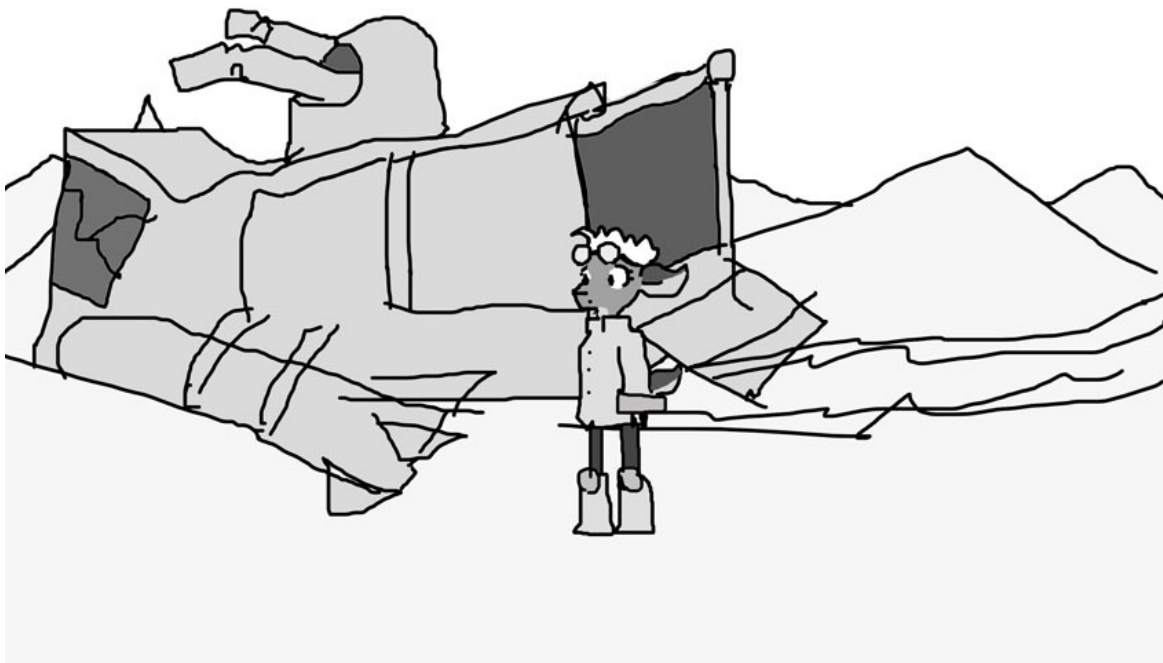


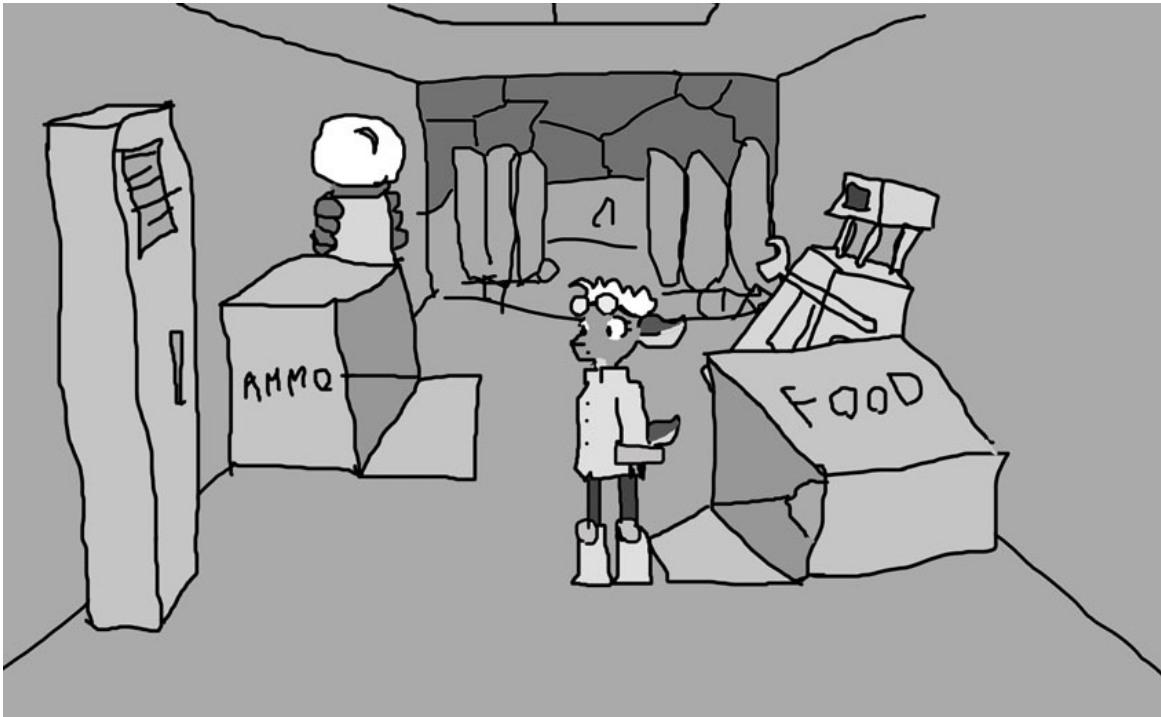
CRASH QUEST



(I'm new to this, so stop me If I do something wrong)



you are ace pilot Oken
you have crashed behind enemy lines
thier soldiers are everywhere
your gunner and engineer are missing
what do you do



you enter your broken starship

almost all the supplies are gone

you find no survival kit

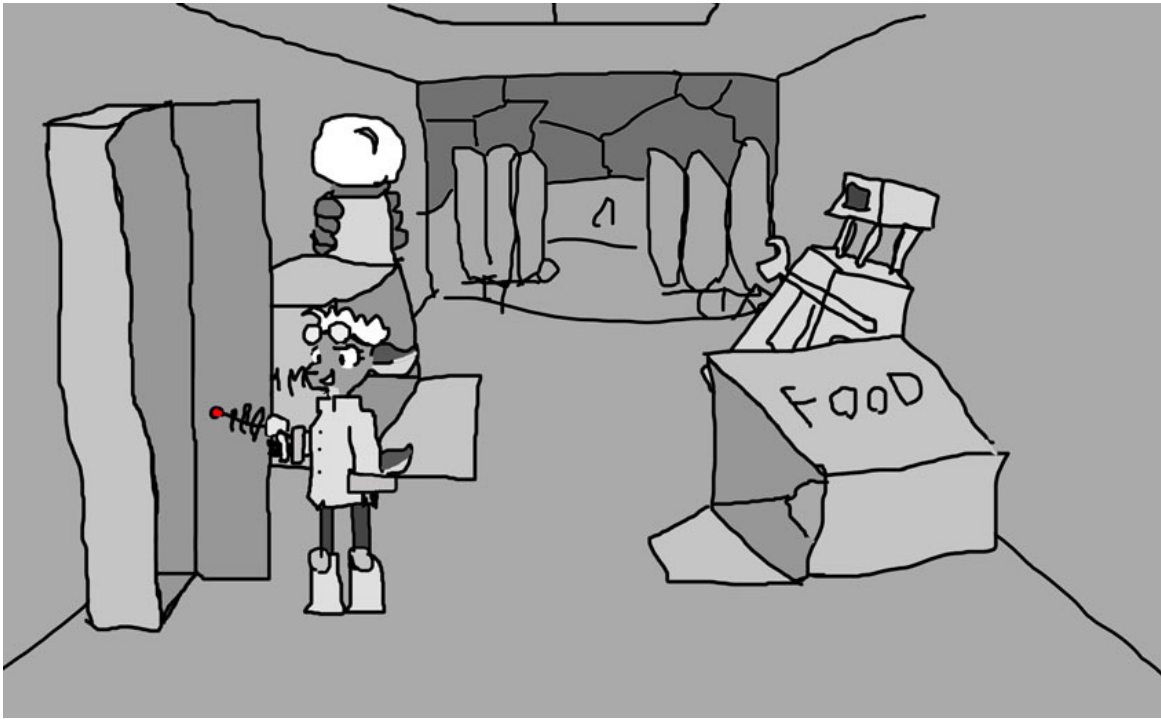
your "friends" must have parachuted out when your ship got hit

they probably took all the kits with them

there might be a weapon in Hof's locker, but

he gets real mad when you touch his stuff

what do you do?



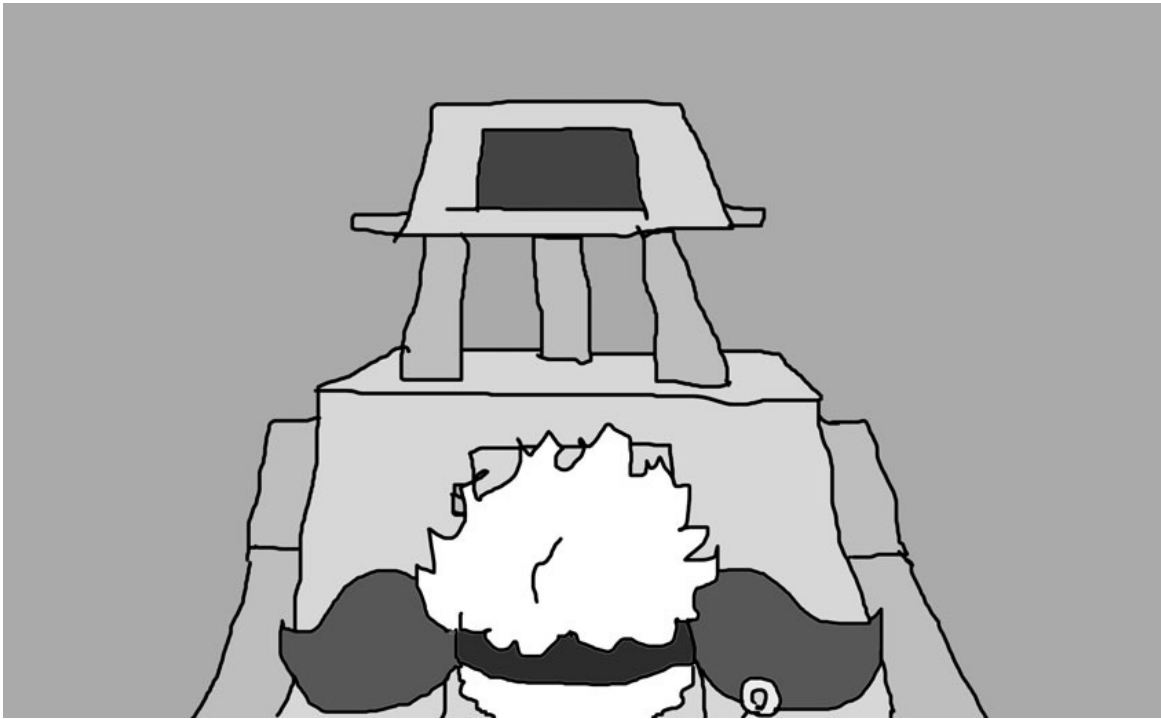
yeah! screw Hoft! he's a jerk, I'm gonna take his stuff!

inside the locker you find a RAYGUN!
it has 10 shots before it will need a new battery

you feel dangerous, now what?

Prince, your ship's robot
poor Prince I guess he was too heavy to use a
parachute

it's seems the crash knocked him offline
he doesn't seem too damaged though

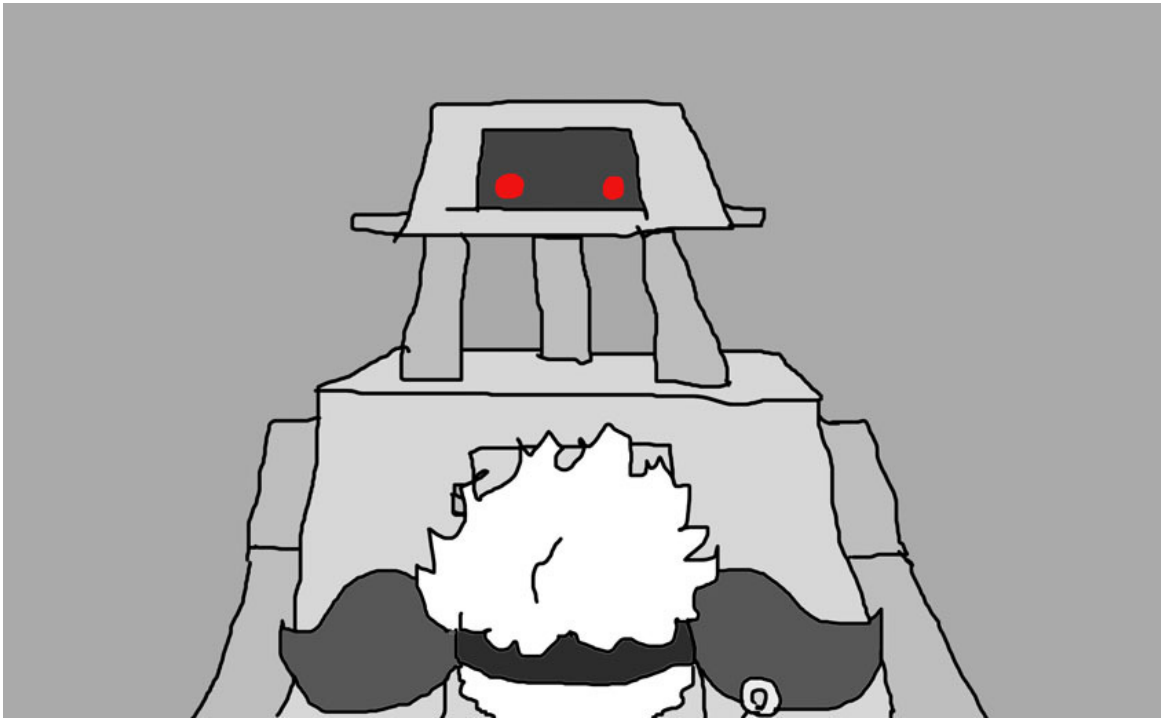


(posted wrong size)



you've seen Mint fix Prince dozens of times
you think he only needs to be rebooted
it shouldn't take long
how hard can it be?

but Mint did order you not
to touch anything on him



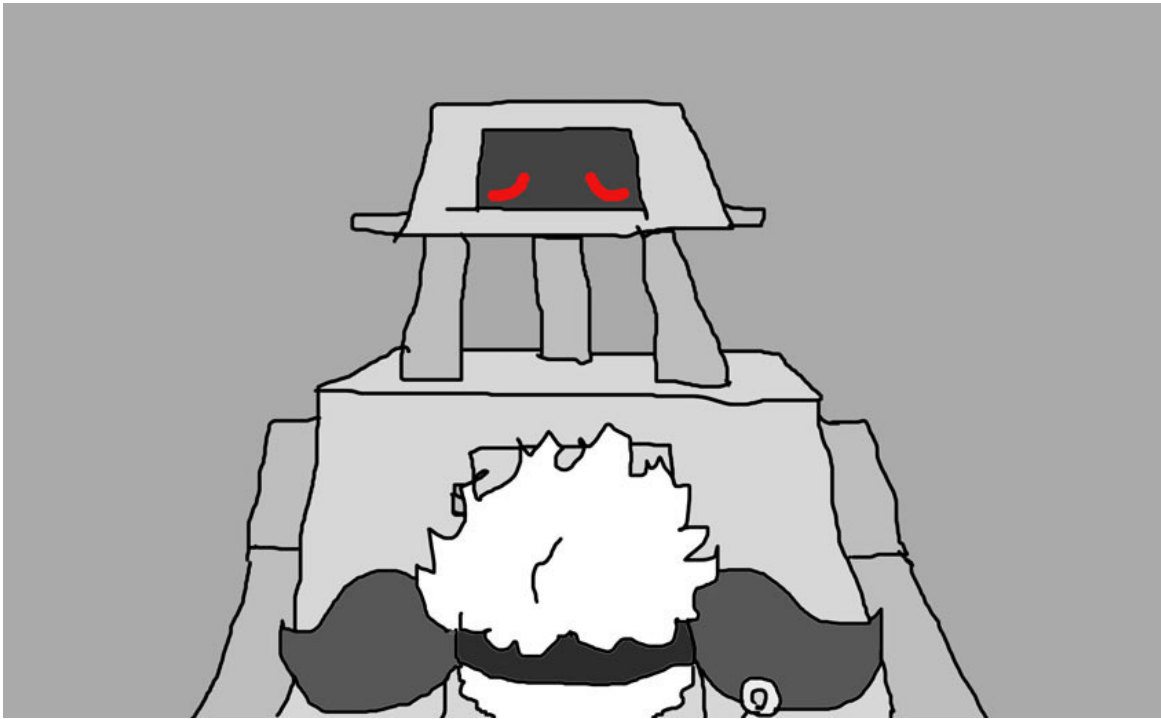
"yeah! screw Mint too, she can suck it!"
you open up Prince and fiddle with his mechanics

DING DENG DONG

Prince: SYSTEMS ONLINE, ROBOT READY!

Oken?, where is Mint? did you turn me on
you are not otherized to do that!
the ship is damaged, critically so
where is Mint she will not be pleased
about this, you will be suspended . . .

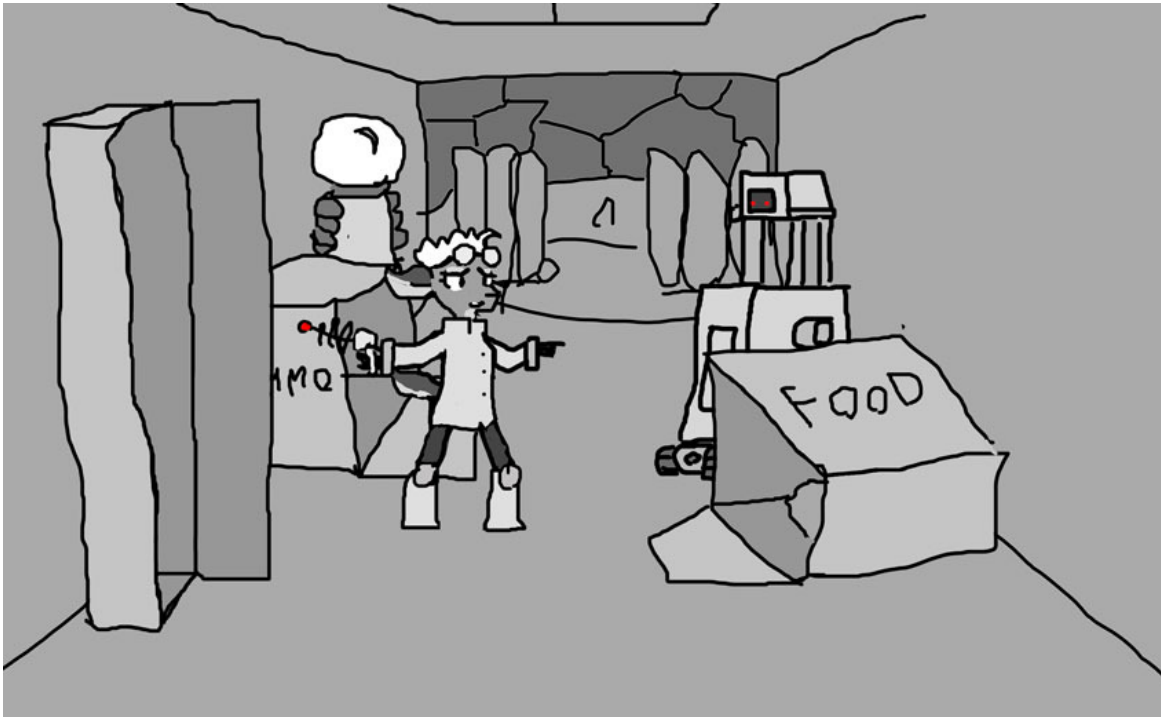
Prince continues to rattle on



of course I'm an Ace Pilot! haven't seen my awesome Pilot's goggles?

Oken: Prince, we crashed, the pinkies shot us down, Mint and Hoft abandoned us here to die.
they're probably dead themselves
I need you're help Prince

Prince: . . . I see
it is clear our mission has failed, we are doomed.
apon your order I will terminate you,
I will terminate the ship, and I will terminate myself, the enemy will never recieve our technology

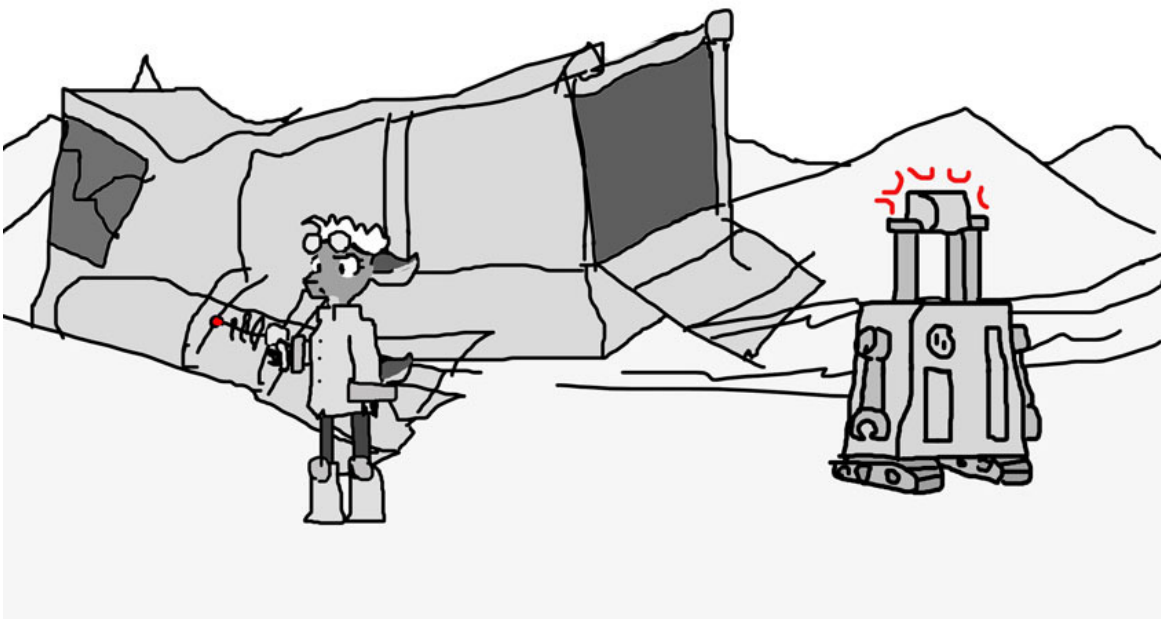


Oken: Prince, that is not help.
I need you to gather any supplies left here
then you can blow up the ship

but not us! got that?

Prince: . . .Orders recieved,

Prince has joined the party!

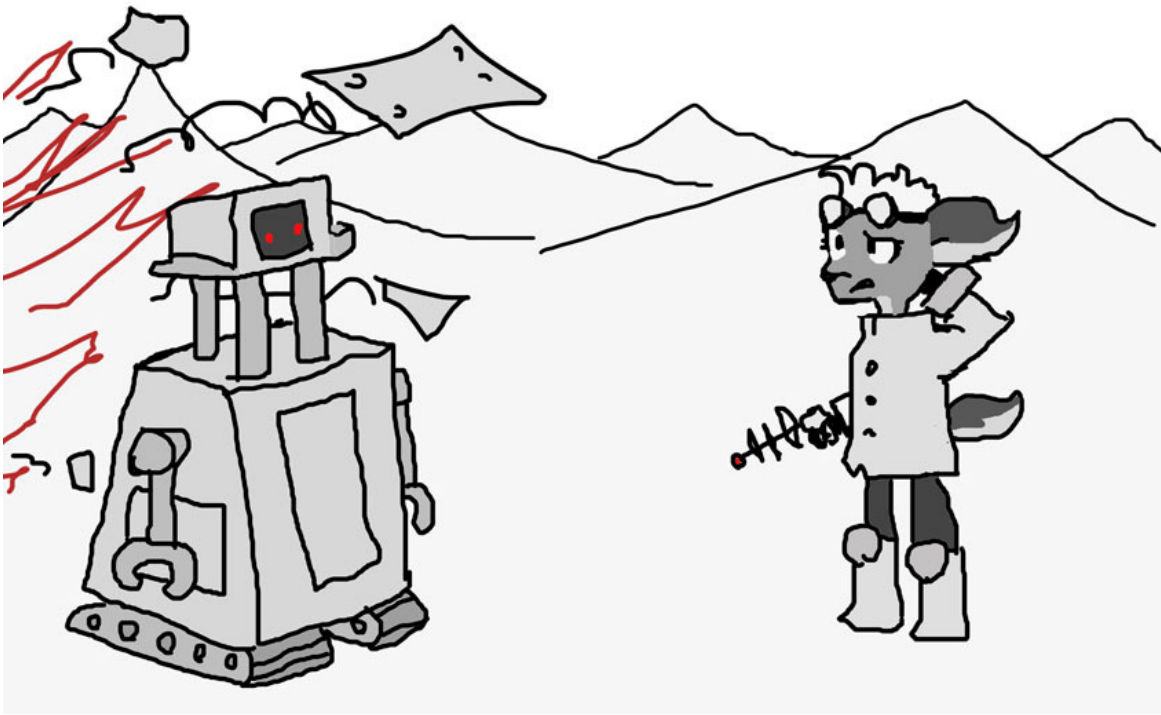


Prince picks up [veggie rationsx20],[spacesuit],[batterie]
Prince begins to charge his eye laser
it will a little while before he has enough energy to vaporize the ship

Oken looks about for civilization, but all she can see is dunes, she could use her [space compass!] to track either animal life signs, plant life signs, energy signals, magnetic fields, gravity distortions or pirates



Oken decides to make a quick scan of everything
plant scan: north, weak signal west
pirate scan: there are no pirates
animal scan, imediate area, east, west, south
magnetic scan: right of ship crash
gravatational scan: down
energy scan: east, south, south-west



Oken "uh Prince, what was our mission plan again?"

Prince: "descend from orbit.
 approach vector on enemy city [Parlshima Harbor].
 deliver payload of nuclear robot.
 enemy city destroyed."

Oken: "oh . . . right"

Prince: "have you determined our course yet?"



you don't know where the city is
nor do you have a map

this is all you have: novella, space compass, raygun (10 shots) pilot goggles, lucky earring, combat jacket, grav boots, 12 vapins (money), clothing

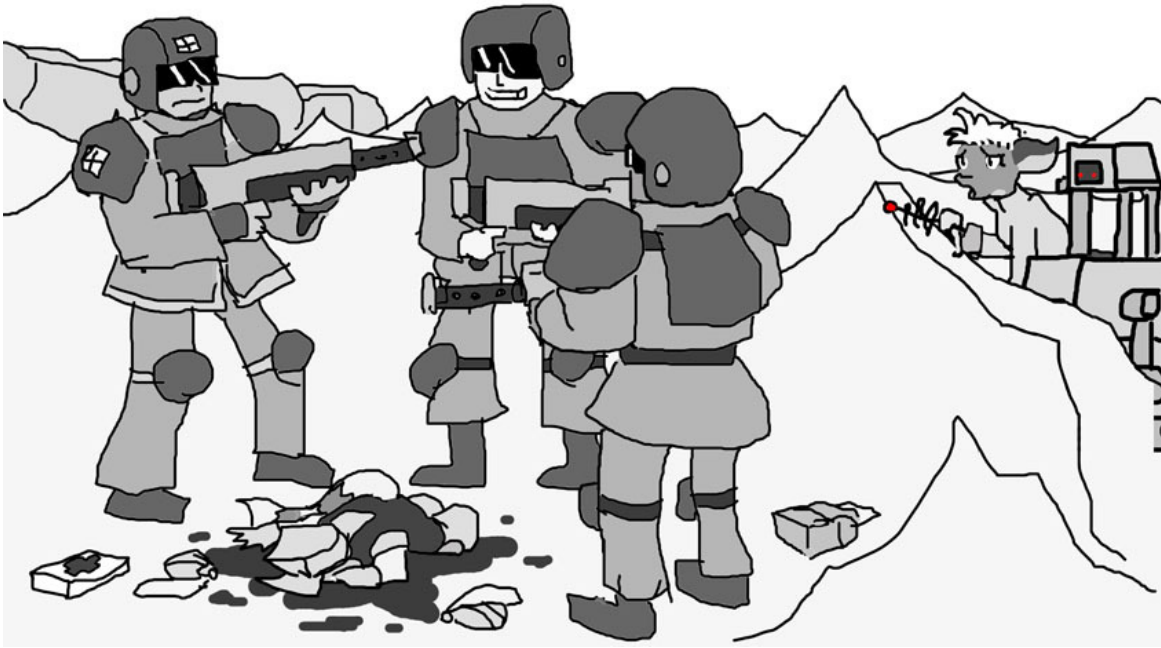
plant signal to north is small but close.
energy signal to east has dimmed
energy signal south is very strong



Oken: "screw the plants, I got plenty of food!
Prince, we're going west"

after a few hours of travel, Oken realizes that life in the desert is quite harsh without water

Prince: "Oken, my sensors are detecting movement over the next dune!"



Oken picks up the spanner
the object appears to be a half barred parachute

Oken takes off her shiny goggles, and tells Prince to be quiet, you approach

PINKIES! it looks like they got Mint . . .



they're actually called the window corps, but no one calls them that, they call us furry devils, we call em pinkies, as far as the war goes, the second they set foot onto our planets, they opened fire,

civilians, soldiers, children, they don't seem to be able to tell the difference, they just gun down everyone

we've been fighting this war for 30 years and we still don't know why

as far as thier gear goes, it's all garbage

thier bullets will have a hard time getting through my combat jacket, I'll be fine as long as they don't shoot me in the head

I don't even know if bullets can hurt robots

there's now way they could miss Prince's charge up, but if he could get if off they'd all be toast, though I guess he could do small blasts as well

Ray tech can either spread the beam, or focus it

a full spread would only shock them, a full focused beam could vapourize a guys head, even if he was wearing a helmet

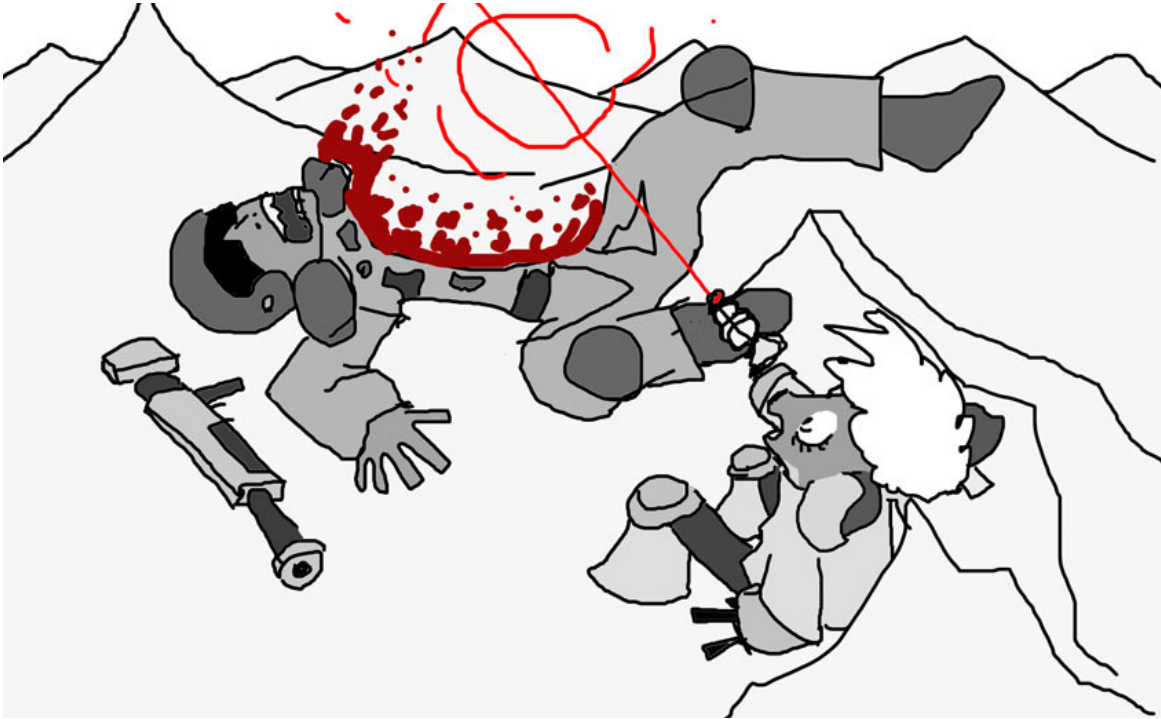
though, I'm not really good at aiming

grav boots can do a number of things, but they pretty much make you stick or bounce off of stuff

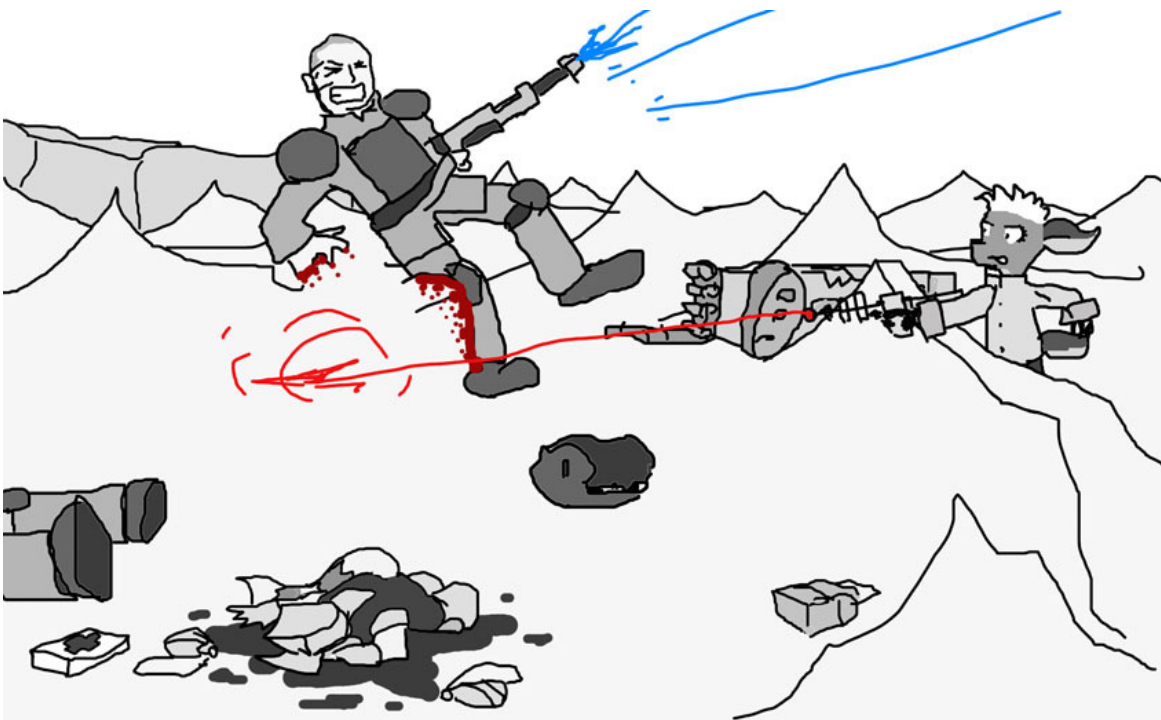


huh? Prince's laser didn't kill them?

. . . the Commander would never lie to us . . .



Prince: Oken my weapons are failing . . .



(I need sleep, I'll be back tommorow or sunday)

er yeah, I mean monday . . . sleep is good



I think the other guy with burnt chest plate is still alive, I hear him moaning

I don't speak Pinkie, but a lot of them speak a little Astranian (our language)

Prince can translate just about any language,

[It's now safe enough for Oken to examine stuff]



I don't have any thing sharp to cut a neck
and I'm not sure I could do that in cold blood

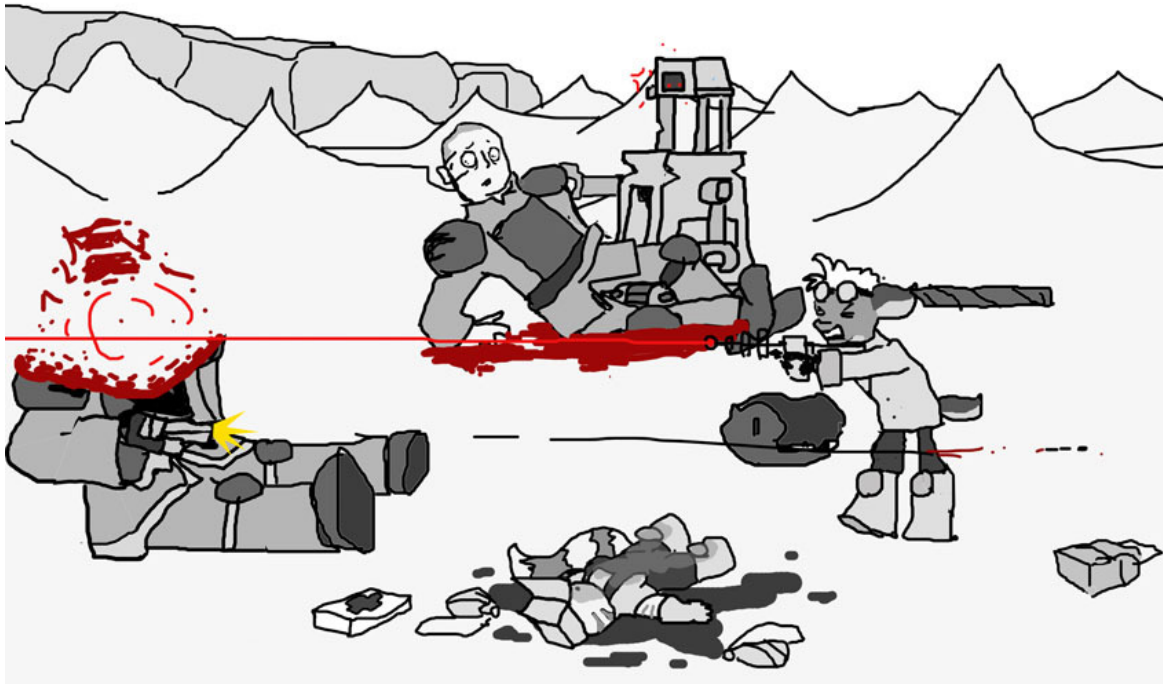
Mint's body is coated with mud
she has: 3 mostly empty canteens, a tazer, grav boots, hat, rubber gloves, multitool, medication,
clothing, 23 vapins(money)



Mint isn't dead at all!
she's been paralyzed with a stun laser!
the affect should only last 4-5 hours

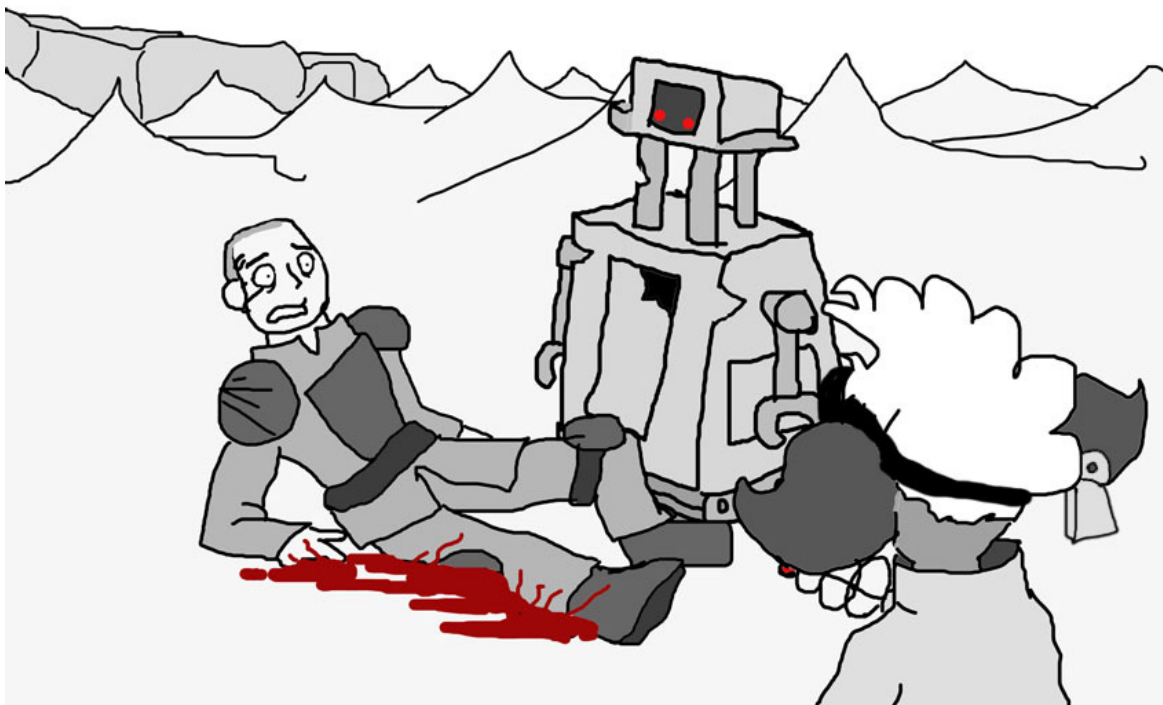
a stimshot, might snap her out of it immediatly
it also might rupture her heart

funny though, the commander told me Pinkies never take prisoners



Oken: "FREEZE, YOU PUDGY PINK BASTARD!"

the pinkie ignores Oken



aahhh my leg hurts

I use the med kit, to bind my wound

I get Prince to make sure there are no more hidden
weapons, he also gathers up the other guns

Prince collects, stun rifle (48 shots) a revolver (5 shots) and 3 combat knives

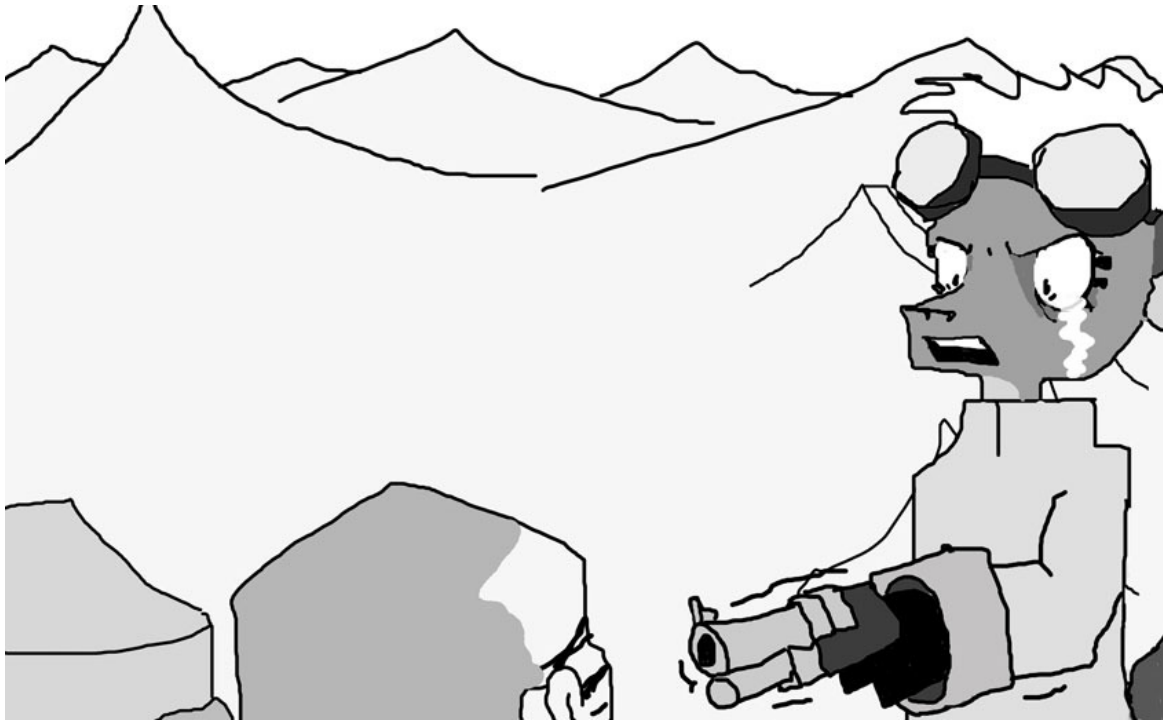
I keep my gun targeted on the last Pinkie
[tears stream down Oken's face]

Oken: "D-Don't move or I'll F-Fucking waste you!"

