

GILLEN MCKELVIE WILSON COWLES

THE WICKED + DIVINE THE

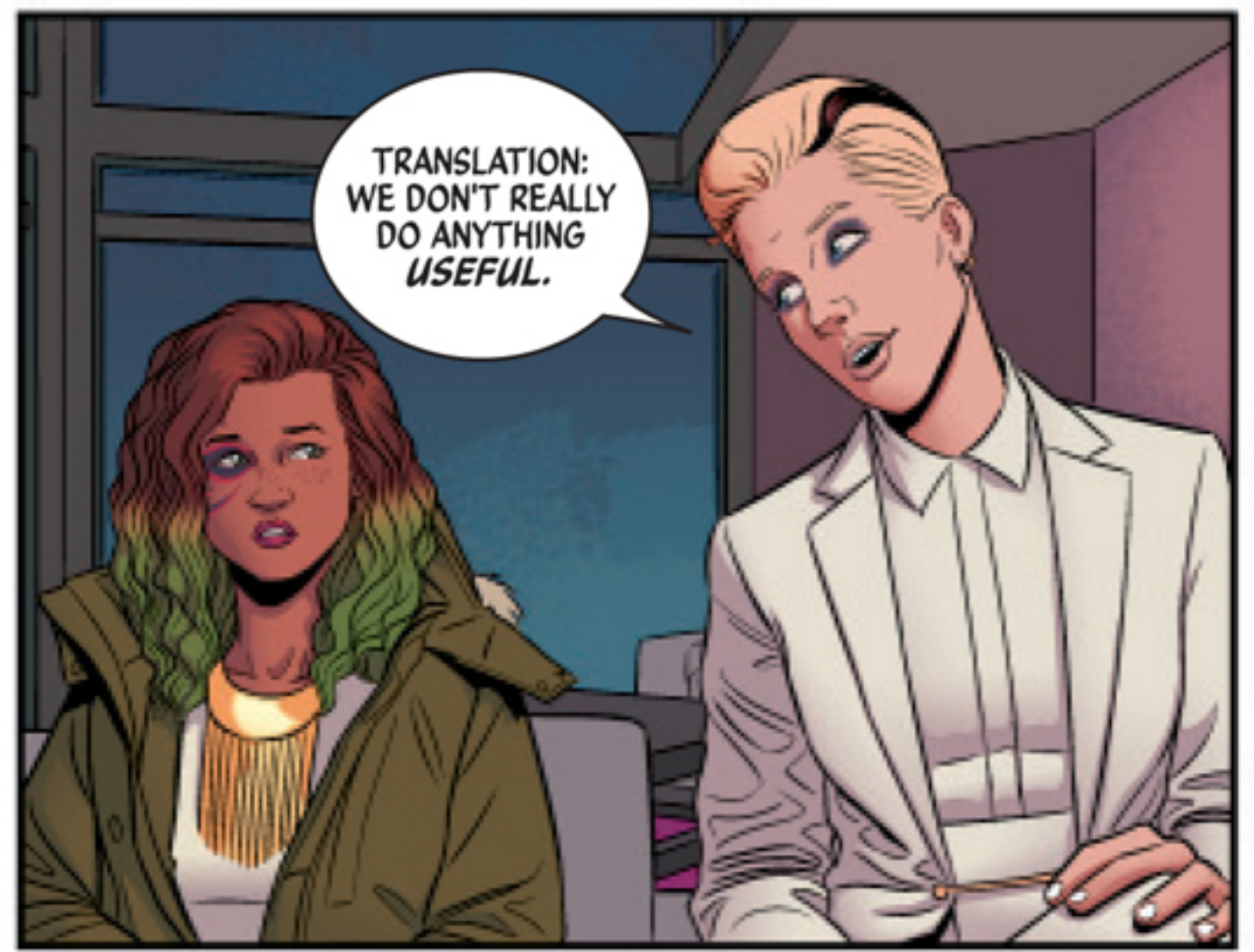


ISSUE 1 \$3.50



WE'RE GODS. WE LIVE TO INSPIRE.

WE MAKE LIFE WORTH LIVING, FOR AN EVENING AT A TIME.



TRANSLATION: WE DON'T REALLY DO ANYTHING *USEFUL*.



