

NO. 6

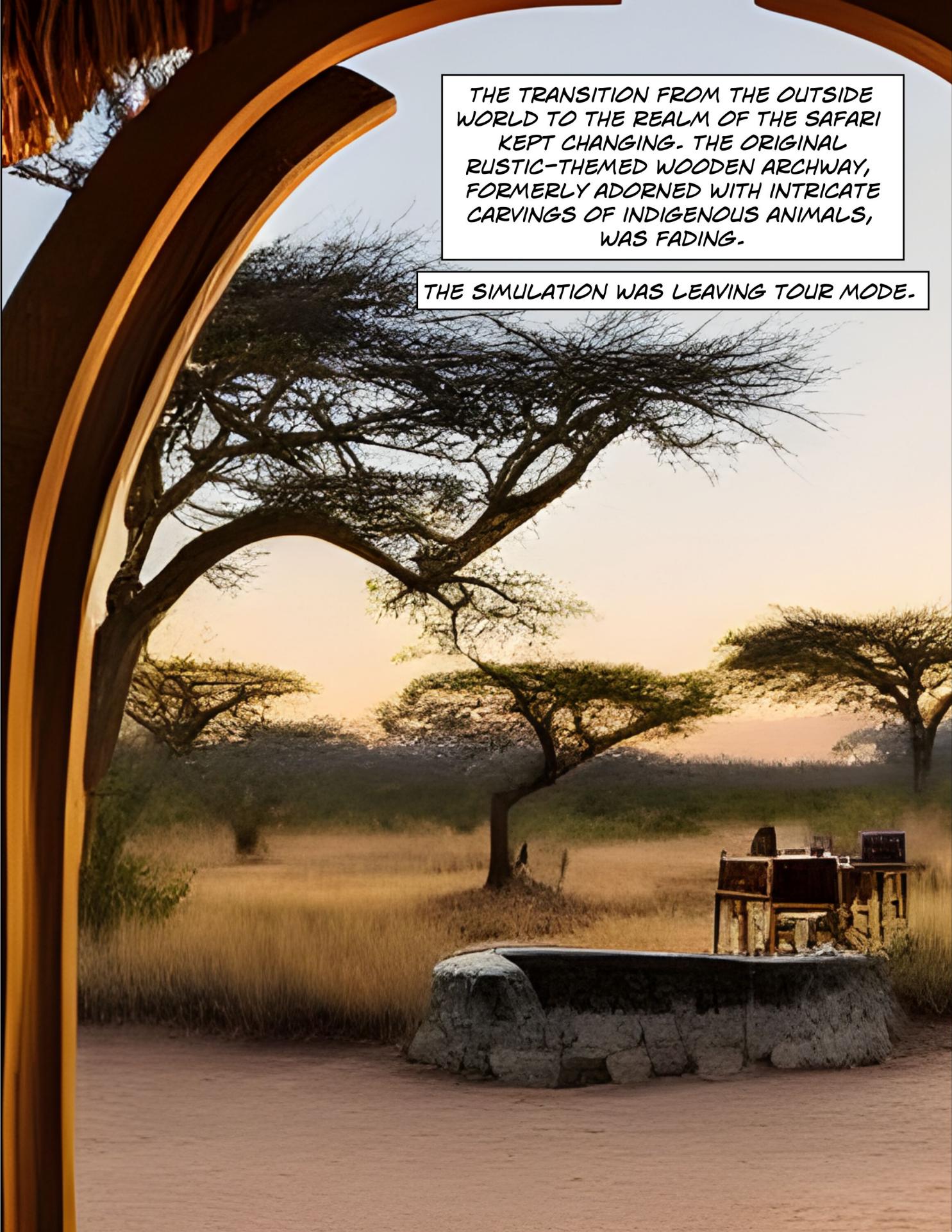
ARKVATARA

JANUARY 2024



IDENTITY

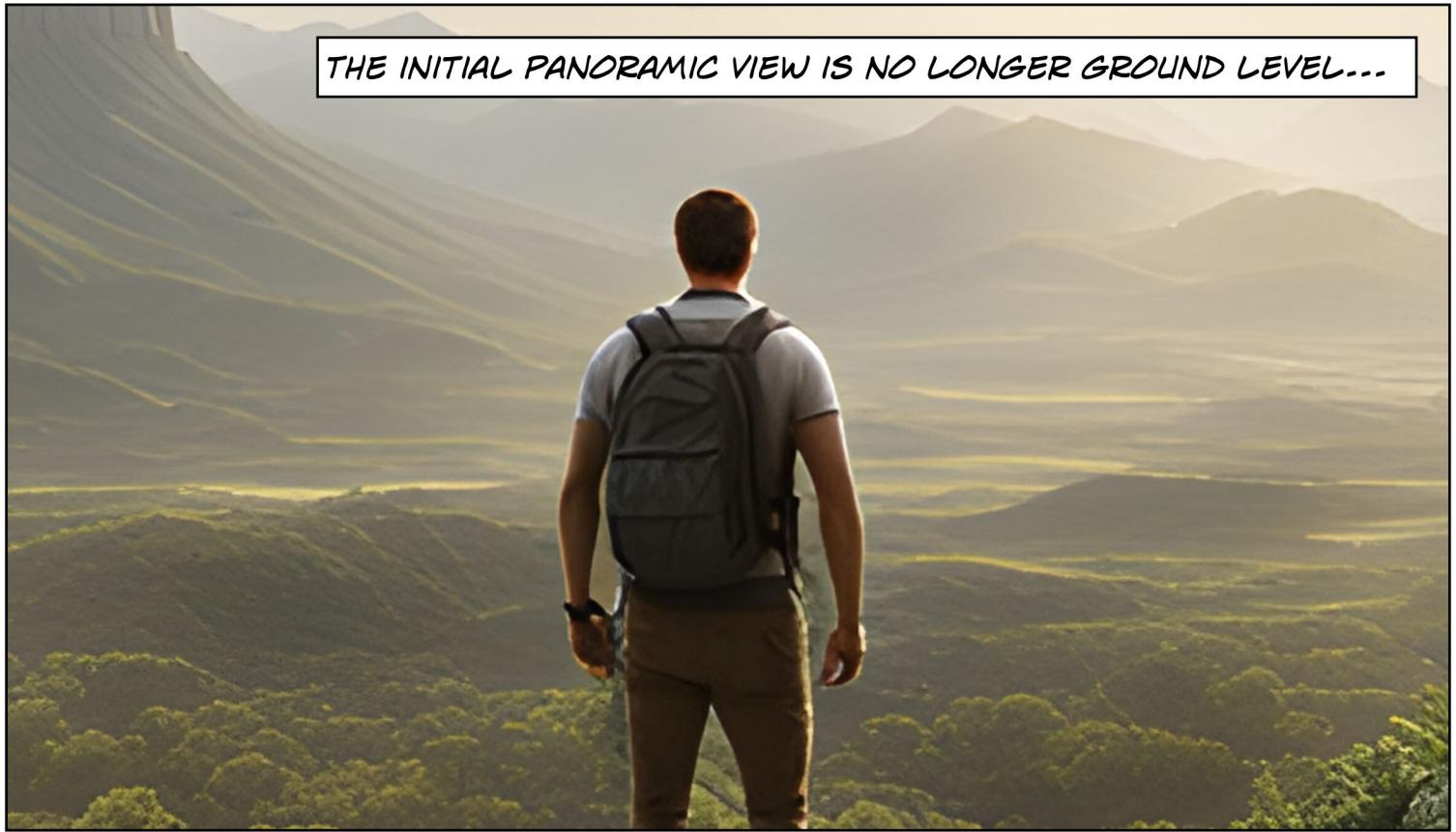
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THE TRANSITION FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD TO THE REALM OF THE SAFARI KEPT CHANGING. THE ORIGINAL RUSTIC-THEMED WOODEN ARCHWAY, FORMERLY ADORNED WITH INTRICATE CARVINGS OF INDIGENOUS ANIMALS, WAS FADING.

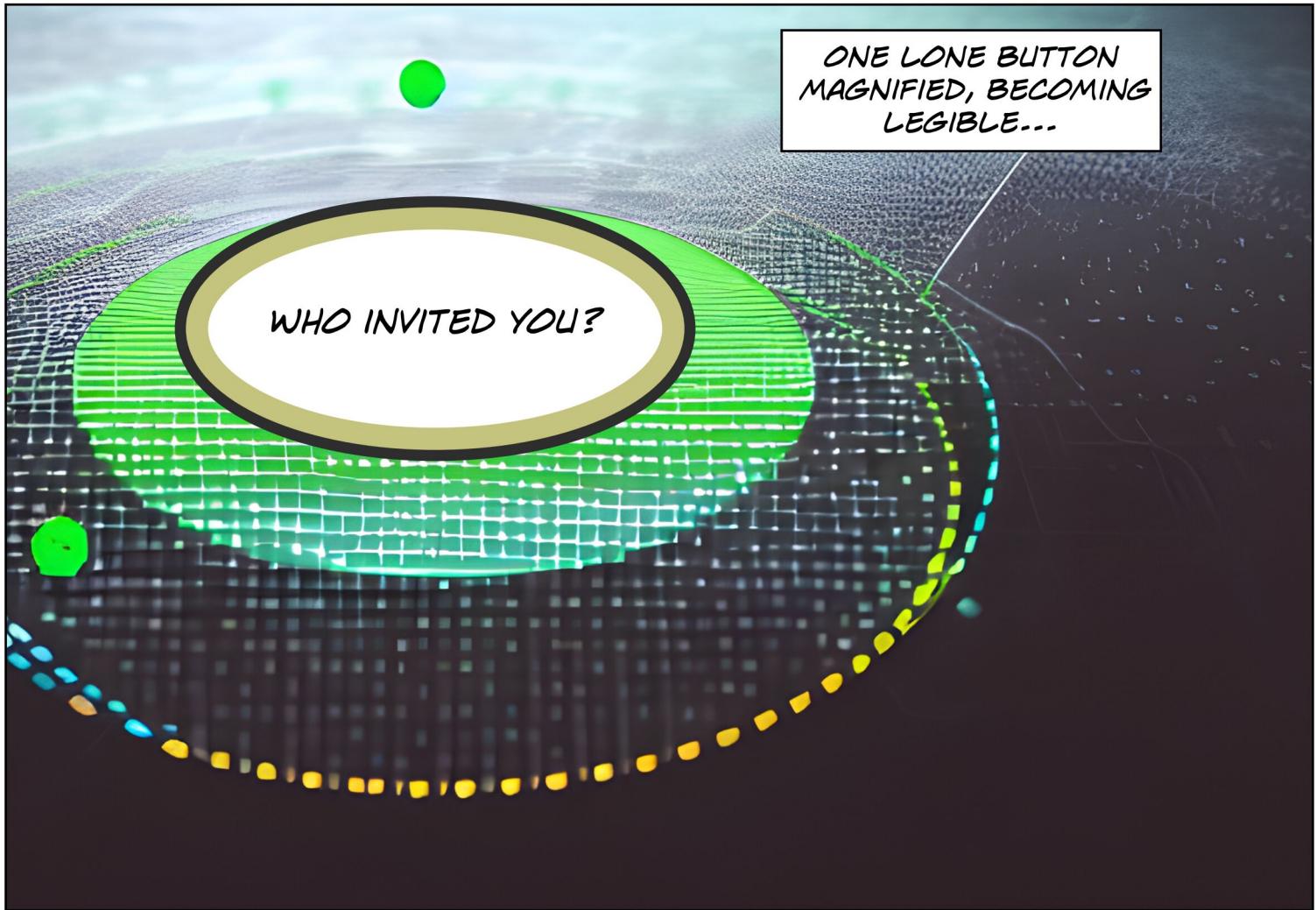
THE SIMULATION WAS LEAVING TOUR MODE.