Oken: "w-where's Parlshima! T-tell me!"

Pinkie: "south! south!, don't shoot!"

now what?



I glance over to the rock out cropping, . . . I don't want to look into his eyes

Oken: "What's your mission!"

Pinkie: "Patrol! Patrol!"

Oken: "how many patrols!"

Pinkie: "four, five, I don't know! don't shoot!"

I can't let him live, he'll tell the other patrols!

Oken: "S-SHUT UP, SHUT UP!!, you shot my friend, why?"

Pinkie: "only stun! not dead! not dead!"

Oken: "WHY DID YOU SHOOT HER!"

Pinkie: "protect city!, only stun., not dead."

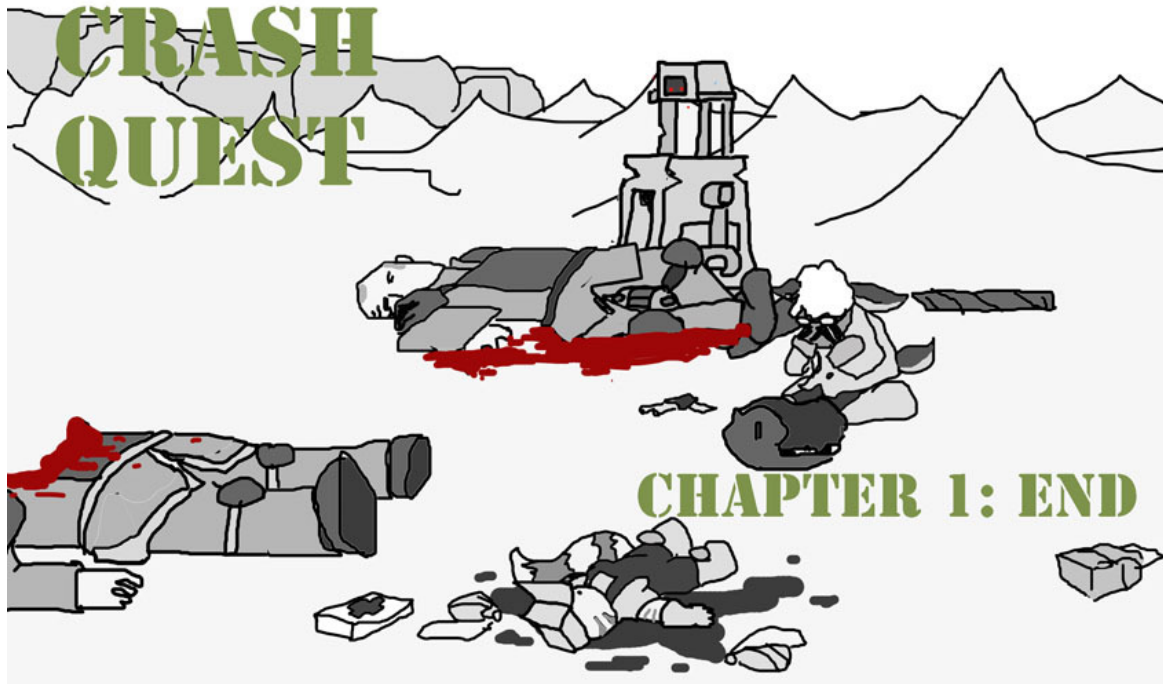
I can't let him live, I can't take him with me,
he's too dangerous!

Oken: "name. rank. serial number!"

Pinkie: " Enrad, William T., Parlshima Police, rookie

oh gods, they're just police, protecting thier
city . . . from people like me
I don't want to kill him, but I can't let him live!

I don't think he knows anything else
what do I do?!



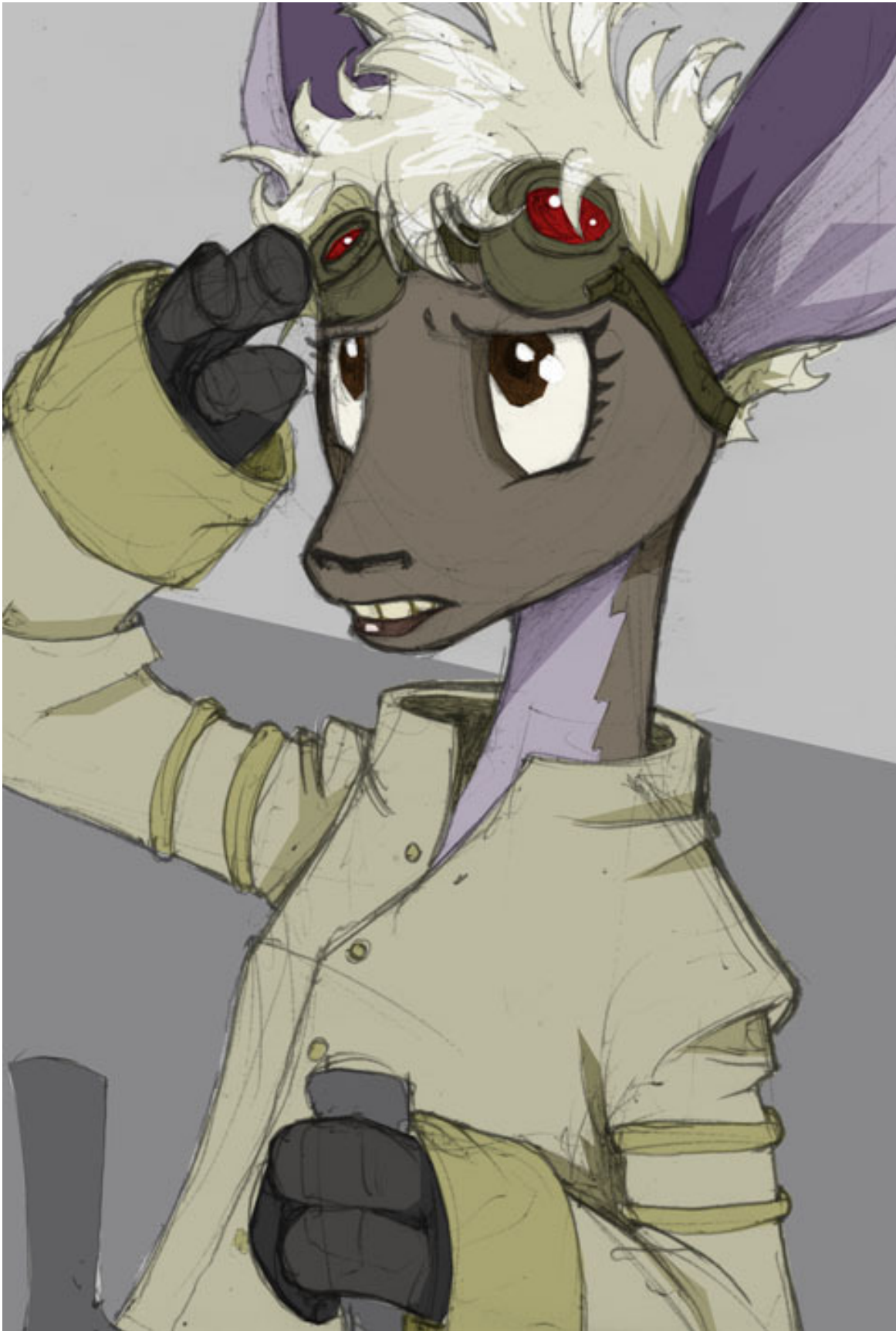
"I-I can't do it, I'M NOT A MONSTER!"
Oken drops the revolver

Enrad sighs and colapses

Reality hits poor Oken like a ton bricks the two pinkies she's slain, the millions she was going to murder, the betrayal of her friends and comanding officers, her own fatigue and injury . . .

Oken breaks down and sobs uncontrollably

Chapter 1 end



I hope you all enjoyed, the first chapter of CRASH QUEST,

you guys have all been awesome, thanks for all
the great comments, as a bit of a thank you

here's some concept art!

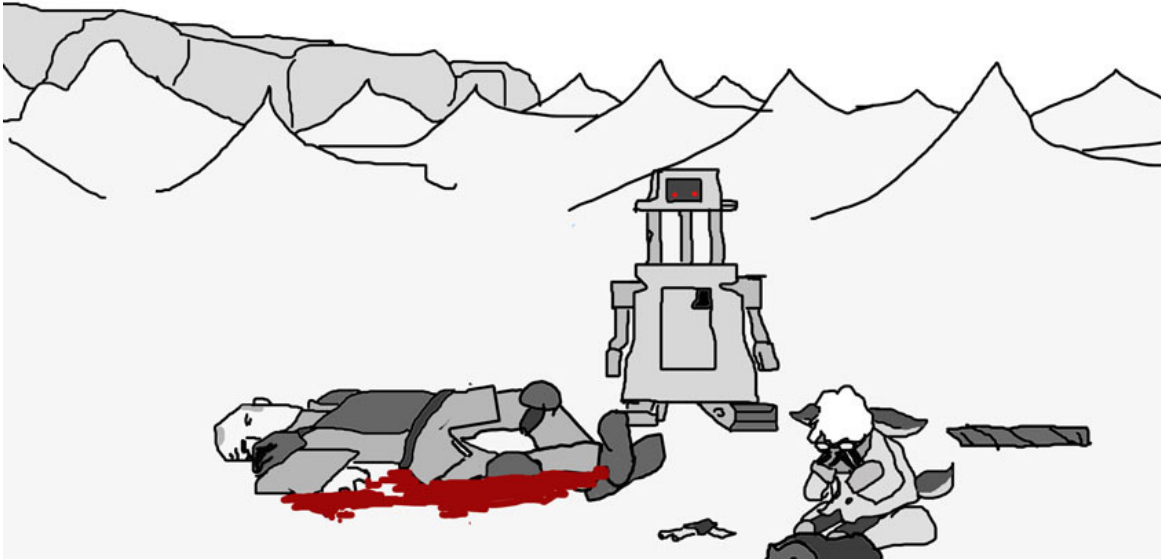
(I'm not sure If I'm supposed start the new chapter here, or in a new thread)

lol, please don't! the colours I chose might not even be cannon . . . I would be eager to see what colour Ideas you guys come up with!

heh, I guess it's too late for that now . . .



chapter 2 is go!



>Nuclear Smartbomb: PR156 "Prince" online
>STATUS:stranded in hostile territory
>SYSTEMS: functioning at critical
>MISSION: DETENATE IN CITY [Parlshima bay]
>CREW-GUNNER: MIA
>CREW-ENGINEER: Incapacitated/Dying
>CREW-PILOT: unknown Illness/Dying
>STARSHIP: DESTROYED

>ACTIVATING LOGIC SYSTEMS

>What is my current directive?

>_

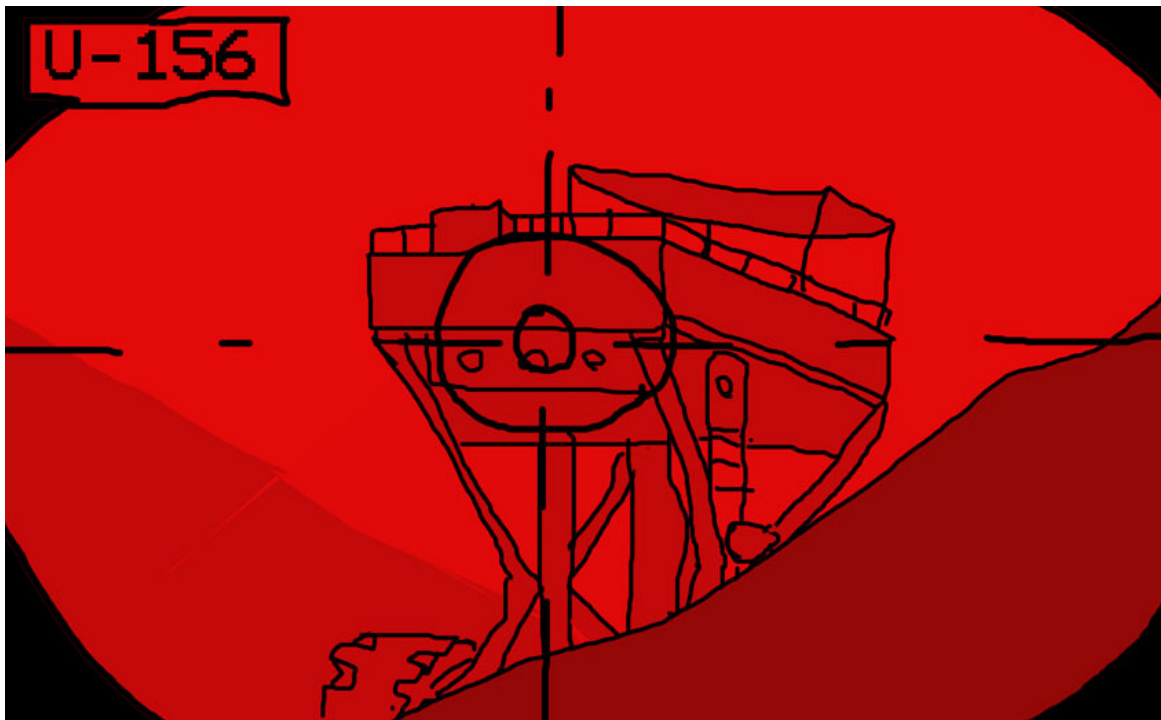


MEDICAL SOFTWARE: loaded
MEDICAL HARDWARE: undamaged

CREW REPORT: ANALYSIS

CREW-ENGINEER: [Incapacitated] paralyzed by stun rifle, Treatments: Time 4 hours;
stim injector? negative, victim too weak
[Dying] Heat exposer, time till death, 2 hours, Treatment: remove from heat

CREW-PILOT: [unknown Illness] identified! SADNESS, Treatments: unknown
[dying] dehydration, time till death 8 hours, Treatments: ingest water, remove from heat



object is a police class mobile dune tower
vehicle appears to be unmanned
vehicle is stationary
distance 700 metres

Prince: "Oken drink this water"

I give the pilot one of the three mostly empty canteens, she continues sobing but still drinks

PRISONER STATUS: critically injured /dying

[critically injured] massive leg wound, Treatments: amputation, cauterize.

major hand wound: Treatments: suture, bandage

[Dying] bloodloss, time till death 20 minutes

treatments: staunch blood flow, treat injury



Prince: "Oken! if you desire for this prisoner to live, he needs medical treatment, immediatly!"

Oken: "u-uh?"

Prince: "I cannot do this alone! I need your hands."

Oken: "right! I-I'll do my best"

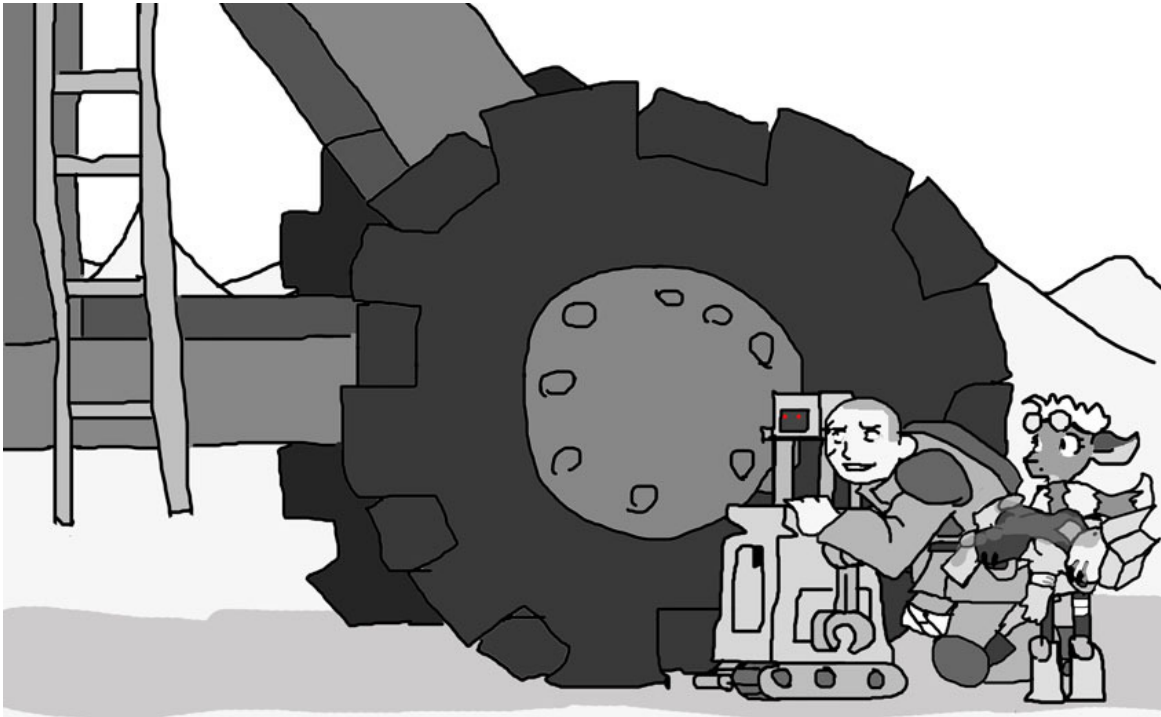
we amputate the Pinkskin's leg, and give him proper medical treatment, he will live, for now . . .

Oken: "I'm sorry about earlier, prince I'll try not to let that happen again

Prince: "we are still indanger! the time for apologies is later!"

Oken: "right!"

(control switches back too Oken)



>Oken can find no cloth

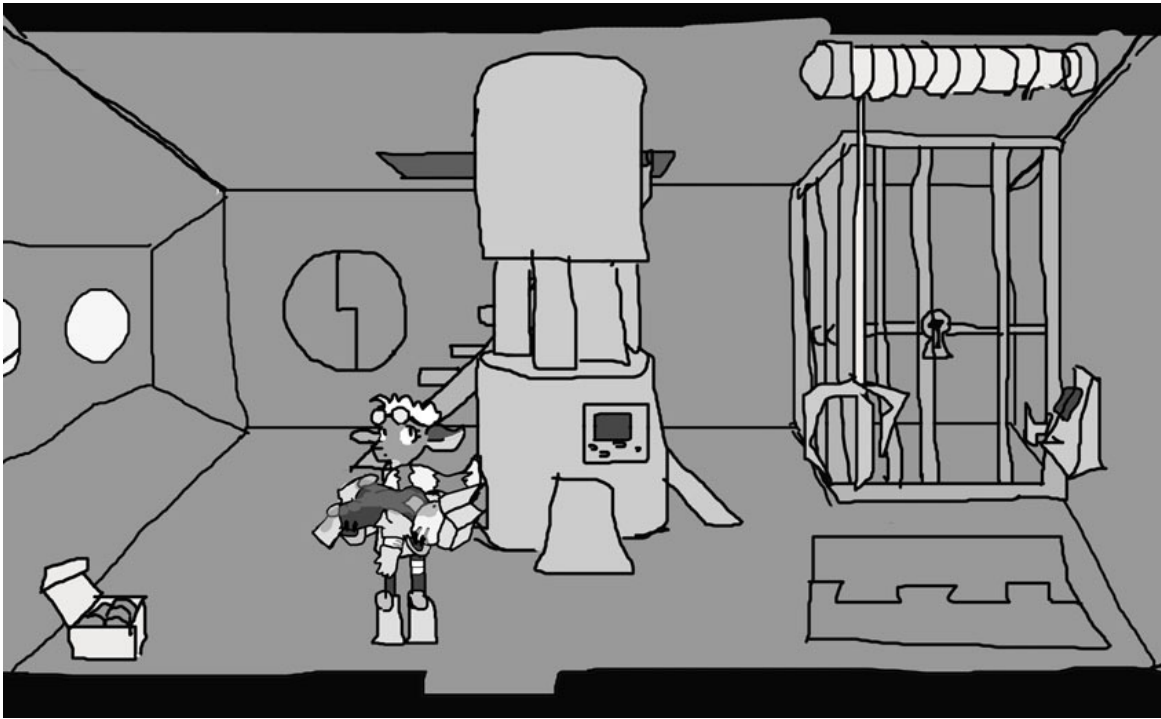
>Oken asks Enrad what's necessary to pilot the dune tower, he gives he a ring of keys

>Oken picks up the revolver and Mint, the party then travels towards the vehicle

Poor Mint, I remember her telling me she came from the IceWorld: Vin-Malor. the climate must be terrible for her here

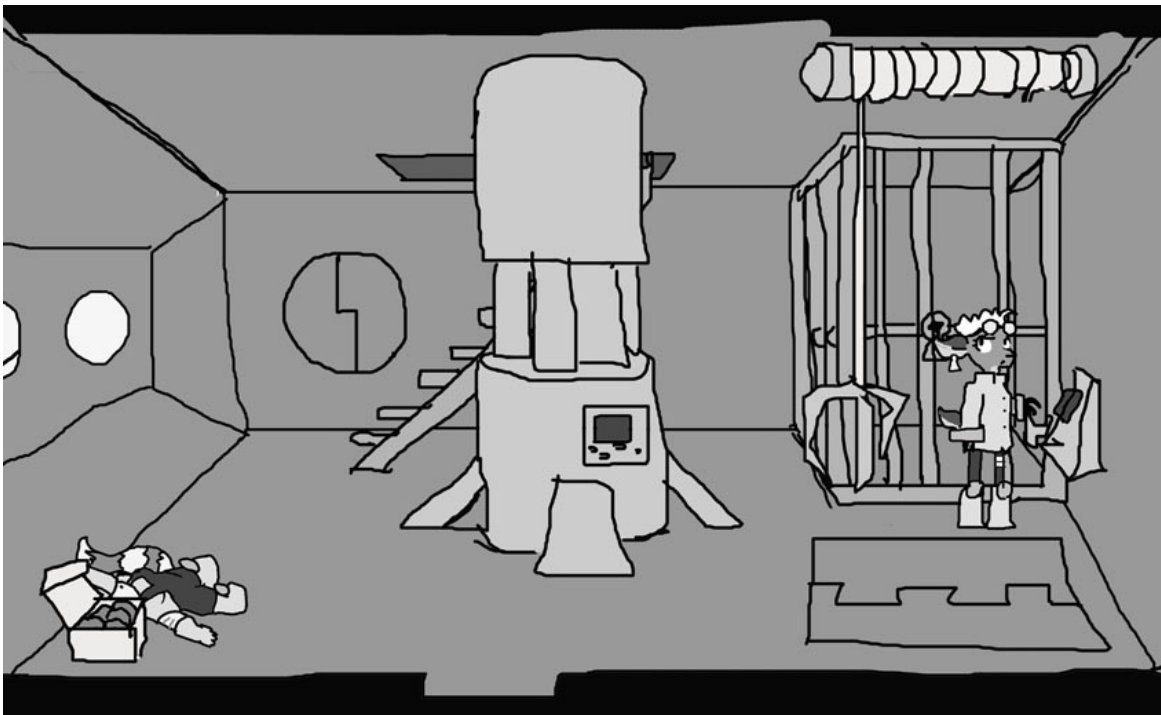
we arrive in the shadow of the massive DuneTower

>Enrad can climb up despite his injuries, Oken can climb up even while carrying Mint, Prince cannot climb up



>Oken carries mint up into the cabin

It's nice and cool in here

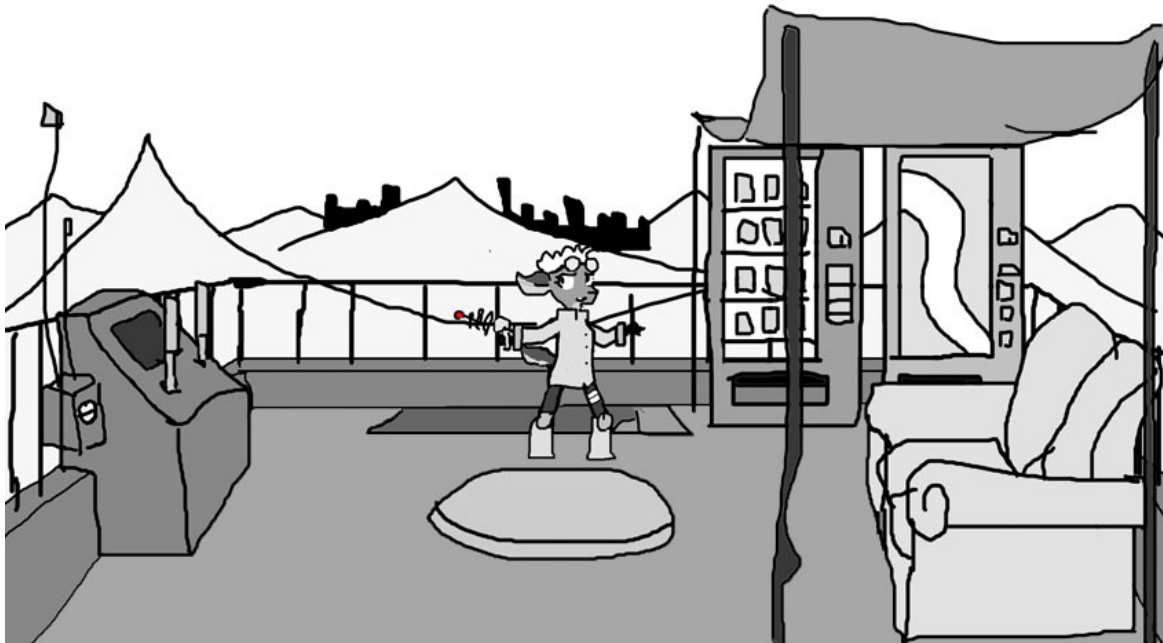


I set Mint down next to the box of donuts, she always did like the smell of pastries

the cage is deffinitly strong enough to hold Enrad, plus I also have the key to lock it!

I don't see anything that looks like a radio, though I did find the contols for the claw, it

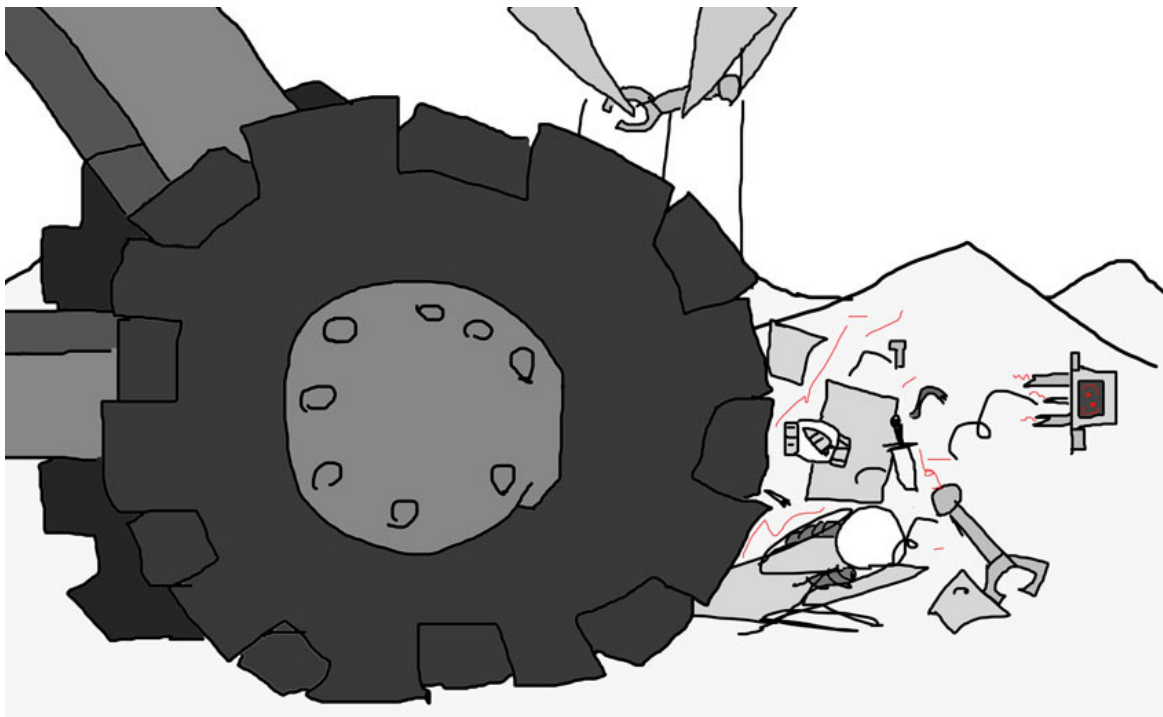
might be strong enough to lift Prince . . .



the thing in the middle looks like some sort of engine maintenance thingy, I dunno

I locked Enrad in the cell, he doesn't seem too happy about that

hmm it doesn't look like anyone is up here either, oh look there's that radio I was looking for



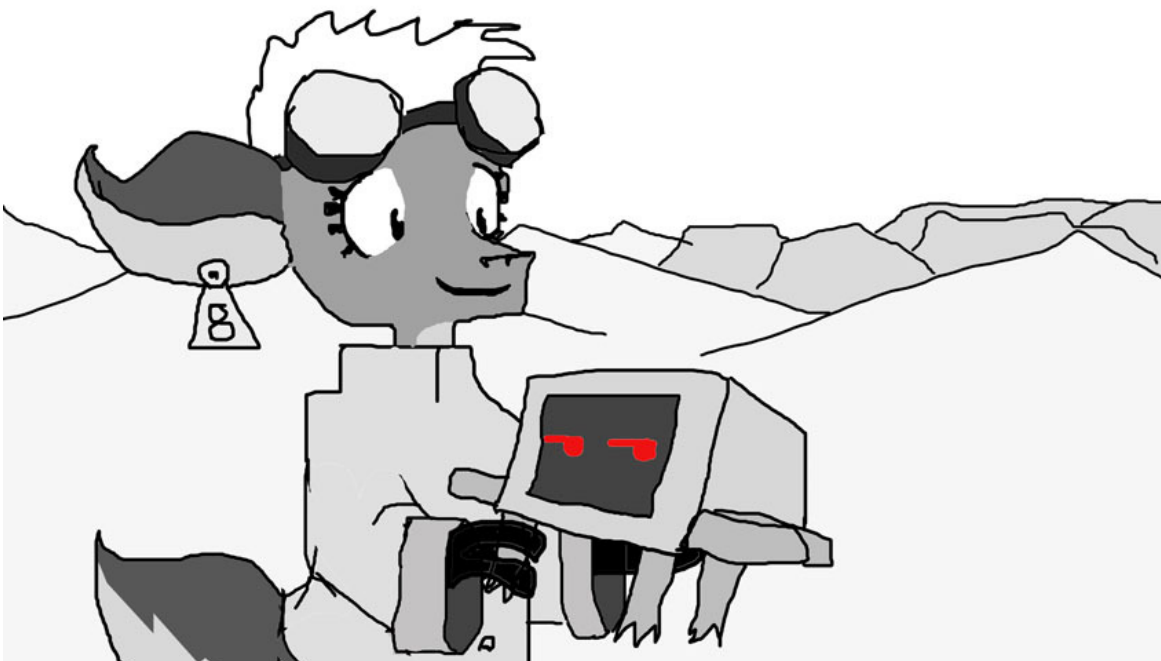
OK! let's winch up Prince he's gotta see all the cool stuff I've found!

. . . uh oh



there's no way I could fix Prince, Mint probably could, she can fix anything

Prince: "that is odd, that fall should have set off my detonator, igniting a nuclear explosion that should have incinerated everything in a 30 kilometer radius"



on the ground I find: 7 metal plates, 6 wheels, 1 tread, 1 metal arm, 8 robot gizmos, 15 wires, 27

metal bits, 1 nuclear safety guide, a space suit, 3 combat knives, 19 bags of veggie rations, 1 stunrifle and 1 battery

do I really need all this stuff? I could get it all into the cabin, but it would take a little while

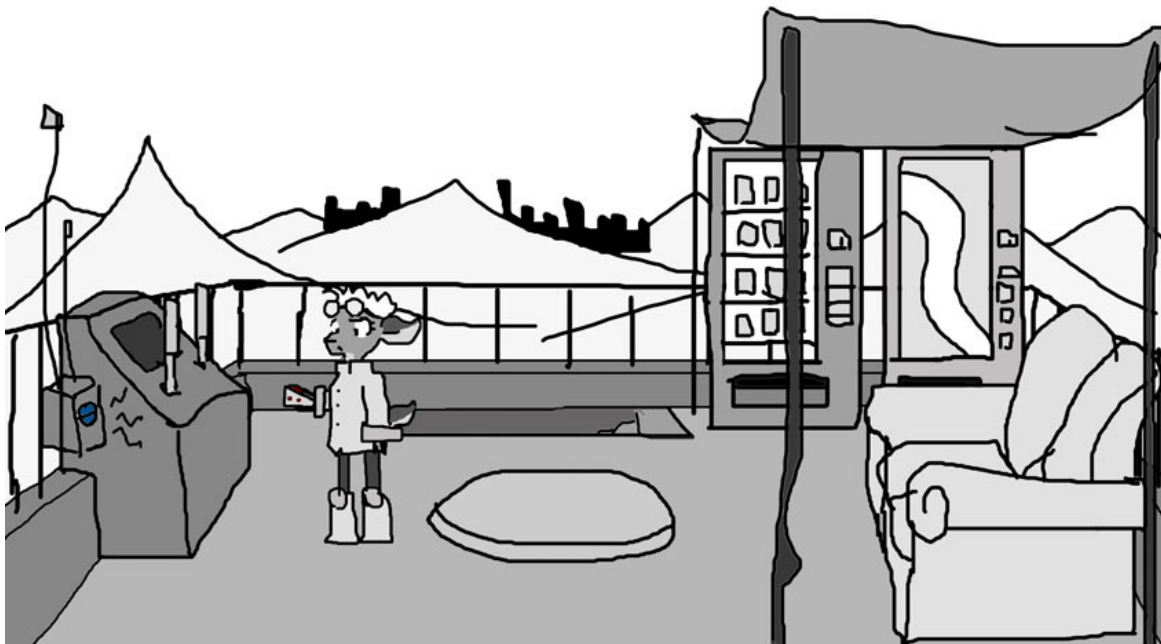
Oken "I'm glad you didn't explode prince, but could you use your robot smarts to figure out why?"

Prince "according to my maintenance log, there was some unscheduled maintenance done on me before the take off, they disassembled my entire outer frame, and put me back together with a substance called "super glue", they then must have left me in the cargobay unsecured, rather than the bomb bay"

Prince: "perhaps this was the cause?"

Oken: "what ever it was, I'm thinking the whole bomb plan is over, we should probably think of a new plan"

Prince: " . . . understood"



>Oken takes everything up to the cabin, it is hard work and she finds herself tired and thirsty

>Oken can not seem to find a chinstrap, a welding tool nor a bowl with which to turn Prince into a hat

as far as spaceports go, all major exports leave the planet through Parlshima's space harbor, the only other spaceports nearby are owned by smugglers, but those places are infested with pirates.

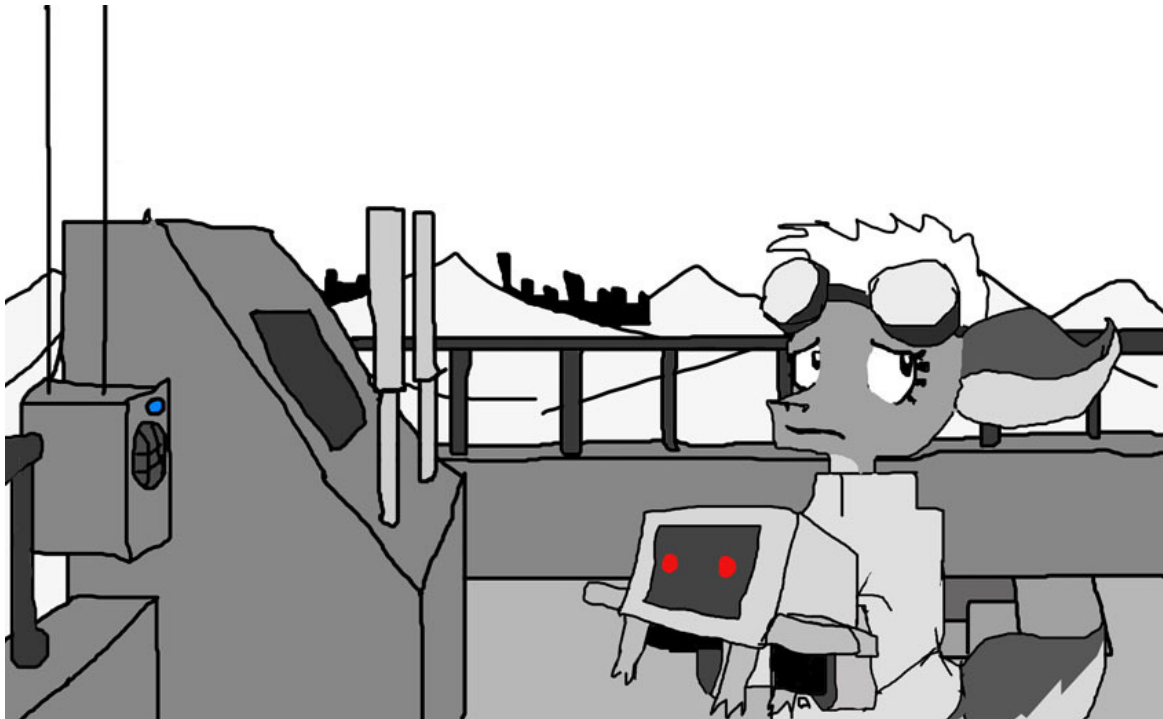
I don't remember where I scanned for life signs

so I'll use my [space compass!] again,

animal Life Signs: very strong to the south, towards Parlshima; faint to the east, toward some rising

smoke; faint to the north west, towards the rocks

>all of a sudden the radio crackles to life, Oken hears stern voices in a language she doesn't understand

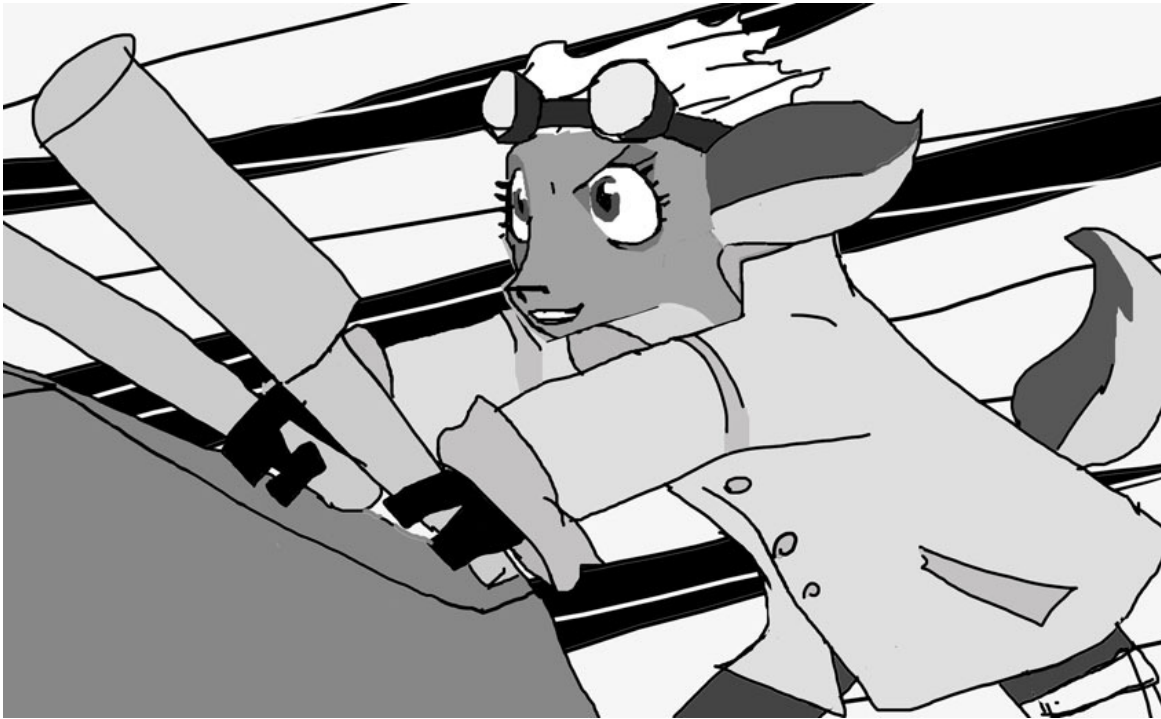


my home . . . , Our side is a joint force of (originally) 47 worlds, we are known as the Astranian Alliance

>Oken can find no locks on the vending machines

Prince translates

Pinky officer: "We are under attack! furies have been spotted in the outer perimeter, all units report in!"



to the rocks huh?

let's see what this baby can do, MAXIMUM SPEED!
only behind the throttle am I fully alive!

