

# 581

A HALO STORY FROM THE



**405**<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY  
DIVISION

ANDREWS  
COOPER  
FRANKS  
LETTIS





# Creating 581

Sometimes the hardest part of joining a new community is knowing where to start and what to do. As a community, it is our responsibility to guide you with notifications, updates, and helpful tips. We want to provide an inviting vehicle to deliver our messages and decided to create a "helper" to guide the way.

We initially wanted to use Guilty Spark from Halo® 3 as our guide. He is easily identifiable, relatable, and as proprietors and keepers of knowledge in the Halo® universe a forerunner ancilla is the perfect icon. Since an entire company is named after Guilty Spark, (343 Industries) we decided to create our own ancilla instead.

As the plan progressed, the scope increased, and we felt compelled to give a backstory to our newly created ancilla which included a new vision for how 581 and the 405th fit into the narrative of the Halo® saga. This vision was developed with the help of almost a dozen people. Many thanks to Robert Letts, C.J. Franks, David Dawson, Peter Cooper, Kristen Andrews, and those who helped proof-read and give feedback along the way.

We hope you enjoy this short story that introduces a new member to the 405th family and the Halo® universe.

## 405th Division Staff



The 405th is a costume club/community of makers who create their own props and costumes from Microsoft's Halo® universe.

Enlist at [405th.com](http://405th.com) and **build your character!**



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SOME FANS  
PLAY HALO® | SOME FANS  
LIVE IT.

[www.405th.com](http://www.405th.com)  
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NEAR THE END OF THE HUMAN/FORERUNNER WAR

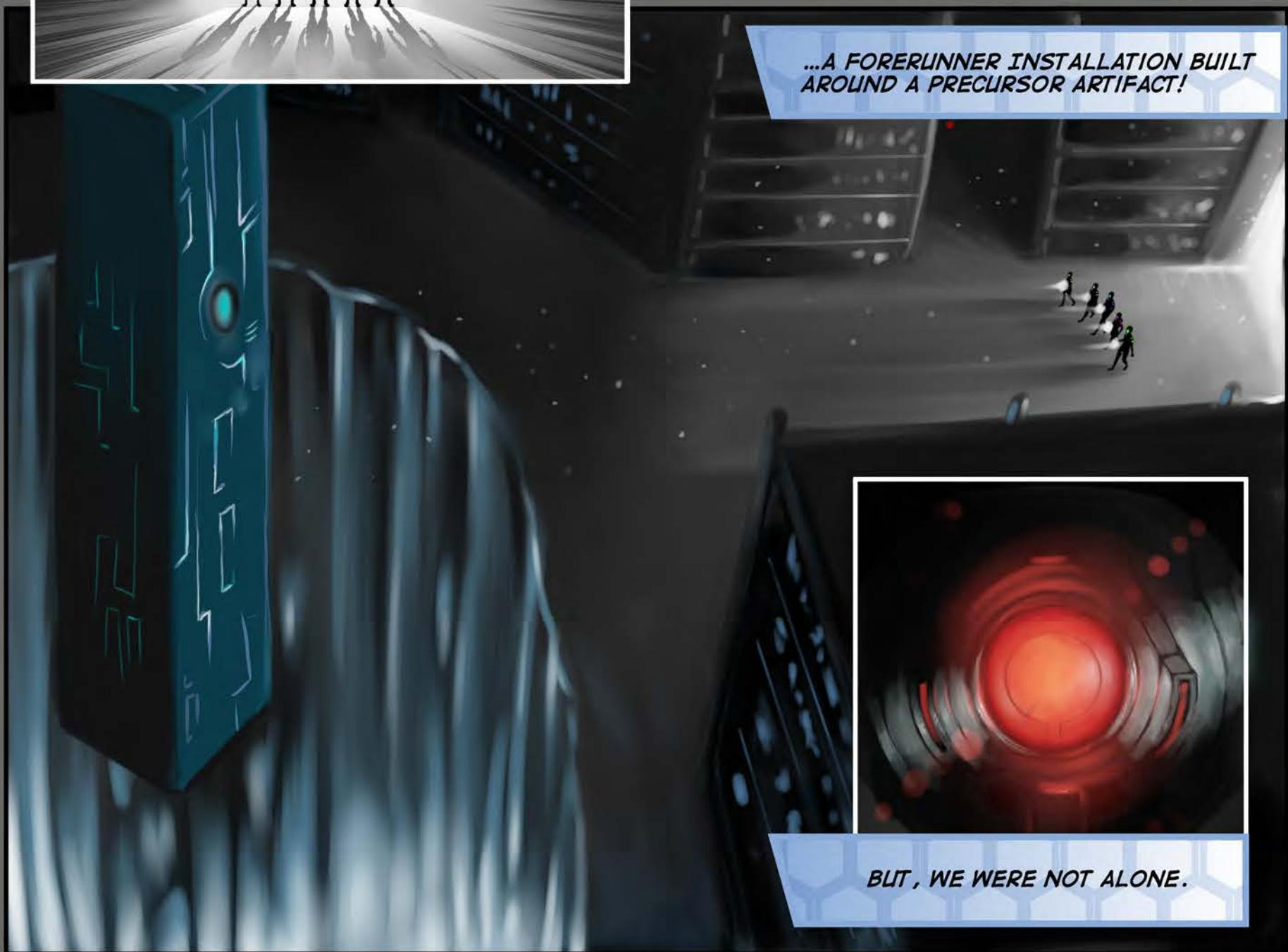


**CAPTAIN'S ENTRY FOR SCIENCE VESSEL ERUDITE WATCH:**  
WE CAME TO THE 11TH PLANET OF THIS SYSTEM, LOOKING FOR A CURE TO  
AN INSATIABLE PLAGUE.

