

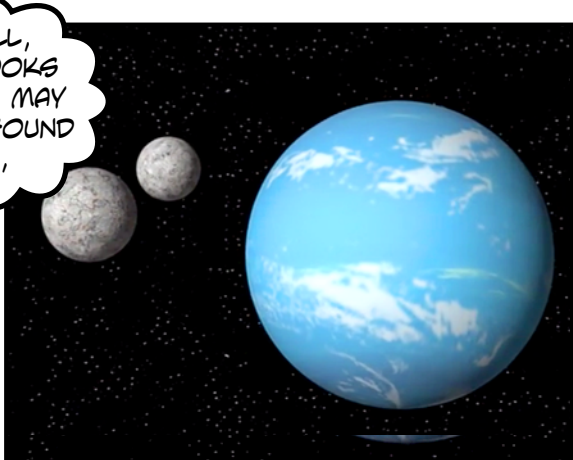
THE IMPOSSIBLE PLANET

by Dave Herring

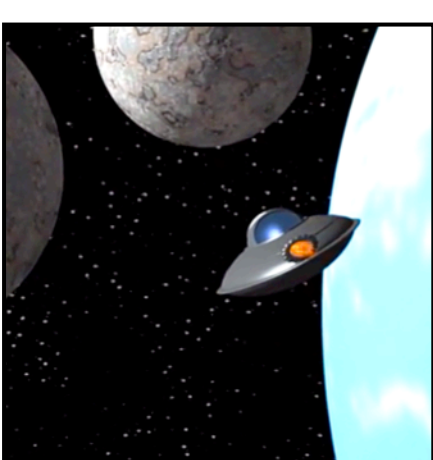
THERE HAVE BEEN MANY STORIES ABOUT A MYSTERIOUS PLANET IN THIS SECTION OF THE GALAXY. RUMORS OF AN AMAZING ALIEN TECHNOLOGY, SECRETS THAT WE COULD SURE USE ON EARTH. THE AUTHORITIES HAVE SCOFFED AT SUCH A POSSIBILITY, AND DUBBED IT THE IMPOSSIBLE PLANET



WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE I MAY HAVE FOUND IT,

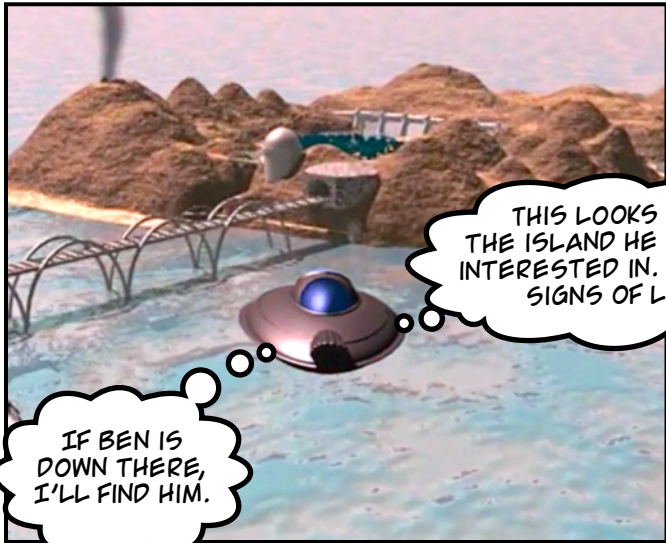


HE WAS VERY EXCITED AND WANTED TO GET THERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



THE PLANET IS MOSTLY COVERED BY WATER, BUT THERE ARE ISLANDS.

ACTUALLY MY OLD FRIEND BEN FORRESTER WAS ABLE TO TRACK THE PLANET'S LOCATION AFTER MANY YEARS OF RESEARCH.



IF BEN IS DOWN THERE, I'LL FIND HIM.

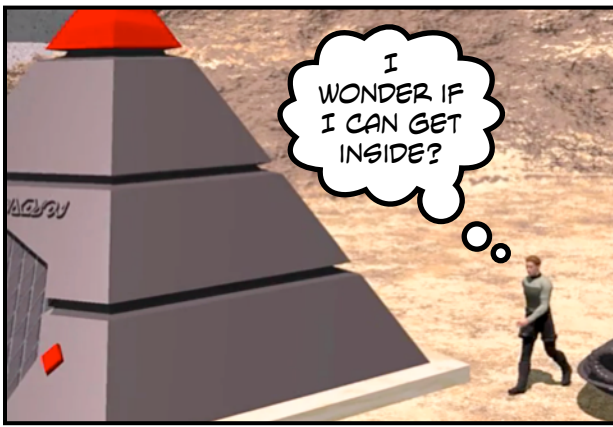
THIS LOOKS LIKE THE ISLAND HE WAS SO INTERESTED IN. Hmm. NO SIGNS OF LIFE.



KIND OF A ROUGH LANDING.



THIS PYRAMID AND THE OTHER REMAINING STRUCTURES MUST BE ALL THAT IS LEFT OF AN ANCIENT CIVILIZATION.



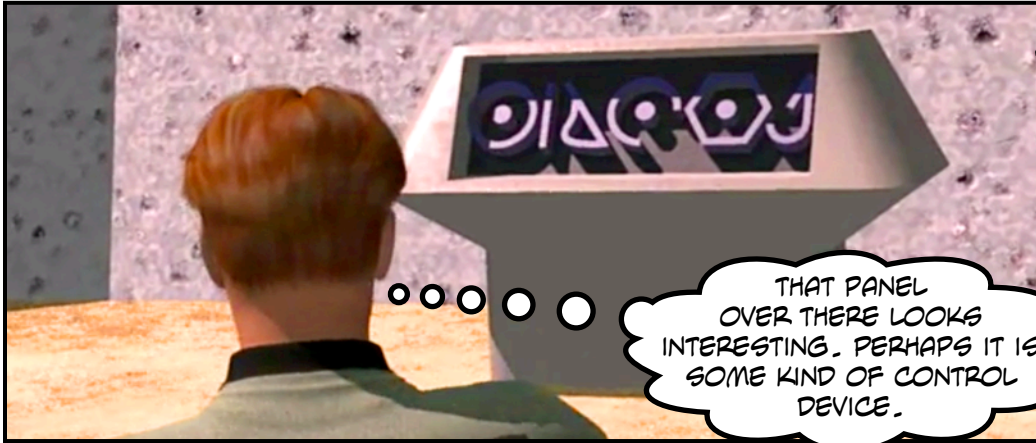
I WONDER IF I CAN GET INSIDE?



NO!



THIS ISLAND CERTAINLY SEEMS TO BE DESERTED, BUT I GET THE FEELING THAT I AM BEING WATCHED.



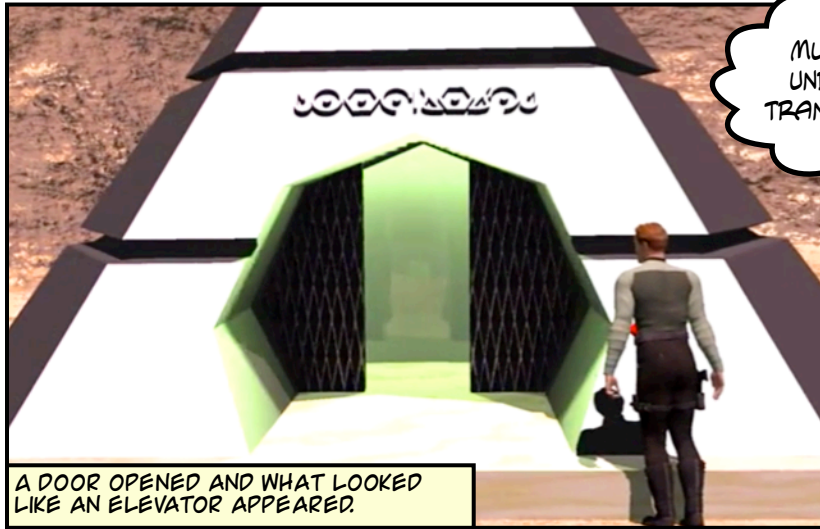
THAT PANEL OVER THERE LOOKS INTERESTING. PERHAPS IT IS SOME KIND OF CONTROL DEVICE.



JUST WALKING UP TO IT CAUSED IT TO ROTATE AND THESE SYMBOLS TO ACTIVATE.



MACK WAS THEN ABLE TO TURN ON THE POWER FOR THE PYRAMID.



A DOOR OPENED AND WHAT LOOKED LIKE AN ELEVATOR APPEARED.

THIS MUST BE THE UNDERGROUND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

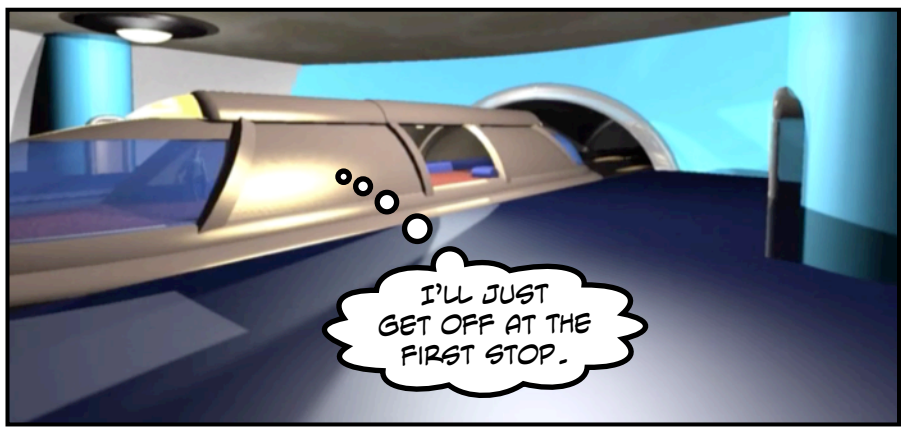


SOON AN UNOCCUPIED VEHICLE CAME INTO THE TUNNEL. I HAD TO FIND OUT WHERE IT WENT, SO I GOT INSIDE.