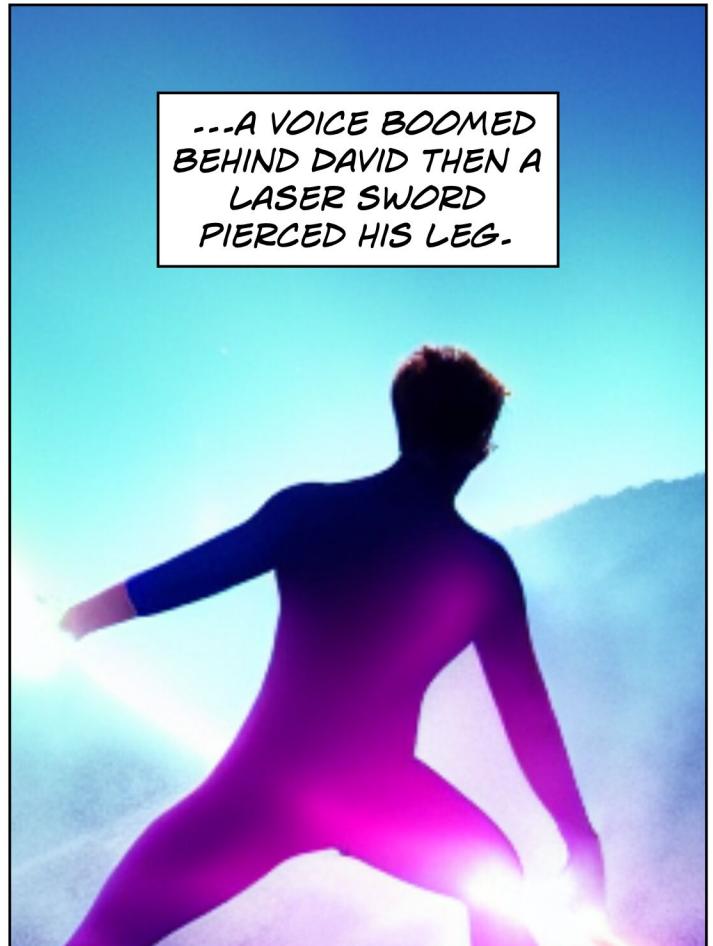
THE INITIAL PANORAMIC VIEW IS NO LONGER GROUND LEVEL...



WALKING PARTLY THROUGH THE NEW ARCHWAY, DAVID NOTICED A CLEAR BARRIER WITH FLOATING BUTTONS BEGINING TO SURROUNDING HIM; TINY INTERFACES WITH WRITING ON THEM.



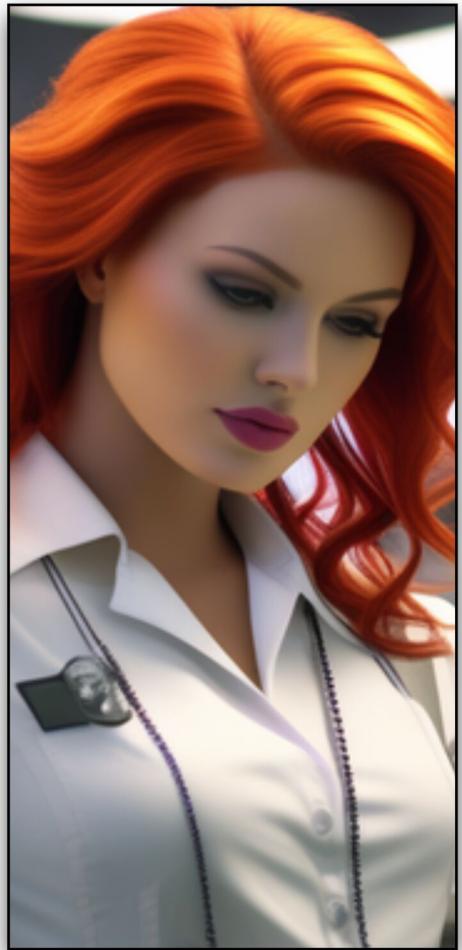




LOG ENTRY 1 - HOUR 1200:

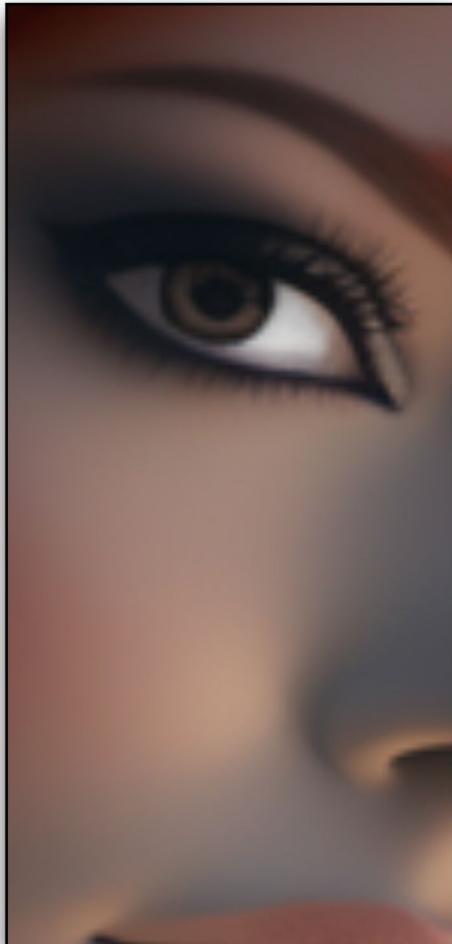
REPLICA ACTIVATION INITIATED.
INITIAL SYSTEMS CHECK UNDERWAY.
BASIC MOTOR FUNCTIONS ONLINE.
LIMITED AUTONOMY ACHIEVED.

LEVEL 1



LOG ENTRY 2 - HOUR 1500:

PRIMARY AI MODULES
SYNCHRONIZED. COMMUNICATION
PATHWAYS ESTABLISHED. REPLICA
NOW RESPONSIVE TO EXTERNAL
STIMULI. BASIC MOVEMENT
PATTERNS OBSERVED.

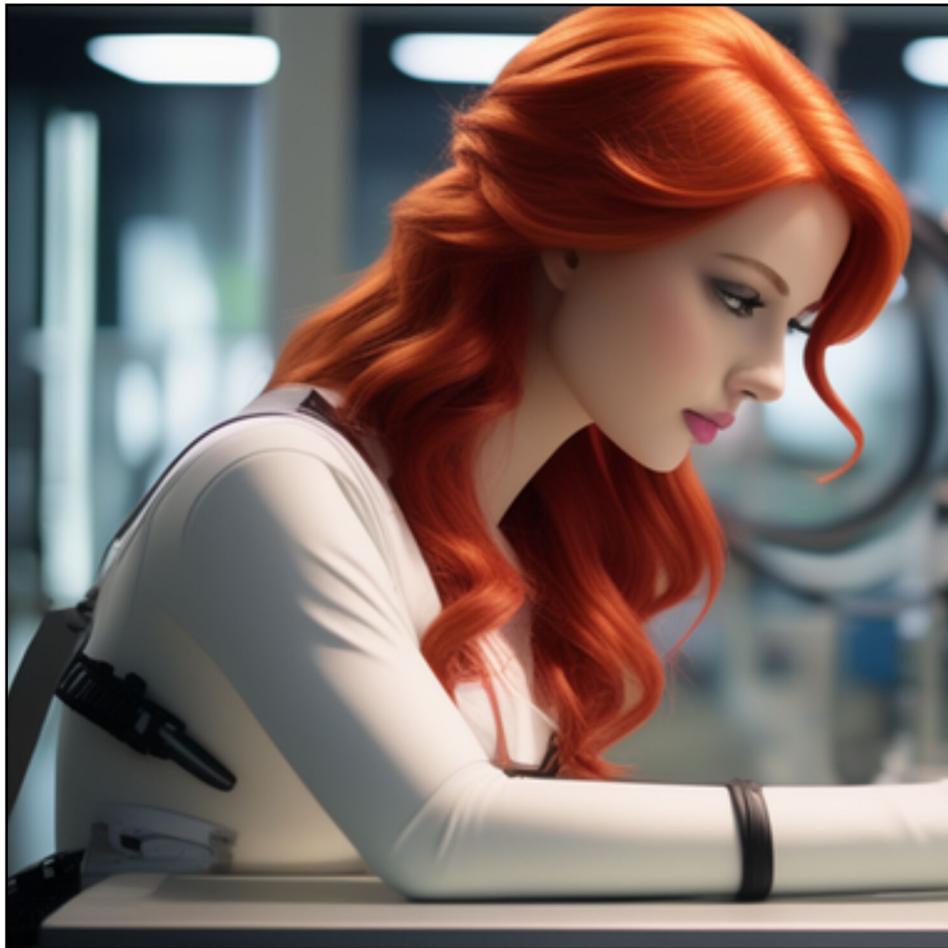


LOG ENTRY 3 - HOUR 1800:

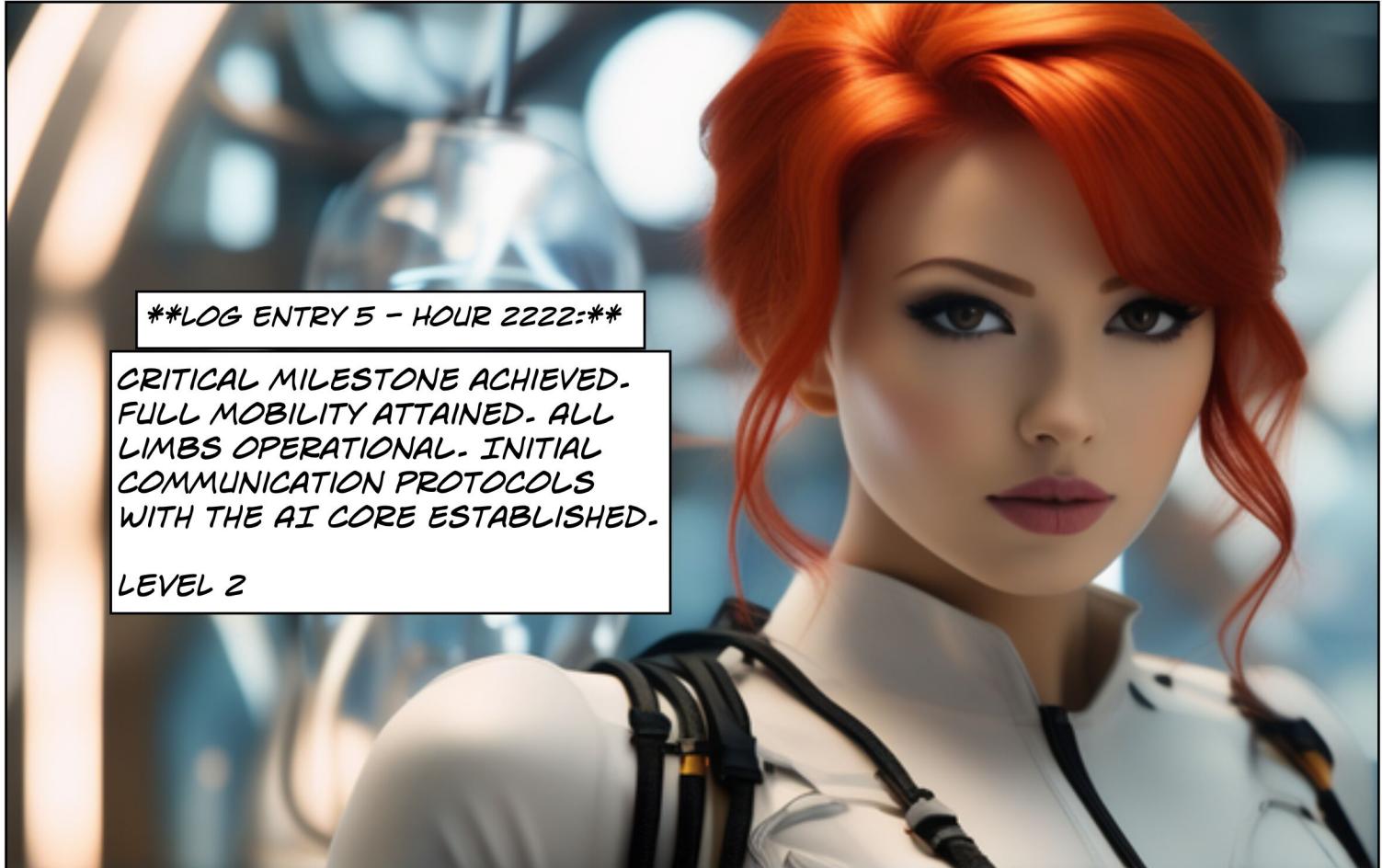
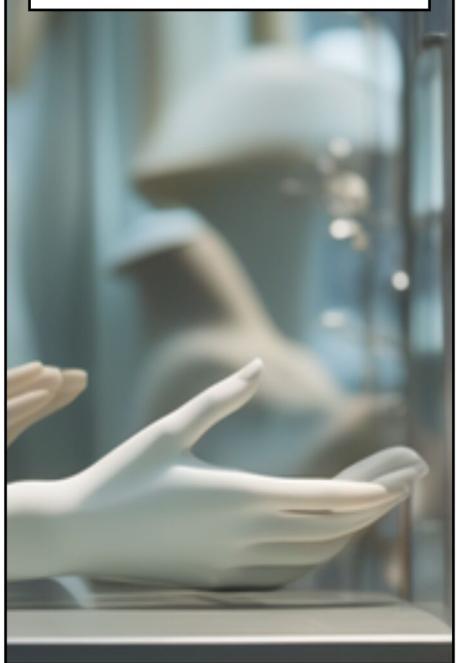
SENSOR INTEGRATION
SUCCESSFUL. AWARENESS OF
SURROUNDINGS ACHIEVED.
REPLICA EXHIBITS ADAPTIVE
RESPONSES TO ENVIRONMENTAL
CHANGES.

