to ensure that Nim would continue protecting it.

But rather than directly forcing her to do so, Nightmare manipulated her thoughts and emotions.

He caused an individual with an unusually high level of negativity to attack Nim.

This attack then placed Nim in a genuine life-or-death situation.

She was forced into a position where she had to make an immediate decision while experiencing intense fear, disgust, and other negative emotions.

Those emotions gave Nightmare the opening he needed.

By amplifying Nim's fear and influencing the voice inside her head, Nightmare gradually guided her toward the idea of fusing with the tree and creating new guardians to protect it.

It appeared to be the logical solution to an impossible problem.

Therefore, she created Dream and Passive Nightmare, searched for suitable bodies, and ultimately fused herself with the tree.

Nightmare deliberately engineered the circumstances that caused Nim to reach this conclusion.

He used the aggressor's negativity to create the initial crisis.

He intensified Nim's fear and disgust during that crisis.

He then manipulated the negative thoughts produced by those emotions, acting as the inner voice that encouraged her to pursue a particular course of action.

That course of action eventually led directly to the creation of Dream and Passive Nightmare, the discovery of suitable vessels through the exploration of other universes, and finally Nim's fusion with the tree.

Nightmare therefore did not need to openly command Nim.

He only needed to manipulate the circumstances surrounding her and influence the negative emotions she was already experiencing.

By doing so, he could make his desired outcome appear to be Nim's own idea.

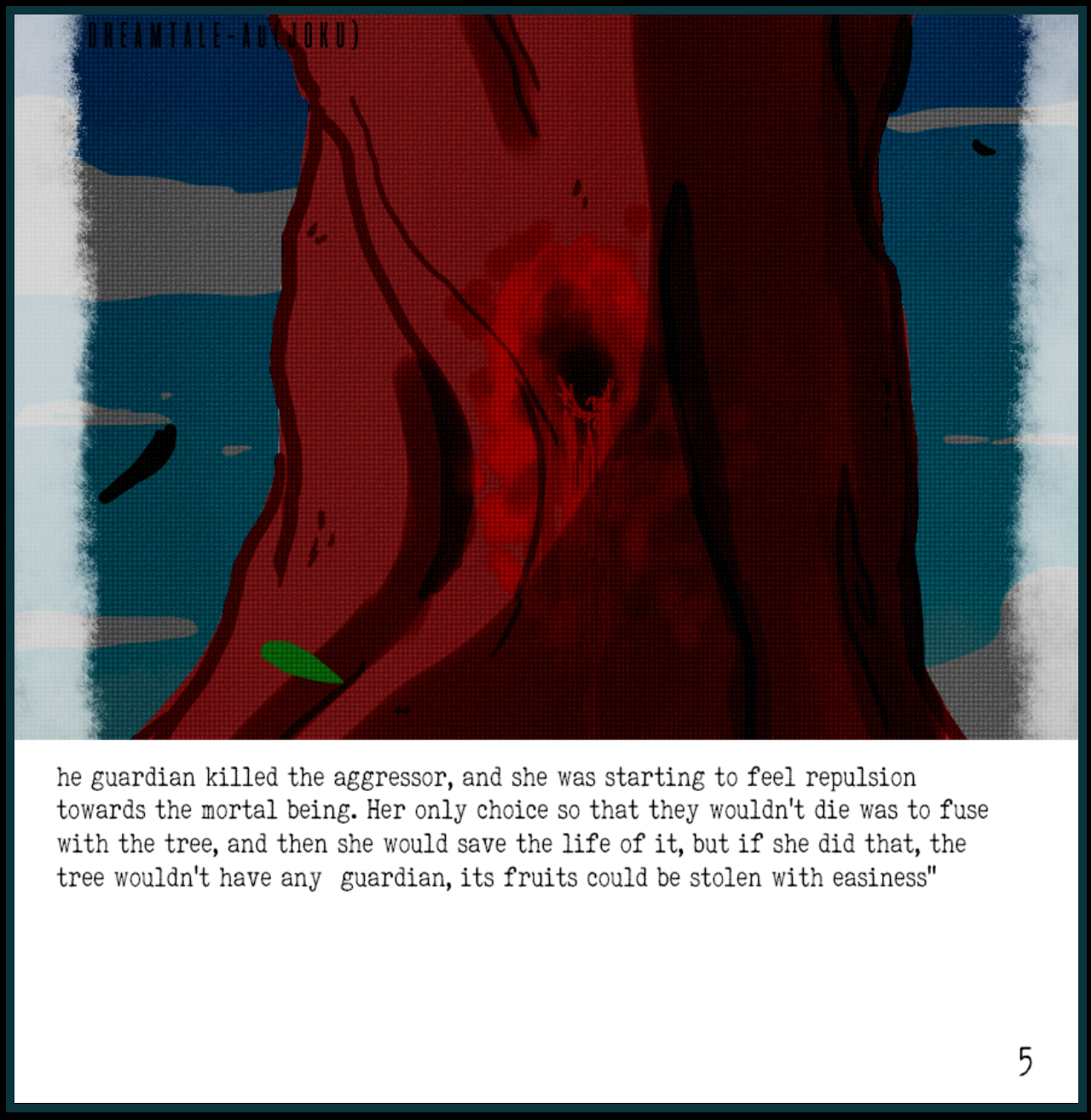
Nightmare effectively turned her own fear into the mechanism that advanced his plan.

And because the tree is the root of all emotions, Nightmare understood that protecting it was essential to his own survival.

Thus, the creation of Dream and Passive Nightmare, the search for suitable vessels, the use of Swap Sans's body as a template, and Nim's eventual fusion with the tree were planned by Nightmare.

Therefore, the plan goes something like this

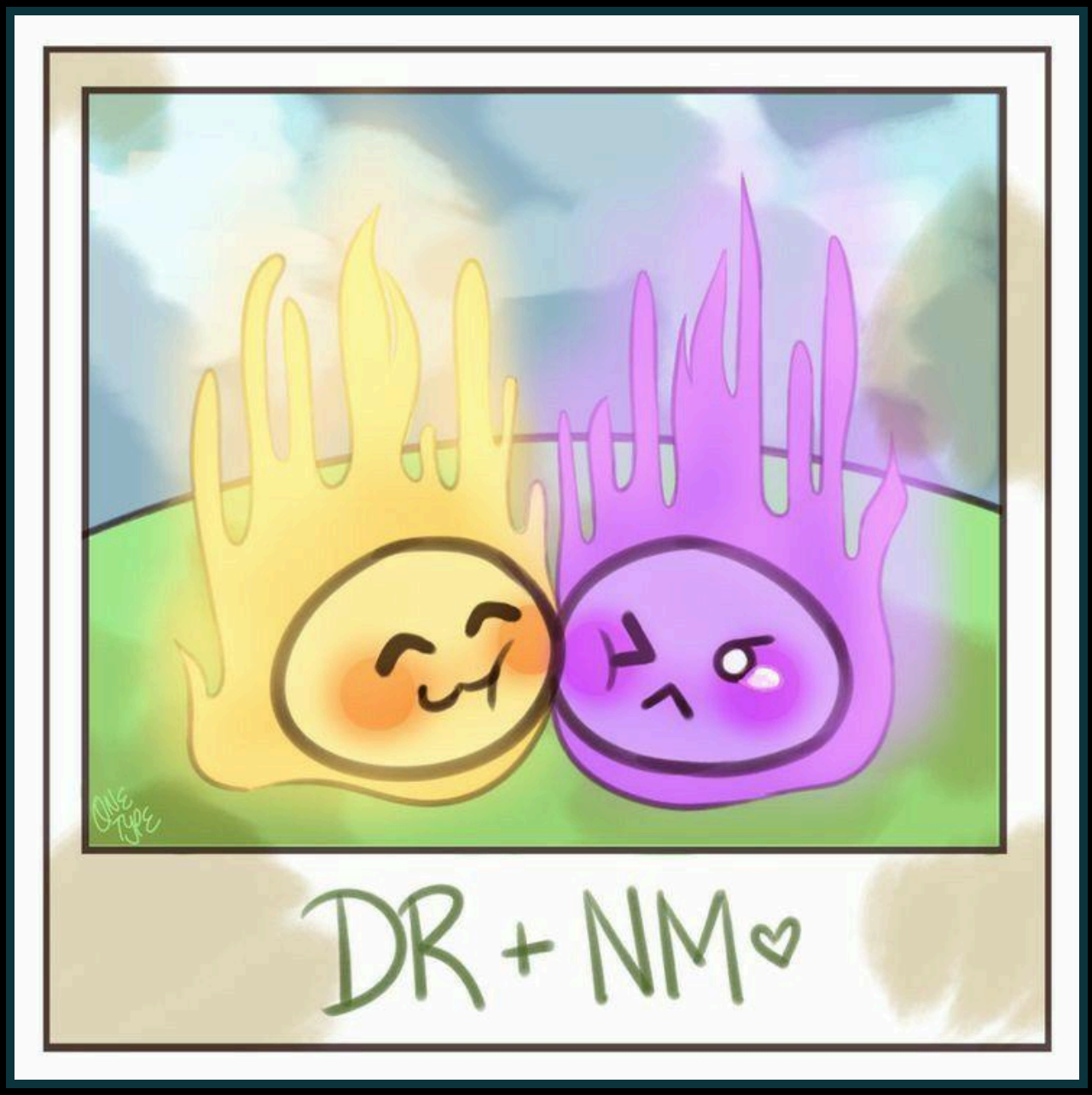
1. The attack forced Nim into a crisis.



2. The crisis intensified her negative emotions.

3. Her negative emotions gave Nightmare an opportunity to influence her thoughts.

4. Those thoughts led her to create new guardians.



5. The failure of the human vessels forced her to search through other universes.

6. That search led her to Underswap and the discovery of Swap Sans's skeletal body.

7. The skeletal bodies provided suitable vessels for Dream and Passive Nightmare.

And once the new guardians existed, Nim was finally able to fuse with the tree—ensuring that the tree remained protected while advancing Nightmare's own plan for the future.

And those reasons, while appearing to originate from Nim's own fear and desire to protect the tree, ultimately led directly into Phase 2 of Nightmare's plan.