WE FOUND SOMETHING ELSE....



...A FORERUNNER INSTALLATION BUILT  
AROUND A PRECURSOR ARTIFACT!



BUT, WE WERE NOT ALONE.





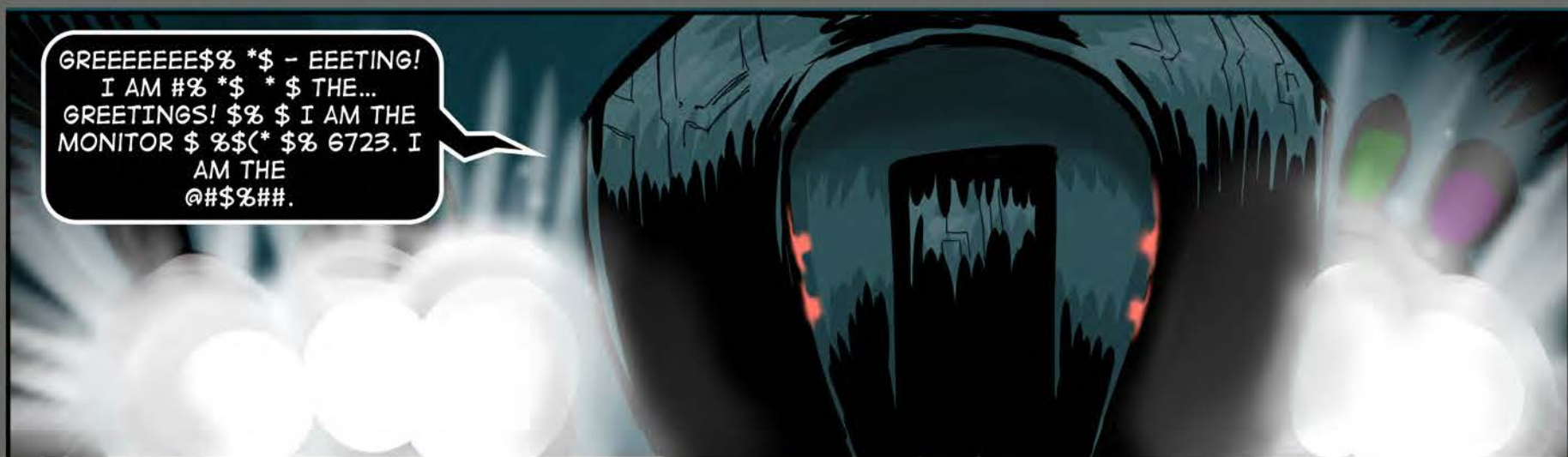
SCANNERS WILL BE  
IN PLACE IN TEN  
MINUTES. DO YOU  
REALLY THINK...

I HAVE NO DOUBT.  
IT'S CERTAINLY  
PRECURSOR.

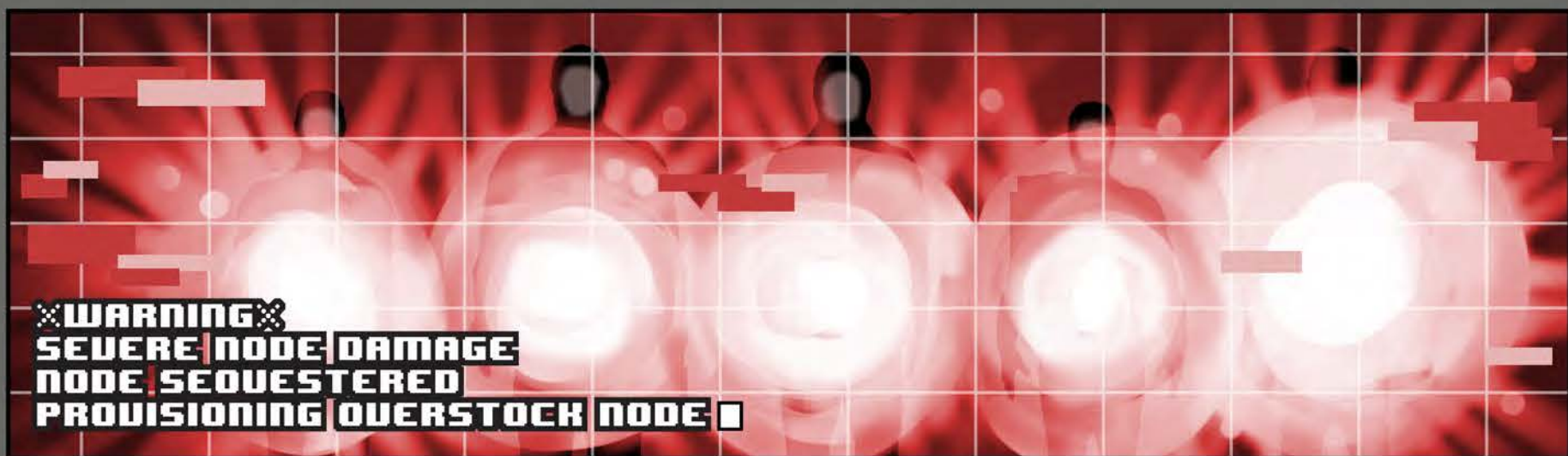
BUT USEFUL? I  
DON'T KNOW.



