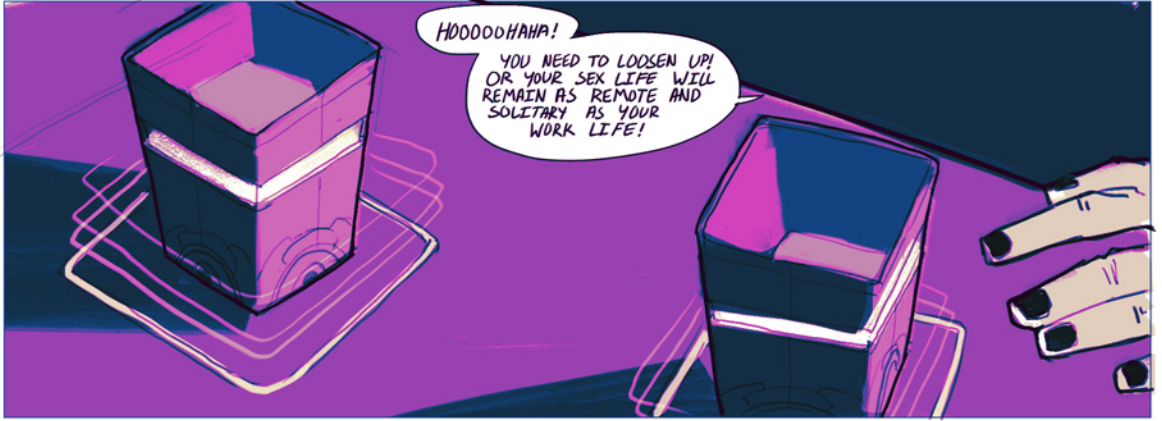




Aventu Chase

EPI: APPARITION
C. Bedford



Avery Chase:

SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITIONIST
EXTRAORDINAIRE

WHAT HE LACKS IN WIT HE
MAKES UP WITH CHARM.
UNFORTUNATELY WHAT HE LACKS
IN CHARM HE DOES NOT MAKE
UP IN WIT.

SMARTER THAN YOUR
AVERAGE JOE.

I DIDN'T DRAG
MY ASS OUT HERE TO
BE TOLD ABOUT
THE BIRDS AND
THE BE-

BOYS AND THE
WEEDS.



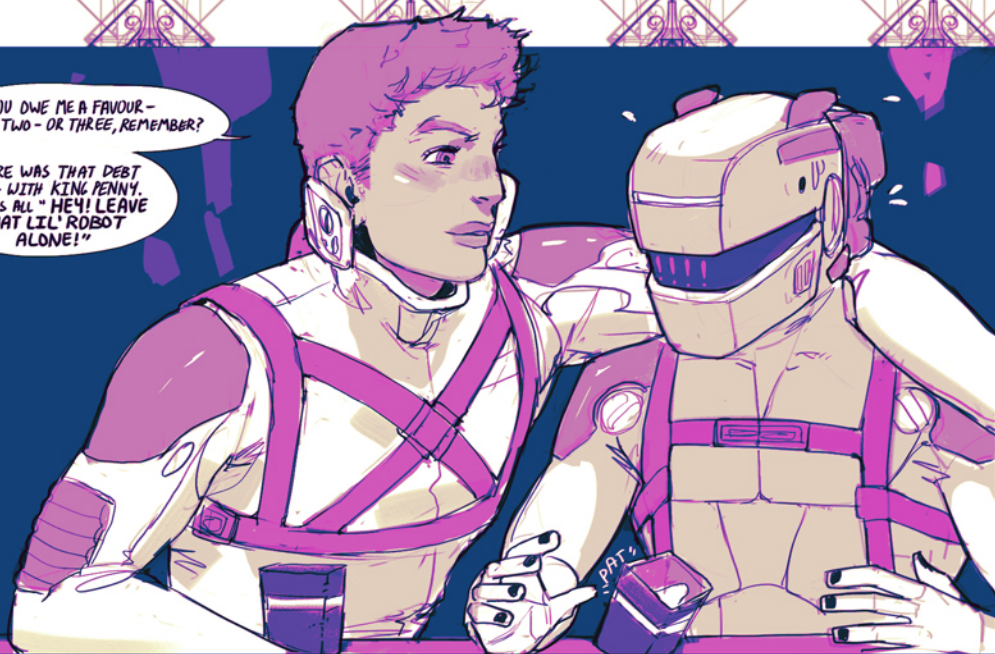
I REALLY REALLY
NEED THAT CONTAINER!
I WON'T EVEN KEEP IT!

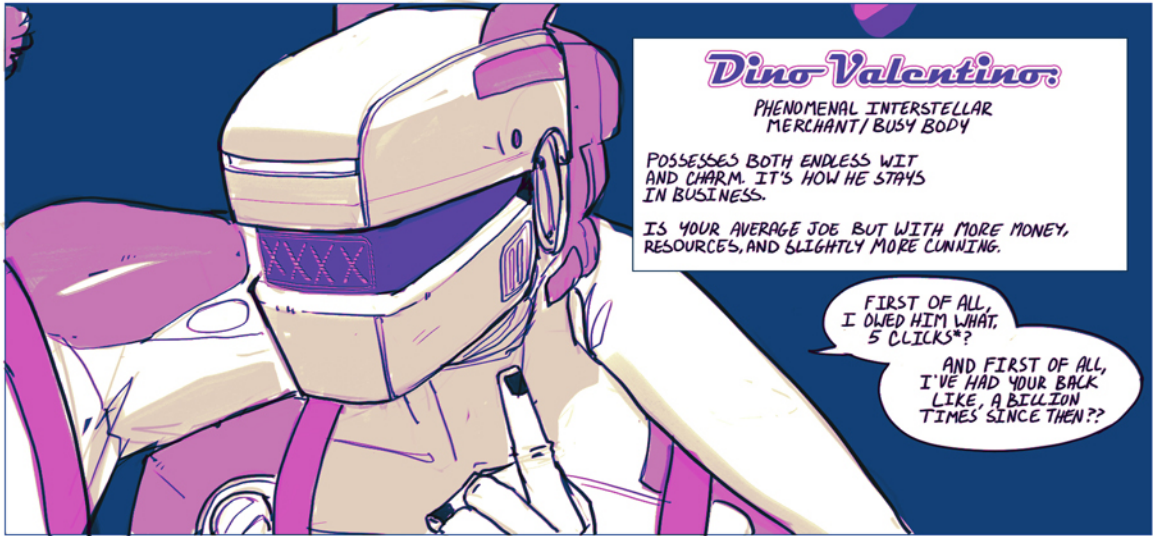
I'LL BRING IT
BACK NEXT TIME
WE HANG OUT.

I DON'T
BELIEVE YOU.

YOU OWE ME A FAVOUR -
OR TWO - OR THREE, REMEMBER?

THERE WAS THAT DEBT
THING WITH KING PENNY.
I WAS ALL "HEY! LEAVE
THAT LIL' ROBOT
ALONE!"





Dino Valentino

PHENOMENAL INTERSTELLAR
MERCHANT / BUSY BODY

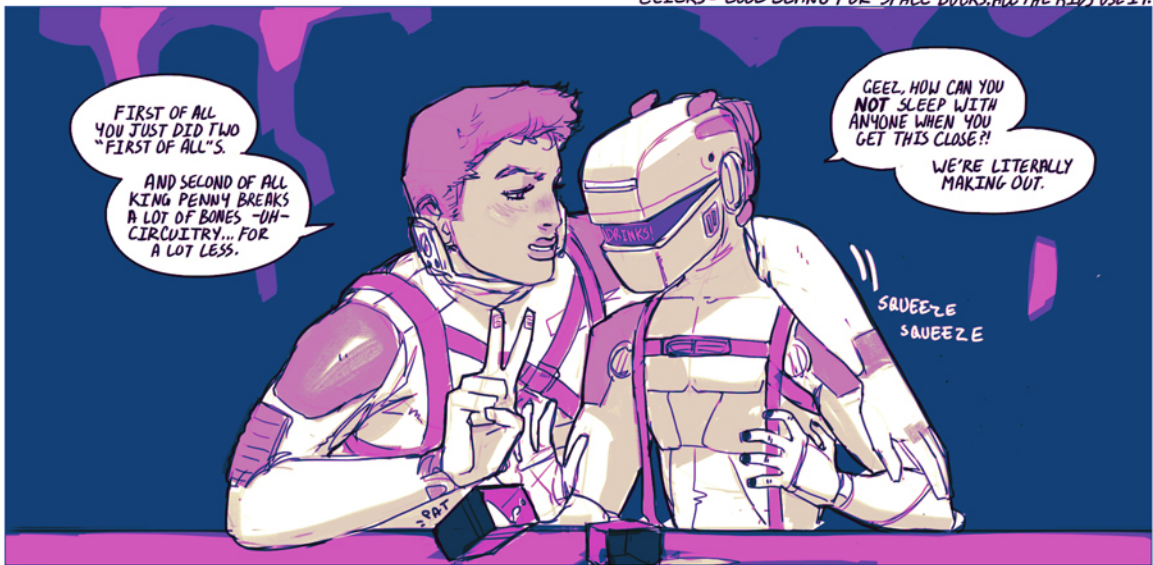
POSSESSES BOTH ENDLESS WIT
AND CHARM. IT'S HOW HE STAYS
IN BUSINESS.

IS YOUR AVERAGE JOE BUT WITH MORE MONEY,
RESOURCES, AND SLIGHTLY MORE CUNNING.

FIRST OF ALL,
I OWED HIM WHAT,
5 CLICKS*?

AND FIRST OF ALL,
I'VE HAD YOUR BACK
LIKE, A BILLION
TIMES SINCE THEN??

CLICKS = COOL SLANG FOR SPACE BUCKS. ALL THE KIDS USE IT.



