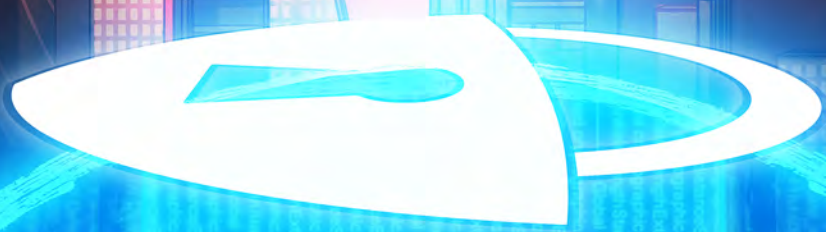


WORLDWIDE



CROSE
LISKA
SHERE
BUENAVENTURA
TEMOFONTE

Δ CYBER SECURITY COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY



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BRANDON WALES & CYBER DEFENSE CHRONICLE

STORY KEZA MUYUNYI & LI CHEN CHEN ART LUKE DUO ART

CYBERAMA

STORY ARTHI VASUDEVAN ART JASMIN SORTO

PROEM

STORY LIEZL BUENAVENTURA ART LARRY KING & LIEZL BUENAVENTURA

IN PLAIN SIGHT

STORY ROB LEMOS ART MAIA LEMOS

CYBERSECURITY EDUCATION

STORY SHARON ROBSKY ART SHARON ROBSKY

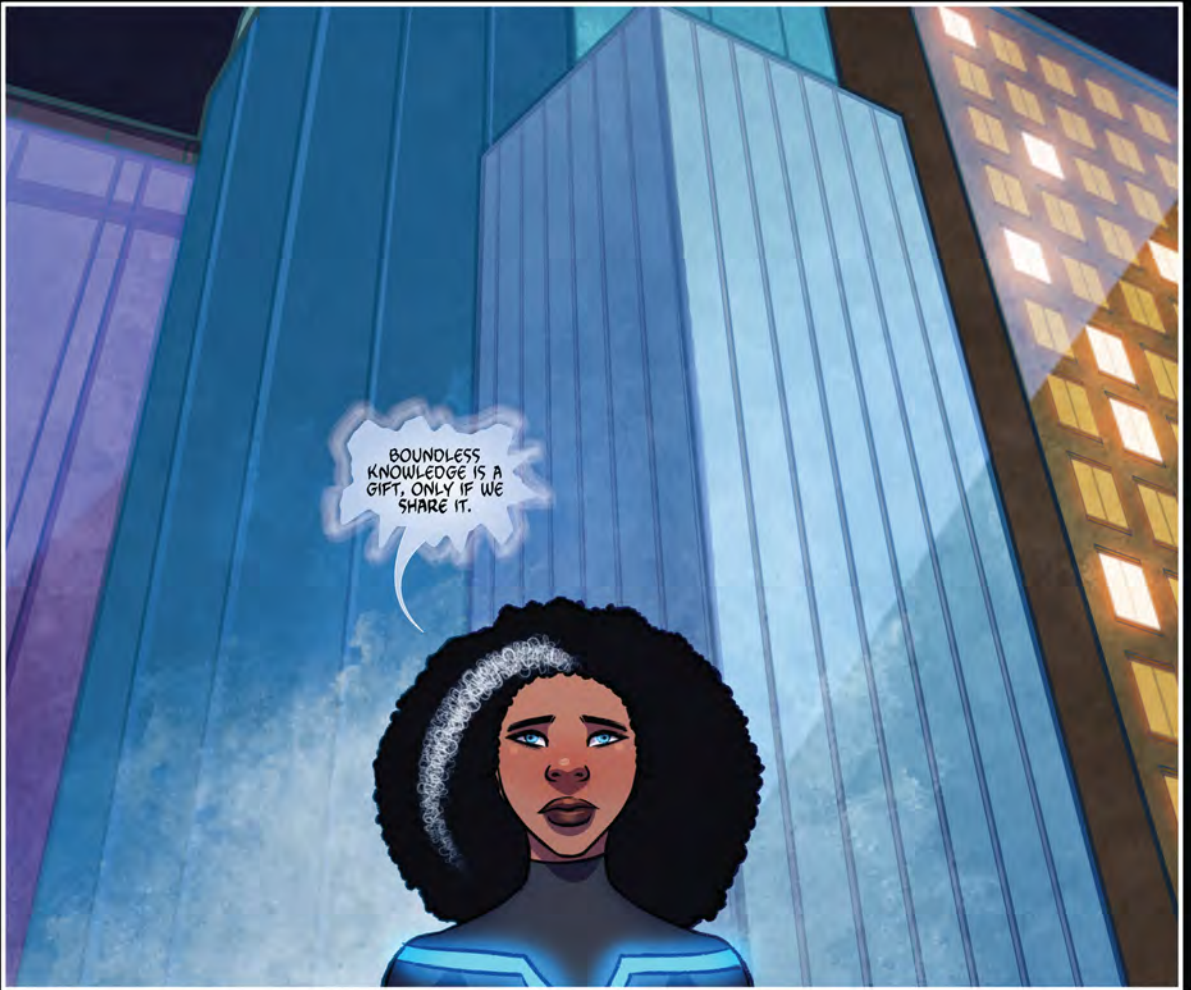
SENSES OF SECURITY

STORY DR. ANJULI R. K. SHERE ART KAME LETTERER ISABEL IMPINK

BURNOUT

STORY ANONYMOUS ART MARC OLIVER LETTERER SAIDA TEMOFONTE

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BOUNDLESS KNOWLEDGE IS A GIFT. ONLY IF WE SHARE IT.



BUT IT'S ALL OUT THERE. WHY CAN'T PEOPLE JUST LOOK FOR IT, LIKE WE DID?

BECAUSE LOOKING AND SEEING ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS. SOMETIMES, ONE NEEDS A GUIDE.

THAT'S WHAT WE SHALL BE TO YOU, DEAR READER, AS YOU MOVE THROUGH THESE CYBER SECURITY CHRONICLES.



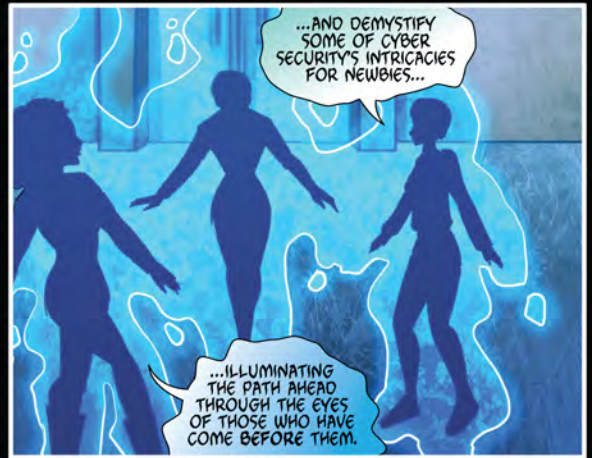
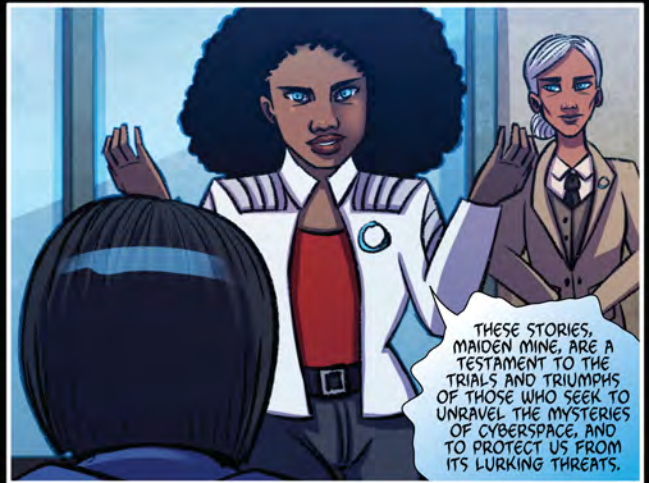
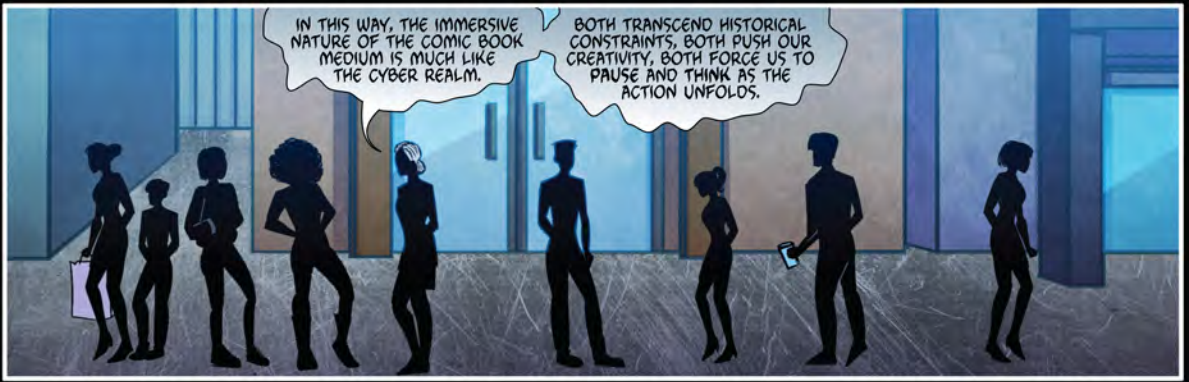
LIKE US, THESE TALES CAPTURE A FULL SPECTRUM OF EXPERIENCES, BOUND TOGETHER BY A COMMON THEME.



THE THEME OF CHALLENGES, THREATS AND VICTORIES. STORIES ABOUT HOW THE MUNDANE CAN GLOW NEON.



IN THE PAGES OF A COMIC, THE READER CAN STALL AND HASTEN TIME LINGERING ON EACH PANEL, TO ABSORB EVERY DETAIL. SPACE, TOO, EXPANDS AND DIMINISHES, ON THE READER'S WHIM.

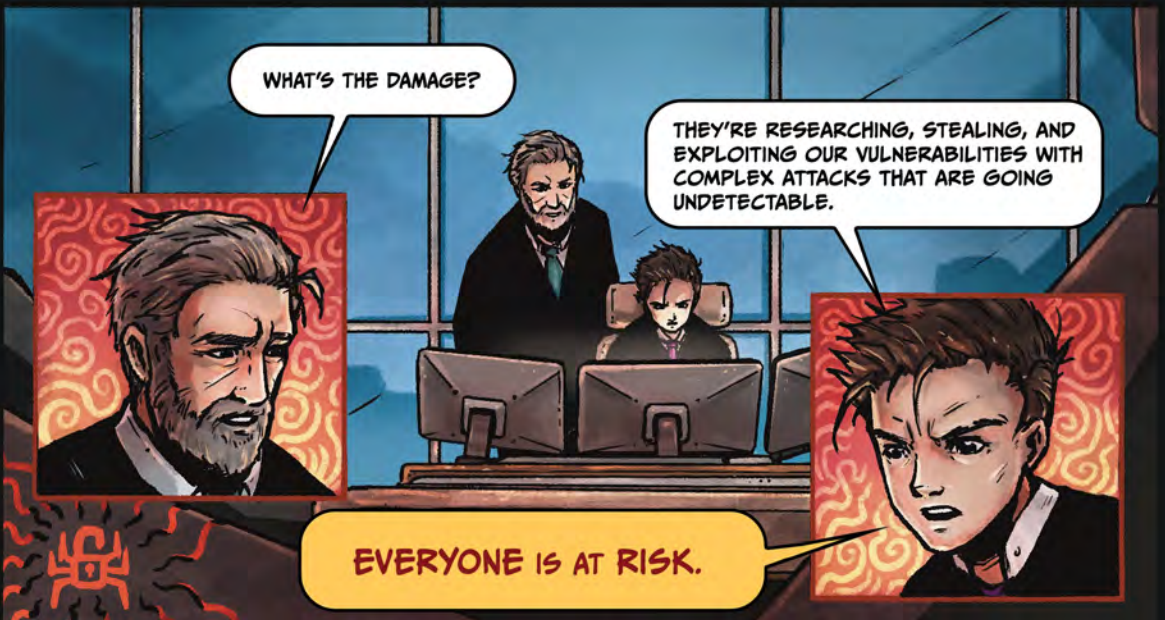


SOLARWINDS, A TECH COMPANY SUPPLYING OVER 30,000 PRIVATE INDUSTRIES AND US GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WITH ITS SOFTWARE, ORION, WAS EXPLOITED BY RUSSIAN INTELLIGENCE, CAUSING ONE OF THE MOST SOPHISTICATED SUPPLY CHAIN HACKS IN AMERICAN HISTORY.



