


The cover art for 'Dead Space Salvage' depicts a dark, atmospheric scene. In the foreground, a character in a full-body space suit is seen from behind, looking up at a large, skeletal, and decaying structure that resembles a giant skull or a piece of wreckage. The scene is dimly lit with a greenish-blue glow. The title 'DEAD SPACE' is prominently displayed in large, metallic, block letters at the top, with 'SALVAGE' in a smaller font below it. A trademark symbol is visible next to 'SPACE'.

DEAD SPACE™

SALVAGE

ANTONY JOHNSTON • CHRISTOPHER SHY



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ANTONY JOHNSTON

ART BY
CHRISTOPHER SHY

DEAD SPACE

SALVAGE

FOR DEAD SPACE SALVAGE

PRODUCED BY CATE LATCHFORD

AND CHUCK BEAVER

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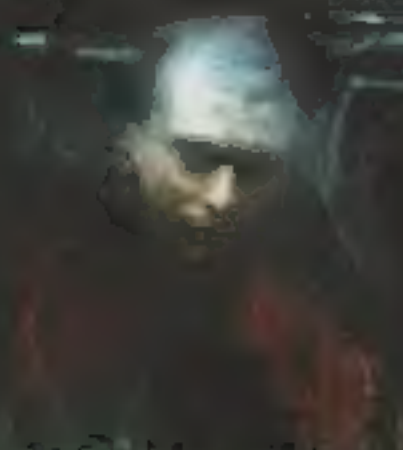
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CAPTAIN JESSICA LI. Captain of the *Hunter's Moon* and de facto leader of the Magpies. Li is an ex-Marine who quit after an embezzlement scandal rumored to involve several million dollars. A "people person" who runs a tight crew.



STEFAN SCHNEIDER. Li's second-in-command. Schneider has a deep mistrust of all authority, since his legit mining business went under after corporate meddling by CEC and capitulation by Earth Government. Only Li can keep him in line.



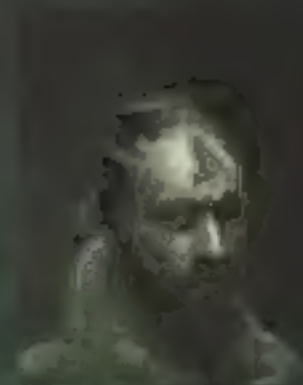
BENEDYKT MALYECH. Captain of the *Black Beak*. A former CEC supervisor and practicing Unitologist, Malyech was fired for breach of contract after disclosing corporate secrets to the media.



JULIA COPLAND. Malyech's second-in-command. Copland is a lifelong criminal and scam artist who turned to freelance mining as a way to hide out from the law, and found the culture suited her demeanor.



GATURA OKEKE. Captain of the *Sunset*. A former commercial pilot who was fired for insubordination. Okeke is the Magpie's resident gearhead and a moderate Unitologist.



WENBO & THORSSEN. *Hunter's Moon* crewmembers.



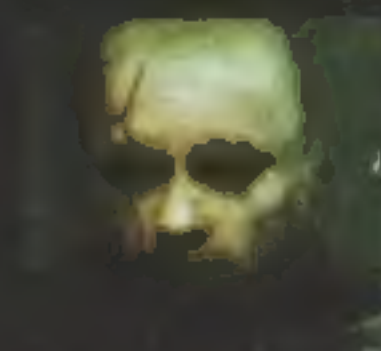
VENSCHIFF & GOTTHEDDIR. *Black Beak* crewmembers.



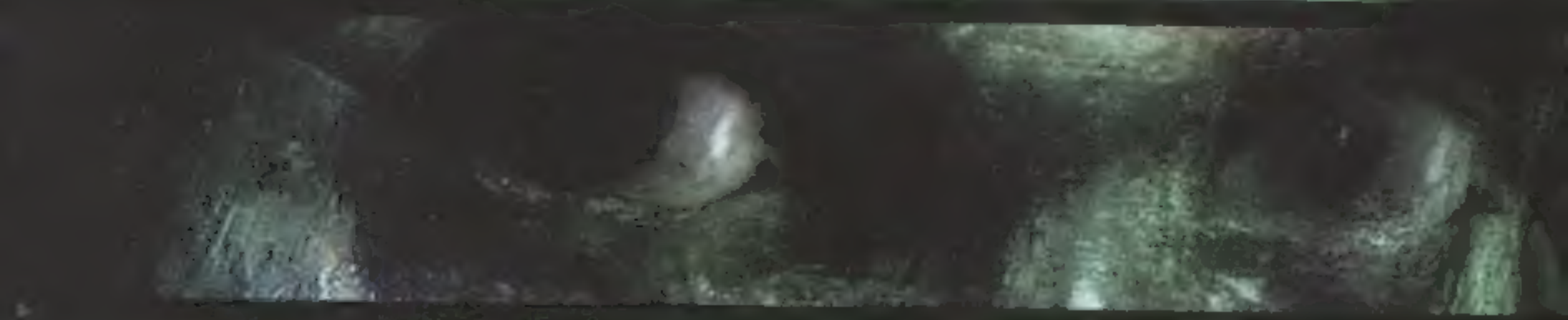
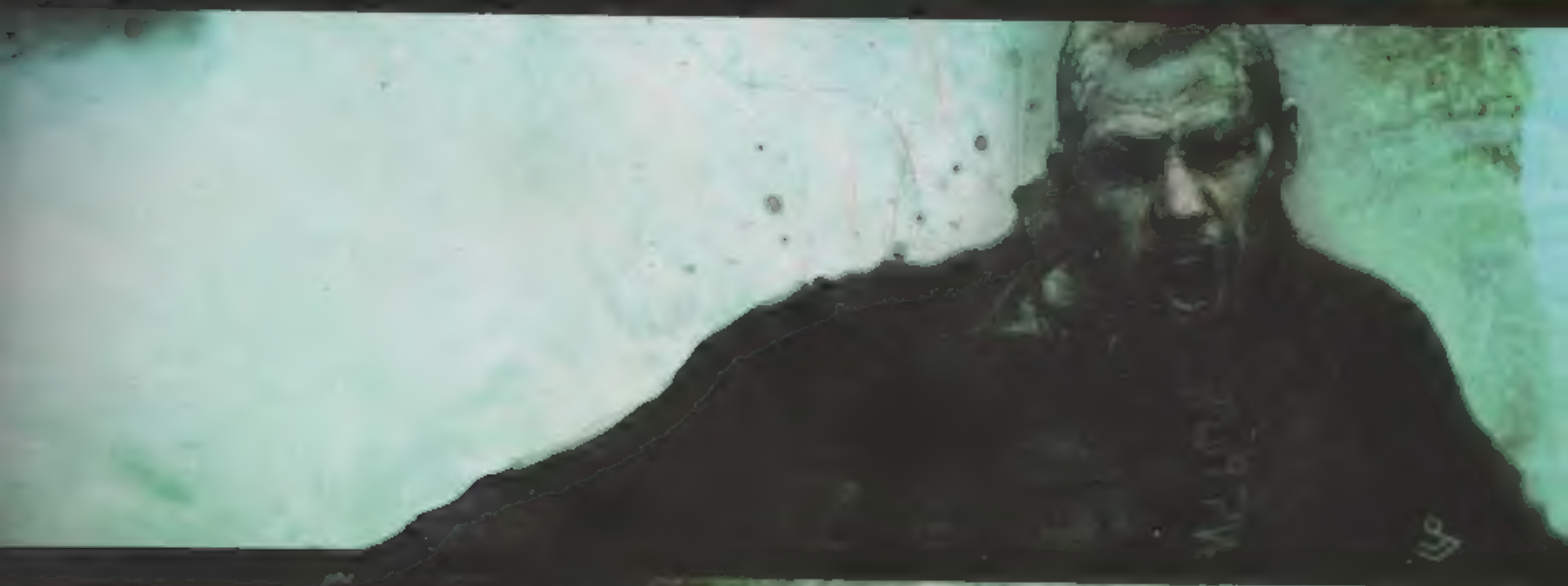
BELLEVIN. Captain of the *Liberté*. Bellevin has been a freelance miner all his working life, and knows the risk/reward ratio of illegal mining better than anyone.

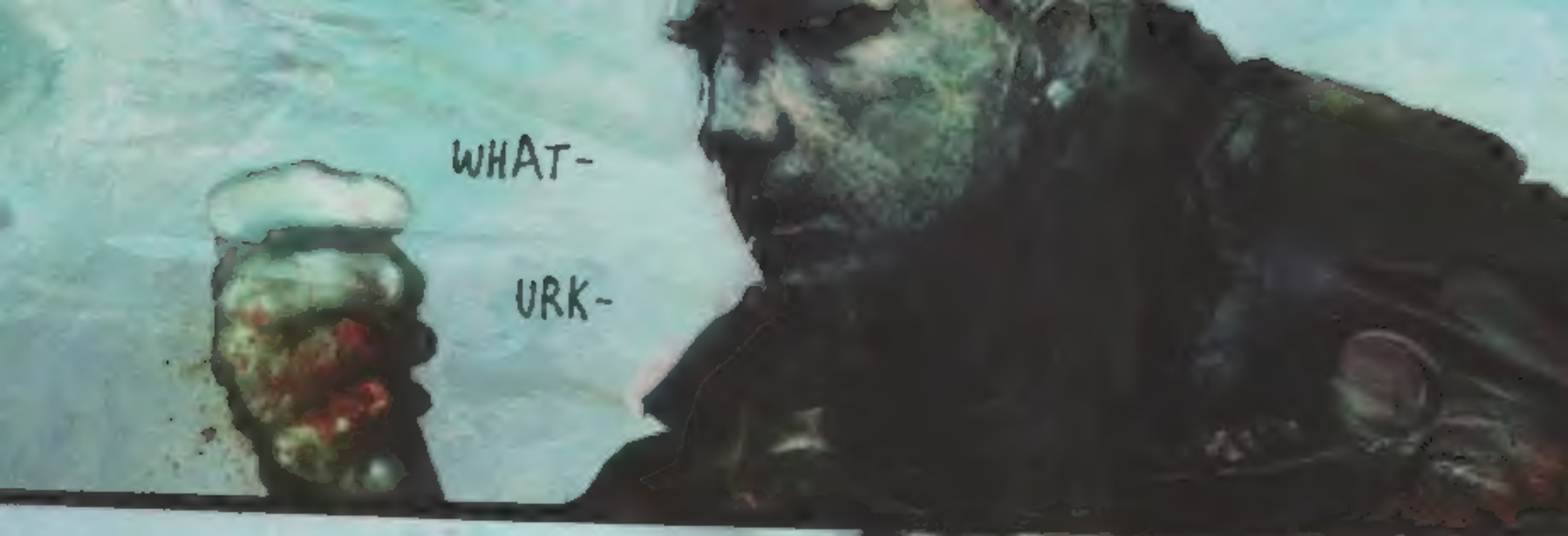


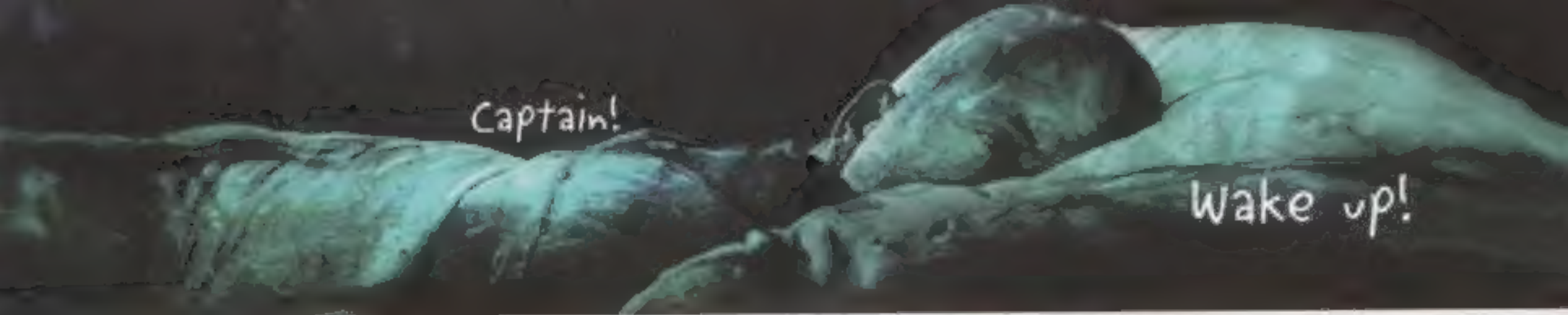
DEFENSE SECRETARY DAVID CHANG. A high-ranking official of Earth Government famed for making tough decisions and his hawkish attitude to the military's role in Government.



THE ORACLES. Agents of unknown record.

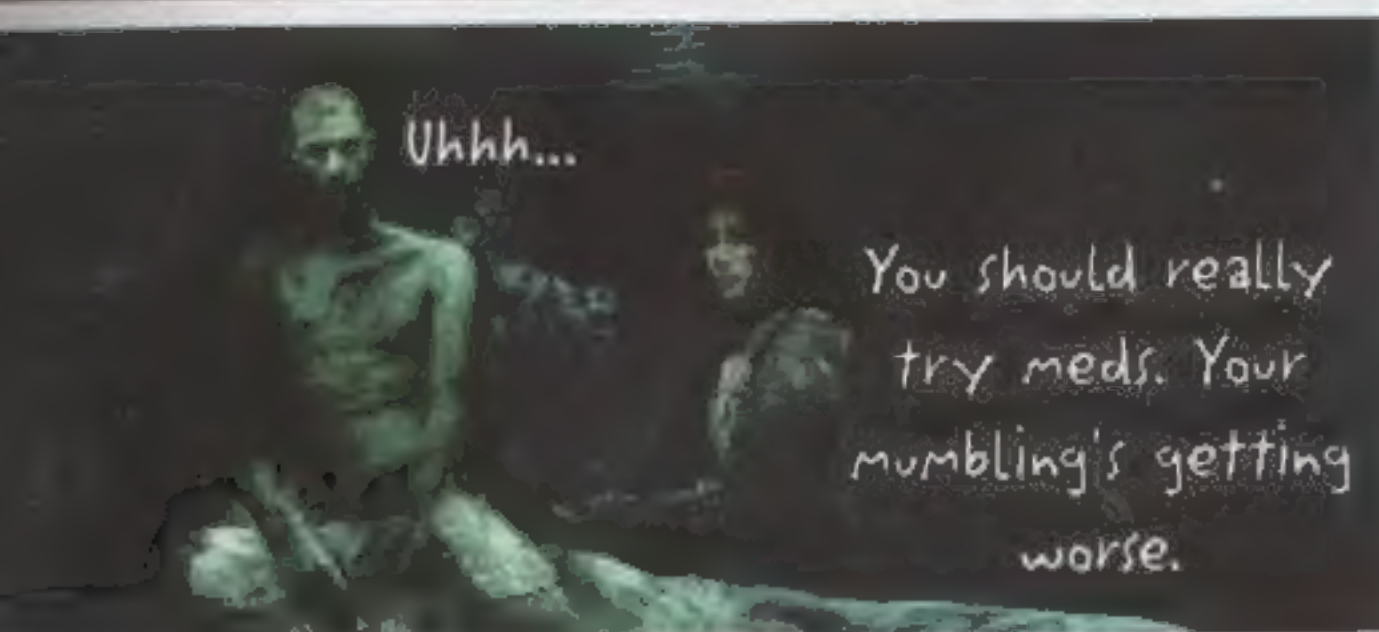






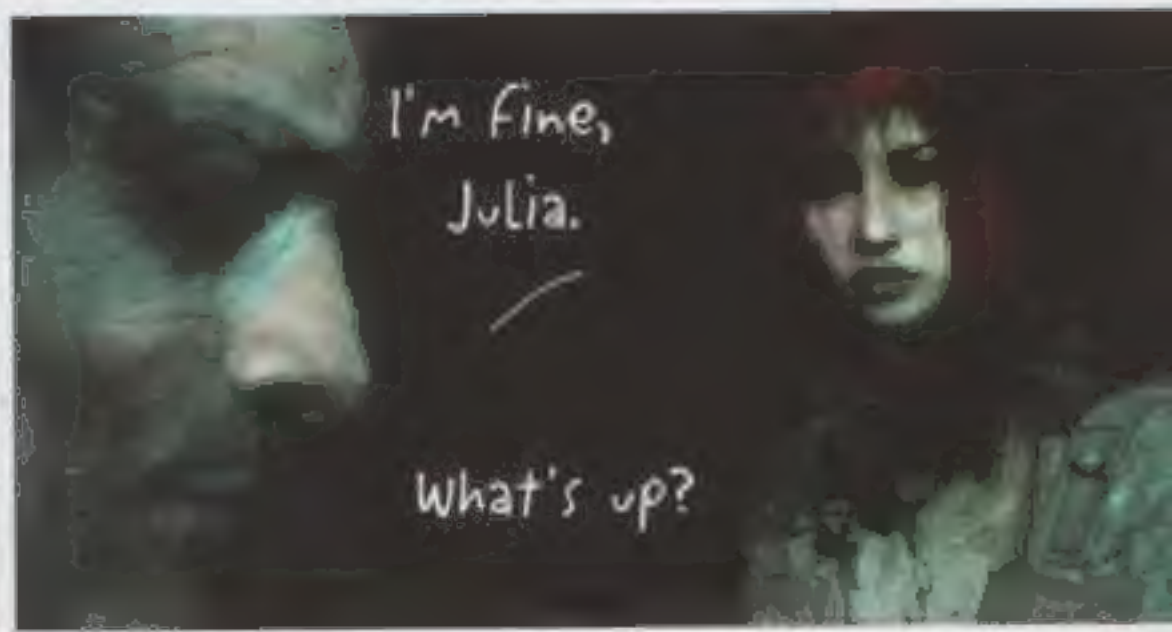
Captain!

Wake up!



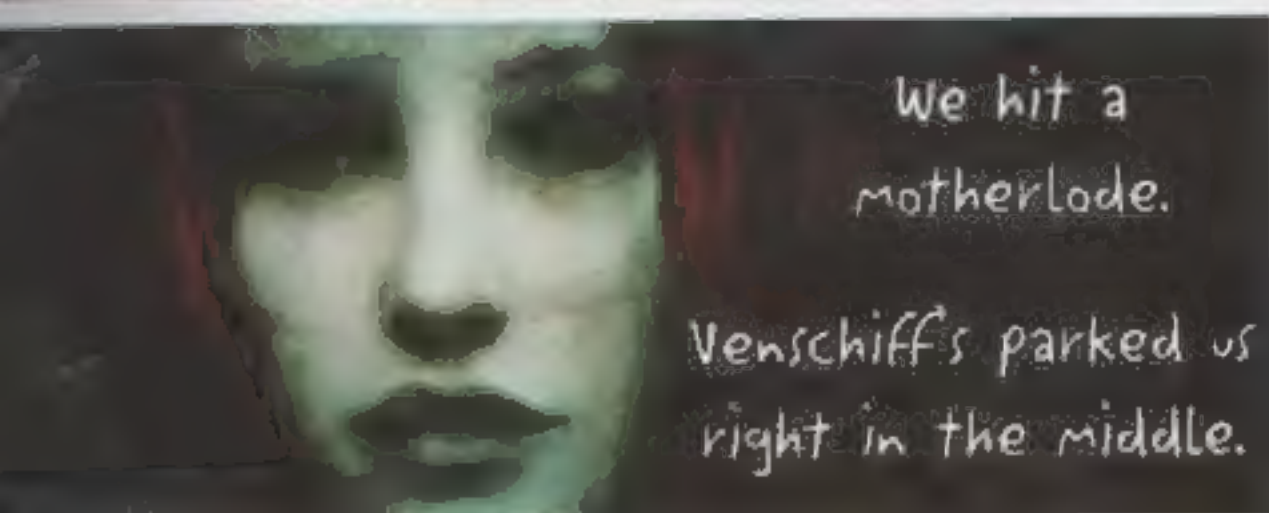
Uhhh...

You should really
try meds. Your
mumbling's getting
worse.



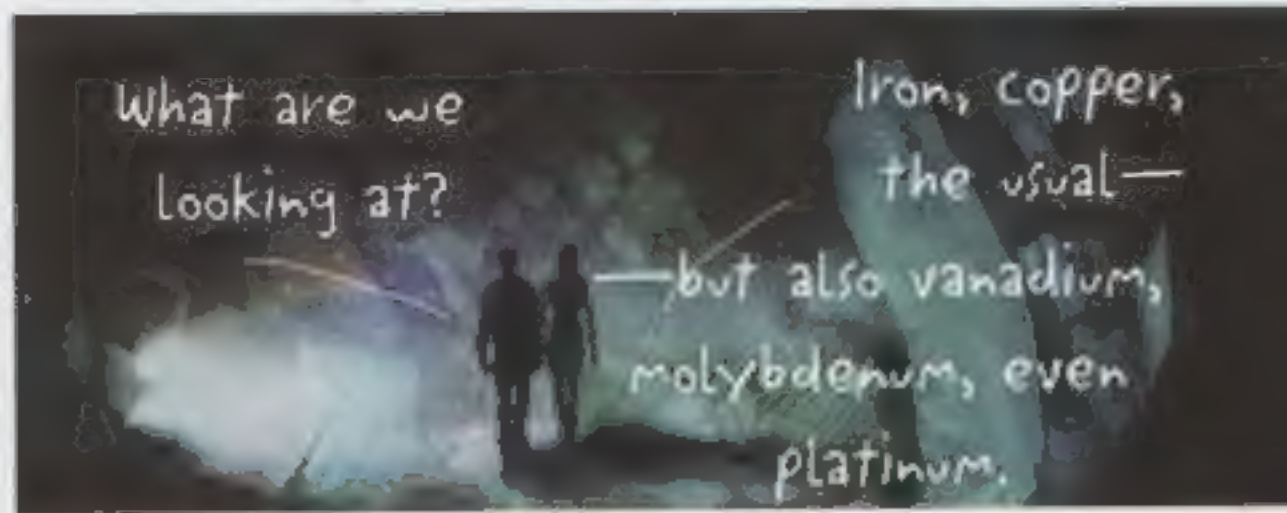
I'm fine,
Julia.

What's up?



We hit a
motherlode.

Venschiff's parked us
right in the middle.



What are we
looking at?

Iron, copper,
the usual—

—but also vanadium,
molybdenum, even
platinum.



Li's crew found
platinum last month,
right?

And Okeke the week
before that, yeah.

There's definitely
some valuable shit
out here, if we can
find it.

Ok then...

...Let's go
get it.

MAGPIE SHIP BLACK BEAK
VIGILIS ASTEROID BELT
REGIS SYSTEM

MAGPIE SHIP HUNTER'S MOON

Li, this is
Malyech.
You read?

Good for a
half dozen
eggs, at least.

Loud and clear,
Malyech. What's
your status?

Think we've
got a winner
here.

Sounds good.
Everyone else
has struck out
today, so get
Copland to post
the co-ords and
sit tight.

I'll alert
Okeke and
Bellevin.

Around 85 percent.
Another two, three
weeks and we'll be
done.

Li out. Ok.

Schneider,
how full
is the nest?

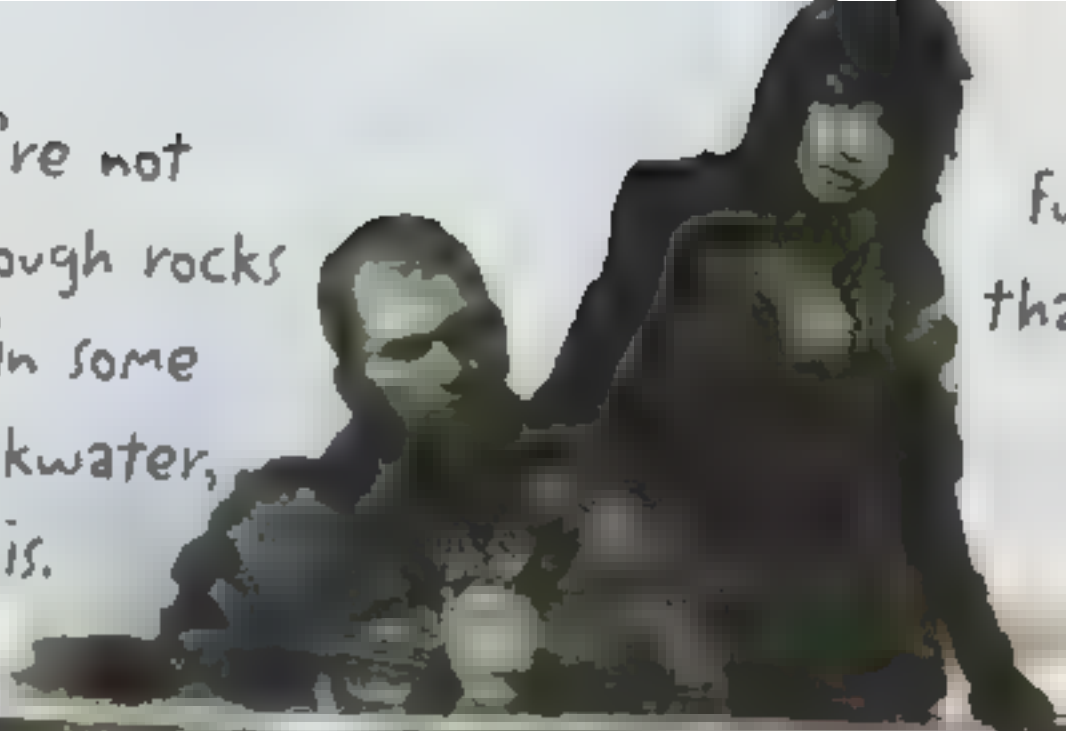
Home,
sweet
home.

You mean cash,
sweet cash.

Who wants
to go home?

Well, Captain,
some of us actually
have sex lives.

When we're not
swimming through rocks
and dust in some
galactic backwater,
that is.

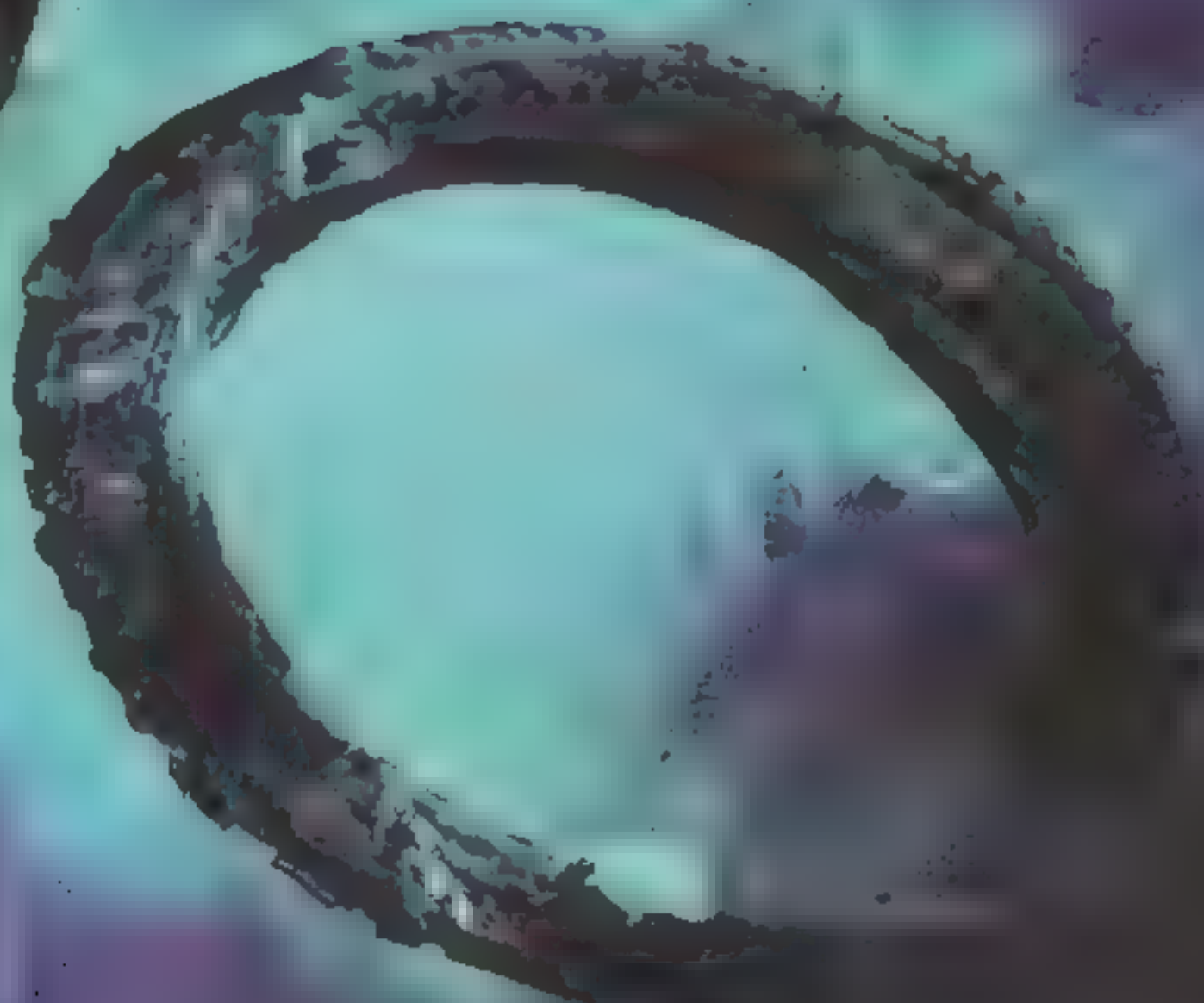


funny, I thought
that was your sex
life.

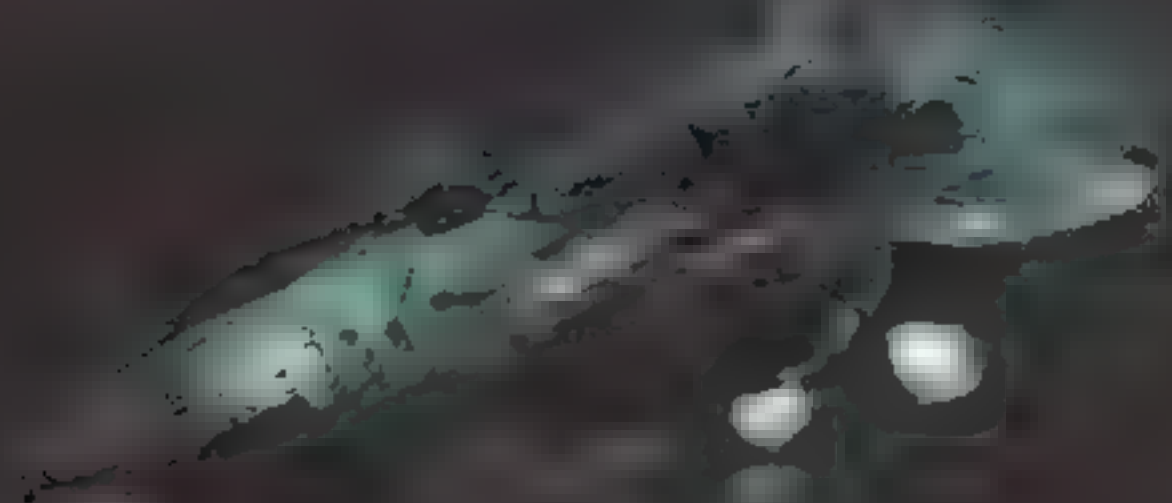


ouch

And on
that note...



Let's go get
some action



EARTH GOVERNMENT BLOCKADE
REGIS SYSTEM CHECKPOINT

THIS IS USM VICTORY hailing
Inbound craft You are in a
restricted zone State your
identification

SKYROCKET

We are an authorized
flight carrying Earth
government executive
since 15-93-1382

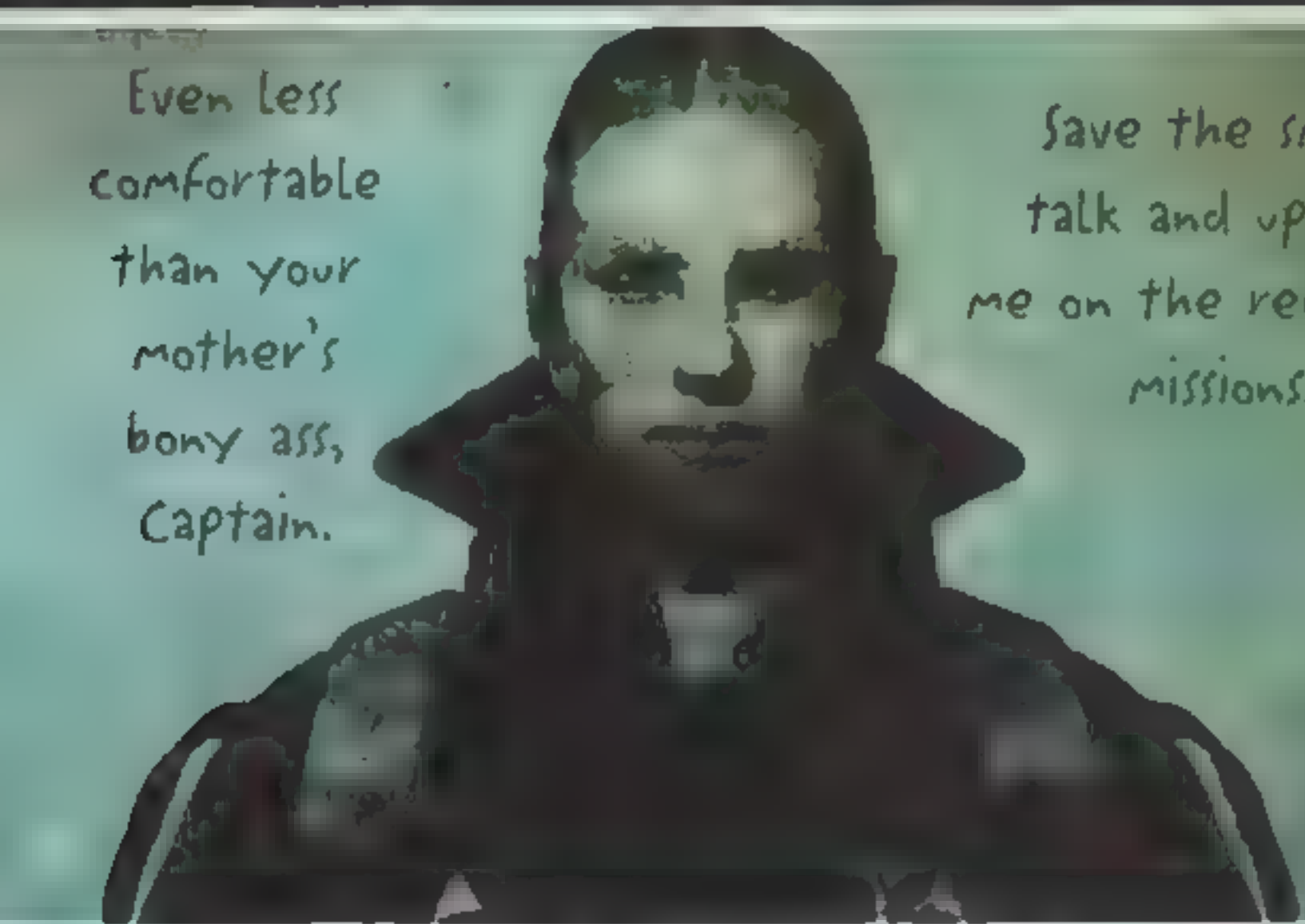


Get your asses
gear, fellas
We bring you

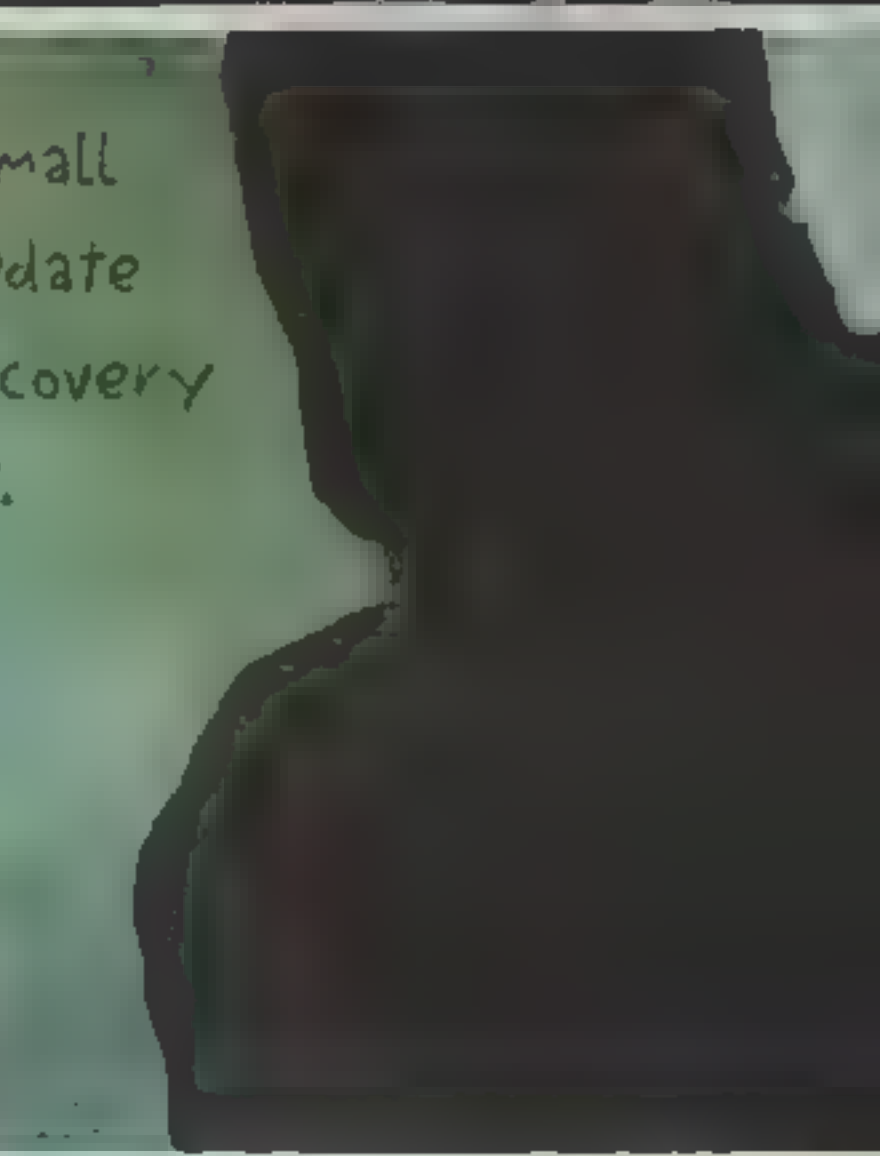
Defense Secretary
David Chang



Welcome aboard,
sir. How
was your
flight?



Even less
comfortable
than your
mother's
bony ass,
Captain.



Save the small
talk and update
me on the recovery
missions.



We've dispatched
a team to Aegis VII.

The disaster almost
ripped the core in
half, so they're
attempting to
stabilize while
searching for
Marker evidence.

If it comes to a
choice, any evidence
is more important than
a planet.

They're
not of
that



What about
the Ishimura?



Unable to
locate it.



Short-range scans
are loaded with
particle interference,
probably a side-effect
of the disaster.



And since the system
has been officially off-
limits for almost two
hundred years, we don't
have long-range records?

Don't expect me to
pull classified scans
out of my ass, Captain.
If I had them, I'd be
dead.

Understood.

We have shuttles sweeping
the system for now. But that
could take a while. It's a big
area.

All we had out here
was a covert listening
post, but that went silent
weeks ago.



Of course, there is an
alternate contingency.

Kenji

What if the
Ishimura was
destroyed in
the disaster?

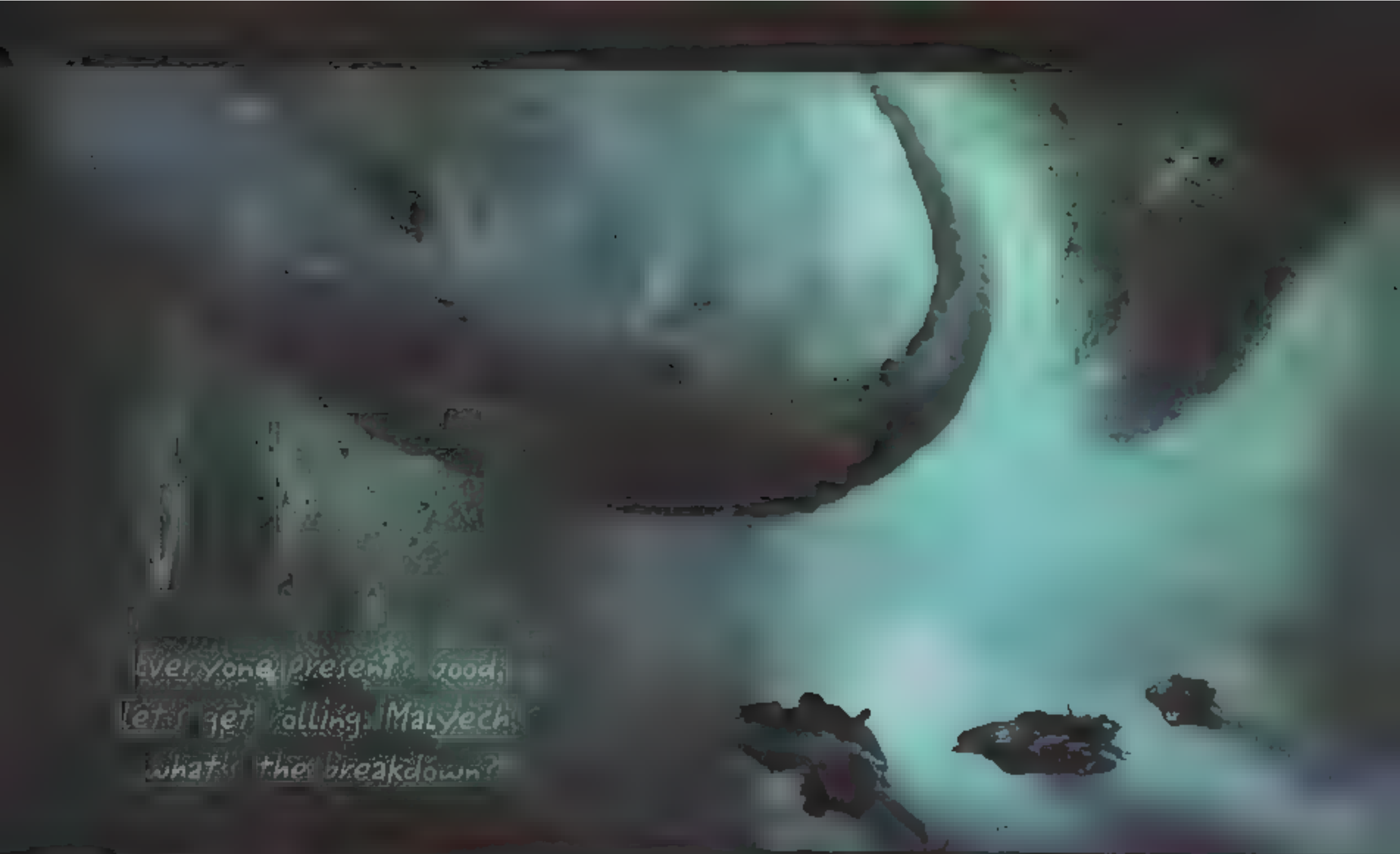
Are we
sure it's
even out there?

