

I...am... Who am I...? My true self... Am I really, Ness? This is my "self", but this power isn't mine.



You are here... I have found you at long last. Know that the power we share is the same.

On this plane, all are one. Our minds, linked by our power... I am here to guide you. Please, tell me your name.



I...am Ness. Yes. I am Ness, a boy from Onett. And you... You are...

Dalaam, in the Far East



The Palace of Poo, The Crown Prince

To think, the holy writings could predict such a thing.



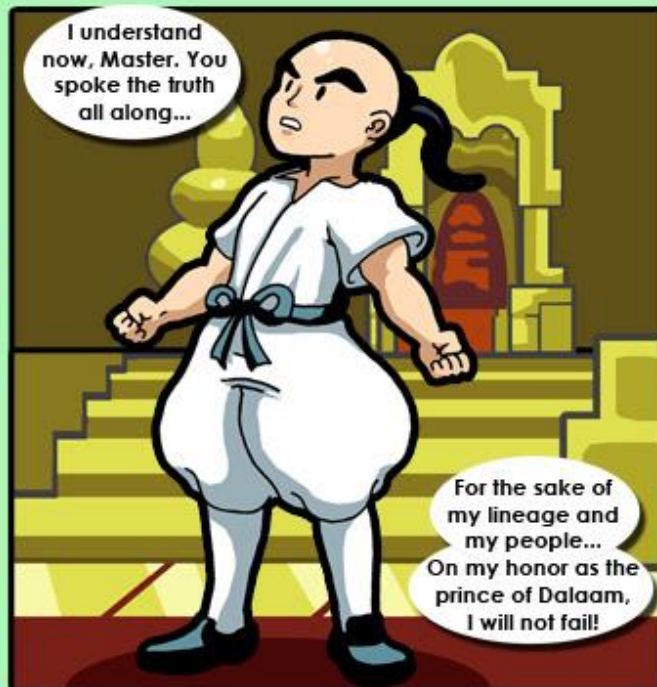
This must be the fated day Master spoke of.

Prince Poo, do you understand now? The hardships you've endured during your training were not for naught.



You are about to enter the final stage of your training. It is of the utmost importance that you succeed.

I understand now, Master. You spoke the truth all along...



For the sake of my lineage and my people... On my honor as the prince of Dalaam, I will not fail!



Very well, Prince. I see that your heart and mind are in the right place. Proceed forth to the "Place of Emptiness" at the edge of Dalaam, so that you may succeed the power of your bloodline.



My Prince, before you leave, please take this with you.



You will know when to use it when the time comes.



The Brain stone? This is one of Dalaam's ancient treasures...

Ancient writing is inscribed on the sides, but it's very primitive... Well, I'll figure it out later.

Ness? Ness, that's you, right? Look, I have no idea what's going on, but somehow I'm being channeled by this strange man's hair! Come, give your father a hug!



I... I think it's time to go.

My days of training in the palace are complete.

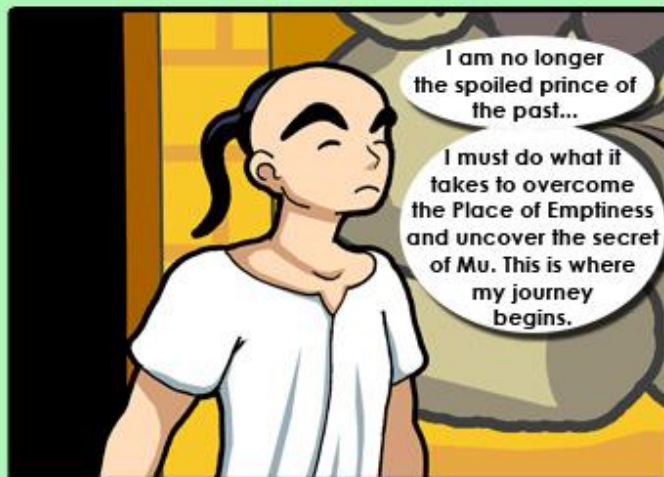
For a long time, I refused to believe in Master's words, thinking my training was pointless...



In order to pass this final test, I have to clear my mind of all doubt... Of all hesitation.

I am no longer the spoiled prince of the past...

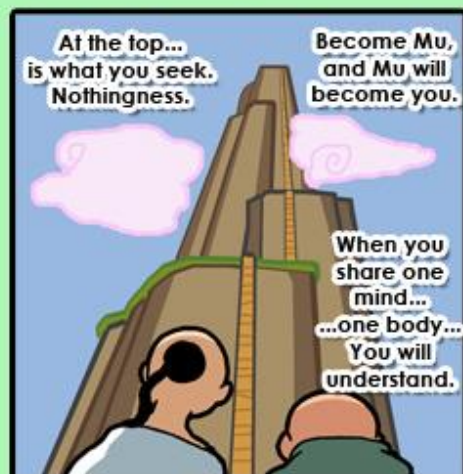
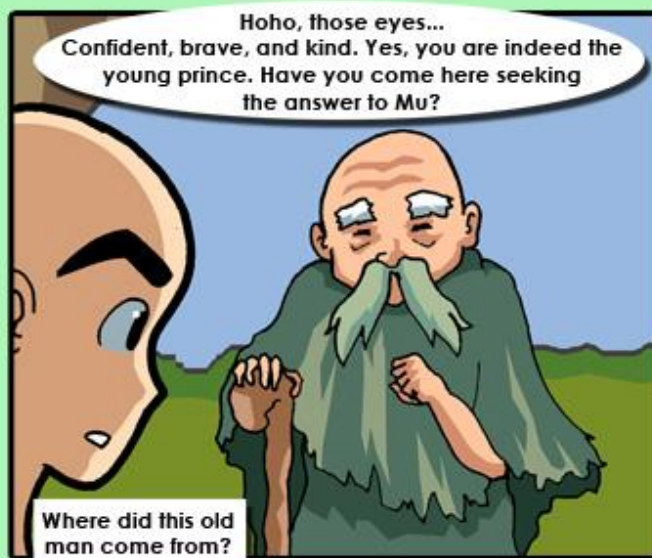
I must do what it takes to overcome the Place of Emptiness and uncover the secret of Mu. This is where my journey begins.



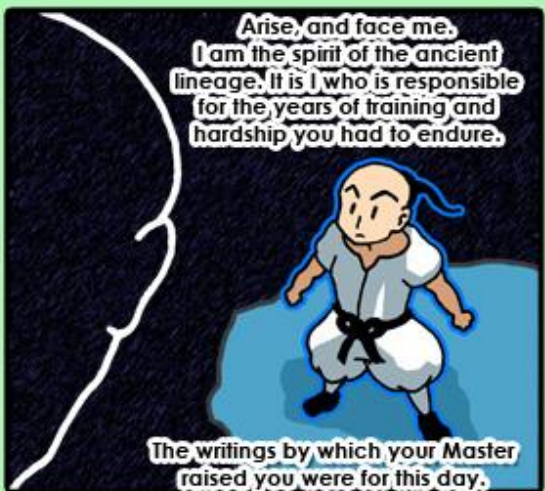














I cannot accept death, unless it is to protect Dalaam. The people are relying on me to take the throne as Emperor one day. No matter what, I must live on for my people.



Whatever this training requires of me, I will face it head on. I will not lose to my weaknesses.

An admirable answer, Prince Poo. The choice between survival and death...



By the time this training is over, I hope your answer remains the same.

I am prepared for anything.



Very well then, Prince. First, I will break your legs.



Can you move forward, knowing that you will be unable to walk?

I accept -- AAAHHHHHHHHH!!



Without the use of your legs, you can do nothing but simply kneel before even commoners.



I... I am but a servant to my people. M...My legs... I-I do not need them to protect...

You put much faith in "your people". They are yours, Prince Poo. You will do anything for them?



If you trust them to become your legs, then you must trust them to become your arms as well.

Next, I will rip off your arms. Unlike your legs, your arms will be lost forever. Do you accept this?





The body is merely a shield waiting to be broken.





....T-Take it.... H-Hurry up...and take it...



T-This is nothing... I m-must endure until the end...  
Otherwise, I am not worthy of Dalaam...



Oh? Did you really die, Prince? Yet, you  
were so vocal about protecting the people  
of Dalaam. Is this all you have to offer?



Can you really not continue without a mortal  
shell? Is this the extent of your power?

....NO!! Do NOT stop this trial!!  
I am Prince Poo, the heir to Dalaam's throne...



I will not deface my family's honor.  
Continue! Do what you must!!

You are certainly one of the royal bloodline.



You have the eyes of a warrior.  
Yes, those eyes are what many desire.  
They must be very important to you.

M-My eyes... You're planning to take my eyes...



T-Then, do it... Stop talking and do it...





A....AAHHHHH!



W-Why d-did you....  
....my ears...  
I t-thought you s-said....

....S-Silence...  
I c-can't hear him...

The words that now float before you are my voice.  
Prince Poo...at what point did I say I would take  
your eyes?



You do not listen, so I took something  
that you would not miss.

The ears of a ruler who is deaf to  
his people are of no importance, are they not?



The heart,  
the mind...

There are many ways to "listen".

The eyes of a warrior who does not listen  
with either...



Do you see it? This is the end result.

The loss of life... The loss of limb... Prince Poo,  
this will become your destiny.





As you attempt to rise again, what goes through your mind? By now, you must barely be able to speak.



Out of respect for you, I will wait. You need not say a word. Come, rise and we will continue.



By now you must be exhausted. So, I will make this brief.



Prince Poo...  
Give me your eyes.  
Will you accept the loss  
of your sight?



I-I will... Y-Yes... Though I cannot make my body agree with this decision...



Yes, I see.  
You must be so  
frightened, you  
cannot even open  
your eyes.

Fear not, Prince. I will help you. Be still for a moment.



T-That's... Y-You're going....to....





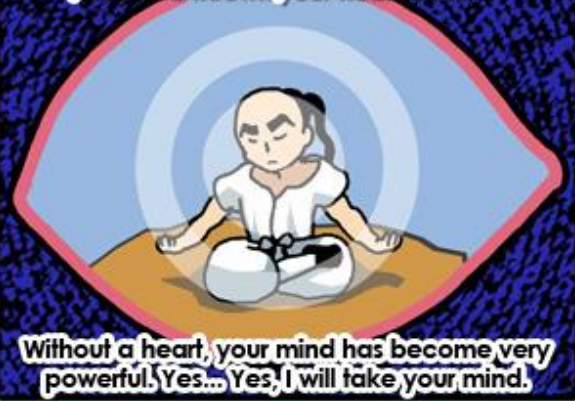


Only someone who has lost everything can discover the meaning of Mu.



I have taken everything from you. Everything except for two things...

Your heart, Prince Poo, was taken long ago. Ever since you faced the pain of loss, you have thrown your heart aside.



Without a heart, your mind has become very powerful. Yes... Yes, I will take your mind.

Your mind, which has become strong from the desire to push forward and overcome your past.



Who you once were...

Who you are now...

Shedding your weaknesses, closing off your heart in order to become stronger... You are well prepared for today.



Yet, once I take your mind, all will be lost. Because you cannot remember how to "feel".

You will discover what it truly means to be alone.



In darkness....  
In silence....  
Feeling nothing for eternity.

Does this frighten you? Can one without a heart even feel sadness? Loneliness? With the loss of mind, you will never again worry.

As if you were drowning in your own blood, you fall deeper and deeper into the abyss. Please, let me hear your last thoughts...



I...I don't want to die...!

I can't...  
...move...

Gone... It's all gone... D-Did I fail...?

Mother...

Father...

Master...

I let them down...

P-Protect...  
I...have to...



Though your mind is still too weak for the deeper levels of Mu, you have reached the plane of existence where Mu begins.



A puppet of the people...that is what Dalaam's ruler is. A ruler must place his trust in his people, just as they place their trust in him.



For generations Dalaam has prospered through a union of people and the planet. Just as it has through its ruler and his people.

To become strong you must connect with the planet. Return to nothingness, where it all begins.



By awakening your mind's eye and discovering the truth of this world's power, you can go beyond the body's limitations.



You will become a pillar by which the people stand, strong and proud.

Your true strength has begun to emerge. By possessing your mind, I have awoken your inner self.



This is the power of Mu. The power we possess...

Prince Poo, you may now go. Go and grasp the future of Dalaam with these hands.





W...Where am I...? Is this...my arm? ...All of the pain in my body is gone, though my head is a little dizzy...



The world begins with Mu and ends with Mu...

Spirit, I think I am beginning to understand.

I have seen the me that exists within Mu...



Only within Mu, when we have nothing left, can we find who we really are.



The palace...I should return to show Master the results of my training.

I probably should take it slow, but... my body feels so light now. I wonder just how far I could jump.



...T-That's pretty far...



M-Master would have my head if he knew I just did that... Still, I can't believe I tapped into that much power just by jumping...



I had better stick to the ground for the time being.



P-Prince?! H-How did he get so far ahead of me already??

..Young Prince.  
That was certainly a flashy entrance.



M-My apologies, Master! I did not mean to show off...

What is it I have always taught you?



Honor and strength begin with humility!

Ho ho, very good. You have come a long way.

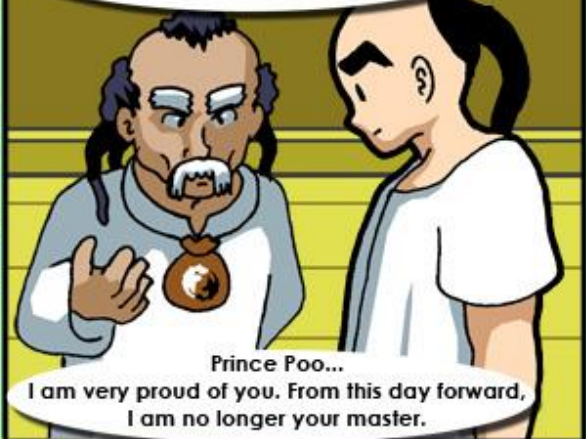
Worry not, Prince. The power you now possess is very strong, but hard to grasp.



You will learn to control it all in time.

For now, please, rise and let me see your face.

The teachings from the holy writings have been completed. You have finished the required Mu training.



Prince Poo...  
I am very proud of you. From this day forward, I am no longer your master.



Prince Poo: Have you ever wondered why we, the people of Dalaam, hold so much knowledge of the world?

Eternity...  
It shows us messages,  
allowing us to protect the  
planet in its place.



Eternity has revealed that a devil awaits beyond the darkness, preparing to use its evil power to consume this planet.



As we speak, the planet has already begun to feel the effects of the devil's influence.

This evil entity has created an army, and even seized control of darkness itself in preparation for the greatest struggle of all time.



The only people who can hope to win against this foe are three boys and a girl.

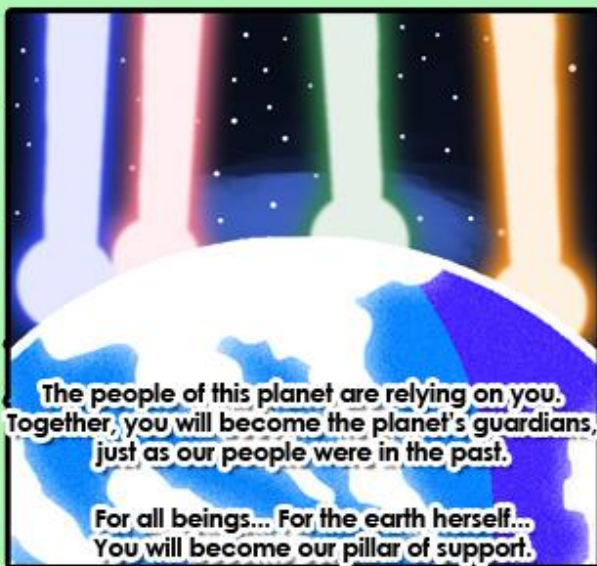


The one named Ness is the leader of the four. It was his spirit that you encountered during your training.

As of now, three of the four have begun to fight against the evil that invades this world.



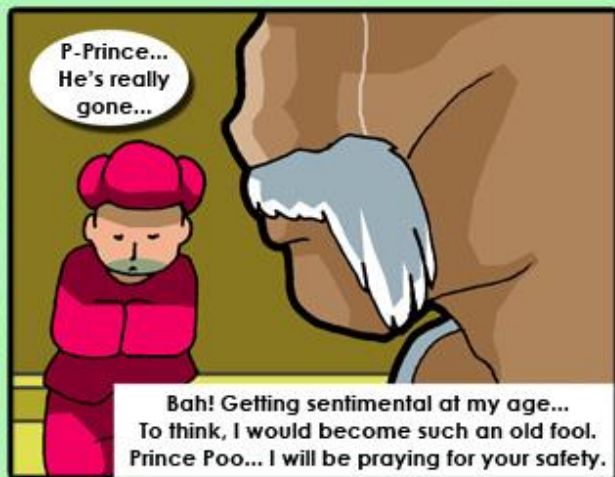
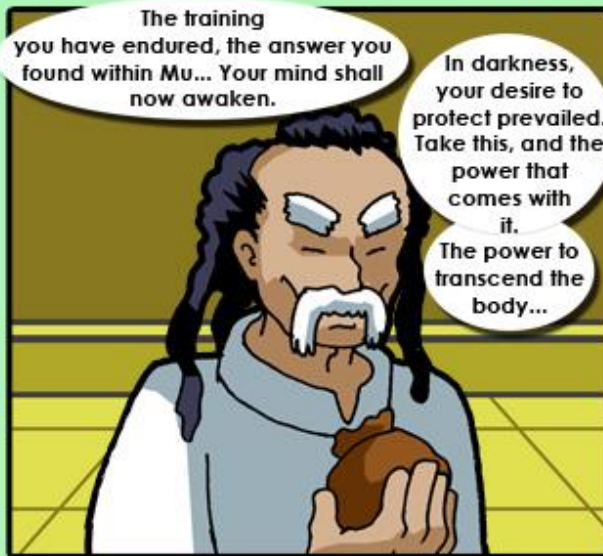
Prince Poo, you are the last of the four. With your training completed, you are now ready to combat the evil power.



The people of this planet are relying on you. Together, you will become the planet's guardians, just as our people were in the past.

For all beings... For the earth herself... You will become our pillar of support.











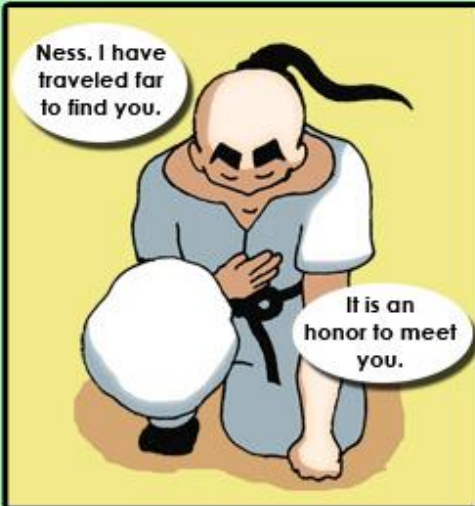
I-It's him...! He's the one I saw in my "dream"...  
By the look on his face, he doesn't seem too  
happy to see me, though.



...Ah... W-What's going on?



Ness. I have  
traveled far  
to find you.



It is an  
honor to meet  
you.



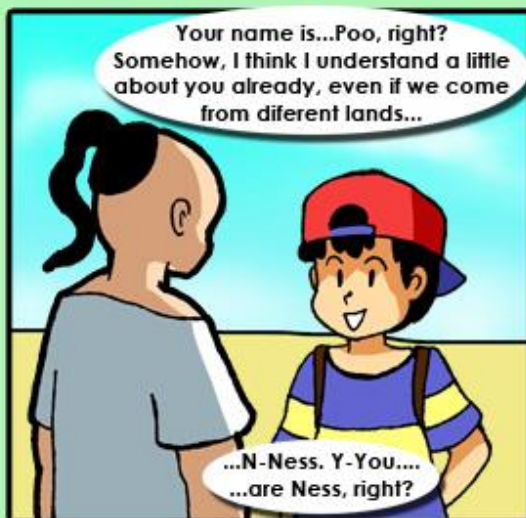
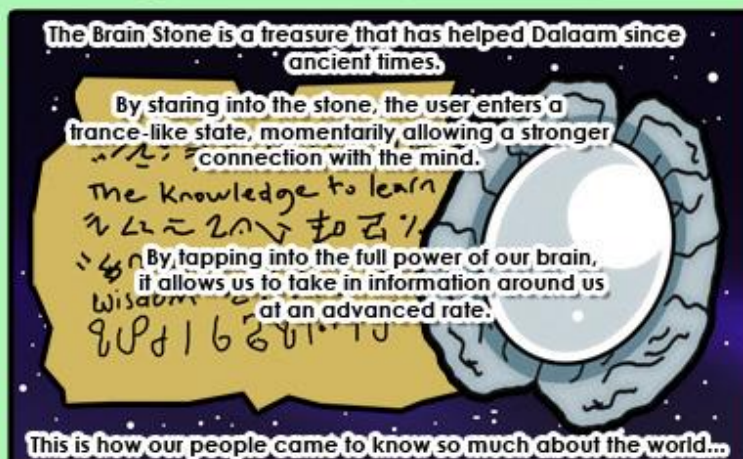
IEHAFNODEA  
IEVNVHRDRTBFR

ICUDHEERHUM  
FIENIHNMIE  
DRIM



W-What language  
is this...?















Aw yeah, first I'm gonna give 'em a taste of thunder, then a taste of lightning.



Yeaah!  
Today's forecast  
calls for cloudy  
skies and a  
downpour  
of beatings!

Biggs, Wedge, let's hit the kitchen! Cause it's time to make these dudes some knuckle sandwiches!



ROOOOCK N' ROOOOOO!!!  
YEAHHHH!!! LET'S DO THIS!!  
IT'S GO TIME, CHUBS!!!

ALL ABOARD  
THE DOOM TRAIN!!  
CHOO CHOOOOO!!!  
NEXT STOP,  
PAINSVILLE!!  
POPULATION...  
YOUR FAAAAACE!!!



U-Ugghh...  
D-Dude....



Can't you  
kids read the signs? NO PLAYING IN THE SAND.  
NO ROUGH HOUSING.

Sorry, officer.  
But that wasn't--



Cut the  
jokes, punk.

Look  
at my face.  
This is my "angry"  
face. It's also  
my "enjoying  
muffins"  
face.

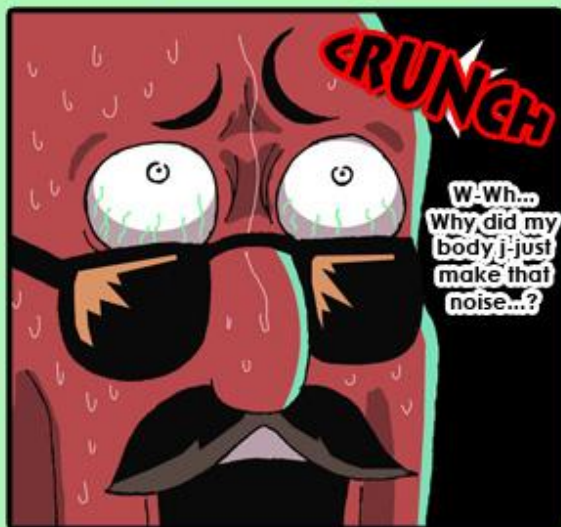
Last I  
looked, there  
weren't any  
muffins around  
here.



You're  
guilty. Look, your  
face is right here.  
It's the ultimate  
proof.

THAT LOOKS  
NOTHING  
LIKE ME!!!!









Hm. Not bad, he went much farther than I had expected.



I guess that last attack was impressive, but these guys weren't particularly strong... Nothing Ness and I couldn't handle, anyways.

Is formal training really that important?