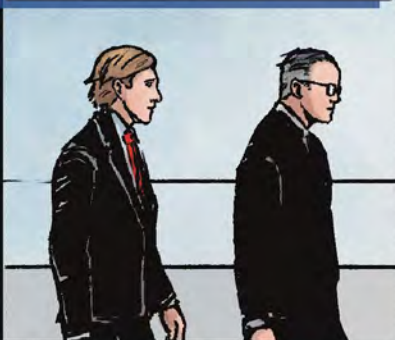
BRANDON WALES & CYBER DEFENSE CHRONICLE

story KEZA MUVUNYI & LI CHEN CHEN art LUKE DUO ART



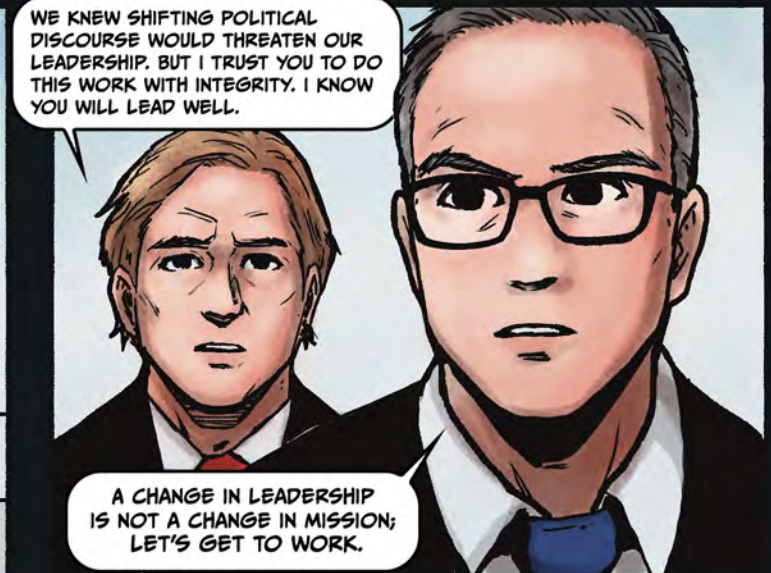
WITH THE SUDDEN DEPARTURE OF CHRIS KREBS, BRANDON WALES ASSUMED LEADERSHIP AT THE CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY (CISA), THROWN INTO THE FRONT LINES OF MULTIPLE CYBER CRISES.

WITH EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AND RESILIENCE, BRANDON AND HIS TEAM BEGAN DAMAGE CONTROL.



WE KNEW SHIFTING POLITICAL DISCOURSE WOULD THREATEN OUR LEADERSHIP. BUT I TRUST YOU TO DO THIS WORK WITH INTEGRITY. I KNOW YOU WILL LEAD WELL.

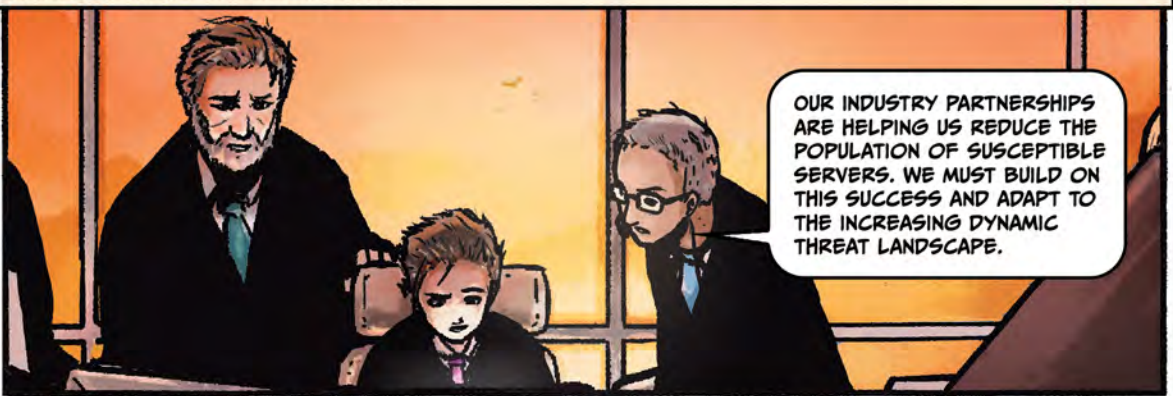
A CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP IS NOT A CHANGE IN MISSION; LET'S GET TO WORK.



AS MORE COMPANIES BEGAN NOTICING MALWARE IN THEIR SYSTEMS, WALES LED CISA IN A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT WITH PRIVATE INDUSTRY EXPERTS TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ALL AFFECTED ENTITIES. THIS COLLABORATION WAS CRITICAL TO SUCCESSFULLY NOTIFYING POTENTIAL VICTIMS AT A SCALE THE GOVERNMENT ALONE COULD NOT ACHIEVE.



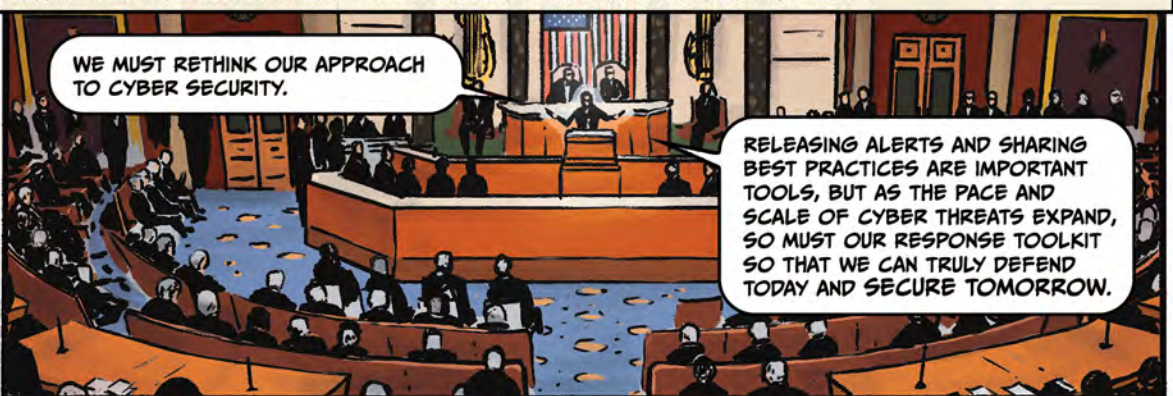
WALES KNEW CISA HAD TO INFORM THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE DANGER LIKELY HEADED THEIR WAY. SO HE LAUNCHED STOPRANSOMWARE.GOV, A NATIONAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN THAT DIRECTED PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS TO WHERE THEY COULD REQUEST ASSISTANCE.



AFTER LEADING THE NATION'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSE WITH A STEADY HAND, FOCUS, AND DILIGENCE TO THE MISSION, WALES BEGAN TO SHIFT GEARS TOWARD IMPLEMENTING LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS TO PROTECT AMERICAN BUSINESSES, COMMUNITIES, AND FAMILIES FROM HIGHLY DEBILITATING CYBERATTACKS.



THE IMPACT OF THE SOLARWINDS ATTACK SHED LIGHT ON THE URGENT NEED OUR NATION FACES TO BOLSTER CYBERSECURITY ON ALL FRONTS. MONTHS AFTER PURGING THE MALWARE, WALES TESTIFIED IN FRONT OF THE SENATE, CALLING FOR STRONGER SUPPORT FOR CYBERSECURITY OPERATIONS ACROSS THE NATION.



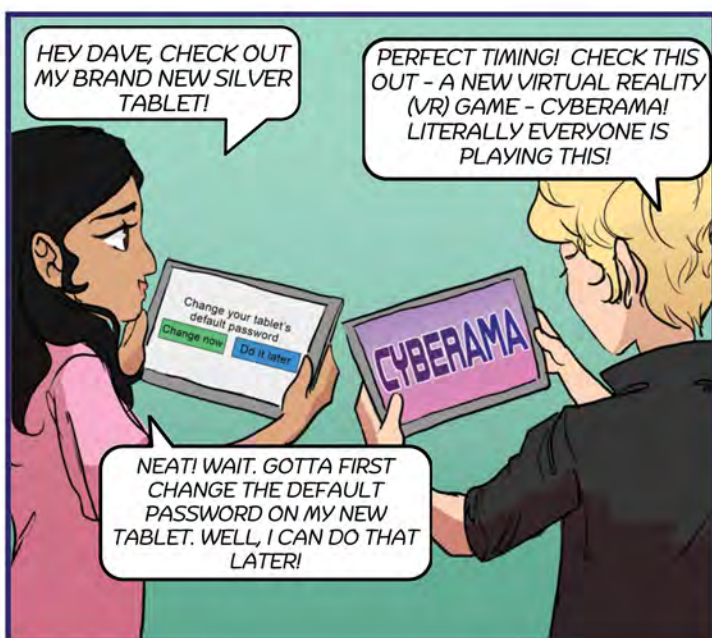
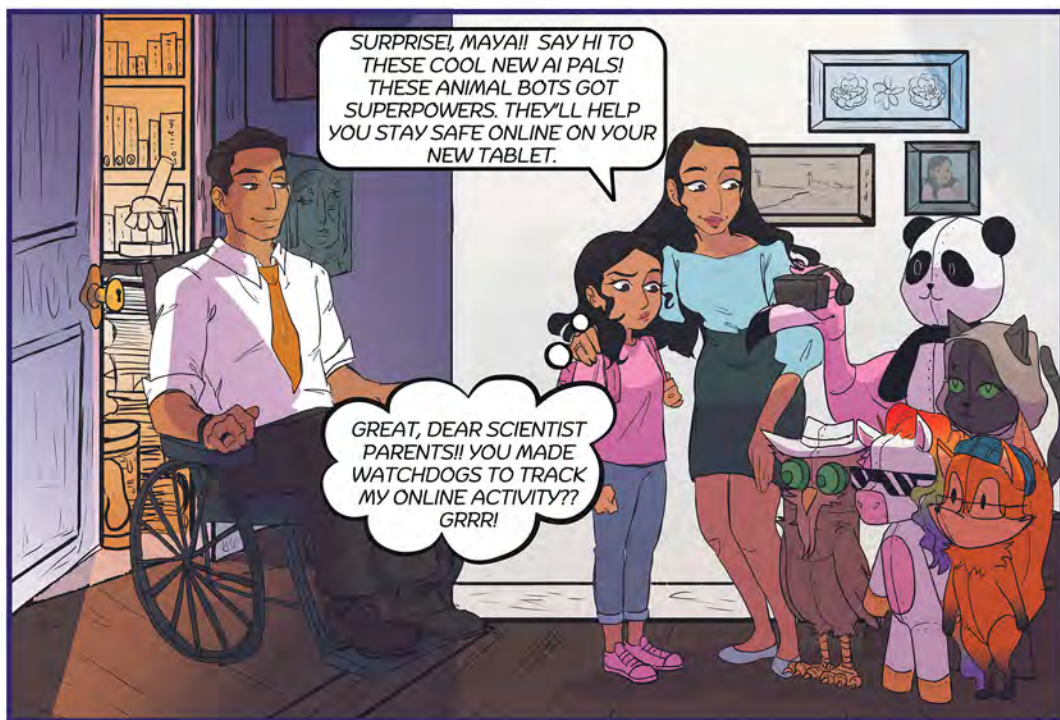