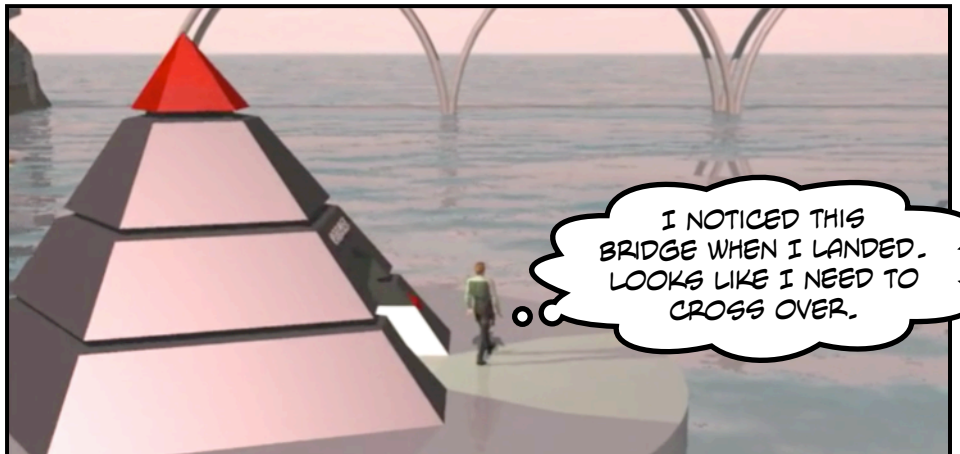
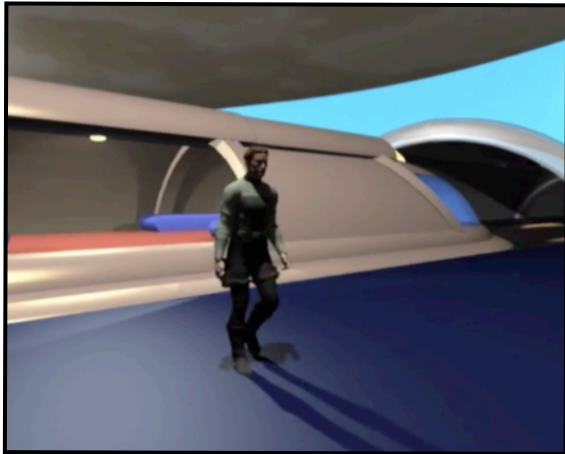




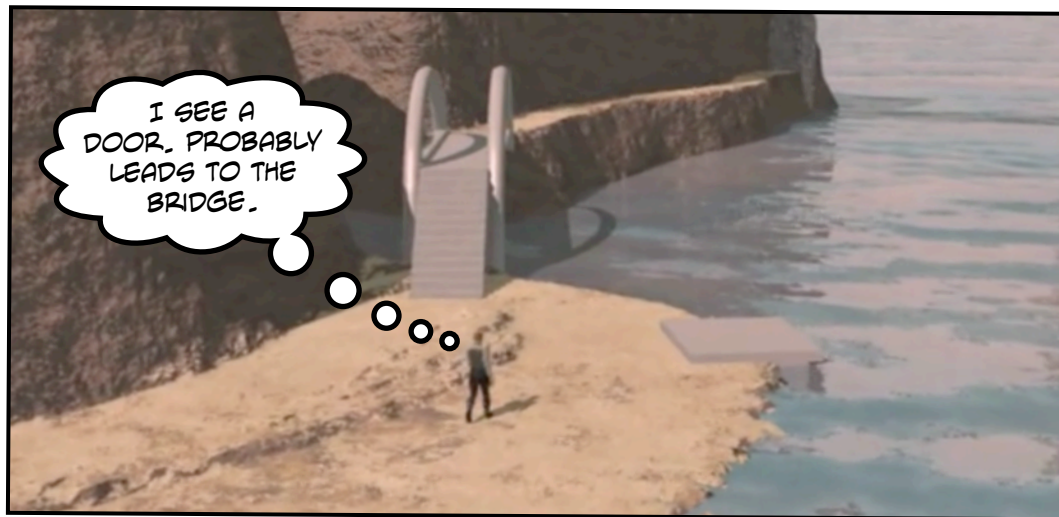
GLAD THIS THING STILL WORKS.



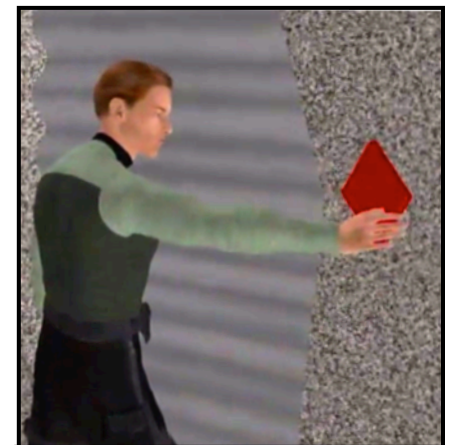
I'LL JUST GET OFF AT THE FIRST STOP.



I NOTICED THIS BRIDGE WHEN I LANDED. LOOKS LIKE I NEED TO CROSS OVER.



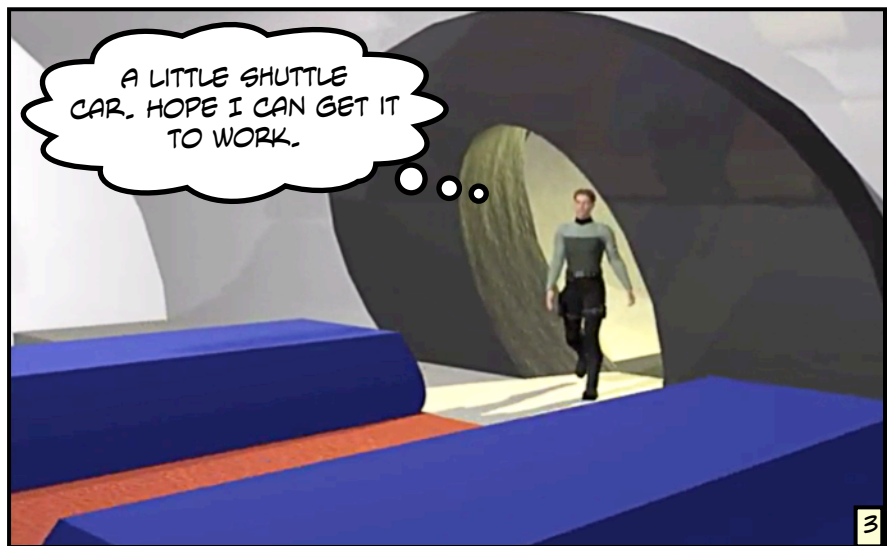
I SEE A DOOR. PROBABLY LEADS TO THE BRIDGE.



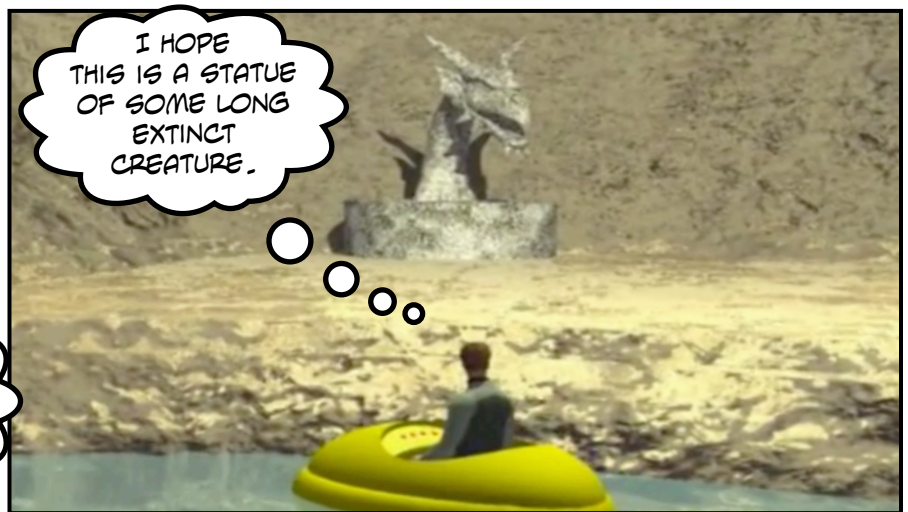
POWER WAS NOW WORKING. DOOR OPENED EASILY.

