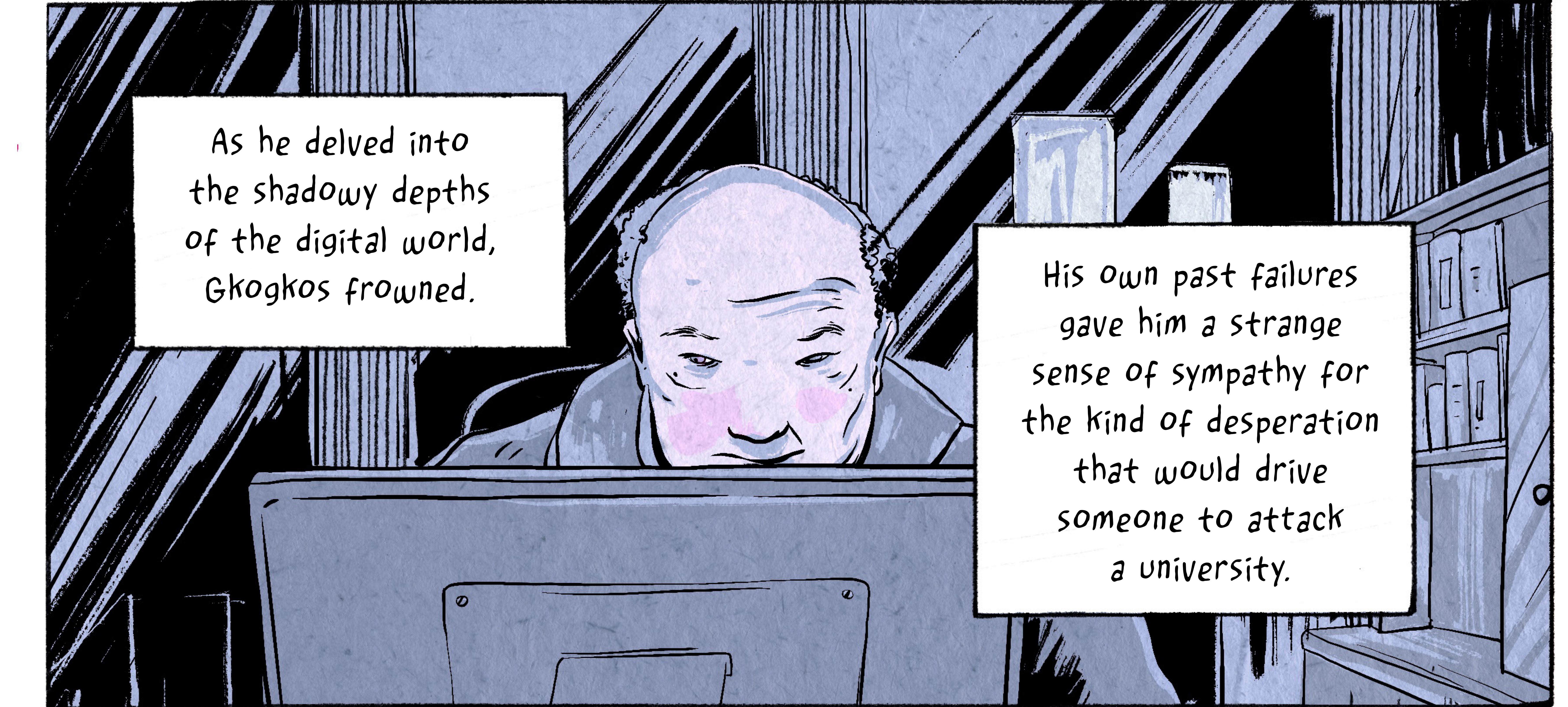




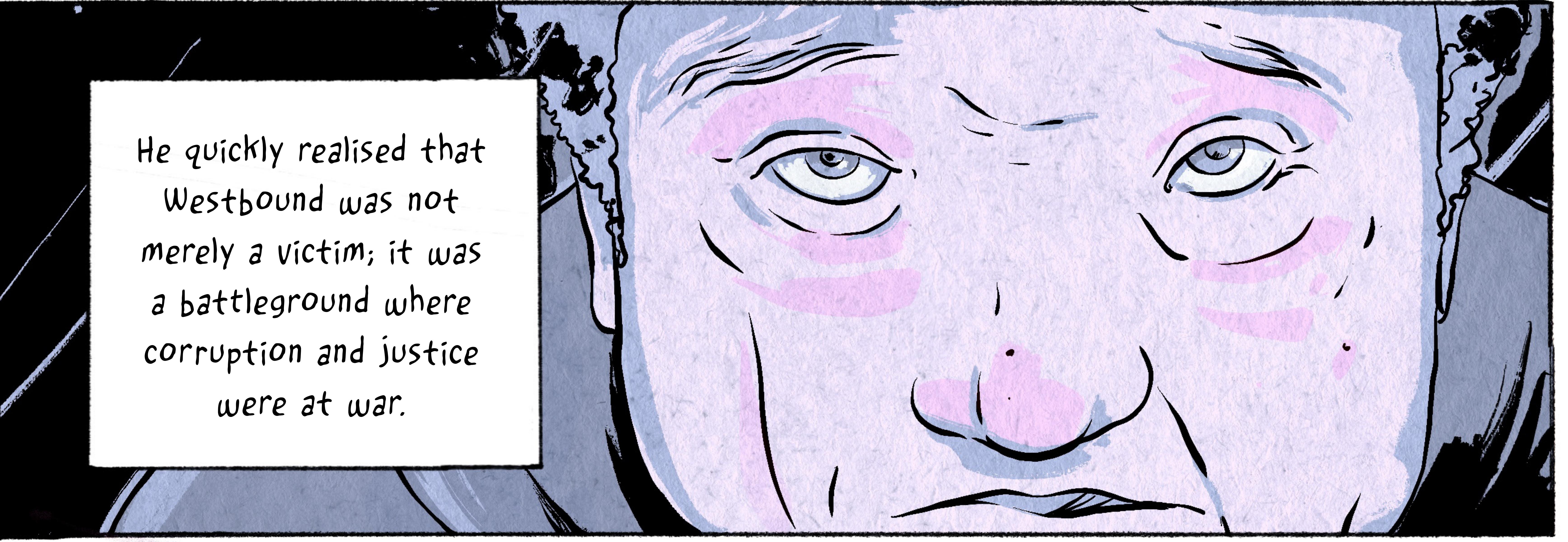
The grand towers of Westbound University, once symbols of wisdom and progress, were now shrouded in scandal. A devastating data breach had hit the news, pushing the institution's reputation to the brink.