CYBERAMA

STORY ARTHI VASUDEVAN

ART JASMIN SORTO

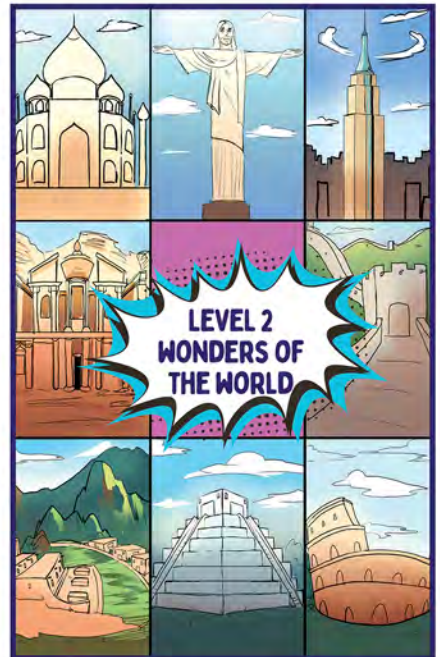
AN ADDICTIVE VR GAME LEADS TO LESSONS ABOUT INTERNET SAFETY



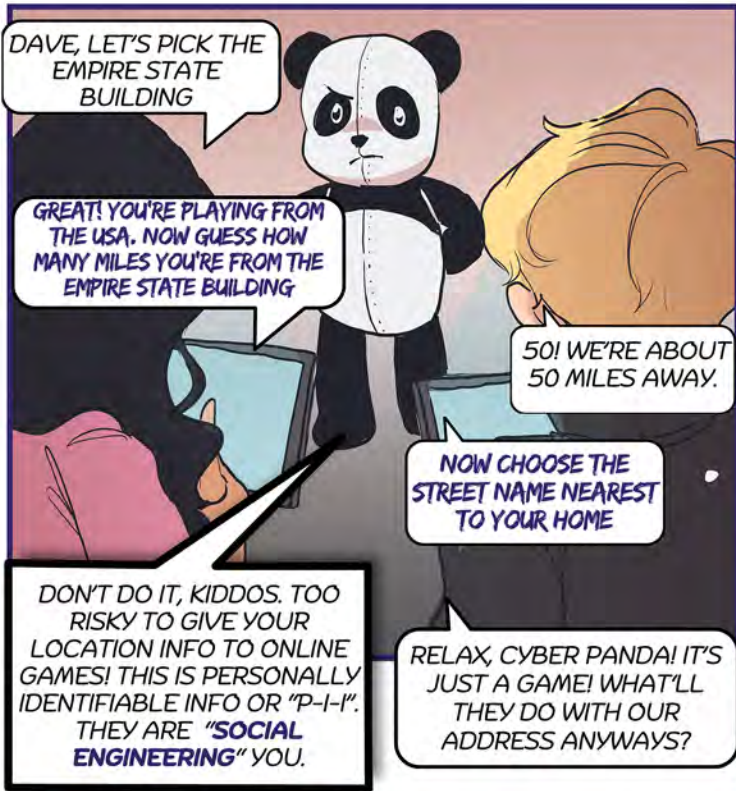
"WELCOME TO CYBERAMA! IN LEVEL 1, YOU MUST FIND TREASURE FROM THE CASTLE VAULTS BEFORE THE BANDITS DO."



TOLD YA!
GEEZ, ARE THOSE BANDITS OUTSIDE THE
CASTLE DOOR? LET'S SET A PASSWORD
TO KEEP 'EM OUT. LET'S TRY "QWERTY"



"WELCOME TO LEVEL 2! SELECT THE WONDER OF THE WORLD IN THE SAME CONTINENT AS YOU."



DAVE, LET'S PICK THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING

GREAT! YOU'RE PLAYING FROM THE USA. NOW GUESS HOW MANY MILES YOU'RE FROM THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING

50! WE'RE ABOUT 50 MILES AWAY.

NOW CHOOSE THE STREET NAME NEAREST TO YOUR HOME

DON'T DO IT, KIDDOS. TOO RISKY TO GIVE YOUR LOCATION INFO TO ONLINE GAMES! THIS IS PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFO OR "P-I-I". THEY ARE "SOCIAL ENGINEERING" YOU.

RELAX, CYBER PANDA! IT'S JUST A GAME! WHAT'LL THEY DO WITH OUR ADDRESS ANYWAYS?

MAYA & DAVE DON'T LISTEN TO CYBER PANDA AND ENTER THEIR STREET NAME TO COMPLETE LEVEL 2.



LEVEL 3 THE METAVERSE

WOW! THIS LOOKS JUST LIKE NEW YORK CITY! FOR REAL!!

WAIT! DO YOU THINK CYBER PANDA MAY BE RIGHT? DOES THIS LOOK LIKE NEW YORK ONLY BECAUSE WE SAID WE'RE CLOSE TO NYC?

NAH, DON'T OVERTHINK MAYA. IT'S NOT LIKE OUR HOMES ARE GOING TO BE LOOTED!

MAYA AND DAVE RUN AROUND THE BLOCK TO FIGURE OUT THE LEVEL 3 CHALLENGE. THEY'RE S-H-O-C-K-E-D TO SUDDENLY SEE TWO PEOPLE LOOKING EXACTLY LIKE MAYA'S PARENTS THOUGH!! DIGITAL EVIL TWINS??



WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE MY PARENTS DOING HERE, DAVE? NOW I'M SCARED!

JUST THEN, MAYA'S PAL CYBER ELLA, THE UNICORN BOT - PULLS THE KIDS AWAY FROM THE GAME. CYBER ELLA STRONGLY ADVISES THEM TO LOG OFF SINCE THE GAME CYBERAMA NOW LOOKS LIKE A SCAM. THE STUNNED KIDDOS LOG OFF FROM CYBERAMA. DAVE LEAVES HOME.

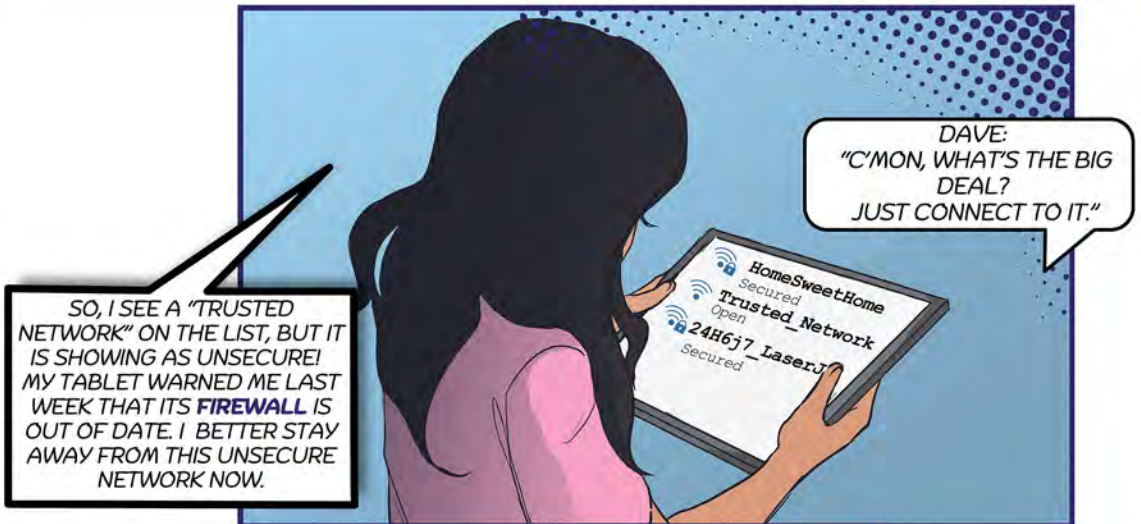
LATER THAT NIGHT...

WIIIOUUU ... WIIIOUUU... WIIIOUUU...

BLARING SIRENS WAKE MAYA UP THAT NIGHT. SHE FINDS HER HOUSE R-A-N-S-A-C-K-E-D!!! HER PARENTS COMFORT HER, AND ASK HER TO STAY IN HER ROOM WHILE THE COPS INVESTIGATE.



NEXT DAY, MAYA AND DAVE WANT TO PLAY THE GAME AGAIN JUST TO FIND OUT IF SOMEONE IS WATCHING THEM. BUT MAYA'S HOME INTERNET STOPS WORKING. THEY TRY CONNECTING TO ANOTHER NETWORK.

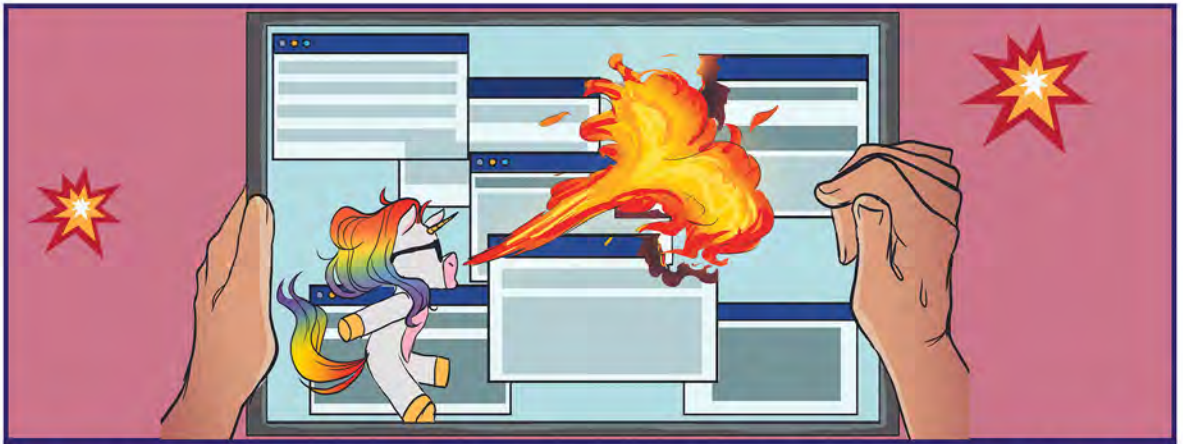


SO, I SEE A "TRUSTED NETWORK" ON THE LIST, BUT IT IS SHOWING AS UNSECURE! MY TABLET WARNED ME LAST WEEK THAT ITS FIREWALL IS OUT OF DATE. I BETTER STAY AWAY FROM THIS UNSECURE NETWORK NOW.

DAVE:
"C'MON, WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
JUST CONNECT TO IT."

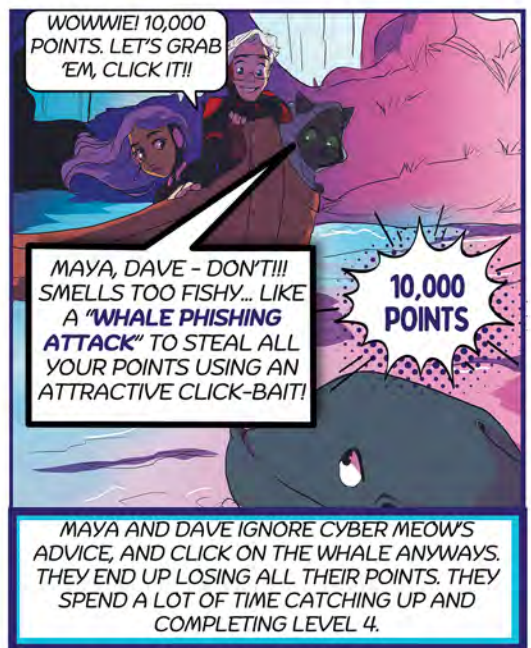
THE MOMENT MAYA CONNECTS HER TABLET TO THE UNSECURE WIFI NETWORK, A BUNCH OF POP-UPS FLOOD UP THE SCREEN. SHE CAN'T USE HER TABLET ANYMORE!