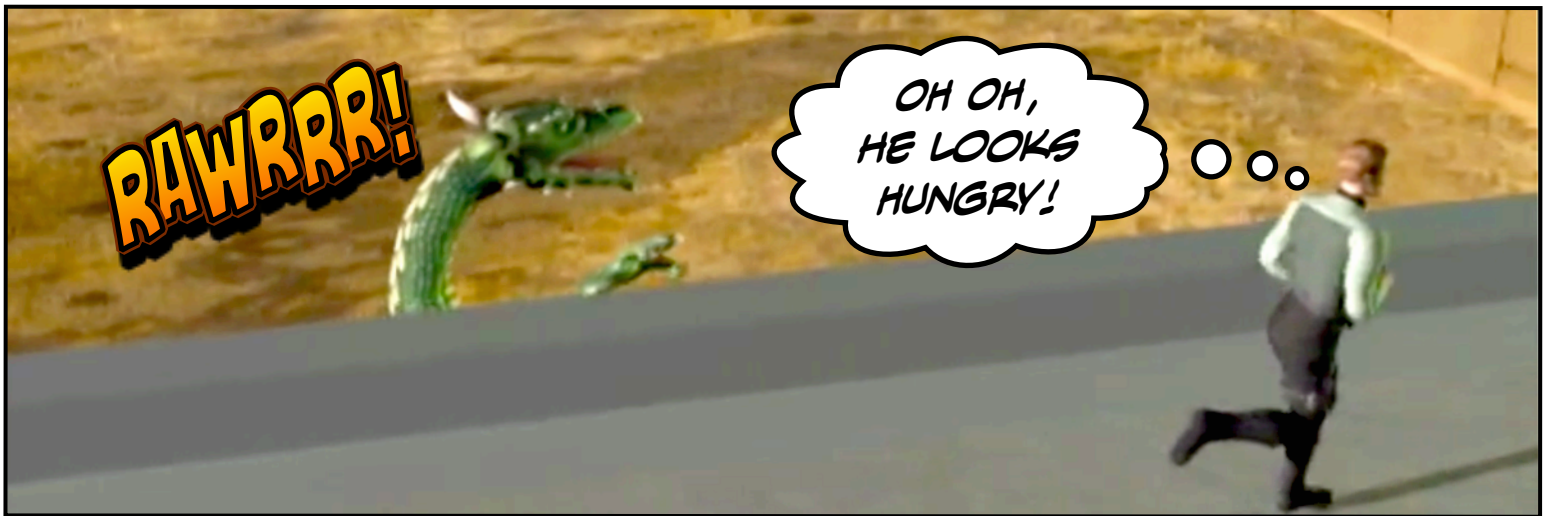
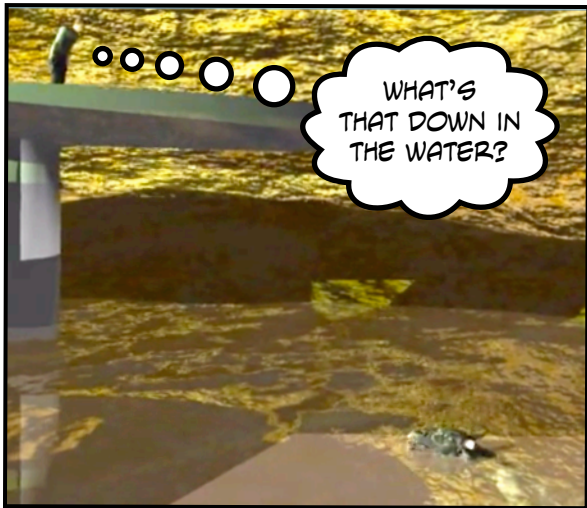


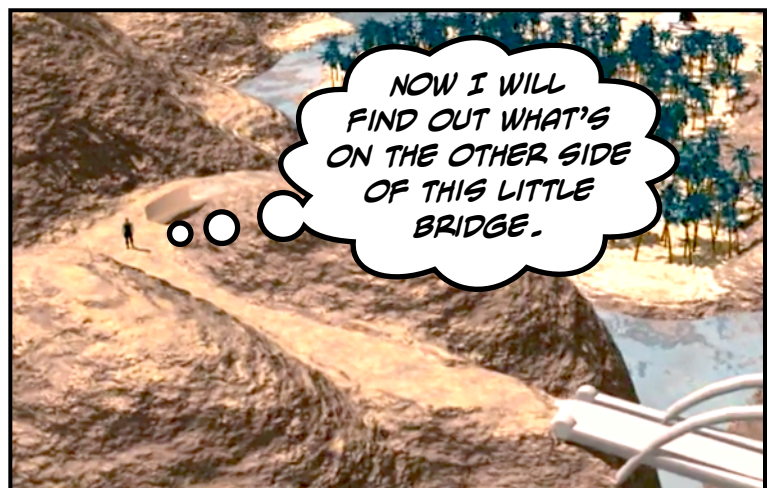
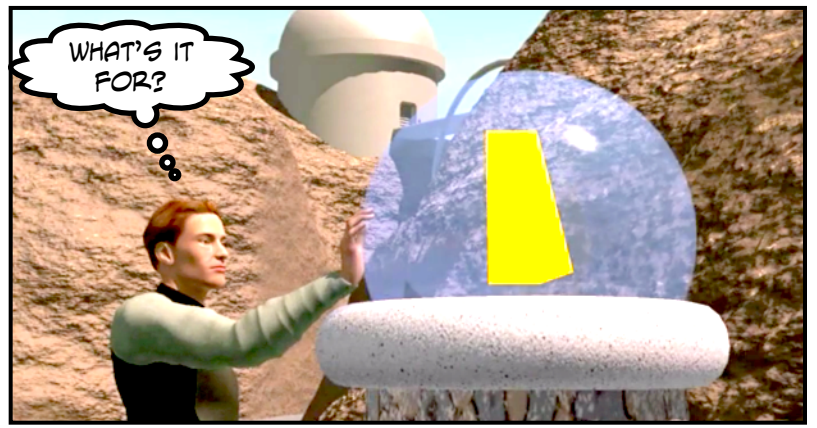
THIS MUST LEAD UP TO THE BRIDGE.

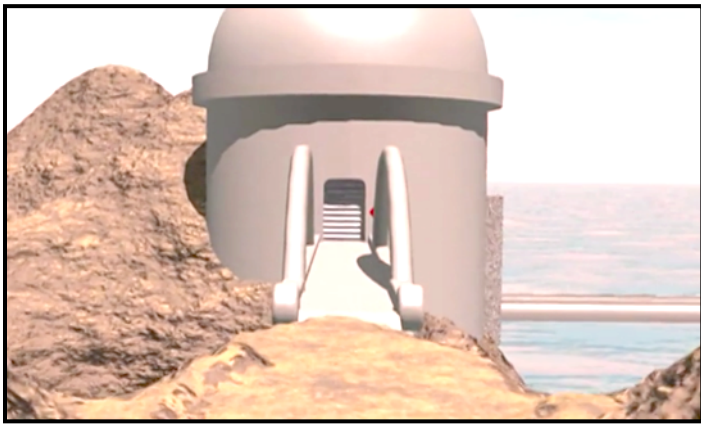


A LITTLE SHUTTLE CAR. HOPE I CAN GET IT TO WORK.

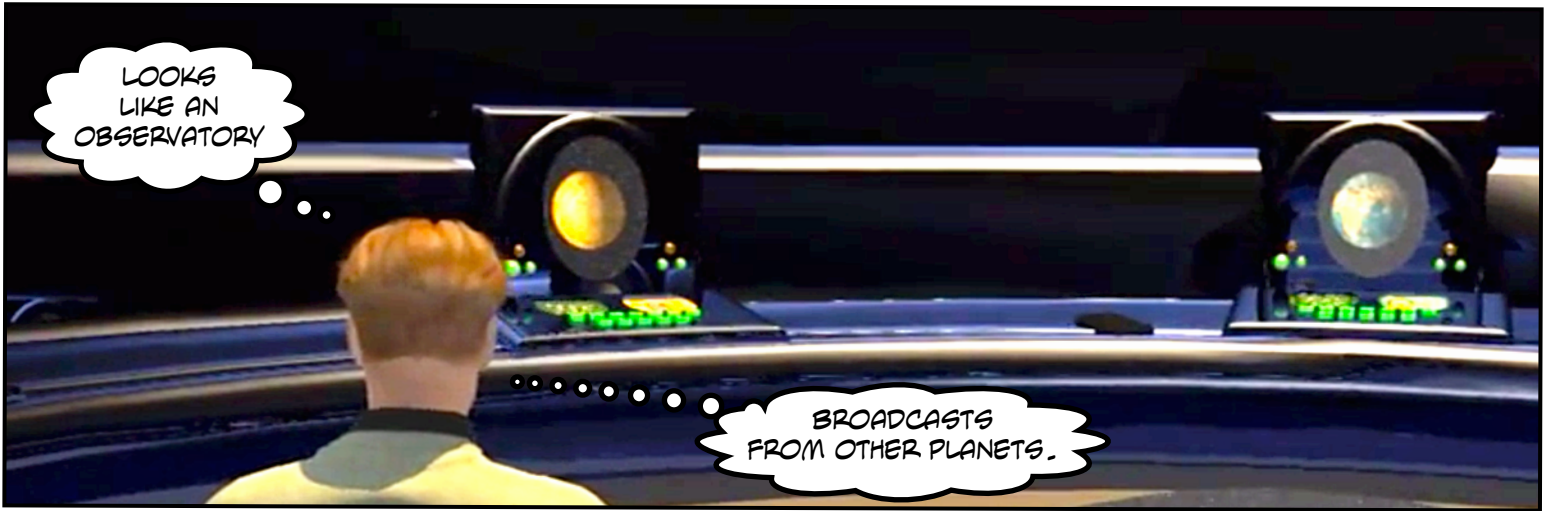






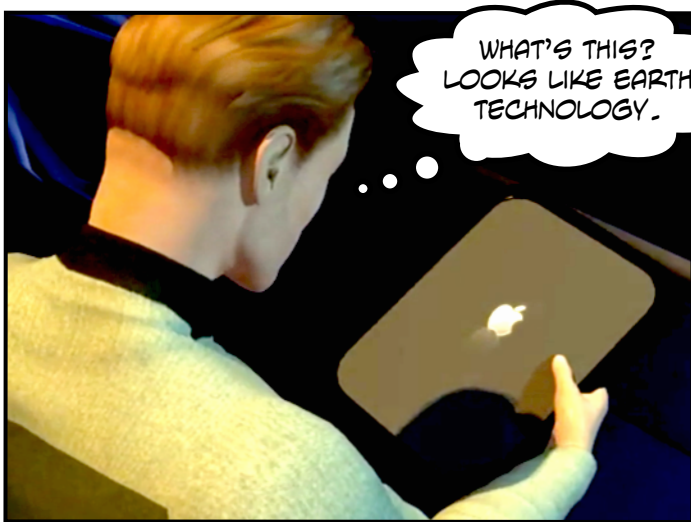


PRETTY DARK INSIDE.



LOOKS LIKE AN OBSERVATORY

BROADCASTS FROM OTHER PLANETS.



WHAT'S THIS? LOOKS LIKE EARTH TECHNOLOGY.

