

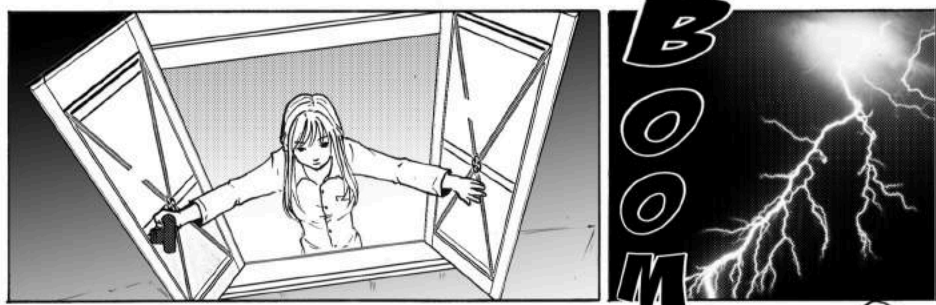
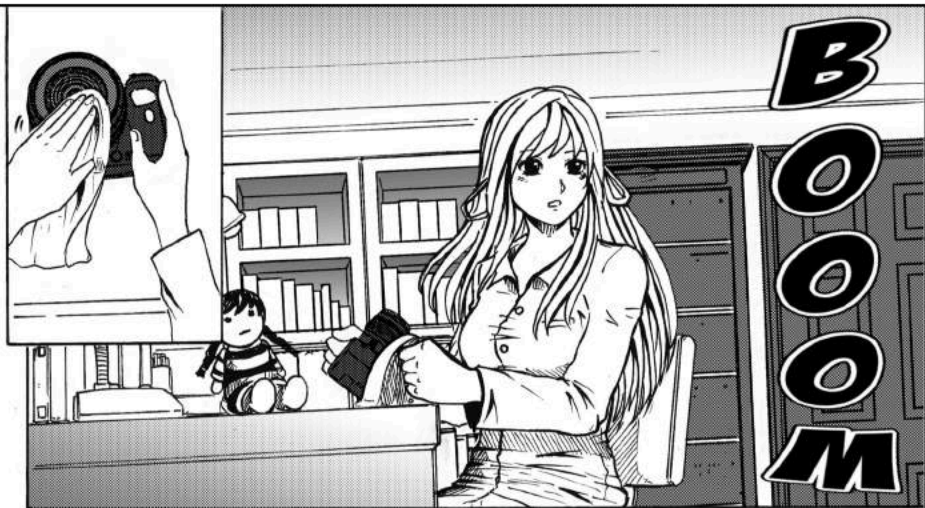


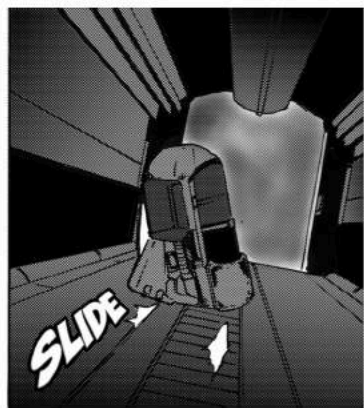
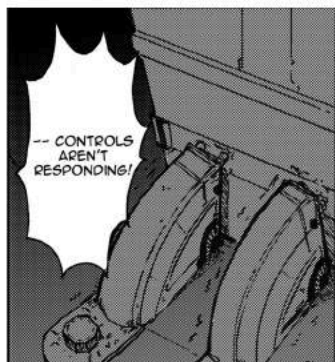
MECHANICAL MADNESS