GODS FOR TWO YEARS AND THEN...

WHAT HAPPENS?

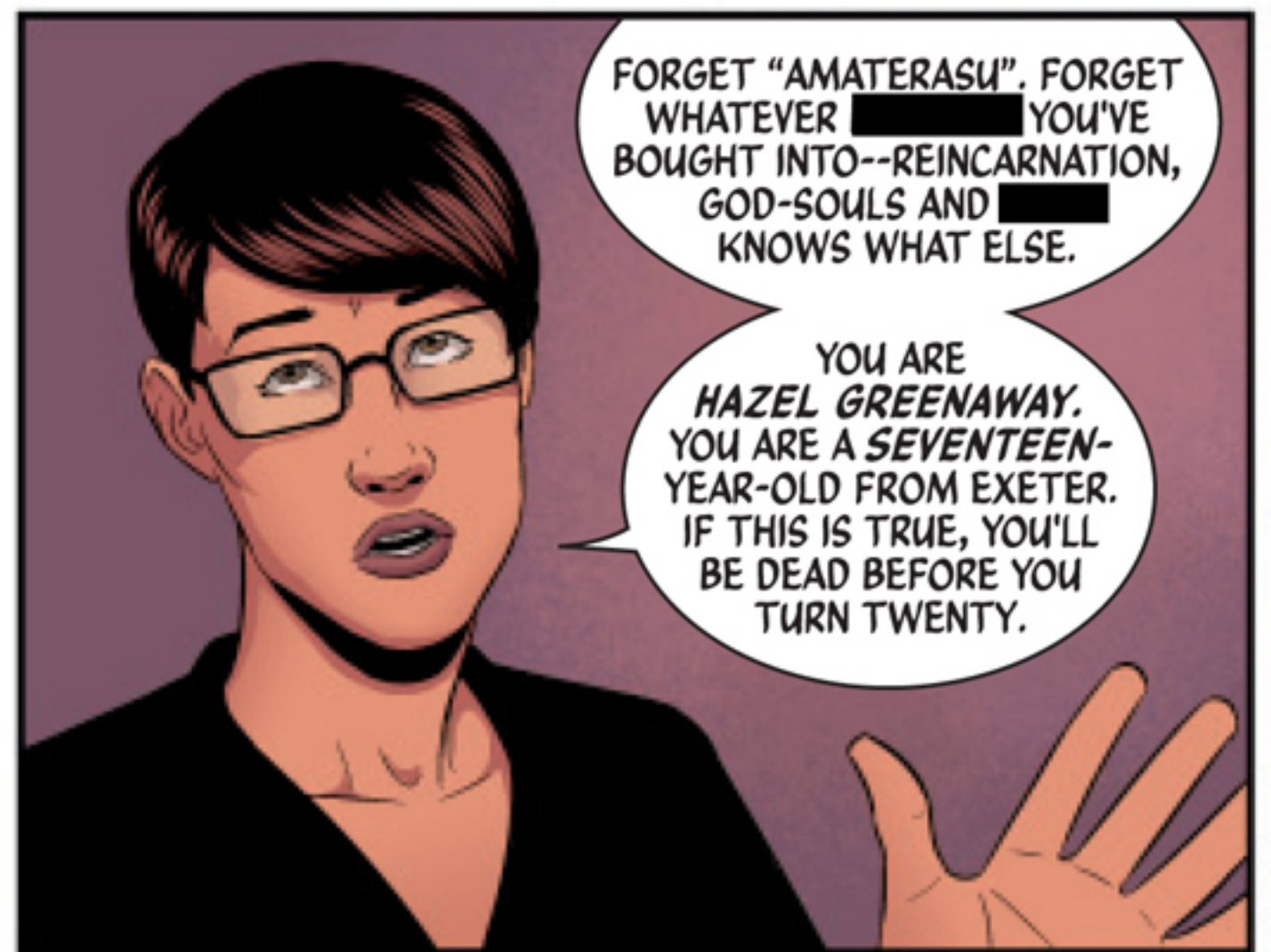


WE GO AWAY FOR A WHILE.



"JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE IMMORTAL, DOESN'T MEAN YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE FOREVER."

