


PORTAL 2:

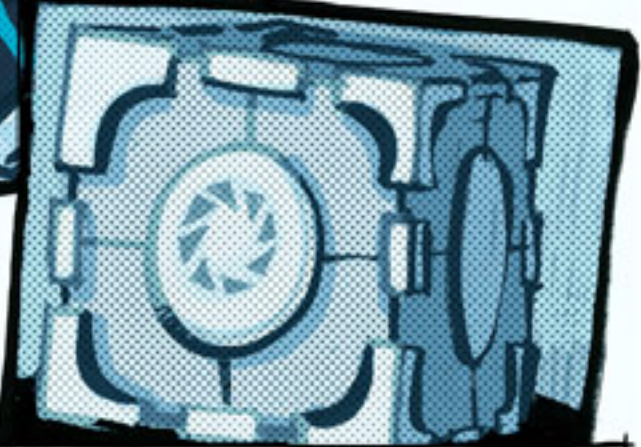




LAB

RAT









REALITY IS A STORY THE
MIND TELLS ITSELF.



AN ARTIFICIAL STRUCTURE CONJURED INTO
BEING BY THE CALCIUM ION EXCHANGE OF
A MILLION SYNAPTIC FIRINGS.



A TRUTH SO STRANGE IT CAN
ONLY BE LIED INTO EXISTENCE.



AND OUR MINDS CAN LIE.
NEVER DOUBT IT...

HEAR THE TURRET
FOR IT IS KNELL

SUMMONS ~~TO~~ TO HEAVEN
OR TO HELL

TENACITY

THE BELL

WHAT'S THIS? REAL, OR
JUST MY LYING MIND AGAIN?

CAN SHE TRULY BE AWAKE
AFTER ALL THIS TIME?

NO, JUST A FIGMENT.
IF SHE WERE REAL,
THE TURRETS WOULD
SEE HER, TOO.

TARGET ACQUIRED.

THUDDA
THUDDA
THUDDA

THUDDA
THUDDA
THUDDA

THE END IS
FINALLY UPON
US.

DON'T
even
FEELS LIKE A TRIAL
TRY



WE PUT CAMERAS IN
THE CAMERAS.

HE'LL NEVER
SUSPECT.

GENIUS!

THE CUBE ROOT OF
TWO X IS IRRATIONAL
IF X IS IRRATIONAL.