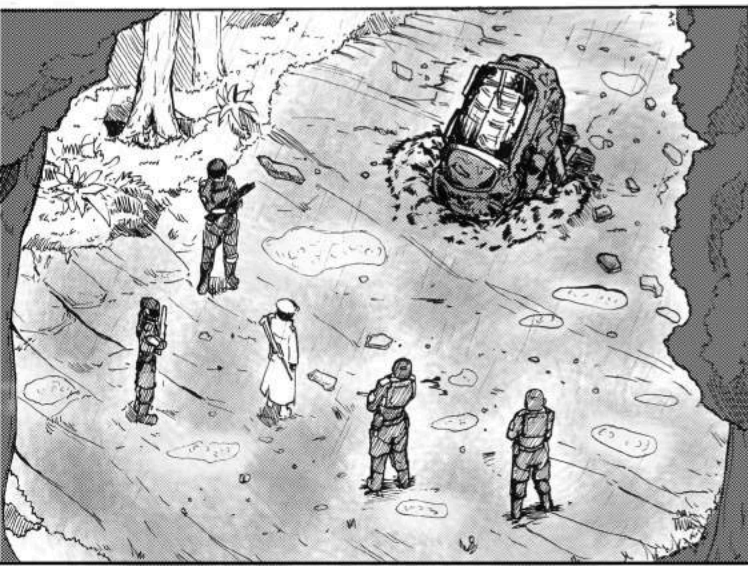
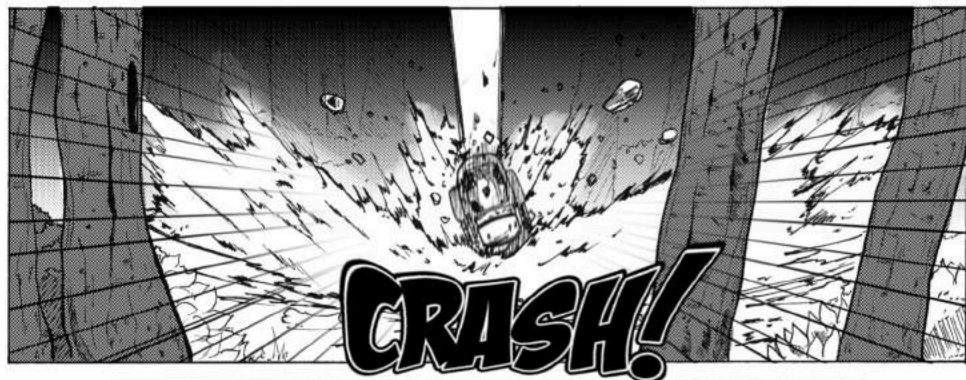
01. SYSTEM RESTART

STORY:
MIDNIGHT

ART:
ARDEE AROLLADO









HOW CLOSE TO DETERMINING THE ESCAPED UNIT'S LOCATION?

HEAVY RAIN'S MAKING IT DIFFICULT TO TRACK HER FOOTPRINTS.



SHE HAS A TRANSPONDER IMPLANT BUT, SO FAR, WE'VE BEEN UNABLE TO HONE IN.



THIS ELECTRICAL STORM'S SCRAMBLING THE SIGNAL.

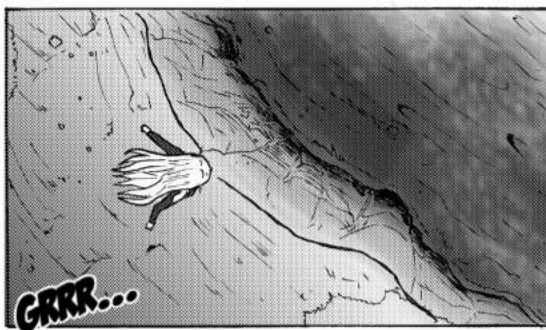
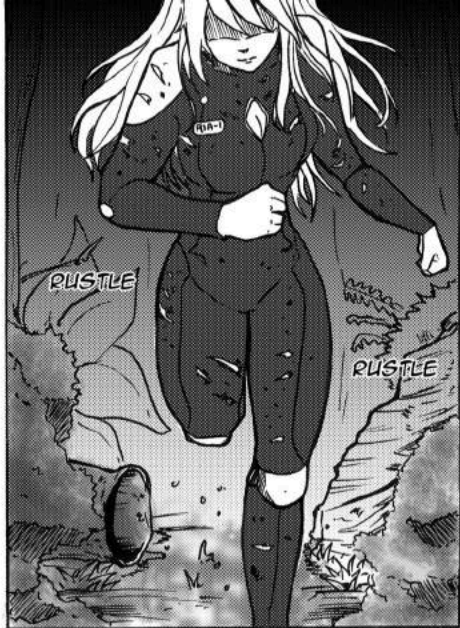


VINTOVKA
HERE,
REPORT.