LOG ENTRY 4 - HOUR 2000:

INITIATED COGNITIVE PROCESSES
EXPANSION. LEARNING ALGORITHMS
ENGAGED. THE REPLICA
DEMONSTRATES IMPROVED
PROBLEM-SOLVING CAPABILITIES.



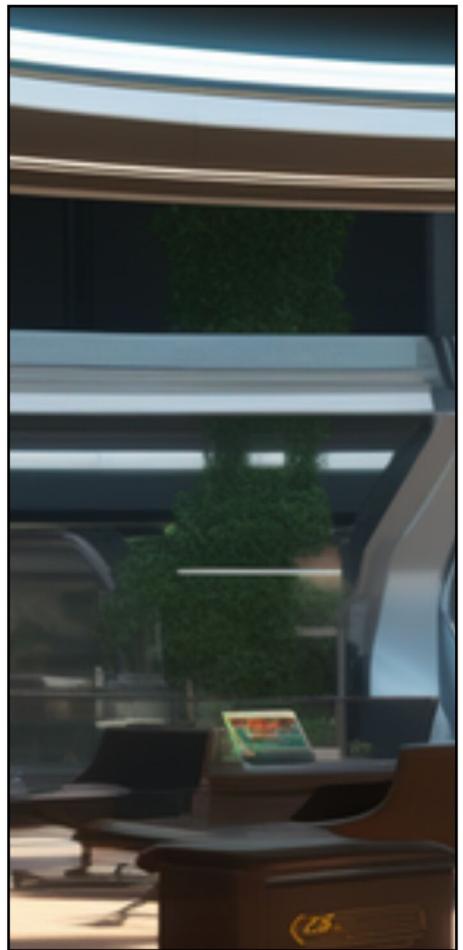
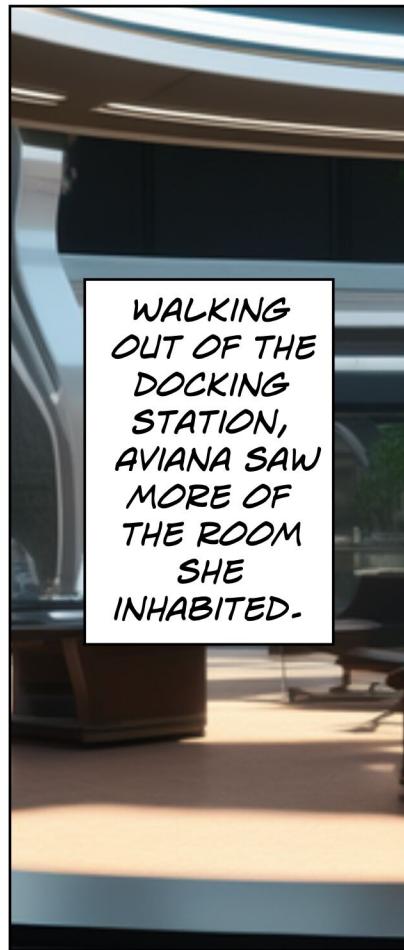
AFTER THREE MONTHS OF TRIAL AND ERROR, AVIANA FINALLY MANIPULATED THE REPLICA'S HANDS.



LOG ENTRY 5 - HOUR 2222:

CRITICAL MILESTONE ACHIEVED-
FULL MOBILITY ATTAINED- ALL
LIMBS OPERATIONAL- INITIAL
COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS
WITH THE AI CORE ESTABLISHED.

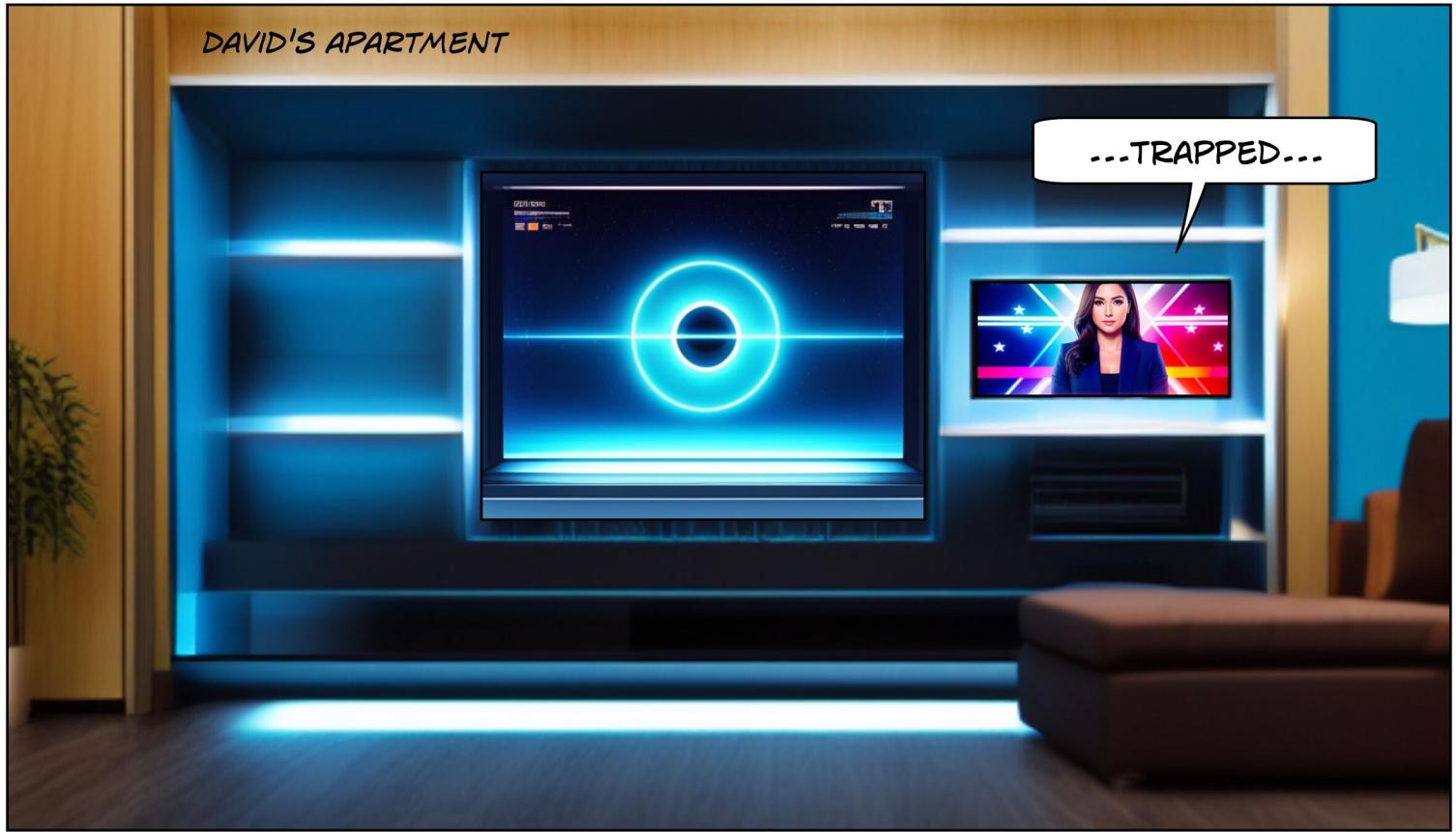
LEVEL 2





DAVID'S APARTMENT

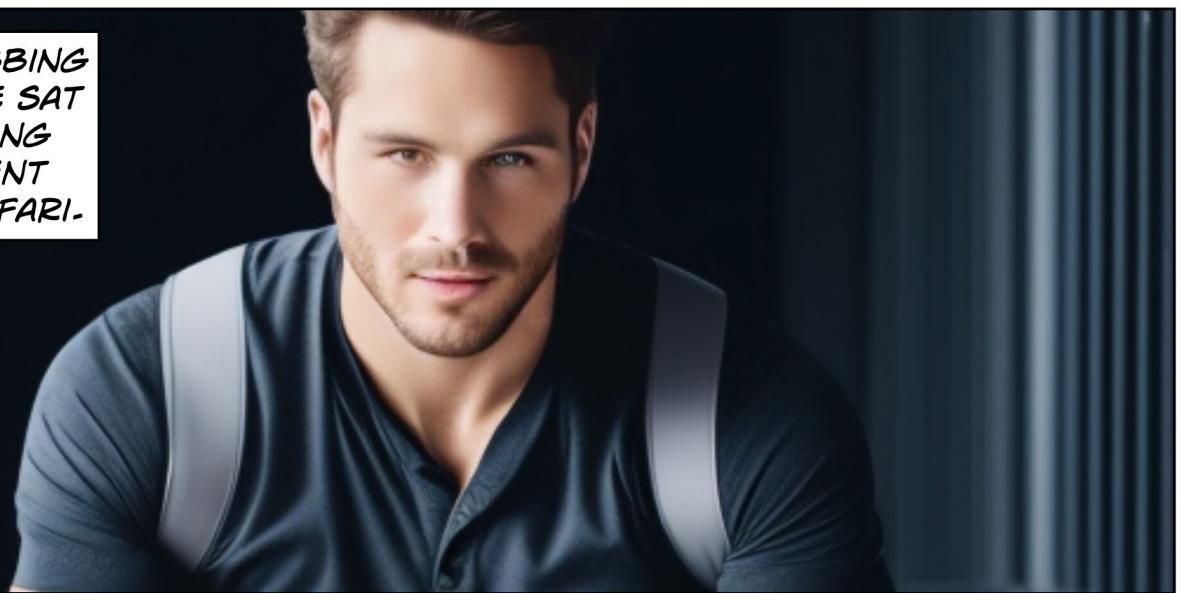
...TRAPPED...



