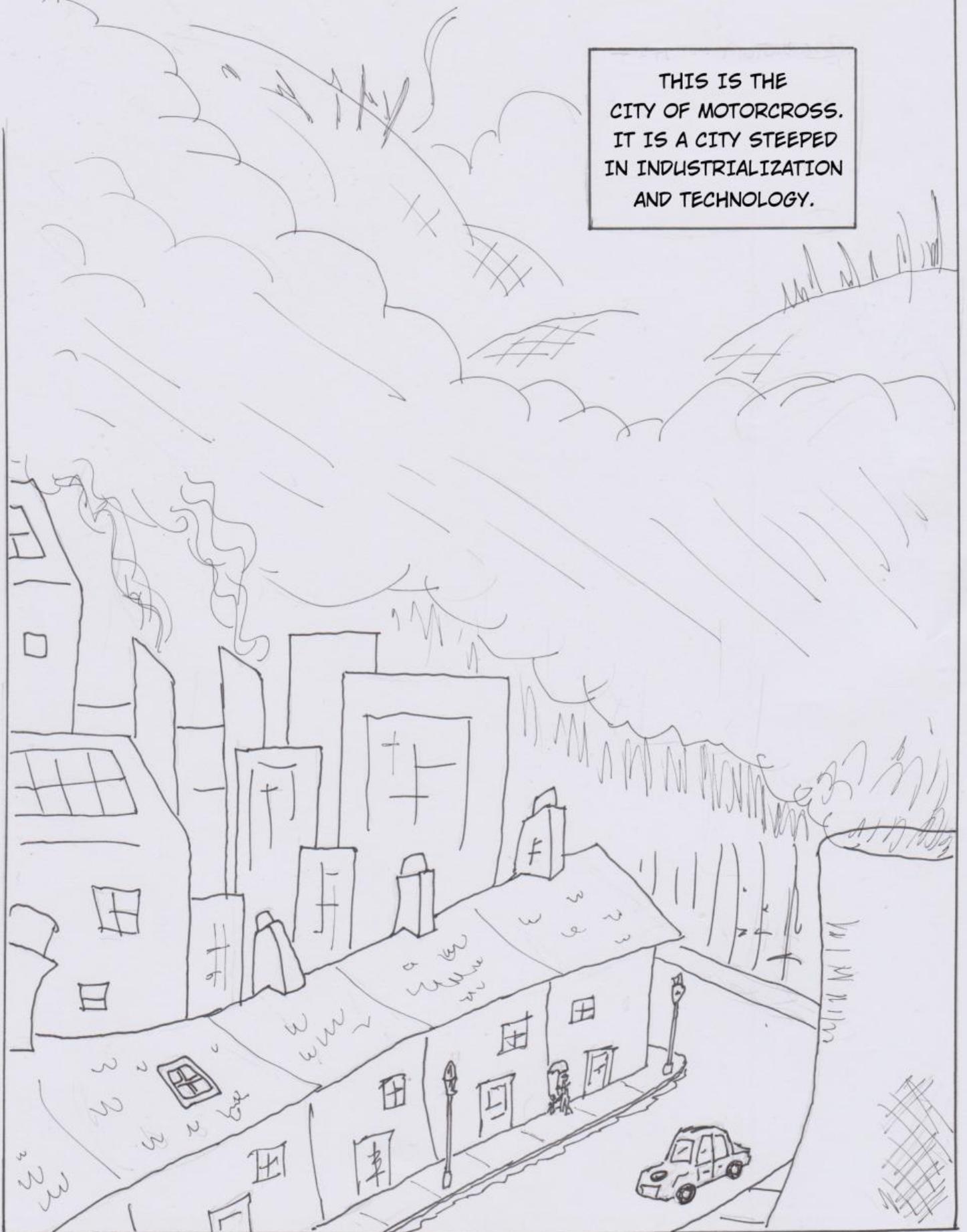


ro·bo·ta /rɒbɒtə/

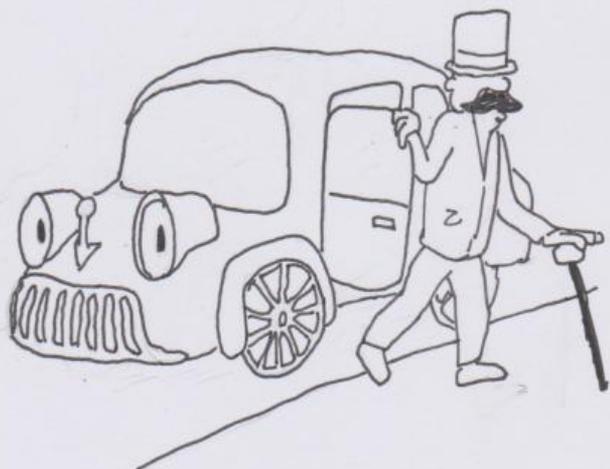
*noun*

forced labour, compulsory service, drudgery

THIS IS THE  
CITY OF MOTORCROSS.  
IT IS A CITY STEEPED  
IN INDUSTRIALIZATION  
AND TECHNOLOGY.



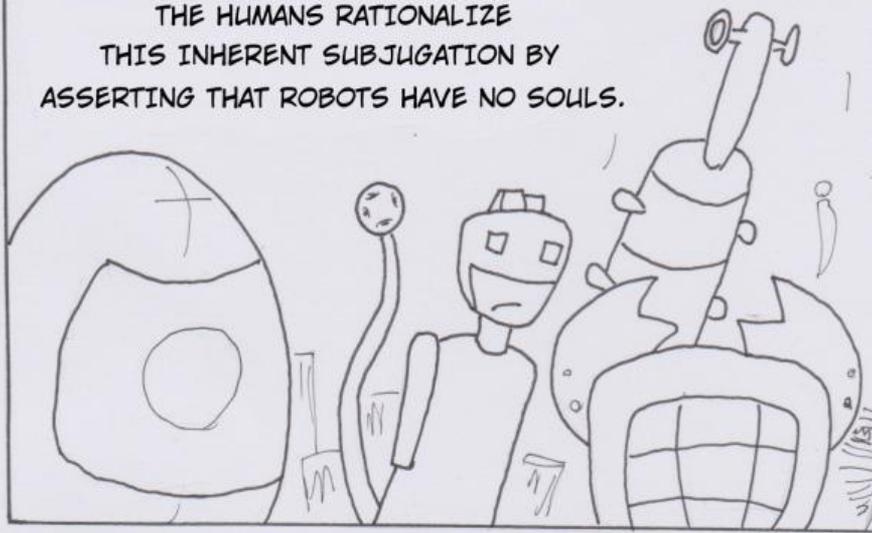
THE PEOPLE HERE RELY ON  
MACHINES TO DO EVERYTHING FOR THEM.



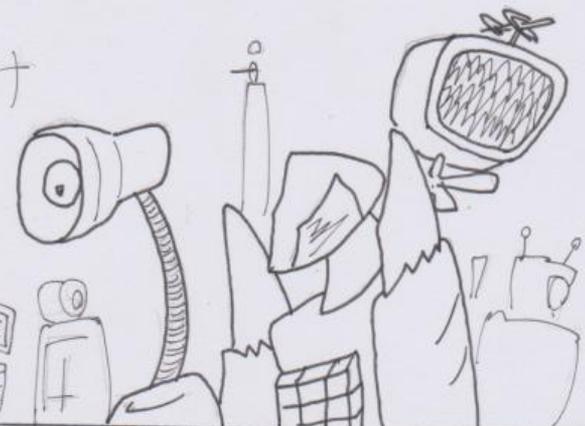
ROBOTS ARE THEIR  
PROPERTY, AND HAVE  
NO RIGHTS.



THE HUMANS RATIONALIZE  
THIS INHERENT SUBJUGATION BY  
ASSERTING THAT ROBOTS HAVE NO SOULS.



THEY ARE OBJECTS.  
VOID OF EMOTIONS AND FREEWILL.



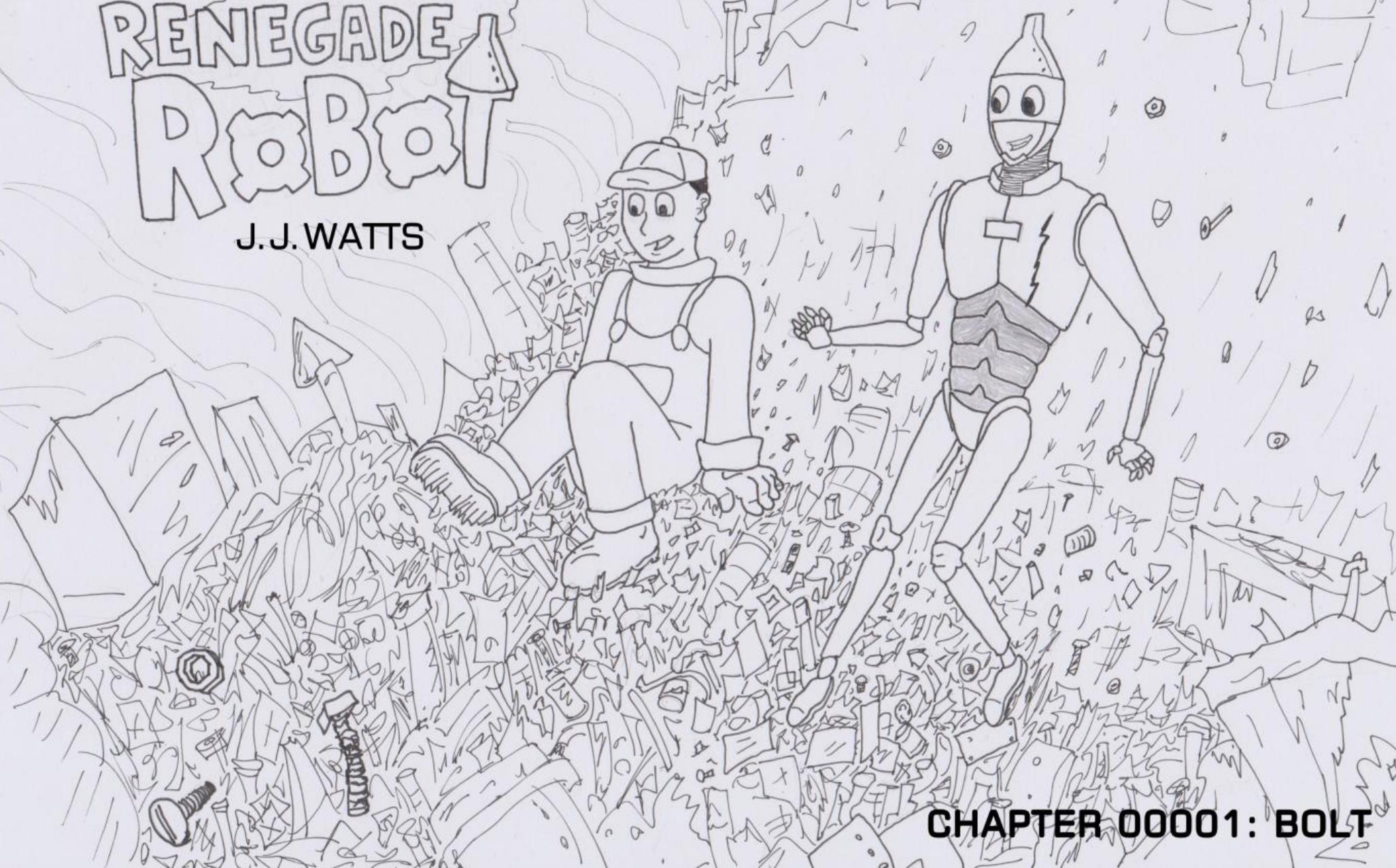
BUT IS THIS TRUE...?

COULD A MACHINE DEFY  
ALL ODDS AND BECOME  
SENTIENT...?

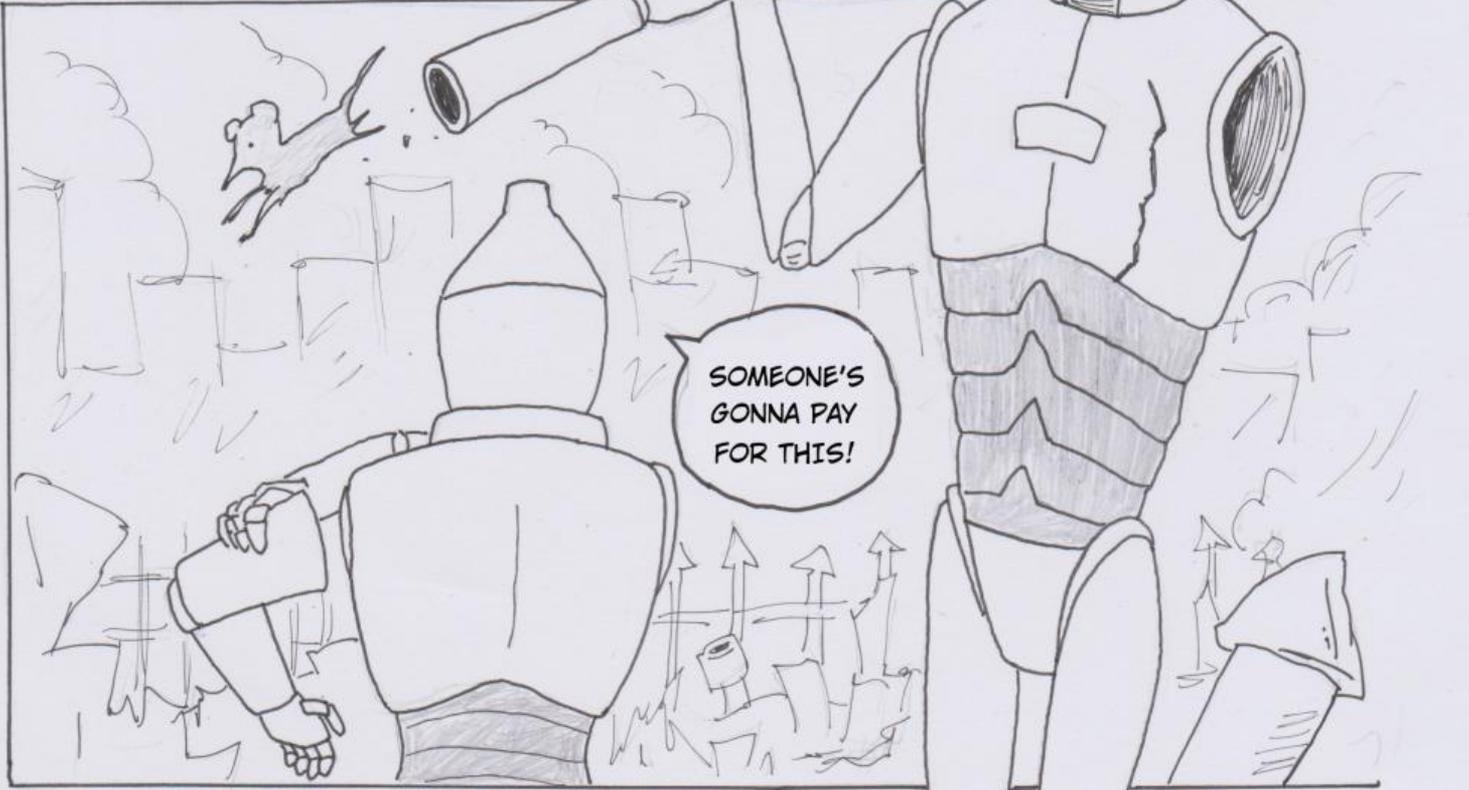


# RENEGADE ROBOT

J.J. WATTS



**CHAPTER 00001: BOLT**



NUTS! DAMN THOSE HUMANS!  
WHAT AM I? YESTERDAY'S  
RUBBISH?

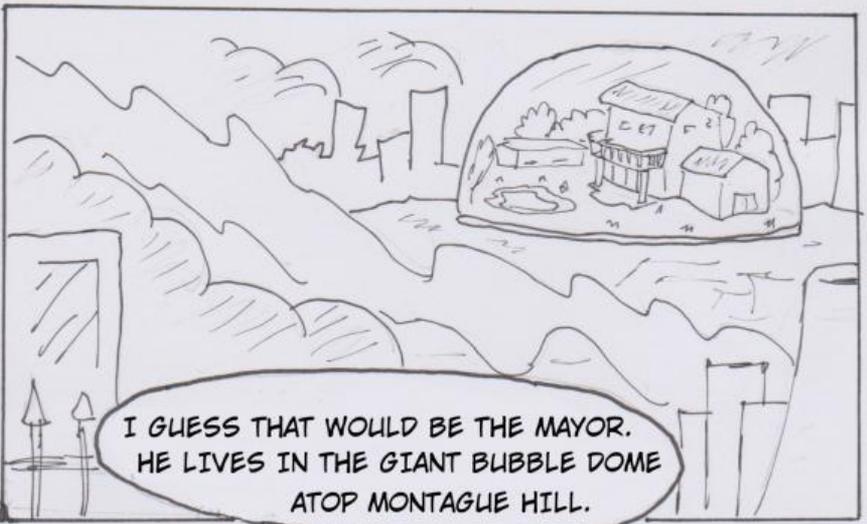
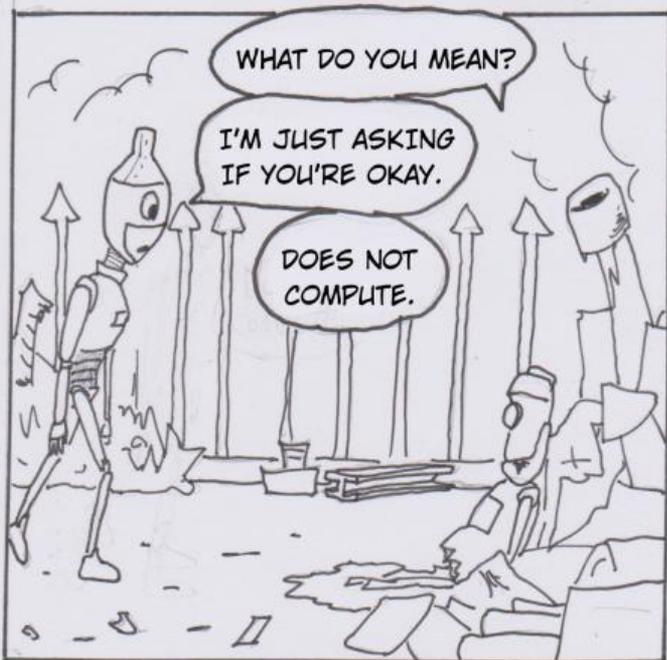
HEY! GET  
OUT OF THERE!

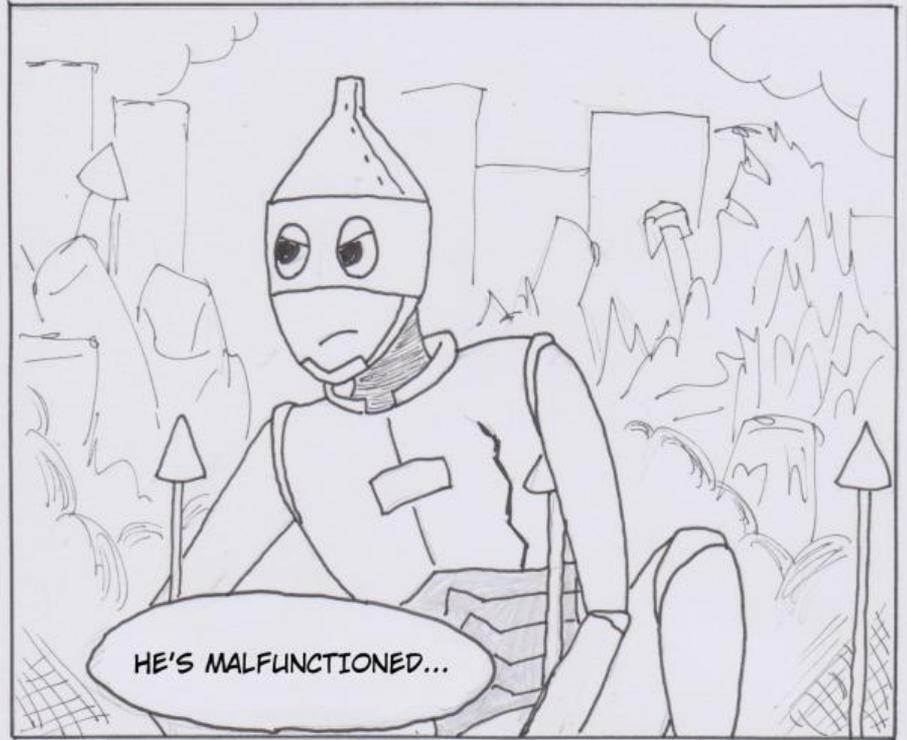
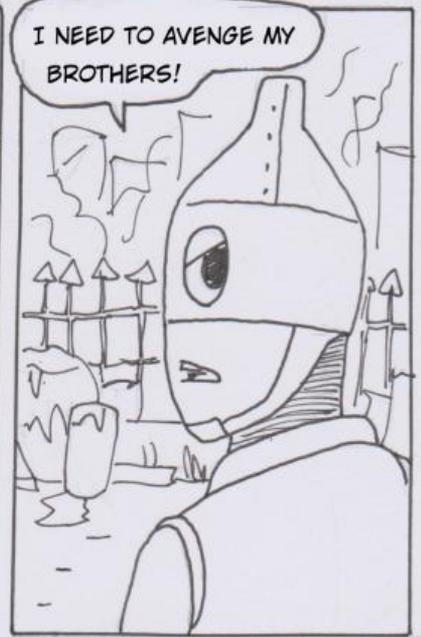
SOMEONE'S  
GONNA PAY  
FOR THIS!