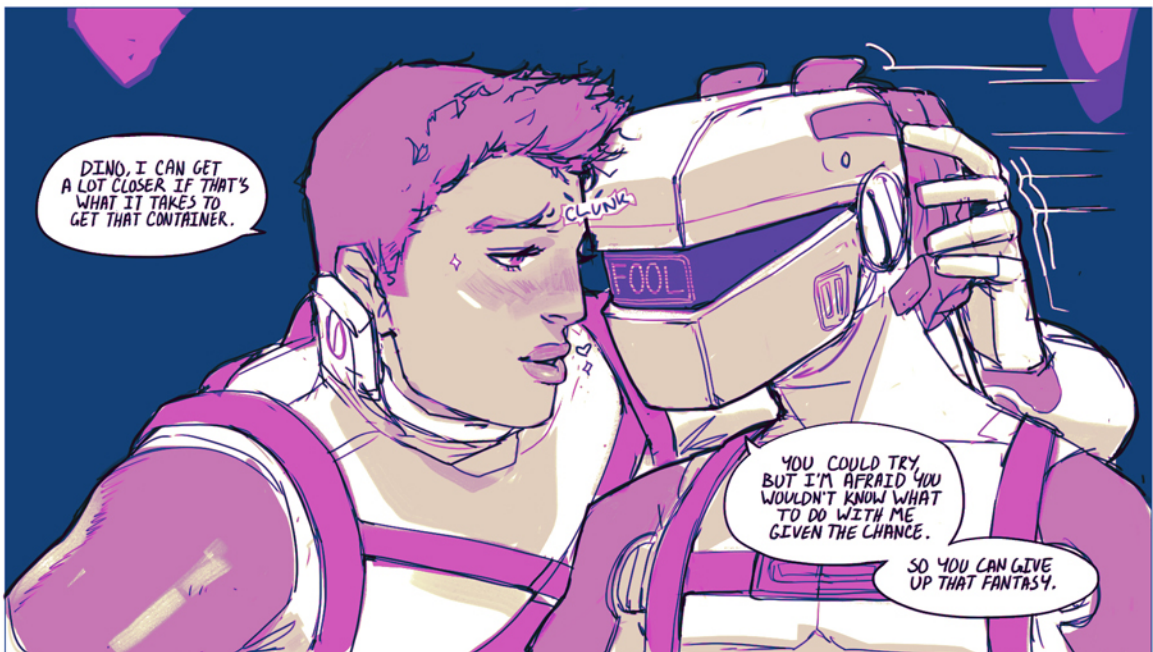
FIRST OF ALL
YOU JUST DID TWO
"FIRST OF ALL'S."

AND SECOND OF ALL
KING PENNY BREAKS
A LOT OF BONES -UH-
CIRCUITRY... FOR
A LOT LESS.

GEEZ, HOW CAN YOU
NOT SLEEP WITH
ANYONE WHEN YOU
GET THIS CLOSE?!

WE'RE LITERALLY
MAKING OUT.

SAVEEZE
SAAVEEZE



DINO, I CAN GET
A LOT CLOSER IF THAT'S
WHAT IT TAKES TO
GET THAT CONTAINER.

YOU COULD TRY,
BUT I'M AFRAID YOU
WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT
TO DO WITH ME
GIVEN THE CHANCE.

SO YOU CAN GIVE
UP THAT FANTASY.

HERE- IT'S A LITTLE OVERKILL
BUT IT'LL DO WHAT YOU NEED. IT CAN
CONTAIN TEMPERATURES UPWARD 15.7
MILL K'S. ONE OF THE BEST ANTI-
CONTAMINATE CONTAINERS OUT THERE.
RASHEKIAN IN DESIGN. THEY KNOW
A THING OR TWO ON SANITATION.

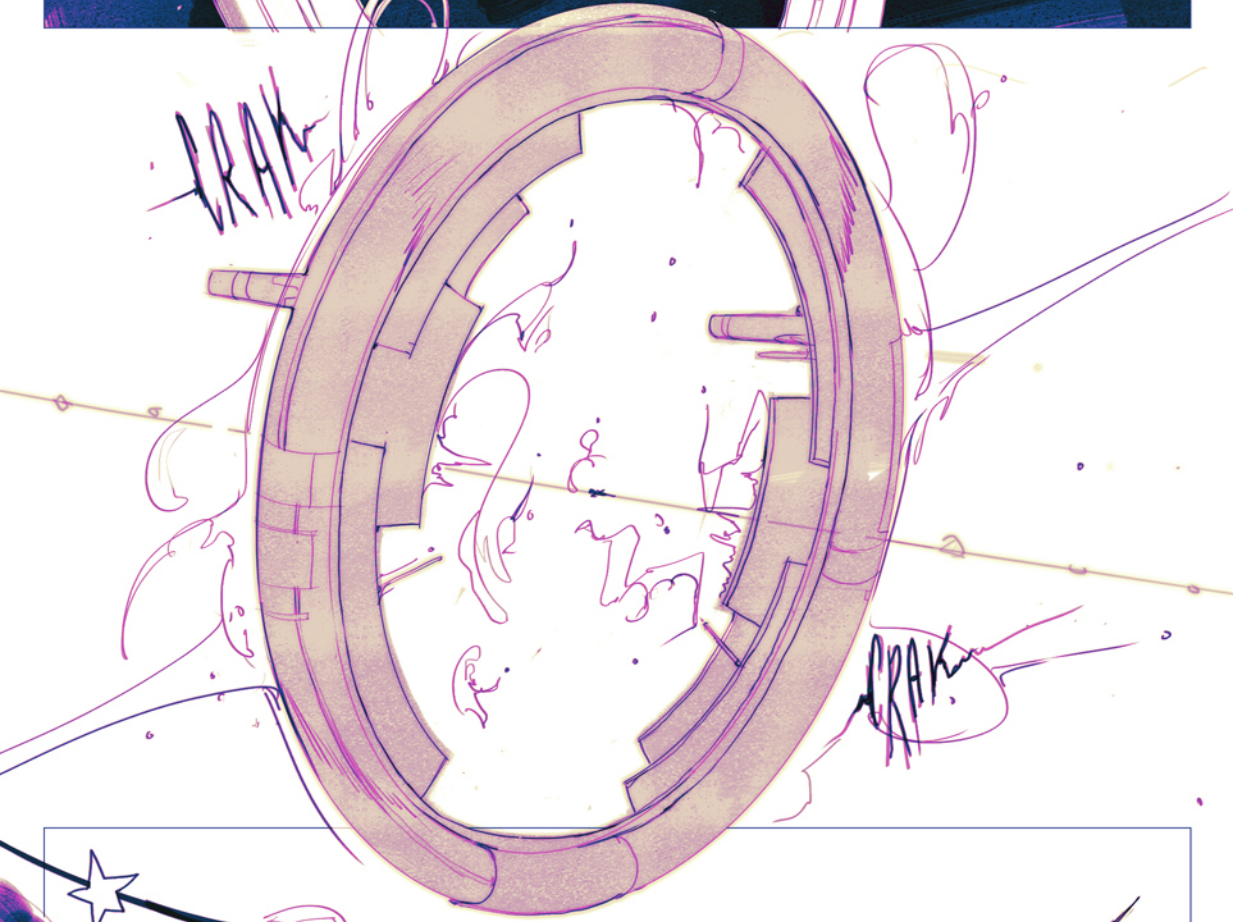
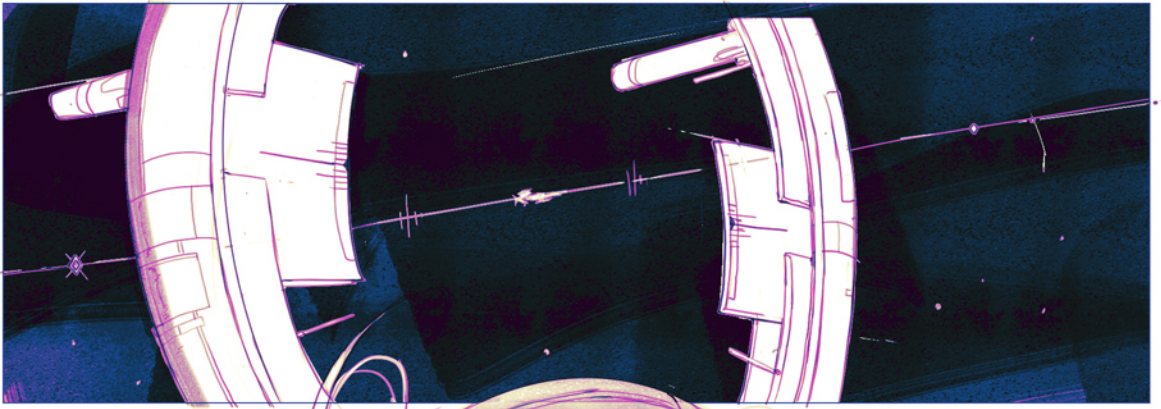
YOU CAN EVEN SINGLE OUT SPECIFIC
PARTICLES OR ELEMENTS AFTER YOU'VE
SEALED IT AND FORCE SEPARATION OR
EXPELL THEM ALL TOGETHER.

