DAYFREE PRESS #3A

the Art of PROOF OF CONCEPT



DANA DARKO
ZOE JIMENEZ
BROTHERSTEVEN
MIDJOURNEY

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ART OF CONCEPT

VOLUME ONE NUMBER THREE





DANA NOVA DARKO

WRITER, LETTERER, ART DESIGNER, LAYOUTS AND ART MODIFICATION

DAYNA LIVES AND BREATHES ART OF ALL KINDS, WITH A BACKGROUND IN WEBCOMICS MARKETING AND COMICS CREATION.

ZOE JIMENEZ

INSPIRATION.

ZOE, WHO MAY OR MAY NOT EXIST, IS A DJ AND VIRTUAL WORLD DESIGNER, PHOTOGRAPHER, AND ORGANIZER. SHE HAILS FROM PORT JIMENEZ, COSTA RICA.





MISS MIDJOURNEY

ART AND CHARACTER IMAGINEER.

MISS MIDJOURNEY WORKS TIRELESSLY TO CREATE ART IN THE DESIGNER'S VISION, DESPITE NOT EXISTING. SHE CAN'T DRAW HANDS.

MY BROTHER STEVEN

AI AND MIDJOURNEY RESEARCHER, PROOFREADER, EDITOR

A PERPETUAL STUDENT AND TEACHER, STEVEN EXPLORED THE INS AND OUTS OF MIDJOURNEY, ALLOWING FOR THE CREATION OF THIS BOOK.

CREATIVE TEAM

Special thanks to Todd Tochioka, Steve Coulson, Christopher English, Danielle Schmitt, my dad, Russina, Luna Gloaming, and everyone at SMASH.

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THE ART OF PROOF OF CONCEPT VOLUME ONE #3, September 2023.
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the Art of
PROOF OF CONCEPT
This book covers the art of Proof of Concept Issue 3: "Selfie" and Spark Phase 1-3 which appear in Proof of Concept #3, #4, and #5, and as it contains spoilers, is intended to be read after reading issue number five.

