

FOR THEIR OWN GOOD

CHAPTER 1: THE LIBRARY

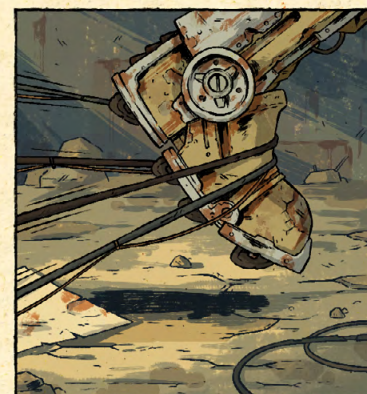


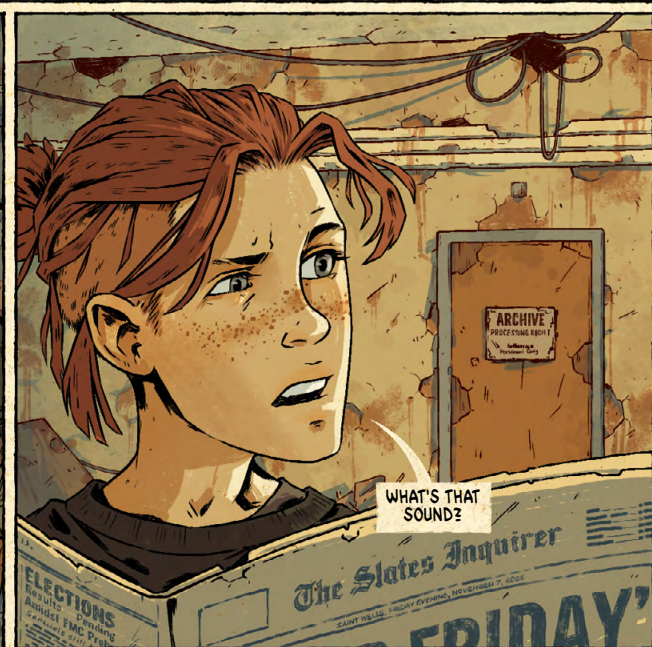
KATERYNA KOSHELEVA

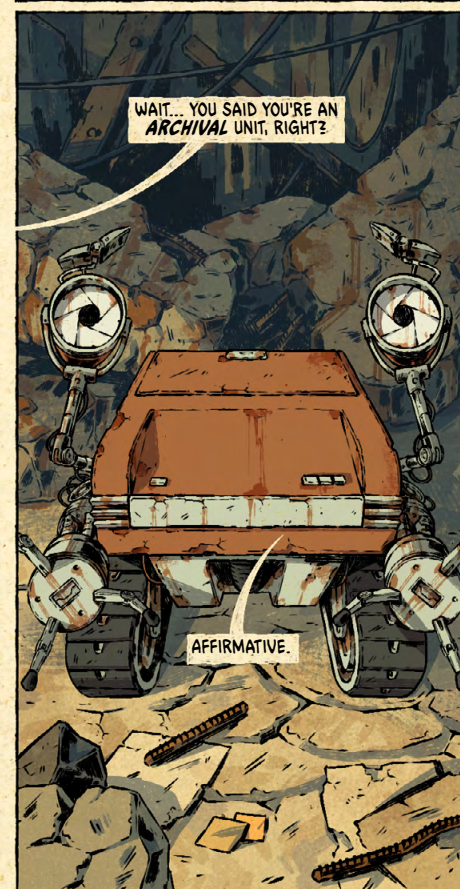
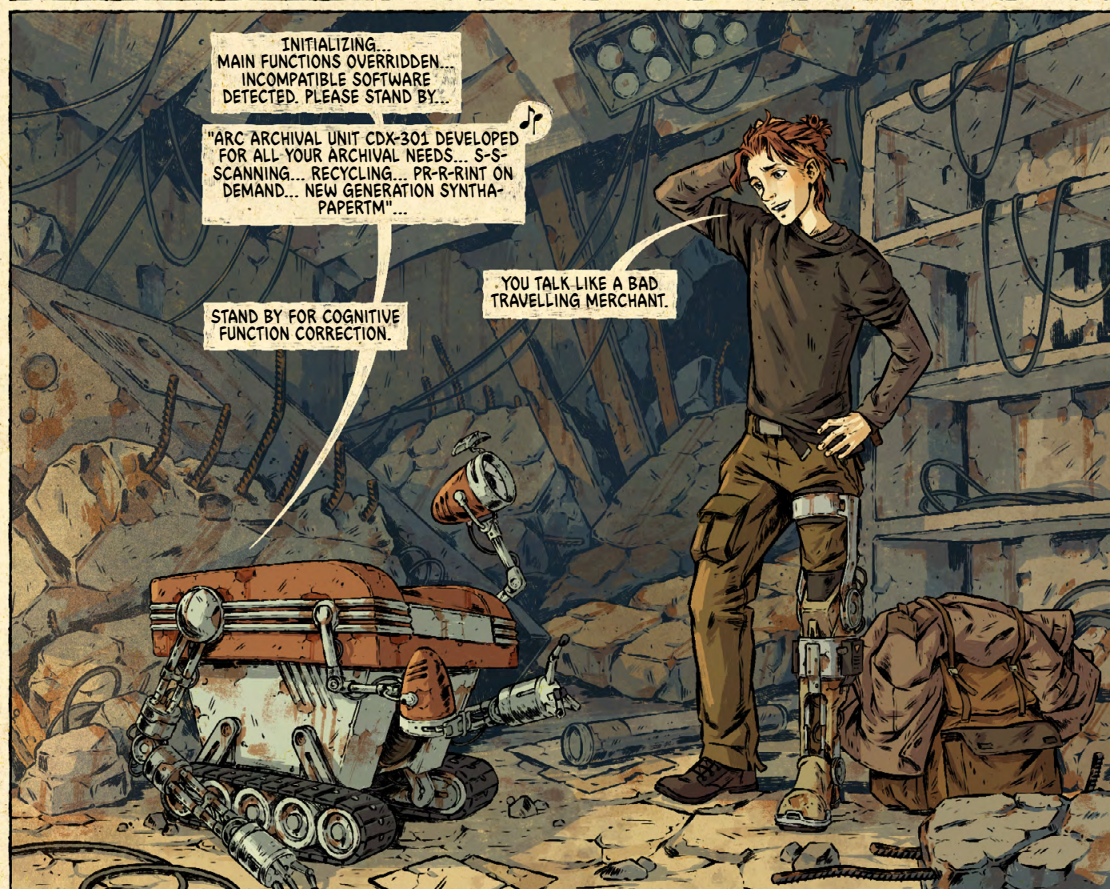
7 SAINT WELLS RUINS, LATE OCTOBER 2052