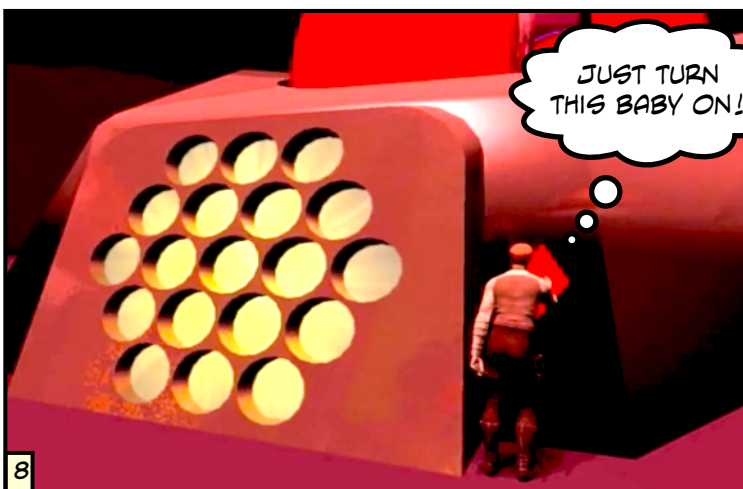
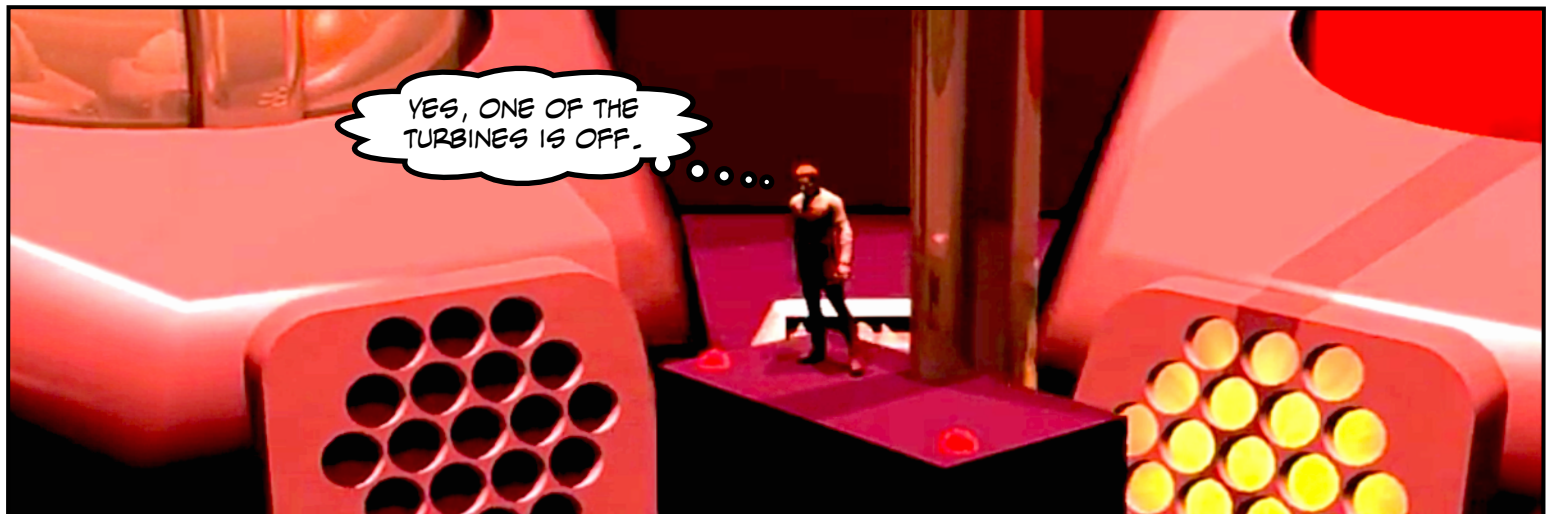
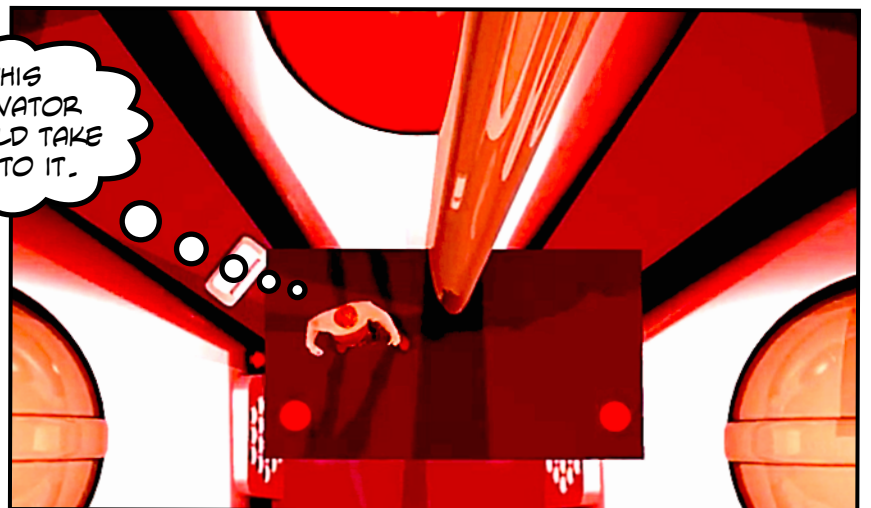
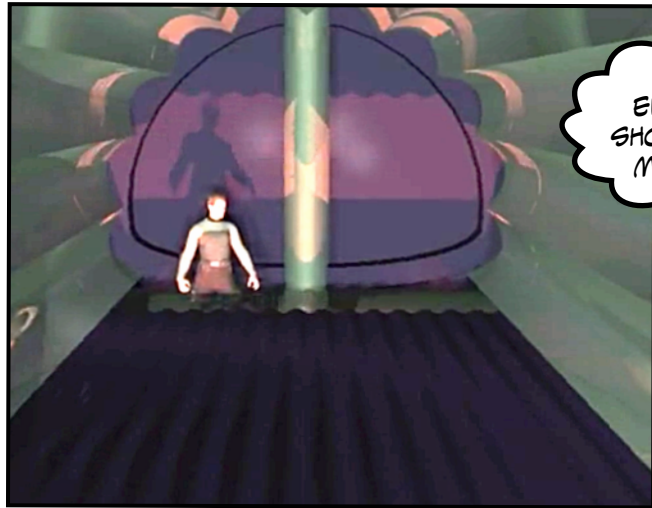
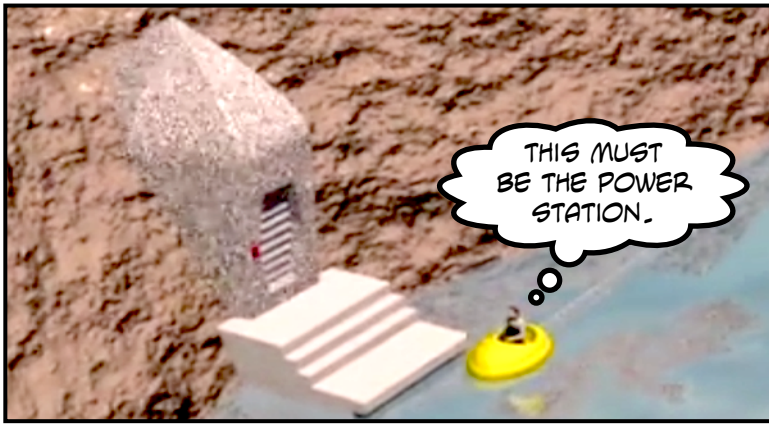