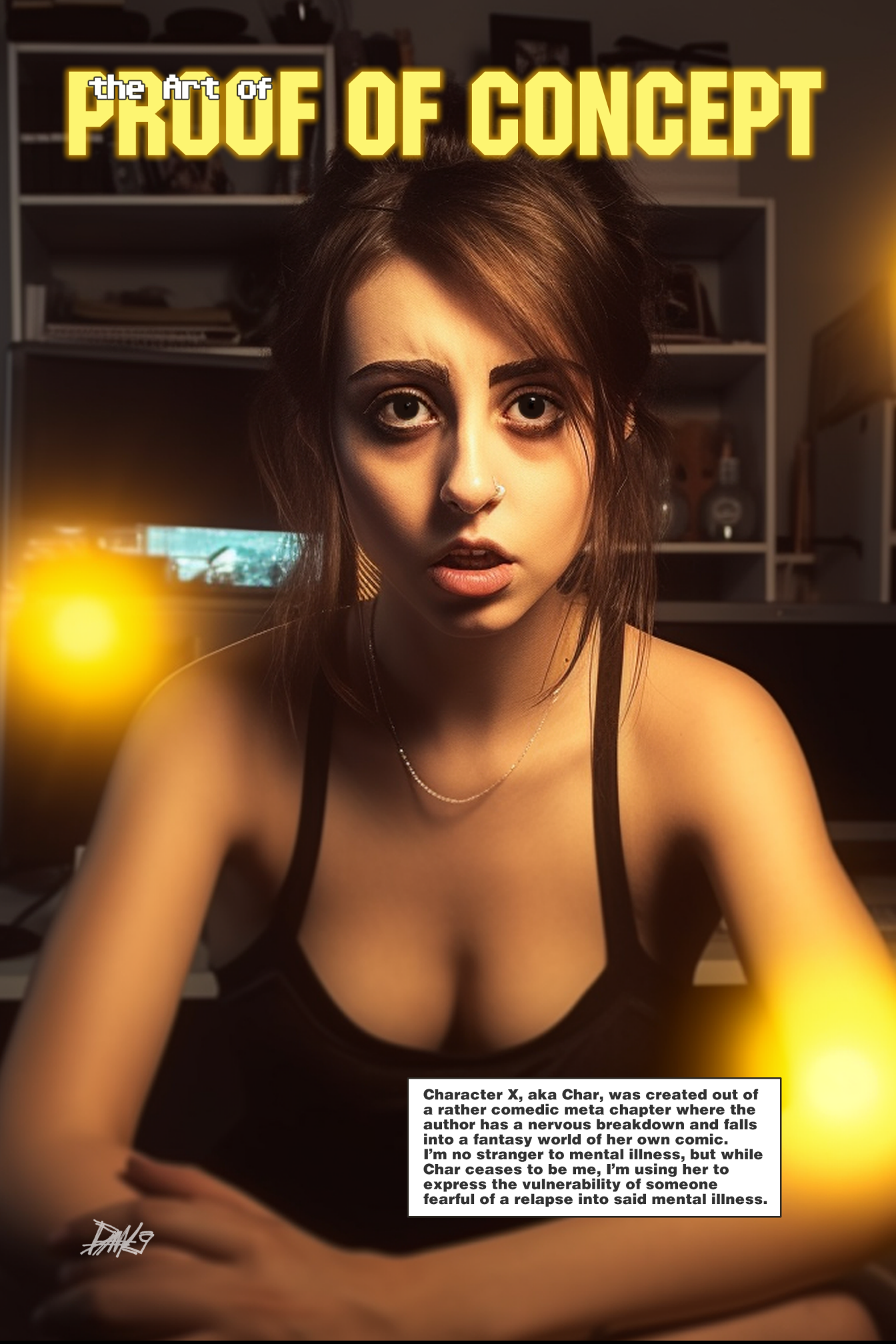
the Art of PROOF OF CONCEPT



Char X
Asset

Character X was created using some images of Zoe and some of my own selfies. In Issue 3, as she ceases to be Dayna Darko and becomes her own entity, I slowly removed the influence of my selfies from her formula. She represents an alternate reality of my own creativity and mental fragility given form to travel through my timeline, often creating key points in the history.


the Art of
PRO CONCEPT
It's no secret that I'm playing a game with the readers. I'm going to leave you clues and small elements that won't mean much at first, but when you go back and re-read later, things will pop out. Take the series at face value, or treat it like a puzzle. It's what you make of it.
SCRATCH
GODDARD
From issue #4...
BUT WHAT IF YOU'RE THE LOST CAT?
HISS.
SCRATCH.
BITE.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PROOF OF CONCEPT
Character X, aka Char, was created out of a rather comedic meta chapter where the author has a nervous breakdown and falls into a fantasy world of her own comic. I'm no stranger to mental illness, but while Char ceases to be me, I'm using her to express the vulnerability of someone fearful of a relapse into said mental illness.

the Art of Selfie



Using my own selfies in image prompts with Midjourney tends to produce a wide range of characters. Though I'm in their genetics, they are their own characters, perhaps alternate reality versions of me. Most of my varied author pics for the inside front covers were created this way.


the Art of
PROOF OF CONCEPT
By the end of SPARK Phase Three, I began preparing for the use of Niji*Journey v5 for the next two SPARK phases, where Char crosses over with THE AFTERMATH, an anime-influenced chapter (POC Issue 13).

PROOF OF CONCEPT

Art Gallery



the Art of Spark



SPARK PHASE 2 & 3, which took place in The Bunker, spawned a new process of creating model images first, and then using image prompts with Char's character asset image and the bunker storage room environment asset to create the images for the comic.

PROOF OF CONCEPT

the Art of Spark

1: DENIAL



PROOF OF CONCEPT

the Art of Spark

2: ANGER



PROOF OF CONCEPT

the Art of

Spark

3: BARGAINING



PROOF OF CONCEPT

the Art of Spark

4: DEPRESSION



PROOF OF CONCEPT

the Art of Spark

5: ACCEPTANCE





the Art of Spark

I met a man.
He loves me.
I don't love him.





the Art of Spark

Please take me somewhere safe.




the Art of
PROOF OF CONCEPT
CHAR X

the Art of PROOF OF CONCEPT

The Bunker

When Char first arrives in the Bunker, she knows full well what it is, still being confused about who the writer was. The writer created Zoe Jimenez, so she hides out in her fantasy world become real, and creates Zoe Jimenez... in the way a woman is able.



the Art of PROOF OF CONCEPT



Char is basically a super-hero with an origin story that unfolds in SPARK. When she learns of her ability to harness "The Spark" from the Nova Orbs in order to cross the 4th and 9th dimensions, she knows it feels right, like it's built right into who she is. Losing her memory of ever having been the author gives her a chance to shine as her own character, independent of her origin. Is she Zoe, Char, or Dayna? *I'm the writer.* I created her, and I feel bad for what I'm going to put her through.