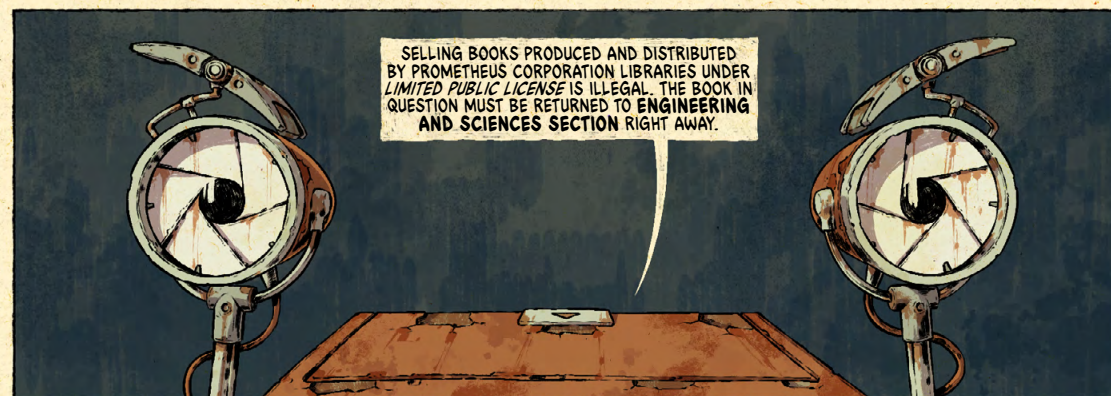






SEVERAL DAYS AGO
VISTO MARKET





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GREAT! LET'S GO THEN. MAYBE ON OUR WAY THERE WE'LL FIND SOME ROMANCE NOVELS FOR YOU TO "SNACK" ON.

ARCHIVE



ERROR. SECTION INACCESSIBLE. THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS NEGLIGENCE ON PART OF MAINTENANCE STAFF!

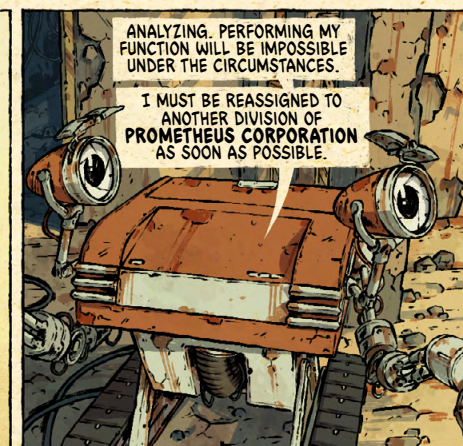
YOU... HAVE NO IDEA ABOUT THE BIG WAR, DO YOU?