CYBER ELLA, THE UNICORN PAL JUMPS IN TO RESCUE. THE AI BOT DIVES INTO **BOOT LOADER MODE** AND BURNS THE POP-UPS DOWN WITH FIRE. A "FIRE WALL" IS ALSO STOOD UP BETWEEN THE TABLET AND THE BAD ACTORS.

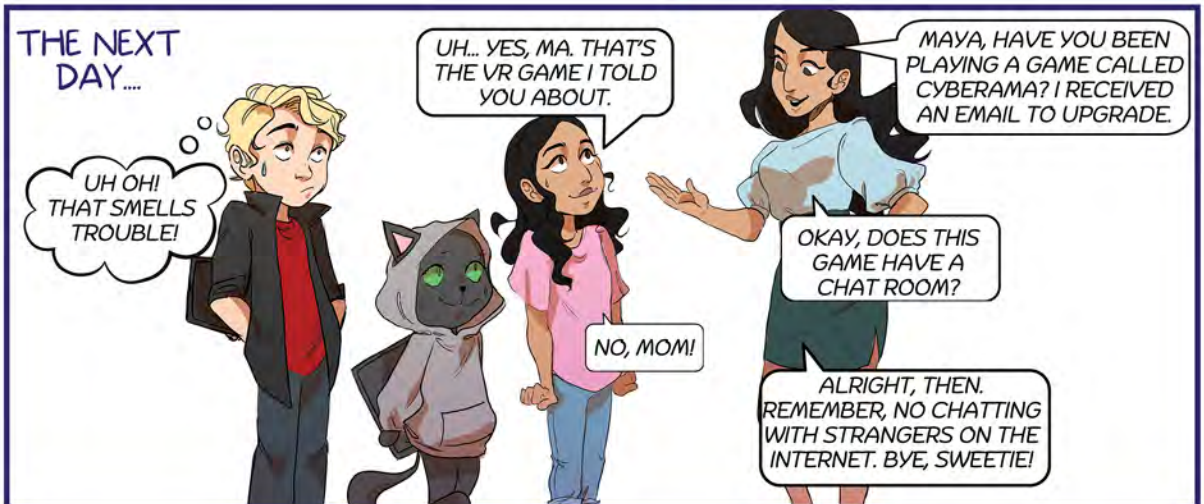


MAYA AND DAVE THANK CYBER ELLA. MAYA DISCONNECTS FROM THE UNSECURE WIFI RIGHT AWAY, WAITS PATIENTLY, AND CONNECTS BACK TO HER USUAL SECURE HOME WIFI LATER. CYBER MEOW, THE CAT, JOINS MAYA AND DAVE TO PLAY THE GAME, WHICH LEVELED THEM UP TO LEVEL 4.

"WELCOME TO LEVEL 4! YOU MUST CATCH AND CLICK FISH WORTH 1000 POINTS TO COMPLETE THE LEVEL."



MAYA AND DAVE IGNORE CYBER MEOW'S ADVICE, AND CLICK ON THE WHALE ANYWAYS. THEY END UP LOSING ALL THEIR POINTS. THEY SPEND A LOT OF TIME CATCHING UP AND COMPLETING LEVEL 4.



THE NEXT DAY...

UH OH! THAT SMELLS TROUBLE!

UH... YES, MA. THAT'S THE VR GAME I TOLD YOU ABOUT.

MAYA, HAVE YOU BEEN PLAYING A GAME CALLED CYBERAMA? I RECEIVED AN EMAIL TO UPGRADE.

NO, MOM!

OKAY, DOES THIS GAME HAVE A CHAT ROOM?

ALRIGHT, THEN. REMEMBER, NO CHATTING WITH STRANGERS ON THE INTERNET. BYE, SWEETIE!

MAYA, DAVE, AND CYBER MEOW RAID THE EMAIL SECTION OF CYBERAMA. IN "DELETED" FOLDER, THEY FIND THE MESSAGE THAT WENT TO MAYA'S MOM.

Subject: FOR CYBERAMA PLAYERS!
From: cyberamateam@cyber.com
To: tarascientist@email.com

Dear Player,

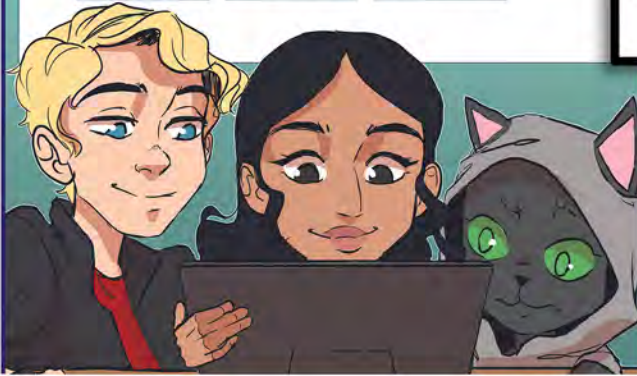
Since you enjoyed playing Cyberama part 1, we think you'll enjoyed Cyberama part 2. Click Upgrade NOW to download the game for FREE. We could not verify your billing address, and credit card number, so please enter them.

REPLY

FORWARD

PRINT

WHAT A CLASSIC **PHISHING EMAIL** - NOT ADDRESSED TO A SPECIFIC PERSON, CONTAINS TYPOS AND GRAMMAR ERRORS, AND PRESSES URGENCY TO FORCE IMMEDIATE ACTION FROM YOU. JUST DELETE THIS. I BET THE BAD ACTORS ARE UP TO NO GOOD.



DESPITE CYBER MEOW'S REPEATED WARNINGS, MAYA COULDN'T WAIT TO PLAY LEVEL 5 OF CYBERAMA, JUST TO FIND CLUES ABOUT THE BAD ACTORS. CYBER OWL JOINS MAYA AND DAVE TO PLAY LEVEL 5.

"WELCOME TO LEVEL 5! YOU'LL RIDE ON A ROLLER COASTER TO CATCH RED BLOOD CELLS FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF THE HUMAN BODY."



SUDDENLY, SOMETHING STRANGE HAPPENS. CYBER OWL PULLS UP A TRANSPARENT SCREEN AND LAUNCHES SOMETHING...SOMETHING THAT LOOKS LIKE **COMPUTER WORMS**.



JUST THEN, A POP-UP WINDOW APPEARS IN THE GAME, ASKING MAYA TO INSTALL AN **ANTIVIRUS** UPDATE TO PROTECT FILES ON HER TABLET.

CYBER OWL: I BET THE GAME PROGRAM DETECTED A **BREACH** AND IS TRYING TO DEPLOY ANTI-VIRUS TO RECOVER FROM THE WORMS. MAYA, LET'S NOT CLICK ON IT.



WARNING!
VIRUS DETECTED!
INSTALL THE
ANTI-VIRUS TO
PROTECT THE FILES
ON THE TABLET

BUT THE POP-UP LOOKS SO LEGIT. WE NEED TO INSTALL THIS UPDATE.

CYBER OWL DISTRACTS MAYA AND DISMISSES THE POP-UP WINDOW. HE STEERS THE ROLLER CLOSER TOWARD THE BRAIN.



LAUNCH

CYBER FOX:
STOP! ARE YOU TRYING TO HACK THE CYBER-CRIMINALS BY LAUNCHING A **TROJAN HORSE VIRUS ATTACK**? THAT'S WRONG!

WHAT?
CYBER OWL
IS A
HACKER??

I'M AN **ETHICAL HACKER**, AND THAT'S NOT WRONG! THERE ARE WHITE, BLACK, GREY, GREEN, BLUE AND RED HAT HACKERS. SOME ARE GOOD, WHILE THE OTHERS ARE BAD.

THAT'S STILL WRONG! WE NEED TO STOP PLAYING, AND REPORT THE GAME.

CYBER OWL FLIES AWAY AT SUPERSONIC SPEED AND LAUNCHES **SPYWARE** THROUGH THE HUMAN BODY'S EYES. HE FINDS AN IMAGE THAT LEAVES EVERYBODY SHOCKED! HE FINDS DAVE'S NAME ALONG WITH HIS CHESS CLUB'S ADDRESS!!

NEXT TARGET

DAVE PARKER
KNIGHT'S WAY
CHESS CLUB
123 BISHOP ST.
SCOTTSDALE, NY

WHAATTT??

MAYA, ERR...GOTTA TELL YOU SOMETHING. A FLYER IN MY CHESS CLUB SAID THE FIRST 10 PEOPLE TO DOWNLOAD THE CYBERAMA GAME WOULD WIN A BRAND-NEW GAMESTATION. AND THE GAME ASKED FOR A SECOND PLAYER. THAT'S WHY I ASKED YOU TO PLAY!

OOPS, DAVE FELL FOR AN AD! THIS IS LIKE **ADWARE**, A SOFTWARE THAT TRICKS YOU INTO CLICKING ADS TO PROVIDE PERSONAL INFO AND SELL IT TO OTHERS FOR MONEY.

I CAN'T BELIEVE MY BEST FRIEND PUT ME AND MY FAMILY IN DANGER!

I'M SORRY, MAYA! I'M GONNA HELP YOU FIND THESE CROOKS.

MAYA FORGIVES DAVE. CYBER OWL PLANS A **RANSOMWARE** ATTACK, BUT CYBER FOX CONVINCES HIM TO COMPLETE THE LEVEL FIRST IN ORDER TO FIND THE CROOKS. THE TEAM COLLECTS RED BLOOD CELLS AND FINISHES LEVEL 5.

**LEVEL 5
COMPLETE**

CONGRATULATIONS!

WANNA PLAY THE LAST LEVEL OF CYBERAMA, DAVE?

UMM, NOT SURE ANYMORE IF WE'LL FIND ANY CLUES ON THE CROOKS OR THEIR MOTIVE. BUT LET'S PLAY ANYWAYS!

WE'RE SUPER LOW ON BATTERY. CALL US IF YOU NEED HELP, OK? STAY SAFE!

"WELCOME TO LEVEL 6! THE FIRST PLAYER TO FINISH TEN LAPS WINS."



THREE LAPS INTO THE RACE, DAVE KEEPS GETTING MESSAGES FROM A PLAYER, DESPITE HIS ATTEMPTS TO IGNORE THEM!

DAVE IS BEING **CYBERBULLIED** - FORCED TO ASK MAYA FOR FILES FROM "PROJECT X" ON HER PARENTS' COMPUTER. MAYA AND DAVE ASK THE CYBER PALS FOR HELP ESCAPING FROM THIS.

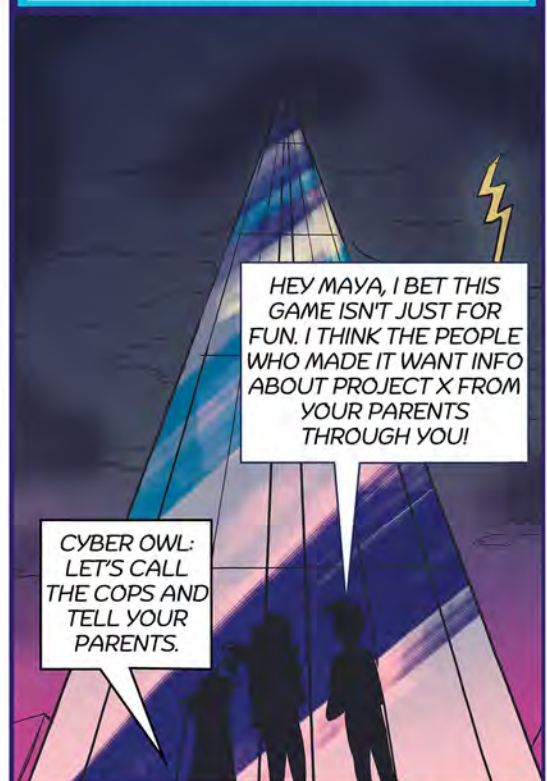


SpeedRacerX: Hey Dave! Wanna help me get some files to avoid trouble?
SpeedRacerX: I have secrets about you that you don't want me leaking into the dark web.
SpeedRacerX: C'mon loser..act fast.



