

Trillion

Issue #1

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An SFX note: In this script, many time's SFX will say Nori's Loss/Nori's Gain as an SFX. This means that giant Red/Green letters will appear, signifying a play-by-play of Nori's funds.

Character List

NORI NISHIMURA: Nori is *Trillion's* 24-year old, space-fairing hero who's greatest skill is to get the hell beat out of him! Nori is half-Japanese, half-alien; the alien side is unknown as Nori's mysterious father looked almost exactly human. Nori loves his family more than anything in the universe and all he desires is for them to be together again. When his father left, his family separated and now reside all over the galaxy.

Nori is about 5'8", lean, weighs about 170 lbs., has shaggy, adventurous hair, clean shaven only somewhat strong. He has a vertical scar on his left eyebrow that separates the hair in two sections. His outfit is currently undecided. It's bouncing between these two concepts: ONE and TWO. He also wears a bandana around his neck that he pulls over his face to conceal his identity. It's pink and has an eye symbol on it.

He knows basic martial arts and demonstrates skill with his signature Hook Swords. Often times in battle he'll get beat to hell, but his greatest strategy is his ability to survive. That and his agility. Nori is focused, protective, a family man, a control freak, passive aggressive, a master of languages but has the social grace of a bull, witty when he really, really tries, a bit dramatic, has a hard time finishing things, struggles to make decisions and can't really grasp the concept of mortality. He really is a man divided: His Nishimura side (fickleness, love, laziness, wit) and his father's side (tactical prowess, heroism, guardian-like and at times, clinical).

BOSS: Boss is Nori's alien-dog who has the ability to transform herself into different "Modes". She can naturally adapt to her surroundings, much like fast-acting Darwinism. Once she has adapted, that mode can be called upon at any time, provided Boss remembers.

Every 24 hours, Boss can transform up to three times, but past that she needs to extensively eat and rest up before she can transform the next day. She resembles a shorthaired German shepherd. Her fur is white with pink swirls. Her ears are extremely pointed and she is very lean and muscular. She wears a collar with a medallion that reads: Boss. Finally, Boss' left eye is missing, so she wears a black eye patch to cover it.

Boss is Nori's good conscious and his eternal guardian. This doesn't mean she's extremely saint-like though. She is battle-hardened and brutal, ready to maim and dismember her enemies, but never, ever kill. She can be lazy or easily distracted when she is tired and/or hungry. *In the Nishimura family portrait, Boss is a puppy.

MR. MULBERRY: Trillion's primary antagonist. Mr. Mulberry is a large, frog-alien humanoid that has a knack for getting what he wants. He has large, bulbous patches of skin that are raised in circles, like giant moles all across his body, that are marked with beautiful, blue patterns to compliment his light yellow skin. He wears a slick, typical mafia suit, complete with douche-fedora. His skin is oily and shiny, not in a gross way, but kind of pretty. His frog-like skin and patterns are very appealing, but he himself is ugly and intimidating to look at. His expression ranges from apathetic, to angry to apathetic. He is very old fashioned and is extremely patient.

On his fingers he wears rings, each symbolizing one of the seven heavenly virtues. Whenever he is to betray a virtue, he takes off whatever ring that symbolizes the virtue he is about to betray and then enacts his sin. Once he is finished, he puts the ring back on, feeling good again. Aside from this and his belief in the cosmic god, he is not religious or a zealot of any means.

SKALLEN: Skallen is a galactic terrorist known for her demolition expertise. Hailing from the Kedu race, she is an extremely tall and slender plant-human hybrid with petals for hair, leaf-like skin and bark that act as natural pieces of armor on her arms and legs. Skallen's petals are white and purple, and her eyes are amber. She has a metal left arm, throat and lower jaw. She is really, really, really scary. And a badass. She totes huge rocket launchers and always has at least six types of explosives on her. She curses all the time and is generally abrasive to be around.

MUMBO: Mumbo and Jumbo are twin spies that work as Mr. Mulberry's personal assistants. Mumbo has extremely tan skin and thick eyebrows; he also has a scar going down the middle of his lips, vertically. He has a huge, orange Afro that matches the fluffiness and color of his eyebrows. These guys are JACKED, muscles nearly bulging from their suits and their titanic height. At all times, both mumbo and Jumbo wear mirror aviators. They both wear matching, black, CIA-Like suits. Mumbo's purple tie is short and fat. Also at all times, they carry notepads with them, as they are usually seen taking notes. Mumbo is laid-back, loves movies, forgetful and is the "older brother."

JUMBO: Jumbo has extremely tan skin and thick eyebrows; he also has a scar going across the center of his nose, horizontally. He has a huge, purple Afro that matches the fluffiness and color of his eyebrows. These guys are JACKED, muscles nearly bulging from their suits and their titanic height. At all times, both mumbo and Jumbo wear mirror aviators. They both wearing matching, black, CIA-Like suits. Jumbo's orange tie is long and skinny. Also at all times, they carry notepads with them, as they are usually seen taking notes. Jumbo is up tight, a try-hard, obsessed with martial arts and can be ignorant.

WEAPONS DEALER: A rock-golem alien with a mighty beard and bushy eyebrows. He wears a sleeveless tank top with a jumpsuit for pants.

DUBIOUS CHEF: A giant praying mantis wearing an apron with an overly-anime smiley face printed on it.