the Theory of PROOF OF CONCEPT



√ 0th dimension: a point
√ 1st dimension: a line
√ 2nd dimension: a plane
√ 3rd dimension: a solid
√ 4th dimension: linear time
√ 5th dimension: a parallel timeline
√ 6th dimension: planar timeline (can travel from one timeline to another)
√ 7th dimension: linear universe starting at big bang
√ 8th dimension: parallel universes with different beginnings
√ 9th dimension: planar universes (can travel from one universe to another)
√ 10th dimension: multiple universes with different sets of rules of physics
√ 11th dimension: the dimension perceivable only by a godlike being
√ 12th dimension: the mechanism that allows for human thought

the Art of PROOF OF CONCEPT

The Story of Zoe Junior







Zoe Junior was born in The Bunker and will appear again in issue #6 (The Bunker) and issue #12 (Leviathan Lens). She is a distinctly different character from the current day Zoes: Zoe Prime (Chromium Decay), Menace, and Zoe Alpha (Darkness), all of whom diverge from Kid Zoe in issue #1.


PROOF COPY
Art Gallery
Char


the Art of
PROOF OF CONCEPT
The Engine

the Art of PROOF OF CONCEPT



Black Mercury's first appearance in the series is in SPARK Phase Three, in PROOF OF CONCEPT #5. I'm keeping her true nature a mystery for now, but you'll see part of her story in issue #7.

the Art of

PROOF OF CONCEPT



Leviathan Class V

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ATOM PUNK

In several phases of SPARK, we get a glimpse of Char, now with her hair dyed blonde / pink, living in 1931 with Walter Dadd and Mary Christmas. These scenes where Char tells her stories to a dubious audience will land right in the middle of issue #8 (Atom Punk), which is the story of Walter "Daddy" Dadd's life.

a demonstration of midjourney v.5.2's new pan feature.



the Art of PROOF OF CONCEPT









Midjourney v5.2 introduced new features such as pan, zoom, and region remix.