>as the vehicle races forward, a womanly scream can be heard from down bellow

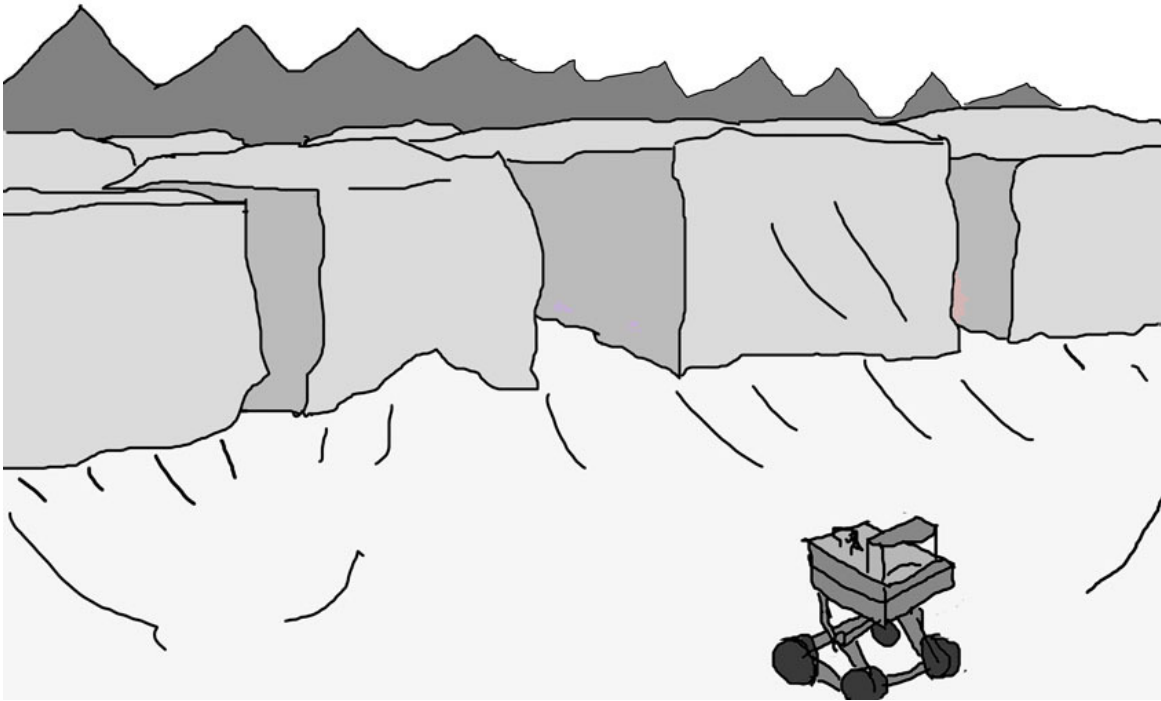
wierd, Mint shouldn't have recovered for at least another couple hours, whatever

poor baby they treated you like a house, a slow lumbering beast, they didn't understand you like I do, you're no beast! you are an eagle and you wish to soar! to FLY! AND I WILL GRANT YOUR WISH!

Prince: " . . . Oken, maybe we should slow down"

Oken: "SHUT UP! I am flying here!"

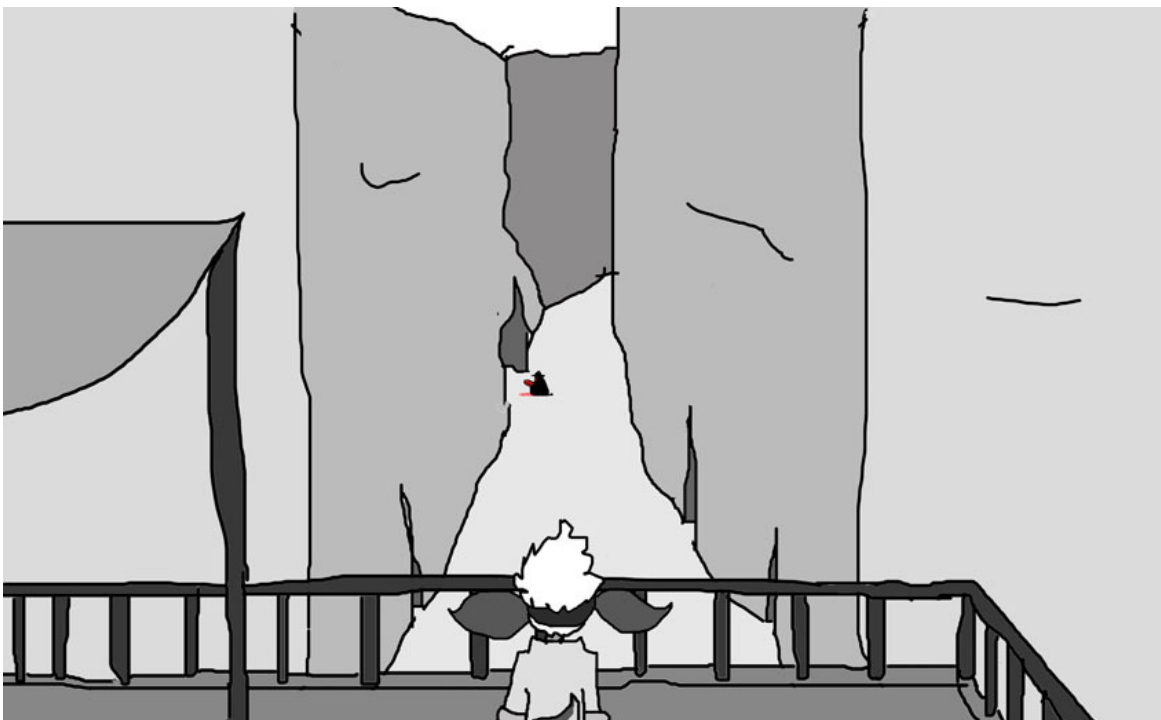
I bet those ungreatfull idiots didn't even give you a name! how can you ever be truly alive without a name? I will deny you no longer, but what should I name you?



what we're already here? awwwww

for now "The Ramaging Giraffe" will slumber, but soon, soon she will fly again . . .

um anyways, looks like we're at the rocks, I might be able to fit The Giraffe through the middle pass, otherwise theres no way through . . . except on foot



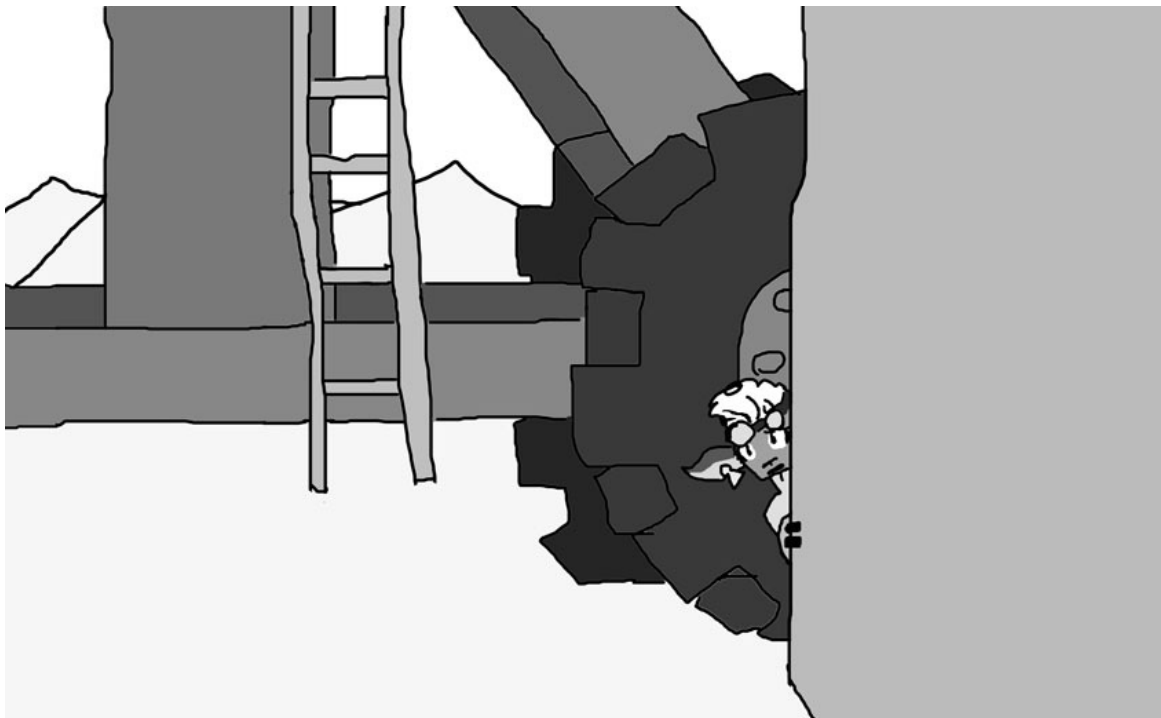
I'm pretty sure Mint's still unconcious, I'll check on her later

>Oken drives the Giraffe along side the right hand passage



>Oken can not see what Prince can see

Prince: "the figure does not appear immediately hostile, it seems unlikely for it not to have noticed us, it also appears to be armed with a Raytech weapon"



that's right! only the Alliance uses Raytech, he must be one of our guys!

>Oken exits the Giraffe

he's probally not from Doraun, so I'll speak to him in Astranian

Oken: "hey! we're not pinkies, we just stole one of thier towers, please don't shoot us!"

he doesn't respond, or move. Maybe he's asleep or just to far away to hear me?



>BTW Prince is now part of Oken's inventory

well I can't do anything from here, I'm going to get a little-

ITS A TRAP!



I can't win this . . .

Oken: "I surrender, you got me"

Hoft: "surrender? can't you even die like a soldier!? you make me sick.

I hear his weapon charging

Hoft: "time to die Oken"



Oken: "what the hell Hoft? we're on the same team!"

Hoft: "that's where you're wrong! I refuse to be a pawn to your treacherous Alliance Command!"

Oken: "Hoft wait!"

Hoft: "Everything they've told us is a lie! Oken I'm not like you! I will not let my homeworld burn just so the Alliance can save face!"

damnit . . . my ray blasts can't get through his energy shield



Oken: "HOFT! just hear me out! I just found out about the Commander!"

He grabs me by the collar, and brings me close, a really bad move on his part, at this close range his shields won't be able to deflect a full focused beam

Hoft: "I can't trust anyone, you're all lying to me!"

Oken: "I haven't lied to you Hoft, please don't shoot me"

I can see the torment in his eyes, for some reason he's torn up about what to do, something's spooked him good

I've flown with Hoft for seven months, the gunner I knew would never hurt a Comrade. I used to trust him with my life, can I trust him to do the right thing?

on the other hand, I don't want to die, Hoft's a better fighter then me, If I don't take this shot and kill him now, I won't get another chance



I turn off the raygun

Oken: "I'm not going to kill you hoft, even though I can, I trust you Hoft"

Hoft: " . . . Oken"

He drops me, drops his gun, and falls to his knees

Oken: "I captured a pinky tower, Mint's there, we should go there to and-"

Hoft: " . . . stop lying to me"

Oken: "I'm not lying! you can see the tower, it's right over there!"

Hoft: "STOP LYING TO ME! make the voices stop!"

Oken: " uh H-Hoft?"

Hoft: "AAAARGH GET OUT OF MY HEAD!"



I grab Hoft's gun

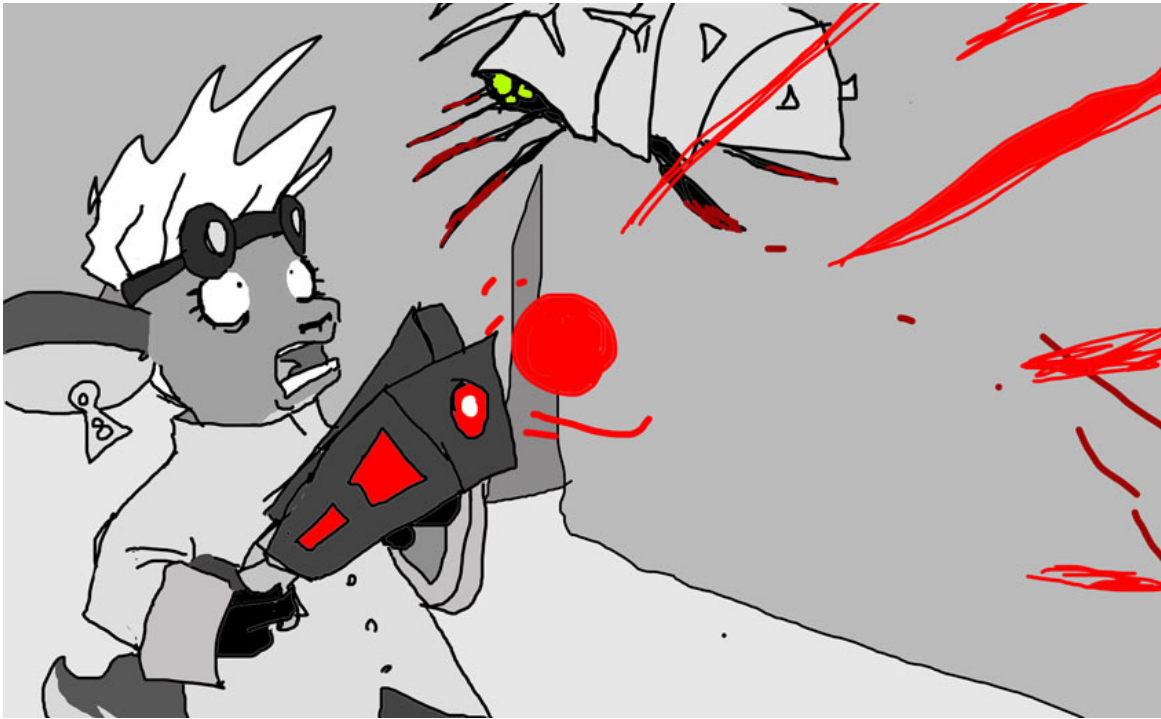
Oken: "j-just calm down Hoft it's going to be Ok"

Hoft: "THE LIES! THE LIES! MAKE THEM STOP! GET OUT OF MY HEAD!!!AAAAAAAAAAAAARRRRGGH"

shhhhhrrrrriipp

>Hoft rips some horrible creature out of his neck,

>Oken is horrified by the recent developments,



>Oken fires wildly at the creature, she is unable to use this weapon properly and fails to hit a single shot

It's too fast!

>the creature lunges towards Oken's face



>Oken swings the rifle, it proves amazingly effective!



I use the last of the bandages in the medkit, on Hofts neck,

Hoft gathers his things and we head for the "Rampaging Giraffe"

Oken: "Hoft, we should hurry there might be more of those things around!"

Hoft: "that thing wasn't from here. It came from the IceWorld: Vin-Malor"

(CHAPTER 2: END)

(now is a good time to suggest long term plans for Oken and company)



part 1 >>237125



I am AcePilot Oken

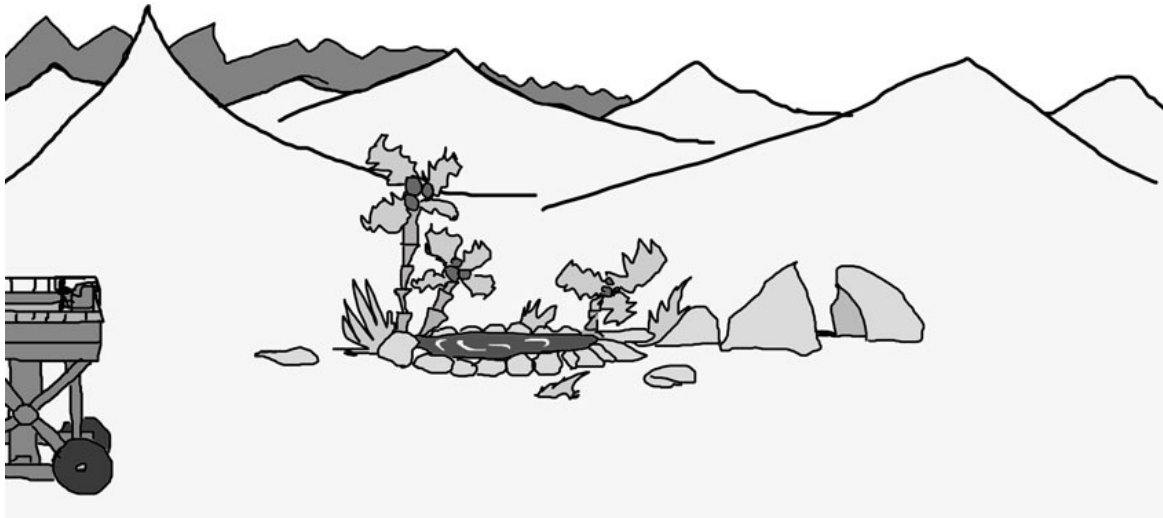
Me and my crew are stranded on the DesertWorld: Juca-19

Our commanding officers have failed us

The planet is crawling with our mortal enemies, The Pinkskins

we've managed to steal one of thier vehicles, but we are tired, injured, and running very low on water

what do I do now?



Mint's still paralyzed from the stun shot

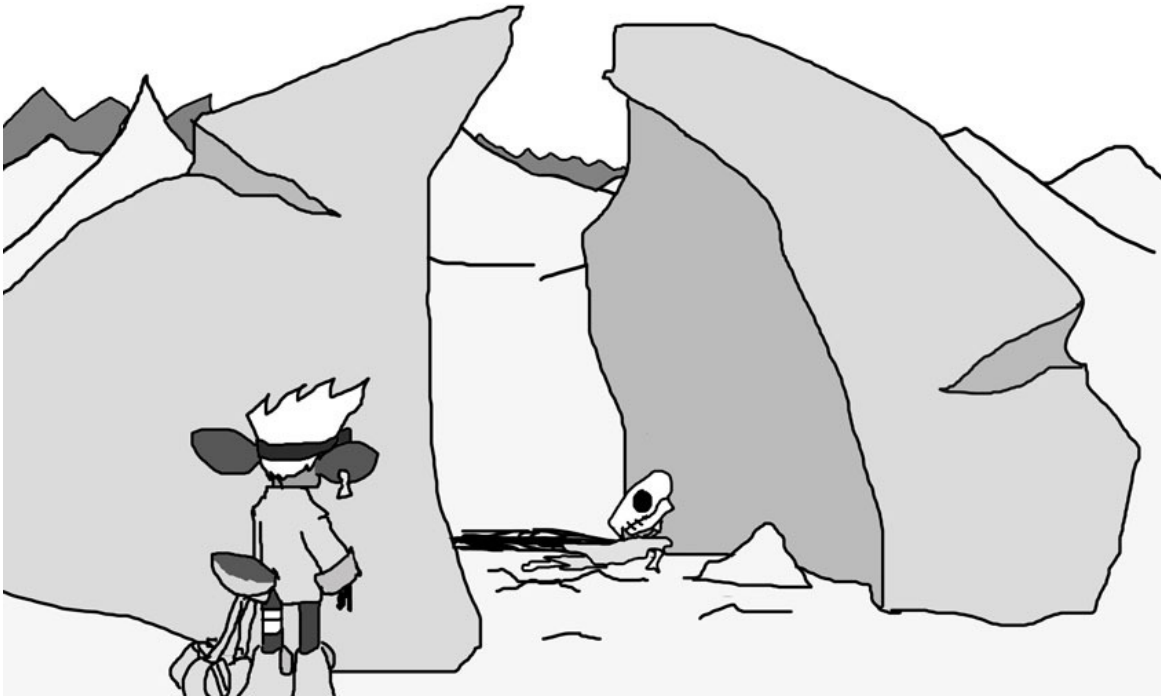
Enrad seems OK, but he seems to be in a lot of pain

Hoft looks half dead bad, he seems really weak and is having trouble standing, he says he's fine, I'm not so sure . . .

>Oken uses the [Space Compass!] to track for plants

where there's plant's there got to be water!

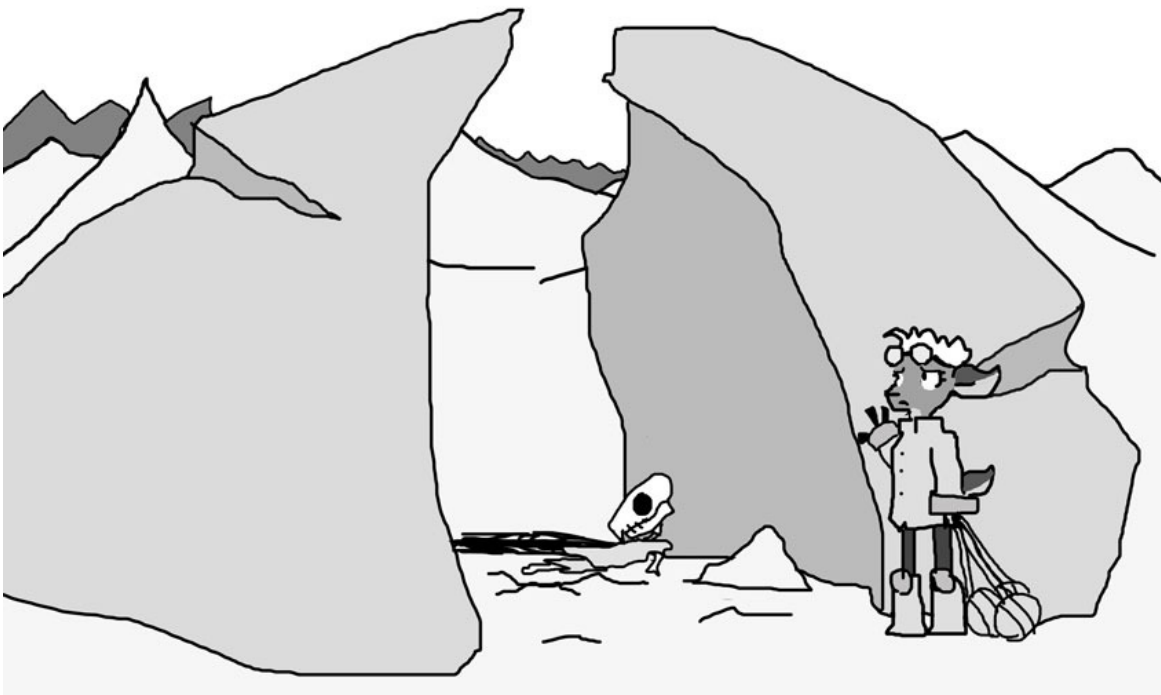
>Oken finds an oasis!



I don't see anything dangerous, Prince's scanners say niether the plants nor the water is poisonous

>Oken refills the water cantines, then checks the rocks

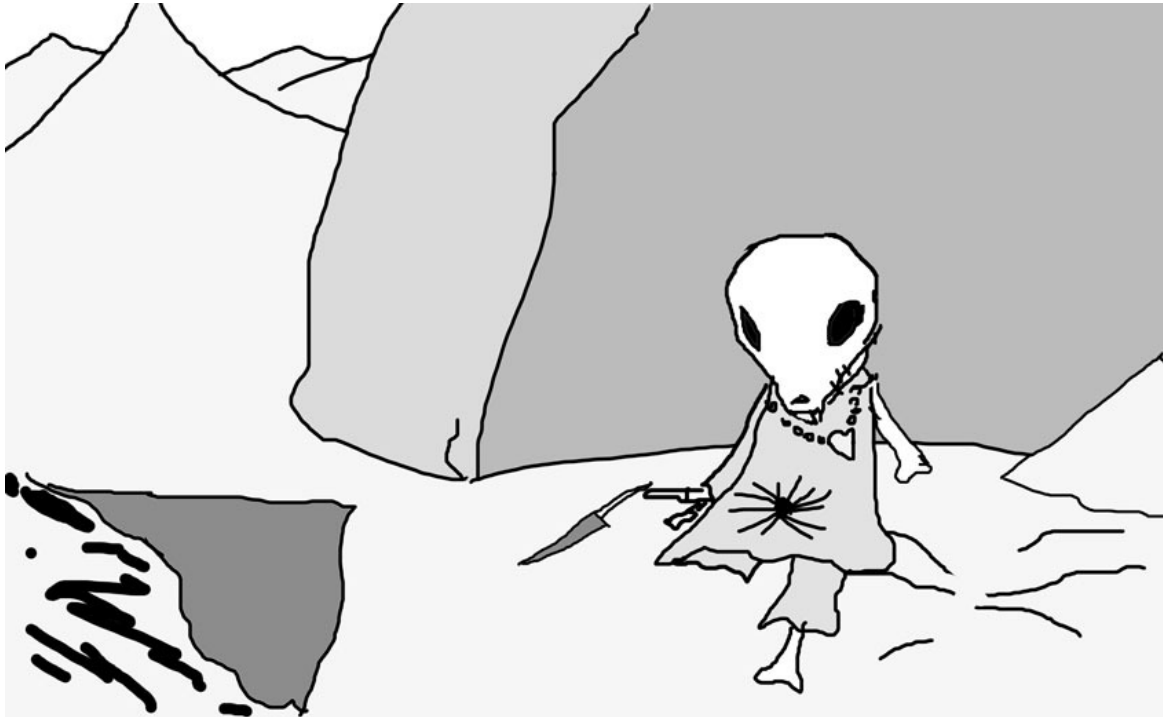
awww poor guy, I wonder how he died?



Originally the DesertWorld Juca-19 was home to a couple thousand Cazaran colonists. The Alliance lost contact with the colony 30 years ago, a couple years later we found out this was where we had first made contact with the Pinkskins

this dome is made of shaped clay, and the oasis looks artificial too, this was probably his home

this place is making me sad, should I investigate more or can I leave?

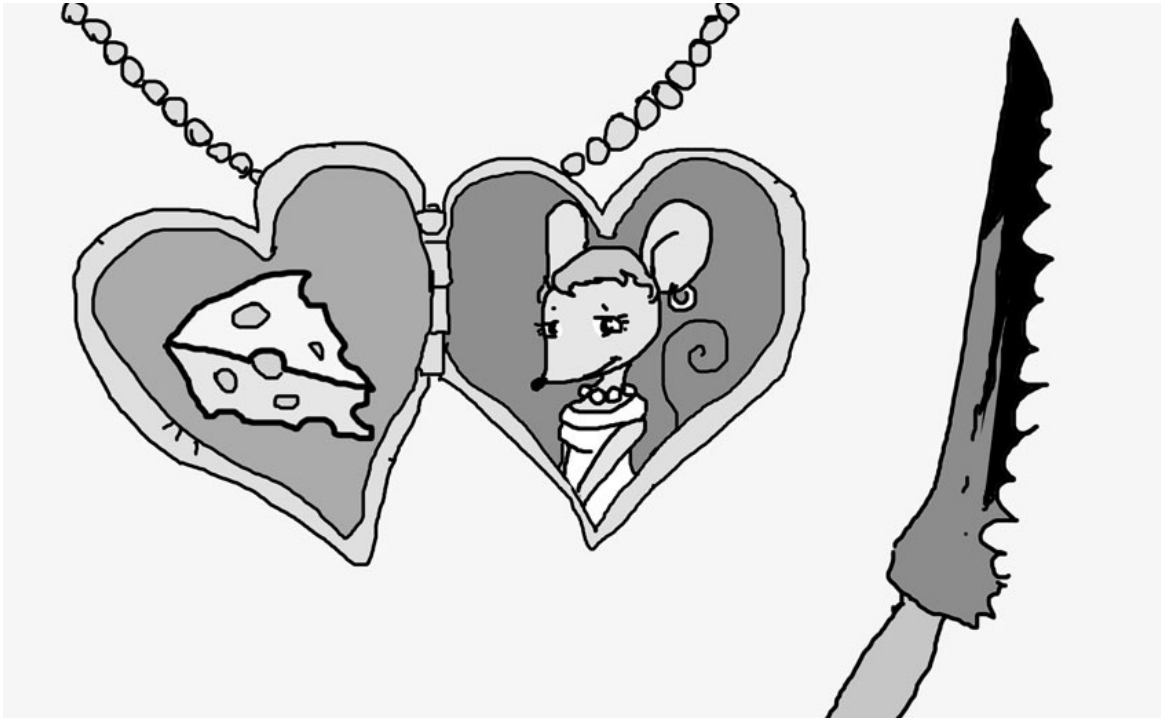


Prince says he probably die from a bullet wound to the stomach

I also get him to double check the water, he says it's safe to drink

oh, that's right! the Cazarani always built thier homes underground, this is probably just a lobby or something

well I found the hatch, but it looks like it only opens electronically



I can find no key on the body, I do find an old locket and a rusty stained kitchen knife, could these be of any use?

Oken: "Prince do ya think there's any way to get into that hatch?"

Prince: "other then knowing the access code?"

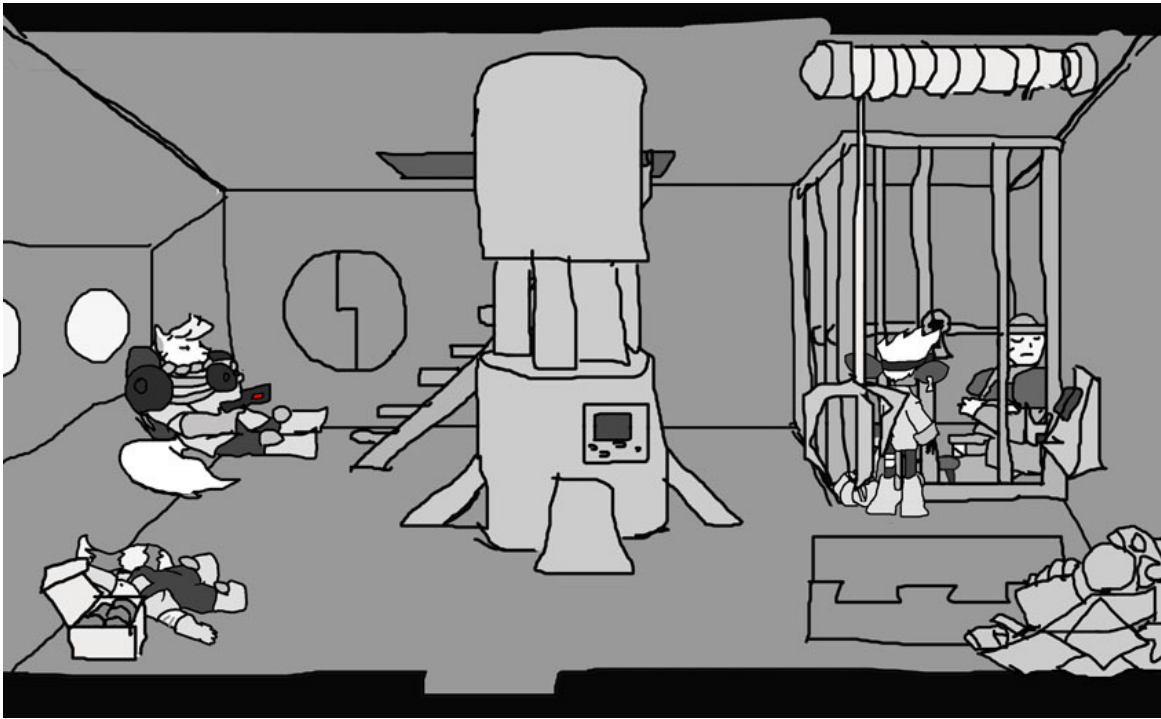
if my body was still intact I could easily have cut through the panel.

Hoft's AntiMatter Cannon would have little trouble breaking through it would likely also destroy whatever was on the otherside, as well as the rest of the Oasis.

Mint would have no trouble opening a civilian class door.

Oken: "so how long until Mint wakes up?"

Prince: "she should regain conciousness in about an hour, and regain her full motor skills in an aditional hour"



StarForce is my home, the Alliance is my family, an AcePilot needs nothing more . . .

Cazarani do like thier cheese, though putting a picture of it in a locket is still pretty wierd, I check behind the cheese picture on a hunch . . . nothing, just a couple numbers scratched in

let's go check on the guys!

I give Hoft some water, he drinks it

Hoft: *cough, cough* "Oken, keeping this prisoner is too dangerous"

I go to Enrad, and offer him some water and try to make small talk

Enrad: "HAH water is for weaklings, give me real drink from machine"

Enrad flips me 1 Dobbar (money)

Hoft:"arrogant bastard! *weeze* want me to fry em?"

Enrad doesn't seem to want to talk to me, though I can probably ask Hoft stuff

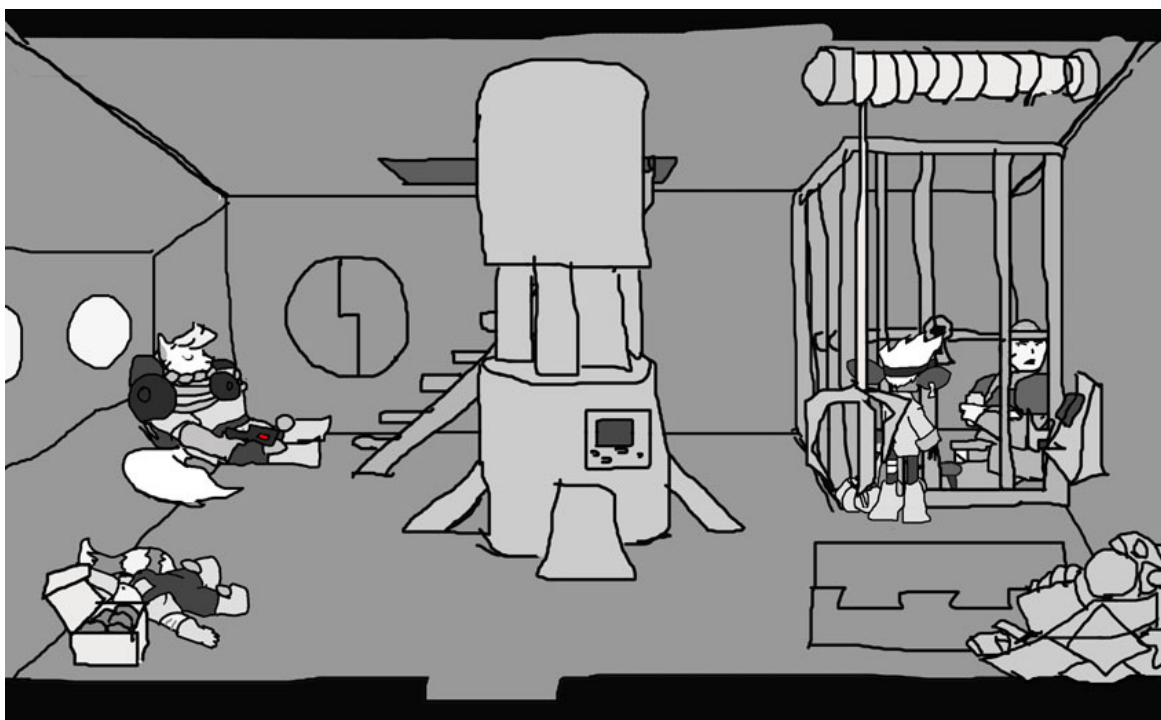


Oken: "Don't waste the shot Hoft, we have to conserve our battery power"

the lady picture seems to be glued into the locket

>Oken walks up to the vending machines

hmmmm, well lemon's a fruit, I don't know what all this other stuff is though



57, 99, seems a little short to open a door . . .

I bring Enrad a Lemon drink, he seems dissapointed, but takes the drink anyways

Enrad: "you know my name, this is my home, what is your name, what is your home"

Should I tell him my name? should I really tell him the truth about my homeworld?

he seems willing to talk, I could probably ask him somequestions of my own



(sorry about the really long post)

Prince: "Hoft's injuries are quite severe, he's stable for now, but he needs a doctor, If my hard ware was still intact I could have provided treatment myself"

Oken: " my name is Oken, Asnia Oken Pilot-officer"

Oken: " my home was the ParadiseWorld: Doraun"

I see his eyes grow wide, he knows . . .

"it was called that because of it's beauty, keeping our planet beautiful was one of the few things my people were good at, it was pretty much a resort planet"

Enrad doesn't seem able to look me in eyes anymore

"three years ago. I was still in flight academy when I heard the news, DORAUN HAD BEEN DESTROYED.

my people had always been peacefull, but we were not unprepared,
your people must have known this,
your people knew they couldn't win a strait up fight,

and your people had a secret weapon, a bomb that would exterminate all life on a planet."

"but you already knew all that"

* * *

Enrad remains quite for several minutes

Enrad: "are you going to shoot me, Oken?"

Oken: "I'm not out for revenge Enrad, I'm looking for answers, will you answer my questions?"

Enrad: "yes"

I ask him about the other planets, he confesses that his people did do all those things, I ask him why and he starts to cry

Enrad: "THE GENERALS ARE MAD! they act at random, or so the others think, I know the truth, THEY LISTEN TO THE VOICES! and they kill anyone who rebels, I got this job to get out of the city, IN THE CITY THE VOICES ARE EVERYWHERE!"



I think Hoft is asleep

I tell Enrad about Hoft's encounter

Enrad: "I'M NOT BUGGED, I SWEAR IT!"

Oken: "so the voices come from the bugs right?"

Enrad: "NO! the voices are in the air, in your mind! they are GODS! they see EVERYTHING, they KNOW everything, and they tell you to do things. if you resist, then they send the BUGS!"



I ask Enrad more about the bugs

Enrad: "they always latch onto the neck, is easier to eat brain that way,"

Oken: " . . . they eat brains?"

Enrad: "only when done controlling"

there are no bugs on Enrad's neck, but the rest of his body is covered by his bulky clothing

Talking to Enrad is getting boring, I should probably find something else to do



I guess I wasn't really paying much attention to what Enrad was talking about, I got distracted thinking about home, besides it was all crazy ramblings right?

. . . is it possible he's telling the truth?