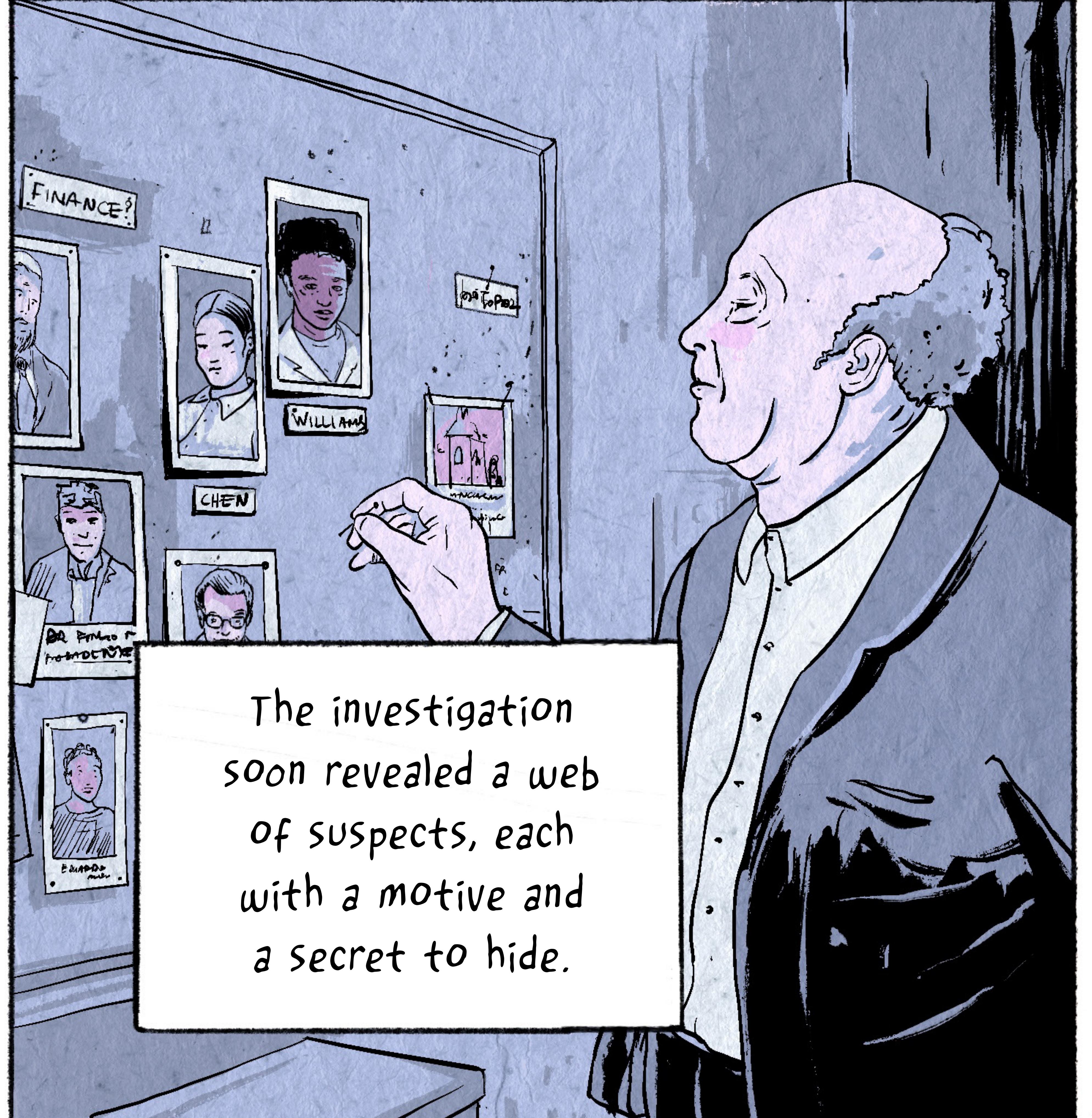


As he delved into the shadowy depths of the digital world, Gkogkos frowned.

His own past failures gave him a strange sense of sympathy for the kind of desperation that would drive someone to attack a university.