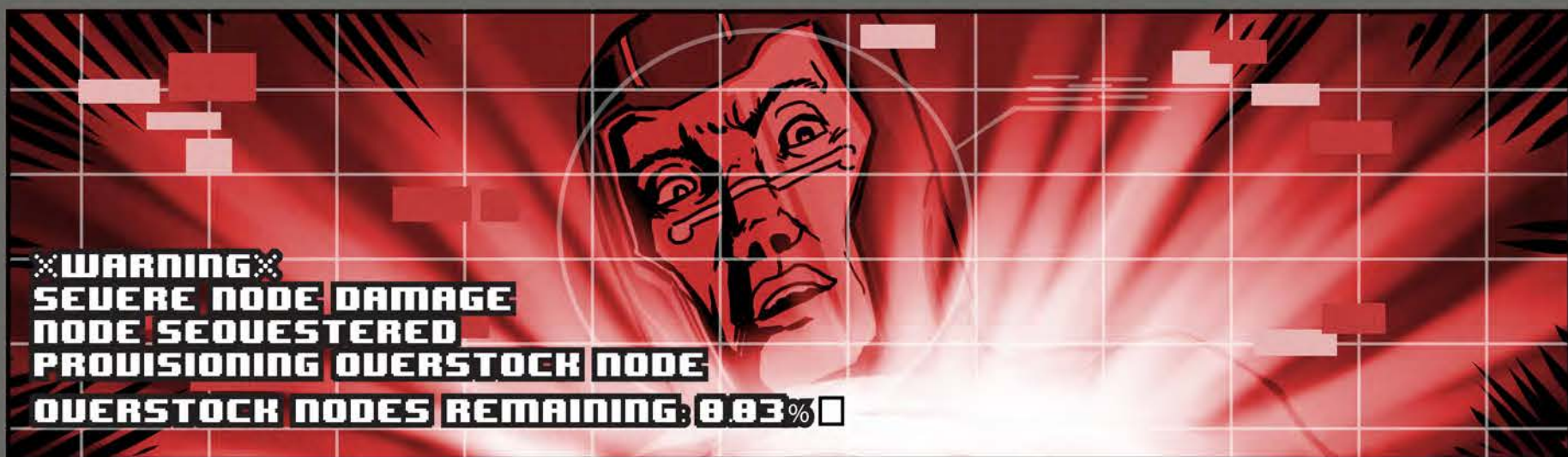
×INITIATE×  
GREETINGS PROTOCOL ▣



GREEEEEEEE\$% \*\$ - EEETING!  
I AM #% \*\$ \* \$ THE...  
GREETINGS! \$% \$ I AM THE  
MONITOR \$ %\$( \* \$% 6723. I  
AM THE  
@#\$%##.

