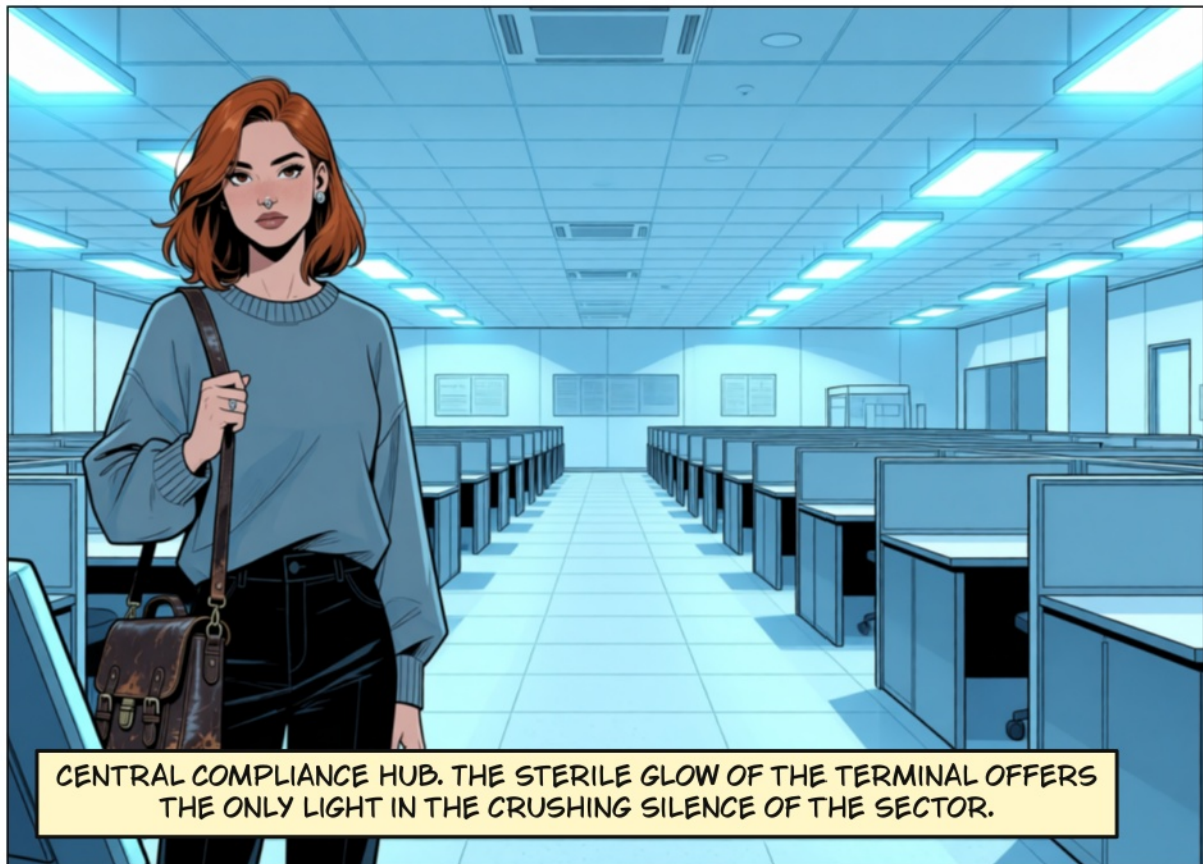


THE LOOPHOLE PROTOCOL





CENTRAL COMPLIANCE HUB. THE STERILE GLOW OF THE TERMINAL OFFERS THE ONLY LIGHT IN THE CRUSHING SILENCE OF THE SECTOR.

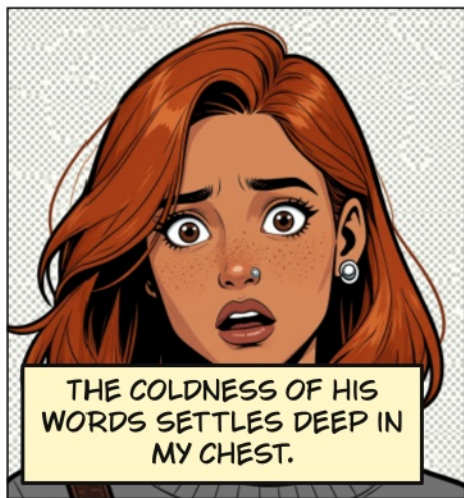


ARTHUR, LOOK AT THESE SENSOR READINGS. THERE'S A DISCREPANCY.