Poo, that was AMAZING! You must be incredibly strong!

One who wishes to protect you must be this powerful.

How high is your level??



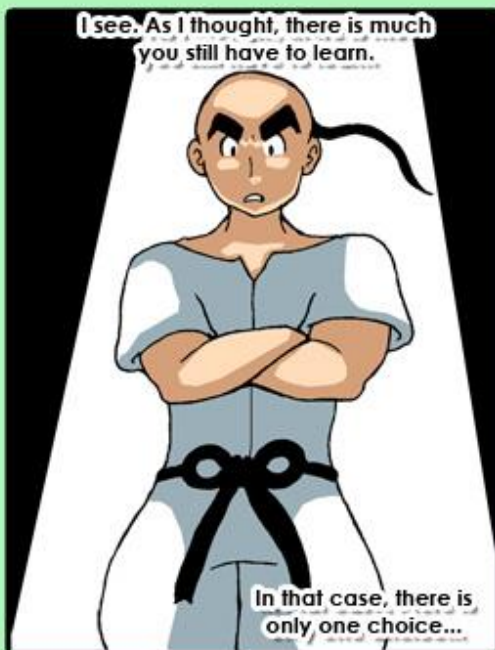
Currently, I'm level 21.

W...Wha?

I-Inconceivable...

Lv 45

Lv 40



I see. As I thought, there is much you still have to learn.

In that case, there is only one choice...



Before we continue, I will provide you three with some formal training.

Though it may be harsh, I know you three can handle it.



We've never really had any kind of training before. Up until now we've just been going with the flow.



We're already pretty strong, aren't we? I guess we could be stronger, though...

I think it sounds like fun!



Where do we begin?

First, I want you to show me your best punch.



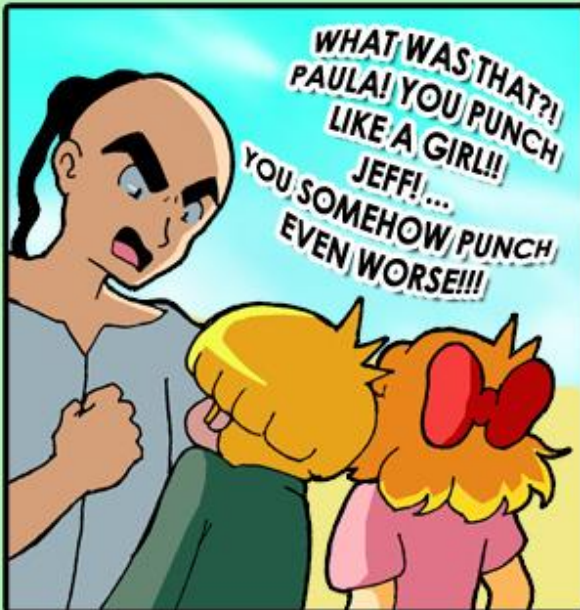
Put as much weight behind it as you can.

EEYAAAAHHH!!!



HYAAAAA!!

WHAT WAS THAT?!  
PAULA! YOU PUNCH  
LIKE A GIRL!!  
JEFF!...  
YOU SOMEHOW PUNCH  
EVEN WORSE!!!



Eeeeyah!!  
HOW'S THAT?! Hyaaa!!  
"Punch like a girl",  
huh?!

I...  
punch even  
worse than  
a girl...

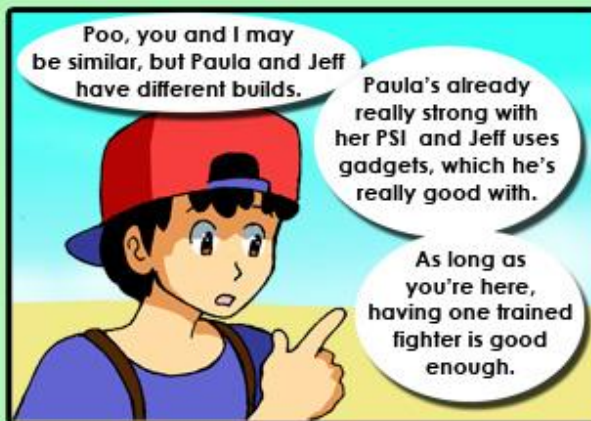
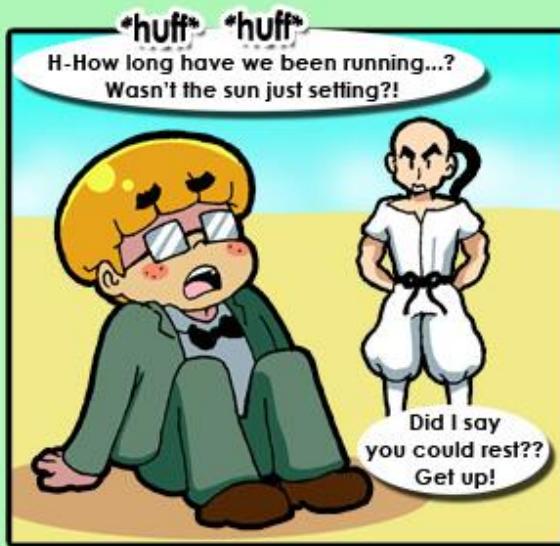


I get the feeling I may have offended her...

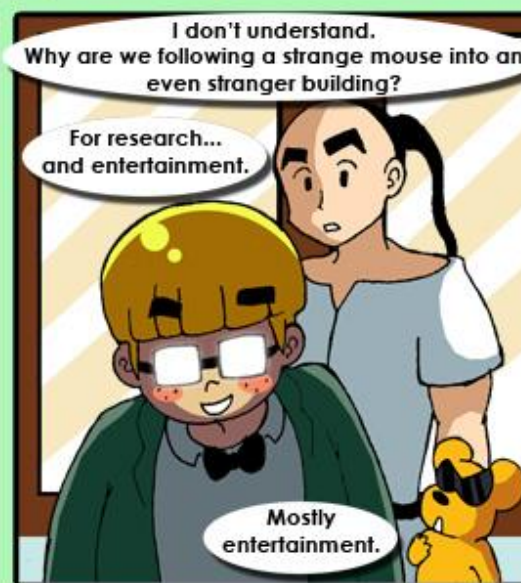


















"Braised Boa Over Minced Baby Leeks"...?  
Kraken Soup, Armored Frog Legs...  
Escargot Expression Passion Flower?!  
Is this in another language??



W'at will you children be  
'aving?

No steak.

Do you  
have any  
steak?

...Hamburger?

No  
'amburger.

Huh?  
Why not..?



Tsk, we do not  
serve such trash on our menu.

T-Trash?!

I will return later,  
you uncouth little rascal.  
Make up your mind  
by then!



Y-You...!  
Ness is MUCH more...couthy  
than you'll ever be!!

You better  
not come  
back!!

Y-YEAH!!  
Hamburgers  
are WAY more  
awesome!!



....Uh oh. So much for juicy details, it looks like  
they're going to get themselves kicked out.



Hm... What is that? In the far distance...  
Focus... Yes, something is heading towards us...



Who...or what...  
is that?













He's here somewhere. I have to remain calm, otherwise he'll get the jump on me...

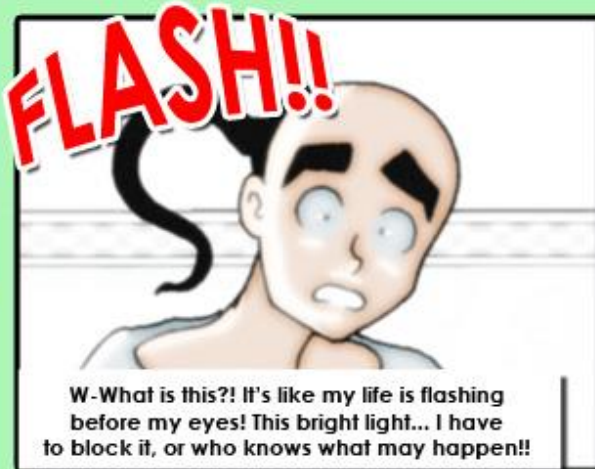


Ness, is it really okay to let Poo do this? We're going to get into a lot of trouble if this keeps up...

Heh heh, to be honest, I kind of want to see if he can hit that guy...



Here he comes! All I have to do is wait for him to throw a punch and counter with--



**FLASH!!**

W-What is this?! It's like my life is flashing before my eyes! This bright light... I have to block it, or who knows what may happen!!



No effect... Could this be the "Flash" power I've heard of? To be able to use such PSI... This foe's power is unimaginable.

Yes... this is it. Better than expected.

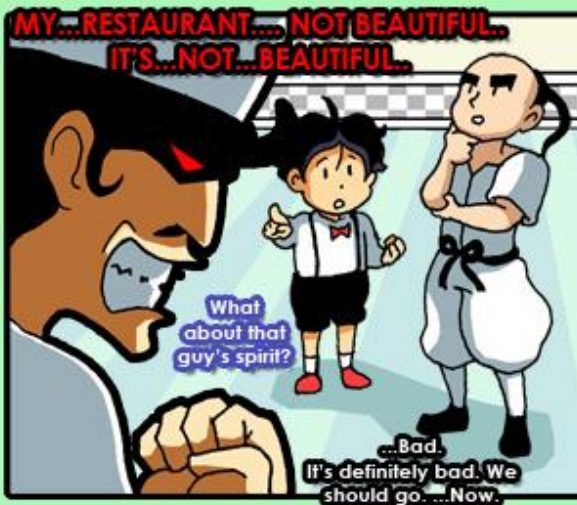
Thanks for your cooperation, boy.



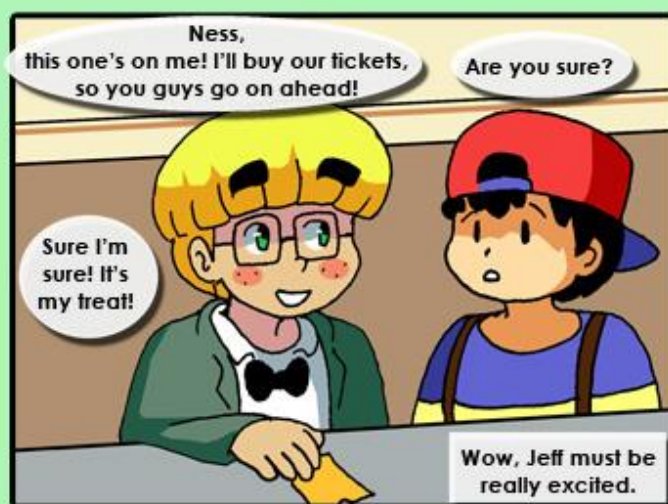
...And just like that... he's gone. He was truly a worthy opponent. Who is he and where did he come from? ...Hm...

...I think we're actually better off not knowing.

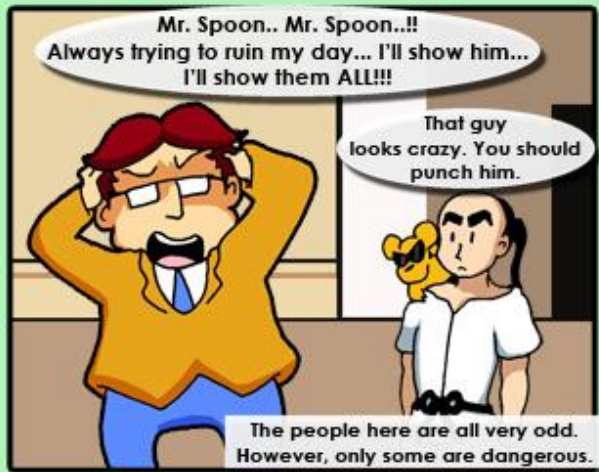
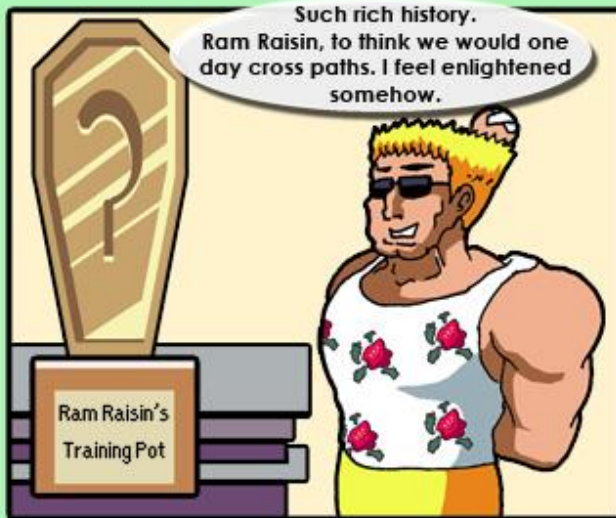


















Though we had experienced many years of peace, that was not to last. One day, something horrible appeared in the sky. The "invaders" were swift and merciless, leaving us no choice but to fight back.



Though we could not strike back, we built this pyramid fortress to defend from their assault.

Our efforts were futile. The power we inherited from the Earth could not compare to their strange abilities.



It was not long before all hope of survival was lost.

Our pyramid, however, was protected by the gods of Scaraba.



The gods bestowed mercy upon us and rejected the invaders in our darkest hour.

Eventually the invaders retreated. The gods left us with knowledge of our planet's power, making it possible to ward off their abilities.



Though it was the first time we had encountered them, it will not be the last. As if holding an eternal grudge, the invaders will be reborn every millenium and attack once more.

Our mission is to pass down the knowledge left by the gods.



Presently, the invaders are hiding beyond space and time, building their evil stronghold. It is a place we cannot reach.

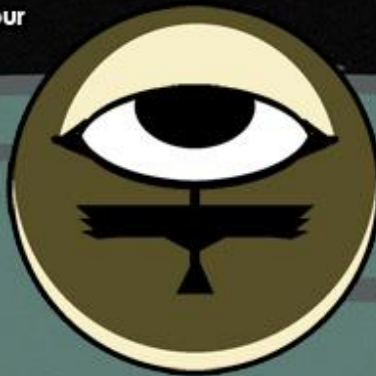
Beyond the Dark... Beyond even the Lost Underworld.

Eternally watching, waiting for their next opportunity.



The Deep Darkness is as far as our light can reach. Shrouded in emptiness, only magic can pierce through the eternal dark.

Within the pyramid is the only tool that can bring light to that place, the Hawk eye.



An instrument empowered by the gods, the Hawk eye has been protected from the invaders' grasp.

Should they obtain it, the path forward will be lost forever, as they control the darkness itself.

The Sphinx watches over everything, bearing witness to the unforeseen future of our people.



When one day a brave hero appears, the pyramid will again open after countless ages.

The knowledge of the gods will belong to him! Seek the pyramid and discover the truth!













W-What's going on?? Mummies, kids with super powers...? H-Have I been working too hard? Now that I think about it, I did see a road sign hop on the way to work yesterday... Am I losing it???



M-Maybe I need a break. I have more than enough money to retire... Yeah... Maybe go to a far off place in Eagleland where a zombie uprising would never happen, like Twoson, or Threed...











So this...is Eagleland?

Yeah... Fourside, to be exact.  
It's a place that holds a lot  
of memories for us.

Though we never took the time to look around  
much... This must have made Jeff really happy.



Something about this place doesn't feel quite  
right, but I can't put my finger on it.



..Up?  
No, down  
below,  
maybe...

Oh dear, what am  
I to do... With the restraining order there's  
no way I can get it... if only someone,  
anyone could--



Um, excuse me...  
Are you Mr. Spoon, by any  
chance...?

Well, well!!

HELLOOOOOOOO...







Oh, baby baby baaabyyy!  
Don't make me hurt so bad!



These guys are all stone cold  
gone for you... Ow!! You cute,  
sexy thing, you!...

Baby, sing to me!...

Sing to me only!...

**Baby!!  
Venus!**



Just sing and I can die  
a happy man!...  
Baby!...

I wanna hold you tight!... Venus!... Baby!...



Boo hoo hoo

sob  
sob

...Venus!...



H-Here she comes!  
I-It's Venus....!



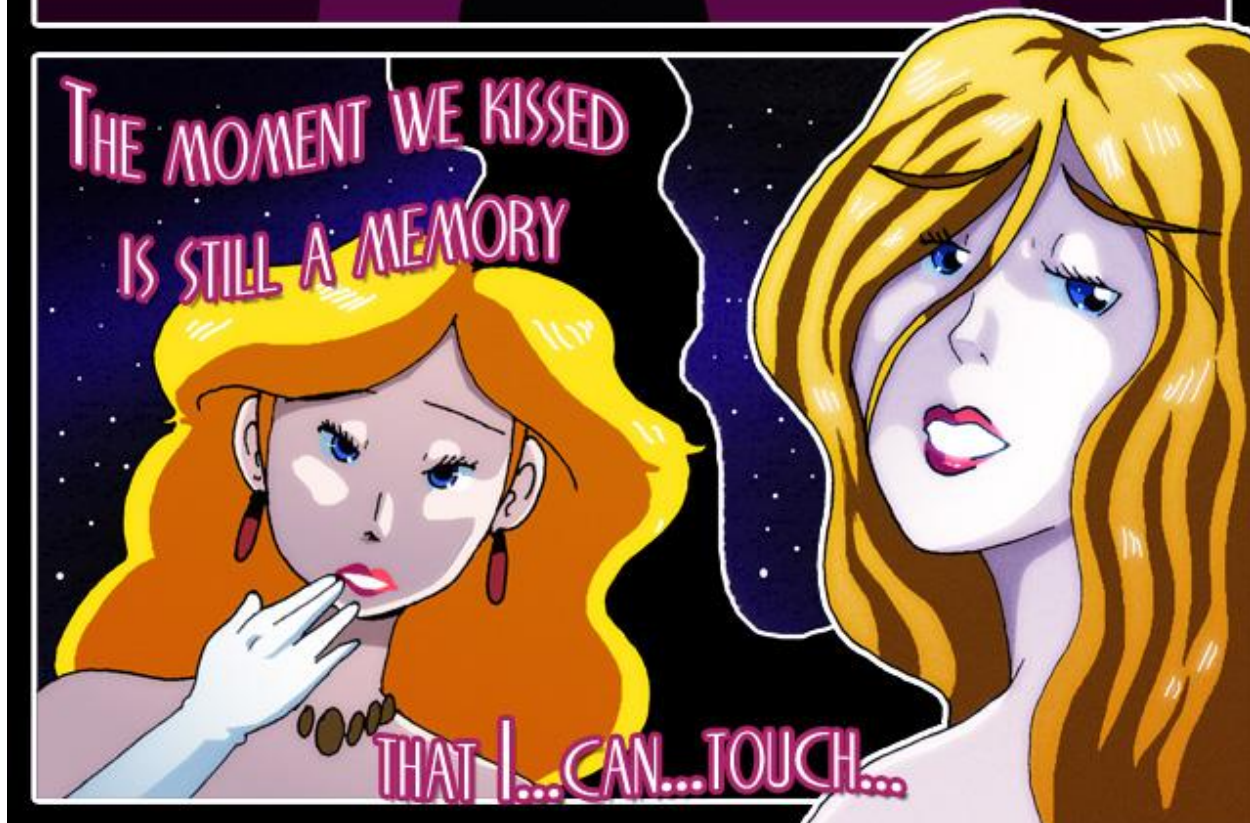
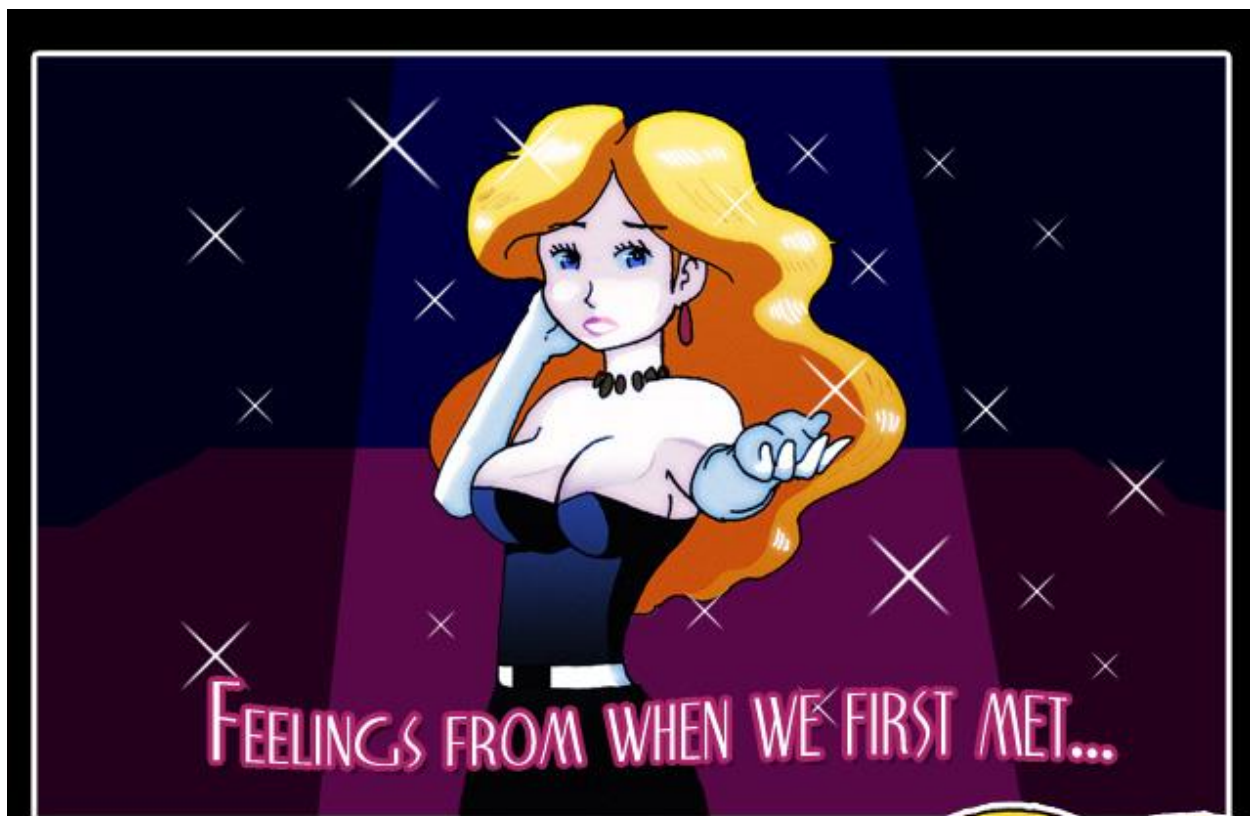
S-She's  
stunning...



Oooh!  
An angel!

Ssshhh!!  
Quiet!!

**STIRRING, DEEP IN MY HEART...**





LONGING...



...TO HEAR YOUR VOICE...

...WAITING...

...HOPING TO AGAIN  
BE WITH YOU...



WHEN I CALL YOUR NAME THE WIND CARRIES IT AWAY,



S-She's... talking  
to me...

Venus...  
I...  
I hear  
you...  
I'm here...

BUT YOU'RE...NOT...THERE...





I J-UST WANT TO BE H-HELD BY Y-YOU...







THE ONLY KEY REMAINS IN THE HANDS

OF MY  
ETERNAL LOV~ER...