ON THE CONTRARY, M'AM. I STORE INFORMATION ON MORE THAN A HUNDRED CONFLICTS THAT FIT THE CONCEPT, FROM SUMERIAN CONQUEST OF 2700 B.C.E. TO THE GREAT ASIAN WAR OF 2020.



DUDE, THAT WAS ALL SKIRMISHES COMPARED TO 2026! IT HIT *EVERYONE* IN THE WORLD, HARD.

I'M SORRY *CODEX*. THERE WILL BE NO MAINTENANCE.



ANALYZING. PERFORMING MY FUNCTION WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

I MUST BE REASSIGNED TO ANOTHER DIVISION OF PROMETHEUS CORPORATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



OH... HELL. I'M SORRY, *CODEX*. I DON'T THINK THERE'S A PLACE LEFT FOR YOU NOW.



COMING TO THINK OF IT... I CAN SORT OF RELATE TO THAT.

COME ON. LET'S SCRATCH THAT ITCH OF YOURS AND MAYBE FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO NEXT.



INQUIRY: WOULD YOU LIKE TO SET MY NEW DESIGNATION TO "*CODEX*".

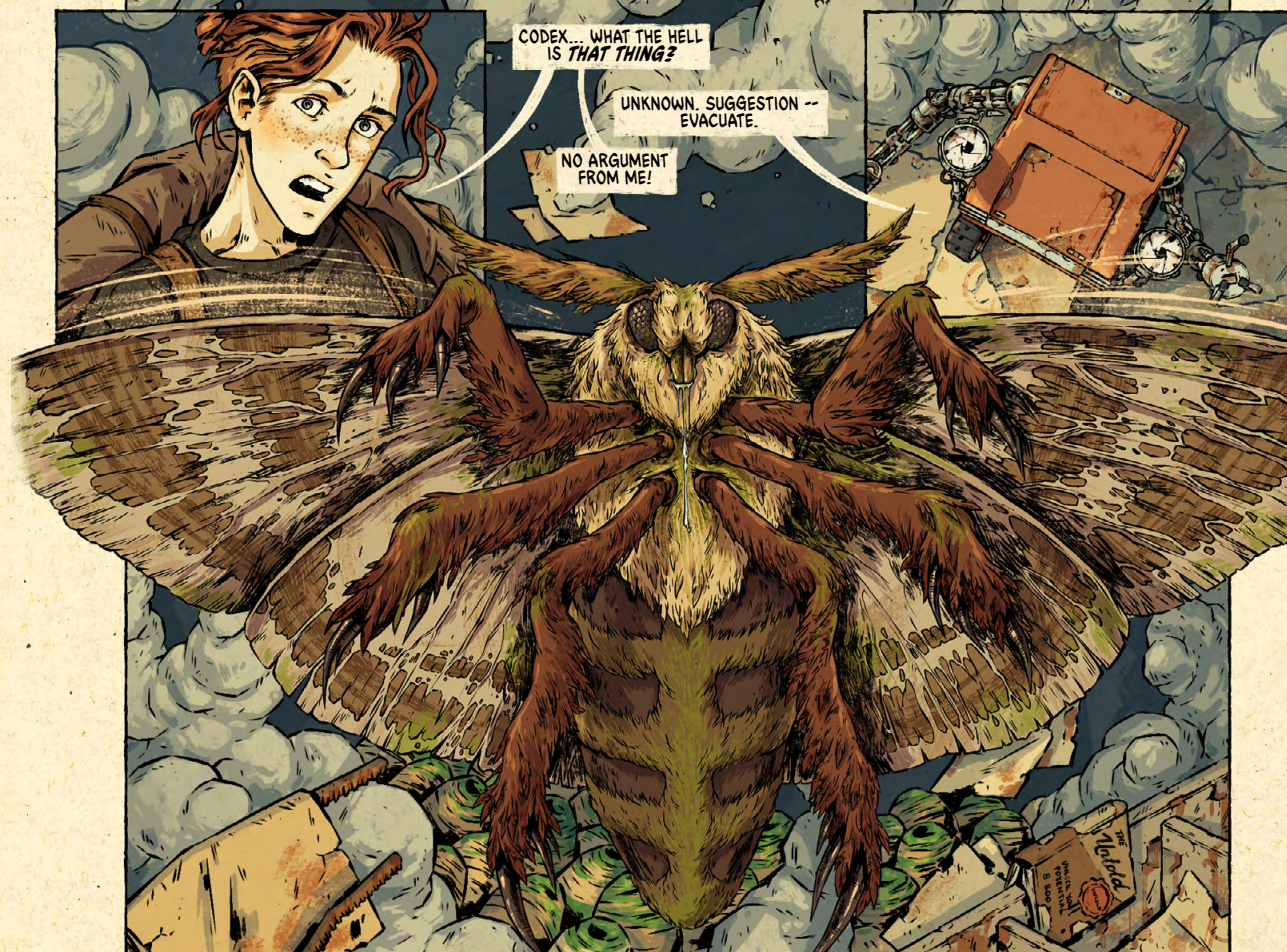
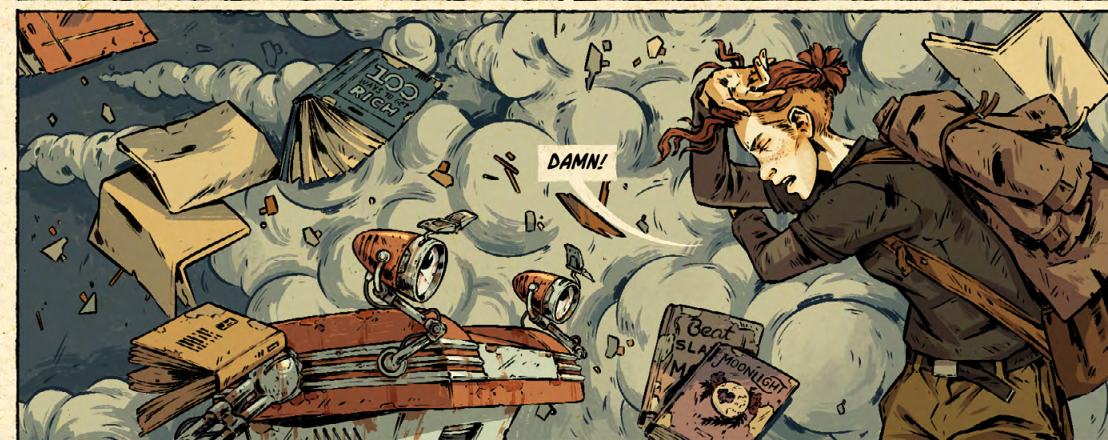
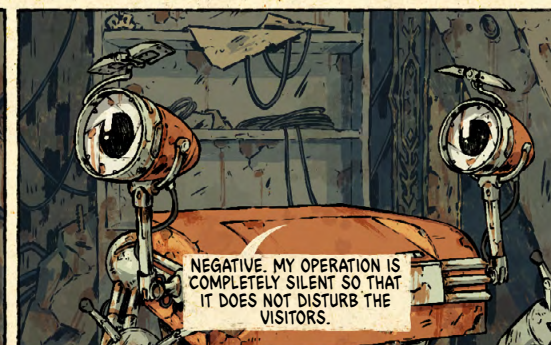
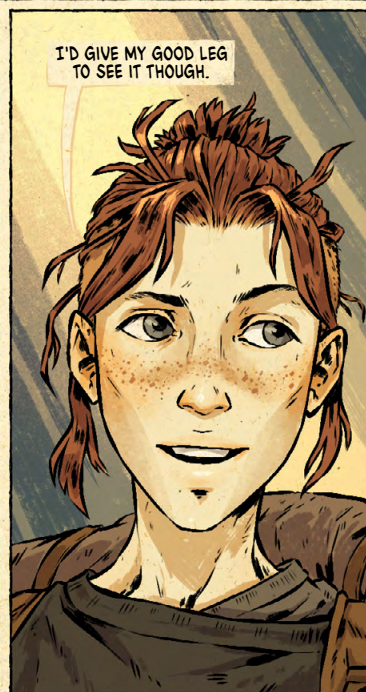
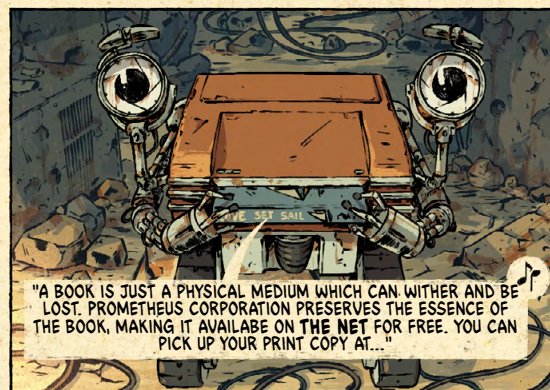
ISN'T THAT A BETTER NAME THAN CDX-WHATEVER?

I DID NOT HAVE A "NAME" BEFORE.

WELL, NOW YOU DO.

PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

GRACE. YOU CAN CALL ME *GRACE*.