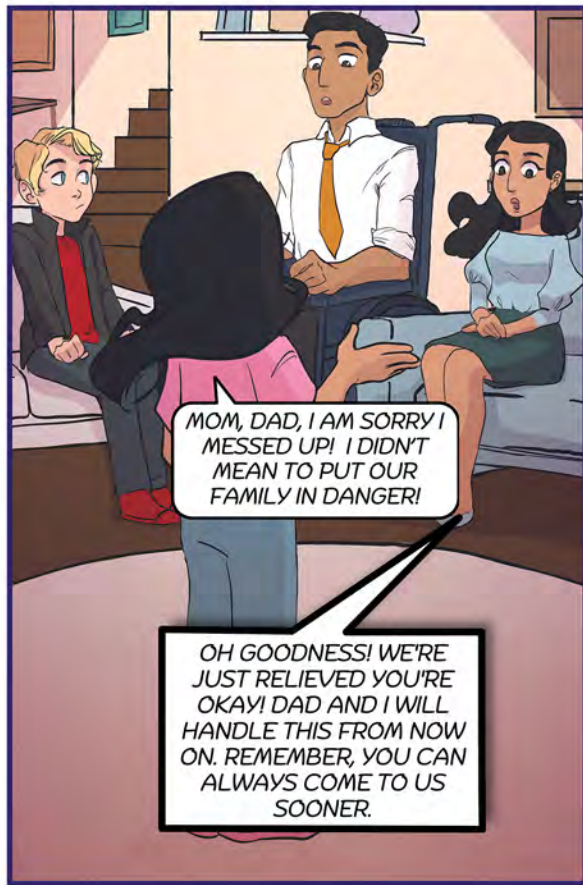
AFTER AN EPIC BATTLE OF GOOD VERSUS EVIL, MAYA'S AI PALS SAVE HER AND DAVE. DAVE RETURNS HOME TO FIND HIS CHESS CLUB FLYER.

SPOTTING A FAINT LOGO ON THE FLYER, MAYA CALLS IN CYBER OWL FOR AN ONLINE REVERSE IMAGE SEARCH. THEY UNCOVER AN ADDRESS IN NEW YORK CITY. OFF THEY GO, TO CHECK IT OUT.



HEY MAYA, I BET THIS GAME ISN'T JUST FOR FUN. I THINK THE PEOPLE WHO MADE IT WANT INFO ABOUT PROJECT X FROM YOUR PARENTS THROUGH YOU!

CYBER OWL: LET'S CALL THE COPS AND TELL YOUR PARENTS.

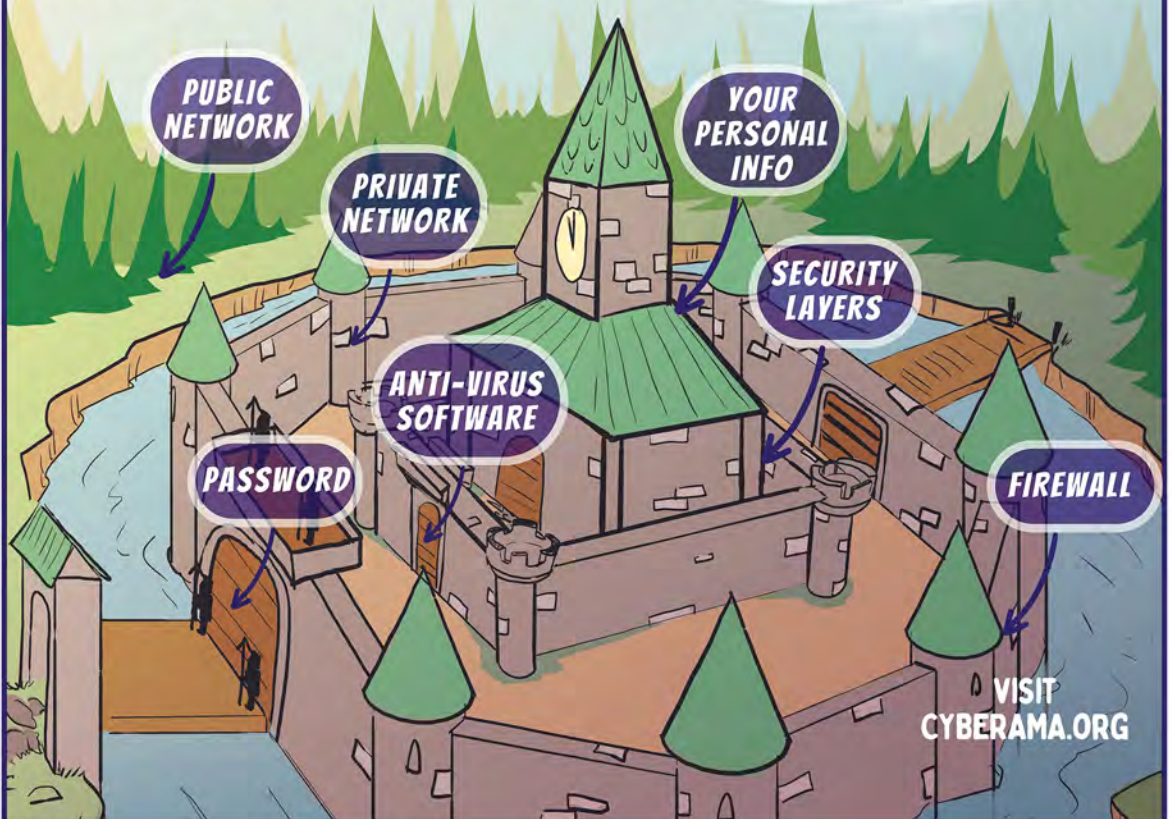


WITH TIMELY TIPS FROM MAYA AND DAVE, THE COPS NAB THE CROOKS. THEY FIND OUT THAT THESE CYBER CRIMINALS WERE AFTER 'PROJECT X', A CLASSIFIED, LIFE-SAVING MEDICINE FORMULA.



MAYA'S PARENTS GET INVITED TO MEET THE PRESIDENT FOR SAFEGUARDING IT, AND MAYA TAGS ALONG FOR BEING A **DIGITAL DEFENDER!**

LAYERS OF PROTECTION TO KEEP YOU SAFE FROM BAD STUFF



PROEM

WRITTEN & PAINTED BY LIEZL BUENAVENTURA
PENCILLED & INKED BY LARRY KING



GOOD MORNING, ALEX.

TODAY IS MONDAY,
JANUARY 29, 2101.



THE WEATHER
FORECAST PREDICTS
RAINS THROUGHOUT
THE DAY, AS
HUMIDITY HAS
RISEN BY 32%.



YOUR PREVIOUS NIGHT'S
REM PATTERNS ARE
WITHIN NORMAL RANGE.

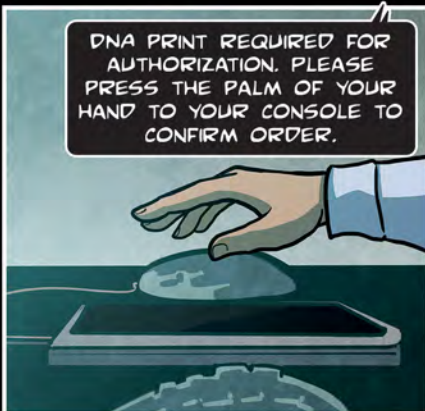
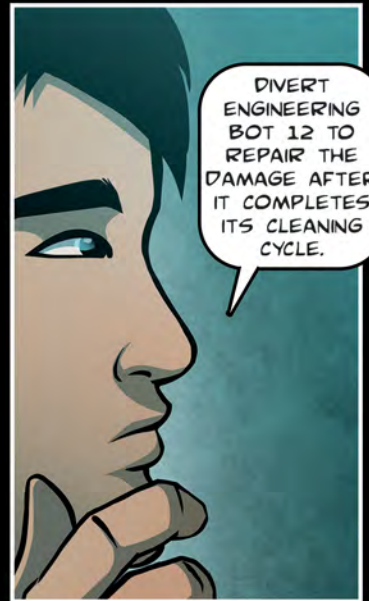
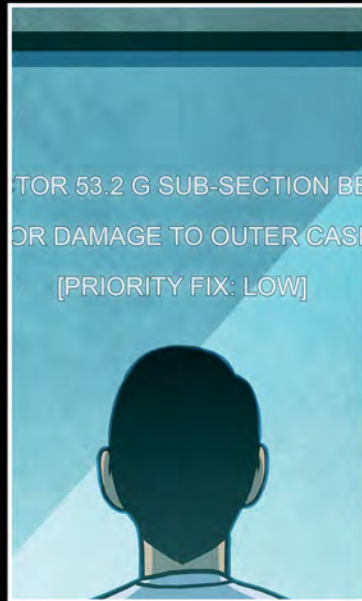
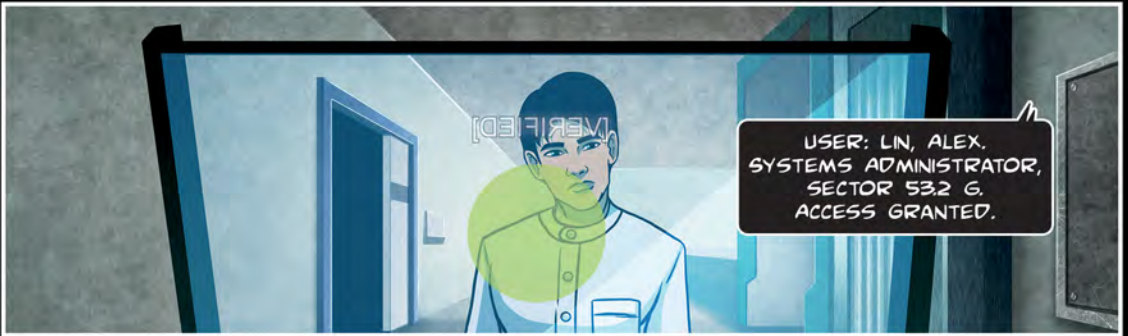
YOUR HOT WATER
ALLOCATION HAS BEEN
EXTENDED BY 2.30
MINUTES.