E~TER~NAL  
~LOOOVER~

E~TER~NAL  
~LOOOVER~











### How It Happened: Ness' Version

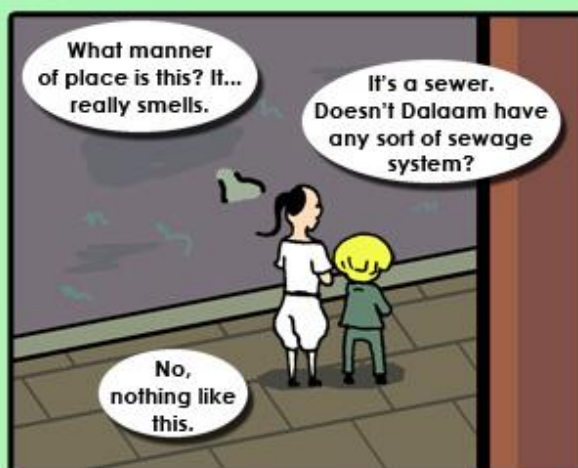


### How It Happened: Paula's Version



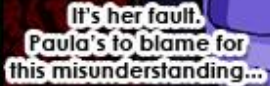
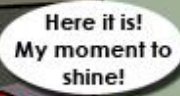










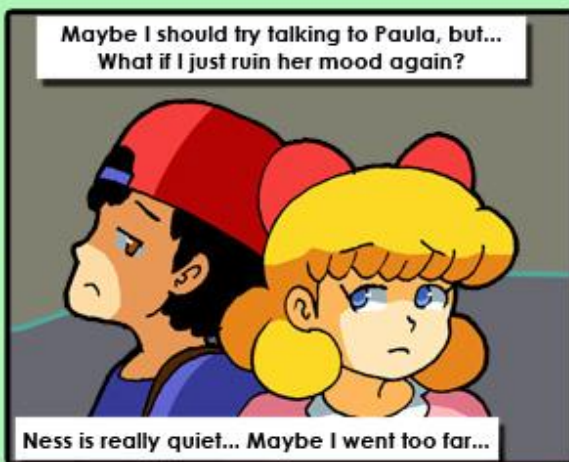
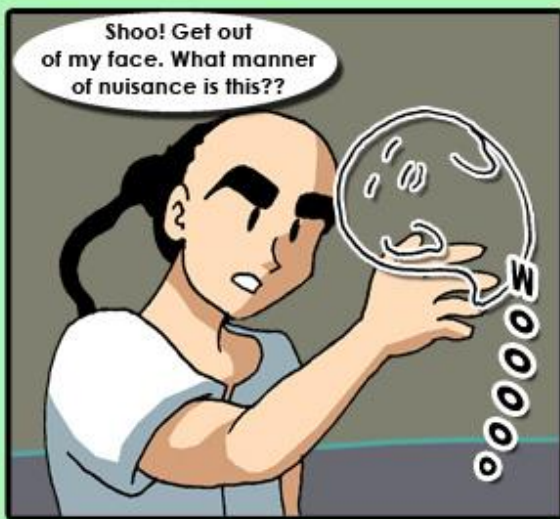


















I d-don't believe it....!  
Poo was defeated so  
easily... Because of our  
bickering, we walked right  
into a trap...!

**SHEE SHEE SHEEEE....**  
Sorry, didn't mean to  
interfere....



If only I had  
been thinking  
clearly!

Ness! Paula!!  
Wake up! Stop  
listening to the  
voices!  
If you let  
Giygas' influence  
get to you, we're  
finished!



what kind of a wimp do you take me for?!  
There's no way I'd fall for something like that!!

**SHEE SHEE SHEE!**  
At this rate, I won't  
have to do anything...

With Master Giygas' influence,  
(they'll just destroy each other!



• The Rebellious Adolescent and the Sweet But Deadly Youth attacked!













Hah....Hah.... The effects of the Skip Sandwich are already wearing off.... I... I need to find a place to hide and catch my breath....



shee shee sheeeeee....  
what a treat! How great of you  
to abandon your friends!

Say, after we finish this game,  
I'll probably be hungry....  
Good thing you left a few snacks behind.  
hm? Shaa haa haa haaaaa!

Jeff, do not listen to him! Hurry, there's  
a room here! Hide, now!!



Oh? Is that an open door I see?  
I wonder if someone is hiding inside!

Yoooo-hoooooo~!  
Anyone hiding in here?



Shee shee shee....  
Maybe I'll check back later....  
Wouldn't want to end the hunt when  
I'm just getting started!!

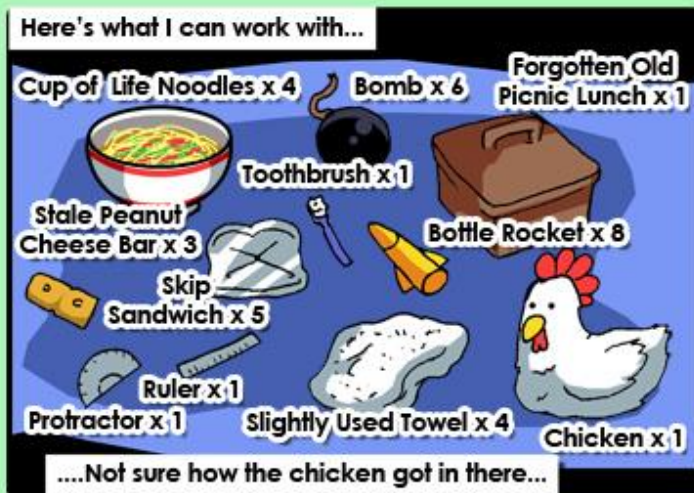
Jeff, it's okay..  
Don't be sad, I'm sure our  
bodies will be fine....

Yeah, don't worry!  
As long as you  
can escape....



Thanks, but....  
I have no plans of escaping.  
This is only the beginning...









All I need to do is make it back to where the others fell... No matter what, I have to keep moving!



That disgusting laugh again...

Tch, he's already catching up... Even with the Skip Sandwich, I'm barely outrunning him.



W-Wait, where did he go??

Jeff, in front!  
Do not let him fool you!!



H-How does something that big move so quickly?!

He is faster than he looks!  
Right now, even I can barely follow his movement. You must push ahead, regardless!

H-How??  
I can barely see him!



Do not think! Do not turn back!  
Keep going, and I will guide you.  
Now, quickly, leap forward!

I...I did it!



With Poo's directions and the power of the Skip Sandwich, I can do this!





Sorry, Poo, but I can't stop to help you up just yet. Honestly, I'm not even sure if my plan worked, but...I have to keep moving, otherwise i'm done for.



So until I can find Ness and Paula's bodies...



Please, hang in there!

Huff, huff... This is bad, I can't tell if the others are still behind me...



Maybe Ness and Paula are with Poo? Does that mean I'm alone? Then, the rat...

Gah...! No, stop! You can do this, Jeff!!



Pull yourself together and stay focused!

Ah! Here he comes again...! W-Which way should I dodge...? Think... Think...!











Pests! How dare they ruin my plan...!! I was THIS close!! First he resists the evil influence, now he interrupts my high speed smash attack... I'LL SHOW HIM!!!







Those were the  
most delicious  
noodles...I've  
ever eaten.

It's as if they've  
warmed my entire  
body and soul...

Paula... I bet she'd really enjoy these as well...  
Don't worry, I'll be right there....



shhhhhrrrr!!! I can't believe it!!!  
I am lacking in BELIEF!!

It's over.  
Just give up  
already.



I don't know why I let  
myself act like I did, but...



There's no way  
I'm going to  
leave you  
behind!

Paula,  
we're going to  
get out of here...  
The four of us,  
together as a  
team!













**HYURK!! H-Hey, don't be so rough!**

**SPLASH**



**L-Look, I'm really not bad!  
I have a very pitiful story... You see...**

**Uh...Oh! One time, someone told me I  
looked like a peanut! Oooh... How tragic!!**



**Before then, I was a saint!**

**HEEEELP!!!!**

**Like the time I sealed all the Stinky Ghosts'  
cans to prevent major stinkage!**



**Or the time I helped spread  
Master Giygás' evil influuhhh.....  
Er, moving along...**



**Or what about the times  
I stepped on the smaller rats....**

**Uh....Oh, wait, you should  
pretend I didn't say that.**



**Huh. I guess the rumors are true.  
I really am a jerk.**

**This is a surprise  
to no one.**

H-hey, well, we all make mistakes, right?  
Sometimes you wake up and accidentally  
influence people to beat each other up!  
It happens!



SHEE HEE HEE HEE HEE...



Finally, the ice is giving way!



Now I just need to....

....Eh? What exactly am I stepping on?



Who's been littering in my  
sewer water again??

Oh? Forget about  
us already?



Allow us to remind  
you who we are.



Tch.... This is...  
not good....









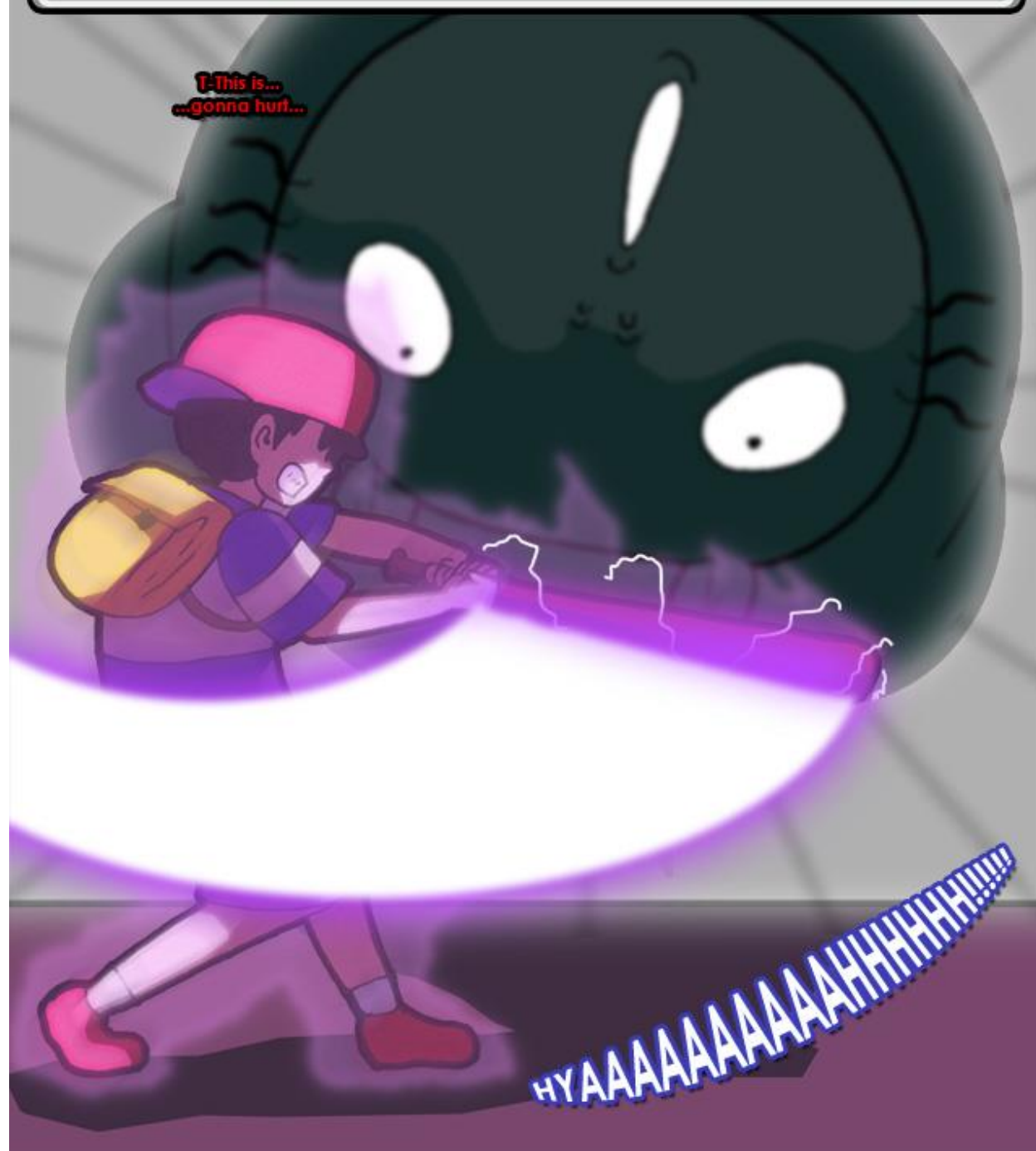






• Oh, baby!  
Ness' Guts temporarily went up to max!

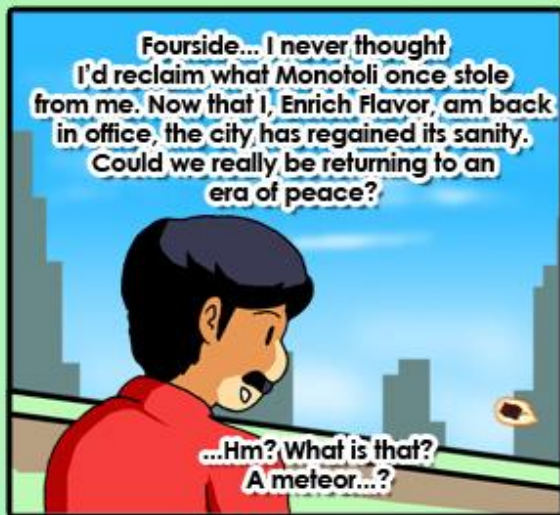
T-This is...  
...gonna hurt...



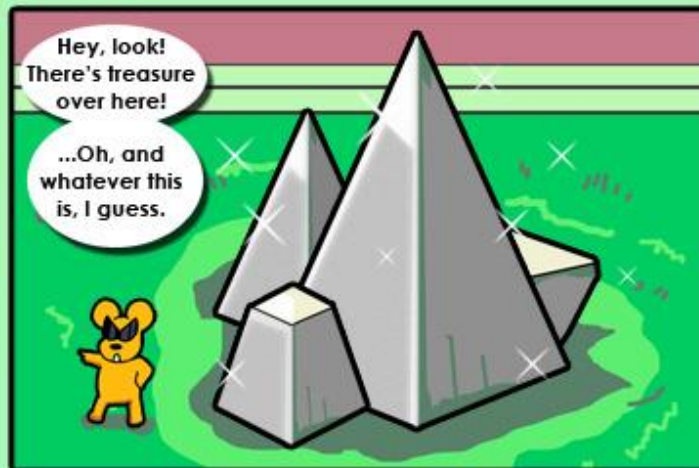


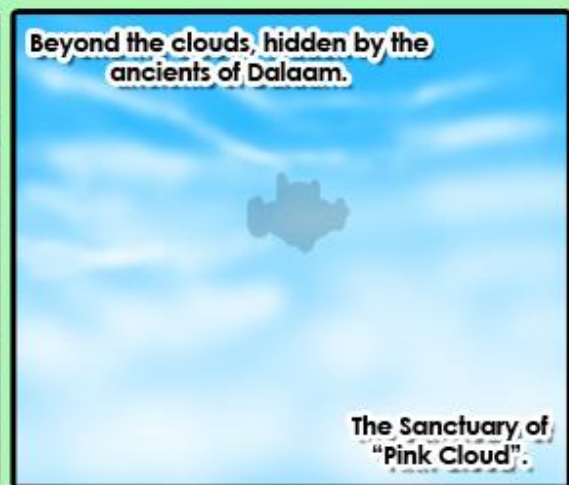
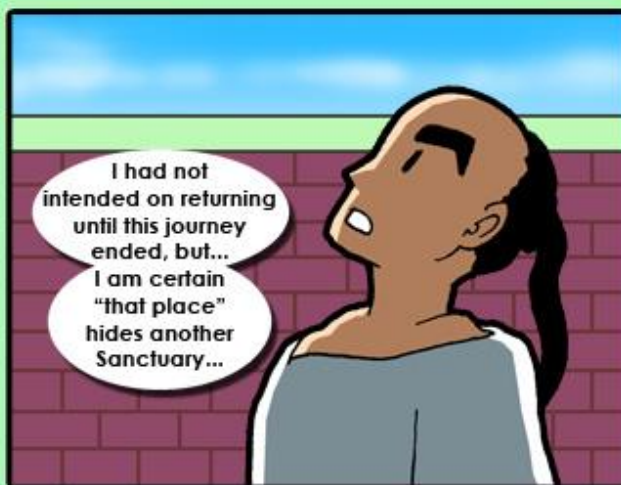
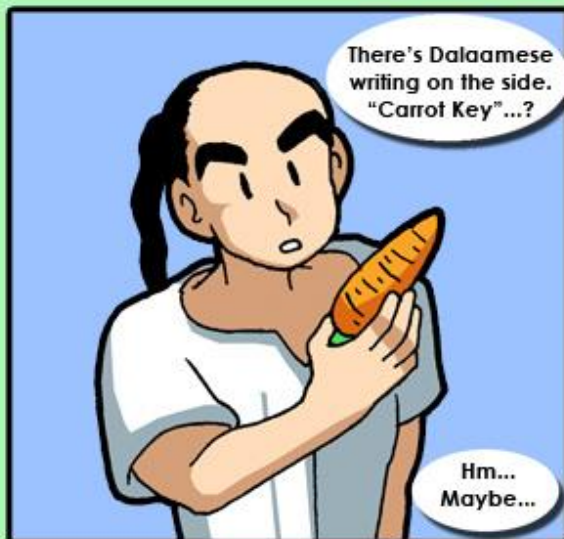
















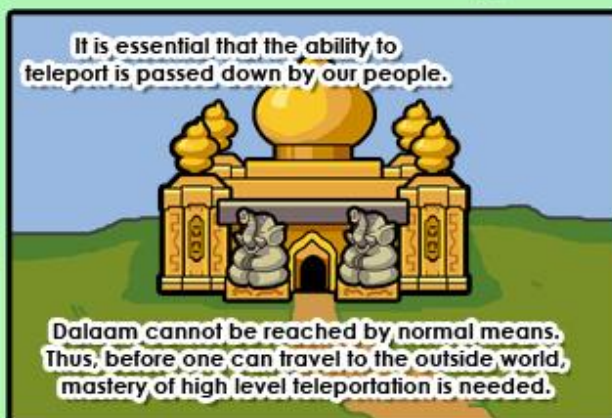
Please wait one moment.  
I will teleport us to Dalaam  
in an instant.



Okay, let's...  
...Uh, wait, what? This is the  
place in my dream!  
That was...fast!!

No way... We traveled  
this far in just the blink of  
an eye?

W-Wait, I wasn't  
ready to leave!



It is essential that the ability to  
teleport is passed down by our people.

Dalaam cannot be reached by normal means.  
Thus, before one can travel to the outside world,  
mastery of high level teleportation is needed.



Please, allow  
me to show you my  
home.  
There is someone  
you should meet,

**KYAAAAA!!♥♥♥**  
**PRINCE POO!!!!**



**Prillince~♥♥**  
**You've returned!**

Eeee! I'll  
go get the fan  
club!!



I don't know  
what's going on  
anymore.

I think  
Poo's getting  
mailed...

It's not  
fair....

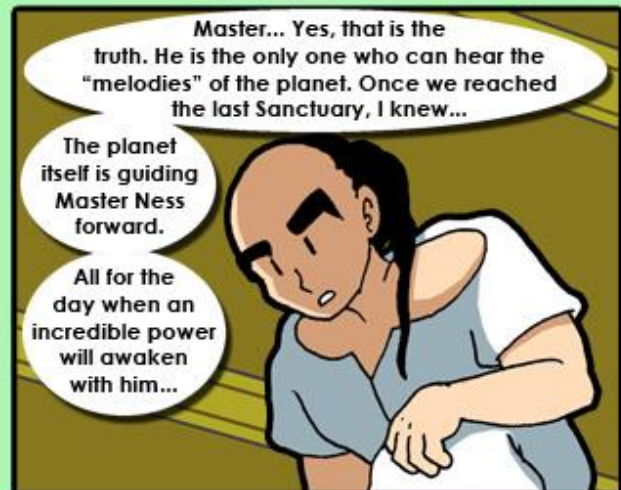


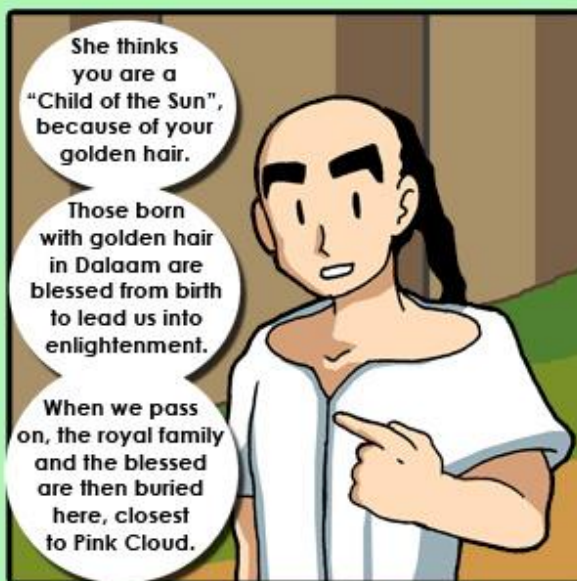
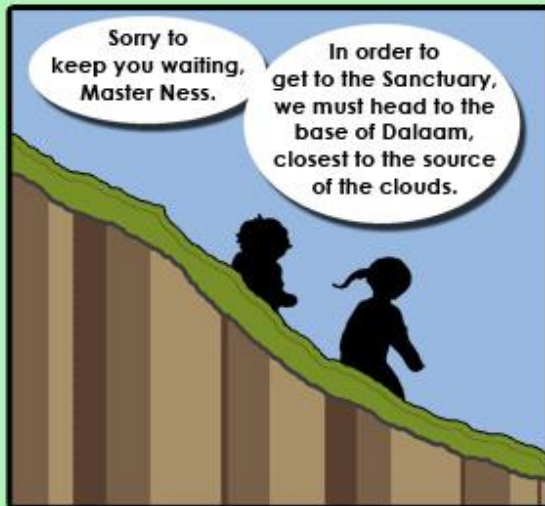
















Well, here goes...  
I sure hope your ancestors  
like carrots.



How strange!  
The rabbits and carrot  
disappeared  
all at once!

It appears  
we have been deemed  
worthy of entering.



This place  
feels...ancient.

We must  
stop Giygas'  
forces before  
they desecrate  
this ground  
any further.

Please  
excuse us,  
spirits...

..What's that?



Hmph... I suppose  
they don't intend to waste  
any time, either.

...Very well.  
Be on your guard. Only the  
toughest of foes would ever conquer  
Dalaam's sacred ground.



•You confront the Thunder Mite.



"Toughest of  
foes", huh...?

I expected something  
a little less...fluffy....





Back when our adventure first began, Ness encountered a man named "Carpainter", leader of the Happy-Happists.



Carpainter's goons kidnapped Paula, who lived nearby the village.



Locked away, Paula could only call for help. It seemed all hope was lost.

That is...



...until Ness showed up.



Although he tried to cheer her up,  
Ness failed miserably. Seriously,  
he really did this.



Ness and Paula quickly developed a  
special bond both emotionally and...uh,  
psychically, I guess.



Oh, and Carpainter?  
Yeah, we totally trashed his headquarters!  
Those blue guys were seeing black  
and blue by the time Ness was finished.  
Of course, I saved the  
day in the end.



...Yeah, I'm pretty sure that's how it went.



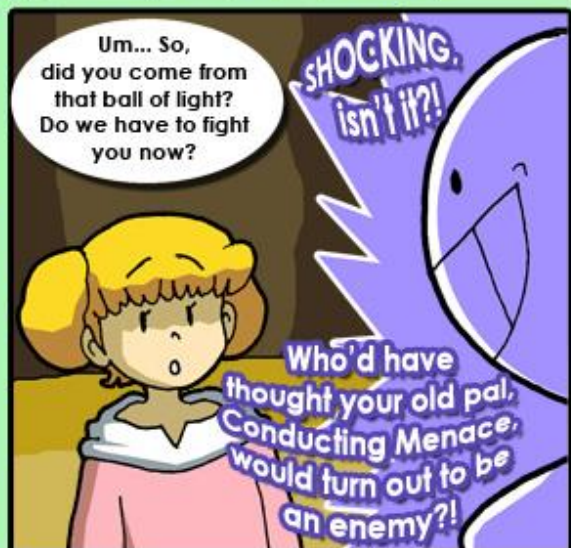
After we kicked his butt, Carpainter had a change of heart and the statue disappeared.  
Later, Paula got kidnapped again by another guy possessed by the statue.