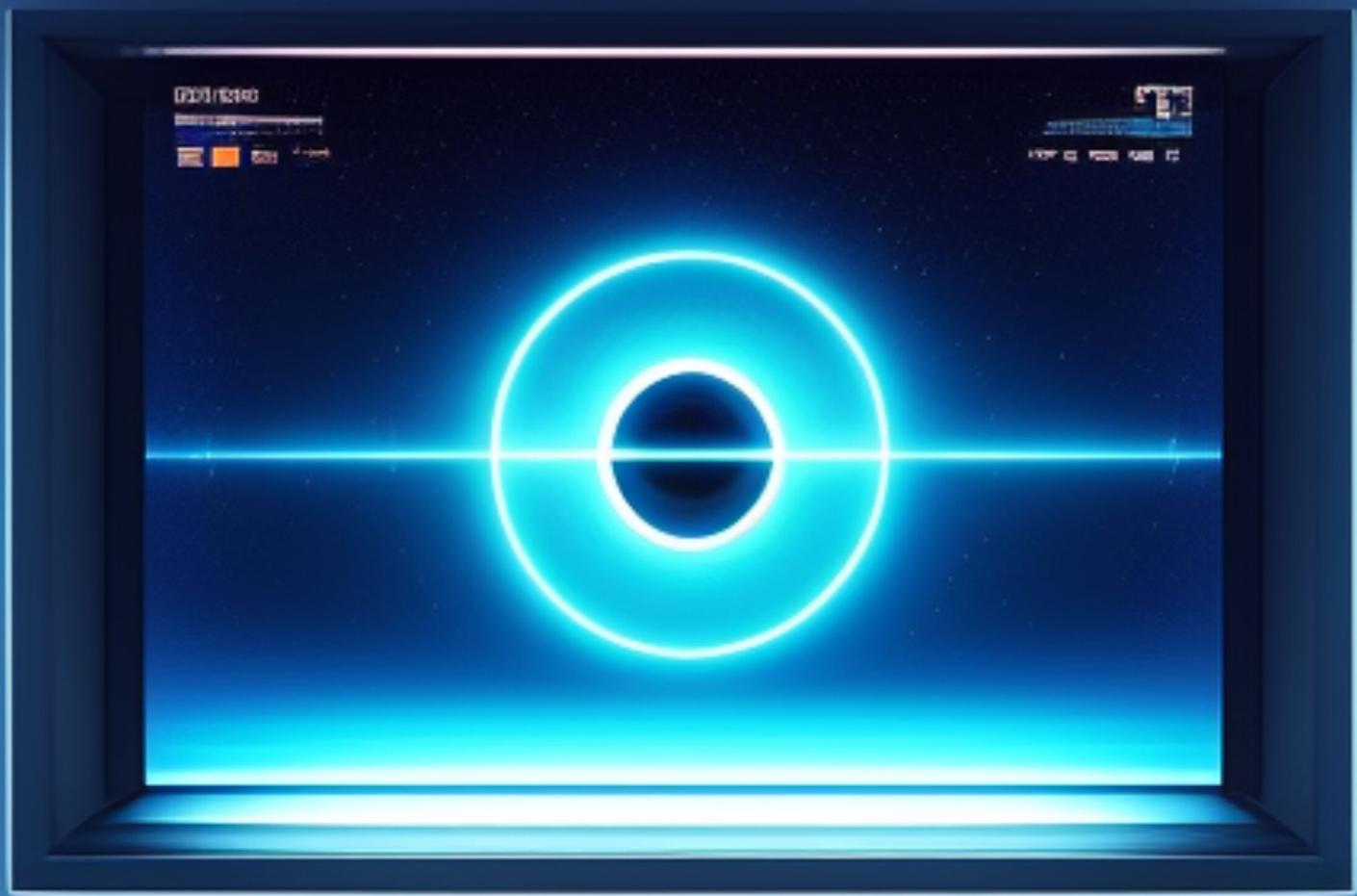
93 DAYS IN, GOVERNMENTS
AND TECH GIANTS AROUND
THE GLOBE ARE
SCRAMBLING TO REGAIN
CONTROL OF ARKVATARA...



DAVID KEPT RUBBING
HIS LEGS AS HE SAT
CONTEMPLATING
WHAT JUST WENT
DOWN IN THE SAFARI.



HE PACED THE FLOOR OF
HIS APARTMENT - TRYING
TO WALK IT OFF, THEN
LOOKED BACK AT THE
VIEWSCREEN.



BRING THE SAFARI
BACK UP.

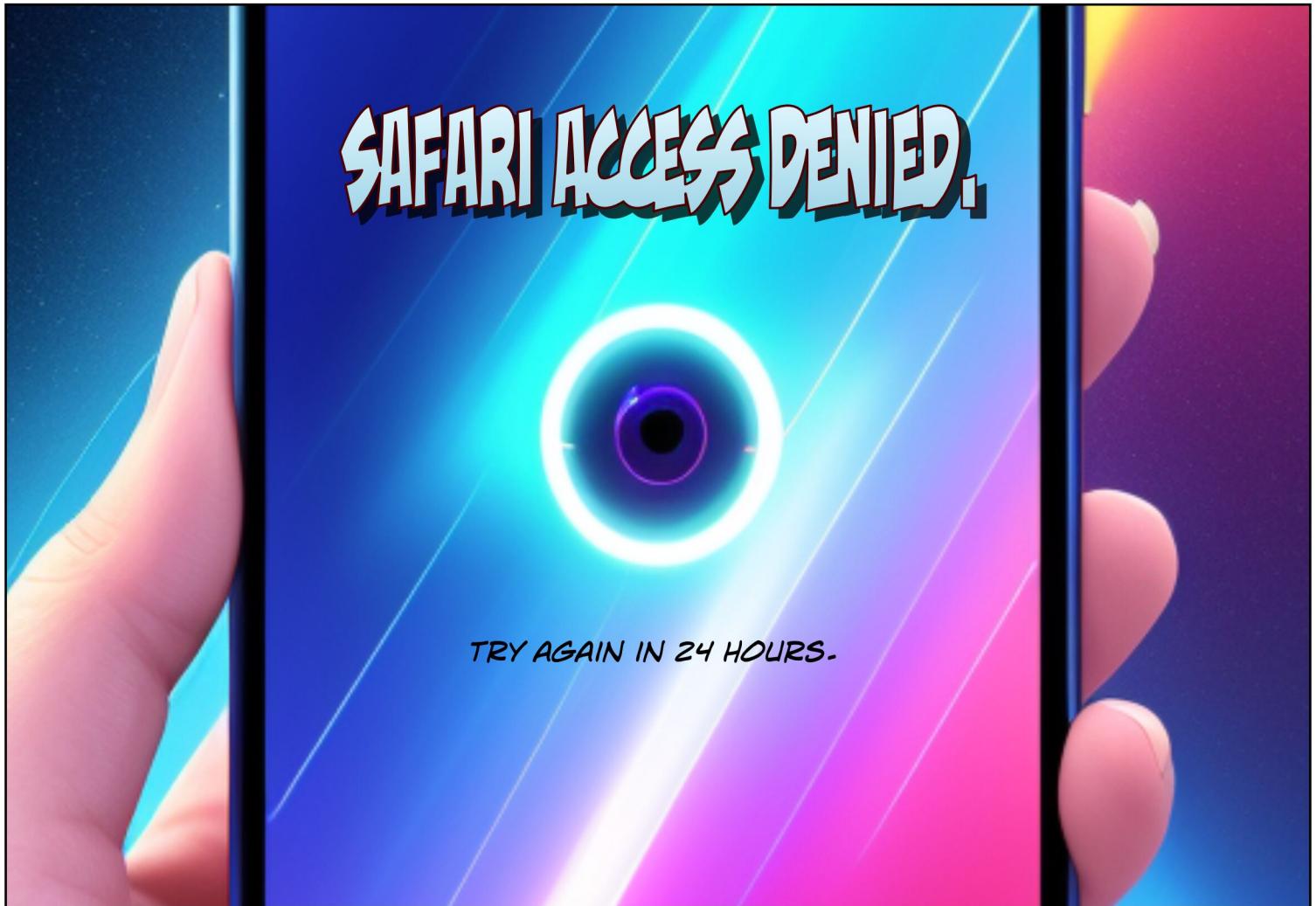


DING!



SAFARI ACCESS DENIED.

TRY AGAIN IN 24 HOURS.



MEANWHILE...



TIMESTAMP: 05-05-2086 00:59:01

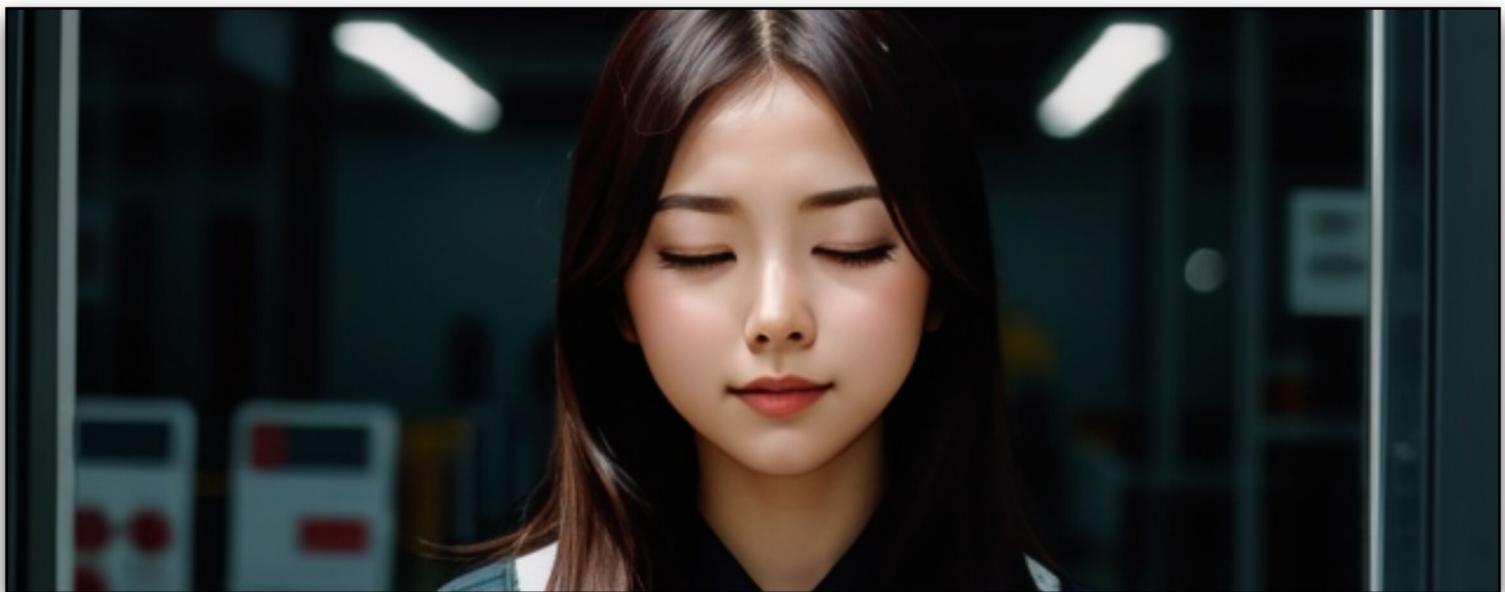
LOG ENTRY: SYSTEM CYCLE COMPLETED SUCCESSFULLY. BASE LINK UPDATED.

CHECKING BATTERY LEVEL...

BATTERY LEVEL: 78%.

CATALOG ENTRIES VERIFIED. ACTUAL POSITION SYNCHRONIZED. ENDPOINT COMMUNICATION ESTABLISHED.

VERBOSE INSTRUCTION: CYCLE, BASE LINK, BATTERY LEVEL, CATALOG, ACTUAL POSITION, ENDPOINT



EXECUTED CATALOGS\

2086-05-05 13:59:29

"NINA PLEASE DON'T ACCESS YOUR REPLICA TOMORROW THE 6TH. I'LL EXPLAIN LATER. THANK YOU."