Ziaprazidone
Antipsychotic medication
Prescription: Doug

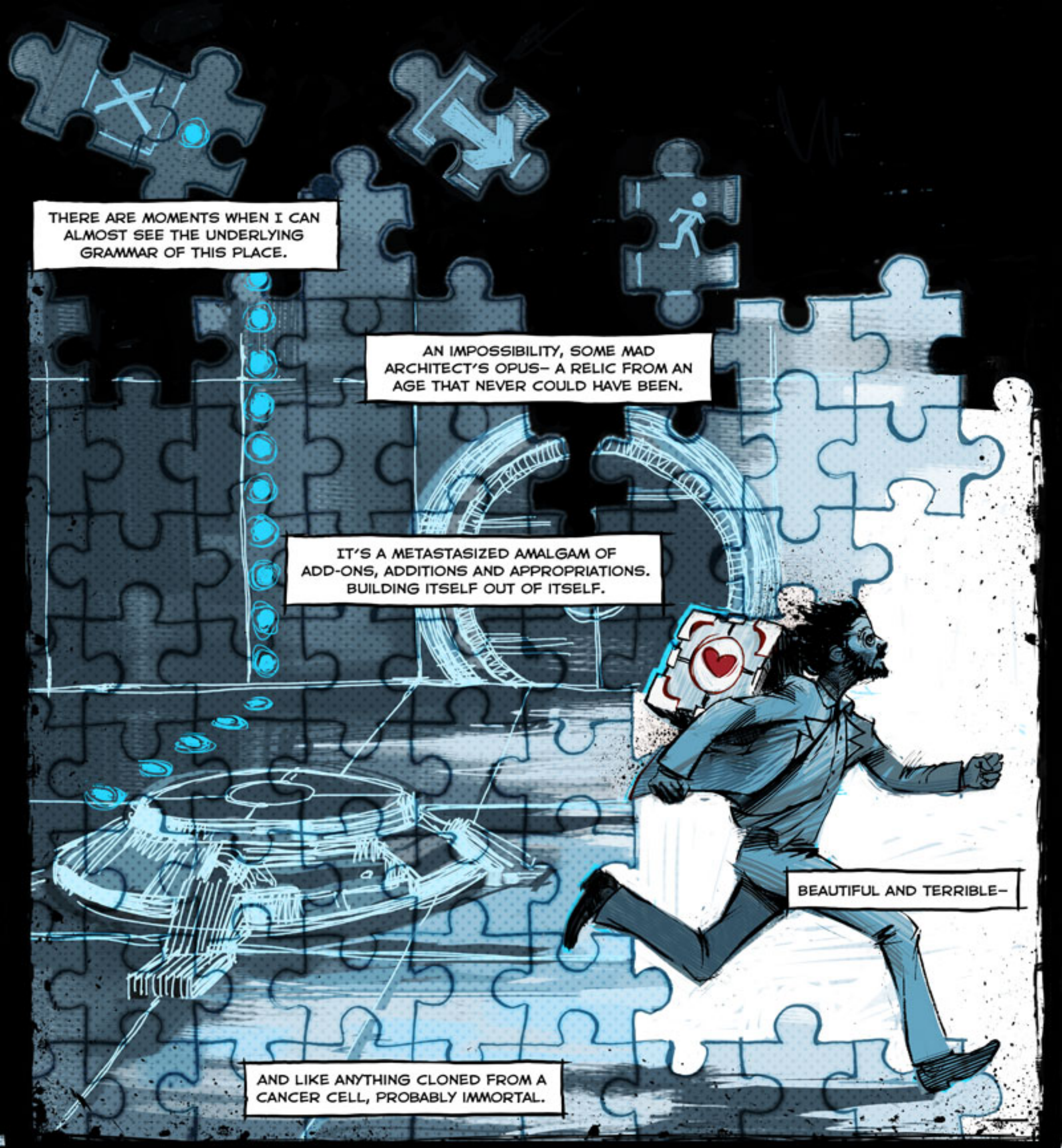
IT'S BEEN SO LONG.
I'VE BEEN SAVING THESE
LAST TWO FOR THIS DAY.

C'MON, YOU DON'T NEED
THOSE ANYMORE.
YOU'RE FINE.

THIS WILL BE
THE END OF US.

I'M GOING TO NEED A
CLEAR HEAD FOR
WHAT IS TO COME.

gulp
gulp



A man with a beard and long hair, wearing a blue jacket and dark pants, is running to the right. He is carrying a white bag and a box with a red heart on it. The background is a dark, textured surface made of puzzle pieces. Some puzzle pieces are missing, revealing a lighter blue area with a white figure running. There are also some blue circles and lines on the puzzle pieces.

THERE ARE MOMENTS WHEN I CAN
ALMOST SEE THE UNDERLYING
GRAMMAR OF THIS PLACE.

AN IMPOSSIBILITY, SOME MAD
ARCHITECT'S OPUS— A RELIC FROM AN
AGE THAT NEVER COULD HAVE BEEN.

IT'S A METASTASIZED AMALGAM OF
ADD-ONS, ADDITIONS AND APPROPRIATIONS.
BUILDING ITSELF OUT OF ITSELF.


BEAUTIFUL AND TERRIBLE—

AND LIKE ANYTHING CLONED FROM A
CANCER CELL, PROBABLY IMMORTAL.

REQUIRED
SAFETY GOGGLES & STEEL-TOE BOOTS
APERTURE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR
EYE OR TOE DAMAGE

STAY TO THE RIGHT!
TURRETS AHEAD ON
YOUR LEFT.

WHATEVER YOU SAY.



ANOTHER MURAL
TO MARK THE OCCASION.