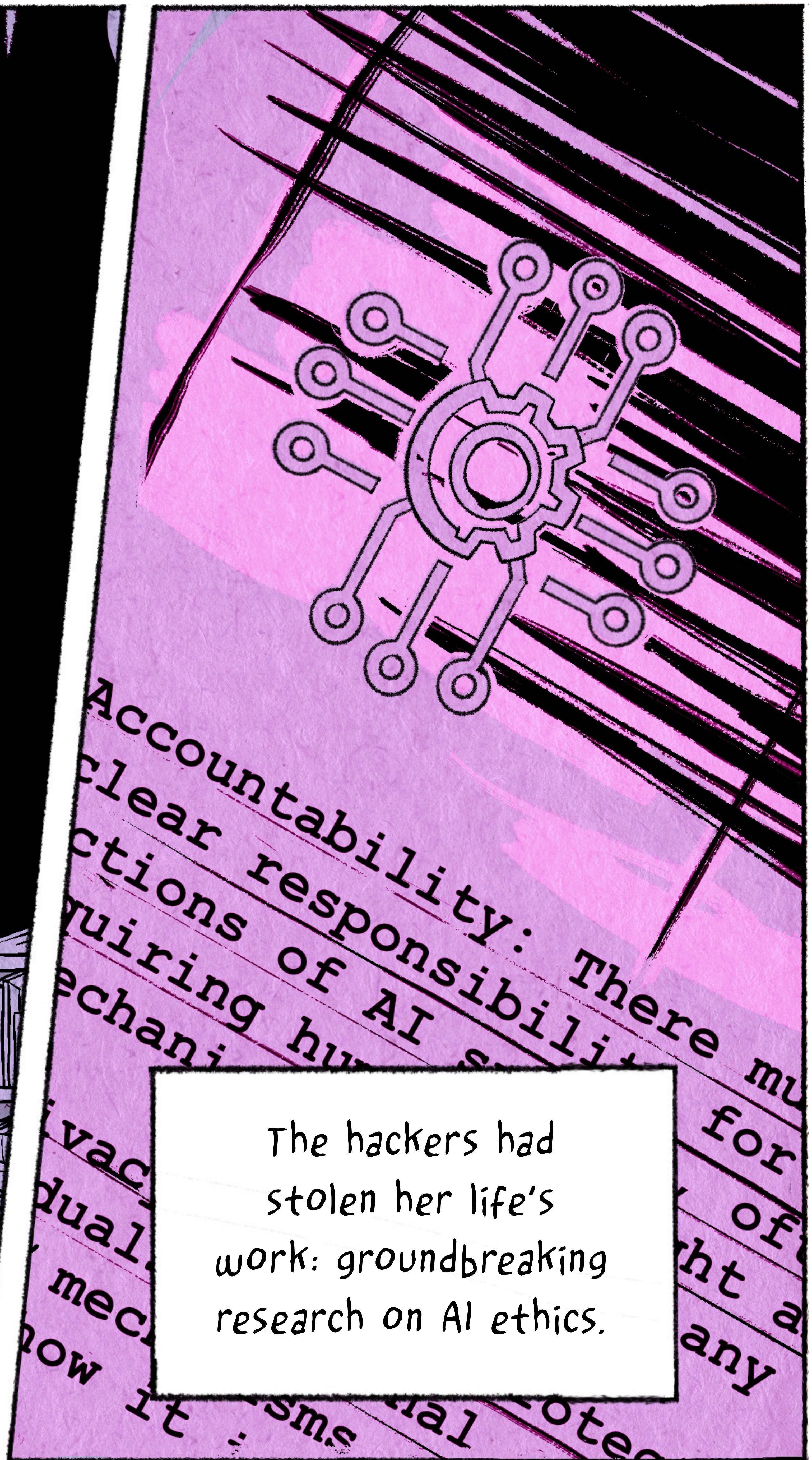
He quickly realised that Westbound was not merely a victim; it was a battleground where corruption and justice were at war.