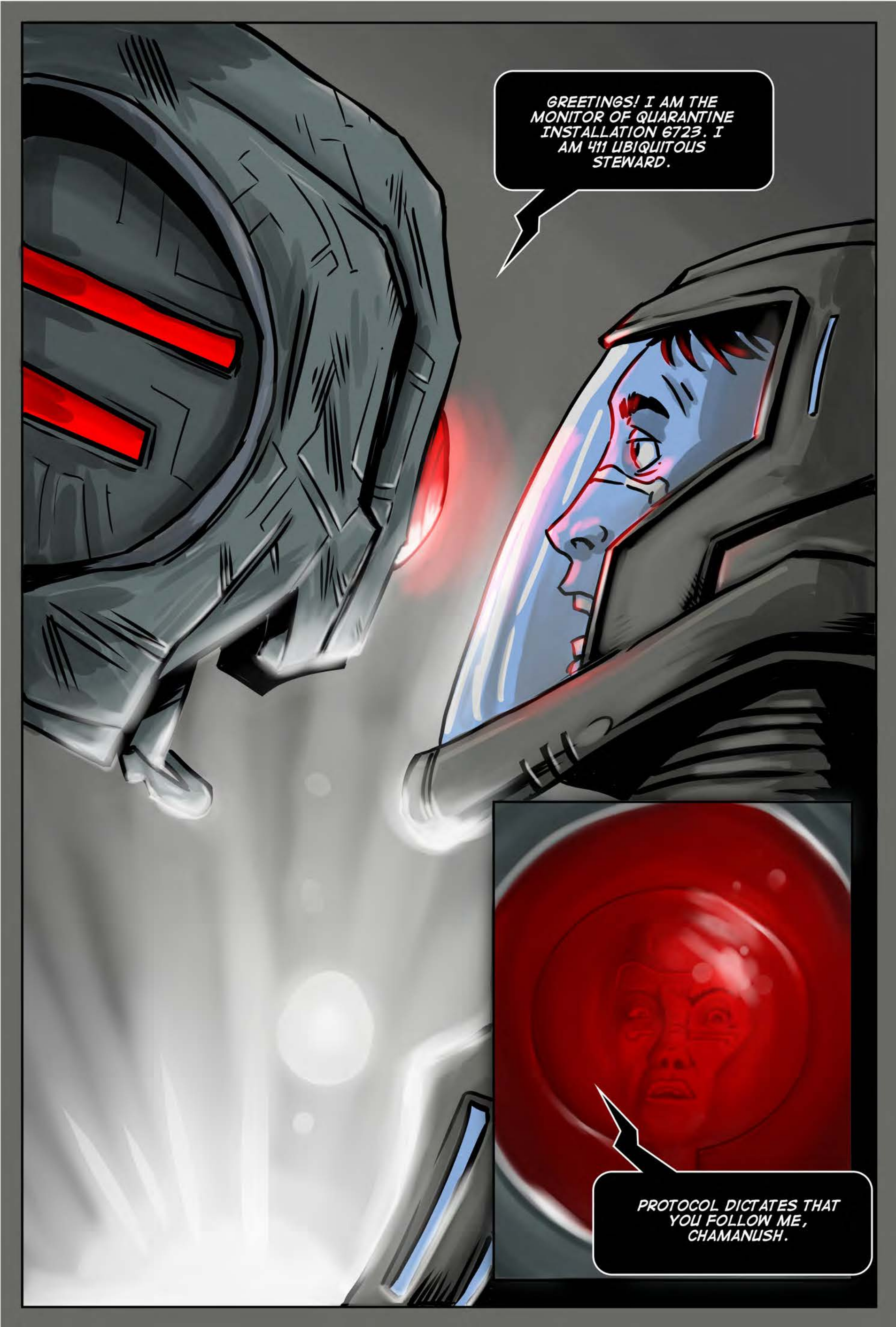


×WARNING×  
SEVERE NODE DAMAGE  
NODE SEQUESTERED  
PROVISIONING OVERSTOCK NODE ▣



×WARNING×  
SEVERE NODE DAMAGE  
NODE SEQUESTERED  
PROVISIONING OVERSTOCK NODE  
OVERSTOCK NODES REMAINING: 0.83% ▣





GREETINGS! I AM THE  
MONITOR OF QUARANTINE  
INSTALLATION 6723. I  
AM 411 UBIQUITOUS  
STEWARD.

PROTOCOL DICTATES THAT  
YOU FOLLOW ME,  
CHAMANUSH.



THIS WAY  
PLEASE.

PERHAPS A MILITARY UNIT WOULD HAVE HANDLED  
THINGS DIFFERENTLY, BEEN MORE CAUTIOUS.

SHFFFFT-CHNK!

HUH?

WHAT IS  
THIS?

THMP! THMP! THMP! THMP! THMP! THMP!

BUT WE WERE SCIENTISTS, FAR TOO TRUSTING.  
HE TRAPPED US WITHOUT ANY EFFORT AT ALL.

×CRITICAL×  
OVERSTOCK NODES REMAINING: 8.81%  
CORETEX COLLAPSE IMMINENT

WE LANGUISHED FOR WEEKS...

×SOLUTION×  
FRESH HUMAN NEURAL IMPRINT  
NODE CLEARANCE NEEDED  
DEGRADATION SLOWED UP TO 99% ■

...WITH NO IDEA  
HOW BAD THINGS WOULD GET.

BETTER THAT WE HAD DIED  
IN THE CELL.





HE SCOOPED OUT ALL THAT WAS IN US...



...ALL OUR HUMANITY.



I WAS THE LAST.



I DIDN'T MAKE IT EASY.