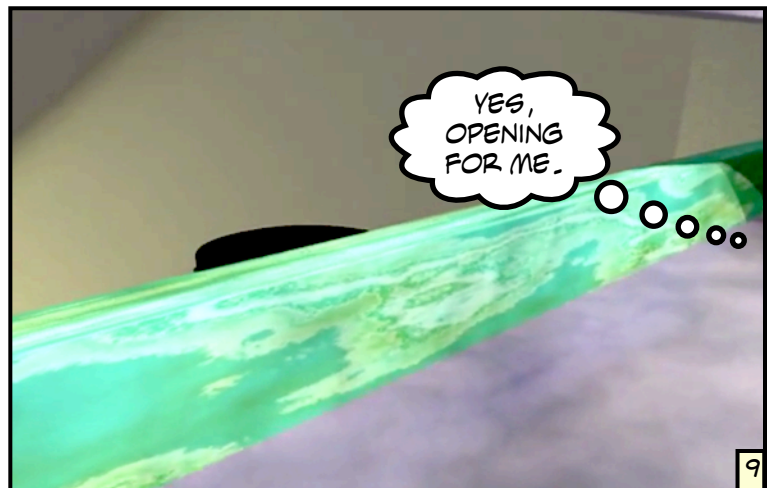
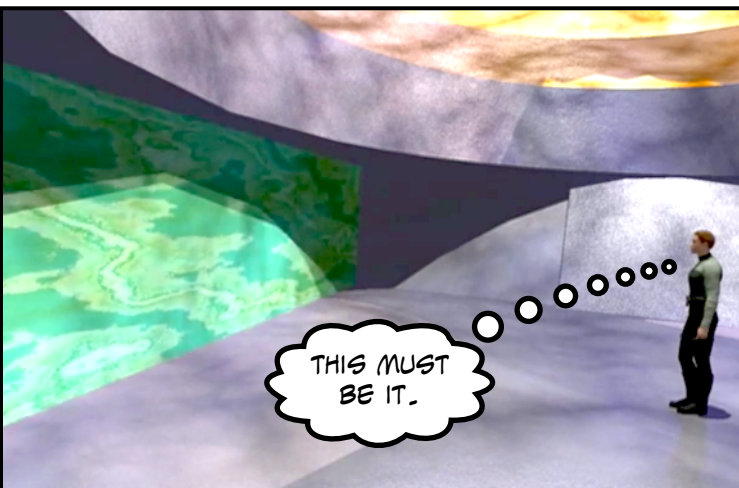
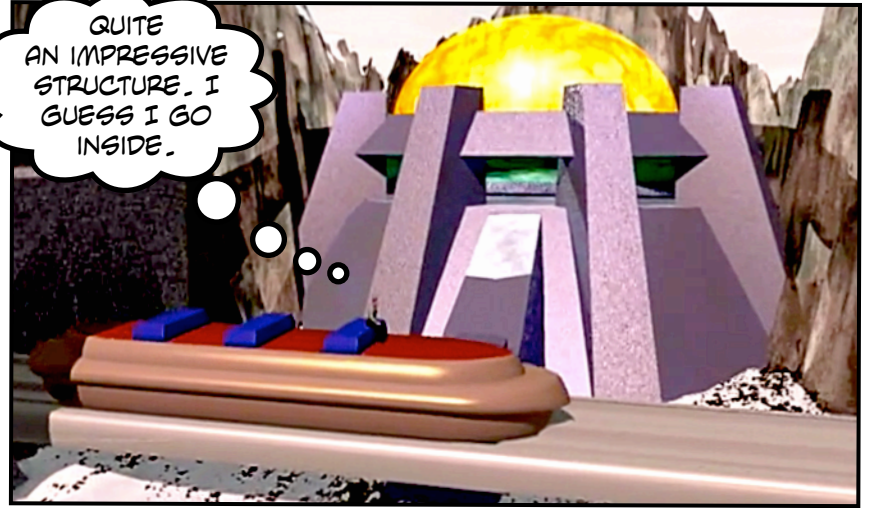
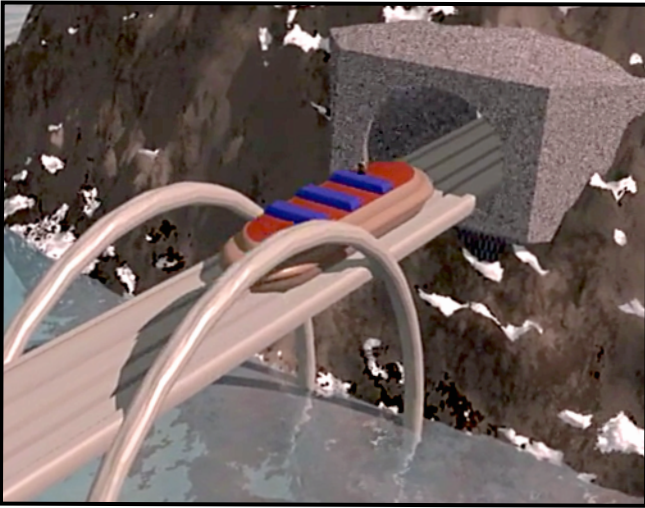
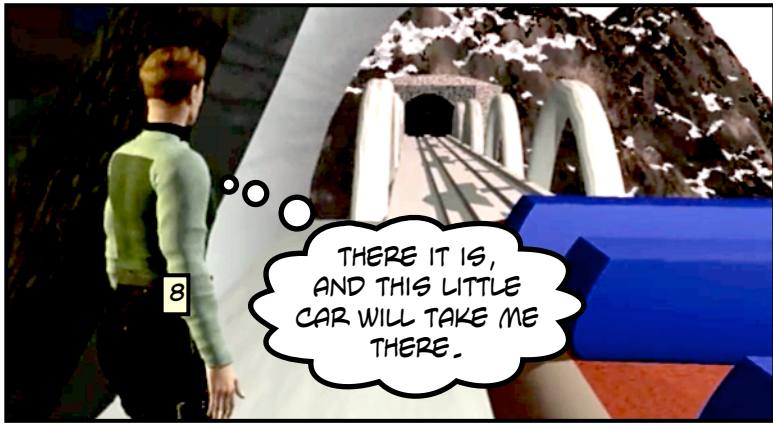
IT MUST BE BEN'S TABLET. AND HE LEFT A MESSAGE FOR ME.

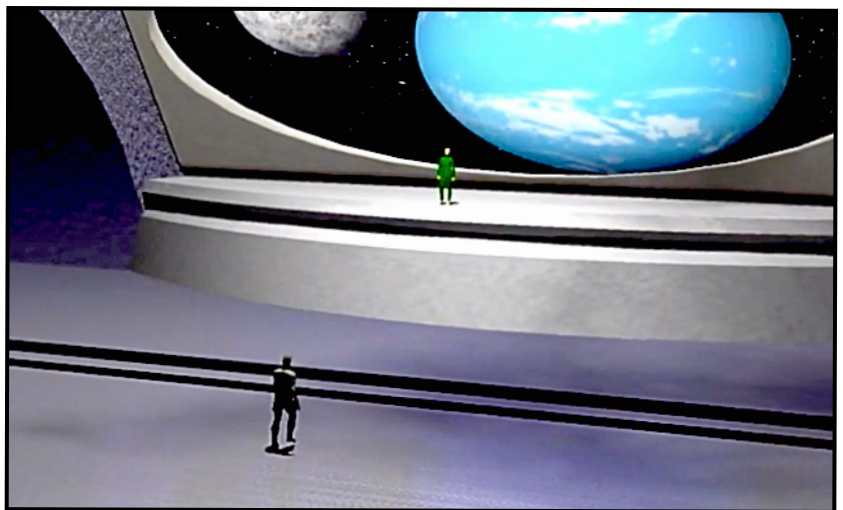
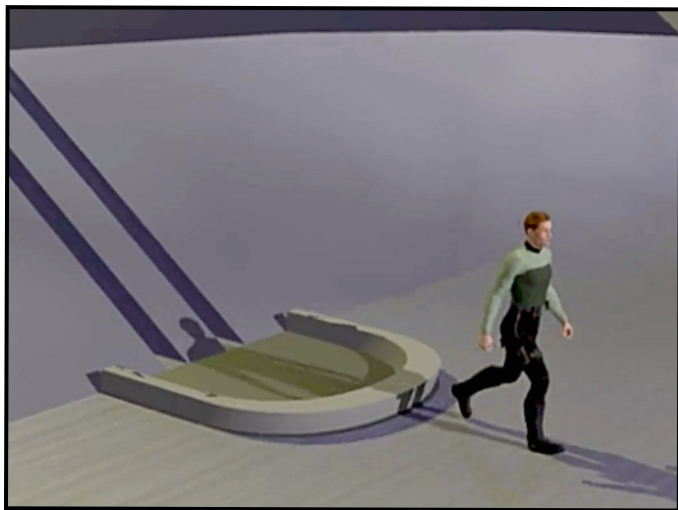
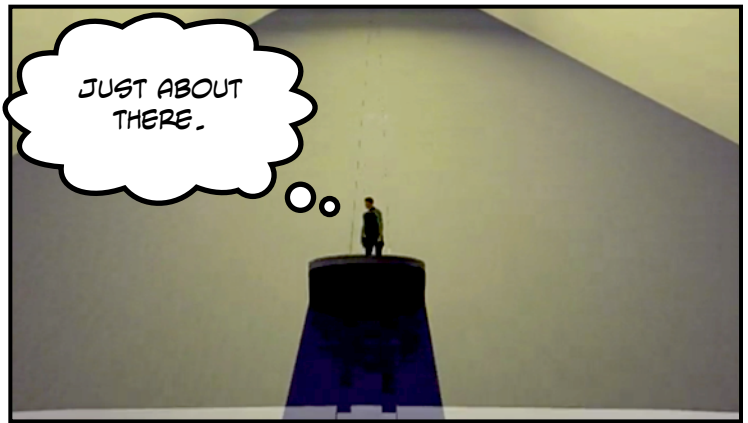
Hi Mack, sure hope you get this message. I found it. Yes, the alien technology we have all heard about is really here. Limitless power, the ability to purify the atmosphere and clean the oceans. Techniques for feeding millions from small amounts of food. All the data we need is stored in their technical libraries. One of their biggest is on what I call "Ice Island." That place is like a fortress. The only way in is by the shuttle car over the bridge.

All the power turbines need to be on for it to work. You may need to go to the power station and make sure all the turbines are on. The power station is at the little structure that should be the next stop along the river. The planet seems deserted but I believe there may be at least one of the original inhabitants somewhere on this island. I may not be here when you arrive. Hope to see you some day soon.

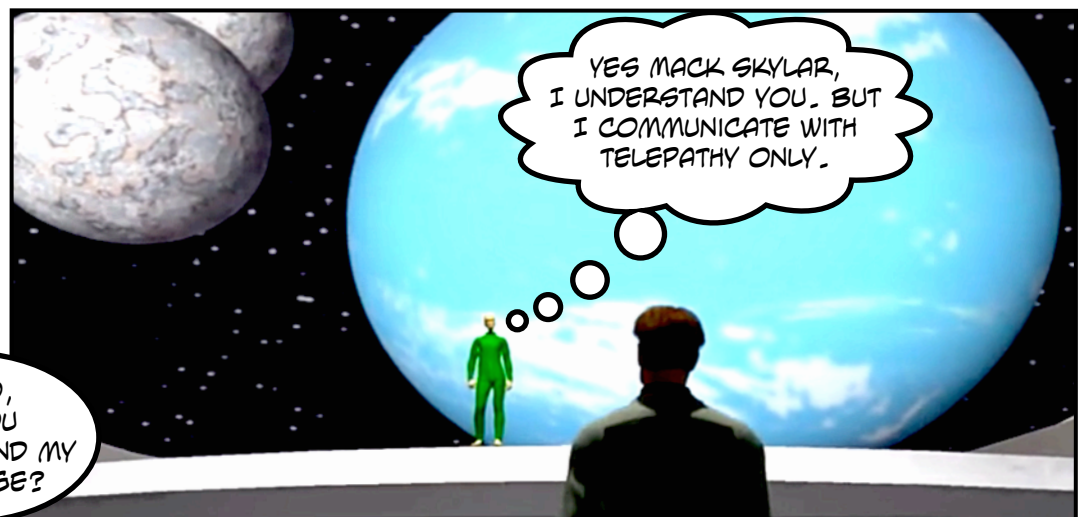
Ben







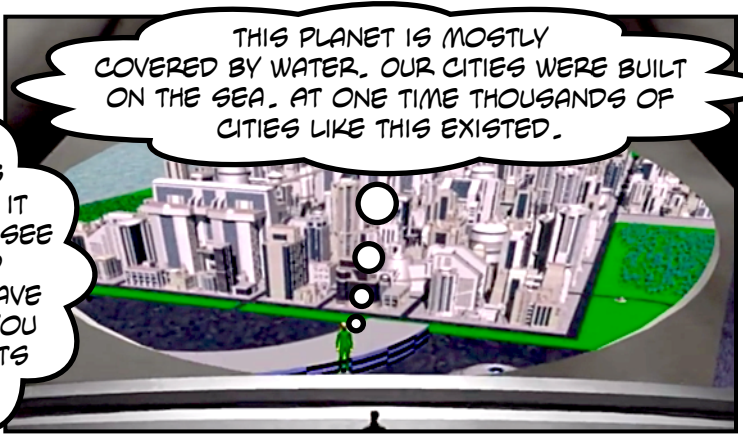
HELLO,
DO YOU
UNDERSTAND MY
LANGUAGE?