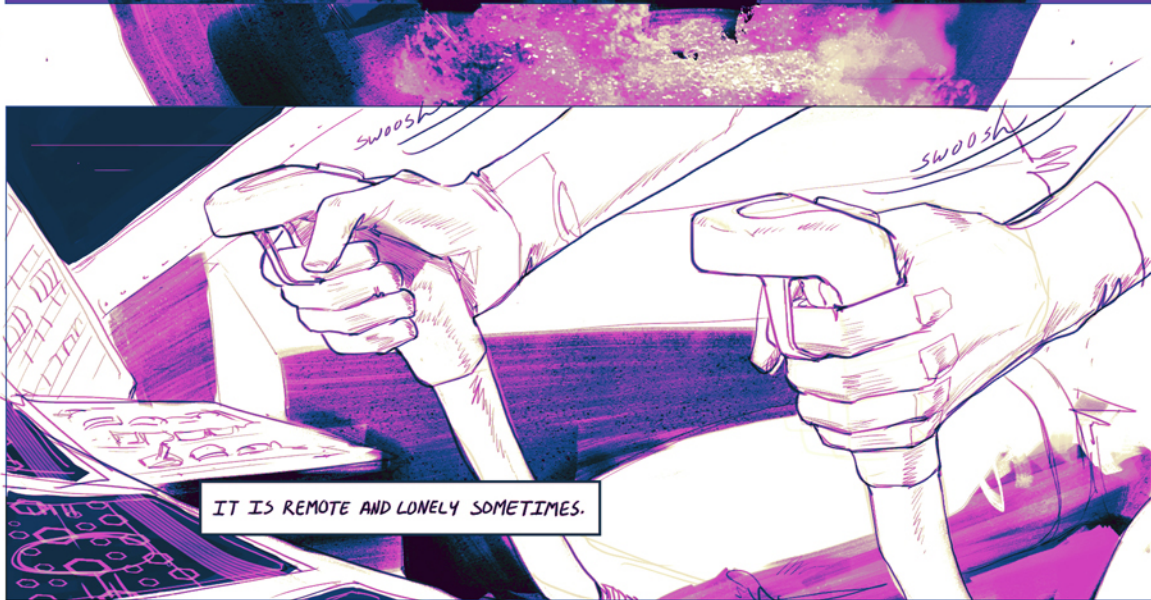
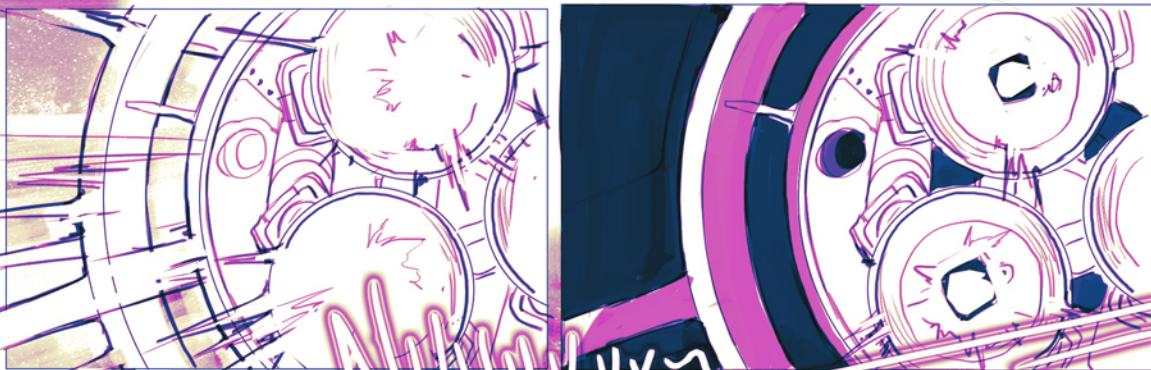
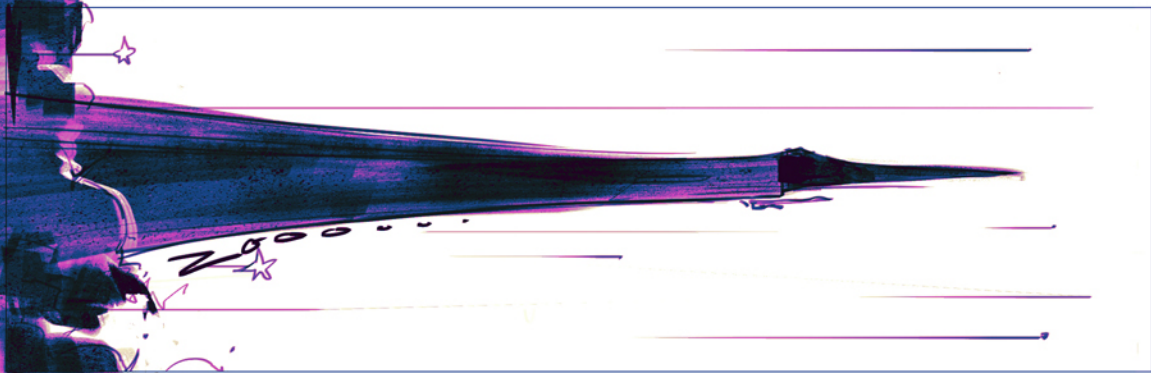
RATTLE RATTLE

I AM, WITHOUT
A DOUBT, FOREVER
GRATEFUL.

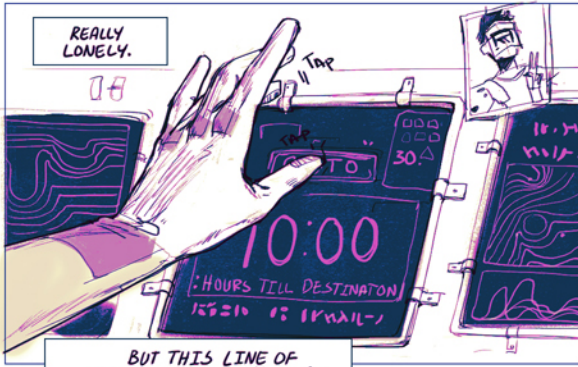
HOW LOVELY.

YOU CAN START SHOWING
YOUR GRATITUDE BY GETTING
ME ANOTHER ONE OF THESE
DRINKS YOU KNOCKED OVER
'CAUSE I AIN'T LICKIN' THIS
SHIT OFF THE BAR.





IT IS REMOTE AND LONELY SOMETIMES.



REALLY LONELY.

BUT THIS LINE OF WORK IS SOMETHING THAT GIVES ME PURPOSE. KNOWING THAT I'LL BE THE ONLY PERSON TO HAVE BEEN SOMEWHERE. EVER. IN THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE. IT MAKES ME FEEL IMPORTANT.

AND I GUESS BEING IMPORTANT IS... MORE IMPORTANT THAN JUST BEING.

IF THAT MAKES SENSE?

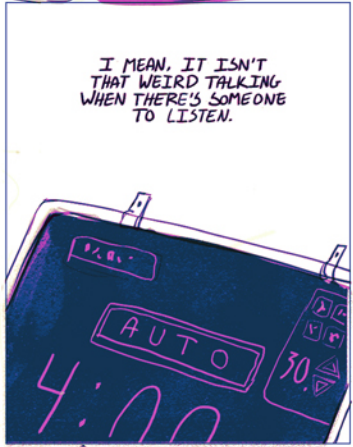
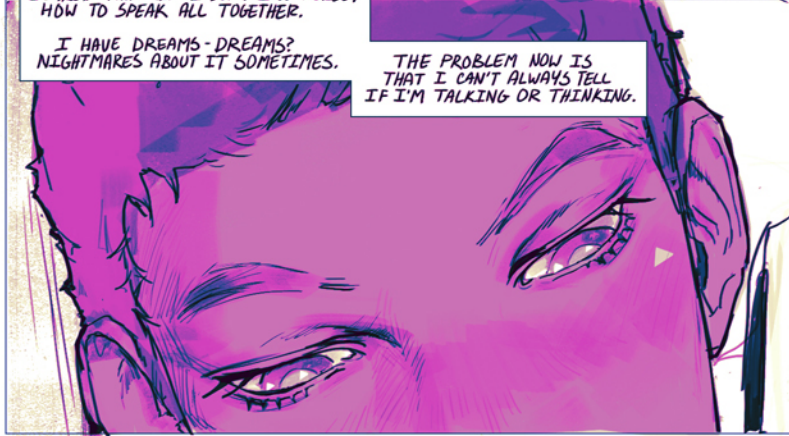


I'VE STARTED TO SPEAK MY THOUGHTS OUT LOUD 'CAUSE I GET SCARED THAT IF I DON'T I'LL FORGET HOW TO SPEAK ALL TOGETHER.