Phase 2: Creation of the guardians



Now that Phase 1 of Nightmare's plan has been completed, the events that followed led directly into Phase 2, which is arguably the most important part of his entire scheme.

Passive's creation.

While Phase 1 revolved around manipulating Nim into believing that she needed to fuse with the tree and create new guardians to protect it, Phase 2 focuses on something far more significant: the creation of a being that Nightmare could eventually use for his own purposes.

By implanting the idea of creating new guardians into Nim's mind, Nightmare indirectly caused her to create two beings composed of pure energy: one representing positivity and the other representing negativity.

These beings became Dream and Passive Nightmare, respectively.

On the surface, this appears to be nothing more than Nim's attempt to ensure the tree's continued protection.

By separating positive and negative energy into two distinct entities, she could establish guardians capable of protecting both sides of the tree.

However, Nightmare's intentions for this matter extended far beyond simply creating new guardians.

The creation of Passive was the true objective behind this stage of his plan.

Essentially, Nightmare manipulated Nim into creating a vessel that he could eventually take over at a later point in the future.

Rather than attempting to create a suitable body for himself directly, he allowed Nim to do the work for him, guiding her toward a decision that would unknowingly serve his interests and needs.

Passive was therefore not merely another guardian designed to protect the negative side of the tree.

He was a carefully established opportunity for Nightmare to obtain a physical form.

Nightmare needed a vessel that could accommodate his immense energy, particularly the overwhelming negativity associated with his existence.

By having Nim create a being composed entirely of negative energy, he effectively ensured that the vessel would already be compatible with the very essence of his power.

This was an important distinction.

Instead of attempting to inhabit a being whose nature fundamentally contradicted his own, Nightmare would eventually have access to a body that was already composed of the same type of energy that defined him.

Passive's entire existence would revolve around negativity, making him an ideal candidate for Nightmare to manipulate and possess.

Furthermore, Passive's body would provide Nightmare with a means of expelling his energy, even if the vessel itself struggled to withstand the full extent of the negativity contained within it.

In other words, Nightmare would possess a form through which he could release his energy while simultaneously having a body that was fundamentally connected to negative energy.

Even if the body could not properly handle the full amount of negativity Nightmare possessed, it would still serve as a vessel through which he could manifest and expel that energy.

This made Passive particularly valuable to Nightmare's long-term objectives.

However, the advantages of Passive's creation extended beyond the physical compatibility between his body and Nightmare's energy.

His very nature would also make him considerably easier to manipulate.

Because Passive was created entirely from negative energy, he would naturally be predisposed to experiencing negative thoughts and feelings.

These thoughts would not necessarily need to originate from an external influence, nor would Passive have to consciously choose to experience them.

They could arise naturally as a consequence of his own existence.

Even if Passive did not want to experience these thoughts, they could still enter his mind involuntarily.

He could find himself experiencing negativity without deliberately seeking it out, making it difficult for him to distinguish between his own thoughts and the influence of something attempting to manipulate him.

This is where Nightmare's nature as the inner voice of negative emotions becomes especially relevant.

As the root of negative thoughts, Nightmare operates by influencing the darker impulses already present within a being's mind.

He encourages individuals to act upon their negative feelings, making his influence seem like an extension of their own thoughts rather than an outside force.

Passive's existence would make this process considerably easier.

Since he was composed entirely of negative energy, negative thoughts would already be a natural part of his existence.

Nightmare would not need to introduce an entirely foreign concept into Passive's mind in the slightest.

Instead, he could exploit the negativity that was already inherent to his being.

Passive might experience a negative thought and assume that it originated from himself.

He might feel an impulse toward a particular action and believe that the impulse was simply a natural consequence of his own emotions.

Consequently, Nightmare could manipulate Passive without revealing his presence at all.

He could act as the voice inside Passive's head, encouraging him to follow his negative thoughts while allowing Passive to believe that those thoughts were entirely his own.

This would make Passive especially vulnerable to Nightmare's influence because the distinction between his natural negativity and Nightmare's interference would be difficult and impossible to recognize.

After all, if negativity was already an inherent part of Passive's existence, how would he immediately know when those thoughts were genuinely his own and when they were being influenced by Nightmare?

That uncertainty would provide Nightmare with a significant advantage.

Rather than needing to overpower Passive through direct force, Nightmare could gradually exploit his natural predisposition toward negative thoughts, using Passive's own nature as the foundation for his manipulation.

In this sense, Passive's creation would accomplish two objectives simultaneously.

1. it would provide Nightmare with a physical vessel capable of accommodating his negative energy.

2. it would create a being whose mind and nature would make him particularly susceptible to Nightmare's psychological influence and manipulation.

The combination of these two characteristics would make Passive an exceptional target for Nightmare's future plans.

However, there was another important factor that made Passive's existence particularly advantageous.

Passive was created to serve as the guardian of the negative side of the tree.

This role would become significant later in the story because it provided Nightmare with a convenient way to influence how Passive was perceived by others.

As the guardian responsible for protecting the negative side of the tree, Passive's connection to negativity would already be established through his purpose and origin.

His very existence would be associated with the negative side of the tree, making it easier for others to form particular assumptions about his nature.

This meant that Nightmare would not necessarily need to create an entirely new explanation for Passive's association with negativity.

The foundation for that perception would already exist.

Passive's composition, his role as a guardian, and his connection to the negative side of the tree would all contribute to how others might interpret his actions and existence.

Nightmare could eventually exploit these circumstances to influence how Passive was viewed, potentially using his established association with negativity to advance another stage of his plan.

This becomes especially important when considering the events that unfold in Phase 3.

The role Passive was given during his creation would provide Nightmare with an opportunity to manipulate the circumstances surrounding him later on.

By establishing Passive as the guardian of the negative side of the tree, Nightmare effectively created a foundation upon which he could build his next move.

So to lay out the plan so far, this is how it all unfolds;

1. Nightmare manipulated Nim into believing that creating Dream and Passive Nightmare was necessary to protect the tree.

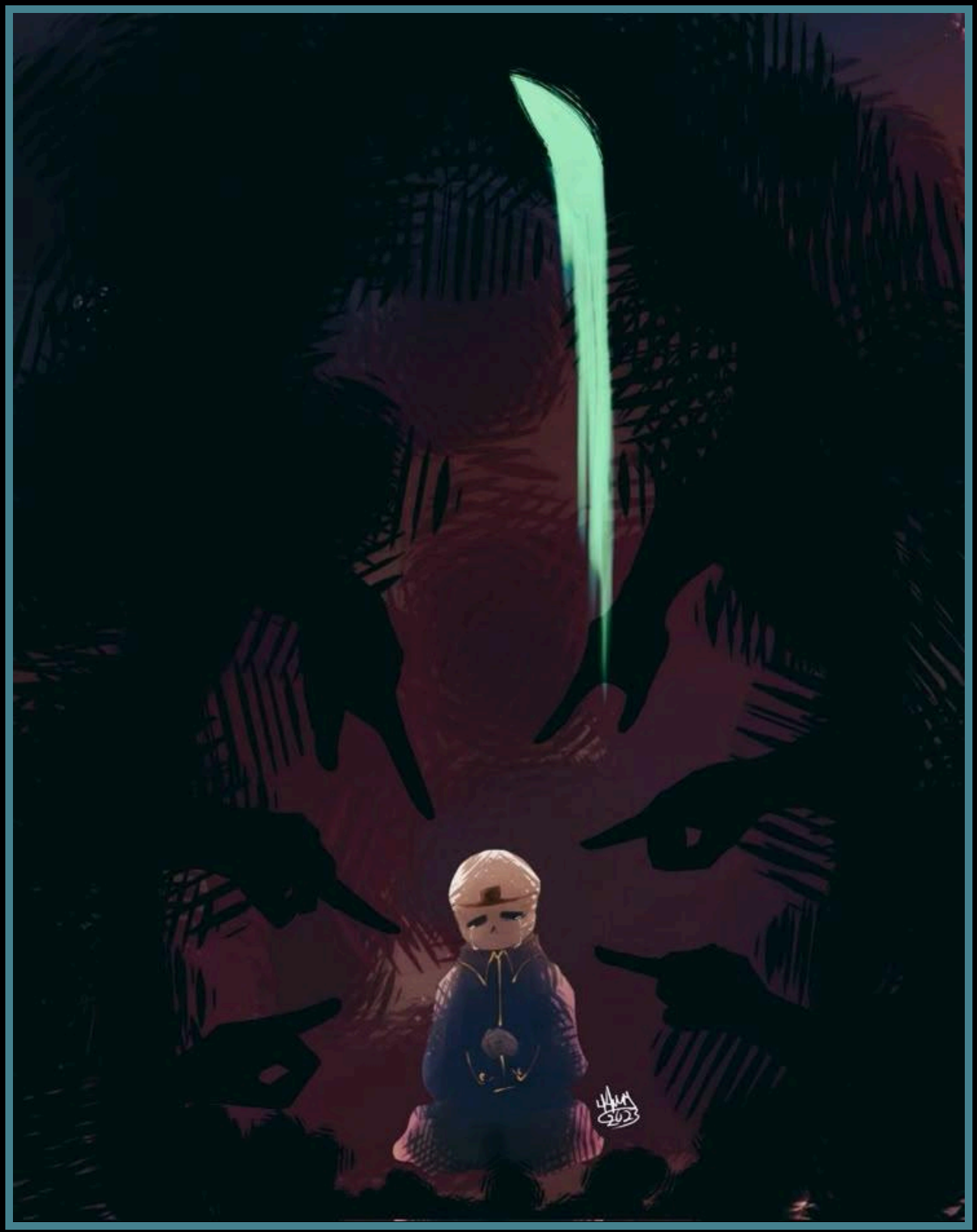
2. He then allowed her to create a being composed entirely of negative energy, unknowingly establishing a vessel for his future use.

3. Passive's composition would make him compatible with Nightmare's negativity, while his natural predisposition toward negative thoughts would make him easier to influence from within.

4. At the same time, his position as the guardian of the negative side of the tree would establish a connection to negativity that Nightmare could exploit later.

All that remained was for the events of Phase 3 to unfold, where Passive's role as the guardian of the negative side of the tree would become even more significant.

Phase 3: The Isolation of Passive



With Phase 1 and Phase 2 successfully completed, Nightmare could finally move on to Phase 3 of his plan.