MULTI-ARMED ALIEN: Multi-Armed Alien is a humanoid, octopus-like alien who six arms and two legs. He wears a stained apron and a headband.

FROZEN-WOMAN: Imprisoned in a cyro-tube in Mr. Mulberry's lab lies Frozen-Woman. Her identity and function is unknown aside that she was found in Nori's Father's lab along with a file detailing the history of the Nishimura family and some top secret reports concerning the evil, parasitic, "Cosmic Horrors". She is elegant, gray-skinned, and elf-like and she has extremely long, Rapunzel-like, pale blonde hair. Finally she is missing her left eye.

The following characters are shown only in photograph form

YANMEI NISHIMURA: Nori's biological mother who is known all throughout the galaxy as "Queen of the Geishas", AKA: Number #1 Prostitute. She's a sugary sweet mom who loves everyone she meets, dedicated to her kids but very strict on respect and manners. She's 54 years old, 50% Chinese, 50%Japanese, sports old-fashioned, straight black hair tied in a tight bun, milky skin, coconut-colored eyes and a killer-frickin' body, not looking a day past 30. For the family photo she wears a highly fashionable, silky, blue suit complete with black bow tie, which hugs her body tightly but very tastefully.

Yanmei is blessed by the "Arc", a spiritual parasite that imbues its host with everlasting beauty and youth. However, they must seek out dying species, mate with them and produce offspring to keep the DNA line going. This is why Yanmei's children all have different fathers and look so different from each other.

GENEVIEVE LAVHALLEN: Nori's stepmother who has been present for roughly half Nori's life. Genevieve is a manager for the local "U-Fly" rental space ship company that Nori uses to go from planet to planet. She is 47 years old, has extremely dark skin, stands at about 4'5", braided red hair and is very, very in shape. Genevieve is always extending herself to help anyone she can, longs to be completely accepted by Yanmei's children and kick a lot of ass. She used to be the equivalent of an MMA fighter before she was diagnosed with a weak heart. In the photograph, she wears a bandana that pushes back her hair, a black tank top, snug jeans, combat boots and a hand-stitched cloth robe.

YOJIMBO NISHIMURA: Yojimbo or "Jimmy" as Nori calls her, is the eldest of Yanmei's children at 28. She has lavender skin, blonde hair, pink eyes and full lips. Like all Nishimura children, she shares her mother's eye shape. Jimmy is a traveling teacher, mostly substituting grades K-5th.

She was once a Celestial Knight, like Nori, but was wounded in combat, leaving her in a wheel chair she resides in now. She was wounded because Nori was instructed to kill her by their superiors as that was the day Jimmy realized her heritage; she was half Cosmic Horror, feared parasites destined to destroy the galaxy. In her Horror form, the bottom half of her body transforms into an endless sea of tentacles.

Since the incident, Jimmy keeps herself moving, as she is technically "dead" in the Celestial Knight archives. Regardless of her history, Jimmy stays chipper and maternal most times, until she needs to be serious; that's when she can really be horrifying. In the picture, Jimmy wears a loosely-buttoned collared t-shirt with rolled up sleeves, her legs are covered by a blanket that looks like it was stitched by whoever made Genevieve's robe.

NULU NISHIMURA: Nulu, Kolo and Vala are female triplets and are the third oldest (around 18 years old). They are nearly all identical except for their hairstyles, hair dye, bioluminescent tattoos and cybernetic armor. The three triplets are known as "The Razers", as their father came from a race of cyborgs constructed to destroy planets at the end of their life cycles. Nulu is charged with causing global warming, exploding volcanoes and flooding atmospheres with ash.

Nulu is deaf and communicates through sign language/triplet telepathy. Her hair is asymmetrical, short and parted to the left and is tinted red. She wears dark red lipstick and her body is covered in glowing red tattoos that are straight lines and form the occasional Omega symbol. She's usually very calm, cold, commanding and radiates power but loves to take time to sleep and just hang out. To everyone in her family she is very respectful, except to Nori. She is intimately friendly with her sister, Kolo. In the photograph, Nulu is wearing her exo-suit she wears no helmet.

KOLO NISHIMURA: Kolo is charged with dropping the planet's temperature, initiating a new ice age and freezing over the lava-flooded planet.

Kolo is mute and communicates through sign language/triplet telepathy. Her hair short in the back, long in the front with a middle part and tinted blue. She wears dark blue lipstick and her body is covered in glowing blue tattoos that are straight lines that form the occasional Alpha symbol. Kolo has a temper and is extremely stubborn, often offending people with her bluntness. To her benefit she is extremely loyal and borderline self-sacrificial for her family, especially for Nulu, whom she has an intimate attraction to. In the photograph, Kolo is wearing her exo-suit she wears no helmet.

VALA NISHIMURA: Vala is charged with protecting/exterminating life forms on doomed planets. Her domain ranges from creatures, humanoids, monsters and plant-life. Vala is blind and can communicate through sign language/triplet telepathy. Her hair is long, tied in a ponytail, bangs in her face and tinted green. She wears dark green lipstick and her body is covered in glowing green tattoos that are straight lines that form the occasional Omicron symbol.

Vala is the odd triplet out, a very peaceful, bubbly, optimistic world-killer who absolutely loves her brother Nori, unlike her sisters. She wants everyone in the universe to get along. She can be extremely sensitive and tends to run away from most of her problems, choosing to internalize things then speak her mind. In the photograph, Vala is wearing her exo-suit she wears no helmet.