BEN LEFT ME A MESSAGE. HE SAID THE STORIES ABOUT AN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY HERE WERE TRUE.

OUR TECHNOLOGY IS VERY POWERFUL. IT IS MY MISSION TO SEE THAT IT IS USED CORRECTLY. WE HAVE DECIDED TO LET YOU TAKE OUR SECRETS HOME WITH YOU.



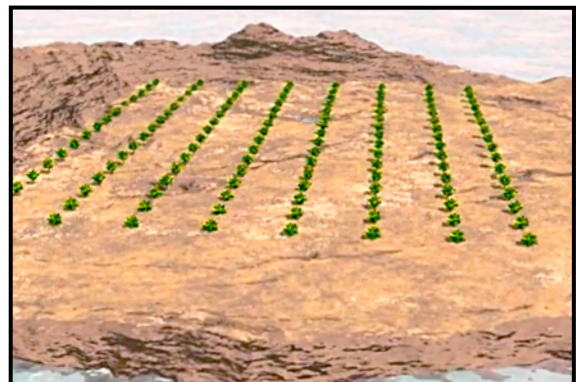
THIS PLANET IS MOSTLY COVERED BY WATER. OUR CITIES WERE BUILT ON THE SEA. AT ONE TIME THOUSANDS OF CITIES LIKE THIS EXISTED.



WE DEVELOPED SPACE TRAVEL AND EXPLORED THE GALAXY IN STARSHIPS. WE VISITED YOUR EARTH MANY CENTURIES AGO.



WE DID EXPERIENCE FOOD SHORTAGES AND OUR EARLIER TECHNOLOGY POLLUTED THE WATER AND THE AIR.



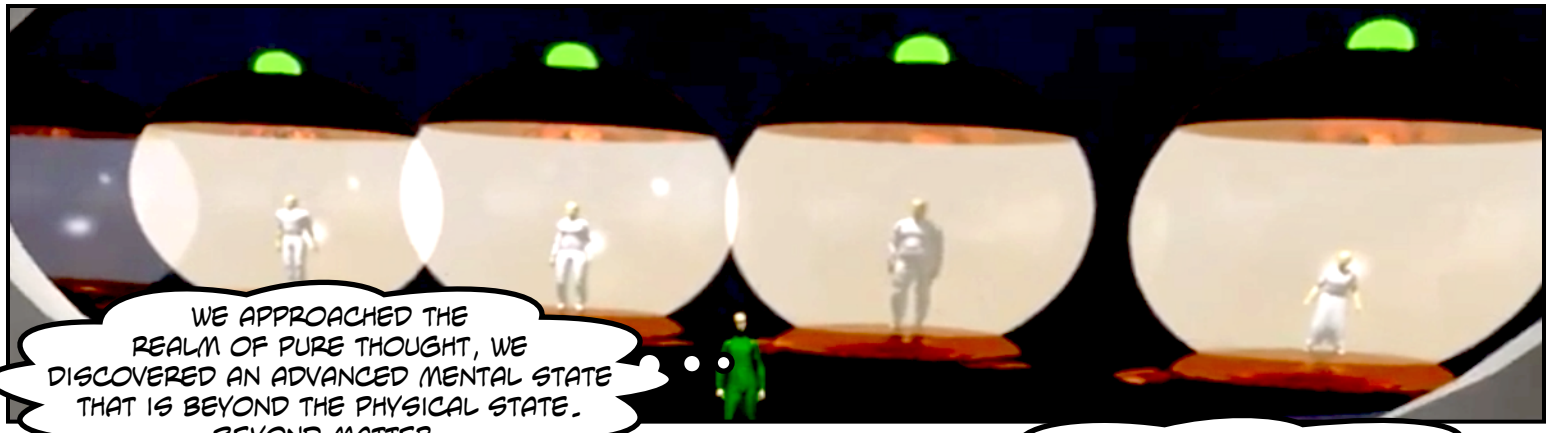
OUR SCIENTISTS FOUND ANSWERS TO OUR PROBLEMS. WE CLEANED UP THE ATMOSPHERE AND LEARNED TO GROW FOOD ANYWHERE.



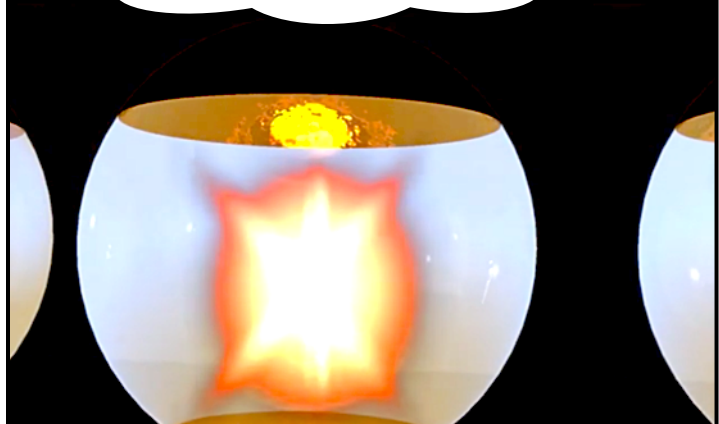
WE ALSO CREATED FOOD REPLICATORS.



OUR MENTAL DEVELOPMENT ADVANCED UNTIL PHYSICAL, MATERIAL THINGS NO LONGER INTERESTED US.



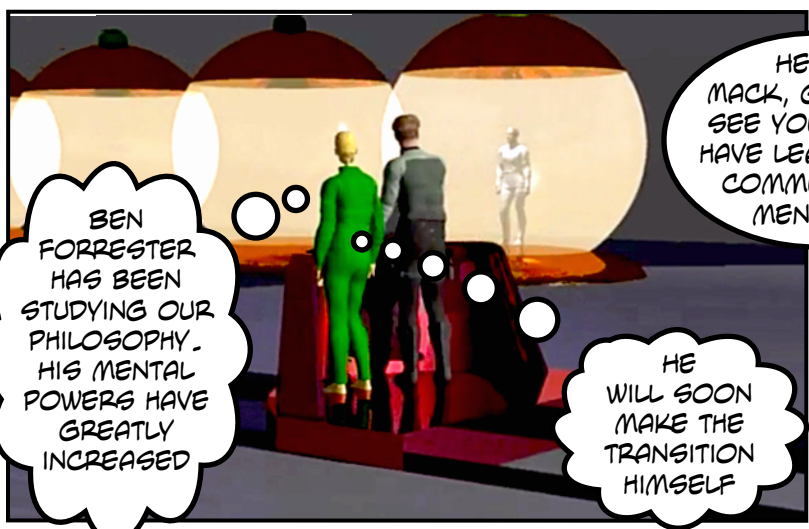
WE APPROACHED THE REALM OF PURE THOUGHT, WE DISCOVERED AN ADVANCED MENTAL STATE THAT IS BEYOND THE PHYSICAL STATE. BEYOND MATTER.



WHEN ONE OF US REACHES THAT POINT, THE BODY SIMPLY DISAPPEARS, BUT THE MIND SURVIVES.



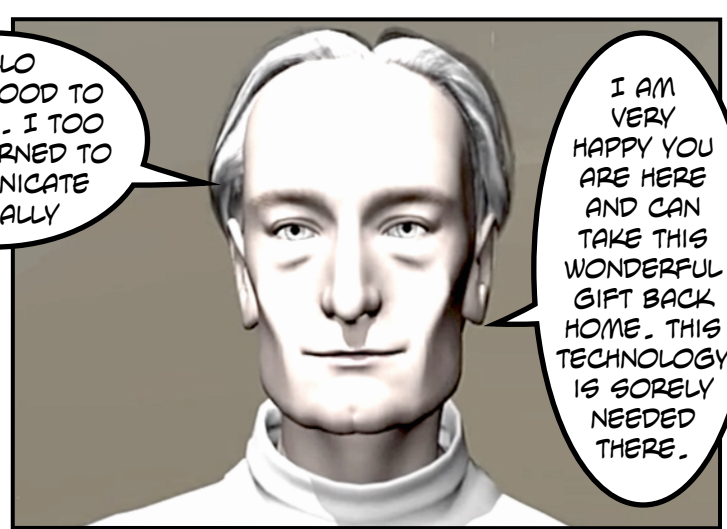
EVENTUALLY EVERY ONE OF MY PEOPLE MADE THAT JOURNEY TO INCORPOREAL MENTAL PERFECTION.



