



One fateful day...



An incident occurred
that would change
everything...

The story of a young boy...
and his journey to save the world...
begins...



My first kiss...



BOING



Whaaa!!!

Nooo! STAY AWAY!!

Whew! Just a nightmare.
That creature was--

...Huh? What was that?



Tracy! What are you still doing up??
...and can I have some cookies?



I couldn't sleep because of the noise!

Looks more like you couldn't sleep because of the cookies...

Just make sure you go to bed soon, okay?



So tired... I may as well see what's going on.



...Is that all you're worried about...?



Ness! Going out?? Make sure you put on clean underwear!

Mom's right, though. I should change first.



...Since Tracy has my bat I can take a few cookies with me, too...

You should take King as well! He could use a walk...a bath, too!



Don't even think about it, buddy...





Heh...

Oh boy, I hope I run into a space bug of some sort!

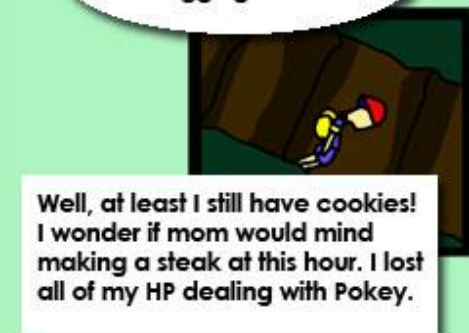
Hmm...Coming from the top of the hill, huh?

Heh heh! Guess I'll have to do a little exploring, then.
If the police have only gotten this far, the hill shouldn't be blocked off just yet!

hum dee dum...
Blockin' time, baby!



And so my adventure comes to a crashing, piggly end...



STEAK! STEAK!!
It smells heavenly!
Dig in, nostrils!



Oh my! Who could be knocking at this time of night?



King... No words...
Let's just sit here...
and savor this moment...

So beautiful...
I almost can't
bring myself
to eat it!



Oh, thanks Ness!
I hate steak, but I
was pretty hungry!



We'll get Lier to help
bury him after we're done.

No one will ever be able
to find the body.



IT'S BACON!!!





That's all, folks!

Pokey joins the party!

DUH DUH DUH DUH DUUUUUHHHH



Where's that music coming from...?

King joins the party!



Ness --
....nevermind



Carry me, foul beast!
Protect me from Dracula!

Almighty Dracula...
If you're there,
strike him down now!

Pokey may be onto something, though.
Something just feels...wrong.
I don't want to think someone would
be watching us, but...

Hmmm.....

rustle
rustle



I think it's time
to put another
crack in my bat.

Your dog collapsed,
so I'll hold onto
your bag and let you
drag me along.
This is a great honor,
you understand.



NESS!
IT'S DRACULA!!!

It's NOT Dracula!

HSSSSS!!

shake

shake



Just in time.
The hero
always arrives late!

...maybe I can get my
own sequel...



THAT WASN'T DRACULA!
It was GREEN!



Oi!
Gimme all yer food!
Pronto, ya see?
Don't make me
wait!

That's right, boys.
Work him over.
The fat ones always
have the best snacks!



I knew something was wrong!
We're completely surrounded!
Why are there so many
wild animals around here??



Hee hee...
I shouldn't bother Ness right now.
Pokey will just have to wait!





I come from ten years in the future.
At that time, all is devastation.
An entity named Giygas brought
eternal darkness to the world.

However!
From my land, there is an ancient legend
of three boys and a girl who defeat Giygas.
I believe you to be one of
these boys, Ness.

Strange... I should be flipping out right about now,
but somehow I'm not that surprised.
As odd as it sounds, this bee isn't lying.

Umm...
I forgot part of my speech...
There should be something about
a shattered rock in here.
Let me check my index cards...

Awoof...
No room for dogs in this
"chosen one" club, huh?
I see how it is...

Oh, no! You can help, too.
You just have to be prepared
to battle a nightmareish being
so horrifying that he'll probably
crush your mind and soul,
and that's if you're
lucky!

Yaaaaah....
...I think I left the water running.
Ness, please come back!
I don't want to invest in
a new boy!



Ness! Did he say three boys?
I'm not into being a hero!
I refuse to go.
The world can save itself!

Are you kidding??
If you're one of the chosen
I'll dress Tracy up like a boy
and give her your spot out of
fear for the PLANET, let alone
the future!!

Ol.
You're ten years
too early to have me
in your party, shortly.

**Buzz Buzz
joins the party!**

I should've mentioned the part
about wisdom, courage, and friendship
being extremely important...

Who the heck is this?!
Get out of my intro box!!

Ness. I know this may
be hard to accept, but
you are the only one.
This is your fate,
something only
you can do.

Something only I
can do, huh...

I guess it could be
fun if I don't get
horribly mangled...

Ness...
That was entirely
too corny...

Pokey!
Hurry!

ALRIGHT!
I'll do it!
This is the adventure I
was looking for!

I will save the world with my...

BURNING WILL!

Sometimes I wonder
which of us is the older
brother...

So what's it like in the future?

It's bee-utiful.

...I'm just not going to talk to you anymore.

I sense something! Was I followed??

ZAP

PSI SHIELD
Σ!

Gah!

Ness, stay back! We're up against a very dangerous foe!

What?!

CRACKLE

BOOOOOM

Buzz Buzz, who... or WHAT is that??

One of Giygas' minions from the future, Starman Junior.

The Starmen are his soldiers, although this one is special.

...and annoyingly persistent.

Wrr hrr hrr... It's time to stop playing games, Buzz Buzz.

Wait, why do they call him Starman Junior?

...because I'm so short...

Why do they keep calling me a bee??

You useless insect. Relying on some puny kid after you've foiled Master Giygas' plans for so long. How pathetic! How foolish! How bee-like! Wrr hrr hrr hrr hrr!

The real reason
a few hours earlier...

La
La
La
.

Starman Junior
Age: 136



Starman
Age: 110

Daddy, I want to be a Starman Deluxe when I grow up!!

This is incredibly disturbing...

THIS FLASHBACK IS OBJECTIONABLE!!!! IT'S WAY TOO EARLY IN THE COMIC FOR BACKSTORY!!!!

LET ME IN!!

Nothing in the legend about refraining from extreme violence, y'know.

Ness is pretty cool! I wish he were my brother instead.

You know, I almost don't want to fight this guy. Thanks to him, I haven't heard from Pokey in awhile!

Well, enough of that. I'd say it's about time we get serious!

• Ness attacks!
• 8 HP of damage to the enemy!



Guh!
Boxes!
My one
weakness!!

• Picky is
chanting a magic spell!

• Pokey complained
to Picky!



Picky!
Stop doing that!
You can't cast magic!

Yes I can!!
I'll cast magic with
my extreme
determination!!

If a man yells loud
enough, he can
do ANYTHING!

These kids are absolutely nuts.



• Ness attacks!
• 20 HP of damage to the enemy!



Wow, good one, Ness!
This kid is going places.

GURK!
A kick to
the face!
My fifth weakness!

Dramatic pose
time!

Okay, let's go all out!
We'll blast him back
to the future with this
last strike!!

SMAAAASH!!

...SO COOL!!



This is our big
chance!

We are...

Wrr hrr hrr!!
Never take your
eyes off the enemy!!
Have my 1000 hit
combo!

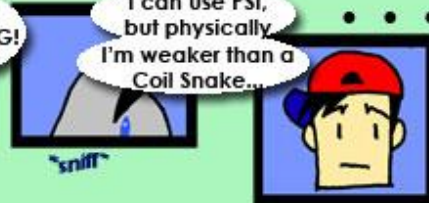


Ha ha!
Stop ill!
That tickles!

H-HEY!
STOP LAUGHING!

BLARGH!!
Y-You punks!
How dare you ruin my
perfect body!

I forgot...
I can use PSI,
but physically,
I'm weaker than a
Coil Snake...



Now's my
chance!



WUH!
MY BACK!!
My seventeenth
weakness!!

Y-You've done well.
I give up...
I've been defeated.



Suddenly,
I feel the need to
tell you my life
story...



I was a joyful, innocent
young Starman.

My golden locks

and big,
shiny eyes

always had me
standing out among
my peers.



My father was a kind man.
He always cared deeply
for me and raised me
with love.

Oh, father...

Son...
You will one day
grow up to be
a man.
A STARman.



Come back!
Son!
...er, I mean, DAUGHTER!
...No, wait, son!!

However, all was not well.
I ran away from home not
long after.
For you see, I realized one
day that father never
really knew what my
gender was.
He just called me son
so I wouldn't feel bad!



A few years later I fell in with the wrong crowd.
We cared for nothing but our hair. I bought some
kickin' shades and took up smoking.

I was going
to rebel
against the
world.
And rebel
HARD.



Hi pops...

Some time had passed
and I eventually
returned home.

I knocked on the door
expecting my father to
just ignore me.

I would accept it if he hated me.



He just stared back.
He didn't yell.
He didn't shut the door.
Instead, he smiled and
greeted me as if I
had never left.

Welcome home
...son.



Utterly
speechless

From that day on,
my eyes sparkled
more brightly
than they ever had.



But you already
gave up.
...and were
already defeated.

THANKS TO THAT,
I WILL NEVER
GIVE UP!!
I WILL NEVER
BE DEFEATED!!



My desires are like
the rising dawn.

Hopeful...

Bringing light
to a new
day.

A poem...by
Starman Junior.



C'mon!
Can we end this
already?
He's been talking
for two hours!



Can't... hold it...

Now, having heard
my tragic past,
could you
find it in your heart
to defeat me??



The Starman Junior was defeated!

THAT WAS A COMPLETE
WASTE OF TIME!!

With the Starman Junior vanquished, we continued on home. The sun was slowly coming up and I'd finally be able to ditch Pokey. It had been awhile since anything this interesting happened to me, and I was glad to at least meet Buzz Buzz. Who would have thought that such a strong being would want to rely on me?

Ness! Come inside with us.
I will give you the pleasure of telling
my parents all about how I saved
the world when they get home!

Let's go, then!
I could use a snack, myself.
Time travel is a lot of work!

Pokey's house
usually has some great
snacks. I guess it can't hurt.

THUMP
PUFF

WELL WELL...
I HOPE YOU BOYS HAD A GOOD TIME
CAUSE YOU'RE NEVER LEAVING YOUR
ROOM AGAIN!!

C'mon, dad!
I saved the world!!
It was all Ness' fault!
Picky's, too!!

My brother...
The human snake...

GRRRR

What's that?!
You giving me lip, boy?!
Both of you are really
going to get it now!

SQUEEZE

Waaaaahhh!!
Ness, quick!
Come stand in the way
of my dad's smacks!!

How did I not guess
something would
happen?
Oh well, at least...

Oh no...
Buzz Buzz, whatever you
do, do NOT turn around...

Why, Ness?
What kind of horrifying
creation could possibly
be lurking behind - -

GIYGAS?!?!?

LURK~



S-She didn't!
Buzz Buzz...
How could this be
happening??



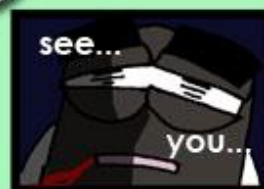
Agh!
I was...
...much weaker
than I thought...

Buzz Buzz!
Hang in there!
You can still make it!



Sorry, Ness...
Looks like
you must now
begin your
adventure
alone...

BUZZ BUZZ!!



see...

you...

NOOOOOOOOO!!!



...A boy loses a comrade
and discovers the harsh
reality of life.
It is an unforgiving world
with much grief to be had...

Er...
I'm not actually
dead yet.

Oh,
good!



Where was I...
Oh, yes, I finally
remembered...
Listen to my final words...



You must listen closely...
And please don't accidentally
say "Yes" when I ask
if I should repeat
myself...
We'll have to do this
whole page over
again...



In order to defeat Giygas,
your own power must unite
with the Earth's...
The Earth will then channel
your power and
multiply it...

There are eight points that you
must visit.
Make these places your own...
Each of these locations is
"Your Sanctuary."



One of them is near Onett.
It is called "Giant Step."
Go there first...
Do you understand?



Oh! The pain!
Everything is getting
dark...
You are very kind,
Ness...
But it is too late
for me...

Before I pass on, I want
to give you something...



It is the Sound Stone.
You can record the melodies from
the eight "Your Sanctuary" locations
into this stone.
It is an awesome item...

Ness.
This is the start of
your journey.
But for me...
this is the end.

When you step outside
your adventure will begin.
I leave the rest to you...



Buzz Buzz.
It is time for us
to go.

GET OUT OF MY FINAL SCENE!
YOU HAD AN ENTIRE FLASHBACK
ABOUT YOUR HAIR!!



Farewell, Ness...
It was...
...fun...



Buzz Buzz...
I will never
forget you!!

Everything has happened
so fast...
With Buzz Buzz gone,
I'll have to do this
alone...



I still don't feel
very confident about
being a hero.

If only I hadn't talked him
into going inside!
He came all this way and...

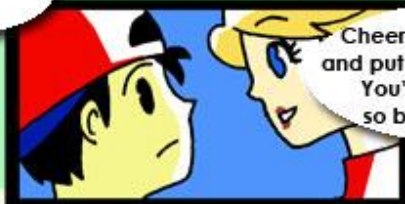


...I should stop at home and
talk to mom, first.
I can't start my adventure feeling
like this.



Mom, I'm sorry
but I...

Say no more, Ness.
Mothers understand these things!



Cheer up, dry those tears,
and put a smile on your face!
You're a big boy now,
so believe in yourself.

Ness, welcome back!
I was worried sick about you!
Would you like some steak?

She's right!
If I keep moping around,
I'll never be able to make up for
Buzz Buzz's sacrifice!
And as long as there's
a phone nearby, I'll
never truly be alone...



Isn't he
the bee's knees?

Farewell
big brother!
Bring me back
some candy!!

Mom...
Tracy...
I promise I'll
protect you...
and
the world!



UGH!
It's happening
again!!
Something odd
is coming!!



Heh heh...
FOUND YA!



Let's see here...
Name: Ness.
Location: South to
the suburbs of Onett.

Likes: Steak.
Favorite Thing: Rockin.
This kid likes rockin?
I'll lend him a few
of my records.



Ho ho!
I landed okay!

*ahem**
Pictures taken
instantaneously!

YOU'RE ON FIRE!!
YOU'RE COMPLETELY
NOT OKAY!!



I'm a photographic
genius,

A snazzy dancer,
too...

~whistle

if I do
say so myself!

Okay,
get ready for an
instant memory!
Look at the camera...
Ready...



Are you completely
unaware of how
freaked out I am??
Do you really
not see that??

Wow, what a great
photograph!



Say, "fuzzy pickles."

At least give
me some time
to think of a cool
pose to strike,
first!



It will always bring back the
fondest of memories...

NESS!!
WAIT UP!!



That wasn't
so bad afterall.
At least he didn't
stick around,
although I'm sure
I'll be seeing him
again.



There you are!
Why didn't you drop by?
I have a big surprise
for you!
It's the greatest discovery
this world has ever seen.
You must see it.
I beg of you.

There he goes again.
He's such a liar.
Guess I'll humor him for a bit.



Heh heh!
STRIIIKE!

Okay, okay!
Just hurry up,
and stop acting
so suspicious!

Ness, get ready
to be amazed!
This is my proof of
a huge treasure
to be had!



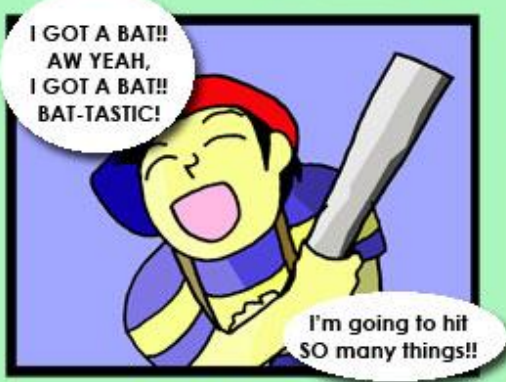
Why is it glowing
down here?
There's no
light source...



If this is a sign of
what's below, I
just need a little
time.

You dug this out
yourself?
It's...strange.







80 HIT
COMBO!



RUUURRRAAHHH!
CALL FOR HELP ALL YOU
WANT, IT WON'T MAKE
A DIFFERENCE!!



What now,
spanky?

Pogo Punk E,
the strongest
of the Pogo Punks,
arrives!



Let's get 'em!
Circle and surround him,
then attack one at a time!

Kya ha!
You're done,
chubs!

ROOOOAR!!



BLAM!
POW! ZOWIE?



missed one...



This kid is
a demon!
He'll devour
my soul!!



Nobody
escapes!!
Do you know
how much this
bracelet
cost me?!



Battle ready Ness!
All accessories
included!!

Pogo Launcher!
GO!



Craaaap!
His level is WAY
too high!

G...UH....
U-Uh...
H-Hello there,
g-good sir...



Hi!
Take me
to Frank.
Now.





Heh heh!
You've got guts, kid.
You really want
to see how real men battle?!

**FRANK
VS
NESS**



You'll wet your pants!
Go crying home to mama!
This is the real deal!
THE BATTLE OF REAL MEN!

Here goes
nothing!!





FRANK
vs **ROUND 2**
NESS (Now with more background fire)





• Ness's level is now 6!



Ha ha!
His monologue gave me just enough time!

What's wrong, Frank?
Suddenly you've gotten really slow.
Surely you didn't "fail" to hit me, right?



I turn my back for a second to tell my life story and he levels up!
How could that guy've been worth so many exp points, anyways?

Wait!
Maybe the problem is this kid.
There's something special about him, that's for sure. I've never met such an opponent, but I feel like he could be much stronger...



Er...
hey, where'd he go?



Alright!
Time for a sneak attack!

GURK!
He got me!
This kid actually landed a critical hit on me!



W-WUH?!
MY HAIR!
You BENT my perfectly stylish fin!
This hairstyle is the life and heart of all Sharks!!



Ha ha!
Hey, don't worry!
You can always change your name to "Flat-top" Frank.



You've done it now. This is something even I cannot forgive, Ness. I spend four hours getting this fin just right every morning. By the time this battle is over, you'll be dying to go to heaven.

Umm...
If I buy you some hair gel, can we just call it even...?

Looks like he's finally getting serious.
I guess all of that "final battle" talk was just for show.
Well, as long as I stay on guard, I --



H...Huh?!
Where did he go?
Don't tell me
he ran off to get his
hair fixed...



Ness, the REAL final
battle starts now!
Don't think you
can just run away, either.
Boss fights don't
allow that!



Meet "Frankystein Mark II."
A creation of advanced
technology that is impenetrable
to any weaponry!
That's "Frankystein Mark II."
I made up the name, by the way.



Wait, where are you??
Inside?
Come out, Frank!
I'll shave your head!!



Hah!
You're hopeless!

What the heck?!
He really is nuts!
He's absolutely nuts!!

I barely need to lift
a finger, now!
You're no longer
a challenge,
Ness.



Ugh!
That hit alone
nearly finished me...

NESS!
You don't have time
to be looking away!!
You cannot survive my
strongest attack
if you don't even try!



Hurk!
N-No way!
I don't have the
HP to survive a hit
like this...!

The only thing I can do
is try to strike quickly
while he's readying
the next attack...



If I hit him enough
times, surely a
crack in his armor
will appear...

Urgh...
This is impossible...
I'm not putting a dent
anywhere I attack.
I'm getting low on PP,
so even with time to heal
I'll be out of options
soon...
What should I do...?



I...how am I still conscious?
I... I guess I was able to fight using my guts afterall.



I can't move my body, though...
My PP is gone...
One HP left...

I didn't want this battle to end so soon.
I'm disappointed, Ness.
You're no match for Giant Step at this rate.



Everything is starting to blur...
Frank...
If only I could attack him directly...

Consider yourself lucky.
Nobody has ever stood their ground against Frankystein for this long!



Wait...
A glimmer of hope!
I think I see Frankystein's big weakness!

I understand, though.
Frankystein has no opening!
You put up a good fight, Ness.



...er, what're you doing?

This is it!



Hurgh!
N-No way!!
You broke through Frankystein's ultimate defense!!



...and bent my nose...

N...Not cool...

For some unexplained reason, Frankystein Mark II suddenly combusted and ceased to exist.



Fortunately I can just roll right out of the backdoor.

Well, looks like I was wrong in the end.



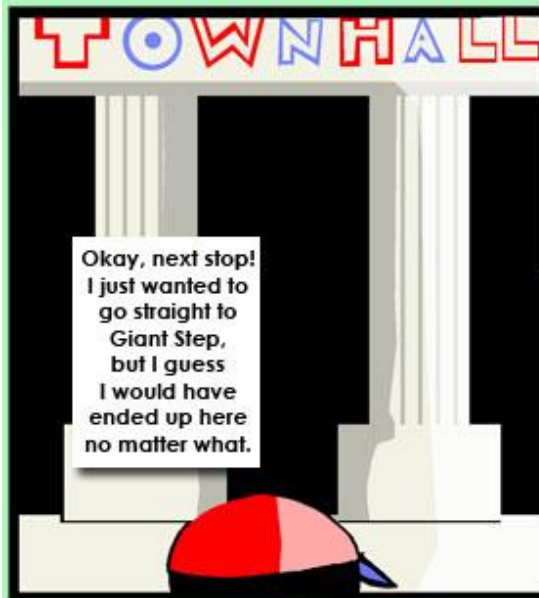
You're definitely strong.
A lot stronger than I gave you credit for.
You may not believe it, but...this is my first defeat.

Our battle is over at last.
You can rest at ease now.



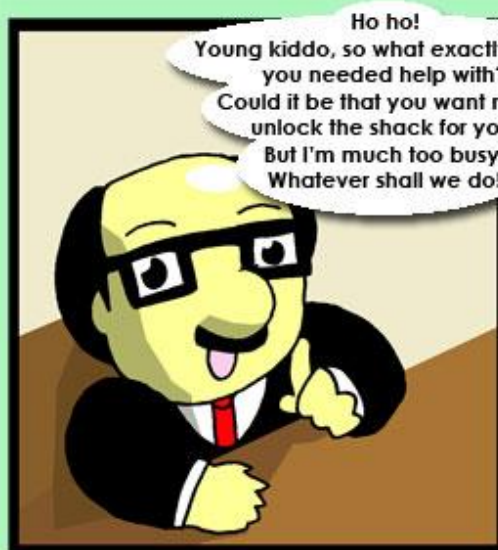
As of this moment, "Fail-proof" Frank is now just "failure" Frank.





Now which way do I go?
I usually wouldn't even think
of setting foot in a place
like this.
Was defeating Frank really
big enough to get me
a meeting with the Mayor?
Heck, maybe I can get my
own clothing line!





Ho ho!
Young kiddo, so what exactly was it
you needed help with?
Could it be that you want me to
unlock the shack for you?
But I'm much too busy.
Whatever shall we do!



Ooh, I've got it!
How about I give you the key, so
that way you can unlock it!
Then, once you clean up the shack
there, as I know a great hero
like you would, how about
you sweep around Giant Step
and maybe cut the grass
a little bit?
Ho ho! It's agreed, then!

You snake. You rotten snake!
Give me the key already!
I'll give that monster your
home address before I
come back!!



Ugh!
The nerve of that guy!
He just slapped the key
in my hand and threw me
outside!



Oh well.
As long as I
don't have to talk
to him again.

Hi mole!
Enjoy your
cameo!

Thanks,
Ness!
See ya
around!



Oh me!

Oh my!

We're locked out of our shack!
Whatever shall we do?

Don't look.
Just ignore them
and keep moving.



If he stopped to say hi,
we'd give him a charm!
It's quite a bit useless,
but still protects from harm!



I made it at last!
It took spending 98 dollars
on a really cheap bracelet,
defeating a street gang,
dealing with a sleazy mayor,
and passing by two very
disturbing people.
Now, it's on
to Giant Step!



This is actually kind of freaky.
I've never really set foot in
a cave before and it always
looked as if you could
get to the top from the outside...
What if there are more wild
animals in here?
What if Bigfoot
lives here?!



Of course!
Giant Step...
Bigfoot definitely lives here!
I don't care if this place has
some other monster, but
Bigfoot is a whole other story.
I better hurry up and get
through here as fast
as I can...



Oh no!
I ran right into them!!
If all of these enemies get a
surprise attack on me at the
same time, I'll be finished!



Huh...
So this is all I have
to worry about, eh?



Suddenly this cave
just got a lot more fun!
If this is all you have
to offer, maybe I'll
stick around and show
you some kicks of my own!



He's literally
kicking my
butt!

Considering how tiny
you guys are,
one big swing should
be more than enough!



Hyargh!
You cheatin' dog!
We'll be ruining a picnic in your
future, that's for sure!
Hyarr!

And as for you two...
Well...
It's a good thing I happen to
have some salt packets,
isn't it?



John!
It's him!
The enemy of all bug-kind!

Marsha...
Do not be afraid...
He smells fear...

After crossing through the caves and beating helpless creatures, Ness made quick work of Giant Step's trials.



It's getting brighter... Maybe this is the exit!



You've made it at last. I've been waiting here for quite some time. Did you have fun crushing my minions?

So, this is the monster Frank mentioned...

This is the first "Your Sanctuary" location. Unfortunately for you, this is the only location you'll ever get near.



H-He wasn't kidding. This thing really is a monster. Good thing the other ants weren't this big...



Well, aren't you going to speak? You came all this way, we could at least exchange a few words before I crush you!

My name is Titanic Ant. I like oversized picnics and terrorizing magical locations. How about you?



My name is Ness! I like steak and beating things with my bat! Your face, for example.



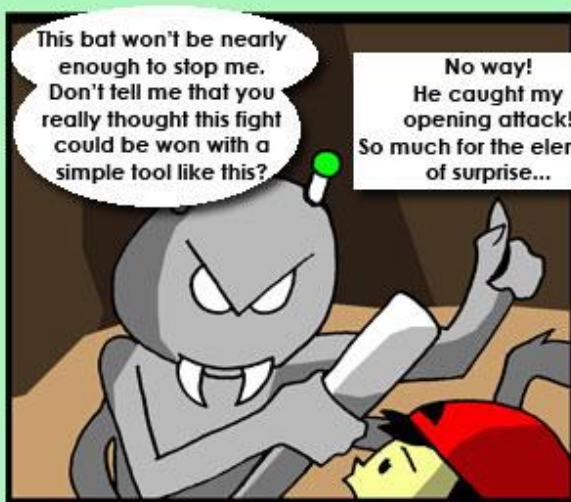
Oho! You're an interesting hero, that's for sure.

Well then, it's a pleasure to meet you. And now with the introductions out of the way...



I'll remove you from this world! A puny creature such as yourself is no match for an ant of my size! You dare to confront me?

Gah! He's a lot faster than he looks!





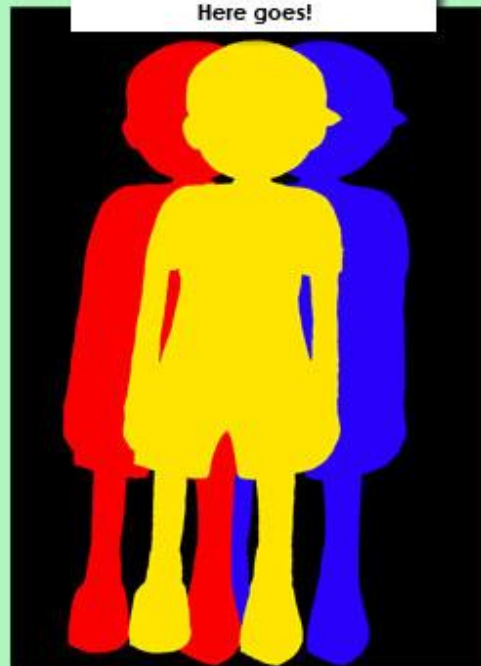


Well said! But you're going to lose...

...more than just your money!!



Okay, I can do this! I'll gather all of my power and turn this fight around with my extreme determination! Here goes!



C'mon, C'mon, C'mon!! I can do this! I know I can!
I don't really get the whole PP thing, but I know that when I'm hurt
I somehow manage to heal myself using that green stuff!
It must be some sort of magic, so all I have to do is yell a lot and naturally
I'll be able to cast all kinds of spells! Fire! Ice! ...Love? YES! LOVE!
Anything, it doesn't matter, just as long as I yell hard enough!!



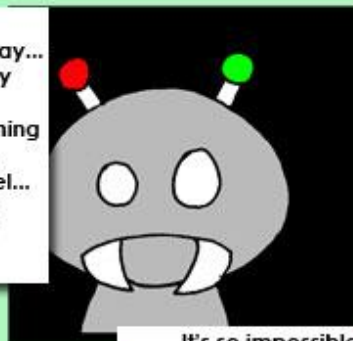
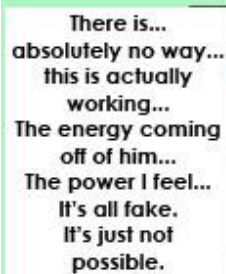
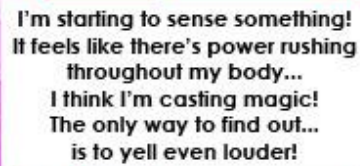
HYAAAAAAAAAAAAA!
C'mooooooooon!
Magic powers, activate!
Magic Power HAMMER!
Special Attack BOXING!
Ultra Combo GAMING!
Secret Skill...uh...SLIME!
Odd Attack Named GIFTS!
...I'm running out of ideas...



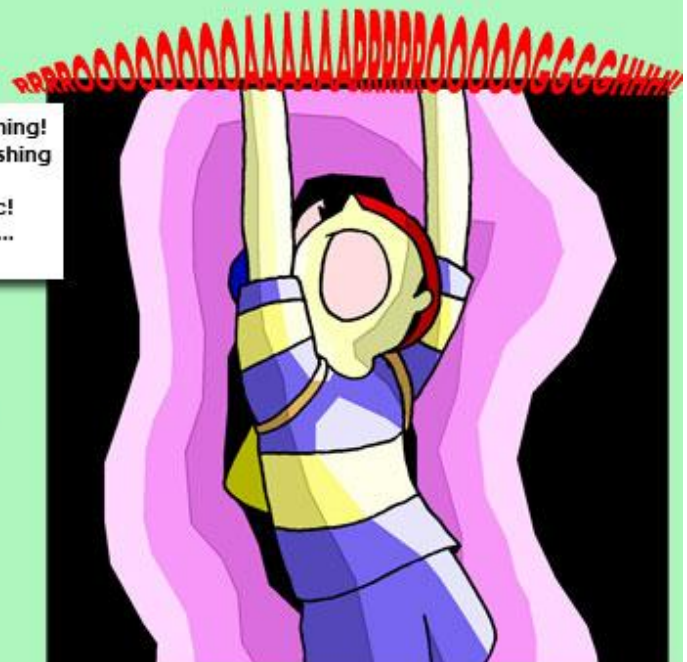
I think I went and beat
this kid into insanity...
Maybe I shouldn't have
hit him in the head so much...
Does he really think
something so ridiculous
will actually work?
That kind of nonsense
only happens in comics!

REALLY, WHO WOULD USE AN ATTACK CALLED GIFTS?!
I'LL HAVE TO IMPROVISE HERE!
ROOOOOOOOOOAR!
TAKE THE POWER OF SUPER SPECIAL ROXXOR!
PSYCHIC ATTACK LOVIN'!
I'M YELLING REALLY LOUDLY
RIGHT NOW!!!!





It's so impossible,
I'm even too dumbfounded
to attack him.



The energy is becoming a lot more focused now!
Only problem now is I don't know what to do
with it... And I haven't thought up a cool attack
name yet...
No worries, though! I'll definitely come up with a plan!
Because...

IF A MAN...

YELLS LOUD ENOUGH...

HE CAN DO...

ANYTHING!!



**HE ACTUALLY
DID IT!!**

**I ACTUALLY
DID IT!!**



Wait a second...
All he managed to do was
gather energy,
but he has no idea
how to use it!
If he can't even perform
a proper attack,
then all I have to do
is finish him before he
uses that power...



Somehow, this is starting to feel familiar...
Think, Ness...
I know how to use this magic.
But...wait, no! I understand now, it's not magic...
If I can...think...
That's it! If I can't use the energy with
my body, then I'll use it with my mind!

This feels almost natural.
How long have I known how
to use power with my mind?



It was...
something like...
this!



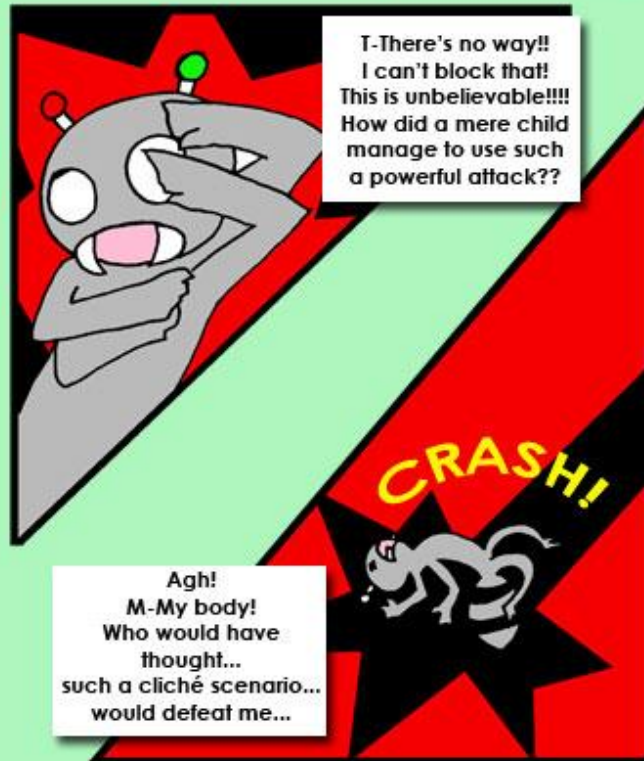
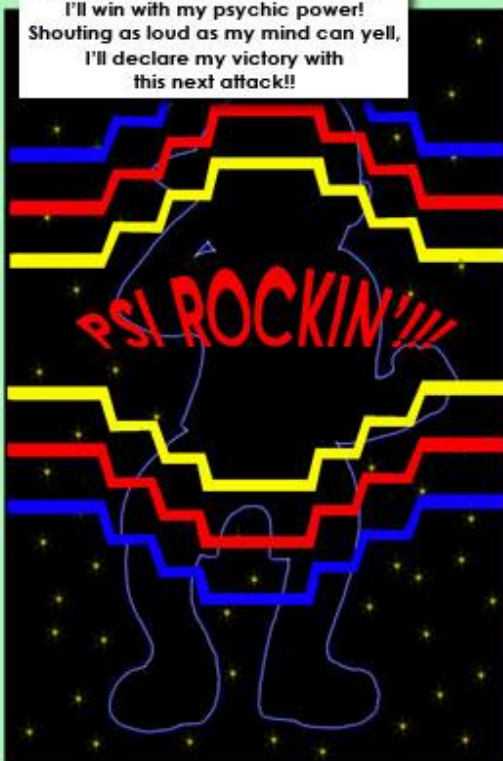
Ah!
I...
I see it!!



• Ness realized the power of
Psi Rockin' α.

Alright!
I even came up with the
perfect name just in
time for my big scene!

If I can't use my guts to defeat you,
I'll win with my psychic power!
Shouting as loud as my mind can yell,
I'll declare my victory with
this next attack!!



T-There's no way!!
I can't block that!
This is unbelievable!!!!
How did a mere child
manage to use such
a powerful attack??

Agh!
M-My body!
Who would have
thought...
such a cliché scenario...
would defeat me...



I wonder what I'm suppose to do here, though...
Maybe I get some new kind of bat?!



Oh, wow...
For some reason I suddenly feel as if an image is appearing in my mind...
Maybe this is a message of some kind?



The sun is really bright here, and it's actually pretty peaceful for a place that was sitting at the end of a weird cave...
I guess the animals don't really come near this spot.



Ness caught a glimpse of a small, cute puppy.



Woof!

Thanks, Ness!
Even though I'm just a baby, you let me appear again in the story.
You are truly dog's best friend.

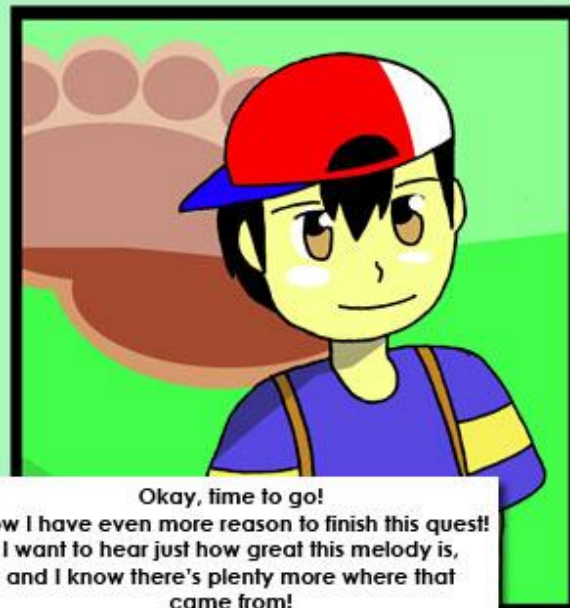
Hey, it's King!
I was just a baby when he was little, so I don't remember him like this...



Hmm...the Sound Stone is reacting to something...
I think I understand how to use this properly now.



It's playing...a piece of a melody?
I guess this was the special power of the spot?
So if I get them all, I can play a really cool song?
Alright!!!



Okay, time to go!
Now I have even more reason to finish this quest!
I want to hear just how great this melody is, and I know there's plenty more where that came from!





Great! I finally got the Mr. Baseball cap! Faceless Cap Kid really helped me out! For an NPC with no real name, he sure is a good pal...



Well, well.
What a bold young man!
You are very brave, but VERY foolish.
To walk into the domain of Captain Strong after committing a crime is just asking for an ultimate throwdown.







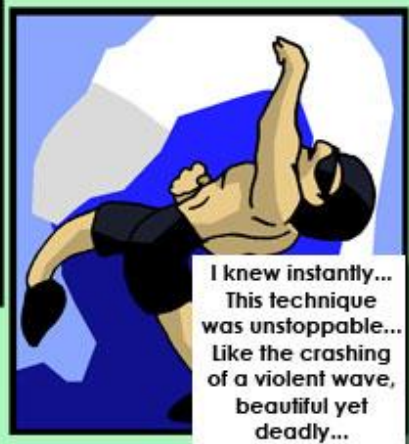


The "Super Ultra Mambo-Tango-Foxtrot martial arts" came to me one day while I was training at Summers.

A sophisticated dance that mixes grace...



...and superior posing power, capable of striking absolute beauty at a moment's notice!



I knew instantly... This technique was unstoppable... Like the crashing of a violent wave, beautiful yet deadly...

Wait, weren't we going to fight??

Why do I get the feeling this is about to get a whole lot worse...?



Super...Ultra... Mambo-Tango-Foxtrot... martial arts!!



Pose after pose! I went through every dance I could think of. The Mambo Meltdown! The Tango Terminator! The Foxtrot Finisher! But each by itself was incomplete.

No way!! I can picture it all with my mind! It's even more clear when I close my eyes!!



Then, it came to me. After intense weight training, I found my ultimate move!



I continued to train and mastered each dance with help from the local wild life. I danced well into the night each passing day.