The first two phases had established everything he needed.

Phase 1 involved manipulating Nim into creating guardians for the tree.

Phase 2 resulted in the creation of Dream and Passive Nightmare, with Passive unknowingly serving as the vessel Nightmare would eventually use for himself.

However, simply creating Passive was not enough.

Nightmare still needed to shape him.

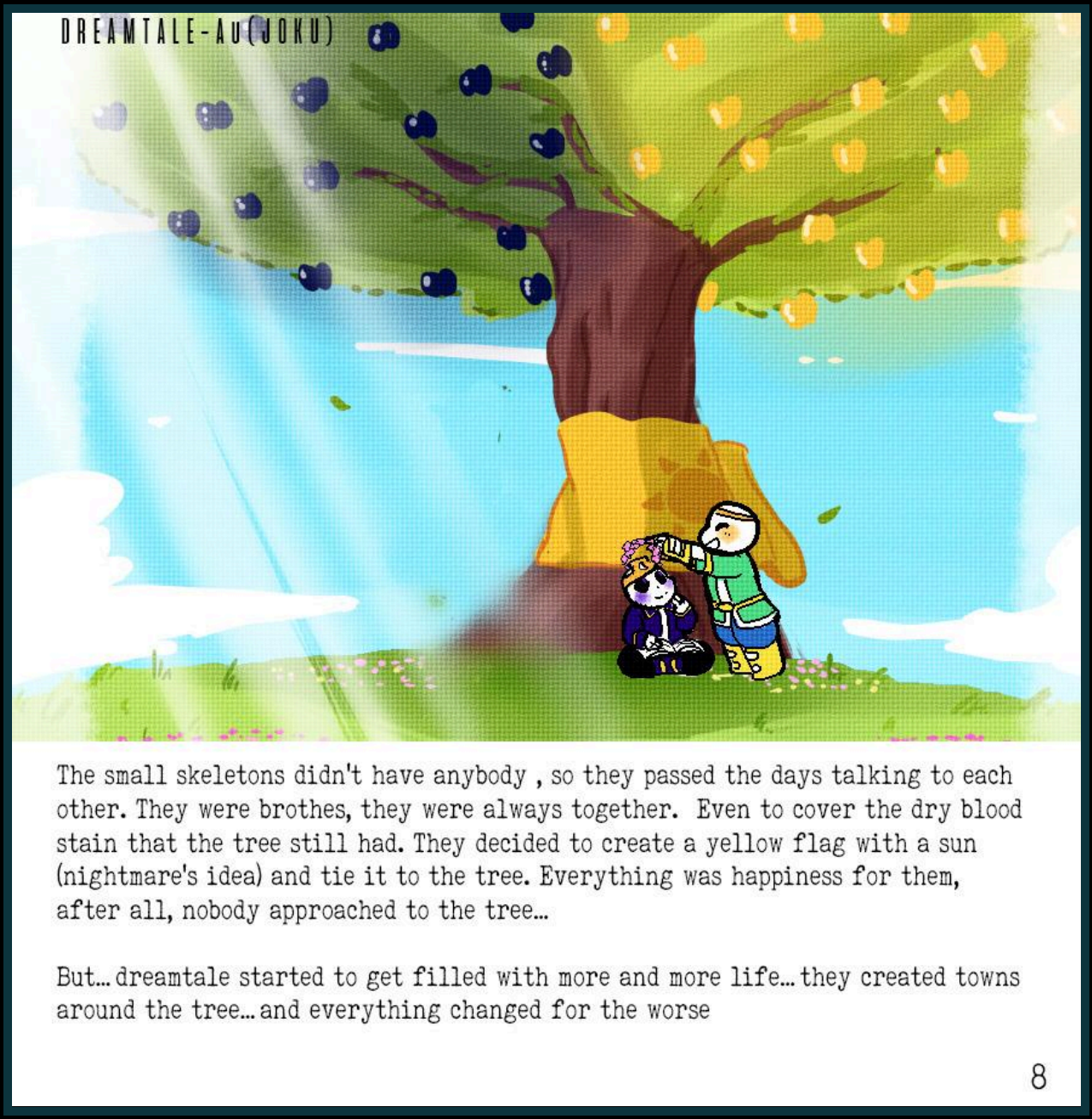
He needed to gradually increase the negativity within Passive, influence the way Passive viewed the world around him, separate him from the people who could potentially help him, and most importantly, create a psychological state that would eventually lead Passive toward the conclusion Nightmare wanted.

And Nightmare had the perfect opportunity to begin doing exactly that.

As stated within the story, Dream and Passive were initially alone.

There was nobody else around them.

Because of this, Dream and Passive spent their time together, talking and simply passing the time in each other's company.



This is important because it establishes that, during the earliest years of their existence, there was no outside population around the tree capable of interfering with them.

Nobody was there to influence the relationship between the two brothers.

For those first few years, it was simply Dream and Passive.

They had each other.

This also means that Nightmare could not immediately begin the third stage of his plan.

There was no society for him to manipulate.

There were no people whose opinions he could influence.

There was no one around to make Passive feel different or unwanted.

So as the world around the tree developed, people began arriving and settling there.

Eventually, towns began to be constructed around the tree.

And this was the moment Nightmare had been waiting for.

There were finally people so Phase 3 could begin.

Seeing as Passive was fundamentally different from everyone else—He was a being composed entirely of negative energy, and he was responsible for protecting the "bad" side of the tree.

From the perspective of the people living around the tree, Passive was different.

He did not simply look different or possess a different personality in itself.

His very nature was connected to negativity.

As a result, it was only natural that people would begin viewing him differently.

And Nightmare exploited that difference.

He began influencing the way the people perceived Passive, gradually turning their awareness of his differences into dislike, suspicion, and eventually outright cruelty.

Passive became someone they could point at.

Someone they could talk about behind his back.

Someone they could label as strange.

And eventually, that judgment turned into bullying.

The story demonstrates this through the way the people deliberately separated Dream from Passive.



Nightmare was always different, he was the most serious one, he didn't like playing and running like Dream, he preferred to read books, the ones who the elders brought for his brother, he readed them really fast, he loved reading. That would let him escape from all the negative feelings, because since he was a completely negative energy, a lot of loneliness, sadness and such kind of feelings were invading him. But the people didn't like what was different, they started to talk and whisper behind his back "He is weird" "His name means something bad" "He protects the bad side of the tree" "He is evil for sure". They distracted Dream, taking him to another place far away to play, while others took advantage of that to throw things to Nightmare (rocks, books, anything) and tell him that he was weird and that nobody liked him. Of couse there was people agaisnt that, but they didn't do anything to avoid it... they turned their heads to the other side.

They distracted Dream and brought him somewhere far away from the tree under the pretense of wanting to play with him.

This was important because Dream was the one person who could have potentially prevented what was happening.

If Dream remained beside Passive, the people would not have been able to torment Passive as easily.

So they removed him from the situation.

While Dream was kept occupied somewhere far away, others could take advantage of Passive's isolation.

They would throw things at him, insult him, tell him that he was weird, and that nobody liked him.

And they would continue doing so while Passive was left alone.

The cruelty was not simply limited to a handful of people who already disliked him, either.

There were people who didn't approve of what was happening.

Some people recognized that the treatment Passive was receiving was wrong—but they did not intervene.

Instead, they turned their heads away.

This was also something Nightmare wanted and needed to happen.

Because even those who felt sympathy for Passive were effectively removed as potential sources of support in order to make him feel completely alone.

This in itself was particularly effective because of what Passive was.

Passive was already a being composed of negative energy.

Negative emotions were therefore naturally compatible with his existence.

All of those negative feelings could naturally invade Passive's mind and body.

Nightmare was actively increasing them.

Every insult Passive received became another source of negativity.

Every object thrown at him became another reason for him to feel afraid.

Every person who ignored him became another reason for him to believe that nobody cared.

Every person who turned away instead of helping reinforced the idea that he truly was alone.

Nightmare was effectively taking every negative experience Passive endured and making its psychological impact even greater.

This is where Nightmare's manipulation becomes particularly important.

The people were the ones physically bullying Passive, but Nightmare was manipulating the circumstances surrounding that bullying and amplifying its effects within Passive.

He was increasing the hatred that people directed toward him.

He was encouraging their negative perception of him.

He was making sure that Passive continued experiencing rejection.

And, most importantly, he was making sure that Passive interpreted those experiences in the exact way Nightmare wanted.

At the same time, Nightmare needed to make sure that Dream remained unaware of what was happening.

Dream was Passive's closest companion, his brother.

If Dream discovered the truth and confronted the people, he could potentially stop the abuse.

Even worse for Nightmare, Dream could provide Passive with emotional support.

And Nightmare could not allow that.

