



ANITA...

I SWEAR...

I NEVER... MET...
JACKSON...

DAMN RIGHT
YOU DIDN'T.

HEY!!



YOU COOL
IN THERE,
DOC?

FINE. NO NEED
FOR NEEDLES...
RIGHT, SARGE?

LOBA'S
GONNA HEAR
IT FROM ME...



THEY'RE GONE.

START TALKING.
'CAUSE I'M TIRED
OF FIGHTING...

SEVEN YEARS AGO, I WAS
WORKING SECURITY IN LITTLE
MOUSE WHEN I WAS CONTACTED
BY AN INFORMANT. HE HAD
INFORMATION ON JACKSON.

HE'S NO INFORMANT, HE'S A KID. ANYWAY,
HE FOUND A VAULT OF ENCRYPTED IMC
FILES BACKPACKING. A HACKER'S HOLY
GRAIL. TURNS OUT... MINE TOO...

NAME:
JACKSON WILLIAMS.
IMS HESTIA. GRIDIRON.

YA I CAN GO WITH YOU.
HELP YOU EXTRACT THE
FILE. AND IN RETURN, YOU'D
GIVE ME ACCESS.

I WORK
ALONE, KID.

IT'S HARD TO
SURVIVE ALONE.
I KNOW.

GETS EASIER
WHEN YOU'RE THE
ONLY ONE LEFT.

I TOOK THE DRIVE THE KID
MADE TO DECRYPT JACKSON'S
MESSAGE AND HEADED TO THE
VAULT. IT WAS ON THIS ISLAND...
MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF IT.



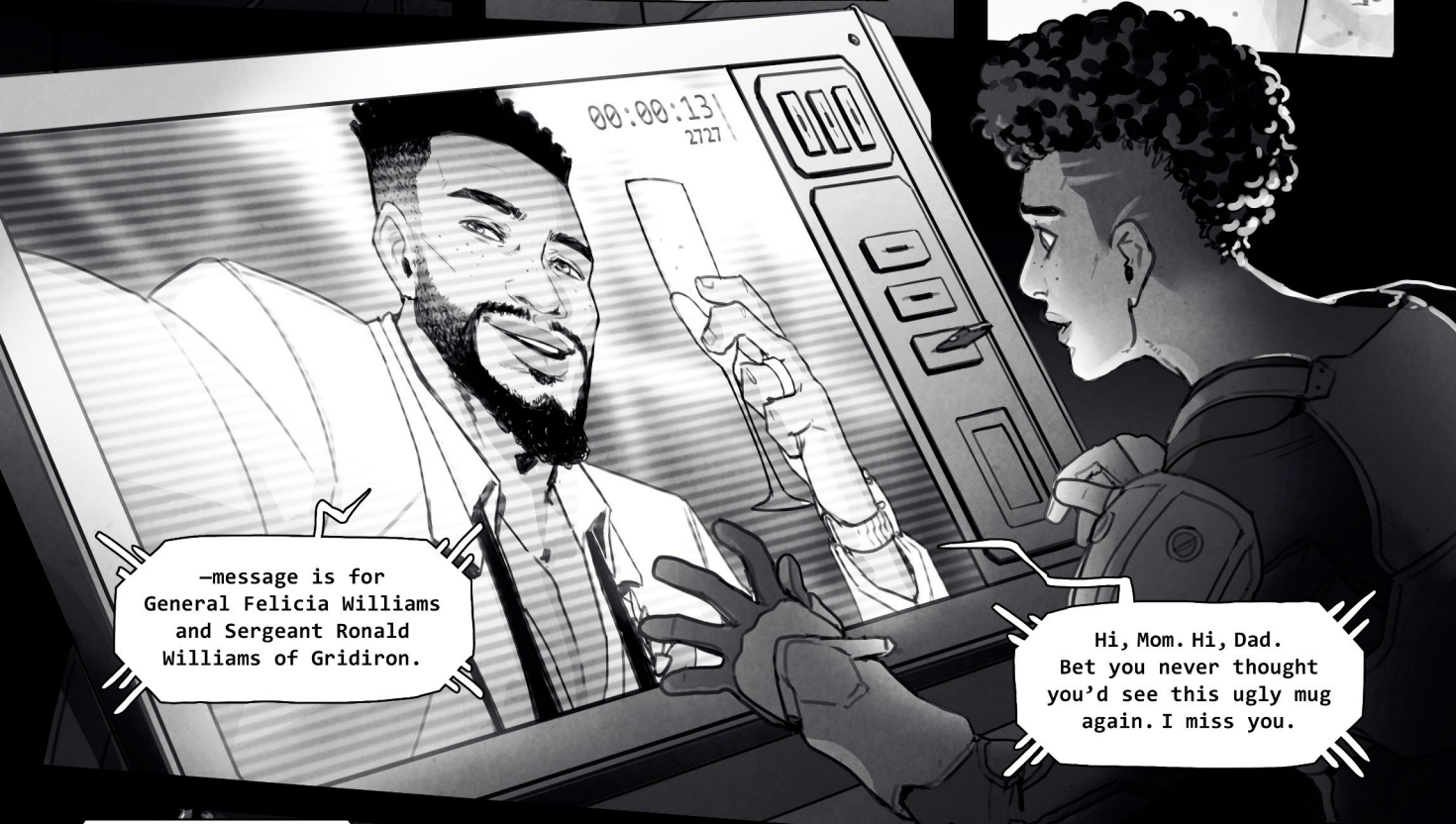
PLACE CALLED
KING'S CANYON.