Finally, back at the station, I finished my technique. The officers were more than pleased.



Feet at ten and two, officer.





If you wish to walk out of here alive, I suggest you quickly prepare your best routine. Otherwise...



So that's how it's going to be? Well, I hate to surprise you, but in school I got an A in FUNK!

You will be crushed under the weight of not only my skills, but the judgement of this glorious disco ball!!!

I might not have undergone intense training, but I have a couple moves I've been saving for just this occasion!



I won't lose, even when it comes to dancing!

One - Two - KICK!
One - Two - KICK!!



Very impressive! You are as strong as I had expected. But that level of dance will not beat the mighty leg kicks I practice everyday!

Then I will use my ultimate skill! A combination of dance and rockin'!



If that's the case, then let me show you my ultimate skill as well! This is the ultimate pose of the Super Ultra Mambo-Tango-Foxtrot martial arts! Anybody who gazes upon its beauty will be immobilized and incapable of fighting!



I-It's... beautiful!!

How intense! He knew such a powerful maneuver? This type of dance is so strong it can create a vortex... A vortex... of AWESOME.





HURK!
M-My back!!
I can't believe it...
My body wasn't able to
withstand the power of
such an incredible
pose...



Well, it looks like you've won...
I'm getting too old to keep up
with kids like you, with your
hippin' and your hoppin'.
As thanks for the fight,
I'll tell my staff to open
the road to Twoson.

Poor guy...
He would've won,
too.



Strong here...
do you read me?
A kid named Ness will
be along soon.
You'll know him
when you see him.
...What?
...Yes.
...I know that.
He's quite a
kid.



Well, kid...
I won't ask any
questions.
You've got something
important to do,
I assume.
But before you go,
I want you to
take these words
to heart...



If a man yells
loud enough...

...he can do
ANYTHING!

On that day, an unbreakable bond was formed.
The young boy, who previously had an ordinary life,
was suddenly thrown into a very bizarre adventure.

A street gang...

A giant monster ant...

A bored police force...

These are just the beginning of the trials
he'll face along his journey.

As he says farewell to Onett and embarks on the road
to Twoson, the young boy comes to realize...
this is only the beginning.

It's him!
The boy who beat
Captain Strong!!



He has the Captain's
legendary crown!
He's truly the Lord
of the Dance!!



Aha!
I caught you
at last!



One more bulletin
board examined!
CHECK-A-ROONY!

Onett is now behind me,
and I'll be in Twoson soon!
I haven't had a chance to
visit, but I hear it's a pretty
cool place...



That's odd, a house all the way out here?
I thought this area was all forest.
Well, Onett is known for having houses
spread around here and there,
so I guess it kind of makes sense...



Hee hee...
Since I'm on a journey
to save the world now,
I think it'll be okay
if I look inside and take
anything useful...
Heroes can do that,
y'know!



Hm...
This place is empty!
Well, it looks like
someone may live here,
but...



Hello there kind sir!
It is a pleasure to meet you!
My name is Reginald,
and this is my home,
otherwise known as
Reginald's Exit Shack!
Perhaps you've heard my
motto,
"If you want an exit, just enter!"



Uh...
Nice to
meet you...

Please, take my son
with you!
He may look like
a regular mouse,
but he'll lead you
out of any maze
you get lost in!



Is this legal?
How much does
he cost?

Free of charge!
Will you take him?

Sure, why not?
It's not like this will
be a bad idea in any
way, shape, or form!



Oh!
Thank you!
Thank you
so much!

Yay!

Alright, ya punk!
You're under my watch from
now on, so you better
not make me mad.
I'm in charge here, see?
Let's go find us an EXIT!



This is...
the proudest moment
of my life.

I always knew my son
would grow up to be
something big!



Who knew it would be exiting
and knowing of exits...



Fortunately, I still have money
saved up in the bank, but...
Hey!
A bicycle shop!!
Wow, Twoson is amazing!



I've never actually seen
a place like this before.
I've always wanted my own
bike, but Onett hasn't been
a very bike-friendly
place to live.



What's up, bro?
Welcome to Punk-Sure!
This is the one-stop shop for all your
biking needs.
We have everything from
cycling shorts to self help books
on how to start your own
bicycle gang.



You look like you could use a bike, dude.
Bicycles are so much fun and are
so convenient...
You'll be totally popular with
the biking crowd and even
cute chicks!



You had me at
cycling shorts!

Ha ha, you're one wicked kid.
Unfortunately, we only have rentals available,
but go ahead and take one!
You've got style, and there's no price
to match the funk you're bringing to the table,
little man.



Now I can get everywhere twice as fast!
I'll ride out of the store in style and
impress all the girls I see!

A...free bike?!
You are too kind!!
This is way too
good to be true!!



Oh, is that the exit?
I could have sworn
this was the floor.



I...
I have no idea...
how to ride...





This is the place...
It doesn't look like
anything out of the ordinary
happened here, though.
I sorta expected the building
to be a little busted up...



I'm surprised, though!
You actually helped me
get here!
Why the sudden change
of heart?

If it helps us rescue
a cute girl, I'll help
this one time.
I'd rather stay in a cute
pink bag than your
smelly backpack.



Don't worry, hun!
Paula will be back
very soon!
She has a guardian
angel, it seems.

...And here I thought he
was going to be nice...
...My backpack isn't
smelly...

I really miss her...
She's like a mother to me...

Wow, nice place.
I hope they don't mind me
sneaking around in here...



Hm...
Maybe I should
go back and talk to
that lady...



Young man, what can I do for you?
Have you come to see Paula?
Lately we've had a series of visitors,
but they're all just leeches trying to
use her miraculous powers to boost their ratings.
So, are you from a TV station or what?

Um...
No, actually, I'm just here
to find out where Paula is...
She called me and asked
if I could find her...



I see.
Well, to meet you or not can only
be decided by Paula.
Paula has said that she will only meet with a boy
named Ness.

Oh?
I guess I'm pretty famous, myself!
I'm Ness, the savior of Onett!
I'm a local hero there!



The boy in
Paula's dream!
Ness!
You will save the world!

...That is so
awesome...

Uh..Paula?
Paula!! It's your dad...Dad!
Are you home??



I guess she isn't here...
The way he talked it seemed as
if she was still at home,
but I guess her dad didn't realize
she was in trouble...

Hey, Mr. Polestar!
When Paula called me, she sounded
distressed and said she needed my help...
Do you think maybe somebody
took her away?



A kidnapping, you mean?
Well, there have been a lot
of strange people around here lately...
Everdred in Burglin Park might know
something if he isn't the one who did it...



Burglin Park, huh?
Okay!

I'll go have a talk with this Everdred
guy and see what he has to say.
If he doesn't talk, I'll make him!



I know exit mouse warned
me against going into the
park, but I have no longer
have any choice.



This Everdred may be a lot of trouble, though.
It sounds like Paula must be pretty tough,
especially if she has enough psychic
power to make her that popular with the media.
If she really is one of my allies, though, I'll tear
Twoson apart if I have to!



Burglin Park...
If this place is really that dangerous,
I'll have to watch my bag.
I'm not sure where the ruler guy is,
but until I speak with Everdred I'll
have to hope I don't run into him...



A boy with a red cap...
He's the one!
That little punk is friends with
that con artist mouse!

That mouse has to be with him.
If I attack now, I can exact my revenge!
Here they come, Harold! Get ready!



Uh oh...
Ness, idiot!
You're heading right
towards the ruler guy!



Heeeey maaaaan!
Where you going,
my earthly brothers?

Whoaaa, dudes.
Like, did you ever stop
to look at a ruler?
Dude, a ruler can measure
everything but itself...



It's like...what can measure
a ruler then, y'know?
Maybe we measure it...with our
minds, maaaaan...no waaaay.



Whoa!
This guy is pretty
retro!

Don't admire him!
We're in a lot of
trouble, Ness!

You really
did it now!

What?
He's...insightful...

Whoaaa, brother, you're giving off some serious earthly vibes!
They're almost like these vibes I sensed from this alien, maaan.
They were implanted in my mind by the government, I swear!
Did you know they put mind controlling devices in
monster mushrooms and set them loose around the world
to do craaazy experiments?



N...No way!
The government is in on it all??
We're doomed!



Must...
protect...
mind...

Like, don't fear, dude!
When the mole people arrive we'll team up with them
and learn their ability to repel mind control with our
new rock-like bodies!

This is an enemy you just can't beat, Ness. I think we should run away for now and think of a better strategy!

You're right! This guy is freaking me out too much to even attack... We'll wait for a chance and bolt!



Um... casually strolling away works pretty well, too...

Yeah, maaaaan! I see it! This is the zen of total ruler enlightenment! I can measure THE UNIVERSE!

Now he thinks he's a ruler...



Well, that was easy. But something feels kind of off. I suppose another crazy person will appear.



Strange laughter... here he comes!



I've been watching you this whole time and I gotta say, you've got guts for a kid!

You want to find out about Paula, right? Why don't we chat later - after we've locked horns!



Wow, this guy knows how to make an entrance! Did he just say what I think he said??

Well you're a human and mice don't have antlers, so there's only one other meaning!




You're a dangerous one, alright!
If I let my guard down, you may just pull me into a rock and roll concert without me realizing it.
I won't fall for such small time trickery!



I'm going to charge up and finish you with my strongest attack!
This kind of power is more than enough to take out a kid like you!

No way, that's cheating!
You can't charge up your ultimate skill right off the bat!
It'll ruin the whole fight sequence!



• Everdred knitted its brow!

My ultimate skill!
Take some of...
Wait, I'm an "it"?



I'm a man, right?
I don't want to turn out to be a creepy woman all of the sudden.

Ugh... So... powerful...
Such brow knitting...

The level of this brow knitting is weighing Ness down!
I'll have to take over from here.



Wah ha ha ha ha!
You're no match for my true power!
Thankfully, I didn't even have to move from this spot!



Aha! That must be it!
I thought there was something odd about the way he was just standing there...

Hee hee...
I'll just borrow this cap as well...



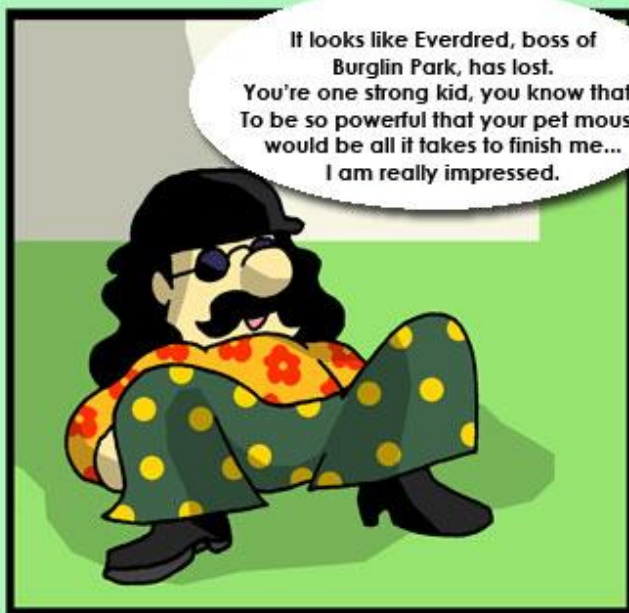
CRACK!

I know your true weakness!
Take this!!



Guh!
Such a tiny creature knew my only weakness!
When I jumped off the roof, I twisted my ankle...
Could this be the end... of Everdred?!
DUN DUN DUUUUUNNN!





It looks like Everdred, boss of Burglin Park, has lost. You're one strong kid, you know that? To be so powerful that your pet mouse would be all it takes to finish me... I am really impressed.



Er...oh, yeah, I planned it all along! I noticed you sprain your ankle when you jumped and then I pretended to be crushed by your mighty brow knitting until you were completely distracted! It was a complex plan, but very risky, you see.



Anyways, I know that you want to find out about a girl named Paula.

She was kidnapped and taken to a secret hideout in Peaceful Rest Valley.

A chubby boy and a weird guy in a blue outfit said they were going to use her as a human sacrifice. They were definitely hard-core strange.



A chubby boy? There's only one person I could think of who would do something so rotten... But why would he be all the way out here? Maybe I'm just jumping to conclusions...



Okay, then! We're off to Peaceful Rest Valley! ...Right?

Um... come back here later, okay? I could use some help...

Let me check the Player's Guide...

Aha! Hold on, Ness, we have to visit Apple Kid before we go, otherwise we'll get stuck!

Hi, could you tell me where I can find the Apple Kid?



Why would you want to meet that airheaded, dweeby Apple Kid? The Orange Kid is an ultra-genius! You should see him, instead.



Orange Kid?!

Awesome, I bet he looks really freaky! I wonder if fruit juice comes out when he sneezes...



Well, that was easy enough. I guess he must be a pretty popular kid to have his own sign...



Greetings. I'm Orange Kid, the inventor.

Have you heard of me?

I'm a bit embarrassed about my reputation.



Orange Kid is sooooo cute!

Orange Kid is sooooo smart!

Aw man, Orange Kid is sooooo...disappointing.

Where's the massive head at?

Wait, if he's an inventor, then maybe he can make some kind of Paula tracking device.

Of course! That was what I had to come here for!

Ahhh...
The taste of success!



Did you want an autograph?

Oh, wait, you're the kid who's going to Peaceful Rest Valley.

For the right price, I could help you get through there no problem!

MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY
MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY
MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY
MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY
MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY

A more reliable source, huh?

Can I really trust this kid with 200 dollars?

MONEY MONEY MONEY
MONEY MONEY MONEY
MONEY MONEY MONEY

What do you think? It kind of sounds like he's trying to rip me off. Should I go talk to the Apple Kid instead?



Don't worry! We found a more reliable source. Nothing can go wrong.



You understand, of course, that you have made a contribution that will save mankind. I have waited for this day, and have a gift ready for the chosen hero that would fund my work.



It is my ultimate creation! This invention will spread peace and goodwill on Earth! You see? I've invented joy itself!



The "Super Orange Machine!" I call it "Suporma" for short. It is the true form of all that is orange. I even coated it in orange juice.

Neat! I thought it would be more orange, though...



Oh, it's starting to play something... Sounds a little like Ode to Joy...



Orange Kid, oh
Orange Kid, oh
Super genius, Orange Kid!



Incredible genius, Amazing genius,
Genius of geniuses, Oraaange Kid!

Handsome and witty,
Oh such a pity.

Don't you wish you were a quarter as cool?



Orange you glad to witness my true self?



Heh
Heh!

Wins every contest.

Is completely undefeated.

His dancing is even Captain Strong approved!

My liege... I am not worthy!





Geez, that was certainly obnoxious.
I really hope this next kid manages
to be of some help.



The Apple Kid will
definitely help out.
I know this because my
shades give me super
perception.

You're the one who led me to Orange Kid
after that girl, if you recall.
I bet he has his quirks, but Apple Kid
just seems somewhat more reliable,
anyways.



...Burgers...
...Chicken...
...Hot dogs...

Um...
Hello?

Oh, hello there,
This is the residence
of my master, Apple Kid.
We hear you are interested
in making an investment...
say, maybe 200 dollars?



Psst...
See if we can get him to
give us some food, too...

Hey, uh...
What's-your-face!
Oh, that's right,
you don't have a name!



You're as obnoxious
as ever, Reginald Jr.
If you're helping this
kid, he'll be lost forever.

What can you give me?
I'll get to work later,
first I need to eat!



If you rip me off
I'll turn you into
apple juice.

Oooo
Woooo!
These oranges taste
superb!



Please tell me this isn't a
singing phone...
I don't think I could take an
"Apple Kid Boogaloo."

Setting out for his destination, Ness walks down the path to Peaceful Rest Valley at long last.
With only a vague idea of where he needs to go,
Ness finds himself full of doubt.
With Paula in trouble, there is no time to waste.
And certainly...there is no time for another musical.

I guess if I follow
this road I'll be
on the right track...



Ho ho.
He's almost
here...
A few more
steps!



Ta-dah!
Allow me to steal the show!
If he thinks he's getting past here
without wasting more time, he has another
thing coming!
I'll take up at LEAST two more
pages!

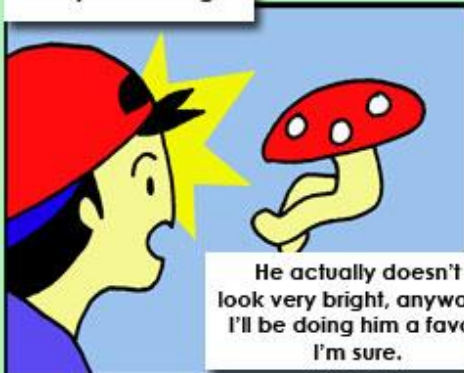


A walking mushroom?!
Was that hippie telling the truth?!
I better watch out, or it'll take over
my mind!



Ho ho!
No weapon can
overcome my
mental assault!
Get ready for my
best routine!

It's fast!
I didn't expect this
enemy to be so agile!



He actually doesn't
look very bright, anyways.
I'll be doing him a favor,
I'm sure.

Yep, just as I thought!
You're mine now, spanky!



Oh...
This is bad...
I knew I should've
kept that tinfoil hat...

Ho ho!
Fear not, Ness!
I have entered your mind,
but you are still you!
Well...
most of you is still you!



Whew, and here I thought
something strange would happen!
I guess I was just worried
for nothing, right, Ness?



Ha ha!
You said it, Ness!
MOOOOOOOOOON!

Ness,
who're
you talking
to?

Suddenly
I feel
as if the
world
all makes
perfect
sense!



My inner
selves
are
calling
out!
They want
to sing!!
Let's go!



You've shown me how
to make each moment count



And I know now
What life's all about



Life is but a moment
A single grain of sand

That slips right through the hourglass
And slips right through your hand

Life is but a twinkle
The winking of an eye



A star that lights the universe
A flash across the sky



You came to me
Just like a shooting star

You gave to me
The love that's in your heaaaaart



I've barely set foot out of the cave and this place already gives me a really bad feeling...



Oh well, better get moving!

Oh, my! What an amazing mushroom!! I love it!!



Hee hee! Pleasure doing business with you!

Whoa, what's this?! I've encountered some strange obstacles so far, but this makes absolutely no sense! The only way it could possibly be worse is if that were an octopus!



I can't get around this weird pencil! Help!



This is tough... It's blocking us entirely!

What do I do? Maybe I can jump over it!

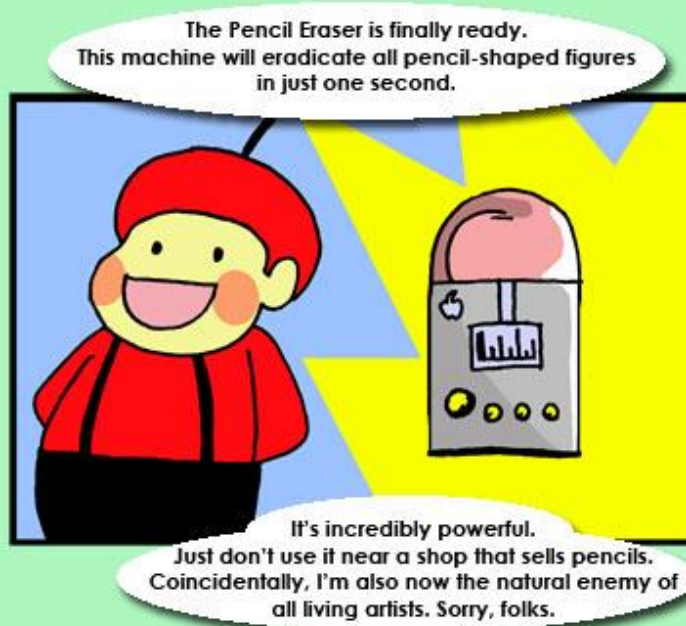


Sorry, Ness, but you can't jump in this game. There's just no way for us to get over to this side.

Excellent. That means I can use Ness to collect more mushrooms to sell. Heh heh...



Aw, man... I don't believe it... Is this really the way my journey comes to an end? Let's go back...





Well, that went smoothly!
Now I just have to head back
to Peaceful Rest Valley.

Whoooooa buddy! Hold your horses there, friend.
Do I have a deal for you! My antique shop isn't getting much business,
so I'm looking to sell the sign that sits in front of me!
With it, you'll make loads of cash!



Blah blah blah...
...Wait, did I just hear
"loads of cash?"



I'll take it!
This is too good of
an item to pass up
on!



Oh boy, now's my chance!
Time to get rid of some
unwanted junk!

What're you--
You're selling me?!
That's not fair!!



Hmmm...You're right.
I'm sorry, I don't
know what I was thinking.

Maybe you're
not such a bad kid
afterall.



I'll just take off
this label and come up with
a different sale...



This is MUCH more
reasonable!
Don't you think?

Traitor!!
Monster!!
Get Smash Attacked!!

Everytime I turn around another batch
of enemies crop up!
By the time I finish beating them,
two more groups are taking their place!!



Look! I don't even have to aim my swings!
I just swing at air and manage to hit something
every single time!



Oh no, this alien is STILL following me!
It must be flying out of range of all
my attacks!



I must be getting
pretty close now...

There's a strong psychic
energy coming from
further ahead.



If Paula is as powerful as
everyone says she is,
I'll definitely have to
work hard getting
her free from captive...

Gah! Can't dodge in time!!
I....Uh...
Wait, this doesn't hurt at all.
What's it doing to me??



A COLD?!
YOU GAVE ME A COLD?!
How can I fight back
against that??





Oho, what do we have here?
This goofy tree looks incredibly slow,
so it should be an easy target for my bat!



Hyaaa!
Get ready for some real pain!
I'll make short work of you,
then sell the remains for firewood!




This is way too dangerous...
The murderous intent from this tree is
worse than ten Lardna Minches....




My PP is too low to attack it
with psychic energy...
If only--
Wait, that's...









I guess I should be happy I'm still alive,
but I really have no idea where I am...




To make matters worse, my hair is burnt
and my newly formed afro is too big
so I can't wear my hat anymore...




Thankfully there are still
kind strangers out there...
Ones that only wish to help
and won't make my life
more disturbing...



You poor boy...
Let me help!




Oh, you're a mess!
Don't worry, I know just
how to fix this!




Hyup! There we go!
Good as new!




I...
I don't...
...understand anything anymore...



I see you're not from around here!
Welcome to Happy Happy Village!
Have you just been recruited recently?
My name is Cultist Number 45!



Um... Happy Happy Village?
What's so happy about this place?
It looks really strange...
Oh, and my name is Ness...
Nice to meet you.

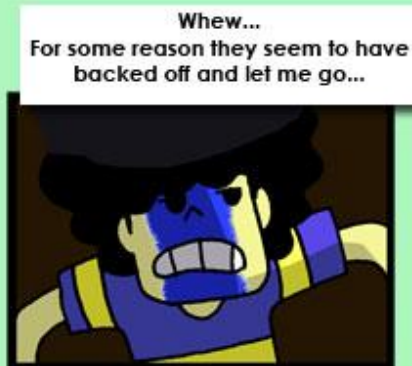


Which one of you has been
using my paintbr--

OH!
IT'S NESS!!

**DID YOU SAY...
NESS??**

Who said Ness?!
I heard Ness!!



I think that's Paula!
I finally found her, but...
I can't let her see me like this!!
What do I do?!

First impressions are everything, kid!
If you don't win her heart at first
glance, she may never fall in love
with you!
Leave this to me!



I feel like my old self again!
How did you manage to get
my hair back to normal
so quickly??

If there's one thing
I know for sure, kid...
It's STYLE!



I'll put on my coolest expression
and win her over in one shot...



Cry no longer, miss...
I have brought the key...to your heart.

No response... Okay, the action hero
approach should definitely work!

Fear not!
I'll break you out
with my deadliest
glare!



Nothing... Well, time to use my trump card!



Woop Woop!

THESE GUYS ARE
EVEN FREAKIER
THAN I THOUGHT!!!

Don't worry, I'm not with them!
My name is Ness, a hero from Onett!
I've been looking all over for a girl named Paula...
I'm here to save you!



Ness! It's really you, isn't it?
I'm so glad...
I had a dream that a boy named Ness
would come and rescue me...
I know it's hard to believe, but you're my destiny!



W-Wow!
Did you hear that?
She called me her destiny!
What do I do?



Alright, kid!
You're in!
Don't sit there gawking,
go talk to her!

Sorry I'm late!
I'll get you out
right away!
Er...
How do I do that?

The door is locked...
but Carpainter has the key.
You'll need to be prepared
if you're going to fight him,
though...



You can take this Franklin Badge with you...
Carpainter can control lightning,
but with this you'll be able to deflect it!



Ooh,
nifty!

Ness...
Please come back
and save me once
you defeat Carpainter,
okay?



I don't want to be alone anymore...

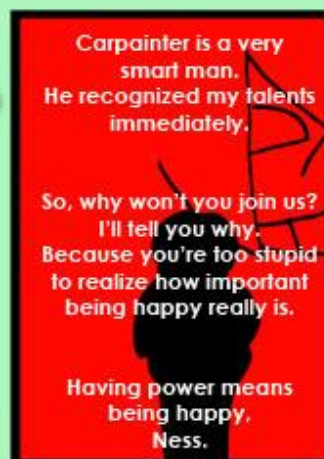
Grrr...
Carpainter, you monster!!
I'll crush your entire cult for making
Paula cry!!



Kick some butt,
and maybe a few faces,
too!

Paula!
I promise I'll be back!
It may take a couple pages,
but I'll definitely see you again!!





Of course, he runs off first chance he can get... I have no choice but to stand and fight!
I've spent too much time running up until now, so this time I'll charge the cult head on!



Ho ho!
That hat of yours is offensive to the eyes!
Carpainter would have a fit if we let you wear something like that in his presence!!



Whoa, that paint is lethal!
If I don't sidestep fast enough,
I'll be more than just blue in the face!



Your skills have improved!
I see you've been training.
But your punches are still
no match for mine!!



That's what you think!
My Spiteful Punch will be
the last thing you ever see!



When my life is
on the line...



...I'll never lose!!

Let me...
SHOW YOU MY MOVES!!



Aghhh!!
No way, you beat me AGAIN!!
Could the Reginald Punch be that much
stronger than my Spiteful Punch?!



Your gang may have copied my looks,
but your rip-off punch is no match for mine!



It doesn't matter how many games we play,
I'll beat you every single time!



THAT'S NOT FAIR!
YOU HACKED THE GAME!!



What?
The Hamburglar
was always a
Pokémon!

I give up...
You're on a whole different level,
Reginald.
After all this time and I still can't
beat you at a single game.



Well, looks like Ness is about done, anyways.
Tell your gang never to show their faces before
the great Reginald again!



I'M
INSANE CULTIST H!
FEAR MY--

AGH, MY BACK!!

Now that I've gained a few levels,
I'll have to break into their
headquarters and put an
end to this.



Could he be one of them?
I better watch my back...



Y-You're Ness, right?
I...I've been...
...watching you...

I think my
heart just stopped.



H-Hey kid...
I have a few things I'd...
like to ask you...

Ness...
The eggs! They're gone.
What happened...to the eggs?
There were eggs here, but they
are gone now.
My eggs... Precious eggs...

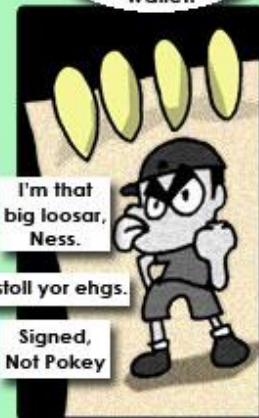


Buddy, you are
CREEPING ME OUT.
Listen, I don't care
about the eggs!
Shut up and go away!



Then please, tell me...
Why did you steal...
...the eggs?

You even left me
such a nice letter...
I keep it in my
wallet.



I'm that
big looser,
Ness.
I stole yor ehgs.
Signed,
Not Pokey

That idiot!!
Even when he's not around he still
somehow manages to cause trouble
for me!
And what's with that picture??
I don't get THAT mad!!



On second thought, maybe I have
the wrong kid afterall...
Up close you have much fatter cheeks
and really stubby legs.

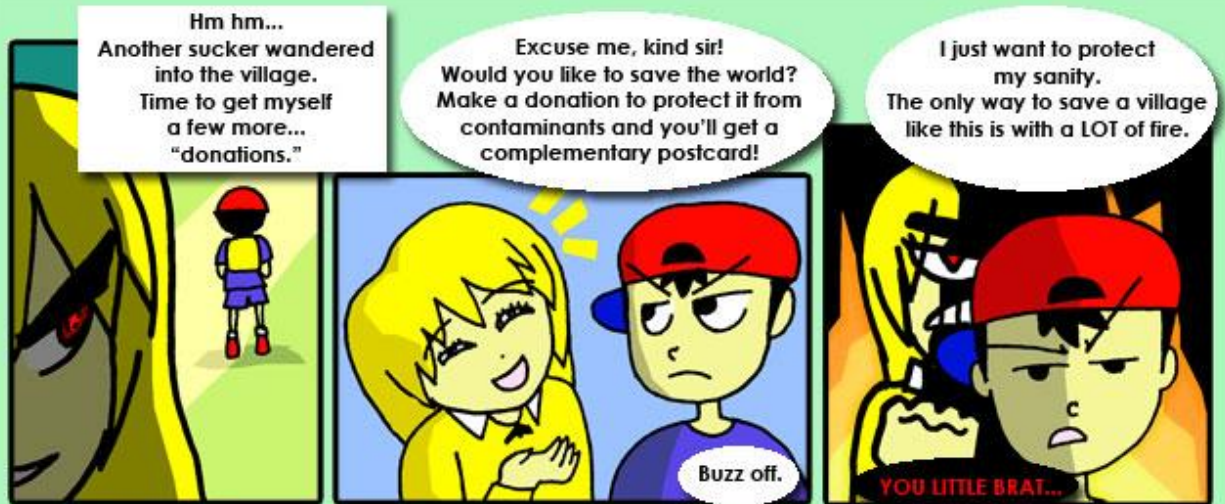


If you're still here when
I'm done with Carpenter,
I'll crush you.



You wouldn't happen to have a
less ugly twin named Ness,
would you, chubs?

What, no restraining order?
He's no fun at all...



Well, well.
What do we have here?
I see this place is in serious need
of a new paint job.
I'll have to rearrange more than
just your faces when I'm done
with this place.



NESS!
He's still alive!!

Capture him!
He's Carpenter's
greatest enemy!

I want
a pony!!



I don't have all day, so just line up in a row
and throw yourselves at my bat until
I knock you all out!



This kid is an expert tactician.
If we go one at a time, he'll have
no problem...

I bet if
I beat Ness
I'll get my
pony...



Quick!
Blue Blue Formation!

Huh, they're not as dumb
as the Sharks were...
Looks like I'll have to take
to the sky for this one!



Waaaaah!

Nooooo!

Guh!

Conveniently Placed
Ultra One-Hit Kick...
ATTACK!!



Well, maybe
next time...

I sure hope
we get free
health care!



I don't really understand
what's going on here.



Kabuki Blue will not fight you.
He will instead test the strength of
your soul.

HOOO!



KABUUUUUUUEKI!

Yoooh!



FRENCH FRY!

Hoooh...
You may pass,
honorable Ness.



I have no idea
what just happened.

GRRR...
SOMEONE DISTURBS...
MY SLUMBER...



RUMBLE

Ho Ho...
You puny boy...
Don't you know how offensive
this cap is to my eyes?
I'll crush it...
AND THEN YOU!



Who turned out
the lights?

GWA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!



Nobody...
touches...
my hat...





Could he have possibly beaten all of my guards? If he makes it here, I'll have no choice but to fight him myself!

Ever since I picked up this statue I've been itching for a fight, anyways. I don't know what happened, but I feel like I finally have the power to make my dream a reality...



If you defeat him, all of your wishes will come true. But only once he's out of the picture.



Guh!
W-Wow...
I must really be going crazy!
This is the third time I've heard that voice!



Waiting up in here is taking its toll on me... But I can't face the world until it's all colored blue. I...never want to see red again...



Once my army of blue is set, we'll create a society of peace and happiness!



Of course...
There is one major problem that is going to wreck my plans.
And it seems he's finally arrived.



Ness.
The voice is right.
In order for the world to be happy...

You must die.

Do you think we have time for a flashback? My backstory is pretty interesting, you know.



I've seen it, and I really don't think you should tell it. If people find out I'm influencing you, they'll start calling me the Embodiment of Boredom.

Whoa... I just sensed something really terrifying... Almost as if... Someone was about to tell a really pathetic backstory...



Several years ago I was an innocent teenager with a deep love for the color blue...



I was a handsome lad with an incredible fashion sense. My blue beanie was the envy of many...



But one day my happiness would forever come to an end. There was a group that hated my beanie...with a passion.

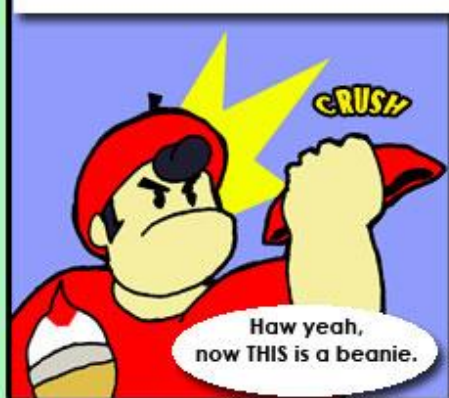


An apple a day...

We're rotten to the core.

...brings a beating your way!

The Rotten Apples. The greatest scum Twoson had to offer. Their leader, Apple Adolescent, crushed the life out of my beanie and painted it their trademark apple red. On that day...the blue in my heart...died.



Haw yeah, now THIS is a beanie.



I will never forget that day. This black cap is a testament to my lost beanie. I will wear no color upon my head...until it is finally returned....





There's only one place I can let you go if you intend on freeing Paula. Now be a good boy and let me sacrifice you!



All I need to do is line up one good hit. He looks really weak without his lightning to back him up.

You may have deflected my first electric assault, but this next one will really do you in for good!!



Uh...didn't you read the last page? Franklin Badge, buddy!



This is my chance... he's wide open!



That's just what I was waiting for! Your time is up, Carpenter!



Oh no! He's leaping at me in a dramatic manner! I'm doomed!!

You were much too weak. But this is what you deserve for all that you've done.



GUH! What an attack!

Ho ho... You foolish fool. You've fallen right into my trap without even realizing it!







Not so fast!
I can't let you do that, Ness.
If you were to use your psychic power,
you might actually beat me!

Oh no!
It doesn't look like he's
going to give me time
to hit him with PSI Rockin!

I guess you just haven't been
beaten into the ground enough!
Let's work on that!



No way!

This kid just doesn't know when to give up.
If we go on like this, it'll be years before he rescues Paula.



This is bad...
I'm going to pass out at this rate...
I have to put a stop to this soon,
otherwise we're going to be
censored for sure...



But if I win...
Then I'll be the star
of the comic!!
YES!!

He's planning something...
This next attack is going to be something big...
However, I think this may be my
best chance...



I'm going to beat the
plot right out of this story!

Look forward to my
replacement comic,
"Carpainter: NYPD Blue!"



What?!
That's such a horrible title,
it completely threw me
off guard!

BAMI!



My vision is starting to fade
once again...
I really wish he'd stop
punching me in the face...



What's that you say?
You want another punch...
IN THE FACE?!



What's wrong, Carpenter?
I'm wide open, but you seem to
have pulled your punch
at the last second.



What is this...?
Suddenly I feel a surge
of incredible power...
But...when did he?!



This is what I was waiting for.
I finally understand the extent of this power!
Maybe in time I can level it up even more!



CARPENTER!
I saved this just for you!
My greatest attack!!

PSI ROCKIN B!!!

I'm putting all of my power behind this...
If I lose here, I'll let down everyone who
is waiting back in Twoson for Paula to return...



He's...
too
powerful...



I can feel
the power
of blue
being
drained
from this
place!

That attack hit me so hard it
drained all of the color out of me!



If only I could
reach my
paintbrush...

Just...
one more...
coat of
paint...

You're done for,
Carpenter.



Now that I've
had time to heal,
I'll help repaint
you...

With my FIST!



POW!

Gurk!

Unless you want another beating,
you'd better cough up the key.
And not literally...
You seem like the kind of guy
who would eat the thing,
honestly.



V-Very well...
It's...yours...

Finally, I can get out of this place!
Hang on, Paula, I'm on my way!



Ness...
When you first appeared in my dreams,
I knew you would be the one who would save me
if I were to ever get into trouble...



Oh my goooosh!
I can't believe how
cool you are!

I've always believed that you were destined
for something much larger, though...
And because of that, I'll do whatever I can
to support you!



NO!
Sky blue is
the BEST!

Blue sucks,
period!
I'm all
about stripes
now!

I've always thought that there was nobody
else who would understand what it's like
to have this kind of power, but here you
are, fighting to save the world...



So, Ness... I've decided!
When you return here, the first thing I'll do...is say thank you.
Not just for all that you've done, but for all you'll do on this journey.
When you leave this village, there will be many obstacles...



By following you on this journey, I'll make up for
all that you've done for me. Ness, from now on...
You're not alone anymore!

We'll do this together!
For all the hardships you'll put up with,
I'll help you carry everything!



Ness, before we go...
I have to say one thing...

Y..You guys!!
sob
I love you
guys!!



...Thank you.



It looks like we're destined to save the world together, Ness!

And so, with that, I gained my first companion! I guess now that makes us the Chosen Two!



Oh, I almost forgot! My friend here will help us on our journey, too!



He kept me company while I was being held captive!



Ho ho, you cheeky boy. Putting your arms on this young lady, eh?? I've got my eyes on you, punk!

Wha? This fuzzball doesn't look tough to me. Who'd be able to rely on something so fluffy?



poke~
poke~



**GRAAAARR!
YER ASKIN'
FOR IT, EEB!!**



This is gonna be fun!

Yeah!

Gaaah, Oooh!
Oh, Ness, this is it for me!
I'm a goner, old pal!
Ahhh, Oh!
The pain!
My life is forfeit!!

Okay, are you ready to go?
We'll head back to Twoson
so you can visit your family!



Ness, thank you so much!
You're so wonderful!
Just say the word and we'll get
going, leader!



Follow me, then, babe!
I'll lead a beautiful girl
like you to the ends of
the earth!



You don't have to
call me leader, though!
The name is Reginald Jr., aka,
Exit Mouse.



Um...
Hi...

She meant me!!
And how would you
lead her anywhere??
You couldn't find your way off
of a one-way street!



Oh? Is that so?
How forgetful
of you, Ness.

I've already helped you before,
but if it weren't for me you'd completely
miss the upcoming Sanctuary!
Then you'd find out about it later and
man would that be embarrassing!



Heh heh...

Well, I have to admit.
He may be annoying,
but I was too mad earlier
to even notice this cave...



Oh, well that's great!
But, Ness...what did he mean
by "Sanctuary?"

It's a magical spot, Paula...
A great and wonderful place!
There are no rules, and you can
smash everything you want to
your heart's content...
It's...beautiful...



Oh, Ness...
I can't wait!

She's a natural at this!
I guess if we stay by the entrance
for a little while, she can keep beating
up this mole for experience.
It's cruel, but effective!



Ness, this really is fun!
Who would have thought
this old frying pan would
ever make for a good
weapon?



The Mole Playing Rough is
sizing up the situation!