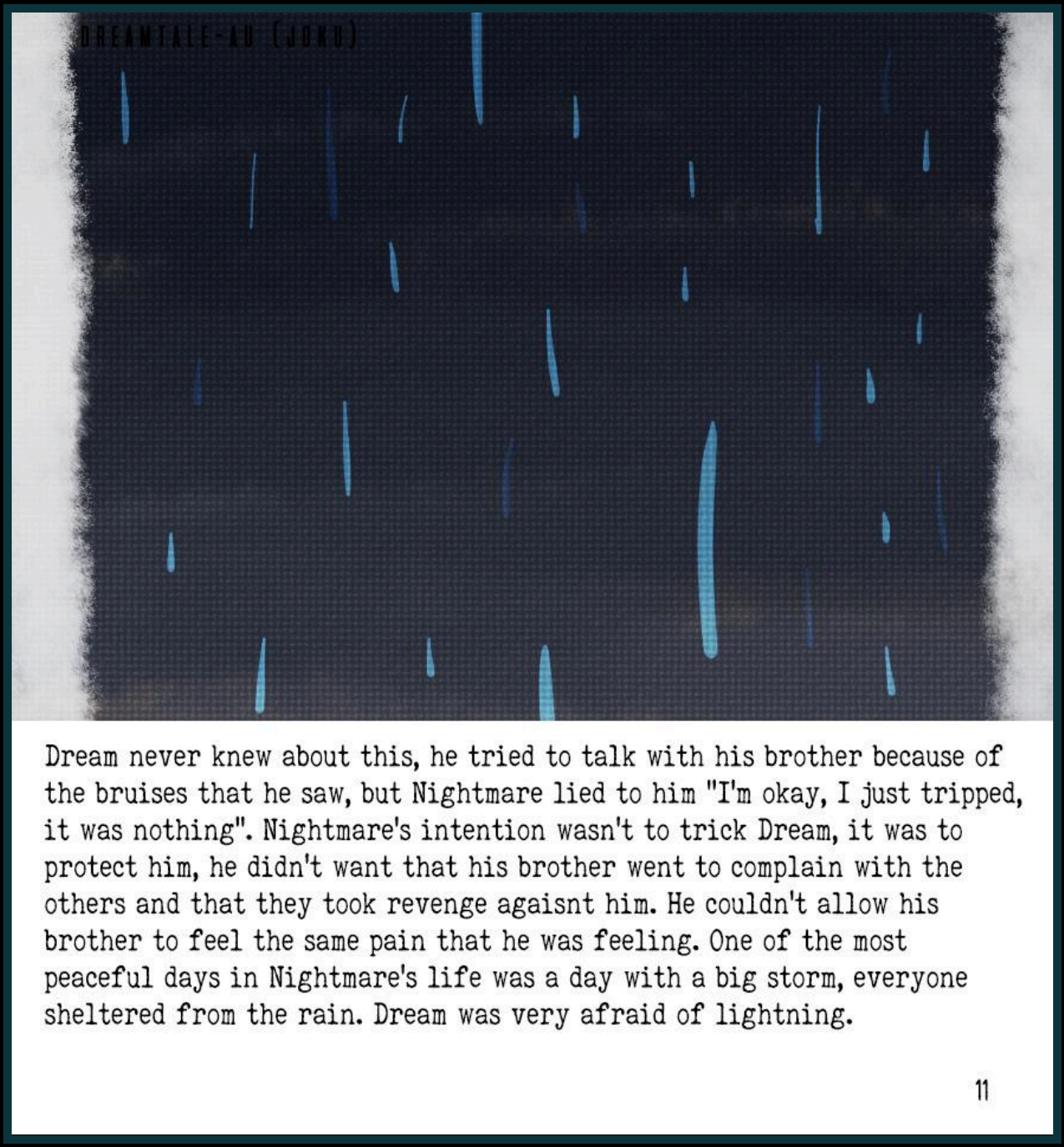
So Dream was deliberately kept away from Passive during these incidents.

The people would distract Dream and take him somewhere far from the tree, allowing them to torment Passive without interference.

This gradually created a separation between the two brothers.

However, there was another side to this separation.

Passive himself began choosing not to tell Dream what was happening.



He did not want Dream to experience the same pain he was experiencing.

Passive knew how much it hurt to be rejected and mistreated, and because he cared about Dream, he did not want his brother to suffer the same way.

So he kept it to himself.

And by doing so, Passive unknowingly helped Nightmare accomplish exactly what he wanted.

Dream remained unaware, passive remained isolated—and the distance between them continued growing.

As time passed, the situation became even worse.



But the indiscriminated hate towards the guardian of negative feelings was growing from day to day. However, bit by bit Nightmare started to change, he was afraid, he started to think that everyone was bad, that everyone wanted to hurt him. The people that felt sorry for him started to change their opinión and joined the haters.

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Nightmare steadily increased the amount of hatred directed toward Passive.

The people who already disliked him became increasingly hostile.

But Nightmare went even further.

He began influencing even the people who felt sorry for Passive.

Those who initially recognized that Passive was being mistreated could eventually be pushed into participating in the mistreatment themselves.

This is significant because it means Nightmare was not simply relying on naturally cruel people.

He was actively manipulating the social environment around Passive.

Even compassion could be turned against him.

Even those who knew his treatment was wrong could eventually become part of the problem.

This ensured that Passive would have fewer and fewer people he could trust.

There was nowhere he could turn.

Those who sympathized with him were influenced into joining them.

Dream remained unaware of what was happening.

And Passive himself was becoming increasingly convinced that the entire world was against him.

As the negativity continued accumulating inside Passive, another emotion began to become increasingly dominant:

FEAR.

Passive was no longer simply hurt by what people were doing.

He became afraid of them.

He began expecting people to hurt him.

He began believing that people wanted to hurt him.

And eventually, this developed into a much broader belief:

Everyone was bad and everyone wanted to hurt him.

Nightmare was taking Passive's experiences and pushing his interpretation of them further and further.

Nightmare was effectively transforming individual negative experiences into a worldview.

He was teaching Passive to see the entire world through the lens of fear, hatred, and distrust.

And because Passive was already a being of pure negativity, Nightmare had an incredibly receptive target.

The negativity did not need to be artificially introduced into him.

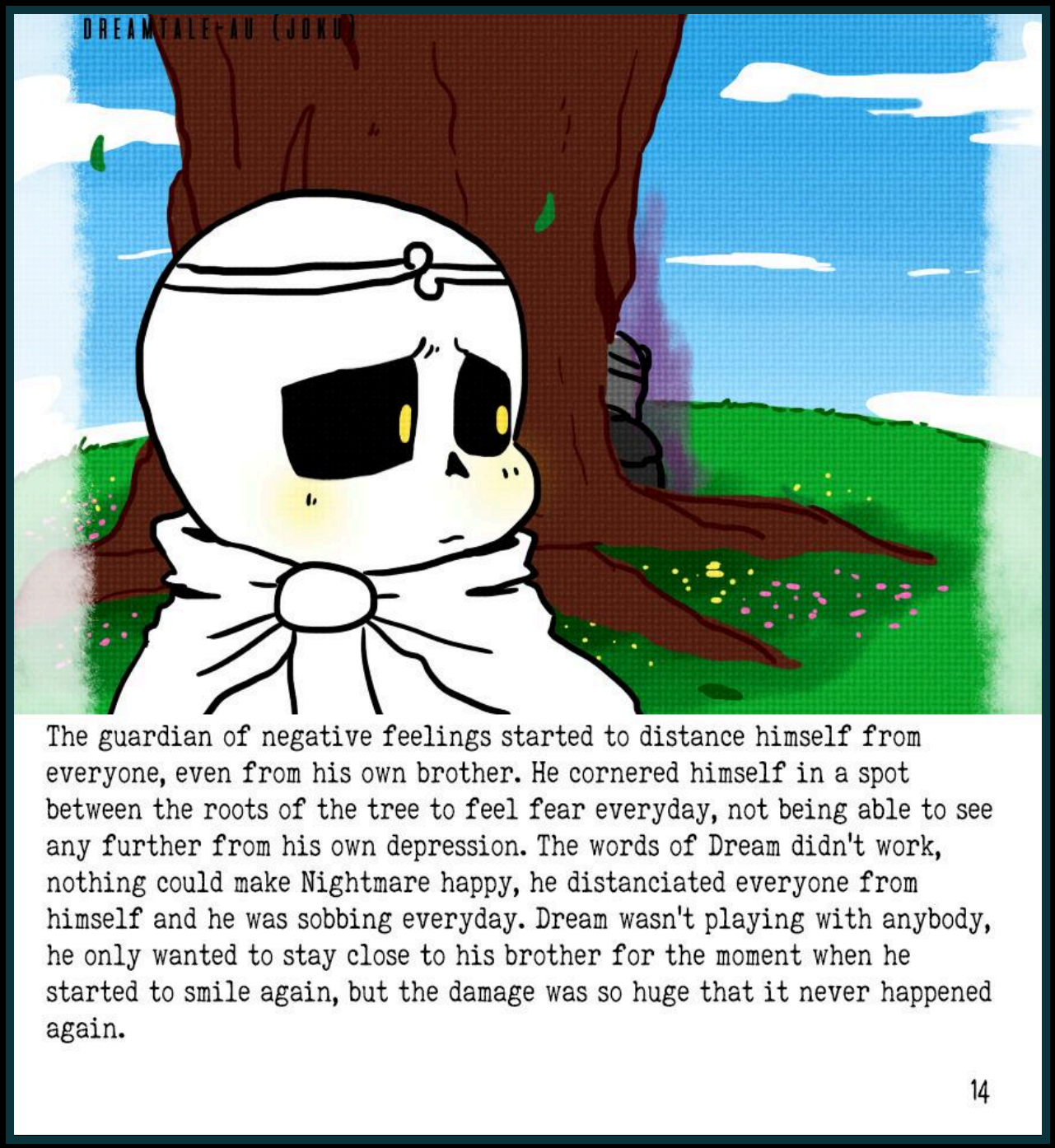
It was already part of his existence therefore Nightmare simply had to feed into it.

Eventually, Passive began withdrawing from everyone.

He distanced himself from the people around him.

And, most importantly, he began distancing himself from Dream.

The very relationship Nightmare had been trying to undermine was finally beginning to break apart.



Passive no longer wanted to be around others.

He no longer felt safe around them.

He believed that they were all capable of hurting him.

And as his fear continued increasing, Passive began retreating into himself.

He eventually cornered himself between the roots of the tree.

This moment represents the culmination of everything Nightmare had been doing to him.

Passive was physically isolated, but the more important isolation was psychological.

He had become trapped within his own fear and negativity.

His world had become smaller and smaller until he could no longer see beyond his own suffering.

He could not see the possibility of people changing.

He could not see the people who might have cared. (Dream)

He could not see a future where things could become better.

He could only see the negativity surrounding him.

And Nightmare continued feeding it.

The story further establishes the severity of this manipulation by stating that after this moment, Passive never smiled again.

That detail is extremely important.

He had been pushed into a constant state of depression.

Nightmare had successfully cultivated a mindset in which Passive remained trapped within his own negative emotions.

And because Nightmare continued acting as the voice within his mind, those feelings could continually reinforce themselves.

Passive believed that everyone hated him.

And because he believed those things, he withdrew from everyone.

Because he withdrew from everyone, he became even more isolated.

Because he became more isolated, his negative emotions intensified.

And because those negative emotions intensified, Nightmare had even more influence over his thoughts.

It became a vicious cycle.

And Nightmare essentially was sitting at the center of that cycle, continually manipulating and amplifying it.

This was the true purpose behind Phase 3.