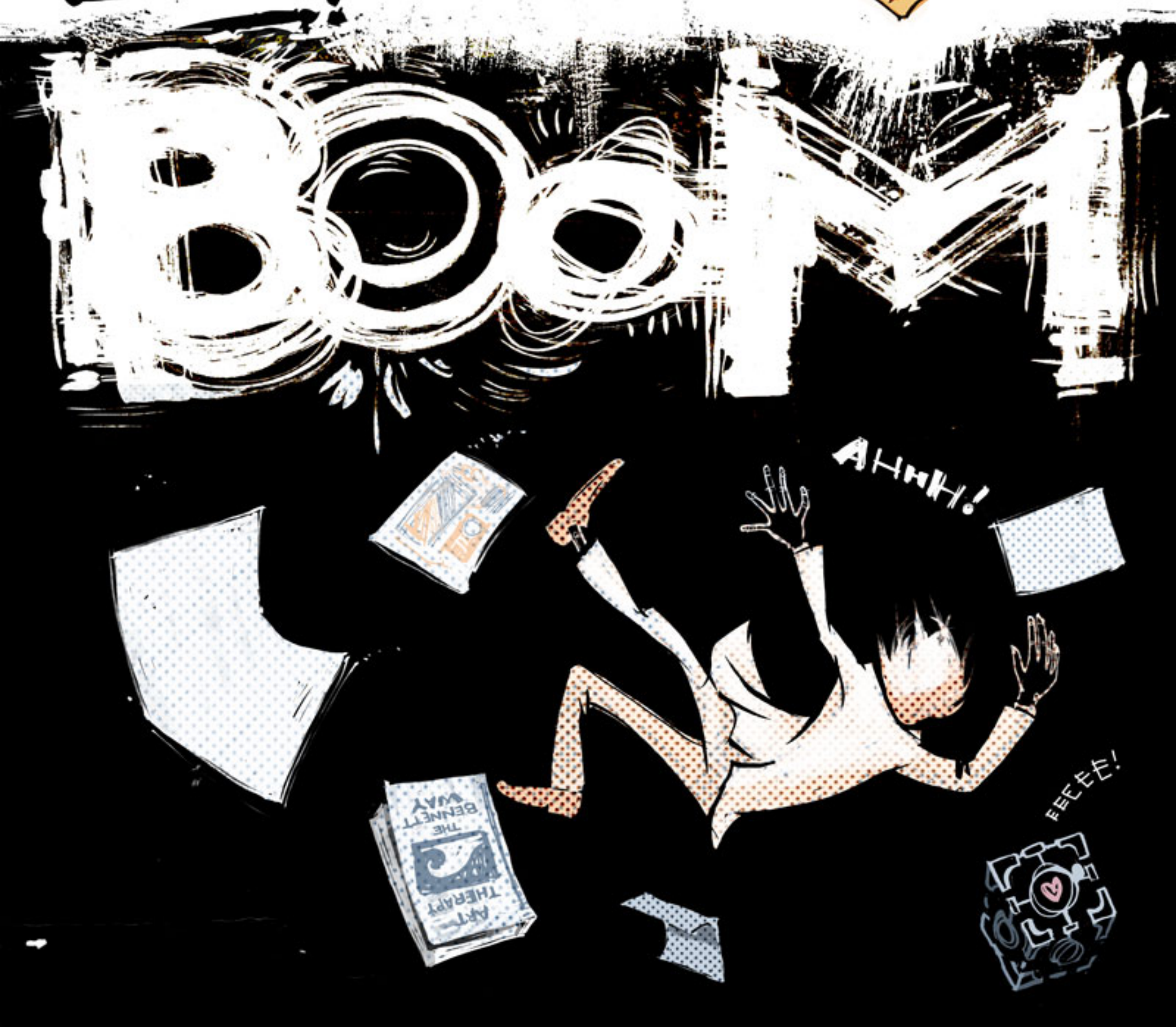


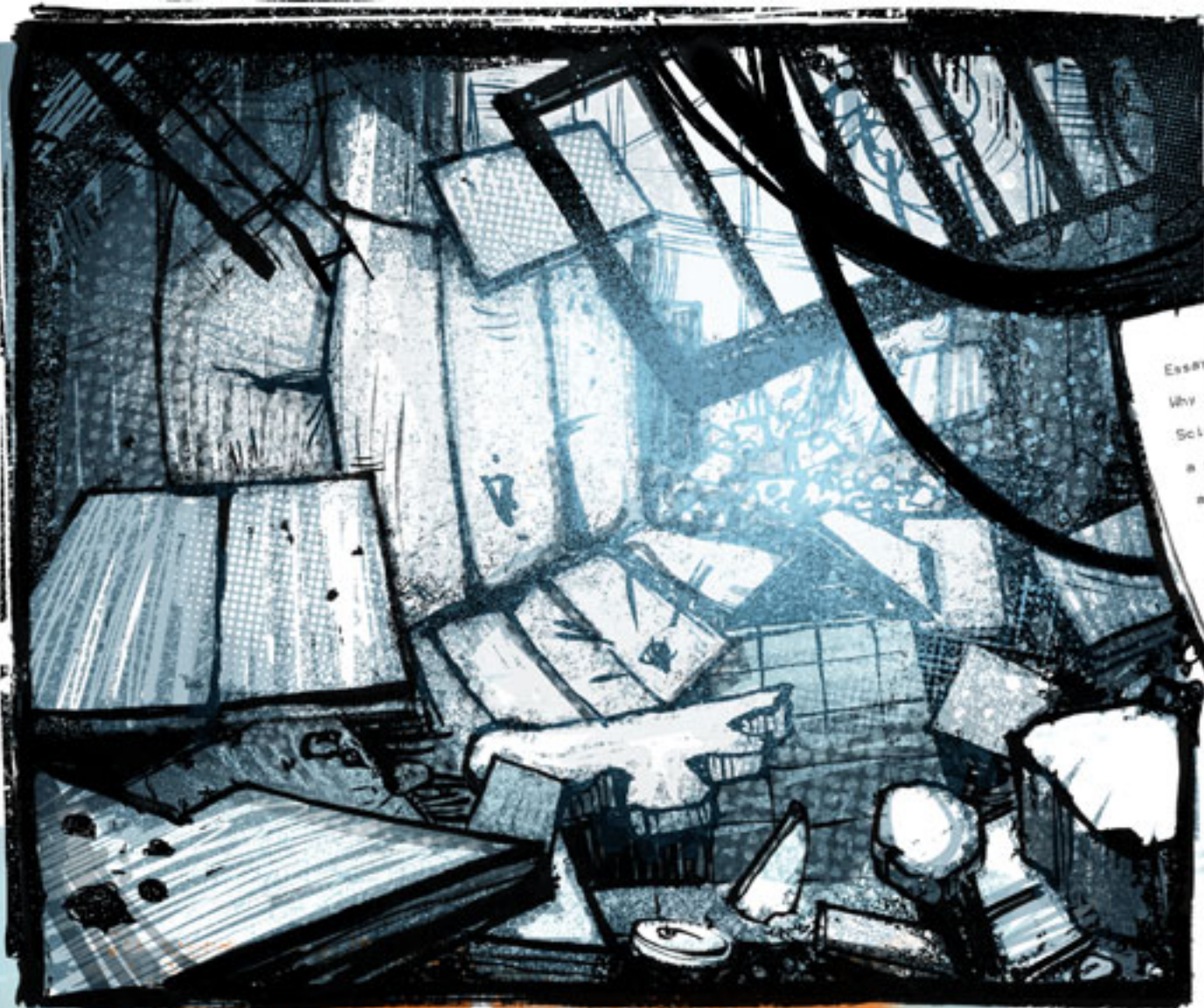
WHERE IS THE GIRL NOW?

ON HER WAY INTO THE
FINAL CHAMBER.

YOU MEAN WITH... HER?

PERSONNEL





WHAT WAS THAT?



THE ROOM SHOOK ITSELF TO PIECES.

LIKE AN UNBALANCED CENTRIFUGE.

ARE YOU OKAY?

I HEARD AN EXPLOSION. WHAT COULD IT MEAN?

ONLY ONE THING IT
CAN MEAN.



SHE DID IT.

IT'S OVER.