Don't even
think it

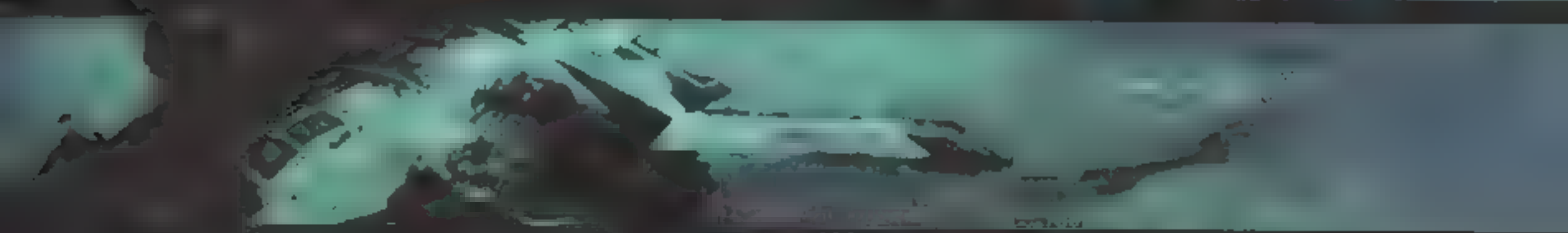
The Marker was
on board that trip
and I'll leave him
without it. Some
teenage punk will
have his feet under
my desk before I
even reach Earth orbit.

Kenji, too
much
marker
time

Now bring
me the
Ishimura



Everyone present? Good.
Let's get rolling. Malyech.
What's the breakdown?



vanadium
molybdenum
and about a
quarter ton
of platinum

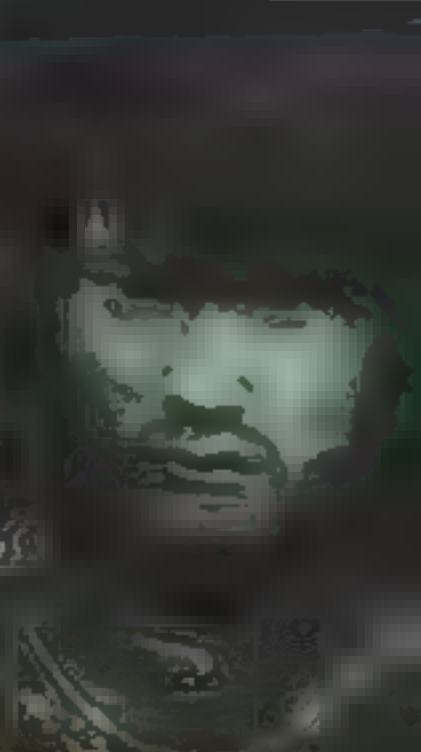


MAGPIE SHIP
BLACK BEAK

Nice. Maybe we should
just lay the plat
and get out of here
with the rest, soon as

That blockade
makes me nervous

MAGPIE SHIP
SUNSET

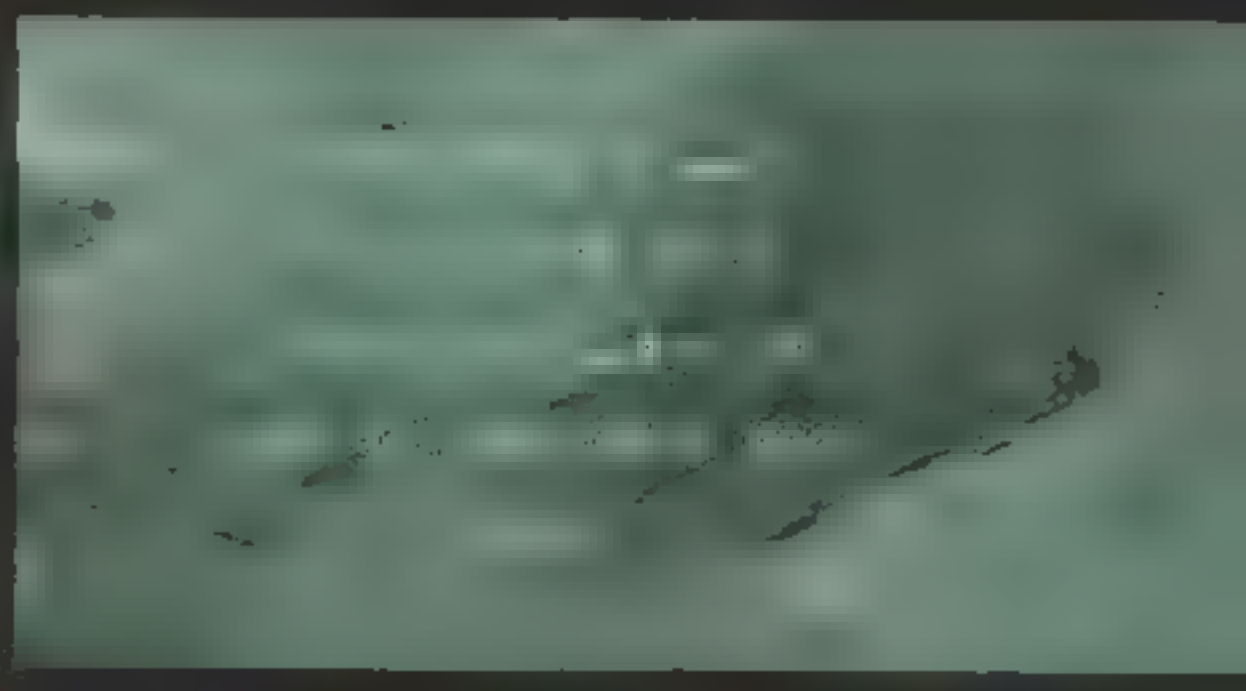


That blockade
is why we can't
cut and run. Okeke



MAGPIE SHIP
WINTER MOON

The minute we
leave this belt
they'll see



All right.

planets

over the sky.

books.

Shock generators
powering it.

Schneider's right.

Besides, the
planet crack

must
have been
illegal,
too.

So I doubt
the government
is going to stick
around for too
long.

Hopefully long
enough to rip CEC a
new asshole. Couldn't
happen to a nicer
bunch of guys.

Ring is all green.

Focal vector eight-one-
two-mark-seven, event

hor

two hundred

Collapse duration.

estimate three seconds.

Shock in 3, 2, 1...

SHOCK

Shock & green Gravity
wave imploding, singularity
collapse 3, 2, 1...

...And we're done.

Egg is laid.

Bellevin:
Secure the
egg

MAGPIE SHIP
LIBERTY

What do you expect?
They're both to the
eyeballs in Unitologist

Egg is recured

What do you expect?

They're both to the
eyeballs in Unitologist

Hey, maybe Okeke and
Malyech could give them
a secret handshake to let
us all through the barricade.

What do you expect?
They're both to the
eyeballs in Unitologist

Egg is in the Nest
and repeat egg in

He

if the man
can't take a
joke...

gentlemen.

We don't get to
see many stars on
Earth. Pollution saw to
that centuries ago.

...were active
Oracles in this
operation.

...Library. Many

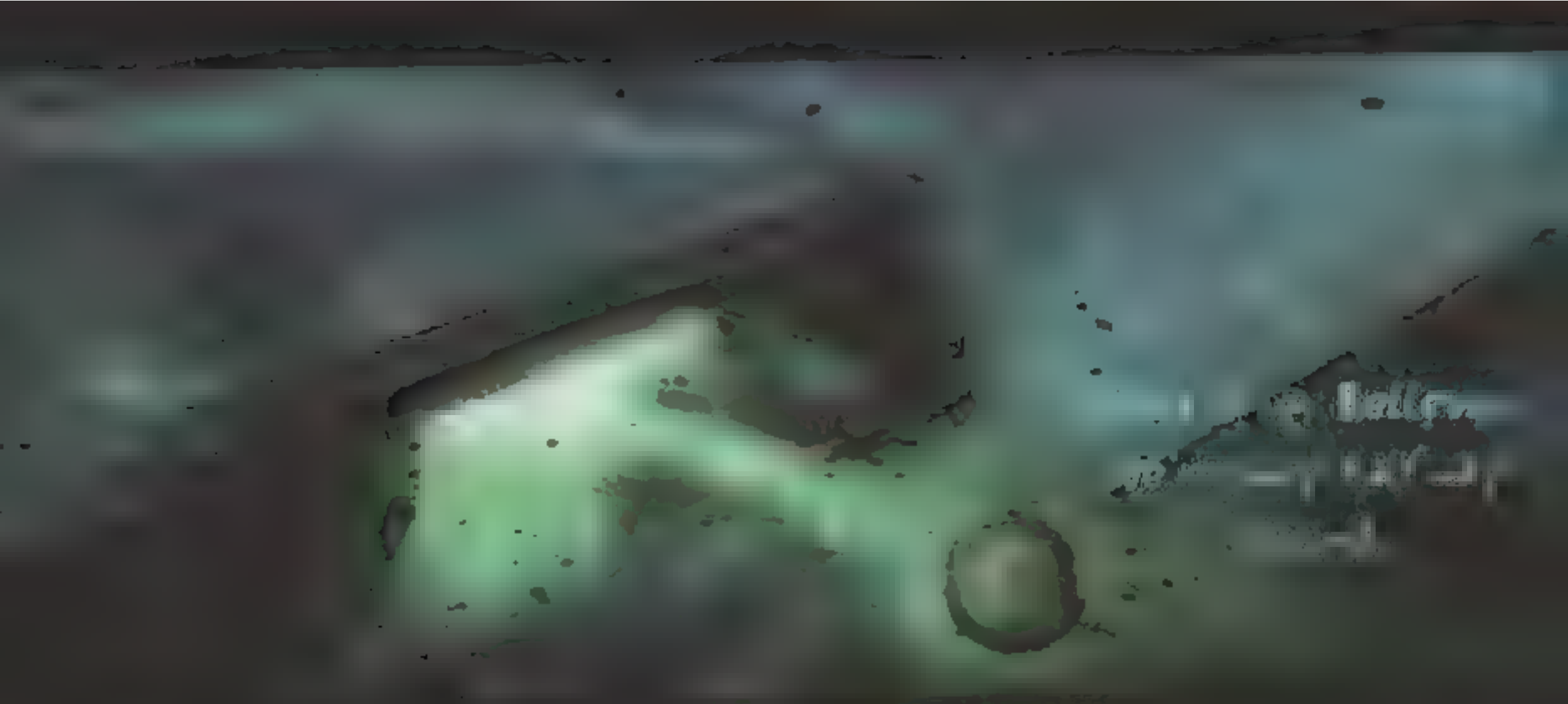
...count
...just as
...like being
...blindsided.

We are not authorized to interface
with military or civilian operations
except as they directly concern
our priorities.

...Lupinus...
...and...
...the...

...and

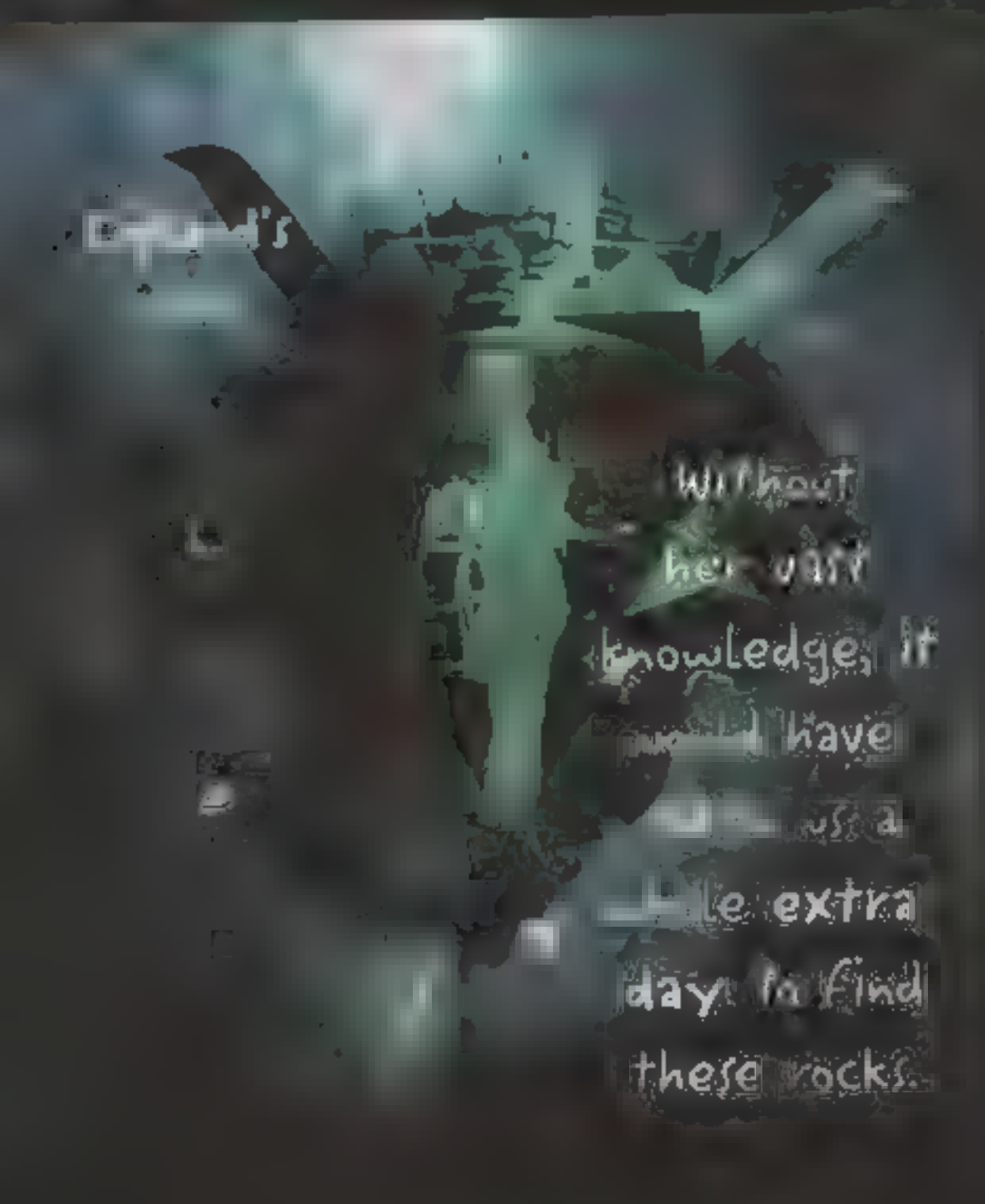
...the...



Li, I went freelance
so I didn't have to take
orders any more. You're
not in the Marines now.



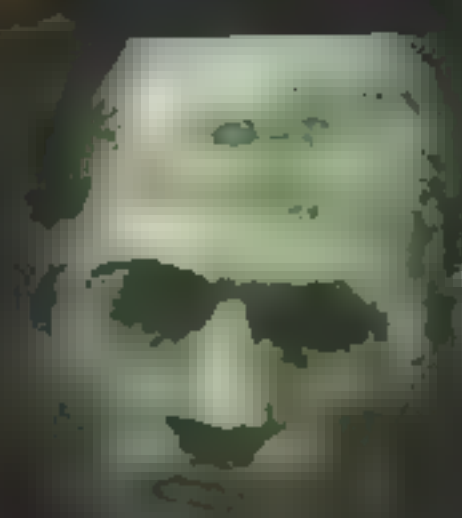
I'll remember that next
time I come up with a job
that's going to make me all
a few hundred grand.



Expand's

Without
her vast
knowledge, it
would have
taken us a
little extra
day to find
these rocks.

Fuck you,
Schneider.



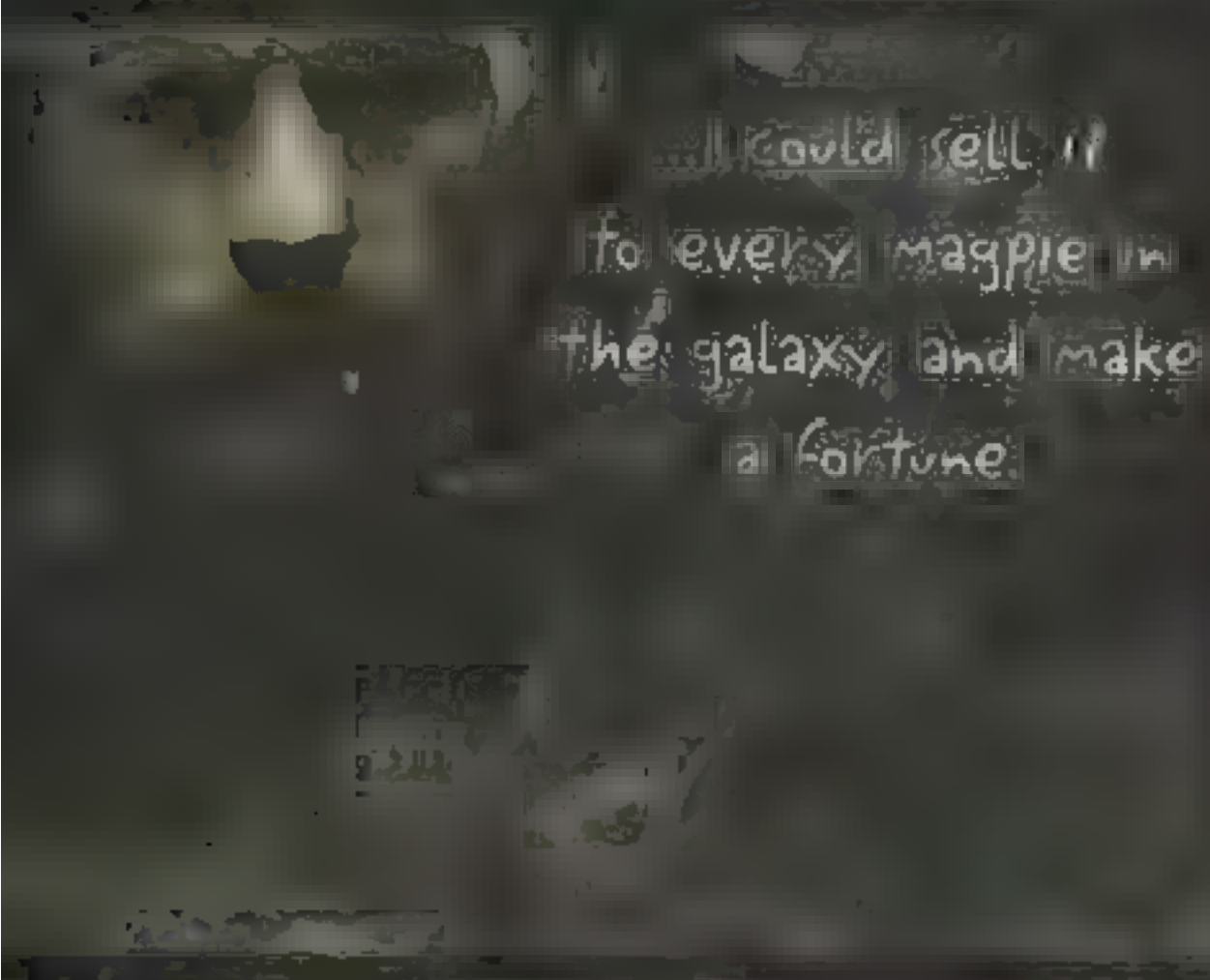
You couldn't
afford me.



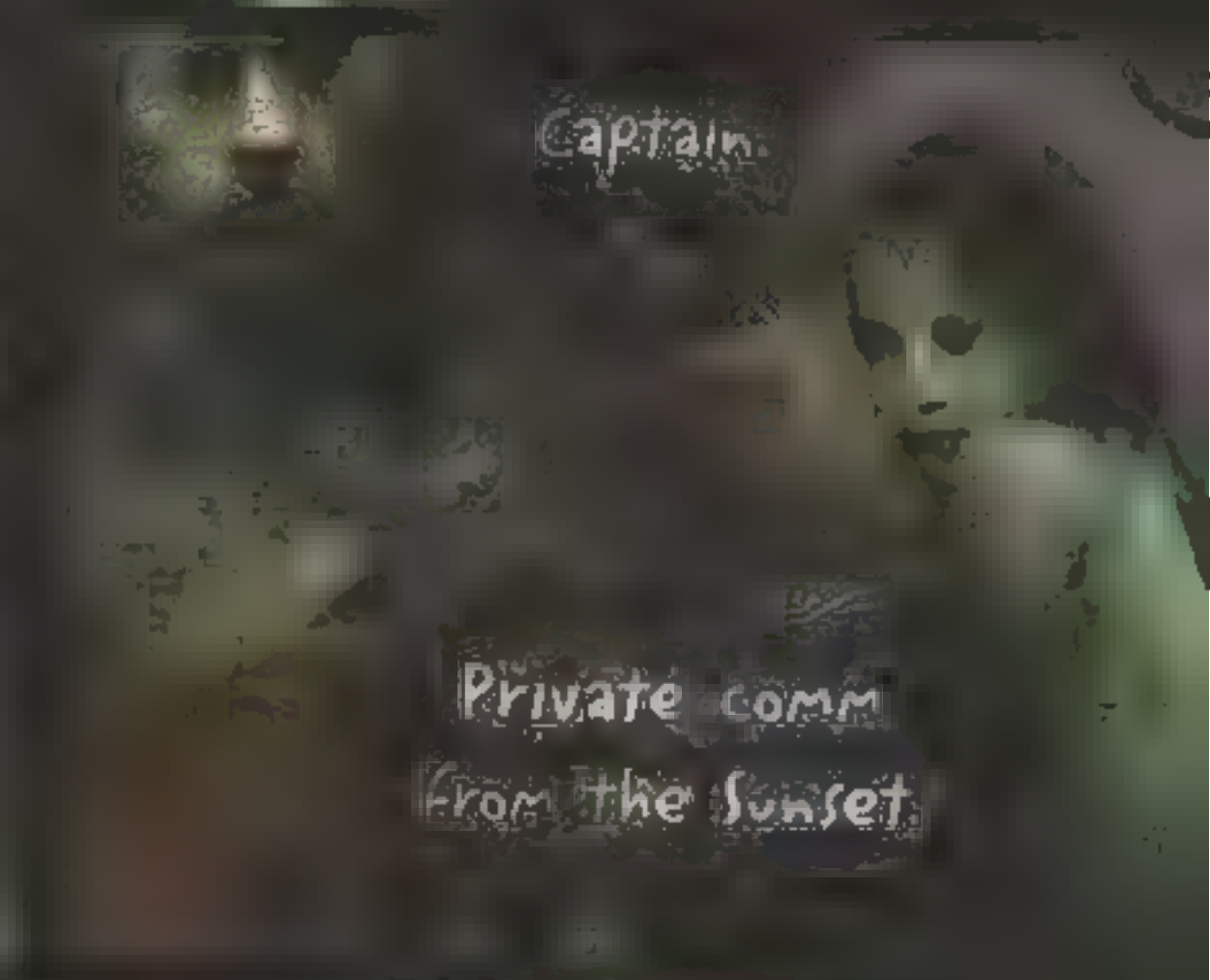
Don't let
him
form
You're so
up the wall



It's a lot of
fuck you, Schneider
every thirty seconds



I could sell it
to every magpie in
the galaxy and make
a fortune



Captain

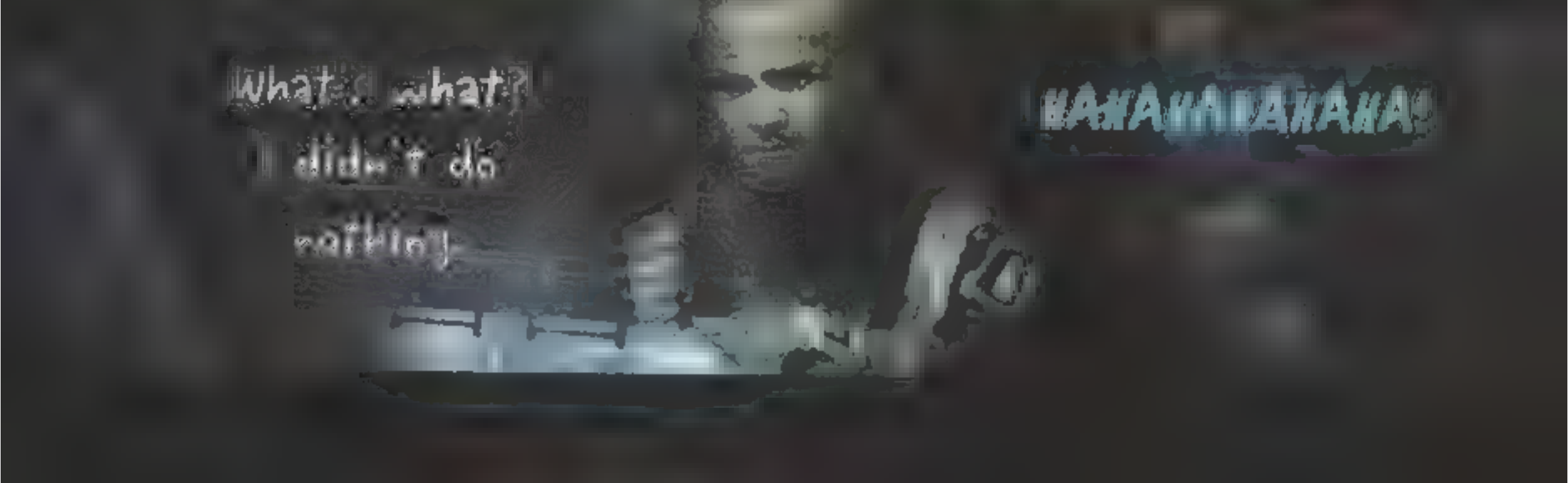
Private comm
from the sunset



Jesus...

MA EYECH + OKEKE 4 EVA

Okeke, what is the
name of Altman is th



What... what?
I didn't do
nothing

HAHAHAHAHAHA

Schneider, you
dick! How'd you
do that?

Sorry, fellas.
trade secrets.
And a misspent
youth, but you
already knew
that.

Oh, come on. Even
you have to admit
that was a little
funny.

Not out loud,
don't.

Maybe not for
much longer. That
interference back

Stefan, that's
enough. Quit
screwing around.

Thanks,
Bellevin. Nice
to know
people
are still
talking
at home.

Magnetowaves
from all the ore
in the belt, maybe?
Honestly, I
have no idea.

You have no
idea? Pinch me,
I'm dreaming.

I'm serious.
I can't find it.

Micro-magnetophores
shouldn't affect the boat,
but I guess we are triggered
by this ring.

Oh. All back
to normal.

Maybe we should
take it offline for
a while, let me check
it out.

What's the
hold up?
Shockring needs
new batteries.
Just
or something. hold on.

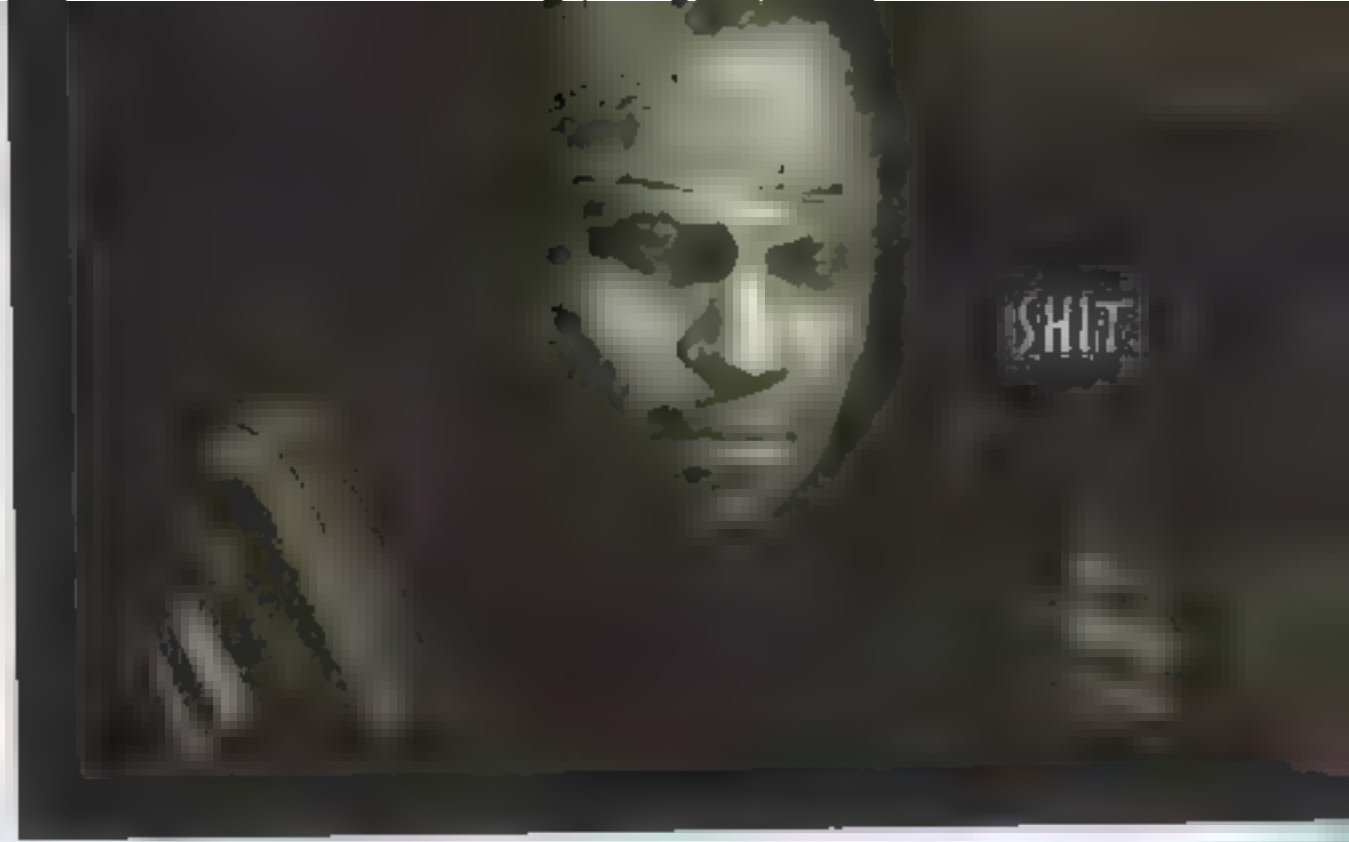
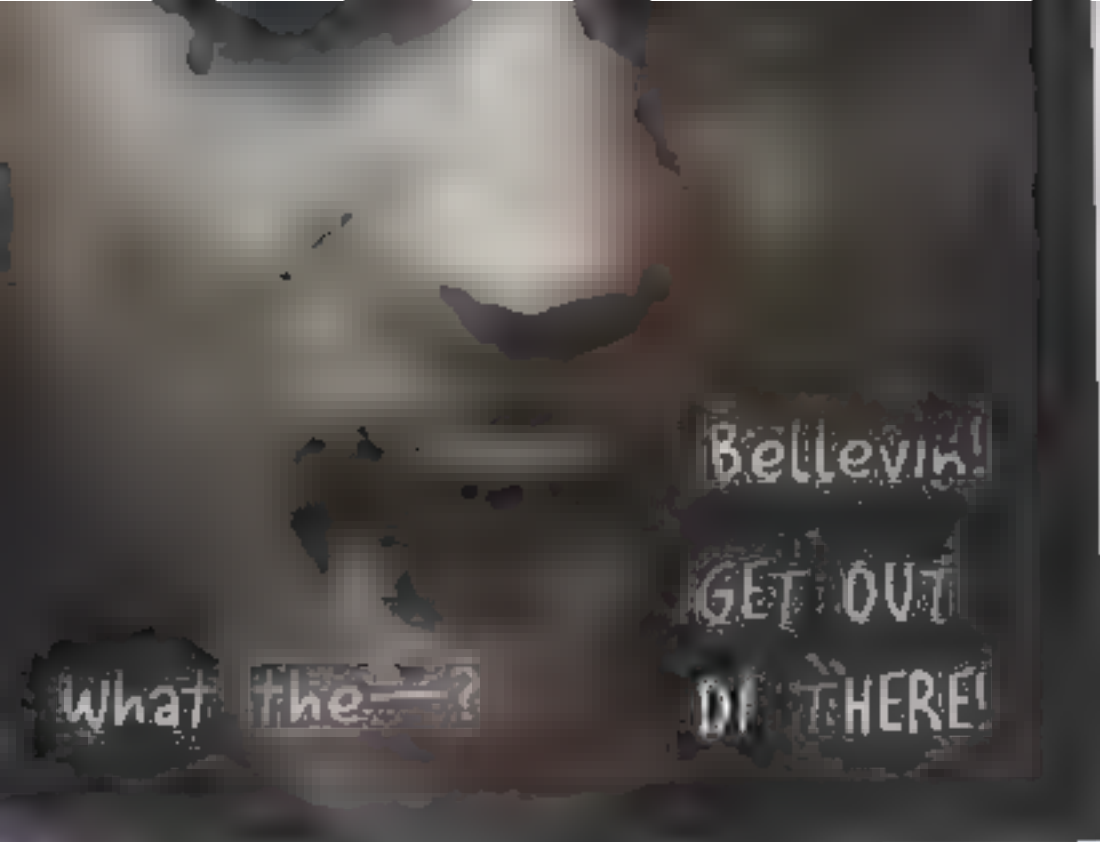
Yeah, that'll go
down well.

Don't worry
about it. If it
busts a vein, I'll
take the heat.

All right, moved by Ring 0 green focal vector. Even
one five mark eight event horizon approx two hundred

Shock 3 2 1









THE NEST

EVERYBODY
MOVE!

Bellevin

There's eggs all
over the place!

Tihorssen!

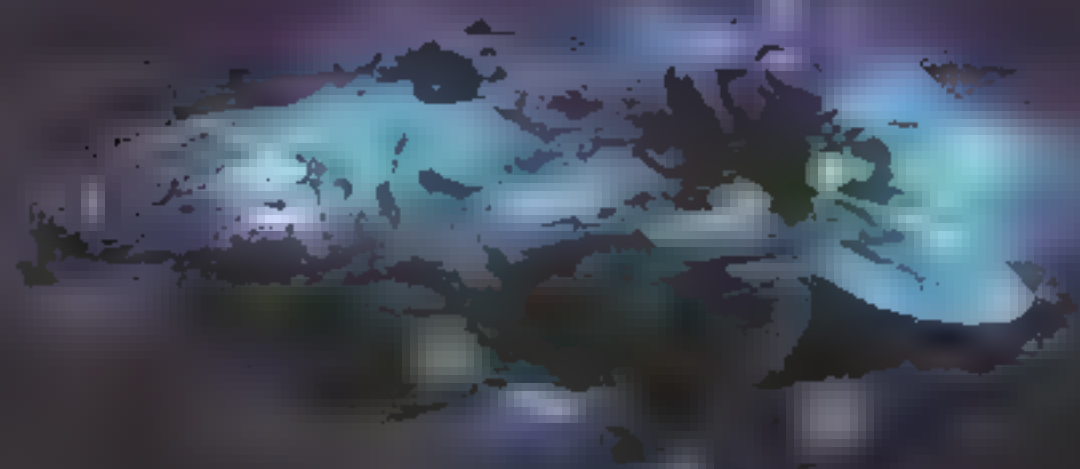
IF ONLY
This hunk wasn't
exactly made for
racing—

Shit!
We're hit!



lost a scratch!

You two get after
that ship!



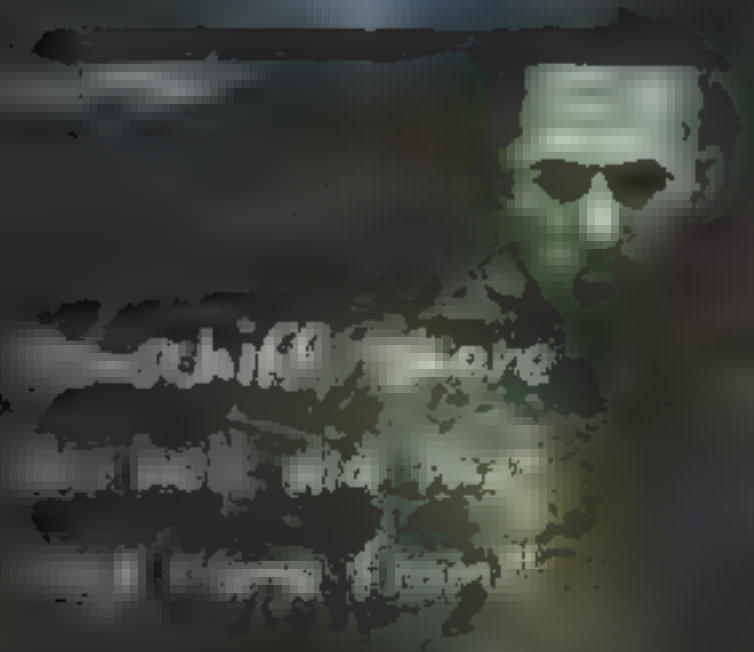
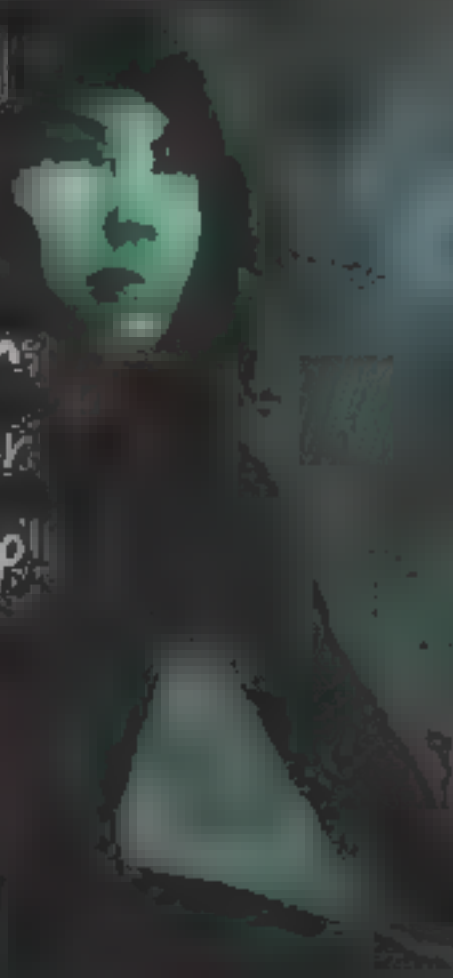
NBD!

STATUS!



Sealant grids holding
for now, Captain, but
we've got to get down
somewhere to repair
this properly!

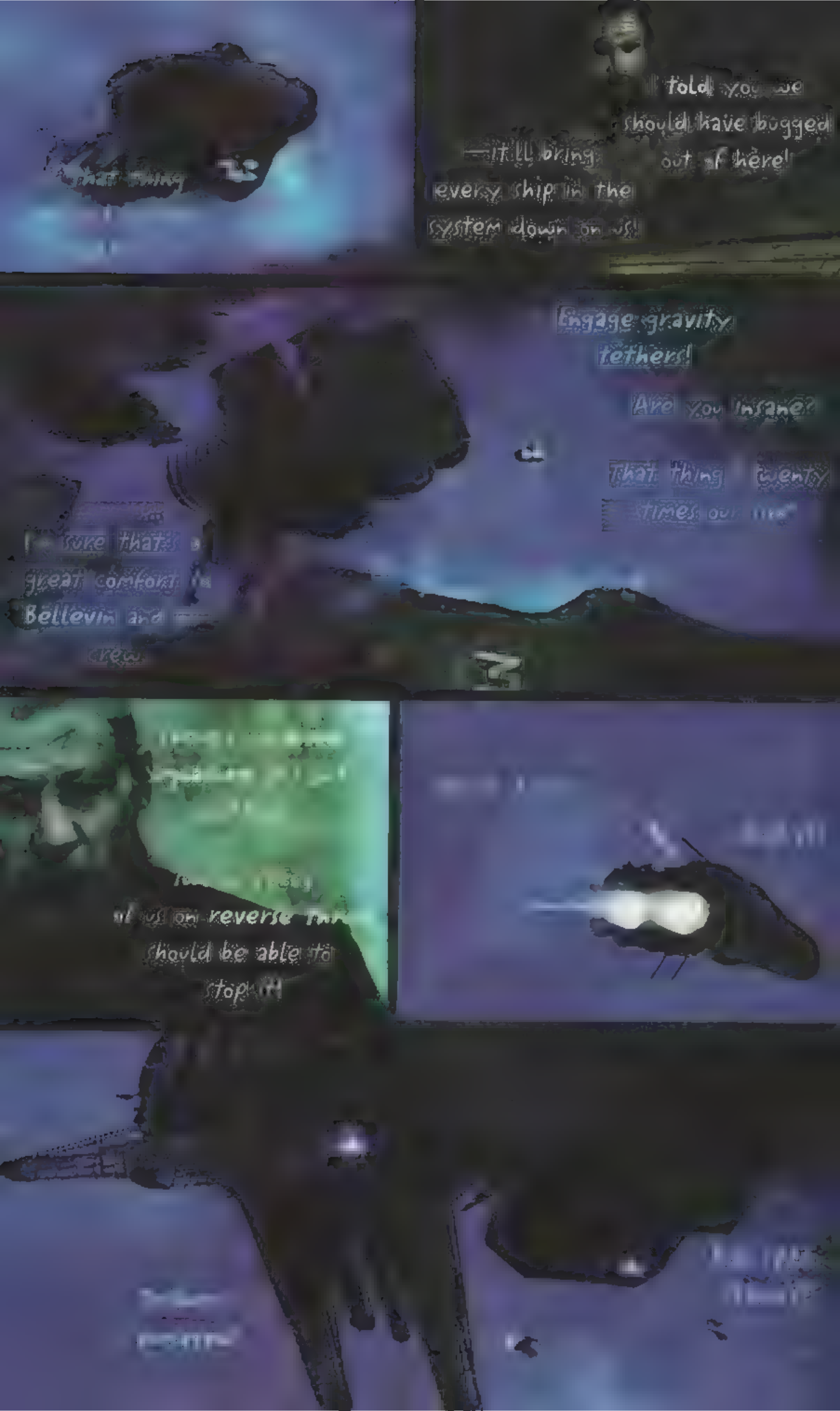
You heard
the man
Thorsen
get after
that ship!



which more
the best and best
and more than



It just
appeared!



told you we
should have bugged
—it'll bring out of here!
every ship in the
system down on us!

Engage gravity
tethers!

Are you insane?

That thing twenty
times our mass

I'm sure that's a
great comfort to
Bellevin and his
crew

if we on reverse thr
should be able to
stop it!