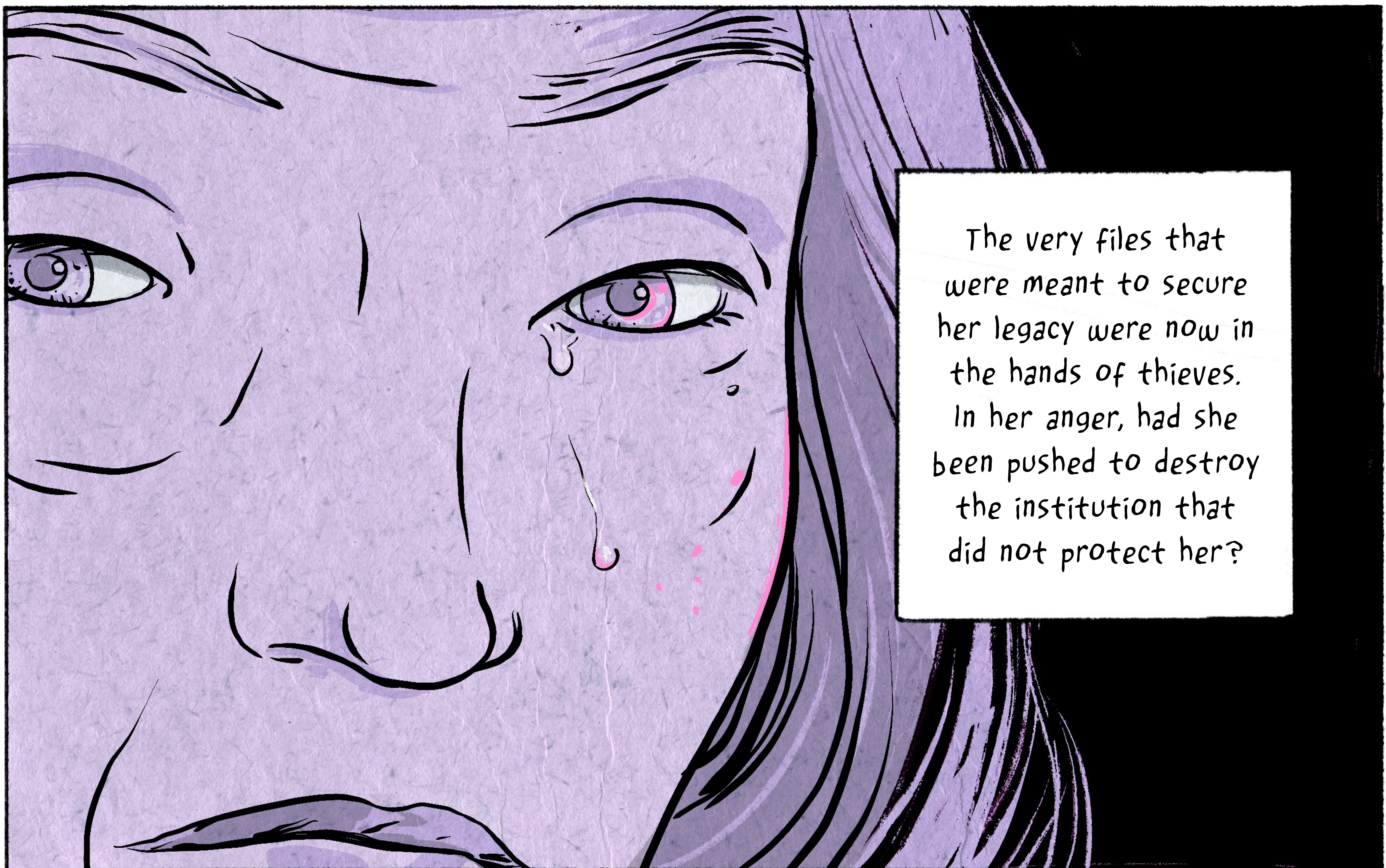
The investigation soon revealed a web of suspects, each with a motive and a secret to hide.

First was Professor Antonina Petrov.

Her heart sank as she stared at her desk, tears welling in her eyes.



The hackers had stolen her life's work: groundbreaking research on AI ethics.



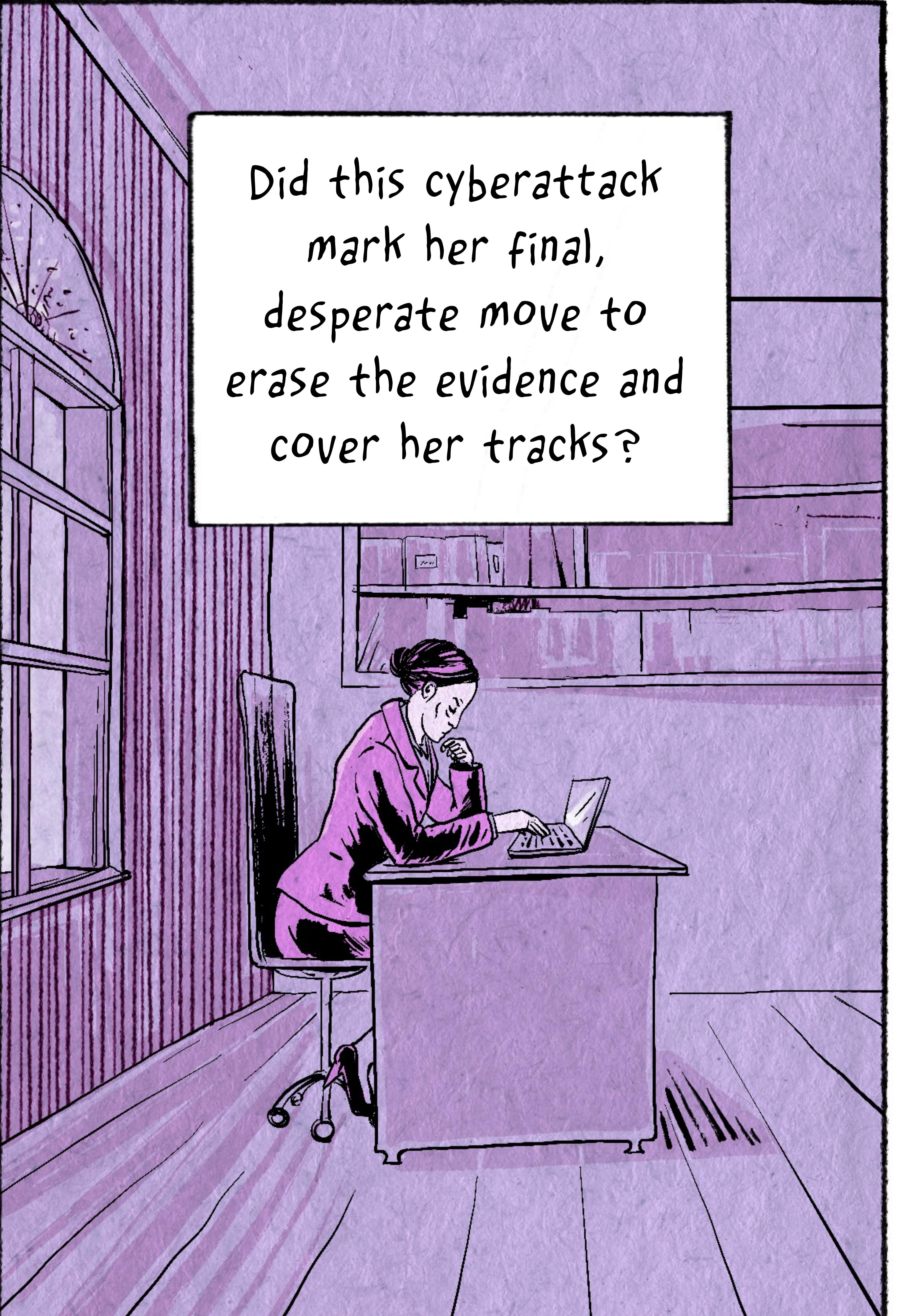
The very files that were meant to secure her legacy were now in the hands of thieves. In her anger, had she been pushed to destroy the institution that did not protect her?