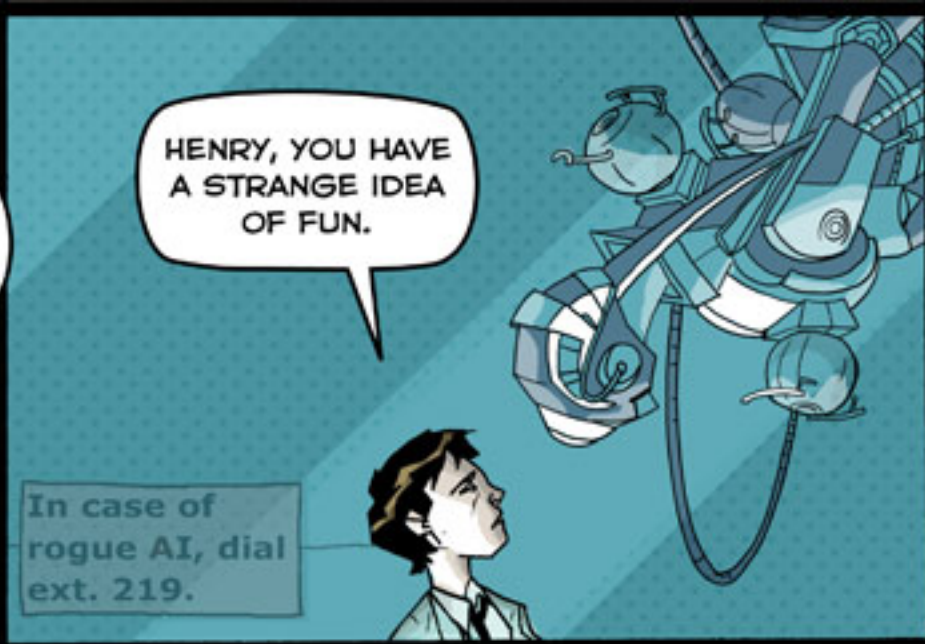
THE ULTIMATE
SYSTEMS CRASH.





IT'S BEEN A HELL OF A MORNING. YOU MISSED ALL THE FUN.

WE HAD TO HIT THE KILL SWITCH AGAIN.



HENRY, YOU HAVE A STRANGE IDEA OF FUN.

In case of
rogue AI, dial
ext. 219.



HEY, WE'RE LUCKY TO BE WORKING ON THIS.