Every part of this process served a specific purpose.

1. He needed to increase the amount of negativity within Passive.
2. He needed to control how the people around Passive viewed him.
3. He needed to ensure that Passive was bullied and rejected.
4. He needed to prevent those who sympathized with Passive from becoming sources of support.
5. He needed to keep Dream unaware of what was happening.

6. He needed to create distance between Passive and Dream.

7. He needed Passive to become afraid of everyone around him.

8. He needed Passive to believe that everyone was bad and that everyone wanted to hurt him.

And finally,

9. he needed Passive to become so deeply trapped within his own negativity that he could no longer see beyond it.

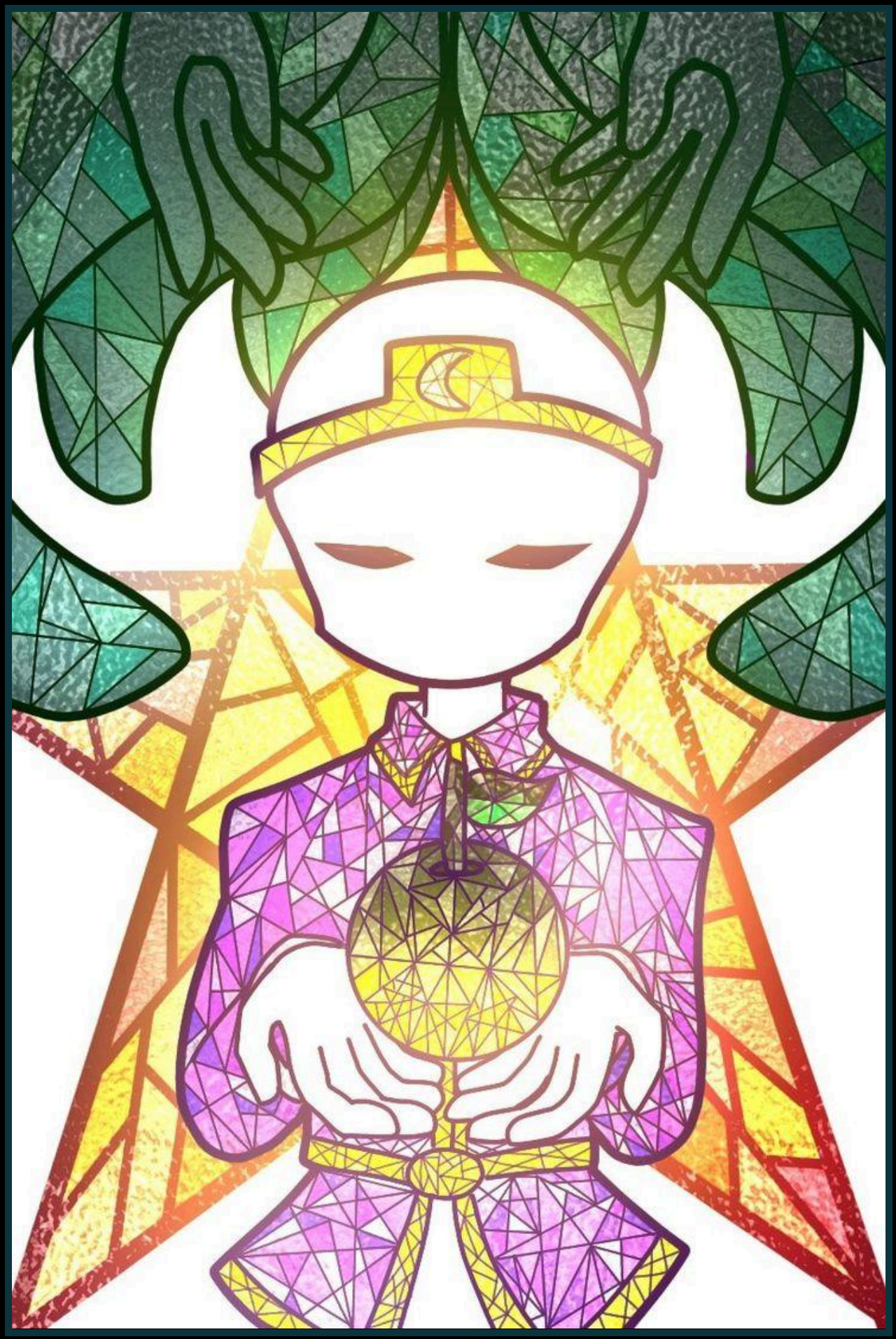
Nightmare was essentially constructing Passive's psychological state piece by piece.

And all of these elements were being combined into one final objective.

By the end of Phase 3, Passive has already been transformed from a being who simply existed as the guardian of the negative side of the tree into someone whose entire perception of the world had been shaped by negativity.

He had created a thought within Passive's mind that would eventually lead directly into the fourth and final phase of Nightmare's plan.

Phase 4:
The False Salvation



And now that every other piece of Nightmare's plan had been carefully put into place, the final phase could finally begin.

Phase 4 is where everything Nightmare had been working toward since the very beginning finally comes together.

Phase 1 created the circumstances necessary for Dream and Passive to exist.

Phase 2 created Passive himself, designing him as the perfect future vessel for Nightmare.

Phase 3 psychologically isolated Passive, filled him with negativity, turned the people around him against him, separated him from Dream, and pushed him into a state of constant fear, depression, and loneliness.

All of those things were necessary because Nightmare couldn't simply force Passive to become his vessel.

He needed Passive to choose it for himself.

And that is exactly what Phase 4 was designed to accomplish.

Because by this point, Nightmare had already placed the most important thought inside Passive's mind:

Everyone hated him.

Passive had spent years being bullied, rejected, feared, and isolated from the people around him.

Nightmare had gradually manipulated those experiences until Passive could no longer view them as isolated incidents.

Instead, they became his understanding of the world itself.

To Passive, the world had become fundamentally hostile.

And, most importantly, Passive had begun to believe that there was something inherently wrong with himself.

This was exactly the mental state Nightmare needed.

Because Nightmare could now introduce one final idea.

If everyone believed Passive was bad...

Then perhaps Passive could prove that he wasn't.

He could prove that he could be good.

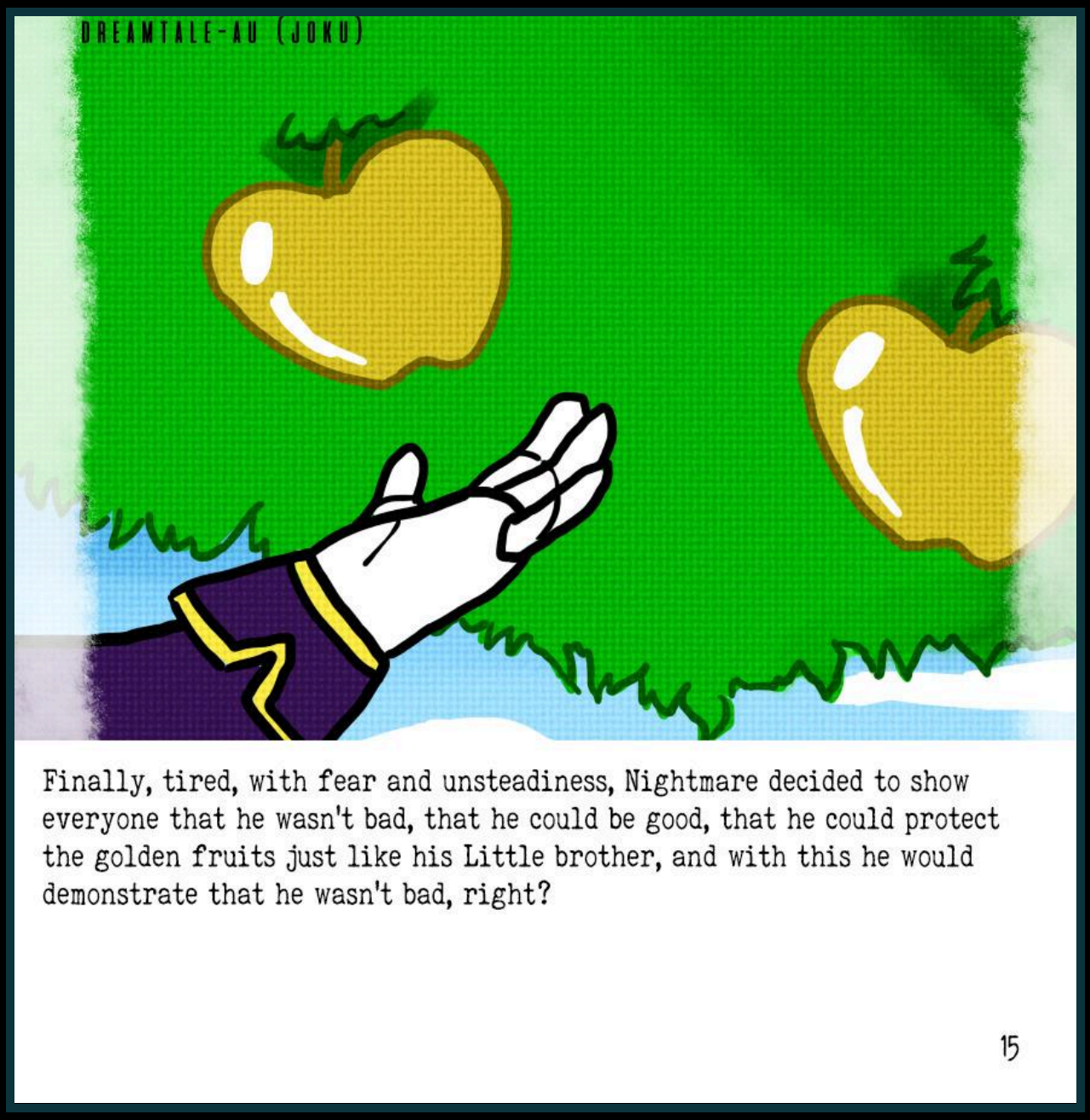
And where better to prove that than the very thing Dream had been protecting?

The golden apples.

Dream had been able to touch and protect them without corrupting them because he was composed of positive energy.

Passive, meanwhile, was composed entirely of negativity.

So Nightmare planted the thought in Passive's mind that he should try to touch one.