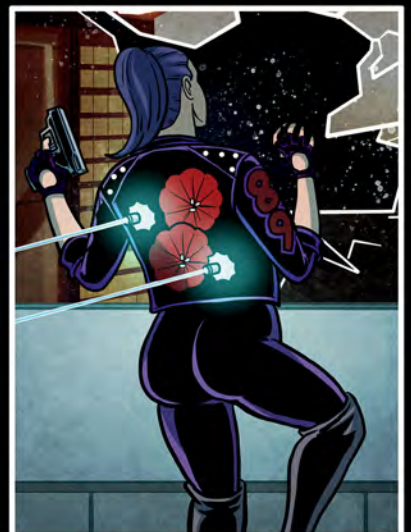
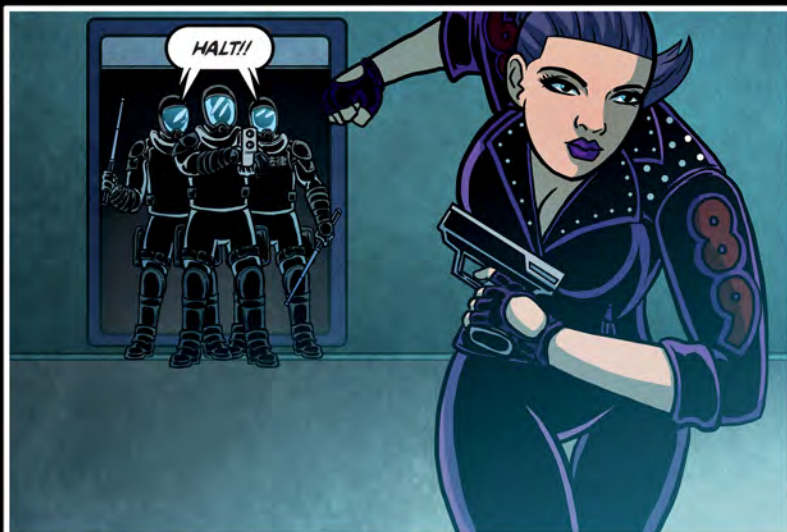
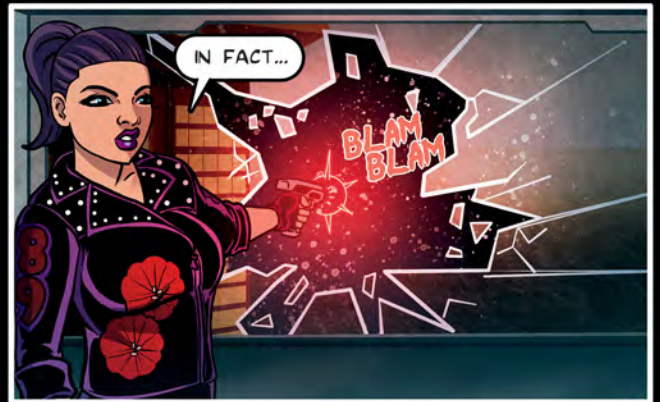
PROTEIN SUPPLEMENT
340.21 HAS BEEN
DELIVERED TO YOUR
DOMICILE.

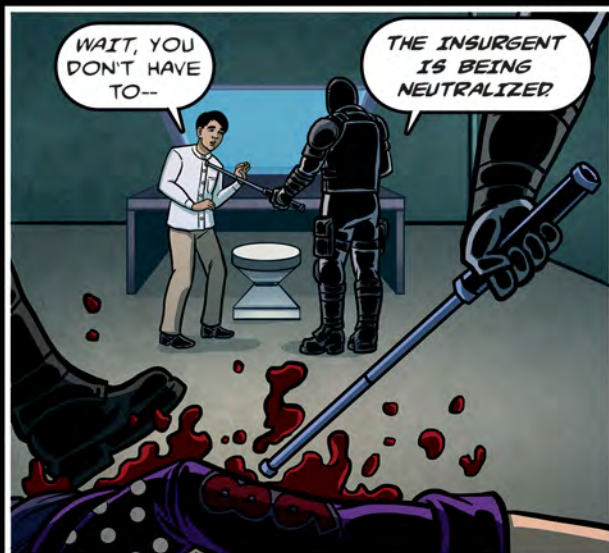
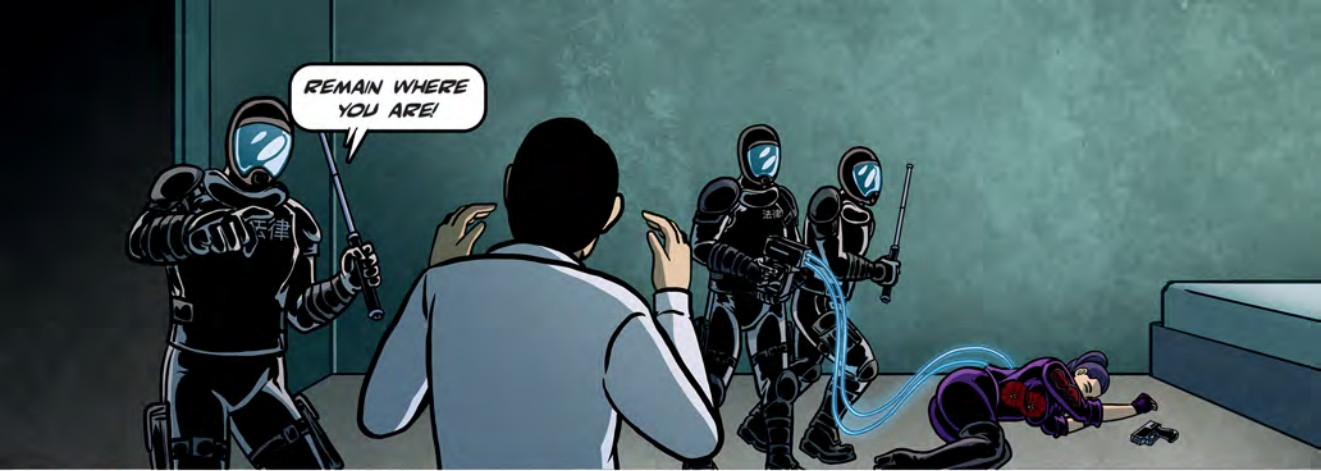


DNA PRINT REQUIRED.
PLEASE LOG IN.

[PLEASE PRESS THE PALM OF YOUR HAND TO YOUR CONSOLE TO BEGIN]
[DNA PRINT REQUIRED]
[LOG IN]
[SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR, SECTOR 88.2 ©]
[ENVIRONMENT CONTROLS]





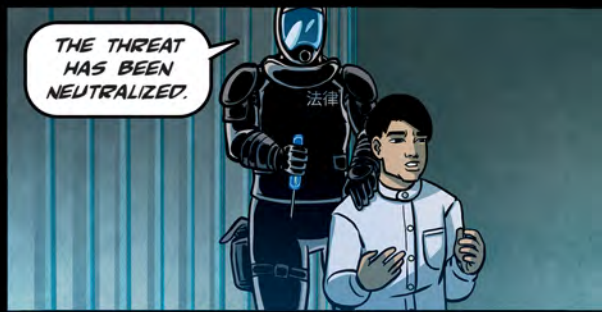




STOP--
PLEASE STOP.
STOP.



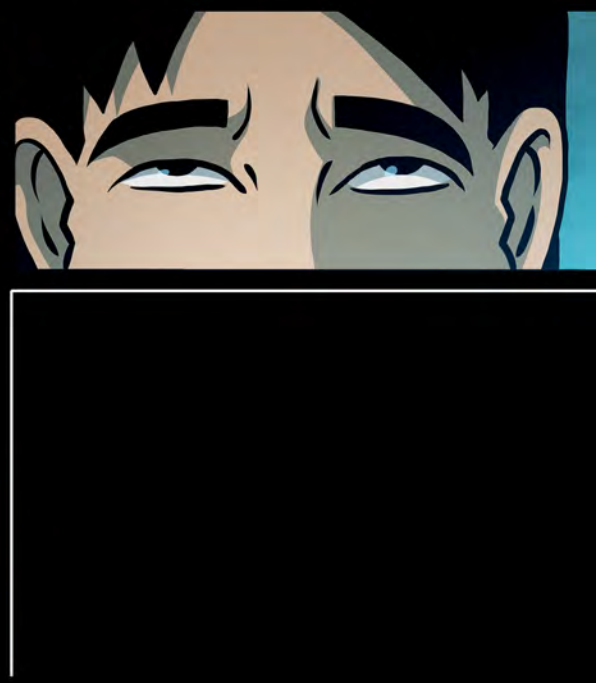
CITIZEN.

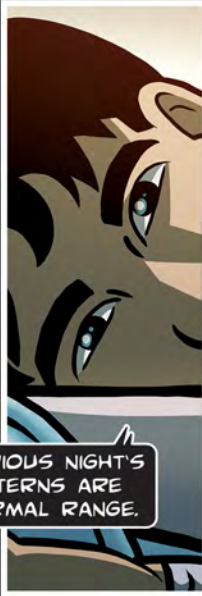


THE THREAT
HAS BEEN
NEUTRALIZED.



YOU MAY RESUME
YOUR CONTRIBUTION
TO SOCIETY AT 1800
HOURS.







SOME OF THESE THREATS FEEL INGENUOUS, AND THE COUNTERMEASURES AREN'T SO... IMMEDIATELY GRATIFYING.



WELL, CYBER THREATS CAN MANIFEST ANYWHERE. ATTACKERS JUST NEED TO FIND ONE POINT OF VULNERABILITY.



CYBER SECURITY REQUIRES VIGILANCE, BUT IT'S CRUCIAL NOT TO BE OVERWHELMED. REMEMBER, CYBER-DEFENDERS CAN COME FROM PLACES THAT ARE JUST AS UNEXPECTED.



AS YOU DELVE FURTHER INTO THESE STORIES, NOTE HOW OUTSMARTING ADVERSARIES REQUIRES THE SAME KIND OF THINKING AS BEING AN ADVERSARY, THE SAME RESOURCEFULNESS AND TENACITY...



...BUT IT ALSO REQUIRES SOMETHING MORE: PASSION.



HERE'S TO THE DEFENDERS, THE INNOVATORS, AND THE STORYTELLERS. MAY WE CONTINUE TO LEARN, ADAPT, AND GROW STRONGER TOGETHER IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY.

IN PLAIN SIGHT

STORY BY ROBERT LEMOS
ART BY MAIA LEMOS

HUBRIS. THE FAILING OF EMPLOYEES AT EVEN THE MOST SUCCESSFUL COMPANIES.

SOMETIMES, WHEN YOU ARE AT THE TOP OF THE HEAP, YOU CAN'T IMAGINE BEING AT THE BOTTOM.

YET, THE TRIP TO THE BOTTOM CAN BE QUICK AND PAINFUL.

NO ONE WANTS TO BE REMINDED OF THAT FACT.

... I NEED THOSE SALES FIGURES BY TOMORROW. WE ARE BEING REVIEWED AS PART OF A COMPLIANCE CHECK.

SORRY ...

WATCH IT! YOU PIECE OF TRASH!

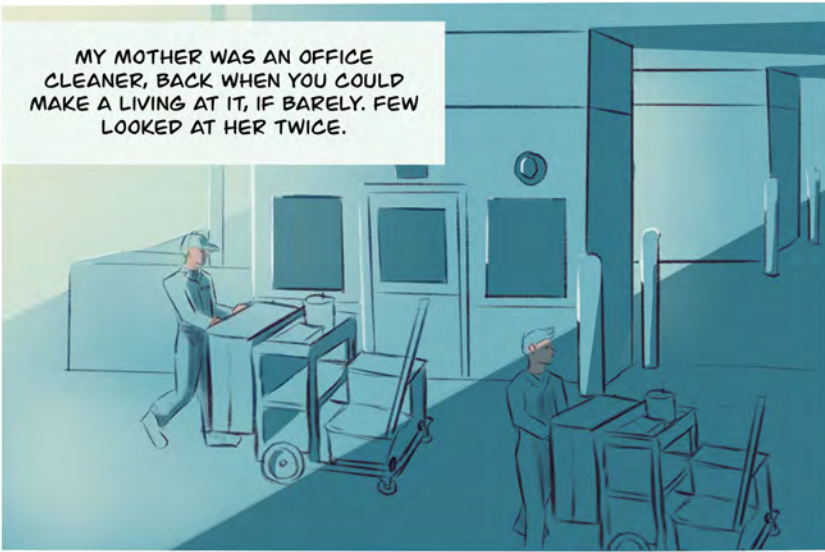
DAMN HOMELESS PEOPLE. THIS CITY NEEDS TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THEM.



THEIR DISDAIN MAKES HIDING EASY.



MY MOTHER WAS AN OFFICE CLEANER, BACK WHEN YOU COULD MAKE A LIVING AT IT, IF BARELY. FEW LOOKED AT HER TWICE.



IT REMAINS A PERFECT DISGUISE.

A FRIEND AT A TEMP AGENCY CAME THROUGH WITH AN ASSIGNMENT ON THE CLEANING CREW.



... AND COLLINS, SHOW SMITH THE ROPES. TAKE FLOORS 5 AND 6.



HEY! I'M GOING TO HIT THE HEAD. I'LL BE BACK IN 5 MINUTES.