I see...
So this is my current situation,
but I must find a proper
conclusion...

"You got
hit
"Pain is
bad



Oh! This is impossible!
I just don't understand at all!!
What is this strange feeling in my head...?
Is this what they call...thinking?



Oh boy, I beat another one!

Gaaah!



Greetings, kind fellows!
We are Mr. Batty A and Mr. Batty B!
Before we fight, may you want to
partake in a cup of fine tea?



A new power?
This must be...



I think I'm ready to step
up to the big leagues now,
Ness!



PSI Fire o!!

We may have to be careful from here on out...
There's definitely something sinister waiting ahead...



Wh...What the...?
This place is a lot more dangerous than I gave it credit for...
I don't know what left this skeleton here, but I hope it doesn't come back for seconds...



Hey, kid...
I've got a bone to pick with ya.
Wah hah!
But seriously,
you're gonna want to start running.

This bear doesn't seem too tough, but it's probably more than a match for Paula...
This ferocious beast must be preparing for something nasty...
I'd better be on guard!



Rar.



I can't...
...I can't unsee it.

...So cute...

~stare~

On its face...
It looks like it
has a tiny face.



Ah, er...
Yes, that's right, I am your master!
This girl here works for me, so she moves
me around and speaks all of my words.



I'm glad they're leaving,
but I'm not sure how I feel
about being saved by
a stuffed bear...



We'll be on our way,
master!
Sorry to have harmed
your apprentice!



Hee hee!
If I hide off panel,
it really looks like
the bear is alive!



Thanks to the bear's help we made
it out okay, but I don't think I'll be
able to do much more from here, Ness...
I ran out of PP a little while ago...



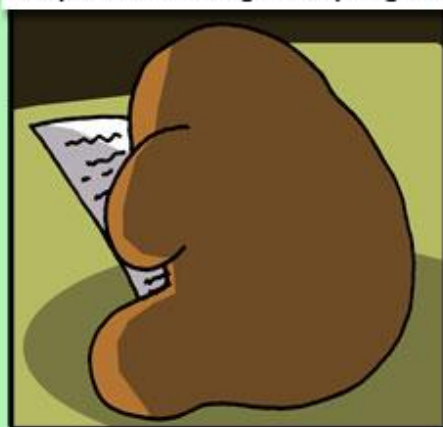
Luck must be on our side!
There's a conveniently placed Magic Butterfly,
almost as if it were a plot device
to prepare us for what's ahead!

I feel so...
touched...



What wonderful
timing!

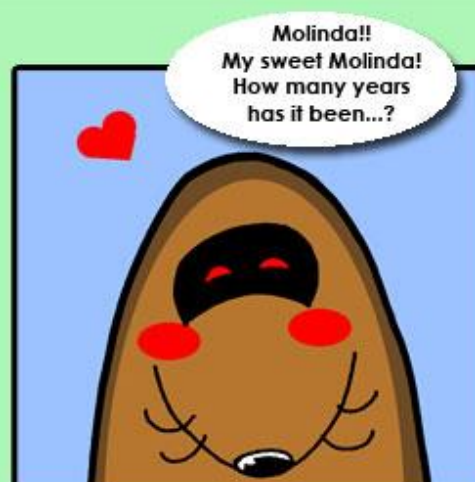
Oooh...
I see, I see...
To think he would be coming in
this direction already...
If I didn't subscribe to the Twoson Tribune,
I may have been caught totally off guard!



You little ruffians!
According to Master, Titanic Ant fell not too long ago...
I did ant see that one coming,
Fortunately I get to go next!
Any longer...and my skills would have gotten "mole"-dy.



Ness...
Prepare to be...
pun-ished.



I nearly forgot...
Ness, you've come all this way,
let me be the one to put an end
to your journey!!



I'll use my
strongest PSI
right off the bat!

You're kidding, right?
This is very disappointing.
I guess I was wrong to actually
take this seriously.



And here I brought out my best pun
in preparation for this fight!
Now you've really made me mad!



This is tough!
I didn't think he
would really hit
so hard!

Ness is trying his best,
but it looks like this mole is really powerful...
I have to do what I can!



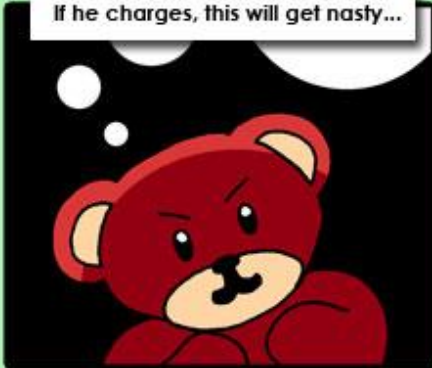
Stand back and let me take care of this!
My level may be low, but I'll burn through
anything that stands in our way!
I can come up with nifty heroic lines, too!



Wait a second.
You're not Molinda...

But you are...
in a lot of trouble.

Paula is in mortal danger!
If she takes even a single hit
from this guy, she'll be done for!
If he charges, this will get nasty...



I won't be made a fool
out of!
Ness can wait,
I'll take care of
the Molinda imposter
first!



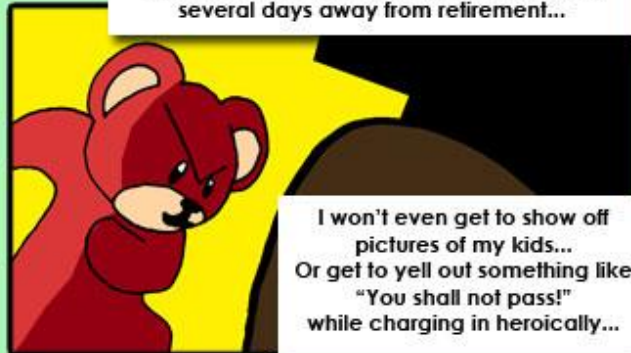
He's going after Paula?!
I can't get there fast enough,
at this rate she's going to
get hit!!



Well, I guess I knew it would come
to this eventually...

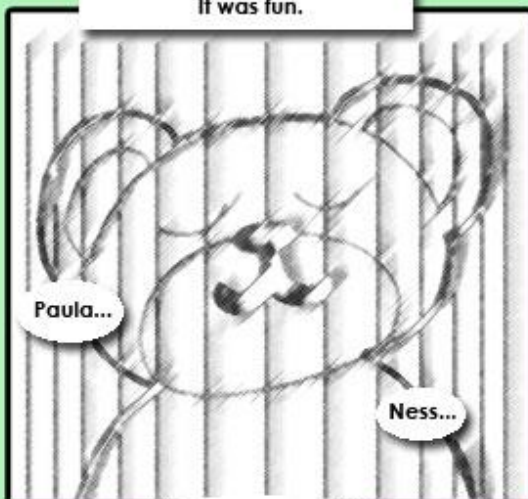


To think, I have to be sacrificed this early on!
I didn't even get to have a line about being
several days away from retirement...



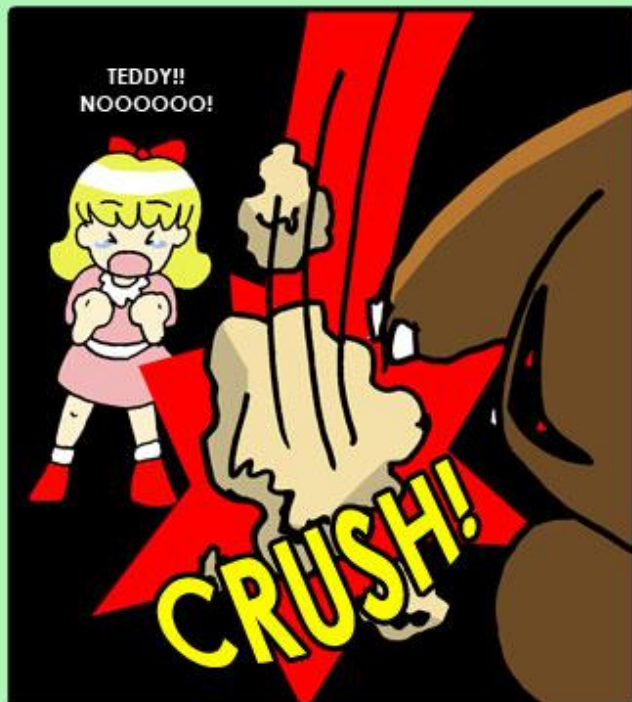
I won't even get to show off
pictures of my kids...
Or get to yell out something like
"You shall not pass!"
while charging in heroically...

But... You know...
For as short as my role was...
It was fun.



I leave the rest to you!

TEDDY!!
NOOOOOO!



How could I let this happen?!
Paula is heartbroken,
and now we're down one
companion...even if she did
kinda throw him at the mole herself...



What does it really mean
to be strong...?
I get the feeling
my approach to this
is all wrong...



Alright, you stupid mole!
I've got just the right
idea to put you down
once and for all!!



I'll make it so that
you can't move at all!
You'll never charge
anyone again!



Yeaah!
Take some of that,
you jerk!



He's all
yours.

Thank
you.



Hey!! That's not fair!
All you did was push me over onto my back
so that I can't get up!!

You don't seem to have taken much damage
from all of our PSI...
Let's see how you fare after several
games of whack-a-mole.



Oh, it's horrible!!
I had no idea Paula
was capable of such
brutal acts of violence!



Due to the graphic violence contained within
this panel, censorship must be put in place
to ensure the comic meets the standards
of Earthbound's age appropriateness.



While Paula brutally wails on Mondo Mole,
enjoy the relaxing image of a cute
kitten napping peacefully.

We saw the whole thing!!
I won't let you get away
with this!!



Hey! It's me again.
Puppies are cute, right? And check
out that frog.



Please enjoy this temporary image
as Mondo Mole is pieced back together
so as to appear presentable for the next
panel.



Teddy...
You've been
avenged at last.

Your sacrifice has
not been in vain...

Paula, this is it!
Lilliput Step's sanctuary
is just past here!

Let's go, Ness!
Suddenly I feel
a lot better!

I...
I feel cheated...

CENSORED

These spots have some sort of importance in our journey...
Before I came to Twoson, I went to one called Giant Step
and recorded a melody with this stone...

Wow, you've gone
through a lot already,
Ness...
How did you get
that stone?

It's...
a long story.

I feel a rush of power!
This is the same feeling
I had at the last sanctuary...
Another image is suddenly
filling my mind...



It's me, as a baby...
Wearing my lucky red cap,
of course.
I sure had a big head...



I see...
So each of the
melodies can
be pieced
together...



With the melody recorded I guess we should move on, then!
It's a good thing the images only appear to me, though, otherwise...



--Hey!
You're not
suppose to
see this!

How did you
even do that??

Why bother worrying about logic
at this point in the story?
Help me carry this home so I can
hang it in my room!



Finally, I'm rid of him at last!
There's no way he'd ever dare cross our path again after Paula
chased him non-stop through all of Peaceful Rest Valley.

Don't worry, once this journey is over
we'll find him and smack him around
a bit!



How could he
have possibly run
that fast??
He must have
eaten at least fifty
Skip Sandwiches...



I couldn't have asked
for a better friend.

So we've finally made it to Polestar Preschool... I'm really glad Paula's coming with me,
but I wonder just where we should go from here...



Oh, Paula, you're home
at long last!
I knew that boy would be
the one to bring you
home!

PAULA!!
I WAS SO WORRIED!!
WAAAAHHHH!!
NESS IS MY HERO!!!!!!

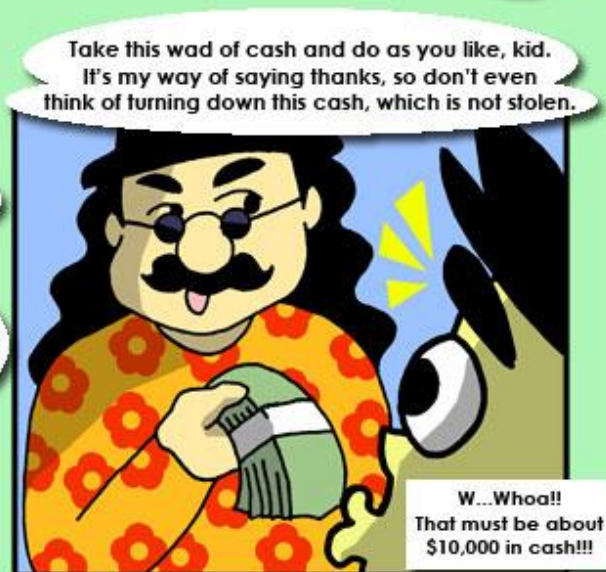


Mom! Dad!
I know I worried you,
but everything is okay now...
Ness and I can take care
of ourselves!

Ho ho!
You're so right, Paula...
I guess I'll just have to
wait until I get my
own prequel...

In Threed, there's another
friend waiting to help us!
Your level is too high,
so it would be too easy
if you came along,
dad...













we don't have a single dime!



couldn't cut it
as a mime!



There's a problem with our size!

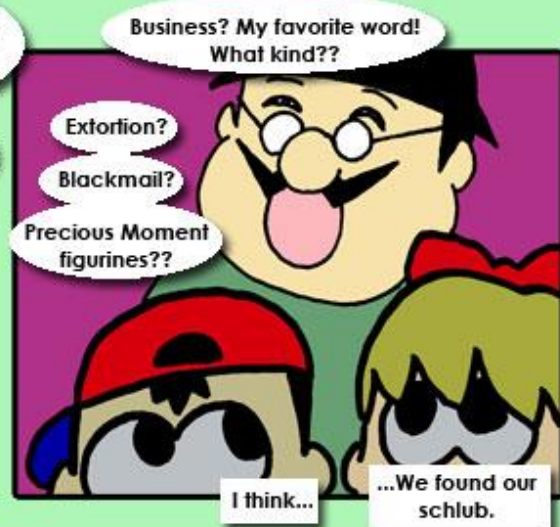
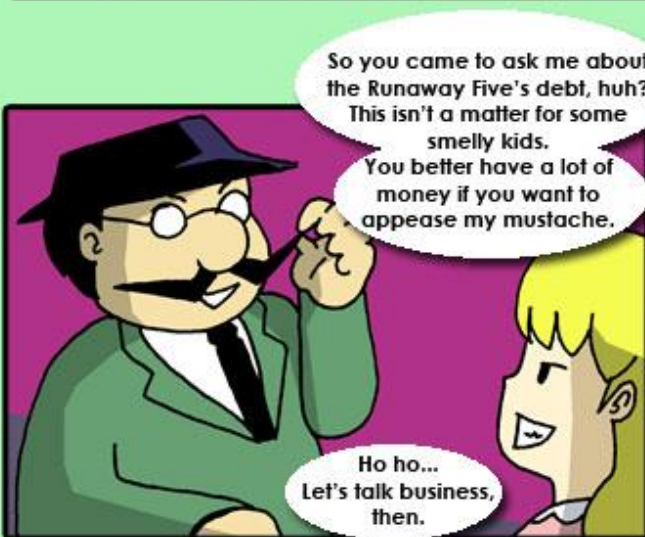


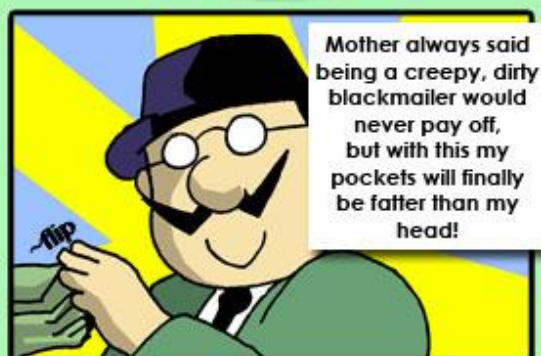
why do we have six guys??



For no reason here's a pie!







Lucky, I knew we would have to part someday... I could always kidnap you, but it wouldn't be fair to the world...



Hey, you kids gonna get on the bus? We're all set to go to Threed!



We need to go shopping first!

Let's check out the mall!

Get on... the bus!
Get on... the bus! **THE BUS!**



Let's get a burger while we're here!

We should stop by the park, too!

This is my chance to get a few speaking lines!

Get on... the bus!
Get on... the bus! **THE BUS!**



Okay... we get it...

We'll get on in a minute...

This photograph will always bring back the fondest of memories...

Get on... the bus!
Get on... the bus! **THE BUS!**



Please, just hold on...

You can stop singing now...

STOP NAGGING US THROUGH SONG!!



THEN GET ON THE BUS!!

WE HAVE TO BE ON THE BUS BY THE NEXT PAGE!!



3, 2, 1... Let's GO!
Hey, sidewalk!
Get outta the way!



Hey, dog!
Get outta the way!!

This guy
drives like
a maniac!!



Hey, you!
...Er, actually,
stay right
there.



I thought the talk about
the haunted tunnel was
just a rumor...

They'll try to spook us,
but they're really
harmless.

Are...you okay,
Paula...?

Y...Yeah...



Uwee hee hee hee!

That's...
horrifying...

Don't worry, they can't reach us,
so it can't get any worse...right?



Uwa ha ha ha ha!

On...
the count...
of three...

One...

Two...

Three...





Um, excuse me... Could you help us?

Hyuk Hyuk... What do we have here?? You in trouble, missy?









This is your lucky day, buddy!
Which will it be??
Trick...or treat?

I'll go with
"Please don't
eat my face."

Wuh oh... We're fresh out of that.



Actually, I forget which one
does what...



You can scare them,
but let me be the
one to scar them
for life!

I'll just give 'em a little trick,
then a little treat!



You're goin' down, sister!
Time to pay up!!

What did I
ever do to
you??



N...No way...
I can't go through
with it....

I can't dare
to throw...
my babies...

Agoo!

Baba
Bababa!



YOU USELESS CLOD!!
I want to see those
babies flyin'!!

CHOP!!

When you have children
of your own,
you'll understand...





Zombies, huh...?
I'd be freaking out right about now,
but I'm just too angry...

It looks like we
have some visitors...

Master Belch
won't be very
happy if we
just let them
through.

I'll show them
a good time...



It's...strange... I feel as if he's staring into my very soul...



It's not that I'm shy...
It's just...
If I look, I may scream in a girlish
manner...

~STARE~



OH MY GOD.
I HATE THIS
PLACE!!

~STAAAAAAAAAAAAARE~

They ran
away...

I guess we should've tried
picking their brains a little.



See, using odd
expressions like that
is what makes you such
an anti-social
zombie.







I can't believe I let us get captured so easily... I can't even look Paula in the face now...



This is just like before... Maybe if I call out to our friend like I did with Ness...

Jeff! Please, if you can hear this call... My name is Paula, and I need your help! I am with my friend, Ness... We've been searching for you...



Winters,
a small country
to the north



Snow Wood Boarding House



I feel like we've been here before...



I'm a little shy... This will be my first kiss...

Oh Jeff... I've been waiting for this...



I thought I told you to stop watching me while I'm sleeping.

I can't help it! You make such wonderful faces!



This is going to be... a long night.



Tony ran off into the other room...
Oddly, it seems like we're the only two
that went right to bed.



Tony, what're you doing?
We've got to get going!

H-Hey!
Those're mine!



I'm taking
all of the
cookies for
our trip!

And if you tell ANYONE...
The next cookie you make will be
decorated with your remains.



When it comes to Jeff,
Tony becomes too scary
for words...

Since everyone is up,
maybe I'll get a chance
to meet with Maxwell.



Maxwell?
I think he's still
working downstairs...

Finished at last!
My latest invention is a MEGA success!

What's $1+3+3+7$ equal?
Maxwell, baby.



Maxwell is a well respected worker.
He's so intent on being as great as my dad that
he adopted his "no sleep" lifestyle.



I wonder what
kind of incredible
formula he's come
up with now...

I'll check with Maxwell first and see if I can take any useful gadgets on my way out.



Ah, if it isn't Jeff and Tony!
I always see you two together.
Word is that you two are...
good friends.



We do everything
together!

Is that so? Well, Jeff is pretty amazing,
especially since he's the son of
the incredible Dr. Andonuts.
He's a world class genius, you know!



Although, rumor has it that
he's also very strange...



N-Nobody ever proved any of
those rumors were true!



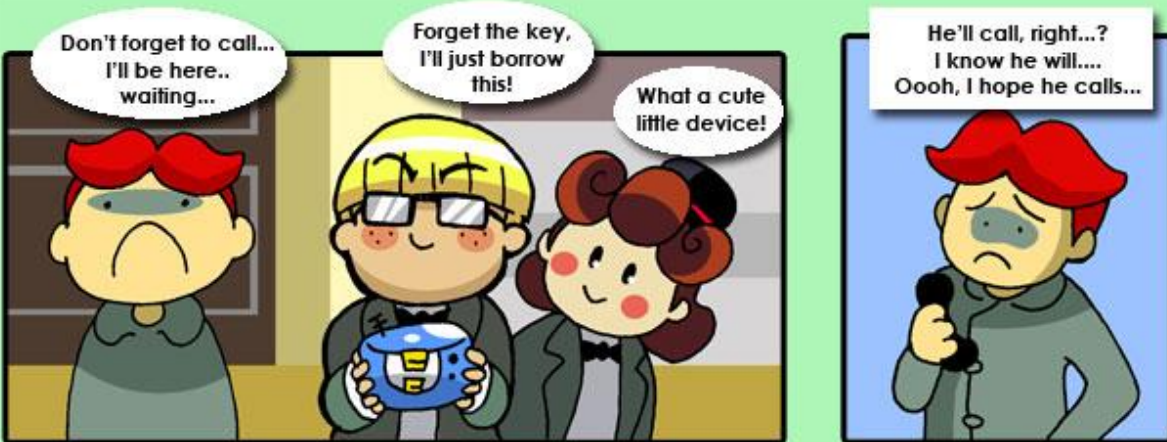
Well,
anyways, if you
guys are heading to
the locker room,
take this key!

Will it even
open anything?

This key...
It's bent.

Actually...no.
But this way you'll
have to come back
and I can make sure I
get to appear on the
next page.





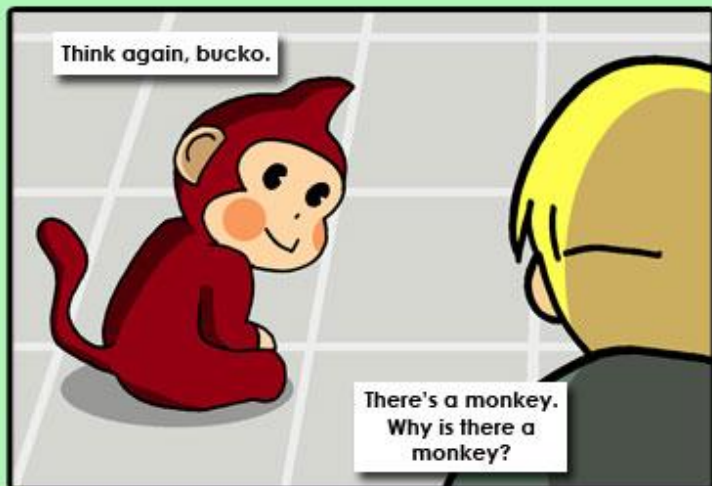


To think, he would use himself as a step so I could climb over...



It's time I begin my journey. Until Paula and Ness have been rescued, the world needs me!





For a bubble monkey, this is the height of pure bliss...



I suppose we should head out, then. We have a bit of a ways to go...



You cover the ground, buddy! I've got the sky!

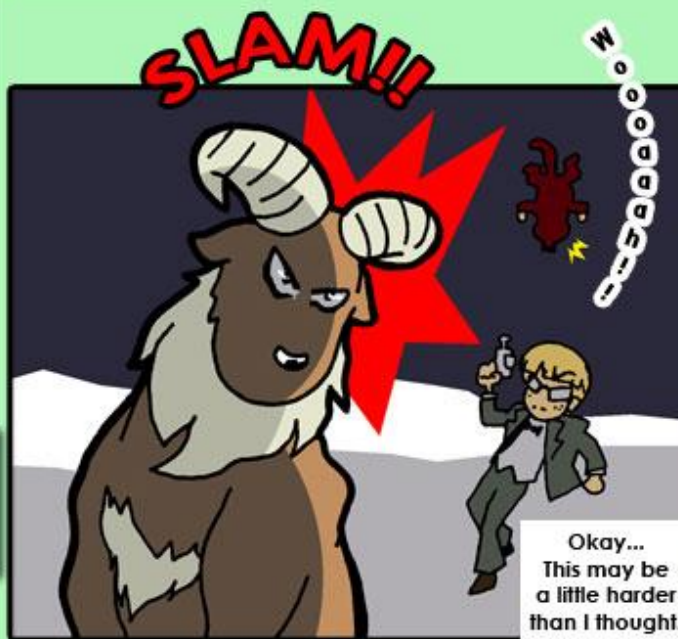
Hopefully if we get attacked it's by anything but a Gruff Goat. If anything, I'd definitely like to avoid fighting one if possible.



Excellent, just as planned. Thanks to the power of reverse psychology, I'll be able to level twice as fast.



Surprise attack!! Get ready for the green swirling of a lifetime, beardy!



Okay... This may be a little harder than I thought.

According to this pattern, he must be
readying a charge attack...
I'll run alongside until he turns to
make his approach and that's when
I'll take my shot!



The results are successful!
This is what I was waiting for!



Sorry, but I have
no intention of
stopping here.



I cannot lose!
The main character
always wins in
a pinch!

You're
only a
temp--
GAH!



The snow is
picking up
a little...

Trusty
Bubble Monkey,
let us find shelter!

Leave it
to me,
Sharpshooter!



Wow! You'll never
believe it,
but there's a lake
party further ahead!

Everybody has
binoculars, too...
Maybe there's
a female camp
across the lake?

I...
I'm a little
excited.





Lake Tess... How are we going to get across, anyways?



Hello there, young man!
My, you seem to be rather uncomfortable...

Maybe...
a little...



Being a member of
the Tessie-Watching club
means never parting
with your binoculars!

In that case I'll just talk
to you from all the way
over here...



I've had these binoculars on
for so long that they've become
stuck on my face!

Fortunately, I'll never miss my
chance at catching Tessie now.



Tessie is the essence of beauty and grace!
You're a fan, too, right?

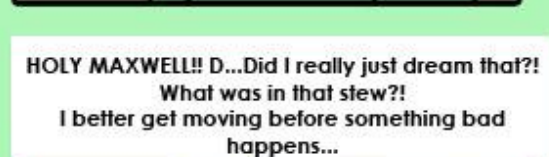
I'm a HUGE
fan now!
Any monkey
can see...
Baby's got
back!!



Welcome to the club!
These gifts are free
with your membership!

It's rare to
feel this
uncomfortable
without Tony
around...

I kind of
like it!





We sailed for awhile, posing as epically as we could to fit the dramatic fanfare playing in my head. It wasn't until this moment that I really felt as if I was about to embark on a journey that would not only change my life, but the world as well.



It's been a long time since I've seen my father, so I'm a little excited to meet with the great Dr. Andonuts again and find out what inventions he's come up with.

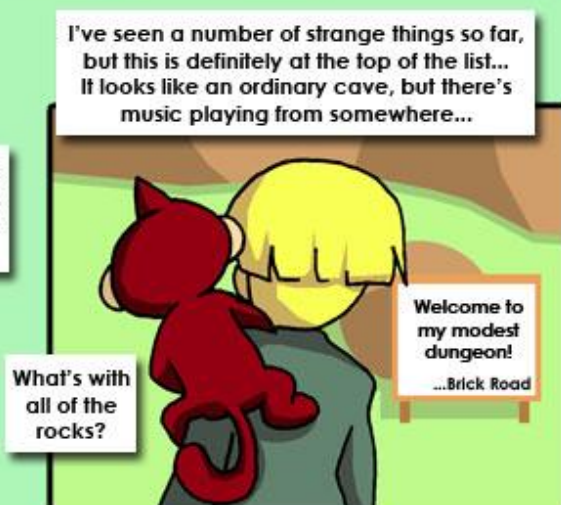
I actually was still hoping there would be a female camp...

...and so then I jump kicked it in the FACE...

I still remember the first invention he made for me when I was an infant... A rattle that fired lasers... What a great dad...

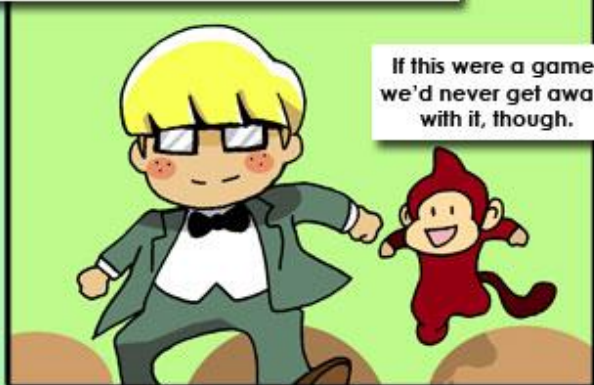
Oh!
This is it!







It's even easier if I step inbetween the rocks instead of going over them!
I hope this isn't the type of maze that tests morals like courage or heroics...



If this were a game, we'd never get away with it, though.

Another one of those signs...
"Watch for falling materials!", huh?
Maybe this place is still under construction...



My monkey senses are telling me that this is less of a warning sign and more of a horrible omen.

Watch for falling materials!



SOMETHING'S COMING!!

IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED!!



Oho!
I finally caught up, young man!
Are you ready to have your picture taken?
Just say, "fuzzy pickles!"

FWOOOOSH~



Um...
I'm sorry, but I'd rather not...
You see, I'm kind of camera shy.

Almost getting crushed by a rock didn't help, either...



Perhaps...you did not hear me.
I SAID...
"Say fuzzy pickles."

F...Fuzzy... pickles...

I know it was just a simple picture,
but I feel as if I've lost part of my
innocence after this experience...

Make sure
you get my
good side!

Never forget, boy.
I'm always watching.

Oh God...
I'm going to
have nightmares
for weeks...

Now that you're done being scared for life,
check out how close we are to the exit!
There's a phone just ahead, too.

If my theory is correct, a whole night's worth of voodoo
dances should influence him enough to call me.
Just wait, loyal Maxwell fans, I will return shortly!

Odd...
I just had a
strong feeling that
I should give Maxwell
a call...

Yes...
Come right this way,
foolish creatures.

Goin' to call Maxwell ♪
Movin', movin' ♪
Gotta call Maxwell ♪
Walkin', walkin' ♪

Hey, did you see that?

They laughed at me,
called me worthless...
But today is the DAY!
I will show them all
just what I can DO!
THIS IS THE DAY...
OF THE PROTOPLASM!!!

Yeah, but it looked too
worthless to check out.
Let's keep going!

The...
SOB
...Worthless...
...Protoplasm...



Forget wisdom,
let's order a pizza,
with extra bubble
gum on top!



It's...too late...
He'll definitely never call again now...
And to make matters worse,
Tony will stay here hoping Jeff
will call again...



That was a bit pointless...
For all of that traveling I did,
I'm only a few feet away from
where I entered...



Um...excuse me, sir...
You've randomly been
selected for a survey
on dungeons...



Oh? A survey, huh?
Well, as far as this dungeon goes...
I was a little traumatized and I fear that
I will never trust ducks again...



Also, the phone trap with
Tony on the other line
was horrific...



Phone
trap...?

Personally, I would have made a HUGE dungeon!
One so big, it could carry an entire army within.
A mobile fortress of destruction,
outfitted with lasers that would vaporize
whatever gets in the way!



Ooh! Ooh!
Don't forget the bubble gum
dispensers!!

Half dungeon, half weapon... but ALL man!

And the outside
would be adorned
with my handsome
visage and snazzy
bowtie!



A glorious mixture of
dungeon and man!

Majestic and
proud!

An evolution
to shock
the world!!

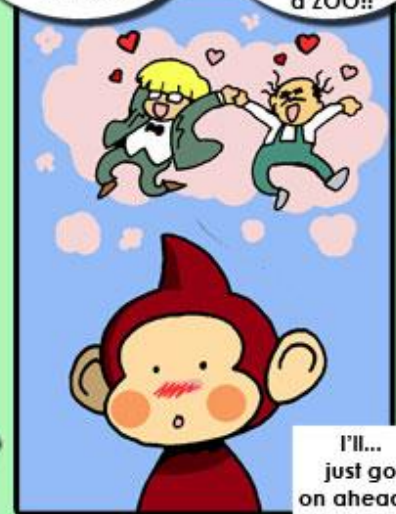
Oh! OH!
I can see it!!



D...
DUNGEON
MAN!!
SO BEAUTIFUL!!

Lasers, rockets,
explosives,
gadgets,
bowties!!

Signs, benches,
telephones,
presents,
hospitals,
a ZOO!!



I'll...
just go
on ahead...



Thanks to the overpowering joy
of bubble gum chewing,
I've managed to regain my senses...
That mushroom sure was tasty, though...



One rope, coming up!
You can rely on me anytime,
guy!

Who would have
thought gum
would have such
strong healing
properties...



Now that I've reached the top,
I can--

...Wuh??



...Huuuuuuuh?

What sort of strange science is this...??
This is so illogical, it's almost frightening...



N-N...No
R-R-Red c-cap...?

Don't say a word...
Don't make eye contact...
Just keep on walking...

P-P-Please...
Don't l-look at
m-me again...



DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT!!



Just a little
taste...

H-He won't
stop
s-staring...

A monkey wearing a ribbon...
Could this be...



She's here...
She's finally here!!
He was telling the truth
the whole time!

I'm the only one who gets
to leave Winters, but you
DO find a hot monkey wife!



....THE HOT MONKEY WIFE
HAS APPEARED!!



Oh, it was true!
I knew if I stayed here,
my Handsome Monkey
Husband would come!

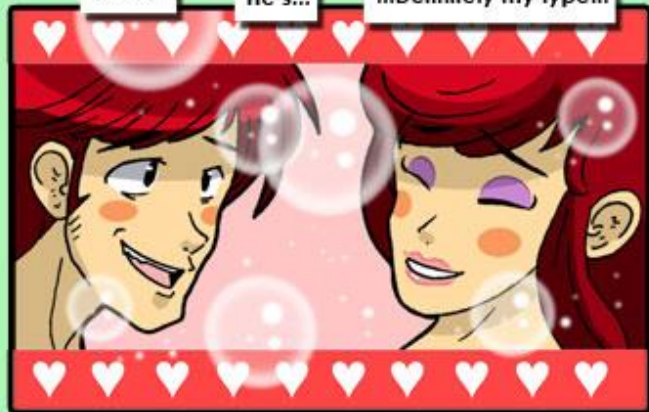


Oh monkey gods,
thank you...

She's...

He's...

...Definitely my type...



So how do you feel
about...bubble gum...?



I...
love it...

No matter how hard
I look,
I just...can't see it...



This must be the location of the legendary Cave Boys I've heard so much about...
They don't...quite appear to be as full of lost knowledge as I had hoped.



Fortunately, I'm a bit quicker, both physically and mentally. Someday I'd actually like to take pictures of Stonehenge instead of, y'know, using it as a shield...



...Nor are they as kind. I'm going to go ahead and assume I'm in a lot of trouble.



Either he's thick skinned or so slow that the pain isn't even registering.



Finally, he's done for! They really give a ton of experience, too!

He dropped a picnic lunch when he fell... Could this be the secret to their power?



...This gives me a good idea!

This is going to be...
a piece of cake!



My favorite, too.
These guys hit hard,
but one lunch is all
I need to keep going!



I have to keep
on the move...
They're picking up
on my strategy.



Th...That was a big hit...
I have to eat fast, before
I lose all of my HP!!

This cake is no lie,
it's pure MAGIC!

Almost all of them
drop lunches,
so i can do this
forever!

I'll stay here until
I can become
as strong as
Ness and Paula!



It's been pretty noisy outside
for the past few hours...
I'd go check, but I enjoy
the feeling of my chin too
much to move...

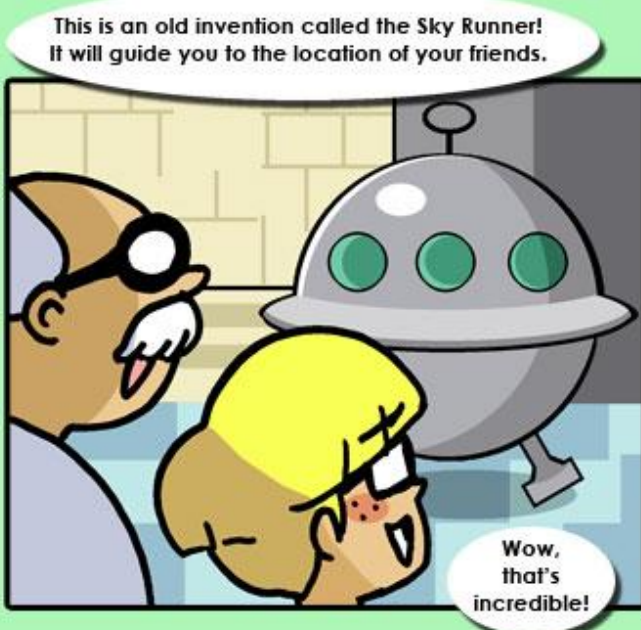
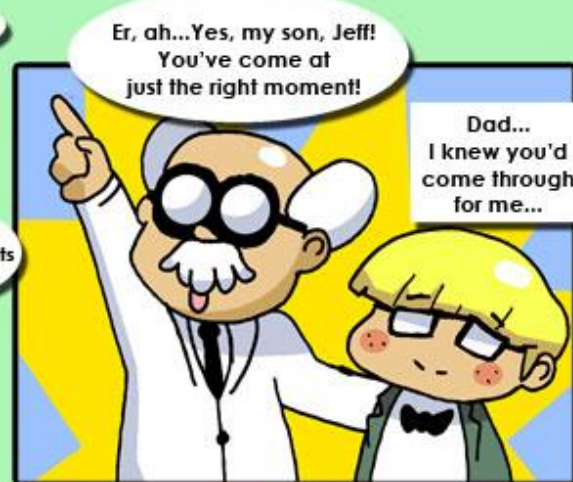
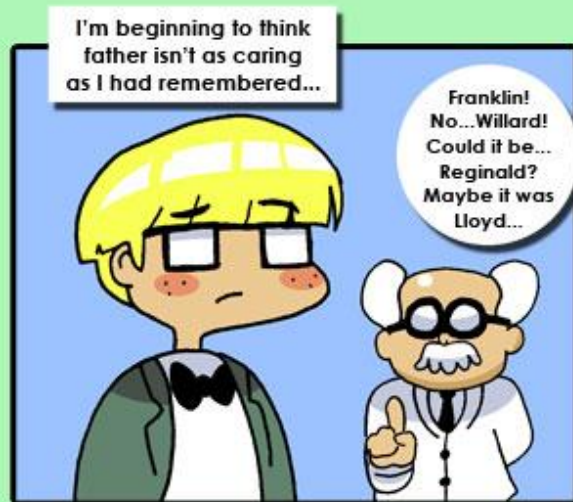


URF!
Arrr!!
HUURMF!

Oh!! Incredible!
I've never seen a
blimp fly so low.



I-I'm not a blimp!!
I'm your son...



Oh, what's this?
You say the controller isn't working?
Press the special "Advance Comic's Plot"
button to get it going, then!
Good thing I thought ahead, huh?