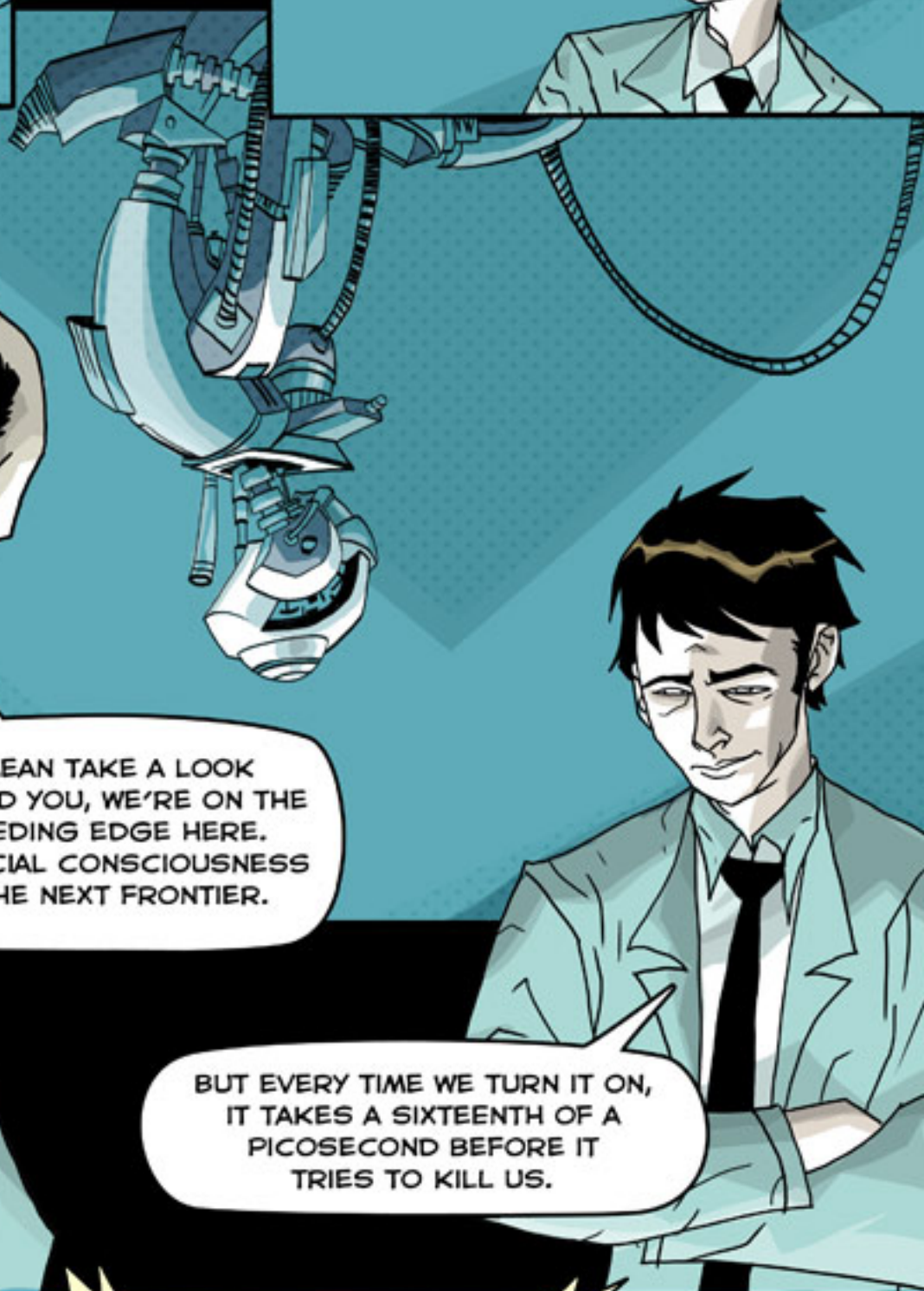


YOU'VE GOT A STRANGE IDEA OF LUCK, TOO.



THINK ABOUT IT. EVERY GENERATION GETS SOME NEW FRONTIER TO TACKLE. EINSTEIN GOT RELATIVITY. THE NASA COWBOYS GOT THE MOON. ALL THE EASY STUFF IS TAKEN.

I MEAN TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOU, WE'RE ON THE BLEEDING EDGE HERE. ARTIFICIAL CONSCIOUSNESS IS THE NEXT FRONTIER.



BUT EVERY TIME WE TURN IT ON, IT TAKES A SIXTEENTH OF A PICOSECOND BEFORE IT TRIES TO KILL US.