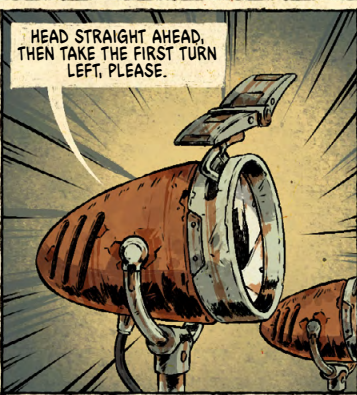


THIS THING'S TOO FAST. IS THERE A PLACE WITH A GOOD DOOR AROUND HERE?

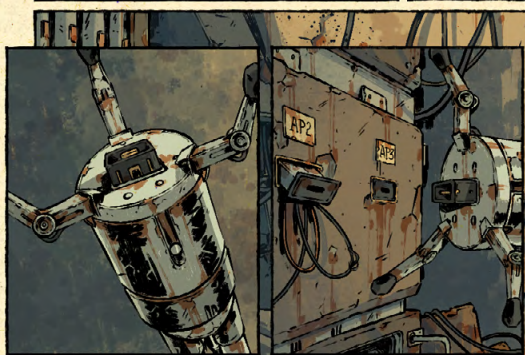
MAINTENANCE UNIT, CURRENT LEVEL, SECTION C5.



WHERE'S THAT?



HEAD STRAIGHT AHEAD, THEN TAKE THE FIRST TURN LEFT, PLEASE.



LOOKS LIKE THIS IS THE ONLY WAY IN... AND OUT.

PLEASE STAND BY.

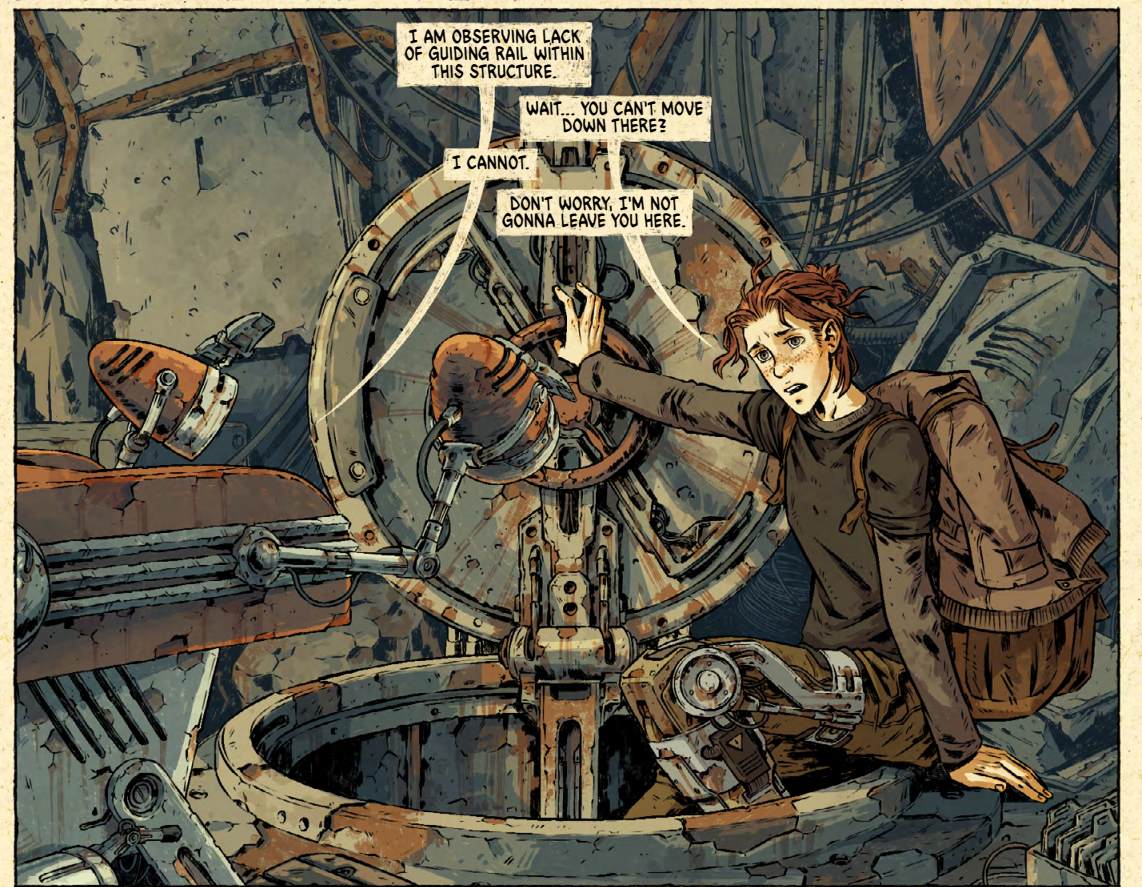
DOWNLOADING MAINTENANCE SCHEMATICS.