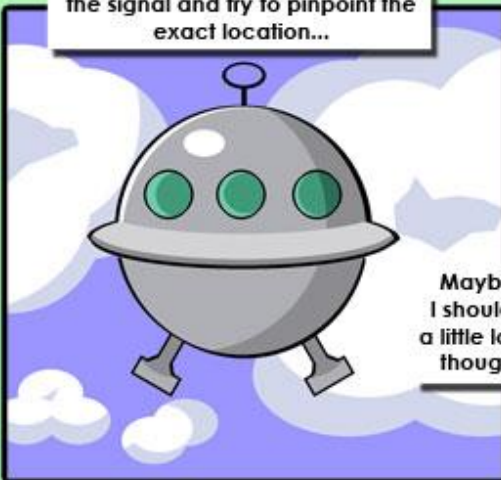
This is sort've
exciting...



It's flying!
It really
works!



From here on, I just have to follow
the signal and try to pinpoint the
exact location...



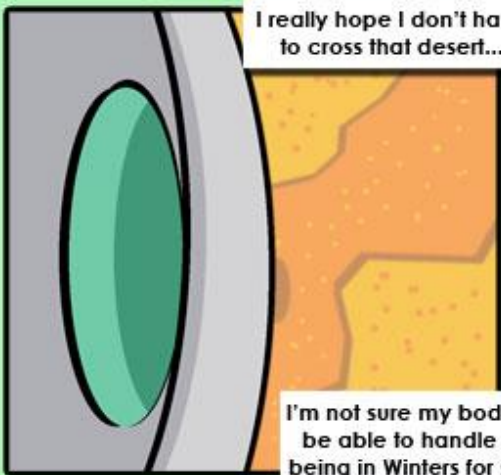
Maybe...
I should fly
a little lower,
though...

Er...
Perhaps this is
a little TOO low...



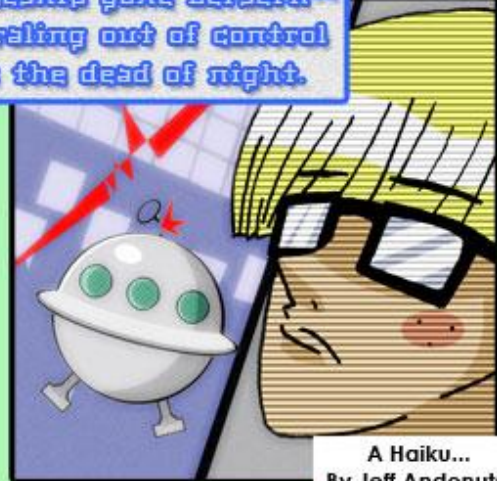
OH MY GOD,
THE ALIENS HAVE
FINALLY COME
TO ENSLAVE US
ALL!!

I really hope I don't have
to cross that desert...



I'm not sure my body would
be able to handle it after
being in Winters for so long.

Spaceship gone berserk--
Spiraling out of control
in the dead of night.



A Haiku...
By Jeff Andonuts.



It's a good thing I flew in so low,
otherwise that may have been
the end of me...



I've finally arrived! This is my big moment!
I better do my best to impress them here,
so I can show them that I can be a hero, too...



Wow, what an entrance!
Paula, he's amazing!
Explosions, space ships,
dramatic smoke...

It was really
great, but...



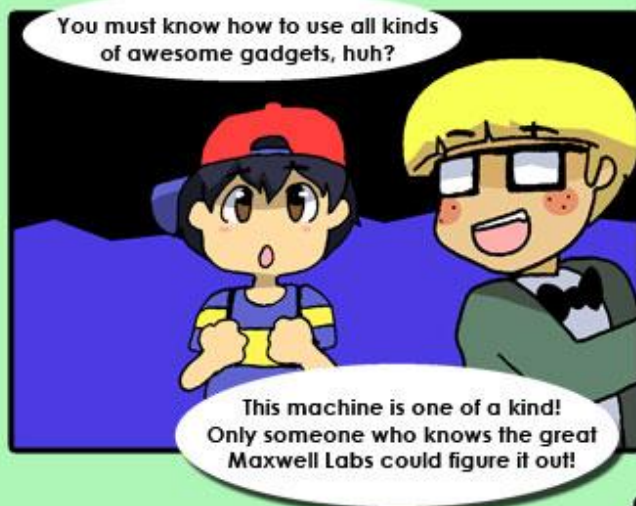
Somehow, I don't think this is as cool
as I'm imagining it...

He...
doesn't seem
to notice yet...

Oh Jeff,
I feel your
pain...







I can't believe a hint shop just happened to be the first place we stumbled upon...



Hey, youngster!
It looks like you could use a hint!

Some people call me the "Hint Man", but my real name is Hint Guy. I know everything you need, but I am bound by law to be as vague as possible.



...Also, I make much more money this way.

Um...
Sorry for asking, but why don't you have a mouth?



I lost it in the war.

Now, are you ready for this?
Here is your hint.
TENTS!!
...That is all for today.



Honestly, this is actually a little better than I expected....

We made our way to a tent before we were captured, but where was it again...?



Ness and Paula must still be stumped...
This is my time to shine.

There were two tents here, but I think this is the one we can definitely trust!



Way to go, Jeff!

I have a good feeling about this!



THEY HAVE DRAWN NEAR...

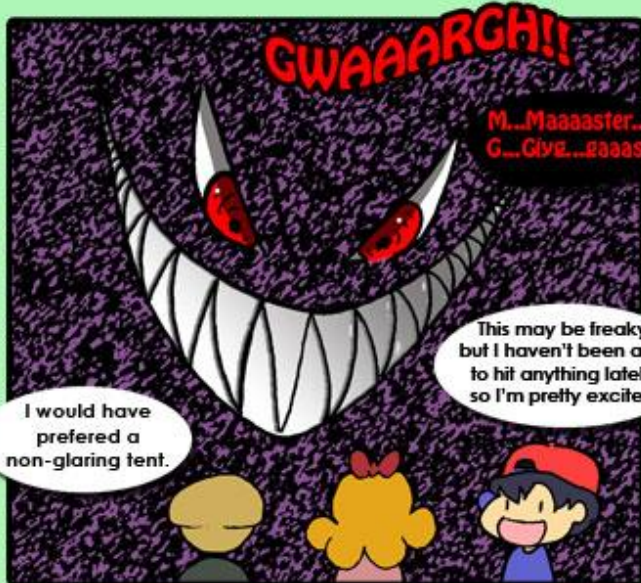
IT IS TIME
FOR YOU TO
DIE...



No matter
how I look at it,
I just can't figure
this out...

I'm...
really seeing this,
right...?

It would appear I was
correct after all.
However...



GWAAARGH!!

M...Maaaaaster...
G...Give...gaaaas!

I would have
preferred a
non-glaring tent.

This may be freaky,
but I haven't been able
to hit anything lately,
so I'm pretty excited!



It's been awhile since I've been able
to even use my powers...

Sitting around in that pit
was pretty boring, so I'm
really going to cut loose.



The three of us are
unstoppable!
Let's fold this tent up
for good, guys!

This is going
to be a BLAST!

I have a feeling this fight is
going to get...heated!



Gwaaargh...
I won't be outdone by
these horrible puns.

Get ready,
cause it's
time...
to BOOGIE!

It looks like the enemy is starting to get serious...



Zombies, ghosts, monsters, and even aliens...
I don't have time to be afraid right now!

You have yet to understand true fear...

Nothing will stand in my way!



Master Gyaas will horrify that defiant stare right out of you!



And I, his trusted minion, will exact his revenge!



I don't like the looks of this...

~Bwoooooosh

Psi Shield!



Paula and Ness have such incredible power!

I'll have to observe their skills so I can form a proper strategy...

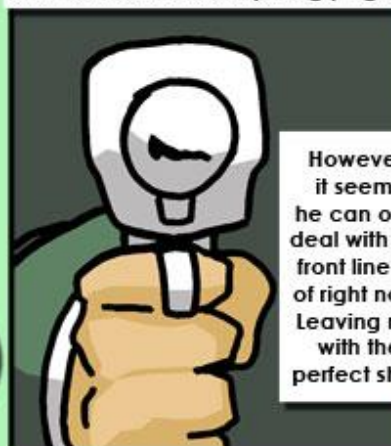
Ness is definitely strong, but Paula has a variety of skills that could be a great asset...



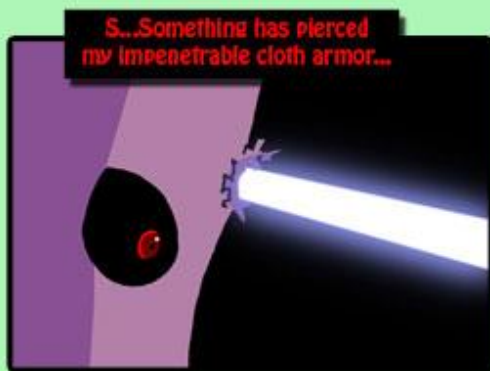
Psi Fire!

Ah!
You won't burn me that easily!

For something possessing a tent, this monster sure is surprisingly agile.



However, it seems he can only deal with the front line as of right now. Leaving me with the perfect shot!



S...Something has pierced
my impenetrable cloth armor...

Hm... The shot hit dead on,
but this monster doesn't seem
to have much in terms of a
central nervous system...

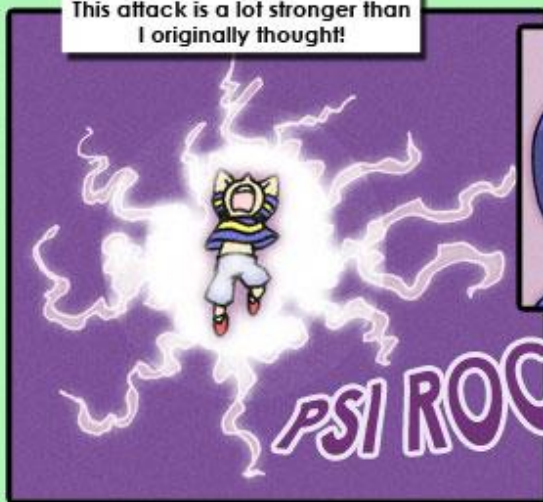


I'll take it from here, Jeff!

It's about
time I really
cut loose!



The power is overwhelming...
This attack is a lot stronger than
I originally thought!

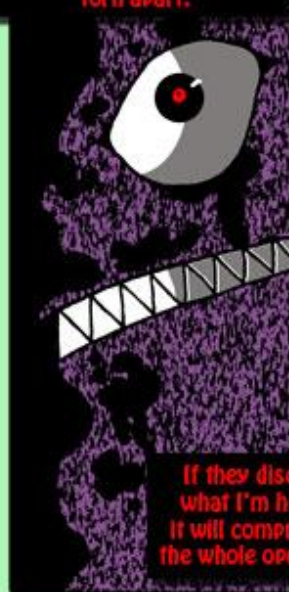


Wh...What's happening?!
Something suddenly
fore through me in a flash...

These are no mere
children...



I must stop them here,
before I really end up being
torn apart.



If they discover
what I'm hiding,
it will compromise
the whole operation!

He doesn't seem very strong,
but this monster refuses to
give up...



No more Mr. Nice Tent!
You're in for a world of pain,
kid.

Paula, get ready to strike
at any moment.
I have a feeling Ness
may be in trouble...

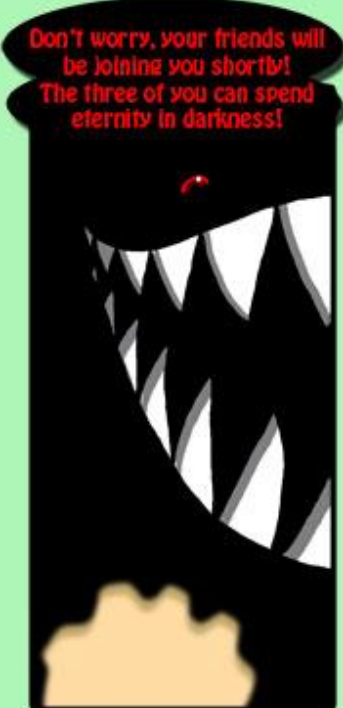




What is this...?
At first I thought it had begun to bleed,
but I guess this shadow is its true form...



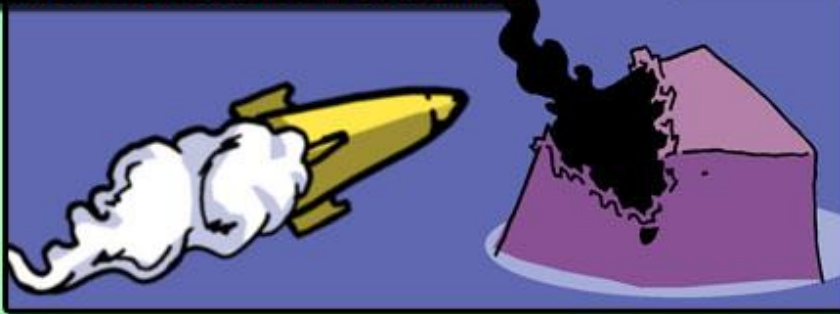
I think it's about time I get serious...



Did you know I hold the world record for fastest time assembling bottle rockets?



I was so busy taunting this kid,
I didn't realize the battle was already over.
As if he were playing around the whole time,
the boy took off leaving me to my impending fate.



Perhaps, during this time,
I should tell you a little bit
about my past.



WAIT, GO BACK!!
I'M NOT DEAD YET,
LET ME TELL IT!!

Ah, here we go!
My story began as a young monster
eager to make it big overnight!
Right off the bat I landed a huge gig,
but was quickly overshadowed....



All of this plastic surgery
better pay off.

Eventually my fame ran out,
and I found myself possessing
anything I could if it meant
putting food on the table....



...Of course, I later realized that
I don't even need to eat.

Gyooork Gyork Gyork!
That was one Jar of Fly Honey
too many...



That was when I met Master Belch,
the most vile being around.
Coincidentally, I instantly quit that job.

Of course, Master Belch did end up becoming
a great help in landing me an important job.
Finally, I would be under the watchful eye
of Master Gyogas and a powerful member
of his plot for revenge against this puny
planet!



My new body must be
inside this tent!

Unfortunately, the job was not quite what I expected...
I was forced into possessing the tent not for the sake
of a grand mission...but as a storage container...
...for the most foul tasting snack...ever created...



Hees Hees Hees!
Good work, soldier!
From now on you'll
be paid in Fly Honey,
so show your eternal
gratitude to me,
Master Belch!

...Looking back on it now,
maybe it's a good thing my story is over.

Well, looks like this is where
I take my leave...

Remember kids, no matter how down
you may get...
No matter how bad things may seem...

Just stop what
you're doing...

Show your
best strut...

AND BOOGIE!!

Let this be a lesson to Giygas and any of his
minions who stand in our way.

It looks like we're finished here.
Our first major battle was a
huge success!

I had calculated that the
final blow would be large,
but this is quite the
explosive finish!

Our job will only
get harder from here,
but I have a feeling
we'll be alright!

This is as dramatic as it gets!
The scientist in me is
dying to know just why
a tent exploded
into flames, though.

...Seriously,
how??

Between the three of us,
the boogie will never stop!
We may be one short,
but the explosive Chosen Three
are finally ready to hit the scene!



How did you
guys manage to
get changed
so quickly...?

With the tent gone, all that remains is
a single trashcan...
Either there's a really special burger
in there or I just found our next clue.



Hurk...! What is this?!
The smell coming from this jar puts the
rest of this trash to shame!!



Fear not!
You can count on me, Ness!
I'll carry the jar a safe distance
away from you!



You can really be
a big help sometimes, Reginald.
Thanks!

Ho ho, this is my chance...
I may be stuck in the background,
but I'll show them that I can be
just as important to the team!

I'll contribute
ten times more
than any
bubble blowin'
monkey!



Huh...
Maybe it was too
much for him
afterall.

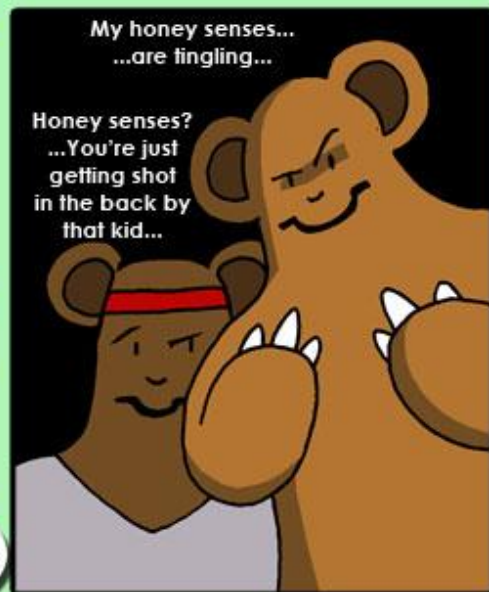


IT'S HORRIBLE!!
TAKE IT AWAY!!

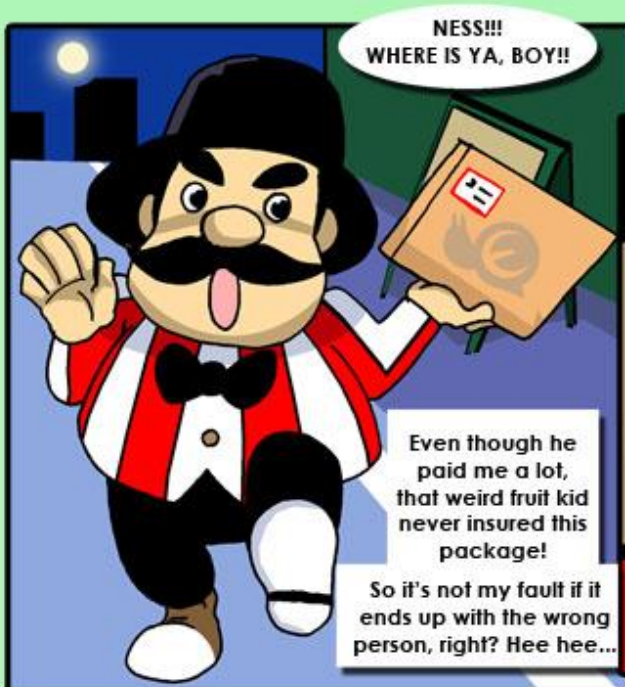
It's too late,
our inventories
are full now!

My honey senses...
...are tingling...

Honey senses?
...You're just
getting shot
in the back by
that kid...







However, something seems a bit off...
I imagine Ness to look a bit more shady, with a face that
would make babies cry and old women faint...



NESS! You were here
all along!!
I -- GUH!!



Eh?! Eh?!
Does my face look
anything like that?!

Do you really
think I'm that
kind of person?!



Shouldn't you be
leaving?!



Oh boy...
I always love getting
packages...



Hee hee, I feel
so much better now!
This was a fun day!





Well, looks like we have some time off!



Ness, I still remember what happened last time we came here! This time I'm going to make you so pretty, no woman would think to hit on you! ...And you're next, Jeff.



I'm sorry, Jeff... This may actually be my fault.

I have no idea how she made my hair this long, but...



That night, as if moths to a flame,
the zombies began their 'death march'
towards the circus tent.

Why're you guys adding
'zombie' in front of
everything you do?

I'll make my special
zombie nachos!

It's zombie
party time!

I'm not just excited,
I'm zombie excited!

Of course, zombies aren't very bright,
and they remained unaware right
up to the bitter end.



The next morning...



Thankfully all it took was
a good night's sleep
to get my hair back
to normal...

How come mine didn't do that?!



Oh, I hope you don't mind,
but I used some of your
hair spray when I styled
your hair, Jeff!

Paula...

That's a permanent cementing spray...

Jeff, your hat is even more
incredible than mine!



How did you build
something like that
so quickly?!

Out of sheer will
to no longer look
disturbingly fabulous.

It's done! My hair has been revived!
Although...it may need some time
to cool down first.



It's...
magnificent!!

It glows like
a thousand suns!

~La la la la la~

Our bonds have grown stronger now!



Hello again! We've returned to see how well the operat--



GROOOOAN

Death to all humans!!

Come closer so I can bite you!

Helloooo there!

Oooh... the pain!!



This is...pretty disgusting. Are we even allowed to show the room itself?

This comic is for a younger demographic, after all...

There are body parts all over the place! I can't look at stuff like this unless I'm the one who causes it...



No! I refuse to even look at you. That is the worse name for a product I have ever seen!

I don't know how, but you even managed to disgust a zombie.

Well, I suppose we can show this guy since he's in one piece... Still, what kind of zombie is so sensitive to bad puns?



The Zombie Herald is issuing a lifetime supply of Fly Honey to anyone who defeats this monster! Be warned that the target is as dangerous as he is hideous and is accompanied by an even more deadly demon wearing a pink dress! **APPROACH WITH CAUTION!!**

Am I really that ugly?!

One glance at his face will curse you FOREVER!



WANTED

I guess we shouldn't waste this chance to move on.
Will we really be okay heading back on over
to that graveyard?



Those zombies must
have been guarding
something important,
but who knows where
we'll end up going
from here.

**RUSTLE RUSTLE~
RUSTLE RUSTLE~**

Hee hee...
I'm gonna
scare 'em
GOOD!!



This is...
perhaps a little
too obvious...

RAAAHHH!! CRY FOR YOUR LIVES, KIDS!!
The zombies may be gone, but us monsters
will haunt you for ETERNITY!



Are you scared?!
Did you pee your
pants just a little??

Is this what caused
so much trouble for
Ness and Paula...?

Your existence is illogical and therefore incapable of being scary.
What is scary about you, to be exact?
The horrible choice of clothing, or a hair choice befitting young
boys who frequently lose their mothers?
You, sir, are merely a product of the past, a forgotten toy that is
only scary to a child who may have realized how much time
they wasted playing with you.
I am...so disgusted by your entire being.



Y...you
monster...
I'm sending
you my
therapy bill!

Ho ho, you're a cute one,
aren't you??

I'm getting a
familiar vibe...



Tee
hee
Jeffy
Poo~

No child can ignore my
disturbing love stare!

Well,
he's a tad scary,
but...

You're still a low-rank amateur and your
love stare is just a cheap imitation!

If I were to
calculate your
actual worth,
you'd be
-400 Tonys!!



...AND STOP
POINTING THAT AT ME!!

KICK!

NOOOOOOOO!!

We interrupt this regularly scheduled comic to bring you an important development!





All we need to do is quickly sprint through this place and we'll be fine!



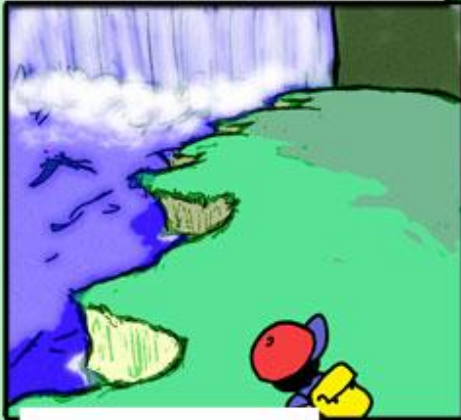
If looks like we lucked out, though... I don't think any enemies even appeared since we entered this tunnel.



Oh boy! That must be the exit! This was easier than I thought! No problem at all!!



We weren't underground for very long, but now it feels like we're in an entirely different world...



Where exactly are we...??

Yeehaw, I reckon you kids are a long way from home!



If'n yer lookin' to venture ahead, be warned that a dark, strange, disturbing place's just around the bend!

A place of the damned! Something-Valley...

How'd he get here?

Was it... Saturn? No, that doesn't sound right...
Hyuk Hyuk, I remember now!
It was... Uranus!



snicker
Uranus!!

All of this build-up...
and that's what we get?
This is an all time low...

My head hurts...

So this is the legendary Grapefruit Falls...
I've always wondered if the taste lived up to the name.



Urp...
kind of...
funky...

There was some sort of gunk stuck to my shoe, so after washing it off in the water I collected a sample...



It appears to be some manner of barf, and what's more, it's native to these falls!
How interesting!!

THEN WHY DID YOU GIVE ME THAT STRAW?!

OH!! OH!!
I'M POISONED!!
I DRANK A TON OF IT!!

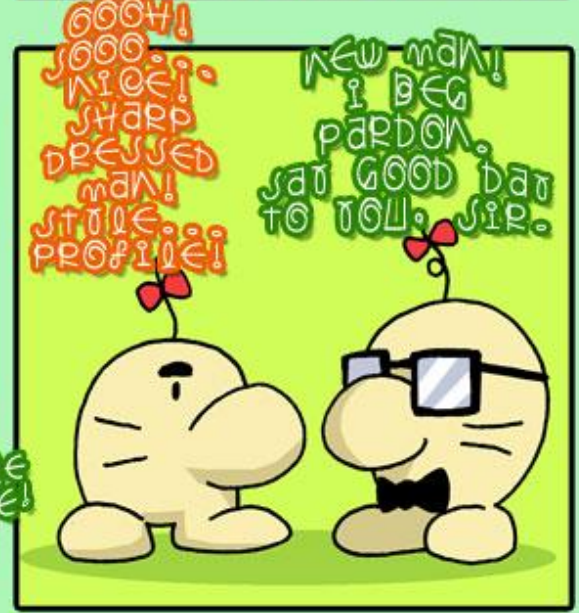
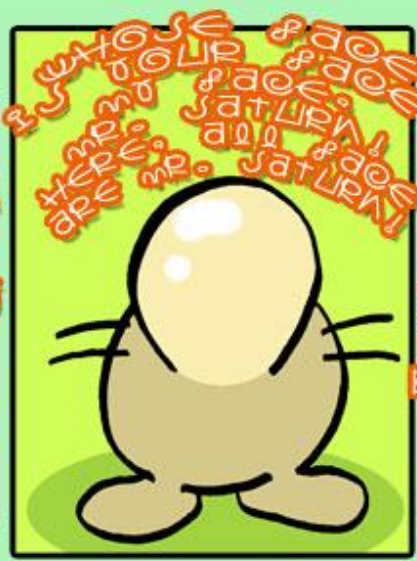
I knew we were in for something big, but as we headed into a nearby cave, I couldn't begin to imagine what kind of oddity we would encounter next...

I felt something calling me, and while I couldn't determine if it were good or evil...

I was definitely sure it would be strange.



...Okay, well...
Maybe not THIS strange.





I wonder if the zombie outbreak has anything to do with this place... Could they be under attack, too?



Perhaps we'll get a lifetime supply of peanut cheese bars if we help save their friends.
...What? Even heroes like snacks!



Worry not, Mr. Saturn.
We'll head to the falls and save your friends.

This is purely of my own good will!
I do not expect any delicious rewards...



Shall we be on our way, then?

na na na!
appreciate!



I'm not sure I want to stay to find out what they may steal next.

Oh? That's strange, one of the Mr. Saturn is shying away in the corner by himself...
I wonder if he's sad to see us go?



Excuse me, are you okay?



W...What is this... sensation...?



Am I... dreaming...?

fall in love...
you say yes to me?
you say NO to me?

N...NOT A DREAM!!
IT'S DEFINITELY NOT A DREAM!!



N-NO WAY!!

Um...
Did I miss something?



DOING!♡♡

I think now is probably the best time for us to go check out Grapefruit Falls...



Oi, punk!!
I'll black
yer eye!



I guess this is the entrance?
But I don't see a door handle...
How do we get in?



What do you think, Jeff?
Should we try knocking?



I don't think so...
One of the Mr. Saturn
mentioned something
about waiting...

Oho? Visitors, huh? Okay,
then say the password!

Hee hee...how should I mess
with these little punks?
This one looks very impatient,
so maybe...

I got it!
Stand still for three
minutes without making
ANY noise!

He's
dead.

Ness...
I'm not sure if we
can make it...
How long has
it been...?



I didn't bring a watch
with me, but it feels
like we've been waiting
for days...



Jeff,
how much...
longer...?

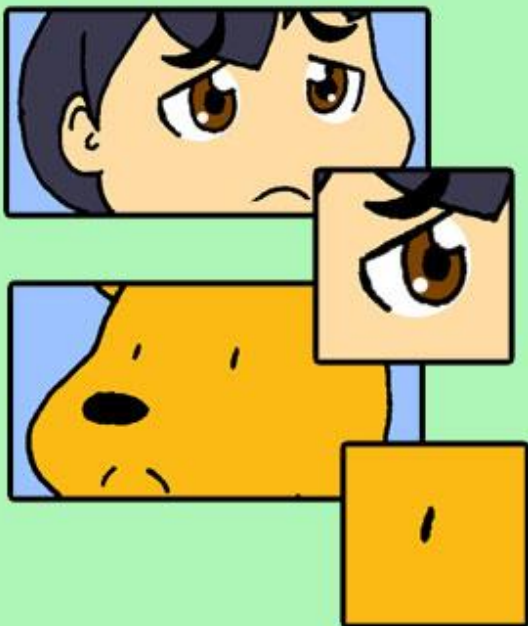
NO TALKING!
NO MOVING!
START OVER!!

Umm...
I hate to say this,
but it's only
been ten
seconds...



He is
SO dead...





I'm out of ideas...
How could they expect a kid like myself to sit still
long enough for something like this??



Perhaps if I invent a machine
to knock us out for approximately
three minutes...



Ness... Jeff...
I have a feeling that we're at the
end of our rope here...
if anyone can hear my prayer,
we must advance...by any means!

These brats still don't get it...
No matter what, I'll never let 'em inside!
There is absolutely no way through that door!



Absolutely... no... WAY!!



Your door was stuck,
so we let ourselves in.
Hope you don't mind.

This may not be
entirely legal,
but it gets the
job done...



Praying really saved us
this time!
Who would have thought
there was a code to
walk through walls??





Interesting... Their bodies are able to
split without losing their normal mass...
Each one can create a perfect
clone in a single second...



Basically, all it would take
is one to amass an entire army...

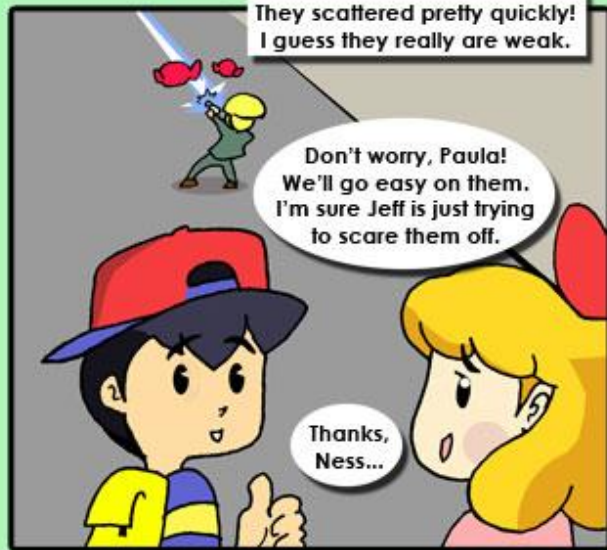


Huh...this doesn't seem very shocking for some reason. I'm oddly disturbed by that...



This could prove to be troublesome, however. I'll have to break their little party up!

They scattered pretty quickly! I guess they really are weak.



Don't worry, Paula! We'll go easy on them. I'm sure Jeff is just trying to scare them off.

Thanks, Ness...

Paula must be rubbing off on Ness a little, he seems to be getting kind've soft...



I'm sure they were just bullied into helping the bad guys...

Once we beat the boss they'll go away, so let's leave them be...

Experience Points: 19567
1 Exp. for next level.



But, Paula, look at this experience growth! We must continue... in the name of SCIENCE!

B...But... They're so cute!! How could I possibly harm that adorable little face?



Yay, Paula! We're worth 1311 EXP, but you'll give that up for our sake, right??



I...I'm so sorry!! I need to level! Please die quickly so you won't suffer too much!

WAAHHH!!!

M...MONSTER!!!



Did you hear?
They say a couple
foppies got fired...

Maybe they failed
the checkup...

Oh, you're next!
Heh heh... Pretty clever, huh?



NOW SEATING #
BEATING **13**

You are the worst
kind of person...



Wow, that was more effective
than I thought it would be.
Those signs really helped!

Maybe too much...
I think we just eliminated their entire species.



Oh!! It's horrible! Are you okay, Mr. Saturn??

They really got to work quickly...
Using the Mr. Saturn, who knows
how big this army would've
grown if we hadn't gotten here.

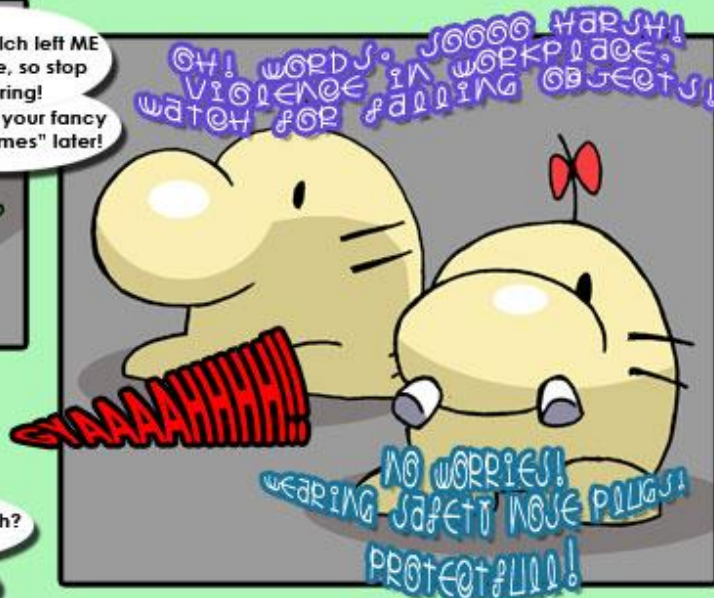


HEY!
GET BACK TO
WORK,
DRECK!

Master Belch left ME
in charge, so stop
loitering!
Talk about your fancy
"video games" later!



So you're in charge, huh?
In that case...
I'd... like to have
a word with you.



OH! WORDS! SOOO HARSH!
VIOLENCE IN WORKPLACE!
WATCH FOR FALLING OBJECTS!

NO WORRIES!
WEARING SAFETY NOSE PLUGS!
PROTECT@LL!!







If you're looking for Bob...
He isn't here anymore.



Grassat!
You've really done it now...
I'm going to barf you up!

Not so fast!
I have a better idea.
Why don't we skip
the battle... and go straight
to snack time?



You couldn't have...
No! Don't tell me, you're the ones
who took out my secret supply tent!

...And only now
do I realize just
how important
that really was!



Y...You still have it, right??
That is my precious jar,
aged to perfection!
It is legendary in its
deliciousness!!

You want it?
Well then, it's all yours, spanky!



I...It's a mouthfull of amazing!!
This...This may be what
true love feels like...

PSI STUFFEN!!

Okay, so this may not
actually be an attack,
but it's the only big
chance at a dramatic
pose I've got...



I hope you
enjoy the taste
of defeat!

Next up is
a taste of
"dehands!"

These kids...
are pure evil...

We're not the ones trying to take over the world!
When this is all over, you're going to have a lot of people
to answer to, so I hope you're good
at writing letters of apology!



Ga ga ga...
You say you want an apology, huh?
Then how about this, bighead...

I'M SORRY FOR WHAT I'M
ABOUT TO DO TO YOUR
FAAAACE!!

GYAAARG!!



W...Wait a sec...
This is what he WANTS me to do...



Once I attack,
they'll just smash
my honey.
I must
guard it with
my LIFE!

Are you sure we didn't
accidentally set the game
on Easy Mode?



Laugh it up while you
can, chuckles...
I'll be twice as powerful
once I finish this Jar!!



Gygas must not be very smart if he
gave you any kind of authority.
When we're finished rearranging your face,
You'll make a pile of vomit look like a pile
of barf!



I may be a monster on the
outside, but think about it...
which of us is really the ugly one
on the inside?



You.

You're
hideous.

Also,
you smell
bad.

Kids these days...no respect for their piles of barf.
 Since I'm too busy eating to fight, I'll lecture you instead!
 Rant, rant, rant...
 Why, when I was younger, you had to barf up all of your vegetables
 before you could have your Fly Honey!
 ...Furthermore, you kids today barf anywhere you want, thinking
 it's "cool" and "hip", but it's all about quality over quantity!
 Blah, blah, blah...
 ...And that's how I won the beauty pageant!

...Why did it suddenly
 get really bright in here?

Wait...what?
 I'm on fire.
 Why am I on fire??

Gaaaag!
 I'm torn between my
 love of Fly Honey and
 my dislike of traumatic,
 searing pain!

W...Whew...
 I don't know where that fire
 came from, but...why does everything
 suddenly seem a lot...larger?

SIZZLE SIZZLE

He was just here a
 second ago...

Maybe Paula's
 PSI Fire finished him off.
 Either that or he ran
 away.

Did he jump
 over to the
 next page...?

You stupid kids...
 I'm right in front
 of you.

Ga ga ga! Wait a second...
 this gives me the PERFECT idea!
 These brats can no longer tell where
 I am, so I just have to set the jump
 on them!

FEEL THE WRATH OF
 SLIGHTLY ROASTED BARF!

H...HEY!
 Start feeling my wrath already!!
 NO!
 Don't do that! That's bad!!
 THAT'S...

...not...good...

Ugh, again...?
 I've got to start
 watching where I
 walk...

No, please, keep
 walking, I love the
 constant dining.



I guess we can let him go... He's harmless now, so I can't imagine him ever being a problem in the future.

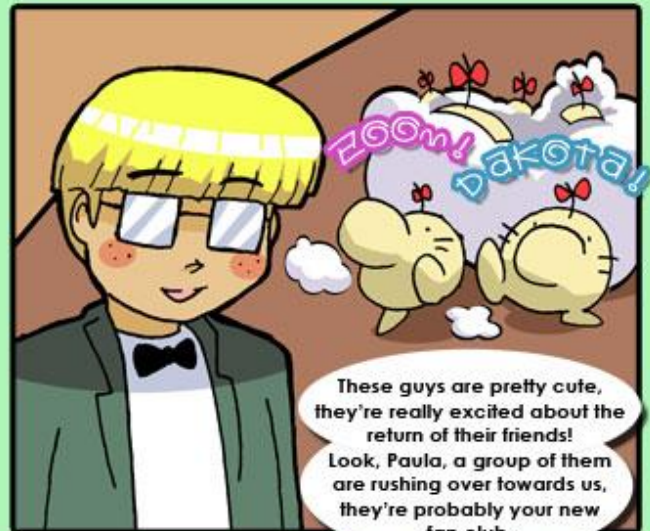
Gwaaar! You could've at least put my mouth back on right! And my other eye is still on the bottom of his shoe!!

So long, Belch! Take advantage of this act of kindness and never appear before us again!

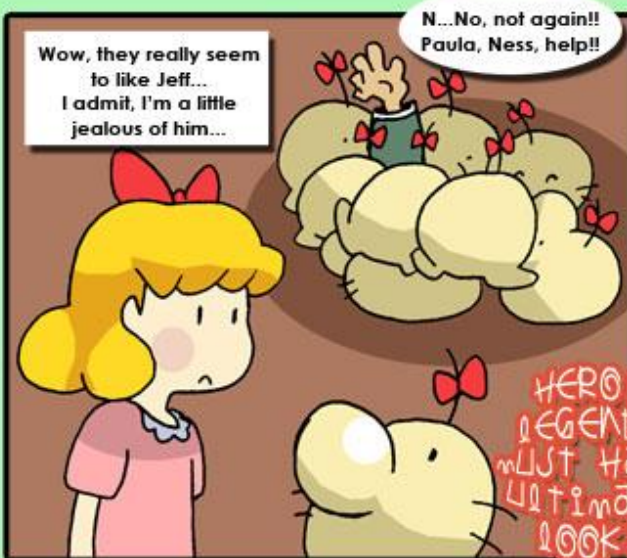


Wonderful... The Mr. Saturn are okay... I'm so happy!! I wonder if this is how Ness felt when he saved me...