I KNOW THE PR LINE.



FORGET "AMATERASU". FORGET WHATEVER [REDACTED] YOU'VE BOUGHT INTO--REINCARNATION, GOD-SOULS AND [REDACTED] KNOWS WHAT ELSE.

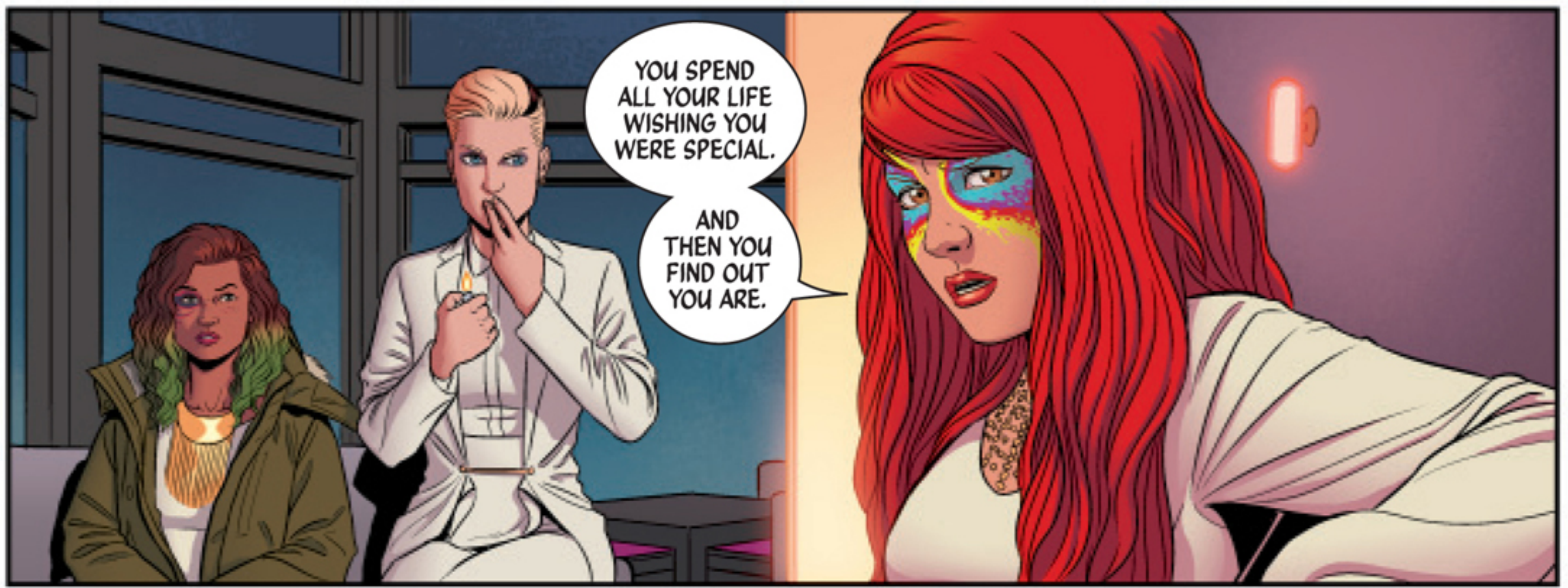
YOU ARE *HAZEL GREENAWAY*. YOU ARE A *SEVENTEEN*-YEAR-OLD FROM EXETER. IF THIS IS TRUE, YOU'LL BE DEAD BEFORE YOU TURN TWENTY.



IF YOU *REALLY* BELIEVE THAT, HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALM?

IT'S JUST *ANOTHER* THING THAT MAKES ALL THIS SCREAM "HOAX."