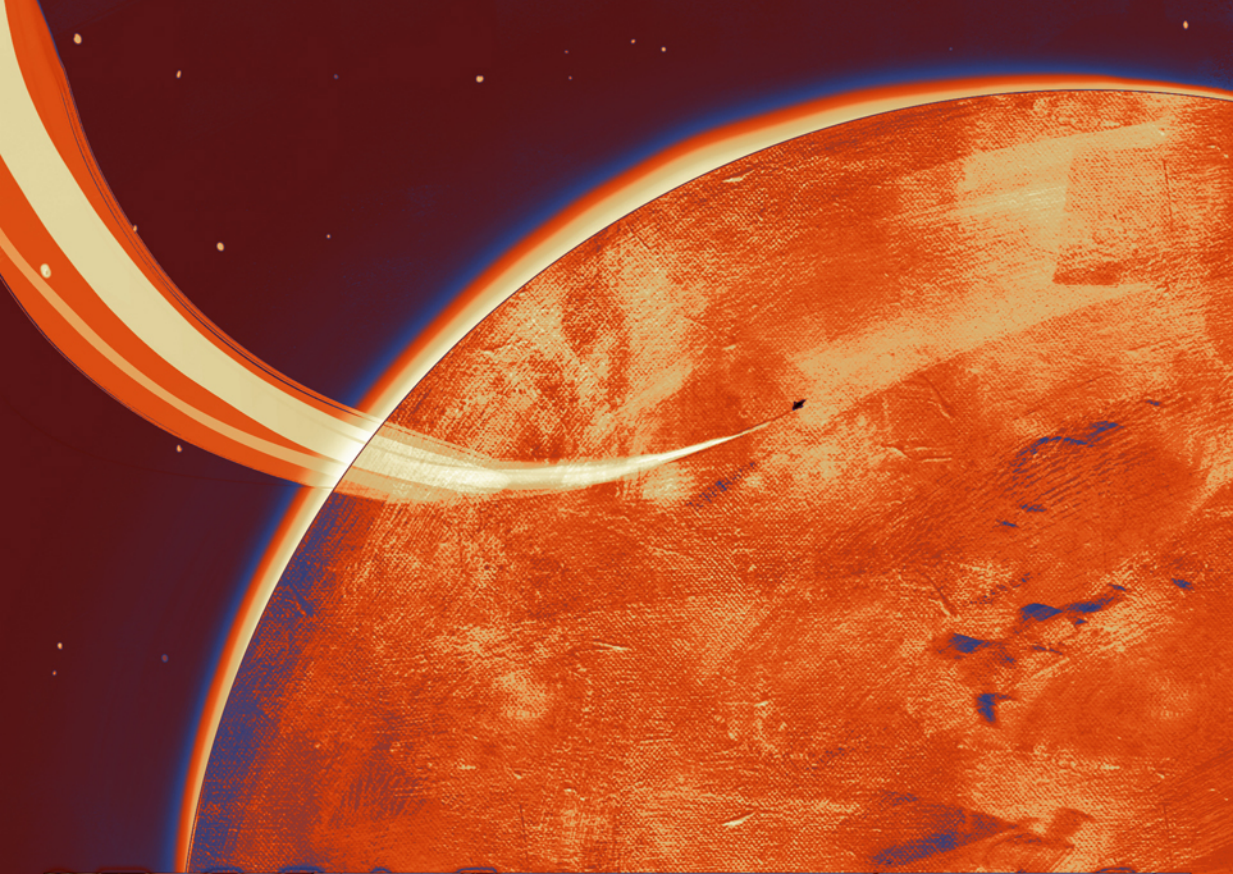
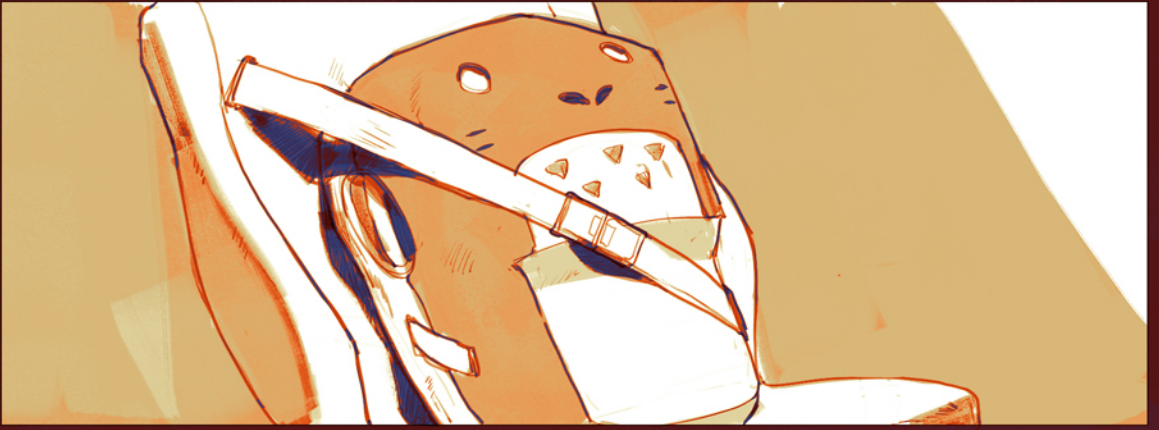
I HAVE DREAMS - DREAMS? NIGHTMARES ABOUT IT SOMETIMES.

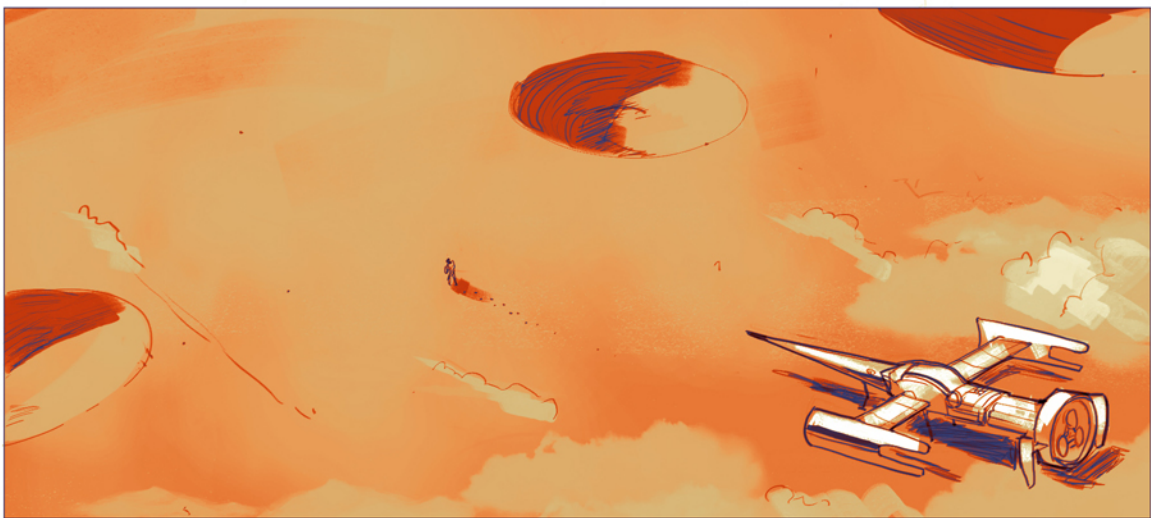
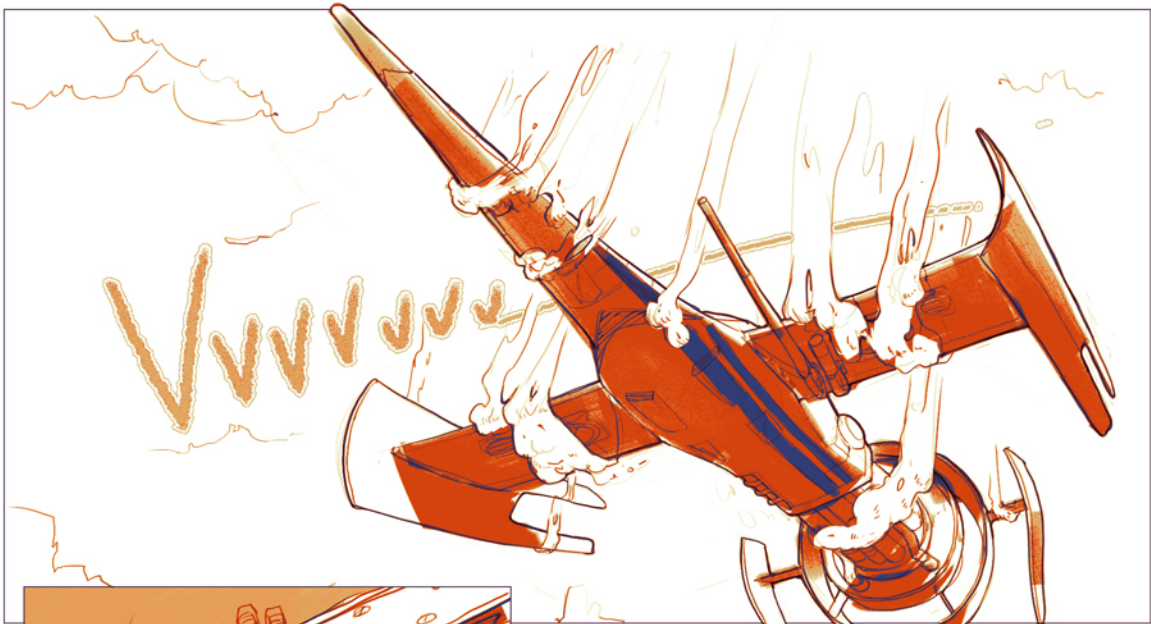
THE PROBLEM NOW IS THAT I CAN'T ALWAYS TELL IF I'M TALKING OR THINKING.

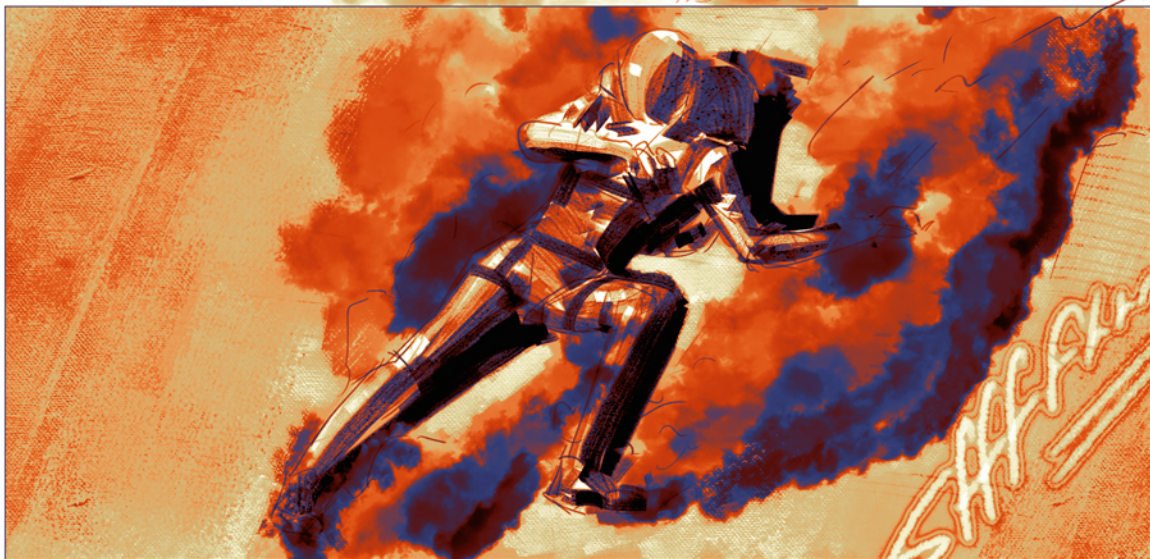
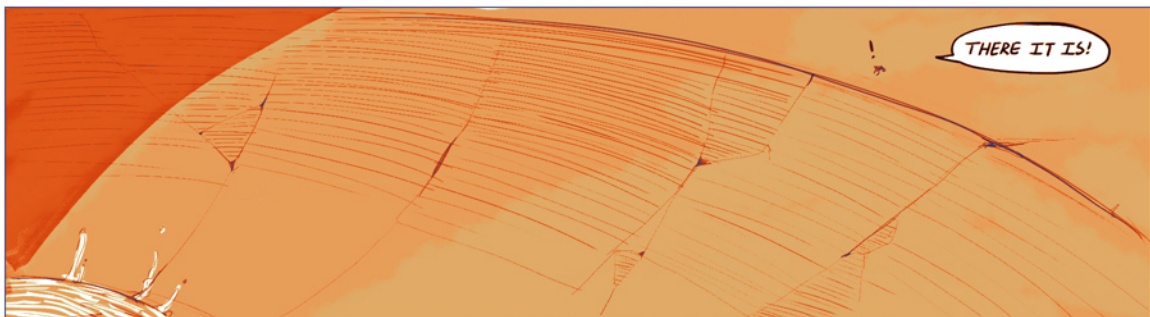
I MEAN, IT ISN'T THAT WEIRD TALKING WHEN THERE'S SOMEONE TO LISTEN.