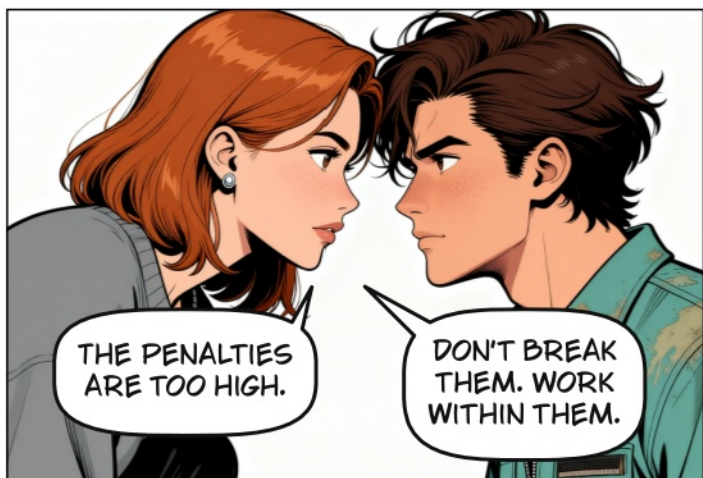
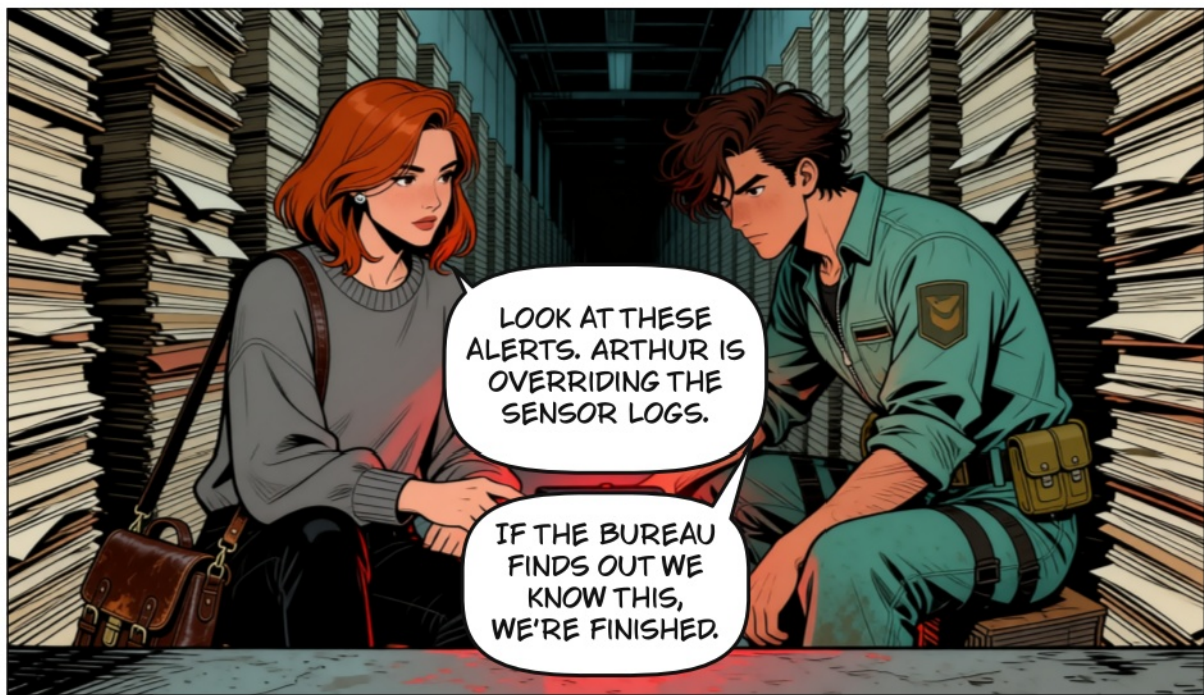
THIS IS UNAUTHORIZED CURIOSITY. FOLLOW THE REPORTING HIERARCHY.



STICK TO THE HIERARCHY.