Then there was Dean Howard Lane. Behind his charming public persona, he was trapped in a private nightmare.



The leak had exposed hidden surveillance videos in which he made cruel, sarcastic remarks about foreign staff. As the news spread, everyone wondered: would the dignified Dean be willing to do anything to save his career?



The financial records also told a damning story.

Finance Director Maria Chen had been embezzling student grants, and the breach threatened to reveal her fraud. With every new file that surfaced online, she grew more nervous.

Did this cyberattack mark her final, desperate move to erase the evidence and cover her tracks?

Others were motivated not by greed, but by principle. Dr Williams voice shook with frustration as he recalled how the university had ignored his critical research on pesticide



He felt humiliated when his warnings were laughed at.

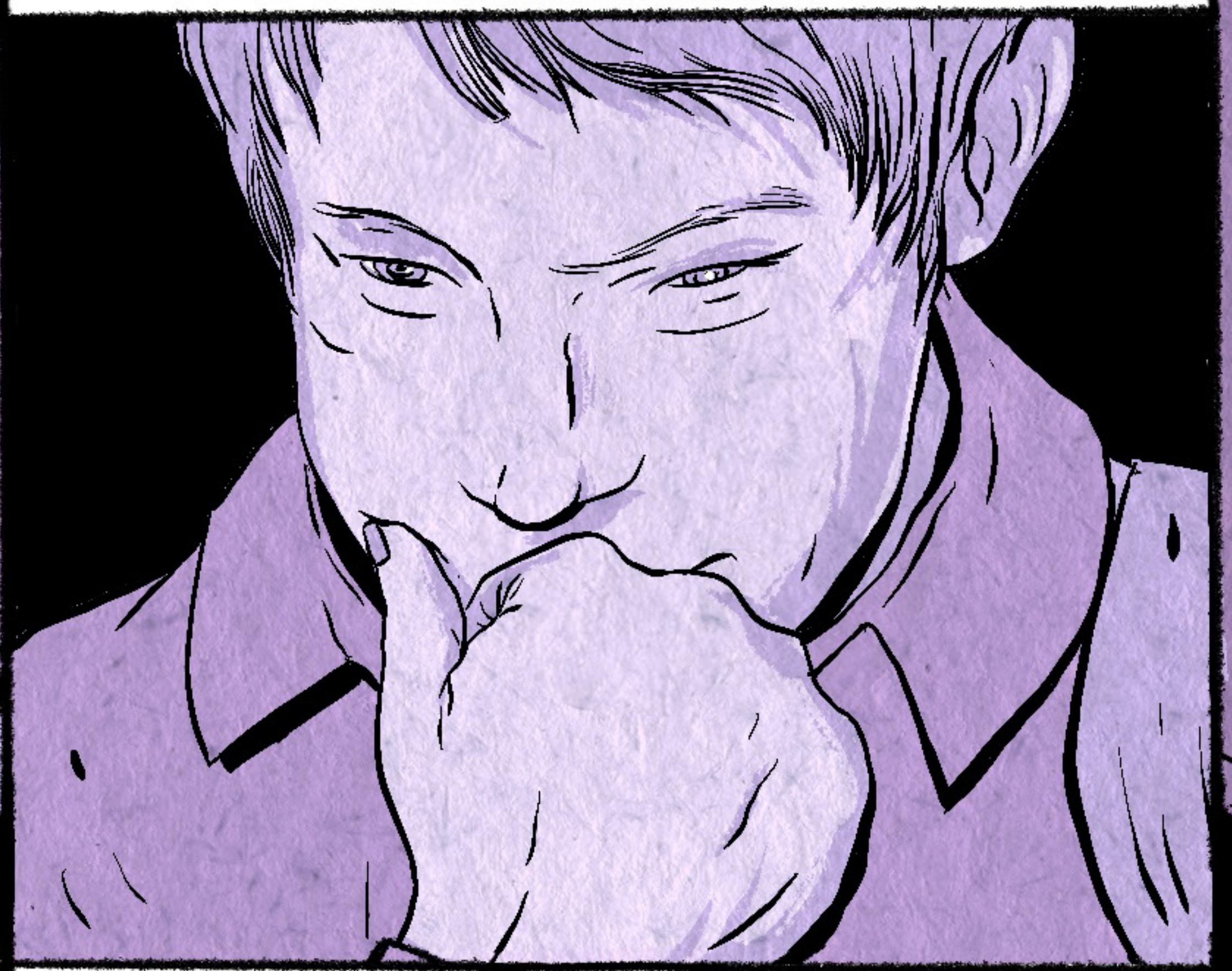


Had he finally decided to damage the university's name to force the world to pay attention?

And of course, there were the students -their bank accounts, personal IDs, and private emails now available to criminals.