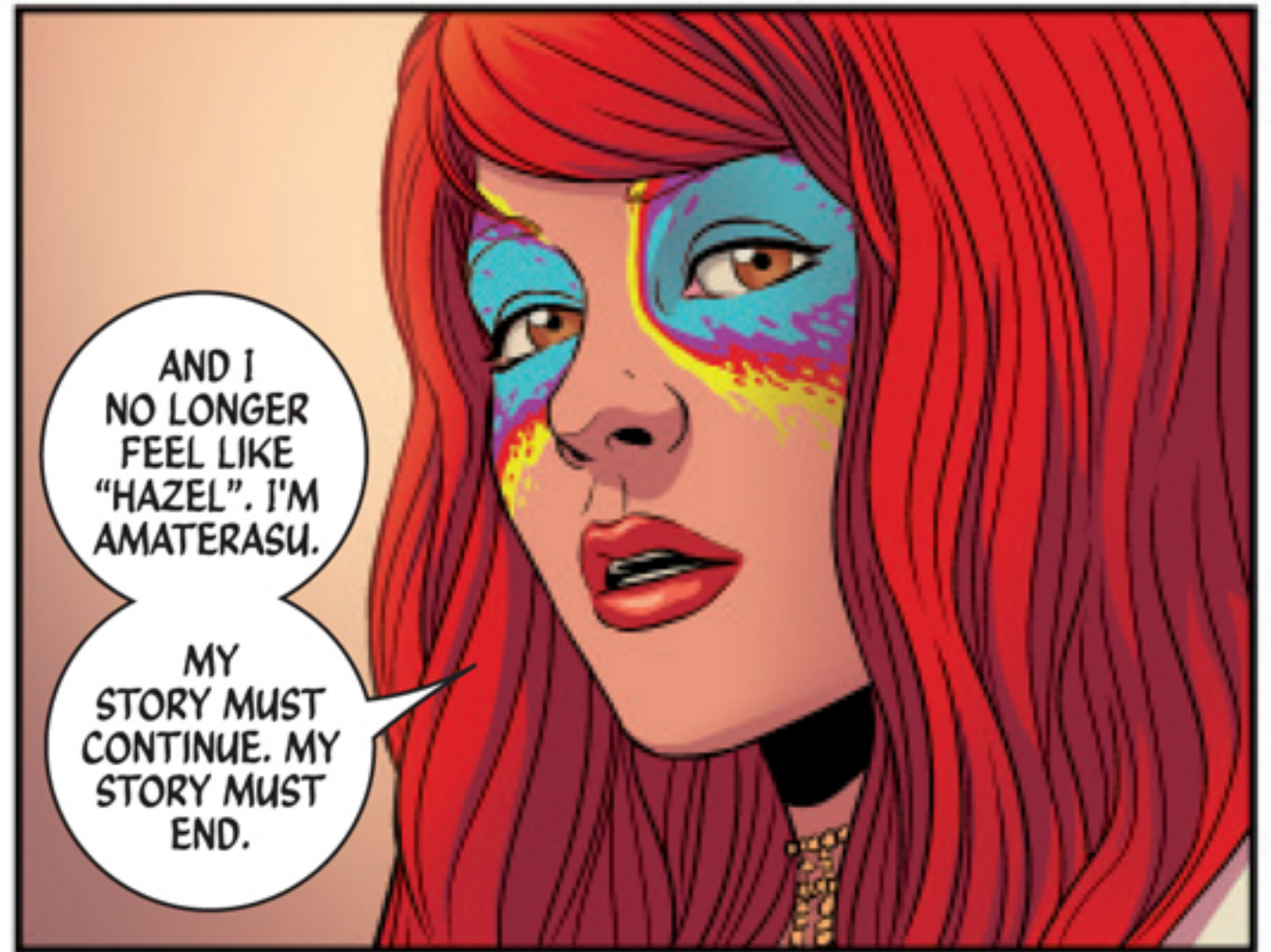


YOU SPEND
ALL YOUR LIFE
WISHING YOU
WERE SPECIAL.

AND
THEN YOU
FIND OUT
YOU ARE.