TUNA NISHIMURA: Born, Kuapua and dubbed "Tuna" by Nori, Tuna is the youngest of the Nishimuras and quite possibly the most alien. He is 7 years old and a piranha-humanoid who can consume all matter and digest it into proper nutrients. He has extremely sharp teeth, which gives him a huge smile, endless amounts of energy and has a stuttering speech problem.

He is the least violent being in the galaxy but shows the capacity for natural destruction (being able to chew through most matter, filling his muscles with gases to grow in size and strength, immune to most psychic contact). He idolizes his brother Nori and wishes he would come home more often. His father was the last surviving male of the Kamo Clan, which was thought to have gone extinct hundreds of years ago. He was a war general looking to pass on his legacy before passing on to the next life. In the photo, Tuna is wearing nothing but overalls.

PAGE 1 (3 Panels)**Panel 1:**

A slim horizontal panel. Establishing shot of Mr. Mulberry's Lunar Office. It's an incredibly large skyscraper bulging out of the side of a yellow-tinted moon. On the side of the building, a large neon sign reads: DREAM FACTORY. It orbits a planet that resembles a pink Saturn with four rings.

CAPTION #1: Hermit Cloud Galaxy.

CAPTION #2: Lunar Office of Mr. Mulberry.

CAPTION #3: 13.7 Hours Ago...

Panel 2:

This panel takes up a large portion of the middle page. MR. MULBERRY stands before a giant wall-sized television screen that reads: "1,000,000,000,000" in harsh red text on the black screen.

The TV is the only source of light in Mr. Mulberry's office, so we can only see silhouettes of what his desk, office chair, bookcases, wall decorations could possibly look like.

His face is contorted in anger as droplets of spit escape the side of his mouth. Mr. Mulberry's hands are covered in blood. One of his seven golden rings is missing from his right hand. Before him is a slumped over silhouette of NORI.

MR.MULBERRY (SCREAMING): NORI NISHIMURA, YOU OWE ME ONE TRILLION FATHER-@#\$\$*&# CREDITS!

Panel 3:

Mirroring Panel 1, a slim horizontal panel. Close up on Nori. He's beaten to absolute shit. Black eyes, bleeding nose, bruised cheeks, the works. He gives a toothy yet bloody smile.

NORI CAPTION: My family's a mess.

Page 2 (6 Panels)**Panel 1**

Side view of Nori, in the center of the panel, sprinting through an alien farmer's market-like street. He's wearing his hood up along with a bandana wrapped around the lower half of his face. Behind him we can see three green bolts of laser chasing after Nori.

As much of the background as we can see shows a hustling and bustling alien main street, full of dirty food stands and black market peddlers. A large banner drapes over a building that reads: "SAVE THE SPACE WHALES RAVE". It's in the early evening.

CAPTION #1: Planet Tusura, Rust District.

CAPTION #2: Now.

NORI CAPTION: More specifically, I'm a mess.

SKALLEN (O.P.): TRYING TO KILL ME YOU HEADHUNTING
PIECE OF @\$*?

NORI: I SAID I WAS SORRY, DIDN'T I?

Panel 2

Nori, now at the right edge of the panel, dives for safety as the bolts whizz past him. The bolts smash into a food stand, a nearby alien and a large vase, breaking it. SKALLEN is in full view, toting a laser-shooting machinegun and running from the left side of the panel.

NORI CAPTION: And Skallen over there, well she's trying to mess me up.

SKALLEN: @\$* you, dude! You think sorry covers it?

NORI: Collateral is definitely coming out of my --

*In the crowd behind, insert MUMBO and JUMBO. They are taking notes in their notepads.

SFX (LASER): BYOOM! BYOOM! BYOOM!

SFX (NORI'S LOSS): -\$500
-\$345
-\$180

Panel 3

Nori belly flops onto the ground. Skallen loads a new clip into her machine gun. The stand falls apart, the alien is knocked back and the vase is nothing but shards.

*Mumbo and Jumbo have disappeared.

NORI CAPTION: I've got debt. I've got a family in peril. And I've got galactic terrorist I need to kill.

SKALLEN: Jumpy little @\$*@#.

NORI: Paycheck – Oof!

Panel 4

Nori scrambles to his feet. Skallen takes aim at Nori's butt.

SKALLEN: Huh. Would you look at that. A cutie with a booty that I'm gonna shooty.

NORI CAPTION: Like I said before, my life is – wait, what about my booty?

Panel 5

Nori takes one beam of laser to the butt. Skallen runs her fingers through her hair and laughs.

NORI: OOOOH-GAH!

SKALLEN: WOO! @\$* YOU!

SFX (LASER): BYOOM!

Panel 6

Blackness.

NORI CAPTION 1: Why am I even doing this?

NORI CAPTION 2: This sucks.

NORI CAPTION 3: I couldn't kill anyone before, why would I be able to now?

NORI CAPTION 4: I want to sleep.

NORI CAPTION 5: I should just go home and – oh.

PAGE 3 (6 Panels)Panel 1

A large panel of the Nishimura's Family Picture. From left to right stands: YANMEI and GENEIVEVE, who are holding each other as a happy couple, Nori, who is holding PUPPY BOSS. NULU, KOLO, and VALA, whose arms are interlocked together and in front of them, from right to left, YOJIMBO in her wheelchair and TUNA clutching to his stuffed penguin. Above all else, everyone is smiling in his or her own way.