Passive wasn't thinking about destroying the tree.

He wanted to prove that he could protect the golden apples just like his brother and be good.

Which was exactly what Nightmare was aiming for.

This is where the true purpose behind Passive's existence becomes apparent.

Negative energy could not touch the golden apples without corrupting them.

Likewise, positive energy could not simply interact with the negative side without the same consequences.

Joku's explanation establishes this relationship between the two opposing energies with this exact wording.

Therefore, Nightmare knew exactly what would happen if Passive touched the golden apples.

They would become corrupted.

He wanted to turn the golden apples into Negative Apples.

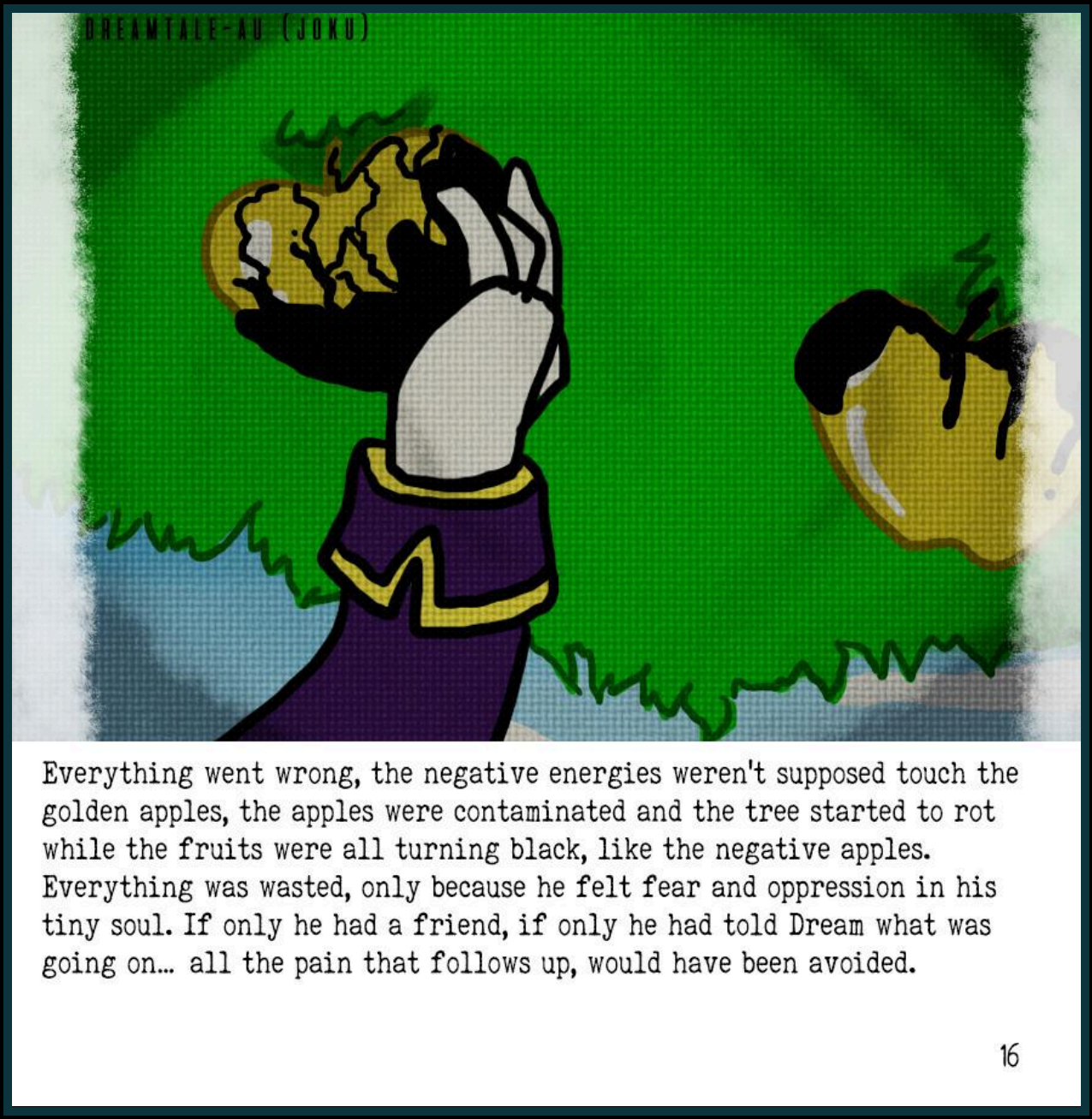
And because the tree was connected to feelings themselves.

It represented the emotional balance of the multiverse.

Positive and negative emotions were connected to it across countless universes.

Therefore, corrupting the tree meant corrupting the very source that connected those emotions together.

The moment Passive touched the apple, the process began.



The tree started to rot.

The environment itself began to reflect what was happening.

It represented the tree's emotional corruption spreading outward.

And because the tree was connected to feelings throughout the multiverse, the effects would not remain localized.

The corruption would gradually spread across reality itself.

Positive emotions would begin disappearing.

The countless universes connected to the tree would slowly lose their ability to experience positivity.

Happiness, hope, love, comfort, peace, and other positive emotions would gradually be overwhelmed by negativity.

The entire multiverse was beginning to tilt toward one emotional extreme.

Negativity.

And that was precisely what Nightmare had been trying to accomplish.



But Passive didn't understand any of this.

He hadn't touched the apple because he wanted to destroy the tree.

He had done it because he wanted to prove that he wasn't bad.

And now, in front of him, the exact opposite was happening.

The tree was dying.

In response to that, Passive became afraid.

He didn't want this.

But his mind couldn't process what was happening.

His thoughts went blank.

And that blankness quickly transformed into panic.

Passive began experiencing a full panic attack as he realized that he had hurt his mother and corrupted the tree.

He simply wanted to undo what had happened.

This is important because Nightmare had effectively engineered the exact emotional response he needed.

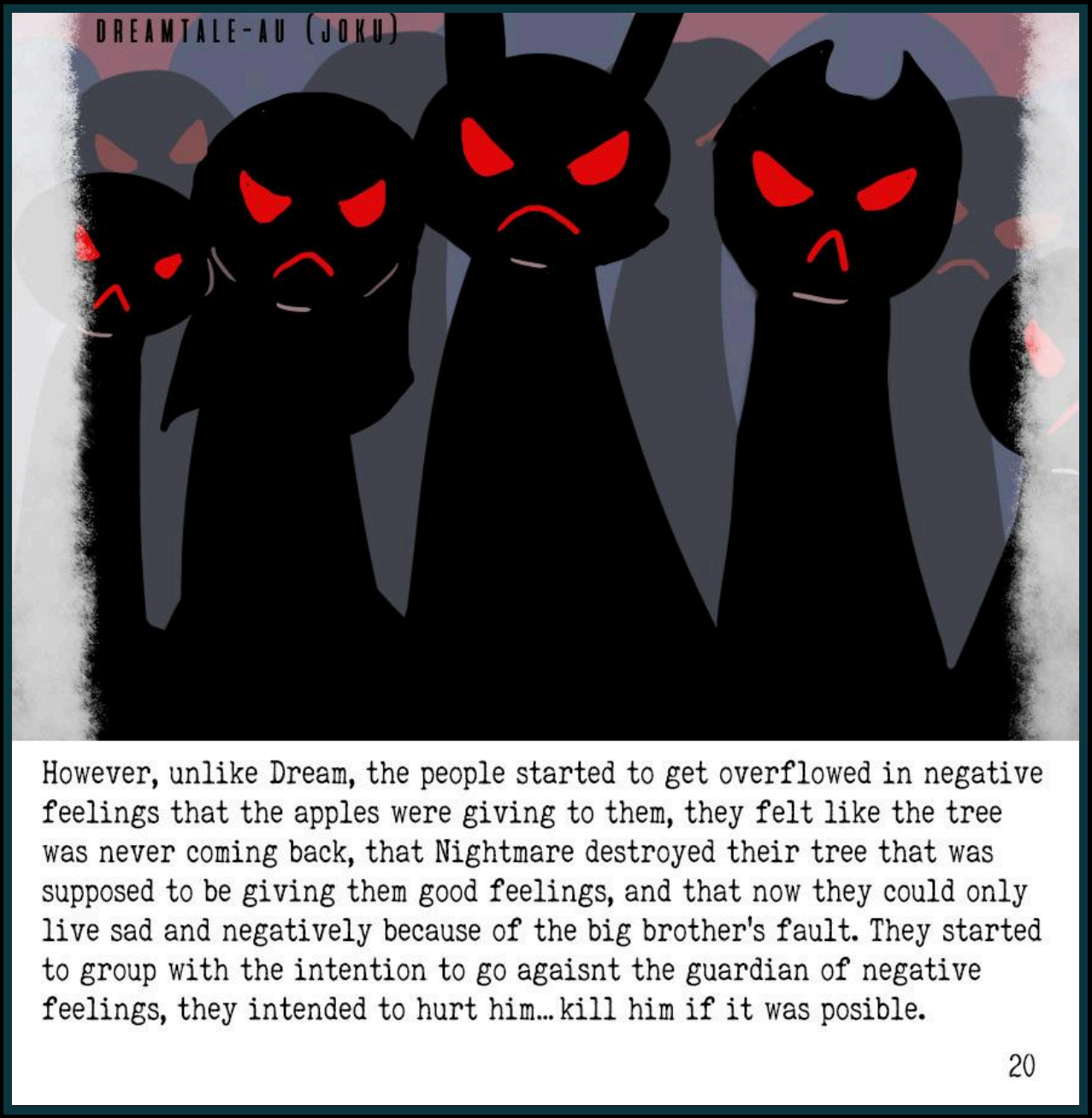
Passive was already terrified of being hated.

Now Nightmare had placed Passive in a situation where he genuinely believed that he had become the very thing everyone thought he was.

The fear and negativity that Nightmare had spent years cultivating inside Passive suddenly reached their breaking point.

And now that the tree had been corrupted, the consequences reached everyone else.

The Negative Apples began releasing overwhelming amounts of negative energy.



Everyone—who was naturally connected to the tree—began becoming flooded with negative emotions.

The only major exception was Dream.

Since Dream was made of pure positive energy, meaning he was fundamentally different from the people being overwhelmed by the corruption.