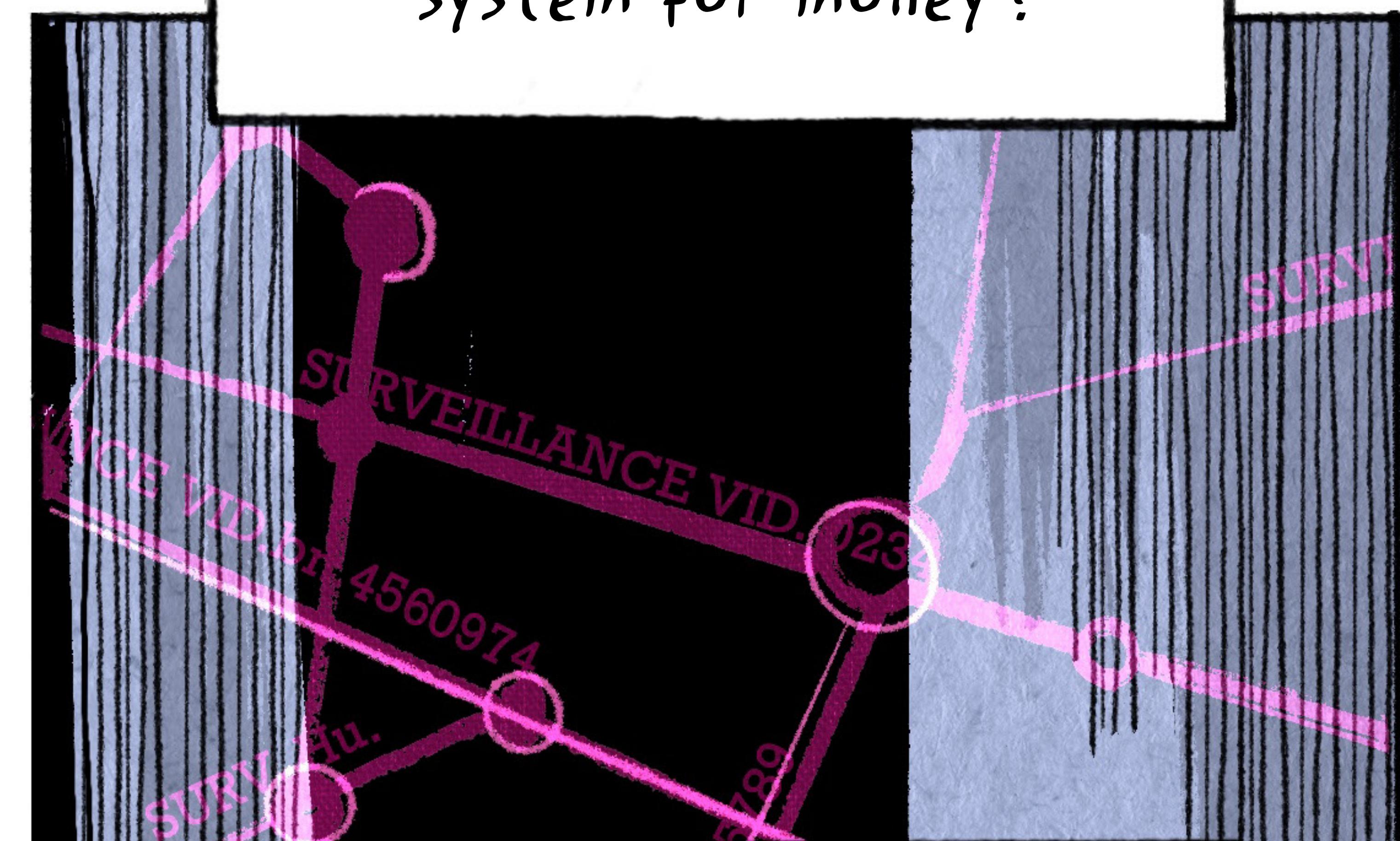
Lex Carter, a bright but desperately poor student, felt his stomach twist as he imagined his identity being stolen or his grades altered.