NORI CAPTION 1: *Home.*

NORI CAPTION 2: That's why I'm doing this.

Panel 2

Nori looks up to Skallen, who in one hand has her machine gun pointed in Nori's face and in the other, Nori's bandana, leaving his identity exposed. His wounds have barely recovered from the beating he received 13.7 Hours prior.

SKALLEN: Some @\$*@\$ nerve you have. I've been waiting five minutes for you to wake up.

NORI: I don't care.

Panel 3

Nori kicks Skallen in the chest.

SKALLEN: OOF!

Panel 4

Nori takes a battle stance, crossing his arms like an "X". His hands glow pink.

SKALLEN (O.P.): Woah... You a Celestial or some @\$*?*

Panel 5

Same panel, Nori spreads his arms to his sides, now clutching his Celestial Harmonies, AKA his Hook Swords! He looks like a total badass now.

NORI: Was.

Panel 6

Close up on Skallen, who grits her teeth with a grin.

SKALLEN: Not bad.

PAGE 4 (5 Panels)Panel 1

Skallen fires a barrage of lasers. Nori dodges each one in serpentine fashion. This motion can be shown like [Nightwing's Acrobatics](#) [This will be used multiple times].

Panel 2

Nori digs his hook swords into Skallen's gun, slicing her hand and staining the blade with orange, sap-like blood.

SKALLEN: ARGH!

Insert 1: Using his hook swords, Nori lifts the gun out of Skallen's hands.

Insert 2: Nori kicks the gun in half.

Insert 3: His foot smashes into Skallen's nose.

Panel 3

Nori uses his hook swords to grab Skallen by the ankles.

NORI: Please --

SKALLEN: Oh --

Panel 4

Nori swings his arms to the side, causing Skallen to trip and smashes her head into the ground.

NORI: Stay down!

SKALLEN: @\$*!

Panel 5

Nori runs to one of the food stands in the background (1). Then leaps on top of it (2). Uses his hook swords to swing on a horizontal flagpole (3). Swings into the air (4) and lands on the roof (5). Skallen struggles to her feet.

SKALLEN: Hey! We're not done here!

NORI: I --
Can't --
Beat --
You --
Without a plan.

PAGE 5 (5 Panels)**Panel 1**

Nori looks down at Skallen from the rooftop. She raises one hand, flipping the bird while reaching her hand behind her back. Nori wipes sweat from his forehead, looking relieved.

SKALLEN: We go through all of that and you're not going to @\$*@\$ kill me?

NORI: Swear all you want but I don't want to be responsible for blowing up an entire city block.

Panel 2

Close up on Skallen's back, she has a glowing blue grenade prepared in one of her hand's. We can also see Nori's bandana sticking out of her back pants pocket.

SKALLEN: Damn. Round One to you.

Panel 3

Nori turns away from the rooftop, holding his hook swords in one hand by the middle of the blades. He sticks his hand into his pocket.

NORI: Not looking forward to Round Two.

Panel 4

Nori retrieves a super fancy-looking glass tablet, about the size of a phone, from his pocket.

Panel 5

Nori clicks the screen with his thumb. Red text appears on the top of the screen that reads: "CALLING BOSS..."

PAGE 6 (6 Panels)Panel 1

Establishing shot of Nori's [Space Cruiser](#). On the side of the ship a large logo can be seen. It reads: "U-FLY". It's parked in a dark, rusty and sketchy alleyway.

Panel 2

BOSS is asleep in the captain's quarters of the ship. It's small, has a large TV-Screen on the wall, a bed, a bedside table (complete with Nishimura family photo), a desk, a chair, a bookcase and a throw rug.

Nori's clothes are scattered about the room. On the desk lie a laptop, fast-food wrappers and a stack of books. The books are marked in various different languages.

Panel 3

The TV-Screen flicks on, showing Nori. One of Boss' ears stands at attention.

NORI: Boss! Wake up. I need you.

Panel 3

Boss groggily lifts her head and looks to the screen.

NORI: Alright there, pretty girl. Meet me on top of the highest building in town. Oh and bring the HLG, por favor.

BOSS: Rowwwr?

NORI: I didn't say I was going to kill anyone with it necessarily. I just... need it?

Panel 4

Close up on Boss looking extremely skeptical, crossing her paws. We can see the Nishimura family photo more clearly.

BOSS: Ruff!

NORI (O.P.): Trust me, I feel the same way. But we're Headhunters now. We are expected to hunt some heads if we want to make any money.

Panel 5

Boss rises into a stretching position.

BOSS: Rowr.

NORI: Whatever! She's worth 200,000 credits.

BOSS: Rowr!

NORI: 200,000 out of 1,000,000,000,000 is still something.

Panel 6

Nori looks off camera as if distracted by something. Boss leaps to the floor.

BOSS: Bark. Baaark.

NORI: Mulberry could have anyone, Boss. He could even have Dad.

BOSS: ...

NORI: Look, it doesn't matter. He has a Nishimura.

PAGE 7 (6 Panels)Panel 1

Boss exits the spaceship through its, unfolding, DeLorean-style door. On her back is a large, military style cargo crate.

In the shadows, Mumbo and Jumbo can be seen taking notes.

NORI CAPTION: What more reason do we need?