LAST TIME WAS A TENTH OF A PICOSECOND. SEE, WE'RE MAKING PROGRESS.

I'M TELLING YOU, THIS IS OUR GENERATION'S MOON SHOT.


CAVE JOHNSON HERE: YOU LAB BOYS QUIT YOUR YAPPIN' AND GET BACK TO WORK.

THIS HAS BEEN A PRE-RECORDED MESSAGE.



I'D RATHER HAVE GONE TO THE MOON.





WHERE'S THE GIRL?
SHE DIDN'T STAY TO
CHECK OUT HER
HANDIWORK?

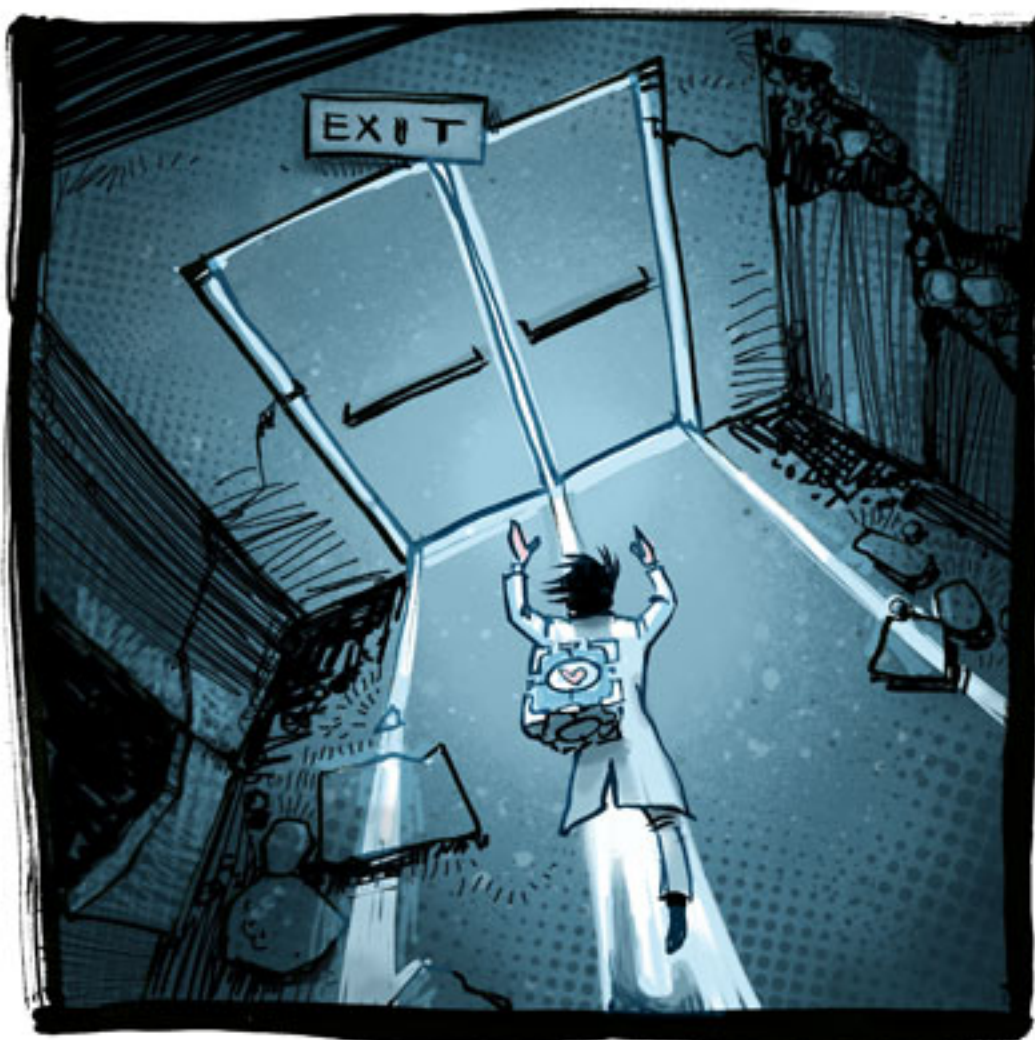
SHE MUST HAVE GOTTEN
OUT. PROBABLY ON THE
SURFACE, SOAKING UP
SOME SUN.