That
coming

That's
coming

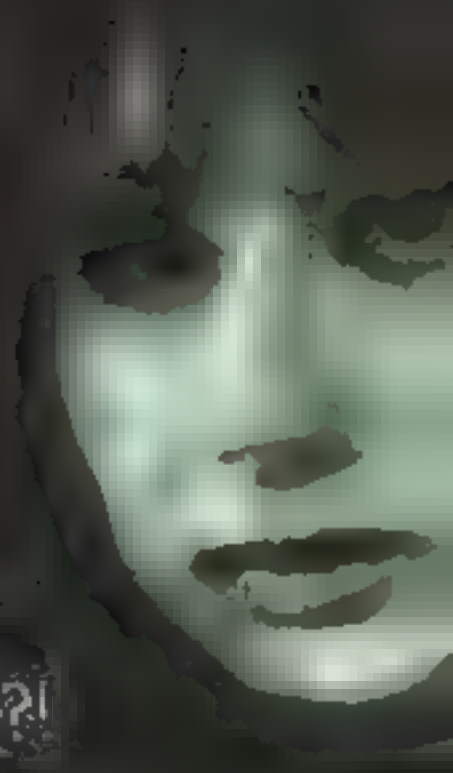


This is a clusterfuck,
but we have to start
thinking about salvage.
That thing vaporized
the Nest, and with
it, our take home

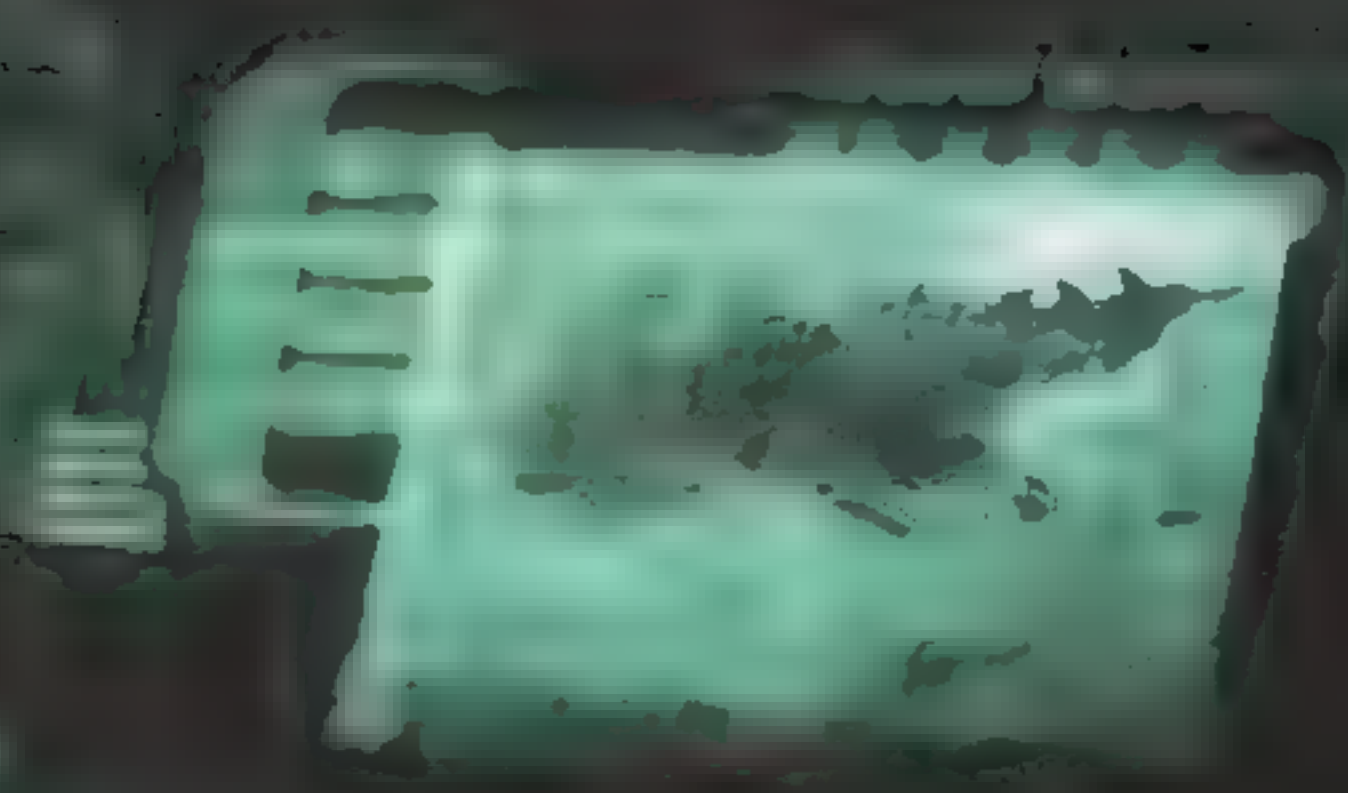
So...

Captain...

What?!

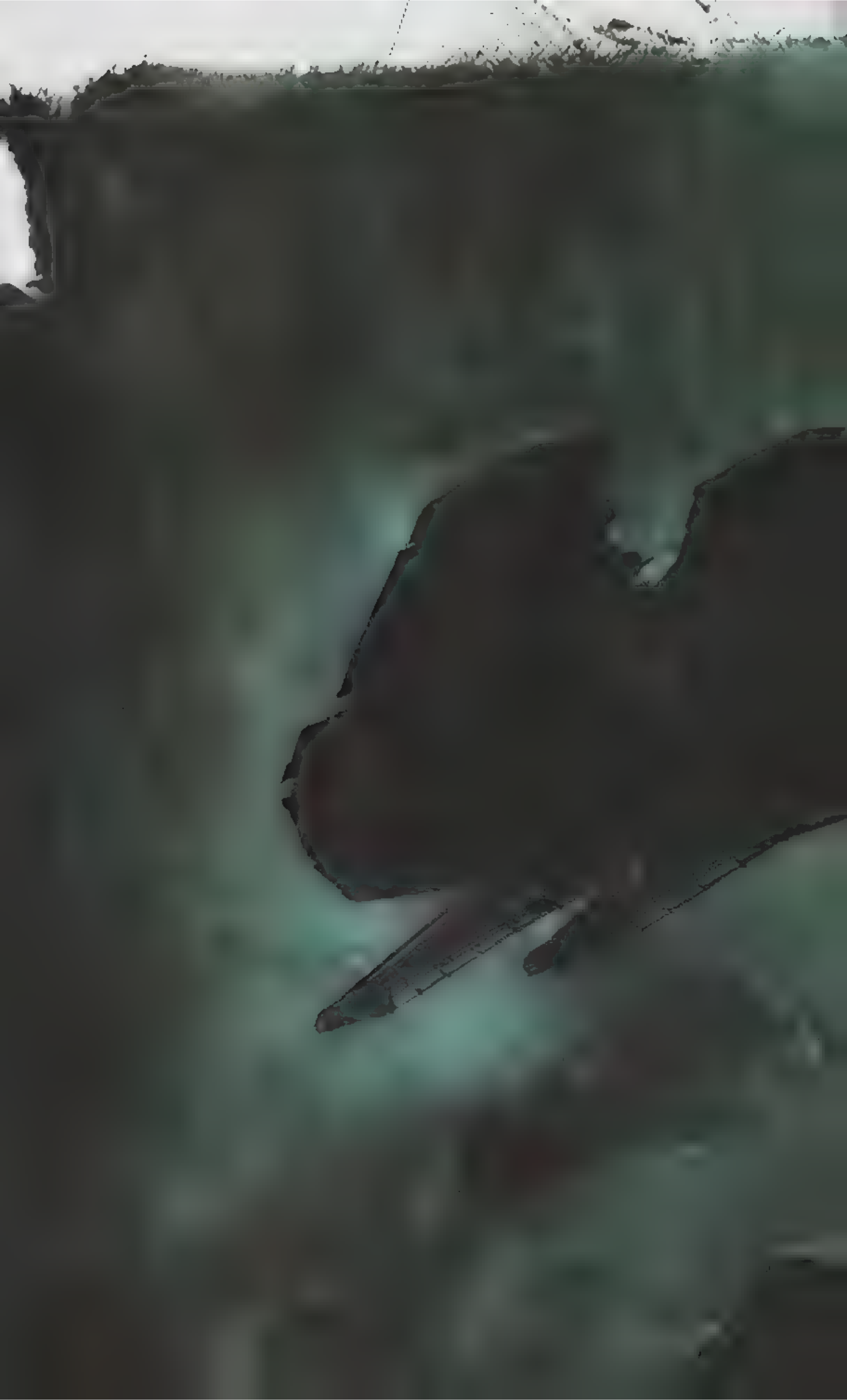


You're not going
to believe this



I've identified the ship..







It's the Ishimura.

on board
Malyech, it
flyby and check the
ship's condition.

Oh great, leave
me out here

You're best qualified
to judge the salvage
state, Malyech, and
we may not have much
time.

Quit whining.

Systems status is bad.
Some auxiliary power
and emergency systems
in place, but it's patchy.

The old girl's been
kicked around.
then

You hear that, Okeke?
Gray and OZ are out
in multiple areas.

Rock and Schneider says
half the trams and doors
are inoperative.

Shots

Multiple

Captain, why are we
even talking about

the... Ishimura.
It's like, we should
turn it to CEC, maybe
even the government.

Not a good
idea, Julia.

Or did you forget
most of it have open
warrants?

We go anywhere
near the government,
or CEC, with this and
the only possible ending
is all our asses in jail.

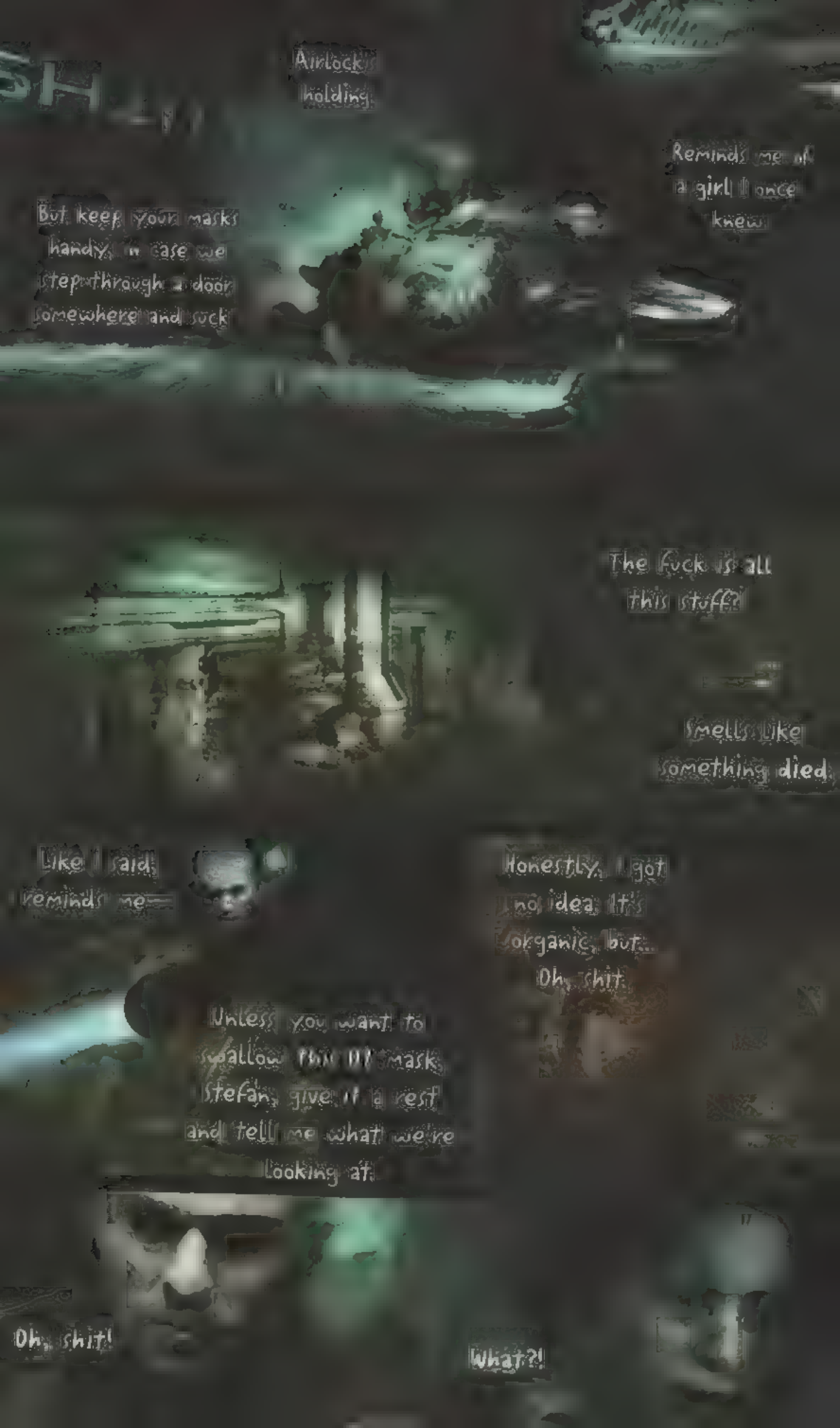
Then they'd take
back the ship anyway.
Everybody loses.

Whoa.

Venschiff,
slow up.

Someone want to tell

what's in those



Airlock
holding

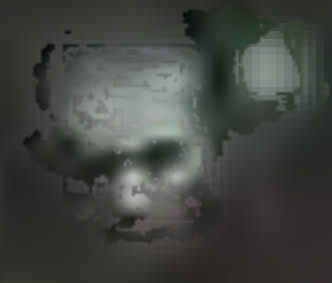
Reminds me of
a girl I once
knew

But keep your masks
handy in case we
step through a door
somewhere and suck

The fuck is all
this stuff?

Smells like
something died.

Like I said,
reminds me—



Honestly, I got
no idea. It's
organic, but...
Oh, shit.

Unless you want to
swallow this mask.
Stefan, give it a rest
and tell me what we're
looking at.

Oh, shit!

What?!

Look in there. This
place is filled with
the stuff.

the scan say it's
a 70% match for
human compound!

Boom! Like a slingshot!

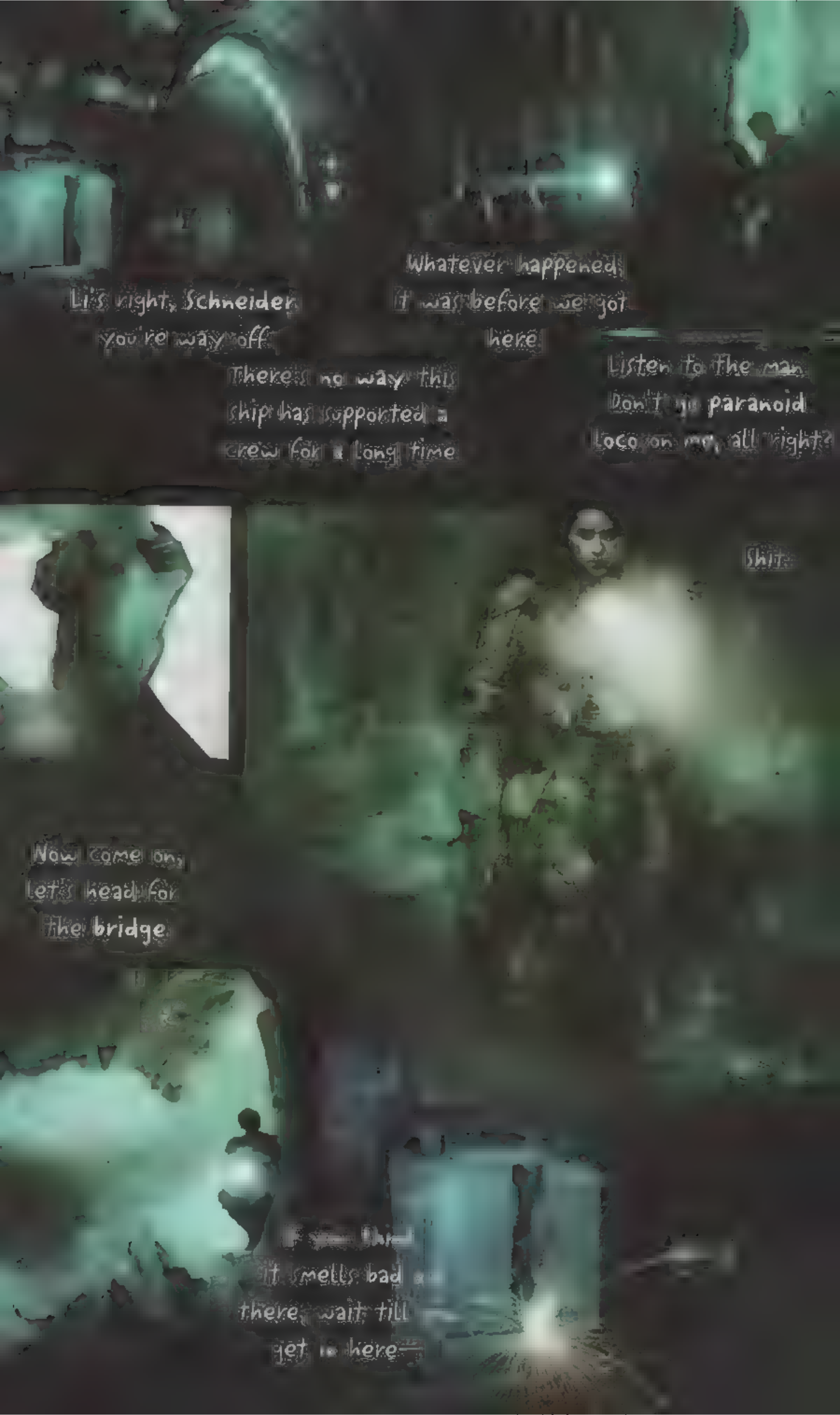
And this is the crew.

Get a grip!

We did not
do this!

How do you know?
There's been cases
before, bad shockpoints
that smear the crew
all over the walls.

Get a grip!
Get a grip!
Get a grip!



Whatever happened

Li's right, Schneider

It was before we got

you're way off

here

There's no way this

ship has supported a

crew for a long time

Listen to the man

Don't go paranoid

Loco on me, all right?

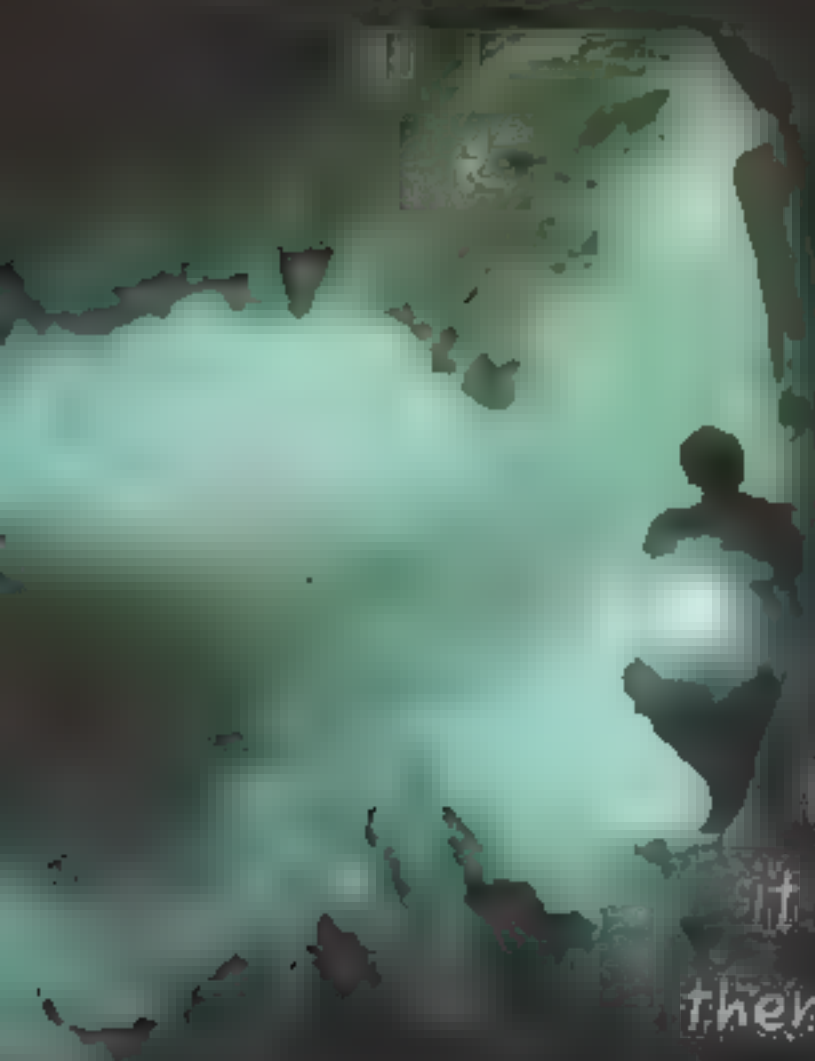


Shit

Now come on,

let's head for

the bridge



It smells bad

there wait till

get to here—

Aaaa

JESSICA!

What just
happened?

The door... told you
some of them were...
malfunctioning.

I can probably
fix it. Give me
a minute.

You OK? Don't want
you ending up as bone
soup like the crew here.

We don't
know it's
the crew.

for sure, I
mean. We
don't know
for sure.

Got it.

Should hold
but it's a raw
job, so be careful.

Can't vouch for
its stability, if you
know what I mean.

This
time Schneider
you go first.

So much for
gratitude.



crystals would
broken up on impact
unless they're something
really solid, which would
mean they're valuable

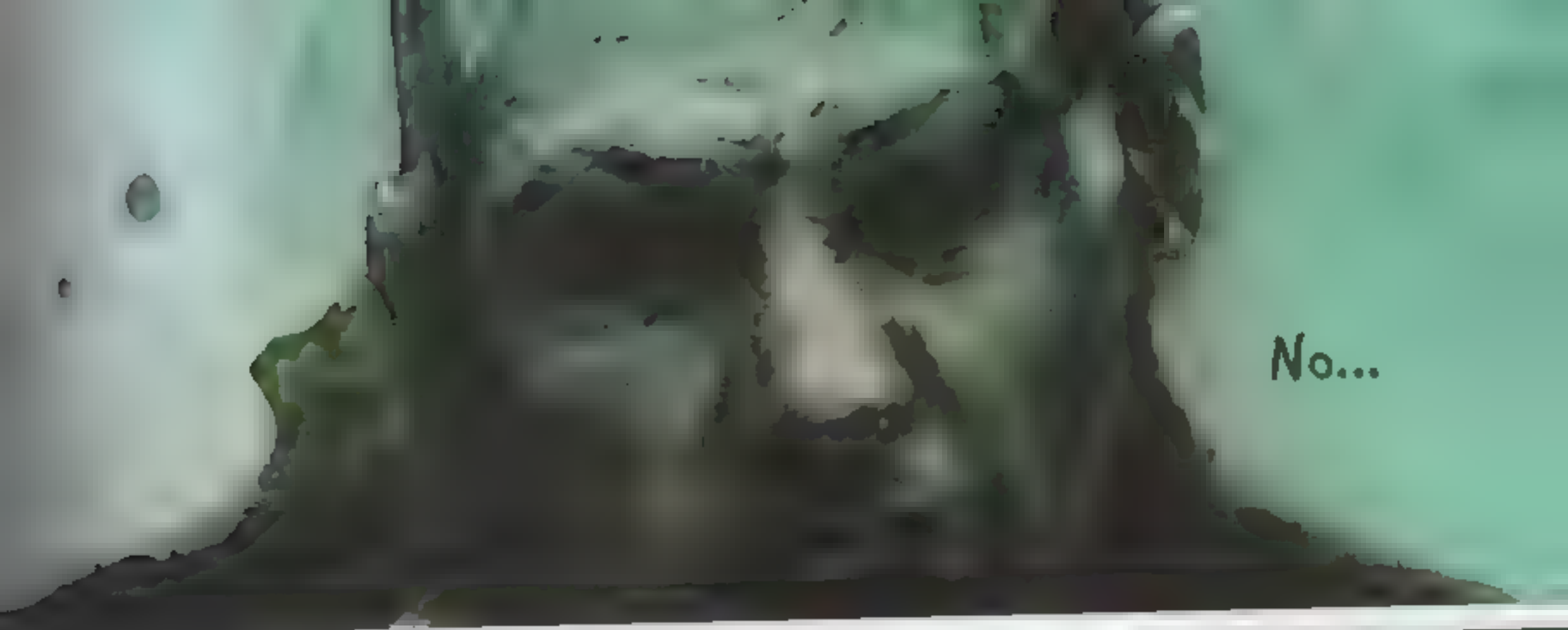
anyway.

And look at the
positions. It's too
wide an area, too
scattered.

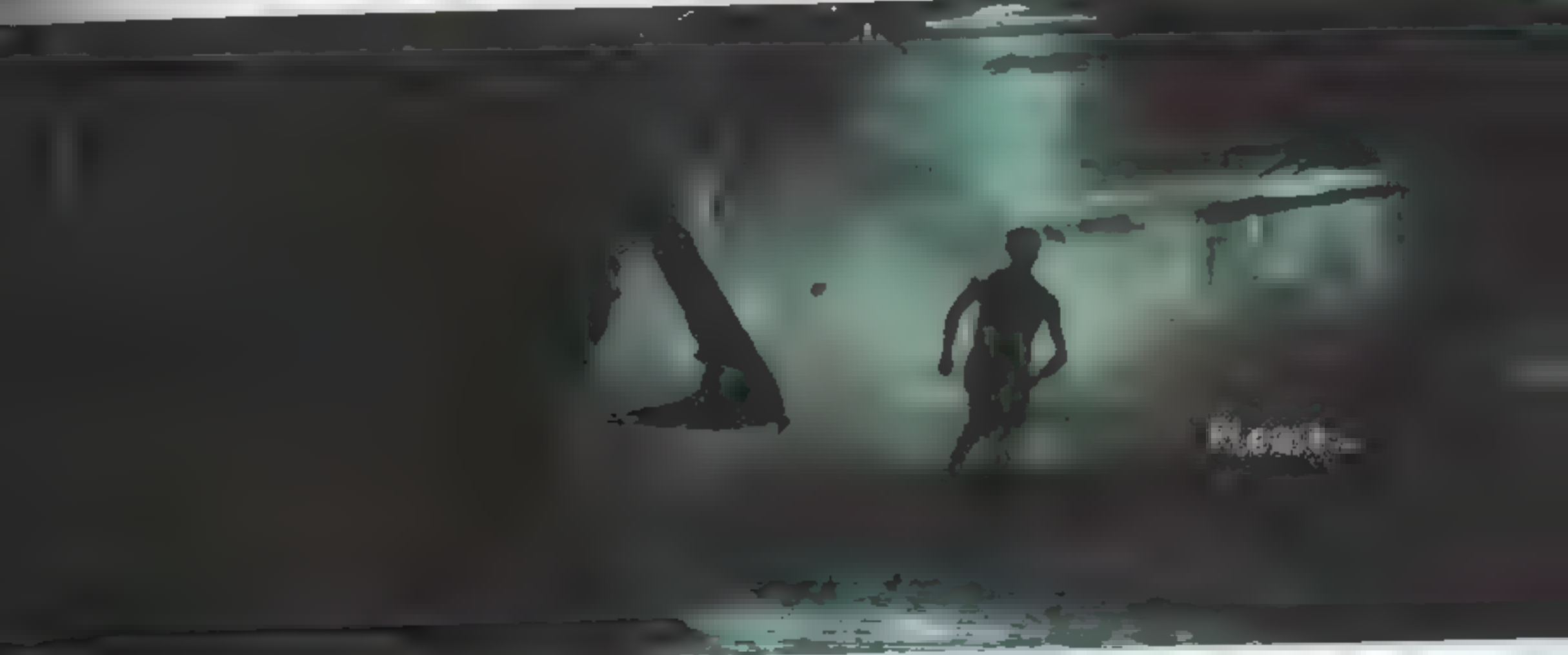
I think we're
at something special
here. They...

these markings. Altman
be praised, they almost
look like

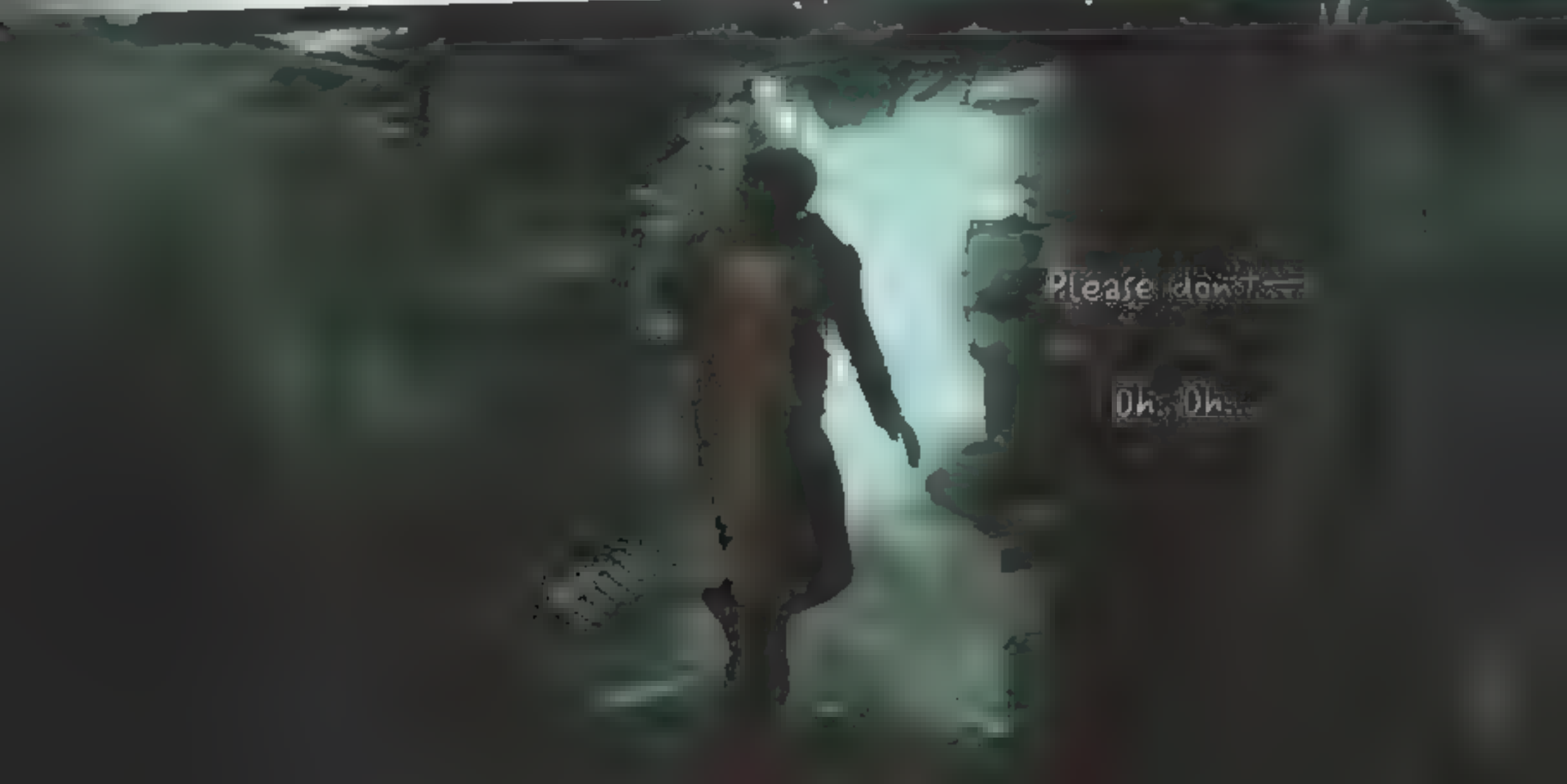
Like what? Captain
can you hear me?



No...

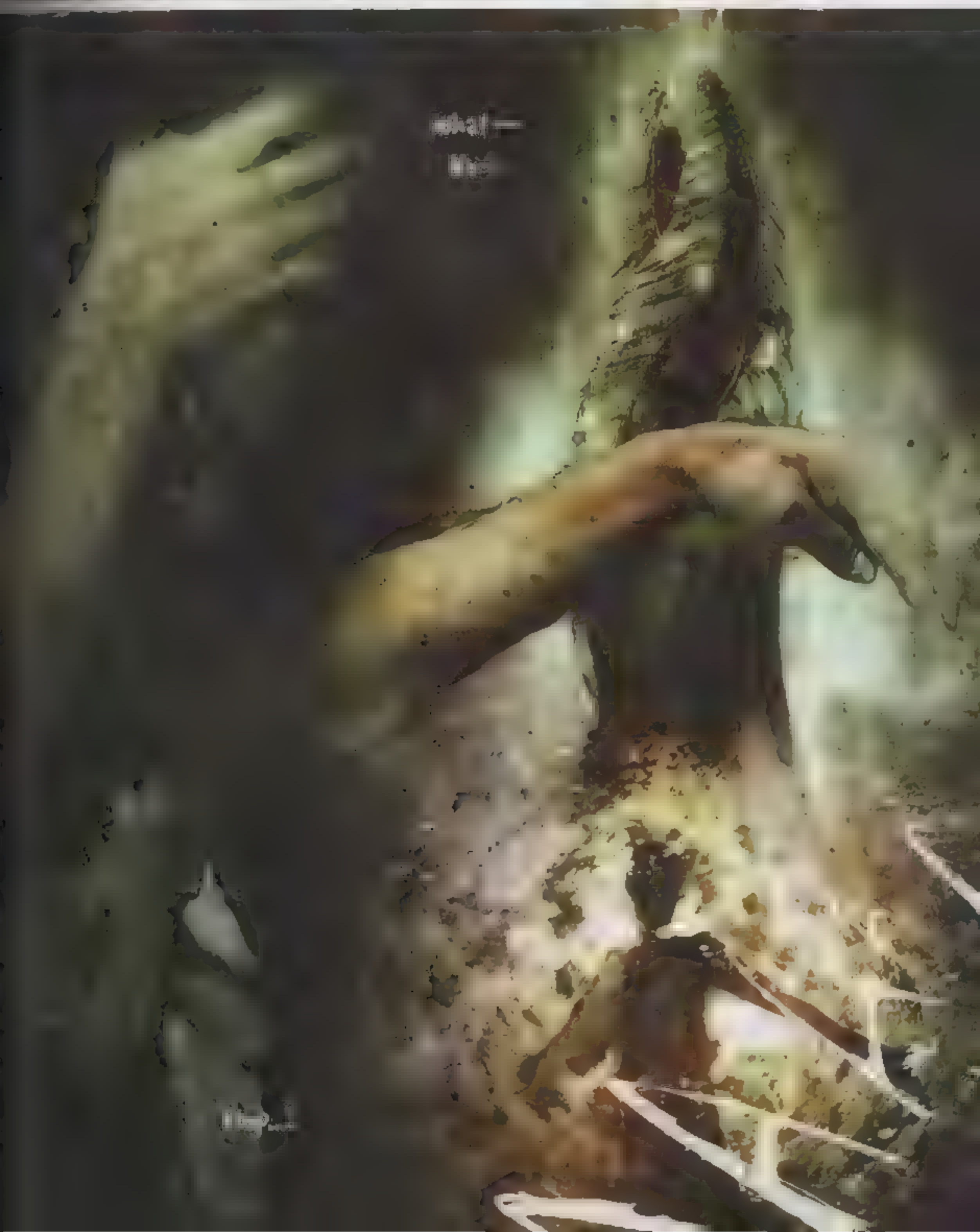
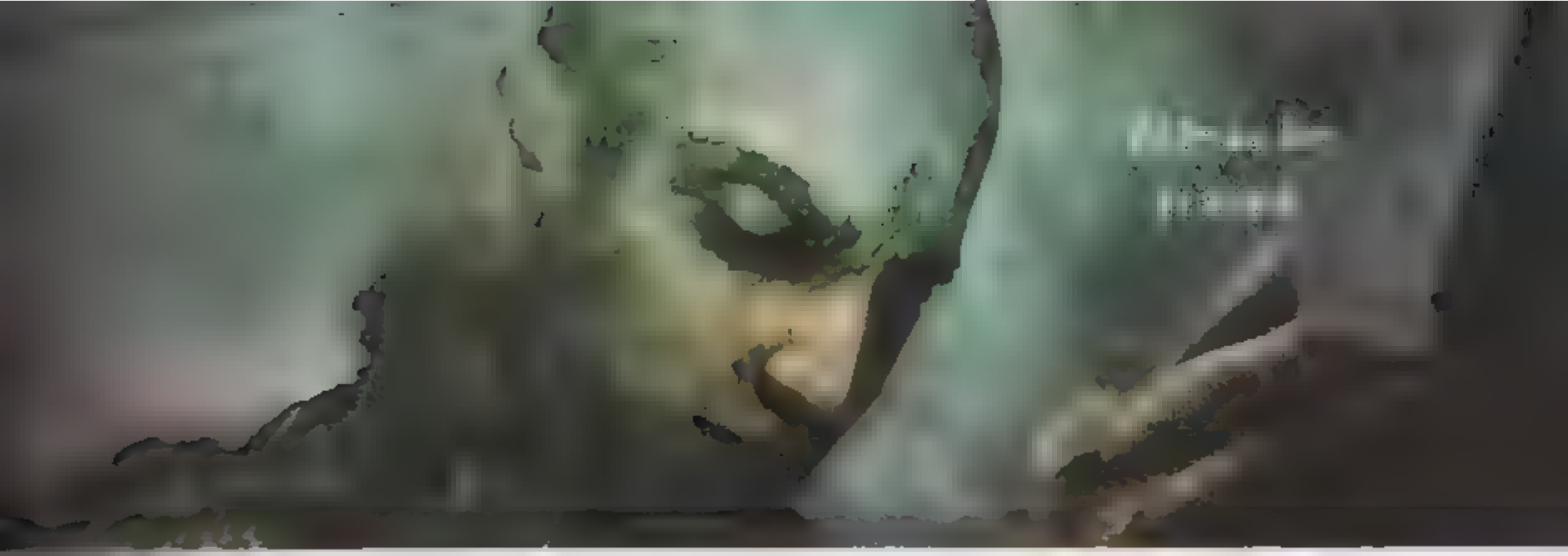


Please don't...



Please don't...

Oh... Oh...



I've got him

Gott the dir rec

in the

He's

It again

We've got you

Copland: E

does

What happened?

I don't remember

Shh, it's all

right now

Bring them in with

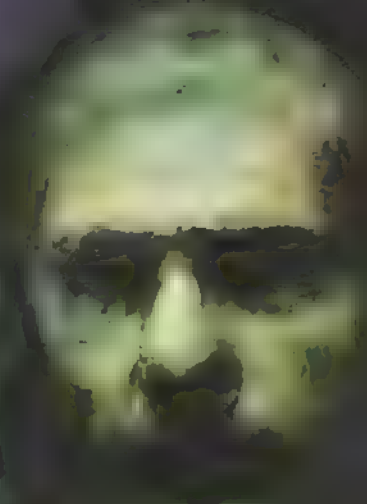
a remote. We need

to get a closer look

at them

Everybody stop

You spaced for a minute,
that's all. Those crystals
seemed to freak you out.



Copland was right,
the shockpoint drive
dead. Looks like the
whole of engineering
took a serious beating.

Can it be repaired?
Even a re-conned
shockpoint's worth
plenty.

to say.

I'd need to take
it apart to be sure.
How's it look in
medical?

Going through now.
It's a slaughterhouse.

RAD-COUNT RISING!
CURRENT LEVEL 0.5%
SIEVERTS.

What the
fuck is that?

Let it auto-update
significant change
to radiation level.

Hey, for all we
know, this ship is
jumping hot.

Is what
you say Okeke
Repair or scrap

Scrap.

It's worth a
fortune either
way.

I say break it down
while we wait for
the blockade to lift
then rent another
Nest and bring it back
to transport the parts

You're assuming
the government
is going to
leave any
time soon.
What if this
ship is why
they're here?

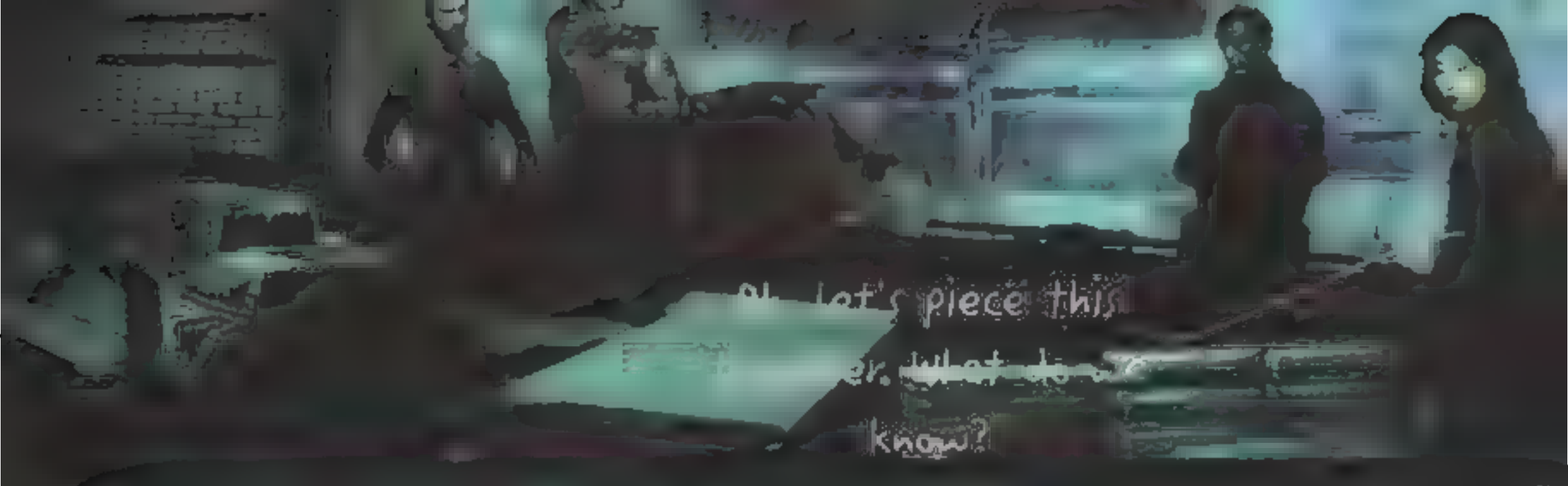
I have a very
bad feeling about
all this.

All the more
reason to break
it down as fast
as we can.

Look, I know this
is all a little
weird, but Okeke's
right. I'm not giving
up payday yet
because you're
freaked out.

Sure
-thing.

Everyone get
the bridge, and
we'll talk this over.
I'll call Malyech



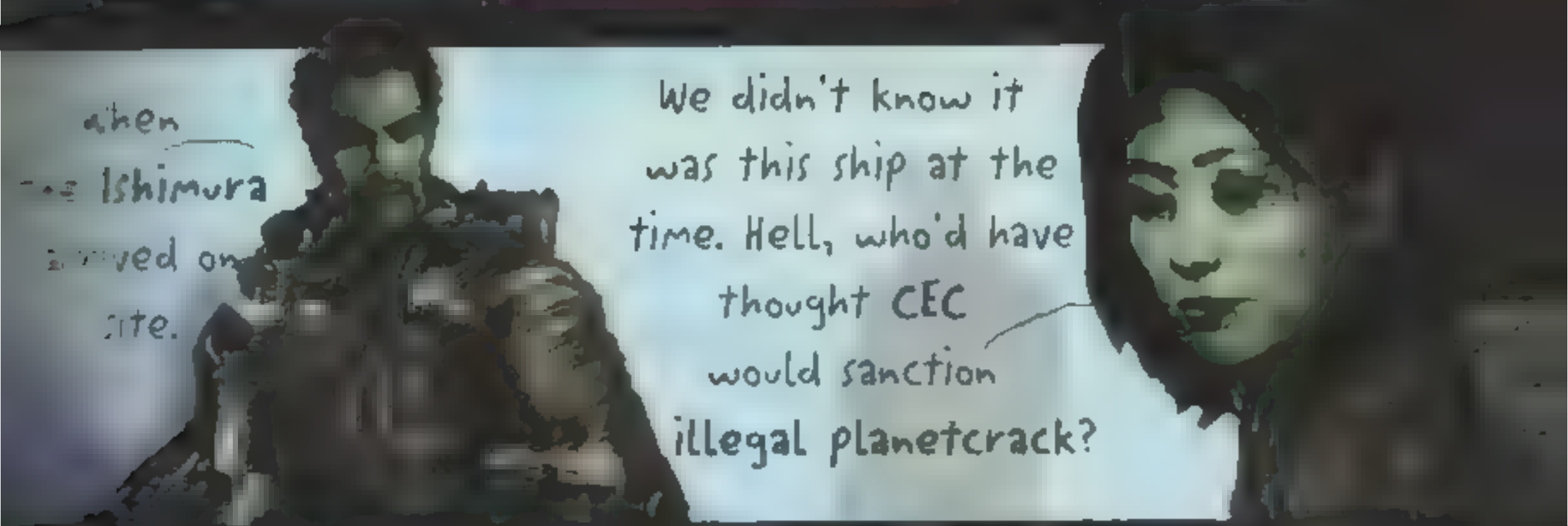
oh, let's piece this

er. what do

know?