COMMANDER,
A T.O.T.O. PICKED UP
HER TRAIL.
WE'RE
SENDING
COORDINATES
YOUR WAY.



LET'S SEE
HOW FAR YOU
GET NOW.





BEEN A
WHILE,
HASN'T
IT--

SPLAT



--RIA?

THEY'VE
KEPT YOU
ASLEEP
FOR,
WHAT,
TWO
YEARS
NOW?

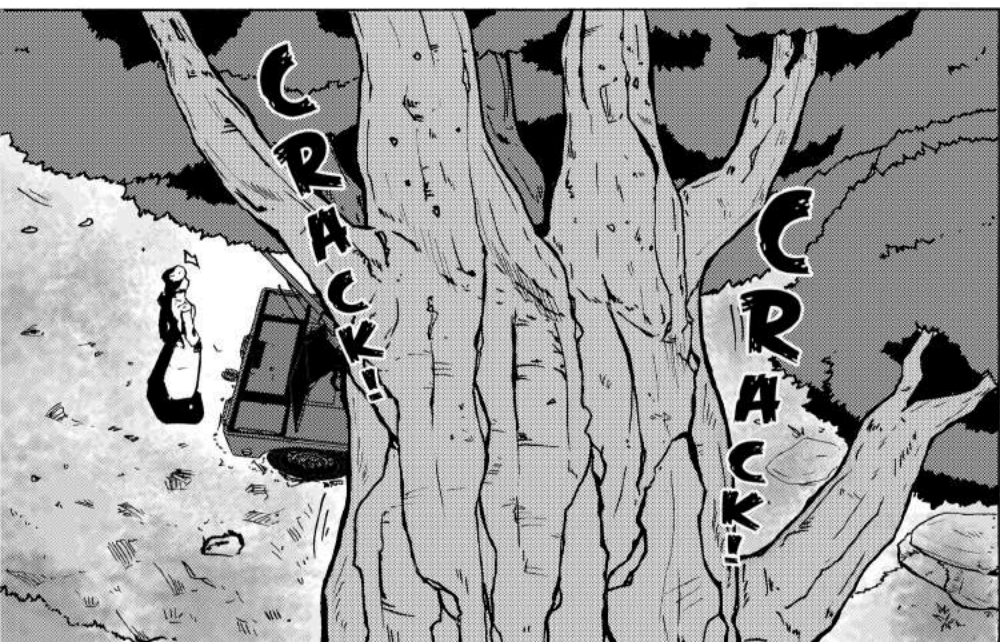
IN ALL
THAT
TIME,
WHAT
COULD
YOU
HAVE
DREAMT
ABOUT?



TELL ME,
CAN A
PORCELAIN
DOLL
DREAM?

OR DID DR.
HADALY
LEAVE
THAT OUT
OF YOUR
PROGRAMMING?









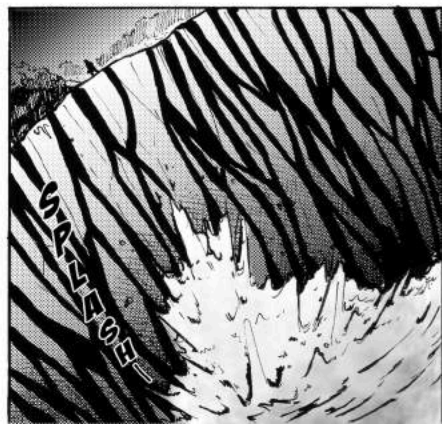
DAMMIT!