I'M SURE
YOU'RE RIGHT.

WHAT IS THIS
"SUN" OF WHICH
YOU SPEAK?

AND SHE HAS THE RIGHT
IDEA. COME ON, WE'RE
WASTING DAYLIGHT.

WATCH OUT FOR THE
TURRETS. THE QUEEN
MAY BE DEAD, BUT THIS
HORNET'S NEST HAS
BEEN KICKED.





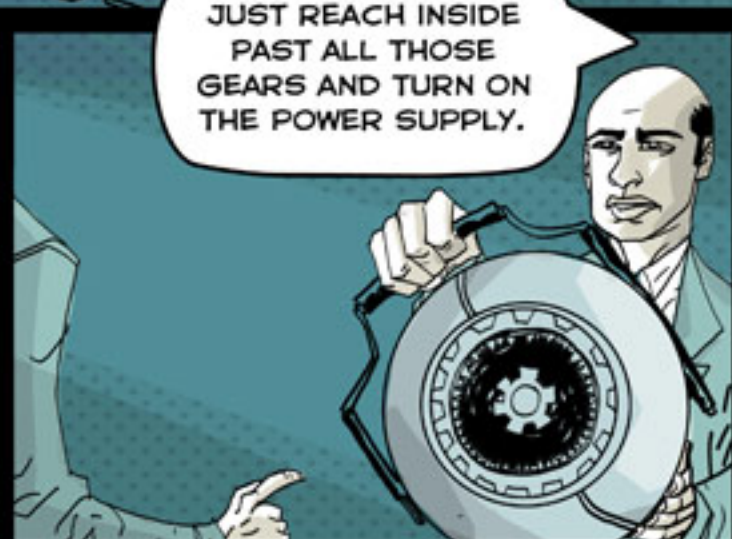
NO!

IT'S DRAGGING HER
BACK INSIDE.



HEY, DOUG, CAN I
GET A HAND HERE?

UH, SURE.



JUST REACH INSIDE
PAST ALL THOSE
GEARS AND TURN ON
THE POWER SUPPLY.



WAIT A SEC. SAFETY
FIRST. ARE YOU RIGHT
HANDED OR LEFT?

RIGHT.



BETTER USE YOUR
LEFT THEN.

WHY?