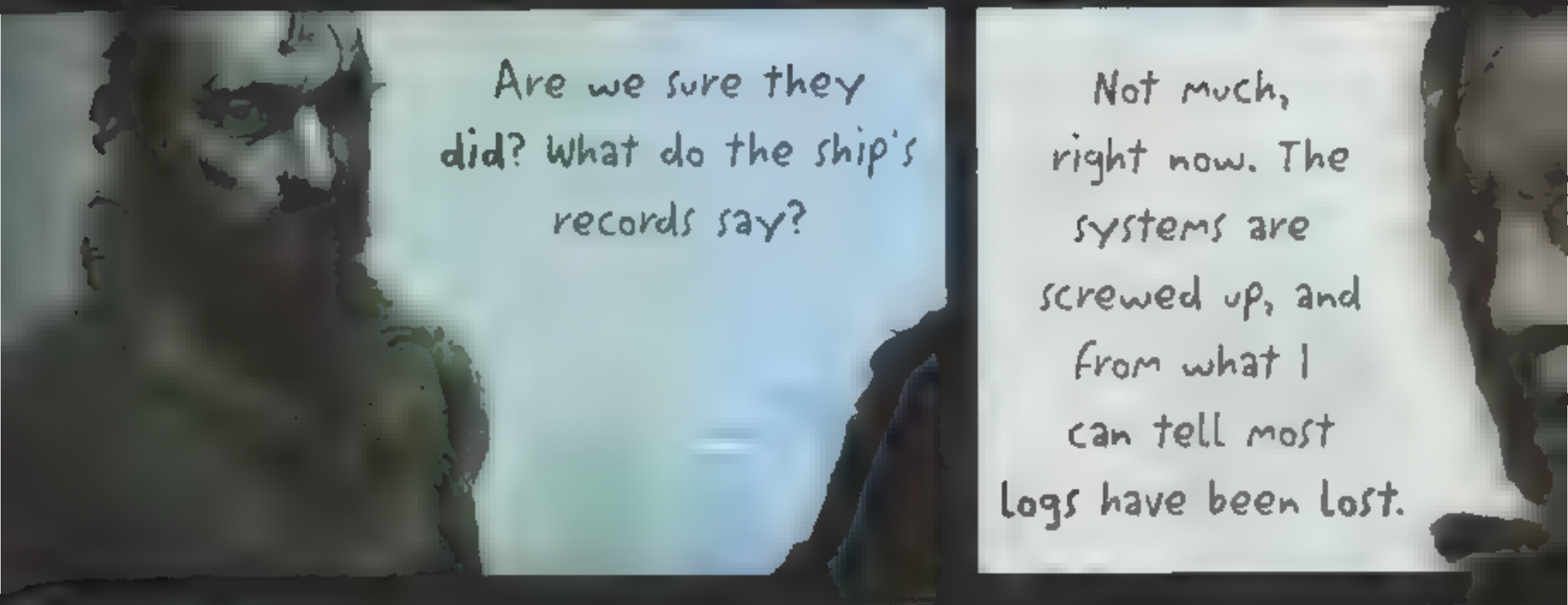
We knew when we arrived in-system there was something going on farther out, on planet seven.

Broadcast activity picked up about a month ago.



when the Ishimura arrived on site.

We didn't know it was this ship at the time. Hell, who'd have thought CEC would sanction illegal planetcrack?



Are we sure they did? What do the ship's records say?

Not much, right now. The systems are screwed up, and from what I can tell most logs have been lost.



I'm working on it, but I don't know how much there is left to retrieve.




light
planetcracker
logs were
blackboxed.

They are. It might
have been deliberate...
Maybe even connected
to whatever made the
ship go dark.


Which was right around
planetcrack. Sensors showed a
major instability on the planet,
remember. Had to be some
kind of accident.

But what
the planet
unstable...
would that
out the crew



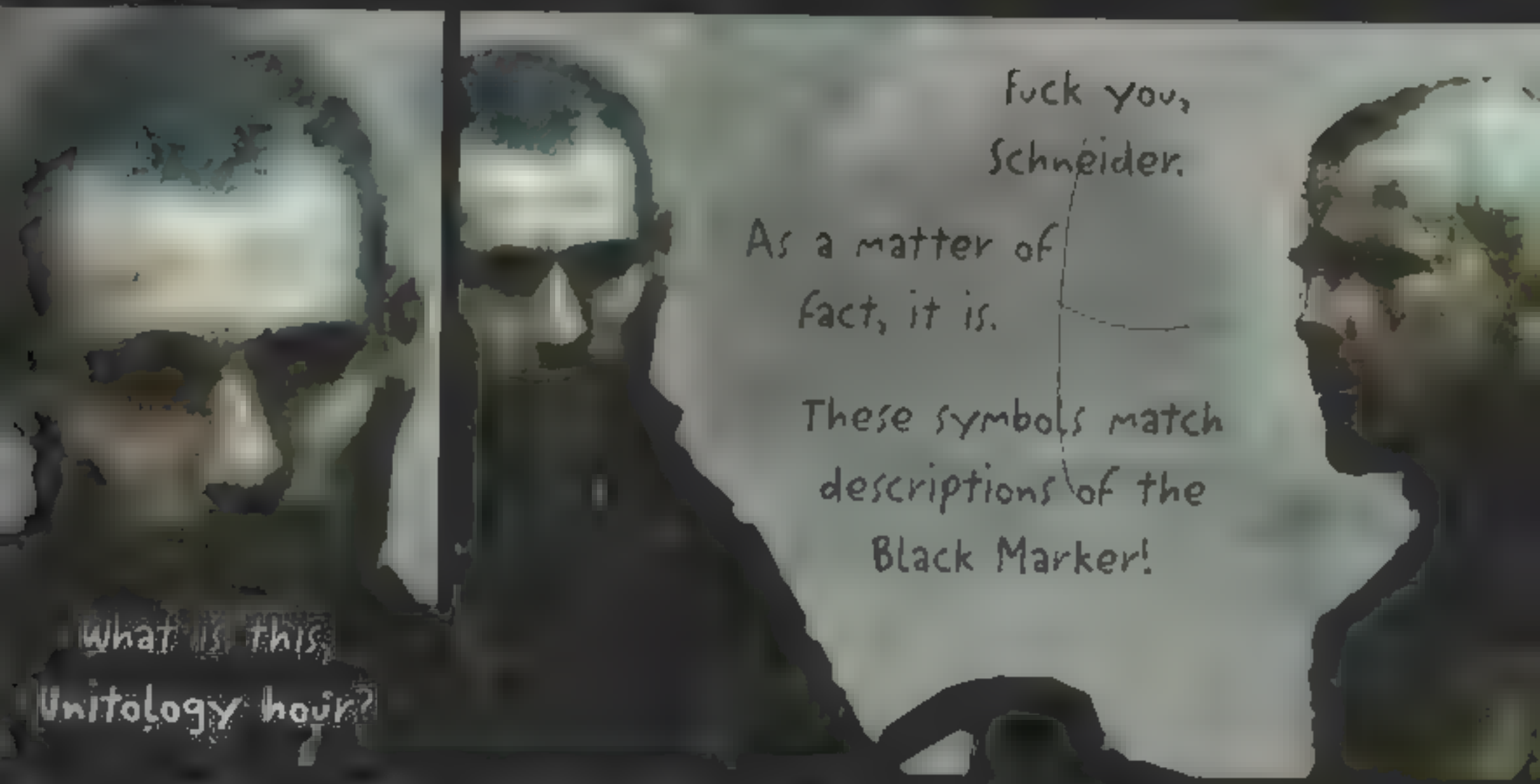
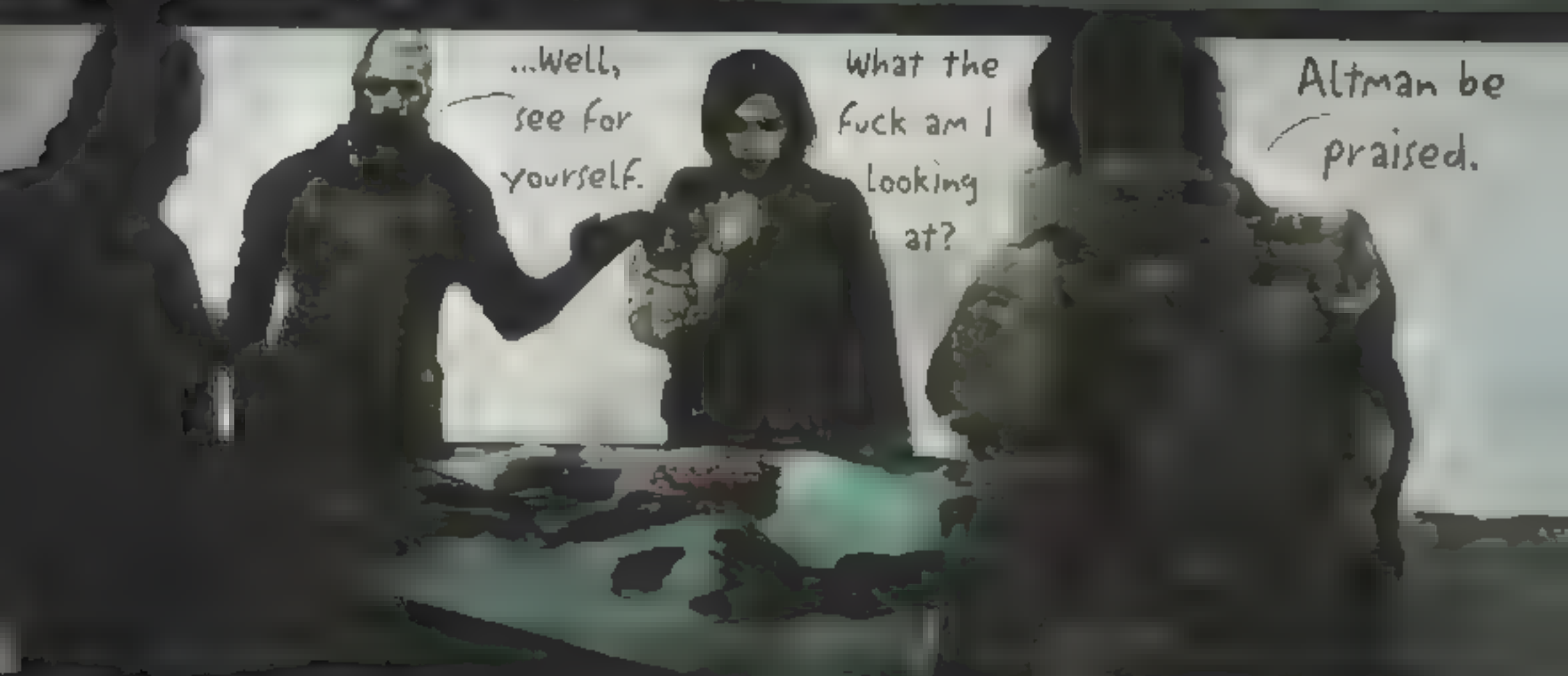
Screw the
crew.

You have to
take a look at
something.



Especially
you, Dkeke.

Embedded in the hull. At
first, we thought they
were just asteroid debris,
but...



You're looking at
pieces of a holy
artifact... shards
from a marker!



Let me get a
look at that
in the
material?

These objects are
holy, not trinkets
for heathens to
paw at!

You're saying
these are

I am saying this must be
why the government shut the
system down! They knew they
were here... They want to hide
them from us, just like the original
marker!

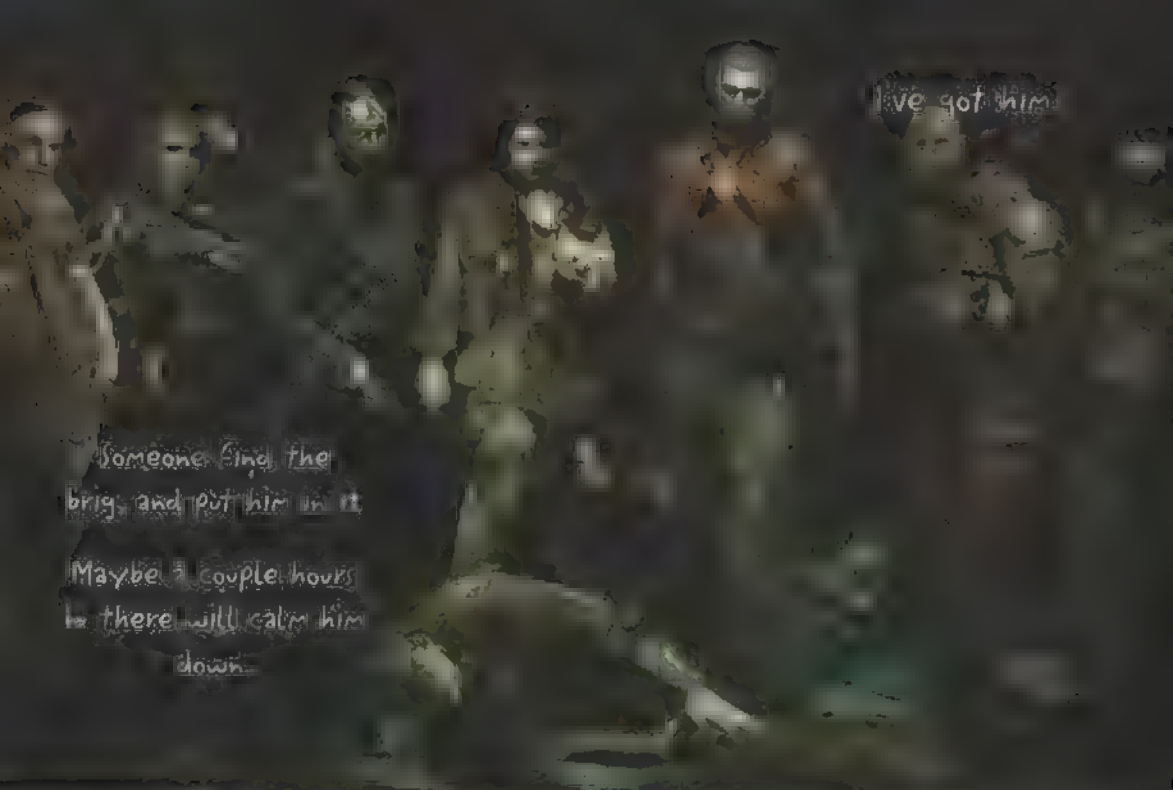
Shit, he's right.
This is what they're
after.

All right, then, to
hell with the ship.
Let's ransom these rocks
to your Church, instead.

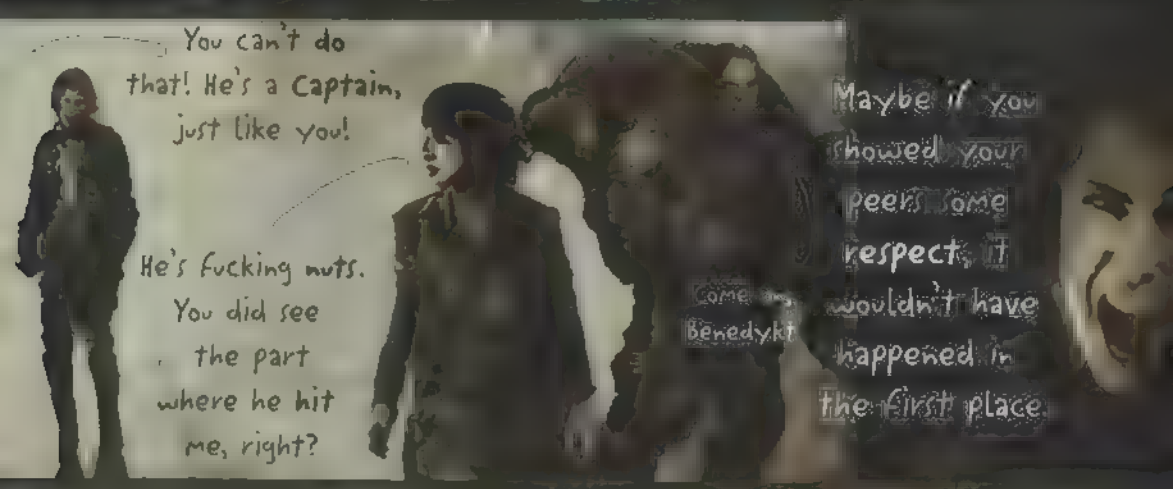
What?!
That's
blasphemy!

Be practical. If these
are what you say, then
Unitologists get what they
want, and we all get to
retire.





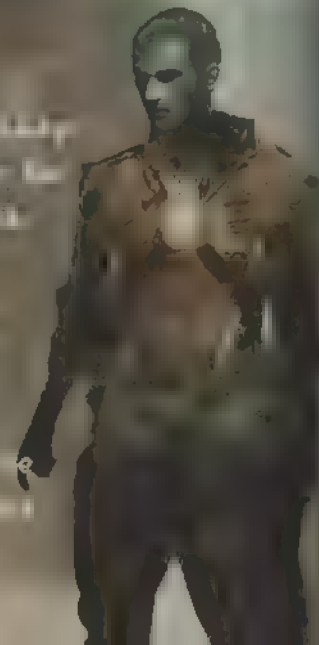
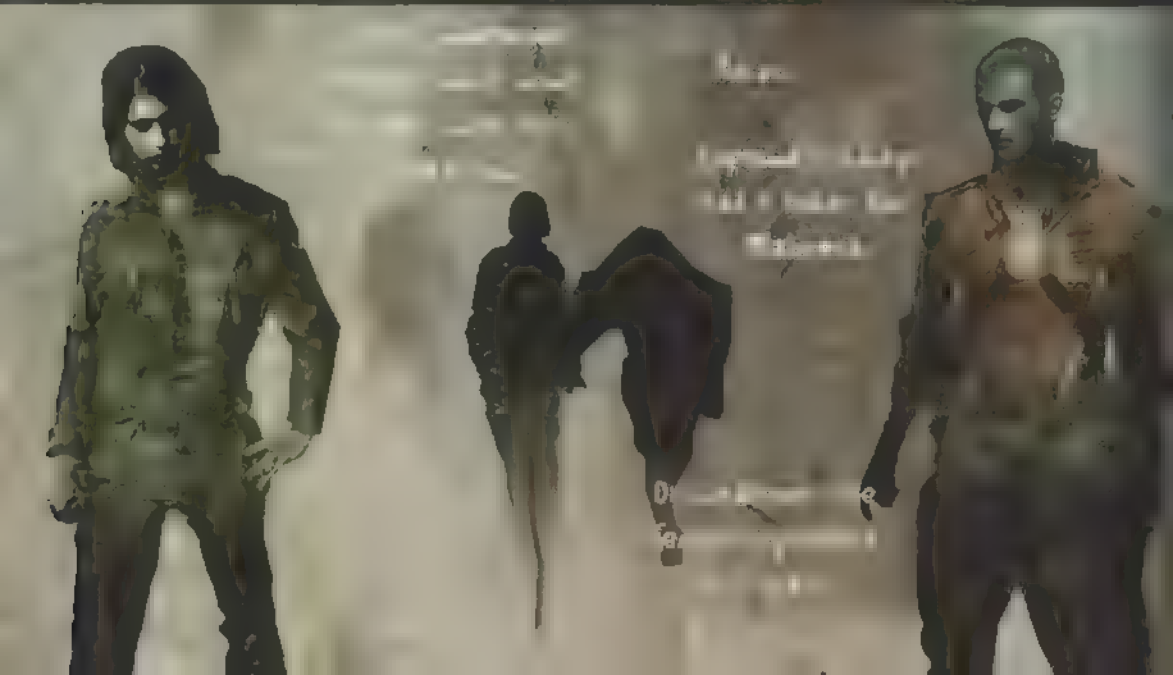
Someone find the
brig and put him in it
Maybe a couple hours
in there will calm him
down



You can't do
that! He's a Captain,
just like you!

He's fucking nuts.
You did see
the part
where he hit
me, right?

Maybe if you
showed your
peers some
respect, it
wouldn't have
happened in
the first place.



Kenschiff:

pland. You've
to top them



—she's right

time. You need

calm down, get

your head straight

throw you

You don't understand...

None of you understand...

The truth...
at last.

With respect,

Captain, don't

give me that

Unitology crap

Practicing your
faith is one thing,

but attacking

over some worthless

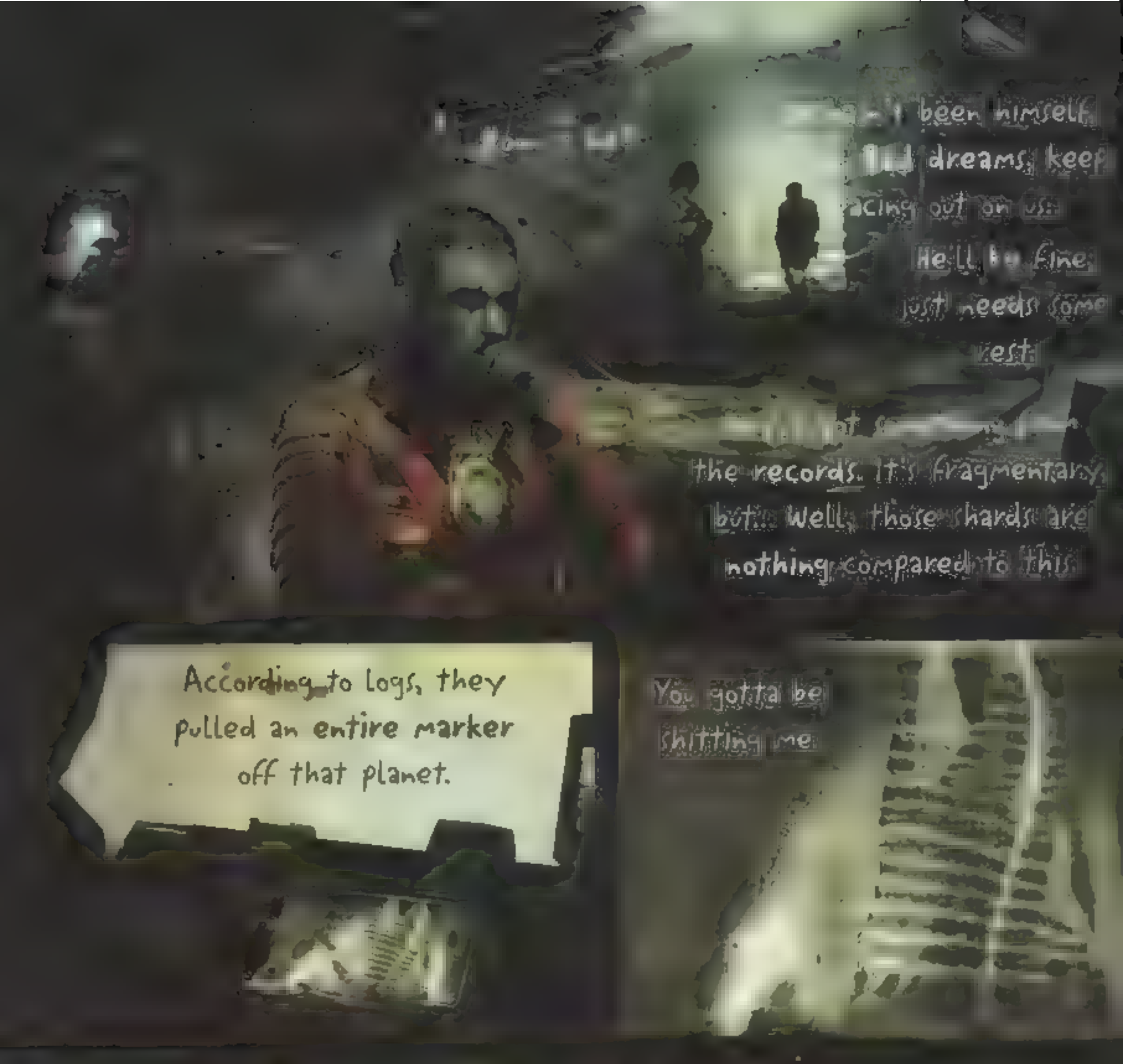
bits of crystal...

Get some rest

I'll come check

on you in a while

Goodbye.

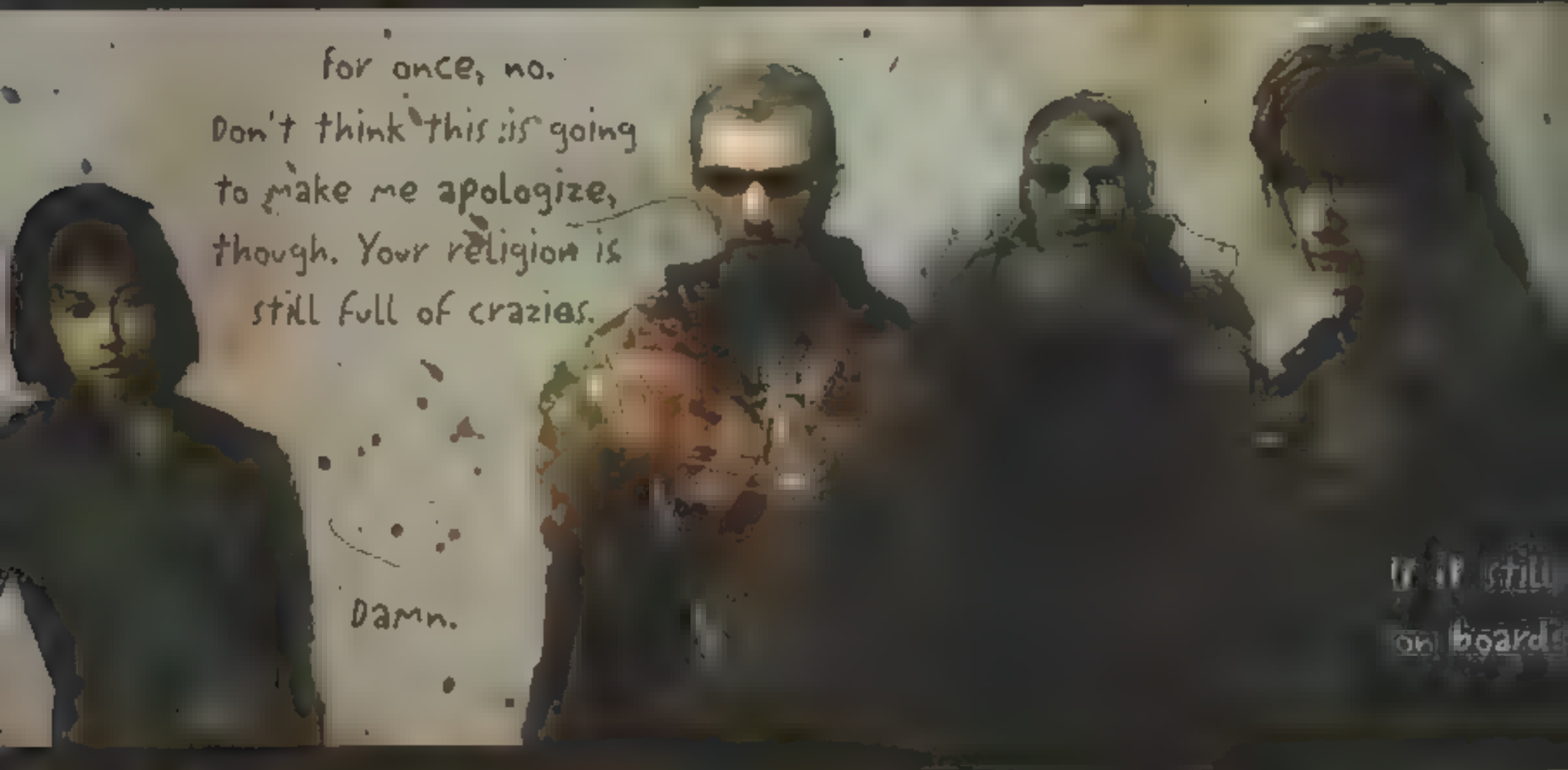


...been himself.
...dreams, keep
...acing out on us.
Hell to fine.
just needs some
rest.

the records. It's fragmentary,
but... Well, those hands are
nothing compared to this.

According to logs, they
pulled an entire marker
off that planet.

You gotta be
shitting me.



for once, no.
Don't think this is going
to make me apologize,
though. Your religion is
still full of crazies.

Damn.

it's still
on board.



shit! We can't let
the government get
their hands on this!

Not without paying
up, sure. That must be
what they're after, not
some pissy little shards.

Hold on—



Oh, shit.


That's not
what I meant!



What the hell is
this machine?

It's a piece of
the old world.
It's a relic.

The bitch is
going to sell
it out!



Ransom it or rescue it, if the church
is right about the size, we're not
moving a marker anywhere without
a Nest. Which means we
need to repair this ship.

Okeke, get your crew back
to engineering. See if you can
repair the shockpoint—

Strip the shockring
for parts if you
have to.

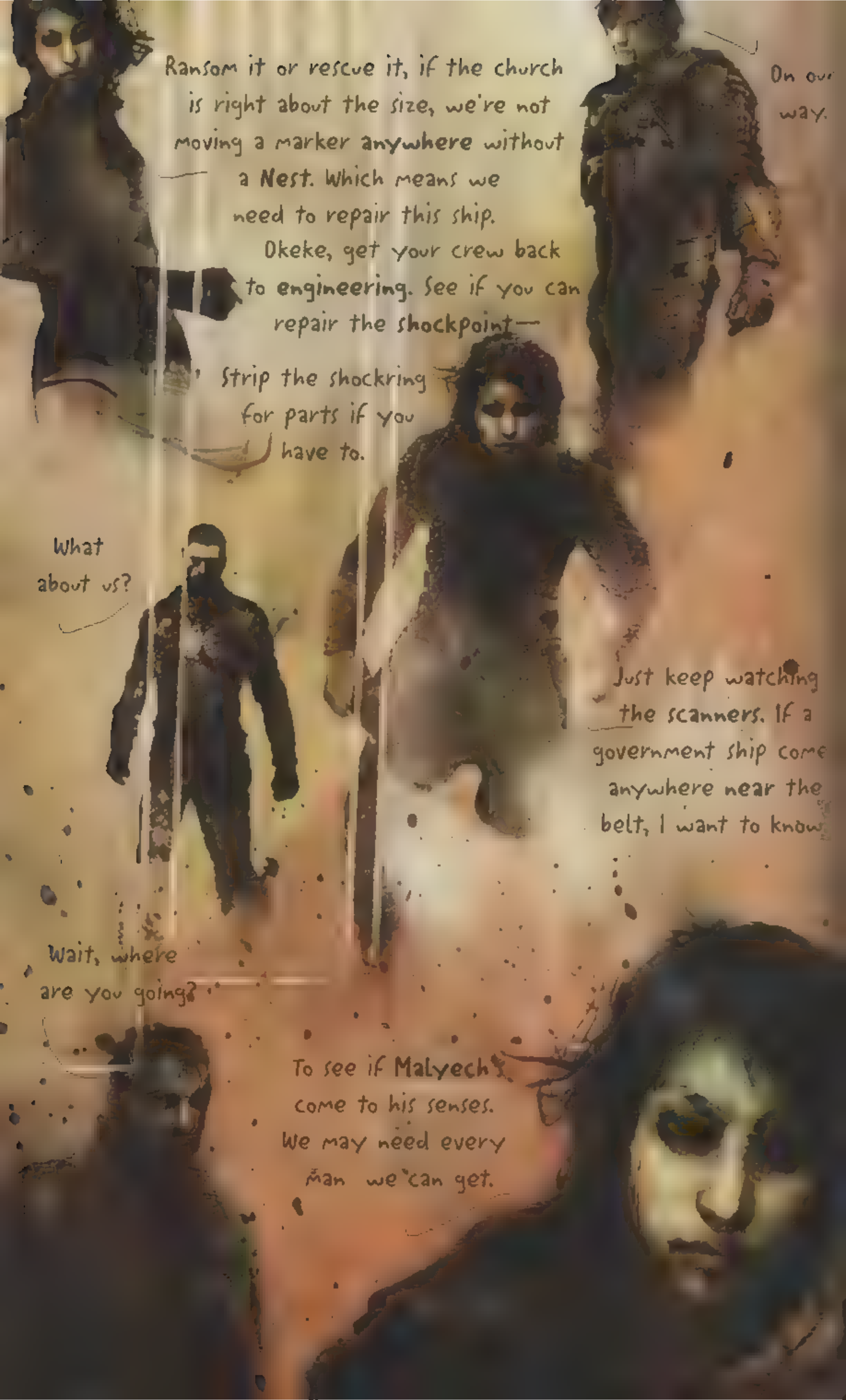
What
about us?

Wait, where
are you going?

To see if Malyech
come to his senses.
We may need every
man we can get.

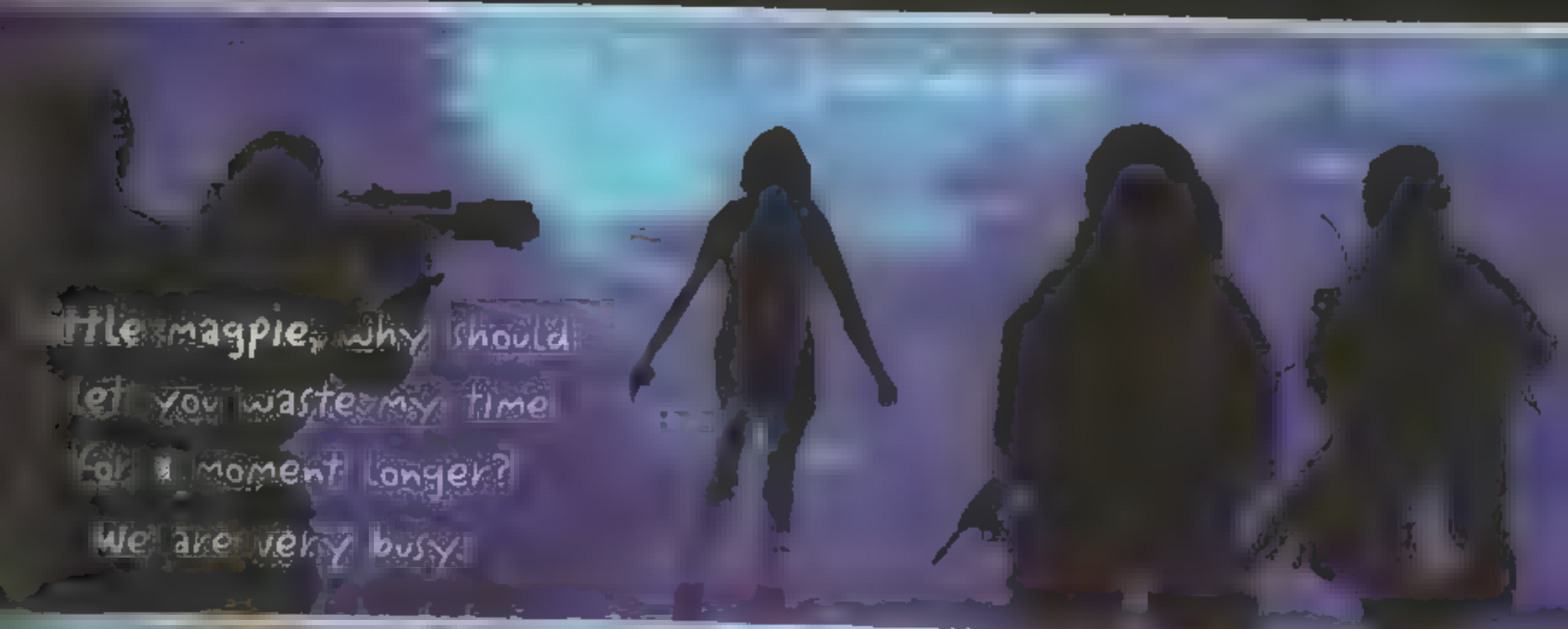
On our
way.

Just keep watching
the scanners. If a
government ship come
anywhere near the
belt, I want to know.

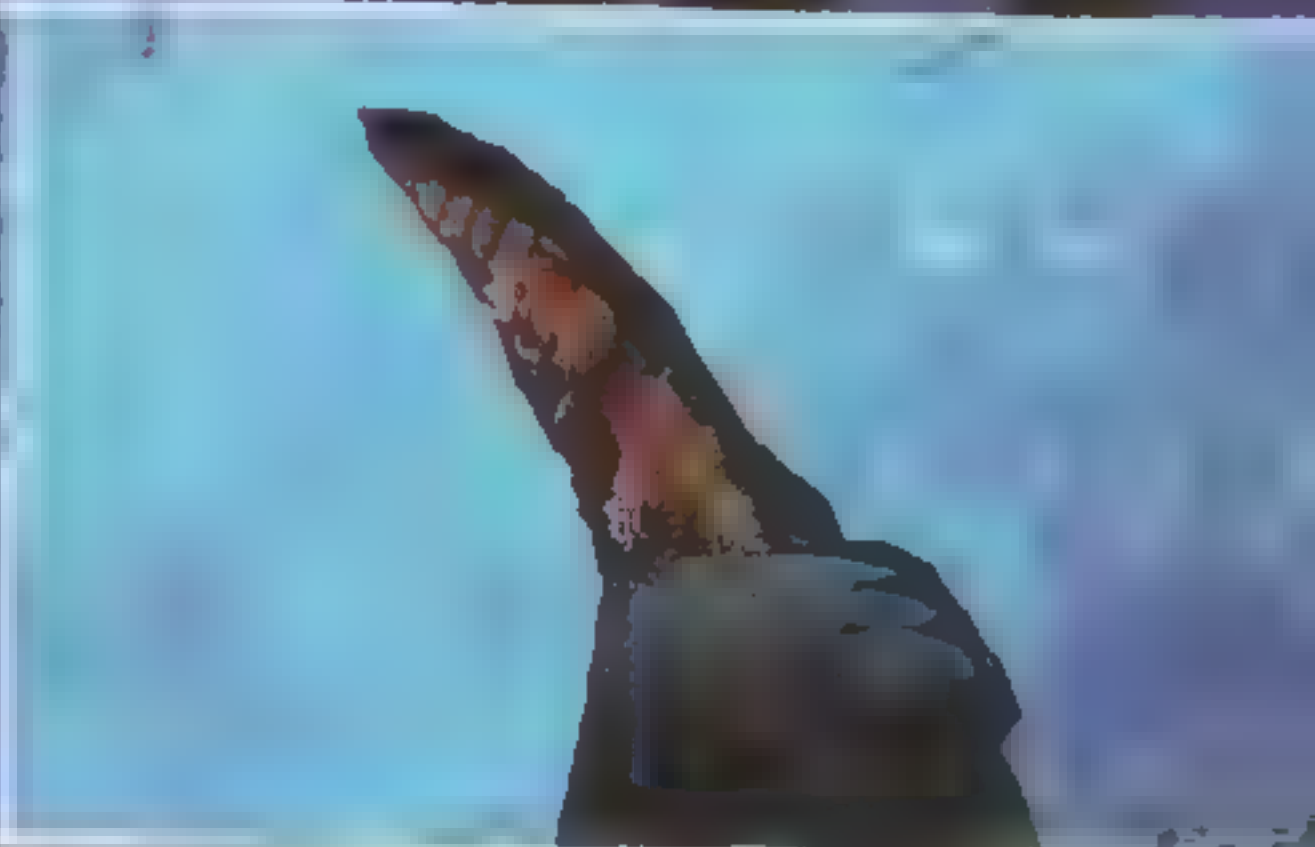
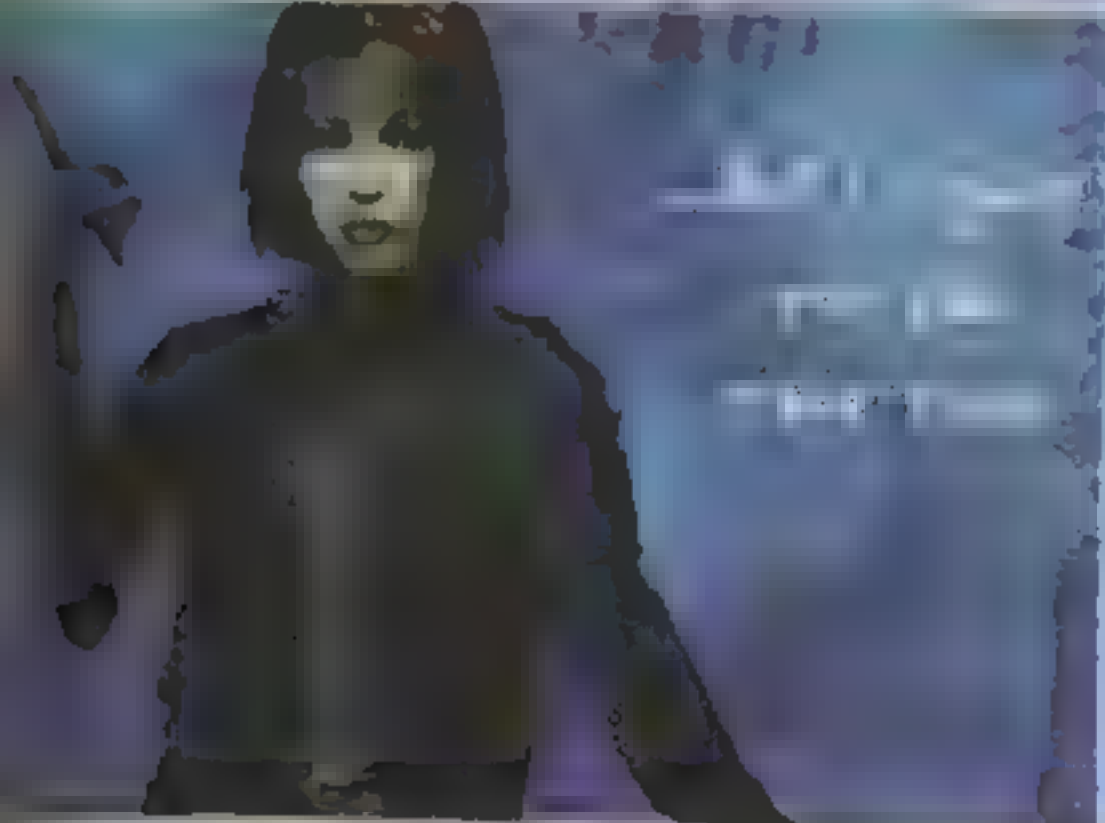




know where
you can find the
Ishimura.



little magpie, why should
let you waste my time
for a moment longer?
We are very busy.