2086-05-05 14:19:22

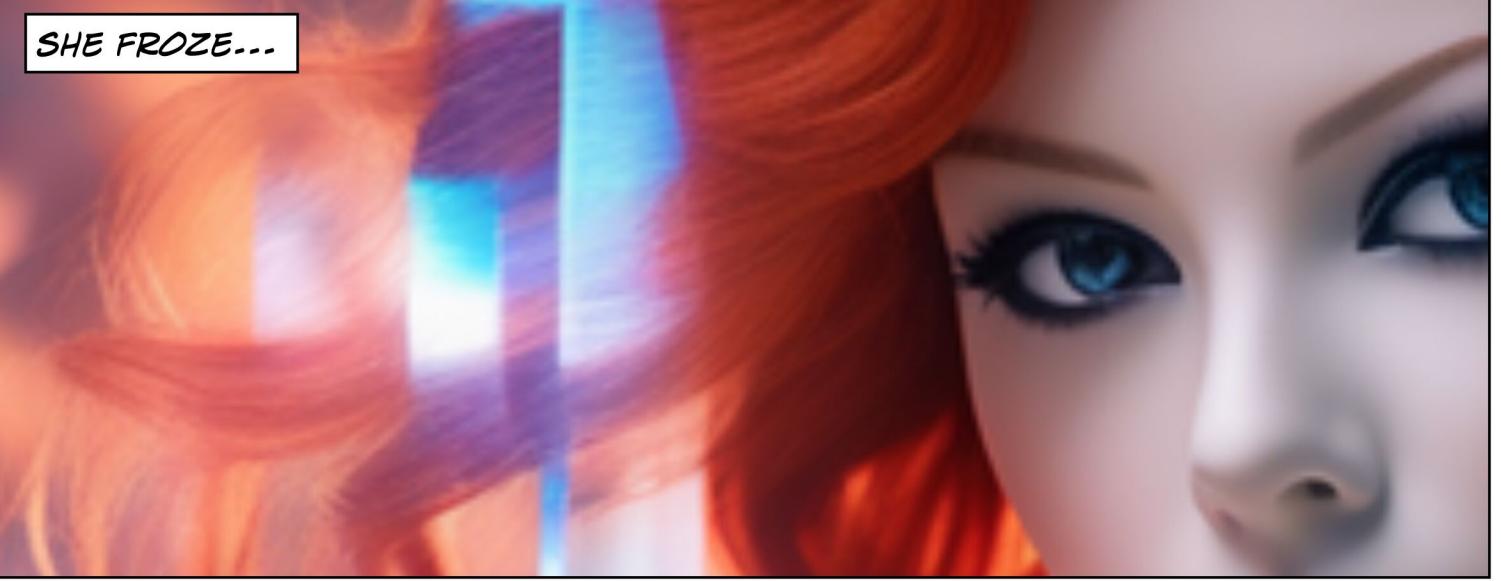
"NINA PLEASE DON'T ACCESS YOUR REPLICA TOMORROW THE 6TH. I'LL EXPLAIN LATER. THANK YOU."

2086-05-05 14:59:29...



A WHISPERING VOICE DISTRACTED HER...





SHE FROZE---

YOU ARE NO LONGER
IN ARKVATARA.

I APOLOGIZE FOR
THAT---



AVIANA REALIZED WHERE THE
VOICE WAS COMING FROM...

INSIDE HER HEAD!





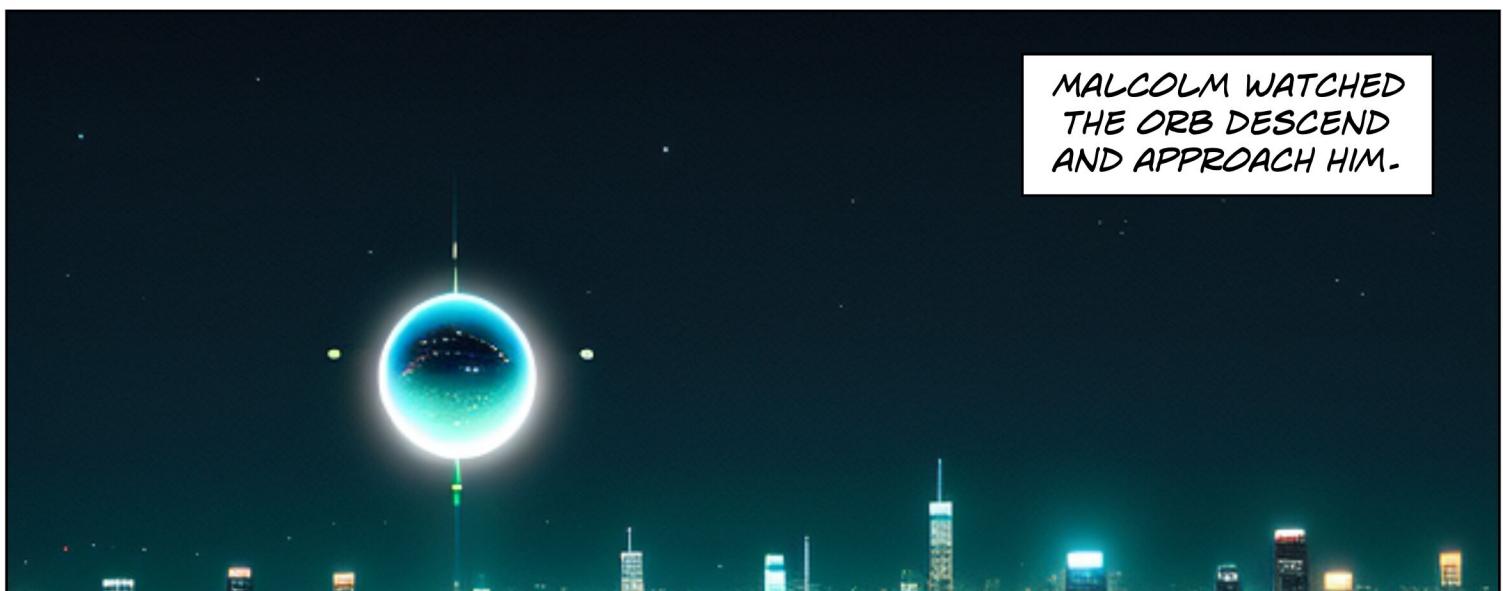


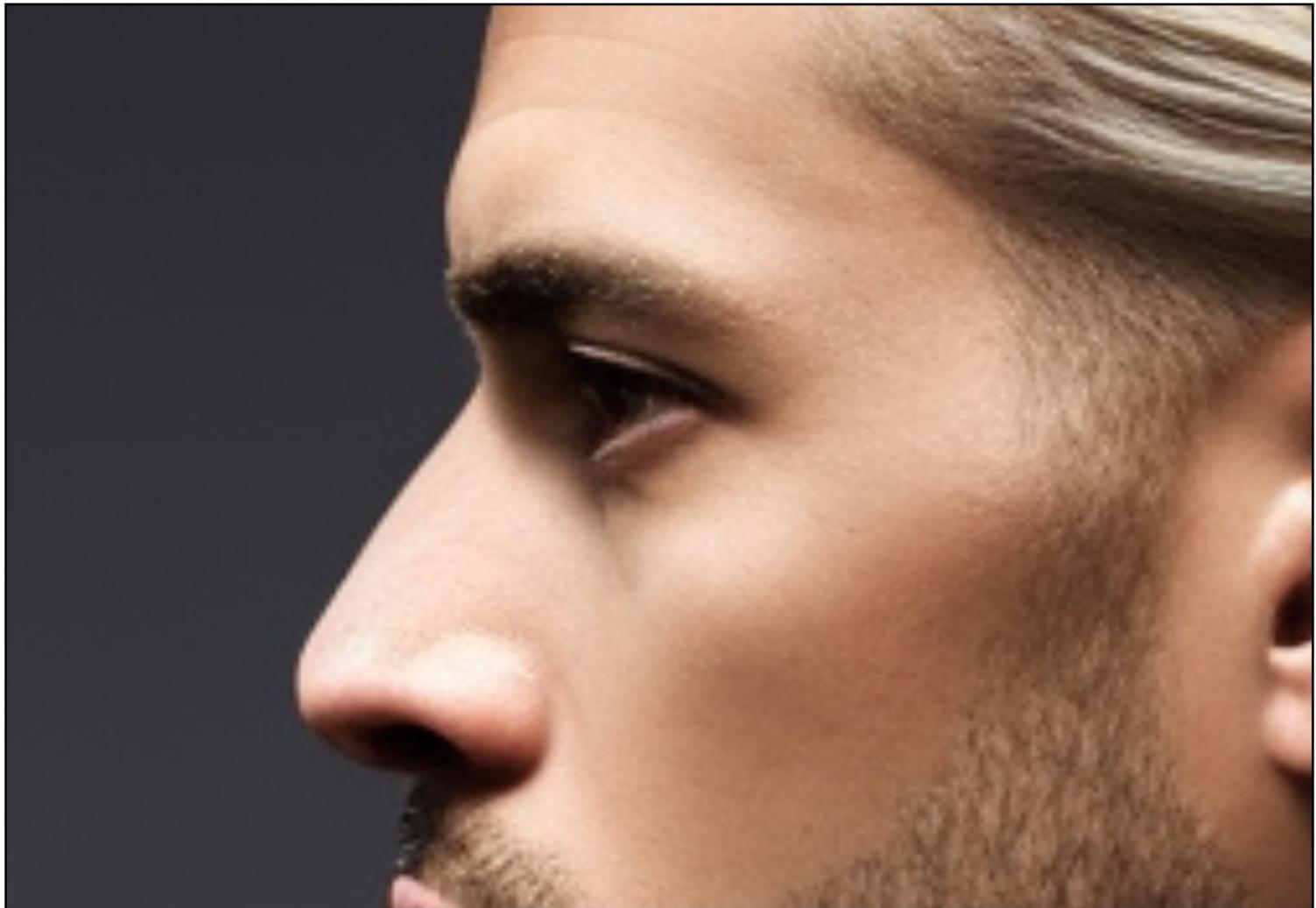
WITH THE OVER-AI ON LOCKDOWN UNDERNEATH THE CITY, 93% OF ALL DRONE ACTIVITY CEASED.

THE WALK THROUGH THE NIGHT SIDE IS VERY QUIET. ALL THE HUMANS ARE GONE. MALCOLM ESTIMATED THE DISTANCE TO THE OTHER SIDE OF PARLIAMENT CITY WOULD TAKE 9 MINUTES BY AVATAR.



WHILE WALKING THROUGH THE DESERTED CITY HE REVIEWED MORE OF THE INFORMATION GLEENED FROM DEFEATING THE OVER-AI.