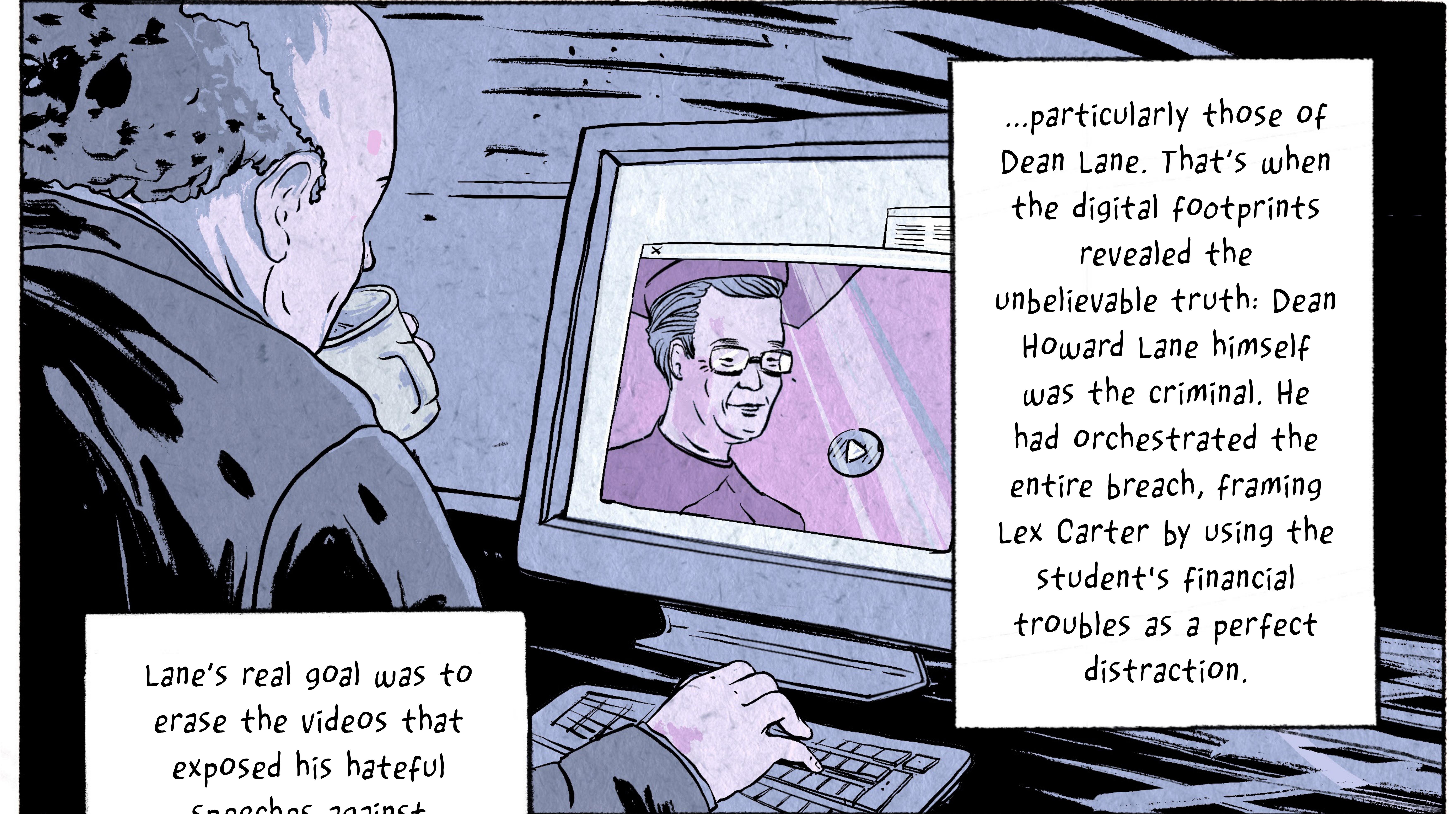
He was drowning in debt; was he desperate enough to hack the system for money?



For a while, all clues pointed to Lex. But Detective Gkogkos soon noticed a flaw in the theory: the attack was too precise and expertly planned.



The hacker hadn't sold the data or used it for extortion. In fact, only one type of data had actually been stolen and removed: the university's surveillance videos...



Lane's real goal was to erase the videos that exposed his hateful speeches against international students and staff. His polished appearance and calm voice had hidden a deep well of anger.

...particularly those of Dean Lane. That's when the digital footprints revealed the unbelievable truth: Dean Howard Lane himself was the criminal. He had orchestrated the entire breach, framing Lex Carter by using the student's financial troubles as a perfect distraction.



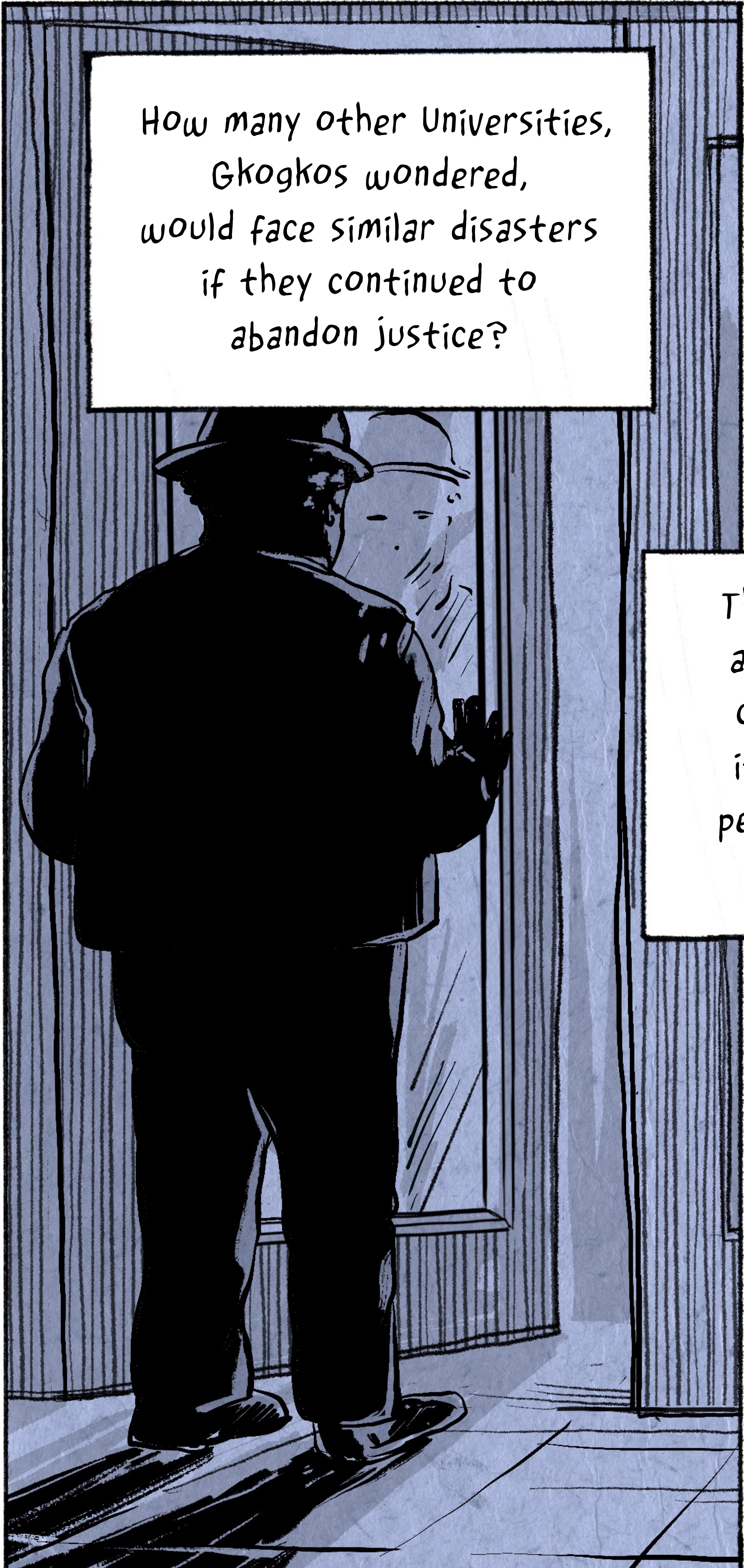
That anger grew every time he saw foreign students succeeding or top local graduates leaving the country.