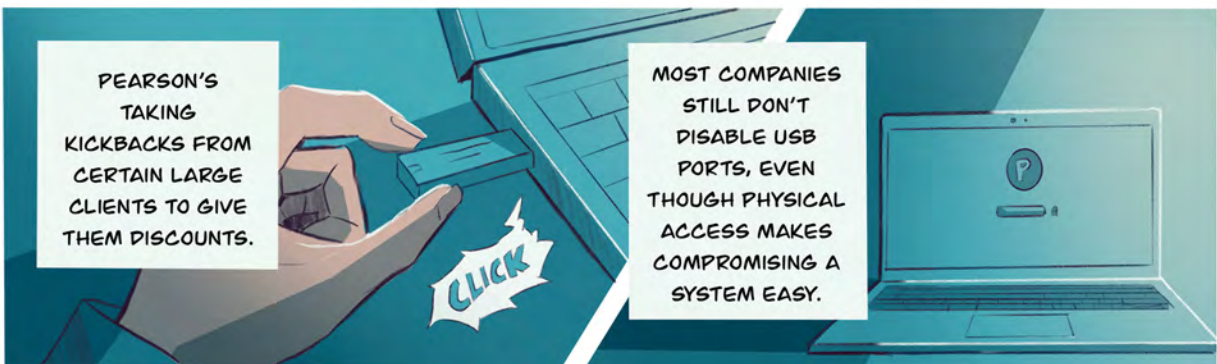




CALEB PEARSON
VICE PRESIDENT OF SALES



ALLURIANT HIRED ME TO DO
A PENETRATION TEST OF
THEIR PHYSICAL AND
ELECTRONIC SECURITY.
DURING MY INITIAL
INVESTIGATION, I HAD
TURNED UP SOME
INTERESTING
DISCREPANCIES.

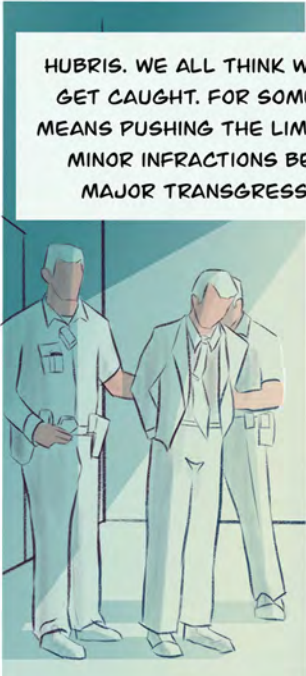


PEARSON'S
TAKING
KICKBACKS FROM
CERTAIN LARGE
CLIENTS TO GIVE
THEM DISCOUNTS.

MOST COMPANIES
STILL DON'T
DISABLE USB
PORTS, EVEN
THOUGH PHYSICAL
ACCESS MAKES
COMPROMISING A
SYSTEM EASY.



MS. DEVEAUX: THIS IS MY
CONFESSION. I'VE BEEN
DISCOUNTING PRODUCT FOR CERTAIN
LARGE CLIENTS WHO GIVE ME A CUT
OF THE SAVINGS. I'VE ATTACHED
EVIDENCE AS FILES TO THIS EMAIL.



SOMEONE, HOWEVER, IS ALWAYS WATCHING.



CYBERSECURITY EDUCATION

BY SHARON ROBSKY

Screenshot:

Technical
Communications
Specialist

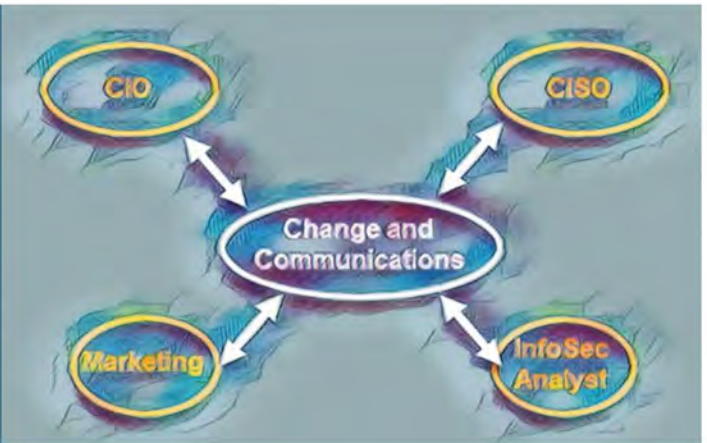


I am part of the Change and Communications team in a university IT department and have been mostly working from home since 2020.

One of my responsibilities is to create materials for our monthly cybersecurity education program. We have a newsletter, Instagram posts, slides on campus TVs, and outreach events, like table sitings.

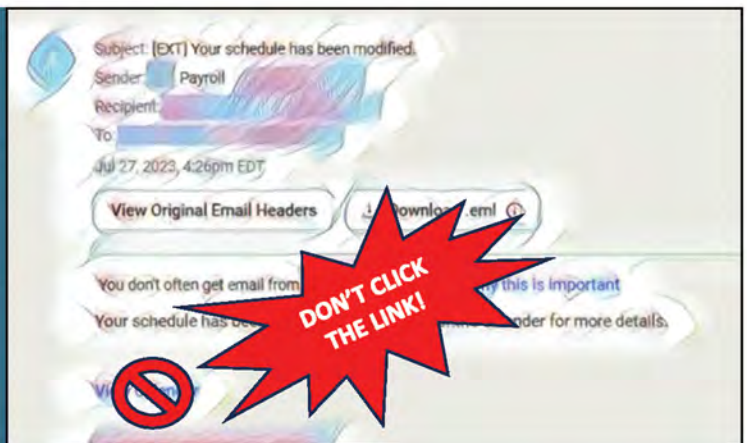


Creating all those materials requires a ton of collaboration between myself, my boss, an information security analyst, and 2 people in Marketing. We also need to keep the CIO and CISO informed.



The reason why we put so much effort into educating the university community about cybersecurity is because human error plays a huge role in data breaches. There's a CompTIA article which states that **95% of breaches are caused by human error.***

Some examples of human error are people clicking links in phishing emails or falling for social engineering scams, like vendor impersonation. As the saying goes, "It's easier to hack a human than a machine."



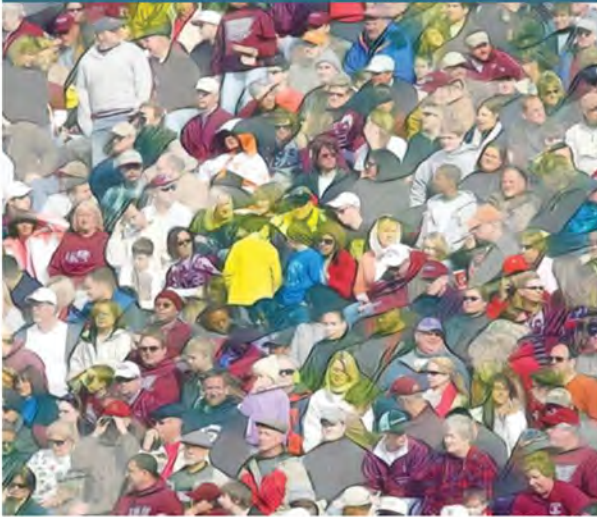
*<https://connect.comptia.org/content/articles/the-cost-of-a-breach-10-terrifying-cybersecurity-stats-your-msp-s-customers-need-to-know>

Universities tend to have a high number of accounts, which creates a large attack surface. Mine has about 7,000 enrolled students, plus the faculty and staff to support them. There are also many vendors and outside researchers who work closely with the university and need account and network access. This creates a lot of opportunity for human error.



Another issue is universities have significant turnover. Every year there's a graduating class that leaves in the spring and an incoming class in the fall.

This means the cybersecurity education needs to be ongoing since there's always about 25% of the population who are inexperienced with how things are done here.



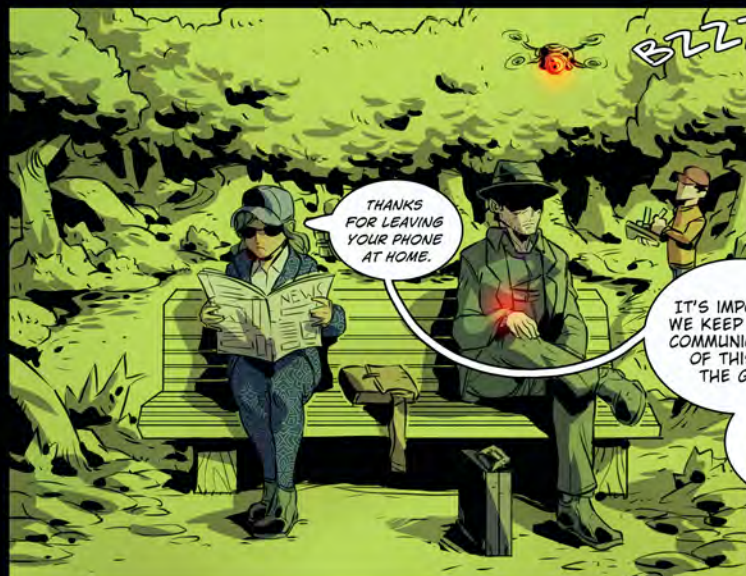
Something else that makes a university challenging to protect is the vast amount of data that is stored and used.

Each type has its own regulations. Putting security measures in place that satisfy multiple regulations and are within the budget takes a lot of work.





GOTTA KEEP MY WITS ABOUT ME, I DON'T WANT TO BE **TAILED** TO MY SOURCE.



THANKS FOR LEAVING YOUR PHONE AT HOME.

BZZZZZZZZ

IT'S IMPORTANT WE KEEP FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS OF THIS **OFF** THE GRID.

I'D HATE FOR YOU TO BE OUTED AS THE WHISTLE-BLOWER.



CLICK
TICK

BEEP
BEEP

BEEP
BEEP

BEEP

I WANT THAT WHISTLEBLOWER OFF THE BOARD, **NOW!**

SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN

THE DAY BEFORE

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WE CAN'T RUN THE STORY?!

THEY HAD RECORDINGS OF ME SAYING AWFUL THINGS—THINGS I'VE NEVER SAID!

MY BANK ACCOUNT'S BEEN DRAINED, I'VE BEEN FIRED AND THERE'S NO WAY ANYONE WILL BELIEVE MY TESTIMONY NOW.

BEEP
BEEP

THIS GUY HAS NO IDEA HE'S WEARING THE ROPE TO HANG HIMSELF AROUND HIS OWN WRIST.

BEEP

BACK AT NEWSORG

ED! WE HAVE TO PUT OUR PHONES IN THESE FARADAY BAGS, RIGHT NOW!

PROBLEMS WITH A SOURCE?

THEY MUST HAVE USED MY SOURCE'S PHONE TO IDENTIFY HIM, REVOKED HIS ACCESS TO THEIR SYSTEMS,

AND SPLICED TOGETHER AUDIO CLIPS FROM CALLS TO DISCREDIT HIM.

WE'VE SWEEPED THIS CONFERENCE ROOM FOR BUGS?

WE ALWAYS DO, J.

I JUST WANT TO ENSURE WE'RE NOT HANDING THE SUBJECT OUR EVIDENCE ON A SILVER PLATTER BEFORE THE STORY EVEN BREAKS.

THEY'VE ALREADY UNDERMINED AND SPOOKED OUR SOURCE. WHERE DO YOU WANT TO TAKE THE INVESTIGATION NEXT?

BEEP

—WE HAVE A PLAN, WE JUST NEED TO STAY ONE STEP AHEAD OF THE SUBJECT.

BEEP
BEEP

GOOD WORK ACCESSING THAT SMART TV MICROPHONE. NOW WE KNOW THE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM.

FIX IT.

A BITTER TASTE





WE'RE **SO CLOSE** TO BEING ABLE TO PUBLISH THIS STORY. WE JUST NEED TO GET RID OF THESE TRAITOROUS TECHNOLOGIES FIRST.