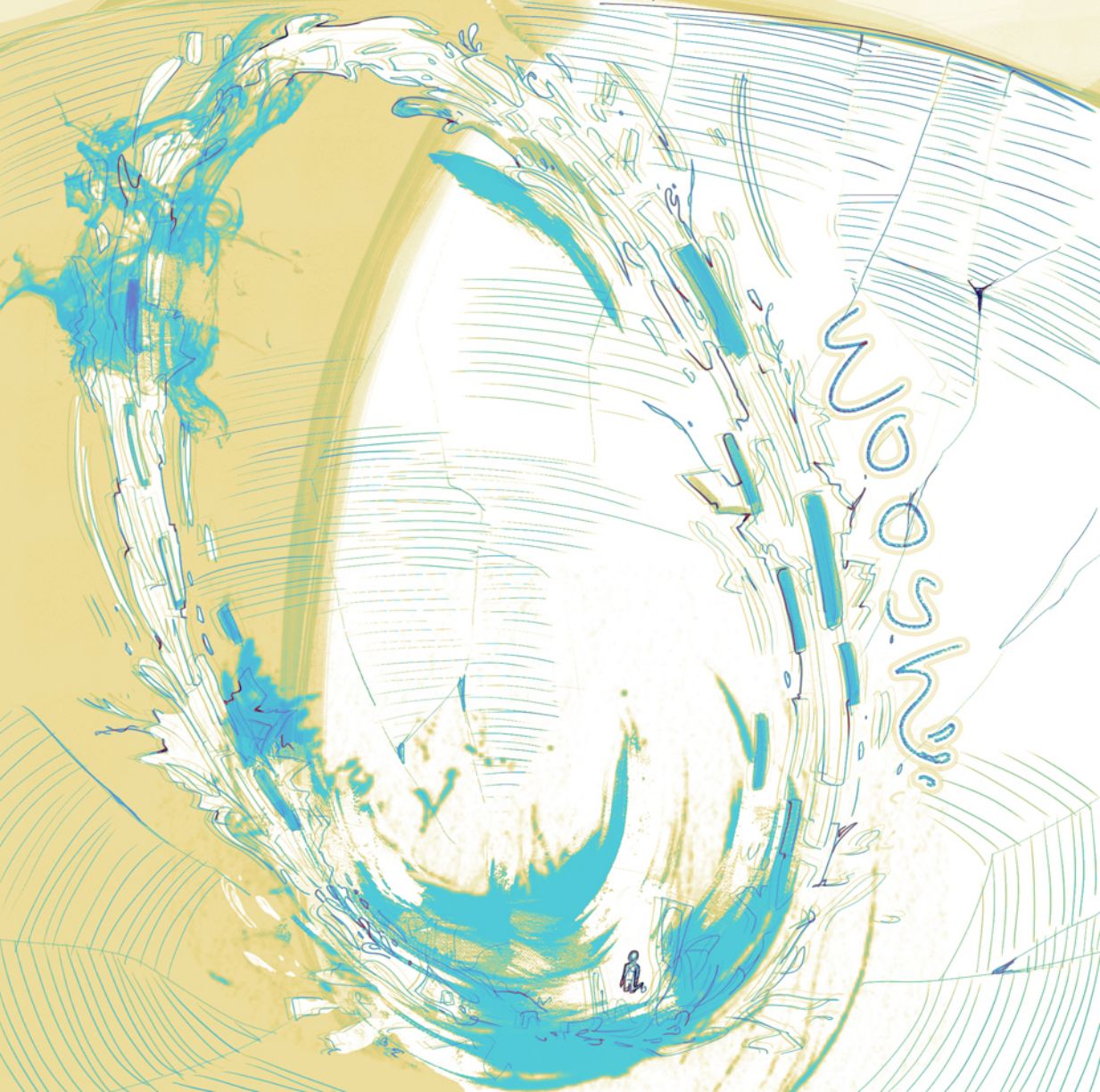
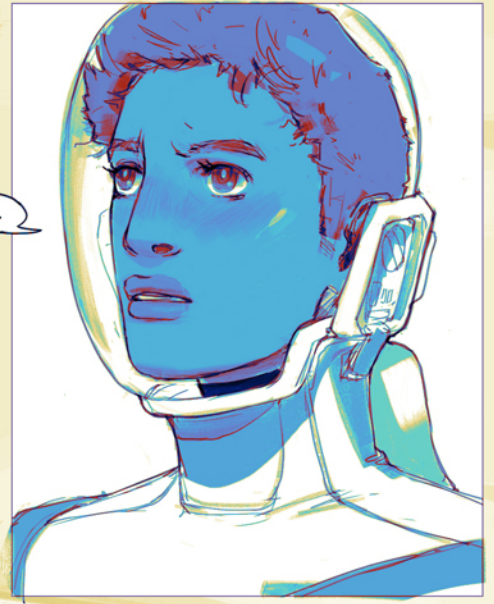
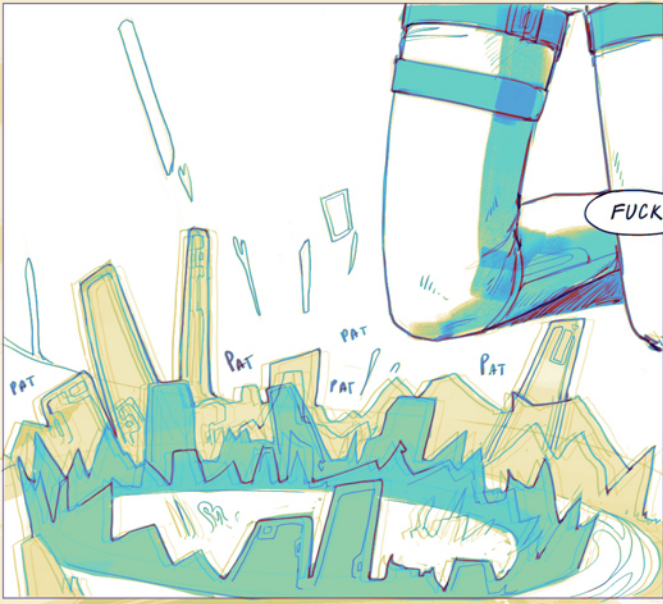


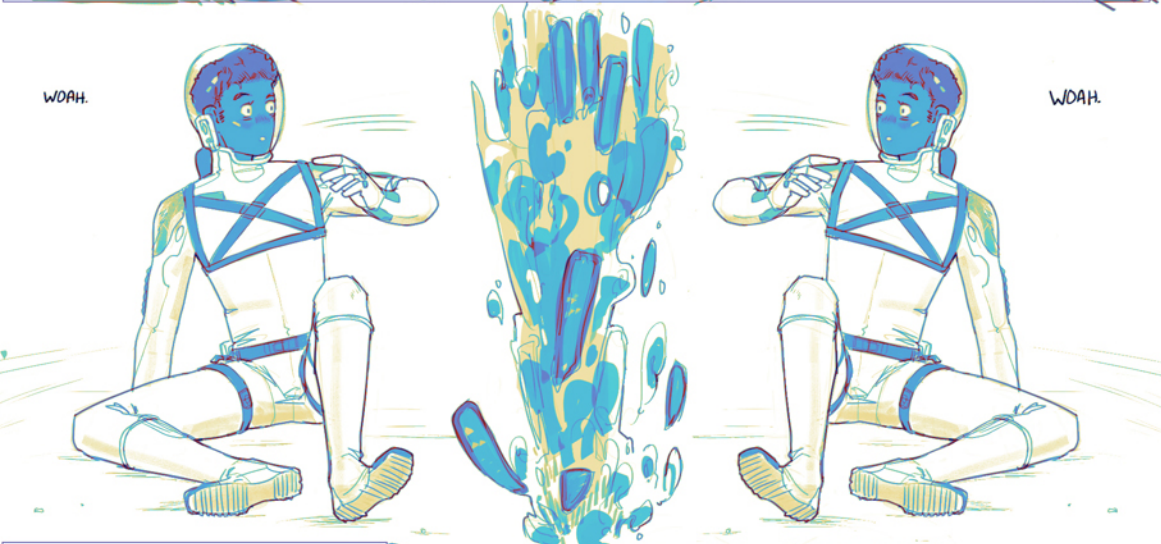
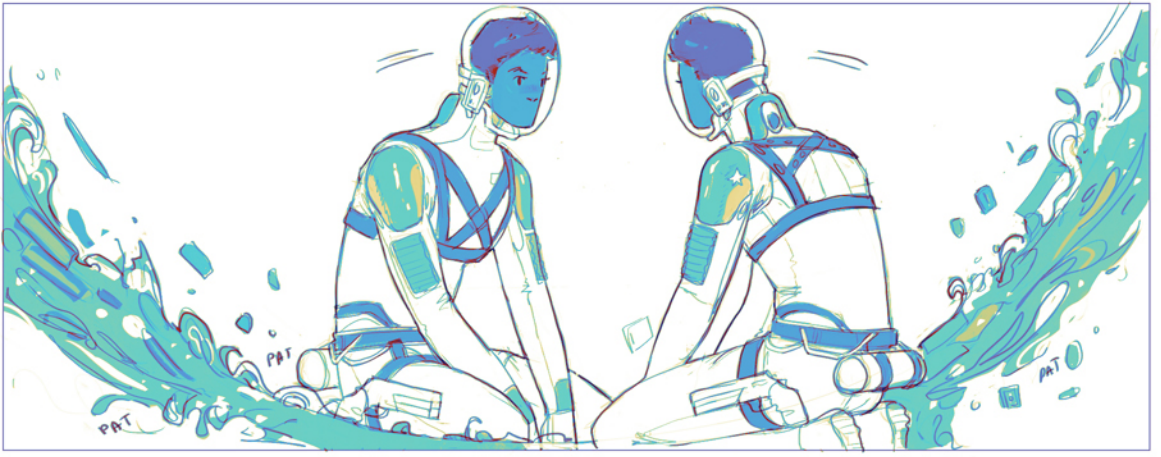
RIGHT CHUCHU?