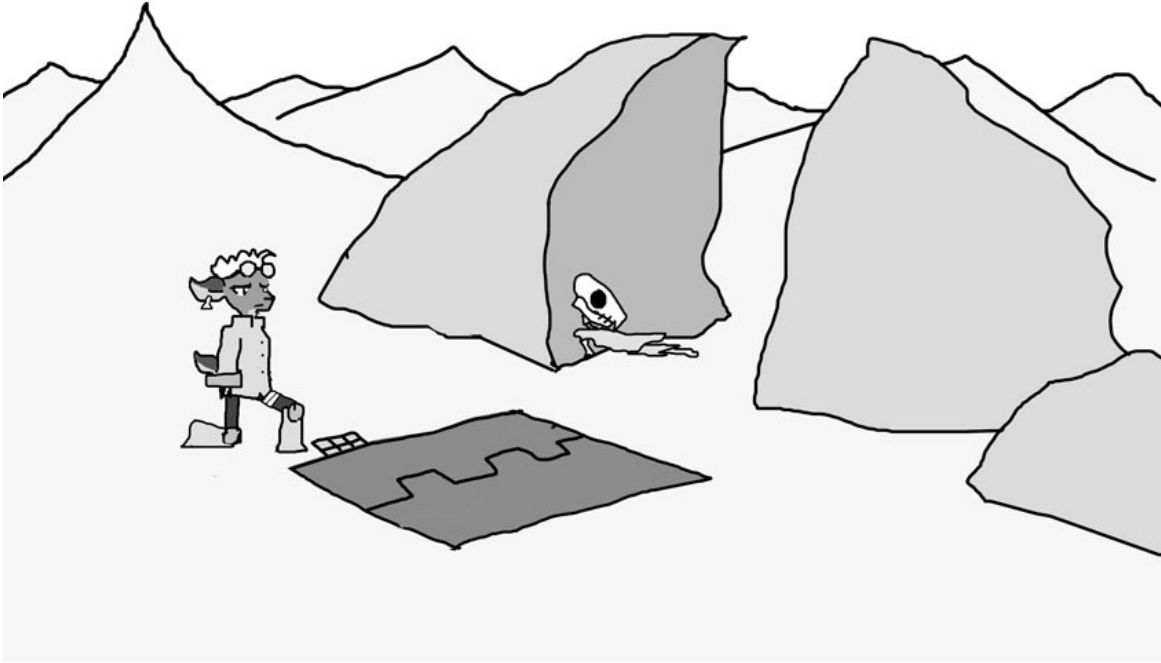
that said, I could probably still get some more info out of him

I ask Enrad about the prisoners

Enrad: "we never used to take prisoners, the voices always told us not to, about a month ago the voices changed thier minds,we were to take every furre we found captive, prisoners were also shipped here from other worlds"

I ask Enrad about Enrad about the voices . . . again

Enrad: "oh they've alway been here! but it got a lot worse after Parlshima was built"

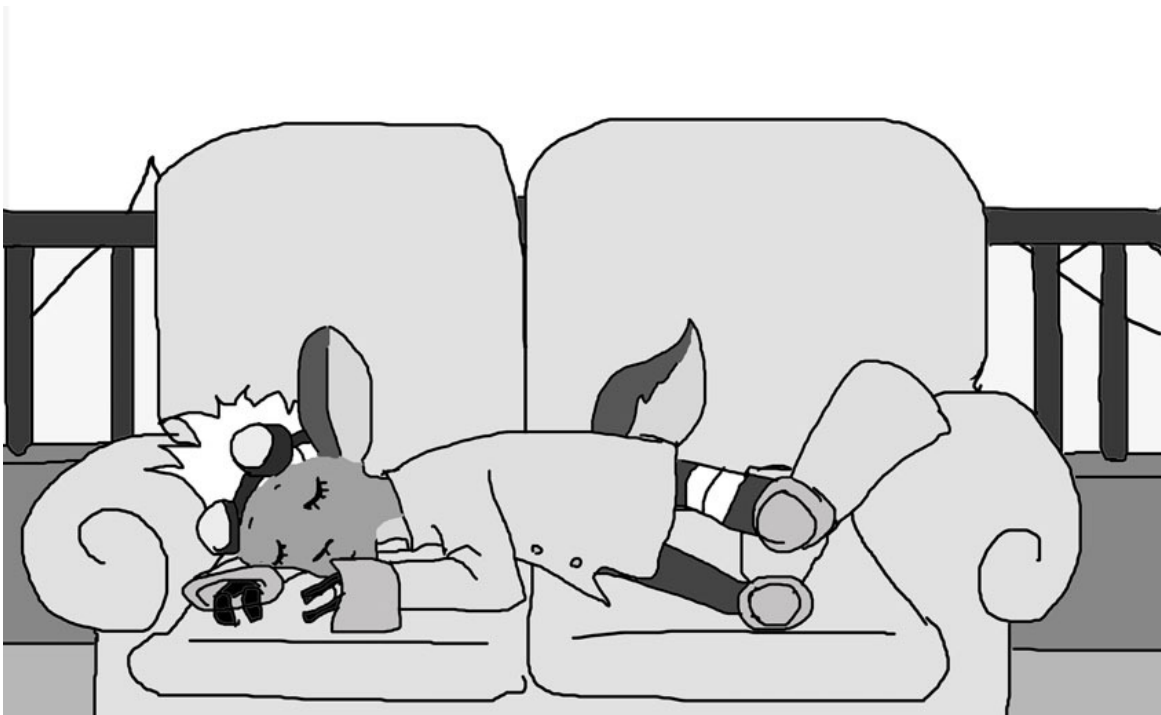


>Oken types in the numbers

5. 7. 9. 9.

. . . it didn't work, the door's still closed

>Oken is tired, If she doesn't find something else to do, she's going to take a nap until mint wakes up



I am NOT sleeping next to a corpse!

besides, there's a nice comfy couch back in the Giraffe!

>Oken returns to The Rampaging Giraffe, and collapses on the couch. sleep finds Oken quickly and soon she is in the world of dreams

>but of what does Oken dream?



>Oken dreams many a dream

>of happy dreams, and peacefull dreams

>but then there are bugs

>of scary dreams, even erotic dreams

>but still there are bugs

>she dreams of Doraun, of flying, she likes flying

>but always are there bugs

>there is a voice. it sounds sweet, feminine, yet cold, and consuming, the voice scares Oken she has never heard anything like it her entire life

Voice: "my children come for you Oken . . . they come for you in the darkness . . . you cannot hide . . . they will find you . . ."

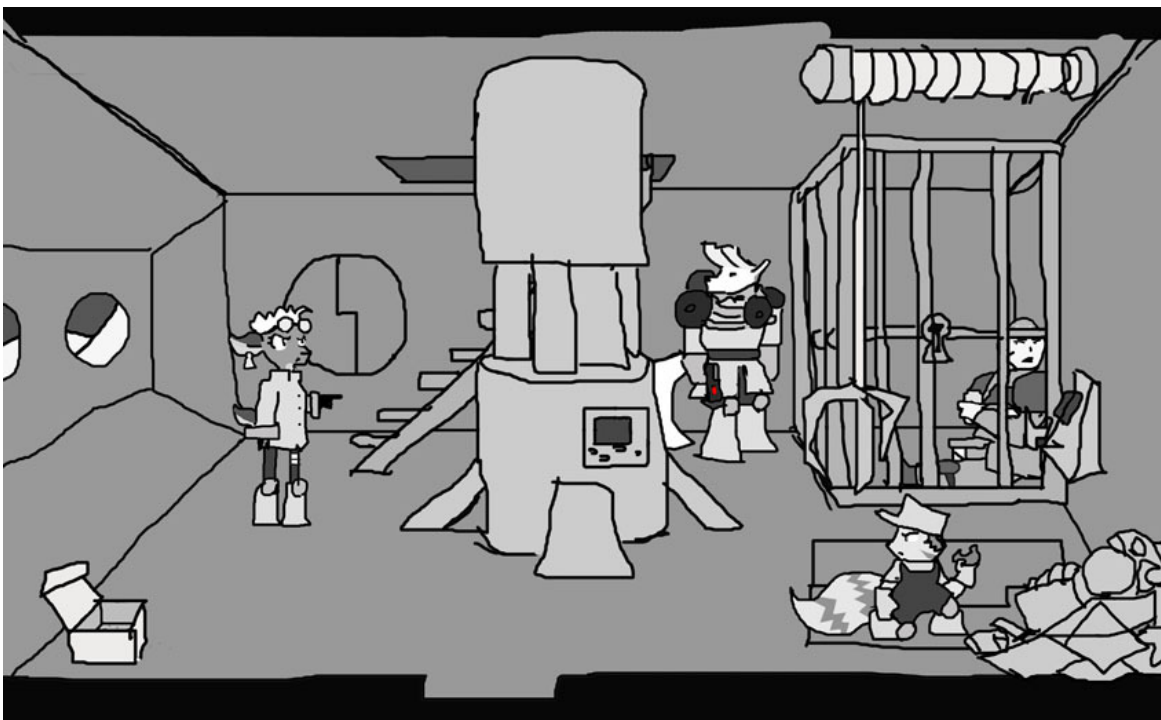


>Oken awakens to voices

Enrad: "THEY DO NOT LIE, THEY KNOW ALL"

Hoft: "your insane!"

Mint: "shut up, both of you! I'm trying to think here!"



Oken: "STOP SHOUTING! I'm coming down!"

>Oken heads downstairs

Mint: "wow! way to ignore me, AND be redundant! also wasting your breath, these guys have been bickering for the last hour."

Bugs are animals right? I use the space compass to detect animal life in the area, it detects 4

I use prince to scan Enrad,

Prince: "other then the injuries you incured, he seems perfectly healthy"

Mint: "I was WONDERING were that head wen't, Twiggy pass it here"



I give Prince to Mint

I use the compass to detect animal life sign, I'm getting a large burst of stuff coming from Parlshima, ETA 45 minutes

Oken: "OK every be quiet for a minute, we need to talk strategy. Mint I'm pretty sure horrible bug monsters are going to attack us tonight"

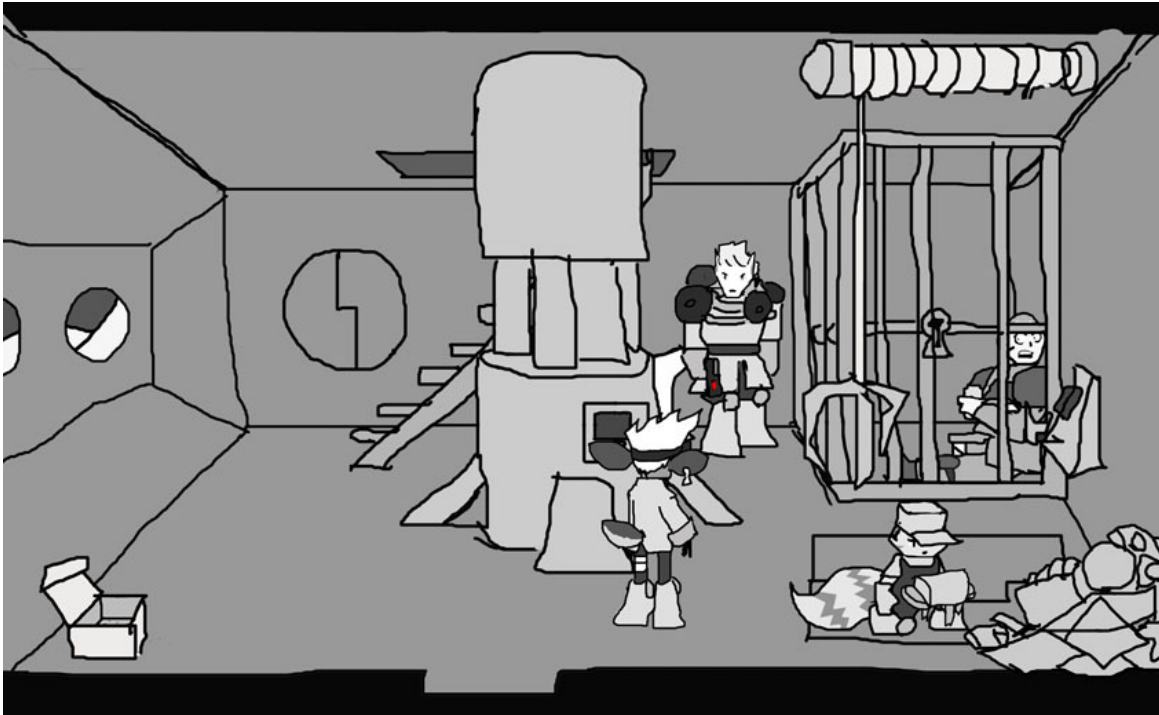
Mint: "thanks for the stellar heads up, I'll be sure to pick up some bugspray at the local corner store"

Oken: "could we hold out here, could we set up defenses?"

Mint: "maybe, as long as we don't fire any weapons, and pray that the bugs keel over to harsh language.*munch, munch* defenses? HAH it'd be sun up before I could get anything worthwhile built, want my advice? drive around in circles and hope they get bored before we run out of gas"

Oken: there's a civilian hatch nearby, can you open it?

Mint: "sure, it'd only take a minute"



it probably is a good idea not to squeeze Mint, she can get pretty mean with that tazer.

I ask Hoft about the voices

Hoft: "If we're right, then these "voices" are the master minds behind this entire war, and there for our true enemy, we shouldn't trust a word they say"

Enrad: "do not doubt the voices, they know all!"

I tell mint about the numbers

Mint: "hmm writing numbers down, that's an odd thing for a Cazarni to do . . .

Oken: "how long until you can get Prince running again?"

Mint: "I can't fix Prince, at least not fully. he's missing to many parts. though I can make him a mobile frame, and get one of his major functions back online, I'm not quite sure which systems I want though. it should take about 4 hours



I ask Enrad about the what the voices say

Enrad: "many things, they tell us; the fures will never let you live, they will come for you, in the darkness, you cannot hide, they will find you and all your people will die"

Hoft: "DAMN STRAIT! you guys are psyco bastard, your just asking to get nuked from orbit!"

Oken: "Mint can you disable this vehicle, so the pinkos can't take"

Mint: "dissable it? HAH, I could turn it into proximity bomb, No Pinko'll steal it then

>the characters can only carry a limited amount of heavy items, Oken can carry 8, Hoft: 12, Mint: 4, Enrad: 4 (Enrad can use a metalarm as a crutch),

>Mint will need 5 robot gizmos, wires, Prince, space suit, a spanner, in order to fix Prince

>available supplies (grouped items count as 1): Raygun(4 shots), SpaceCompass, spanner, spacesuit, Prince, battery(ammo clip), medkit(no bandages), vegRations(5), vegRations(5), vegRations(5), water Cantines(full), combat knife, combat knife, combat knife, stunRifle(48 shots), revolver(5 shots), tazer(50 charges), books(2), metalPlate, metalPlate, metalPlate, metalPlate, metalPlate, metalPlate, metalPlate, tread, wheels(6), metalArm, metal bits(10), metal bits(10), robotgizmo, robotgizmo, robotgizmo, robotgizmo, robotgizmo, robotgizmo, robotgizmo, robotgizmo, robotgizmo, wires, donutBox(empty), meatRations(5), meatRations(5), meatRations(5), meatRations(5), meatRations(5), meatRations(5), meatRations(5), handLaser(20 shots), handLaser(20 shots), rapidLaser(broken), antimatterCannon(5 shots), fireAxe, machete, (I may have forgotten some things)

>pack well, it is unlikely they will have time for a second trip



Oken: "we are NOT blowing up the Rampaging Giraffe!"

Mint: " . . . did you name the dune tower?"

Oken: "just dissable it, OK?"

* * *

>Mint dissables Rampaging Giraffe

>Oken and Co gather thier things

>Hoft: machete, antimatter cannon, handlaser(x2), stun rifle, rapidLaser, robotGizmo(x2),meatRations(15)

>Oken: SpaceCompass, RayGun, Canteens, veg-rations(15), battery, spacesuit,

>Mint: Spanner, tazer, Prince, wires

>Enrad: metalArm, robot gizmo(x3)

> you may now directly control Hoft and Mint, as well as Oken, though the story will still be from Oken's point of view

Mint hacks the keypad, then types in a code

3. 5. 3. 3. 4. 9.

Mint: "done"

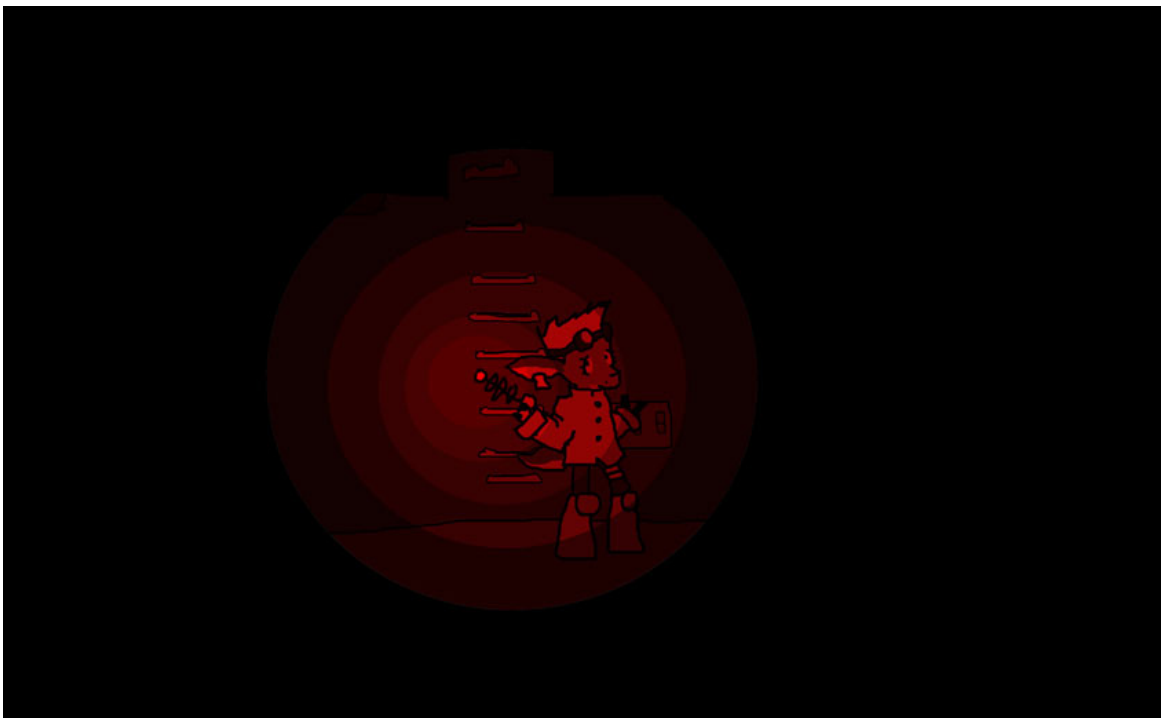
I look into the darkness, who should go in first?



>Oken descends into the darkness

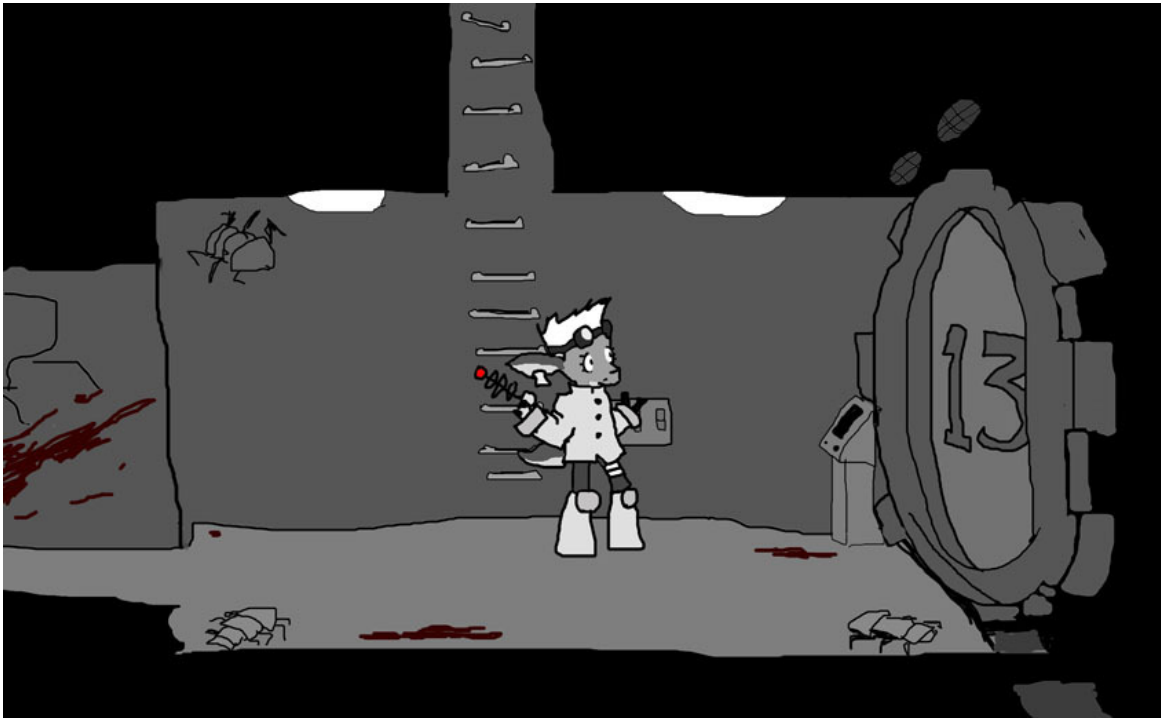
>in case of death, back up character is now Hoft

I wish I had a flashlight . . .



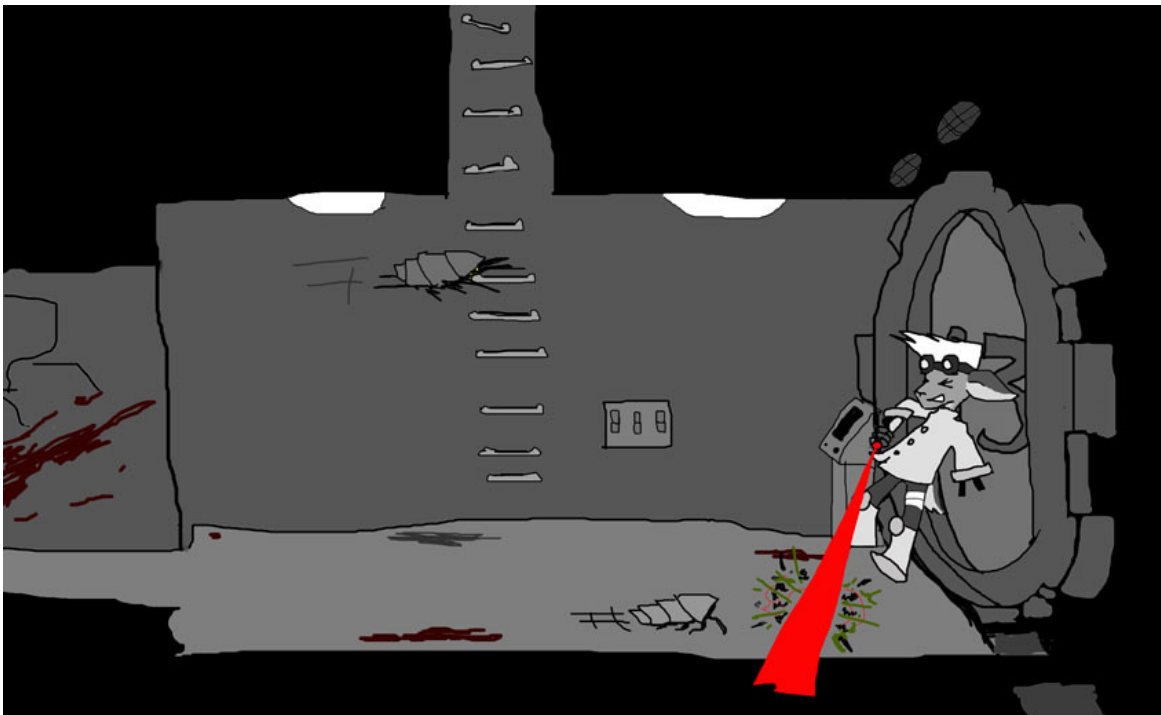
>do to her minor night vision, and soft light from the Raygun, Oken is able to see at least a little bit in the darkness

what do I do now, do I call the others down?

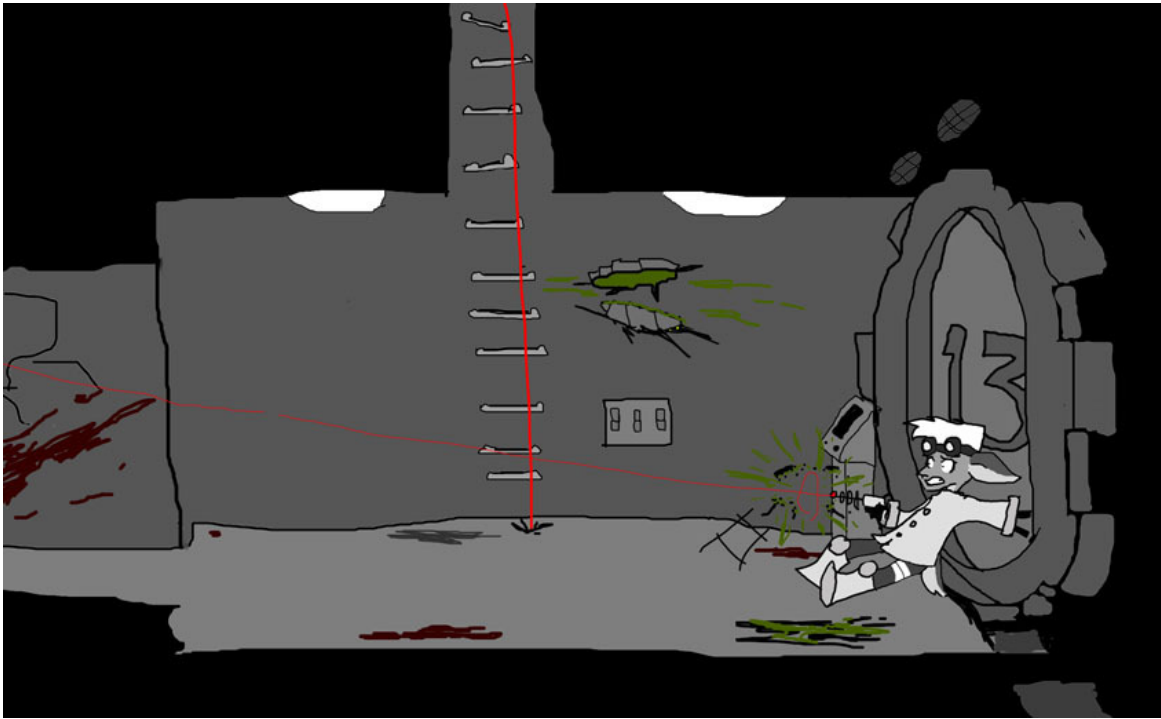


>Oken flips on the lightswitch

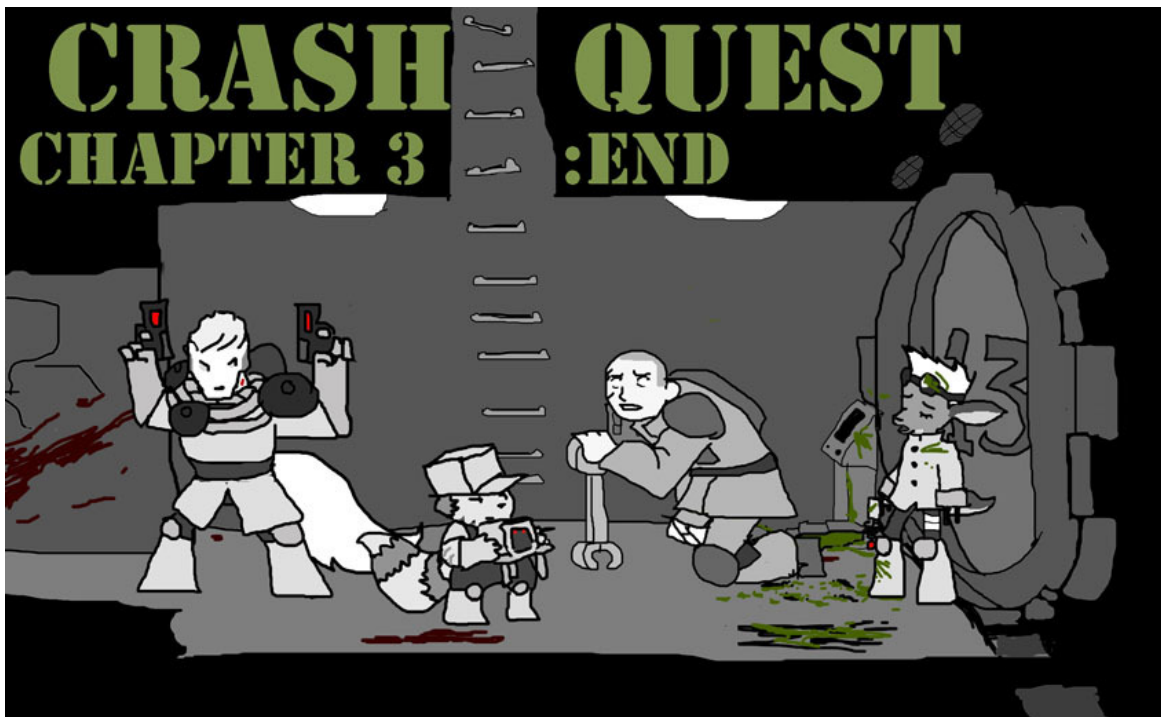
huh? another door?



Okens: "HOFT! hostiles all around me!"

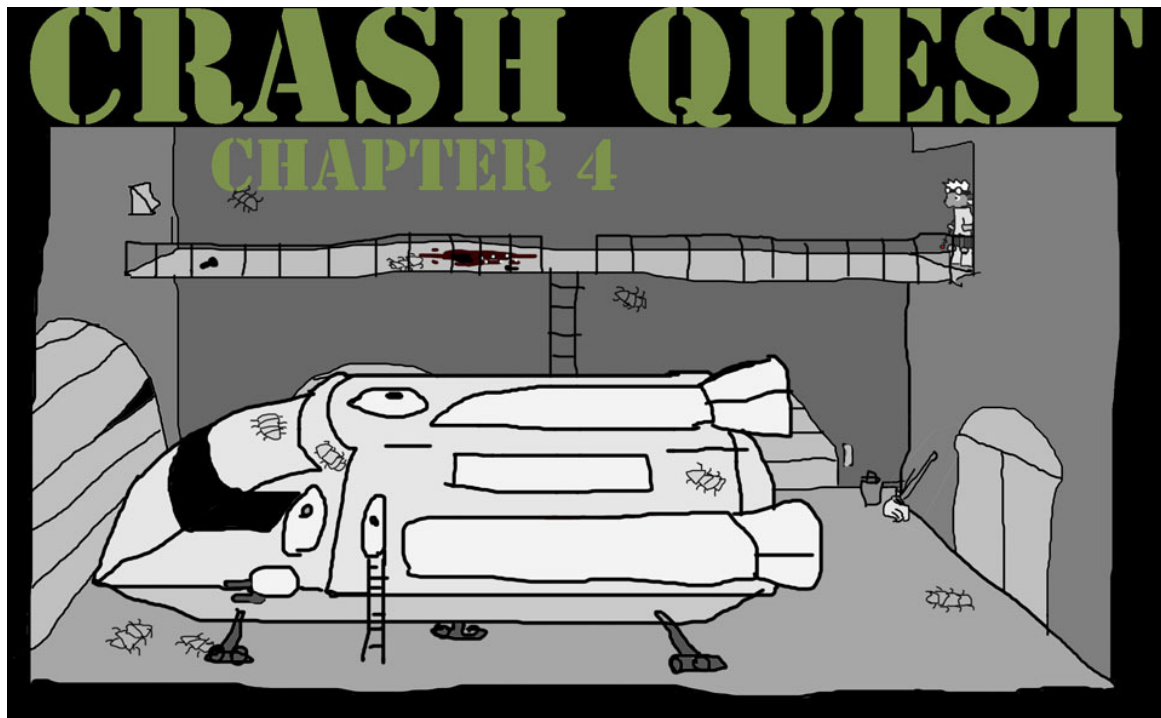


Hoft: "got you covered!"



Oken: "area clear! team move in"

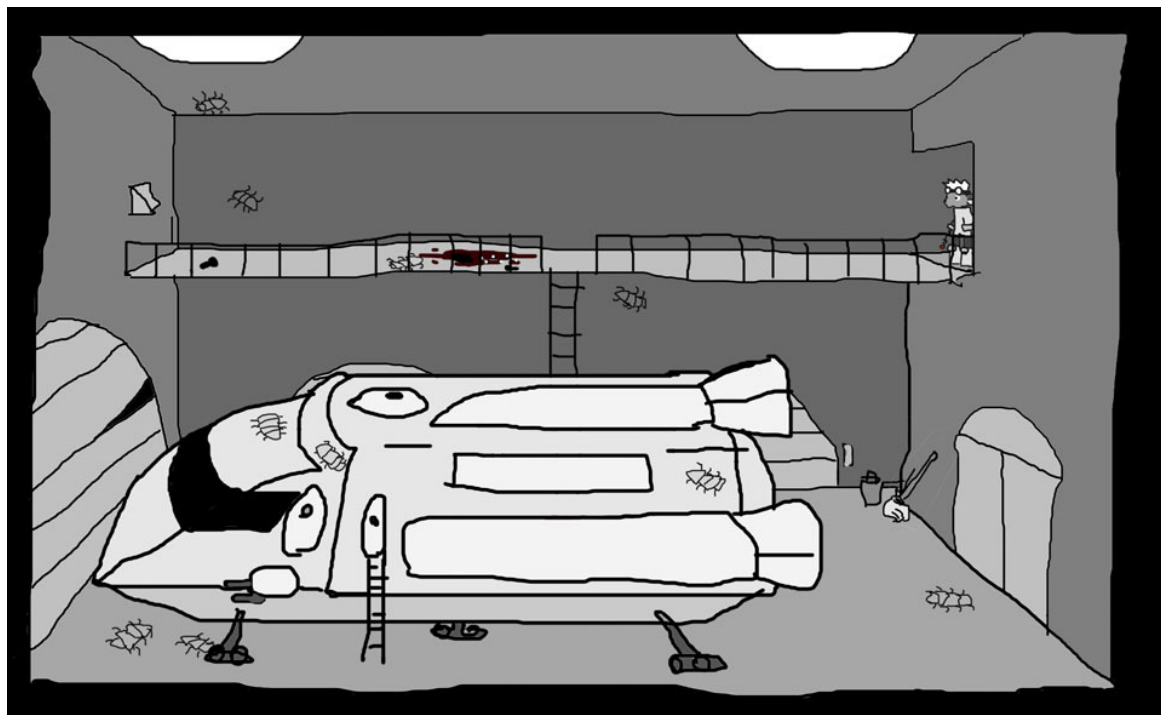
Chapter 3: end



Old threads

>>237125

>>242298



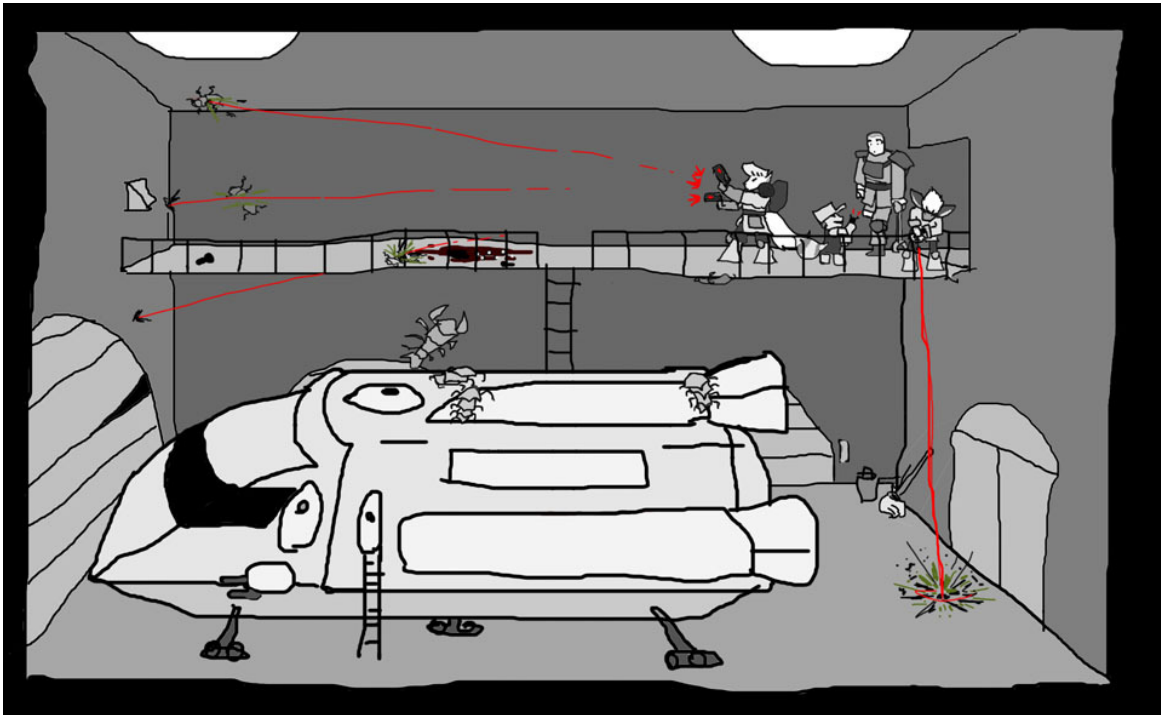
my name is Asnia Oken,
an Ace Pilot from Doraun
and one of the last of my kind

I'm not sure who's my real enemy anymore
is it still the Pinkies?
or are these bug's truly responsible for my people's suffering?

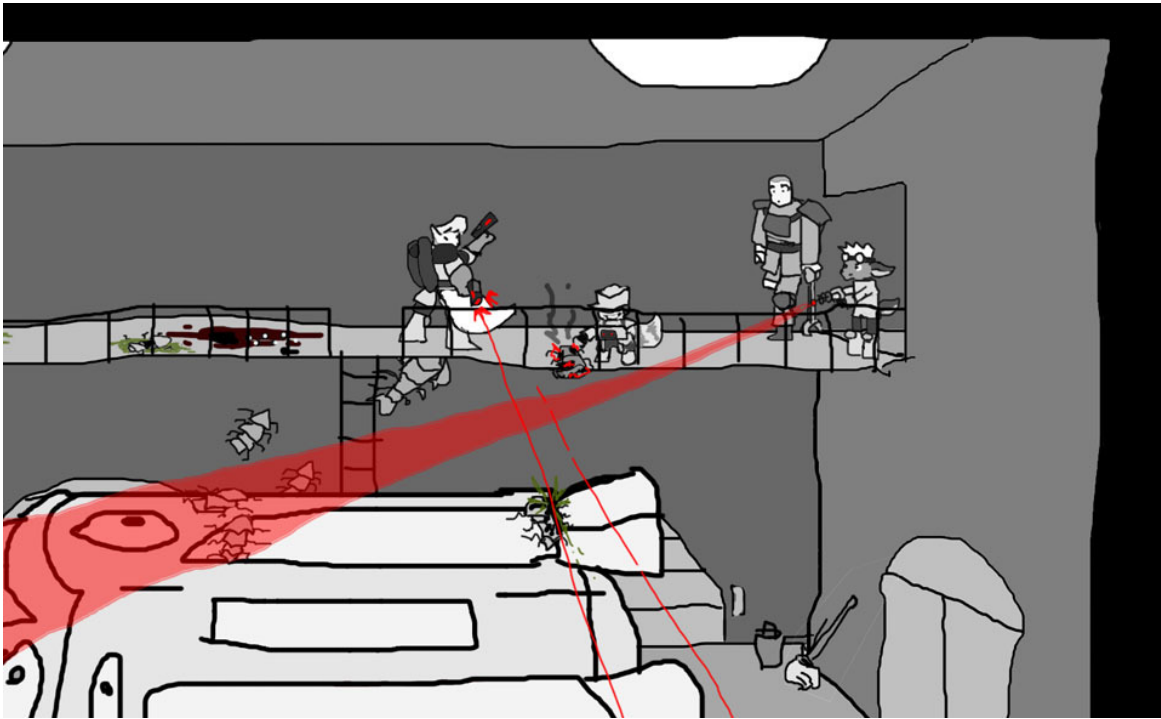
one thing IS certian though, these bugs are REALLY starting to piss me off!

my team and I are ready to fight for our survival

>you can control: Oken, Hoft and Mint



Oken: "OK gang, let's toast some bugs!"



Mint: "MOVE IT, Snowy!"

>>246218

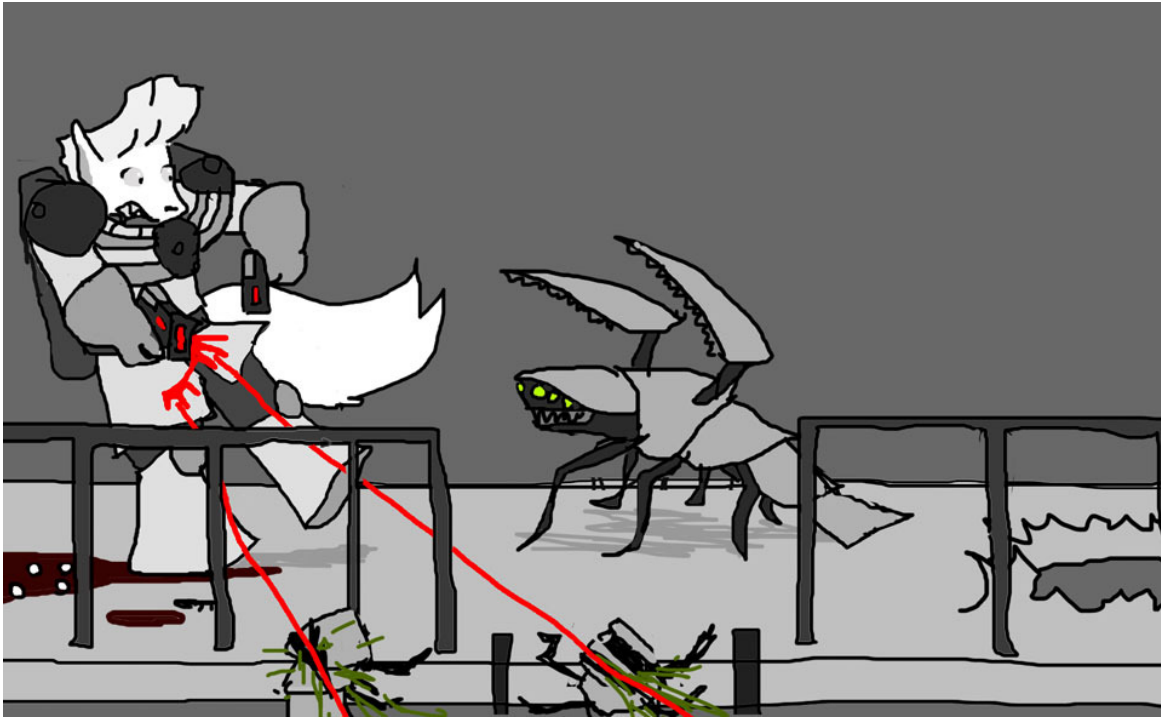
>fine, Mint decides to torture something else instead!

those ones on the ship look ready to jump!