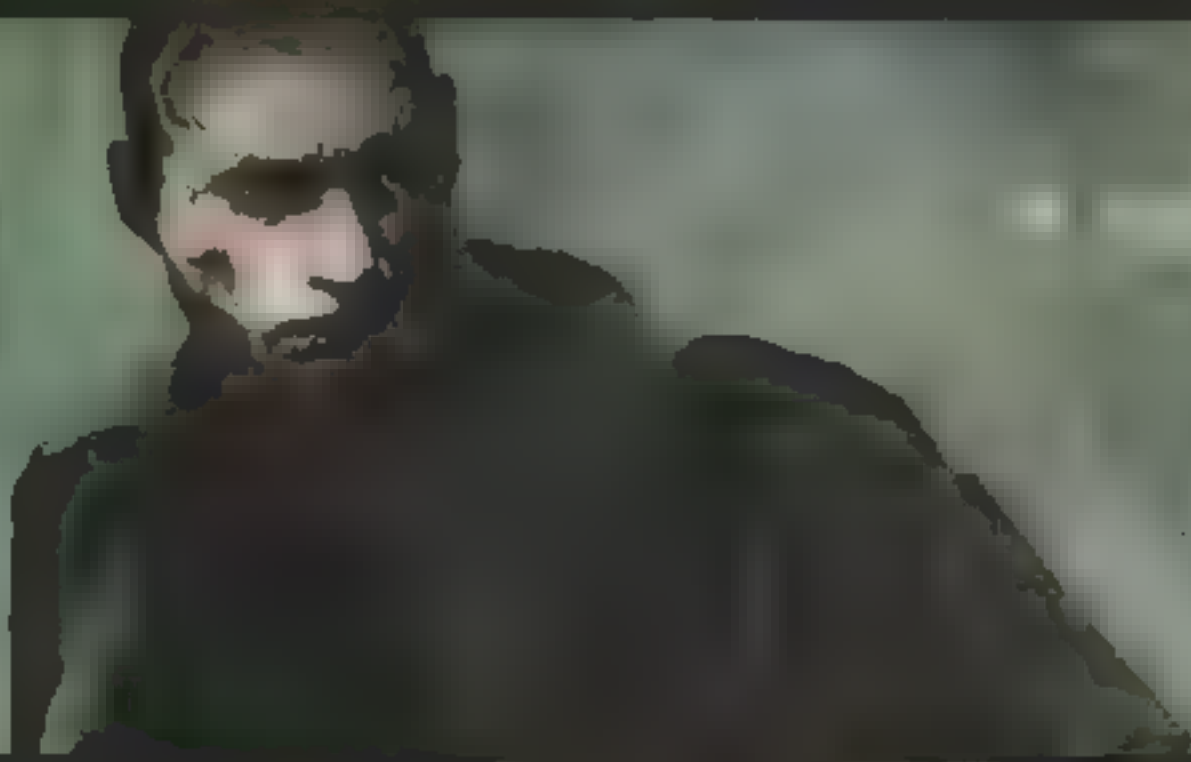


Come with me.

Backtrace her
arrival vector

Find out where
she came from:

Yes, ma



I'll leave you
gentleman to it.

How are you
feeling, Julia?

Thank you,
Secretary
Chang.

It's better
than I had
a headache
but... yeah, I
feel fine.

Now tell us
everything.

He's spilling
her guts out
in there.
These guys
are good.

Sir, we've projected the
source vector. She came
from the asteroid belt.

We can pin
it to within
two hundred
clicks.

Good enough. Take a small secret
crew, nothing big. I don't want to
infect anyone. We have to be there
before anyone else can hear about it.

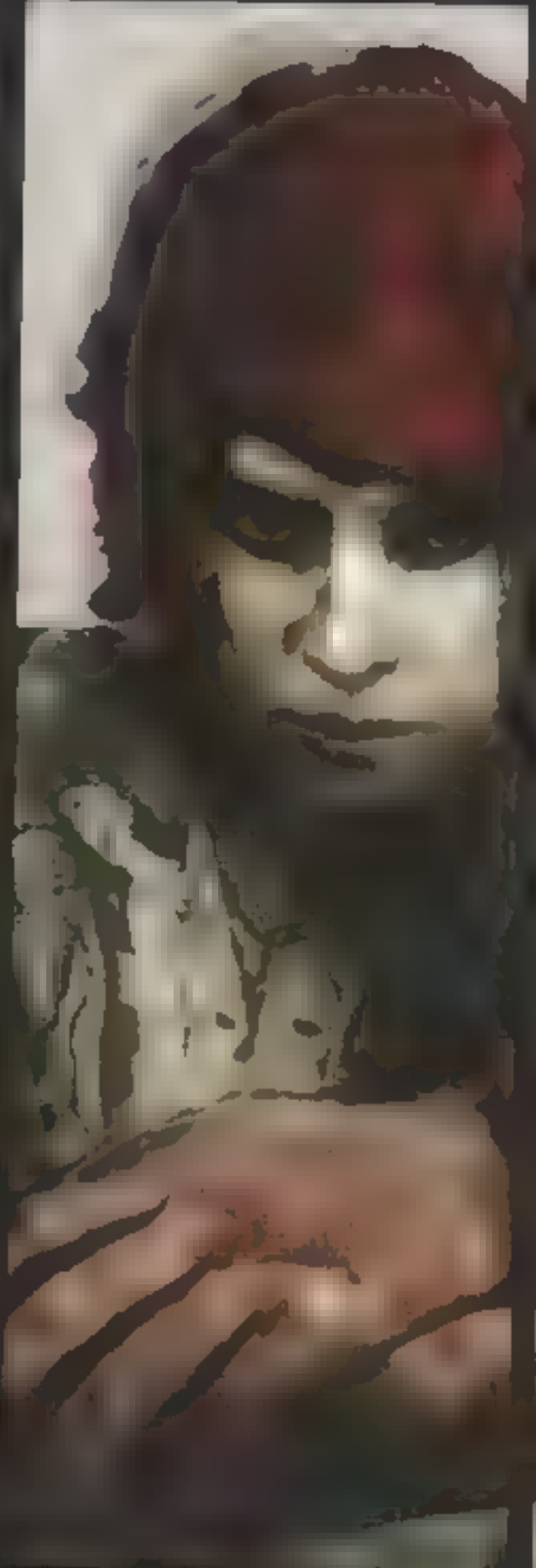
Thank you,
Julia.

So do I get a
reward now, or
something?

I mean, this is
valuable, right?



You've done
the right
thing. We're
very grateful.



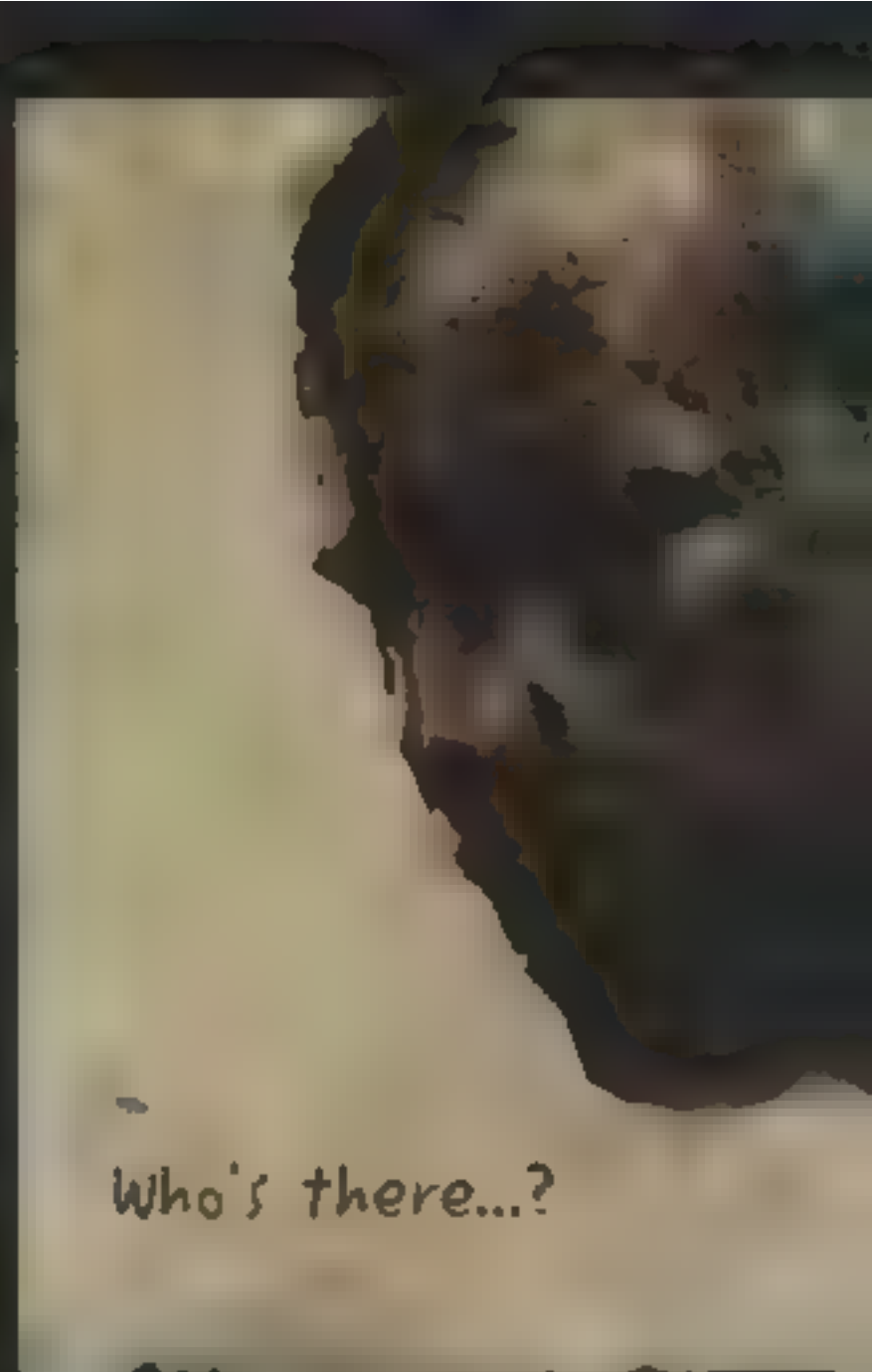
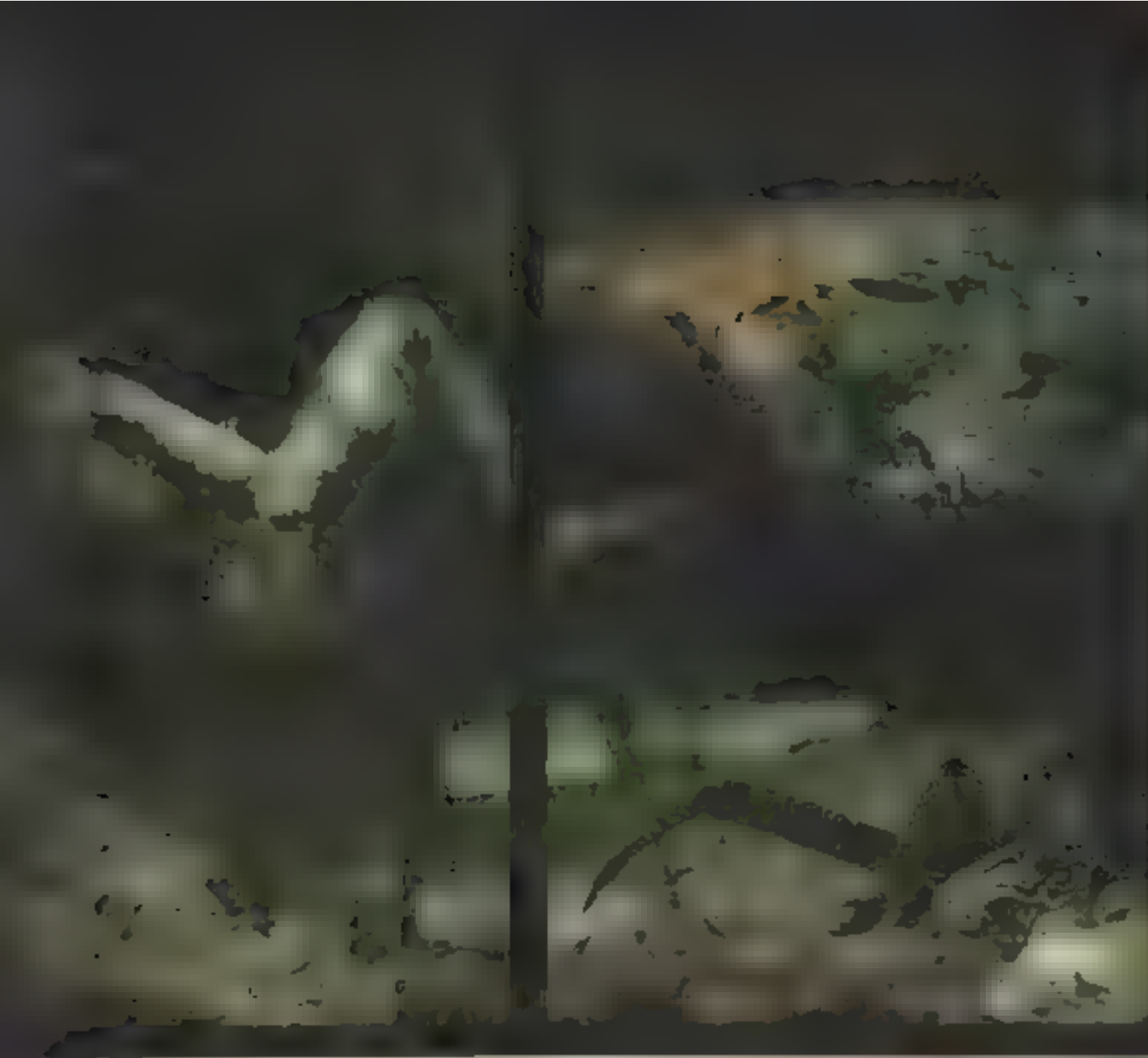
That's right,
Julia.

A reward...



something.





Who's there...?



Bellevin? I... I
don't understand...

Relax, Relax, Relax
Don't be stressed!!

But you have
to wake up.

Not truly.

Not yet.

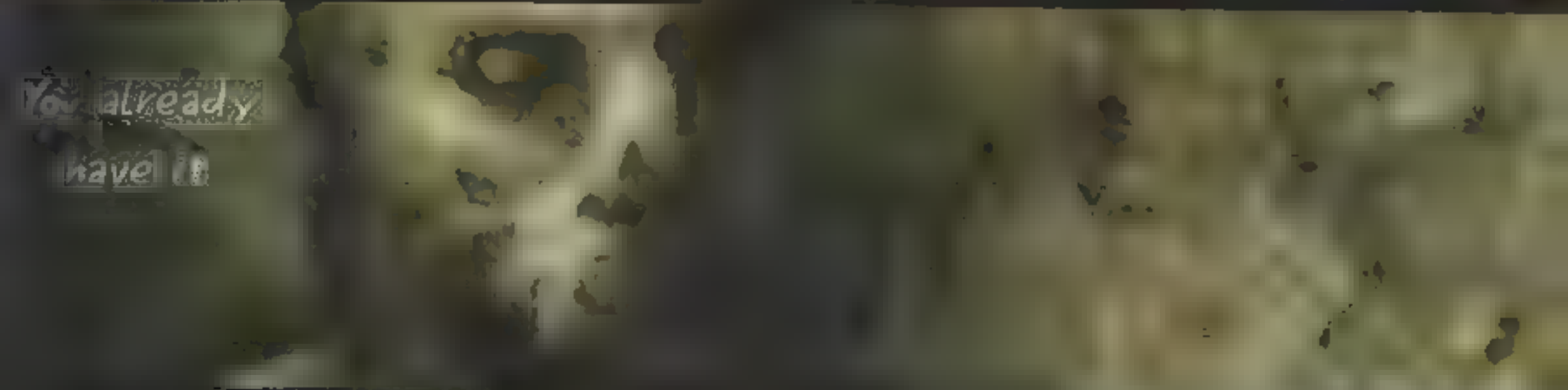
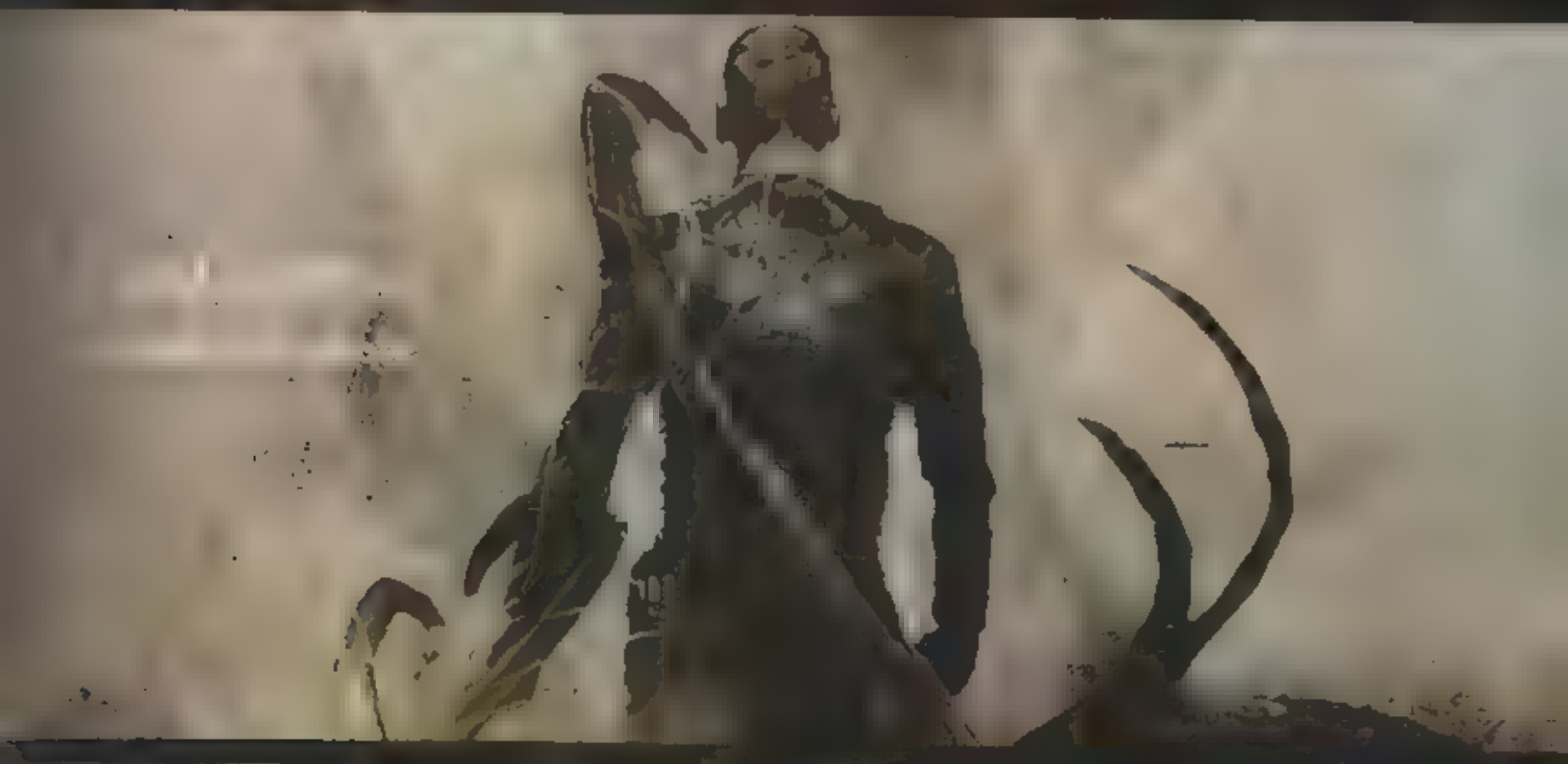
I'm—I'm not
awake already?

You have to stop it,
Benedykt. I know you
don't want to. But
you must.

No... no, it's just
my mind again. Maybe
I should get some meds...

They won't
help you.

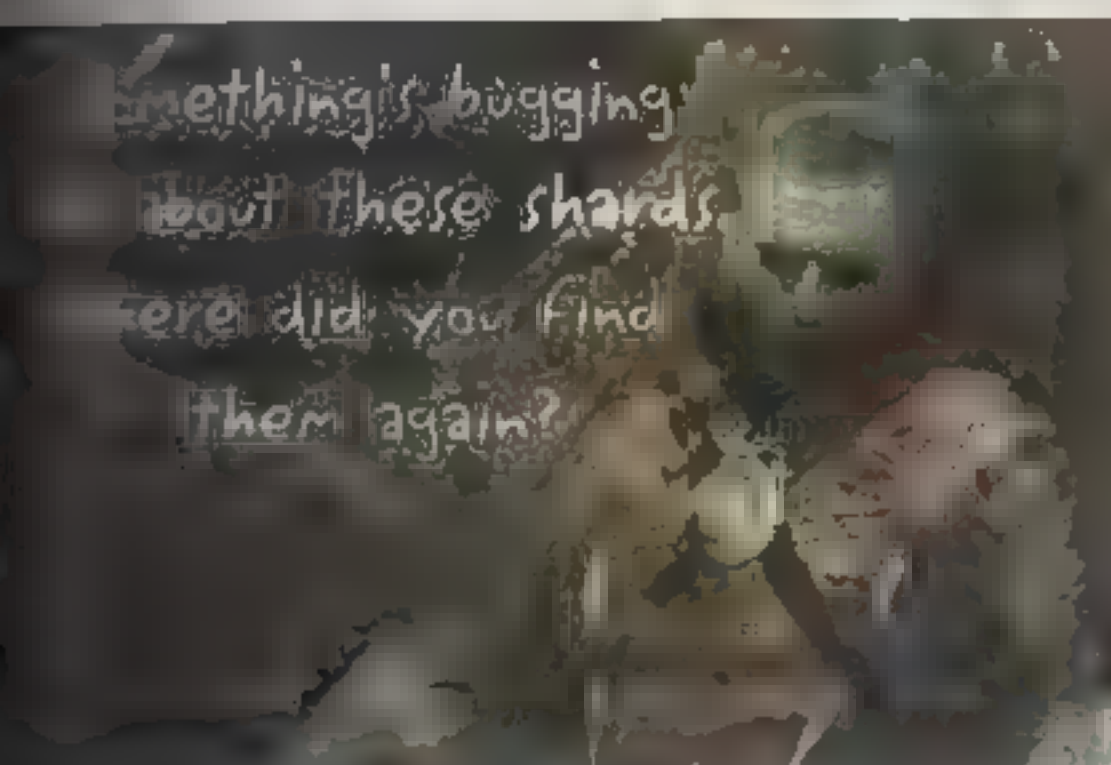
You have to
help yourself.



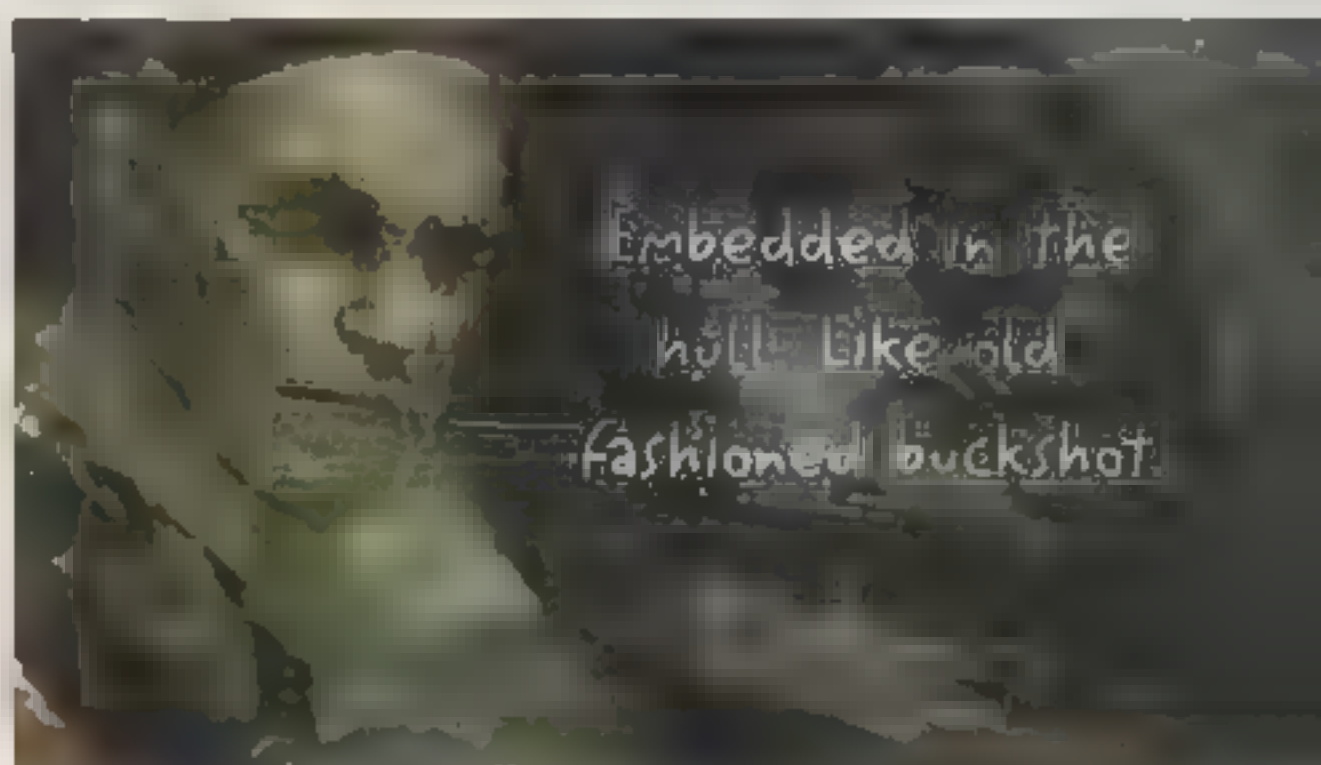


So now we just sit
on our asses? I should
be down there with
Okeke's crew.

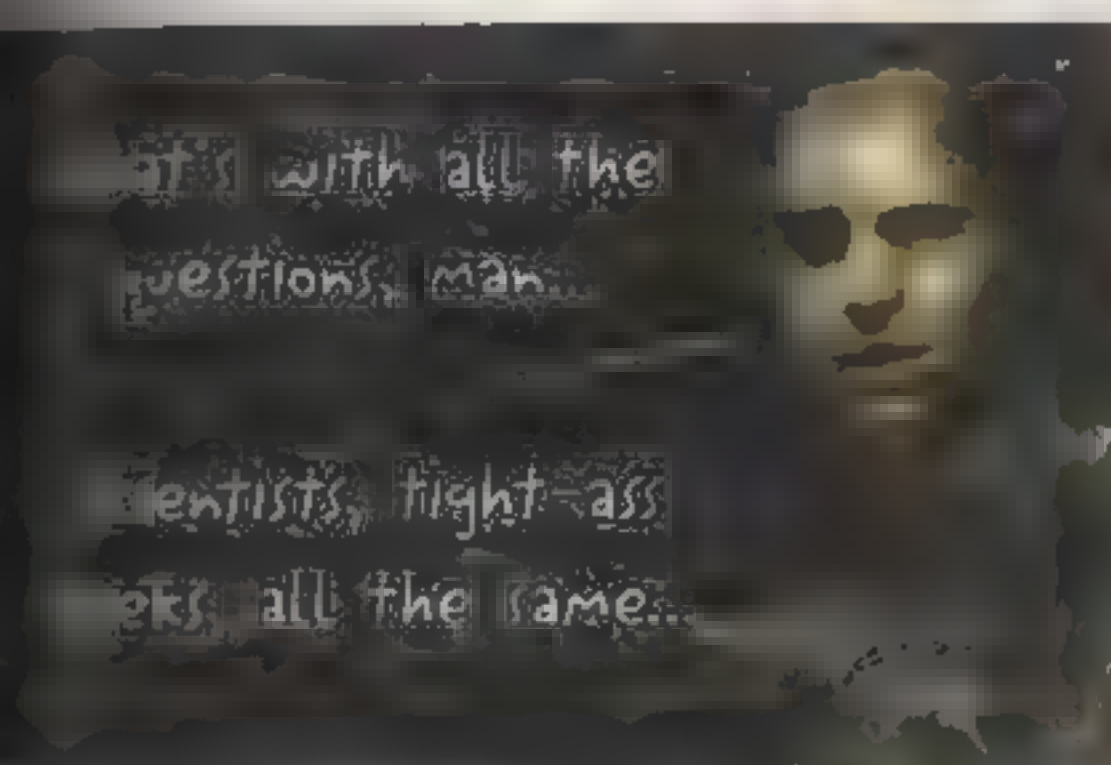
Don't get sore, Wenbo.
Who's to say we won't
need someone to crawl
under a desk here, too.



Something's bugging
about these shards.
Where did you find
them again?

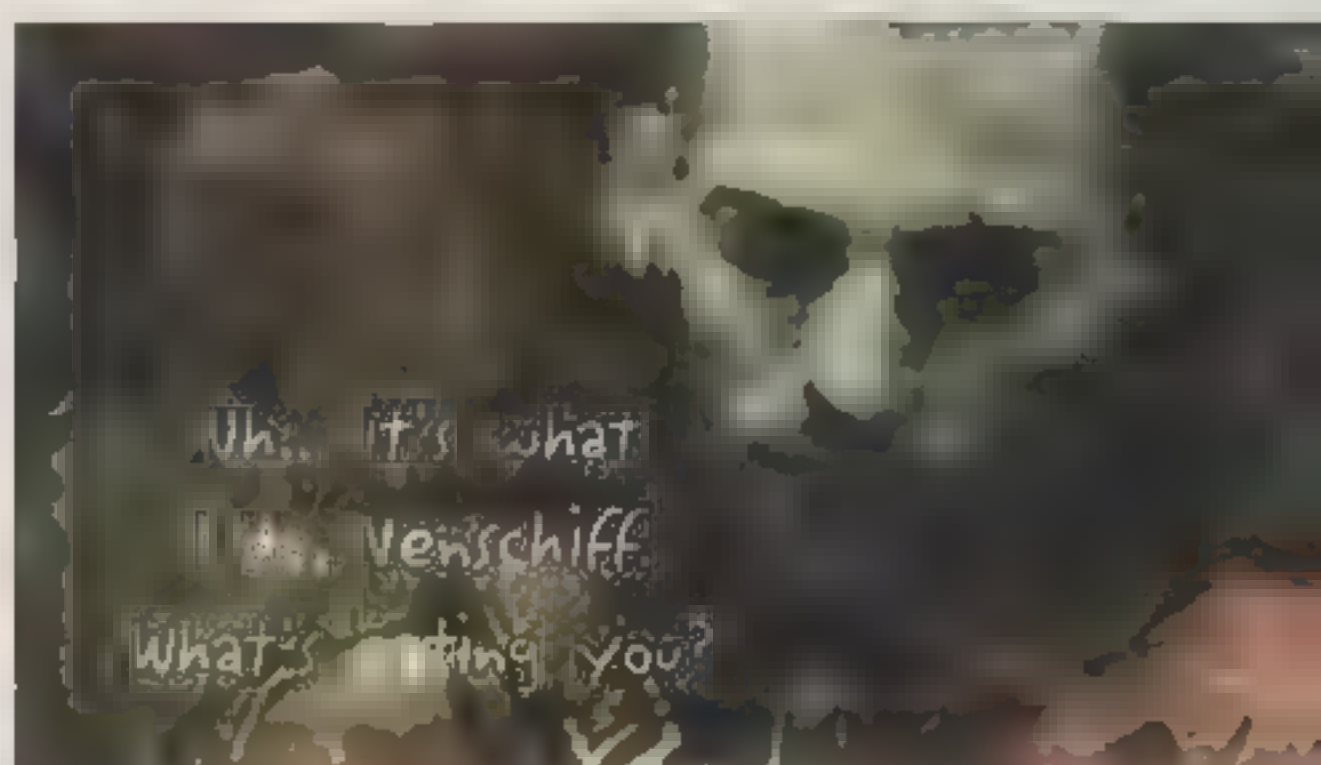


Embedded in the
hull. Like old-
fashioned buckshot.

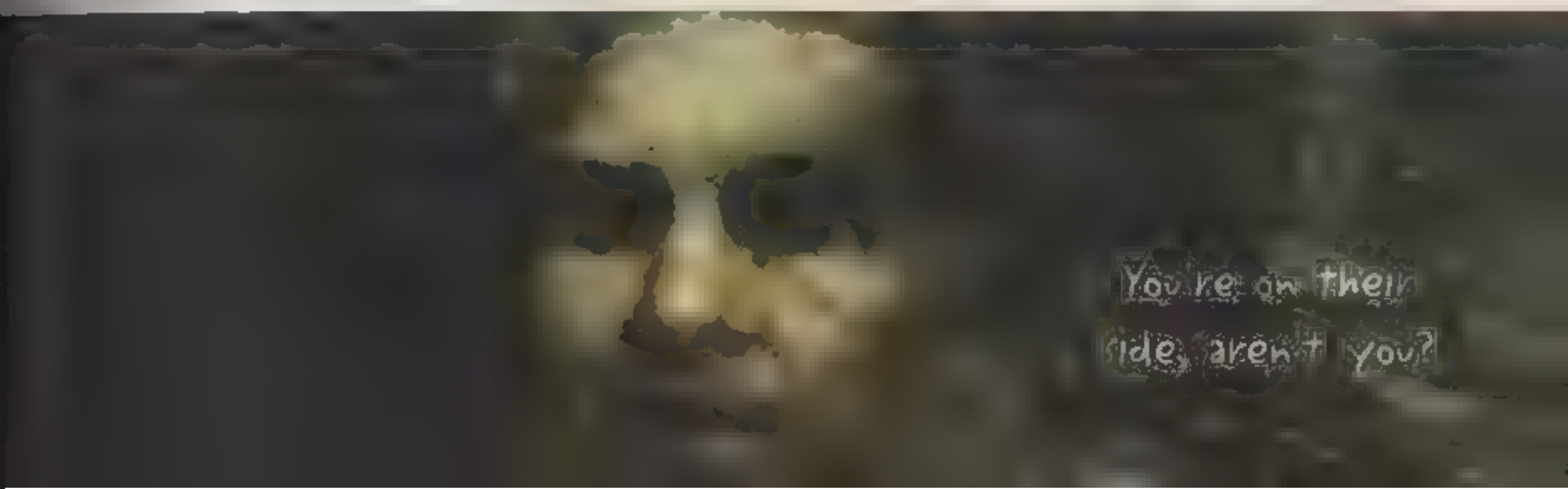


at, with all the
questions, man.

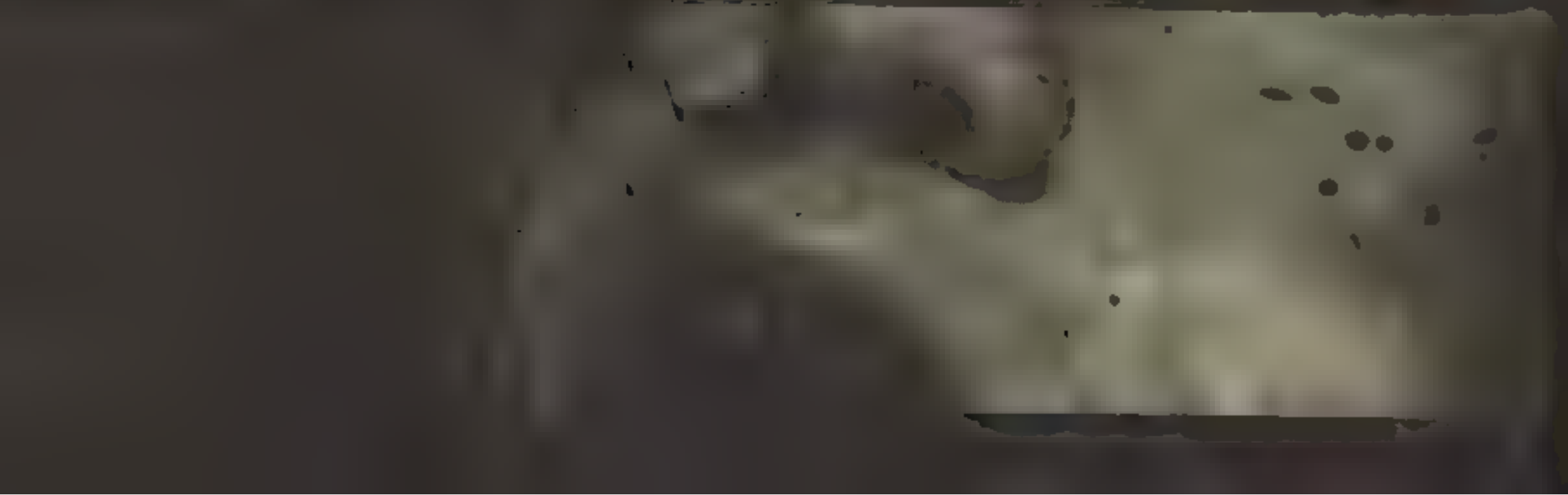
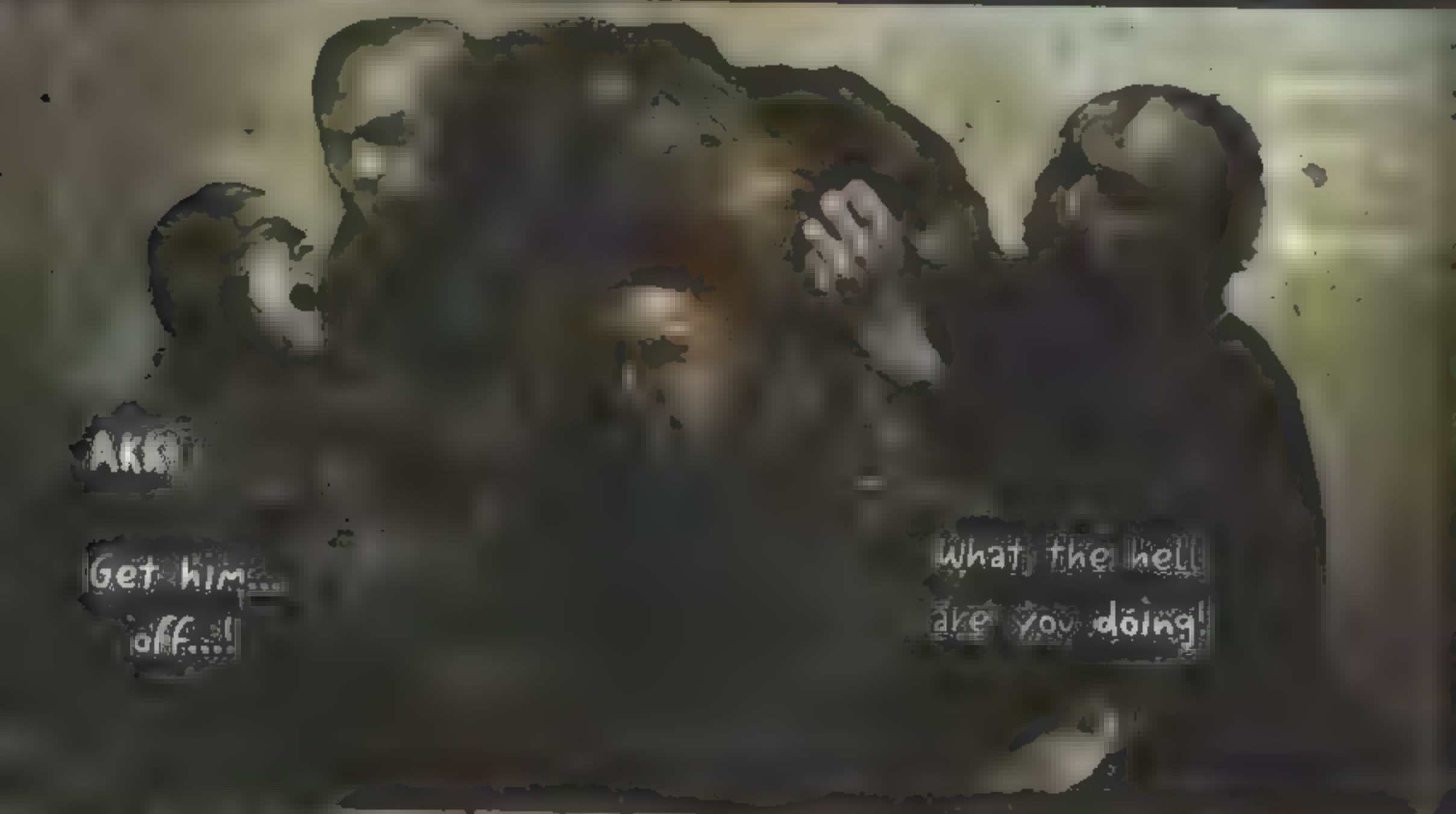
Scientists, tight-ass
fucks, all the same.

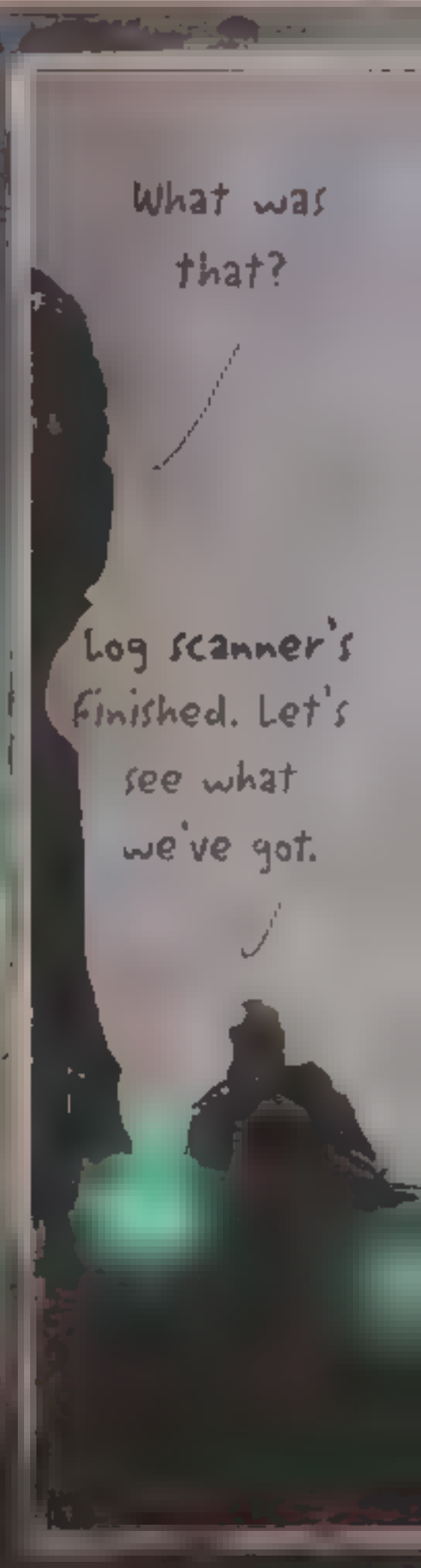


Uh... it's what
I... Venschiff.
What's bugging you?



You're on their
side, aren't you?