Panel 2

She sniffs around the streets of the bustling alien city. In the background we see Skallen arguing with WEAPONS DEALER at a dirty, black market stand.

SKALLEN: He kicked the gun in @\$*@\$ half. It was trash! Give me something better. And bigger. Hella bigger.

Panel 3

DUBIOUS CHEF sees Boss from his stir-fry food stand and holds out a purple T-bone steak.

DUBBIOUS CHEF: Dog, Dog! Here, Here. Steak, Steak?

BOSS: Bark! Bark! Bark!

Panel 4

Boss hurriedly chomps onto the steak. Dubious Chef extends a praying mantis-like scythe from his arm and aims at Boss.

Panel 5

Dubious Chef swings at Boss, who acrobatically backflips out of the way, despite the heavy crate on her back. A slight red aura glows around Boss.

BOSS: Grrrrr.

Panel 6

Boss's fur turns red and lights on fire, her pupils disappear, and she sprouts twisted black horns from all over her body. She lunges at Dubious Chef, snarling like a demon.

BOSS: GRRRRRRRAGH!

PAGE 8 (6 Panels)Panel 1

Back to normal, Boss happily walks down a quiet alleyway with Dubious Chef's scythe arm in her mouth, green blood still dripping from the socket.

Panel 2

Boss looks up at the tallest building in the city. A rusty and decrepit skyscraper with blue and green vines sprawling all over it.

Panel 3

Boss glows with a faint purple aura as she leaps towards the building wall.

Panel 4

She sprouts eight spider legs from her stomach and clings to the wall.

Panel 5

All in one panel, Boss swiftly climbs up the tall building in a serpentine fashion. The movement will be shown using the Nightwing example. All the while, still gripping the scythe arm.

Panel 6

Boss peers over the edge of the building onto the roof, where Nori is looking out over the skyline with an old fashioned spyglass.

BOSS: Ruff!

NORI: Hey, beautiful! Come on over, I found our bounty.

PAGE 9 (6 Panels)Panel 1

After a few minutes, Nori and Boss have assembled a giant sniper-file attached to a tripod. On the side of the barrel a logo is printed that reads: "Hilariously Large Gun". Stabbed into the top of the HLG is Dubious Chef's scythe arm, still dripping blood.

Nori stands next to the machine fiddling with some wires and clutching a paper manual. Boss sits patiently with a wrench in her mouth.

CAPTION: A few minutes later...

NORI: ... And now we just have to add the DNA sample and this thing should, you know, kill her all quiet and stuff.

BOSS: Rowr?

NORI: Why thank you for asking, young miss.

Panel 2

Nori summons his Hook Swords. One of the swords still has Skallen's orange blood on it. Pink energy is steaming off of his hands.

NORI: When I went out on recon earlier, I accidentally fell through a vent and onto Skallen when she was getting her nails done.

BOSS: Ruff...

Panel 3

Nori raises the bloodied sword towards the HLG. A disc drive of sorts pops out from the gun. Next to it are two large buttons: One green and one red.

NORI: You're telling me. Anyway we fought and I got some of her gross, syrup-sap blood on my Harmonies.

Insert 1: Nori shakes the sword and a drop of orange blood falls into the disc drive.

Panel 4

The HLG shakes and lights up with an orange hue around the barrel. Nori holds up the manual to his face. Boss turns her head to the side, looking at the machine.

NORI: Now we just have to hit the shoot-em-up button and we're 200,000 credits closer to figuring out this mess.

Panel 5

The scythe arm falls over into the disc drive. Green Blood spatters off of it, into the drive. Boss' ears stand at attention. Nori is still reading.

NORI: And if this manual reads like Russian and not Tuzopian-Modern like I think it does...

Panel 6

Nori energetically smashes the red button next to the disc drive. The HLG's barrel is now glowing green.

NORI: This means shoot!

BOSS: Bark! Bark!

PAGE 10 (5 Panels)Panel 1

The HLG fires an ENOURMOUS blast of green energy. Nori and Boss's faces jiggle with g-force as wind pushes their hair all around.

Panel 2

Nori and Boss look at each other in shock.

NORI: Uh...

Panel 3

Close up on the one-armed Dubious Chef, cooking stir-fry. He looks up. The whole panel is hued with green energy.

Panel 4

Back on the roof, we can see in the distance a hilariously large green mushroom cloud explosion. Nori and Boss are stressed to the max.

NORI: UH...

SFX (NORI'S LOSS): -\$4,000

Panel 5

Nori peers through his eyeglass. Boss leans on the building's edge and looks out.

NORI: Oh my god. Oh my god. Oh my god.

PAGE 11 (7 Panels)Panel 1

We see this panel through the lens of the spyglass. Close up on Dubious Chef who is still alive but covered in black soot. The food stand is completely destroyed. We can see half of Skallen wielding a rocket launcher from our limited view.

Panel 2

Nori wipes sweat from his forehead. Boss relaxes.

NORI: Whew. We dodged a bullet on that one, ammirght?

Panel 3

Nori is suddenly extremely concerned.

Panel 4

He looks through his spyglass again.

Panel 5

We see this panel through the lens of the spyglass. Close up on the Dubious Chef scene, but now we're focused on Skallen. Who has just launched a spikey, fiery, blue, titanic missile towards Nori (the reader's perspective).

SKALLEN: ROUND TWO MOTHER-@#*\$#@##!