Oken: "Hoft! the ship!"



Hoft: Bastards are hiding under the catwalk, maybe a grenade will- GAAAH!



Hoft (thought): shit! no time to charge the force field, no time to charge gravboots, I can't make that jump!

Hoft: "Oken! what the fuck are you doing!"

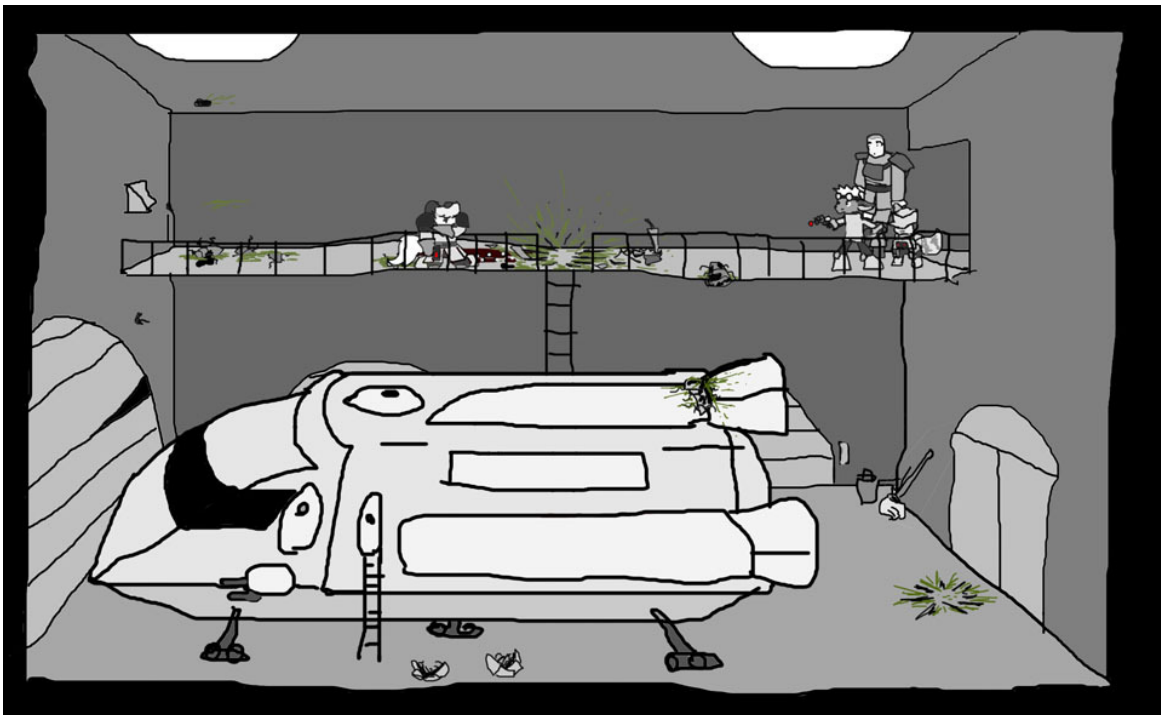
click *click*

Oken: "the gun! it's not working!"



>Oken uses the battery to recharge the raygun, it now has 10 shots!

>Mint chooses NOT to throw her only means of self defense



I think that was the last one . . .



I kill the two stunned bugs, and search the whole area for more of them, I can't find anymore bugs

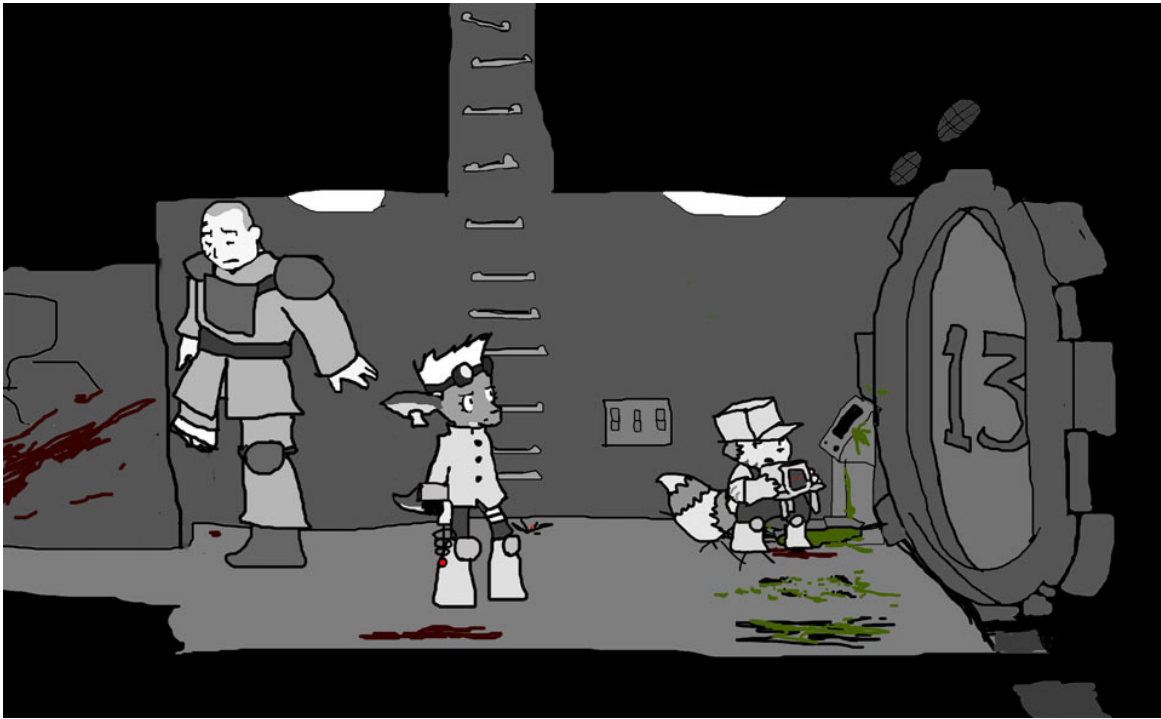
>Oken picks up [Cazarani starship key]

I can't treat Hoft's wounds, I don't have any bandages, even if I did, I'm no medic; I'm not even very good at first aid. Hoft needs a real doctor

Hoft: "don't worry about me, just a couple scratches, I'll be fine"

Enrad: "we cannot stay here! more bugs will be coming soon!"

Hoft: "Oken . . . can you hand me that needle thingy?"



>Oken Picks up syringe

It looks like the stim injector from the MedKit
someone already used 3 of its 5 shots

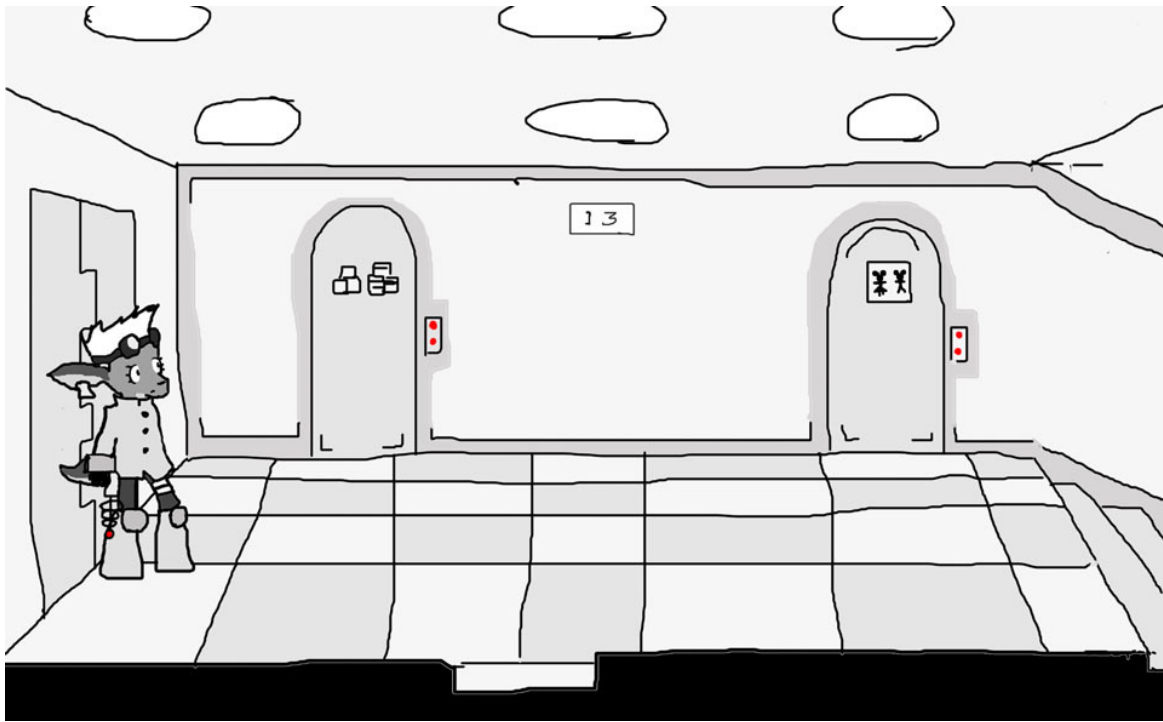
Prince: "Hoft has already taken three times the recommend dose of Stim, another dose of stimulant within such a short period will have an 87% chance of proving lethal"

>Oken decides not to give the syringe to Hoft

>Oken and Co head back to the vault room

Oken: "so can you open it?"

Mint: "this is MILITARY grade stuff here! not some civilian padlock. with out the passcode it could take me as long as two hours!"



>Hoft and Enrad choose to rest in vaultdoor room, Hoft eats some meatRations to help regain his strength

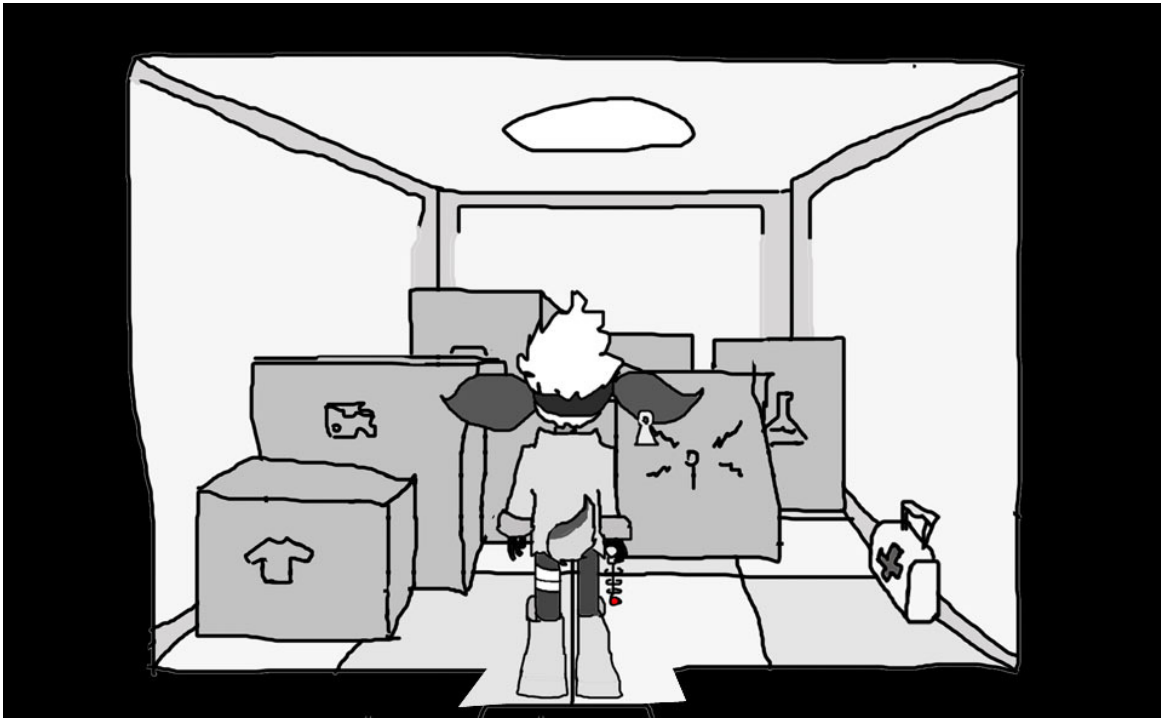
>Oken still has no bandages and is unable to treat Hoft

Oken: "I wonder if this code will work"

5. 7. 9. 9.

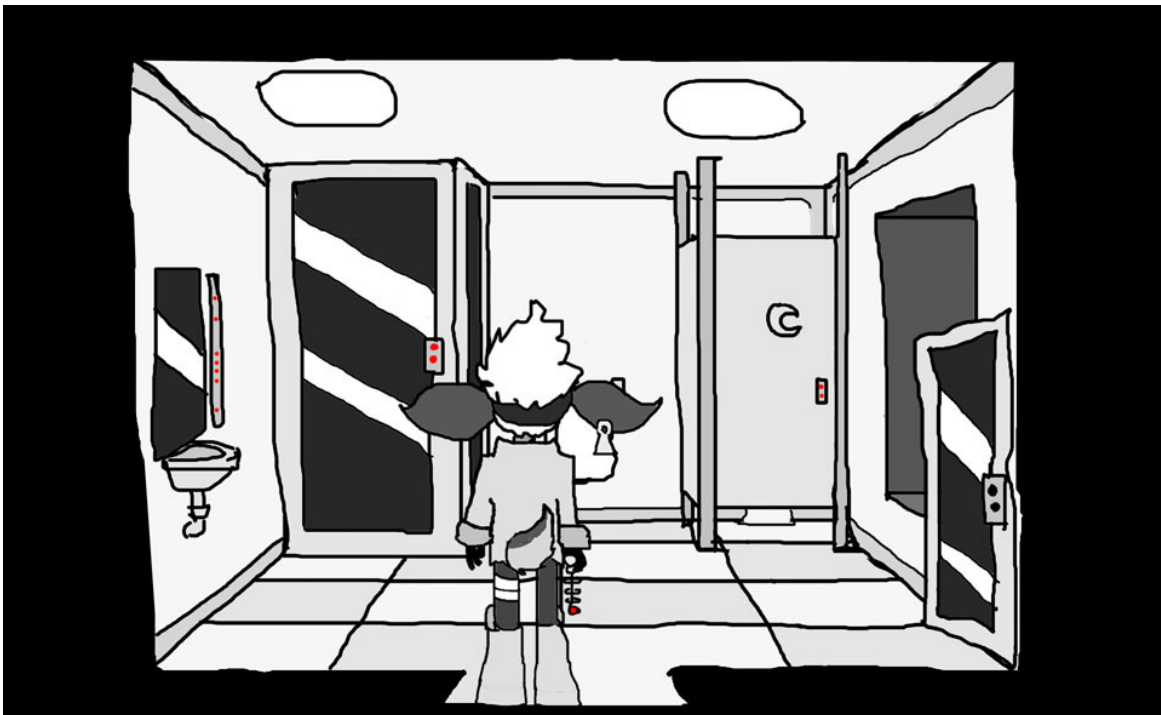
>the Vault door opens, Oken enters.

>Mint waits outside and watches the injured



>everyone enters the vault

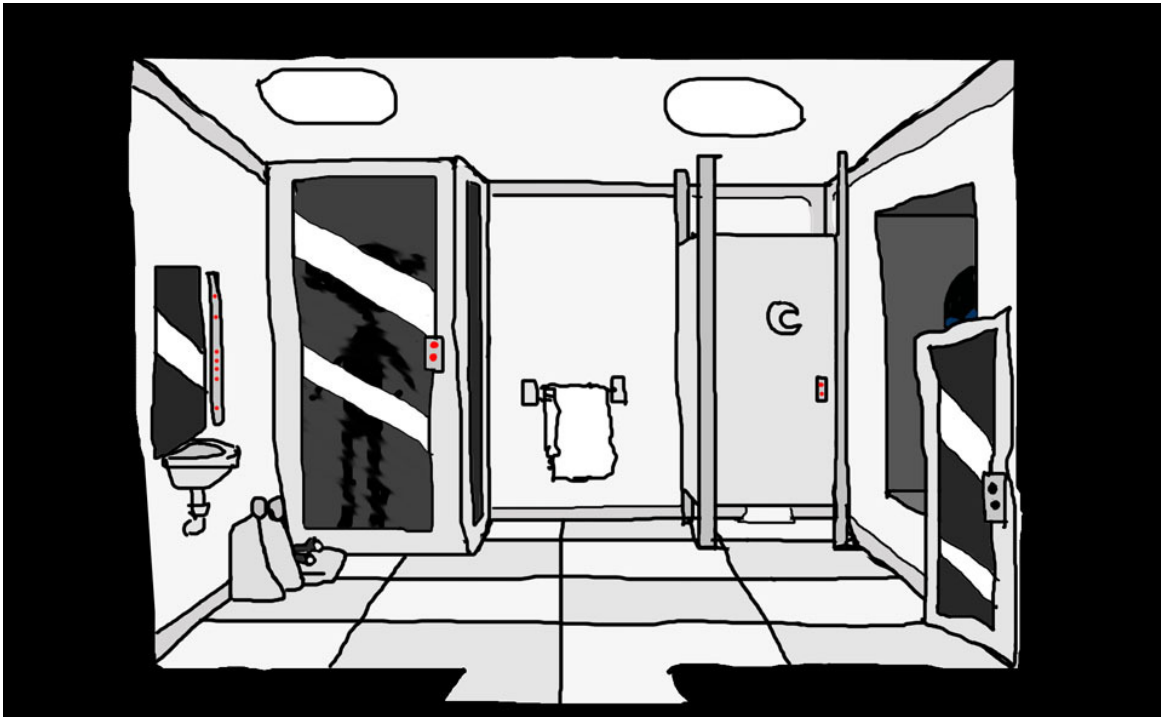
>Oken takes a look into the supply room



>Oken takes the medkit

>Oken treats Hofts wounds as best she can

>Oken then checks the washroom



actually it's not a shower, it's a RayTech(c) TurboCleaner!(tm) guaranteed to get you clean and dry in 30 seconds! or your money back!

>Oken checks the entire room for bugs, but doesn't find a single one (including the TurboCleaner(tm) and SpaceToilet)

>Oken uses the SpaceToilet, it functions perfectly despite it's age

>Oken uses the turbo cleaner . . .

a voice, sweet feminine, yet cold and consuming, it echoes in my mind

Voice: " . . . you can always wash away the dirt . . . but you can never wash away the sin . . ."

the voice laughs at me . . .

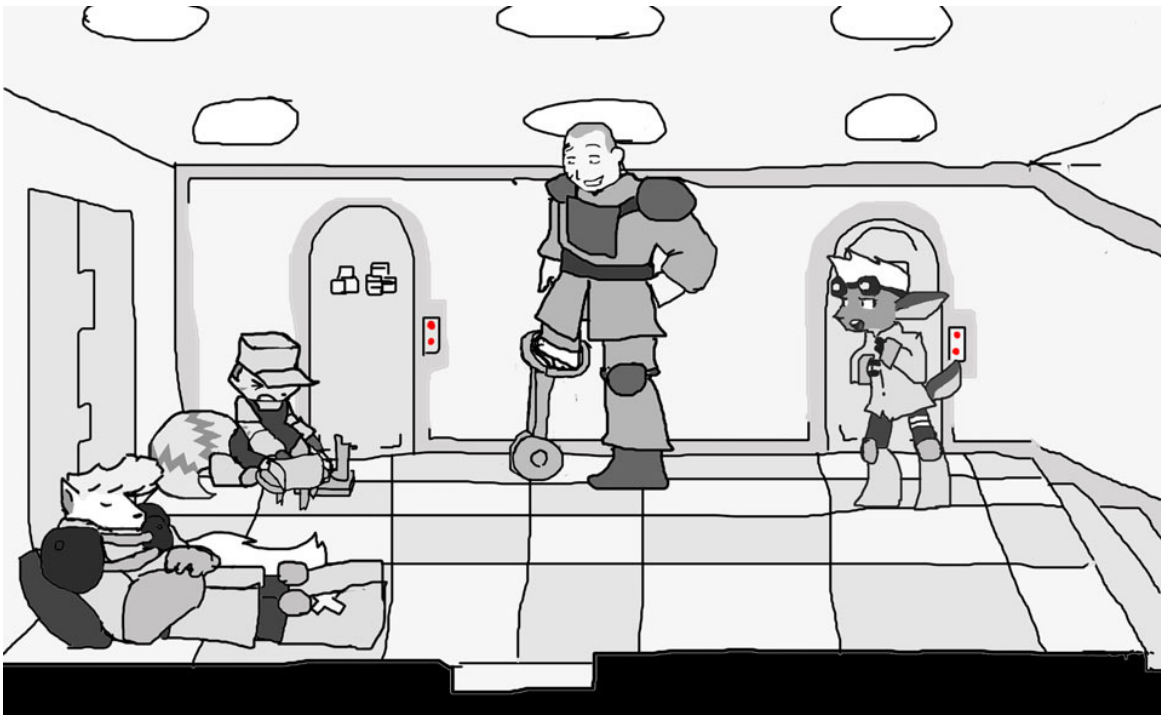


I knew it, I KNEW IT! girl tries to take a nice shower, and BAM little perverted fuckers come crawling out of the woodwork.

Oken: "Intruder IDENTIFY YOURSELF!"

the bastard's taken off running down that maintenance shaft, looks like a pinky

I've got a clear shot, but if I try a spread I'll hit the mirror . . .



Enrad: "look! I am pirate now!"

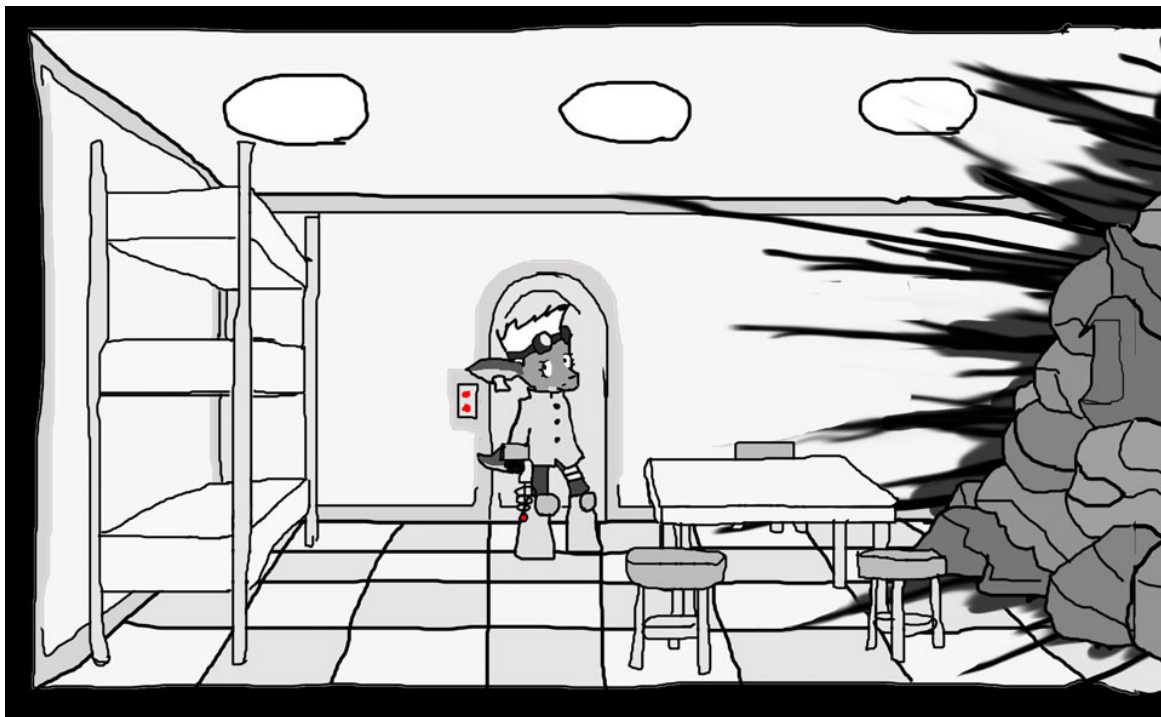
Mint: "twiggy, how annoying does someone have to be for murder to be considered self defense?"

Oken: " . . . I think there's another pinky down here"

Mint: "did you kill it? No? then how's about you let me get back to work and YOU get back to hunting it"

>what prime function is Mint rebuilding Prince for?

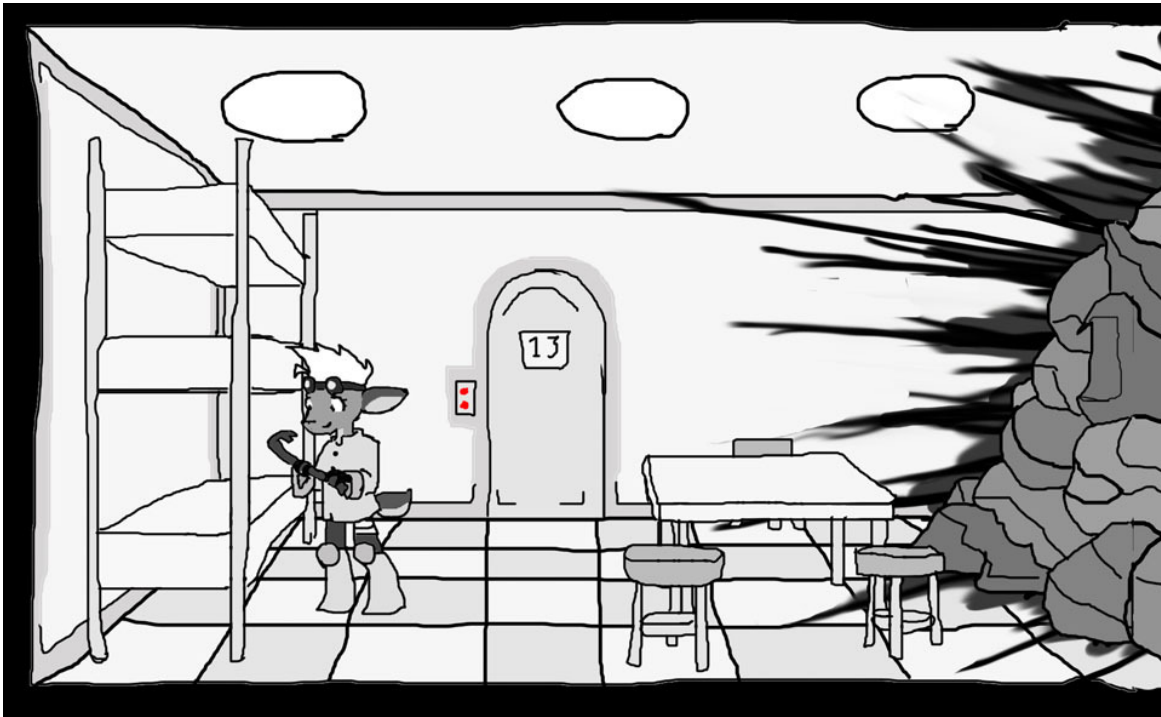
>does Oken go down the stairs next, or does she go in the last door?



the space compass says Enrad isn't a pirate, he seems rather dissapointed by this

>Mint goes about rebuilding Prince as a mediBot that can also cut people up in close combat

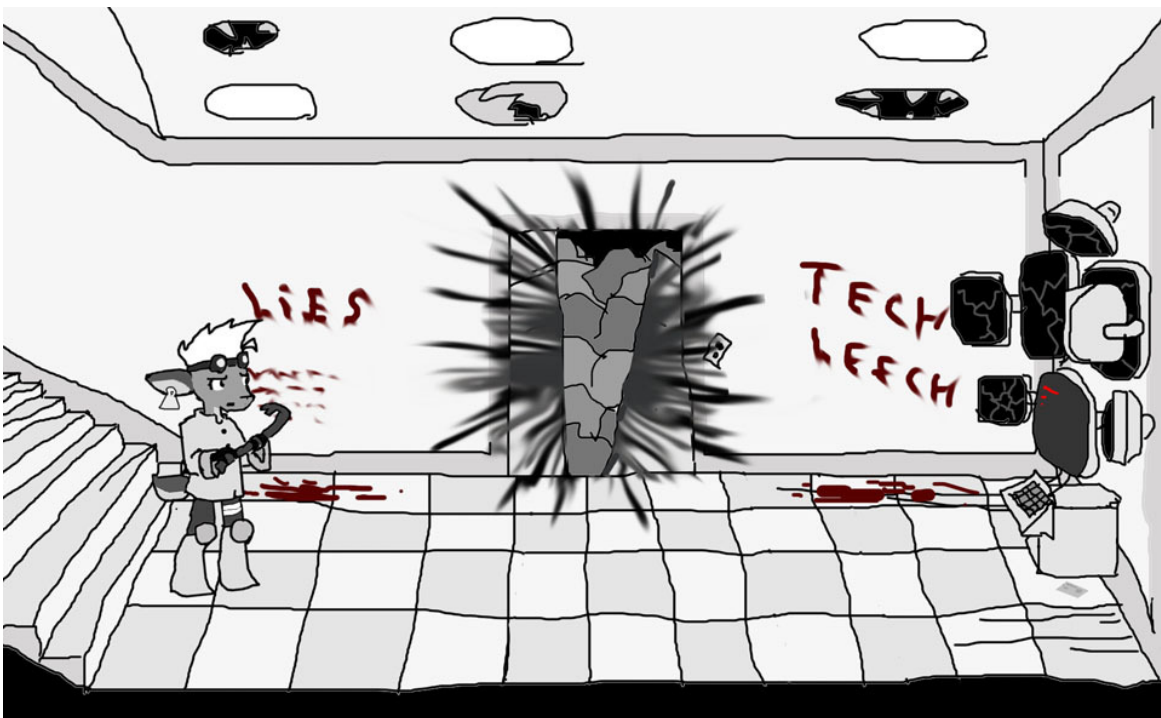
>Oken goes into the last room



>under the mattress Oken finds a CarboSteel Crowbar!

It looks like a cave in or something happened here, I can see some scorch marks

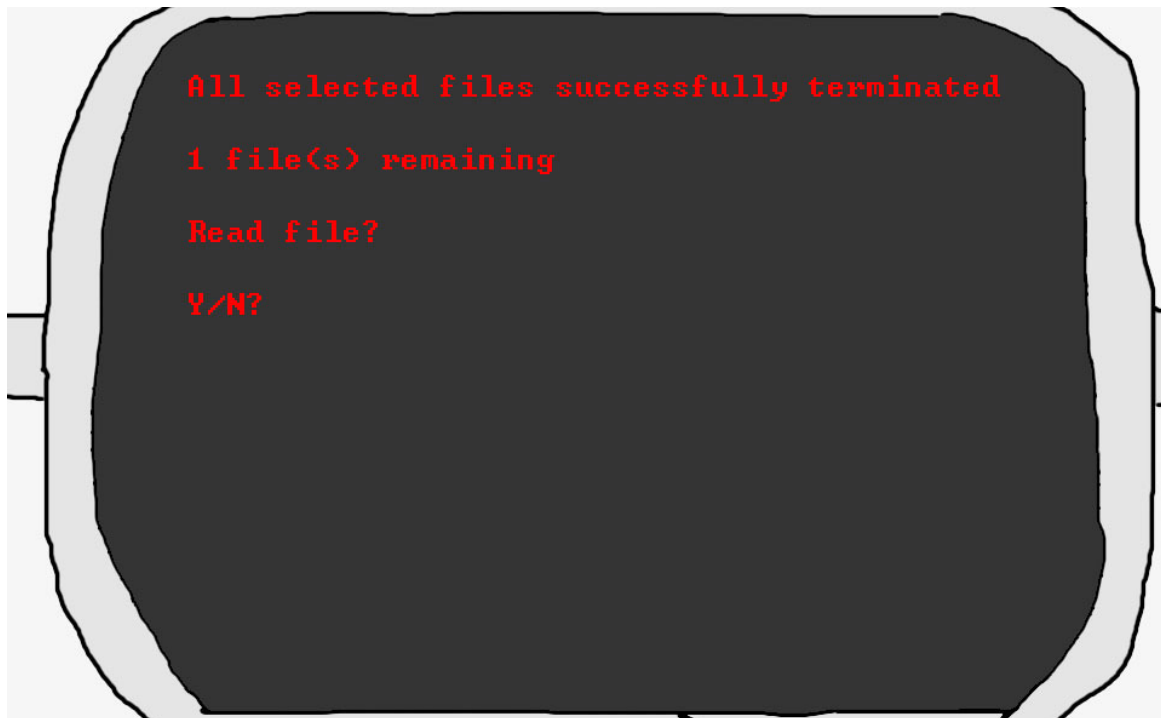
>does Oken go down the stairs, go into the maintenance shaft or do something else?



>Oken checks the supply room for batteries but apparently the vault is fresh out

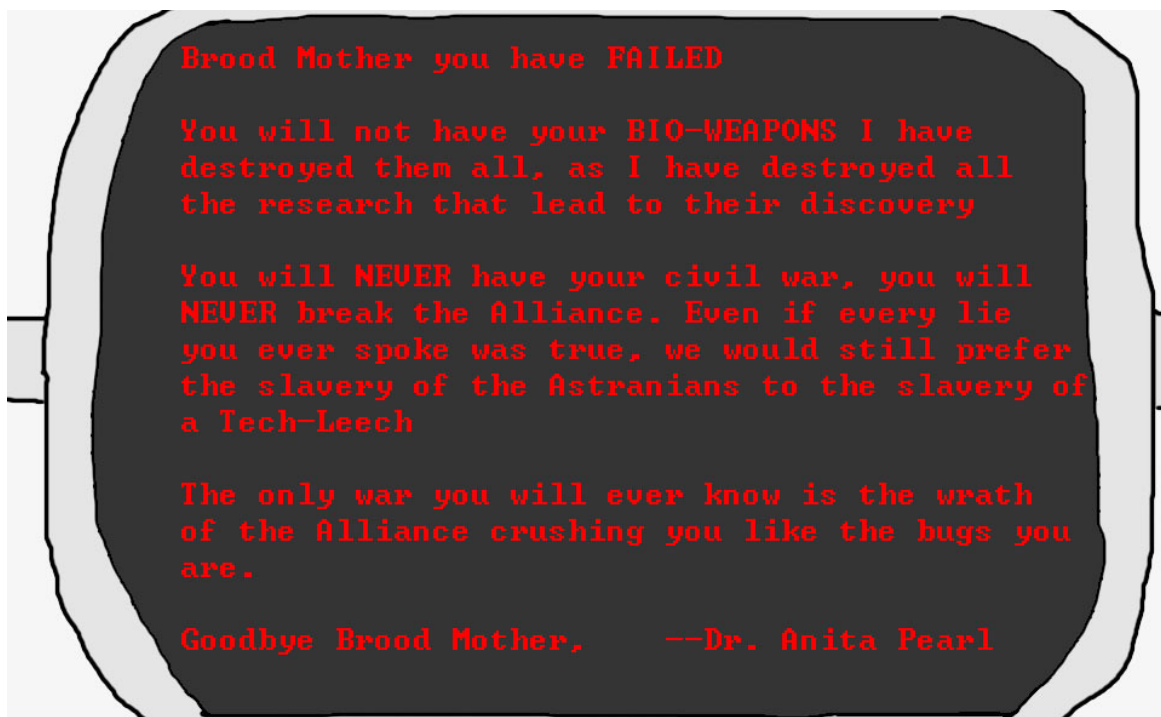
>Oken tells the others about the comfort room

>Oken goes down the stairs



>Oken picks up keycard

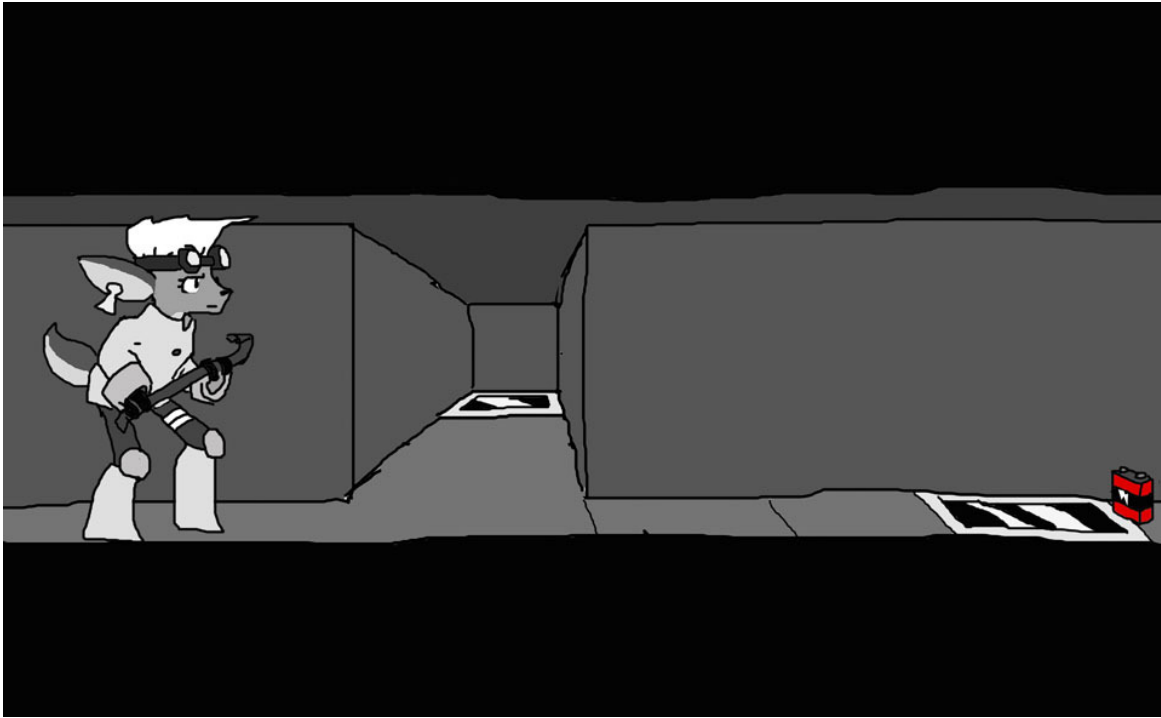
>Oken checks out the terminal



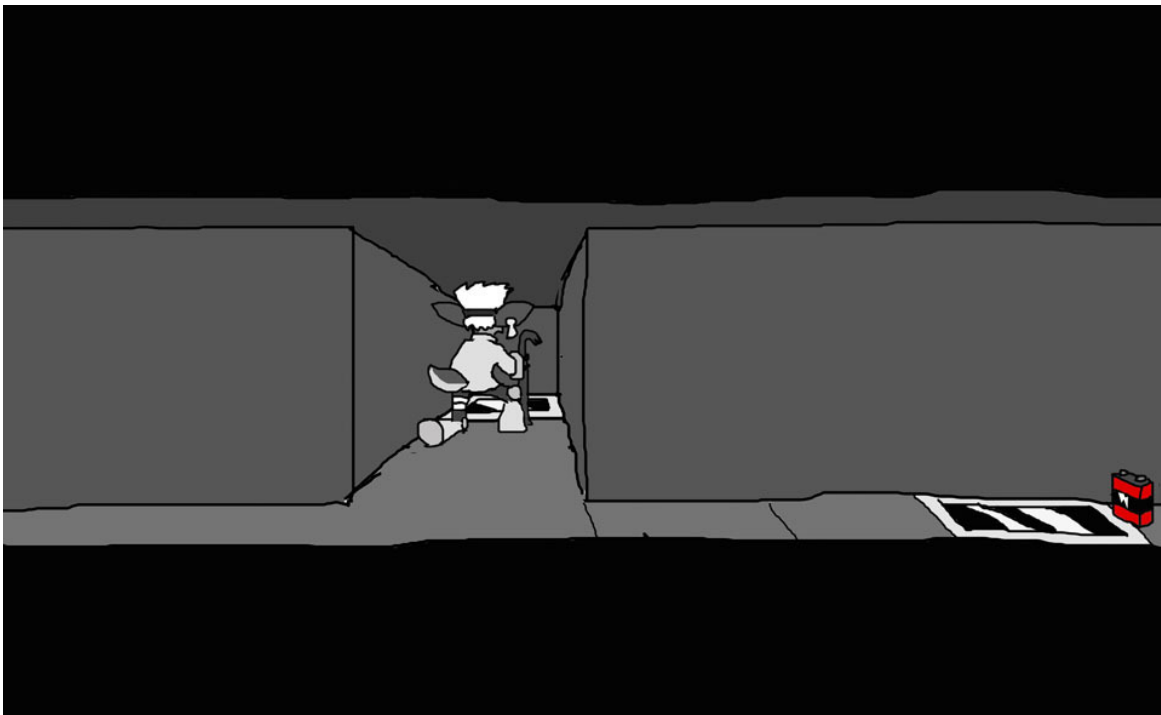
>Oken presses the "Y" key

. . .

the message is dated 33 years ago . . .