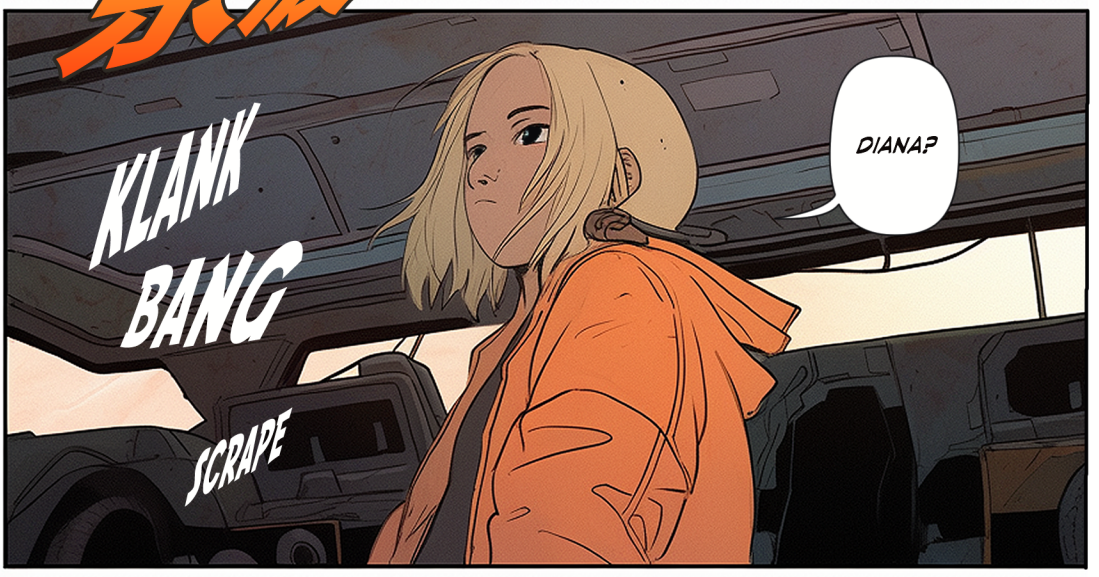


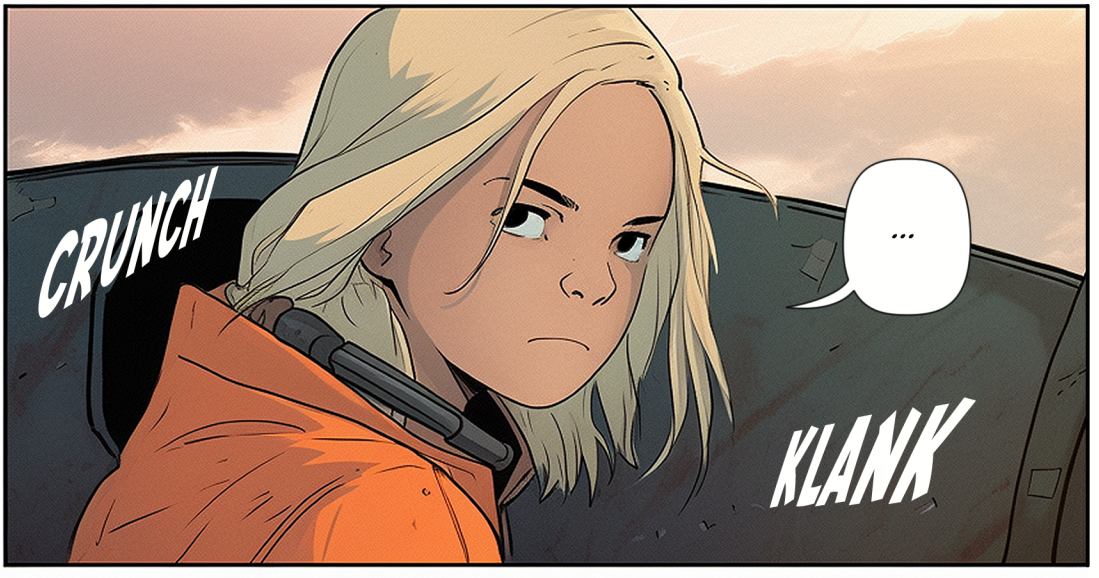


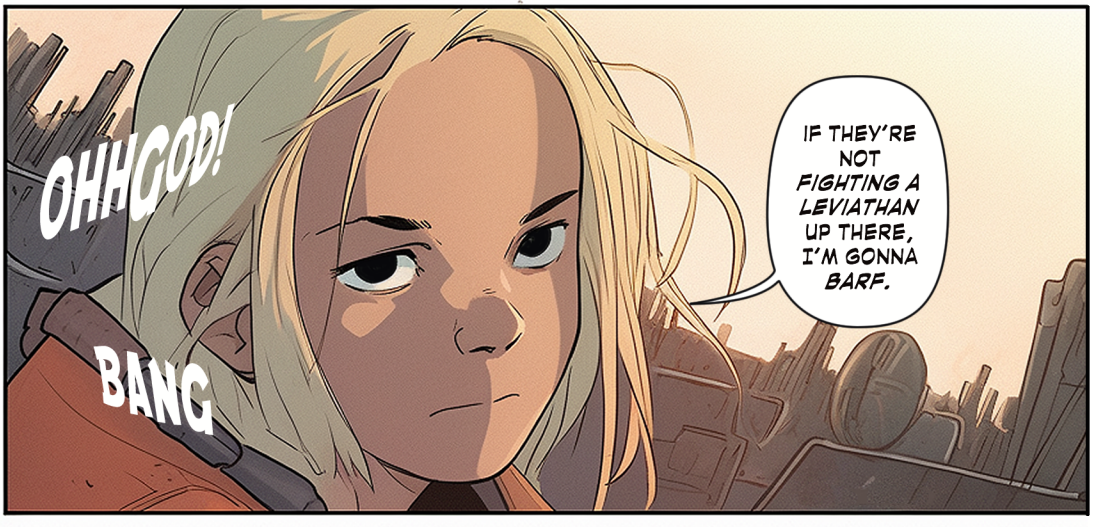


PROOF OF CONCEPT

aftermath 余波 featuring kid zoe







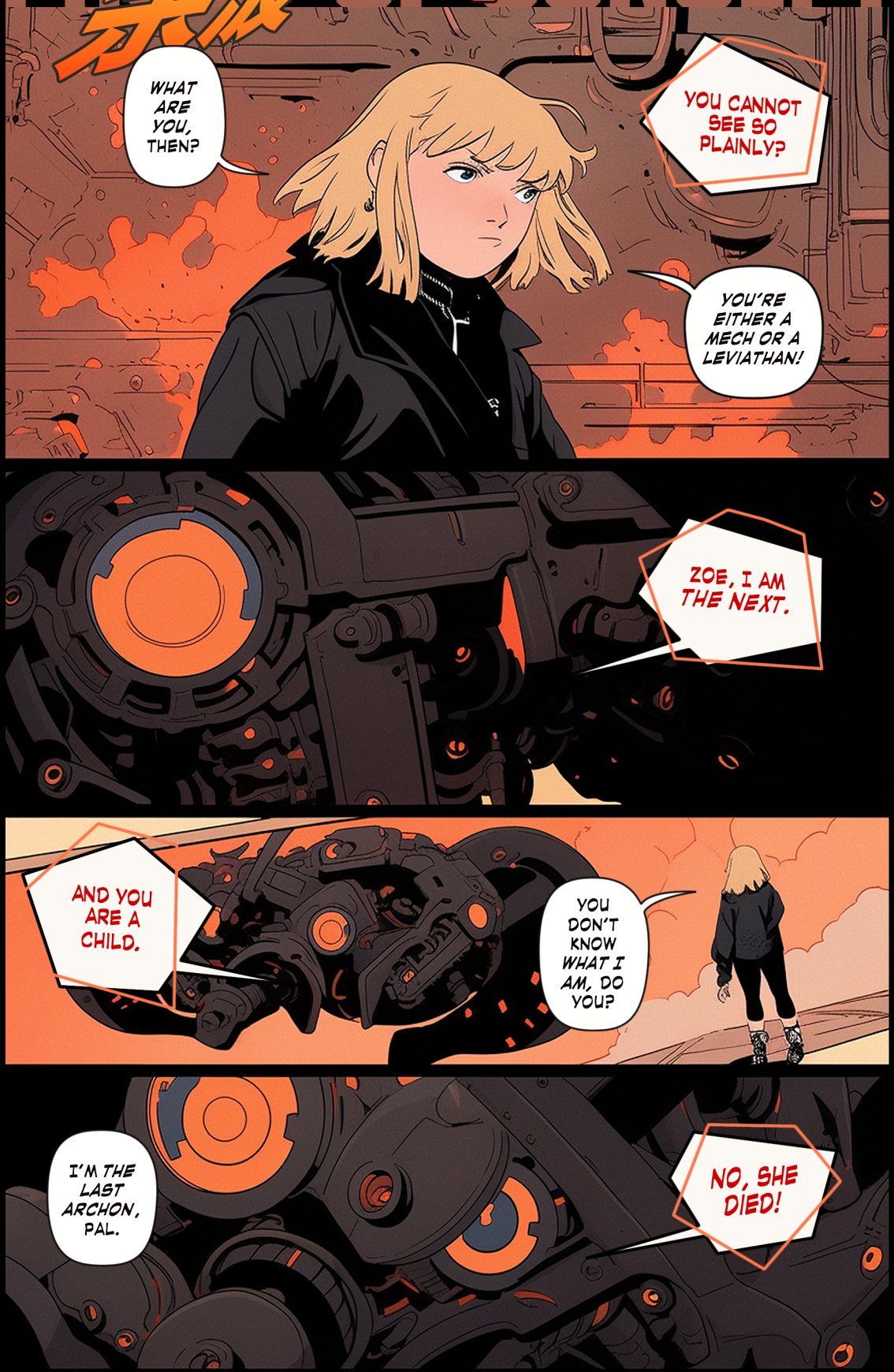
PROOF OF CONCEPT



ELDERLY

PROOF OF CONCEPT

aftermath 余波 featuring kid zoe

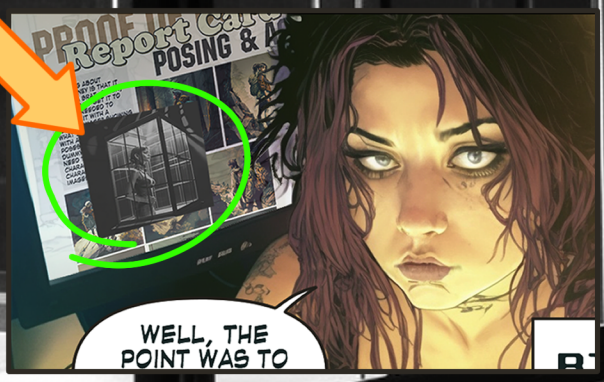


the Art of PROOF OF CONCEPT Selfie

In PROOF OF CONCEPT #9 (SPARK Phase 7), a crossover will be featured with Steve Coulson's The Bestiary Chronicles #5. This is one of several images hidden in the background in PROOF OF CONCEPT #3 that resulted from several sessions of style and concept development for the crossover. Steve's books are available from Campfire Comics.