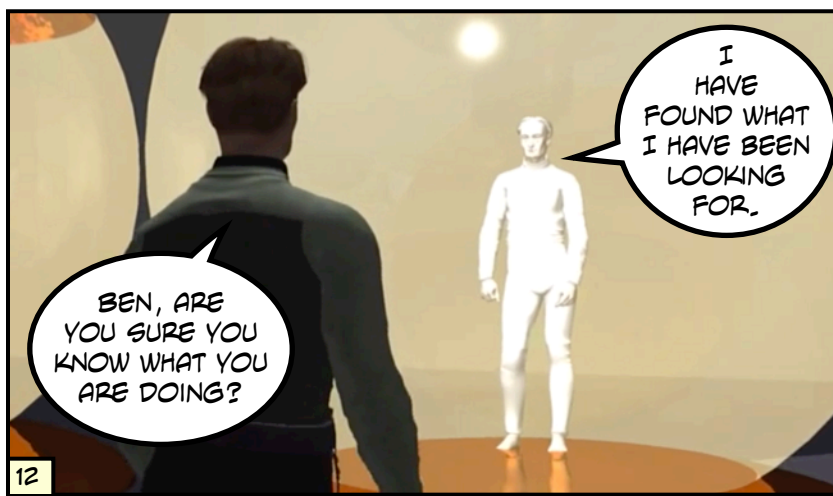
BEN FORRESTER HAS BEEN STUDYING OUR PHILOSOPHY. HIS MENTAL POWERS HAVE GREATLY INCREASED

HELLO MACK, GOOD TO SEE YOU. I TOO HAVE LEARNED TO COMMUNICATE MENTALLY

HE WILL SOON MAKE THE TRANSITION HIMSELF

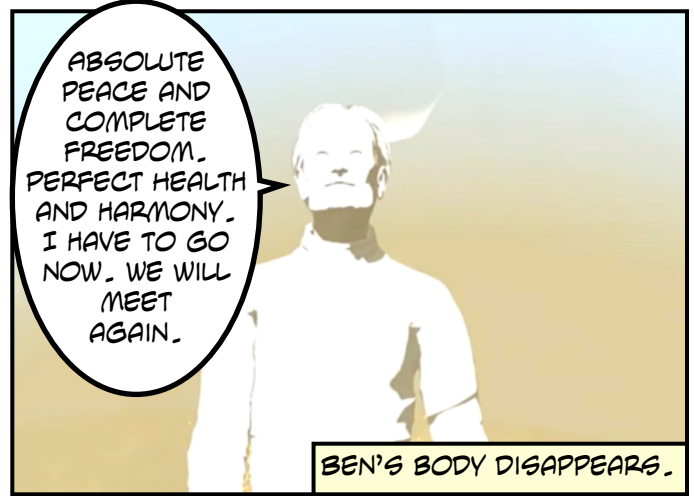


I AM VERY HAPPY YOU ARE HERE AND CAN TAKE THIS WONDERFUL GIFT BACK HOME. THIS TECHNOLOGY IS SORELY NEEDED THERE.



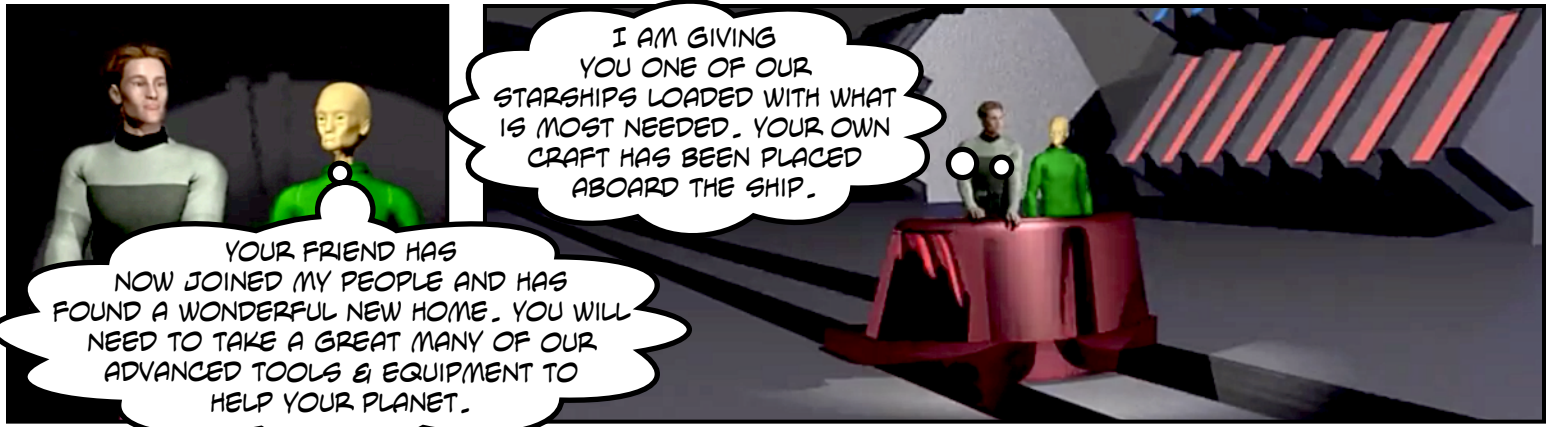
BEN, ARE YOU SURE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING?

I HAVE FOUND WHAT I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR.



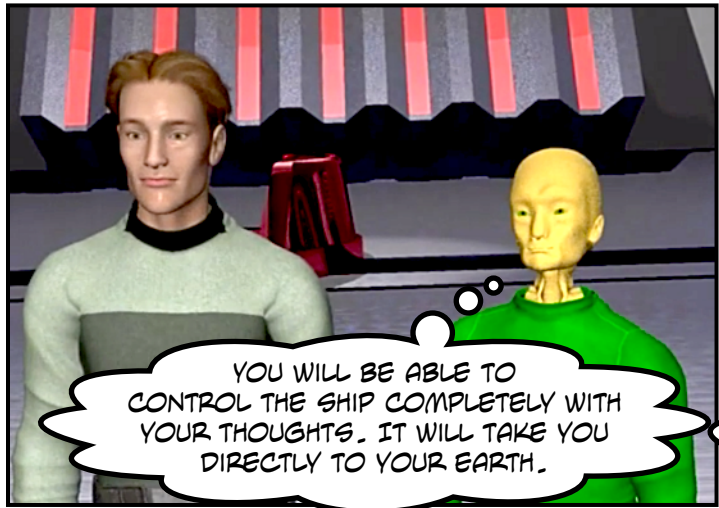
ABSOLUTE PEACE AND COMPLETE FREEDOM. PERFECT HEALTH AND HARMONY. I HAVE TO GO NOW. WE WILL MEET AGAIN.

BEN'S BODY DISAPPEARS.



I AM GIVING YOU ONE OF OUR STARSHIPS LOADED WITH WHAT IS MOST NEEDED. YOUR OWN CRAFT HAS BEEN PLACED ABOARD THE SHIP.

YOUR FRIEND HAS NOW JOINED MY PEOPLE AND HAS FOUND A WONDERFUL NEW HOME. YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE A GREAT MANY OF OUR ADVANCED TOOLS & EQUIPMENT TO HELP YOUR PLANET.

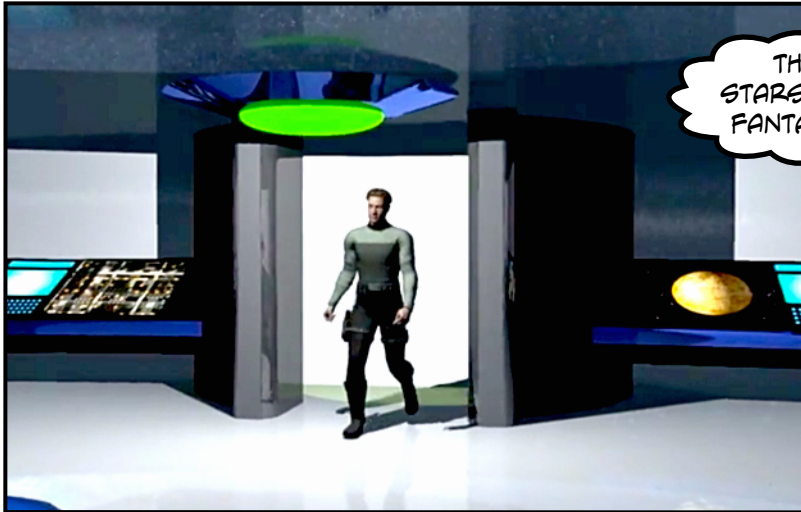


YOU WILL BE ABLE TO CONTROL THE SHIP COMPLETELY WITH YOUR THOUGHTS. IT WILL TAKE YOU DIRECTLY TO YOUR EARTH.

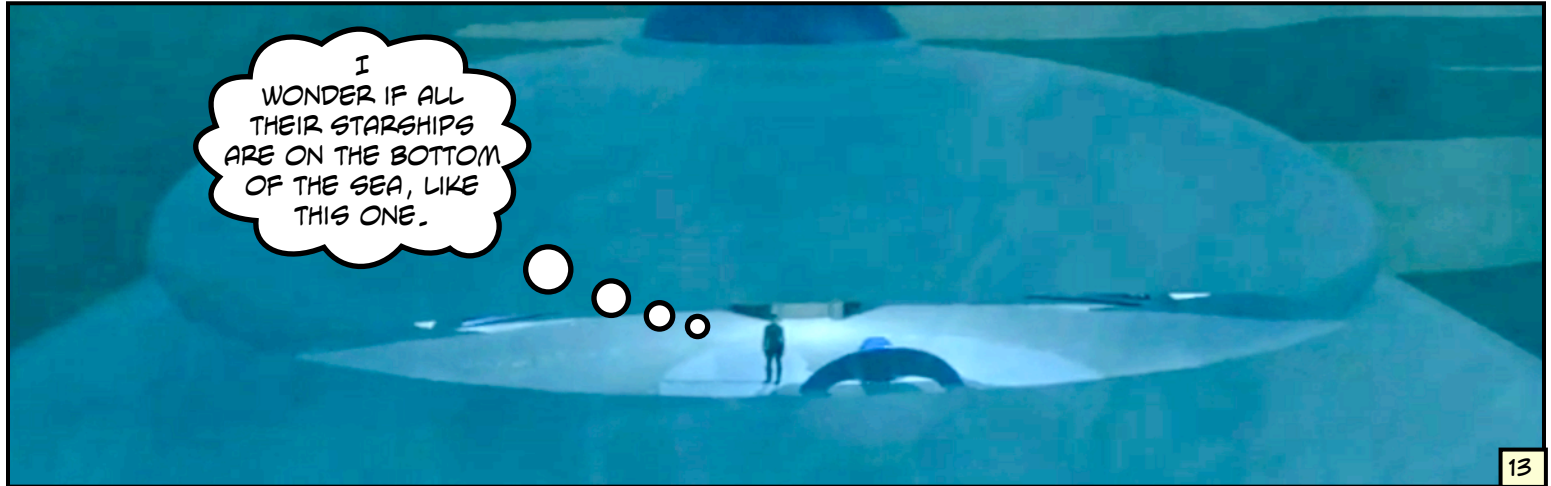


I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU. THIS WILL SAVE MY PLANET,

I WILL BE WATCHING. MAKE SURE OUR TECHNOLOGY IS USED FOR GOOD PURPOSES ONLY.