THERE IS A CRAWLSPACE IN THE NORTH-WESTERN SECTION OF THIS ROOM. THE HATCH HOWEVER MAY BE OBSTRUCTED WITH DEBRIS.



FOUND IT!

WELL, WE HAVE A WAY OUT.

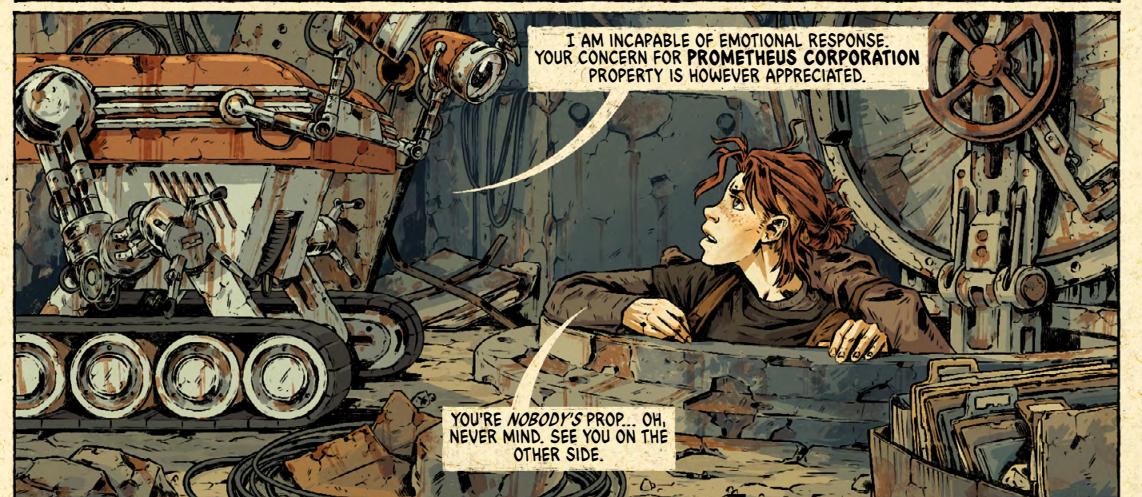


I AM OBSERVING LACK OF GUIDING RAIL WITHIN THIS STRUCTURE.

WAIT... YOU CAN'T MOVE DOWN THERE?

I CANNOT.

DON'T WORRY, I'M NOT GONNA LEAVE YOU HERE.



I AM INCAPABLE OF EMOTIONAL RESPONSE. YOUR CONCERN FOR PROMETHEUS CORPORATION PROPERTY IS HOWEVER APPRECIATED.

YOU'RE *NOBODY'S* PROP... OH, NEVER MIND. SEE YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE.



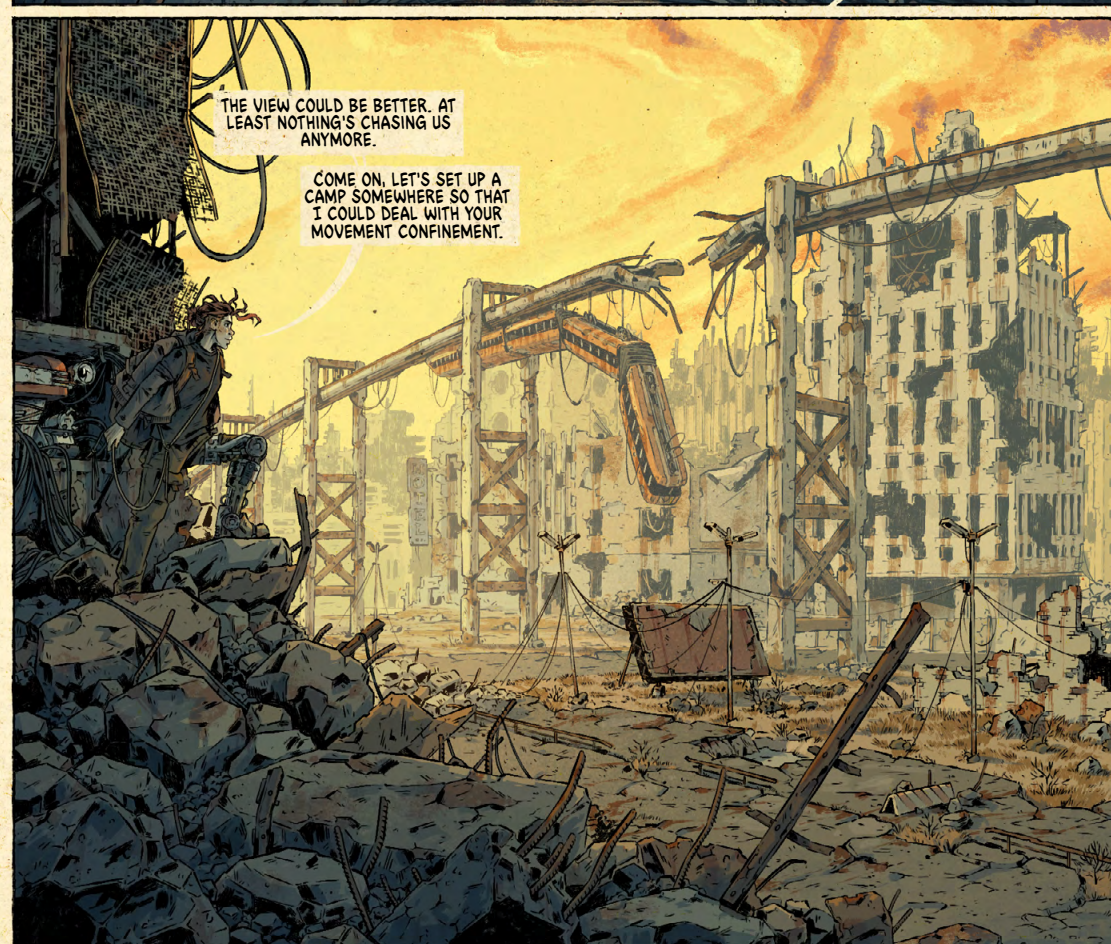
JUST... A LITTLE... FURTHER...
AND WE'LL GET OUT OF HERE.