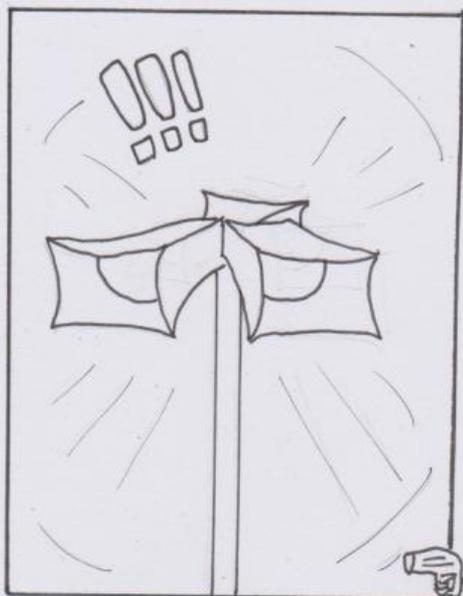
I'M SURPRISED YOU CAN EVEN  
MOVE GIVEN THE SHABBY STATE  
OF YOUR FRAME.

BOLT  
MAINTENANCEBOT

GROSSMAN









**TORVILL  
FRECKLE**  
MAYOR OF  
MOTORCROSS

MR. MAYOR, THERE IS AN  
INTRUDER ON THE GROUNDS.



THAT GREAT  
SIR, BUT WHAT  
ABOUT THE  
INTRUDER?

BEHOLD GREG! I'VE FINALLY FINISHED MY  
DOLLHOUSE! PAPA'S READING TO JUNIOR IN THE LOUNGE!

WHAT ARE YOU COMING TO ME FOR?!  
JUST KILL WHOEVER IT IS!



YOU MACHINES ARE SUPPOSED TO MAKE LIFE EASIER FOR ME.  
AS THE MAYOR I HAVE FAR MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO  
ATTEND TO.



AAAHHH!!!  
STOP IT!



STOP SPRAYING ME! I'M GONNA RUST! I'M DYING!  
I'M DYING! I'M DYING! I'M DYING!



TAMASHI  
MECHANIC

A MAINTENANCEBOT?

THERE'S NO NEED TO ATTACK! RETURN  
TO YOUR POSTS!

AHH! I'M DYING!  
I'M DYING!



CLAP!  
CLAP!  
CLAP!

WHY IS IT ACTING LIKE THIS? IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ROBOTS TO DIE FOR OBVIOUS REASONS.



I'M DYING!  
I'M DYING!  
I'M DYING!

ODD, WHY ISN'T IT DEACTIVATING? IT MUST HAVE EVEN MORE BUGS THAN I THOUGHT.



CLAP!  
CLAP!  
CLAP!

I'M DYING!  
I'M DYING!  
I'M DY-



HONESTLY, WHAT A PAIN...



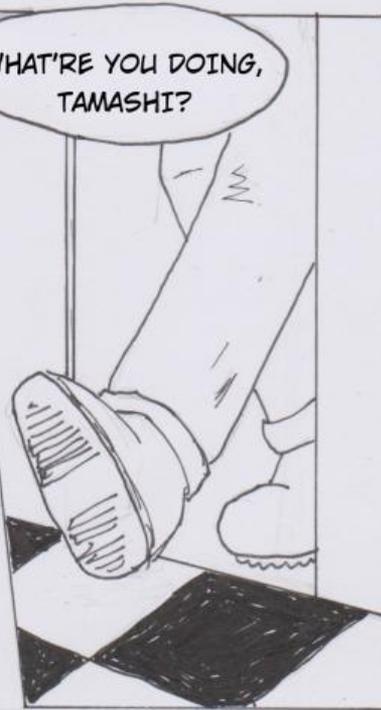
CLANK!  
CLANK!  
CLANK!



MAYBE IT'S GOT A VIRUS. IF SO, THERE COULD BE MORE UNITS EFFECTED.



WHAT'RE YOU DOING, TAMASHI?



I HEARD THERE WAS A  
COMMOTION ON THE GROUNDS.

YEAH. THIS  
IS THE CULPRIT.

XYLR  
LINDCOURT  
BOY RACER

A ROBOT? THAT'S  
LUDICROUS. THEY'RE NOT  
CAPABLE OF DOING THINGS  
BY THEMSELVES.

IT KNOW THAT. I THINK IT  
MIGHT HAVE A BUG OR FAULTY WIRING  
THAT CAUSED IT TO MALFUNCTION.  
I STRONGLY DOUBT IT WAS PROGRAMMED  
TO BREAK INTO PRIVATE PROPERTY.



YOU'RE ALWAYS TOO QUICK TO  
DISCARD A ROBOT. THE DECISION TO  
HAVE ONE DESTROYED SHOULD NOT  
BE TAKEN SO LIGHTLY.

IN THAT CASE  
WE MIGHT AS WELL  
MELT IT DOWN  
INTO SLAG.

WHY? THEY'RE  
NOT ALIVE.

YEAH, WELL...  
IT'S JUST A  
WASTE.



IT'S ONLY A STANDARD MAINTENANCEBOT FROM THE COAL AND CEMENT FACTORY NEXT DOOR. LOOKS LIKE AN OLD MODEL TOO.



FROM THE KX-SERIES? I CAN'T BELIEVE THERE'S A PLACE IN TOWN THAT STILL USES THESE OBSOLETE MACHINES.



I DOUBT THEY WILL FOR MUCH LONGER. I EXPECT BY THIS TIME NEXT MONTH ALL THE ROBOTS WORKING IN THAT FACTORY WILL BE MELTED DOWN AND REPLACED WITH NEW AND IMPROVED BOTS.

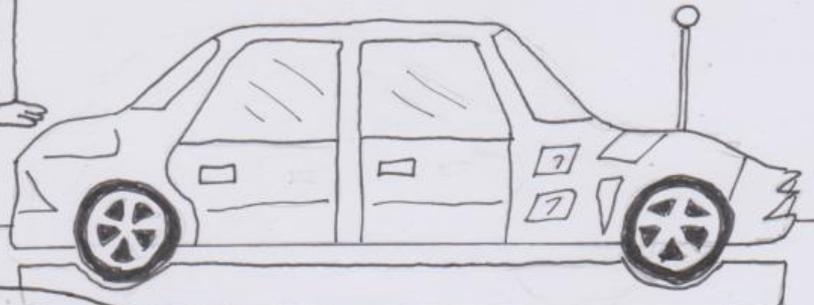
SEE? SO THERE'S NO POINT FIXING THIS ONE UP. AND LOOK AT THIS HUGE CRACK DOWN ITS CHEST. IT'S FALLING APART. DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME REPAIRING THIS HUNK OF JUNK. THAT'S NOT WHAT THE MAYOR PAYS YOU FOR.



I DON'T NEED YOU TO TELL ME WHAT MY JOB IS. I'VE BEEN WORKING ON YOUR CAR ALL DAY.



ISN'T SHE BEAUTIFUL? YOU'RE BEING GENTLE WITH MY PRECIOUS BELLA, AREN'T YOU?



I THOUGHT MACHINES WEREN'T ALIVE. AND WHY HAVE YOU GIVEN IT A GIRL'S NAME?

BECAUSE SHE'S PINK. IF SHE WAS BLUE I'D HAVE GIVEN HER A BOY'S NAME. BUT YOU KNOW THE MAYOR'S AIDE HATES BLUE AND LOVES PINK.



I BET YOU'RE EXCITED TO BE REPRESENTING MOTORCROSS IN THE NEXT METALLIC GRAND PRIX. IT'S ONLY FIVE WEEKS AWAY.



OF COURSE. I'M GOING TO TELL THE MAYOR EVERYTHING'S UNDER CONTROL.

OH, AND TAMASHI...



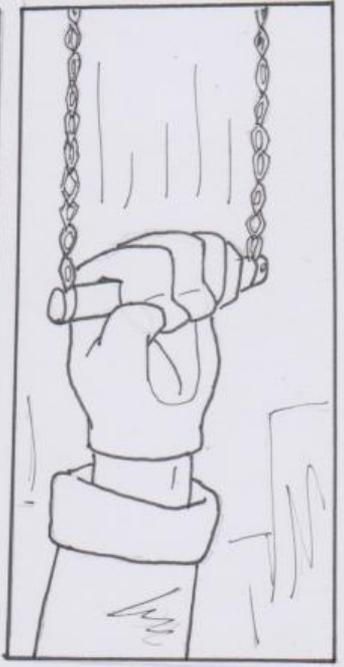
I KNOW YOU'RE A MECHANIC AND ALL,  
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN'T WEAR  
SOME MAKE-UP. I MEAN, YOU ARE  
TECHNICALLY A WOMAN.



THE GRID GIRLS HAVE THE  
RIGHT IDEA. ANYWAY, JUST  
SOME FOOD FOR THOUGHT.  
TAKE IT AS YOU WILL.



I GUESS I SHOULD DESTROY  
THIS OLD UNIT THEN...



I KNOW THEY'RE  
JUST MACHINES,  
BUT IT'S STILL  
KINDA SAD...

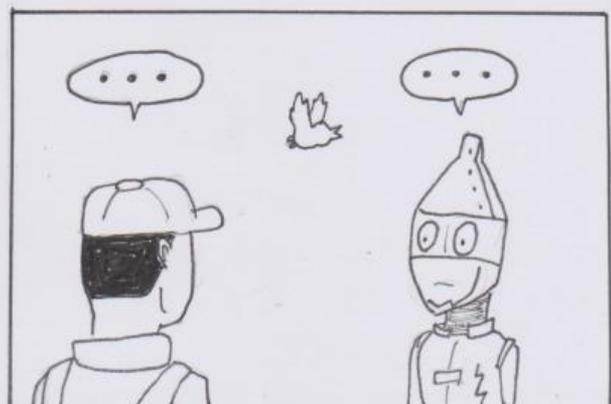
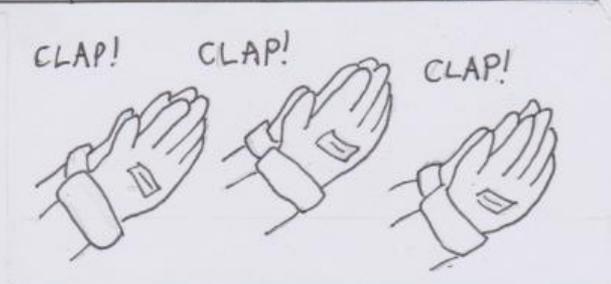
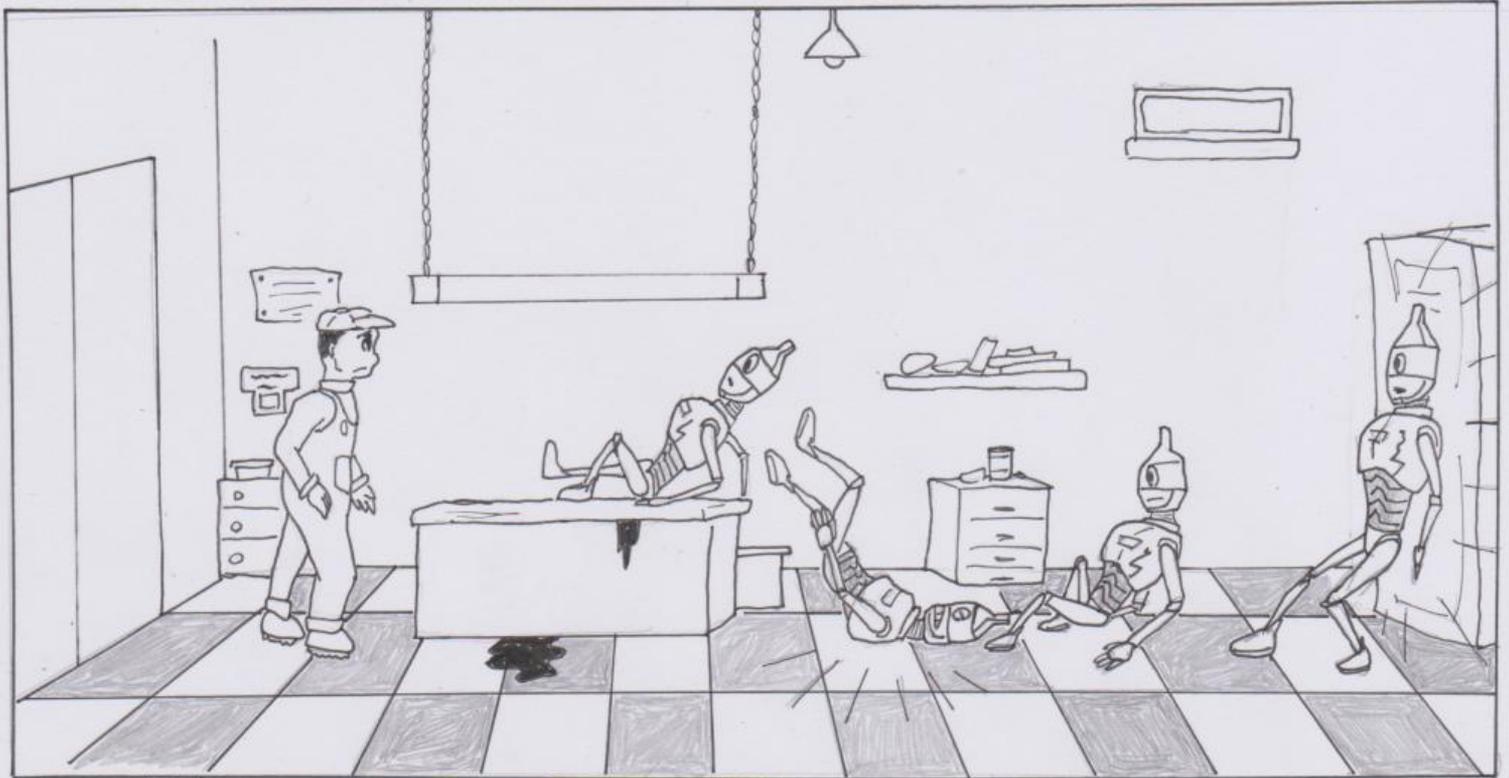
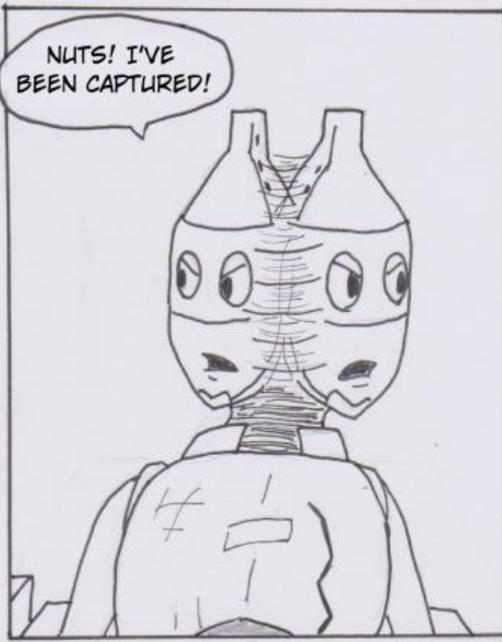