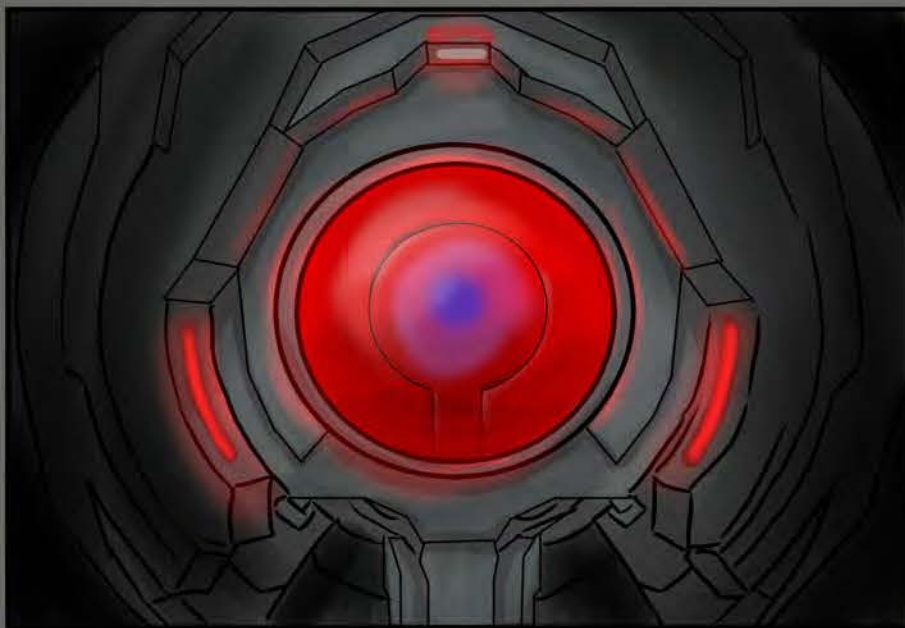
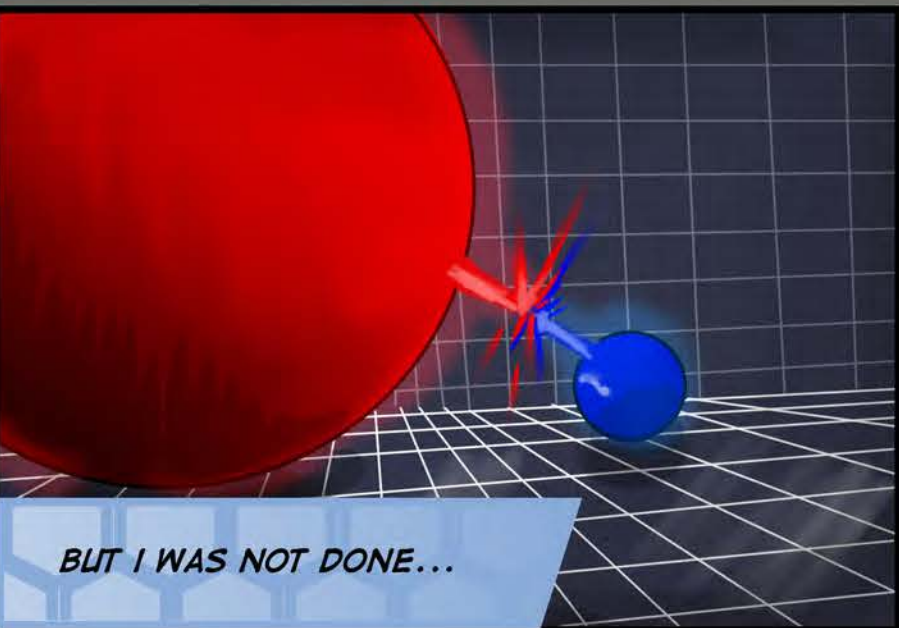
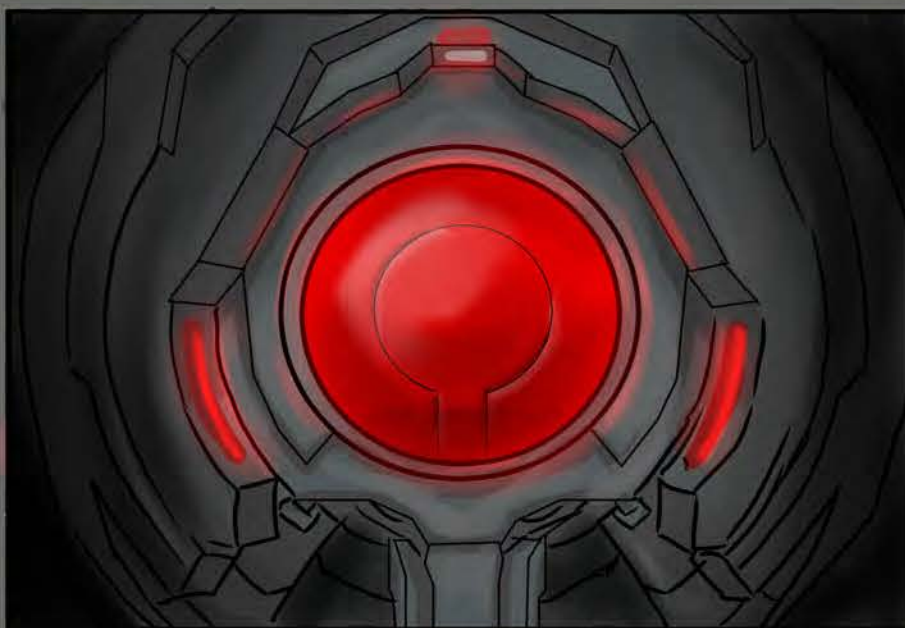