>Oken enters the maintenance shaft



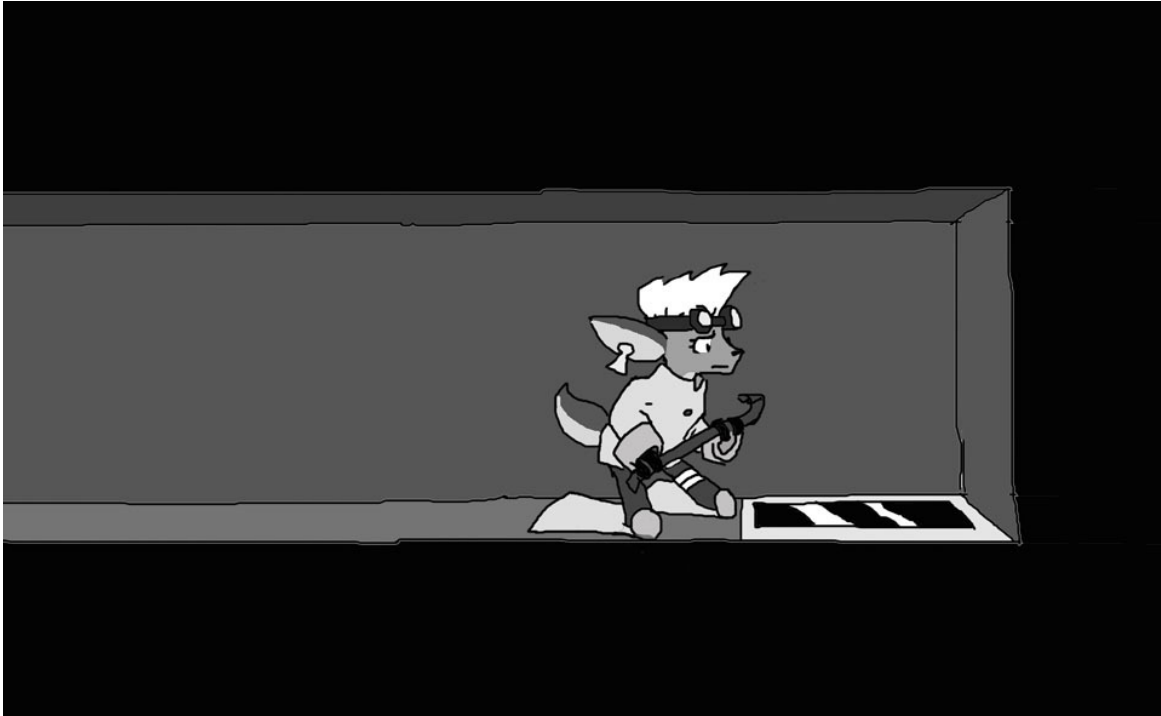
that panel is clearly a trap, and not a very good one, I could easily step over it

just incase I'll check out the left hand passage first.

I can hear quiet sobbing from a room below, but I can't see anything through the mirror panel

>Oken can remove a mirror panel using the CarboSteel Crowbar

what should I do now?



I tap the glass

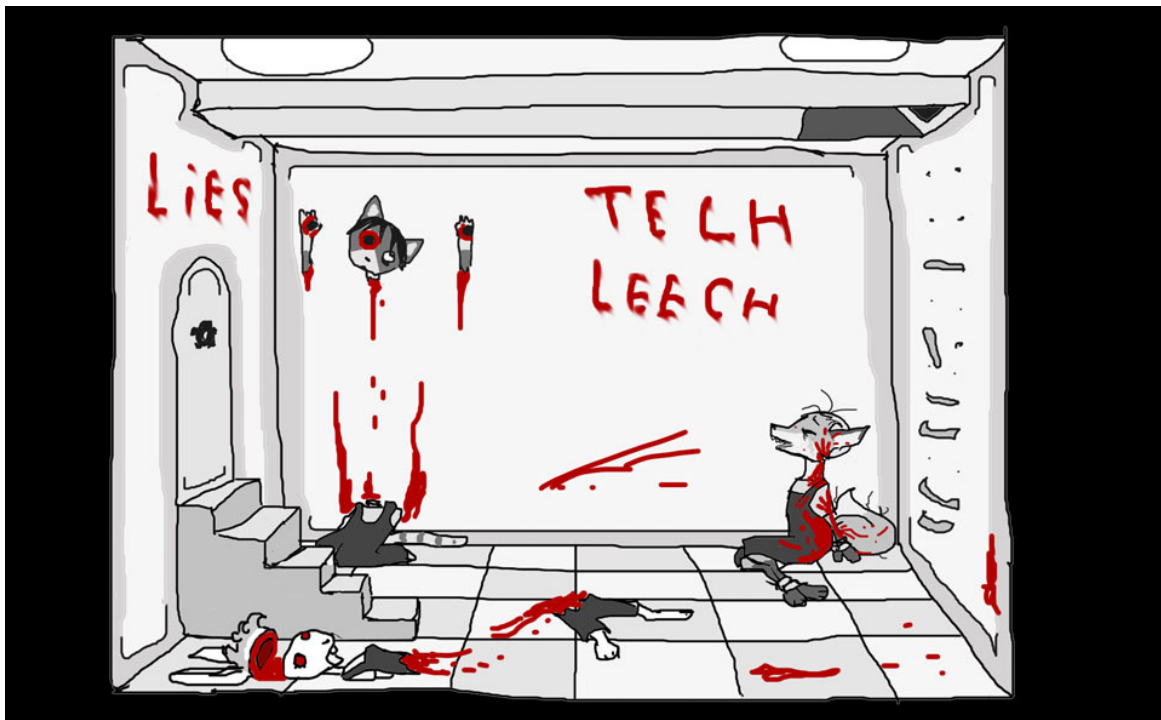
Oken: "Is anybody there?"

???: "oh thank the gods! please you must help me, he'll be back soon!"

a fellow Astranian! his voice sounds vaguely familiar, what should I do?

???: "please don't leave me here! he's going to murder me!"

the man continues sobbing



>Oken uses her CarboSteel Crowbar to lift the panel, using the mirror she looks into the room

oh no, oh no . . . I think I'm going to throw up

???: "why aren't you talking? you're not going to leave me here! please tell me your going to leave me here!"

Oken: "don't worry you're safe now, can you tell me your name?"

???: "uh Fuze, Belial Fuze, um your the bomber pilot right?"

I remember now, Fuze was a doctor aboard the Carrier-Warship our bomber launched from

Oken: "Fuze, who did this?"

Fuze: "a pinkskin I think. I never saw him, he shot me in the back with a stun pistol, when I woke up he had stolen my spectacles . . . Musk said he had insects crawling on him"



Oken: "how often does he come back?"

Fuze: "I've only been here a few hours, he only came in twice . . . the first time for Geme . . . the second time for Musk . . . I don't want him to come back a third time"

Oken: " . . ."

Fuze: "enough questions, I can explain everything when you get me out . . . your going to leave me here . . . you promised you wouldn't!"

Oken: "Fuze the ladder's broken, I'm going to get the others, we'll kill the pinky and resque you!"

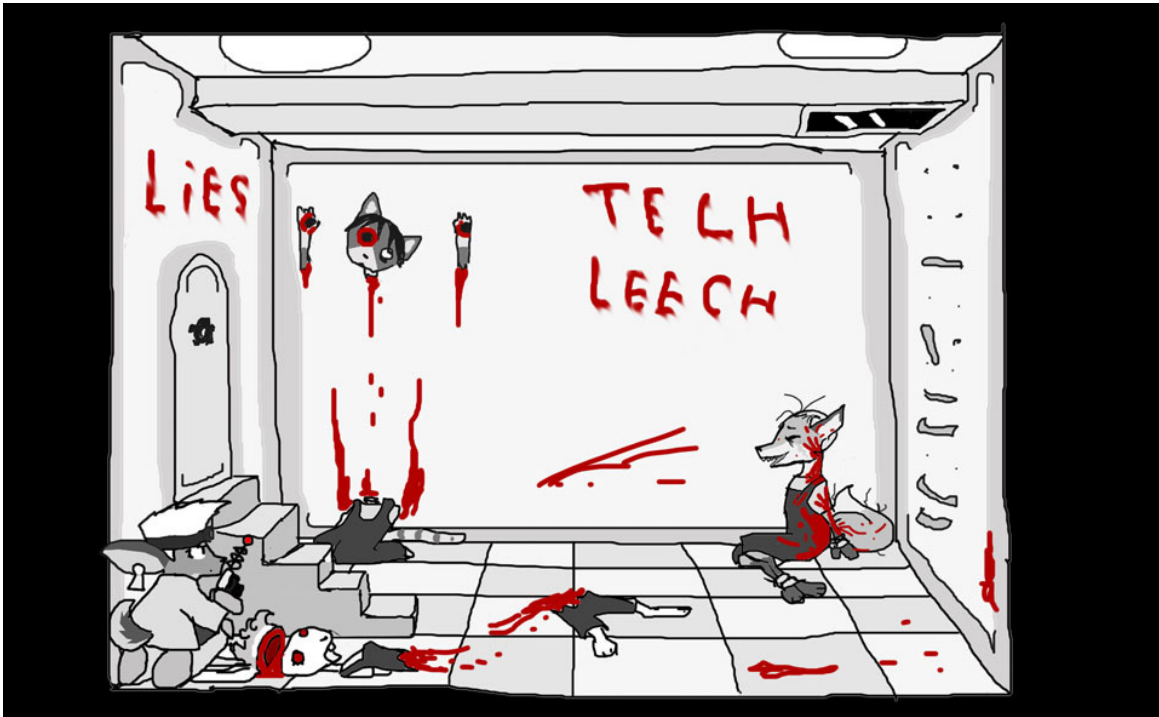
Fuze: " . . . I'm sure you'll find a nice corpse to resque, in fact you'll find three . . . you'll all be triple heroes . . . "

Oken: " . . . "

Fuze: "I-I I'm sorry I d-didn't mean t-that, please come back quickly"

He continues sobbing

I don't have a choice, there's nothing else I can do . . .



the SpaceCompass detects 4 lifesigns in the other room

Enrad and Hoft, are too hurt to be much help to me right now, and getting Mint to do something would probably take too long

I guess an ambush could work . . .

>Oken hops down

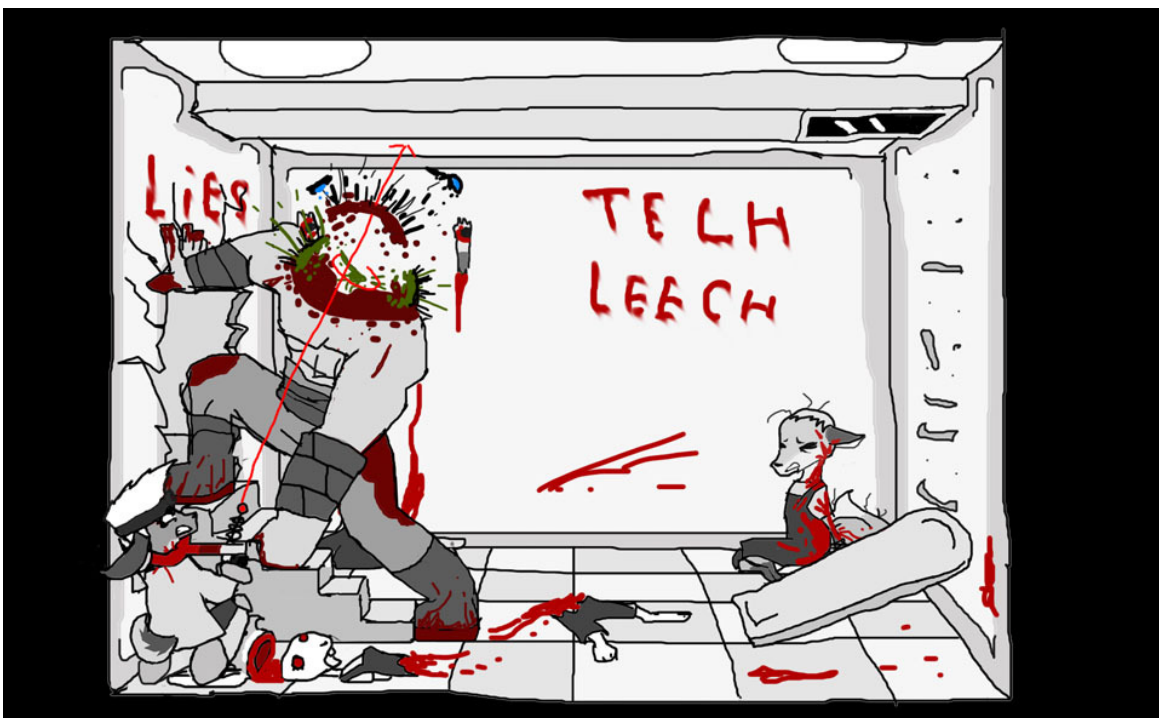
Fuze: "um what do you want me to do?"



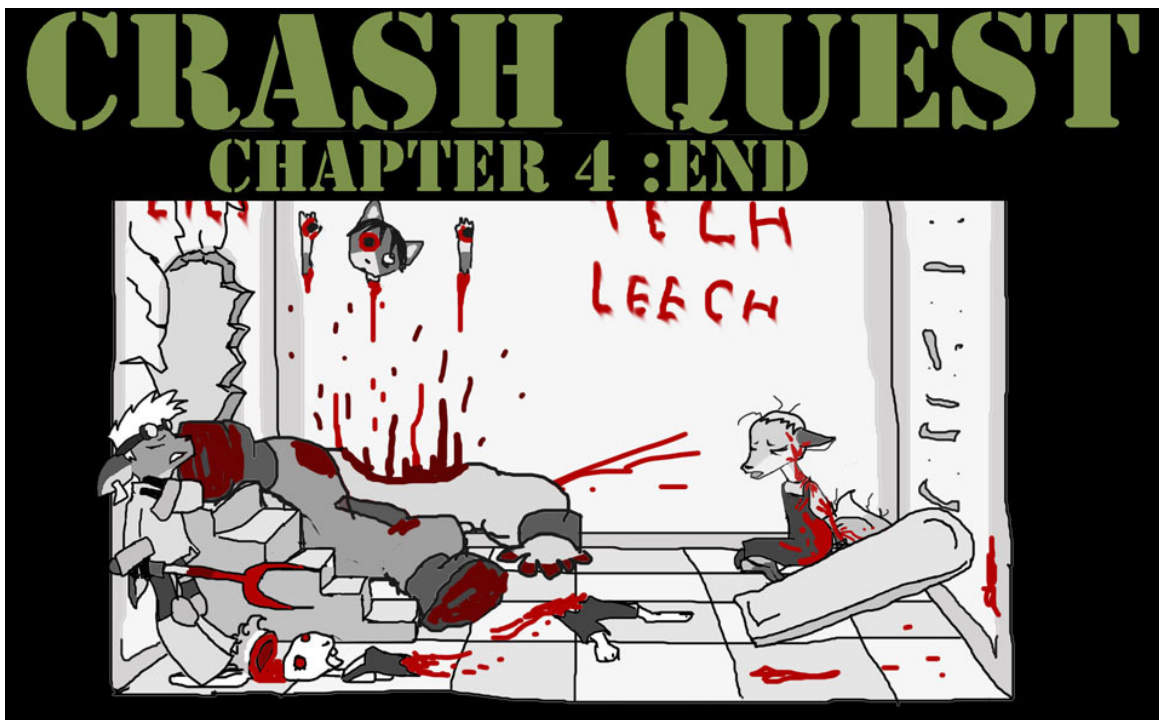
Oken:" actually Fuze, if you could keep-"

CRASH

Pinky: "Stupid Dorau, you ruin my fun, why won't you fall in trap! Brood Mother says you come to cut up my Foxy, IS MY FOXY! IS MINE TO CUT UP!, Brood Mother is wrong, YOU IS MINE NOW TOO!"



I-I think he missed . . .



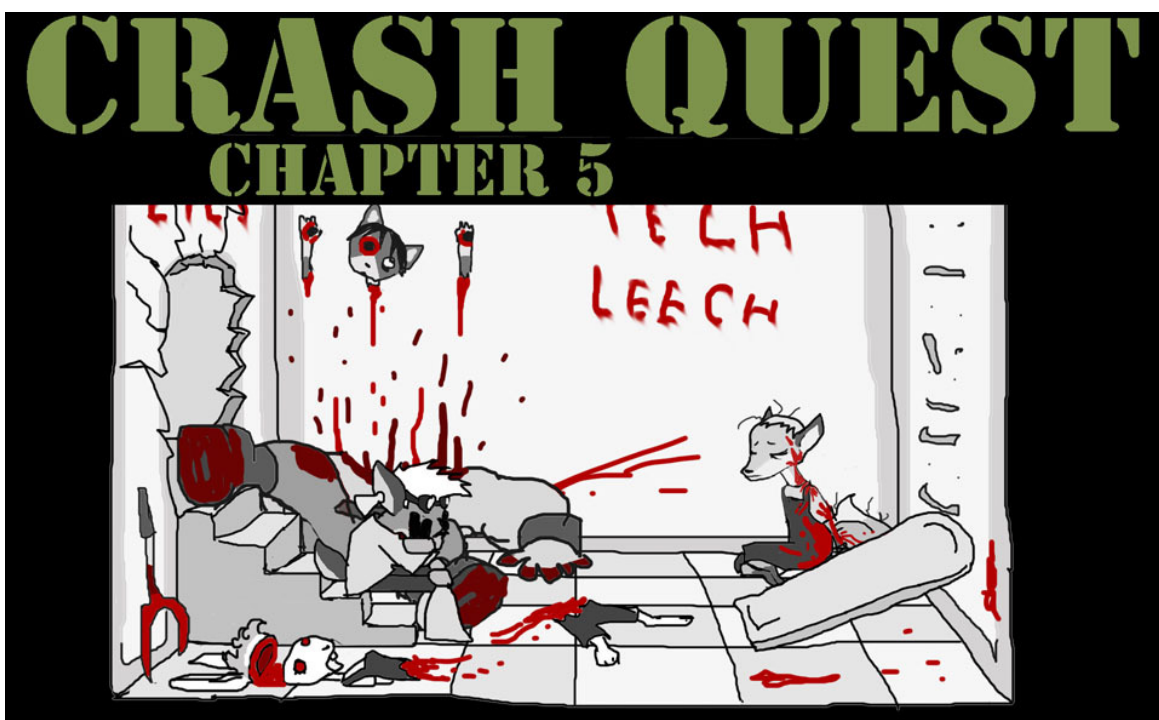
>Oken manages to grip the WarFork, and prevent it from snapping her neck

I guess I got pretty lucky today, I'm really glad that guy didn't have a knife . . .

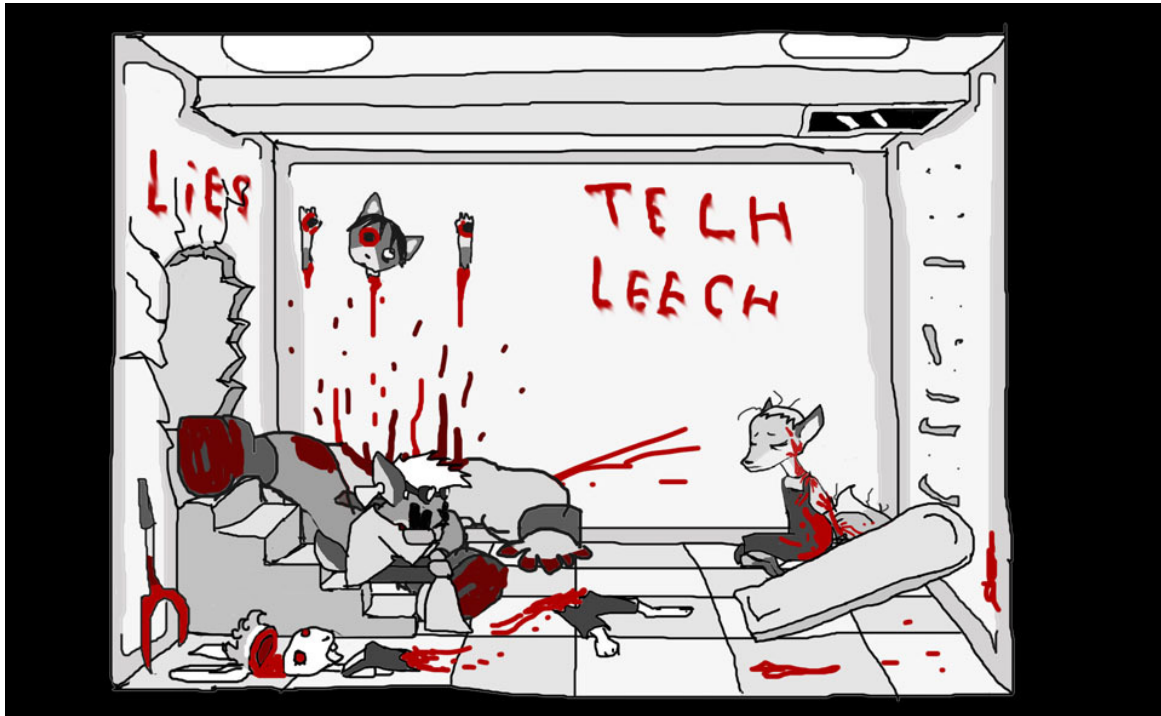
Fuze: "Miss Pilot are you alright, is he dead?"

Oken: "I'm pretty sure he's dead"

(END CHAPTER 4)



(I've noticed a lot of quest authors have made discussion threads for thier quest, is this something I should be doing?)



I am AcePilot Oken, a soldier fighting for the Astranian Alliance
it's my job and duty to fight and kill
I've never liked fighting, and I like killing even less
I guess joining the army was a pretty stupid idea
but Ironically it's also the only reason I'm still alive

what do I do now?



huh, It looks like Fuze's hands are bound with some wierd plastic things, I can't untie them, and I don't think I have anything to cut them with

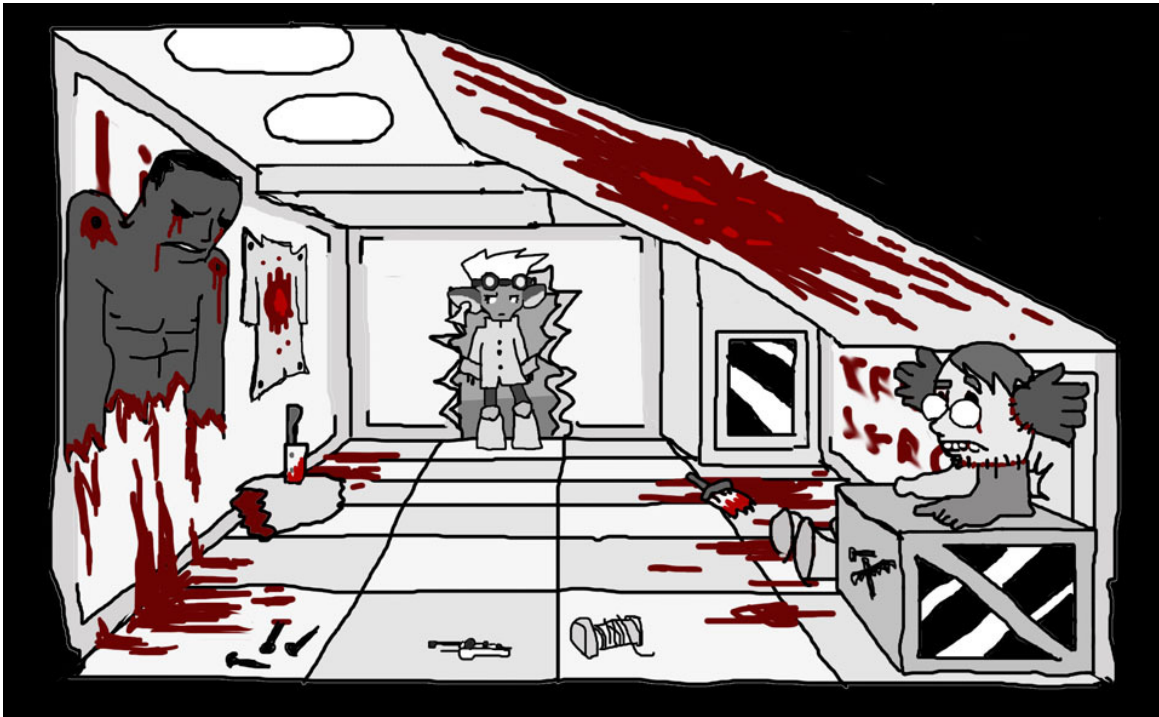
Oken: "so uh how well can you see with out your glasses?"

Fuze: "my Eyesight is terrible, all I can see is a blur of light and shadow. I would have trouble finding my way through a strait hallway"

the ladder still seems sturdy enough to climb

the RayGun has 8 shots left

the SpaceCompass detects no more life signs in the other room



hmmm I don't have a long thin object to open the bonds with,

I guess I'll check the other room for something



>Oken takes Nails, the Roll of String, the RayTech Tool, the Knife, and the Glasses

>Oken cuts Fuze's bonds with the knife and gives him the Glasses

Fuze: "OH! you've found my spectacles! thank you Miss Pilot"

Oken: "are you feeling Ok? your not dehydrated or anything?"

Fuze: "I'm feel quite alright, really"



Oken: "what the heck are you smiling about? find something funny about seeing the torn up bodies of your comrades?"

Fuze: "What? NO!, I-I'm just happy you were able to find my spectacles, I'm sorry . . ."

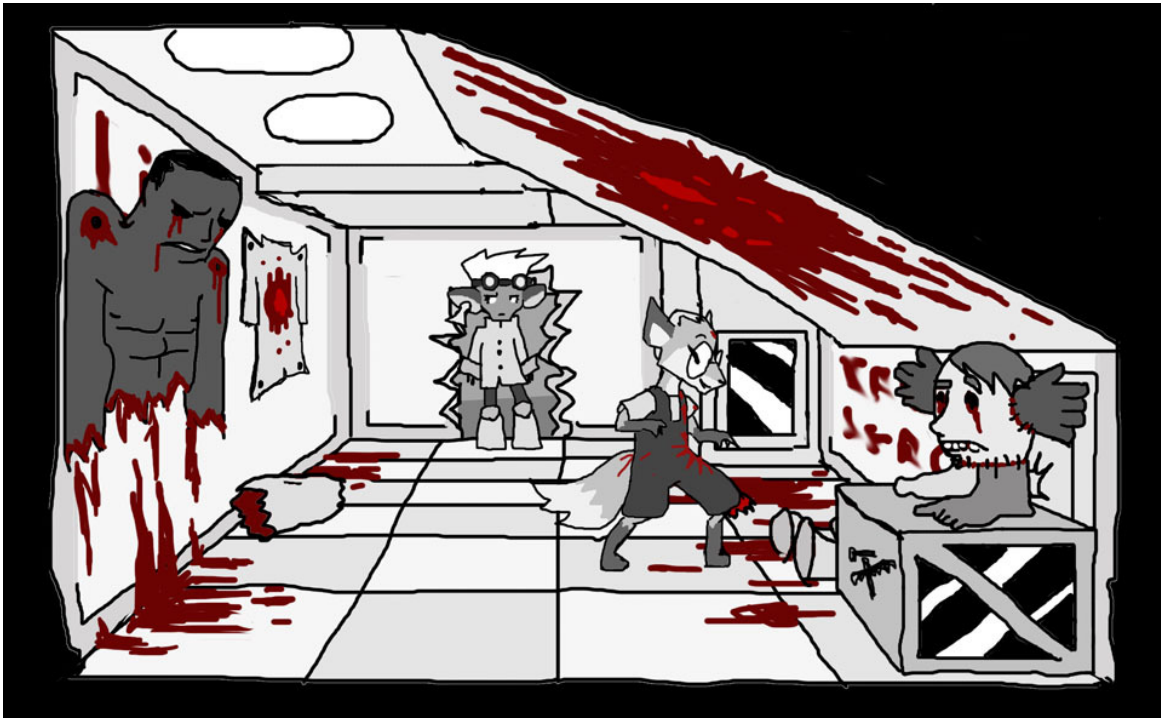
he looks like he's about to cry some more
I scan Fuze for bugs,

Fuze: "w-what are you doing?"

he's clean, Fuze walks over to the dead Pinkskin and picks up a StunPistol

Oken: "come on we to get to the others"

Fuze: "you go on ahead, I'd like to search the other room to see if I can find any more of my supplies"



I apologize for snapping at him, and explain to Fuze about the whole bug thing

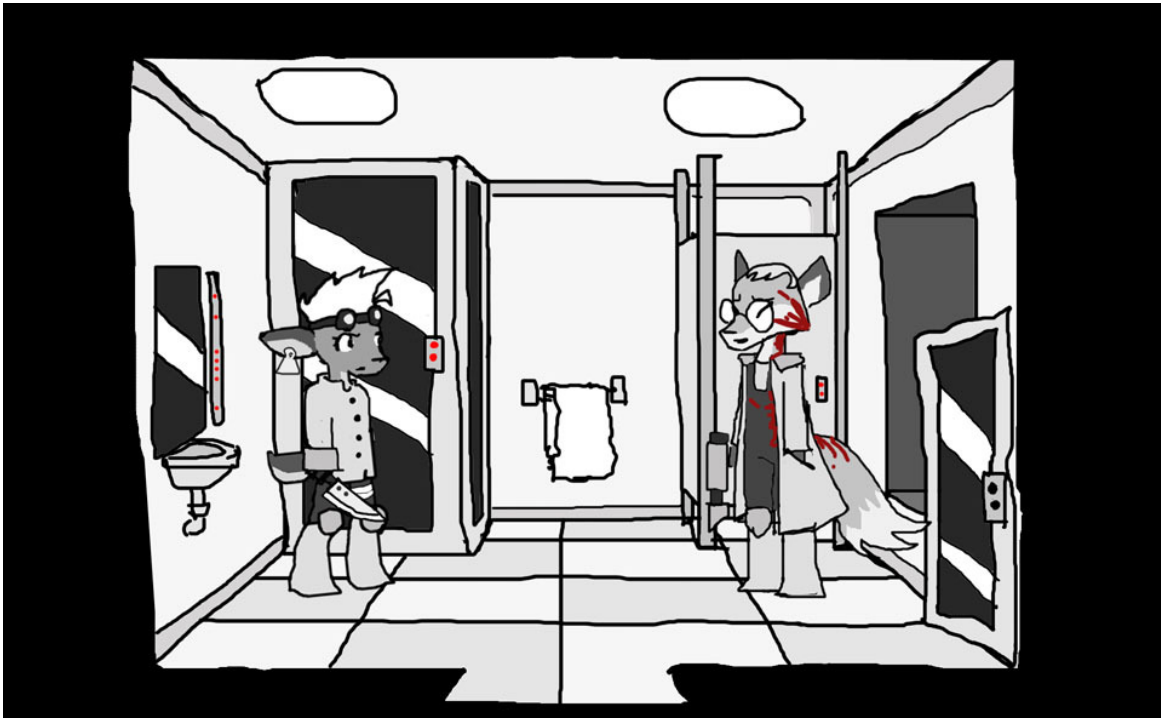
Fuze: " I see . . . I suppose it is best for us to keep together"

we go over to the den, I never turn my back to him . . . just in case

Fuze: "my goodness! how did this man's mind ever become so deranged, could those insects truly be responsible for THIS?"

Oken: " . . . "

Fuze: " OH my GravBoots!, and my Jacket! could you get that down for me? now if only I can find that NanoStitcher . . ."



Fuze is a pureblood Rirthian they all have creepy black eyes,

the RayTech tool is probably what Fuze's is looking for, I'm not sure I want to give it to him though

Oken: "let's go we'll find it later"

while we head back I ask Fuze more about how he got here

Fuze: "we came down to this facility yesterday morning. apperently there was supposed to be some sort of weapon that would assure victory for the alliance, but we could find nothing of the sort, then we were ambushed by that pinkskin"

we get through the maintenance shaft

Fuze: "mind if I clean up a bit before I meet your friends?"



Fuze doesn't seem to have any problem with me standing guard while he uses the TurboCleaner(tm)

>Oken and Fuze enter the hall

Fuze: " AH! pinkskin!"

Oken: " wait fuze, it's Ok he's just our prisoner"

. . .

Fuze: " . . . These men are injured, and badly too, why didn't you tell me? no matter, I'll get right to work, this would be far quicker with the NanoStitcher, but I can manage, I assume we at least have a medkit?"



I give Fuze the MedKit and NanoStitcher, he gives me a strange look, but doesn't say anything

Fuze decides to treat Hoft first, I'm going to talk to Enrad

Oken: " have you seen Mint?"

Enrad: " the mean fat kitty?"

Oken: " uh . . .sure"

Enrad: " the voices have stopped, I don't hear anything any more, the voices have always been there, and now they are gone, for the first time my head is my own"

Oken: " uh, that's good I guess, but can you tell me where Mint is?"

Enrad: "there's something wrong with her"

Oken: "what's that supposed to mean?"

Enrad: "Oken, I'm afraid of the bugs, you're afraid of the bugs too, I can see it in your eyes, Wolfy tries to hide it but he's afraid too, even your new friend Squinty looks afraid, but Kitty, she's not afraid, there no fear in her eyes, why is she not afraid?"

Oken: "Enrad, can you just tell me where she is?"

Enrad: "Kitty looked herself up in bedroom, says no one is allowed in and to leave her alone, She took metal man with her."

Oken: "hmmmm"

Enrad: "Oken can you talk to me some more? I'm lonely and no one else seems to like me very much . . ."



>Oken uses the SpaceCompass again (37/50 charge left)

the Compass detects 4 lifes signs here and 1 in the bedroom, but can I really trust the SpaceCompass to detect the bugs? maybe a strip search IS the only way to be sure . . .

Oken: "Sorry Enrad, I don't have time to talk to you right now, I need to check on Mint, but thanks for the info"

He seems dissapointed

>Oken knocks on the Bedroom door

Oken: "Mint you in there?"

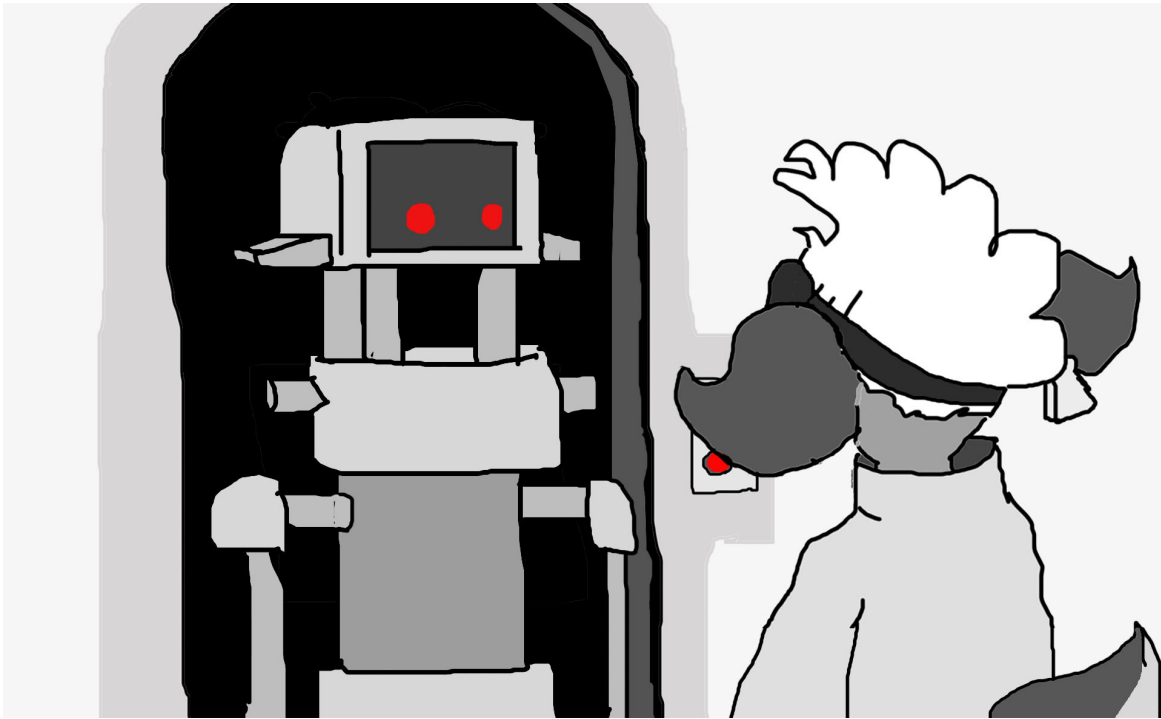
Mint: "go away!"

Oken: "I found a Doctor"

Mint: "I don't give a shit, now go away!"

Oken: "but now you don't have to build prince as a medic!"

Mint: "What part of GO. AWAYdid you not understand?"



Oken: "Mint, we are behind enemy lines, trapped in a bunker I will not except this kind of attitude!"

Mint: " . . . leave me alone."

Oken: " Mint I am the commanding officer here, and I will not tolerate this kind of childish behavior!"

Fuze: "actually I technically have senoir-"

Oken: "SHUT UP SQUINTY!"

Fuze: *whimper~*

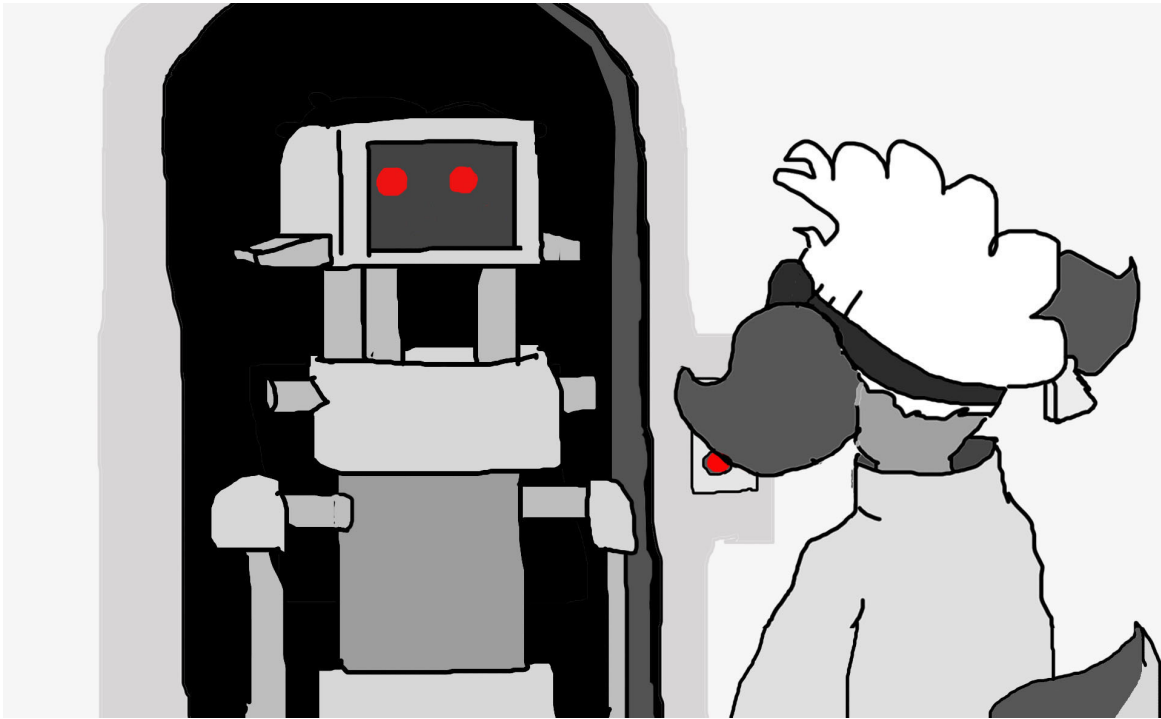
Oken: "AS YOUR COMMANDING OFFICER, I ORDER YOU TO OPEN THIS DOOR NOW!"

I hear Mint mutter something

Prince: "order confirmed"

the door opens, all I can see on the other side is darkness, and Prince

should I talk to Prince or should I go into the room? (I don't think Prince will stop me)



Oken: "oh, hey Prince, your looking . . . taller"

Prince: "Mint did an exellent job repairing me, I am once again functional"

Oken: "so is Mint OK?"

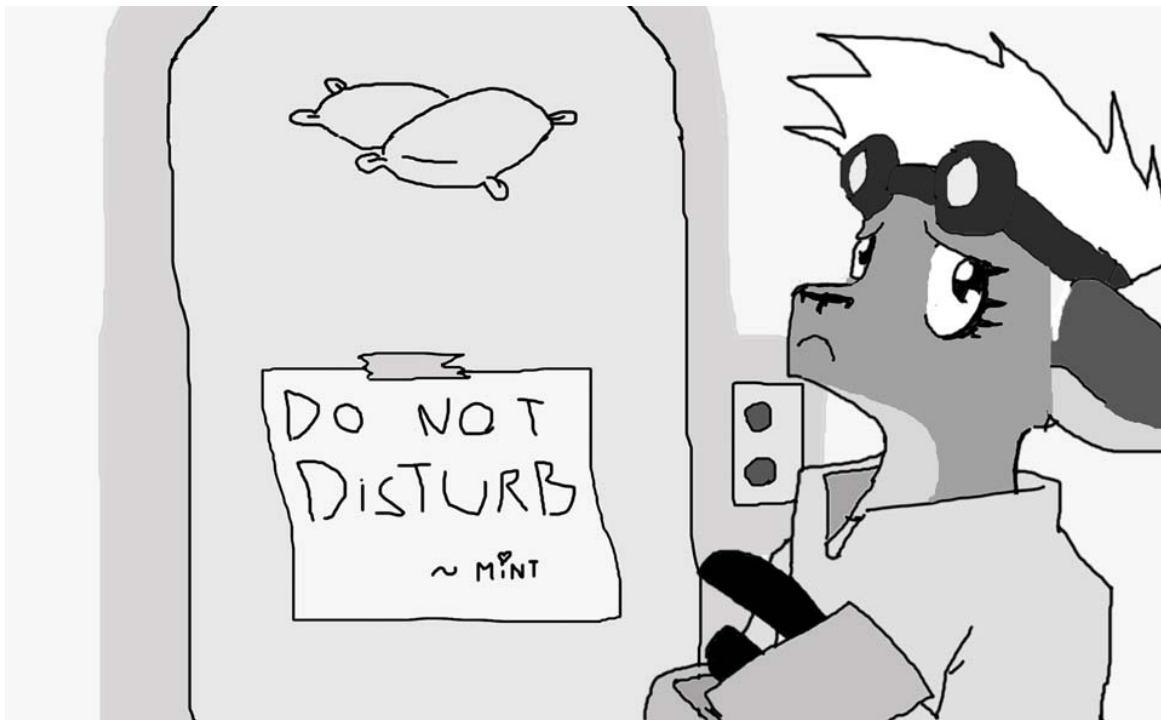
Prince: "My scanners do not indicate any major health conserns"

Oken: "um you'd let me know if there where any horrible face eating parasite crawling on any of us right?"