Anyway, that's the story of how Ness and Paula met. Then they held hands or something. The End. ...Now let me tell you about the time Ness wet the bed.

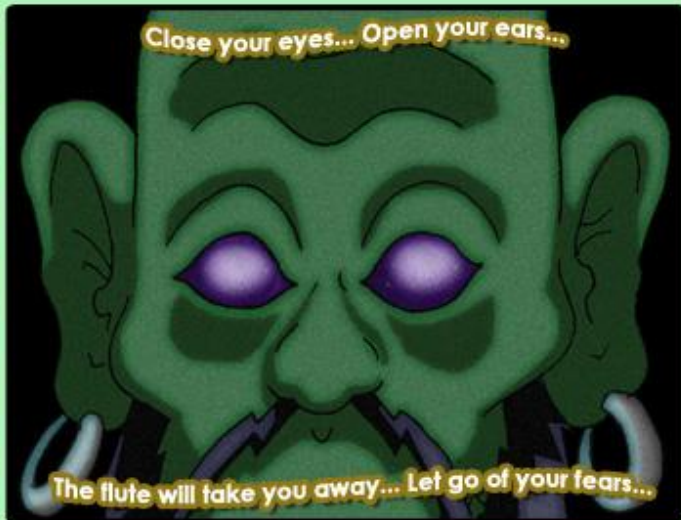












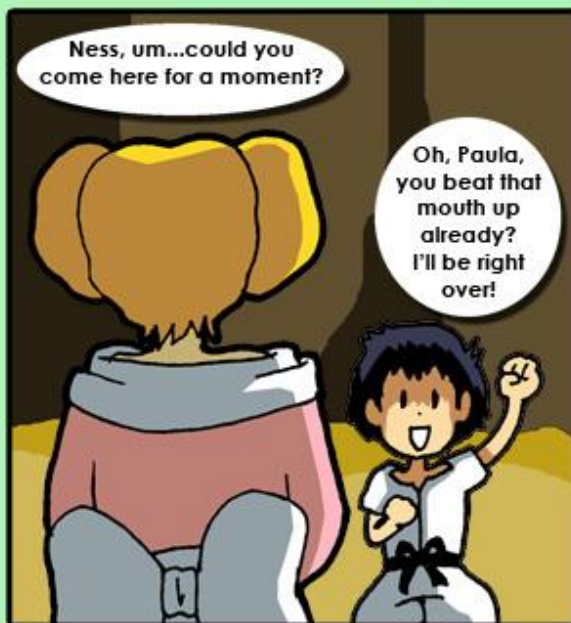


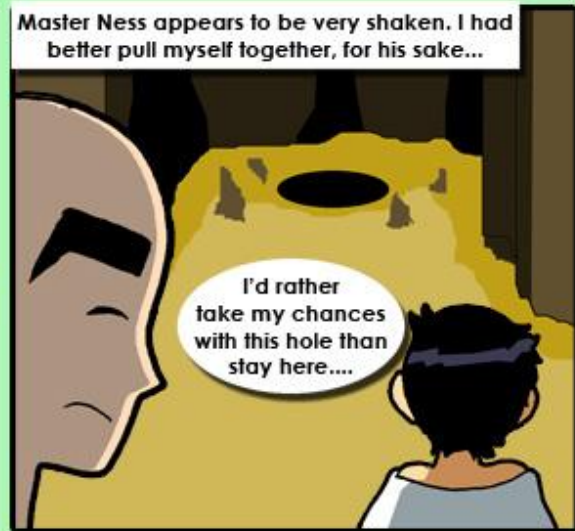




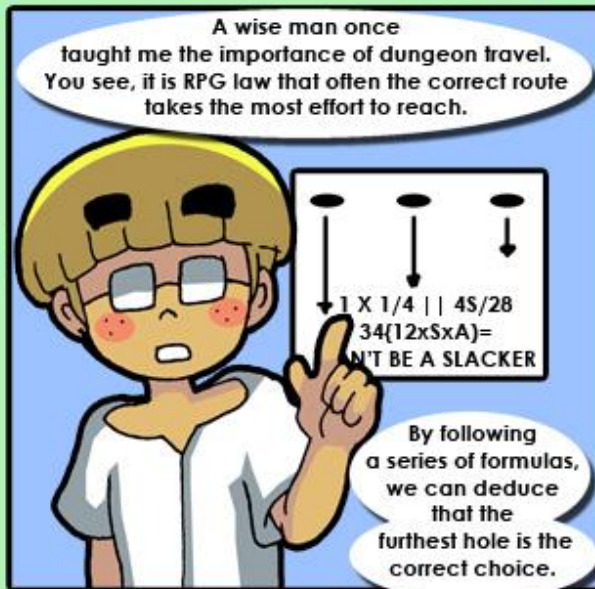
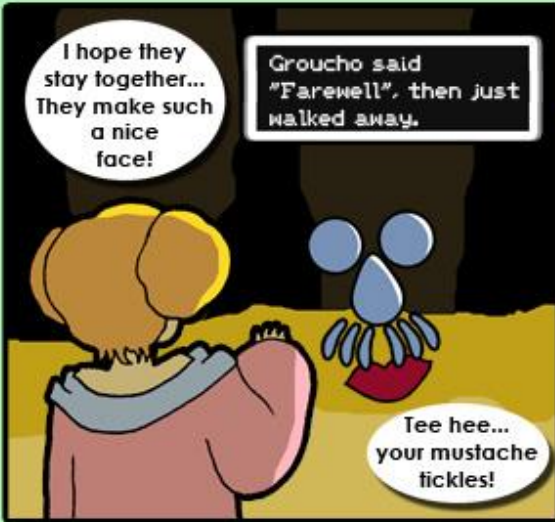






















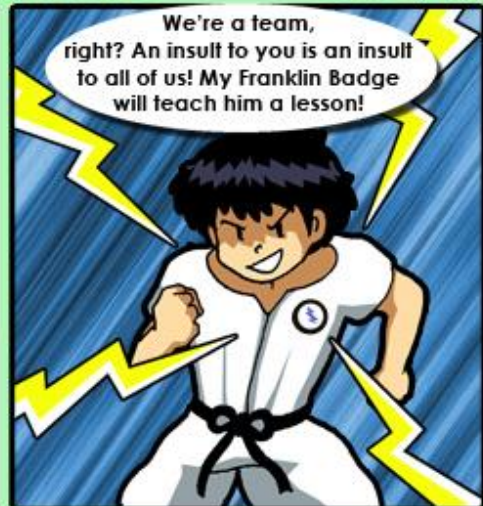














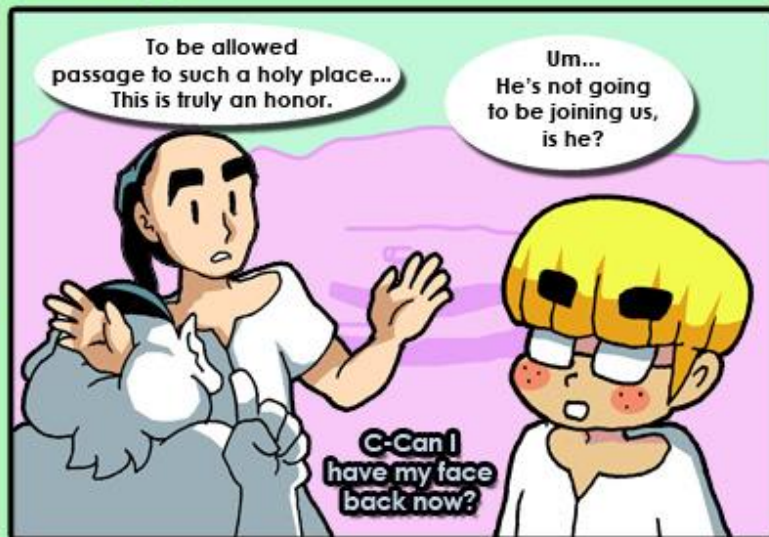
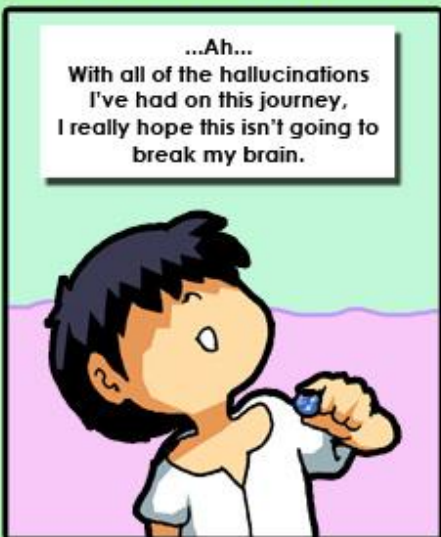




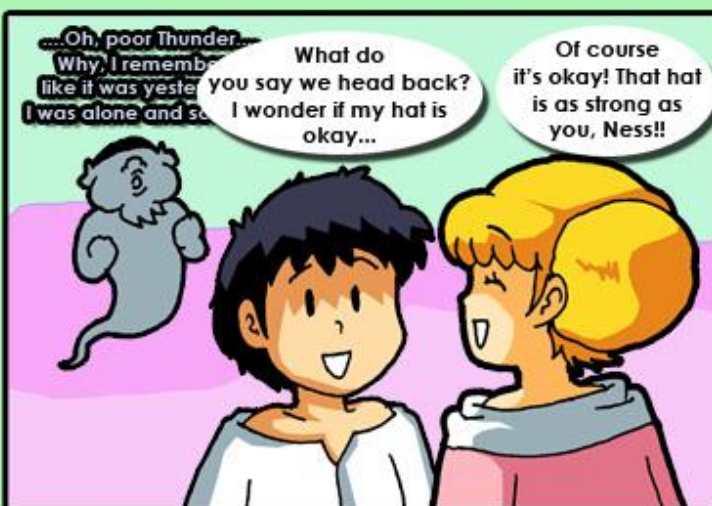
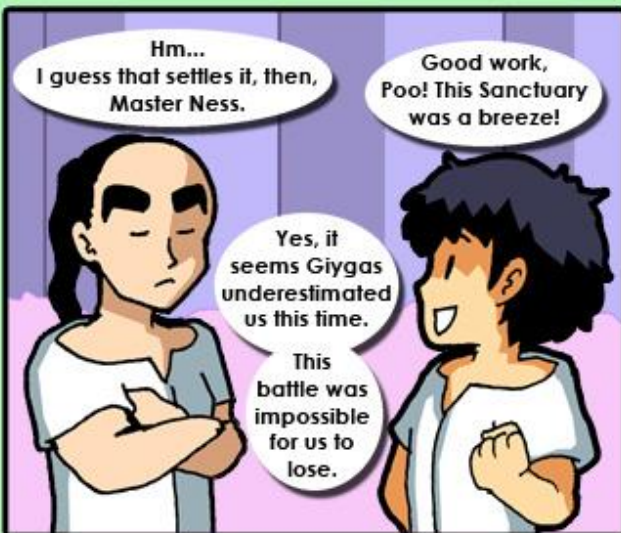








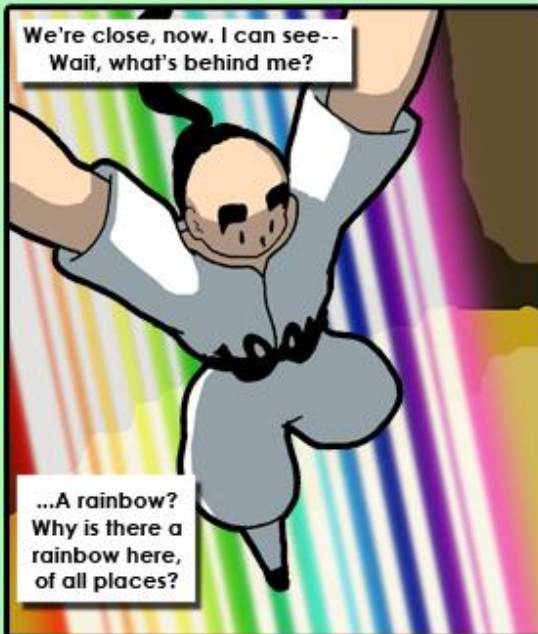












We're close, now. I can see--  
Wait, what's behind me?

...A rainbow?  
Why is there a  
rainbow here,  
of all places?



It's slowing my  
descent... Wait, can  
rainbows even do that?



Gasp...  
W-We made it...  
Somehow, this rainbow  
broke our fall...

M-My prayer...  
did this? I don't get it,  
but at least we're still  
alive...



Huh...  
What's with  
all the  
pancakes?

Please,  
hear my prayer...  
Let there be maple  
syrup!



That was quite  
a fall. Perhaps I was a bit  
too careless.

A present?  
My prayers were  
answered!



Wait, nevermind.  
The present's labeled  
"Poo". I don't want to take my  
chances with the contents,  
so it's all yours,  
pal.

A present?



W-Wait,  
he carelessly jumps  
down a hole and gets  
rewarded for it??

Lucky me, I guess. Perhaps this is a gift from my ancestors. They must have foreseen my bravery to make such a courageous leap. Though I was careless, it was fate that brought me here.



I see, so this is one of the King's symbols.

Master mentioned before that they were lost many years ago.

They're a little gaudy, though. I don't really like this kind of stuff, but I guess I'll wear them.



Another dead end. The only other way is....uh, back up?

Um... I'm sure it'll be fine! We just have to climb, right?



...I am so lost right now...



...Oh, hey! We made it back! It's a good thing we jumped down that hole after all!













At long last,  
we've made it back to  
Summers!

That was quite  
the detour...



Yeah! Now all that's  
left is the last two Sanctuaries.  
Let's go find that pyramid!

Hm....  
Ness, wait  
a sec.



How about  
we buy some new  
equipment before  
we go?

Come to  
think of it, we've  
been using the  
same stuff for  
awhile...

Okay!  
Let's go  
shopping!



....Do the people here really  
use all of this junk....?

Wow, this stuff is expensive.  
Better give dad a call.



Hey, dad? It's me, Ness!  
Listen, something has come up  
and I ne--

Oh...Ness!!!  
"sniff" "hic" My  
boy....

Y-You  
really do care  
about your dear  
old dad, huh?

Okay,  
lay it on me!  
Dads can help  
cure  
homesickness,  
too, y'know!!



u-um... D-Dad,  
that's not why I--  
O-Oh, really? Um...  
Y-Yeah, she's  
here, too...  
...R-Right...

T-This is  
the hardest  
decision I've  
ever had to  
make...

Only \$1198!!

Only \$1198!!

...Whew, I'm glad dad understood my situation...  
With what he gave me, I should have just enough  
to buy these two items! They're under glass,  
so they **MUST** be good!



Paula, did you...  
Oh, hey, that brings back memories!  
You gonna buy him?

Graoooo...  
Sorry, Ness,  
but Paula can't  
afford me...

H-He's too  
expensive...



Then I'll buy  
him! If I only buy a new bat, I'll  
have plenty of money!



N-No!! Ness,  
I'll...um..  
I'll save up!



...I'M BACK.

AAAAIIIEEEEE!!!  
A G-G-G-GHOST  
BEAR!!!



Don't  
come any closer!  
I have a chicken,  
and I'm not afraid  
to use it!!

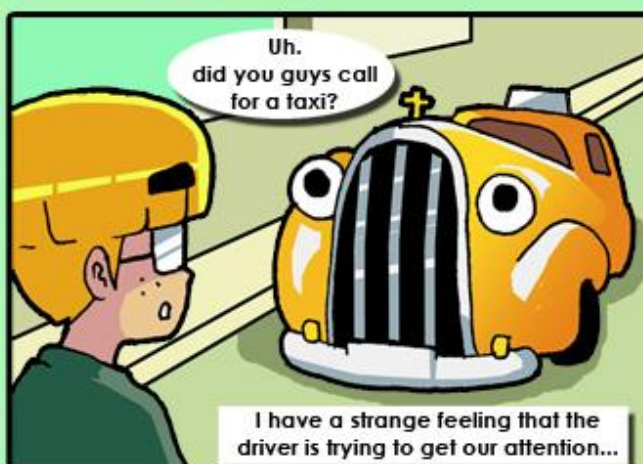
cluck?

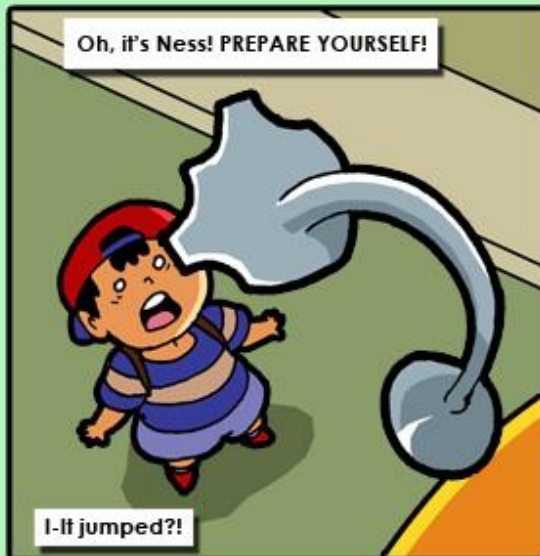
Heh heh!  
....You see?  
He's worth every  
penny!



N-Ness...  
Thank you...



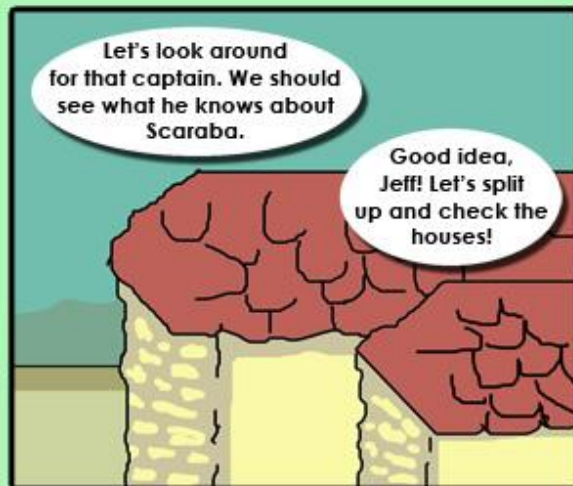










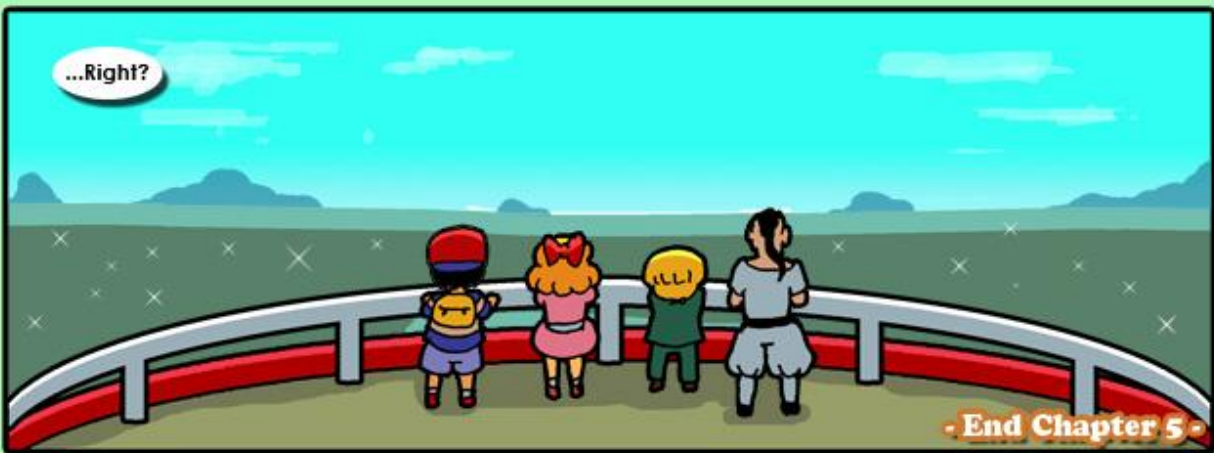












Day 5, Month 6, Year 20XX:  
We've been sailing for what  
feels like years...



Our supplies on the ship have been limited.  
We were less than prepared for such a major  
voyage. As a result, everyone on deck is now  
sporting some wicked facial hair.



Even the captain's  
beard grew a beard.



Both Ness and the captain got seasick.  
The captain was really having a hard time,  
but I think Ness was just faking and trying to  
get attention.



Speaking of Ness,  
did you know he wet  
the bed THREE times??  
It was really nasty.  
Well, I should go.  
Hope you're well, Mrs. Ness.  
P.S. Please send cookies.



What're you  
writing?

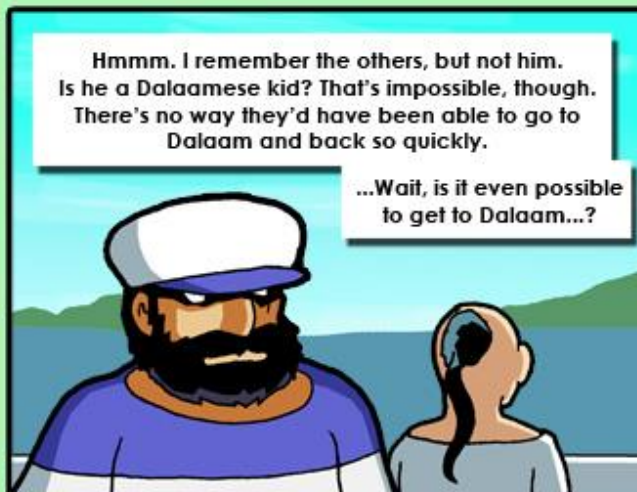
O-Okay,  
so I lied a little!  
Is that so  
wrong???

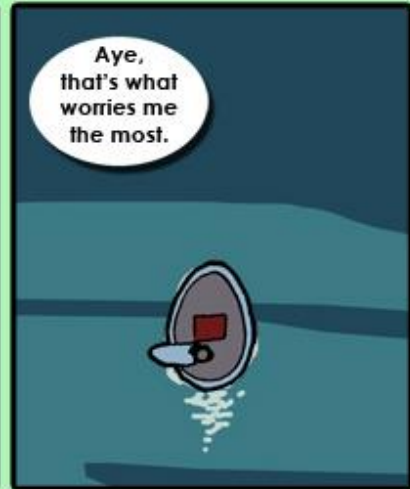


**YES!!**

T-This is an invasion of  
my privacy!! Get me my  
lawyer!

















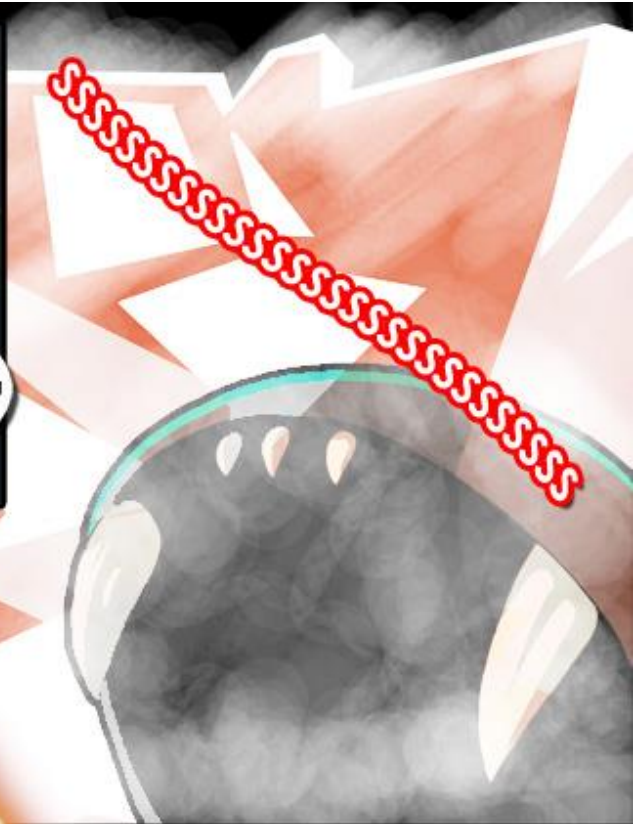


















Tch...We're just barely holding on... With the three of us powering the shield, though, there's no way we can push it back. Unless..