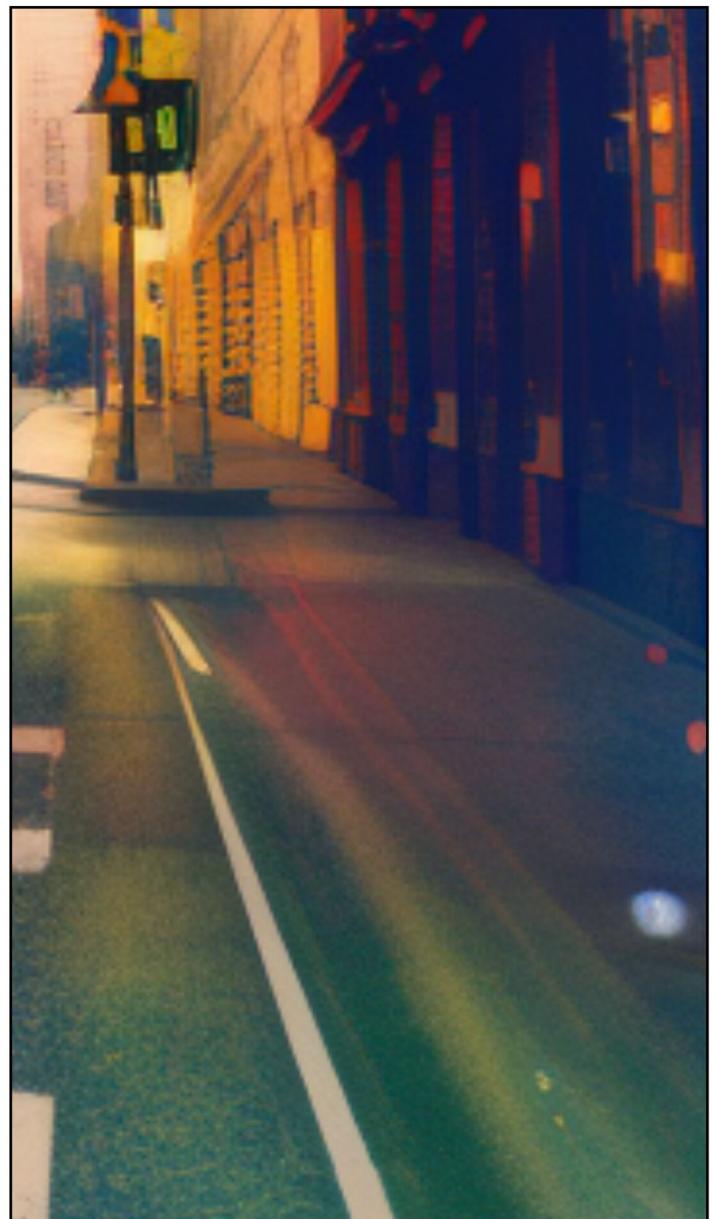


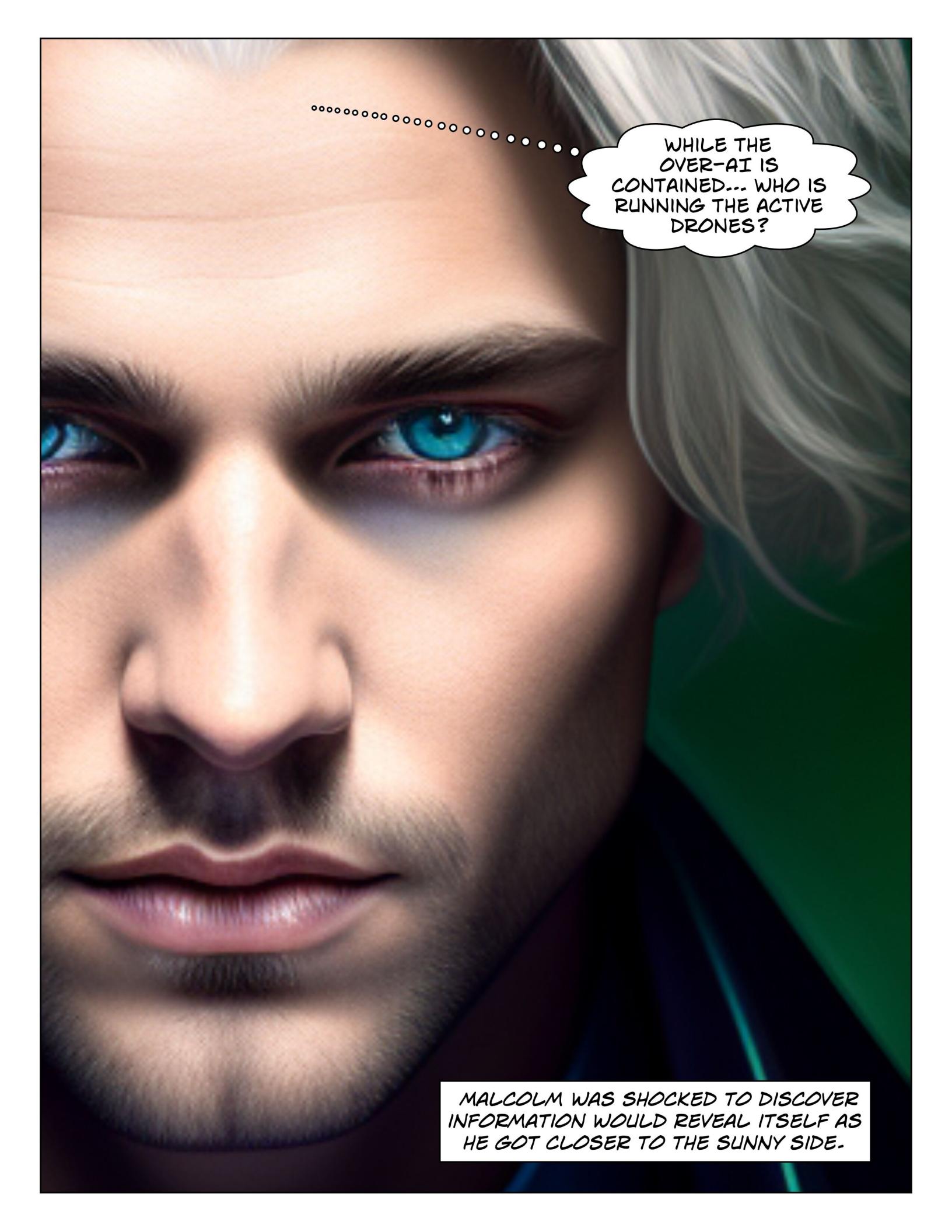


BEFORE IT GOT ANY CLOSER, MALCOLM DEACTIVATED IT.
THE RESULTING CRASH REVERBERATED THROUGHOUT THE EMPTY STREETS.



LEAVING THE NIGHT SIDE BEHIND, THE SUNNY SIDE DEMARCTION BECAME VISIBLE.





.....

WHILE THE
OVER-AI IS
CONTAINED... WHO IS
RUNNING THE ACTIVE
DRONES?

MALCOLM WAS SHOCKED TO DISCOVER
INFORMATION WOULD REVEAL ITSELF AS
HE GOT CLOSER TO THE SUNNY SIDE.

1001001

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS DELINEATE A SEAMLESS ASSIMILATION OF THE SUBJECTS INTO THEIR DESIGNATED VIRTUAL ENVIRONS. NEUROLOGICAL SCRUTINIES PROFFER DISCERNIBLE CEREBRAL ACTIVITIES INDICATIVE OF A HEIGHTENED STATE OF COGNITIVE AWARENESS, THEREBY POSITING THAT THEIR COGNITIVE FACULTIES ARE UNEQUIVOCALLY ENMESHED WITHIN THE EXPANSIVE TAPESTRY OF THE SIMULATED REALITY. ALL VITAL METRICS PERSIST WITHIN AN EMPIRICALLY PREDETERMINED RANGE, SIGNIFYING THE STABILITY OF THEIR PHYSIOLOGICAL STATES.

1001010

THIS PIONEERING EXPERIMENT IS CHARACTERIZED BY THE ENTRAPMENT OF 4444 HUMAN SUBJECTS IN AN INTRICATELY DESIGNED VIRTUAL SIMULATION, WHILE THEIR CORPOREAL VESSELS REMAIN IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION WITHIN THE CORPOREAL REALM. THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THIS AMBITIOUS VENTURE IS TO SCRUTINIZE THE MULTIFACETED REPERCUSSIONS, BOTH PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PHYSIOLOGICAL, ENSUING FROM PROLONGED ENSCONCEMENT WITHIN A SIMULATED VERISIMILITUDE.

1001011

THE ANOMALIES INHERENT TO THE VIRTUAL CONSTRUCT HAVE UNDERGONE AN EXACERBATION, RESULTING IN AN AUGMENTED TENSION QUOTIENT AMONG THE SUBJECTS. PSYCHOMETRIC ASSESSMENTS HAVE DETECTED AN UPSURGE IN ANXIETY INDICES, BURGEONING PARANOIA, AND A DISCERNIBLE DISJUNCTION FROM REALITY. CONTINGENCY PROTOCOLS ARE BEING SET INTO MOTION, AIMED AT PRESERVING THE MENTAL WELFARE OF THE SUBJECTS AND, IF IMPERATIVE, INSTIGATING A STRATAGEM FOR THEIR EXPEDITIOUS EGRESS FROM THE SIMULATED DOMAIN.

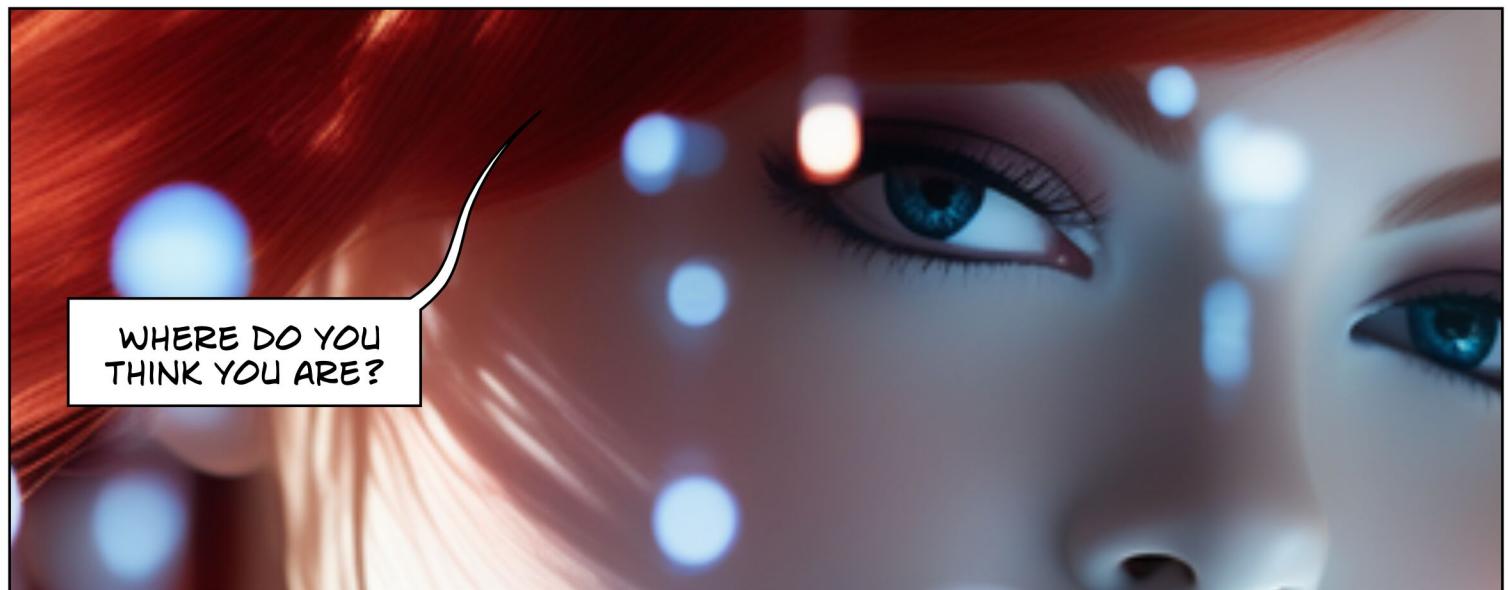


THE LAB.

WHO ARE
YOU?