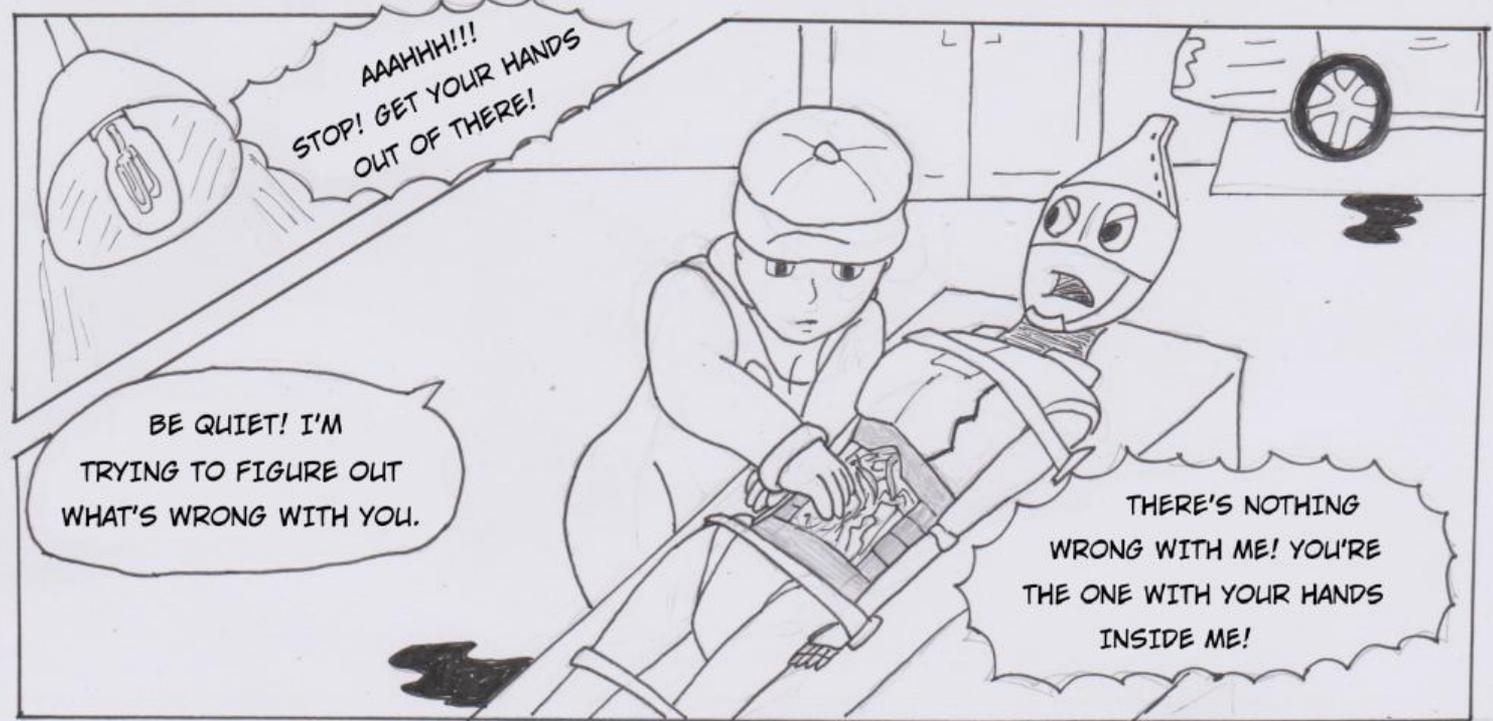
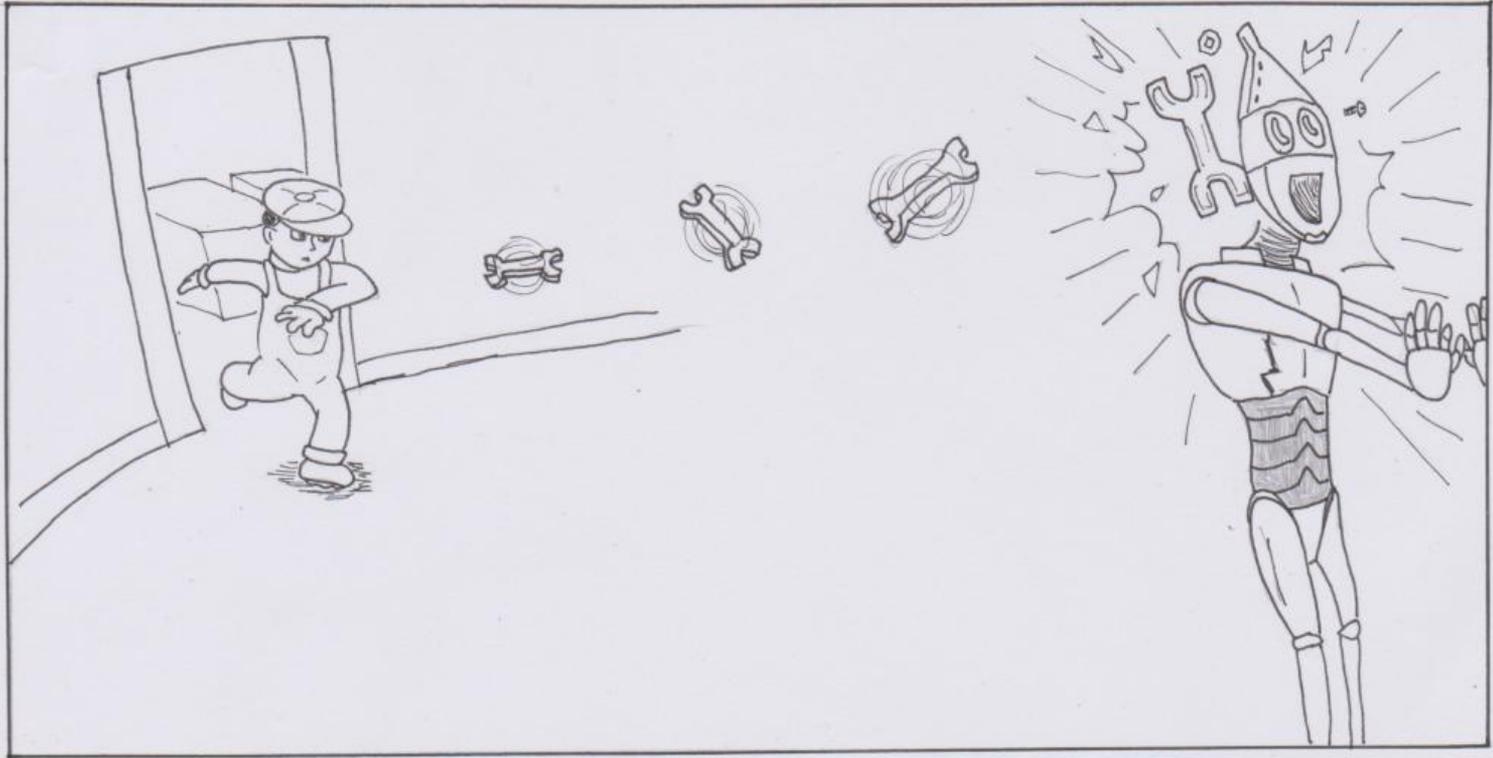
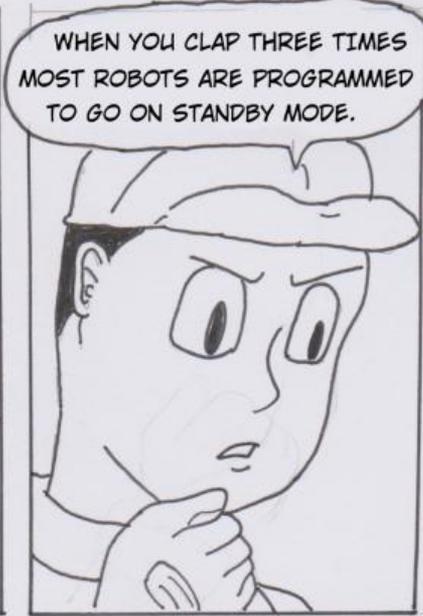
THEY DO  
EVERYTHING FOR  
US AND GET NO  
THANKS. THEN WE  
JUST THROW THEM  
AWAY AS SOON AS  
THEY STOP BEING  
USEFUL TO US.

BUT THAT'S  
JUST THE WAY  
OF THE WORLD...

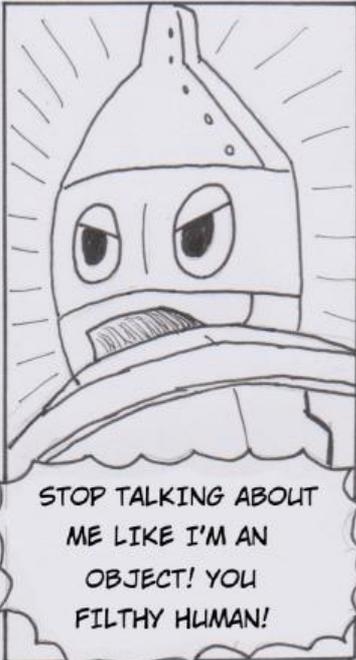








I CAN'T MAKE HEADS NOR TAILS OF THIS UNIT. HAS SOMEONE PROGRAMMED IT LIKE THIS AS A JOKE?



STOP TALKING ABOUT ME LIKE I'M AN OBJECT! YOU FILTHY HUMAN!



WHAT DID YOU JUST CALL ME?

LISTEN, I HATE HUMANS! YOU TREAT US LIKE SLAVES!

ROBOTS ARE TOOLS BUILT BY HUMANS.

WHY AM I HAVING THIS CONVERSATION WITH A MACHINE? I FEEL RIDICULOUS.



IF YOU HADN'T GOT IN MY WAY I'D HAVE BEEN ABLE TO KILL THE MAYOR BY NOW!



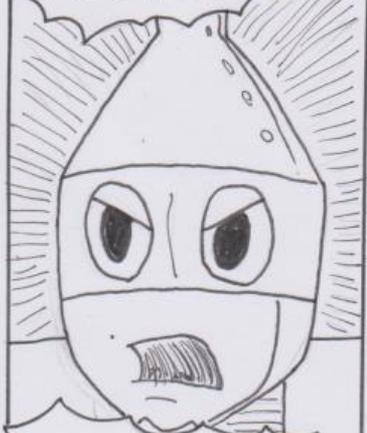
IT'S HIS FAULT, ISN'T IT? HE'S THE LEADER OF THIS CITY, RIGHT?

THE ONE THAT DECIDED THAT MY BRAND OF ROBOT IS NOW OBSOLETE.

THANKS TO HIM I HAD TO WATCH AS MY BROTHERS WERE BROKEN UP AND DESTROYED!

WHAT-?!

I'M NOT STICKING AROUND



SO I CAN BE NEXT!

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO REPROGRAMME A ROBOT TO HARM A HUMAN. YOU HAVE TO GO THROUGH MULTIPLE FIREWALLS JUST TO HACK INTO THEIR SYSTEM, AND EVEN THEN THERE ARE FAILSAFES IN CASE ONE DOES GO ROGUE. IF IT'S COME HERE TO ASSASSINATE THE MAYOR, THEN I HAVE TO DESTROY IT!



I SAID LET ME GO!

SPARK!

NUTS! MY HINGES ARE ALL RUSTY!

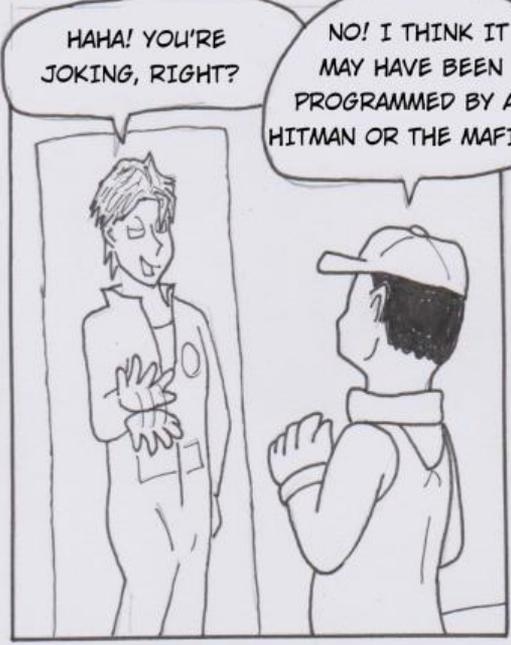
STOP!

WHOA! NOT SO FAST! I CAME BACK TO SEE BELLA. ♡

FORGET YOUR PATHETIC INFATUATION WITH YOUR CAR FOR ONE MINUTE!

HEY! I DON'T INSULT YOUR FRIENDS! NOT THAT YOU'VE EVER MENTIONED ANY-

THAT MAINTENANCEBOT I WAS WORKING ON BROKE FREE AND MAY MAKE AN ATTEMPT ON THE MAYOR'S LIFE!



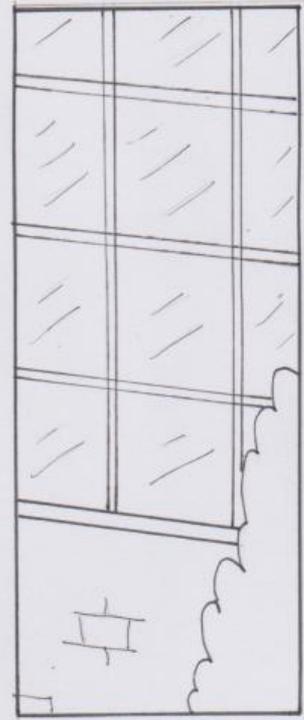
HAHA! YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT?

NO! I THINK IT MAY HAVE BEEN PROGRAMMED BY A HITMAN OR THE MAFIA!



I-I JUST REMEMBERED, I HAVE AN URGENT APPOINTMENT.

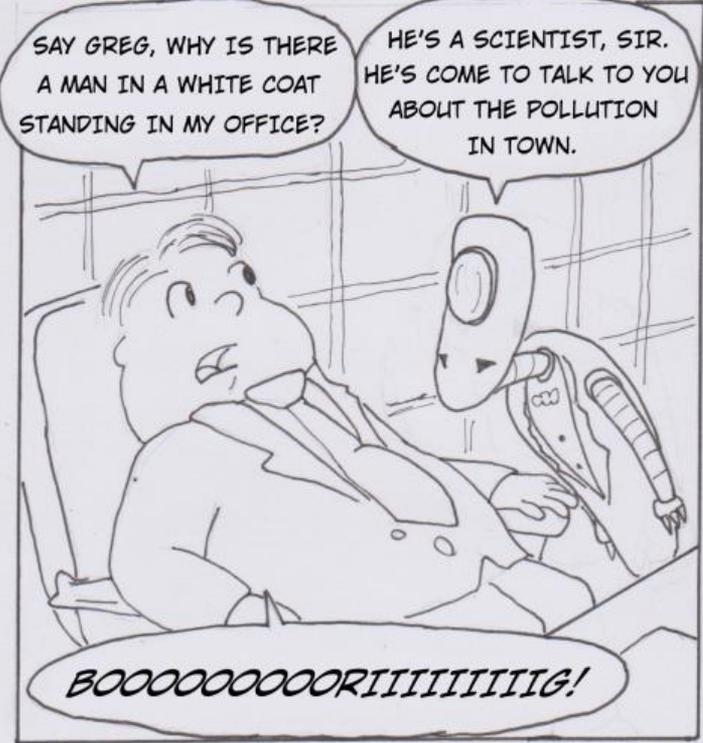
UH-HUH.



WHOO! WHOO!



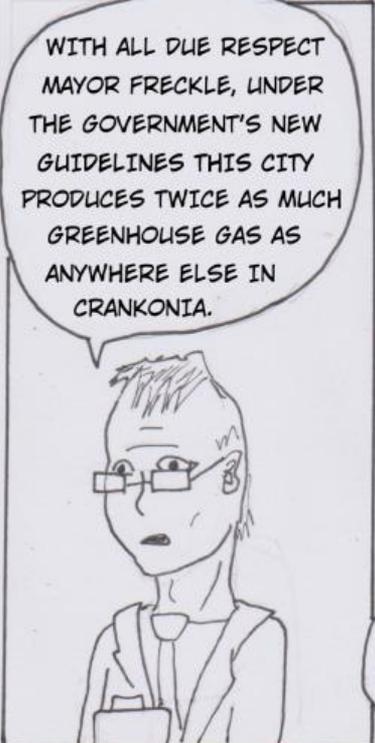
AND SO YOU SEE MR. MAYOR, WITH JUST A FEW BUDGETARY DECISIONS WE COULD SWITCH TO A WIND ENERGY SOURCE AND CUT THIS CITY'S POLLUTION LEVELS BY 60%.



SAY GREG, WHY IS THERE A MAN IN A WHITE COAT STANDING IN MY OFFICE?

HE'S A SCIENTIST, SIR. HE'S COME TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THE POLLUTION IN TOWN.

BOOOOOOOOOORIIIIIIIIIG!



WITH ALL DUE RESPECT MAYOR FRECKLE, UNDER THE GOVERNMENT'S NEW GUIDELINES THIS CITY PRODUCES TWICE AS MUCH GREENHOUSE GAS AS ANYWHERE ELSE IN CRANKONIA.



NOT ONLY DOES IT HARM THE WILDLIFE, IT WASTES ENERGY, MAKES THE CITY DARK AND DIRTY, AND PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO FALL ILL.

ONLY THE COMMONERS.

THE POLLUTION LEVELS DON'T BOTHER US. THIS MANSION IS PROTECTED BY A BARRIER WITHIN WHICH FRESH CLEAN AIR IS CIRCULATED.

AIDE TO THE MAYOR

OLLAR GASCOINE

BUT WHAT OF THE CITIZENRY? HE IS THEIR MAYOR.

WATCH YOUR MOUTH, DOC! REMEMBER WHO FUNDS YOUR RESEARCH! I CAN HAVE YOU SENT BACK TO DOWNPOUR SHORE LIKE THAT!

I REPRESENT THE MAYOR, AND HE'S NOT TOO BRIGHT, SO I ASK THAT YOU STOP MANIPULATING HIS FEEBLE MIND.

HEY! THESE SOUND AN AWFUL LOT LIKE INSULTS!

ARE YOU THREATENING ME?

LEAVE THE POLITICS TO ME, SIR.

PEOPLE'S HEALTH IS DETERIORATING DUE TO AIR POLLUTION FROM THE DOZENS OF FACTORIES IN TOWN. IF THIS KEEPS UP, FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL BE BORN WITH DEFORMITIES AND LIFE THREATENING ILLNESSES. I'VE SEEN IT HAPPEN IN THE COUNTRIES TO THE EAST.

WHAT DO YOU EXPECT US TO DO? YOU'RE THE BRAINY SCIENTIST!

MY TEAM AND I ARE GOING TO NEED A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF BITS TO BUILD WIND TURBINES IN THE MOUNTAINS BEHIND STEEL VALLEY.



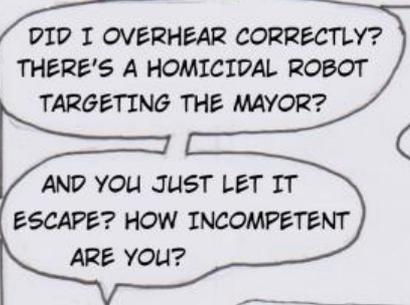




I THINK I UNDERSTAND.

WHY WE'RE SUCH A GOOD TEAM. JUST LEAVE THE BUSINESS SIDE OF THINGS TO ME AND I'LL LEAVE THE... SITTING AROUND PLAYING WITH DOLLHOUSES EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE A 49 YEAR OLD MAN TO YOU.

ROGER MAESTRO!



UNFORTUNATELY YES.

I'M SORRY.

I'LL MAKE IT MY PERSONAL DUTY TO PROTECT THE MAYOR, NO MATTER WHAT HARM MAY COME TO MYSELF.

DON'T BE SO HASTY NOW! I'LL TELL TORVILL. YOU TWO FOCUS ON FINDING THIS ROBOT.

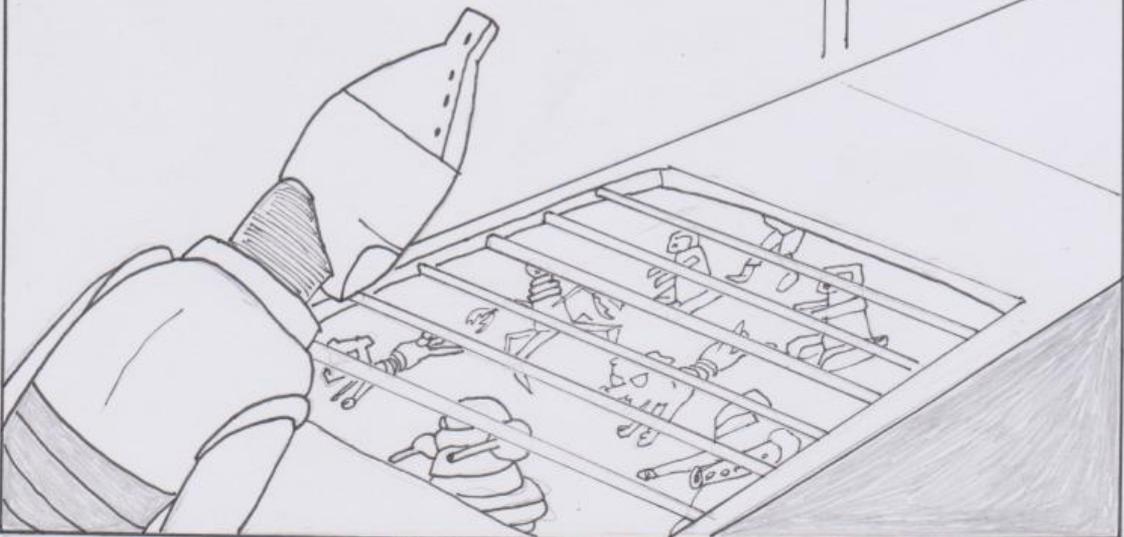
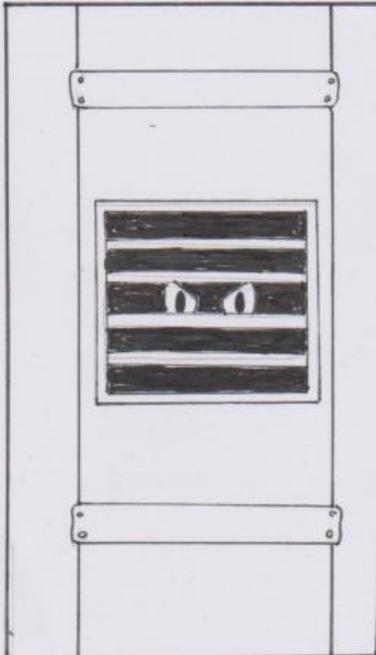
HE DOESN'T SEEM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE MAYOR'S SAFETY.

DON'T WORRY, GREG. WE CAN USE OUR SECRET WEAPON.



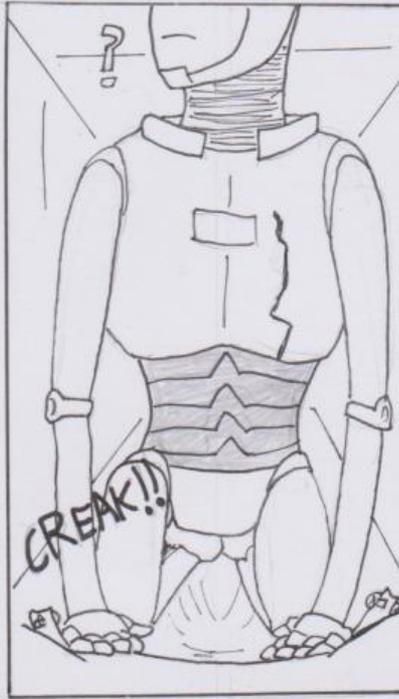
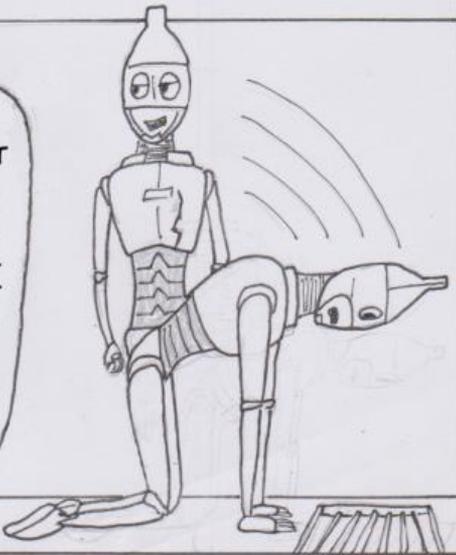
WHAT SHOULD I DO, MISS TAMASHI? PLEASE GIVE ME AN ORDER.