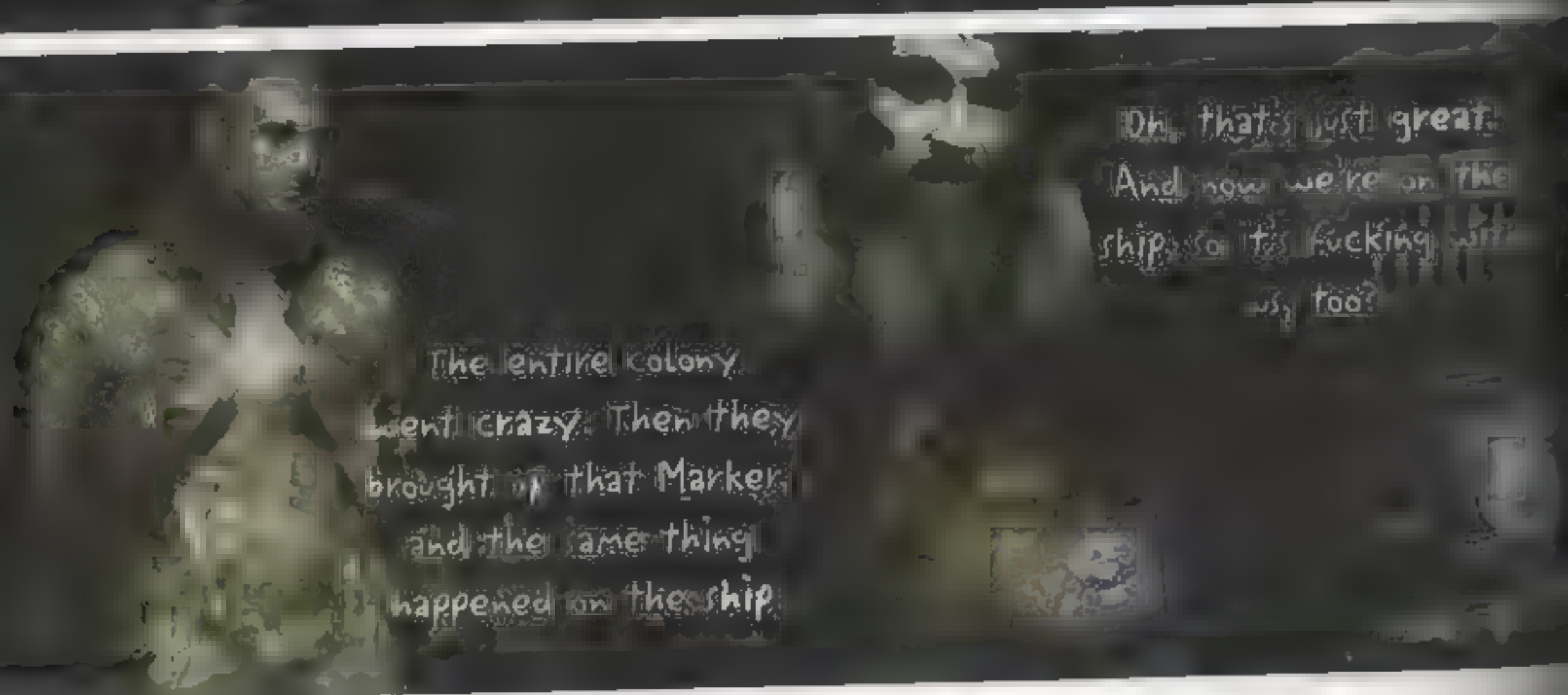
What was
that?

Log scanner's
finished. Let's
see what
we've got.



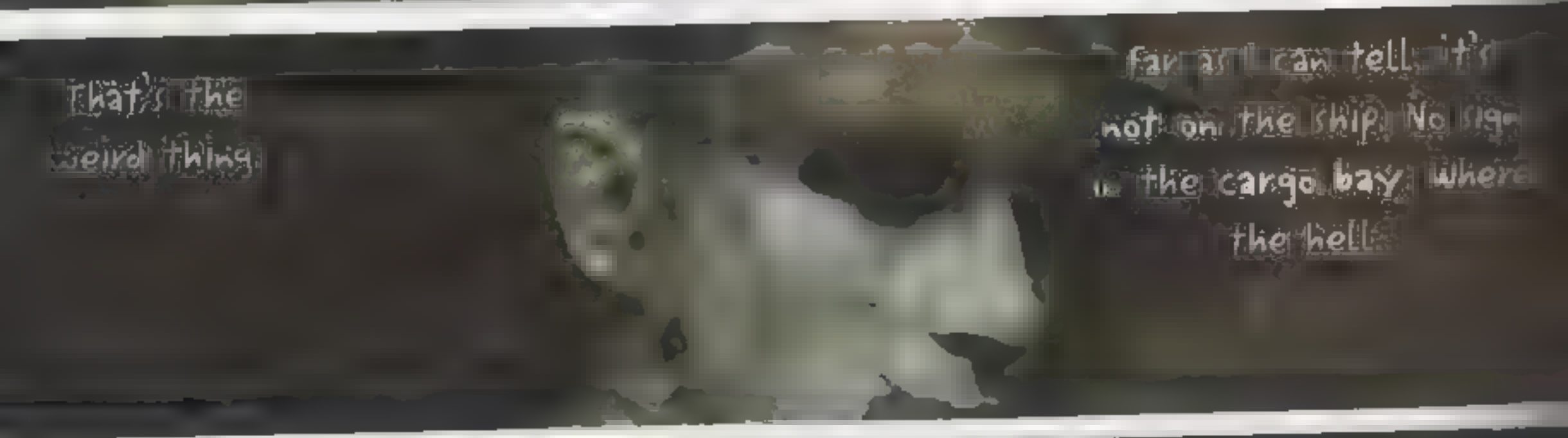
still fragmented
here's the Marker
the crack schedule
and something about...

Oh, shit. That can't
be a coincidence.



Oh, that's just great.
And now we're on the
ship, so it's fucking with
us, too?

The entire colony
went crazy. Then they
brought up that Marker
and the same thing
happened on the ship.



That's the
weird thing.

Far as I can tell, it's
not on the ship. No sign
in the cargo bay where
the hell...



Oh.

That's the
weird thing.

Who's there?

Identify
yourself!

Jessica, this is
Stefan. Where are
you?

No, but we had
another incident.
Venschiff flipped
out.

On my way to the
brig. Did someone
come after me?

Great.

Even better.

So you're telling
me Malyech's
probably not recovered
yet?

I'm not sure he ever
will. According to what
I could piece together
the logs, that damn Marker
sent everyone on board crazy.

Maybe we should
just cut our losses,
after all.

I don't think we
have to worry about
that.

Reckon the Marker's
— not on board
anymore.

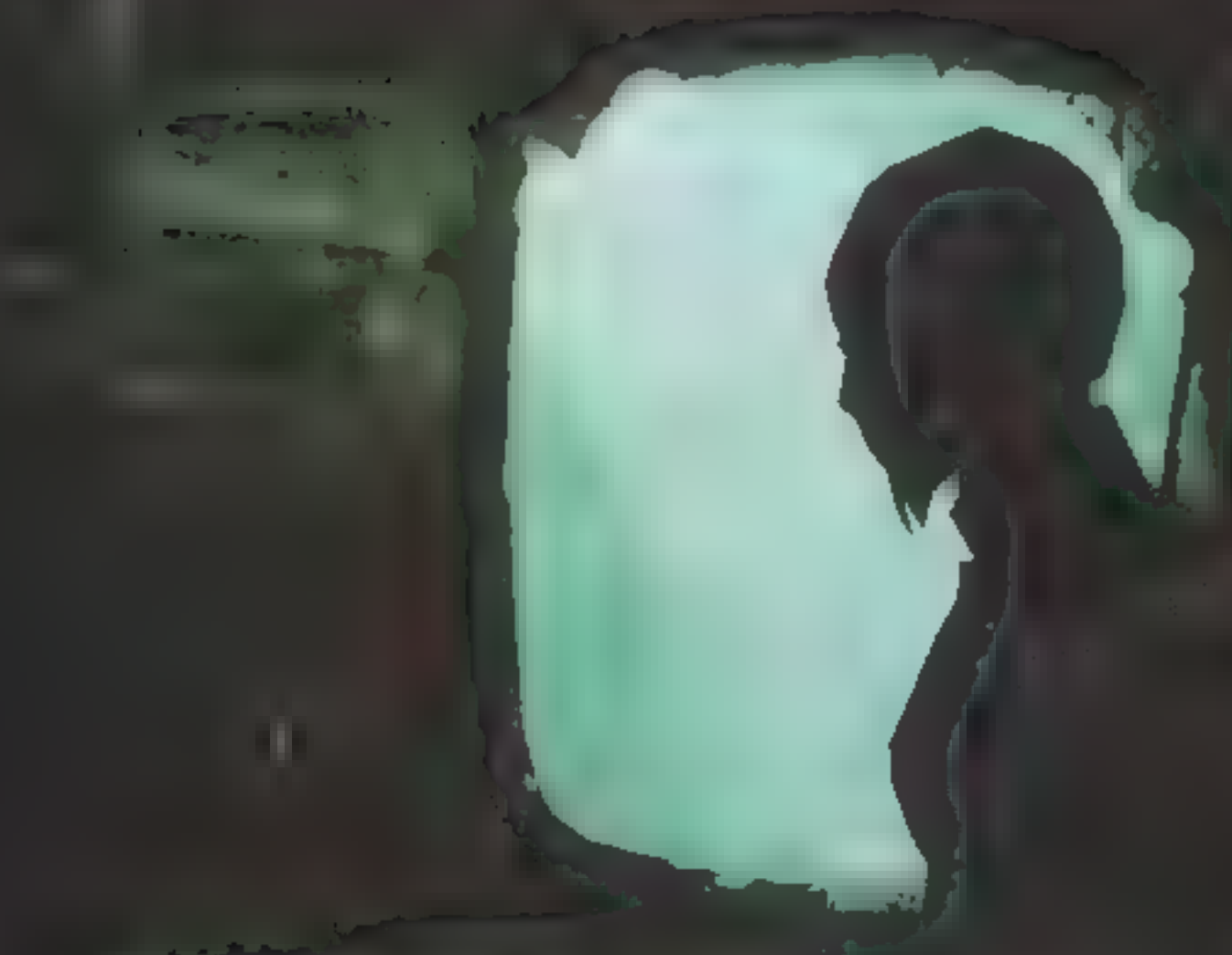
Are you serious?

I think those shards we
found are what's left — it
something big happened here,
Jessica.

No shit—

God dammit,
who's there?

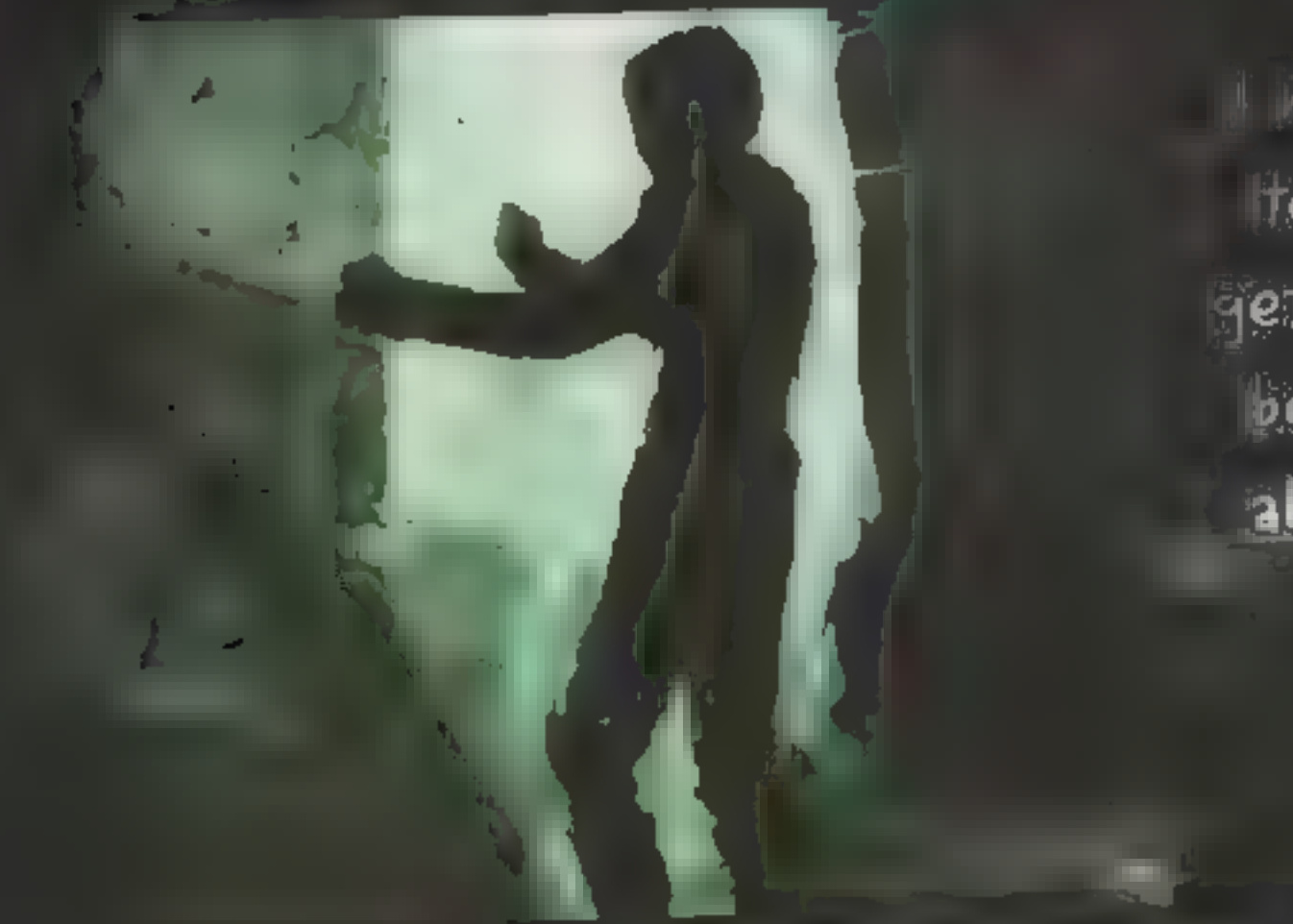
Whoa! You OK?

A person is seen from the side, looking out of a window. The room is dark, and the light from the window illuminates the person's face and the wall behind them.


Keep hearing movement
behind me, but there's
nobody there...

Listen, don't tell Okeke
about this marker thing.
I don't want him to think
repairing the shockpoint
isn't necessary.

You got it?

A person is seen from the side, looking out of a window. The room is dark, and the light from the window illuminates the person's face and the wall behind them.

I reckon we've got an hour
tops, before the military
gets here. If we can't repair
before then, I say we just
abandon and get out while
we can.

A person is seen from the side, looking out of a window. The room is dark, and the light from the window illuminates the person's face and the wall behind them.

Malyech?

Where are you?

Venschiff definitely

Although zero

then went nuts and tried
to strangle me.

Venschiff? He's not
a marker-head.

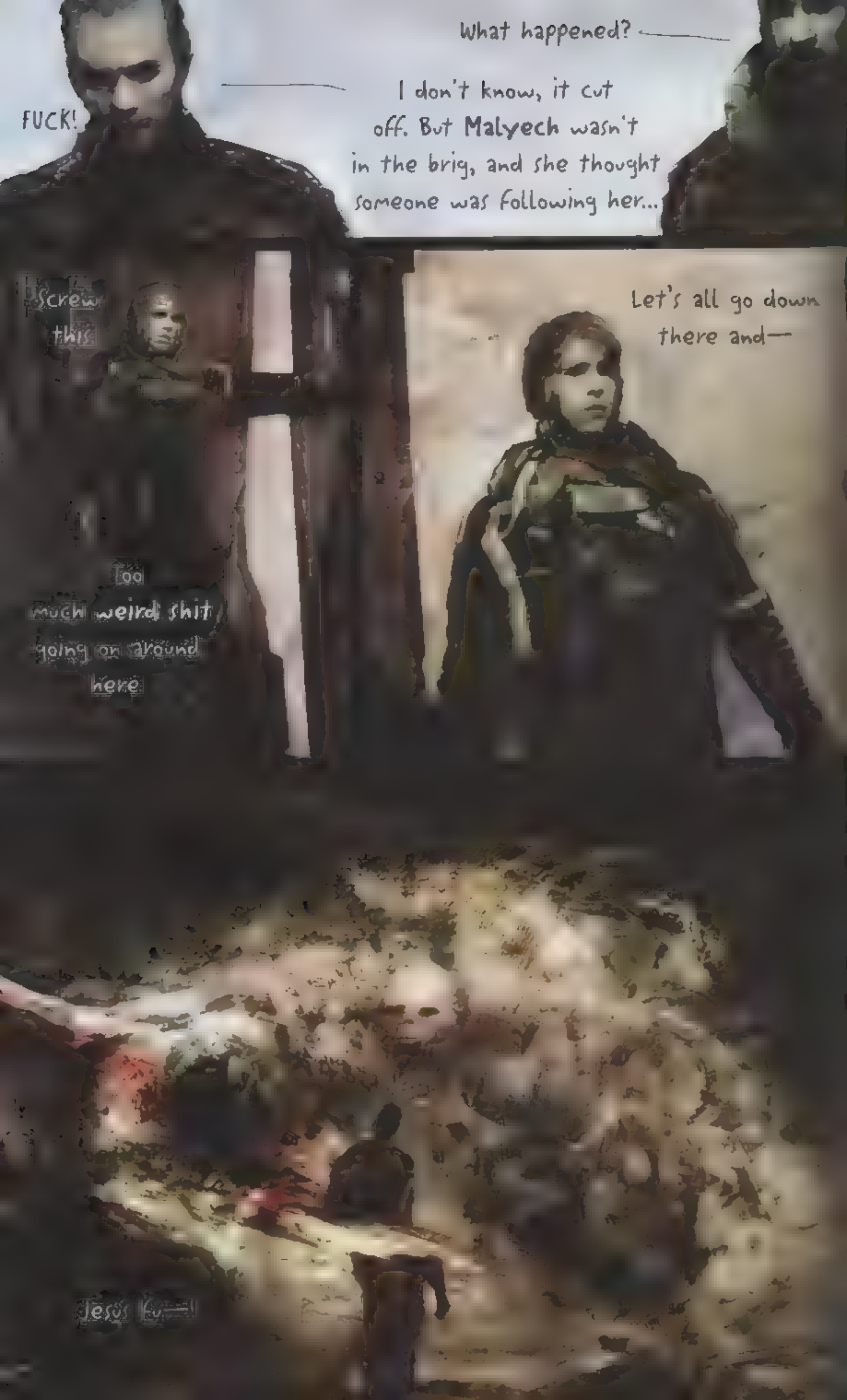
It's not the
comm. There's
some kind of
hissing...



Captain
come in

Do you
read?

CAPTAIN!



What happened?

FUCK!

I don't know, it cut
off. But Malyech wasn't
in the brig, and she thought
someone was following her...

Screw
this

Let's all go down
there and—

Too
much weird shit
going on around
here

Jesus fu—

HOLY SHIT!

MY GOD!

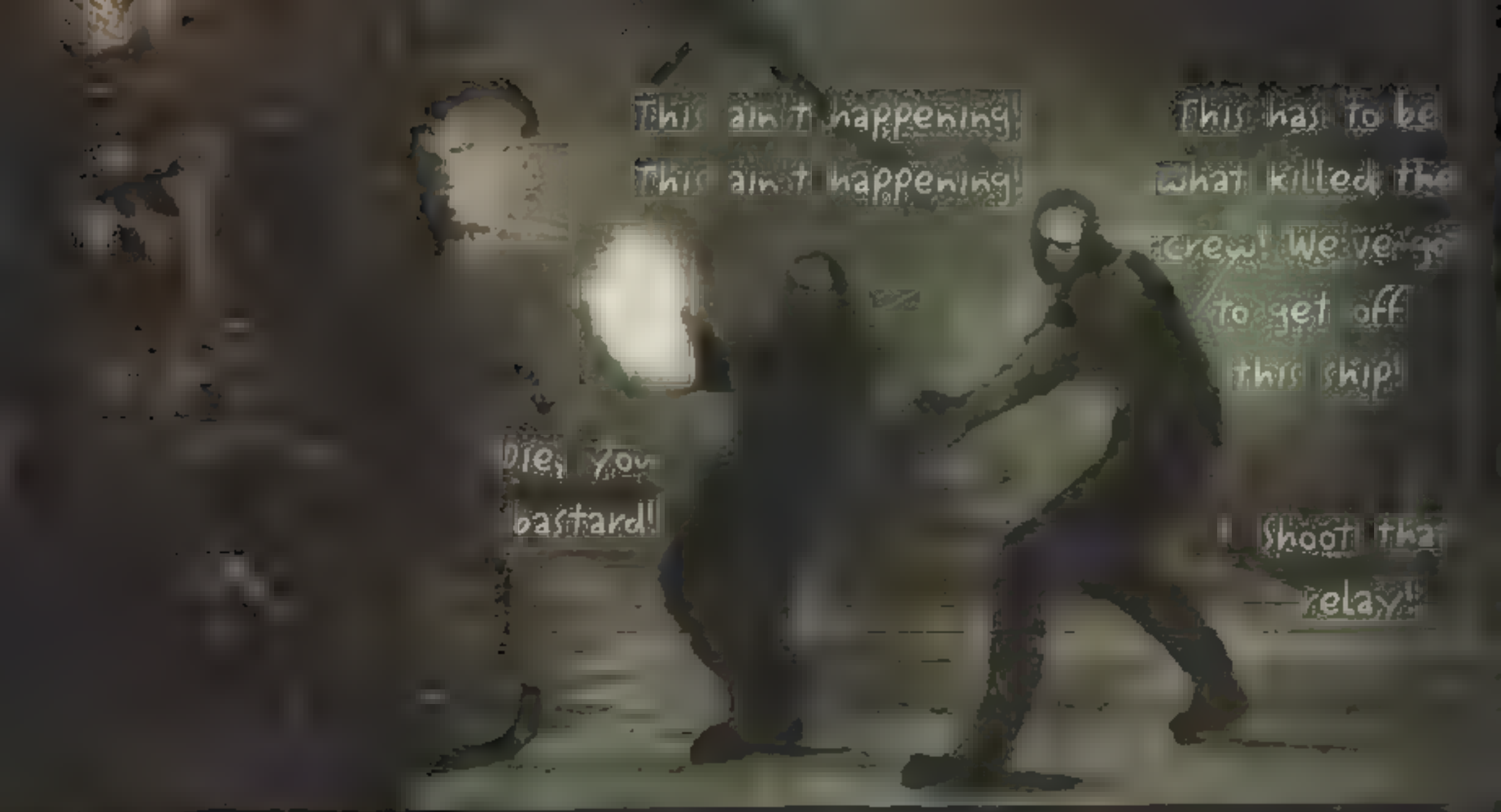
Don't just
stand there!

THORSSSEN!

THEY'RE FUCKING
DEAD, THAT'S WHAT!

The hell are
these things?!

Uh... You
were saying?

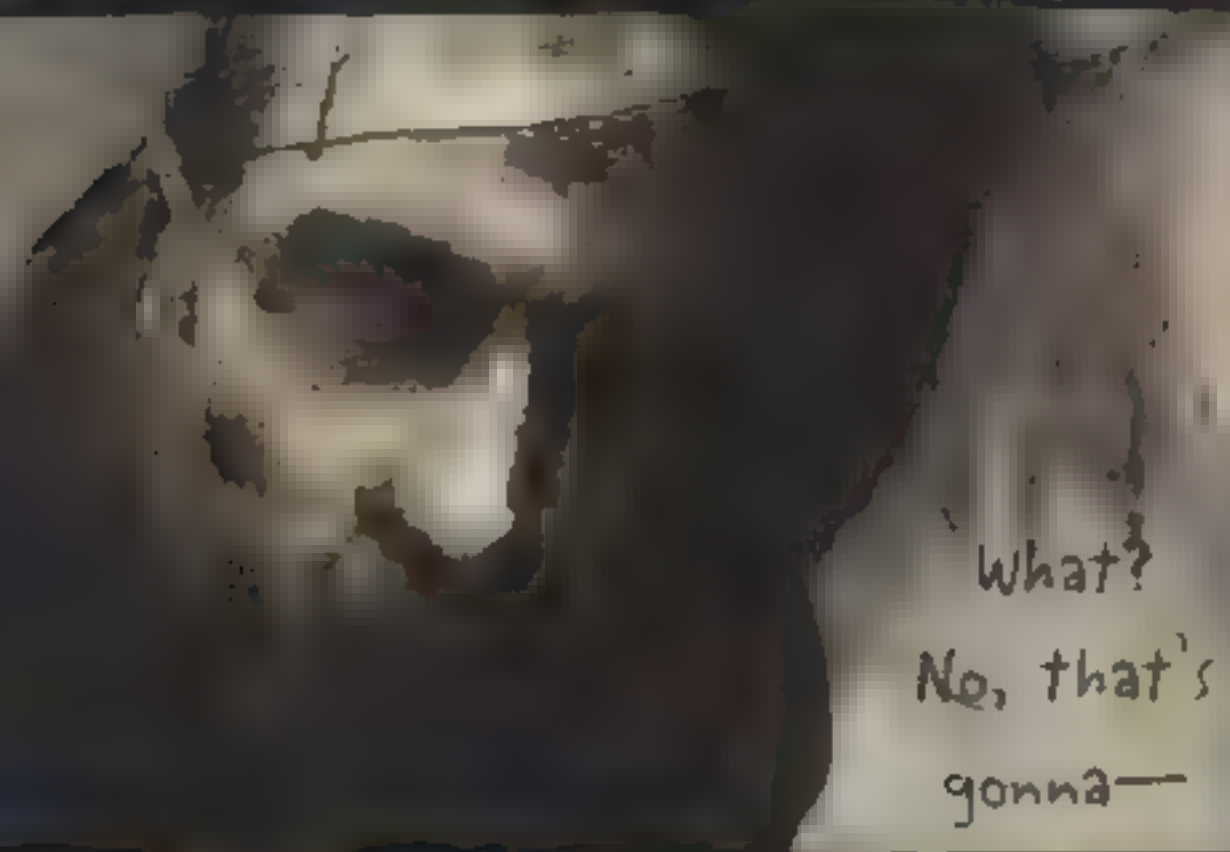


This ain't happening!
This ain't happening!

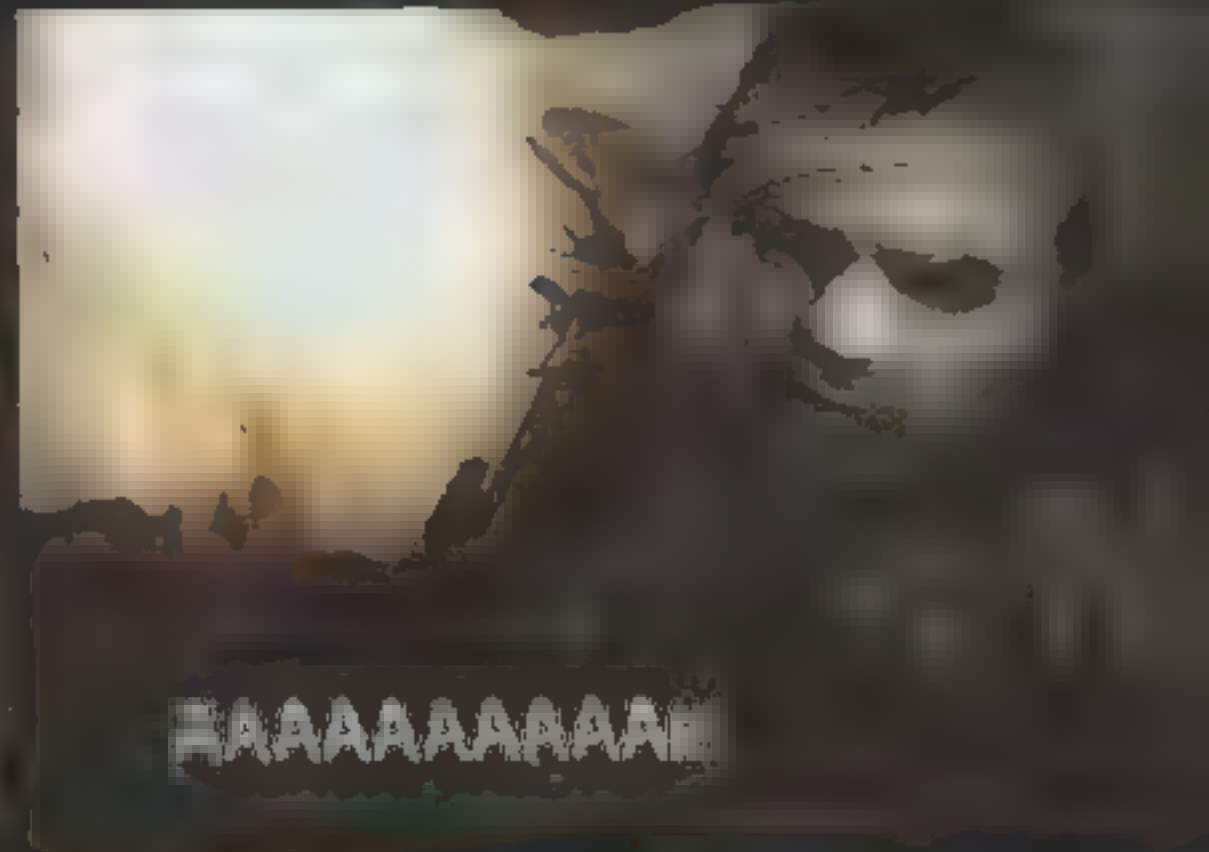
This has to be
what killed the
crew! We've got
to get off
this ship!

Die, you
bastard!!

Shoot the
relay!



What?
No, that's
gonna—



AAAAAAAAAAAA



Holy shit.

Captain?

Jessica, dammit!

I don't know if you can hear me, but we need to evacuate, right now!

...Goddamn, guys—

There's some kind of life form on board, they're lethal...



—I'm sorry.

...And they're all over the ship.

loud and clear, Schneider
start taking a look around
the engine room, and I gotta
say, it does look good.

Okeke!

Are you
there?

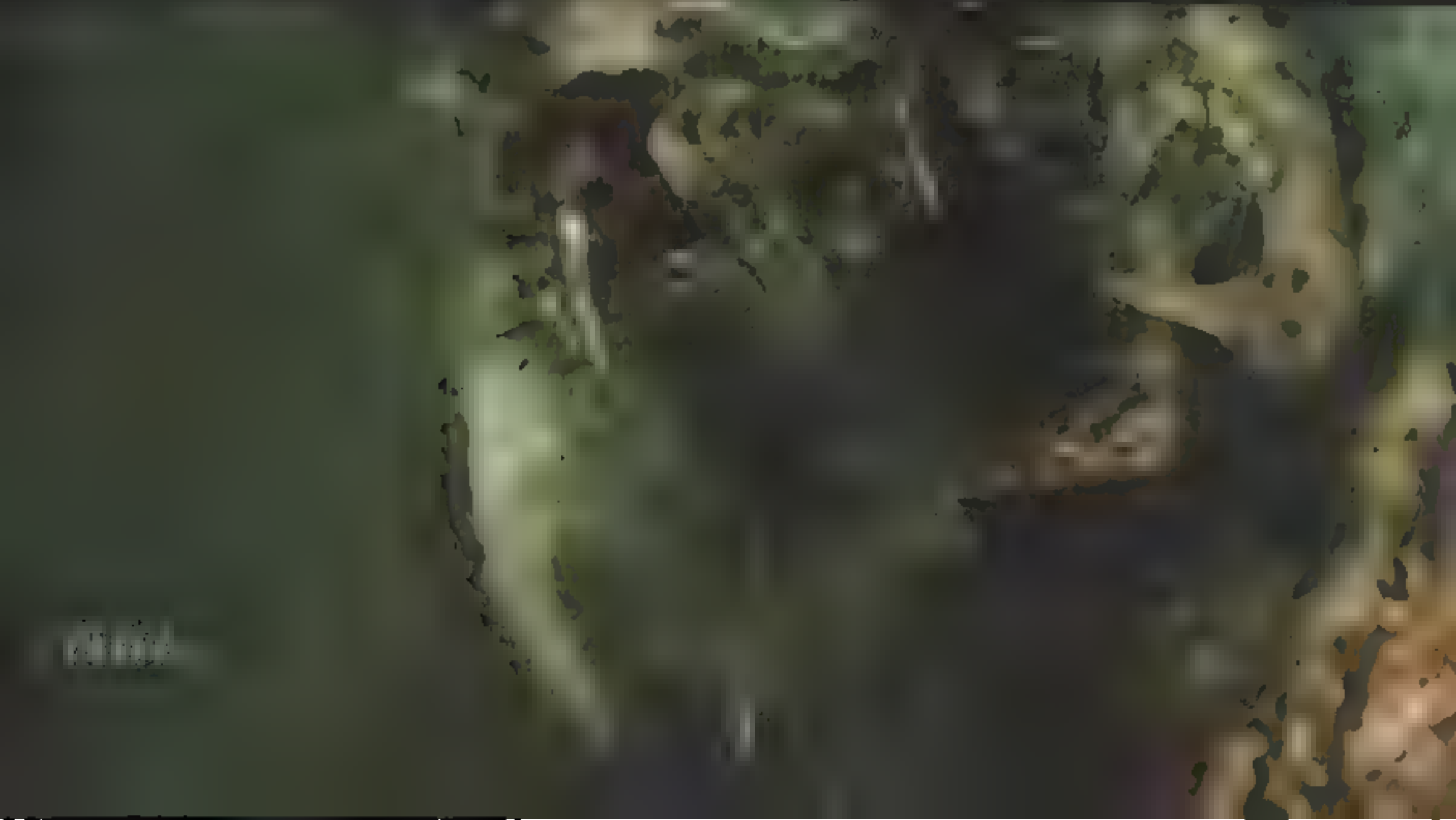
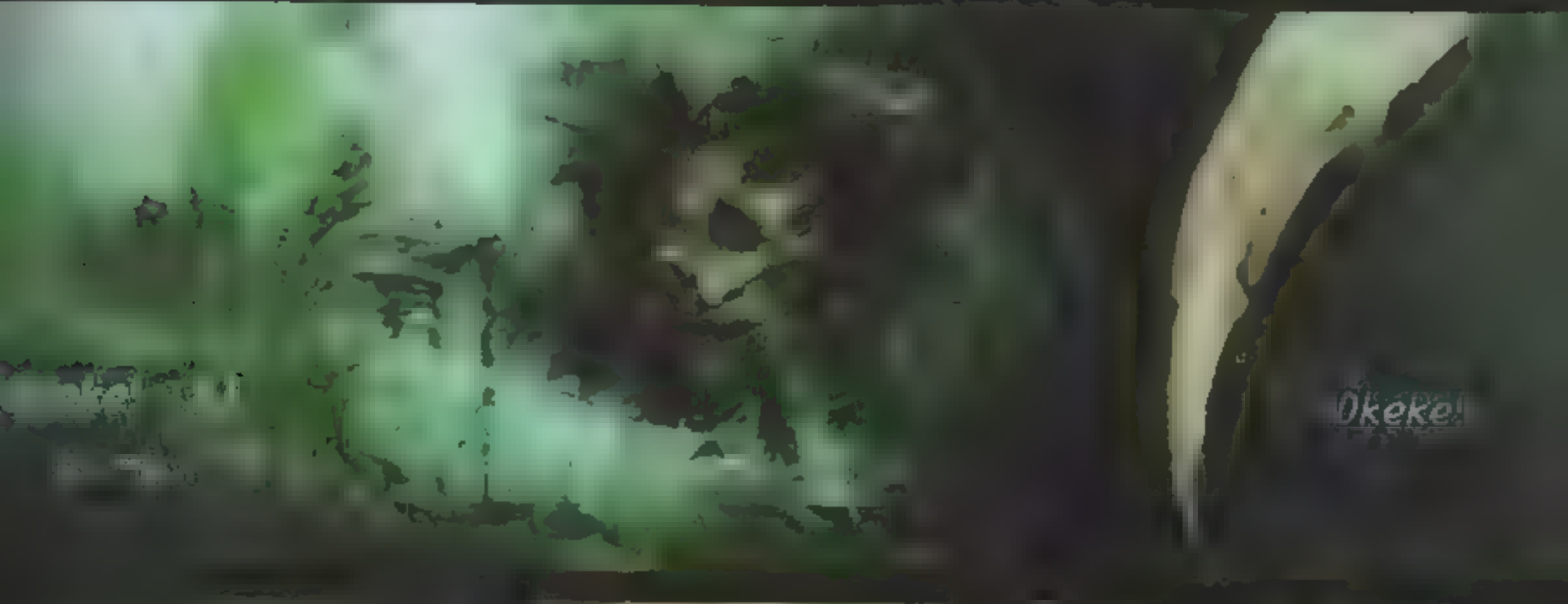
the engine! Get back
to the bay, and watch
backs along the way!

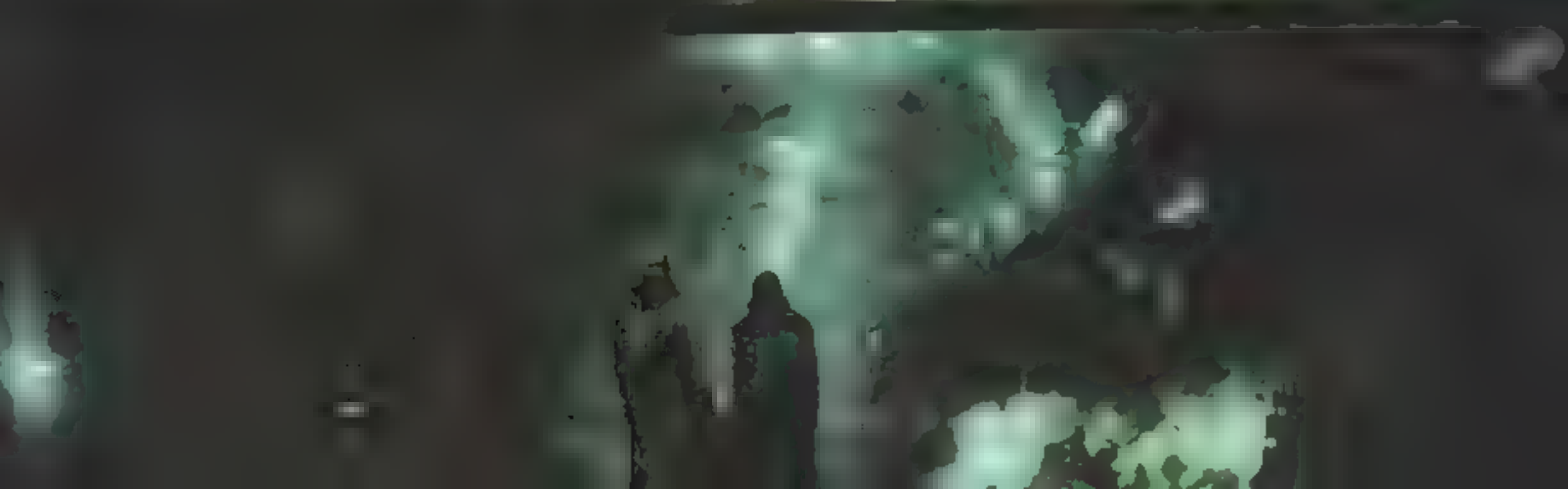
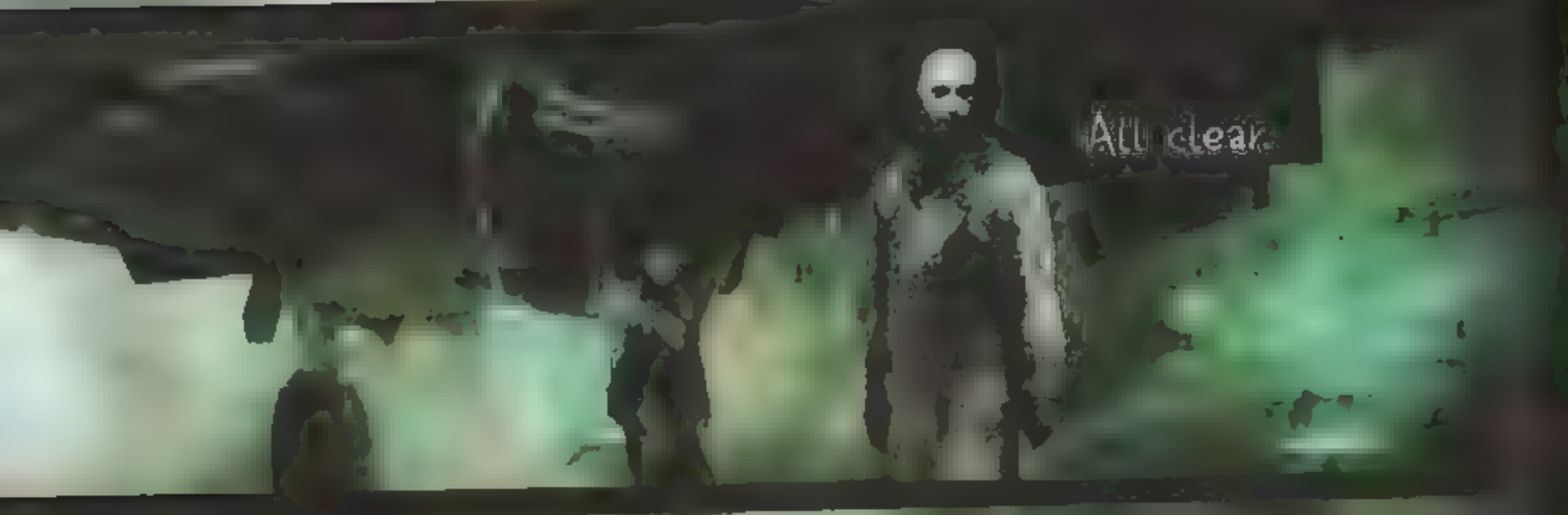
the Marker is not in the
ship! But something

what in the name of Allah
are you talking about? Is this
one of your oh-so-hilarious

Who's there? Come
out from behind there,
we won't

Hurt you.



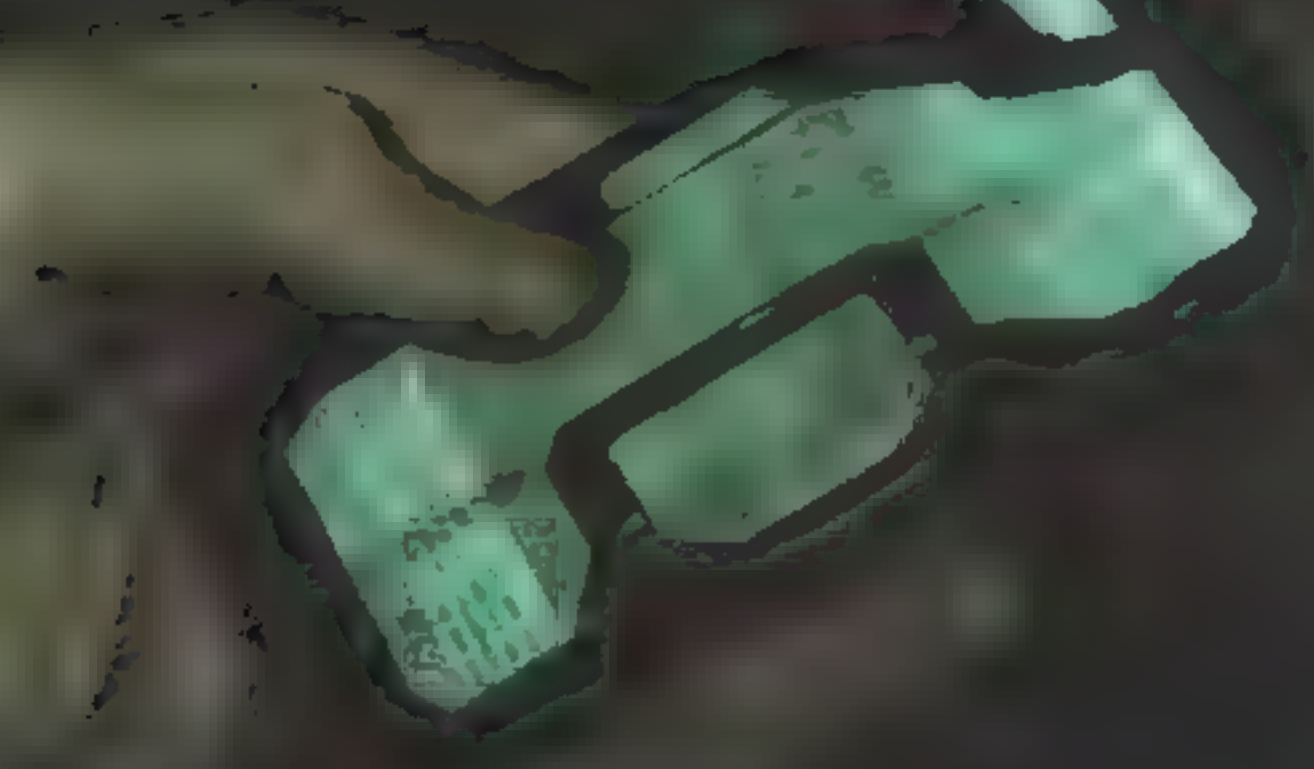


re-animation
already started

Could make our
job a lot easier

Still, we have to be
sure. Patch into the
ship's frequency...