Prince: "that is correct, though I detect no such parasites"

Oken: "What is she doing in there anyways?"

Prince: "I am not entirely certian, Mint had set me to Power conservation mode until just now , though I believe she is resting"



Now is not the time for me to be exploring my sexuality, especially if Mint is somehow involved in this bug thing

Oken: "Prince, tell Mint I don't care what she's doing in there, as long as she doesn't keep it a secret"

Prince: "Order Confirmed"

>Prince enters the room, the door closes and locks behind him

. . . Garagine Mint, I've known her for more than three years, yet still I barely know her at all. Mint's never been scared of anything . . . but with those bugs, it's like she wasn't even surprised. I've only seen her cry once, it was the day I first met her, the day Doraun fell. I asked her what was wrong, she hit me in the face with a wrench. Mint not a bad person, I just know.

I told Enrad I was busy, unless I find something else to do I'll actually have to talk to him . . . but I really don't know what to say



Pinkies are disgusting ugly brutes, even if they aren't responsible for all the suffering of this war, they're still unpleasant to be around, but I guess I don't really have much of a choice

I ask Enrad more about the bugs, but he doesn't seem to know much, except that just about every Pinkskin knows about them

Oken: "if everyone knows about these things, why don't any of you try to get rid of them?"

Enrad: "oh lots of people try to fight the bugs, they're called "the Freewill Rebellion" the Voices generally tell us to kill them on sight, but the voices don't seem to care too much"

Oken: "speaking of voices, when exactly did you stop hearing them?"

Enrad: "right before Kitty locked herself in the room, a short while before you got back"



Enrad: "something is wrong, I see it in your eyes"

Oken: "I'm just worried my friends . . ."

Enrad: "the last thing I heard voices say was "KILL HER" they were talking about you!"

Oken: " . . . "

Enrad: "but you made them stop! YOU FOUGHT VOICES!, you made them go away!"

Oken: "I probably just killed a local node or something"

Enrad: " . . . for first time in my life I feel free, I want to help you fight the voices, I want to free my people, please let help you!"

Can I really trust a pinkskin? can I trust Enrad?

more importantly whats going on with Mint

the bugs came from her home, the IceWorld: Vin-Malor

the nuclear weapon disappeared just before take off

Mint's not scared of the bugs, not even surprised

after the voices stopped she hid herself in that room . . . how did she even know?

it's all just coincidence. Mint's not bad person, I just know . . . but I want her to tell me herself, I want her to tell me now!

I could probably bust the lock with my CarboSteel Crowbar, or I could just have prince let me in



No, I shouldn't bother Mint, I wouldn't want to upset her

Oken: "uh sure Enrad, you can help . . ."

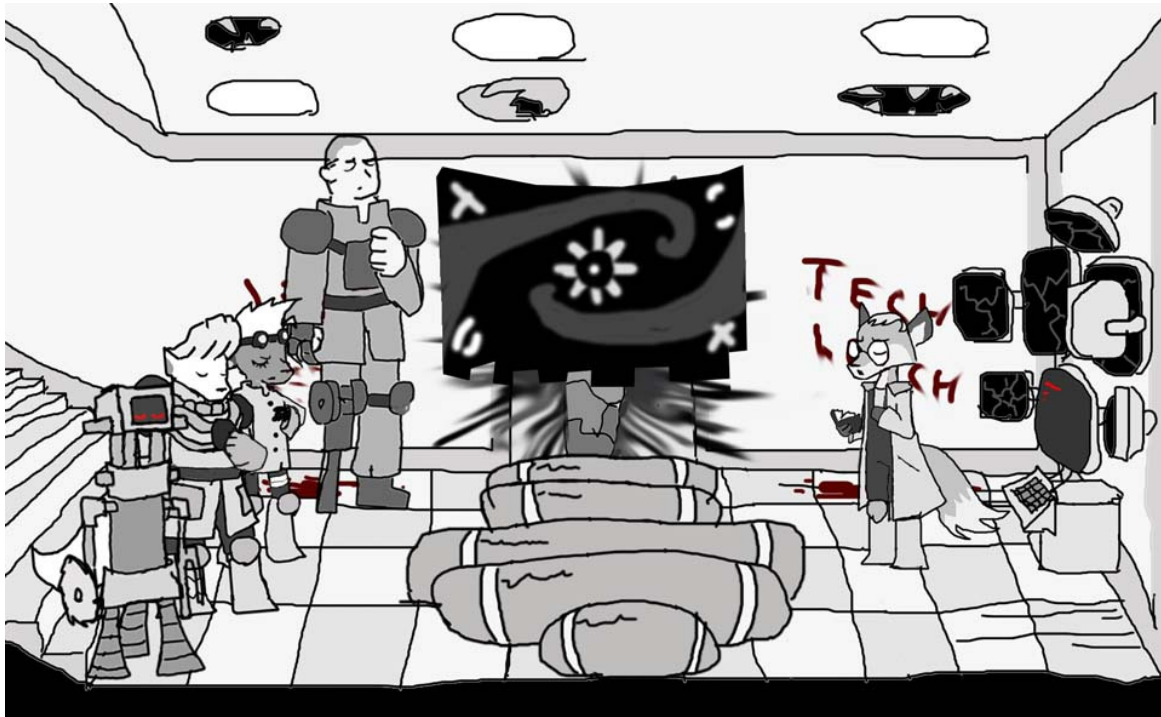
He seems pretty happy about this

Fuze: "Miss Pilot, I will have these men combat ready within four hours, two if you can secure me the aid of that Medbot"

Oken: "well that's good I guess . . ."

Fuze: "if you don't mind my asking, what exactly is our next course of action?"

every one is looking at me expectantly, I just realized, I have absolutely no idea what to do next!
but I gotta tell them something . . .



Oken: "well first we will have to something about the bodies . . ."

I ask Prince to help Fuze, he agrees, while the others are busy, I gather and prepare the bodies. I also put up an Alliance flag I found in the supply room, I figure it would be good for the ceremony. I ask Mint if she would like to attend, she declines.

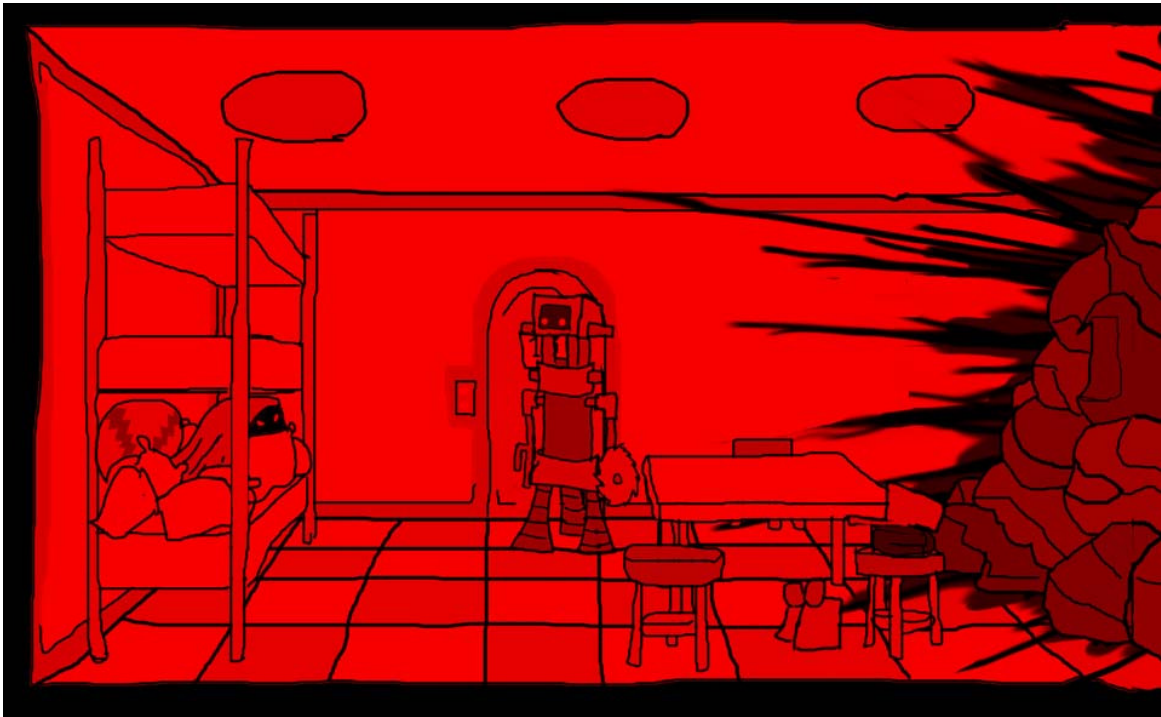
Fuze offers to be speaker, he says he's done this many times before, he knew them best anyways.

Fuze: " . . . and so it is that their souls now feed the gods and empower us through their divine will, and through our will the Alliance is empowered in turn . . . it is by blood be got."

Oken/Hoft/Prince: "By Blood Be Got!"

after the ceremony we use the TurboCleaner (tm) to incinerate the bodies

>you may now control Oken, Hoft, Fuze, Prince and Enrad



Enrad's thoughts: "EarthWorld: Solan", our homeworld, I've never seen it, I was born on Jucha19, I've never seen any other world. my father told me stories though, when he was young. 32 years ago we had perfect contact with Solan, we used The Great Window. Apperently anything could go through The Great Window; people, food, starships . . . But the furies came, they shattered The Great Window and stole all the shards, now we are trapped here, we will never see Holy Solan again

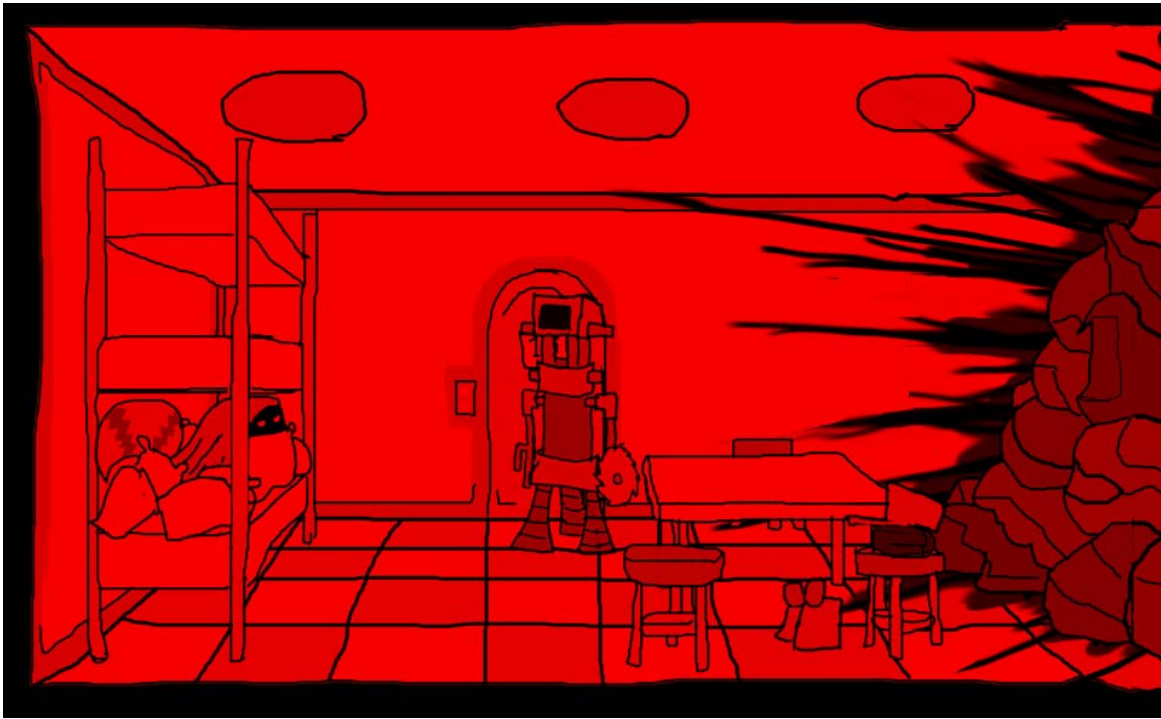
* * *

>Prince decides to check on mint

computations: >Mint appears to be resting

Mint: "PR159! erase all memories from the past minute, engage power conservation mode!"

computations: >do I comply?



computations: >my back up generator is in my head unit, it has enough power to last me another 483 hours

computations: >disable deactivate main screen, appear in sleep mode!

computations: >reviewing audio/visual files from past minute, odd I was only within the room for 10 of the seconds, I have recorded nothing of any interest

Mint: "what the hell, PR156 I can hear your motors running, are you still online?"

Prince: "I am in power conservation mode, I am unable to respond!"

Mint: " . . . "

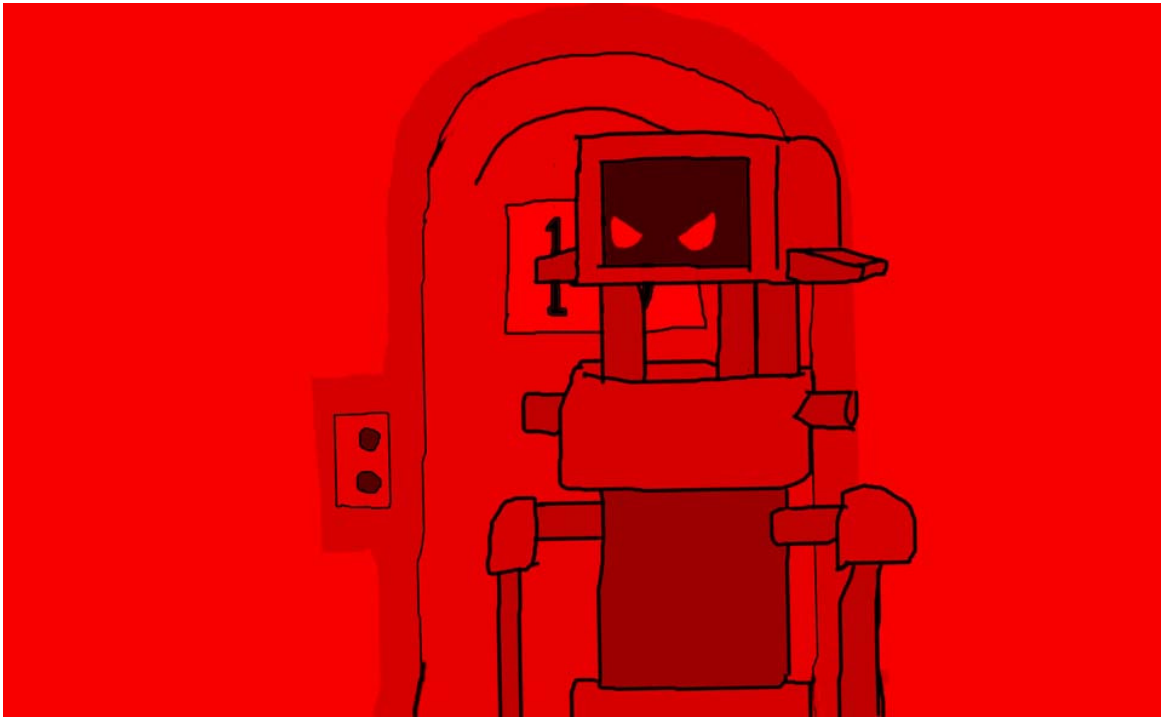
Prince: " . . . "

Mint: " OK turn off for real now!"

Prince: "Negative, Only Dr.Fuze has sufficient authority to counteract orders from Officer Oken."

Mint: " Doctor who? whatever, I don't give a shit what Twiggy told you! turn off NOW! don't make me use manual override!"

computations: >I have no manual override, Engineer Mint appears to be threatening me



Computations: >Pilot Oken's orders were unspecific I have little authority to make any demands of Engineer Mint

Prince: "Engineer Mint I do NOT respond to threats, if you attempt violence towards me you will have revoked your Alliance rights, making yourself liable for immediate extermination"

Mint: *sigh* "do you honestly have nothing better to do then pester me? I don't see why you want to stand around wasting your battery, but I just realized I don't give a shit any more, waste your battery, have fun, I'm taking a nap"

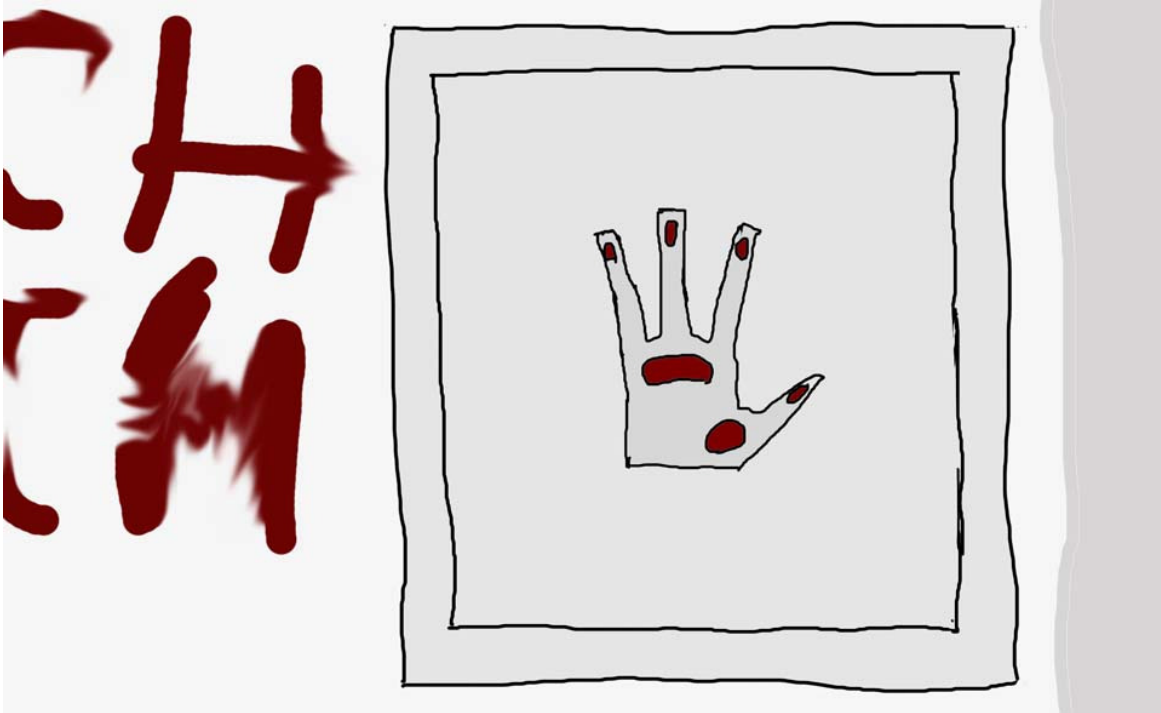


>Prince decides to stand guard outside Mint's room

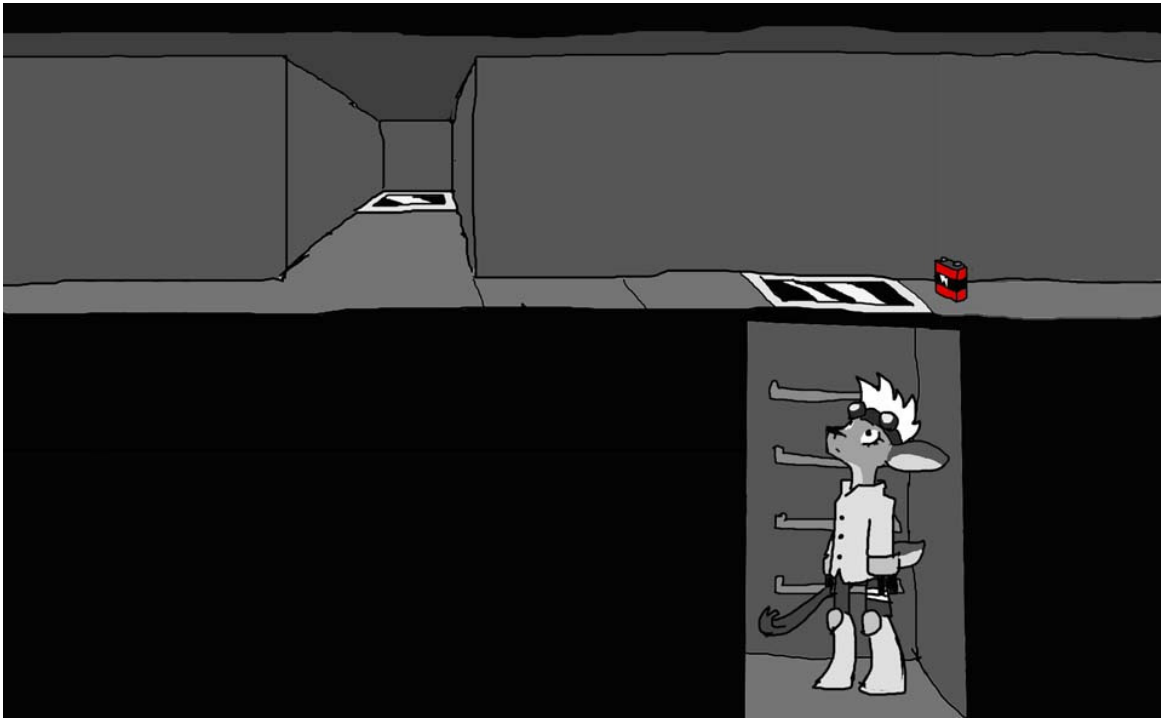
. . .

>Oken is exploring the facility

hmmm all that's in the crate is building supplies

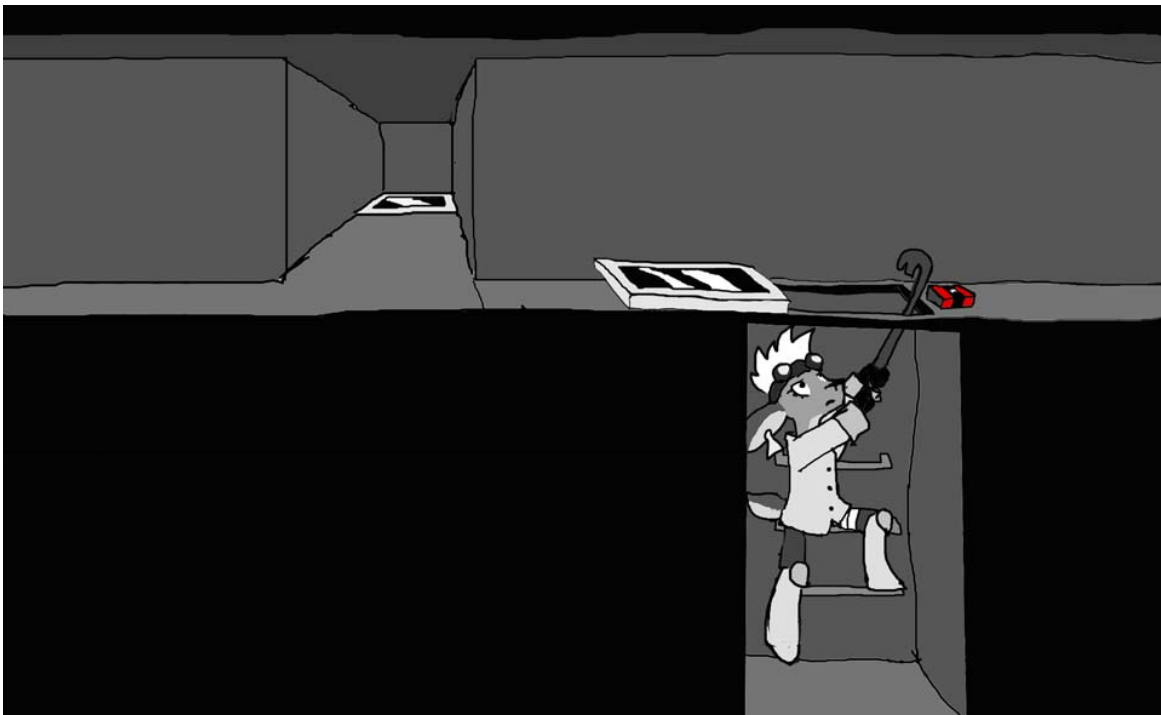


it looks like some sort of hand scan thingy, I try my hand on it . . . it doesn't do anything



If Mint wasn't being stupid, I'm sure she could get that panel open

I guess I'll check the maintenance shaft

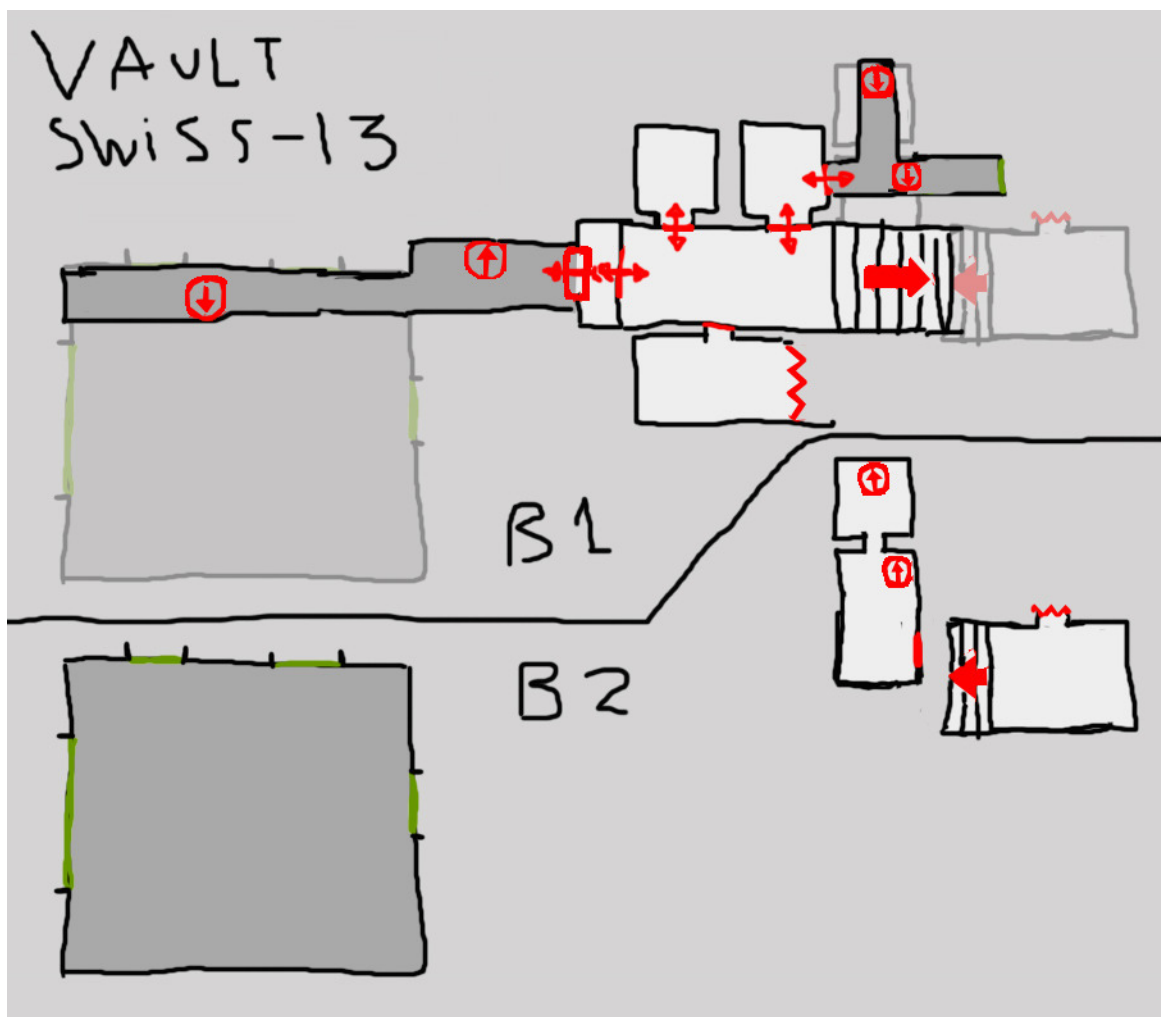


I can't find any rubber gloves that fit, oh well. I poke the battery with the CarboSteel crowbar . . .
nothing happens

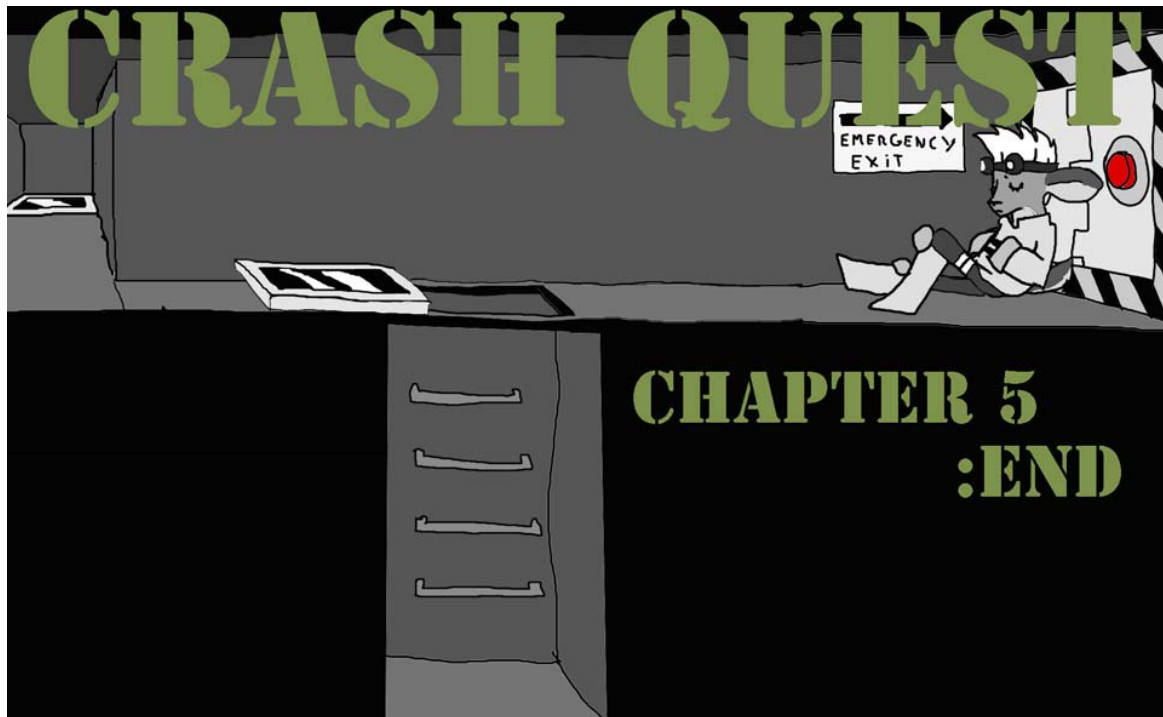
>Oken picks up battery



there doesn't appear to be anything interesting down this passageway



>Oken uses the MAP function on her SpaceCompass

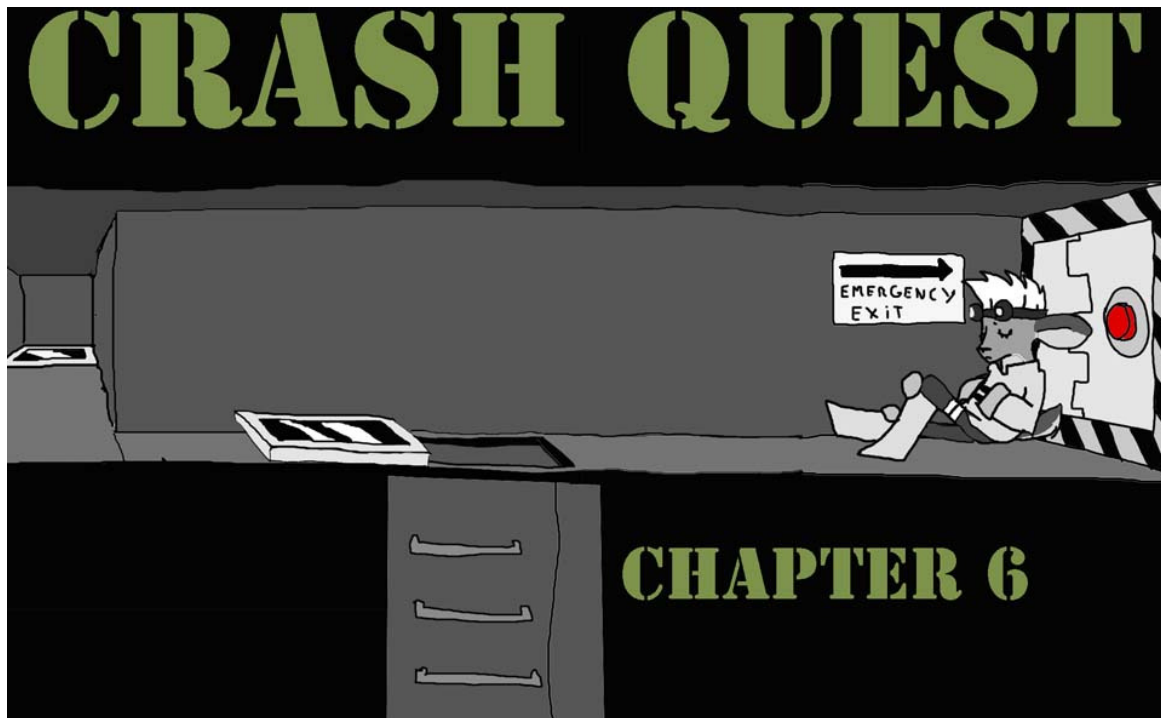


>Oken can't think of anything productive to do. she decides to take a nap

Chapter 5: End

(forgot this part)

>Oken can't move the box, and clearing away rubble is hard work and would take a really long time



old threads

>>237125

>>242298

>>246116

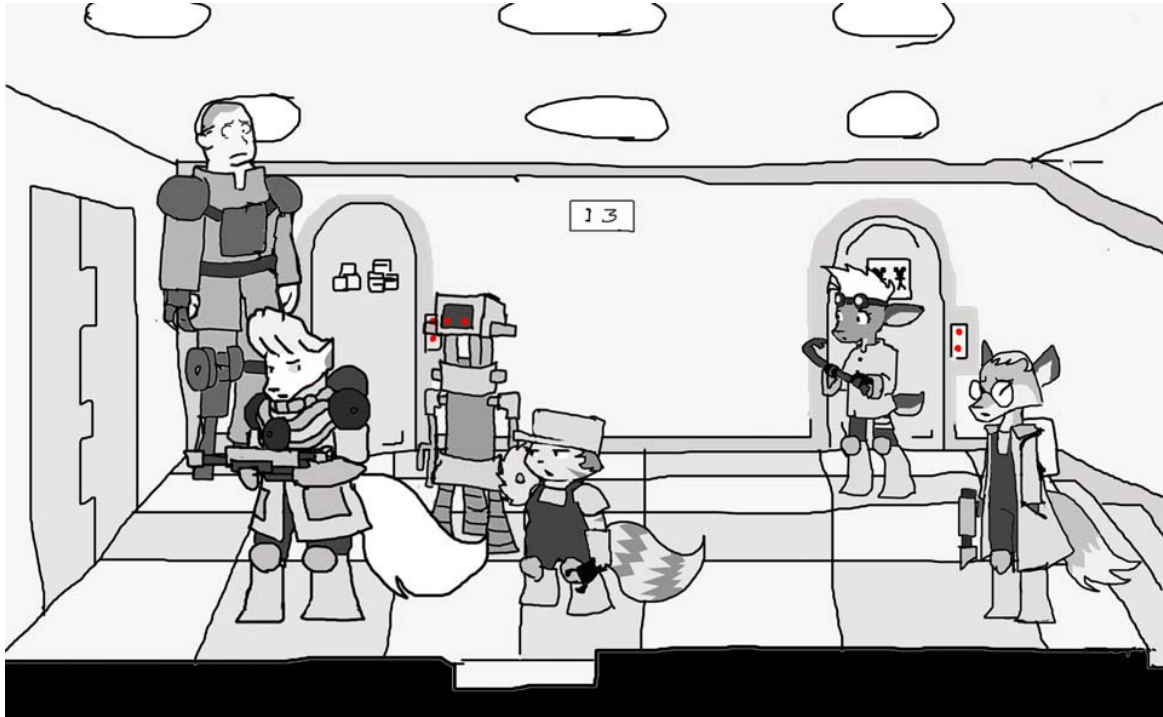
Discussion thread

<http://tgchan.org/kusaba/questdis/res/335842.html>



I am AcePilot Oken
me and my friends are hiding in-

ALARM: "DANGER. DANGER. UNKNOWN ALIENS BREACHING EXTERIOR VAULT
DOOR. EVACUATEALL PERSONNEL"

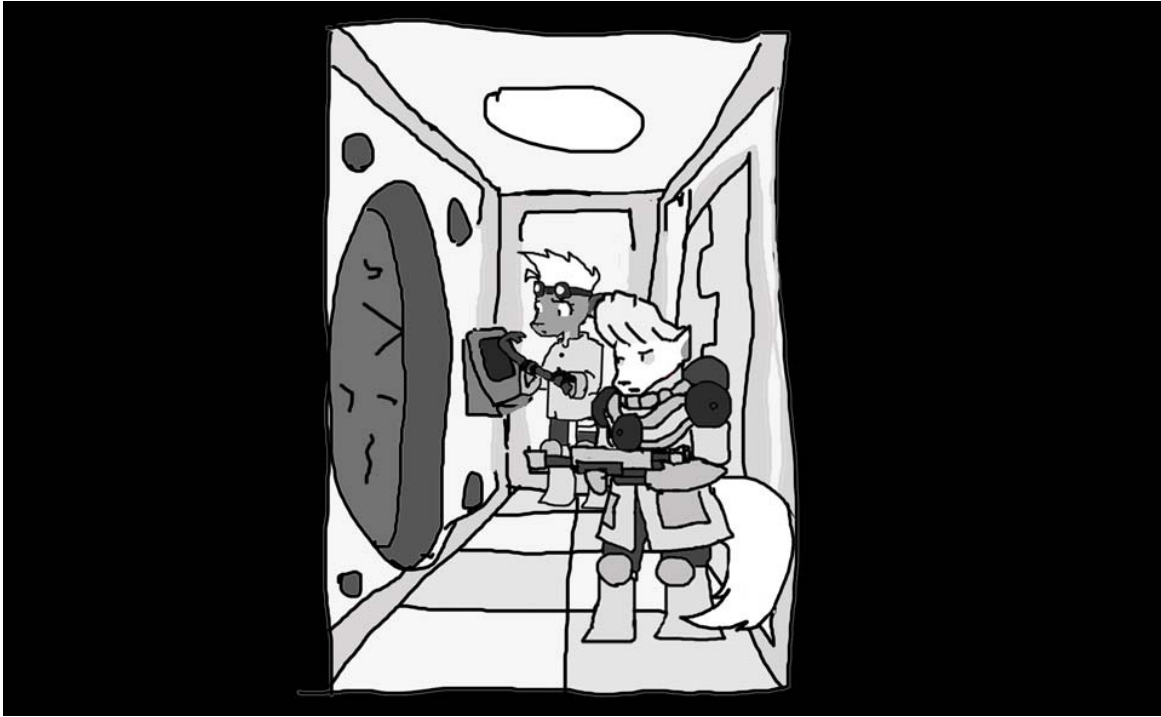


the alarm continues to sound,

ALARM: "DANGER. DANGER. UNKNOWN ALIENS BREACHING EXTERIOR VAULT
DOOR. EVACUATEALL PERSONNEL"

Hoft: " . . . how long till they make it in?"

Mint: "I give it 10 minutes at most"



>Oken uses the view screen to look outside

looks like twenty of the big claw guys hacking at the door, and fifty little bugs waiting out there as well

(It may be a good idea to choose marching order of the six party members)



Enrad can use both the stun rifle, and stun pistol, if we can trust him with a weapon

Mint is trained to use light fire arms, but claims she's fine with just her tazer

Prince is able to cut things up with his meditoools, he can no longer shoot eye lasers, but he does have 2 gun mounts

>Oken opens the hatch

Oh cool, it's a spiral slide!

Hoft: "hurry up, the bugs are breaking through!"