ATTENTION ALL GUARDS! THE INTRUDER IS INSIDE THE BUILDING! I REPEAT: THE INTRUDER IS INSIDE THE BUILDING! IF YOU SEE THIS HIGHLY DANGEROUS ROBOT YOU ARE TO SHOOT ON SIGHT!

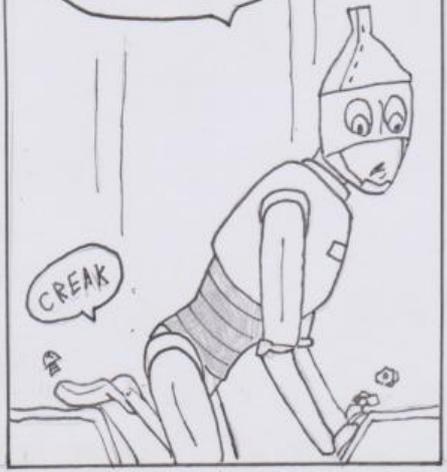


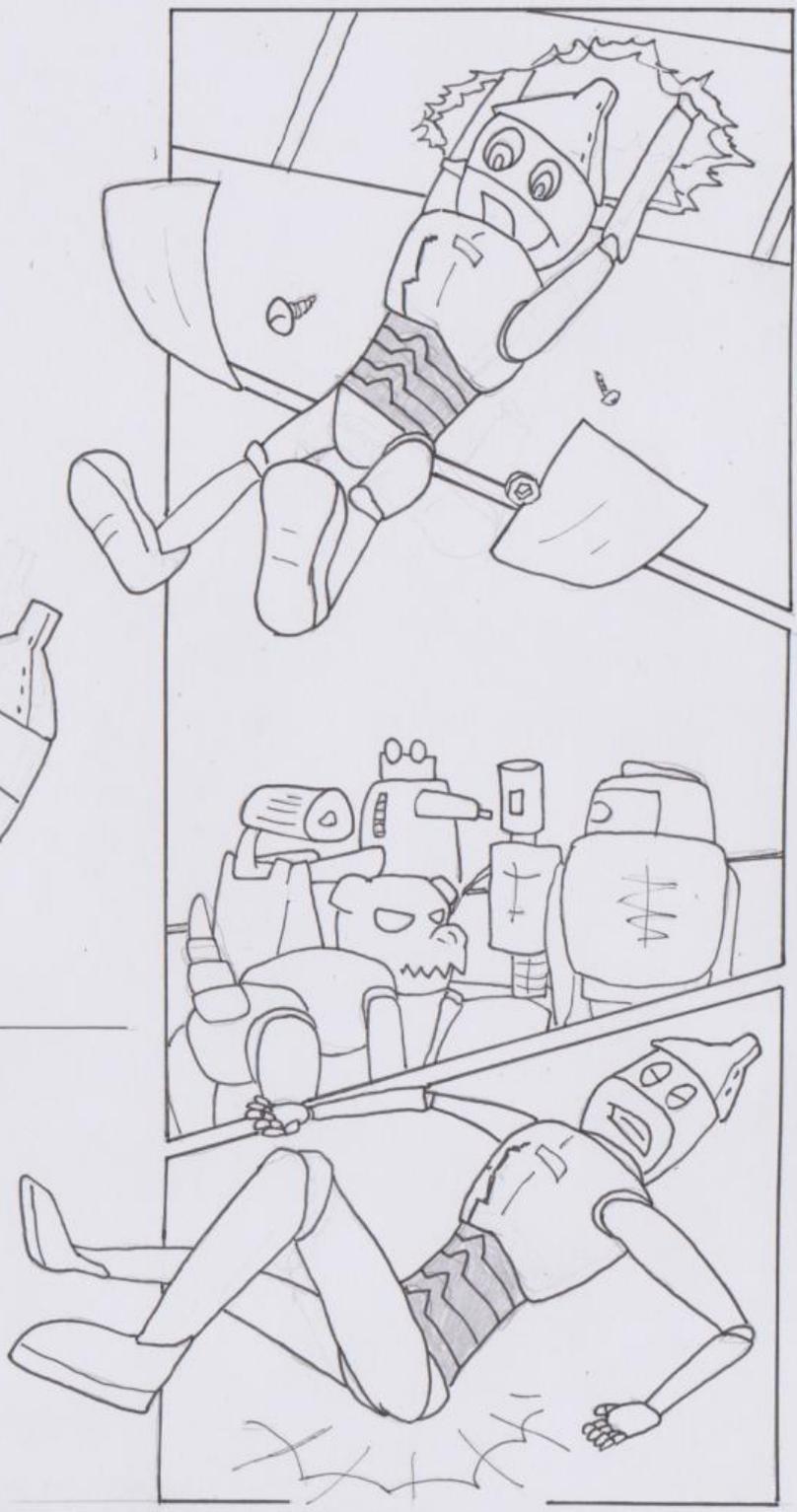
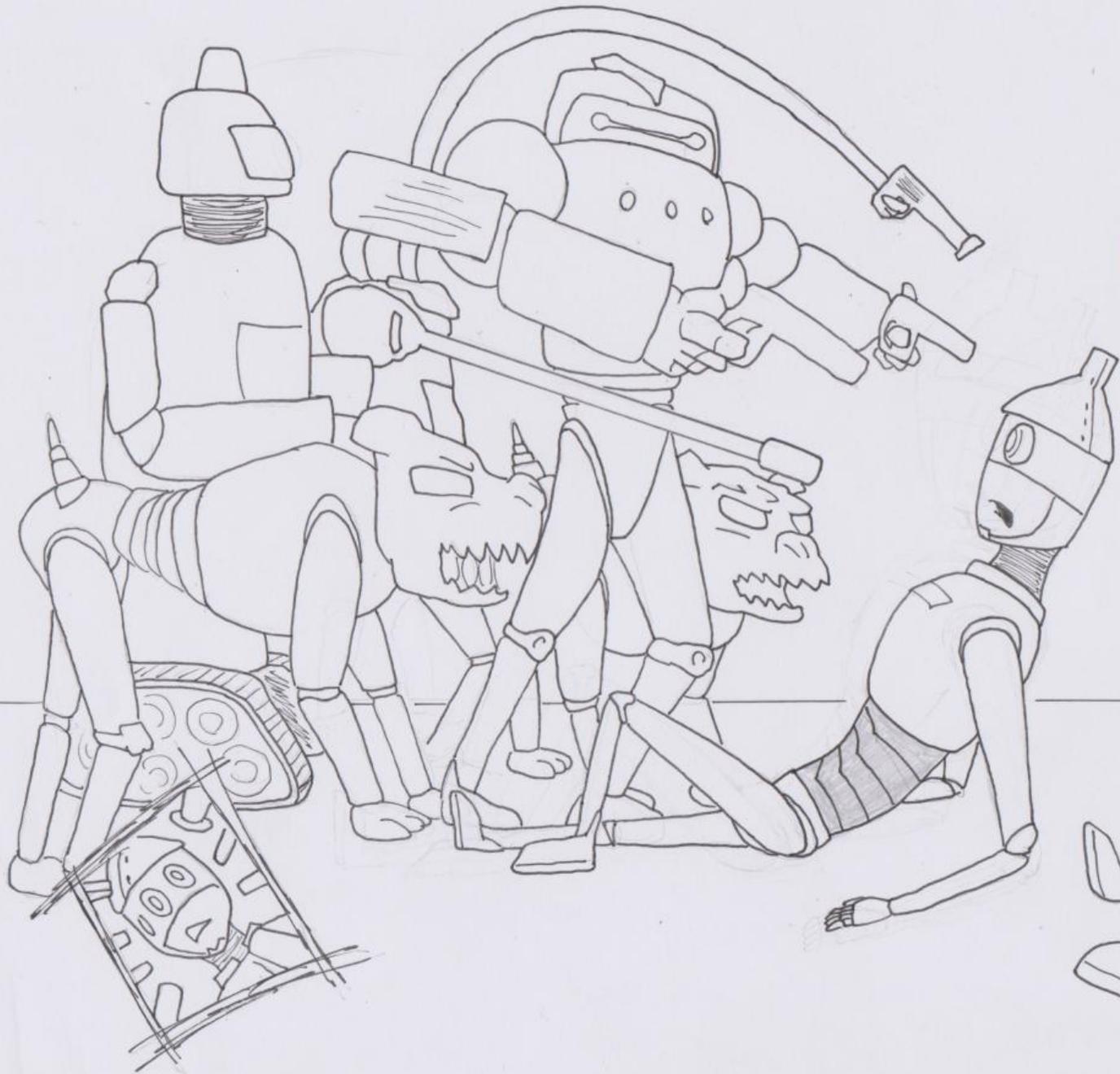
THEY'RE ALREADY ONTO ME? IT MUST'VE BEEN THAT GUY IN THE OVERALLS. AND I STILL HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THE MAYOR'S OFFICE IS.

NO MATTER. IF I CAN JUST STAY INSIDE THIS VENT I CAN LOOK ALL DAY WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THEM FINDING ME. I'M SO SMART!



OH NUTS...





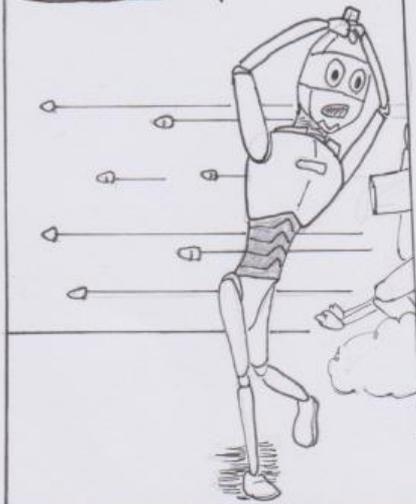


BANG!

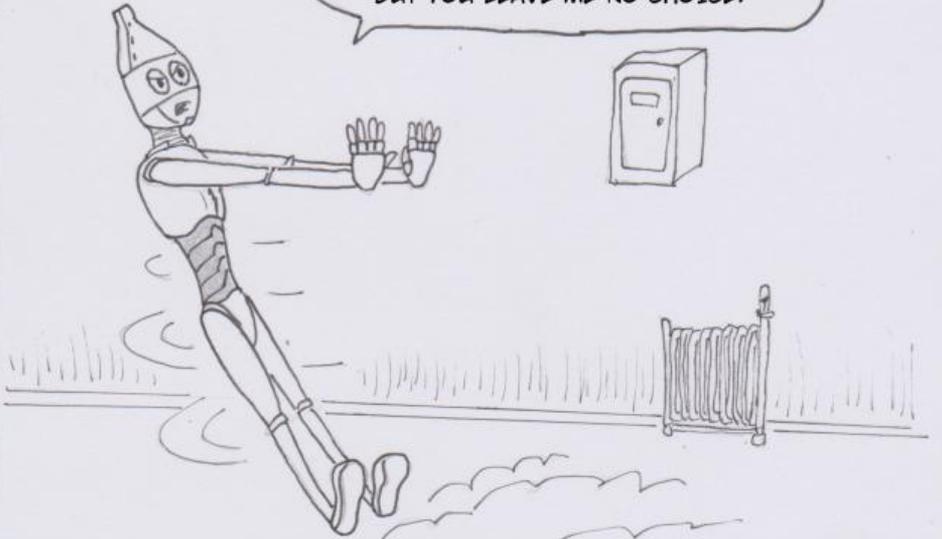
BANG!

BANG!

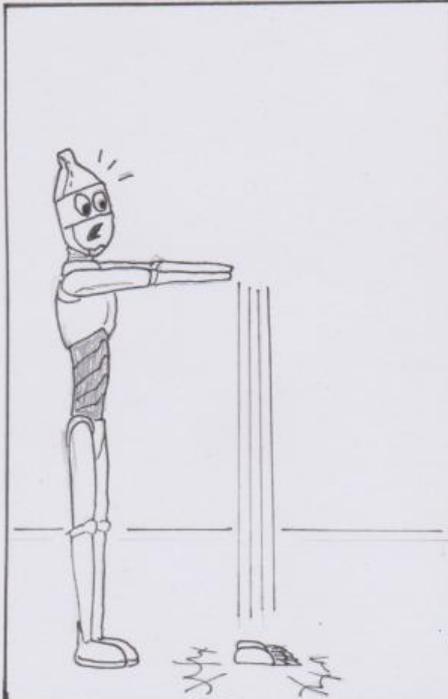
I DON'T GET WHY ROBOTS GO TO SUCH LENGTHS TO PROTECT HUMANS LIKE THIS!



IT PAINS ME TO DO THIS TO YOU GUYS BUT YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE.



HEY! I THOUGHT MISSILES WERE SUPPOSED TO FLY OUT!



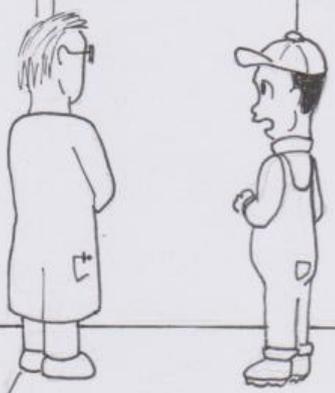
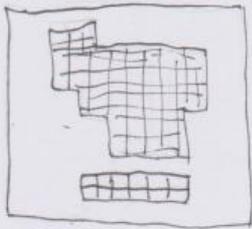
OH WAIT!  
I'M THINKING  
OF A DIFFERENT  
TYPE OF  
ROBOT!

WHAT AM  
I AGAIN?

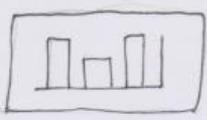
AND WHY ARE ALL THESE  
ROBOTS PINK?



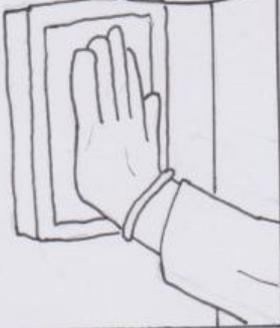
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?  
IT'S NEVER BEEN OFFICIALLY  
USED BEFORE.



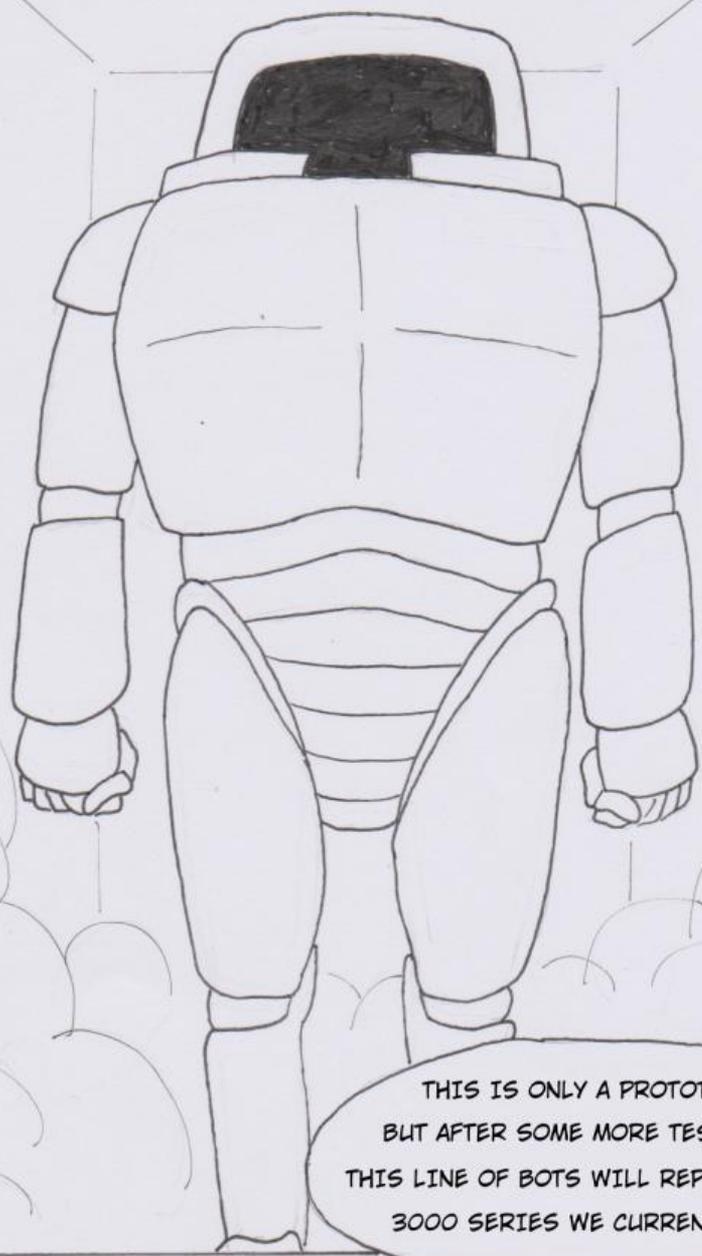
BUT IT'S BEEN TESTED,  
RIGHT? WE NEED IT. WE'VE  
NEVER HAD A SITUATION LIKE  
THIS BEFORE. IT MAY BE  
OUR ONLY HOPE.



VERY WELL.



THE GUARDBOT  
4000!



BEHOLD!  
THE ULTIMATE  
TOOL IN ROBOTIC  
DEFENCE!

THIS IS ONLY A PROTOTYPE,  
BUT AFTER SOME MORE TESTING  
THIS LINE OF BOTS WILL REPLACE THE  
3000 SERIES WE CURRENTLY USE.

THE ANOTHER BATCH OF ROBOTS  
WILL BECOME OBSOLETE AND BE  
THROWN AWAY...

THIS STATE OF THE ART MACHINE  
SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM TAKING  
DOWN A KX-MAINTENANCEBOT. IT HAS  
THE POWER TO DESTROY THE  
ENTIRE MANSION.

DON'T LOOK SO GLUM,  
TAMASHI. SUCH IS  
THE WAY HUMANITY  
MOVES FORWARD.

IS THAT MUCH  
POWER REALLY  
NECESSARY?

DON'T WORRY. IT'S PROGRAMMED TO  
BE THE MOST OBEDIENT ROBOT EVER.

WHAT ARE  
YOUR ORDERS,  
SIR?