THE KID WAS RIGHT.
IT'S FILLED TO THE
RAFTERS WITH SCHEMATICS,
PLAYBOOKS, MANUALS...



BUT I ONLY NEEDED ONE
FILE. AND IT TURNS OUT
I DIDN'T HAVE TO RELY
ON HOPE AFTER ALL.

BECAUSE IT WASN'T
A PHONE CALL I WAS
LOOKING FOR...



-message is for
General Felicia Williams
and Sergeant Ronald
Williams of Gridiron.

Hi, Mom. Hi, Dad.
Bet you never thought
you'd see this ugly mug
again. I miss you.

AND I NO LONGER
NEED HOPE. NOT
WHEN I HAVE VISUAL
CONFIRMATION.

BUT THAT RELIEF
WAS SHORT-LIVED...

And you need to
know something.
You won't believe-

KREEEEE

I WANTED TO AVOID
A FIGHT. BUT THEN
I REMEMBERED...



...I LEFT THE KID'S FLASH-
DRIVE BEHIND, DOWNLOADING
JACKSON'S VIDEO...



AND WHOEVER THIS
STRANGER IS... THEY
JUST TOOK IT.



FINE. GUESS
WE'LL FIGHT.

NOW WHAT?!



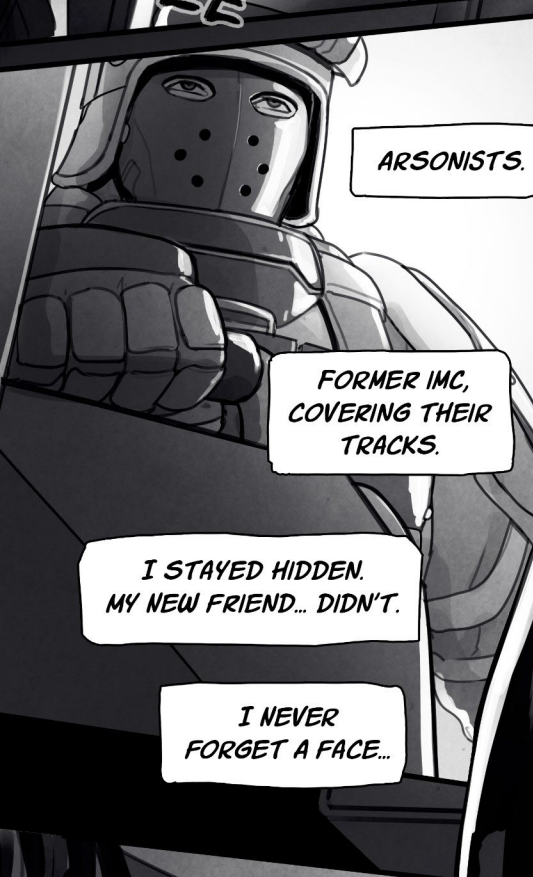
KREEEE

ARSONISTS.

FORMER IMC,
COVERING THEIR
TRACKS.

I STAYED HIDDEN.
MY NEW FRIEND... DIDN'T.

I NEVER
FORGET A FACE...



IT WAS YOU,
WRAITH.



PLACE WENT UP IN FLAMES.
I STUCK AROUND TO SIFT
THROUGH THE WRECKAGE...
BUT THE DRIVE WAS GONE.
SO WERE YOU.

WRONG WRAITH...
HAS TO BE.

THAT'S THE NIGHT
SHE SAVED ME.

I DON'T KNOW
WHO "SHE" IS.
I'M TALKING
ABOUT YOU--