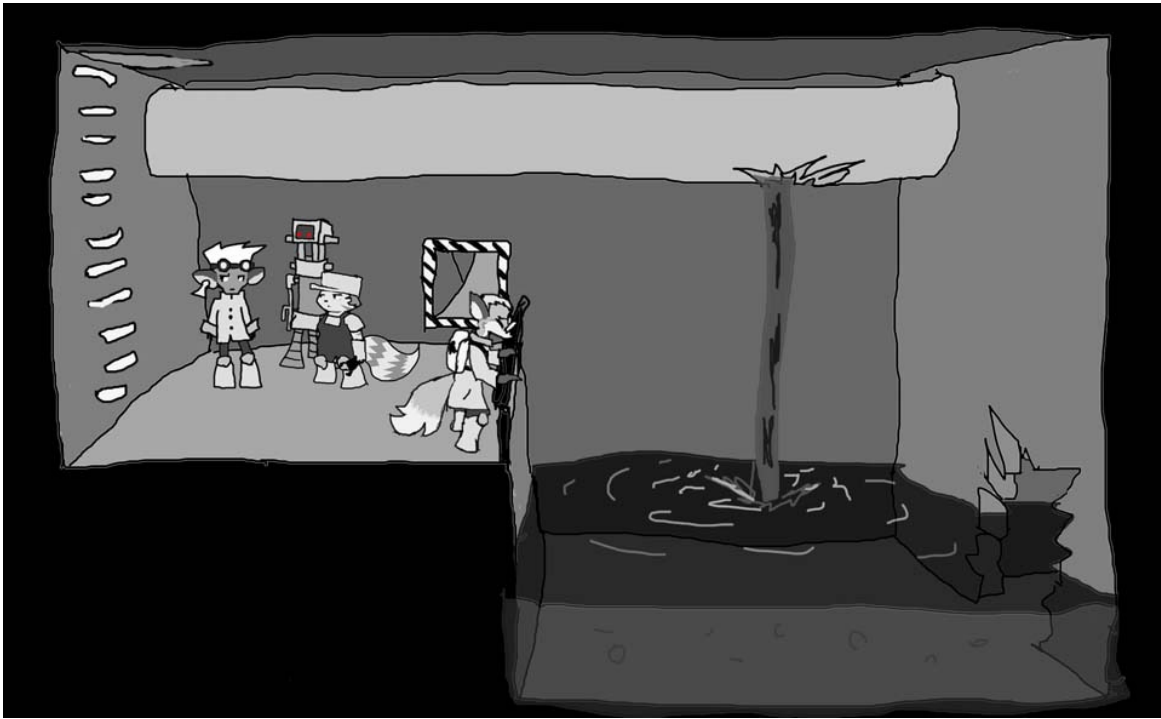
Oken: "weeeeeeeeee"

>Oken, Prince, Mint and Fuze go down the slide

>Hoft throws a couple grenades into the restroom, the resulting explosion caves in the room

Hoft: "that should hold em for a while"

Enrad: "HELP! I'm stuck!"



Hoft's thoughts: (I could probably push him through, but just in case I'm going in first)

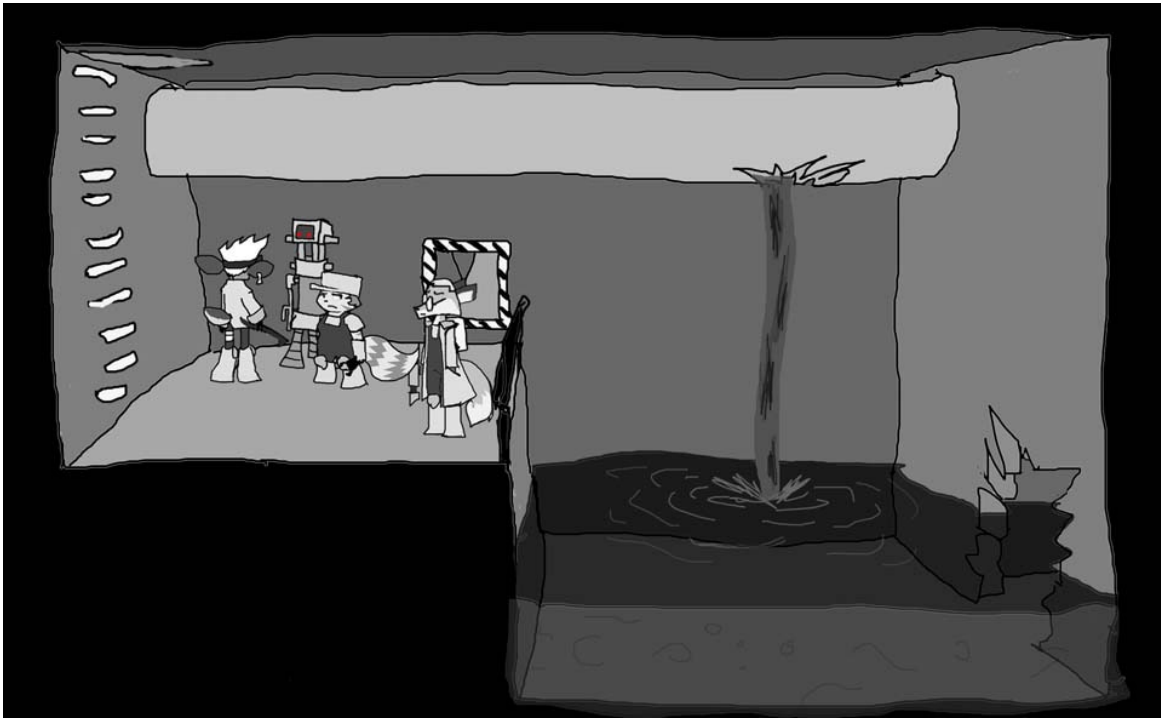
>Hoft throws his backpack down, then goes into the slide while Enrad removes his armour and leg

>Hoft is able to pull Enrad through but it will take a little while

...

~meanwhile

Fuze: "please tell me we're going up"



Prince: "though slight impurities exist in the water, it appears drinkable with only minor concerns"

Prince says his scanners can't detect what's upstairs, my !paceCompass detects 10 life signs up, and none through the water hole

Prince: "you need not worry about my circuits, I am immune to the pitiful attacks water could muster"



Oken: "I'm sorry Fuze, but if we want to live we have to go through the water"

>Fuze whimpers pathetically

>Oken, Mint, Prince and eventually Fuze hop into the water

...

>Hoft is making slow progress, the sounds of bug movement can be heard, and with them the mocking of a cruel voice

Voice: "you're a bad soldier Hoft, you've left your friends alone and unprotected, and for what? the life of a pinkskin, YOUR ENEMY. you're a bad soldier Hoft . . ."

Oken is strong, she can protect them . . .

Voice: "how can she? the fool lead them into the water, and only I know what horrors await them there. of course you do remember what happens when Raytech gets wet . . . right?"

Hoft: "that's a LIE!"

mint told ME that, she would never do something so stupid!

Enrad: "what do the voices tell you Wolfy?"

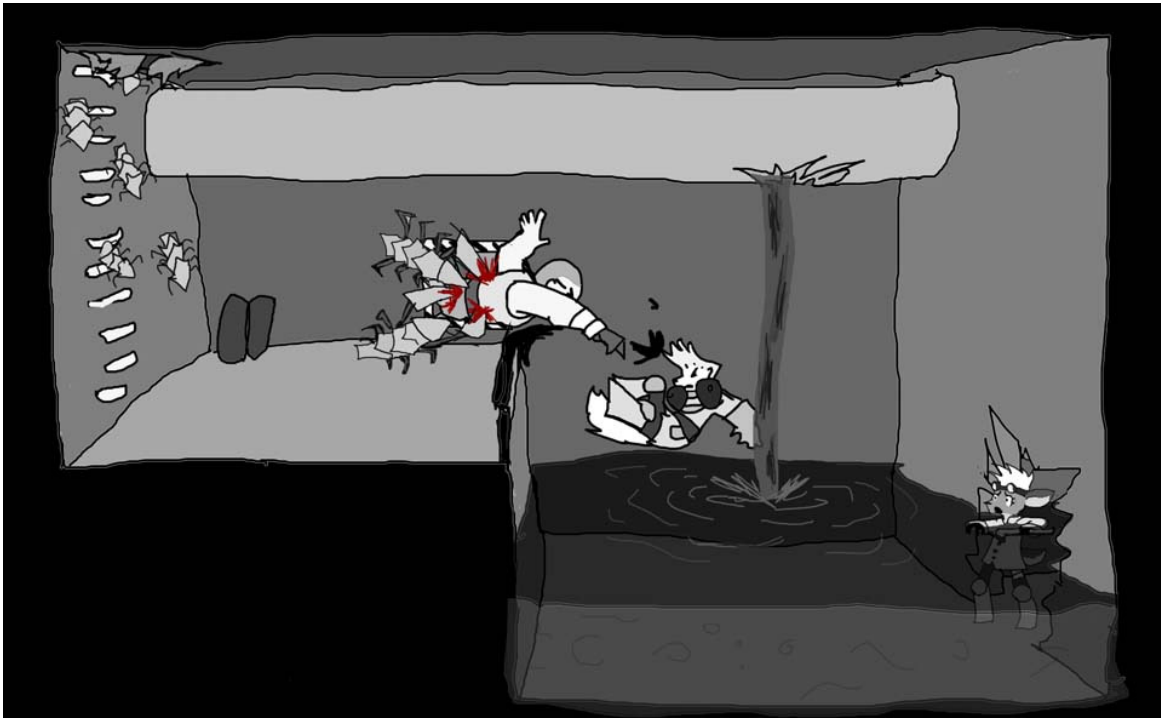
Voice: "tell him hoft, tell him Mint would never betray you . . . it is true isn't it?"

>Hoft can hear the sound of the bugs growing louder . . .



>Oken failed to protect her gun from the water

Oken: "Hoft! look out!"

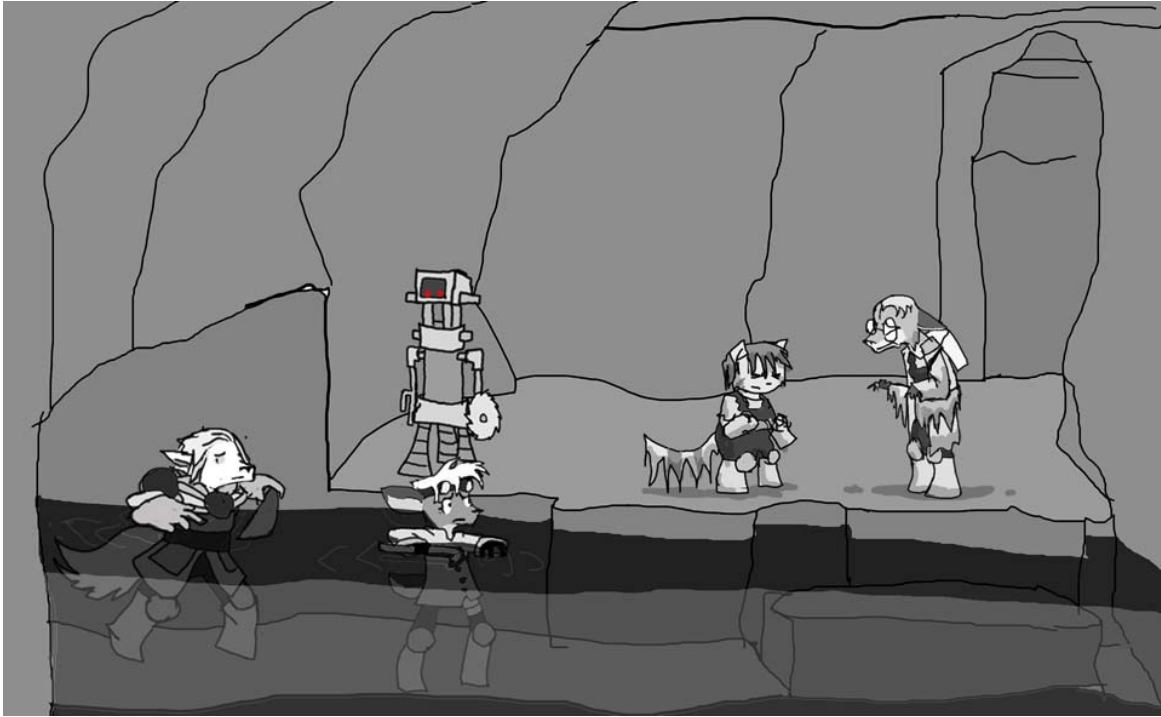


>Oken remembers her gun doesn't work in water, and switch back to her CarboSteel crowbar

Enrad: " You helped me already wolffy, it's my turn to help you!"

>Enrad throws Hoft into the water

Oken: "ENRAD!"



I can't think of any way to help Enrad,

Oken: "Hoft, Come on! this way!"

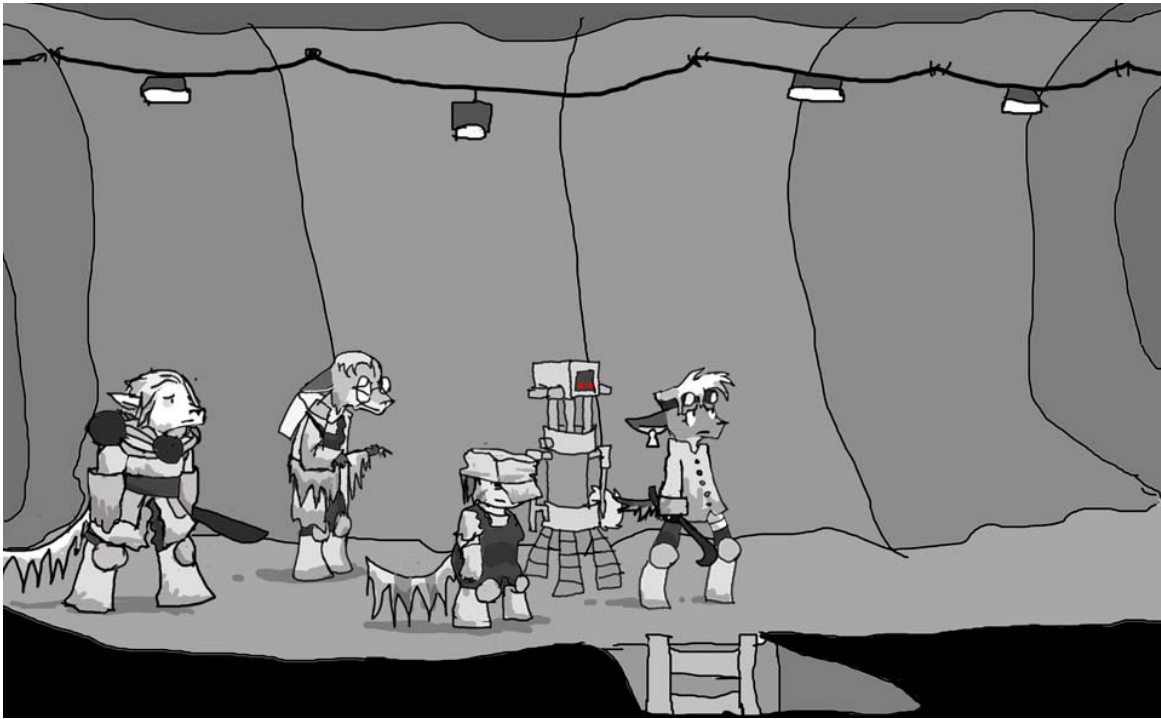
>Enrad's tortured screams can be heard echoing off the walls as Oken and Hoft flee

Hoft: " . . . Enrad your blood will not have been spilled in vain"

. . .

Fuze: "oooh my poor fur, I'll never get this rancid smell out"

Mint: *grumble, grumble*



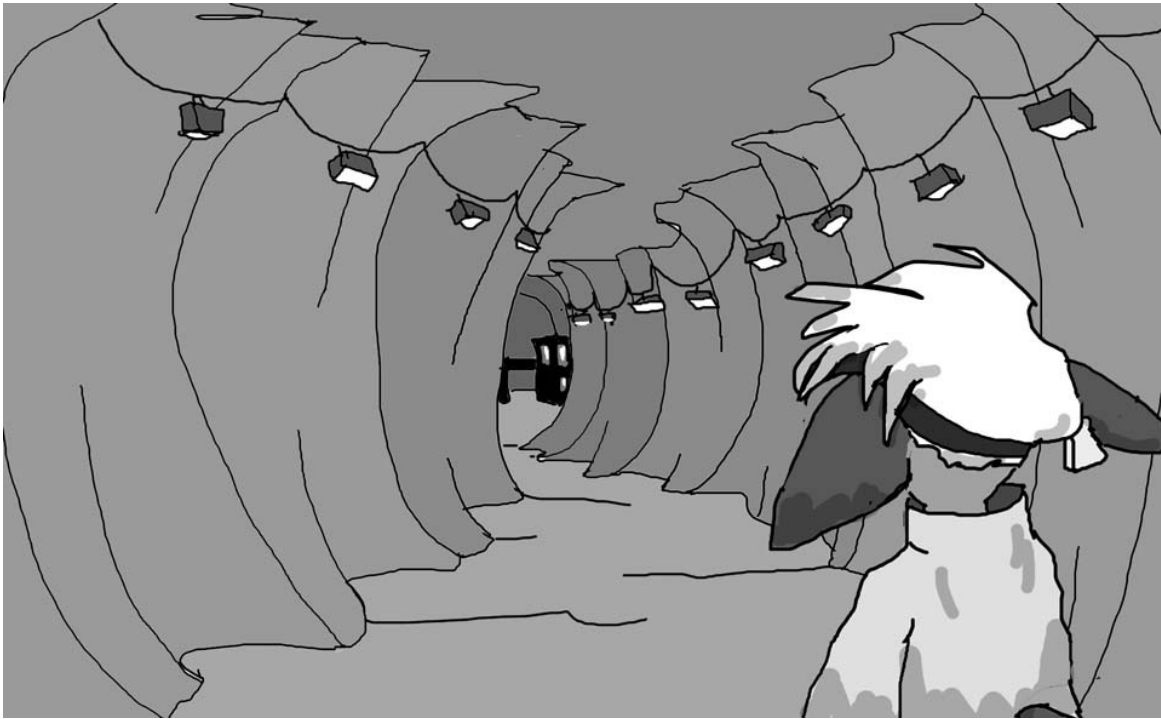
none of our raytech gear will work until we find a way to dry it off,
Prince no longer has eye lasers
we have no way of caving in the passage
we only have 2 working guns, a pinkskin StunRifle and a pinkskin Stunpistol

>Oken and company flee down the nearby tunnel

all this wet clothing and fur is really uncomfortable, and my fur isn't even long like every one else.

being wet, it's actually pretty chilly down here, Fuze says we're all probably going to catch a cold . .

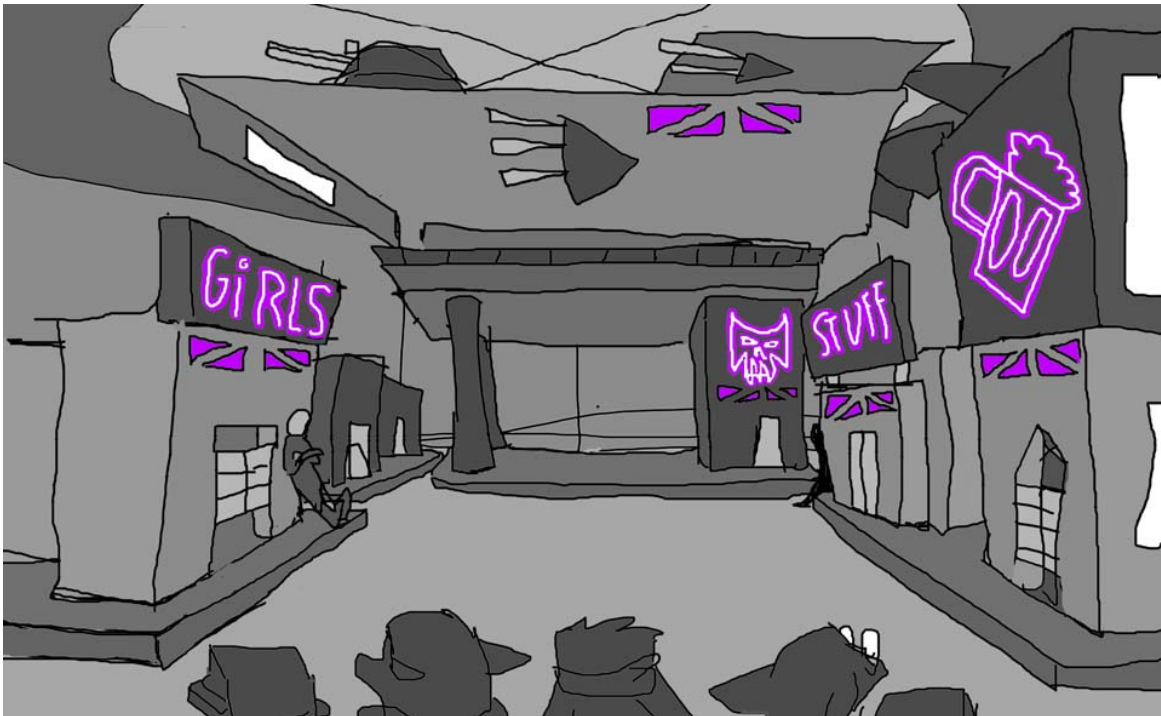
.



I look down the ladder, it seems to lead to another similar cavern

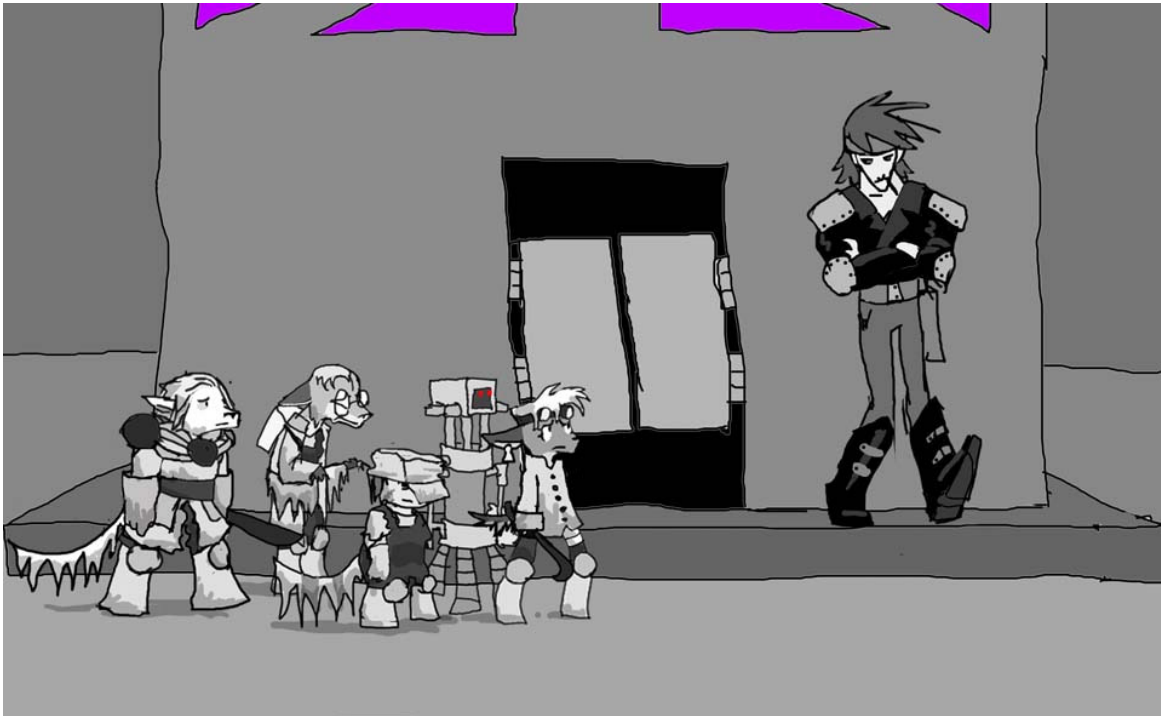
looking down the passage, I can see what appears to be a settlement of some sort

Fuze: "it's mostly likely a smuggler town, not that it matters, who ever they are, I doubt they're friendly to the Alliance"



Fuze: "oh no, this place is run by the Pirate Guilds! they'll definitely rob us for our RayTech batteries . . . and probably torture and kill us just for fun"

Oken: "Relax Fuze, all I see are Pinkskins, we should be fine"



the SpaceCompass doesn't work, it's wet

>Oken and Co, enter the town to warn them of buggy doom

Pinkskin: "ya want something?"

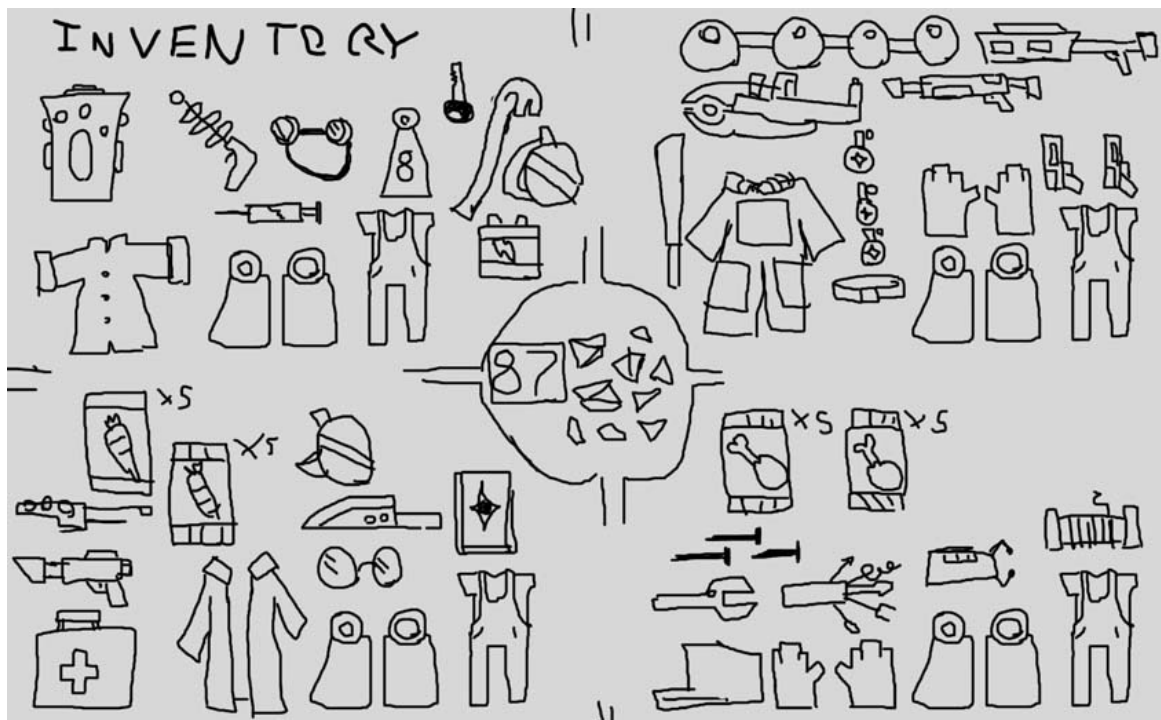
Oken: "a whole lot of bugs are coming this way!"

Pinkskin: "ya saw em cross the water?"

Oken: "..."

...

Pinkskin: " I certainly hope no one's expecting you to be coming home . . . "



>Oken and Co compare their inventory, they have 87 vapins (money) between them

Oken: "let's find someone who isn't going to threaten us"

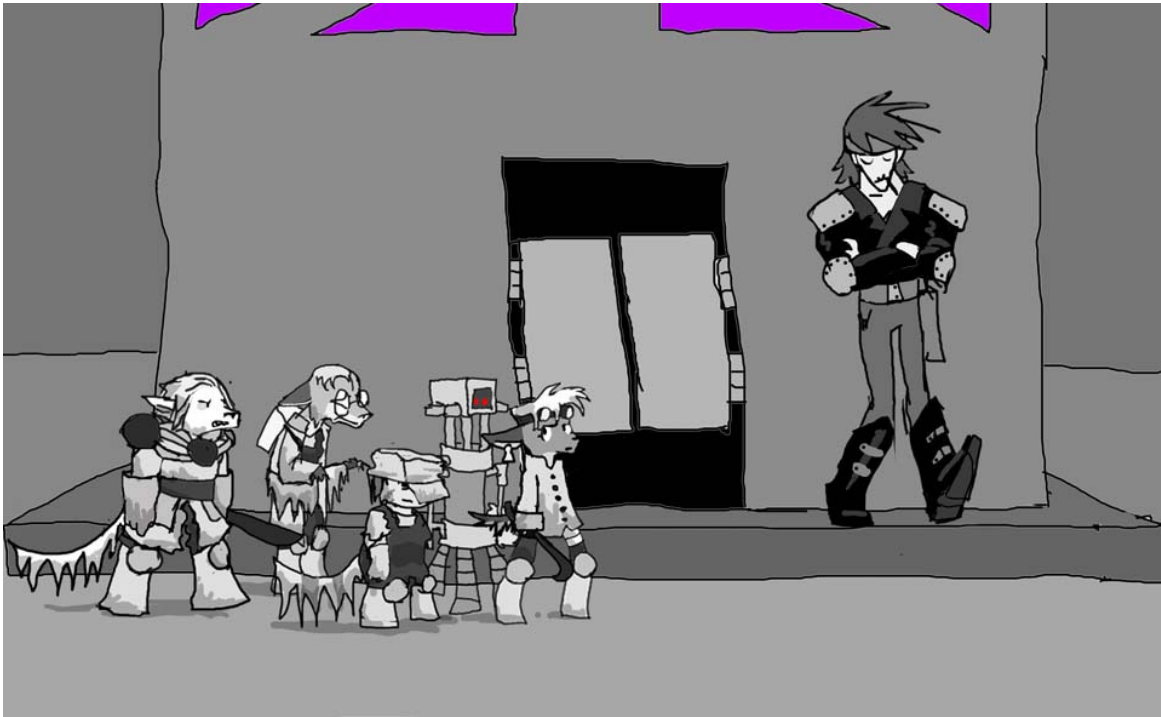
Pinkskin: "HAH, you shouldn't be worrying bout me, I aint got no use for RayTech shit, the Pirates on the other hand, well I've seen 3 so far eyeing you pretty greedily"

Fuze: "Oken we should leave this place"

Pinkskin: heh, little to late for that. you've got enough RayTech to keep a pirate fat for a year, do you honestly think they're going to let you just waltz out, your stupider than I thought

Oken: " . . . "

Pinkskin: "the only reason your still walkin about, is cause they're still planning a way to take you out with out wasting any charges, or damaging any of your stuff.
that and they're wondering if I'm going to do something stupid, I tend to do a lot of stupid things . .
. stupid dangerous things"



Oken: "that'd be a bad move on their part, I think we're more than equipped enough to handle a few Pirates"

pinkskin: "if your thinkin about RayTech, they know. always bitchen bout the damn water thing"

Prince: "the pinkskin is correct, there are a number of pirates within visual range . . . none moving"

Hoft: "and they've got guns trained on us, no doubt"

Oken: "Pinkskin, feel like doing something stupid and dangerous?"

Pinkskin: "cute, if your asking me to help you, then ask."

Oken: "uh-"

Pinkskin: "the answer's no."

Hoft: "Oken, you can dodge these guys, find some place to hide. your quick, a survivor, you can make it. . . we can provide a distraction"

Pinkskin: "ya got a smart friend, 3 corpses are better then 4"



we put down our weapons as a sign we don't want to fight

the three Pinky Pirates come out of hiding, then a guildler comes out of the bar and approaches us

Oken: "um how about we make a trade"

guildler: "yarr, I be thinking the same thing, here's how it's gonna be, you'll be getting to keep yer lives, and we'll be getting everything you own"

Oken: " . . . "

guildler: "now ye best be putting everything in this here sack, clothing too, wouldn't want ye to be hiding nothing valuable"



with out a distraction, we'll not get one foot through the door, even with a good one I don't think Prince nor Mint are quick enough to get in on time

as for fighting, we might be able to charge the leader . . . though I don't know how good we'll do in close combat with a guildler

Oken: "um how about in exchange you let us join your crew?"

guildler: " aarrrr, fures are too scrawny to make good pirates, 'specially you lot"

Oken: "um fine, uh how about we get passage on board your ship when you leave world?"

guildler: "yaaaarr, ye drive a hard bargain . . . DEAL. now put yer stuff in the sack before I change ma mind"



I can't think of any way out of this

they have no reason to let us live either way, but if we're not a threat at least they don't HAVE to kill us . . .

>Oken and Co put their raytech in the sack

Oken: "please, we don't care about the Alliance or the weapons, we just want to get off this planet"

guilder: "yarr, now everything else!"

(what does Oken do? does she obey or do something else?)

(Oken can expend her [LuckyEaring] to get her out of any 1 bad situation, this Item will NEVER be taken from her, it can only ever be used once)

(use [LuckyEaring] now?)



Oken: "Fuze, your better at talking then me"

Fuze: "well um, Mr. guilder, you know forcing us to prance about naked could be seen as sexual harassment on your part"

guilder: "arr NO! it's ta make sure ya aren't hidin' any booty! . . . ARG, I BE MEANING SWAG, PLUNDER, nothing be wrong with searching for swag! my crew get's it!"

>the pirate crew gives the guilder strange looks

Fuze: "it's not a matter of how your crew sees it, it's how the StarPolice see, they're really harsh on sex crimes you know . . ."

guilder: " . . . "

>Oken and Co, are permitted to keep their undergarments

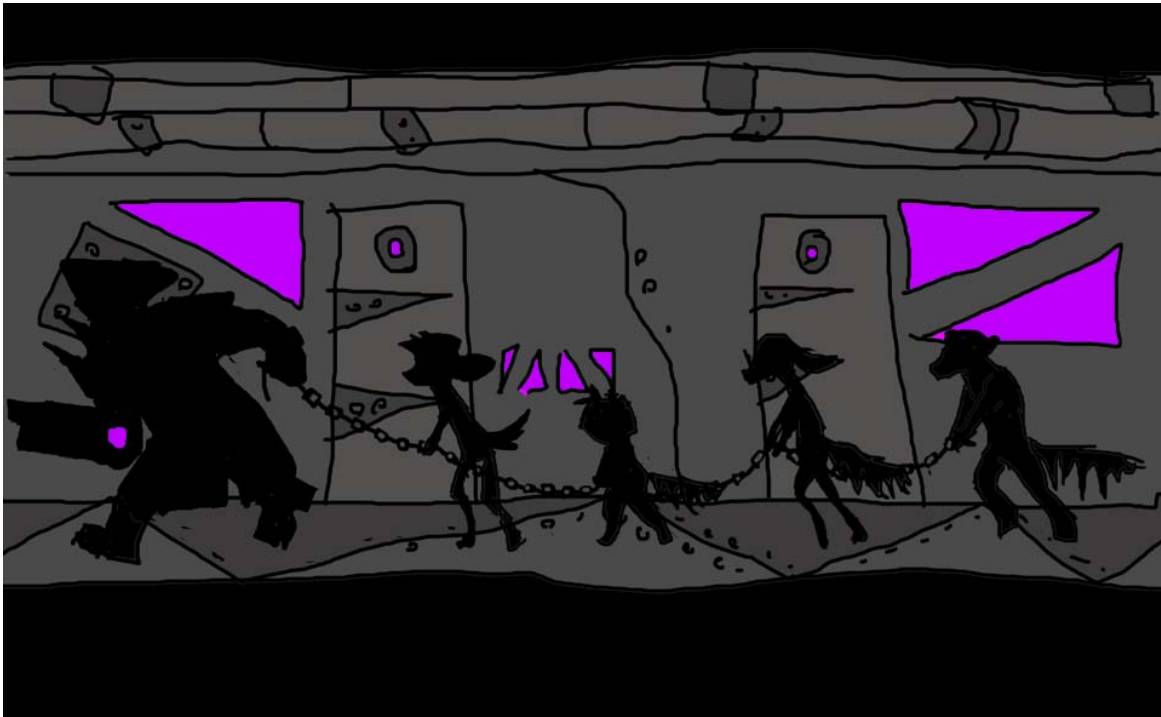
>Prince is deactiavted and taken by the Pirates

. . .

guilder: " YaaaaRR, thanks for being all nice, BOYS put em in irons!"

Oken: " . . . "

guilder: "I pride myself on being a man of my word, yarr and I promised you your lives and you'll keep em, though I never said a word bout your freedom! YARHAR HAR HAR HAR!"



>Oken and Company are taken aboard the pirate ship

guilder: "a man of my word, I always be saying, Honest Arklite the captian calls me, I always be keeping me promises, and we'll be takin you of this world as per the deal"

>Mint decides not to antagonize the guilder despite how very tempting it is

guilder: "probably wondering what we're gonna do with Astranner slave right? you always be wondering that, truth be told you types make terrible slaves, worse pirates . . . and your dainty eating make you cost a small fortune ta keep round, so why are we doing it, Yar har har har"

it's so dark it's almost impossible to see down hear

guilder: " second thing ye always be askin, s'bout the RayTech. why do we want it? we can't use it, no one can be using it. oh we be saying we can but we be just spouting steam, we can't use it. so why do we want it? well that's where you be coming in, you CAN use it, Astranners be the only ones"

Oken: "but you said we couldn't be part of your crew . . . "

guilder: "I never be lying, yar har har har . . ."



we are shoved into a large cell

Oken: "uh you probably could ransom us off, we're all highly skilled officers and stuff, I'm sure-"

guilder: "that be too much hassle"

Oken: "so what horrible things ARE you going to do to us, and could you please cut to the point!"

guilder: "YARRRR, you be no fun, we ain't be doing a single horrible thing to you . . . as long as ye behave, all we be needing is a pint o blood every now and then. Yarr Astranner blood tis practically liquid gold to us . . . don't worry we'll leave you enough to live"

Oken: "what if we don't behave?"

guilder: "ARRRR let's just be saying we'll be doing horrible things you don't want us to be doing"

Oken: " . . . "

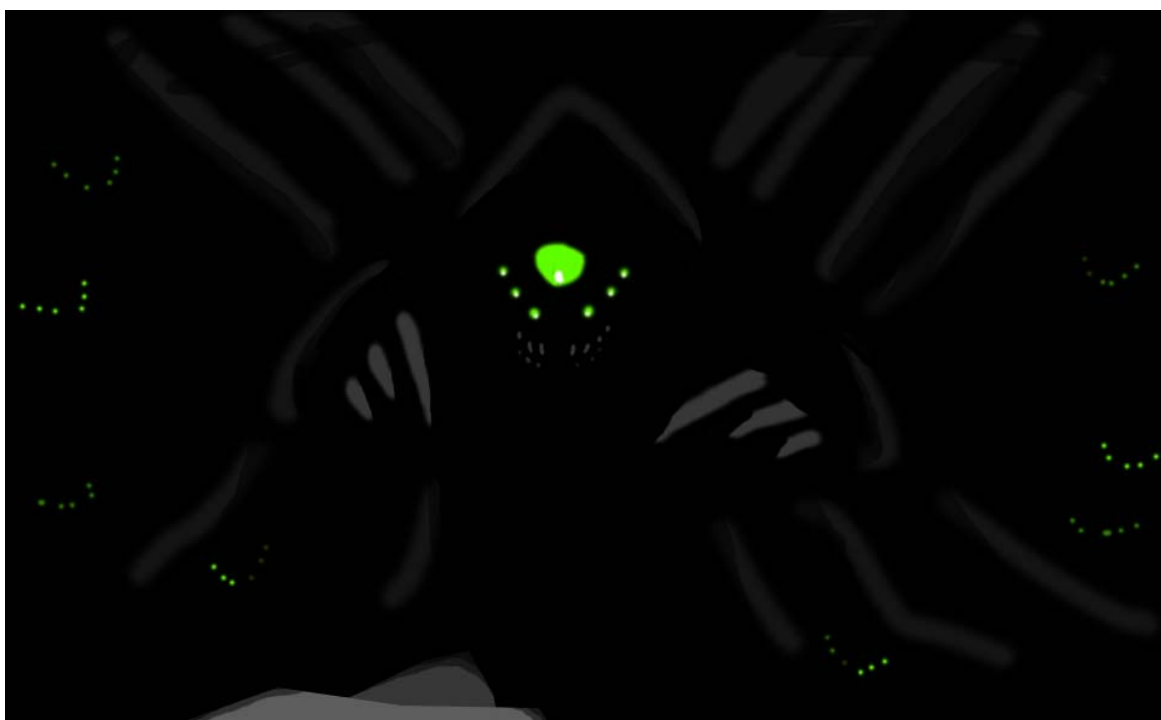
>Fuze starts to cry



>and so our poor heroes fall into clutches of vile SpacePirates, the Alliance believing them dead will never look for them, and even if someone did desire to find them, they would never know where to look)

>we may never know what horrible fate befalls them, but perhaps we can hope that their suffering does not last long

THE END



servant1: "Mother your prophecy was incorrect, you said they would never leave this world!"

BroodMother: "hmmm it appears that way, I suppose well have to rely on other talents, Psych?"

Servant2: "we can't mother, they're too far out, we have no crawlers that far"

BroodMother: "your lack of creativity dissapoints me, prepare my bio pod"

Servant1: "but mother, the Hive! we spent-"

BroodMother: "-30 years? wasted 30 years. I tire of this world . . . and hunger for Pirate flesh"

servant1: "but-"

BroodMother: "do as I say before I hunger for yours"

servant: "understood BroodMother"

(epilogue end)