SFX (ROCKET): PSHHHHOOM

Panel 6

Nori lowers his spyglass in absolute annoyance. Boss looks at him questioningly.

NORI: Yeah, no. This is fine. I'm very okay with this situation. JUST PEACHY KEEN! THANKS FOR ASKING. THANK --

Panel 7

Faraway shot of the skyscraper Nori and Boss were on, EXPLODING WITH A GIANT AZURE FIREY PLASMA BLAZE!

SFX (EXPLOSION): KA-BOOOOM!

SFX (NORI'S LOSS): -\$40,000

PAGE 12 (6 Panels)Panel 1

Nori slumps before Mr. Mulberry who is now leaning on his desk like nothing ever happened.

CAPTION: 13.7 Hours ago...

MR. MULBERRY: I apologize for that outburst of rage, Mr. Nishimura. But you can understand my position can't you?

NORI: My father bailed on both of us, yeah? I'm just the one taking the hits.

MR. MULBERRY: Correct, Mr. Nishimura. Except when he "bailed" on me, he took one Trillion Credits worth of experimental weapons research.

Panel 2

Nori struggles to keep balance. A long strand of blood and spit trails from his mouth. Mr. Mulberry remains steadfast.

NORI: Well, do excuse my tone, but why am I getting punched, repeatedly, by a horrifying space-frog now? He's been gone nearly fifteen years.

MR. MULBERRY: Easy answer, Mr. Nishimura. I had no idea you existed until just last week.

Panel 3

Mr. Mulberry leans over and extends a hand to Nori. Nori grabs hold and starts to get up.

MR. MULBERRY: I know. Shocking revelation myself. And not just one mystery Nishimura, but a whole baker's dozen!

NORI: ... What do you know about my family?

MR. MULBERRY: Enough to know that whichever Nishimura I have tied up in the back must be very important to you and your father.

Panel 4

Nori uppercuts Mr. Mulberry, who crashes into his desk.

NORI: WHO DO YOU HAVE?

Panel 5

Mr. Mulberry's office door opens, exposing Nori and Mr. Mulberry in a cone of light. Standing in the door way is Mumbo and Jumbo, completely shocked. Nori is retracting from his punch and Mr. Mulberry is wiping a drop of blood from his face as he returns to a sit-up position.

MUMBO: Mr. Mulberry, sir!

JUMBO: Initiating Nunchaku Protocol!

MR. MULBERRY: At ease, Gentleman.

Panel 6

From behind Mr. Mulberry's shoulder, who is now sitting completely upright on his desk, we see Nori writhing in absolute rage, white knuckles and all. Behind him are Mumbo and Jumbo, looking extremely concerned.

MR. MULBERRY: Mr. Nishimura here was just expressing his feelings about working for us here at Dream Factory.

NORI: You leave my family out of this.

MR. MULBERRY: Just as long as you're breathing, your family members are none of my concern. And, because I'm in one of my "moods", you finish your first job successfully and I'll take you in the back and prove my Nishimura is... well, alive enough.

NORI: When do I start?

PAGE 13 (6 Panels)Panel 1

The skyscraper Nori and Boss were on is now nothing but steaming and smoking rubble.

CAPTION: NOW.

MR. MULBERRY CAPTION: "You've already started, Mr. Nishimura. Happy hunting!"

Panel 2

Out from the rubble crawls Boss, who's transformed into an armadillo/mole-like creature. On her back clings Nori.

NORI: I love you, Boss. I love you, Boss. I love you, Boss.

BOSS: Baaaark. Ruff!

Panel 3

Nori leaps off of Boss. She sniffs the ground.

NORI: I don't know about you, but after two failed attempts of headhunting, I'm ready for a break.

Panel 4

Boss depowers back into her original form. Nori walks towards the right edge of the panel, hands in his pockets.

NORI: We'll pick back up with her later. I'm starving.

Panel 5

Establishing shot of a Ramen-style food stand back in the Rust District main street. It's early nighttime now.

Panel 6

Nori and Boss sit on stools watching the MULTI-ARMED ALIEN, cook.

NORI: You know Boss, I could have just cooked this myself.

BOSS: Rowr.

NORI: Just because I didn't get the degree, doesn't mean I can't cook. Where's your transformation degree huh?

PAGE 14 (6 Panels)Panel 1

Close up on the Multi-Armed Alien cooking gross-looking blue noodles with fish heads.

BOSS (O.P.): Rowwwr.

NORI (O.P.): Fine, fine. I'll bite back my passive aggressiveness. For now.

Panel 2

Multi-Armed Alien hands two bowls of slop to Nori and Boss. Nori's bowl is tiny and Boss' bowl is massive. Above the bowls are their prices, AKA Nori's Loss.

MULTI-ARMED ALIEN: One Mondo-sized Zarglob for the adorable puppy and one wussy-sized Xeenbeev for the know-it-all chef.

SFX (NORI'S LOSS): -\$140
-\$170

Panel 3

Nori takes a huge bite of gross noodles. Boss sticks her face into the bowl.

NORI: You know, Boss. -Chomp- We should get out more often. -Chomp- I miss relaxing times like these. -Chomp-

BOSS: -Munch- -Munch- -Munch-

Panel 4

Skallen enters, slamming on the table, wearing her rocket launcher from before. Boss is lost in the bliss of her food. Nori looks skeptically in Skallen's direction.