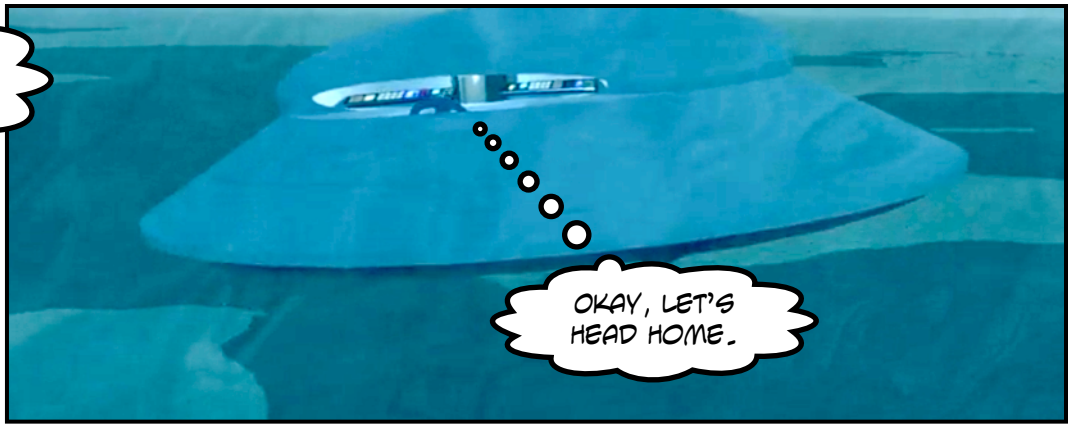
THIS STARSHIP IS FANTASTIC



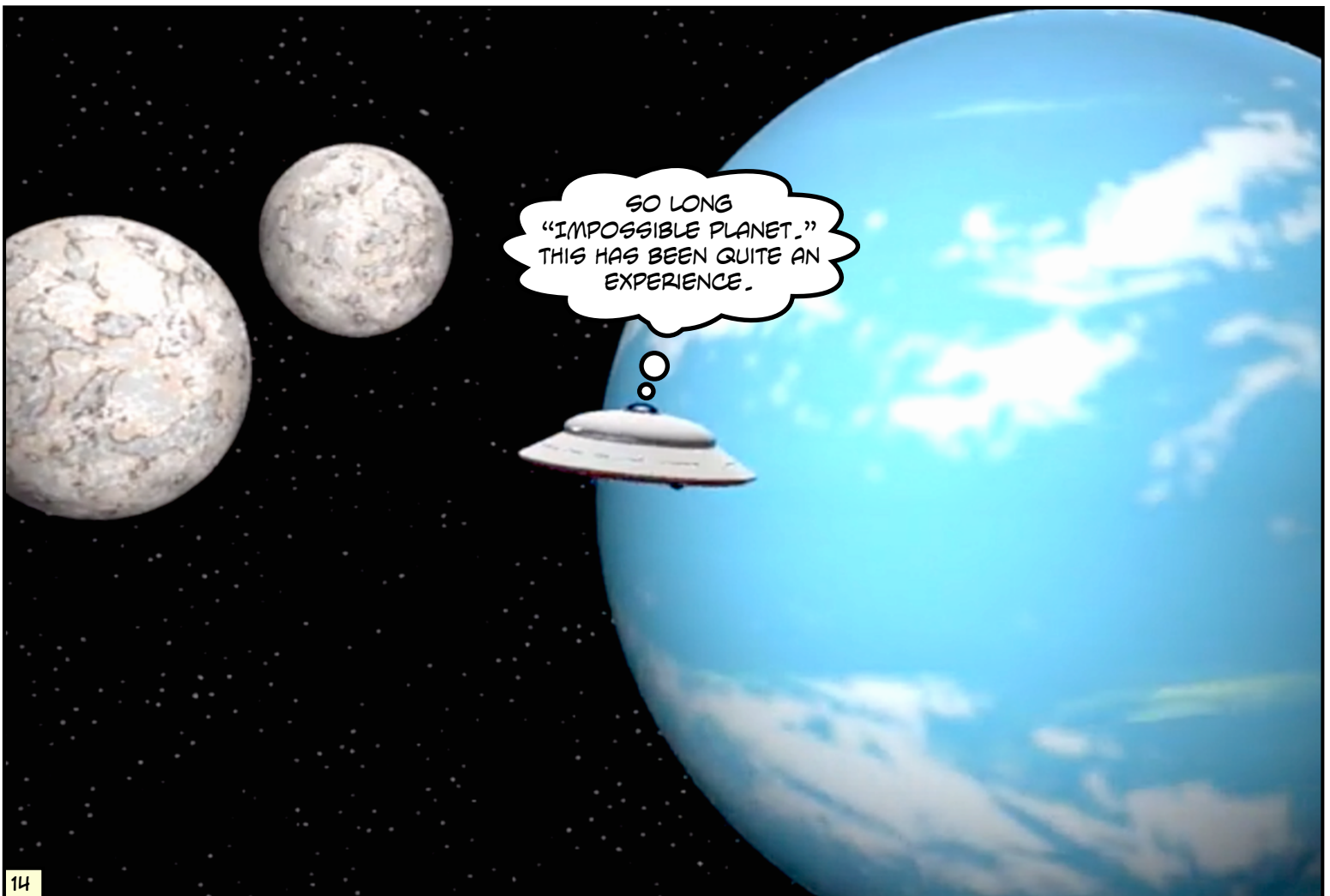
I WONDER IF ALL THEIR STARSHIPS ARE ON THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA, LIKE THIS ONE.



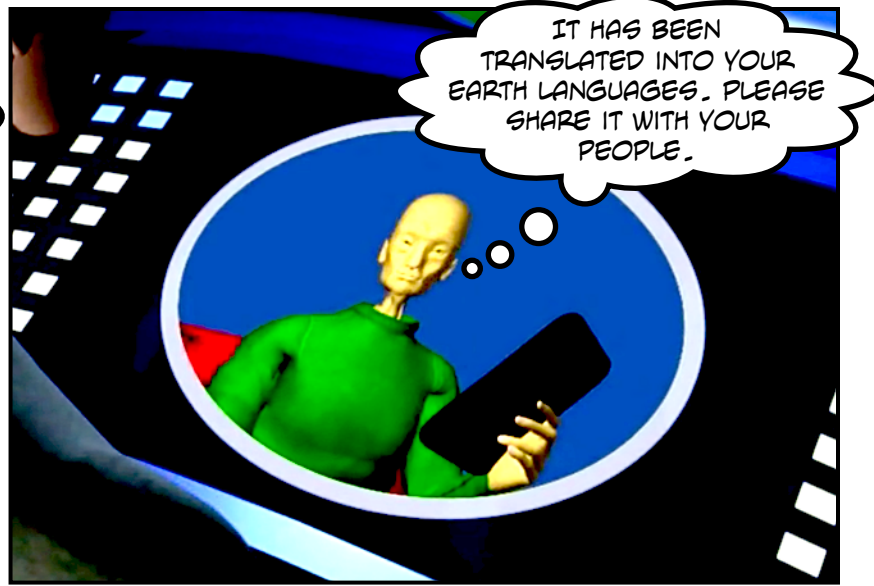
VERY
COMPLEX CONTROLS,
BUT I GUESS I DON'T
NEED THEM.

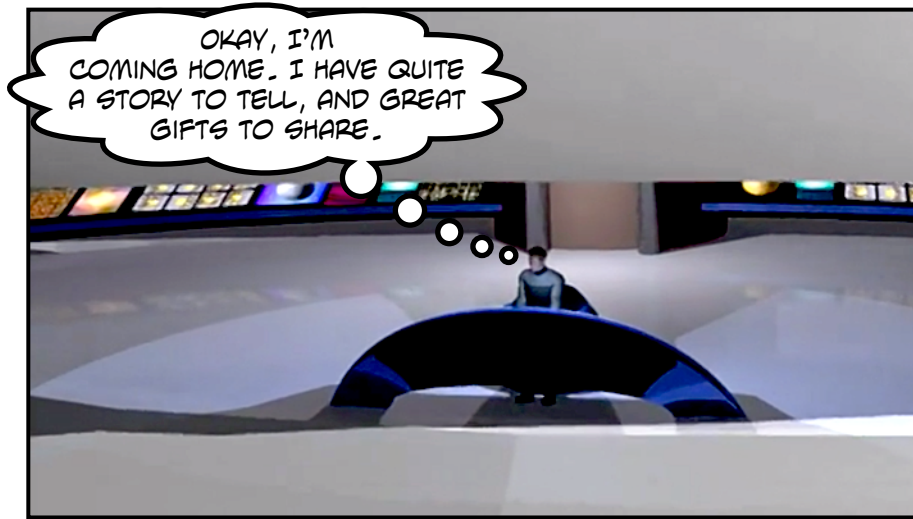


OKAY, LET'S
HEAD HOME.



SO LONG
"IMPOSSIBLE PLANET."
THIS HAS BEEN QUITE AN
EXPERIENCE.





The Impossible Planet

by Dave Herring

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David L. Herring

Images created with

Carrara 7

Daz Studio

Final Cut Express

www.artbyherring.com

Original animation: <https://youtu.be/YQGzjZewT7o>