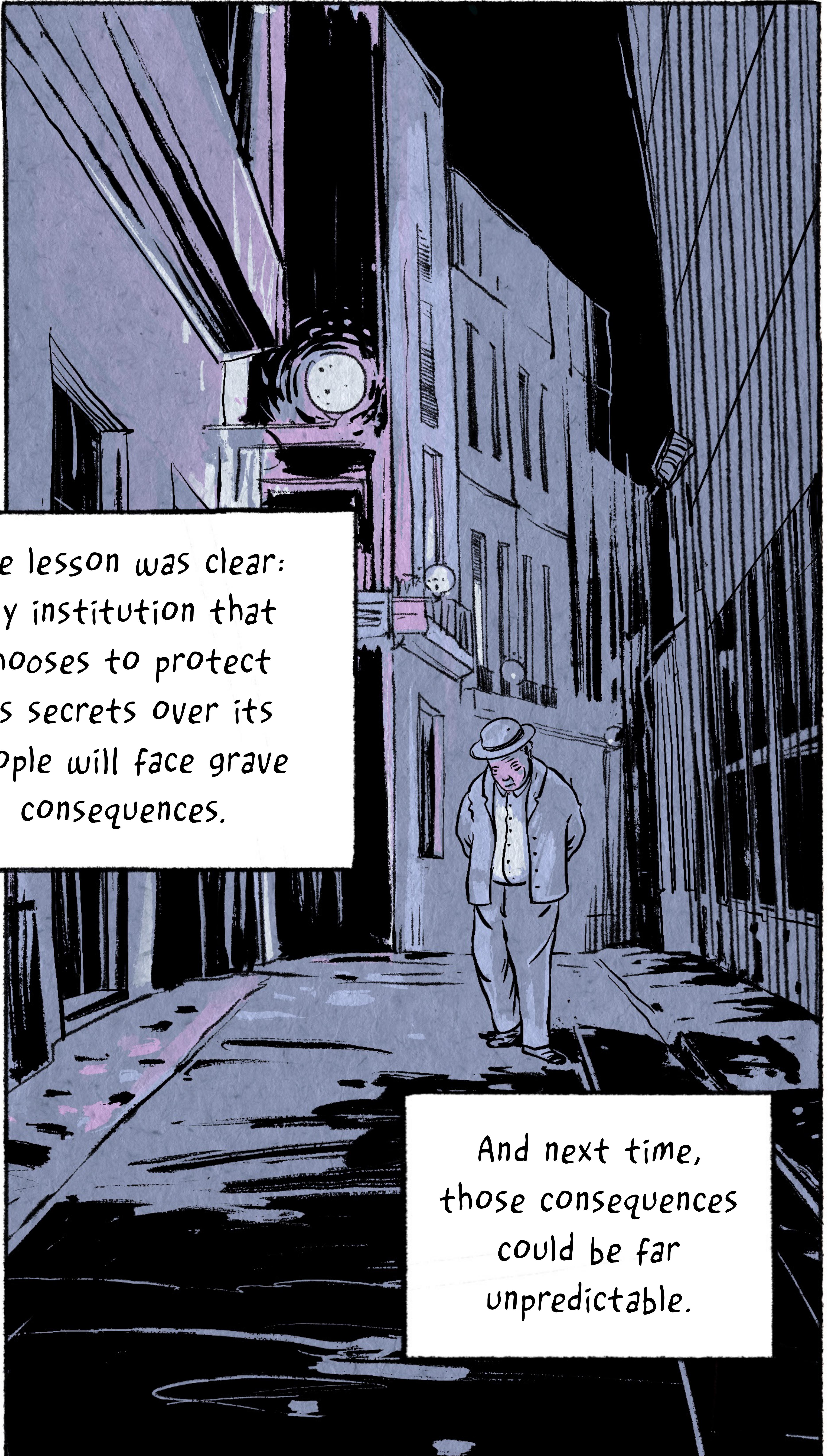
His hatred had finally become uncontrollable.



In the end, as Gkogkos led the handcuffed Dean away, his shoulders felt heavy with the weight of the case. The university's own failure to confront Lane's corruption had caused this chaos.



How many other Universities, Gkogkos wondered, would face similar disasters if they continued to abandon justice?



The lesson was clear: any institution that chooses to protect its secrets over its people will face grave consequences.

And next time, those consequences could be far unpredictable.