SKALLEN: Xeenbeev. Extra spice.

Panel 5

Nori spits his noodles all over the counter. Boss doesn't notice. Multi-Armed Alien scowls. Skallen looks over to Nori with a questioning-look.

SKALLEN: Aren't you the nerd who was trying to kill me earlier?

Panel 6

Nori scratches his head nervously and raises one hand defensively.

NORI: Uh... No?

SKALLEN: I shot you in the butt.

NORI: Err... yes?

PAGE 15 (6 Panels)Panel 1

Skallen hands Nori his bandana that she stole earlier. Nori tentatively reaches his hand out. Boss raises one ear while still eating.

SKALLEN: Relax, loser. I'm on break.

NORI: Thank you? No, definitely thank you.

Panel 2

Multi-Armed Alien slides a bowl to Skallen. Boss looks up, her muzzle stained blue with Zarglob. Nori rubes his face.

SKALLEN: So what's your deal? A celestial turned headhunter? That's kind of @\$*@\$ up.

NORI: Um... okay.

Panel 3

Nori turns to Skallen, flaring his hands wildly engrossed in conversation. Skallen slurps her Xeenbeev bowl with one hand. Boss leaps down from her stool.

NORI: What would you do if you woke up one day, surrounded by intergalactic mobsters and were informed you were in debt for a Trillion Credits?

SKALLEN: -Slurp-

NORI: Would you either, A) Punch said mobsters in the face, B) Pee your pants, Or, C) Give into a life of indentured servitude at the first mention of a hostage.

Panel 4

Skallen slams the bowl down. Boss takes to Nori's side. Nori twiddles his thumbs.

SKALLEN: Definitely A.

NORI: That makes sense.

SKALLEN: What'd you choose?

NORI: D) All of the above.

SKALLEN: That makes sense.

Panel 5

Skallen adjusts the rocket launcher on her back. Nori slowly gets up from his stool. Boss lies down.

SKALLEN: Look, I get it. That... sucks. I know. But, I can't have you kill me just so you can save your family.

NORI: And you're only worth 200,000 credits, so it's not like I'm losing out on too much.

SKALLEN: Excuse you. I'm 400,000 credits, show some respect. 200,000 is for a live capture.

NORI: 400,000?

Panel 6

Skallen face palms herself. Boss curls into a sleeping position. Nori bows politely.

SKALLEN: @\$*... At least give me a head start.

NORI: By all means.

PAGE 16 (6 Panels)**Panel 1**

Skallen runs off panel. Nori squats and points at the fleeing Skallen. Boss looks to be asleep.

NORI: Boss, sic her! Transform into Kerebos Mode!

BOSS: Rowr...

NORI: YOU WHAT? All three transformations? Already?

BOSS: ... Ruff.

Panel 2

Nori runs off panel, looking flustered. Boss snoozes away.

NORI: Ughhhhh.

Panel 3

Nori skids around a corner to find a techno-rave flash-mob going on in the streets. Giant banners are covered in glow sticks that read: SAVE THE SPACE WHALES. Whale Memorabilia is everywhere and the aliens are dancing like crazy.

NORI: I should be mad... but this is for a good cause.

Panel 4

Nori rummages through the crowd.

Insert 1: A few ravers grind on Nori.

Insert 2: An alien smacks his butt.

Insert 3: An alien puts a glow stick ring on him.

Insert 4: Nori catches Skallen pushing past a raver.

Panel 5

Falling out of the crowd, Nori sees Skallen dashing down an alleyway. Nori is now covered in glow stick necklaces, rings and whale balloon hat.

Panel 6

In the alleyway, Skallen aims her rocket launcher at Nori. Nori gets low to the ground, summoning his Hook Swords.

SKALLEN: I respect your cause but I'm not going back to jail, dude.

NORI: I respect your feelings but I'm not letting my family die, Skallen.

PAGE 17 (5 Panels)Panel 1

Skallen fires the launcher and the glowing green missile whizzes past Nori. He leaps onto the wall and the rave attire falls off.

SKALLEN: Then here comes Round Three!

SFX (ROCKET): PSSSHHHHHOOM

Panel 2

Nori leaps off the wall and slugs Skallen across the face, slicing her cheek and lips with one of his hook swords. Orange blood seeps out.

SKALLEN: @\$! Again?

Panel 3

Skallen trips Nori and raises her launcher to smash him.

Panel 4

Nori takes a smash to the shoulder but stabs Skallen in the heel with the butt of his hook sword.

NORI: Augh!

SKALLEN: Dude --

Panel 5

Skallen drops the launcher and Nori pulls out his Hook Sword. Orange blood spurts out.

SKALLEN: I hate those @\$*@\$ swords!

PAGE 18 (6 Panels)Panel 1

Skallen grabs Nori by the torso.

NORI: This is gonna --

Panel 2

Skallen raises Nori above her head.

SKALLEN: Suck!

Panel 3

Nori smashes into the ground, cracking a few ribs in the process. His eyes widen in pain. Skallen reaches into her pants pocket.

NORI: Oof!

SFX (NORI'S RIBS): KRRRRICK-KRAK

Panel 4

Skallen steps on Nori's crotch holding a glowing bomb. Nori wields one of his hook swords backwards.

SKALLEN: Look. It's nothing personal, okay? I actually feel kinda bad about this.