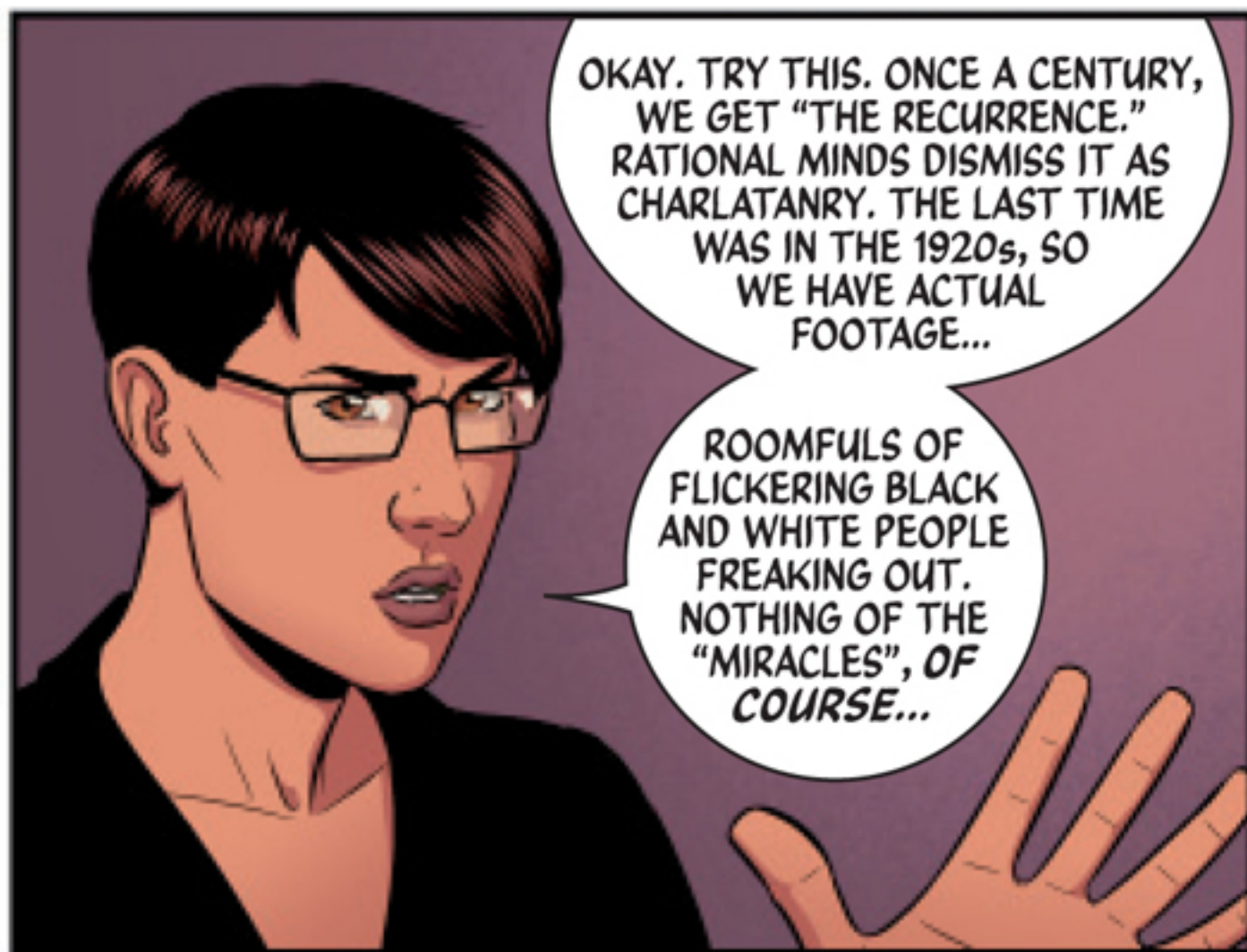


NOTHING
IS WITHOUT
A PRICE.



AND I
NO LONGER
FEEL LIKE
"HAZEL". I'M
AMATERASU.

MY
STORY MUST
CONTINUE. MY
STORY MUST
END.