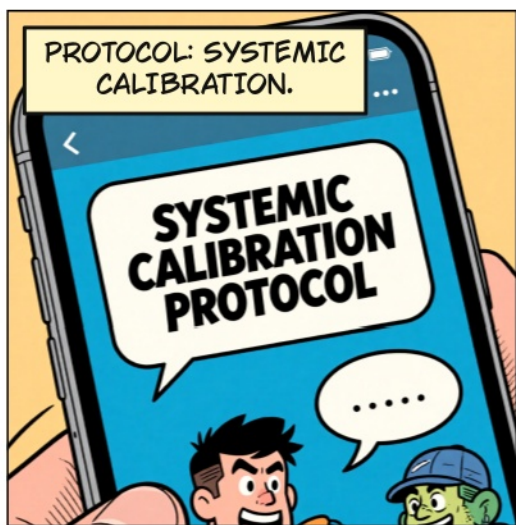
THE COLDNESS OF HIS WORDS SETTLES DEEP IN MY CHEST.



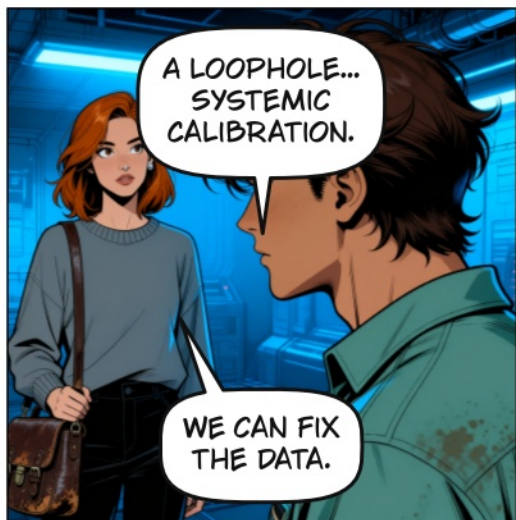


FOUND IT! A MAINTENANCE LOOP... WE CAN BYPASS THE SUPERVISOR ALERT.

CAN YOU REALLY DO IT?



A SYSTEMIC CALIBRATION. IT'S A NARROW, DANGEROUS PATH THROUGH THE BUREAUCRACY, BUT IF WE CAN EXECUTE IT WITHOUT ARTHUR NOTICING, WE MIGHT JUST HAVE A CHANCE TO FIX EVERYTHING.



A LOOPHOLE...
SYSTEMIC
CALIBRATION.

WE CAN FIX
THE DATA.



THE ATMOSPHERE SHIFTS AS A COLD SHADOW SWEEPS ACROSS THE
TERMINAL.



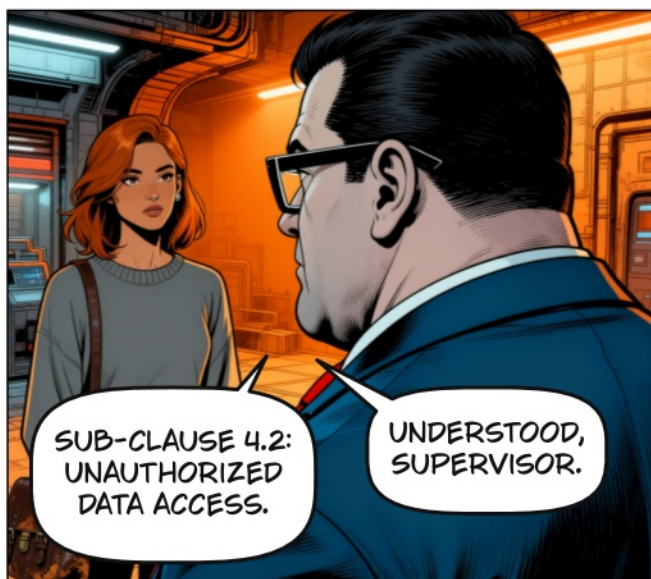
A DEVIATION IN
WORKFLOW HAS
BEEN DETECTED.

WE WERE JUST
FINISHING THE
CALIBRATION.



SUB-CLAUSE 4.2:
UNAUTHORIZED
DATA ACCESS.

UNDERSTOOD,
SUPERVISOR.



KEEP THE MASK STEADY. IF HE
SENSES EVEN A FLICKER OF
FEAR, IT'S OVER.





HE'S GONE.
WE HAVE TO
ACT NOW.

DO IT. USE THE
LOOPHOLE.



ERR-ERR-ERR-ERR

PLEASE... PLEASE WORK. WE HAVE TO
FINISH THIS BEFORE HE COMES BACK.

THE RED WARNINGS VANISH.
THE SYSTEM ACCEPTS THE
CORRECTION.

Terminal

System
Calibried

CHIRP

FOR ONE MOMENT,
THE MACHINE WAS
HONEST. AND WE
ARE STILL ALIVE.