**KABOOOOOM!**



Sorry to keep  
you waiting,  
guys.

One order of  
Kraken soup...  
coming up.







Working through  
at a loss. However,

Even after working through the night, I was at a loss. However, just now, it came to me....!







Jeff has the right idea!  
We'll drop the shield and go for  
an all out attack!!

Right! We can win  
if we just keep it pinned  
down!



It's been awhile since I've  
used my PSI attack, but  
something feels different...

I'm not sure if I can  
control all of this, but...  
I'll give it a shot!









Still, the fact that this kind of stuff is really happening... I get the feeling I'm caught up in the middle of something I can't even begin to comprehend.



Whew, still got it!  
For a second there, I was a little worried I might lose control...



Master Ness, that PSI... where did you learn such a thing?

Ah, well....  
I just..kind of knew it, I guess.

When I yell or get emotional, the power comes flowing out.



.....

Captain, it looks like the storm isn't over, even with the Kraken gone.

Do you think we'll get any rain, or is this it?



Aye, we're not out of this mess just yet! You kids, prepare yourselves for anything!



One bad storm will put us right back into a heap of trouble.

For now....we are at the mercy of the sea.











W-What's going on?!  
Is there more than one Kraken?!



SPLAAAAAAASH



Ooh... I'm  
so dizzy....  
Is everyone  
okay?

I think so...  
More importantly, is the  
ship still intact?



I think the ship's  
okay, but...




We  
have to protect  
it before the  
Kraken strikes  
again....



Still....

W-What do we  
do now....?





W-We have to defend  
the ship....  
No, wait, we should  
attack again...!  
But then, the ship  
will be....

Oof... M-My legs are  
giving out...  
W-What's wrong with me...?  
Am I...afraid?

T-This isn't right,  
m-my body won't  
move how I want....

....Somehow, this is  
all familiar... This fear is...  
familiar...

I... I don't want to  
remember... I don't want  
to remember....

..But this feeling...  
It's the same as back  
then...



I've been trying not to think about it, but... That fear never went away, even after all this time... The thought of being that helpless again is...frightening...

Ness! Ness!!  
Can you hear me??



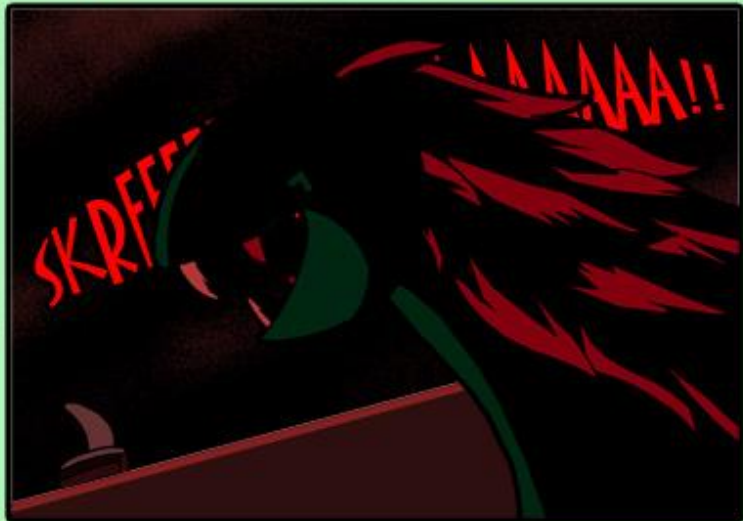
The Kraken must have triggered something in Ness that was lying dormant all this time...

...He still hasn't recovered from what happened back in Fourside...



Ness...

I had no idea....



Not good, the Kraken is coming....! We're not in any shape to fight, either.

I cannot waste any more time here. I know I should not be doing this, but... I no longer have any choice.







"Transforming puts both body and mind at risk..."

Before I left Dalaam, these were the words  
Master gave to me, along with a precious item.

This new power... the ability  
to mirror other beings...  
Is not to be underestimated.

The stronger the foe,  
the more dangerous it is  
to attempt a transformation.  
However...

I must try, no matter  
the risk!

I know it is foolish,  
yet I cannot allow harm to  
befall Master Ness!



p-Please,

let my...d...esl...re to...protec...t...  
r...em...a...in...

P...R...O...TEC...T...

PR...O...TE...



W-What just happened?? Where'd Poo go??

I... I think... He turned into a Kraken...

W-What?! Which one??



T-The really angry one...

SKRAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA











Hmph... A man of my age,  
letting children defend him...



No matter how strong they are,  
I can't just sit here and let the Kraken  
get away with hurting my baby.

I know I promised my wife never to fight again,  
but... I can contain the beast within no longer!



ARRRRRGHHHH!  
Let me show you just how  
powerful a true man of the  
sea is!!

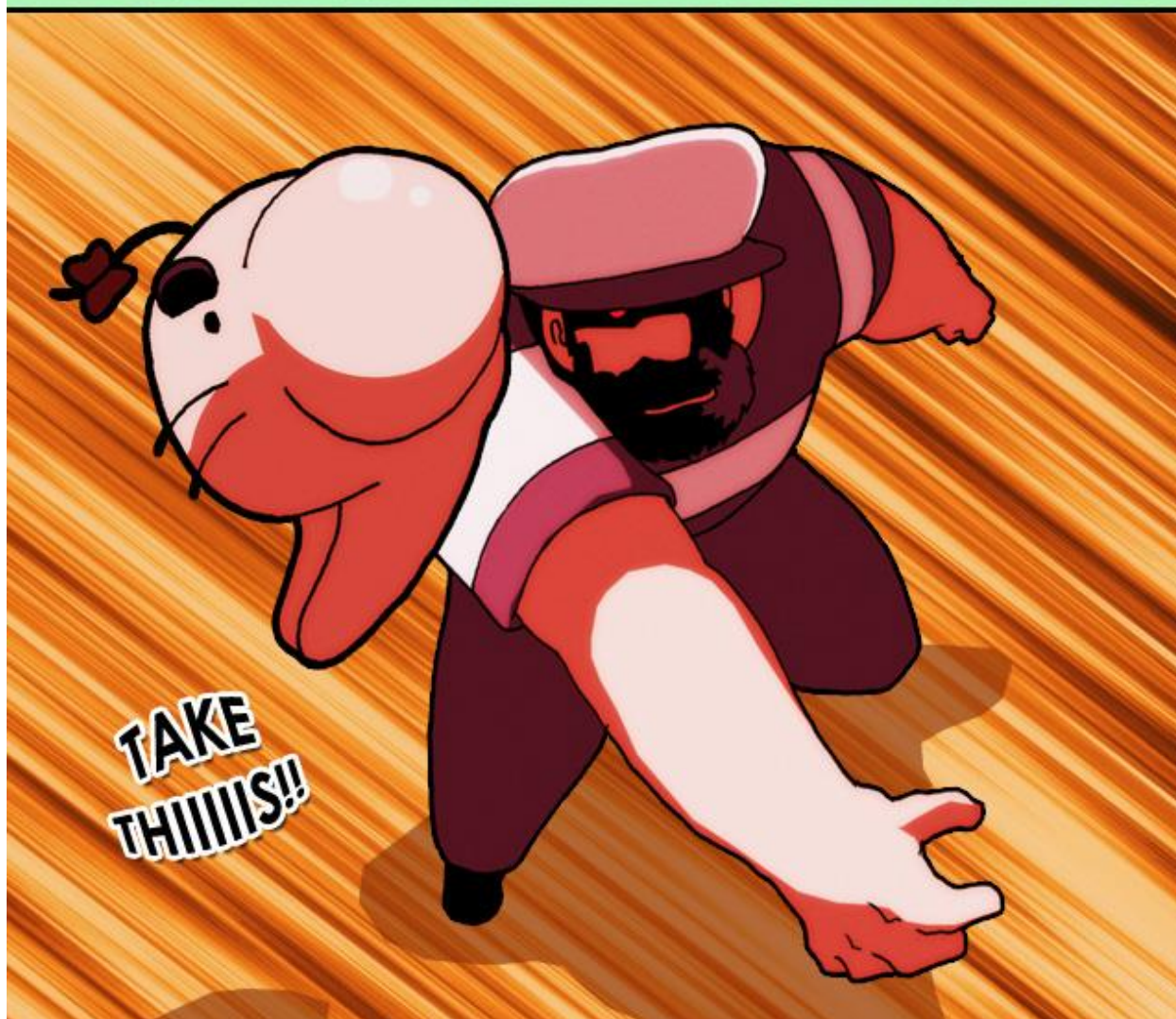


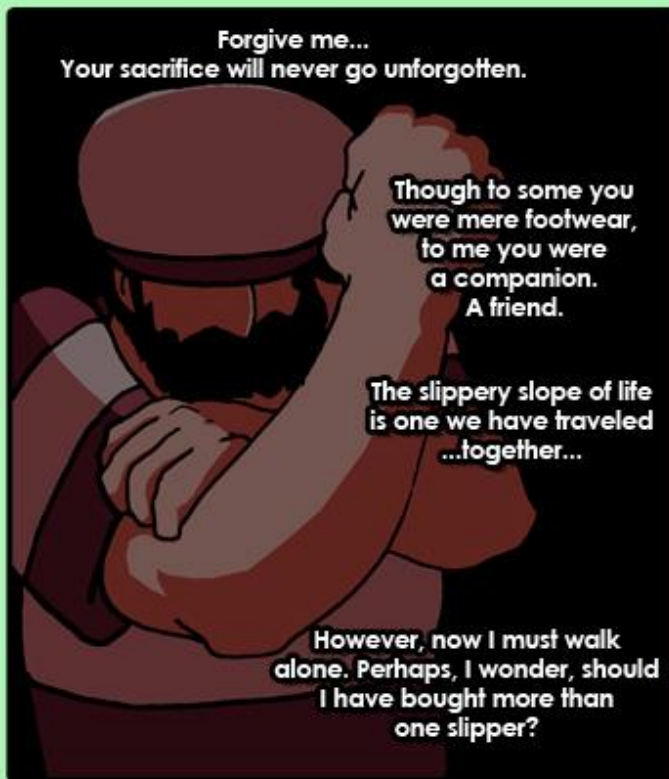
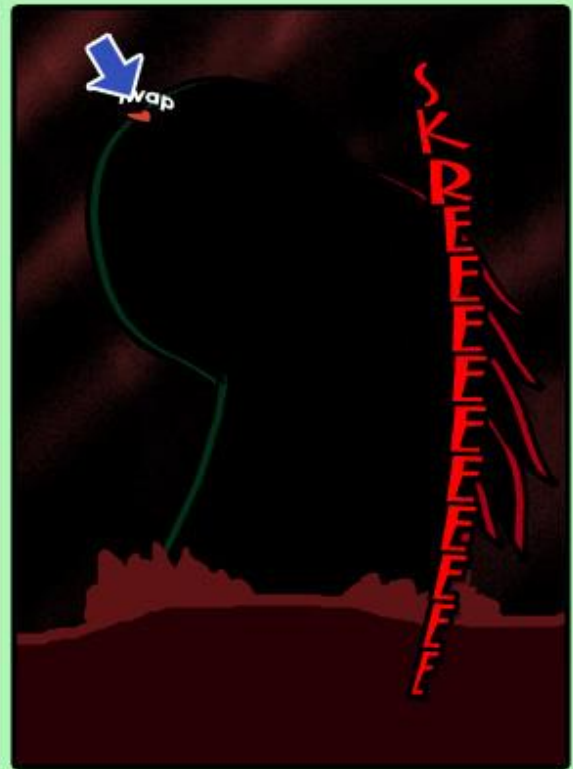
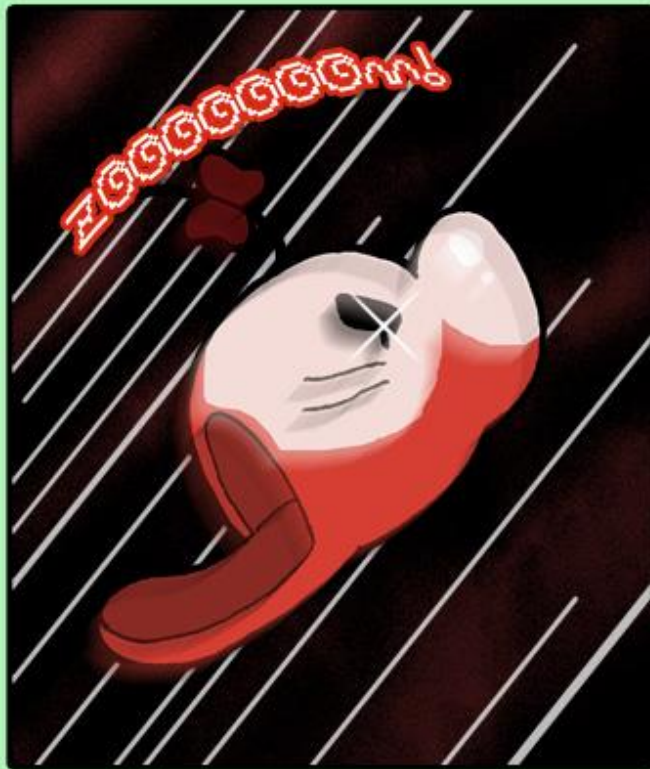
This secret technique which has been  
passed down from only the strongest  
captains...



Not even the  
Kraken can escape  
its power.

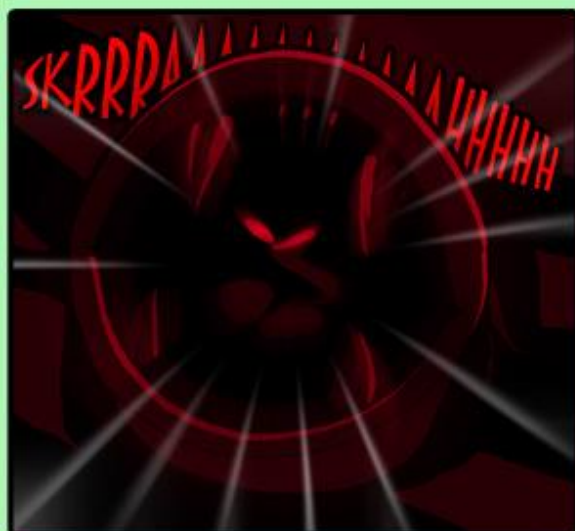










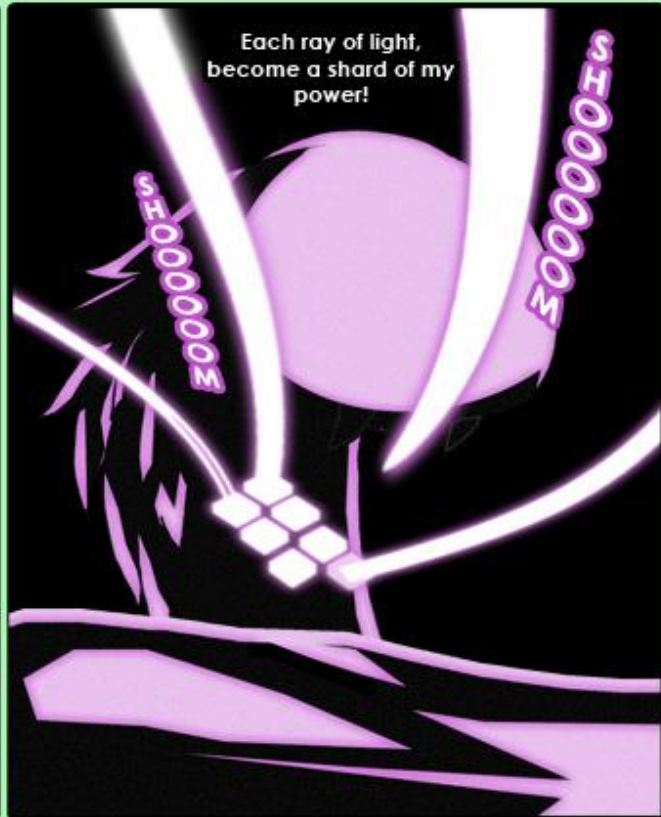








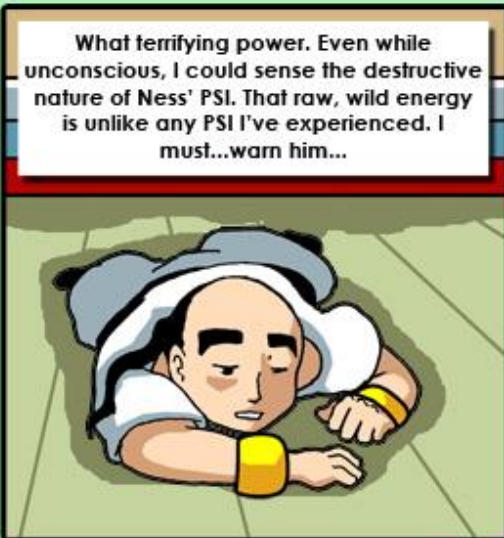
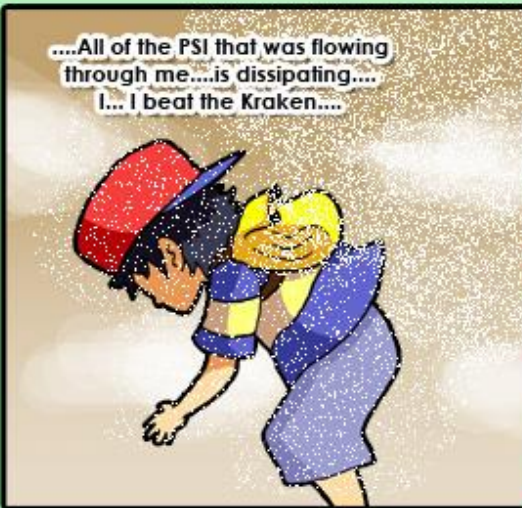










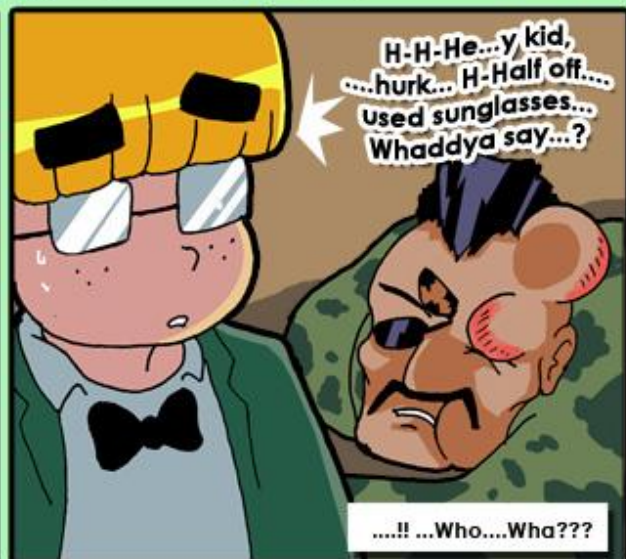
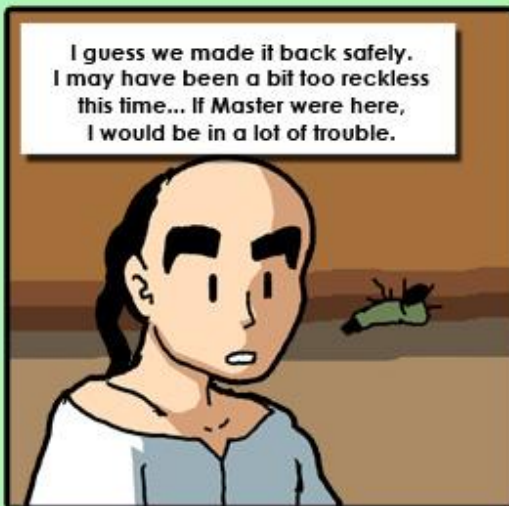


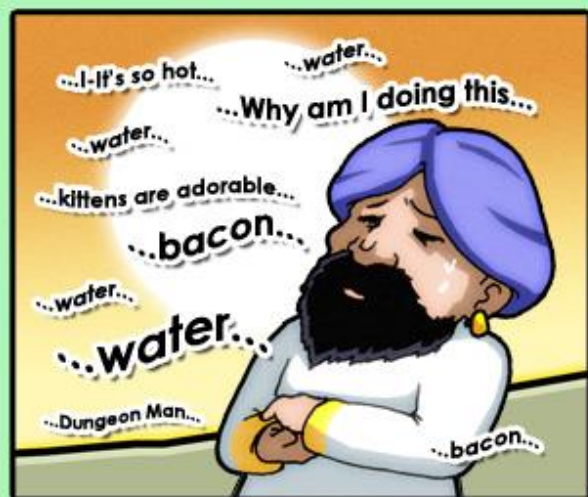




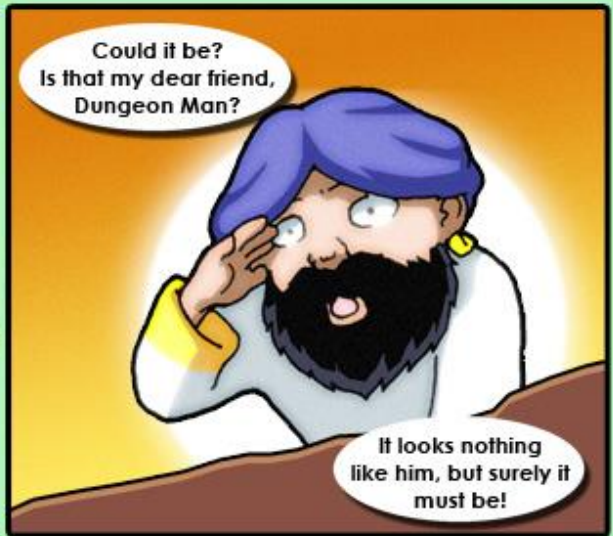






















Unbelievable...  
The smell won't go away!  
It's so obnoxious, I can't  
help but somehow find it  
disturbingly familiar...

Woooo, Neess~  
I'll haunt you foreveeee~



Woooo~  
Hey, remember Ecto Cooooooler?~  
That stuff was the bee's kneeeees~

Lucky us!!  
The market place is starting  
to open up! Only the item shop was  
open last time I checked!

I guess  
we should  
stock up on  
supplies.



Hissssss,  
Red Snake's is  
now open for  
businesssss!

Your one stop shop  
for assssspiring snake  
charmersssss!



HISSSSSS~

Looking to protect age old artifacts? Want to  
keep heroes away from that captured  
princessssssss? Purchase our lethal viper  
combo pack today!



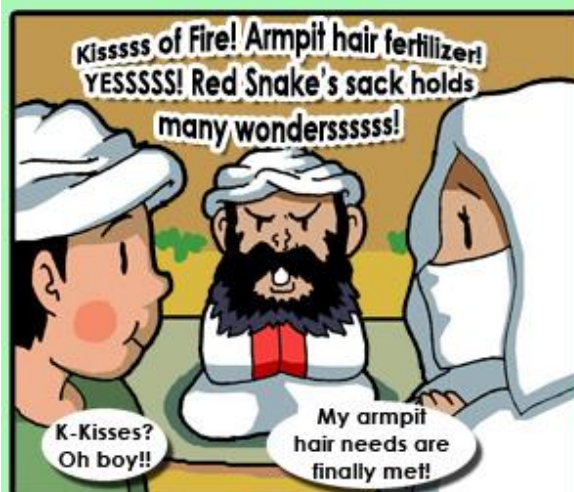
I-is  
this even  
legal...?