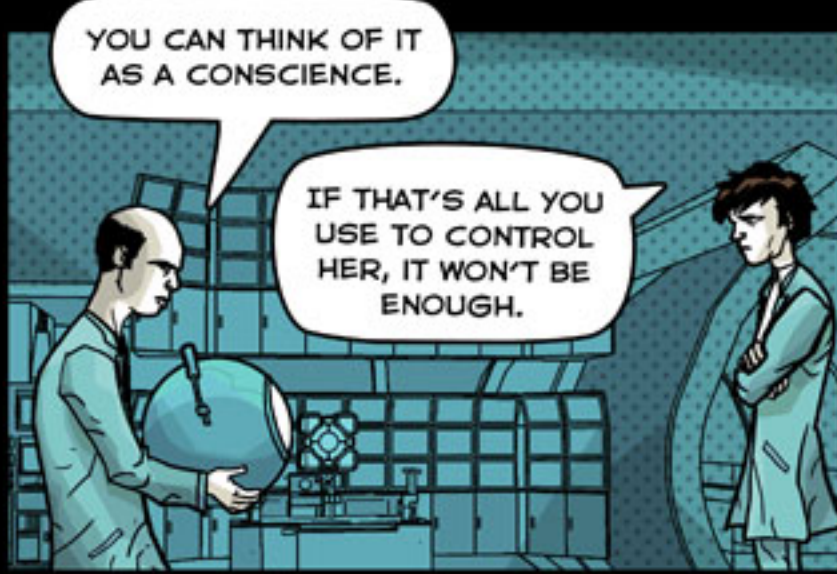
JUST IN CASE.



WHAT IS THAT
THING, ANYWAY?



JUST THE LATEST IN AI
INHIBITION TECHNOLOGY.



YOU CAN THINK OF IT AS A CONSCIENCE.

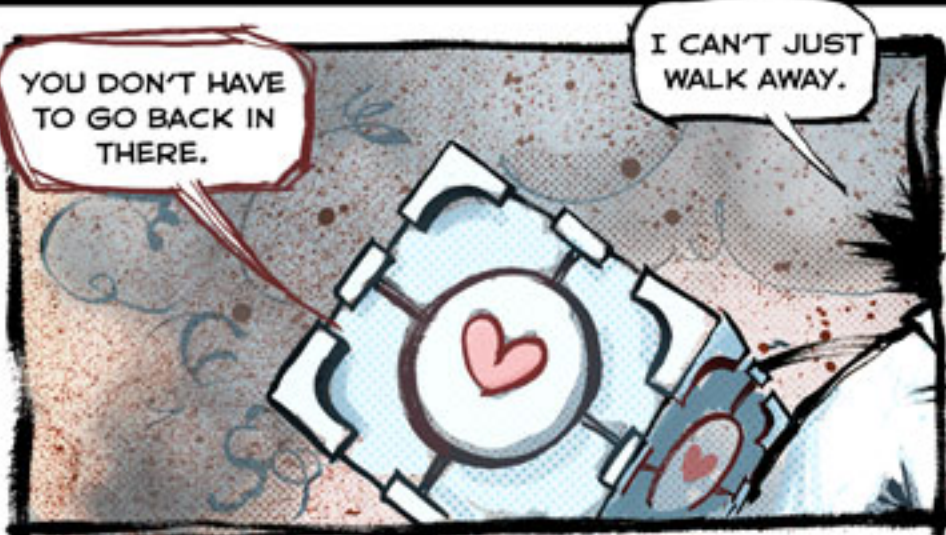
IF THAT'S ALL YOU USE TO CONTROL HER, IT WON'T BE ENOUGH.



WHY'S THAT?



YOU CAN ALWAYS IGNORE YOUR CONSCIENCE.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO BACK IN THERE.

I CAN'T JUST WALK AWAY.



YOU'RE RIGHT. WALKING IS TOO SLOW. RUN AWAY.

RUNNING IS WHAT I'VE BEEN DOING. RUNNING AND HIDING.



IT'S WHY YOU'RE STILL ALIVE.

YOU'RE NOT A HERO. HEROES DIE.

LISTEN, IT'S TOO DANGEROUS. YOU'RE GOING TO GET KILLED.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, IT'S MY FAULT SHE'S DOWN THERE. I'M NOT LEAVING HER.

I WOULD HAVE BEEN TRAPPED FOREVER IF NOT FOR HER.

SO BE IT. BUT I'M DONE RUNNING. I HAVE TO AT LEAST TRY TO SAVE HER.



THEN YOU REALLY ARE CRAZY.

TO BE CONTINUED...