the Art of Selfie PROOF OF CONCEPT





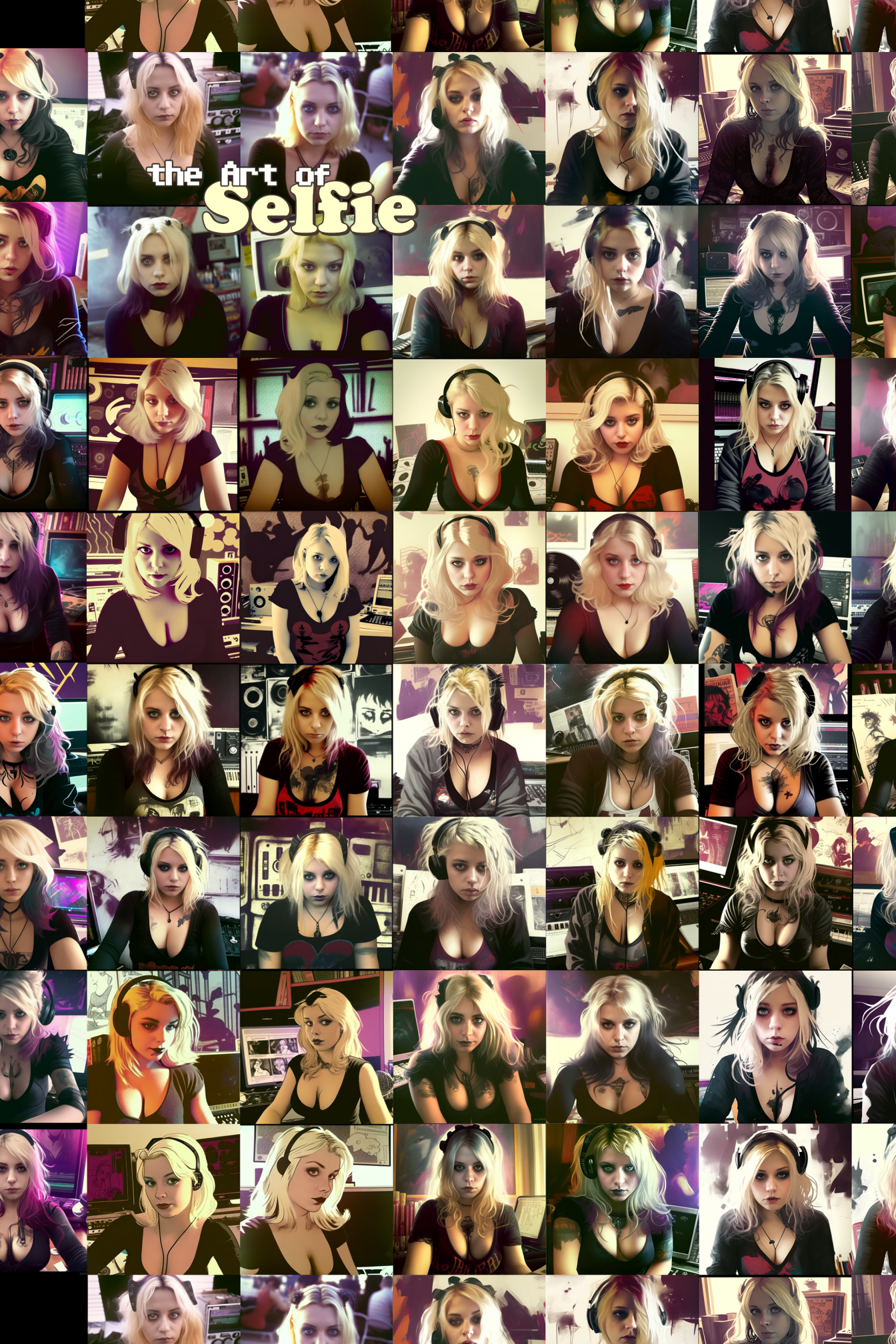
the Art of Selfie PROOF OF CONCEPT

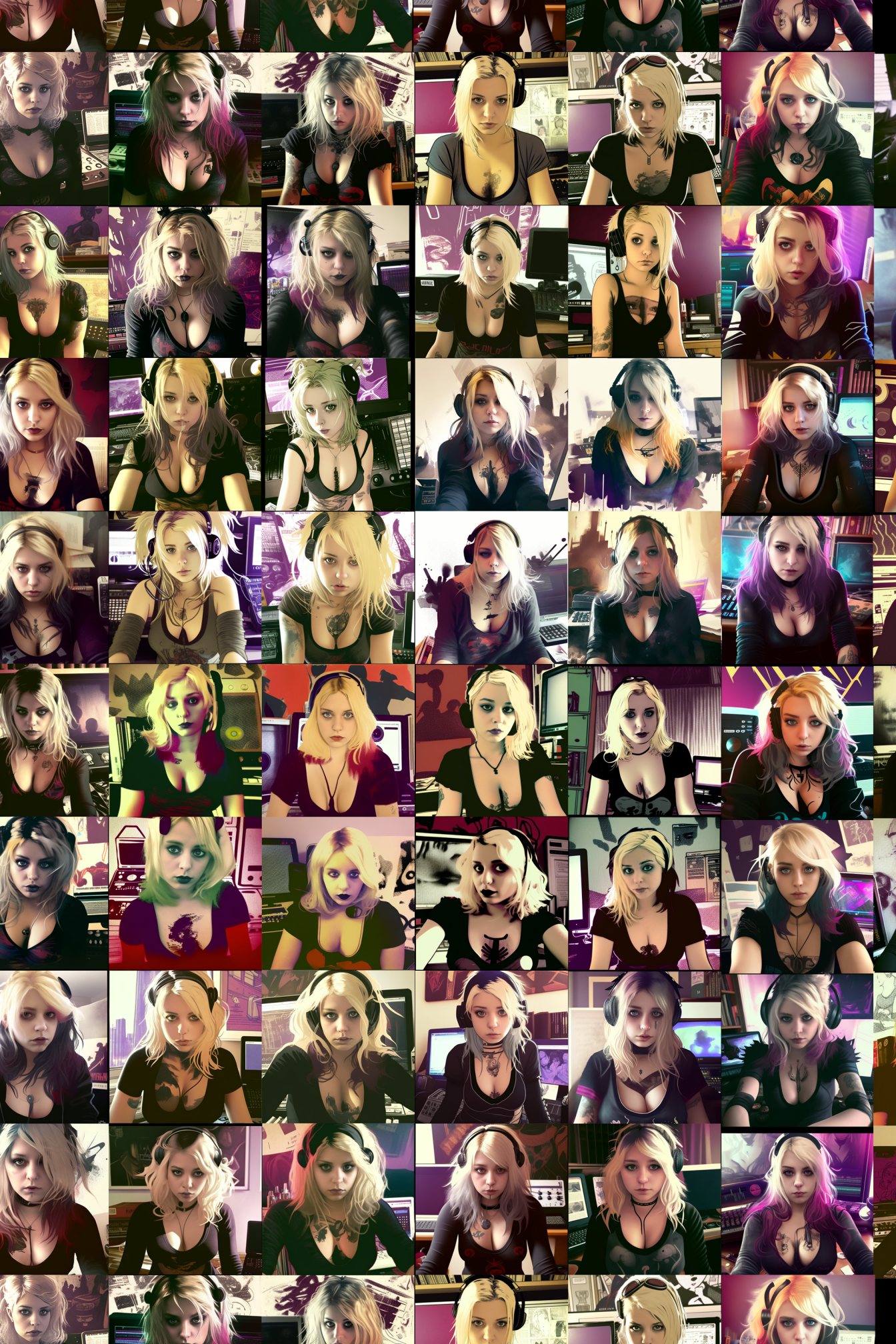




Hidden in the background is one of the virtual world photos of the real DJ Zoe avatar standing in her club, SMASH. For ten years, she organized a team of DJs from across the world to perform in this virtual venue, for the love of music while connecting with people through art.