SAFE AND
SOUND...

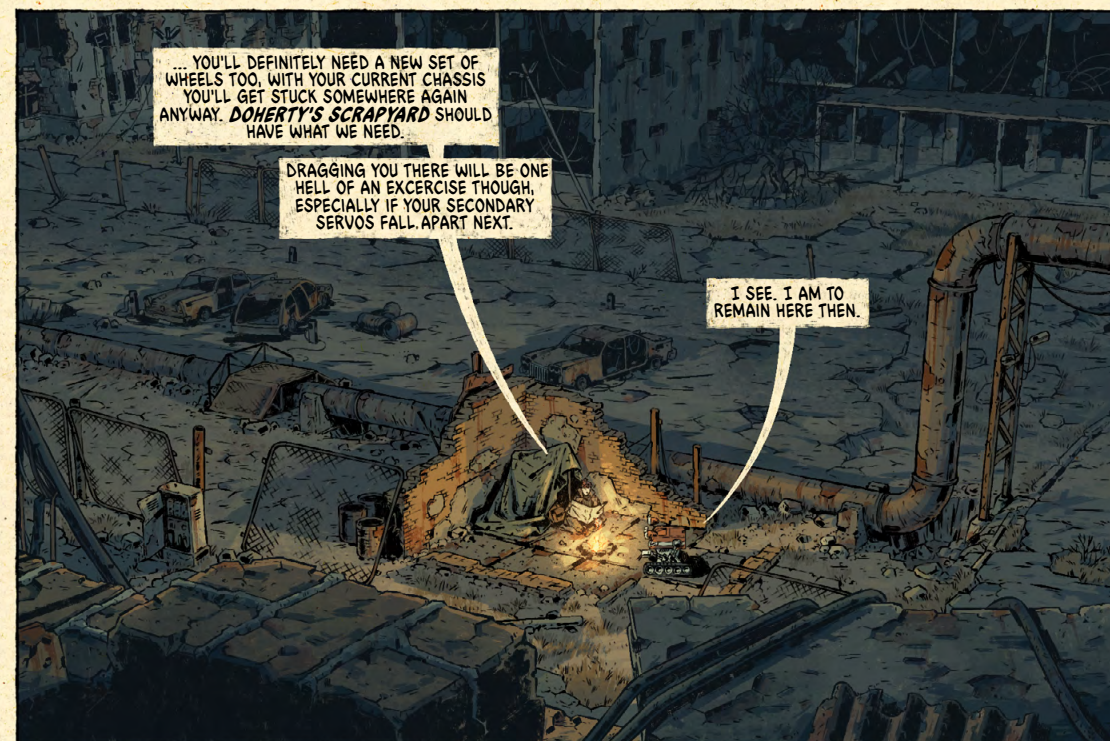


AND WE'LL LIVE... HAPPILY...
EVER AFTER.



THE VIEW COULD BE BETTER. AT
LEAST NOTHING'S CHASING US
ANYMORE.