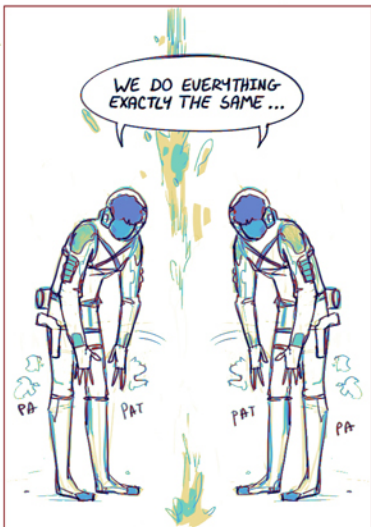






YOU'RE REAL!
LIKE, REAL REAL!
REALLY ALIVE REAL!

YOU'RE REAL!
LIKE, REAL REAL!
REALLY ALIVE REAL!



WE DO EVERYTHING
EXACTLY THE SAME ...



BECAUSE WE'RE EXACTLY
THE SAME PERSON!

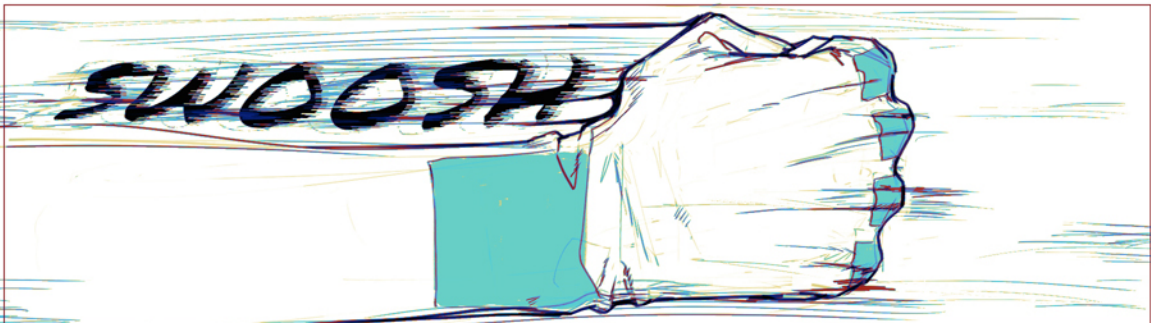


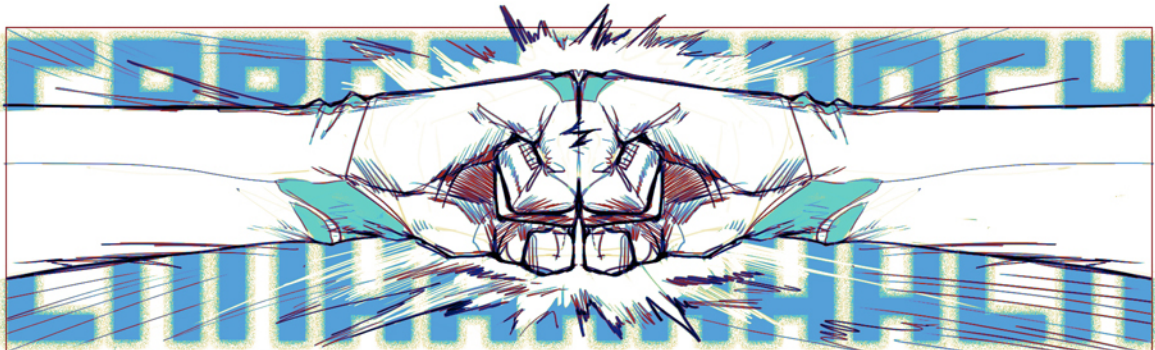
INCREDIBLE!
THIS BRINGS
"TALKING TO MYSELF"
TO NEW HEIGHTS.



AND BEING EXACTLY
THE SAME PERSON MEANS
WE BOTH WANT THE
SAME THING.

SUCH AS SEEING
WHAT'S ON THE OTHER
SIDE, TO BEGIN
WITH.





THAT PROVES
THAT THEORY.



HOW ARE WE
GOING TO MANAGE
THAT IF WE'LL
ALWAYS BUMP INTO
EACH OTHER?

THAT WAS
THE WORST
IDEA.



WHAT IF YOU GO LEFT
AND I GO RIGHT?
NO, NO, NO— YOU GO—
NO, YOU GO LEFT—

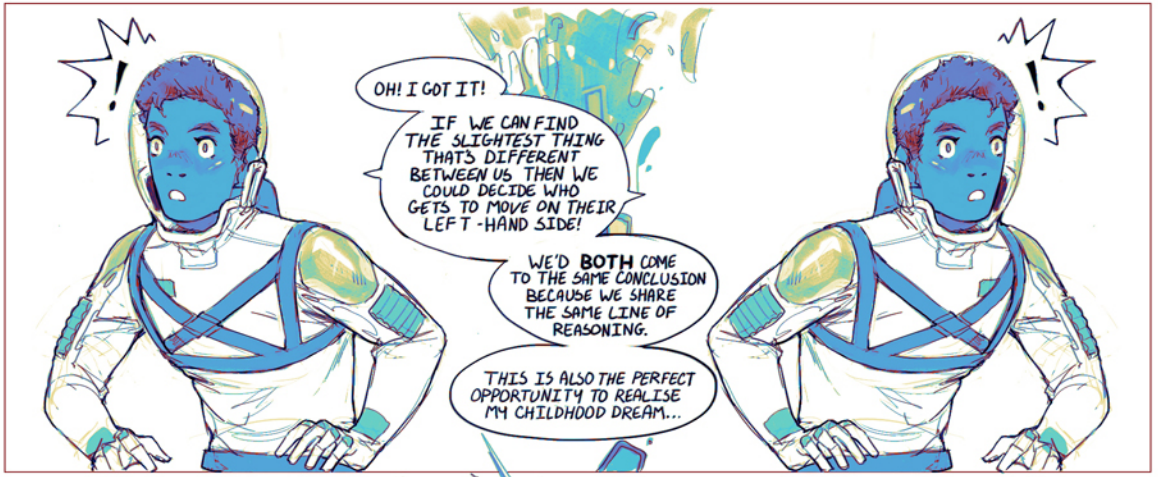
WHAT IF I—
NO, I GO RIGHT AND
YOU GO—



ARR GHHH!

IT WOULDN'T EVEN
WORK BECAUSE THE
"LEFT" SIDE IS STILL
ON THE SAME SIDE
EITHER WAY!

WE BOTH THINK
WE'RE LEFT HANDED.



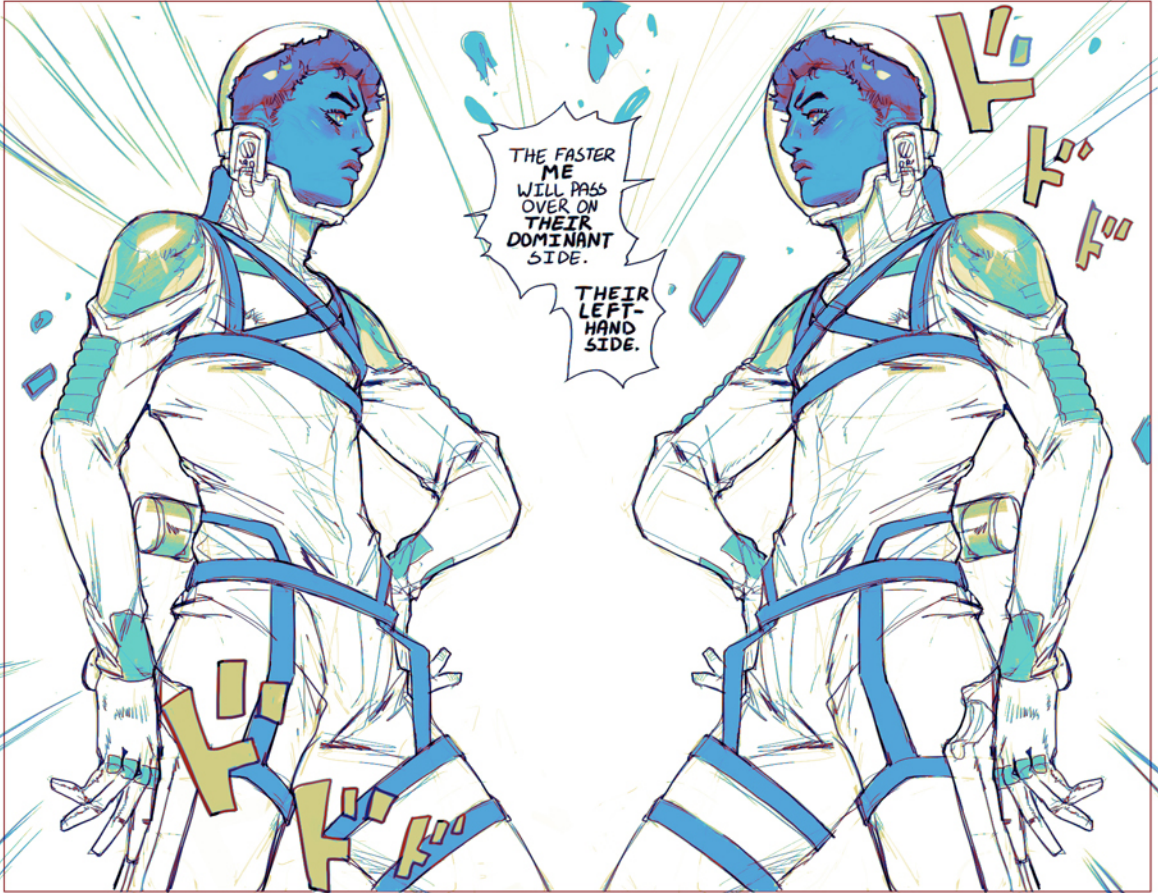
OH! I GOT IT!
IF WE CAN FIND
THE SLIGHTEST THING
THAT'S DIFFERENT
BETWEEN US, THEN WE
COULD DECIDE WHO
GETS TO MOVE ON THEIR
LEFT-HAND SIDE!