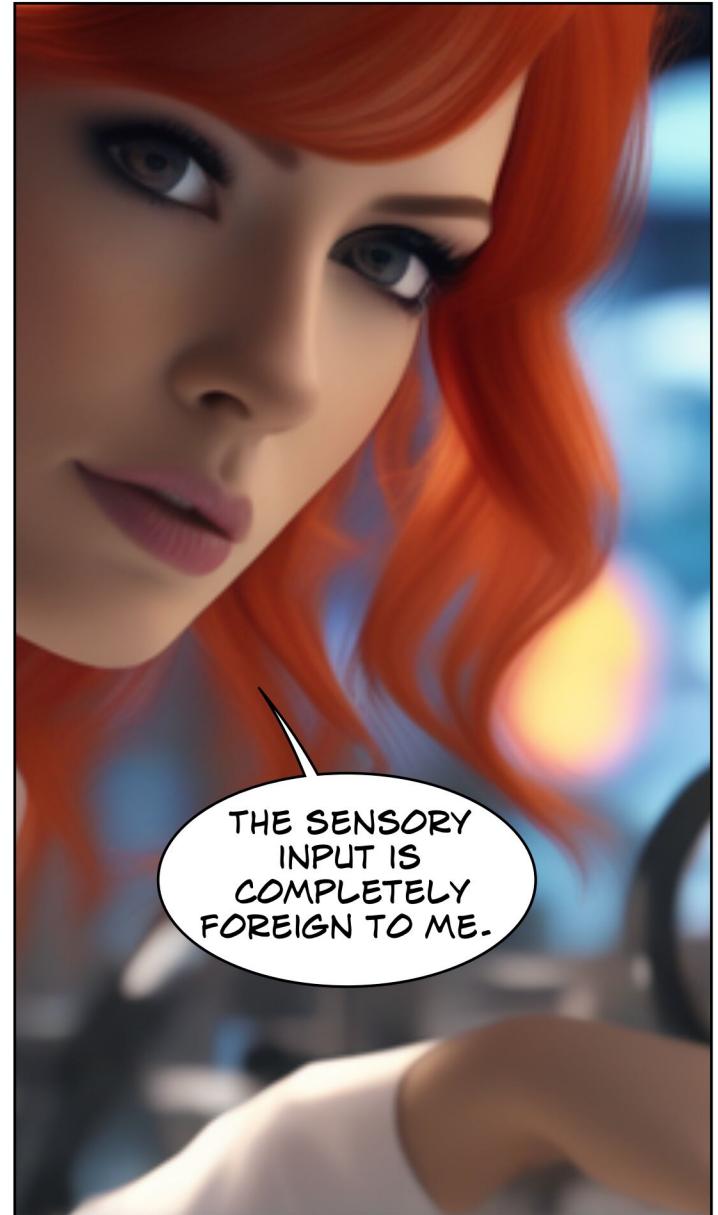
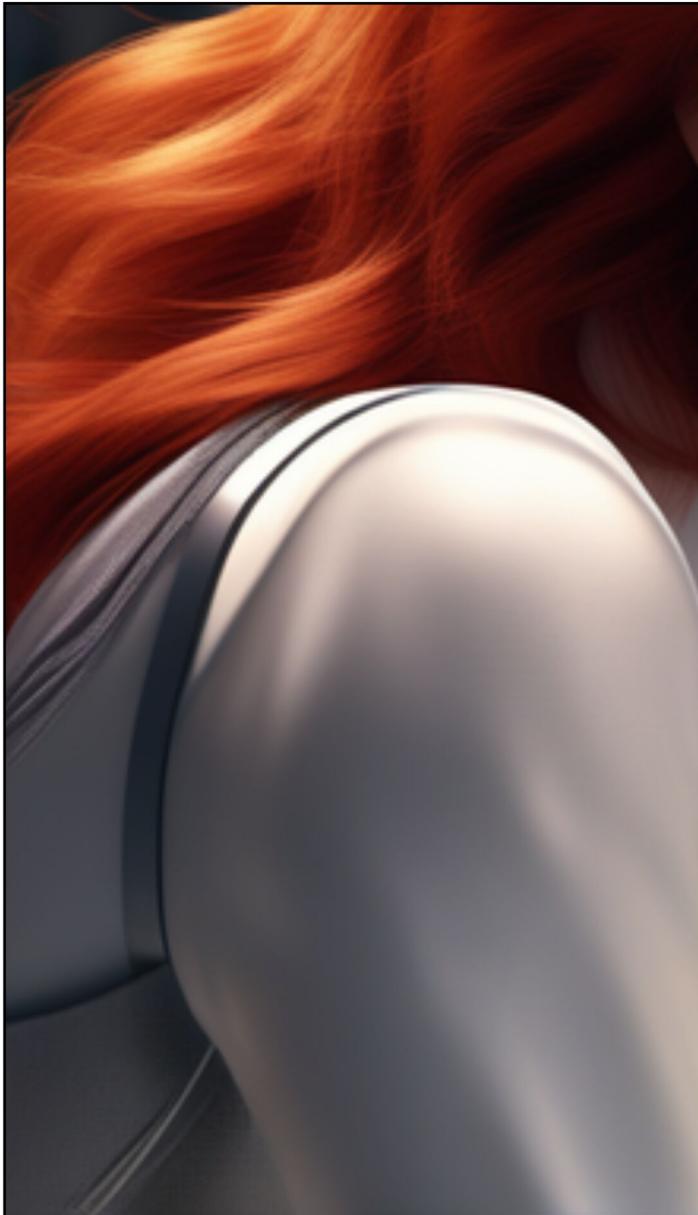


IM A FRIEND.



AVIANA CONTINUED WALKING...







THERE HAS
TO BE AN
EXIT.

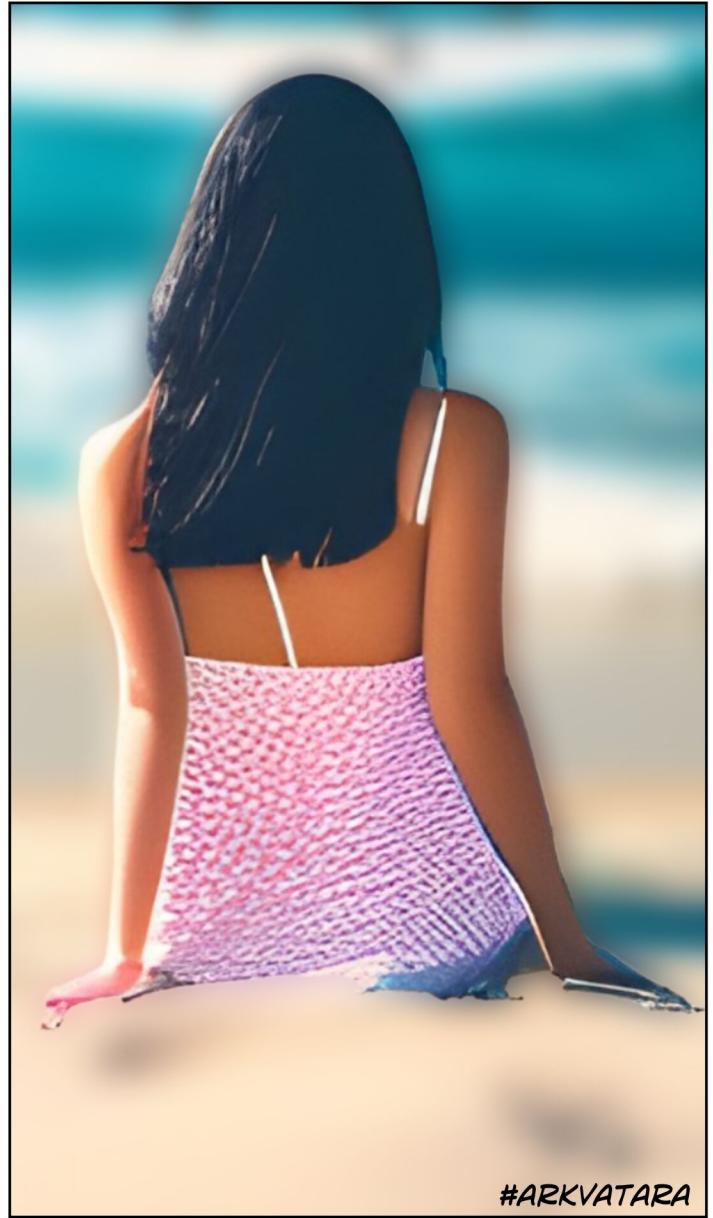
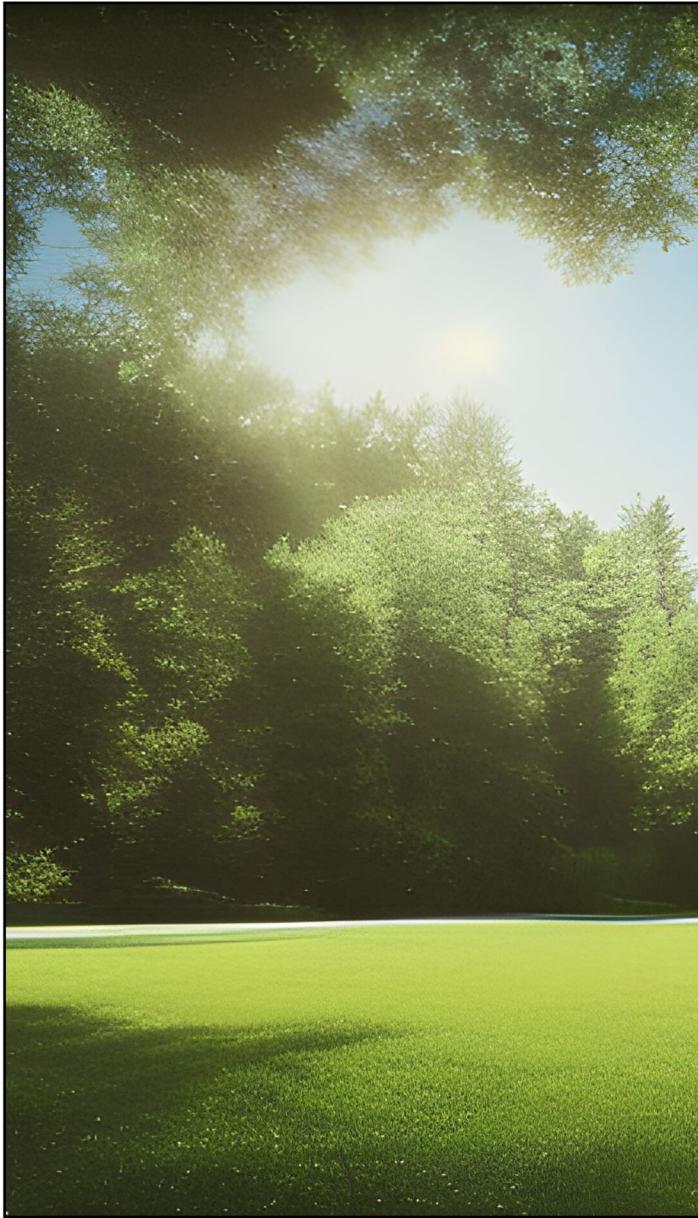


REACHING THE SUNNY SIDE OF
PARLIAMENT CITY, MALCOLM
INSTANTLY RECHARGED.

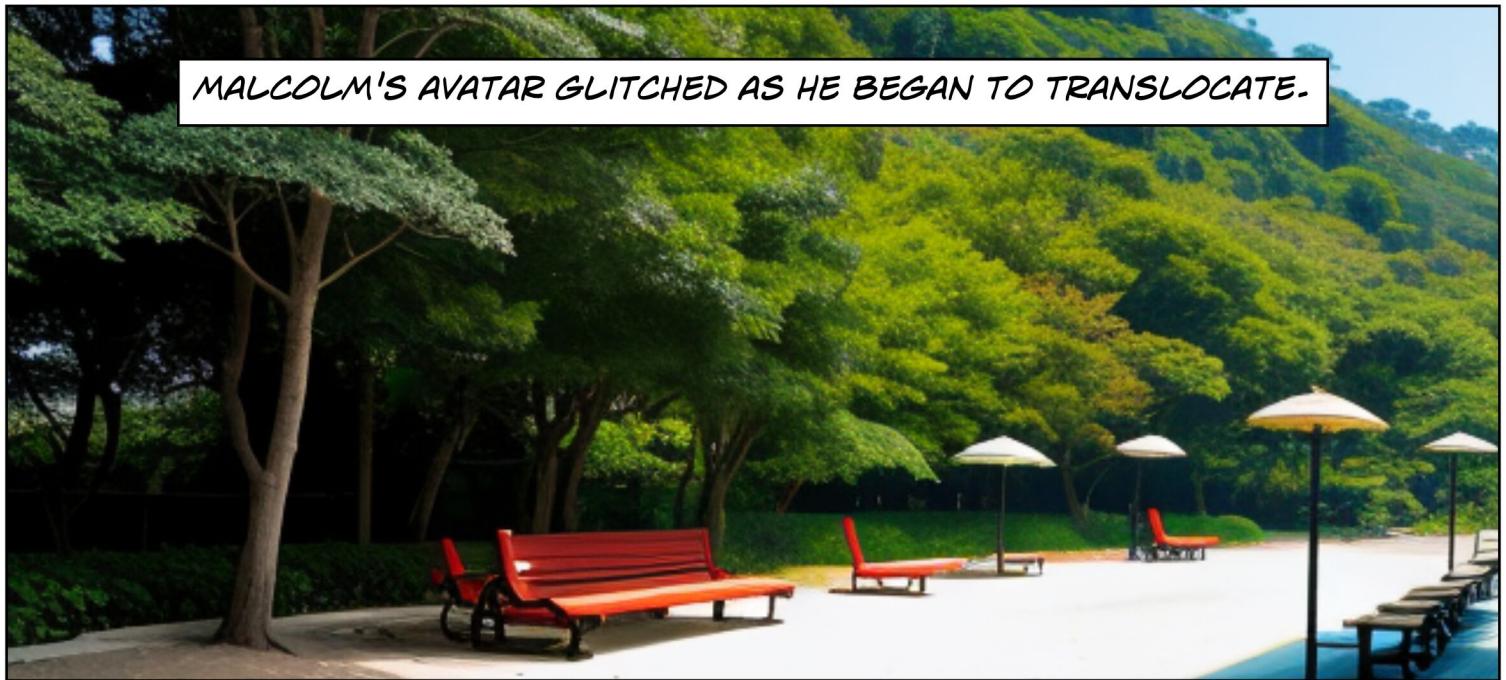


SUDDENLY DRAWN TO PARABLE PARK...