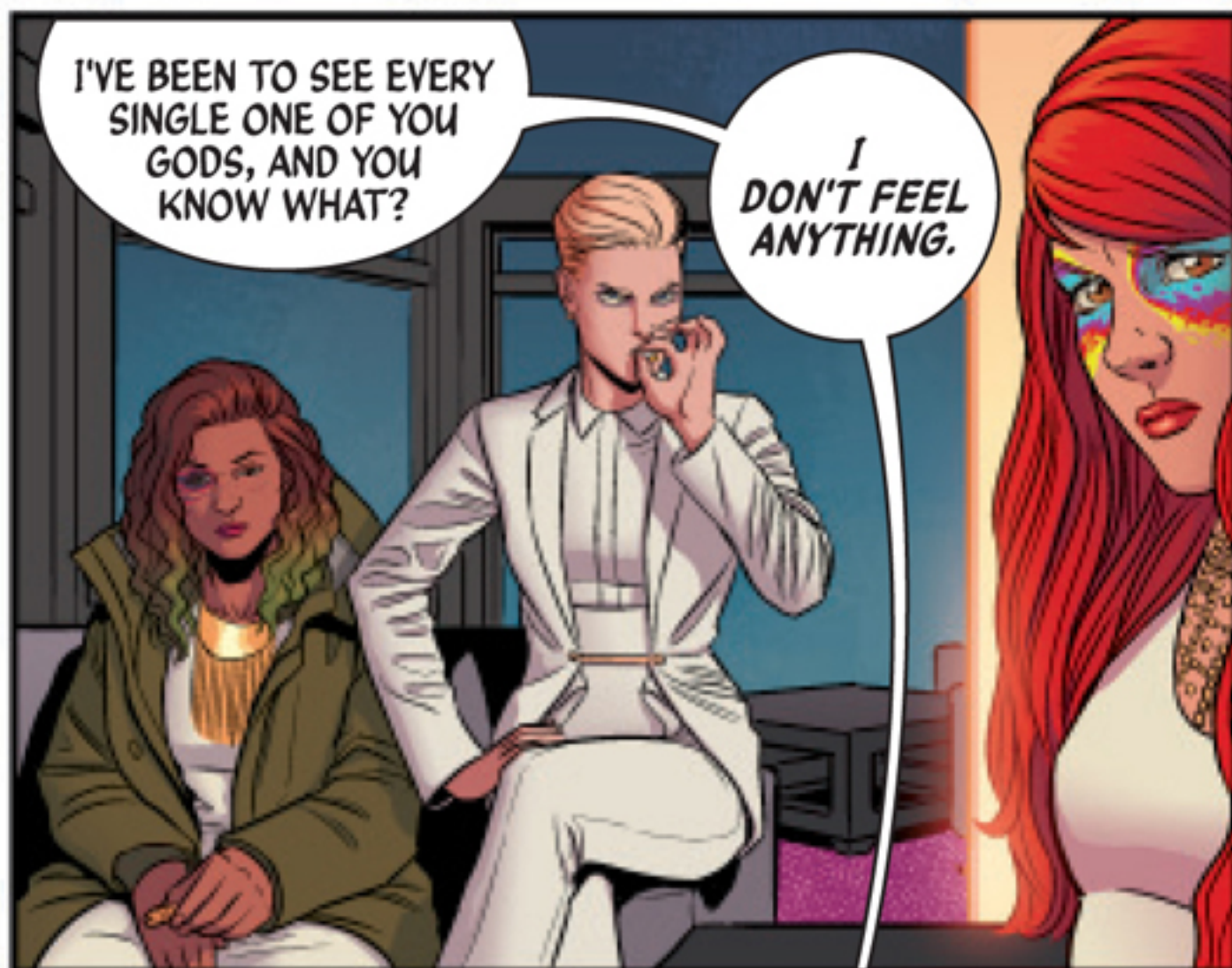
OKAY. TRY THIS. ONCE A CENTURY,
WE GET "THE RECURRENCE."
RATIONAL MINDS DISMISS IT AS
CHARLATANRY. THE LAST TIME
WAS IN THE 1920s, SO
WE HAVE ACTUAL
FOOTAGE...

ROOMFULS OF
FLICKERING BLACK
AND WHITE PEOPLE
FREAKING OUT.
NOTHING OF THE
"MIRACLES", OF
COURSE...



NOW, THERE'S A LONG
HISTORY OF EVERYTHING
FROM DRUGGING AUDIENCES
TO GOOD OLD MASS
HYSTERIA THAT
EXPLAINS THE
WHOLE THING.

THE
LATTER SEEMS
ESPECIALLY
LIKELY...



I'VE BEEN TO SEE EVERY
SINGLE ONE OF YOU
GODS, AND YOU
KNOW WHAT?

I
DON'T FEEL
ANYTHING.



AND THIS IS
DIFFERENT TO
NORMAL *HOW*
EXACTLY?