GOING HAPPY TIME!



These guys are pretty cute, they're really excited about the return of their friends! Look, Paula, a group of them are rushing over towards us, they're probably your new fan club.



Wow, they really seem to like Jeff... I admit, I'm a little jealous of him...

N...No, not again!! Paula, Ness, help!!

HERO! LEGEND! MUST HAVE ULTIMATE LOOK!



OOOOHHH!! Jeff, you're so lucky!! That is the cutest style!!

...You remind me of someone I saw in a dream, too...

Z... Zoom...





This really is soothing! I'd like to take a sample of this water later to find out why exactly it's pink, though...



Incredible!! The hot springs restored my hair to normal again! This is completely not a plot device at all!



What's this? You even made drinks for us? Wow, thanks! What is it?



Um...I don't want to offend them, but I can't drink coffee... Jeff, do you have an invention to make coffee taste like cake...?

You're... actually going to drink this?



What a strange sensation...



You've traveled very far from home... More importantly, it feels like there's something happening behind me.



You've traveled very far from home...



Do you remember how your long and winding journey began with someone pounding at your door?



It was Fokey, the worst person in your neighborhood, who knocked on the door that fateful night.

On your way, you have walked, thought and fought.

Yet through all this, you have never lost your courage.



You have grown steadily stronger, though you have experienced the pain of battle many times.



Paula, who is steadfast, kind and even pretty, is always at your side.

You are no longer alone in your adventure,



Jeff is with you as well. Though he is timid, he came from a distant land to help you.

Ness, as you certainly know by now,
you are not a regular young man...
You have an awesome destiny to fulfill.



The journey from this point
will be long, and it will be more
difficult than anything you have
undergone to this point.



Yet, I know you will be all right.

When good battles evil,



which side do you believe wins?

Do you have faith that
good is triumphant?



One thing you must never lose is courage.

If you believe in the goal you are striving for, you will be courageous.



There are many difficult times ahead, but you must keep your sense of humor,
work through the tough situations and enjoy yourself.

When you have finished this cup of coffee,
your adventure will begin again.



Ness...

Paula...

Jeff...



Next, you must pass through a vast desert
and proceed to the big city of Fourside.

...I WISH YOU WOULD JUST DIE ALREADY.



...WHY...
YOU WHO WILL ONE DAY DESTROY ME,
STAND THERE WITHOUT SO MUCH AS
SAYING A WORD...



BECAUSE OF YOU.



...BECAUSE OF YOU!!

EVERYTHING



IS BREAKING APART
BEFORE MY EYES...

IF ONLY... I COULD SEE HER AGAIN...



MARIA...

EVER SINCE THAT DAY, THE
DARKNESS HAS BEEN SPREADING...

IT IS GETTING HARDER AND HARDER
FOR THE DEVIL'S MACHINE TO
CONTAIN MY MADNESS NOW...
I CAN BARELY REMEMBER WHAT IT
WAS LIKE BEING IN MARIA'S ARMS...



M...A...R...I...A...

M...M...A...R...I...A...I...S...T...H...E...R...E...A...N...Y...M...O...R...E...

My dear Gygas...
He's going to take care of you now.
Doesn't he remind you of Ninten?
He's such a strong boy! His name is Ness!



S...H...E...S...
G...C...O...M...E...N...O...W...



N...E...S...

N...E...S...

IT'S MY FAULT YOU
HAVE THIS POWER
ISN'T IT...



I WONDER IF SHE'S HAPPY...
AH... WHAT WAS HER NAME AGAIN?...

ARE YOU CRYING...?
BUT I'M HAPPY...



U...N...H...A...P...P...Y...

• End Chapter 3 •

Hey, Jeff, did you hear that?
Do you want me to explain again?

Ness...

I'm still not really sure why,
but this place has a melody that
is very important to record...
A talking bee told me so!

Jeff? Are you okay? You keep spacing out...
Ever since we recovered from that crazy coffee
and entered Milky Well, you've been...different...
Are you feeling strange?

What's that, Ness?
Feeling...strange?

Gah ha ha!
No need to be suspicious!
I'm not strange at all!

Saying that just
makes you incredibly
suspicious...

Here, let me show you
just how great I feel!

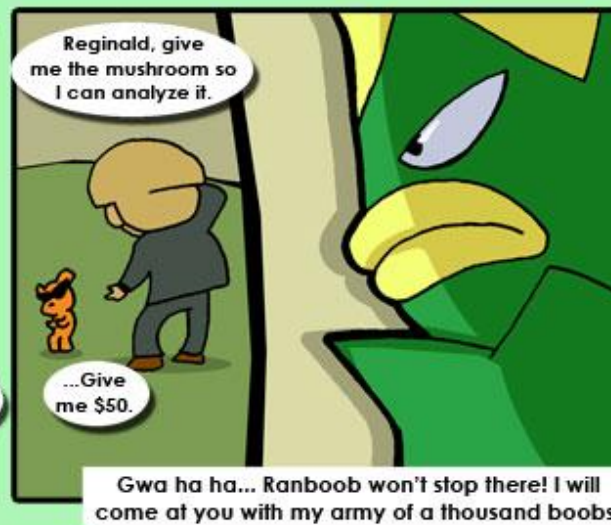
BASH!

Gah!

Jeff, snap out of it!
Why did you just hurt Ness??

Paula, honestly...
Is this the time to be
worrying about Ness?

You should be much more
worried about yourself!





Stop it with the fat jokes, already!
It's not me, it's the shirt!!



Oh, he's right...
It looks like Ranboob's
"Call him fat boy and run
away" plan has failed
as well...



Ho ho! But Ranboob has distracted him
well enough to finish this in one strike!!



Never let your guard down in front of
Ranboob the Seventh!!



Wait, what...?

Did...
Did you just hit me
with a giant leaf?



Um...
yes...

Did you
expect it to
hurt...?

I...
don't
know...

Is this going anywhere?
If you don't mind,
we'd rather avoid pointless filler...
We're in a hurry, you see.



Wait!
Ranboob swears,
this is leading up to
something HUGE!
Please don't
cut my scenes!!

Okay, are you ready?!
Ranboob has two boobs waiting that
will blow your minds!!



Time to reveal them
at long last!!
It's ACTION TIME, fellas!

...They never
showed up...



I wonder what
happened to them...

He's calling
for help...



Who cares?
The Theed bus is running again!

Can we stop
for snacks?

Our only stop...
is DESTINY!



If Paula's okay with it, then I won't hold back!

This pose and background let you know it's time for some real action!!

Hyaaaa!!!
Even heroes must sometimes beat old people in their sleep!



Muh... B...Billy?
That you, Billy...?

Well, he woke up...
But somehow this
still doesn't seem
right...



Ah don't believe you shoulda
been swingin' no bats around, Billy...
Ah'm thinkin' you need to be
a whole lot more careful like!

Well, I was trying
to crush you, see...

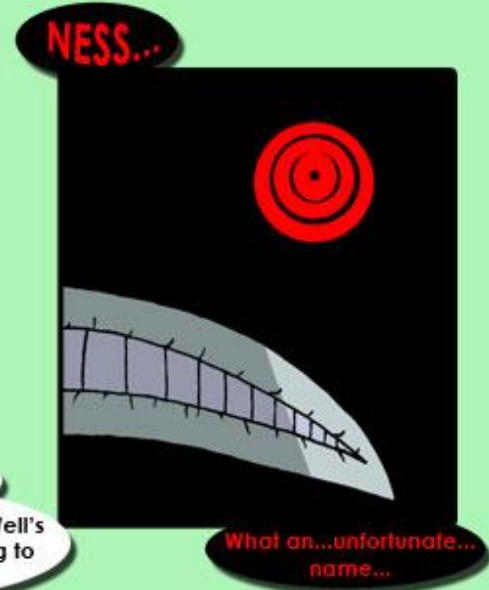
Grandpa,
that's not Billy!



Not Billy?!
Ah'm not happy at
all, youngster!

You best be tellin'
me who ya are,
before I be gettin'
mah angry eyes out!

Actually, my name
is Ness.
If you're guarding Milky Well's
sanctuary, then I'm going to
have to defeat you!



What an...unfortunate...
name...

• Trillionage Sprout glared with its eerie eyes!



What's going on...?
My head is spinning...



My body is
starting to feel
heavy...



Those eyes are
almost hypnotic...

I can't block it! Those eyes are piercing
through all of my psychic power...



Maybe I really
have gotten
soft compared
to my old self...

Ness, snap out of it!!
If you keep standing around,
you'll never dodge his
next attack!



BASH!

Oof! Jeff??
What're you doing??

I need to improve my
image a bit, so I'm playing
the tragic hero for now!



If I push you out
of the way just
in time...

I'll have sacrificed
myself in order to secure our victory!
My fans will think I'm
the bee's knees!

Don't worry about me, Ness!
Paula will support you, since
you're the only one who
can win this thing!
I'll return triumphantly soon
enough, I've already read the
entire script, you see!



So go on and fight!
I believe in you!

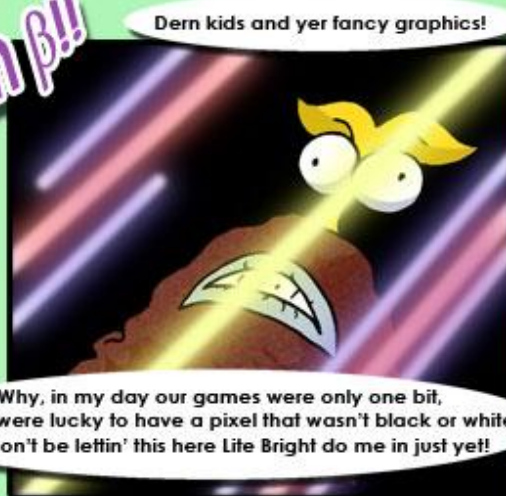
• Jeff was
diamondized!



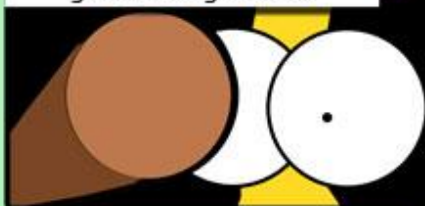




PS! Rockin B!!

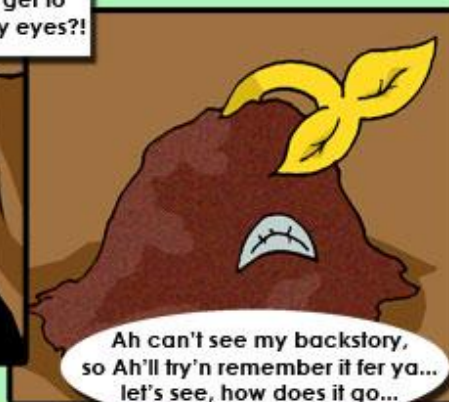


Ah dare say, mah life is flashing before my eyes! Here comes my incredible backstory! Grab some popcorn, kids, this is gonna be a good one!



Hold yer horses, fellers! This ain't right, no sir! How're we gonna get to see mah backstory if Ah lose my eyes?!

The fall from this cliff is pretty long... Everything is gettin' dark...



Ah can't see my backstory, so Ah'll try'n remember it fer ya... let's see, how does it go...

This was me when Ah was a youngin'!

What a handsome lad!

Um...that's all Ah can remember.



That's...it?

Jeff, he's all yours! I know you'd want to be the one to land the final blow!

You can do it, Jeff! We'll finish this as a team!



Are you ready? here we go!!



Well fancy that, Ah can see myself again! Hey, body, come get me! Ah fell off...that... Oh. Dernit.

Well, I guess that takes care of him...but Reginald, you were also fighting, right? How did that go?



Let's just say I ended up making the best salad I've had in a long time.

Oh, Ness, we finally did it! The shining spot is gone, and the sunlight is coming in through Milky Well's cave once again! Now we can head through to the sanctuary!

I hope once we step inside Jeff will return to normal...



Wow, I feel great just walking into this place! I wonder what will happen this time...



Oh, Ness! It's wonderful!! So pretty!

Wuh... Oh, my head... Hey, guys, I guess we won, huh? Did you make it to that sanctuary you were looking for?



JEFF!!



We did it!! I knew you'd come back!

Uhm...S...sorry g-guys...

Wahh!! Jeff, you dummy! We were so worried! If you ever do that again, I'll set you on fire!

Oh, Jeff, my boy! You've finally returned to us! Come to your father's arms!!

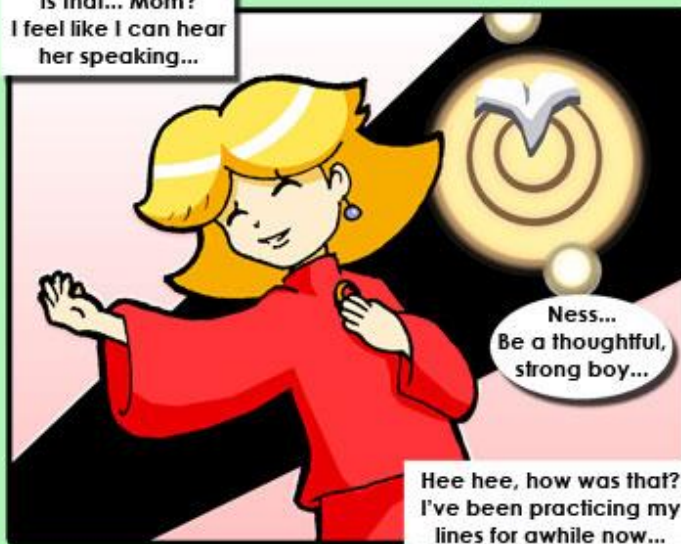


Y-You grew a mustache?! How long has it been?!

Oh! This is it! The sanctuary is reacting to the sound stone... I wonder what will happen this time?



Is that... Mom? I feel like I can hear her speaking...



Ness... Be a thoughtful, strong boy...

Hee hee, how was that? I've been practicing my lines for awhile now...

The sound stone is recording this melody as well. Where could the next one be, I wonder?



I wonder if this well really does have milk-like properties. Reginald, go ahead and give it a taste!



Yeah... we're not doing that again.



Let's move out, guys! We have to go see how things are going in Threed!

Oh boy!! That means we can see the Mr. Saturn again on our way back!

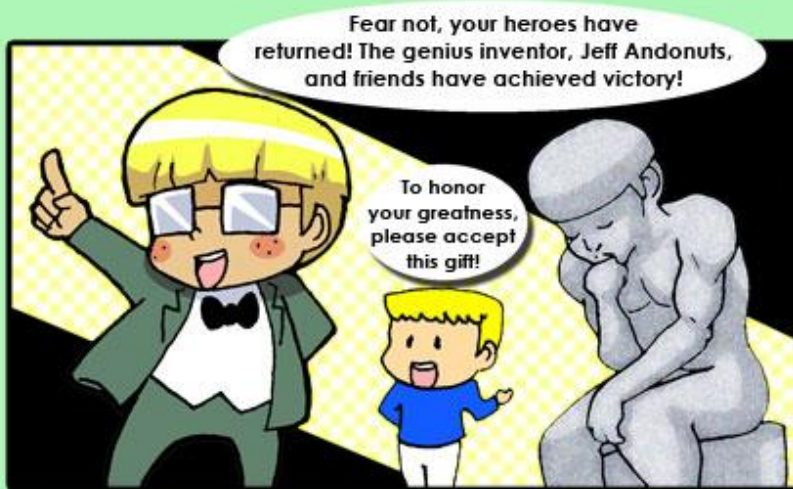


WHY DOES IT ALWAYS TURN OUT LIKE THIS?!

WE THANK! BRING HUG!

NOPE SNOOPE!

GOING!



I'm glad they wanted to honor us, but I really hope this doesn't come back to haunt me...



Look on the bright side! The bus is running so we can get to Fourside now!

Hey kids, get on board! This bus will start moving once I figure out how to get my head unstuck from this window.



Finally...we can rest for a little bit...



It's a long trip, so we'll finally get some sleep...

Ness and Paula must have been working tirelessly... They really are amazing people...



Hoo boy, this desert heat is a real scorcher today!



I'd hate to be stuck walking in this, that's for sure...

Coincidentally, there's a horrible traffic jam ahead, so if you're headed to Fourside you'll have to go by foot! Try not to spontaneously combust into flames, okay? That happens more often than you'd think!



I... should've seen this coming.

Oh, man, and the deadly creatures... SO many ways to die! Well, good luck!



The only way to survive is to move as quick as we can...

C'mon, guys, it's adventure time! We just have to give it our all!

Ness, I think that cape really did give you super powers...

Holy moley! Why would Master Giygaz spawn me out here?! Forget playing rough, I'm gonna play dead!

Well, it looks like we're back to square one... Only a few minutes have passed and we've barely progressed, but our supply of towels are gone and... I think I'm even starting to see things...

Only one more cape left...

I'm definitely hallucinating...



Little UFOs that look like Paula...

Bubble Monkeys...



(I'm real, dude.)

...And this thing.



SMILE
SMILE

Seriously, what is this thing??



It's nothing SUPER Ness can't handle! He appears in a burst of smoke, ready to take on the most random of encounters!

Wow, that cape is incredible! Super Ness, you must have something like sixteen bits of pure power!

But...um...since when could you shoot lasers out of your nostrils?



I can't go on anymore... The heat is too much... Jeff, it's all up to you now...

After following a flying Ness for what felt like forever, I came to the conclusion that I had been hallucinating, although I am a bit disappointed he can no longer fire lasers out of his nostrils... what a scientific discovery that would have been...

Ness and Paula seem fine, but having lived my whole life up until now in Winters, my body has never felt this kind of brutal weather before... How much further do we have to go?

Ah, even just walking is getting harder for me... I can't be the one to burden Ness and Paula, no matter what I have to press on!



Don't worry, Jeff!
Ness and I can use our PSI, but
I'll take care of you, too!

Ah, Paula...
Thanks...



You're not alone, Jeff...
I think I'm starting to hallucinate, too...
I swear this sesame seed is talking
to me...

Hey, kid!
There's
someone
suspicious
behind
you!



Photographic genius, fondest of memories,
blah, blah, blah... Look, kid. I'm in a hurry, so you had better
listen up. This black seed, right? Talk to it. Learn its story.
Otherwise, the next time I show up?
You. Dead. Got it?



G-Gotcha.

So, you'll listen?
Great! I hope you
enjoy seven hour
long stories told in
the blistering heat...



Illusion or not... That guy scares me way
too much not to do what he says...

...Chapter Seven, Return to Sender.
The prologue is over, this is the first
chapter of the first chapter.
The first chapter is seventeen
chapters long, by the way.



Wait, how can
you put a chapter
in a chapter??

John, our ace detective hero, raced home to meet Mary. He was
much too late, unfortunately. Always putting his work first, John
hadn't realized how much Mary grew to resent him over the years.



Mary... I'm sorry. Your birthday
was today, but...I was much too busy.
Please, forgive this old fool.

John...
if only it were
that easy...

Every year, it's the same story...
I wait and wait, but you never show up
until it's too late.



It's much too late, John...

Mary... Please, let me explain.
It was this case, I... I just couldn't
let it go. I had...to see it end.



...And now, you can
see us end as well...

Congratulations, John...
You've solved the case... of the broken heart...

MARY!! WAIT!!
You crazy dame!!
Come back!!



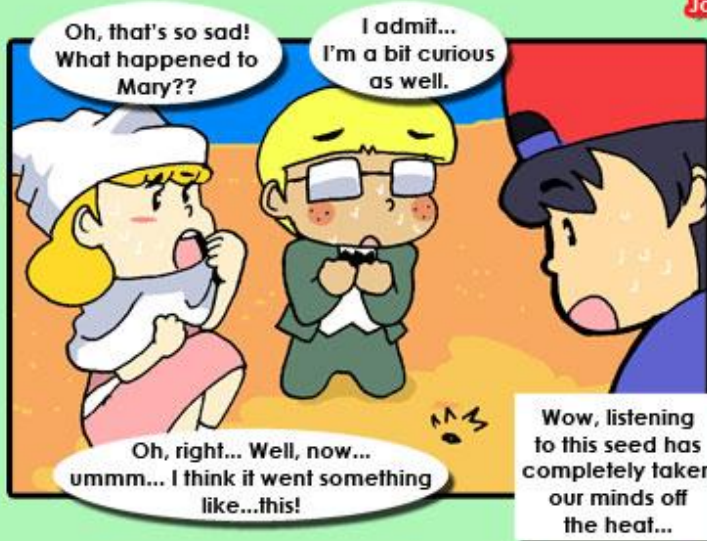
But Mary would not listen. She had enough
suffering. John had hurt her for the last time.
She rushed off in a hurry, and then... AND THEN!!

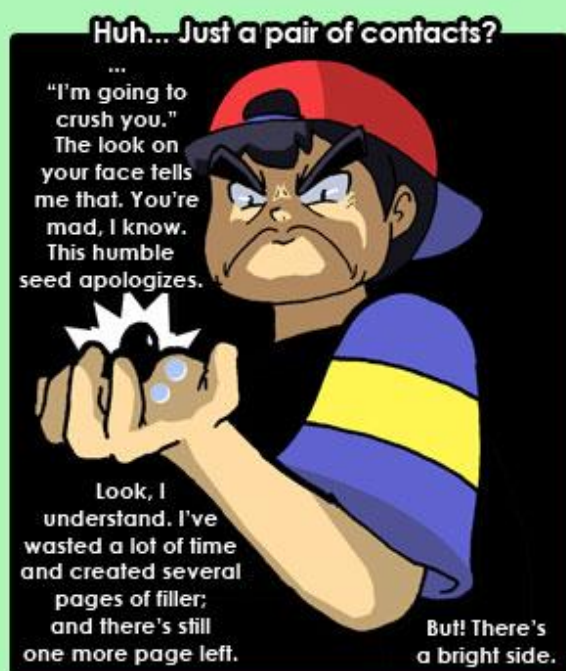
GASP!!
...MARY!!

What will happen to Mary now?!
...Tune in next week to find out!!



JUST TELL
US ALREADY!!





Finally, the seeds are reunited... I'm not even sure how long it's been anymore, but now we're free...

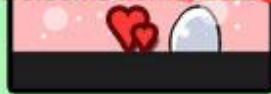


Strange, though, I feel like my body is adjusting to the heat now, so maybe it wasn't all bad...

It's...been a long time, Hotlips. I know I really hurt you in the past, but I'm back... for another chance at love...



After all these years... I always hated that nickname, but now...it brings me to tears. Welcome home, darling...



I don't care what sandwich we end up on anymore, baby... I just know that without you there, it's just two slices of bread with a side of loneliness.



Oh, honey... you're the spice of my life!



Oh my!! How romantic!! I better unequip the towels before I overheat!

Her face is turning red. Is this really what girls are into? She'd get along well with Tony, I guess...



Well, we're going to move on, now. I'm glad you two worked things out.

Ness. You are a true hero. Somehow, someday, I'm going to help you in your time of need.

We will always share a loving bond for all eternity!



Wow, I feel great now! I really do hope those seeds stay together forever.

Gorgonzola?! That's madness, I'll have no part in this sandwich!!

You haven't changed at all!! I'll never share a bun with you!!

La la la... Ness is here to save the day!



HEY, KID!! YEAH, YOU, I KNOW YOU HEAR ME, SO GET OVER HERE!!

N...No more...



Hey, relax, kid! No need to be so scared. Just figured you might want to get out of the sun and rest a bit!

Oh, thank you, good sir!! I am in your debt!!

I guess I made your day, huh? Wah Ha Ha Ha!!

This shoulder is the shoulder of a legend!

It sure is! But can you get down now, kid? You're starting to give me the creeps! Wah Ha Ha Ha Ha!!

Although we managed to get a nice place to sleep, that was still one rough nap... Paula got up before I did, apparently, so I'll just let Ness rest until she returns.



Hurgh! My stomach is at its limits... I'll have to give up on that request, I'm way too hungry to dig ever again.



Have a good rest, kid? Your girly friend went on ahead to find the main road, but you guys are safe from here on out.



H...Here, please hurry up and take it before I change my mind.



An entire picnic lunch?! I'll eat like a king tonight!! Okay, kid, it's decided. If I dig up any gold, it's yours! Who needs gold when you have cake, anyways?!



She went ahead to find the main road.







Wow, the Topolla Theater?
It makes Chaos Theater look
really tiny.

Wonder
who's
playing...



NO WAY!! Paula,
did you see?! They're
here!! Lucky us!!

Yes, Ness!!
The Runaway Five!!
Yaaay!

Oh...um...
Yeah, those..
hipsters are
really...uh...
y'know,
groovy...

C'mon,
let's go get backstage
passes!

I have no idea
what they're
talking about...



I'm worried, though... Do you
think maybe they were conned again?
We can't afford to bail them out
this time...

It'll be okay!
There's no way they'd
fall for the same scam
again...right?



YAHOO!!

This salad tastes amazing! And it's even
more delicious knowing that I bought it with
the money I used conning the Runaway Five!!

...
They fell for
it again.



"Lucky"
you ain't, pal.
There ain't no way those kids
are gonna come crashin'
through that door to save
our hides, y'see?

I'll even bet ya
my extremely rare
plush doll that we're
stuck here for
good this time!

Of course, if I win,
ya gotta give me your
mustache.



YES!! Lucky does
it again!! Come to papa,
my rare collectible!

Perhaps
this is a bad
time.

Oh
PLUSH!

Lord aww' mighty,
Have ya heard the news? Gorgeous gon'...
and got theeseem bluuuues...

I gotta say, it's pretty surprising to see you kids here. We owe you a great deal after what you went and done for us back in Twoson, but it looks like this time we just have to face the music, ya know?



My partner and I can never read contracts that well with our shades on all of the time.

We keep runnin', but we're always goin' in the wrong direction. We nearly been in debt all 'cross the world, ya see.

Buddy, you ain't kiddin'! It's like an endless void is always chasin' us and eating all our money!



This time we're way in over our heads, ya see. So you just go on and enjoy our show, don't worry none about savin' our hides.



You'd need to be millionaires or somethin' to get rid of this debt. That manager lady is some kind of demon, I tells ya!

I'm not sure what we could do this time, since the debt is so big...

I feel bad enjoying their show knowing that they're suffering.... But compared to their debt in Twoson, this seems impossible...



Um... Ness, I'm not sure I understand all of this... What's going on? Why did the lights dim?



Look on stage, Jeff! The show is about to start!

Have I got a bombshell for you tonight, kids!

AAAAAHHH!!!





**Hey Brother,
let's get movin'!**



**I hear ya
brother,
but where's
your grovin'?**

**What're ya
sayin'?
I've got the skills!**



**Then keep up so
we can pay the bills!**

The Bills 🎵



The Bills 🎵

**We want to pay
the... BILLS!** 🎵



We hope luck
will be!



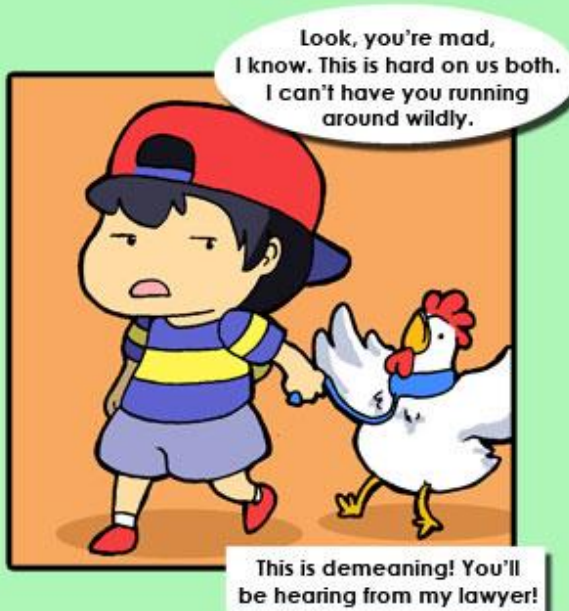
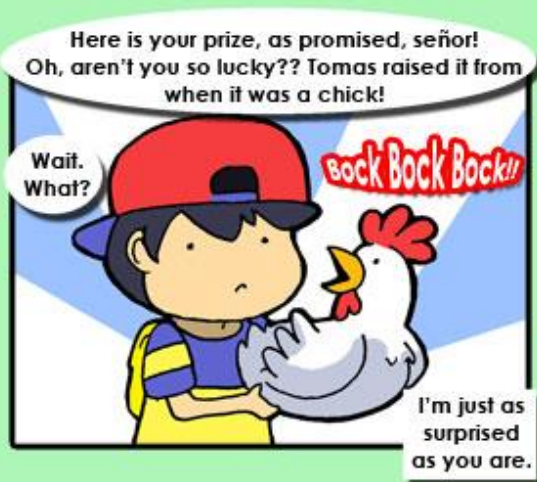
Oh just maybe,
They'll let us go!













Well, that's one monster down...
I wonder how many we'll have to take care
of before the place is safe, though.



I guess I'll just have to keep smashing things
until Jeff lets me know we're done!

Hey, Ness! Jeff
found a tunnel ahead, so
go this way once you
finish here!



I died as
I lived...
thirsty.

Sure thing,
Paula!
This...won't
take very
long.

Since Ness is finishing off the easy stuff, I may
as well get an idea of where the real threat lies...



...and judging by that
skull, I'd guess this
is probably the
right direction.

Though, I can't say I really see
anything menacing about...this.



Hey, you with
the face, and the glasses.
Come here!

There's something
very important you need to see.
It's crucial information to
your survival.



You're not going
to try and sell me life insurance
or something, are you?

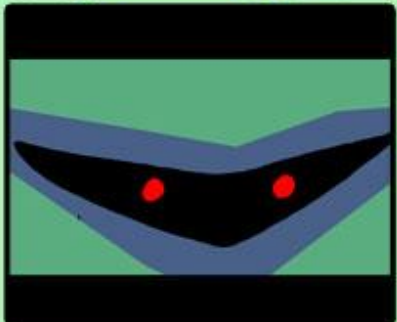
No, no!
Look, see here? Third Strongest Mole, baby.
Amazing, right??



Ah. I see now.
You're absolutely
insane.







T...This "thing" is so mysterious...
Did it come here to challenge
me, knowing I am the third
strongest? Or is it...a friend?



I'll try approaching it.
Maybe I can reason
with it somehow.

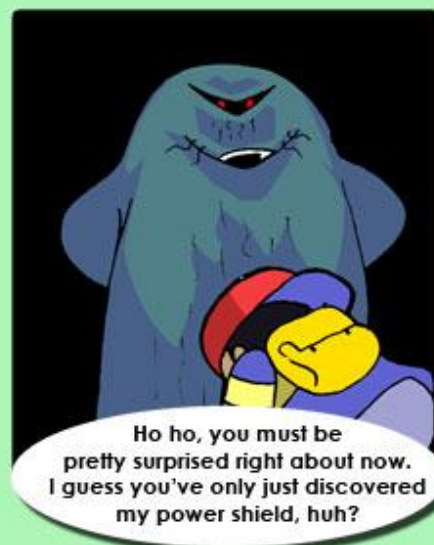




I really don't have time to talk, so don't take this personally. Now dig me a hole to where my friends are and get out, or I'll hit you again.



Ah! My head!! I didn't even see him attack...how did I get hit?!



Ho ho, you must be pretty surprised right about now. I guess you've only just discovered my power shield, huh?



Only the third strongest mole can use a skill as absolutely third-rate as this! I am not that powerful. To be honest, there are two others stronger than I am. But my power is enough for the likes of you!

Great, so I have to deal with two more of these guys?



Lucky me. Without any PP, I'm going to be in a lot of trouble trying to do this alone.

As much as I dislike it...



...I'll just have to run for now!

YOU CAN'T ESCAPE!



Ah, it's Reginald! I know this is a long shot, but maybe he actually managed to find something...

Ness! I've been looking all over for you!



Finally, I've managed to return! You can take things from here, right?? I make fun of you at times, but you're a pretty reliable guy! Well, go get 'em, pal!



Is this the line for the chase sequence?

As bad as this is, I get the feeling it's about to get a whole lot worse...

My fallen ant comrades... I will see to it personally that Ness is stomped out for good! Too long now have we been insulted by the loss of our big brother, and now even our home isn't safe from his wickedness.



Growing up in a cramped ant farm, our big brother raised each and every one of us by himself with the utmost care. Never asking for anything in return, he simply wanted the best for us.

I had to give up the rest of my Precious Mr. Saturn figurines to pay for this milk, so let's drink up, okay, Carl?



Agoo.

His sacrifices... were legendary.

Shut up and stop backstoring in the middle of this chase! Nobody cares about your brother anymore, he died in the first chapter!



SHOVE!

Now stop blocking the tunnel, I'm in a hurry here!

Doof!
Hey, ant! Quit laying in the middle of the road, I almost tripped!



STOMP!!

M-My back!

Hey, it looks like someone's coming this way! It doesn't seem to be another mole, he's actually wearing clothes...



Oh! It's Jeff! JEFF!! Over here!!

It's Ness!! Finally, I'm saved... I couldn't do much damage, but Ness will have no problem thanks to his PSI...



Ness, I'm on my way!

Correction! WE'RE on our way!

S-Sorry Ness...



I...probably should have expected this.



Great job as usual today!
Whaddya say we head over
to Duster's and get some
cheese on the rocks?
My treat!

Get back here!!

YAAARRR!!!

Ooh, sounds great!
It's hard to find a good
cheese bar in this area,
but cheese heads rave
about their selection!

YOU get them!
YOU'RE the
strongest
one here!

No,
YOU are!
I'm number
three!

Where do these
ants keep
coming from?!

GRAAH!!
NESS!! YOU'LL PAY!!

Oh, by the way!
Did you hear about
Ralph?? He hit it big time!
A major promotion,
the higher-ups bumped
him up to the Stonehenge
job out in Winters!

No kiddin'! Well, Ralph was
always a genius at finding exits,
y'know? That guy is totally going
places, I mean, big cheese
material!

Stay still, you darn kids!
The third strongest
male commands you!

You mean the
SECOND strongest!

Yaaaa!!
Time to
exterminate
these pests!

Totally! Let's hope he
remembers his old pals
and sends us a line now that
this dig site is almost done!
Who knows where we'll be
transferred next!

Wah ha ha ha!
Maybe if we're lucky,
they'll even send us out
to Summers! Now THAT
would be livin'!

Please
spare me, I mean!
no harm!

We need the experience,
anyways.

You had your
chance!

You said it, brother!
Sun, beach, and babes?!
Sign me up!

It looks like our time has come... The time for us to go up to that big number three in the sky...



With Mondo gone, nobody could ever truly replace him as the third strongest... I understand now, my friends... let us rest... in peace...

Now that this is all over, I wonder which of the moles really was the third strongest...

They all seemed about the same to me...



I think it was the one Paula set on fire. He really hung in there...

Ho ho... You're safe for now, kid, but I'm always watching. Never. Forget.



Ah, kid! You're incredible!! Just give me a little bit and the gold will be as good as yours!

We can finally go back, then? Hurray!!

Once we get back to Fourside, let's tell the Runaway Five the good news!



I can't wait!

They'll be thrilled!!



Special delivery, comin' through!

I'm a little disturbed by how common it's become for random people to scream out my name...



The moment you've been waiting for is here!!

George Montague finally appears!

Well, at least this time it's someone harmless... Well, hopefully...



I...
may've just broke
something...

I guess my job here is done.
It was short, but somehow I
get the feeling those kids will
be alright on their own.



Whew! It took awhile,
but we've finally returned!

In the end they didn't find
any gold, but I think this
diamond should be good
enough!



I can't move
another inch...
Just where
does Ness get his
energy from...?

Okay, guys!
Let's meet with the
manager and save
the Runaway
Five!

I bet we'll
even get another
musical out
of it!



M...My heart...
is about to
burst out of
my chest...

Who'd have
thought a diamond
would be my
reward for years
of ripping off
stupid musicians...



Ohohohoho!
I can even smell exactly
how rich I'm going to be, and
what a stink it is!!
It smells...like moles...

Well, a deal's a
deal! The Runaway Five
are free to go!

I hope that diamond crushes
you in your sleep, lady.



WHOOOOA!
Kid, you're AMAZING!
You've saved our hides
once again!

The Runaway Five
are bustin' outta here
and it's all thanks to
you, baby!

CRASH!!

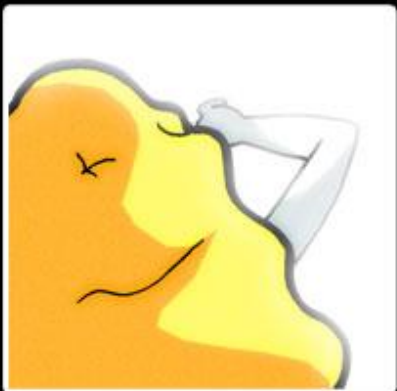
DO YOU NOT KNOW HOW TO ENTER A
ROOM NORMALLY?! I DON'T GET DOOR
INSURANCE, OKAY?! STOP BREAKING
ALL OF THE THEATER'S DOORS!!



We're the Runaway Five.



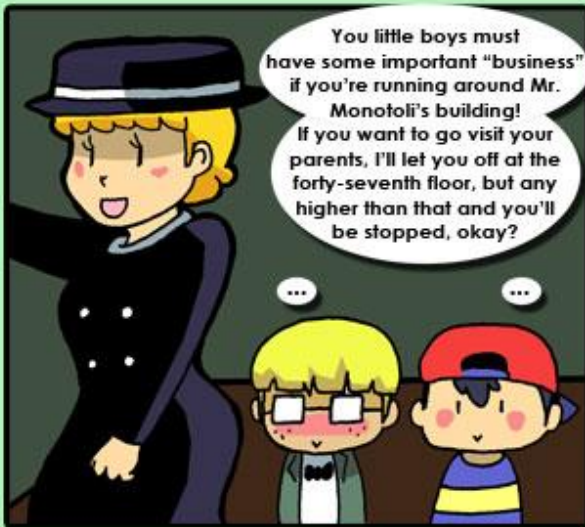
and we're comin' atcha liliive!













Ness seems pretty shaken up... Maybe I was too hard on him...

T...That laugh...



I-Impossible... It can't be...

Why him???



Oooo la la, how disgusting, I didn't realize this building had a rat problem.



Maybe I should call an exterminator! Bwa ha ha!!

My deepest apologies, King Pork...I mean, Pokey.

I'm not sure what they're doing here, but they'll soon "disappear" for interrupting your pigliness' rest!

KING?! King, he says!! I rather like that! King P!!

Bwa ha ha!! But no matter, peon! You'll do no such thing, let the riff-raff in!



Hmmm.... Ahhh....

Err... What was it again...

Pig's Butt? No, no... Nuss! Nuss, right? No, wait, it's Ness!

TAP TAP



Clueless as always, old friend! While you were running around, I've been moving up in the world!



Pokey?! What in the world are you doing here?! Is this your room??