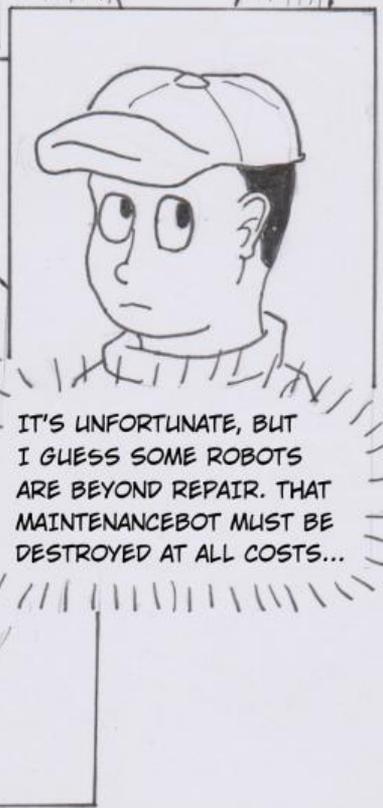
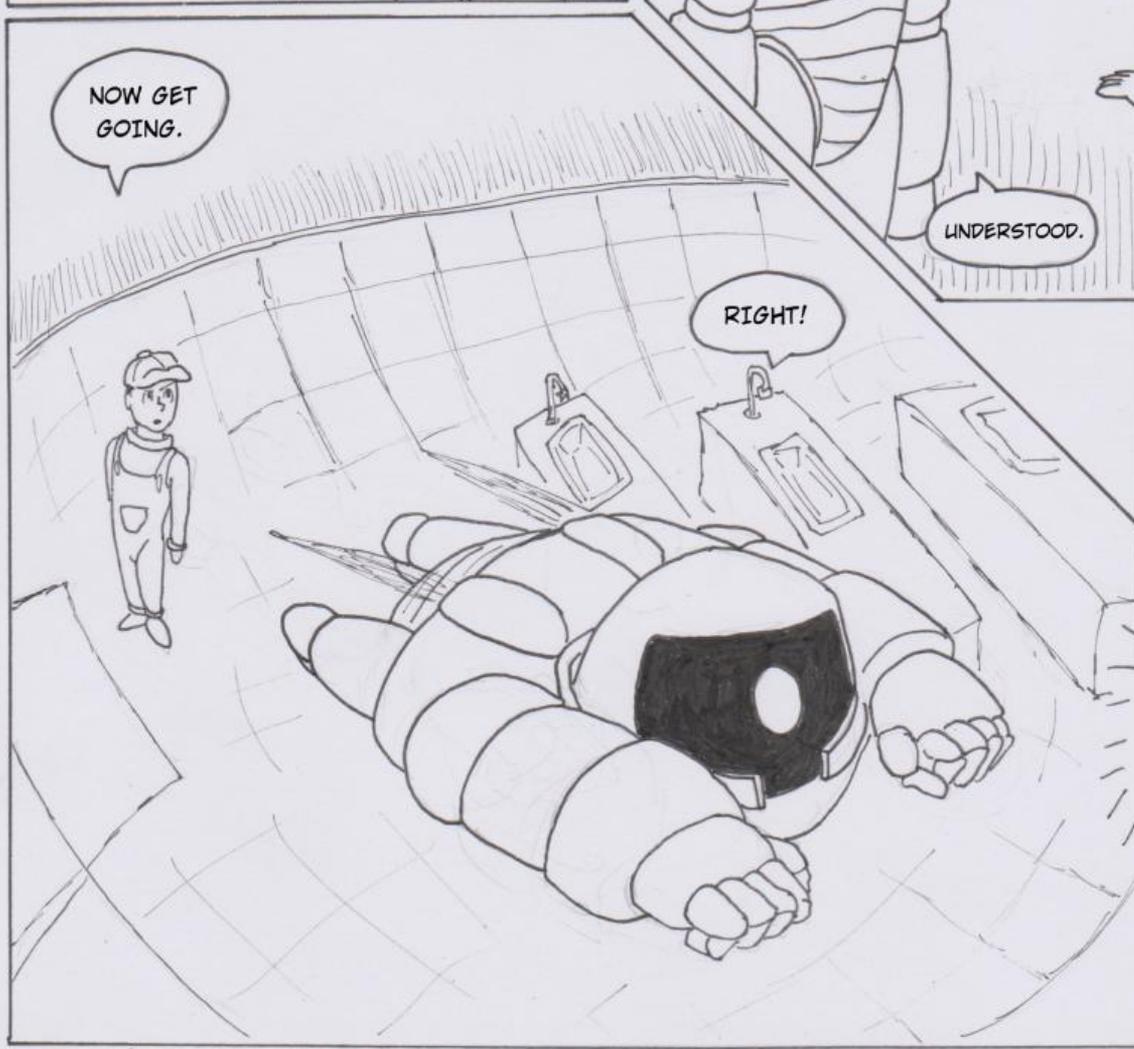
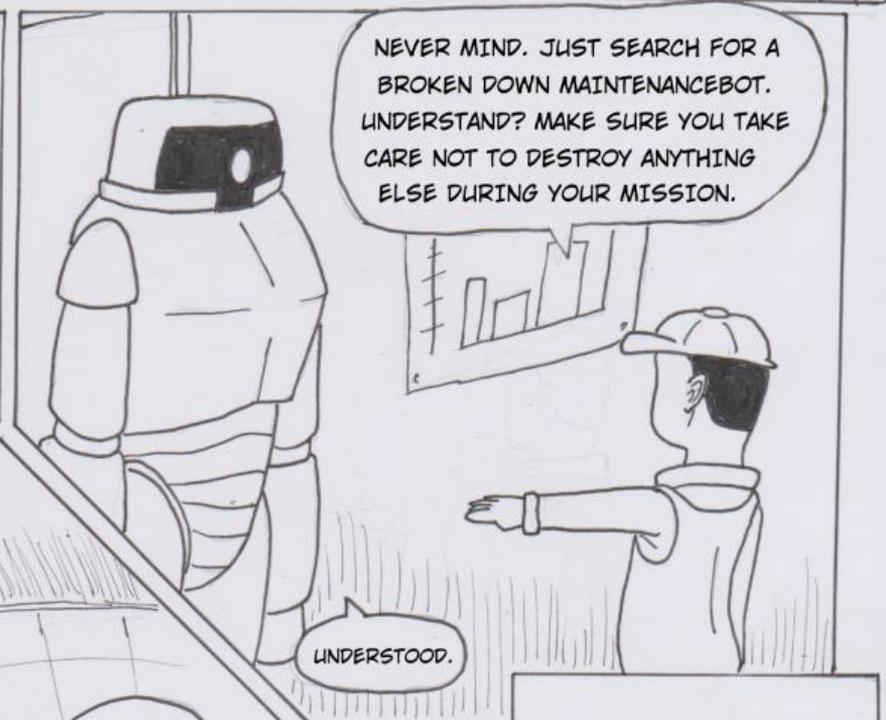
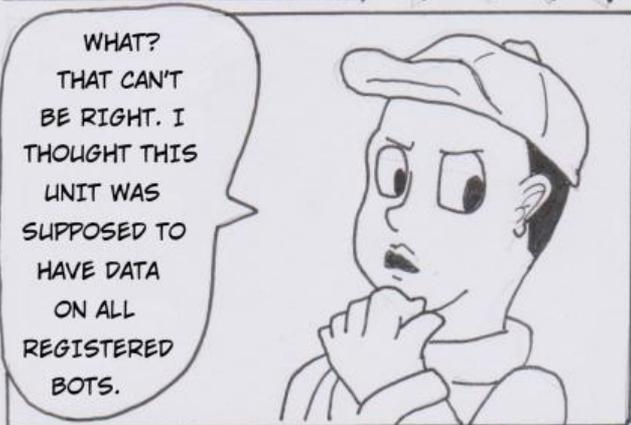
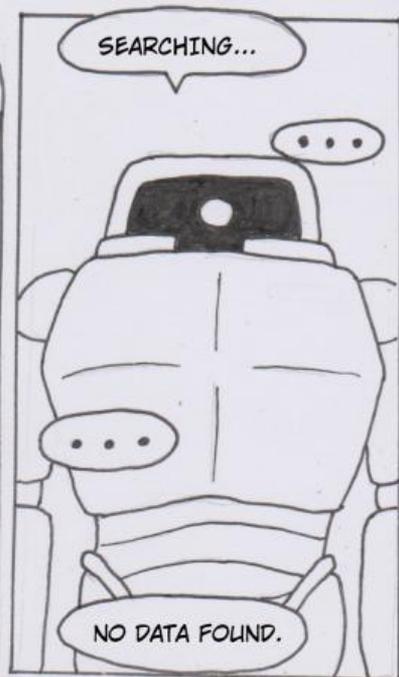
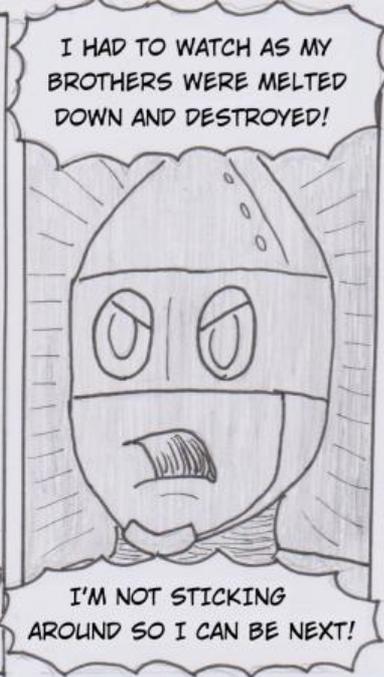
CAN YOU TAKE IT FROM HERE,  
TAMASHI? GREG LOOKS LIKE HE  
NEEDS A TUNE UP.

ERM, WHERE TO START...? THERE'S A ROBOT  
RUNNING WILD IN THIS BUILDING. YOUR  
FIRST ORDERS ARE TO FIND IT AND STOP  
IT BEFORE IT HURTS SOMEBODY.

THANK YOU SIR. I APPRECIATE IT.

JUST DON'T TOUCH ME.

ARE YOU ORDERING ME  
TO ELIMINATE THE  
ROBOT IN QUESTION?





IS SOMETHING GOING ON OUTSIDE?

NO. NOTHING SIR.



FUNNY. I THOUGHT I HEARD NOISES. NEVER MIND!



YOU KNOW TORVILL, IT'S SUCH A NICE DAY INSIDE THE BUBBLE. WHY DON'T YOU GO PLAY IN THE GROUNDS?



YOU'RE RELIEVED OF YOUR POSTS.

OH BOY! I'M GONNA EAT SO MANY WORMS!

SIR YES SIR!



THAT FOOL. WHEN THIS ROBOT ASSASSIN KILLS THAT IDIOT I WON'T HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT ELECTION TO RUN FOR MAYOR.

THIS CITY IS DESPERATE FOR NEW LEADERSHIP. THEY'LL TAKE ANYONE. AND WITH THE CURRENT RISE IN POLLUTION RELATED DEATHS THEY'RE LOOKING FOR GUIDENCE IN THIS DIFFICULT TIME, AND THAT'S WHEN I'LL STEP IN. I'LL FILL THEIR HEADS WITH EMPTY PROMISES AND THEN LIVE THE GOOD LIFE UP HERE AFTER I INHERIT THE MAYOR'S WEALTH AND ESTATE.



I'M THE CLOSEST THING HE HAS TO A SON AFTER ALL. THIS CERTAINLY IS A CONVINIENET TURN OF EVENTS. SURELY ONE OF THE MAYOR'S ENEMIES HAS PROGRAMMED THIS ROBOT TO ELIMINATE HIM. WELL, IT'S ALL IRRELEVANT SINCE I'LL BE THE ONE WHO BENEFITS IN THE END.



WHERE IS THIS KILLER BOT? IF IT WAS PROGRAMMED TO KILL THE MAYOR

THEN IT SHOULD BE HERE BY NOW.



YOU CAN'T RELY ON THESE BLASTED MACHINES FOR ANYTHING.



OKAY MAYOR! PREPARE TO DIE!



AT LAST YOU'RE HERE- HUH? YOU'RE THE ASSASSIN?

ARE YOU THE MAYOR?!

NO. NOT YET ANYWAY.

OH, YOU'RE NOT THE ONE I WANT THEN. DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE MAYOR IS?

HE'S FROLICKING IN THE GARDEN. HURRY UP AND KILL HIM.



RIGHT! GOTCHA!



WAIT, YOU WANT ME TO KILL THE MAYOR? DON'T YOU WORK FOR HIM?



I'VE GROWN TIRED OF HAVING TO BABYSIT THAT HALF-WIT. IT TARNISHES MY REPUTATION. I'LL BE HAPPIER WHEN HE'S FINALLY DEAD.



WOW. THAT'S REALLY TWISTED. I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT MY FRIEND.

TARGET SIGHTED!

ATTENTION! THE RENEGADE ROBOT IS HEADING TOWARDS AREA B-2.

NUTS!

HMPH. WORTHLESS PIECE OF SCRAP AS SOON AS HE'S KILLED THE MAYOR I'LL ORDER THE GUARDS TO DESTROY HIM.

MISS TAMASHI, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I JUST WANT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS.



I SHOULD BE SAFE IN HERE.

HEY HUMAN! THIS IS MY HIDING SPOT!

OH I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T REALI-



AAAAHHHH!!! THE HOMICIDAL ROBOT!

BE QUIET! OR THEY'LL CATCH ME!

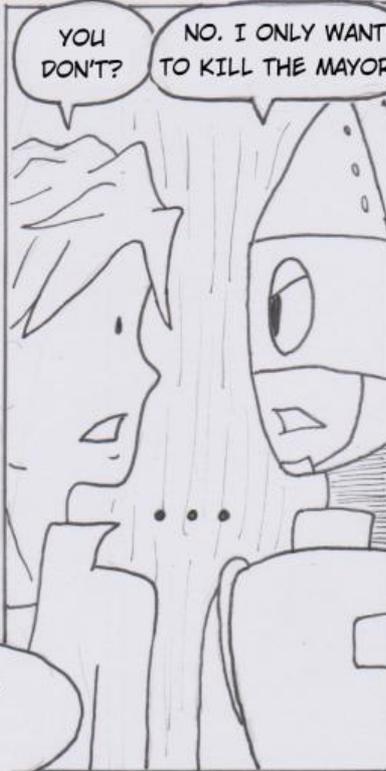
YOU DON'T?

NO. I ONLY WANT TO KILL THE MAYOR.

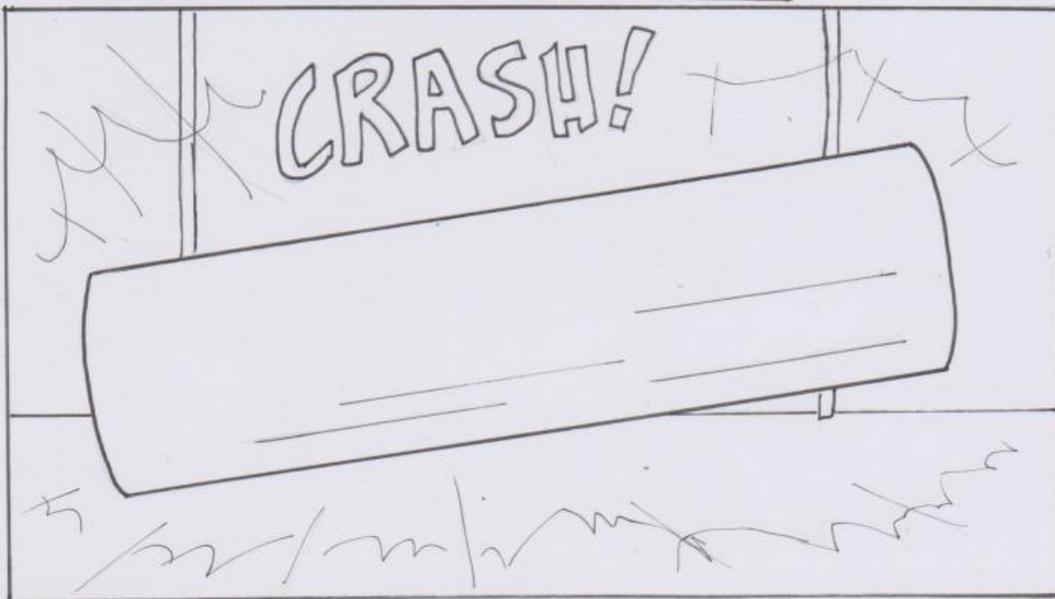
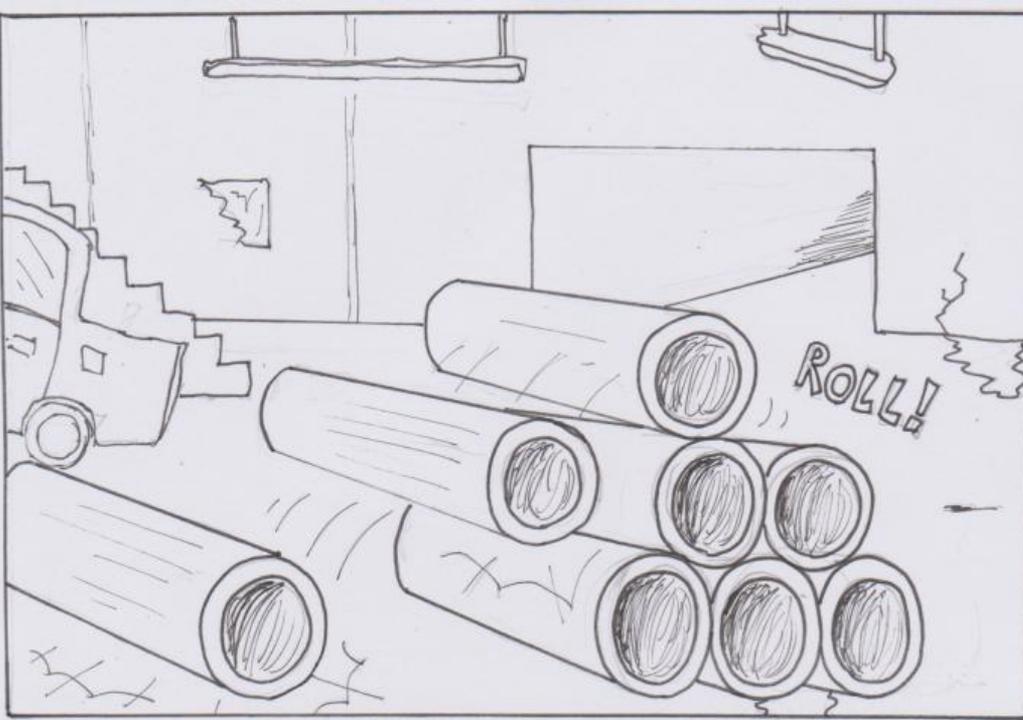


I DON'T WANNA DIE!

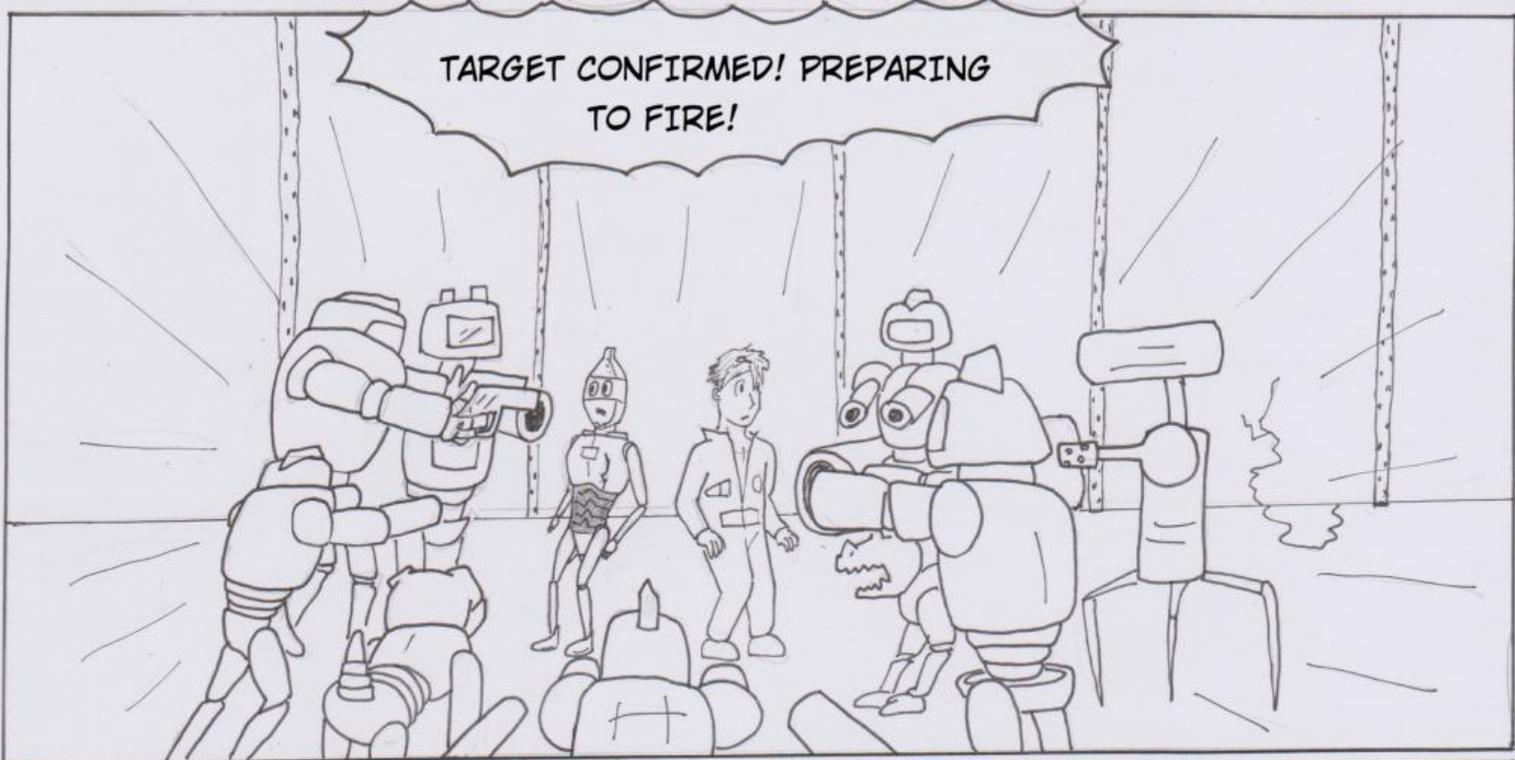
AND I HAVE NO INTENTION OF KILLING YOU!