ALERT
MADAM
DIRECTOR,
THE UNIT
HAS EVADED
CAPTURE.

BEEP!

FOCUS ALL
EFFORTS ON
TRACING
THAT
TRANSPONDER
SIGNAL.





HEY, ALLENBY!
I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU DURING LUNCH TODAY.

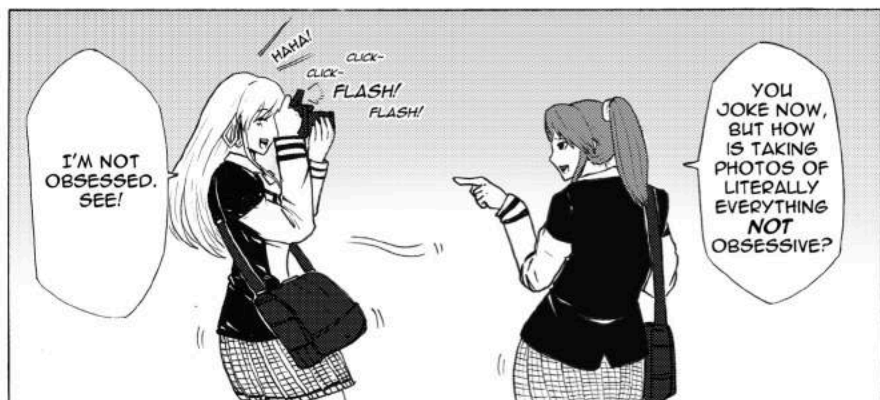
OH? I WAS IN THE DARKROOM DEVELOPING SOME PHOTOS I TOOK LAST NIGHT.


WOW, THESE ARE AMAZING! YOU REALLY HAVE A NATURAL TALENT FOR PHOTOGRAPHY HUH?

WELL, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT...



UH, ALLENBY, I WAS WONDERING, UM... YOU HAVE ANYTHING GOING ON AFTER SCHOOL TODAY?





I DON'T
KNOW,
I GUESS...
THINGS JUST
HAVE A WAY
OF CHANGING
SO EASILY.
SO QUICKLY.

PEOPLE,
PLACES
- LIFE
CAN CHANGE
OVERNIGHT.



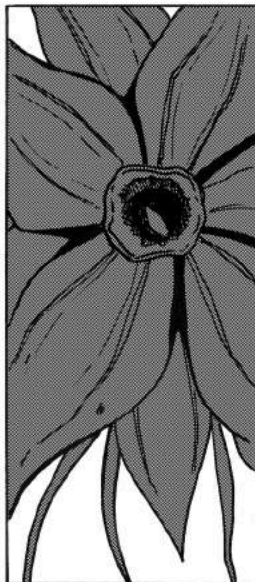
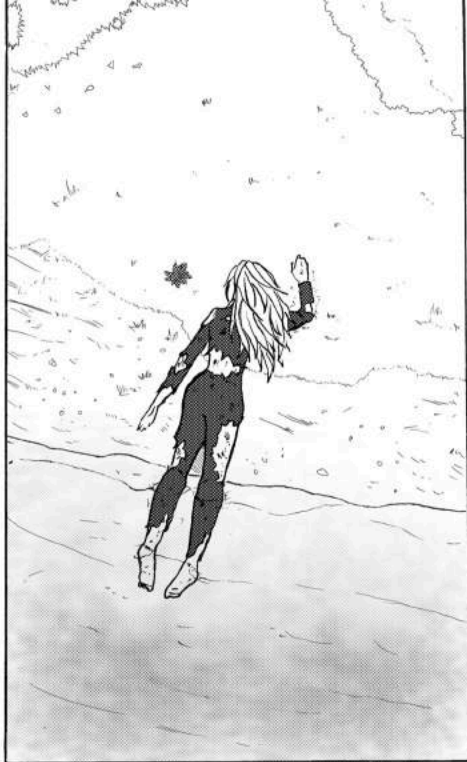
BUT A
PHOTO,
IT NEVER
CHANGES.
IT'S ALWAYS
THE SAME.