Ness...there's a huge difference between you and I! You're just a loser with no hope of success!

But Ness...before we go any further, there's something you must understand.



You call me "Pokey", but that is no longer my name.

Things have changed, Ness. A lot! I am now MASTER Pokey! Get it?







Unaware of just how far our enemy's influence had spread, we took some time off to rest and enjoy what Fourside had to offer.

Oh boy!!
Ness, I'll take this one!!

Better give dad another call soon...

No way!
You beat Paper Man Two?!

Open wide!

Yeah!
It was really tough!

Having a chance to act like normal kids had become something we sacrificed, so it was a nice change of pace to laugh and have fun, if only for a few moments.

A time for us to play and to strengthen our bonds as friends...

Okay, Jeff!
Watch out, I'm the Street Fobbies champion in Twoson, you know!

I've never played before, so go easy on me, Paula!
Heh heh...

Geez!!
Jeff, you liar!! I never even hit you once!!

...was worth more than anything else in the world.

I give, I give!!
Just call off the bear!!

But what none of us could ever predict was that it would also become a time of parting...

The girl? Yes... I understand.

Gwaaagh!
Worry not, Master!

There is no human that can keep up with me. I'll use her as bait to lure them into battle as planned.

Gwaa
ga
ga

That "partner" of yours may be a disgusting human, but boy is he evil!

Gwaaagh!! I'll be taking this!

PAULA!!!

NESS!! Help!!

In that moment, time stood still...

Paula, hang on!!
I've got you!!

And then, as it began to move once again...

...She was gone.
In an instant, Paula Polestar vanished into thin air.
And there was...nothing I could do...

Paula...



Hurgh!! What is this door made of?!
It won't budge in the least!



Customer Ness!
Attention, customer
Ness! Please leave all of
your obnoxious sidekicks
by the door before
entering!

Do you hear me, glasses? You're
not important in the least! Until our dear
customer Ness enters the room alone,
I'm afraid you'll just have to stay out
there while I safely remain in this
comfortable office!



Feel free to continue your futile efforts
while I laugh at you, though! Gwaaaaargh!

Ugh, annoying lights...
I thought I shut these pesky
things down already.



Where's
the source of this disgusting
glow coming from, then?

No good... Even worse, I took my eyes off of Ness for a few minutes
and he's already going wild...

I guess we can use this to our advantage, but... I seriously
fear for our safety if he completely loses it...



S- Sorry, Jeff...

I know you want to fight, too...
I'm sure that this is all some sort of trap to get rid
of me, and that it's stupid to go in alone, but...
But... I... I can't... stand here any longer...

N...Not while Paula... While Paula...



P- Please, just stay out of the way for now...

...Oh.

SMAAAASH!!



Suddenly, I don't find
this very funny anymore.

I guess it's about time I get serious, otherwise Master Giygas won't be very happy.



You have no idea what's in store for you, kid. I would get used to losing people, because this is only the beginning.



Gwaaargh!
Forget about Paula, she's long gone by now! You should worry more about the people left, like your family, for example!

I'm giving you one chance...
Just one chance to bring Paula back.



Bring her back here and maybe you won't have to suffer too much.

Gwaaargh! Do you really think you're in any position to make demands? You can barely control your own power!



But if you wish, I'll take you to her.

Once the life drains from your body, you can meet again in heaven. I'm sure she's waiting there for you by now.



N...No...
She can't be...

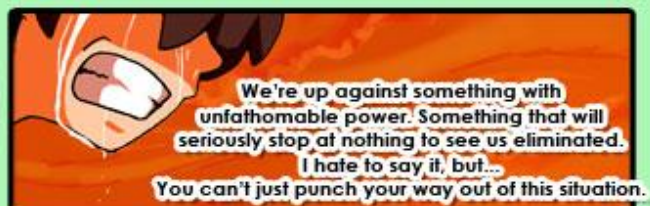
SHE CAN'T BE!!
You're lying!!



M...My precious tentacle Y-YOU MONSTER!!





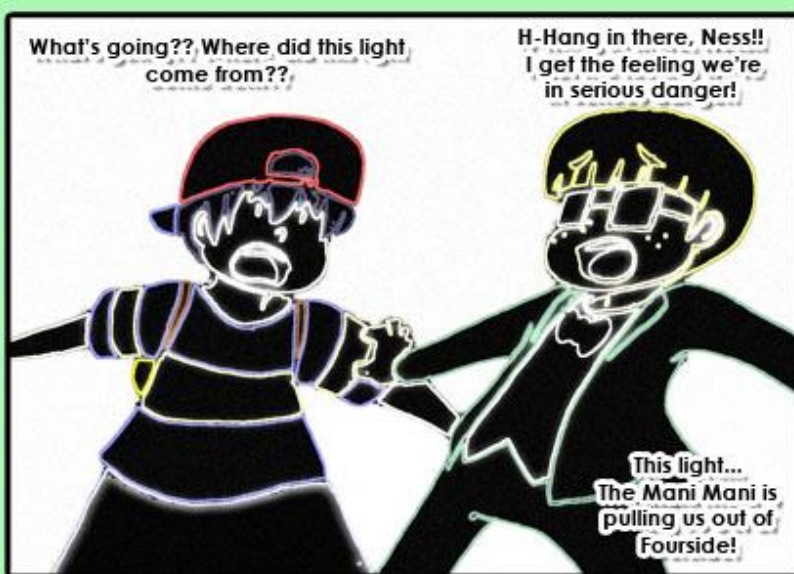












This is...
We're still in Jackie's Cafe, but...
this definitely isn't the same
place. I recall a serious lack of...
neon.

I can't imagine what
must've happened,
but it looks like
that Everdred guy
was on the right
track...

WELL,
HOW WONDERFUL...
VISITORS, HUH?
WE'RE ALWAYS WILLING TO
SERVE MINORS HERE, SO
PULL UP A CHAIR.

So there are people
here, too...
I don't understand, what
kind of place is this?

I GUESS YOU
MUST BE CONFUSED, HUH?
WELCOME TO MOONSIDE!
IT'S A WONDERFUL
PLACE.

OH, JACKIE,
LOOK! THESE LITTLE
FIRES ARE INFESTING OUR
CAFE AGAIN. AREN'T THEY
ADORABLE?

SOMETIMES THEY
TURN INTO THINGS...
I WONDER WHAT THIS ONE
WILL BECOME...

I think...
We'll just be going
now. Do you happen to
know where we can find a
statue by the name of
"Mani Mani"?

MANI MANI!
YOU CAN FIND IT
JUST OUTSIDE,
BUT I'D BE
CAREFUL, SON.

...UNLIKE IN HERE,
THE PEOPLE OUTSIDE
ARE REAAAAL WEIRDOS.

AND THE
MOON...
WELL...
BEST NOT TO
STARE INTO IT,
FRIEND.

I instantly...
regret leaving
this cafe...

AAAHH...
THE MOON'S
LEAKING
AGAIN...

my eyes...
my eyes are leaking
now. your head...
your head is leaking, too.
if you don't plug
it up, you may lose
it...



What...
is wrong with
these people...?

...AAAAHHH...
you see, there it goes, my
eye leaked off my face again...
I guess I'll just have to
find a new one!



I think this
is as good of a
time as any to
go somewhere
else. Quickly.



3...

Compared to these guys,
I think I'm actually happy to run
into a monster...



...If this can
even be called
a "monster",
that is...

2...

Look, I don't know what your deal is, but if
you're just going to stand there counting
at me, I'm not going to hold back.



Even the enemies in this place
are crazy... What kind of battle is this?

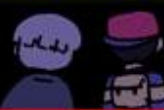
Although I can't
complain, free experience
is free experience!



SHUUUUUM!

So the layout here...
isn't much different than
Fourside. It's something of
a shadow world, I suppose.

Do you suppose the Mani
Mani is trying to trap us here?



mani mani!!
...OH, YOU'RE NOT mani mani.

are you new
here? let me
be the first
to welcome
you...
to moonside!

Er, actually,
Jackie already
welcomed us...

He... he did?!
no... no way!!



Jackie... welcomed... you...
Jack...le... wel...come...
wecomet to soonside...

moonwel
ot cosidme



wel come

to moo

nsi ns

dem oons
ide

Sidem
oonsi
demoon
welc o
me me
me me



Somehow...
that's just about the kind of
reaction I expected...



The Mani Mani is here somewhere...
My best guess is that the Monotoli building exists in this world, too, although I'm not sure we'll have an easy time getting there... Everything, including the people here, must be out to get us... I'd hate for something to mess with Ness' mind anymore than it already has been by recent events...



Paula...
I wonder if she could have been taken here...



I'D RECOGNIZE THAT WEAK POSTURE ANYWHERE! LOID, YOU NERD, WALK LIKE A TRUE MAN! POINT YOUR CHEST TO THE HEAVENS!

W-What? N-Nerd??
I'm not a nerd!

I...ugh, c'mon, Jeff, you know better than to fall for this...



OF COURSE YOU'RE A NERD, THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE LOID. SEE? YOU EVEN HAVE THIS NERDY HAIRCUT AND EVERYTHING.

IT'S THE HAIRCUT OF A WEAKLING, IT DOESN'T RISE UP TO CHALLENGE THE WORLD LIKE MINE!

N-Ness, let's get going.



ness? THIS IS NINTEN! HEY, IT'S ME, TEDDY!

at least, I think I'm TEDDY...

H...Huh?
I don't... know you...

NOW HERE'S A MAN WITH REAL MIGHT! LOOK AT THAT KILLER EXPRESSION! IS ANA STILL SINGING, NINTEN? DOES SHE STILL HAVE THAT POWER??



Ana...
W...who?

Let's just move on, Ness... he's an illusion.

I...HATE THAT SONG. YOU KNOW WHAT ELSE I HATE? STEAK. YOU LIKE STEAK, DON'T YOU, NINTEN? MAYBE I HATE YOU, TOO. YEAH... YOU WERE THE ONE WHO LEFT ME BEHIND, AFTERALL.



I CAN STILL FIGHT!! LET ME JOIN YOU!! DON'T LEAVE ME BEHIND!! WHY JUST YOU THREE?? LOID, NINTEN, ANA!! I'M STRONG!! LET ME FIGHT, TOO!! COME BAAAACK!! LOOOOOOID!!! NINTEEEEEEEEEEEEEEN!!!!!!

T-They're just illusions... Nothing...but illusions.

Whew, he didn't follow us...
These illusions don't seem like they can physically harm us, so I can only imagine they're intent on breaking the minds of people who become trapped here. If it weren't part of the enemy's plan, I'd actually be fascinated in figuring out how it all works...



By now, it's obvious that this evil force is alien in nature, but it almost seems to have...demonic elements as well...

I WILL SEND YOU FIRST AND THEN, YOU SECOND... TO PANEL FIVE!

YOU ASK... TOO MANY QUESTIONS!

HELLO! and... GOOD-BYE!



Panel five?! W-What?? How did you appear without me even realizing??

Gygas... the Mani Mani statue... and Monotoli. They're all connected, and I wouldn't be surprised if that "friend" of Ness' was tied into this as well.

It seems like we're starting to uncover the true nature of our enemies in this place...



We've made it to Monotoli's building... Now we just have to find the statue!

In the end, it was a simple trap to solve. I have a feeling that the one behind the Mani Mani is using these warped methods as a last resort to protect the statue. It's just a string of madness, like a child's nightmare...

C'mon, Ness. I have a feeling this is the only way left for us to go.

Gygas... The Spook mentioned that name again before it died...



AAAAAA

Wait!!
What do you mean... by...panel five...?
...Huh? Where did he go?

Did he teleport us...?



This somehow makes even less sense than before. I can't believe something so illogical could even exist...

But we have no choice. Ness, give me a boost... I don't want to even think about how little sense this makes, so let's get it over with as quickly as we can...

All I see is black space, Jeff... Is something up there?



It's the way forward! We have to get to that next "panel", otherwise we'll be trapped here forever.

Excuse me, but it's very important that we get past to the Monotoli building.

YEAH, ACTUALLY, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO STOP YOU HERE, KID. I HAVE SPECIAL ORDERS NOT TO LET ANYONE THROUGH.



ONLY SOMEONE WHO IS WITH A MAN WHOSE EYEBROWS ARE CONNECTED AND HAS A GOLD TOOTH CAN ADVANCE PAST THIS PANEL.

What kind of request is that?? And he seemed like the most normal person we've met so far, too... Not only are we stuck here until we find this guy, but now we can't even avoid the people anymore... I was wrong to underestimate just how devious this place is...



I'm sorry, Jeff... This is my fault...

No need to apologize, Ness. You've been through enough already. I can handle this, so don't worry, okay?

DINOSAUR MUSEUM



10, 9, 8, 7, 6
5, 4, 3, 2, 1...

Maybe we'll have better luck if we go inside... The streets seem to be getting more and more insane...

I'll take care of the conversations, just try to keep moving...

BABOOM!!!!



O-Okay...

e-excuse me...

D-DO YOU MIND IF I SHARPEN YOUR HEAD?



IT'LL FIT, YOU JUST HAVE TO TWIST IT A LITTLE...

Like THIS! Hee Hee Hee!!
WELC WELC OMELC OMEOME...

WALKING PARKING METERS!!
FLOATING LETTERS!!
THAT'S SO FUNNY, IT HURTS!!

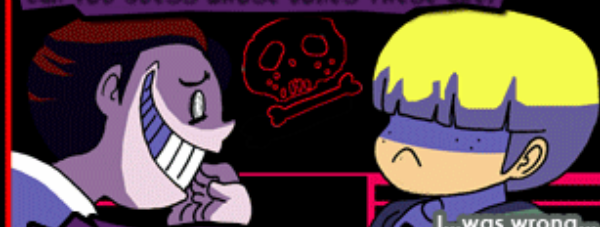
Keep going...
don't look back,
Ness.

IT HURTS... IT HURTS...
WUUEEEELCOME TO MOOOONSSIIIDEEEEEE...

The museum...
I really wanted to go here, but not like this.

Jackie's Cafe was definitely more tame compared to out here, so hopefully the inferiors are easier to deal with.

DO YOU...LIKE BONES? I LOOOVE THEM!!
CAN YOU GUESS WHOSE BONES THESE ARE??



THE ANSWER IS...
MY BONES! YOUR BONES!
BONE'S BONES. BONE BONE BONE...

I...was wrong...
This isn't different...
at all...

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I'll take care of the conversations, just try to keep moving...



O-Okay...

e-excuse me...

D-DO YOU MIND IF I SHARPEN YOUR HEAD?

IT'LL FIT, YOU JUST HAVE TO TWIST IT A LITTLE...



Like THIS! Hee Hee Hee!!
WELC WELC OMELWC OMEOME...

Walking parking meters!!
floating letters!!
THAT'S SO FUNNY, IT HURTS!!

Keep going...
don't look back,
Ness.

IT HURTS... IT HURTS...
WUUEEEELCOME TO MOOOONSSIIIIIDEEEEE...



The museum...
I really wanted to go here, but not like this.



Jackie's Cafe was definitely more tame compared to out here, so hopefully the interiors are easier to deal with.

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CAN YOU GUESS WHOSE BONES THESE ARE??



THE ANSWER IS...
MY BONES! YOUR BONES!
BONE'S BONES. BONE BONE BONE...

I...was wrong...
This isn't different...
at all...

I'm not even going to bother with the museum, it'd just be a waste of time... Unfortunately, I think the same may apply to a lot of the places around here...



Still, I just have to tough it out and deal with...
...OH NO!!

YOU'VE LET YOUR GUARD DOWN! HAVE FUN...AT THE HOSPITAL!

aaaAAaAaAaAaAa

Wha...
What kind of hospital is this??

This place feels... different...



Almost as if we're boxed in. And... No... M-My face!

Stay calm, Ness! Don't let the illusion get to you!!



Our bodies aren't really transforming, it's just...some sort of magic... We have to find the source!

I... er... ...have no idea...

Um... which one of you should I be talking to?



The source has to be close by... This didn't start until we appeared here. Do you see anything over there, Ness? I seem to have lost half my glasses...



Over there, Jeff! In that painting! They're hiding inside!

Ceci n'est pas un Ness.

Alright! I bet if we beat them, the illusion will wear off! Let's take them down!

GASP! YOU HIT THEM WITH THE ABSTRACT PAINT, RIGHT?? H-HOW DID THEY MANAGE TO GET HERE??

I-I DON'T KNOW!! IT'S ABSTRACT ART! NOBODY UNDERSTANDS THIS STUFF!!



OH NO... HE'S RETURNED TO NORMAL...

DON'T WORRY, HE'S ALL THE WAY OVER THERE!



HAHA, YOU'RE RIGHT... TAKE THAT, YA STUPID NORMAL! TRY TO CATCH US NOW!!

AAAAHHH!!
WHAT THE HECK!!!

HOMEWRECKER!!!



I don't get how this works, but apparently we were pulled into this painting just as we arrived...

OH! OH!!
HE'S COMING OUT!!
WE'RE DONE FOR!!

SHHH,
maybe He won't
see us!!

Well, then...
Let's make sure
you two get back
home safely.

I'd be MORE than happy to help!

PLEASE SPARE
US! LOOK, YOU
CAN HAVE OUR
HEADS!

I'LL GIVE
YOU MY
LIFE!!
ER, NO...
MY WIFE!!

I think this is a
fitting end...

I've never been
much of an artist,
but I think this
piece has definitely
inspired me to
make more...

What'll you
name it?

I think I'll title it...
"Tuckus by Surprise".

Heh...
That's horrible,
Jeff...

I thought things might go a little more smoothly
after lifting our moods a bit, but we've barely left the
hospital and already it's ruined...

HELLO!
...AND
GOOD-BYE!

How many of these
guys are there??

AAAAaaAAAAa

I'M SURE YOU
KNOW THE DRILL BY
NOW, BUT IF YOU
DON'T...

HELLO!...
AND GOOD-BYE!

N-No way!!
Shouldn't there be rules
to this?? You can't just
teleport us right into
another one!!

HEY, KIDS! LET'S JUST GET
RIGHT TO THE MAIN EVENT, OKAY?
EVERYONE OUT THERE, LET'S SAY IT TOGETHER!!
3... 2... 1...! HELLO! ...AND GOODBYE!

AAAAaaAAAAa

J-Jeff...
H-Help...

At this rate, we'll be stuck in a teleporting loop with no
actual progress! And who is he even talking to?!

OH, HELLO THERE,
SIR. AND... I THINK
I'M SAYING THIS RIGHT,
BUT... GOOD-BYE?
SHALL I?

NO!!

OKAY,
THEN!
LET'S DO
IT!

AAAAaaAAAAa

Wait!! I meant yes!
Ah, crap!

I can't believe it... I should have realized it sooner, but not even dialogue choices are safe from this place's madness.



OHO, IS THAT SO? YA MIGHT WANNA TAKE A CLOSER LOOK.



YOU KIDS CRAZY OR SOMETHING? YOU CAN'T SEE MY PARTNER HERE?



Well, wherever we are, I can't exactly say it's much better...



HEY...HEY!! YOU WANT OUT OF HERE, RIGHT? LET'S GET GOING! HERE'S YOUR HAT... NOW HANG ON, WE'RE BUSTING OUT OF THIS PLACE!

A gold tooth... and those eyebrows... it's him!



After making it to the front desk I figured we'd be able to leave safely, but...



NESS, PLEASE, PICK UP... IT'S YOUR FATHER! YOUR DEAR OLD DAD IS SO LONELY, NESS...



DO YOU HEAR ME?! I'M GOING TO BEAT YOU SENSELESS, NESS!! YOUR FATHER HATES YOU!



D-Dad... I...

Ness, no matter what...do not pick up that phone.



At last, our ticket out of here...
We're so close, I just have to
hang in there a little longer.

I'll get us out of here,
I promise... I won't let you down,
Ness... Paula...

HEY JUNIOR,
WE'RE NOT OUT OF
THE WOODS YET!
CHECK THIS GUY
OUT!

Hee Hee
Hee Hee...

YOU...I'M STARING RIGHT AT YOU.
I CAN SENSE... ..YOU VISIT
STARMEN.NET...

I...
I don't...
know...

AM I RIGHT?
AM I WRONG?
AM I RIGHTWRONG??

NESS'S HP DROPS TO 0!
JEFF'S HP DROPS TO 0!

A...Are we still
alive?

It's just a
trick... I won't
check...
I won't check...

C'MON, PAL,
JUST DO IT!
BETTER TO BE
SAFE THAN
SORRY!

Sigh...
Alright, alright. I guess it won't hurt
to take a look.

...Okay, good. Our HP is intact, but I guess this place
wanted to throw one last bit of nonsense at us.

This is it, though...we're heading straight to the Monofoli
building now.

WAH HA HA HA!
NOT SO FAST, FRIEND!
HYUK HYUK! THIS PLACE IS
SOMETHING ELSE, HUH? EVERYTIME
YOU THINK YOU'RE SAFE, ANOTHER
MESS COMES OUT OF NOWHERE!
WHY IS THAT??

ALTHOUGH I CAN'T SAY
SOMETHING WITH SUCH A STUPID FACE
COULD BE MUCH OF A THREAT!
THIS SHOULD BE ENTERTAINING!

SO WHAT'RE YOU WAITING FOR?
DON'T WORRY, I WON'T INTERFERE.
JUST GO AHEAD AND SMASH IT TO BITS!
YOU'RE GOOD AT THAT, RIGHT?

Something tells me this
isn't going to be that simple...



This has to stop, immediately. The next time it tries to alter time, we'll strike again. It seems to lose its time stopping function while the aging process is taking effect. With the clock broken, chances are we'll get even older, so I'll have to give it my all.



Ness, you conserve your PSI for now. I'll take care of this.

Right...



TICK-TOCK.



I'm waiting! Hurry up and give me your worst! Show me what you've got!!

I-I don't know if it's because of the attack or my back, but I can't move...



I'm deeply saddened by the idea that this could actually become a reality someday...



D-Don't let the illusion fool you, Ness... I'll handle this...

Huuurgh... Lifting my arm is so hard... It's incredible how real this feels even though I know my body hasn't really changed...



....AH! We're free! And...we're back near the Monotoli building? We must've been lead here while under the clock's illusion. That whole battle must've been inside our heads, like an illusion within an illusion...



HEY, PAL! LONG TIME NO SEE! WHAT'S WITH THE KIDS? YOU SETTLE DOWN?

HAH! YEAH RIGHT!

WELL, FORGET 'EM! LET'S GO GET SOMETHING TO DRINK! NON-ALCOHOLIC, OF COURSE!



I should be happy that we can advance, but...all I feel now is anger and confusion... This place...is awful...

n...no... no, I won't...
I won't listen anymore, so
please... please get out of
my head!! T-THIS ISN'T WHAT
I WANTED!!

Another person?
Wait, could it be...
are you Monotoli??



I'M NOT! I'M NOT!!
MONOTOLI DOESN'T EXIST!
H-HE'S... HE'S NOT HERE!
PLEASE DON'T TORTURE
ME ANY LONGER!!



He vanished... I guess that was
another illusion, but this... is this
really it?



If this is the real Mani
Mani statue, then we
can finally leave this nightmare.

GLARE

T-The hand, it's moving!



The Mani Mani statue is coming to life...
Is it actually a living being?

I've seen this before...but it wasn't
anything like this! It didn't move
at all!



**H-NESS. YOU ARE HESS.
I HAVE WAITED, FOR A
LONG, LONG TIME....**



**I AM THE REASON YOU ARE HERE.
AND I AM ALSO THE REASON...
WHY YOU WILL CEASE TO EXIST.**

**THIS WORLD WILL BE YOUR GRAVE.
IN THIS PLACE WHERE MY HATRED
CONSUMES ALL, YOU WILL BE ENGULFED
BY THE DARKNESS THAT YOUR PEOPLE
FEAR SO MUCH.**



So, that's it...
The Mani Mani isn't just a statue, it's a vessel!
That voice isn't an illusion, it's the real thing!

**I HAVE SEEN YOUR PAST.
YOUR PRESENT. AND YOUR
FUTURE. ALL THAT AWAITS
YOU IS DEFEAT.**

**IN THE FUTURE,
ALL IS DEVIATION.
WHY DO YOU THINK
YOU CAN CHANGE WHAT
IS INEVITABLE?**

**I HAVE BEEN WAITING.
WAITING FROM A PLACE
YOU CAN NEVER REACH.
AND FROM THERE, I HAVE
COME TO REALIZE HOW
MUCH I DETEST YOU.**

**THE PEOPLE THAT
INHABIT THIS PLACE
DO NOT DESERVE THE
GIFTS IT HAS TO OFFER.**

Strange, for such a powerful foe, his
attack is really easy to dodge...

There's nothing to
fear! He's too bulky
to keep up with us!

**IT IS MY INSTINCT TO HATE YOU.
IT IS MY INSTINCT TO WANT TO
SEE YOU CRUSHED.**

Then it must also be
your instinct to lose,
because you're much
too weak to beat us!

Let's see you
handle a point
blank shot!

BOOOOOOM!!!

**I SEE I HAVE MADE A MISTAKE IN
NOT REMOVING YOU AS WELL.**

**I WILL NOT ALLOW
YOU TO INTERFERE
ANY LONGER.**

It definitely hit...
His body is starting to
crack, but something
doesn't seem right
about this.

**[THIS PRIMITIVE FORM HAS WATCHED YOUR
UGLY PEOPLE GROW, BUT WHAT HAS CHANGED
NESS? IT IS FUTILE, YOU ARE THE ONLY ONES
FIGHTING THIS MEANINGLESS BATTLE.]**

CRACK!!!

I won't let you hurt Jeff...
Don't think I'll give in that easily!

THE TIME HAS COME TO DISCARD
THIS BODY... THERE IS NO MORE
PURPOSE BEHIND MY BEING HERE.
WHEN A PRIMITIVE BEING REACHES
ITS PEAK, IT MUST EITHER DIE
OR EVOLVE...



I don't understand what he's talking
about... Just what are we up against?

AS I BEGIN TO WALK UPRIGHT, I FIND
A COMMON GROUND WITH HUMANS.
AND YET, I STILL HATE THEM...
BEING DEFEATED SO EASILY...



DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE PAIN
I HAVE ENDURED UNTIL NOW?

ALTHOUGH MY BODY HAS
ONLY CHANGED SLIGHTLY,
I AM BORN ANEW.
I FORM THOUGHTS AND
BECOME MORE THAN A
PRIMITIVE BEING.
I HAVE A MIND AND A
HEART.
I THINK... I FEEL...

FROM THE PAST,
I DISCOVER MORE TO
LIFE THAN I EVER KNEW.
WE GROW TOGETHER.
THIS WORLD AND I...

AND NOW I HATE...
IT IS ALL I HAVE LEFT...
I WANT SO BADLY TO TAKE
FROM YOU WHAT HAS BEEN
TAKEN FROM ME.
BUT I AM NOT STRONG.

HOWEVER...
THERE IS HOPE.
THE MANI MANI WILL BE
MY CONNECTION. I WILL
PASS THROUGH TIME AND
GAIN THE POWER I NEED.

THIS STATUE HAS GIVEN
ME POWER.... NOW I AM
STRONG. THE VERY BEINGS
I HAVE GROWN TO HATE
ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE
HELPED ME BECOME
WHAT I AM NOW. IT WAS YOU.

BUT THIS TIME, I WILL NOT OFFER YOU SALVATION.

IF I AM TO STOP YOU... THEN I SHALL CRUSH BOTH YOUR MIND AND BODY.



I think I'm starting to understand...

What is he talking about?

The statue is being fed his power, right? Then his mind must have influence over what goes on here... Is this a projection of his thoughts? If so, then--

WHOA!!



THRUST

T-That was close... He's gotten a lot faster. Almost as if he's changed to a different entity...

I WANT... TO CRUSH YOU AFTER COMING TO "THE PLACE"... I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR MY CHANCE.



I MAY NOT HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR BATTLE BEFORE, BUT MUCH HAS CHANGED SINCE I'VE LAST SEEN YOU.

THE BOY WITH THE RED CAP... YES, YOU ARE HIM... I WILL CRUSH THAT BOY...

SWOOSH



H-Have we fought before?? I don't remember you...

HINTEN... YOU WERE THE ONE WHO RUINED EVERYTHING...



WITH THIS SWORD I WILL TAKE YOUR LIFE, NESS...

He's...confused.

Ness, I have the feeling we're not fighting a completely stable enemy. Rather, we may be fighting fractions of a broken mind...

What do you mean?



This place, his speech...they're...not right. If my hunch is correct, then the appearance of Moonside is strongly related to Giygas' mentality. And if that's the case...then he's a much, much more dangerous foe than we had thought...

**"NO." BEFORE NESS...
THERE IS ANOTHER.
THE ONE I SHOULD HAVE
TAKEN CARE OF BEFORE.**



Good, he's heading this way. If I can keep him busy for even a little while, Ness should have enough time to at least use his alpha level PSI.

**THE WEAKLING...
YOU ARE THE WEAKEST ONE.
DO NOT RESIST. AND LET YOUR END
BE SWIFT.**



His form may have changed a little, but he's still fairly slow, so I may be able to pull this off...

**I HAVE MORE WITNESS TO
POWER MUCH STRONGER
THAN THIS.**



**YOU CANNOT
HOPE TO OVERCOME ME.**

**NOW I AM MORE THAN
CAPABLE OF REFLECTING
YOUR ATTACK. THIS IS
MUCH TOO WEAK.**



That's it! You're mine!
I'll blast you to pieces before
you can even think about attacking
Ness again!

FUTILE. IT IS FUTILE.



**YOUR FEEBLE WEAPONS ARE NO
MATCH FOR MY BODY.**



**KILL YOU!
OWNED KILL YOU!!**

**DIE WHILE REGRETTING
YOUR USELESSNESS.**



H...He may actually be a little stronger than he seems. Ness, I know you'll come through... I'm sure of it...

BWOOOOSH!!



**THIS FEELING...
IS IT PAIN? I...
REMEMBER...**

**YES. YOU ARE THE ONE...
THE ONE WHO HAS CAUSED ME PAIN...**

NESS

I CANNOT DIE! I WILL NEVER DIE!!!

defeat of each form...



Cracking open this statue may very well be the worst thing we could possibly do

we'll still press on!

STOP MOVING!!
I WILL NOT LET YOU ESCAPE!!

This isn't nearly as bad
as I thought it would be...
We can win! We can beat him!
As long as he charges around
like this, he's wide open!
I don't even need to use PSI
to finish this!



NESS... WHAT HAVE YOU DONE...



MY PAGE IS GONE
BUT NOW NOW

WHAT DO I HAVE LEFT...

“I CAN NEVER RETURN!!
YES!!! YOU HAVE TAKEN IT FROM ME!!!”





I can't believe it...!
How could he defeat Jeff in
a single attack?? Up until
now he hasn't even been
able to touch us!



Jeff...
I have to save him
before it's too late!!

Ness, I'm sorry... He completely
caught me off guard... As long as his
madness continues to grow in this
place, we won't be able to fight him
head on. He's become so powerful
that his insanity has overcome and
engulfed Moonside... Go on and
try to find an exit, I'll hold him off...



No! I'll heal you
so we can escape
together! I can't lose
you, too!!



NINTEN... THERE'S NO
ESCAPE... STAY FOREVER!

T-There has to be
a way to escape!
I-I'll find it!!



And stop calling
me Ninten! I'm Ness!
My name...is Ness!!



AAAAAAAA-NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-
NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-
NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-
NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-NESS-



NESS!...I WANT TO LIVE...



...I WAAAAAAAAANT TO LIIIIIIIIIVEEEEEEE



I...I'm scared...
I'm...I'm really scared...
What have we done...?

D-Don't let it get to you, Ness...
It's an illusion... An illusion...
I wouldn't be able to see
properly without my glasses if our
real bodies were here...



Ness, let's go! We have to
find a way out! Don't look
at him any longer, otherwise...
otherwise...! W-We have to
stay strong...no matter what!!



S-She... Are you... are you talking about...? N...No...





N-No... No!! I have to snap out of it...
I can't just stand here while he's hurt...



I don't know what
happened to make
him collapse...
But if I don't hurry...
NESS!! Hang on!!

I can't... I can't feel his heartbeat...
Ness, wake up!! If you can still hear me,
don't give in! You're fine, nothing is
wrong with your body!! It's your mind,
you have to resist!!



Please...
Please, Ness...
don't...
...don't give
in...



...He...
...he isn't
moving...

He isn't moving anymore...

Ness... I'm so sorry...

I tried so hard to be strong
up until now... I swore I would
protect you, but... but I...



You and Paula counted on me,
and I couldn't save either of you...

I really, really tried...
I wanted to be a hero, too...



If I were taken instead of Paula,
maybe we wouldn't have lost...

H-How did it come to this?! Why did
this have to happen?! I just wanted to
make friends... I wanted to be important, too!!
B-But... B-But I couldn't do anything...!!



Ness!! I'm sorry!!
I'm so sorry!!

Please, please
just wake up!!
Wake up, Ness!!

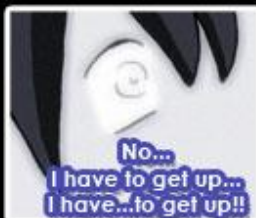
I can't...
I can't do this alone...

Without you and Paula,
I don't know what to do
anymore...



Please...
Ness...
...wake up...

-Ness!
-It looks like you got your head
handed to you.



There's still time, Ness...

Please, stand...



-So, how about giving it
another shot?

Is...is this
another
trick?



I want
to go
back!
Let me
return!!

La la la la laaaaa...
La la la la laaaaa...



La la la la

la-la-la-la

la-la-la-la

La la la la la

la laaaaa...

laaa laaaaaa...



This song...
It's surging through
my body...

When I close my eyes,
I can see...

...I can see...
...What is this?

What...
are you trying
to tell me...?

Take a melooooody,
simple as can beeee...



Give it some words
and sweet harmooooony...



Raise your voices
all day long now;



love grows strong
now...

Sing a melody of loooove...
oh, loooove!



Ninten! Even if you are a descendant of
George and Maria, it matters not!!



The ugly Earth people cannot hope to stop me!!
Your meager powers...I will crush you and your
friends like insects!! Ninten! Know that I am
to be your executioner!!



La la la la
la-la-la-la
la-la-la-la

For Maria's sake I may
have spared you, Ninten...
but now...

La la la la la



ARE YOU LISTENING?!
IT IS MEANINGLESS, SO
STOP IMMEDIATELY!!
YOUR EFFORTS ARE FUTILE!!
STOP AT ONCE!!



la laaaaa...
laaa laaaaaa...

YOU PUNY INSECTS!!
I AM TELLING YOU
TO STOP!!



How?! How are
you still standing??
The SONG!!
S-Stop singing it!!
Please!! PLEASE
STOP SINGING!!!





...Stop...
I...I cannot
stop it...

Take a melooooody, simple as can beeee... Give it some words and...



...Sweet harmooony...



...Maria...

Raise your voices
all day long now!

...Mother...

love grows strong
now!...

Sing a melody of looove...
oh, looove!

Even if I had not truly
made you happy...

Even if you had not
truly loved me...

The days we spent together
will always remain in my heart.
I will love you always...Mother...

Very well... I understand now that as long as this song exists in my heart, I can never defeat you.



But hear me, Ninten...
I will never stop.
Understand that you
have merely delayed the
inevitable!

When I return, we shall meet again! I will never forget you!

Ninten! That cursed name will
never leave my heart!



When the people of this planet
perish at my hands, I will ensure
you are the first to go!

...Ninten... Ninten...
I will never..forget...



Ness...

Do you understand now? This is the wisdom
of the world that gives us our strength as people.

The power of this planet, the mother of us all...
Giegue was touched by its power so much that it hurt.

Ah...
The vision
is over...



Through her song, Maria awakened his heart and
gave us our only chance at victory.

It was because of
her that this place
exists.



A place that holds
so much emotion
that no amount
of madness can
consume it.



This place was meant to be closed off
to the world. In Giegue's mind, there
should be no doubt that it is gone.

You're...



Your coming here has great meaning,
Ness. You... have been chosen.

Ninten... I am Ninten. I helped defend this world from an invasion long ago. However, my story has come to an end... You are the one this world needs.



But why are you here? You won, right...?

That is what I had thought. However, Giegue's influence was far from gone.

Not long after the decisive battle, my father heard of a devilish statue somewhere atop Mt. Itoi.



Fearing the worst, I returned to see if the rumor was true. What I discovered... was the Mani-Mani.

The last memory I have of the outside world was of the statue's golden shine right before I came here.



When Giegue left, he must have sent minions to plant the statue there at some point in time to spread his influence.

For some reason, the statue was moved... I do not know how or why, but it made its way to you. You were chosen by Giegue...



It was... in a tunnel beneath a man's house, close to where a meteor fell... That was where my journey began.

I see...

Then, Ness, our meeting was no mere coincidence.

Giegue is unreachable now, but as a result he can only act through others. His mind does not know we are here, nor is he aware that we are two different people.



In his madness, we have become one entity to him. That is why he will stop at nothing to get you.

Giegue... the alien's heart that yearns for the past... And Giygas... the insane mind that yearns for revenge...



Is there still a chance to escape??

...When this place disappears, there will be only Giygas. Before that happens, I will give you that chance, Ness. Let me help, one last time!

Ness, listen... You will
awaken soon. At that time,
the way forward will be open.



My voice will guide you once
you're there. It will be okay.



You can do it, Ness. This illusion
can be broken. Remember that you
are not alone...



hah...

hah...

Ness... I... I don't
know what else I can do...

I... I've gathered all of my courage
to protect your body... But I'm...
I'm... at my... limit...

I cannot see anything
around me...
I don't even know why
my back hurts so much...



Wh... Why does
my body hurt...?

Oh... That's right...
A giant fist... Something
has been hitting my
back...



I... I jumped in the
way... to protect you...

Ah... It's there...
That pain is back again...



B.....But...

I... won't... fall...

I'm... so... fired...

...I can't... let my
eyes close...



Ness and Paula... would never... forgive me...

Oh...
...They're dead...



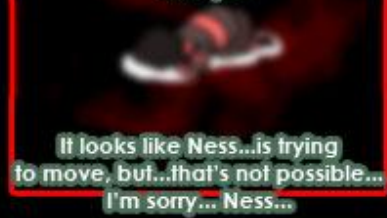
...I'm...
...the only one left...

...If I close my
eyes...
Maybe I can see
them again...



...my friends...

My vision... Ha ha... Oh, that's right,
I wear glasses... No wonder... it's so
blurry...



It looks like Ness... is trying
to move, but... that's not possible...
I'm sorry... Ness...



Ness...

Ness...

Ness...

Ness...

Ness...

Jeff! It's me!!
I can hear you!!

Do you see it?

Reach out, Ness! It's right there!

Ness...

Your friend is waiting, Ness!
Go forward and join him once more!

Jeff, hold on!
I'm on my way!!

Ness... You are strong.
Strength was something I
lacked. That is why I lost.

I will disappear with this
place. For me, this is as
far as I can go. However,
I will use the last of my
power to allow your
escape.

Together, we will break
this illusion.

I'm going on ahead...

...Ness...

...Thank you.

My body is finally moving once again...

...But, Ninten, does your body exist
outside of this place? Where will you go?

...Ninten?

...He's gone.



Giegue... no, Giygas! You are Giygas now. You must remember!
Remember the past you tried so hard to forget!!