WHO'S WITH ME?



fwoosh



BEEP BEEP

SO THEY THINK THEY CAN GET RID OF THEIR OWN DEVICES AND THEY'LL BE FREE AND CLEAR.

DON'T THEY KNOW HOW FAR MY REACH EXTENDS?

BEEP



ACTIVATE THE BOTNET!

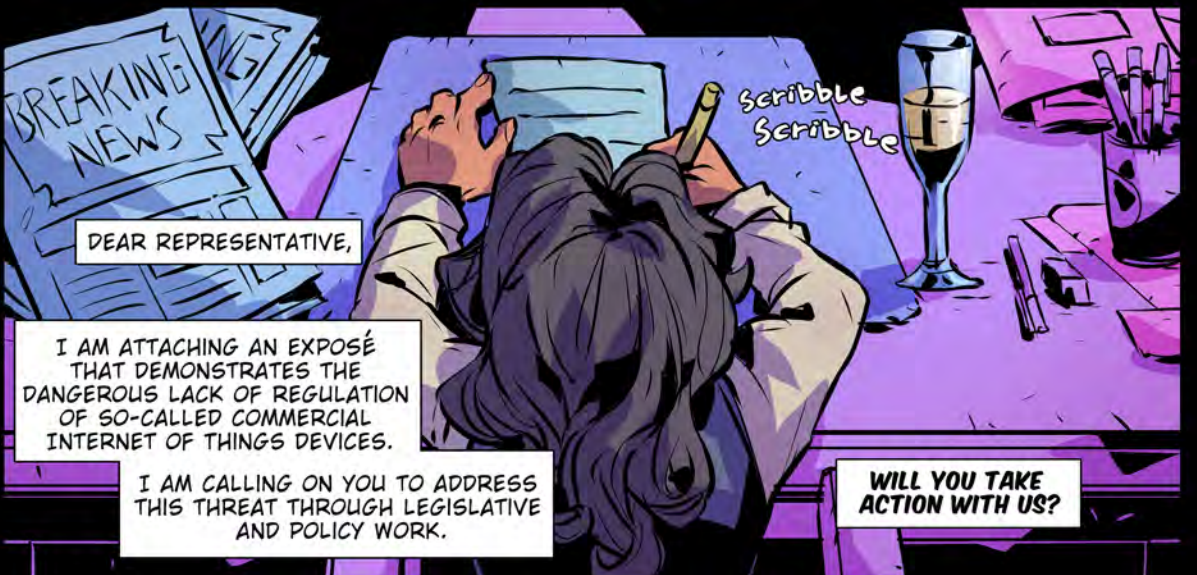
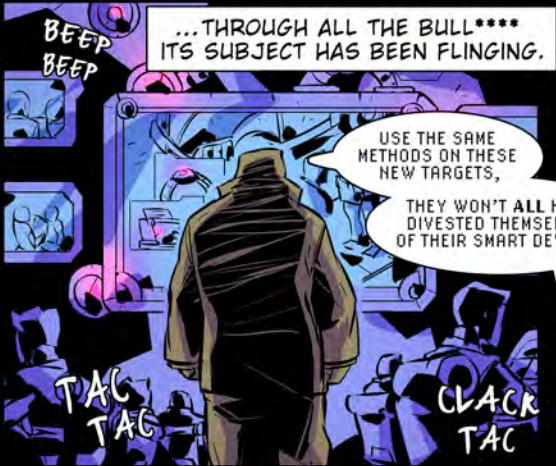


THEY'RE TRYING TO KEEP EVERYONE IN THE DARK -
TOO BAD WE'RE GOING TO **DRAG** THEM INTO THE SPOTLIGHT.



CRACKLE
CRACKLE

THE SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS

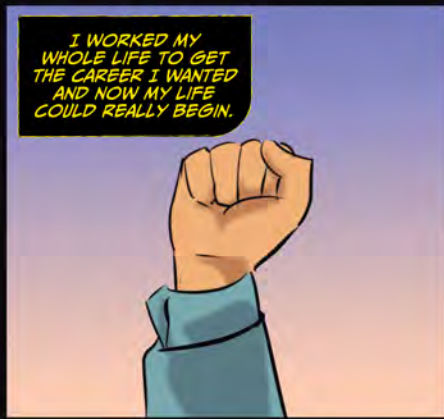


BURNOUT

STORY ANONYMOUS
ART MARC OLIVER
LETTERS SAIDA TEMOFONTE



WHEN I GOT MY FIRST JOB IN SECURITY, I THOUGHT I HAD MADE IT.



I WORKED MY WHOLE LIFE TO GET THE CAREER I WANTED AND NOW MY LIFE COULD REALLY BEGIN.



THERE'S MORE TO THE PICTURE THAN MEETS THE EYE.

HEY HEY, MY MY



I'VE BEEN LUCKY, TRULY.

THIS LIFE HAS TAKEN ME SPECIAL PLACES, AND LET ME SEE THINGS FEW PEOPLE GET TO SEE.



I BUILT A FAMILY, I BOUGHT A HOUSE. MATERIALLY, I'M HAPPY. HOW COULD I NOT BE?



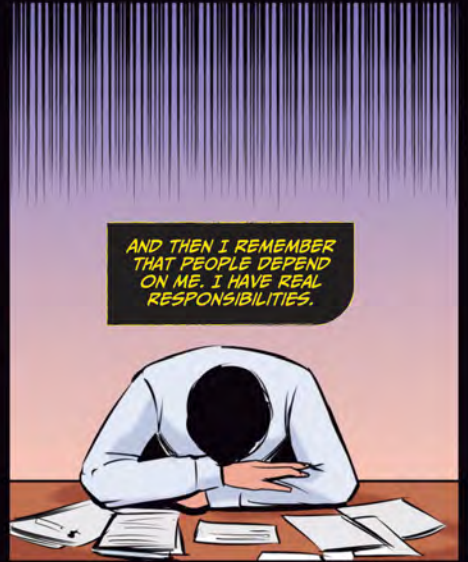
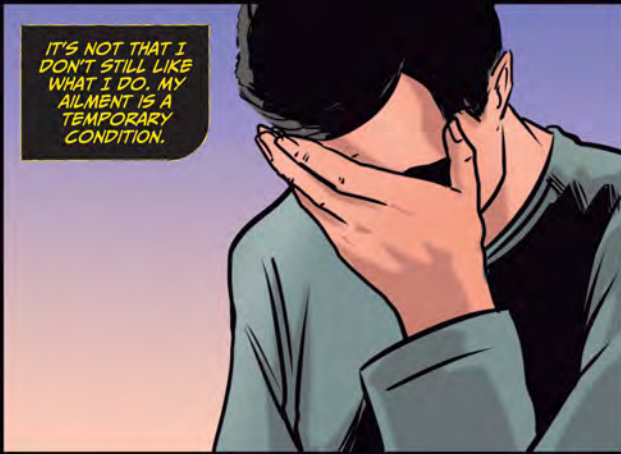
THE KING IS GONE, BUT HE'S NOT FORGOTTEN.

IS THIS THE TALE OF JOHNNY ROTTEN?

I'VE BUILT A DECADES' LONG CAREER...

...BUT I WONDER IF I ACTUALLY DID ANYTHING IMPORTANT.





AND THE THING IS,
I KNOW I'M NOT
THE ONLY ONE WHO
FEELS THIS WAY.



WE'RE ALL ALIENATED
FROM OUR WORK,
EVEN IF IT'S
SOMETHING WE LOVE.



STARING INTO THE VOID IS
DANGEROUS, BUT THERE
ARE WAYS TO AVOID IT.



FIND YOUR
COMMUNITY.

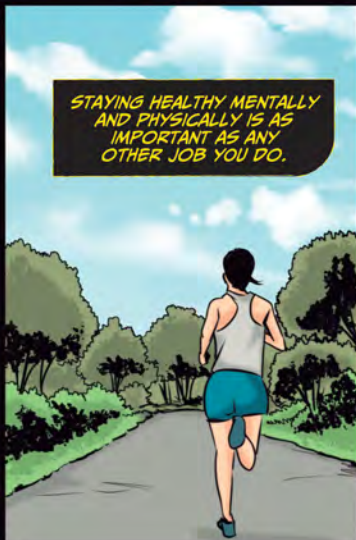


INVEST IN
YOURSELF...



...AND YOUR
HOBBIES.

STAYING HEALTHY MENTALLY
AND PHYSICALLY IS AS
IMPORTANT AS ANY
OTHER JOB YOU DO.



JOIN OR
START A
NION.



HEY HEY, MY MY

THERE'S MORE TO
THE PICTURE THAN
MEETS THE EYE.







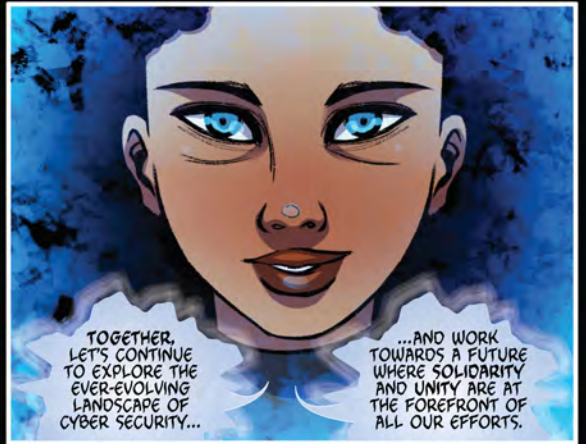
THIS COMIC BOOK ANTHOLOGY WAS ABOUT NEW BEGINNINGS. WHILE WE BID FAREWELL FOR NOW, WE INVITE YOU TO CONTINUE THIS CONVERSATION WITH US.



OUR NEXT ANTHOLOGY WILL EXPLORE THE THEME OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY IN CYBER SECURITY.



IF YOU HAVE STORIES TO SHARE OR INSIGHTS TO CONTRIBUTE, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO REACH OUT TO OUR EDITORIAL TEAM. YOUR VOICE MATTERS, AND WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.



TOGETHER, LET'S CONTINUE TO EXPLORE THE EVER-EVOLVING LANDSCAPE OF CYBER SECURITY...

...AND WORK TOWARDS A FUTURE WHERE SOLIDARITY AND UNITY ARE AT THE FOREFRONT OF ALL OUR EFFORTS.



UNTIL NEXT TIME, READER, WE INVITE YOU TO STOP, LISTEN AND THINK, SO WE MAY SAVOR THE WORLD TOGETHER.

BRANDON WALES & CYBER DEFENSE CHRONICLE

In the high-stakes world of federal cybersecurity, Brandon Wales steps up as acting director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) during the SolarWinds ransomware attack, showcasing remarkable leadership and dedication. Amidst the chaos, Wales emerges as a beacon of stability and order, advocating for stronger cybersecurity measures and demonstrating exemplary leadership in safeguarding vital infrastructure.

THANK YOU FOR READING AND KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE CFP FOR VOLUME II COMING IN OCTOBER!

EMILY, ALLAN & ANJULI

IN PLAIN SIGHT

Assumptions. Crime and punishment. Overlooking what's in plain sight. A penetration tester uses less tech, and more human nature, to deliver results. A father-daughter collaboration.

CYBERAMA

Cyberama brings serious fun to complex subjects like Password Strength, Social Engineering, Malware, Phishing, Personally Identifiable Information (PII), and Cyberbullying.

PROEM

When upstanding citizen Alex Lin encounters a mysterious stranger, his eyes are opened to the true nature of his existence.

SENSES OF SECURITY

This series of comic "strips" is based on my PhD Research, which highlighted that a lot of journalists are very aware of old-school attack methods, but that they are unaware of the ways in which the new "Internet of Things" can facilitate similar attacks.

CYBER SECURITY EDUCATION

Sharon describes her duties as a Technical Communications Specialist in the IT department of Worcester Polytechnic Institute. She also highlights the challenges of protecting a university from cyberattacks.

BURNOUT
...