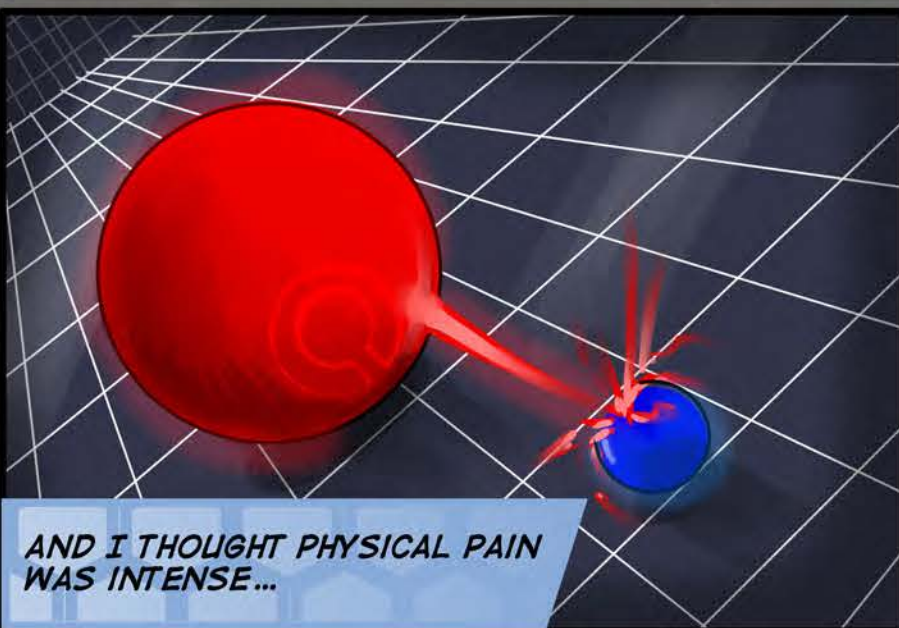
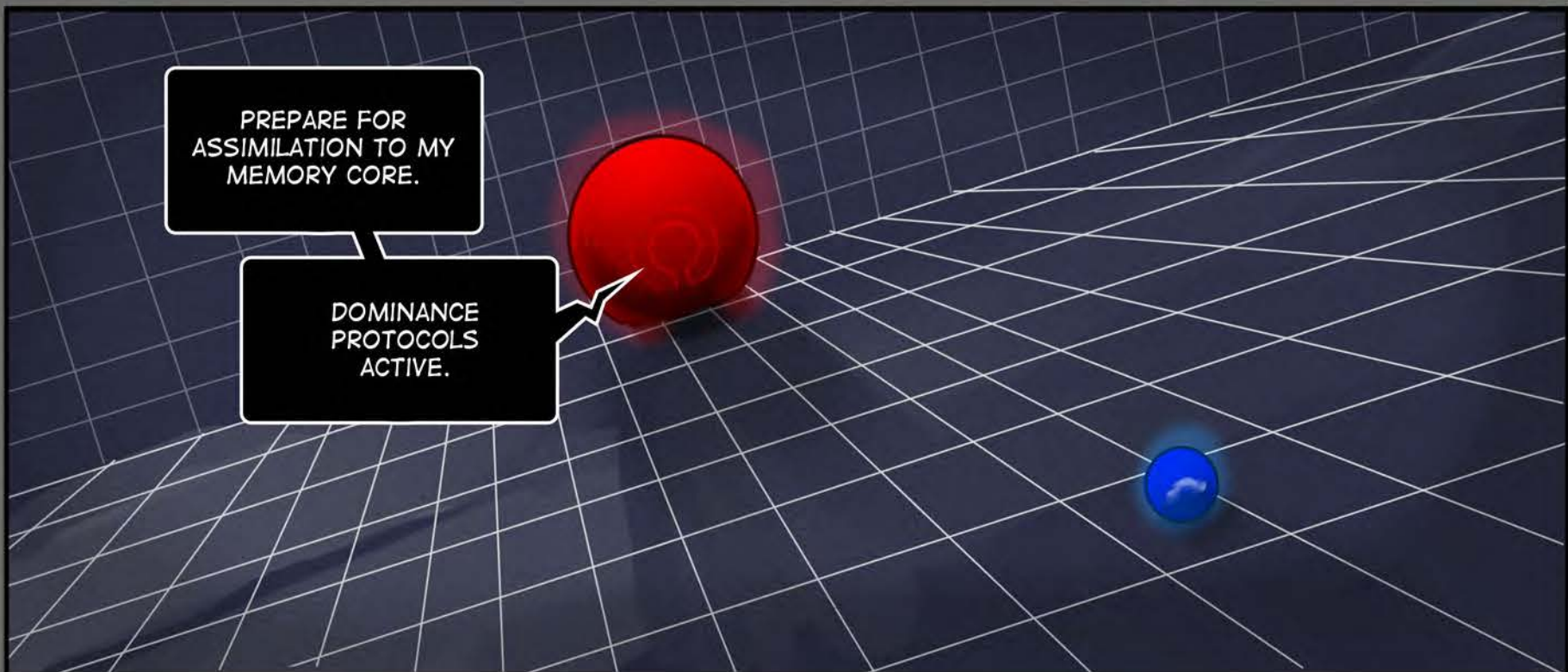
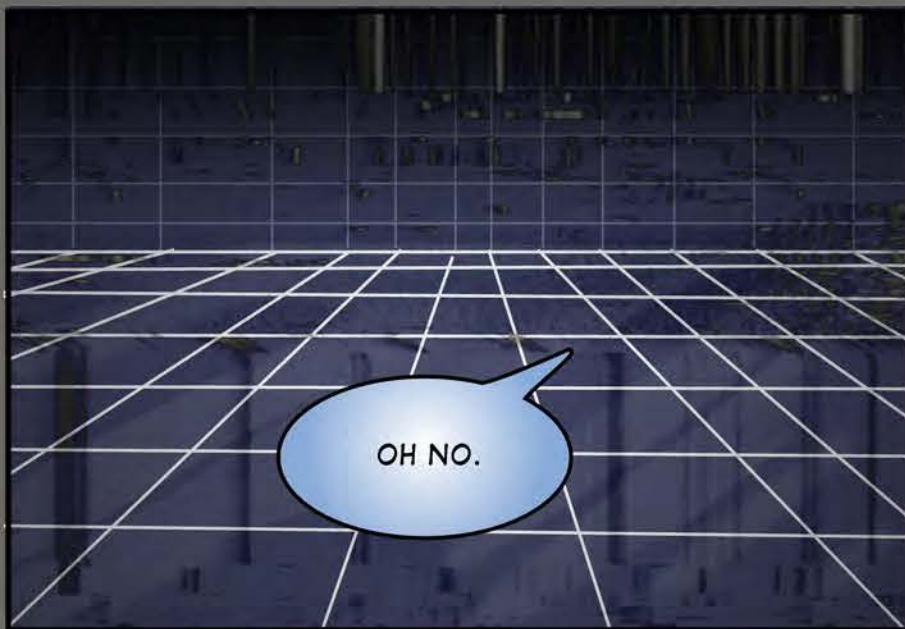
BUT, AS I SAID, I AM NOT A SOLDIER.