Hey, Beardsworth!  
Your merchandise is trying  
to eat me. That means  
I get it for free, right?

You break it,  
you buy it,  
sir.



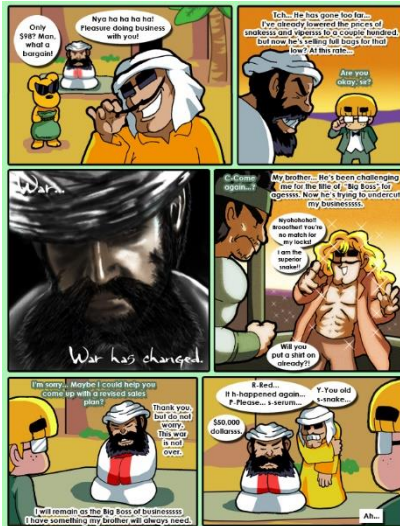


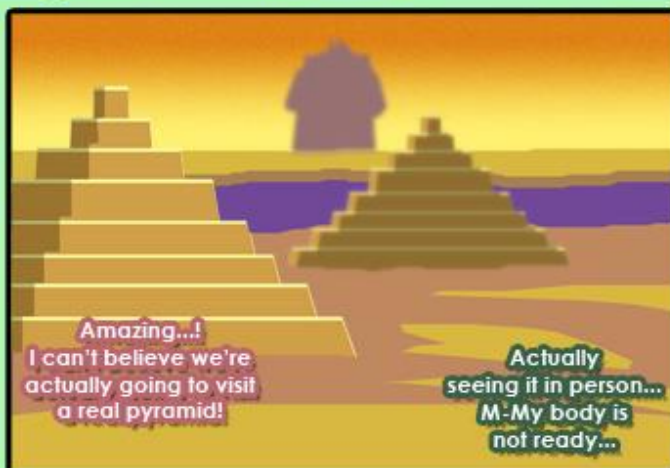




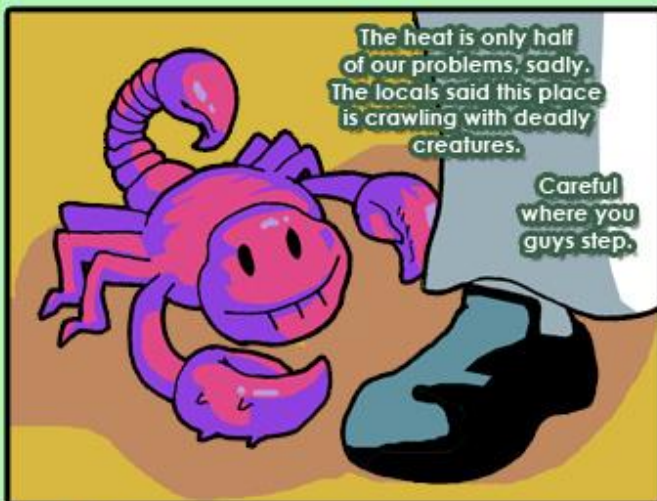


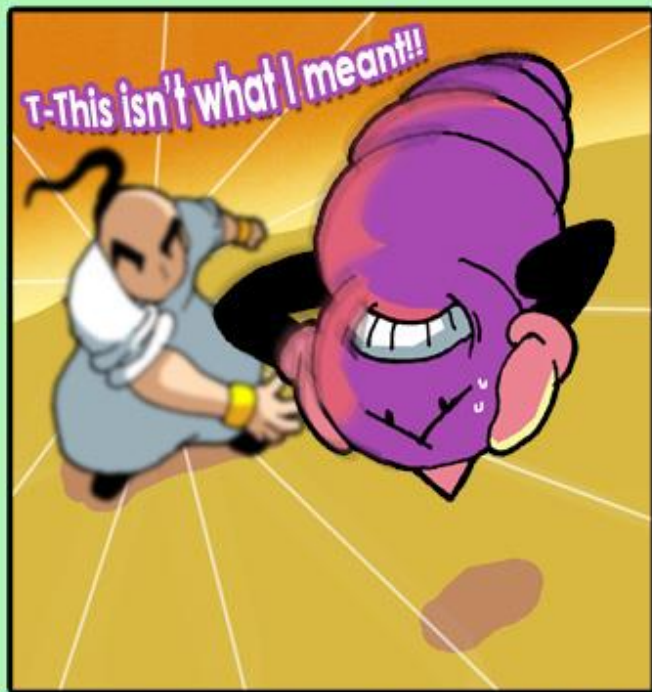














So the pyramid  
is just beyond  
here, huh?

It appears so.  
However, we  
cannot pass  
just yet.

Because  
of this weird  
lion?

Yes, this is known as the "Sphinx."  
It is the guardian of this fortress.

ARE YOU A THIEF, A WARRIOR, OR ONE  
WHO HAS COME TO SEE MY MAJESTY?

YOU MUST DECIDE WHAT YOU REALLY ARE.  
THEREFORE, WHAT WILL YOU DO?

"Dance in front of the Sphinx,"  
was it?

This is it.  
Tony...  
I guess all  
of that training  
wasn't wasted.



stand back, Ness!  
This...is my time  
to shine!









THESE LEGENDARY MOYEMENTS...!  
THAT IMPECCABLE STYLE!

HIS POWER LEVELS ARE AT

MAX FUNK!

Unbelievable!

A-Amazing!!

HYAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!!!!  
IF A MAN DANCES HARD ENOUGH.....

!!HE'S RAM RAISIN THE ROOF!!









Heh heh heh...  
Perfect.  
This will bring back the  
fondest of memories.



Wow, compared to  
outside, it's nice and cool  
in here!

It seems  
the pyramid has  
been sealed off  
from the outside  
world for a long  
time.



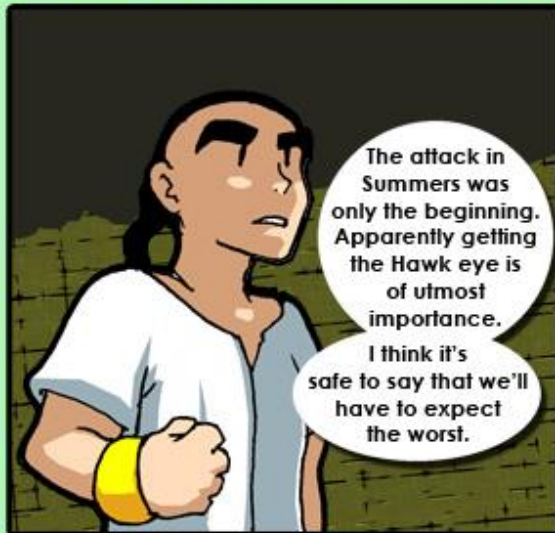
I'm sure Pokey  
couldn't get in,  
but what about  
Giygas?

If Giygas'  
influence can reach all  
that rest in this pyramid...  
we're in trouble.



N-Ness,  
In Threed...  
t-the zombies  
were....

...Yeah.  
They were  
all revived  
by Giygas.



The attack in  
Summers was  
only the beginning.  
Apparently getting  
the Hawk eye is  
of utmost  
importance.

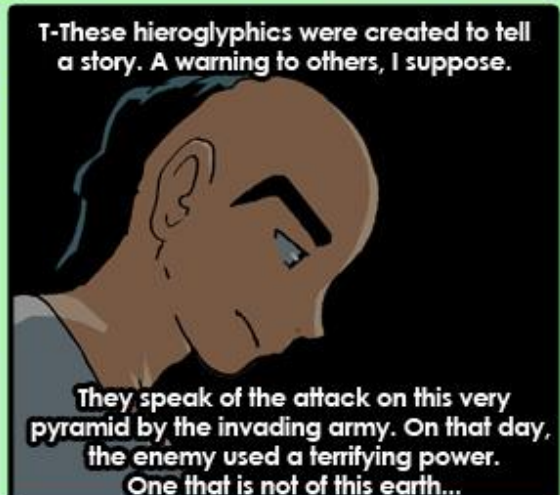
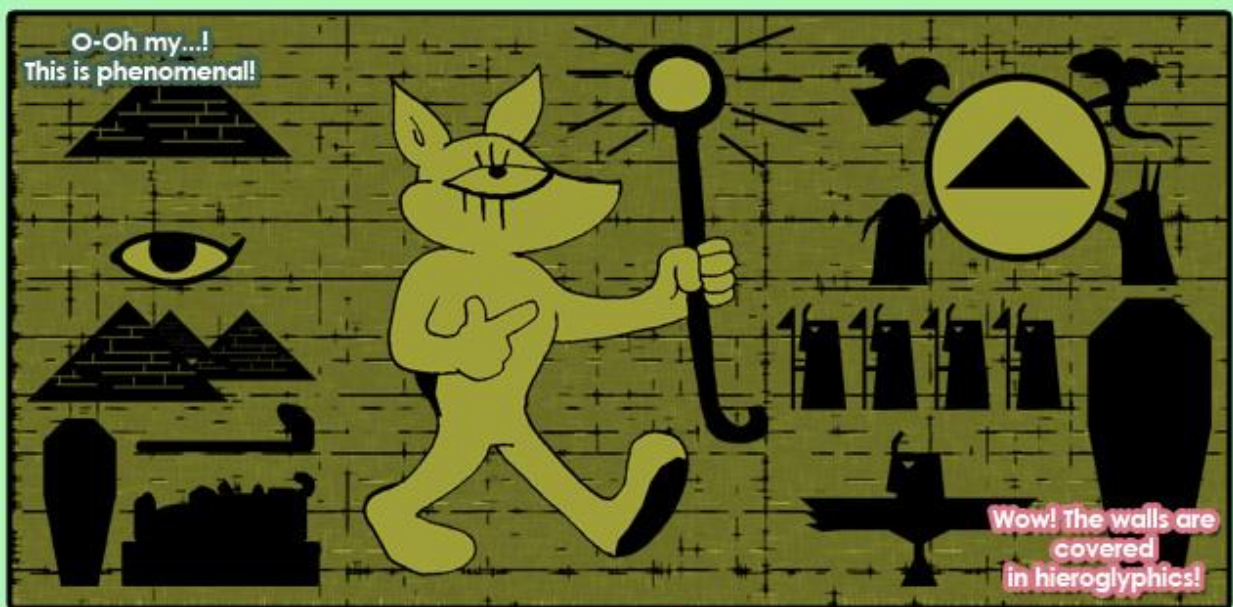
I think it's  
safe to say that we'll  
have to expect  
the worst.



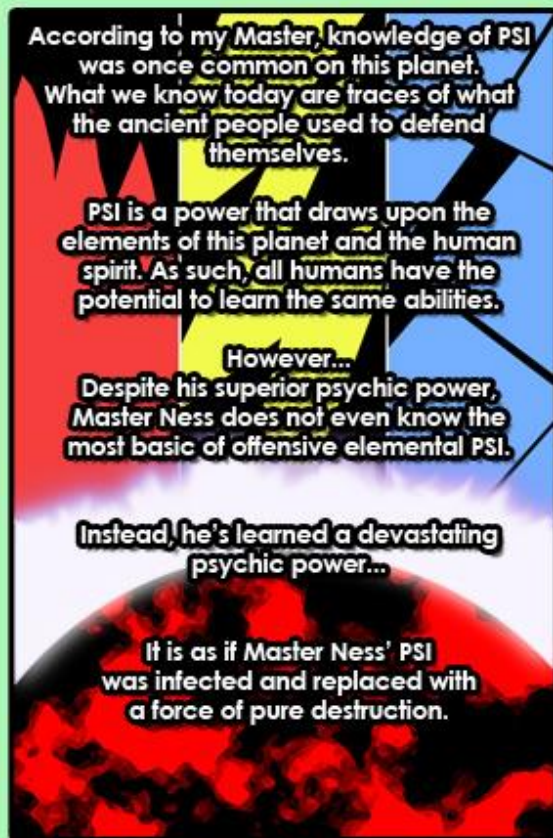
And...as a  
warrior, I can't stand  
by and let this place  
be defiled.

Out of  
respect, I'll put  
every single guardian  
back to sleep.  
Permanently.

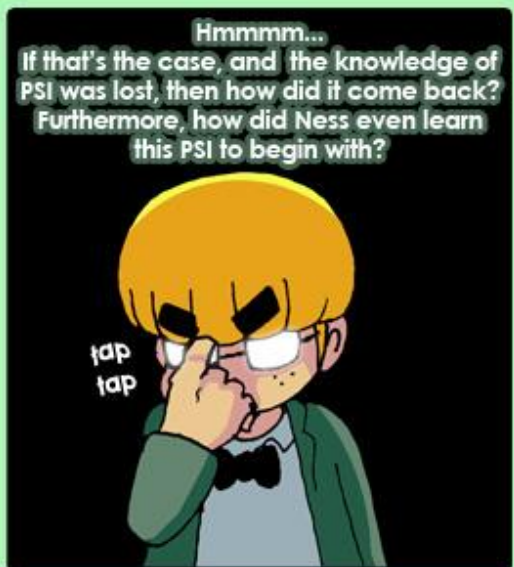
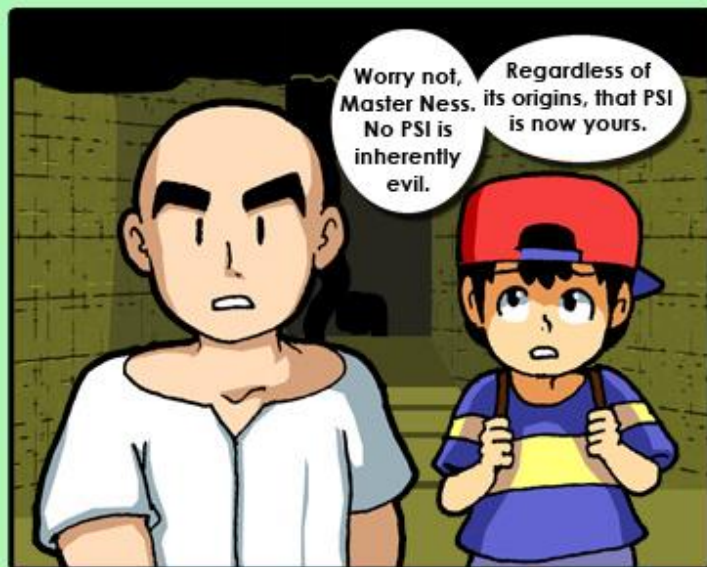


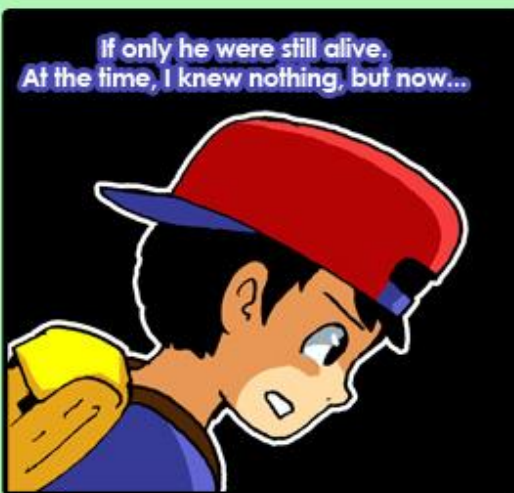
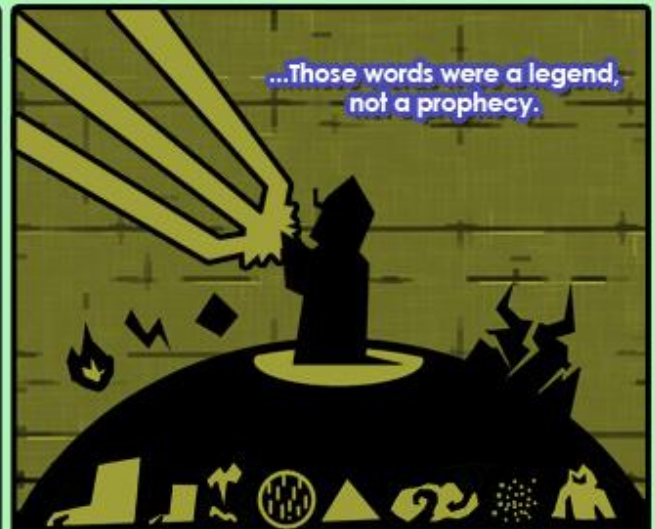


















Perhaps carrying this power is a burden  
that only the true chosen one must overcome.  
However, I won't let him struggle alone.  
I was sent here to protect Master Ness,  
and no matter what...

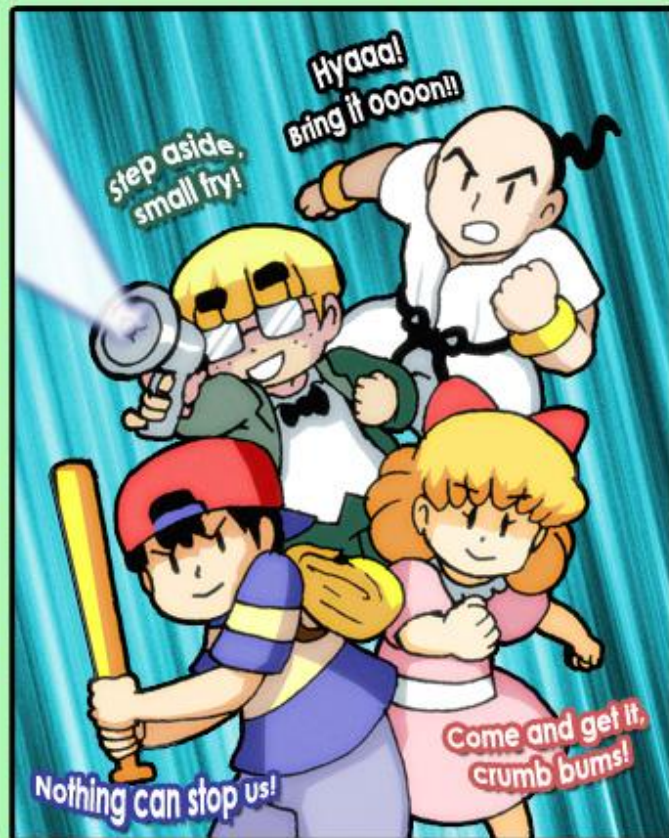


PSI FREEZE!



I will follow him to the bitter end!

-The Guardian Hieroglyph was defeated!



Come and get it,  
crumb bums!











**BWOOOOOOOOOOOSH**



W-What...



rumble

YOU....

DO NOT BELONG  
HERE.

I MUST  
ERASE YOU FROM  
THIS WORLD.

crack

**BOOOOOM**



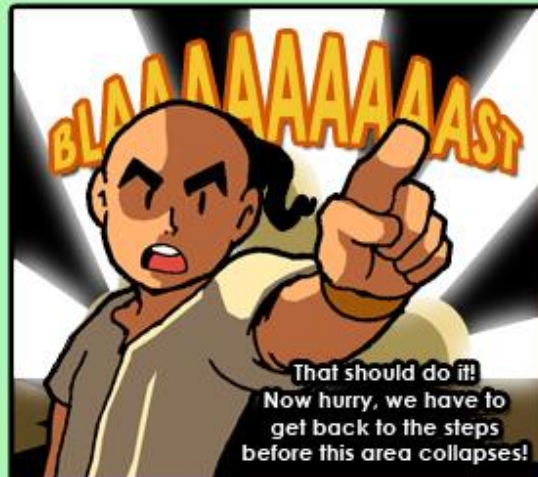








Explosive powers?  
Uh...oh, right!  
Got it! Two bombs,  
coming right up!



Whew, we made it.  
I know it was reckless,  
but that should buy  
us some time.







IF YOU THINK THAT WILL BE ENOUGH  
TO HARM ME--

..HM?  
MY ARM.



....NO MATTER.



I guess this all  
worked out  
somehow,  
but...

Do you think  
we're stuck now?  
We had to do  
something  
downstairs,  
right?

If so, that's...certainly  
a problem. "Downstairs"  
probably doesn't exist  
anymore.



Bummer... No way forward, and now we  
have an angry giant out for our necks.

Let's hope it stays down for the count.  
That giant seems to be impervious to PSI,  
and too dense to attack physically.



If it comes back,  
we--

N-NO WAY!!  
G-Guys...!!

CRACKLE



I WILL BURY YOU ALONG WITH  
THIS PYRAMID IF I MUST.