WE'D **BOTH** COME
TO THE SAME CONCLUSION
BECAUSE WE SHARE
THE SAME LINE OF
REASONING.

THIS IS ALSO THE PERFECT
OPPORTUNITY TO REALISE
MY CHILDHOOD DREAM...

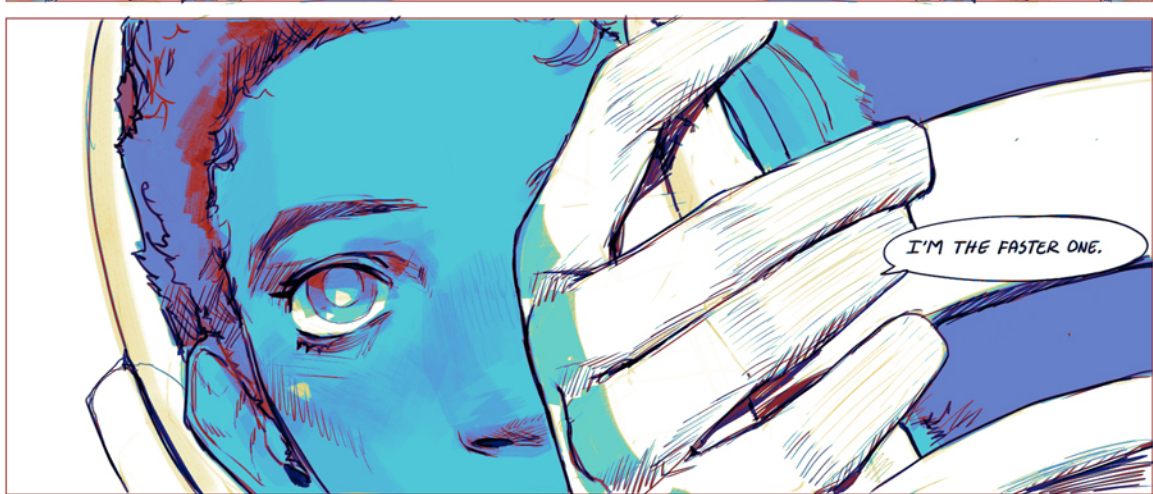
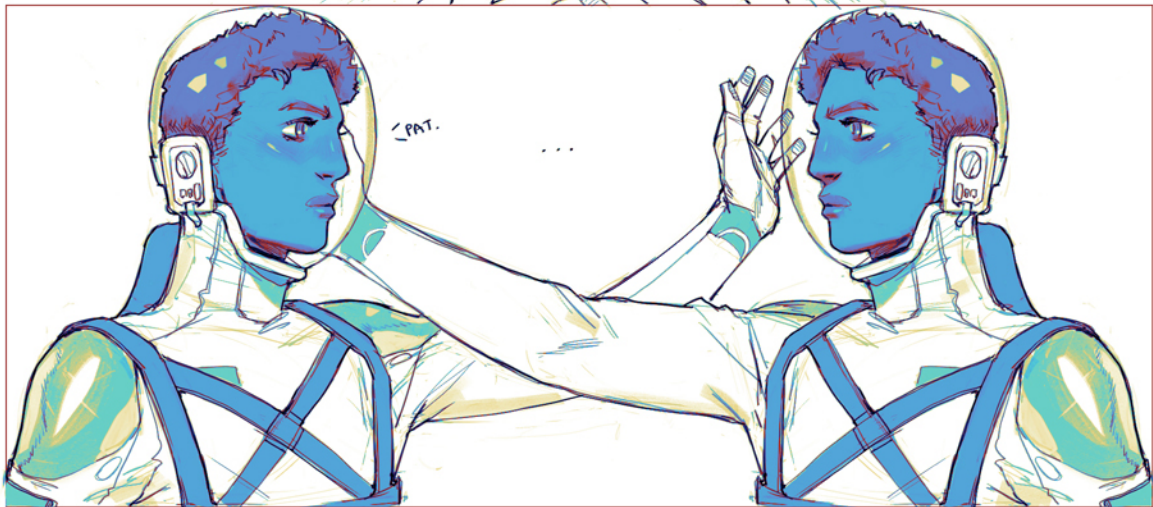
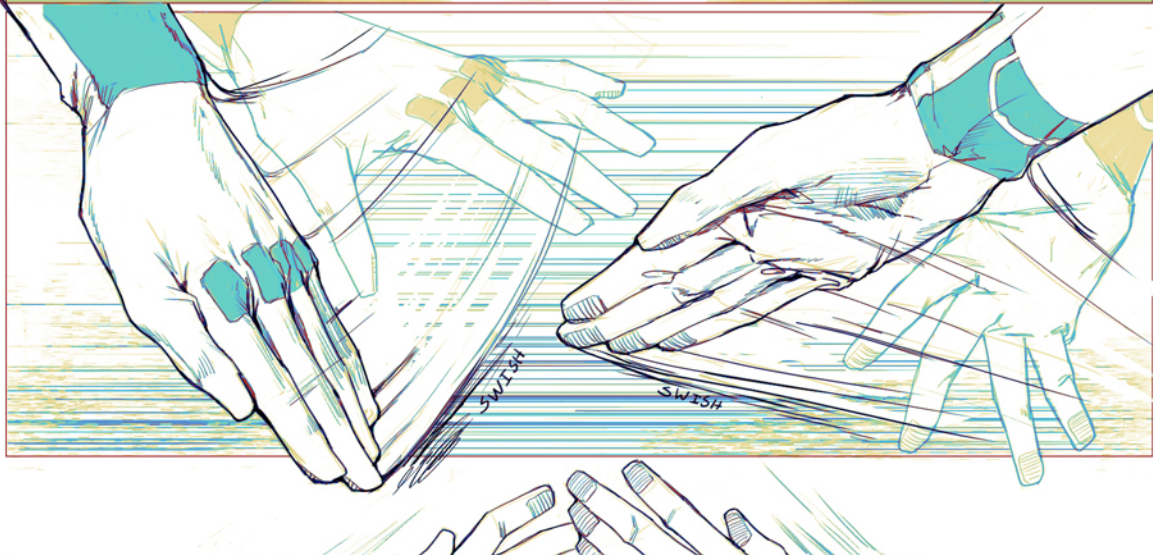
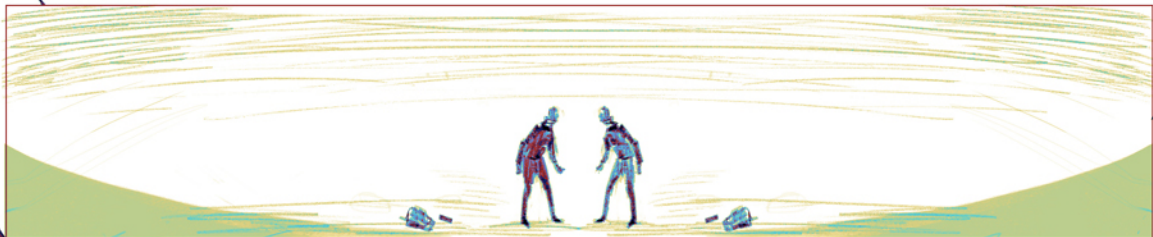


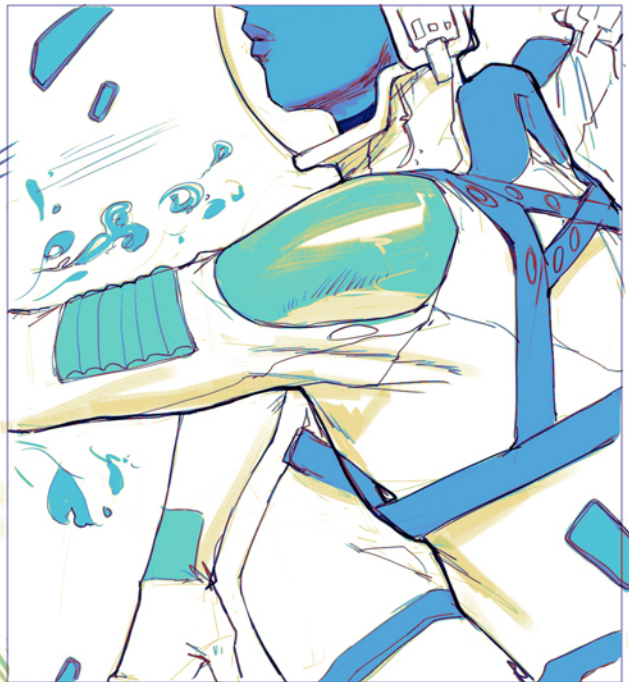
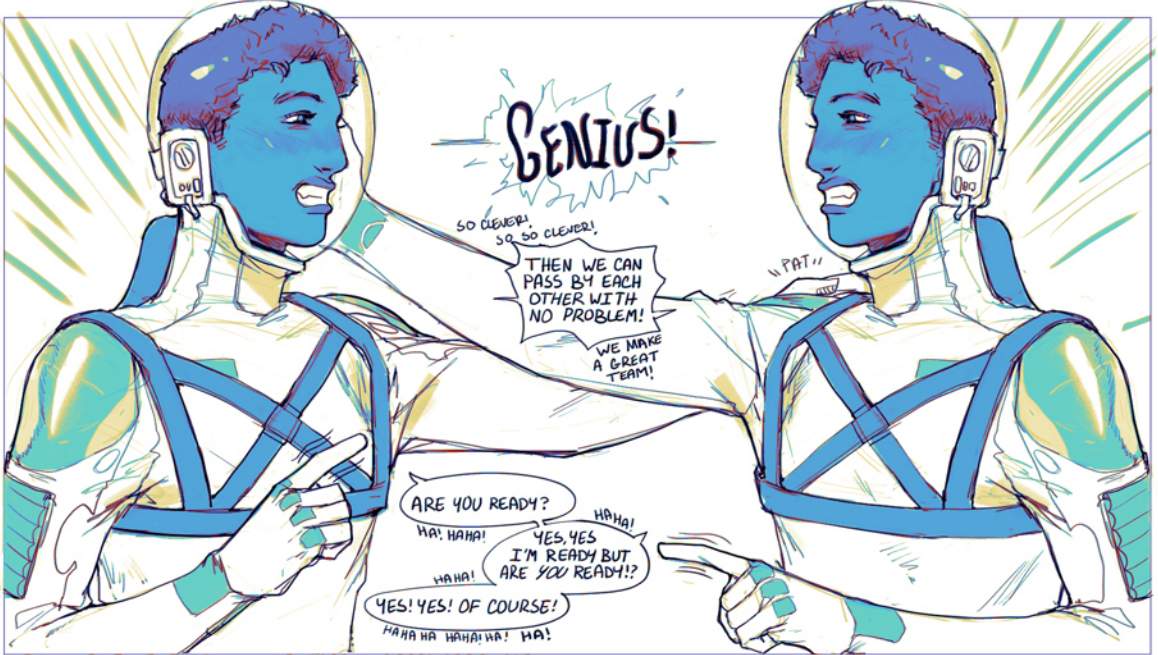
OF MOVING FASTER
THAN MY REFLECTION!