Panel 5

Nori kicks Skallen back with both feet. The bomb has attached itself to her non-metallic hand. The bomb beeps quickly.

SFX (BOMB): Beep. Beep. Beep.

Panel 6

Skallen grabs her wrist with a frantic expression. Nori lunges at Skallen wielding both of his Hook Swords, looking super cool and action hero-like.

SKALLEN: Aw, bull@#\$8.

NORI: Hold on!

Page 19 (5 Panels)Panel 1

Nori slices the skin off of Skallen's hand with both of his Hook Swords, spattering orange blood everywhere. The bomb flies off, beeping faster.

SFX (BOMB): Beep. Beep. Beep. Beep. Beep. Beep.

Panel 2

Nori kicks the bomb out of the air. It soars into the sky.

SFX (BOMB): Beep. Beep. Beep. Beep. Beep. Beep. Beep. Beep.

Panel 3 The bomb explodes into a blue smoke cloud over the main street.

SFX (BOMB): KABLLLOOM!

Panel 4

Skallen slides down the wall and clutches her bleeding hand.

SKALLEN: So what's the call here? Live or dead?

NORI: I don't know.

Panel 5

Nori kicks Skallen in the face, knocking her out instantly.

PAGE 20 (4 Panels)Panel 1

A golden necklace shimmers from underneath Skallen's shirt. Nori leans down by her side and inspects it.

Panel 2

The necklace is a small locket. Nori frowns.

NORI: I swear... if there's a picture of a little kid in there...

Panel 3

Nori closes his eyes and clicks open the locket.

Panel 4

Close up on the locket. It's a tiny photo of Skallen when she didn't have the metal hand, throat or jaw. She holds a tiny Kedu child, looking a lot like her, only with pink and white hair. And they look... peaceful.

NORI: Round Three to you, Skallen.

SFX (NORI'S GAIN): +\$200,000

PAGE 21 (6 Panels)Panel 1

Establishing shot of Mr. Mulberry's Lunar Office.

CAPTION: Lunar Office of Mr. Mulberry.

NORI CAPTION: "It's all there. Now, free whoever you have."

Panel 2

Mr. Mulberry stands before his giant TV-Screen Wall holding a few stacked bills of Credits. Boss stands at attention next to Nori who's crossing his arms, looking tough.

MR. MULBERRY: Well it looks like I won't have to enslave your entire family after all. You did good work today, Mr. Nishimura.

NORI: Release my family.

Panel 3

The screen behind Mr. Mulberry splits apart, revealing a sterilized white hallway behind him. Nori and Boss are caught off guard.

MR. MULBERRY: "A deal's a deal." That's Dream Factory's motto.

Panel 4

Mr. Mulberry, Nori and Boss walk down the sterilized hallway. A giant steel vault lies at the opposite end.

MR. MULBERRY: You should know, Mr. Nishimura, that she was like this when we found her.

NORI: Like what? Mulberry, what are you playing at?

MR. MULBERRY: I'm not playing at anything, my boy. This is all your father's doing.

NORI: ... A dead man can't do much, Mulberry.

Panel 5

Mr. Mulberry opens the vault door, dry ice mist shoots out from the room behind it.

MR. MULBERRY: Dead? Why Mr. Nishimura, he's a lively as your wife in there.

Panel 6

The room behind the vault is an incredibly advanced laboratory filled with human and alien scientists, robots, cyborgs, monsters and creatures all working diligently.

In the center of the room is a huge Cryotube (a giant test tube that freezes what's inside of it), closely monitored by scientists. A figure in the fetal position can be seen inside of the tube.

PAGE 22 (4 Panels)

Panel 1

Close up on Nori's face, completely shocked and twisted with conflicting emotions.

NORI: My... wife?

Panel 2

A close up on FROZEN-WOMAN, frozen in the tube, stuck in the fetal position. She wears a small smile.

Panel 3

Boss stands on her back legs and leans on the glass, howling towards the woman.

BOSS: Awoooooo!

Panel 4

Close up on Nori, he looks to the side with skepticism and confusion.

NORI: Yeah. I have no idea who that is.

TO BE CONTINUED... IN ISSUE #2!

NORI NISHUMARA'S FINANCES

TOTAL DEBT OWED: 1,000,000,000,000 Credits to Mr. Mulberry.

CURRENT SOURCE OF INCOME: Headhunting.

COST OF ADVENTURE IN ISSUE #1:

- + Started with 3,000 Credits.
- -500 Credits for the destruction of Ziibit's Culinary Craft Stand.
- -345 Credits for Malamala Hubur's Laser-recovery surgery.
- -180 Credits for the destruction of Tusura's prized street vase
- -4,000 Credits for the complete obliteration of Dubious Chef and his Dubious Food Stand.
- -40,000 Credits for unauthorized destruction of Jennifer Jupiter's Skyscraper on Planet Tusura in the Rust District.
- -140 Credits for one bowl of Zarglob at "Syco Stir-fry" on Planet Tusura in the Rust District.
- 170 Credits for one bowl of Xeenbeev at "Syco Stir-fry" on Planet Tusura in the Rust District.
- + 200,000 Credits for the live capture of "Lillian Skallen", Kedu Bombardier and Galactic Terrorist.

CURRENT FUNDS: 157,665 Credits

DEBT LEFT TO PAY: -200,000 for Skallen leaves Nori with 999,999,800,000 Credits to pay back.