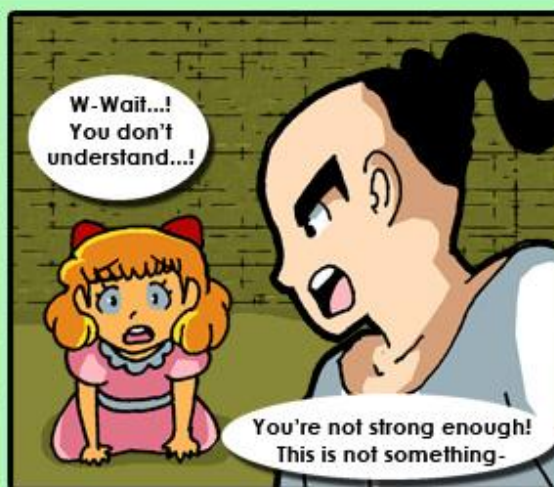


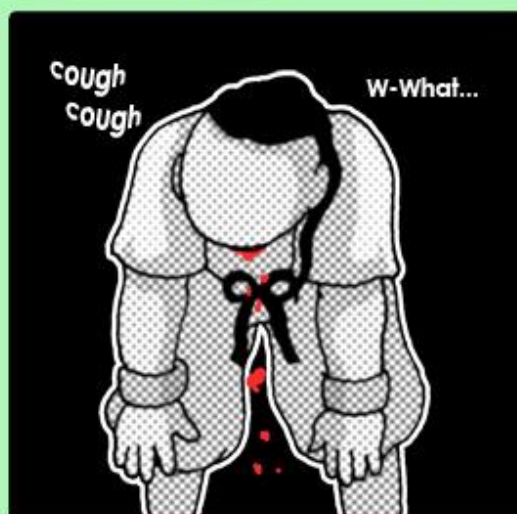


















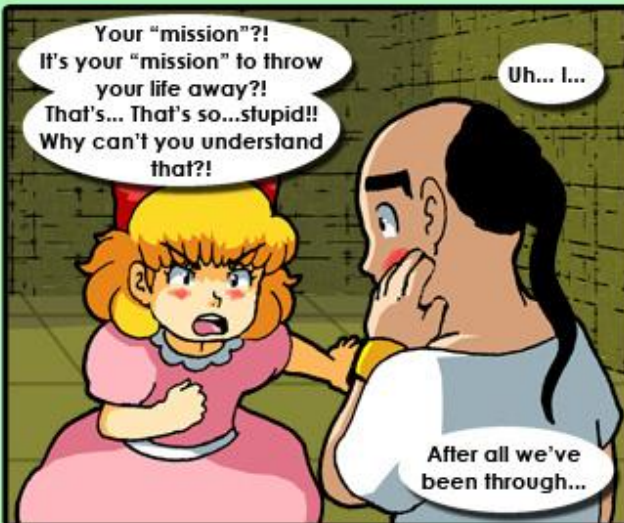










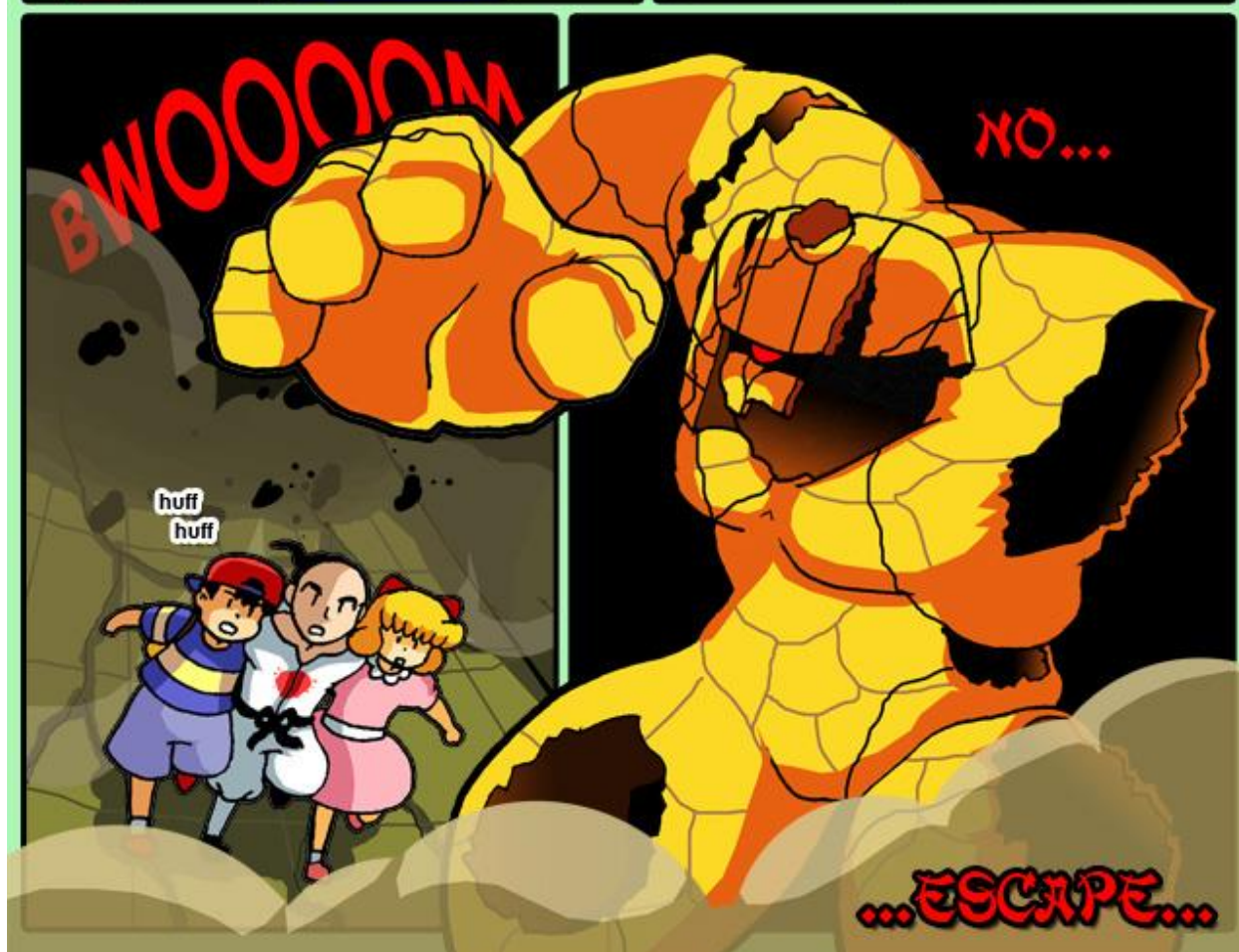












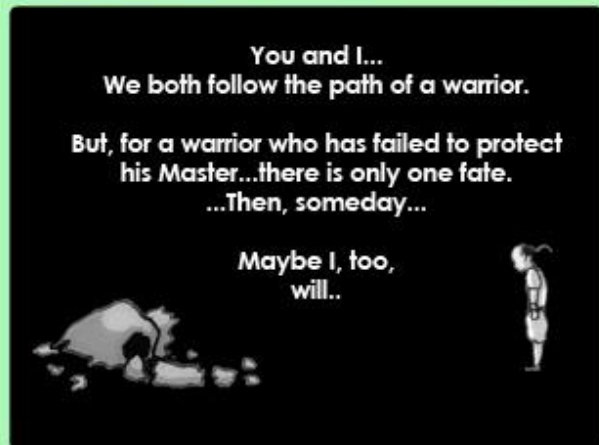






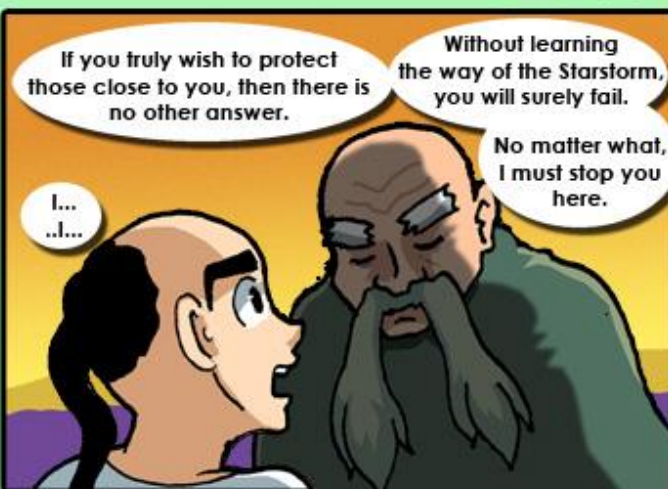


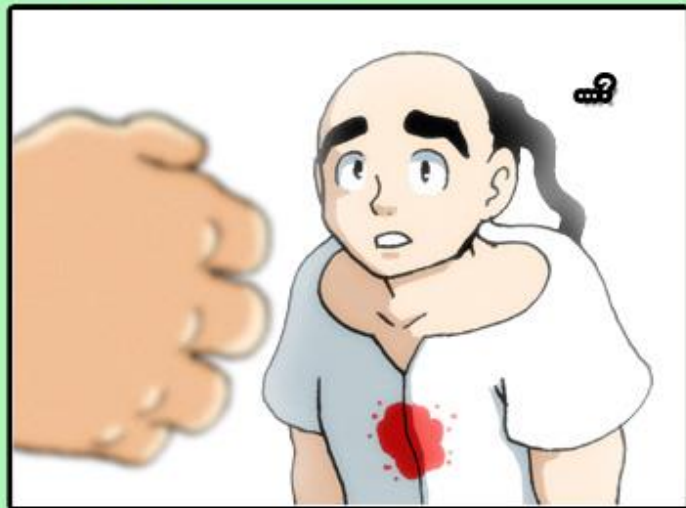
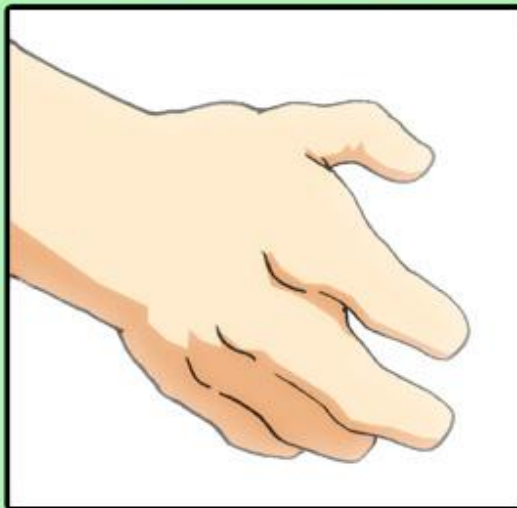




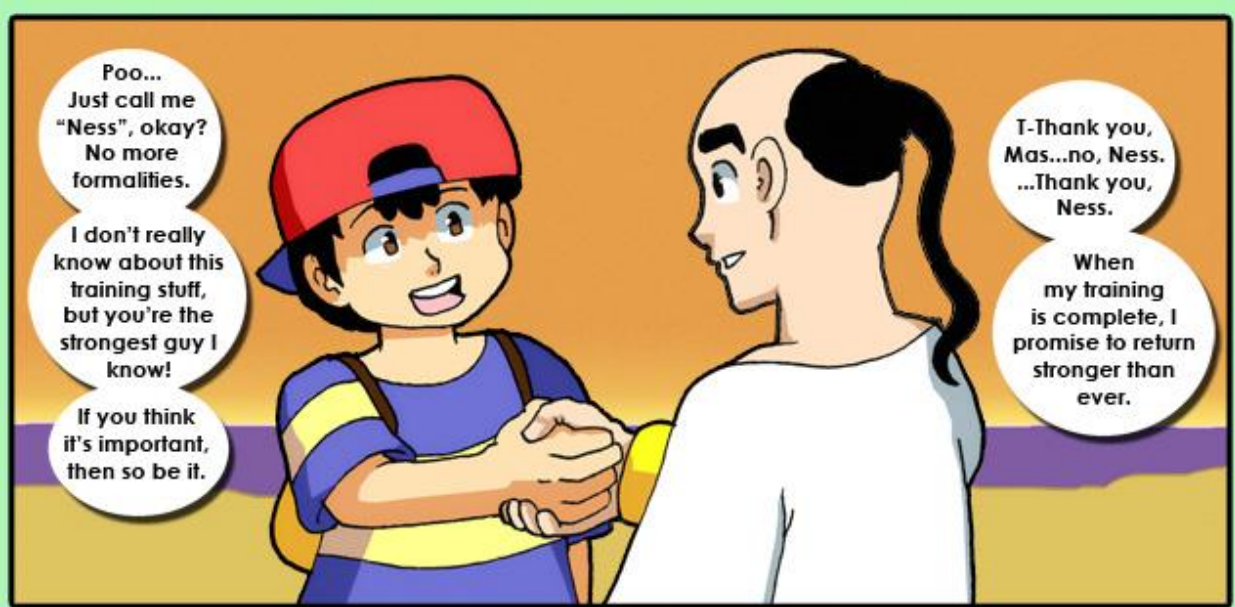










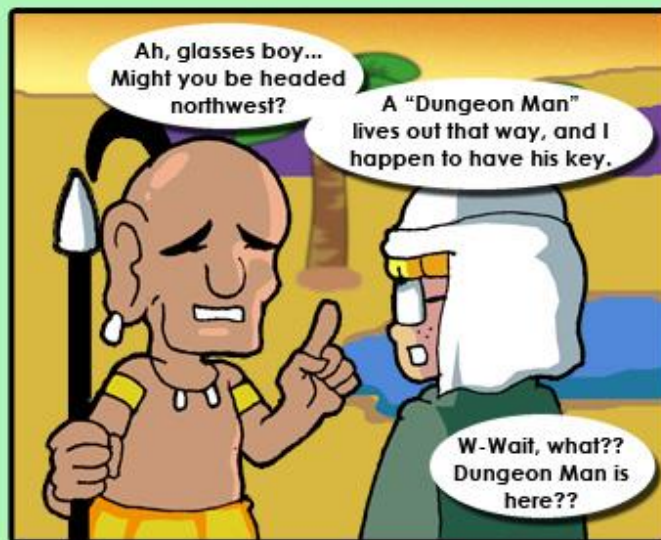




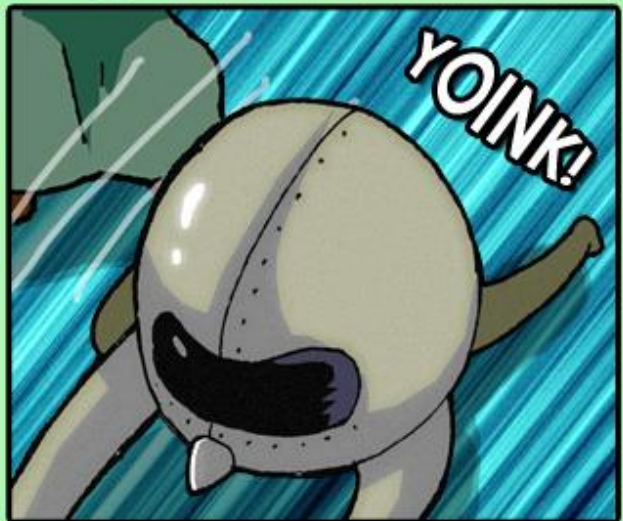




















A glorious mixture of dungeon and man...



Majestic and proud...

...An evolution to shock the world..!

It's..... A dream come true~~! 



Let's see...  
Ah! The entrance is hidden  
on the back of the foot!

I'll just  
put this here  
and...



Wah ha! It worked!

I bet this is how it would feel  
to open a birthday present,  
if dad ever remembered  
my birthday!



Whoooooa....  
So we're going inside  
that thing?

It's huge...  
That ramp must lead  
all the way up to...



...EW! No way!!  
This is really creepy!!

Oh, grow up,  
Paula! It is NOT  
creepy...

IT'S SCIENCE!!

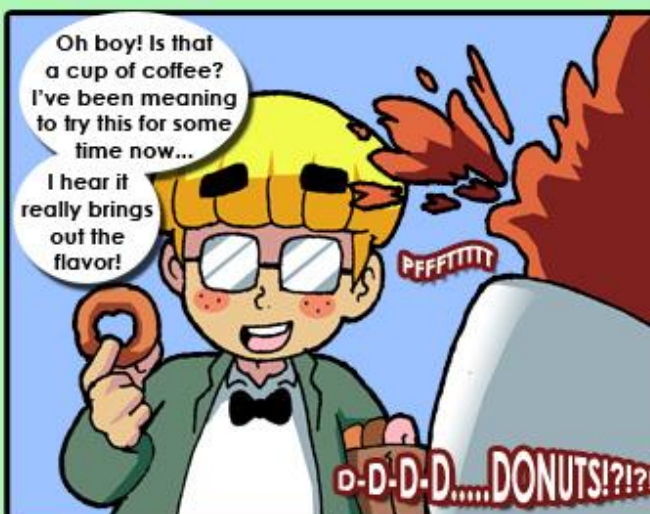


That doesn't  
make it less  
creepy!



















Ah...This isn't right, either. Maybe I should have taken a left back at the last fork...

...Or maybe I should have taken the OTHER left...uh...or was that the OTHER right...? ...Oh man.



Hey, is anyone in there? Can you tell me where I am?

Go away, I'm trying to concentrate!

Come on, I need to find my friends!

Is it normal for you to bug someone trying to use the restroom?! Is this something you do??

knock knock

...Sometimes, yes!



Ordinarily, you may want to head upwards as it gives the illusion of progress. However, to the trained eye, this path is much less likely to contain a dead-end..

Jeff, what is all of this?



Dungeon Man is the creation of Brick Road, a dungeon fanatic who worked with my father to become the ultimate dungeon.

I...I see...

His genius and artistic vision led to what you see now.

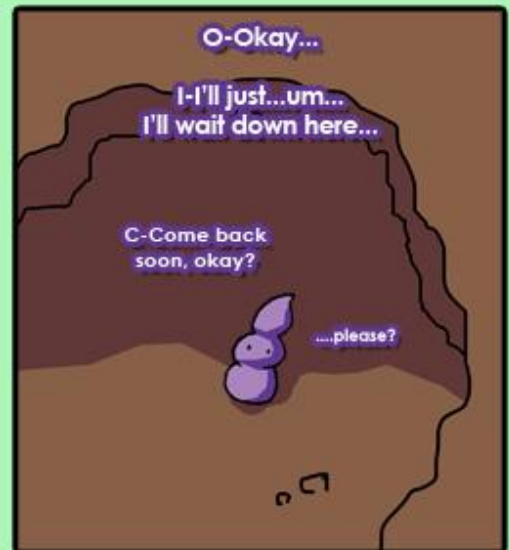
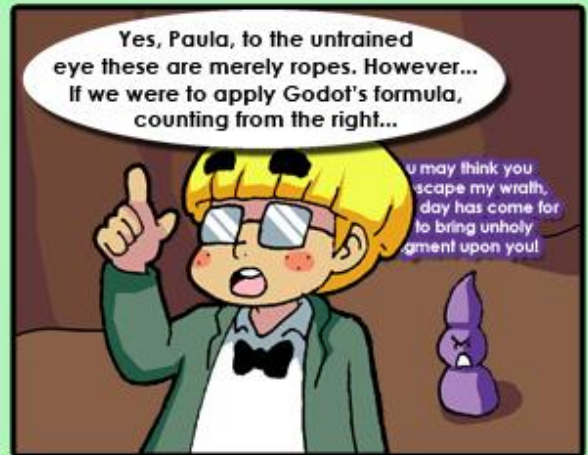


Well, well...



Finally, after all this time...

We meet again, my old nemesis.





Oh man... All of these caves look the same.  
Am i even in this "Dungeon Man" anymore...?  
Maybe I wandered into that Mole place again.



I'm so lost...

They'll come back,  
right...?

...  
Maybe if I  
weren't so  
worthless  
they would..  
..sniff...



Ah! Hey,  
you there! Have  
you seen anyone  
come through here  
recently?

Yes...  
A small group  
did.

Were  
they a hip kid with  
glasses and a really cute  
girl with a ribbon?

....Yeah, they were just here.  
They went up ahead to the  
second floor.

Awesome!!  
Thanks a lot,  
pal!

SIGH

Sure,  
no problem...



W-Wait,  
did he just...

Whew, good  
thing I asked that  
little guy for  
help!

Now I just  
need to catch up  
to Paula and Jeff!



...M-My darling...



















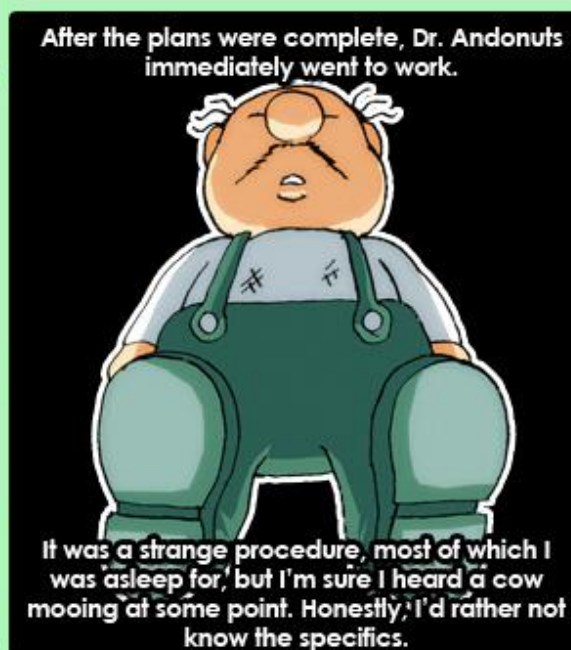
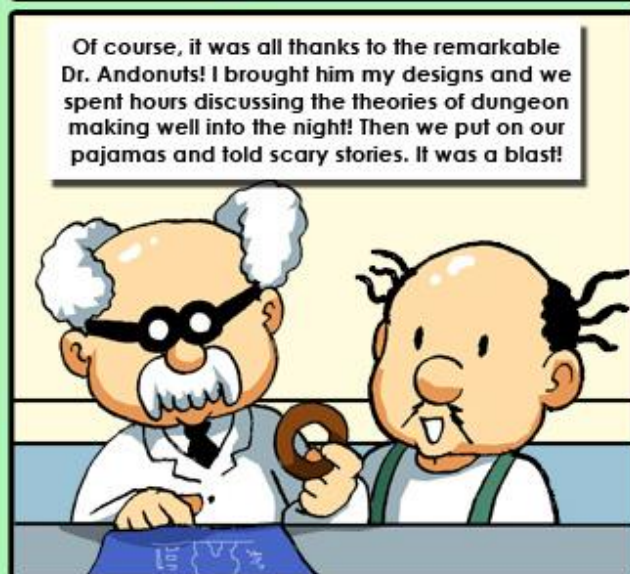
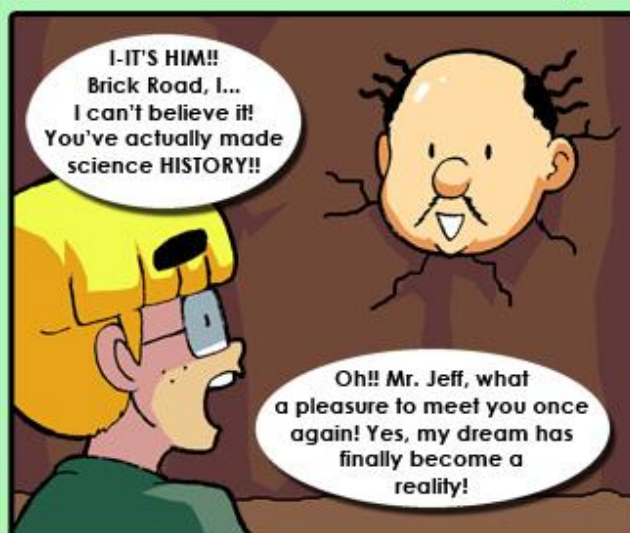






















• Dungeon Man joined you. ....Wait, really? Holy sasquach!

Just leave  
it to me!

Alriiight!  
With Dungeon Man  
on our side, we'll really  
be unstoppable!

HO HO HO! Tiny weaklings,  
do not dare underestimate my power!  
Let my swift retribution bring an end  
to your evil ways!

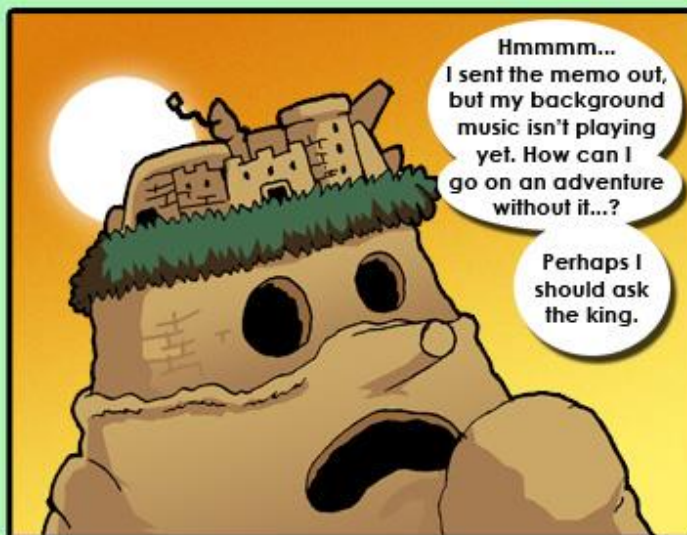
**WHAM!**









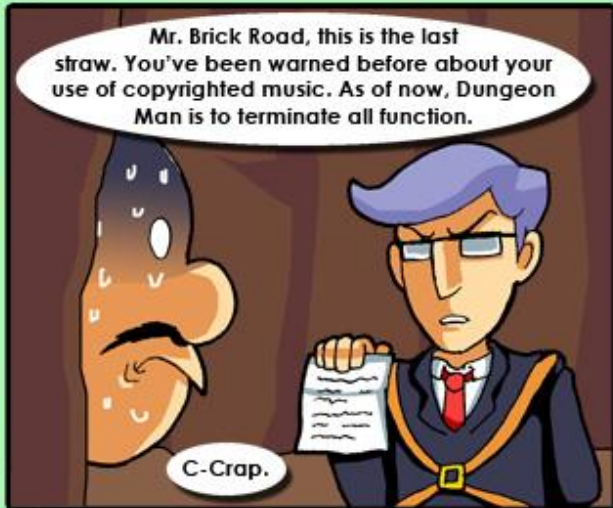














...So, this is as far as we go together, huh? What a shame... To think, the world will never witness your awesome power...



What are we going to do now? Even if our destination is further south, we still can't make any progress.

Maybe we should go back and talk to the Captain? If he has another boat, then...