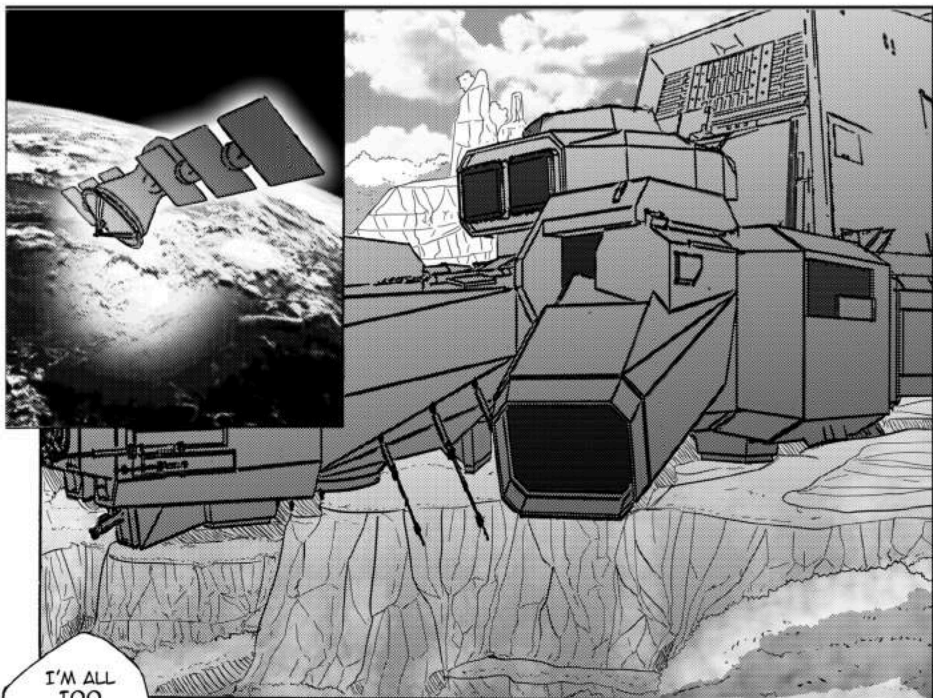
WHAT'S
THERE,
IT CAN'T
DISAPPEAR.
THERE'S
SOMETHING
ABOUT
THAT I
REALLY LIKE.



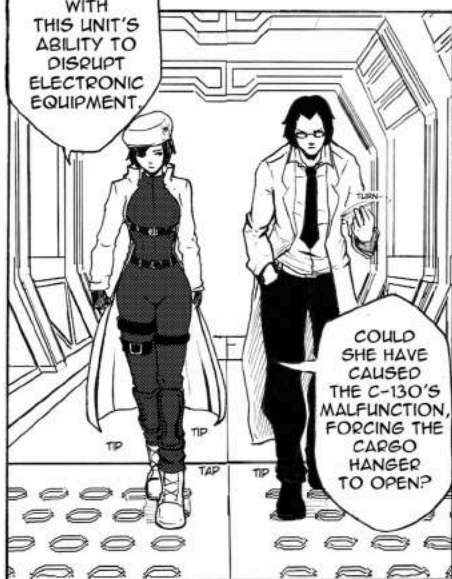
THAT'S
PRETTY
DEEP,
ALLENBY.

YOU
THINK
SO?





I'M ALL TOO FAMILIAR WITH THIS UNIT'S ABILITY TO DISRUPT ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT.



COULD SHE HAVE CAUSED THE C-130'S MALFUNCTION, FORCING THE CARGO HANGER TO OPEN?

IMPOSSIBLE. AT THE TIME, RIA WAS STILL IN STASIS MODE.



BESIDES, THE FARADAY-SHIELDING WITHIN HER CONTAINMENT CHAMBER WOULD'VE PREVENTED SUCH A THREAT HAD SHE REACTIVATED.