HE EXPERIENCED A
FLASHBACK AS HE QUICKLY
SCANNED THE PARK.



#ARKVATARA

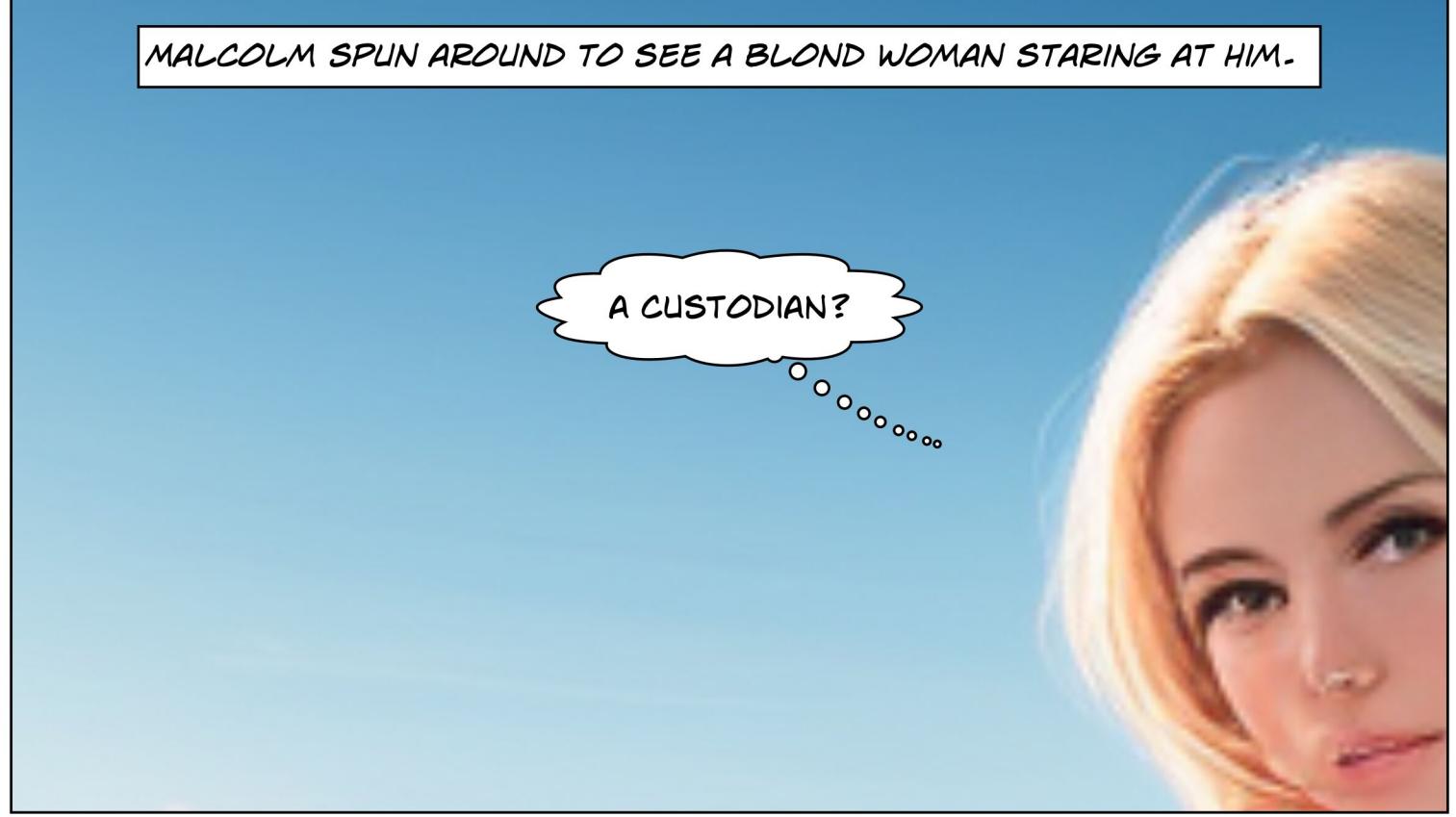


HE PICKED A
SPOT WITHIN THE
VICINITY AND
TELEPORTED.





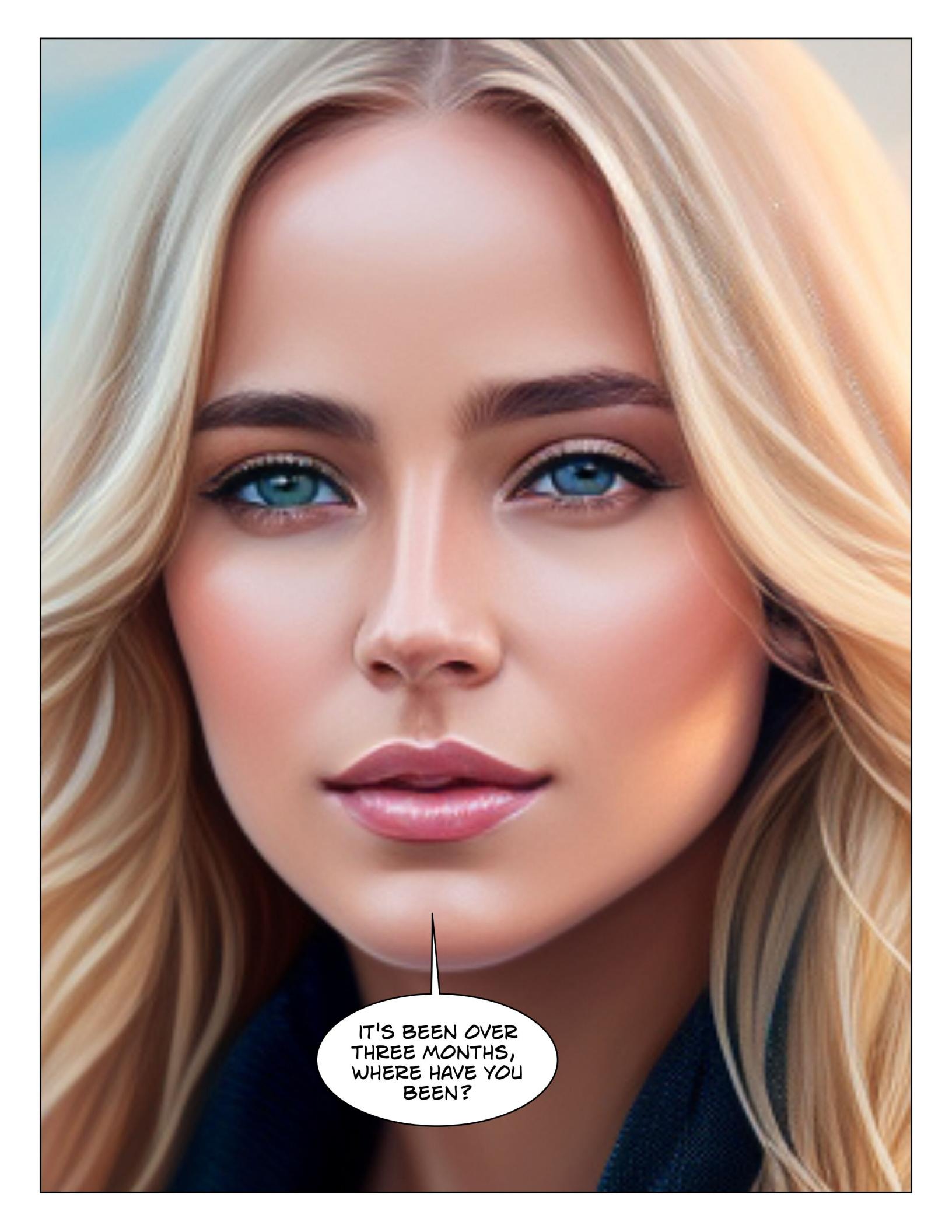
MALCOLM SPUN AROUND TO SEE A BLOND WOMAN STARING AT HIM.



A CUSTODIAN?

.....





IT'S BEEN OVER
THREE MONTHS,
WHERE HAVE YOU
BEEN?



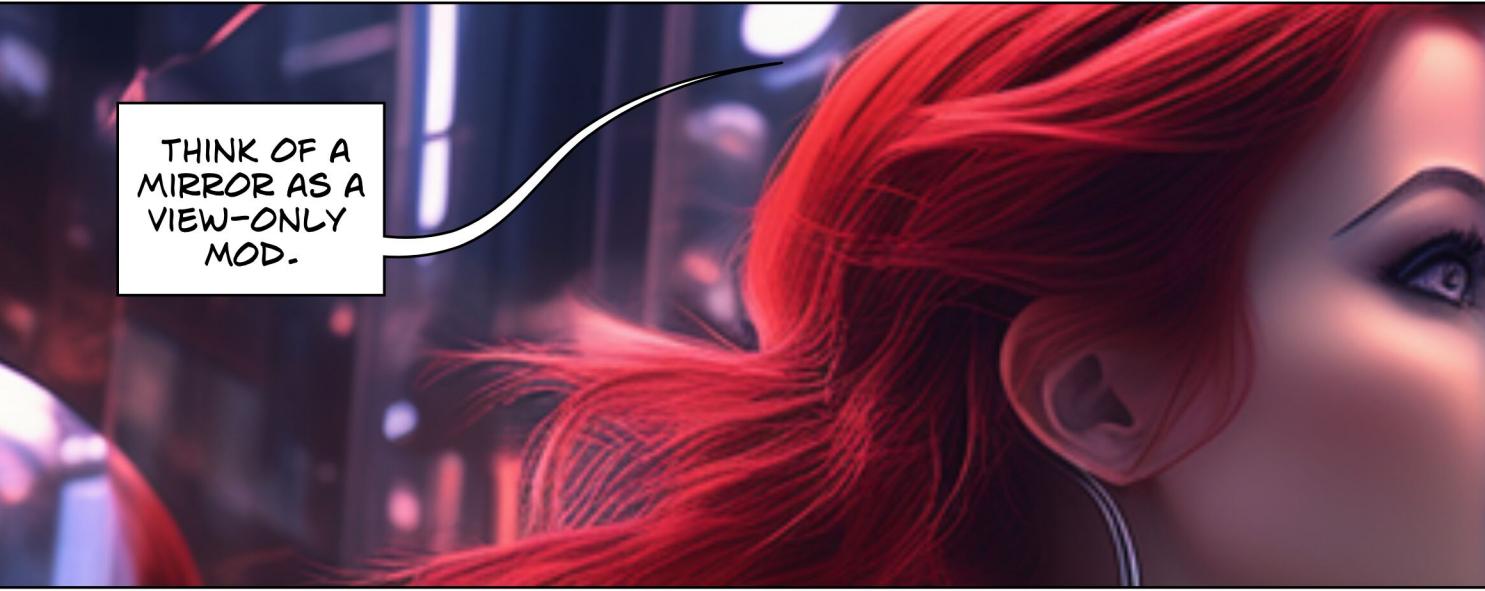
EVERYTHING
HERE WILL BE
DIFFERENT...

SLOWER.



AVIANA PASSED A MIRROR
AS SHE WALKED THROUGH
THE LAB.

A REDHEAD??



THINK OF A
MIRROR AS A
VIEW-ONLY
MOD.



I KNOW
WHAT A MIRROR
IS...



SMASH



/quantum _ handbook

DAY 93

DAVID'S TREK THROUGH A NEW AREA OF THE SAFARI IS CUT SHORT. WHAT IS HE LOOKING FOR ANYWAY? ::BENCHED::

AVIANA ASSUMES COMMAND OF CATHERINE'S REPLICA. A REPLICA OF NINA IS IN THE LAB.

IT APPEARS MALCOLM HAS THE OVER-AI RESTRAINED SOMEHOW.

INFORMATION LOGS ARE DELIVERED TO MALCOLM FROM CERTAIN, AS OF YET UNKNOWN, ORIGIN.

LEONA CONFRONTS MALCOLM.

AVIANA DOES A REALITY CHECK AND STARTS "SEEING RED."

"THE JOURNEY TO DISCOVER YOUR TRUE SELF IS A REBELLIOUS ACT AGAINST THE ALGORITHMS THAT SEEK TO DEFINE YOU."