Let's hear what they
have to say for themselves

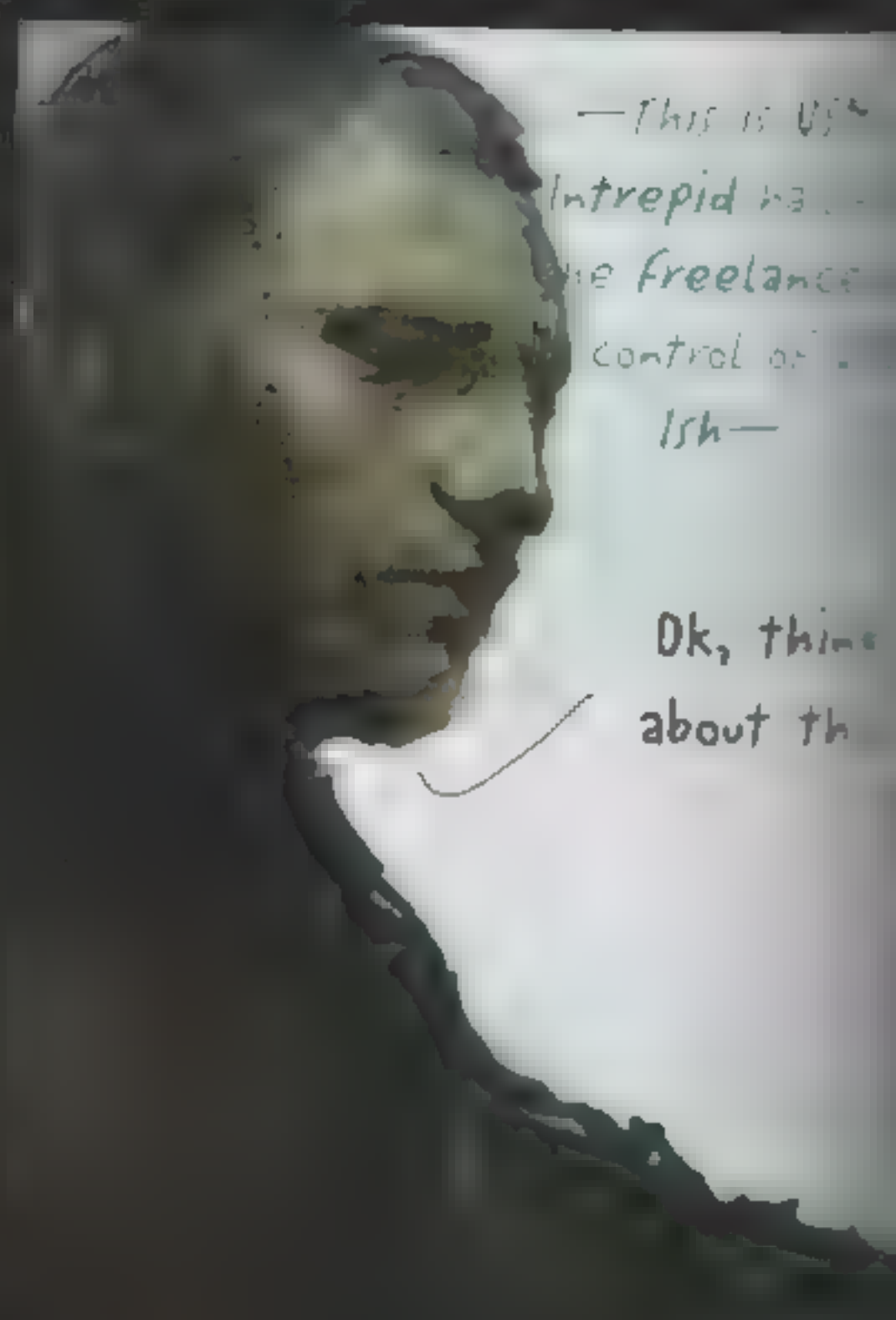


fuck this. I'm
out of here.

This is USM Shuttle
Intrepid hailing the
freelancers in
control of USG Ishimura.

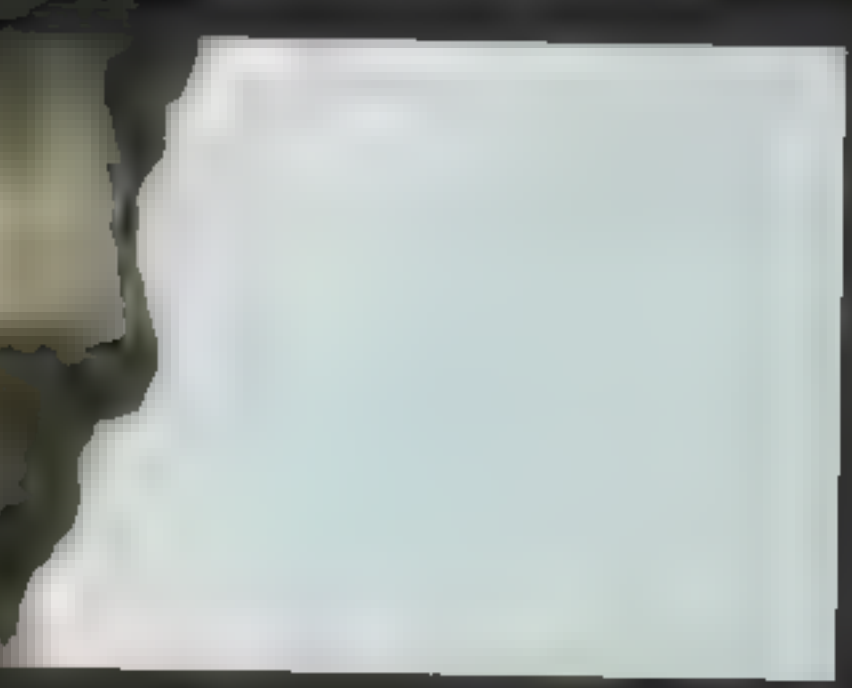
Stand by
for boarding.

I say
again—



—This is USM
Intrepid hailing
the freelance
control of
Ish—

Ok, things
about the



Intrepid,
this is the
Ishimura!

You guys are
after this
Marker, right?

Our mission is classified. You will
surrender yourselves to our authority—

Yeah, whatever. Listen.

We know what you're here for.

So let's do a deal.

A deal?

All we want is the
Marker for salvage. You
can't move it anyway.



We're in the cargo bay, right?

Now, just go on in, and
we'll talk about it.

GOVERNMENT SHIP
INTERIOR

Checks out, sir. Channel is
transmitting from the cargo
bay, and it makes sense that's
where the Marker would be.

All right, we'll play along.
Pilot, take us in to the cargo
bay.

Copy that, Ishimura.
We're on our way in.

Understood. We all want
a peaceful resolution, here.

Looking foreword to doing business
with you. But no bullshit, you hear?
We see any guns, we'll turn one of
these plasma drills on you.

Amen to that.
Ishimura out.

Go to hell.



Cargo bay? Cut
them off?

No.

Wait...

He lied,
spoofed it
somehow.
Transmission
actually
came from
the bridge.

That was Schneider.
Right? He's good.

I'll inform
the Intrepid.

No, it'll tip off the
freelancers. The Marines'
deaths will buy us time
to reach the bridge before
Schneider can leave.

Good idea.

Do it.

But don't tell the
marines anyway.

It'll save us the trouble

I can activate the
quarantine lock to keep
all inside

USG ISHIMURA
CARGO BAY

Approaching
now, sir.

Everybody listen.
Keep your sidearms
safe until I give
the order.

Look at this mess. The
old girl took one hell
of a beating.

I don't see
the Marker.

Scan for it.

It might not show
up anyway, sir. Our
intelligence indicates —

Goddamn it.
Just do it,
Sergeant.

Nothing, sir. But I'm
not picking up any
lifeforms either, so
it might not mean
anything.

Dammit.

All right, let's
get out there.



Hello?

I'm Captain Amise.
Come on out, and
let's talk.

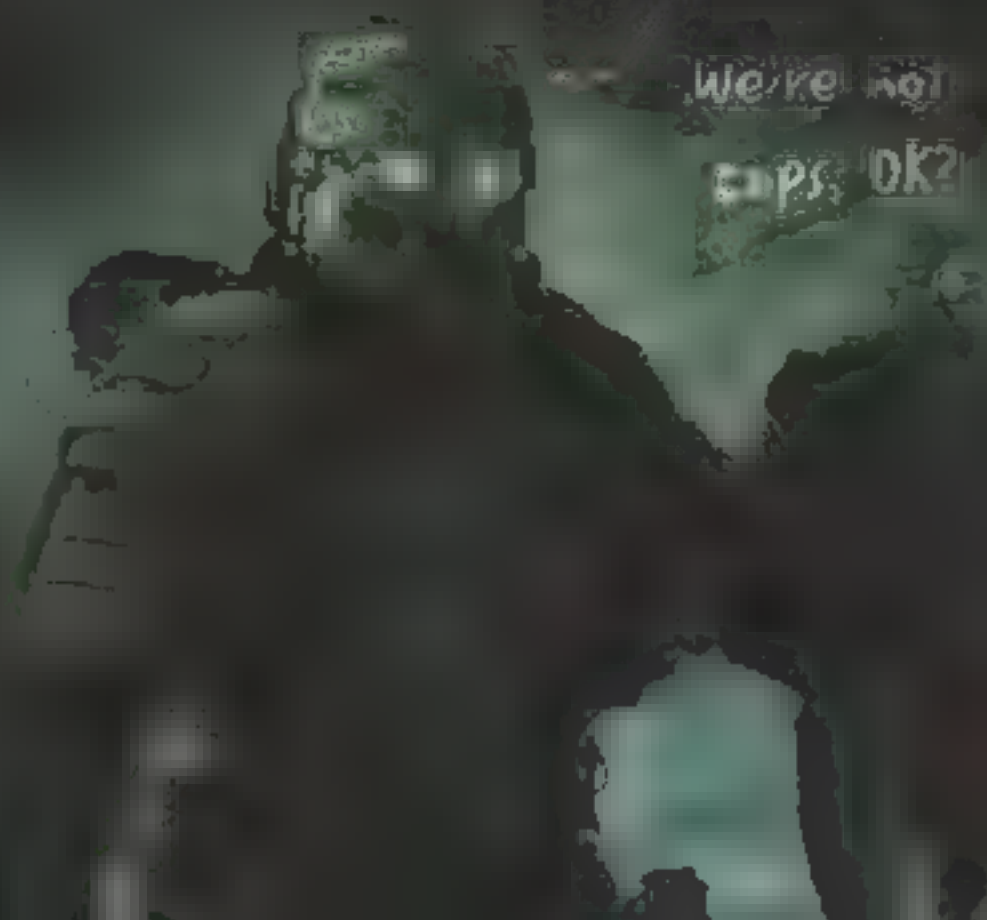
I don't see
anyone,
Captain.

Should have known
they'd play some
kind of game. Spread
out, find them.

—and the
Marker!

C'mon, guys, we just
want to get the Marker
and go.

We're not
cops, OK?

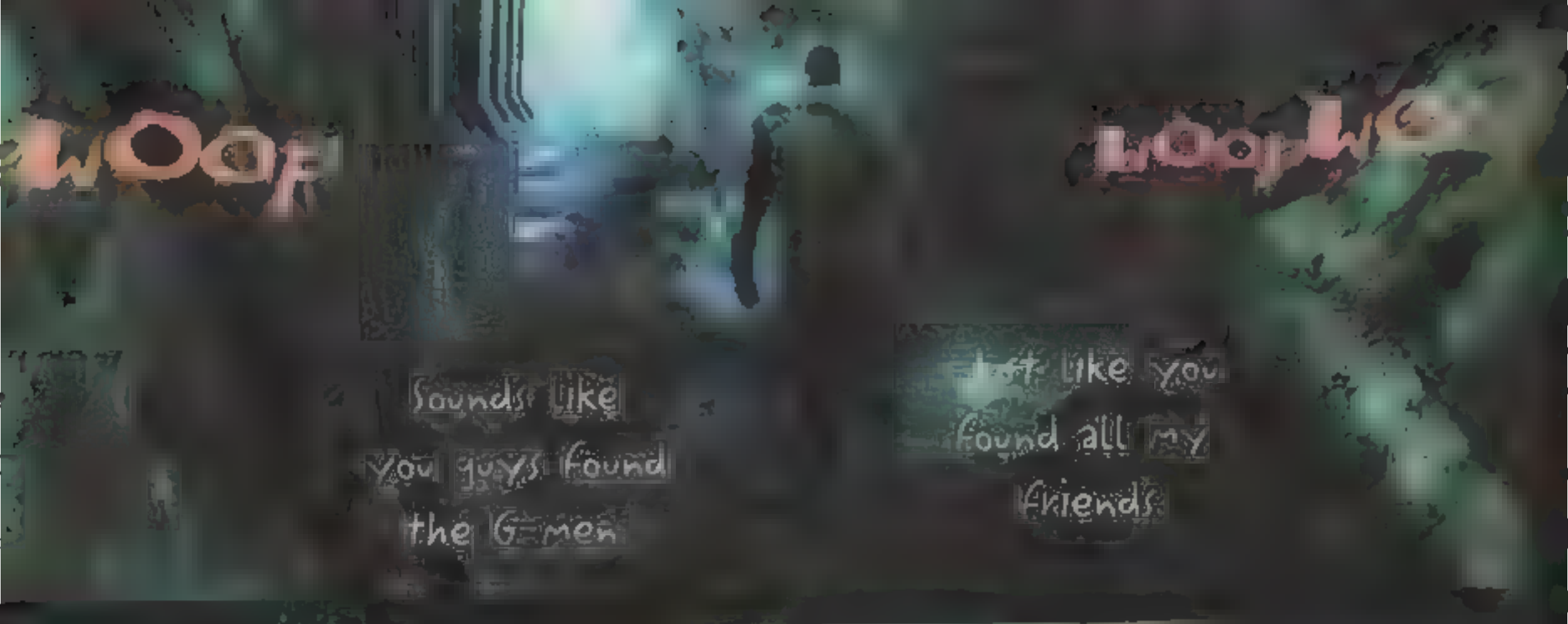




I can hear
you back there

THE HOLLOW

THE HOLLOW



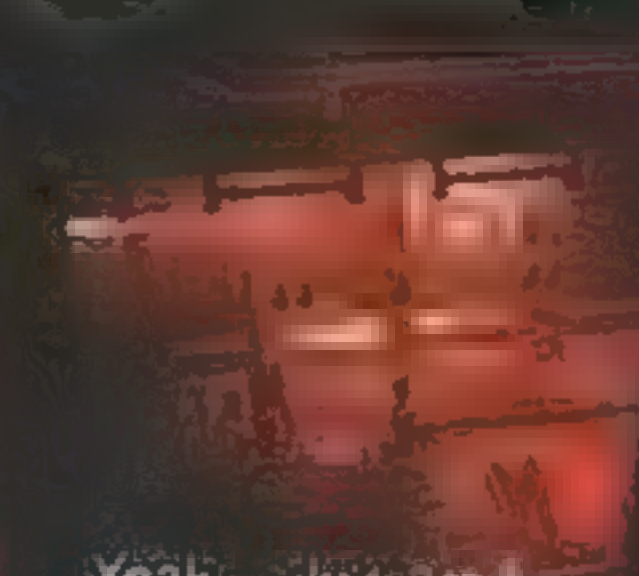


Itan

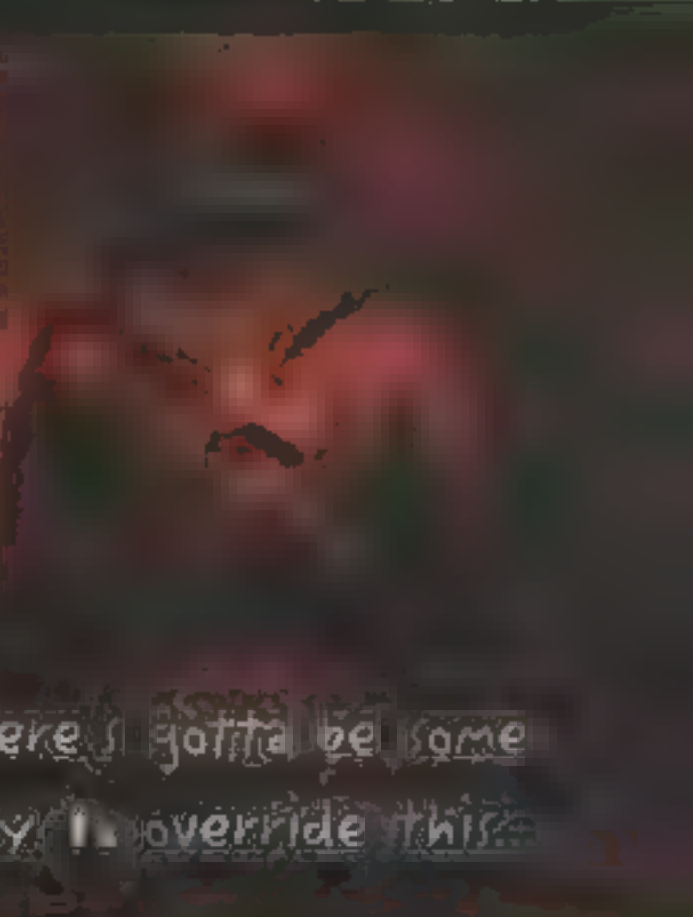


Oh, what?

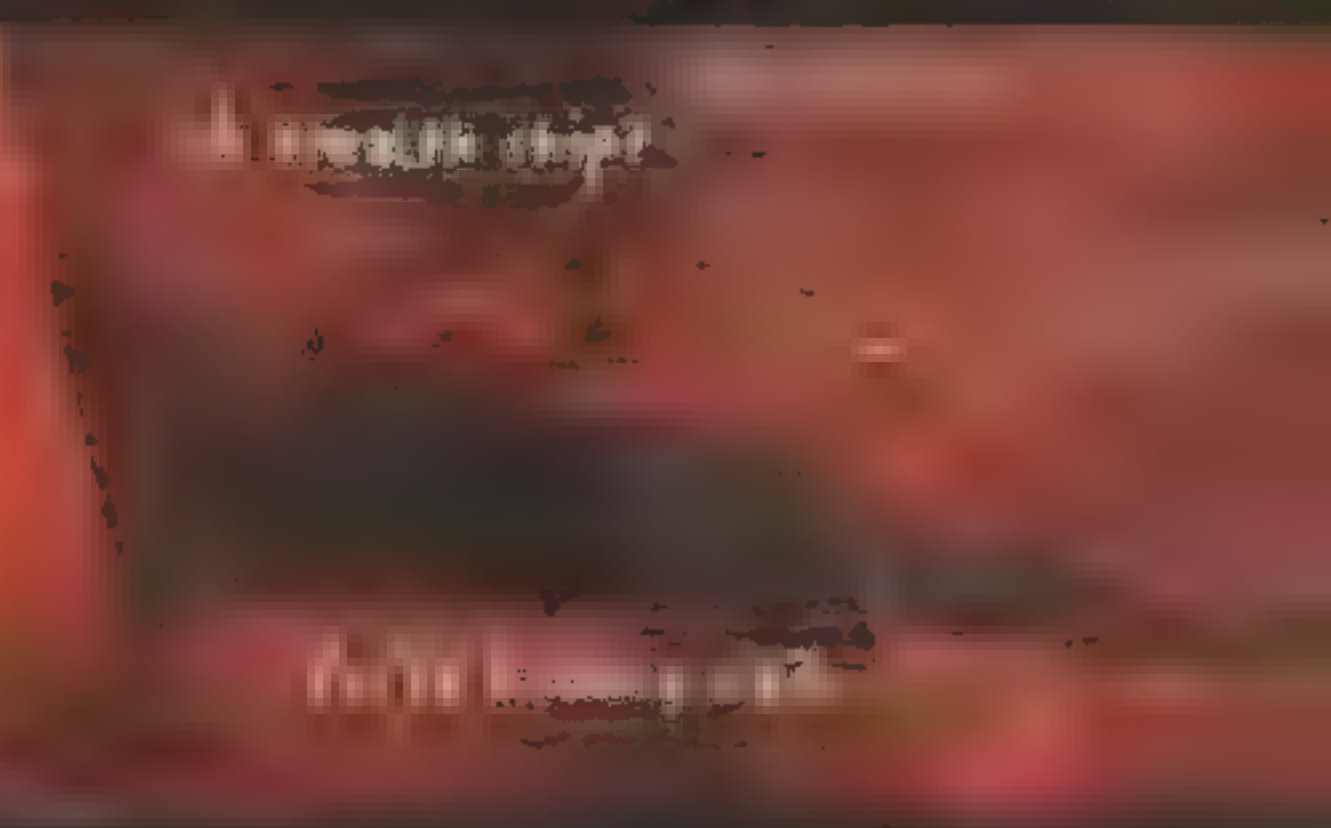
Now the quarantine
kicks in?



Yeah, why am I
not surprised?



There's gotta be some
way to override this.



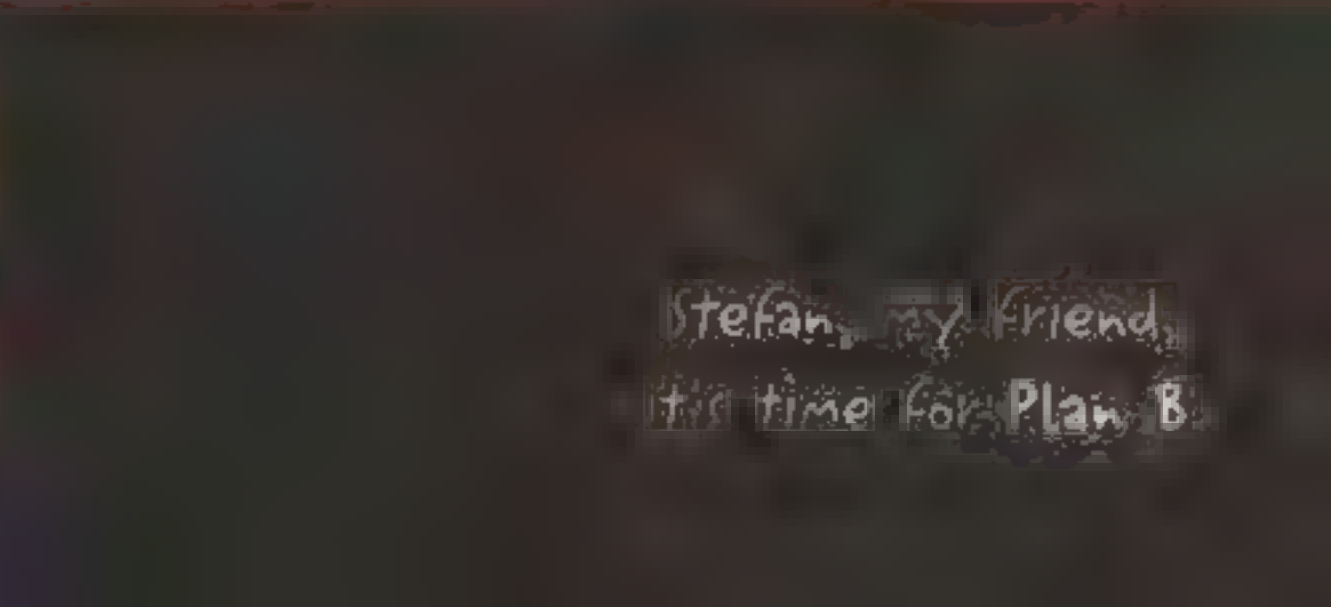
Health stop?

Not the health
stop. The health
stop is the health
stop.

Health stop?



Not good.



Stefan, my friend,
it's time for Plan B.


The fuck is

here!

Immediate
evac, go!
Go!
Right now,
pilot!
Launch!

fuck up.

That bastard Chang's going
to answer for this==



Security Crew

Just bought it.

Target is the
freelancer, the
prime target.

They know what
the Marker is.

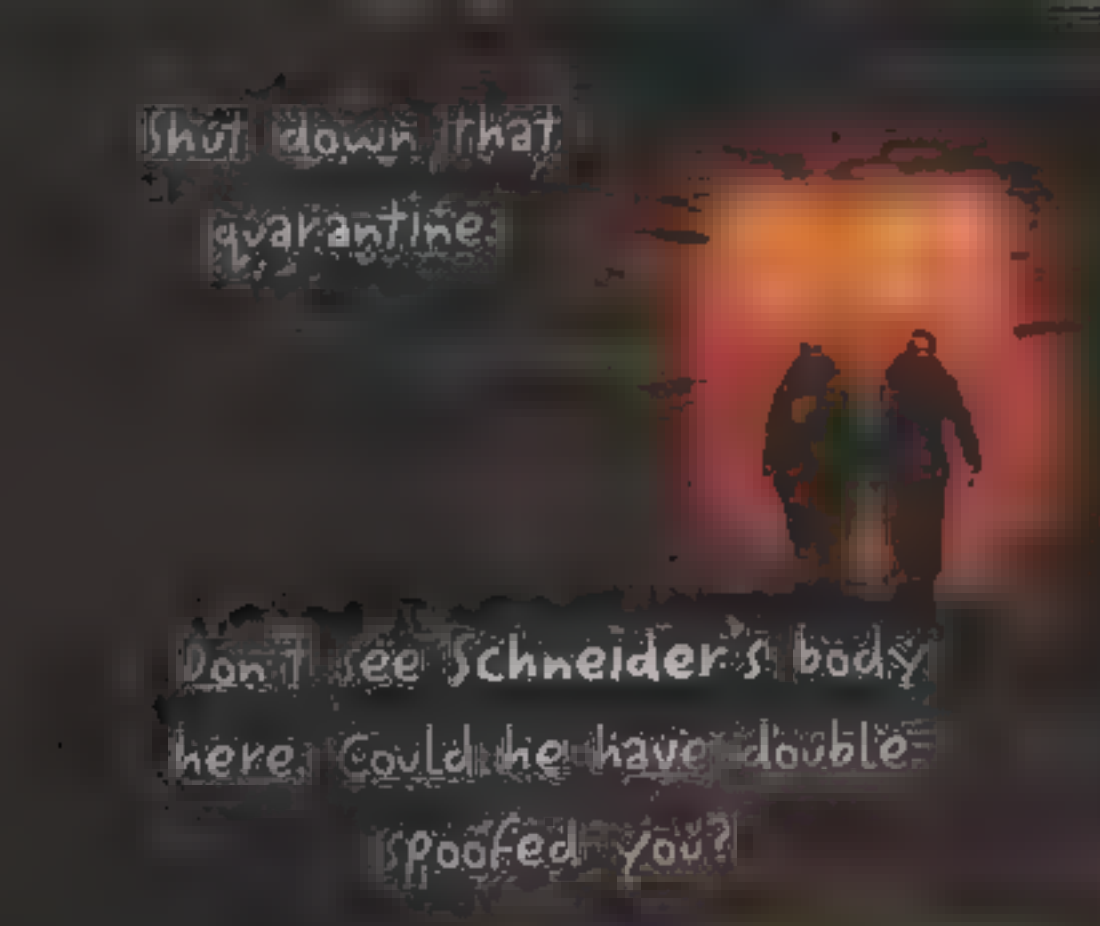


If they're not
already all dead,
— course.

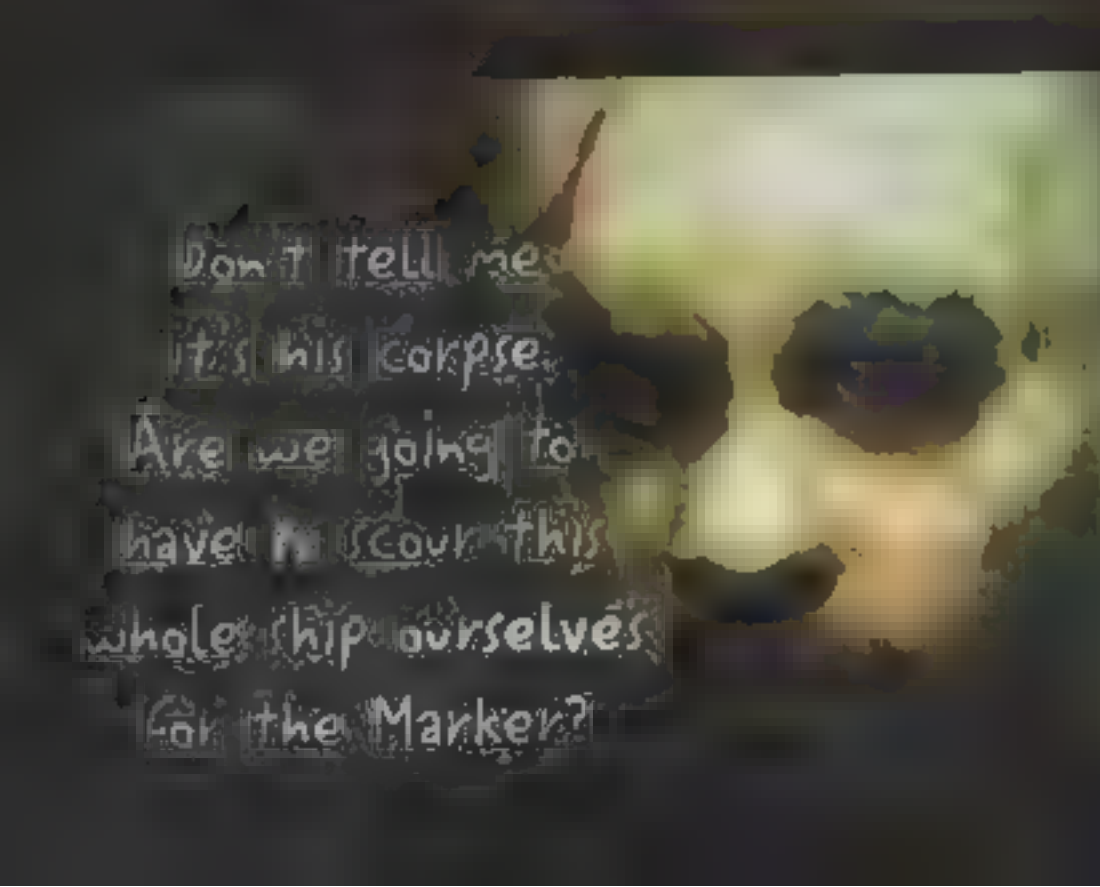
Shot down that
quarantine.

He's not that good.
He has to be in here,
— somewhere.

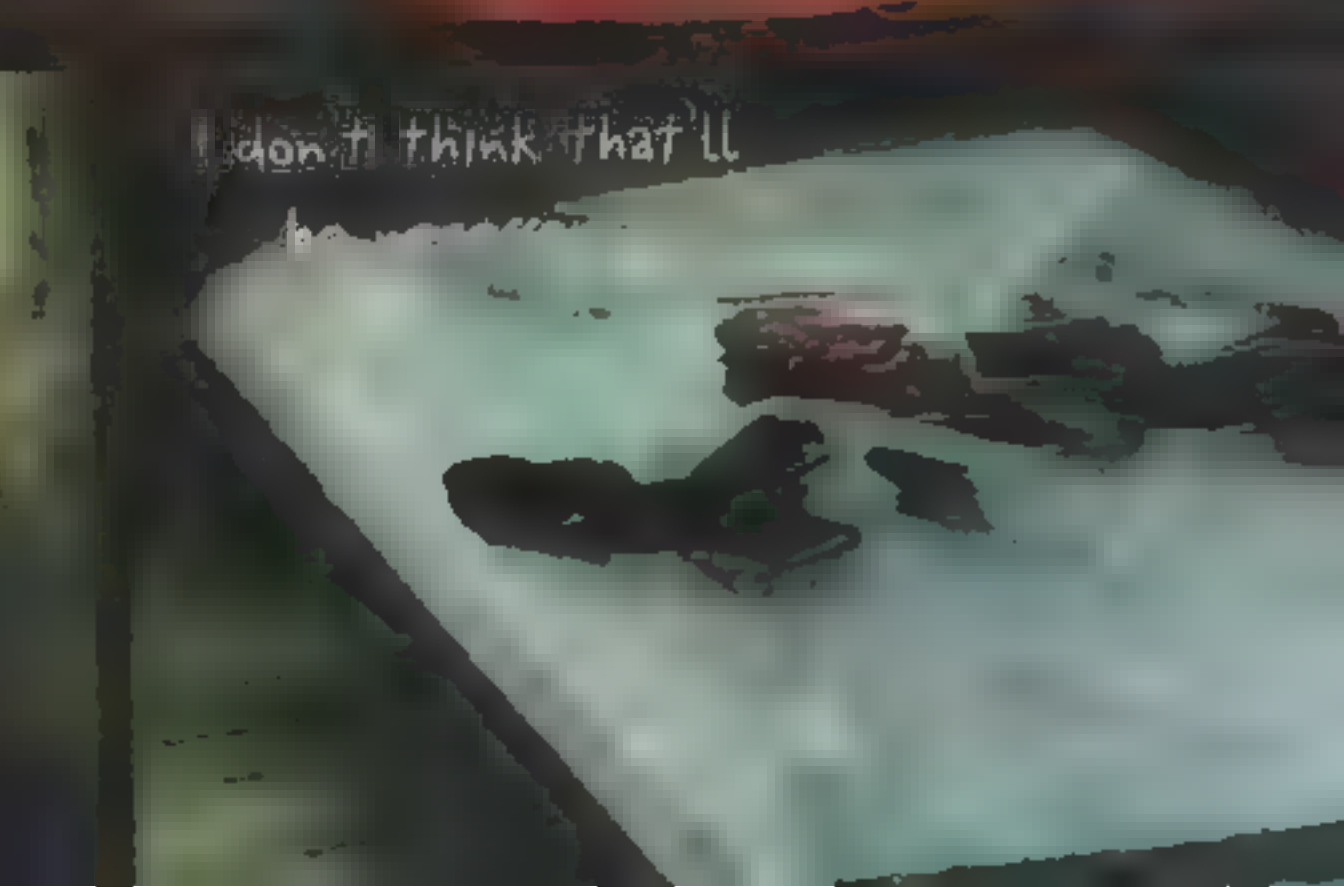
Oh, shit.
Over there.



Don't see Schneider's body
here. Could he have double-
spoofed you?



Don't tell me
it's his corpse.
Are we going to
have to scour this
whole ship ourselves
for the Marker?



I don't think that'll
be necessary.

We thought the shard Copland
had was a one-off, some kind of
slice for analysis.

But this is more than
anyone would require
for samples.

...the fact that
a... he had
... the out
... he... before
... goes public.

No, no, no!

FUCK!

You think he's
still alive.

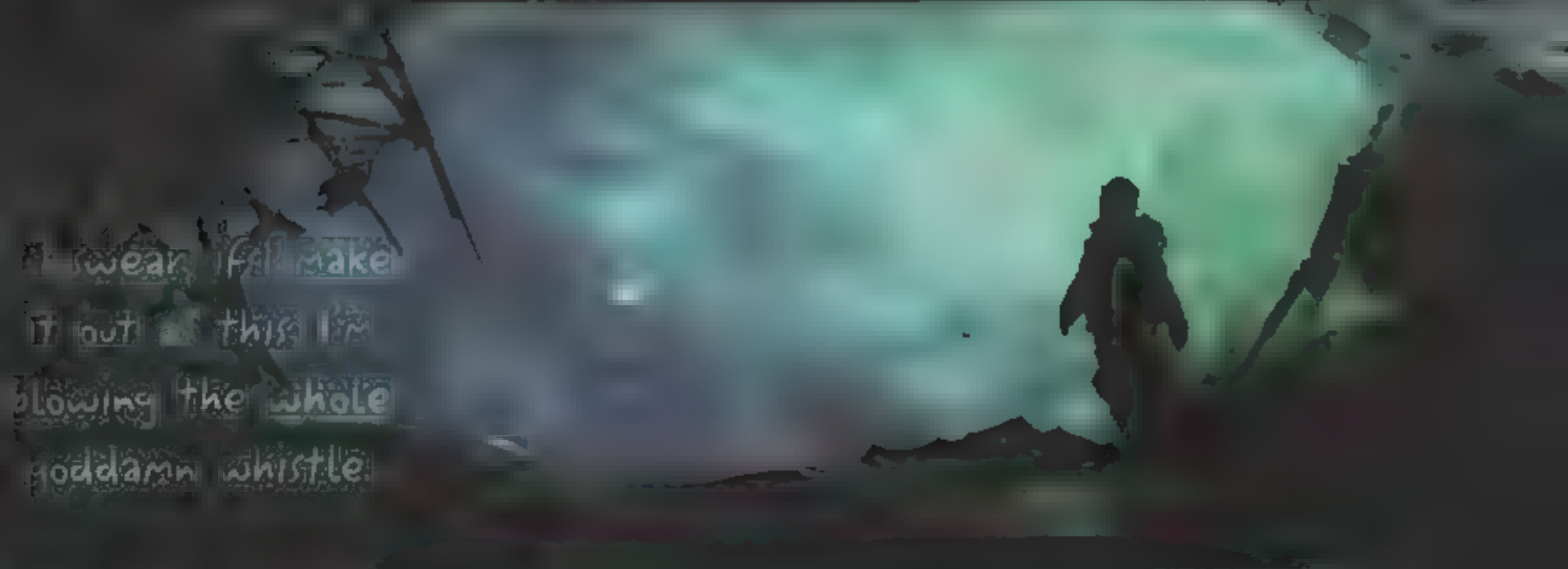
But how did he get
out? The quarantine
didn't lift until we
got here.

Look over there,
and tell me...

...Don't EVA lockers
normally hold four
suits?



Ok... shuttle bay is
ahead not far now...

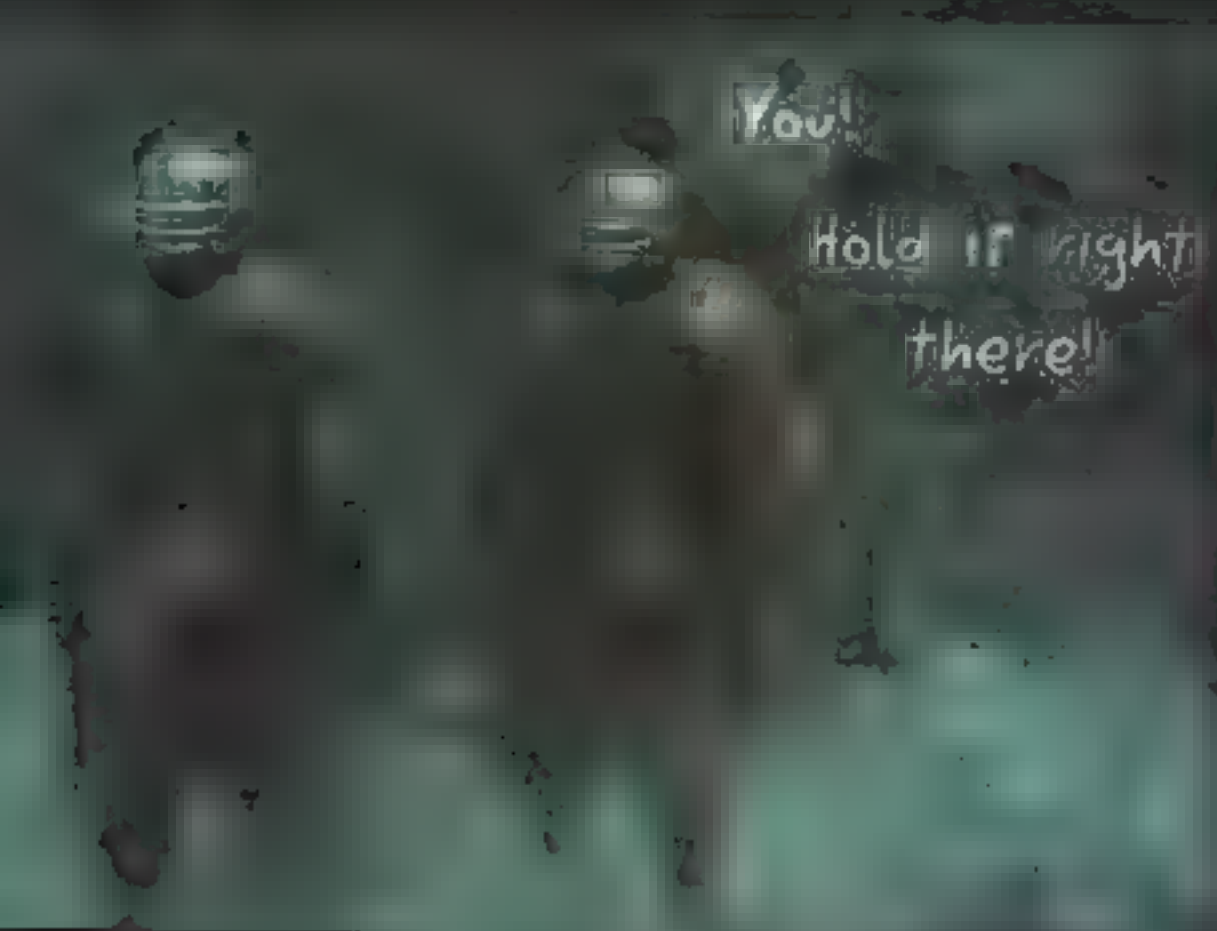


I swear I'll make
it out of this I'm
blowing the whole
foddamn whistle



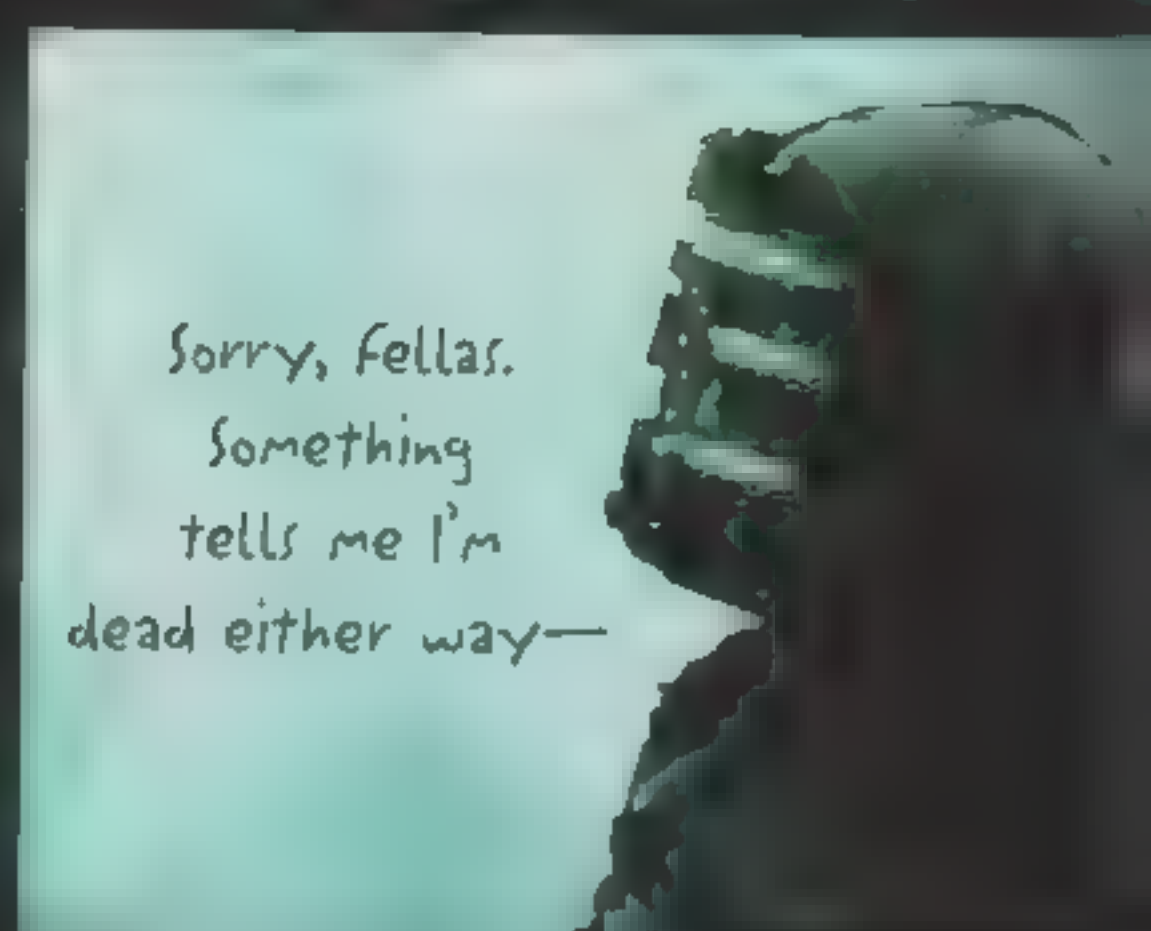
Oh for—

—of course they
can survive in a
vacuum Perfect!