A boat? Hm... Ah, actually, I have a submarine in my vehicle collection.

Please, enter my body once more. If you can use it, it's yours.



Brilliant!! Thank you so much! I can't believe it...! A submarine!

Oh my, a submarine? How romantic! We're the luckiest kids in the world!



Ness!! Hey, Ness! Did you hear that?? A submarine!!

....Ness?



I-I don't want to go back... P-Please... Don't make me go back inside...

O-oh, Ness...





Ahhh... It's so unfortunate to have to part with this place so soon. I hope I can come back here again someday...



...On the bright side, it looks like we'll get to make another trip to the top again!

The top?

... That's a "bright" side??



...See, Ness? It's not so bad. We'll be there in no time.

Whew... You're the best, Paula.



Oh, Jeff, it's terrible... They seized everything. I'm afraid you'll have to avoid the armed thugs lurking around outside.

Thugs? Well, I'll think of something. Please, show me the way to your collection.



What courage! Proceed to the "Goodbye Exit" in the back!

Fantastic! Thank you for everything. Hopefully someday we'll meet again!



Uh.... Did he just say "armed thugs?"

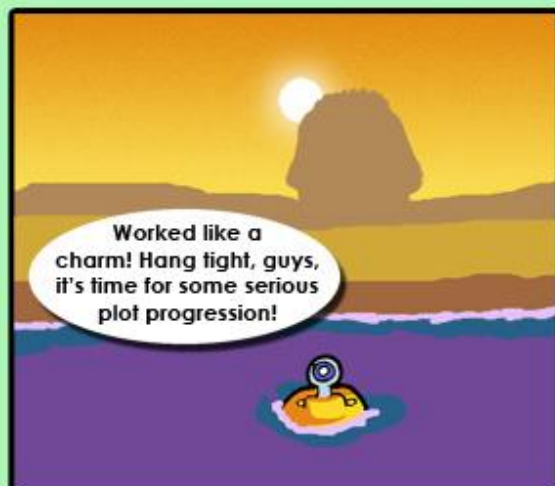
Sorry, I didn't hear.

I'm focusing all of my energy into frowning at this hole.









Worked like a charm! Hang tight, guys, it's time for some serious plot progression!



I don't believe it, he gave away our submarine. Now what're we supposed to do?

...I guess we'll just have to walk home.



That may have been the coolest thing we've done yet.

Indeed! That taxi may have been scrap, but it proved to be extremely useful.

Where did you learn to make stuff like that?



"A broken object is just a new invention waiting to be made."

...That's something dad taught me.

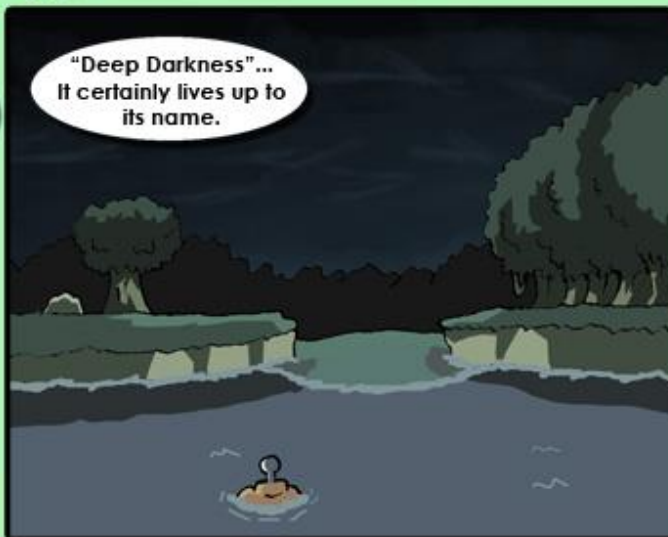
It sounds silly, but those words have always been what inspired me.



Wow, it's gotten so dark out...

Haha, you must really admire your dad, huh?

Wuh- Er, um... Hey, look at that, we're here!



"Deep Darkness"... It certainly lives up to its name.

















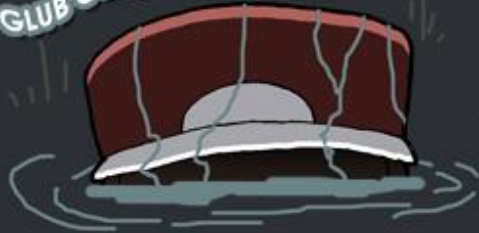




I guess all I can do now is stand here  
and reflect on my failure as I wait.  
Sigh...It's not my fault, this is my first RPG....  
How was I supposed to know...



GLUB GLUB



SPLASH



Ness?  
I'm from Escargo  
Express....

I have  
your  
package.



Huh?  
Oh, it's--

Your charge is \$18.  
Plus tip.

T-Tip?  
Oh, um...  
'Shoot it until  
it dies.'  
Ha..haha...  
Get it...?

I will  
eat your  
dreams and  
happiness.

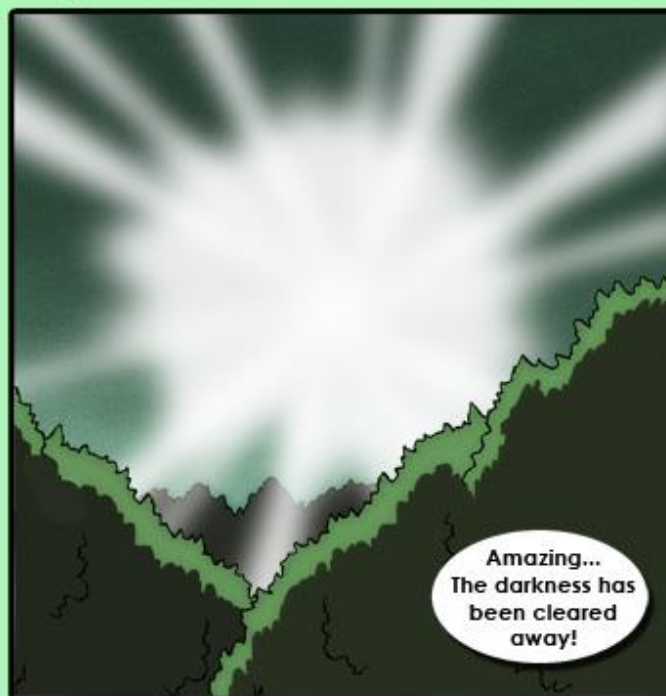


I ended up giving  
him every cent I had.

GLUB  
GLUB

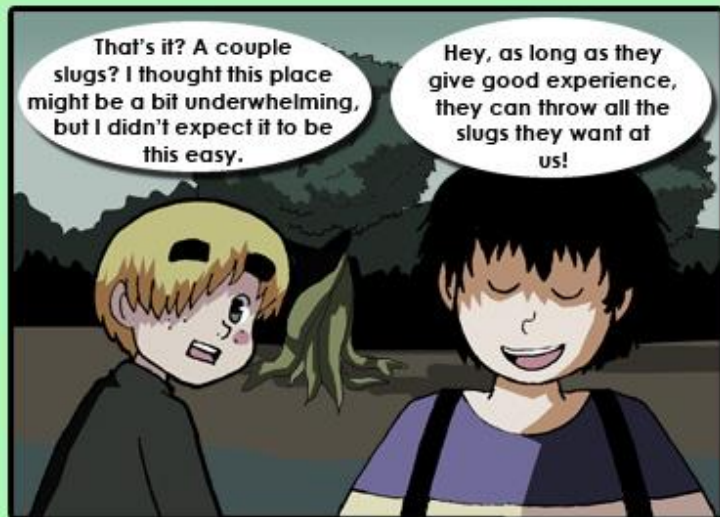


I don't regret  
this decision.











































....Okay,  
maybe two  
shots.



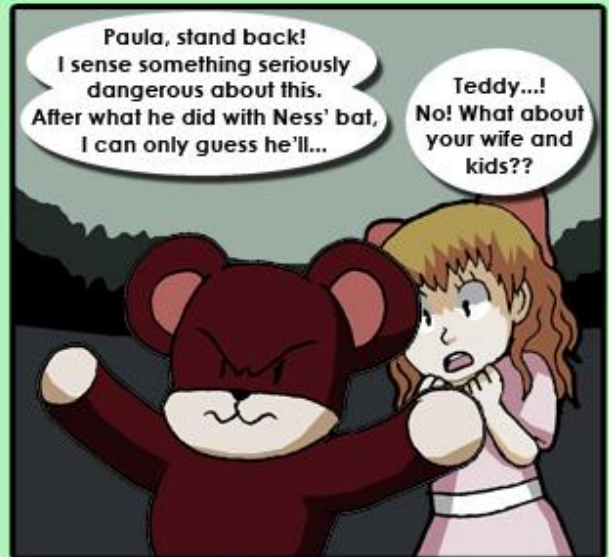
GEH... I remember that attack a little too well.

Yaaaaahhhh!!  
PSI Fire!!



**It's not safe to play  
with fire, so I'll just....  
HYOOOOOORRK!!**

M-My fire....!  
He's...!



Paula, stand back!  
I sense something seriously  
dangerous about this.  
After what he did with Ness' bat,  
I can only guess he'll...

Teddy...!  
No! What about  
your wife and  
kids??



"Daddy, you'll come to my  
piano recital, won't you?"

"Honey, promise  
me, before you go...  
Promise we'll be  
together...  
forever..."

Catherine...

Beatrice...

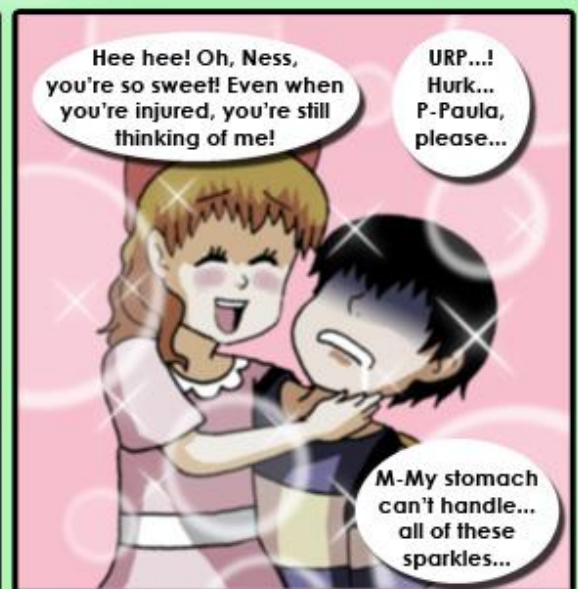
It looks like I...  
couldn't keep my...promise...



**TEEEEEEEEDDY!!!  
NOOOOOO!!!! FORGIVE  
ME, CATHERINEEEEEEE!!**

....?  
Catherine?

GLUB  
GLUB



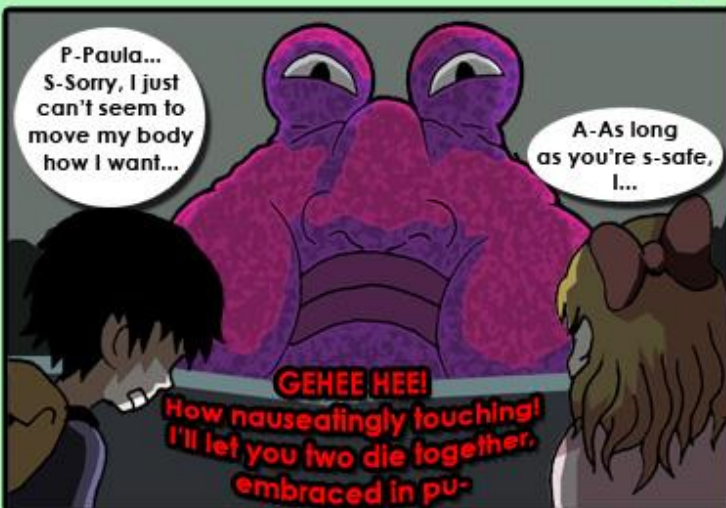


Little brats... To think, they would have leveled up this much since then. However, this time will be different. Master Giygas, I finally understand how to use this "immortality" you gave me.



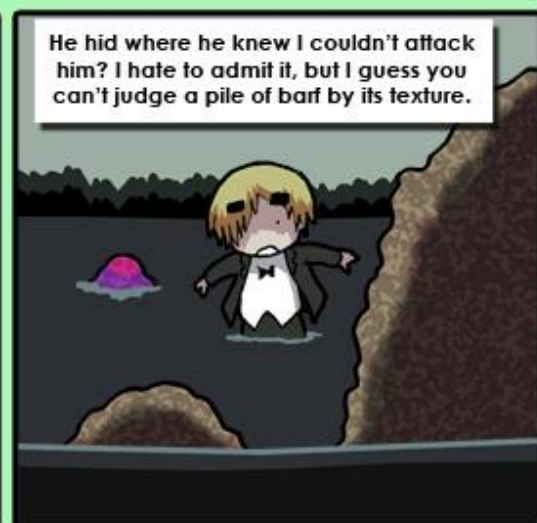
Looks like Ness took care of Master Barf, but...what in the world are his lackeys doing over there? I'd better do something about this, before it gets....uglier.



















GEH HAH HAH HAH!  
How about this, then. We'll play a game...  
Whoever finds her first gets to kill her!



...Geheh...Although I'll just possess whoever  
finds her first so I can do it myself...

GRAAAAAHHHHH!!!



...What? Ugh. Every time I turn  
around, I swear, one of you gets back  
up. Why don't you just give up  
already?



Ah...!

SLAAAAAM!

CRACK

On second thought, I'll save my revenge on  
that pyromaniac girl for last. Now that you can't  
fight back, I'll complete my original mission.



The influence of his obsession is  
so strong, it's all I can think about now.



M-My body hurts... I'm so tired...  
But if I close my eyes here, then...

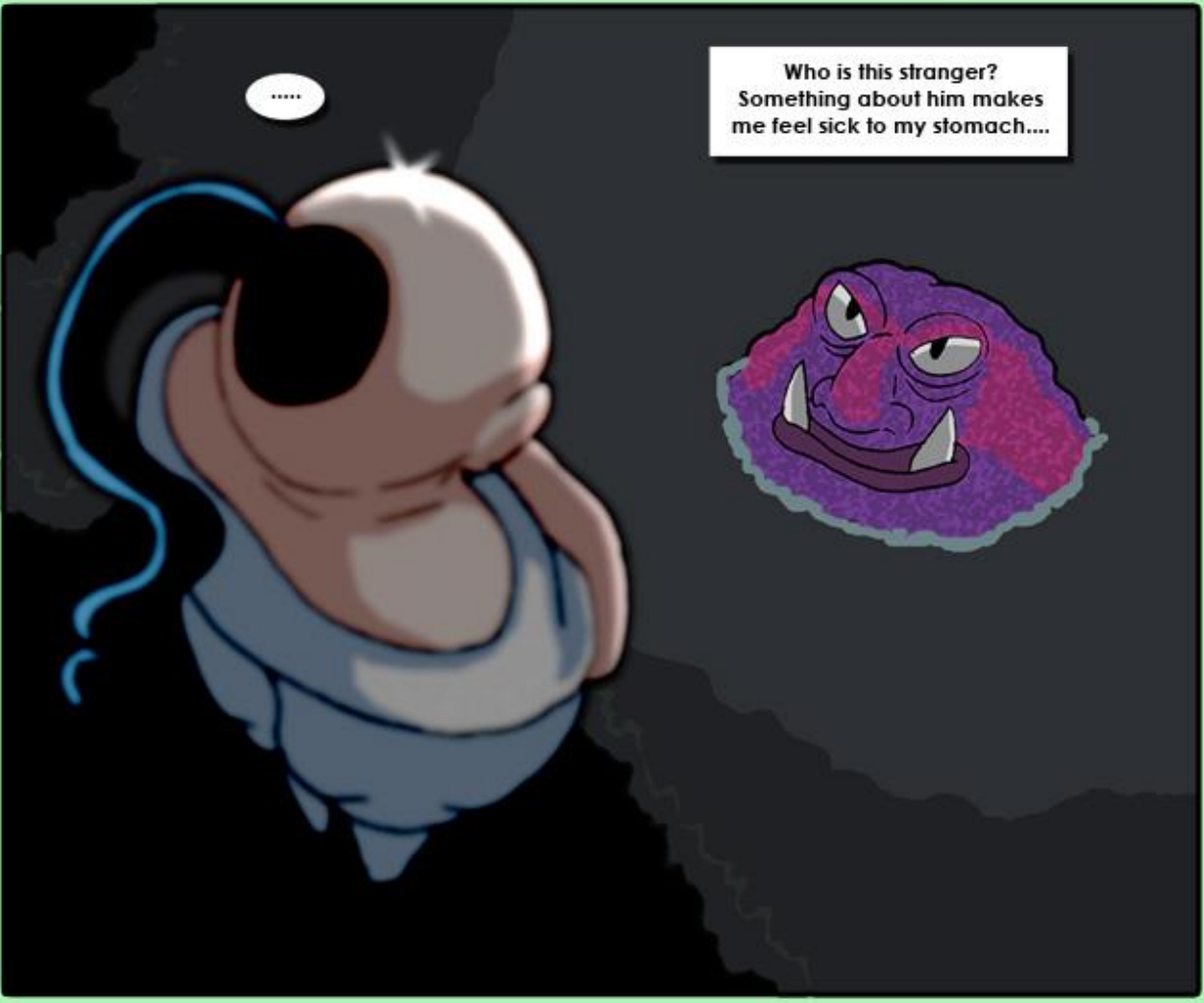
Ness...I'm going to kill you.

...It's all over...  
...Everything is...going dark...









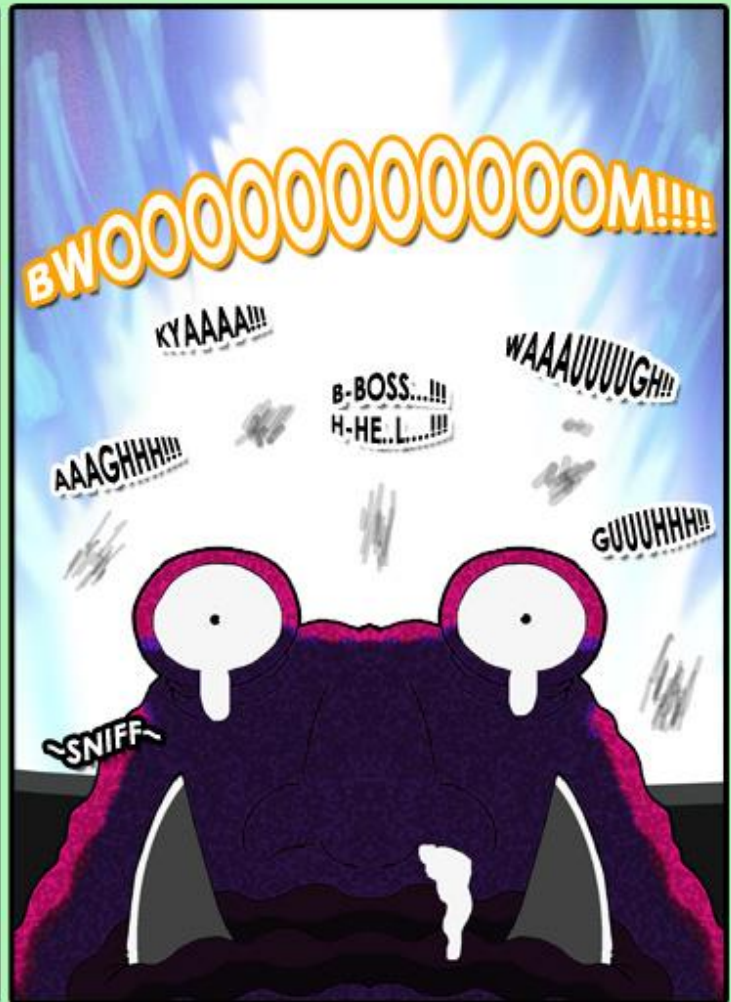






















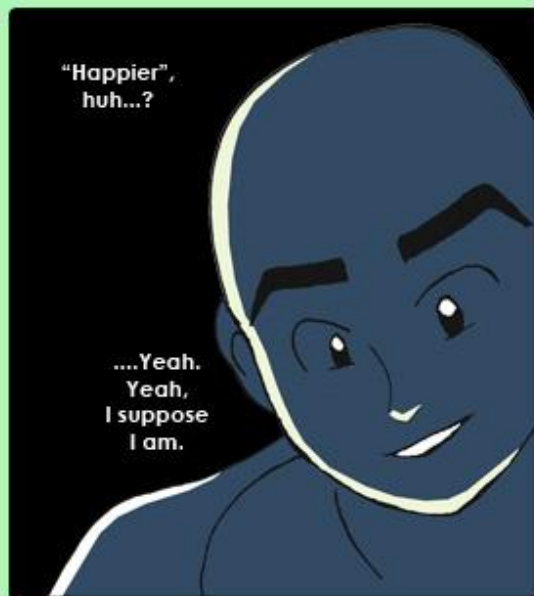










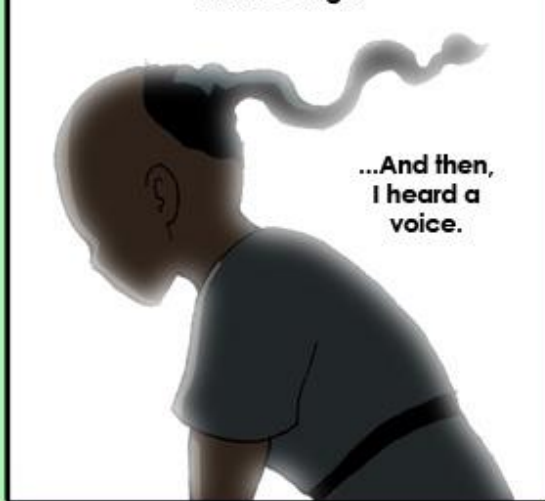


Yet, I couldn't. No matter how much I tried, I couldn't realize the power of Starstorm. Mother Earth only grants this power to warriors with a heart strong enough to protect the people of this planet.



...And I was denied. I was confused, angry...  
...But worst of all, I was weak.

I was willing to sacrifice myself to protect this world. However, that was not enough. I was lost, unable to understand what I was lacking...



...And then,  
I heard a  
voice.

"Who is it you wish to protect?"

"As the Prince of Dalaam,  
I'll protect everyone!"

"The whole  
world?"

"You bet!"



"I... I couldn't protect them..."

"B-But... I'm the prince...  
...Why...?"



"This time... I'll protect them. I won't fail...  
This is my mission. It is my duty to ensure their safety.  
I need power... Enough power to protect...everyone..."

Poo, it's  
okay. We'll always  
be here to help.  
That's what friends  
are for...right?

Being a prince is  
pretty cool, but never forget  
that you'll always be Poo,  
our friend and companion!

You're not  
alone. We're  
in this together!





The Earth had not forsaken me. In that vision, I realized...

I lost my reason for wanting to protect this world. I... couldn't bear to lose anyone because of my own weaknesses.



Until I could open my heart and mind to the truth, I couldn't hear the voice of the Earth... But, at that moment, it became clear.



I will protect this world as Poo.

Not as the Prince of Dalaam.  
Nor because it is my mission.

With  
my friends...

We'll save this world.  
....Together.



...After that,  
the power of Starstorm  
awoke within me.



A PSI granted to  
someone accepted  
by the Earth to defend  
against invaders...

...But most of  
all, I'm thankful  
for what I've  
learned about  
myself...

...And the  
happiness I  
feel finally  
being back  
where I  
belong.



N-Ness?? Paula??  
Why are you  
crying???

T-That was  
so sweet...!  
Poo, let's  
always be  
friends!!!

P-Poo...!!  
POO...!!!!

T-There's...  
something  
in my  
eye...