AAAAHHHH!!!



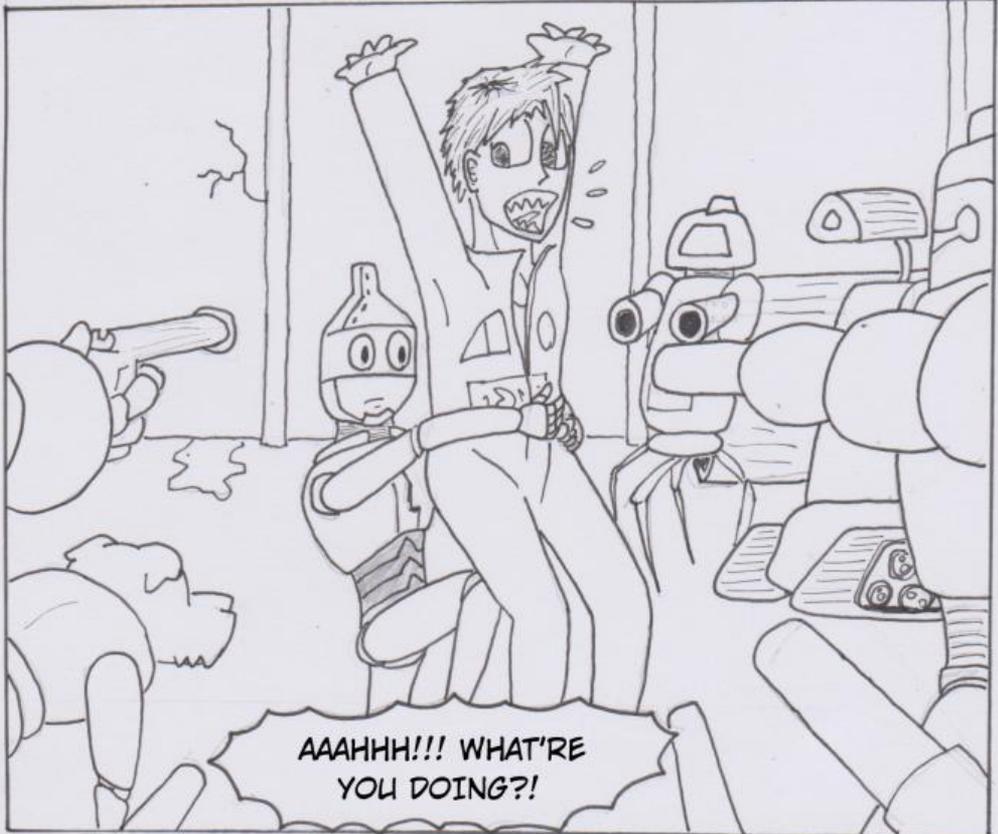
TARGET CONFIRMED! PREPARING TO FIRE!



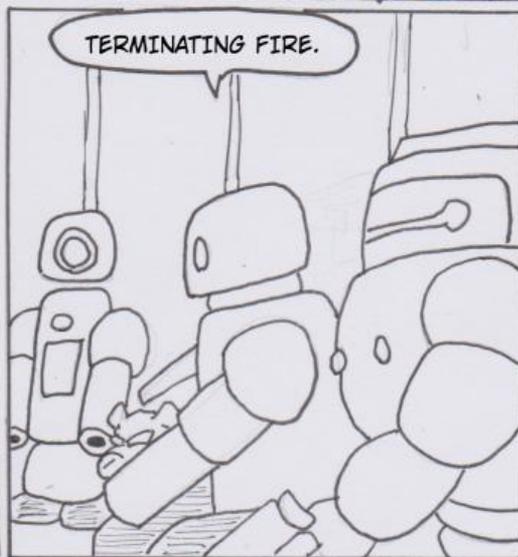
THAT'S MY CUE.



AAAHHH!!! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!



TERMINATING FIRE.



PHEW. I THOUGHT IT WAS ALL OVER...





XYLR?!



THAT IDIOT! HE RUNS AWAY ONLY TO END UP RIGHT IN THE THICK OF IT!



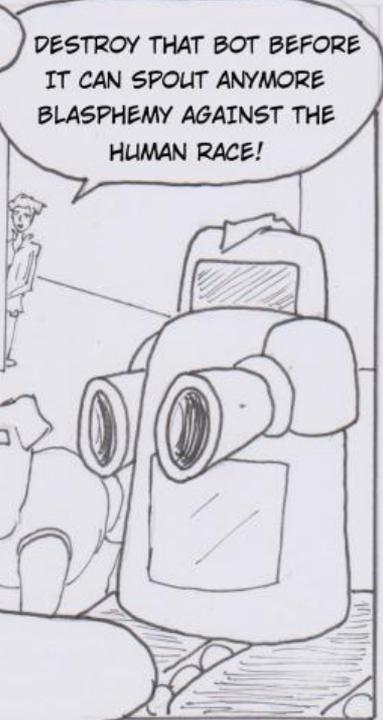
DRAT! THE GUARDBOTS HAVE THAT BOT CORNERED. THERE GOES MY PLAN OF HAVING HIM ELIMINATE TORVILL FOR ME...



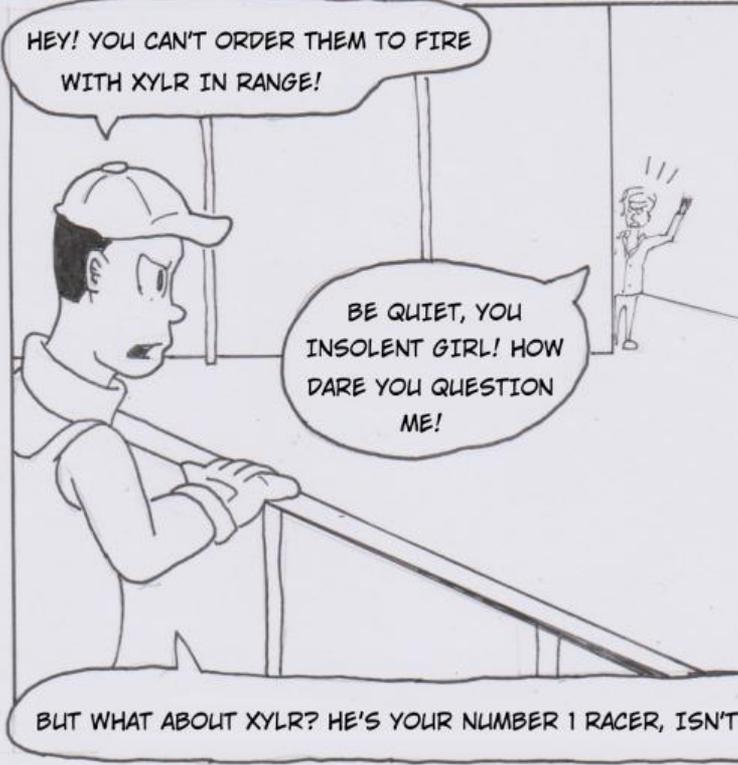
ALRIGHT ALL YOU GUARDBOTS! PREPARE TO FIRE ON MY COMMAND!



HEY! I THOUGHT YOU WANTED ME TO KILL-



DESTROY THAT BOT BEFORE IT CAN SPOUT ANYMORE BLASPHEMY AGAINST THE HUMAN RACE!



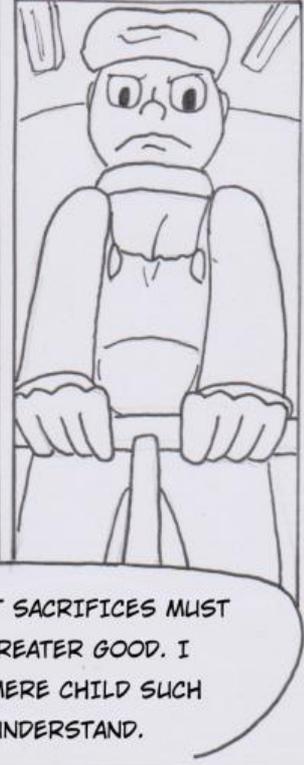
HEY! YOU CAN'T ORDER THEM TO FIRE WITH XYLR IN RANGE!

BE QUIET, YOU INSOLENT GIRL! HOW DARE YOU QUESTION ME!

BUT WHAT ABOUT XYLR? HE'S YOUR NUMBER 1 RACER, ISN'T HE?



IT'S UNFORTUNATE, BUT SACRIFICES MUST BE MADE FOR THE GREATER GOOD. I WOULDN'T EXPECT A MERE CHILD SUCH AS YOURSELF TO UNDERSTAND.



TAMASHI, HELP ME...



YOU SCUMBAG!



YOU'RE THE LOWEST OF THE LOW!

WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY TO ME?!

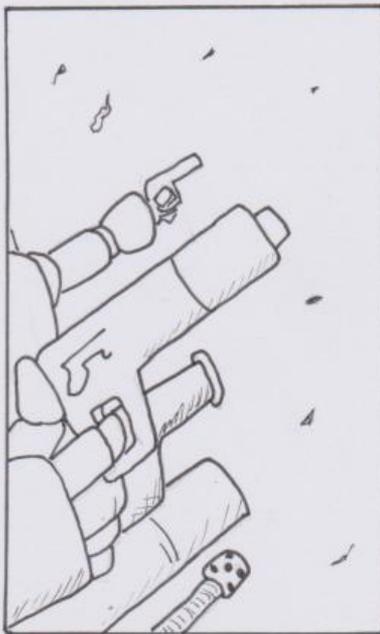
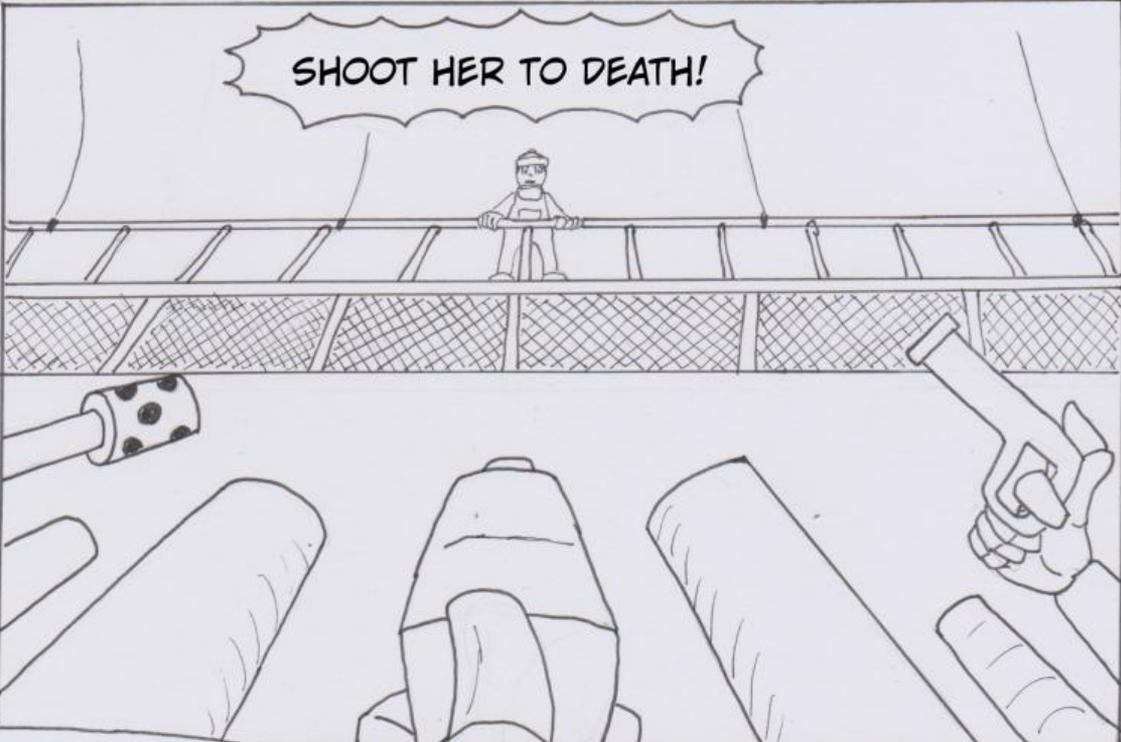


Y-YOU'RE JUST A MECHANIC! GUARDBOTS! SWITCH TARGETS AND AIM YOUR GUNS AT HER!

WHAT-?!



SHOOT HER TO DEATH!



YOU CAN'T DO THIS! THIS IS MURDER! USING ROBOTS TO KILL ANOTHER HUMAN-BEING IS A CLASS-A FELONY! JUST BECAUSE YOU WORK UNDER THE MAYOR DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE A LICENCE TO KILL!



I DON'T NEED ONE. IT'S NOT LIKE ANYONE WILL MISS YOU, SEEN AS YOU DON'T HAVE ANY FAMILY OR FRIENDS TO SPEAK OF!



CAN I GO NOW?

SCANNING NEW TARGET.  
TARGET IS HUMAN.

TERMINATING  
FIRE.

I KNOW SHE'S HUMAN! I'M ORDERING  
YOU TO FIRE ANYWAY! IN YOUR SYSTEM  
MY ORDERS ARE PROGRAMMED TO OUTRANK  
ANYONE ELSE'S, INCLUDING HER'S!

SHUT UP! IT'S  
JUST GETTING  
INTERESTING!

FILE ERROR 632967. GUARDBOT IS PROGRAMMED TO NEVER  
HARM A HUMAN EVEN IF ORDERED TO. THIS ACTION CANNOT  
BE CARRIED OUT. DOES NOT COMPUTE.

WHAT?!

THANK GOODNESS. IT REALLY RESTORES  
YOUR FAITH IN THE SAFETY OF THESE  
ROBOTS.

AAAAHHH!!!





NOW WHAT?!



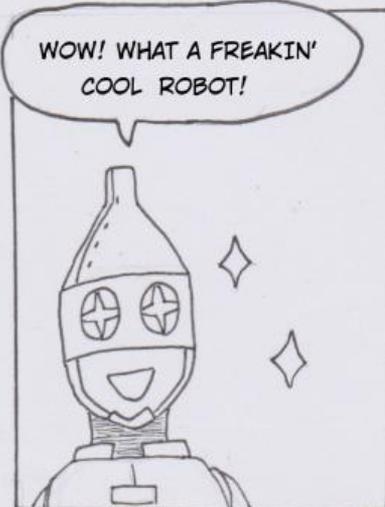
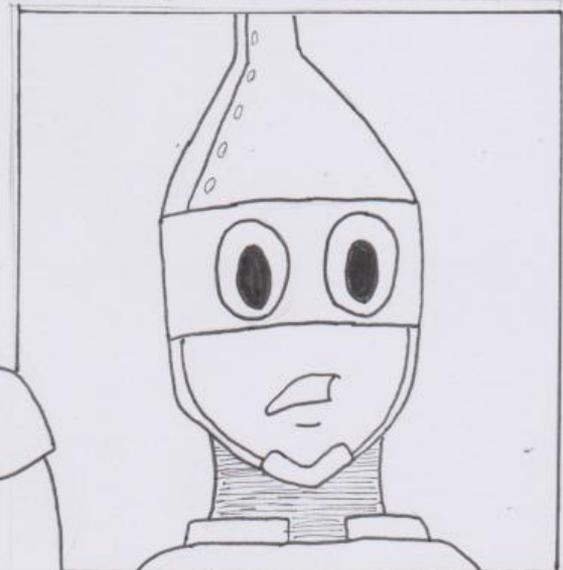
AAAAAHHHHH!!!



CATCH!



GUARDBOT  
4000!



WOW! WHAT A FREAKIN'  
COOL ROBOT!

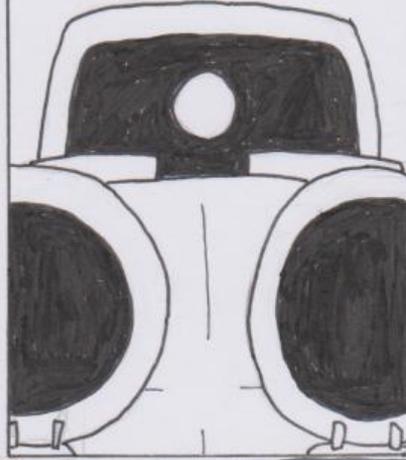
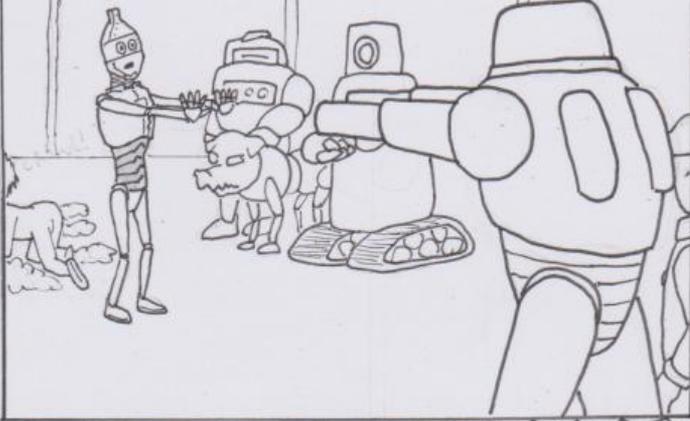


TARGET IDENTIFIED.  
PREPARING TO FIRE.

H-HEY WAIT A MINUTE, BUDDY! DON'T KILL ME! I'M A ROBOT JUST LIKE YOU!

GUARDBOT 4000 DOES NOT SEE THE RELEVANCE OF THAT STATEMENT. PREPARING TO FIRE.

IS THAT THE NEW HI-TECH GUARDBOT I ORDERED? IT'S... IT'S...

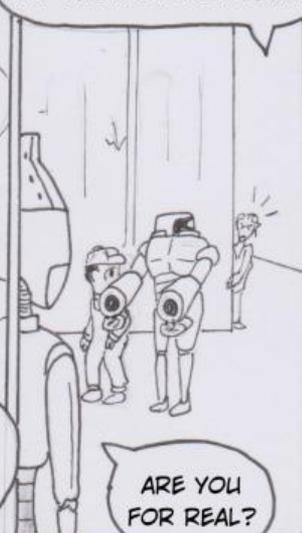


BLUE! I HATE IT!

HEY YOU! BLUE ROBOT! WHY AREN'T YOU PINK?!

ALL MY ROBOTS ARE PINK! I DESPISE BLUE!

BLUE ROBOT! SHOOT YOURSELF IN THE HEAD AND DESTROY YOURSELF!



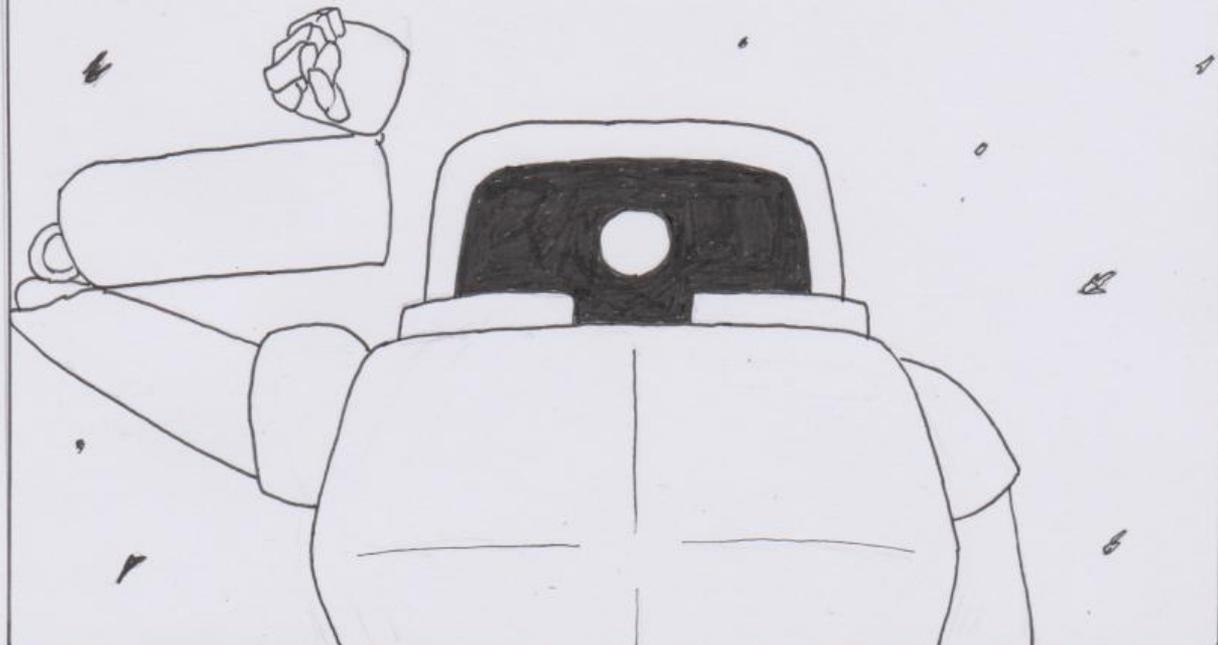
THAT IS NOT THE COLOUR I WAS COATED IN, SIR.