THE FASTER
ME
WILL PASS
OVER ON
THEIR
DOMINANT
SIDE.

THEIR
LEFT-
HAND
SIDE.

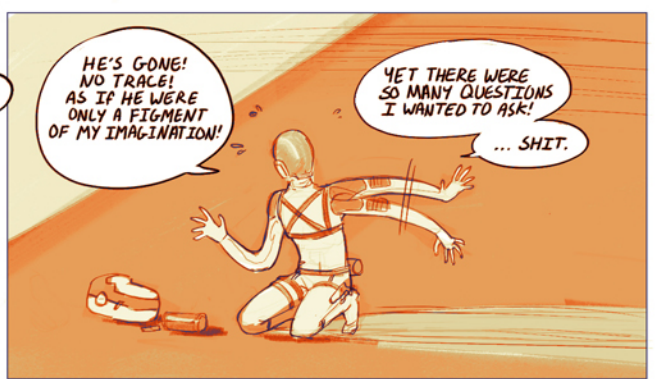


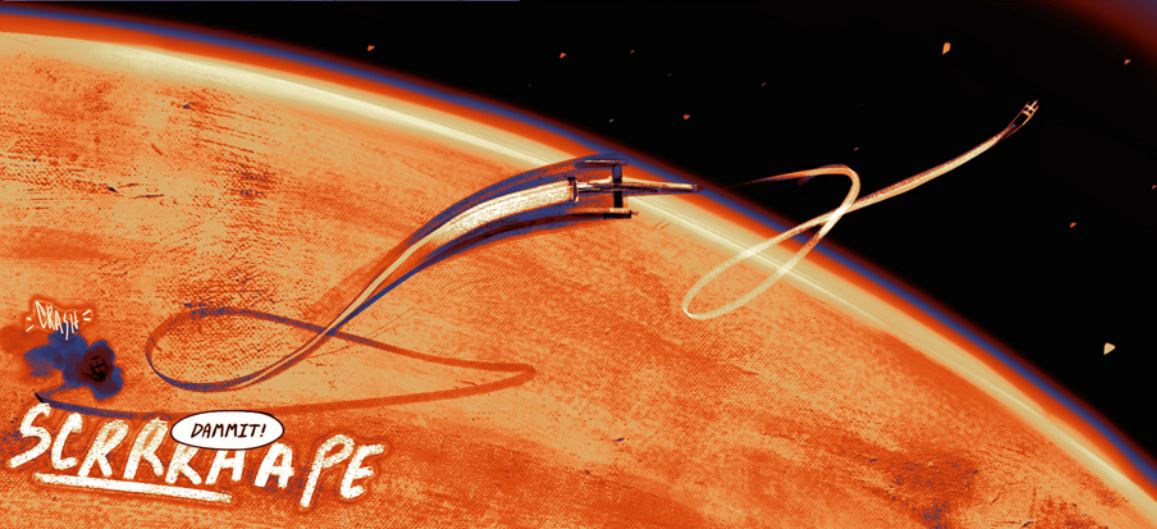
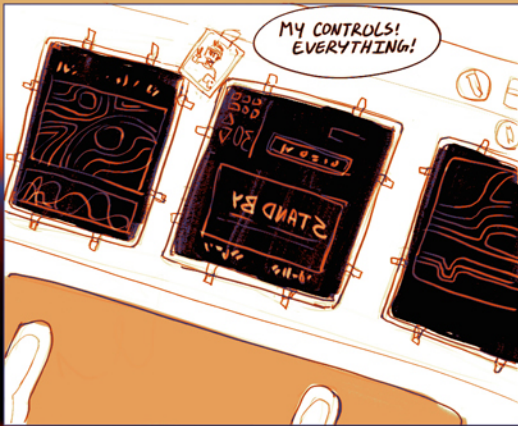
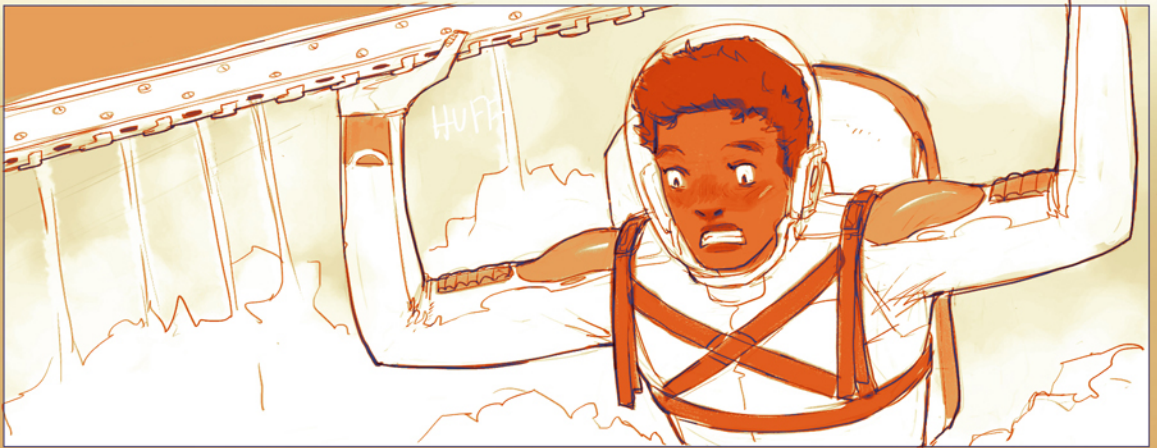






the 30a
zyouu







AND YOU.

고크

이제 고크를
다시 보라



YOU'RE NOT EVEN THE REAL CHUCHU.



BUT THAT'S OKAY. I KNOW THE OTHER ME WILL TAKE CARE OF MY CHUCHU.

I'LL DO MY BEST TO TAKE CARE OF YOU TOO.

THE S.S.A. CORPORATION - NOW KNOWN AS THE "A.S.S. CORPORATION" TO AVERY.

ONE OF THE MANY CLIENTS THAT SEEK AVERY'S COMBINATION OF SCIENTIFIC BACKGROUND AND RISK-TAKING NATURE.

A.S.S.

MANY SCIENTISTS AND EXPLORERS LEAD OUT THEIR EXPERTISE FOR THOSE LESS COURAGEOUS* OR LOADED WITH CLICKS AND RESOURCES.

THEY, AND AVERY, ARE KNOWN AS "I.S.E.G.".

* THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN COURAGE AND STUPIDITY. AVERY IS A LONG-TIME RESIDENT THERE.

Megan Kelhwa:

S.S.A. CORRESPONDENT

IS A NICE PERSON. SMARTER THAN THOSE SMARTER THAN YOUR AVERAGE JOE.

HAS A TWO HEADED CAT NAMED "BOOGIE" AND "WOOGIE".

...AND IF I DO THIS?

BEEP.

NOTHING.

AND THIS? ...

BEEP.

NOTHING!
THERE'S NOTHING
HERE!

WATER...
IT'S JUST WATER.

CLICK
CLICK

CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

CLICK

WATER?
WHAT ABOUT THE
PORTAL THING?

ISN'T IT BAD
TO USE SCREENS IN
THE PARK?

WE'RE NOT GETTING
PAID FOR PORTALS, AVERY.
YOU KNOW HOW THIS
SHOW RUNS.

THE GUYS
UPSTAIRS ONLY
CARE IF THEY GET
EXACTLY WHAT
THEY WANT.

HOW MUCH
DOES WATER
SELL FOR?

1 CREDIT* AND
67 BITS.

... WATER...

* CREDITS BEING HOW NORMAL, NON-COOL PEOPLE REFER TO CURRENCY. BITS BEING A DENOMINATION SMALLER THAN THAT OF A CREDIT.

WATER.

IS THAT PER DROP?
OUNCE? LITRE?

NOO

NOO

LITRE.

HOW CAN YOU
NOT KNOW THIS?

HMM. BEST NOT
TO QUIT THIS
JOB JUST YET.

AVERY...
WHY DIDN'T YOU
CHECK THE CONTENTS
BEFORE GIVING THEM
TO ME?

WASN'T IN
THE JOB
DESCRIPTION.

END

I, UH... THOUGHT
YOU WERE LEFT-
HANDED?

I AM.