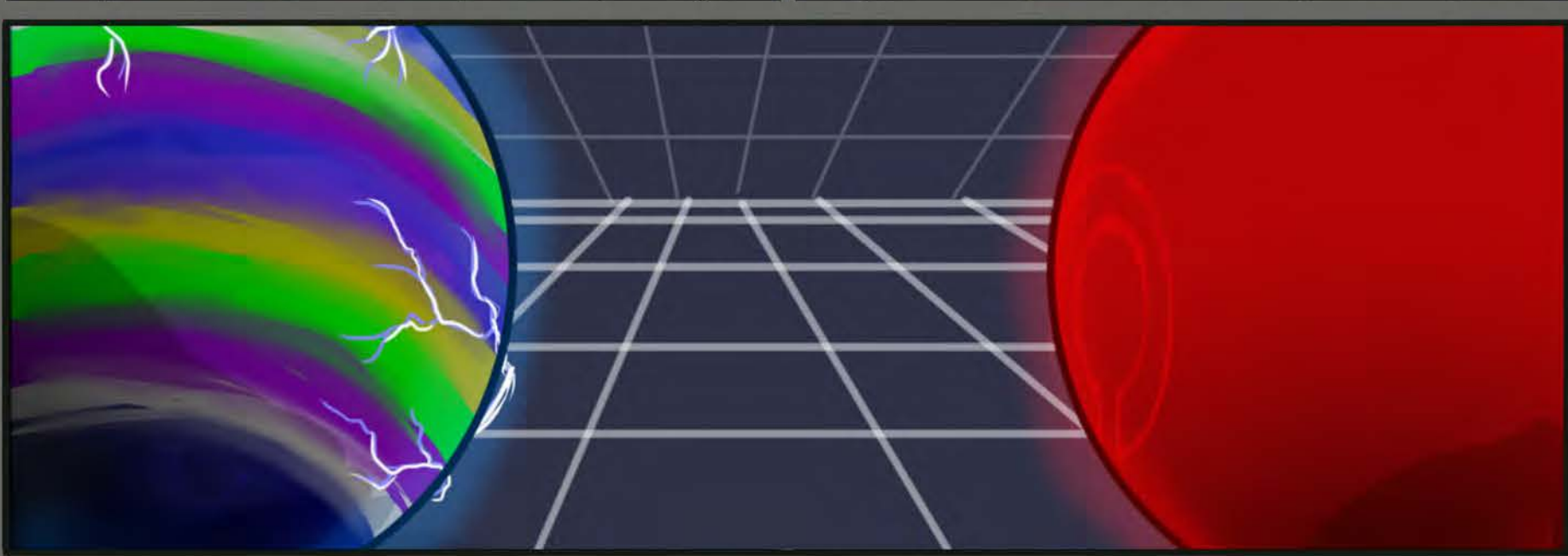
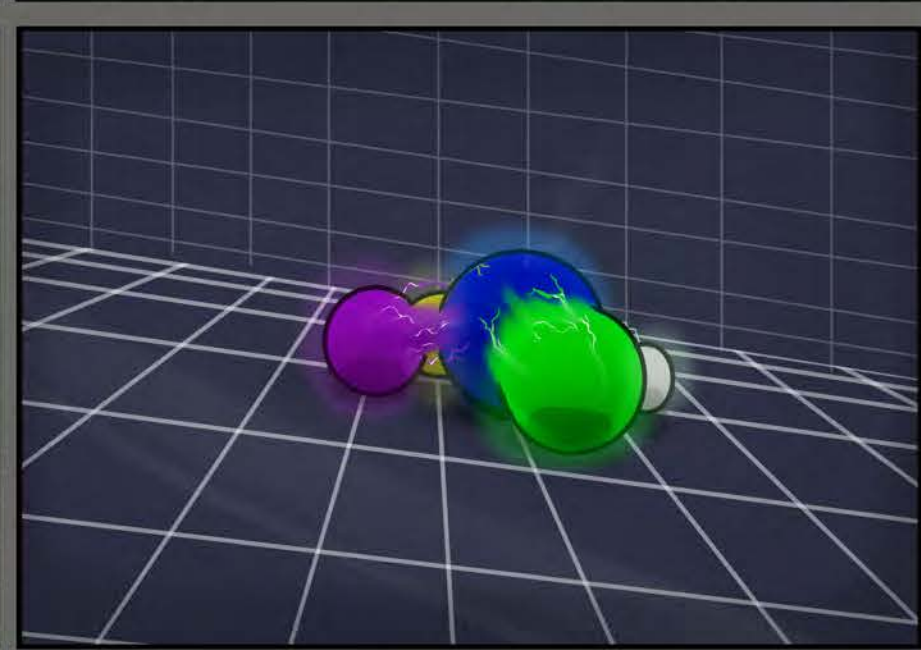
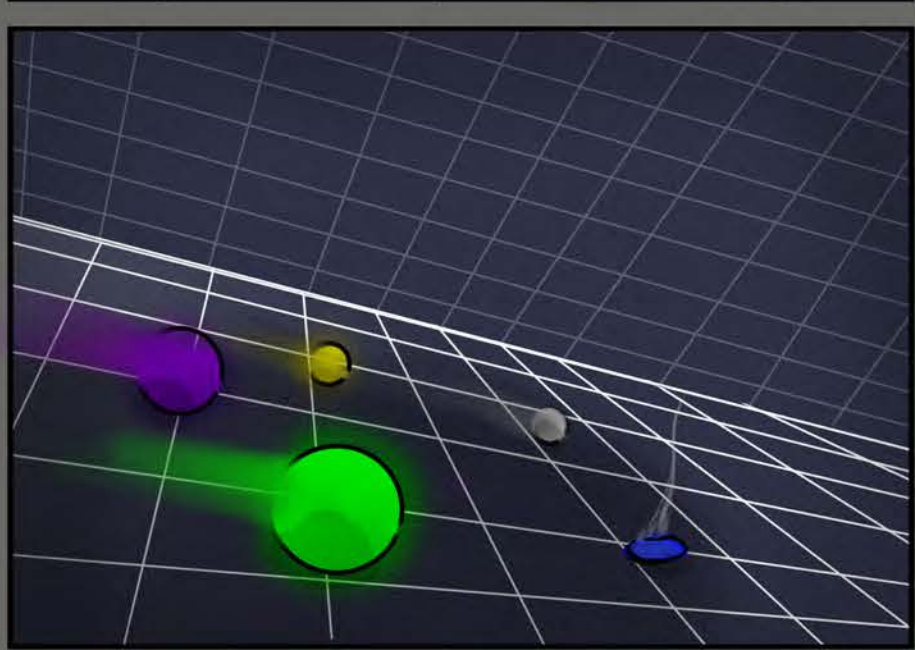
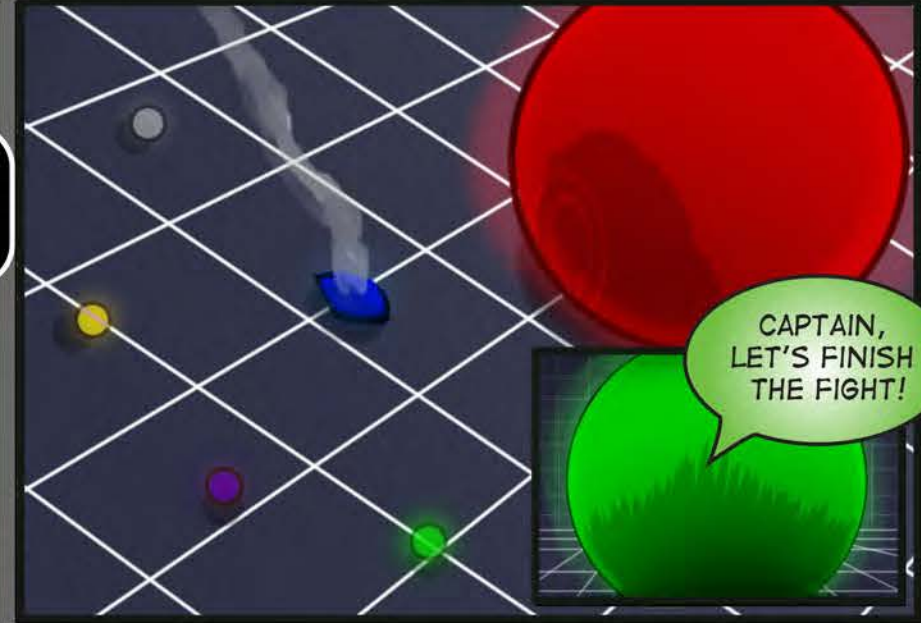