NESS!!!

DON'T GO!!

NI-NI-
N-ESS!!

The heart that is now about to fade... It is calling for freedom!

Ness, did you hear that?
First a weird burst of light,
now this voice...

So, this must be
what he meant.



For us to escape...
We'll need to distract
Giygas temporarily.

Ness! Jeff! You are not yet ready to fight, so for now you must run! This power will draw Giygas' attention, but only for a short while. The two of you must charge ahead, to what lies beyond the illusion! It is right before you!!



Um...
I'm not sure I
understand,
but...
No matter what,
I believe in you,
Ness!

I understand!
The wisdom you
have shown
me...

I won't let it
go to waste!
Ninten, I will pick
up where you left off!

C'mon, Jeff!
Let's get out of here!

Wisdom... Courage... Friendship... These three elements are incredibly important, Ness!
Make them your own! Gather all three and you shall become the hero this world needs!



Ready, guys??

You possess the wisdom of this world, so go forth! You have all you need to shatter this nightmarish illusion!

I'll believe in you until the end!



Ah, there!
...Okay, all set!!

Let's do it!!

Let's put an end to this illusion once and for all!

You are the Chosen One!!

As odd as it seems, we'll have to actually get closer to him in order to escape.

Makes sense... The illusion must be coming from somewhere in his body.



We can approach him from the side while they distract him from the front.



Wait, Ness, which face are they supposed to be distracting?



NESS!!

DO NOT DO IT!!

STAY BACK!!
STAY BAAAAACK...

I'm...not sure.
With so many faces, I can't tell
if this plan is working or not. Some
of them seem to be distracted, but...



NESS NESS NESS NESS NESS NESS NESS!!

YOU...

...ARE NOT
NESS...

It's worse than I had imagined...



NESS NESS NESS NESS NESS NESS NESS...

YOU ARE NESS!!

...No. No.
it's definitely
not working...



A little bit more...
It's finally beginning
to form!



I've been watching from the sides for long
enough. A man can never rest when his
friends are in trouble! Remember who I am!!

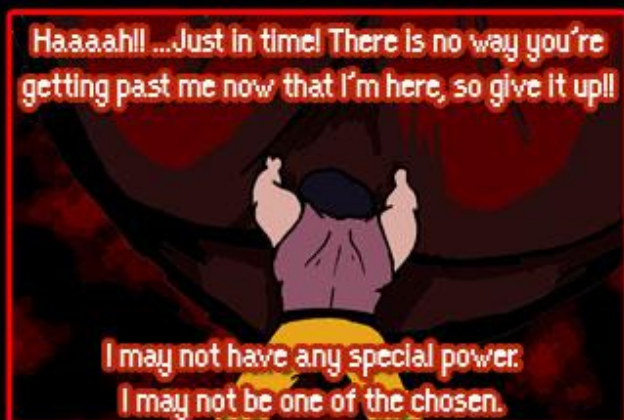


Do you hear me?!

You're MY body, so listen up!



In this illusion, I can become
whole as well!
I won't be left behind again!
This is my chance to fight!



Haaaaah!! ...Just in time! There is no way you're
getting past me now that I'm here, so give it up!!

I may not have any special power.
I may not be one of the chosen.



However!
I have no regrets for anything
I gave up to help my friends.

On this back I have
carried the people who
saved the world!

Now, Ness, I will show
you my strength!
This is what a man can do
when he gives it his all!

This all seems familiar somehow. Just who are you?

Who am I? Ha ha, that's a good question!
I am the manliest of men! I am the very definition
of strength!

Once I was a fearsome foe, but now instead
of fear, I have love!

Listen to me, Ness! My voice has the power to break any illusion! Not through song, but through sheer manliness! Let these words be the source of your power! Always remember...

HYAAAAA!!!

Amazing!!
He actually did it!!
The illusion is giving way!

He really managed
to force the illusion into
an unbalanced state just
by yelling...

...It may be incredibly illogical,
but, wow, what a cool guy!!!

**Amazing!!
He actually did it!!
The illusion is giving way!**

He really managed to force the illusion into an unbalanced state just by yelling...

...It may be incredibly illogical,
but, wow, what a cool guy...!!

Okay! This is our chance!
All of the frustration and pain we've dealt with...
Let's break through all of it!



Ness, I'll be right behind you!
I'll follow you until the end, no matter
what happens!



Haha, that's right! You've found your fighting spirit!



A man fights to survive, always believing in his future!
Even if you die! Even if you fail! Get up again, and punch
failure in the face until it turns into success!!

Now go! Go and find your success!



Very well... I'll unleash everything I have here!



I may not be as strong as Ness, but there's one
attack I know will be good enough to support him...

...It's no Multi-Bottle Rocket, but...



...firing them all at once should provide
more than enough cover!
Our victory is certain!!

GO!! Put an end to this nightmare once and for all!!!



Provide Ness with the safety he needs to win!
Be his support!!

I can't let everyone down... I have to believe in
our future!



I almost gave up hope, but... this time... This time...!!

I believe in my strength!!
I believe I can bring us back to reality!!



I understand now what I
must do...
What's important in order to save
this world!



NESS...

N-NO MATTER HOW
HARD YOU FIGHT...

N-NO MATTER WHERE
YOU GO...

I WILL FIND YOU...



THEN COME AND GET ME!!

I AM... RIGHT HERE!!

Ness, you
can do it!!



You are the light
that will pierce the
darkness!!



With this last attack,
smash through the
illusion!!



SMAAAAASH!!



I WON'T LOSE!!
As long as my friends
are with me, I will
save this world!!

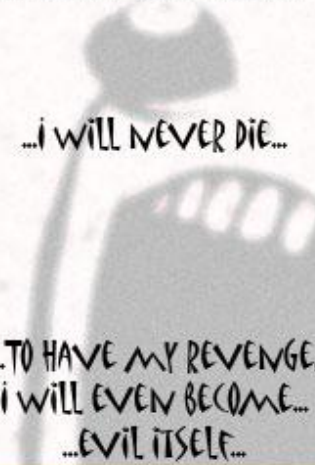
N...NESS... I WILL NOT...FORGET...
KNOW THAT I WILL ALWAYS
BE WATCHING...



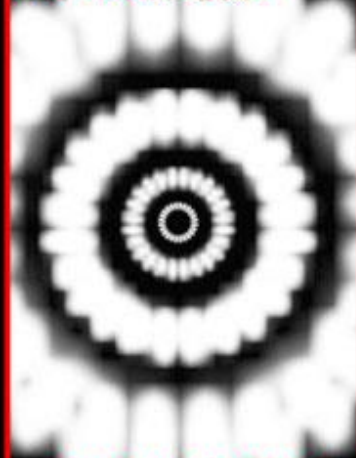
...AS LONG AS EVIL
EXISTS IN THIS WORLD...

...I WILL NEVER DIE...

...TO HAVE MY REVENGE,
I WILL EVEN BECOME...
...EVIL ITSELF...



YOU CANNOT RUN...



YOU CANNOT ESCAPE...







My eyes... It feels like it's been so long since I've seen the sun. But... I'm glad... We've made it to another day...



Maybe he'll send it through the pizza guy again like in Threed.



We've just been standing around in that room all night...

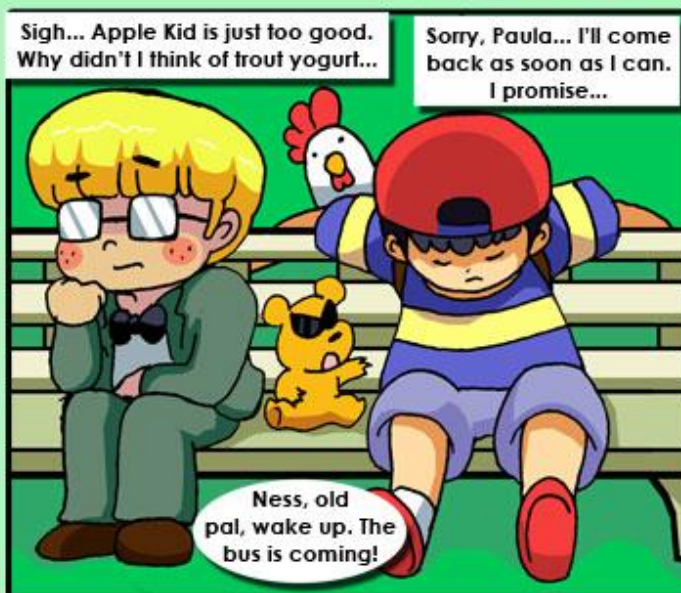
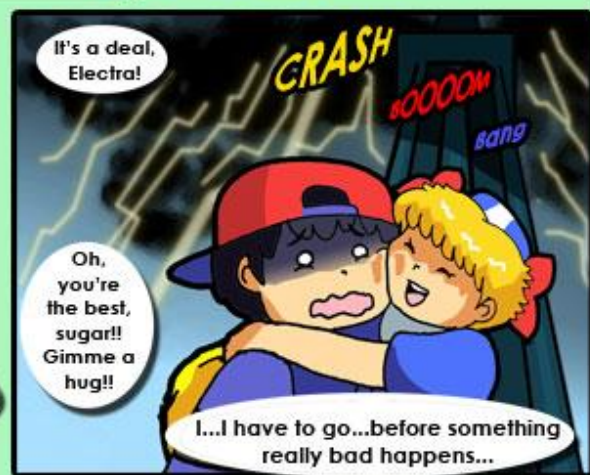
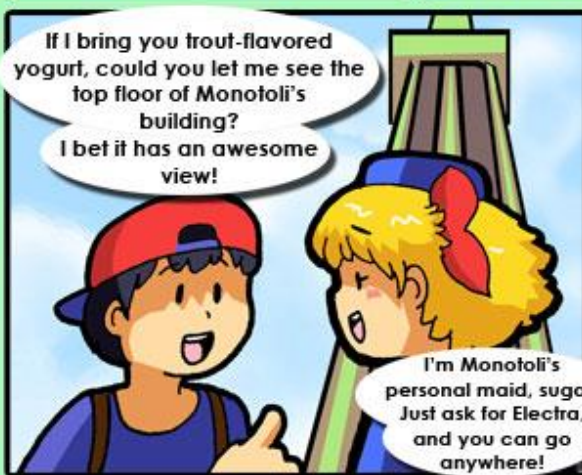


Uuuuuke!! Kokyu ukki!!
(THIS IS IT!! The wind beneath my arms! This crisp, buttery sensation! I FEEL IT!!)









Looking at this scene again brings back a lot of memories. We haven't traveled far, yet a lot has happened since then...



Well, the bus dropped us off back on the western side. I think the cave was suppose to be around here...

Oh no!!
They've come back to take me down!!
I-If I stay still, maybe they won't see me...

shake
shake



Whoa, kid!
You look like a real man's man.
Have I got just the stuff for a beefcake like you!



W-Why me??

It's your face, kid! You have a real "I want to blow stuff up!" face!



Don't you know? All of life's problems can be solved by blowing stuff up!!

Hard test to take?
Blow it up! Don't like brussel sprouts? Blow them up! Ex-girlfriend got you down? Blow he....err, no, wait, don't do that, kid.

This all sounds very illegal.

You know what's really illegal, kid? These savings.



That's right! For the next five minutes there's an **EXPLOSIVE** special package deal! It'll blow you away!!

I'll buy it, but only because I want you to stop talking.

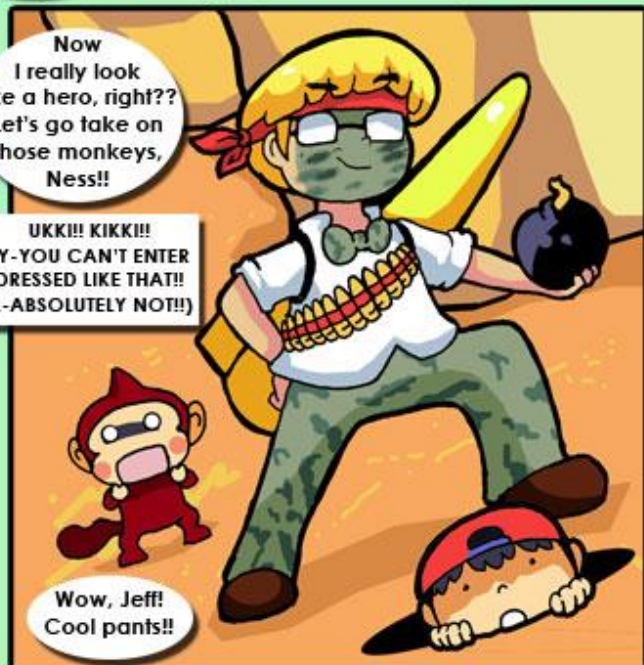
Ukki Uke!! Kukki kya!
(It's you! The boy with the red hat! Talah Rama is waiting, and so are my hungry...err, happy brothers!)



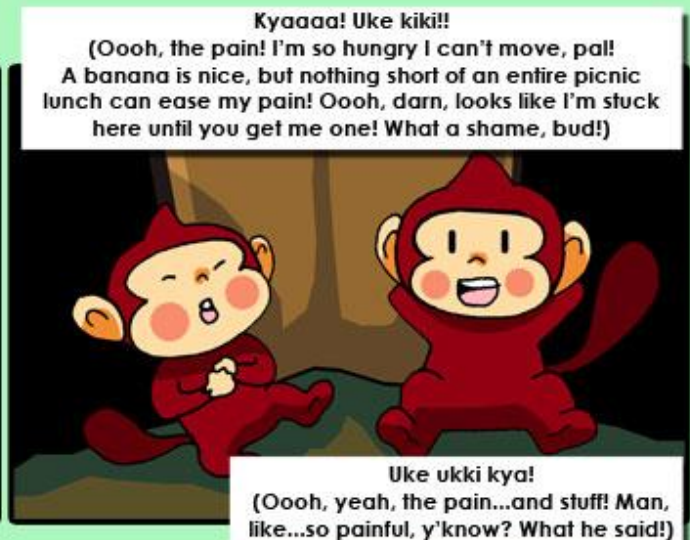
Oh, good, we're here!
Sorry, monkey, I guess I should have brought a banana or something, huh?
Heh heh!

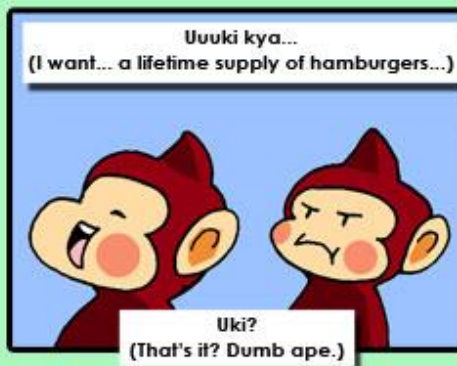
Now I really look like a hero, right??
Let's go take on those monkeys, Ness!!

UKKI!!! KIKKI!!!
(Y-YOU CAN'T ENTER DRESSED LIKE THAT!!
A-ABSOLUTELY NOT!!!)

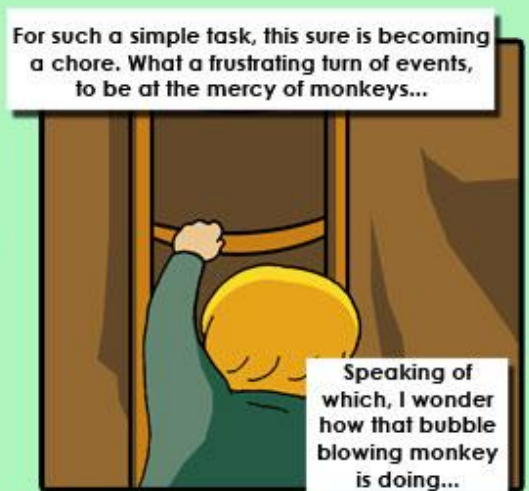


Wow, Jeff!
Cool pants!!











Um...well, I guess we can just let this one slide. It's not like we have to collect every item, right?

We'll try and get the 1/128 items on the next play through!

Er...read through? Well, whatever, let's get going!

Okay, monkeys, come and get it! Some of you may be left out, but this should meet the basic requirements to advance!

Ukki kya kukki!
(I love this guy!!)

Kukki kikko!
(Don't fret it, pal! You tried your best! ...I think!)

Alright, wait'll Ness hears about this!



Who knew helping out could actually be fun?

Reginald!
So how did it go? Did you find the machine?

Not quite, but I found a lot of treasure. I'll be keeping it, of course.

Anyway, come with me!

It was around here! I smell some serious treasure, but I need you to progress!



This is very disturbing.

Ah...er, wait. This wasn't it. I don't even want to know what's going on here.

Meow meow fss fsss!
Coo coo pepe!
(Hey pal! Thanks again for the egg!)

Let me know if you want to buy more. My egg guy is pretty stocked.

FRESH!!

Ah...hm...wait, I guess it wasn't this door, either. Which way was it again?

UKK!!!
(PERVEEERT!)

Oof!
W-What's going on??

BONK

L-Let's just get out of here!!

Ukki kiki!
(Let me off here, pal!)



I can't believe we have to start all over again... What will happen to everyone else once I start a new game, I wonder...



Waaaaa!! Big Bro, don't do it!! You don't have to erase the game...comic... whatever!
I can help you, so come back! Hurry! Pick up your phone!!



T-Tracy!! Is it really you??

Hee hee! Of course it's me, silly!



Your adorable little sister is here to save the day!

Listen! The strangest thing happened a little while ago!

An emergency express package arrived for you!

At my job, these are extremely rare! Only the rich can afford to send these!



W-Wow, really?? Is it that important of an item?

Good thing you got that j-...wait, what???



That's right, big brother! I'm a part time worker at Escargo Express! Employee of the Month, too!!

Eagleland's treasure! Our pride and joy!!



Getting an emergency express package is so rare, it's a huge deal for the company! This package was sent with the utmost care, so we must deliver it with that same care!

The girl who sent it...Paula... She must care about you with all her heart if she paid to have this sent!

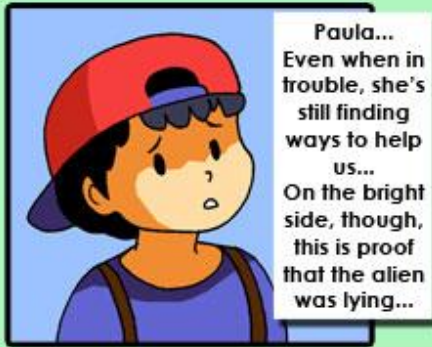


I won't lose, though!

I care about my big bro just as much!!

Just you watch! I can help, too!!





Who is Paula?? Is she your girlfriend?

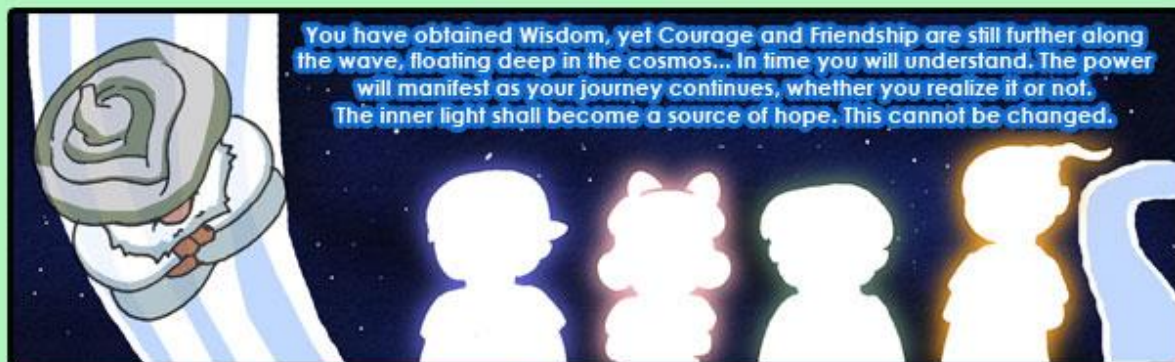
You'd better let me know, or I'll tell mom!!











(YOU LITTLE HOOCHES!!
I go away for just a little bit and this
is what I come back to?!)



(What a pathetic lot you all are! Don't you
have any monkey pride?!)



(W-We
were bad
monkeys...)

(I...I'm
so sorry...)

(I understand now how
wrong it was for us to
extort food from him...)

(You should be ashamed of yourselves!! Did you even know what this kid is here for?!
He's trying to save his sweetheart!! Your selfishness has wasted his valuable time!!)



(I have failed
as a monkey...
P-Please...forgive me...!!)

(WAAAAHHHHH!!!
WAAAAH-HAAAAAAHHHH!!!)

(D-Don't look at me!
I'm not a monkey!
...I'm a monster...!!)



Oh, my. Those monkeys
sure have become riled up,
haven't they.
Ness, it looks like the time has
come for you to awaken
a new power.

Very few are
capable of learning it.
With this power, you will be
able to connect with the flow
of the cosmos and ride the
wave of time and
space to a chosen
destination.



I'd teach you,
but my schedule
of floating in place
is packed.

(Hey
buddy!!)

So this
monkey will teach you
instead.

Excuse me... I overheard what you said to the others.
You're a really nice monkey, you know? I'm going to go train now,
but I wanted you to have this banana that was thrown at my head.
It's not much, but please enjoy it.



Kikki uki...
(T-The King Banana...?!
H-How did you know...)

Ukki kya...
(I understand.
This is embarrassing
for the both of us.
Let's just stay like
this a little longer.)



Kukke keke.
(It is the will of the Monkey's Love.)

Kya keke kukki!
 (We meet again, Ness! I'm the monkey who... er, almost ran into you in Fourside! I was in a hurry back then, but now we can spend some valuable time together. Meet me outside, okay??)



Sure, let's go!

Kukki kya kokyo ukki keke!
 (You're my first student!! I'm so excited!! What I'm about to teach you will change your life forever!! Are you ready??)



So what exactly will I be learning? To vanish?

Kukki keke!
 (Hoho! Even better...)

(I'm going to teach you...



...a skill so amazing, I have to stand in front of this backdrop just to announce it!!)

Gasp! No way!!
 I can actually do that?? Wow, it's like I really AM a super hero!!



PSI power is absolutely incredible... Ness really is on a whole other level as a hero...

Ukki kiki kya! Keke!!
 (Watch closely now! This is a technique that only a select few can master!)



(This method has been in development for centuries! Only a true genius can learn it!)

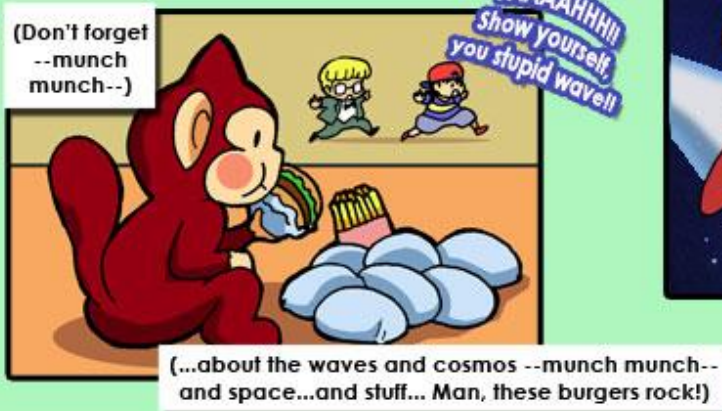
(Take a deep breath! Recall where you want to go and picture yourself riding a wave through the cosmos to that place! Sometimes the wave is straight, sometimes it spins in a circle...)



KUKKI KYAAA!
 (And then, when you see it...)

...YOU RUN REALLY FAAAAAST!!!!

W-Why can't I stop picturing myself falling into the ocean!?!)



(Great work, guys. We've finished it just in time. Okay, bring it out to the street so they can see us clearly!)

(Oh, I hope he likes it!!)

(Let's go, guys!!)

(You're a genius, Man K. Man!!)



UKKI KIKI KYAAAAA!!!

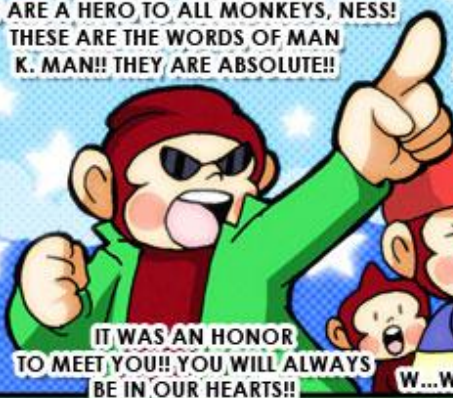
(OKAY YOU CHIMPS!! LET'S GO!! WITH ALL OUR MIGHT!! 1-2-3!!)



Hahaha!
This is as amazing
as it is odd...

Haha!! Ness, look!! I don't believe it... Those monkeys...

NEEEEESS!!! FIIIIIGHT!!!
WIN AND SAVE YOUR SWEETHEART
LIKE I KNOW YOU CAN!!
YOU ARE A HERO TO ALL MONKEYS, NESS!
THESE ARE THE WORDS OF MAN
K. MAN!! THEY ARE ABSOLUTE!!



IT WAS AN HONOR
TO MEET YOU!! YOU WILL ALWAYS
BE IN OUR HEARTS!!

NEEEEESS!!
We're sorry for everything!!
YOU...YOU ARE JUST THE
COOLEST!!!
COME BACK
SOMEDAAAAAY!!

NESS!! FIGHT!!
NESS!! FIGHT!!
GO NESS GO!!

W...WE LOVE YOU!!

I want to be
just like Ness when
I grow up!!

Jeff!!

You're not so
bad, either!

I--um...
I like your
hair!!



NESS...
MY HERO!!

KYAAAAA!!
NESSY-POOOO!!



Monkeys...
Thank you.
I forgive you for
tricking me, so
don't worry.
I'll definitely do it.

We met for only
a short while.
...
But we'll always
be friends.
I'll be going now,
so... Take care.

Paula...

I'm sorry I've kept you waiting so long...



At last, I can see you again!!
We're finally coming to save you!!

I-Incredible... I still don't really get this whole "wave" thing, but I definitely saw a path curving through space just now... I've finally learned it... PSI Teleport!



This has far exceeded my expectations.

If it were possible to harness this power into a machine, think of the possibilities...

I'm so excited, why...my glasses can't stop glowing!



We've returned to Fourside at last...

This place... Holds a lot of bad memories.

Until now, I've never thought seriously about what it is I need to do.

But now, thanks to Ninten, Jeff, and everyone else who lent their support, I can move forward at last. I can make up for my mistake...



Although I'm a little frightened by what kind of power is growing inside me, I can't turn back now.

It's obvious now I'm definitely not an ordinary kid, and this is no longer an "ordinary" journey.

I'm only going to get stronger from here, so I have to learn to control myself... I can't lose control again...



The one responsible for taking Paula...

...it's possible that Pokey was behind it, but...

Monotoli...

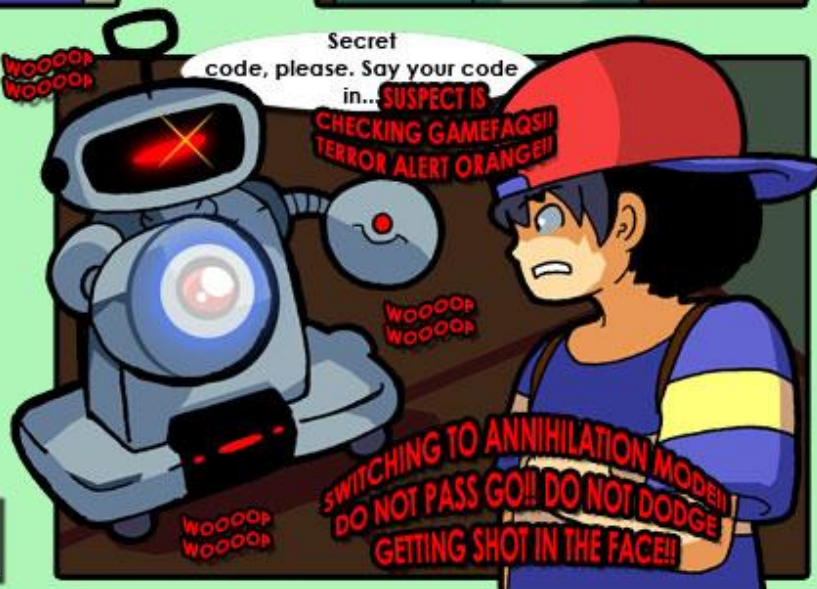
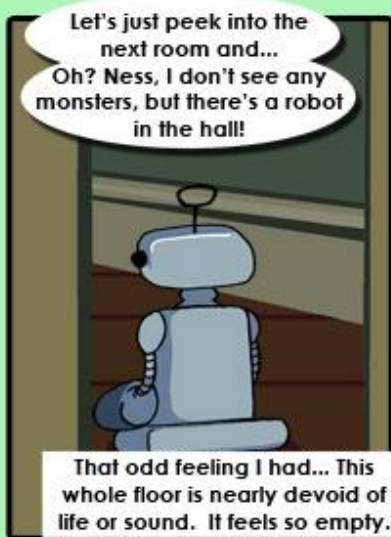


...He's just as much to blame.



It's up to me to put an end to this. It's about time I pay him a visit.





Ah! I've spotted its weakness! This robot has a fundamental flaw in its design. All I need to do is leap from above, then land behind it...



Outside interference.
Switching target.



Um...Jeff, there's no bomb. Why did you just jump across the hallway?



I...
I g-got carried away...

Security breach confirmed. All units, gather for immediate cleansing of the forty-eighth floor.



Jeff, look...
The robots are all gathering in this room.
What's going on?

I'll tell you what's going on, Ness...



Free experience!!!

Jeff... You are one of the greatest party members a protagonist could hope for.

Hee hee!



The rest of this floor is empty...
I guess that was all of them.

I wonder who's using all of these
desks. Do you really need so many?

Desks, doors, desks, doors...

More desks...

More doors...

We've been running around this
place for awhile, though. These
rooms all look the same...

I guess when you're rich,
you just need a lot of desks...

A maid... AH!! Electra!!

You made it!!
Thanks a bunch,
sweetie!!

Ooh! This is it!!
How magnificent...
Now I can calm
Master Pokey!
Oh,
I bet he'll finally
be happy with
me again...

Maybe I'll get
that raise I've
been hinting
at!

F-Fast...!! When did she
take that package from me??

W-Wait...
I did all of that
for POKEY?!

Isn't he wonderful?

The other day he
gave me an exotic dress and said
"this is fit for a maid..."

He may be
harsh at times, but he is
a kind, caring soul...

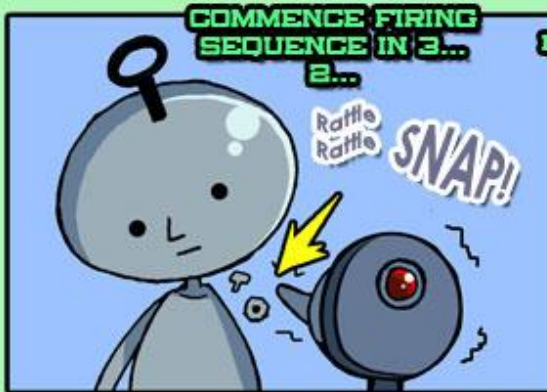
Poor Electra...
Pokey will just
take advantage
of her until we
end this.

I'll save this
yogurt so you
can throw it
at him.

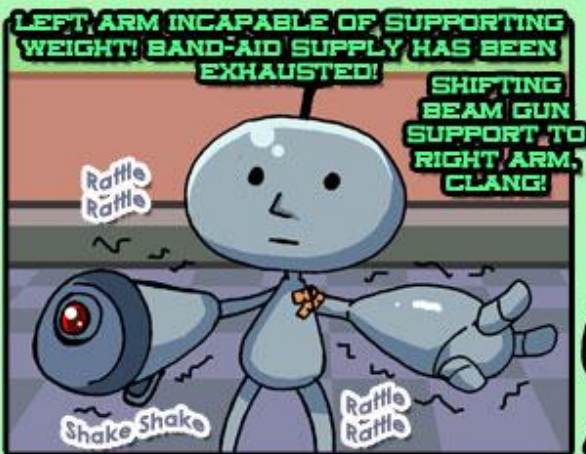
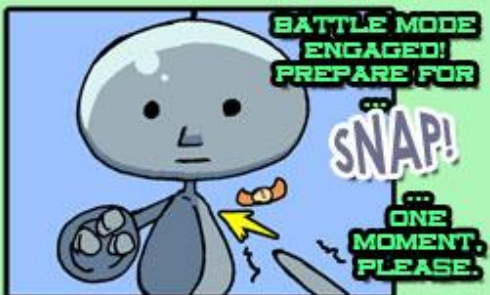
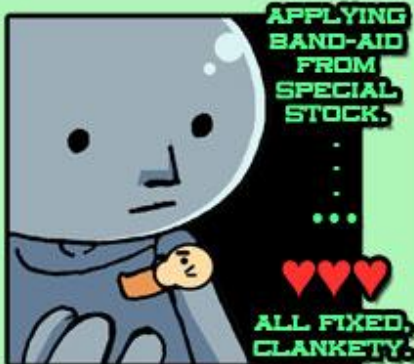
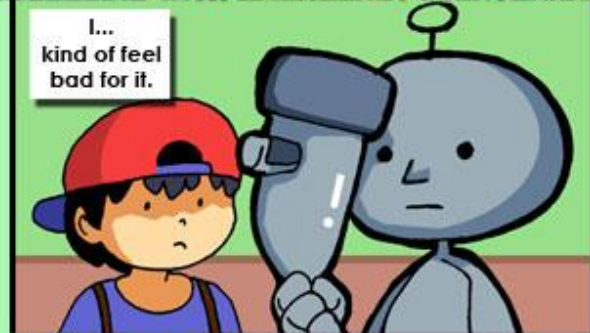


Must be a broken cleaning robot. Well, no harm, I guess.





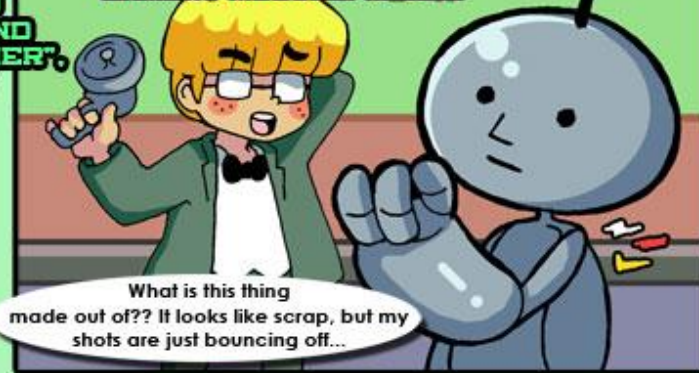
WEIGHT OF ARM EXCEEDS BODY. CLANG.
PROCEEDING WITH EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE.



ACTIVATING MAGNETIC COMPOSITE
SOCKETS. BATTERY POWER
DRAINING BY 50 PERCENT.



ARMS RESTORED!...BUT, BATTERY
POWER REMAINS LOW. ACTIVATING
LAMENT MODULE. ...SIGH.



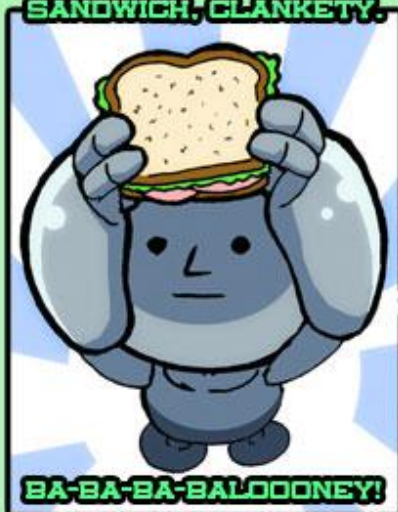
OUTER SHELL TAKING SEVERE DAMAGE!
BEAUTY LEVELS ARE AT RISK!! FACE REMAINS
EXCEPTIONALLY HANDSOME, HOWEVER.



DING! BACKUP FUEL SUPPLY
IS NEARING COMPLETION.



MAYO HELD!
PAUSING FOR DRAMATIC
SEQUENCE PRIOR TO
CONSUMING BOLOGNA
SANDWICH. CLANKETY.

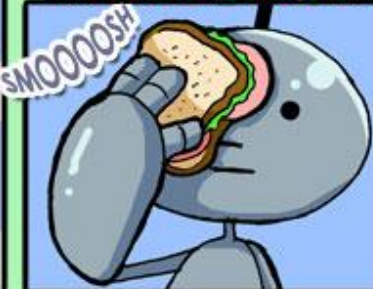


Nutrition Facts: Bologna

- Is full of Vitamin (S)nacktastic
- Donates half its paycheck to orphans
- Is full of baloney, which means it's 200% delicious



INSERTING SANDWICH.
BEGIN CONSUMPTION.



HP ARE MAXED OUT!
CONSUMPTION OF
BOLOGNA SANDWICH
100 PERCENT COMPLETE.



This robot...is unbeatable! The only hope we have is to sneak by it while its vision is still down. Really, who would have ever thought a sandwich could cause a status effect...



VISION AT 100 PERCENT!
INTRUDER ATTEMPTING TO SNEAK OUT. INITIATE 'LAST RESORT' METHOD.



ALL POWER CONVERGING TOWARDS REAR HATCH. SWITCHING TO GAS POWERED PROPELLING SYSTEM. PREPARE TO BE SANDWICHED.



LAUNCHING SPECIAL OF THE DAY. CLANG! PROJECTILE BOLOGNA CONFIRMED! TARGET: YOUR FACE!



Now it's firing...
bologna sandwiches?!
What kind of attack is that??
Could this battle possibly get any stranger?!



PREPARING SECONDS.
BOLOGNA NO LONGER IN STOCK!
ALTERNATING WITH EXPLOSIVE ROUNDS.



INITIATING LUNCH IN 3, 2, ...
FIRING! AN EXPLOSIVE TASTE IN
EVERY BITE, CLANKETY!



N-No way...
There's no way we can
dodge an explosion from
something like that...!!

Sorry,
Ness...
I...
should have
seen this
coming...



BUM BUM BUM BUM!

CRAAASH!!



Pardon me,
but...

Nobody's gonna be blowin'
up my little buddy here!

THAT. AIN'T. GORGEOUS!!

A-Amazing!!
Mister Gorgeous,
you can catch
rockets?!?!
Ha ha!
This is
nothin',
kid!



'WOW' METERS UP TO MAX!!
SENSORS SUFFERING FROM
SEVERE DIZZY SPELL!