COME ON, LET'S SET UP A
CAMP SOMEWHERE SO THAT
I COULD DEAL WITH YOUR
MOVEMENT CONFINEMENT.



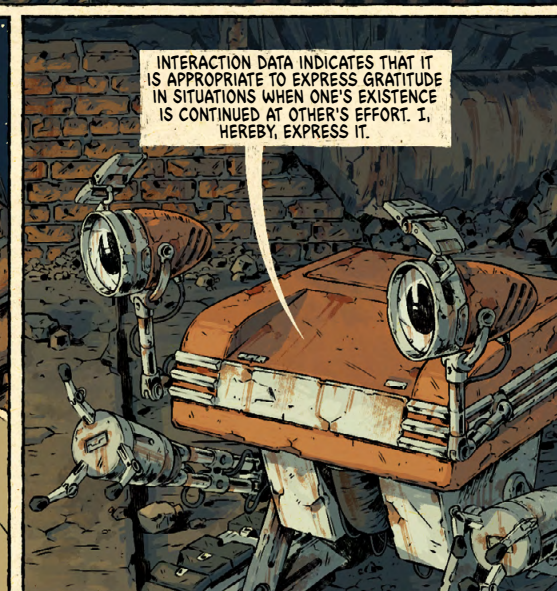
... YOU'LL DEFINITELY NEED A NEW SET OF
WHEELS TOO, WITH YOUR CURRENT CHASSIS
YOU'LL GET STUCK SOMEWHERE AGAIN
ANYWAY. **DOHERTY'S SCRAPYARD** SHOULD
HAVE WHAT WE NEED.

DRAWING YOU THERE WILL BE ONE
HELL OF AN EXERCISE THOUGH,
ESPECIALLY IF YOUR SECONDARY
SERVOS FALL APART NEXT.

I SEE. I AM TO
REMAIN HERE THEN.



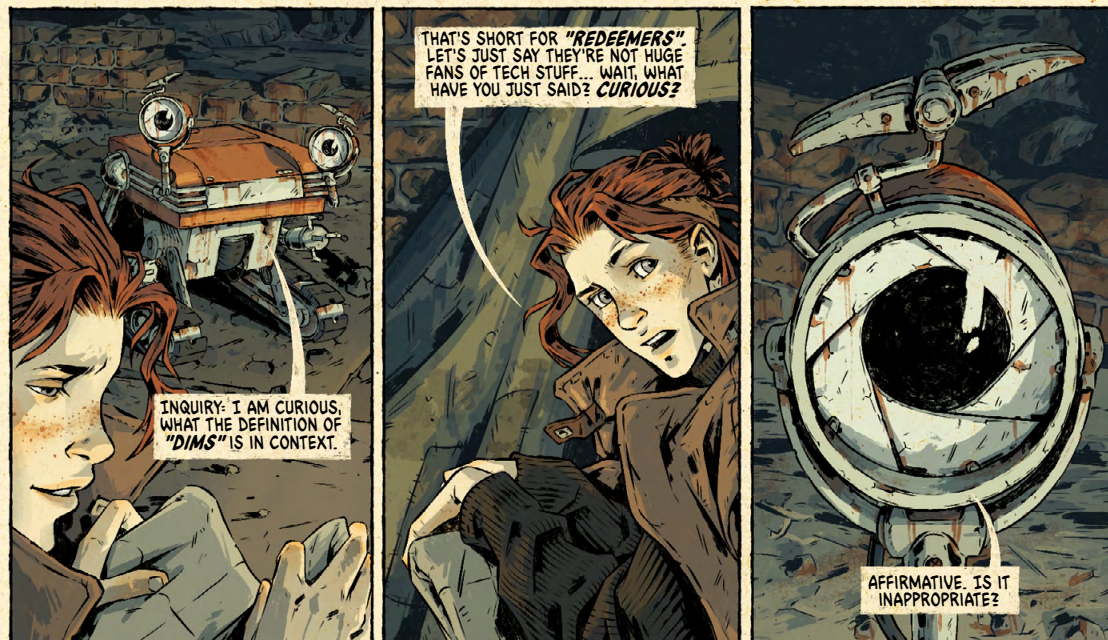
LIKE HELL YOU ARE! I DIDN'T
DRAG YOU ALL THE WAY HERE
FOR YOU TO GET SCRAPPED FOR
PARTS OR WORSE -- GUTTED BY
SOME CRAZY DIMS.



INTERACTION DATA INDICATES THAT IT
IS APPROPRIATE TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE
IN SITUATIONS WHEN ONE'S EXISTENCE
IS CONTINUED AT OTHER'S EFFORT. I,
HEREBY, EXPRESS IT.



YOU'RE WELCOME.
I GUESS.



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