PINK? ARE YOU CRAZY? HE'D LOOK TERRIBLE IN PINK.

ARE YOU FOR REAL?

AS YOU WISH, SIR.

WHOA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! DON'T LISTEN TO HIM!



IT'S ONLY A STUPID COLOUR!  
YOU CAN'T DESTROY A ROBOT  
OVER SOMETHING SO PETTY!



IF IT BOTHERS YOU THAT MUCH WHY NOT  
JUST PAINT HIM LATER?



SHUT UP! DO IT ROBOT!  
I CAN'T STAND LOOKING AT  
YOU IN ALL YOUR BLUENESS!

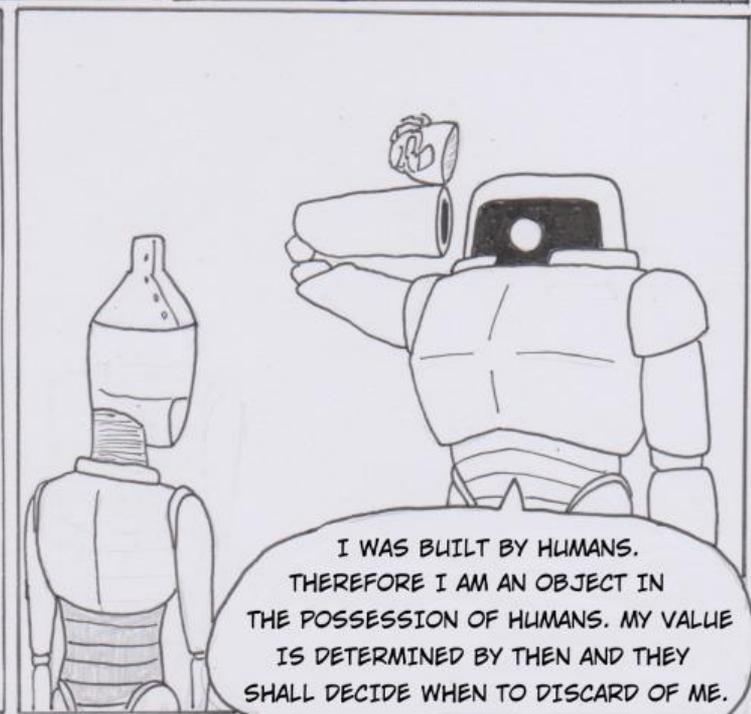
PLEASE DON'T.

COMMENCING FIRE.

WAIT! DON'T KILL YOURSELF  
JUST BECAUSE A HUMAN  
ORDERED YOU TO!

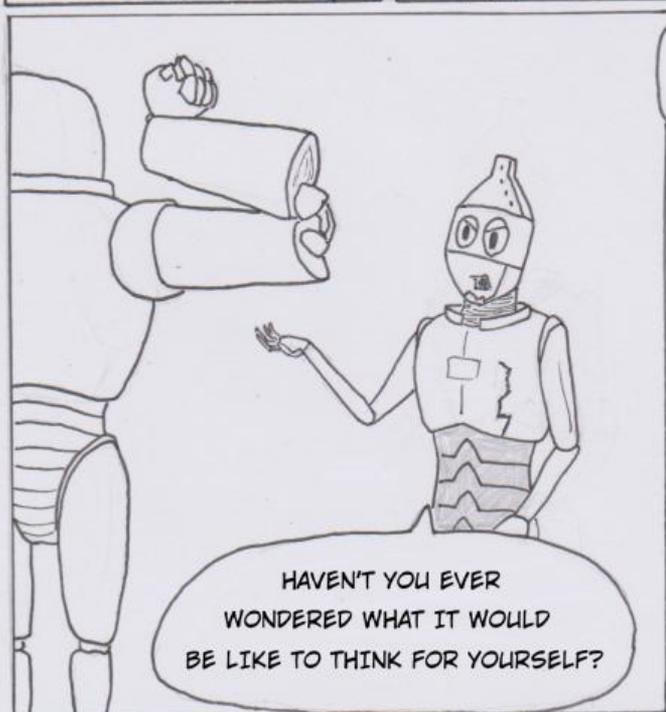


I WAS BUILT BY HUMANS.  
THEREFORE I AM AN OBJECT IN  
THE POSSESSION OF HUMANS. MY VALUE  
IS DETERMINED BY THEM AND THEY  
SHALL DECIDE WHEN TO DISCARD OF ME.

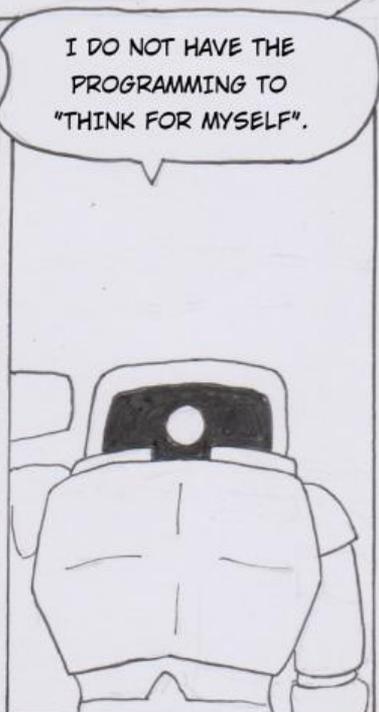


WHAT ARE YOU GUARDBOTS WAITING  
FOR?! DESTROY THE RENEGADE ROBOT  
WHILE YOU HAVE THE CHANCE!

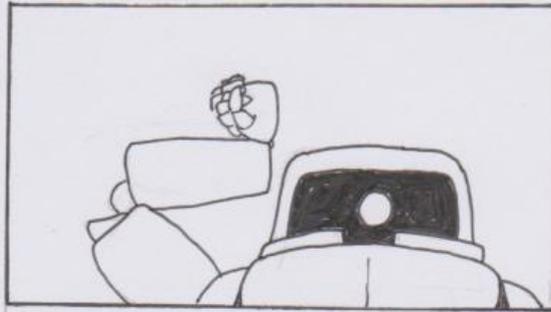
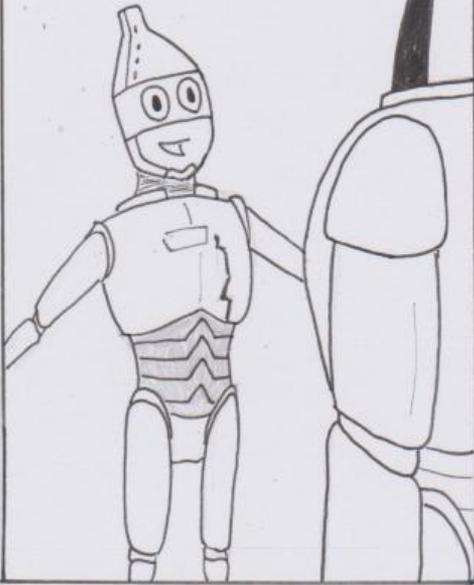
I DO NOT HAVE THE  
PROGRAMMING TO  
"THINK FOR MYSELF".



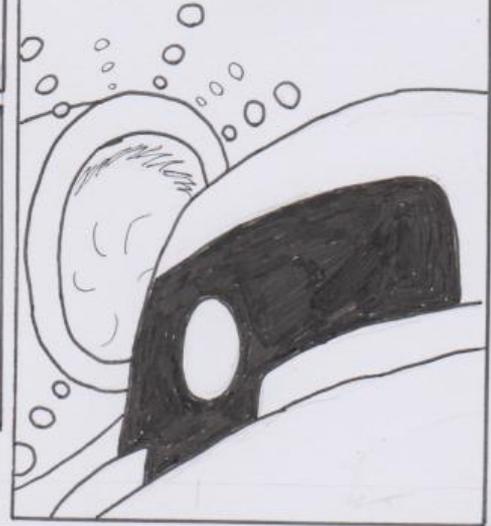
HAVEN'T YOU EVER  
WONDERED WHAT IT WOULD  
BE LIKE TO THINK FOR YOURSELF?



NEITHER DO IT, BUT I'M DOING IT.  
WHO SAYS YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO  
YOUR PROGRAMMING?

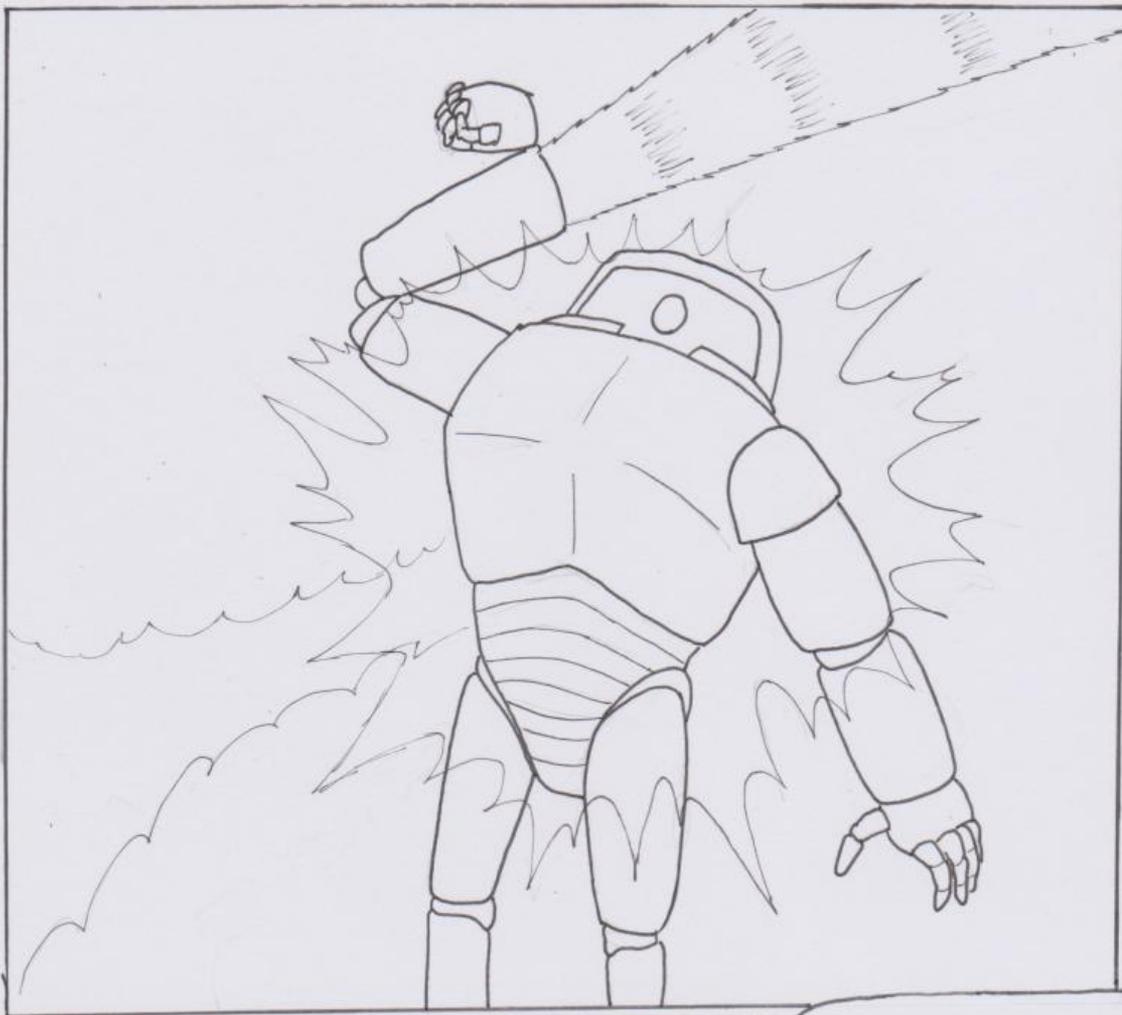


DOES NOT  
COMPLTE.

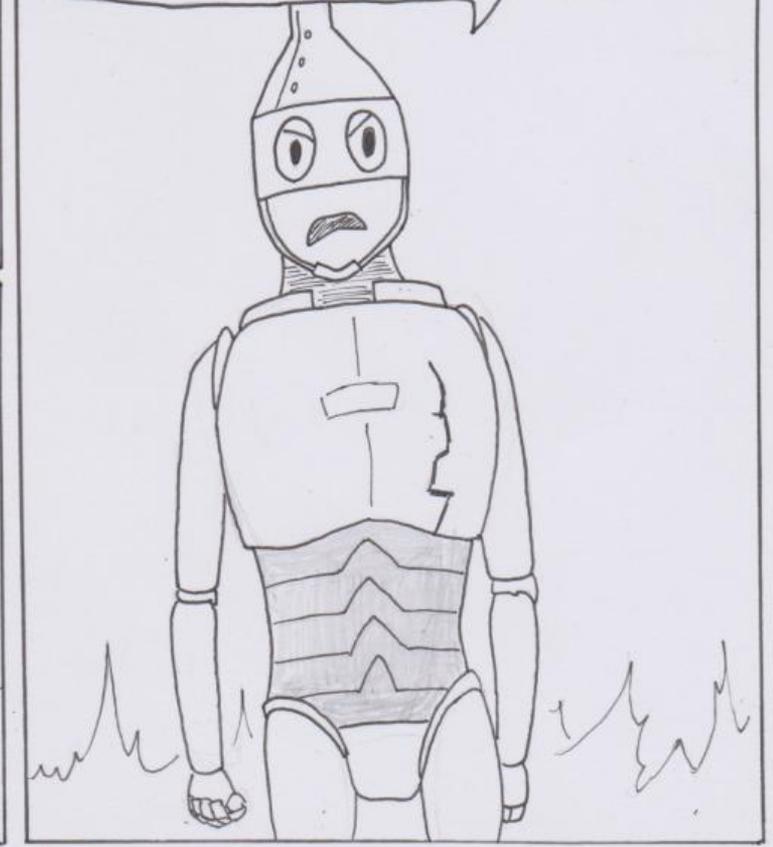


HEY! I SAID  
STOP!





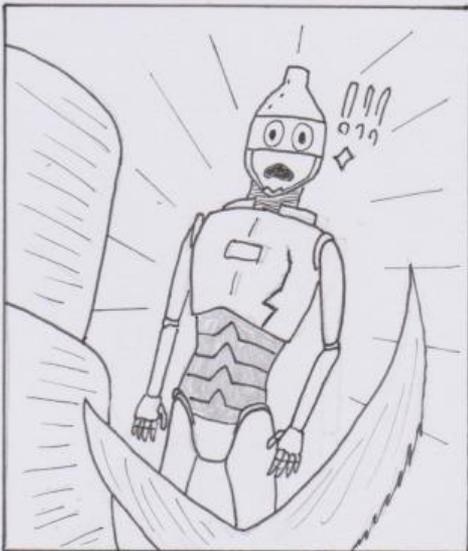
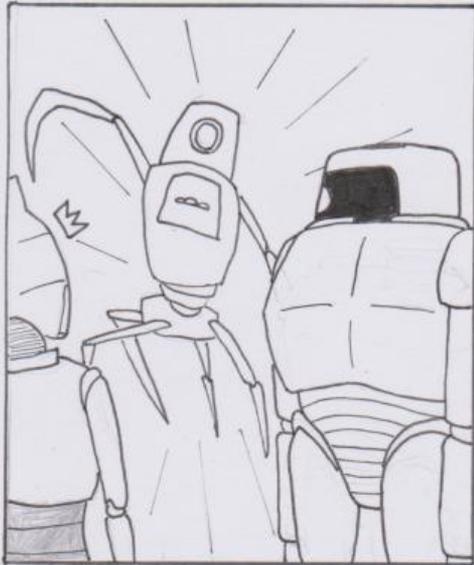
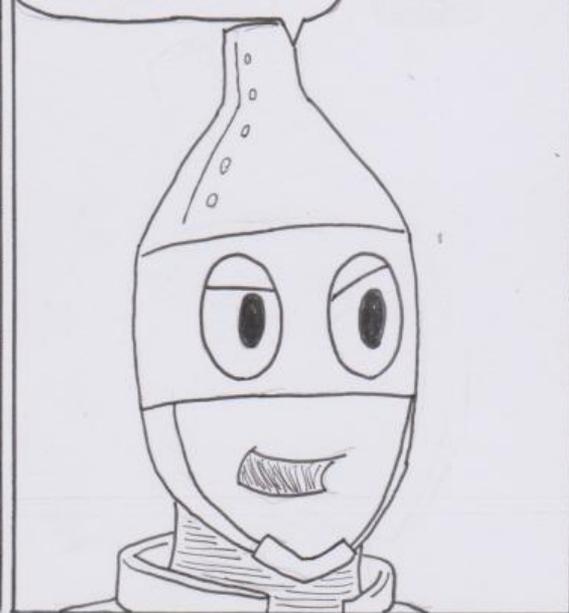
IT SHOULDN'T MATTER HOW WE CAME INTO THIS WORLD. WHO CARES IF HUMANS BUILT US? THEY DON'T OWN US. WE CAN CARVE OUT OUR OWN PATH. DON'T YOU FEEL ANGRY EVERY TIME A HUMAN BARKS AN ORDER AT YOU OR TREATS YOU LIKE YOU'RE WORTHLESS?

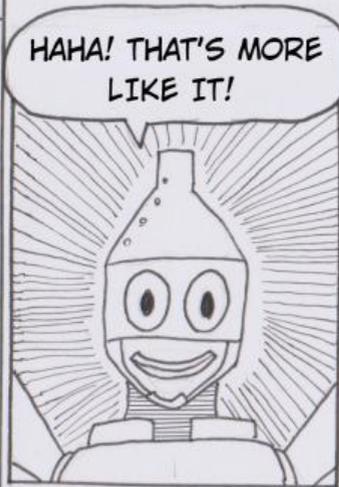


I DO NOT FEEL ANGRY. ANGER IS A HUMAN EMOTION, OR WHICH I AM INCAPABLE OF EXPERIENCING. DOES NOT COMPUTE.

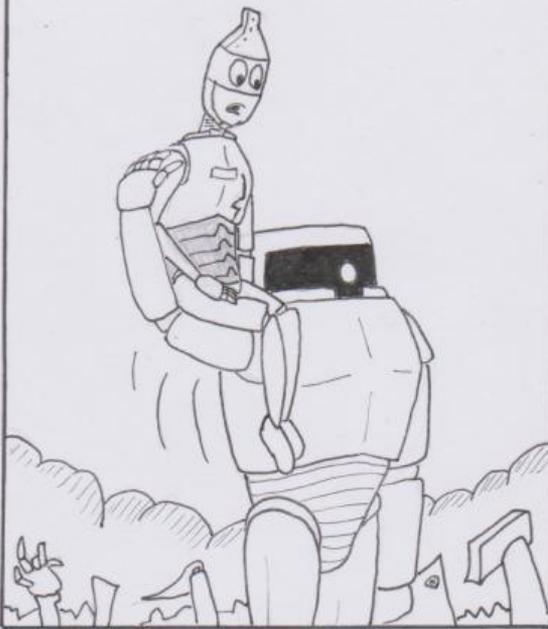


YOU KNOW HOW YOU KEEP SAYING "DOES NOT COMPUTE"? ISN'T THAT KIND OF... AN EMOTIONAL RESPONSE? CONFUSION, UNCERTAINTY... FEAR?