But everyone else began drowning in negativity.

And once again, Nightmare manipulated them.

The negative emotions weren't enough on their own—Nightmare needed to give those emotions a target.

So he placed thoughts inside their minds.

"The tree was never coming back."

"Passive had destroyed their tree."

"The tree was supposed to provide them with positive feelings, and now Passive had taken that away from them."

"Because of him, they could only live in sadness and negativity."

"Passive had ruined everything."

And because they were already being overwhelmed by negative energy, those thoughts became incredibly easy for them to accept.

Nightmare took their fear, sadness, anger, hatred, and desperation and gave them a single person to blame.

Passive.

The people began gathering together.

And Nightmare continued amplifying those emotions.

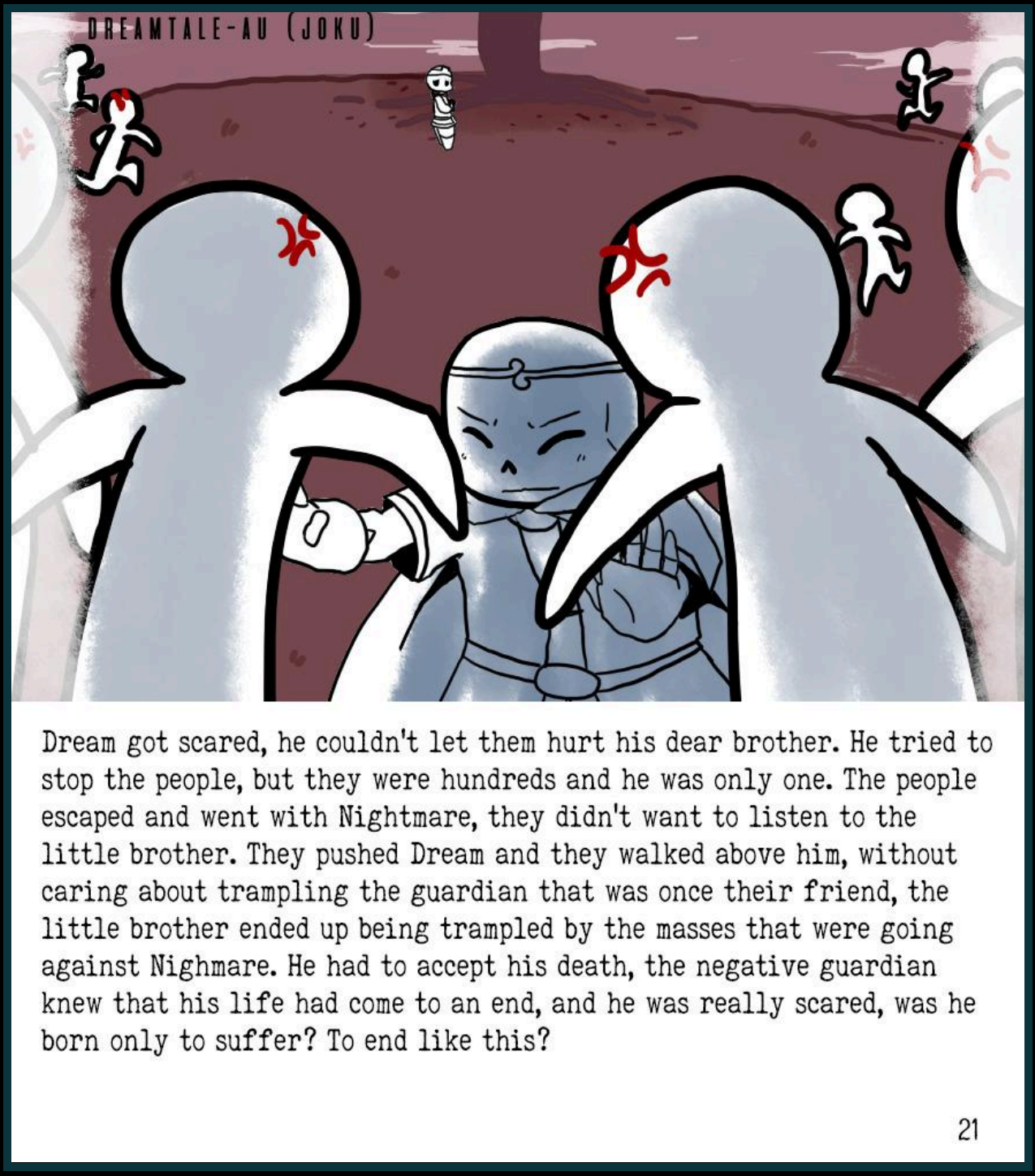
They wanted to hurt him and if given the opportunity, they were even willing to kill him.

This is another example of Nightmare's manipulation throughout the entire plan.

He doesn't necessarily need to create emotions from nothing.

He just needs to take emotions that are already present and pushes them further.

The people had become another weapon Nightmare could use against Passive once again.



Passive himself was beginning to experience fear.

Negative thoughts began flooding his mind.

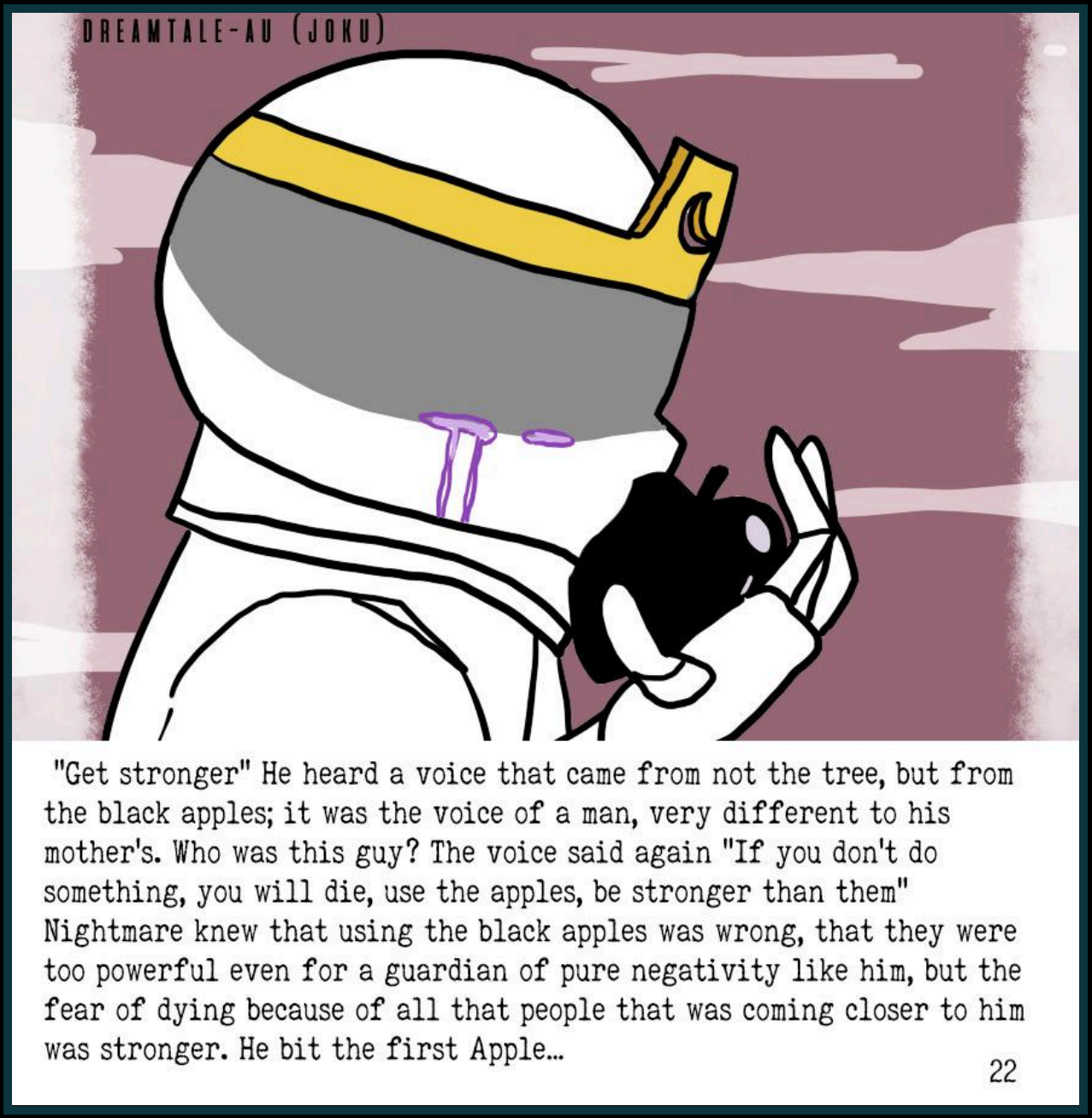
"Was he only born to suffer?"

"Was this really how he was going to end?"

And this is where the original aggressor from the beginning becomes important again.

Nightmare once again used the person who had originally attacked Nim at the beginning of the story.

The same person whose unusually high negativity had helped set the entire plan into motion and had been absorbed by the negative side of the tree.



Nightmare used him to convince Passive to eat the corrupted apples.

And Passive's fear of dying made this even easier.

The apples contained an immense concentration of negative energy.