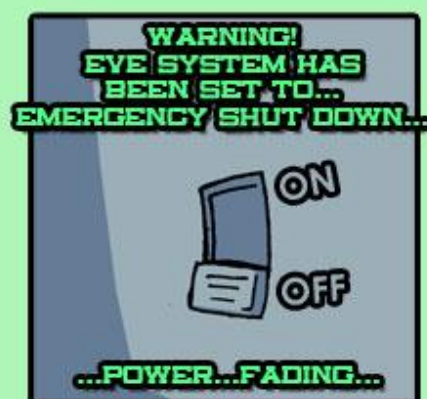


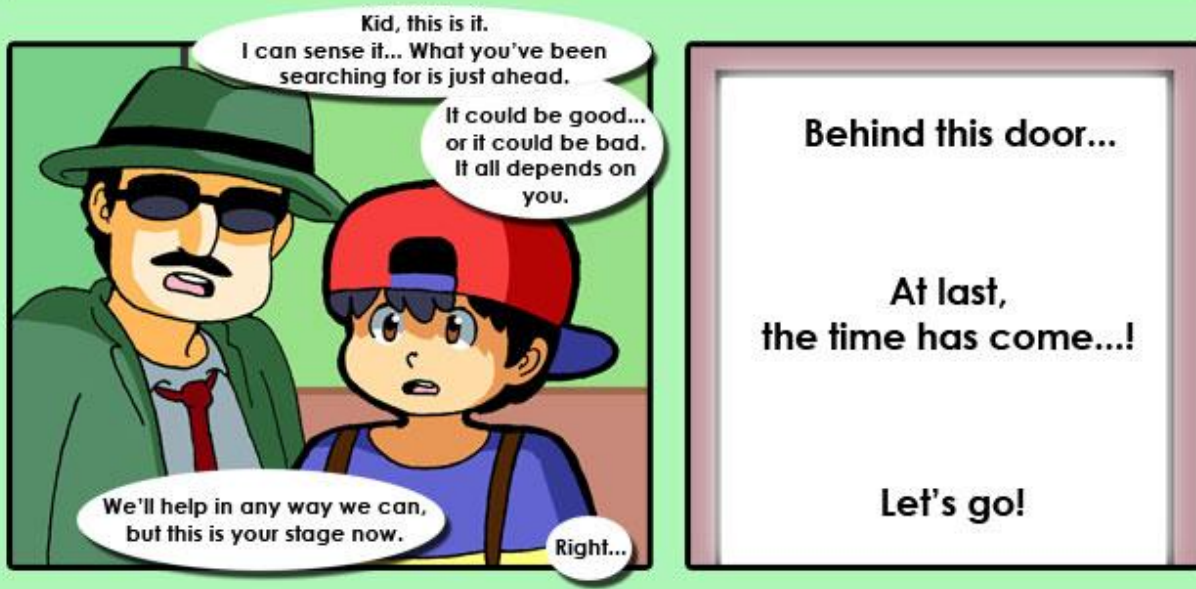
SUBJECT MAY OR MAY NOT BE
INTOXICATED, CLANG!

The Runaway Five...?
What are you guys doing here?
How did you...?



Let's just say
we have one
last big debt
to repay.
This one's on
us, kid.







N-No... He's here...
W-What am I going
to do??



It's him!! That's the guy
we saw in Moonside!! He's the one who
had Paula kidnapped!!

Wait, Ness!
He's just an old
man!

P-Please...
s-stay
back...

There are no more
enemies to fight! Try to stay
calm! It's over!



Paula...
I'm so close...
I have to
save Paula!!



N...Ness...?



Please! Stop!!
I give up!! I give up!!
I swear!!!!

MONOTOLI!!!!
YOU'RE GOING TO
PAY!!



NOOOOO!!
PLEASE, DON'T COME
ANY CLOSER!!!

I BEG YOU!!
FORGIVE MEEEEEE!!







...What...What have I done...
...to this city, and to you children...
I have committed a grave sin,
one which a foolish old man like myself
could never hope to atone for in the short
time he has left...



Paula... I am truly sorry for having
separated you from your friends...

Mr. Monotoli...
It's okay.
You were a victim
as well...



Please, can you tell
Ness...? About...it?

I have...nothing else to lose... My body is
so feeble now, I realize the youth I had
obtained was an illusion as well.

My body,
my arms...
Even my
hair is that
of an old
man's...



It was a lie...
A momentary
joy that has
left me with
only regret.

This is the
harsh reality
for those who
desire power...

Ness,
surely you have seen it
once before. That horrific
statue...



Y-Yes... I think it has
something to do with why we're
on this journey...

...I am the one responsible for having cast this dark
shadow over Fourside.



A shady character was
lugging it around the city.
The moment I saw him.
I knew I had to take
the statue...

...I tricked him and hid the statue, planning to sell it.
In truth, I was not a wealthy man... My lack of money,
and my old age had left my heart vulnerable to greed.

However, I was not very business savvy. I needed
someone who could assist me in selling the statue
for the right price. That...is when he appeared.
A nice young boy, about your age... Energetic,
kind, and loyal... His name is Pokey Minch...



In one single night, I made more money than I ever had in my entire career as a real estate agent. With Pokey's advice, I bought the Enrich Flavor building, and suddenly... I was somebody.



You're like a king, sir!!

M..Money...
I have money now!
Look, Pokey!!

However, Pokey never sold the statue! This brilliant youth had managed to formulate a plan to become rich all on his own! Although he was sometimes a bumbler, this child possessed incredible knowledge...



Mr. Monotoli.
About those documents to allow Earthbound on the Virtual Console...
I shredded 'em.

Pokey!! You were supposed to shred the papers for Shaq Fu!!

Eventually, Pokey began pushing the idea of gaining political power... I've always been a timid man, so I was hesitant...



A...Are you sure?

Monotoli, it'll be okay. We have...a lot of support.

Hee hee...
You can trust me.

That was when it started. I began having dreams that I was in my prime once again.



Power...
I had power, wealth, and most of all, my youth.

I began praying to the Mani Mani Statue as this urge to be young again overtook me.

The more I absorbed myself in prayer, the more real it all became. I was young again!



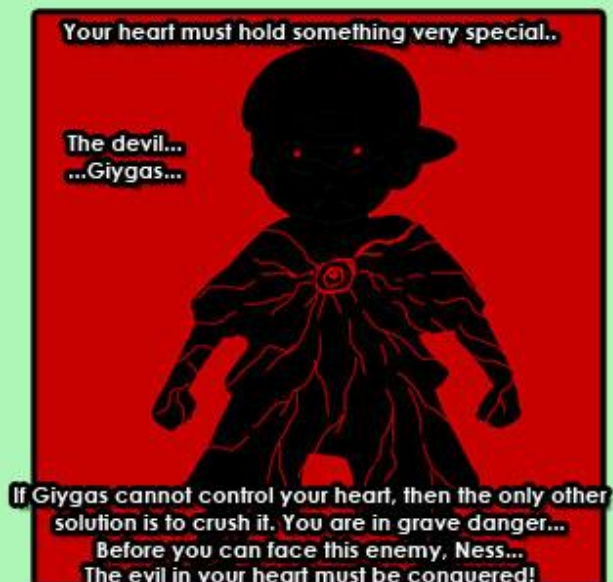
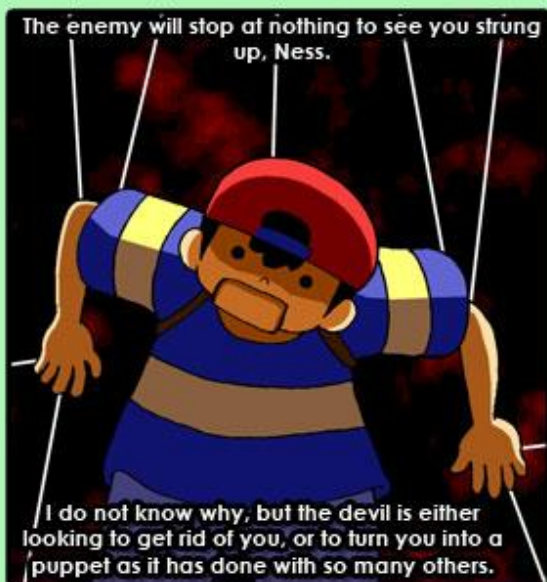
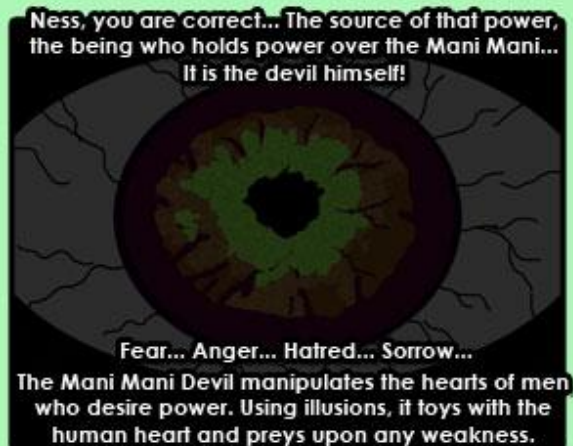
I, Monotoli, stared down from the highest, most powerful skyscraper in Eagleland! This was my new reality! But most of all, it was only the beginning...!

My desire for power, wealth, and youth... They were foolish dreams dreamt by a foolish old man... Instead of becoming a powerful man, I became a monster...



Monotoli... I'm sorry.

Only now do I realize that the power I yearned for so badly would make me even weaker...







Hee hee... It feels like it's been a long time since we've all run together like this!

I hope the Runaway Five don't mind that we're leaving them behind...

I'm sure they'll understand!

Look!! There it is!!

Oh boy! I've never been in a helicopter before!

Jeff, do you know how to fly it...?

WHRRRRRRRRRRRR

W-What's going on...? The blade... it's moving...!

CHUKKA CHUKKA CHUKKA CHUKKA

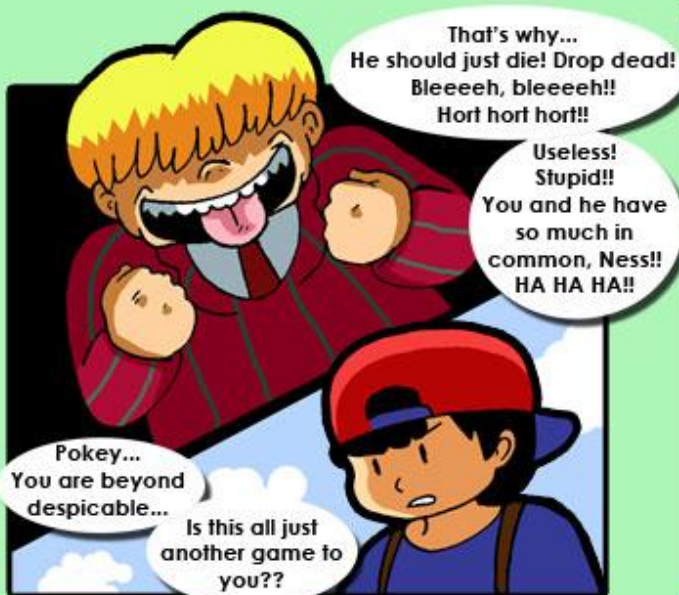
But...why? Is it remote controlled? Could Monotoli have prepared it for us?

WAH HA HA HA HA HA!!
Ness, you brain-dead moron!!
You really are slow, in more ways than one!

I'd feel sorry for you, but... it's just too funny!!

Pokey...
What...are you...

What are you doing?!
Why are you in Monotoli's helicopter?!



That personality of yours... A goody-goody do-gooder like yourself could never have the brains to appreciate a game such as this!



From the moment I first took you under my wing and let you be my servant, the game officially began! I hadn't realized it at the time, but I was on my way to become king of this world!!

Yes, do you understand how much of a humanitarian I am, Ness? Why I, Master Pokey, let you be my first servant?



It is because I am the most gracious, the most amazing, the most incredible...! When we would play Pork Rangers, I would even let you be the vile, evil Drago while I settled for the role of Pig King! We played all kinds of games like that... This, too, is yet another game! A game on a much bigger scale!!

Hear my word, peons! The Pig King speaks!!

Groooooan!
Raaaaa!!

Big brooo!!



Just like every other game, you're going to lose, Ness. You're going to lose, because you have no idea how to play!! Stopping to save other losers instead of looking out for yourself is your greatest weakness!!

Waaahhh!!!
My kneeeeee!!

Don't cry, Tracy...
It'll be okay...

Ness! Run, you fool!!
If you get caught, I wasn't involved! Later!!



That...is why I will win. This world and everything in it are part of a game made for me. ...FOR ME!!!
You are just another helpless pawn on the board! Power... My power will be absolute.
Can your feeble mind grasp even a fraction of my greatness now, Ness? Can you see that I walk
down the path of a KING?! This is the ULTIMATE game! A game created just for me!!

The people of this
world are now
reduced to being
mere toys!
Those who become
useless or boring will
be knocked down
by ME,
Master Pokey!!
That is the fate of
all losers!
AHAHAHAHA!!



But, Ness,
a loser is always
a loser, even if he gets lucky
and wins a few times. You were
born a loser, and you will die a
loser. Your only salvation
is the fact that you are
my pathetic, weak
friend.

if you play the game by my rules, I won't
break you like the other toys! What do you
say?



You could be a clown, or a mime...

...or how about a coat rack?
You could hold coats, Ness!
Surely an idiot like you could
handle that! WAH HA HA HA!!

Regardless of if you accept or not, it's too late!! Can you see
it? This is the difference between you and I!!



That is why I
am up HERE,
and you are down
THERE!

I, Master Pokey, am the one who now stands
above even the "chosen one" himself!!!

WAH HA HA HA HA!!
Stuuupid! Pathetic! This world is
doomed if it has to rely on a "hero" like
you, Ness! It's like my idiotic father always
said... The apple doesn't
fall far from the tree! You and your bratty
sister are losers just like your mom
and--



POKEY.....!!

SHUUUT UUUUUUP!!!!



I won't let you
push me around anymore!!
I've put up with you
because we're neighbors,
but this time...you've
gone too far!!

Insulting me, my
family, and the people
you've manipulated...
You are the one
person I can NEVER
forgive!!!

I've heard ENOUGH!
A person like you... Pokey...
I WILL NEVER BE FRIENDS WITH SOMEONE
LIKE YOU!!!



Urk...!
W-What?!

W-Wha... B-But I thought you were...



My friend...

Paula and Jeff... They're the closest friends I've
ever had. Thanks to them, I finally have the courage to
stand up to someone like Pokey...

I won't let you
get in my way this time,
Pokey!!

I'm going to
stop you right
here!!



Y-You losers aren't worth my time!!
I'm leaving, so have fun being stuck in Eagleland,
you morons!! I'll fly to a place where your
magic can never reach me!!

**Villainous monologue
concluded. Raising
altitude. Begin escape!**



Hee hee, way to teach him
a lesson, Ness! I guess to him, even the
weakest level of PSI Flash looks
pretty deadly...



That felt great!! Not only
did I stand up to Pokey, but I gave him a good
scare as well! Now I feel like I can do
anything!

MOVE IT YOU HUNK OF GARBAGE!!
YOU'RE TOO SLOW!!

Every
one of them...
They're all making
fun of me!!

He tricked me... He wouldn't seriously
attack this helicopter, not if it puts the people
walking below at risk...



I can't believe he actually said that...
Ness... What do you mean you're not my friend?!!
These peons don't understand my greatness...
How dare they not like me!!



I swear... I'll make everyone bow before me if it's
the last thing I do...

If the people of this world refuse to call me
Master Pokey...

...if they dare to disobey me,

then they'll all just have...to disappear...

Ness, don't you dare think I'll spare you now!

Everyone... Everyone, who hates me... Will die!



WAAAAHHHH!! S-STOP DOING THAT!!!



M-M-M-Master G-G-G-Giygas... I stole the helicopter that Ness was planning on using to leave Eagleland, but... I-I'm afraid to say that I've never been outside of Eagleland, either, so I don't know where to find you once we lose contact again...
Please, sir, if you can tell me what to do next, I'll follow you anywhere!
Y-You are the almighty, sir!



T-THE PLACE...
I AM...

I AM WAITING... AT THE PLACE...

B-BEYOND SPACE... BEE...

B-BEYOND TIME...



W-WHERE IT ALL BEGAN...

T-THE SOURCE...
OF...

P-POKEY... YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE...
N-NEXT... GO... G-O... TO D-DEEP... DARKNESS...



D-D-D-Deep
Darkness... A p-place
most fitting for you,
M-M-M-Master...

I t-think I
can figure out
h-how to
get there...

S-S-Sir, I...
um... I will
d-d-do
my best!



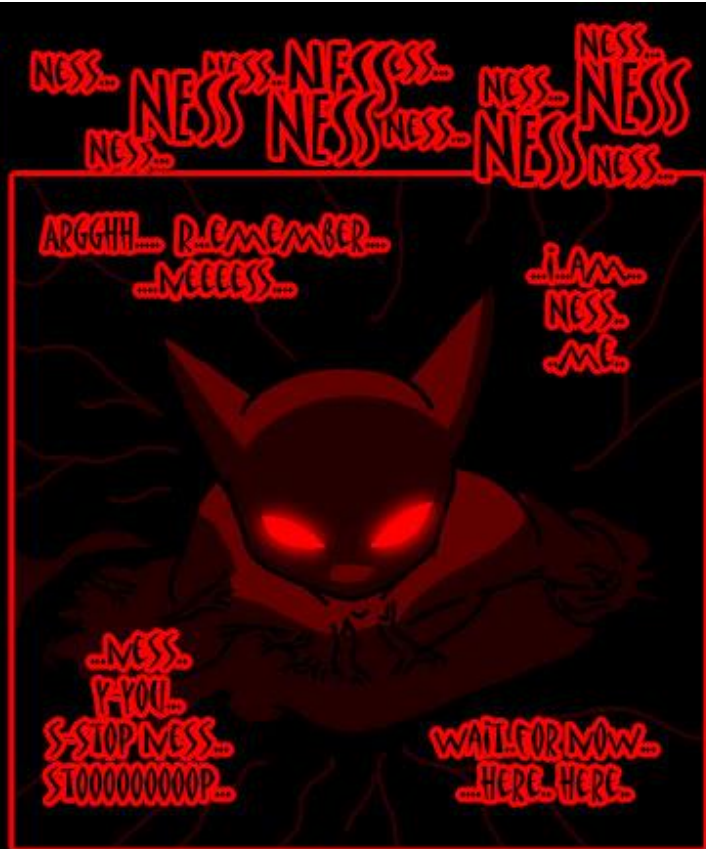
I AM WAITING... AT THE PLACE...
THE PLACE BEYOND THE DARKNESS...

S-STOP... NESS... I-W-WILL GIVE YOU...
THE P-OWE-R...



T-TOGETHER...
W-WE WILL...
E-ERASE HIM...

Ness... He's a thorn in our side that must be removed immediately...
Master Giygas, if your goal is to destroy Ness, then that will become
my goal as well! I, your humble servant, Pokey, will assist you in any
way I can to erase him from this world...



Ah... The illusion is gone...
It looks like Master Giygas has finally lost it.
These images in my head, is this the power he
wanted to give me?



Yes... the knowledge to
create...something...is flooding
my mind...

HMHHMMHHMM...!

I see...! I SEE!! This is it!!

Hee hee hee hee!!
With this, I'll be able to fight
evenly against their
magic!!



Teaming up with Master Giygas was the smartest
thing I've ever done! This will be the greatest toy
I've ever received!!

This...This is too great!!
Look at me!! Look at me now!!
It's funny!! It's so funny!! I can
hardly contain my laughter
anymore!!



HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!!!!
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA--

RUMBLE RUMBLE

HYORK!!
T-The helicopter...!
...I a-almost forgot...



For now, I'd better focus on flying.
I'll save the laughter for when I see
Ness' stupid face again!

Ness, you loser! This is only the beginning!! The next time we meet,
I, Pokey, will be your greatest foe!! WAAAAHAHAHA--



RUMBLE RUMBLE
..HYORK..!!



- End Chapter 4 -



I'm sorry, Monotoli, but Pokey stole your helicopter.

Pokey did? I see...
He was such a nice boy,
but he did seem a bit
troubled.

If he's not careful, his future
could be disastrous...



Jeff, thank you for
taking care of Ness all this time...
You've both grown so much!
You even look taller!

R-REALLY?!
I-I mean...
No
problem!

Ahaha..
It was a piece of
cake for heroes
like us!



...Ah... W-Whoa, I suddenly feel a little dizzy...
I can see it... The place we must go...
...I see... Threed... In Threed...
To get to Summers... We must first return
to Threed...

Paula! That's it!



Yes, I see... If I can just get *that* working again...

Paula, um...
are you okay
now?

Hee hee...
Thanks for worrying,
Ness...

Well, then, shall we go
catch the next bus, guys?

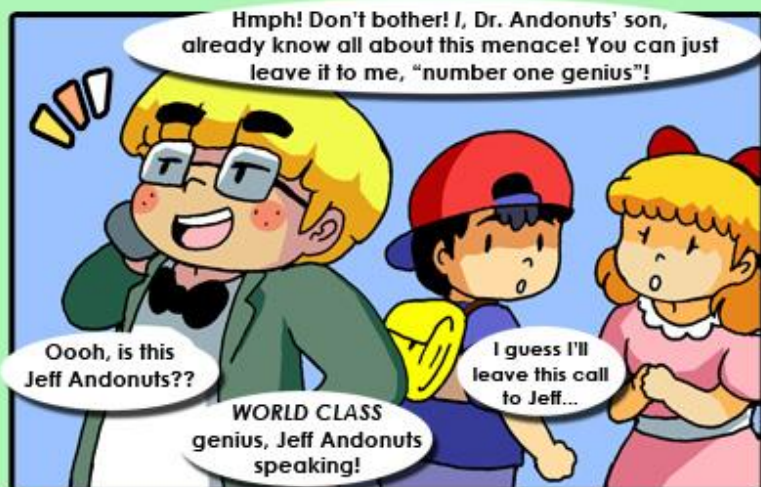


Already got
you covered,
little man.

The
Runaway Five, at your
service!











In a way, I almost wish this bus ride wouldn't end. I only hope Reginald didn't get us into any more trouble somehow..



Well, kids...
This is the end of the line...
..Aw, shucks, I'm no good with farewells. I'm gonna miss you kids.



It's amazin' how much you've grown, and to think, you'll be gettin' a whole lot stronger.

Listen, although this is farewell, we'll always be pals. Anytime you need us, just think of our songs, and I'm sure our power will come flowin' through ya!



Just like us, our music is strong! Use our music to give 'em a real "Runaway Punch"! Wah ha ha!

It still feels like we haven't done enough for ya, though. I think we need to give ya something real special.... A parting gift to commemorate our journey.



We don't really have money, but.. Okay! How about these!

No matter how far apart we are, we'll always be a team. The Runaway "Eight"!



Until we meet again... stay gorgeous, kids.





O-Oh my... W-We're going to visit Ness' home...?? Does this mean... He's going to introduce me to his family...? C...Could Ness and I... C-Could we really be a serious couple after all...?



Oooh...What if he only "likes" me?! What if he doesn't *like* like me?? W-What do I do?? S-Should I ask him or not?!?



That's right, she doesn't know about my new power! I bet she'll be really impressed!





Yeeeh!!
Here it
goooooes!



C'mon, King! Go
get it! Get the ball,
boy!!

Look, sister, this isn't happening. Do I
even look like the type of dog that'd
move that far? Why don't YOU get it?
If you want the ball so badly, why
did you throw it away??



Heh heh... Tracy,
I thought you'd learn by
now...



King HATES playing fetch!

Whew...
we made
it...

W-Wow!!
This is
Onett??



B....Big bro....?
I-Is it....
Is it really you....?

Where? Where??
I can't see!!



Hello...
my family...

I have....returned to you. At last...



BIING BROOOOO!!!!

MY BOOOOOOY!!!!

W-WHEN DID
YOU LEARN TO JUMP THAT
HIGH?!



Traaaacy! Kiiiing!
You two come on in and get cleaned
up! It's almost supper time!



GET 'EM,
KING!!

RAWFF!
SLOBBER
ATTACK!

N-N-Not the
face!!

M-MOM!!
HEEEELP!!

There's
no escape,
bro!



Tracy? King?
Oh...! That voice...!
It's...!



My little maaaaaaan~!!! ♥♥♥

SMOOOCH ♥
SMOOOCH ♥

Did my little baby
faced boy miss his
home??
Your mommy's
here to make it all
better, honey!

Ness,
I'll never
forget you...
You were...a
great friend...

J...Jeff... I'm done for...
Y...You'll have to take over
from here...



Okay! Since you've
come home, let's have a big dinner
to celebrate!

I'll even make steak,
your favorite!! Of course,
your friends are more
than welcome to
join...

Ah.... m...my
manly pride...

T-Thank you,
miss, um...Ness! It's an
honor to meet you!



Oh, my!
So polite!! Are you Ness' wife?

N-N-N-NO,
I-I-I-I'M... UMM...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT
I AM, MA'AM!!
B-B-B-B-BUT NESS
AND I... WE'RE...
UMM...!!

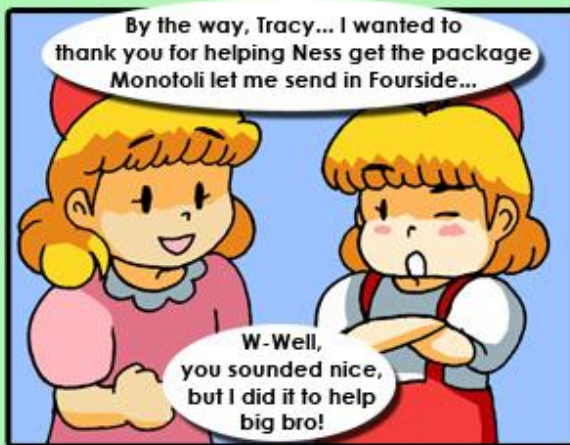
Hyork!
..snicker...
...pffft!!

Hee hee.. This is going
to be fun...



Wow! This is... amazing! So this is what home cooking tastes like... And here I thought our cafeteria food was top class. Having a mom must be great...







Picky? I wonder how long he's been there...



Hey, Picky, what're you doing?

Oh, hi Ness... I noticed you came home, so I wanted to say hi.



...Say, Ness, why does Tracy look so sad?

After your mom closed the door, she's been sitting at this window.



Did something happen?

Tracy! Come outside so we can play together!



BLEEEEEHHHHH!!!



Gurk...! I forgot how much of a pain in the butt she can be...

I wish you were my brother, Ness...



Pokey... He hasn't come to visit at all... Even dad is gone now...

I see... So Picky has no idea what's going on...

PIIIICKY!! COME INSIDE THIS INSTANT!!!



Back then... I should have gone with you...

Say, Ness... Maybe, just maybe... If you see Pokey again, could you...

Ah...nevermind...



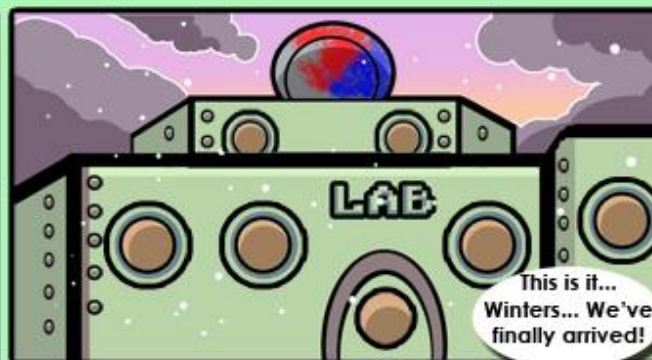
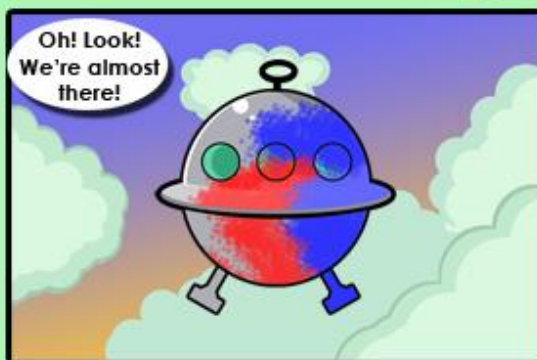
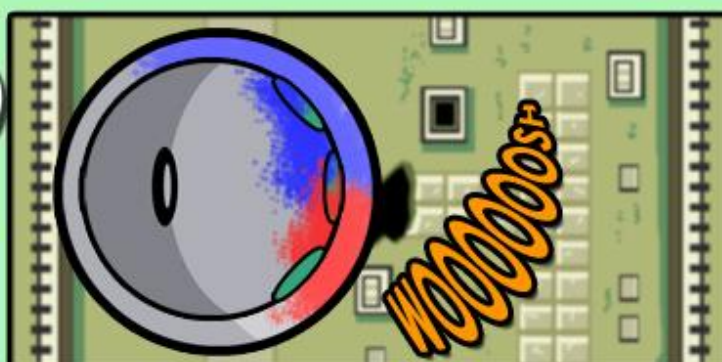
Sorry, I have to go before mom really lays into me. I have...a lot of chores to do...

...Poor kid...

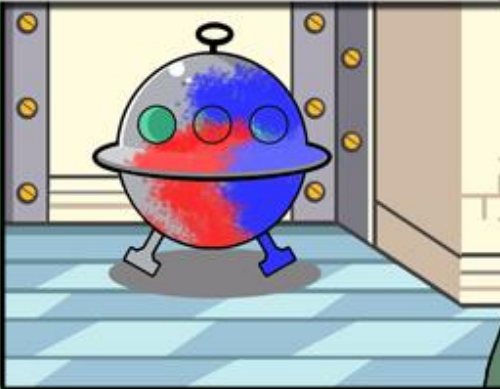


...Yeah...





It's been awhile, but I'm finally home again...
I wonder how everyone at school is doing...



Kuki keke ukkeee!!
(...BUDDY!! NO WAY,
IT'S REALLY YOU!!)



Ah!
My faithful
monkey
companion!



KUKKI KKEKE KYU!!
(Look, wifey!
This guy... This guy
right here!! This
is the GUY!!!)



Kya keke!!
(Oh, it's a
pleasure to
meet you!)

Kya kukki uke kokyuu!!
(I wish we could stay and catch
up on old times, pal, but the Misses
and I are going on a cruise for our
honeymoon! My old girlfriend is
giving us a huuge discount!!)



Keke ukki kyu!!
(Isn't he just the cooolest?!!)



I missed...a monkey wedding?
...Somehow, I'm...actually disappointed.

Ohoh, why hello
there, you little scamp. I didn't
know I had monkeys. I wonder
when I invented them...



Ukki keke!!
(Be seein'
ya, champ!)



Dad....! Dad, it's me, Jeff!!
I've finally returned from Eagleland...
I was faced with so many hardships,
but... but...! I've survived so we
could meet again!!



Oh! Are
you the donut
delivery boy? I'm
so glad you've
returned!

Ahhh....
...it's no
use...

Jeff!!
Jeff, hang in
there!!

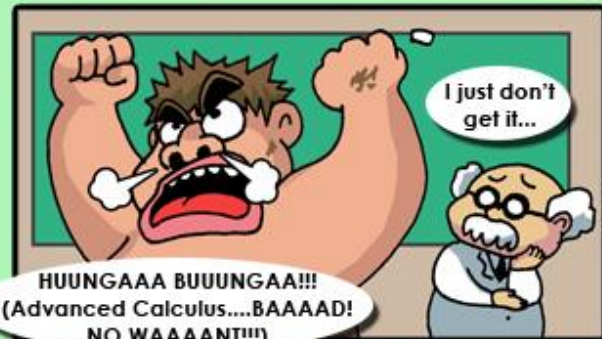
...Father...
...why...

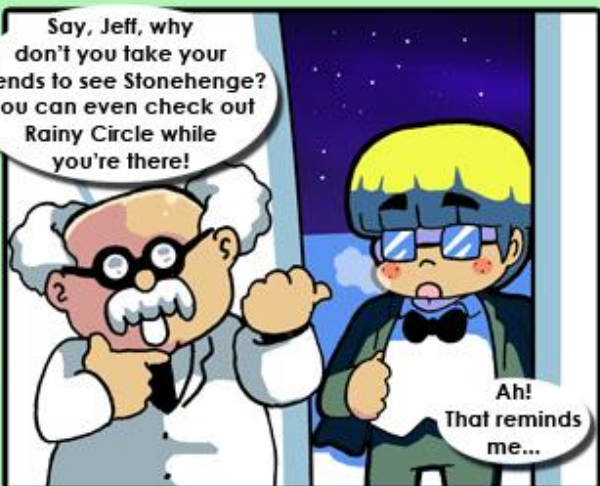
M-Maybe
he's just bad
with faces!



Hi Dr.
Andonuts!

Ah, you
must be Ness!
Hello there!







Ah! His attitude completely changed as soon as he realized who Ness was...



I wonder if Ness' presence acts as some sort of catalyst...

I have patiently waited...for many years. Countless potential is hidden within this body. I am a master of many abilities.

You shall never take "Your Sanctuary".



W-Wait.. B-But would that mean i-it's no longer "Your Sanctuary" since I have it now...?

M-Maybe it's "My Sanctuary", so... um... d-do I s-s-s-till g-guard it...?



NO MATTER! "This Sanctuary"You cannot have it!!



W-What was t-that awful attack...?



T-That was really fun!! I haven't been able to fight alongside Ness and Jeff in so long...



Wow! Nice shot, Paula!



Oh! Oh! M-My f-favorite cap...!

T-This is a c-collector's item... I h-have to s-save it...

B-But ...I... c-can't reach...







Useless.... In that case, I will gather my strength and unleash all that I learned from those mail order samurai lessons... Hoooooh....



For an ultimate attack, he sure is leaving himself wide open.



A...AH!! H-he interrupted m-me...



...This is...

...I see. So that's how it is.



...Y-You saw it...



..And now that I have, know that I will be your opponent. This battle is between us now.

Gegege....

You're more courageous than you look. ...But also just as foolish! Although I may have been shy before, this new power has changed me!

Do you really think you can win?

It's no longer a matter of "thinking" I can defeat you. I MUST defeat you! For my pride!



Jeff, what's...

Ness, worry not! I will finish this battle myself. Just watch what I can do!!











Steak... Ah, what a strange time to suddenly get a whiff of mom's cooking... ...and yet, it really makes me feel at peace.



♪ Doooo do do do do do ♪



Got it! The Sound Stone recorded the melody of the Rainy Circle! Only four more to go!



Alright, Ness!! We did it!!

Each spot holds a melody... Ninten and his friends sang a melody, too, when they beat Giygas in the past. Could this song be the key to defeating him once more, like it had done all those years ago...?



..Just four more... I know if I find the rest, the answer will reveal itself!

Wow, this is... spectacular!! The strange shift in climate causes the snow to change to rain, but what keeps it focused in one spot?

Furthermore, the very area itself glows as if it were daylight!! I HAVE to tell father about this!! It's a scientific marvel!!



Hee hee!

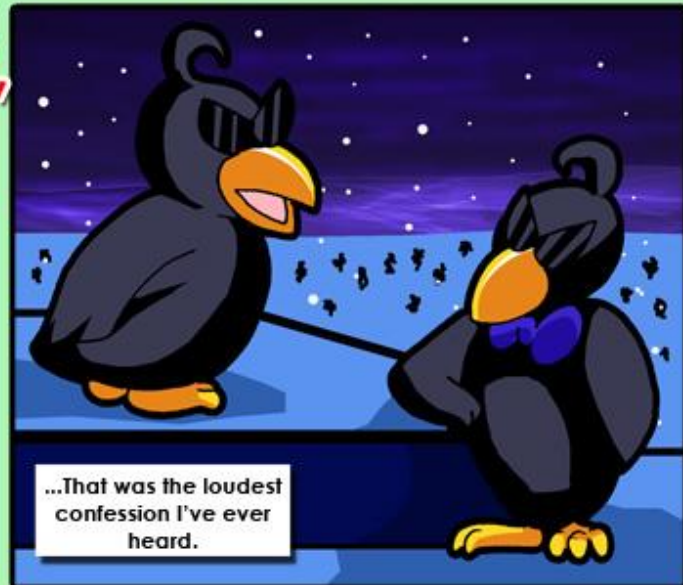
Jeff is really fired up! I don't think I've ever seen him take off so quickly...



We'd better run, too, or we'll get left behind!

Okay!! Let's go!!







Before I realized, this strange journey has given me a place I can fit in...

Is this coffee...? I'm not sure I--

For a job well done, my boy!

....Thanks, dad.

Ness... I'm not sure I can ever put how I feel into words... So, until I can, please... please accept this instead.

Don't worry, Paula! To me, you'll always be--

...Thank you...

A-A-A-KISS!!!

Eeeew, gross!!

Uunga Buunga!
(Oh my!! A budding romance!!)

Are you two done making out yet? We have to get going.

H-H-How much did you see?!

Too much.





After several hours of flying, the Sky Runner brought us across the sea to a new land. As we came close to landing, a red light came on and the whole ship started to shake wildly. While I stood there sweating bullets, Paula prayed for our safety...



Jeff remained confident the whole time, assuring us that Dr. Andonuts had fixed the flaws in the Sky Runner's landing system. The joyful gleam in his eyes as he spoke of his dad showed that no matter how bad the situation seemed, Jeff truly believed his father.



There's no way we'll crash! Everything will be okay!



I think.... It was around the time we were flying upside down....

...That I realized he was wrong.



Hee hee... Let's see them try to find me all the way out here...

T...The Sky Runner was totally scrapped... I thought dad had fixed it, but I guess it was just too old after all... It looks like this is where we part, old friend. Rest in, er...pieces...



Well, we made it in one piece, at least! Summers... it's almost like a paradise!



This isn't a paradise...it's a nightmare...!!

What's this...?

...At the far end of Summers....

...A small port town....

...Toto...

A wave of psychic energy
is somehow connected there...

If we follow this path,
I know we can figure out
our next objective...

I don't suppose
there's a psychic
"wave" pointing
us towards that
museum...?

Sorry, Jeff...
We'll come back, I
promise!

Paula's power is amazing... Is it possible she
can connect to the "waves" that the
monkey hermit spoke of?

If so, it must be
really strong to
feel from this far
away, otherwise
I'd sense it,
too....

EAST TO TOTO

Thanks, strange
Mr. Billboard
guy!

A-Actually, the
name's just Bill....

**CURSE YOU, STOIC
CLUUUUB!!!**

...Ahh!! W-What was
that?!

Could he
be the one
we're looking
for...?

..Sigh...







Hmph... So this is the person responsible for making Jeff leave. He doesn't seem very special to me. Maybe I'm just overreacting....



...
Is someone there??

...
Wait, why are you suddenly here?
Where's my phone??

Things like "logic" aren't important right now! Not when I still have one more name to collect! Yes, YOU! The one right here!



Go on!
Don't be shy!

Register your name, please



How'd you do that??

By being Jeff's
BEEEEEST friend!

Oh, wow, what a great name! Well, thank you very much! I'll keep this between us, so try and support Jeff and friends from the sidelines, okay??



...Oh, and Ness?
Don't you dare put Jeff into
any dangerous situations,
okay?



I can't be held
responsible if you do...

Uh, Ness already left,
Tony. It's me now.



Yeah. Well, I should
probably go before you
flood this panel with
bubbles.

Oh, Jeff!!!
It was so great to
hear from you
again!!!

Jeff, um...
I'll be praying for you
always! ..From the bottom
of my heart...!!



So..So....
Take care...

Thanks... You, too.





Now that I've discovered my true self,
my id is telling me...to bake! This is who
I really am... This is who I want to be!



Oh, dear... There is only
enough left to make one more
slice. I'll have to make do with
what is here...



Yes, I see it now..
This last piece shall be my masterpiece!
The ultimate cake...!!



Tada!!
It's done!

I-It's
so shiny...!



W...Wait, cake isn't supposed to glow. Is this
really edible...? But I can't turn it down, or
let Paula and Jeff eat it if it's lethal... I...
I have no choice... I have to take the first
bite, even if it kills me...



...Oh crap.