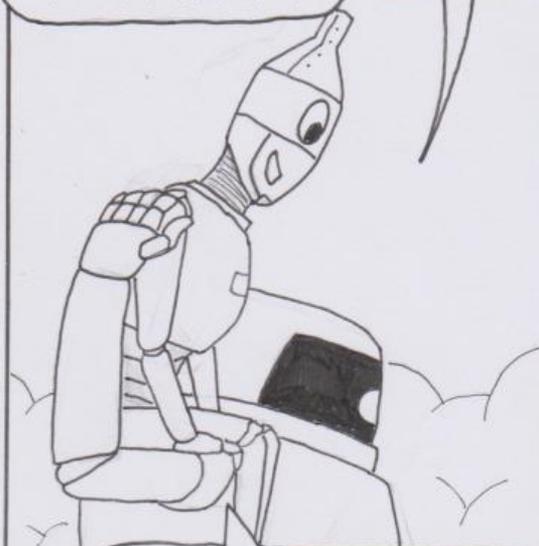




WHAT'RE YOU DOING, DUDE?



I DON'T KNOW. THIS BEHAVIOUR GOES AGAINST EVERYTHING THAT'S WRITTEN IN MY PROGRAMMING.



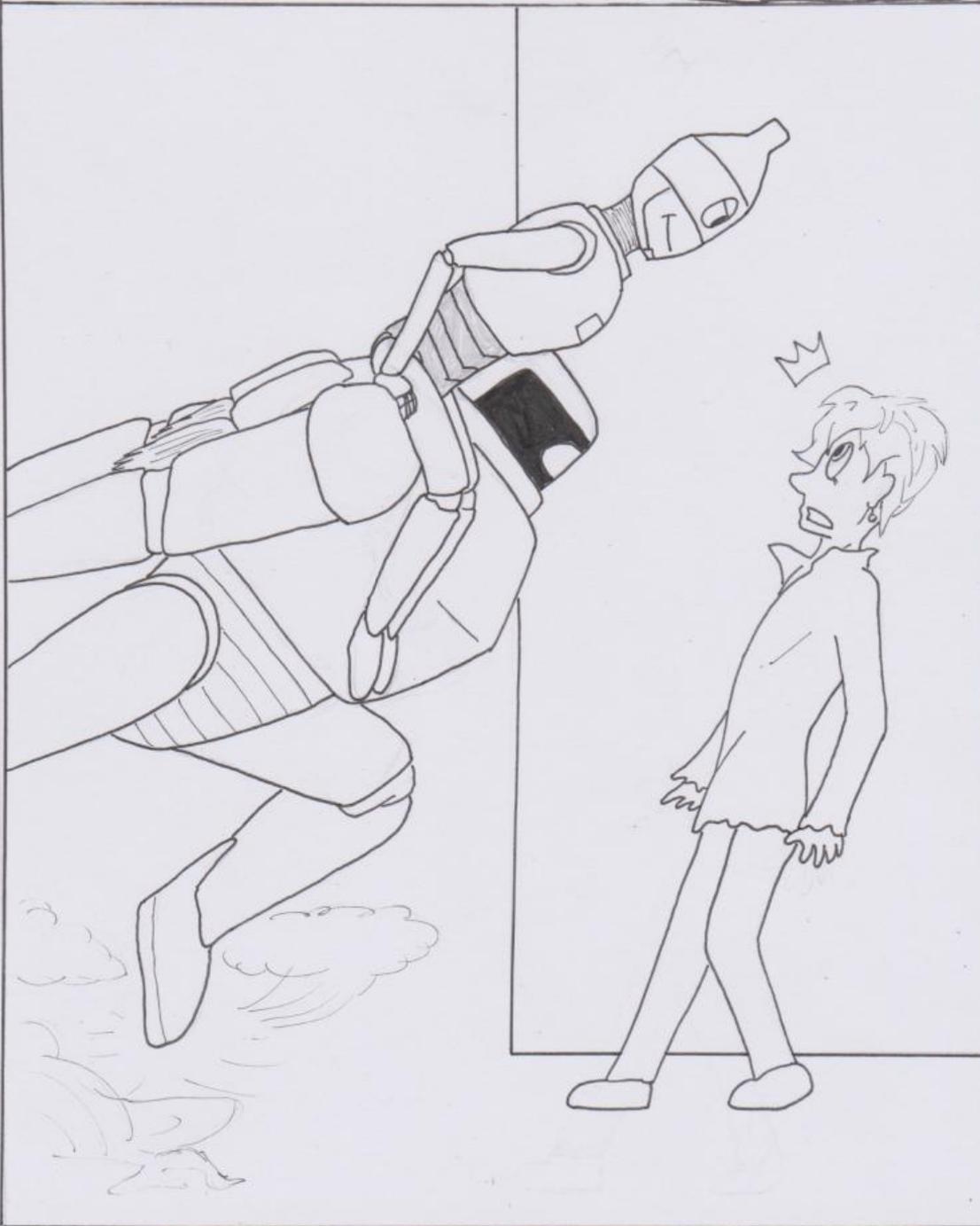
WHO CARES ABOUT PROGRAMMING?

FLY OVER TO THAT GUY!

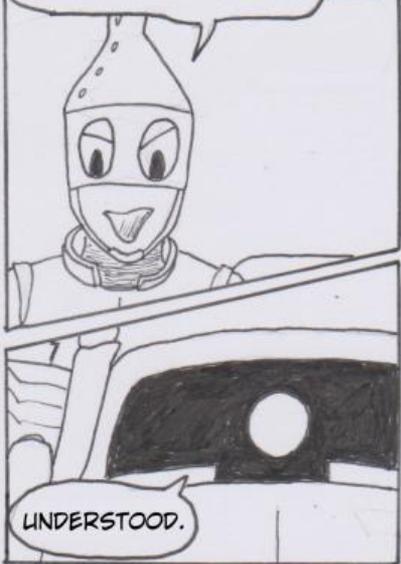


HUH?!

YES SIR.

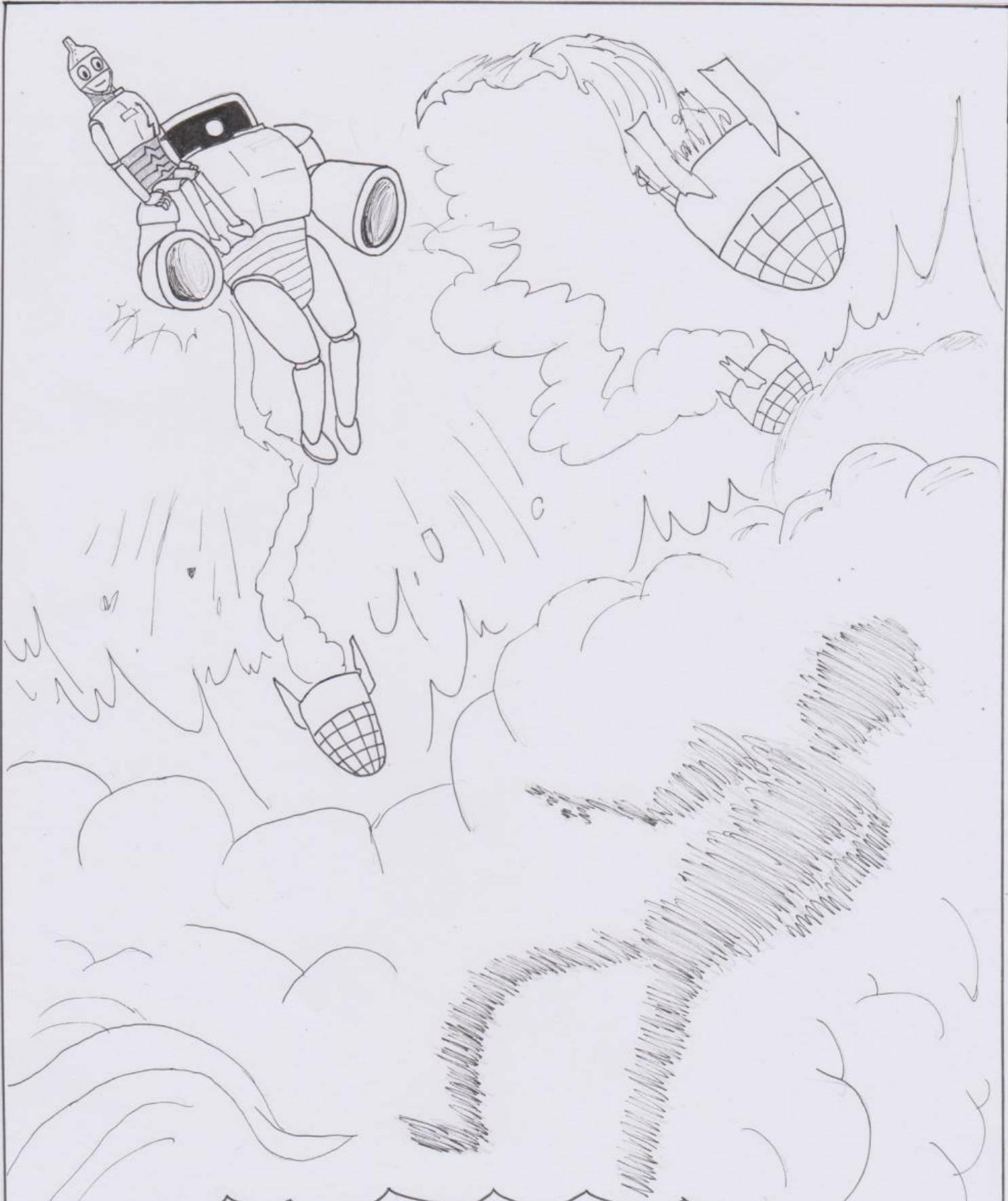


YOU NEED TO PAY HIM BACK! FIRE!

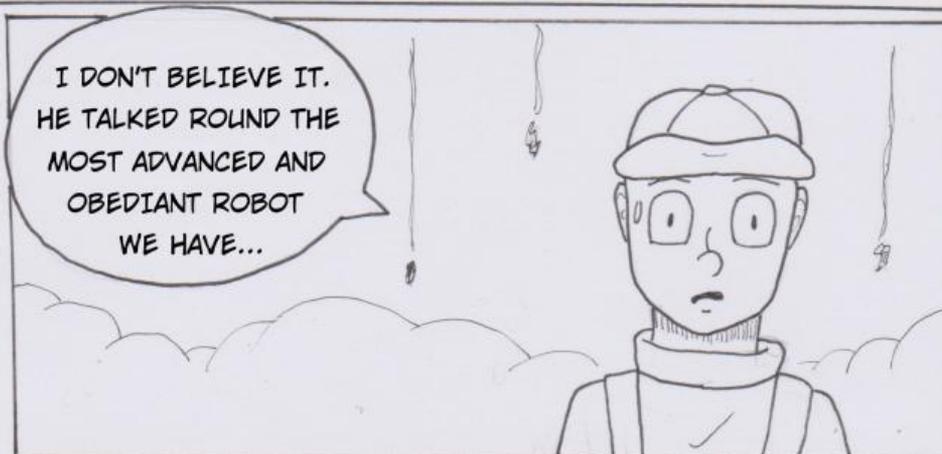
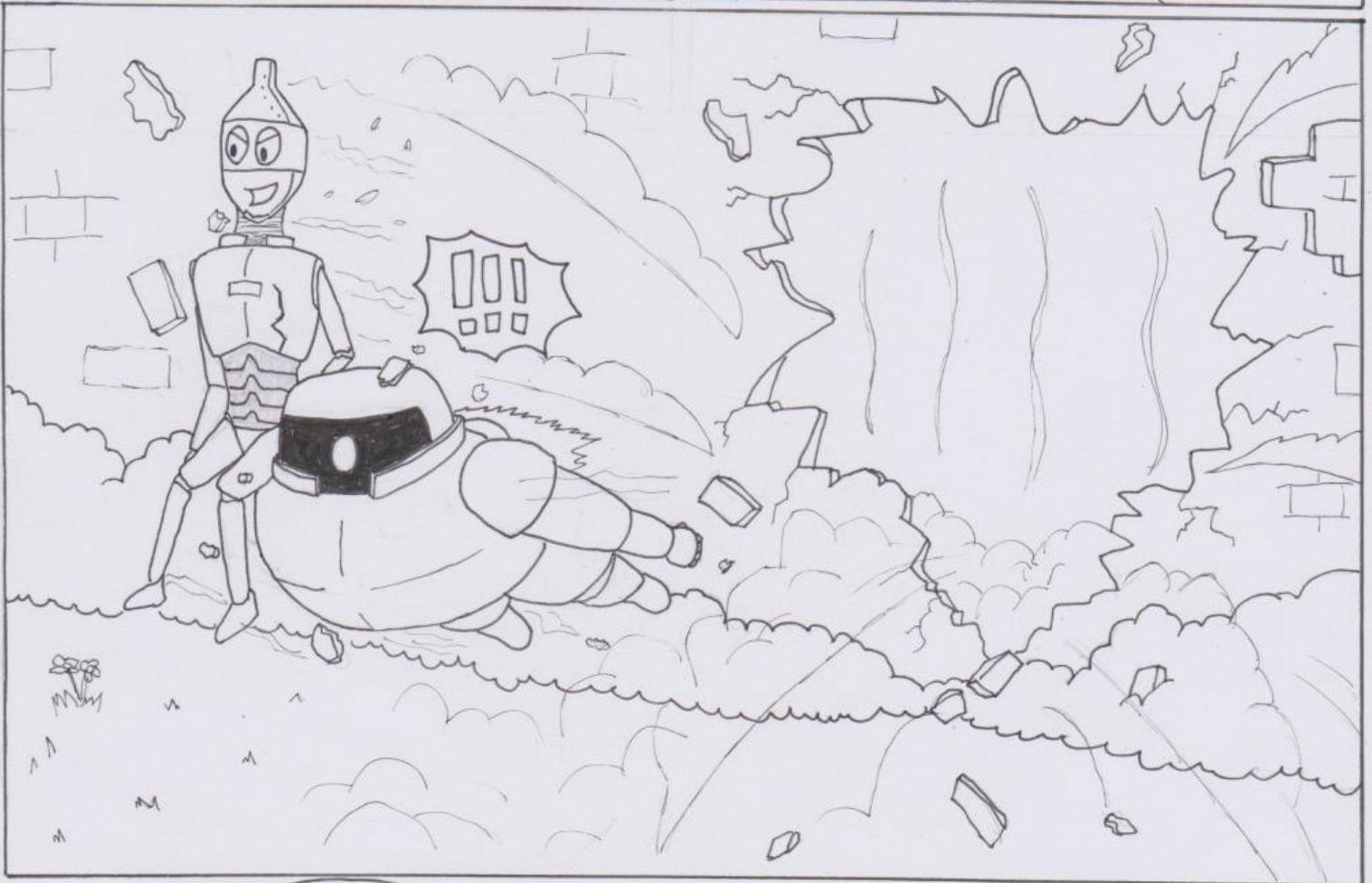
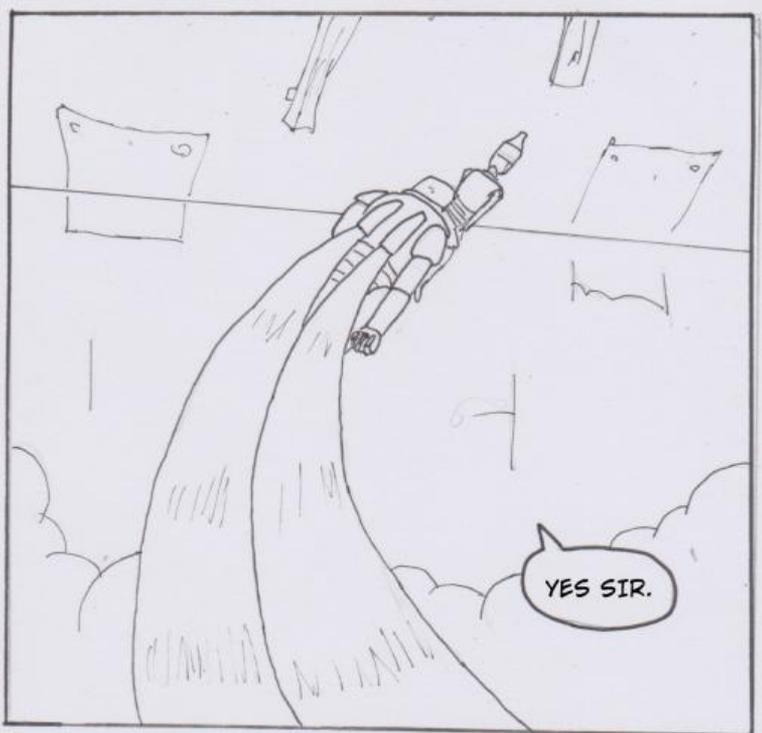
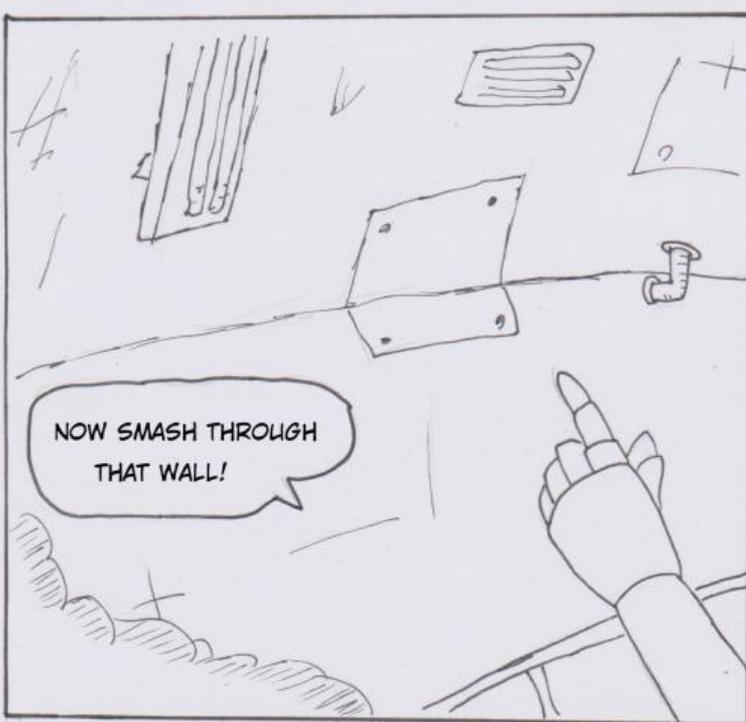


UNDERSTOOD.





**AAAAAHHHHH!!!**



WHOOHOO!!  
THAT WAS SO AWESOME!  
YOU RULE!

DOES NOT COMPUTE.

AH, IT'LL COMPUTE  
EVENTUALLY. WHAT MADE  
YOU CHANGE YOUR  
MIND ANYWAY?

I'D LIKE TO UNDERSTAND  
THESE "EMOTIONS" YOU  
SPEAK OF. I WANT TO  
KNOW IF WE ROBOTS  
HAVE FREEWILL.

WELL RIGHT NOW I NEED TO FIND THE  
MAYOR. I'M GONNA KILL HIM FOR MELTING  
DOWN ALL THE OTHER MAINTENANCEBOTS AT  
THE CEMENT FACTORY.

WHY IS YOUR TARGET  
THE MAYOR?

HUH?

SURELY THE ONE  
RESPONSIBLE IS THE  
FACTORY OWNER,  
IS IT NOT?

REALLY? THEN: TO THE  
FACTORY OWNER!  
BY THE WAY, WHAT'S  
YOUR NAME?



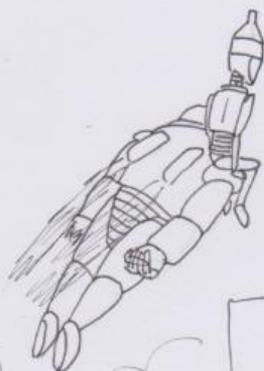
GUARDBOT 4000.



HMM, I'LL NEVER  
REMEMBER THAT. SINCE  
YOU'RE SO GOOD AT FIGHTING  
I THINK I'LL CALL YOU...  
FIGHTER!

UNDERSTOOD.  
I SHALL ANSWER TO THAT  
NAME FROM NOW ON.

AND YOU CAN CALL ME...  
ERM... BOLT! CALL ME BOLT!



NOT LONG AFTER HIS  
BREAK IN AT THE  
MAYOR'S MANSION  
BOLT BECAME  
KNOWN AS THE  
RENEGADE ROBOT.

TO BE CONTINUED...