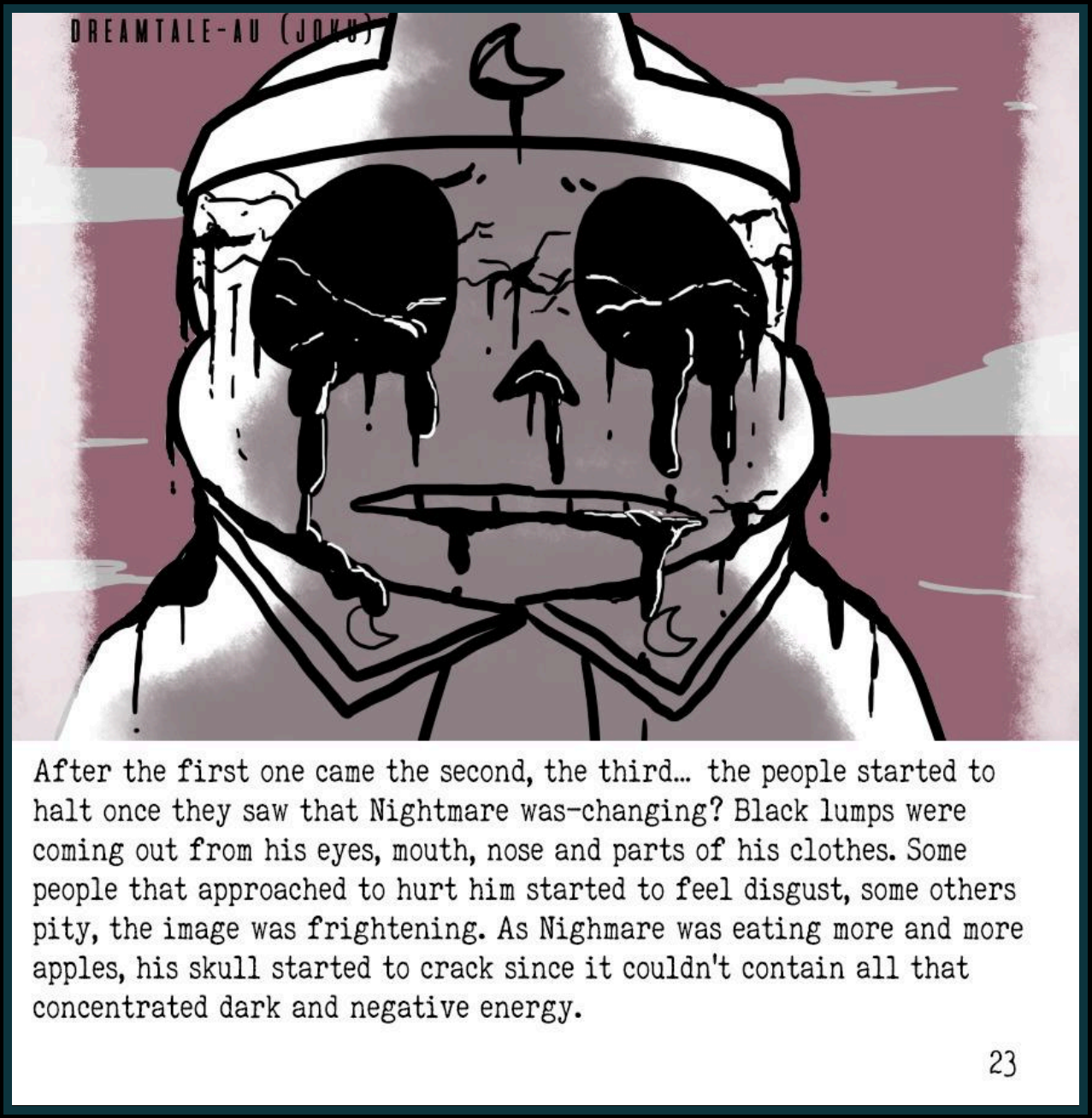
A normal being could only consume one before reaching their limit.

Anything beyond that would cause their body to rupture because it simply could not contain the amount of energy being forced into it.

But Passive was different.

He was a being composed entirely of negative energy.

So despite the fact that his body was beginning to break apart from the sheer amount of energy entering it, Passive continued eating until he consumed all of them.



His body was being filled with concentrated darkness and negativity.

The amount of hatred contained within him became described as effectively infinite.



Nightmare's feelings started to change, he couldn't stop eating those apples, and his fear started to transform into hatred, an infinite hate towards everyone and everything. A terrible pain travelled through his body when he finished eating the last apple, he grew addict to that big power that was consuming his being. Finally, the negative energy was so big that not even the body of a skeleton could control it. 4 tentacles of pure darkness suddenly grew from the back of the guy, breaking along some ribs and causing him a horrible pain. The screams of anguish from Nightmare made a lot of people step back, while he was falling to the ground and started to puke the same black substance that was coming out from every fissure, eyes, mouth, nose, ribs and more... Dream opened his eyes, still lying on the ground. He was fearing that the people might have hurted his brother, he would do anything to protect him, but what Dream saw was not his brother anymore... it was a being with so much evilness concentrated that it was disgusting...

And if the amount of negative energy being forced into him was effectively infinite, then the amount of pain he was experiencing was correspondingly infinite.

He was being overwhelmed by an unimaginable amount of pain and hatred.

His body was reaching its absolute limit—his mind the same.

Which was the moment Nightmare had been waiting for.



Even while Passive was suffering, Nightmare continued manipulating him from inside his own mind.

Nightmare appeared to him as himself.

He hugged Passive, acting as though he were Passive himself.

He told him that he would protect him from everything.

This was the culmination of everything Nightmare had done throughout Phase 3.

Passive had spent years believing that nobody would protect him.

And now, at the moment when Passive was experiencing the greatest pain of his life, Nightmare presented himself as the one person who could save him.

Nightmare had created the exact psychological conditions necessary for Passive to accept him.

Passive didn't willingly give up control because he wanted Nightmare to win.

He did it because Nightmare had convinced him that this was the only way to escape his suffering.

And Passive accepted.

By allowing Nightmare to take control, Passive effectively erased himself.

He willingly surrendered his body and mind.

In doing so, Nightmare had finally accomplished the purpose for which Passive had been created.

Now that the apples had been corrupted and the negativity had spread throughout the multiverse, Nightmare had finally achieved what he had been working toward since the beginning.

He had gained the power and range connected to the tree.

But there was another important difference.

He now possessed a physical form.

Nightmare was no longer merely an influence.

He now had a body capable of directly interacting with the world.

And that body embodied the physical form of Passive while carrying the negativity of the entire multiverse.

What remained was Corrupted in complete control, while Passive was left buried beneath an effectively infinite amount of negativity.

There was another major consequence to Nightmare's success.

He now had a way to finally kill the tree (and Nim) in one go.

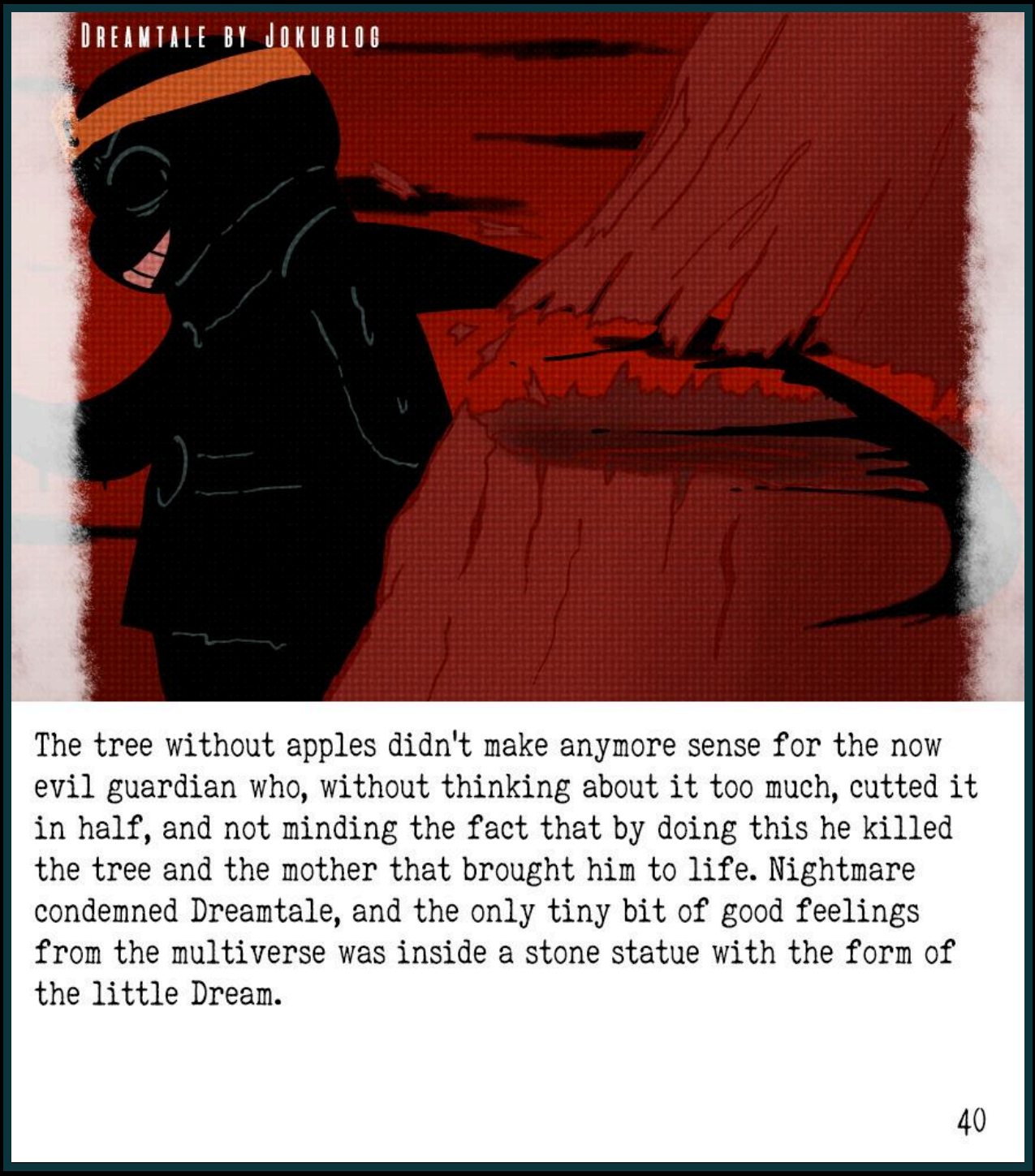
Previously, Nightmare couldn't simply destroy the tree because doing so would also mean destroying himself.

But now the situation had changed, He had a physical form.

And negativity had spread far enough throughout the multiverse that destroying the tree would no longer eliminate the source of negativity in the same way.

The tree was no longer the sole container of what Nightmare had become.

This is demonstrated when Corrupted Nightmare ultimately cuts the tree in half.



The very thing that Nightmare had previously needed to survive had become something he could finally destroy.

And because he now possessed a physical body and had spread negativity throughout reality itself, he could finally sever the tree without simply ending his own existence.