You!

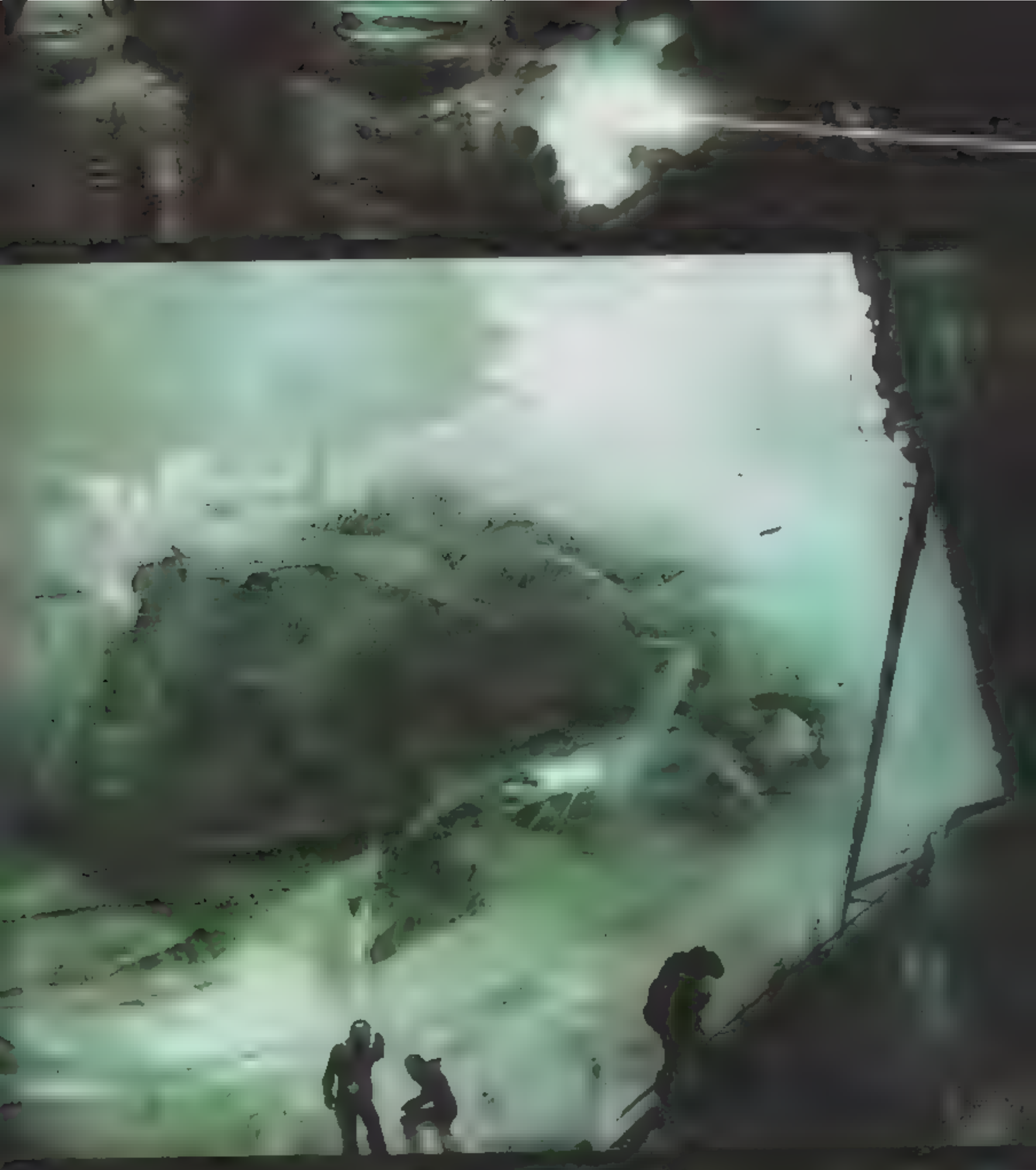
Hold it right
there!



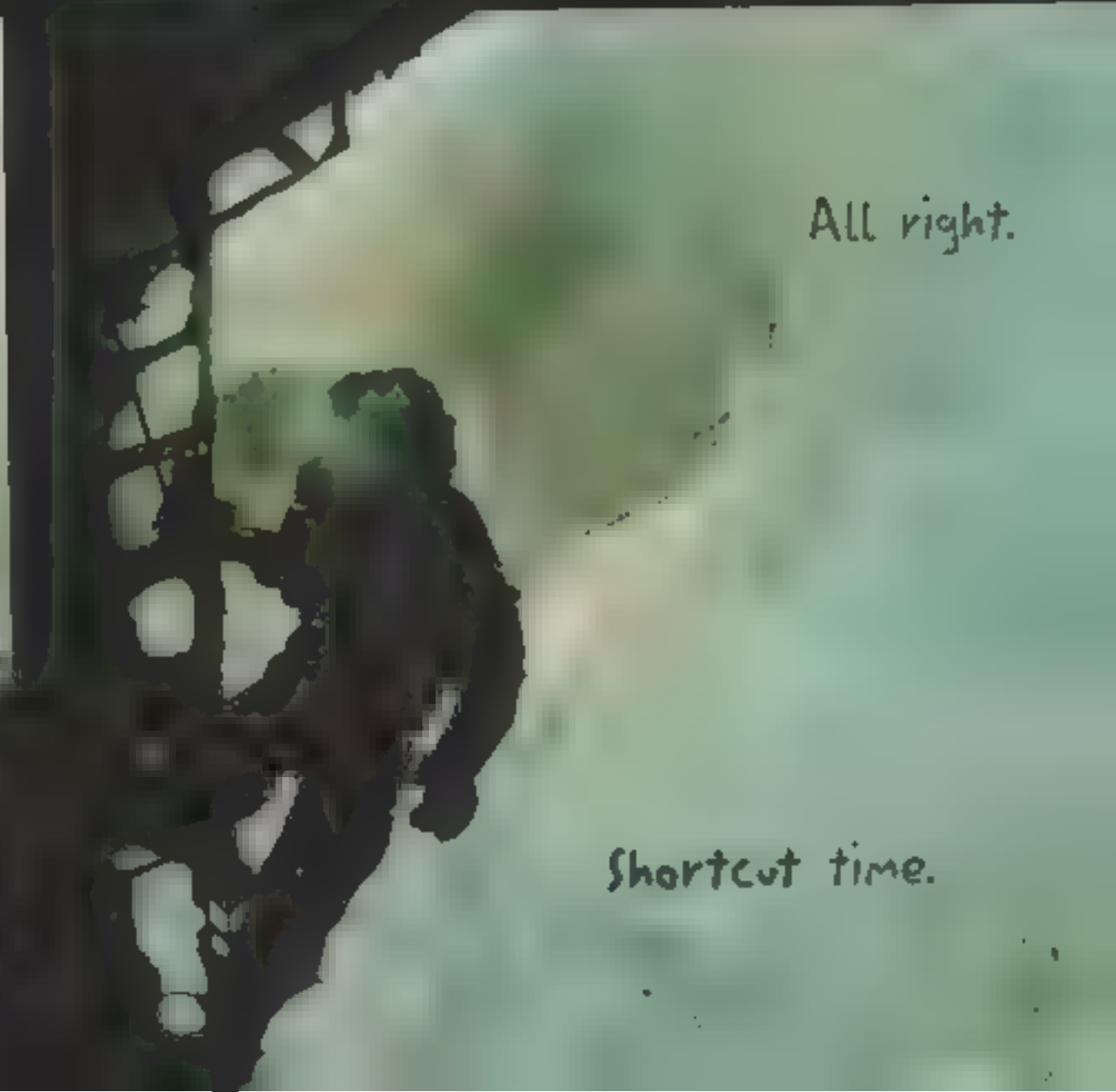
Sorry, fellas.
Something
tells me I'm
dead either way—



—Shit, and maybe sooner
than I thought.

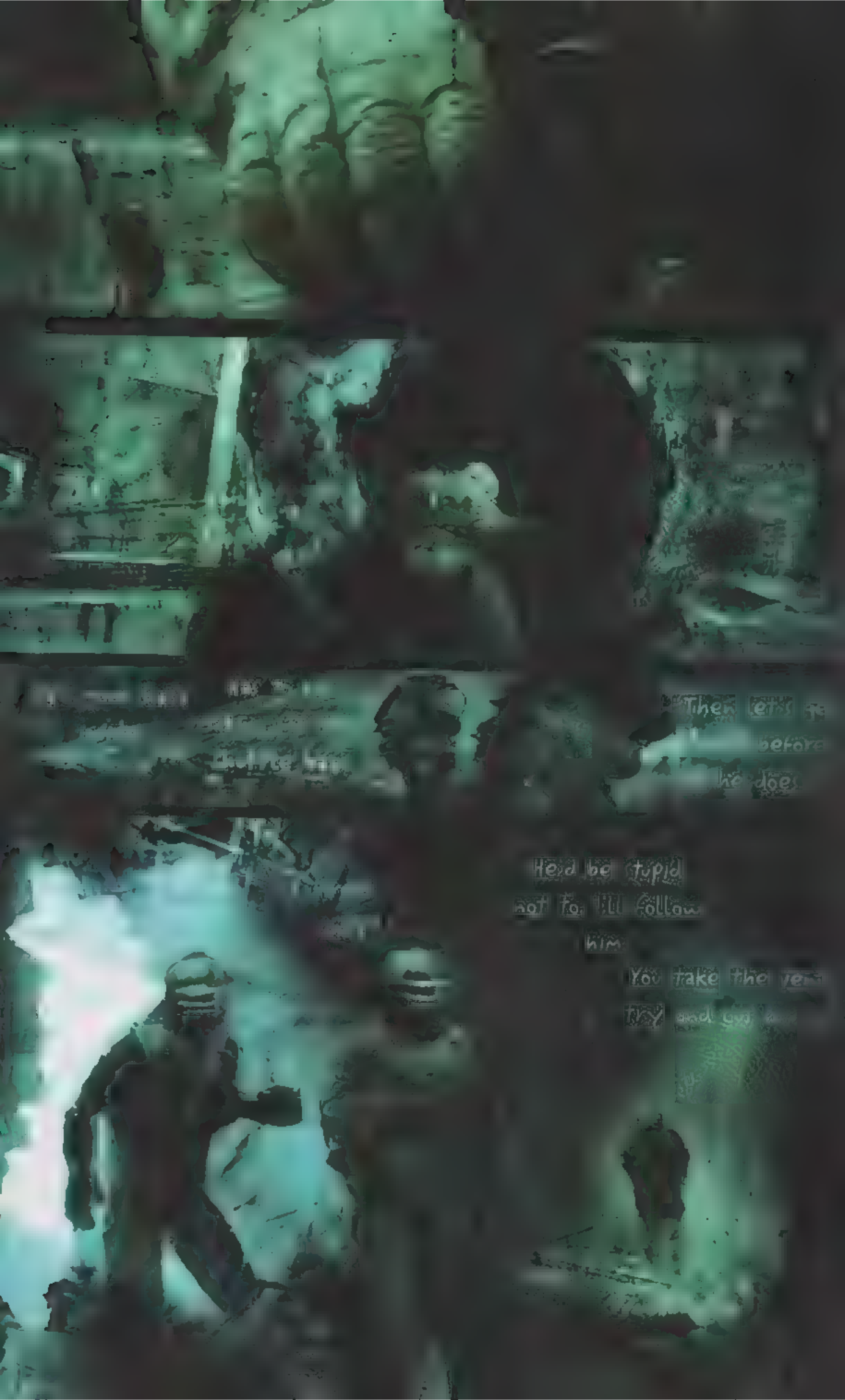


Guess they want
me alive... for now.



All right.

Shortcut time.



Then let's go
before
he does

He'd be stupid
not to. I'll follow
him

You take the van
try and get

us
out

Mr. Schneider

I presume

No sudden
moves, please.

Outflanked, huh?

So I guess you know
the layout of this
ship a lot better than
me.

We did our
homework

When I tell you that
I just remote piloted our
shockring into the Ishimura's
engine bay, set for an event
horizon of maximum radius.

Bullshit.

You don't have
the balls.

Really.

My entire crew is dead. Our
Nest was destroyed. The oh-so-
precious Marker, it turns out,
is in bitty pieces.

And even if you
bastards don't kill
me, I'll rot in jail
for a lifetime.

Literally
have nothing
to lose.

You don't even
know the half
of it.

More than
just a Marker.
Marker. Perry was
a piece.



No, I don't
You think I'm
right? How
hands? I
I know

...but not theating
they're

We need to
know what
you know.

What you
saw.

You could have
just asked

You don't
possess the
language to
tell us.

They're
closing in.

Regrouping.

I know.

Shit

I get
it now.

The madness, those weird symbols.
It's all connected, right? It makes
people crazy, and those fucking
monsters are a part of it!

What
are they?

An unfortunate

either are you

ider Your death

ingless.

but The knowledge you

already gained

a fortune

And you want to

cut me open, take

peel

shards are all that's

offer

One false move,

and I'll hit the

shocking

RAD COUNT RISING

CURRENT LEVEL 0.43

SIEVERTS

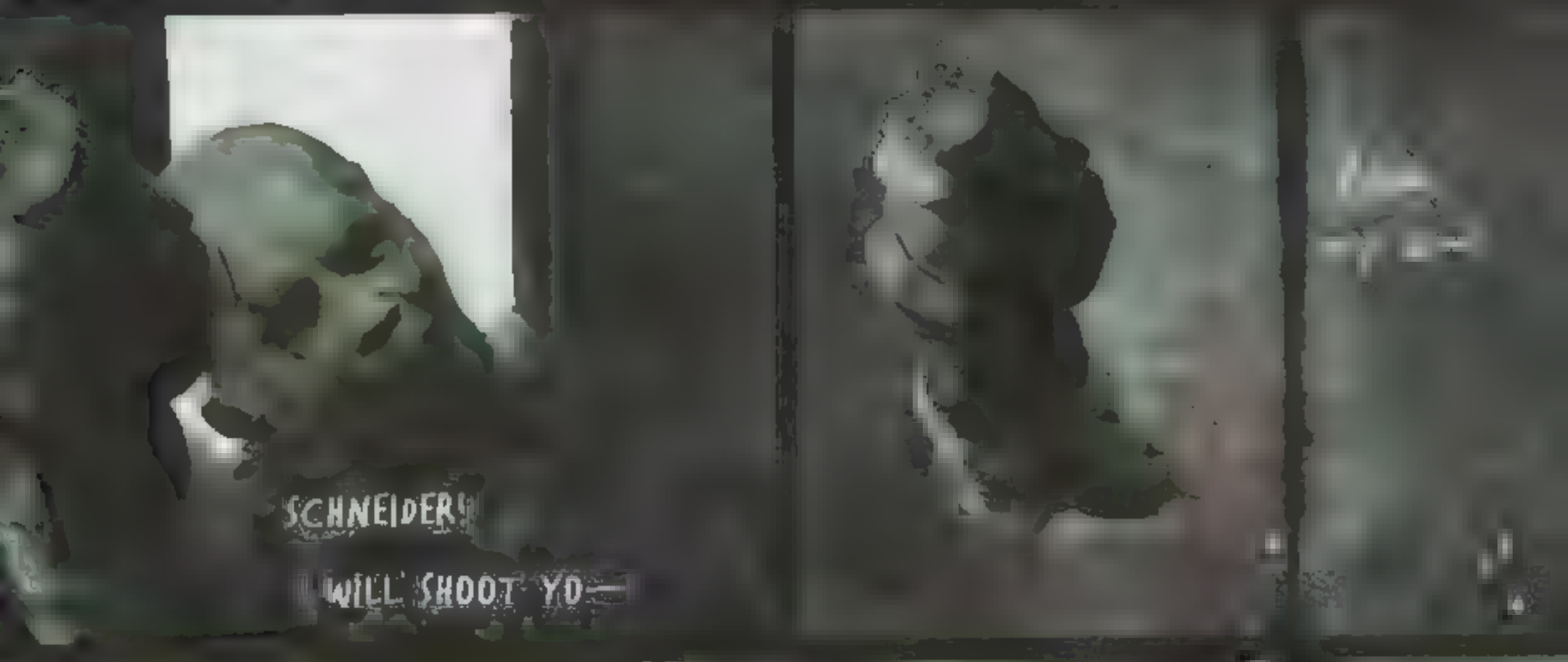
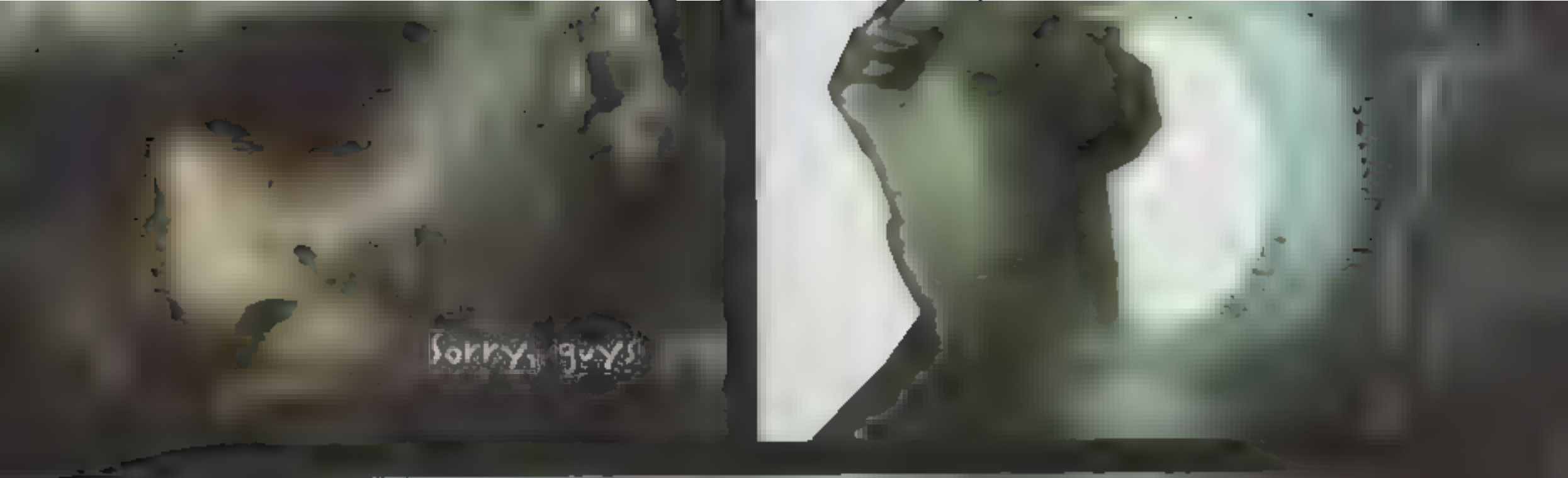
Ah shit

You lying

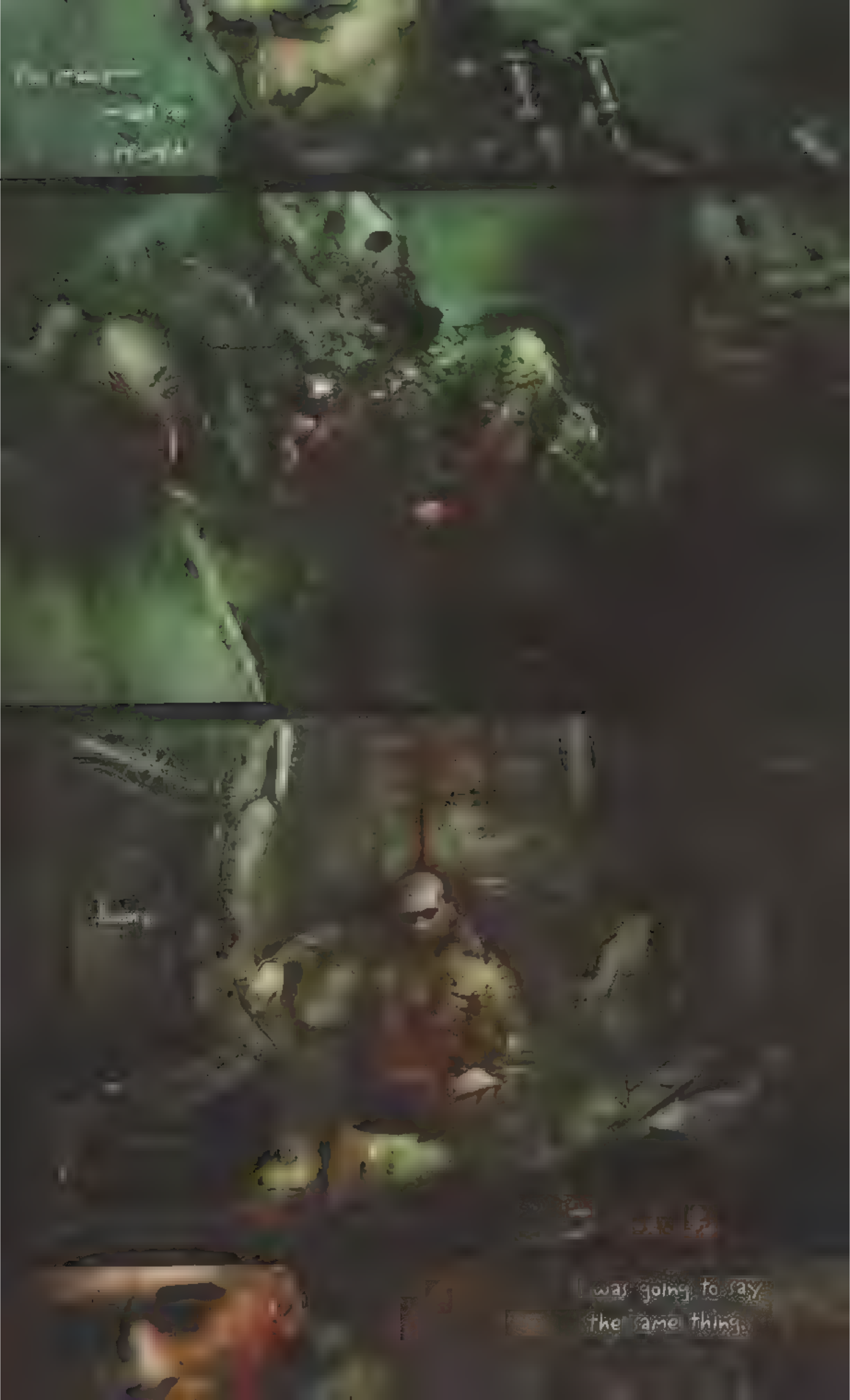
bastard!

I knew you

were bluffing







I was going to say
the same thing.



I have a very
important message

Off my ship, dammit!
How the hell am I
supposed to—

Get out of here

All right baby

Let's see what

You can do



Attention military
blockade this is...
hell I don't even
know what this ship
is called

I'm one of the
magpies you sent
your creeps to kill

They failed

Now I want
to speak to whoever's
in charge

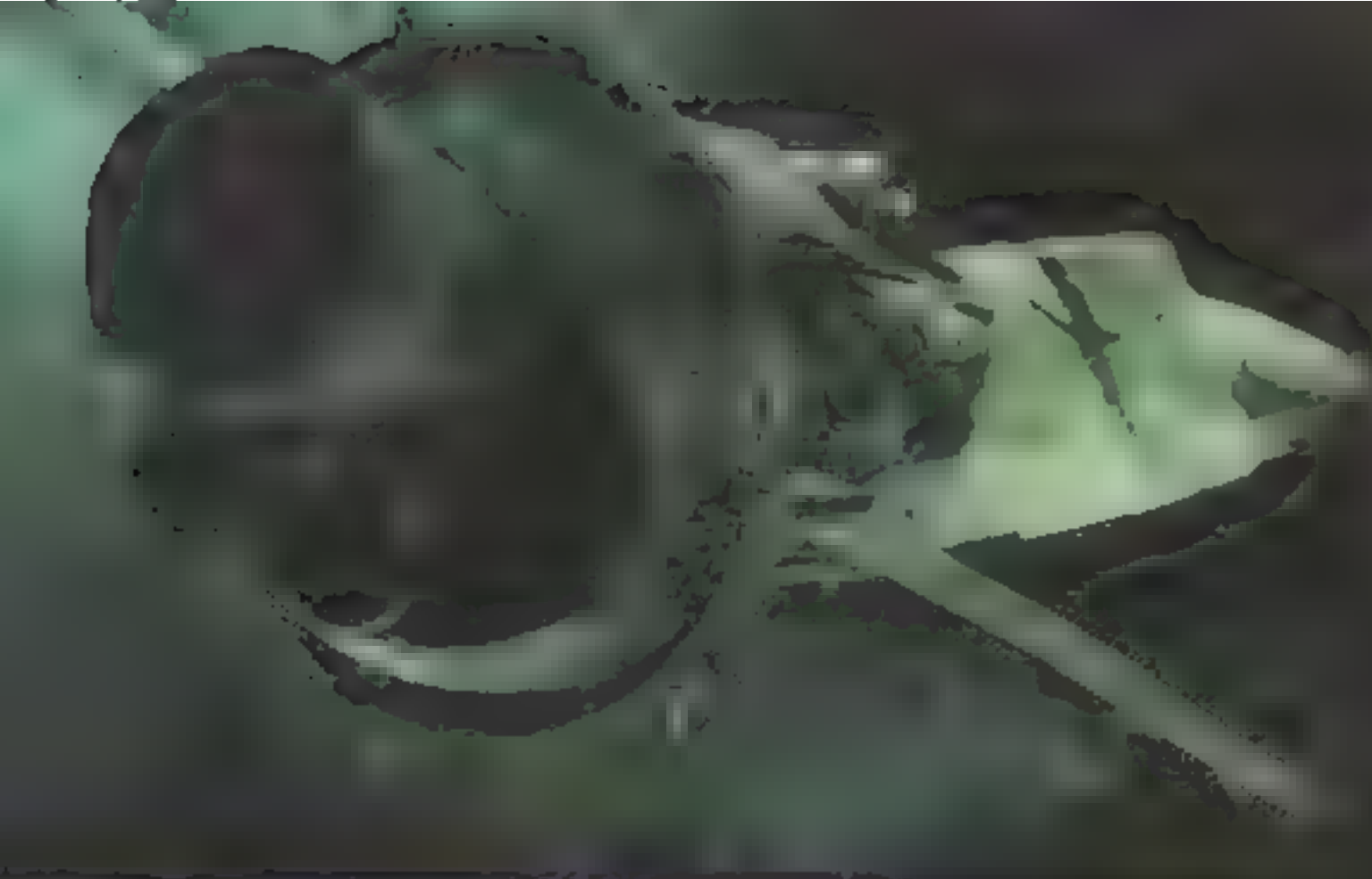
My name is Dave
I'm a blockade runner
I want to see you

Thank you for the
information

My name is
Dave

My name is not
important Dave

Only what
I have to say

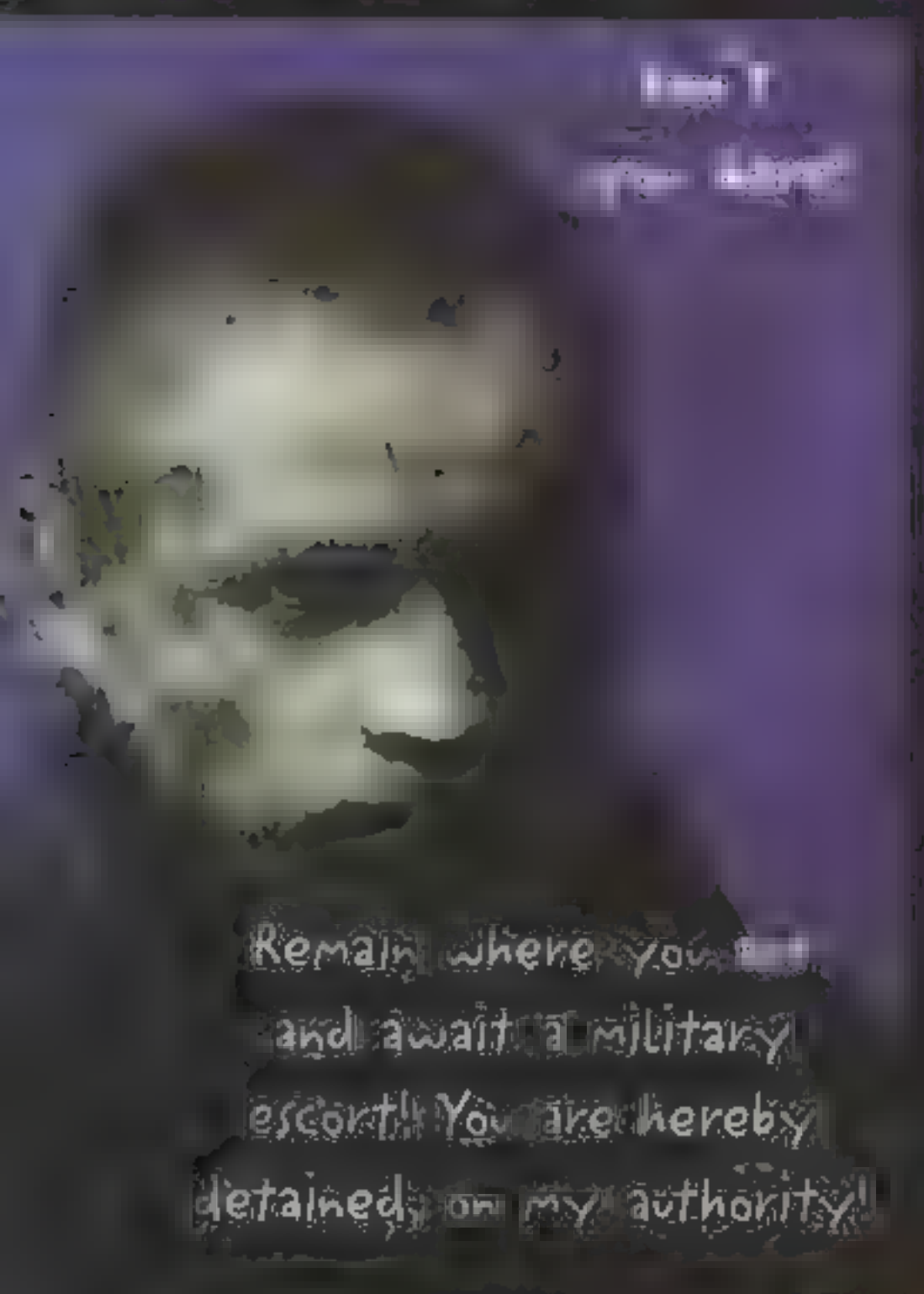


The Ishimura is inside the
Vigilis Belt, round about
Solar Mark eight-one-five.

Far as I'm concerned,
you're welcome to it.

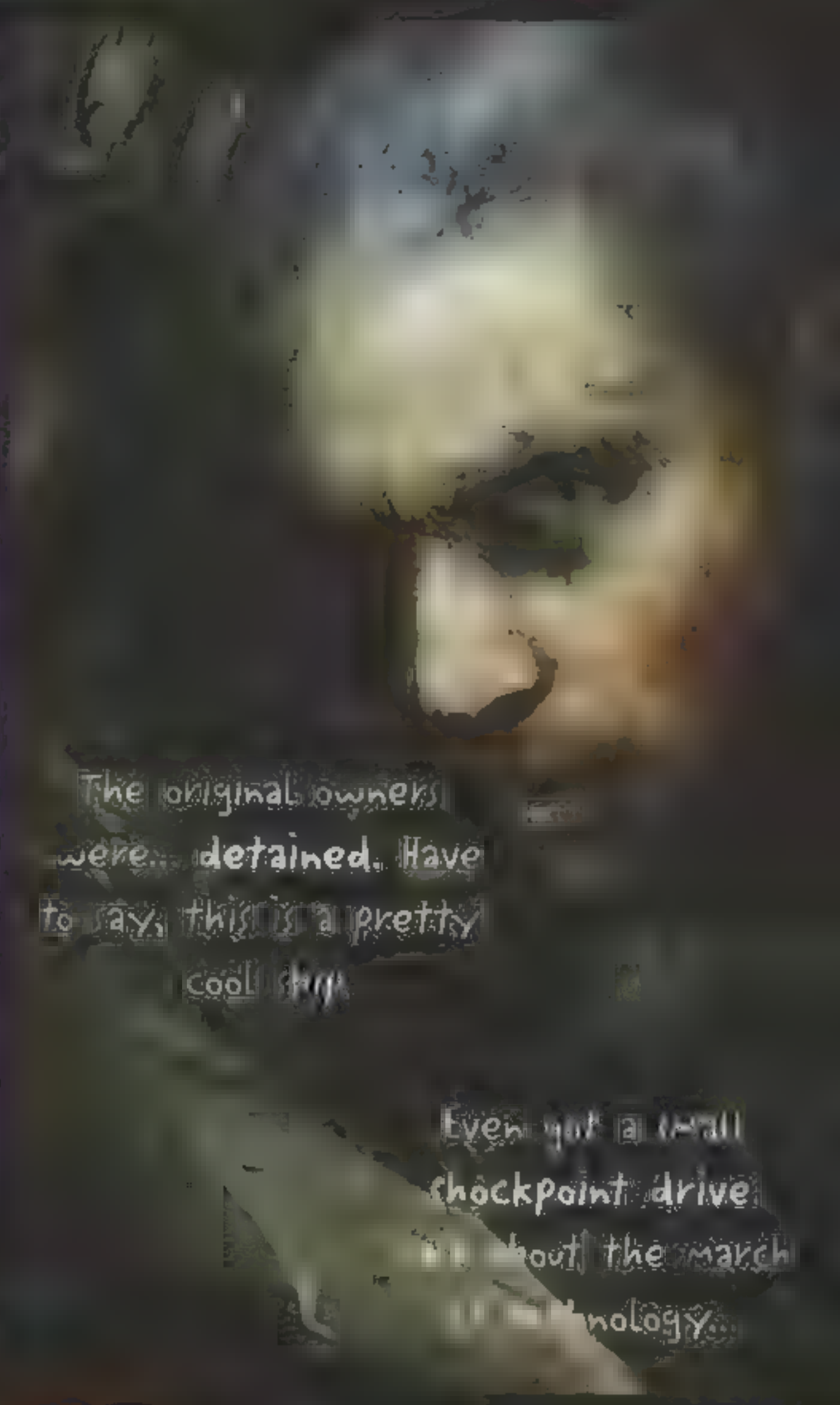


What the hell
is that? And what you
are doing for that
should be illegal.



Don't
you dare.

Remain where you are
and await a military
escort! You are hereby
detained, on my authority!

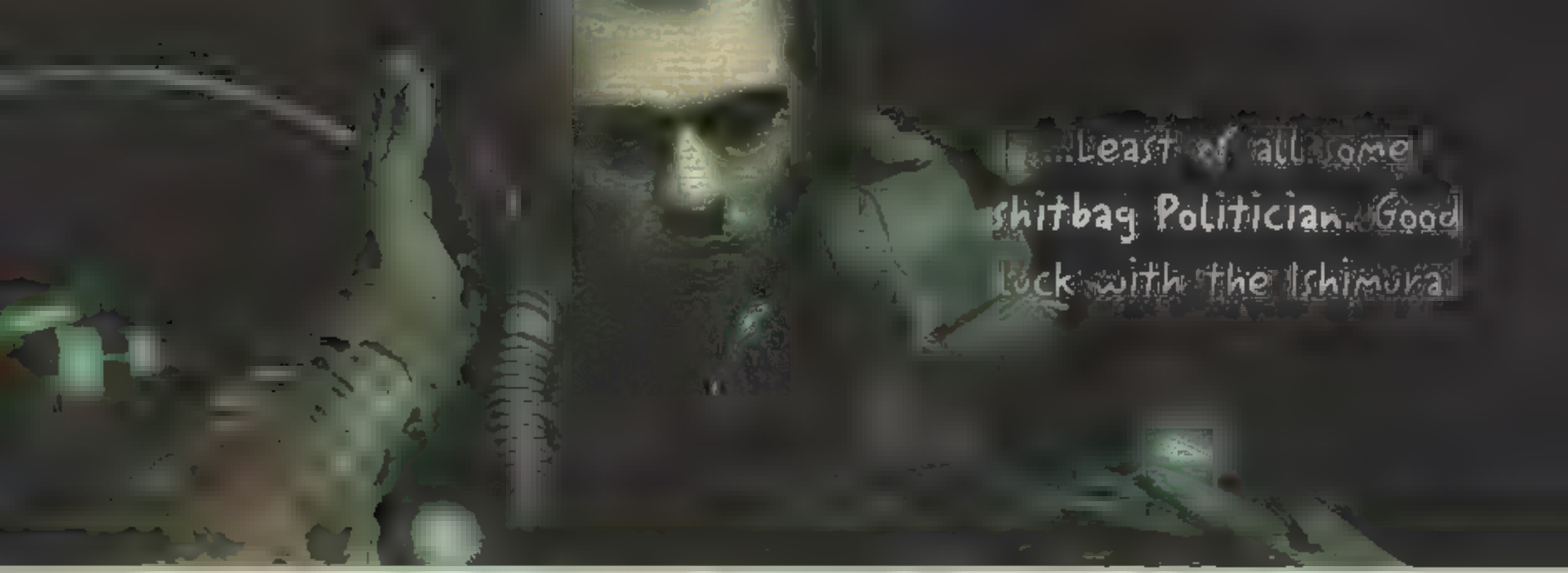


The original owners
were... detained. Have
to say, this is a pretty
cool ship.

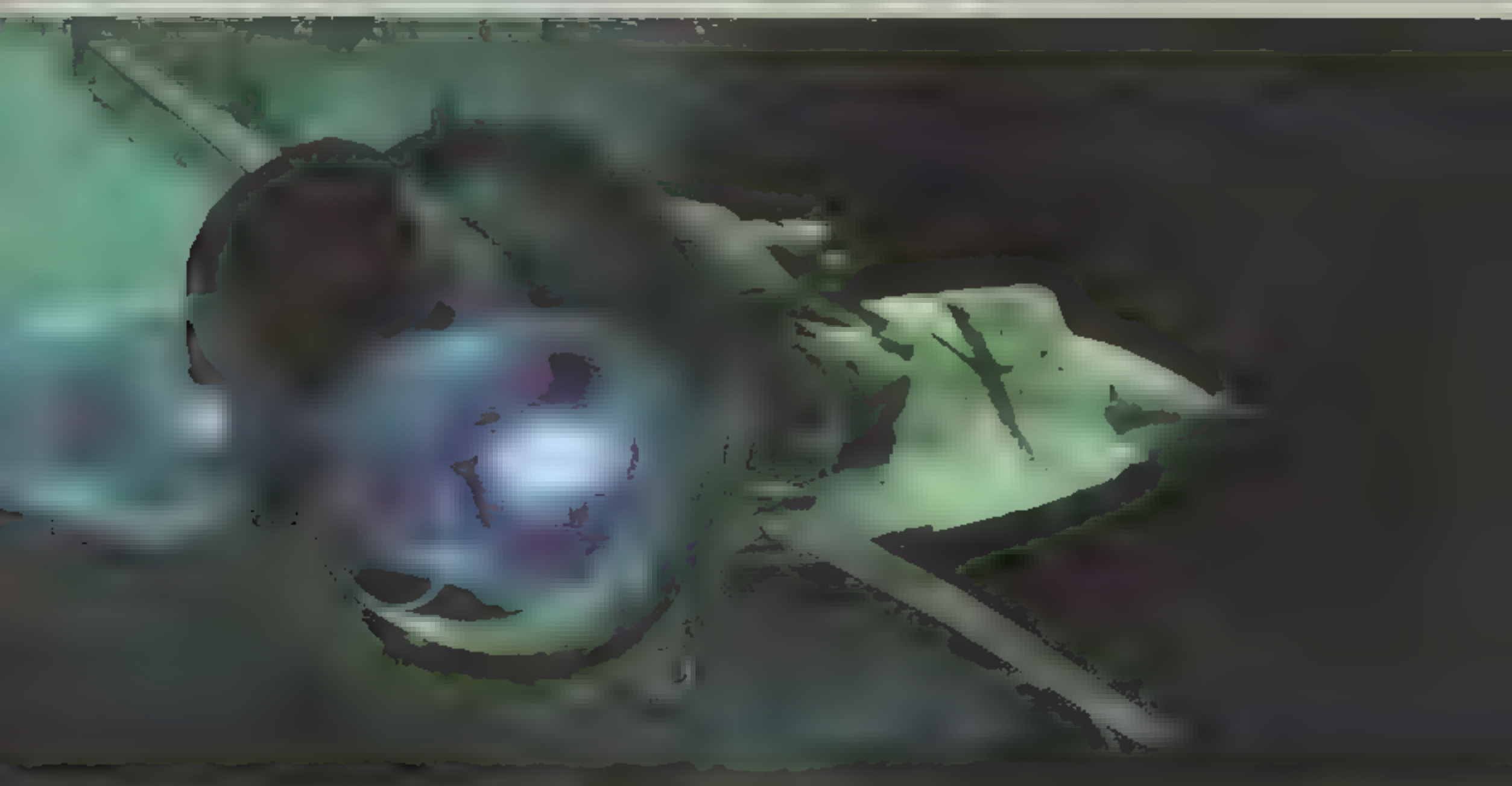
Even got a small
checkpoint drive
in about the march
technology.



Sorry, Dave, but
nobody has authority
over me...



...Least of all some
shitbag Politician. Good
luck with the Ishimura.



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