the Art of
Selfie




PROOF
Gallery

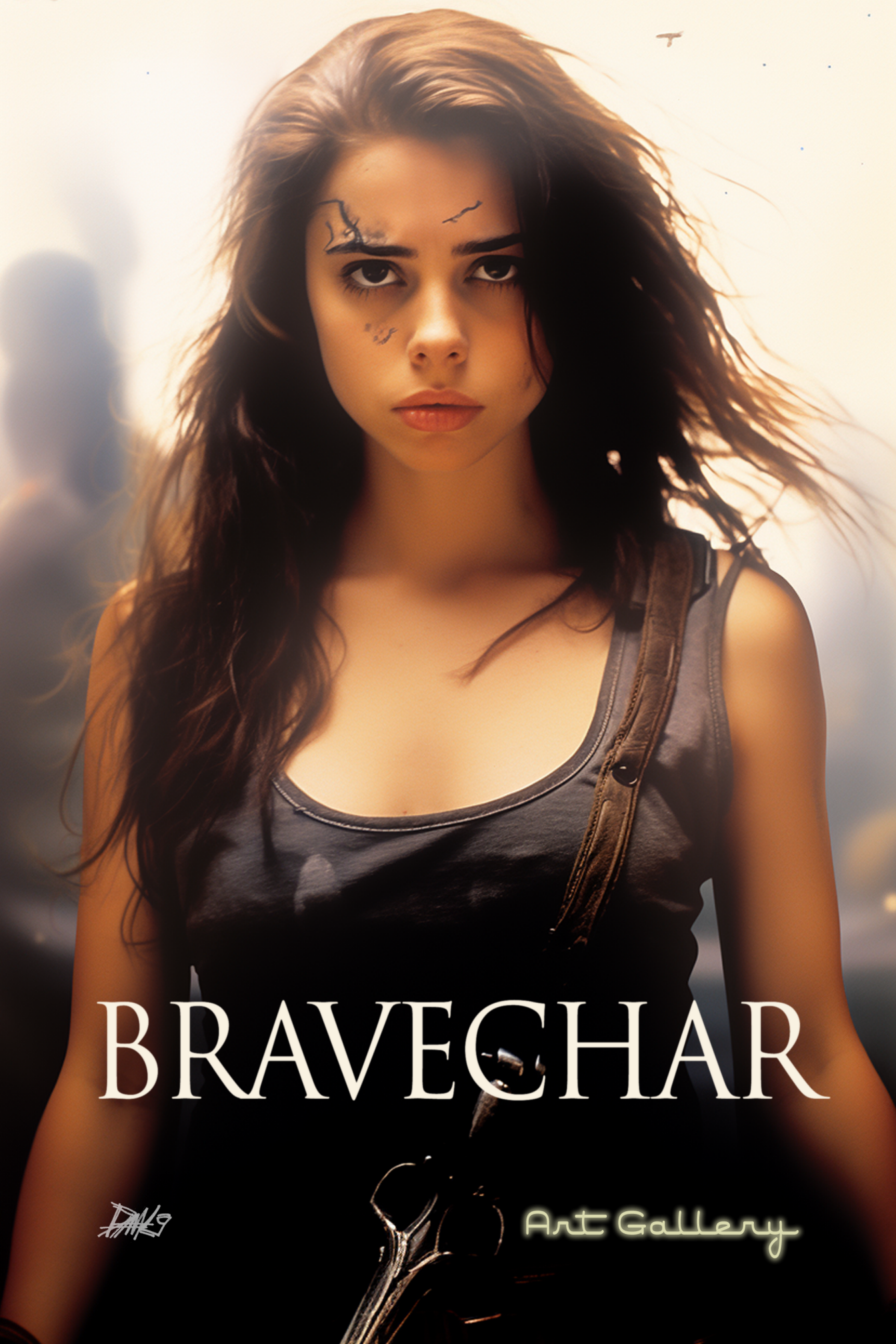

PBC Gallery

PROOF OF CONCEPT

Art Gallery




CAPTAIN ZOE "CHAR" JIMENEZ
AND KID ZOE JUNIOR
ALLENS
Art Gallery


BRAVECHAR
Art Gallery


Char X &
Virtual
Cat
Art Gallery


Art Gallery
STEVEN


Art Gallery
STEVEN


Art Gallery
STEVEN


Art Gallery
STEVEN


PROOF CONCEPT
Photo Gallery


Photo Gallery
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saffy
was here.


PROOF OF CONCEPT
Art Gallery
The End



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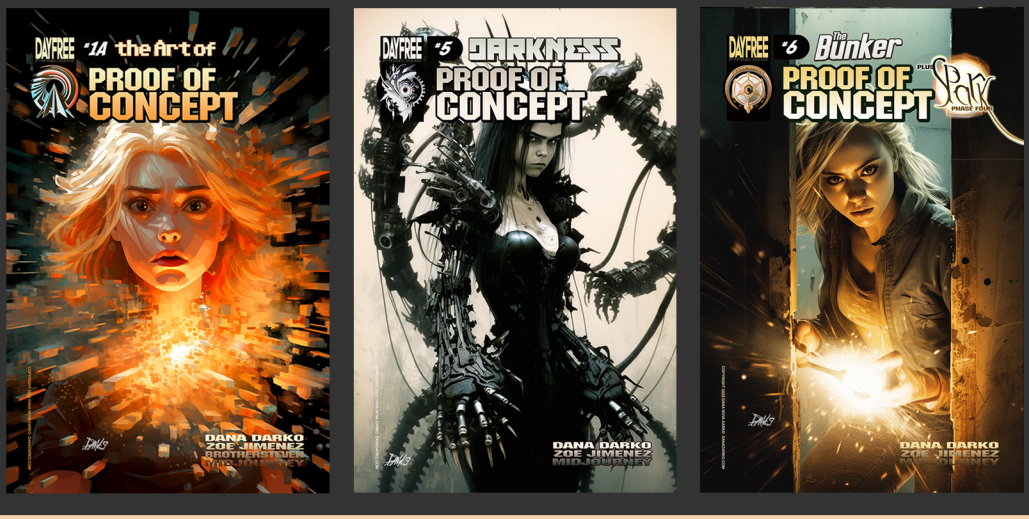

CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS




The Bunker Project in
New Haven, Conn. will
withstand any assault.
Vote √ YES on Tuesday!