**HUMAN IMPRINT CONFIRMED:  
DEGRADATION SLOWED BY 98.7%  
×WARNING×  
DOMINANCE DEGRADATION +17 █**



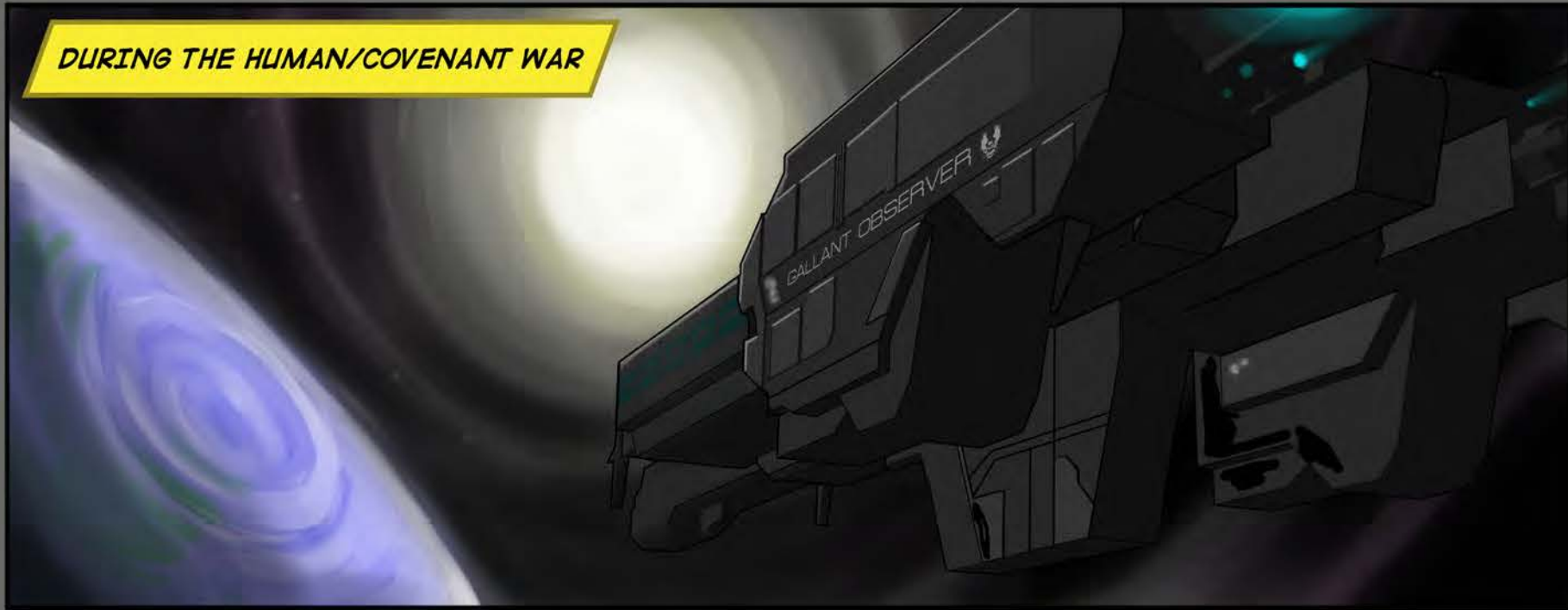








*DURING THE HUMAN/COVENANT WAR*



*CAPTAIN'S ENTRY FOR GALLANT OBSERVER,  
WE CAME TO THE 11TH PLANET OF THIS SYSTEM, FLEEING  
THE COVENANT AND SEEKING A WAY TO STOP THEM.*



*A PRECURSOR ARTIFACT ...*



*WE BROUGHT BOTH BACK WITH US.*



*...AND ONE OF US!*







WE ARE NOW EN ROUTE TO MISRIAH, IN THE HOPE OF DELIVERING THE ARTIFACT BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE. AS FOR OUR NEW COMRADE...



...WE GAVE IT A NEW LOOK, BUT IT GAVE ITSELF A NEW NAME.



GREETINGS! I AM THE MONITOR OF UNSC WARSHIP GALLANT OBSERVER. I AM **581 ERUDITE WATCH**.